Dated: February 28, 2008.

Alexandra Huttinger,

Director, Division of Policy Review and Coordination.

[FR Doc. E8–4269 Filed 3–4–08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4165–15–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Resources and Services Administration

Reimbursement of Travel and Subsistence Expenses Toward Living Organ Donation Eligibility Guidelines

AGENCY: Health Resources and Services Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Request for Comments on Proposed Changes to the Reimbursement of Travel and Subsistence Expenses Program Eligibility Criteria.

SUMMARY: The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) published the final eligibility guidelines for the Reimbursement of Travel and Subsistence Expense Program in the **Federal Register** on October 5, 2007 (72 FR 57049). The purpose of this notice was to inform the public of the eligibility requirements for participation in the Reimbursement of Travel and Subsistence Expenses toward Living Organ Donation Program. HRSA is requesting public comments concerning recommended change to a specific section of the reimbursement program eligibility guidelines.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office in the address section below by mail or e-mail on or before April 4, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Please send all written comments to James F. Burdick, M.D., Director, Division of Transplantation, Healthcare Systems Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration, Room 12C–06, Parklawn Building, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20857; telephone (301) 443–7577; fax (301) 594–6095; or e-mail: *jburdick@hrsa.gov*.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James F. Burdick, M.D., Director, Division of Transplantation, Healthcare Systems Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration, Parklawn Building, Room 12C–06, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20857; telephone (301) 443–7577; fax (301) 594–6095; or e-mail: *jburdick@hrsa.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In its final program eligibility guidelines, HRSA explained that ''[t]he Program will pay for a total of up to five trips; three for the donor and two for accompanying persons. The accompanying persons need not be the same each trip.'' (72 FR 57052). HRSA proposes amending this paragraph to read: ''[t]he Program will pay for a total of up to five trips; three for the donor and two for accompanying persons. However, in cases in which the transplant center requests the donor to return to the transplant center for additional visits as a result of donor complications or other health related issues, NLDAC may provide reimbursement for the additional visit(s) for the donor and an accompanying person. The accompanying persons need not be the same in each trip.'' The purpose of this proposed change is to accommodate individuals who experience donor complications or other health related issues relating to donation.

HRSA is requesting comments on this specific section.

Dated: February 26, 2008.

Elizabeth M. Duke,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. E8–4185 Filed 3–4–08; 8:45 am]

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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.

PSM Peptides as Vaccine Targets Against Methicillin-Resistant

Staphylococcus aureus

Description of Technology: Available for licensing and commercial development are compositions and methods for the treatment and inhibition of Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA), a dangerous human pathogen. The invention concerns immunogenic peptides that can be used to induce protective immunity against MRSA, including phenol-soluble modulin (PSM) peptides.

In addition to the MRSA infections that occur in immunocompromised patients in hospitals, new MRSA strains have recently emerged that can cause severe infections (such as necrotizing fasciitis) or death in otherwise healthy adults. These strains are increasingly involved in community-associated (CA)–MRSA infections, and can be contracted outside of the health care settings. The incidence of CA–MRSA infections is increasing and the majority of infections in patients reporting to emergency departments in the U.S. is now due to CA–MRSA.

The invention describes a class of secreted staphylococcal peptides with an extraordinary ability to recruit, activate, and subsequently lyse human neutrophils, thus eliminating the main cellular defense against *S. aureus* infection. The peptides are encoded by the PSM gene cluster and include PSMα1, PSMα2, PSMα3, and PSMα4, all of which activate and subsequently lyse neutrophils. These peptides are produced at especially high levels in CA–MRSA and to a large extent determine their aggressive behavior and ability to cause disease in animal models of infection. Thus, the peptides represent a set of virulence factors of *S. aureus* that account for the enhanced virulence of CA–MRSA. The identification of these peptides enables the production of vaccines and other preventative and/or therapeutic agents for use in subjects infected with MRSA.

Applications: Development of new classes of antibiotics and vaccines against Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* infections.

Inventors: Michael Otto and Rong Wang (NIAID).

Publication: R Wang et al. Identification of novel cytolytic peptides as key virulence determinants for community-associated MRSA. Nat Med. 2007. Dec;13(12):1510–1514.

Patent Status: U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/933,573 filed 06 Jun 2007 (HHS Reference No. E–239–2007/0–US–01); U.S. Provisional Application