

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
10 September 2021 (10.09.2021)



(10) International Publication Number
WO 2021/176220 A1

- (51) **International Patent Classification:**
C12N 15/86 (2006.01) *A61K 48/00* (2006.01)
- (21) **International Application Number:**
PCT/GB2021/050537
- (22) **International Filing Date:**
04 March 2021 (04.03.2021)
- (25) **Filing Language:** English
- (26) **Publication Language:** English
- (30) **Priority Data:**
2003109.2 04 March 2020 (04.03.2020) GB
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- (81) **Designated States** (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DJ, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IR, IS, IT, JO, JP, KE, KG, KH, KN, KP, KR, KW, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SA, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, WS, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) **Designated States** (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, ST, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM,

(54) **Title:** GENE THERAPY

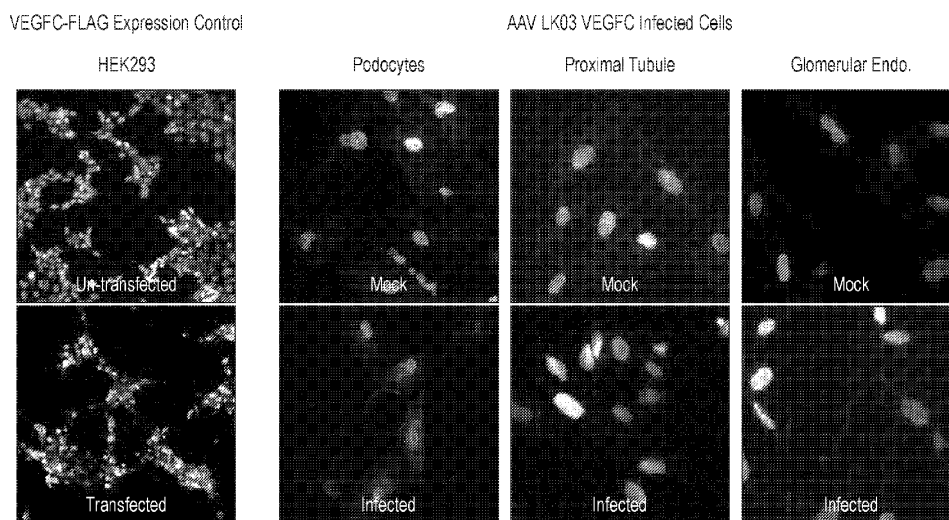


FIG. 6

(57) **Abstract:** The present invention provides an adeno-associated virus (AAV) vector gene therapy comprising a vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF)C transgene; and minimal nephrin promoter NPHS1 or podocin promoter NPHS2. The gene therapy vector can be used to target podocytes within the glomerulus of the kidney in order to treat or prevent kidney disease, such as diabetic kidney disease.

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TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW,
KM, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- *with international search report (Art. 21(3))*
- *with sequence listing part of description (Rule 5.2(a))*