RNA Splicing Inhibitors To Treat Cancers

**Description of Technology:**
Vemurafenib is a B-Raf enzyme inhibitor that causes cell death in melanoma tumor cells that possess a mutated B-Raf protein (V600E BRAF mutation); however, patients rapidly develop resistance. One mechanism for acquired resistance of these patients to BRAF inhibitors has been found to be mediated by the existence of BRAF (V600E) splicing variants that possess structural changes in BRAF that confer insensitivity to BRAF inhibitors. Researchers at the National Cancer Institute have discovered that RNA splicing inhibitors can block the growth of vemurafenib-resistant tumors. Further, the researchers have also found that other types of tumors that possess BRAF splicing isoforms are susceptible to RNA splicing inhibitors.

Available for licensing are methods of using RNA splicing inhibitors to treat tumors, including melanomas, and methods to detect tumors that possess certain BRAF splicing isoforms susceptible to RNA splicing inhibitors.

**Potential Commercial Applications:**
Therapeutic agents to treat tumors.

**Competitive Advantages:**
No discernible toxicity in mice.

**Development Stage:**
Early-stage; In vitro data available; In vivo data available (animal).

**Inventors:**
Thomas A. Misteli and Maayan Salton-Morgenstern (NCI).

**Intellectual Property:**

**Licensing Contact:**
Patrick McCue, Ph.D.; 301–402–0220.

**Collaborative Research Opportunity:**
The National Cancer Institute is seeking statements of capability or interest from parties interested in collaborative research to further develop, evaluate or commercialize the development of RNA splicing modulators as therapeutic agents in cancer. For collaboration opportunities, please contact John D. Hewes, Ph.D. at hewes@mail.nih.gov.

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**National Institutes of Health**

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

**AGENCY:** National Institutes of Health, 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. 209 and 37 CFR Part 404 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.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**
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.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**
Technology descriptions follow.
Novel Anti-HIV Proteins From Coral Reefs

Description of Technology: The subject invention describes Cnidarins as a novel class of highly potent proteins capable of blocking the HIV virus from penetrating T-cells. Cnidarins were found in a soft coral collected in waters off Australia’s northern coast. Cnidarins can block virus fusion/entry but do not block viral attachment. In addition, Cnidarins do not have lectin-like activity and therefore possibly a unique mechanism of action. Thus, Cnidarins may represent important new leads for HIV microbiocides or for systemic therapeutics for HIV.

Potential Commercial Applications: Microbicide; Therapeutic; Research tool.

Competitive Advantages: High potency against HIV; Novel chemical composition; Family of related proteins; Unique mechanism of action.

Development Stage: Early-stage; In vitro data available; Prototype.

Inventors: Ana C. Souza (NIDDK), Peter S. Yuen (NIDDK), Robert A. Star (NIDDK), Alexander V. Bocharov (CC), Alan Remaley (NHLBI), Thomas Eggerman (NIDDK).


Licensing Contact: Lauren Nguyen-Antczak, Ph.D., J.D.; 301–435–4074; nguyenantczakl@mail.nih.gov.

Collaborative Research Opportunity: The National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases is seeking statements of capability or interest from parties interested in collaborative research to further develop, evaluate or commercialize Treatment of Chronic Kidney Disease with 5A–37pA and Derivatives Thereof. For collaboration opportunities, please contact Marguerite Miller at marguerite.miller@nih.gov or 301–496–9003.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Cancer Institute; Notice of meeting

Pursuant to section 10(a) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App.), notice is hereby given of a meeting of the National Cancer Institute Director’s Consumer Liaison Group.

The meeting will be open to the public, with attendance limited to space available. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should notify the Contact Person listed below in advance of the meeting.

Name of Committee: National Cancer Institute Director’s Consumer Liaison Group.

Date: June 26, 2014.

Time: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Agenda: NCI Update, Primer on Immunotherapy, Advocate and Organizational Engagement Working Group Discussion.

Contact Person: Amy Bulman, National Cancer Institute, 31 Center Drive, Building 31, Rooms 9 & 10, 31 Center Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892 (Teleconference: 1–888–946–9419; Passcode: 9630125).

Notice is hereby given of a change in the meeting of the National Cancer Institute Clinical Trials and Translational Research Advisory Committee, July 16, 2014, 09:00 a.m. to July 16, 2014, 04:00 p.m., National Institutes of Health, Building 31, 31 Center Drive, Bethesda, MD, which was published in the Federal Register on April 18, 2014, 79FR21938. The meeting is being amended to change the start and end times from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and the mode of the meeting is being changed from face to face to a webinar. Pertinent information related to the meeting is as follows:

Date: Wednesday, July 16, 2014.

Time: 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m., ET.

Meeting Number: 730 782 390.

Meeting Password: ctac.

Join the online meeting (webinar/video conference).

Go to: https://cbiit.webex.com/cbiit/j.php?MTID=m258581e041454e26f5dbaaa63e54f2. Enter your name and email address. If required, enter the meeting password: ctac, then Click “Join”. Follow the instructions that appear on your screen. If/when prompted to run a temporary application, click “Run”. This may be a small window that pops up and allows you to click “Run”. It may also be a small blue link to “Run a Temporary Application” on the WebEx screen. Connect to WebEx audio (phone line).

Once you have joined the meeting, an Audio Conference window will appear with prompts to enter your number.