

October 7, 2025

Press Release

Celaid Therapeutics Inc.

Celaid Therapeutics Raises JPY 1.055 Billion (USD 7.2 Million) in the First Close of its Series B Financing

Celaid Therapeutics Inc. (“Celaid”), today announced the successful completion of the 1st Close of its Series B financing round, raising JPY 1.055 billion (USD 7.2 million) from venture capital firms and the Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED). Including grants and subsidies, Celaid’s cumulative funding has reached JPY 2.52 billion (USD 17.14 million).

This financing reflects recognition of the progress in the company’s lead pipeline program CLD-001, a novel *ex vivo*-expanded hematopoietic stem cell (HSC) therapy for severe pediatric non-malignant diseases, as well as growing collaborations with global pharmaceutical and biotech companies leveraging Celaid’s proprietary platform technology.

CLD-001 Development Progress

- Positive non-clinical data demonstrating efficacy and safety in animal models
- Significant advancements in cell manufacturing and CMC (Chemistry, Manufacturing and Controls)
- Pre-IND preparation with the U.S. FDA progressing according to plan

Collaboration on HSC Expansion Platform

- [Collaborative research with AGC Inc. on the expansion and functional evaluation of iPSC-HSPCs](#)
- Ongoing evaluations of our HSC expansion platform by global pharmaceutical and biotech companies (undisclosed)

The newly raised capital will be used to support GMP manufacturing and non-clinical studies in preparation for the initiation of clinical trials of CLD-001 in the U.S. In addition, the company will further strengthen its proprietary HSC expansion platform and expand its applications to broader cell and gene therapy programs.

“We are deeply grateful for the continued support from our venture capital partners and AMED. This financing represents an important milestone that brings us closer to delivering transformative hematopoietic stem cell therapies to patients worldwide. As Japan’s leading university-origin hematopoietic stem cell company, we will continue to advance both our HSC pipeline development programs and our platform business.”

— Nobuyuki Arakawa, President & CEO, Celaid Therapeutics Inc.

Overview of Series B Financing (1st Close)

[Amount Raised] JPY 555 million (USD 3.77 million)

[Method] Third-party allocation of new shares (private placement)

[Investors (existing investors)]

- Osaka University Venture Capital Co., Ltd.
- The University of Tokyo Edge Capital Partners Co., Ltd.

- Techno Science Co., Ltd.
- Joyo Capital Partners Co., Ltd.

[Grant Awarded] Approx. JPY 500 million (USD 3.4 million)

- [AMED “Strengthening Program for Pharmaceutical Startup Ecosystem”, Stage 2](#)

Comments from Investors

“We are very pleased to have had the opportunity to make an additional investment in this financing round. Over the past year, Celaid Therapeutics has achieved continuous and tangible milestones, including advancements in non-clinical studies and collaborations with domestic and global partners, and has also successfully advanced to the next stage of the AMED Strengthening Program for Pharmaceutical Startup Ecosystem. We find great significance in having been able to support these steps forward together. With this new financing as a catalyst, we look forward to working with Celaid to further accelerate the development of cell therapy products and to deliver innovative technologies to patients as quickly as possible.”

— Yuki Taga, Investment Director, Osaka University Venture Capital Co., Ltd.

“We have had the privilege of working with Celaid Therapeutics Inc. since its founding. Over the years, Celaid has steadily advanced the accumulation of non-clinical data for its proprietary pipeline and the establishment of its manufacturing capabilities, while also actively pursuing partnerships with industry players leveraging its HSC expansion platform technology. These efforts have driven significant business growth. With this latest financing, we are confident that Celaid will further accelerate its global expansion and make substantial contributions both to providing new treatment options for patients worldwide and to advancing the broader cell therapy industry. We look forward to Celaid’s continued success.”

— Atsushi Usami, Ph.D., Partner and Board Director, The University of Tokyo Edge Capital Partners Co., Ltd. (UTEC)

“We deeply resonate with Celaid Therapeutics’ mission of developing innovative cell therapies for non-malignant diseases, hematologic cancers, and genetic diseases. We are also very pleased to see the significant progress made in the lead development pipeline since our fund’s participation in the Series A round. With this new financing, we are confident that Celaid will accelerate its activities toward initiating clinical trials in the United States, as well as advance its platform technologies. We look forward to seeing these efforts lead to the realization of next-generation cell therapy products and technologies that can benefit a wide range of patients.”

— Shigeto Ikeda, President, Joyo Capital Partners Co., Ltd.

About Hematopoietic Stem Cells (HSCs)

Hematopoietic stem cells are multipotent stem cells capable of generating all blood cell lineages, including red blood cells, white blood cells, and platelets. They possess the capacity for self-renewal, ensuring life-long maintenance of the hematopoietic system. However, HSCs are naturally scarce in the body or in collected samples, making it a major challenge to secure sufficient numbers for therapeutic use.

About CLD-001, an allogeneic HSC Therapy

CLD-001 is being developed as an HSC product for severe pediatric non-malignant diseases. Rare blood diseases such as aplastic anemia, primary immunodeficiency, inherited metabolic disorder, and sickle cell disease, which start in childhood and are associated with various physical and neurological complications, have very poor prognosis. Currently, the only curative therapy is allogeneic HSC transplantation (HSCT). On the other hand, there are still significant unmet needs for allogeneic HSCT due to donor problems such as bone marrow donor shortage and HLA type mismatch, as well as side effects such as transplant-related

mortality and graft-versus-host disease (GvHD). CLD-001 is designed to address the donor shortage, transplantation-related risks, and other limitations described above.

In addition to solving the donor problem by using frozen cord blood stored in a cord blood bank as the cell source, CLD-001 also solves the bottleneck of low HSC counts in cord blood with our proprietary HSC expansion technology, enabling us to provide HSCs with the best HLA type for the patient. CLD-001, the HLA best-matched and bone marrow-engrafting HSCs, is expected to significantly improve overall survival after HSC therapy.

About Celaid Therapeutics Inc.

Celaid Therapeutics Inc. is a startup born out of the University of Tokyo and University of Tsukuba with proprietary technology for selective *ex vivo* HSC expansion. By safely and efficiently expanding human HSCs, Celaid aims to provide the next generation of cell and gene therapy products for cell therapies targeting hematologic and genetic diseases, *ex vivo* HSC gene therapies for genetic disorders, and angiogenesis for ischemic diseases.

Contact Information

Celaid Therapeutics Inc.

Address: UTokyo Entrepreneur Lab., South Clinical Research Bldg., 7-3-1 Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-8485, Japan

E-mail: contact@celaidtx.com

URL: <https://celaidtx.com/en/>