

or research reagent antibodies. Please contact Thomas Stackhouse at stackhot@mail.nih.gov or 301-846-5465 for more information.

Optical Slice Motion Tracker

Description of Technology: Available for licensing and commercial development is an apparatus that adjusts the focal plane of a microscope in order to track plane motion of a sample. The apparatus includes a motor that can change the focal plane by moving the objective of the microscope and a computer that reads image data from the microscope photomultiplier tube (PMT). The apparatus uses time between images to perform a navigator function comprising quickly scanning many nearby focal planes with a minimum field of view and utilizing pattern matching to calculate an offset distance to adjust the focal plane. The apparatus permits imaging of moving structures, such as living tissue, over time by compensating for motion in the direction of the focal plane. The use of navigator movement to track an optically selected slice can be implemented in any of various research or medical devices.

Applications: Microscopy; Cell biology.

Development Status: Early-stage; Prototype.

Inventors: James L. Schroeder (NHLBI), Robert S. Balaban (NHLBI), Thomas J. Pohida (CIT), John W. Kakareka (CIT), Randall Pursley (CIT).

Patent Status: U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/904,683 filed 02 Mar 2007 (HHS Reference No. E-114-2007/0-US-01). The issued and pending patent rights are solely owned by the United States Government.

Licensing Status: Licensing on a non-exclusive basis and exclusive to qualified applicants whose application for licensure complies with 37 CFR 404.

Licensing Contact: Michael A. Shmilovich, Esq.; 301/435-5019; shmilovm@mail.nih.gov.

Collaborative Research Opportunity: The NHLBI is seeking statements of capability or interest from parties interested in collaborative research to further develop, evaluate, or commercialize the optical slice motion tracker. Please contact Lili Portilla at 301-594-4273 or via e-mail at Lilip@nih.gov for more information.

A Fundus Photo-Stimulation System and Method

Description of Technology: Available for licensing and commercial development is an optical system which permits targeted photo-stimulation of the retina by positioning the stimulus

location under visual guidance through a fundus camera. The system is designed to elicit, under direct infra-red visual control of stimulus size and position in the retina, electroretinograms (ERGs) in response to photo-stimulation from selected regions of the retina, as well as to present small light stimuli to a selected area to explore visual sensitivity properties. For example, the detected ERGs can be the basis for diagnosing or characterizing patient retina with early stage retinal disease versus healthy retina from the opposite eye. The system can be mounted on commercially available fundus cameras that have infra-red capabilities (or would accept infra-red bandpass filtering of their retinal illumination output) and will accept a near IR CCD camera connected to a TV mounted on the photographic-camera port.

The optical system can comprise a targeting light path originating from a deep red laser and a stimulus light path originating from a Xenon strobe lamp. Both light paths are brought into collinear alignment by a beam splitter. The light paths are transmitted to the eye through an adjustable turning mirror and a focusing lens. A beam splitter in front of the fundus camera objective lens merges the optical path of the fundus camera with that of the targeting optical path and the stimulus light path. The merged beams are brought to a focus at or close to the lens of the eye. A movable aperture is interposed on the collinear beams and imaged on the retina such that its lateral position and size can be adjusted by the operator to select the retinal area to be photo-stimulated. This arrangement ensures that the stimulating light flashes illuminate the same field as was selected using the deep red targeting laser. This system permits projection of repeatable visible-light flashes with variable size and location onto the retina.

Applications: Diagnosis of retinal disease; Electroretinograms.

Development Status: Early-stage; Prototype available.

Inventors: Paul Smith (ORS), Edward Wellner (ORS), Francisco de Monasterio (NEI).

Patent Status: U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/935,107 filed 26 Jul 2007 (HHS Reference No. E-279-2006/0-US-01). The pending patent rights are solely owned by the United States Government.

Licensing Status: Available for licensing and commercialization. Non-exclusive rights are available. Exclusive rights may be available to qualified

applicants and are subject to the provisions set forth in 37 CFR 404.7.

Licensing Contact: Michael A. Shmilovich, Esq.; 301/435-5019; shmilovm@mail.nih.gov.

Collaborative Research Opportunity: The Laboratory of Bioengineering and Physical Science, NIBIB is seeking statements of capability or interest from parties interested in collaborative research to further develop, evaluate, or commercialize the Fundus Photo-Stimulation System and Method. Please contact Dr. Paul Smith at smithpa@mail.nih.gov for more information.

Dated: October 10, 2007.

Steven M. Ferguson,

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

[FR Doc. E7-20517 Filed 10-16-07; 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.

Method for Inducing T-Cell Proliferation

Description of Technology: This technology relates to the use of thymic stromal lymphopoietin (TSLP) to induce CD4+ T cell proliferation. This proliferation could be of particular

relevance for patients in whom this cell population has been significantly reduced by HIV/AIDS or other conditions resulting in immunodeficiency. The proliferation of isolated CD4+ T cells can be induced through direct contact with TSLP or a nucleic acid encoding TSLP. The patent application also describes methods of inducing or enhancing an immune response through administration of CD4+ T cells that have been isolated and induced to proliferate using TSLP or a nucleic acid encoding TSLP. TSLPR knockout mice are also described in the patent application and available for licensing through a biological materials license agreement.

Applications: Immunotherapy.

Development Status: Animal (mouse) data available.

Inventor: Warren J. Leonard et al. (NHLBI).

