

For Immediate Release

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(Securities Code: 3151, TSE Prime Market)

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#### Notice Regarding the Medium-Term Management Plan 2027 – Move on to the Next Stage -

VITAL KSK HOLDINGS, INC. (the "Company") announces its Medium-Term Management Plan 2027 – Move on to the Next Stage - for three years starting from FY2025 as shown in the attachment.

## Medium-Term Management Plan 2027

Move on to the Next Stage



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It is almost 10 years since I became President in June 2015. During this time, the environment surrounding our company has changed significantly.

In FY2015, right after I became President, our net sales and profit both increased sharply due to the sale of hepatitis C medications. However, with less than 10 years until 2025 when the entire Japanese "dankai" (baby boomer) generation would be 75 years old or older, it was also from around this time that the Japanese government stepped up its medical cost reduction measures. As part of these measures, NHI price revisions began being implemented annually from 2018, including revisions associated with the 2019 consumption tax increases based on the Four Minister Agreement at the end of 2016.

Then in 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic started, plunging society into disarray.

The Tokyo Stock Exchange also began reorganizing its market, and listed companies were urged to take action to implement management that is conscious of cost of capital and stock price.

In April 2022, right in the middle of these changes, our company launched its Fifth Medium-Term Management Plan.

With "Business model innovation for the next generation" as our Medium-Term Vision, we have focused on building an advanced supply chain, strengthening our sales capabilities in the hospital market, shifting to a mindset that emphasizes contributed profit, and strengthening our corporate governance structure. As a result, our forecast for FY2024, the final year of the plan, is continued growth in sales and profits as well as significant improvement in ROE.

And now, we are about to launch the new Medium-Term Management Plan 2027 in April 2024.

Under this plan, we will develop the initiatives implemented to date and aim for further improvement in our corporate value.

In particular, we will focus with unwavering resolve on the following three priority measures: (1) Business portfolio management aimed at strengthening profitability; (2) Financial strategy and capital policy including balance sheet management, and cash flow allocation that ensures the right balance between sustainable growth and shareholder returns; and (3) Building a group management structure fit for a Prime Market listed company.

We believe that by steadily implementing this new Medium-Term Management Plan, we will remain an indispensable presence as company that supports community health care and can achieve the various financial KPIs set forth in this plan.

We at Vital KSK Holdings will work together with the rest of the Group to reach greater heights.

We kindly ask our stakeholders for their continued understanding and support.

**April 2025** 

Taisuke Murai,



## Our Vision

01 Message from CEO

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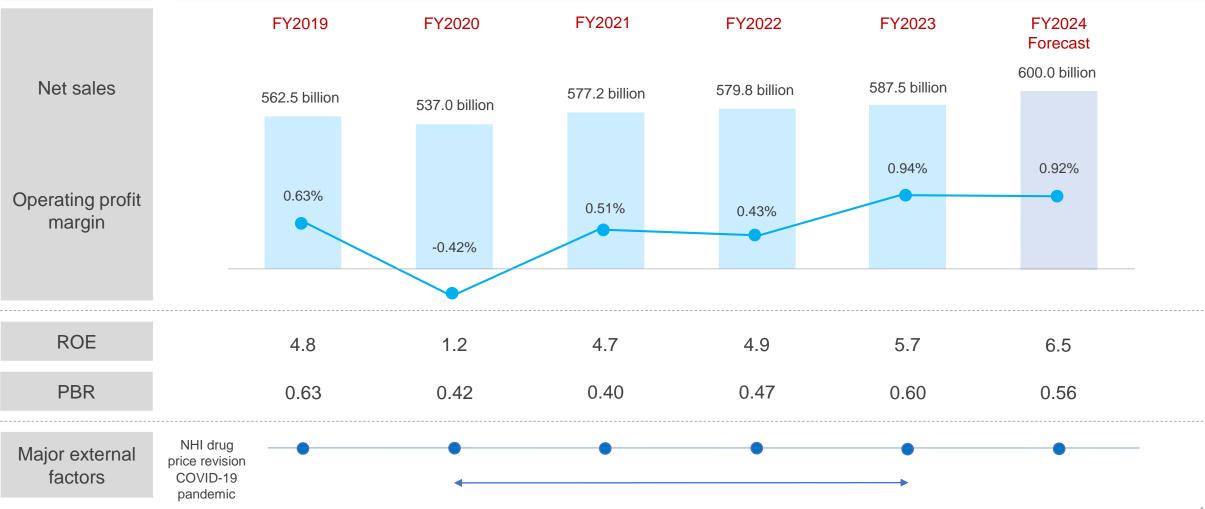
- (i) Business portfolio management
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#### Summary (FY2019-2024)

#### Six-Year Summary

- As a result of our focus on pharmaceuticals whose prices are maintained such as products receiving the price maintenance premium, our net sales have steadily trended
  up since FY2021.
- While we continued to face a challenging environment, with repeated NHI drug price revisions and the COVID-19 pandemic, our operating profit margin also rose thanks to widespread initiatives focused on transaction costs.
- Through the implementation of management that is conscious of the cost of capital, our ROE has risen since FY2022; however, we still have a way to go.
- Our stock price, which fell to the 600 yen level during the COVID-19 pandemic, rose to 1,258 yen as of the end of March 2025; however, our PBR is less than 1x, falling short of the level expected by stock markets.





#### Our Purpose and Long-Term Vision 2035

#### **Purpose**

Supporting community healthcare so that people can live healthy lives with peace of mind

#### **Long-Term Vision 2035**

## Beyond medicine, beyond barriers Innovating the future of medical care by being a "connector"

#### 8 Areas of Activities



Sophistication of logistics functions



Strengthening of rental business



Overhaul of pharmaceutical wholesale business



Expansion of pharmacy business



Expansion of medical product sales



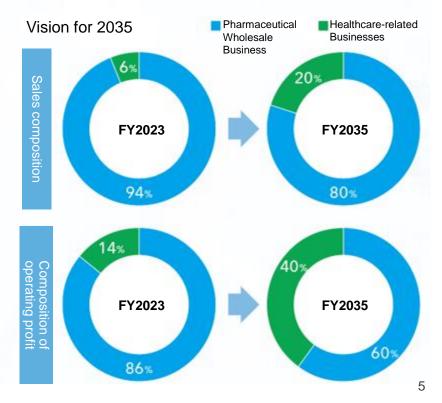
Cooperation with central and local governments



Expansion of life support business



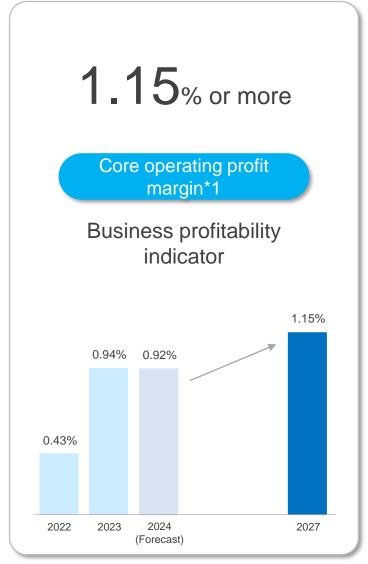
Business expansion in the companion animal and agritech fields

