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Professor Yong-Chul Kim's new drug development start-up company PeLeMed attracted 6.5 billion won in series A investment

- GIST (Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology, President Kiseon Kim) School of Life Sciences Professor Yong-Chul Kim founded the start-up company PeLeMed (CEO Yong-Chul Kim & Soo Yeon Jang) and attracted 6.5 billion won worth of Series A investment from Samho Green Investment, Spring Camp, DT & Investment, LSK Investment, Daekyo Investment, and KDB Saneun Capital.
 - With this investment, PeLeMed is planning to initiate overseas non-clinical studies of resistant lung cancer, blood cancer, and pancreatic cancer by applying innovative new drug design technology that lowers the risk of gene mutation resistance.
- PLM-101, applied with Pelemed's innovative anticancer technology, is a single-molecule therapeutic drug. It is a dual-effect anticancer drug that acts on new targets and immuno-cancer targets for cancers with acquired resistance. It has a strong therapeutic effect on intractable carcinoma caused by acquired resistance from repeated administration of existing anticancer drugs.
 - It is being developed as the world's first innovative anti-cancer drug for intractable lung cancer, blood cancer and pancreatic cancer because it is a drug with a low probability of mutation resistance even when administered for a long time because it binds to a target kinase site that has a low risk of mutation.

- At the heart of PeLeMed's technology to develop intractable resistant cancer treatments is its own new drug platform, PeLeSelect. PeLeSelect is a precision drug design platform that design drugs with a low risk of mutation by predicting the structure of a kinase activated by mutations. A database of about 75,000 new substances and 25 kinase structures that bind to the enzymes of the activation structure has been established, and more than 80 key combined structure groups have been secured, including a number of FDA-approved targeted anticancer drugs.
 - PeLeMed plans to continuously discover new candidates with a low risk of mutation based on PeLeSelect for the continuous development of treatments for intractable carcinoma. In addition, by applying AI drug development technology, it is building a pipeline for the development of therapeutics for the nervous system, immune system, and infectious diseases.

- Professor Yong-Chul Kim, who led the investment attraction, said, "PeLeMed aims to develop therapeutics for intractable cancer patients who do not have competitive treatments due to mutation and acquired resistance to existing anticancer drugs. It is expected that a target mechanism that is clearly different from existing treatments and safe from mutations will show excellent therapeutic effects."

- PeLeMed, which has started researching PLM-101 materials and accumulated platform building technology since 2015, was founded in May 2019 based on domestic and PCT patents for PLM-101. It is operated under the separate representative of CEO Yong-Chul Kim (a professor at the GIST School of Life Sciences) and Soo Yeon Jang who is from Seoul National University's School of Pharmacy.
 - CEO Yong-Chul Kim, an expert in the development of synthetic new drugs for more than 25 years, was in charge of R&D for candidate substances, and Soo Yeon Jang, who went through a bio-venture with researchers from the Ministry of Food and Drug Safety and the National Institutes of Health, was in charge of CMC, non-clinical and commercialization. Recently, PeLeMed was selected as a commercialization and R&D project by the Startup Growth Technology Development Project of the Ministry of SMEs and Startups and is conducting non-clinical research.



▲ GIST School of Life Sciences Yong-Chul Kim