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Met Proto-Oncogene and a Method for Predicting Breast Cancer Progression

Ilan Tsarfaty, James H. Resau, Iafa Keydar, Donna Faletto, George F. Vande Woude (NCI); U.S. Patent 6,673,559 issued 06 Jan 2004 (DHHS Reference No. E-046-1991/3-US-01).

The invention described and claimed in this patent is generally applicable to assessing the prognosis of cancer. In particular, the invention is useful in assessing the whether or not breast cancer is likely undergo metastasis. The met proto-oncogene is located on the long arm of chromosome 7 at 7q31. Its activity has been linked to the invasive/metastatic phenotype of several cancers in addition to breast cancer, *e.g.* prostate, stomach.

According to this invention the likelihood of metastasis of breast cancer is assessed by measuring the amount of (a) protein produced by the met proto-oncogene, (b) levels of the met proto-oncogene itself, or (c) levels of mRNA produced by the met proto-oncogene in breast tumor tissue and comparing it with the amount present in normal ductal tissue of the breast. The methodology of this invention may be carried out, for example, using antibody-based assays (ELISA or Western Blot), PCR, or Northern Blots.

This work has been published at Tsarfaty, *et al.*, *Science* 257(5074): 1258-61 (Aug 28 1992), Tsarfaty, *et al.*, *Anal Quant Cytol Histol* 21(5): 397-408 (Oct 1999) and Hay, *et al.*, *J Cell Biochem Suppl* 39(): 184-93 (2002). Foreign patent protection is not available for any of these inventions.

Method of Targeting DNA

Rafael D. Camerini-Otero, Margaret McIntosh, Carol S. Camerini-Otero and Lance J. Ferrin (NIDDK); U.S. Patent 5,460,941 issued 24 Oct 1995 (DHHS Reference No. E-006-1991/1-US-02).

Cloning of the RecA Gene From *Thermus Aquaticus* YT-1

Rafael D. Camerini-Otero and Evelina Angov (NIDDK); U.S. Patent 5,510,473 issued 23 Apr 1996 (DHHS Reference No. E-196-1993/0-US-01).

Rec-A Assisted Cloning of DNA

Lance J. Ferrin, Rafael D. Camerini-Otero (NIDDK); U.S. Patent 5,707,811 issued 13 Jan 1998 (DHHS Reference No. E-166-1995/0-US-02).

Promotion of Homologous DNA Pairing by RecA-derived Peptides

Oleg Voloshin, Lijiang Wang, Rafael D. Camerini-Otero (NIDDK); U.S. Patent 5,731,411 issued 24 Mar 1998 (DHHS Reference No. E-139-1995/0-US-01).

These inventions are available for license separately or together. Foreign patent protection is not available for any of these inventions.

The inventions described in these patents are generally applicable to the process of homologous DNA recombination. The inventions may be used in conjunction with each other, to efficiently carry out the process of homologous recombination, or they may be used separately.

The inventions may be exploited generally in processes associated with therapeutic purposes such as gene inactivation, correction of gene mutations and the control of gene expression. For example, these inventions may be used to inhibit the transcription of a DNA sequence such as that encoding an oncogene or a virus. In addition, these inventions may be exploited in research applications such as sequence-specific mapping, cloning, and manipulation of complex genomes including the generation of transgenic animals.

Specific examples of the use of these inventions include (a) protecting a DNA sequence from modification by an enzyme such as methylase or cleavage by a restriction enzyme, (b) effecting site-specific cleavage by introducing a chemical cleavage moiety to the oligonucleotide, (c) cloning a genomic DNA fragment containing a predetermined sequence, (d) identifying a genetic mutation, *e.g.*, point mutations, insertions and deletions, and (e) increasing the stringency thereby improving the specificity of DNA-DNA, DNA-RNA or RNA-RNA interactions at high temperatures.

This work has been published at Hsieh *et al.*, *Genes & Dev.* 4(11): 1951-63 (Nov 1990); Angov *et al.*, *J. Bacteriol.* 176(5): 1405-12 (Mar 1994); Voloshin *et al.*, *Science* 272(5263): 868-72 (May 10, 1996); and Ferrin LJ, *Genet. Eng. (NY)* 17: 21-30 (1995).

