



Artimplant

Biomaterials for Tissue Engineering

PRESS RELEASE from Artimplant

www.artimplant.se

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Artimplant receives European patent approval

Artimplant has received approval for its so called principal patent from the European Patent Bureau. The patent, which is valid until 2015, refers to all implant products based on linear block polymers containing urea and urethane groups.

Artimplant's patent application concerning polymer-based fiber implants has been approved by the European Patent Office in Munich. The patent, Artimplant's so called principal patent, refers to all implant products (including anterior cruciate ligament implants) based on linear block polymers containing urea and urethane groups and is valid until 2015. The principal patent has previously been approved in Sweden, Singapore, Australia and in the US.

Anders Cedronius, Chief Executive Officer at Artimplant, comments:

"Europe is an important market for Artimplant's ligament implants, and we are very pleased that we have gained a very good protection for the next fifteen years. Artimplant is working to have its first ligament product certified in Western Europe within the near future, which is why this patent approval is of utmost importance."

Artimplant strives to build a solid patent protection around products that are commercially interesting. This includes everything from material synthesis and production processes to clinical applications. The company has previously received five patent approvals in Sweden, whereof three have received international approvals. Currently another seven patents are being prepared for filing at the Swedish Patent Office (PRV).

Artimplant is a biomaterial company focused on unmet needs in the field of orthopedic surgery. Artimplant develops, manufactures and markets biodegradable implants with the aim of recreating an active life. The company's in-house developed biomaterials are based on a new patented technology that opens new market opportunities within orthopedic surgery and numerous other specialist areas where medical needs are significant. After more than ten years of development work Artimplant is now entering a market phase.

Artimplant has developed and patented a number of biodegradable ligament implants currently undergoing clinical studies. Early observations from a pilot study using Artimplant's anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) implant show subjective as well as objective knee stability. The technique enables relatively early rehabilitation. A ruptured ACL in the knee is one of the most frequent ligament injuries and often leads to lifelong detrimental effects for the injured, and substantial costs to society. The market potential for Artimplant's ongoing development projects amounts to approximately SEK

30 bn. Furthermore, the market potential for Artimplant's carrier technology is estimated at more than SEK 50 bn.

As part of Artimplant's market strategy Gothenburg Medical Center (GMC) was acquired with the purpose of establishing Swedish headquarters for **Artimplant Academy** – a forum for advanced clinical research, application and education within orthopedic surgery.

The Artimplant share is listed on the OM Stockholm Exchange O-list.

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