NEISSERIAL ANTIGENS

This invention relates to antigens from *Neisseria* bacteria.

BACKGROUND ART

Neisseria meningitidis and *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* are non-motile, gram negative diplococci that are pathogenic in humans. *N.meningitidis* colonises the pharynx and causes meningitis (and, occasionally, septicaemia in the absence of meningitis); *N.gonorrhoeae* colonises the genital tract and causes gonorrhea. Although colonising different areas of the body and causing completely different diseases, the two pathogens are closely related, although one feature that clearly differentiates meningococcus from gonococcus is the presence of a polysaccharide capsule that is present in all pathogenic meningococci.

N.gonorrhoeae caused approximately 800,000 cases per year during the period 1983-1990 in the United States alone (chapter by Meitzner & Cohen, "Vaccines Against Gonococcal Infection", In: *New Generation Vaccines*, 2nd edition, ed. Levine, Woodrow, Kaper, & Cobon, Marcel Dekker, New York, 1997, pp.817-842). The disease causes significant morbidity but limited mortality. Vaccination against *N.gonorrhoeae* would be highly desirable, but repeated attempts have failed. The main candidate antigens for this vaccine are surface-exposed proteins such as pili, porins, opacity-associated proteins (Opas) and other surface-exposed proteins such as the Lip, Laz, IgA1 protease and transferrin-binding proteins. The lipooligosaccharide (LOS) has also been suggested as vaccine (Meitzner & Cohen, *supra*).

N.meningitidis causes both endemic and epidemic disease. In the United States the attack rate is 0.6-1 per 100,000 persons per year, and it can be much greater during outbreaks (see Lieberman *et al.* (1996) Safety and Immunogenicity of a Serogroups A/C *Neisseria meningitidis* Oligosaccharide-Protein Conjugate Vaccine in Young Children. *JAMA* 275(19):1499-1503; Schuchat *et al* (1997) Bacterial Meningitis in the United States in 1995. *N Engl J Med* 337(14):970-976). In developing countries, endemic disease rates are much higher and during epidemics incidence rates can reach 500 cases per 100,000 persons per year. Mortality is extremely high, at 10-20% in the United States, and much higher in developing countries. Following the introduction of the conjugate vaccine against *Haemophilus influenzae*, *N. meningitidis* is the major cause of bacterial meningitis at all ages in the United States (Schuchat *et al* (1997) *supra*).

Based on the organism's capsular polysaccharide, 12 serogroups of *N.meningitidis* have been identified. Group A is the pathogen most often implicated in epidemic disease in sub-Saharan Africa. Serogroups B and C are responsible for the vast majority of cases in the United States and in most developed countries. Serogroups W135 and Y are responsible for the rest of the cases in the United States and developed countries. The meningococcal vaccine currently in use is a tetravalent polysaccharide vaccine composed of serogroups A, C, Y and W135. Although efficacious in adolescents and adults, it induces a poor immune response and short duration of protection, and cannot be used in infants [*eg.* Morbidity and Mortality weekly report, Vol.46, No. RR-5 (1997)]. This is because polysaccharides are T-cell independent antigens that induce a weak immune response that cannot be boosted by repeated immunization. Following the success of the vaccination against *H.influenzae*, conjugate vaccines against serogroups A and C have been developed and are at the final stage of clinical testing (Zollinger WD "New and Improved Vaccines Against Meningococcal Disease" in: *New Generation Vaccines, supra*, pp. 469-488; Lieberman *et al* (1996) *supra*; Costantino *et al* (1992) Development and phase I clinical testing of a conjugate vaccine against meningococcus A and C. *Vaccine* 10:691-698).

Meningococcus B remains a problem, however. This serotype currently is responsible for approximately 50% of total meningitis in the United States, Europe, and South America. The polysaccharide approach cannot be used because the menB capsular polysaccharide is a polymer of α(2-8)-linked *N*-acetyl neuraminic acid that is also present in mammalian tissue. This results in tolerance to the antigen; indeed, if an immune response were elicited, it would be anti-self, and therefore undesirable. In order to avoid induction of autoimmunity and to induce a protective immune response, the capsular polysaccharide has, for instance, been chemically modified substituting the *N*-acetyl groups with N-propionyl groups, leaving the specific antigenicity unaltered (Romero & Outschoorn (1994) Current status of Meningococcal group B vaccine candidates: capsular or non-capsular? *Clin Microbiol Rev* 7(4):559-575).

Alternative approaches to menB vaccines have used complex mixtures of outer membrane proteins (OMPs), containing either the OMPs alone, or OMPs enriched in porins, or deleted of the class 4 OMPs that are believed to induce antibodies that block bactericidal activity. This approach produces vaccines that are not well characterized. They are able to protect against the homologous strain, but are not effective at large where there are many antigenic variants of the outer membrane proteins. To overcome the antigenic variability, multivalent vaccines containing up to nine different

porins have been constructed (*eg.* Poolman JT (1992) Development of a meningococcal vaccine. *Infect. Agents Dis.* 4:13-28). Additional proteins to be used in outer membrane vaccines have been the opa and opc proteins, but none of these approaches have been able to overcome the antigenic variability (*eg.* Ala'Aldeen & Borriello (1996) The meningococcal transferrin-binding proteins 1 and 2 are both surface exposed and generate bactericidal antibodies capable of killing homologous and heterologous strains. *Vaccine* 14(1):49-53).

A certain amount of sequence data is available for meningococcal and gonoccocal genes and proteins (*eg.* EP-A-0467714, WO96/29412), but this is by no means complete. The provision of further sequences could provide an opportunity to identify secreted or surface-exposed proteins that are presumed targets for the immune system and which are not antigenically variable. For instance, some of the identified proteins could be components of efficacious vaccines against meningococcus B, some could be components of vaccines against all meningococcal serotypes, and others could be components of vaccines against all pathogenic *Neisseriae*.

THE INVENTION

The invention provides proteins comprising the Neisserial amino acid sequences disclosed in the examples. These sequences relate to *N.meningitidis* or *N.gonorrhoeae*.

It also provides proteins comprising sequences homologous (*ie.* having sequence identity) to the Neisserial amino acid sequences disclosed in the examples. Depending on the particular sequence, the degree of identity is preferably greater than 50% (*eg.* 65%, 80%, 90%, or more). These homologous proteins include mutants and allelic variants of the sequences disclosed in the examples. Typically, 50% identity or more between two proteins is considered to be an indication of functional equivalence. Identity between the proteins is preferably determined by the Smith-Waterman homology search algorithm as implemented in the MPSRCH program (Oxford Molecular), using an affine gap search with parameters *gap open penalty=12* and *gap extension penalty=1*.

The invention further provides proteins comprising fragments of the Neisserial amino acid sequences disclosed in the examples. The fragments should comprise at least *n* consecutive amino acids from the sequences and, depending on the particular sequence, *n* is 7 or more (*eg.* 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20 or more). Preferably the fragments comprise an epitope from the sequence.

The proteins of the invention can, of course, be prepared by various means (*eg.* recombinant expression, purification from cell culture, chemical synthesis *etc.*) and in various forms (*eg.* native, fusions *etc.*). They are preferably prepared in substantially pure or isolated form (*ie.* substantially free from other Neisserial or host cell proteins)

According to a further aspect, the invention provides antibodies which bind to these proteins. These may be polyclonal or monoclonal and may be produced by any suitable means.

According to a further aspect, the invention provides nucleic acid comprising the Neisserial nucleotide sequences disclosed in the examples. In addition, the invention provides nucleic acid comprising sequences homologous (*ie.* having sequence identity) to the Neisserial nucleotide sequences disclosed in the examples.

Furthermore, the invention provides nucleic acid which can hybridise to the Neisserial nucleic acid disclosed in the examples, preferably under "high stringency" conditions (*eg.* 65°C in a 0.1xSSC, 0.5% SDS solution).

Nucleic acid comprising fragments of these sequences are also provided. These should comprise at least *n* consecutive nucleotides from the Neisserial sequences and, depending on the particular sequence, *n* is 10 or more (*eg* 12, 14, 15, 18, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40 or more).

According to a further aspect, the invention provides nucleic acid encoding the proteins and protein fragments of the invention.

It should also be appreciated that the invention provides nucleic acid comprising sequences complementary to those described above (*eg.* for antisense or probing purposes).

Nucleic acid according to the invention can, of course, be prepared in many ways (*eg.* by chemical synthesis, from genomic or cDNA libraries, from the organism itself *etc.*) and can take various forms (*eg.* single stranded, double stranded, vectors, probes *etc.*).

In addition, the term "nucleic acid" includes DNA and RNA, and also their analogues, such as those containing modified backbones, and also peptide nucleic acids (PNA) *etc.*

According to a further aspect, the invention provides vectors comprising nucleotide sequences of the invention (*eg.* expression vectors) and host cells transformed with such vectors.

According to a further aspect, the invention provides compositions comprising protein, antibody, and/or nucleic acid according to the invention. These compositions may be suitable as vaccines, for instance, or as diagnostic reagents, or as immunogenic compositions.

The invention also provides nucleic acid, protein, or antibody according to the invention for use as medicaments (*eg.* as vaccines) or as diagnostic reagents. It also provides the use of nucleic acid, protein, or antibody according to the invention in the manufacture of: (i) a medicament for treating or preventing infection due to Neisserial bacteria; (ii) a diagnostic reagent for detecting the presence of Neisserial bacteria or of antibodies raised against Neisserial bacteria; and/or (iii) a reagent which can raise antibodies against Neisserial bacteria. Said Neisserial bacteria may be any species or strain (such as *N.gonorrhoeae*, or any strain of *N.meningitidis*, such as strain A, strain B or strain C).

The invention also provides a method of treating a patient, comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of nucleic acid, protein, and/or antibody according to the invention.

According to further aspects, the invention provides various processes.

A process for producing proteins of the invention is provided, comprising the step of culturing a host cell according to the invention under conditions which induce protein expression.

A process for producing protein or nucleic acid of the invention is provided, wherein the the protein or nucleic acid is synthesised in part or in whole using chemical means.

A process for detecting polynucleotides of the invention is provided, comprising the steps of: (a) contacting a nucleic probe according to the invention with a biological sample under hybridizing conditions to form duplexes; and (b) detecting said duplexes.

A process for detecting proteins of the invention is provided, comprising the steps of: (a) contacting an antibody according to the invention with a biological sample under conditions suitable for the formation of an antibody-antigen complexes; and (b) detecting said complexes.

A summary of standard techniques and procedures which may be employed in order to perform the invention (*eg.* to utilise the disclosed sequences for vaccination or diagnostic purposes) follows. This summary is not a limitation on the invention but, rather, gives examples that may be used, but are not required.

General

The practice of the present invention will employ, unless otherwise indicated, conventional techniques of molecular biology, microbiology, recombinant DNA, and immunology, which are within the skill of the art. Such techniques are explained fully in the literature *eg.* Sambrook *Molecular Cloning; A Laboratory Manual, Second Edition* (1989); *DNA Cloning, Volumes I and ii* (D.N Glover ed. 1985); *Oligonucleotide Synthesis* (M.J. Gait ed, 1984); *Nucleic Acid Hybridization* (B.D. Hames & S.J. Higgins eds. 1984); *Transcription and Translation* (B.D. Hames & S.J. Higgins eds. 1984); *Animal Cell Culture* (R.I. Freshney ed. 1986); *Immobilized Cells and Enzymes* (IRL Press, 1986); B. Perbal, *A Practical Guide to Molecular Cloning* (1984); the *Methods in Enzymology* series (Academic Press, Inc.), especially volumes 154 & 155; *Gene Transfer Vectors for Mammalian Cells* (J.H. Miller and M.P. Calos eds. 1987, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory); Mayer and Walker, eds. (1987), *Immunochemical Methods in Cell and Molecular Biology* (Academic Press, London); Scopes, (1987) *Protein Purification: Principles and Practice*, Second Edition (Springer-Verlag, N.Y.), and *Handbook of Experimental Immunology, Volumes I-IV* (D.M. Weir and C. C. Blackwell eds 1986).

Standard abbreviations for nucleotides and amino acids are used in this specification.

All publications, patents, and patent applications cited herein are incorporated in full by reference. In particular, the contents of UK patent applications 9723516.2, 9724190.5, 9724386.9, 9725158.1, 9726147.3, 9800759.4, and 9819016.8 are incorporated herein.

Definitions

A composition containing X is "substantially free of" Y when at least 85% by weight of the total X+Y in the composition is X. Preferably, X comprises at least about 90% by weight of the total of X+Y in the composition, more preferably at least about 95% or even 99% by weight.

The term "comprising" means "including" as well as "consisting" *eg.* a composition "comprising" X may consist exclusively of X or may include something additional to X, such as X+Y.

The term "heterologous" refers to two biological components that are not found together in nature. The components may be host cells, genes, or regulatory regions, such as promoters. Although the heterologous components are not found together in nature, they can function together, as when a promoter heterologous to a gene is operably linked to the gene. Another example is where a Neisserial sequence is heterologous to a mouse host cell. A further examples would be two epitopes from the same or different proteins which have been assembled in a single protein in an arrangement not found in nature.

An "origin of replication" is a polynucleotide sequence that initiates and regulates replication of polynucleotides, such as an expression vector. The origin of replication behaves as an autonomous unit of polynucleotide replication within a cell, capable of replication under its own control. An origin of replication may be needed for a vector to replicate in a particular host cell. With certain origins of replication, an expression vector can be reproduced at a high copy number in the presence of the appropriate proteins within the cell. Examples of origins are the autonomously replicating sequences, which are effective in yeast; and the viral T-antigen, effective in COS-7 cells.

A "mutant" sequence is defined as DNA, RNA or amino acid sequence differing from but having sequence identity with the native or disclosed sequence. Depending on the particular sequence, the degree of sequence identity between the native or disclosed sequence and the mutant sequence is preferably greater than 50% (*eg.* 60%, 70%, 80%, 90%, 95%, 99% or more, calculated using the Smith-Waterman algorithm as described above). As used herein, an "allelic variant" of a nucleic acid molecule, or region, for which nucleic acid sequence is provided herein is a nucleic acid molecule, or region, that occurs essentially at the same locus in the genome of another or second isolate, and that, due to natural variation caused by, for example, mutation or recombination, has a similar but not identical nucleic acid sequence. A coding region allelic variant typically encodes a protein having similar activity to that of the protein encoded by the gene to which it is being compared. An allelic variant can also comprise an alteration in the 5' or 3' untranslated regions of the gene, such as in regulatory control regions (*eg.* see US patent 5,753,235).

Expression systems

The Neisserial nucleotide sequences can be expressed in a variety of different expression systems; for example those used with mammalian cells, baculoviruses, plants, bacteria, and yeast.

i. Mammalian Systems

Mammalian expression systems are known in the art. A mammalian promoter is any DNA sequence capable of binding mammalian RNA polymerase and initiating the downstream (3') transcription of a coding sequence (*eg.* structural gene) into mRNA. A promoter will have a transcription initiating region, which is usually placed proximal to the 5' end of the coding sequence, and a TATA box, usually located 25-30 base pairs (bp) upstream of the transcription initiation site. The TATA box is thought to direct RNA polymerase II to begin RNA synthesis at the correct site. A mammalian promoter will also contain an upstream promoter element, usually located within 100 to 200 bp upstream of the TATA box. An upstream promoter element determines the rate at which transcription is initiated and can act in either orientation [Sambrook et al. (1989) "Expression of Cloned Genes in Mammalian Cells." In *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual, 2nd ed.]*.

Mammalian viral genes are often highly expressed and have a broad host range; therefore sequences encoding mammalian viral genes provide particularly useful promoter sequences. Examples include the SV40 early promoter, mouse mammary tumor virus LTR promoter, adenovirus major late promoter (Ad MLP), and herpes simplex virus promoter. In addition, sequences derived from non-viral genes, such as the murine metallotheionein gene, also provide useful promoter sequences. Expression may be either constitutive or regulated (inducible), depending on the promoter can be induced with glucocorticoid in hormone-responsive cells.

The presence of an enhancer element (enhancer), combined with the promoter elements described above, will usually increase expression levels. An enhancer is a regulatory DNA sequence that can stimulate transcription up to 1000-fold when linked to homologous or heterologous promoters, with synthesis beginning at the normal RNA start site. Enhancers are also active when they are placed upstream or downstream from the transcription initiation site, in either normal or flipped orientation, or at a distance of more than 1000 nucleotides from the promoter [Maniatis et al. (1987) *Science 236:*1237; Alberts et al. (1989) *Molecular Biology of the Cell,* 2nd ed.]. Enhancer elements derived from viruses may be particularly useful, because they usually have a broader host range. Examples include the SV40 early gene enhancer [Dijkema et al (1985) *EMBO J. 4:*761] and the enhancer/promoters derived from the long terminal repeat (LTR) of the Rous Sarcoma Virus [Gorman et al. (1982b) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 79:*6777] and from human cytomegalovirus [Boshart et al. (1985) *Cell 41:*521]. Additionally, some enhancers are regulatable and become active only

in the presence of an inducer, such as a hormone or metal ion [Sassone-Corsi and Borelli (1986) *Trends Genet. 2*:215; Maniatis et al. (1987) *Science* 236:1237].

A DNA molecule may be expressed intracellularly in mammalian cells. A promoter sequence may be directly linked with the DNA molecule, in which case the first amino acid at the N-terminus of the recombinant protein will always be a methionine, which is encoded by the ATG start codon. If desired, the N-terminus may be cleaved from the protein by *in vitro* incubation with cyanogen bromide.

Alternatively, foreign proteins can also be secreted from the cell into the growth media by creating chimeric DNA molecules that encode a fusion protein comprised of a leader sequence fragment that provides for secretion of the foreign protein in mammalian cells. Preferably, there are processing sites encoded between the leader fragment and the foreign gene that can be cleaved either *in vivo* or *in vitro*. The leader sequence fragment usually encodes a signal peptide comprised of hydrophobic amino acids which direct the secretion of the protein from the cell. The adenovirus triparite leader is an example of a leader sequence that provides for secretion of a foreign protein in mammalian cells.

Usually, transcription termination and polyadenylation sequences recognized by mammalian cells are regulatory regions located 3' to the translation stop codon and thus, together with the promoter elements, flank the coding sequence. The 3' terminus of the mature mRNA is formed by site-specific post-transcriptional cleavage and polyadenylation [Birnstiel et al. (1985) *Cell 41*:349; Proudfoot and Whitelaw (1988) "Termination and 3' end processing of eukaryotic RNA. In *Transcription and splicing* (ed. B.D. Hames and D.M. Glover); Proudfoot (1989) *Trends Biochem. Sci. 14*:105]. These sequences direct the transcription of an mRNA which can be translated into the polypeptide encoded by the DNA. Examples of transcription terminater/polyadenylation signals include those derived from SV40 [Sambrook et al (1989) "Expression of cloned genes in cultured mammalian cells." In *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*].

Usually, the above described components, comprising a promoter, polyadenylation signal, and transcription termination sequence are put together into expression constructs. Enhancers, introns with functional splice donor and acceptor sites, and leader sequences may also be included in an expression construct, if desired. Expression constructs are often maintained in a replicon, such as an extrachromosomal element (*eg.* plasmids) capable of stable maintenance in a host, such as mammalian cells or bacteria. Mammalian replication systems include those derived from animal

viruses, which require trans-acting factors to replicate. For example, plasmids containing the replication systems of papovaviruses, such as SV40 [Gluzman (1981) *Cell 23*:175] or polyomavirus, replicate to extremely high copy number in the presence of the appropriate viral T antigen. Additional examples of mammalian replicons include those derived from bovine papillomavirus and Epstein-Barr virus. Additionally, the replicon may have two replicaton systems, thus allowing it to be maintained, for example, in mammalian cells for expression and in a prokaryotic host for cloning and amplification. Examples of such mammalian-bacteria shuttle vectors include pMT2 [Kaufman et al. (1989) *Mol. Cell. Biol. 9*:946] and pHEBO [Shimizu et al. (1986) *Mol. Cell. Biol. 6*:1074].

The transformation procedure used depends upon the host to be transformed. Methods for introduction of heterologous polynucleotides into mammalian cells are known in the art and include dextran-mediated transfection, calcium phosphate precipitation, polybrene mediated transfection, protoplast fusion, electroporation, encapsulation of the polynucleotide(s) in liposomes, and direct microinjection of the DNA into nuclei.

Mammalian cell lines available as hosts for expression are known in the art and include many immortalized cell lines available from the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC), including but not limited to, Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) cells, HeLa cells, baby hamster kidney (BHK) cells, monkey kidney cells (COS), human hepatocellular carcinoma cells (*eg.* Hep G2), and a number of other cell lines.

ii. Baculovirus Systems

The polynucleotide encoding the protein can also be inserted into a suitable insect expression vector, and is operably linked to the control elements within that vector. Vector construction employs techniques which are known in the art. Generally, the components of the expression system include a transfer vector, usually a bacterial plasmid, which contains both a fragment of the baculovirus genome, and a convenient restriction site for insertion of the heterologous gene or genes to be expressed; a wild type baculovirus with a sequence homologous to the baculovirus-specific fragment in the transfer vector (this allows for the homologous recombination of the heterologous gene in to the baculovirus genome); and appropriate insect host cells and growth media.

After inserting the DNA sequence encoding the protein into the transfer vector, the vector and the wild type viral genome are transfected into an insect host cell where the vector and viral genome are allowed to recombine. The packaged recombinant virus is expressed and recombinant plaques

are identified and purified. Materials and methods for baculovirus/insect cell expression systems are commercially available in kit form from, *inter alia*, Invitrogen, San Diego CA ("MaxBac" kit). These techniques are generally known to those skilled in the art and fully described in Summers and Smith, *Texas Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin No. 1555* (1987) (hereinafter "Summers and Smith").

Prior to inserting the DNA sequence encoding the protein into the baculovirus genome, the above described components, comprising a promoter, leader (if desired), coding sequence of interest, and transcription termination sequence, are usually assembled into an intermediate transplacement construct (transfer vector). This construct may contain a single gene and operably linked regulatory elements; multiple genes, each with its owned set of operably linked regulatory elements; or multiple genes, regulated by the same set of regulatory elements. Intermediate transplacement constructs are often maintained in a replicon, such as an extrachromosomal element (*eg.* plasmids) capable of stable maintenance in a host, such as a bacterium. The replicon will have a replication system, thus allowing it to be maintained in a suitable host for cloning and amplification.

Currently, the most commonly used transfer vector for introducing foreign genes into AcNPV is pAc373. Many other vectors, known to those of skill in the art, have also been designed. These include, for example, pVL985 (which alters the polyhedrin start codon from ATG to ATT, and which introduces a BamHI cloning site 32 basepairs downstream from the ATT; see Luckow and Summers, *Virology* (1989) *17*:31.

The plasmid usually also contains the polyhedrin polyadenylation signal (Miller et al. (1988) *Ann. Rev. Microbiol.*, *42*:177) and a prokaryotic ampicillin-resistance (*amp*) gene and origin of replication for selection and propagation in *E. coli*.

Baculovirus transfer vectors usually contain a baculovirus promoter. A baculovirus promoter is any DNA sequence capable of binding a baculovirus RNA polymerase and initiating the downstream (5' to 3') transcription of a coding sequence (*eg.* structural gene) into mRNA. A promoter will have a transcription initiation region which is usually placed proximal to the 5' end of the coding sequence. This transcription initiation region usually includes an RNA polymerase binding site and a transcription initiation site. A baculovirus transfer vector may also have a second domain called an enhancer, which, if present, is usually distal to the structural gene. Expression may be either regulated or constitutive.

Structural genes, abundantly transcribed at late times in a viral infection cycle, provide particularly useful promoter sequences. Examples include sequences derived from the gene encoding the viral polyhedron protein, Friesen et al., (1986) "The Regulation of Baculovirus Gene Expression," in: *The Molecular Biology of Baculoviruses* (ed. Walter Doerfler); EPO Publ. Nos. 127 839 and 155 476; and the gene encoding the p10 protein, Vlak et al., (1988), *J. Gen. Virol. 69*:765.

DNA encoding suitable signal sequences can be derived from genes for secreted insect or baculovirus proteins, such as the baculovirus polyhedrin gene (Carbonell et al. (1988) *Gene, 73*:409). Alternatively, since the signals for mammalian cell posttranslational modifications (such as signal peptide cleavage, proteolytic cleavage, and phosphorylation) appear to be recognized by insect cells, and the signals required for secretion and nuclear accumulation also appear to be conserved between the invertebrate cells and vertebrate cells, leaders of non-insect origin, such as those derived from genes encoding human α-interferon, Maeda et al., (1985), *Nature 315*:592; human gastrin-releasing peptide, Lebacq-Verheyden et al., (1988), *Molec. Cell. Biol. 8*:3129; human IL-2, Smith et al., (1985) *Proc. Nat'l Acad. Sci. USA, 82*:8404; mouse IL-3, (Miyajima et al., (1987) *Gene 58*:273; and human glucocerebrosidase, Martin et al. (1988) *DNA, 7*:99, can also be used to provide for secretion in insects.

A recombinant polypeptide or polyprotein may be expressed intracellularly or, if it is expressed with the proper regulatory sequences, it can be secreted. Good intracellular expression of nonfused foreign proteins usually requires heterologous genes that ideally have a short leader sequence containing suitable translation initiation signals preceding an ATG start signal. If desired, methionine at the N-terminus may be cleaved from the mature protein by *in vitro* incubation with cyanogen bromide.

Alternatively, recombinant polyproteins or proteins which are not naturally secreted can be secreted from the insect cell by creating chimeric DNA molecules that encode a fusion protein comprised of a leader sequence fragment that provides for secretion of the foreign protein in insects. The leader sequence fragment usually encodes a signal peptide comprised of hydrophobic amino acids which direct the translocation of the protein into the endoplasmic reticulum.

After insertion of the DNA sequence and/or the gene encoding the expression product precursor of the protein, an insect cell host is co-transformed with the heterologous DNA of the transfer vector and the genomic DNA of wild type baculovirus -- usually by co-transfection. The promoter

and transcription termination sequence of the construct will usually comprise a 2-5kb section of the baculovirus genome. Methods for introducing heterologous DNA into the desired site in the baculovirus virus are known in the art. (See Summers and Smith *supra*; Ju et al. (1987); Smith et al., *Mol. Cell. Biol.* (1983) *3*:2156; and Luckow and Summers (1989)). For example, the insertion can be into a gene such as the polyhedrin gene, by homologous double crossover recombination; insertion can also be into a restriction enzyme site engineered into the desired baculovirus gene. Miller et al., (1989), *Bioessays 4*:91.The DNA sequence, when cloned in place of the polyhedrin gene in the expression vector, is flanked both 5' and 3' by polyhedrin-specific sequences and is positioned downstream of the polyhedrin promoter.

The newly formed baculovirus expression vector is subsequently packaged into an infectious recombinant baculovirus. Homologous recombination occurs at low frequency (between about 1% and about 5%); thus, the majority of the virus produced after cotransfection is still wild-type virus. Therefore, a method is necessary to identify recombinant viruses. An advantage of the expression system is a visual screen allowing recombinant viruses to be distinguished. The polyhedrin protein, which is produced by the native virus, is produced at very high levels in the nuclei of infected cells at late times after viral infection. Accumulated polyhedrin protein forms occlusion bodies that also contain embedded particles. These occlusion bodies, up to 15 μm in size, are highly refractile, giving them a bright shiny appearance that is readily visualized under the light microscope. Cells infected with recombinant viruses lack occlusion bodies. To distinguish recombinant virus from wild-type virus, the transfection supernatant is plaqued onto a monolayer of insect cells by techniques known to those skilled in the art. Namely, the plaques are screened under the light microscope for the presence (indicative of wild-type virus) or absence (indicative of recombinant virus) of occlusion bodies. "Current Protocols in Microbiology" Vol. 2 (Ausubel et al. eds) at 16.8 (Supp. 10, 1990); Summers and Smith, *supra*; Miller et al. (1989).

Recombinant baculovirus expression vectors have been developed for infection into several insect cells. For example, recombinant baculoviruses have been developed for, *inter alia*: *Aedes aegypti* , *Autographa californica*, *Bombyx mori*, *Drosophila melanogaster*, *Spodoptera frugiperda*, and *Trichoplusia ni* (WO 89/046699; Carbonell et al., (1985) *J. Virol. 56*:153; Wright (1986) *Nature 321*:718; Smith et al., (1983) *Mol. Cell. Biol. 3*:2156; and see generally, Fraser, *et al.* (1989) *In Vitro Cell. Dev. Biol. 25*:225).

Cells and cell culture media are commercially available for both direct and fusion expression of heterologous polypeptides in a baculovirus/expression system; cell culture technology is generally known to those skilled in the art. *See, eg.* Summers and Smith *supra*.

The modified insect cells may then be grown in an appropriate nutrient medium, which allows for stable maintenance of the plasmid(s) present in the modified insect host. Where the expression product gene is under inducible control, the host may be grown to high density, and expression induced. Alternatively, where expression is constitutive, the product will be continuously expressed into the medium and the nutrient medium must be continuously circulated, while removing the product of interest and augmenting depleted nutrients. The product may be purified by such techniques as chromatography, eg. HPLC, affinity chromatography, ion exchange chromatography, etc.; electrophoresis; density gradient centrifugation; solvent extraction, or the like. As appropriate, the product may be further purified, as required, so as to remove substantially any insect proteins which are also secreted in the medium or result from lysis of insect cells, so as to provide a product which is at least substantially free of host debris, eg. proteins, lipids and polysaccharides.

In order to obtain protein expression, recombinant host cells derived from the transformants are incubated under conditions which allow expression of the recombinant protein encoding sequence. These conditions will vary, dependent upon the host cell selected. However, the conditions are readily ascertainable to those of ordinary skill in the art, based upon what is known in the art.

iii. Plant Systems

There are many plant cell culture and whole plant genetic expression systems known in the art. Exemplary plant cellular genetic expression systems include those described in patents, such as: US 5,693,506; US 5,659,122; and US 5,608,143. Additional examples of genetic expression in plant cell culture has been described by Zenk, *Phytochemistry* 30:3861-3863 (1991). Descriptions of plant protein signal peptides may be found in addition to the references described above in Vaulcombe et al., *Mol. Gen. Genet.* 209:33-40 (1987); Chandler et al., *Plant Molecular Biology* 3:407-418 (1984); Rogers, *J. Biol. Chem.* 260:3731-3738 (1985); Rothstein et al., *Gene* 55:353-356 (1987); Whittier et al., Nucleic Acids Research 15:2515-2535 (1987); Wirsel et al., *Molecular Microbiology* 3:3-14 (1989); Yu et al., *Gene* 122:247-253 (1992). A description of the regulation of plant gene expression by the phytohormone, gibberellic acid and secreted enzymes induced by gibberellic acid can be found in R.L. Jones and J. MacMillin, Gibberellins: in: *Advanced Plant Physiology*,. Malcolm B. Wilkins, ed., 1984 Pitman Publishing Limited, London, pp. 21-52.

References that describe other metabolically-regulated genes: Sheen, *Plant Cell*, 2:1027-1038(1990); Maas et al., *EMBO J.* 9:3447-3452 (1990); Benkel and Hickey, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.* 84:1337-1339 (1987)

Typically, using techniques known in the art, a desired polynucleotide sequence is inserted into an expression cassette comprising genetic regulatory elements designed for operation in plants. The expression cassette is inserted into a desired expression vector with companion sequences upstream and downstream from the expression cassette suitable for expression in a plant host. The companion sequences will be of plasmid or viral origin and provide necessary characteristics to the vector to permit the vectors to move DNA from an original cloning host, such as bacteria, to the desired plant host. The basic bacterial/plant vector construct will preferably provide a broad host range prokaryote replication origin; a prokaryote selectable marker; and, for Agrobacterium transformations, T DNA sequences for Agrobacterium-mediated transfer to plant chromosomes. Where the heterologous gene is not readily amenable to detection, the construct will preferably also have a selectable marker gene suitable for determining if a plant cell has been transformed. A general review of suitable markers, for example for the members of the grass family, is found in Wilmink and Dons, 1993, *Plant Mol. Biol. Reptr*, 11(2):165-185.

Sequences suitable for permitting integration of the heterologous sequence into the plant genome are also recommended. These might include transposon sequences and the like for homologous recombination as well as Ti sequences which permit random insertion of a heterologous expression cassette into a plant genome. Suitable prokaryote selectable markers include resistance toward antibiotics such as ampicillin or tetracycline. Other DNA sequences encoding additional functions may also be present in the vector, as is known in the art.

The nucleic acid molecules of the subject invention may be included into an expression cassette for expression of the protein(s) of interest. Usually, there will be only one expression cassette, although two or more are feasible. The recombinant expression cassette will contain in addition to the heterologous protein encoding sequence the following elements, a promoter region, plant 5' untranslated sequences, initiation codon depending upon whether or not the structural gene comes equipped with one, and a transcription and translation termination sequence. Unique restriction enzyme sites at the 5' and 3' ends of the cassette allow for easy insertion into a pre-existing vector.

A heterologous coding sequence may be for any protein relating to the present invention. The sequence encoding the protein of interest will encode a signal peptide which allows processing and translocation of the protein, as appropriate, and will usually lack any sequence which might result in the binding of the desired protein of the invention to a membrane. Since, for the most part, the transcriptional initiation region will be for a gene which is expressed and translocated during germination, by employing the signal peptide which provides for translocation, one may also provide for translocation of the protein of interest. In this way, the protein(s) of interest will be translocated from the cells in which they are expressed and may be efficiently harvested. Typically secretion in seeds are across the aleurone or scutellar epithelium layer into the endosperm of the seed. While it is not required that the protein be secreted from the cells in which the protein is produced, this facilitates the isolation and purification of the recombinant protein.

Since the ultimate expression of the desired gene product will be in a eucaryotic cell it is desirable to determine whether any portion of the cloned gene contains sequences which will be processed out as introns by the host's splicosome machinery. If so, site-directed mutagenesis of the "intron" region may be conducted to prevent losing a portion of the genetic message as a false intron code, Reed and Maniatis, *Cell* 41:95-105, 1985.

The vector can be microinjected directly into plant cells by use of micropipettes to mechanically transfer the recombinant DNA. Crossway, *Mol. Gen. Genet*, 202:179-185, 1985. The genetic material may also be transferred into the plant cell by using polyethylene glycol, Krens, et al., *Nature*, 296, 72-74, 1982. Another method of introduction of nucleic acid segments is high velocity ballistic penetration by small particles with the nucleic acid either within the matrix of small beads or particles, or on the surface, Klein, et al., *Nature*, 327, 70-73, 1987 and Knudsen and Muller, 1991, *Planta*, 185:330-336 teaching particle bombardment of barley endosperm to create transgenic barley. Yet another method of introduction would be fusion of protoplasts with other entities, either minicells, cells, lysosomes or other fusible lipid-surfaced bodies, Fraley, et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*, 79, 1859-1863, 1982.

The vector may also be introduced into the plant cells by electroporation. (Fromm et al., *Proc. Natl Acad. Sci. USA* 82:5824, 1985). In this technique, plant protoplasts are electroporated in the presence of plasmids containing the gene construct. Electrical impulses of high field strength reversibly permeabilize biomembranes allowing the introduction of the plasmids. Electroporated plant protoplasts reform the cell wall, divide, and form plant callus.

All plants from which protoplasts can be isolated and cultured to give whole regenerated plants can be transformed by the present invention so that whole plants are recovered which contain the transferred gene. It is known that practically all plants can be regenerated from cultured cells or tissues, including but not limited to all major species of sugarcane, sugar beet, cotton, fruit and other trees, legumes and vegetables. Some suitable plants include, for example, species from the genera *Fragaria*, *Lotus*, *Medicago*, *Onobrychis*, *Trifolium*, *Trigonella*, *Vigna*, *Citrus*, *Linum*, *Geranium*, *Manihot*, *Daucus*, *Arabidopsis*, *Brassica*, *Raphanus*, *Sinapis*, *Atropa*, *Capsicum*, *Datura*, *Hyoscyamus*, *Lycopersion*, *Nicotiana*, *Solanum*, *Petunia*, *Digitalis*, *Majorana*, *Cichorium*, *Helianthus*, *Lactuca*, *Bromus*, *Asparagus*, *Antirrhinum*, *Hererocallis*, *Nemesia*, *Pelargonium*, *Panicum*, *Pennisetum*, *Ranunculus*, *Senecio*, *Salpiglossis*, *Cucumis*, *Browaalia*, *Glycine*, *Lolium*, *Zea*, *Triticum*, *Sorghum*, and *Datura*.

Means for regeneration vary from species to species of plants, but generally a suspension of transformed protoplasts containing copies of the heterologous gene is first provided. Callus tissue is formed and shoots may be induced from callus and subsequently rooted. Alternatively, embryo formation can be induced from the protoplast suspension. These embryos germinate as natural embryos to form plants. The culture media will generally contain various amino acids and hormones, such as auxin and cytokinins. It is also advantageous to add glutamic acid and proline to the medium, especially for such species as corn and alfalfa. Shoots and roots normally develop simultaneously. Efficient regeneration will depend on the medium, on the genotype, and on the history of the culture. If these three variables are controlled, then regeneration is fully reproducible and repeatable.

In some plant cell culture systems, the desired protein of the invention may be excreted or alternatively, the protein may be extracted from the whole plant. Where the desired protein of the invention is secreted into the medium, it may be collected. Alternatively, the embryos and embryoless-half seeds or other plant tissue may be mechanically disrupted to release any secreted protein between cells and tissues. The mixture may be suspended in a buffer solution to retrieve soluble proteins. Conventional protein isolation and purification methods will be then used to purify the recombinant protein. Parameters of time, temperature pH, oxygen, and volumes will be adjusted through routine methods to optimize expression and recovery of heterologous protein.

iv. Bacterial Systems

Bacterial expression techniques are known in the art. A bacterial promoter is any DNA sequence capable of binding bacterial RNA polymerase and initiating the downstream (3') transcription of a coding sequence (*eg.* structural gene) into mRNA. A promoter will have a transcription initiation region which is usually placed proximal to the 5' end of the coding sequence. This transcription initiation region usually includes an RNA polymerase binding site and a transcription initiation site. A bacterial promoter may also have a second domain called an operator, that may overlap an adjacent RNA polymerase binding site at which RNA synthesis begins. The operator permits negative regulated (inducible) transcription, as a gene repressor protein may bind the operator and thereby inhibit transcription of a specific gene. Constitutive expression may occur in the absence of negative regulatory elements, such as the operator. In addition, positive regulation may be achieved by a gene activator protein binding sequence, which, if present is usually proximal (5') to the RNA polymerase binding sequence. An example of a gene activator protein is the catabolite activator protein (CAP), which helps initiate transcription of the lac operon in Escherichia coli (E. coli) [Raibaud *et al.* (1984) *Annu. Rev. Genet. 18*:173]. Regulated expression may therefore be either positive or negative, thereby either enhancing or reducing transcription.

Sequences encoding metabolic pathway enzymes provide particularly useful promoter sequences. Examples include promoter sequences derived from sugar metabolizing enzymes, such as galactose, lactose (*lac*) [Chang *et al.* (1977) *Nature 198*:1056], and maltose. Additional examples include promoter sequences derived from biosynthetic enzymes such as tryptophan (*trp*) [Goeddel *et al.* (1980) *Nuc. Acids Res. 8*:4057; Yelverton *et al.* (1981) *Nucl. Acids Res. 9*:731; US patent 4,738,921; EP-A-0036776 and EP-A-0121775]. The g-laotamase (*bla*) promoter system [Weissmann (1981) "The cloning of interferon and other mistakes." In *Interferon 3* (ed. I. Gresser)], bacteriophage lambda PL [Shimatake *et al.* (1981) *Nature 292*:128] and T5 [US patent 4,689,406] promoter systems also provide useful promoter sequences.

In addition, synthetic promoters which do not occur in nature also function as bacterial promoters. For example, transcription activation sequences of one bacterial or bacteriophage promoter may be joined with the operon sequences of another bacterial or bacteriophage promoter, creating a synthetic hybrid promoter [US patent 4,551,433]. For example, the *tac* promoter is a hybrid *trp-lac* promoter comprised of both *trp* promoter and *lac* operon sequences that is regulated by the *lac* repressor [Amann *et al.* (1983) *Gene 25*:167; de Boer *et al.* (1983) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 80*:21].

Furthermore, a bacterial promoter can include naturally occurring promoters of non-bacterial origin that have the ability to bind bacterial RNA polymerase and initiate transcription. A naturally occurring promoter of non-bacterial origin can also be coupled with a compatible RNA polymerase to produce high levels of expression of some genes in prokaryotes. The bacteriophage T7 RNA polymerase/promoter system is an example of a coupled promoter system [Studier *et al.* (1986) *J. Mol. Biol. 189*:113; Tabor *et al.* (1985) *Proc Natl. Acad. Sci. 82*:1074]. In addition, a hybrid promoter can also be comprised of a bacteriophage promoter and an *E. coli* operator region (EPO-A-0 267 851).

In addition to a functioning promoter sequence, an efficient ribosome binding site is also useful for the expression of foreign genes in prokaryotes. In *E. coli*, the ribosome binding site is called the Shine-Dalgarno (SD) sequence and includes an initiation codon (ATG) and a sequence 3-9 nucleotides in length located 3-11 nucleotides upstream of the initiation codon [Shine *et al.* (1975) *Nature 254*:34]. The SD sequence is thought to promote binding of mRNA to the ribosome by the pairing of bases between the SD sequence and the 3' and of *E. coli* 16S rRNA [Steitz *et al.* (1979) "Genetic signals and nucleotide sequences in messenger RNA." In *Biological Regulation and Development: Gene Expression* (ed. R.F. Goldberger)]. To express eukaryotic genes and prokaryotic genes with weak ribosome-binding site [Sambrook *et al.* (1989) "Expression of cloned genes in Escherichia coli." In *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*].

A DNA molecule may be expressed intracellularly. A promoter sequence may be directly linked with the DNA molecule, in which case the first amino acid at the N-terminus will always be a methionine, which is encoded by the ATG start codon. If desired, methionine at the N-terminus may be cleaved from the protein by *in vitro* incubation with cyanogen bromide or by either *in vivo* on *in vitro* incubation with a bacterial methionine N-terminal peptidase (EPO-A-0 219 237).

Fusion proteins provide an alternative to direct expression. Usually, a DNA sequence encoding the N-terminal portion of an endogenous bacterial protein, or other stable protein, is fused to the 5' end of heterologous coding sequences. Upon expression, this construct will provide a fusion of the two amino acid sequences. For example, the bacteriophage lambda cell gene can be linked at the 5' terminus of a foreign gene and expressed in bacteria. The resulting fusion protein preferably retains a site for a processing enzyme (factor Xa) to cleave the bacteriophage protein from the foreign gene [Nagai *et al.* (1984) *Nature 309*:810]. Fusion proteins can also be made with sequences from the *lacZ* [Jia *et al.* (1987) *Gene 60*:197], *trpE* [Allen et al. (1987) J. Biotechnol. 5:93; Makoff *et al.*

(1989) *J. Gen. Microbiol. 135*:11], and *Chey* [EP-A-0 324 647] genes. The DNA sequence at the junction of the two amino acid sequences may or may not encode a cleavable site. Another example is a ubiquitin fusion protein. Such a fusion protein is made with the ubiquitin region that preferably retains a site for a processing enzyme (*eg.* ubiquitin specific processing-protease) to cleave the ubiquitin from the foreign protein. Through this method, native foreign protein can be isolated [Miller *et al.* (1989) *Bio/Technology 7*:698].

Alternatively, foreign proteins can also be secreted from the cell by creating chimeric DNA molecules that encode a fusion protein comprised of a signal peptide sequence fragment that provides for secretion of the foreign protein in bacteria [US patent 4,336,336]. The signal sequence fragment usually encodes a signal peptide comprised of hydrophobic amino acids which direct the secretion of the protein from the cell. The protein is either secreted into the growth media (gram-positive bacteria) or into the periplasmic space, located between the inner and outer membrane of the cell (gram-negative bacteria). Preferably there are processing sites, which can be cleaved either *in vivo* or *in vitro* encoded between the signal peptide fragment and the foreign gene.

DNA encoding suitable signal sequences can be derived from genes for secreted bacterial proteins, such as the *E. coli* outer membrane protein gene (*ompA*) [Masui *et al.* (1983), in: *Experimental Manipulation of Gene Expression*; Ghrayeb *et al.* (1984) *EMBO J. 3*:2437] and the *E. coli* alkaline phosphatase signal sequence (*phoA*) [Oka *et al.* (1985) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 82*:7212]. As an additional example, the signal sequence of the alpha-amylase gene from various Bacillus strains can be used to secrete heterologous proteins from *B. subtilis* [Palva *et al.* (1982) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 79*:5582; EP-A-0 244 042].

Usually, transcription termination sequences recognized by bacteria are regulatory regions located 3' to the translation stop codon, and thus together with the promoter flank the coding sequence. These sequences direct the transcription of an mRNA which can be translated into the polypeptide encoded by the DNA. Transcription termination sequences frequently include DNA sequences of about 50 nucleotides capable of forming stem loop structures that aid in terminating transcription. Examples include transcription termination sequences derived from genes with strong promoters, such as the *trp* gene in *E. coli* as well as other biosynthetic genes.

Usually, the above described components, comprising a promoter, signal sequence (if desired), coding sequence of interest, and transcription termination sequence, are put together into expression constructs. Expression constructs are often maintained in a replicon, such as an extrachromosomal

element (*eg.* plasmids) capable of stable maintenance in a host, such as bacteria. The replicon will have a replication system, thus allowing it to be maintained in a prokaryotic host either for expression or for cloning and amplification. In addition, a replicon may be either a high or low copy number plasmid. A high copy number plasmid will generally have a copy number ranging from about 5 to about 200, and usually about 10 to about 150. A host containing a high copy number plasmid will preferably contain at least about 10, and more preferably at least about 20 plasmids. Either a high or low copy number vector may be selected, depending upon the effect of the vector and the foreign protein on the host.

Alternatively, the expression constructs can be integrated into the bacterial genome with an integrating vector. Integrating vectors usually contain at least one sequence homologous to the bacterial chromosome that allows the vector to integrate. Integrations appear to result from recombinations between homologous DNA in the vector and the bacterial chromosome. For example, integrating vectors constructed with DNA from various Bacillus strains integrate into the Bacillus chromosome (EP-A- 0 127 328). Integrating vectors may also be comprised of bacteriophage or transposon sequences.

Usually, extrachromosomal and integrating expression constructs may contain selectable markers to allow for the selection of bacterial strains that have been transformed. Selectable markers can be expressed in the bacterial host and may include genes which render bacteria resistant to drugs such as ampicillin, chloramphenicol, erythromycin, kanamycin (neomycin), and tetracycline [Davies *et al.* (1978) *Annu. Rev. Microbiol. 32*:469]. Selectable markers may also include biosynthetic genes, such as those in the histidine, tryptophan, and leucine biosynthetic pathways.

Alternatively, some of the above described components can be put together in transformation vectors. Transformation vectors are usually comprised of a selectable market that is either maintained in a replicon or developed into an integrating vector, as described above.

Expression and transformation vectors, either extra-chromosomal replicons or integrating vectors, have been developed for transformation into many bacteria. For example, expression vectors have been developed for, *inter alia*, the following bacteria: Bacillus subtilis [Palva *et al.* (1982) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 79*:5582; EP-A-0 036 259 and EP-A-0 063 953; WO 84/04541], Escherichia coli [Shimatake *et al.* (1981) *Nature 292*:128; Amann *et al.* (1985) *Gene 40*:183; Studier *et al.* (1986) *J. Mol. Biol. 189*:113; EP-A-0 036 776,EP-A-0 136 829 and EP-A-0 136 907],

Streptococcus cremoris [Powell *et al.* (1988) *Appl. Environ. Microbiol. 54*:655]; Streptococcus lividans [Powell *et al.* (1988) *Appl. Environ. Microbiol. 54*:655], Streptomyces lividans [US patent 4,745,056].

Methods of introducing exogenous DNA into bacterial hosts are well-known in the art, and usually include either the transformation of bacteria treated with $CaCl_2$ or other agents, such as divalent cations and DMSO. DNA can also be introduced into bacterial cells by electroporation. Transformation procedures usually vary with the bacterial species to be transformed. See *eg.* [Masson *et al.* (1989) *FEMS Microbiol. Lett. 60*:273; Palva *et al.* (1982) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 79*:5582; EP-A-0 036 259 and EP-A-0 063 953; WO 84/04541, Bacillus], [Miller *et al.* (1988) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 85*:856; Wang *et al.* (1990) *J. Bacteriol. 172*:949, Campylobacter], [Cohen *et al.* (1973) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 69*:2110; Dower *et al.* (1988) *Nucleic Acids Res. 16*:6127; Kushner (1978) "An improved method for transformation of Escherichia coli with ColE1-derived plasmids. In *Genetic Engineering: Proceedings of the International Symposium on Genetic Engineering* (eds. H.W. Boyer and S. Nicosia); Mandel *et al.* (1970) *J. Mol. Biol. 53*:159; Taketo (1988) *Biochim. Biophys. Acta 949*:318; Escherichia], [Chassy *et al.* (1987) *FEMS Microbiol. Lett. 44*:173 Lactobacillus]; [Fiedler *et al.* (1988) *Anal. Biochem 170*:38, Pseudomonas]; [Augustin *et al.* (1990) *FEMS Microbiol. Lett. 66*:203, Staphylococcus], [Barany *et al.* (1980) *J. Bacteriol. 144*:698; Harlander (1987) "Transformation of Streptococcus lactis by electroporation, in: *Streptococcal Genetics* (ed. J. Ferretti and R. Curtiss III); Perry *et al.* (1981) *Infect. Immun. 32*:1295; Powell *et al.* (1988) *Appl. Environ. Microbiol. 54*:655; Somkuti *et al.* (1987) *Proc. 4th Evr. Cong. Biotechnology 1*:412, Streptococcus].

v. Yeast Expression

Yeast expression systems are also known to one of ordinary skill in the art. A yeast promoter is any DNA sequence capable of binding yeast RNA polymerase and initiating the downstream (3') transcription of a coding sequence (*eg.* structural gene) into mRNA. A promoter will have a transcription initiation region which is usually placed proximal to the 5' end of the coding sequence. This transcription initiation region usually includes an RNA polymerase binding site (the "TATA Box") and a transcription initiation site. A yeast promoter may also have a second domain called an upstream activator sequence (UAS), which, if present, is usually distal to the structural gene. The UAS permits regulated (inducible) expression. Constitutive expression occurs in the absence

of a UAS. Regulated expression may be either positive or negative, thereby either enhancing or reducing transcription.

Yeast is a fermenting organism with an active metabolic pathway, therefore sequences encoding enzymes in the metabolic pathway provide particularly useful promoter sequences. Examples include alcohol dehydrogenase (ADH) (EP-A-0 284 044), enolase, glucokinase, glucose-6-phosphate isomerase, glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate-dehydrogenase (GAP or GAPDH), hexokinase, phosphofructokinase, 3-phosphoglycerate mutase, and pyruvate kinase (PyK) (EPO-A-0 329 203). The yeast *PHO5* gene, encoding acid phosphatase, also provides useful promoter sequences [Myanohara *et al.* (1983) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 80*:1].

