



May 13, 2025
JCR Pharmaceuticals Co., Ltd.

JCR Pharmaceuticals Announces Chairman and President Transition as of April 1, 2026

Hyogo, Japan – May 13, 2025 – [JCR Pharmaceuticals Co., Ltd.](#) (TSE 4552; “JCR”) today announced that, effective April 1, 2026, the company will implement a new leadership structure. The changes were approved at the Board of Directors meeting held earlier today. Under the new structure, Toru Ashida will assume the role of Chairman, and Hiroyuki Sonoda will become President. Current Chairman, President and CEO, Shin Ashida, will transition to the role of Founder and Director.

Changes in Representative Directors (including Chairman and President)

(1) New Assignments of Representative Directors

Name	New position	Current position
Toru Ashida	Representative Director Chairman	Director, Senior Managing Executive Officer, Sales, Executive Director, Sales Division
Hiroyuki Sonoda	Representative Director President	Director, Senior Managing Executive Officer, Research, Executive Director, Research Division
Shin Ashida	Director, Founder	Representative Director Chairman, President and CEO

(2) Reason for Changes

Since founding JCR in September 1975, Shin Ashida has played a pivotal role in shaping the company’s growth, grounded in a deep and enduring commitment to innovation in biopharmaceutical research and manufacturing. As the company marks its 50th anniversary this September, this leadership transition reflects a generational shift aimed at further strengthening the management structure and driving long-term corporate value.

Details regarding other executive appointments will be announced once internal discussions have been concluded.

(3) Effective Date

April 1, 2026

(Reference)

Brief Personal History of New Chairman

Name: Toru Ashida

Birthdate: October 31, 1968 (56 years old)

Birthplace: Ashiya City, Hyogo Prefecture, Japan

Education: March 1992 Graduated from Keio University,
Faculty of Business and Commerce



Career

April 1992	Joined Nippon Life Insurance Company
April 2002	Appointed Representative Director and President at the establishment of JBS Co., Ltd. (clinical trial site support organization)
January 2014	Joined the Company
July 2014	Appointed Corporate Officer of the Company Executive Director of Corporate Business Support Division and Director of Corporate Strategy Department of the Company
April 2016	Head of Office of the President of the Company
June 2018	Appointed Senior Executive Director of the Company Head of Quality Assurance Division, Corporate Planning Division, and Medical Affairs Department of the Company
June 2019	In charge of Corporate Strategy Head of Quality Assurance Division, Corporate Planning Division, Administration Division, and Medical Affairs Department of the Company
April 2020	Executive Director of Sales Division of the Company (to present)
June 2020	Appointed Vice President of the Company and in charge of Sales Division
June 2021	Appointed Senior Vice President of the Company and in charge of Sales and Administration
April 2023	In charge of Sales (to present)
June 2024	Appointed Director and Senior Managing Executive Officer of the Company (to present)

Number of Shares Held 360,308 shares

Brief Personal History of New President

Name: Hiroyuki Sonoda, Ph.D.

Birthdate: June 15, 1978 (46 years old)

Birthplace: Maizuru City, Kyoto Prefecture, Japan

Education: September 2010 Graduated from Department of
Chemical Science and Engineering Faculty of Engineering
Graduate School of Engineering Kobe University (Doctor of Engineering)



Career

April 2003	Joined the Company
April 2016	Director of Corporate Planning Division (In charge of Research) of the Company
October 2017	Leader of Frontier Research Unit and Director of Corporate Planning Division (In charge of Research) of the Company
April 2018	Executive Director of Research Planning Division of the Company
June 2018	Appointed Corporate Officer of the Company
June 2020	Appointed Senior Executive Director of the Company and in charge of Research and Development Division Executive Director of Research Division, and Director of Drug Discovery Research Institute
June 2021	Appointed Vice President of the Company and in charge of Research and Corporate Strategy Executive Director of Research Division (to present)

October 2022 Representative Director and President of AlliedCel Corporation (Joint venture with Sysmex Corporation) (to present)

April 2023 In charge of Research (to present)

June 2024 Appointed Director and Senior Managing Executive Officer of the Company (to present)

Number of Shares Held 68,320 shares

About JCR Pharmaceuticals Co., Ltd.

JCR Pharmaceuticals Co., Ltd. (TSE 4552) is a global specialty pharmaceuticals company that is expanding possibilities for people with rare and genetic diseases worldwide. We continue to build upon our 50-year legacy in Japan while expanding our global footprint into the US, Europe, and Latin America. We improve patients' lives by applying our scientific expertise and unique technologies to research, develop, and deliver next-generation therapies. Our approved products in Japan include therapies for the treatment of growth disorder, MPS II (Hunter syndrome), Fabry disease, acute graft-versus host disease, and renal anemia. Our investigational products in development worldwide are aimed at treating rare diseases including MPS I (Hurler, Hurler-Scheie and Scheie syndrome), MPS II, MPS IIIA and B (Sanfilippo syndrome type A and B), and more. JCR strives to expand the possibilities for patients while accelerating medical advancement at a global level. For more information, please visit <https://www.jcrpharm.co.jp/en/site/en/>.

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