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(21) International Application Number: PCT/SG98/00046 (22) International Filing Date: 19 June 1998 (19.06.98) (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): GOVERNMENT OF REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE [SG/SG]; Ministry of Health, College of Medicine Building, 18 College Road, Singapore 169854 (SG). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): OON, Chong, Jin [SG/SG]; 14A Princess of Wales Road, Singapore 266914 (SG). LIM, Gek, Keow [SG/SG]; 16 Telok Kurau, Lorong G, Singapore 426180 (SG). ZHAO, Yi [SG/SG]; Block 345, #12-270 Bukit Batok Street 34, Singapore 650345 (SG). CHEN, Wei, Ning [SG/SG]; Block 104, #22-114 Spottiswoode Park Road, Singapore 080104 (SG). (74) Agent: DREW & NAPIER; 20 Raffles Place, #17-00 Ocean Towers, Singapore 048620 (SG).		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, GM, GW, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i>
(54) Title: A MUTANT HUMAN HEPATITIS B VIRAL STRAIN AND USES THEREOF (57) Abstract This invention provides an isolated strain of Hepatitis B virus designated Human Hepatitis B Virus Surface Antigen-'S'-133 Oon Strain (Methionine to Threonine) which constituent viral genome is deposited under Accession Nos. P97121501, P97121502 and P97121503 with the European Collection of Cell Culture on 15th December 1997. This invention also provides an isolated nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide which is a mutant major surface antigen of a strain of hepatitis B virus, such polypeptide having an amino acid sequence which differs from the amino acid sequence of a major surface antigen of a wild type hepatitis B virus in that the amino acid at position number 133 of such polypeptide is a threonine rather than a methionine. This invention also provides an isolated nucleic acid which encodes a peptide, wherein the peptide is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule comprising nucleotides 527 through 595 of SEQ. ID. No. 1 and the purified peptide. This invention also provides various methods of using the disclosed isolated nucleic acid and peptides. This invention further provides various uses of the disclosed isolated nucleic acid, polypeptides and peptides, and antibodies.		