Patent Status: U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/555,898 filed 23 Mar 2004 (HHS Reference No. E-104-2004/0-US-01); U.S. Utility Application No. 11/762,357 filed 13 June 2007 (HHS Reference No. E-104-2004/1-US-02).

Licensing Status: Available for licensing.

Licensing Contact: Susan Ano, Ph.D.; 301/435-5515; anos@mail.nih.gov.

Retrovirus-Like Particles as Vaccines and Immunogens

Description of Technology: This technology describes retrovirus-like particles and their production from retroviral constructs in which the gene encoding of all but seven amino acids of the nucleocapsid (NC) protein was deleted. NC is critical for both genomic RNA packaging into the virion and viral integration into the host cell. Therefore, this deletion functionally eliminates two essential steps in retrovirus replication, thereby resulting in non-infectious retrovirus-like particles that maintain their full complement of antigenic proteins. Furthermore, efficient formation of these particles requires inhibition of the protease enzymatic activity, either by mutation to the protease gene in the construct or by protease inhibitor thereby ensuring the production of non-infectious retrovirus-like particles by altering two independent targets. These particles can be used in vaccines or immunogenic compositions. Specific examples using HIV-1 constructs are given.

Applications: Retroviral vaccine; Immunogenic compositions.

Development Status: In vitro data available.

Inventor: David E. Ott (NCI).

Publications:

1. DE Ott et al. Elimination of protease activity restores efficient virion production to a human immunodeficiency virus type 1 nucleocapsid deletion mutant. *J Virol.* 2003 May;77(10):5547-5556.

2. DE Ott et al. Redundant roles for nucleocapsid and matrix RNA-binding sequences in human immunodeficiency virus type 1 assembly. *J Virol.* 2005 Nov;79(22), 13839-13847.

Patent Status: U.S. Patent Application No. 11/413,614 filed 27 Apr 2006 (HHS Reference No. E-236-2003/0-US-02).

Licensing Status: Available for non-exclusive or exclusive licensing.

Licensing Contact: Susan Ano, Ph.D.; 301/435-5515; anos@mail.nih.gov.

Collaborative Research Opportunity: The NCI, CCR, AIDS Vaccine Program is seeking statements of capability or interest from parties interested in collaborative research to further develop, evaluate, or commercialize whole retrovirus-like particle vaccines. Please contact John D. Hewes, Ph.D. at 301-435-3121 or hewesj@mail.nih.gov for more information.

Potent HIV-1 Entry Inhibitors and Immunogens

Description of Technology: This technology relates to HIV antigenic constructs with flexible, heterologous linkers joining gp120 and gp41. The HIV-1 envelope Glycoprotein (Env) undergoes conformational changes while driving entry. The inventors developed these constructs to mimic some of the intermediate Env conformations. Tethered molecules of the invention were stable and potently inhibited cell fusion. Both gp120 and gp41 contain epitopes that may be necessary for the immune system to mount a robust and effective immune response to HIV. By connecting the two components, the current invention stabilizes the exposure of conserved epitopes, thereby increasing the chances that antibodies will form that react with these sites.

Applications: HIV vaccine.

Development Status: In vitro data available.

Inventors: Dimiter S. Dimitrov et al. (NCI).

Patent Status: U.S. Utility Application No. 10/506,651 filed 02 Sept 2004 (HHS Reference No. E-039-2002/0-US-02).

Licensing Status: Available for exclusive or non-exclusive licensing.

Licensing Contact: Susan Ano, Ph.D.; 301/435-5515; anos@mail.nih.gov.

Collaborative Research Opportunity: The National Cancer Institute's Nanobiology Program is seeking statements of capability or interest from parties interested in collaborative

research to further develop or evaluate immune response constructs. Please contact John D. Hewes, Ph.D. at 301-435-3121 or hewesj@mail.nih.gov for more information.

Dated: October 10, 2007.

Steven M. Ferguson,

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

[FR Doc. E7-20518 Filed 10-16-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Prospective Grant of Exclusive License: Adult Human Dental Pulp Stem Cells, Postnatal Stem Cells, and Multipotent Postnatal Stem Cells From Human Periodontal Ligament

AGENCY: National Institutes of Health, Public Health Service, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This is notice, in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 209(c)(1) and 37 CFR 404.7(a)(1)(i), that the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), is contemplating the grant of an exclusive license worldwide to practice the invention embodied in United States issued Patent Number 7,052,907 titled: "Adult Human Dental Pulp Stem Cells in vitro and in vivo" referenced at HHS as E-233-2000/0-US-03 and corresponding foreign patent applications, United States Patent Application Number 10/553,633 titled: "Postnatal Stem Cells and Uses Thereof" referenced at HHS as E-018-2003/0-US-02 and corresponding foreign patent applications, United States Patent Application Number 11/433,627 titled: "Multipotent Postnatal Stem Cells from Human Periodontal Ligament" referenced at DHHS as E-033-2004/0-US-03 and corresponding patent applications, to Angioblast Systems, Inc. having a place of business in the state of New York. The field of use may be limited to the following: FDA or similar foreign body approved therapeutic for (1) regeneration/repair of the periodontal ligament lost from chronic periodontitis, (2) regeneration/repair of dentin/pulp complex lost during deep carious lesions and (3) regeneration/repair of neural networks. The United States of America is the assignee of the patent rights in this invention. The territory may be worldwide.