

## CPhI Japan highlights cell & gene therapies, digital innovation

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CPhI Japan, the first large pharma event to trade in 2021, played host to 7214 attendees at the exhibition and a further 7204 virtual users from across the globe. The event, a key marker for the strength of the regional industry, has rebounded quickly with some 216 exhibitors searching for pharma partners. In fact, such has been the demand, CPhI Japan Connect – the event's digital platform for international audiences – will remain open until the end of May.

Hosted at the Big Sight Exhibition Centre in Tokyo, the country's cell and gene therapy sector, the expanding domestic R&D pipeline and renewed digital innovation were highlighted by experts as key growth areas in 2021.

"The feedback on the ground was that the chance to meet again with industry professionals has really stimulated some extremely active discussions. From API producers and packaging to advanced therapies, the event played host to a really active couple of days that has reinvigorated growth and partnerships in Japan over the next year," commented Silvia Forroova, Brand Director Pharma, CPhI Japan.

Attendees highlighted the return of the event and its success as a key moment for renewed pharma growth in Japan. In fact, Japan (7.15) ranked second only to the United States in the most recent Annual CPhI Pharma Index, scoring extremely highly across innovation (7.34), API quality (7.78), finished dose manufacturing (8.13) as well as biologics manufacturing (7.20).

Beyond the exhibition, the CPhI Japan Conference featured keynote insights, including a detailed appraisal of the dynamic R&D pipeline from Ian Haydock, Editor-In-Chief, Asia Pacific Informa Intelligence.

Finally, the Japan Pharmaceutical Traders' Association delivered the CPhI Japan 2021 Symposium, discussing the supply of APIs in Japan and how to manage change – especially relevant in a post Covid period – as well as an overview of the Japanese regulatory system and recent proposals for improvement.

The CPhI Japan in Tokyo took place from 14 April to 16 April 2021.