



Press release
21 February 2007

Kringle Pharma to co-develop recombinant HGF wound therapy with Swedish company, Tripep AB

Kringle Pharma, Inc. (Head office located in Toyonaka, Osaka; President & CEO: Kunio Iwatani, "KRINGLE") is proud to announce that it has reached a basic agreement with Tripep AB (Head office located in Huddinge, Sweden; CEO: Jan Nilsson, "TRIPEP") to co-develop recombinant HGF (Hepatocyte Growth Factor) protein for wound-healing therapy.

HGF was initially discovered, purified and molecularly cloned by Professor Nakamura - one of the founders of KRINGLE and presently KRINGLE's Scientific Advisor - at Osaka University as a potent mitogen for mature hepatocytes. Through ongoing efforts by Professor Nakamura's team, it was then discovered that HGF possesses a wide variety of physiological activities beyond being a mitogenic factor for liver cells, as a motogenic, anti-apoptotic (prevention of cell death) and morphogenic factor for various other types of cells. HGF is now considered as an intrinsic factor with an organotrophic role in the regeneration and repair of various tissues and organs including the liver, kidneys, nervous system, as well as skin. Co-development with TRIPEP, which plans to undertake clinical development of the recombinant HGF protein for wound-healing therapy, will significantly accelerate the developmental process and provide it with a base in an EU country.

Commenting on the agreement, Jan Nilsson said, "I am very pleased that we have come to an agreement with KRINGLE, who are world leading in developing recombinant HGF. Our new collaboration with KRINGLE enables us to start straight away to work with a recombinant product, thus reducing the development time dramatically.

As for KRINGLE, Kunio Iwatani said, "TRIPEP and KRINGLE are both well fitted companies. We easily understood the similarity of each other, thus, we could build a win-win relationship based on mutual trust. Sweden is an ideal location to conduct a clinical trial of HGF for wound healing, because investigational human studies have been already conducted at Linköping University Hospital. I believe TRIPEP and KRINGLE will make a success developing the project using our recombinant HGF"

About Kringle Pharma, Inc.

Kringle Pharma is a venture biopharmaceutical company spun-off from Osaka University. The company was established in 2001 to develop novel biopharmaceuticals based on HGF and NK4, both discovered by Professor Toshikazu Nakamura and Associate Professor Kunio Matsumoto at Osaka University. HGF is considered an intrinsic factor with an organotrophic role in the repair and regeneration of various tissues and organs, and is thought to have significant potential in becoming a regenerative medicine. NK4 is a molecule which functions as both an HGF-antagonist and an angiogenesis inhibitor that is induced by various growth factors including HGF. NK4 is a bi-functional and multi-target compound developed by Kringle Pharma for the treatment of various kinds of cancer.

For more details on Kringle's technologies, please refer to the company's website at www.kringle-pharma.com/en/index.html

About Tripep AB

Tripep AB is a Swedish biotechnology research company that develops and commercialises candidate drugs based on patented technologies. It was established in 1997 and was listed on the First North stock exchange in 2000. Its main focuses are:

- clinical development of ChronVac-C[®], a therapeutic vaccine for Hepatitis C
- clinical development of ChronSeal, a wound healing project based on HGF (Hepatocyte Growth Factor),
- preclinical research focusing on the development of therapeutic and prophylactic vaccines against HIV and Hepatitis C,
- the RAS[®] technology platform

Mr. Jan Nilsson, CEO of TRIPEP since 2004, has held several executive positions in marketing and corporate management at international pharmaceutical companies and has more than 30 years' business experience in the industry. Dr. Anders Vahlne, co-founder of TRIPEP and one of its board members who recently serves as the company's Head of Research, is a Professor of Clinical Virology at the world-renowned Karolinska Institute.

For more details on Tripep's technologies, please refer to the company's website at www.tripep.se

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