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(54) Title: METHODS OF EXOGENOUS DRUG ACTIVATION OF CHEMICAL-INDUCED SIGNALING COMPLEXES EXPRESSED IN ENGINEERED CELLS IN VITRO AND IN VIVO

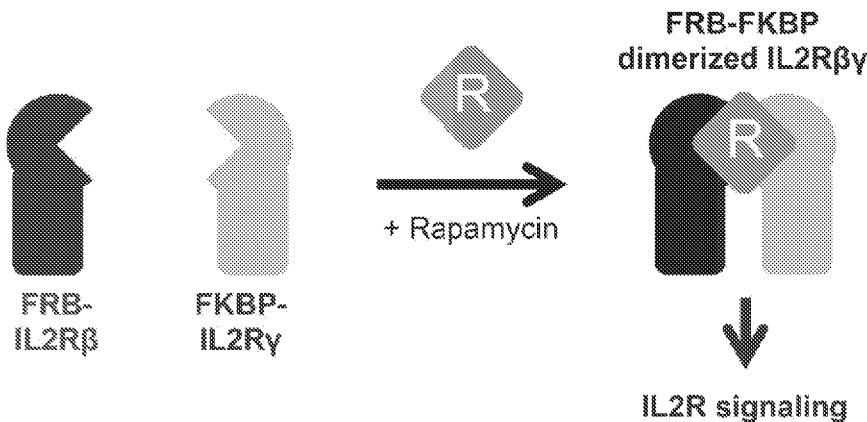


FIGURE 2

(57) Abstract: The present application relates to compositions comprising fusion proteins and cells expressing the proteins. The application further relates to methods of using the fusion proteins, cells, and compositions for modulating cell signaling and for selective expansion of cells.

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METHODS OF EXOGENOUS DRUG ACTIVATION OF CHEMICAL-INDUCED SIGNALING COMPLEXES EXPRESSED IN ENGINEERED CELLS IN VITRO AND IN VIVO

INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE TO A PRIORITY APPLICATION

[0001] The present application claims the benefit of priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/433,540, filed December 13, 2016. The entire disclosure of the aforementioned application is hereby expressly incorporated by reference in its entirety.

REFERENCE TO SEQUENCE LISTING

[0002] The present application is being filed along with a Sequence Listing in electronic format. The Sequence Listing is provided as a file entitled SCRI.130WO.TXT, created December 8, 2017, which is 80 kb in size. The information is the electronic format of the Sequence Listing and is hereby expressly incorporated by reference in its entirety.

FIELD

[0003] The present disclosure relates to compositions and methods for synthetic chemical-induced signaling. In particular, the compositions include a general architecture for generating physiologically functional synthetic chemical-induced signaling complexes, as well as, functional chemical-induced signaling complexes. Some embodiments provide a chemical-induced signaling complex that includes a multicomponent protein, in which two components, normally existing as monomers, are brought together in the presence of a ligand to generate an active signaling complex, which activates signaling pathways in the cytoplasm of the cell. Further provided are methods of using such compositions for activating a cellular signaling pathway in a cell. Also provided are methods of using the compositions for selectively expanding a population of cells.

BACKGROUND

[0004] Chimeric antigen receptors (CARs) are engineered receptors used to genetically engineer T cells for use in adoptive cellular immunotherapy (see Pule et

al., *Cytother.* 5:3, 2003; Restifo et al., *Nat. Rev. Immunol.* 12:269, 2012). Antigen binding stimulates the signaling domains on the intracellular segment of the CAR, thereby activating signaling pathways. CAR-based adoptive cellular immunotherapy has been used to treat cancer patients with tumors refractory to conventional standard-of-care treatments (see Grupp et al., *N. Engl. J. Med.* 368:1509, 2013; Kalos et al., *Sci. Transl. Med.* 3:95ra73, 2011).

[0005] Cells have various receptors on their surface for responding to extracellular signals that involve intercellular communication. Signal transduction of receptors has been studied extensively and receptors are involved in numerous signaling pathways. There remains a need for new compositions and methods that allow for one to transduce a desired signal through a synthetic complex that cannot be activated through a normal physiological pathway, thus providing a mechanism for activating signaling only within in a desired and specifically engineered population of cells.

SUMMARY

[0006] A dimerization activated receptor initiation complex (DARIC) has been developed, which provides a binding component and a signaling component that are each expressed as separate fusion proteins but contain an extracellular multimerization mechanism (bridging factor) for recoupling of the two functional components on a cell surface (see U.S. Pat. Appl. No. 2016/0311901, hereby expressly incorporated by reference in its entirety). Importantly, the bridging factor in the DARIC system forms a heterodimeric receptor complex, which does not produce significant signaling on its own. The described DARIC complexes only initiate physiologically relevant signals following further co-localization with other DARIC complexes. Thus, they do not allow for the selective expansion of desired cell types without a mechanism for further multimerization of DARIC complexes (such as by e.g., contact with a tumor cell that expresses a ligand bound by a binding domain incorporated into one of the DARIC components).

[0007] Accordingly, several aspects described herein relate to compositions and methods including a chemical-induced signaling complex (CISC). In some aspects, the compositions and methods may be used for the selective expansion of a desired population of cells.

[0008] Some embodiments described herein relate to a protein sequence encoding a chemical-induced signaling complex (CISC). In some embodiments, the protein sequence comprises a first sequence, wherein the first sequence encodes a first CISC component. In some embodiments, the first CISC component comprises a first extracellular binding domain or a portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and a signaling domain or a portion thereof. In some embodiments, the protein sequence comprises a second sequence. In some embodiments, the second sequence encodes a second CISC component. In some embodiments, the second CISC component comprises a second extracellular binding domain or portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and a signaling domain or portion thereof. In some embodiments, the first CISC component and the second CISC component are positioned such that when expressed, they dimerize in the presence of a ligand. In some embodiments, the first and second CISC components dimerize to form a heterodimer or a homodimer. In some embodiments, the dimeric CISC is a synthetic CISC. In some embodiments, the first and second extracellular domains are N-terminal to the transmembrane domain. In some embodiments, the first extracellular binding domain or a portion thereof comprises an FK506 binding protein (FKBP) domain. In some embodiments, the second extracellular binding domain or portion thereof comprises an FKBP rapamycin binding (FRB) domain or a portion thereof.

[0009] In some embodiments, the transmembrane domain of the first and second CISC components comprises a natural transmembrane domain. In some embodiments, the transmembrane domain of the first and second CISC components comprises an IL-2 receptor transmembrane domain. In some embodiments, the signaling domain or a portion thereof of the first and second CISC components comprises one or more concatenated cytoplasmic signaling domains. In some embodiments, the signaling domain or a portion thereof of the first and second CISC components comprises a cytokine signaling domain or an antigen receptor signaling domain. In some embodiments, the signaling domain of the first CISC component comprises an interleukin-2 receptor subunit gamma (IL2R γ) domain. In some embodiments, the signaling domain of the second CISC component comprises an interleukin-2 receptor subunit beta (IL2R β) domain.

[0010] In some embodiments, one of the extracellular binding domains comprises an FKBP domain and the other extracellular binding domain comprises an FRB domain. In

some embodiments, the extracellular binding domains are configured to simultaneously bind to a ligand.

[0011] In some embodiments, one extracellular binding domain comprises a cereblon thalidomide binding domain and the other extracellular binding domain comprises a domain that interacts with the cereblon thalidomide binding domain when it is bound to an IMID-class drug (e.g. thalidomide, pomalidomide, lenalidomide or related analogues). In some embodiments, the extracellular binding domains are configured to simultaneously bind to the IMID ligand.

[0012] In some embodiments, one of the extracellular binding domain comprises one member of a heterodimerizing protein domain pair, and the other extracellular binding domain comprises the other component of a heterodimerization domain pair, and the domains are configured to bind to a ligand e.g., by simultaneous binding.

[0013] In some embodiments, the ligand is an antibody or a portion thereof, such as a binding fragment, a protein, a small molecule, or a drug. In some embodiments, the ligand is rapamycin or a rapalog, such as everolimus, CCI-779, C20-methallylrapamycin, C16-(S)-3-methylindoloderapamycin, C16-iRap, AP21967, sodium mycophenolic acid, benidipine hydrochloride, AP23573, AP1903, or metabolites, derivatives, and/or combinations thereof. In some embodiments, the ligand is an IMID-class drug (e.g. thalidomide, pomalidomide, lenalidomide or related analogues). In some embodiments, the ligand is present or provided in an amount from 0.05 nM to 100 nM such as e.g., 0.05 nM, 0.1 nM, 0.5 nM, 1.0 nM, 5.0 nM, 10.0 nM, 15.0 nM, 20.0 nM, 25.0 nM, 30.0 nM, 35.0 nM, 40.0 nM, 45.0 nM, 50.0 nM, 55.0 nM, 60.0 nM, 65.0 nM, 70.0 nM, 75.0 nM, 80.0 nM, 90.0 nM, 95.0 nM, or 100 nM or an amount that is within a range defined by any two of the aforementioned amounts.

[0014] In some embodiments, the first sequence comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1. In some embodiments, the first sequence comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 3, 5, or 7. In some embodiments, the second sequence comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2. In some embodiments, the second sequence comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 4, 6, 8, or 9. Some embodiments concern nucleic acids encoding the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9.

[0015] Some embodiments provided herein relate to an expression vector. In some embodiments, the expression vector comprises a nucleic acid encoding a protein sequence encoding a dimeric chemical-induced signaling complex (CISC). In some embodiments, the expression vector comprises a nucleic acid encoding a protein sequence comprising a first protein sequence, wherein the first protein sequence encodes a first CISC component. In some embodiments, the nucleic acid encoding the first sequence comprises a sequence encoding a first extracellular binding domain or a portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and a signaling domain or portions thereof. In some embodiments, the expression vector comprises a nucleic acid encoding a protein sequence comprising a second protein sequence, wherein the second protein sequence encodes a second CISC component. In some embodiments, the nucleic acid encoding the second sequence comprises a sequence encoding a second extracellular binding domain or a portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and a signaling domain or portions thereof. In some embodiments, the expression vector comprises a nucleic acid encoding the first protein sequence or the second protein sequence. In some embodiments, the expression vector comprises nucleic acid encoding the first sequence and the second protein sequence. In some embodiments, the vector is RNA or DNA. In some embodiments, the vector is a lentiviral vector or an adeno-associated viral (AAV) vector. In some embodiments, the expression vector is a nucleic acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 7, or SEQ ID NO: 8.

[0016] In some embodiments, the expression vector comprises a nucleic acid sequence that further comprises a promoter. In some embodiments, the promoter is an inducible promoter or a constitutive promoter.

[0017] Some embodiments provided herein relate to a cell, such as a mammalian cell, for chemical-induced signaling complex expression. In some embodiments, the cell, such as a mammalian cell, comprises a protein sequence as described herein or an expression vector described herein. Thus, in some embodiments, the cell, such as a mammalian cell, comprises a protein sequence encoding the components of a chemical-induced signaling complex (CISC). In some embodiments, the protein sequence comprises a first sequence, wherein the first sequence encodes a first component of a CISC. In some embodiments, the first component of a CISC comprises a first extracellular binding domain or portion thereof, a

hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and a signaling domain or portions thereof. In some embodiments, the protein sequence comprises a second sequence. In some embodiments, the second sequence encodes a second component of a CISC. In some embodiments, the second CISC component comprises a second extracellular binding domain or a portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and a signaling domain or portions thereof. In some embodiments, the cell, such as a mammalian cell, comprises an expression vector comprising a nucleic acid encoding a protein sequence encoding a component of a CISC. In some embodiments, the expression vector comprises a nucleic acid encoding a protein sequence comprising a first protein sequence, wherein the first protein sequence encodes a first component of a CISC. In some embodiments, the nucleic acid encoding the first sequence comprises a sequence encoding a first extracellular binding domain or a portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and a signaling domain or portions thereof. In some embodiments, the expression vector comprises a nucleic acid encoding a protein sequence comprising a second protein sequence, wherein the second protein sequence encodes a second component of a CISC. In some embodiments, the nucleic acid encoding the second sequence comprises a sequence encoding a second extracellular binding domain or a portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and a signaling domain or portions thereof. In some embodiments, the expression vector comprises a nucleic acid encoding the first protein sequence or the second protein sequence. In some embodiments, the expression vector comprises nucleic acid encoding the first sequence and the second protein sequence. In some embodiments, the vector is RNA or DNA. In some embodiments, the vector is a lentiviral vector or an adeno-associated viral (AAV) vector.

[0018] In some embodiments, the cell, such as a mammalian cell, is a precursor T cell or a T regulatory cell. In some embodiments, the cell, such as a mammalian cell, is a hematopoietic stem cell. In some embodiments, the cell is a CD34+, CD8+, or a CD4+ cell. In some embodiments, the cell is a CD8+ T cytotoxic lymphocyte cell selected from the group consisting of naïve CD8+ T cells, central memory CD8+ T cells, effector memory CD8+ T cells, and bulk CD8+ T cells or any combination thereof. In some embodiments, the cell is a CD4+ T helper lymphocyte cell selected from the group consisting of naïve CD4+ T cells, central memory CD4+ T cells, effector memory CD4+ T cells, and bulk CD4+ T cells or any combination thereof.

[0019] Some embodiments provided herein relate to a method of activating a signal into the interior of a cell, such as a mammalian cell. In some embodiments, the method comprises providing a cell, such as a mammalian cell, as described herein, expressing the protein sequence encoding the components of the synthetic CISC as described herein, or expressing the expression vector as described herein in the cell, and contacting the cell with a ligand, thereby causing the first and second CISC components to dimerize, which transduces a signal into the interior of the cell.

[0020] Accordingly, in some embodiments, the method of activating a signal into an interior of a cell, such as a mammalian cell, comprises providing a cell, such as a mammalian cell, that comprises one or more protein sequences encoding components of a CISC. In some embodiments, the protein sequence comprises a first sequence, wherein the first sequence encodes a first component of a CISC. In some embodiments, the first component of a CISC comprises a first extracellular binding domain or a portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and a signaling domain or portions thereof. In some embodiments, the protein sequence comprises a second sequence. In some embodiments, the second sequence encodes a second component of a CISC. In some embodiments, the second component of a CISC comprises a second extracellular binding domain or a portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and a signaling domain or portions thereof. In some embodiments, the method of activating a signal into an interior of a cell, such as a mammalian cell, comprises providing a cell, such as a mammalian cell, that comprises an expression vector comprising a nucleic acid encoding a protein sequence encoding a dimeric CISC. In some embodiments, the expression vector comprises a nucleic acid encoding a protein sequence comprising a first protein sequence, wherein the first protein sequence encodes a first component of a CISC. In some embodiments, the nucleic acid encoding the first sequence comprises a sequence encoding a first extracellular binding domain or a portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and a signaling domain or portions thereof. In some embodiments, the expression vector comprises a nucleic acid encoding a protein sequence comprising a second protein sequence, wherein the second protein sequence encodes a second component of a CISC. In some embodiments, the nucleic acid encoding the second sequence comprises a sequence encoding a second extracellular binding domain or a portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and a

signaling domain or portions thereof. In some embodiments, the expression vector comprises a nucleic acid encoding the first protein sequence or the second protein sequence. In some embodiments, the expression vector comprises nucleic acid encoding the first sequence and the second protein sequence. In some embodiments, the vector is RNA or DNA. In some embodiments, the vector is a lentiviral vector or an adeno-associated viral (AAV) vector. In some embodiments, whether the cell, such as a mammalian cell, comprises the protein sequence or the expression vector, the method further comprises expressing the protein sequence encoding a heterodimeric CISC, or expressing the expression vector, and contacting the cell with a ligand, thereby causing the first and second components of a CISC to dimerize, which transduces a signal into the interior of the cell.

[0021] In some embodiments, the ligand comprises an antibody or a binding portion thereof, a protein, a small molecule, or a drug. In some embodiments, the ligand is rapamycin or a rapalog, such as everolimus, CCI-779, C20-methylrapamycin, C16-(S)-3-methylindolerapamycin, C16-iRap, AP21967, sodium mycophenolic acid, benidipine hydrochloride, AP23573, or AP1903, or metabolites, derivatives, and/or combinations thereof. In some embodiments, the ligand is an immunomodulatory imide drug (IMID)-class drug (e.g. thalidomide, pomalidomide, lenalidomide or related analogues). In some embodiments, the ligand is present or provided in an amount of 0.05 nM to 100 nM such as e.g., 0.05 nM, 0.1 nM, 0.5. nM, 1.0 nM, 5.0 nM, 10.0 nM, 15.0 nM, 20.0 nM, 25.0 nM, 30.0 nM, 35.0 nM, 40.0 nM, 45.0 nM, 50.0 nM, 55.0 nM, 60.0 nM, 65.0 nM, 70.0 nM, 75.0 nM, 80.0 nM, 90.0 nM, 95.0 nM, or 100 nM or an amount that is within a range defined by any two of the aforementioned amounts. In some embodiments, the transduction of the signal affects cytokine signaling. In some embodiments, the transduction of the signal results in a signal that phenocopies interleukin-2 receptor (IL2R) signaling. In some embodiments, the transduction of the signal affects phosphorylation of a downstream target of a cytokine receptor. In some embodiments, following contact with the ligand, cells, such as mammalian cells, expressing the chemical-induced signaling complex are selectively expanded from a heterogeneous population of cells. In some embodiments, the ligand comprises rapamycin, and the cells, such as a mammalian cell, expressing the chemical-induced signaling complex are selectively expanded *in vitro* or *in vivo* by selectively inducing proliferation in chemical-induced signaling complex-expressing cells, while the rapamycin, preferably simultaneously,

causes an anti-proliferative effect in non-chemical-induced signaling complex expressing cells, such as mammalian cells. In some embodiments, the selectively expanding cells, such as mammalian cells, have undergone two distinct gene targeting events. In some embodiments, each gene targeting event endows the cell, such as a mammalian cell, with one component of a chemical-induced signaling complex pair, such that only cells that have undergone both gene targeting events are able to expand following contact with the ligand.

[0022] Some embodiments provided herein relate to a protein sequence encoding components of a chemical-induced signaling complex component for homodimerization. In some embodiments, the protein sequence comprises a first sequence. In some embodiments, the first sequence encodes a first chemical-induced signaling complex component comprising a homodimerizing domain or a portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and an interleukin-2 receptor subunit gamma (IL2R γ) signaling domain or portions thereof. In some embodiments, the protein sequence comprises second sequence. In some embodiments, the second sequence encodes a second chemical-induced signaling complex component comprising the homodimerizing domain or a portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and an interleukin-2 receptor subunit beta (IL2R β) signaling domain or portions thereof. In some embodiments, the first chemical-induced signaling complex component and the second chemical-induced signaling complex component are positioned such that when expressed, they form a population of 25% first chemical-induced signaling complex homodimers, 25% second chemical-induced signaling complex homodimers, and 50% of first/second chemical-induced signaling complex heterodimers in the presence of a ligand configured to bridge the homodimerizing domain.

[0023] In some embodiments, the first sequence comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 11. In some embodiments, the second sequence comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NOs: 10 or 12. Some embodiments concern nucleic acids encoding the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 10, 11, and 12.

[0024] In some embodiments, the signaling domain or a portion thereof of the first and second chemical-induced signaling complex components comprises one or more concatenated cytoplasmic signaling domains. In some embodiments, the homodimerizing domain comprises an FKBP domain or a mutant thereof or portions thereof, configured to bind a ligand, preferably simultaneously, such as AP1903 or a related rapalog, sodium

mycophenolic acid, benidipine hydrochloride, or AP23573, or metabolites, derivatives, and/or combinations thereof. In some embodiments, the ligand is an IMID-class drug (e.g. thalidomide, pomalidomide, lenalidomide or related analogues).

[0025] Some embodiments provided herein relate to an expression vector for homodimeric CISC component expression comprising a nucleic acid encoding the first and/or second sequence of the protein sequence as provided herein. Accordingly, in some embodiments, the expression vector comprises a nucleic acid encoding a protein sequence encoding a chemical-induced signaling complex as set forth in SEQ ID NOs: 10, 11, and 12. In some embodiments, the expression vector encodes a first sequence. In some embodiments, the first sequence encodes a first chemical-induced signaling complex component comprising a homodimerizing domain or a portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and an interleukin-2 receptor subunit gamma (IL2R γ) signaling domain or portions thereof. In some embodiments, the expression vector encodes a second sequence. In some embodiments, the second sequence encodes a second chemical-induced signaling complex component comprising the homodimerizing domain or a portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and an interleukin-2 receptor subunit beta (IL2R β) signaling domain or portions thereof. In some embodiments, the vector is RNA or DNA. In some embodiments, the vector is a lentiviral vector or an adeno-associated viral (AAV) vector. In some embodiments, the expression vector further comprises a promoter. In some embodiments, the promoter is an inducible promoter or a constitutive promoter.

[0026] Some embodiments provided herein relate to a cell, such as a mammalian cell, for homodimeric chemical-induced signaling complex expression. In some embodiments, the cell, such as a mammalian cell, comprises the protein sequence as described herein for homodimerizing component expression or the expression vector as described herein for homodimerizing component expression. Thus, in some embodiments a cell, such as a mammalian cell, is provided, which comprises a protein sequence encoding chemical-induced signaling complex components for homodimerization. In some embodiments, the protein sequence comprises a first sequence. In some embodiments, the first sequence encodes a first chemical-induced signaling complex comprising a homodimerizing domain or a portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and an interleukin-2 receptor subunit gamma (IL2R γ) signaling domain or portions thereof. In

some embodiments, the protein sequence comprises second sequence. In some embodiments, the second sequence encodes a second chemical-induced signaling complex component comprising the homodimerizing domain or a portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and an interleukin-2 receptor subunit beta (IL2Rb) signaling domain or portions thereof. In some embodiments, the first chemical-induced signaling complex component and the second chemical-induced signaling complex component are positioned such that when expressed, they form a population of approximately 25% first chemical-induced signaling complex homodimers, 25% second chemical-induced signaling complex homodimers, and 50% of first/second chemical-induced signaling complex heterodimers in the presence of a ligand configured to bridge the homodimerizing domain. In some embodiments a cell, such as a mammalian cell, is provided, which comprises an expression vector for homodimeric chemical-induced signaling complex expression comprising a nucleic acid encoding the first and/or second sequence of the protein sequence as provided herein. Accordingly, in some embodiments, the expression vector comprises a nucleic acid encoding a protein sequence encoding a chemical-induced signaling complex. In some embodiments, the expression vector encodes a first sequence. In some embodiments, the first sequence encodes a first chemical-induced signaling complex component comprising a homodimerizing domain or a portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and an interleukin-2 receptor subunit gamma (IL2Rg) signaling domain or portions thereof. In some embodiments, the expression vector encodes a second sequence. In some embodiments, the second sequence encodes a second chemical-induced signaling complex component comprising the homodimerizing domain or a portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and an interleukin-2 receptor subunit beta (IL2Rb) signaling domain or portions thereof. In some embodiments, the vector is RNA or DNA. In some embodiments, the vector is a lentiviral vector or an adeno-associated viral (AAV) vector.

[0027] In some embodiments, the protein sequence for the homodimeric chemical-induced signaling complex comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 13 or SEQ ID NO: 14. Some embodiments concern nucleic acids encoding the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO: 13 and SEQ ID NO: 14.

[0028] In some embodiments, the chemical-induced signaling complex cell, such as a mammalian cell, is a precursor T cell or a T regulatory cell. In some embodiments, the

cell, such as a mammalian cell, is a hematopoietic stem cell. In some embodiments, the cell is a CD34+, CD8+, or a CD4+ cell. In some embodiments, the cell is a CD8+ T cytotoxic lymphocyte cell selected from the group consisting of naïve CD8+ T cells, central memory CD8+ T cells, effector memory CD8+ T cells, and bulk CD8+ T cells. In some embodiments, the cell is a CD4+ T helper lymphocyte cell selected from the group consisting of naïve CD4+ T cells, central memory CD4+ T cells, effector memory CD4+ T cells, and bulk CD4+ T cells.

[0029] Some embodiments provided herein relate to a method of activating a signal into an interior of a cell, such as a mammalian cell, with a homodimerization chemical-induced signaling complex. In some embodiments, the method comprises providing the cell, such as a mammalian cell, as provided herein, expressing a protein sequence encoding a homodimeric chemical-induced signaling complex as provided herein or expressing the expression vector for the homodimeric chemical-induced signaling complex as provided herein, and contacting the cell with a dimerizing agent, thereby causing the first and second chemical-induced signaling complexes to dimerize, which transduces a signal into the interior of the cell. Accordingly, in some embodiments, the method comprises providing a cell, such as a mammalian cell, comprising the protein sequence as described herein for homodimeric CISC component expression or the expression vector as described herein for homodimeric CISC component expression. Thus, in some embodiments a cell, such as a mammalian cell, is provided, wherein the cell comprises a protein sequence encoding a chemical-induced signaling complex for homodimerization. In some embodiments, the protein sequence comprises a first sequence. In some embodiments, the first sequence encodes a first chemical-induced signaling complex component comprising a homodimerizing domain or a portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and an interleukin-2 receptor subunit gamma (IL2R γ) signaling domain or portions thereof. In some embodiments, the protein sequence comprises second sequence. In some embodiments, the second sequence encodes a second chemical-induced signaling complex component comprising the homodimerizing domain or a portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and an interleukin-2 receptor subunit beta (IL2R β) signaling domain or portions thereof. In some embodiments, the first chemical-induced signaling complex component and the second chemical-induced signaling complex component are positioned

such that when expressed, they form a population of approximately 25% first chemical-induced signaling complex homodimers, 25% second chemical-induced signaling complex homodimers, and 50% of first/second chemical-induced signaling complex heterodimers in the presence of a ligand configured to bridge the homodimerizing domain. In some embodiments a cell, such as a mammalian cell, is provided, wherein the cell comprises an expression vector for homodimeric CISC component expression comprising a nucleic acid encoding the first and/or second sequence of the protein sequence as provided herein. Accordingly, in some embodiments, the expression vector comprises a nucleic acid encoding a protein sequence encoding a chemical-induced signaling complex or components thereof. In some embodiments, the expression vector encodes a first sequence. In some embodiments, the first sequence encodes a first chemical-induced signaling complex component comprising a homodimerizing domain or a portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and an interleukin-2 receptor subunit gamma (IL2R γ) signaling domain or portions thereof. In some embodiments, the expression vector encodes a second sequence. In some embodiments, the second sequence encodes a second chemical-induced signaling complex component comprising the homodimerizing domain or a portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and an interleukin-2 receptor subunit beta (IL2R β) signaling domain or portions thereof. In some embodiments, the vector is RNA or DNA. In some embodiments, the vector is a lentiviral vector or an adeno-associated viral (AAV) vector. In some embodiments, after providing said cell, such as a mammalian cell, the method further comprises expressing a protein sequence encoding the homodimeric chemical-induced signaling complex components as provided herein or expressing the expression vector for the homodimeric chemical-induced signaling complex components as provided herein, and contacting the cell with a dimerizing agent, thereby causing the first and second chemical-induced signaling complex components to dimerize, which transduces a signal into the interior of the cell.

[0030] In some embodiments, the dimerizing agent used is a ligand, such as rapamycin or a rapalog, such as everolimus, CCI-779, C20-methylrapamycin, C16-(S)-3-methylindolerapamycin, C16-iRap, AP21967, sodium mycophenolic acid, benidipine hydrochloride, or AP23573, AP1903, or metabolites, derivatives, and/or combinations thereof. In some embodiments, the ligand is an IMID-class drug (e.g. thalidomide,

pomalidomide, lenalidomide or related analogues). In some embodiments, the transduction of the signal affects cytokine signaling. In some embodiments, the transduction of the signal phenocopies interleukin-2 receptor (IL2R) signaling. In some embodiments, following contact with the dimerizing agent, cells, such as mammalian cells, expressing the chemical-induced signaling complex are selectively expanded from a heterogeneous population of cells. In some embodiments, rapamycin is the dimerizing agent, and is used to selectively expand a cell, such as a mammalian cell, population *in vitro* or *in vivo* by selectively inducing proliferation in chemical-induced signaling complex-expressing cells, while causing an anti-proliferative effect in non-chemical-induced signaling complex expressing cells.

[0031] Some embodiments provided herein relate to a protein sequence encoding a chemical-induced signaling complex component. In some embodiments, the protein sequence comprises a sequence encoding a chemical-induced signaling complex component comprising a homodimerizing domain or a portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and signaling domain or portions thereof. In some embodiments, the chemical-induced signaling complex component is positioned such that when expressed, it forms a population of homodimeric CISCs in the presence of a ligand configured to bridge the homodimerizing domains. In some embodiments, the signaling domain or a portion thereof comprises one or more concatenated cytoplasmic signaling domain. In some embodiments, the homodimerizing domain comprises an FKBP domain or an FRB or a portion thereof configured to bind to a ligand, preferably simultaneously, such as rapamycin.

[0032] Some embodiments provided herein relate to an expression vector comprising the nucleic acid encoding the protein sequence, as provided herein. Accordingly, in some embodiments, the expression vector comprises a nucleic acid encoding a protein sequence encoding a chemical-induced signaling complex. In some embodiments, the protein sequence comprises a sequence encoding a chemical-induced signaling complex component comprising a homodimerizing domain or a portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and signaling domain or portions thereof. In some embodiments, the chemical-induced signaling complex component is positioned such that when expressed, it forms a population of homodimers in the presence of a ligand configured to bridge the homodimerizing domains. In some embodiments, the signaling domain or a portion thereof

of comprises one or more concatenated cytoplasmic signaling domain. In some embodiments, the homodimerizing domain comprises an FKBP domain or an FRB or a portion thereof configured to bind to a ligand, preferably simultaneously, such as AP1903. In some embodiments, the expression vector further comprises a promoter. In some embodiments, the promoter is an inducible promoter or a constitutive promoter. In some embodiments, the vector is RNA or DNA. In some embodiments, the vector is a lentiviral vector or an adeno-associated viral (AAV) vector.

[0033] Some embodiments provided herein relate to a cell, such as a mammalian cell, for homodimeric chemical-induced signaling complex expression. In some embodiments, the cell, such as a mammalian cell, comprises the homodimerizing CISC component protein sequence as described herein or the expression vector encoding the nucleic acid sequence of the homodimeric protein sequence as described herein. Accordingly, in some embodiments, the cell, such as a mammalian cell, for homodimeric chemical-induced signaling complex expression comprises a protein sequence encoding a chemical-induced signaling complex. In some embodiments, the protein sequence comprises a sequence encoding a chemical-induced signaling complex component comprising a homodimerizing domain or a portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and signaling domain or portions thereof. In some embodiments, the chemical-induced signaling complex is positioned such that when expressed, it forms a population of homodimers in the presence of a ligand configured to bridge the homodimerizing domains. In some embodiments, the signaling domain or a portion thereof of comprises one or more concatenated cytoplasmic signaling domains. In some embodiments, the homodimerizing domain comprises an FKBP domain or an FRB or a portion thereof configured to bind to a ligand, preferably simultaneously, such as AP1903. In some embodiments, the cell, such as a mammalian cell, for homodimeric chemical-induced signaling complex expression comprises an expression vector comprises a nucleic acid encoding a protein sequence encoding a chemical-induced signaling complex component. In some embodiments, the protein sequence comprises a sequence encoding a chemical-induced signaling complex component comprising a homodimerizing domain or a portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and signaling domain or portions thereof. In some embodiments, the chemical-induced signaling complex component is positioned such that when expressed, it forms a

population of homodimers in the presence of a ligand configured to bridge the homodimerizing domains. In some embodiments, the signaling domain or a portion thereof of comprises one or more concatenated cytoplasmic signaling domains. In some embodiments, the homodimerizing domain comprises an FKBP domain or an FRB or a portion thereof configured to bind to a ligand, preferably simultaneously, such as AP1903. In some embodiments, the expression vector further comprises a promoter. In some embodiments, the promoter is an inducible promoter or a constitutive promoter. In some embodiments, the vector is RNA or DNA. In some embodiments, the vector is a lentiviral vector or an adeno-associated viral (AAV) vector.

[0034] In some embodiments, the cell, such as a mammalian cell, is a precursor T cell or a T regulatory cell. In some embodiments, the cell, such as a mammalian cell, is a hematopoietic stem cell. In some embodiments, the cell is a CD34+, CD8+, or a CD4+ cell. In some embodiments, the cell is a CD8+ T cytotoxic lymphocyte cell selected from the group consisting of naïve CD8+ T cells, central memory CD8+ T cells, effector memory CD8+ T cells, and bulk CD8+ T cells. In some embodiments, the cell is a CD4+ T helper lymphocyte cell selected from the group consisting of naïve CD4+ T cells, central memory CD4+ T cells, effector memory CD4+ T cells, and bulk CD4+ T cells.

[0035] Some embodiments provided herein relate to a method of activating a signal into an interior of a cell, such as a mammalian cell. In some embodiments, the method comprises providing the cell, such as a mammalian cell, for homodimeric chemical-induced signaling complex components as provided herein, expressing a protein sequence encoding a homodimeric chemical-induced signaling complex component as provided herein or expressing the expression vector encoding a nucleic acid for homodimeric chemical-induced signaling complex component expression as provided herein, and contacting the cell with a dimerizing agent, thereby causing the first and second chemical-induced signaling complex components to dimerize, which transduces a signal into the interior of the cell. Accordingly, in some embodiments, the method comprises providing a cell, such as a mammalian cell, which comprises the homodimerizing CISC component protein sequences, as described herein or the expression vector encoding the nucleic acid sequence of the homodimeric CISC component protein sequences as described herein. Accordingly, in some embodiments, the cell for homodimeric chemical-induced signaling complex component expression comprises

a protein sequence encoding a chemical-induced signaling complex component. In some embodiments, the protein sequence comprises a sequence encoding a chemical-induced signaling complex component comprising a homodimerizing domain or a portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and signaling domain or portions thereof. In some embodiments, the chemical-induced signaling complex component is positioned such that when expressed, it forms a population of homodimers in the presence of a ligand configured to bridge the homodimerizing domains. In some embodiments, the signaling domain or portion thereof of comprises one or more concatenated cytoplasmic signaling domains. In some embodiments, the homodimerizing domain comprises an FKBP domain or an FRB or a portion thereof configured to bind to a ligand, preferably simultaneously, such as AP1903. In some embodiments, the protein sequence further comprises a second sequence. In some embodiments, the cell, such as a mammalian cell, for homodimeric component expression comprises an expression vector comprises a nucleic acid encoding a protein sequence encoding a chemical-induced signaling complex component. In some embodiments, the protein sequence comprises a sequence encoding a chemical-induced signaling complex component comprising a homodimerizing domain or a portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and signaling domain or portions thereof. In some embodiments, the chemical-induced signaling complex component is positioned such that when expressed, it forms a population of homodimers in the presence of a ligand configured to bridge the homodimerizing domains. In some embodiments, the signaling domain or portion thereof of comprises one or more concatenated cytoplasmic signaling domains. In some embodiments, the homodimerizing domain comprises an FKBP domain or an FRB or a portion thereof configured to bind to a ligand, preferably simultaneously, such as AP1903. In some embodiments, the expression vector encodes a promoter. In some embodiments, the promoter is an inducible promoter or a constitutive promoter. In some embodiments, the vector is RNA or DNA. In some embodiments, the vector is a lentiviral vector or an adeno-associated viral (AAV) vector. In some embodiments, after providing the cell, such as a mammalian cell, the method further comprises expressing a protein sequence encoding a homodimeric CISC as provided herein or expressing the expression vector encoding a nucleic acid for homodimeric CISC expression as provided herein, and contacting the cell with a dimerizing agent, thereby

causing the first and second CISC to dimerize, which transduces a signal into the interior of the cell.

