

The Denka Group Donates Ebola Virus Rapid Diagnostic Test Kits to the Democratic Republic of Congo

Denka Company Limited (hereinafter “Denka”) hereby announces that Denka Seiken Co., Ltd. (hereinafter “Denka Seiken”), a core Group subsidiary, donated prototype Ebola virus rapid diagnostic test kits (QuickNavi™ series) to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). This donation was also announced by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) via a press release dated May 25, 2018 and posted on JICA’s website.

The aforementioned prototype was developed through joint research undertaken by Denka Seiken and Dr. Ayato Takada, a professor at Hokkaido University’s Division of Global Epidemiology, Research Center for Zoonosis Control. Diagnosis using this prototype requires no special equipment or electrical device and is capable of confirming Ebola infection within approximately 15 minutes. It therefore enables healthcare specialists in areas with scarce resources to more effectively counter this critical disease. For example, this prototype was used to help prevent a catastrophic outbreak when Ebola disease cases were reported in the DRC in 2017.

On May 8, 2018, the DRC’s Ministry of Public Health announced the emergence of a new Ebola virus epidemic in the country. Aware of the aforementioned track record of Denka Seiken prototype, the Ministry’s Testing Taskforce of the National Coordinating Committee on Ebola Countermeasures asked Dr. Takada to provide diagnostic test kits via the JICA. In response to this request, Denka Seiken has decided to donate these test kits.

In tandem with Hokkaido University, the Denka Group will push forward with its efforts to help resolve medical issues around the world by delivering solutions to ensure the prevention and early diagnosis of infectious diseases.

Related links:

JICA’s press release

“Japan’s technologies contribute once again to the prevention of Ebola virus outbreak in Democratic Republic of Congo”*

Denka’s press releases

“Denka Seiken and Hokkaido University Develop a Rapid Antigen Detection Test Kit for Ebola Virus” dated March 31, 2015

http://www.denka.co.jp/eng/news/pdf/20150331_ebolakit_eng.pdf

“The Denka Group Donates Ebola Virus Rapid Diagnostic Test Kits to the Democratic Republic of the Congo” dated May 30, 2017

http://www.denka.co.jp/eng/news/pdf/20170530_ebola_en.pdf

*Japanese only

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