In addition, synthetic promoters which do not occur in nature also function as yeast promoters. For example, UAS sequences of one yeast promoter may be joined with the transcription activation region of another yeast promoter, creating a synthetic hybrid promoter. Examples of such hybrid promoters include the ADH regulatory sequence linked to the GAP transcription activation region (US Patent Nos. 4,876,197 and 4,880,734). Other examples of hybrid promoters include promoters which consist of the regulatory sequences of either the *ADH2*, *GAL4*, *GAL10*, OR *PHO5* genes, combined with the transcriptional activation region of a glycolytic enzyme gene such as GAP or PyK (EP-A-0 164 556). Furthermore, a yeast promoter can include naturally occurring promoters of non-yeast origin that have the ability to bind yeast RNA polymerase and initiate transcription. Examples of such promoters include, *inter alia*, [Cohen *et al.* (1980) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 77*:1078; Henikoff *et al.* (1981) *Nature 283*:835; Hollenberg *et al.* (1981) *Curr. Topics Microbiol. Immunol. 96*:119; Hollenberg *et al.* (1979) "The Expression of Bacterial Antibiotic Resistance Genes in the Yeast Saccharomyces cerevisiae," in: *Plasmids of Medical, Environmental and Commercial Importance* (eds. K.N. Timmis and A. Puhler); Mercerau-Puigalon *et al.* (1980) *Gene 11*:163; Panthier *et al.* (1980) *Curr. Genet. 2*:109;].

A DNA molecule may be expressed intracellularly in yeast. A promoter sequence may be directly linked with the DNA molecule, in which case the first amino acid at the N-terminus of the recombinant protein will always be a methionine, which is encoded by the ATG start codon. If desired, methionine at the N-terminus may be cleaved from the protein by *in vitro* incubation with cyanogen bromide.

Fusion proteins provide an alternative for yeast expression systems, as well as in mammalian, baculovirus, and bacterial expression systems. Usually, a DNA sequence encoding the N-terminal portion of an endogenous yeast protein, or other stable protein, is fused to the 5' end of heterologous coding sequences. Upon expression, this construct will provide a fusion of the two amino acid sequences. For example, the yeast or human superoxide dismutase (SOD) gene, can be linked at the 5' terminus of a foreign gene and expressed in yeast. The DNA sequence at the junction of the two amino acid sequences may or may not encode a cleavable site. See *eg.* EP-A-0 196 056. Another example is a ubiquitin fusion protein. Such a fusion protein is made with the ubiquitin region that preferably retains a site for a processing enzyme (*eg.* ubiquitin-specific processing protease) to cleave the ubiquitin from the foreign protein. Through this method, therefore, native foreign protein can be isolated (*eg.* WO88/024066).

Alternatively, foreign proteins can also be secreted from the cell into the growth media by creating chimeric DNA molecules that encode a fusion protein comprised of a leader sequence fragment that provide for secretion in yeast of the foreign protein. Preferably, there are processing sites encoded between the leader fragment and the foreign gene that can be cleaved either *in vivo* or *in vitro*. The leader sequence fragment usually encodes a signal peptide comprised of hydrophobic amino acids which direct the secretion of the protein from the cell.

DNA encoding suitable signal sequences can be derived from genes for secreted yeast proteins, such as the yeast invertase gene (EP-A-0 012 873; JPO. 62,096,086) and the A-factor gene (US patent 4,588,684). Alternatively, leaders of non-yeast origin, such as an interferon leader, exist that also provide for secretion in yeast (EP-A-0 060 057).

A preferred class of secretion leaders are those that employ a fragment of the yeast alpha-factor gene, which contains both a "pre" signal sequence, and a "pro" region. The types of alpha-factor fragments that can be employed include the full-length pre-pro alpha factor leader (about 83 amino acid residues) as well as truncated alpha-factor leaders (usually about 25 to about 50 amino acid residues) (US Patents 4,546,083 and 4,870,008; EP-A-0 324 274). Additional leaders employing an alpha-factor leader fragment that provides for secretion include hybrid alpha-factor leaders made with a presequence of a first yeast, but a pro-region from a second yeast alphafactor. (*eg.* see WO 89/02463.)

Usually, transcription termination sequences recognized by yeast are regulatory regions located 3' to the translation stop codon, and thus together with the promoter flank the coding sequence. These sequences direct the transcription of an mRNA which can be translated into the polypeptide encoded by the DNA. Examples of transcription terminator sequence and other yeast-recognized termination sequences, such as those coding for glycolytic enzymes.

Usually, the above described components, comprising a promoter, leader (if desired), coding sequence of interest, and transcription termination sequence, are put together into expression constructs. Expression constructs are often maintained in a replicon, such as an extrachromosomal element (*eg.* plasmids) capable of stable maintenance in a host, such as yeast or bacteria. The replicon may have two replication systems, thus allowing it to be maintained, for example, in yeast for expression and in a prokaryotic host for cloning and amplification. Examples of such yeast-bacteria shuttle vectors include YEp24 [Botstein *et al.* (1979) *Gene 8*:17-24], pCl/1 [Brake *et al.* (1984) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci USA 81*:4642-4646], and YRp17 [Stinchcomb *et al.* (1982) *J. Mol. Biol. 158*:157]. In addition, a replicon may be either a high or low copy number plasmid. A high copy number plasmid will generally have a copy number ranging from about 5 to about 200, and usually about 10 to about 150. A host containing a high copy number plasmid will preferably have at least about 10, and more preferably at least about 20. Enter a high or low copy number vector may be selected, depending upon the effect of the vector and the foreign protein on the host. See *eg.* Brake *et al., supra.*

Alternatively, the expression constructs can be integrated into the yeast genome with an integrating vector. Integrating vectors usually contain at least one sequence homologous to a yeast chromosome that allows the vector to integrate, and preferably contain two homologous sequences flanking the expression construct. Integrations appear to result from recombinations between homologous DNA in the vector and the yeast chromosome [Orr-Weaver *et al.* (1983) *Methods in Enzymol. 101*:228-245]. An integrating vector may be directed to a specific locus in yeast by selecting the appropriate homologous sequence for inclusion in the vector. See Orr-Weaver *et al., supra.* One or more expression construct may integrate, possibly affecting levels of recombinant protein produced [Rine *et al.* (1983) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 80*:6750]. The chromosomal sequences included in the vector can occur either as a single segment in the vector, which results in the integration of the entire vector, or two segments homologous to adjacent segments in the

chromosome and flanking the expression construct in the vector, which can result in the stable integration of only the expression construct.

Usually, extrachromosomal and integrating expression constructs may contain selectable markers to allow for the selection of yeast strains that have been transformed. Selectable markers may include biosynthetic genes that can be expressed in the yeast host, such as *ADE2*, *HIS4*, *LEU2*, *TRP1*, and *ALG7*, and the G418 resistance gene, which confer resistance in yeast cells to tunicamycin and G418, respectively. In addition, a suitable selectable marker may also provide yeast with the ability to grow in the presence of toxic compounds, such as metal. For example, the presence of *CUP1* allows yeast to grow in the presence of copper ions [Butt *et al.* (1987) *Microbiol, Rev. 51*:351].

Alternatively, some of the above described components can be put together into transformation vectors. Transformation vectors are usually comprised of a selectable marker that is either maintained in a replicon or developed into an integrating vector, as described above.

Expression and transformation vectors, either extrachromosomal replicons or integrating vectors, have been developed for transformation into many yeasts. For example, expression vectors have been developed for, *inter alia*, the following yeasts:Candida albicans [Kurtz, *et al.* (1986) *Mol. Cell. Biol. 6*:142], Candida maltosa [Kunze, *et al.* (1985) *J. Basic Microbiol. 25*:141]. Hansenula polymorpha [Gleeson, *et al.* (1986) *J. Gen. Microbiol. 132*:3459; Roggenkamp *et al.* (1986) *Mol. Gen. Genet. 202*:302], Kluyveromyces fragilis [Das, *et al.* (1984) *J. Bacteriol. 158*:1165], Kluyveromyces lactis [De Louvencourt *et al.* (1983) *J. Bacteriol. 154*:737; Van den Berg *et al.* (1990) *Bio/Technology 8*:135], Pichia guillerimondii [Kunze *et al.* (1985) *J. Basic Microbiol. 25*:141], Pichia pastoris [Cregg, *et al.* (1985) *Mol. Cell. Biol. 5*:3376; US Patent Nos. 4,837,148 and 4,929,555], Saccharomyces cerevisiae [Hinnen *et al.* (1978) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 75*:1929; Ito *et al.* (1983) *J. Bacteriol. 153*:163], Schizosaccharomyces pombe [Beach and Nurse (1981) *Nature 300*:706], and Yarrowia lipolytica [Davidow, *et al.* (1985) *Curr. Genet. 10*:380471 Gaillardin, *et al.* (1985) *Curr. Genet. 10*:49].

Methods of introducing exogenous DNA into yeast hosts are well-known in the art, and usually include either the transformation of spheroplasts or of intact yeast cells treated with alkali cations. Transformation procedures usually vary with the yeast species to be transformed. See *eg.* [Kurtz *et al.* (1986) *Mol. Cell. Biol. 6*:142; Kunze *et al.* (1985) *J. Basic Microbiol. 25*:141; Candida];

[Gleeson *et al.* (1986) *J. Gen. Microbiol. 132*:3459; Roggenkamp *et al.* (1986) *Mol. Gen. Genet. 202*:302; Hansenula]; [Das *et al.* (1984) *J. Bacteriol. 158*:1165; De Louvencourt *et al.* (1983) *J. Bacteriol. 154*:1165; Van den Berg *et al.* (1990) *Bio/Technology 8*:135; Kluyveromyces]; [Cregg *et al.* (1985) *Mol. Cell. Biol. 5*:3376; Kunze *et al.* (1985) *J. Basic Microbiol. 25*:141; US Patent Nos. 4,837,148 and 4,929,555; Pichia]; [Hinnen *et al.* (1978) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 75*;1929; Ito *et al.* (1983) *J. Bacteriol. 153*:163 Saccharomyces]; [Beach and Nurse (1981) *Nature 300*:706; Schizosaccharomyces]; [Davidow *et al.* (1985) *Curr. Genet. 10*:39; Gaillardin *et al.* (1985) *Curr. Genet. 10*:49; Yarrowia].

Antibodies

As used herein, the term "antibody" refers to a polypeptide or group of polypeptides composed of at least one antibody combining site. An "antibody combining site" is the three-dimensional binding space with an internal surface shape and charge distribution complementary to the features of an epitope of an antigen, which allows a binding of the antibody with the antigen. "Antibody" includes, for example, vertebrate antibodies, hybrid antibodies, chimeric antibodies, humanised antibodies, altered antibodies, univalent antibodies, Fab proteins, and single domain antibodies.

Antibodies against the proteins of the invention are useful for affinity chromatography, immunoassays, and distinguishing/identifying Neisserial proteins.

Antibodies to the proteins of the invention, both polyclonal and monoclonal, may be prepared by conventional methods. In general, the protein is first used to immunize a suitable animal, preferably a mouse, rat, rabbit or goat. Rabbits and goats are preferred for the preparation of polyclonal sera due to the volume of serum obtainable, and the availability of labeled anti-rabbit and anti-goat antibodies. Immunization is generally performed by mixing or emulsifying the protein in saline, preferably in an adjuvant such as Freund's complete adjuvant, and injecting the mixture or emulsion parenterally (generally subcutaneously or intramuscularly). A dose of 50-200 μg/injection is typically sufficient. Immunization is generally boosted 2-6 weeks later with one or more injections of the protein in saline, preferably using Freund's incomplete adjuvant. One may alternatively generate antibodies by in vitro immunization using methods known in the art, which for the purposes of this invention is considered equivalent to *in vivo* immunization. Polyclonal antisera is obtained by bleeding the immunized animal into a glass or plastic container, incubating the blood at 25°C for one hour, followed by incubating at 4°C for 2-18 hours. The serum is

recovered by centrifugation (*eg.* 1,000*g* for 10 minutes). About 20-50 ml per bleed may be obtained from rabbits.

Monoclonal antibodies are prepared using the standard method of Kohler & Milstein [*Nature* (1975) 256:495-96], or a modification thereof. Typically, a mouse or rat is immunized as described above. However, rather than bleeding the animal to extract serum, the spleen (and optionally several large lymph nodes) is removed and dissociated into single cells. If desired, the spleen cells may be screened (after removal of nonspecifically adherent cells) by applying a cell suspension to a plate or well coated with the protein antigen. B-cells expressing membrane-bound immunoglobulin specific for the antigen bind to the plate, and are not rinsed away with the rest of the suspension. Resulting B-cells, or all dissociated spleen cells, are then induced to fuse with myeloma cells to form hybridomas, and are cultured in a selective medium (*eg.* hypoxanthine, aminopterin, thymidine medium, "HAT"). The resulting hybridomas are plated by limiting dilution, and are assayed for the production of antibodies which bind specifically to the immunizing antigen (and which do not bind to unrelated antigens). The selected MAb-secreting hybridomas are then cultured either *in vitro* (*eg.* in tissue culture bottles or hollow fiber reactors), or *in vivo* (as ascites in mice).

If desired, the antibodies (whether polyclonal or monoclonal) may be labeled using conventional techniques. Suitable labels include fluorophores, chromophores, radioactive atoms (particularly ^{32}P and ^{125}I), electron-dense reagents, enzymes, and ligands having specific binding partners. Enzymes are typically detected by their activity. For example, horseradish peroxidase is usually detected by its ability to convert 3,3',5,5'-tetramethylbenzidine (TMB) to a blue pigment, quantifiable with a spectrophotometer. "Specific binding partner" refers to a protein capable of binding a ligand molecule with high specificity, as for example in the case of an antigen and a monoclonal antibody specific therefor. Other specific binding partners include biotin and avidin or streptavidin, IgG and protein A, and the numerous receptor-ligand couples known in the art. It should be understood that the above description is not meant to categorize the various labels into distinct classes, as the same label may serve in several different modes. For example, ^{125}I may serve as a radioactive label or as an electron-dense reagent. HRP may serve as enzyme or as antigen for a MAb. Further, one may combine various labels for desired effect. For example, MAbs and avidin also require labels in the practice of this invention: thus, one might label a MAb with biotin, and detect its presence with avidin labeled with ^{125}I, or with an anti-biotin MAb labeled with HRP. Other permutations and possibilities will be

readily apparent to those of ordinary skill in the art, and are considered as equivalents within the scope of the instant invention.

Pharmaceutical Compositions

Pharmaceutical compositions can comprise either polypeptides, antibodies, or nucleic acid of the invention. The pharmaceutical compositions will comprise a therapeutically effective amount of either polypeptides, antibodies, or polynucleotides of the claimed invention.

The term "therapeutically effective amount" as used herein refers to an amount of a therapeutic agent to treat, ameliorate, or prevent a desired disease or condition, or to exhibit a detectable therapeutic or preventative effect. The effect can be detected by, for example, chemical markers or antigen levels. Therapeutic effects also include reduction in physical symptoms, such as decreased body temperature. The precise effective amount for a subject will depend upon the subject's size and health, the nature and extent of the condition, and the therapeutics or combination of therapeutics selected for administration. Thus, it is not useful to specify an exact effective amount in advance. However, the effective amount for a given situation can be determined by routine experimentation and is within the judgement of the clinician.

For purposes of the present invention, an effective dose will be from about 0.01 mg/ kg to 50 mg/kg or 0.05 mg/kg to about 10 mg/kg of the DNA constructs in the individual to which it is administered.

A pharmaceutical composition can also contain a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. The term "pharmaceutically acceptable carrier" refers to a carrier for administration of a therapeutic agent, such as antibodies or a polypeptide, genes, and other therapeutic agents. The term refers to any pharmaceutical carrier that does not itself induce the production of antibodies harmful to the individual receiving the composition, and which may be administered without undue toxicity. Suitable carriers may be large, slowly metabolized macromolecules such as proteins, polysaccharides, polylactic acids, polyglycolic acids, polymeric amino acids, amino acid copolymers, and inactive virus particles. Such carriers are well known to those of ordinary skill in the art.

Pharmaceutically acceptable salts can be used therein, for example, mineral acid salts such as hydrochlorides, hydrobromides, phosphates, sulfates, and the like; and the salts of organic acids such as acetates, propionates, malonates, benzoates, and the like. A thorough discussion of pharmaceutically acceptable excipients is available in Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences (Mack Pub. Co., N.J. 1991).

Pharmaceutically acceptable carriers in therapeutic compositions may contain liquids such as water, saline, glycerol and ethanol. Additionally, auxiliary substances, such as wetting or emulsifying agents, pH buffering substances, and the like, may be present in such vehicles. Typically, the therapeutic compositions are prepared as injectables, either as liquid solutions or suspensions; solid forms suitable for solution in, or suspension in, liquid vehicles prior to injection may also be prepared. Liposomes are included within the definition of a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Delivery Methods

Once formulated, the compositions of the invention can be administered directly to the subject. The subjects to be treated can be animals; in particular, human subjects can be treated.

Direct delivery of the compositions will generally be accomplished by injection, either subcutaneously, intraperitoneally, intravenously or intramuscularly or delivered to the interstitial space of a tissue. The compositions can also be administered into a lesion. Other modes of administration include oral and pulmonary administration, suppositories, and transdermal or transcutaneous applications (*eg.* see WO98/20734), needles, and gene guns or hyposprays. Dosage treatment may be a single dose schedule or a multiple dose schedule.

Vaccines

Vaccines according to the invention may either be prophylactic (*ie.* to prevent infection) or therapeutic (*ie.* to treat disease after infection).

Such vaccines comprise immunising antigen(s), immunogen(s), polypeptide(s), protein(s) or nucleic acid, usually in combination with "pharmaceutically acceptable carriers," which include any carrier that does not itself induce the production of antibodies harmful to the individual receiving the composition. Suitable carriers are typically large, slowly metabolized macromolecules such as proteins, polysaccharides, polylactic acids, polyglycolic acids, polymeric amino acids, amino acid copolymers, lipid aggregates (such as oil droplets or liposomes), and inactive virus particles. Such carriers are well known to those of ordinary skill in the art. Additionally, these carriers may function as immunostimulating agents ("adjuvants"). Furthermore, the antigen or immunogen may be conjugated to a bacterial toxoid, such as a toxoid from diphtheria, tetanus, cholera, *H. pylori, etc.* pathogens.

Preferred adjuvants to enhance effectiveness of the composition include, but are not limited to: (1) aluminum salts (alum), such as aluminum hydroxide, aluminum phosphate, aluminum sulfate, etc; (2) oil-in-water emulsion formulations (with or without other specific immunostimulating agents

such as muramyl peptides (see below) or bacterial cell wall components), such as for example (a) MF59™ (WO 90/14837; Chapter 10 in *Vaccine design: the subunit and adjuvant approach*, eds. Powell & Newman, Plenum Press 1995), containing 5% Squalene, 0.5% Tween 80, and 0.5% Span 85 (optionally containing various amounts of MTP-PE (see below), although not required) formulated into submicron particles using a microfluidizer such as Model 110Y microfluidizer (Microfluidics, Newton, MA), (b) SAF, containing 10% Squalane, 0.4% Tween 80, 5% pluronic-blocked polymer L121, and thr-MDP (see below) either microfluidized into a submicron emulsion or vortexed to generate a larger particle size emulsion, and (c) Ribi™ adjuvant system (RAS), (Ribi Immunochem, Hamilton, MT) containing 2% Squalene, 0.2% Tween 80, and one or more bacterial cell wall components from the group consisting of monophosphorylipid A (MPL), trehalose dimycolate (TDM), and cell wall skeleton (CWS), preferably MPL + CWS (Detox™); (3) saponin adjuvants, such as Stimulon™ (Cambridge Bioscience, Worcester, MA) may be used or particles generated therefrom such as ISCOMs (immunostimulating complexes); (4) Complete Freund's Adjuvant (CFA) and Incomplete Freund's Adjuvant (IFA); (5) cytokines, such as interleukins (*eg.* IL-1, IL-2, IL-4, IL-5, IL-6, IL-7, IL-12, *etc.*), interferons (*eg.* gamma interferon), macrophage colony stimulating factor (M-CSF), tumor necrosis factor (TNF), etc; and (6) other substances that act as immunostimulating agents to enhance the effectiveness of the composition. Alum and MF59™ are preferred.

As mentioned above, muramyl peptides include, but are not limited to, N-acetyl-muramyl-L-threonyl-D-isoglutamine (thr-MDP), N-acetyl-normuramyl-L-alanyl-D-isoglutamine (nor-MDP), N-acetylmuramyl-L-alanyl-D-isoglutaminyl-L-alanine-2-(1'-2'-dipalmitoyl-*sn*-glycero-3-hydroxyphosphoryloxy)-ethylamine (MTP-PE), *etc.*

The immunogenic compositions (*eg.* the immunising antigen/immunogen/polypeptide/protein/ nucleic acid, pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, and adjuvant) typically will contain diluents, such as water, saline, glycerol, ethanol, etc. Additionally, auxiliary substances, such as wetting or emulsifying agents, pH buffering substances, and the like, may be present in such vehicles.

Typically, the immunogenic compositions are prepared as injectables, either as liquid solutions or suspensions; solid forms suitable for solution in, or suspension in, liquid vehicles prior to injection may also be prepared. The preparation also may be emulsified or encapsulated in liposomes for enhanced adjuvant effect, as discussed above under pharmaceutically acceptable carriers.

Immunogenic compositions used as vaccines comprise an immunologically effective amount of the antigenic or immunogenic polypeptides, as well as any other of the above-mentioned components, as needed. By "immunologically effective amount", it is meant that the administration of that amount to an individual, either in a single dose or as part of a series, is effective for treatment or prevention. This amount varies depending upon the health and physical condition of the individual to be treated, the taxonomic group of individual to be treated (*eg.* nonhuman primate, primate, *etc.*), the capacity of the individual's immune system to synthesize antibodies, the degree of protection desired, the formulation of the vaccine, the treating doctor's assessment of the medical situation, and other relevant factors. It is expected that the amount will fall in a relatively broad range that can be determined through routine trials.

The immunogenic compositions are conventionally administered parenterally, *eg.* by injection, either subcutaneously, intramuscularly, or transdermally/transcutaneously (*eg.* WO98/20734). Additional formulations suitable for other modes of administration include oral and pulmonary formulations, suppositories, and transdermal applications. Dosage treatment may be a single dose schedule or a multiple dose schedule. The vaccine may be administered in conjunction with other immunoregulatory agents.

As an alternative to protein-based vaccines, DNA vaccination may be employed [*eg.* Robinson & Torres (1997) *Seminars in Immunology* 9:271-283; Donnelly *et al.* (1997) *Annu Rev Immunol* 15:617-648; see later herein].

Gene Delivery Vehicles

Gene therapy vehicles for delivery of constructs including a coding sequence of a therapeutic of the invention, to be delivered to the mammal for expression in the mammal, can be administered either locally or systemically. These constructs can utilize viral or non-viral vector approaches in *in vivo* or *ex vivo* modality. Expression of such coding sequence can be induced using endogenous mammalian or heterologous promoters. Expression of the coding sequence in vivo can be either constitutive or regulated.

The invention includes gene delivery vehicles capable of expressing the contemplated nucleic acid sequences. The gene delivery vehicle is preferably a viral vector and, more preferably, a retroviral, adenoviral, adeno-associated viral (AAV), herpes viral, or alphavirus vector. The viral vector can also be an astrovirus, coronavirus, orthomyxovirus, papovavirus, paramyxovirus, parvovirus,

picornavirus, poxvirus, or togavirus viral vector. See generally, Jolly (1994) *Cancer Gene Therapy* 1:51-64; Kimura (1994) *Human Gene Therapy* 5:845-852; Connelly (1995) *Human Gene Therapy* 6:185-193; and Kaplitt (1994) *Nature Genetics* 6:148-153.

Retroviral vectors are well known in the art and we contemplate that any retroviral gene therapy vector is employable in the invention, including B, C and D type retroviruses, xenotropic retroviruses (for example, NZB-X1, NZB-X2 and NZB9-1 (see O'Neill (1985) *J. Virol.* 53:160) polytropic retroviruses *eg.* MCF and MCF-MLV (see Kelly (1983) *J. Virol.* 45:291), spumaviruses and lentiviruses. See RNA Tumor Viruses, Second Edition, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, 1985.

Portions of the retroviral gene therapy vector may be derived from different retroviruses. For example, retrovector LTRs may be derived from a Murine Sarcoma Virus, a tRNA binding site from a Rous Sarcoma Virus, a packaging signal from a Murine Leukemia Virus, and an origin of second strand synthesis from an Avian Leukosis Virus.

These recombinant retroviral vectors may be used to generate transduction competent retroviral vector particles by introducing them into appropriate packaging cell lines (see US patent 5,591,624). Retrovirus vectors can be constructed for site-specific integration into host cell DNA by incorporation of a chimeric integrase enzyme into the retroviral particle (see WO96/37626). It is preferable that the recombinant viral vector is a replication defective recombinant virus.

Packaging cell lines suitable for use with the above-described retrovirus vectors are well known in the art, are readily prepared (see WO95/30763 and WO92/05266), and can be used to create producer cell lines (also termed vector cell lines or "VCLs") for the production of recombinant vector particles. Preferably, the packaging cell lines are made from human parent cells (*eg.* HT1080 cells) or mink parent cell lines, which eliminates inactivation in human serum.

Preferred retroviruses for the construction of retroviral gene therapy vectors include Avian Leukosis Virus, Bovine Leukemia, Virus, Murine Leukemia Virus, Mink-Cell Focus-Inducing Virus, Murine Sarcoma Virus, Reticuloendotheliosis Virus and Rous Sarcoma Virus. Particularly preferred Murine Leukemia Viruses include 4070A and 1504A (Hartley and Rowe (1976) *J Virol* 19:19-25), Abelson (ATCC No. VR-999), Friend (ATCC No. VR-245), Graffi, Gross (ATCC Nol VR-590), Kirsten, Harvey Sarcoma Virus and Rauscher (ATCC No. VR-998) and Moloney Murine Leukemia Virus (ATCC No. VR-190). Such retroviruses may be obtained from depositories or

collections such as the American Type Culture Collection ("ATCC") in Rockville, Maryland or isolated from known sources using commonly available techniques.

Exemplary known retroviral gene therapy vectors employable in this invention include those described in patent applications GB2200651, EP0415731, EP0345242, EP0334301, WO89/02468; WO89/05349, WO89/09271, WO90/02806, WO90/07936, WO94/03622, WO93/25698, WO93/25234, WO93/11230, WO93/10218, WO91/02805, WO91/02825, WO95/07994, US 5,219,740, US 4,405,712, US 4,861,719, US 4,980,289, US 4,777,127, US 5,591,624. See also Vile (1993) *Cancer Res* 53:3860-3864; Vile (1993) *Cancer Res* 53:962-967; Ram (1993) *Cancer Res* 53 (1993) 83-88; Takamiya (1992) *J Neurosci Res* 33:493-503; Baba (1993) *J Neurosurg* 79:729-735; Mann (1983) *Cell* 33:153; Cane (1984) *Proc Natl Acad Sci* 81:6349; and Miller (1990) *Human Gene Therapy* 1.

Human adenoviral gene therapy vectors are also known in the art and employable in this invention. See, for example, Berkner (1988) *Biotechniques* 6:616 and Rosenfeld (1991) *Science* 252:431, and WO93/07283, WO93/06223, and WO93/07282. Exemplary known adenoviral gene therapy vectors employable in this invention include those described in the above referenced documents and in WO94/12649, WO93/03769, WO93/19191, WO94/28938, WO95/11984, WO95/00655, WO95/27071, WO95/29993, WO95/34671, WO96/05320, WO94/08026, WO94/11506, WO93/06223, WO94/24299, WO95/14102, WO95/24297, WO95/02697, WO94/28152, WO94/24299, WO95/09241, WO95/25807, WO95/05835, WO94/18922 and WO95/09654. Alternatively, administration of DNA linked to killed adenovirus as described in Curiel (1992) *Hum. Gene Ther.* 3:147-154 may be employed. The gene delivery vehicles of the invention also include adenovirus associated virus (AAV) vectors. Leading and preferred examples of such vectors for use in this invention are the AAV-2 based vectors disclosed in Srivastava, WO93/09239. Most preferred AAV vectors comprise the two AAV inverted terminal repeats in which the native D-sequences are modified by substitution of nucleotides, such that at least 5 native nucleotides and up to 18 native nucleotides, preferably at least 10 native nucleotides up to 18 native nucleotides, most preferably 10 native nucleotides are retained and the remaining nucleotides of the D-sequence are deleted or replaced with non-native nucleotides. The native D-sequences of the AAV inverted terminal repeats are sequences of 20 consecutive nucleotides in each AAV inverted terminal repeat (*ie.* there is one sequence at each end) which are not involved in HP formation. The non-native replacement nucleotide may be any nucleotide other than the nucleotide found in the

native D-sequence in the same position. Other employable exemplary AAV vectors are pWP-19, pWN-1, both of which are disclosed in Nahreini (1993) *Gene* 124:257-262. Another example of such an AAV vector is psub201 (see Samulski (1987) *J. Virol.* 61:3096). Another exemplary AAV vector is the Double-D ITR vector. Construction of the Double-D ITR vector is disclosed in US Patent 5,478,745. Still other vectors are those disclosed in Carter US Patent 4,797,368 and Muzyczka US Patent 5,139,941, Chartejee US Patent 5,474,935, and Kotin WO94/288157. Yet a further example of an AAV vector employable in this invention is SSV9AFABTKneo, which contains the AFP enhancer and albumin promoter and directs expression predominantly in the liver. Its structure and construction are disclosed in Su (1996) *Human Gene Therapy* 7:463-470. Additional AAV gene therapy vectors are described in US 5,354,678, US 5,173,414, US 5,139,941, and US 5,252,479.

The gene therapy vectors of the invention also include herpes vectors. Leading and preferred examples are herpes simplex virus vectors containing a sequence encoding a thymidine kinase polypeptide such as those disclosed in US 5,288,641 and EP0176170 (Roizman). Additional exemplary herpes simplex virus vectors include HFEM/ICP6-LacZ disclosed in WO95/04139 (Wistar Institute), pHSVlac described in Geller (1988) *Science* 241:1667-1669 and in WO90/09441 and WO92/07945, HSV Us3::pgC-lacZ described in Fink (1992) *Human Gene Therapy* 3:11-19 and HSV 7134, 2 RH 105 and GAL4 described in EP 0453242 (Breakefield), and those deposited with the ATCC as accession numbers ATCC VR-977 and ATCC VR-260.

Also contemplated are alpha virus gene therapy vectors that can be employed in this invention. Preferred alpha virus vectors are Sindbis viruses vectors. Togaviruses, Semliki Forest virus (ATCC VR-67; ATCC VR-1247), Middleberg virus (ATCC VR-370), Ross River virus (ATCC VR-373; ATCC VR-1246), Venezuelan equine encephalitis virus (ATCC VR923; ATCC VR-1250; ATCC VR-1249; ATCC VR-532), and those described in US patents 5,091,309, 5,217,879, and WO92/10578. More particularly, those alpha virus vectors described in US Serial No. 08/405,627, filed March 15, 1995,WO94/21792, WO92/10578, WO95/07994, US 5,091,309 and US 5,217,879 are employable. Such alpha viruses may be obtained from depositories or collections such as the ATCC in Rockville, Maryland or isolated from known sources using commonly available techniques. Preferably, alphavirus vectors with reduced cytotoxicity are used (see USSN 08/679640).

DNA vector systems such as eukarytic layered expression systems are also useful for expressing the nucleic acids of the invention. See WO95/07994 for a detailed description of eukaryotic layered expression systems. Preferably, the eukaryotic layered expression systems of the invention are derived from alphavirus vectors and most preferably from Sindbis viral vectors.

Other viral vectors suitable for use in the present invention include those derived from poliovirus, for example ATCC VR-58 and those described in Evans, Nature 339 (1989) 385 and Sabin (1973) *J. Biol. Standardization* 1:115; rhinovirus, for example ATCC VR-1110 and those described in Arnold (1990) *J Cell Biochem* L401; pox viruses such as canary pox virus or vaccinia virus, for example ATCC VR-111 and ATCC VR-2010 and those described in Fisher-Hoch (1989) *Proc Natl Acad Sci* 86:317; Flexner (1989) *Ann NY Acad Sci* 569:86, Flexner (1990) *Vaccine* 8:17; in US 4,603,112 and US 4,769,330 and WO89/01973; SV40 virus, for example ATCC VR-305 and those described in Mulligan (1979) *Nature* 277:108 and Madzak (1992) *J Gen Virol* 73:1533; influenza virus, for example ATCC VR-797 and recombinant influenza viruses made employing reverse genetics techniques as described in US 5,166,057 and in Enami (1990) *Proc Natl Acad Sci* 87:3802-3805; Enami & Palese (1991) *J Virol* 65:2711-2713 and Luytjes (1989) *Cell* 59:110, (see also McMichael (1983) *NEJ Med* 309:13, and Yap (1978) *Nature* 273:238 and *Nature* (1979) 277:108); human immunodeficiency virus as described in EP-0386882 and in Buchschacher (1992) *J. Virol.* 66:2731; measles virus, for example ATCC VR-67 and VR-1247 and those described in EP-0440219; Aura virus, for example ATCC VR-368; Bebaru virus, for example ATCC VR-600 and ATCC VR-1240; Cabassou virus, for example ATCC VR-922; Chikungunya virus, for example ATCC VR-64 and ATCC VR-1241; Fort Morgan Virus, for example ATCC VR-924; Getah virus, for example ATCC VR-369 and ATCC VR-1243; Kyzylagach virus, for example ATCC VR-927; Mayaro virus, for example ATCC VR-66; Mucambo virus, for example ATCC VR-580 and ATCC VR-1244; Ndumu virus, for example ATCC VR-371; Pixuna virus, for example ATCC VR-372 and ATCC VR-1245; Tonate virus, for example ATCC VR-925; Triniti virus, for example ATCC VR-469; Una virus, for example ATCC VR-374; Whataroa virus, for example ATCC VR-926; Y-62-33 virus, for example ATCC VR-375; O'Nyong virus, Eastern encephalitis virus, for example ATCC VR-65 and ATCC VR-1242; Western encephalitis virus, for example ATCC VR-70, ATCC VR-1251, ATCC VR-622 and ATCC VR-1252; and coronavirus, for example ATCC VR-740 and those described in Hamre (1966) *Proc Soc Exp Biol Med* 121:190.

Delivery of the compositions of this invention into cells is not limited to the above mentioned viral vectors. Other delivery methods and media may be employed such as, for example, nucleic acid

expression vectors, polycationic condensed DNA linked or unlinked to killed adenovirus alone, for example see US Serial No. 08/366,787, filed December 30, 1994 and Curiel (1992) *Hum Gene Ther* 3:147-154 ligand linked DNA, for example see Wu (1989) *J Biol Chem* 264:16985-16987, eucaryotic cell delivery vehicles cells, for example see US Serial No.08/240,030, filed May 9, 1994, and US Serial No. 08/404,796, deposition of photopolymerized hydrogel materials, hand-held gene transfer particle gun, as described in US Patent 5,149,655, ionizing radiation as described in US5,206,152 and in WO92/11033, nucleic charge neutralization or fusion with cell membranes. Additional approaches are described in Philip (1994) *Mol Cell Biol* 14:2411-2418 and in Woffendin (1994) *Proc Natl Acad Sci* 91:1581-1585.

Particle mediated gene transfer may be employed, for example see US Serial No. 60/023,867. Briefly, the sequence can be inserted into conventional vectors that contain conventional control sequences for high level expression, and then incubated with synthetic gene transfer molecules such as polymeric DNA-binding cations like polylysine, protamine, and albumin, linked to cell targeting ligands such as asialoorosomucoid, as described in Wu & Wu (1987) *J. Biol. Chem.* 262:4429-4432, insulin as described in Hucked (1990) *Biochem Pharmacol* 40:253-263, galactose as described in Plank (1992) *Bioconjugate Chem* 3:533-539, lactose or transferrin.

Naked DNA may also be employed. Exemplary naked DNA introduction methods are described in WO 90/11092 and US 5,580,859. Uptake efficiency may be improved using biodegradable latex beads. DNA coated latex beads are efficiently transported into cells after endocytosis initiation by the beads. The method may be improved further by treatment of the beads to increase hydrophobicity and thereby facilitate disruption of the endosome and release of the DNA into the cytoplasm.

Liposomes that can act as gene delivery vehicles are described in US 5,422,120, WO95/13796, WO94/23697, WO91/14445 and EP-524,968. As described in USSN. 60/023,867, on non-viral delivery, the nucleic acid sequences encoding a polypeptide can be inserted into conventional vectors that contain conventional control sequences for high level expression, and then be incubated with synthetic gene transfer molecules such as polymeric DNA-binding cations like polylysine, protamine, and albumin, linked to cell targeting ligands such as asialoorosomucoid, insulin, galactose, lactose, or transferrin. Other delivery systems include the use of liposomes to encapsulate DNA comprising the gene under the control of a variety of tissue-specific or ubiquitously-active promoters. Further non-viral delivery suitable for use includes mechanical delivery systems such as the approach described in Woffendin *et al* (1994) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*

91(24):11581-11585. Moreover, the coding sequence and the product of expression of such can be delivered through deposition of photopolymerized hydrogel materials. Other conventional methods for gene delivery that can be used for delivery of the coding sequence include, for example, use of hand-held gene transfer particle gun, as described in US 5,149,655; use of ionizing radiation for activating transferred gene, as described in US 5,206,152 and WO92/11033

Exemplary liposome and polycationic gene delivery vehicles are those described in US 5,422,120 and 4,762,915; inWO 95/13796; WO94/23697; and WO91/14445; in EP-0524968; and in Stryer, Biochemistry, pages 236-240 (1975) W.H. Freeman, San Francisco; Szoka (1980) *Biochem Biophys Acta* 600:1; Bayer (1979) *Biochem Biophys Acta* 550:464; Rivnay (1987) *Meth Enzymol* 149:119; Wang (1987) *Proc Natl Acad Sci* 84:7851; Plant (1989) *Anal Biochem* 176:420.

A polynucleotide composition can comprises therapeutically effective amount of a gene therapy vehicle, as the term is defined above. For purposes of the present invention, an effective dose will be from about 0.01 mg/ kg to 50 mg/kg or 0.05 mg/kg to about 10 mg/kg of the DNA constructs in the individual to which it is administered.

Delivery Methods

Once formulated, the polynucleotide compositions of the invention can be administered (1) directly to the subject; (2) delivered *ex vivo*, to cells derived from the subject; or (3) *in vitro* for expression of recombinant proteins. The subjects to be treated can be mammals or birds. Also, human subjects can be treated.

Direct delivery of the compositions will generally be accomplished by injection, either subcutaneously, intraperitoneally, intravenously or intramuscularly or delivered to the interstitial space of a tissue. The compositions can also be administered into a lesion. Other modes of administration include oral and pulmonary administration, suppositories, and transdermal or transcutaneous applications (*eg.* see WO98/20734), needles, and gene guns or hyposprays. Dosage treatment may be a single dose schedule or a multiple dose schedule.

Methods for the *ex vivo* delivery and reimplantation of transformed cells into a subject are known in the art and described in *eg.* WO93/14778. Examples of cells useful in ex vivo applications include, for example, stem cells, particularly hematopoetic, lymph cells, macrophages, dendritic cells, or tumor cells.

Generally, delivery of nucleic acids for both *ex vivo* and *in vitro* applications can be accomplished by the following procedures, for example, dextran-mediated transfection, calcium phosphate precipitation, polybrene mediated transfection, protoplast fusion, electroporation, encapsulation of the polynucleotide(s) in liposomes, and direct microinjection of the DNA into nuclei, all well known in the art.

Polynucleotide and polypeptide pharmaceutical compositions

In addition to the pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and salts described above, the following additional agents can be used with polynucleotide and/or polypeptide compositions.

A.Polypeptides

One example are polypeptides which include, without limitation: asioloorosomucoid (ASOR); transferrin; asialoglycoproteins; antibodies; antibody fragments; ferritin; interleukins; interferons, granulocyte, macrophage colony stimulating factor (GM-CSF), granulocyte colony stimulating factor (G-CSF), macrophage colony stimulating factor (M-CSF), stem cell factor and erythropoietin. Viral antigens, such as envelope proteins, can also be used. Also, proteins from other invasive organisms, such as the 17 amino acid peptide from the circumsporozoite protein of plasmodium falciparum known as RII.

B.Hormones, Vitamins, *etc.*

Other groups that can be included are, for example: hormones, steroids, androgens, estrogens, thyroid hormone, or vitamins, folic acid.

C.Polyalkylenes, Polysaccharides, *etc.*

Also, polyalkylene glycol can be included with the desired polynucleotides/polypeptides. In a preferred embodiment, the polyalkylene glycol is polyethlylene glycol. In addition, mono-, di-, or polysaccarides can be included. In a preferred embodiment of this aspect, the polysaccharide is dextran or DEAE-dextran. Also, chitosan and poly(lactide-co-glycolide)

D.Lipids, and Liposomes

The desired polynucleotide/polypeptide can also be encapsulated in lipids or packaged in liposomes prior to delivery to the subject or to cells derived therefrom.

Lipid encapsulation is generally accomplished using liposomes which are able to stably bind or entrap and retain nucleic acid. The ratio of condensed polynucleotide to lipid preparation can vary but will generally be around 1:1 (mg DNA:micromoles lipid), or more of lipid. For a review of the

use of liposomes as carriers for delivery of nucleic acids, see, Hug and Sleight (1991) *Biochim. Biophys. Acta.* 1097:1-17; Straubinger (1983) *Meth. Enzymol.* 101:512-527.

Liposomal preparations for use in the present invention include cationic (positively charged), anionic (negatively charged) and neutral preparations. Cationic liposomes have been shown to mediate intracellular delivery of plasmid DNA (Felgner (1987) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 84:7413-7416); mRNA (Malone (1989) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 86:6077-6081); and purified transcription factors (Debs (1990) *J. Biol. Chem.* 265:10189-10192), in functional form.

Cationic liposomes are readily available. For example, N[1-2,3-dioleyloxy)propyl]-N,N,N-triethylammonium (DOTMA) liposomes are available under the trademark Lipofectin, from GIBCO BRL, Grand Island, NY. (See, also, Felgner *supra*). Other commercially available liposomes include transfectace (DDAB/DOPE) and DOTAP/DOPE (Boerhinger). Other cationic liposomes can be prepared from readily available materials using techniques well known in the art. See, *eg.* Szoka (1978) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 75:4194-4198; WO90/11092 for a description of the synthesis of DOTAP (1,2-bis(oleoyloxy)-3-(trimethylammonio)propane) liposomes.

Similarly, anionic and neutral liposomes are readily available, such as from Avanti Polar Lipids (Birmingham, AL), or can be easily prepared using readily available materials. Such materials include phosphatidyl choline, cholesterol, phosphatidyl ethanolamine, dioleoylphosphatidyl choline (DOPC), dioleoylphosphatidyl glycerol (DOPG), dioleoylphoshatidyl ethanolamine (DOPE), among others. These materials can also be mixed with the DOTMA and DOTAP starting materials in appropriate ratios. Methods for making liposomes using these materials are well known in the art.

The liposomes can comprise multilammelar vesicles (MLVs), small unilamellar vesicles (SUVs), or large unilamellar vesicles (LUVs). The various liposome-nucleic acid complexes are prepared using methods known in the art. See *eg.* Straubinger (1983) *Meth. Immunol.* 101:512-527; Szoka (1978) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 75:4194-4198; Papahadjopoulos (1975) *Biochim. Biophys. Acta* 394:483; Wilson (1979) *Cell* 17:77); Deamer & Bangham (1976) *Biochim. Biophys. Acta* 443:629; Ostro (1977) *Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun.* 76:836; Fraley (1979) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 76:3348); Enoch & Strittmatter (1979) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 76:145; Fraley (1980) *J. Biol. Chem.* (1980) 255:10431; Szoka & Papahadjopoulos (1978) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 75:145; and Schaefer-Ridder (1982) *Science* 215:166.

E.Lipoproteins

In addition, lipoproteins can be included with the polynucleotide/polypeptide to be delivered. Examples of lipoproteins to be utilized include: chylomicrons, HDL, IDL, LDL, and VLDL. Mutants, fragments, or fusions of these proteins can also be used. Also, modifications of naturally occurring lipoproteins can be used, such as acetylated LDL. These lipoproteins can target the delivery of polynucleotides to cells expressing lipoprotein receptors. Preferably, if lipoproteins are including with the polynucleotide to be delivered, no other targeting ligand is included in the composition.

Naturally occurring lipoproteins comprise a lipid and a protein portion. The protein portion are known as apoproteins. At the present, apoproteins A, B, C, D, and E have been isolated and identified. At least two of these contain several proteins, designated by Roman numerals, AI, AII, AIV; CI, CII, CIII.

A lipoprotein can comprise more than one apoprotein. For example, naturally occurring chylomicrons comprises of A, B, C, and E, over time these lipoproteins lose A and acquire C and E apoproteins. VLDL comprises A, B, C, and E apoproteins, LDL comprises apoprotein B; and HDL comprises apoproteins A, C, and E.

The amino acid of these apoproteins are known and are described in, for example, Breslow (1985) Annu Rev. Biochem 54:699; Law (1986) Adv. Exp Med. Biol. 151:162; Chen (1986) J Biol Chem 261:12918; Kane (1980) Proc Natl Acad Sci USA 77:2465; and Utermann (1984) Hum Genet 65:232.

Lipoproteins contain a variety of lipids including, triglycerides, cholesterol (free and esters), and phopholipids. The composition of the lipids varies in naturally occurring lipoproteins. For example, chylomicrons comprise mainly triglycerides. A more detailed description of the lipid content of naturally occurring lipoproteins can be found, for example, in *Meth. Enzymol.* 128 (1986). The composition of the lipids are chosen to aid in conformation of the apoprotein for receptor binding activity. The composition of lipids can also be chosen to facilitate hydrophobic interaction and association with the polynucleotide binding molecule.

Naturally occurring lipoproteins can be isolated from serum by ultracentrifugation, for instance. Such methods are described in *Meth. Enzymol.* (*supra)*; Pitas (1980) *J. Biochem.* 255:5454-5460 and Mahey (1979) *J Clin. Invest* 64:743-750. Lipoproteins can also be produced by *in vitro* or recombinant methods by expression of the apoprotein genes in a desired host cell. See, for example, Atkinson (1986) *Annu Rev Biophys Chem* 15:403 and Radding (1958) *Biochim Biophys Acta* 30:

443. Lipoproteins can also be purchased from commercial suppliers, such as Biomedical Techniologies, Inc., Stoughton, Massachusetts, USA. Further description of lipoproteins can be found in Zuckermann *et al.* PCT/US97/14465.

F.Polycationic Agents

Polycationic agents can be included, with or without lipoprotein, in a composition with the desired polynucleotide/polypeptide to be delivered.

Polycationic agents, typically, exhibit a net positive charge at physiological relevant pH and are capable of neutralizing the electrical charge of nucleic acids to facilitate delivery to a desired location. These agents have both in vitro, ex vivo, and in vivo applications. Polycationic agents can be used to deliver nucleic acids to a living subject either intramuscularly, subcutaneously, etc.

The following are examples of useful polypeptides as polycationic agents: polylysine, polyarginine, polyornithine, and protamine. Other examples include histones, protamines, human serum albumin, DNA binding proteins, non-histone chromosomal proteins, coat proteins from DNA viruses, such as (X174, transcriptional factors also contain domains that bind DNA and therefore may be useful as nucleic aid condensing agents. Briefly, transcriptional factors such as C/CEBP, c-jun, c-fos, AP-1, AP-2, AP-3, CPF, Prot-1, Sp-1, Oct-1, Oct-2, CREP, and TFIID contain basic domains that bind DNA sequences.

Organic polycationic agents include: spermine, spermidine, and purtrescine.

The dimensions and of the physical properties of a polycationic agent can be extrapolated from the list above, to construct other polypeptide polycationic agents or to produce synthetic polycationic agents.

Synthetic polycationic agents which are useful include, for example, DEAE-dextran, polybrene. Lipofectin™, and lipofectAMINE™ are monomers that form polycationic complexes when combined with polynucleotides/polypeptides.

Immunodiagnostic Assays

Neisserial antigens of the invention can be used in immunoassays to detect antibody levels (or, conversely, anti-Neisserial antibodies can be used to detect antigen levels). Immunoassays based on well defined, recombinant antigens can be developed to replace invasive diagnostics methods. Antibodies to Neisserial proteins within biological samples, including for example, blood or serum

samples, can be detected. Design of the immunoassays is subject to a great deal of variation, and a variety of these are known in the art. Protocols for the immunoassay may be based, for example, upon competition, or direct reaction, or sandwich type assays. Protocols may also, for example, use solid supports, or may be by immunoprecipitation. Most assays involve the use of labeled antibody or polypeptide; the labels may be, for example, fluorescent, chemiluminescent, radioactive, or dye molecules. Assays which amplify the signals from the probe are also known; examples of which are assays which utilize biotin and avidin, and enzyme-labeled and mediated immunoassays, such as ELISA assays.

Kits suitable for immunodiagnosis and containing the appropriate labeled reagents are constructed by packaging the appropriate materials, including the compositions of the invention, in suitable containers, along with the remaining reagents and materials (for example, suitable buffers, salt solutions, *etc.*) required for the conduct of the assay, as well as suitable set of assay instructions.

Nucleic Acid Hybridisation

"Hybridization" refers to the association of two nucleic acid sequences to one another by hydrogen bonding. Typically, one sequence will be fixed to a solid support and the other will be free in solution. Then, the two sequences will be placed in contact with one another under conditions that favor hydrogen bonding. Factors that affect this bonding include: the type and volume of solvent; reaction temperature; time of hybridization; agitation; agents to block the non-specific attachment of the liquid phase sequence to the solid support (Denhardt's reagent or BLOTTO); concentration of the sequences; use of compounds to increase the rate of association of sequences (dextran sulfate or polyethylene glycol); and the stringency of the washing conditions following hybridization. See Sambrook *et al.* [*supra*] Volume 2, chapter 9, pages 9.47 to 9.57.

"Stringency" refers to conditions in a hybridization reaction that favor association of very similar sequences over sequences that differ. For example, the combination of temperature and salt concentration should be chosen that is approximately 120 to 200°C below the calculated Tm of the hybrid under study. The temperature and salt conditions can often be determined empirically in preliminary experiments in which samples of genomic DNA immobilized on filters are hybridized to the sequence of interest and then washed under conditions of different stringencies. See Sambrook *et al.* at page 9.50.

Variables to consider when performing, for example, a Southern blot are (1) the complexity of the DNA being blotted and (2) the homology between the probe and the sequences being detected. The

total amount of the fragment(s) to be studied can vary a magnitude of 10, from 0.1 to 1μg for a plasmid or phage digest to 10^{-9} to 10^{-8} g for a single copy gene in a highly complex eukaryotic genome. For lower complexity polynucleotides, substantially shorter blotting, hybridization, and exposure times, a smaller amount of starting polynucleotides, and lower specific activity of probes can be used. For example, a single-copy yeast gene can be detected with an exposure time of only 1 hour starting with 1 μg of yeast DNA, blotting for two hours, and hybridizing for 4-8 hours with a probe of 10^8 cpm/μg. For a single-copy mammalian gene a conservative approach would start with 10 μg of DNA, blot overnight, and hybridize overnight in the presence of 10% dextran sulfate using a probe of greater than 10^8 cpm/μg, resulting in an exposure time of ~24 hours.

