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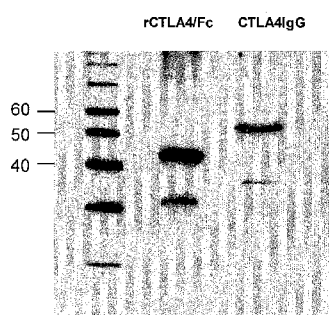


Fig. 1A

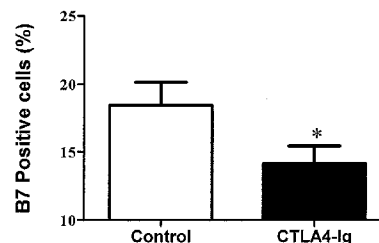


Fig. 1B

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a gene transfer-based method to protect a subject from Sjogren's syndrome. The method comprises administering to the subject an AAV virion comprising an AAV vector that encodes a soluble CTLA-4 (sCTLA-4) protein. Also provided are sCTLA-4 proteins and nucleic acid molecules that encode such sCTLA-4 proteins. Also provided are AAV vectors and AAV virions that encode a sCTLA-4 protein.