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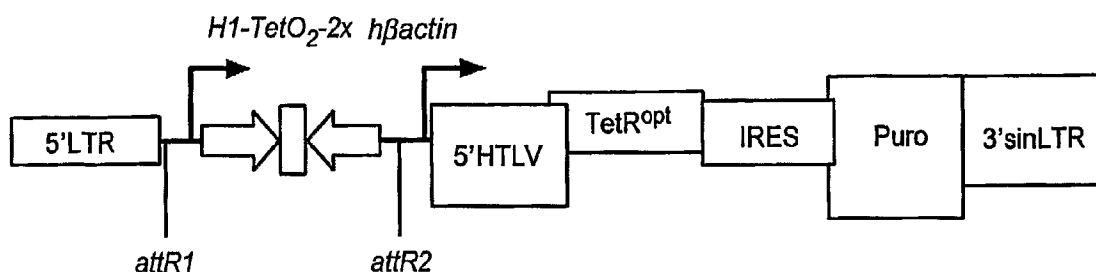
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14 June 2007

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: VECTORS FOR INDUCIBLE EXPRESSION OF HAIRPIN RNA AND USE THEREOF



(57) Abstract: This invention relates to vectors that permit regulated, inducible expression of a RNA coding sequence (encoding, for example, a shRNA or miRNA), and methods using these vectors. The vectors include a polynucleotide encoding the Tet repressor (TetR) protein and a promoter comprising one or more Tet operon (TetO) sequences. In another aspect, the invention relates to a codon-optimized TetR coding region, and vectors comprising this codon-optimized TetR coding region. In another aspect, the invention relates to a modified HI promoter comprising two tet operon sites, and vectors comprising this modified HI promoter. The invention further relates to methods for regulated gene knockdown in mammalian cells.



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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

C12N A01K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, EMBASE, BIOSIS, Sequence Search, WPI Data

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>WO 03/064665 A (OXFORD BIOMEDICA LTD [GB]; RADCLIFFE PHILIPPA [GB]; MISKIN JAMES E [GB] 7 August 2003 (2003-08-07)</p> <p>page 35, line 31 - page 39, line 23; figures 18-27; examples 18,22 page 100, line 11 - line 25 page 3, line 25 - page 4, line 18 page 20, line 13 - line 19 page 32, line 12 - line 19</p> <p style="text-align: center;">----- -/--</p>	<p>1-3, 6-8, 12, 16-30, 32-39, 54-59</p>

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

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- \*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
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International application No

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Information on patent family members

international application No

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