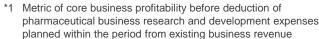


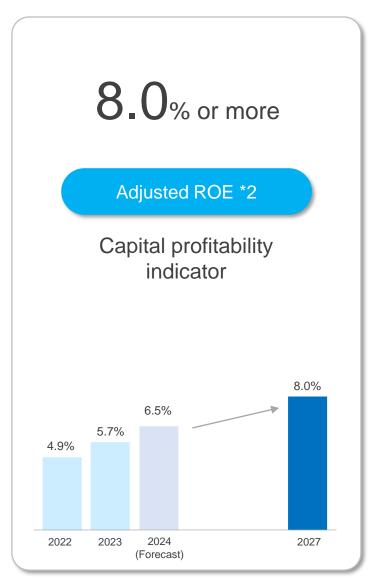


#### Managerial Goals in Medium-Term Management Plan 2027



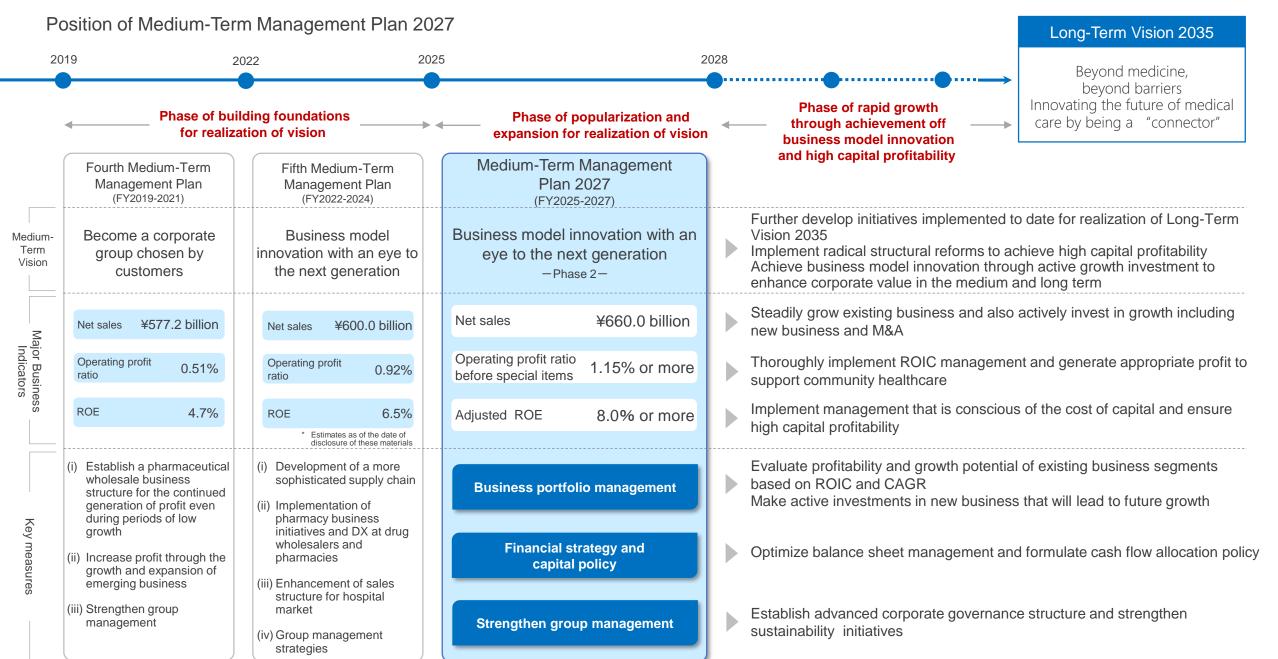






<sup>\*2</sup> Metric of core capital profitability before deduction of pharmaceutical business research and development expenses planned within the period from existing business revenue





# Medium-Term Management Plan 2027 Three Priority Measures

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- (i) Business portfolio management
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- (iii) Strengthen group management

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Priority Measures

1

Business portfolio management

Establish a business portfolio basic policy for sustainable growth and medium-to-long-term improvement of corporate value based on an awareness of the cost of capital, and perform regular evaluation and monitoring

Priority Measures

2

Financial strategy and capital policy

Implement balance sheet management based on an awareness of the optimal capital structure, and also establish a cash flow allocation policy and allocate cash in a well-balanced manner to investments that will lead to sustainable growth and shareholder returns

Priority Measures

3

Strengthen group management

Establish a corporate governance structure fit for a prime-listed company, and also step up sustainability initiatives to bring about steady growth

# Medium-Term Management Plan 2027 Three Priority Measures

(i) Business portfolio management

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#### **Business Portfolio Basic Policy**

- In existing business, perform evaluation and monitoring each fiscal year based on ROIC\*1 (Return On Invested Capital) and CAGR (5 year net sales compound annual growth rate)
- For hurdle rate, use consolidated WACC\*2 (Weighted Average Cost of Capital). Currently, WACC is estimated at around 6.0% (average for past three fiscal years)
- For any unprofitable, low growth businesses positioned as "areas in need of rebuilding", formulate a turnaround plan and judge whether to attempt to rebuild them or withdraw from them in accordance with the business portfolio basic policy.

**CAGR** 

6

year net sales growth rate)

- \*1: For ROIC, use profit after taxes but before interest is paid as the numerator and the average of interest bearing debt and shareholders' equity for the most recent two fiscal years as the denominator
- \*2: Calculate WACC using the CAPM method taking the liquidity risk premium into consideration and use the average for the most recent three fiscal years.

Pharmaceutical Wholesale Business

**Pharmacy Business** 

Veterinary Drug Wholesale Business

Other Businesses

Evaluate the profitability and growth potential of existing business segments based on ROIC and CAGR

Perform monitoring regularly to optimize the business structure

# Promising growth areas

Determining the direction

## Continued investment areas

Expanding business scale

# Areas in need of rebuilding

Improving or withdrawing

## Return maximization areas

Generating FCF

Hurdle rate = Consolidated WACC (currently 6.0%)

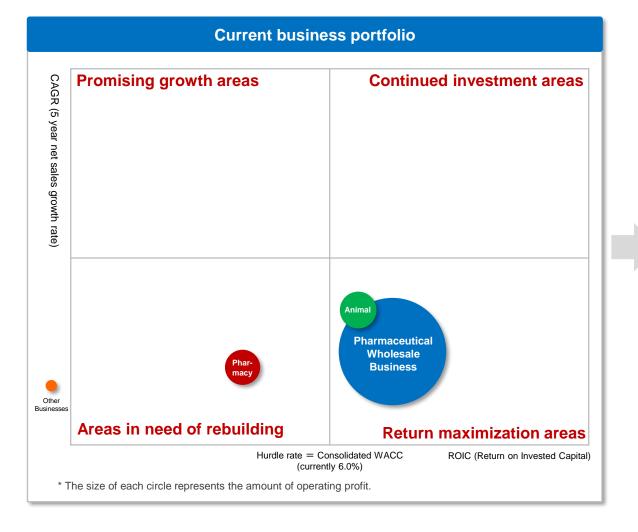
ROIC (Return on Invested Capital)

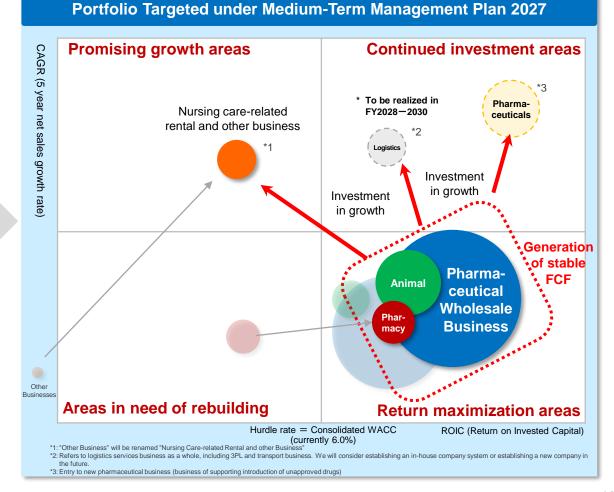


#### **Business Portfolio Strategy**

- Improve ROIC of existing business and encourage growth
- ⇒ Strengthen profitability of core businesses, scale back or withdraw from loss-making businesses, reduce costs through business integration, and invest in growing businesses
  - Create new businesses to serve as future pillars of earnings  $\Rightarrow$  Expand the logistics services business focusing on 3PL\*, and branch out into new pharmaceutical business (business of supporting the introduction of unapproved drugs)

\* 3PL: 3rd Party Logistics





# Medium-Term Management Plan 2027 Three Priority Measures

(i) Business portfolio management

Strategies by Business – 1. Pharmaceutical Wholesale Business

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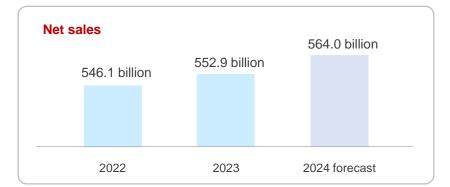
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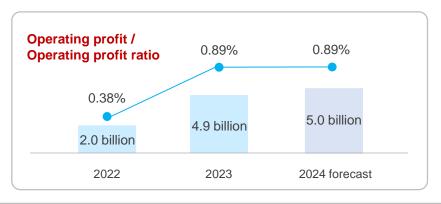


#### Strategies by Business - 1. Pharmaceutical Wholesale Business

#### **Summary of the Fifth Medium-Term Management Plan**

- Focused on sales of prime maintenance premium products and vaccines; sales growth is expected to exceed the initial plan
- Negotiated prices politely based on the prices of individual pharmaceuticals and distribution costs, and operating profit also increased sharply
  - \* Changed method of presentation from FY2023, recording income from the provision of information through pharmaceutical companies (approx. 1.6 billion yen) in net sales instead of non-operating income.



