are included as well as techniques for cloning and expressing the protein in related materials.

T cells play a central role in the induction and regulation of the immune response. Thus, the structure of IL–2 receptors and their relationship to T cell growth and proliferation is on considerable scientific and clinical importance. The present technology could be used in the development of T cell antagonists compounds which could be to treat a wide range of autoimmune diseases, such as rheumatoid arthritis and other T cell-driven inflammatory diseases. The technology could also be used to develop immunosuppressants, which could be useful in combating tissue and organ graft rejection in kidney, liver, heart and other transplants and so-called ''graft versus host'' disease in bone marrow transplants without the side effect associate with conventional immunosuppressants. (portfolio: Internal Medicine—Miscellaneous; Internal Medicine—Diagnostics, anti-inflammatory; Internal Medicine—Therapeutics, anti-inflammatory)

Soluble Interleukin-2 Receptor as a Disease Indicator and a Method of Assaying the Same

D Nelson, W Biddison, L Rubin, W Greene, W Leonard, R Yarchoan (NCI)
Serial No. 06/724,897 filed 19 Apr 85
U.S. Patent No. 4,707,443 issued 17 Nov 87

Soluble IL–2 receptor is produced in response to immune activation and by some malignant cells. For instance, elevated levels of IL–2 have been detected in patients with adult T-cell leukemia, Sezary syndrome, Hodgkin's disease, chronic lymphocytic leukemia, multiple myeloma, and solid tumors. The systemic level of IL–2 receptor is also relevant in the diagnosis and treatment of such diseases as rheumatoid arthritis and systemic lupus erythematosis and may be used to titrate immunosuppressive therapy in such applications as graft rejection.

The invention disclosed in the patent is a sandwich immunoassay useful for determining the amount of IL–2 receptor in a sample. The invention also discloses a method of detecting such disturbed or abnormal conditions in humans which release soluble IL–2 receptor in bodily fluids. (portfolio: Internal Medicine—Diagnostics, anti-inflammatory; Internal Medicine—Therapeutics, anti-inflammatory; Cancer—Diagnostics; Cancer—Therapeutics, biological response modifiers)

Enhanced Stem Cell Engraftment Using Cytokines

M. Mardiney III, HL Malech (NIAID)
Filed 21 Jul 95
Serial No. 60/001,386

The invention relates to be a method for establishing high levels of chimerism of transplanted hematopoietic stem cells in humans to treat disease, more particularly, to accomplish this with a significant reduction in the level of recipient conditioning prior to transplantation. This technology can be used to achieve successful engraftment in individuals who must undergo bone marrow transplantation.

The practice of bone marrow transplantation or peripheral blood stem cell transplantation involves placing a suspension of allogeneic or autologous hematopoietic pluripotent cells into the blood stream of the recipient. Successful engraftment of these cells requires conditioning of the recipient prior to transplantation. This is accomplished by subjecting the recipient to systemic radiation, or chemotherapy, or a combination of radiation and chemotherapy. This treatment kills bone marrow cells, including stem cells, and open spaces for transplanted stem cells to engraft. However, current conditioning regimens used to ensure successful engraftment are associated with immune deficiency, multi-organ toxicity, secondary malignancies, and increased risk of death.

The current invention provides a method for successful transplantation by enhancing radiation or chemotherapy potentiated engraftment at doses which are much smaller than those used in current practice. The mechanism of this process relates, in part, to the ability of cytokines to upregulate receptors necessary for homing of transplanted hematopoietic stem cells. Thus, successful transplantation can be performed with minimal conditioning-related morbidity. (portfolio: Cancer—Therapeutics, biological response modifiers, growth factors; Infectious Diseases—Miscellaneous; Internal Medicine—Miscellaneous)

Depigmenting Activity of Agouti Signal Protein and Peptides Thereof

VJ Hearing (NCIA)
Filed 23 Jun 95
DHHS Reference No. E–165–95/0

Pigmentation is controlled at many levels in mammals. One important regulatory protein known to be physiologically active is the Agouti signal protein (ASP), which has depigmenting activity. This invention provides biologically active peptides of ASP and a method of using ASP and its peptides to inhibit melanin synthesis by down regulating the melanogenic enzymes involved in melanin synthesis. Using a method also provided in this invention, ASP and its peptides can be used to treat hyperpigmentary conditions, such as melasma photoaging spots, solar keratosis, and hyperpigmentation at wound healing sites. ASP and its peptides are also useful for cosmetic purposes. These compounds may potentially be used for other therapeutics in the prevention or treatment of damaged skin. The invention also gives a pharmaceutical composition of ASP or its peptides and a screening method for ASP peptides. Issuance of a patent for this invention is currently pending. (portfolio: Internal Medicine—Therapeutics, skin disorders, other)

Selective Elimination of T-Cells That Recognize Specific Preselected Targets

A Rosenberg (FDA)

Filed 30 Aug 95

DHHS Reference No. E–116–95/0

The invention relates to methods and compositions for the elimination of T cells that recognize specific preselected targets which can be used to treat autoimmune diseases and graft rejection.

The invention provides a method for selectively inhibiting or killing T cells that recognize a specific preselected target molecule and also for modified killer cells that bear a signal transduction molecule to which is attached the preselected target molecule. Recognition of the preselected molecule by a T-cell activates the killer cell which then kills or inhibits the T cell. Where the preselected molecule is an extracellular domain of an MHC from a xenograft or an allograft, treatment of the graft recipient with the modified killer T-cells delays or inhibits graft rejection. Similarly, where the preselected molecule is an MHC that binds the antigenic determinant of the autoimmune disease, treatment of the organism with the modified T-cells mitigates the autoimmune response directed against that antigenic determinant. (portfolio: Internal Medicine—Miscellaneous; Internal Medicine—Therapeutics, anti-inflammatory)

Dated: July 16, 1996.

