# CosmeRNA

# Novel AGA Solution with RNA technology



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# **Androgenetic Alopecia**

### Androgen & androgen receptor action



### Androgenetic Alopecia

Androgenetic Alopecia (AGA)? A hormonally-driven condition

#### Leads to Progressive Hair Loss



80%



#### Affects (Europe)

<b>Prevalence of</b>
AGA
by age group

1. Androgenetic Alopecia, <u>https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/28613674/</u>

2. AHLA, https://www.americanhairloss.org/men\_hair\_loss/index.html

3. Alopecia Market Forecast to 2030, Reports And Data, 2022

 Frequency, severity and related factors of androgenetic alopecia in dermatology outpatient clinic, An Bras Dermatol. 2017 Jan-Feb; 92(1): 35–40.

	30~39	40~49	50~59
Age Grade	n (%) (n=97)	n (%) (n=57)	n (%) (n=60)
Type 1	47	27	26
~ Type 4a	48%	47%	43%



	30~39	40~49	50~59
Age Grade	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)
	(n=113)	(n=89)	(n=65)
Orada 1.0	23	26	28
Grade 1~2	20%	29%	43%

### Androgen & Androgen Receptor in AGA



#### Androgenetic Alopecia (AGA)?

A hormonally-driven condition to leads to progressive hair loss.

Testosterone is converted into **DHT** by **5-α reductase**, combined with **Androgen Receptor(AR)** 

Only treatments with severe side effects on QoL(Quality of Life) exist in the current market

 Julieta María Ceruti, Androgens and androgen receptor action in skin and hair follicle, Molecular and Cellular Endocriology, Volume 465, 15 April 2018, Pages 122-133 <u>https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0303720</u> 717304926?via%3Dihub

2. Androgenetic Alopecia, https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK430924/



## **SAMiRNA**<sup>™</sup>



### Use of siRNA as antiaging cosmeceuticals

#### *J. Cosmet. Sci.*, 64, 1–14 (November/December 2013) **Use of small RNA as antiaging cosmeceuticals**

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#### Affiliation

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#### Abstract

Over the past two decades, RNA interference (RNAi) has achieved great improvements in medicine, which has benefited the development of innovative cosmeceutical products, particular, to antiaging cosmeceuticals. A variety of ongoing research has tried to employ small RNAs-small interference RNA and microRNA as new cosmeceutical ingredients. Furthermore, several skin care companies have released new small RNA products in cosmetic market. In this review, we will describe the latest and most advanced approaches and strategies of using small RNA as antiaging cosmetics, including investigations on aging-related genes that small RNA target, method of delivering them, and challenges in the development of RNAi-based therapeutics for skin care cosmeceuticals. It is certain that advancement in this direction will evolve a new landscape for innovative antiaging cosmeceuticals.

# According to the review article on analysis of the recent research trend for innovations of cosmeceuticals,

- Researches on cosmeceuticals utilizing novel small RNA (siRNA, microRNA) technology are very active and were stated as a crucial business strategy
- The best way to confirm the efficacy of siRNA on AGA is to degrade mRNA of AR to suppress protein expression, and topical application is suggested for a better performance.

Table I.

Small KNA in Antiaging Cosmeceuticals				
Type of small RNA	Gene target	Application	References	
miRNA	Tyrosinase	Whitening	23,24	
siRNA	MITF	Whitening	25,26	
siRNA	P53	Whitening	7	
miRNA inhibitor	miR-29	Antiwrinkle	27,28	
miRNA	Hyaluronidase	Moisturizing	19	
siRNA	Androgen receptors	Hair care	29,30	
siRNA	Tbx21	Hair care	31	
miRNA inhibitor	miR-31	Hair care	32	
miRNA	LSD1/2, DNMT1, MECP1/2	Antiaging	33	

