Title: T CELL HYBRIDOMAS

Abstract: The present invention provides T cell hybridomas and related compositions and assay systems for investigative, diagnostic, and therapeutic use in modulating T cell receptor (TCR)-mediated immune response. The T cell hybridomas of the invention are typically constructed by fusing a naïve or early central memory T cell isolated from a mammalian subject with an immortalizing fusion partner (e.g., mammalian lymphoid tumor cell) to yield clonal T cell hybrids. The resulting T cell hybridomas exhibit antigen (Ag)-specific proliferation responsiveness over a background level of proliferation of the hybridomas. These hybridomas are useful for screening, identifying, and characterizing T cell immune modulatory agents, for example recombinant T cell receptor ligands (RTLs) and other agents that can modulate TCR-mediated T cell immune responses. Ag-specific proliferative response profiles exhibited by the T cell hybridomas shown sufficient amplitude, sensitivity and fidelity to distinguish and/or quantify the presence and/or activity of a test RTL or other test modulatory agent in screening and sensitivity assays employing the hybridomas. These and other aspects of the invention yield powerful tools and methods for developing and characterizing novel RTLs and other immune modulatory agents for use in treating immune disorders, including a wide range of autoimmune diseases, in mammals.
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

INTERNATIONAL application No.
PCT/US05/24320

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC(8): C12N 5/00 (2006.01)

USPC: 435/346
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
U.S. : 435/346

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

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
Medline, CAPLUS, Scisearch, Embase, Biosis, WEST

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>VOWLES, C. Subtle Effects on Myelin Basic Protein-Specific T Cell Responses Can Lead to a Major Reduction in Disease Susceptibility in Experimental Allergic Encephalomyelitis. J. Immunol. 2000, Vol 165, pages 75-82, see entire document.</td>
<td>1, 14-16, 18, 42-45, 54, 68, 82, 86</td>
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* Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.  
See patent family annex.

Date of the actual completion of the international search: 23 October 2006 (23.10.2006)

Date of mailing of the international search report: 01 DEC 2006

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