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Dated: February 18, 1998.

John P. Burke III,

HCFA Reports Clearance Officer, HCFA Office of Information Services, Information Technology Investment Management Group, Division of HCFA Enterprise Standards.

[FR Doc. 98-4864 Filed 2-25-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4120-03-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases; Opportunity for a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) To Develop Live Attenuated Dengue Viruses for Use as Vaccines in Humans

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is seeking capability statements from parties interested in entering into a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) on a project to develop live attenuated dengue viruses for use as vaccines to prevent dengue hemorrhagic fever and dengue shock syndrome in humans. This project is part of ongoing vaccine development activities in the Laboratory of Infectious Diseases (LID), Division of Intramural Research, NIAID.

DATES: Only written CRADA capability statements which are received by the NIAID on or before March 30, 1998 will be considered.

ADDRESSES: Capability statements should be submitted to Dr. Michael R. Mowatt, Office of Technology Development, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, 31 Center Drive MSC 2137, Building 31, Room 3B62, Bethesda, MD 20892-2137; Tel: 301/496-2644, Fax: 301/402-7123; Electronic mail: mmowatt@nih.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The CRADA will employ attenuated dengue virus strains (types 1 through 4) developed in LID using recombinant DNA methodologies to (1) Identify and characterize the mutations responsible for attenuation, (2) engineer viral strains suitably attenuated for use as human vaccines, and (3) evaluate the attenuated viruses as live vaccines in animals and humans. The Public Health Service (PHS) has filed patent applications both in the U.S. and internationally related to these technologies.

The LID has extensive experience in evaluating the safety, antigenicity, immunogenicity and efficacy of various human viral pathogens and vaccines thereof both in experimental animals and human volunteers. The Collaborator in this endeavor would be required to provide and maintain at least four scientists off-site to support the CRADA Research Plan. These scientists would coordinate the production and release testing of the candidate vaccines, generate monoclonal antibodies needed for manufacture of clinical lots and for their clinical evaluation, and use molecular virologic techniques to generate attenuating mutations suitable for use in live vaccine candidates. In addition, it is expected that the Collaborator would provide funds to supplement LID's research budget for the project and would make a major funding commitment to support the safety, immunogenicity and efficacy studies for candidate vaccines developed and licensed under the CRADA.

The capability statement should include detailed descriptions of: (1) The technical expertise of the Collaborator's Principal Investigator and laboratory group in molecular virology, (2) Ability of Collaborator to manufacture at least four experimental vaccine lots per year, and (3) Ability to provide adequate and sustained funding to support the requisite vaccine safety and efficacy studies.

Dated: February 19, 1998.

Mark L. Rohrbaugh,

Director, Office of Technology Development, NIAID.

[FR Doc. 98-4880 Filed 2-25-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Cancer Institute; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following National Cancer Institute Special Emphasis Panel (SEP) meeting:

Name of SEP: Polyvalent Vaccine Phase III Trial—Stage VI—Melanoma. Telephone Conference Call.

Date: March 17, 1998.

Time: 1 p.m. to Adjournment.

Place: National Cancer Institute, Executive Plaza North, Room 611C, 6130 Executive Boulevard, Bethesda, MD 20892-7403.

Contact Person: John L. Meyer, Ph.D., Scientific Review Administrator, National Cancer Institute, NIH, Executive Plaza North, Room 611C, 6130 Executive Boulevard, MSC 7403, Bethesda, MD 20892-7403, Telephone: 301/496-7721.

Purpose/Agenda: To review, discuss and evaluate grant applications.

The meeting will be closed in accordance with the provisions set forth in secs. 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5, U.S.C. Applications and the discussions could 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)

Dated: February 19, 1998.

LaVeen Ponds,

Acting Committee Management Officer, National Institutes of Health.

[FR Doc. 98-4869 Filed 2-25-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Cancer Institute; Notice of Meetings

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2) notice is hereby given of the advisory committee meetings listed below of the National Cancer Institute (NCI).