

The NIH announces a new gene therapy approach which will lower the risk for atherosclerotic heart disease by decreasing plasma cholesterol and apoB levels. Our researchers have shown that antisense DNA oligonucleotides targeted for apoB decreased apoB mRNA in a human liver cell line by up to 80%. This in turn has led to a new gene therapy which utilizes a vector designed to produce antisense mRNA targeted for apoB. The result is a decrease in liver apoB production, which is the major source of circulating apoB. These oligonucleotides and oligonucleotide analogs are a novel and useful way of reducing low density lipoprotein (LDL) in patients, as well as for research and diagnostic purposes.

T20/D178 and T21/D107 Are Activators of Human Phagocyte Formyl Peptide Receptors

Ji Ming Wang (NCI), Joost J Oppenheim (NCI), Shao-Bo Su, Wang-Hua Gong, Philip M. Murphy (NIAID), Ji-Liang Gao (NIAID)

DHHS Reference No. E-164-99/0 filed 05 May 1999

The use of immunotherapy to treat inflammatory diseases is prescribed to thousands each and every year. In use currently are steroidal and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, which have serious side effects including: adrenal suppression, gastrointestinal disorders, increased susceptibility to infections, fluid retention and bone loss.

The NIH announces a new technology which can be used in drug discovery dealing with the modulation of the immune response. This technology identifies two polypeptides, T20/DP178 and T21/DP107, which are peptide domains of the HIV-1 envelope protein and are potent chemoattractants and activators of human peripheral blood phagocytes (monocytes and neutrophils) but not T lymphocytes. These polypeptides have been determined to interact with the Formyl Peptide Receptors (FPR), which in turn up-regulates the immune response by inducing cell migration and calcium mobilization. The activation of FPR class receptors by their agonists also results in desensitization of cell responses to other chemotactic factors. By identifying analogs to T20/DP178 and T21/DP107 and then evaluating their ability to bind to the FPR, one will be able to determine if the analog is a good candidate for either inhibiting or activating the immune response.

Dated: May 30, 2000.

Jack Spiegel,

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

[FR Doc. 00-14343 Filed 6-6-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Clinical Center; Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(a) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Board of Governors of the Warren Grant Magnuson Clinical Center.

The meeting will be open to the public, 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 meeting.

Name of Committee: Board of Governors of the Warren Grant Magnuson Clinical Center Executive Committee.

Date: July 21, 2000.

Time: 8:30 am to 1:30 pm.

Agenda: Topics Related to Clinical Center Budget.

Place: National Institutes of Health, Clinical Center Medical Board Room, 2C116, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Contact Person: Maureen E. Gormley, Executive Secretary, Warren Grant Magnuson Clinical Center, National Institutes of Health, Building 10, Room 2C146, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301/496-2897.

Dated: May 31, 2000.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 00-14332 Filed 6-6-00; 8:45 am]

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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 section 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, Diet, Lifestyle and Cancer in U.S. Special Populations.

Date: June 29, 2000.

Time: 12 pm to 1:30 pm.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Executive Plaza North, 6130 Executive Boulevard, Conference Room E, Rockville MD 20852. (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Gerald G. Lovinger, Scientific Review Administrator, Grants Review Branch, Division of Extramural Activities, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, 6116 Executive Boulevard, Room 8070, Rockville, MD 20892-7405, 301/496-7987.

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. 93.392, 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: May 31, 2000.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 00-14333 Filed 6-6-00; 8:45 am]

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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 contract proposals and