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(54) Title: RODENT EXPRESSION SYSTEMS UTILISING POLYOMA VIRUS AND EPSTEIN BARR VIRUS SEQUENCES

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to protein expression systems and in particular to rodent cell expression systems utilising Polyoma Virus and Epstein Barr Virus elements. The invention utilises the large T antigen and origin of replication of polyoma virus and the EBV nuclear antigen-1 (EBNA-1) and EBV origin of replication from EBV. The present invention provides a rodent cell line with enhanced protein production capabilities. The invention also relates to eukaryotic cloning and expression vectors and related methods, and in particular to DNA vectors capable of high level expression of a protein of interest. The invention allows for long-term episomal maintenance of expression vectors in mammalian cells. The invention also relates to a method for increasing resistance to apoptosis in a rodent cell comprising expression of a polyoma large T antigen.

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