



# We will continue to take on challenges in our own unique style with the aim of becoming a highly competitive specialty pharma company.

Since its founding in 1920, ASKA Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. has created and provided pharmaceuticals with value that can address medical needs to realize its corporate philosophy to "Contribute toward the improvement of people's health and progress in medicine through the development of innovative products." ASKA aims to become a highly competitive specialty pharma company in the three core areas of internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology (Ob/Gyn) and urology.

We also focus on niche areas where there are clear medical needs that are not being addressed by major pharmaceutical companies. Remaining constantly aware of changes in the clinical environment as we contribute to society with higher quality rather than quantity: I believe that is where ASKA's unique value lies.

ASKA will continue to achieve sustainable growth primarily by providing pharmaceuticals in its three core areas. Of these three areas, we place a greater focus on Ob/Gyn as a company that supports women's health, as well as more comfortable lifestyles and more productive life stages for women.

In addition, we have been involved with generic drugs for some time, but substantial energy is required to secure earnings in this business, particularly in light of the need to deal with an increasingly stringent drug pricing system. In terms of the growth and development of the company, we believe it would be better to devote that energy to the development of new drugs, and we intend to expand our fields of expertise to include licensed products in addition to those developed in-house.

We look forward to your understanding and support as ASKA continues to take on challenges.

## Takashi Yamaguchi

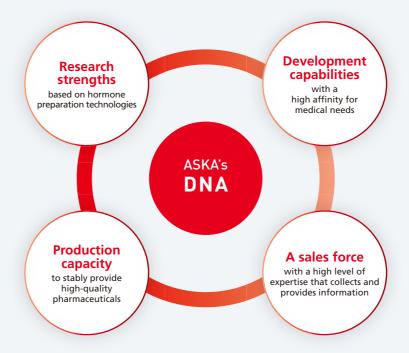
President, Representative Director ASKA Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.





## ASKA's Strengths

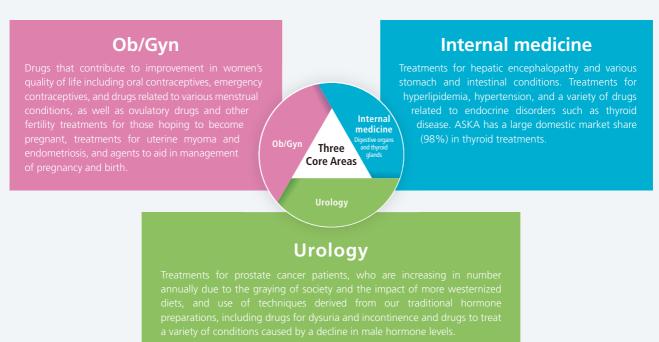
A sense of mission to deliver pharmaceuticals with value as long as medical needs exist is part of our DNA as a pioneer in hormone preparations. From ASKA's past and present into its future, this DNA is ingrained in every employee throughout the company's value chain (including research, development, production, sales and reliability assurance), and drives them to take on the challenge of addressing medical needs. By leveraging these strengths, we aim to create value unique to ASKA.





## Three Core Areas

Since its founding in 1920, ASKA has established its technologies and a strong presence through the ongoing research, manufacture and sale of hormone preparations. As a result, we have enhanced our status as a specialty pharma company that delivers a higher level of value-added products in the three core areas of internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology (Ob/Gyn), and urology. Among these three core areas, we are demonstrating greater expertise and expanding our product lineup in Ob/Gyn to support the empowerment of women.



# **ASKA's Initiatives**



## Research and Development

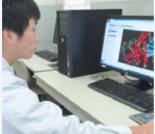
## **Enhancing R&D Capabilities to Continuously Create New High-Value Drugs**

Based on its corporate philosophy to "Contribute toward the improvement of people's health and progress in medicine through the development of innovative products," ASKA is enhancing its research and development capabilities to continuously create new high-value drugs that can address unmet medical needs. We have created many highly original products in-house utilizing our advanced technologies and accumulated years of experience in sex hormones and endocrinology, as well as our dedication to open innovation. To further promote open innovation, we relocated our research center to Shonan Health Innovation Park

(Shonan iPark) in 2020. This has created a research system that can respond flexibly to rapid advances in technology, and strengthened cooperation with external parties. Our development activities focus on our core areas of internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology (Ob/Gyn) and urology. We are also working to develop products that will contribute strongly to health in niche areas and rare diseases. To conduct efficient and effective development, we carry out forward-looking alliance activities with partners in Japan and overseas with the aim of delivering useful new treatments to patients as quickly as possible.



Activities at the research center





Shonan Research Center



Meeting with physicians



## **Production**

## **Production and Supply under a Comprehensive Quality Control System**

Pharmaceutical companies are required to ensure the efficacy, safety, high quality and stable supply of their pharmaceuticals. In conducting production activities, all ASKA employees are constantly mindful of the important mission of providing pharmaceuticals that directly impact human life and health, and work together diligently to fulfill this mission.

