of 70. However, one form of PD appears to be hereditary and is probably responsible for early on-set PD, wherein the symptoms occur before the age of 60. The newly discovered gene mutation appears to be linked to the early on-set form of PD. The mutation, a threonine for alanine substitution, at amino acid position 53 of the human alpha-synuclein protein effects the secondary structure of the protein and causes an aggregation of Lewy bodies in the brain. This new mutation is considered to be a valuable tool in predicting a person's susceptibility to early on-set PD. Assays developed from this mutation can also be used for diagnostic purposes.

Non-Nucleoside Inhibitors of Reverse Transcriptase

C Michejda, M Morningstar, T Roth (NCI)

Serial No. 60/038,509 filed 25 Feb 97

Licensing Contact: J. Peter Kim, 301/496–7056 ext. 264.

The present invention is related to non-nucleoside inhibitors of reverse transcriptase comprising a novel class of substituted benzimidazole compounds which are potentially effective in the inhibition of HIV RT and potentially against other infections. The present invention provides for methods for treating HIV infection utilizing a compound having anti-reverse transcriptase activity, wherein said compound comprises at least one substituted benzimidazole. This technology may present a potent, non-toxic compound which is effective against wild type RTs and RTs which have undergone mutations and become resistant to currently used anti-HIV therapies.

Enhanced Suppression of HIV–1 by the Combination of Cytidine Dideoxynucleoside Analogues and CTP Synthase Inhibitors

W–Y Gao, DG Johns, H. Mitsuya, V Marquez (NCI)

Serial No. 60/033,918 filed 21 Jan 97

Licensing Contract: J. Peter Kim, 301/496–7056 ext. 264.

The present invention provides for compositions and methods to increase the activity of cytidine-based anti-HIV drugs and to overcome resistance of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) to cytidine-based anti-HIV drugs. More specifically, the invention provides for composition, methods of preventing or inhibiting the spread of a virus, methods of treatment, and methods of improving the antiviral activity of a cytidine dideoxynucleoside analogue drug in patients with viral infection. Typical drugs suitable for potentiation by this method include ddC, 3TC, D4C (2′, 3′-dideoxycytidine-2′, 3′-ene), 5-fluoroddC, and 3′-α-fluoroddC. The virus may be HIV–2, HTLV–1, HTLV–2, SIV, HBV, but most preferably HIV–1.

Interferon-Inducible Protein 10 is a Potent Inhibitor of Angiogenesis

G Tosato, AL Angiolillio, C Sgadari (FDA)

Serial No. 08/455,079 filed 31 May 95

Licensing Contact: Jaconda Wagner, 301/496–7735 ext. 284.

Human Interferon inducible protein 10 (IP–10) is a member of the chemokine family of molecules. It is a secreted protein with a molecular weight of approximately 8.6 kD. Previous work has demonstrated that IP–10 exhibits various activities, including the inhibition of colony formation by bone marrow hematopoietic cell, exertion of an antitumor effect, and function as a chemoattractant. In addition, this work shows that IP–10 is a potent inhibitor of angiogenesis. Unbalanced angiogenesis is thought to contribute to the pathogenesis of several diseases including arthritis, psoriasis, hemangiomas, diabetic retinopathy, and retrolental fibroplasia. Therefore, IP–10 may be very useful alone or in combination with other treatments to prevent unbalanced angiogenesis.

This research has been published in Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 1996 Nov 26;93(24):13791–6 and J. Exp. Med. 1995 Jul 1;182(1):155–62.

A related case is also available for licensing: Serial No. 08/850,914 filed 02 May 97 entitled ''Method of Promoting Tumor Necrosis Using Mig''; inventors are G Tosato (FDA), J Farber (NIAID), and C Sgardari (FDA).

Dominant Negative Deletion Mutants of C-Jun and Their Use in the Prevention and Treatment of Cancer

NH Colburn, Z Dong, PH Brown, MJ Birrer (NCI)

Serial No. 08/213,433 filed 10 Mar 94

Licensing Contact: Ken Hemby, 301/496–7735 ext. 265.

A number of mutants of the c-jun oncogene have been developed, which may be particularly useful in the prevention and treatment of cancer. Numerous studies have shown that tumor promotion is a long-term process that is partially reversible and that requires chronic exposure to a tumor promoter, and that subsequent progression of tumors through invasive and metastatic stages is also a long term process. In recent years, numerous cellular oncogenes have been implicated in the transactivation of genes associated with cellular growth and differentiation. One such cellular ongogene, c-jun, encodes a phosphoprotein that is a component of the dimeric transcriptional activator AP–1 along with c-Fos or other Jun or Fos Family proto-oncoproteins. Several genes that may be involved in tumor promotion or progression have been shown to be dependent on AP–1 transactivation, including collagenase and stromelysin (transin). AP–1 inhibiting dominant negative detection mutants of the c-jun gene have been developed that, when given to a mammal, may prevent or reverse carcinogenesis during early or late stages. For the treatment of cancer, a deletion mutant of the c-jun gene or the protein product may inhibit the elevated AP–1 transactivation that frequently characterizes tumor progression and may consequently prevent or reverse the development or further progression of tumors. This invention also includes a method for determining whether a tumor promoter induces transformation via a pathway that depends on induction or elevation of AP–1 transcriptional activity and AP–1 target gene expression.

Dated: December 23, 1997.

Barbara M. McGarey,

Deputy Director, Office of Technology Transfer.

