PHS to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and were approved and assigned OMB control number 0925–0001. The requirements requested on Form PHS 5161–1 were approved and assigned OMB control number 0348–0043.

Dated: June 19, 2003.

Jeffrey Shuren,

Assistant Commissioner for Policy.

[FR Doc. 03–15964 Filed 6–24–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160–01–S

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. 2003N–0281]

Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Diagnostics: Scientific and Regulatory Challenges Public Workshop; Request for Comments

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice of public workshop; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing a public workshop to discuss methods for evaluating new diagnostic tests for severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS). The purpose of this workshop is to serve as a public forum for interested stakeholders and FDA to consider resources and methods to evaluate SARS diagnostic tests. In addition, the workshop serves as an opportunity to provide mechanisms for public-private partnerships and sharing of both information and resources to facilitate evaluation and safe use of new diagnostic tests.

Date and Time: The public workshop will be held on July 14, 2003, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The public workshop will be held at the DoubleTree Rockville Hotel and Executive Meeting Center (*http://www.doubletreerockville.com*), 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852, 301–468–1100, FAX: 301–468–0163. The hotel may be reached by Metro using the Twinbrook station on the red line. Submit written or electronic comments to the Division of Dockets Management (HFA–305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852, e-mail: *FDADockets@oc.fda.gov*. Online registration, additional information about the meeting, and directions to the facility are available on the Internet at: *http://www.fda.gov/cdrh/meetings/071403.html*.

Contact Person: Cynthia Benson, Center for Devices and Radiological Health (HFZ–3), Food and Drug Administration, 9200 Corporate Blvd., Rockville, MD 20850, 301–827–7989, e-mail: *cmh@cdrh.fda.gov*.

Agenda: At the workshop, FDA will receive questions and comments from stakeholders likely to be affected by FDA policies or procedures regarding SARS diagnostic tests. Stakeholders include, but are not limited to, medical device product manufacturers, members of the academic and clinical communities, and consumer and patient advocacy groups.

Registration: Preregistration is required by July 7, 2003, and will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis; however, notwithstanding attendance at the workshop, interested persons are encouraged to provide comments (see the *Request for Comments* section of this document). Please register online at *http://www.fda.gov/cdrh/meetings/071403.html*. Persons without Internet access may call 1–888–203–6161 to register. To accommodate overnight attendees, a limited number of reserved rooms are available by calling the DoubleTree Rockville Hotel and Conference Center (see the **ADDRESSES** section of this document). Please register with the hotel by June 30, 2003. FDA is pleased to provide the opportunity for interested persons to listen from a remote location to the live proceedings of the workshop. In order to ensure that a sufficient number of call-in lines are available, please register to listen to the meeting at *http://www.fda.gov/cdrh/meetings/071403.html*. Persons without Internet access may call 1–888–203–6161 to register. Please register by July 7, 2003. FDA will provide audio conference participants the opportunity for comments and questions by fax (fax number to be provided at the workshop).

If you need special accommodations due to a disability, please contact Shirley Meeks at 301–594–1283 at least 7 days in advance.

Request for Comments: Regardless of attendance at the workshop, interested persons may submit written or electronic comments to the Division of Dockets Management (see the *Addresses* section of this document). Submit two paper copies of any mailed comments. Individuals may submit one paper copy. Identify comments with the docket number found in brackets in the heading of this document. The comments that FDA receives will be made available at the Division of Dockets Management between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Transcripts: Following the workshop, transcripts will be available for review at the Division of Dockets Management (see the **ADDRESSES** section of this document).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The objectives of the workshop are to discuss methods for evaluating new SARS assays for clinical and public health use and to develop information on availability and access to control materials, reagents, and specimens needed for development and qualification of SARS diagnostic assays. FDA hopes to address unique issues related to the evaluation of nucleic acid amplification, direct antigen, and serologic assays. FDA also wishes to promote partnerships among government, industry, health care providers, and the clinical laboratory community that would facilitate the development of new SARS diagnostic assays through sharing of information and resources.

Dated: June 20, 2003.