1. J Cosmet Sci. 2013 Nov-Dec;64(6):455-68.

### Current limitations to develop as cosmetics



RNA is difficult to get across the Skin and causes immune stimulation

Our unique proprietary chemistry enable delivery across skin with no safety issues



RNAi typically needs complex chemistry and formulation, making it expensive to make Our proprietary manufacturing IP and know-how enable large scale manufacturing at a scalable cost



RNA rapidly degrades normally and the short shelf-life makes it difficult to supply OTC Our shelf life is over 1 year in room temperature conditions, making OTC possible

### SAMiRNA is a breakthrough platform for topical RNAi



RNA is difficult to get across the Skin and causes immune stimulation Our unique proprietary chemistry enable delivery across skin with no safety issues



RNAi typically needs complex chemistry and formulation, making it expensive to make Our proprietary manufacturing IP and know-how enable large scale manufacturing at a scalable cost



RNA rapidly degrades normally and the short shelf-life makes it difficult to supply OTC Our shelf life is over 1 year in room temperature conditions, making OTC possible

### si-RNA : novel technology targeting mRNA

• Central Dogma : From DNA to Protein



### si-RNA : novel technology targeting mRNA



siRNA only functions when its antisense strand is completely base-paired to the target mRNA.

#### Naked (Conjugated) RNAi





Poor bioavailability & PK, delivery limited to liver

#### Nanoparticle Encapsulation



Toxicity, difficulty manufacturing & scaling, unstable

Limitation of RNAi therapeutics

### SAMiRNA-AR68 with AR Silencing technology



### SAMiRNA-AR68: Nanoparticle-type si-RNA Targeting AR mRNA

INCI Name: Stearyldisulfidehexyl DNA-2-PEG-45/SH-RNA-1

Technology: Self-Assembled-Micelle Inhibitory RNA

Morphology: Nanoparticle-type si-RNA targeting AR mRNA in Dermal papilla cell

MoA: Suppressing AR mRNA and protein level in HFDPc to cause AGA

Function: Ameliorates the symptoms of AGA

### AR mRNA targeting SAMi RNA - AR68 ameliorates AGA

#### a. Schematic of SAMiRNA nanoparticles



A Self-Assembled micelle-forming nanoparticle, based on the double-conjugated module

### The cutting-edge technologies of siRNA delivery and their application in clinical trials

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Affiliations + expand PMID: 30136248 DOI: 10.1007/s12272-018-1069-4

#### Abstract

siRNA therapeutics allows precise regulation of disease specific gene expression to treat various diseases. Although gene silencing approaches using siRNA therapeutics shows some promising results in the treatment of gene-related diseases, the practical applications has been limited by problems such as inefficient in vivo delivery to target cells and nonspecific immune responses after systemic or local administration. To overcome these issues, various in vivo delivery platforms have been introduced. Here we provide an overview for three different platform technologies for the in vivo delivery of therapeutic siRNAs (siRNA-GalNAc conjugate, SAMiRNA technology, and LNP-based delivery method) and their applications in the treatment of various diseases. In addition, a brief introduction to some rare diseases and mechanisms of siRNA therapeutics-mediated treatment is described.

### scientific reports

#### Weekly treatment with SAMiRNA targeting the androgen receptor ameliorates androgenetic alopecia

Sung-II Yun<sup>1,5</sup>, Sang-Kyu Lee<sup>2,5</sup>, Eun-Ah Goh<sup>2</sup>, Oh Seung Kwon<sup>2</sup>, Woorim Choi<sup>2</sup>, Jangseon Kim<sup>2</sup>, Mi Sun Lee<sup>2</sup>, Soon Ja Choi<sup>2</sup>, Seung Sik Lim<sup>1</sup>, Tae Kee Moon<sup>3</sup>, Sin Hae Kim<sup>3</sup>, Keeyeol Kyong<sup>4</sup>, Gaewon Nam<sup>4</sup><sup>22</sup> & Han-Oh Park<sup>1,2</sup><sup>22</sup>