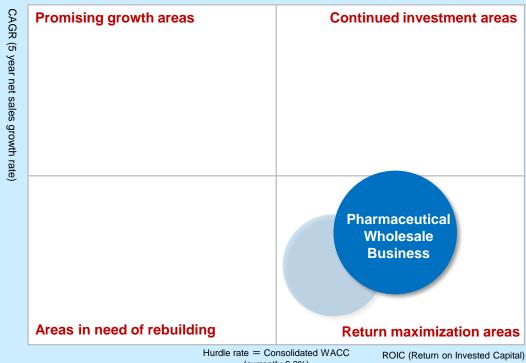




#### **Desired Direction under Medium-Term Management Plan 2027**

- Compliance with Guidelines for the Improvement of Commercial Transaction Practices of Ethical Drugs, and complete stabilization of contributed profit
- Sales expansion that leverages our strengths, according to area characteristics
- Realization of distinctive drug distribution that steadily taps into market growth for each customer
- Pursuit of further business efficiency through the promotion of DX and use of AI

Improvement of ROIC and generation of stable FCF



(currently 6.0%)

<sup>\*</sup> The size of the circle represents the amount of operating profit

#### HOLD

#### Strategies by Business - 1. Pharmaceutical Wholesale Business

Conceptual drawing of growth of Pharmaceutical Wholesale Business Move the Pharmaceutical wholesale business into a new stage



3 concepts for strengthening profitability

#### Improve productivity

- Increase efficiency through the promotion of DX and the use of AI -

×

#### Leverage human resources

- Focus on activities that only people can do

×

#### Raise quality

- Help advance the evolution of the drug distribution industry



Market growth

**Our Strengths Supporting Community Healthcare** 

Pharmaceutical distribution network covering every corner of the community



Increased distribution costs



DX in healthcare

Growing

healthcare

demand in urban

areas

Relationships of trust with many customers built up over many

years

Knowledge and expertise possessed by diverse human

resources with a strong sense off

mission

3 values we have cultivated

Challenge

Collaboration Compliance with Guidelinesfor the Improvement of Commercial Transaction Practices of Ethical Drugs and nuanced management of contributed profit



Trust

**Our Founding Spirit** 

Deliver medicines to people who need them at any time

High-quality, resilient logistics functions



Population decline in rural regions



#### Strategies by Business - 1. Pharmaceutical Wholesale Business

## Specific Initiatives for Strengthening Profitability

#### Improve productivity

- Increase efficiency through the promotion of DX and the use of AI -

×

#### Leverage human resources

- Focus on activities that only people can do

×

### Raise quality

- Help advance the evolution of the drug distribution industry

#### **Promotion of DX**



Reduce MS workload through completion of operation for handling customer enquiries about orders received and delivery dates within the system



Step up rollout of platform providing contents such as pharmaceutical company webinars and disease awareness and health-related information



Further increase work efficiency through the renewal of systems useful both internally and externally for the reduction of urgent deliveries, inventory management, etc.

#### Reorganization

#### Review of internal work flows

Conduct a review of internal work flows, restructuring organizations and using IT and AI, with the aim of increasing productivity by centralizing information and avoiding the duplication of work

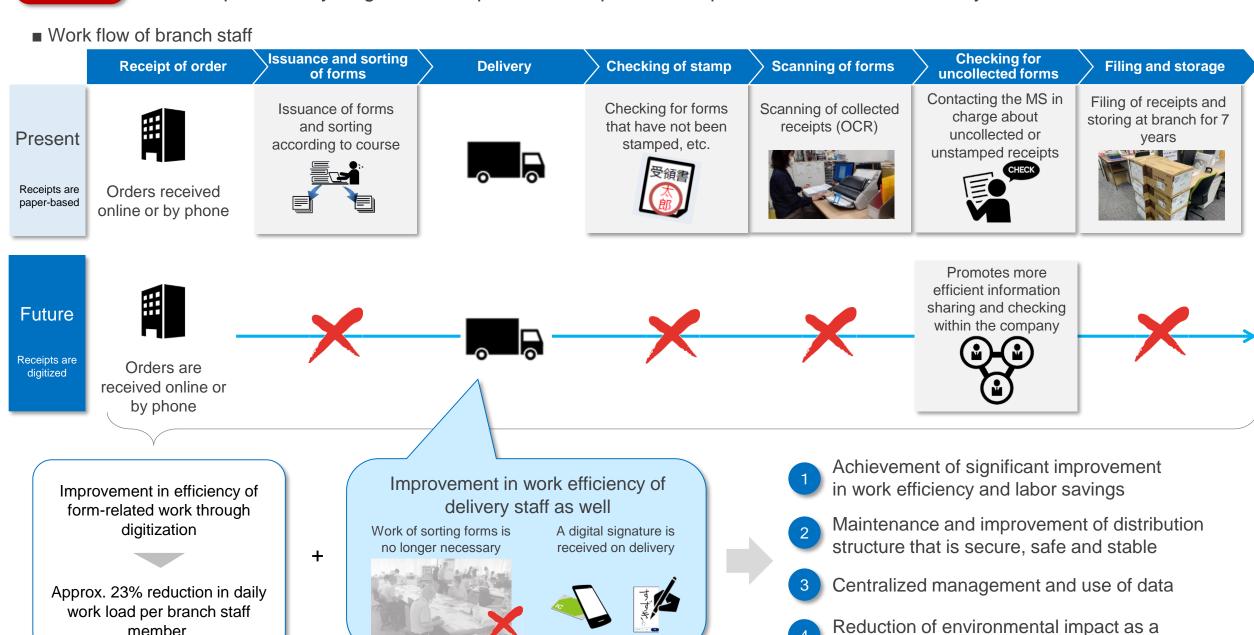
## Further improvement of delivery efficiency

Increase the efficiency of deliveries, introducing systems to digitize various forms and determine optimal delivery routes Reference

member

#### Increase productivity: Digitization of product receipts in attempt to increase work efficiency





result of going paperless



#### Strategies by Business - 1. Pharmaceutical Wholesale Business

## Specific Initiatives for Strengthening Profitability

#### Improve productivity

- Increase efficiency through the promotion of DX and the use of AI -

×

#### Leverage human resources

- Focus on activities that only people can do

×

#### Raise quality

- Help advance the evolution of the drug distribution industry

#### **Hospital Strategy**

Create a highly specialist team sales structure to further strengthen presence in the hospital market where anti-cancer drugs and other high cost injectable drugs are used



\*MAPs: Medical Assist Partners

#### **Area Marketing Strategy**

Make the most of our high prescriber coverage rate and links with local governments and diverse occupations as a regional wholesaler to replace the declining MR function and bring about sales of vaccines and pharmaceuticals



#### Replacement of MR function

Expansion of sales of vaccines

Promotion of collaboration with local governments and diverse occupations

Women's Health Care Solutions (WHS)



Reference

Leverage human resources: Reinforcement of team sales through specialist human resources, aiming to increase presence in the hospital market



#### **Next-generation MAPs**



- Professional human resources familiar with all aspects of health care provided at core regional hospitals
- Access a wide range of information necessary before and after treatment and create team sales opportunities





 Strengthen sales structure by establishing a new organization specializing in cancer to strengthen access to pathology laboratories

#### **Cancer liaison**



- Further strengthen information provision activities to expand handling off anticancer drugs
- Become anti-cancer drug specialists and aim to obtain new drugs or earn information fees



#### **Medical MS**



- Encourage collaboration with MAPs and cancer liaison to tap into growing medical device market
- Expand handling of high-cost medical devices used in hospitals to generate a stable profit

Expansion in sales of specialty pharmaceuticals including treatments for rare diseases



Expansion in sales of high-cost medical devices and test reagents



Replacement of pharmaceutical company MR function to earn further information fees

Pursue the generation of stable profit by providing various types of value in the hospital market



#### Strategies by Business - 1. Pharmaceutical Wholesale Business

## Specific Initiatives for Strengthening Profitability

#### Improve productivity

- Increase efficiency through the promotion of DX and the use of AI -

×

#### Leverage human resources

- Focus on activities that only people can do

×

### Raise quality

- Help advance the evolution of the drug distribution industry

## Distribution strategy by area

Urban areas (Tokyo Metropolitan Area, Kita-Kanto, Keihanshin District)

- Reorganize base network in Tokyo Metropolitan Area and Kita-Kanto
- Rebuild logistics bases in Keihanshin District



Rural regions and suburbs (Tohoku, Niigata, rural municipalities of Kinki region)

- Achieve further rationalization through integration of logistics bases
- Review delivery structure and consider joint deliveries



## Sophisticated supply chain

Establish a high quality logistics structure including developing GDP and GMP\* compliance logistics facilities and acquiring ISO certification

Develop a distribution structure that can meet needs even in times of emergency through the additional introduction of disaster response vehicles, etc.



