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.

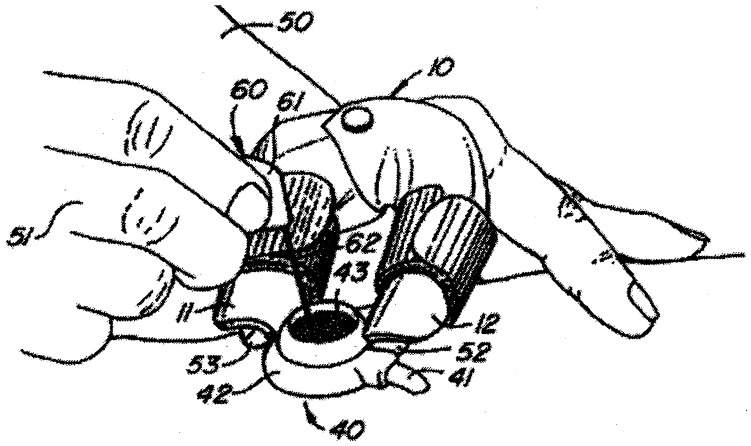
ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The invention listed below is owned by an agency of the U.S. Government and is 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 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.

Hand Puncture Protector for Nurses

Description of Technology: Available for licensing and commercial development is a device that provides nurses or other health care workers with protection against accidental needle sticks. Specifically, a device has been created which protects the most susceptible areas on the back and sides of the thumb, forefinger and the area of the hand there between. This offers the notable advantage of preventing infections from accidental needle sticks. This invention is particularly useful during the risky task of inserting a twisted or kinked needle (such as a Huber needle) into a pot-a-cath.



Inventors: Bonnie C. Thornton *et al.* (CC).

Patent Status: U.S. Patent No. 5,706,520 issued 13 Jan 1998 (HHS Reference No. E–104–1992/0–US–01).

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

Licensing Contact: Michael A. Shmilovich, Esq.; 301/435–5019; *shmilovm@mail.nih.gov*.

Dated: April 19, 2006.

Steven M. Ferguson,

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

[FR Doc. 06–4111 Filed 5–1–06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–P

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Predictive Test for Age-Related Macular Degeneration in Asymptomatic Individuals

Description of Technology: Age-related macular degeneration (ARMD) is the leading cause of severe, irreversible vision loss for those over the age of fifty in the United States and in other developed countries. Thirteen million Americans over the age of forty have ARMD. ARMD is caused by the deterioration of the central area of the retina, or macula, resulting in a loss of central vision. This disease is believed to be a multigenic disorder, and is triggered by environmental factors such as smoking, age or diet in genetically susceptible individuals.

The present invention describes a highly predictive genetic test for universal practical clinical use to identify individuals at increased risk for ARMD. It comprises a rapid, accurate and affordable genetic screen, utilizing DNA microarray technology on a single chip. Sixteen genes are screened for 90 mutations/polymorphisms associated with ARMD, with a high predictive power (up to 92.7%) to identify asymptomatic carriers at risk. Accurate prediction of genetic susceptibility to this disorder will allow interventions to protect at-risk individuals.

Application(s): Diagnostic kit to identify asymptomatic individuals at risk for age-related macular degeneration; make possible the

identification of genetic factors in an affected individual, aiding in the development of a tailored therapeutic plan; provide genetic epidemiologic data to elucidate the role of genetic factors in the progression of the disease.

Market: Individuals at risk for age-related macular degeneration. There are an estimated 15 million cases of age-related macular degeneration in the United States, and 50 million cases worldwide.

Development Status: This technology requires analytic validation before commercialization.

Inventors: Cigdem F. Dogulu, Owen M. Rennert, and Wai-Yee Chan (NICHD)

Patent Status: U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/733,042 filed 02 Nov 2005 (HHS Reference No. E–023–2006/0–US–01)

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

Licensing Contact: Fatima Sayyid, M.H.P.M.; 301/435–4521; *sayyidf@mail.nih.gov*

Collaborative Research Opportunity: The NICHD Laboratory of Clinical Genomics is seeking statements of capability or interest from parties interested in collaborative research to further develop, evaluate, or commercialize Method Evolved for Recognition and Testing of Age-Related Macular Degeneration (MERT–ARMD). Please contact Kenneth J. Rose, Esq, PhD., at (301) 496–0477 or *rosek@mail.nih.gov* for more information.