In addition to complying with Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) and other standards at our Iwaki Factory, we have established a comprehensive quality control system in our ongoing efforts to ensure high quality at all times. In 2020, a joint venture

Quality control building (Iwaki Factory)

we established in India to manufacture pharmaceuticals will begin operations. We have also constructed and begun operation of a fourth pharmaceutical manufacturing building at the Iwaki Factory. We are building a global network with the establishment of a system that can provide high-quality pharmaceuticals at low cost.

ASKA strives for continuous technological innovation, and is working to further improve productivity and reduce manufacturing costs as part of its efforts to ensure a stable supply of high-quality, safe pharmaceuticals.



Fourth pharmaceutical manufacturing building (Iwaki Factory)



## **Providing Drug Information**

MRs with High-Level Expertise Provide Information That Contributes to Treatment

Pharmaceuticals directly impact human life and health. For their proper use, it is therefore essential that doctors and pharmacists are provided with information on efficacy, safety and quality in a prompt and accurate manner. This is one of the most important roles of medical representatives (MRs). ASKA is working to develop MRs with high-level expertise and high ethical standards, and has introduced an up-to-the-minute support system to help them provide high-quality drug information.





## Highlight

## **Providing Drug Information through Multiple Channels**

In addition to the activities of its MRs, ASKA conducts a wide range of activities to provide drug information through multiple channels, including by conducting numerous web-based seminars. In FY2019, we held more than 20 of these webinars in the areas of Ob/Gyn and liver diseases. The webinars have received a total of about 8,000 views from healthcare providers. The advantage of webinars is that they can widely disseminate information on the proper use of medicines to busy healthcare providers, as well as to a broader target group. We will continue to proactively conduct webinars in conjunction with the activities of MRs. In addition, we have set up a dedicated membership section for healthcare providers on our company website to provide appropriate and useful information.





## Reliability Assurance

**Continuously Enhancing Quality Assurance and Safety Monitoring Systems** 

To ensure that patients and healthcare providers are able to use our pharmaceuticals with peace of mind, it is crucial to vigilantly monitor their quality and safety even after their launch, and to take appropriate and prompt measures when necessary. The Law on Securing Quality, Efficacy and Safety of Products Including Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices requires strict controls to ensure quality and safety. Standards for control of pharmaceuticals and other products have been established, including Good Quality Practice (GQP) for quality and Good Vigilance Practice (GVP) for post-marketing safety.

ASKA complies with these and other related laws, regulations and standards. As a pharmaceutical Marketing Authorization Holder, ASKA strives for close cooperation with its three key officers tasked with overseeing relevant activities and related departments. We are also enhancing employee training, strengthening our quality system and safety measures, and promoting proper use of pharmaceuticals. In addition, we collect and evaluate quality and safety information on our drugs from patients, medical institutions and manufacturing sites, and take appropriate measures based on evaluations. By doing so, we conduct effective quality and safety control and work to continuously improve our pharmaceutical quality.





For as long as medical needs have existed, we have remained constantly aware of changes in the clinical environment in order to fulfill our mission of delivering pharmaceuticals with value.

**Management Vision** 

**Become** a highly competitive specialty pharma company

We celebrated our centenary in 2020, but the DNA at our core has never changed and never will.

#### **Main SDG Initiatives**

We prioritize initiatives for the following six items among the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by the U.N., based on the role that ASKA should play.

2020

**Celebrating Our** 















#### **Further advancing operations**

Decided to relocate the research center in Kawasaki to the Shonan Health Innovation Park (Shonan iPark) to strengthen its drug discovery functions in order to further step up operations.



#### Taking on the next stage

Started ASKA PLAN 2020 in 2016. By positioning the company for "emerging as a specialty pharma company and establishing the foundations for sustained growth," the plan aims to make ASKA "a specialty pharma company with a strong presence."



2005

### Formation of ASKA Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.

Completed the head office building in 2001. Merged with Grelan Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. in 2005 to form ASKA Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. Strengthened new drug development and made a full-scale move into generic pharmaceuticals.



#### Diversification of management and launch of major new products

Enhanced our position as a specialty pharma company focused on the three core areas of internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology (Ob/Gyn), and urology. Involved in clinical testing, pharmaceutical raw materials, food, medical instruments and other businesses. Opened the Iwaki Factory in 1980.



## Established a business foundation and went public

Rebuilt the head office and factory after the Second World War, established new research and production facilities and enhanced the sales structure to launch a series of new products. Entered the veterinary medicine business. Listed shares on the Tokyo Stock Exchange in 1955.

1920

#### Founded as a pharmaceutical company

Founder Yasohachi Yamaguchi established Teikoku Hormone Research Institute in Minamiyoshidacho, Yokohama in 1920. Began research, manufacture and sale of hormone preparations based on the unique idea of creating useful medicines from animal organs

Origins in research, manufacture and sale of hormone preparations

As a pioneer in hormone preparations, a sense of mission to deliver pharmaceuticals with value as long as medical needs exist



Deeply rooted DNA that has not changed in a century of doing business

## Head office of ASKA Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.





Shonan Research Center









lwaki Factory

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