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Press Release

Eiken Chemical Co., Ltd.

Representative: Morifumi Wada, President & CEO

Securities code: 4549 (TSE 1st Section)

**Eiken Chemical Launches the Loopamp 2019-nCoV Detection Kit**

Today, March 18, 2019, Eiken Chemical Co., Ltd. (Headquarters: Taito Ward, Tokyo) launched the Loopamp 2019-nCoV Testing Reagent Kit. Provided as a research tool, the Loopamp 2019-nCoV Testing Reagent Kit uses the LAMP method<sup>1</sup>, an original gene amplification technology from Eiken Chemical, to detect the COVID-19 coronavirus.

Leveraging the advantages of the LAMP method, this reagent is used in the Loopamp Realtime Turbidimeter LoopampEXIA<sup>®</sup> (in Japan), to detect COVID-19 in RNA<sup>2</sup> extracted from a specimen in just 35 minutes. Loopamp Realtime Turbidimeter LoopampEXIA<sup>®</sup> (in Japan) units are already installed in approximately 500 medical facilities throughout Japan.

Eiken Chemical believes that, by boosting production of this reagent to ensure a stable supply, the Company can contribute to measures to counteract the infectious COVID-19 coronavirus.

The launch of the Loopamp 2019-nCoV Testing Reagent Kit will have no significant impact on the current consolidated business results of Eiken Chemical.

## Product Overview

Product name:	Loopamp 2019-nCoV Testing Reagent Kit
Desired delivery price:	¥76,800 (not incl. tax)
No. of items per package:	Enough for 48 tests
Storage instructions:	Store at 2–8°C
Product code:	LMP402

### <sup>1</sup> LAMP method

“LAMP” stands for “loop-mediated isothermal amplification.” In this method, double-strand DNA, four primers that recognize six regions, a strand-displacement DNA polymerase, a substrate and other components are placed in the same test tube at a constant temperature (about 65°C), enabling all processes from amplification to detection to be completed in a single step. This highly efficient amplification method can amplify DNA by a factor of  $10^9$ — $10^{10}$  within the space of 15 minutes to one hour. Its high specificity makes it possible to judge the presence or absence of a target DNA sequence based on the presence or absence of the amplification product. If the template consists of RNA, amplification can be performed in the same way as for DNA by the addition of reverse transcriptase.

For details please refer to: <http://loopamp.eiken.co.jp/e/>

### <sup>2</sup> RNA extraction from specimens

Extraction conforms to *Byogentai Kenshutsu Manual 2019-nCoV* (“Pathogen Detection Manual: COVID-19”), National Institute of Infectious Diseases.

The time required for RNA extraction ranges approximately from 20 to 90 minutes, depending on the number of specimens.

### For inquiries regarding this news release, please contact:

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