

June 28, 2004
AnGes MG, Inc.

Launch of Shimadzu Corporation and AnGes MG Joint Research Project
-To develop a new therapy for refractory dermatosis with nucleic acid medicines
administered via the needleless pressure injector "Shima JET." -

Shimadzu Corporation and AnGes MG, Inc. officially announce the signing of a joint research agreement to develop a new therapy for psoriasis. The therapy uses Shimadzu's "Shima JET" needleless hypodermic pressure injector for NFB decoy oligo, a nucleic acid medicine under development by AnGes.

AnGes is currently conducting research into new externally applied treatments which are expected to contribute to expanding the application range of the nucleic acid medicine NFB decoy oligo into the field of atopic dermatosis treatments.

A new delivery method has been sought for psoriasis and other skin diseases, as psoriasis forms a thick silver-white, scaly layer over the skin that prevents nucleic acid from penetrating deeply enough to reach the affected tissue.

"Shima JET" is a needleless pressure injector, released in September 2001 by Shimadzu Corporation for diabetic patients to use when self-injecting insulin. This injector is less painful than conventional hypodermic injections, and rarely causes hardening of the skin.

This needleless injector uses high pressure to inject medicine directly into the skin through a plastic nozzle. This technique allows the drug to reach target cells through even thick psoriasis scale in a very efficient manner. The "Shima JET" injection method is so promising for drug delivery that AnGes committed to the research partnership with Shimadzu.

In this joint R&D project, Shimadzu will supply "Shima JET" injectors while AnGes develops a treatment for psoriasis, one of the most stubborn skin diseases, by using the injector to deliver a medication based on AnGes' proprietary NFB decoy oligo.

Company Profile

SHIMADZU CORPORATION

Headquarters: 1 Nishinokyo-Kuwabara-cho, Nakagyo-ku, Kyoto 604-8511, Japan

President: Shigehiko Hattori

Foundation: September, 1917

Capital: 16.8 billion yen (as of March, 2004)

Number of employees: 3,072 (as of March, 2004)

Sales: 150 billion yen (for the term ended in March, 2004)

Scope of business: Production and distribution of analytical, medical, aviation, and industrial equipment.