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**Singapore:** JASDAQ-listed R-Tech Ueno has decided to conduct collaborative research with a group led by professor Susumu Ishida and associate professor Kousuke Noda of the Department of Ophthalmology Graduate School of Medicine from Hokkaido University.

The research is in the application of a new VAP-1 inhibitor (RTU-1096) which is under the company's development for the treatment of diabetic retinopathy (DR) and diabetic macular edema.

The company revealed that the collaborative research is to conduct an examination at Hokkaido University to verify the therapeutic effect of RTU-1096 on diabetes ophthalmic complications such as DR and diabetic macular edema.

This examination serves to explore the possibility of the clinical application of the VAP-1 inhibitor for treating DR and diabetic macular edema in preparation for the POC (Proof of Concept) trials in future, otherwise known as the Early Phase II clinical trials.

The company plans to further accelerate development of the VAP-1 inhibitor as an innovative treatment setting diabetic complications of DR and diabetic macular edema as the top priority target disease.