

04-07-2000

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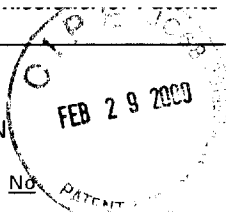
To the Honorable Assistant Secretary and Co. or copy(ies) thereof.

Please record the attached original document(s)

1. Name of conveying party(ies):

Moriaki KUSAKABE and Toshio KAMON

Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? No



2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):

Name: THE INSTITUTE OF PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL RESEARCH

Street Address: Hirosawa 2-1, Wako-shi, Saitama, 351-01 Japan

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3. Nature of conveyance:

- Assignment Merger
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Execution Date: February 15, 2000

4. Application number(s) or patent number(s):

If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is:

A. Patent Application No.(s)
09/439,284, filed November 15, 1999

B. Patent No.(s)
, issued

Additional numbers attached? No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:

Name: WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK, L.L.P.
Attn: Lee Cheng, Esq.

Street Address: 2033 K Street, N.W., Suite 800

City: Washington, State: DC ZIP: 20006

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41). \$40.00

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Lee Cheng, Reg. No. 40,949
Name of Person Signing

February 29, 2000
Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet: 3

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ASSIGNMENT

In consideration of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00) and other good and valuable consideration paid to each of the undersigned

Insert Name(s)
of Inventor(s)

Moriaki KUSAKABE

Toshio KAMON

_____ and

the undersigned hereby sell(s) and assign(s) to

Insert Name(s)
of Assignee(s)

THE INSTITUTE OF PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL RESEARCH

Address

of Hirosawa 2-1, Wako-shi, Saitama, 351-01 Japan

(hereinafter designated as the Assignee) the entire right, title and interest for the United States as defined in 35 USC 100, in the invention known as

Title of
Invention

EMBRYONIC STEM CELLS

for which an application for patent in the United States has been executed by the undersigned

on February 15, 2000

Date of Signing
of Application

The undersigned agree(s) to execute all papers necessary in connection with this application and any continuing, divisional or reissue applications thereof and also to execute separate assignments in connection with such applications as the Assignee may deem necessary or expedient.

The undersigned agree(s) to execute all papers necessary in connection with any interference which may be declared concerning this application or continuation, division or reissue thereof and to cooperate with the Assignee in every way possible in obtaining evidence and going forward with such interference.

The undersigned agree(s) to execute all papers and documents and perform any act which may be necessary in connection with claims or provisions of the International Convention for Protection of Industrial Property or similar agreements.

The undersigned agree(s) to perform all affirmative acts which may be necessary to obtain a grant of a valid United States patent to the Assignee.

The undersigned hereby authorize(s) and request(s) the Commissioner of Patents to issue any and all Letters Patents of the United States resulting from said application or any division or divisions or continuing or reissue applications thereof to the said Assignee, as Assignee of the entire interest, and hereby covenants that he has (they have) full right to convey the entire interest herein assigned, and that he has (they have) not executed, and will not execute, any agreement in conflict herewith.

The undersigned hereby grant(s) the firm of WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK, L.L.P., 2033 K Street, N.W., Suite 800, Washington, D.C. 20006, the power to insert on this assignment any further identification which may be necessary or desirable in order to comply with the rules of the United States Patent Office for recordation of this document.

In witness whereof, executed by the undersigned on the date(s) opposite the undersigned name(s).

Date February 15, 2000

Moriaki Kusakabe
Moriaki KUSAKABE

Date February 15, 2000

Toshio Kamon
Toshio KAMON

Date _____

Date _____

Date _____

Date _____

(This assignment should preferably be acknowledged before a United States Consul. If not, then the execution by the Inventor(s) should be witnessed by at least two witnesses who sign here.)

Witness Morihiko Inaba

Witness Naoko Hirasawa

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

_____ } ss

This _____ day of _____, 19____, before me personally came the

above-named _____ to me personally known as the individual(s) who executed the foregoing assignment, who did acknowledge to me that he (they) executed the same of his (their) own free will for the purposes therein set forth.

Official Signature

SEAL

Official Title

The above application may be more particularly identified as follows:

U.S. Application Serial No. NEW Filing Date November 15, 1999

Applicant Reference Number F970901M-CIP Atty Docket No. 01432/F970901M-CIP

Title of Invention EMBRYONIC STEM CELLS