- \* GDP: Good Distribution Practice
- \* GMP: Good Manufacturing Practice

## Expansion of services besides wholesale

Popularize new services that allow people to live healthy lives with peace of mind, expanding them beyond regional boundaries





あかちゃんと家族のための

ねんね相談室 ≭ GuuMin\*



Reference

Raise quality: Establishment of optimal, high quality distribution structure as an infrastructure company supporting community healthcare



Distribution strategy in urban areas (Tokyo Metropolitan Area, Kita-Kanto, Keihanshin District)

## High population accumulation rate × Large scale market

## = Establish distribution network that optimizes product flow and logistics

- Establish the optimal distribution network for steadily capturing health care demand, which is expected to grow due to population aging in urban areas with high population accumulation rates
- Make the Isehara Logistics Center (tentative name), scheduled to start operation in FY2026, a core facility in the 3PL business
- Develop a structure for the stable supply of pharmaceuticals in an emergency situation based on the assumption of an urban disaster scenario



**Keihanshin District** 



Tokyo Metropolitan Area and Kita-Kanto

Distribution strategy in rural regions and suburbs (Tohoku, Niigata, rural municipalities of Kinki region)

## Population decline × Large area = Establish efficiency structure and assume responsibility for stable supply of pharmaceuticals

 Establish optimal distribution structure to support community care by integrating bases to achieve rationalization and introducing information systems to increase efficiency

 Pursue new distribution possibilities such as the healthcare in remote areas and the operation of drones for the stable supply of pharmaceuticals in the event of disaster



Rural municipalities of Kinki region



Most areas in Tohoku and Niigata

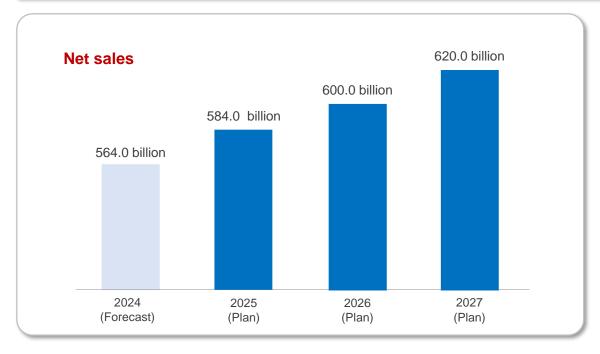


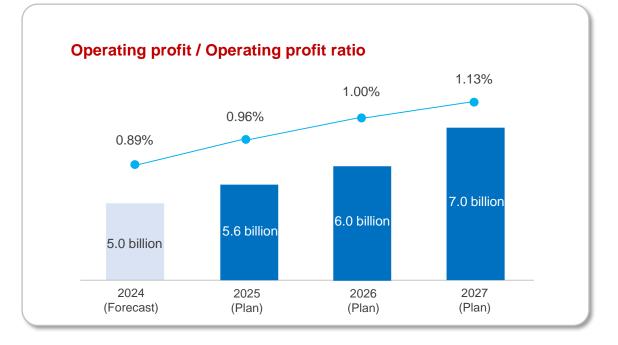
#### Strategies by Business - 1. Pharmaceutical Wholesale Business

## Financial Targets under Medium-Term Management Plan 2027

Unit: billion yen, %

	FY2024		FY2025			FY2026			FY2027		
	Forecast	Ratio to net sales	Plan	Ratio to net sales	YoY	Plan	Ratio to net sales	YoY	Plan	Ratio to net sales	YoY
Net sales	564.0		584.0		103.6	600.0	_	102.7	620.0	_	103.4
Operating profit	5.0	0.89	5.6	0.96	108.4	6.0	1.00	108.6	7.0	1.13	116.5





# Medium-Term Management Plan 2027 Three Priority Measures

(i) Business portfolio management

Strategy for Each Business: – 2. Pharmacy Business

─3. Veterinary Drug Wholesale Business

-4. Other Businesses

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Business portfolio management

(ii) Financial strategy and capital policy

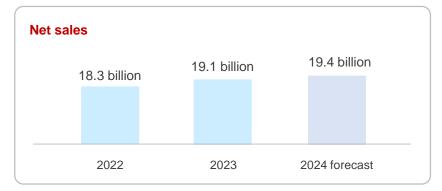
(iii) Strengthen group management

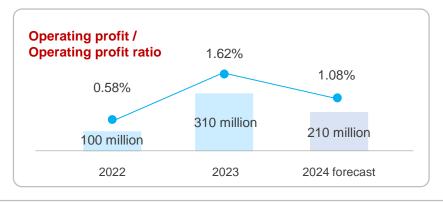


#### Strategy for Each Business: -2. Pharmacy Business

#### **Summary of the Fifth Medium-Term Management Plan**

- Sales rose slightly due to increases in both technical fees and dispensing fees
- Operating profit margin fell due to higher SG&A expenses and higher purchase prices
- Certifications for pharmacies in cooperation with specialized medical institutions and as pharmacies in cooperation with local health care facilities increased
- Strengthened family pharmacy and home care support functions
- Recognized goodwill impairment loss in FY2023

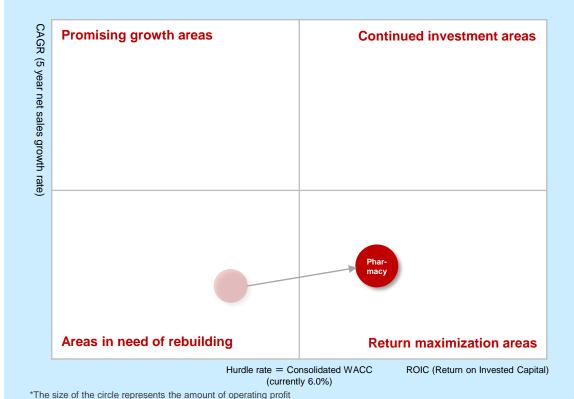




#### **Desired Direction under Medium-Term Management Plan 2027**

- Integrate 6 consolidated and non-consolidated operating companies into a single company in a bid to improve productivity
- Improve capital profitability by eliminating surplus capital
- Expand sales and increase Group synergy through new pharmacy openings and M&A

Aim to achieve a ROIC that is greater than the hurdle rate

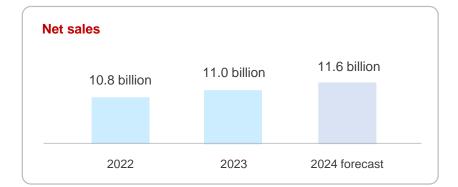


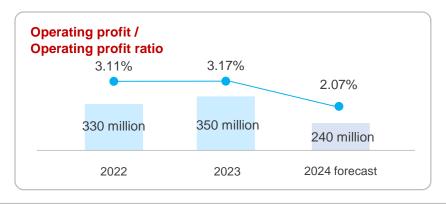


#### Strategy for Each Business: -3. Veterinary Drug Wholesale Business

#### **Summary of the Fifth Medium-Term Management Plan**

- Made Arrow Medical Corporation a consolidated subsidiary in FY2024
- Sales fell, after manufacturer started selling certain products directly in FY2024
- Rising purchase prices squeezed operating profit







#### **Desired Direction under Medium-Term Management Plan 2027**

- Strengthen pharmaceutical sales in the Tokyo Metropolitan Area and medical device sales in Tohoku and Hokkaido to maximize the effect of making Arrow Medical Corporation a consolidated subsidiary
- Expand the business of manufacturing and selling pet food

→ Improvement of ROIC and generation of stable FCF



Hurdle rate = Consolidated WACC (currently 6.0%)

ROIC (Return on Invested Capital)

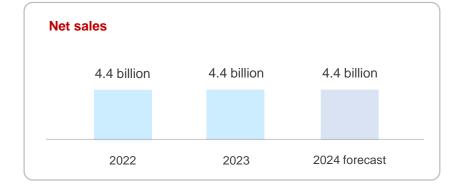
<sup>\*</sup> The size of the circle represents the amount of operating profit

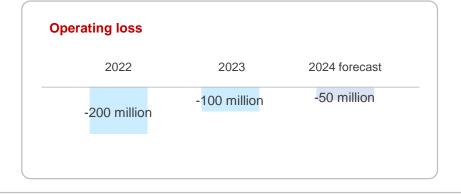


#### Strategy for Each Business: -4. Other Businesses

#### **Summary of the Fifth Medium-Term Management Plan**

- Net sales recovered at each operating company
- The segment still showed an operating loss but the amount grew smaller
- Business segment that includes delivery companies, etc. and has many intergroup transactions

