



(51) International Patent Classification:

C07K 14/54 (2006.01) A61K 48/00 (2006.01)  
C12N 5/0783 (2010.01) C12N 15/90 (2006.01)  
C07K 14/715 (2006.01) C07K 14/73 (2006.01)  
C07K 14/705 (2006.01) A61P 35/00 (2006.01)  
A61K 39/00 (2006.01) C07K 16/18 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2024/027260

(22) International Filing Date:

01 May 2024 (01.05.2024)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

63/499,467 01 May 2023 (01.05.2023) US  
63/502,875 17 May 2023 (17.05.2023) US

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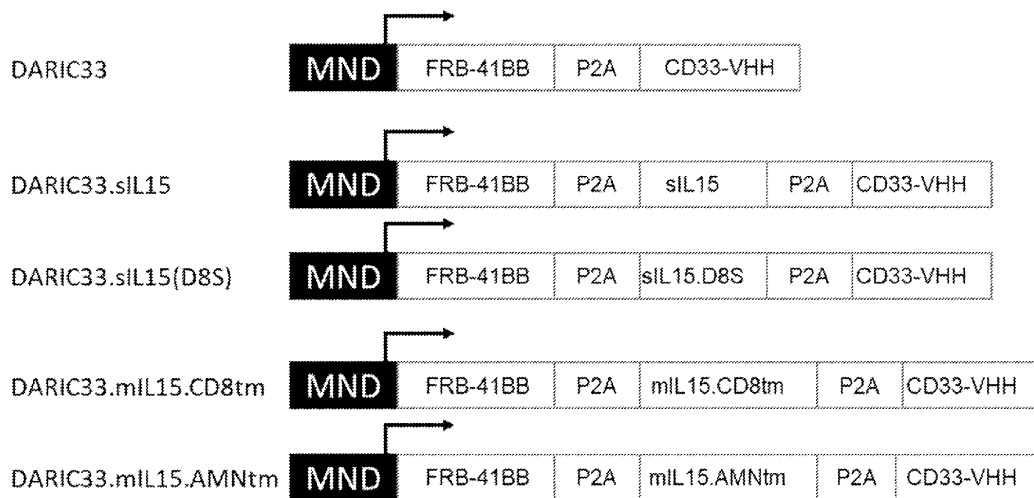
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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every  
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,  
AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY, BZ,  
CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CV, CZ, DE, DJ, DK, DM,  
DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT,  
HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IQ, IR, IS, IT, JM, JO, JP, KE, KG,  
KH, KN, KP, KR, KW, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LU, LY,

(54) Title: MUTANT INTERLEUKIN 15 EXPRESSING IMMUNE CELLS

FIG. 1



(57) Abstract: The present disclosure provides methods and artificial expression constructs for improving persistence or function of an immune cell. Particularly, the methods or artificial expression constructs include a mutated interleukin 15 (IL-15) transgene under the control of a constitutive or inducible promoter to potentiate the function of an immune cell. The mutated IL-15 is modified to focus signaling to cells expressing and/or signaling complexes comprising IL-15R $\alpha$ . More particularly, the disclosure provides methods and artificial expression constructs that potentiate the function of immune cells by enhancing immune cell proliferation, decreasing antigen-independent interferon-gamma (IFN $\gamma$ ) release, and suppressing tumor growth and uncontrolled immune cell proliferation.

[Continued on next page]

MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MU, 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, CV, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SC, 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, ME, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, KM, 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))*
- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))*

**Published:**

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

**(88) Date of publication of the international search report:**

17 April 2025 (17.04.2025)