in normal human myeloid lineage cells and is believed to play a role in allowing lymphocytes to differentiate properly. It is believed that the gene may play a role in human prostate cancer, multiple myeloma, B-cell chronic lymphocytic leukemia and other types of cancer and can be used diagnostically as well as in therapeutic screening activities.

Tyrosyl-DNA Phosphodiesterases (TDP) and Related Polypeptides, Nucleic Acids, Vectors, TDP-Producing Host Cell, Antibodies and Methods of Use

Jeffrey J. Pouliot and Howard A. Nash (NIMH),
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/110,176 filed 05 Apr 2002 (DHHS Reference No. E–281–1999/0–US–03), claiming priority to U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/157,690 filed 05 Oct 1999 (DHHS Reference No. E–281–1999/0–US–01),
Licensing Contact: John Stansberry; (301) 451–7337; *stansbej@mail.nih.gov.*

Topisomerases are cellular enzymes that are vital for replication of the genome. However, if topisomerase and DNA form covalent complexes that prevent the resealing of DNA, this may lead to cell death. Essentially, this invention consists of a new isolated and cloned enzyme, tyrosyl-DNA phospodiesterase (TDP1) that is capable of hydrolyzing the covalent complexes between topisomerase and DNA, allowing the DNA to reseal. The mechanism that defines topiosomerases is their capacity to break DNA and, after an interval in which topological changes may occur, to reseal the break without the intervention of a high-energy cofactor. The breakage of the DNA is accompanied by the formation of a covalent bond between topisomerase and DNA to create an intermediate that is resolved during the resealing step. However, if the resealing step fails, the covalent intermediates between topoisomerase I and DNA can form complexes that lead to cell death. The failure of the resealing is increased by some chemotherapies such as camptothecin. Thus, this technology has many potential commercial uses including: a method for screening camptothecin analogues or other compounds for their resistance to repair by this enzyme or to prescreen patients for their sensitivity to topoisomerase inhibitors, which could identify patients most likely to respond to camptothecin therapy. Further, this invention provides for a vector comprising of the nucleic acid molecule for TDP1 as well as the method of altering the level of TDP1 in a cell, a tissue, an organ or an organism. Finally, this invention consists of a method for identifying a compound that stabilizes a covalent bond complex that forms between DNA and topoisomerase I, wherein the covalent bond cannot be cleaved.

Chromatin Insulator Protecting Expressed Genes of Interest for Human Gene Therapy or Other Mammalian Transgenic Systems

Drs. Jay H. Chung and Gary Felsenfeld (NIDDK),
U.S. Patent 5,610,053 issued 11 Mar 1997 (DHHS Reference No. E–206–1992/1–US–01), Licensing Contact: John Stansberry; (301) 435–5236; *stansbej@mail.nih.gov.*

The technology provides the isolation of a functional DNA sequence comprising a chromatin insulating element from a vertebrate system and provides the first employment of the pure insulator element as a functional insulator in mammalian cells. The technology further relates to a method for insulating the expression of a gene from the activity of cis-acting regulatory sequences in eukaryotic chromatin.

This technology could be of major importance in providing a mechanism and a tool to restrict the action of cis-acting regulatory elements on genes whose activities or encoded products are needed or desired to be expressed in mammalian transgenic systems. This technology provides the first pure insulator element to function solely as an insulator element in human cells. Accordingly, this technology could have tremendous practical implications for transgenic technology and human gene therapies, either *in vitro* or *in vivo*.

The technology further provides a method and constructs for insulating the expression of a gene or genes in transgenic animals such that the transfected genes will be protected and stably expressed in the tissues of the transgenic animal or its offspring. For example, even if the DNA of the construct integrates into areas of silent chromatin in the genomic DNA of the host animal, the gene will continue to be expressed. The invention could provide a means of improving the stable integration and expression of any transgenic construct of interest, with efficiencies higher than are achieved presently. Use of this invention may represent a large potential savings for licensee's constructing transgenic cell lines or animals.

Dated: March 2, 2005.

Steven M. Ferguson,

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

[FR Doc. 05–4675 Filed 3–9–05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute of Dental & Craniofacial Research; 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 of Dental and Craniofacial Research Special Emphasis Panel, 05–59, Review F30s.
Date: March 30, 2005.
Time: 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.
Place: National Institutes of Health, Natcher Building, 45 Center Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892 (Telephone Conference Call).
Contact Person: Lynn M. King, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Scientific Review Branch, 45 Center Dr., Rm 4AN–38K, National Institute of Dental & Craniofacial Research, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD 20892–6402, (301) 594–5006.

Name of Committee: National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research Special Emphasis Panel, 05–55, Review of R21s.
Date: April 11, 2005.
Time: 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.
Place: National Institutes of Health, Natcher Building, 45 Center Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892 (Telephone Conference Call).
Contact Person: Rebecca Roper, MS, MPH, Scientific Review Administrator, Scientific Review Branch, Division of Extramural Research, National Inst of Dental & Craniofacial Research, National Institutes of Health, 45 Center Dr., room 4AN32E, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 451–5096.

Name of Committee: National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research Special Emphasis Panel, 05–56, Review R21s.

