IMS-P17 ASP2215, a Novel FLT3/AXL Inhibitor: Preclinical Evaluation in Acute Myeloid Leukemia

○Yoko UENO¹, Naoki KANEKO¹, Masamichi MORI¹, Ruriko TANAKA¹, Rika SAITO¹, Itsuro SHIMADA¹, Sadao KUROMITSU¹

¹Drug Discovery Research, Astellas Pharma Inc.

Activating mutations in FLT3, such as internal tandem duplication (ITD) and tyrosine kinase domain point mutations are associated with poor prognosis in acute myeloid leukemia (AML) patients. ASP2215 is a novel small-molecule tyrosine kinase inhibitor currently under clinical trial evaluation. ASP2215 inhibited the growth of MV4-11 AML cells, which harbor FLT3-ITD, with an IC_{50} value of 0.92 nM, accompanied with inhibition of phosphorylation of FLT3 and its downstream molecules. ASP2215 also inhibited the growth of Ba/F3 cells expressing FLT3-ITD and/or FLT3-D835 mutation with similar activity. In an MV4-11 subcutaneous model, ASP2215 administration induced complete tumor regression at 6 mg/kg or more. Further, ASP2215 decreased tumor burden in bone marrow and prolonged the survival of mice intravenously transplanted with MV4-11 cells. These findings support the development of ASP2215 for the potential use in treating AML.