Several factors can affect the melting temperature (Tm) of a DNA-DNA hybrid between the probe and the fragment of interest, and consequently, the appropriate conditions for hybridization and washing. In many cases the probe is not 100% homologous to the fragment. Other commonly encountered variables include the length and total G+C content of the hybridizing sequences and the ionic strength and formamide content of the hybridization buffer. The effects of all of these factors can be approximated by a single equation:

$$Tm = 81 + 16.6(\log_{10}Ci) + 0.4[\%(G + C)] - 0.6(\%formamide) - 600/n - 1.5(\%mismatch).$$

where Ci is the salt concentration (monovalent ions) and n is the length of the hybrid in base pairs (slightly modified from Meinkoth & Wahl (1984) *Anal. Biochem.* 138: 267-284).

In designing a hybridization experiment, some factors affecting nucleic acid hybridization can be conveniently altered. The temperature of the hybridization and washes and the salt concentration during the washes are the simplest to adjust. As the temperature of the hybridization increases (*ie.* stringency), it becomes less likely for hybridization to occur between strands that are nonhomologous, and as a result, background decreases. If the radiolabeled probe is not completely homologous with the immobilized fragment (as is frequently the case in gene family and interspecies hybridization experiments), the hybridization temperature must be reduced, and background will increase. The temperature of the washes affects the intensity of the hybridizing band and the degree of background in a similar manner. The stringency of the washes is also increased with decreasing salt concentrations.

In general, convenient hybridization temperatures in the presence of 50% formamide are 42°C for a probe with is 95% to 100% homologous to the target fragment, 37°C for 90% to 95% homology,

and 32°C for 85% to 90% homology. For lower homologies, formamide content should be lowered and temperature adjusted accordingly, using the equation above. If the homology between the probe and the target fragment are not known, the simplest approach is to start with both hybridization and wash conditions which are nonstringent. If non-specific bands or high background are observed after autoradiography, the filter can be washed at high stringency and reexposed. If the time required for exposure makes this approach impractical, several hybridization and/or washing stringencies should be tested in parallel.

Nucleic Acid Probe Assays

Methods such as PCR, branched DNA probe assays, or blotting techniques utilizing nucleic acid probes according to the invention can determine the presence of cDNA or mRNA. A probe is said to "hybridize" with a sequence of the invention if it can form a duplex or double stranded complex, which is stable enough to be detected.

The nucleic acid probes will hybridize to the Neisserial nucleotide sequences of the invention (including both sense and antisense strands). Though many different nucleotide sequences will encode the amino acid sequence, the native Neisserial sequence is preferred because it is the actual sequence present in cells. mRNA represents a coding sequence and so a probe should be complementary to the coding sequence; single-stranded cDNA is complementary to mRNA, and so a cDNA probe should be complementary to the non-coding sequence.

The probe sequence need not be identical to the Neisserial sequence (or its complement) — some variation in the sequence and length can lead to increased assay sensitivity if the nucleic acid probe can form a duplex with target nucleotides, which can be detected. Also, the nucleic acid probe can include additional nucleotides to stabilize the formed duplex. Additional Neisserial sequence may also be helpful as a label to detect the formed duplex. For example, a non-complementary nucleotide sequence may be attached to the 5' end of the probe, with the remainder of the probe sequence being complementary to a Neisserial sequence. Alternatively, non-complementary bases or longer sequences can be interspersed into the probe, provided that the probe sequence has sufficient complementarity with the a Neisserial sequence in order to hybridize therewith and thereby form a duplex which can be detected.

The exact length and sequence of the probe will depend on the hybridization conditions, such as temperature, salt condition and the like. For example, for diagnostic applications, depending on the

complexity of the analyte sequence, the nucleic acid probe typically contains at least 10-20 nucleotides, preferably 15-25, and more preferably at least 30 nucleotides, although it may be shorter than this. Short primers generally require cooler temperatures to form sufficiently stable hybrid complexes with the template.

Probes may be produced by synthetic procedures, such as the triester method of Matteucci *et al.* [*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* (1981) 103:3185], or according to Urdea *et al.* [*Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* (1983) 80: 7461], or using commercially available automated oligonucleotide synthesizers.

The chemical nature of the probe can be selected according to preference. For certain applications, DNA or RNA are appropriate. For other applications, modifications may be incorporated *eg.* backbone modifications, such as phosphorothioates or methylphosphonates, can be used to increase *in vivo* half-life, alter RNA affinity, increase nuclease resistance *etc.* [*eg.* see Agrawal & Iyer (1995) *Curr Opin Biotechnol* 6:12-19; Agrawal (1996) *TIBTECH* 14:376-387]; analogues such as peptide nucleic acids may also be used [*eg.* see Corey (1997) *TIBTECH* 15:224-229; Buchardt *et al.* (1993) *TIBTECH* 11:384-386].

Alternatively, the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) is another well-known means for detecting small amounts of target nucleic acids. The assay is described in: Mullis *et al.* [*Meth. Enzymol.* (1987) 155: 335-350]; US patents 4,683,195 and 4,683,202. Two "primer" nucleotides hybridize with the target nucleic acids and are used to prime the reaction. The primers can comprise sequence that does not hybridize to the sequence of the amplification target (or its complement) to aid with duplex stability or, for example, to incorporate a convenient restriction site. Typically, such sequence will flank the desired Neisserial sequence.

A thermostable polymerase creates copies of target nucleic acids from the primers using the original target nucleic acids as a template. After a threshold amount of target nucleic acids are generated by the polymerase, they can be detected by more traditional methods, such as Southern blots. When using the Southern blot method, the labelled probe will hybridize to the Neisserial sequence (or its complement).

Also, mRNA or cDNA can be detected by traditional blotting techniques described in Sambrook *et al* [*supra*]. mRNA, or cDNA generated from mRNA using a polymerase enzyme, can be purified and separated using gel electrophoresis. The nucleic acids on the gel are then blotted onto a solid support, such as nitrocellulose. The solid support is exposed to a labelled probe and then washed

to remove any unhybridized probe. Next, the duplexes containing the labeled probe are detected. Typically, the probe is labelled with a radioactive moiety.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figures 1-20 show biochemical data obtained in the Examples, and also sequence analysis, for ORFs 37, 5, 2, 15, 22, 28, 32, 4, 61, 76, 89, 97, 106, 138, 23, 25, 27, 79, 85 and 132. M1 and M2 are molecular weight markers. Arrows indicate the position of the main recombinant product or, in Western blots, the position of the main *N.meningitidis* immunoreactive band. TP indicates *N.meningitidis* total protein extract; OMV indicates *N.meningitidis* outer membrane vesicle preparation. In bactericidal assay results: a diamond (♦) shows preimmune data; a triangle (▲) shows GST control data; a circle (●) shows data with recombinant *N.meningitidis* protein. Computer analyses show a hydrophilicity plot (upper), an antigenic index plot (middle), and an AMPHI analysis (lower). The AMPHI program has been used to predict T-cell epitopes [Gao *et al.* (1989) *J. Immunol.* 143:3007; Roberts *et al.* (1996) *AIDS Res Hum Retrovir* 12:593; Quakyi *et al.* (1992) *Scand J Immunol* suppl.11:9) and is available in the Protean package of DNASTAR, Inc. (1228 South Park Street, Madison, Wisconsin 53715 USA).

EXAMPLES

The examples describe nucleic acid sequences which have been identified in *N.meningitidis*, along with their putative translation products, and also those of *N.gonorrhoeae*. Not all of the nucleic acid sequences are complete *ie.* they encode less than the full-length wild-type protein.

The examples are generally in the following format:

- a nucleotide sequence which has been identified in *N.meningitidis* (strain B)
- the putative translation product of this sequence
- a computer analysis of the translation product based on database comparisons
- corresponding gene and protein sequences identified in *N.meningitidis* (strain A) and in *N.gonorrhoeae*
- a description of the characteristics of the proteins which indicates that they might be suitably antigenic
- results of biochemical analysis (expression, purification, ELISA, FACS *etc.*)

The examples typically include details of sequence identity between species and strains. Proteins that are similar in sequence are generally similar in both structure and function, and the sequence identity often indicates a common evolutionary origin. Comparison with sequences of proteins of known function is widely used as a guide for the assignment of putative protein function to a new sequence and has proved particularly useful in whole-genome analyses.

Sequence comparisons were performed at NCBI (http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov) using the algorithms BLAST, BLAST2, BLASTn, BLASTp, tBLASTn, BLASTx, & tBLASTx [*eg.* see also Altschul *et al.* (1997) Gapped BLAST and PSI-BLAST: a new generation of protein database search programs. *Nucleic Acids Research* 25:2289-3402]. Searches were performed against the following databases: non-redundant GenBank+EMBL+DDBJ+PDB sequences and non-redundant GenBank CDS translations+PDB+SwissProt+SPupdate+PIR sequences.

To compare Meningococcal and Gonococcal sequences, the tBLASTx algorithm was used, as implemented at http://www.genome.ou.edu/gono_blast.html. The FASTA algorithm was also used to compare the ORFs (from GCG Wisconsin Package, version 9.0).

Dots within nucleotide sequences (*eg.* position 495 in SEQ ID 11) represent nucleotides which have been arbitrarily introduced in order to maintain a reading frame. In the same way, double-underlined nucleotides were removed. Lower case letters (*eg.* position 496 in SEQ ID 11) represent ambiguities which arose during alignment of independent sequencing reactions (some of the nucleotide sequences in the examples are derived from combining the results of two or more experiments).

Nucleotide sequences were scanned in all six reading frames to predict the presence of hydrophobic domains using an algorithm based on the statistical studies of Esposti *et al.* [Critical evaluation of the hydropathy of membrane proteins (1990) *Eur J Biochem* 190:207-219]. These domains represent potential transmembrane regions or hydrophobic leader sequences.

Open reading frames were predicted from fragmented nucleotide sequences using the program ORFFINDER (NCBI).

Underlined amino acid sequences indicate possible transmembrane domains or leader sequences in the ORFs, as predicted by the PSORT algorithm (http://www.psort.nibb.ac.jp). Functional domains were also predicted using the MOTIFS program (GCG Wisconsin & PROSITE).

Various tests can be used to assess the *in vivo* immunogencity of the proteins identified in the examples. For example, the proteins can be expressed recombinantly and used to screen patient sera by immunoblot. A positive reaction between the protein and patient serum indicates that the patient has previously mounted an immune response to the protein in question *ie.* the protein is an immunogen. This method can also be used to identify immunodominant proteins.

The recombinant protein can also be conveniently used to prepare antibodies *eg.* in a mouse. These can be used for direct confirmation that a protein is located on the cell-surface. Labelled antibody (*eg.* fluorescent labelling for FACS) can be incubated with intact bacteria and the presence of label on the bacterial surface confirms the location of the protein.

In particular, the following methods (A) to (S) were used to express, purify and biochemically characterise the proteins of the invention:

A) Chromosomal DNA preparation

N.meningitidis strain 2996 was grown to exponential phase in 100ml of GC medium, harvested by centrifugation, and resuspended in 5ml buffer (20% Sucrose, 50mM Tris-HCl, 50mM EDTA, pH8). After 10 minutes incubation on ice, the bacteria were lysed by adding 10ml lysis solution (50mM NaCl, 1% Na-Sarkosyl, 50μg/ml Proteinase K), and the suspension was incubated at 37°C for 2 hours. Two phenol extractions (equilibrated to pH 8) and one $ChCl_3$/isoamylalcohol (24:1) extraction were performed. DNA was precipitated by addition of 0.3M sodium acetate and 2 volumes ethanol, and was collected by centrifugation. The pellet was washed once with 70% ethanol and redissolved in 4ml buffer (10mM Tris-HCl, 1mM EDTA, pH 8). The DNA concentration was measured by reading the OD at 260 nm.

B) Oligonucleotide design

Synthetic oligonucleotide primers were designed on the basis of the coding sequence of each ORF, using (a) the meningococcus B sequence when available, or (b) the gonococcus/meningococcus A sequence, adapted to the codon preference usage of meningococcus as necessary. Any predicted signal peptides were omitted, by deducing the 5'-end amplification primer sequence immediately downstream from the predicted leader sequence.

For most ORFs, the 5' primers included two restriction enzyme recognition sites (*BamHI-NdeI*, *BamHI-NheI*, or *EcoRI-NheI*, depending on the gene's own restriction pattern); the 3' primers included

a *Xho*I restriction site. This procedure was established in order to direct the cloning of each amplification product (corresponding to each ORF) into two different expression systems: pGEX-KG (using either *BamHI-XhoI* or *EcoRI-XhoI*), and pET21b+ (using either *NdeI-XhoI* or *NheI-XhoI*).

5'-end primer tail:	CGCGGATCCCATATG	(*BamHI-NdeI*)
	CGCGGATCCGCTAGC	(*BamHI-NheI*)
	CCGGAATTCTAGCTAGC	(*EcoRI-NheI*)
3'-end primer tail:	CCCGCTCGAG	(*XhoI*)

For ORFs 5, 15, 17, 19, 20, 22, 27, 28, 65 & 89, two different amplifications were performed to clone each ORF in the two expression systems. Two different 5' primers were used for each ORF; the same 3' *Xho*I primer was used as before:

5'-end primer tail:	GGAATTCCATATGGCCATGG	(*NdeI*)
5'-end primer tail:	CGGGATCC	(*BamHI*)

ORF 76 was cloned in the pTRC expression vector and expressed as an amino-terminus His-tag fusion. In this particular case, the predicted signal peptide was included in the final product. *NheI-BamHI* restriction sites were incorporated using primers:

5'-end primer tail:	GATCAGCTAGCCATATG	(*NheI*)
3'-end primer tail:	CGGGATCC	(*BamHI*)

As well as containing the restriction enzyme recognition sequences, the primers included nucleotides which hybridizeed to the sequence to be amplified. The number of hybridizing nucleotides depended on the melting temperature of the whole primer, and was determined for each primer using the formulae:

$T_m = 4\ (G+C) + 2\ (A+T)$	(tail excluded)
$T_m = 64.9 + 0.41\ (\%\ GC) - 600/N$	(whole primer)

The average melting temperature of the selected oligos were 65-70°C for the whole oligo and 50-55°C for the hybridising region alone.

Table I (page 487) shows the forward and reverse primers used for each amplification. In certain cases, it will be noted that the sequence of the primer does not exactly match the sequence in the ORF. When initial amplifications were performed, the complete 5' and/or 3' sequence was not

known for some meningococcal ORFs, although the corresponding sequences had been identified in gonococcus. For amplification, the gonococcal sequences could thus be used as the basis for primer design, altered to take account of codon preference. In particular, the following codons were changed: ATA→ATT; TCG→TCT; CAG→CAA; AAG→AAA; GAG→GAA; CGA→CGC; CGG→CGC; GGG→GGC. Italicised nucleotides in Table I indicate such a change. It will be appreciated that, once the complete sequence has been identified, this approach is generally no longer necessary.

Oligos were synthesized by a Perkin Elmer 394 DNA/RNA Synthesizer, eluted from the columns in 2ml NH_4OH, and deprotected by 5 hours incubation at 56°C. The oligos were precipitated by addition of 0.3M Na-Acetate and 2 volumes ethanol. The samples were then centrifuged and the pellets resuspended in either 100µl or 1ml of water. OD_{260} was determined using a Perkin Elmer Lambda Bio spectophotometer and the concentration was determined and adjusted to 2-10pmol/µl.

C) Amplification

The standard PCR protocol was as follows: 50-200ng of genomic DNA were used as a template in the presence of 20-40µM of each oligo, 400-800µM dNTPs solution, 1x PCR buffer (including 1.5mM $MgCl_2$), 2.5 units *TaqI* DNA polymerase (using Perkin-Elmer AmpliTaQ, GIBCO Platinum, Pwo DNA polymerase, or Tahara Shuzo Taq polymerase).

In some cases, PCR was optimsed by the addition of 10µl DMSO or 50µl 2M betaine.

After a hot start (adding the polymerase during a preliminary 3 minute incubation of the whole mix at 95°C), each sample underwent a double-step amplification: the first 5 cycles were performed using as the hybridization temperature the one of the oligos excluding the restriction enzymes tail, followed by 30 cycles performed according to the hybridization temperature of the whole length oligos. The cycles were followed by a final 10 minute extension step at 72°C.

The standard cycles were as follows:

	Denaturation	**Hybridisation**	**Elongation**
First 5 cycles	30 seconds 95°C	30 seconds 50-55°C	30-60 seconds 72°C
Last 30 cycles	30 seconds	30 seconds	30-60 seconds

	95°C	65-70°C	72°C

The elongation time varied according to the length of the ORF to be amplified.

The amplifications were performed using either a 9600 or a 2400 Perkin Elmer GeneAmp PCR System. To check the results, 1/10 of the amplification volume was loaded onto a 1-1.5% agarose gel and the size of each amplified fragment compared with a DNA molecular weight marker.

The amplified DNA was either loaded directly on a 1% agarose gel or first precipitated with ethanol and resuspended in a suitable volume to be loaded on a 1% agarose gel. The DNA fragment corresponding to the right size band was then eluted and purified from gel, using the Qiagen Gel Extraction Kit, following the instructions of the manufacturer. The final volume of the DNA fragment was 30µl or 50µl of either water or 10mM Tris, pH 8.5.

D) Digestion of PCR fragments

The purified DNA corresponding to the amplified fragment was split into 2 aliquots and double-digested with:

- *NdeI/XhoI* or *NheI/XhoI* for cloning into pET-21b+ and further expression of the protein as a C-terminus His-tag fusion
- *BamHI/XhoI* or *EcoRI/XhoI* for cloning into pGEX-KG and further expression of the protein as N-terminus GST fusion.
- For ORF 76, *NheI/BamHI* for cloning into pTRC-HisA vector and further expression of the protein as N-terminus His-tag fusion.
- *EcoRI/PstI, EcoRI/SalI, SalI/PstI* for cloning into pGex-His and further expression of the protein as N-terminus His-tag fusion

Each purified DNA fragment was incubated (37°C for 3 hours to overnight) with 20 units of each restriction enzyme (New England Biolabs) in a either 30 or 40µl final volume in the presence of the appropriate buffer. The digestion product was then purified using the QIAquick PCR purification kit, following the manufacturer's instructions, and eluted in a final volume of 30 or 50µl of either water or 10mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.5. The final DNA concentration was determined by 1% agarose gel electrophoresis in the presence of titrated molecular weight marker.

E) Digestion of the cloning vectors (pET22B, pGEX-KG, pTRC-His A, and pGex-His)

10μg plasmid was double-digested with 50 units of each restriction enzyme in 200μl reaction volume in the presence of appropriate buffer by overnight incubation at 37°C. After loading the whole digestion on a 1% agarose gel, the band corresponding to the digested vector was purified from the gel using the Qiagen QIAquick Gel Extraction Kit and the DNA was eluted in 50μl of 10mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.5. The DNA concentration was evaluated by measuring OD_{260} of the sample, and adjusted to 50μg/μl. 1μl of plasmid was used for each cloning procedure.

The vector pGEX-His is a modified pGEX-2T vector carrying a region encoding six histidine residues upstream to the thrombin cleavage site and containing the multiple cloning site of the vector pTRC99 (Pharmacia).

F) Cloning

The fragments corresponding to each ORF, previously digested and purified, were ligated in both pET22b and pGEX-KG. In a final volume of 20μl, a molar ratio of 3:1 fragment/vector was ligated using 0.5μl of NEB T4 DNA ligase (400 units/μl), in the presence of the buffer supplied by the manufacturer. The reaction was incubated at room temperature for 3 hours. In some experiments, ligation was performed using the Boheringer "Rapid Ligation Kit", following the manufacturer's instructions.

In order to introduce the recombinant plasmid in a suitable strain, 100μl *E. coli* DH5 competent cells were incubated with the ligase reaction solution for 40 minutes on ice, then at 37°C for 3 minutes, then, after adding 800μl LB broth, again at 37°C for 20 minutes. The cells were then centrifuged at maximum speed in an Eppendorf microfuge and resuspended in approximately 200μl of the supernatant. The suspension was then plated on LB ampicillin (100mg/ml).

The screening of the recombinant clones was performed by growing 5 randomly-chosen colonies overnight at 37°C in either 2ml (pGEX or pTC clones) or 5ml (pET clones) LB broth + 100μg/ml ampicillin. The cells were then pelletted and the DNA extracted using the Qiagen QIAprep Spin Miniprep Kit, following the manufacturer's instructions, to a final volume of 30μl. 5μl of each individual miniprep (approximately 1g) were digested with either *NdeI*/*Xho*I or *BamHI*/*Xho*I and the whole digestion loaded onto a 1-1.5% agarose gel (depending on the expected insert size), in parallel with the molecular weight marker (1Kb DNA Ladder, GIBCO). The screening of the positive clones was made on the base of the correct insert size.

For the cloning of ORFs 110, 111, 113, 115, 119, 122, 125 & 130, the double-digested PCR product was ligated into double-digested vector using *EcoRI-PstI* cloning sites or, for ORFs 115 & 127, *EcoRI-SalI* or, for ORF 122, *SalI-PstI*. After cloning, the recombinant plasmids were introduced in the *E.coli* host W3110. Individual clones were grown overnight at 37°C in L-broth with 50µl/ml ampicillin.

G) Expression

Each ORF cloned into the expression vector was transformed into the strain suitable for expression of the recombinant protein product. 1µl of each construct was used to transform 30µl of *E.coli* BL21 (pGEX vector), *E.coli* TOP 10 (pTRC vector) or *E.coli* BL21-DE3 (pET vector), as described above. In the case of the pGEX-His vector, the same *E.coli* strain (W3110) was used for initial cloning and expression. Single recombinant colonies were inoculated into 2ml LB+Amp (100µg/ml), incubated at 37°C overnight, then diluted 1:30 in 20ml of LB+Amp (100µg/ml) in 100ml flasks, making sure that the OD_{600} ranged between 0.1 and 0.15. The flasks were incubated at 30°C into gyratory water bath shakers until OD indicated exponential growth suitable for induction of expression (0.4-0.8 OD for pET and pTRC vectors; 0.8-1 OD for pGEX and pGEX-His vectors). For the pET, pTRC and pGEX-His vectors, the protein expression was induced by addition of 1mM IPTG, whereas in the case of pGEX system the final concentration of IPTG was 0.2mM. After 3 hours incubation at 30°C, the final concentration of the sample was checked by OD. In order to check expression, 1ml of each sample was removed, centrifuged in a microfuge, the pellet resuspended in PBS, and analysed by 12% SDS-PAGE with Coomassie Blue staining. The whole sample was centrifuged at 6000*g* and the pellet resuspended in PBS for further use.

H) GST-fusion proteins large-scale purification.

A single colony was grown overnight at 37°C on LB+Amp agar plate. The bacteria were inoculated into 20ml of LB+Amp liquid colture in a water bath shaker and grown overnight. Bacteria were diluted 1:30 into 600ml of fresh medium and allowed to grow at the optimal temperature (20-37°C) to OD_{550} 0.8-1. Protein expression was induced with 0.2mM IPTG followed by three hours incubation. The culture was centrifuged at 8000rpm at 4°C. The supernatant was discarded and the bacterial pellet was resuspended in 7.5ml cold PBS. The cells were disrupted by sonication on ice for 30 sec at 40W using a Branson sonifier B-15, frozen and thawed twice and centrifuged again. The supernatant was collected and mixed with 150µl Glutatione-Sepharose 4B resin (Pharmacia)

(previously washed with PBS) and incubated at room temperature for 30 minutes. The sample was centrifuged at 700*g* for 5 minutes at 4°C. The resin was washed twice with 10ml cold PBS for 10 minutes, resuspended in 1ml cold PBS, and loaded on a disposable column. The resin was washed twice with 2ml cold PBS until the flow-through reached OD_{280} of 0.02-0.06. The GST-fusion protein was eluted by addition of 700µl cold Glutathione elution buffer (10mM reduced glutathione, 50mM Tris-HCl) and fractions collected until the OD_{280} was 0.1. 21µl of each fraction were loaded on a 12% SDS gel using either Biorad SDS-PAGE Molecular weight standard broad range (M1) (200, 116.25, 97.4, 66.2, 45, 31, 21.5, 14.4, 6.5 kDa) or Amersham Rainbow Marker (M2) (220, 66, 46, 30, 21.5, 14.3 kDa) as standards. As the MW of GST is 26kDa, this value must be added to the MW of each GST-fusion protein.

I) His-fusion solubility analysis (ORFs 111-129)

To analyse the solubility of the His-fusion expression products, pellets of 3ml cultures were resuspended in buffer M1 [500µl PBS pH 7.2]. 25µl lysozyme (10mg/ml) was added and the bacteria were incubated for 15 min at 4°C. The pellets were sonicated for 30 sec at 40W using a Branson sonifier B-15, frozen and thawed twice and then separated again into pellet and supernatant by a centrifugation step. The supernatant was collected and the pellet was resuspended in buffer M2 [8M urea, 0.5M NaCl, 20mM imidazole and 0.1M NaH_2PO_4] and incubated for 3 to 4 hours at 4°C. After centrifugation, the supernatant was collected and the pellet was resuspended in buffer M3 [6M guanidinium-HCl, 0.5M NaCl, 20mM imidazole and 0.1M NaH_2PO_4] overnight at 4°C. The supernatants from all steps were analysed by SDS-PAGE.

The proteins expressed from ORFs 113, 119 and 120 were found to be soluble in PBS, whereas ORFs 111, 122, 126 and 129 need urea and ORFs 125 and 127 need guanidium-HCl for their solubilization.

J) His-fusion large-scale purification.

A single colony was grown overnight at 37°C on a LB + Amp agar plate. The bacteria were inoculated into 20ml of LB+Amp liquid culture and incubated overnight in a water bath shaker. Bacteria were diluted 1:30 into 600ml fresh medium and allowed to grow at the optimal temperature (20-37°C) to OD_{550} 0.6-0.8. Protein expression was induced by addition of 1mM IPTG and the culture further incubated for three hours. The culture was centrifuged at 8000rpm at 4°C, the supernatant was discarded and the bacterial pellet was resuspended in 7.5ml of either (i) cold

buffer A (300mM NaCl, 50mM phosphate buffer, 10mM imidazole, pH 8) for soluble proteins or (ii) buffer B (urea 8M, 10mM Tris-HCl, 100mM phosphate buffer, pH 8.8) for insoluble proteins.

The cells were disrupted by sonication on ice for 30 sec at 40W using a Branson sonifier B-15, frozen and thawed two times and centrifuged again.

For insoluble proteins, the supernatant was stored at -20°C, while the pellets were resuspended in 2ml buffer C (6M guanidine hydrochloride, 100mM phosphate buffer, 10mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5) and treated in a homogenizer for 10 cycles. The product was centrifuged at 13000rpm for 40 minutes.

Supernatants were collected and mixed with 150µl Ni^{2+}-resin (Pharmacia) (previously washed with either buffer A or buffer B, as appropriate) and incubated at room temperature with gentle agitation for 30 minutes. The sample was centrifuged at 700*g* for 5 minutes at 4°C. The resin was washed twice with 10ml buffer A or B for 10 minutes, resuspended in 1ml buffer A or B and loaded on a disposable column. The resin was washed at either (i) 4°C with 2ml cold buffer A or (ii) room temperature with 2ml buffer B, until the flow-through reached OD_{280} of 0.02-0.06.

The resin was washed with either (i) 2ml cold 20mM imidazole buffer (300mM NaCl, 50mM phosphate buffer, 20mM imidazole, pH 8) or (ii) buffer D (urea 8M, 10mM Tris-HCl, 100mM phosphate buffer, pH 6.3) until the flow-through reached the $O.D_{280}$ of 0.02-0.06. The His-fusion protein was eluted by addition of 700µl of either (i) cold elution buffer A (300mM NaCl, 50mM phosphate buffer, 250mM imidazole, pH 8) or (ii) elution buffer B (urea 8M, 10mM Tris-HCl, 100mM phosphate buffer, pH 4.5) and fractions collected until the $O.D_{280}$ was 0.1. 21µl of each fraction were loaded on a 12% SDS gel.

K) His-fusion proteins renaturation

10% glycerol was added to the denatured proteins. The proteins were then diluted to 20µg/ml using dialysis buffer I (10% glycerol, 0.5M arginine, 50mM phosphate buffer, 5mM reduced glutathione, 0.5mM oxidised glutathione, 2M urea, pH 8.8) and dialysed against the same buffer at 4°C for 12-14 hours. The protein was further dialysed against dialysis buffer II (10% glycerol, 0.5M arginine, 50mM phosphate buffer, 5mM reduced glutathione, 0.5mM oxidised glutathione, pH 8.8) for 12-14 hours at 4°C. Protein concentration was evaluated using the formula:

$$\text{Protein (mg/ml)} = (1.55 \times OD_{280}) - (0.76 \times OD_{260})$$

L) His-fusion large-scale purification (ORFs 111-129)

500ml of bacterial cultures were induced and the fusion proteins were obtained soluble in buffer M1, M2 or M3 using the procedure described above. The crude extract of the bacteria was loaded onto a Ni-NTA superflow column (Quiagen) equilibrated with buffer M1, M2 or M3 depending on the solubilization buffer of the fusion proteins. Unbound material was eluted by washing the column with the same buffer. The specific protein was eluted with the corresponding buffer containing 500mM imidazole and dialysed against the corresponding buffer without imidazole. After each run the columns were sanitized by washing with at least two column volumes of 0.5 M sodium hydroxide and reequilibrated before the next use.

M) Mice immunisations

20μg of each purified protein were used to immunise mice intraperitoneally. In the case of ORFs 2, 4, 15, 22, 27, 28, 37, 76, 89 and 97, Balb-C mice were immunised with $Al(OH)_3$ as adjuvant on days 1, 21 and 42, and immune response was monitored in samples taken on day 56. For ORFs 44, 106 and 132, CD1 mice were immunised using the same protocol. For ORFs 25 and 40, CD1 mice were immunised using Freund's adjuvant, rather than $AL(OH)_3$, and the same immunisation protocol was used, except that the immune response was measured on day 42, rather than 56. Similarly, for ORFs 23, 32, 38 and 79, CD1 mice were immunised with Freund's adjuvant, but the immune response was measured on day 49.

N) ELISA assay (sera analysis)

The acapsulated MenB M7 strain was plated on chocolate agar plates and incubated overnight at 37°C. Bacterial colonies were collected from the agar plates using a sterile dracon swab and inoculated into 7ml of Mueller-Hinton Broth (Difco) containing 0.25% Glucose. Bacterial growth was monitored every 30 minutes by following OD_{620}. The bacteria were let to grow until the OD reached the value of 0.3-0.4. The culture was centrifuged for 10 minutes at 10000rpm. The supernatant was discarded and bacteria were washed once with PBS, resuspended in PBS containing 0.025% formaldehyde, and incubated for 2 hours at room temperature and then overnight at 4°C with stirring. 100μl bacterial cells were added to each well of a 96 well Greiner plate and incubated overnight at 4°C. The wells were then washed three times with PBT washing buffer (0.1% Tween-20 in PBS). 200μl of saturation buffer (2.7% Polyvinylpyrrolidone 10 in water) was added to each well and the plates incubated for 2 hours at 37°C. Wells were washed

three times with PBT. 200µl of diluted sera (Dilution buffer: 1% BSA, 0.1% Tween-20, 0.1% NaN_3 in PBS) were added to each well and the plates incubated for 90 minutes at 37°C. Wells were washed three times with PBT. 100µl of HRP-conjugated rabbit anti-mouse (Dako) serum diluted 1:2000 in dilution buffer were added to each well and the plates were incubated for 90 minutes at 37°C. Wells were washed three times with PBT buffer. 100µl of substrate buffer for HRP (25ml of citrate buffer pH5, 10mg of O-phenildiamine and 10µl of H_2O) were added to each well and the plates were left at room temperature for 20 minutes. 100µl H_2SO_4 was added to each well and OD_{490} was followed. The ELISA was considered positive when OD_{490} was 2.5 times the respective pre-immune sera.

O) FACScan bacteria Binding Assay procedure.

The acapsulated MenB M7 strain was plated on chocolate agar plates and incubated overnight at 37°C. Bacterial colonies were collected from the agar plates using a sterile dracon swab and inoculated into 4 tubes containing 8ml each Mueller-Hinton Broth (Difco) containing 0.25% glucose. Bacterial growth was monitored every 30 minutes by following OD_{620}. The bacteria were let to grow until the OD reached the value of 0.35-0.5. The culture was centrifuged for 10 minutes at 4000rpm. The supernatant was discarded and the pellet was resuspended in blocking buffer (1% BSA, 0.4% NaN_3) and centrifuged for 5 minutes at 4000rpm. Cells were resuspended in blocking buffer to reach OD_{620} of 0.07. 100µl bacterial cells were added to each well of a Costar 96 well plate. 100µl of diluted (1:200) sera (in blocking buffer) were added to each well and plates incubated for 2 hours at 4°C. Cells were centrifuged for 5 minutes at 4000rpm, the supernatant aspirated and cells washed by addition of 200µl/well of blocking buffer in each well. 100µl of R-Phicoerytrin conjugated $F(ab)_2$ goat anti-mouse, diluted 1:100, was added to each well and plates incubated for 1 hour at 4°C. Cells were spun down by centrifugation at 4000rpm for 5 minutes and washed by addition of 200µl/well of blocking buffer. The supernatant was aspirated and cells resuspended in 200µl/well of PBS, 0.25% formaldehyde. Samples were transferred to FACScan tubes and read. The condition for FACScan setting were: FL1 on, FL2 and FL3 off; FSC-H threshold:92; FSC PMT Voltage: E 02; SSC PMT: 474; Amp. Gains 7.1; FL-2 PMT: 539; compensation values: 0.

P) OMV preparations

Bacteria were grown overnight on 5 GC plates, harvested with a loop and resuspended in 10 ml 20mM Tris-HCl. Heat inactivation was performed at 56°C for 30 minutes and the bacteria disrupted by sonication for 10 minutes on ice (50% duty cycle, 50% output). Unbroken cells were removed by centrifugation at 5000*g* for 10 minutes and the total cell envelope fraction recovered by centrifugation at 50000*g* at 4°C for 75 minutes. To extract cytoplasmic membrane proteins from the crude outer membranes, the whole fraction was resuspended in 2% sarkosyl (Sigma) and incubated at room temperature for 20 minutes. The suspension was centrifuged at 10000*g* for 10 minutes to remove aggregates, and the supernatant further ultracentrifuged at 50000*g* for 75 minutes to pellet the outer membranes. The outer membranes were resuspended in 10mM Tris-HCl, pH8 and the protein concentration measured by the Bio-Rad Protein assay, using BSA as a standard.

Q) Whole Extracts preparation

Bacteria were grown overnight on a GC plate, harvested with a loop and resuspended in 1ml of 20mM Tris-HCl. Heat inactivation was performed at 56°C for 30 minutes.

R) Western blotting

Purified proteins (500ng/lane), outer membrane vesicles (5μg) and total cell extracts (25μg) derived from MenB strain 2996 were loaded on 15% SDS-PAGE and transferred to a nitrocellulose membrane. The transfer was performed for 2 hours at 150mA at 4°C, in transferring buffer (0.3 % Tris base, 1.44 % glycine, 20% methanol). The membrane was saturated by overnight incubation at 4°C in saturation buffer (10% skimmed milk, 0.1% Triton X100 in PBS). The membrane was washed twice with washing buffer (3% skimmed milk, 0.1% Triton X100 in PBS) and incubated for 2 hours at 37°C with mice sera diluted 1:200 in washing buffer. The membrane was washed twice and incubated for 90 minutes with a 1:2000 dilution of horseradish peroxidase labelled anti-mouse Ig. The membrane was washed twice with 0.1% Triton X100 in PBS and developed with the Opti-4CN Substrate Kit (Bio-Rad). The reaction was stopped by adding water.

S) Bactericidal assay

MC58 strain was grown overnight at 37°C on chocolate agar plates. 5-7 colonies were collected and used to inoculate 7ml Mueller-Hinton broth. The suspension was incubated at 37°C on a nutator and let to grow until OD_{620} was 0.5-0.8. The culture was aliquoted into sterile 1.5ml Eppendorf

tubes and centrifuged for 20 minutes at maximum speed in a microfuge. The pellet was washed once in Gey's buffer (Gibco) and resuspended in the same buffer to an OD_{620} of 0.5, diluted 1:20000 in Gey's buffer and stored at 25°C.

50µl of Gey's buffer/1% BSA was added to each well of a 96-well tissue culture plate. 25µl of diluted mice sera (1:100 in Gey's buffer/0.2% BSA) were added to each well and the plate incubated at 4°C. 25µl of the previously described bacterial suspension were added to each well. 25µl of either heat-inactivated (56°C waterbath for 30 minutes) or normal baby rabbit complement were added to each well. Immediately after the addition of the baby rabbit complement, 22µl of each sample/well were plated on Mueller-Hinton agar plates (time 0). The 96-well plate was incubated for 1 hour at 37°C with rotation and then 22µl of each sample/well were plated on Mueller-Hinton agar plates (time 1). After overnight incubation the colonies corresponding to time 0 and time 1 hour were counted.

Table II (page 493) gives a summary of the cloning, expression and prurification results.

Example 1

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 1>:

```
   1  ATGAAACAGA CAGTCAA.AT GCTTGCCGCC GCCCTGATTG CCTTGGGCTT
  51  GAACCGACCG GTGTGGNCGG ATGACGTATC GGATTTTCGG GAAAACTTGC
 101  A.GCGGCAGC ACAGGGAAAT GCAGCAGCCC AATACAATTT GGGCGCAATG
 151  TAT.TACAAA GGACGCGCGT GCGCCGGGAT GATGCTGAAG CGGTCAGATG
 201  GTATCGGCAG CCGGCGGAAC AGGGGTTAGC CCAAGCCCAA TACAATTTGG
 251  GCTGGATGTA TGCCAACGGG CGCGC.GTGC GCCAAGATGA TACCGAAGCG
 301  GTCAGATGGT ATCGGCAGGC GGCAGCGCAG GGGGTTGTCC AAGCCCAATA
 351  CAATTTGGGC GTGATATATG CCGAAGGACG TGGAGTGCGC CAAGACGATG
 401  TCGAAGCGGT CAGATGGTTT CGGCAGGCGG CAGCGCAGGG GGTAGCCCAA
 451  GCCCAAAACA ATTTGGGCGT GATGTATGCC GAAAGANCGC GCGTGCGCCA
 501  AGACCG...
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 2; ORF37>:

```
   1  MKQTVXMLAA ALIALGLNRP VWXDDVSDFR ENLXAAAQGN AAAQYNLGAM
  51  YXQRTRVRRD DAEAVRWYRQ PAEQGLAQAQ YNLGWMYANG RXVRQDDTEA
 101  VRWYRQAAAQ GVVQAQYNLG VIYAEGRGVR QDDVEAVRWF RQAAAQGVAQ
 151  AQNNLGVMYA ERXRVRQD...
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 3>:

```
   1  ATGAAACAGA CAGTCAAATG GCTTGCCGCC GCCCTGATTG CCTTGGGCTT
  51  GAACCGAGCG GTGTGGGCGG ATGACGTATC GGATTTTCGG GAAAACTTGC
 101  AGGCGGCAGC ACAGGGAAAT GCAGCAGCCC AATACAATTT GGGCGCAATG
 151  TATTACAAAG GACGCGGCGT GCGCCGGGAT GATGCTGAAG CGGTCAGATG
 201  GTATCGGCAG GCGGCGGAAC AGGGGTTAGC CCAAGCCCAA TACAATTTGG
 251  GCTGGATGTA TGCCAACGGG CGCGGCGTGC GCCAAGATGA TACCGAAGCG
 301  GTCAGATGGT ATCGGCAGGC GGCAGCGCAG GGGGTTGTCC AAGCCCAATA
 351  CAATTTGGGC GTGATATATG CCGAAGGACG TGGAGTGCGC CAAGACGATG
 401  TCGAAGCGGT CAGATGGTTT CGGCAGGCGG CAGCGCAGGG GGTAGCCCAA
 451  GCCCAAAACA ATTTGGGCGT GATGTATGCC GAAAGACGCG GCGTGCGCCA
 501  AGACCGCGCC CTTGCACAAG AATGGTTTGG CAAGGCTTGT CAAAACGGAG
 551  ACCAAGACGG CTGCGACAAT GACCAACGCC TGAAGGCGGG TTATTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 4; ORF37-1>:

```
  1  MKQTVKWLAA ALIALGLNRA VWADDVSDFR ENLQAAAQGN AAAQYNLGAM
 51  YYKGRGVRRD DAEAVRWYRQ AAEQGLAQAQ YNLGWMYANG RGVRQDDTEA
101  VRWYRQAAAQ GVVQAQYNLG VIYAEGRGVR QDDVEAVRWF RQAAAQGVAQ
151  AQNNLGVMYA ERRGVRQDRA LAQEWFGKAC QNGDQDGCDN DQRLKAGY*
```

Further work identified the corresponding gene in strain A of *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 5>:

```
  1  ATGAAACAGA CAGTCAAATG GCTTGCCGCC GCCCTGATTG CCTTGGGCTT
 51  GAACCAAGCG GTGTGGGCGG ATGACGTATC GGATTTTCGG GAAAACTTGC
101  AGGCGGCAGC ACAGGGAAAT GCAGCAGCCC AAAACAATTT GGGCGTGATG
151  TATGCCGAAA GACGCGGCGT GCGCCAAGAC CGCGCCCTTG CACAAGAATG
201  GCTTGGCAAG GCTTGTCAAA ACGGATACCA AGACAGCTGC GACAATGACC
251  AACGCCTGAA AGCGGGTTAT TGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 6; ORF37a>:

```
  1  MKQTVKWLAA ALIALGLNQA VWADDVSDFR ENLQAAAQGN AAAQNNLGVM
 51  YAERRGVRQD RALAQEWLGK ACQNGYQDSC DNDQRLKAGY *
```

The originally-identified partial strain B sequence (ORF37) shows 68.0% identity over a 75aa overlap with ORF37a:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf37.pep       MKQTVXMLAAALIALGLNRPVWXDDVSDFRENLXAAAQGNAAAQYNLGAMYXQRTRVRRD
                ||||| ||||||||||: || |||||||||| |||||||||| |||:|| :| ||:|
orf37a          MKQTVKWLAAALIALGLNQAVWADDVSDFRENLQAAAQGNAAAQNNLGVMYAERRGVRQD
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf37.pep       DAEAVRWYRQPAEQGLAQAQYNLGWMYANGRXVRQDDTEAVRWYRQAAAQGVVQAQYNLG
                 | | :|  :  ::|
orf37a          RALAQEWLGKACQNGYQDSCDNDQRLKAGYX
                70        80        90
```

Further work identified the corresponding gene in *N.gonorrhoeae* <SEQ ID 7 >:

```
  1  ATGAAACAGA CAGTCAAATG GCTTGCCGCC GCCCTGATTG CCTTGGGCTT
 51  GAACCAAGCG GTGTGGGCGG GTGACGTATC GGATTTTCGG GAAAACTTGC
101  AGgcggcaGA ACaggGAAAT GCAGCAGCCC AATTCAATTT GGGCGTGATG
151  TATGAAAATG GACAAGGAGT TCGTCAAGAT TATGTACAGG CAGTGCAGTG
201  GTATCGCAAG GCTTCAGAAC AAGGGGATGC CCAAGCCCAA TACAATTTGG
251  GCTTGATGTA TTACGATGGA CGCGGCGTGC GCCAAGACCT TGCGCTCGCT
301  CAACAATGGC TTGGCAAGGC TTGTCAAAAC GGAGACCAAA ACAGCTGCGA
351  CAATGACCAA CGCCTGAAGG CGGGTTATTA A
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 8; ORF37ng>:

```
  1  MKQTVKWLAA ALIALGLNQA VWAGDVSDFR ENLQAAEQGN AAAQFNLGVM
 51  YENGQGVRQD YVQAVQWYRK ASEQGDAQAQ YNLGLMYYDG RGVRQDLALA
101  QQWLGKACQN GDQNSCDNDQ RLKAGY*
```

The originally-identified partial strain B sequence (ORF37) shows 64.9% identity over a 111aa overlap with ORF37ng:

```
orf37.pep       MKQTVXMLAAALIALGLNRPVWXDDVSDFRENLXAAAQGNAAAQYNLGAMYXQRTRVRRD   60
                ||||| ||||||||||: ||  ||||||||| || |||||||:|||:||  :   ||:|
orf37ng         MKQTVKWLAAALIALGLNQAVWAGDVSDFRENLQAAEQGNAAAQFNLGVMYENGQGVRQD   60

orf37.pep       DAEAVRWYRQPAEQGLAQAQYNLGWMYANGRXVRQDDTEAVRWYRQAAAQGVVQAQYNLG  120
                 ::||:|||: :||| |||||||| || :|| |||| : | :|  :|  :|
orf37ng         YVQAVQWYRKASEQGDAQAQYNLGLMYYDGRGVRQDLALAQQWLGKACQNGDQNSCDNDQ  120

orf37.pep       VIYAEGRGVRQDDVEAVRWFRQAAAQGVAQAQNNLGVMYAERXRVRQD  168

orf37ng         RLKAGY                                             126
```

The complete strain B sequence (ORF37-1) and ORF37ng show 51.5% identity in 198 aa overlap:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf37-1.pep     MKQTVKWLAAALIALGLNRAVWADDVSDFRENLQAAAQGNAAAQYNLGAMYYKGRGVRRD
                ||||||||||||||||||:|||| |||||||||||| |||||||:|||:|| :|:||||:|
orf37ng         MKQTVKWLAAALIALGLNQAVWAGDVSDFRENLQAAEQGNAAAQFNLGVMYENGQGVRQD
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf37-1.pep     DAEAVRWYRQAAEQGLAQAQYNLGWMYANGRGVRQDDTEAVRWYRQAAAQGVVQAQYNLG
                 ::|||:|||:|:||| |||||||| || :|||||||
orf37ng         YVQAVQWYRKASEQGDAQAQYNLGLMYYDGRGVRQD----------------------
                    70        80        90

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf37-1.pep     VIYAEGRGVRQDDVEAVRWFRQAAAQGVAQAQNNLGVMYAERRGVRQDRALAQEWFGKAC
                                                                 ||||:|:||||
orf37ng         ------------------------------------------------LALAQQWLGKAC
                                                                  100

                   190      199
orf37-1.pep     QNGDQDGCDNDQRLKAGYX
                |||||:|||||||||||||
orf37ng         QNGDQNSCDNDQRLKAGYX
               110       120
```

Computer analysis of these amino acid sequences indicates a putative leader sequence, and it was predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

ORF37-1 (11kDa) was cloned in pET and pGex vectors and expressed in *E.coli*, as described above. The products of protein expression and purification were analyzed by SDS-PAGE. Figure 1A shows the results of affinity purification of the GST-fusion protein, and Figure 1B shows the results of expression of the His-fusion in *E.coli*. Purified GST-fusion protein was used to immunise mice, whose sera were used for ELISA (positive result), FACS analysis (Figure 1C), and a bactericidal assay (Figure 1D). These experiments confirm that ORF37-1 is a surface-exposed protein, and that it is a useful immunogen.

Figure 1E shows plots of hydrophilicity, antigenic index, and AMPHI regions for ORF37-1.

Example 2

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 9>:

```
  TTCGGCGA CATCGGCGGT TTGAAGGTCA ATGCCCCCGT CAAATCCGCA
GGCGTATTGG TCGGGCGCGT CGGCGCTATC GGACTTGACC CGAAATCCTA
TCAGGCGAGG GTGCGCCTCG ATTTGGACGG CAAGTATCAG TTCAGCAGCG
ACGTTTCCGC GCAAATCCTG ACTTCsGGAC TTTTGGGCGA GCAGTACATC
GGGCTGCAGC AGGGCGGCGA CACGGAAAAC CTTGCTGCCG GCGACACCAT
CTCCGTAACC AGTTCTGCAA TGGTTCTGGA AAACCTTATC GGCAAATTCA
TGACGAGTTT TGCCGAGAAA AATGCCGACG GCGGCAATGC GGAAAAAGCC
GCCGAATAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 10>:

```
  1  FGDIGGLKVN APVKSAGVLV GRVGAIGLDP KSYQARVRLD LDGKYQFSSD
 51  VSAQILTSGL LGEQYIGLQQ GGDTENLAAG DTISVTSSAM VLENLIGKFM
```

```
101  TSFAEKNADG GNAEKAAE*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a hypothetical *H.influenzae* protein (ybrd.haein; accession number p45029)

SEQ ID 9 and ybrd.haein show 48.4% aa identity in 122 aa overlap:

```
          20        30        40        50        60        70
yrbd.h LGIGALVFLGLRVANVQGFAETKSYTVTATFDNIGGLKVRAPLKIGGVVIGRVSAITLDE
                                  |::|||||:||:| :|||:|||:|||:||
N.m                               FGDIGGLKVNAPVKSAGVLVGRVGAIGLDP
                                        10        20        30

          80        90       100       110       120       130
yrbd.h KSYLPKVSIAINQEYNEIPENSSLSIKTSGLLGEQYIALTMGFDDGDTAMLKNGSQIQDT
       ||| ::|:::::: :| ::::: |  | ||||||||||:|  |   |||: | :|: |  |
N.m    KSYQARVRLDLDGKY-QFSSDVSAQILTSGLLGEQYIGLQQG---GDTENLAAGDTISVT
                40        50        60        70            80

         140       150       160
yrbd.h TSAMVLEDLIGQFL--YGSKKSDGNEKSESTEQ
       :||||||:|||:|:  :::|::||:: ::::|:
N.m    SSAMVLENLIGKFMTSFAEKNADGGNAEKAAEX
         90        100       110       120
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

SEQ ID 9 shows 99.2% identity over a 118aa overlap with a predicted ORF from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
                  20        30        40        50        60        70
yrbd           GAAAVAFLAFRVAGGAAFGGSDKTYAVYADFGDIGGLKVNAPVKSAGVLVGRVGAIGLDP
                                          ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
N.m                                       FGDIGGLKVNAPVKSAGVLVGRVGAIGLDP
                                                10        20        30

                  80        90       100       110       120       130
yrbd           KSYQARVRLDLDGKYQFSSDVSAQILTSGLLGEQYIGLQQGGDTENLAAGDTISVTSSAM
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
N.m            KSYQARVRLDLDGKYQFSSDVSAQILTSGLLGEQYIGLQQGGDTENLAAGDTISVTSSAM
                        40        50        60        70        80        90

