are to determine the number and nature of information requests about dietary supplements received by major nutrition, medical, health and botanical organizations in the United States, and to assess their interest in a centralized information center to deal with information requests pertaining to dietary supplements. *Frequency of Response:* One time. *Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions, and Federal Government. *Type of Respondents:* Organizations. The annual reporting burden is as follows: *Estimated Number of Respondents:* 180. *Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:* 1. *Average Burden Hours Per Response:* 25. *Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours Requested:* 45. *The annualized cost to respondents is estimated at:* $1800. There are no Capital Costs to report. There are no Operating or Maintenance Costs to report.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the function of the agency, including whether the information will have practical ability; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to 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.

Direct Comments to OMB

Written comments and\or suggestions regarding the item(s) contained in this notice, especially regarding the estimated public burden and associated response time, should be directed to the: Office of Management and Budget, Office of Regulatory Affairs, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, D.C. 20503, Attention: Desk Officer for NIH.

Dated: December 18, 1997.

Bernadette M. Marriott,

Director, Office of Dietary Supplements.

[FR Doc. 98–457 Filed 1–7–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (DHHS)

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

National Library of Medicine (NLM); Opportunity for a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement for Development and Commercialization of Computer Software for Data Mining, Data Warehousing and Data Visualization

AGENCY: Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications, NLM, NIH, DHHS.

ACTION: Advertisement.

SUMMARY: The Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications (LHNCBC), an R&D division of the National Library of Medicine (NLM), seeks a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) with a commercial software developer experienced in developing and marketing sophisticated information systems products. A collaborator is sought with an established presence in the field of statistical or machine learning technology-based information systems for management of medical practice, medical administration, drug design, fraud detection, criminal investigation, market analysis or other high volume applications which utilize large, complex data bases. Firms interested in collaborating on new approaches to data mining, data visualization and data warehousing are particularly encouraged to inquire.

The collaborator must have experience developing cutting-edge computer-based technology into commercial software application products. A record of success in software development, marketing, installation and support is required.

The term of the CRADA will be up to five (5) years.

DATES: Interested parties should notify this office in writing of their interest in filing a formal proposal no later than ninety (90) days from the date of this announcement, and then will have an additional thirty (30) days to submit a formal proposal.

ADDRESSES: Inquiries and proposals regarding this opportunity should be addressed to Irma Robins, M.B.A., J.D. Phone (301) 435–3104, FAX (301) 402–2117, Technology Development and Commercialization Branch, National Cancer Institute, 6120 Executive Blvd., Suite 450, Rockville, MD 20852. Inquiries regarding obtaining patent license(s) needed for participation in the CRADA opportunity may be addressed to John Fahner-Vihtelic, Office of Technology Transfer, National Institutes of Health, 6011 Executive Blvd., Suite 325, Rockville, MD 20852, Phone (301) 496–7735 (ext. 285); FAX: (301) 402–0220.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A CRADA is the anticipated joint agreement to be entered into by LHNCBC pursuant to the Federal Technology Transfer Act of 1986 as amended by the National Technology Transfer Act (Pub. L. 104–113 (Mar. 7, 1996)) and by Executive Order 12591 of April 10, 1987. The Computer Science Branch, LHNCBC, NLM, has developed COEV, a unique prototype of an advanced framework for multidimensional data mining and analysis. COEV synergistically combines different methods of statistical analysis, neural networks, decision trees and genetic algorithms to the resolution of data queries. COEV automatically determines the optimal methods and data representations to apply at each step of inquiry and, as a result, can provide outcomes that are significantly more accurate than can be achieved by use of any one methodology alone. COEV uses an evolutionary learning technology to improve predictive outcomes with continued use. COEV is designed to advance the accuracy, flexibility, speed and ease of use of advanced data analysis technologies. COEV is the subject of pending United States and foreign patent applications filed by the Government.

COEV requires further R&D and testing to make it a practical system for widespread use. LHNCBC, NLM seeks a CRADA to leverage the capabilities of the technical experts at LHNCBC, NLM and the expertise and resources of a private sector collaborator in order to enhance the prototype's reliability, efficiency and ease of use, and thereby to make it a successful commercial product. Under a CRADA, the LHNCBC, NLM can offer a selected collaborator access to designs, prototypes and technical expertise. The collaborator may contribute designs, prototypes, data, technical expertise, personnel, services and property. The collaborator has the option of contributing funding to the collaboration. The LHNCBC cannot contribute funding. The CRADA partner may elect an option to an exclusive or non-exclusive license to Government intellectual property rights arising under the agreement and may qualify as a co-inventor of new technology developed under the CRADA.

