## TRANSACTION GRANTED EARLY TERMINATION—Continued

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### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

#### National Institutes of Health

#### Government-Owned Inventions; Availability for Licensing

**AGENCY:** National Institutes of Health, Public Health Service, HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The inventions listed below are owned by an agency of the U.S. Government and are available for licensing in the U.S. in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 207 to achieve expeditious commercialization of results of federally-funded research and development. Foreign patent applications are filed on selected inventions to extend market coverage for companies and may also be available for licensing.

**ADDRESSES:** Licensing information and copies of the U.S. patent applications listed below may be obtained by writing to the indicated licensing contact at the Office of Technology Transfer, National Institutes of Health, 6011 Executive Boulevard, Suite 325, Rockville, Maryland 20852–3804; telephone: 301–496–7057 fax: 301/402–0220. A signed Confidential Disclosure Agreement will be required to receive copies of the patent applications.

### Method of Preventing and Treating Metastatic Disease

**Description of Technology:** Cancer that recurs as metastatic disease many years after primary tumor resection and adjuvant therapy appears to arise from tumor cells that disseminated early in the course of disease but did not develop into clinically apparent lesions. These long-term surviving, disseminated tumor cells maintain a state of dormancy, but may be triggered to proliferate through largely unknown factors. Inventors at the National Institutes of Health have discovered agents that prevent or treat recurrent metastatic cancer by inhibiting type I collagen production and downstream signaling through beta 1 integrin activation. Blocking activation of beta-1 integrin signaling using pharmacological approaches or using RNA interference was found to prevent reorganization of the cytoskeleton that is associated with proliferation of the dormant tumor cells. The technology provides compositions and methods for modulating the switch from tumor cell dormancy to proliferation clinical metastatic disease in a patient by administering beta-1 integrin signaling inhibitors.

**Applications**

- Method of treating metastatic disease by targeting components of the beta-1 integrin signaling pathway.
- Method of preventing metastatic disease after removal of primary tumors.

**Advantage:** Discovery of beta-1 integrin signaling pathway involvement provides a number of therapeutic targets for development of novel cancer therapeutics.

**Market:** In the U.S., it is estimated that 192,370 women will be diagnosed with and 40,170 women will die of cancer of the breast in 2009. Although improved detection and treatment of primary tumors has raised the rate of survival there remains a high probability of recurrence of metastatic disease leading to mortality.

**Inventors:** Dalit Barkan and Jeffrey E. Green (NCI).

**Publications:** None related to this technology.


**Licensing Status:** Available for licensing.

**Licensing Contact:** Surekha Vathyam, PhD, 301–435–4076; vathyams@mail.nih.gov.

**Collaborative Research Opportunity:** The Center for Cancer Research, Laboratory of Cancer Biology and Genetics, is seeking statements of capability or interest from parties interested in collaborative research to further develop, evaluate, or commercialize this technology. Please contact John D. Hewes, PhD at 301–435–3121 or hewesj@mail.nih.gov for more information.

### Diamidine Inhibitors of Tdp1 as Anti-Cancer Agents

**Description of Technology:** Available for licensing and commercial development are methods and compositions for treating cancer, using novel compounds derived from diamidine. Diamidine and its derivatives are potent inhibitors of tyrosyl-DNA-phosphodiesterase (Tdp1), which may be useful in chemotherapy.
Camptothecins are effective Topoisomerase I (Top1) inhibitors, and two derivatives (Topotecan® and Camptosar®) are currently approved for treatment of ovarian and colorectal cancer. Camptothecins damage DNA by trapping covalent complexes between the Top1 catalytic tyrosine and the 3'-end of the broken DNA. Tdp1 repairs Top1–DNA covalent complexes by hydrolyzing the tyrosyl-DNA bond. Thus, the presence and activity of Tdp1 can reduce the effectiveness of camptothecins as anticancer agents. In addition, Tdp1 repairs free-radical-mediated DNA breaks.

Inhibition of Tdp1 using diamidine or its derivatives may reduce repair of DNA breaks and increase the rate of apoptosis in cancer cells. In addition, diamidine derivatives have the potential to enhance the anti-neoplastic activity of Top1 inhibitors, by reducing repair of Top1–DNA lesions through inhibition of Tdp1.

Development Status: Pre-clinical stage.

Inventors: Yves G. Pommier and Christoph Marchand (NCI).

Publications


Licensing Status: Available for licensing.

Licensing Contact: Betty Tong, PhD; 301–594–6565; tongb@mail.nih.gov.

Collaborative Research Opportunity: The Laboratory of Molecular Pharmacology is seeking statements of capability or interest from parties interested in collaborative research to further develop, evaluate, or commercialize Tdp1 inhibitors for the treatment of cancers. Please contact John D. Hewes, PhD at 301–435–3121 or hewesj@mail.nih.gov for more information.


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

[FR Doc. E9–31284 Filed 1–4–10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

HHS Intent To Publish Grant and Contract Solicitations for Comparative Effectiveness Research (CER) Projects With Funds Allocated to the Office of the Secretary From the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)

AGENCY: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), HHS.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Department of Health and Human Services announces its intention to support new CER projects with funds allocated by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The ARRA appropriated $400 million to the Office of the Secretary for support of CER. AHRQ has been designated point of contact for management of these funds.

Prioritization of the OS ARRA CER allocation was determined by several factors: public input, the Comparative Effectiveness Research-Coordination Implementation Team, the Federal Coordinating Council for Comparative Effectiveness Research (FCC), and the Institute of Medicine Report on CER. OS ARRA CER projects will focus, initially, on either (1) one of the 14 priority conditions established by the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services under Section 1013 of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003, (2) 100 Institute of Medicine topic recommendations, or (3) topics that fall into one of the AHRQ identified evidence gaps or are identified in the FCC report. An additional integral focus for these OS ARRA CER funds are the priority populations, which include low income groups; minority groups; women; children; the elderly; and individuals with special health care needs, including individuals with disabilities and individuals who need chronic care or end-of-life health care. The CER solicitations will come from a diverse set of divisions and agencies across the Department of Health and Human Services.

DATES: HHS anticipates grant and contract solicitations to be published over the next several months.


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Until the solicitations are published, AHRQ cannot provide information on their contents.

Direct any general comments regarding the OS ARRA CER program to: Kathleen Kendrick, Deputy Director, Office of the Director, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, 540 Gaither Road, Rockville, MD 20850, Telephone: 301–427–1200, e-mail address: ARRA Support@AHRQ.HHS.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) provided $1.1 billion for comparative effectiveness research (CER). The Act allocated $300 million to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), $400 million to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and $400 million to the Office of the Secretary (OS) of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). These funds are dedicated specifically towards CER and must be obligated by the end of fiscal year 2010.

Comparative Effectiveness Research Initiative Description

The Department of Health and Human Service’s overall goal for the investment in comparative effectiveness research is to promote high quality care through broad availability of information that helps clinicians and patients match the best science to individual needs and preferences. Moreover, the investment can build a sustainable foundation for CER so that it will enable—now and in the future the United States healthcare system to deliver the highest quality and best value care to all Americans.

Funding Opportunity Announcements soliciting grant applications and Requests for Contracts for CER will provide $210.5 million for data infrastructure and related research, $89.5 million for dissemination and translation, $71.1 million for research, $7.6 million for inventory and evaluation projects and $4 million for