DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Resources and Services Administration

White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, President's Advisory Commission; Notice of Meeting; Correction

In **Federal Register** Document 00–11449 appearing on page 26219 in the issue for Friday, May 5, 2000, the following corrections have been made to the Notice of Meeting for the President's Advisory Commission. The room number for the meeting on May 17, 2000 has been changed from Room 800 of the Hubert H. Humphrey Building to the Stonehenge Room of the Hubert H. Humphrey Building. A time change has taken place for the meeting on May 19, 2000. The meeting will take place from 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. Those are the only changes to be noted. All other information is correct as it appears.

An additional meeting has been scheduled and will take place on Thursday, May 18, 2000. This meeting will be open to the public. The meeting will be held on May 18, 2000 from 2:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m. in Room 800 of the Hubert H. Humphrey Building located at 200 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20201.

Requests to address the Commission should be made in writing and should include the name, address, telephone number and business or professional affiliation of the interested party. Individuals or groups addressing similar issues are encouraged to combine comments and present through a single representative. The allocation of time for remarks may be adjusted to accommodate the level of expressed interest. Written requests should be faxed to (301) 443–0259. Anyone who has interest in attending any portion of the meetings or who requires additional information about the Commission should contact: Mr. Tyson Nakashima, Office of the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, Parklawn Building, Room 10–42, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857, Telephone (301) 443–2492. Anyone who requires special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should contact Mr. Nakashima no later than Tuesday, May 16, 2000.

Dated: May 11, 2000.

Jane M. Harrison,

Director, Division of Policy Review and Coordination.

[FR Doc. 00–12445 Filed 5–17–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160–15–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, DHHS.

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.

Mutant Aequorea Victoria Fluorescent Proteins Having Increased Cellular Fluorescence

George N. Pavlakis, George A. Gaitanaris, Roland H. Stauber, John N. Vournakis (NCI)

U.S. Patent 6,027,881 issued 22 February 2000

Licensing Contact: Girish C. Barua; 301/406–7056 ext. 263; e-mail: gb18t@nih.gov

The Green Fluorescent Protein (GFP) from the jellyfish Aequorea victoria is rapidly becoming an important reporter molecule for monitoring gene expression in vivo, in situ and in real time. GFP can be used to tag proteins, cellular compartments, or cells, and has found many uses in the study of biological processes. Unlike other bioluminescent reporters, GFP fluoresces in the absence of any other proteins, substrates, or cofactors. Improved signal to noise ratio is important for several applications using GFP. We have generated GFP mutants that increase the fluorescent signal by at least tenfold over the wild-type GFP in mammalian cells. These mutants emit either green or blue light, detectable when single copy genes are inserted into the cell.

Method for Refolding Recombinant Endostatin

Dong Xie, Paul Grulich, John W. Erickson (NCI)

DHHS Reference No. E–260–99/0 filed 18 Feb 2000

Licensing Contact: Richard Rodriguez; 301/496–7056 ext. 287; e-mail rr154Z@nih.gov

Endostatin is a naturally occurring collagen-derived fragment that has been the subject of intense interest due to its reported anti-tumor and anti-metastatic properties. Endostatin's exact mode of action is unknown, and a detailed analysis of this mode of action has been hampered by the inability to consistently produce large quantities of refolded recombinant endostatin. While endostatin can be recombinantly produced, the isolated protein is found in an unfolded state. Thus a need exists to produce recombinant endostatin in a biologically active form for continuing clinical development and studying specific motifs or structures associated with endostatin which may be responsible for its anti-angiogenic/metastatic properties. The current invention comprises a method of renaturing endostatin comprising contacting unfolded endostatin with an effective amount of cyclodextrin in an aqueous environment buffered at a neutral or acidic ph.

CpG Oligodeoxynucleotides Used To Improve Human Immune Responses

Dennis Klinman, Daniela Verthelyi, Kenji Ishii (FDA)

DHHS Reference No. E–078–00/0 filed 14 Jan 2000

Licensing Contact: Peter Soukas; 301–496–7056, ext. 268; e-mail: ps193c@nih.gov

This invention concerns immune-activating oligonucleotides containing CpG motifs. Although it is known that certain CpG sequences can induce responses from human immune system cells, individual subjects show considerable heterogeneity in their response to different CpG sequences. These different responses make it difficult to induce a therapeutic immune response in all members of a diverse population using a single CpG sequence, even if such a sequence is repeated in a CpG oligonucleotide. The inventors have found that a broad-based immunomodulatory response scan be generated in a wide cross-section of subjects by using a mixture of multiple different CpG motifs. The mixture of oligodeoxynucleotides of the present invention can either be mixtures of different oligodeoxynucleotides expressing different CpG motif is or a

single oligodeoxynucleotide containing multiple different motifs. The oligodeoxynucleotides of the current invention have the capacity to stimulate humoral, cell-mediated immune responses or both humoral and cell-mediated immune responses, depending on the motifs utilized. The oligodeoxynucleotides of the present invention have uses including, but not limited to, treating allergies infectious diseases, cancer, and autoimmune disorders; furthermore, the obligodeoxynucleotides of the present invention have utility as vaccine adjutants for conventional and DNA vaccines, and as anti-sense therapeutics.

