

human subject and was adapted to grow in human hepatoma cells. The adapted virus is unique in that it contains an insertion of a portion of a human ribosomal protein in Open Reading Frame 1 of the virus. Desired exogenous sequences could potentially be placed in lieu of the insert without inactivating the virus, making the subject technology a prospective HEV vector platform.

Potential Commercial Applications:

- Vaccine—An infectious, recombinant HEV genotype 3 cDNA clone that could potentially be developed into a vaccine candidate.

- HEV Vector Platform— Desired exogenous sequences can be inserted into the viral genome without inactivating the virus.

Competitive Advantages:

- Most of the HEV vaccines under development are subunit based while the subject technology could potentially be developed into a live, attenuated virus based vaccine.

- Ability to insert exogenous sequences into the viral genome without inactivating the virus makes this subject technology a potential HEV based vector platform.

Development Stage:

- Early-stage
- Pre-clinical
- In vitro data available

Inventors: Suzanne U. Emerson, Priyanka Shukla, Hanh T. Nguyen, and Robert H. Purcell (NIAID).

Publication: Shukla P, et al. Cross-species infections of cultured cells by hepatitis E virus and discovery of an infectious virus-host recombinant. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2011 Feb 8;108(6):2438–2443. [PMID 21262830].

Intellectual Property: HHS Reference No. E-074-2011/0—U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 61/431,377 filed 10 Jan 2011.

Licensing Contact: Kevin W. Chang, PhD; 301-435-5018; changke@mail.nih.gov.

Collaborative Research Opportunities:

The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases is seeking statements of capability or interest from parties interested in collaborative research to further develop, evaluate or commercialize hepatitis E virus vaccines. For collaboration opportunities, please contact Wade Green, PhD at 301-827-0258 or williamsa@niaid.nih.gov.

Diagnostic H5N1 Avian Influenza Virus Peptides

Description of Technology: The recent spread of highly pathogenic H5N1 avian influenza viruses among poultry and transmission of these viruses to humans raises concerns of a potential influenza

pandemic. There is a need to track the spread of these viruses both in the animal and human populations to avert or reduce the impact of any potential influenza pandemic as well as to know the actual number (accurate surveillance) of people infected with H5N1, including individuals with subclinical H5N1 infection.

The subject technology is a specific combination of H5N1 peptides useful for assays to detect antibodies generated against a wide range of different H5N1 strains. The combination of peptides was able to specifically detect anti-H5N1 antibodies from serum samples of H5N1 survivors at early and later times post infection while excluding antibodies generated in individuals infected with other strains of influenza virus. Also, the peptides did not react with sera from individuals vaccinated with H5N1 vaccine, in contrast to the strain-specific detection of anti-H5N1 antibodies in sera from infected individuals. Immunoassays using the H5N1 peptide combination provide highly specific, sensitive and reproducible methods for diagnosing H5N1 infection in humans and animals.

Potential Commercial Applications: Diagnostics for influenza virus specific antibodies in humans and animals.

Competitive Advantages: High specificity, sensitivity, and reproducibility.

Development Stage: Data obtained from clinical samples can be provided upon request.

Inventors: Hana Golding and Surender Khurana (FDA).

Intellectual Property: HHS Reference No. E-093-2010/0—PCT Application No. PCT/US2011/032555 filed 14 Apr 2011.

Related Technology: HHS Reference No. E-236-2007/3—U.S. Patent Application No. 12/664,052 filed 10 Dec 2008.

Licensing Contact: Kevin W. Chang, PhD; 301-435-5018; changke@mail.nih.gov.

Dated: October 4, 2011.

Richard U. Rodriguez,

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

[FR Doc. 2011-26338 Filed 10-11-11; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Center On Minority and Health Disparities Notice of Closed Meetings

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App), notice is hereby given of the following meetings.

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 materials, 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 Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities Special Emphasis Panel; NIMHD Health Disparities Research (R01).

Date: November 7–8, 2011.

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

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Gaithersburg Marriott Washington Center, 9751 Washington Boulevard, Gaithersburg, MD 20878.

Contact Person: Maryline Laude-Sharp, PhD, Scientific Review Officer, National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, National Institutes of Health, 6707 Democracy Blvd., MSC. 5465, Suite 800, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 451-9536, mlaudesharp@mail.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities Special Emphasis Panel; NIMHD Support for Conference and Scientific meetings (R13) 2012.

Date: November 14, 2011.

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

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Institutes of Health, Two Democracy Plaza, 6707 Democracy Blvd., Bethesda, MD 20892 (Virtual Meeting).

Contact Person: Maryline Laude-Sharp, PhD, Scientific Review Officer, National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, National Institutes of Health, 6707 Democracy Blvd., MSC. 5465, Suite 800, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 451-9536, mlaudesharp@mail.nih.gov.

Dated: October 5, 2011.

Jennifer S. Spaeth,

Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2011-26360 Filed 10-11-11; 8:45 am]

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