deaths caused by cancer in 2008. A major drawback of the current chemotherapy-based therapeutics is the cytotoxic side-effects associated with them. Thus there is a dire need to develop new therapeutic strategies with fewer side-effects. Immuno-therapy has taken a lead among the new therapeutic approaches. Enhancing the innate immune response of an individual has been a key approach for the treatment against different diseases such as cancer and infectious diseases.

This technology involves the generation of novel chemoattractant toxins that deplete the T regulatory cells (Treg) or other immunosuppressive or hyperactivated cells locally. Treg controls activation of immune responses by suppressing the induction of adaptive immune responses, particularly T cell responses. Immunosuppressive cells such as tumor infiltrating macrophages or NK and other cells down regulate autitum immune responses. The chemoattractant toxins consist of a toxin moiety fused with a chemokine receptor ligand, chemokines and other chemoattractants that enables specific targeting and delivery to the Treg cells. This technology is advantageous over the more harmful antibodies and chemicals that are currently used for the systemic depletion of Treg cells. The current technology can be used therapeutically in a variety of ways. They can be used together with vaccines to increase efficacy of the vaccine for the treatment of cancer, and can be used to locally deplete Treg cells or other immune suppressive cells to induce cytolytic cell responses at the tumor site to or eliminate chronic infectious diseases such as HIV and tuberculosis.

Applications:
- New chemoattractant based toxins targeted towards Treg cells.
- New chemoattractant based toxins targeted towards immunosuppressive NKT, and macrophages.
- New chemoattractant based toxins targeted towards lower depletion of hyperactivated CD4 T cells to treat autoimmune diseases.
- Chemoattractant based toxins depleting Treg cells or other immunosuppressive cells causing enhanced vaccine immune responses.
- Novel immunotherapy by increasing vaccine efficacy against cancer and infectious diseases.

Market:
- 563,650 deaths from cancer related diseases estimated in 2008.
- The technology platform involving novel chemo-attractant based toxins can be used to improve vaccine immune responses. The cancer vaccine market is expected to increase from $135 million in 2007 to more than $8 billion in 2012.
- The technology platform has additional market in treating several other clinical problems such as autoimmune diseases.

Development Status: The technology is currently in the pre-clinical stage of development.

Inventors: Arya Biragyn (NIA), Dolgor Bataar (NIA), et al.

Related Publications:
1. Copy of manuscript from this technology can be provided once accepted for publication.


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

Licensing Contact: Jennifer Wong; 301–435–4633; wongje@mail.nih.gov.

Collaborative Research Opportunity: The NIA Laboratory of Immunology is seeking statements of capability or interest from parties interested in collaborative research to further develop, evaluate, or commercialize novel chemoattractant-based toxins. Please contact John D. Hewes, Ph.D. at 301–435–3121 or hewes@nih.gov for more information.

Dated: September 18, 2008.

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

[FR Doc. E8–22889 Filed 9–29–08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
National Institutes of Health

National Cancer Institute; Notice of Closed Meetings

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 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: National Cancer Institute Special Emphasis Panel; Review of Education and Career Development Award Applications.

Date: October 24, 2008.

Time: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Sheraton Sand Key Resort, 1160 Gulf Boulevard, Clearwater, FL 33767.

Contact Person: Robert Bird, PhD, Scientific Review Officer, Resources and Training Review Branch, Division of Extramural Activities, National Cancer Institute, 6116 Executive Boulevard, Room 8113, Bethesda, MD 20892–8328, 301–496–7978, birdr@mail.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: National Cancer Institute Special Emphasis Panel; Cancer Prevention Research Small Grant Program (R03).

Date: October 30–31, 2008.

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

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Renaissance M Street Hotel, Marriott, 1143 New Hampshire Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20037.

Contact Person: Irina Gordienko, PhD, Scientific Review Officer, Scientific Review and Logistics Branch, Division of Extramural Activities, National Cancer Institute, NIH, 6116 Executive Blvd., Rm. 7073, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301–594–1566, gordienkoi@mail.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: National Cancer Institute Special Emphasis Panel; Community Clinical Oncology Program (CCOP).

Date: November 5, 2008.

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

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Bethesda Marriott, 5151 Pooks Hill Road, Bethesda, MD 20814.

Contact Person: Gerald G. Lovinger, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Special Review and Logistics Branch, Division of Extramural Activities, National Cancer Institute, 6116 Executive Blvd., Room 8101, Bethesda, MD 20892–8329, 301–496–7987, lovinger@mail.nih.gov.

(Catalogues 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)
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases; Notice of Meetings

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 meetings.

The meetings will be open to the public as indicated below, 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.

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.


Date: October 15–16, 2008.

Open: October 15, 2008, 8 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Agenda: To review procedures and discuss policy.

Place: Crowne Plaza Washington National Airport, 1480 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Arlington, VA 22202.

Closed: October 15, 2008, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Crowne Plaza Washington National Airport, 1480 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Arlington, VA 22202. Closed: October 16, 2008, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.


Date: October 21–23, 2008.

Open: October 21, 2008, 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Agenda: To review procedures and discuss policy.


Closed: October 22, 2008, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.


Date: October 22–23, 2008.

Open: October 22, 2008, 8 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Agenda: To review procedures and discuss policy.

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

Closed: October 22, 2008, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Gaithersburg Marriott Washingtonian Center, 9751 Washingtonian Boulevard, Gaithersburg, MD 20878. Contact Person: Barbara A Woynarowska, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Review Branch, DEA, NIDDK, National Institutes of Health, Room 745, 6707 Democracy Boulevard, Bethesda, MD 20892–5452, (301)402–7172, woynarowskab@niddk.nih.gov.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.847, Diabetes, Endocrinology and Metabolic Research; 93.848, Digestive Diseases and Nutrition Research; 93.849, Kidney Diseases, Urology and Hematology Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)