[FR Doc. 98–459 Filed 1–7–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences National Toxicology Program; Announcement of Nominated Chemicals Under Consideration for Toxicological Studies by the National Toxicology Program (NTP)—Recommendations by the Interagency Committee for Chemical Evaluation and Coordination (ICCEC)—Request for Comments

Background

As part of an effort to earlier inform and obtain public input into the selection of chemicals for evaluation, the National Toxicology Program (NTP) routinely seeks public input on (1) chemicals nominated to the Program for toxicological studies, and (2) the testing recommendations made by the Interagency Committee for Chemical Evaluation and Coordination (ICCEC).

Summaries of the ICCEC's recommendations and public comments received are next presented to the NTP Board of Scientific Counselors for their review and comment in an open public session. ICCEC recommendations, Board recommendations, and public comments are incorporated into recommendations that are then submitted to the NTP Executive Committee. The Executive Committee reviews and approves action to move forward to test, defer, or delete each of the nominated chemicals, classes or mixtures for the various types of study, and recommends priorities.

Request for Comment

Interested parties are encouraged to comment and provide information on chemicals under consideration for study listed in the Table. The Program would welcome receiving toxicology and carcinogenesis information from completed, ongoing, or planned studies by others, as well as current production data, human exposure information, use patterns, and environmental occurrence for any of the chemicals listed in this announcement. To provide comments or information, please contact Dr. William Eastin at the address given below within 60 days of the appearance of this announcement.

At their meeting on December 11, 1997, the ICCEC reviewed and recommended 9 chemicals or chemical classes for metabolism, toxicity, or carcinogenicity studies. It was also recommended that testing not be performed on one chemical, *trans*—1,4-dichloro-2-butene (CAS Number 110–57–6), because industry studies showed it to be a potent carcinogen. Chemicals with CAS numbers, nomination source, types of studies under consideration, and other information are given in the Table.

Contact may be made by mail to: Dr. William Eastin, NIEHS/NTP, P.O. Box 12233, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27709; by telephone at (919) 541–7941; by FAX at (919) 541–3687; or by email at Eastin@NIEHS.NIH.GOV.

Dated: January 5, 1998.

Kenneth Olden,

Director, National Toxicology Program.

Attachment

Attachment

CHEMICALS RECOMMENDED FOR STUDY BY THE NTP INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE FOR CHEMICAL EVALUATION AND COORDINATION (ICCEC) ON DECEMBER 11, 1997

Chemical [CAS No.]	Nomination source	Testing recommendations	Study rationale/remarks
2-Acetylpyridine [1122–62–9] ...	NCI	—Cardinogenicity	—Potential for human exposure. —Suspicion of carcinogenicity.
2-Chloropyridine [109–09–1]	NCI	—Dermal carcinogenicity in transgenic mice.	—Increasing production. —Occupational and environmental exposure.
Comfrey [72698–57–8] ..... Symphytine [22571–95–5]	NIEHS	—Carcinogenicity; ..... —Reproductive and developmental toxicity.	—Extensive use as a herbal supplement and medicinal. —Contains pyrrolizidine alkaloids including symphytine.
Glycoluril [496–46–8]	NCI	—In vitro and in vivo nitrosation studies.	—Moderate production. —Potential human exposure. —Potential to form nitrosamides.
Goldenseal ..... Berberine [2086–83–1] ..... Hydrastine [118–08–1]	NIEHS	—Carcinogenicity ..... —Reproductive and developmental toxicity.	—Extensive use as a herbal supplement and medicinal. —Contains active alkaloids berberine and hydrastine.
4-Methoxy-N-methyl–1,8–naphthalimide [3271–05–4].	NCI	—Chemical disposition	—Occupational exposure. —Extensive consumer exposure.
Myristicin [607–91–0]	NCI	—Genetic toxicity; ..... —Metabolism; ..... —Carcinogenicity in transgenic animals.	—Widespread natural product. —Extensive consumer exposure. —Similarity to known carcinogen safrole.
7–2H–Naphthol[1,2-d]triazol-2-yl)-3-phenylcoumarine [333–62–8].	NCI	—Chemical disposition	—Moderate production. —Extensive occupational and consumer exposure.
Saw Palmetto β-Sitosterol [83–46–5].	NIEHS	—Carcinogenicity; ..... —Multigeneration reproductive toxicity.	—Widely used herbal remedy for benign prostate hyperplasia. —Contains active sitosterols.

[FR Doc. 98–456 Filed 1–7–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Prospective Grant of Exclusive License: Dynamically Stable Associative Learning Neural Network System

AGENCY: National Institutes of Health, Public Health Service, DHHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This is notice in accordance with 15 U.S.C. 209(c)(1) and 37 CFR 404.7(a)(1)(i) that the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Health and Human Services, is contemplating the grant of an exclusive license to practice the invention embodied in U.S. Patent Numbers 5,119,469, 5,222,195, 5,402,522, 5,588,091, and U.S. Patent Application Number 08/331,554, entitled ''Dynamically Stable Associative Learning Neural Network System'', to Distil Technologies, Inc., having a place of business in New York, New York. The patent rights in this application have been assigned to the United States of America.

DATES: Only written comments and/or applications for a license which are received by the NIH Office of Technology Transfer on or before March 9, 1998 will be considered.

ADDRESSES: Requests for a copy of this patent application, inquiries, comments, and other materials relating to the contemplated license should be directed to: John Fahner-Vihtelic, Office of Technology Transfer, National Institutes of Health, 6011 Executive Boulevard, Suite 325, Rockville, Maryland 20852–3804; Telephone: 301/496–7735 extension 270; Fax: 301/402–0220; e-mail: jf36z@nih.gov. A signed