recruitment and activation of the Src-family kinase FynT after SLAM ligation, where the SAP SH2 domain binds to the SH3 domain of FynT and directly couples FynT to SLAM.

Mutations in the *SH2D1 A* gene on the Xq24–26 chromosome are known to be responsible for many cases of X-linked Lymphoproliferative syndrome.

Immunoglobulins With Potent and Broad Antiviral (HIV) Activity Based on scFv Joined by Flexible Linker to Fc

Drs. Dimiter Dimitrov (NCI) and Mei-Yun Zhang (SAIC),
U.S. Provisional Patent Application filed 29 Sep 2003 (DHHS Reference No. E–316–2003/0–US–01),
Licensing Contact: Sally Hu; (301) 435–5606; *hus@mail.nih.gov.*

This invention describes methods of inhibiting viral infection (*e.g.*, HIV–1 infection). The method comprises administering a fusion protein comprising a small size, single chain Fv (scFv) antibody binding domain joined to an Fc region by a long flexible linker. In particular, scFv m6 or m9, the single chain variable fragments that were previously identified from a phage display library for binding to $gp140_{89.6}$, $gp120_{JRFL}$, $gp140_{IIIB}$, and their complex with two-domain soluble CD4 is joined to Fc by a long flexible linker to provide a new agent for the inhibition of HIV infection or immunotherapy of HIV-infected individuals. The Fc region provides stability, long half-life, and biological effector functions. The scFv-Fc fragment provides antigen recognition and neutralizing activity. The small size of the scFv-Fc fusion molecule provides easy access to conserved viral epitopes exposed before or during viral entry. In addition, these fusion molecules exhibit neutralization activity that is higher than that of whole IgGs. Thus, this invention may offer a novel approach to treat and prevent HIV–1 infection and/or AIDS.

Potent Combinations of mRNA Transport Elements

Barbara K. Felber et al. (NCI),
U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/471,988 filed 19 May 2003 (DHHS Reference No. E–223–2003/0–US–01);
U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/472,223, filed 20 May 2003 (DHHS Reference No. E–258–2003/0–US–01),
Licensing Contact: Susan Ano; 301/435–5515; *anos@mail.nih.gov.*

This technology relates to improving levels of gene expression using a combination of a constitutive RNA transport element (CTE) with a mutant form of another RNA transport element (RTE). The combination of these elements results in a synergistic effect on stability, and therefore expression levels, of mRNA transcripts. Using HIV–1 gag as reporter mRNA, one mutated RTE in combination with a CTE was found to improve expression of unstable mRNA by about 500-fold. Similarly this combination of elements lead to synergistically elevated levels of HIV–1 env expression. The function of CTEs and RTEs is conserved in mammalian cells, so this technology is a simple and useful way of obtaining high levels of expression of otherwise poorly expressed genes and can be used in a number of applications such as but not limited to improvements of gene therapy vectors, expression vectors for mammalian cells.

Safer Attenuated Virus Vaccines With Missing or Diminished Latency of Infection

Jeffrey Cohen (NIAID), Edward Cox (FDA), Lesley Pesnicak (NIAID),
U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/423,603 filed 05 Nov 2002 (DHHS Reference No. E–250–2002/0–US–01); PCT Application No. PCT/US03/35167 filed 05 Nov 2003 (DHHS Reference No. E–250–2002/0–PCT–02),
Licensing Contact: Susan Ano; (301) 435–5515; *anos@mail.nih.gov.*

This technology describes viruses that have weakened ability to establish and/or maintain latency and their use as live vaccines. The viruses have one or more genetic mutations that allow for continued replication but that inhibit latency. The vaccine materials and methods for their construction are exemplified with the virus that causes chickenpox and whose latent infection results in shingles, a condition that affects up to an estimated 1 million people per year in the United States alone. Specific examples of gene deletion are described. Furthermore, replacement of these deleted genes with other desirable viral antigen encoding sequence(s) and/or cytokine genes in order to enhance a desired immunological response is also described. Aspects of this technology are relevant to other live virus vaccines, thus increasing the safety of such vaccines.

Novel Receptor for Pathogenic Fungi

Victor Jimenez (EM), Victor Ginsburg (NIDDK), Howard Krivan (NIDDK),
U.S. Patent Application No. 07/472,128 filed 30 Jan 1990, which issued as U.S. Patent 5,242,800 on 07 Sep 1993 (DHHS Reference No. E–145–1989/0–US–01),
Licensing Contact: Michael Ambrose; (301) 594–6565; *ambrosem@mail.nih.gov.*

A specific receptor for pathogenic fungi has been isolated and substantially purified for the first time, and a method of using the receptor to prevent adhesion of pathogenic fungi to host cells has been developed. A kit for detecting the presence of certain fungi was also described. These products make possible the detection and removal of two important pathogenic fungi, Candida albicans and Cryptococcus neoformans, and may be useful in preventing yeast diseases.

Dated: February 17, 2004.

Steven M. Ferguson,

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

[FR Doc. 04–3906 Filed 2–23–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–P

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 552(b)(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 contract proposals, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Cancer Institute Review Group, Subcommittee A—Cancer Centers.

Date: April 15–16, 2004.

Time: 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Holiday Inn Chevy Chase, 5520 Wisconsin Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD 20815.

Contact Person: David E. Maslow, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Resources and Training Review Branch, Division of Extramural Activities, National Cancer Institute, 6116 Executive Boulevard, Room 8117, Bethesda, MD 20892–7405, (301) 496–2330.

Any interested person may file written comments with the committee by forwarding

the statement to the Contact Person listed on this notice. The statement should include the name, address, telephone number and when applicable, the business or professional affiliation of the interested person.

In the interest of security, NIH has instituted stringent procedures for entrance into the building by non-government employees. Persons without a government I.D. will need to show a photo I.D. and sign-in at the security desk upon entering the building.

(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: February 17, 2004.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 04–3899 Filed 2–23–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities; 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 Center on Minority and Health Disparities Special Emphasis Panel, ZMD1(01) Loan Repayment Programs: Extramural Clinical and Health Disparities Research.

Date: March 28–30, 2004.

Time: 5 p.m. to 1 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Embassy Suites at the Chevy Chase Pavilion, 4300 Military Road, NW., Washington, DC 20015.

Contact Person: Lorrita Watson, Ph.D., National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities, National Institutes of Health, 6707 Democracy Blvd., Suite 800, Bethesda, MD 20892–5465, 301–594–7784, *watsonl@ncmhd.nih.gov*.

Dated: February 17, 2004.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 04–3904 Filed 2–23–04; 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 Trypanosome Proteome.

Date: March 11, 2004.

Time: 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge 6700, 6700B Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20817, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Brenda Lange-Gustafson, Ph.D., Scientific Review Administrator, NIAID, DEA, Scientific Review Program, Room 3122, 6700–B Rockledge Drive, MSC–7616, Bethesda, MD 20892–7616, Bethesda, MD 20892–7616, (301) 496–2550, *bgustafson@niaid.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 17, 2004.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 04–3903 Filed 2–23–04; 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 contract proposals and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the contract proposals, 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, ''Development, Testing, and Evaluation of Candidate Vaccines Against Plague.''

Date: March 19, 2004.

Time: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate contract proposals.

Place: Marriott Gaithersburg Washingtonian, 9751 Washingtonian Boulevard, Gaithersburg, MD 20878.

Contact Person: Gregory P. Jarosik, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Scientific Review Program, Division of Extramural Activities, National Institutes of Health/NIAID, 6700B Rockledge Drive, MSC 7616, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 496–0695, *gj67q@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 17, 2004.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 04–3905 Filed 2–23–04; 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