

LTR as a treatment for various cancers, including human breast, liver, prostate, and myeloid cancers and fibrosarcomas. The inventors have shown that the ERV-9 LTR sense and antisense oligos can inhibit cancer cell proliferation *in vitro* more efficiently than the antisense oligos of Bcl-2 (G3139) and telomerase (GRN163), both of which are currently in cancer clinical trials. The oligos have minimal effects on the proliferation of primary normal human cells *in vitro*. These oligos have potential as a new therapeutic agent to suppress tumor cell growth, either when used alone or in conjunction with other antisense oligos or with chemotherapeutic agents such as VePesid. Furthermore, sense and antisense RNA transcripts of ERV-9 LTR were detected in many human normal and tumor cells in this invention. The sense and antisense RNA may form double stranded RNA and act as siRNA to regulate gene expression.

Applications

- Therapeutic oligos of the invention can be used to treat variety of cancers including, but not limited to, breast, liver, myeloid and prostate cancers and fibrosarcomas.
- The oligos can be used either singly or as adjuvant therapy with chemotherapeutic agents.
- ERV-9 LTR related cancers can be diagnosed by comparative analysis of the levels of ERV-9 LTR RNAs in tumors versus those of healthy tissues.

Advantages

- Greater inhibition of cell proliferation by oligos of the invention compared to the Bcl-2, telomerase and MDM2-specific antisense oligos which are currently in development as cancer therapies.
- The therapeutic effect of the oligos is specific for cancer cells as the oligos do not significantly alter proliferation of normal human cells.

Development Status: *In vivo* testing of therapeutic sense and antisense oligos in mouse xenograft models has been successfully conducted.

Market: Cancer is the second leading cause of death in the United States. More than 1 million Americans are diagnosed with cancer each year.

Inventors: Lai Xu (FDA/CDER), Abdel Elkahoul (NHGRI), Fabio Candotti (NHGRI), Amy Rosenberg. (FDA/CDER)

Publications: None related to invention have been published.

Patent Status: U.S. Provisional Application No. 61/191,911 filed 11 Sep 2008 (HHS Reference No. E-092-2008/0-US-01).

Licensing Status: Available for licensing.

Licensing Contact: Surekha Vathyam, PhD; 301-435-4076; vathyams@mail.nih.gov.

Dated: April 30, 2009.

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

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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. App.), 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 would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Cancer Pathobiology ARRA CR.

Date: May 19, 2009.

Time: 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Hilton Alexandria Old Town, 1767 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Contact Person: Elaine Sierra-Rivera, PhD, Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 6184, MSC 7804, Bethesda, MD 20892. 301-435-1779. riverase@csr.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.

Name of Committee: Biological Chemistry and Macromolecular Biophysics; Integrated Review Group, Biochemistry and Biophysics of Membranes Study Section.

Date: May 28-29, 2009.

Time: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: The Dupont Hotel, 1500 New Hampshire Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20036.

Contact Person: Nuria E. Assa-Munt, PhD, Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 4164,

MSC 7806, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 451-1323, assamunu@csr.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Biological Chemistry and Macromolecular Biophysics; Integrated Review Group, Macromolecular Structure and Function—B Study Section.

Date: May 28-29, 2009.

Time: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: The Fairmont Washington, DC, 2401 M Street, NW., Washington, DC 20037.

Contact Person: Arnold Revzin, PhD, Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 4146, MSC 7824, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1153, revzina@csr.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Immunology Integrated Review Group; Cellular and Molecular Immunology—A Study Section.

Date: May 28-29, 2009.

Time: 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Hilton Crystal City, 2399 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202.

Contact Person: Samuel C. Edwards, PhD, Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 4200, MSC 7812, Bethesda, MD 20892. (301) 435-1152. edwardss@csr.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; Bioengineering Member Conflicts.

Date: May 29, 2009.

Time: 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892 (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Ping Fan, MD, PhD, Scientific Review Officer, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 5154, MSC 7840, Bethesda, MD 20892. 301-435-1740. fanp@csr.nih.gov.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.306, Comparative Medicine; 93.333, Clinical Research, 93.306, 93.333, 93.337, 93.393-93.396, 93.837-93.844, 93.846-93.878, 93.892, 93.893, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: April 30, 2009.

Jennifer Spaeth,

Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

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