

Date: November 10–11, 1998.

Time: 8:30 AM To 5:00 PM.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Holiday Inn Chevy Chase, 5520 Wisconsin Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD 20815.

Contact Person: Mary Clare Walker, PHD, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 5104, MSC 7852, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435–1165.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel, ZRZ–AARR–03(01).

Date: November 10, 1998.

Time: 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Double Tree Hotel, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852.

Contact Person: Mohindar Poonian, PHD, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 5110, MSC 7852, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435–1168.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel ZRG–1 AARR–2–(02).

Date: November 11, 1998.

Time: 7:30 PM to 10:00 PM.

Place: Hyatt Regency Bethesda, One Bethesda Metro Center, Bethesda, MD 20814.

Contact Person: Sami A. Mayyasi, PHD, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6710 Rockledge Drive, Room 5112, MSC 7852, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435–1169.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.306, Comparative Medicine, 93.306; 93.333, Clinical Research, 93.333, 93.337, 93.393–93.396, 93.837–93.844, 93.846–93.878, 93.892, 93.893, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: October 26, 1998.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Committee Management Officer, NIH.

[FR Doc. 98–29071 Filed 10–29–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Prospective Grant of Exclusive License: Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) ENV-Coded Peptide Capable of Eliciting HIV-Inhibiting Antibodies in Mammals

AGENCY: National Institutes of Health, Public Health Service, DHHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This is notice in accordance with 15 U.S.C. 209(c)(1) and 37 CFR 404.7(a)(1)(i) that the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Health and Human Services, in contemplating

the grant of a limited field of use exclusive world-wide license to practice the invention embodied in U.S. Patent No. 5,562,905, issued October 8, 1996 (U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 07/324,027, filed March 20, 1989), entitled “Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) ENV-Coded Peptide Capable of Eliciting HIV-Inhibiting Antibodies in Mammals” and non-U.S. patent applications claiming priority to U.S. patent application SN 07/148,692 entitled “Synthetic Antigen Evoking Anti-HIV Response” to BioQuest, Inc. of Houston, Texas, U.S.A. These patent rights are either assigned or exclusively licensed to the United States of America.

DATES: Only written comments and/or application for a license which are received by the NIH Office of Technology Transfer on or before January 28, 1999 will be considered.

ADDRESSES: Requests for a copy of this issued patent or applications, inquiries, comments, and other materials relating to the contemplated license should be directed to: Carol A. Salata, Technology Licensing Specialist, Office of Technology Transfer, National Institutes of Health, 6011 Executive Boulevard, Suite 325, Rockville, MD 20852–3804; Telephone: (301) 496–7735 ext 232; Facsimile: (301) 402–0220; E-Mail: salatac@OD.NIH.GOV.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The patent describes the use of a chemically synthesized 15 amino acid peptide, designated peptide 1–69, which has the sequence of amino acids numbers 308 to 322 of the human immunodeficiency virus-1 (HIV–1) IIIB env-coded protein to immunize animals against HIV. Peptide 1–69 elicited antibodies in animals that block HIV proliferation and block HIV-induced cell fusion in cell culture.

It is anticipated that this license may be limited to the field of treatment or prevention of HIV using a specific 15 amino acid peptide (RIQRGPGRAFTIGK).

The prospective exclusive license will be royalty-bearing and will comply with the terms and conditions of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7. This prospective exclusive license may be granted unless within 90 days from the date of this published notice, NIH 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 404.7.

Applications for a license filed in response to this notice will be treated as objections to the grant of the contemplated license. Comments and objections submitted in response to this notice will not be made available for

public inspection, and, to the extent permitted by law will not be released under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552.

Dated: October 21, 1998.

Jack Spiegel,

Director, Division of Technology, Development and Transfer, Office of Technology Transfer.

[FR Doc. 98–29073 Filed 10–29–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, NIH; National Toxicology Program

Notice of workshop on “Scientific Issues Relevant to Assessment of Health Effects from Exposure to Methylmercury”, November 18–20, 1998, at the Brownstone Hotel in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Background

At the request of the White House Office of Science and Technology an interagency committee has organized the subject workshop to discuss and evaluate the major epidemiological studies associating methylmercury exposure with an array of developmental measures in children. The organizing committee is chaired by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, National Institutes of Health, with representatives from the Environmental Protection Agency, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, the Food and Drug Administration, the Department of Health and Human Services, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Office of Science and Technology Policy, and the Office of Management and Budget.

The major studies being considered at the workshop are those which have examined populations in Iraq and the Seychelles, the Faeroe Islands, and the Amazon, along with the most relevant animal studies for estimating human risks. Workshop participants will try to reach consensus on what we can conclude and what the uncertainties are for each of the studies alone and for the studies taken together. The product of the workshop should be policy relevant and facilitate agreement on risk assessment issues.

