

reveal confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material and personal information concerning individuals associated with the applications the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Numbers: 93.393, Cancer Cause and Prevention Research; 93.394, Cancer Detection and Diagnosis Research; 93.395, Cancer Treatment Research; 93.396, Cancer Biology Research; 93.397, Cancer Centers Support; 93.398, Cancer Research Manpower; 93.399, Cancer Control.)

Paula N. Hayes,

Acting Committee Management Officer, NIH.
[FR Doc. 96-29341 Filed 11-14-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

National Cancer Institute; Amended Notice of Meeting

Notice is hereby given of a change in the meeting of the Board of Scientific Advisors, National Cancer Institute meeting which was published in the Federal Register (61 FR 55811) on October 29, 1996 to change the location and time of the meeting.

The Board was scheduled to meet in Building 31C, Conference Room 10 at 8:30 a.m. on November 21 and 22. The location and times have been changed to Building 31, Conference Room 6, at 8 a.m. on November 21 and 22.

Paula N. Hayes,

Acting Committee Management Officer, NIH.
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National Cancer Institute: Opportunity for a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) for the Scientific and Commercial Development of Fusion Proteins That Include Antibody and Non-Antibody Portions

AGENCY: National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, PHS, DHHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) seeks one or more companies that can collaboratively pursue the pre-clinical and clinical development of Fusion Proteins That Include Antibody and Non-Antibody Portions. The following disease states are of interest: neoplasia, arteriosclerosis, tumor vascularization, fibrotic diseases, psoriasis and wound healing. The National Cancer Institute, Laboratory of Cellular and Molecular Biology has developed an assay system to identify receptor agonists and

antagonists using fusion protein technology. The selected sponsor will be awarded a CRADA with the National Cancer Institute for the co-development of agents identified using the fusion protein technology.

ADDRESSES: Questions about this opportunity may be addressed to Jeremy A. Cubert, M.S., J.D., Office of Technology Development, NCI, 6120 Executive Blvd. MSC 7182, Bethesda MD 20892-7182, Phone: (301) 496-0477, Facsimile: (301) 402-2117, from whom further information may be obtained.

DATES: In view of the important priority of developing new agents for the treatment or prevention of cancer, interested parties should notify this office in writing no later than [FR: insert date 60 days after date of publication]. Respondents will then be provided an additional 30 days for the filing of formal proposals.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: "Cooperative Research and Development Agreement" or "CRADA" means the anticipated joint agreement to be entered into by NCI pursuant to the Federal Technology Transfer Act of 1986 and amendments (including 104 P.L. 133) and Executive Order 12591 of October 10, 1987 to collaborate on the specific research project described below.

The Government is seeking one or more companies which, in accordance with the requirements of the regulations governing the transfer of agents in which the Government has taken an active role in developing (37 CFR 404.8), can further develop the identified compounds and related diagnostic methods through Federal Food and Drug Administration approval and to a commercially available status to meet the needs of the public and with the best terms for the Government. The government has applied for domestic and foreign patent applications directed to Fusion Proteins That Include Antibody and Non-Antibody Portions.

The Fusion Proteins comprise an IgG sequence covalently joined at the IgG hinge and Fc domain to a non-antibody effector domain such as a ligand, toxin, or receptor. The effector domain or IgG non-antibody portion may be linked to a heterologous signal peptide to facilitate secretion. The resulting fusion protein exhibits the effector properties of both the antibody and non-antibody portions. Applications of this technology include development of diagnostic methods to monitor binding and expression of a protein of interest *in vitro*, *in vivo* and *in situ* (i.e. immunohistochemistry). In addition,

the technology can be used to identify agonists and antagonists that modulate the binding of an effector molecule to its target. Fusion proteins may also be employed as a therapeutic to deliver radiation, a cytotoxic agent or a drug directly to a target cell.

The LCMB, Division of Basic Sciences, NCI is interested in establishing a CRADA with one or more companies to assist in the development of diagnostic, screening and therapeutic applications of the technology. The Government will provide all available expertise and information to date and will jointly pursue pre-clinical and clinical studies as required, giving the company full access to existing data and data developed pursuant to the CRADA. The successful company will provide the necessary scientific, financial and organizational support to establish clinical efficacy and possible commercial status of subject compounds and/or diagnostic and therapeutic applications.

The expected duration of the CRADA will be two (2) to five (5) years.

The role of the National Cancer Institute, includes the following:

1. Construction of fusion proteins comprising a molecule of interest covalently joined to an IgG hinge and Fc antibody regions.

2. Expression and harvesting of the resulting fusion protein from conditioned medium of a suitable transfectant such as NIH 3T3 cells.

3. Develop a screen of ligand-HFc on receptor or receptor-HFc on ligand to identify putative agonists and antagonists.

4. Conduct *in vitro* studies to identify putative agonists and/or antagonists by screening libraries of compounds.

5. Conduct *in vitro* and *in vivo* studies to characterize the properties of putative agonists and/or antagonists.

6. Evaluation of test results.

7. Preparation of manuscripts for publication.

8. Relevant Government intellectual property rights are available for licensing through the Office of Technology Transfer, National Institutes of Health. For further information contact Susan Rucker, J.D., NIH Office of Technology Transfer, 6011 Executive Blvd, Suite 325, Rockville, MD 20852, Phone: (301) 496-7056 (ext. 245); Facsimile: (301) 402-0220.

The role of the collaborator company, includes the following:

For agonist/antagonist screening:

1. Provide growth factor or receptor cDNA clones for fusion protein construction if not available in NCI/LCMB clone bank.