Method for Promoting Stem Cell Survival

Description of Technology: Regenerative medicine holds the potential to revolutionize the treatment of a host of diseases, such as neurodegenerative disorders, stroke, and many others. Stem cell technologies are a central focus of regenerative medicine research and treatment of cancer. An essential component of this research is the ability to control stem cell survival.

This technology describes a method to promote stem cell survival and proliferation by manipulating the phosphorylation state a key protein in these processes. This method has been shown to enhance survival and proliferation in stem cell cultures in vitro, and also in neuronal precursor cells in vivo.

Application(s): Clinical treatment for stroke and other neurodegenerative diseases by administration of agents that promote stem cell survival and proliferation; increased generation of stem cells in vitro; diagnostic assay for cancer to determine the phosphorylation state of the protein in tumors; screening assays for agents that promote proliferation of stem cells or inhibit proliferation of cancer cells.

Market: Treatment for neurodegenerative disorders such as Parkinson's disease or stroke; prognostic marker to help determine response of individuals with cancer; commercial suppliers or large-scale users of stem cells.

Development Status: Early stage.

Inventors: Andreas Androutsellis-Theotokis and Ronald D.G. McKay (NINDS).

Patent Status: U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/715,935 filed 08 Sep 2005 (HHS Reference No. E–239–2005/0–US–01).

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

Licensing Contact: Fatima Sayyid, M.H.P.M.; (301) 435–4521; *sayyidf@mail.nih.gov.*

Collaborative Research Opportunity: The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke is seeking statements of capability or interest from parties interested in collaborative research to further develop, evaluate, or commercialize agents that inhibit or induce phosphorylation of a protein that is a key regulator of proliferation and survival of stem cells and precursor cells. Please contact Martha Lubet at (301) 435–3120 or *lubetm@mail.nih.gov.*

Dated: April 24, 2006.

Steven M. Ferguson,

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

[FR Doc. E6–6547 Filed 5–1–06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4167–01–P

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Monoclonal Antibody for Lyme Disease Diagnostic and Research

Alan G. Barbour (NIAID)
HHS Reference No. E–075–2006/0—Research Materials
Licensing Contact: Susan Ano; 301/435–5515; *anos@mail.nih.gov*

The hybridoma producing a monoclonal antibody against the major flagellin protein (FlaB) is available for licensing. This antibody can be used in diagnostic and research applications related to Lyme disease or other Borrelia-caused conditions. More information about this antibody can be found in Barbour *et al.*, Infection and Immunity, May 1986, volume 52(5), pages 549–554.

Broad Spectrum Antiviral Compounds

Gary J. Nabel and Jae Ouk Kim (NIAID)
U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/775,666 filed 21 Feb 2006 (HHS Reference No. E–013–2006/0–US–01)
Licensing Contact: Susan Ano; 301/435–5515; *anos@mail.nih.gov*

This technology relates to broad spectrum antiviral compounds for treatment of infection caused by enveloped viruses. The compounds are fusions molecules of a phospholipase and a viral binding polypeptide. The subject technology requires the phospholipase component of the antiviral compound to have enzymatic activity, whereas previous studies demonstrating antiviral activity of some phospholipases did not require enzymatic activity. The compounds described by the current technology are not necessarily virus or viral strain specific, unlike many currently available antiviral compounds. The antiviral activity of the compounds has been demonstrated in vitro with representative viruses pseudotyped with envelope proteins from Ebola, HIV, Marburg, and VSV. Additionally, the antiviral activity was demonstrated with wild type HIV. The potential broad application of these compounds could address a significant health need for effective antivirals.

The Vaccine Research Center at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases is seeking statements of capability or interest from parties