

September 30, 2022

Sumitomo Pharma Co., Ltd.
MELTIN MMI

Sumitomo Pharma and MELTIN Enter into Marketing Alliance for MELTz[®] Hand Rehabilitation System and Launch It

Sumitomo Pharma Co., Ltd. (Head Office: Osaka, Japan; Representative Director, President and CEO: Hiroshi Nomura) and MELTIN MMI (Head Office: Chuo-ku, Tokyo, Japan; CEO: Mark Kasuya; hereinafter “MELTIN”) announced today that they have concluded an agreement regarding marketing alliance in Japan for the MELTz[®] Hand Rehabilitation System (hereafter “MELTz[®]”; generic name: active extension / bending and stretching rotation exercise equipment), which the two companies jointly developed and for which MELTIN has obtained medical device certification as manufacturer and distributor.

Receiving exclusive supplies of MELTz[®] from MELTIN, Sumitomo Pharma will begin marketing MELTz[®] to mainly rehabilitation wards for convalescent period patients in September 30, 2022 as the company's first frontier business product.

MELTz[®] is a medical device that takes advantage of bio-signal processing and biomimetic robot technology. Its intended use is to maintain, develop, or restore muscle strength in the upper limbs of patients undergoing rehabilitation of hand/finger paralysis due to stroke or other causes. This device is designed to support rehabilitation of hand/finger motor function by connecting algorithms that recognize hand/finger movement signals from myoelectricity (bio-signals) with a robot system that provides motor assistance according to the intended movements of the user. MELTz[®] has the following features.

<Features of MELTz[®]>

- ✓ The user's intention and movement are instantaneously synchronized by technology that measures subtle myoelectricity with high precision and converts it into movement using a high-speed and high-precision algorithm.
- ✓ Proprietary wire drive technology enables the wires corresponding to muscles and tendons to drive the hands and fingers in a flexible and powerful manner while controlling their forces to grasp a variety of objects of different sizes and shapes.
- ✓ Artificial Intelligence (AI) analysis technology instantaneously identifies differences in bio-signals that change subtly with different movements, supporting hand movements according to the user's intentions.
- ✓ With a 5-finger independent motor drive providing sufficient force, the device can be attached to the back of a hand for applications in various hand/finger functional therapy.

<Product Overview>

General name	Active extension / bending and stretching rotation exercise equipment
Commercial name	MELTz® Hand Rehabilitation System
Classification	Class II controlled medical device (controlled medical device requiring special maintenance)
Medical device certification No.	304AIBZX00014000
Purpose of use, indications	To be used to maintain, develop, or restore muscle strength in upper limbs
Classification of medical devices for specified medical fee calculation	Device to increase the amount of physical activity
Launch date	September 30, 2022
Manufacturer/distributor	MELTIN MMI
Distributor	Sumitomo Pharma Co., Ltd.
Product URL	https://www.meltin.jp/en/products/medical/meltz/



Sumitomo Pharma will provide information to medical institutions, etc. and supply MELTz® to them through Kuribara Medical Instruments and others as the distribution and marketing agents in the market.

Sumitomo Pharma and MELTIN plan to conduct clinical researches using MELTz® and make improvements to the device based on evidence obtained from the studies. In the future, the partners will conduct clinical studies using an improved product, aiming to obtain approval for new or improved medical devices.

Reference

About Development of MELTz[®] Hand Rehabilitation System (MELTz[®])

Sumitomo Pharma and MELTIN signed in 2018 a joint research and development agreement for medical devices using MELTIN's excellent bio-signal processing and robotics. The two companies have since been engaged in the development of neurorehabilitation devices. MELTIN applied for approval of MELTz[®] as an active extension / bending and stretching rotation exercise equipment (generic name) in February 2022 and obtained medical device certification in May of the same year. Subsequently in July 2022, MELTz[®] was covered by insurance as a device to increase the amount of physical activity.

About Medical Device Certification

For manufacturing/marketing highly controlled medical devices and controlled medical devices designated by the Minister of Health, Labor and Welfare based on its standards, such products need to obtain certification (third-party certification) by item from organizations registered with the Minister of Health, Labor and Welfare (third-party certification bodies).

About Sumitomo Pharma

Sumitomo Pharma defines its corporate mission as "To broadly contribute to society through value creation based on innovative research and development activities for the betterment of healthcare and fuller lives of people worldwide." By channeling our efforts into the research and development of new drugs, Sumitomo Pharma aims to realize our corporate mission and provide innovative and effective pharmaceutical solutions not only to people in Japan but also around the world. Sumitomo Pharma's goal is to create innovative pharmaceutical products in the research focus areas with high unmet medical needs of Psychiatry & Neurology, Oncology, and Regenerative Medicine / Cell Therapy. In business fields other than pharmaceuticals, too, Sumitomo Pharma is working on research and development and commercialization of innovative healthcare solutions under the framework of a frontier business, which goes beyond the traditional boundaries of a pharmaceutical company, with the aim of contributing to "wide-ranging well-being." For more information, please visit <https://www.sumitomo-pharma.com>.

About MELTIN

MELTIN is a venture company that utilizes the two core technologies of proprietary bio-signal processing and bio-inspired robotics in order to realize cyborg technology that can maximize human creativity by implementing medical devices and avatars in society.

Kasuya, CEO of MELTIN, states, "the MELTz[®] to be marketed this time is the first practical product that uses cyborg technology. We hope it will become a new rehabilitation option for patients. We would like to continue to grow so that we can realize a society where cyborg technology will provide all individuals, regardless of age or physical ability, with options to live their lives to the full without feeling any inconvenience." For more information, please visit <https://www.meltin.jp/en/>.

About Kuribara Medical Instruments Corporation

Kuribara Medical Instruments Corporation is a comprehensive medical equipment wholesale company that operates mainly in the Kanto and Shinetsu areas with the management philosophy

of “Contributing local medicine.”

Pursuing the satisfaction of healthcare providers, we aim to contribute to the advancement of medical care and nursing care qualities and improving the QOL by stable supply of medical equipment and services to medical institutions.

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