[0036] In some embodiments, the dimerizing agent used is a ligand, such as rapamycin or a rapalog, such as everolimus, CCI-779, C20-methylrapamycin, C16-(S)-3-methylindololrapamycin, C16-iRap, AP21967, sodium mycophenolic acid, benidipine hydrochloride, AP23573, or AP1903, or metabolites, derivatives, and/or combinations thereof. In some embodiments, the ligand is an IMID-class drug (e.g. thalidomide, pomalidomide, lenalidomide or related analogues). In some embodiments, the transduction of the signal affects cytokine signaling. In some embodiments, the transduction of the signal affects interleukin-2 receptor (IL2R) signaling. In some embodiments, following contact with the dimerizing agent, cells expressing CISC are selectively expanded from a heterogeneous population of cells, such as mammalian cells.

[0037] Some embodiments provided herein relate to a kit or a system including the components described herein. Thus, in some embodiments is provided a kit comprising one or more of: a protein sequence as described herein; an expression vector as described herein; and/or a cell as described herein. Some embodiments include a system for selectively activating a signal into an interior of a cell, comprising: a cell as described herein, wherein the cell comprises an expression vector as described herein comprising a nucleic acid encoding a protein sequence as described herein.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0038] **Figure 1** is a schematic diagram illustrating IL-2 signaling in T-cell expansion. The diagram depicts chimeric dimerization of IL-2 chains comprising FRB-CD25 β (transmembrane (TM) and cytoplasmic domains) (IL2R β) and FKBP-CD25 γ (TM and cytoplasmic domains) (IL2R γ), resulting in downstream signaling pathways. Importantly, removal of most or all of the extracellular domains prevents binding of IL2 to these chemical-induced signaling complex components, thus they are not responsive to endogenous IL2.

[0039] **Figure 2** schematically depicts the cell expansion strategy by a chemical-induced signaling complex (CISC). This strategy utilizes rapamycin's ability to bind two different protein motifs (FKBP and FRB) simultaneously, to induce protein dimerization and

active downstream signaling events in an appropriately designed pair of CISC components. The use of a CISC in this manner allows for selective cellular expansion.

[0040] **Figure 3** depicts various embodiments of IL2R-CISC architectures. The embodiment shown in **Figure 3** shows an architecture for both FRB-IL2R β and for FKBP-IL2R γ , providing schematics for various degrees of flexibility, comprising most flexible (1210 – this embodiment incorporates a short linker sequence the entire first extracellular immunoglobulin superfamily (IgSF) domain of the IL2R and its TM and cytosolic tail regions), medium flexibility (1211 – this embodiment incorporates the entire first extracellular IgSF domain of the IL2R and its TM and cytosolic tail regions), and least flexible (1233 – this embodiment incorporates only the IL2R TM and cytosolic tail regions).

[0041] **Figure 4A** and **Figure 4B** show images of Western blots. IL2R-CISC human CD4+ T cells were harvested two days post transduction, and the cytoplasmic and membrane fractions were isolated. The top panel is a control to demonstrate that the methods used efficiently fractionate cytosol and membrane: the top gel shows IL2R β ; the middle gel shows IL2R γ ; and bottom two gels are control gels showing CD3 and ERK. **Figure 4B** shows Western blots for the respective IL2R-CISC, comprising 1210, 1211, and 1233. Arrows indicate the detection of CISC component expression. Importantly, the 1233 architecture appears to express at the highest level.

[0042] **Figure 5** shows an image of a Western blot for IL2R-CISC. IL2R-CISC human CD4+ T cells were analyzed following 15 days of rapamycin treatment at 1 nM, following by cytokine starvation for 48 hours. Stimulation with IL-2 (50 ng) or rapamycin (100 nM) for 20 minutes was followed, and the cells were harvested for Western blot. The Western blot shows Akt activation, indicating the capacity for a chemical-induced signaling complex to drive cell expansion.

[0043] **Figure 6** outlines the experiment demonstrating use of an IL2R-CISC to selectively expand a cell population. Each architecture of IL2R-CISC (i.e. 1210, 1211, and 1233) was cis-linked together with GFP using 2A sequences, and placed under the control of an MND promoter in a lentiviral expression cassette (as schematized in **Figure 5**, bottom). Lentiviral particles from each IL2R-CISC architecture were generated and used to transduce primary human T-cells. Following transduction, the cells were grown for 2 days in IL2, and then divided in half, with half grown in IL2 alone and half in rapamycin alone, as indicated.

[0044] **Figure 7A** demonstrates efficient transduction of T-cells using a lentiviral vector driving expression of GFP alone. **Figure 7B** shows the expression of 1210, 1211, and 1233 expressed using a vector outlined at the bottom of **Figure 3** – MND-IL2Rb-CISC-2A-IL2Rg-CISC-2A-GFP, as compared to mock and MND-GFP retroviral vector. T cells were activated for 48 hours and then incubated for 28 hours. T cells were plated with IL-2/7/15. Lentiviral transduction included IL2-CISC of MND-GFP control with protamine sulfate. Transduced cells were incubated at 37°C for 24 hours with cytokine (IL-2, 50 ng/mL; IL-5, 5 ng/mL; IL-17, 5 ng/mL). IL2-CISC expression was determined by GFP expression using flow cytometry.

[0045] **Figure 8** shows flow analysis of cells. Top flow panels show Flow Analysis of cells for GFP expression (X-axis) and FRB expression (the extracellular domain of the IL2Rg-CISC component, Y-axis) at 2 days (just prior to placing cells into IL2 or rapamycin cultures). Bottom two flow panels show Flow Analysis of cells for GFP expression (X-axis) and FRB expression 4 days post transduction, 2 days following division into culture in IL2 alone (top panels), or rapamycin (bottom panel). Note that in particular for 1233 (bottom right flow panel), cells cultured in rapamycin alone are beginning to enrich for IL2R-CISC expression as read out by the cis-linked GFP marker.

[0046] **Figure 9** shows flow analysis of cells. Top two flow panels show Flow Analysis of cells for GFP expression (X-axis) and FRB expression 6 days post transduction, 4 days following division into culture in IL2 alone (top panels), or rapamycin (bottom panel). Note the further enrichment of the GFP marker for 1233. Bottom two flow panels show Flow Analysis of cells for GFP expression (X-axis) and FRB expression 9 days post transduction, 7 days following division into culture in IL2 alone (top panels), or rapamycin (bottom panel). Note the further enrichment of the 1233 GFP+ cells.

[0047] **Figure 10** shows flow analysis of cells. Top two flow panels show Flow Analysis of cells for GFP expression (X-axis) and FRB expression 12 days post transduction, 10 days following division of culture in IL2 alone (top panels), or rapamycin (bottom panel). Bottom two flow panels show Flow Analysis of cells for GFP expression (X-axis) and FRB expression 17 days post transduction, 15 days following dividing into culture in IL2 alone (top panels), or rapamycin (bottom panel). Cells expressing the 1233 IL2R-CISC are now enriched to 97% of the cell population (far bottom right flow panel).

[0048] **Figure 11** demonstrates the enrichment of IL2R-CISC V3 expressing cells over the course of 15 days of an experiment as outlined in **Figure 6**, but carried out for 25 days. The leftmost single panel represents the cells at the start of rapamycin treatment. Each row of panels represents a different treatment. As can be seen in the bottom row, by 15 days, the IL2R-CISC V3 cells had enriched from a starting transduced population of 64% mCherry positive to >93% mCherry positive when cultured in rapamycin. In contrast, mock IL-2 treatments resulted in a gradual reduction in mCherry positive cells.

[0049] **Figure 12** shows expansion of mCherry positive cell numbers, using the same experimental paradigm as outlined in **Figure 6**, but carried out for 25 days. The cell type is indicated in bold in the upper left corner of each panel. Each curve indicated by different symbols delineates a different treatment/culture condition maintained for the 25 days. **Figure 12** shows that only the cells expressing the IL2R-CISC V3 exhibited significant rapamycin-induced expansion over the course of the 25 days of the experiment.

[0050] **Figure 13** shows expansion of mock, GFP, or IL2R-CISC V3 expressing cells, using the same experimental paradigm as outlined in **Figure 6**, but carried out for 30 days, and utilizing two different rapamycin doses, 1 nM and 10 nM. The cell type is indicated in bold in the upper left corner of each panel. Each curve indicated by different symbols delineates a different treatment/culture condition maintained over the course of the experiment. **Figure 13** shows that cells expressing the IL2R-CISC V3 exhibited significant rapamycin-induced expansion over the course of the experiment, and that 1 nM rapamycin induced the most robust cell expansion.

[0051] **Figure 14** shows analysis of phosphor-STAT5 signaling in response to the treatments indicated at the top of each column, for the cell types indicated for each row (after 20 days of culture in the indicated condition). As can be seen, cells that received “mock” treatment (row 1) are no longer responsive, as essentially no cells are alive after 20 days. In contrast, while all other cells respond robustly to IL-2 treatment, only IL2R-CISC expressing cells respond to rapamycin with phosphorylation of STAT5, and IL2R-CISC V3 expressing cells respond most robustly, confirming that the V3 architecture signals most effectively.

[0052] **Figure 15** demonstrates the enrichment of IL2R-CISC V3 expressing cells over the course of 15 days of an experiment identical to that in **Figure 11**, except that AP21967 was used as the IL2R-CISC activating ligand. The leftmost single panel represents

the cells at the start of AP21967 treatment. Each row of panels represents a different treatment. As can be seen in the bottom row, by 15 days, the IL2R-CISC V3 cells had enriched from a starting transduced population of 64% mCherry positive to >93% mCherry positive when cultured in AP21967. In contrast, mock IL-2 treatments resulted in a gradual reduction in mCherry positive cells.

[0053] **Figure 16** shows expansion of mock, GFP, or IL2R-CISC V3 expressing cells, using the same experimental paradigm as outlined in **Figure 6**, but carried out for 30 days, and utilizing two different AP21967 doses, 10 nM and 100 nM. The cell type is indicated in bold in the upper left corner of each panel. Each curve indicated by different symbols delineates a different treatment/culture condition maintained over the course of the experiment. **Figure 16** demonstrates that cells expressing the IL2R-CISC V3 exhibited significant AP21967-induced expansion over the course of the experiment, and that 100 nM AP21967 induced the most robust cell expansion.

[0054] **Figure 17** shows cytolytic activity following expansion of IL2R-CISC V3 expressing cells in the indicated conditions for 15 days, using the experimental setup in **Figure 6**, cells were transduced with IL2R-CISC V3 lentivirus, and expanded for 15 days. Cells were then incubated with K562 cells expressing anti-CD3. The expression of anti-CD3 by the target K562 cells causes clustering of CD3 on the T-cells upon contact with the K562 cell, resulting in cytolytic killing of the K562 cells. The IL2R-CISC V3 expressing T-cells expanded in the indicated condition were incubated at different target to killer ratios, and cytolysis was assessed by percent survival of the K562 target cells. Cells expanded through IL2R-CISC exhibited cytolytic activity that was statistically indistinguishable from cells expanded in IL-2.

[0055] **Figure 18** shows that 500 ng/mL of anti-IL2 neutralizing antibody abrogates expansion of T-cells in IL-2. In this experiment, peripheral blood T-cells were activated using anti-CD3/CD28 beads, and expanded in IL-2 or in IL-2 plus anti-IL2 antibody. Use of the anti-IL2 antibody markedly inhibits expansion of the T-cells.

[0056] **Figure 19** shows that 500 ng/mL of anti-IL2 neutralizing antibody is unable to block the expansion of IL2R-CISC expressing T-cells cultured in an IL2R-CISC ligand (either rapamycin or AP21967). Peripheral blood T-cells were activated using anti-CD3/CD28 beads, transduced with IL2R-CISC V3 lentivirus, and expanded in the indicated

IL2R-CISC ligand plus anti-IL2 antibody. Use of the anti-IL2 antibody did not inhibit expansion of the T-cells, demonstrating that the IL2R-CISC acts cell autonomously to provide a growth signal.

[0057] **Figure 20** shows a FACS assay that is a T-cell marker analysis for CISC V3 expanded cells. Peripheral blood T-cells were activated using anti-CD3/CD28 beads transduced with IL2R-CISC V3 lentivirus, expanded in IL-2 or the indicated IL2R-CISC ligand for 15 days. Cells expanded in IL-2 have generally low expression of CD25, the IL2R alpha subunit, reflecting IL2R turnover in response to IL-2. In contrast, cells expanded through their IL2R-CISC receptors have high CD25 expression, as low media IL-2 promotes minimal turnover of native IL2R.

[0058] **Figure 21** shows a schematic of testing of additional CISC architectures with longer segments between IL2R components and chemical dimerizing domains (FRB, FKBP).

[0059] **Figure 22** shows the timeline and experimental design for treating the cells transduced by the lentiviral stock with longer IL2R-CISC linker architectures V4-V7.

[0060] **Figure 23** shows the transduction efficiency of the lentiviral stock with longer IL2R-CISC linker architectures V4-V7 from **Figure 22**.

[0061] **Figure 24** shows that rapamycin-induced expansion is similar for all CISC architectures with expanded EC-domain to TM linkers. Peripheral blood T-cells were activated using anti-CD3/CD28 beads, transduced with IL2R-CISC V3-V7 lentivirus respectively, and expanded in the indicated IL2R-CISC ligand. The V3-V7 IL2R-CISC architectures were all able to induce T-cell expansion of comparable magnitude.

[0062] **Figure 25** shows a schematic of the Targeted knock-in of an MND promoter and CISC to enrich/expand gene targeted T-cells. The described targeting approach integrates a promoter and both components of an IL2R-CISC V3 into the FOXP3 locus in line with a GFP fusion to the native FOXP3 gene. This architecture is intended to allow for ligand-induced selection of cells which have undergone an accurate gene targeting event.

[0063] **Figure 26** depicts a schematic diagram showing an experimental design of targeted knock-in of MND promoter and CISC. This represents an experimental schematic of how a CRISP/Cas9 nuclease is used to induce targeted integration of the cassettes from

Figure 25 into the FOXP3 locus, followed by expansion of the gene targeted cells in the indicated IL2R-CISC ligand.

[0064] **Figure 27** shows results for targeted knock-in of MND promoter and CISC with rapamycin contact for 15 days, leading to enrichment of gene targeted cells. Following targeted integration into the FOXP3 locus utilizing the indicated approaches (no targeting, or RNP plus each of the cassettes described in **Figure 25**), cells were cultured in the indicated conditions for 15 days, and then analyzed by flow cytometry for GFP-FOXP3 expression. Expansion in rapamycin or AP21967 resulted in substantial enrichment of FOXP3 expressing cells, indicating that the IL2R-CISC are able to drive ligand-induced enrichment of gene targeted cell populations, including those in which FOXP3 is overexpressed. Flow panels are representative of IL2R-CISC GFP-FOXP3 expression by cells cultured in rapamycin.

[0065] **Figure 28** shows results for targeted knock-in of MND promoter and CISC, with rapamycin + IL-2 contact for 15 days, resulting in no enrichment of gene targeted cells. Following targeted integration into the FOXP3 locus utilizing the indicated approaches, cells were cultured in the indicated conditions for 15 days, and then analyzed by flow cytometry for GFP-FOXP3 expression. Expansion in rapamycin + IL2 resulted in no detectable enrichment or loss of FOXP3 expressing cells vs untreated cells, indicating that the IL2R-CISC does not detrimentally affect the function of FOXP3 overexpressing cells. Flow panels are representative of IL2R-CISC GFP-FOXP3 expression by cells cultured in IL-2 + rapamycin.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0066] Described herein are compositions of chemical-induced signaling complex (CISC), and methods of making and using the same. The CISC can be used for activating a signal through a signaling pathway in a cell and for the selective expansion of cells.

Definitions

[0067] Unless defined otherwise, all technical and scientific terms used herein have the same meaning as commonly understood by one of ordinary skill in the art to which the disclosure pertains. All patents, applications, published applications and other

publications referenced herein are expressly incorporated by reference in their entireties unless stated otherwise. In the event that there are a plurality of definitions for a term herein, those in this section prevail unless stated otherwise.

[0068] As used herein, “a” or “an” may mean one or more than one.

[0069] “About” has its plain and ordinary meaning when read in light of the specification, and may be used, for example, when referring to a measurable value and may be meant to encompass variations of $\pm 20\%$ or $\pm 10\%$, more preferably $\pm 5\%$, even more preferably $\pm 1\%$, and still more preferably $\pm 0.1\%$ from the specified value.

[0070] As used herein, “protein sequence” refers to a polypeptide sequence of amino acids that is the primary structure of a protein. As used herein “upstream” refers to positions 5’ of a location on a polynucleotide, and positions toward the N-terminus of a location on a polypeptide. As used herein “downstream” refers to positions 3’ of a location on nucleotide, and positions toward the C-terminus of a location on a polypeptide. Thus, the term “N-terminal” refers to the position of an element or location on a polynucleotide toward the N-terminus of a location on a polypeptide.

[0071] “Nucleic acid” or “nucleic acid molecule” refers to polynucleotides, such as deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) or ribonucleic acid (RNA), oligonucleotides, fragments generated by the polymerase chain reaction (PCR), and fragments generated by any of ligation, scission, endonuclease action, and exonuclease action. Nucleic acid molecules can be composed of monomers that are naturally-occurring nucleotides (such as DNA and RNA), or analogs of naturally-occurring nucleotides (e.g., enantiomeric forms of naturally-occurring nucleotides), or a combination of both. Modified nucleotides can have alterations in sugar moieties and/or in pyrimidine or purine base moieties. Sugar modifications include, for example, replacement of one or more hydroxyl groups with halogens, alkyl groups, amines, and azido groups, or sugars can be functionalized as ethers or esters. Moreover, the entire sugar moiety can be replaced with sterically and electronically similar structures, such as aza-sugars and carbocyclic sugar analogs. Examples of modifications in a base moiety include alkylated purines and pyrimidines, acylated purines or pyrimidines, or other well-known heterocyclic substitutes. Nucleic acid monomers can be linked by phosphodiester bonds or analogs of such linkages. Analogs of phosphodiester linkages include phosphorothioate, phosphorodithioate, phosphoroselenoate, phosphorodiselenoate,

phosphoroanilothioate, phosphoranimidate, phosphoramidate, and the like. The term “nucleic acid molecule” also comprises so-called “peptide nucleic acids,” which comprise naturally-occurring or modified nucleic acid bases attached to a polyamide backbone. Nucleic acids can be either single stranded or double stranded. In some embodiments, a nucleic acid sequence encoding a fusion protein is provided. In some embodiments, the nucleic acid is RNA or DNA.

[0072] “Coding for” or “encoding” are used herein, and refers to the property of specific sequences of nucleotides in a polynucleotide, such as a gene, a cDNA, or an mRNA, to serve as templates for synthesis of other macromolecules such as a defined sequence of amino acids. Thus, a gene codes for a protein if transcription and translation of mRNA corresponding to that gene produces the protein in a cell or other biological system.

[0073] A “nucleic acid sequence coding for a polypeptide” comprises all nucleotide sequences that are degenerate versions of each other and that code for the same amino acid sequence. In some embodiments, a nucleic acid is provided, wherein the nucleic acid encodes a fusion protein.

[0074] “Vector,” “expression vector,” or “construct” is a nucleic acid used to introduce heterologous nucleic acids into a cell that has regulatory elements to provide expression of the heterologous nucleic acids in the cell. Vectors include but are not limited to plasmid, minicircles, yeast, and viral genomes. In some embodiments, the vectors are plasmid, minicircles, yeast, or viral genomes. In some embodiments, the vector is a viral vector. In some embodiments, the viral vector is a lentivirus. In some embodiments, the vector is an adeno-associated viral (AAV) vector. In some embodiments, the vector is for protein expression in a bacterial system such as *E. coli*. As used herein, the term “expression,” or “protein expression” refers to refers to the translation of a transcribed RNA molecule into a protein molecule. Protein expression may be characterized by its temporal, spatial, developmental, or morphological qualities as well as by quantitative or qualitative indications. In some embodiments, the protein or proteins are expressed such that the proteins are positioned for dimerization in the presence of a ligand.

[0075] As used herein, “fusion proteins” or “chimeric proteins” are proteins created through the joining of two or more genes that originally coded for separate proteins or portions of proteins. The fusion proteins can also be made up of specific protein domains

from two or more separate proteins. Translation of this fusion gene can result in a single or multiple polypeptides with functional properties derived from each of the original proteins. Recombinant fusion proteins can be created artificially by recombinant DNA technology for use in biological research or therapeutics. Such methods for creating fusion proteins are known to those skilled in the art. Some fusion proteins combine whole peptides and therefore can contain all domains, especially functional domains, of the original proteins. However, other fusion proteins, especially those that are non-naturally occurring, combine only portions of coding sequences and therefore do not maintain the original functions of the parental genes that formed them. In some embodiments, a fusion protein is provided, wherein the fusion protein comprises an interferon and a PD-1 protein.

[0076] As used herein, the term “regulatory element” refers to a DNA molecule having gene regulatory activity, e.g., one that has the ability to affect the transcription and/or translation of an operably linked transcribable DNA molecule. Regulatory elements such as promoters, leaders, introns, and transcription termination regions are DNA molecules that have gene regulatory activity and play an integral part in the overall expression of genes in living cells. Isolated regulatory elements, such as promoters, that function in plants are therefore useful for modifying plant phenotypes through the methods of genetic engineering.

[0077] As used herein, the term “operably linked” refers to a first molecule joined to a second molecule, wherein the molecules are so arranged that the first molecule affects the function of the second molecule. The two molecules may be part of a single contiguous molecule and may be adjacent. For example, a promoter is operably linked to a transcribable DNA molecule if the promoter modulates transcription of the transcribable DNA molecule of interest in a cell.

[0078] A “promoter” is a region of DNA that initiates transcription of a specific gene. The promoters can be located near the transcription start site of a gene, on the same strand and upstream on the DNA (the 5' region of the sense strand). The promoter can be a conditional, inducible or a constitutive promoter. The promoter can be specific for bacterial, mammalian or insect cell protein expression. In some embodiments, wherein a nucleic acid encoding a fusion protein is provided, the nucleic acid further comprises a promoter sequence. In some embodiments, the promoter is specific for bacterial, mammalian or insect

cell protein expression. In some embodiments, the promoter is a conditional, inducible or a constitutive promoter

[0079] “Conditional” or “inducible” as used herein refers to a nucleic acid construct that comprises a promoter that provides for gene expression in the presence of an inducer and does not substantially provide for gene expression in the absence of the inducer.

[0080] “Constitutive” as used herein refer to the nucleic acid construct that comprises a promoter that is constitutive, and thus provides for expression of a polypeptide that is continuously produced.

[0081] In some embodiments, the inducible promoter has a low level of basal activity. In some embodiments, wherein a lentiviral vector is used, the level of basal activity in uninduced cells is 20%, 15%, 10%, 5%, 4%, 3%, 2%, 1% or less (but not zero) or within a range defined by any two of the aforementioned values, as compared to when cells are induced to express the gene. The level of basal activity can be determined by measuring the amount of the expression of the transgene (e.g. marker gene) in the absence of the inducer (e.g. drug) using flow cytometry. In some embodiments described herein a marker protein such as Akt is used for determination of expression.

[0082] In some embodiments, the inducible promoter provides for a high level of induced activity, as compared to uninduced or basal activity. In some embodiments, the level of activity in the induced state is 2, 4, 6, 8, 9 or 10 fold or greater than the activity level in the uninduced state or within a range defined by any two of the aforementioned values. In some embodiments, transgene expression under control of the inducible promoter is turned off in the absence of a transactivator in less than 10, 8, 6, 4, 2, or 1 days excluding 0 days or within a range defined by any two of the aforementioned time periods.

[0083] In some embodiments, an inducible promoter is designed and/or modified to provide for a low level of basal activity, a high level of inducibility, and/or a short time for reversibility.

[0084] “Dimeric chemical-induced signaling complex,” “dimeric CISC,” or “dimer” as used herein refers to two components of a CISC, which may or may not be fusion protein complexes that join together. “Dimerization” refers to the process of the joining together of two separate entities into a single entity. In some embodiments, a ligand or agent stimulates dimerization. In some embodiments, dimerization refers to

homodimerization, or the joining of two identical entities, such as two identical CISC components. In some embodiments, dimerization refers to heterodimerization, of the joining of two different entities, such as two different and distinct CISC components. In some embodiments, the dimerization of the CISC components results in a cellular signaling pathway. In some embodiments, the dimerization of the CISC components allows for the selective expansion of a cell or a population of cells. Additional CISC systems can include a CISC gibberellin CISC dimerization system, or a SLF-TMP CISC dimerization system. Other chemically inducible dimerization (CID) systems and component parts may be used.

[0085] As used herein, “chemical-induced signaling complex” or “CISC” refers to an engineered complex that initiates a signal into the interior of a cell as a direct outcome of ligand-induced dimerization. A CISC may be a homodimer (dimerization of two identical components) or a heterodimer (dimerization of two distinct components). Thus, as used herein the term “homodimer” refers to a dimer of two protein components described herein with identical amino acid sequences. The term “heterodimer” refers to a dimer of two protein components described herein with non-identical amino acid sequences.

[0086] The CISC may be a synthetic complex as described herein in greater detail. “Synthetic” as used herein refers to a complex, protein, dimer, or composition, as described herein, which is not natural, or that is not found in nature. In some embodiments, an IL2R-CISC refers to a signaling complex that involves interleukin-2 receptor components. In some embodiments, an IL2/15-CISC refers to a signaling complex that involves receptor signaling subunits that are shared by interleukin-2 and interleukin-15. In some embodiments, an IL7-CISC refers to a signaling complex that involves an interleukin-7 receptor components. A CISC may thus be termed according to the component parts that make up the components of a given CISC. One of skill in the art will recognize that the component parts of the chemical-induced signaling complex may be composed of a natural or a synthetic component useful for incorporation into a CISC. Thus, the examples provided herein are not intended to be limiting.

[0087] As used herein, “cytokine receptor” refers to receptor molecules that recognize and bind to cytokines. In some embodiments, cytokine receptor encompasses modified cytokine receptor molecules (e.g., “variant cytokine receptors”), comprising those with substitutions, deletions, and/or additions to the cytokine receptor amino acid and/or

nucleic acid sequence. Thus, it is intended that the term encompass wild-type, as well as, recombinant, synthetically-produced, and variant cytokine receptors. In some embodiments, the cytokine receptor is a fusion protein, comprising an extracellular binding domain, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and a signaling domain. In some embodiments, the components of the receptor (that is, the domains of the receptor) are natural or synthetic. In some embodiments, the domains are human derived domains.

[0088] “FKBP” as used herein, is a FK506 binding protein domain. FKBP refers to a family of proteins that have prolyl isomerase activity and are related to the cyclophilins in function, though not in amino acid sequence. FKBPs have been identified in many eukaryotes from yeast to humans and function as protein folding chaperones for proteins containing proline residues. Along with cyclophilin, FKBPs belong to the immunophilin family. The term FKBP comprises, for example, FKBP12 as well as, proteins encoded by the genes AIP; AIPL1; FKBP1A; FKBP1B; FKBP2; FKBP3; FKBP5; FKBP6; FKBP7; FKBP8; FKBP9; FKBP9L; FKBP10; FKBP11; FKBP14; FKBP15; FKBP52; and/or LOC541473; comprising homologs thereof and functional protein fragments thereof.

[0089] “FRB” as used herein, as a FKBP rapamycin binding domain. FRB domains are polypeptide regions (protein “domains”) that are configured to form a tripartite complex with an FKBP protein and rapamycin or rapalog thereof. FRB domains are present in a number of naturally occurring proteins, comprising mTOR proteins (also referred to in the literature as FRAP, RAPT 1, or RAFT) from human and other species; yeast proteins comprising Tor1 and/or Tor2; and a *Candida* FRAP homolog. Both FKBP and FRB are major constituents in the mammalian target of rapamycin (mTOR) signaling.

[0090] Cereblon interacts with damaged DNA binding protein 1 and forms an E3 ubiquitin ligase complex with Cullin 4 where it functions as a substrate receptor in which the proteins recognized by cereblon may be ubiquitinated and degraded by proteasomes. Proteasome-mediated degradation of unneeded or damaged proteins plays a very important role in maintaining regular function of a cell, such as cell survival, proliferation and/or growth. The binding of immunomodulatory imide drugs (IMIDs), e.g. thalidomide, to cereblon has been associated with teratogenicity and also the cytotoxicity of IMIDs, including lenalidomide. Cereblon is a key player in the binding, ubiquitination, and degradation of factors involved in maintaining function of myeloma cells.

[0091] “Cereblon thalidomide binding domain” refers to a binding domain that is an extracellular binding domain that interacts with an IMID, comprising, for example, thalidomide, pomalidomide, lenalidomide, apremilast, or related analogues. Some embodiments provided herein utilize cereblon thalidomide binding domain analogues or mutants thereof. In some embodiments, these extracellular binding domains are configured to simultaneously bind to an IMID ligand.

[0092] In some embodiments, the immunomodulatory imide drug used in the approaches described herein may comprise:

[0093] thalidomide (including analogues, derivatives, and including pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof. Thalidomide may include Immunoprin, Thalomid, Talidex, Talizer, Neurosedyn, α -(N-Phthalimido)glutarimide, 2-(2,6-dioxopiperidin-3-yl)-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-1,3-dione);

[0094] pomalidomide (including analogues, derivatives, and including pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof. Pomalidomide may include Pomalyst, Imnovid, (RS)-4-Amino-2-(2,6-dioxopiperidin-3-yl)isoindole-1,3-dione);

[0095] lenalidomide (including analogues, derivatives, and including pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof. Lenalidomide may include Revlimid, (RS)-3-(4-Amino-1-oxo-1,3-dihydro-2H-isoindol-2-yl)piperidine-2,6-dione); or

[0096] apremilast (including analogues, derivatives, and including pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof. Apremilast may include Otezla, CC-10004, N-{2-[(1S)-1-(3-Ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(methylsulfonyl)ethyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindol-4-yl}acetamide);

[0097] or any combinations thereof.

[0098] As used herein, the term “extracellular binding domain” refers to a domain of a complex that is outside of the cell, and which is configured to bind to a specific atom or molecule. In some embodiments, the extracellular binding domain of a CISC is a FKBP domain or a portion thereof. In some embodiments, the extracellular binding domain is an FRB domain or a portion thereof. In some embodiments, the extracellular binding domain is configured to bind a ligand or agent, thereby stimulating dimerization of two CISC components. In some embodiments, the extracellular binding domain is configured to bind to a cytokine receptor modulator.

[0099] As used herein, the term “cytokine receptor modulator” refers to an agent, which modulates the phosphorylation of a downstream target of a cytokine receptor, the activation of a signal transduction pathway associated with a cytokine receptor, and/or the expression of a particular protein such as a cytokine. Such an agent may directly or indirectly modulate the phosphorylation of a downstream target of a cytokine receptor, the activation of a signal transduction pathway associated with a cytokine receptor, and/or the expression of a particular protein such as a cytokine. Thus, examples of cytokine receptor modulators include, but are not limited to, cytokines, fragments of cytokines, fusion proteins and/or antibodies or binding portions thereof that immunospecifically bind to a cytokine receptor or a fragment thereof. Further, examples of cytokine receptor modulators include, but are not limited to, peptides, polypeptides (e.g., soluble cytokine receptors), fusion proteins and/or antibodies or binding portions thereof that immunospecifically bind to a cytokine or a fragment thereof.

[0100] As used herein, the term “activate” refers to an increase in at least one biological activity of a protein of interest. Similarly, the term “activation” refers to a state of a protein of interest being in a state of increased activity. The term “activatable” refers to the ability of a protein of interest to become activated in the presence of a signal, an agent, a ligand, a compound, or a stimulus. In some embodiments, a dimer, as described herein, is activated in the presence of a signal, an agent, a ligand, a compound, or a stimulus, and becomes a signaling competent dimer. As used herein, the term “signaling competent” refers to the ability or configuration of the dimer so as to be capable of initiating or sustaining a downstream signaling pathway.

[0101] As used herein, the term “hinge domain” refers to a domain that links the extracellular binding domain to the transmembrane domain, and may confer flexibility to the extracellular binding domain. In some embodiments, the hinge domain positions the extracellular domain close to the plasma membrane to minimize the potential for recognition by antibodies or binding fragments thereof. In some embodiments, the extracellular binding domain is located N-terminal to the hinge domain. In some embodiments, the hinge domain may be natural or synthetic.

[0102] As used herein, the term “transmembrane domain” or “TM domain” refers to a domain that is stable in a membrane, such as in a cell membrane. The terms

“transmembrane span,” “integral protein,” and “integral domain” are also used herein. In some embodiments, the hinge domain and the extracellular domain is located N-terminal to the transmembrane domain. In some embodiments, the transmembrane domain is a natural or a synthetic domain. In some embodiments, the transmembrane domain is an IL-2 transmembrane domain.

