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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA RESEARCH FOUNDATION, INC.** [US/US]; Boyd Graduate Studies Research Center, Room No. 633, Athens, Georgia 30602-7411 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **STICE, Steve** [US/US]; 380 Riverbottom Rd., Athens, Georgia 30606 (US). **SHIN, Soojung** [KR/US]; 9812 Whitney Dr., No. 215, Baltimore, Maryland 21237 (US). **DHARA, Sujoy** [IN/US]; 1907 S. Milledge, Apt. F9, Athens, Georgia 30605 (US).

(74) Agent: **COLEMAN, Henry, D.**; Coleman Sudal Sapone, P.C., 714 Colorado Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut 06605-1601 (US).

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26 April 2007

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

(54) Title: NEURONAL PROGENITORS FROM FEEDER-FREE HUMAN EMBRYONIC STEM CELL CULTURE

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to methods for producing feeder cell-free neuroprogenitor cells (preferably adherent) from embryonic stem cells, preferably human embryonic stem cells, the feeder cell-free neuroprogenitor cells, preferably human cells themselves, as well as methods for producing feeder cell-free samples of neuronal cells, preferably adherent human neuronal cells and the feeder cell-free neuronal cells themselves. Pharmaceutical compositions and methods of treating neurodegenerative diseases as well as the use of the described cells in assay systems is also described.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US05/35801

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(8): C12N 5/00(2006.01)

USPC: 435/325,377

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. : 435/325,377

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)
EAST and STN (Bioscience)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6,833,269 (Carpenter) 21 December 2004 (21.12.2004), Abstract, columns 5, 6, 10-12, 17-19, 21, 24-26, 28-30.	1-29
A	US 2005/0101014 (Keirstead et al.) 12 May 2005 (12.5.2005).	1-29
A	US 2005/0196864 (Goldman et al.) 8 September 2005 (8.9.2005).	1-29
A	US 2006/0211109 (Totey et al.) 21 September 2006 (21.9.2006).	1-29

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:		
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	"&"	document member of the same patent family

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Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Facsimile No. (571) 273-3201

Authorized officer

Fereydoun G. Sajjadi

Telephone No. (571) 272-1600



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US05/35801

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

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

2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

3. Claims Nos.: 12, 13, 28
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

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

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fees.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.