

# Development of Hit to Lead Platform to Accelerate RNA-Targeted Small Molecule Drug Discovery (xFOREST Therapeutics Co., Ltd.)



City	Year of Establishment	Founder
Kyoto	2020	Shunichi KASHIDA Kaoru Richard KOMATSU

Partner VC	Latest round of Fundraising	Valuation
Miyako Capital	Series A	JPY 8110 million

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○ Business Plan  
xFOREST is a leading company in the field, providing solutions to pharmaceutical companies specializing in exploratory processes focused on RNA. Through this grant project, we aim to establish a Hit-to-Lead development platform, creating a foundation for generating lead compounds.

○ Research Outline  
This research project aims to establish a Hit-to-Lead development platform to optimize lead compounds from hit compounds.  
①Establishing compound optimization methods specialized for RNA-targeted drug discovery and generating lead compounds.  
②Developing a binding selectivity evaluation system to predict off-target toxicity.  
③Building compound optimization methods through 3D binding mode analysis of RNA-compound interactions.

Business Area/Field	Research Period	Research Grant Amount	International collaborative technology demonstration
Healthcare	PCA 2024～2027FY	JPY 999 million	United States, Europe