Jeffrey Shuren,

Assistant Commissioner for Policy.

[FR Doc. 03–16232 Filed 6–23–03; 3:07 pm]

BILLING CODE 4160–01–S

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 agencies 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.

Transgenic Mouse Model of Human B-cell Neoplasia Based on Myc Insertion into IgH (IgH-Myc$^{\mu}$)

Siegfried Janz, M.D. (NCI)
DHHS Reference No. E–160–2003/0
Licensing Contact: Jeffrey Walenta; 301/435–4633; *walentaj@mail.nih.gov.*

Some types of cancers are caused by the translocation of genes between two different chromosomes. When a translocation occurs near a highly active promoter, uncontrolled cell growth can be the result if the translocated chromosome piece contains an oncogene. For example, in some types of B cell neoplasias the *Myc* oncogene from chromosome 8 is translocated into the highly transcribed region of the *IgH* locus in chromosome 14.

This invention is a transgenic mouse model that mimics the t(8;14)(q24;q32) translocation commonly found in human sporadic Burkitt's Lymphoma. Specifically, this model has the *Myc* gene inserted into the *IgH* locus just upstream of the constant region Cm.

Since the *Myc* translocation can occur at various regions within the *IgH* locus, several mouse models of *Myc-IgH* translocations have been developed. Two of these, the IgH-Myc$^{E\mu}$IgH-Myc$^{C\alpha}$, have been made available previously. The present specific translocation (IgH-Myc$^{C\mu}$) animal model will deepen the understanding of the pathogenesis of B-cell neoplasia, uncover new targets for treatment, and serve as a pre-clinical model for innovative intervention approaches.

Inducing a T-Cell Response With Recombinant Pestivirus Replicons or Recombinant Pestivirus Replicon-Transfected Dendritic Cells

Barbara Rehermann *et al.* (NIDDK)
Serial No. 60/462,165 filed 11 Apr 2003 (DHHS Reference No. E–098–2003); Serial No. 60/463,097 filed 14 Apr 2003 (DHHS Reference No. E–230–2003),
Licensing Contact: Jeffrey Walenta; 301/435–4633; *walentaj@mail.nih.gov.*

Cancer and diseases such as Hepatitis C Virus (HCV), Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Plasmodium falciparum infection, are not effectively prevented by the humoral immune response initiated by standard antigen vaccinations. The neutralizing antibody response created by these types of vaccinations is not effective enough to prevent the progression of the disease. In these cases, a cellular, T-Cell mediated immune response is a much more effective vaccination strategy.

This invention describes the use of recombinant pestivirus replicons or recombinant pestivirus replicon transfected dendritic cells to induce and/or enhance a T-cell mediated immune response by exploiting the cross-priming ability of endogenous antigen-presenting cells (APCs). These recombinant pestivirus replicons contain an antigen specific to a disease requiring a T-cell response. This antigen is presented to APCs in the lymphatic system by the apoptotic transfected dendritic cells that initiate cross-priming.

This invention generates a stronger immune response than current dendritic cell/APC methods. Because dendritic cells transfected with the recombinant pestivirus replicons survive longer than dendritic cells transfected with other viral replicons, more transfected dendritic cells enter the lymphatic system and undergo apoptosis there. This results in a greater amount of cross-priming and a stronger T-Cell response.

Inhibition of Ubiquitin-Mediated Process by UBA Domain Peptides

Stan Lipkowitz *et al.* (NCI)
Serial No. 60/464,658 filed 23 Apr 2003 (DHHS Reference No. E–324–2002/0)
Licensing Contact: Jeffrey Walenta; 301/435–4633; *walentaj@mail.nih.gov.*

Ubiquitin is a protein tag that targets cellular proteins for degradation by the multicatalytic protease, the proteasome. A three-component system of ubiquitin activating enzyme (E1), ubiquitin conjugating enzyme (E2), and ubiquitin protein ligase (E3) promotes the covalent attachment of ubiquitin to a protein to be degraded. Of the three components, the E3 component confers the specificity to the ubiquitination.

