



Press Release

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Corline's first Regenerative Medicine patent granted in the US

Swedish company Corline Systems AB, a maker and distributor of its proprietary and unique heparin coating technology for use in Regenerative Medicine, has been granted Patent No. 7981873 by the US Intellectual Property Office.

“This is a break-through for Corline in the world’s largest and most influential market for Regenerative Medicine. Our technology holds potential to radically improve treatments for patients that really have no options today. IP protection is a crucial step to further commercialization”, comments CEO Henrik Nittmar.

The patent – titled ‘Novel use within Transplantation Surgery’ – covers methods for application and use of the company’s proprietary heparin coating technology for coating and protecting cells at transplantation, and specifically Islets of Langerhans for transplantation to diabetes Type-1 patients.

The life saving therapy of transplanting human donated insulin producing cells which are clustered together in what is referred to as Islets of Langerhans, has run into problems when translated from bench to clinic. One major area of challenge is to protect the transplanted cells from the immediate response of the receiving patient’s immune system, commonly referred to as the Innate Immune System, which leads to a massive cell loss during the first hour after transplantation. Corline has developed a unique heparin coating technology that can attenuate this reaction and save valuable donated cells from destruction. The Swedish Medical Products Agency has given its approval to start clinical trials for this promising technology.

“Supported by our recently granted funding from the EU commission, we are moving into clinical trials with our core technology in Europe. Next logical development step is to make a similar move for the huge US market, and the newly granted US patent is a necessary basis for future investment to realize such a plan. I am very pleased”, concludes CEO Henrik Nittmar.

About Corline and CHS

Corline is a biotechnology company based in Uppsala, Sweden, that develops, manufactures and distributes a proprietary patent protected heparin conjugate surface (CHS) that can be used both for medical devices and for Regenerative Medicine (cell therapy and tissue engineering). In 2008, the market for Regenerative Medicine totaled a 1.5 bn USD turnover, with a 90 % share being focused in the US. The US based market analysis company Life Science Intelligence, estimates the total potential to be over 100 bn USD.

CHS can be used to coat living cells and tissue without compromising their biological functions. CHS helps attenuate the local inflammation that is formed on and around grafts at transplantation, and promotes new blood vessels to grow more quickly to support the graft. For the patient, CHS potentially means better clinical outcome and a more rapid recovery from treatment.

Corline conducts pre-clinical and clinical studies within a number of cell and tissue therapy areas. These studies are a first step towards realizing the company's vision of having its CHS platform technology widely used within the future Regenerative Medicine market. The CHS technology is protected by more than 20 granted and pending patents.

Corline is a privately held company, financially backed by members of the Crafoord family, primarily known for the development of Swedish medical device company Gambro (founded by Holger Crafoord), and Lars Sunnanväder, a well-known entrepreneur who has founded several medical device and biotechnology companies, e.g. heart/lung assist and coronary surgical device manufacturer Jostra, lung assist device manufacturer Novalung, Jotec, Jolife, Joline and other companies within this field.

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