

April 11, 2012
AnGes MG, Inc.

Medical-Use Patent for NF-kB Decoy Oligo Granted in Japan
- Intended for Degenerative Disc Disease, Lumbago, etc. -

AnGes MG, Inc. is pleased to announce that the medical-use patent for NF-kB decoy oligo intended for degenerative disc disease, lumbago, scoliosis, neck pain, hernia and spinal canal stenosis was granted in Japan and that the Patent Gazette (Patent No.4913072) was issued today.

This patent provides strong long term support for one of the candidates of developmental projects, following 1)NF-kB decoy oligo for atopic dermatitis treatment; and 2)NF-kB decoy oligo coated PTA balloon catheter for dialysis shunts.

Degenerative disc disease is a condition in which intervertebral disc, which acts as cushion between the vertebrae making up spine, becomes thin due to degeneration caused by aging or strenuous activity, consequently depressing its function as cushion.

It is often seen in late middle and old ages. Initially, it is asymptomatic, however as degeneration progresses, one experiences pain as he moves his body at the sites of degeneration. Thus, it is a physiological change seen in most people, although there are some individual differences in its severity. It is likely to occur in cervical vertebrae and lumbar vertebrae. Depending on the sites of degeneration, it develops as lumbago, scoliosis, neck pain, hernia or spinal canal stenosis, etc. and if it becomes severe, it causes acute pain, requiring surgery.

This patent is based on the joint research with Rush University (Chicago, Illinois, USA) and it has been registered in the USA and EU, covering for its global development (US7585848B2, EP1841463B1).

As the first project with NF-kB decoy oligo, AnGes MG is working with Shionogi Co., Ltd. on joint-development of NF-kB decoy oligo for atopic dermatitis treatment (refer to press release issued on December 27, 2010). Furthermore, related to this project, AnGes MG entered into a license agreement with MEDRx Co., Ltd. for transdermal formulation technology (refer to press release issued on March 31, 2011). As for the second developmental project, AnGes MG is jointly developing NF-kB decoy oligo coated PTA balloon catheter for dialysis shunts with Medikit Co., Ltd. and clinical trial was commenced recently (refer to press release issued on March 28, 2012).

This patent is positioned as the potential third developmental project following the above mentioned ongoing projects.

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

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