DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Government-Owned Inventions; Availability for Licensing

AGENCY: National Institutes of Health, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The inventions listed below are owned by the agency of the U.S. Government and are available for licensing 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.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Chris Kornak, 240–627–3705, chris.kornak@nih.gov. Licensing information and copies of the U.S. patent applications listed below may be obtained by communicating with the indicated licensing contact at the Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property Office (TTIPO), 5601 Fishers Lane, Suite 6D, MSC 9804, Rockville, MD 20892, tel: 301–496–2644, fax: 240–627–3117. A signed Confidential Disclosure Agreement will be required to receive copies of unpublished patent applications.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Recombinant HIV-1 Envelope Proteins and Their Use

Description of Technology: Millions of people are infected with HIV-1 worldwide. In the U.S., there are about 30,000 new cases of HIV infection reported annually. Currently, there are effective, anti-retroviral therapeutics available to treat or prevent HIV infection. However, available anti-retroviral therapeutics require life-long administration.

During infection, proteases of the host cell cleave gp160 into gp120 and gp41. Gp41 is an integral membrane protein, while gp120 protrudes from the mature virus. Together gp120 and gp41 aggregate as trimers that make up the HIV-1 envelope (“Env”) spike, which is a target for neutralizing antibodies.

NIAID researchers have constructed a recombinant HIV-1 trimer immunogen. In particular, the recombinant gp120 protein in the trimer is stabilized in a closed conformation, preventing it from binding to CD4. The advantage of the closed conformation is that it can stabilize the epitopes that bind to broadly neutralizing antibodies, minimize the binding of gp120 with weakly or non-neutralizing antibodies, and prevent conformational changes induced by CD4 as well as immunogen sequestration by CD4 in vivo. Research has also indicated that recombinant Env ectodomain trimers can induce higher neutralizing antibody titers than wild type Env trimers in animal models.

This technology is available for licensing for commercial development in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR part 404, as well as for further development and evaluation under a research collaboration.

Potential Commercial Applications:

• HIV-1 immunogen
• New methods for isolating broadly neutralizing antibodies

Competitive Advantages:

• A new strategy in inducing immune response against HIV-1

Development Stage:

• Pre-Clinical; Proof-of-concept studies in nonhuman primate models

Inventors:

Paolo Lasso, NIAID, NIH
Peng Zhang, NIAID, NIH

Publications:

Pending


Licensing Contact: Chris Kornak, 240–627–3705, chris.kornak@nih.gov.

Collaborative Research Opportunity: The Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property Office (TTIPO) is seeking parties interested in collaborative research to further develop the technology. In particular, NIAID is interested in partnerships utilizing vector vaccine platforms for expressing these immunogens.

However, NIAID is willing to discuss other applications of this technology. For collaboration opportunities, please contact Chris Kornak, 240–627–3705, chris.kornak@nih.gov.


Suzanne Frisbie,
Deputy Director, Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property Office, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

[FR Doc. 2017–19591 Filed 9–14–17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–P
Supplementary Information: Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 requires: Written comments and/or suggestions from the public and affected agencies are invited to address one or more of the following points: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the function of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) The accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) Ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Proposed Collection Title: Special Volunteer and Guest Researcher Assignment form—Reinstatement without Change of OMB No. 0925–0177, Office of Intramural Research (OIR), Office of the Director (OD), National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Need and Use of Information Collection: Form Number: NIH–590 is a single form completed by an NIH official for each Guest Researcher or Special Volunteer prior to his/her arrival at NIH. The information on the form is necessary for the approving official to reach a decision on whether to allow a Guest Researcher to use NIH facilities, or whether to accept volunteer services offered by a Special Volunteer. If the original assignment is extended, another form noting the extension is completed to update the file. In addition, each Special Volunteer and Guest Researcher reads and signs an NIH Agreement.

OMB approval is requested for 3 years. There are no costs to respondents other than their time. The total estimated annualized burden hours are 527.

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National Institutes of Health

Proposed Collection: 60-Day Comment Request; Special Volunteer and Guest Researcher Assignment (Office of Intramural Research, Office of the Director)

AGENCY: National Institutes of Health, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the requirement of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, for opportunity for public comment on proposed data collection projects, the Office of Intramural Research (OIR), Office of the Director (OD), National Institutes of Health (NIH), will publish periodic summaries of proposed projects to be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval.

DATES: Comments regarding this information collection are best assured of having their full effect if received within 60 days of the date of this publication.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To obtain a copy of the data collection plans and instruments, submit comments in writing, or request more information on the proposed project, contact: Dr. Arlyn Garcia-Perez, Assistant Director, Office of Intramural Research, Office of the Director, National Institutes of Health, 1 Center Drive MSC 0140, Building 1, Room 160, MSC–0140, Bethesda, Maryland, 20892 or call non-toll-free number (301) 496–1921 or (301) 496–1381 or Email your request, including your address to: GarciaA@od.nih.gov. Formal requests for additional plans and instruments must be requested in writing.

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