

help to control the acquired immune deficiency syndrome epidemic. This research is described in Science 292(5514): 69–74, April 6, 2001 (originally published in Science Express as 10.1126/science.1058915 on March 8, 2001).

#### **Specific Inhibition of Gene Expression by Small Double Stranded RNAs**

Caplen et al. (NHGRI).

[DHHS Reference No. E–284–01/0 filed 30 Jul 2001]

*Licensing Contact:* Fatima Sayyid; 301/496–7056 ext. 243; e-mail: sayyidf@od.nih.gov.

Double-stranded RNA (dsRNA) has been shown to trigger sequence-specific gene silencing in a wide variety of organisms, including plant, nematode and invertebrate species. Recent intense work in the field has shown that small dsRNAs mediate sequence specific RNA degradation in the process known as RNA interference (RNAi).

This invention provides for synthetic dsRNAs (20–25 nucleotides in length) and methods that can inhibit gene-specific expression in mammalian cells. The sequence of the dsRNAs are essentially identical to a portion of the coding region of the target gene for which interference or inhibition of expression is desired. This inhibition has been shown to be superior to single-stranded antisense oligonucleotides and opens the possibility of the use of dsRNAs as reverse genetic and therapeutic tools in mammalian cells.

#### **Magnetic Labeling of Cells Using Transfection Agents**

Joseph Frank and Jeff Bulte (CC).

[DHHS Reference No. E–176–01/0 filed 13 Jun 2001]

*Licensing Contact:* Norbert Pontzer; 301/496–7736, ext. 284; e-mail: np59n@nih.gov.

Many therapeutic strategies, such as stem cell transplantation, are based upon introducing exogenous living cells or tissues into a patient or host. A problem common to all therapeutic strategies involving administration of exogenous cells is identifying and monitoring the cells in the host. It is currently difficult or impossible to monitor the location of such cells or tissues in the host after administration. It may also be difficult to establish the survival of these cells in the host. Currently available procedures to locate transplanted cells are invasive and destructive. This problem must be overcome before such cell therapies can achieve their full potential.

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) is a technique that allows whole body in

vivo imaging in three dimensions at near-cellular (microscopic) resolution. MR image contrast is largely determined by the nuclear magnetic relaxation times of tissues. To allow detection of transplanted cells, this technology provides compositions and methods for labeling cells in vitro with a contrast agent prior to transplantation. These contrast agents are non-toxic, biodegradable and are prepared by mixing commercially available magnetic responsive coated iron oxides and transfection agents, some of which are FDA approved. Magnetically labeled cells will facilitate the use of MRI to monitor these cells following transplantation in a clinical setting.

#### **Anti-sera Against Arylalkylamine N-acetyltransferase (AANAT)—The Melatonin Rhythm Enzyme**

David C. Klein et al. (NICHD).

[DHHS Reference No. E–181–00/0]

*Licensing Contact:* Pradeep Ghosh; 301/496–7736 ext. 211; e-mail: ghoshp@od.nih.gov.

Biological materials are important research tools that can be used for diagnostic purposes. In particular, antisera are of broad value in biomedical research and in clinical chemistry. The present invention comprises of unpurified and immunopurified antisera developed in rabbits against bovine, rat, pike-2, zebra fish, chicken, monkey, and human AANAT. AANAT is an important enzyme because it controls the production of melatonin and its rhythm in vertebrates. A daily rhythm of melatonin in the circulation serves as the hormonal signal of the daily light/dark cycle. AANAT protein is expressed at high levels in pineal gland and retina, and only at night. The antisera developed as part of this invention may serve as an important immunologic tool to detect and monitor the expression of AANAT protein. Expression of AANAT is important for the understanding of the biochemical and physiological role of melatonin and therefore, the antisera may have a wide use in research studies. In addition, antisera detecting human AANAT may be useful in pathological and histochemical analysis of human pineal and retinal tissues. Further, the use of antisera may be applicable in clinical testing and monitoring of the effects of drugs on AANAT protein and other biochemical modification procedures.

Research articles that describe the use of the antisera include: Invest Ophthalmol. and Visual Science 43:564–572, 2002; Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci U.S.A. 98:8083–8088, 2001; Endocrinology

142:1804–1813, 2001; J. Biol. Chem. 276:24097–24107, 2001; J. Neurochem. 75:2123–2132, 2000; J. Neurochem. 74:2315–2321, 1999; Science 279:1358–1360, 1998; Recent Progress in Hormone Research 52:307–358, 1997.

Dated: April 24, 2002.

