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(54) Title: DENDRITIC CELL COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS

(57) Abstract: Methods are provided for the production of dendritic cells from monocytes that have been incubated at a temperature of 1°C - 34°C for a period of approximately 6 to 96 hours from the time they are isolated from a subject. After the incubation period, the monocytes can then be induced to differentiate into dendritic cells. Mature dendritic cells made by the methods of the invention have increased levels of one or more of CD80, CD83, CD86, MHC class I molecules, or MHC class II molecules as compared to mature dendritic cells prepared from monocytes that have not been held at 1°C - 34°C for at least 6 hours from the time they were isolated from a subject. Dendritic cells made by the methods of the invention are useful for the preparation of vaccines and for the stimulation of T cells.

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