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[Delayed] Patent Granted for "Cardiac Tissue Regeneration" with Self-Assembling Peptide Technology in Japan

In regards to a self-assembling peptide technology, the company hereby announces that a patent for treatment of cardiac diseases using cardiac tissue regeneration, filed by the company's U.S. subsidiary, was granted in Japan.

[Title of Invention]	Compositions and Methods for Cardiac Tissue Protection and Regeneration
[Patent Number]	No. 5903068
[Patent Owner]	3-D Matrix, Inc.

This patent relates to a method of treatment using self-assembling peptide compositions which build three-dimensional scaffold structure for cell proliferation at tissue sites damaged by cardiac disease. The patent was granted for a divisional patent application following Japanese patent No. 5558104 granted in 2014. In the previously granted patent, the disease to be treated was restricted to acute cardiac infarction, whereas, the patent granted this time covers wider range of cardiac diseases which include atrial fibrillation, valve disease, pericardial disease and so on.

Myocardial cells have virtually no proliferation capability, and the function of damaged tissue steadily deteriorates without recovery. Because of that, approaches based on regeneration therapy are expected for treatment of such necrotic tissue. Regenerative treatment for the cardiac tissues shown in the patent indicated contribution to improvement of cardiac function, and the company is working toward its practical use as one of the tissue regenerative approaches.

The company has been working in the field of regenerative treatment for areas such as bone and skin regeneration using characteristics of three-dimensional scaffold structure made of self-assembling peptide compositions. With the granted patent this time, it is expected that the company's patent portfolio related to tissue regeneration is reinforced and, as a result, the company is taking a step further to develop cardiac tissue regeneration material, which is expected to contribute to improvement of cardiac functions, as a future pipeline candidate and the company is carrying out research and development to promote partnership

agreement, license out and so on in the field of cardiac diseases in the future.

The announcement is considered to contribute promoting joint research, enhancing value of intellectual property, achieving partnership agreement and so on in the next fiscal year or later, even though it does not influence the earning forecast of the company at this moment.