News Release

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Perseus Proteomics Inc.
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Announcement of Publication of Paper Related to PPMX-T003 for ANKL Therapy on "Blood"

Perseus Proteomics Inc. ("the Company", President & CEO: Takuya Yokokawa, HQ: Tokyo) is pleased to announce that the paper describing efficacy of PPMX-T003, its on-developing anti-transferrin receptor antibody, against aggressive NK-cell leukemia (ANKL) is published online on "Blood", the top journal of hematology. The paper was co-authored by Prof. Ai Kotani at Tokai University and other researchers including the CTO of the Company.

As ANKL is an ultra-rare disease with very poor prognosis, there are few tumor cells of ANKL patients or patient-derived xenograft mice. Thus, discovery of the causes of the disease and establishment of standard treatment method have been waited. Under such circumstances, Dr. Kotani's research group established ANKL-patient-derived xenograft mice and confirmed that tumor cells engraft in the liver. They also confirmed that transferrin receptors are important for survival of tumor cells and that PPMX-T003 enables extension of survival period of the mice due to its function of blocking iron intake. As a result of analysis of tumor microenvironment, it was found that the liver serves as a niche for ANKL, and that inhibition of the transferrin-transferrin receptor 1 axis is a promising therapeutic strategy for ANKL.

Dr. Kotani's research group and the Company have been jointly proceeding with research and development of therapeutic drugs against blood diseases including ANKL. Also, PPMX-T003 will be administered to ANKL patients after registration in the on-going investigator-led phase I/II clinical study.

[Paper information]

Title: Hepatic niche leads to aggressive natural killer cell leukemia proliferation through transferrin-transferrin receptor 1 axis

Journal：Blood

Author：Kameda K, Yanagiya R, Miyatake Y, Carreras J, Higuchi H, Murayama H, Ishida T, Ito A, Iida S, Fukuhara N, Harigae H, Fujioka Y, Takahashi N, Wada H, Ishida F, Nakazawa H, Ishihara R, Murakami Y, Tagawa H, Matsuura T, Nakagawa S, Iwabuchi S, Hashimoto S, Imadome KI, Nakamura N, Ishizawa K, Kanda Y, Ando K, Kotani A.

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