                  140       150       160
yrbd           VLENLIGKFMTSFAEKNAEGGNAEKAAEX
               ||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||
N.m            VLENLIGKFMTSFAEKNADGGNAEKAAEX
                       100       110       120
```

The complete yrbd *H.influenzae* sequence has a leader sequence and it is expected that the full-length homologous *N.meningitidis* protein will also have one. This suggests that it is either a membrane protein, a secreted protein, or a surface protein and that the protein, or one of its epitopes, could be a useful antigen for vaccines or diagnostics.

Example 3

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 11>:

```
   1  ..ATTTTGATAT ACCTCATCCG CAAGAATCTA GGTTCGCCCG TCTTCTTCTT
  51    TCAGGAACGC CCCGGAAAGG ACGGAAAACC TTTTAAAATG GTCAAATTCC
 101    GTTCCATGCG CGACGGCTTG TATTCAGACG GCATTCCGCT GCCCGACGGA
 151    GAACGCCTGA CACCGTTCGG CAAAAAACTG CGTGCCGcCA GTwTGGACGA
 201    ACTGCCTGAA TTATGGAATA TCTTAAAAGG CGAGATGAGC CTGGTCGGCC
 251    CCCGCCCGCT GCTGATGCAA TATCTGCCGC TGTACGACAA CTTCCAAAAC
 301    CGCCGCCACG AAATGAAACC CGGCATTACC GGCTGGGCGC AGGTCAACGG
```

```
 351   GCGCAACGCg CTTTCGTGGG ACGAAAAATT CGCCTGCGAT GTTTGGTATA
 401   TCGACCACTT CAGCCTGTGC CTCGACATCA AAATCCTACT GCTGACGGTT
 451   AAAAAAGTAT TAATCAAGGA AGGGATTTCC GCACAGGGCG AACA.aCCAT
 501   GCCCCCTTTC ACAGGAAAAC GCAAACTCGC CGTCGTCGGT GCGGGCGGAC
 551   ACGGAAAAGT CGTTGCCGAC CTTGCCGCCG CACTCGGCCG GTACAGGGAA
 601   ATCGTTTTTC TGGACGACCG CGCACAAGGC AGCGTCAACG GCTTTTCCGT
 651   CATCGGCACG ACGCTGCTGC TTGAAAACAG TTTATCGCCC GAACAATACG
 701   ACGTCGCCGT CGCCGTCGGC AACAACCGCA TCCGCCGCCA AATCGCCGAA
 751   AAAGCCGCCG CGCTCGGCTT CGCCCTGCCC GTACTGGTTC ATCCGGACGC
 801   GACCGTCTCG CCTTCTGCAA CAGTCGGACA AGGCAGCGTC GTTATGGCGA
 851   AAGCGGTCG..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 12; ORF3>:

```
   1   ..ILIYLIRKNL GSPVFFFQER PGKDGKPFKM VKFRSMRDGL YSDGIPLPDG
  51     ERLTPFGKKL RAASXDELPE LWNILKGEMS LVGPRPLLMQ YLPLYDNFQN
 101     RRHEMKPGIT GWAQVNGRNA LSWDEKFACD VWYIDHFSLC LDIKILLLTV
 151     KKVLIKEGIS AQGEXTMPPF TGKRKLAVVG AGGHGKVVAD LAAALGRYRE
 201     IVFLDDRAQG SVNGFSVIGT TLLLENSLSP EQYDVAVAVG NNRIRRQIAE
 251     KAAALGFALP VLVHPDATVS PSATVGQGSV VMAKAV..
```

Further sequence analysis revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 13>:

```
   1   ATGAGTAAAT TCTTCAAACG CCTGTTTGAC ATTGTTGCCT CCGCCTCGGG
  51   ACTGATTTTC CTCTCGCCAG TATTTTTGAT TTTGATATAC CTCATCCGCA
 101   AGAATCTAGG TTCGCCCGTC TTCTTCTTTC AGGAACGCCC CGGAAAGGAC
 151   GGAAAACCTT TTAAAATGGT CAAATTCCGT TCCATGCGCG ACGCGCTTGA
 201   TTCAGACGGC ATTCCGCTGC CCGACGGAGA ACGCCTGACA CCGTTCGGCA
 251   AAAAACTGCG TGCCGCCAGT TTGGACGAAC TGCCTGAATT ATGGAATATC
 301   TTAAAAGGCG AGATGAGCCT GGTCGGCCCC CGCCCGCTGC TGATGCAATA
 351   TCTGCCGCTG TACGACAACT TCCAAAACCG CCGCCACGAA ATGAAACCCG
 401   GCATTACCGG CTGGGCGCAG GTCAACGGGC GCAACGCGCT TTCGTGGGAC
 451   GAAAAATTCG CCTGCGATGT TTGGTATATC GACCACTTCA GCCTGTGCCT
 501   CGACATCAAA ATCCTACTGC TGACGGTTAA AAAAGTATTA ATCAAGGAAG
 551   GGATTTCCGC ACAGGGCGAA GCCACCATGC CCCCTTTCAC AGGAAAACGC
 601   AAACTCGCCG TCGTCGGTGC GGGCGGACAC GGAAAAGTCG TTGCCGACCT
 651   TGCCGCCGCA CTCGGCCGGT ACAGGGAAAT CGTTTTTCTG GACGACCGCG
 701   CACAAGGCAG CGTCAACGGC TTTTCCGTCA TCGGCACGAC GCTGCTGCTT
 751   GAAAACAGTT TATCGCCCGA ACAATACGAC GTCGCCGTCG CCGTCGGCAA
 801   CAACCGCATC CGCCGCCAAA TCGCCGAAAA AGCCGCCGCG CTCGGCTTCG
 851   CCCTGCCCGT TCTGGTTCAT CCGGACGCGA CCGTCTCGCC TTCTGCAACA
 901   GTCGGACAAG GCAGCGTCGT TATGGCGAAA GCCGTCGTAC AGGCAGGCAG
 951   CGTATTGAAA GACGGCGTGA TTGTGAACAC TGCCGCCACC GTCGATCACG
1001   ACTGCCTGCT TAACGCTTTC GTCCACATCA GCCCAGGCGC GCACCTGTCG
1051   GGCAACACGC ATATCGGCGA AGAAAGCTGG ATAGGCACGG GCGCGTGCAG
1101   CCGCCAGCAG ATCCGTATCG GCAGCCGCGC AACCATTGGA GCGGGCGCAG
1151   TCGTCGTACG CGACGTTTCA GACGGCATGA CCGTCGCGGG CAATCCGGCA
1201   AAGCCGCTGC CGCGCAAAAA CCCCGAGACC TCGACAGCAT AA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 14; ORF3-1>:

```
   1   MSKFFKRLFD IVASASGLIF LSPVFLILIY LIRKNLGSPV FFFQERPGKD
  51   GKPFKMVKFR SMRDALDSDG IPLPDGERLT PFGKKLRAAS LDELPELWNI
 101   LKGEMSLVGP RPLLMQYLPL YDNFQNRRHE MKPGITGWAQ VNGRNALSWD
 151   EKFACDVWYI DHFSLCLDIK ILLLTVKKVL IKEGISAQGE ATMPPFTGKR
 201   KLAVVGAGGH GKVVADLAAA LGRYREIVFL DDRAQGSVNG FSVIGTTLLL
 251   ENSLSPEQYD VAVAVGNNRI RRQIAEKAAA LGFALPVLVH PDATVSPSAT
 301   VGQGSVVMAK AVVQAGSVLK DGVIVNTAAT VDHDCLLNAF VHISPGAHLS
 351   GNTHIGEESW IGTGACSRQQ IRIGSRATIG AGAVVVRDVS DGMTVAGNPA
 401   KPLPRKNPET STA*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF3 shows 93.0% identity over a 286aa overlap with an ORF (ORF3a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                        10        20        30
```

```
orf3.pep                                                ILIYLIRKNLGSPVFFFQERPGKDGKPFKMVKFR
                                                        ||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf3a       MSKFFKRLFDIVASASGLIFLSPVFLILIYLIRKNLGSPVFFFQERPGKDGKPFKMVKFR
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                40        50        60        70        80        90
orf3.pep    SMRDGLYSDGIPLPDGERLTPFGKKLRAASXDELPELWNILKGEMSLVGPRPLLMQYLPL
            ||:|:| |||| ||||||||||||||||| |||||||:|||:|||||||||||||||||
orf3a       SMHDALDSDGILLPDGERLTPFGKKLRAASLDELPELWNVLKGDMSLVGPRPLLMQYLPL
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

              100       110       120       130       140       150
orf3.pep    YDNFQNRRHEMKPGITGWAQVNGRNALSWDEKFACDVWYIDHFSLCLDIKILLLTVKKVL
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf3a        YDNFQNRRHEMKPGITGWAQVNGRNALSWDERFACDIWYIDHFSLCLDIKILLLTVKKVL
                    130       140       150       160       170       180

              160       170       180       190       200       210
orf3.pep    IKEGISAQGEXTMPPFTGKRKLAVVGAGGHGKVVADLAAALGRYREIVFLDDRAQGSVNG
            |||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||| | ||||||||:||||||
orf3a       IKEGISAQGEATMPPFTGKRKLAVVGAGGHGKVVAELAAALGTYGEIVFLDDRVQGSVNG
                    190       200       210       220       230       240

              220       230       240       250       260       270
orf3.pep    FSVIGTTLLLENSLSPEQYDVAVAVGNNRIRRQIAEKAAALGFALPVLVHPDATVSPSAT
            | ||||||||||||||||:|:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||:|||||||
orf3a       FPVIGTTLLLENSLSPEQFDIAVAVGNNRIRRQIAEKAAALGFALPVLIHPDSTVSPSAT
                    250       260       270       280       290       300

              280
orf3.pep    VGQGSVVMAKAV
            ||||:|||||||
orf3a        VGQGGVVMAKAVVQADSVLKDGVIVNTAATVDHDCLLDAFVHISPGAHLSGNTRIGEESW
                    310       320       330       340       350       360
```

The complete length ORF3a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 15> is:

```
   1  ATGAGTAAAT TCTTCAAACG CCTGTTTGAC ATTGTTGCCT CCGCCTCGGG
  51  ACTGATTTTC CTCTCGCCAG TATTTTTGAT TTTGATATAC CTCATCCGCA
 101  AGAATCTGGG TTCGCCCGTC TTCTTCTTTC AGGAACGCCC CGGAAAGGAC
 151  GGAAAACCTT TTAAAATGGT CAAATTCCGT TCCATGCACG ACGCGCTTGA
 201  TTCAGACGGC ATTCTGCTGC CCGACGGAGA ACGCCTGACA CCGTTCGGCA
 251  AAAAACTGCG TGCCGCCAGT TTGGACGAAC TGCCCGAACT GTGGAACGTC
 301  CTCAAAGGCG ACATGAGCCT GGTCGGCCCC CGCCCGCTGC TGATGCAATA
 351  TCTGCCGCTG TACGACAACT TCCAAAACCG CCGCCACGAA ATGAAACCGG
 401  GCATTACCGG CTGGGCGCAG GTCAACGGGC GCAACGCGCT TTCGTGGGAC
 451  GAACGCTTCG CATGCGACAT CTGGTATATC GACCACTTCA GCCTGTGCCT
 501  CGACATCAAA ATCCTACTGC TGACGGTTAA AAAAGTATTA ATCAAAGAAG
 551  GGATTTCCGC ACAGGGCGAA GCCACCATGC CCCCTTTCAC AGGAAAACGC
 601  AAACTTGCCG TCGTCGGTGC GGGCGGACAC GGCAAAGTCG TTGCCGAGCT
 651  TGCCGCCGCA CTCGGCACAT ACGGCGAAAT CGTTTTTCTG GACGACCGCG
 701  TCCAAGGCAG CGTCAACGGC TTCCCCGTCA TCGGCACGAC GCTGCTGCTT
 751  GAAAACAGTT TATCGCCCGA ACAATTCGAC ATCGCCGTCG CCGTCGGCAA
 801  CAACCGCATC CGCCGCCAAA TCGCCGAAAA AGCCGCCGCG CTCGGCTTCG
 851  CCCTGCCCGT CCTGATTCAT CCGGACTCGA CCGTCTCGCC TTCTGCAACA
 901  GTCGGACAAG GCGGCGTCGT TATGGCGAAA GCCGTCGTAC AGGCTGACAG
 951  CGTATTGAAA GACGGCGTAA TTGTGAACAC TGCCGCCACC GTCGATCACG
1001  ATTGCCTGCT TGATGCTTTC GTCCACATCA GCCCGGGCGC GCACCTGTCG
1051  GGCAACACGC GTATCGGCGA AGAAAGCTGG ATAGGCACAG GCGCGTGCAG
1101  CCGCCAGCAG ATCCGTATCG GCAGCCGCGC AACCATTGGA GCGGGCGCAG
1151  TCGTCGTGCG CGACGTTTCA GACGGCATGA CCGTCGCGGG CAACCCGGCA
1201  AAACCATTGG CAGGCAAAAA TACCGAGACC CTGCGGTCGT AA
```

This is predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 16>:

```
   1  MSKFFKRLFD IVASASGLIF LSPVFLILIY LIRKNLGSPV FFFQERPGKD
  51  GKPFKMVKFR SMHDALDSDG ILLPDGERLT PFGKKLRAAS LDELPELWNV
 101  LKGDMSLVGP RPLLMQYLPL YDNFQNRRHE MKPGITGWAQ VNGRNALSWD
 151  ERFACDIWYI DHFSLCLDIK ILLLTVKKVL IKEGISAQGE ATMPPFTGKR
 201  KLAVVGAGGH GKVVAELAAA LGTYGEIVFL DDRVQGSVNG FPVIGTTLLL
 251  ENSLSPEQFD IAVAVGNNRI RRQIAEKAAA LGFALPVLIH PDSTVSPSAT
```

```
301  VGQGGVVMAK AVVQADSVLK DGVIVNTAAT VDHDCLLDAF VHISPGAHLS
351  GNTRIGEESW IGTGACSRQQ IRIGSRATIG AGAVVVRDVS DGMTVAGNPA
401  KPLAGKNTET LRS*
```

Two transmembrane domains are underlined.

ORF3-1 shows 94.6% identity in 410 aa overlap with ORF3a:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf3a.pep       MSKFFKRLFDIVASASGLIFLSPVFLILIYLIRKNLGSPVFFFQERPGKDGKPFKMVKFR
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf3-1          MSKFFKRLFDIVASASGLIFLSPVFLILIYLIRKNLGSPVFFFQERPGKDGKPFKMVKFR
                        10        20        30        40        50        60

                        70        80        90       100       110       120
orf3a.pep       SMHDALDSDGILLPDGERLTPFGKKLRAASLDELPELWNVLKGDMSLVGPRPLLMQYLPL
                ||:|||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||:|||||||||||||||||
orf3-1          SMRDALDSDGIPLPDGERLTPFGKKLRAASLDELPELWNILKGEMSLVGPRPLLMQYLPL
                        70        80        90       100       110       120

                       130       140       150       160       170       180
orf3a.pep       YDNFQNRRHEMKPGITGWAQVNGRNALSWDERFACDIWYIDHFSLCLDIKILLLTVKKVL
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||
orf3-1          YDNFQNRRHEMKPGITGWAQVNGRNALSWDEKFACDVWYIDHFSLCLDIKILLLTVKKVL
                       130       140       150       160       170       180

                       190       200       210       220       230       240
orf3a.pep       IKEGISAQGEATMPPFTGKRKLAVVGAGGHGKVVAELAAALGTYGEIVFLDDRVQGSVNG
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||| | ||||||||:||||||
orf3-1          IKEGISAQGEATMPPFTGKRKLAVVGAGGHGKVVADLAAALGRYREIVFLDDRAQGSVNG
                       190       200       210       220       230       240

                       250       260       270       280       290       300
orf3a.pep       FPVIGTTLLLENSLSPEQFDIAVAVGNNRIRRQIAEKAAALGFALPVLIHPDSTVSPSAT
                | ||||||||||||||:|:|||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||:|||||||
orf3-1          FSVIGTTLLLENSLSPEQYDVAVAVGNNRIRRQIAEKAAALGFALPVLVHPDATVSPSAT
                       250       260       270       280       290       300

                       310       320       330       340       350       360
orf3a.pep       VGQGGVVMAKAVVQADSVLKDGVIVNTAATVDHDCLLDAFVHISPGAHLSGNTRIGEESW
                ||||:|||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||:||||||
orf3-1          VGQGSVVMAKAVVQAGSVLKDGVIVNTAATVDHDCLLNAFVHISPGAHLSGNTHIGEESW
                       310       320       330       340       350       360

                       370       380       390       400       410
orf3a.pep       IGTGACSRQQIRIGSRATIGAGAVVVRDVSDGMTVAGNPAKPLAGKNTETLRSX
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||  || ||
orf3-1          IGTGACSRQQIRIGSRATIGAGAVVVRDVSDGMTVAGNPAKPLPRKNPETSTAX
                       370       380       390       400       410
```

Homology with hypothetical protein encoded by *yvfc* gene (accession Z71928) of *B. subtilis*

ORF3 and YVFC proteins show 55% aa identity in 170 aa overlap (BLASTp):

```
ORF3    3   IYLIRKNLGSPVFFFQERPGKDGKPFKMVKFRSMRDGLYSDGIPLPDGERLTPFGKKLRA 62
            I ++R  +GSPVFF Q RPG  GKPF + KFR+M D   S G  LPD  RLT  G+ +R
yvfc   27   IAVVRLKIGSPVFFKQVRPGLHGKPFTLYKFRTMTDERDSKGNLLPDEVRLTKTGRLIRK 86

ORF3   63   ASXDELPELWNILKGEMSLVGPRPLLMQYLPLYDNFQNRRHEMKPGITGWAQVNGRNALS 122
             S DELP+L N+LKG++SLVGPRPLLM YLPLY   Q RRHE+KPGITGWAQ+NGRNA+S
yvfc   87   LSIDELPQLLNVLKGDLSLVGPRPLLMDYLPLYTEKQARRHEVKPGITGWAQINGRNAIS 146

ORF3   123  WDEKFACDVWYIDHFSLCLDXXXXXXXXXXXXXXEGISAQGEXTMPPFTG 172
            W++KF  DVWY+D++S  LD              EGI      T   FTG
yvfc   147  WEKKFELDVWYVDNWSFFLDLKILCLTVRKVLVSEGIQQTNHVTAERFTG 196
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF3 shows 86.3% identity over a 286aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF3.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf3      ILIYLIRKNLGSPVFFFQERPGKDGKPFKMVKFR  34
orf3ng    MSKAVKRLFDIIASASGLIVLSPVFLVLIYLIRKNKGSPVFFIRERPGKDGKPFKMVKFR  60

orf3      SMRDGLYSDGIPLPDGERLTPFGKKLRAASXDELPELWNILKGEMSLVGPRPLLMQYLPL  94
orf3ng    SMRDALDSDGIPLPDSERLTDFGKKLRATSLDELPELWNVLKGEMSLVGPRPLLMQYLPL  120

orf3      YDNFQNRRHEMKPGITGWAQVNGRNALSWDEKFACDVWYIDHFSLCLDIKILLLTVKKVL  154
orf3ng    YNKFQNRRHEMKPGITGWAQVNGRNALSWDEKFSCDVWYTDNFSFWLDMKILFLTVKKVL  180

orf3      IKEGISAQGEXTMPPFTGKRKLAVVGAGGHGKVVADLAAALGRYREIVFLDDRAQGSVNG  214
orf3ng    IKEGISAQGEATMPPFAGNRKLAVIGAGGHGKVVAELAAALGTYGEIVFLDDRTQGSVNG  240

orf3      FSVIGTTLLLENSLSPEQYDVAVAVGNNRIRRQIAEKAAALGFALPVLVHPDATVSPSAT  274
orf3ng    FPVIGTTLLLENSLSPEQFDITVAVGNNRIRRQITENAAALGFKLPVLIHPDATVSPSAI  300

orf3      VGQGSVVMAKAV                                                  286
orf3ng    IGQGSVVMAKAVVQAGSVLKDGVIVNTAATVDHDCLLDAFVHISPGAHLSGNTRIGEESR  360
```

The complete length ORF3ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 17> is:

```
   1  ATGAGTAAAG CCGTCAAACG CCTGTTCGAC ATCATCGCAT CCGCATCGGG
  51  GCTGATTGTC CTGTCGCCCG TGTTTTTGGT TTTAATATAC CTCATCCGCA
 101  AAAACTTAGG TTCGCCCGTC TTCTTCattC GGGAACGCCc cgGAAAGGAc
 151  ggaaaacCTT TTAAAATGGT CAAATTCCGT TCCAtgcgcg acgcgcttGA
 201  TTCAGACGGC ATTCCGCTGC CCGATAGCGA ACGCCTGACC GATTTCGGCA
 251  AAAAATTACG CGCCACCAGT TTGGACGAAC TTCCTGAATT ATGGAATGTC
 301  CTCAAAGGCG AGATGAGCCT GGTCGGCCCC CGCCCGCTTT TGATGCAGTA
 351  TCTGCCGCTT TACAACAAAT TTCAAAACCG CCGCCACGAA ATGAAACCGG
 401  GCATTACCGG CTGGGCGCAG GTCAACGGGC GCAACGCGCT TTCGTGGGAC
 451  GAAAAGTTCT CCTGCGATGT TTGGTACACC GACAATTTCA GCTTTTGGCT
 501  GGATATGAAA ATCCTGTTTC TGACAGTCAA AAAAGTCTTG ATTAAAGAAG
 551  GCATTTCGGC GCAAGGGGAA GCCACCATGC CCCCTTTCGC GGGGAATCGC
 601  AAACTCGCCG TTATCGGCGC GGGCGGACAC GGCAAAGTCG TTGCCGAGCT
 651  TGCCGCCGCA CTCGGCACAT ACGGCGAAAT CGTTTTTCTG GACGACCGCA
 701  CCCAAGGCAG CGTCAACGGC TTCCCCGTCA TCGGCACGAC GCTGCTGCTT
 751  GAAAACAGTT TATCGCCCGA ACAATTCGAC ATCACCGTCG CCGTCGGCAA
 801  CAACCGCATC CGCCGCCAAA TCACCGAAAA CGCCGCCGCG CTCGGCTTCA
 851  AACTGCCCGT TCTGATTCAT CCCGACGCGA CCGTCTCGCC TTCTGCAATA
 901  ATCGGACAAG GCAGCGTCGT AATGGCGAAA GCCGTCGTAC AGGCCGGCAG
 951  CGTATTGAAA GACGGCGTGA TTGTGAACAC TGCCGCCACC GTCGATCACG
1001  ACTGCCTGCT TGACGCTTTC GtccaCATCA GCCCGGGCGC GCACCTGTCG
1051  GGCAACACGC GTATCGGCGA AGAAAGCCGG ATAGGCACGG GCGCGTGCAG
1101  CCGCCAGCAG ACAACCGTCG GCAGCGGGGT TACCgccgGT GCAGGGgcGG
1151  TTATCGTATG CGACATCCCG GACGGCATGA CCGTCGCGGG CAACCCGGCA
1201  AAGCCCCTTA CGGGCAAAAA CCCCAAGACC GGGACGGCAT AA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 18>:

```
   1  MSKAVKRLFD IIASASGLIV LSPVFLVLIY LIRKNLGSPV FFIRERPGKD
  51  GKPFKMVKFR SMRDALDSDG IPLPDSERLT DFGKKLRATS LDELPELWNV
 101  LKGEMSLVGP RPLLMQYLPL YNKFQNRRHE MKPGITGWAQ VNGRNALSWD
 151  EKFSCDVWYT DNFSFWLDMK ILFLTVKKVL IKEGISAQGE ATMPPFAGNR
 201  KLAVIGAGGH GKVVAELAAA LGTYGEIVFL DDRTQGSVNG FPVIGTTLLL
 251  ENSLSPEQFD ITVAVGNNRI RRQITENAAA LGFKLPVLIH PDATVSPSAI
 301  IGQGSVVMAK AVVQAGSVLK DGVIVNTAAT VDHDCLLDAF VHISPGAHLS
 351  GNTRIGEESR IGTGACSRQQ TTVGSGVTAG AGAVIVCDIP DGMTVAGNPA
 401  KPLTGKNPKT GTA*
```

This protein shows 86.9% identity in 413 aa overlap with ORF3-1:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf3-1.pep      MSKFFKRLFDIVASASGLIFLSPVFLILIYLIRKNLGSPVFFFQERPGKDGKPFKMVKFR
                |||  |||||:||||||| ||||||:||||||||||||||::||||||||||||||||
orf3ng          MSKAVKRLFDIIASASGLIVLSPVFLVLIYLIRKNLGSPVFFIRERPGKDGKPFKMVKFR
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf3-1.pep      SMRDALDSDGIPLPDGERLTPFGKKLRAASLDELPELWNILKGEMSLVGPRPLLMQYLPL
                ||||||||||||||||:|||| |||||||:||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||
orf3ng          SMRDALDSDGIPLPDSERLTDFGKKLRATSLDELPELWNVLKGEMSLVGPRPLLMQYLPL
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf3-1.pep      YDNFQNRRHEMKPGITGWAQVNGRNALSWDEKFACDVWYIDHFSLCLDIKILLLTVKKVL
                |::|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||| |:||: ||:|||:|||||||
orf3ng          YNKFQNRRHEMKPGITGWAQVNGRNALSWDEKFSCDVWYTDNFSFWLDMKILFLTVKKVL
                   130       140       150       160       170       180

                   190       200       210       220       230       240
orf3-1.pep      IKEGISAQGEATMPPFTGKRKLAVVGAGGHGKVVADLAAALGRYREIVFLDDRAQGSVNG
                |||||||||||||||:|:|||||:||||||||||:|||||| | ||||||||:||||||
orf3ng          IKEGISAQGEATMPPFAGNRKLAVIGAGGHGKVVAELAAALGTYGEIVFLDDRTQGSVNG
                   190       200       210       220       230       240

                   250       260       270       280       290       300
orf3-1.pep      FSVIGTTLLLENSLSPEQYDVAVAVGNNRIRRQIAEKAAALGFALPVLVHPDATVSPSAT
                | ||||||||||||||||:|::|||||||||||||:|:|||||| ||||:||||||||||
orf3ng          FPVIGTTLLLENSLSPEQFDITVAVGNNRIRRQITENAAALGFKLPVLIHPDATVSPSAI
                   250       260       270       280       290       300

                   310       320       330       340       350       360
orf3-1.pep      VGQGSVVMAKAVVQAGSVLKDGVIVNTAATVDHDCLLNAFVHISPGAHLSGNTHIGEESW
                :||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||:|||||
orf3ng          IGQGSVVMAKAVVQAGSVLKDGVIVNTAATVDHDCLLDAFVHISPGAHLSGNTRIGEESR
                   310       320       330       340       350       360

                   370       380       390       400       410
orf3-1.pep      IGTGACSRQQIRIGSRATIGAGAVVVRDVSDGMTVAGNPAKPLPRKNPETSTAX
                |||||||||| :|| :| |||||:| |: ||||||||||||  |||:|:|||
orf3ng          IGTGACSRQQTTVGSGVTAGAGAVIVCDIPDGMTVAGNPAKPLTGKNPKTGTAX
                   370       380       390       400       410
```

In addition, ORF3ng shows significant homology with a hypothetical protein from *B.subtilis*:

```
gnl|PID|e238668 (Z71928) hypothetical protein [Bacillus subtilis]
>gi|1945702|gnl|PID|e313004 (Z94043) hypothetical protein [Bacillus subtilis]
>gi|2635938|gnl|PID|e1186113 (Z99121) similar to capsular polysaccharide
biosynthesis [Bacillus subtilis]Length = 202
 Score =  235 bits (594), Expect = 3e-61
 Identities = 114/195 (58%), Positives = 142/195 (72%)

Query: 5   VKRLFDIIASASGLIVLSPVFLVLIYLIRKNLGSPVFFIRERPGKDGKPFKMVKFRSMRD 64
            +KRLFD+ A+   L   S + L  I ++R  +GSPVFF + RPG  GKPF + KFR+M D
Sbjct: 3   LKRLFDLTAAIFLLCCTSVIILFTIAVVRLKIGSPVFFKQVRPGLHGKPFTLYKFRTMTD 62

Query: 65  ALDSDGIPLPDSERLTDFGKKLRATSLDELPELWNVLKGEMSLVGPRPLLMQYLPLYNKF 124
              DS G   LPD  RLT   G+ +R  S+DELP+L NVLKG++SLVGPRPLLM YLPLY +
Sbjct: 63  ERDSKGNLLPDEVRLTKTGRLIRKLSIDELPQLLNVLKGDLSLVGPRPLLMDYLPLYTEK 122

Query: 125 QNRRHEMKPGITGWAQVNGRNALSWDEKFSCDVWYTDNFSFWLDMKILFLTVKKVLIKEG 184
            Q RRHE+KPGITGWAQ+NGRNA+SW++KF  DVWY DN+SF+LD+KIL LTV+KVL+ EG
Sbjct: 123 QARRHEVKPGITGWAQINGRNAISWEKKFELDVWYVDNWSFFLDLKILCLTVRKVLVSEG 182

Query: 185 ISAQGEATMPPFAGN 199
            I      T   F G+
Sbjct: 183 IQQTNHVTAERFTGS 197
```

The hypothetical product of *yvfc* gene shows similarity to EXOY of *R.meliloti*, an exopolysaccharide production protein. Based on this and on the two predicted transmembrane regions in the homologous *N.gonorrhoeae* sequence, it is predicted that these proteins, or their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 4

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 19>:

```
   1  ..AACCATATGG CGATTGTCAT CGACGAATAC GGCGGCACAT CCGGCTTGGT
  51    CACCTTTGAA GACATCATCG AGCAAATCGT CGGCGAAATC GAAGACGAGT
 101    TTGACGAAGA CGATAGCGCC GACAATATCC ATGCCGTTTC TTCAGACACG
 151    TGGCGCATCC ATGCAGCTAC CGAAATCGAA GACATCAACA CCTTCTTCGG
 201    CACGGAATAC AGCATCGAAG AAGCCGACAC CATT.GGCGG CCTGGTCATT
 251    CAAGAGTTGG GACATCTGCC CGTGCGCGGC GAAAAAGTCC TTATCGGCGG
 301    TTTGCAGTTC ACCGTCGCAC GCGCCGACAA CCGCCGCCTG CATACGCTGA
 351    TGGCGACCCG CGTGAAGTAA GC..... .....ACCGC CGTTTCTGCA
 401    CAGTTTAG
```

This corresponds to amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 20; ORF5>:

```
   1  ..NHMAIVIDEY GGTSGLVTFE DIIEQIVGEI EDEFDEDDSA DNIHAVSSDT
  51    WRIHAATEIE DINTFFGTEY SIEEADTIXR PGHSRVGTSA RARRKSPYRR
 101    FAVHRRTRRQ PPPAYADGDP REVS....XR RFCTV*
```

Further sequence analysis revealed the complete DNA sequence to be <SEQ ID 21>:

```
   1  ATGGACGGCG CACAACCGAA AACGAATTTT TTGAACGCC TGATTGCCCG
  51  ACTCGCCCGC GAACCCGATT CCGCCGAAGA CGTATTAAAC CTGCTTCGGC
 101  AGGCGCACGA GCAGGAAGTT TTTGATGCGG ATACGCTTTT AAGATTGGAA
 151  AAAGTCCTCG ATTTTTCCGA TTTGGAAGTG CGCGACGCGA TGATTACGCG
 201  CAGCCGTATG AACGTTTTAA AAGAAAACGA CAGCATCGAG CGCATCACCG
 251  CCTACGTTAT CGATACCGCC CATTCGCGCT TCCCCGTCAT CGGCGAAGAC
 301  AAAGACGAAG TTTTGGGCAT TTTGCACGCC AAAGACCTGC TCAAATATAT
 351  GTTTAACCCC GAGCAGTTCC ACCTCAAATC CATTCTCCGC CCCGCCGTCT
 401  TCGTCCCCGA AGGCAAATCG CTGACCGCCC TTTTAAAAGA GTTCCGCGAA
 451  CAGCGCAACC ATATGGCGAT TGTCATCGAC GAATACGGCG GCACATCCGG
 501  CTTGGTCACC TTTGAAGACA TCATCGAGCA AATCGTCGGC GAAATCGAAG
 551  ACGAGTTTGA CGAAGACGAT AGCGCCGACA ATATCCATGC CGTTTCTTCC
 601  GAACGCTGGC GCATCCATGC AGCTACCGAA ATCGAAGACA TCAACACCTT
 651  CTTCGGCACG GAATACAGCA GCGAAGAAGC CGACACCATT CGGCCTGGTC
 701  ATTCAAGAGT TGGGACATCT GCCCGTGCGC GGCGAAAAAG TCCTTATCGG
 751  CGGTTTGCAG TTCACCGTCG CACGCGCCGA CAACCGCCGC CTGCATACGC
 801  TGATGGCGAC CCGCGTGAAG TAAGCACCGC CGTTTCTGCA CAGTTTAGGA
 851  TGACGGTACG GGCGTTTTCT GTTTCAATCC GCCCCATCCG CCAAACATAA
```

This corresponds to amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 22; ORF5-1>:

```
   1  MDGAQPKTNF FERLIARLAR EPDSAEDVLN LLRQAHEQEV FDADTLLRLE
  51  KVLDFSDLEV RDAMITRSRM NVLKENDSIE RITAYVIDTA HSRFPVIGED
 101  KDEVLGILHA KDLLKYMFNP EQFHLKSILR PAVFVPEGKS LTALLKEFRE
 151  QRNHMAIVID EYGGTSGLVT FEDIIEQIVG EIEDEFDEDD SADNIHAVSS
 201  ERWRIHAATE IEDINTFFGT EYSSEEADTI RPGHSRVGTS ARARRKSPYR
 251  RFAVHRRTRR QPPPAYADGD PREVSTAVSA QFRMTVRAFS VSIRPIRQT*
```

Further work identified the corresponding gene in strain A of *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 23 >:

```
   1  ATGGACGGCG CACAACCGAA AACAAATTTT TTNNAACGCC TGATTGCCCG
  51  ACTCGCCCGC GAACCCGATT CCGCCGAAGA CGTATTGACC CTGTTGCGCC
 101  AAGCGCACGA ACAGGAAGTA TTTGATGCGG ATACGCTTTT AAGATTGGAA
 151  AAAGTCCTCG ATTTTTCTGA TTTGGAAGTG CGCGACGCGA TGATTACGCG
 201  CAGCCGTATG AACGTTTTAA AAGAAAACGA CAGCATCGAA CGCATCACCG
 251  CCTACGTTAT CGATACCGCC CATTCGCGCT TCCCCGTCAT CGGTGAAGAC
 301  AAAGACGAAG TTTTGGGTAT TTTGCACGCC AAAGACCTGC TCAAATATAT
 351  GTTCAACCCC GAGCAGTTCC ACCTCAAATC GATATTGCGC CCTGCCGTCT
```

```
401  TCGTCCCCGA AGGCAAATCG CTGACCGCCC TTTTAAAAGA GTTCCGCGAA
451  CAGCGCAACC ATATGGCAAT CGTCATCGAC GAATACGGCG GCACGTCGGG
501  TTTGGTAACT TTTGAAGACA TCATCGAGCA AATCGTCGGC GACATCGAAG
551  ATGAGTTTGA CGAAGACGAA AGCGCGGACA ACATCCACGC CGTTTCCGCC
601  GAACGCTGGC GCATCCACGC GGCTACCGAA ATCGAAGACA TCAACGCCTT
651  TTTCGGCACG GAATACAGCA GCGAAGAAGC CGACACCATC GGCGGCCNTG
701  GTCATTCAGG AATTGGNACA CCTGCCCGTG CGCGGCGAAA AAGTCNTTAT
751  CGGCGNNTTG CANTTCACNG TCGCCNGCGC NGACAACCGC CGCCTGCATA
801  CGCTGATGGC GACCCGCGTG AAGTAAGCTC CGCCGTTTCT GTACAGTTTA
851  GGATGACGGT ACGGGCGTTT TCTGTTTCAA TCCGCCCCAT CCGCCANACA
901  TAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 24; ORF5a>:

```
  1  MDGAQPKTNF XXRLIARLAR EPDSAEDVLT LLRQAHEQEV FDADTLLRLE
 51  KVLDFSDLEV RDAMITRSRM NVLKENDSIE RITAYVIDTA HSRFPVIGED
101  KDEVLGILHA KDLLKYMFNP EQFHLKSILR PAVFVPEGKS LTALLKEFRE
151  QRNHMAIVID EYGGTSGLVT FEDIIEQIVG DIEDEFDEDE SADNIHAVSA
201  ERWRIHAATE IEDINAFFGT EYSSEEADTI GGXGHSGIGT PARARRKSXY
251  RRXAXHXRXR XQPPPAYADG DPREVSSAVS VQFRMTVRAF SVSIRPIRXT
301  *
```

The originally-identified partial strain B sequence (ORF5) shows 54.7% identity over a 124aa overlap with ORF5a:

```
                                                  10        20        30
orf5.pep                                        NHMAIVIDEYGGTSGLVTFEDIIEQIVGEI
                                                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|
orf5a          FHLKSILRPAVFVPEGKSLTALLKEFREQRNHMAIVIDEYGGTSGLVTFEDIIEQIVGDI
                    130       140       150       160       170       180

                         40        50        60        70        80        90
orf5.pep        EDEFDEDDSADNIHAVSSDTWRIHAATEIEDINTFFGTEYSIEEADTIXRPGHSRVGTSA
                |||||||:|||||||||:: |||||||||||||:|||||| ||||||    ||| :|| |
orf5a           EDEFDEDESADNIHAVSAERWRIHAATEIEDINAFFGTEYSSEEADTIGGXGHSGIGTPA
                    190       200       210       220       230       240

                        100       110       120       130
orf5.pep        RARRKSPYRRFAVHRRTRRQPPPAYADGDPREVSXXXXXRRFCTV
                |||||| ||| | | |:| ||||||||||||||||
orf5a           RARRKSXYRRXAXHXRXRXQPPPAYADGDPREVSSAVSVQFRMTVRAFSVSIRPIRXTX
                    250       260       270       280       290       300
```

The complete strain B sequence (ORF5-1) and ORF5a show 92.7% identity in 300 aa overlap:

```
                        10        20        30        40        50        60
orf5a.pep       MDGAQPKTNFXXRLIARLAREPDSAEDVLTLLRQAHEQEVFDADTLLRLEKVLDFSDLEV
                |||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf5-1          MDGAQPKTNFFERLIARLAREPDSAEDVLNLLRQAHEQEVFDADTLLRLEKVLDFSDLEV
                        10        20        30        40        50        60

                        70        80        90       100       110       120
orf5a.pep       RDAMITRSRMNVLKENDSIERITAYVIDTAHSRFPVIGEDKDEVLGILHAKDLLKYMFNP
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf5-1          RDAMITRSRMNVLKENDSIERITAYVIDTAHSRFPVIGEDKDEVLGILHAKDLLKYMFNP
                        70        80        90       100       110       120

                       130       140       150       160       170       180
orf5a.pep       EQFHLKSILRPAVFVPEGKSLTALLKEFREQRNHMAIVIDEYGGTSGLVTFEDIIEQIVG
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf5-1          EQFHLKSILRPAVFVPEGKSLTALLKEFREQRNHMAIVIDEYGGTSGLVTFEDIIEQIVG
                       130       140       150       160       170       180

                       190       200       210       220       230       240
orf5a.pep       DIEDEFDEDESADNIHAVSAERWRIHAATEIEDINAFFGTEYSSEEADTIGGXGHSGIGT
                :||||||||:||||||||:||||||||||||||:|||||||||||    ||| :||
orf5-1          EIEDEFDEDDSADNIHAVSSERWRIHAATEIEDINTFFGTEYSSEEADTIRP-GHSRVGT
                       190       200       210       220       230

                       250       260       270       280       290       300
```

```
orf5a.pep     PARARRKSXYRRXAXHXRXRXQPPPAYADGDPREVSSAVSVQFRMTVRAFSVSIRPIRXT
              |||||||.|||  |  |  |:|  |||||||||||||||||:|||:||||||||||||||||||  |
orf5-1        SARARRKSPYRRFAVHRRTRRQPPPAYADGDPREVSTAVSAQFRMTVRAFSVSIRPIRQT
            240       250       260       270       280       290
```

Further work identified the a partial DNA sequence in *N.gonorrhoeae* <SEQ ID 25> which encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 26; ORF5ng>:

```
   1  MDGAQPKTNF FERLIARLAR EPDSAEDVLN LLRQAHEQEV FDADTLTRLE
  51  KVLDFAELEV RDAMITRSRM NVLKENDSIE RITAYVIDTA HSRFPVIGED
 101  KDEVLGILHA KDLLKYMFNP EQFHLKSVLR PAVFVPEGKS LTALLKEFRE
 151  QRNHMAIVID EYGGTSGLVT FEDIIEQIVG DIEDEFDEDE SADDIHSVSA
 201  ERWRIHAATE IEDINAFFGT EYGSEEADTI RRLGHSGIGT PARARRKSPY
 251  RRFAVHRRPR RQPPPAHADG DPREVSRACP HRRFCTV*
```

Further analysis revealed the complete gonococcal nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 27> to be:

```
   1  ATGGACGGCG CACAACCGAA AACAAATTTT TTTGAACGCC TGATTGCCCG
  51  ACTCGCCCGC GAACCCGATT CCGCCGAAGA CGTATTAAAC CTGCTTCGGC
 101  AGGCGCACGA ACAGGAAGTT TTTGATGCCG ACACACTGAC CCGGCTGGAA
 151  AAAGTATTGG ACTTTGCCGA GCTGGAAGTG CGCGATGCGA TGATTACGCG
 201  CAGCCGCATG AACGTATTGA AAGAAAACGA CAGCATCGAA CGCATCACCG
 251  CCTACGTCAT CGATACCGCC CATTCGCGCT TCCCCGTCAT CGGCGAAGAC
 301  AAAGACGAAG TTTTGGGCAT TTTGCACGCC AAAGACCTGC TCAAATATAT
 351  GTTCAACCCC GAGCAGTTCC ACCTGAAATC CGTCTTGCGC CCTGCCGTTT
 401  TCGTGCCCGA AGGCAAATCT TTGACCGCCC TTTTAAAAGA GTTCCGCGAA
 451  CAGCGCAACC ATATGGCAAT CGTCATCGAC GAATACGGCG GCACGTCGGG
 501  TTTGGTCACC TTTGAAGACA TCATCGAGCA AATCGTCGGT GACATCGAAG
 551  ACGAGTTTGA CGAAGACGAA AGCGccgacg acatCCACTC cgTTTccgCC
 601  GAACGCTGGC GCATCCacgc ggctaCCGAA ATCGAAGaca TCAACGCCTT
 651  TTTCGGTACG GAatacggca gcgaagaagc cgacaccatc cggcggctTG
 701  GTCATTCAGG AATTGGGACA CCTGCCCGTG CGCGGCGAAA AAGTCCTTAt
 751  cggcgGTTTG Cagttcaccg tCGCCCGCGC CGACAACCGC CGCCTGCACA
 801  CGCTGATGGC GACCCGCGTG AAGTAAGCAG AGCCTGCCcg AccgccgttT
 851  CTGCacAGTT TAGGatgACG gtaCGGTCGT TTTCTGTTTC AATCCGCCCC
 901  ATCCGCCAAA CATAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 28; ORF5ng-1>:

```
   1  MDGAQPKTNF FERLIARLAR EPDSAEDVLN LLRQAHEQEV FDADTLTRLE
  51  KVLDFAELEV RDAMITRSRM NVLKENDSIE RITAYVIDTA HSRFPVIGED
 101  KDEVLGILHA KDLLKYMFNP EQFHLKSVLR PAVFVPEGKS LTALLKEFRE
 151  QRNHMAIVID EYGGTSGLVT FEDIIEQIVG DIEDEFDEDE SADDIHSVSA
 201  ERWRIHAATE IEDINAFFGT EYGSEEADTI RRLGHSGIGT PARARRKSPY
 251  RRFAVHRRPR RQPPPAHADG DPREVSRACP TAVSAQFRMT VRSFSVSIRP
 301  IRQT*
```

The originally-identified partial strain B sequence (ORF5) shows 83.1% identity over a 135aa overlap with the partial gonococcal sequence (ORF5ng):

```
orf5                                          NHMAIVIDEYGGTSGLVTFEDIIEQIVGEI   30
                                              |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|
orf5ng        FHLKSVLRPAVFVPEGKSLTALLKEFREQRNHMAIVIDEYGGTSGLVTFEDIIEQIVGDI  182

orf5          EDEFDEDDSADNIHAVSSDTWRIHAATEIEDINTFFGTEYSIEEADTIXRPGHSRVGTSA   90
              |||||||:|||:||:||:: |||||||||||||:||||||: |||||| | ||| :|| |
orf5ng        EDEFDEDESADDIHSVSAERWRIHAATEIEDINAFFGTEYGSEEADTIRRLGHSGIGTPA  242

orf5          RARRKSPYRRFAVHRRTRRQPPPAYADGDPREVSX----RRFCTV  131
              |||||||||||||||| |||||||:|||||||||     ||||||
orf5ng        RARRKSPYRRFAVHRRPRRQPPPAHADGDPREVSRACPHRRFCTV  287
```

The complete strain B and gonococcal sequences (ORF5-1 & ORF5ng-1) show 92.4% identity in 304 aa overlap:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf5ng-1.pep  MDGAQPKTNFFERLIARLAREPDSAEDVLNLLRQAHEQEVFDADTLTRLEKVLDFAELEV
```

```
                                                                                                                    
orf5-1          MDGAQPKTNFFERLIARLAREPDSAEDVLNLLRQAHEQEVFDADTLLRLEKVLDFSDLEV
                        10        20        30        40        50        60

                        70        80        90       100       110       120
orf5ng-1.pep    RDAMITRSRMNVLKENDSIERITAYVIDTAHSRFPVIGEDKDEVLGILHAKDLLKYMFNP
                                                                              
orf5-1          RDAMITRSRMNVLKENDSIERITAYVIDTAHSRFPVIGEDKDEVLGILHAKDLLKYMFNP
                        70        80        90       100       110       120

                      130       140       150       160       170       180
orf5ng-1.pep    EQFHLKSVLRPAVFVPEGKSLTALLKEFREQRNHMAIVIDEYGGTSGLVTFEDIIEQIVG
                                                                              
orf5-1          EQFHLKSILRPAVFVPEGKSLTALLKEFREQRNHMAIVIDEYGGTSGLVTFEDIIEQIVG
                      130       140       150       160       170       180

                      190       200       210       220       230       240
orf5ng-1.pep    DIEDEFDEDESADDIHSVSAERWRIHAATEIEDINAFFGTEYGSEEADTIRRLGHSGIGT
                                                                              
orf5-1          EIEDEFDEDDSADNIHAVSSERWRIHAATEIEDINTFFGTEYSSEEADTIRP-GHSRVGT
                      190       200       210       220       230

                      250       260       270       280       290       300
orf5ng-1.pep    PARARRKSPYRRFAVHRRPRRQPPPAHADGDPREVSRACPTAVSAQFRMTVRSFSVSIRP
                                                                              
orf5-1          SARARRKSPYRRFAVHRRTRRQPPPAYADGDPREVS----TAVSAQFRMTVRAFSVSIRP
                240       250       260       270           280       290

orf5ng-1.pep    IRQTX
                |||||
orf5-1          IRQTX
                  300
```

Computer analysis of these amino acid sequences indicates a putative leader sequence, and identified the following homologies:

Homology with hemolysin homolog TlyC (accession U32716) of *H.influenzae*

ORF5 and TlyC proteins show 58% aa identity in 77 aa overlap (BLASTp).