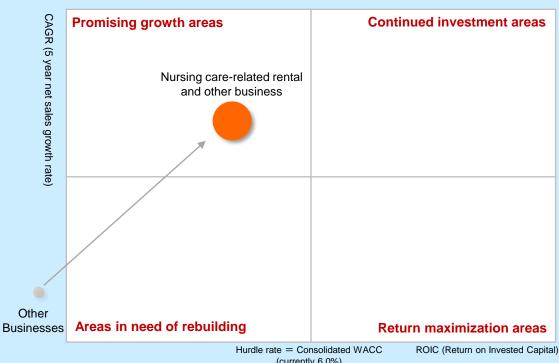




#### **Desired Direction under Medium-Term Management Plan 2027**

- Seek to expand the nursing-care rental business, which has high capital profitability, through intensive investment
- Decide whether to rebuild or withdraw from businesses/operations with low capital profitability
- Change name from "Other Businesses" to "Nursing Care-related Rental and Other Businesses"

▶ Improve ROIC and CAGR through expansion of the nursing-care rental business



(currently 6.0%)

<sup>\*</sup> The size of the circle represents the amount of operating profit

# Medium-Term Management Plan 2027 Three Priority Measures

(i) Business portfolio management

Strategy for Each Business: -5. New Businesses

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#### Strategy for Each Business: -5. New Businesses

#### **Desired Direction under Medium-Term Management Plan 2027**

Utilization of some of these funds for new business

FCF generated through improved management of existing businesses

Proceeds from the sale of cross-shareholdings

+

Use of interest-bearing debt where necessary

Logistics services business

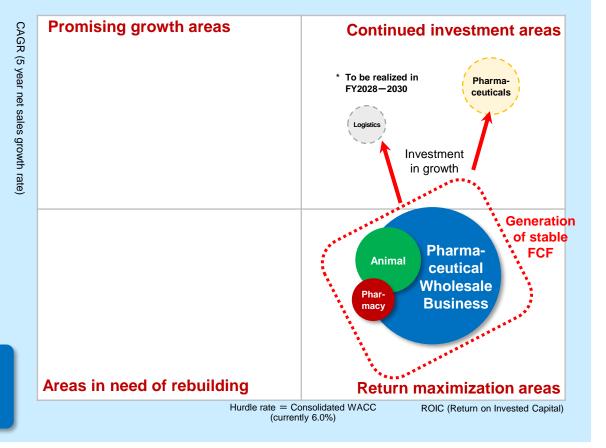
- Refers to logistics services as a whole including 3PL and transport business
- Spin off business which previously operated within the Pharmaceutical Wholesale Business and manage it as an independent business to further improve profitability
- Actively pursue M&A transactions to acquire logistics-related companies

Pharmaceutical business (business of supporting introduction of unapproved drugs)

- Take the initiative in collaborating with partner companies to launch and commercialize in Japan new drugs already approved in the U.S. and Europe that have yet to be introduced to Japan
- Maximize Group synergy by also assuming responsibility for the sale and distribution of new drugs

Develop business pillars that are separate from core businesses by actively making growth investments

Aim to maintain high capital profitability beyond FY2030, when the sale of cross-shareholdings will be complete



+



Strategy for Each Business: -5. New Businesses

Logistics services business

Turn logistics function into a new profit pillar through further development of the advanced supply chain we have established to date



Boasts industry-leading scale and functions

#### **High profit**

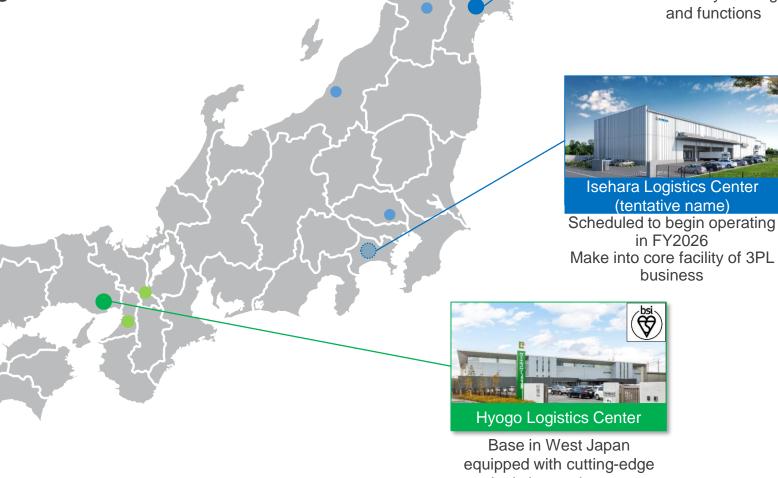
- Strengthen acquisition of new customers in the 3PL business
- Pursue M&A transactions to acquire warehouse business operators and transport companies

#### **High quality**

- Comply with GDP and GMP standards
- Acquire ISO 9001 certification

#### **Highly functional**

- Equipment for increasing delivery speed and
- Logistics network that supports stable supply



logistics equipment



#### Strategy for Each Business: −5. New Businesses

Pharmaceutical business (business of supporting introduction of unapproved drugs)

New venture where we take the initiative in collaborating with partner companies to launch and commercialize in Japan new drugs already approved in the U.S. and Europe that have yet to be introduced to Japan

#### **Purpose of entering this business**

- To play a part in resolving social issues by becoming more proactive about Japan's drug loss issue as a company involved in health care.
- To achieve further improvement in corporate value and fulfil our responsibility as part of the social infrastructure supporting community health care in the medium and long term

#### **Overview of business model**



Pharmaceutical companies in the U.S. and Europe

Research, development and import/export of pharmaceuticals

Manufacture and sale



License agreements for pharmaceuticals already launched overseas





Import and package manufacturing
Clinical development and postmarketing surveillance
Marketing and sales
Distribution within Japan

\* Some operations will be outsourced to partner companies



#### Strategy for Each Business: −5. New Businesses

Pharmaceutical business (business of supporting introduction of unapproved drugs)

How exactly is the latest new business different from various pharmaceutical-related business initiatives implemented to date such as the capital and business alliance with SanBio Co., Ltd. formed in September 2018, and the investments in LinDo K.K. and MIJ BG2 LP respectively in February 2024?

What impact will your involvement in this new business have on future financial results?

Which pharmaceuticals developed by which pharmaceutical companies are you intending to introduce to Japan?

How do you see the future potential and growth potential of this business?

What are the major potential risks associated with entry to this business?

Do you have the required clinical development and manufacturing capabilities?
Surely, clinical development and manufacturing will be very costly?

Investment in growth for improvement of corporate value is important but does this business meet the new business investment requirements?

Capital and business alliance with SanBio is a direct-investment-type business. After the launch of a new drug developed by SanBio, SanBio's share price is expected to rise and extraordinary income will arise through the sale of shares. Meanwhile, investments in LinDo and MIJ BG2 LP respectively are indirect investment-type businesses. When a gain on investment in the fund arises after the launch of a new drug, non-operating income according to our equity interest will arise. This latest pharmaceutical business (the business of supporting the introduction of unapproved drugs) is a direct business where we become involved on our own initiative in the process of launching in Japan new drugs that are already approved and commercially available in the U.S. and Europe but yet to be introduced to Japan, and where we also assume responsibility for commercialization and distribution after launch. After the launch of a new product, we expect not only sales and profit generated from this business but also even greater ripple effects for our Pharmaceutical Wholesale Business, 3PL Business and other Group businesses.

Before the launch of a new drug, upfront investment relating to development and approval in Japan will arise. This investment will be recorded as research and development expenses during the period of Medium-term Management Plan 2027 and will be a factor pushing up SG&A expenses. After the launch of a new drug, much greater synergy not only in the sale of pharmaceuticals in this business but also in the Pharmaceutical Wholesale Business and the 3PL Business is envisaged, and the creation of almost exclusive earning opportunities across the entire supply chain can be expected.

We cannot give any specific company names or product names at the moment for procedural reasons. As soon as we are in a position to announce this information, we will promptly disclose it.

We are currently in negotiations with a number of pharmaceutical companies. To help achieve the two purposes of resolving Japan's drug loss/lag issue and improving our corporate value in the medium and long term, we intend to develop this business as a new pillar of earnings through the creation of the optimal alliances and business models in the given moment. We will report the progress of the business in a timely manner.

Starting with the risk of failing to launch a new drug in Japan, we are attempting to introduce to Japan pharmaceuticals that have already been approved in the U.S. and Europe and we believe that the possibility of failure is extremely low.

There is also the potential risk off a drug being launched but not being priced as expected. We have run detailed simulations based on various pricing scenarios and we are thoroughly implementing risk control.

For clinical development, post-marketing surveillance and manufacturing, we will form partnerships with companies that understand the purpose of this business. These are all highly specialist companies with strong capabilities, and we plan to create a lean structure while properly ensuring safety.

