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AnGes MG, Inc.

A Medical Use Patent Granted in Japan for Angiogenesis  
Targeting a New Gene, Endothelial Nitric Oxide Synthase (eNOS)

AnGes MG, Inc. announces that a patent for medicinal use was granted, targeting angiogenesis by eNOS gene, and that the Patent Gazette (4420633) was issued today.

This invention pertains to a treatment for critical limb (leg) ischemia using the eNOS gene, which is mainly present in the vascular endothelial cells, and is known to have a variety of actions, including vascular dilation (hypotensive activity) and the suppression of platelet coagulation. While the treatment is certainly effective with the eNOS gene alone, it can also be combined with HGF (hepatocyte growth factor) gene therapy, a product currently under development at AnGes MG, to provide expected significant therapeutic benefits for peripheral arterial occlusive disease based on even more powerful angiogenic activity.

This invention also makes it possible to increase the nitric oxide (NO) concentration in and around the affected local area without altering the level of NO in the entire body. Therefore, it will not trigger such adverse effects as low blood pressure and bleeding tendency (delayed blood coagulation). Only a single intramuscular injection of eNOS gene is possible to treat critical limb (leg) ischemia, making substantial contribution to improving patients' benefits.

This patent has already been registered in Europe, so the invention is well-positioned to play a role in supporting AnGes MG's HGF gene therapy project.

Based on such comprehensive strategies, AnGes MG will continue to promote the establishment of patent rights for other angiogenic genes, in parallel with clinical development projects of HGF gene therapy.

This project will not affect the company's performance during the current fiscal year.