```
ORF5    2   HMAIVIDEYGGTSGLVTFEDIIEQIVGEIEDEFDEDDSADNIHAVSSDTWRIHAATEIED 61
            HMAIV+DE+G  SGLVT EDI+EQIVG+IEDEFDE++ AD I  +S  T+ + A T+I+D
TlyC    166 HMAIVVDEFGAVSGLVTIEDILEQIVGDIEDEFDEEEIAD-IRQLSRHTYAVRALTDIDD 224

ORF5    62  INTFFGTEYSIEEADTI 78
             N  F T++  EE DTI
TlyC    225 FNAQFNTDFDDEEVDTI 241
```

ORF5ng-1 also shows significant homology with TlyC:

```
SCORES      Init1:   301 Initn:   419 Opt:   668
Smith-Waterman score: 668;    45.9% identity in 242 aa overlap

                              10        20        30        40        50
orf5ng-1.pep          MDGAQPKTNFFERLIARLAR-EPDSAEDVLNLLRQAHEQEVFDADTLTRLEK
                            |  ||: |::|: : |  : |:::::::|::::::::| :|   :|
tlyc_haein    MNDEQQNSNQSENTKKPFFQSLFGRFFQGELKNREELVEVIRDSEQNDLIDQNTREMIEG
                      10        20        30        40        50        60

                     60        70        80        90       100       109
orf5ng-1.pep  VLDFAELEVRDAMITRSRMNVLKENDSIERITAYVIDTAHSRFPVIGE--DKDEVLGILH
              |:::|||:||| || ||::  :::::::::     :|::|||||||::  |:|:::|||| 
tlyc_haein    VMEIAELRVRDIMIPRSQIIFIEDQQDLNTCLNTIIESAHSRFPVIADADDRDNIVGILH
                     70        80        90       100       110       120

            110       120       130       140       150       160
orf5ng-1.pep  AKDLLKYMF-NPEQFHLKSVLRPAVFVPEGKSLTALLKEFREQRNHMAIVIDEYGGTSGL
              ||||||::  : | | |:|:||||:|:|||:| :  ;||:|| :| |||||:||:|::|||
tlyc_haein    AKDLLKFLREDAEVFDLSSLLRPVVIVPESKRVDRMLKDFRSERFHMAIVVDEFGAVSGL
```

```
                    130       140       150       160       170       180

              170       180       190       200       210       220
orf5ng-1.pep VTFEDIIEQIVGDIEDEFDEDESADDIHSVSAERWRIHAATEIEDINAFFGTEYGSEEAD
             ||:|||:||||||||||||||:| || |:::| : : ::| |:|:|:|| |:|:: :||:|
tlyc_haein   VTIEDILEQIVGDIEDEFDEEEIAD-IRQLSRHTYAVRALTDIDDFNAQFNTDFDDEEVD
                    190       200       210       220       230

             230       240       250       260       270       280
orf5ng-1.pep TIRRLGHSGIG-TPARARRKSPYRRFAVHRRPRRQPPPAHADGDPREVSRACPTAVSAQF
             ||  |  : :|  | |:
tlyc_haein   TIGGLIMQTFGYLPKRGEEIILKNLQFKVTSADSRRLIQLRVTVPDEHLAEMNNVDEKSE
            240       250       260       270       280       290
```

Homology with a hypothetical secreted protein from *E.coli*:

ORF5a shows homology to a hypothetical secreted protein from *E.coli*:

```
sp|P77392|YBEX_ECOLI HYPOTHETICAL 33.3 KD PROTEIN IN CUTE-ASNB INTERGENIC REGION
>gi|1778577 (U82598) similar to H. influenzae [Escherichia coli] >gi|1786879
(AE000170) f292; This 292 aa ORF is 23% identical (9 gaps) to 272 residues of an
approx. 440 aa protein YTFL_HAEIN SW: P44717 [Escherichia coli] Length = 292

 Score =  212 bits (533), Expect = 3e-54
 Identities = 112/230 (48%), Positives = 149/230 (64%), Gaps = 3/230 (1%)

Query: 2   DGAQPKTNFXXRLIARLAR-EPDSAEDVLTLLRQAHEQEVFDADTLLRLEKVLDFSDLEV 60
            D    K  F   L+++L   EP + +++L L+R + + ++ D DT   LE V+D +D  V
Sbjct: 10  DTISNKKGFFSLLLSQLFHGEPKNRDELLALIRDSGQNDLIDEDTRDMLEGVMDIADQRV 69

Query: 61  RDAMITRSRMNVLKENDSIERITAYVIDTAHSRFPVIGEDKDEVLGILHAKDLLKYM-FN 119
            RD MI RS+M  LK N +++      +I++AHSRFPVI EDKD + GIL AKDLL +M  +
Sbjct: 70  RDIMIPRSQMITLKRNQTLDECLDVIIESAHSRFPVISEDKDHIEGILMAKDLLPFMRSD 129

Query: 120 PEQFHLKSILRPAVFVPEGKSLTALLKEFREQRNHMAIVIDEYGGTSGLVTFEDIIEQIV 179
             E F +  +LR AV VPE K +  +LKEFR QR HMAIVIDE+GG SGLVT EDI+E IV
Sbjct: 130 AEAFSMDKVLRQAVVVPESKRVDRMLKEFRSQRYHMAIVIDEFGGVSGLVTIEDILELIV 189

Query: 180 GDIEDEFDEDESADNIHAVSAERWRIHAATEIEDINAFFGTEYSSEEADT 229
            G+IEDE+DE++  D    +S   W + A   IED N  FGT +S EE DT
Sbjct: 190 GEIEDEYDEEDDID-FRQLSRHTWTVRALASIEDFNEAFGTHFSDEEVDT 238
```

Based on this analysis, including the amino acid homology to the TlyC hemolysin-homologue from *H. influenzae* (hemolysins are secreted proteins), it was predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae* are secreted and could thus be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics.

ORF5-1 (30.7kDa) was cloned in the pGex vector and expressed in *E.coli*, as described above. The products of protein expression and purification were analyzed by SDS-PAGE. Figure 2A shows the results of affinity purification of the GST-fusion protein. Purified GST-fusion protein was used to immunise mice, whose sera were used for Western blot analysis (Figure 1B). These experiments confirm that ORF5-1 is a surface-exposed protein, and that it is a useful immunogen.

Example 5

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 29>:

```
 1  ATGCGCGGCG GCAGGCCGGA TTCCGTTACC GTGCAGATTA TCGAAGGTTC
51  GCGTTTTTCG CATATGAGGA AAGTCATCGA CGCAACGCCC GACATCGGAC
```

```
101  ACGACACCAA AGGCTGGAGC AATGAAAAAC TGATGGCGGA AGTTGCGCCC
151  GATGCCTTCA GCGGCAATCC TGAAgGGCAG TTTTTCCCCG ACAGCTACGA
201  AATCGATGCG GGCGGCAGTG ATTTGCAGAT TTACCAAACC GCCTACAAgG
251  GCGATGCAAC GCCGCCTGAA TGAgGGCATG GGAAAGCAGG CAGGACGGGC
301  TGCCTTATAA AAACCCTTAT GAAATGCTGA TTATGGCGAr CCTGGTCGAA
351  AAGGAAACAG GGCATGAAGC CGAsCsCGAC CATGTcGCTT CCGTCTTCGT
401  CAACCGCCTG AAAATCGGTA TGCGCCTGCA AACCgAssCG TCCGTGATTT
451  ACGGCATGGG TGCGGCATAC AAGGGCAAAA TCCGTAAAGC CGACCTGCGC
501  CGCGACACGC CGTACAACAC CTACACGCGC GGCGGTCTGC CGCCAACCCC
551  GATTGCGCTG CCC..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 30; ORF7>:

```
  1  MRGGRPDSVT VQIIEGSRFS HMRKVIDATP DIGHDTKGWS NEKLMAEVAP
 51  DAFSGNPEGQ FFPDSYEIDA GGSDLQIYQT AYKAMQRRLN EAWESRQDGL
101  PYKNPYEMLI MAXLVEKETG HEAXXDHVAS VFVNRLKIGM RLQTXXSVIY
151  GMGAAYKGKI RKADLRRDTP YNTYTRGGLP PTPIALP..
```

Further sequence analysis revealed the complete DNA sequence <SEQ ID 31>:

```
  1  ATGTTGAGAA AATTGTTGAA ATGGTCTGCC GTTTTTTTGA CCGTGTCGGC
 51  AGCCGTTTTC GCCGCGCTGC TTTTTGTTCC TAAGGATAAC GGCAGGGCAT
101  ACCGAATCAA AATTGCCAAA AACCAGGGTA TTTCGTCGGT CGGCAGGAAA
151  CTTGCCGAAG ACCGCATCGT GTTCAGCAGG CATGTTTTGA CGGCGGCGGC
201  CTACGTTTTG GGTGTGCACA ACAGGCTGCA TACGGGGACG TACAGATTGC
251  CTTCGGAAGT GTCTGCTTGG GATATCTTGC AGAAAATGCG CGGCGGCAGG
301  CCGGATTCCG TTACCGTGCA GATTATCGAA GGTTCGCGTT TTTCGCATAT
351  GAGGAAAGTC ATCGACGCAA CGCCCGACAT CGGACACGAC ACCAAAGGCT
401  GGAGCAATGA AAAACTGATG GCGGAAGTTG CGCCCGATGC CTTCAGCGGC
451  AATCCTGAAG GGCAGTTTTT CCCCGACAGC TACGAAATCG ATGCGGGCGG
501  CAGTGATTTG CAGATTTACC AAACCGCCTA CAAGGCGATG CAACGCCGCC
551  TGAATGAGGC ATGGGAAAGC AGGCAGGACG GGCTGCCTTA TAAAAACCCT
601  TATGAAATGC TGATTATGGC GAGCCTGGTC GAAAAGGAAA CAGGGCATGA
651  AGCCGACCGC GACCATGTCG CTTCCGTCTT CGTCAACCGC CTGAAAATCG
701  GTATGCGCCT GCAAACCGAC CCGTCCGTGA TTTACGGCAT GGGTGCGGCA
751  TACAAGGGCA AAATCCGTAA AGCCGACCTG CGCCGCGACA CGCCGTACAA
801  CACCTACACG CGCGGCGGTC TGCCGCCAAC CCCGATTGCG CTGCCCGGCA
851  AGGCGGCACT CGATGCCGCC GCCCATCCGT CCGGCGAAAA ATACCTGTAT
901  TTCGTGTCCA AAATGGACGG CACGGGCTTG AGCCAGTTCA GCCATGATTT
951  GACCGAACAC AATGCCGCCG TCCGCAAATA TATTTTGAAA AAATAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 32; ORF7-1>:

```
  1  MLRKLLKWSA VFLTVSAAVF AALLFVPKDN GRAYRIKIAK NQGISSVGRK
 51  LAEDRIVFSR HVLTAAAYVL GVHNRLHTGT YRLPSEVSAW DILQKMRGGR
101  PDSVTVQIIE GSRFSHMRKV IDATPDIGHD TKGWSNEKLM AEVAPDAFSG
151  NPEGQFFPDS YEIDAGGSDL QIYQTAYKAM QRRLNEAWES RQDGLPYKNP
201  YEMLIMASLV EKETGHEADR DHVASVFVNR LKIGMRLQTD PSVIYGMGAA
251  YKGKIRKADL RRDTPYNTYT RGGLPPTPIA LPGKAALDAA AHPSGEKYLY
301  FVSKMDGTGL SQFSHDLTEH NAAVRKYILK K*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with hypothetical protein encoded by *yceg* gene (accession P44270) of *H.influenzae*

ORF7 and yceg proteins show 44% aa identity in 192 aa overlap:

```
ORF7   1   MRGGRPDSVTVQIIEGSRFSHMRKVIDATPDIGHDTKGWSNEKLMA-----EVAPDAFSG 55
           +  G+     V+ IEG  F   RK ++  P +    K  SNE++ A     ++  +
yceg   102 LNSGKEVQFNVKWIEGKTFKDWRKDLENAPHLVQTLKDKSNEEIFALLDLPDIGQNLELK 161

ORF7   56  NPEGQFFPDSYEIDAGGSDLQIYQTAYKAMQRRLNEAWESRQDGLPYKNPYEMLIMAXLV 115
           N EG  +PD+Y      +DL++ + + + M++ LN+AW  R + LP  NPYEMLI+A +V
yceg   162 NVEGWLYPDTYNYTPKSTDLELLKRSAERMKKALNKAWNERDEDLPLANPYEMLILASIV 221

ORF7   116 EKETGHEAXXDHVASVFVNRLKIGMRLQTXXSVIYGMGAAYKGKIRKADLRRDTPYNTYT 175
           EKETG      VASVF+NRLK  M+LQT  +VIYGMG  Y G IRK DL   TPYNTY
yceg   222 EKETGIANERAKVASVFINRLKAKMKLQTDPTVIYGMGENYNGNIRKKDLETKTPYNTYV 281
```

```
ORF7    176 RGGLPPTPIALP 187
              GLPPTPIA+P
yceg    282 IDGLPPTPIAMP 293
```

The complete length YCEG protein has sequence:

```
      1  MKKFLIAILL LILILAGVAS FSYYKMTEFV KTPVNVQADE LLTIERGTTS
     51  SKLATLFEQE KLIADGKLLP YLLKLKPELN KIKAGTYSLE NVKTVQDLLD
    101  LLNSGKEVQF NVKWIEGKTF KDWRKDLENA PHLVQTLKDK SNEEIFALLD
    151  LPDIGQNLEL KNVEGWLYPD TYNYTPKSTD LELLKRSAER MKKALNKAWN
    201  ERDEDLPLAN PYEMLILASI VEKETGIANE RAKVASVFIN RLKAKMKLQT
    251  DPTVIYGMGE NYNGNIRKKD LETKTPYNTY VIDGLPPTPI AMPSESSLQA
    301  VANPEKTDFY YFVADGSGGH KFTRNLNEHN KAVQEYLRWY RSQKNAK
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF7 shows 95.2% identity over a 187aa overlap with an ORF (ORF7a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                                 10        20        30
orf7.pep                                        MRGGRPDSVTVQIIEGSRFSHMRKVIDATP
                                                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf7a        AAYVLGVHNRLHTGTYRLPSEVSAWDILQKMRGGRPDSVTVQIIEGSRFSHMRKVIDATP
               70        80        90       100       110       120

                    40        50        60        70        80        90
orf7.pep     DIGHDTKGWSNEKLMAEVAPDAFSGNPEGQFFPDSYEIDAGGSDLQIYQTAYKAMQRRLN
             || ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||| ||||||||||
orf7a        DIEHDTKGWSNEKLMAEVAPDAFSGNPEGQFFPDSYEIDAGGSDLRIYQIAYKAMQRRLN
               130       140       150       160       170       180

                   100       110       120       130       140       150
orf7.pep     EAWESRQDGLPYKNPYEMLIMAXLVEKETGHEAXXDHVASVFVNRLKIGMRLQTXXSVIY
             |||||||||||||||||||||| |:||||||||  ||||||||||||||||||  ||||
orf7a        EAWESRQDGLPYKNPYEMLIMASLIEKETGHEADRDHVASVFVNRLKIGMRLQTDPSVIY
               190       200       210       220       230       240

                  160       170       180
orf7.pep     GMGAAYKGKIRKADLRRDTPYNTYTRGGLPPTPIALP
             |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf7a        GMGAAYKGKIRKADLRRDTPYNTYTRGGLPPTPIALPGKAALDAAAHPSGEKYLYFVSKM
               250       260       270       280       290       300

orf7a        DGTGLSQFSHDLTEHNAAVRKYILKKX
               310       320       330
```

The complete length ORF7a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 33> is:

```
      1  ATGTTGAGAA AATTGTTGAA ATGGTCTGCC GTTTTTTTGA CCGTATCGGC
     51  AGCCGTTTTC GCCGCGCTGC TTTTCGTCCC TAAAGACAAC GGCAGGGCAT
    101  ACAGGATTAA AATTGCCAAA AACCAGGGTA TTTCGTCGGT CGGCAGGAAA
    151  CTTGCCGAAG ACCGCATCGT GTTCAGCAGG CATGTTTTGA CGGCGGCGGC
    201  CTACGTTTTG GGTGTGCACA ACAGGCTGCA TACGGGGACG TACAGACTGC
    251  CTTCGGAAGT GTCTGCTTGG GATATCTTGC AGAAAATGCG CGGCGGCAGG
    301  CCGGATTCCG TTACCGTGCA GATTATCGAA GGTTCGCGTT TTTCGCATAT
    351  GAGGAAAGTC ATCGACGCAA CGCCCGACAT CGAACACGAC ACCAAAGGCT
    401  GGAGCAATGA AAAACTGATG GCGGAAGTTG CCCCTGATGC CTTCAGCGGC
    451  AATCCTGAAG GGCAGTTTTT CCCCGACAGC TACGAAATCG ATGCGGGCGG
    501  CAGCGATTTA CGGATTTACC AAATCGCCTA CAAGGCGATG CAACGCCGAC
    551  TGAATGAGGC ATGGGAAAGC AGGCAGGACG GGCTGCCTTA TAAAAACCCT
    601  TATGAAATGC TGATTATGGC GAGCCTGATC GAAAAGGAAA CAGGGCATGA
    651  AGCCGACCGC GACCATGTCG CTTCCGTCTT CGTCAACCGC CTGAAAATCG
    701  GTATGCGCCT GCAAACCGAC CCGTCCGTGA TTTACGGCAT GGGTGCGGCA
    751  TACAAGGGCA AAATCCGTAA AGCCGACCTG CGCCGCGACA CGCCGTACAA
    801  CACCTACACG CGCGGCGGTC TGCCGCCAAC CCCGATCGCG CTGCCCGGCA
    851  AGGCGGCACT CGATGCCGCC GCCCATCCGT CCGGTGAAAA ATACCTGTAT
    901  TTCGTGTCCA AAATGGACGG TACGGGCTTG AGCCAGTTCA GCCATGATTT
    951  GACCGAACAC AACGCCGCCG TTCGCAAATA TATTTTGAAA AAATAA
```

This is predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 34>:

```
  1  MLRKLLKWSA VFLTVSAAVF AALLFVPKDN GRAYRIKIAK NQGISSVGRK
 51  LAEDRIVFSR HVLTAAAYVL GVHNRLHTGT YRLPSEVSAW DILQKMRGGR
101  PDSVTVQIIE GSRFSHMRKV IDATPDIEHD TKGWSNEKLM AEVAPDAFSG
151  NPEGQFFPDS YEIDAGGSDL RIYQIAYKAM QRRLNEAWES RQDGLPYKNP
201  YEMLIMASLI EKETGHEADR DHVASVFVNR LKIGMRLQTD PSVIYGMGAA
251  YKGKIRKADL RRDTPYNTYT RGGLPPTPIA LPGKAALDAA AHPSGEKYLY
301  FVSKMDGTGL SQFSHDLTEH NAAVRKYILK K*
```

A leader peptide is underlined.

ORF7a and ORF7-1 show 98.8% identity in 331 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf7a.pep       MLRKLLKWSAVFLTVSAAVFAALLFVPKDNGRAYRIKIAKNQGISSVGRKLAEDRIVFSR
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf7-1          MLRKLLKWSAVFLTVSAAVFAALLFVPKDNGRAYRIKIAKNQGISSVGRKLAEDRIVFSR
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf7a.pep       HVLTAAAYVLGVHNRLHTGTYRLPSEVSAWDILQKMRGGRPDSVTVQIIEGSRFSHMRKV
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf7-1          HVLTAAAYVLGVHNRLHTGTYRLPSEVSAWDILQKMRGGRPDSVTVQIIEGSRFSHMRKV
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf7a.pep       IDATPDIEHDTKGWSNEKLMAEVAPDAFSGNPEGQFFPDSYEIDAGGSDLRIYQIAYKAM
                ||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||| |||||
orf7-1          IDATPDIGHDTKGWSNEKLMAEVAPDAFSGNPEGQFFPDSYEIDAGGSDLQIYQTAYKAM
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf7a.pep       QRRLNEAWESRQDGLPYKNPYEMLIMASLIEKETGHEADRDHVASVFVNRLKIGMRLQTD
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf7-1          QRRLNEAWESRQDGLPYKNPYEMLIMASLVEKETGHEADRDHVASVFVNRLKIGMRLQTD
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260       270       280       290       300
orf7a.pep       PSVIYGMGAAYKGKIRKADLRRDTPYNTYTRGGLPPTPIALPGKAALDAAAHPSGEKYLY
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf7-1          PSVIYGMGAAYKGKIRKADLRRDTPYNTYTRGGLPPTPIALPGKAALDAAAHPSGEKYLY
                250       260       270       280       290       300

                310       320       330
orf7a.pep       FVSKMDGTGLSQFSHDLTEHNAAVRKYILKKX
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf7-1          FVSKMDGTGLSQFSHDLTEHNAAVRKYILKKX
                310       320       330
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF7 shows 94.7% identity over a 187aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF7.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf7            MRGGRPDSVTVQIIEGSRFSHMRKVIDATPDIGHDTKGWSNEKLMAEVAPDAFSGNPEGQ   60
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf7ng          MRGGRPDSVTVQIIEGSRFSHMRKVIDATPDIGHDTKGWSNEKLMAEVAPDAFSGNPEGQ   60

orf7            FFPDSYEIDAGGSDLQIYQTAYKAMQRRLNEAWESRQDGLPYKNPYEMLIMAXLVEKETG  120
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| :|||||||||||||||| |:|||||
orf7ng          FFPDSYEIDAGGSDLQIYQTAYKAMQRRLNEAWAGRQDGLPYKNPYEMLIMASLIEKETG  120

orf7            HEAXXDHVASVFVNRLKIGMRLQTXXSVIYGMGAAYKGKIRKADLRRDTPYNTYTRGGLP  180
                |||  |||||||||||||||||  |||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||
orf7ng          HEADRDHVASVFVNRLKIGMRLQTDPSVIYGMGAAYKGKIRKADLRRDTPYNTYTGGGLP  180

orf7            PTPIALP                                                       187
```

```
orf7ng      PTRIALPGKAAMDAAAHPSGEKYLYFVSKMDGTGLSQFSHDLTEHNAAVRKYILKK  236
```

An ORF7ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 35> is predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 36>:

```
   1  MRGGRPDSVT VQIIEGSRFS HMRKVIDATP DIGHDTKGWS NEKLMAEVAP
  51  DAFSGNPEGQ FFPDSYEIDA GGSDLQIYQT AYKAMQRRLN EAWAGRQDGL
 101  PYKNPYEMLI MASLIEKETG HEADRDHVAS VFVNRLKIGM RLQTDPSVIY
 151  GMGAAYKGKI RKADLRRDTP YNTYTGGGLP PTRIALPGKA AMDAAAHPSG
 201  EKYLYFVSKM DGTGLSQFSH DLTEHNAAVR KYILKK*
```

Further sequence analysis revealed a partial DNA sequence of ORF7ng <SEQ ID 37>:

```
   1  ..taccgaatca AGATTGCCAA AAATCAGGGT ATTTCGTCGG TCGGCAGGAA
  51    ACTTGCcgaA GACCGCATCG TGTTCAGCAG GCATGTTTTG ACAGCGGCGG
 101    CCTACGTTTT GGGTGTGCAC AACAGGCTGC ATACGGGGAC gTACAGATTG
 151    CCTTCGGAAG TGTCTGCTTG GGATATCTTG CAGAAAATGC GCGGCGGCAG
 201    GCCGGATTCC GTTACCGTGC AGATTATCGA AGGTTCGCGT TTTTCGCATA
 251    TGAGGAAAGT CATCGACGCA ACGCCCGACA TCGGACACGA CACCAAAGGC
 301    TGGAGCAATG AAAAACTGAT GGCGGAAGTT GCGCCCGATG CCTTCAGCGG
 351    CAATCCTGAA GGGCAGTTTT TTCCCGACAG CTACGAAATC GATGCGGGCG
 401    GCAGCGATTT GCAGATTTAC CAAACCGCCT ACAAGGCGAT GCAACGCCGC
 451    CTGAACGAGG CATGGGCAGG CAGGCAGGAC GGGCTGCCTT ATAAAAACCC
 501    TTATGAAATG CTGATTATGG CGAGCCTGAT CGAAAAGGAA ACGGGGCATG
 551    AGGCCGACCG CGACCATGTC GCTTCCGTCT TCGTCAACCG CCTGAAAATC
 601    GGTATGCGCC TGCAAACCGA CCCGTCCGTG ATTTACGGCA TGGGTGCGGC
 651    ATACAAGGGC AAAATCCGTA AAGCCGACCT GCGCCGCGAC ACGCCGTACA
 701    aCAccTAtac gggcgggggc ttgccgccaa cccggattgc gctgcccggC
 751    Aaggcggcaa tggatgccgc cgcccacccg tccggcgaAa aatacctgTa
 801    tttcgtgtcC AAAATGGACG GCACGGGCTT GAGCCAGTTC AGCCATGATT
 851    TGACCGAACA CAACGCCGCc gTcCGCAAAT ATATTTTGAA AAAATAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 38; ORF7ng-1>:

```
   1  ..YRIKIAKNQG ISSVGRKLAE DRIVFSRHVL TAAAYVLGVH NRLHTGTYRL
  51    PSEVSAWDIL QKMRGGRPDS VTVQIIEGSR FSHMRKVIDA TPDIGHDTKG
 101    WSNEKLMAEV APDAFSGNPE GQFFPDSYEI DAGGSDLQIY QTAYKAMQRR
 151    LNEAWAGRQD GLPYKNPYEM LIMASLIEKE TGHEADRDHV ASVFVNRLKI
 201    GMRLQTDPSV IYGMGAAYKG KIRKADLRRD TPYNTYTGGG LPPTRIALPG
 251    KAAMDAAAHP SGEKYLYFVS KMDGTGLSQF SHDLTEHNAA VRKYILKK*
```

ORF7ng-1 and ORF7-1 show 98.0% identity in 298 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf7-1.pep      KLLKWSAVFLTVSAAVFAALLFVPKDNGRAYRIKIAKNQGISSVGRKLAEDRIVFSRHVL
                                                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf7ng-1                                         YRIKIAKNQGISSVGRKLAEDRIVFSRHVL
                                                       10        20        30

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf7-1.pep      TAAAYVLGVHNRLHTGTYRLPSEVSAWDILQKMRGGRPDSVTVQIIEGSRFSHMRKVIDA
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf7ng-1        TAAAYVLGVHNRLHTGTYRLPSEVSAWDILQKMRGGRPDSVTVQIIEGSRFSHMRKVIDA
                        40        50        60        70        80        90

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf7-1.pep      TPDIGHDTKGWSNEKLMAEVAPDAFSGNPEGQFFPDSYEIDAGGSDLQIYQTAYKAMQRR
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf7ng-1        TPDIGHDTKGWSNEKLMAEVAPDAFSGNPEGQFFPDSYEIDAGGSDLQIYQTAYKAMQRR
                       100       110       120       130       140       150

                   190       200       210       220       230       240
orf7-1.pep      LNEAWESRQDGLPYKNPYEMLIMASLVEKETGHEADRDHVASVFVNRLKIGMRLQTDPSV
                ||||| :|||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf7ng-1        LNEAWAGRQDGLPYKNPYEMLIMASLIEKETGHEADRDHVASVFVNRLKIGMRLQTDPSV
                       160       170       180       190       200       210

                   250       260       270       280       290       300
orf7-1.pep      IYGMGAAYKGKIRKADLRRDTPYNTYTRGGLPPTPIALPGKAALDAAAHPSGEKYLYFVS
```

```
                 |||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||| ||||||||:|||||||||||||||
orf7ng-1         IYGMGAAYKGKIRKADLRRDTPYNTYTGGGLPPTRIALPGKAAMDAAAHPSGEKYLYFVS
                        220       230       240       250       260       270

                    310       320       330
orf7-1.pep       KMDGTGLSQFSHDLTEHNAAVRKYILKKX
                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf7ng-1         KMDGTGLSQFSHDLTEHNAAVRKYILKKX
                        280       290
```

In addition, ORF7ng-1 shows significant homology with a hypothetical *E.coli* protein:

```
sp|P28306|YCEG_ECOLI HYPOTHETICAL 38.2 KD PROTEIN IN PABC-HOLB INTERGENIC REGION
gi|1787339 (AE000210) o340; 100% identical to fragment YCEG_ECOLI SW: P28306 but
has 97 additional C-terminal residues [Escherichia coli] Length = 340
 Score = 79 (36.2 bits), Expect = 5.0e-57, Sum P(2) = 5.0e-57
 Identities = 20/87 (22%), Positives = 40/87 (45%)

Query:    10 GISSVGRKLAEDRIVFSRHVLTAAAYVLGVHNRLHTGTYRLPSEVSAWDILQKMRGGRPD 69
             G  ++G +L  D+I+    V      +    +    GTYR   +++  ++L+ +  G+
Sbjct:    49 GRLALGEQLYADKIINRPRVFQWLLRIEPDLSHFKAGTYRFTPQMTVREMLKLLESGKEA 108

Query:    70 SVTVQIIEGSRFSHMRKVIDATPDIGH 96
                ++++EG R S   K +   P I H
Sbjct:   109 QFPLRLVEGMRLSDYLKQLREAPYIKH 135

 Score = 438 (200.7 bits), Expect = 5.0e-57, Sum P(2) = 5.0e-57
 Identities = 84/155 (54%), Positives = 111/155 (71%)

Query:   120 EGQFFPDSYEIDAGGSDLQIYQTAYKAMQRRLNEAWAGRQDGLPYKNPYEMLIMASLIEK 179
             EG F+PD++   A  +D+ + + A+K M + ++ AW GR DGLPYK+  +++ MAS+IEK
Sbjct:   158 EGWFWPDTWMYTANTTDVALLKRAHKKMVKAVDSAWEGRADGLPYKDKNQLVTMASIIEK 217

Query:   180 ETGHEADRDHVASVFVNRLKIGMRLQTDPSVIYGMGAAYKGKIRKADLRRDTPYNTYTGG 239
             ET   ++RD VASVF+NRL+IGMRLQTDP+VIYGMG  Y GK+ +ADL   T YNTYT
Sbjct:   218 ETAVASERDKVASVFINRLRIGMRLQTDPTVIYGMGERYNGKLSRADLETPTAYNTYTIT 277

Query:   240 GLPPTRIALPGKAAMDAAAHPSGEKYLYFVSKMDG 274
             GLPP  IA PG  ++ AAAHP+   YLYFV+  G
Sbjct:   278 GLPPGAIATPGADSLKAAAHPAKTPYLYFVADGKG 312
```

Based on this analysis, including the fact that the *H.influenzae* YCEG protein possesses a possible leader sequence, it is predicted that the proteins from *N meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 6

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 39>:

```
   1  CGTTTCAAAA TGTTAACTGT GTTGACGGCA ACCTTGATTG CCGGACAGGT
  51  ATCTGCCGCC GGAGGCGGTG CGGGGGATAT GAAACAGCCG AAGGAAGTCG
 101  GAAAGGTTTT CAGAAAGCAG CAGCGTTACA GCGAGGAAGA AATCAAAAAC
 151  GAACGCGCAC GGCTTGCGGC AGTGGGCGAG CGGGTTAATC AGATATTTAC
 201  GTTGCTGGGA GGGGAAACCG CCTTGCAAAA GGGGCAGGCG GGAACGGCTC
 251  TGGCAACCTA TATGCTGATG TTGGAACGCA CAAAATCCCC CGAAGTCGCC
 301  GAACGCGCCT TGGAAATGGC CGTGTCGCTG AACGCGTTTG AACAGGCGGA
 351  AATGATTTAT CAGAAATGGC GGCAGATTGA GCCTATACCG GGTAAGGCGC
 401  AAAAACGGGC GGGGTGGCTG CGGAACGTGC TGAGGGAAAG AGGAAATCAG
 451  CATCTGGACG GACGGGAAGA AGTGCTGGCT CAGGCGGACG AAGGACAG
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 40; ORF9>:

```
   1  ..RFKMLTVLTA TLIAGQVSAA GGGAGDMKQP KEVGKVFRKQ QRYSEEEIKN
  51    ERARLAAVGE RVNQIFTLLG GETALQKGQA GTALATYMLM LERTKSPEVA
 101    ERALEMAVSL NAFEQAEMIY QKWRQIEPIP GKAQKRAGWL RNVLRERGNQ
```

```
151    HLDGREEVLA QADEGQ
```

Further sequence analysis revealed the complete DNA sequence <SEQ ID 41>:

```
   1  ATGTTACCTA ACCGTTTCAA AATGTTAACT GTGTTGACGG CAACCTTGAT
  51  TGCCGGACAG GTATCTGCCG CCGGAGGCGG TGCGGGGGAT ATGAAACAGC
 101  CGAAGGAAGT CGGAAAGGTT TTCAGAAAGC AGCAGCGTTA CAGCGAGGAA
 151  GAAATCAAAA ACGAACGCGC ACGGCTTGCG GCAGTGGGCG AGCGGGTTAA
 201  TCAGATATTT ACGTTGCTGG GAGGGGAAAC CGCCTTGCAA AAGGGGCAGG
 251  CGGGAACGGC TCTGGCAACC TATATGCTGA TGTTGGAACG CACAAAATCC
 301  CCCGAAGTCG CCGAACGCGC CTTGGAAATG GCCGTGTCGC TGAACGCGTT
 351  TGAACAGGCG GAAATGATTT ATCAGAAATG GCGGCAGATT GAGCCTATAC
 401  CGGGTAAGGC GCAAAAACGG GCGGGGTGGC TGCGGAACGT GCTGAGGGAA
 451  AGAGGAAATC AGCATCTGGA CGGACTGGAA GAAGTGCTGG CTCAGGCGGA
 501  CGAAGGACAG AACCGCAGGG TGTTTTTATT GTTGGCACAA GCCGCCGTGC
 551  AACAGGACGG GTTGGCGCAA AAAGCATCGA AAGCGGTTCG CCGCGCGGCG
 601  TTGAAATATG AACATCTGCC CGAAGCGGCG GTTGCCGATG TGGTGTTCAG
 651  CGTACAGGGA CGCGAAAAGG AAAAGGCAAT CGGAGCTTTG CAGCGTTTGG
 701  CGAAGCTCGA TACGGAAATA TTGCCCCCCA CTTTAATGAC GTTGCGTCTG
 751  ACTGCACGCA AATATCCCGA AATACTCGAC GGCTTTTTCG AGCAGACAGA
 801  CACCCAAAAC CTTTCGGCCG TCTGGCAGGA AATGGAAATT ATGAATCTGG
 851  TTTCCCTGCA CAGGCTGGAT GATGCCTATG CGCGTTTGAA CGTGCTGTTG
 901  GAACGCAATC CGAATGCAGA CCTGTATATT CAGGCAGCGA TATTGGCGGC
 951  AAACCGAAAA GAAGGTGCTT CCGTTATCGA CGGCTACGCC GAAAAGGCAT
1001  ACGGCAGGGG GACGGAGGAA CAGCGGAGCA GGGCGGCGCT AACGGCGGCG
1051  ATGATGTATG CCGACCGCAG GGATTACGCC AAAGTCAGGC AGTGGCTGAA
1101  AAAAGTATCC GCGCCGGAAT ACCTGTTCGA CAAAGGTGTG CTGGCGGCTG
1151  CGGCGGCTGT CGAGTTGGAC GGCGGCAGGG CGGCTTTGCG GCAGATCGGC
1201  AGGGTGCGGA AACTTCCCGA ACAGCAGGGG CGGTATTTTA CGGCAGACAA
1251  TTTGTCCAAA ATACAGATGC TCGCCCTGTC GAAGCTGCCC GATAAACGGG
1301  AGGCTTTGAG GGGGTTGGAC AAGATTATCG AAAAACCGCC TGCCGGCAGT
1351  AATACAGAGT TACAGGCAGA GGCATTGGTA CAGCGGTCAG TTGTTTACGA
1401  TCGGCTTGGC AAGCGGAAAA AAATGATTTC AGATCTTGAA AGGGCGTTCA
1451  GGCTTGCACC CGATAACGCT CAGATTATGA ATAATCTGGG CTACAGCCTG
1501  CTGACCGATT CCAAACGTTT GGACGAAGGT TTCGCCCTGC TTCAGACGGC
1551  ATACCAAATC AACCCGGACG ATACCGCTGT CAACGACAGC ATAGGCTGGG
1601  CGTATTACCT GAAAGGCGAC GCGGAAAGCG CGCTGCCGTA TCTGCGGTAT
1651  TCGTTTGAAA ACGACCCCGA GCCCGAAGTT GCCGCCCATT TGGGCGAAGT
1701  GTTGTGGGCA TTGGGCGAAC GCGATCAGGC GGTTGACGTA TGGACGCAGG
1751  CGGCACACCT TACGGGAGAC AAGAAAATAT GGCGGGAAAC GCTCAAACGT
1801  CACGGCATCG CATTGCCCCA ACCTTCCCGA AAACCTCGGA AATAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 42; ORF9-1>:

```
   1  MLPNRFKMLT VLTATLIAGQ VSAAGGGAGD MKQPKEVGKV FRKQQRYSEE
  51  EIKNERARLA AVGERVNQIF TLLGGETALQ KGQAGTALAT YMLMLERTKS
 101  PEVAERALEM AVSLNAFEQA EMIYQKWRQI EPIPGKAQKR AGWLRNVLRE
 151  RGNQHLDGLE EVLAQADEGQ NRRVFLLLAQ AAVQQDGLAQ KASKAVRRAA
 201  LKYEHLPEAA VADVVFSVQG REKEKAIGAL QRLAKLDTEI LPPTLMTLRL
 251  TARKYPEILD GFFEQTDTQN LSAVWQEMEI MNLVSLHRLD DAYARLNVLL
 301  ERNPNADLYI QAAILAANRK EGASVIDGYA EKAYGRGTEE QRSRAALTAA
 351  MMYADRRDYA KVRQWLKKVS APEYLFDKGV LAAAAAVELD GGRAALRQIG
 401  RVRKLPEQQG RYFTADNLSK IQMLALSKLP DKREALRGLD KIIEKPPAGS
 451  NTELQAEALV QRSVVYDRLG KRKKMISDLE RAFRLAPDNA QIMNNLGYSL
 501  LTDSKRLDEG FALLQTAYQI NPDDTAVNDS IGWAYYLKGD AESALPYLRY
 551  SFENDPEPEV AAHLGEVLWA LGERDQAVDV WTQAAHLTGD KKIWRETLKR
 601  HGIALPQPSR KPRK*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF9 shows 89.8% identity over a 166aa overlap with an ORF (ORF9a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                    10        20        30        40        50
orf9.pep       RFKMLTVLTATLIAGQVSAAGGGAGDMKQPKEVGKVFRKQQRYSEEEIKNERARLA
               || :|:||:|:|:|||: ||  ||:| | ||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf9a       MLPARFTILSVLAAALLAGQAYAA--GAADAKPPKEVGKVFRKQQRYSEEEIKNERARLA
```

```
                    10        20        30        40        50

                  60        70        80        90       100       110
orf9.pep      AVGERVNQIFTLLGGETALQKGQAGTALATYMLMLERTKSPEVAERALEMAVSLNAFEQA
              ||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf9a         AVGERVNQIFTLLGXETALQKGQAGTALATYMLMLERTKSPEVAERALEMAVSLNAFEQA
              60        70        80        90       100       110

               120       130       140       150       160
orf9.pep      EMIYQKWRQIEPIPGKAQKRAGWLRNVLRERGNQHLDGREEVLAQADEGQ
              |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| || |||||| |
orf9a         EMIYQKWRQIEPIPGKAQKRAGWLRNVLRERGNQHLDGLEEXLAQADEXQNRRVFLLLAQ
             120       130       140       150       160       170

orf9a         AAVQQDGLAQKASKAVRRAALRYEHLPEAAVADVVFSVQXREKEKAIGALQRLAKLDTEI
             180       190       200       210       220       230
```

The complete length ORF9a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 43> is:

```
   1 ATGTTACCCG CCCGTTTCAC CATTTTATCT GTGCTCGCGG CAGCCCTGCT
  51 TGCCGGGCAG GCGTATGCCG CCGGCGCGGC GGATGCGAAG CCGCCGAAGG
 101 AAGTCGGAAA GGTTTTCAGA AAGCAGCAGC GTTACAGCGA GGAAGAAATC
 151 AAAAACGAAC GCGCACGGCT TGCGGCAGTG GGCGAGCGGG TTAATCAGAT
 201 ATTTACGTTG CTGGGANGGG AAACCGCCTT GCAAAAGGGG CAGGCGGGAA
 251 CGGCTCTGGC AACCTATATG CTGATGTTGG AACGCACAAA ATCCCCCGAA
 301 GTCGCCGAAC GCGCCTTGGA AATGGCCGTG TCNCTGAACG CGTTTGAACA
 351 GGCGGAAATG ATTTATCAGA AATGGCGGCA GATTGAGCCT ATACCGGGTA
 401 AGGCGCAAAA ACGGGCGGGG TGGCTGCGGA ACGTGCTGAG GGAAAGAGGA
 451 AATCAGCATC TAGACGGACT GGAAGAANTG CTGGCTCAGG CGGACGAANG
 501 ACAGAACCGC AGGGTGTTTT TATTGTTGGC ACAAGCCGCC GTGCAACAGG
 551 ACGGGTTGGC GCAAAAAGCA TCGAAAGCGG TTCGCCGCGC GGCGTTGAGA
 601 TATGAACATC TGCCCGAAGC GGCGGTTGCC GATGTGGTGT TCAGCGTACA
 651 GGNACGCGAA AAGGAAAAGG CAATCGGAGC TTTGCAGCGT TTGGCGAAGC
 701 TCGATACGGA AATATTGCCC CCCACTTTAA TGACGTTGCG TCTGACTGCA
 751 CGCAAATATC CCGAAATACT CGACGGCTTT TTCGAGCAGA CAGACACCCA
 801 AAACCTTTCG GCCGTCTGGC AGGAAATGGA AATTATGAAT CTGGTTTCCC
 851 TGCACAGGCT GGATGATGCC TATGCGCGTT TGAACGTGCT GTTGGAACGC
 901 AATCCGAATG CAGACCTGTA TATTCAGGCA GCGATATTGG CGGCAAACCG
 951 AAAAGAANGT GCTTCCGTTA TCGACGGCTA CGCCGAAAAG GCATACGGCA
1001 GGGGGACGGG GGAACAGCGG GGCAGGGCGG CAATGACGGC GGCGATGATA
1051 TATGCCGACC GAAGGGATTA CACCAAAGTC AGGCAGTGGT TGAAAAAAGT
1101 GTCCGCGCCG GAATACCTGT TCGACAAAGG TGTGCTGGCG GCTGCGGCGG
1151 CTGTCGAGTT GGACNGCGGC AGGGCGGCTT TGCGGCAGAT CGGCAGGGTG
1201 CGGAAACTTC CCGAACAGCA GGGGCGGTAT TTTACGGCAG ACAATTTGTC
1251 CAAAATACAG ATGTTCGCCC TGTCGAAGCT GCCCGACAAA CGGGAGGCTT
1301 TGAGGGGGTT GGACAAGATT ATCGAAAAAC CGCCTGCCGG CAGTAATACA
1351 GAGTTACAGG CAGAGGCATT GGTACAGCGG TCAGTTGTTT ACGATCGGCT
1401 TGGCAAGCGG AAAAAAATGA TTTCAGATCT TGAAAGGGCG TTCAGGCTTG
1451 CACCCGATAA CGCTCAGATT ATGAATAATC TGGGCTACAG CCTGCTTTCC
1501 GATTCCAAAC GTTTGGACGA AGGCTTCGCC CTGCTTCAGA CGGCATACCA
1551 AATCAACCCG GACGATACCG CTGTCAACGA CAGCATAGGC TGGGCGTATT
1601 ACCTGAAANG CGACGCGGAA AGCGCGCTGC CGTATCTGCG GTATTCGTTT
1651 GAAAACGACC CCGAGCCCGA AGTTGCCGCC CATTTGGGCG AAGTGTTGTG
1701 GGCATTGGGC GAACGCGATC AGGCGGTTGA CGTATGGACG CAGGCGGCAC
1751 ACCTTACGGG AGACAAGAAA ATATGGCGGG AAACGCTCAA ACGTCACGGC
1801 ATCGCATTGC CCCAACCTTC CCGAAAACCT CGGAAATAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 44>:

```
   1 MLPARFTILS VLAAALLAGQ AYAAGAADAK PPKEVGKVFR KQQRYSEEEI
  51 KNERARLAAV GERVNQIFTL LGXETALQKG QAGTALATYM LMLERTKSPE
 101 VAERALEMAV SLNAFEQAEM IYQKWRQIEP IPGKAQKRAG WLRNVLRERG
 151 NQHLDGLEEX LAQADEXQNR RVFLLLAQAA VQQDGLAQKA SKAVRRAALR
 201 YEHLPEAAVA DVVFSVQXRE KEKAIGALQR LAKLDTEILP PTLMTLRLTA
 251 RKYPEILDGF FEQTDTQNLS AVWQEMEIMN LVSLHRLDDA YARLNVLLER
 301 NPNADLYIQA AILAANRKEX ASVIDGYAEK AYGRGTGEQR GRAAMTAAMI
 351 YADRRDYTKV RQWLKKVSAP EYLFDKGVLA AAAAVELDXG RAALRQIGRV
 401 RKLPEQQGRY FTADNLSKIQ MFALSKLPDK REALRGLDKI IEKPPAGSNT
 451 ELQAEALVQR SVVYDRLGKR KKMISDLERA FRLAPDNAQI MNNLGYSLLS
 501 DSKRLDEGFA LLQTAYQINP DDTAVNDSIG WAYYLKXDAE SALPYLRYSF
 551 ENDPEPEVAA HLGEVLWALG ERDQAVDVWT QAAHLTGDKK IWRETLKRHG
```

601 IALPQPSRKP RK*

ORF9a and ORF9-1 show 95.3% identity in 614 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50
orf9a.pep   MLPARFTILSVLAAALLAGQAYAAG--AADAKPPKEVGKVFRKQQRYSEEEIKNERARLA
            ||| || :|:||:|:|:|||: ||| |:| | ||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf9-1      MLPNRFKMLTVLTATLIAGQVSAAGGGAGDMKQPKEVGKVFRKQQRYSEEEIKNERARLA
                10        20        30        40        50        60

               60        70        80        90       100       110
orf9a.pep   AVGERVNQIFTLLGXETALQKGQAGTALATYMLMLERTKSPEVAERALEMAVSLNAFEQA
            |||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf9-1      AVGERVNQIFTLLGGETALQKGQAGTALATYMLMLERTKSPEVAERALEMAVSLNAFEQA
                70        80        90       100       110       120

              120       130       140       150       160       170
orf9a.pep   EMIYQKWRQIEPIPGKAQKRAGWLRNVLRERGNQHLDGLEEXLAQADEXQNRRVFLLLAQ
            |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||| ||||||||||||
orf9-1      EMIYQKWRQIEPIPGKAQKRAGWLRNVLRERGNQHLDGLEEVLAQADEGQNRRVFLLLAQ
                130       140       150       160       170       180

              180       190       200       210       220       230
orf9a.pep   AAVQQDGLAQKASKAVRRAALRYEHLPEAAVADVVFSVQXREKEKAIGALQRLAKLDTEI
            ||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||
orf9-1      AAVQQDGLAQKASKAVRRAALKYEHLPEAAVADVVFSVQGREKEKAIGALQRLAKLDTEI
                190       200       210       220       230       240

              240       250       260       270       280       290
orf9a.pep   LPPTLMTLRLTARKYPEILDGFFEQTDTQNLSAVWQEMEIMNLVSLHRLDDAYARLNVLL
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf9-1      LPPTLMTLRLTARKYPEILDGFFEQTDTQNLSAVWQEMEIMNLVSLHRLDDAYARLNVLL
                250       260       270       280       290       300

              300       310       320       330       340       350
orf9a.pep   ERNPNADLYIQAAILAANRKEXASVIDGYAEKAYGRGTGEQRGRAAMTAAMIYADRRDYT
            |||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||| |||:|||:||||:|||||||:
orf9-1      ERNPNADLYIQAAILAANRKEGASVIDGYAEKAYGRGTEEQRSRAALTAAMMYADRRDYA
                310       320       330       340       350       360

              360       370       380       390       400       410
orf9a.pep   KVRQWLKKVSAPEYLFDKGVLAAAAAVELDXGRAALRQIGRVRKLPEQQGRYFTADNLSK
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf9-1      KVRQWLKKVSAPEYLFDKGVLAAAAAVELDGGRAALRQIGRVRKLPEQQGRYFTADNLSK
                370       380       390       400       410       420

              420       430       440       450       460       470
orf9a.pep   IQMFALSKLPDKREALRGLDKIIEKPPAGSNTELQAEALVQRSVVYDRLGKRKKMISDLE
            |||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf9-1      IQMLALSKLPDKREALRGLDKIIEKPPAGSNTELQAEALVQRSVVYDRLGKRKKMISDLE
                430       440       450       460       470       480

              480       490       500       510       520       530
orf9a.pep   RAFRLAPDNAQIMNNLGYSLLSDSKRLDEGFALLQTAYQINPDDTAVNDSIGWAYYLKXD
            ||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |
orf9-1      RAFRLAPDNAQIMNNLGYSLLTDSKRLDEGFALLQTAYQINPDDTAVNDSIGWAYYLKGD
                490       500       510       520       530       540

              540       550       560       570       580       590
orf9a.pep   AESALPYLRYSFENDPEPEVAAHLGEVLWALGERDQAVDVWTQAAHLTGDKKIWRETLKR
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf9-1      AESALPYLRYSFENDPEPEVAAHLGEVLWALGERDQAVDVWTQAAHLTGDKKIWRETLKR
                550       560       570       580       590       600

              600       610
orf9a.pep   HGIALPQPSRKPRKX
            |||||||||||||||
orf9-1      HGIALPQPSRKPRKX
                610
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF9 shows 82.8% identity over a 163aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF9.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
Orf9          RFKMLTVLTATLIAGQVSAAGGGAGDMKQPKEVGKVFRKQQRYSEEEIKNERAR   54
              || :|:||:|:|:|||: ||  ||:|:: |||||||:||::|||||||||||||
orf9ng     MIMLPARFTILSVLAAALLAGQAYAA--GAADVELPKEVGKVLRKHRRYSEEEIKNERAR   58

orf9       LAAVGERVNQIFTLLGGETALQKGQAGTALATYMLMLERTKSPEVAERALEMAVSLNAFE  114
           ||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf9ng     LAAVGERVNRVFTLLGGETALQKGQAGTALATYMLMLERTKSPEVAERALEMAVSLNAFE  118

orf9       QAEMIYQKWRQIEPIPGKAQKRAGWLRNVLRERGNQHLDGREEVLAQADEGQ          166
           |||||||||||||||||:||| ||||||||:| || |||  ||| ||:|
orf9ng     QAEMIYQKWRQIEPIPGEAQKPAGWLRNVLKEGGNPHLDRLEEVPAQSDYVHQPMIFLLL  178
```

The ORF9ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 45> was predicted to encode a protein having including acid sequence <SEQ ID 46>:

```
   1  MIMLPARFTI LSVLAAALLA GQAYAAGAAD VELPKEVGKV LRKHRRYSEE
  51  EIKNERARLA AVGERVNRVF TLLGGETALQ KGQAGTALAT YMLMLERTKS
 101  PEVAERALEM AVSLNAFEQA EMIYQKWRQI EPIPGEAQKP AGWLRNVLKE
 151  GGNPHLDRLE EVPAQSDYVH QPMIFLLLVQ AAVQHGGVAQ KPSKAVRPAA
 201  YNYEVLPETA GADAVFCVQG PQYEKAIQSF PPCGRNPQTE NIAPPFNELF
 251  RPTARPISPK LLQRFFRTEP NLAKPFRPPG PEMETYQTGF PRPLTRNNPT
```

Amino acids 1-28 are a putative leader sequence, and 173-189 are predicted to be a transmembrane domain.

Further sequence analysis revealed the complete length ORF9ng DNA sequence <SEQ ID 47>:

```
   1  ATGTTACCCG CCCGTTTCAC TATTTTATCT GTCCTCGCAG CAGCCCTGCT
  51  TGCCGGACAG GCGTATGCTG CCGGCGCGGC GGATGTGGAG CTGCCGAAGG
 101  AAGTCGGAAA GGTTTTAAGG AAACATCGGC GTTACAGCGA GGAAGAAATC
 151  AAAAACGAAC GCGCACGGCT TGCGGCAGTG GGCGAACGGG TCAACAGGGT
 201  GTTTACGCTG TTGGGCGGTG AAACGGCTTT GCAGAAAGGG CAGGCGGGAA
 251  CGGCTCTGGC AACCTATATG CTGATGTTGG AACGCACAAA ATCCCCCGAA
 301  GTCGCCGAAC GCGCCTTGGA AATGGCCGTG TCGCTGAACG CGTTTGAACA
 351  GGCGGAAATG ATTTATCAGA AATGgcggca gatcgagcct ataCcgggtg
 401  aggcgcaaaa accgGcgggG tggctgcgga acgtattgaa ggaagggGGa
 451  aaTCAGCATC TGGAcgggtt gaaagaggTG CtggcgcaAT cggacgatGT
 501  GCAAAAAcgc aggaTATTTT TGCTGCTGGT GCAAGCCGCC GTGCagcagg
 551  gTGGGGTGGC TCAAAAAGCA TCGAAAGCGG TTCGCcgtgc GGcgttgaAG
 601  TATGAACATC TGCCcgaagc ggcggTTGCC GATGcggTGT TCGGCGTACA
 651  GGGACGCGAA AAGGAAAagg caaTCGAAGC TTTGCAGCGT TTGGCGAAGC
 701  TCGATACGGA AATATTGCCC CCCACTTTAA TGACGTTGCG TCTGACTGCA
 751  CGCAAATATC CCGAAATACT CGACGGCTTT TTCGAGCAGA CAGACACCCA
 801  AAACCTTTCG GCCGTCTGGC AGGAAATGGA AATTATGAAT CTGGTTTCCC
 851  TGCGTAAGCC GGATGATGCC TATGCGCGTT TGAACGTGCT GTTGGAACAC
 901  AACCCGAATG CAAACCTGTA TATTCAGGCG GCGATATTGG CGGCAAACCG
 951  AAAAGAAGGT GCGTCCGTTA TCGACGGCTA CGCCGAAAAG GCATACGGCA
1001  GGGGGACGGG GGAACAGCGG GGCagggcgg cAATgacggc GGCGATGATA
1051  TATGCCGACC GCAGGGATTA CGCCAAAGTC AGGCAGTGGT TGAAAAAAGT
1101  GTCCGCGCCG GAATACCTGT TCGACAAAGG CGTGCTGGCG GCTGCGGCGG
1151  CTGCCGAATT GGACGGAGGC CGGGCGGCTT TGCGGCAGAT CGGCAGGGTG
1201  CGGAAACTTC CCGAACAGCA GGGGCGGTAT TTTACGGCAG ACAATTTGTC
1251  CAAAATACAG ATGCTCGCCC TGTCGAAGCT GCCCGACAAA CGGGAAGCCC
1301  TGATCGGGCT GAACAACATC ATCGCCAAAC TTTCGGCGGC GGGAAGCACG
1351  GAACCTTTGG CGGAAGCATT GGCACAGCGT TCCATTATTT ACGaacAGTT
1401  cggCAAACGG GGAAAAATGA TTGCCGACCT tgaAACcgcg CTCAAACTTA
1451  CGCCCGATAA TGCACAAATT ATGAATAATC TGGGCTACAG CCTGCTTTCC
1501  GATTCCAAAC GTTTGGACGA GGGTTTCGCC CTGCTTCAGA CGGCATACCA
1551  AATCAACCCG GACGATACCG CCGTTAACGA CAGCATAGGC TGGGCGTATT
1601  ACCTGAAAGG CGACgcggaA AGCGCGCTGC CGTATCTGcg gtattcgttt
1651  gAAAACGACC CCGAGCCCGA AGTTGCCGCC CATTTGGGCG AAGTGTTGTG
```

