

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES****National Institutes of Health****Government-Owned Inventions; Availability for Licensing**

**AGENCY:** National Institutes of Health, HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The invention listed below is owned by an agency of the U.S. Government and is available for licensing to achieve expeditious commercialization of results of federally-funded research and development. Foreign patent applications are filed on selected inventions to extend market coverage for companies and may also be available for licensing.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Theodoric Mattes at 240-627-3827, or [theodoric.mattes@nih.gov](mailto:theodoric.mattes@nih.gov). Licensing information may be obtained by communicating with the Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property Office, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, 5601 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20852; tel. 301-496-2644. A signed Confidential Disclosure Agreement will be required to receive copies of unpublished information related to the invention.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Technology description follows:

**Lymphatic Filariasis Biomarkers for Detection and Surveillance***Description of Technology:*

Lymphatic filariasis (elephantiasis; LF) is a neglected tropical disease that affects over 120 million people throughout the tropics and subtropics of Asia, Africa, the Western Pacific, and parts of the Caribbean and South America. LF results from infection with the filarial parasites *Wuchereria bancrofti* or *Brugia malayi*. Current methods of confirming active infection by *W. bancrofti* or *B. malayi* include microscopy and immunoassays using serum/plasma extracted from the patient. However, the sensitivity of microscopy detection varies among patients, and immunoassays show cross-reactivity with antibodies directed towards other parasites, such as *Onchocerca volvulus* or *Loa loa* whose geographic distribution can overlap with the LF-causing filarial parasites.

This new technology addresses the limitations of cross-reactivity through the detection of a single antigen, Wb5B, selected due to a lack of homologs in other filarial parasites that infect humans. Preliminary data indicates that

Wb5B is immunogenic, highly specific (>99%), and accurate (>90%) for the detection of *W. bancrofti* infection in sera from humans and other mammalian sources. The antigen can be isolated in soluble form for integration in a variety of diagnostic assay formats.

The subject technology, including the antigen sequence as well as plasmids enabling bacterial, insect, and mammalian cell expression, is available for licensing for commercial development in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR part 404, as well as for further development and evaluation under a research collaboration.

There may be the potential to combine this technology with another NIAID-developed biomarker technology (Wb123, available for licensing; see HHS Ref. No. E-281-2010-0, "Diagnostic Assays and Methods of Use for Detection of Filarial Infection") for the development of a multiplex assay for detection of active *W. bancrofti* infection for diagnostic or surveillance purposes.

*Potential Commercial Applications:*

- Diagnostics for *W. bancrofti* infection
- Surveillance for *W. bancrofti* prevalence

*Competitive Advantages:*

- Increased specificity compared to available diagnostics
- Differentiation from other parasites with similar geographic footprints

*Development Stage:* Pre-Clinical.

*Inventors:* Thomas B. Nutman, Sasisekhar Bennuru, both of NIAID.

*Intellectual Property:* U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 63/347,794, filed June 1, 2022.

*Related Inventions:* Diagnostic Assays and Methods of Use for Detection of Filarial Infection (HHS Reference No. E-281-2010-0).

*Licensing Contact:* To license this technology, please contact Theodoric Mattes at 240-627-3827, or [theodoric.mattes@nih.gov](mailto:theodoric.mattes@nih.gov), and reference E-093-2022-0.

*Collaborative Research Opportunity:* The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases is seeking statements of capability or interest from parties interested in collaborative research to further develop, evaluate, or commercialize this technology. For collaboration opportunities, please contact Theodoric Mattes at 240-627-3827, or [theodoric.mattes@nih.gov](mailto:theodoric.mattes@nih.gov).

Dated: July 14, 2022.

**Surekha Vathyam,**

*Deputy Director, Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property Office, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.*

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**BILLING CODE 4140-01-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES****National Institutes of Health****National Library of Medicine; Notice of Closed Meetings**

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable materials, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

*Name of Committee:* National Library of Medicine Special Emphasis Panel; COI-R01-K99-R13.

*Date:* December 2, 2022.

*Time:* 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* Video Assisted Meeting.

*Contact Person:* Jan Li, M.D., Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Extramural Programs, National Library of Medicine, NIH, 6705 Rockledge Drive, Suite 500, Bethesda, MD 20892-7968, 301-496-3114, [lij21@mail.nih.gov](mailto:lij21@mail.nih.gov).

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 93.879, Medical Library Assistance, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

**Miguelina Perez,**

*Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY****Coast Guard**

[Docket No. USCG-2022-0343; OMB Control Number 1625-0126]

**Information Collection Request to Office of Management and Budget**

**AGENCY:** Coast Guard, DHS.