

## Entry and Growth Performance of Biotech Firms in Japan

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### Abstract

This paper analyzes the growth performance of Japanese biotech firms since the time of their entry, based on the new original survey covering 309 firms. Major findings are (1) Biotech firms are strongly science-based. University or national research laboratories are the sources of their core technologies in more than half of the cases and around 40% of their managers have doctoral degrees. (2) A considerable number of firms spend more R&D than their sales. They have strong demand for accessing capital market in order to finance R&D with high risk. (3) A firm with patents and with early involvement of venture capital tends to grow significantly faster.

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