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(54) Title: TREATMENT OF INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE

(57) Abstract: A method of treating inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) comprises collecting regulatory T cells in an activated or non-activated state from a patient's sentinel lymph nodes draining bowel segments with or without IBD, optionally activating the cells by contacting them with a cytokine and an antigen extract obtained from an inflamed bowel segment, expanding the T cells in vitro, and re-infusing the expanded T cells to the patient. Also disclosed are methods for obtaining sentinel nodes, for expanding T cells, for re-establishing the T_H1/T_H2 balance in the patient suffering from Crohn's disease, and corresponding uses of the expanded T cells, the cytokines and of antigen extract, as well as of correspondingly activated and expanded T cells.

WO 2007/027132 A1