

Development Status: Animal data is available.

Inventors: Triantafyllos Chavakis (NCI) *et al.*

Publications:

(1) T Chavakis *et al.* *Staphylococcus aureus* extracellular adherence protein serves as anti-inflammatory by inhibiting the recruitment of host leukocytes. *Nat Med.* 2002 Jul;8(7):687–693.

(2) C Xie *et al.* Suppression of experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis by extracellular adherence protein of *Staphylococcus aureus*. *J Exp Med.* 2006 Apr 17;203(4):985–994.

Patent Status: U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/771,884 filed 10 Feb 2006 (HHS Reference No. E–295–2005/0–US–01).

Availability: Available for exclusive and non-exclusive licensing.

Licensing Contact: Norbert Pontzer, Ph.D., J.D.; 301/435–5502; pontzern@mail.nih.gov.

Collaborative Research Opportunity: The National Cancer Institute Experimental Immunology Branch is seeking statements of capability or interest from parties interested in collaborative research to further develop, evaluate, or commercialize Novel Treatments for Autoimmune Neuroinflammatory Diseases including Multiple Sclerosis. Please contact Betty Tong, Ph.D. at 301–594–4263 for more information.

Gene Cassette for Enhancement of Protein Production

Description of Technology: There is a continuing market need for expression systems that improve recombinant protein production for disease therapeutics or research materials. The present invention describes a “gene cassette” containing the *aadA1* (aminoglycoside adenyltransferase) gene that increases protein expression levels when incorporated into a bacterial or eukaryotic host genome. In bacterial systems, the inventors have shown that this gene cassette induces enhancement of protein production and accumulation. This inducement is not restricted by the nature of the vector, induction system or nature of protein. In particular, this invention has yielded 3-fold upregulation of anti-HIV peptide expression levels in a microbial microbicide (see reference below). This technology offers an effective mechanism for increased product yield that can be utilized for pharmaceutical or biotechnological applications.

Applications: (1) Affordable gene cassette that increases production of recombinant or native proteins with

reduced culture volume and faster processing time; (2) Increases efficacy and potency of cell-based therapeutics that overexpress endogenous or heterologous proteins.

Market: (1) Producers of protein, peptide, or cell-based therapeutics who would benefit from enhanced protein expression; (2) Researchers worldwide who utilize expression systems for protein synthesis.

Development Status: System validated in bacterial cells. Development underway for use in eukaryotic expression systems.

Inventors: Shankar Adhya and Sudeshna Kar (NCI).

Publication: S Rao, S Hu, L McHugh, K Lueders, K Henry, Q Zhao, RA Fekete, S Kar, S Adhya, DH Hamer. Toward a live microbial microbicide for HIV: commensal bacteria secreting an HIV fusion inhibitor peptide. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A.* 2005 Aug 23;102(34):11993–8. Epub 2005 Jul 22, doi 10.1073/pnas.0504881102.

Patent Status: U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/571,943 filed 18 May 2004 (HHS Reference No. E–261–2003/0–US–01); PCT Application No. PCT/US2005/17001 filed 17 May 2005, which published as WO 2005/116222 on 08 Dec 2005 (HHS Reference No. E–261–2003/0–PCT–02).

Licensing Status: Available for exclusive or non-exclusive licensing.

Licensing Contact: Tara L. Kirby, Ph.D.; 301/435–4426; tarak@mail.nih.gov.

Dated: December 6, 2006.

Steven M. Ferguson,

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

[FR Doc. E6–21301 Filed 12–13–06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Cancer Institute; 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 grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material,

and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Cancer Institute Special Emphasis Panel, Molecular Biology Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: January 29–31, 2007.

Time: 6 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Marriott Conference Center, 5701 Marinelli Road, Bethesda, MD 20852.

Contact Person: Michael B Small, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Research Programs Review Branch, Division of Extramural Activities, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, 6116 Executive Blvd., Room 8127, Bethesda, MD 20892–8328, 301–402–0996, smallm@mail.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: National Cancer Institute Special Emphasis Panel, Clinical Studies Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: January 31–February 2, 2007.

Time: 6 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Marriott Bethesda North Hotel and Conference Ctr., 5701 Marinelli Road, North Bethesda, MD 20852.

Contact Person: Majed M Hamawy, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Research Programs Review Branch, Division of Extramural Activities, National Cancer Institute, NIH, 6116 Executive Boulevard, Room 8133, Bethesda, MD 20852. 301–594–5659. mh101v@nih.gov.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.392, Cancer Construction; 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, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: December 6, 2006.

Anna Snouffer,

Acting Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 06–9696 Filed 12–13–06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; 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