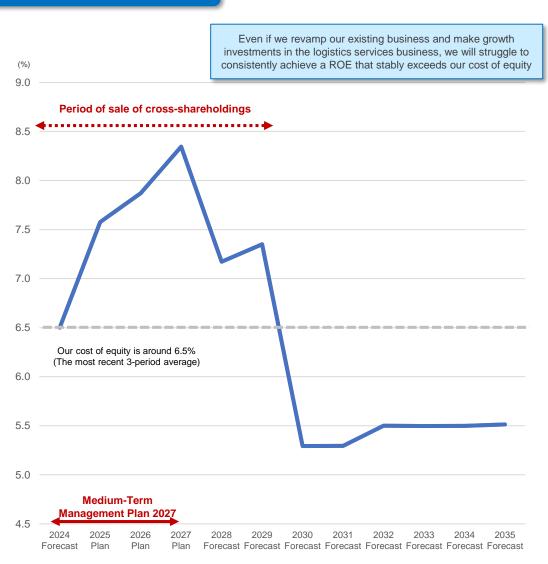
The Holding Company's Investment Committee thoroughly discussed the matter based on detailed simulations using various patterns of patient numbers, prices, etc. before our Board of Directors resolved to enter this business. Even for the pattern with the highest risk, the IRR (internal rate of return) far exceeded the hurdle rate set out in our new business investment standards. Also in regard to the pharmaceuticals we plan to introduce in the future, we will make appropriate investment decisions each time in accordance with strict internal standards.

#### **10 Year ROE Forecast**

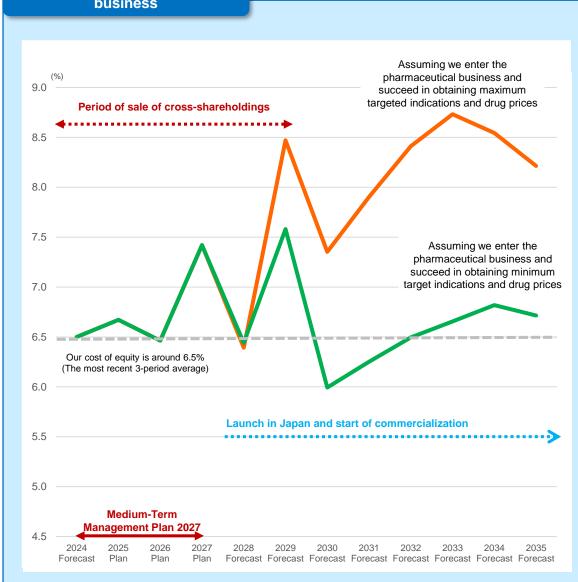
Entry to the pharmaceutical business will enable the achievement of high capital profitability in the medium and long term











#### Long-term Vision 2035: Review of 8 Areas of Activities

#### As is Sophistication of logistics Overhaul of pharmaceutical Expansion of medical Expansion of life support functions wholesale business product sales business Business expans Cooperation with central Strengthening of rental Expansion of pharmacy companion anir and local governments business business agritech fie

Boldly take on the challenge of new businesses, aiming for further improvement of corporate value in period to 2035

- Improvement in profitability of logistics business, including 3PL
- M&A to acquire warehouse business operators and transport companies
- Entry to pharmaceutical business (business of supporting introduction of unapproved drugs)

To be







Expansion of medical





Strengthening of rental business



and local governments



Pharmacy Business Strengthening of veterinary drug wholesale business



**Expand net sales and operating profit** by revamping management of existing business (businesses other than **Pharmaceutical Wholesale Business)** 

- Pharmacy Business
- Veterinary Drug Wholesale Business
- Nursing care-related rental and other business

# Medium-Term Management Plan 2027 Three Priority Measures

(ii) Financial strategy and capital policy

01 Message from CEO

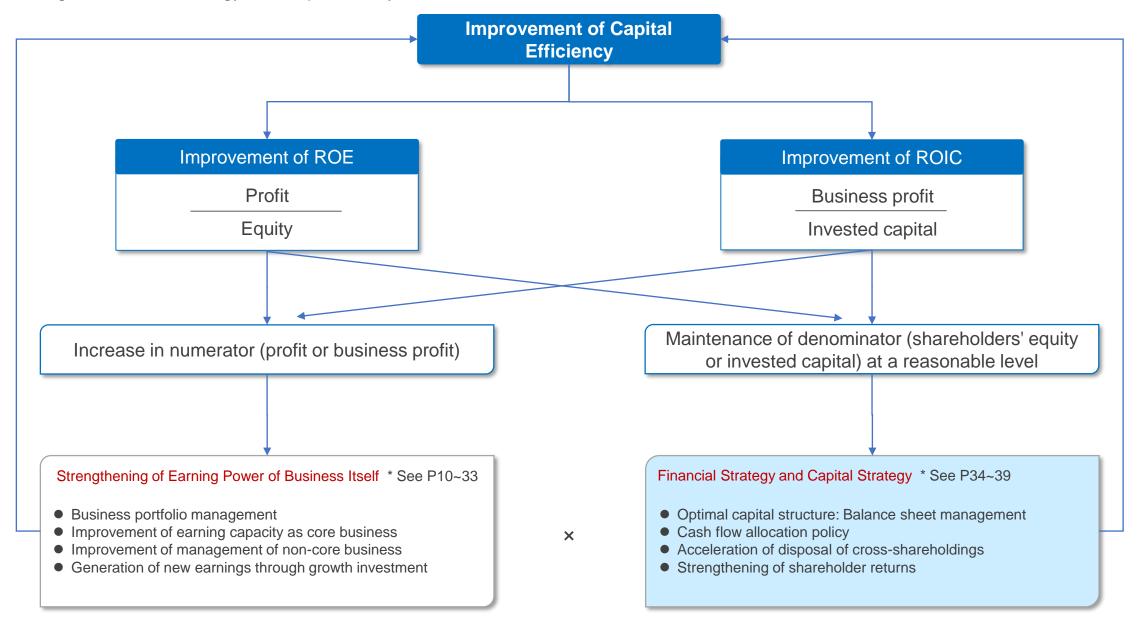
02 Our Vision

Medium-Term Management Plan 2027
Three Priority Measures

- (i) Business portfolio management
- (ii) Financial strategy and capital policy
- (iii) Strengthen group management



#### Positioning of Financial Strategy and Capital Policy





# Optimal capital structure: Balance sheet management

Thoroughly implement balance sheet management to achieve optimal capital structure that achieves the right balance between financial soundness and capital efficiency

# Liabilities Assets Interest-bearing debt Fund procurement maintaining net D/E ratio of -0.3~0.0x Asset turnover Aim to achieve 2.0 or more Capital Equity ratio of around 35% (Financial leverage of around

2.9x)

#### **Funding policy**

- Raise funds while keeping the net D/E ratio in the range for maintaining the internally estimate credit rating (-0.3~0.0x)
- Maintain the shareholders' equity ratio at around 35% (financial leverage off around 2.9x)

#### Shareholder return policy

- Maintain a DOE (dividend on equity ratio) of 3.0% or more based on the assumption of stable dividend payments
- Enhance shareholder returns in the event that surplus capital is expected after consideration of growth investment needs
- Step up the disposal of cross-shareholdings, and scrap previous policy of total shareholder returns of 50% or more in order to allocate part of the proceeds from the sale of crossshareholdings to growth investment

## Asset acquisition/reduction policy

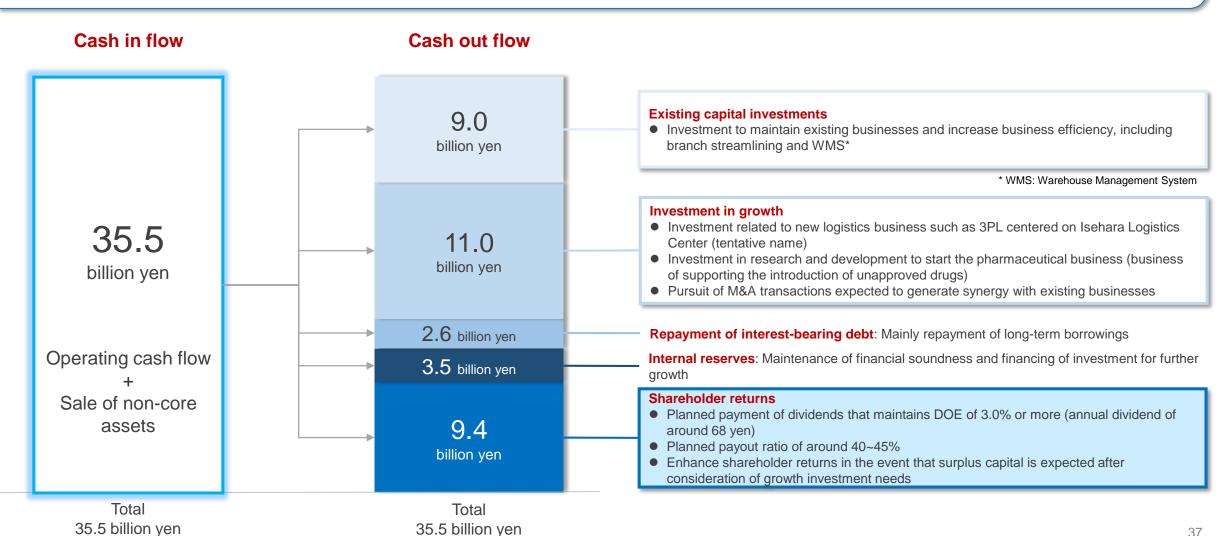
- Aim for total assets turnover of 2.0 or more\*1
- Strictly apply standards for investment selection based on an awareness of cost of capital
- Accelerate reduction in ratio off cross-shareholdings to net assets \*See P38
- Also achieve as much reduction as possible in receivables and payables and inventories, idle real estate, and other assets

<sup>\* 1:</sup> Target before the mandatory application of Japan's new lease accounting standards in FY2027 The target may be revised once the impact of the standard's application is confirmed.