Dated: February 2, 2004.

Steven M. Ferguson,

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

[FR Doc. 04-2765 Filed 2-9-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases; Notice of Meetings

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 meetings.

The meetings will be open to the public as indicated below, 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 meetings.

The meetings 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 Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases Initial Review Group, Diabetes, Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases B Subcommittee.

Date: March 22-24, 2004.

Open: March 22, 2004, 7 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Agenda: To review procedures and discuss policies.

Place: Double Tree Rockville, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852.

Closed: March 22, 2004, 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Double Tree Rockville, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852.

Closed: March 23, 2004, 8 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Double Tree Rockville, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852.

Closed: March 24, 2004, 8:00 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Double Tree Rockville, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852.

Contact Person: John F. Connaughton, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Review Branch, DEA, NIDDK, National Institutes of Health, Room 757, 6707 Democracy Boulevard, Bethesda, MD 20892. (301) 594-7797; connaughtonj@extra.niddk.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases Initial Review Group, Digestive Diseases and Nutrition C Subcommittee.

Date: March 22–24, 2004.

Open: March 22, 2004, 7 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Agenda: To review procedures and discuss policies.

Place: Double Tree Rockville, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852.

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Place: Double Tree Rockville, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852.

Closed: March 24, 2004, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Double Tree Rockville, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852.

Contact Person: Carolyn Miles, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Review Branch, DEA, NIDDK, National Institutes of Health, Room 755, 6707 Democracy Boulevard, Bethesda, MD 20892. (301) 594-7791; milesc@extra.niddk.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases Initial Review Group, Kidney, Urologic and Hematologic Diseases D Subcommittee.

Date: March 23–24, 2004.

Open: March 23, 2004, 8 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.

Agenda: To review procedures and discuss policies.

Place: Double Tree Rockville, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852.

Closed: March 23, 2004, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Double Tree Rockville, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852.

Closed: March 24, 2004, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Double Tree Rockville, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852.

Contact Person: Neal A. Musto, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Review Branch, DEA NIDDK, National Institutes of Health, Room 751, 6707 Democracy Boulevard, Bethesda, MD 20892. (301) 594-7798; muston@extra.niddk.nih.gov.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.847, Diabetes, Endocrinology and Metabolic Research; 93.848, Digestive Diseases and Nutrition Research; 93.849, Kidney Diseases, Urology and Hematology Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS.)

Dated: February 4, 2004.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 04-2766 Filed 2-9-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institutes of Allergy and Infectious Diseases; 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: Microbiology, Infectious Diseases and AIDS Initial Review Group, Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Research Committee.

Date: February 25–27, 2004.

Time: 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Bethesda Marriott, 5151 Pooks Hill Road, Bethesda, MD 20814.

Contact Person: Gary S. Madonna, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Scientific Review Program, Division of Extramural Activities, NIAID, NIH, Room 2149, 6700-B Rockledge Drive, MSC 7616, Bethesda, MD 20892-7616, Bethesda, MD 20892-7616. 301-496-3528; gm12w@nih.gov.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.855, Allergy, Immunology, and Transplantation Research; 93.856, Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS.)

Dated: February 4, 2004.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 04-2767 Filed 2-9-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases; 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 Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Special Emphasis Panel, Comprehensive International Program of Research on AIDS (CIPRA).

Date: February 26, 2004.

Time: 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Institutes of Health/NIAID, 6700B Rockledge Drive, 3125, Bethesda, MD 20895 (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Eugene R. Baizman, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, NIH/NIAID/DEA, Scientific Review Program, Room 3125, 6700B Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892-7616, 301 496-2550, eb237e@nih.gov. (Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.855, Allergy, Immunology, and Transplantation Research; 93.856, Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: February 4, 2004.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 04-2768 Filed 2-9-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Center for Scientific Review; Notice of Closed Meetings

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 meetings.

The meetings 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