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(54) Title: IN VITRO METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR ENHANCING THE ACTIVATION OF DENDRITIC CELLS AND T CELLS, AND FOR INDUCING A TH-1 IMMUNE RESPONSE

(57) Abstract: The present disclosure provides compositions and *in vitro* or *ex vivo* methods for obtaining an enhanced antigen specific Th1 immune response. The compositions can comprise activation enhanced dendritic cells or T cells produced in vitro. The methods comprise contacting immature dendritic cells with a maturation agent that comprises a dendritic cell maturation agent, interferon γ and an inflammation-activating lipid which can produced hyperactivated dendritic cells. The method can further comprise contacting the maturing dendritic cells with a predetermined antigen during maturation. An *in vitro* or *ex vivo* method is also provided wherein the hyperactive dendritic cells can be used to induce naive T cell activation, where the activated T cells can be formulated for administration to an individual in need of such treatment.