Date: April 22, 2005.

Time: 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Institutes of Health, Natcher Building, 45 Center Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892 (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Rebecca Roper, MS, MPH, Scientific Review Administrator, Scientific Review Branch, Division of Extramural Research, National Inst of Dental & Craniofacial Research, National Institutes of Health, 45 Center Dr., room 4AN32E, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 451–5096

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.121, Oral Diseases and Disorders Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: March 3, 2005.

Anna Snouffer,

Acting Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 05–4671 Filed 3–9–05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Toxicology Program (NTP); NTP Liaison and Scientific Review Office; Announcement of Availability of NTP Roadmap for the 21st Century and NTP Celebration of its History

AGENCY: National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS); National Institutes of Health (NIH), HHS.

ACTION: Announcement of availability of a document and a symposium.

SUMMARY: The National Toxicology Program (NTP) announces availability of the document, ''A National Toxicology Program for the 21st Century: A Roadmap for the Future,'' and invites attendance at the symposium, ''The National Toxicology Program: A Quarter Century of Toxicology for Public Health'' on May 10–11, 2005, at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, DC. This meeting will reflect on the history of the NTP and its impact on public health since its establishment in 1978 and unveil the NTP's plans and directions for the future.

DATES: The symposium will be held on May 10–11, 2005.

ADDRESSES: The symposium will be held at the National Academy of Sciences, 2100 C Street, NW., Washington, DC. Registration information and other details for the symposium are available on the NTP Web site (*http://ntp.niehs.nih.gov* select ''NTP 25 Years'') or by contacting Nan Cushing (*see* **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** below). The NTP Roadmap document is available electronically on the NTP Web site, (select ''NTP Vision & Roadmap'') or in printed text from the NTP Liaison and Scientific Review Office, P.O. Box 12233, MD A3–01, 111 TW Alexander Drive, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709 (mail); (919) 541–0530 (telephone); (919) 541–0530 (fax).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nan Cushing, NTP Liaison and Scientific Review Office, 919–541–0530 (telephone), *cushing1@niehs.nih.gov* (e-mail).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The NTP was established in 1978 to coordinate toxicological testing programs within the Department of Health and Human Services, develop and validate improved testing methods, develop approaches and generate data to strengthen scientific knowledge about potentially hazardous substances, and communicate with stakeholders. In its more than 25 years of existence, NTP has become a world leader in providing scientific information that improves our nation's ability to evaluate potential human health effects from chemical and physical exposures. The NTP maintains a number of complex, interrelated research and testing programs that provide unique and critical information needed by health regulatory and research agencies to protect public health. The NTP is hosting a symposium on May 10–11, 2005, to celebrate its leadership and contributions in protecting public health and present the NTP's roadmap for the 21st century.

NTP Roadmap for the Future

In August 2003, the NTP defined its vision for the 21st century and undertook a yearlong process to refine that vision and develop a roadmap for its implementation. The NTP Vision is to support the evolution of toxicology from a predominately observational science at the level of disease-specific models to a predominately predictive science focused upon a broad inclusion of target-specific, mechanism-based, biological observations. The NTP Roadmap described in the document, ''A National Toxicology Program for the 21st Century: A Roadmap for the Future,'' was developed with input from numerous groups including the NTP's Federal partners, its advisory committees, and the public. The NTP Roadmap identifies the challenges and opportunities confronting the program today and discusses the directions envisioned for the NTP in the 21st century in three main areas: (1) Refining traditional toxicology assays, (2) developing rapid, mechanism-based predictive screens for environmentally induced diseases, and (3) improving the overall utility of NTP products for public health decisions. Once implemented, it will strategically position the NTP at the forefront for providing scientific data and the interpretation of those data for public health decisionmaking. Presentation of the NTP's vision and roadmap will be a focus at the May symposium. The document is available electronically in PDF on the NTP Web site (*http://ntp.niehs.nih.gov* select ''NTP Vision and Roadmap'') or in printed text by contacting the NTP Liaison and Scientific Review Office (*see* **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** above).

Preliminary Agenda

The symposium begins each day at 9 a.m. and adjourns at 4:30 p.m. on May 10 and noon on May 11. The preliminary agenda topics are identified below.

May 10, 2005

- Welcome
- Implications of Health Policy and Health Legislation: Why Is the NTP Needed?
- Public Health in the 21st Century: NTP's Contributions and Challenges
- Invited Remarks
- NTP Goals: Their Importance to Public Health
  - —Coordination of Toxicology Testing
  - —Strengthening the Science Base in Toxicology
  - —Evolution of the NTP in Other Areas
  - —Partnerships and Communication
- Public Health Impact of the NTP
  - —Role of Safety Information on Agents with Environmental Exposure in Guiding Public Health Decisions
  - —Role of the Report on Carcinogens and the Center for the Evaluation of Risks to Human Reproduction in Guiding Public Health Decisions

May 11, 2005

- Welcome
- Toxicology's Role in Public Health Decisionmaking in the 21st Century
  - —Molecular Biology in Public Health Decisions
  - —Functional Genomics in Public Health Decisions
  - —Systems Biology in Public Health Decisions
- NTP in the 21st Century
- The Future of Environmental Health Research