

OncoTherapy Science, Inc.

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Patent Registration for MELK-specific inhibitors in European Patent Office

OncoTherapy Science, Inc. (President & CEO: Kazuo Yamamoto; hereinafter, “OncoTherapy”) announces that OncoTherapy was approved a substance patent in EPO (European Patent Office) for the MELK (maternal embryonic leucine zipper kinase) -specific inhibitors that are being developed by OncoTherapy as anti-cancer drugs.

Patent No. 2753329

Country: EPO (European Patent Office)

Title of invention: 1,5-NAPHTHYRIDINE DERIVATIVES AND MELK INHIBITORS CONTAINING THE SAME

With regard to MELK-specific inhibitor, the equivalent patents have already been approved in the United States of America, Singapore, Australia and Japan.

MELK is one of the novel anti-cancer drug targets identified by the genome-wide gene expression analyses conducted by Professor Yusuke Nakamura’s laboratory. It is highly expressed in various types of human cancer including breast and lung cancers, while its expression was hardly detectable in normal tissues. It is therefore expected that a drug acting on MELK can be applied to a wide range of human cancers with a minimum risk of adverse side effects.

With regard to MELK-specific inhibitor OTS167, Phase I/II clinical trial in patients with advanced leukemia is currently being studied at the University of Chicago. And Phase I clinical studies of OTS167 for patients with breast cancer, including triple negative breast cancer have opened at Weill Cornell Medicine and the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center.

We will accelerate the development of drugs targeting MELK to contribute to the improvement of cancer treatment.