Independent Fundamentals Research

October 2019

AnGes, Inc. (4563 JP / TSE Mothers)

SUMMARY

AnGes (formerly AnGes MG and renamed in 2017) is a biotech venture company focused on genetic medicines, including gene therapy and oligonucleotide molecules. The company currently has three main projects in the pipeline; 1) HGF (hepatocyte growth factor) plasmid, 2) Oligonucleotide medicine for low back pain caused by disc degeneration, and 3) DNA vaccine for hypertension.

AnGes's core product is "Collategene®", an HGF plasmid for critical limb ischemia, which is the most severe form of peripheral arterial disease typically caused by diabetes. Recently, in March 2019, Collategene became the first gene therapy product to receive conditional approval from the Japanese authority (see the main text for details). Collaregene was launched by Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma Corporation, AnGes's alliance partner, in September 2019.

Collategene also made progress in clinical trials in the US. The company plans to launch the product in the US, where there are a larger number of patients (estimated at over 100,000), within five years.

Given the significant progress made in Collategene, AnGes is close to becoming profitable, in our view. In addition to making progress in the existing pipeline, AnGes is also actively adding new development pipelines such as genome editing technology. The projects are also expected to contribute to the company's future growth.

PIPELINE SUMMARY							Completed Ongoing		
Durings	T- 4141				Dev	elopment S	tage		
Project	Indication	Area	Preclinical	P1	P2	P3	NDA	Approval	Market
Collategene –	Critical Limb	Japan							
HGF Plasmid	Ischemia	USA			New Development plan				
NF-kB Decoy Oligonucleotide	Low Back Pain due to Disc Degeneration	USA							
DNA Vaccine	Hypertension	Australia							

(Source: Company)

COMPANY PROFILE

AnGes was founded in 1999 as one of the first university-originated biopharmaceutical venture companies in Japan. The company's business is based on research by Professor Ryuichi Morishita of Osaka University, who discovered that the HGF gene holds revascularization functions and that it is effective in treating the final stages of critical limb ischemia.

AnGes has entered into alliance agreements with major Japanese and global pharmaceutical companies, such as Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma Corporation (4508 JP) and Shionogi & Co., Ltd. (4507 JP). AnGes has also established an overseas subsidiary in the US in order to expand its global market coverage.

AnGes was listed on the TSE's Mothers section in 2002. As at September 30, AnGes's market capitalization was JPY71.8 bn (USD670 mn) at share price @JPY671.

Koyo Ozeki

Financial Research

MANAGEMENT

Dr. Ei Yamada (69), President& CEO, is the key person at AnGes, serving as the sole full-time board member since 2001. Professor Ryuichi Morishita of Osaka University, the founder of AnGes, serves as the company's medical advisor.

As of December 31, 2018, the company had 33 full-time employees. The outside directors and R&D staff have extensive experience in drug discovery at major pharmaceutical companies.

SHAREHOLDERS

AnGes's shareholder structure is diversified, with around 85% of shares held by roughly 62,000 individual investors. As of June 2019, the largest shareholder was Shionogi & Co., Ltd. with 1.10%, followed by SBI Securities Co., Ltd. (1.00%) and Daiwa Securities Co., Ltd. (0.89%). Professor Morishita holds 0.65% ownership.

BUSINESS MODEL

AnGes's business is based on three key strategies; 1) engaging in alliances with the major pharmaceutical companies to generate revenue in the form of license fees and milestone payments, 2) increasing the development pipeline in related areas, and 3) engaging in the development and sales of in-licensed products to diversify the business portfolio.

MARKET POSITION

In Japan, the biotech venture industry started to grow in the early 2000s, when the Japanese government began to promote university-based venture businesses. After the so-called "bio bubble" in 2000-2006, the number of new companies decreased and many companies went out of business.

MAJOR LISTED BIOTECH COMPANIES IN JAPAN

MAJOR LISTED BIOTECH COMPANIES IN JAPAN									
		Security	Market cap.	Net profit					
		Code	(Sep27.'19)	(FY2018)					
			JPY mn	JPY mn					
1	Peptidream	4587	645,349	2,770					
2	Takara Bio	4974	283,940	3,657					
3	JCR Pharma	4552	265,533	3,715					
4	SanBio	4592	232,287	-2,920					
5	Sosei Heptares	4565	188,113	-5,977					
6	GNI Group	2160	81,043	-200					
7	AnGes	4563	75,382	-2,996					
8	Healios	4593	66,192	-5,097					
9	Medicinova	4875	36,568	-1,598					
10	Oncolys Bio Pharma	4588	32,331	-1,233					
11	Carna Biosciences	4572	20,994	-1,210					
12	Gene Techno Science	4584	20,459	-856					
13	Nanocarrier	4571	16,774	-1,808					
14	OncoTherapy Science	4564	16,214	-2,934					
15	SymBio	4582	15,958	-2,752					

(Source: Nikkei, Toyo Keizai)

Currently there are 215 biopharmaceutical venture companies in Japan, according to Japan Bioindustry Association (JBA). AnGes is one of the forerunners in the industry, and ranks in the top ten among the 30 listed companies by market capitalization.