COEV currently runs in a UNIX operating system environment. It is written in common LISP and utilizes a

web http user interface. COEV interfaces with flat data file databases.

Under the present proposal, the goal of the CRADA will be:

- Improve portability to other operating system environments.
- Provide interactivity with a variety of database structures.
- Design and implement functions for data cleaning.
- Identify target concepts for machine learning.
- Expand and improve user interfaces.
- Design and execute all components of a commercial COEV product.
- Prepare and execute COEV marketing plan.

Party Contributions

The role of the LHNCBC in the collaboration will include:

(1) Provide Collaborator with the COEV prototype system design and code and with all available information necessary for further development of the COEV system.

(2) Provide COEV developer expertise and LHNCBC, NLM expertise in advanced machine learning systems engineering and in computer applications to chemical informatics, molecular biology and pharmaceutical chemistry.

(3) Provide ongoing input to and evaluation of collaborator project designs and work product.

The role of the Collaborator in the collaboration will include:

(1) Provide expertise, staff, work space, equipment and materials for COEV product development tasks to include project management, design, coding, technical and user testing and technical and user documentation development.

(2) Provide expertise, staff, work space, equipment and materials for COEV product marketing tasks to include marketing management, market analysis, product design advice, product packaging, promotion and sales, distribution and technical and user client support.

(3) Provide funding, if and as necessary, for COEV product development and COEV marketing tasks as described above.

Selection Criteria

Proposals submitted for consideration should address each of the following qualifications.

(1) Expertise

A. Demonstrated expertise in translating highly sophisticated statistical or machine learning technology prototypes into successful commercial products.

B. Demonstrated expertise in data mining, data warehousing and data visualization technology, preferably as related to the fields of biomedical science, medical care or public health.

C. Demonstrated intellectual abilities; able to understand and transform cutting-edge computer-based technology into commercial applications.

D. Demonstrated expertise in project design, project management and development of successful commercial software products.

E. Demonstrated ability to market sophisticated software products in national and international markets.

F. Demonstrated expertise and established resources for serving and supporting a substantial national and international client base.

(2) Reputation

The successful Collaborator must be recognized in the software industry for:

A. Producing, marketing and supporting software for data mining, data warehousing, data visualization or related applications;

B. High levels of satisfaction among end-users and client technical support staffs for both product performance and product support;

C; Success in the marketplace with an established range of successful software products and services.

(3) Physical Resources

A. Established headquarters with sufficient offices, space and equipment to support a level of effort as defined in the CRADA with LHNCBC.

B. Ability to communicate and collaborate by telephone, mail, e-mail, Internet, and other evolving technologies.

C. Sufficient financial and technical resources to support a level of effort as defined in the CRADA with LHNCBC.

Dated: December 23, 1997.

Kathleen Sybert,

Acting Director, Office of Technology Development, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health.

[FR Doc. 98–460 Filed 1–7–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Government-Owned Inventions; Availability for Licensing

AGENCY: National Institutes of Health, HHS.

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.

Hexadecasaccharide-Protein Conjugate Vaccine for Shigella Dysenteria Type 1

V Pozsgay, JB Robbins, R Schneerson (NICHD)

Serial No. 60/052,869 filed 17 Jul 97

Licensing Contact: Robert Benson, 301/496–7056, ext. 267.

This invention is a conjugate vaccine to prevent infection by *Shigella dysenteria* type 1, a human pathogen which causes endemic and epidemic dysentery worldwide. The conjugate is the first one in which the polysaccharide antigen has been chemically synthesized and thus has a known structure. The polysaccharide has a structure resembling the O-specific polysaccharide portion of the lipopolysaccharide of *Shigella dysenteria* type 1. It is expected that the purity of the polysaccharide will lead to lessened side effects and greater immunogenicity. Mice immunized with the conjugate of the invention produced antibodies reactive with the O-specific polysaccharide isolated from *Shigella dysenteria* type 1. Synthesis of the hexadecasaccharide is described in the *Journal of the American Chemical Society*, June 28, 1995, pp. 6673–6681.

Cloning of a Gene Mutation for Parkinson's Disease

MH Polymeropoulos, C Lavedan (NHGRI)

Serial No. 60/050, 684 filed 25 June 97

Licensing Contact: Stephen Finley, 301/496–7056 ext. 215.

Parkinson's Disease (PD) affects between 500,000 to one million persons in the United States alone. The disease is most common in persons over the age