This invention describes isolated peptides comprising an ubiquitin-associated (UBA) domain that inhibits ubiquitin-mediated protein degradation by binding ubiquitin and polyubiquitin. The series of UBA domain peptides contain a structurally conserved core and a characteristic set of three alpha helices. Specifically, these studies centered on the UBA domain of the proto-oncogene, cbl-b. Expression of the cbl-b UBA-domain peptide in a cell inhibits the degradation of epithelial growth factor (EGFR), murine double minute 2 (Mdm2), and seven in absentia homologue-1 (Siah-1).

UBA domain peptides will be useful in treating conditions associated with an unusually high level of an ubiquitin-mediated process. Defects in the functioning of the ubiquitin/proteasome system can have severe consequences on biological homeostasis, causing a multitude of pathological conditions. The most obvious treatment options using the UBA-domain peptides could be for cancer, developmental disorders, and inflammatory conditions. In addition, UBA domain peptides can be used to inhibit ubiquitin mediated processes to further the understanding of the cell biological and development roles of these processes.

Use of Discoidin Domain Receptor 1 (DDR1) and Agents That Affect the DDR1/Collagen Pathway

Teizo Yoshimura (NCI)
PCT/US02/39793 filed 11 Dec 2002 (DHHS Reference No. E–083–2002/2–PCT–01),
Licensing Contact: Jeffrey Walenta; 301/435–4633; *walentaj@mail.nih.gov.*

Dendritic cells (DCs) are pivotal antigen-presenting cells for initiation of an immune response. Indeed, dendritic cells provide the basis for the production of an effective immune response to a vaccine, particularly for antigens wherein conventional vaccination is inadequate. DCs are also important in the production on an immune response to tumor antigens.

The present invention discloses methods of using the receptor tyrosine kinase discoidin domain receptor 1 (DDR1) to facilitate the maturation/differentiation of DCs or macrophages. Activating agents of DDR1 may be useful in the induction of a highly potent, mature DCs or highly differentiated macrophages from DC precursors, such as monocytes. Use of this method may enhance the antigen presenting capabilities of the immune system, leading to a more effective overall immune response.

This research is further described in Kamohara *et al., FASEB J.* 10.1096/fj.01–0359fje (published online October 15, 2001) and Matsuyama *et al., FASEB J.* 10.1096/fj.02–0320fje (published online May 8, 2003).

Production of Adeno-Associated Viruses in Insect Cells

Robert Kotin *et al.* (NHLBI)
Serial No. 09/986,618 filed 09 Nov 2001 (DHHS Reference No. E–325–2001/0); Serial No. 10/216,870 filed 13 Aug 2002 (DHHS Reference No. E–325–2001/1); PCT/US02/35829 filed 08 Nov 2002 (DHHS Reference No. E–325–2001/2),
Licensing Contact: Jeffrey Walenta; 301/435–4633; *walentaj@mail.nih.gov.*

Currently, adeno-associated virus (AAV) is being developed for gene therapy applications. This virus type presents several advantages over alternate vectors for therapeutic gene

delivery. AAV is not considered pathogenic and transduces stably dividing and non-dividing cells; and shows good serotype specificity to various cell types for targeted gene delivery.

This invention is a highly scalable AAV vector production method in insect cells. This production method produces virus particles much more efficiently than the standard mammalian cell culture system. For example, to produce 10^{15} rAAV particles may require 5,000 175cm^2 flasks. With this new production method, 10 to 50 liters of Sf9 insect cells are required to produce the same quantity of AAV particles. This is a striking improvement in production efficiency. In addition, all serotypes of AAV can be produced, with the respective AAV serotype vectors available for the immediate scale up of AAV production.

This invention coupled with NIH invention E–308–2001, titled ''Scalable Purification of AAV2, AAV4 or AAV5 Using Ion-Exchange Chromatography,'' gives a licensee a highly scalable production and purification system for efficient clinical trial development and commercialization of AAV.

