

September 23, 2020

KIRIN HEALTH INNOVATION FUND Invests in Siolta Therapeutics, Accelerating Open Innovation Initiatives in Health Science - Initial Investment goes to U.S.-based Biotech Startup -

TOKYO, September 23, 2020 – The KIRIN HEALTH INNOVATION FUND (KHIF), a corporate venture capital (CVC)¹ between Kirin Holdings Company, Ltd. (Kirin Holdings) and Global Brain Corporation (Global Brain) took a stake in Siolta Therapeutics Inc. (Siolta) on August 4, 2020. Siolta is a San Francisco-based biotech company that develops therapeutics based on human gut microbiome aimed at preventing and treating chronic inflammatory diseases. This new investment is expected to further augment the Kirin Group's health science business.

1. The practice of an operating company investing its corporate funds directly in an external startup company aligned with its business lines, intended to establish a mutually beneficial relationship or launch a new business by leveraging the latter's assets.

● **Significance of investing in Siolta**

Siolta Therapeutics is a U.S.-based biotech company that develops human-gut-microbiome-based therapeutics and diagnostics aimed at the prevention and treatment of chronic inflammatory diseases, beginning with asthma and allergies, especially among infants.

The Kirin Group's interest in using the human gut microbiome for the prevention of allergic disorders has been exemplified by its joint research project with Juntendo University in Tokyo². The investment in Siolta creates new avenues for collaboration in order to accelerate the research into the prevention and treatment of allergic diseases.

2. For more information please see <https://www.juntendo.ac.jp/news/20200303-02.html> (Japanese)

● **Background on the KIRIN HEALTH INNOVATION FUND**

Kirin Holdings and Global Brain - a prominent independent venture capital investment firm - jointly established the KHIF in March 2020. KHIF is a corporate venture capital (CVC) fund having assets under management (AUM) of five billion yen and specializing in investing in startups in the health science sector.

● **Purpose of establishing the KIRIN HEALTH INNOVATION FUND**

Through the KIRIN HEALTH INNOVATION FUND, Kirin Holdings intends to invest in startups around the globe that have innovative technologies and business models for resolving health issues, and to leverage their advanced health science technologies and solutions for improving customer experience. By combining the Kirin Group's wealth of assets and competence in health science with innovations and technologies that startups will bring to partnerships, Kirin Holdings will be better able to bolster its existing Food & Beverages domain as well as step up efforts to launch new businesses in its Health Science domain.



This further investment in health science is yet another development in achieving the goals in the *Kirin Group Vision 2027* plan. *Kirin Group Vision 2027* is the long-term management vision of the Kirin Group and sets out the broad goal of creating value across the world of Food & Beverages to Pharmaceuticals and becoming a global leader in CSV³. To augment the Group's existing Food & Beverages domain and Pharmaceuticals domain, the Group has launched a new Health Science domain to help people stay fit and healthy by leveraging advanced fermentation and biotechnology the Group has amassed over the years.

Supplementary Information

(1) About the KIRIN HEALTH INNOVATION FUND

Fund name	KIRIN HEALTH INNOVATION FUND (registered as <i>KIRIN and GB Investment Limited Partnership</i>)
Primary sector for investment	Startups around the globe operating in the health science domain
Established	March 2020
AUM	5 billion yen
Investment period	10 years
General partner	Global Brain Corporation

(2) About Global Brain

Company name	Global Brain Corporation
Head office	10-11 Sakuragaokacho, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo, Japan
President	Yasuhiko Yurimoto
Established	January 1998
Primary business	Venture capital business
URL	https://globalbrains.com/en

(3) About Siolta Therapeutics

Company name	Siolta Therapeutics Inc.
Head office	San Francisco, CA, United States
Founder and CEO	Nikole Kimes, PhD
Established	February 2017
Primary business	Development of human gut microbiome-based therapeutics and diagnostics aimed at the prevention and treatment of chronic inflammatory diseases, beginning with asthma and allergy
URL	https://www.sioltatherapeutics.com