```
1701  GGCATTGGGC GAACGCGATC AGGCGGTTGA CGTATGGACG CAGGCGGCAC
1751  ACCTTAGGGG AGACAAGAAA ATATGGCGGG AGACGCTCAA ACGCTACGGA
1801  ATCGCCTTGC CCGAGCCTTC CCGAAAACCC CGGAAATAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 48>:

```
   1  MLPARFTILS VLAAALLAGQ AYAAGAADVE LPKEVGKVLR KHRRYSEEEI
  51  KNERARLAAV GERVNRVFTL LGGETALQKG QAGTALATYM LMLERTKSPE
 101  VAERALEMAV SLNAFEQAEM IYQKWRQIEP IPGEAQKPAG WLRNVLKEGG
 151  NQHLDGLKEV LAQSDDVQKR RIFLLLVQAA VQQGGVAQKA SKAVRRAALK
 201  YEHLPEAAVA DAVFGVQGRE KEKAIEALQR LAKLDTEILP PTLMTLRLTA
 251  RKYPEILDGF FEQTDTQNLS AVWQEMEIMN LVSLRKPDDA YARLNVLLEH
 301  NPNANLYIQA AILAANRKEG ASVIDGYAEK AYGRGTGEQR GRAAMTAAMI
 351  YADRRDYAKV RQWLKKVSAP EYLFDKGVLA AAAAAELDGG RAALRQIGRV
 401  RKLPEQQGRY FTADNLSKIQ MLALSKLPDK REALIGLNNI IAKLSAAGST
 451  EPLAEALAQR SIIYEQFGKR GKMIADLETA LKLTPDNAQI MNNLGYSLLS
 501  DSKRLDEGFA LLQTAYQINP DDTAVNDSIG WAYYLKGDAE SALPYLRYSF
 551  ENDPEPEVAA HLGEVLWALG ERDQAVDVWT QAAHLRGDKK IWRETLKRYG
 601  IALPEPSRKP RK*
```

ORF9ng and ORF9-1 show 88.1% identity in 614 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf9-1.pep      MLPNRFKMLTVLTATLIAGQVSAAGGGAGDMKQPKEVGKVFRKQQRYSEEEIKNERARLA
                ||| || :|:||:|:|:|||: ||| |:|:: |||||||:||::|||||||||||||||
orf9ng-1        MLPARFTILSVLAAALLAGQAYAAG--AADVELPKEVGKVLRKHRRYSEEEIKNERARLA
                10        20        30        40        50

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf9-1.pep      AVGERVNQIFTLLGGETALQKGQAGTALATYMLMLERTKSPEVAERALEMAVSLNAFEQA
                |||||||::|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf9ng-1        AVGERVNRVFTLLGGETALQKGQAGTALATYMLMLERTKSPEVAERALEMAVSLNAFEQA
                60        70        80        90        100       110

               130       140       150       160       170       180
orf9-1.pep      EMIYQKWRQIEPIPGKAQKRAGWLRNVLRERGNQHLDGLEEVLAQADEGQNRRVFLLLAQ
                |||||||||||||||:||| ||||||||:| ||||||||:|||||:|: |:||:||||:|
orf9ng-1        EMIYQKWRQIEPIPGEAQKPAGWLRNVLKEGGNQHLDGLKEVLAQSDDVQKRRIFLLLVQ
               120       130       140       150       160       170

               190       200       210       220       230       240
orf9-1.pep      AAVQQDGLAQKASKAVRRAALKYEHLPEAAVADVVFSVQGREKEKAIGALQRLAKLDTEI
                ||||| |:|||||||||||||||||||||||||:||:|||||||||| ||||||||||||
orf9ng-1        AAVQQGGVAQKASKAVRRAALKYEHLPEAAVADAVFGVQGREKEKAIEALQRLAKLDTEI
               180       190       200       210       220       230

               250       260       270       280       290       300
orf9-1.pep      LPPTLMTLRLTARKYPEILDGFFEQTDTQNLSAVWQEMEIMNLVSLHRLDDAYARLNVLL
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:: ||||||||||||
orf9ng-1        LPPTLMTLRLTARKYPEILDGFFEQTDTQNLSAVWQEMEIMNLVSLRKPDDAYARLNVLL
               240       250       260       270       280       290

               310       320       330       340       350       360
orf9-1.pep      ERNPNADLYIQAAILAANRKEGASVIDGYAEKAYGRGTEEQRSRAALTAAMMYADRRDYA
                |:||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||:|||:||||:||||||||
orf9ng-1        EHNPNANLYIQAAILAANRKEGASVIDGYAEKAYGRGTGEQRGRAAMTAAMIYADRRDYA
               300       310       320       330       340       350

               370       380       390       400       410       420
orf9-1.pep      KVRQWLKKVSAPEYLFDKGVLAAAAAVELDGGRAALRQIGRVRKLPEQQGRYFTADNLSK
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf9ng-1        KVRQWLKKVSAPEYLFDKGVLAAAAAAELDGGRAALRQIGRVRKLPEQQGRYFTADNLSK
               360       370       380       390       400       410

               430       440       450       460       470       480
orf9-1.pep      IQMLALSKLPDKREALRGLDKIIEKPPAGSNTELQAEALVQRSVVYDRLGKRKKMISDLE
                |||||||||||||||| ||::|| | |:::|| |||||:|||::|:::||| |||:|||
orf9ng-1        IQMLALSKLPDKREALIGLNNIIAKLSAAGSTEPLAEALAQRSIIYEQFGKRGKMIADLE
               420       430       440       450       460       470

               490       500       510       520       530       540
```

```
orf9-1.pep    RAFRLAPDNAQIMNNLGYSLLTDSKRLDEGFALLQTAYQINPDDTAVNDSIGWAYYLKGD
              |::|:|||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf9ng-1      TALKLTPDNAQIMNNLGYSLLSDSKRLDEGFALLQTAYQINPDDTAVNDSIGWAYYLKGD
             480       490       500       510       520       530

                     550       560       570       580       590       600
orf9-1.pep    AESALPYLRYSFENDPEPEVAAHLGEVLWALGERDQAVDVWTQAAHLTGDKKIWRETLKR
              |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||
orf9ng-1      AESALPYLRYSFENDPEPEVAAHLGEVLWALGERDQAVDVWTQAAHLRGDKKIWRETLKR
             540       550       560       570       580       590

                     610
orf9-1.pep    HGIALPQPSRKPRKX
              :|||||:||||||||
orf9ng-1      YGIALPEPSRKPRKX
             600       610
```

In addition, ORF9ng shows significant homology with a hypothetical protein from *P.aeruginosa*:

```
sp|P42810|YHE3_PSEAE HYPOTHETICAL 64.8 KD PROTEIN IN HEMM-HEMA INTERGENIC REGION
(ORF3)
>gi|1072999|pir||S49376 hypothetical protein 3 - Pseudomonas aeruginosa >gi|557259
(X82071) orf3  [Pseudomonas aeruginosa] Length = 576
 Score =  128 bits (318), Expect = 1e-28
 Identities = 138/587 (23%), Positives = 228/587 (38%), Gaps = 125/587 (21%)

Query: 67  VFTLLGGETALQKGQAGTALATYMLMLERTKSPEVAERALEMAVSLNAFEQAEMIYQKWR 126
           +++LL  E A Q+ +   AL+ Y++  ++T+ P V+ERA  +A  L A ++A      W
Sbjct: 53  LYSLLVAELAGQRNRFDIALSNYVVQAQKTRDPGVSERAFRIAEYLGADQEALDTSLLWA 112

Query: 127 QIEPIPGEAQKPAG--------------WLRNVLKEGGNQHLDGLKEVLAQSDDVQKRRI 172
           +  P   +AQ+ A                ++  VL   G+ H D L    A++D   +  +
Sbjct: 113 RSAPDNLDAQRAAAIQLARAGRYEESMVYMEKVLNGQGDTHFDFLALSAAETDPDTRAGL 172

Query: 173 FXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXKASKAVRRAALKYEHLPEAAVADAVFGVQGREKEKAIEALQRLA 232
                           ++      KY +  +     A+   Q    ++A+  L+  +
Sbjct: 173 L-----------------QSFDHLLKKYPNNGQLLFGKALLLQQDGRPDEALTLLEDNS 214

Query: 233 KLDTEILPPTLMTLRLTARK-----YPEILDGFFEQTDTQNLSAVWQEMEIMNLVSLRKP 287
               E+ P  L +  L + K      P +  G  E  D + +   +  +    LV   +
Sbjct: 215 ASRHEVAPLLLRSRLLQSMKRSDEALPLLKAGIKEHPDDKRVRLAYARL----LVEQNRL 270

Query: 288 DDAYARLNVLLEHNPN--------------------ANLYIQAAI-------------- 312
           DDA A    L++  P+                     A +Y++  +
Sbjct: 271 DDAKAEFAGLVQQFPDDDDDLRFSLALVCLEAQAWDEARIYLEELVERDSHVDAAHFNLG 330

Query: 313 -LAANRKEGASVIDGYAEKAYGRGTGEQRGRAAMTAAMIYADRRDYAKVRQWLKKVSAPE 371
            LA  +K+ A  +D YA+   G G      +   T  ++ A R D A  R    +   P+
Sbjct: 331 RLAEEQKDTARALDEYAQ--VGPGNDFLPAQLRQTDVLLKAGRVDEAAQRLDKARSEQPD 388

Query: 372 YLFDKXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXRQIGRVRKLPEQQGRYFTADNLSKIQMLALSKLPDKR 431
           Y                                      A  L  I+  ALS    +
Sbjct: 389 Y-----------------------------------------AIQLYLIEAEALSNNDQQE 408

Query: 432 EALIGLNNIIAKLSAAGSTEPLAEALAQRSIIYEQFGKRGKMIADLETALKLTPDNAQIM 491
           +A   +  + +       E L   L  RS++ E+     +M  DL   +   PDNA  +
Sbjct: 409 KAWQAIQEGLKQYP-----EDL-NLLYTRSMLAEKRNDLAQMEKDLRFVIAREPDNAMAL 462

Query: 492 NNLGYSLLSDSKRLDEGFALLQTAYQINPDDTAVNDSIGWAYYLKGDAESALPYLRYSFE 551
           N LGY+L   + R  E   L+  A+++NPDD A+ DS+GW  Y +G    A  YLR + +
Sbjct: 463 NALGYTLADRTTRYGEARELILKAHKLNPDDPAILDSMGWINYRQGKLADAERYLRQALQ 522

Query: 552 NDPEPEVAAHLGEVLWALGERDQAVDVWTQAAHLRGDKKIWRETLKR 598
             P+ EVAAHLGEVLWA G +  A  +W +    + D  + R T+KR
Sbjct: 523 RYPDHEVAAHLGEVLWAQGRQGDARAIWREYLDKQPDSDVLRRTIKR 569

 gi|2983399 (AE000710) hypothetical protein [Aquifex aeolicus] Length = 545
 Score = 81.5 bits (198), Expect = 1e-14
 Identities = 61/198 (30%), Positives = 98/198 (48%), Gaps = 19/198 (9%)

Query: 408 GRYFTADNL-SKIQMLALSKLPDKREALIGLNNIIAKLSAAGSTEPLAEALAQ------- 459
           G Y  A  L  K ++LA    PDK+E L    +  +K          + + L +
```

```
Sbjct: 335 GNYEDAKRLIEKAKVLA----PDKKEILFLEADYYSKTKQYDKALEILKKLEKDYPNDSR 390

Query: 460 ----RSIIYEQFGKRGKMIADLETALKLTPDNAQIMNNLGYSLLS--DSKRLDEGFALLQ 513
           +I+Y+  G        L  A++L P+N    N LGYSLL     +R++E   L++
Sbjct: 391 VYFMEAIVYDNLGDIKNAEKALRKAIELDPENPDYYNYLGYSLLLWYGKERVEEAEELIK 450

Query: 514 TAYQINPDDTAVNDSIGWAYYLKGDAESALPYLRYSF-ENDPEPEVAAHLGEVLWALGER 572
            A + +P++ A  DS+GW YYLKGD E A+ YL  +  E    +P V  H+G+VL  +G +
Sbjct: 451 KALEKDPENPAYIDSMGWVYYLKGDYERAMQYLLKALREAYDDPVVNEHVGDVLLKMGYK 510

Query: 573 DQAVDVWTQAAHLRGDKK 590
           ++A + + +A  L  + K
Sbjct: 511 EEARNYYERALKLLEEGK 528
```

Based on this analysis, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 7

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 49>:

```
   1  AACCTCTACG CCGGCCCGCA GACCACATCC GTCATCGCAA ACATCGCCGA
  51  CAACCTGCAA CTGGCCAAAG ACTACGGCAA AGTACACTGG TTCGCCTCCC
 101  CGCTCTTCTG GCTCCTGAAC CAACTGCACA ACATCATCGG CAACTGGGGC
 151  TGGGCGATTA TCGTTTTAAC CATCATCGTC AAAGCCGTAC TGTATCCATT
 201  GACCAACGCC TCTTACCGCT CTATGGCGAA AATGCGTGCC GCCGCACCCA
 251  AACTGCAAGC CATCAAAGAG AAATACGGCG ACGACCGTAT GGCGCAACAA
 301  CAGGCGATGA TGCAGCTTTA CACAGACGAG AAAATCAACC CGaCTGGGCG
 351  GCTGCCTGCC TATGCTGTTG CAAATCCCCG TCTTCATCGG ATTGTATTGG
 401  GCATTGTTCG CCTCCGTAGA ATTGCGCCAG GCACCTTGGC TGGGTTGGAT
 451  TACCGACCTC AGCCGCGCCG ACCCCTACTA CATCCTGCCC ATCATTATGG
 501  CGGCAACGAT GTTCGCCCAA ACTTATCTGA ACCCGCCGCC GAcCGACCCG
 551  ATGCagGCGA AAATGATGAA AATCATGCCG TTGGTTTTCT CsGwCrTGTT
 601  CTTCTTCTTC CCTGCCGGks TGGTATTGTA CTGGGTAGTC AACAACCTCC
 651  TGACCATCGC CCAGCAATGG CACATCAACC GCAGCATCGA AAAACAACGC
 701  GCCCAAGGCG AAGTCGTTTC CTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 50; ORF11>:

```
   1  ..NLYAGPQTTS VIANIADNLQ LAKDYGKVHW FASPLFWLLN QLHNIIGNWG
  51    WAIIVLTIIV KAVLYPLTNA SYRSMAKMRA AAPKLQAIKE KYGDDRMAQQ
 101    QAMMQLYTDE KINPLGGCLP MLLQIPVFIG LYWALFASVE LRQAPWLGWI
 151    TDLSRADPYY ILPIIMAATM FAQTYLNPPP TDPMQAKMMK IMPLVFSXXF
 201    FFFPAGXVLY WVVNNLLTIA QQWHINRSIE KQRAQGEVVS *
```

Further sequence analysis revealed the complete DNA sequence <SEQ ID 51>:

```
   1  ATGGATTTTA AAAGACTCAC GGCGTTTTTC GCCATCGCGC TGGTGATTAT
  51  GATCGGCTGG GAAAAGATGT TCCCCACTCC GAAGCCAGTC CCCGCGCCCC
 101  AACAGGCAGC ACAACAACAG GCCGTAACCG CTTCCGCCGA AGCCGCGCTC
 151  GCGCCCGCAA CGCCGATTAC CGTAACGACC GACACGGTTC AAGCCGTCAT
 201  TGATGAAAAA AGCGGCGACC TGCGCCGGCT GACCCTGCTC AAATACAAAG
 251  CAACCGGCGA CGAAAATAAA CCGTTCATCC TGTTTGGCGA CGGCAAAGAA
 301  TACACCTACG TCGCCCAATC CGAACTTTTG GACGCGCAGG GCAACAACAT
 351  TCTAAAAGGC ATCGGCTTTA GCGCACCGAA AAAACAGTAC AGCTTGGAAG
 401  GCGACAAAGT TGAAGTCCGC CTGAGCGCGC CTGAAACACG CGGTCTGAAA
 451  ATCGACAAAG TTTATACTTT CACCAAAGGC AGCTATCTGG TCAACGTCCG
 501  CTTCGACATC GCCAACGGCA GCGGTCAAAC CGCCAACCTG AGCGCGGACT
 551  ACCGCATCGT CCGCGACCAC AGCGAACCCG AGGGTCAAGG TTACTTTACC
 601  CACTCTTACG TCGGCCCTGT TGTTTATACC CCTGAAGGCA ACTTCCAAAA
 651  AGTCAGCTTT TCCGACTTGG ACGACGATGC CAAATCCGGC AAATCCGAGG
 701  CCGAATACAT CCGCAAAACC CCGACCGGCT GGCTCGGCAT GATTGAACAC
 751  CACTTCATGT CCACCTGGAT TCTCCAACCT AAAGGCAGAC AAAGCGTTTG
 801  CGCCGCAGGC GAGTGCAACA TCGACATCAA ACGCCGCAAC GACAAGCTGT
 851  ACAGCACCAG CGTCAGCGTG CCTTTAGCCG CCATCCAAAA CGGCGCGAAA
 901  GCCGAAGCCT CCATCAACCT CTACGCCGGC CCGCAGACCA CATCCGTCAT
 951  CGCAAACATC GCCGACAACC TGCAACTGGC CAAAGACTAC GGCAAAGTAC
```

```
1001  ACTGGTTCGC CTCCCCGCTC TTCTGGCTCC TGAACCAACT GCACAACATC
1051  ATCGGCAACT GGGGCTGGGC GATTATCGTT TTAACCATCA TCGTCAAAGC
1101  CGTACTGTAT CCATTGACCA ACGCCTCTTA CCGCTCTATG GCGAAAATGC
1151  GTGCCGCCGC ACCCAAACTG CAAGCCATCA AAGAGAAATA CGGCGACGAC
1201  CGTATGGCGC AACAACAGGC GATGATGCAG CTTTACACAG ACGAGAAAAT
1251  CAACCCGCTG GGCGGCTGCC TGCCTATGCT GTTGCAAATC CCCGTCTTCA
1301  TCGGATTGTA TTGGGCATTG TTCGCCTCCG TAGAATTGCG CCAGGCACCT
1351  TGGCTGGGTT GGATTACCGA CCTCAGCCGC GCCGACCCCT ACTACATCCT
1401  GCCCATCATT ATGGCGGCAA CGATGTTCGC CCAAACTTAT CTGAACCCGC
1451  CGCCGACCGA CCCGATGCAG GCGAAAATGA TGAAAATCAT GCCGTTGGTT
1501  TTCTCCGTCA TGTTCTTCTT CTTCCCTGCC GGTCTGGTAT TGTACTGGGT
1551  AGTCAACAAC CTCCTGACCA TCGCCCAGCA ATGGCACATC AACCGCAGCA
1601  TCGAAAAACA ACGCGCCCAA GGCGAAGTCG TTTCCTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 52; ORF11-1>:

```
   1  MDFKRLTAFF AIALVIMIGW EKMFPTPKPV PAPQQAAQQQ AVTASAEAAL
  51  APATPITVTT DTVQAVIDEK SGDLRRLTLL KYKATGDENK PFILFGDGKE
 101  YTYVAQSELL DAQGNNILKG IGFSAPKKQY SLEGDKVEVR LSAPETRGLK
 151  IDKVYTFTKG SYLVNVRFDI ANGSGQTANL SADYRIVRDH SEPEGQGYFT
 201  HSYVGPVVYT PEGNFQKVSF SDLDDDAKSG KSEAEYIRKT PTGWLGMIEH
 251  HFMSTWILQP KGRQSVCAAG ECNIDIKRRN DKLYSTSVSV PLAAIQNGAK
 301  AEASINLYAG PQTTSVIANI ADNLQLAKDY GKVHWFASPL FWLLNQLHNI
 351  IGNWGWAIIV LTIIVKAVLY PLTNASYRSM AKMRAAAPKL QAIKEKYGDD
 401  RMAQQQAMMQ LYTDEKINPL GGCLPMLLQI PVFIGLYWAL FASVELRQAP
 451  WLGWITDLSR ADPYYILPII MAATMFAQTY LNPPPTDPMQ AKMMKIMPLV
 501  FSVMFFFFPA GLVLYWVVNN LLTIAQQWHI NRSIEKQRAQ GEVVS*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a 60kDa inner-membrane protein (accession P25754) of *Pseudomonas putida*

ORF11 and the 60kDa protein show 58% aa identity in 229 aa overlap (BLASTp).

```
ORF11   2   LYAGPQTTSVIANIADNLQLAKDYGKVHWFASPLFWLLNQLHNIIGNWGWAIIVLTIIVK 61
            LYAGP+  S +  ++  L+L  DYG + + A P+FWLL  +H+++GNWGW+IIVLT+++K
60K     324 LYAGPKIQSKLKELSPGLELTVDYGFLWFIAQPIFWLLQHIHSLLGNWGWSIIVLTMLIK 383

ORF11   62  AVLYPLTNASYRSMAKMRAAAPKLQAIKEKYGDDRXXXXXXXXXLYTDEKINPLGGCLPM 121
             + +PL+ ASYRSMA+MRA APKL A+KE++GDDR          LY  EKINPLGGCLP+
60K     384 GLFFPLSAASYRSMARMRAVAPKLAALKERFGDDRQKMSQAMMELYKKEKINPLGGCLPI 443

ORF11   122 LLQIPVFIGLYWALFASVELRQAPWLGWITDLSRADPYYILPIIMAATMFAQTYLNPPPT 181
            L+Q+PVF+ LYW L  SVE+RQAPW+ WITDLS  DP++ILPIIM ATMF Q  LNP P
60K     444 LVQMPVFLALYWVLLESVEMRQAPWILWITDLSIKDPFFILPIIMGATMFIQQRLNPTPP 503

ORF11   182 DPMQAKMMKIMPLVXXXXXXXXPAGXVLYWVVNNLLTIAQQWHINRSIE 230
            DPMQAK+MK+MP++         PAG VLYWVVNN L+I+QQW+I R IE
60K     504 DPMQAKVMKMMPIIFTFFFLWFPAGLVLYWVVNNCLSISQQWYITRRIE 552
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF11 shows 97.9% identity over a 240aa overlap with an ORF (ORF11a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                                  10        20        30
orf11.pep                                        NLYAGPQTTSVIANIADNLQLAKDYGKVHW
                                                 ||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||
orf11a       IKRRNDKLYSTSVSVPLAAIQNGAKSXASINLYAGPQTTSVIANIADNLQLXKDYGKVHW
               280       290       300       310       320       330

                      40        50        60        70        80        90
orf11.pep    FASPLFWLLNQLHNIIGNWGWAIIVLTIIVKAVLYPLTNASYRSMAKMRAAAPKLQAIKE
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf11a       FASPLFWLLNQLHNIIGNWGWAIIVLTIIVKAVLYPLTNASYRSMAKMRAAAPKLQAIKE
               340       350       360       370       380       390
```

```
                100       110       120       130       140       150
orf11.pep   KYGDDRMAQQQAMMQLYTDEKINPLGGCLPMLLQIPVFIGLYWALFASVELRQAPWLGWI
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf11a      KYGDDRMAQQQAMMQLYTDEKINPLGGCLPMLLQIPVFIGLYWALFASVELRQAPWLGWI
              400       410       420       430       440       450

                160       170       180       190       200       210
orf11.pep   TDLSRADPYYILPIIMAATMFAQTYLNPPPTDPMQAKMMKIMPLVFSXXFFFFPAGXVLY
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||| |||| |||
orf11a      TDLSRADPYYILPIIMAATMFAQTYLNPPPTDPMQAKMMKIMPLVXSXXFFXFPAGLVLY
              460       470       480       490       500       510

                220       230       240
orf11.pep   WVVNNLLTIAQQWHINRSIEKQRAQGEVVSX
            ||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf11a      WVINNLLTIAQQWHINRSIEKQRAQGEVVSX
              520       530       540
```

The complete length ORF11a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 53> is:

```
   1  ANGGATTTTA AAAGACTCAC NGNGTTTTTC GCCATCGCAC TGGTGATTAT
  51  GATCGGATNG NAAANGATGT TCCCCACTCC GAAGCCCGTC CCCGCGCCCC
 101  AACAGACGGC ACAACAACAG GCCGTAANCG CTTCCGCCGA AGCCGCGCTC
 151  GCGCCCGNAN CGCCGATTAC CGTAACGACC GACACGGTTC AAGCCGTCAT
 201  TGATGAAAAA AGCGGCGACC TGCGCCGGCT GACCCTGCTC AAATACAAAG
 251  CAACCGGCGA CNAAAATAAA CCGTTCATCC TGTTTGGCGA CGGCAAANAA
 301  TACACCTACN TCGCCCANTC CGAACTTTTG GACGCGCAGG GCAACAACAT
 351  TCTAAAAGGC ATCGGCTTTA GCGCACCGAA AAAACAGTAC AGCTTGGAAG
 401  GCGACAAAGT TGAAGTCCGC CTGAGCGCAC CTGAAACACG CGGTCTGAAA
 451  ATCGACAAAG TTTATACTTT CACCAAAGGC AGCTATCTGG TCAACGTCCG
 501  CTTCGACATC GCCAACGGCA GCGGTCAAAC CGCCAACCTG AGCGCGGACT
 551  ACCGCATCGT CCGCGACCAC AGCGAACCCG AGGGTCAAGG CTACTTTACC
 601  CACTCTTACG TCGGCCCTGT TGTTTATACC CCTGAAGGCA ACTTCCAAAA
 651  AGTCAGCTTC TCCGACTTGG ACGACGATGC CAANTCCGGN AAATCCGAGG
 701  CCGAATACAT CCGCAAAACC CNGACCGGCT GGCTCGGCAT GATTGAACAC
 751  CACTTCATGT CCACCTGGAT CCTCCAACCC AAAGGCGGAC AAAGCGTTTG
 801  CGCCGCTGGC GACTGCNGTA TNGACATCAA ACGCCGCAAC GACAAGCTGT
 851  ACAGCACCAG CGTCAGCGTG CCTTTAGCCG CTATCCAAAA CGGTGCGAAA
 901  TCCNAAGCCT CCATCAACCT CTACGCCGGC CCACAGACCA CATCNGTTAT
 951  CGCAAACATC GCCGACAACC TGCAACTGGN CAAAGACTAC GGCAAAGTAC
1001  ACTGGTTCGC CTCCCCCCTC TTTTGGCTTT TGAACCAACT GCACAACATC
1051  ATCGGCAACT GGGGCTGGGC GATTATCGTT TTAACCATCA TCGTCAAAGC
1101  CGTACTGTAT CCATTGACCA ACGCCTCTTA CCGTTCGATG GCGAAAATGC
1151  GTGCCGCCGC GCCCAAACTG CAAGCCATCA AAGAGAAATA CGGCGACGAC
1201  CGTATGGCGC AGCAACAAGC CATGATGCAG CTTTACACAG ACGAGAAAAT
1251  CAACCCGCTG GGCGGCTGCC TGCCTATGCT GTTGCAAATC CCCGTCTTCA
1301  TCGGATTGTA TTGGGCATTG TTCGCCTCCG TAGAATTGCG CCAGGCACCT
1351  TGGCTGGGTT GGATTACCGA CCTCAGCCGC GCCGACCCNT ACTACATCCT
1401  GCCCATCATT ATGGCGGCAA CGATGTTCGC CCAAACCTAT CTGAACCCGC
1451  CGCCGACCGA CCCGATGCAG GCGAAAATGA TGAAAATCAT GCCTTTGGTT
1501  NTNTCNNNNA NGTTCTTCNN CTTCCCTGCC GGTCTGGTAT TGTACTGGGT
1551  GATCAACAAC CTCCTGACCA TCGCCCAGCA ATGGCACATC AACCGCAGCA
1601  TCGAAAAACA ACGCGCCCAA GGCGAAGTCG TTTCCTAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 54>:

```
   1  XDFKRLTXFF AIALVIMIGX XXMFPTPKPV PAPQQTAQQQ AVXASAEAAL
  51  APXXPITVTT DTVQAVIDEK SGDLRRLTLL KYKATGDXNK PFILFGDGKX
 101  YTYXAXSELL DAQGNNILKG IGFSAPKKQY SLEGDKVEVR LSAPETRGLK
 151  IDKVYTFTKG SYLVNVRFDI ANGSGQTANL SADYRIVRDH SEPEGQGYFT
 201  HSYVGPVVYT PEGNFQKVSF SDLDDDAXSG KSEAEYIRKT XTGWLGMIEH
 251  HFMSTWILQP KGGQSVCAAG DCXXDIKRRN DKLYSTSVSV PLAAIQNGAK
 301  SXASINLYAG PQTTSVIANI ADNLQLXKDY GKVHWFASPL FWLLNQLHNI
 351  IGNWGWAIIV LTIIVKAVLY PLTNASYRSM AKMRAAAPKL QAIKEKYGDD
 401  RMAQQQAMMQ LYTDEKINPL GGCLPMLLQI PVFIGLYWAL FASVELRQAP
 451  WLGWITDLSR ADPYYILPII MAATMFAQTY LNPPPTDPMQ AKMMKIMPLV
 501  XSXXFFXFPA GLVLYWVINN LLTIAQQWHI NRSIEKQRAQ GEVVS*
```

ORF11a and ORF11-1 show 95.2% identity in 544 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
```

```
orf11a.pep    XDFKRLTXFFAIALVIMIGXXXMFPTPKPVPAPQQTAQQQAVXASAEAALAPXXPITVTT
orf11-1       MDFKRLTAFFAIALVIMIGWEKMFPTPKPVPAPQQAAQQQAVTASAEAALAPATPITVTT
                     10        20        30        40        50        60

                     70        80        90       100       110       120
orf11a.pep    DTVQAVIDEKSGDLRRLTLLKYKATGDXNKPFILFGDGKXYTYXAXSELLDAQGNNILKG
orf11-1       DTVQAVIDEKSGDLRRLTLLKYKATGDENKPFILFGDGKEYTYVAQSELLDAQGNNILKG
                     70        80        90       100       110       120

                    130       140       150       160       170       180
orf11a.pep    IGFSAPKKQYSLEGDKVEVRLSAPETRGLKIDKVYTFTKGSYLVNVRFDIANGSGQTANL
orf11-1       IGFSAPKKQYSLEGDKVEVRLSAPETRGLKIDKVYTFTKGSYLVNVRFDIANGSGQTANL
                    130       140       150       160       170       180

                    190       200       210       220       230       240
orf11a.pep    SADYRIVRDHSEPEGQGYFTHSYVGPVVYTPEGNFQKVSFSDLDDDAXSGKSEAEYIRKT
orf11-1       SADYRIVRDHSEPEGQGYFTHSYVGPVVYTPEGNFQKVSFSDLDDDAKSGKSEAEYIRKT
                    190       200       210       220       230       240

                    250       260       270       280       290       300
orf11a.pep    XTGWLGMIEHHFMSTWILQPKGGQSVCAAGDCXXDIKRRNDKLYSTSVSVPLAAIQNGAK
orf11-1       PTGWLGMIEHHFMSTWILQPKGRQSVCAAGECNIDIKRRNDKLYSTSVSVPLAAIQNGAK
                    250       260       270       280       290       300

                    310       320       330       340       350       360
orf11a.pep    SXASINLYAGPQTTSVIANIADNLQLXKDYGKVHWFASPLFWLLNQLHNIIGNWGWAIIV
orf11-1       AEASINLYAGPQTTSVIANIADNLQLAKDYGKVHWFASPLFWLLNQLHNIIGNWGWAIIV
                    310       320       330       340       350       360

                    370       380       390       400       410       420
orf11a.pep    LTIIVKAVLYPLTNASYRSMAKMRAAAPKLQAIKEKYGDDRMAQQQAMMQLYTDEKINPL
orf11-1       LTIIVKAVLYPLTNASYRSMAKMRAAAPKLQAIKEKYGDDRMAQQQAMMQLYTDEKINPL
                    370       380       390       400       410       420

                    430       440       450       460       470       480
orf11a.pep    GGCLPMLLQIPVFIGLYWALFASVELRQAPWLGWITDLSRADPYYILPIIMAATMFAQTY
orf11-1       GGCLPMLLQIPVFIGLYWALFASVELRQAPWLGWITDLSRADPYYILPIIMAATMFAQTY
                    430       440       450       460       470       480

                    490       500       510       520       530       540
orf11a.pep    LNPPPTDPMQAKMMKIMPLVXSXXFFXFPAGLVLYWVINNLLTIAQQWHINRSIEKQRAQ
orf11-1       LNPPPTDPMQAKMMKIMPLVFSVMFFFFPAGLVLYWVVNNLLTIAQQWHINRSIEKQRAQ
                    490       500       510       520       530       540

orf11a.pep    GEVVSX
orf11-1       GEVVSX
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF11 shows 96.3% identity over a 240aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF11.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae*:

```
Orf11          NLYAGPQTTSVIANIADNLQLAKDYGKVHWFASPLFWLLNQLHNIIGNWGWAIIVLT   57
orf11ng        MAVNLYAGPQTTSVIANIADNLQLAKDYGKVHWFASPLFWLLNQLHNIIGNWGWAIVVLT   60
```

```
orf11     IIVKAVLYPLTNASYRSMAKMRAAAPKLQAIKEKYGDDRMAQQQAMMQLYTDEKINPLGG 117
          ||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||:||||||||||||||||: ||:||||||
orf11ng   IIVKAVLYPLTNASYRSMAKMRAAAPELQTIKEKYGDDRMAQQQAMMQLFEDEEINPLGG 120

orf11     CLPMLLQIPVFIGLYWALFASVELRQAPWLGWITDLSRADPYYILPIIMAATMFAQTYLN 177
          ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf11ng   CLPMLLQIPVFIGLYWALFASVELRQAPWLGWITDLSRADPYYILPIIMAATMFAQTYLN 180

orf11     PPPTDPMQAKMMKIMPLVFSXXFFFFPAGXVLYWVVNNLLTIAQQWHINRSIEKQRAQGE 237
          |||||||||||||||||||| ||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf11ng   PPPTDPMQAKMMKIMPLVFSVMFFFFPAGLVLYWVVNNLLTIAQQWHINRSIEKQRAQGE 240

orf11     VVS  240
          |||
orf11ng   VVS  243
```

An ORF11ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 55> was predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 56>:

```
   1  MAVNLYAGPQ TTSVIANIAD NLQLAKDYGK VHWFASPLFW LLNQLHNIIG
  51  NWGWAIVVLT IIVKAVLYPL TNASYRSMAK MRAAAPELQT IKEKYGDDRM
 101  AQQQAMMQLF EDEEINPLGG CLPMLLQIPV FIGLYWALFA SVELRQAPWL
 151  GWITDLSRAD PYYILPIIMA ATMFAQTYLN PPPTDPMQAK MMKIMPLVFS
 201  VMFFFFPAGL VLYWVVNNLL TIAQQWHINR SIEKQRAQGE VVS*
```

Further sequence analysis revealed the complete gonococcal DNA sequence <SEQ ID 57> to be:

```
   1  ATGGATTTTA AAAGACTCAC GGCGTTTTTC GCCATCGCGC TGGTGATTAT
  51  GATCGGCTGG GAAAAAATGT TCCCCACCCC GAAACCCGTC CCCGCGCCCC
 101  AACAGGCGGC ACAAAAACAG GCAGCAACCG CTTCCGCCGA AGCCGCGCTC
 151  GCGCCCGCAA CGCCGATTAC CGTAACGACC GACACGGTTC AAGCCGTTAT
 201  TGATGAAAAA AGTGGCGACC TGCGCCGGCT GACCCTGCTC AAATACAAAG
 251  CAACCGGCGA CGAAAACAAA CCGTTCGTCC TGTTTGGCGA CGGCAAAGAA
 301  TACACCTACG TCGCCCAATC CGAACTTTTG GACGCGCAGG GCAACAACAT
 351  TCTGAAAGGC ATCGGCTTTA GCGCACCGAA AAAACAGTAC ACCCTCAACG
 401  GCGACACAGT CGAAGTCCGC CTGAGCGCGC CCGAAACCAA CGGACTGAAA
 451  ATCGACAAAG TCTATACCTT TACCAAAGAC AGCTATCTGG TCAACGTCCG
 501  CTTCGACATC GCCAACGGCA GCGGTCAAAC CGCCAACCTG AGCGCGGACT
 551  ACCGCATCGT CCGCGACCAC AGCGAACCCG AGGGTCAAGG CTACTTTACC
 601  CACTCTTACG TCGGCCCTGT TGTTTATACC CCTGAAGGCA ACTTCCAAAA
 651  AGTCAGCTTC TCCgacTTgg acgACGATGC gaaaTccggc aaATccgagg
 701  ccgaatacaT CCGCAAAACC ccgaccggtt ggctcggcat gattgaacac
 751  cacttcatgt ccacctggat cctccAAcct aaaggcggcc aaaacgtttg
 801  cgcccaggga gactgccgta tcgacattaa aCgccgcaac gacaagctgt
 851  acagcgcaag cgtcagcgtg cctttaaccg ctatcccaac ccgggggcca
 901  aaaccgaaaa tggcggTCAA CCTGTATGCC GGTCCGCAAA CCACATCCGT
 951  TATCGCAAAC ATCGCcgacA ACCTGCAACT GGCAAAAGAC TACGGTAAAG
1001  TACACTGGTT CGCATCGCCG CTCTTCTGGC TCCTGAACCA ACTGCACAAC
1051  ATTATCGGCA ACTGGGGCTG GGCAATCGTC GTTTTGACCA TCATCGTCAA
1101  AGCCGTACTG TATCCATTGA CCAACGcctc ctACCGTTCG ATGGCGAAAA
1151  TGCGTGccgc cgcacCcaaA CTGCAGACCA TCAAAGAAAA ATAcgGCGAC
1201  GACCGTATGG CGCAACAGCA AGCGATGATG CAGCTTTACA AAgacgAGAA
1251  AATCAACCCG CTGGGCGGCT GTctgcctat gctgttgCAA ATCCCCGTCT
1301  TCATCGGCTT GTACTGGGCA TTGTTCGCCT CCGTAGAATT GCGCCAGGCA
1351  CCTTGGCTGG GCTGGATTAC CGACCTCAGC CGCGCCGACC CCTACTACAT
1401  CCTGCCCATC ATTATGGCGG CAACGATGTT CGCCCAAACC TATCTGAACC
1451  CGCCGCCGAC CGACCCGATG CAGGCGAAAA TGATGAAAAT CATGCCGTTG
1501  GTTTTCTCCG TCATGTTCTT CTTCTTCCCT GCCGGTTTGG TTCTCTACTG
1551  GGTGGTCAAC AACCTCCTGA CCATCGCCCA GCAGTGGCAC ATCAACCGCA
1601  GCATCGAAAA ACAACGCGCC CAAGGCGAAG TCGTTTCCTA A
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 58; ORF11ng-1>:

```
   1  MDFKRLTAFF AIALVIMIGW EKMFPTPKPV PAPQQAAQKQ AATASAEAAL
  51  APATPITVTT DTVQAVIDEK SGDLRRLTLL KYKATGDENK PFVLFGDGKE
 101  YTYVAQSELL DAQGNNILKG IGFSAPKKQY TLNGDTVEVR LSAPETNGLK
 151  IDKVYTFTKD SYLVNVRFDI ANGSGQTANL SADYRIVRDH SEPEGQGYFT
 201  HSYVGPVVYT PEGNFQKVSF SDLDDDAKSG KSEAEYIRKT PTGWLGMIEH
 251  HFMSTWILQP KGGQNVCAQG DCRIDIKRRN DKLYSASVSV PLTAIPTRGP
 301  KPKMAVNLYA GPQTTSVIAN IADNLQLAKD YGKVHWFASP LFWLLNQLHN
```

```
351  IIGNWGWAIV VLTIIVKAVL YPLTNASYRS MAKMRAAAPK LQTIKEKYGD
401  DRMAQQQAMM QLYKDEKINP LGGCLPMLLQ IPVFIGLYWA LFASVELRQA
451  PWLGWITDLS RADPYYILPI IMAATMFAQT YLNPPPTDPM QAKMMKIMPL
501  VFSVMFFFFP AGLVLYWVVN NLLTIAQQWH INRSIEKQRA QGEVVS*
```

ORF11ng-1 and ORF11-1 shown 95.1% identity in 546 aa overlap:

```
                        10        20        30        40        50        60
orf11ng-1.pep  MDFKRLTAFFAIALVIMIGWEKMFPTPKPVPAPQQAAQKQAATASAEAALAPATPITVTT
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||:||||||||||||||||||
orf11-1        MDFKRLTAFFAIALVIMIGWEKMFPTPKPVPAPQQAAQQQAVTASAEAALAPATPITVTT
                        10        20        30        40        50        60

                        70        80        90       100       110       120
orf11ng-1.pep  DTVQAVIDEKSGDLRRLTLLKYKATGDENKPFVLFGDGKEYTYVAQSELLDAQGNNILKG
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf11-1        DTVQAVIDEKSGDLRRLTLLKYKATGDENKPFILFGDGKEYTYVAQSELLDAQGNNILKG
                        70        80        90       100       110       120

                       130       140       150       160       170       180
orf11ng-1.pep  IGFSAPKKQYTLNGDTVEVRLSAPETNGLKIDKVYTFTKDSYLVNVRFDIANGSGQTANL
               ||||||||||:|:|| |||||||||| |||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||
orf11-1        IGFSAPKKQYSLEGDKVEVRLSAPETRGLKIDKVYTFTKGSYLVNVRFDIANGSGQTANL
                       130       140       150       160       170       180

                       190       200       210       220       230       240
orf11ng-1.pep  SADYRIVRDHSEPEGQGYFTHSYVGPVVYTPEGNFQKVSFSDLDDDAKSGKSEAEYIRKT
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf11-1        SADYRIVRDHSEPEGQGYFTHSYVGPVVYTPEGNFQKVSFSDLDDDAKSGKSEAEYIRKT
                       190       200       210       220       230       240

                       250       260       270       280       290       300
orf11ng-1.pep  PTGWLGMIEHHFMSTWILQPKGGQNVCAQGDCRIDIKRRNDKLYSASVSVPLTAIPTRGP
               |||||||||||||||||||| |:||| |:| ||||||||||||:|||||:|| : |
orf11-1        PTGWLGMIEHHFMSTWILQPKGRQSVCAAGECNIDIKRRNDKLYSTSVSVPLAAIQN-GA
                       250       260       270       280       290

                       310       320       330       340       350       360
orf11ng-1.pep  KPKMAVNLYAGPQTTSVIANIADNLQLAKDYGKVHWFASPLFWLLNQLHNIIGNWGWAIV
               | : ::|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:
orf11-1        KAEASINLYAGPQTTSVIANIADNLQLAKDYGKVHWFASPLFWLLNQLHNIIGNWGWAII
           300       310       320       330       340       350

                       370       380       390       400       410       420
orf11ng-1.pep  VLTIIVKAVLYPLTNASYRSMAKMRAAAPKLQTIKEKYGDDRMAQQQAMMQLYKDEKINP
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||| ||||||
orf11-1        VLTIIVKAVLYPLTNASYRSMAKMRAAAPKLQAIKEKYGDDRMAQQQAMMQLYTDEKINP
           360       370       380       390       400       410

                       430       440       450       460       470       480
orf11ng-1.pep  LGGCLPMLLQIPVFIGLYWALFASVELRQAPWLGWITDLSRADPYYILPIIMAATMFAQT
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf11-1        LGGCLPMLLQIPVFIGLYWALFASVELRQAPWLGWITDLSRADPYYILPIIMAATMFAQT
           420       430       440       450       460       470

                       490       500       510       520       530       540
orf11ng-1.pep  YLNPPPTDPMQAKMMKIMPLVFSVMFFFFPAGLVLYWVVNNLLTIAQQWHINRSIEKQRA
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf11-1        YLNPPPTDPMQAKMMKIMPLVFSVMFFFFPAGLVLYWVVNNLLTIAQQWHINRSIEKQRA
           480       490       500       510       520       530

orf11ng-1.pep  QGEVVSX
               |||||||
orf11-1        QGEVVSX
           540
```

In addition, ORF11ng-1 shows significant homology with an inner-membrane protein from the database (accession number p25754):

```
ID   60IM_PSEPU     STANDARD;      PRT;   560 AA.
AC   P25754;
DT   01-MAY-1992 (REL. 22, CREATED)
DT   01-MAY-1992 (REL. 22, LAST SEQUENCE UPDATE)
DT   01-NOV-1995 (REL. 32, LAST ANNOTATION UPDATE)
DE   60 KD INNER-MEMBRANE PROTEIN. . . .

SCORES      Init1:  1074 Initn:  1293 Opt:  1103
Smith-Waterman score: 1406;    41.5% identity in 574 aa overlap

                          10        20                            30        40
orf11ng-1.pep  MDFKR---LTAFFAIALVIMIGW-----EKMFPT-----------PKPVPAPQQAAQKQ
               ||:||   ::|: ::: |::: |     :  :||           |  ||| :::|: :
p25754         MDIKRTILIAAALAVVSYVMVLKWNDDYGQAALPTQNTAASTVAPGLPDGVPAGNNGASAD
                       10        20        30        40        50        60

                       50                60        70        80        90
orf11ng-1.pep  AATASAEAALAPATPIT-------VTTDTVQAVIDEKSGDLRRLTLLKYKATGDE-NKPF
               : :|:||:: |  :|::       | ||::: :||  :||: :|:| ||     |: | ||
p25754         VPSANAESSPAELAPVALSKDLIRVKTDVLELAIDPVGGDIVQLNLPKYPRRQDHPNIPF
                       70        80        90       100       110       120

                  100       110       120           130           140
orf11ng-1.pep  VLFGDGKEYTYVAQSELLDAQGNNILKGIG---FSAPKKQYTL-NGD---TVEVRLSAPE
               || :| | :|:||| |  ::| :  :: |   ::| :|:| | :|:   :|::::|
p25754         QLFDNGGERVYLAQSGLTGTDGPDA-RASGRPLYAAEQKSYQLADGQEQLVVDLKFS---
                      130       140       150       160       170

                150       160       170       180       190       200
orf11ng-1.pep  TNGLKIDKVYTFTKDSYLVNVRFDIANGSGQTANLSADYRIVRDHS-EPEGQGYF-THSY
               ||::  | ::| :  | :|| : | | |||: | :   :: || | :| ::    | :|
p25754         DNGVNYIKRFSFKRGEYDLNVSYLIDNQSGQAWNGNMFAQLKRDASGDPSSSTATGTATY
                180       190       200       210       220       230

                   210       220       230       240       250       260
orf11ng-1.pep  VGPVVYTPEGNFQKVSFSDLDDDAKSGKSEAEYIRKTPTGWLGMIEHHFMSTWILQPKGG
               :| :::|    ::|||::|:|   |:: :|     ::  ||:: ::|:|:::||   |:
p25754         LGAALWTASEPYKKVSMKDID---KGSLKE-----NVSGGWVAWLQHYFVTAWI-PAKSD
                240       250           260           270       280

                   270       280       290       300       310       320
orf11ng-1.pep  QNVCAQGDCRIDIKRRNDKLYSASVSVPLTAIPTRGPKPKMAVNLYAGPQTTSVIANIAD
               :||       :: :: ::  |  : : |: ::|: | | : :: ||||||:  | : :::
p25754         NNV-------VQTRKDSQGNYIIGYTGPVISVPA-GGKVETSALLYAGPKIQSKLKELSP
               290             300       310       320       330

                   330       340       350       360       370       380
orf11ng-1.pep  NLQLAKDYGKVHWF-ASPLFWLLNQLHNIIGNWGWAIVVLTIIVKAVLYPLTNASYRSMA
               :|:|: ||| : || |:|:||||:::|:::|||||:|:|||:::|:::::||: |||||||
p25754         GLELTVDYGFL-WFIAQPIFWLLQHIHSLLGNWGWSIIVLTMLIKGLFFPLSAASYRSMA
             340       350       360       370       380       390

                390       400       410       420       430       440
orf11ng-1.pep  KMRAAAPKLQTIKEKYGDDRMAQQQAMMQLYKDEKINPLGGCLPMLLQIPVFIGLYWALF
               :|||:|||| ::|||::|||: ::|||||||| ||||||||||:|:|:|:|||::|||:|:
p25754         RMRAVAPKLAALKERFGDDRQKMSQAMMELYKKEKINPLGGCLPILVQMPVFLALYWVLL
             400       410       420       430       440       450

                450       460       470       480       490       500
orf11ng-1.pep  ASVELRQAPWLGWITDLSRADPYYILPIIMAATMFAQTYLNPPPTDPMQAKMMKIMPLVF
               |||:|||||: ||||||  ||::|||||||:|||| |  ||| | ||||||:||:||::|
p25754         ESVEMRQAPWILWITDLSIKDPFFILPIIMGATMFIQQRLNPTPPDPMQAKVMKMMPIIF
             460       470       480       490       500       510

                510       520       530       540
orf11ng-1.pep  SVMFFFFPAGLVLYWVVNNLLTIAQQWHINRSIEKQRAQGEVVSX
               : :|::|||||||||||| |:|:|||:|:| ||
p25754         TFFFLWFPAGLVLYWVVNNCLSISQQWYITRRIEAATKKAAA
             520       530       540       550       560
```

Based on this analysis, including the homology to an inner-membrane protein from *P. putida* and the predicted transmembrane domains (seen in both the meningococcal and gonoccal proteins), it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 8

