

January 10, 2007

AnGes MG, Inc.

**New Medical-Use Patent for HGF Gene Granted in Japan**  
**- Covering Cardiomyopathy -**

AnGes MG Inc. announces that a patent for the medical use of HGF gene for cardiomyopathy was granted in Japan, and Patent Gazette (Patent No. 3865632) was issued.

The present invention features the introduction of HGF gene into cardiac muscle for the treatment of cardiomyopathy based on HGF's fibrosis-reducing effect in addition to its angiogenic effect.

This technology also allows the introduction of HGF gene into the cardiac muscle with a catheter under echocardiogram (ultrasonic diagnostic equipment) observation. Thus, the invention provides new therapeutic and preventive measures for cardiomyopathy without thoracotomy.

Cardiomyopathy is a disease of decreased pumping capability of the heart due to cardiac muscle degeneration of unknown cause, which results in palpitation, breathlessness and respiratory difficulty. Currently no effective treatment has been established other than symptomatic treatment for reducing the strain on the heart. Cardiomyopathy is a quite serious disease that eventually requires the use of an artificial heart or heart transplantation. In contrast, the present invention intends to improve the pumping capability of the heart and is expected to demonstrate excellent improving effects and become a therapy replacing heart transplantation which is difficult to perform in the actual medical scene in Japan.

This patent will strongly support the development project of HGF gene therapy. While also eyeing its global development, AnGes MG will make efforts to further establish a strong patent network.