



Press release  
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## **Kringle Pharma Establishes Joint Research Division for Regenerative Drug Discovery at Osaka University**

Kringle Pharma, Inc. (Head office located in Toyonaka, Osaka; President & CEO: Kunio Iwatani, "KRINGLE") is proud to announce that it has established the Kringle Pharma Joint Research Division for Regenerative Drug Discovery ("Joint Research Division") within the Center for Advanced Science and Innovation at Osaka University (Administrative campus located in Suita, Osaka; President: Dr. Hideo Miyahara). The Joint Research Division will be operational from July 2007.

Since KRINGLE was established as a spin-off venture biopharmaceutical company from Osaka University, it has been intensively conducting joint research in cooperation with Osaka University to develop HGF (Hepatocyte Growth Factor) and NK4, an HGF antagonist and angiogenesis inhibitor, for clinical use. To promote the drug discovery activities undertaken with Osaka University, KRINGLE has decided to establish the Joint Research Division as part of the Center for Advanced Science and Innovation at Osaka University, which functions as an incubator of venture companies which sprout from the University. Through the Joint Research Division, KRINGLE is aiming to collaborate with cutting-edge research divisions in various interdisciplinary fields at Osaka University to secure the developmental and technical resources to advance its novel drug discovery activities.

The Joint Research Division was established as part of the Joint Research Chairs Program, run by Osaka University since April 2006. This program is fully devoted to the performance of cooperative research between academic staff at Osaka University and researchers from sponsor corporations. Under the Program, academia and industry stand on equal footing to jointly research common themes in achieving outstanding research results. The Joint Research Division is projected to remain in operation until the end of March 2010 under the joint management of KRINGLE and Osaka University. KRINGLE will dispatch its researchers to collaboratively conduct research for drug discovery.

Kunio Iwatani said, "I am extremely proud of having the Joint Research Division established within the Center for Advanced Science and Innovation at Osaka University. As a matter of fact, admission to the Joint Research Chairs program at Osaka University has been limited to larger companies in the past, so the Joint Research Division is the first admission ever granted to a spin-off venture company. I consider it is KRINGLE's mission to obtain fruitful outcomes from the Joint Research Division so that KRINGLE will be able to showcase an ideal model of a cooperative relationship between academia and industry. KRINGLE, as a venture company with its roots in Osaka University, will maintain its valuable relationship with the University and make ongoing efforts to discover innovative medical seeds by taking advantage of its superior academic human resources and infrastructure.

### *About Kringle Pharma, Inc.*

Kringle Pharma is a venture biopharmaceutical company spun-off from Osaka University. The company was established in 2001 to develop novel biopharmaceuticals based on HGF and NK4, both discovered by Professor Toshikazu Nakamura and Associate Professor Kunio Matsumoto at Osaka University (Dr. Matsumoto has been serving as a Professor at Kanazawa University since April 2007). HGF is considered as an intrinsic factor with an organotrophic role in the repair and regeneration of various tissues and organs, and is thought to have significant potential in becoming a regenerative medicine. NK4 is a molecule which functions as both an HGF-antagonist and an angiogenesis inhibitor that is induced by various growth factors including HGF. NK4 is a bi-functional and multi-target compound developed by Kringle Pharma for the treatment of various kinds of cancer.

*For more details on Kringle's technologies, please refer to the company's website at [www.kringle-pharma.com/en/index.html](http://www.kringle-pharma.com/en/index.html)*

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