the function of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) evaluate 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) enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) 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.

Comments Due Date: Comments regarding this information collection are best assured of having their full effect if received on or before August 20, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request more information on the proposed project or to obtain a copy of the data collection plans and instruments, contact: Joseph T. Hughes, Jr., Director, Worker Education and Training Program, Division of Extramural Research and Training, NIEHS, P.O. Box 12233, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709 or call non-toll-free number (919) 541–0217 or E-mail your request, including your address to wetp@niehs.nih.gov.

Dated: June 7, 2001.

Francine Little,

NIEHS, Associate Director for Management.

[FR Doc. 01–15461 Filed 6–19–01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Government-Owned Inventions; Availability for Licensing: Conformationally Locked Nucleoside Analogs as Antiherpetic Agents

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The inventions listed below are owned by agencies 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 contacting Peter A. Soukas, J.D., at the Office of Technology Transfer, National Institutes of Health, 6011 Executive Boulevard, Suite 325, Rockville, Maryland 20852–3804; telephone: 301/496–7056 ext. 268; fax: 301/402–0220; e-mail: soukasp@od.nih.gov. A signed Confidential Disclosure Agreement will be required to receive copies of the patent applications.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: These inventions relate to therapeutics for Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV), a major public health threat. Results of a recent, nationally representative study show that genital herpes infection, caused by HSV–2, is common in the United States. Nationwide, 45 million people ages 12 and older, or one out of five of the total adolescent and adult population, is infected with HSV–2. Once infected with HSV, people remain infected for life. The inventors' research has shown that these compounds are significantly more potent than current therapeutics for HSV. Development of these inventions would provide a significant benefit to the public health in the form of potentially lower cost therapeutics based on the potency of the compounds.

Conformationally Locked Nucleoside Analogues

Victor E. Marquez, Juan B. Rodriguez, Marc C. Nicklaus, Joseph J. Barchi, Jr., Maqbool A. Siddiqui (NCI)

U.S. Patent 5,629,454 issued 13 May 1997; U.S. Patent 5,869,666 issued 9 Feb 1999; PCT/US94/10794 (issued as European Patent Number 0720604 and Australian Patent Number 677441)

and

Conformationally Locked Nucleoside Analogs as Antiherpetic Agents

Victor E. Marquez, Juan B. Rodriguez, Marc C. Nicklaus, Joseph J. Barchi, Jr., Maqbool A. Siddiqui (NCI)

U.S. Patent 5,840,728 issued 23 Nov 1998

The compounds of the present invention represent the first examples of carbocyclic dideoxynucleosides that in solution exist locked in a defined N-geometry (C3′-endo) conformation typical of conventional nucleosides. These analogues exhibit increased stability due to the substitution of carbon for oxygen in the ribose ring. The invention includes 4′-6′-cyclopropane fused carbocyclic dideoxynucleosides, 2′-deoxynucleosides and ribonucleosides as well as oligonucleotides derived from these analogues; the preferred embodiment of the invention is carbocyclic-4′-6′-cyclopropane-fused analogues of dideoxypurines, dideoxypyrimidines, deoxypurines, deoxypyrimidines, purine ribonucleosides and pyrimidine ribonucleosides. In addition, oligonucleotides derived from one or more of the nucleosides in combination with the naturally occurring nucleosides are within the scope of the present invention.

The second invention discloses a method for the treatment of herpes virus infections by the administration of cyclopropanated carbocyclic 2′-deoxynucleosides to an affected individual. This invention is a method of administration of the compounds described above. The compounds of this invention are particularly efficacious against herpes simplex viruses 1 and 2 (HSV–1 and HSV–2), Epstein-Barr Virus (EBV) and human cytomegalovirus (CMV), although the nucleoside analogues of the invention may be used to treat any condition caused by a herpes virus. Specifically, the N-methanocarba-T (Thymidine) analogue has been shown to exhibit strong activity against HSV–1 and HSV–2, and moderate to strong activity against EBV. Significantly, the anti-HSV activity of the Thymidine analogue is stronger than that of Acyclovir (shown in a plaque reduction assay), a widely used anti-HSV therapeutic. Furthermore, the Thymidine analogue is also non-toxic against stationary cells and is potent against rapidly dividing cells. Dosage amounts for the compounds are similar to those of Acyclovir.

Descriptions of these inventions may be found in Rodriguez et al., J. Medicinal Chemistry 37:3389–3399 (1994) and Marquez et al., J. Medicinal Chemistry 39:3739–3747 (1996).

5–Substituted Derivatives of Conformationally Locked Nucleoside Analogues

Victor Marquez, Pamela Russ (NCI)

DHHS Reference No. E–249–00/0, U.S. S/N 60/220,934 filed 26 Jul 2000

This invention relates to 5-substituted derivatives of conformationally locked nucleoside analogues and methods of using these derivatives as antiviral and anticancer agents. The compounds contemplated by the invention are nucleoside analogues where the 5-substituent is a halogen, alkyl, alkene, halovinyl or alkyne group, and the nucleotide base is cytosine or uracil. The analogues are particularly effective in treating viral infections, specifically infections of DNA viruses such as Herpes simplex virus (HSV), Varicella zoster virus (VSV), Epstein Barr virus (EBV), and Cytomegalovirus (CMV) as well as members of the Poxviridae family. The inventors have

demonstrated in plaque reduction assays that 5-substituted uracils (bromo, iodo, and bromovinyl) attached to a bicyclo[3.1.0]hexane template are thirty times more potent than acyclovir against HSV–1 and HSV–2.