## **Cash flow allocation policy**

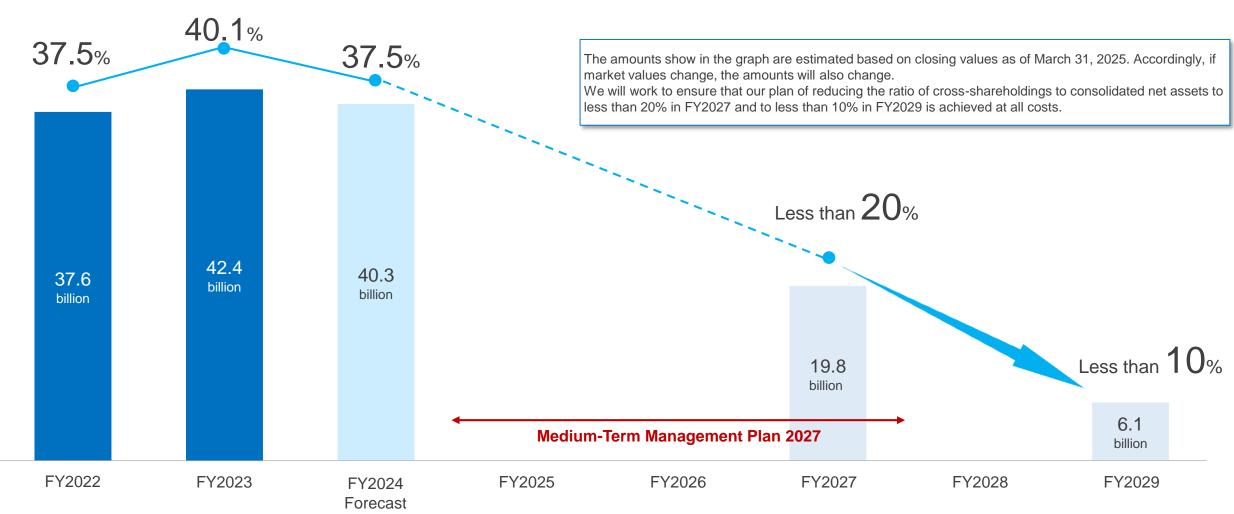
Achieve the right balance between investment in strategic businesses and future growth, for realizing our target business portfolio, and enhancement of shareholder returns





# Acceleration of disposal of cross-shareholdings

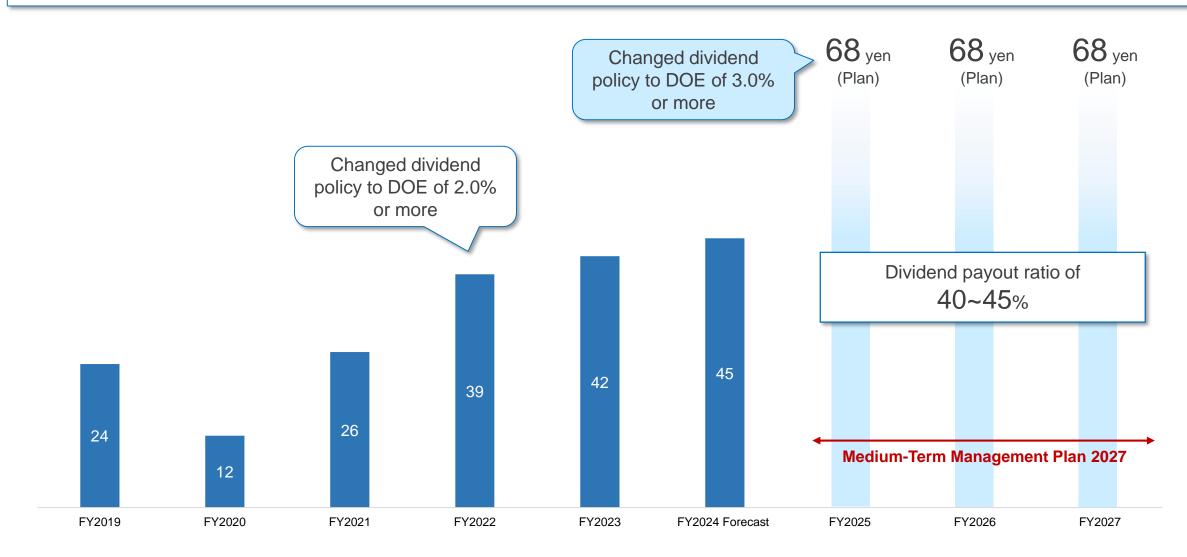
Achieve previous target two years ahead of schedule and speed up disposal to reduce ratio of cross-shareholdings to consolidated net assets to less than 20% in FY2027 and to less than 10% in FY2029





# Strengthening of Shareholder Returns

We have revised our target DOE(dividend on equity ratio) from 2.0% or more to 3.0% or more. We plan to achieve a dividend payout ratio of around  $40\sim45\%$ .



## 03

# Medium-Term Management Plan 2027 Three Priority Measures

(iii) Strengthen group management

01 Message from CEO

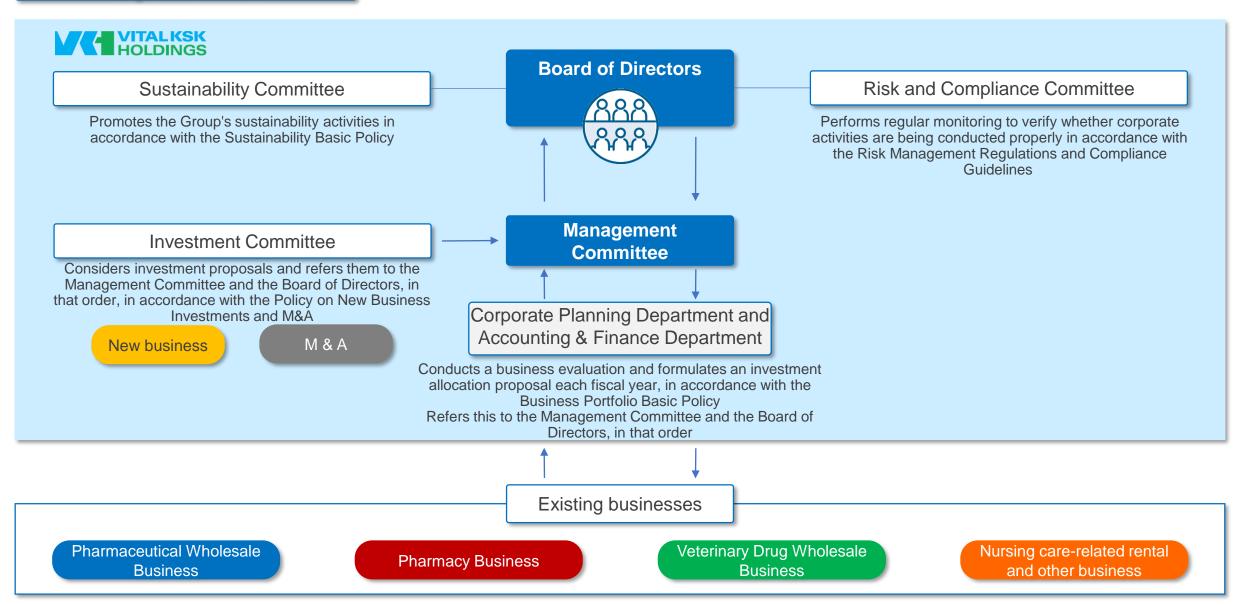
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04 Appendix

#### Business Portfolio Management Organization Chart





#### **Environmental**

#### Address climate change issues

- Continue initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, including installing solar panels at each base, including logistics centers, and introducing HV and EVs
- Aim to further reduce environmental impact by building an efficient drug distribution structure, including developing the optimal network and reducing urgent deliveries
- Continue previously implemented initiatives such as switching to LED lighting, going paperless through the digitization of in-house operations, using recycled paper, and introducing energy efficient air conditioners

