

The NINDS Stroke Neuroscience Unit is seeking statements of capability or interest from parties interested in collaborative research to further develop, evaluate, or commercialize a vascular risk genetic chip technology. We seek a collaborative partner in the development of a chip that could be used to predict an individual's risk of developing a stroke in the future and to monitor the effectiveness of preventive measures once they have been instituted. Please contact Heather Gunas at gunash@mail.nih.gov for more information.

Method of Inducing Memory B Cell Development and Terminal Differentiation

Peter E. Lipsky (NIAMS) et al.
U.S. Patent Application No. 11/197,221
filed 03 Aug 2005 (HHS Reference No. E-120-2003/2-US-01)
Licensing Contact: Thomas Clouse; 301/435-4076; clousep@mail.nih.gov.

Cytokines exert their respective biochemical and physiological effects by binding to specific receptor molecules, which then stimulate signal transduction pathways. Interleukin-21 (IL-21) is a type I cytokine whose receptor is expressed on T, B, and NK cells.

This invention specifically relates to the use of IL-21 to induce differentiation of immature B cells into memory B cells and plasma cells. This invention includes claims of methods for inducing differentiation of a B cell progenitor into memory B cells and/or plasma cells. It also includes claims for enhancing an immune response, treating subjects that lack memory B cells and plasma cells and methods for increasing or decreasing the number of B cells. This invention could conceivably be used in treating or preventing inflammatory disorders, autoimmune diseases, allergies, transplant rejection, cancer, and other immune system disorders.

Immunogenic Epitopes for Fibroblast Growth Factor-5 (FGF-5) Presented by HLA-A3 and HLA-A2

James C. Yang et al. (NCI)
U.S. Patent Application No. 11/134,703
filed 19 May 2005 (HHS Reference No. E-031-2003/1-US-01)
Licensing Contact: Michelle Booden; 301/451-7337; boodenm@mail.nih.gov.

Approximately 30,000 patients are diagnosed with renal cell carcinoma (RCC) each year in the United States, and an estimated 12,000 patients die of this disease. Most patients are diagnosed with advanced local disease or metastatic disease. Current therapies

include removal of the kidney (nephrectomy) or high dose immunotherapy with IL-2, which has been able to achieve success in only part (15–20%) of the patient population. Even with a successful nephrectomy, it is likely that patients with advanced local diseases will develop metastases. Therefore, new methods are needed to improve on IL-2 therapy and expand the curative potential of therapies for patients with RCC.

The present invention discloses peptides for use in immunotherapy of tumors. The peptides, both an HLA-A2 and an HLA-A3 epitope, are derived from the amino acid sequence of an RCC-associated antigen, fibroblast growth factor-5 (FGF-5). Plans are underway to investigate both peptides in clinical trials of peptide vaccination in patients with advanced renal cancer. In addition, FGF-5 also appears to be over-expressed in other common adenocarcinomas such as breast, prostate and bladder cancer and very few antigens suitable for vaccine therapies exist for those cancers.

In addition to licensing, the technology is available for further development through collaborative research opportunities with the inventors.

Dated: May 2, 2005.

David R. Sadowski,

Acting Director, Division of Technology Development and Transfer, Office of Technology Transfer, National Institutes of Health.

[FR Doc. E6-6987 Filed 5-8-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4167-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development; Notice of Closed Meetings

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 meetings.

The meetings will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The contract proposals and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the contract proposals, the disclosure of which

would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Institute of Child Health and Human Development Special Emphasis Panel, Data Coordinating Center for Consortium on Safe Labor.

Date: May 22, 2006.

Time: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate contact proposals.

Place: Ramada Inn Rockville, 1775 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852.

Contact Person: Hameed Khan, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Division of Scientific Review, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, NIH, 6100 Executive Blvd., Room 5B01, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-6902, khanh@mail.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: National Institute of Child Health and Human Development Special Emphasis Panel, Consumers' Report on Prosthetics and Assistive Technology.

Date: May 25, 2006.

Time: 12 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate contract proposals.

Place: National Institutes of Health, 6100 Executive Boulevard, Room 5B01, Rockville, MD 20852, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Hameed Khan, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Division of Scientific Review, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, NIH, 6100 Executive Blvd., Room 5B01, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-6902, khanh@mail.nih.gov. (Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.864, Population Research; 93.865, Research for Mothers and Children; 93.929, Center for Medical Rehabilitation Research; 93.209, Contraception and Infertility Loan Repayment Program, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: April 30, 2006.

Anna Snouffer,

Acting Director, Office of the Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 06-4297 Filed 5-8-06; 8:45am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases; 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 for the following meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material,