Dated: June 11, 2001.

Jack Spiegel,

Director, Division of Technology Development and Transfer, Office of Technology Transfer, National Institutes of Health.

[FR Doc. 01–15459 Filed 6–19–01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Government-Owned Inventions; Availability for Licensing: Cloned Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) Genomes, Chimeras, and Derivatives Thereof

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The inventions listed below are owned by agencies 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 contacting Peter A. Soukas, J.D., at the Office of Technology Transfer, National Institutes of Health, 6011 Executive Boulevard, Suite 325, Rockville, Maryland 20852–3804; telephone: 301/496–7056 ext. 268; fax: 301/402–0220; e-mail: soukasp@od.nih.gov. A signed Confidential Disclosure Agreement will be required to receive copies of the patent applications.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Hepatitis C virus (HCV) is a single stranded RNA virus responsible for the majority of non-A non-B hepatitis. Hepatitis C virus (HCV) has a worldwide distribution and is a major cause of liver cirrhosis and hepatocellular carcinoma in the U.S., Europe, and Japan. For this reason, development of a vaccine against hepatitis C is of great importance. The present inventions claim full-length sequences of HCV, HCV chimeras and HCV derivatives, and methods for using these full-length sequences for a variety of therapeutic and diagnostic applications, including vaccines.

Cloned Genomes of Infectious Hepatitis C Virus and Uses Thereof

Masayuki Yanagi, Jens Bukh, Suzanne U. Emerson, Robert H. Purcell (NIAID)
Serial No. 09/014,416 filed 27 Jan 1998, issued as U.S. Patent 6,153,421 on 28 Nov 2000; Serial No. 09/662,454 filed 14 Sep 2000; Canadian Application 2295552; Australian Application 84889/98; European Application 98935702.5

The current invention provides nucleic acid sequences comprising the genomes of infectious hepatitis C viruses (HCV) of genotype 1a and 1b. It covers the use of these sequences, and polypeptides encoded by all or part of the sequences, in the development of vaccines and diagnostic assays for HCV and the development of screening assays for the identification of antiviral agents for HCV. Additional information can be found in Yanagi et al., (1997) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., USA 94, 8738–8743 and Yanagi et al. (1998) Virology 244, 151–172.

Cloned Genome of Infectious Hepatitis C Virus of Genotype 2a and Uses Thereof

Jens Bukh, Masayuki Yanagi, Robert H. Purcell, Suzanne U. Emerson (NIAID)
DHHS Reference No. E–100–99/0, U.S. S/N 60/137,693 filed 04 Jun 1999; DHHS Reference No. E–100–99/1, PCT/US00/15466 filed 02 Jun 2000

The current invention provides a nucleic acid sequence comprising the genome of infectious hepatitis C viruses (HCV) of genotype 2a. The encoded polyprotein differs from those of the infectious clones of genotypes 1a and 1b (U.S. Patent 6,153,421) by approximately thirty (30) percent. It covers the use of this sequence and polypeptides encoded by all or part of the sequence, in the development of vaccines and diagnostic assays for HCV and the development of screening assays for the identification of antiviral agents for HCV. Additional information can be found in Yanagi et al. (1999), Virology 262, 250–263.

HCV/BVDV Chimeric Genomes and Uses Thereof

Jae-Hwan Nam, Jens Bukh, Robert H. Purcell, Suzanne U. Emerson (NIAID)
DHHS Reference No. E–102–99/0, U.S. S/N 60/137,817 filed 04 June 1999; DHHS Reference No. E–102–99/1, PCT/US00/15527 filed 02 Jun 2000

The current invention provides nucleic acid sequences comprising chimeric viral genome of hepatitis C Virus (HCV) and bovine viral diarrhea viruses (BVDV). The chimeric viruses are produced by replacing the structural region or a structural gene of an infectious BVDV clone with the corresponding region or gene of an infectious HCV. It covers the use of these sequences and polypeptides encoded by all or part of the sequences in the development of vaccines and diagnostic assays for HCV and the development of screening assays for the identification of antiviral agents for HCV.

Infectious cDNA Clone of GB Virus B and Uses Thereof

Jens Bukh, Masayuki Yanagi, Robert H. Purcell, Suzanne U. Emerson (NIAID)
DHHS Reference No. E–173–99/0, U.S. S/N 60/137,694 filed 04 Jun 1999; DHHS Reference No. E–173–99/1, PCT/US00/15293 filed 02 Jun 2000

The current invention provides nucleic acid sequences comprising the genomes of infectious GB virus B, the most closely related member of the Flaviviridae to hepatitis C virus (HCV). It also covers chimeric GBVB–HCV sequences and polypeptides for use in the development of vaccines and diagnostic assays for HCV and the development of screening assays for the identification of antiviral agents for HCV. Additional information can be found in Bukh et al. (1999), Virology 262, 470–478.

Dated: June 11, 2001.

Jack Spiegel,

Director, Division of Technology Development and Transfer, Office of Technology Transfer, National Institutes of Health.

[FR Doc. 01–15462 Filed 6–19–01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

White House Commission on Complementary and Alternative Medicine Policy; Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(a) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is given of a meeting of the White House Commission on Complementary and Alternative medicine Policy.

The purpose of this public meeting is to convene the Commission to discuss possible Federal policy regarding complementary and alternative medicine (CAM). The main focus of the meeting is the development and discussion of draft recommendations that may be included in the Interim and