

diagnostic pathologist or researcher views the thin tissue section through the glass slide on which it is mounted and chooses microscopic clusters of cells to study. When the cells of choice are in the center of the field of view, the operator pushes a button, which activates a near IR laser diode integral with the microscope optics. The pulsed laser beam activates a precise spot on the transfer film immediately above the cells of interest. At this precise location the film melts and fuses with the underlying cells of choice. When the film is removed, the chosen cell(s) are tightly held within the focally expanded polymer, while the rest of the tissue is left behind. This allows multiple homogeneous samples within the tissue section or cytological preparation to be targeted and pooled for extraction of molecules and analysis. This technology is available for licensing on a non-exclusive basis.

Dated: October 29, 2001.

**Jack Spiegel,**

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

[FR Doc. 01-27750 Filed 11-5-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### National Institutes of Health

#### Government-Owned Inventions; Availability for Licensing

**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 writing to the indicated licensing contact at the Office of Technology Transfer, National Institutes of Health, 6011 Executive Boulevard, Suite 325, Rockville, Maryland 20852-3804; telephone: 301/496-7057; fax: 301/402-0220. A signed Confidential Disclosure Agreement will

be required to receive copies of the patent applications.

#### Recombinant Proteins of the Swine Hepatitis E Virus and Their Uses as a Vaccine and Diagnostic Reagents for Medical and Veterinary Applications

Xiang-Jin Meng, Robert H. Purcell, Suzanne U. Emerson (NIAID)  
DHHS Reference No. E-304-98/0 filed May 7, 2001

*Licensing Contact:* Carol Salata; 301/496-7735 ext. 232; e-mail: [salatac@od.nih.gov](mailto:salatac@od.nih.gov)

This invention is based on the discovery of the swine hepatitis E virus (swine HEV), the first animal strain of HEV identified and characterized, and its ability to infect across species. The inventors have found that the swine HEV is widespread in the general pig population in the United States and other countries and that swine HEV can infect non-human primates. The inventors have amplified and sequenced the complete genome of swine HEV. The capsid gene (ORF2) of swine HEV has been cloned and expressed in a baculovirus expression system.

The possibility that swine HEV may infect humans raises a potential public health concern for zoonosis or xenozoonosis in the United States and perhaps other countries. Therefore, it is likely that a vaccine based on the recombinant capsid protein of swine HEV will protect humans against zoonotic, as well as other, HEV infections and pigs against infection with the swine HEV. Also, diagnostic reagents based on these recombinant proteins of swine HEV will be very useful in screening donor pigs used in xenotransplantation and in detecting swine HEV or similar virus infection in humans. The diagnostic reagents may also be useful for veterinary studies and monitoring pig herds in general.

#### Polymorphic Human GABA<sub>A</sub> Receptor $\alpha$ -6 Subunit

David Goldman, Nakao Iwata, Mark Shuckit (NIAAA)  
DHHS Reference No. E-061-98/0 filed February 19, 1999 and DHHS Reference No. E-061-98/1 filed February 18, 2000

*Licensing Contact:* Pradeep Ghosh; 301/496-7736 ext. 211; e-mail: [ghoshp@od.nih.gov](mailto:ghoshp@od.nih.gov)

Gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA) is a key inhibitory neurotransmitter in the mammalian central nervous system. Evidence indicates that GABA receptors are associated with various neuropsychiatric disorders. Currently, there are no reliable and sensitive markers on the market for the molecular diagnosis of alcoholism or anxiety

disorders, although both groups of disorders are thought to involve GABA function. Alcohol modulates GABA function and shows cross-tolerance with benzodiazepines. Anxiety disorders are treated with benzodiazepines. Also, there are no molecular predictors of interindividual variation in response to the commonly used benzodiazepine drugs [such as valium] which act through GABA<sub>A</sub> receptors. The  $\alpha$ -6 subunit of GABA<sub>A</sub> receptors is sensitive to alcohol and in a rat genetic model a genetic variant of the  $\alpha$ -6 subunit had been directly related to sensitivity to alcohol and benzodiazepine drugs. This invention pertains to a particular polymorphism in the human  $\alpha$ -6 subunit gene. This relatively common human sequence variant predicts sensitivity to both benzodiazepine drugs and ethanol. In children of alcoholics this substitution also correlates with susceptibility to alcoholism. Thus, this invention presents commercial opportunities both as a diagnostic screening tool in alcoholism, anxiety disorders and other neuropsychiatric diseases, and as a predictive tool for therapeutic and pathological responses to commonly administered benzodiazepine drugs.

Dated: October 29, 2001.

**Jack Spiegel,**

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

[FR Doc. 01-27751 Filed 11-5-01; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### National Institutes of Health

#### Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee; Notice of Meeting

The Children's Health Act of 2000 (Pub. L. 106-310), Title I, section 104, mandated the establishment of an Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee (IACC) to coordinate autism research and other efforts within the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). In April 2001, Secretary Tommy Thompson delegated the authority to establish the IACC to the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) at the NIH has been designated the lead for this activity.