[0103] As used herein, the term “signaling domain” refers to a domain of the fusion protein or CISC component that is involved in a signaling cascade inside the cell, such as a mammalian cell. A signaling domain refers to a signaling moiety that provides to cells, such as T-cells, a signal which, in addition to the primary signal provided by for instance the CD3 zeta chain of the TCR/CD3 complex, mediates a cellular response, such as a T-cell response, comprising, but not limited to, activation, proliferation, differentiation, and/or cytokine secretion. In some embodiments, the signaling domain is N-terminal to the transmembrane domain, the hinge domain, and the extracellular domain. In some embodiments, the signaling domain is a synthetic or a natural domain. In some embodiments, the signaling domain is a concatenated cytoplasmic signaling domain. In some embodiments, the signaling domain is a cytokine signaling domain. In some embodiments, the signaling domain is an antigen signaling domain. In some embodiments, the signaling domain is an interleukin-2 receptor subunit gamma (IL2R γ or IL2Rg) domain. In some embodiments, the signaling domain is an interleukin-2 receptor subunit beta (IL2R β or IL2Rb) domain. In some embodiments, binding of an agent or ligand to the extracellular binding domain causes a signal transduction through the signaling domain by the activation of a signaling pathway, as a result of dimerization of the CISC components. As used herein, the term “signal transduction” refers to the activation of a signaling pathway by a ligand or an agent binding to the extracellular domain. Activation of a signal is a result of the binding of the extracellular domain to the ligand or agent, resulting in CISC dimerization.

[0104] As used herein, the term “IL2R β ” or “IL2R β ” refers to an interleukin-2 receptor subunit beta. Similarly, the term “IL2Rg” or IL2R γ ” refers to an interleukin-2 receptor subunit gamma, and the term “IL2Ra” or “IL2Ra” refers to an interleukin-2 receptor subunit alpha. The IL-2 receptor has three forms, or chains, alpha, beta, and gamma, which are also subunits for receptors for other cytokines. IL2R β and IL2R γ are members of the type I cytokine receptor family. “IL2R” as used herein refers to interleukin-2 receptor, which is

involved in T cell-mediated immune responses. IL2R is involved in receptor-mediated endocytosis and transduction of mitogenic signals from interleukin 2. Similarly, the term “IL-2/15R” refers to a receptor signaling subunit that is shared by IL-2 and IL-15, and may include a subunit alpha (IL2/15Ra or IL2/15R α), beta (IL2/15Rb or IL2/15R β , or gamma (IL2/15Rg or IL2/15R γ).

[0105] In some embodiments, a chemical-induced signaling complex is a heterodimerization activated signaling complex comprising two components. In some embodiments, the first component comprises an extracellular binding domain that is one part of a heterodimerization pair, an optional hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and one or more concatenated cytoplasmic signaling domains. In some embodiments, the second component comprises an extracellular binding domain that is the other part of a heterodimerization pair, an optional hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and one or more concatenated cytoplasmic signaling domains. Thus, in some embodiments, there are two distinct modification events. In some embodiments, the two CISC components are expressed in a cell, such as a mammalian cell. In some embodiments, the cell, such as a mammalian cell, or a population of cells, such as a population of mammalian cells, is contacted with a ligand or agent that causes heterodimerization, thereby initiating a signal. In some embodiments, a homodimerization pair dimerize, whereby a single CISC component is expressed in a cell, such as a mammalian cell, and the CISC components homodimerize to initiate a signal.

[0106] As used herein, the term “ligand” or “agent” refers to a molecule that has a desired biological effect. In some embodiments, a ligand is recognized by and bound by an extracellular binding domain, forming a tripartite complex comprising the ligand and two binding CISC components. Ligands include, but are not limited to, proteinaceous molecules, comprising, but not limited to, peptides, polypeptides, proteins, post-translationally modified proteins, antibodies, binding portions thereof; small molecules (less than 1000 Daltons), inorganic or organic compounds; and nucleic acid molecules comprising, but not limited to, double-stranded or single-stranded DNA, or double-stranded or single-stranded RNA (e.g., antisense, RNAi, etc.), aptamers, as well as, triple helix nucleic acid molecules. Ligands can be derived or obtained from any known organism (comprising, but not limited to, animals (e.g., mammals (human and non-human mammals)), plants, bacteria, fungi, and protista, or

viruses) or from a library of synthetic molecules. In some embodiments, the ligand is a protein, an antibody or portion thereof, a small molecule, or a drug. In some embodiments, the ligand is rapamycin or a rapamycin analog (rapalogs). In some embodiments, the rapalog comprises variants of rapamycin having one or more of the following modifications relative to rapamycin: demethylation, elimination or replacement of the methoxy at C7, C42 and/or C29; elimination, derivatization or replacement of the hydroxy at C13, C43 and/or C28; reduction, elimination or derivatization of the ketone at C14, C24 and/or C30; replacement of the 6-membered pipecolate ring with a 5-membered prolyl ring; and alternative substitution on the cyclohexyl ring or replacement of the cyclohexyl ring with a substituted cyclopentyl ring. Thus, in some embodiments, the rapalog is everolimus, merolimus, novolimus, pimecrolimus, ridaforolimus, tacrolimus, temsirolimus, umirolimus, zotarolimus, CCI-779, C20-methallylrapamycin, C16-(S)-3-methylindololrapamycin, C16-iRap, AP21967, sodium mycophenolic acid, benidipine hydrochloride, AP23573, or AP1903, or metabolites, derivatives, and/or combinations thereof. In some embodiments, the ligand is an IMID-class drug (e.g. thalidomide, pomalidomide, lenalidomide or related analogues).

[0107] Accordingly, in some embodiments, the ligand or agent used in the approaches described herein for chemical induction of the signaling complex may comprise:

[0108] rapamycin (including analogues, derivatives, and including pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof. Rapamycin may include Sirolimus, Rapamune, (3S,6R,7E,9R,10R,12R,14S,15E,17E,19E,21S,23S,26R,27R,34aS)-9,10,12,13,14,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,32,33,34,34a-hexadecahydro-9,27-dihydroxy-3-[(1R)-2-[(1S,3R,4R)-4-hydroxy-3-methoxycyclohexyl]-1-methylethyl]-10,21-dimethoxy-6,8,12,14,20,26-hexamethyl-23,27-epoxy-3H-pyrido[2,1-c][1,4] oxaazacycloheptenatriacontine-1,5,11,28,29 (4H,6H,31H)-pentone);

[0109] everolimus (including analogues, derivatives, and including pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof. Everolimus may include RAD001, Zortress, Certican, Afinitor, Votubia, 42-O-(2-hydroxyethyl)rapamycin, (1R,9S,12S,15R,16E,18R,19R,21R,23S,24E,26E,28E,30S,32S,35R)-1,18-dihydroxy-12-[(2R)-1-[(1S,3R,4R)-4-(2-hydroxyethoxy)-3-methoxycyclohexyl]propan-2-yl]-19,30-dimethoxy-15,17,21,23,29,35-hexamethyl-11,36-dioxa-4-azatricyclo[30.3.1.0□,□]hexatriaconta-16,24,26,28-tetraene-2,3,10,14,20-pentone);

[0110] merilimus (including analogues, derivatives, and including pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof. Merilimus may include SAR943, 42-O-(tetrahydrofuran-3-yl)rapamycin (Merilimus-1); 42-O-(oxetan-3-yl)rapamycin (Merilimus-2), 42-O-(tetrahydropyran-3-yl)rapamycin (Merilimus-3), 42-O-(4-methyl, tetrahydrofuran-3-yl)rapamycin, 42-O-(2,5,5-trimethyl, tetrahydrofuran-3-yl) rapamycin, 42-O-(2,5-diethyl-2-methyl, tetrahydrofuran-3-yl)rapamycin, 42-O-(2H-Pyran-3-yl, tetrahydro-6-methoxy-2-methyl)rapamycin, or 42-O-(2H-Pyran-3-yl, tetrahydro-2,2-dimethyl-6-phenyl)rapamycin);

[0111] novolimus (including analogues, derivatives, and including pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof. Novolimus may include 16-O-Demethyl Rapamycin);

[0112] pimecrolimus (including analogues, derivatives, and including pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof. Pimecrolimus may include Elidel, (3S,4R,5S,8R,9E,12S,14S,15R,16S,18R,19R,26aS)-3-((E)-2-((1R,3R,4S)-4-chloro-3-methoxycyclohexyl)-1-methylvinyl)-8-ethyl 5,6,8,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,24,26,26a hexadecahydro-5,19-epoxy-3H-pyrido(2,1-c)(1,4)oxaazacyclotricosine-1,17,20,21(4H,23H)-tetrone 33-epi-Chloro-33-desoxyascomycin);

[0113] ridaforolimus (including analogues, derivatives, and including pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof. Ridaforolimus may include AP23573, MK-8669, deforolimus, (1R,9S,12S,15R,16E,18R,19R,21R,23S,24E,26E,28E,30S,32S,35R)-12-((1R)-2-((1S,3R,4R)-4-((Dimethylphosphinoyl)oxy)-3-methoxycyclohexyl)-1-methylethyl)-1,18-dihydroxy-19,30-dimethoxy15,17,21,23,29,35-hexamethyl-11,36-dioxa-4-azatricyclo(30.3.1.04,9)hexatriaconta-16,24,26,28-tetraene-2,3,10,14,20-pentone);

[0114] tacrolimus (including analogues, derivatives, and including pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof. Tacrolimus may include FK-506, fujimycin, Prograf, Advagraf, protopic, 3S-[3R*[E(1S*,3S*,4S*)],4S*,5R*,8S*,9E,12R*,14R*,15S*,16R*,18S*,19S*,26aR*5,6,8,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,24,25,26,26a-hexadecahydro-5,19-dihydroxy-3-[2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxycyclohexyl)-1-methylethenyl]-14,16-dimethoxy-4,10,12,18-tetramethyl-8-(2-propenyl)-15,19-epoxy-3H-pyrido[2,1-c] [1,4] oxaazacyclotricosine-1,7,20,21(4H,23H)-tetrone, monohydrate);

[0115] temsirolimus (including analogues, derivatives, and including pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof. Temsirolimus may include CCI-779, CCL-779, Torisel, (1R,2R,4S)-4-{(2R)-2-[(3S,6R,7E,9R,10R,12R,14S,15E,17E,19E,21S,23S,26R,27R,34aS)-9,27-dihydroxy-10,21-dimethoxy-6,8,12,14,20,26-hexamethyl-1,5,11,28,29-pentaoxo-1,4,5,6,9,10,11,12,13,14,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,29,31,32,33,34,34a-tetracosahydro-3H-23,27-epoxypyrido[2,1-c][1,4]oxazacycloheptracontin-3-yl]propyl}-2-methoxycyclohexyl 3-hydroxy-2-(hydroxymethyl)-2-methylpropanoate);

[0116] umirolimus (including analogues, derivatives, and including pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof. Umirolimus may include Biolimus, Biolimus A9, BA9, TRM-986, 42-O-(2-ethoxyethyl)Rapamycin);

[0117] zotarolimus (including analogues, derivatives, and including pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof. Zotarolimus may include ABT-578, (42S)-42-Deoxy-42-(1H-tetrazol-1-yl)-rapamycin);

[0118] C20-methallylrappamycin (including analogues, derivatives, and including pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof. C20-methallylrappamycin may include C20-Marap);

[0119] C16-(S)-3-methylindolerapamycin (including analogues, derivatives, and including pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof. C16-(S)-3-methylindolerapamycin may include C16-iRap);

[0120] AP21967 (including analogues, derivatives, and including pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof. AP21967 may include C-16-(S)-7-methylindolerapamycin);

[0121] sodium mycophenolic acid (including analogues, derivatives, and including pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof. Sodium mycophenolic acid may include CellCept, Myfortic, (4E)-6-(4-Hydroxy-6-methoxy-7-methyl-3-oxo-1,3-dihydro-2-benzofuran-5-yl)-4-methylhex-4-enoic acid);

[0122] benidipine hydrochloride (including analogues, derivatives, and including pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof. Benidipine hydrochloride may include Benidipinum, Coniel); or

[0123] AP1903 (including analogues, derivatives, and including pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof. AP1903 may include Rimiducid, [(1R)-3-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-1-[3-[2-[2-[2-[3-[(1R)-3-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-1-[(2S)-1-[(2S)-2-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)butanoyl]piperidine-2-carbonyl]oxypropyl]phenoxy]acetyl]amino]ethylamino]-2-oxoethoxy]phenyl]propyl] (2S)-1-[(2S)-2-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)butanoyl]piperidine-2-carboxylate);

[0124] or any combinations thereof.

[0125] As used herein, the term “gibberellin” refers to a synthetic or naturally occurring form of the diterpenoid acids that are synthesized by the terpenoid pathway in plastids and then modified in the endoplasmic reticulum and cytosol until they reach their biologically-active form. Gibberellin may be a natural gibberellin or an analogue thereof, including, for example, gibberellins derived from the ent-gibberellane skeleton, or synthesized via ent-kauren, including gibberelling 1 (GA1), GA2, GA3 . . . GA136, and analogues and derivatives thereof. In some embodiments, gibberellin or an analogue or derivative thereof is utilized for CISC dimerization.

[0126] As used herein, “SLF-TMP” or “synthetic ligand of FKBP linked to trimethoprim” refers to a dimerizer for CISC dimerization. In some embodiments, the SLF moiety binds to a first CISC component and the TMP moiety binds to a second CISC component, causing CISC dimerization. In some embodiments, SLF can bind, for example, to FKBP and TMP can bind to *E. coli* dihydrofolate reductase (eDHFR).

[0127] As used herein, the term “simultaneous binding” refers to the binding of the ligand by two or more CISC components at the same time or, in some cases, at substantially the same time, to form a multicomponent complex, comprising the CISC components and the ligand component, and resulting in subsequent signal activation. Simultaneous binding requires that the CISC components are configured spatially to bind a single ligand, and also that both CISC components are configured to bind to the same ligand, including to different moieties on the same ligand.

[0128] As used herein, the term “selective expansion” refers to an ability of a desired cell, such as a mammalian cell, or a desired population of cells, such as a population of mammalian cells, to expand. In some embodiments, selective expansion refers to the generation or expansion of a pure population of cells, such as mammalian cells, that have

undergone two genetic modification events. One component of a dimerization CISC is part of one modification and the other component is the other modification. Thus, one component of the heterodimerizing CISC is associated with each genetic modification. Exposure of the cells to a ligand allows for selective expansion of only the cells, such as mammalian cells, having both desired modifications. Thus, in some embodiments, the only cells, such as mammalian cells, that will be able to respond to contact with a ligand are those that express both components of the heterodimerization CISC.

[0129] As used herein, “host cell” comprises any cell type, such as a mammalian cell, that is susceptible to transformation, transfection, or transduction, with a nucleic acid construct or vector. In some embodiments, the host cell, such as a mammalian cell, is a T cell or a T regulatory cell (Treg). In some embodiments, the host cell, such as a mammalian cell, is a hematopoietic stem cell. In some embodiments, the host cell is a CD34+, CD8+, or a CD4+ cell. In some embodiments, the host cell is a CD8+ T cytotoxic lymphocyte cell selected from the group consisting of naïve CD8+ T cells, central memory CD8+ T cells, effector memory CD8+ T cells, and bulk CD8+ T cells. In some embodiments, the host cell is a CD4+ T helper lymphocyte cell selected from the group consisting of naïve CD4+ T cells, central memory CD4+ T cells, effector memory CD4+ T cells, and bulk CD4+ T cells. As used herein, the term “population of cells” refers to a group of cells, such as mammalian cells, comprising more than one cell. In some embodiments, a cell, such as a mammalian cell, is manufactured, wherein the cell comprises the protein sequence as described herein or an expression vector that encodes the protein sequence as described herein.

[0130] As used herein, the term “transformed” or “transfected” refers to a cell, such as a mammalian cell, tissue, organ, or organism into which a foreign polynucleotide molecule, such as a construct, has been introduced. The introduced polynucleotide molecule may be integrated into the genomic DNA of the recipient cell, such as a mammalian cell, tissue, organ, or organism such that the introduced polynucleotide molecule is inherited by subsequent progeny. A “transgenic” or “transfected” cell, such as a mammalian cell, or organism also comprises progeny of the cell or organism and progeny produced from a breeding program employing such a transgenic organism as a parent in a cross and exhibiting an altered phenotype resulting from the presence of a foreign polynucleotide molecule. The term “transgenic” refers to a bacteria, fungi, or plant containing one or more heterologous

polynucleic acid molecules. “Transduction” refers to virus-mediated gene transfer into cells, such as mammalian cells.

[0131] As used herein, a “subject” refers to an animal that is the object of treatment, observation or experiment. “Animal” comprises cold- and warm-blooded vertebrates and invertebrates such as fish, shellfish, reptiles and, in particular, mammals. “Mammal” comprises, without limitation, mice, rats, rabbits, guinea pigs, dogs, cats, sheep, goats, cows, horses, primates, such as monkeys, chimpanzees, and apes, and, in particular, humans. In some alternative, the subject is human.

[0132] In some embodiments, an effective amount of a ligand used for inducing dimerization is an amount of 0.01, 0.02, 0.03, 0.04, 0.05, 0.06, 0.07, 0.08, 0.09, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5, 0.6, 0.7, 0.8, 0.9, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0, 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0, 5.5, 6.0, 6.5, 7.0, 7.5, 8.0, 8.5, 9.0, 9.5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, or 100 nM or a concentration within a range defined by any two of the aforementioned values.

[0133] A “marker sequence,” as described herein, encodes a protein that is used for selecting or tracking a protein or cell, such as a mammalian cell, that has a protein of interest. In the embodiments described herein, the fusion protein provided can comprise a marker sequence that can be selected in experiments, such as flow cytometry.

[0134] “Chimeric receptor” or “chimeric antigen receptor,” as used herein refers to a synthetically designed receptor comprising a ligand binding domain of an antibody or other protein sequence that binds to a molecule associated with the disease or disorder and is linked via a spacer domain to one or more intracellular signaling domains of a T-cell or other receptors, such as a costimulatory domain. In some embodiments, a cell, such as a mammalian cell, is manufactured wherein the cell comprises a nucleic acid encoding a fusion protein and wherein the cell comprises a chimeric antigen receptor.

[0135] “Cytotoxic T lymphocyte” (CTL), as used herein, refers to a T lymphocyte that expresses CD8 on the surface thereof (e.g., a CD8⁺ T-cell). In some embodiments, such cells are preferably “memory” T-cells (T_M cells) that are antigen-experienced. In some embodiments, a cell for fusion protein secretion is provided. In some embodiments, the cell is a cytotoxic T lymphocyte. “Central memory” T-cell (or “T_{CM}”) as used herein, refers to an antigen experienced CTL that expresses CD62L, CCR-7 and/or

CD45RO on the surface thereof, and does not express or has decreased expression of CD45RA, as compared to naïve cells. In some embodiments, a cell for fusion protein secretion is provided. In some embodiments, the cell is a central memory T-cell (T_{CM}). In some embodiments, the central memory cells are positive for expression of CD62L, CCR7, CD28, CD127, CD45RO, and/or CD95, and may have decreased expression of CD54RA, as compared to naïve cells. “Effector memory” T-cell (or “T_{EM}”) as used herein refers to an antigen experienced T-cell that does not express or has decreased expression of CD62L on the surface thereof, as compared to central memory cells, and does not express or has a decreased expression of CD45RA, as compared to naïve cell. In some embodiments, a cell for fusion protein secretion is provided. In some embodiments, the cell is an effector memory T-cell. In some embodiments, effector memory cells are negative for expression of CD62L and/or CCR7, as compared to naïve cells or central memory cells, and may have variable expression of CD28 and/or CD45RA.

[0136] “Naïve T-cells” as used herein, refers to a non-antigen experienced T lymphocyte that expresses CD62L and/or CD45RA, and does not express CD45RO-, as compared to central or effector memory cells. In some embodiments, a cell, such as a mammalian cell, for fusion protein secretion is provided. In some embodiments, the cell, such as a mammalian cell, is a naïve T-cell. In some embodiments, naïve CD8+ T lymphocytes are characterized by the expression of phenotypic markers of naïve T-cells comprising CD62L, CCR7, CD28, CD127, and/or CD45RA.

[0137] “Effector” T-cells as used herein, refers to antigen experienced cytotoxic T lymphocyte cells that do not express or have decreased expression of CD62L, CCR7, and/or CD28, and are positive for granzyme B and/or perforin, as compared to central memory or naïve T-cells. In some embodiments, a cell, such as a mammalian cell, for fusion protein secretion is provided. In some embodiments, the cell, such as a mammalian cell, is an effector T-cell. In some embodiments, the cell, such as a mammalian cell, does not express or have decreased expression of CD62L, CCR7, and/or CD28, and are positive for granzyme B and/or perforin, as compared to central memory or naïve T-cells.

[0138] “Epitope” as used herein, refers to a part of an antigen or molecule that is recognized by the immune system comprising antibodies, T-cells, and/or B-cells. Epitopes usually have at least 7 amino acids and can be a linear or a conformational epitope. In some

embodiments, a cell, such as a mammalian cell, expressing a fusion protein is provided, wherein the cell further comprises a chimeric antigen receptor. In some embodiments, the chimeric antigen receptor comprises a scFv that can recognize an epitope on a cancer cell. “Isolating,” or “purifying” when used to describe the various polypeptides or nucleic acids disclosed herein, refers to a polypeptide or nucleic acid that has been identified and separated and/or recovered from a component of its natural environment. Preferably, the isolated polypeptide or nucleic acid is free of association with all components with which it is naturally associated. Contaminant components of its natural environment are materials that would typically interfere with diagnostic or therapeutic uses for the polypeptide or nucleic acid, and can include enzymes, hormones, and other proteinaceous or non-proteinaceous solutes. In some embodiments, a method is provided wherein the method comprises delivering the nucleic acid of anyone of the embodiments described herein or the expression vector of anyone of the embodiments described herein to a bacterial cell, mammalian cell or insect cell, growing the cell up in a culture, inducing expression of the fusion protein and purifying the fusion protein for treatment.

[0139] “Percent (%) amino acid sequence identity” with respect to the CISC sequences identified herein is defined as the percentage of amino acid residues in a candidate sequence that are identical with the amino acid residues in the reference sequence for each of the extracellular binding domain, hinge domain, transmembrane domain, and/or the signaling domain, after aligning the sequences and introducing gaps, if necessary, to achieve the maximum percent sequence identity, and not considering any conservative substitutions as part of the sequence identity. Alignment for purposes of determining percent amino acid sequence identity can be achieved in various ways that are within the skill in the art, for instance, using publicly available computer software such as BLAST, BLAST-2, ALIGN, ALIGN-2 or Megalign (DNASTAR) software. Those skilled in the art can determine appropriate parameters for measuring alignment, comprising any algorithms needed to achieve maximal alignment over the full-length of the sequences being compared. For example, % amino acid sequence identity values generated using the WU-BLAST-2 computer program (Altschul et al., Methods in Enzymology, 266:460-480 (1996)) uses several search parameters, most of which are set to the default values. Those that are not set to default values (e.g., the adjustable parameters) are set with the following values: overlap

span=1, overlap fraction=0.125, word threshold (T) =11 and scoring matrix=BLOSUM62. In some embodiments of the CISC, the CISC comprises an extracellular binding domain, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and a signaling domain, wherein each domain comprises a natural, synthetic, or a mutated or truncated form of the native domain. In some embodiments, a mutated or truncated form of any given domain comprises an amino acid sequence with 100%, 95%, 90%, 85% sequence identity, or a percent sequence identity that is within a range defined by any two of the aforementioned percentages to a sequence set forth in a sequence provided herein.

[0140] “CISC variant polypeptide sequence” or “CISC variant amino acid sequence” as used herein refers to a protein sequence as defined below having at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 95%, 98% or 99% amino acid sequence identity (or a percentage amino acid sequence identity within a range defined by any two of the aforementioned percentages) with the protein sequences provided herein, or a specifically derived fragment thereof, such as protein sequence for an extracellular binding domain, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain and/or a signaling domain. Ordinarily, a CISC variant polypeptide or fragment thereof will have at least 80% amino acid sequence identity, more preferably at least 81% amino acid sequence identity, more preferably at least 82% amino acid sequence identity, more preferably at least 83% amino acid sequence identity, more preferably at least 84% amino acid sequence identity, more preferably at least 85% amino acid sequence identity, more preferably at least 86% amino acid sequence identity, more preferably at least 87% amino acid sequence identity, more preferably at least 88% amino acid sequence identity, more preferably at least 89% amino acid sequence identity, more preferably at least 90% amino acid sequence identity, more preferably at least 91% amino acid sequence identity, more preferably at least 92% amino acid sequence identity, more preferably at least 93% amino acid sequence identity, more preferably at least 94% amino acid sequence identity, more preferably at least 95% amino acid sequence identity, more preferably at least 96% amino acid sequence identity, more preferably at least 97% amino acid sequence identity, more preferably at least 98% amino acid sequence identity and yet more preferably at least 99% amino acid sequence identity with the amino acid sequence or a derived fragment thereof. Variants do not encompass the native protein sequence.

[0141] T-cells” or “T lymphocytes” as used herein can be from any mammalian, preferably primate, species, comprising monkeys, dogs, and humans. In some embodiments, the T-cells are allogeneic (from the same species but different donor) as the recipient subject; in some embodiments the T-cells are autologous (the donor and the recipient are the same); in some embodiments the T-cells are syngeneic (the donor and the recipients are different but are identical twins).

[0142] As used in this specification, whether in a transitional phrase or in the body of the claim, the terms “comprise(s)” and “comprising” are to be interpreted as having an open-ended meaning. That is, the terms are to be interpreted synonymously with the phrases “having at least” or “comprising at least.” When used in the context of a process, the term “comprising” means that the process comprises at least the recited steps, but may include additional steps. When used in the context of a compound, composition or device, the term “comprising” means that the compound, composition or device comprises at least the recited features or components, but may also include additional features or components.

Protein Sequences

[0143] As described herein, one or more protein sequence encoding a dimeric CISC component is provided. The one or more protein sequence can have a first and a second sequence. In some embodiments, a first sequence encodes a first CISC component that can comprise a first extracellular binding domain or portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and a signaling domain or portion thereof. In some embodiments, a second sequence encodes a second CISC component that can comprise a second extracellular binding domain or a portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and a signaling domain or portions thereof. In some embodiments, the first and second CISC components may be positioned such that when expressed, they dimerize in the presence of a ligand, preferably simultaneously. Embodiments of the chemical induced signaling complex are schematically depicted in Figures 1-2, which also depict downstream signaling pathways as a result of activation of the CISC, which may include, for example, the RAS/MAPK/ERK signaling pathway, Akt/PI3K signaling pathway, the mTORC1 signaling pathway, or the FOXP3 signaling pathway. In addition, Figure 2 schematically depicts IL2R signaling due to FRB-FKBP dimerized IL2Rbg in the presence of a ligand, such as rapamycin or an analogue thereof, as described herein.

[0144] In some embodiments, a protein sequence or sequences for heterodimeric two component CISC are provided. In some embodiments, the first CISC component is an IL2R γ -CISC complex. Figure 3 schematically depicts the CISC construct design, including CISC having varying amino acid sequence lengths extending from the transmembrane spans. The varying amino acid sequence lengths may confer varied degrees of flexibility, as described herein, and as shown schematically in Figure 3. The schematics depicted in Figure 3 may be encompassed by the following sequences, which provide details of the schematic constructs by way of example, and are not intended to be limiting in scope.

[0145] In some embodiments, the IL2R γ -CISC comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1
(MPLGLLWLGLALLGALHAQAGVQVETISPGDGRTFPKRGQTCVVHYTGMLEDGKK FDSSRDRNKPDKFMLGKQEVRGWEEGVAQMSVGQRAKLTISPDYAYGATGHPGIIP PHATLVFDVELLKLGEGSNTSKENPFLFALEAVVISVGSMGLIISLLCVYFWLERTMP RIPTLKNLEDLVTEYHGNFSAWSGVSKGLAESLQPDYSERLCLVSEIPPKGALGEGP GASPCNQHSPYWAPPCYTLKPET; SEQ ID NO: 1). Embodiments also comprise a nucleic acid sequence encoding the protein sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

[0146] In some embodiments, the IL2R γ -CISC comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 3
(MPLGLLWLGLALLGALHAQAGVQVETISPGDGRTFPKRGQTCVVHYTGMLEDGKK FDSSRDRNKPDKFMLGKQEVRGWEEGVAQMSVGQRAKLTISPDYAYGATGHPGIIP PHATLVFDVELLKLEGGGSQNLVIPWAPENLTLHKLSESQLELNWNNRFLNHCLEHL VQYRTDWDHSWTEQSVDYRHKFSLPSVDGQKRYTFRVRSRFNPLCGSAQHWSEWS HPIHWGSNTSKENPFLFALEAVVISVGSMGLIISLLCVYFWLERTMPRIPTLKNLEDLV TEYHGNFSAWSGVSKGLAESLQPDYSERLCLVSEIPPKGALGEGPGASPCNQHSPY WAPPCYTLKPET; SEQ ID NO: 3). Embodiments also comprise a nucleic acid sequence encoding the protein sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3.

[0147] In some embodiments, the IL2R γ -CISC comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 5
(MPLGLLWLGLALLGALHAQAGVQVETISPGDGRTFPKRGQTCVVHYTGMLEDGKK FDSSRDRNKPDKFMLGKQEVRGWEEGVAQMSVGQRAKLTISPDYAYGATGHPGIIP PHATLVFDVELLKLEGQNLVIPWAPENLTLHKLSESQLELNWNNRFLNHCLEHLVQ

YRTDWDHSWTEQSVDYRHKSLPSVDGQKRYTFRVRSRFNPLCGSAQHWSEWSHPI
 HWGSNTSKENPFLFALEAVVISVGSMGLIISLLCVYFWLERTMPRIPTLKNLEDLVTE
 YHGNFSAWSGVSKGLAESLQPDYSERLCLVSEIPPKGALGEGPGASPCNQHSPYWA
 PPCYTLKPET; SEQ ID NO: 5). Embodiments also comprise a nucleic acid sequence
 encoding the protein sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5.

[0148] In some embodiments, the IL2R γ -CISC comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 7
 (MPLGLLWLGLALLGALHAQAGVQVETISPGDGRTFPKRGQTCVVHYTGMLEDGKK
 FDSSRDRNKPDKMLGKQEVRGWEEGVAQMSVGQRAKLTISPDYAYGATGHPGIIP
 PHATLVFDVELLKLEGGNTSKENPFLFALEAVVISVGSMGLIISLLCVYFWLERTMP
 RIPTLKNLEDLVTEYHGNFSAWSGVSKGLAESLQPDYSERLCLVSEIPPKGALGEGP
 GASPCNQHSPYWAAPPCTLKPET; SEQ ID NO: 7). Embodiments also comprise a nucleic acid sequence encoding the protein sequence of SEQ ID NO: 7.

[0149] In some embodiments, the protein sequence for the first CISC component includes a protein sequence encoding an extracellular binding domain, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, or a signaling domain. Embodiments also comprise a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular binding domain, the hinge domain, the transmembrane domain, or the signaling domain. In some embodiments, the protein sequence of the first CISC component, comprising the first extracellular binding domain, the hinge domain, the transmembrane domain, and/or the signaling domain comprises an amino acid sequence that comprises a 100%, 99%, 98%, 95%, 90%, 85%, or 80% sequence identity to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NOs: 1, 3, 5, or 7, or has a sequence identity that is within a range defined by any two of the aforementioned percentages.

[0150] In some embodiments, the second CISC component is an IL2R β complex. In some embodiments, the IL2R β -CISC comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2
 (MALPVTALLPLALLHAARPILWHEMWHEGLEEASRLYFGERNVKGMFEVLEPL
 HAMMERGPQTLKETSFNQAYGRDLMEAQEWCRKYMKGNSVKDLLQAWDLYYHV
 FRRISKKGKDTIPWLGHLLVGLSGAFGFIILVYLLINCRNTGPWLKKVLKCNTPDKFF
 SQLSSEHGGDVQKWLSSPFSSSFSPGGLAPEISPLEVLERDKVTQLLQQDKVPEPAS
 LSSNHSLTSCFTNQGYFFFHLPDALEIEACQVYFTYDPYSEEDPDEGVAGAPTGSSPQ

PLQPLSGEDDAYCTFPSRDDLLLSPSLLGGPSPPSTAPGGSGAGEERMPPSLQERVPR DWDPQPLGPPTPGVPDLVDFQPPPELVREAGEEVPDAGPREGVSFPWSRPPGQGEF RALNARLPLNTDAYLSLQELQGQDPTHLV; SEQ ID NO: 2). Embodiments also comprise a nucleic acid sequence encoding the protein sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

[0151] In some embodiments, the IL2R β -CISC comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 4 (MALPVTALLPLALLHAARPILWHEMWHEGLEEASRLYFGERNVKGMFEVLEPL HAMMERGPQTLKETSFNQAYGRDLMEAQEWCRKYMKGNSVKDLLQAWDLYYHV FRRISKGGSKPFENLRLMAPISLQVHVETHRCNISWEISQASHYFERHLEFEARTLSP GHTWEEAPLLTLKQKQEWICLETLPDTQYEFQVRVKPLQGEFTTWSPWSQPLAFRT KPAALGKDTIPWLGHLLVGLSGAFGFIILVYLLINCRNTGPWLKKVLKCNTPDPSKFF QLSSEHGGDVQKWLSSPFSSSFSPGGLAPEISPLEVLERDKVTQLLQQDKVPEPASL SSNHSLTSCFTNQGYFFFHLPDALEIEACQVYFTYDPYSEEDPDEGVAGAPTGSSPQP LQPLSGEDDAYCTFPSRDDLLLSPSLLGGPSPPSTAPGGSGAGEERMPPSLQERVPR DWDPQPLGPPTPGVPDLVDFQPPPELVREAGEEVPDAGPREGVSFPWSRPPGQGEF RALNARLPLNTDAYLSLQELQGQDPTHLV; SEQ ID NO: 4). Embodiments also comprise a nucleic acid sequence encoding the protein sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4.

