to methods and compositions for modulating oxygen homeostasis for therapeutic application. In one aspect, the inventors contemplate the use of a more stable form of HIF–1alpha protein for therapeutic angiogenesis purposes such as may be useful in ischemic vascular disease. In another aspect, the inventors contemplate the use of this particular site in a screen for targeted drugs that modulates HIF–1alpha activity. The inventors also suggest that Leu574 could be used for developing drugs targeted to HIF hydroxylase binding, thereby altering HIF–1alpha stability.

This technology is available for licensing on an exclusive or a non-exclusive basis.

Vasostatin as Marrow Protectant

Giovanna Tosato *et al.* (NCI)

U.S. Patent No. 6,596,690 B2 issued 22 Jul 2003 (DHHS Reference No. E–230–2000/0–US–01); U.S. Patent Application No. 10/405,588 filed 01 Apr 2003 (DHHS Reference No. E–230–2000/0–US–02)

Licensing Contact: Matthew Kiser; 301/435–5236; *kiserm@mail.nih.gov.*

This patent relates to the stimulation of hematopoiesis, more specifically to the protection of hematopoietic stem cells from toxic agents, including chemotherapeutic agents and/or irradiation. The subject patent discloses specific fragments of vasostatin, and their application as stimulants of hematopoiesis in vitro and in vivo. Also disclosed is a method for stimulating the proliferation/survival of hematopoietic cells exposed to a chemotherapeutic agent or irradiation using these fragments. In one embodiment, a method is disclosed for stimulating the growth or survival of hematopoietic stem cells with a fragment of vasostatin, in the presence of a growth factor.

Dated: December 11, 2003.

Steven M. Ferguson,

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

[FR Doc. 03–31328 Filed 12–18–03; 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 an agency 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.

A Microfluidic Flow-Through Immunoassay for a Simultaneous Detection of Multiple Proteins in a Sub-Microliter Biological Sample

Nicole Y. Morgan *et al.* (NIH/NIST)

DHHS Reference No. E–024–2004/0–US–01 filed 30 Oct 2003

Licensing Contact: Michael Ambrose; 301/594–6565; *ambrosem@mail.nih.gov.*

This invention presents a high throughput, multi-analyte microfluidic chip device. This device can be used for the detection and characterization of proteins, immuno-affinity assays as well as analyte detection in biological samples or other media. The sub-microliter volumes for use make this device applicable where biological samples are rare and difficult to obtain.

The device consists of a series of channels that are connected via communication ports for sample flow. The channels can be individually loaded with detection reagents via portals at their ends. As such, the assay channels can be run in series using a single sample source or individually via the loading ports, thus increasing the utility of the microchip device. Each channel can then be detected via colorimetric, fluorimetric or other detection method as desired. The chip can be integrated into multiple detection devices or other analytical equipment.

The chip as designed, is manufactured using photolithographic etching, thus the number and size of the individual reaction channels can be modified to increase the number of channels or the volume the channels can hold. The chip should also be reusable, thus further increasing the utility of the device.

Method for Analysis of Biomarkers Concentrated With Biomarker Attractants

Arpita Mehta *et al.* (NCI)

DHHS Reference No. E–167–2003/0–US–01 filed 08 Oct 2003

Licensing Contact: Fatima Sayyid; 301/435–4521; *sayyidf@mail.nih.gov.*

Biological fluids are the repositories of vast number of molecules that are excreted or otherwise shed by cells. These molecules present in biological fluids reflect the physiological and pathological states of the cells that are in contact by the fluids or the cells from which these molecules are derived. A major goal of clinical diagnostics is to correlate the particular molecules (biomarkers) present in biological fluids with particular disease states.

The present invention relates to analysis of molecules present in biological fluids. Specifically, it discloses a diagnostic method for isolating/analyzing biomarker attractant molecules for the presence of bound fragments of cellular proteins that are known to correlate with particular biological states in specific anatomic or physiologic locations.