The meeting will be open to the public, with attendance limited to space available. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other

reasonable accommodations, should notify the contact person listed below in advance of the meeting.

*Name of Committee:* Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee.

*Date:* November 19, 2001.

*Time:* 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

*Agenda:* Discussion of autism activities across Federal agencies.

*Place:* National Institutes of Health, 9000 Rockville Pike, Building 31, Conference Room 10 (6th floor), Bethesda, Maryland 20892.

*Contact Person:* Kimberly Hoagwood, Ph.D., Associate Director for Child and Adolescent Research, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH, 6001 Executive Boulevard, Room 7167, MSC 9630, Bethesda, Maryland 20892, Email: [kh32p@nih.gov](mailto:kh32p@nih.gov) Telephone: (301) 443-4627.

Any member of the public interested in presenting oral comments to the committee may notify the contact person listed on this notice at least 5 days in advance of the meeting. Interested individuals and representatives of organizations may submit a letter of intent, a brief description of the organization represented, and a short description of the oral presentation. Presentations may be limited to 5 minutes; both printed and electronic copies are requested for the record. In addition, any interested person may file written comments with the committee by forwarding his/her statement to the contact person listed on this notice. The statement should include the name, address, telephone number and, when applicable, the business or professional affiliation of the interested person.

Information is also available on the NIMH homepage at <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/events/interagencyautism.cfm>.

Dated: October 30, 2001.

**Yvonne Maddox,**

*Acting Deputy Director, National Institutes of Health.*

[FR Doc. 01-27752 Filed 11-5-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4140-01-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### National Institutes of Health

#### National Institute on Aging; 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.

The meetings will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant

applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

*Name of Committee:* National Institute on Aging Special Emphasis Panel.

*Date:* November 4-5, 2001.

*Time:* 5 p.m. to 8 a.m.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* Holiday Inn Select At University Center, 100 Lytton Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213.

*Contact Person:* William A. Kachadorian, The Bethesda Gateway Building, 7201 Wisconsin Avenue/Suite 2C212, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 496-9666.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

*Name of Committee:* National Institute on Aging Special Emphasis Panel.

*Date:* November 5-6, 2001.

*Time:* 7 p.m. to 3 p.m.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* Bethesda Marriott, 5151 Pooks Hill Road, Bethesda, MD 20892.

*Contact Person:* Ramesh Vemuri, Health Scientific Administrator, Office of Scientific Review, National Institute on Aging, The Bethesda Gateway Building, 7201 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 2C212, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 496-9666

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

*Name of Committee:* National Institute on Aging Special Emphasis Panel.

*Date:* November 27-28, 2001.

*Time:* 6 p.m. to 5 p.m.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* Empress Hotel, 7766 Fay Avenue, LaJolla, CA 92037.

*Contact Person:* James P. Harwood, Deputy Chief, Scientific Review Office, The Bethesda Gateway Building, 7201 Wisconsin Avenue/Suite 2C212, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 496-9666.

*Name of Committee:* National Institute on Aging Special Emphasis Panel; Reactive Oxygen Species; Stress and Damage in Old Muscle.

*Date:* November 28-29, 2001.

*Time:* 6 p.m. to 5 p.m.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* Courtyard by Marriott, 3205 Boardwalk St., Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2007.

*Contact Person:* Alicja L. Markowska, Scientific Review Office, Gateway Building/Suite 2C212, 7201 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20817.

*Name of Committee:* National Institute on Aging Special Emphasis Panel.

*Date:* December 3-4, 2001.

*Time:* 7 p.m. to 5 p.m.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* InnTownner the Best Western, 2424 University Ave., Madison, WI 53705.

*Contact Person:* Louise L. Hsu, Scientific Review Administrator, The Bethesda

Gateway Building, 7201 Wisconsin Avenue/Suite 2C212, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 496-9666.

*Name of Committee:* National Institute on Aging Special Emphasis Panel.

*Date:* December 3, 2001.

*Time:* 12:15 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* 7201 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20892 (Telephone Conference Call).

*Contact Person:* Jeffrey M. Chernak, Scientific Review Administrator, The Bethesda Gateway Building, 7201 Wisconsin Avenue/Suite 2C212, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 496-9666.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.866, Aging Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: October 28, 2001.

**LaVerne Y. Stringfield,**

*Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.*

[FR Doc. 01-27745 Filed 11-5-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4140-01-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### National Institutes of Health

#### National Institute of Child Health and Human Development; 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.

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

*Name of Committee:* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development Special Emphasis Panel.

*Date:* November 19, 2001.

*Time:* 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* 6100 Executive Blvd. 5th Floor, Rockville, MD 20852 (Telephone Conference Call).

*Contact Person:* Jon M. Ranhand, Scientist Review Administrator, Division of Scientific Review, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, NIH, 6100 Executive Blvd., Room 5E03, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-6884.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing