

## Kidswell Bio and Treehill Partners launch US-based Newco to fast-track global clinical development of a novel cell and gene therapy for paediatric cerebral palsy

The partnership between Kidswell Bio (Japan) and Treehill Partners will bring together Kidswell's world-class scientific expertise and Treehill's proven drug development optimisation model to accelerate development, enhance capital efficiency, and deliver affordable cell therapies for children with cerebral palsy

Tokyo, Japan and London, UK, February 16, 2026 – [Kidswell Bio Corporation](#), the Japanese biosimilars and cell therapies leader, and [Treehill Partners](#), the global healthcare asset and corporate development advisor, today announce the creation of a new US based regenerative medicine company, Kidswell USA. Kidswell USA will be formed for the purpose of accelerating the development of Kidswell's cell therapy pipeline, currently targeting cerebral palsy (CP) as a lead indication.

It is estimated that the prevalence of CP in the US is 1 in 345 children. The NIH reports that approximately 8,000 to 12,000 infants born each year develop the condition. Currently, only symptomatic treatments are available for CP patients. This underscores the need for new disease modifying therapeutics. Kidswell is pioneering the development of stem cells derived from human exfoliated deciduous teeth (SHED) as a regenerative therapy platform. Their lead program SQ-SHED has already shown strong initial signals of clinical efficacy in CP.

In the new company, Kidswell and Treehill combine their respective strengths to advance SQ-SHED through clinical development in the most cost-effective format, and with a specific focus on the US market. Senior management will be provided by Treehill, leveraging its extensive experience and expertise in creation and operational oversight of Kidswell USA through its clinical development optimization model. In addition, Kidswell and Treehill have selected Thermo Fisher Scientific, the world leader in serving science, as their preferred development service partner.

*"Kidswell is seeking to develop its most innovative therapies for the US market, and to accelerate this process we have selected partners that will enable us to jointly create a clinical development roadmap. This roadmap will provide the best opportunities for success with the most financially efficient routes, and provide therapies that are commercially viable for the market. This will result in new therapies for underserved indications where patients have few alternative therapeutic options," said Shinya Kurebayashi, President & CEO, Kidswell Bio Corporation. "Partnering with Treehill and leveraging the Thermo Fisher US infrastructure enables us to combine established expertise, senior leadership and*

*corporate strategy, as well as market-focused drug development to navigate into, and through the clinic towards commercialization.”*

*“Too many promising therapies fail unnecessarily in clinical development or never reach patients due to inefficient development pathways and poor capital discipline,” said Ali Pashazadeh, CEO and Founder of Treehill Partners. “Treehill was built to address this through our Clinical Development Optimisation model, which is designed to accelerate timelines, optimise capital deployment, and increase the probability of regulatory and commercial success. Partnering with Kidswell will speed up the advancement of its cell therapy for paediatric cerebral palsy, a programme with meaningful clinical potential and significant unmet need. This collaboration adds another high-quality asset to Treehill’s growing portfolio, where we apply strategic development expertise to efficiently progress therapies toward approval and value-creating commercialisation.”*

### **About Kidswell Bio Corporation**

Kidswell Bio Corporation has the corporate philosophy of “Biotech Engineering Company, Striving for Value Creation – For Comprehensive Healthcare Systems for Children as well as Families and Society”. It is engaged in a biosimilar business with a track record in four launched products. It also pursues a clinical-stage cell therapy business for rare and intractable diseases, leveraging its proprietary platform for the stable supply of stem cells from human exfoliated deciduous teeth (SHED). The company strives to deliver innovative treatments and therapies to patients suffering from diseases, injuries, and disabilities, particularly children, with the vision of fostering a society where they can live bright and fulfilling lives. For more information, please visit our websites:

<https://www.kidswellbio.com/en/> and <https://www.kidswellbio.com/en/s-quatre/>

### **About Treehill Partners**

Treehill Partners is an international strategic and financial advisory firm exclusively focused on the healthcare sector. Its multidisciplinary team has decades of drug development experience and offers actionable strategic and transaction advice to healthcare CEOs, leadership teams, stakeholders, and investors, with a focus on value-creating transactions and successful corporate evolution strategies. To learn more about Treehill Partners, visit [www.TreehillPartners.com](http://www.TreehillPartners.com).

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