[0152] In some embodiments, the IL2R β -CISC comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 6 (MALPVTALLPLALLHAARPILWHEMWHEGLEEASRLYFGERNVKGMFEVLEPL HAMMERGPQTLKETSFNQAYGRDLMEAQEWCRKYMKGNSVKDLLQAWDLYYHV FRRISKKKPFENLRLMAPISLQVHVETHRCNISWEISQASHYFERHLEFEARTLSPGHT WEEAPLLTLKQKQEWICLETLPDTQYEFQVRVKPLQGEFTTWSPWSQPLAFRTKPA ALGKDTIPWLGHLLVGLSGAFGFIILVYLLINCRNTGPWLKKVLKCNTPDPSKFFSQL SSEHGGDVQKWLSSPFSSSFSPGGLAPEISPLEVLERDKVTQLLQQDKVPEPASLSS NHSLTSCFTNQGYFFFHLPDALEIEACQVYFTYDPYSEEDPDEGVAGAPTGSSPQLQ PLSGEDDAYCTFPSRDDLLLSPSLLGGPSPPSTAPGGSGAGEERMPPSLQERVPRDW DPQPLGPPTPGVPDLVDFQPPPELVREAGEEVPDAGPREGVSFPWSRPPGQGEFRAL NARLPLNTDAYLSLQELQGQDPTHLV; SEQ ID NO: 6). Embodiments also comprise a nucleic acid sequence encoding the protein sequence of SEQ ID NO: 6.

[0153] In some embodiments, the IL2R β -CISC comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 8
(MALPVTALLPLALLHAARPILWHEMWHEGLEEASRLYFGERNVKGMFEVLEPL
HAMMERGPQLKETSWLGHLLVGLSGAFGFIILVYLLINCRNTGPWLKKVLKCNTP
DPSKFFSQLSSEHGGDVQKWLSSPFSSSFSPGGLAPEISPLEVLERDKVTQLLQQDK
VPEPASLSSNHSLTSCFTNQGYFFFHLPDALEIEACQVYFTYDPYSEEDPDEGVAGAP
TGSSPQPLQPLSGEDDAYCTFPSRDDLFFSPSLLGGPSPPSTAPGGSGAGEERMPPSL
QERVPRDWDPQPLGPPTPGVPDLVDFQPPPELVLRAGEEVPDAGPREGVSFPWSRP
PGQGEFRALNARLPLNTDAYLSLQELQGQDPTHLV; SEQ ID NO: 8). Embodiments also comprise a nucleic acid sequence encoding the protein sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8.

[0154] In some embodiments, the second CISC component is an IL7R α complex. In some embodiments, the IL7R α -CISC comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 9
(MALPVTALLPLALLHAARPILWHEMWHEGLEEASRLYFGERNVKGMFEVLEPL
HAMMERGPQLKETSFNQAYGRDLMEAQEWCRKYMKSGNVKDLLQAWDLYYHV
FRRISKGEINNSSGEMDPILLTISILSFFSVALLVILACVLWKKRIKPIVWPSLDPHKKTL
EHLCKKPRKNLNVSFNPESFLDCQIHRVDDIQARDEVEGFLQDTFPQQLEESEKQRLG
GDVQSPNCPSVEDVVITPESFGRDSSLTCLAGNVSACDAPILSSRSLCDRESGKNGPH
VYQDQLLSSLGTTNSTLPPPFSLQSGILTNPVAQGQPILTSLSNQEEAYVTMSSFYQN
Q; SEQ ID NO: 9). Embodiments also comprise a nucleic acid sequence encoding the protein sequence of SEQ ID NO: 9.

[0155] In some embodiments, the protein sequence for the second CISC component includes a protein sequence encoding an extracellular binding domain, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, or a signaling domain. Embodiments also comprise a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular binding domain, the hinge domain, the transmembrane domain, or the signaling domain of the second CISC component. In some embodiments, the protein sequence of the second CISC component, comprising the second extracellular binding domain, the hinge domain, the transmembrane domain, and/or the signaling domain comprises an amino acid sequence that comprises a 100%, 99%, 98%, 95%, 90%, 85%, or 80% sequence identity to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NOs: 2, 4, 6,

8, or 9, or has a sequence identity that is within a range defined by any two of the aforementioned percentages.

[0156] In some embodiments, the protein sequence may include a linker. In some embodiments, the linker comprises 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 or 10 amino acids, such as glycines, or a number of amino acids, such as glycine, within a range defined by any two of the aforementioned numbers. In some embodiments, the glycine spacer comprises at least 3 glycines. In some embodiments, the glycine spacer comprises a sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 15 (GGGS; SEQ ID NO: 15), SEQ ID NO: 16 (GGGSAGG; SEQ ID NO: 16) or SEQ ID NO: 17 (GGG; SEQ ID NO: 17). Embodiments also comprise a nucleic acid sequence encoding SEQ ID NOs: 15-17. In some embodiments, the transmembrane domain is located N-terminal to the signaling domain, the hinge domain is located N-terminal to the transmembrane domain, the linker is located N-terminal to the hinge domain, and the extracellular binding domain is located N-terminal to the linker.

[0157] In some embodiments, a protein sequence or sequences for homodimeric two component CISC are provided. In some embodiments, the first CISC component is an IL2R γ -CISC complex. In some embodiments, the IL2R γ -CISC comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 11 (MPLGLLWLGLALLGALHAQAGVQVETISPGDGRTFPKRGQTCVVHYTGMLEDGKK VDSSRDRNPKFKFMLGKQEVRGWEEGVAQMSVGQRAKLTISPDYAYGATGHPGIIP PHATLVDVELLKLEGGNSNTSKENPFLFALEAVVISVGSMGLIISLLCVYFWLERTMP RIPTLKNLEDLVTEYHGNFSAWSGVSKGLAESLQPDYSERLCLVSEIPPKGALGEGP GASPCNQHSPYWAPPCYTLKPET; SEQ ID NO: 11). Embodiments also comprise a nucleic acid sequence encoding the protein sequence of SEQ ID NO: 11.

[0158] In some embodiments, the protein sequence for the first CISC component includes a protein sequence encoding an extracellular binding domain, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, or a signaling domain. Embodiments also comprise a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular binding domain, the hinge domain, the transmembrane domain, or the signaling domain. In some embodiments, the protein sequence of the first CISC component, comprising the first extracellular binding domain, the hinge domain, the transmembrane domain, and/or the signaling domain comprises an amino acid sequence that comprises a 100%, 99%, 98%, 95%, 90%, 85%, or 80% sequence identity to the sequence set

forth in SEQ ID NOs: 11 or has a sequence identity that is within a range defined by any two of the aforementioned percentages.

[0159] In some embodiments, the second CISC component is an IL2R β complex or an IL2R α complex. In some embodiments, the IL2R β -CISC comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 10 (MPLGLLWLGLALLGALHAQAGVQVETISPGDGRTFPKRGQTCVVHYTGMLEDGKK VDSSRDRNKPDKFMLGKQE VIRGWE EGVAQMSVGQRAKLTISPDYAYGATGHPGIIP PHATLVFDV ELLKLEGGKDTIPWLGHLLVGLSGAFGFILVYLLINCRNTGPWLKKVL KCNTPDPSKFFSQLSSEHGGDVQKWLSSPFSSSFSPGGLAPEISPLEVLERDKVTQLL LQQDKVPEPASLSSNHSLTSCFTNQGYFFFHLPDALEIEACQVYFTYDPYSEEDPDEG VAGAPTGSSPQPLQPLSGEDDAYCTFPSRDDLLLFSPLSLLGGPSPPSTAPGGSGAGEER MPPSLQERVPRDWDPQPLGPPTPGVPDLVDFQPPP E LVREAGEEVPDAGPREGVSFP WSRPPGQGEFRALNARLPLNTDAYLSLQELQGQDP THLV; SEQ ID NO: 10). Embodiments also comprise a nucleic acid sequence encoding the protein sequence of SEQ ID NO: 10.

[0160] In some embodiments, the IL2R α -CISC comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 12 (MPLGLLWLGLALLGALHAQAGVQVETISPGDGRTFPKRGQTCVVHYTGMLEDGKK VDSSRDRNKPDKFMLGKQE VIRGWE EGVAQMSVGQRAKLTISPDYAYGATGHPGIIP PHATLVFDV ELLKLEGEIN NSSGEMDPILLTISILSFFS V ALLVILACVLWKKRIKPIVW PSLPDHKKTLEHLCKKPRKNLNVSFNPESFLDCQIHRVDDIQARDEVEGFLQDTPQQ LEESEKQRLGGDVQSPNCPS EDV VITPESFGRDSSLTCLAGNVSACD API LSSSRSLDC RESGKNGPHVYQD LLLSLGTTNSTLPPPFLQSGILTLNPVAQGQPI L TSLGSNQEEAY VTMSSFYQNQ; SEQ ID NO: 12). Embodiments also comprise a nucleic acid sequence encoding the protein sequence of SEQ ID NO: 12.

[0161] In some embodiments, the protein sequence for the second CISC component includes a protein sequence encoding an extracellular binding domain, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, or a signaling domain. Embodiments also comprise a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular binding domain, the hinge domain, the transmembrane domain, or the signaling domain of the second CISC component. In some embodiments, the protein sequence of the second CISC component, comprising the second

extracellular binding domain, the hinge domain, the transmembrane domain, and/or the signaling domain comprises an amino acid sequence that comprises a 100%, 99%, 98%, 95%, 90%, 85%, or 80% sequence identity to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 10 or SEQ ID NO: 12, or has a sequence identity that is within a range defined by any two of the aforementioned percentages.

[0162] In some embodiments, the protein sequence may include a linker. In some embodiments, the linker comprises 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 or 10 amino acids, such as glycines, or a number of amino acids, such as glycine, within a range defined by any two of the aforementioned numbers. In some embodiments, the glycine spacer comprises at least 3 glycines. In some embodiments, the glycine spacer comprises a sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 15 (GGGS; SEQ ID NO: 15), SEQ ID NO: 16 (GGGSAGG; SEQ ID NO: 16) or SEQ ID NO: 17 (GGG; SEQ ID NO: 17). Embodiments also comprise a nucleic acid sequence encoding SEQ ID NOs: 15-17. In some embodiments, the transmembrane domain is located N-terminal to the signaling domain, the hinge domain is located N-terminal to the transmembrane domain, the linker is located N-terminal to the hinge domain, and the extracellular binding domain is located N-terminal to the linker.

[0163] In some embodiments, the sequences for the homodimerizing two component CISC incorporate FKBP F36V domain for homodimerization with the ligand AP1903.

[0164] In some embodiments is provided a protein sequence or sequences for single component homodimerization CISC. In some embodiments, the single component CISC is an IL7R α -CISC complex. In some embodiments, the IL7R α -CISC comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 13 (MPLGLLWLGLALLGALHAQAGVQVETISPGDGRTFPKRGQTCVVHYTGMLEDGKK VDSSRDRNPKFKFMLGKQEVRGWEEGVAQMSVGQRAKLTISPDYAYGATGHPGIIP PHATLVFDVELLKLEGEINNSSGEMDPILLTISILSFFSVALLVILACVLWKKRIKPIVW PSLPDHKKTLEHLCKKPRKNLNVSFNPESFLDCQIHRVDDIQARDEVEGFLQDTFPQQ LEESEKQRLGGDVQSPNCPSEDVITPESFGRDSSLTCLAGNVSACDAPILSSRSLDC RESGKNGPHVYQDLLSLGTTNSTLPPPFLQSGILTLNPVAQGQPILTSLSNQEEAY VTMSSFYQNQ; SEQ ID NO: 13). Embodiments also comprise a nucleic acid sequence encoding the protein sequence of SEQ ID NO: 13.

[0165] In some embodiments, the single component CISC is an MPL-CISC complex. In some embodiments, the MPL-CISC comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 14 (MPLGLLWLGLALLGALHAQAGVQVETISPGDGRTPKRGQTCVVHYTGMLEDGKK VDSSRDRNKPDKFMLGKQE VIRGWE EGVAQMSVGQRAKLTISPDYAYGATGHPGIIP PHATLVFDV ELLKLGEETAWISLVTALHLVLGLSAVLGLLLL RWQFPAHYRRLRHAL WPSLPDLHRV LGQYLRDTAALSPPKATVSDTCEEVEPSLLEILPKSSERTPLPLCSSQA QMDYRRLQPSCLGTMPLSVCPPMAESGSCCTTHIANHSYLP LSYWQQP; SEQ ID NO: 14). Embodiments also comprise a nucleic acid sequence encoding the protein sequence of SEQ ID NO: 14.

[0166] In some embodiments, the protein sequence for the single component CISC includes a protein sequence encoding an extracellular binding domain, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, or a signaling domain. Embodiments also comprise a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular binding domain, the hinge domain, the transmembrane domain, or the signaling domain. In some embodiments, the protein sequence of the first CISC component, comprising the first extracellular binding domain, the hinge domain, the transmembrane domain, and/or the signaling domain comprises an amino acid sequence that comprises a 100%, 99%, 98%, 95%, 90%, 85%, or 80% sequence identity to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 13 or SEQ ID NO: 14 or has a sequence identity that is within a range defined by any two of the aforementioned percentages.

[0167] In some embodiments, the protein sequence may include a linker. In some embodiments, the linker comprises 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 or 10 amino acids, such as glycines, or a number of amino acids, such as glycine, within a range defined by any two of the aforementioned numbers. In some embodiments, the glycine spacer comprises at least 3 glycines. In some embodiments, the glycine spacer comprises a sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 15 (GGGS; SEQ ID NO: 15), SEQ ID NO: 16 (GGGS GGG; SEQ ID NO: 16) or SEQ ID NO: 17 (GGG; SEQ ID NO: 17). Embodiments also comprise a nucleic acid sequence encoding SEQ ID NOs: 15-17. In some embodiments, the transmembrane domain is located N-terminal to the signaling domain, the hinge domain is located N-terminal to the transmembrane domain, the linker is located N-terminal to the hinge domain, and the extracellular binding domain is located N-terminal to the linker.

[0168] In some embodiments, the sequences for the homodimerizing single component CISC incorporate FKBP F36V domain for homodimerization with the ligand AP1903.

Vectors for expressing the dimeric CISC components

[0169] A variety of vector combinations can be constructed to provide for efficient transduction and transgene expression. In some embodiments, the vector is a viral vector. In other embodiments, the vectors can include a combination of viral vectors and plasmid vectors. Other viral vectors include foamy virus, adenoviral vectors, adeno-associated viral (AAV) vectors, retroviral vectors, and/or lentiviral vectors. In some embodiments, the vector is a lentiviral vector. In some embodiments, the vector is a foamy viral vector, adenoviral vectors, retroviral vectors or lentiviral vectors. In some embodiments, the vector is for protein expression in a bacterial system, such as *E. coli*. In other embodiments, a first vector can encode a first CISC component comprising a first extracellular binding domain or portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and a signaling domain or portion thereof while a second vector can encode a second CISC component comprising a second extracellular binding domain or a portion thereof, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and a signaling domain or portions thereof.

[0170] In some embodiments, the expression vector comprises a nucleic acid encoding the protein sequence of SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9. In some embodiments, the expression vector comprises a nucleic acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:

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GACCATGATTACGCCAAGCGCGCAATTAAACCCTCACTAAAGGAAACAAAGCTG
GAGCTGCA; SEQ ID NO: 20). SEQ ID NO: 20 encodes the protein sequences as set forth
in SEQ ID NOs: 7 and 8.

[0171] In some embodiments, the expression vector is a variant of SEQ ID NO:
20 as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 18
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CGCGCAATTAAACCCTCACTAAAGGGAACAAAAGCTGGAGCTGCA; SEQ ID NO:
18). SEQ ID NO: 18 encodes the protein sequences as set forth in SEQ ID NOs: 3 and 4.

[0172] In some embodiments, the expression vector is a variant of SEQ ID NO:
20 as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 19
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TAACCCTCACTAAAGGGAACAAAAGCTGGAGCTGCA; SEQ ID NO: 19). SEQ ID
NO: 19 encodes the protein sequences as set forth in SEQ ID NOs: 5 and 6.

[0173] In some embodiments, the expression vector includes a nucleic acid having at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 95%, 98% or 99% nucleic acid sequence identity (or a percentage nucleic acid sequence identity within a range defined by any two of the aforementioned percentages) with the nucleotide sequences provided herein, or a specifically derived fragment thereof. In some embodiments, the expression vector comprises a promoter. In some embodiments, the expression vector comprises the nucleic acid encoding a fusion protein. In some embodiments, the vector is RNA or DNA.

Cells and Compositions: T lymphocyte populations

[0174] The compositions described herein provide for genetically modified cells, such as mammalian cells, which include the protein sequences or the expression vectors as set forth and described herein. Accordingly, provided herein are cells, such as mammalian cells, for dimeric CISC secretion, wherein the cell comprises the protein sequences of anyone of the embodiments described herein or the expression vector of anyone of the embodiments described herein. In some embodiments, the cell is a bacterial cell or a mammalian cell, such as a lymphocyte. In some embodiments, the cell is *E. coli*. In some embodiments, the cell is an insect cell that permits protein expression. In some embodiments, the cell is a lymphocyte.

[0175] In some embodiments, the cells are precursor T cells or T regulatory cells. In some embodiments, the cells are stem cells, such as hematopoietic stem cells. In some embodiments, the cell is a NK cell. In some embodiments, the cells are CD34+, CD8+,

and/or CD4+ T lymphocytes. In some embodiments, the cell is a B cell. In some embodiments, the cell is a neuronal stem cell.

[0176] In some embodiments, the cells are CD8+ T cytotoxic lymphocyte cells, which may include naïve CD8+ T cells, central memory CD8+ T cells, effector memory CD8+ T cells, or bulk CD8+ T cells. In some embodiments, the cells are CD4+ T helper lymphocyte cells, which may include naïve CD4+ T cells, central memory CD4+ T cells, effector memory CD4+ T cells, or bulk CD4+ T cells.

[0177] The lymphocytes (T lymphocytes) can be collected in accordance with known techniques and enriched or depleted by known techniques such as affinity binding to antibodies such as flow cytometry and/or immunomagnetic selection. After enrichment and/or depletion steps, *in vitro* expansion of the desired T lymphocytes can be carried out in accordance with known techniques or variations thereof that will be apparent to those skilled in the art. In some embodiments, the T cells are autologous T cells obtained from a patient.

[0178] For example, the desired T cell population or subpopulation can be expanded by adding an initial T lymphocyte population to a culture medium *in vitro*, and then adding to the culture medium feeder cells, such as non-dividing peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMC), (e.g., such that the resulting population of cells contains at least 5, 10, 20, or 40 or more PBMC feeder cells for each T lymphocyte in the initial population to be expanded); and incubating the culture (e.g. for a time sufficient to expand the numbers of T cells). The non-dividing feeder cells can comprise gamma-irradiated PBMC feeder cells. In some embodiments, the PBMC are irradiated with gamma rays in the range of 3000 to 3600 rads to prevent cell division. In some embodiments, the PBMC are irradiated with gamma rays of 3000, 3100, 3200, 3300, 3400, 3500 or 3600 rads or any value of rads between any two endpoints of any of the listed values to prevent cell division. The order of addition of the T cells and feeder cells to the culture media can be reversed if desired. The culture can typically be incubated under conditions of temperature and the like that are suitable for the growth of T lymphocytes. For the growth of human T lymphocytes, for example, the temperature will generally be at least 25°C, preferably at least 30°C, more preferably 37°C. In some embodiments, the temperature for the growth of human T lymphocytes is 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 37°C, or any other temperature between any two endpoints of any of the listed values.

[0179] After isolation of T lymphocytes both cytotoxic and helper T lymphocytes can be sorted into naïve, memory, and effector T cell subpopulations either before or after expansion.

[0180] CD8+ cells can be obtained by using standard methods. In some embodiments, CD8+ cells are further sorted into naïve, central memory, and effector memory cells by identifying cell surface antigens that are associated with each of those types of CD8+ cells. In some embodiments, memory T cells are present in both CD62L+ and CD62L- subsets of CD8+ peripheral blood lymphocytes. PBMC are sorted into CD62L-CD8+ and CD62L+CD8+ fractions after staining with anti-CD8 and anti-CD62L antibodies. In some embodiments, the expression of phenotypic markers of central memory T_{CM} include CD45RO, CD62L, CCR7, CD28, CD3, and/or CD127 and are negative or low for granzyme B. In some embodiments, central memory T cells are CD45RO+, CD62L+, and/or CD8+ T cells. In some embodiments, effector T_E are negative for CD62L, CCR7, CD28, and/or CD127, and positive for granzyme B and/or perforin. In some embodiments, naïve CD8+ T lymphocytes are characterized by the expression of phenotypic markers of naïve T cells comprising CD62L, CCR7, CD28, CD3, CD127, and/or CD45RA.

[0181] CD4+ T helper cells are sorted into naïve, central memory, and effector cells by identifying cell populations that have cell surface antigens. CD4+ lymphocytes can be obtained by standard methods. In some embodiments, naïve CD4+ T lymphocytes are CD45RO-, CD45RA+, CD62L+, and/or CD4+ T cells. In some embodiments, central memory CD4+ cells are CD62L+ and/or CD45RO+. In some embodiments, effector CD4+ cells are CD62L- and/or CD45RO-.

[0182] Whether a cell, such as a mammalian cell, or cell population, such as a population of mammalian cells, is selected for expansion depends upon whether the cell or population of cells has undergone two distinct genetic modification events. If a cell, such as a mammalian cell, or a population of cells, such as a population of mammalian cells, has undergone one or fewer genetic modification events, then the addition of a ligand will result in no dimerization. However, if the cell, such as a mammalian cell, or the population of cells, such as a population of mammalian cells, has undergone two genetic modification events, then the addition of the ligand will result in dimerization of the CISC component, and subsequent signaling cascade. Thus, a cell, such as a mammalian cell, or a population of

cells, such as a population of mammalian cells, may be selected based on its response to contact with the ligand. In some embodiments, the ligand may be added in an amount of 0.01, 0.02, 0.03, 0.04, 0.05, 0.06, 0.07, 0.08, 0.09, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5, 0.6, 0.7, 0.8, 0.9, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0, 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0, 5.5, 6.0, 6.5, 7.0, 7.5, 8.0, 8.5, 9.0, 9.5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, or 100 nM or a concentration within a range defined by any two of the aforementioned values.

[0183] In some embodiments, a cell, such as a mammalian cell, or a population of cells, such as a population of mammalian cells, may be positive for the dimeric CISC based on the expression of a marker as a result of a signaling pathway. Thus, a cell population positive for the dimeric CISC may be determined by flow cytometry using staining with a specific antibody for the surface marker and an isotype matched control antibody.

Compositions

[0185] Provided herein are compositions that comprise a genetically modified cell, such as a mammalian cell, preparation as set forth in this disclosure. In some embodiments, the cells, such as mammalian cells, include the protein sequences as described in the embodiments herein. In some embodiments, the compositions include CD4+ T cells that have a CISC comprising an extracellular binding domain, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and signaling domain. In some embodiments, the CISC is an IL2R-CISC. In other embodiments, the composition further comprises a cell, such as a mammalian cell, preparation comprising CD8+ T cells that have a CISC comprising an extracellular binding domain, a hinge domain, a transmembrane domain, and a signaling domain. In some embodiments, the CISC components dimerize in the presence of a ligand, preferably simultaneously. In some embodiments, each of these populations can be combined with one another or other cell types to provide a composition.

[0186] In some embodiments, the cells of the composition are CD4+ cells. The CD4+ cell can be T helper lymphocyte cells, naïve CD4+ T cells, central memory CD4+ T cells, effector memory CD4+ T cells, or bulk CD4+ T cells. In some embodiments, the CD4+ helper lymphocyte cell is a naïve CD4+ T cell, wherein the naïve CD4+ T cell comprises a CD45RO-, CD45RA+, and/or is a CD62L+ CD4+ T cell.

[0187] In some embodiments, the cells of the composition are CD8+ cells. The CD8+ cell can be a T cytotoxic lymphocyte cell, a naïve CD8+ T cell, central memory CD8+

T cell, effector memory CD8+ T cell and/or bulk CD8+ T cell. In some embodiments, the CD8+ cytotoxic T lymphocyte cell is a central memory T cell, wherein the central memory T cell comprises a CD45RO+, CD62L+, and/or CD8+ T cell. In yet other embodiments, the CD8+ cytotoxic T lymphocyte cell is a central memory T cell and the CD4+ helper T lymphocyte cell is a naïve or central memory CD4+ T cell.

[0188] In some embodiments, the compositions comprise T cell precursors. In some embodiments, the compositions comprise hematopoietic stem cells. In some embodiments, the composition comprises a host cell wherein the host cell is a CD8+ T cytotoxic lymphocyte cell selected from the group consisting of naïve CD8+ T cells, central memory CD8+ T cells, effector memory CD8+ T cells and bulk CD8+ T cells or a CD4+ T helper lymphocyte cell that is selected from the group consisting of naïve CD4+ T cells, central memory CD4+ T cells, effector memory CD4+ T cells, and bulk CD4+ T cells and a second host cell, wherein the second host cell is a precursor T cell. In some embodiments, the precursor T cell is a hematopoietic stem cell.

[0189] In some compositions, the cells are NK cells.

[0190] In some embodiments, the cell is CD8+ or a CD4+ cell. In some embodiments, the cell is a CD8+ T cytotoxic lymphocyte cell selected from the group consisting of naïve CD8+ T-cells, central memory CD8+ T-cells, effector memory CD8+ T-cells and bulk CD8+ T-cells. In some embodiments, the cell is a CD4+ T helper lymphocyte cell that is selected from the group consisting of naïve CD4+ T-cells, central memory CD4+ T-cells, effector memory CD4+ T-cells, and bulk CD4+ T-cells. In some embodiments, the cell is a precursor T-cell. In some embodiments, the cell is a stem cell. In some embodiments, the cell is a hematopoietic stem cell or NK cell. In some embodiments, the cell is a B cell. In some embodiments, the cell is a neuronal stem cell. In some embodiments, the cell further comprises a chimeric antigen receptor.

[0191] Also provided herein are kits and systems including the cells, expression vectors, and protein sequences provided and described herein. Thus, for example, provided herein is a kit comprising one or more of: a protein sequence as described herein; an expression vector as described herein; and/or a cell as described herein. Also provided is a system for selectively activation a signal into an interior of a cell, the system comprising a

cell as described herein, wherein the cell comprises an expression vector as described herein comprising a nucleic acid encoding a protein sequence as described herein.

Method of making a cell that expresses a dimeric CISC component

[0192] In some embodiments described herein, it may be desired to introduce a protein sequence or an expression vector into a host cell, such as a mammalian cell, e.g., a lymphocyte, to be used for drug regulated cytokine signaling and/or for the selective expansion of cells that express the dimeric CISC components. For example, the dimeric CISC can allow for cytokine signaling in cells that have the introduced CISC components for transmitting signals to the interior of a cell, such as a mammalian cell, upon contact with a ligand. In addition, the selective expansion of cells, such as mammalian cells, can be controlled to select for only those cells that have undergone two specific genetic modification events, as described herein. Preparation of these cells can be carried out in accordance with known techniques that will be apparent to those skilled in the art based upon the present disclosure.

[0193] In some embodiments, a method of making a CISC-bearing cell, such as a mammalian cell, is provided, wherein the cell expresses a dimeric CISC. The method can include delivering to a cell, such as a mammalian cell, the protein sequence of any one of the embodiments or embodiments described herein or the expression vector of the embodiments or embodiments described herein and delivering to the cell, such as a mammalian cell. In some embodiments, the protein sequence comprises a first and a second sequence. In some embodiments, the first sequence encodes for a first CISC component comprising a first extracellular binding domain, a hinge domain, a linker of a specified length, wherein the length is preferably optimized, a transmembrane domain, and a signaling domain. In some embodiments, the second sequence encodes for a second CISC component comprising a second extracellular binding domain, a hinge domain, a linker of a specified length, wherein the length is preferably optimized, a transmembrane domain, and a signaling domain. In some embodiments, the spacer is 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 or 15 amino acids in length or a length within a range defined by any two of the aforementioned lengths. In some embodiments, the signaling domain comprises an interleukin-2 signaling domain, such as an IL2R β or an IL2R γ domain. In some embodiments, the extracellular binding domain is a binding domain that binds to rapamycin or a rapalog, comprising FKBP or FRB or a

portion thereof. In some embodiments, the cell is a CD8+ or a CD4+ cell. In some embodiments, the cell is a CD8+ T cytotoxic lymphocyte cell selected from the group consisting of naïve CD8+ T-cells, central memory CD8+ T-cells, effector memory CD8+ T-cells and bulk CD8+ T-cells. In some embodiments, the cell is a CD4+ T helper lymphocyte cell that is selected from the group consisting of naïve CD4+ T-cells, central memory CD4+ T-cells, effector memory CD4+ T-cells, and bulk CD4+ T-cells. In some embodiments, the cell is a precursor T-cell. In some embodiments, the cell is a stem cell. In some embodiments, the cell is a hematopoietic stem cell. In some embodiments, the cell is a B cell. In some embodiments, the cell is a neuronal stem cell. In some embodiments, the cell is an NK cell.

Method of activating a signal in the interior of a cell

[0194] In some embodiments, a method of activating a signal in the interior of a cell, such as a mammalian cell, is provided. The method can include providing a cell, such as a mammalian cell, as described herein, wherein the cell comprises a protein sequence as set forth herein or an expression vector as set forth herein. In some embodiments, the method further comprises expressing the protein sequence encoding a dimeric CISC as described herein, or expression the vector as described herein. In some embodiments, the method comprises contacting the cell, such as a mammalian cell, with a ligand, which causes the first and second CISC components to dimerize, which transduces a signal into the interior of the cell. In some embodiments, the ligand is rapamycin or rapalog. In some embodiments, the ligand is an IMID-class drug (e.g. thalidomide, pomalidomide, lenalidomide or related analogues). In some embodiments an effective amount of a ligand for inducing dimerization is provided an amount of 0.01, 0.02, 0.03, 0.04, 0.05, 0.06, 0.07, 0.08, 0.09, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5, 0.6, 0.7, 0.8, 0.9, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0, 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0, 5.5, 6.0, 6.5, 7.0, 7.5, 8.0, 8.5, 9.0, 9.5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, or 100 nM or a concentration within a range defined by any two of the aforementioned values.

[0195] In some embodiments, the ligand used in these approaches is rapamycin or a rapalog, comprising, for example, everolimus, CCI-779, C20-methallyrapamycin, C16-(S)-3-methylindolerapamycin, C16-iRap, AP21967, sodium mycophenolic acid, benidipine hydrochloride, AP23573, or AP1903, or metabolites, derivatives, and/or combinations thereof. Additional useful rapalogs may include, for example, variants of rapamycin having

one or more of the following modifications relative to rapamycin: demethylation, elimination or replacement of the methoxy at C7, C42 and/or C29; elimination, derivatization or replacement of the hydroxy at C13, C43 and/or C28; reduction, elimination or derivatization of the ketone at C14, C24 and/or C30; replacement of the 6-membered pipecolate ring with a 5-membered prolyl ring; and/or alternative substitution on the cyclohexyl ring or replacement of the cyclohexyl ring with a substituted cyclopentyl ring. Additional useful rapalogs may include novolimus, pimecrolimus, ridaforolimus, tacrolimus, temsirolimus, umirolimus, or zotarolimus, or metabolites, derivatives, and/or combinations thereof. In some embodiments, the ligand is an IMID-class drug (e.g. thalidomide, pomalidomide, lenalidomide or related analogues).

[0196] In some embodiments, detecting a signal in the interior of the cell, such as a mammalian cell, can be achieved by a method of detecting a marker that is the result of a signaling pathway. Thus, for example, a signal may be detected by determining the levels of Akt or other signaling marker in a cell, such as a mammalian cell, through a process of Western blot, flow cytometry, or other protein detection and quantification method. Markers for detection may include, for example, JAK, Akt, STAT, NF- κ , MAPK, PI3K, JNK, ERK, or Ras, or other cellular signaling markers that are indicative of a cellular signaling event.

[0197] In some embodiments, transduction of a signal affects cytokine signaling. In some embodiments, transduction of the signal affects IL2R signaling. In some embodiments, transduction of the signal affects phosphorylation of a downstream target of a cytokine receptor. In some embodiments, the method of activating a signal induces proliferation in CISC-expressing cells, such as mammalian cells, and a concomitant anti-proliferation in non-CISC expressing cells.

[0198] For cellular signaling to take place, not only must cytokine receptors dimerize or heterodimerize, but they must be in the proper configuration for a conformational change to take place (Kim, et al. *NMR Structural Studies of Interaction of a Small, Nonpeptidyl Tpo Mimic with the Thrombopoietin Receptor Extracellular Juxtamembrane and Transmembrane Domains*, J Biol Chem, 282, 2007). Thus, dimerization in conjunction with the correct conformational positioning of signaling domains are desired processes for appropriate signaling, because receptor dimerization or heterodimerization alone is insufficient to drive receptor activation. The chemical-induced signaling complexes

described herein are preferably in the correct orientation for downstream signaling events to occur. As shown in the Western blots of Figures 4A-4B and 5, multiple downstream signaling events occur in the presence of a ligand, including both Akt activation (required for driving cell proliferation), a feature that indicates successful orientation, and dimerization of the signaling complexes described herein.

Method of selective expansion of cell populations

[0199] In some embodiments, a method of selectively expanding a population of cells, such as mammalian cells, is provided herein. In some embodiments, the method comprises providing a cell, such as a mammalian cell, as described herein, wherein the cell comprises a protein sequence as set forth herein or an expression vector as set forth herein. In some embodiments, the method further comprises expressing the protein sequence encoding a dimeric CISC as described herein, or expression the vector as described herein. In some embodiments, the method comprises contacting the cell, such as a mammalian cell, with a ligand, which causes the first and second CISC components to dimerize, which transduces a signal into the interior of the cell. In some embodiments, the ligand is rapamycin or rapalog. In some embodiments an effective amount of a ligand provided for inducing dimerization is an amount of 0.01, 0.02, 0.03, 0.04, 0.05, 0.06, 0.07, 0.08, 0.09, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5, 0.6, 0.7, 0.8, 0.9, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0, 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0, 5.5, 6.0, 6.5, 7.0, 7.5, 8.0, 8.5, 9.0, 9.5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, or 100 nM or a concentration within a range defined by any two of the aforementioned values.

