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Angion Biomedica, Sinovant Sciences collaborate to develop BB3

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Angion Biomedica and Sinovant Sciences today announced a collaboration and license agreement for BB3, Angion's investigational small molecule mimetic of hepatocyte growth factor (HGF), in the People's Republic of China, Hong Kong, Macau, and Taiwan (Greater China).

Angion is currently developing BB3 in a Phase 3 trial for the treatment of delayed graft function (DGF) following kidney transplantation and in a Phase 2 trial for the treatment of acute kidney injury (AKI) following open-heart surgery requiring cardiopulmonary bypass.

"We are very pleased to partner with Sinovant to develop and commercialize BB3 in Greater China," said Jay Venkatesan, M.D., CEO of Angion. "Our collaboration will help to address the morbidity, mortality, and healthcare costs associated with DGF and AKI rin the rapidly growing patient markets in Greater China. Sinovant's deep knowledge of China, experienced management team, and demonstrated commitment to innovation make them the ideal partner for Angion in the region." "DGF and AKI are each associated with high morbidity and mortality and there are no approved therapies globally," said Dr. Rae Yuan, President of Sinovant.

Under the terms of the agreement, Angion has granted Sinovant an exclusive license for the development, commercialization, and manufacture of BB3 in Greater China. Angion will receive significant upfront, regulatory, and commercial milestone payments as well as royalties on sales in Greater China.

Sinovant and Angion will cooperate to jointly develop BB3 in DGF and AKI, with Sinovant taking the lead on development activities in Greater China. Sinovant expects to initiate clinical trials with BB3 in Greater China immediately upon receipt of the necessary regulatory approvals.

Delayed graft function (DGF) is a form of acute kidney injury (AKI) that manifests postoperatively in 20-30% of renal transplantation patients globally and is associated with a 40% decrease in long-term graft survival.1 In Greater China, persistent organ shortages have led to greater use of deceased donor kidneys, which is expected to drive increases in observed rates of DGF.

AKI is characterized by an abrupt loss of kidney function and may be caused by a variety of factors. In the surgical setting, AKI is a common complication of open-heart surgery requiring cardiopulmonary bypass. Up to 30% of patients recovering from open-heart surgery experience an AKI-associated complication, resulting in a five-fold increased risk of death during hospitalization. Risk factors for AKI in the post-surgical setting include existing kidney disease, compromised heart function, exposure to nephrotoxic drugs, advanced age, and diabetes.