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Dated: July 24, 2024.

Miguelina Perez,

Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2024-16614 Filed 7-26-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Prospective Grant of an Exclusive Patent License: Adeno-Associated Virus Vector-Mediated Gene Delivery of Human Aquaporin-1 To Prevent Radiation-Induced Salivary Hypofunction

AGENCY: National Institutes of Health, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease and National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, institutes of the National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services, are contemplating the grant of an Exclusive Patent License to practice the inventions embodied in the Australian, Brazilian, Canadian, Chinese, European, Hong Kong, Israeli, Japanese, South Korean, Mexican, Malaysian, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, United States, and South African Applications listed in the Supplementary Information section of this notice to MeiraGTx, LLC, located in New York City, New York, USA.

DATES: Only written comments and/or applications for a license that are received by the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease's Technology Advancement Office on or before August 13, 2024 will be considered.

ADDRESSES: Requests for copies of the patent applications, inquiries, and comments relating to the contemplated Exclusive Patent License should be directed to: Vladimir Knezevic, MD, (Senior) Advisor for Commercial Evaluation, Technology Advancement Office, Building 12A, Room 3011, Bethesda, MD 20817-5632 (for business mail), Telephone: (301) 435-5560; Email: vlado.knezevic@nih.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Intellectual Property

I. ARIPO Patent Application AP/P/2024/015557 filed on February 28, 2024, entitled "AQP1 Gene Therapy To Prevent Radiation-Induced Salivary Hypofunction" (HHS Reference Number E-129-2021-0-AP-01).

II. Australian Patent Application 2022325158 filed on February 26, 2024, entitled "AQP1 Gene Therapy To Prevent Radiation-Induced Salivary Hypofunction" (HHS Reference Number E-129-2021-0-AU-01).

III. Brazilian Patent Application BR112024002194-7 filed on February 7, 2024, entitled "AQP1 Gene Therapy To Prevent Radiation-Induced Salivary Hypofunction" (HHS Reference Number E-129-2021-0-BR-01).

IV. Canadian Patent Application 3227584 filed on January 31, 2024, entitled "AQP1 Gene Therapy To Prevent Radiation-Induced Salivary Hypofunction" (HHS Reference Number E-129-2021-0-CA-01).

V. Chinese Patent Application 202280058429.9 filed on February 27, 2024, entitled "AQP1 Gene Therapy To Prevent Radiation-Induced Salivary Hypofunction" (HHS Reference Number E-129-2021-0-CN-01).

VI. Eurasian Patent Application 202490372 filed on March 1, 2024, entitled "AQP1 Gene Therapy To Prevent Radiation-Induced Salivary Hypofunction" (HHS Reference Number E-129-2021-0-EA-01).

VII. European Patent Application 22786210.9 filed March 1, 2024, entitled "AQP1 Gene Therapy To Prevent Radiation-Induced Salivary Hypofunction" (HHS Reference Number E-129-2021-0-EP-01).

VIII. Hong Kong Patent Application entitled "AQP1 Gene Therapy To Prevent Radiation-Induced Salivary Hypofunction" (HHS Reference Number E-129-2021-0-HK-01) with the priority filing date of August 4, 2021.

IX. Israeli Patent Application 310485 filed on January 29, 2024, entitled "AQP1 Gene Therapy To Prevent Radiation-Induced Salivary Hypofunction" (HHS Reference Number E-129-2021-0-IL-01).

X. Japanese Patent Application 2024-506727 filed on February 2, 2024, entitled "AQP1 Gene Therapy To Prevent Radiation-Induced Salivary Hypofunction" (HHS Reference Number E-129-2021-0-JP-01).

XI. South Korean Patent Application 10-2024-7007179 filed on February 29, 2024, published as 10-2024-0049295 on April 16, 2024, entitled "AQP1 Gene Therapy To Prevent Radiation-Induced Salivary Hypofunction" (HHS Reference Number E-129-2021-0-KR-01).

XII. Mexican Patent Application MX/a/2024/001577 filed on February 1, 2024, entitled "AQP1 Gene Therapy To Prevent Radiation-Induced Salivary Hypofunction" (HHS Reference Number E-129-2021-0-MX-01).

XIII. Malaysian Patent Application PI2024000751 filed on February 2, 2024, entitled "AQP1 Gene Therapy To Prevent Radiation-Induced Salivary Hypofunction" (HHS Reference Number E-129-2021-0-MY-01).

XIV. New Zealand Patent Application 808619 filed on February 26, 2024, entitled "AQP1 Gene Therapy To Prevent Radiation-Induced Salivary Hypofunction" (HHS Reference Number E-129-2021-0-NZ-01).

XV. Philippines Patent Application 1-2024-550312 filed on February 2, 2024, entitled "AQP1 Gene Therapy To Prevent Radiation-Induced Salivary Hypofunction" (HHS Reference Number E-129-2021-0-PH-01).

XVI. Singapore Patent Application 11202400787X filed on February 2, 2024, entitled "AQP1 Gene Therapy To Prevent Radiation-Induced Salivary Hypofunction" (HHS Reference Number E-129-2021-0-SG-01).

XVII. United States Patent Application 18/294,048 filed on January 31, 2024, entitled "AQP1 Gene Therapy To Prevent Radiation-Induced Salivary Hypofunction" (HHS Reference Number E-129-2021-0-US-02).

XVIII. South African Patent Application 2024/01677, filed on February 27, 2024, entitled "AQP1 Gene Therapy To Prevent Radiation-Induced Salivary Hypofunction" (HHS Reference Number E-129-2021-0-ZA-01).

