

## **Shionogi to enter into licensing agreement on NF- $\kappa$ B Decoy Oligodeoxynucleotide for Atopic Dermatitis with AnGes MG, Inc.**

---

Osaka, Japan, December 27, 2010 - Shionogi & Co., Ltd. (Head Office: Osaka, Japan; President and Representative Director: Isao Teshirogi, Ph.D.; hereafter “Shionogi”) and AnGes MG, Inc. (Head Office: Osaka, Japan; Representative Director, President and CEO: Ei Yamada, Ph.D.; hereafter “AnGes”) today announced that the companies have entered into a license agreement on NF- $\kappa$ B decoy oligodeoxynucleotide on atopic dermatitis and other skin disorders. Under the agreement, Shionogi and AnGes will conduct collaborative research and development and Shionogi has obtained exclusive rights to globally commercialize NF- $\kappa$ B decoy oligodeoxynucleotide.

Atopic dermatitis is a skin disorder with itchy eczema, which often persists for a long time with cyclic deterioration and improvement of symptoms, and is thought to be caused by allergic reactions (exaggerated immune response). It may also be caused by food and environmental allergens, such as eggs, milk, dust and mite, and aggravated even by stress.

Upon inflammatory signaling triggered by allergens, NF- $\kappa$ B, a transcription factor, binds to 3'-untranslational region of genomes coding inflammatory cytokines, such as TNF, IL-1, etc, which trigger inflammation cascades that lead to dermatitis. In the pathway, NF- $\kappa$ B decoy oligodeoxynucleotide binds to NF- $\kappa$ B by pretending the genome region to which original NF- $\kappa$ B should bind. As a result, the transcription process causing dermatitis could be inhibited. Unlike existing topical products such as steroids and calcineurin inhibitors, Shionogi expects that NF- $\kappa$ B decoy oligodeoxynucleotide will be a new treatment option of different mechanism of action for atopic dermatitis with better safety and efficacy profiles.

Shionogi is striving to make a contribution to the treatments of atopic dermatitis and other skin disorders, in which new treatment options are necessary, by developing NF- $\kappa$ B decoy oligodeoxynucleotide promptly with AnGes.

## **About AnGes MG, Inc.**

Established: December 17, 1999

Representative Director, President and CEO: Ei Yamada, Ph.D

Head office: 4F, Saito Bio-Incubator, 7-7-15, Saito-asagi, Ibaraki, Osaka, 567-0085 Japan

AnGes MG, Inc. is a biopharmaceutical company based on an innovative discovery, and specializes in R&D and practical application of genetic medicine. At present, AnGes is engaged in developing two new medicines: the Hepatocyte Growth Factor (HGF) genetic medicine which improves blood circulation by regenerating blood vessels, and NF-κB decoy which controls various inflammations.

It is AnGes' mission to provide patients, especially those suffering from diseases for which no effective therapy has been available to date, with innovative drugs as soon as possible in order to improve their Quality of Life.

For further information about AnGes, please visit <http://www.anges-mg.com/en/>

## **Forward-looking statements**

*This announcement contains forward-looking statements. These statements are based on expectations in light of the information currently available, assumptions that are subject to risks and uncertainties which could cause actual results to differ materially from these statements. Risks and uncertainties include general domestic and international economic conditions such as general industry and market conditions, and changes of interest rate and currency exchange rate. These risks and uncertainties particularly apply with respect to product-related forward-looking statements. Product risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, completion and discontinuation of clinical trials; obtaining regulatory approvals; claims and concerns about product safety and efficacy; technological advances; adverse outcome of important litigation; domestic and foreign healthcare reforms and changes of laws and regulations. Also for existing products, there are manufacturing and marketing risks, which include, but are not limited to, inability to build production capacity to meet demand, unavailability of raw materials and entry of competitive products. The company disclaims any intention or obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.*

## **For further information, contact:**

Corporate Communications Department

Shionogi & Co., Ltd.

Tel: +81-6-6209-7885

Fax: +81-6-6229-9596