



Canon Marketing Japan Invests in Metagen Therapeutics, Inc., a Company Advancing Medicine and Drug Discovery Based on Gut Microbiome Research

Canon Marketing Japan Inc. (President & Representative Director: Masachika Adachi, “Canon MJ”) has invested in Metagen Therapeutics, Inc. (President and CEO: Taku Nakahara, “Metagen Therapeutics”), a company engaged in medicine and drug discovery based on gut microbiome research, through Canon Marketing Japan MIRAI Fund, a corporate venture capital (CVC) fund. Additionally, Canon MJ and Metagen Therapeutics will jointly participate in the “Dietary Habit and Health Database Initiative for Elucidating Tsuruoka’s Food Culture through Microbiome Science” which was selected under Tsuruoka City’s FY2025 food industry creation initiative “Tsuruoka Gastronomic Innovation” project in Yamagata Prefecture.



**Metagen
Therapeutics**

Metagen Therapeutics is engaged in the development of medicine and drug discovery based on microbiota through its “Gut Microbiome Bank”, a platform for recruiting gut microbiota donors and utilizing gut microbiota resources. The company aims to advance the Fecal Microbiota Transplantation (FMT) as a global standard treatment.*1 In April 2025, it launched the “Tsuruoka Stool Donation Center” in Yamagata Prefecture - the first facility of its kind in Japan for stool donation by microbiota donors. In May 2025, it opened the FMT Clinical Trial Drug Production Center in Kawasaki City, Kanagawa Prefecture to advance the development of Japan-origin microbiome therapeutics for FMT. Currently, it is focused on the development of new therapies for immune diseases such as inflammatory bowel disease, cancer and central nervous system disorders.

The Canon MJ Group explores the cutting-edge technologies and business ideas and pushes ahead with open innovation and new value creation, aiming to solve social issues by taking a future-oriented approach. One of the investment themes of the Canon Marketing Japan MIRAI Fund is “Life Purpose” (creating services that empower anyone to experience the vitality to live in good health through spiritual enrichment). The Fund participated in this round of fundraising by Metagen Therapeutics in the hope that the business it operates under its purpose of *living up to the hopes of patients through microbiome science* will create new value for human health.

Additionally, Canon MJ and Metagen Therapeutics will jointly participate in the Dietary Habit and Health Database Initiative for Elucidating Tsuruoka’s Food Culture through Microbiome Science. This activity was selected as a food industry creation initiative under the FY2025 Tsuruoka Gastronomic Innovation project*2 being implemented by the Tsuruoka City Government in Yamagata Prefecture. This project aims to scientifically clarify, from the perspective of gut microbiota science, how Tsuruoka’s food culture

influences human health thereby enhancing the brand value of Tsuruoka's food culture and contributing to the revitalization of the local food and tourism industries.

*1 Therapeutic method in which the gut microbiota contained in the stool of a healthy donor are transplanted into the intestine of a patient to restore a balanced gut microbiome.

*2 A project for the creation of new industries through the effective utilization of innovative new food materials and technologies being implemented by the Tsuruoka City Government and recognized by the Cabinet Office (<https://tgi-project.jp/>)

■ Overview of Metagen Therapeutics

Company name	Metagen Therapeutics, Inc.
Established	January 2020
Location	Tsuruoka, Yamagata, Japan
Representative	Taku Nakahara, President and CEO
Description of business	Drug discovery and medical business utilizing microbiome science
URL	https://www.metagentx.com/en

Website

R&B <https://corporate.jp.canon/en/profile/rb>

Canon Marketing Japan MIRAI Fund <https://corporate.jp.canon/en/profile/rb/mirai-fund>

Inquiries

Inquiry form <https://forum1.canon.jp/public/application/add/9858>