The patent rights for these inventions have been assigned to the Government of the United States of America. The prospective exclusive license territory may be worldwide and in fields of use that may be limited to use of adeno-associated virus 2 vector-mediated gene delivery of human aquaporin-1 for the prevention of radiation-induced xerostomia ('dry mouth' syndrome).

The above-listed patent portfolio covers inventions directed to gene therapy and specifically, expression vector and therapeutic method of using such vector in the prevention of radiation-induced xerostomia.

This notice is made in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR part 404. The prospective exclusive license will be royalty-bearing. The prospective exclusive license may be granted unless within fifteen (15) days from the date of this published notice, the receives written evidence and argument that establishes that the grant of the license would not be consistent with the

requirements of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR part 404.

In response to this Notice, the public may file comments or objections. Comments and objections, other than those in the form of a license application, will not be treated confidentially and may be made publicly available.

License applications submitted in response to this notice will be presumed to contain business confidential information and any release of information in these license applications will be made only as required and upon a request under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552.

Dated: July 23, 2024.

Vladimir Knezevic,

Senior Advisor for Commercial Evaluation, Technology Advancement Office, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Request for Information (RFI) on Recommendations on Re-Envisioning U.S. Postdoctoral Research Training and Career Progression Within the Biomedical Research Enterprise

AGENCY: National Institutes of Health, HHS.

ACTION: Request for information.

SUMMARY: The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is issuing a follow-up Request for Information (RFI) as part of its effort to gauge feedback from the biomedical research community to inform the implementation of recommendations from the Advisory Committee to the Director Working Group on Re-envisioning NIH-Supported Postdoctoral Training.

DATES: The RFI is open for public comment for a period of 90 days and will close at 11:59 p.m. (EST) on October 23, 2024. Please ensure prompt response to this RFI to ensure consideration.

ADDRESSES: Submissions can be sent electronically to: (<https://rfi.grants.nih.gov/?s=6660cc1aa1264f88920cf122>). Responses to this RFI are voluntary and may be submitted anonymously. You may voluntarily include your name and contact information with your response. If you choose to provide NIH with this information, NIH will not share your

name and contact information outside of NIH unless required by law. Responses must be received by October 23, 2024, 11:59 p.m. to ensure consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions about this request for information should be directed to: Ericka M. Boone, Director, Division of Biomedical Research Workforce, at (301) 496-0180 or reenvisionpostdoc@nih.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is seeking feedback from the biomedical research community on the implementation of specific recommendations proposed by the Advisory Committee to the Director (ACD) in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 217a, section 222 of the Public Health Service Act, for Re-envisioning NIH-Supported Postdoctoral Training. This Request for Information (RFI) aims to gather insights and suggestions to inform the effective implementation of recommendations across NIH-funded research institutions.

Background Information

NIH established an Advisory Committee to the Director Working Group on Re-Envisioning NIH-Supported Postdoctoral Training (<https://acd.od.nih.gov/working-groups/postdocs.html>) (ACD Postdoctoral WG) to explore the status of the postdoctoral training system, identify and understand critical factors and issues relating to the perceived decline in the number of postdoctoral scholars, and to provide recommendations to address these factors. As part of this ACD-led effort, community input on the status of the postdoctoral training system was encouraged through four listening sessions and through a February 2023 RFI: Re-envisioning U.S. Postdoctoral Research Training and Career Progression within the Biomedical Research Enterprise (<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-23-084.html>). Input was received from various members of the biomedical research community, including early-stage investigators, biomedical faculty, training directors, postdoctoral and graduate student office leaders, biotech/biopharma industry scientists, and research education program advocates. Results from the public listening sessions (https://acd.od.nih.gov/documents/IMOD_Postdoc_Listening_Sessions_summary.pdf) and the previously published RFI on Re-envisioning U.S. Postdoctoral Research Training and Career Progression within the Biomedical Research Enterprise released

on February 14, 2023, and the follow-up report (https://acd.od.nih.gov/documents/RFI_Postdocs_Report_2023.pdf) captured a wide range of topics related to postdoctoral scholar issues and challenges, including lack of adequate salary and standard benefits, poor job satisfaction, lack of opportunities in academic careers, negative work culture and the need for high-quality mentorship. Additionally, respondents provided diverse suggestions for changes to existing NIH policies, resources, and programs, including those expansion of NIH funding opportunities that can address postdoctoral scholar research and career development goals. Based on feedback, the ACD Postdoctoral WG issued six (6) high-level recommendations:

- **Recommendation 1:** Increase pay and benefits for all NIH-supported postdoctoral scholars.
- **Recommendation 2:** Create and expand mechanisms to support the full talent pool of postdoctoral scholars.
- **Recommendation 3:** Facilitate the transition of postdoctoral scholars into the next career stage, including roles beyond academic faculty.
- **Recommendation 4:** Promote training and professional development of postdoctoral scholars and their mentors.
- **Recommendation 5:** Support safe and diverse perspectives and research environments within institutional research programs.
- **Recommendation 6:** Improve means to measure and share postdoctoral scholars' career progression.

Please see the full ACD Postdoctoral Scholar WG report at—https://acd.od.nih.gov/documents/presentations/12152023_Postdoc_Working_Group_Report.pdf.

Information Requested

As a part of NIH's ongoing efforts to better support the postdoctoral scholar workforce, the purpose of this RFI is to solicit public input on how NIH might most effectively implement certain recommendations developed by the ACD WG to address current challenges affecting the postdoctoral trainee community. NIH is particularly interested in receiving input from trainees (e.g., graduate students, postdocs), as well as early-stage investigators, biomedical faculty, training directors, postdoctoral and graduate student office leaders, biotech/biopharma industry scientists, and research education program advocates. NIH encourages organizations (e.g., patient advocacy groups, professional societies) to submit a single response reflective of the views of the