Regulation of RNA Stability

Wi Lai *et al.* (NIEHS)

U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/451,976 filed 06 Mar 2003 (DHHS Reference No. E–314–2002/0–US–01)

Licensing Contact: Jesse S. Kindra; 301/435–5559; *kindraj@mail.nih.gov.*

This invention relates to the discovery that tristetraprolin (TTP) can promote the poly(A)RNase (PARN) mediated deadenylation of polyadenylated substrates containing AU-rich elements (AREs). As one aspect of the invention, the inventors have developed a cell free system that may be used for the purposes of assessing the effects of the various system components or their derivatives (*i.e.* AREs, PARN, or TTP) on the deadenylation process or the effects of various test agents on the deadenylation process. Aspects of this work have been published as follows: Lai *et al.*, 2003, Tristetraprolin and Its Family Members Can Promote the Cell-Free Deadenylation of AU-Rich Element-Containing mRNAs by Poly(A) Ribonuclease, MCB 23(11):3798–3812.

This technology is available for licensing on an exclusive or a non-exclusive basis.

Methods for Assessing the Ability of HIV Patients To Restrict HIV Replication

Mark Connors, Stephen Migueles (NIAID)
U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/412,020 filed 20 Sep 2002 (DHHS Reference No. E–260–2002/0–US–01); PCT Application No. PCT/US03/29549 filed 22 Sep 2003 (DHHS Reference No. E–260–2002/0–PCT–02)
Licensing Contact: Susan Ano; 301/435–5515; *anos@mail.nih.gov.*

One of the current obstacles for the design and testing of effective vaccines and immunotherapies of HIV is the lack of in vitro correlates that will predict the ability to restrict virus replication. This invention relates to methods for evaluating the effectiveness of HIV therapies and vaccines and methods for assessing the ability of HIV patients to restrict virus replication. Upon restimulation of CD8+ T cells, the expression of perforin in these cells, and the cell cycle stage of these cells may be measured and used as in vitro markers for monitoring the patient's ability to restrict HIV replication and the effectiveness of the therapies and vaccines applied. Significant proliferation of CD8+ T cells, the presence of perforin in these cells, and the ability of these cells to progress beyond the G1 stage signify the patient's ability to restrict HIV replication and a favorable effect of the therapies or vaccines. These methods may be advantageously applied in conjunction with other measurements of HIV specific immune response such as HLA tetramers.

gp64 Pseudotyped Vectors and Uses Thereof

Mukesh Kumar, Joshua Zimmerberg (NICHD,
U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/425,853 filed 12 Nov 2002 (DHHS Reference No. E–191–2001/0–US–01); PCT Application filed 10 Nov 2003 (DHHS Reference No. E–191–2001/0–PCT–02)
Licensing Contact: Susan Ano; 301/435–5515; *anos@mail.nih.gov.*

This invention relates to a general gene therapy technology which uses an HIV–1 based vector containing a baculovirus gp64 protein. HIV–1 based gene therapy vectors hold great promise due to their ability to deliver genes to non-dividing cells including hematopoietic stem cells. However native HIV only binds to cells with a CD4 receptor, while gene therapy vectors would need to be delivered to a variety of cells. Various different envelope proteins have been tried to replace the native envelope protein of HIV with a new envelope protein whose origin is another enveloped virus (pseudotyping) that has more general binding capabilities. However, to date, no one has been successful for practical purposes, due to either low titers or cytotoxic effects of the expressed proteins. The inventors have developed a family of nontoxic vectors using baculovirus gp64 protein (which binds to a variety of cells) and HIV proteins that efficiently deliver genes of interest to target cells. Furthermore, since gp64 expression in producer cells is not accompanied by cytotoxic side effects, this protein is an ideal candidate for the development of cell lines for constitutive expression of gp64 for the process of construction of the hybrid HIV (packaging cell lines).

Dated: December 11, 2003.

Steven M. Ferguson,

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

[FR Doc. 03–31329 Filed 12–18–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–P

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, Prospective Investigation of Pulmonary Embolism Diagnosis III.

Date: February 11, 2004.

Time: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate cooperative agreement applications.

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

Contact Person: Arthur N. Freed, PhD, Review Branch, Room 7186, Division of Extramural Affairs, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, MSC 7924, Bethesda, MD 20892. (301) 435–0280.

(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: December 12, 2003.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 03–31318 Filed 12–18–03; 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, Aldosterone Antagonists for the Treatment of Heart Failure with Preserved Sytolic Function.

Date: January 28, 2004.

Time: 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: Patricia A Haggerty, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Review Branch, Division of Extramural Affairs, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 7188, MSC 7924, Bethesda, MD 20892. 301/435–0280.

(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.)