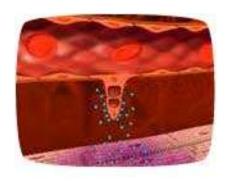
DEVELOPMENT PIPELINE

AnGes's development pipeline currently consists of three main products; 1) Collategene - HGF plasmid for critical limb ischemia, 2) "NF-kB Decoy Oligonucleotide" for atopic dermatitis and low back pain caused by disc degeneration, and 3) DNA vaccine for hypertension. (See APPENDIX for details on the development stages of each product.)

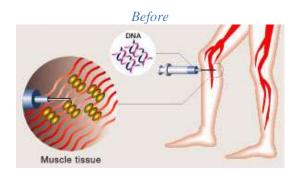
Collategene: This is AnGes's core project which seeks a radical cure for critical limb ischemia (CLI). CLI is typically caused by diabetes, and is the most severe form of peripheral arterial disease (PAD), where the vascular flow in the limbs is severely constricted.

Currently, leg amputation is the main symptomatic treatment for patients who are not able to undergo bypass surgery. The government's official estimate of the number of patients in Japan is around 1,000, but the actual number could be much larger. In the US, it is estimated that more than 100,000 patients undertake leg amputation surgery every year, and many eventually lose their lives.

Collategene (HGF) has the ability to generate new capillaries and recovers the vascular flow (*see illustration below*), thus effective in treating PAD.



Collategene is administered by direct injection to the affected areas. Collategene is expected to effectively cure the symptoms with minimal pain and damage, and dramatically reduce cases of leg amputation.





Collategene completed Phase III clinical trials in Japan, and filed a new drug application (NDA) in 2018. In March 2019, Collategene received a "conditional, time-limited approval" from the Japanese authority (Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare).

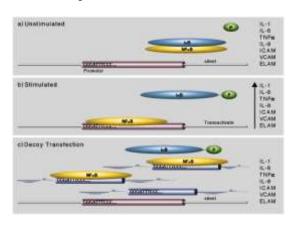
The conditional, time-limited approval is a new system introduced in 2017, under which a new drug is tested through "post-approval evaluation" by the subject group patients.

In Collategene's case, the time limit is five years (the process could be shorter), following which official marketing approval will be given subject to satisfactory evaluation results.

In September 2019, Collategene obtained the National Health Insurance (NHI) drug price listing; JPY600,360/4mg per injection, which is going to be tested through a subject group of about 60 patients. Following the NHI price listing, Collategene was launched through Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma, which is also commissioned to conduct a confirmatory study for the post-approval evaluation.

NF-k (kappa) B Decoy Oligonucleotide: AnGes is developing a decoy (an artificially

created nucleic acid that works as a specific inhibitor) for "NF-kB". The decoy functions as a switch to a gene cluster related to the human body's immune inflammatory response and inhibits the production of such disease factors.



The project is currently focused on developing a drug in the US for chronic lower back pain disease caused by disc degeneration. The project is at Phase I b clinical trial stage.

DNA therapeutic Vaccine: AnGes is undertaking DNA vaccine projects in new type of gene therapy. DNA vaccines could potentially demonstrate efficacy in two areas, i.e. prevention of infectious diseases and treatment of cancers and lifestyle-related diseases. AnGes is currently making progress in the development of DNA vaccine for hypertension.

GROWTH STRATEGY

In addition to the existing pipeline, AnGes is preparing to develop new drugs based on genetic technologies.

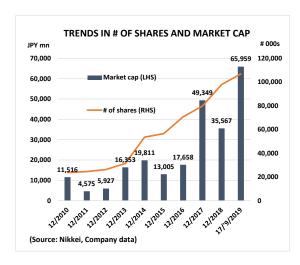
In July 2018, AnGes entered into a capital alliance with MyBiotics Pharma Ltd., an Israeli specialist in human microbiome research and development. Microbiome is the next generation medicine expected to contribute to the aging society by addressing a wide range of diseases and self-medication.

In March 2019, AnGes invested in Emendo Biotherapeutics (Israel-based US biotech company that specializes in genome editing), and engaged in a capital alliance with Barcode Diagnostic (Israeli biotech company that specializes in DNA barcode technology for cancer treatment).

