Patent on Antibody Against New Lung Cancer Marker and Diagnostic Application thereof has been Granted in USA

TRANS GENIC INC. (CEO: Kenji Fukunaga, Fukuoka City, Fukuoka, Japan) hereby announces that, the patent on the antibody against new lung cancer marker, mutant α-actinin-4, and its diagnostic application has been granted in the U.S. TRANS GENIC and National Cancer Center (President: Dr. Hitoshi Nakagama, Chuo-ku, Tokyo, Japan) jointly filed the international patent application on this technology in September 9, 2011.

【Overview】
The new tumor marker, mutant α-actinin-4, was discovered by Dr. Kazufumi Honda (Laboratory Head) and Dr. Tesshi Yamada (Chief), Division of Chemotherapy and Clinical Research, National Cancer Center. It is useful for diagnosis of small-cell lung cancer. This patent application is related to the antibody against this tumor marker which is produced by utilizing GANP® mouse technology. This antibody enables to improve the detection rate of this tumor marker in small lung cancer patients, and increase the diagnostic accuracy.

TRANS GENIC will work toward practical use of this antibody, such as licensing to the companies manufacturing diagnostic agents of small lung cancer, in order to monetize the intellectual properties. This patent application will not have a material impact on our business or financial performance for the fiscal year 2016. TRANS GENIC will promote the business for the future growth of earnings, including the creation of biomarker antibody and the development of protein-related technology platform.

◆Reference: Small-cell lung cancer

Small-cell lung cancer accounts for 20% of total lung cancer. Since it is the most progressive lung cancer, and detected as advanced cancer with metastatic tumors of multiple organs in most cases, it is considered as one of the malignant diseases with poor prognosis. Therefore, there is a strong unmet need for improvement in early-stage diagnostic accuracy.

GANP® Mouse technology
GANP (Germinal Center Associated Nuclear Protein), a gene discovered by Dr. Nobuo Sakaguchi, Osaka University, is expressed in B-cells which produce antibodies. GANP® Mouse technology is an antibody-developing technology utilizing GANP® mice in which GANP gene is overexpressed. Antibodies generated by GANP® mice, characteristic for their high affinity and high specificity, are applicable for diagnostic agents and antibody therapeutics.
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