September 27, 2010
AnGes MG, Inc.

alphaGEN and AnGes MG Reach Basic Agreement on Joint Research for "Development of Novel siRNA Drugs which Target Lipoprotein"

Professor Ryuichi Morishita, Department of Clinical Gene Therapy, Osaka University Graduate School of Medicine has selected alphaGEN Co., Ltd. (alphaGEN) to be a research partner for "Development of Novel siRNA Drugs which Target Lipoprotein (this theme)". Japan Science and Technology Agency has also adopted this theme as part of the "Adaptable and Seamless Technology Transfer Program through Target-driven R&D (A-STEP)".

alphaGEN and AnGes MG have already entered into the Basic Agreement on Joint Research (See press release dated August 9, 2010: http://www.anges-mg.com/ir/pdf/2010_08_09_goi.pdf [Basic Agreement]). Since this theme was adopted as a project under A-STEP, both companies held deliberations with Professor Morishita, and then agreed to add this theme to their joint research under the Basic Agreement and to decide the details after deliberations, on the assumption that the research will be further advanced with alphaGEN and AnGes MG's support for the outcome of the research under A-STEP.

In our rapidly aging society, overcoming lifestyle-related diseases is an urgent issue. The suppression of the progression of arteriosclerosis is expected to lead to the prevention of myocardial infarction, brain infarction, etc. The companies' joint research is important in light of the fact that there have been no effective drugs and that up until now risk control has not been achieved in the progression of arteriosclerosis. The companies aim is to provide new treatments for arteriosclerosis in lipoprotein-related diseases by using nucleic acid medicine.

Meanwhile, this trend will have no effect on AnGes MG's business performance for the current fiscal year.

[Reference]

- Company Profile -

Company name:	alphaGEN Co., Ltd.
Head office:	3-29 Kioicho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo
Representative:	Akimitsu Hirai, Chairman and CEO
Established:	27 February 2004
Capital:	10 million yen
Scope of business:	Research & Development for drug discoveries

- Glossary -

siRNA (RNAi)

RNA interference (RNAi) is a phenomenon that when double-stranded RNA is inserted in a cell, a cellular transcription product (mRNA) homologous to its sequence is decomposed, thereby suppressing gene expression. It has been particularly found that low-molecular double-stranded RNA made up of 21 to 23 base pair (small interfering RNA: siRNA) also suppresses gene expression in a sequence-specific manner within mammal cells. Further, recent researches have shown that synthesized siRNA causes RNA interference in human cells. There are expectations for the application of RNA interference using siRNA to the area of drugs as a method of knocking down genes.