In DNA vaccines, AnGes is working with Canada's Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization (VIDO-InterVac) to develop antiserum medicine for Ebola hemorrhagic fever (EHF). By adding these projects, AnGes plans to enhance its position as the forerunner of gene biotech.

FINANCIAL POSITION

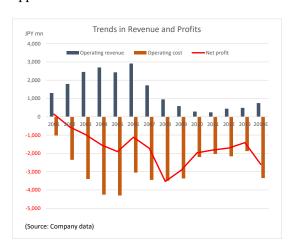
AnGes has successfully funded the projects through equity financing (see Appendix for the details of recent equity financing). As a result of the increased capital base and relatively good stock price performance, the company's market capitalization has grown significantly over the past few years, and the individual shareholder base has further diversified.



Income statement: Until recently, AnGes's revenues consisted of contract fees/ milestone payments and the sales of an in-licensed drug "Naglazyme", developed by a US company Bio Marin Pharmaceutical Inc. for the treatment of an orphan disease, Maroteaux-Lamy syndrome. The sales of Naglazime had generated annual revenues of around JPY300-350 mn with profit margin of around 50%. However, the contract with Bio Martin expired in the first half of 2019, and therefore AnGes's revenue base will come down from the second half.

Milestone payments for Collategene will support the revenue base, but operating expenses are to remain at high levels for the time being due to the post-approval evaluation process. AnGes forecasts FY2019 business revenue and operating loss at JPY335 mn and JPY2,800 mn, respectively. The company's royalty income

should be boosted when Collategene is formally approved and launched.



Balance sheet: AnGes has maintained a sound balance sheet structure with ample liquidity by successfully raising capital. At the end of June 2019, the company's cash in hand was JPY11.3 bn (or 81% of total assets), which should be sufficient to cover most operating expenses for the next three to four years.

Cash flow: Over the last couple of years, AnGes's operating cash outflow has improved to roughly JPY2,500-3,000 mn from JPY5,000 mn in FY2015-16.

The company will be able to finance the outflow from operations for the next three to four years with its current cash position. However, potential new investments or drug developments may require additional financing. The company's financing options should expand, as the official launch of Collategene approaches.

OUTLOOK

The launch of Collategene is the key to AnGes's corporate value. Collategene made a big step forward in 2019 with the conditional approval being awarded and the subsequent partial launch of the product in Japan.

AnGes and Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma are working together to obtain formal approval within five years. AnGes is expected to turn profitable when Collategene contributes to both sales and profits following the full-scale launch.

AnGes also plans to launch Collategene in the US within a similar time frame. This should be

a catalyst for the company's financial performance, in our view. We estimate AnGes's annual revenues to grow to JPY10-20 bn (USD100-200 mn) during the initial stages of the launch in the US, and the company will be able to collect on invested capital in a relatively short period of time.

If Collategene penetrates in the US market as a standard therapy for CLI, AnGes' royalty income could grow further.

Moreover, revenues from Collategene could potentially be significant if marketed globally in the future, in light of the large global market size (estimated at USD10 bn).

Success in Collategene will enable AnGes to make new investments to become a global leader in the gene biotech industry.

APPENDIX

PROJECT PIPELINE

PIPELINE		Ongoing		Completed							
						Development Stage					
Project	Indication	Indication	Area	Preclinical	Phase I	Phase II	Phase III	NDA	Approval	Market	
Collategene – HGF Plasmid	Q	Japan					2018	Mar. 2019	Sep. 2019		
(Bperminogene Perplasmid)	Critical Limb Ischemia	USA			New develo	pment plan	TBD				
NE LE B	Atopic Dermatitis	Japan				*					
NF-kB Decoy Oligonucleotide	Low Back Pain due to Disc Degeneration	USA		P1b	Feb. 2018 -						
DNA Vaccine	Hypertension	Australia	Apr. 2018 –								

^{*} The study did not show statistically significant difference between the NF-kB Decoy Oligonudectide treated group and the placebo group in the primary endpoint.

RECENT EQUITY FINANCING

RECENT EQUITY FINANCING (LAST 3 YEARS)

Timing		Method	Underwriter/	Number of	Issue price	Amount
			Subscriber	new shares	@ JPY	(JPY mn)
2016/4	Warrants	Third party allocation	Mita Securities	6,436,700	235	3,072
2016/8	Warrants	Third party allocation	Mita Securities	7,650,000	147	1,800
2017/1	Warrants	Third party allocation	Credit Suisse	8,000,000	280	2,365
2017/9	Warrants	Third party allocation	Leading Securities	12,000,000	515	5,051
2018/9	Warrants	Third party allocation	Mita Securities	16,000,000	590	10,501
Total			(A)	50,086,700	324	22,789
Number of outsta	nding shares in iss	sue / Market cap. @JPY617	(B)	106,925,061	617	65,973
			(A)/(B)	46.8%	52.6%	34.5%

