

February 9, 2011
AnGes MG, Inc.

Medical-Use Patent for HGF Gene Granted in Japan

- Covering the combination use of hyperbaric oxygen therapy with angiogenesis factor gene therapy in order to improve therapeutic effects -

AnGes MG Inc. announces that a medical-use patent for combination of angiogenesis factor gene therapy, such as Hepatocyte Growth Factor (HGF), and hyperbaric oxygen therapy was granted in Japan, and a Patent Gazette (Patent No. 4,623,719) was issued.

This patented invention will further improve gene delivery efficiency and enable safe and more effective clinical gene therapies by combining one of various types of angiogenesis factor gene therapies and hyperbaric oxygen therapies for the treatment of critical leg ischemia or ischemic heart diseases including myocardial infarction, angina pectoris, and cardiac failure.

Hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBO) is performed for emergency diseases such as decompression sickness and carbon monoxide poisoning, and also for improvement of ischemic symptoms in the skin/muscles/nerves by supplying sufficient oxygen to tissues. Specifically, this is a therapy in which the patient is placed in a pure oxygen environment at about 2 atmospheres in an airtight chamber (oxygen room) for a certain length of time. HBO is also widely applied in a clinical setting for the treatment of intractable ulcers in the periphery of limbs.

The results of animal studies confirmed that gene delivery efficiency is significantly improved when combined with HBO. Such combination therapy generates synergistic effect, and therefore this invention will further strongly support AnGes MG's HGF gene therapy development project.

Outside Japan, AnGes MG holds similar rights and is establishing a patent network for its international clinical development activities.

US Patent: No. 7,259,149 (registered in August 2007)

European Patent: No. 1,567,197 (registered in July 2010)

Australian Patent No. 2003302590 (registered in February 2009)

In addition to the current patent, a succession of other HGF gene therapy related medical-use patent applications have been filed in order to expand the scope of clinical applications.

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