#### Social

#### **Practice human capital management**

- Create new personnel systems to increase employee retention
- Continue conducting engagement surveys
- Enhance employee training, including next-generation leader training

#### Promote diversity and work place improvement

- Continue initiatives to increase percentage of female employees in management positions to 20.0% by FY2030
- Continue initiatives to increase percentage of male employees taking child care leave to 80% by FY2030
- Implement human rights due diligence in accordance with Human Rights Policy, and promote Health & Productivity Management

#### Governance

#### **Strengthen monitoring function of the Board of Directors**

- Aim for a majority of Outside Directors to further increase the independence of the Board of Directors
- Further promote diversity in terms of gender, etc. on the Board of Directors
- Establish the new positions of CFO and CHRO

#### Strengthen organizational structure of holding company

- Tighten up operations in accordance with each policy, including the Business Portfolio Management Policy
- Strengthen compliance structure
- Step up IR activities including increasing opportunities for dialogue between Directors and stakeholders

## 04

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04 Appendix



#### Medium-Term Management Plan 2027 Profit / Loss Plan

(Million yen, %)

	FY2024 Forecast		FY2025 Plan		FY2026 Plan		FY2027 Plan	
	Amount	Ratio to net sales	Amount	Ratio to net sales	Amount	Ratio to net sales	Amount	Ratio to net sales
Net sales	600,000	-	620,000	-	640,000	-	660,000	-
Core operating profit *1	-	-	6,000	0.97	6,600	1.03	7,600	1.15
(Research and development expenses) *2	-	-	900	0.15	1,500	0.23	900	0.14
Operating profit	5,500	0.92	5,100	0.82	5,100	0.80	6,700	1.02
Ordinary profit	6,700	1.12	6,000	0.97	6,000	0.94	7,400	1.12
Profit	7,000	1.12	7,200	1.16	7,000	1.09	8,100	1.23

<sup>\*1:</sup> Metric of core business profitability before deduction of research and development expenses for the pharmaceutical business (business of supporting the introduction of unapproved drugs) to be implemented during the plan period from the sales revenue of existing businesses

<sup>\*2:</sup> Expenses for the pharmaceutical business (business of supporting the introduction of unapproved drugs) to be implemented during the plan period

Adjusted ROE*3	_	7.6	7.9	8.3
ROE	6.5	6.8	6.5	7.5
Adjusted ROIC*3	_	6.7	6.8	7.5
EPS	142.7 yen	149.1 yen	145.0 yen	167.8 yen
Number of shares outstanding	48,274 thousand shares	48,274 thousand shares	48,274 thousand shares	48,274 thousand shares

<sup>\*3:</sup> Metric of core capital profitability before deduction of research and development expenses for the pharmaceutical business of supporting the introduction of unapproved drugs) to be implemented during the plan period from the sales revenue of existing businesses

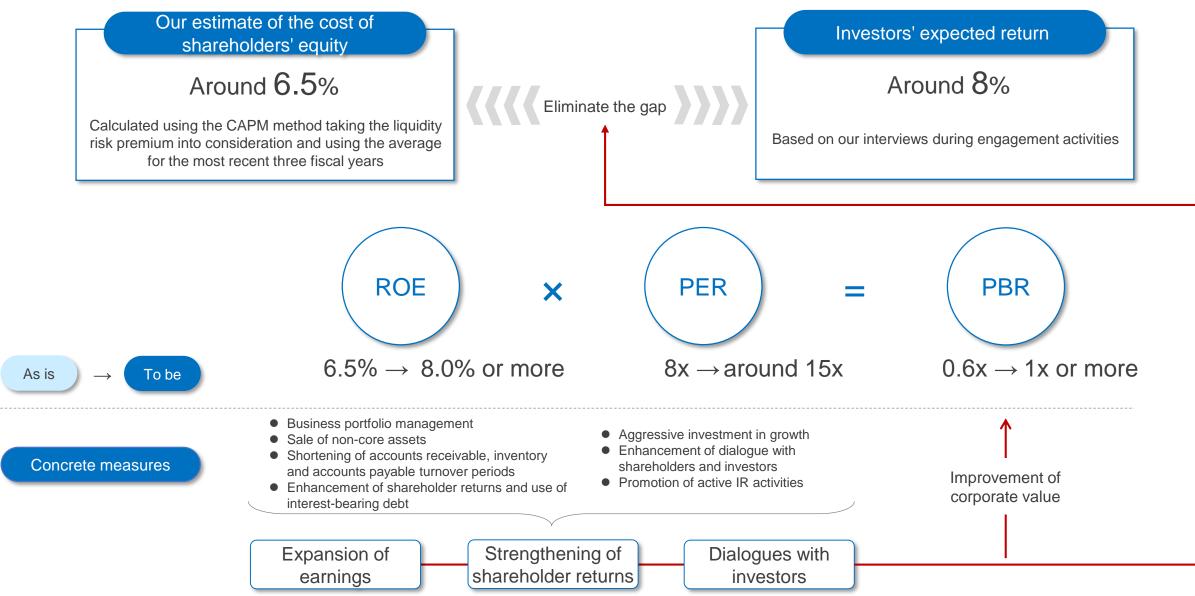


#### **Medium-Term Management Plan 2027 ROIC Tree** ■ Pharmaceutical Wholesale Business Set 3-year KPIs for: - Teams sales to hospitals (Before Deduction of Research and Development Expenses) - WHS business - Tokyo Metropolitan Area and Kita-Kanto sales strategy - Digital marketing - Business in collaboration with local governments ROE **ROIC** ROS Operating profit ratio ■ Pharmacy Business (Ratio of profit to net (Return on equity) (Return on invested - Set target number of new pharmacy openings and KPIs for technical fees capital) sales) 1.0% or more and difference in drug price 8.3% or more **7.5% or more** - Set KPI for determination of dispensing fees using to evaluate family 1.3% or more pharmacist/pharmacy operations Net profit after taxes but - Improve productivity through integration of 6 consolidated and nonbefore interest consolidated companies Profit Profit after income taxes payments\*1 ■ Veterinary Drug Wholesale Business - Set KPIs for the wholesale business and pet food manufacturing and Equity Invested capital Net sales sales business ■ Nursing Care-related Rental and Other Business - Set net sales and operating profit KPIs for Tanpopo Co., Ltd. - Set operating profit target for other subsidiaries V V ■ Logistics Services Business (Plan to split business segment in the future) - Acquire logistics companies and steadily carry out business plans ■ Pharmaceutical Business (business of supporting introduction of WACC\*3 unapproved drugs) CoE\*3 - Steadily carry out business plans (Cost of shareholders' (Weighted average cost of capital) equity) Other profit / loss ratio\*2 Acceleration of disposal of cross-shareholdings 6.0% 6.5% Approx. 0.9% →Less than 20% by FY2027, less than 10% by FY2029 Û Accounts receivable turnover period 2.41 months Improved working Inventory turnover period 0.64 months Accounts payable turnover period 3.30 months Invested capital capital turnover \* Shorten each period to avoid deterioration in CCC Improvement of Improvement of turnover ratio corporate value corporate value Improve property, plant and equipment and intangible asset turnover 5.7 times or Reduce ratio of cross-shareholdings to net assets to less than 20% by Improved fixed Equity spread ROIC spread more asset turnover Improve turnover of investments and other assets (excluding cross-1.8% 1.5% Net sales shareholdings) Invested capital Keep net debt-to-equity ratio in range for maintaining estimated credit rating Maintenance of optimal $(-0.3 \sim 0.0x)$ capital formation Maintain equity ratio at around 35% (financial leverage of around 2.9x) \* 1 Net profit after taxes but before interest payments = (Net profit before taxes + Interest expenses) x (1- Effective tax rate)

<sup>\* 2</sup> Other profit/loss ratio= (Net profit before taxes — Operating profit) ÷ Net sales \* 3 Values for CoE and WACC are average values for last 3 years



#### **Our Approach to the Cost of Capital**



#### **Note on Forward Looking Statements**



The Company's current plans, strategies, earnings forecasts and other forward-looking statements in these materials are based on information currently available to the Company, and include potential risks and uncertainties.

Please be aware that there is a possibility that actual business activities and performance will differ greatly from these outlooks due to changes in the economic situation, market conditions and various other factors.

For this reason, please do not rely entirely on these forward-looking statements alone when considering aspects of the Company such as its performance and corporate value.

Furthermore, none of the information contained in these materials is intended to induce you to buy or sell the Company's stock or recommend investment in the Company's stock. Final decisions on investment should be made at your own discretion.

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