

CORRECTED VERSION

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
31 August 2006 (31.08.2006)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2006/089690 A1

(51) International Patent Classification:

A61K 39/285 (2006.01) A61K 39/12 (2006.01)
A61K 39/145 (2006.01) A61P 37/04 (2006.01)
A61K 39/29 (2006.01)

CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, LY, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/EP2006/001447

(22) International Filing Date:

17 February 2006 (17.02.2006)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

EP05003873.6 23 February 2005 (23.02.2005) EP

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(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))
- of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv))

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Published:

- with international search report

(48) Date of publication of this corrected version:

23 November 2006

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(15) Information about Correction:

see PCT Gazette No. 47/2006 of 23 November 2006

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: USE OF A MODIFIED POXVIRUS FOR THE RAPID INDUCTION OF IMMUNITY AGAINST A POXVIRUS OR OTHER INFECTIOUS AGENTS

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to the rapid induction of a protective immune response against poxviruses and poxvirus infections such as smallpox by vaccination of an animal, including a human with a poxvirus that is replication incompetent in said animal including the human. An example for such a poxvirus is a Modified Vaccinia virus Ankara (MVA). The invention further relates to the use of a recombinant poxvirus that is replication incompetent in the animal, including the human that is vaccinated with the virus, such as a recombinant MVA expressing heterologous antigens and/or antigenic epitopes for a rapid induction of an protective immune responses against said heterologous antigen and/or antigenic epitope, e.g. against an antigen and/or antigenic epitope that is part of an infectious agent.

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