Androgenetic alopecia (AGA) is the most common type of hair loss in men and women. Dihydrotestosterone (DHT) and androgen receptor (AR) levels are increased in patients with AGA, and DHT-AR signaling correlates strongly with AGA pathogenesis. In this study, treatment with self-assembled micelle inhibitory RNA (SAMiRNA) nanoparticle-type siRNA selectively suppressed AR expression in vitro. Clinical studies with application of SAMiRNA to the scalp and massaging to deliver it to the hair follicle confirmed its efficacy in AGA. For identification of a potent SAMiRNA for AR silencing, 547 SAMIRNA candidates were synthesized and screened. SAMIRNA-AR68 (AR68) was the most potent and could be efficiently delivered to human follicle dermal papilla cells (HFDPCs) and hair follicles, and this treatment decreased the AR mRNA and protein levels. We confirmed that 10 µM AR68 elicits no innate immune response in human PBMCs and no cytotoxicity up to 20 µM wit cells. Clinical studies were performed in a randomized and double-blind with two different doses and frequencies. In the low-dose (0.5 mg/ml) clinical study, AR68 was applied three times per week for 24 weeks, and through guantitative analysis using a phototrichogram, med increases in total hair counts. In the 24-week long high-dose (5 mg/ml) clinical study AR68 showed average additional hair growth of 1.3-1.9 hairs/cm<sup>2</sup> per month, which is comparable to finasteride. No side effects were observed. Therefore, SAMiRNA targeting AR mRNA is a potential ovel topical treatment for AGA

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SAMiRNA-AR68 (AR68) was the most potent and could be efficiently delivered to human follicle dermal papilla cells (HFDPCs) and hair follicles, and this treatment decreased the AR mRNA and protein levels.

-No cytotoxicity up to 20  $\mu$ M with HFDP and HaCaT cells.

-A randomized and double-blind clinical study with the low does and high dose(0.5mg/ml and 5mg/ml)

-In the 24-week long high-dose (5 mg/ml) clinical study, AR68 showed average additional hair growth of 1.3-1.9 hairs/cm2 per month, which is -

comparable to finasteride. No side effects were observed.

Therefore, SAMiRNA targeting AR mRNA is a potential novel topical treatment for AGA

### SAMIRNA - AR68 : Screening of potent SAMIRNAs targeting AR in Hair Follicle



(b, c) LNCaP cells treated with PBS or 14 SAMiRNA candidates for 48 h. \*\*\*p<0.001(b)Total RNA extracts were subjected to quantitative polymerase chain reaction (qPCR) assays to evaluate AR knockdown efficacy, and AR expression was normalized to the expression of the ribosomal protein lateral stalk subunit P0 (RPLP0) gene (c). Whole-cell lysates were subjected to immunoblot analysis to compare the protein levels of AR and GAPDH. The intensity of the AR and GAPDH bands was quantified by ImageJ software, and AR protein expression was normalized to glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase (GAPDH) values (c, lower panel).

### SAMiRNA-AR68: AR Silencing in HF



AR silencing efficacy of SAMiRNA-AR68 in human hair follicles.

(a)Plucked human hair follicles were treated with PBS or 10  $\mu$ M FAM-labeled SAMiRNA-AR68 in culture medium for 24 h. Hair follicles were subjected to immunofluorescence (IF) analysis and counterstained with 4',6-diamidino-2-phenylindole (DAPI). Scale bars = 100  $\mu$ m. (b) Plucked human hair follicles were treated with PBS or 10  $\mu$ M SAMiRNA-AR68 for 48 h. Total RNA extracts from hair bulbs were subjected to qPCR assays, and AR expression was normalized to that of the RPLP0 gene. (c) Plucked human hair follicles were treated with PBS or 10  $\mu$ M SAMiRNA-AR68 for 48 h. IF analysis of the plucked vertex hair follicle section incubated with an anti-AR antibody and counterstained with DAPI. Scale bars = 100  $\mu$ m. Levels of AR protein were measured by the mean fluorescence intensity using ZEN software. Data are shown as the mean value ± SD (n = 8 hairs/group) normalized for DAPI intensity. Statistical significance was assessed by two-sided Student's t test, \*p < 0.05 and \*\*p < 0.01.