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 59>:

```
   1  ..GCCGTCTTAA TCATCGAATT ATTGACGGGA ACGGTTTATC TTTTGGTTGT
  51    NAGCGCGGCT TTGGCGGGTT CGGGCATTGC TTACGGGCTG ACCGGCAGTA
 101    CGCCTGCCGC CGTCTTGACC GNCGCTCTGC TTTCCGCGCT GGGTATTTNG
 151    TTCGTACACG CCAAAACCGC CGTTAGAAAA GTTGAAACGG ATTCATATCA
 201    GGATTTGGAT GCCGGACAAT ATGTCGAAAT CCTCCGNCAC ACAGGCGGCA
 251    ACCGTTACGA AGTT.TTTAT CGCGGTACG. ACTGGCAGGC TCAAAATACG
 301    GGGCAAGAAG AGCTTGAACC AGGAACTCGC GCCCTCATTG TCCGCAAGGA
 351    AGGCAACCTT CTTATTATCA CACACCCTTA A
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 60; ORF13>:

```
   1  ..AVLIIELLTG TVYLLVVSAA LAGSGIAYGL TGSTPAAVLT XALLSALGIX
  51    FVHAKTAVRK VETDSYQDLD AGQYVEILRH TGGNRYEVXY RGTXWQAQNT
 101    GQEELEPGTR ALIVRKEGNL LIITHP*
```

Further sequence analysis elaborated the DNA sequence slightly <SEQ ID 61>:

```
   1  ..GCCGTCTTAA TCATCGAATT ATTGACGGGA ACGGTTTATC TTTTGGTTGT
  51    nAGCGCGGCT TTGGCGGGTT CGGGCATTGC TTACGGGCTG ACCGGCAGTA
 101    CGCCTGCCGC CGTCTTGACC GnCGCTCTGC TTTCCGCGCT GGGTATTTnG
 151    TTCGTACACG CCAAAACCGC CGTTAGAAAA GTTGAAACGG ATTCATATCA
 201    GGATTTGGAT GCCGGACAAT ATGTCGAAAT CCTCCGACAC ACAGGCGGCA
 251    ACCGTTACGA AGTTTTTtTAT CGCGGTACGc ACTGGCAGGC TCAAAATACG
 301    GGGCAAGAAG AGCTTGAACC AGGAACTCGC GCCCTCATTG TCCGCAAGGA
 351    AGGCAACCTT CTTATTATCA CACACCCTTA A
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 62; ORF13-1>:

```
   1  ..AVLIIELLTG TVYLLVVSAA LAGSGIAYGL TGSTPAAVLT XALLSALGIX
  51    FVHAKTAVRK VETDSYQDLD AGQYVEILRH TGGNRYEVFY RGTHWQAQNT
 101    GQEELEPGTR ALIVRKEGNL LIITHP*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF13 shows 92.9% identity over a 126aa overlap with an ORF (ORF13a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                10        20        30        40        50
orf13.pep                     AVLIIELLTGTVYLLVVSAALAGSGIAYGLTGSTPAAVLTXALLSALGIXF
                              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||| |
orf13a          MTVWFVAAVAVLIIELLTGTVYLLVVSAALAGSGIAYGLTGSTPAAVLTAALLSALGIWF
                        10        20        30        40        50        60

                       60        70        80        90       100       110
orf13.pep       VHAKTAVRKVETDSYQDLDAGQYVEILRHTGGNRYEVXYRGTXWQAQNTGQEELEPGTRA
                ||||||| ||||||||||||||||:|||||:||||||| |||| ||||||||||||||||||
orf13a          VHAKTAVGKVETDSYQDLDAGQYAEILRHAGGNRYEVFYRGTHWQAQNTGQEELEPGTRA
                       70        80        90       100       110       120

                     120
orf13.pep       LIVRKEGNLLIITHPX
                ||||||||||||:::||
```

```
orf13a      LIVRKEGNLLIIAKPX
                      130
```

The complete length ORF13a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 63> is:

```
   1  ATGACTGTAT GGTTTGTTGC CGCTGTTGCC GTCTTAATCA TCGAATTATT
  51  GACGGGAACG GTTTATCTTT TGGTTGTCAG CGCGGCTTTG GCGGGTTCGG
 101  GCATTGCTTA CGGGCTGACC GGCAGCACGC CTGCCGCCGT CTTGACCGCC
 151  GCTCTGCTTT CCGCGCTGGG TATTTGGTTC GTACACGCCA AAACCGCCGT
 201  GGGAAAAGTT GAAACGGATT CATATCAGGA TTTGGATGCC GGGCAATATG
 251  CCGAAATCCT CCGGCACGCA GGCGGCAACC GTTACGAAGT TTTTTATCGC
 301  GGTACGCACT GGCAGGCTCA AAATACGGGG CAAGAAGAGC TTGAACCAGG
 351  AACGCGCGCC CTAATCGTCC GCAAGGAAGG CAACCTTCTT ATCATCGCAA
 401  AACCTTAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 64>:

```
   1  MTVWFVAAVA VLIIELLTGT VYLLVVSAAL AGSGIAYGLT GSTPAAVLTA
  51  ALLSALGIWF VHAKTAVGKV ETDSYQDLDA GQYAEILRHA GGNRYEVFYR
 101  GTHWQAQNTG QEELEPGTRA LIVRKEGNLL IIAKP*
```

ORF13a and ORF13-1 show 94.4% identity in 126 aa overlap

```
                        10        20        30        40        50        60
orf13a.pep      MTVWFVAAVAVLIIELLTGTVYLLVVSAALAGSGIAYGLTGSTPAAVLTAALLSALGIWF
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||| |
orf13-1                 AVLIIELLTGTVYLLVVSAALAGSGIAYGLTGSTPAAVLTXALLSALGIXF
                                10        20        30        40        50

                       70        80        90       100       110       120
orf13a.pep      VHAKTAVGKVETDSYQDLDAGQYAEILRHAGGNRYEVFYRGTHWQAQNTGQEELEPGTRA
                ||||||| ||||||||||||||||:|||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf13-1         VHAKTAVRKVETDSYQDLDAGQYVEILRHTGGNRYEVFYRGTHWQAQNTGQEELEPGTRA
                       60        70        80        90       100       110

                130
orf13a.pep      LIVRKEGNLLIIAKPX
                ||||||||||||::||
orf13-1         LIVRKEGNLLIITHPX
                      120
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF13 shows 89.7% identity over a 126aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF13.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf13             AVLIIELLTGTVYLLVVSAALAGSGIAYGLTGSTPAAVLTXALLSALGIXF   51
                  ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |
orf13ng     MTVWFVAAVAVLIIELLTGTVYLLVVSAALAGSGIAYGLTGSTPAAVLTAALLSALGIWF   60

orf13       VHAKTAVRKVETDSYQDLDAGQYVEILRHTGGNRYEVXYRGTXWQAQNTGQEELEPGTRA  111
            ||||||| |||||||||||:|:|:||||:|||||||| |||| |||||||| :||||||
orf13ng     VHAKTAVGKVETDSYQDLDTGKYAEILRYTGGNRYEVFYRGTHWQAQNTGQEVFEPGTRA  120

orf13       LIVRKEGNLLIITHP  126
            |||||||||||::|
orf13ng     LIVRKEGNLLIIANP  135
```

The complete length ORF13ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 65> is:

```
   1  ATGACTGTAT GGTTTGTTGC CGCTGTTGCC GTCTTAATCA TCGAATTATT
  51  GACGGGAACG GTTTATCTTT TGGTTGTCAG CGCGGCTTTG GCGGGTTCGG
 101  GCATTGCCTA CGGGCTGACT GGCAGCACGC CTGCCGCCGT CTTGACCGCC
 151  GCACTGCTTT CCGCGCTGGG CATTTGGTTC GTACATGCCA AAACCGCCGT
 201  GGGAAAAGTT GAAACGGATT CATATCAGGA TTTGGATACC GGAAAATATG
 251  CCGAAATCCT CCGATACACA GGCGGCAACC GTTACGAAGT TTTTTATCGC
 301  GGTACGCACT GGCAGGCGCA AAATACGGGG CAGGAAGTGT TTGAACCGGG
 351  AACGCGCGCC CTCATCGTCC GCAAAGAAGG TAACCTTCTT ATCATCGCAA
 401  ACCCTTAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 66>:

```
   1  MTVWFVAAVA VLIIELLTGT VYLLVVSAAL AGSGIAYGLT GSTPAAVLTA
  51  ALLSALGIWF VHAKTAVGKV ETDSYQDLDT GKYAEILRYT GGNRYEVFYR
 101  GTHWQAQNTG QEVFEPGTRA LIVRKEGNLL IIANP*
```

ORF13ng shows 91.3% identity in 126 aa overlap with ORF13-1:

```
                                 10        20        30        40        50
orf13-1.pep                    AVLIIELLTGTVYLLVVSAALAGSGIAYGLTGSTPAAVLTXALLSALGIXF
                               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||| |
orf13ng          MTVWFVAAVAVLIIELLTGTVYLLVVSAALAGSGIAYGLTGSTPAAVLTAALLSALGIWF
                        10        20        30        40        50        60

                       60        70        80        90       100       110
orf13-1.pep      VHAKTAVRKVETDSYQDLDAGQYVEILRHTGGNRYEVFYRGTHWQAQNTGQEELEPGTRA
                 ||||||| ||||||||||:|:|:||||:|||||||||||||||||||| :|||||||
orf13ng          VHAKTAVGKVETDSYQDLDTGKYAEILRYTGGNRYEVFYRGTHWQAQNTGQEVFEPGTRA
                        70        80        90       100       110       120

                 120
orf13-1.pep      LIVRKEGNLLIITHPX
                 ||||||||||||::||
orf13ng          LIVRKEGNLLIIANPX
                        130
```

Based on this analysis, including the extensive leader sequence in this protein, it is predicted that ORF13 and ORF13ng are likely to be outer membrane proteins. It is thus predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 9

The following DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 67>:

```
   1  ATGTwTGATT TCGGTTTrGG CGArCTGGTT TTTGTCGGCA TTATCGCCCT
  51  GATwGtCCTC GGCCCCGAAC GCsTGCCCGA GGCCGCCCGC AyCGCCGGAC
 101  GGcTCATCGG CAGGCTGCAA CGCTTTGTCG GcAGCGTCAA ACAGGAATTT
 151  GACACTCAAA TCGAACTGGA AGAACTGAGG AAGGCAAAGC AGGAATTTGA
 201  AGCTGCCGcC GCTCAGGTTC GAGACAGCCT CAAAGAAACC GGTACGGATA
 251  TGGAAGGCAA TCTGCACGAC ATTTCCGACG GTCTGAAGCC TTGGGAAAAA
 301  CTGCCCGAAC AGCGGACACC TGCCGATTTC GGTGTCGATG AAAACGGCAA
 351  TCCGCT.TCC CGATGCGGCA AACACCCTAT CAGACGGCAT TTCCGACGTT
 401  ATGCCGTC..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 68; ORF2>:

```
   1  MXDFGLGELV FVGIIALIVL GPERXPEAAR XAGRLIGRLQ RFVGSVKQEF
  51  DTQIELEELR KAKQEFEAAA AQVRDSLKET GTDMEGNLHD ISDGLKPWEK
 101  LPEQRTPADF GVDENGNPXS RCGKHPIRRH FRRYAV..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 69>:

```
   1  ATGTTTGATT TCGGTTTGGG CGAGCTGGTT TTTGTCGGCA TTATCGCCCT
  51  GATTGTCCTC GGCCCCGAAC GCCTGCCCGA GGCCGCCCGC ACCGCCGGAC
 101  GGCTCATCGG CAGGCTGCAA CGCTTTGTCG GCAGCGTCAA ACAGGAATTT
 151  GACACTCAAA TCGAACTGGA AGAACTGAGG AAGGCAAAGC AGGAATTTGA
 201  AGCTGCCGCC GCTCAGGTTC GAGACAGCCT CAAAGAAACC GGTACGGATA
 251  TGGAAGGCAA TCTGCACGAC ATTTCCGACG GTCTGAAGCC TTGGGAAAAA
 301  CTGCCCGAAC AGCGGACACC TGCCGATTTC GGTGTCGATG AAAACGGCAA
 351  TCCGCTTCCC GATGCGGCAA ACACCCTATC AGACGGCATT TCCGACGTTA
 401  TGCCGTCCGA ACGTTCCTAC GCTTCCGCCG AAACCCTTGG GGACAGCGGG
 451  CAAACCGGCA GTACAGCCGA ACCCGCGGAA ACCGACCAAG ACCGCGCATG
 501  GCGGGAATAC CTGACTGCTT CTGCCGCCGC ACCCGTCGTA CAGACCGTCG
```

```
551  AAGTCAGCTA TATCGATACT GCTGTTGAAA CGCCTGTTCC GCACACCACT
601  TCCCTGCGCA AACAGGCAAT AAGCCGCAAA CGCGATTTTC GTCCGAAACA
651  CCGCGCCAAA CCTAAATTGC GCGTCCGTAA ATCATAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 70; ORF2-1>:

```
  1  MFDFGLGELV FVGIIALIVL GPERLPEAAR TAGRLIGRLQ RFVGSVKQEF
 51  DTQIELEELR KAKQEFEAAA AQVRDSLKET GTDMEGNLHD ISDGLKPWEK
101  LPEQRTPADF GVDENGNPLP DAANTLSDGI SDVMPSERSY ASAETLGDSG
151  QTGSTAEPAE TDQDRAWREY LTASAAAPVV QTVEVSYIDT AVETPVPHTT
201  SLRKQAISRK RDFRPKHRAK PKLRVRKS*
```

Further work identified the corresponding gene in strain A of *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 71 >:

```
  1  ATGTTTGATT TCGGTTTGGG CGAGCTGGTT TTTGTCGGCA TTATCGCCCT
 51  GATTGTCCTC GGCCCCGAAC GCCTGCCCGA GGCCGCCCGC ACCGCCGGAC
101  GGCTCATCGG CAGGCTGCAA CGCTTTGTCG GCAGCGTCAA ACAGGAATTT
151  GACACGCAAA TCGAACTGGA AGAACTAAGG AAGGCAAAGC AGGAATTTGA
201  AGCTGCCGCT GCTCAGGTTC GAGACAGCCT CAAAGAAACC GGTACGGATA
251  TGGAGGGTAA TCTGCACGAC ATTTCCGACG GTCTGAAGCC TTGGGAAAAA
301  CTGCCCGAAC AGCGCACGCC TGCTGATTTC GGTGTCGATG AAAACGGCAA
351  TCCCTTTCCC GATGCGGCAA ACACCCTATT AGACGGCATT TCCGACGTTA
401  TGCCGTCCGA ACGTTCCTAC GCTTCCGCCG AAACCCTTGG GGACAGCGGG
451  CAAACCGGCA GTACAGCCGA ACCCGCGGAA ACCGACCAAG ACCGTGCATG
501  GCGGGAATAC CTGACTGCTT CTGCCGCCGC ACCCGTCGTA CAGACCGTCG
551  AAGTCAGCTA TATCGATACC GCTGTTGAAA CCCCTGTTCC GCATACCACT
601  TCGCTGCGTA AACAGGCAAT AAGCCGCAAA CGCGATTTGC GTCCTAAATC
651  CCGCGCCAAA CCTAAATTGC GCGTCCGTAA ATCATAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 72; ORF2a>:

```
  1  MFDFGLGELV FVGIIALIVL GPERLPEAAR TAGRLIGRLQ RFVGSVKQEF
 51  DTQIELEELR KAKQEFEAAA AQVRDSLKET GTDMEGNLHD ISDGLKPWEK
101  LPEQRTPADF GVDENGNPFP DAANTLLDGI SDVMPSERSY ASAETLGDSG
151  QTGSTAEPAE TDQDRAWREY LTASAAAPVV QTVEVSYIDT AVETPVPHTT
201  SLRKQAISRK RDLRPKSRAK PKLRVRKS*
```

The originally-identified partial strain B sequence (ORF2) shows 97.5% identity over a 118aa overlap with ORF2a:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf2.pep    MXDFGLGELVFVGIIALIVLGPERXPEAARXAGRLIGRLQRFVGSVKQEFDTQIELEELR
            | |||||||||||||||||||| |||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf2a       MFDFGLGELVFVGIIALIVLGPERLPEAARTAGRLIGRLQRFVGSVKQEFDTQIELEELR
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf2.pep    KAKQEFEAAAAQVRDSLKETGTDMEGNLHDISDGLKPWEKLPEQRTPADFGVDENGNPXS
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf2a       KAKQEFEAAAAQVRDSLKETGTDMEGNLHDISDGLKPWEKLPEQRTPADFGVDENGNPFP
                70        80        90        100       110       120

               130
orf2.pep    RCGKHPIRRHFRRYAV

orf2a       DAANTLLDGISDVMPSERSYASAETLGDSGQTGSTAEPAETDQDRAWREYLTASAAAPVV
                130       140       150       160       170       180
```

The complete strain B sequence (ORF2-1) and ORF2a show 98.2% identity in 228 aa overlap:

```
orf2a.pep   MFDFGLGELVFVGIIALIVLGPERLPEAARTAGRLIGRLQRFVGSVKQEFDTQIELEELR  60
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf2-1      MFDFGLGELVFVGIIALIVLGPERLPEAARTAGRLIGRLQRFVGSVKQEFDTQIELEELR  60

orf2a.pep   KAKQEFEAAAAQVRDSLKETGTDMEGNLHDISDGLKPWEKLPEQRTPADFGVDENGNPFP 120
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|
orf2-1      KAKQEFEAAAAQVRDSLKETGTDMEGNLHDISDGLKPWEKLPEQRTPADFGVDENGNPLP 120

orf2a.pep   DAANTLLDGISDVMPSERSYASAETLGDSGQTGSTAEPAETDQDRAWREYLTASAAAPVV 180
            |||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
```

```
orf2-1          DAANTLSDGISDVMPSERSYASAETLGDSGQTGSTAEPAETDQDRAWREYLTASAAAPVV 180

orf2a.pep       QTVEVSYIDTAVETPVPHTTSLRKQAISRKRDLRPKSRAKPKLRVRKSX 229
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||| ||||||||||||
orf2-1          QTVEVSYIDTAVETPVPHTTSLRKQAISRKRDFRPKHRAKPKLRVRKSX 229
```

Further work identified a partial DNA sequence <SEQ ID 73> in *N.gonorrhoeae* encoding the following amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 74; ORF2ng>:

```
   1  MFDFGLGELI FVGIIALIVL GPERLPEAAR TAGRLIGRLQ RFVGSVKQEL
  51  DTQIELEELR KVKQAFEAAA AQVRDSLKET DTDMQNSLHD ISDGLKPWEK
 101  LPEQRTPADF GVDEKGNSLS RYGKHRIRRH FRRYAV*
```

Further work identified the complete gonococcal gene sequence <SEQ ID 75>:

```
   1  ATGTTTGATT TCGGTTTGGG CGAGCTGATT TTTGTCGGCA TTATCGCCCT
  51  GATTGTCCTT GGTCCAGAAC GCCTGCCCGA AGCCGCCCGC ACTGCCGGAC
 101  GGCTTATCGG CAGGCTGCAA CGCTTTGTAG GAAGCGTCAA ACAAGAACTT
 151  GACACTCAAA TCGAACTGGA AGAGCTGAGG AAGGTCAAGC AGGCATTCGA
 201  AGCTGCCGCC GCTCAGGTTC GAGACAGCCT CAAAGAAACC GATACGGATA
 251  TGCAGAACAG TCTGCACGAC ATTTCCGACG GTCTGAAGCC TTGGGAAAAA
 301  CTGCCCGAAC AGCGCACGCc tgccgatttc gGTGTCGATg AAAacggcaa
 351  tccccttccc gATACGGCAA ACACCGTATC AGACGGCATT TCCGACGTTA
 401  TGCCGTCTGA ACGTTCCGAT ACTtccgcCG AAACCCTTGG GGACGACAGG
 451  CAAACCGGCA GTACAGCCGA ACCTGCGGAA ACCGACAAAG ACCGCGCATG
 501  GCGGGAATAC CTGactgctt ctgccgccgc acctgtcgta Cagagggccg
 551  tcgaagtcag ctaTATCGAT ACTGCTGTTG AAacgcctgT tccgcaCacc
 601  acttccctgc gcaAACAGGC AATAAACCGC AAACGCGATT Tttgtccgaa
 651  ACACCGCGCc aAACCGAAat tgcgcgtcCG TAAATCATAA
```

This encodes a protein having the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 76; ORF2ng-1>:

```
   1  MFDFGLGELI FVGIIALIVL GPERLPEAAR TAGRLIGRLQ RFVGSVKQEL
  51  DTQIELEELR KVKQAFEAAA AQVRDSLKET DTDMQNSLHD ISDGLKPWEK
 101  LPEQRTPADF GVDENGNPLP DTANTVSDGI SDVMPSERSD TSAETLGDDR
 151  QTGSTAEPAE TDKDRAWREY LTASAAAPVV QRAVEVSYID TAVETPVPHT
 201  TSLRKQAINR KRDFCPKHRA KPKLRVRKS*
```

The originally-identified partial strain B sequence (ORF2) shows 87.5% identity over a 136aa overlap with ORF2ng:

```
orf2.pep        MXDFGLGELVFVGIIALIVLGPERXPEAARXAGRLIGRLQRFVGSVKQEFDTQIELEELR   60
                | |||||||:||||||||||||||| |||||:||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||
orf2ng           MFDFGLGELIFVGIIALIVLGPERLPEAARTAGRLIGRLQRFVGSVKQELDTQIELEELR   60

orf2.pep        KAKQEFEAAAAQVRDSLKETGTDMEGNLHDISDGLKPWEKLPEQRTPADFGVDENGNPXS  120
                |:|| |||||||||||||||| |||:::|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||
orf2ng          KVKQAFEAAAAQVRDSLKETDTDMQNSLHDISDGLKPWEKLPEQRTPADFGVDEKGNSLP  120

orf2.pep        RCGKHPIRRHFRRYAV  136
                | ||| ||||||||||
orf2ng          RYGKHRIRRHFRRYAV  136
```

The complete strain B and gonococcal sequences (ORF2-1 & ORF2ng-1) show 91.7% identity in 229 aa overlap:

```
                        10        20        30        40        50        60
orf2-1.pep      MFDFGLGELVFVGIIALIVLGPERLPEAARTAGRLIGRLQRFVGSVKQEFDTQIELEELR
                |||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||
orf2ng-1        MFDFGLGELIFVGIIALIVLGPERLPEAARTAGRLIGRLQRFVGSVKQELDTQIELEELR
                        10        20        30        40        50        60

                        70        80        90       100       110       120
orf2-1.pep      KAKQEFEAAAAQVRDSLKETGTDMEGNLHDISDGLKPWEKLPEQRTPADFGVDENGNPLP
                |:|| |||||||||||||||| |||:::|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf2ng-1        KVKQAFEAAAAQVRDSLKETDTDMQNSLHDISDGLKPWEKLPEQRTPADFGVDENGNPLP
```

```
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf2-1.pep  DAANTLSDGISDVMPSERSYASAETLGDSGQTGSTAEPAETDQDRAWREYLTASAAAPVV
            |:|||:|||||||||||||| :|||||||: ||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||
orf2ng-1    DTANTVSDGISDVMPSERSDTSAETLGDDRQTGSTAEPAETDKDRAWREYLTASAAAPVV
                   130       140       150       160       170       180

                   190       200       210       220       229
orf2-1.pep  Q-TVEVSYIDTAVETPVPHTTSLRKQAISRKRDFRPKHRAKPKLRVRKSX
            | :|||||||||||||||||||||:||||| ||||||||||||||
orf2ng-1    QRAVEVSYIDTAVETPVPHTTSLRKQAINRKRDFCPKHRAKPKLRVRKSX
                   190       200       210       220       230
```

Computer analysis of these amino acid sequences indicates a transmembrane region (underlined), and also revealed homology (59% identity) between the gonococcal sequence and the TatB protein of *E.coli*:

```
gnl|PID|e1292181 (AJ005830) TatB protein [Escherichia coli] Length = 171
Score = 56.6 bits (134), Expect = 1e-07
Identities = 30/88 (34%), Positives = 52/88 (59%), Gaps = 1/88 (1%)

Query: 1  MFDFGLGELIFVGIIALIVLGPERLPEAARTAGRLIGRLQRFVGSVKQELDTQIELEELR 60
          MFD G  EL+ V II L+VLGP+RLP A +T    I  L+    +V+ EL  +++L+E +
Sbjct: 1  MFDIGFSELLLVFIIGLVVLGPQRLPVAVKTVAGWIRALRSLATTVQNELTQELKLQEFQ 60

Query: 61 -KVKQAFEAAAAQVRDSLKETDTDMQNS 87
            +K+  +A+   +    LK +  +++ +
Sbjct: 61 DSLKKVEKASLTNLTPELKASMDELRQA 88
```

Based on this analysis, it was predicted that ORF2, ORF2a and ORF2ng are likely to be membrane proteins and so the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

ORF2-1 (16kDa) was cloned in pET and pGex vectors and expressed in *E.coli*, as described above. The products of protein expression and purification were analyzed by SDS-PAGE. Figure 3A shows the results of affinity purification of the GST-fusion protein, and Figure 3B shows the results of expression of the His-fusion in *E.coli*. Purified GST-fusion protein was used to immunise mice, whose sera were used for Western blots (Figure 3C), ELISA (positive result), and FACS analysis (Figure 3D). These experiments confirm that ORF37-1 is a surface-exposed protein, and that it is a useful immunogen.

Example 10

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 77>:

```
   1  ATGCAAGCAC GGCTGCTGAT ACCTATTCTT TTTTCAGTTT TTATTTTATC
  51  CGC.TGCGGG ACACTGACAG GTATTCCATC GCATGGCGgA GkTAAACgCT
 101  TTgCGGTCGA ACAAGAACTT GTGGCCGCTT CTGCCAGAGC TGCCGTTAAA
 151  GACATGGATT TACAGGCATT ACACGGACGA AAAGTTGCAT TGTACATTGC
 201  CACTATGGGC GACCAAGGTT CAGGcAGTTT GACAGGGGGG TCGCTACTCC
 251  ATTGATGCAC kGrTwCsTGG CGAATACATA AACAGCCCTG CCGTCCGTAC
 301  CGATTACACC TATCCACGTT ACGAAACCAC CGCTGAAACA ACATCAGGCG
 351  GTTTGACAGG TTTAACCACT TCTTTATCTA CACTTAATGC CCCTGCACTC
 401  TCTCGCACCC AATCAGACGG TAGCGGAAGT AAAAGCAGTC TGGGCTTAAA
 451  TATTGGCGGG ATGGGGGATT ATCGAAATGA AACCTTGACG ACTAACCCGC
```

```
501  GCGACACTGC CTTTCTTTCC CACTTGGTAC AGACCGTATT TTTCCTGCGC
551  GGCATAGACG TTGTTTCTCC TGCCAATGCC GATACAGATG TGTTTATTAA
601  CATCGACGTA TTCGGAACGA TACGCAACAG AACCGAAATG..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 78; ORF15>:

```
  1  MQARLLIPIL FSVFILSACG TLTGIPSHGG XKRFAVEQEL VAASARAAVK
 51  DMDLQALHGR KVALYIATMG DQGSGSLTGG RYSIDAXXXG EYINSPAVRT
101  DYTYPRYETT AETTSGGLTG LTTSLSTLNA PALSRTQSDG SGSKSSLGLN
151  IGGMGDYRNE TLTTNPRDTA FLSHLVQTVF FLRGIDVVSP ANADTDVFIN
201  IDVFGTIRNR TEM..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 79>:

```
  1  ATGCAAGCAC GGCTGCTGAT ACCTATTCTT TTTTCAGTTT TTATTTTATC
 51  CGCCTGCGGG ACACTGACAG GTATTCCATC GCATGGCGGA GGTAAACGCT
101  TTGCGGTCGA ACAAGAACTT GTGGCCGCTT CTGCCAGAGC TGCCGTTAAA
151  GACATGGATT TACAGGCATT ACACGGACGA AAAGTTGCAT TGTACATTGC
201  CACTATGGGC GACCAAGGTT CAGGCAGTTT GACAGGGGGT CGCTACTCCA
251  TTGATGCACT GATTCGTGGC GAATACATAA ACAGCCCTGC CGTCCGTACC
301  GATTACACCT ATCCACGTTA CGAAACCACC GCTGAAACAA CATCAGGCGG
351  TTTGACAGGT TTAACCACTT CTTTATCTAC ACTTAATGCC CCTGCACTCT
401  CTCGCACCCA ATCAGACGGT AGCGGAAGTA AAAGCAGTCT GGGCTTAAAT
451  ATTGGCGGGA TGGGGGATTA TCGAAATGAA ACCTTGACGA CTAACCCGCG
501  CGACACTGCC TTTCTTTCCC ACTTGGTACA GACCGTATTT TTCCTGCGCG
551  GCATAGACGT TGTTTCTCCT GCCAATGCCG ATACAGATGT GTTTATTAAC
601  ATCGACGTAT TCGGAACGAT ACGCAACAGA ACCGAAATGC ACCTATACAA
651  TGCCGAAACA CTGAAAGCCC AAACAAAACT GGAATATTTC GCAGTAGACA
701  GAACCAATAA AAAATTGCTC ATCAAACCAA AAACCAATGC GTTTGAAGCT
751  GCCTATAAAG AAAATTACGC ATTGTGGATG GGGCCGTATA AAGTAAGCAA
801  AGGAATTAAA CCGACGGAAG GATTAATGGT CGATTTCTCC GATATCCGAC
851  CATACGGCAA TCATACGGGT AACTCCGCCC CATCCGTAGA GGCTGATAAC
901  AGTCATGAGG GGTATGGATA CAGCGATGAA GTAGTGCGAC AACATAGACA
951  AGGACAACCT TGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 80; ORF15-1>:

```
  1  MQARLLIPIL FSVFILSACG TLTGIPSHGG GKRFAVEQEL VAASARAAVK
 51  DMDLQALHGR KVALYIATMG DQGSGSLTGG RYSIDALIRG EYINSPAVRT
101  DYTYPRYETT AETTSGGLTG LTTSLSTLNA PALSRTQSDG SGSKSSLGLN
151  IGGMGDYRNE TLTTNPRDTA FLSHLVQTVF FLRGIDVVSP ANADTDVFIN
201  IDVFGTIRNR TEMHLYNAET LKAQTKLEYF AVDRTNKKLL IKPKTNAFEA
251  AYKENYALWM GPYKVSKGIK PTEGLMVDFS DIRPYGNHTG NSAPSVEADN
301  SHEGYGYSDE VVRQHRQGQP *
```

Further work identified the corresponding gene in strain A of *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 81>:

```
  1  ATGCAAGCAC GGCTGCTGAT ACCTATTCTT TTTTCAGTTT TTATTTTATC
 51  CGCCTGCGGG ACACTGACAG GTATTCCATC GCATGGCGGA GGTAAACGCT
101  TTGCGGTCGA ACAAGAACTT GTGGCCGCTT CTGCCAGAGC TGCCGTTAAA
151  GACATGGATT TACAGGCATT ACACGGACGA AAAGTTGCAT TGTACATTGC
201  AACTATGGGC GACCAAGGTT CAGGCAGTTT GACAGGGGGT CGCTACTCCA
251  TTGATGCACT GATTCGTGGC GAATACATAA ACAGCCCTGC CGTCCGTACC
301  GATTACACCT ATCCACGTTA CGAAACCACC GCTGAAACAA CATCAGGCGG
351  TTTGACAGGT TTAACCACTT CTTTATCTAC ACTTAATGCC CCTGCACTCT
401  CGCGCACCCA ATCAGACGGT AGCGGAAGTA AAAGCAGTCT GGGCTTAAAT
451  ATTGGCGGGA TGGGGGATTA TCGAAATGAA ACCTTGACGA CTAACCCGCG
501  CGACACTGCC TTTCTTTCCC ACTTGGTACA GACCGTATTT TTCCTGCGCG
551  GCATAGACGT TGTTTCTCCT GCCAATGCCG ATACGGATGT GTTTATTAAC
601  ATCGACGTAT TCGGAACGAT ACGCAACAGA ACCGAAATGC ACCTATACAA
651  TGCCGAAACA CTGAAAGCCC AAACAAAACT GGAATATTTC GCAGTAGACA
701  GAACCAATAA AAAATTGCTC ATCAAACCAA AAACCAATGC GTTTGAAGCT
751  GCCTATAAAG AAAATTACGC ATTGTGGATG GGACCGTATA AAGTAAGCAA
801  AGGAATTAAA CCGACAGAAG GATTAATGGT CGATTTCTCC GATATCCAAC
851  CATACGGCAA TCATATGGGT AACTCTGCCC CATCCGTAGA GGCTGATAAC
901  AGTCATGAGG GGTATGGATA CAGCGATGAA GCAGTGCGAC GACATAGACA
951  AGGGCAACCT TGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 82; ORF15a>:

```
  1  MQARLLIPIL FSVFILSACG TLTGIPSHGG GKRFAVEQEL VAASARAAVK
```

```
  51  DMDLQALHGR KVALYIATMG DQGSGSLTGG RYSIDALIRG EYINSPAVRT
 101  DYTYPRYETT AETTSGGLTG LTTSLSTLNA PALSRTQSDG SGSKSSLGLN
 151  IGGMGDYRNE TLTTNPRDTA FLSHLVQTVF FLRGIDVVSP ANADTDVFIN
 201  IDVFGTIRNR TEMHLYNAET LKAQTKLEYF AVDRTNKKLL IKPKTNAFEA
 251  AYKENYALWM GPYKVSKGIK PTEGLMVDFS DIQPYGNHMG NSAPSVEADN
 301  SHEGYGYSDE AVRRHRQGQP *
```

The originally-identified partial strain B sequence (ORF15) shows 98.1% identity over a 213aa overlap with ORF15a:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf15.pep       MQARLLIPILFSVFILSACGTLTGIPSHGGXKRFAVEQELVAASARAAVKDMDLQALHGR
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf15a          MQARLLIPILFSVFILSACGTLTGIPSHGGGKRFAVEQELVAASARAAVKDMDLQALHGR
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf15.pep       KVALYIATMGDQGSGSLTGGRYSIDAXXXGEYINSPAVRTDYTYPRYETTAETTSGGLTG
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||   |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf15a          KVALYIATMGDQGSGSLTGGRYSIDALIRGEYINSPAVRTDYTYPRYETTAETTSGGLTG
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf15.pep       LTTSLSTLNAPALSRTQSDGSGSKSSLGLNIGGMGDYRNETLTTNPRDTAFLSHLVQTVF
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf15a          LTTSLSTLNAPALSRTQSDGSGSKSSLGLNIGGMGDYRNETLTTNPRDTAFLSHLVQTVF
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210
orf15.pep       FLRGIDVVSPANADTDVFINIDVFGTIRNRTEM
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf15a          FLRGIDVVSPANADTDVFINIDVFGTIRNRTEMHLYNAETLKAQTKLEYFAVDRTNKKLL
                190       200       210       220       230       240
```

The complete strain B sequence (ORF15-1) and ORF15a show 98.8% identity in 320 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf15a.pep      MQARLLIPILFSVFILSACGTLTGIPSHGGGKRFAVEQELVAASARAAVKDMDLQALHGR
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf15-1         MQARLLIPILFSVFILSACGTLTGIPSHGGGKRFAVEQELVAASARAAVKDMDLQALHGR
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf15a.pep      KVALYIATMGDQGSGSLTGGRYSIDALIRGEYINSPAVRTDYTYPRYETTAETTSGGLTG
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf15-1         KVALYIATMGDQGSGSLTGGRYSIDALIRGEYINSPAVRTDYTYPRYETTAETTSGGLTG
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf15a.pep      LTTSLSTLNAPALSRTQSDGSGSKSSLGLNIGGMGDYRNETLTTNPRDTAFLSHLVQTVF
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf15-1         LTTSLSTLNAPALSRTQSDGSGSKSSLGLNIGGMGDYRNETLTTNPRDTAFLSHLVQTVF
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf15a.pep      FLRGIDVVSPANADTDVFINIDVFGTIRNRTEMHLYNAETLKAQTKLEYFAVDRTNKKLL
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf15-1         FLRGIDVVSPANADTDVFINIDVFGTIRNRTEMHLYNAETLKAQTKLEYFAVDRTNKKLL
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260       270       280       290       300
orf15a.pep      IKPKTNAFEAAYKENYALWMGPYKVSKGIKPTEGLMVDFSDIQPYGNHMGNSAPSVEADN
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||| ||||||||||
orf15-1         IKPKTNAFEAAYKENYALWMGPYKVSKGIKPTEGLMVDFSDIRPYGNHTGNSAPSVEADN
                250       260       270       280       290       300

                310       320
orf15a.pep      SHEGYGYSDEAVRRHRQGQPX
                ||||||||||:||:||||||||
orf15-1         SHEGYGYSDEVVRQHRQGQPX
```

310 320

Further work identified the corresponding gene in *N.gonorrhoeae* <SEQ ID 83>:

```
   1  ATGCGGGCAC GGCTGCTGAT ACCTATTCTT TTTTCAGTTT TTATTTTATC
  51  CGCCTGCGGG ACACTGACAG GTATTCCATC GCATGGCGGA GGCAAACGCT
 101  TCGCGGTCGA ACAAGAACTT GTGGCCGCTT CTGCCAGAGC TGCCGTTAAA
 151  GACATGGATT TACAGGCATT ACACGGACGA AAAGTTGCAT TGTACATTGC
 201  AACTATGGGC GACCAAGGTT CAGGCAGTTT GACAGGGGGT CGCTACTCCA
 251  TTGATGCACT GATTCGCGGC GAATACATAA ACAGCCCTGC CGTCCGCACC
 301  GATTACACCT ATCCGCGTTA CGAAACCACC GCTGAAACAA CATCAGGCGG
 351  TTTGACGGGT TTAACCACTT CTTTATCTAC ACTTAATGCC CCTGCACTCT
 401  CGCGCACCCA ATCAGACGGT AGCGGAAGTA GGAGCAGTCT GGGCTTAAAT
 451  ATTGGCGGGA TGGGGGGATTA TCGAAATGAA ACCTTGACGA CCAACCCGCG
 501  CGACACTGCC TTTCTTTCCC ACTTGGTGCA GACCGTATTT TTCCTGCGCG
 551  GCATAGACGT TGTTTCTCCT GCCAATGCCG ATACAGATGT GTTTATTAAC
 601  ATCGACGTAT TCGGAACGAT ACGCAACAGA ACCGAAATGC ACCTATACAA
 651  TGCCGAAACA CTGAAAGCCC AAACAAAACT GGAATATTTC GCAGTAGACA
 701  GAACCAATAA AAAATTGCTC ATCAAACCCA AAACCAATGC GTTTGAAGCT
 751  GCCTATAAAG AAAATTACGC ATTGTGGATG GGGCCGTATA AAGTAAGCAA
 801  AGGAATCAAA CCGACGGAAG GATTGATGGT CGATTTCTCC GATATCCAAC
 851  CATACGGCAA TCATACGGGT AACTCCGCCC CATCCGTAGA GGCTGATAAC
 901  AGTCATGAGG GGTATGGATA CAGCGATGAA GCAGTGCGAC AACATAGACA
 951  AGGGCAACCT TGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 84; ORF15ng>:

```
   1  MRARLLIPIL FSVFILSACG TLTGIPSHGG GKRFAVEQEL VAASARAAVK
  51  DMDLQALHGR KVALYIATMG DQGSGSLTGG RYSIDALIRG EYINSPAVRT
 101  DYTYPRYETT AETTSGGLTG LTTSLSTLNA PALSRTQSDG SGSRSSLGLN
 151  IGGMGDYRNE TLTTNPRDTA FLSHLVQTVF FLRGIDVVSP ANADTDVFIN
 201  IDVFGTIRNR TEMHLYNAET LKAQTKLEYF AVDRTNKKLL IKPKTNAFEA
 251  AYKENYALWM GPYKVSKGIK PTEGLMVDFS DIQPYGNHTG NSAPSVEADN
 301  SHEGYGYSDE AVRQHRQGQP *
```

The originally-identified partial strain B sequence (ORF15) shows 97.2% identity over a 213aa overlap with ORF15ng:

```
orf15.pep    MQARLLIPILFSVFILSACGTLTGIPSHGGXKRFAVEQELVAASARAAVKDMDLQALHGR   60
             |:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf15ng      MRARLLIPILFSVFILSACGTLTGIPSHGGGKRFAVEQELVAASARAAVKDMDLQALHGR   60

orf15.pep    KVALYIATMGDQGSGSLTGGRYSIDAXXXGEYINSPAVRTDYTYPRYETTAETTSGGLTG  120
             |||||||||||||||||||||||||   |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf15ng      KVALYIATMGDQGSGSLTGGRYSIDALIRGEYINSPAVRTDYTYPRYETTAETTSGGLTG  120

orf15.pep    LTTSLSTLNAPALSRTQSDGSGSKSSLGLNIGGMGDYRNETLTTNPRDTAFLSHLVQTVF  180
             |||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf15ng      LTTSLSTLNAPALSRTQSDGSGSRSSLGLNIGGMGDYRNETLTTNPRDTAFLSHLVQTVF  180

orf15.pep    FLRGIDVVSPANADTDVFINIDVFGTIRNRTEM                              213
             |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf15ng      FLRGIDVVSPANADTDVFINIDVFGTIRNRTEMHLYNAETLKAQTKLEYFAVDRTNKKLL  240
```

The complete strain B sequence (ORF15-1) and ORF15ng show 98.8% identity in 320 aa overlap:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf15-1.pep  MQARLLIPILFSVFILSACGTLTGIPSHGGGKRFAVEQELVAASARAAVKDMDLQALHGR
             |:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf15ng      MRARLLIPILFSVFILSACGTLTGIPSHGGGKRFAVEQELVAASARAAVKDMDLQALHGR
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf15-1.pep  KVALYIATMGDQGSGSLTGGRYSIDALIRGEYINSPAVRTDYTYPRYETTAETTSGGLTG
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf15ng      KVALYIATMGDQGSGSLTGGRYSIDALIRGEYINSPAVRTDYTYPRYETTAETTSGGLTG
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf15-1.pep  LTTSLSTLNAPALSRTQSDGSGSKSSLGLNIGGMGDYRNETLTTNPRDTAFLSHLVQTVF
```

```
                    |||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf15ng             LTTSLSTLNAPALSRTQSDGSGSRSSLGLNIGGMGDYRNETLTTNPRDTAFLSHLVQTVF
                          130       140       150       160       170       180

                          190       200       210       220       230       240
orf15-1.pep         FLRGIDVVSPANADTDVFINIDVFGTIRNRTEMHLYNAETLKAQTKLEYFAVDRTNKKLL
                    ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf15ng             FLRGIDVVSPANADTDVFINIDVFGTIRNRTEMHLYNAETLKAQTKLEYFAVDRTNKKLL
                          190       200       210       220       230       240

                          250       260       270       280       290       300
orf15-1.pep         IKPKTNAFEAAYKENYALWMGPYKVSKGIKPTEGLMVDFSDIRPYGNHTGNSAPSVEADN
                    ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||
orf15ng             IKPKTNAFEAAYKENYALWMGPYKVSKGIKPTEGLMVDFSDIQPYGNHTGNSAPSVEADN
                          250       260       270       280       290       300

                          310       320
orf15-1.pep         SHEGYGYSDEVVRQHRQGQPX
                    ||||||||||:||||||||||
orf15ng             SHEGYGYSDEAVRQHRQGQPX
                          310       320
```

Computer analysis of these amino acid sequences reveals an ILSAC motif (putative membrane lipoprotein lipid attachment site, as predicted by the MOTIFS program).

indicates a putative leader sequence, and it was predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

ORF15-1 (31.7kDa) was cloned in pET and pGex vectors and expressed in *E.coli*, as described above. The products of protein expression and purification were analyzed by SDS-PAGE. Figure 4A shows the results of affinity purification of the GST-fusion protein, and Figure 4B shows the results of expression of the His-fusion in *E.coli*. Purified GST-fusion protein was used to immunise mice, whose sera were used for Western blot (Figure 4C) and ELISA (positive result). These experiments confirm that ORFX-1 is a surface-exposed protein, and that it is a useful immunogen.

Example 11

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 85>:

```
     1  ..GG.CAGCACA AAAAACAGGC GGTTGAACGG AAAAACCGTA TTTACGATGA
    51    TGCCGGGTAT GATATTCGGC GTATTCACGG GCGCATTCTC CGCAAAATAT
   101    ATCCCCGCGT TCGGGCTTCA AATTTTCTTC ATCCTGTTTT TAACCGCCGT
   151    CGCATTCAAA ACACTGCATA CCGACCCTCA GACGGCATCC CGCCCGCTGC
   201    CCGGACTGCC CrGACTGACT GCGGTTTCCA CACTGTTCGG CACAATGTCG
   251    AGCTGGGTCG GCATAGGCGG CGGTTCACTT TCCGTCCCCT TCTTAATCCA
   301    CTGCGGCTTC CCCGCCCATA AAGCCATCGG CACATCATCC GGCCTTGCCT
   351    GGCCGATTGC ACTCTCCGGC GCAATATCGT ATCTGCTCAA CGGCCTGAAT
   401    ATTGCAGGAT TGCCCGAAGG GTCACTGGGC TTCCTTTACC TGCCCGCCGT
   451    CGCCGTCCTC AGCGCGGCAA CCATTGCCTT TGCCCCGCTC GGTGTCAAAA
   501    CCGCCCACAA ACTTTCTTCT GCCAAACTCA AAAAATC.TT CGGCATTATG
   551    TTGCTTTTGA TTGCCGGAAA AATGCTGTAC AACCTGCTTT AA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 86; ORF17>:

```
     1  ..GQHKKQAVNG KTVFTMMPGM IFGVFTGAFS AKYIPAFGLQ IFFILFLTAV
    51    AFKTLHTDPQ TASRPLPGLP XLTAVSTLFG TMSSWVGIGG GSLSVPFLIH
```

```
101    CGFPAHKAIG TSSGLAWPIA LSGAISYLLN GLNIAGLPEG SLGFLYLPAV
151    AVLSAATIAF APLGVKTAHK LSSAKLKKSF GIMLLLIAGK MLYNLL*
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 87>:

```
  1  ATGTGGCATT GGGACATTAT CTTAATCCTG CTTGCCGTAG GCAGTGCGGC
 51  AGGTTTTATT GCCGGCCTGT TCGGCGTAGG CGGCGGCACG CTGATTGTCC
101  CTGTCGTTTT ATGGGTGCTT GATTTGCAGG GTTTGGCACA ACATCCTTAC
151  GCGCAACACC TCGCCGTCGG CACATCCTTC GCCGTCATGG TCTTCACCGC
201  CTTTTCCAGT ATGCTGGGGC AGCACAAAAA ACAGGCGGTC GACTGGAAAA
251  CCGTATTTAC GATGATGCCG GGTATGATAT TCGGCGTATT CACGGGCGCA
301  CTCTCCGCAA AATATATCCC CGCGTTCGGG CTTCAAATTT TCTTCATCCT
351  GTTTTTAACC GCCGTCGCAT TCAAAACACT GCATACCGAC CCTCAGACGG
401  CATCCCGCCC GCTGCCCGGA CTGCCCGGAC TGACTGCGGT TTCCACACTG
451  TTCGGCACAA TGTCGAGCTG GGTCGGCATA GGCGGCGGTT CACTTTCCGT
501  CCCCTTCTTA ATCCACTGCG GCTTCCCCGC CCATAAAGCC ATCGGCACAT
551  CATCCGGCCT TGCCTGGCCG ATTGCACTCT CCGGCGCAAT ATCGTATCTG
601  CTCAACGGCC TGAATATTGC AGGATTGCCC GAAGGGTCAC TGGGCTTCCT
651  TTACCTGCCC GCCGTCGCCG TCCTCAGCGC GGCAACCATT GCCTTTGCCC
701  CGCTCGGTGT CAAAACCGCC CACAAACTTT CTTCTGCCAA ACTCAAAAAA
751  Tc.TTCGGCA TTATGTTGCT TTTGATTGCC GGAAAAATGC TGTACAACCT
801  GCTTTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 88; ORF17-1>:

```
  1  MWHWDIILIL LAVGSAAGFI AGLFGVGGGT LIVPVVLWVL DLQGLAQHPY
 51  AQHLAVGTSF AVMVFTAFSS MLGQHKKQAV DWKTVFTMMP GMIFGVFTGA
101  LSAKYIPAFG LQIFFILFLT AVAFKTLHTD PQTASRPLPG LPGLTAVSTL
151  FGTMSSWVGI GGGSLSVPFL IHCGFPAHKA IGTSSGLAWP IALSGAISYL
201  LNGLNIAGLP EGSLGFLYLP AVAVLSAATI AFAPLGVKTA HKLSSAKLKK
251  XFGIMLLLIA GKMLYNLL*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with hypothetical *H.influenzae* transmembrane protein HI0902 (accession number P44070)

ORF17 and HI0902 proteins show 28% aa identity in 192 aa overlap:

```
ORF17    3   HKKQAVNGKTVFTMMPGMIFGVFT-GAFSAKYIPAFGLQIF--FILFLTAVAFKTLHTDP 59
             HK   +  + V  + P ++  VF  G F  +        +IF   +++L       ++  D
HI0902   72  HKLGNIVWQAVRILAPVIMLSVFICGLFIGRLDREISAKIFACLVVYLATKMVLSIKKD- 130

ORF17    60  QTASRPLPGLPXLTAVSTLFGTMSSWVGIGGGSLSVPFLIHCGFPAHKAIGTSSGLAWPI 119
             Q  ++ L  L  +      L G  SS  GIGGG    VPFL    G     +AIG+S+      +
HI0902   131 QVTTKSLTPLSSVIG-GILIGMASSAAGIGGGGFIVPFLTARGINIKQAIGSSAFCGMLL 189

ORF17    120 ALSGAISYLLNGLNIAGLPEGSLGFLYLPAVAVLSAATIAFAPLGVXXXXXXXXXXXXXX 179
              +SG  S++++G      +PE SLG++YLPAV  ++A +    + LG
HI0902   190 GISGMFSFIVSGWGNPLMPEYSLGYIYLPAVLGITATSFFTSKLGASATAKLPVSTLKKG 249

ORF17    180 FGIMLLLIAGKM 191
             F + L+++A  M
HI0902   250 FALFLIVVAINM 261
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF17 shows 96.9% identity over a 196aa overlap with an ORF (ORF17a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                                    10        20        30
orf17.pep                                          GQHKKQAVNGKTVFTMMPGMIFGVFTGAFS
                                                   ||||||||: |||||||||:||||:||:|
orf17a        QGLAQHPYAQHLAVGTSFAVMVFTAFSSMLGQHKKQAVDWKTVFTMMPGMVFGVFAGALS
                    50        60        70        80        90        100

                      40        50        60        70        80        90
orf17.pep     AKYIPAFGLQIFFILFLTAVAFKTLHTDPQTASRPLPGLPXLTAVSTLFGTMSSWVGIGG
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||
orf17a        AKYIPAFGLQIFFILFLTAVAFKTLHTDPQTASRPLPGLPGLTAVSTLFGTMSSWVGIGG
```

```
                    110       120       130       140       150       160

                  100       110       120       130       140       150
orf17.pep   GSLSVPFLIHCGFPAHKAIGTSSGLAWPIALSGAISYLLNGLNIAGLPEGSLGFLYLPAV
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf17a      GSLSVPFLIHCGFPAHKAIGTSSGLAWPIALSGAISYLLNGLNIAGLPEGSLGFLYLPAV
                  170       180       190       200       210       220

