

The NIKKOL GROUP' s Nikoderm Research Forms a Tie-up with CTI-BIOTECH

Nikoderm Research Inc., a member of the NIKKOL GROUP, is a Japanese company that makes accurate evaluation of the safety and efficacy of cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, food products, and other items, based on the very latest knowledge in the area of dermatology. It performs evaluation over a wide range of fields in partnership with not only Japanese laboratories but also dermatology institutions in other countries, and proposes accurate evaluation methodologies adapted to the wants and needs of each customer.



Nikoderm Research Inc., recently concluded a tie-up agreement with *CTI-BIOTECH* as a new business partner. On April 15th, a signing ceremony of the partnership agreement between *Nikoderm Research* and *CTI-BIOTECH* was held at the Lyon City Hall (Hotel De Ville). This ceremony took place in the presence of the Japanese ambassador to France and the Mayor of Lyon along with regional government officials. After that, the opening ceremony was held in the presence of Mayor of Meyzieu at *CTI-BIOTECH*.

This tie-up will enable it to make assessments using unprecedented next-generation 3D tissue models and *ex-vivo* assessment using human tissue. In addition, it has established a representative office titled “*Nikoderm Research Europe*” within *CTI-BIOTECH* for *ex-vivo* evaluation with human tissue and evaluation with cells from a rich variety of sources, using *CTI-BIOTECH*' s National BioBank.

[*Nikoderm Research Europe*]

- Opening of a site within *CTI-BIOTECH*, the consignee for testing in the EU.
- Ability to accept consignments of *ex-vivo* evaluation using human tissue that would be difficult to obtain in Japan.
- Ability for *ex-vivo* evaluation using mainly human skin tissue, and for receipt of consignments for testing that would be difficult to conduct in Japanese laboratories, such as and testing of human percutaneous absorption and testing with human hair follicles.
- Ability to construct 3D tissue models adapted to the particular need (e.g., 3D skin models incorporating the nervous system) and to carry out original evaluation of efficacy in correspondence with individual needs.
- Ability to make evaluation with cells from a wide variety of sources, using the National BioBank of *CTI-BIOTECH*.
- Ability to access laboratories and coordinate testing at customer sites (Open Research Laboratory).

[*CTI-BIOTECH*]

- Management of various types of skin tissue through the National Biobank
 - *CTI-BIOTECH* is a member of the Innovative Models Initiative against Cancer (IMODI), the EU consortium for cancer research. It acts as the tissue bank for IMODI and stocks tissue. It has tie-ups with numerous hospitals, which it possible to obtain tissue meeting the conditions in question within 24 hours.
 - The skin tissue it is able to obtain from tie-up hospitals includes skin from the abdomen, face, thighs, back, oral mucosa, dental pulp, nose, foreskin, lip (both dry and wet types), eyelid, scalp and hair.
 - It possesses tissue ranging in age from 6 months old to 93 years old.
- Development of tools for separation of stem cells from bio sources
- In possession of technology for use in separation and differentiation of stem cells from umbilical cords
- In possession of technology for construction of 3D tissue models from tissue
- Established as pharmaceutical venture firm which was the first in the world to produce artificial liver tissue using stem cells from adults

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