

Denka Seiken Completes Its Production Facility for the G47Δ Oncolytic Virus

Denka Company Limited (headquarters: Chuo-ku, Tokyo; president: Manabu Yamamoto; hereinafter “Denka”) hereby announces that on October 5, 2017, Denka Seiken Co., Ltd. (headquarters; Chuo-ku, Tokyo; president: Mitsukuni Ayabe; hereinafter “Denka Seiken”), a core Group company, completed the construction of a facility for manufacturing G47Δ oncolytic virus (building No. 41) within the premises of Denka Seiken’s Niigata Plant.

Developed under a new concept, the G47Δ employs a genetically-modified herpes simplex virus type-1 and the biological drug incorporating it is expected to represent an epoch-making advance as a cancer treatment that leverages the properties of the virus. To test its effectiveness against glioblastoma, a type of malignant brain tumor, an investigator-initiated clinical trial (Phase II) has been under way since 2015. In that same year, Dr. Tomoki Todo, a professor at the Institute of Medical Science of the University of Tokyo, commissioned Denka Seiken to develop a large-scale G47Δ production method. As announced on July 21, 2016, Denka Seiken was able to initiate the construction of its first facility for manufacturing this oncolytic virus. Today, we are pleased to announce the completion of said facility, and plans call for bringing it on line once approval for the manufacture and marketing of G47Δ is obtained from Japan’s Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare.

A completion ceremony for the facility was held on October 5, 2017 in Gosen City, to which we invited Dr. Todo, Mr. Junichi Koga, who serves as a managing executive officer of Daiichi Sankyo Company, Limited, and local government officials and residents from Niigata Prefecture and Gosen City as well as representatives from construction firms.

At this event, Denka president Manabu Yamamoto declared his commitment on behalf of employees to rallying overall Group strengths to deliver G47Δ at the earliest possible date.

Also, Mr. Mitsukuni Ayabe, president of Denka Seiken, expressed his deepest gratitude to those who generously supported the development of G47Δ and the construction of the new facility. Mr. Ayabe also explained his strategy aimed at accelerating corporate growth through operations involving cancer treatment solutions—a new business pillar Denka Seiken is now positioned to employ in addition to vaccines and diagnostic reagents.

Looking ahead, the Denka Group is determined to do its utmost to supply the innovative G47Δ oncolytic virus, with the aim of blazing a new trail in the field of medical technology while contributing to the advancement of cancer treatment.



Dr. Tomoki Todo, from the Institute of Medical Science of the University of Tokyo, speaking at the completion ceremony



Mr. Yamamoto, Denka president, speaking at the completion ceremony

References:

News release: “Denka Seiken Initiates the Development of Large-Scale Production Methods for the ‘G47Δ’ Oncolytic Virus” dated on May 12, 2015

http://www.denka.co.jp/eng/news/pdf/20150512_G47%CE%94_e.pdf

News release: “Denka Seiken to Establish a Production Facility for the G47Δ Oncolytic Virus” dated on July 21, 2016

http://www.denka.co.jp/eng/news/pdf/20160721g47_e.pdf

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