Patentability for Broad Spectrum of NF-κB Decoy Oligo Approved in USA - Covering Medical Use of Broader Spectrum of Decoy Sequences -

AnGes MG, Inc. is pleased to announce that the patentability for the medical use of a broader spectrum of NF-κB decoy oligodeoxynucleotide sequences (chemical compounds) was approved by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

The medical use patent on a NF-κB decoy oligodeoxynucleotide sequence for the treatment of atopic dermatitis, etc., which is currently under development by AnGes MG, is already granted in the US (US6262033C1).

While copy products can be eliminated under the said patent, similar sequences with altered proportions (related compounds, products with the same indications) cannot be eliminated; and consequently the patent has not been necessarily sufficient to firmly protect AnGes MG's or its licensee's development projects.

From this viewpoint, AnGes MG has been communicating with the application review authorities in order to obtain wide-ranging rights on NF-κB decoy oligodeoxynucleotide including its additional altered sequences (US10/366718). As a result, the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, USPTO made the decision of reversing the reviewers' reason for rejection, and presented the judgment that the patentability can be approved (6/8).

With this decision, the registration of this filing is expected to be made soon, and not only copy products but also products with altered proportions and products with the same indications will be eliminated, thereby creating a patent network which widely protects AnGes MG's or the licensee's NF- κ B decoy oligodeoxynucleotide clinical development projects in the US.

This US based patent is valid up to May 2016. If a new drug approval is granted in the US before that point, it is expected that the corresponding patent period will be extended for a maximum of five additional years. This indicates that the patent for AnGes MG's or the licensee's NF-κB decoy oligodeoxynucleotide development projects can be duly protected.

In addition, AnGes MG has been filing additional patent applications related to the

use of NF- κ B decoy oligodeoxynucleotide for other diseases such as psoriasis, rheumatic arthritis, degenerative intervertebral discs, bone formation/periodontal diseases, and blood vessel/shunt stenosis. AnGes MG will continue to make efforts to expand the scope of the drug's clinical application.

Meanwhile, there will be no effect of this movement on AnGes MG's business performance during the current fiscal year.