Scalable Purification of AAV2, AAV4 or AAV5 Using Ion-Exchange Chromatography

Nikola Kaludov (NIDCR)
John Chiorini (NIDCR)
Serial No. 60/381,180 filed 17 May 2002; Serial No. 10/166,347 filed 17 May 2003 (DHHS Reference No. E–308–2001/0),
Licensing Contact: Jeffrey Walenta; 301/435–4633; *walentaj@mail.nih.gov.*

Adeno-associated viruses (AAVs) constitute, as a group, the vehicle of choice for gene therapy because of several attractive features. Among others, AAVs are less pathogenic than other viruses, and they can be used for the long-term expression of therapeutic genes.

This invention describes a simple ion-exchange (HPLC) methodology to purify different AAV serotypes. The protocol, which can be readily scaled up, details the efficient concentration of fully infective AAV particles, and is applicable to a number of promising serotypes for which efficient purification methodologies are currently lacking. Significantly, the method consistently produces higher infectivity per particle ratios than standard methods.

This invention, coupled with NIH invention E–325–2001, entitled ''Highly Scalable Production of AAV in Insect Cells,'' would give a licensee a purification system that can be readily scaled-up to efficiently produce recombinant adeno-associated viruses for clinical trial development.

This work is further described in Kaludov *et al.*, Hum. Gene Ther. (2002) 13:1235–43.

Dated: June 16, 2003.

Steven M. Ferguson,

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

[FR Doc. 03–15971 Filed 6–24–03; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4140–01–P

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 agencies 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.

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Oligodeoxyribonucleotides Comprising O^6-Benzylguanine and Their Use

Robert Moschel *et al.* (NCI)
U.S. Patent 6,060,458 issued 09 May 2000,
Licensing Contact: George Pipia; 301/435–5560; *pipiag@mail.nih.gov.*

The DNA repair protein, O^6-alkylguanine-DNA alkyltransferase (alkyltransferase) is the primary source of tumor cell resistance to alkylating chemotherapeutic drugs that modify the O^6-position of DNA guanine residues. Inactivators of alkyltransferase are currently in use to enhance chemotherapy by these alkylating drugs. The prototype inactivator, O^6-benzylguanine is currently in Phase II and III clinical trials as an adjuvant to improve chemotherapy. Although O^6-benzylguanine is a promising inactivator, it is not an ideal drug since it is only sparingly soluble in water and it is not effective in inactivating some mutant alkyltransferase proteins that could possibly be produced after repeated chemotherapy cycles.

Oligodeoxyribonucleotides containing O^6-benzylguanine residues represent another class of alkyltransferase inactivators. They are extremely water soluble alkyltransferase inactivators that can efficiently inactivate the alkyltransferase protein at much lower concentrations than O^6-benzylguanine. In addition, oligodeoxyribonucleotides containing O^6-benzylguanine are effective in activating several mutant alkyltransferase proteins that are highly resistant to inactivation by O^6-benzylguanine. For example, oligodeoxyribonucleotides between 7 and 11 nucleotides in length containing multiple O^6-benzylguanines are effective in inactivating several alkyltransferase molecules per oligonucleotide molecule at 300 fold lower concentrations than O^6-benzylguanine. These same substrates are also effective inactivators of mutant alkyltransferase molecules that are resistant to inactivation by O^6-benzylguanine. In addition, positioning O^6-benzylguanine near the 3′-or 5′-terminus of these oligodeoxyribonucleotides improves their resistance to degradation by cellular nuclease proteins. Therefore, oligodeoxyribonucleotides containing multiple O^6-benzylguanine residues may be more effective chemotherapy adjuvants than O^6-benzylguanine as the free base.

Imidazoacridones with Anti-Tumor Activity

Christophe Michejda *et al.* (NCI) DHHS Reference No. E–289–1999 (and related U.S. and foreign patents/applications) and U.S. Patent 6,541,483 issued 01 April 2002 (and related U.S. and foreign patents/applications),
Licensing Contact: George Pipia; 301/435–5560; *pipiag@mail.nih.gov.*

The present invention relates to novel bifunctional molecules with anti-tumor activity. These agents are composed of an imidazoacridone moiety linked by a nitrogen containing aliphatic chain of various length and rigidity to another aromatic ring system capable of intercalation to DNA.