Press Release

Kubota Vision Announces Issuance of Patents

Seattle (February 14, 2024) — Kubota Vision Inc. ("Kubota Vision" or the "Company"), a clinical-stage specialty ophthalmology company and a wholly-owned subsidiary of Kubota Pharmaceutical Holdings Co., Ltd. (Tokyo 4596), today announced the issuance of patents covering eyeMO (Patient Based Ophthalmology Suite), methods of use for emixustat hydrochloride and Vascular Adhesion Protein-1 (VAP-1) inhibitor from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, assigned to the Company, adding strength to the Company's intellectual property position.

(1) Title of the invention: MINIATURIZED MOBILE, LOW COST OPTICAL COHERENCE TOMOGRAPHY*1 SYSTEM FOR HOME BASED OPHTHALMIC APPLICATIONS

Abstract: Improved optical coherence tomography systems and methods to measure thickness of the retina are presented. The systems may be compact, handheld, provide in-home monitoring, allow the patient to measure himself or herself, and be robust enough to be dropped while still measuring the retina reliably.

Issuance country: United States of America

Patent number: US 11,896,308

Date of Patent: February 13, 2024

Assignee: Acucela Inc.

(2) Title of the invention: MINIATURIZED MOBILE, LOW COST OPTICAL COHERENCE TOMOGRAPHY*1 SYSTEM FOR HOME BASED OPHTHALMIC APPLICATIONS

Abstract: Improved optical coherence tomography systems and methods to measure thickness of the retina are presented. The systems may be compact, handheld, provide in-home monitoring, allow the patient to measure himself or herself, and be robust enough to be dropped while still measuring the retina reliably.

Issuance country: United States of America

Patent number: US 11,890,053

Date of Patent: February 6, 2024

Assignee: Acucela Inc.

(3) Title of the invention: METHODS FOR THE TREATMENT OF DIABETIC RETINOPATHY AND OTHER OPHTHALMIC DISEASES

Abstract: Methods are provided herein for the treatment of ophthalmic diseases or conditions such as an ophthalmic disease or disorder associated with diabetes in a patient. Also provided herein are methods of treating retinopathy of prematurity in a patient. Further, provided herein are methods for treating wet age-related macular degeneration in a patient. The methods comprise administration of compounds disclosed herein to a patient in need thereof that inhibit or slow one or more signs or symptoms of such conditions.

Issuance country: United States of America

Patent number: US 11,795,136

Date of Patent: October 24, 2023

Assignee: Acucela Inc.

(4) Title of the invention: INHIBITORS OF VAP-1

Abstract: Provided herein are compounds and methods of use thereof for the modulation of VAP-1 activity.

Issuance country: United States of America

Patent number: US 11,787,791

Date of Patent: October 17, 2023

Assignee: Acucela Inc.

About eyeMO (Patient Based Ophthalmology Suite)

eyeMO is a low cost, home-based, ophthalmic self-monitoring OCT device. This small handheld device addresses needs in mobile Health (mHealth[*2]) applications for self-monitoring of retina health by patients in the home and in remote field locations. eyeMO aims to improve ophthalmic treatment outcomes in patients diagnosed with and treated for wet age-related macular degeneration (AMD), diabetic macular edema (DME), and other neovascular retinal diseases. eyeMO is being designed to detect nascent disease progression and support patient re-treatment prior to irreversible vision loss due to disease progression. Key features are low cost and a patient-friendly design, to be used directly by patients at home. eyeMO is being designed to capture changes in retinal anatomy. Network connectivity and cloud-based technologies are used to alert the patients and their physicians of disease progression and re-treatment needs.

[*1] Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT) is a non-invasive tool that uses light waves to take cross-section pictures of the retina.

[*2] mHealth refers to the usage of mobile communications technology and devices to enhance access to healthcare information, improve distribution of routine and emergency health services, and provide diagnostic services.

About Emixustat Hydrochloride

Emixustat modulates the visual cycle by inhibiting a critical enzyme of this pathway, retinal pigment epithelium protein 65 (RPE65). The visual cycle is the process by which vitamin A is recycled in the eye; vitamin A is crucial to the visual process. Slowing the visual cycle reduces the availability of vitamin A derivatives (11-cis- and all-trans-retinal) to form precursors of toxic A2E and related compounds. In addition, reducing the availability of 11-cis-retinal decreases retinal metabolic demands under dark conditions. Emixustat when delivered orally was found to be generally well tolerated in human clinical studies with delayed dark adaptation being the most common adverse event.

The FDA and EMA granted orphan drug designation to emixustat for the treatment of Stargardt disease. (See January 5, 2017 press release titled "Acucela Receives Orphan Drug Designation from the FDA for the Treatment of Stargardt Disease" and June 9, 2019 press release titled "Acucela Receives Orphan Designation from the EMA for Emixustat for the Treatment of Stargardt Disease")

About Kubota Vision Inc.

Kubota Vision Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of Kubota Pharmaceutical Holdings Co., Ltd. (Tokyo 4596), committed to translating innovation into a diverse portfolio of drugs and devices to preserve and restore vision for millions of people worldwide. Kubota Pharmaceutical group's pipeline includes a wearable device for myopia control using Kubota Glass technology and a handheld OCT device for the monitoring of neovascular retinal diseases, to be used directly by patients.
https://www.kubotavision.com/; https://www.kubotaholdings.co.jp/en/

Cautionary Statements

Certain statements contained in this press release are forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Any statements contained in this press release that are not statements of historical fact may be deemed to be forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements include statements regarding our expectations related to our development plans and ability to successfully develop and commercialize our product candidates and the potential efficacy, future development plans and commercial potential of our product candidates. These statements are based on current assumptions that involve risks, uncertainties and other factors that could cause the actual results, events or developments to differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. These risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond our control, include, but are not limited to: our investigational product candidates may not demonstrate the expected safety and efficacy; our pre-clinical development efforts may not yield additional product candidates; any of our or our collaborators' product candidates may fail in development, may not receive required regulatory approvals, or may be delayed to a point where they are not commercially viable; our clinical trials could be delayed; new developments in the intensely competitive ophthalmic pharmaceutical market may require changes in our clinical trial plans or limit the potential benefits of our investigational product candidates; the impact of expanded product development and clinical activities on operating expenses; adverse conditions in the general domestic and global economic markets; as well as the other risks identified in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date hereof and we assume no obligation to update these forward-looking statements, and readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements. For a detailed discussion of the foregoing risks and other risk factors, please refer to our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which are available on Kubota Pharmaceutical Holdings (Kubota Vision's parent company) investor relations website (https://www.kubotaholdings.co.jp/en/ir/) and on the SEC's website (http://www.sec.gov).

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