A Novel Neuropeptide Potentially Involved in Pain Regulation, Blood Pressure Control, and Other Physiological Functions

Dr. Ted. Usdin (NIMH)
DHHS Reference No. E–123–99/0 filed 15 Jun 1999
Licensing Contact: Norbert Pontzer; 301/496–7736 ext. 284; e-mail: np59n@nih.gov

A 39 amino acid peptide which activates the newly discovered parathyroid 2 (PTH2) receptor has been isolated, sequenced and cloned. The PTH2 receptor is a member of the secretin receptor family which includes receptors for secretin, vasoactive intestinal polypeptide, calcitonin, glucagon, gastric inhibitory polypeptide and CRF. Immunohistochemical mapping of the PTH2 receptor shows a distribution of PTH2 receptor in: endocrine tissue including pancreatic islet somatostatin cells; thyroid parafollincular cells and peptide secreting cells in the intestine; heart muscle, and nervous tissue including areas of the hypothalamus involve din pituitary regulation and the somatic and visceral primary sensory neuron terminals in the dorsal horn of the spinal column. This distribution suggests that the ligand or an antagonist may be used to treat pain, high blood pressure, diabetes, GI disturbances, psychiatric disease and other pathologies.

Novel Disulfide Conjugated Cell Toxins and Methods of Making and Using Them

David Fitzgerald, Michael J. Iadarola (NCI)
DHHS Reference No. E–301–99/0 filed 22 Oct 1999
Licensing Contact: Marlene Shinn; 301/496–7056 ext. 285; e-mail: ms482m@nih.gov

Efforts to find more effective treatments of chronic pain with few unwanted side effects or which do not dampen acutely painful potentially dangerous stimuli remains a continuing challenge. Current analgesic therapies often fall short of therapeutic goals and typically have unacceptable side effects. Thus the discovery of a more efficacious and safe means to control chronic pain is unpredictable and therapeutically advantageous.

The NIH announces a new technology which is an effective treatment for pain control directed at the local ablation of NK–1 receptor expressing cells. The NK–1 receptor is found on a variety of cell types, the predominant expressing cells being pain-mediating neurons. Other cell types include brain cells and neostriatum cells through the axon collaterals of spiny projection neurons to name a few. This technology is the discovery of a novel conjugate generated between TNB–derivatized Substance P (SP) and a truncated version of Pseudomonas exotoxin, termed PE35. When administered to NK–1 receptor expressing cells, SP–PE35 induced cell death, while cells that expressed NK–2 and NK–3 receptors remained unaffected. This toxin allows for the killing of a specific category of cell types and is an effective means of treating a variety of conditions, in particular chronic pain or tumors that express NK–1 receptors. The toxin can be placed in a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient and can be combined with any method of procedure currently being used clinically, making it a versatile and superior form of treatment.

Dated: April 25, 2000.

Jack Spiegel,

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

[FR Doc. 00–12546 Filed 5–17–00; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4140–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Government-Owned Inventions; Availability for Licensing

AGENCY: National Institutes of Health, Public Health Service, DHHS.

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 contacting Vasant Gandhi, J.D., Ph.D., at the Office of Technology Transfer, National Institutes of Health, 6011 Executive Boulevard, Suite 325, Rockville, Maryland 20852–3804; telephone: 301/496–7056 ext. 224; fax: 301/402–0220; e-mail: vg48q@nih.gov. A signed Confidential Disclosure Agreement will be required to receive copies of the patent applications.

Peptides That Inhibit the Binding of Human Monocyte Chemoattractant Protein-1 (MCP–1) to Its Receptor CCR2

Teizo Yoshimura (NCI)
DHHS Reference No. E–235–99/0 filed 30 Nov 1999

MCP–1 is a chemoattractant protein and is a member of a family of proinflammatory cytokines called chemokines. Chemokines are of interest because of their ability to attract and activate specific leukocyte subsets to the exclusion of others. In particular, MCP–1 is capable of attracting monocytes but not neutrophils. The inventors isolated peptides with an antibody (E11) that immunoreacts with MCP–1. One such peptide may be useful in blocking the interaction of MCP–1 and its receptor CCR2 which may disrupt the formation and/or progression of a variety of disease states. MCP–1 has been detected in lesions of atherosclerosis, rheumatoid arthritis, pulmonary fibrosis and tumors such as malignant fibrous histiocytoma, malignant glioma, meningioma or melanoma.

Inhibition of ABC Transporters by Transmembrane Domain Analogs

Nadya Tarasova, Michael M Gottesman, Christine Hrycyna,
Christopher J Michejda (NCI)
DHHS Reference No. E–019–00/0 filed 18 Nov 1999

ABC transporters contain multiple transmembrane domains and are involved in the translocation of a variety of substrates across cell membranes. Upregulation of these transporters contributes to multiple drug resistance in cancer chemotherapy. The inventors have found that the P-gp (P-glycoprotein or Multiple Drug Resistance Protein-1) can be inhibited by properly substituted peptides corresponding to one of the transmembrane domains. Such inhibition can be used to enhance the activity of cancer chemotherapy in resistant tumors.