(Source: Company data)

FINANCIAL DATA

INCOME STATEMENT (JPY mn) Fiscal Year* 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019F 1H 2018 1H 2019 Business revenue 610 176 173 910 430 514 365 335 170 350 347 176 Net sales of goods 309 365 382 Revenues from R&D activities 601 80 167 227 3 Business expenses 3,184 4,602 5,278 3,654 3,675 1,381 1,882 Cost of sales 151 180 175 178 188 86 R&D expenses 2,339 3,533 4,189 2,600 2,540 804 1,130 SG&A 491 668 694 890 915 876 947 Operating profit/loss -3,065 -1,205 -2,273 -4,172 -4,763 -3,289 -2,800 -1,710 Non-operating income 65 103 13 14 (of which subsidy income) 61 73 3 187 20 93 29 45 14 39 Non-operating expense (of which share issuance cost) 138 19 87 26 42 11 35 -2,395 -4,089 -4,847 -3,307 -3,096 -2,800 -1,206 -1,734 Recurring profit/loss Extraordinary profit 38 58 93 8 Extraordinary loss 93 589 243 93 477 243 (of which valuation loss on investment securities) **-2,357** -3,744 Pre-tax profit/loss -4,124 -4,761 -3,003 -1,142 -1,969 Taxation 12 19 16 21 5 5 Net proft/loss -2,369 -4,143 -4,777 -3,765 -2,997 **-2,800** -1,147 -1,974

(Source: Company data)

EBITDA					(JPY mn)
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Pre-tax profit	-2,357	-4,124	-4,761	-3,744	-3,003
Depreciation	46	49	67	29	8
Interest payment	0	0	0	0	0
EBITDA	-2,311	-4,075	-4,694	-3,715	-2,995

(Source: Company data)

CASH FLOW						
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	
Operation	-2,704	-4,599	-4,984	-2,991	-2,523	
Investment	-52	-69	-830	227	-123	
Free cash flow	-2,756	-4,668	-5,814	-2,764	-2,646	
Financing	6,427	717	4,793	2,916	7,283	
Total	3,671	-3,951	-1,021	152	4,637	

(Source: Company data)

FINANCIAL RATIOS

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
ROA	-28.9%	-87.2%	-105.2%	-95.0%	-37.2%
ROE	-30.6%	-98.2%	-123.5%	-104.0%	-38.8%
Equity / Total assets	94.5%	88.8%	85.2%	91.3%	96.1%

(Source: Company data)

^{*} Fiscal year ending December 31

BALANCE SHEET					1	(JPY mn)
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	1H 2019
Current assets						
Cash and deposits	6,017	2,075	996	1,148	5,785	11,291
Accounts receivable – trade	659	135	298	143	257	127
Merchandise	91	112	170	129	84	
Raw materials and supplies	266	556	1,001	1,443	924	706
Advance payments	522	1,209	951	422	366	30
Total current assets	7,594	4,243	3,619	3,434	7,542	12,410
Fixed assets						
Property, plant and equipment	28	76	76	0	47	51
Intangible fixed assets	54	51	55			
(of which patent rights)	52	40	32			
Investments and other assets	508	382	789	530	461	1,462
(of which investment securities)	438	315	721	471	401	1,400
Total fixed assets	590	509	920	530	509	1,512
Total assets	8,184	4,752	4,539	3,964	8,051	13,922
Current liabilities						
Accounts payable - trade	207	247	389	201	113	56
Accounts payable – other	44	83	62	85	98	71
Accrued expenses	7	23	88	8	16	24
Income taxes payable	42	33	81	12	53	58
Total current liabilities	423	482	631	318	292	219
Fixed liabilities						
Asset retirement obligations	15	22	23	23	23	24
Total fixed liabilities	26	49	39	24	25	26
Total liabilities	449	531	670	342	316	245
Net assets						
Paid-in capital	14,847	15,215	17,651	5,658	9,396	13,275
Capital surplus	13,158	13,526	15,962	1,473	5,210	9,089
Retained earnings	-20,428	-24,571	-29,348	-3,685	-6,681	-8,655
Total shareholders equity	7,577	4,170	4,265	3,447	7,925	13,709
Accumulated other comprehensive income	48	0	-405	-75	-245	-113
(of which valuation difference on securities)	17	-30	-417	-81	-248	-111
Share acquisition rights	109	51	9	250	54	81
Total net assets	7,734	4,221	3,869	3,621	7,734	13,677
Total liabilities and net assets	8,184	4,752	4,539	3,964	8,051	13,922

(Source: Company data)

DISCLAIMER

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