Workshop Agenda

Scientists involved in the major studies will present and discuss their

studies. To help structure the workshop the following questions have been developed by the organizing committee and will be discussed with respect to each study:

1. For each study, what are the relative exposures to organic or inorganic mercury?
2. What are the sources of exposure? Is the consumption of fish, shellfish and marine mammals the dominant source? Are dental amalgams, occupational exposures or other sources significant confounders?

3. What is the specificity and sensitivity of health endpoints, e.g., behavioral, neurological, and developmental? What are the most specific and sensitive tests of these endpoints? How are these tests impacted by cultural or behavioral practices?

4. Are the developmental tests used comparable across different studies? Across species?

5. What are the confounders that affect health endpoints positively (e.g., selenium, omega-3 fatty acids) and negatively (e.g., PCBs; alcohol use; health conditions with neurological effects, such as diabetes)? Do they influence the interpretation of the study.

6. What is the variability within and across populations studied in mercury exposure and host factors (e.g., age, gender, nutritional status and practices, and genetic predisposition)?

7. For each epidemiological study of interest, which features of its statistical design, research protocol or execution in the field are particularly strong or weak? To what extent do these strengths and weaknesses affect the validity and reliability of scientific inferences based on these studies?

8. What are the contributions of animal or experimental studies toward interpretation of the human studies?

Organized panels will assess the presentations with respect to the questions above. A panel on exposure will assess and develop a report on questions 1 & 2; a neurobehavioral panel will assess and develop a report on questions 3 & 4; a panel on confounders and variables will address 5 & 6; and a panel on design/statistics will assess and report on question 7; question 8 will be addressed by the experimental panel.

Invited workshop participants will include scientists involved in the major studies, epidemiologists, pediatric neuropsychiatrists, developmental biologists, toxicologists, biomathematicians, biomonitoring specialists and scientists who are skilled at integrating diverse data sets, as well as representatives from Federal and

State agencies who are involved in assessing risks from methylmercury exposure.

A public comment session will provide the opportunity for additional views and comments. Oral presentations will be limited to 5 minutes in length to allow for a maximum number of presentations. Written statements should supplement and may expand on the oral presentation. Written comments may also be provided and should be submitted to the NTP Liaison & Scientific Review Office, NIEHS, P.O. Box 12233, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709 and must be received by November 9, 1998, to be transmitted to the workgroups prior to the workshop.

The Preliminary Schedule Follows

Wednesday, November 18, 1998

8:30 am–6:00 pm Presentation and Discussion of Each Epidemiology Study and a Presentation and Discussion of the major animal or experimental studies

Thursday, November 19, 1998

8:30 am–Noon Moderators will lead panel discussions addressing each of the 8 questions in the general session

1:00 pm–2:00 pm Public Comment Session

2:00 pm–6:00 pm Panels develop recommendations and conclusions in separate breakout groups

Friday, November 20, 1998

8:30 am–Noon Each panel will make a summary presentation on their assessment of the assigned questions

Noon Overview and Summary
1:00 pm Adjourn

Public Participation Encouraged

The general sessions and the breakout groups are open to the public and limited only by the space available. A public comment session is scheduled as described above. Oral and/or written comments are requested as discussed above.

Registration

To register, please provide the following information: to the Workshop on "Scientific Issues Relevant to Assessment of Health Effects from Exposure to Methylmercury".

"Scientific Issues Relevant to Assessment of Health Effects from Exposure to Methylmercury"

(Open to the public, limited only by space available)

Brownstone Hotel, Raleigh, NC,
November 18–20, 1998

(Please type or print clearly)

Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial
Institution		
Department		
Address	City	State
Zip Code		

Office Phone FAX Number Email Address

Please mail or fax your registration, no later than November 6, 1998 to:

NTP Liaison & Scientific Review Office,
NTP/NIEHS, P.O. Box 12233, MD:
A3–01, Research Triangle Park, NC
27709, fax: (919) 541–0295

I am interested in observing the following break-out group discussion: "Breakout" Panel Sessions: (Please mark first and second choices)

1. Exposure Panel _____
2. Neurobehavioral Endpoints Panel _____
3. Confounders & Variables Panel _____
4. Design/Statistics Panel _____
5. Experimental Panel _____

Public Comment Session:

I would like to make an oral presentation during the Public Comment Session _____ (limit to 5 minute oral presentation, written statements should supplement and may expand on the oral presentation)

A registration fee of \$50.00 (US) is requested. Credit cards cannot be accepted. Personal checks, cashier checks or money orders made payable to: *Methylmercury Workshop* should be included with your registration. For those faxing registration, please indicate the date the registration fee is being forwarded by mail.

Accommodations

Hotel reservations can be made directly with the Brownstone Hotel (919) 828–0811. A block of rooms is being held through October 30, 1998. Identify yourself as attending the NIEHS Methylmercury Workshop.

Dated: October 21, 1998.

Samuel H. Wilson, M.D.,

Deputy Director, NIEHS

[FR Doc. 98–29075 Filed 10–29–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR–4375–N–04]

Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of the President of Government National Mortgage Association (Ginnie Mae), HUD.

ACTION: Notice.