

Japan Biotech Showcase & Symposium ● 2026

Presented by the Japanese Government

Date

2026.3.25 - 26
Wed. Thu.

Symposium
Fee

Free

Website

<https://mediso.mhlw.go.jp/showcase2026-symposium/>

Organizer

Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

(Office of Pharmaceutical Industry and Venture Support Policy Planning Division for Pharmaceutical Industry Promotion and Medical Information Management, Health Policy Bureau)

Purpose

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) will host the “Japan Biotech Showcase & Symposium 2026” with the aim of advancing the social implementation of innovative medical technologies originating in Japan, deepening discussions on the challenges and future prospects of drug discovery startups and the broader ecosystem, and promoting networking among stakeholders from Japan, Europe, and North America.

The symposium will feature presentations on policies and initiatives supporting healthcare startups by the Japanese government and public institutions, lectures by academic researchers engaged in cutting-edge medical research in Japan, panel discussions with domestic and international venture capital firms, and panel discussions with pharmaceutical companies. Through these sessions, the symposium will examine the current status and future outlook of Japan's biotech startup ecosystem in a global context.

The symposium will be open to the public via online streaming.

We warmly welcome participation from healthcare startups, academic institutions, large corporations, support organizations, and other related stakeholders.

*Due to operational constraints, in-person attendance at this symposium is limited to speakers and relevant personnel.
The symposium will be conducted in English, with Japanese-English interpretation available via the live stream.*

Starting time, Program

* Please note that the start time and program content may be subject to change on the day of the event.

DAY1 : 2026.3.25 (Wed)

Time	Session	Speakers
13:00-13:15	Opening Remarks	Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) of Japan
13:15-14:00	Keynote Address	Shimon Sakaguchi, M.D., Ph.D. Osaka University
14:00-14:15	Industry Perspective	Michael V. McCullar, Ph.D., MBA RegCell, Inc.
14:15-14:45	Introduction I : Japan Biotech Landscape	Takeshi Nakamura, Ph.D., MBA Boston Consulting Group
14:45-15:15	Introduction II : Japan R&D and Clinical Development Landscape	Alan Thomas IQVIA Solutions Japan G.K.
15:30-16:30	Government and Public-Sector Policies and Initiatives Supporting Healthcare Startups in Japan	Hirokazu Shimoda Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development Takeshi Annaka Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) of Japan
16:30-17:30	Pharma Panel : Opportunities for Collaboration with Global Venture Capital	[Moderator] Toru Jay Seo, Ph.D. K.K. Newsight Tech Angels [Panelists] Eriha Dekura Tanabe Pharma Corporation Kazuhiro Onuma, Ph.D. UBE Corporation Seiichi Inamura, Ph.D. Chugai Pharma USA, Inc. Yasuhito Yasogi Teijin Pharma Limited
17:30-18:30	VC Pannel I : What Would It Take for Japan to Get on the Global VC Map?	[Moderator] Hiroki Ashida, Ph.D. Silvertrail Partners [Panelists] Adam Simpson Frazier Life Sciences Ben Auspitz Curie.Bio Brian Matesic, M.D. Norwest Venture Partners Rajeev Dadoo, Ph.D. SR One Capital Management Shinichiro Fuse, Ph.D. TPG Life Sciences Innovations
18:30-18:40	Wrap-Up of Day 1	Shinichiro Komoto Eight Roads Ventures Japan Shuji Honjo, Ph.D., MBA Honjo International / Tama Graduate School of Business

DAY2 : 2026.3.26 (Thu)

Time	Session	Speakers
13:00-13:30	Invited Lecture : Navigating Global Clinical Trials and the Future of Drug Development	Toshihiko Doi, M.D., Ph.D. National Cancer Center Hospital East
13:30-13:50	Academic Research Highlights 1	Kumiko Ui-Tei, Ph.D. Institute of Science Tokyo / ANRis Inc.
13:50-14:10	Academic Research Highlights 2	Masayo Takahashi M.D., Ph.D. Kobe City Eye Hospital / Ritsumeikan University / VCCT Inc.
14:20-14:40	Academic Research Highlights 3	Hiroaki Suga, Ph.D. University of Tokyo
14:40-15:00	Academic Research Highlights 4	Yosuke Togashi, M.D., Ph.D. Okayama University
15:00-15:45	VC Pannel II : Being Active in Japan – Realities and Opportunities	[Moderator] Robert Weisskoff, Ph.D. F-Prime Capital [Panelists] Jonathan Yeh, Ph.D., MBA Saisei Ventures Ken Horne AN Venture Partners Makoto Ohori, Ph.D. UTokyo Innovation Platform Co., Ltd. Shinichiro Komoto Eight Roads Ventures Japan Tai Harada, MBA Fast Track Initiative Takeshi Takahashi, MBA Catalys Pacific, LLC Taro Inaba, MBA Remiges Ventures, Inc.
15:45-16:00	Closing Remarks	

Contact

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