

PRESS RELEASE (MARCH 20, 2010)

Merck Sharp & Dohme (China) Ltd., has signed an agreement with Gerontological Society of China and (Shanghai) VitalStrategic Research Institute by providing a research grant to conduct one of the largest non-interventional cohort studies in Type 2 diabetes. This study, named as 3B Study, is targeted to enroll 25,000 patients from all six geographic regions of China and is designed to evaluate the level of proper control of cardiovascular risk factors, including blood pressure, blood lipid, and blood glucose (3Bs) in Type 2 diabetic patients who may or may not have developed cardiovascular complications. This study will be conducted in collaboration with the advisory board of “China Cardiometabolic Registries” (CCMR) program. CCMR is a nation-wide registry program. The CCMR advisory board is composed of experts of Chinese College of Cardiovascular Physicians (CCCP) and China Endocrinologists Association (CEA), officials of Chinese Ministry of Health (MOH), and academic leaders in clinical research. 3B study will begin to enroll patients in early summer. For more information about the study, please visit www.CCMRegistry.org or www.vitalstrategic.com; for participating in the study, please send an email to info@vitalstrategic.com.