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(54) Title: ENHANCEMENT OF B CELL PROLIFERATION BY IL-15

(57) Abstract: Compositions and methods for modulating the growth, proliferation, and/or differentiation of B-cells in the germinal center are disclosed, and include use of IL-15 inhibitors, antagonists, and agonists. The compositions and methods find use in treating B-cell-related disorders, including neoplasms of the B-cell lineage.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/US2005/035672

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER				
INV. A61K39/00 A61K38/20				
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) A61K				
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)				
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT				
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.		
A	WO 01/74388 A (IDEC PHARMA CORP [US]) 11 October 2001 (2001-10-11) the whole document	1-25		
A	FEHNIGER T A ET AL: "Interleukin 15: biology and relevance to human disease" BLOOD, W.B.SAUNDERS COMPANY, ORLANDO, FL, US, vol. 97, no. 1, 1 January 2001 (2001-01-01), pages 14-32, XP002902996 ISSN: 0006-4971 page 25, column 1, paragraph 3 page 27, column 1, paragraph 2	1-25		
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.				
* Special categories of cited documents : <table style="width:100%; border:none;"> <tr> <td style="width:50%; border:none;"> *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed </td> <td style="width:50%; border:none;"> *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention *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 *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. *&* document member of the same patent family </td> </tr> </table>			*A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	*T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention *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 *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. *&* document member of the same patent family
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Date of the actual completion of the international search		Date of mailing of the international search report		
13 February 2007		21/02/2007		
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016		Authorized officer SCHWACHTGEN, J		

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/US2005/035672

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 97/41232 A (BETH ISRAEL HOSPITAL [US]) 6 November 1997 (1997-11-06) page 2, paragraph 1 - paragraph 2 page 8, paragraph 3 page 27, paragraph 1 -----	1-25
A	WO 98/16254 A (IMMUNOMEDICS INC [US]; GOLDENBERG DAVID M [US]) 23 April 1998 (1998-04-23) the whole document -----	1-25
A	CHAE D-W ET AL: "MUTANT IL-15 PROTEIN EXERTING ANTAGONISTIC EFFECTS ON IL-15 TRIGGERED CELL PROLIFERATION" JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF NEPHROLOGY, WILLIAMS AND WILKINS, BALTIMORE, MD, US, vol. 7, no. 9, 3 November 1996 (1996-11-03), page 1654, XP002042890 ISSN: 1046-6673 the whole document -----	1-25

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2005/035672

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

Although claims 1-25 are directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition.
2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/US2005/035672

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