Barbara M. McGarey,

Deputy Director, Office of Technology Transfer.

[FR Doc. 96–18970 Filed 7–25–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–M

National Cancer Institute; Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to Pub. L. 92–463, notice is hereby given of the meeting of the National Cancer Institute Board of Scientific Advisors on August 7–8, 1996. Except as noted below, the meeting of the Board will be open to the public to discuss issues relating to committee business as indicated in the notice. Attendance by the public will be limited to space available.

A portion of the Board meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in secs. 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5, U.S.C., and sec. 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2) for the review, discussion and evaluation of a site visit report and programs and projects. The review and discussions could reveal confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material and personal information concerning individuals, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

The Committee Management Office, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, Executive Plaza North, Room 630E, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland 20892 (301/496–5708), will provide summaries of the meetings and rosters of the Board members, upon request.

Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should contact Ms. Carole Frank, Committee Management Specialist, at 301/496–5708 in advance of the meeting.

Name of Committee: Board of Scientific Advisors.

Contact Person: Dr. Paulette S. Gray, Executive Secretary, National Cancer Institute, NIH, Executive Plaza North, Room 600C, 6130 Executive Boulevard, Bethesda, MD 20892–7405; (301) 496–4218.

Dates of Meeting: August 7–8, 1996.

Place of Meeting: Conference Room 10, Building 31C, National Institutes of Health, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Open: August 7–8:30 am to 4:45 pm.

Agenda: The Director's Report on the National Cancer Institute; New Business; Discuss the NCI Budget; Status of Program Review Groups; Discussion of Managed Care.

Closed: August 7–4:45 pm to 5 pm.

Agenda: For Review of a Site Visit Report and the Discussion of Administrative Confidential Matters that Pertain to the Board of Scientific Advisors.

Open: August 8–8 am to 12 pm.

Agenda: To Discuss Requests for Applications and Contract Concepts; Status Report on the Howard Temin Award; Program Review.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the urgent need to proceed with the meeting as scheduled to address these issues in a timely manner.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Numbers: 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)

Dated: July 18, 1996.

Margery G. Grubb,

Senior Committee Management Specialist, NIH.

[FR Doc. 96–18971 Filed 7–25–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–M

National Institute of Mental Health; 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 of the National Institute of Mental Health Special Emphasis Panel:

Agenda/Purpose: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Committee Name: National Institute of Mental Health Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: July 23, 1996.

Time: 11 a.m.

Place: Parklawn Building, Room 9–101, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

Contact Person: William H. Radcliffe, Parklawn Building, Room 9–101, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857, Telephone: 301, 443–3936.

Committee Name: National Institute of Mental Health Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: July 24, 1996.

Time: 2 p.m.

Place: Parklawn Building, Room 9–101, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

Contact Person: William H. Radcliffe, Parklawn Building, Room 9–101, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857, Telephone: 301, 443–3936.

Committee Name: National Institute of Mental Health Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: July 30, 1996.

Time: 11 a.m.

Place: Parklawn Building, Room 9C–18, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

Contact Person: W. Gregory Zimmerman, Parklawn Building, Room 9C–18, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857, Telephone: 301, 443–1340.

Committee Name: National Institute of Mental Health Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: August 5, 1996.

Time: 4 p.m.

Place: Parklawn Building, Room 9C–26, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

Contact Person: Lawrence E. Chaitkin, Parklawn Building, Room 9C–26, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857, Telephone: 301, 443–4843.

Committee Name: National Institute of Mental Health Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: August 5, 1996.

Time: 4 p.m.

Place: Parklawn Building, Room 9–101, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

Contact Person: Maureen L. Eister, Parklawn Building, Room 9–101, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857, Telephone: 301, 443–3936.

Committee Name: National Institute of Mental Health Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: August 7, 1996.

Time: 2 p.m.

Place: Parklawn Building, Room 9–101, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

Contact Person: Donna Ricketts, Parklawn Building, Room 9–101, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857, Telephone: 301, 443–3936.

Committee Name: National Institute of Mental Health Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: August 15, 1996.

Time: 11 a.m.

Place: Parklawn Building, Room 9C–18, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

Contact Person: W. Gregory Zimmerman, Parklawn Building, Room 9C–18, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857, Telephone: 301, 443–1340.

The meetings will be closed in accordance with the provisions set forth in secs. 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C. Applications and/or proposals and the discussions could reveal confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material and personal information concerning individuals associated with the applications and/or proposals, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

This notice is being published less than fifteen days prior to the meetings due to the urgent need to meet timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Numbers 93.242, 93.281, 93.282)

Dated: July 18, 1996.

Margery G. Grubb,

Senior Committee Management Specialist, NIH.

[FR Doc. 96–18968 Filed 7–25–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–M

National Institute of General Medical Sciences; 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:

Committee Name: National Institute of General Medical Sciences Special Emphasis Panel.

Date ; July 25, 1996.

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Place: 45 Center Drive, Room 1AS–13H, Bethesda, Maryland 20892–6200, (Teleconference).

Contact Person: Arthur Zachary, Ph.D., Scientific Review Administrator, NIGMS, 45 Center Drive, Room 1AS–13H, bethesda, MD 20892–6200.