[0200] In some embodiments, the ligand used is rapamycin or a rapalog, comprising, for example, everolimus, CCI-779, C20-methallylrapamycin, C16-(S)-3-methylindololrapamycin, C16-iRap, AP21967, sodium mycophenolic acid, benidipine hydrochloride, or AP23573, AP1903, or metabolites, derivatives, and/or combinations thereof. Additional useful rapalogs may include, for example, variants of rapamycin having one or more of the following modifications relative to rapamycin: demethylation, elimination or replacement of the methoxy at C7, C42 and/or C29; elimination, derivatization or replacement of the hydroxy at C13, C43 and/or C28; reduction, elimination or derivatization of the ketone at C14, C24 and/or C30; replacement of the 6-membered pipecolate ring with a 5-membered prolyl ring; and/or alternative substitution on the cyclohexyl ring or replacement of the cyclohexyl ring with a substituted cyclopentyl ring. Additional useful

rapalogs may include novolimus, pimecrolimus, ridaforolimus, tacrolimus, temsirolimus, umirolimus, or zotarolimus, or metabolites, derivatives, and/or combinations thereof. In some embodiments, the ligand is an IMID-class drug (e.g. thalidomide, pomalidomide, lenalidomide or related analogues).

[0201] In some embodiments, the selective expansion of a population of cells, such as mammalian cells, takes place only when two distinct genetic modification events have taken place. One genetic modification event is one component of the dimeric chemical-induced signaling complex, and the other genetic modification event is the other component of the dimeric chemical-induced signaling complex. When both events take place within the population of cells, such as a population of mammalian cells, the chemical-induced signaling complex components dimerize in the presence of a ligand, resulting in an active chemical-induced signaling complex and generation of a signal into the interior of the cells. The activation and phosphorylation of Akt, as shown in the Western blot in Figure 5, indicates successful achievement of a full proliferative signal, which is desired to achieve a significant selective expansion of the cell population expressing both genetic modification events. Other signaling markers may also be detected, but only achievement of these events in conjunction with Akt activation is able to achieve sufficient cellular expansion to allow for selective expansion of a modified cell population in which both genetic modification events have taken place in a given population of cells, such as a population of mammalian cells.

[0202] Figure 6 provides an exemplary method for the selective expansion of a cell population, such as a population of mammalian cells. As shown in Figure 6, a CISC including IL2R was prepared. Each architecture of IL2R-CISC (i.e. 1210, 1211, and 1233) was cis-linked together with GFP using 2A sequences, and placed under the control of an MND promoter in a lentiviral expression cassette.

[0203] Lentiviral particles from each IL2R-CISC architecture were generated and used to transduce primary human T-cells. CD4+ T cells were activated for 60 hours. The cells were then plated in a 24-well dish by plating 1 million cells per well in 1 mL medium with IL2/7/15. Lentivirus was transduced with or without beads, using 15 μ L of IL2R-CISC and 3 μ L of MND-GFP control with protamine sulfate at 4 μ g/mL (0.5 mL medium) in a 24-well dish. The cells were then spinoculated at 800g for 30 minutes at 33°C followed by the addition of 1.5 mL medium after 4 hours of incubation. The transduced T cells were

incubated at 37°C for 48 hours with cytokines, including 50 ng/mL IL2, 5 ng/mL of IL5, and 5 ng/mL of IL17. The GFP signal was determined and the IL2R-CISC level of transduced T cells was determined. The transduction efficiency was from 10-30% for IL2R-CISC and about 80% for MND-GFP.

[0204] Following transduction, the cells were grown for 2 days in IL2, and then divided in half, with half grown in IL2 alone and half in rapamycin alone, as indicated. T cells were treated with rapamycin (1 nM) or IL2 for 2 days, and cells were plated at 1 million cells/well in a 24-well dish with 2 mL medium. The T cell viability was determined and the expression of GFP+ population and IL2R-CISC expression was determined by using anti-FRB antibody and a secondary APC antibody. Figures 7A-7B, and 8-11 show the flow cytometry results of the expression of GFP and FRB in the respective populations. As shown in Figure 8, for the 1233 architecture, cells cultured in rapamycin alone are enriched for IL2R-CISC expression as read out by the cis-linked GFP marker.

[0205] Figure 12 graphically shows the increase in cell proliferation in the presence of rapamycin for the CISC constructs depicted in Figure 3. V3 is the most efficient architecture for proliferation. Figure 13 graphically depicts that IL2R-CISC V3 supports human CD4+ T cell proliferation in response to rapamycin treatment.

[0206] Using the method as described above also showed that IL2R-CISC expressing T cells induce STAT5 pathway in the presence of rapamycin. As shown by the flow cell data in Figure 14, the V3 construct is the most efficient architecture for STAT5 pathway signaling.

[0207] Similar methods as described herein may be performed using additional rapamycin analogues. For example, the methods described herein were performed using AP21967. In response to AP21967, IL2R-CISC V3 construct promotes human CD4+ T cell survival, as shown in the flow cell data of Figure 15. In addition, IL2R-CISC promotes CD4+ T cell proliferation in response to AP21967 treatment, as graphically depicted in Figure 16. Figure 17 shows the cytotoxicity of IL2R-CISC expanded CD4+ T cells with various treatments, including rapamycin and analogues thereof, indicating normal toxicity after long-term expansion.

[0208] The IL2R-CISC cells were exposed to an IL-2 neutralizing antibody, which neutralized the growth and proliferation of cells (Figures 18 and 19). This indicates that the CISC-induced expansion is not due to autocrine or paracrine stimulation.

[0209] The IL2-CISC induced signaling pathways were analyzed to determine whether the magnitude of the signaling pathway is sufficient to produce clinically relevant activity. A T-Cell marker analysis for CISC V3 expanded cells was performed, as shown in the flow cell data of Figure 20.

[0210] It is to be understood by those of skill in the art that the architectures and/or constructs described herein are not intended to be limiting. Thus, in addition to the V1, V2, and V3 constructs described herein, and other architectures and/or constructs described herein, additional architectures and/or may be used. For example, as shown in Figure 21, additional constructs termed V4, V5, V6, and V7 were used, which included various spacers and linkers placed in the FKBP and/or FRB and IL2Rg and IL2Rb subunit sequences. The experimental protocol and design for using these comparative architectures is outlined in Figure 22. Briefly, the method includes thawing a PBMC3 feeder cells, and CD4+ cells were isolated in the presence of anti-CD3/CD28 beads. The beads were removed, and spinoculated with one of V4, V5, V6, or V7 at 800 x g in 500 μ L. Following spinoculation, 1.5 mL TCM + cytokines were added. Each construct was then treated with various conditions, including: no treatment, 100 nM AP21967, 1 nM rapamycin, or 50 ng/mL IL-2. The expansion of the cells having each construct was then measured. The expansion of the cells is shown in the flow cell data presented in Figure 23. Figure 24 graphically depicts the expansion of cells having the various constructs, and shows that rapamycin-induced expansion is similar for all CISC architectures tested with expanded EC-domain to TM linkers.

[0211] In addition, the targeted knock-in of MND promoter and CISC was tested to enrich and/or expand gene targeted T cells. Figure 25 shows the gene constructs for the targeted knock-in of the MND promoter, and Figure 26 graphically depicts one embodiment of the method protocol used for the targeted knock-in. Briefly, PBMC feeder cells were thawed and CD4+ cells were isolated in the presence of anti-CD3/CD28 beads. The beads were removed and Cas9/gRNA ribonucleoproteins (RNPs) were added. The construct was then treated with various conditions, including: no treatment, 10 nM AP21967, 10 nM

rapamycin, or 10 nM rapamycin + 5 ng/mL IL-2. As shown in Figures 27 and 28, contact with rapamycin resulted in enrichment of gene targeted cells, whereas contact with rapamycin and IL-2 showed no enrichment.

[0212] The present disclosure has been described above with reference to specific alternatives. However, other alternatives than the above described are equally possible within the scope of the disclosure. Different method steps than those described above, may be provided within the scope of the disclosure. The different features and steps described herein may be combined in other combinations than those described.

[0213] With respect to the use of plural and/or singular terms herein, those having skill in the art can translate from the plural to the singular and/or from the singular to the plural as is appropriate to the context and/or application. The various singular/plural permutations may be expressly set forth herein for sake of clarity.

[0214] It will be understood by those of skill within the art that, in general, terms used herein, and especially in the appended claims (e.g., bodies of the appended claims) are generally intended as “open” terms (e.g., the term “including” should be interpreted as “including but not limited to;” the term “having” should be interpreted as “having at least;” the term “includes” should be interpreted as “includes but is not limited to;” etc.).

[0215] In addition, where features or aspects of the disclosure are described in terms of Markush groups, those skilled in the art will recognize that the disclosure is also thereby described in terms of any individual member or subgroup of members of the Markush group.

[0216] Any of the features of an alternative of the first through eleventh aspects is applicable to all aspects and alternatives identified herein. Moreover, any of the features of an alternative of the first through eleventh aspects is independently combinable, partly or wholly with other alternatives described herein in any way, e.g., one, two, or three or more alternatives may be combinable in whole or in part. Further, any of the features of an alternative of the first through eleventh aspects may be made optional to other aspects or alternatives. Although described above in terms of various example alternatives and implementations, it should be understood that the various features, aspects and functionality described in one or more of the individual alternatives are not limited in their applicability to the particular alternative with which they are described, but instead may be applied, alone or

in various combinations, to one or more of the other alternatives of the present application, whether or not such alternatives are described and whether or not such features are presented as being a part of a described alternative. Thus, the breadth and scope of the present application should not be limited by any of the above-described example alternatives.

[0217] All references cited herein are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety. To the extent publications and patents or patent applications incorporated by reference contradict the disclosure contained in the specification, the specification is intended to supersede and/or take precedence over any such contradictory material. To the extent publications and patents or patent applications incorporated by reference herein contradict the disclosure contained in the specification, the specification is intended to supersede and/or take precedence over any such contradictory material.

[0218] Throughout this specification and the claims which follow, unless the context requires otherwise, the word "comprise", and variations such as "comprises" or "comprising", will be understood to imply the inclusion of a stated integer or step or group of integers or steps but not the exclusion of any other integer or step or group of integers or steps.

[0219] The reference in this specification to any prior publication (or information derived from it), or to any matter which is known, is not, and should not be taken as, an acknowledgement or admission or any form of suggestion that that prior publication (or information derived from it) or known matter forms part of the common general knowledge in the field of endeavour to which this specification relates.

The claims defining the invention are as follows:

1. A system comprising one or more polynucleotides encoding components of a dimerization activatable chemical-induced signaling complex (CISC), the system comprising:
 - (i) a first nucleotide sequence, wherein the first nucleotide sequence encodes a first CISC component, the first CISC component comprising, in N-to-C-terminal order:
 - (a) a first extracellular domain comprising an FK506-binding protein (FKBP) domain;
 - (b) an IL-2 receptor γ (IL-2R γ) transmembrane domain; and
 - (c) a first signaling domain comprising an IL-2R γ cytoplasmic domain or portion thereof; and
 - (ii) a second nucleotide sequence, wherein the second nucleotide sequence encodes a second CISC component, the second CISC component comprising, in N-to-C-terminal order:
 - (a) a second extracellular domain comprising an FKBP-rapamycin-binding (FRB) domain;
 - (b) an IL-2 receptor β (IL-2R β) transmembrane domain; and
 - (c) a second signaling domain comprising an IL-2R β cytoplasmic domain or portion thereof;

wherein the first CISC component and the second CISC component, when expressed in a cell, dimerize in the presence of a ligand to create a signaling competent CISC,

wherein the ligand binds to the FKBP of the first CISC component and the FRB domain of the second CISC component.
2. The system of claim 1, wherein the ligand is rapamycin.
3. The system of claim 1, wherein the ligand is a rapalog.
4. The system of claim 3, wherein the rapalog is selected from everolimus, CCI-779, C20-methallylrapamycin, C16-(S)-3-methylindoleralerapamycin, C16-iRap, AP21967, sodium mycophenolic acid, benidipine hydrochloride, AP1903, AP23573, and metabolites, derivatives, and combinations thereof.
5. The system of claim 1, wherein the ligand is an IMID-class drug.

6. The system of claim 5, wherein the IMID-class drug is selected from thalidomide, pomalidomide, lenalidomide and related analogues.

7. The system of any one of claims 1-6, wherein the first CISC component comprises a first hinge domain, and the second CISC component comprises a second hinge domain.

8. The system of claim 7, wherein the first hinge domain is a natural hinge domain, and the second hinge domain is a natural hinge domain.

9. The system of any one of claim 1-8, wherein the first extracellular domain comprises a portion of an IL-2R γ extracellular domain, and the second extracellular domain comprises a portion of an IL-2R β extracellular domain.

10. The system of any one of claims 1-9, wherein the first nucleotide sequence encodes an amino acid sequence comprising at least 90% sequence identity to the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1, and the second nucleotide sequence encodes an amino acid sequence comprising at least 90% sequence identity to the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2.

11. An expression vector comprising a nucleic acid comprising the first and/or second nucleotide sequences of any one of claims 1-10.

12. The expression vector of claim 11, wherein the vector is a lentiviral vector.

13. The expression vector of claim 11, wherein the vector is an adeno-associated viral (AAV) vector.

14. The expression vector of anyone of claims 11-13, wherein the nucleic acid comprises a promoter.

15. The expression vector of any one of claims 11-14, wherein the nucleic acid comprises the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 20.

16. A cell for heterodimeric chemical-induced signaling complex expression, the cell comprising the first and second nucleotide sequences of any one of claims 1-10 or the expression vector of any one of claims 11-15.

17. The cell of claim 16, wherein the cell is a T cell or a hematopoietic stem cell.

18. The cell of claim 17, wherein the cell is a cytotoxic T cell.

19. The cell of claim 17, wherein the cell is a regulatory T (T_{reg}) cell.

20. The cell of any one of claims 16-19, wherein the first CISC component comprises an amino acid sequence having at least 90% sequence identity to an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

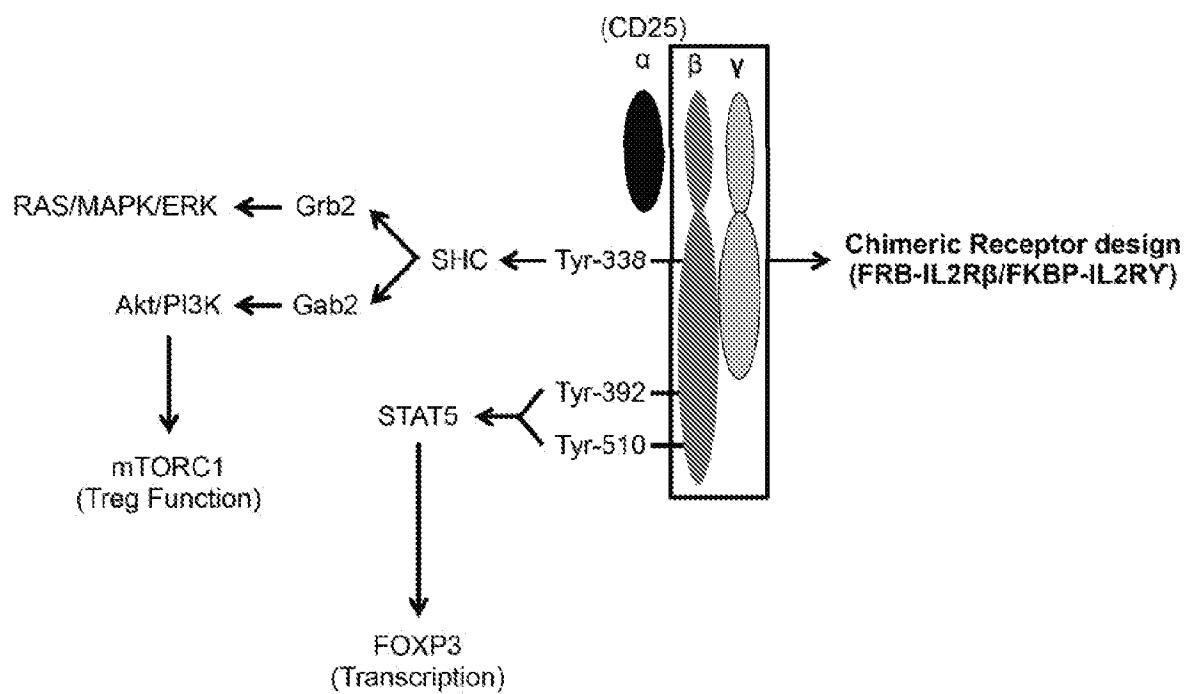
21. The cell of any one of claims 16-20, wherein the first CISC component comprises an amino acid sequence having at least 95% sequence identity to amino acids 21-251 of SEQ ID NO: 1.

22. The cell of any one of claims 16-21, wherein the first CISC component comprises an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

23. The cell of any one of claims 16-22, wherein the second CISC component comprises an amino acid sequence having at least 90% sequence identity to an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

24. The cell of any one of claims 16-23, wherein the second CISC component comprises an amino acid sequence having at least 95% sequence identity to amino acids 22-429 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

25. The cell of any one of claims 16-24, wherein the second CISC component comprises an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

**FIGURE 1**

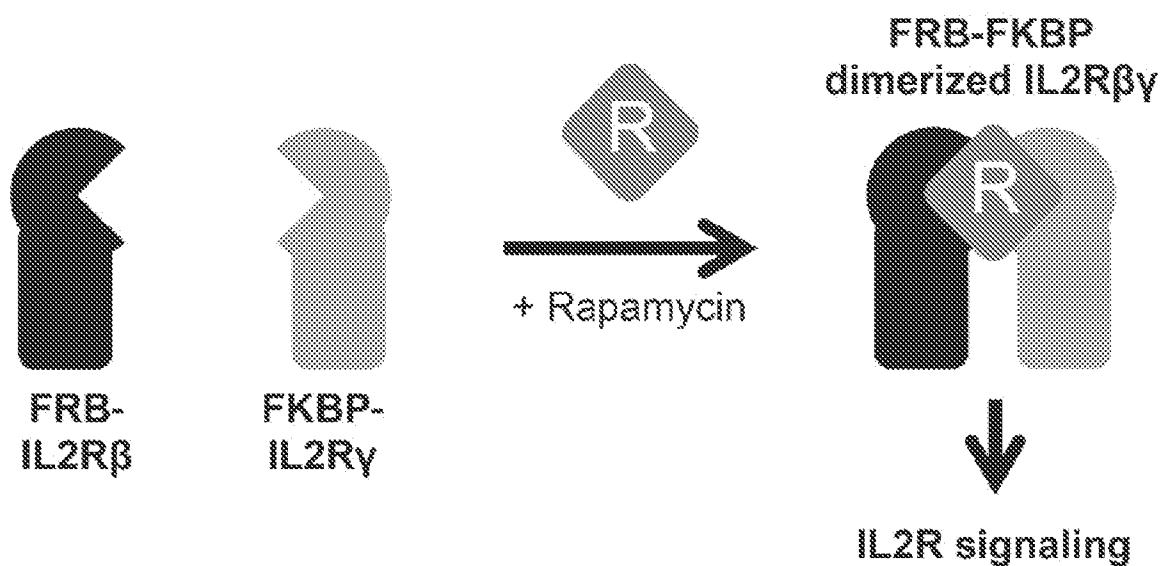


FIGURE 2

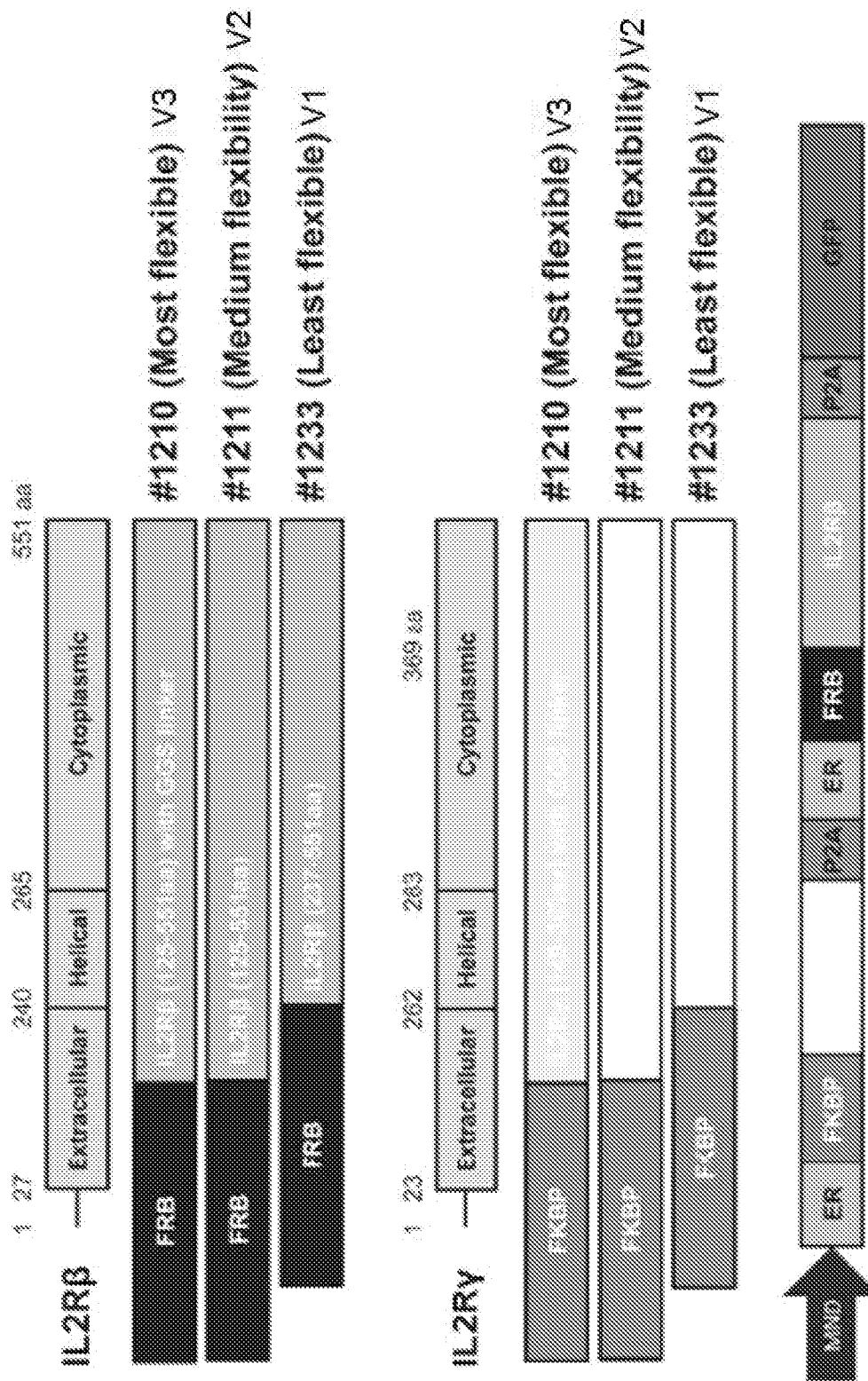
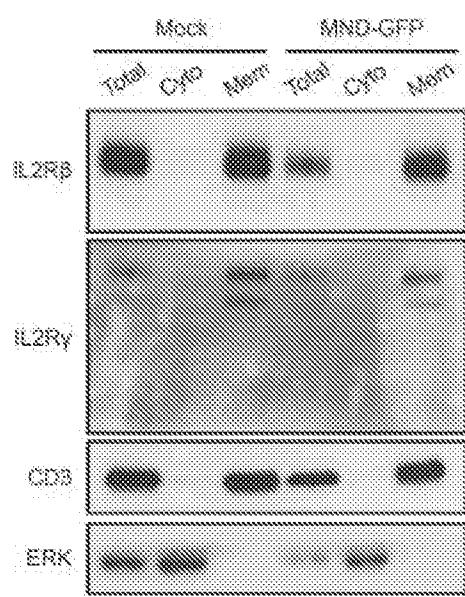
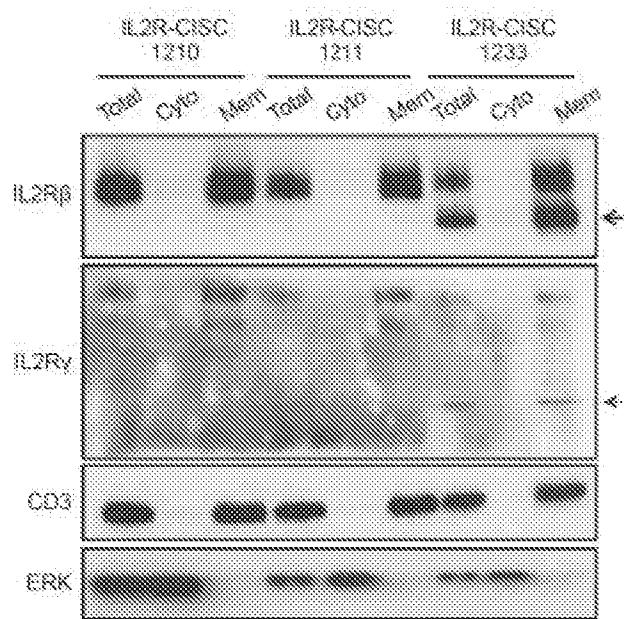
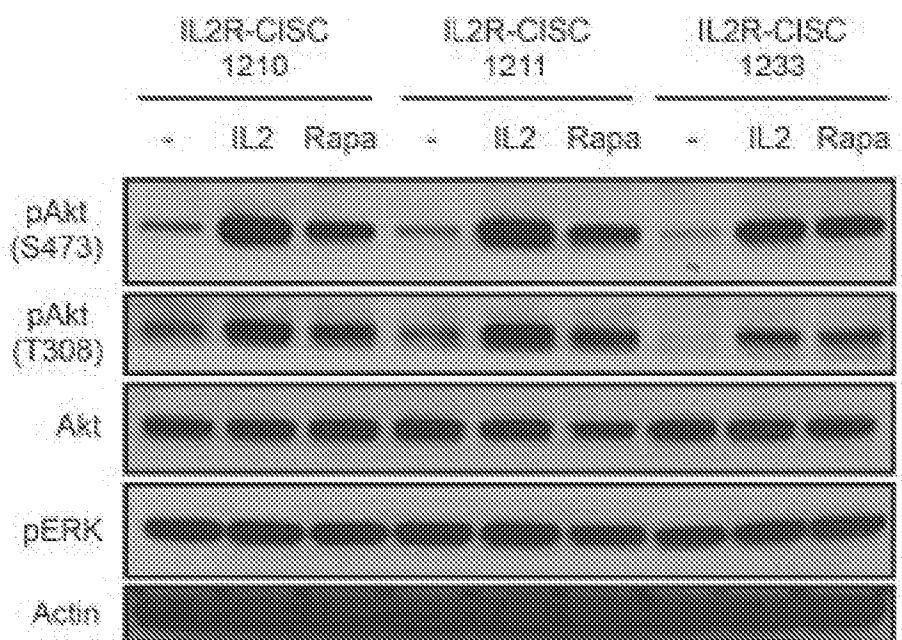


FIGURE 3

**FIGURE 4A**

**FIGURE 4B**

**FIGURE 5**

IL2R-CISC test

IL2R-CISC: 1210, 1211, 1233 (lentivirus stock)

- CD4+ T cells were activated for 6 days (from PBMC1_FractionK_#448)
- ↓
- Plated T cells in 24-well dish (seeded 1 million cells/well in 1 ml medium with IL27115)
- ↓
- Lentivirus transduction with viral beads (15 μ l of IL2R-CISC:1 μ l of MMD-GFP control with prednisolone sulfate 400ng/ml (0.5ml medium) in 24-well dish, and spinoculation for 80%g 30min at 33°C then add 1.5ml medium after 4h incubation)
- ↓
- Incubated transduced T cells at 37°C for 48h with cytokines IL2 5ng/ml and IL17 5ng/ml
- ↓
- Checked GFP signal and IL2R-CISC level of transduced T cells (transduction efficiency ~10-30% for IL2R-CISC, ~80% for MMD-GFP)
- ↓
- Treated T cells with Rapamycin (3nM) or IL2 for 2 days
- Plate 1 million cells/well in 24-well dish with 2 ml medium
- ↓
- Checked T cells viability, GFP+ population and IL2R-CISC expression (using FACS ab - 1:50 (CloneTech, 6225139), 2nd Ab-APC - 1:500 (Miltenyi, Reebiot))

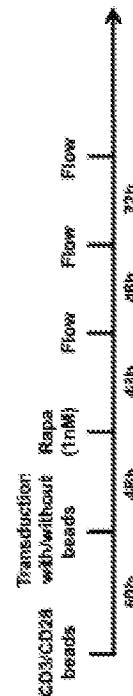
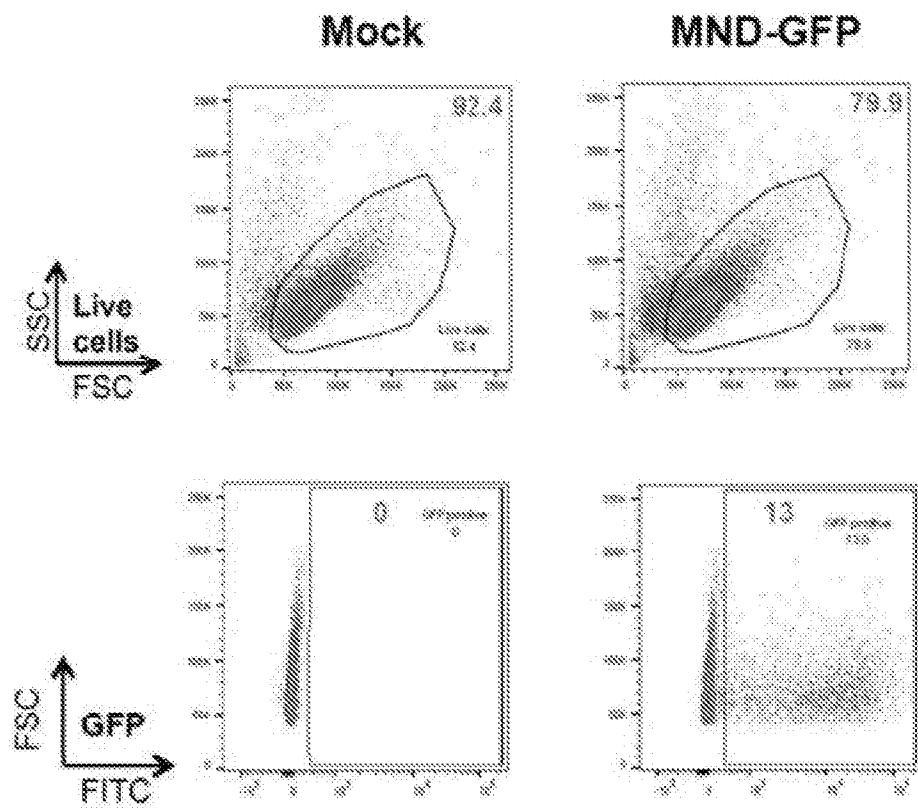