### SAMiRNA-AR68: Safety



(a) HFDP and HaCaT cells were treated with PBS or the indicated dose of SAMiRNA-AR68 for 72 h. WST-1 assays were performed to measure cell viability. (b) Human PBMCs were treated with 20  $\mu$ g/ml concanavalin A (ConA) as a positive control, PBS, or the indicated doses of SAMiRNA-AR68 for 6 h. Total RNA extracts were subjected to qPCR assays to evaluate the expression of proinflammatory cytokines, including IL-1 $\beta$ , IL-6, INF- $\gamma$  and TNF- $\alpha$ , normalized to that of the ribosomal protein L13A (RPL13A) gene.

### Clinical tests for AGA patients – Efficacy evaluation

- Proven efficacy by domestic and international clinical tests for AGA patients, which are independently designed for different concentrations and dosage frequencies.
  - Double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled tests

Low-concentration (0.5 mg/ml) clinical trial	High-concentration(5 mg/ml) clinical trial 1
<ul> <li>Institution : Global derma-clinical test center of Seowon University (45)</li> <li>Research design : 24 weeks of applying Low- concentrated(0.5 mg/ml) COSMERNA-68, 3 times per week</li> <li>Method : 1ml of application on the scalp for 3 times per week, with 5 minutes of massaging for better absorption</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Institution : Ellead Skin &amp; Bio Research (43)</li> <li>Research design : : 24 weeks of applying high-concentrated (5 mg/ml) COSMERNA-68, once per week</li> <li>Method : 1ml of application on the scalp once per week, with 5 minutes of massaging for better absorption</li> </ul>

### Clinical tests on AGA patients – Efficacy evaluation

#### Low-concentration (0.5 mg/ml) clinical trial



Δ Total hair counts	COSMERNA-68 (n=22)	Placebo (n=23)	
(n/cm²)	Mean ± SD	Mean ± SD	<i>p</i> -value
16 weeks	0.864 ± 2.189	0.435 ± 2.660	0.477
24 weeks	2.273 ± 3.089	0.304 ± 2.653	0.043*

#### High-concentration (5 mg/ml) clinical trial



$\Delta$ Total hair counts	COSMERNA-68 (n=22) Placebo (n=21)		
(n/cm²)	Mean ± SD	Mean ± SD	<i>p</i> -value
16 weeks	7.545 ± 7.896	3.714 ± 10.335	0.279
24 weeks	7.727 ± 8.659	-0.190 ± 12.875	0.026*

### Clinical tests on AGA patients – Efficacy evaluation





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24 weeks	7.727 ± 8.659	-0.190 ± 12.875	0.026*	

### Clinical Study in Korea: Study II: Safety & Efficacy of CosmeRNA by Ellead

#### Demographics

Characte	Characteristics		mg/ml (n=22)	Placebo (n=21)
Characte	15005	r	า (%)	n (%)
Sex	Male	9 (40.90) 13 (50.10)		10 (47.62)
	Female			11 (52.38)
Age	Меа	n ± SD	44.77 ± 10.88	46.48 ± 7.93
		Median	49.50	48.00
		Min, Max	22.00, 54.00	25.00, 54.00
		20 <	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)
		20-29	4 (18.18)	2 (9.52)
		30-39	1 (4.55)	-
		40-49	6 (27.27)	9 (42.86)
		≥ 50	11 (50.00)	10 (47.62)

### Clinical Study in Korea: Hair count increased significantly with weekly application



Yun, SI., Lee, SK., Goh, EA. et al. Weekly treatment with SAMiRNAtargeting the androgen receptor ameliorates androgenetic alopecia. Sci Rep 12, 1607 (2022). https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-022-05544-w All subjects placed their head into a hair photograph device (Canfield Scientific), and photographs were taken at fixed distance, angle and lighting with an EOS Rebel T6i digital camera (Canon). Global evaluation was performed by comparing clinical images at baseline with those at 8, 16 and 24weeks after treatment with the test product. The investigator qualitatively assessed clinical images on a 7-point scale (– 3, marked decrease; – 2, intermediate decrease; – 1, slight decrease; 0, no change; + 1, slight increase; + 2, intermediate increase; and + 3, marked increase).

