underserved, and if it is local, regional, or national (for guidance, see characteristics of the COPR and minimum eligibility requirements above).

2. Brief comments relevant to *each* of the 7 criteria cited above under A. 1–7. All 7 criteria should be addressed in no more than 3 pages.

3. Two letters of recommendation from individuals familiar with the nominee (these individuals may be contacted during the selection process).

4. A statement of assurance that, if selected, the individual will: (a) agree to participate fully in activities of the COPR, and (b) subordinate individual disease-specific or program-specific interests to broader, cross-cutting matters of importance to the NIH and its commitment to public representation.

5. *If the nomination is from a third party*, verification that the individual nominated is cognizant that he or she is being nominated and wishes to be considered for membership on the COPR.

The items noted above in ''Nomination Process'' (1–5) should be mailed to: Palladian Partners, Inc., Call for Nominations (COPR), 7315 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 440W, Bethesda, Maryland 20814. Nominations must be postmarked by the January 15, 1999, closing date. Incomplete or late nomination packages will not be considered. If you have any questions, please call the NIH Office of Communications [and Public Liaison] at the National Institutes of Health: (301) 496–4461.

Final selections will be made by the NIH Director. The schedule calls for contacting selected members in February 1999. The first COPR meeting is planned for late April 1999.

Dated: November 19, 1998.

Anne Thomas,

Associate Director for Communications, NIH.

[FR Doc. 98–31919 Filed 11–30–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases; Opportunity for a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) to Develop Eosinophil-Derived Neutralizing Agent (EDNA) to Treat Infections in Children and the Elderly Caused by Respiratory Syncytical Virus and Parainfluenza Virus

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is seeking capability statements from parties interested in entering into a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) to develop eosinophil-derived neutralizing agent (EDNA) for the treatment of infections in children and/or the elderly caused by respiratory syncytical virus (RSV) and parainfluenza virus (PIV). RSV and PIV are medically the most important single-stranded enveloped RNA viruses; infections caused by these viruses hospitalize over 100,000 infants per year in the U.S.

EDNA is the major eosinophil ribonuclease. Recombinant human EDNA is envisioned as an agent for direct inhalation therapy in patients with established RSV or PIV bronchiolitis, in those with a high index of suspicion, and as prophylactic therapy in children with predisposing conditions (prematurity, bronchopulmonary, dysplasia, congenital heart disease, and immunodeficiency).

Recombinant human EDNA has been produced in bacterial and baculovirus expression systems and is not toxic to respiratory epithelial cells. ENDA is a soluble and thermostable low molecular weight protein not requiring demanding conditions for storage or administration. *In vitro* experiments have shown it to have potent antiviral activity against RSV (Domachowske, JB et al. 1998. J. Infect. Dis. 177:1458–1464). Initial studies in the Balb/C mouse model of RSV infection support its effectiveness against this virus. This project is part of the study of ribonucleases and host defense in the Laboratory of Host Defenses (LHD), Division of Intramural Research, NIAID.

DATES: Only written capability statements received by the NIAID on or before March 1, 1999 will be considered.

ADDRESSES: Capability statements should be submitted to Dr. Michael R. Mowatt, Office of Technology Development, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, 31 Center Drive MSC 2137, Building 31, Room 3B62, Bethesda, MD 20892–2137; Tel: 301/496–2644, Fax: 301/402–7132; Electronic mail: mmowattanih.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the CRADA the production of biologically active recombinant human EDNA will be optimized and the agent evaluated in a series of preclinical studies in animals as well as initial safety testing in humans. Positive outcomes of these studies will indicate continued clinical development aimed at supporting regulatory approval of a product to be labeled for use in children and/or the elderly. The Public Health Service (PHS) has filed patent applications both in the U.S. and internationally related to this technology. Notice of the availability of the patent application for licensing was first published in the **Federal Register** (Vol. 62, No. 219, page 60909) on November 13, 1997.

NIAID's principal investigator has extensive experience with recombinant technology as applied to ribonucleases, their purification and testing. The Collaborator in this endeavor is expected to assist NIAID in evaluating its current system for producing recombinant EDNA and to develop and optimize an alternative expression system, if necessary, to manufacture sufficient quantities of the product for preclinical testing in animals and initial safety studies in humans. The Collaborator must have experience in the manufacture of recombinant protein products according to applicable FDA guidelines and Points to Consider documents to include Good Manufacturing Procedures (GMP). In addition, it is expected that the Collaborator would provide funds to supplement the LHD's research budget for the project and to support the preclinical and initial human testing.

The capability statement should include detailed descriptions of: (1) Collaborator's expertise in the expression of recombinant proteins, (2) Collaborator's ability to manufacture sufficient quantities of the product according to FDA guidelines and Points to Consider documents, (3) the technical expertise of the Collaborator's principal investigator and laboratory group in preclinical safety testing (e.g., expertise in *in vitro* and *in vivo* toxicity and

pharmacology studies) and initial human safety studies, and (4) Collaborator's ability to provide adequate funding to support preclinical and initial human safety studies required for marketing approval.

Dated: November 17, 1998.

Mark Rohrbaugh,

Director, Office of Technology Development, NIAID.

[FR Doc. 98–31920 Filed 11–30–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Center for Scientific Review; 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 section 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: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: November 30, 1998.

Time: 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: NIH, Rockledge 2, Bethesda, MD 20892 (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Richard Panniers, PHD, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 5148, 7842, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435–1741.

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: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: December 3, 1998.

Time: 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: NIH, Rockledge 2, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: William C. Branche, PHD, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 4182, MSC 7808, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435–1148.

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.

(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: November 25, 1998.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Committee Management Officer, NIH.

[FR Doc. 98–31926 Filed 11–30–98; 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 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 contract proposals and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the contract proposals, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Institute on Aging Special Emphasis Panel. A contract proposal concerning the use of 2-deoxyglucose as an anti-aging agent.

Date: December 11, 1998.

Time: 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM.

Agenda: To review and evaluate contract proposals.

Place: 7201 Wisconsin, Suite 502C, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Arthur D. Schaerdel, DVM, Scientific Review Administrator, 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.

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

Dated: November 24, 1998.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Committee Management Officer, NIH.

[FR Doc. 98–31921 Filed 11–30–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute of Mental Health; 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 Mental Health Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: December 9, 1998.

Time: 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Parklawn Building—Room 9C–26, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Mary Sue Krause, MEDS, Scientific Review Administrator, Division of Extramural Activities, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH, Parklawn Building, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 9C–26, Rockville, MD 20857, 301–443–6470.

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.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.242, Mental Health Research Grants; 93.281, Scientist Development Award, Scientist Development Award for Clinicians, and Research Scientist Award; 93.282, Mental Health National Research Service Awards for Research Training, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: November 24, 1998.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Committee Management Officer, NIH.

[FR Doc. 98–31922 Filed 11–30–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–M