FIGURE 6

**FIGURE 7A**

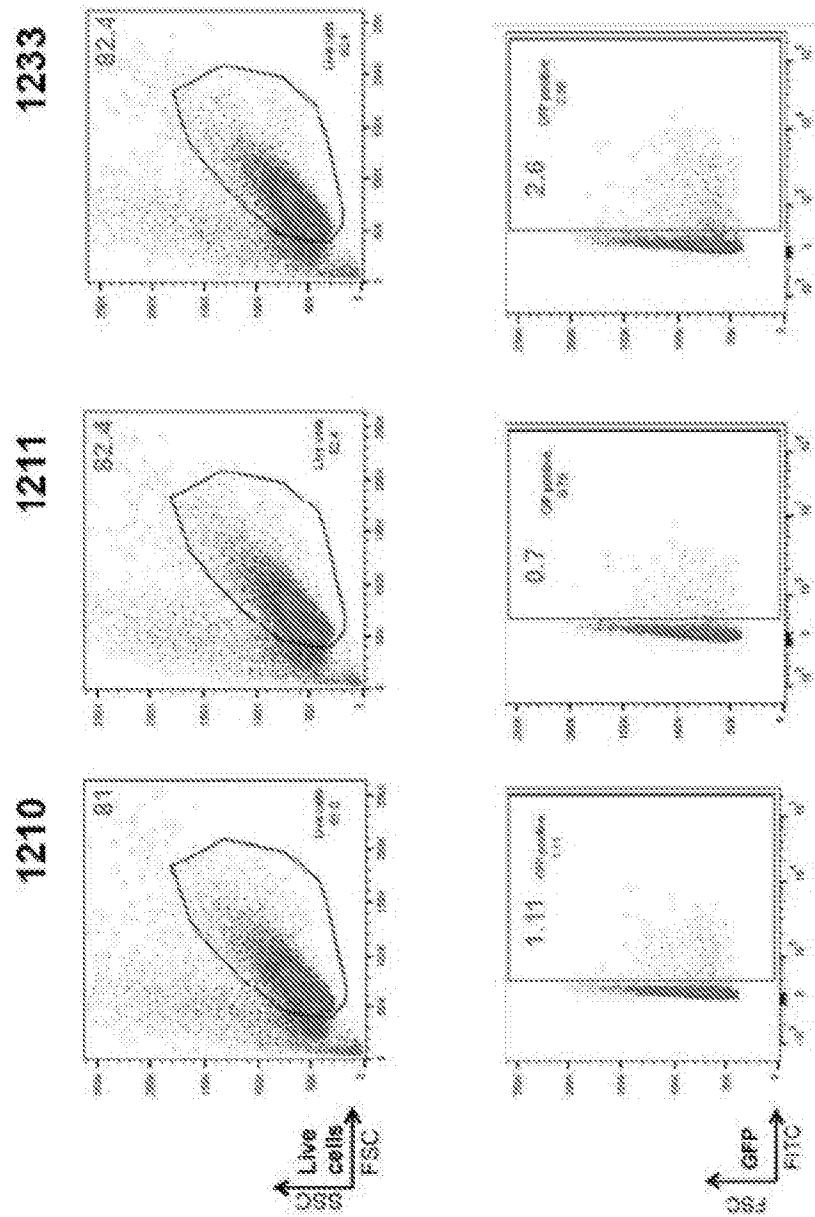


FIGURE 7B

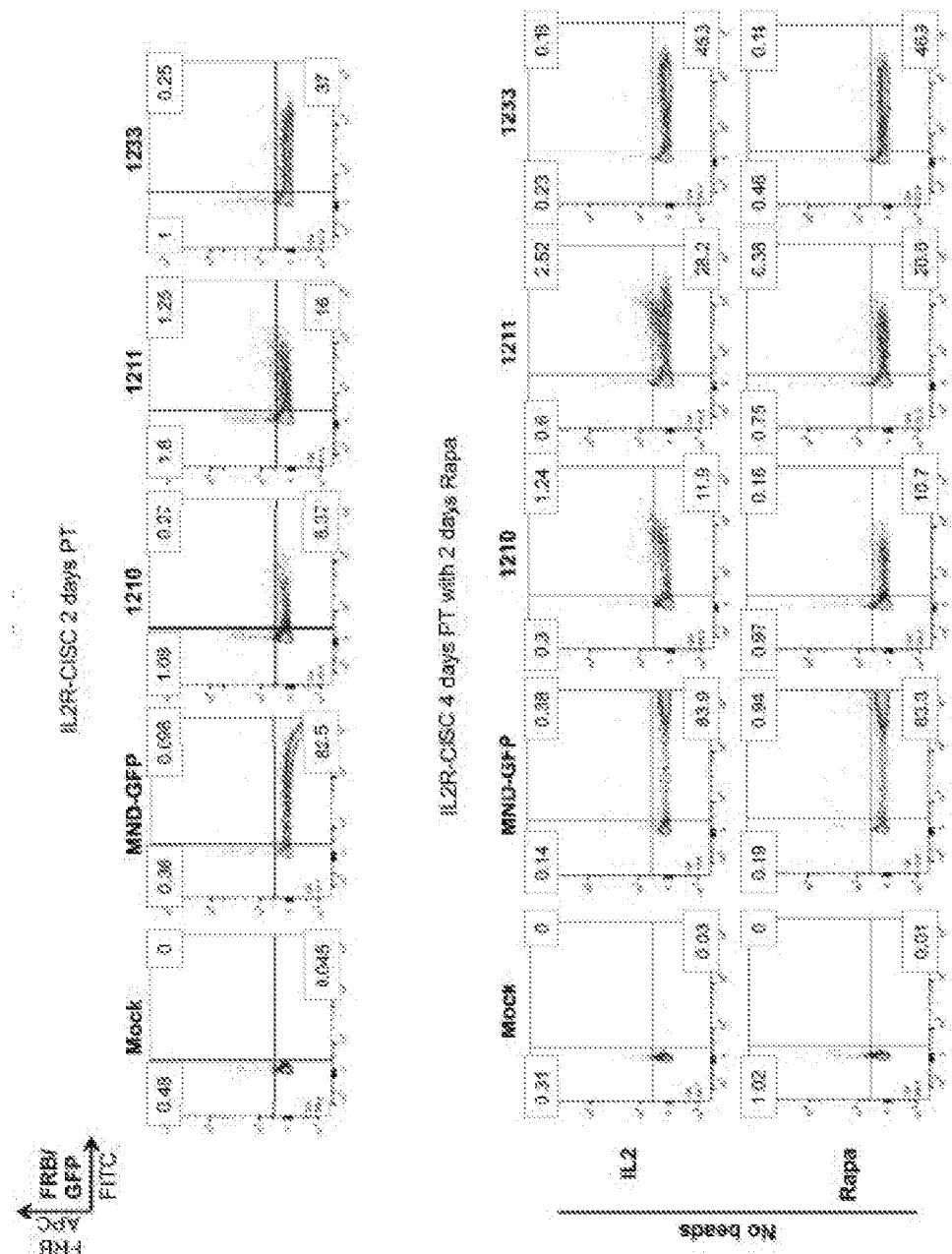


FIGURE 8

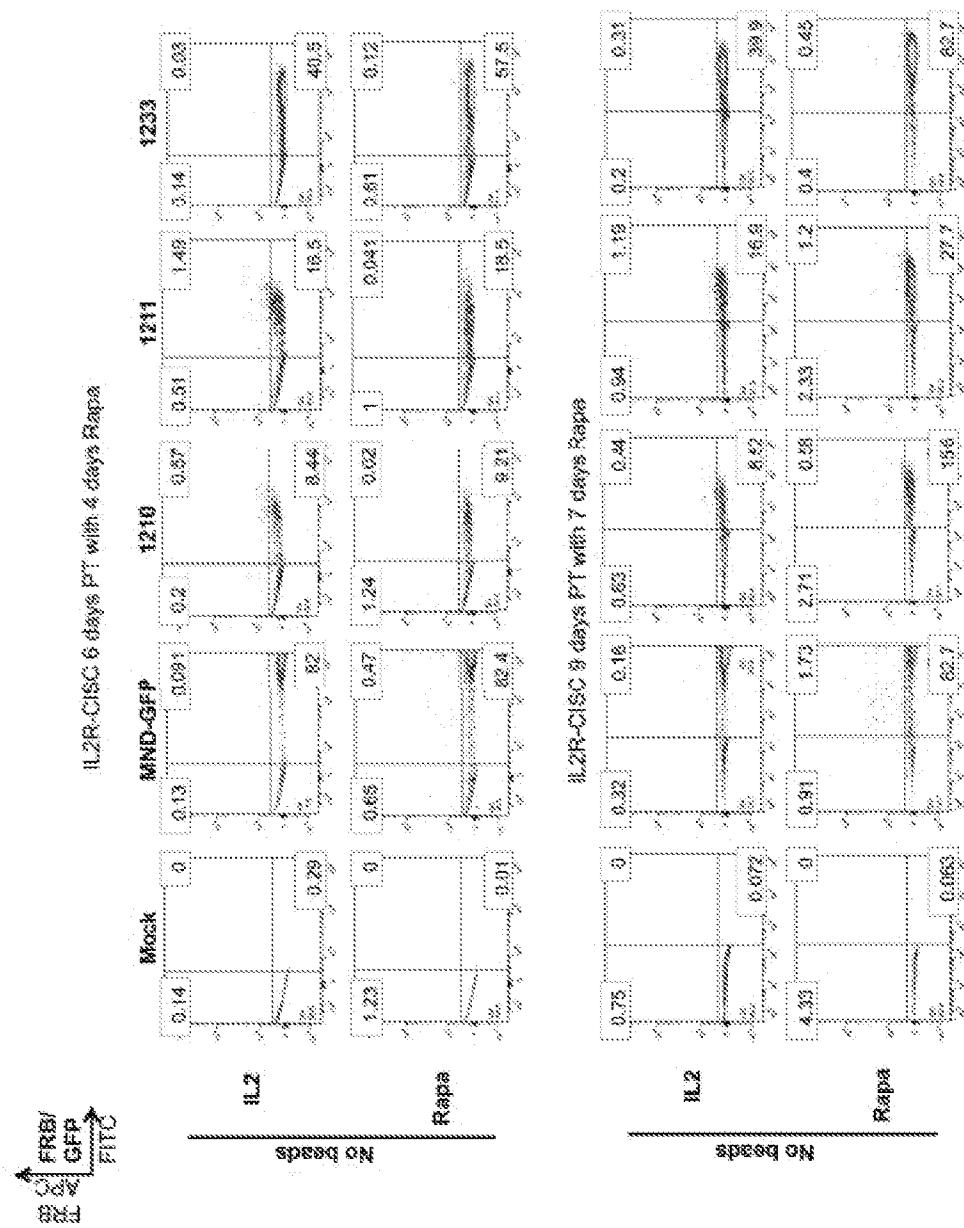
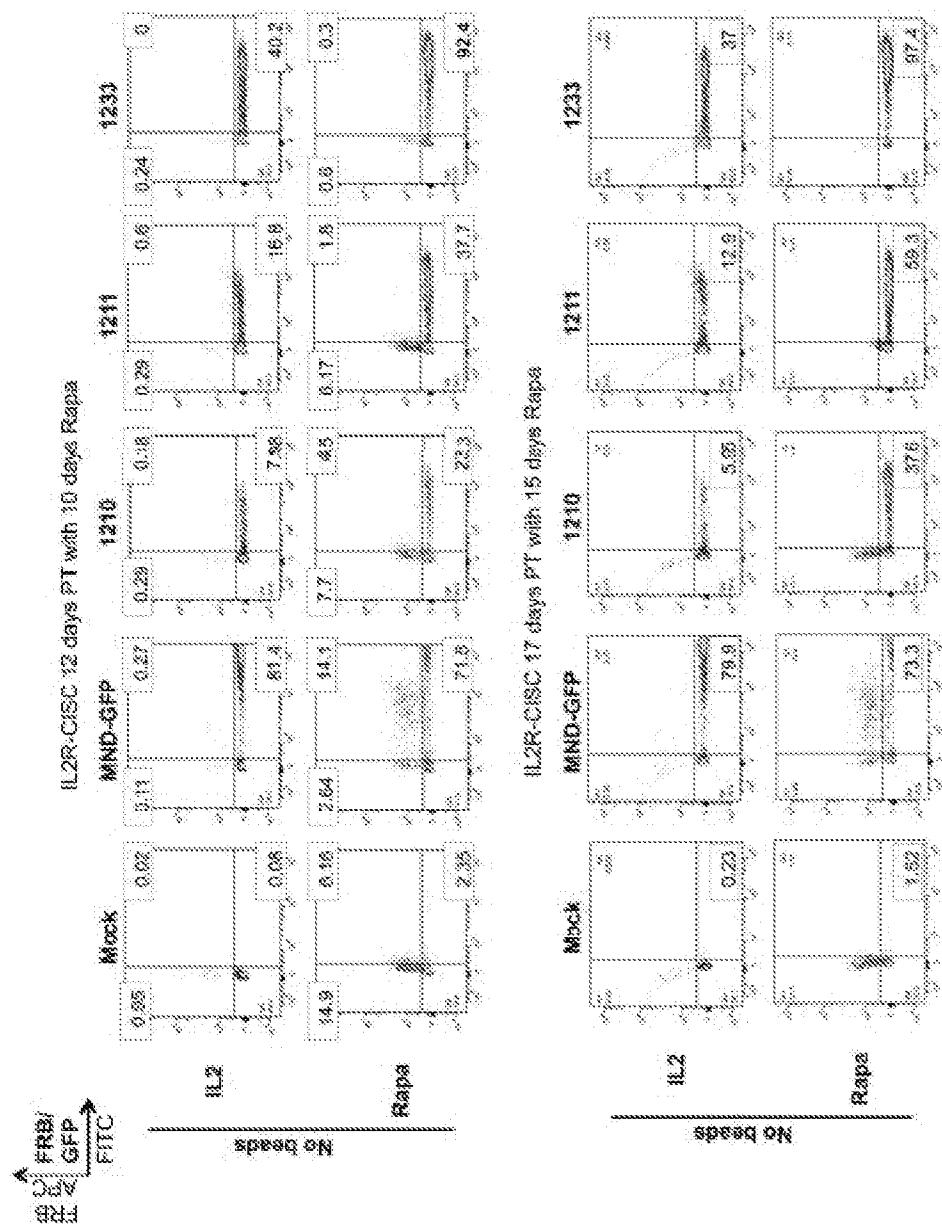
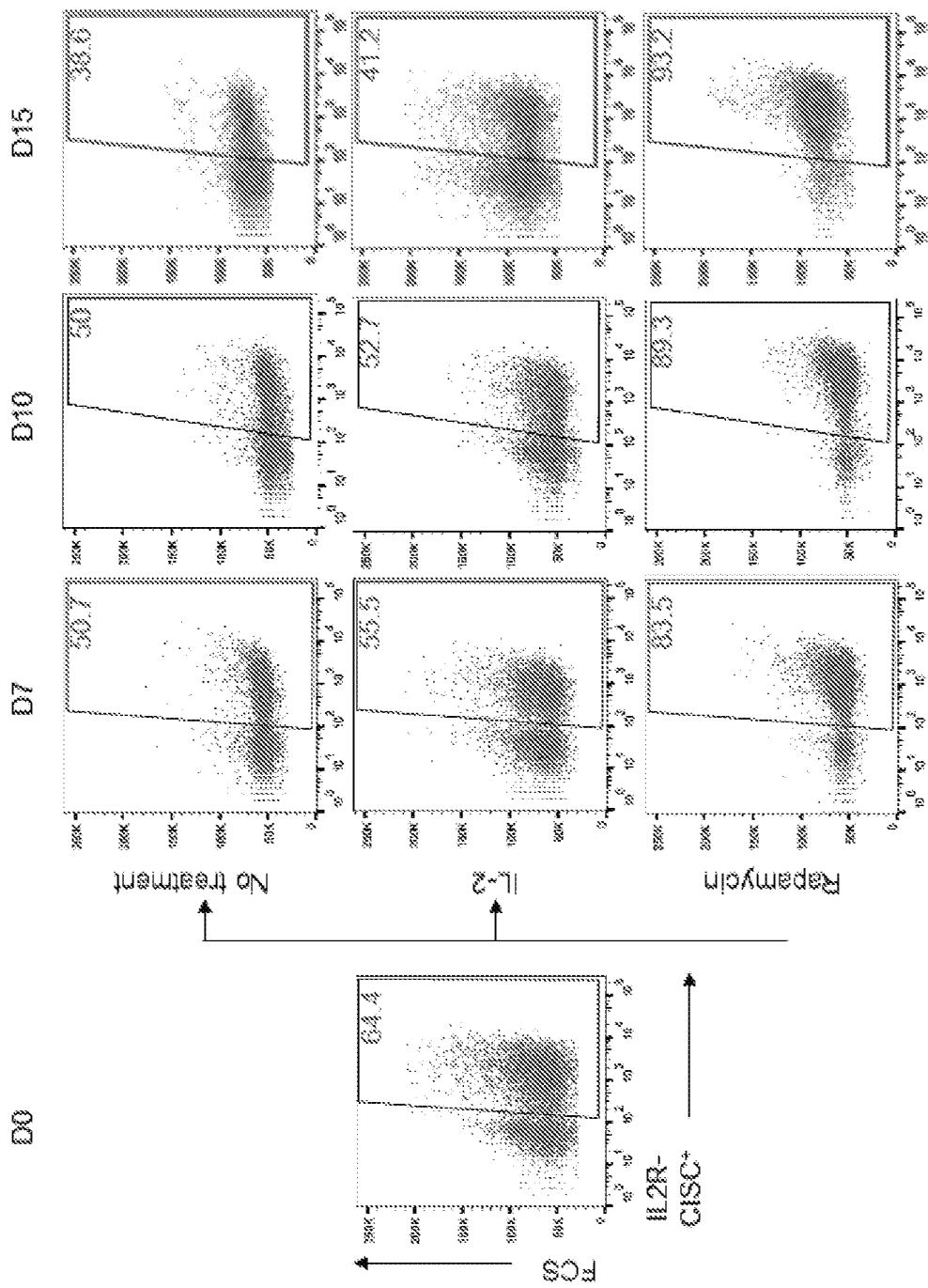


FIGURE 9

**FIGURE 10**

**FIGURE 11**

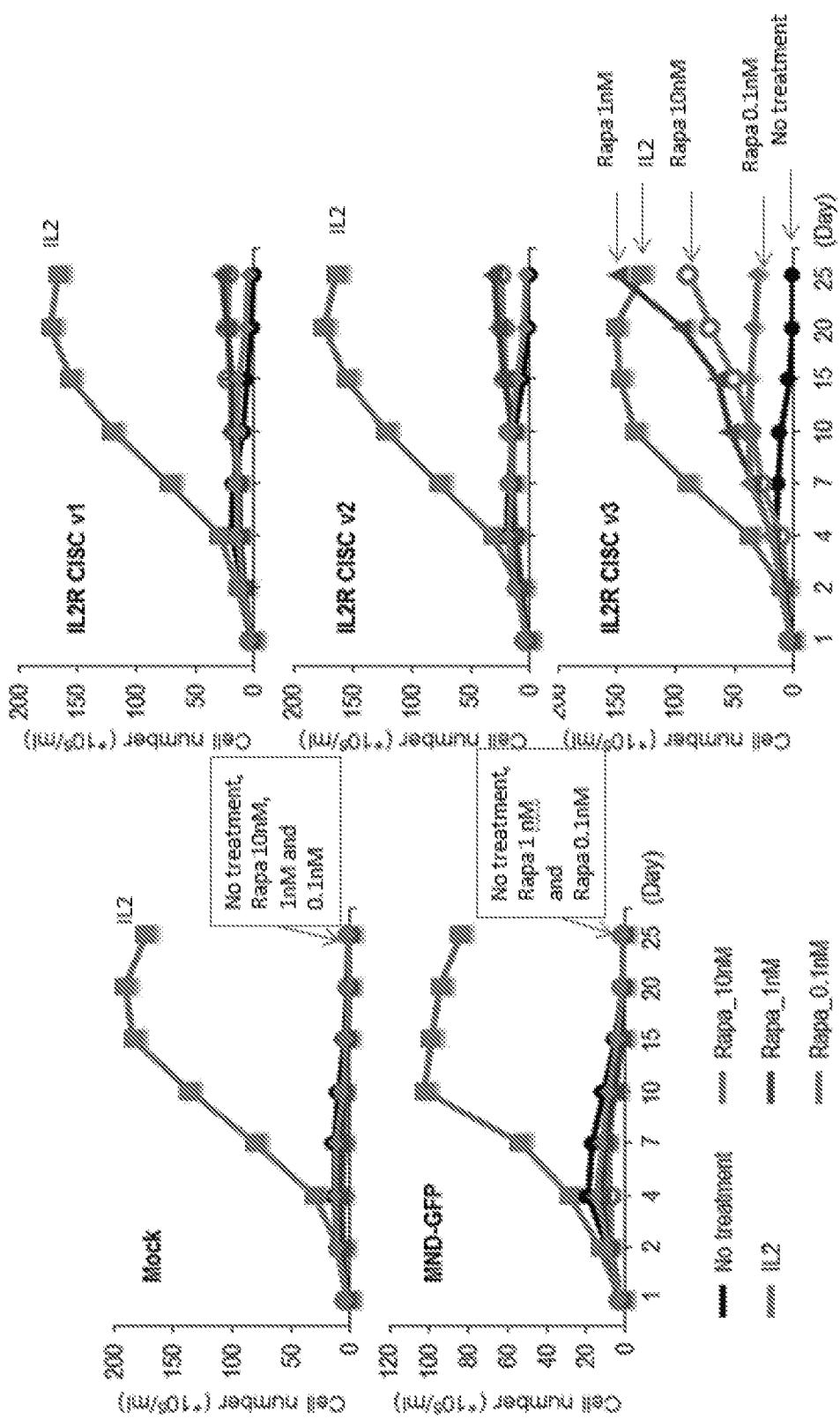
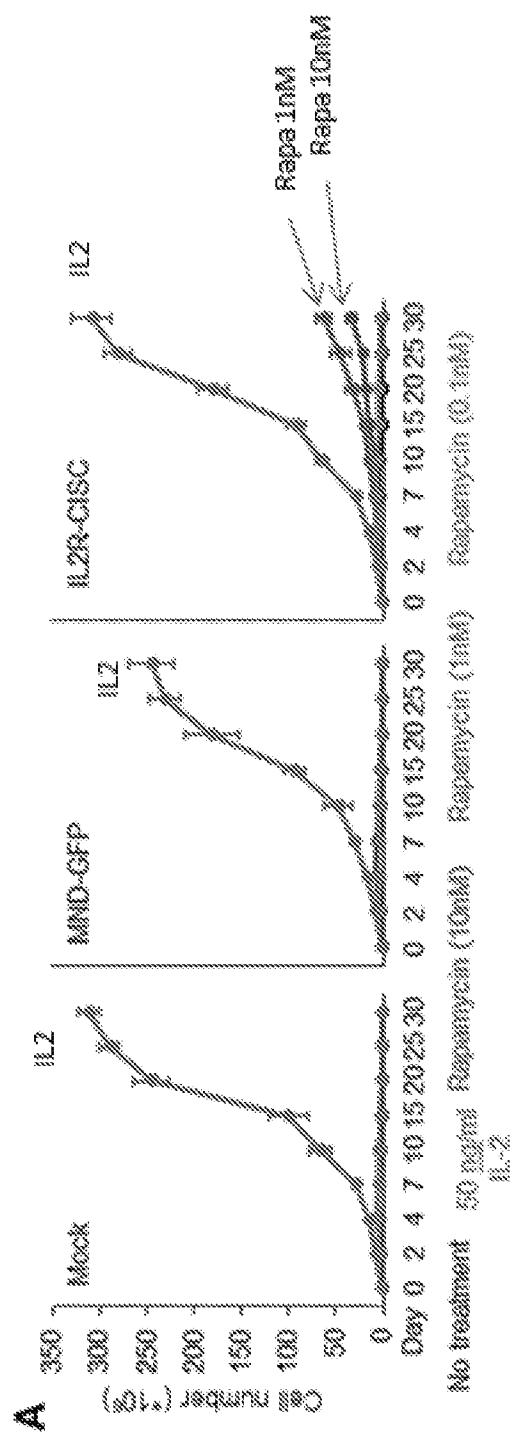


FIGURE 12



- * Protocol: bead activation, lenti transduction at 72 hours, followed by culture in IL2
- * Note: No rapamycin present in IL2 group

FIGURE 13

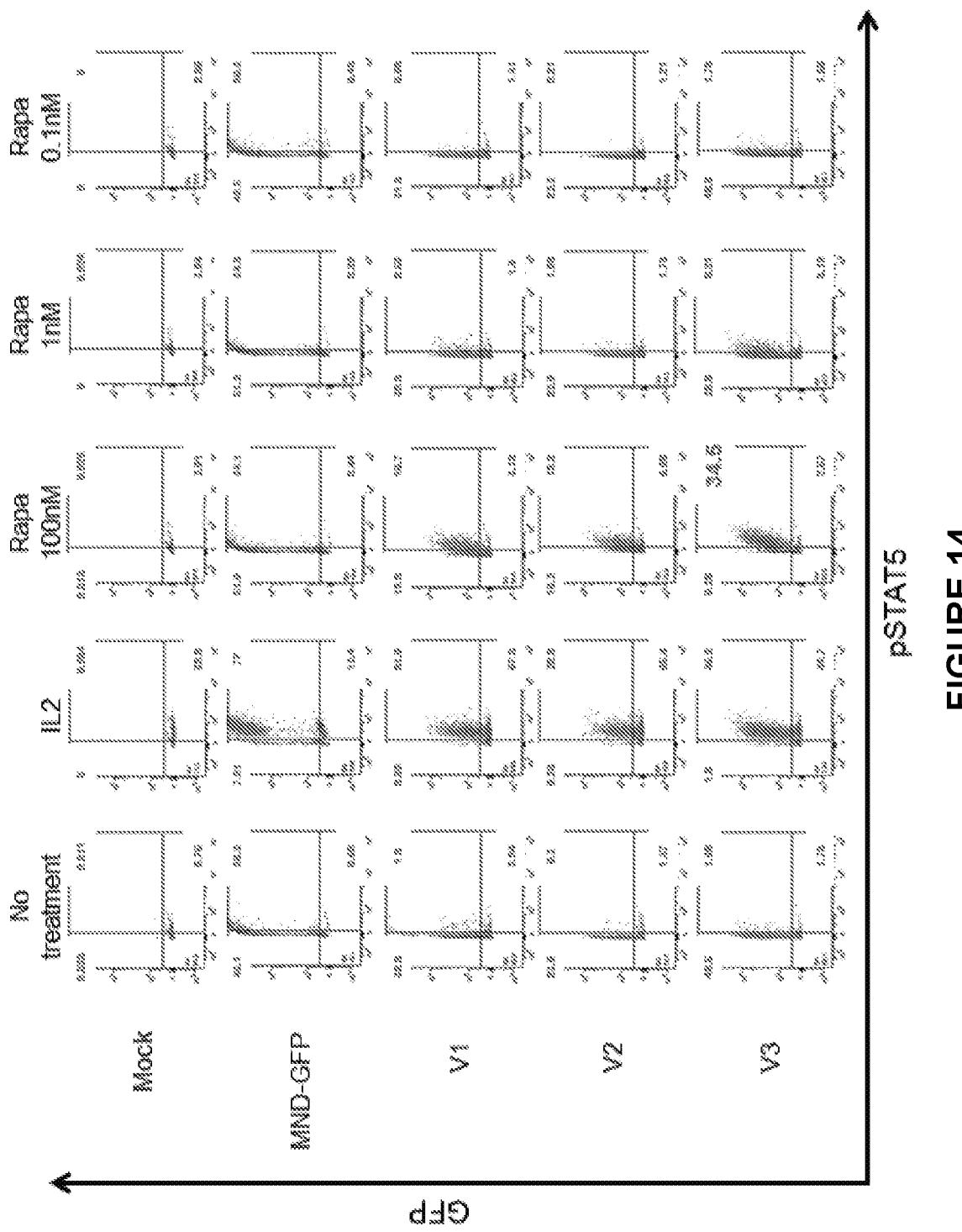


FIGURE 14

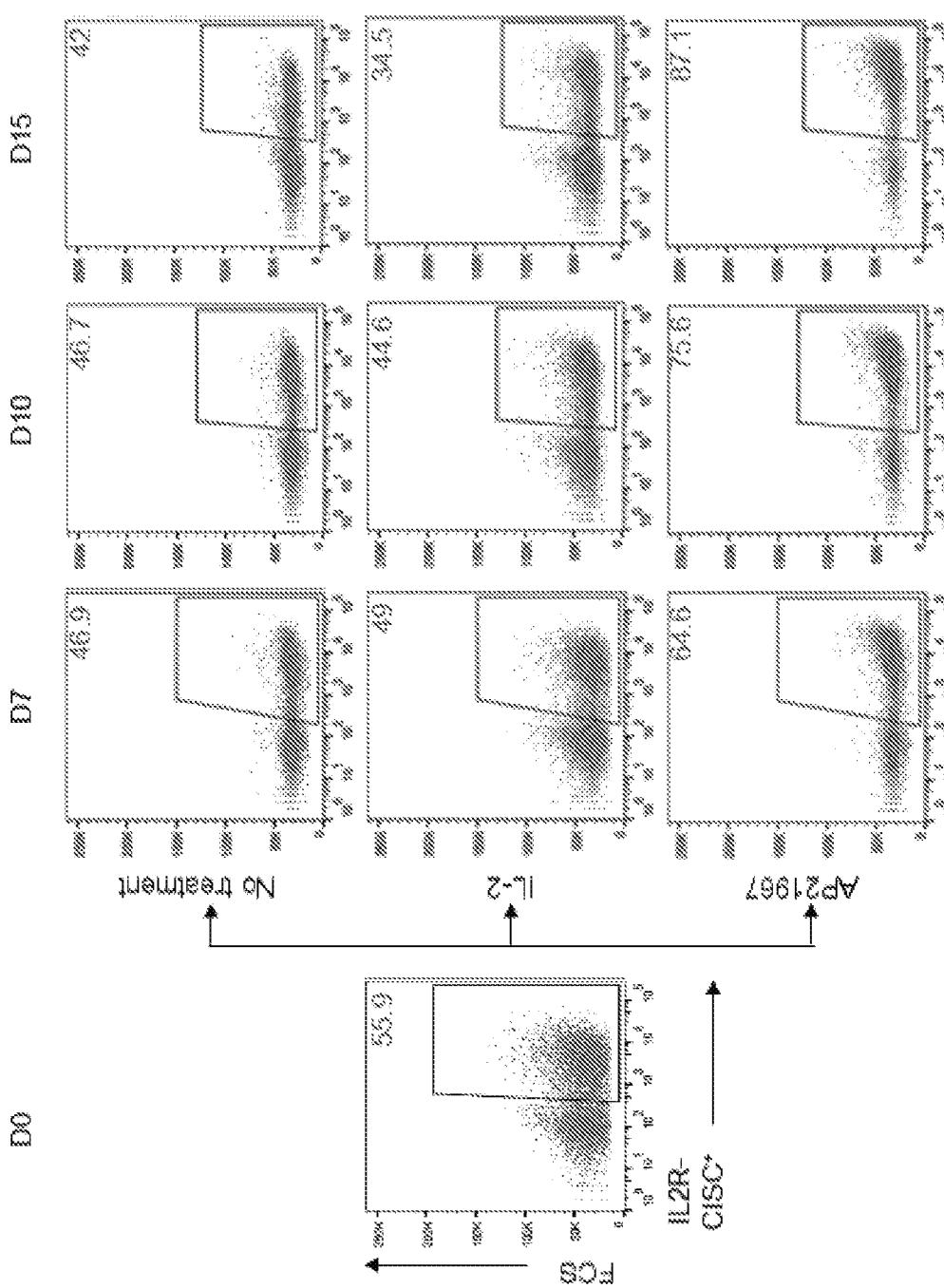


FIGURE 15

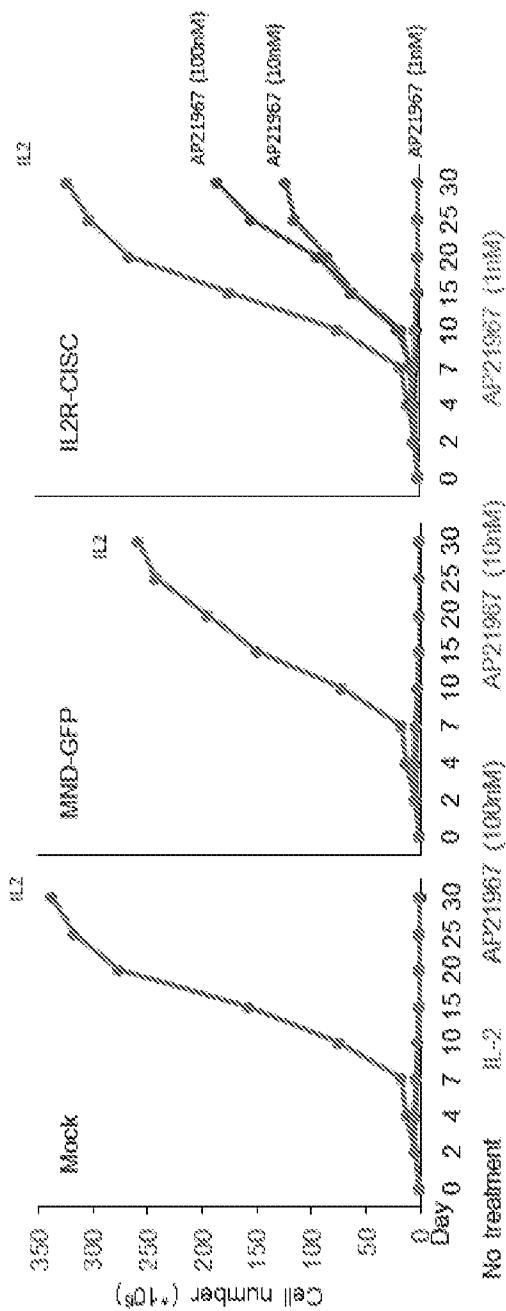
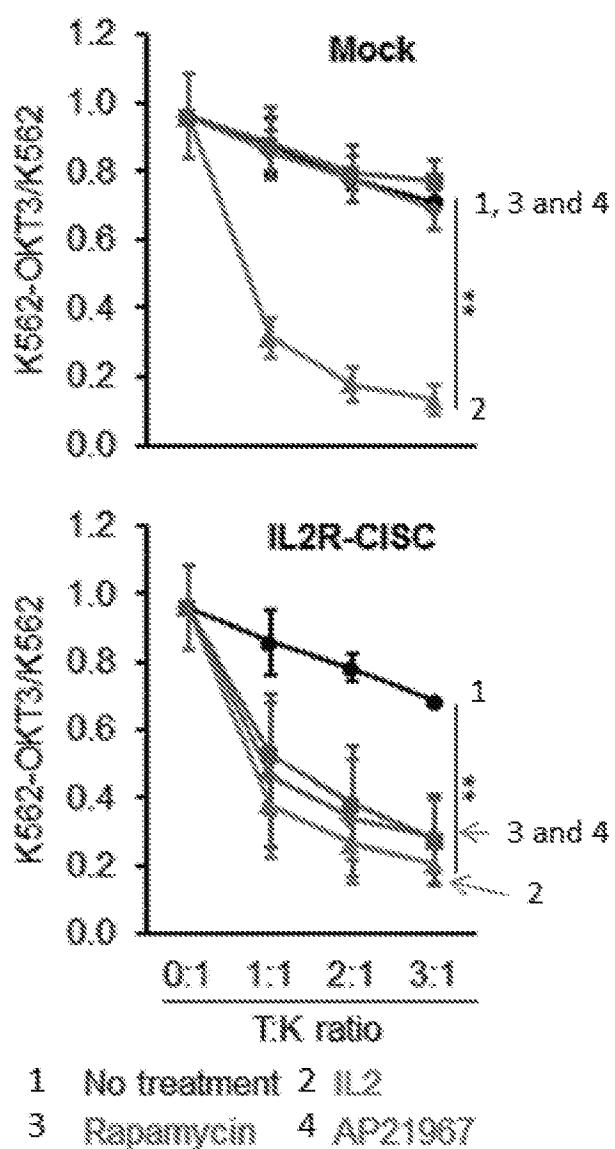
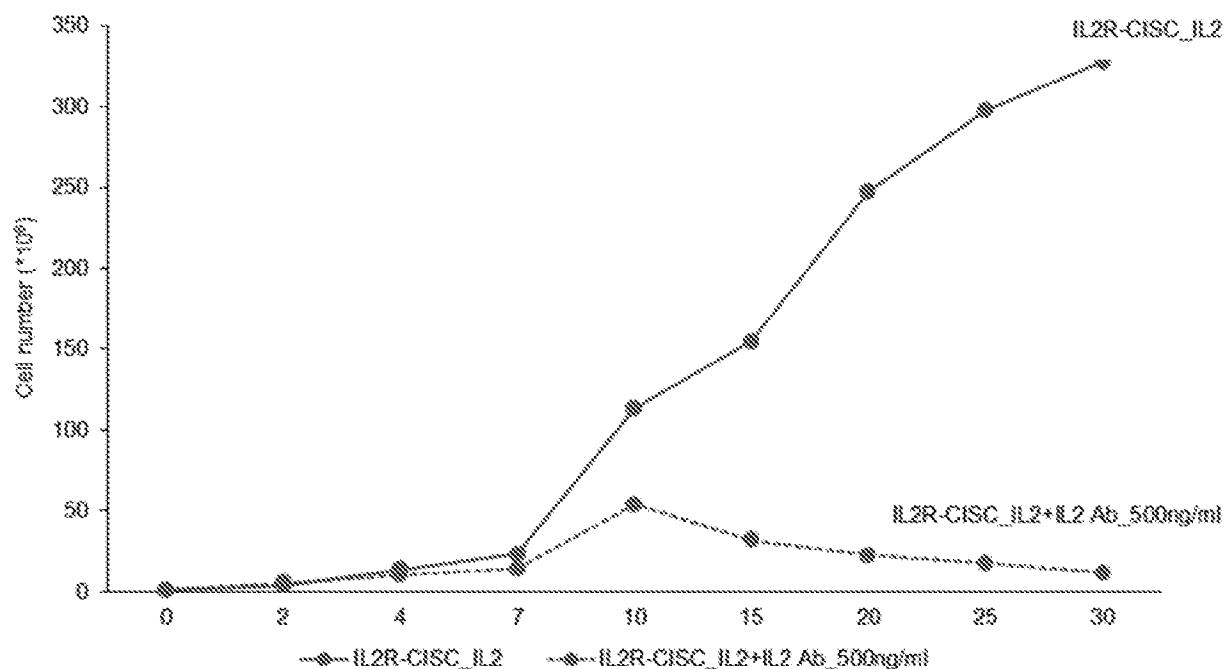
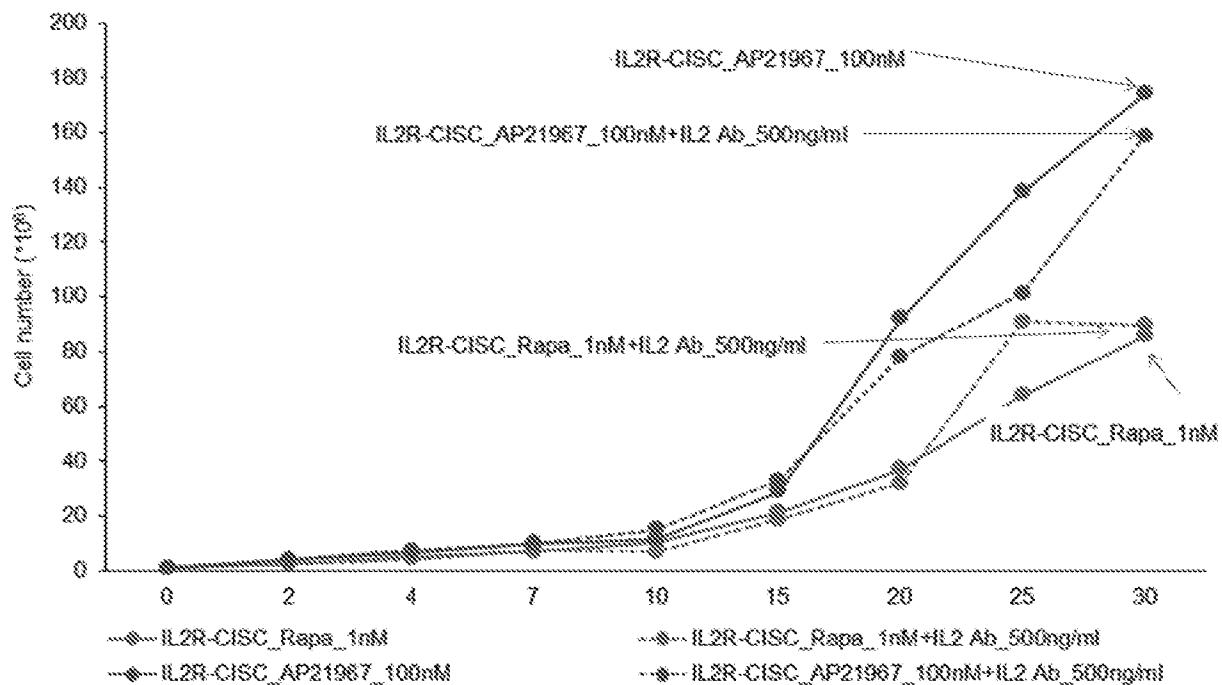


