

CORRECTED VERSION

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
9 August 2007 (09.08.2007)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2007/089871 A2

(51) International Patent Classification:

A61K 48/00 (2006.01) C07K 16/46 (2006.01)
A61K 39/395 (2006.01) C12N 5/08 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2007/002705

(22) International Filing Date: 31 January 2007 (31.01.2007)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:

60/764,223 1 February 2006 (01.02.2006) US
60/833,100 25 July 2006 (25.07.2006) US

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

(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).

Published:

- without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report
- with sequence listing part of description published separately in electronic form and available upon request from the International Bureau

(48) Date of publication of this corrected version:

21 December 2007

(15) Information about Correction:

see PCT Gazette No. 51/2007 of 21 December 2007

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: POLYPEPTIDE-NUCLEIC ACID CONJUGATE FOR IMMUNOPROPHYLAXIS OR IMMUNOTHERAPY FOR NEOPLASTIC OR INFECTIOUS DISORDERS

(57) Abstract: The present invention discloses compositions which induce cross-activation of immune mediated and direct death signaling in targeted cells by exploiting the properties of an antibody/peptide-nucleic acid conjugate. The conjugate is able to simultaneously activate multiple death signaling mechanisms that are specifically targeted to neoplastic cells, including tumor cells. Methods of using the conjugate of the present invention as an immunotherapeutic modality for the treatment or prevention of neoplastic diseases or other disorders is also disclosed. Further, methods are disclosed for identifying such conjugates by assaying test agents for various cytotoxic responses, including the induction of hyperfusion between neoplastic cells in vitro.

WO 2007/089871 A2