### Clinical Study in Korea: Hair count increased significantly with weekly application

**Total Hair Counts** 



Yun, SI., Lee, SK., Goh, EA. et al. Weekly treatment with SAMiRNAtargeting the androgen receptor ameliorates androgenetic alopecia. Sci Rep 12, 1607 (2022). https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-022-05544-w For evaluation of total hair counts, the hair was clipped approximately 2 mm after a red spot tattoo in the evaluation area (1 cm2) of the hair loss region (forehead hairline or vertex). The total hair counts were assessed using a Folliscope® 2.8 phototrichogramsystem (magnification 14 times, LeadM) at baseline and at 16 weeks and 24 weeks after treatment. The total hair count (number/cm2) was calculated as the number of hairs within an area.

### Clinical Study in Korea: Hair density increased significantly within 2 months of application



Yun, SI., Lee, SK., Goh, EA. et al. Weekly treatment with SAMiRNAtargeting the androgen receptor ameliorates androgenetic alopecia. Sci Rep 12, 1607 (2022). https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-022-05544-w

All subjects placed their head into a hair photograph device (Canfield Scientific), and photographs were taken at fixed distance, angle and lighting with an EOS Rebel T6i digital camera (Canon). Global evaluation was performed by comparing clinical images at baseline with those at 8, 16 and 24weeks after treatment with the test product. The investigator qualitatively assessed clinical images on a 7-point scale (– 3, marked decrease; – 2, intermediate decrease; – 1, slight decrease; 0, no change; + 1, slight increase; + 2, intermediate increase; and + 3, marked increase).

### Clinical Study in Korea: High user satisfaction with feeling fuller hair



### Visible improvement – demonstrated in weekly and monthly applications



### COSMERNA® Anti-AGA RNA Tonic



•A promising AGA solution by cutting-edge RNA technology Leveraging out our core competencies in molecular biology since 1992

• Clinically proven efficacy, published on a Scientific report 7.5 / 1cm<sup>2</sup> increase of hair strands in 4 months, Ellead Skin&Bio Research

• Safe mechanism for both of men and women Precision Targeting of AR mRNA in dermal papilloma cells

Proven safety by no adverse effect
 Dermatest certified

#### •User convenience Once per two weeks

Key Ingredients COSMERNA (STEARYLDISULFIDEHEXYL DNA-2-PEG-45/SH-RNA-1 MENTHOL, BIOTIN,:PANTHENOL:

6ml- for 3month of supply

### Patent & Certification

Innovation & Best Quality	IP Right secured	Clinically proven safety & efficacy	Regulation
Listed on PCPC & Korea Cosmetic Association Personal Care	International Patent Double-stranded oligo nucleotide structure comprising androgen receptor specific sequences and composition comprising the same for preventing hair loss and hair growth	Clinically proven Efficacy & Safety	CPNP & SCPN notified
And	International and domestic trademark registration	REPORTS Weekly treatment with SAMiRNA targeting the androgen receptor ameliorates androgenetic alopecia. Sci Rep. 2022 Jan 31;12(1):1607.	* CPNP *
CGMP FOR THE TOTAL	PATENTED PATENTED PATENTED	Dermatest® GmbH www.dermatest.de <b>EXCELLENT</b> 1978 1	SCPN
ISO 22716 BUREAU VERITAS Certification			



# Thank you!

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