FIGURE 16

**FIGURE 17**

**FIGURE 18**

**FIGURE 19**

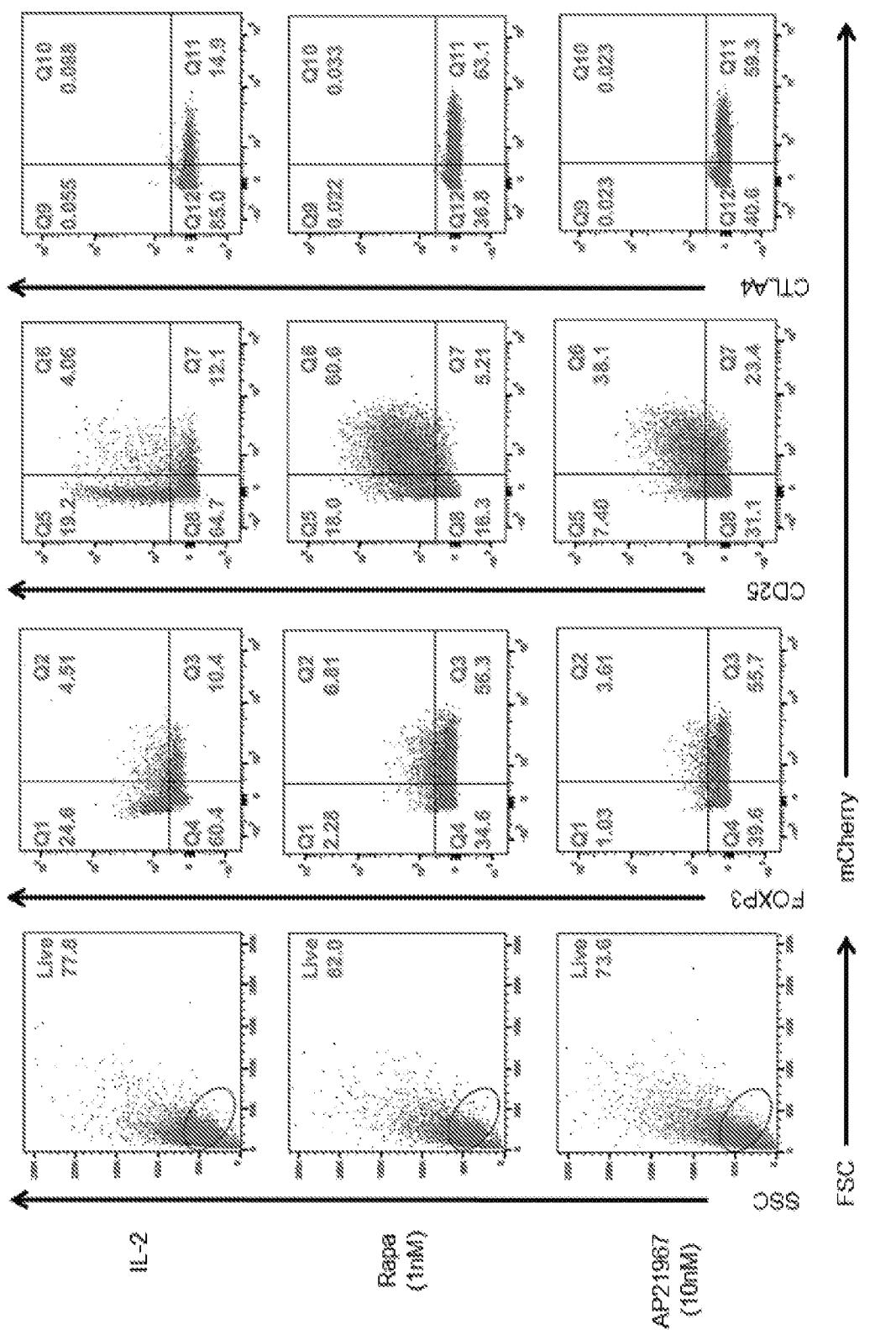


FIGURE 20

V3 = original working architecture

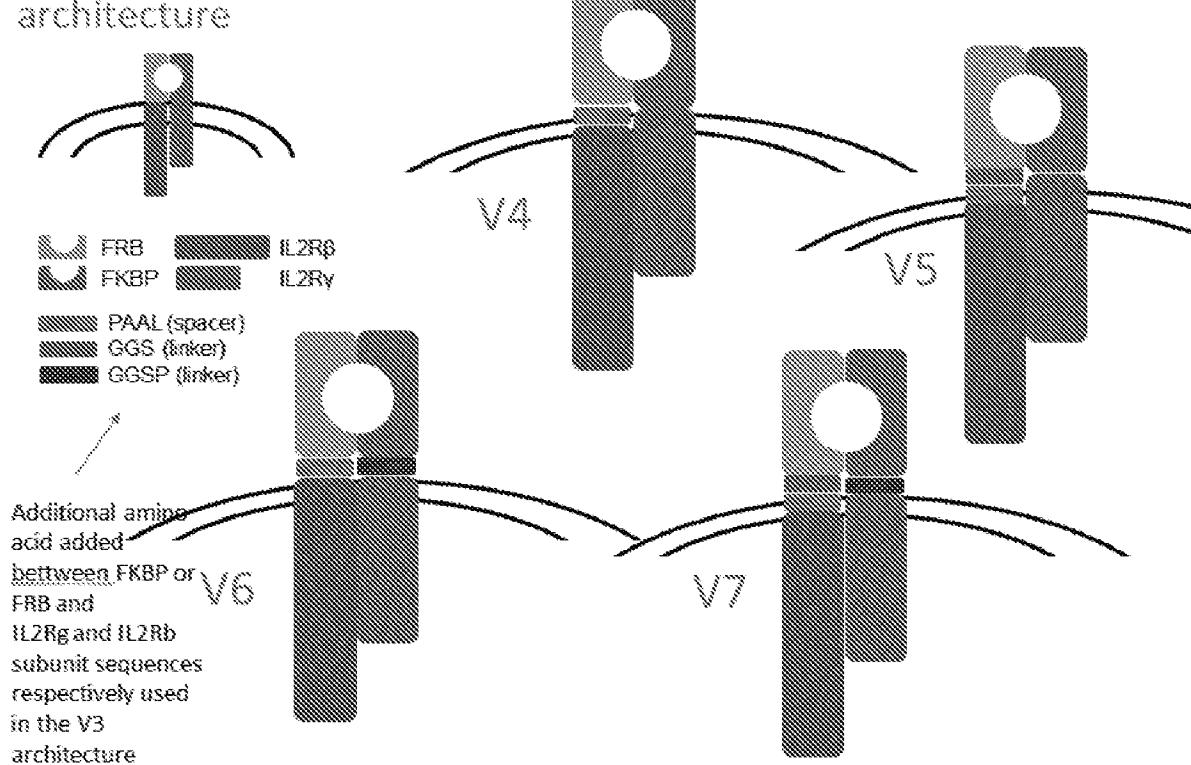


FIGURE 21

1272, DN-1272 (entivirus stock)

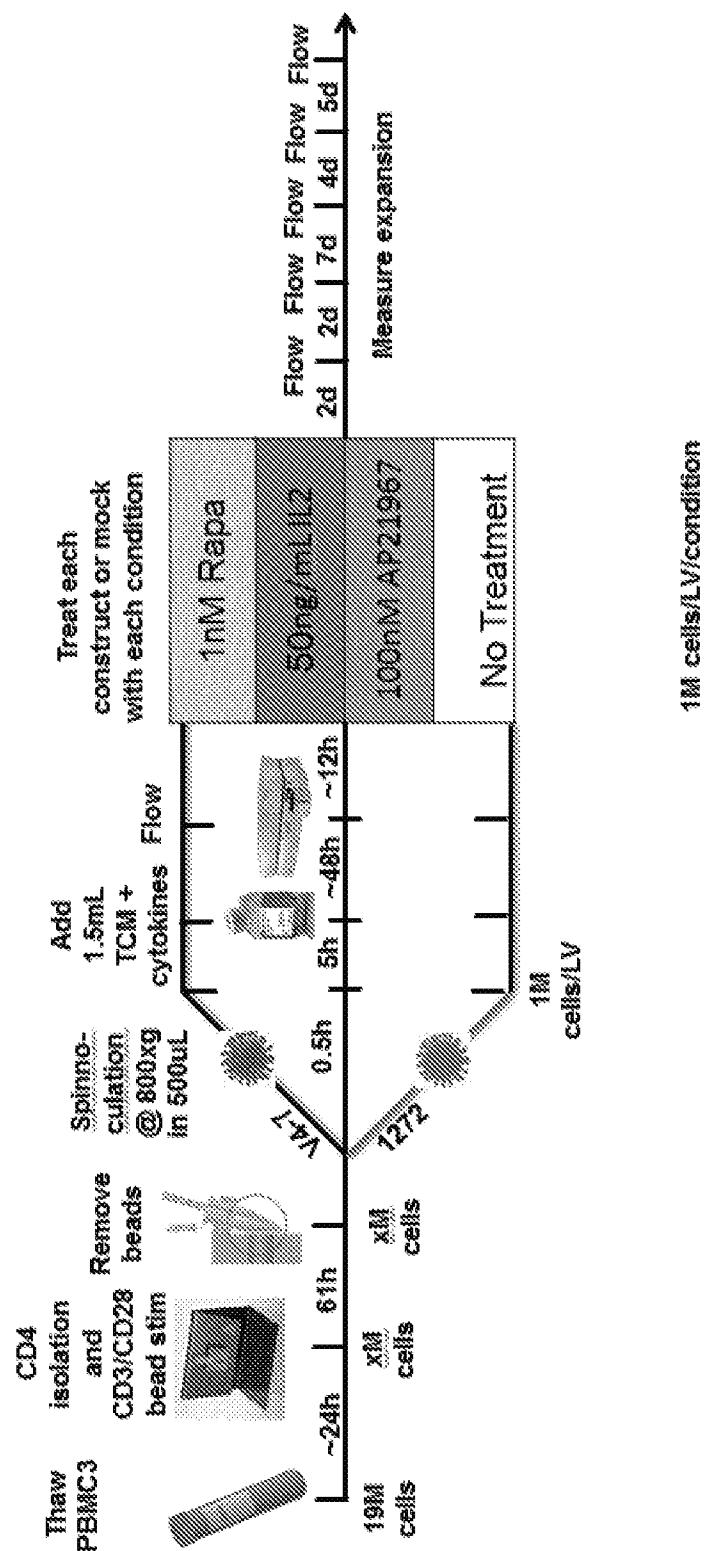


FIGURE 22

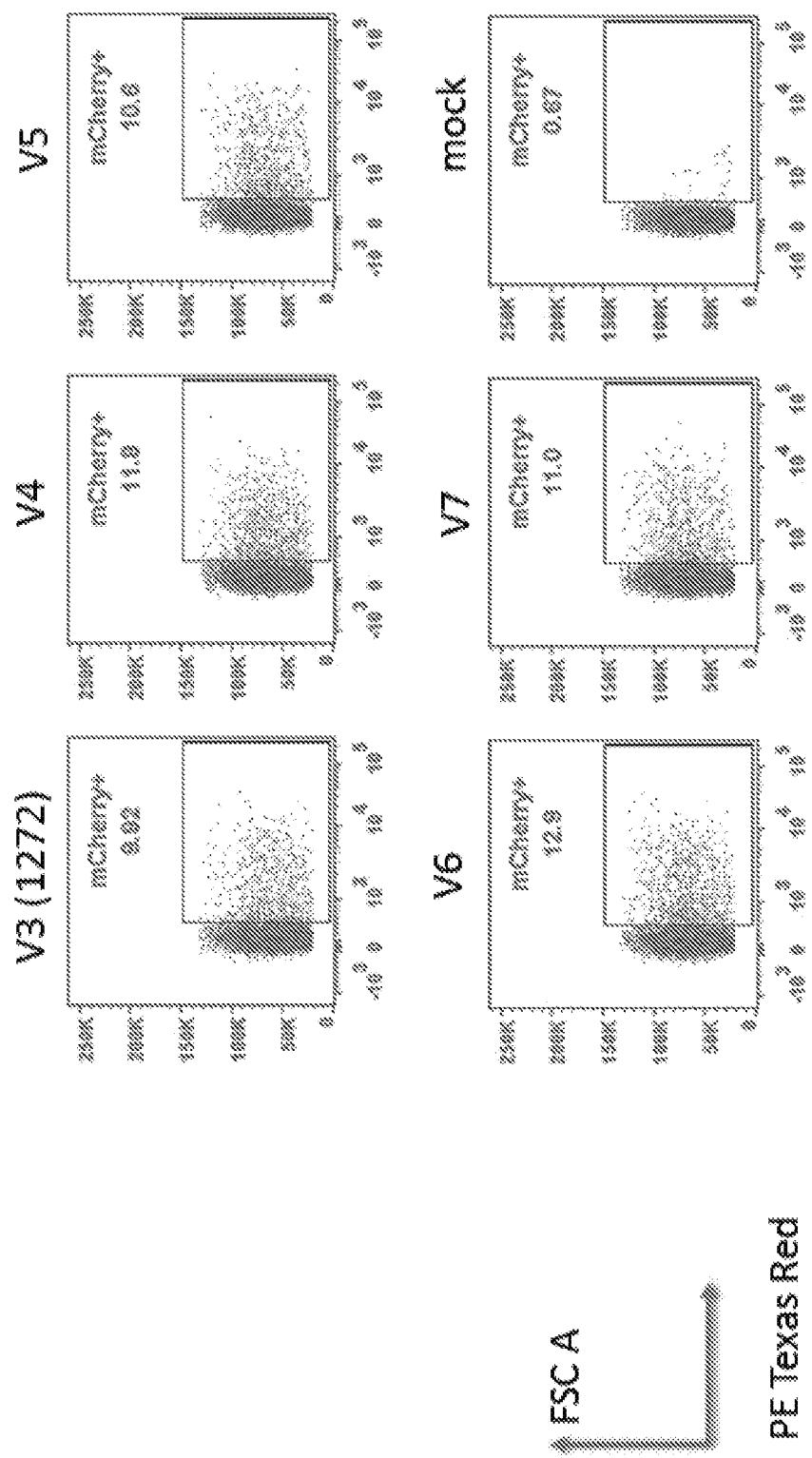
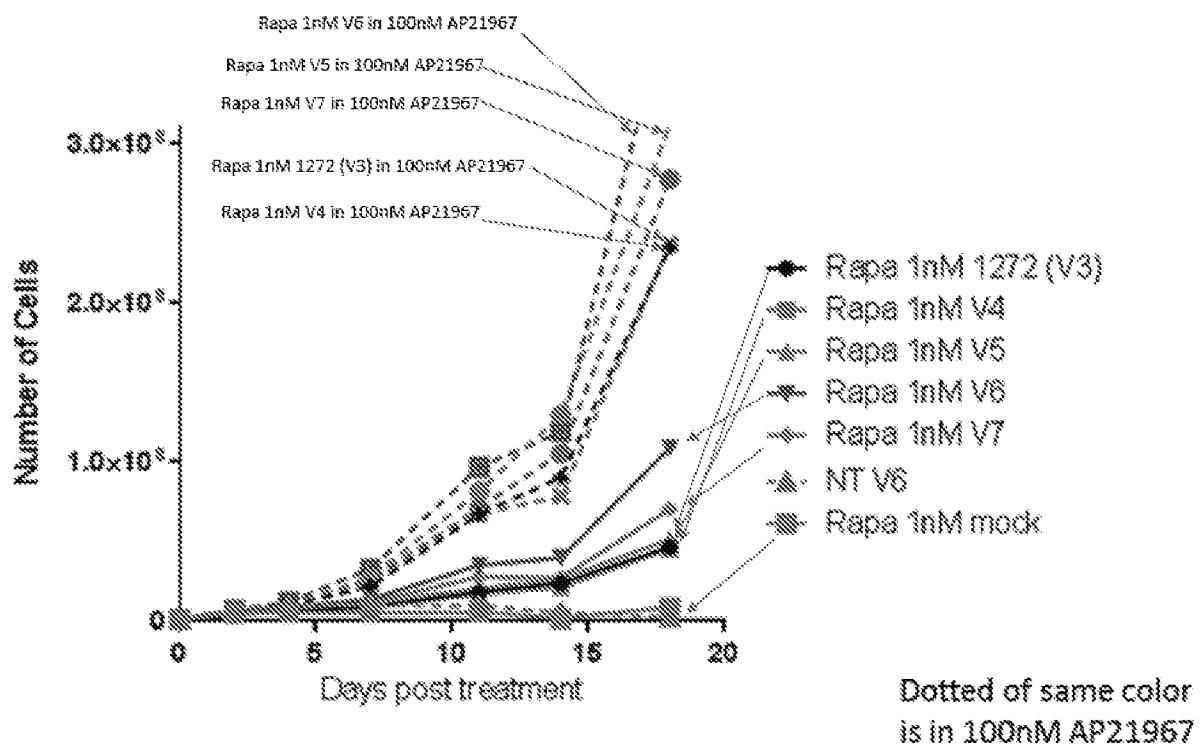
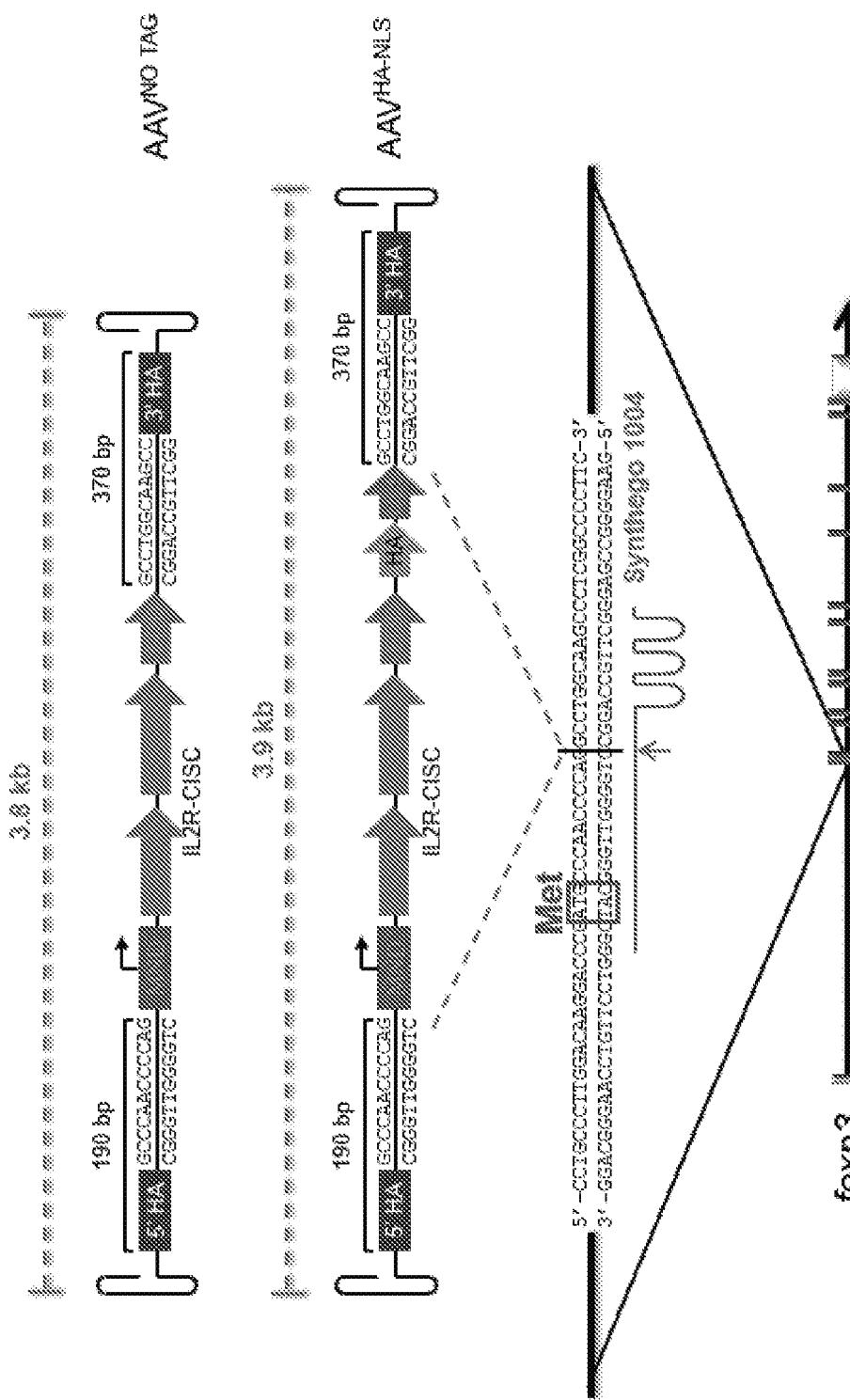


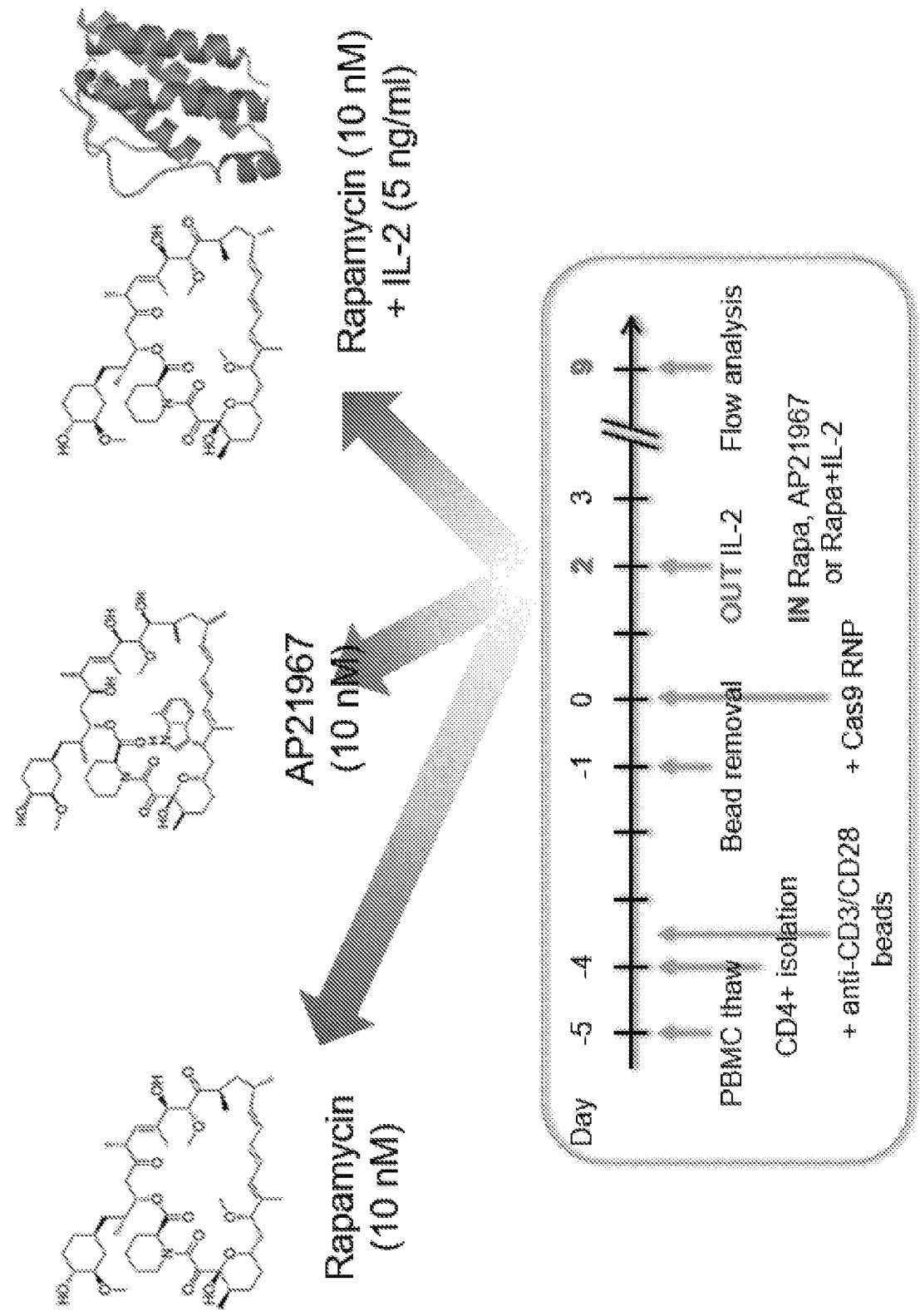
FIGURE 23

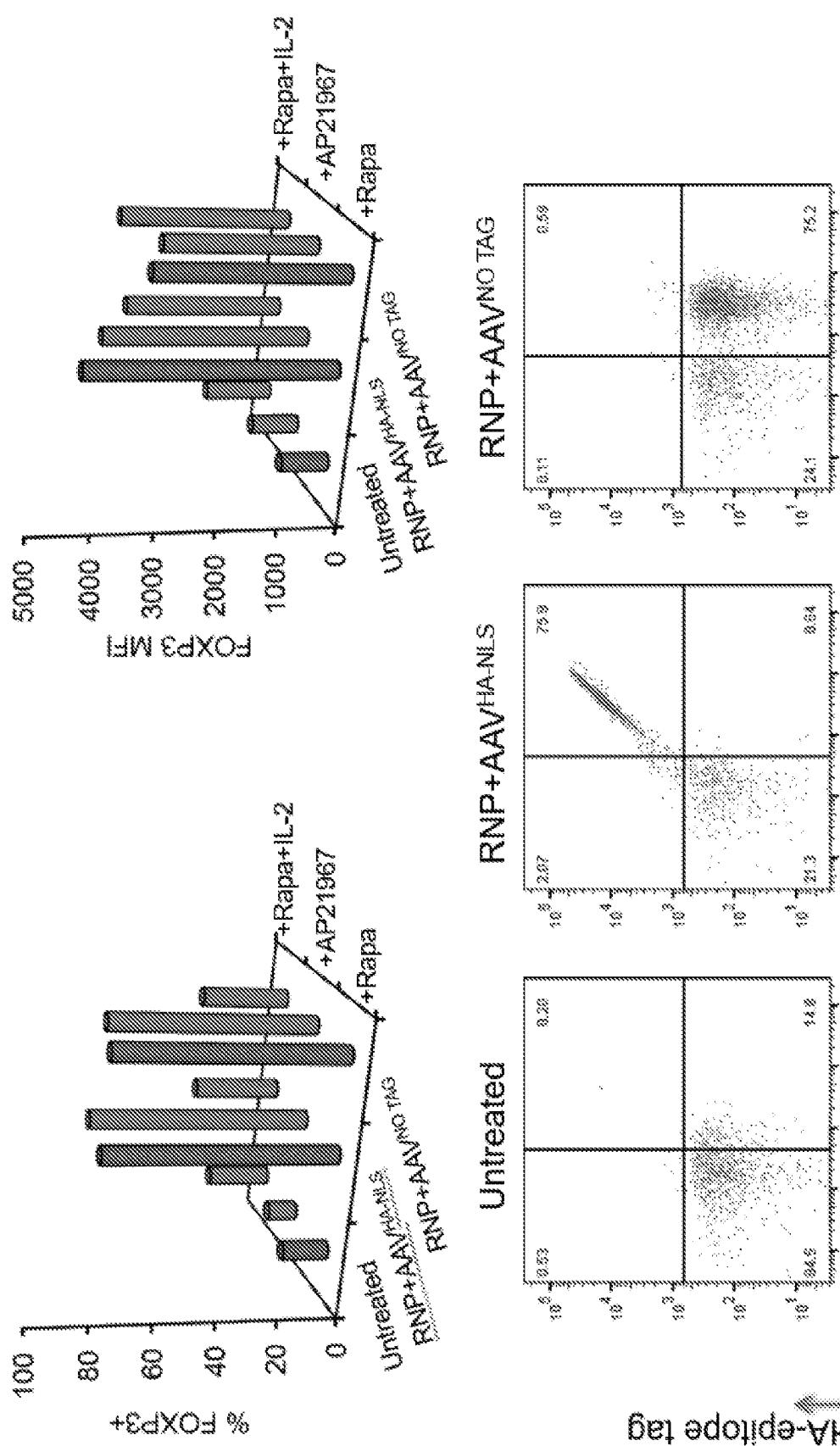
**FIGURE 24**



Chr. X: 49,250,436-49,264,826.

