

July 11, 2007
AnGes MG, Inc.

Basic Patent for HVJ-E Granted in Japan: A Patent Covering HVJ-E Vector
(Product Patent)

AnGes MG has announced that a basic patent for Hemagglutinating Virus of Japan (HVJ; also Sendai Virus)-Envelope (HVJ-E) Vector was granted in Japan as a product patent, and that the registration of this patent was made public in the Official Gazette (JP3942362).

This patent covers the inactivated viral envelope which is isolated and purified from HVJ, and has the identical envelope composition of viral proteins required for the membrane-fusing activity to the wild-type viral envelope. GenomIdea Inc., our subsidiary company, is now conducting research to develop HVJ-E applicable fields. This patent will serve as a firm and long-term basis for these projects of AnGes MG and GenomIdea.

HVJ-E Vector has already been licensed from our company to Ishihara Sangyo Kaisha, Ltd. for use as reagents for research. The licensee has marketed GenomONE Series (reagents for gene and protein transfection) and GenomONE-CF (reagents for cell fusion). In the USA, Cosmo Bio Co., Ltd. launched GenomONE® Neo ex HVJ Envelope Transfection Kit in January 2007. Since HVJ-E Vector possesses the cell membrane-fusing capability, it allows the highly effective transfer of materials including genes such as nucleic acid medicines, proteins such as antibodies, low-molecular-weight compounds such as anti-cancer agents into cells. The high transfection performance is maintained among various kinds of cells and tissues. As for the safety concerns, the complete inactivation of the viral genome has provided HVJ-E with much improved features compared with conventional viral vectors. In addition to the present patent, AnGes MG and GenomIdea continue to make full use of the characteristics of HVJ-E by filing patent applications covering its uses as pharmaceuticals or diagnostics, its manufacturing/purification methods and so forth. Thus, AnGes MG Group aim to establish an elaborate web of patents covering extensive areas pertaining to HVJ-E.