**Jack Spiegel,**

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

[FR Doc. 02–10927 Filed 5–1–02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4140–01–P**

## **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

### **National Institutes of Health**

#### **National Cancer Institute; Notice of Closed Meeting**

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

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 material, 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 Cancer Institute Special Emphasis Panel, Development of Novel Technologies for In Vivo Imaging.

*Date:* June 20–21, 2002.

*Time:* 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* Holiday Inn—Select—Bethesda, 8120 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20814.

*Contact Person:* Kenneth L Bielak, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Division of Extramural Activities, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, 6116 Executive Boulevard, Room 7147, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 496–7576, bielatk@mail.nih.gov.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.392, Cancer Construction; 93.393, Cancer Cause and Prevention Research; 93.394, Cancer Detection and Diagnosis Research; 93.395, Cancer Treatment Research; 93.396, Cancer Biology Research; 93.397, Cancer Centers Support; 93.398, Cancer Research Manpower; 93.399, Cancer Control, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: April 24, 2002.

**LaVerne Y. Stringfield,**

*Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.*

[FR Doc. 02-10917 Filed 5-1-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4140-01-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### National Institutes of Health

#### National Center for Research Resources; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

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 material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

*Name of Committee:* National Center for Research Resources Special Emphasis Panel, Clinical Research.

*Date:* June 4-5, 2002.

*Time:* June 4, 2002, 8 a.m. to Adjournment.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* Holiday Inn—Chevy Chase, 5520 Wisconsin Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD 20815.

*Contact Person:* Eric H. Brown, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Office of Review, National Center for Research Resources, Office of Review, 6705 Rockledge Drive, Msc 7965, One Rockledge Center, Room 6018, Bethesda, MD 20892-7965. (301) 435-0815. [browne@ncrr.nih.gov](mailto:browne@ncrr.nih.gov).

*Name of Committee:* National Center for Research Resources Special Emphasis Panel, Research Infrastructure.

*Date:* June 18-19, 2002.

*Time:* June 18, 2002, 8 a.m. to

Adjournment.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* Hyatt Regency Bethesda, One Bethesda Metro Center, Bethesda, MD 20814.

*Contact Person:* Sybil A. Wellstood, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Office of Review, National Center for Research Resources, National Institutes of Health, One Rockledge Centre, Room 6018, 6705 Rockledge Drive, MSC 7965, Bethesda, MD 20892-7965. (301) 435-0814. [wellstoods@ncrr.nih.gov](mailto:wellstoods@ncrr.nih.gov).

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.306, Comparative Medicine, 93.306; 93.333, Clinical Research, 93.333; 93.371, Biomedical Technology; 93.389,

Research Infrastructure, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: April 26, 2002.

**LaVerne Y. Stringfield,**

*Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.*

[FR Doc. 02-10921 Filed 5-1-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4140-01-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### National Institutes of Health

#### National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; Amended Notice of Meeting

Notice is hereby given of a change in the meeting of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Advisory Council, May 9, 2002, 8:30 a.m. to May 9, 2002, 2 p.m., National Institutes of Health, Building 31, Conference Room 10, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20892 which was published in the **Federal Register** on March 27, 2002, 67 FR 14721.

The National Heart, Lung, and Blood Advisory Council's open session start time has changed from 8:30 a.m. to 8 a.m. Date and location remain the same. The meeting is partially closed to the public.

Dated: April 26, 2002.

**LaVerne Y. Stringfield,**

*Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.*

[FR Doc. 02-10908 Filed 5-1-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4140-01-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### National Institutes of Health

#### National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

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 material, 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 Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Special Emphasis Panel

Novel Biomarkers of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD).

*Date:* June 5, 2002.

*Time:* 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* Holiday Inn, Chevy Chase, 5520 Wisconsin Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD 20815-4495.

*Contact Person:* Anne P. Clark, PhD, NIH, NHLBI, DEA, Review Branch, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 7178, Bethesda, MD 20892-7924, (301) 435-0270, [clarka@nhlbi.nih.gov](mailto:clarka@nhlbi.nih.gov).

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.233, National Center for Sleep Disorders Research; 93.837, Heart and Vascular Diseases Research; 93.838, Lung Diseases Research; 93.839, Blood Diseases and Resources Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: April 24, 2002.

**LaVerne Y. Stringfield,**

*Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.*

[FR Doc. 02-10915 Filed 5-1-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4140-01-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### National Institutes of Health

#### National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

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 material, 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 Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Special Emphasis Panel, Mentored Scientist Development Award.

*Date:* June 17-18, 2002.

*Time:* 7:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications

*Place:* Chevy Chase Holiday Inn, Chevy Chase, MD 20815.

*Contact Person:* Roy L. White, PhD, Review Branch, Room 7196, Division of Extramural Affairs, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, MSC 7924, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301-435-0288.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.233, National Center for