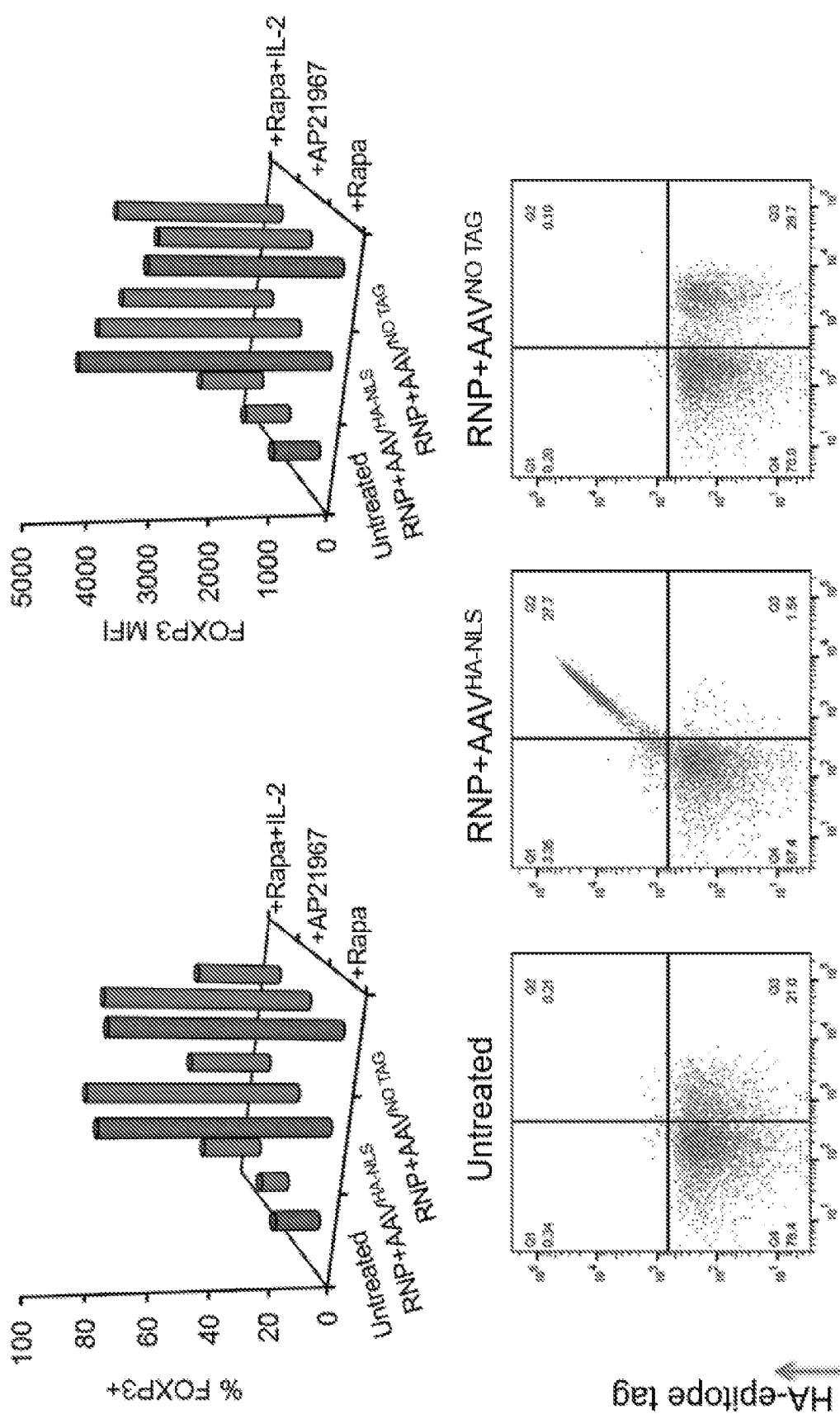
FIGURE 25

**FIGURE 26**



FOXP3 + Rapa treatment (15 days) – enrichment of gene targeted cells

FIGURE 27



+ Rapa+IL-2 treatment (15 days) – no enrichment

FIGURE 28

SEQUENCE LISTING

<110> Seattle Children's Hospital dba Seattle Children's Research Institute

Scharenberg, Andrew

<120> METHODS OF EXOGENOUS DRUG ACTIVATION OF
CHEMICAL-INDUCED SIGNALING COMPLEXES EXPRESSED IN ENGINEERED
CELLS IN VITRO AND IN VIVO

<130> SCRI.130WO

<150> 62/433540

<151> 2016-12-13

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35 40 45
Met Leu Glu Asp Gly Lys Lys Phe Asp Ser Ser Arg Asp Arg Asn Lys
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Pro Phe Lys Phe Met Leu Gly Lys Gln Glu Val Ile Arg Gly Trp Glu
65 70 75 80
Glu Gly Val Ala Gln Met Ser Val Gly Gln Arg Ala Lys Leu Thr Ile
85 90 95
Ser Pro Asp Tyr Ala Tyr Gly Ala Thr Gly His Pro Gly Ile Ile Pro
100 105 110
Pro His Ala Thr Leu Val Phe Asp Val Glu Leu Leu Lys Leu Gly Glu
115 120 125
Gly Ser Asn Thr Ser Lys Glu Asn Pro Phe Leu Phe Ala Leu Glu Ala
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Val Val Ile Ser Val Gly Ser Met Gly Leu Ile Ile Ser Leu Leu Cys
145 150 155 160
Val Tyr Phe Trp Leu Glu Arg Thr Met Pro Arg Ile Pro Thr Leu Lys
165 170 175
Asn Leu Glu Asp Leu Val Thr Glu Tyr His Gly Asn Phe Ser Ala Trp
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Ser Gly Val Ser Lys Gly Leu Ala Glu Ser Leu Gln Pro Asp Tyr Ser
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Glu Arg Leu Cys Leu Val Ser Glu Ile Pro Pro Lys Gly Gly Ala Leu
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Glu Glu Ala Ser Arg Leu Tyr Phe Gly Glu Arg Asn Val Lys Gly Met

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Phe Glu Val Leu Glu Pro Leu His Ala Met Met Glu Arg Gly Pro Gln

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Thr Leu Lys Glu Thr Ser Phe Asn Gln Ala Tyr Gly Arg Asp Leu Met

65 70 75 80

Glu Ala Gln Glu Trp Cys Arg Lys Tyr Met Lys Ser Gly Asn Val Lys

85 90 95

Asp Leu Leu Gln Ala Trp Asp Leu Tyr Tyr His Val Phe Arg Arg Ile

100 105 110

Ser Lys Gly Lys Asp Thr Ile Pro Trp Leu Gly His Leu Leu Val Gly

115 120 125

Leu Ser Gly Ala Phe Gly Phe Ile Ile Leu Val Tyr Leu Leu Ile Asn

130 135 140

Cys Arg Asn Thr Gly Pro Trp Leu Lys Lys Val Leu Lys Cys Asn Thr

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Gly Tyr Phe Phe Phe His Leu Pro Asp Ala Leu Glu Ile Glu Ala Cys
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Gln Val Tyr Phe Thr Tyr Asp Pro Tyr Ser Glu Glu Asp Pro Asp Glu
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Arg Thr Phe Pro Lys Arg Gly Gln Thr Cys Val Val His Tyr Thr Gly

35 40 45

Met Leu Glu Asp Gly Lys Lys Phe Asp Ser Ser Arg Asp Arg Asn Lys

50 55 60

Pro Phe Lys Phe Met Leu Gly Lys Gln Glu Val Ile Arg Gly Trp Glu

65 70 75 80

Glu Gly Val Ala Gln Met Ser Val Gly Gln Arg Ala Lys Leu Thr Ile

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Ser Pro Asp Tyr Ala Tyr Gly Ala Thr Gly His Pro Gly Ile Ile Pro

100 105 110

Pro His Ala Thr Leu Val Phe Asp Val Glu Leu Leu Lys Leu Glu Gly

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Glu Glu Ala Ser Arg Leu Tyr Phe Gly Glu Arg Asn Val Lys Gly Met

35 40 45

Phe Glu Val Leu Glu Pro Leu His Ala Met Met Glu Arg Gly Pro Gln

50 55 60

Thr Leu Lys Glu Thr Ser Phe Asn Gln Ala Tyr Gly Arg Asp Leu Met

65 70 75 80

Glu Ala Gln Glu Trp Cys Arg Lys Tyr Met Lys Ser Gly Asn Val Lys

85 90 95

Asp Leu Leu Gln Ala Trp Asp Leu Tyr Tyr His Val Phe Arg Arg Ile

100 105 110

Ser Lys Gly Gly Ser Lys Pro Phe Glu Asn Leu Arg Leu Met Ala Pro

115 120 125

Ile Ser Leu Gln Val Val His Val Glu Thr His Arg Cys Asn Ile Ser

130 135 140

Trp Glu Ile Ser Gln Ala Ser His Tyr Phe Glu Arg His Leu Glu Phe

145 150 155 160

Glu Ala Arg Thr Leu Ser Pro Gly His Thr Trp Glu Glu Ala Pro Leu

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Leu Thr Leu Lys Gln Lys Gln Glu Trp Ile Cys Leu Glu Thr Leu Thr

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His Gly Gly Asp Val Gln Lys Trp Leu Ser Ser Pro Phe Pro Ser Ser
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Arg Asp Asp Leu Leu Leu Phe Ser Pro Ser Leu Leu Gly Gly Pro Ser
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450 455 460
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485 490 495
Gly Pro Arg Glu Gly Val Ser Phe Pro Trp Ser Arg Pro Pro Gly Gln
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Trp Thr Glu Gln Ser Val Asp Tyr Arg His Lys Phe Ser Leu Pro Ser
180 185 190
Val Asp Gly Gln Lys Arg Tyr Thr Phe Arg Val Arg Ser Arg Phe Asn
195 200 205
Pro Leu Cys Gly Ser Ala Gln His Trp Ser Glu Trp Ser His Pro Ile
210 215 220
His Trp Gly Ser Asn Thr Ser Lys Glu Asn Pro Phe Leu Phe Ala Leu
225 230 235 240
Glu Ala Val Val Ile Ser Val Gly Ser Met Gly Leu Ile Ile Ser Leu
245 250 255
Leu Cys Val Tyr Phe Trp Leu Glu Arg Thr Met Pro Arg Ile Pro Thr
260 265 270
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Glu Glu Ala Ser Arg Leu Tyr Phe Gly Glu Arg Asn Val Lys Gly Met

35 40 45

Phe Glu Val Leu Glu Pro Leu His Ala Met Met Glu Arg Gly Pro Gln

50 55 60

Thr Leu Lys Glu Thr Ser Phe Asn Gln Ala Tyr Gly Arg Asp Leu Met

65 70 75 80

Glu Ala Gln Glu Trp Cys Arg Lys Tyr Met Lys Ser Gly Asn Val Lys

85 90 95

Asp Leu Leu Gln Ala Trp Asp Leu Tyr Tyr His Val Phe Arg Arg Ile

100 105 110

Ser Lys Lys Pro Phe Glu Asn Leu Arg Leu Met Ala Pro Ile Ser Leu

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145 150 155 160
Thr Leu Ser Pro Gly His Thr Trp Glu Glu Ala Pro Leu Leu Thr Leu
165 170 175
Lys Gln Lys Gln Glu Trp Ile Cys Leu Glu Thr Leu Thr Pro Asp Thr
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Gln Tyr Glu Phe Gln Val Arg Val Lys Pro Leu Gln Gly Glu Phe Thr
195 200 205
Thr Trp Ser Pro Trp Ser Gln Pro Leu Ala Phe Arg Thr Lys Pro Ala
210 215 220
Ala Leu Gly Lys Asp Thr Ile Pro Trp Leu Gly His Leu Leu Val Gly
225 230 235 240
Leu Ser Gly Ala Phe Gly Phe Ile Ile Leu Val Tyr Leu Leu Ile Asn
245 250 255
Cys Arg Asn Thr Gly Pro Trp Leu Lys Lys Val Leu Lys Cys Asn Thr
260 265 270
Pro Asp Pro Ser Lys Phe Phe Ser Gln Leu Ser Ser Glu His Gly Gly
275 280 285
Asp Val Gln Lys Trp Leu Ser Ser Pro Phe Pro Ser Ser Phe Ser
290 295 300
Pro Gly Gly Leu Ala Pro Glu Ile Ser Pro Leu Glu Val Leu Glu Arg
305 310 315 320
Asp Lys Val Thr Gln Leu Leu Leu Gln Gln Asp Lys Val Pro Glu Pro
325 330 335
Ala Ser Leu Ser Ser Asn His Ser Leu Thr Ser Cys Phe Thr Asn Gln
340 345 350
Gly Tyr Phe Phe Phe His Leu Pro Asp Ala Leu Glu Ile Glu Ala Cys
355 360 365
Gln Val Tyr Phe Thr Tyr Asp Pro Tyr Ser Glu Glu Asp Pro Asp Glu

370 375 380
Gly Val Ala Gly Ala Pro Thr Gly Ser Ser Pro Gln Pro Leu Gln Pro
385 390 395 400
Leu Ser Gly Glu Asp Asp Ala Tyr Cys Thr Phe Pro Ser Arg Asp Asp
405 410 415
Leu Leu Leu Phe Ser Pro Ser Leu Leu Gly Gly Pro Ser Pro Pro Ser
420 425 430
Thr Ala Pro Gly Gly Ser Gly Ala Gly Glu Glu Arg Met Pro Pro Ser
435 440 445
Leu Gln Glu Arg Val Pro Arg Asp Trp Asp Pro Gln Pro Leu Gly Pro
450 455 460
Pro Thr Pro Gly Val Pro Asp Leu Val Asp Phe Gln Pro Pro Pro Glu
465 470 475 480
Leu Val Leu Arg Glu Ala Gly Glu Glu Val Pro Asp Ala Gly Pro Arg
485 490 495
Glu Gly Val Ser Phe Pro Trp Ser Arg Pro Pro Gly Gln Gly Glu Phe
500 505 510
Arg Ala Leu Asn Ala Arg Leu Pro Leu Asn Thr Asp Ala Tyr Leu Ser
515 520 525
Leu Gln Glu Leu Gln Gly Gln Asp Pro Thr His Leu Val
530 535 540

<210> 7
<211> 251
<212> PRT
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>
<223> FKBP IL2Rg CISC 1233

<400> 7

Met Pro Leu Gly Leu Leu Trp Leu Gly Leu Ala Leu Leu Gly Ala Leu

1 5 10 15

His Ala Gln Ala Gly Val Gln Val Glu Thr Ile Ser Pro Gly Asp Gly

20 25 30

Arg Thr Phe Pro Lys Arg Gly Gln Thr Cys Val Val His Tyr Thr Gly

35 40 45

Met Leu Glu Asp Gly Lys Lys Phe Asp Ser Ser Arg Asp Arg Asn Lys

50 55 60

Pro Phe Lys Phe Met Leu Gly Lys Gln Glu Val Ile Arg Gly Trp Glu

65 70 75 80

Glu Gly Val Ala Gln Met Ser Val Gly Gln Arg Ala Lys Leu Thr Ile

85 90 95

Ser Pro Asp Tyr Ala Tyr Gly Ala Thr Gly His Pro Gly Ile Ile Pro

100 105 110

Pro His Ala Thr Leu Val Phe Asp Val Glu Leu Leu Lys Leu Glu Gly

115 120 125

Gly Ser Asn Thr Ser Lys Glu Asn Pro Phe Leu Phe Ala Leu Glu Ala

130 135 140

Val Val Ile Ser Val Gly Ser Met Gly Leu Ile Ile Ser Leu Leu Cys

145 150 155 160

Val Tyr Phe Trp Leu Glu Arg Thr Met Pro Arg Ile Pro Thr Leu Lys

165 170 175

Asn Leu Glu Asp Leu Val Thr Glu Tyr His Gly Asn Phe Ser Ala Trp

180 185 190

Ser Gly Val Ser Lys Gly Leu Ala Glu Ser Leu Gln Pro Asp Tyr Ser

195 200 205

Glu Arg Leu Cys Leu Val Ser Glu Ile Pro Pro Lys Gly Gly Ala Leu

210 215 220

Gly Glu Gly Pro Gly Ala Ser Pro Cys Asn Gln His Ser Pro Tyr Trp

225 230 235 240

Ala Pro Pro Cys Tyr Thr Leu Lys Pro Glu Thr

245 250

<210> 8

<211> 379

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<223> FRB IL2Rb CISC 1233

<400> 8

Met Ala Leu Pro Val Thr Ala Leu Leu Leu Pro Leu Ala Leu Leu Leu

1 5 10 15

His Ala Ala Arg Pro Ile Leu Trp His Glu Met Trp His Glu Gly Leu

20 25 30

Glu Glu Ala Ser Arg Leu Tyr Phe Gly Glu Arg Asn Val Lys Gly Met

35 40 45

Phe Glu Val Leu Glu Pro Leu His Ala Met Met Glu Arg Gly Pro Gln

50 55 60

Thr Leu Lys Glu Thr Ser Trp Leu Gly His Leu Leu Val Gly Leu Ser

65 70 75 80

Gly Ala Phe Gly Phe Ile Ile Leu Val Tyr Leu Leu Ile Asn Cys Arg

85 90 95

Asn Thr Gly Pro Trp Leu Lys Lys Val Leu Lys Cys Asn Thr Pro Asp

100 105 110

Pro Ser Lys Phe Phe Ser Gln Leu Ser Ser Glu His Gly Gly Asp Val

115 120 125

Gln Lys Trp Leu Ser Ser Pro Phe Pro Ser Ser Phe Ser Pro Gly

130 135 140

Gly Leu Ala Pro Glu Ile Ser Pro Leu Glu Val Leu Glu Arg Asp Lys
145 150 155 160
Val Thr Gln Leu Leu Leu Gln Gln Asp Lys Val Pro Glu Pro Ala Ser
165 170 175
Leu Ser Ser Asn His Ser Leu Thr Ser Cys Phe Thr Asn Gln Gly Tyr
180 185 190
Phe Phe Phe His Leu Pro Asp Ala Leu Glu Ile Glu Ala Cys Gln Val
195 200 205
Tyr Phe Thr Tyr Asp Pro Tyr Ser Glu Glu Asp Pro Asp Glu Gly Val
210 215 220
Ala Gly Ala Pro Thr Gly Ser Ser Pro Gln Pro Leu Gln Pro Leu Ser
225 230 235 240
Gly Glu Asp Asp Ala Tyr Cys Thr Phe Pro Ser Arg Asp Asp Leu Leu
245 250 255
Leu Phe Ser Pro Ser Leu Leu Gly Gly Pro Ser Pro Pro Ser Thr Ala
260 265 270
Pro Gly Gly Ser Gly Ala Gly Glu Glu Arg Met Pro Pro Ser Leu Gln
275 280 285
Glu Arg Val Pro Arg Asp Trp Asp Pro Gln Pro Leu Gly Pro Pro Thr
290 295 300
Pro Gly Val Pro Asp Leu Val Asp Phe Gln Pro Pro Glu Leu Val
305 310 315 320
Leu Arg Glu Ala Gly Glu Glu Val Pro Asp Ala Gly Pro Arg Glu Gly
325 330 335
Val Ser Phe Pro Trp Ser Arg Pro Pro Gly Gln Gly Glu Phe Arg Ala
340 345 350
Leu Asn Ala Arg Leu Pro Leu Asn Thr Asp Ala Tyr Leu Ser Leu Gln
355 360 365
Glu Leu Gln Gly Gln Asp Pro Thr His Leu Val
370 375

<210> 9

<211> 345

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<223> FRB IL7Ra CISC

<400> 9

Met Ala Leu Pro Val Thr Ala Leu Leu Leu Pro Leu Ala Leu Leu Leu

1 5 10 15

His Ala Ala Arg Pro Ile Leu Trp His Glu Met Trp His Glu Gly Leu

20 25 30

Glu Glu Ala Ser Arg Leu Tyr Phe Gly Glu Arg Asn Val Lys Gly Met

35 40 45

Phe Glu Val Leu Glu Pro Leu His Ala Met Met Glu Arg Gly Pro Gln

50 55 60

Thr Leu Lys Glu Thr Ser Phe Asn Gln Ala Tyr Gly Arg Asp Leu Met

65 70 75 80

Glu Ala Gln Glu Trp Cys Arg Lys Tyr Met Lys Ser Gly Asn Val Lys

85 90 95

Asp Leu Leu Gln Ala Trp Asp Leu Tyr Tyr His Val Phe Arg Arg Ile

100 105 110

Ser Lys Gly Glu Ile Asn Asn Ser Ser Gly Glu Met Asp Pro Ile Leu

115 120 125

Leu Thr Ile Ser Ile Leu Ser Phe Phe Ser Val Ala Leu Leu Val Ile

130 135 140

Leu Ala Cys Val Leu Trp Lys Lys Arg Ile Lys Pro Ile Val Trp Pro

145 150 155 160

Ser Leu Pro Asp His Lys Lys Thr Leu Glu His Leu Cys Lys Lys Pro

165 170 175
Arg Lys Asn Leu Asn Val Ser Phe Asn Pro Glu Ser Phe Leu Asp Cys
180 185 190
Gln Ile His Arg Val Asp Asp Ile Gln Ala Arg Asp Glu Val Glu Gly
195 200 205
Phe Leu Gln Asp Thr Phe Pro Gln Gln Leu Glu Glu Ser Glu Lys Gln
210 215 220
Arg Leu Gly Gly Asp Val Gln Ser Pro Asn Cys Pro Ser Glu Asp Val
225 230 235 240
Val Ile Thr Pro Glu Ser Phe Gly Arg Asp Ser Ser Leu Thr Cys Leu
245 250 255
Ala Gly Asn Val Ser Ala Cys Asp Ala Pro Ile Leu Ser Ser Arg
260 265 270
Ser Leu Asp Cys Arg Glu Ser Gly Lys Asn Gly Pro His Val Tyr Gln
275 280 285
Asp Leu Leu Leu Ser Leu Gly Thr Thr Asn Ser Thr Leu Pro Pro Pro
290 295 300
Phe Ser Leu Gln Ser Gly Ile Leu Thr Leu Asn Pro Val Ala Gln Gly
305 310 315 320
Gln Pro Ile Leu Thr Ser Leu Gly Ser Asn Gln Glu Ala Tyr Val
325 330 335
Thr Met Ser Ser Phe Tyr Gln Asn Gln
340 345

<210> 10
<211> 443
<212> PRT
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<223> FKBP-F36V IL2Rb CISC

<400> 10

Met Pro Leu Gly Leu Leu Trp Leu Gly Leu Ala Leu Leu Gly Ala Leu

1 5 10 15

His Ala Gln Ala Gly Val Gln Val Glu Thr Ile Ser Pro Gly Asp Gly

20 25 30

Arg Thr Phe Pro Lys Arg Gly Gln Thr Cys Val Val His Tyr Thr Gly

35 40 45

Met Leu Glu Asp Gly Lys Lys Val Asp Ser Ser Arg Asp Arg Asn Lys

50 55 60

Pro Phe Lys Phe Met Leu Gly Lys Gln Glu Val Ile Arg Gly Trp Glu

65 70 75 80

Glu Gly Val Ala Gln Met Ser Val Gly Gln Arg Ala Lys Leu Thr Ile

85 90 95

Ser Pro Asp Tyr Ala Tyr Gly Ala Thr Gly His Pro Gly Ile Ile Pro

100 105 110

Pro His Ala Thr Leu Val Phe Asp Val Glu Leu Leu Lys Leu Glu Gly

115 120 125

Gly Lys Asp Thr Ile Pro Trp Leu Gly His Leu Leu Val Gly Leu Ser

130 135 140

Gly Ala Phe Gly Phe Ile Ile Leu Val Tyr Leu Leu Ile Asn Cys Arg

145 150 155 160

Asn Thr Gly Pro Trp Leu Lys Lys Val Leu Lys Cys Asn Thr Pro Asp

165 170 175

Pro Ser Lys Phe Phe Ser Gln Leu Ser Ser Glu His Gly Gly Asp Val

180 185 190

Gln Lys Trp Leu Ser Ser Pro Phe Pro Ser Ser Phe Ser Pro Gly

195 200 205

Gly Leu Ala Pro Glu Ile Ser Pro Leu Glu Val Leu Glu Arg Asp Lys

210 215 220

Val Thr Gln Leu Leu Leu Gln Gln Asp Lys Val Pro Glu Pro Ala Ser
225 230 235 240

Leu Ser Ser Asn His Ser Leu Thr Ser Cys Phe Thr Asn Gln Gly Tyr
245 250 255

Phe Phe Phe His Leu Pro Asp Ala Leu Glu Ile Glu Ala Cys Gln Val
260 265 270

Tyr Phe Thr Tyr Asp Pro Tyr Ser Glu Glu Asp Pro Asp Glu Gly Val
275 280 285

Ala Gly Ala Pro Thr Gly Ser Ser Pro Gln Pro Leu Gln Pro Leu Ser
290 295 300

Gly Glu Asp Asp Ala Tyr Cys Thr Phe Pro Ser Arg Asp Asp Leu Leu
305 310 315 320

Leu Phe Ser Pro Ser Leu Leu Gly Gly Pro Ser Pro Pro Ser Thr Ala
325 330 335

Pro Gly Gly Ser Gly Ala Gly Glu Glu Arg Met Pro Pro Ser Leu Gln
340 345 350

Glu Arg Val Pro Arg Asp Trp Asp Pro Gln Pro Leu Gly Pro Pro Thr
355 360 365

Pro Gly Val Pro Asp Leu Val Asp Phe Gln Pro Pro Pro Glu Leu Val
370 375 380

Leu Arg Glu Ala Gly Glu Glu Val Pro Asp Ala Gly Pro Arg Glu Gly
385 390 395 400

Val Ser Phe Pro Trp Ser Arg Pro Pro Gly Gln Gly Glu Phe Arg Ala
405 410 415

Leu Asn Ala Arg Leu Pro Leu Asn Thr Asp Ala Tyr Leu Ser Leu Gln
420 425 430

Glu Leu Gln Gly Gln Asp Pro Thr His Leu Val
435 440

<211> 251

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<223> FKBP-F36V IL2Rg CISC 1233

<400> 11

Met Pro Leu Gly Leu Leu Trp Leu Gly Leu Ala Leu Leu Gly Ala Leu

1 5 10 15

His Ala Gln Ala Gly Val Gln Val Glu Thr Ile Ser Pro Gly Asp Gly

20 25 30

Arg Thr Phe Pro Lys Arg Gly Gln Thr Cys Val Val His Tyr Thr Gly

35 40 45

Met Leu Glu Asp Gly Lys Lys Val Asp Ser Ser Arg Asp Arg Asn Lys

50 55 60

Pro Phe Lys Phe Met Leu Gly Lys Gln Glu Val Ile Arg Gly Trp Glu

65 70 75 80

Glu Gly Val Ala Gln Met Ser Val Gly Gln Arg Ala Lys Leu Thr Ile

85 90 95

Ser Pro Asp Tyr Ala Tyr Gly Ala Thr Gly His Pro Gly Ile Ile Pro

100 105 110

Pro His Ala Thr Leu Val Phe Asp Val Glu Leu Leu Lys Leu Glu Gly

115 120 125

Gly Ser Asn Thr Ser Lys Glu Asn Pro Phe Leu Phe Ala Leu Glu Ala

130 135 140

Val Val Ile Ser Val Gly Ser Met Gly Leu Ile Ile Ser Leu Leu Cys

145 150 155 160

Val Tyr Phe Trp Leu Glu Arg Thr Met Pro Arg Ile Pro Thr Leu Lys

165 170 175

Asn Leu Glu Asp Leu Val Thr Glu Tyr His Gly Asn Phe Ser Ala Trp

180 185 190
Ser Gly Val Ser Lys Gly Leu Ala Glu Ser Leu Gln Pro Asp Tyr Ser
195 200 205
Glu Arg Leu Cys Leu Val Ser Glu Ile Pro Pro Lys Gly Gly Ala Leu
210 215 220
Gly Glu Gly Pro Gly Ala Ser Pro Cys Asn Gln His Ser Pro Tyr Trp
225 230 235 240
Ala Pro Pro Cys Tyr Thr Leu Lys Pro Glu Thr
245 250

<210> 12

<211> 358

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<223> FKBP-F36V IL7Ra CISC 1

<400> 12

Met Pro Leu Gly Leu Leu Trp Leu Gly Leu Ala Leu Leu Gly Ala Leu

1 5 10 15

His Ala Gln Ala Gly Val Gln Val Glu Thr Ile Ser Pro Gly Asp Gly

20 25 30

Arg Thr Phe Pro Lys Arg Gly Gln Thr Cys Val Val His Tyr Thr Gly

35 40 45

Met Leu Glu Asp Gly Lys Lys Val Asp Ser Ser Arg Asp Arg Asn Lys

50 55 60

Pro Phe Lys Phe Met Leu Gly Lys Gln Glu Val Ile Arg Gly Trp Glu

65 70 75 80

Glu Gly Val Ala Gln Met Ser Val Gly Gln Arg Ala Lys Leu Thr Ile

85 90 95
Ser Pro Asp Tyr Ala Tyr Gly Ala Thr Gly His Pro Gly Ile Ile Pro
100 105 110
Pro His Ala Thr Leu Val Phe Asp Val Glu Leu Leu Lys Leu Glu Gly
115 120 125
Glu Ile Asn Asn Ser Ser Gly Glu Met Asp Pro Ile Leu Leu Thr Ile
130 135 140
Ser Ile Leu Ser Phe Phe Ser Val Ala Leu Leu Val Ile Leu Ala Cys
145 150 155 160
Val Leu Trp Lys Lys Arg Ile Lys Pro Ile Val Trp Pro Ser Leu Pro
165 170 175
Asp His Lys Lys Thr Leu Glu His Leu Cys Lys Lys Pro Arg Lys Asn
180 185 190
Leu Asn Val Ser Phe Asn Pro Glu Ser Phe Leu Asp Cys Gln Ile His
195 200 205
Arg Val Asp Asp Ile Gln Ala Arg Asp Glu Val Glu Gly Phe Leu Gln
210 215 220
Asp Thr Phe Pro Gln Gln Leu Glu Glu Ser Glu Lys Gln Arg Leu Gly
225 230 235 240
Gly Asp Val Gln Ser Pro Asn Cys Pro Ser Glu Asp Val Val Ile Thr
245 250 255
Pro Glu Ser Phe Gly Arg Asp Ser Ser Leu Thr Cys Leu Ala Gly Asn
260 265 270
Val Ser Ala Cys Asp Ala Pro Ile Leu Ser Ser Arg Ser Leu Asp
275 280 285
Cys Arg Glu Ser Gly Lys Asn Gly Pro His Val Tyr Gln Asp Leu Leu
290 295 300
Leu Ser Leu Gly Thr Thr Asn Ser Thr Leu Pro Pro Pro Phe Ser Leu
305 310 315 320
Gln Ser Gly Ile Leu Thr Leu Asn Pro Val Ala Gln Gly Gln Pro Ile
325 330 335

Leu Thr Ser Leu Gly Ser Asn Gln Glu Glu Ala Tyr Val Thr Met Ser

340 345 350

Ser Phe Tyr Gln Asn Gln

355

<210> 13

<211> 358

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<223> FKBP-F36V IL7Ra CISC 2

<400> 13

Met Pro Leu Gly Leu Leu Trp Leu Gly Leu Ala Leu Leu Gly Ala Leu

1 5 10 15

His Ala Gln Ala Gly Val Gln Val Glu Thr Ile Ser Pro Gly Asp Gly

20 25 30

Arg Thr Phe Pro Lys Arg Gly Gln Thr Cys Val Val His Tyr Thr Gly

35 40 45

Met Leu Glu Asp Gly Lys Lys Val Asp Ser Ser Arg Asp Arg Asn Lys

50 55 60

Pro Phe Lys Phe Met Leu Gly Lys Gln Glu Val Ile Arg Gly Trp Glu

65 70 75 80

Glu Gly Val Ala Gln Met Ser Val Gly Gln Arg Ala Lys Leu Thr Ile

85 90 95

Ser Pro Asp Tyr Ala Tyr Gly Ala Thr Gly His Pro Gly Ile Ile Pro

100 105 110

Pro His Ala Thr Leu Val Phe Asp Val Glu Leu Leu Lys Leu Glu Gly

115 120 125

Glu Ile Asn Asn Ser Ser Gly Glu Met Asp Pro Ile Leu Leu Thr Ile
130 135 140
Ser Ile Leu Ser Phe Phe Ser Val Ala Leu Leu Val Ile Leu Ala Cys
145 150 155 160
Val Leu Trp Lys Lys Arg Ile Lys Pro Ile Val Trp Pro Ser Leu Pro
165 170 175
Asp His Lys Lys Thr Leu Glu His Leu Cys Lys Lys Pro Arg Lys Asn
180 185 190
Leu Asn Val Ser Phe Asn Pro Glu Ser Phe Leu Asp Cys Gln Ile His
195 200 205
Arg Val Asp Asp Ile Gln Ala Arg Asp Glu Val Glu Gly Phe Leu Gln
210 215 220
Asp Thr Phe Pro Gln Gln Leu Glu Glu Ser Glu Lys Gln Arg Leu Gly
225 230 235 240
Gly Asp Val Gln Ser Pro Asn Cys Pro Ser Glu Asp Val Val Ile Thr
245 250 255
Pro Glu Ser Phe Gly Arg Asp Ser Ser Leu Thr Cys Leu Ala Gly Asn
260 265 270
Val Ser Ala Cys Asp Ala Pro Ile Leu Ser Ser Arg Ser Leu Asp
275 280 285
Cys Arg Glu Ser Gly Lys Asn Gly Pro His Val Tyr Gln Asp Leu Leu
290 295 300
Leu Ser Leu Gly Thr Thr Asn Ser Thr Leu Pro Pro Phe Ser Leu
305 310 315 320
Gln Ser Gly Ile Leu Thr Leu Asn Pro Val Ala Gln Gly Gln Pro Ile
325 330 335
Leu Thr Ser Leu Gly Ser Asn Gln Glu Glu Ala Tyr Val Thr Met Ser
340 345 350
Ser Phe Tyr Gln Asn Gln
355

<210> 14

<211> 276

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<223> FKBP-F36V MPL

<400> 14

Met Pro Leu Gly Leu Leu Trp Leu Gly Leu Ala Leu Leu Gly Ala Leu

1 5 10 15

His Ala Gln Ala Gly Val Gln Val Glu Thr Ile Ser Pro Gly Asp Gly

20 25 30

Arg Thr Phe Pro Lys Arg Gly Gln Thr Cys Val Val His Tyr Thr Gly

35 40 45

Met Leu Glu Asp Gly Lys Lys Val Asp Ser Ser Arg Asp Arg Asn Lys

50 55 60

Pro Phe Lys Phe Met Leu Gly Lys Gln Glu Val Ile Arg Gly Trp Glu

65 70 75 80

Glu Gly Val Ala Gln Met Ser Val Gly Gln Arg Ala Lys Leu Thr Ile

85 90 95

Ser Pro Asp Tyr Ala Tyr Gly Ala Thr Gly His Pro Gly Ile Ile Pro

100 105 110

Pro His Ala Thr Leu Val Phe Asp Val Glu Leu Leu Lys Leu Gly Glu

115 120 125

Glu Thr Ala Trp Ile Ser Leu Val Thr Ala Leu His Leu Val Leu Gly

130 135 140

Leu Ser Ala Val Leu Gly Leu Leu Leu Arg Trp Gln Phe Pro Ala

145 150 155 160

His Tyr Arg Arg Leu Arg His Ala Leu Trp Pro Ser Leu Pro Asp Leu

165 170 175
His Arg Val Leu Gly Gln Tyr Leu Arg Asp Thr Ala Ala Leu Ser Pro
180 185 190
Pro Lys Ala Thr Val Ser Asp Thr Cys Glu Val Glu Pro Ser Leu
195 200 205
Leu Glu Ile Leu Pro Lys Ser Ser Glu Arg Thr Pro Leu Pro Leu Cys
210 215 220
Ser Ser Gln Ala Gln Met Asp Tyr Arg Arg Leu Gln Pro Ser Cys Leu
225 230 235 240
Gly Thr Met Pro Leu Ser Val Cys Pro Pro Met Ala Glu Ser Gly Ser
245 250 255
Cys Cys Thr Thr His Ile Ala Asn His Ser Tyr Leu Pro Leu Ser Tyr
260 265 270
Trp Gln Gln Pro
275

<210> 15
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<213> Artificial Sequence

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<400> 15
Gly Gly Gly Ser

1

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<212> PRT

<213> Artificial Sequence

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<223> Glycine spacer 2

<400> 16

Gly Gly Gly Ser Gly Gly Gly

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<210> 17

<211> 3

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial Sequence

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<223> Glycine spacer 3

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<210> 18

<211> 10035

<212> DNA

<213> Artificial Sequence

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<223> IL2Rg upstream of IL2Rb

<400> 18

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