                  160       170       180       190
orf17.pep   AVLSAATIAFAPLGVKTAHKLSSAKLKKSFGIMLLLIAGKMLYNLLX
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf17a      AVLSAATIAFAPLGVKTAHKLSSAKLKKSFGIMLLLIAGKMLYNLLX
                  230       240       250       260
```

The complete length ORF17a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 89> is:

```
   1  ATGTGGCATT GGGACATTAT CTTAATCCTG CTTGCCGTAG GCAGTGCGGC
  51  AGGTTTTATT GCCGGCCTGT TCGGCGTAGG CGGCGGCACG CTGATTGTCC
 101  CTGTCGTTTT ATGGGTGCTT GATTTGCAGG GTTTGGCACA ACATCCTTAC
 151  GCGCAACACC TCGCCGTCGG CACATCCTTC GCCGTCATGG TCTTCACCGC
 201  CTTTTCCAGT ATGCTGGGGC AGCACAAAAA ACAGGCGGTC GACTGGAAAA
 251  CCGTATTTAC GATGATGCCG GGTATGGTAT TCGGCGTATT CGCTGGCGCA
 301  CTCTCCGCAA AATATATCCC AGCGTTCGGG CTTCAAATTT TCTTCATCCT
 351  GTTTTTAACC GCCGTCGCAT TCAAAACACT GCATACCGAC CCTCAGACGG
 401  CATCCCGCCC GCTGCCCGGA CTGCCCGGAC TGACTGCGGT TTCCACACTG
 451  TTCGGCACAA TGTCGAGCTG GGTCGGCATA GGCGGCGGTT CACTTTCCGT
 501  CCCCTTCTTA ATCCACTGCG GCTTCCCCGC CCATAAAGCC ATCGGCACAT
 551  CATCCGGCCT TGCCTGGCCG ATTGCACTCT CCGGCGCAAT ATCGTATCTG
 601  CTCAACGGCC TGAATATTGC AGGATTGCCC GAAGGGTCAC TGGGCTTCCT
 651  TTACCTGCCC GCCGTCGCCG TCCTCAGCGC GGCAACCATT GCCTTTGCCC
 701  CGCTCGGTGT CAAAACCGCC CACAAACTTT CTTCTGCCAA ACTCAAAAAA
 751  TCCTTCGGCA TTATGTTGCT TTTGATTGCC GGAAAAATGC TGTACAACCT
 801  GCTTTAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 90>:

```
   1  MWHWDIILIL LAVGSAAGFI AGLFGVGGGT LIVPVVLWVL DLQGLAQHPY
  51  AQHLAVGTSF AVMVFTAFSS MLGQHKKQAV DWKTVFTMMP GMVFGVFAGA
 101  LSAKYIPAFG LQIFFILFLT AVAFKTLHTD PQTASRPLPG LPGLTAVSTL
 151  FGTMSSWVGI GGGSLSVPFL IHCGFPAHKA IGTSSGLAWP IALSGAISYL
 201  LNGLNIAGLP EGSLGFLYLP AVAVLSAATI AFAPLGVKTA HKLSSAKLKK
 251  SFGIMLLLIA GKMLYNLL*
```

ORF17a and ORF17-1 show 98.9% identity in 268 aa overlap:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf17a.pep  MWHWDIILILLAVGSAAGFIAGLFGVGGGTLIVPVVLWVLDLQGLAQHPYAQHLAVGTSF
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf17-1     MWHWDIILILLAVGSAAGFIAGLFGVGGGTLIVPVVLWVLDLQGLAQHPYAQHLAVGTSF
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf17a.pep  AVMVFTAFSSMLGQHKKQAVDWKTVFTMMPGMVFGVFAGALSAKYIPAFGLQIFFILELT
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf17-1     AVMVFTAFSSMLGQHKKQAVDWKTVFTMMPGMIFGVFTGALSAKYIPAFGLQIFFILFLT
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf17a.pep  AVAFKTLHTDPQTASRPLPGLPGLTAVSTLFGTMSSWVGIGGGSLSVPFLIHCGFPAHKA
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf17-1     AVAFKTLHTDPQTASRPLPGLPGLTAVSTLFGTMSSWVGIGGGSLSVPFLIHCGFPAHKA
                   130       140       150       160       170       180

                   190       200       210       220       230       240
orf17a.pep  IGTSSGLAWPIALSGAISYLLNGLNIAGLPEGSLGFLYLPAVAVLSAATIAFAPLGVKTA
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf17-1     IGTSSGLAWPIALSGAISYLLNGLNIAGLPEGSLGFLYLPAVAVLSAATIAFAPLGVKTA
                   190       200       210       220       230       240

                   250       260       269
orf17a.pep  HKLSSAKLKKSFGIMLLLIAGKMLYNLLX
```

```
                    |||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||
orf17-1             HKLSSAKLKKXFGIMLLLIAGKMLYNLLX
                          250       260
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF17 shows 93.9% identity over a 196aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF17.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf17.pep                                       GQHKKQAVNGKTVFTMMPGMIFGVFTGAFS   30
                                                ||||||||: ||:|:||||||||||:||:|
orf17ng     QGLAQHPYAQHLAVGTSFAVMVFTAFSSMLGQHKKQAVDWKTIFAMMPGMIFGVFAGALS  102

orf17.pep   AKYIPAFGLQIFFILFLTAVAFKTLHTDPQTASRPLPGLPXLTAVSTLFGTMSSWVGIGG   90
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||  |||||||||| |||||||||:|||||||||
orf17ng     AKYIPAFGLQIFFILFLTAVAFKTLHTGRQTASRPLPGLPGLTAVSTLFGAMSSWVGIGG  162

orf17.pep   GSLSVPFLIHCGFPAHKAIGTSSGLAWPIALSGAISYLLNGLNIAGLPEGSLGFLYLPAV  150
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||
orf17ng     GSLSVPFLIHCGFPAHKAIGTSSGLAWPIALSGAISYLVNGLNIAGLPEGSLGFLYLPAV  202

orf17.pep   AVLSAATIAFAPLGVKTAHKLSSAKLKKSFGIMLLLIAGKMLYNLL  196
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||
orf17ng     AVLSAATIAFAPLGVKTAHKLSSAKLKESFGIMLLLIAGKMLYNLL  268
```

An ORF17ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 91> is predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 92>:

```
   1  MWHWDIILIL LAVGSAAGFI AGLFGVGGGT LIVPVVLWVL DLQGLAQHPY
  51  AQHLAVGTSF AVMVFTAFSS MLGQHKKQAV DWKTIFAMMP GMIFGVFAGA
 101  LSAKYIPAFG LQIFFILFLT AVAFKTLHTG RQTASRPLPG LPGLTAVSTL
 151  FGAMSSWVGI GGGSLSVPFL IHCGFPAHKA IGTSSGLAWP IALSGAISYL
 201  VNGLNIAGLP EGSLGFLYLP AVAVLSAATI AFAPLGVKTA HKLSSAKLKE
 251  SFGIMLLLIA GKMLYNLL*
```

Further work revealed the complete gonococcal DNA sequence <SEQ ID 93>:

```
   1  ATGTGGCATT GGGACATTAT CTTAATCCTG CTTGCcgtag gcAGTGCGGC
  51  AGGTTTTATT GCCGGCCTGT Tcggtgtagg cggcgGTACG CTGATTGTCC
 101  CTGTCGTTTT ATGGGTGCTT GATTTGCAGG GTTTGGCACA ACATCCTTAC
 151  GCGCAACACC TCGCCGTCGG CAcaTccttc gcCGTCATGG TCTTCACCGC
 201  CTTTTCCAGT ATGTTGGGGC AGCACAAAAA ACAGGCGGTC GACTGGAAAA
 251  CCATATTTGC GATGATGCCG GGTATGATAT TCGGCGTATT CGCTGGCGCA
 301  CTCTCCGCAA AATATATCCC CGCGTTCGGG CTTCAAATTT TCTTCATCCT
 351  GTTTTTAACC GCCGTCGCAT TCAAAACACT GCATACCGGT CGTCAGACGG
 401  CATCCCGCCC GCTGCCCGGG CTGCCCGGAC TGACTGCGGT TTCCACACTG
 451  TTCGGCGCAA TGTCGAGCTG GGTCGGCATA GGCGGCGGTT CACTTTCCGT
 501  CCCCTTCTTA ATCCACTGCG GCTTCCCCGC CCATAAAGCC ATCGGCACAT
 551  CATCCGGCCT TGCCTGGCCG ATTGCACTCT CCGGCGCAAT ATCGTATCTG
 601  GTCAACGGTC TGAATATTGC AGGATTGCCC GAAGGGTCGC TGGGCTTCCT
 651  TTACCTGCCC GCCGTCGCCG TCCTCAGCGC GGCAACCATT GCCTTTGCCC
 701  CGCTCGGTGT CAAAACCGCC CACAAACTTT CTTCTGCCAA ACTCAAAGAA
 751  TCCTTCGGCA TTATGTTGCT TTTGATTGCC GGAAAAATGC TGTACAACCT
 801  GCTTTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 94; ORF17ng-1>:

```
   1  MWHWDIILIL LAVGSAAGFI AGLFGVGGGT LIVPVVLWVL DLQGLAQHPY
  51  AQHLAVGTSF AVMVFTAFSS MLGQHKKQAV DWKTIFAMMP GMIFGVFAGA
 101  LSAKYIPAFG LQIFFILFLT AVAFKTLHTG RQTASRPLPG LPGLTAVSTL
 151  FGAMSSWVGI GGGSLSVPFL IHCGFPAHKA IGTSSGLAWP IALSGAISYL
 201  VNGLNIAGLP EGSLGFLYLP AVAVLSAATI AFAPLGVKTA HKLSSAKLKE
 251  SFGIMLLLIA GKMLYNLL*
```

ORF17ng-1 and ORF17-1 show 96.6% identity in 268 aa overlap:

```
                        10        20        30        40        50        60
orf17-1.pep     MWHWDIILILLAVGSAAGFIAGLFGVGGGTLIVPVVLWVLDLQGLAQHPYAQHLAVGTSF
```

```
                    ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf17ng-1           MWHWDIILILLAVGSAAGFIAGLFGVGGGTLIVPVVLWVLDLQGLAQHPYAQHLAVGTSF
                           10        20        30        40        50        60

                           70        80        90       100       110       120
orf17-1.pep         AVMVFTAFSSMLGQHKKQAVDWKTVFTMMPGMIFGVFTGALSAKYIPAFGLQIFFILFLT
                    ||||||||||||||||||||||||:|:|||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf17ng-1           AVMVFTAFSSMLGQHKKQAVDWKTIFAMMPGMIFGVFAGALSAKYIPAFGLQIFFILFLT
                           70        80        90       100       110       120

                          130       140       150       160       170       180
orf17-1.pep         AVAFKTLHTDPQTASRPLPGLPGLTAVSTLFGTMSSWVGIGGGSLSVPFLIHCGFPAHKA
                    |||||||||  ||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf17ng-1           AVAFKTLHTGRQTASRPLPGLPGLTAVSTLFGAMSSWVGIGGGSLSVPFLIHCGFPAHKA
                          130       140       150       160       170       180

                          190       200       210       220       230       240
orf17-1.pep         IGTSSGLAWPIALSGAISYLLNGLNIAGLPEGSLGFLYLPAVAVLSAATIAFAPLGVKTA
                    ||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf17ng-1           IGTSSGLAWPIALSGAISYLVNGLNIAGLPEGSLGFLYLPAVAVLSAATIAFAPLGVKTA
                          190       200       210       220       230       240

                          250       260       269
orf17-1.pep         HKLSSAKLKKXFGIMLLLIAGKMLYNLLX
                    |||||||||: ||||||||||||||||||
orf17ng-1           HKLSSAKLKESFGIMLLLIAGKMLYNLLX
                          250       260
```

In addition, ORF17ng-1 shows significant homology with a hypothetical *H.influenzae* protein:

```
sp|P44070|Y902_HAEIN HYPOTHETICAL PROTEIN HI0902 pir||G64015 hypothetical protein
HI0902 - Haemophilus influenzae (strain Rd KW20) gi|1573922 (U32772) H. influenzae
predicted coding region HI0902 [Haemophilus influenzae]Length = 264
 Score = 74 (34.9 bits), Expect = 1.6e-23, Sum P(2) = 1.6e-23
 Identities = 15/43 (34%), Positives = 23/43 (53%)

Query:     55 AVGTSFAVMVFTAFSSMLGQHKKQAVDWKTIFAMMPGMIFGVF 97
              A+GTSFA +V T    S     HK    + W+ +   + P ++  VF
Sbjct:     52 ALGTSFATIVITGIGSAQRHHKLGNIVWQAVRILAPVIMLSVF 94

 Score = 195 (91.9 bits), Expect = 1.6e-23, Sum P(2) = 1.6e-23
 Identities = 44/114 (38%), Positives = 65/114 (57%)

Query:    150 LFGAMSSWVGIGGGSLSVPFLIHCGFPAHKAIGTSSGLAWPIALSGAISYLVNGLNIAGL 209
              L G  SS  GIGGG   VPFL   G    +AIG+S+     + +SG  S++V+G     +
Sbjct:    148 LIGMASSAAGIGGGGFIVPFLTARGINIKQAIGSSAFCGMLLGISGMFSFIVSGWGNPLM 207

Query:    210 PEGSLGFLYLPAVAVLSAATIAFAPLGVKTAHKLSSAKLKESFGIMLLLIAGKM 263
              PE SLG++YLPAV  ++A +   + LG     KL  + LK+ F + L+++A  M
Sbjct:    208 PEYSLGYIYLPAVLGITATSFFTSKLGASATAKLPVSTLKKGFALFLIVVAINM 261
```

This analysis, including the homology with the hypothetical *H.influenzae* transmembrane protein, suggests that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae,* and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 12

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 95>:

```
   1  ..GGAAACGGAT GGCAGGCAGA CCCCGAACAT CCGCTGCTCG GGCTTTTTGC
  51    CGTCAGTAAT GTATCGATGA CGCTTGCTTT TGTCGGAATA TGTGCGTTGG
 101    TGCATTATTG CTTTTCGGGA ACGGTTCAAG TGTTTGTGTT TGCGGCACTG
 151    CTCAAACTTT ATGCGCTGAA GCCGGTTTAT TGGTTCGTGT TGCAGTTTGT
 201    GCTGATGGCG GTTGCCTATG TCCACCGCTG CGGTATAGAC CGGCAGCCGC
 251    CGTCAACGTT CGGCGGCTCG CAGCTGCGAC TCGGCGGGTT GACGGCAGCG
```

```
301    TTGATGCAGG TCTCGGTACT GGTGCTGCTG CTTTCAGAAA TTGGAAGATA
351    A
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 96; ORF18>:

```
  1  ..GNGWQADPEH PLLGLFAVSN VSMTLAFVGI CALVHYCFSG TVQVFVFAAL
 51    LKLYALKPVY WFVLQFVLMA VAYVHRCGID RQPPSTFGGS QLRLGGLTAA
101    LMQVSVLVLL LSEIGR*
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 97>:

```
  1  ATGATTTTGC TGCATTTGGA TTTTTTGTCT GCCTTACTGT ATGCGGCGGT
 51  TTTTCTGTTT CTGATATTCC GCGCAGGAAT GTTGCAATGG TTTTGGGCGA
101  GTATTATGCT GTGGCTGGGC ATATCGGTTT TGGGGGCAAA GCTGATGCCC
151  GGCATATGGG GAATGACCCG CGCCGCGCCC TTGTTCATCC CCCATTTTTA
201  CCTGACTTTG GGCAGCATAT TTTTTTTCAT CGGGCATTGG AACCGGAAAA
251  CAGATGGAAA CGGATGGCAG GCAGACCCCG AACATCCGCT GCTCGGGCTT
301  TTTGCCGTCA GTAATGTATC GATGACGCTT GCTTTTGTCG GAATATGTGC
351  GTTGGTGCAT TATTGCTTTT CGGGAACGGT TCAAGTGTTT GTGTTTGCGG
401  CACTGCTCAA ACTTTATGCG CTGAAGCCGG TTTATTGGTT CGTGTTGCAG
451  TTTGTGCTGA TGGCGGTTGC CTATGTCCAC CGCTGCGGTA TAGACCGGCA
501  GCCGCCGTCA ACGTTCGGCG GCTCGCAGCT GCGACTCGGC GGGTTGACGG
551  CAGCGTTGAT GCAGGTCTCG GTACTGGTGC TGCTGCTTTC AGAAATTGGA
601  AGATAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 98; ORF18-1>:

```
  1  MILLHLDFLS ALLYAAVFLF LIFRAGMLQW FWASIMLWLG ISVLGAKLMP
 51  GIWGMTRAAP LFIPHFYLTL GSIFFFIGHW NRKTDGNGWQ ADPEHPLLGL
101  FAVSNVSMTL AFVGICALVH YCFSGTVQVF VFAALLKLYA LKPVYWFVLQ
151  FVLMAVAYVH RCGIDRQPPS TFGGSQLRLG GLTAALMQVS VLVLLLSEIG
201  R*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF18 shows 98.3% identity over a 116aa overlap with an ORF (ORF18a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                                  10        20        30
orf18.pep                                         GNGWQADPEHPLLGLFAVSNVSMTLAFVGI
                                                  ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf18a       TRAAPLFIPHFYLTLGSIFFFIGHWNRKTDGNGWQADPEHPLLGLFAVSNVSMTLAFVGI
                60        70        80        90        100       110

                      40        50        60        70        80        90
orf18.pep    CALVHYCFSGTVQVFVFAALLKLYALKPVYWFVLQFVLMAVAYVHRCGIDRQPPSTFGGS
             ||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf18a       CALVHYCFSXTVQVFVFAALLKLYALKPVYWFVLQFVLMAVAYVHRCGIDRQPPSTFGGS
               120       130       140       150       160       170

                    100       110
orf18.pep    QLRLGGLTAALMQVSVLVLLLSEIGRX
             |||||||||||||| ||||||||||||
orf18a       QLRLGGLTAALMQXSVLVLLLSEIGRX
               180       190       200
```

The complete length ORF18a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 99> is:

```
  1  ATGATTTTGC TGCATTTGGA TTTTTTGTCT GCCTTACTGT ATGCGGCGGT
 51  TTTTCTGTTT CTGATATTCC GCGCAGGAAT GTTGCAATGG TTTTGGGCGA
101  GTATTATGCT GTGGCTGGGC ATATCGGTTT TGGGGGCAAA GCTGATGCCC
151  GGCATATGGG GAATGACCCG CGCCGCGCCC TTGTTCATCC CCCATTTTTA
201  CCTGACTTTG GGCAGCATAT TTTTTTTCAT CGGGCATTGG AACCGGAAAA
251  CGGATGGAAA CGGATGGCAG GCAGACCCCG AACATCCTCT GCTCGGGCTG
301  TTTGCCGTCA GTAATGTATC GATGACGCTT GCTTTTGTCG GAATATGTGC
351  GTTGGTGCAT TATTGCTTTT CGNGAACGGT TCAAGTGTTT GTGTTTGCGG
401  CACTGCTCAA ACTTTATGCG CTGAAGCCGG TTTATTGGTT CGTGTTGCAG
```

```
451  TTTGTGCTGA TGGCGGTTGC CTATGTCCAC CGCTGCGGTA TAGACCGGCA
501  GCCGCCGTCA ACGTTCGGCG GNTCGCAGCT GCGACTCGGC GGGTTGACGG
551  CAGCGTTGAT GCAGNTCTCG GTACTGGTGC TGCTGCTTTC AGAAATTGGA
601  AGATAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 100>:

```
  1  MILLHLDFLS ALLYAAVFLF LIFRAGMLQW FWASIMLWLG ISVLGAKLMP
 51  GIWGMTRAAP LFIPHFYLTL GSIFFFIGHW NRKTDGNGWQ ADPEHPLLGL
101  FAVSNVSMTL AFVGICALVH YCFSXTVQVF VFAALLKLYA LKPVYWFVLQ
151  FVLMAVAYVH RCGIDRQPPS TFGGSQLRLG GLTAALMQXS VLVLLLSEIG
201  R*
```

ORF18a and ORF18-1 show 99.0% identity in 201 aa overlap:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf18a.pep      MILLHLDFLSALLYAAVFLFLIFRAGMLQWFWASIMLWLGISVLGAKLMPGIWGMTRAAP
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf18-1         MILLHLDFLSALLYAAVFLFLIFRAGMLQWFWASIMLWLGISVLGAKLMPGIWGMTRAAP
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf18a.pep      LFIPHFYLTLGSIFFFIGHWNRKTDGNGWQADPEHPLLGLFAVSNVSMTLAFVGICALVH
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf18-1         LFIPHFYLTLGSIFFFIGHWNRKTDGNGWQADPEHPLLGLFAVSNVSMTLAFVGICALVH
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf18a.pep      YCFSXTVQVFVFAALLKLYALKPVYWFVLQFVLMAVAYVHRCGIDRQPPSTFGGSQLRLG
                |||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf18-1         YCFSGTVQVFVFAALLKLYALKPVYWFVLQFVLMAVAYVHRCGIDRQPPSTFGGSQLRLG
                   130       140       150       160       170       180

                   190       200
orf18a.pep      GLTAALMQXSVLVLLLSEIGRX
                |||||||| ||||||||||||
orf18-1         GLTAALMQVSVLVLLLSEIGRX
                   190       200
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF18 shows 93.1% identity over a 116aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF18.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf18.pep                                    GNGWQADPEHPLLGLFAVSNVSMTLAFVGI  30
                                             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf18ng      TRAAPLFIPHFYLTLGSIFFFIGYWNRKTDGNGWQADPEHPLLGLFAVSNVSMTLAFVGI  115

orf18.pep    CALVHYCFSGTVQVFVFAALLKLYALKPVYWFVLQFVLMAVAYVHRCGIDRQPPSTFGGS   90
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf18ng      CALVHYCFSGTVQVFVFAALLKLYALKPVYWFVLQFVLMAVAYVHRCGIDRQPPSTFGGS  175

orf18.pep    QLRLGGLTAALMQVSVLVLLLSEIGR  116
             ||||| |:| |||||:| ::||:||||
orf18ng      QLRLGVLAAMLMQVAVTAMLLAEIGR  201
```

The complete length ORF18ng nucleotide sequence is <SEQ ID 101>:

```
  1  ATGATTTTGC TGCATTTGGA TTTTTTGTCT GCCTTACTGt aTGCGGcggt
 51  tttTctgTTT CTGATATTCC GCGCAGGAAT GTTGCAATGG TTTTGGGCGA
101  GTATTGCGTT GTGGCTCGGC ATCTCGGTTT TAGGGGTAAA GCTGATGCCG
151  GGGATGTGGG GAATGACCCG CGCCGCGCCT TTGTTCATCC CCCATTTTTA
201  CCTGACTTTG GGCAGCATAT TTTTTTTCAT CGGGTATTGG AACCGGAAAA
251  CAGATGGAAA CGGATGGCAG GCAGACCCCG AACATCCGCT GCTCGGGCTT
301  TTTGCCGTCA GTAATGTATC GATGACGCTT GCTTTTGTCG GAATATGTGC
351  GTTGGTGCAT TATTGCTTTT CGGGAACGGT TCAAGTGTTT GTGTTTGCGG
401  CATTGCTCAA ACTTTATGCG CTGAAGCCGG TTTATTGGTT CGTGTTGCAG
451  TTTGTATTGA TGGCGGttgC CTATGTCCAC CGCTGCGGTA TAGACCGGCA
501  GCCGCCGTCA ACGTTCGGCG GTTCGCAGCT GCGACTCGGC GTGTTGGCGG
```

```
551  CGATGTTGAT GCAGGTTGCG GTAACGGCGA TGCTGCTTGC CGAAATCGGC
601  AGATGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 102>:

```
  1  MILLHLDFLS ALLYAAVFLF LIFRAGMLQW FWASIALWLG ISVLGVKLMP
 51  GMWGMTRAAP LFIPHFYLTL GSIFFFIGYW NRKTDGNGWQ ADPEHPLLGL
101  FAVSNVSMTL AFVGICALVH YCFSGTVQVF VFAALLKLYA LKPVYWFVLQ
151  FVLMAVAYVH RCGIDRQPPS TFGGSQLRLG VLAAMLMQVA VTAMLLAEIG
201  R*
```

This ORF18ng protein sequence shows 94.0% identity in 201 aa overlap with ORF18-1:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf18-1.pep    MILLHLDFLSALLYAAVFLFLIFRAGMLQWFWASIMLWLGISVLGAKLMPGIWGMTRAAP
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||:|||||:||||||||
orf18ng        MILLHLDFLSALLYAAVFLFLIFRAGMLQWFWASIALWLGISVLGVKLMPGMWGMTRAAP
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf18-1.pep    LFIPHFYLTLGSIFFFIGHWNRKTDGNGWQADPEHPLLGLFAVSNVSMTLAFVGICALVH
               ||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf18ng        LFIPHFYLTLGSIFFFIGYWNRKTDGNGWQADPEHPLLGLFAVSNVSMTLAFVGICALVH
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf18-1.pep    YCFSGTVQVFVFAALLKLYALKPVYWFVLQFVLMAVAYVHRCGIDRQPPSTFGGSQLRLG
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf18ng        YCFSGTVQVFVFAALLKLYALKPVYWFVLQFVLMAVAYVHRCGIDRQPPSTFGGSQLRLG
                   130       140       150       160       170       180

                   190       200
orf18-1.pep    GLTAALMQVSVLVLLLSEIGRX
               |:| ||||:| ::||:|||||
orf18ng        VLAAMLMQVAVTAMLLAEIGRX
                   190       200
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of several putative transmembrane domains in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 13

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 103>:

```
  1  ATGAAAACCC CACTCCTCAA GCCTCTGCTN ATTACCTCGC TTCCCGTTTT
 51  CGCCAGTGTT TTTACCGCCG CCTCCATCGT CTGGCAGCTA GGCGAACCCA
101  AGCTCGCCAT GCCCTTCGTA CTCGGCATCA TCGCCGGCGG CCTTGTCGAT
151  TTGGACAACC NCNTGACCGG ACGGCTNAAA AACATCATCA CCACCGTCGC
201  CCTGTTCACC CTCTCCTCGC TCACGGCACA AAGCACCCTC GGCACAGGGC
251  TGCCCTTCAT CCTCGCCATG ACCCTGATGA CTT.CG.CTT CACCATTTTA
301  GGCGCGGNCG ...
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 104; ORF19>:

```
  1  MKTPLLKPLL ITSLPVFASV FTAASIVWQL GEPKLAMPFV LGIIAGGLVD
 51  LDNXXTGRLK NIITTVALFT LSSLTAQSTL GTGLPFILAM TLMTXXFTIL
101  GAX...
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 105>:

```
  1  ATGAAAACCC CACTCCTCAA GCCTCTGCTC ATTACCTCGC TTCCCGTTTT
 51  CGCCAGTGTT TTTACCGCCG CCTCCATCGT CTGGCAGCTA GGCGAACCCA
101  AGCTCGCCAT GCCCTTCGTA CTCGGCATCA TCGCCGGCGG CCTTGTCGAT
151  TTGGACAACC GCCTGACCGG ACGGCTGAAA AACATCATCA CCACCGTCGC
```

```
201  CCTGTTCACC CTCTCCTCGC TCACGGCACA AAGCACCCTC GGCACAGGGC
251  TGCCCTTCAT CCTCGCCATG ACCCTGATGA CCTTCGGCTT CACCATTTTA
301  GGCGCGGTCG GGCTCAAATA CCGCACCTTC GCCTTCGGTG CACTCGCCGT
351  CGCCACCTAC ACCACACTTA CCTACACCCC CGAAACCTAC TGGCTGACCA
401  ACCCCTTCAT GATTTTATGC GGCACCGTAC TGTACAGCAC CGCCATCCTC
451  CTGTTCCAAA TCGTCCTGCC CCACCGCCCC GTCCAAGAAA GCGTCGCCAA
501  CGCCTACGAC GCACTCGGCG GCTACCTCGA AGCCAAAGCC GACTTCTTCG
551  ACCCCGATGA GGCAGCCTGG ATAGGCAACC GCCACATCGA CCTCGCCATG
601  AGCAACACCG GCGTCATCAC CGCCTTCAAC CAATGCCGTT CCGCCCTGTT
651  TTACCGCCTT CGCGGCAAAC ACCGCCACCC GCGCACCGCC AAAATGCTGC
701  GTTACTACTT TGCCGCCCAA GACATACACG AACGCATCAG CTCCGCCCAC
751  GTCGATTATC AGGAAATGTC CGAAAAATTC AAAAACACCG ACATCATCTT
801  CCGCATCCAC CGCCTGCTCG AAATGCAGGG ACAAGCCTGC CGCAACACCG
851  CCCAAGCCCT GCGCGCAAGC AAAGACTACG TTTACAGCAA ACGCCTCGGC
901  CGCGCCATCG AAGGCTGCCG CCAATCGCTG CGCCTCCTTT CAGACAGCAA
951  CGACAGTCCC GACATCCGCC ACCTGCGCCG CCTTCTCGAC AACCTCGGCA
1001 GCGTCGACCA GCAGTTCCGC CAACTCCAGC ACAACGGCCT GCAGGCAGAA
1051 AACGACCGCA TGGGCGACAC CCGCATCGCC GCCCTCGAAA CCAGCAGCCT
1101 CAAAAACACC TGGCAGGCAA TCCGTCCGCA GCTAAACCTC GAATCAGGCG
1151 TATTCCGCCA TGCCGTCCGC CTGTCCCTCG TCGTTGCCGC CGCCTGCACC
1201 ATCGTCGAAG CCCTCAACCT CAACCTCGGC TACTGGATAC TACTGACCGC
1251 CCTTTTCGTC TGCCAACCCA ACTACACCGC CACCAAAAGC CGCGTCCGCC
1301 AGCGCATCGC CGGCACCGTA CTCGGCGTAA TCGTCGGCTC GCTGGTCCCC
1351 TACTTCACCC CGTCTGTCGA AACCAAACTC TGGATTGTCA TCGCCAGTAC
1401 CACCCTCTTT TTCATGACCC GCACCTACAA ATACAGTTTC TCCACCTTCT
1451 TCATTACCAT TCAAGCCCTG ACCAGCCTCT CCCTCGCAGG TTTGGACGTA
1501 TACGCCGCCA TGCCCGTACG CATCATCGAC ACCATTATCG GCGCATCCCT
1551 TGCCTGGGCG GCAGTCAGCT ACCTGTGGCC AGACTGGAAA TACCTCACGC
1601 TCGAACGCAC CGCCGCCCTT GCCGTATGCA GCAACGGTGC CTATCTCGAA
1651 AAAATCACCG AACGCCTCAA AAGCGGCGAA ACCGGCGACG ACGTCGAATA
1701 CCGCGCCACC CGCCGCCGCG CCCACGAACA CACCGCCGCC CTCAGCAGCA
1751 CCCTTTCCGA CATGAGCAGC GAACCCGCAA AATTCGCCGA CAGCCTGCAA
1801 CCCGGCTTTA CCCTGCTCAA AACCGGCTAC GCCCTGACCG GCTACATCTC
1851 CGCCCTCGGC GCATACCGCA GCGAAATGCA CGAAGAATGC AGCCCCGACT
1901 TTACCGCACA GTTCCACCTC GCCGCCGAAC ACACCGCCCA CATCTTCCAA
1951 CACCTGCCCG AAACCGAACC CGACGACTTT CAGACAGCAC TGGATACACT
2001 GCGCGGCGAA CTCGACACCC TCCGCACCCA CAGCAGCGGA ACACAAAGCC
2051 ACATCCTCCT CCAACAGCTC CAACTCATCG CCCGACAGCT CGAACCCTAC
2101 TACCGCGCCT ACCGCCAAAT TCCGCACAGG CAGCCCCAAA ATGCAGCCTG
2151 A
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 106; ORF19-1>:

```
1   MKTPLLKPLL ITSLPVFASV FTAASIVWQL GEPKLAMPFV LGIIAGGLVD
51  LDNRLTGRLK NIITTVALFT LSSLTAQSTL GTGLPFILAM TLMTFGFTIL
101 GAVGLKYRTF AFGALAVATY TTLTYTPETY WLTNPFMILC GTVLYSTAIL
151 LFQIVLPHRP VQESVANAYD ALGGYLEAKA DFFDPDEAAW IGNRHIDLAM
201 SNTGVITAFN QCRSALFYRL RGKHRHPRTA KMLRYYFAAQ DIHERISSAH
251 VDYQEMSEKF KNTDIIFRIH RLLEMQGQAC RNTAQALRAS KDYVYSKRLG
301 RAIEGCRQSL RLLSDSNDSP DIRHLRRLLD NLGSVDQQFR QLQHNGLQAE
351 NDRMGDTRIA ALETSSLKNT WQAIRPQLNL ESGVFRHAVR LSLVVAAACT
401 IVEALNLNLG YWILLTALFV CQPNYTATKS RVRQRIAGTV LGVIVGSLVP
451 YFTPSVETKL WIVIASTTLF FMTRTYKYSF STFFITIQAL TSLSLAGLDV
501 YAAMPVRIID TIIGASLAWA AVSYLWPDWK YLTLERTAAL AVCSNGAYLE
551 KITERLKSGE TGDDVEYRAT RRRAHEHTAA LSSTLSDMSS EPAKFADSLQ
601 PGFTLLKTGY ALTGYISALG AYRSEMHEEC SPDFTAQFHL AAEHTAHIFQ
651 HLPETEPDDF QTALDTLRGE LDTLRTHSSG TQSHILLQQL QLIARQLEPY
701 YRAYRQIPHR QPQNAA*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with predicted transmenbrane protein YHFK of *H. influenzae* (accession number P44289)

ORF19 and YHFK proteins show 45% aa identity in 97 aa overlap:

```
orf19  6   LKPLLITSLPVFASVFTAASIVWQLGEPKLAMPFVLGIIAGGLVDLDNXXTGRLKNIITT 65
           L   +I+++PVF +V  AA  +W        +MP +LGIIAGGLVDLDN  TGRLKN+  T
YHFK   5   LNAKVISTIPVFIAVNIAAVGIWFFDISSQSMPLILGIIAGGLVDLDNRLTGRLKNVFFT 64
```

```
orf19   66  VALFTLSSLTAQSTLGTGLPFILAMTLMTXXFTILGA 102
            +  F++SS   Q  +G  + +I+ MT++T  FT++GA
YHFK    65  LIAFSISSFIVQLHIGKPIQYIVLMTVLTFIFTMIGA 101
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF19 shows 92.2% identity over a 102aa overlap with an ORF (ORF19a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf19.pep   MKTPLLKPLLITSLPVFASVFTAASIVWQLGEPKLAMPFVLGIIAGGLVDLDNXXTGRLK
            |||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||
orf19a      MKTPPLKPLLITSLPVFASVFTAASIVWQLGEPKLAMPFVLGIIAGGLVDLDNRLTGRLK
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100
orf19.pep   NIITTVALFTLSSLTAQSTLGTGLPFILAMTLMTXXFTILGAX
            |||:|||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||  |||:||
orf19a      NIIATVALFTLSSLVAQSTLGTGLPFILAMTLMTFGFTIMGAVGLKYRTFAFGALAVATY
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

orf19a      TTLTYTPETYWLTNPFMILCGTVLYSTAIILFQIILPHRPVQENVANAYEALGSYLEAKA
                   130       140       150       160       170       180
```

The complete length ORF19a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 107> is:

```
   1  ATGAAAACCC CACCCCTCAA GCCTCTGCTC ATTACCTCGC TTCCCGTTTT
  51  CGCCAGTGTC TTTACCGCCG CCTCCATCGT CTGGCAGCTG GGCGAACCCA
 101  AGCTCGCCAT GCCCTTCGTA CTCGGCATCA TCGCTGGCGG CCTGGTCGAT
 151  TTGGACAACC GCCTGACCGG ACGGCTGAAA AACATCATCG CCACCGTCGC
 201  CCTGTTCACC CTCTCCTCAC TTGTCGCGCA AAGCACCCTC GGCACAGGTT
 251  TGCCATTCAT CCTCGCCATG ACCCTGATGA CTTTCGGCTT TACCATCATG
 301  GGCGCGGTCG GGCTGAAATA CCGCACCTTC GCCTTCGGCG CACTCGCCGT
 351  CGCCACCTAC ACCACACTTA CCTACACCCC CGAAACCTAC TGGCTGACCA
 401  ACCCCTTTAT GATTCTGTGC GGAACCGTAC TGTACAGCAC CGCCATCATC
 451  CTGTTCCAAA TCATCCTGCC CCACCGCCCC GTTCAAGAAA ACGTCGCCAA
 501  CGCCTACGAA GCACTCGGCA GCTACCTCGA AGCCAAAGCC GACTTTTTCG
 551  ATCCCGACGA AGCCGAATGG ATAGGCAACC GCCACATCGA CCTCGCCATG
 601  AGCAACACCG GCGTCATCAC CGCCTTCAAC CAATGCCGTT CCGCCCTGTT
 651  TTACCGCCTT CGCGGCAAAC ACCGCCACCC GCGCACCGCC AAAATGCTGC
 701  GCTACTACTT CGCCGCCCAA GACATACACG AACGCATCAG CTCCGCCCAC
 751  GTCGACTACC AAGAGATGTC CGAAAAATTC AAAAACACCG ACATCATCTT
 801  CCGCATCCAC CGCCTGCTCG AAATGCAGGG ACAAGCCTGC CGCAACACCG
 851  CCCAAGCCCT GCGCGCAAGC AAAGACTACG TTTACAGCAA ACGCCTCGGC
 901  CGCGCCATCG AAGGCTGCCG CCAATCGCTG CGCCTCCTTT CAGACAGCAA
 951  CGACAATCCC GACATCCGCC ACCTGCGCCG CCTTCTCGAC AACCTCGGCA
1001  GCGTCGACCA GCAGTTCCGC CAACTCCAGC ACAACGGCCT GCAGGCAGAA
1051  AACGACCGCA TGGGCGACAC CCGCATCGCC GCCCTCGAAA CCGGCAGCCT
1101  CAAAAACACC TGGCAGGCAA TCCGTCCGCA GCTAAACCTC GAATCAGGCG
1151  TATTCCGCCA TGCCGTCCGC CTGTCCCTTG TCGTTGCCGC CGCCTGCACC
1201  ATCGTCGAAG CCCTCAACCT CAACCTCGGC TACTGGATAC TACTGACCGC
1251  CCTTTTCGTC TGCCAACCCA ACTACACCGC CACCAAAAGC CGCGTCCGCC
1301  AGCGCATCGC CGGCACCGTA CTCGGCGTAA TCGTCGGCTC GCTCGTCCCC
1351  TACTTTACCC CCTCCGTCGA AACCAAACTC TGGATCGTCA TCGCCAGTAC
1401  CACCCTCTTT TTCATGACCC GCACCTACAA ATACAGCTTC TCGACATTTT
1451  TCATCACCAT TCAAGCCCTG ACCAGCCTCT CCCTCGCAGG GTTGGACGTA
1501  TACGCCGCCA TGCCCGTACG CATCATCGAC ACCATTATCG GCGCATCCCT
1551  TGCCTGGGCG GCAGTCAGCT ACCTGTGGCC AGACTGGAAA TACCTCACGC
1601  TCGAACGCAC CGCCGCCCTT GCCGTATGCA GCAACGGCGC CTATCTCGAA
1651  AAAATCACCG AACGCCTCAA AAGCGGCGAA ACCGGCGACG ACGTCGAATA
1701  CCGCGCCACC CGCCGCCGCG CCCACGAACA CACCGCCGCC CTCAGCAGCA
1751  CCCTTTCCGA CATGAGCAGC GAACCCGCAA AATTCGCCGA CAGCCTGCAA
1801  CCCGGCTTTA CCCTGCTCAA AACCGGCTAC GCCCTGACCG GCTACATCTC
1851  CGCCCTCGGC GCATACCGCA GCGAAATGCA CGAAGAATGC AGCCCCGACT
1901  TTACCGCACA GTTCCACCTC GCCGCCGAAC ACACCGCCCA CATCTTCCAA
1951  CACCTGCCCG AAACCGAACC CGACGACTTT CAGACAGCAC TGGATACACT
2001  GCGCGGCGAA CTCGACACCC TCCGCACCCA CAGCAGCGGA ACACAAAGCC
2051  ACATCCTCCT CCAACAGCTC CAACTCATCG CCCGGCAGCT CGAACCCTAC
2101  TACCGCGCCT ACCGACAAAT TCCGCACAGG CAGCCCCAAA ACGCAGCCTG
2151  A
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 108>:

```
   1  MKTPPLKPLL ITSLPVFASV FTAASIVWQL GEPKLAMPFV LGIIAGGLVD
  51  LDNRLTGRLK NIIATVALFT LSSLVAQSTL GTGLPFILAM TLMTFGFTIM
 101  GAVGLKYRTF AFGALAVATY TTLTYTPETY WLTNPFMILC GTVLYSTAII
 151  LFQIILPHRP VQENVANAYE ALGSYLEAKA DFFDPDEAEW IGNRHIDLAM
 201  SNTGVITAFN QCRSALFYRL RGKHRHPRTA KMLRYYFAAQ DIHERISSAH
 251  VDYQEMSEKF KNTDIIFRIH RLLEMQGQAC RNTAQALRAS KDYVYSKRLG
 301  RAIEGCRQSL RLLSDSNDNP DIRHLRRLLD NLGSVDQQFR QLQHNGLQAE
 351  NDRMGDTRIA ALETGSLKNT WQAIRPQLNL ESGVFRHAVR LSLVVAAACT
 401  IVEALNLNLG YWILLTALFV CQPNYTATKS RVRQRIAGTV LGVIVGSLVP
 451  YFTPSVETKL WIVIASTTLF FMTRTYKYSF STFFITIQAL TSLSLAGLDV
 501  YAAMPVRIID TIIGASLAWA AVSYLWPDWK YLTLERTAAL AVCSNGAYLE
 551  KITERLKSGE TGDDVEYRAT RRRAHEHTAA LSSTLSDMSS EPAKFADSLQ
 601  PGFTLLKTGY ALTGYISALG AYRSEMHEEC SPDFTAQFHL AAEHTAHIFQ
 651  HLPETEPDDF QTALDTLRGE LDTLRTHSSG TQSHILLQQL QLIARQLEPY
 701  YRAYRQIPHR QPQNAA*
```

ORF19a and ORF19-1 show 98.3% identity in 716 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf19a.pep      MKTPPLKPLLITSLPVFASVFTAASIVWQLGEPKLAMPFVLGIIAGGLVDLDNRLTGRLK
                |||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf19-1         MKTPLLKPLLITSLPVFASVFTAASIVWQLGEPKLAMPFVLGIIAGGLVDLDNRLTGRLK
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf19a.pep      NIIATVALFTLSSLVAQSTLGTGLPFILAMTLMTFGFTIMGAVGLKYRTFAFGALAVATY
                |||:|||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||
orf19-1         NIITTVALFTLSSLTAQSTLGTGLPFILAMTLMTFGFTILGAVGLKYRTFAFGALAVATY
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf19a.pep      TTLTYTPETYWLTNPFMILCGTVLYSTAIILFQIILPHRPVQENVANAYEALGSYLEAKA
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||:||||||||:|||||:|||:||||||
orf19-1         TTLTYTPETYWLTNPFMILCGTVLYSTAILLFQIVLPHRPVQESVANAYDALGGYLEAKA
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf19a.pep      DFFDPDEAEWIGNRHIDLAMSNTGVITAFNQCRSALFYRLRGKHRHPRTAKMLRYYFAAQ
                |||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf19-1         DFFDPDEAAWIGNRHIDLAMSNTGVITAFNQCRSALFYRLRGKHRHPRTAKMLRYYFAAQ
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260       270       280       290       300
orf19a.pep      DIHERISSAHVDYQEMSEKFKNTDIIFRIHRLLEMQGQACRNTAQALRASKDYVYSKRLG
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf19-1         DIHERISSAHVDYQEMSEKFKNTDIIFRIHRLLEMQGQACRNTAQALRASKDYVYSKRLG
                250       260       270       280       290       300

                310       320       330       340       350       360
orf19a.pep      RAIEGCRQSLRLLSDSNDNPDIRHLRRLLDNLGSVDQQFRQLQHNGLQAENDRMGDTRIA
                |||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf19-1         RAIEGCRQSLRLLSDSNDSPDIRHLRRLLDNLGSVDQQFRQLQHNGLQAENDRMGDTRIA
                310       320       330       340       350       360

                370       380       390       400       410       420
orf19a.pep      ALETGSLKNTWQAIRPQLNLESGVFRHAVRLSLVVAAACTIVEALNLNLGYWILLTALFV
                ||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf19-1         ALETSSLKNTWQAIRPQLNLESGVFRHAVRLSLVVAAACTIVEALNLNLGYWILLTALFV
                370       380       390       400       410       420

                430       440       450       460       470       480
orf19a.pep      CQPNYTATKSRVRQRIAGTVLGVIVGSLVPYFTPSVETKLWIVIASTTLFFMTRTYKYSF
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf19-1         CQPNYTATKSRVRQRIAGTVLGVIVGSLVPYFTPSVETKLWIVIASTTLFFMTRTYKYSF
                430       440       450       460       470       480

                490       500       510       520       530       540
orf19a.pep      STFFITIQALTSLSLAGLDVYAAMPVRIIDTIIGASLAWAAVSYLWPDWKYLTLERTAAL
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
```

```
orf19-1         STFFITIQALTSLSLAGLDVYAAMPVRIIDTIIGASLAWAAVSYLWPDWKYLTLERTAAL
                       490       500       510       520       530       540

                       550       560       570       580       590       600
orf19a.pep      AVCSNGAYLEKITERLKSGETGDDVEYRATRRRAHEHTAALSSTLSDMSSEPAKFADSLQ
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf19-1         AVCSNGAYLEKITERLKSGETGDDVEYRATRRRAHEHTAALSSTLSDMSSEPAKFADSLQ
                       550       560       570       580       590       600

                       610       620       630       640       650       660
orf19a.pep      PGFTLLKTGYALTGYISALGAYRSEMHEECSPDFTAQFHLAAEHTAHIFQHLPETEPDDF
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf19-1         PGFTLLKTGYALTGYISALGAYRSEMHEECSPDFTAQFHLAAEHTAHIFQHLPETEPDDF
                       610       620       630       640       650       660

                       670       680       690       700       710
orf19a.pep      QTALDTLRGELDTLRTHSSGTQSHILLQQLQLIARQLEPYYRAYRQIPHRQPQNAAX
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf19-1         QTALDTLRGELDTLRTHSSGTQSHILLQQLQLIARQLEPYYRAYRQIPHRQPQNAAX
                       670       680       690       700       710
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF19 shows 95.1% identity over a 102aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF19.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf19.pep       MKTPLLKPLLITSLPVFASVFTAASIVWQLGEPKLAMPFVLGIIAGGLVDLDNXXTGRLK   60
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||
orf19ng         MKTPLLKPLLITSLPVFASVFTAASIVWQLGEPKLAMPFVLGIIAGGLVDLDNRLTGRLK   60

orf19.pep       NIITTVALFTLSSLTAQSTLGTGLPFILAMTLMTXXFTILGAX                    103
                |||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||  ||||||
orf19ng         NIIATVALFTLSSLTAQSTLGTGLPFILAMTLMTFGFTILGAVGLKYRTFAFGALAVATY  120
```

An ORF19ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 109> is predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 110>:

```
   1  MKTPLLKPLL ITSLPVFASV FTAASIVWQL GEPKLAMPFV LGIIAGGLVD
  51  LDNRLTGRLK NIIATVALFT LSSLTAQSTL GTGLPFILAM TLMTFGFTIL
 101  GAVGLKYRTF AFGALAVATY TTLTYTPETY WLTNPFMILC GTVLYSTAII
 151  LFQIILPHRP VQESVANAYE ALGGYLEAKA DFFDPDEAAW IGNRHIDLAM
 201  SNTGVITAFN QCRSALFYRL RGKHRHPRTA KMLRYYFAAQ DIHERISSAH
 251  VDYQEMSEKF KNTDIIFRIR RLLEMQGQAC RNTAQAIRSG KDYVYSKRLG
 301  RAIEGCRQSL RLLSDGNDSP DIRHLSRLLD NLGSVDQQFR QLRHSDSPAE
 351  NDRMGDTRIA ALETGSFKNT *
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 111>:

```
   1  ATGAAAACCC CACTCCTCAA GCCTCTGCTC ATTACCTCGC TTCCCGTTTT
  51  CGCCAGTGTC TTTACCGCCG CCTCCATCGT CTGGCAGCTA GGCGAACCCA
 101  AGCTCGCCAT GCCCTTCGTA CTCGGCATCA TCGCCGGCGG CCTGGTCGAT
 151  TTGGACAACC GCCTGACCGG ACGGCTGAAA AACATCATCG CCACCGTCGC
 201  CCTGTTTACC CTCTCCTCGC TCACGGCGCA AAGCACCCTC GGCACAGGGC
 251  TGCCCTTCAT CCTCGCCATG ACCCTGATGA CCTTCGGCTT TACCATTTTA
 301  GGCGCGGTCG GGCTGAAATA CCGCACCTTC GCCTTCGGCG CACTCGCCGT
 351  CGCCACCTAC ACCACGCTTA CCTACACCCC CGAAACCTAC TGGCTGACCA
 401  ACCCCTTCAT GATTTTATGC GGCACCGTAC TGTACAGCAC CGCCATCATC
 451  CTGTTCCAAA TCATCCTGCC CCACCGCCCC GTCCAAGAAA GCGTCGCCAA
 501  TGCCTACGAA GCACTCGGCG GCTACCTCGA AGCCAAAGCC GACTTCTTCG
 551  ACCCCGATGA GGCAGCCTGG ATAGGCAACC GCCACATCGA CCTCGCCATG
 601  AGCAACACCG GCGTCATCAC CGCCTTCAAC CAATGCCGTT CCGCCCTGTT
 651  TTACCGTTTG CGCGGCAAAC ACCGCCACCC GCGCACCGCC AAAATGCTGC
 701  GCTACTACTT CGCCGCCCAA GACATCCACG AACGCATCAG CTCCGCCCAC
 751  GTCGACTACC AAGAGATGTC CGAAAAATTC AAAAACACCG ACATCATCTT
 801  CCGCATCCGC CGCCTGCTCG AAATGCAGGG GCAGGCGTGC CGCAACACCG
 851  CCCAAGCCAT CCGGTCGGGC AAAGACTAcg tTTACAGCAA ACGCCTCGGA
 901  CGCGCCATcg aaggctgCCG CCAGTCGCtg cgcctCCTTt cagacggcaA
 951  CGACAGTCCC GACATCCGCC ACCTGAGccg CCTTCTCGAC AACCTCGgca
```

```
1001  GCGTcgacca gcagtTCcgc caactCCGAC ACAgcgactC CCCCGCcgaa
1051  Aacgaccgca tgggcgacaC CCGCATCGCC GCCCtcgaaa ccggcagctT
1101  caaaaaCAcc tggcaggCAA TCCGTCCGCa gctgaaCCTC GAATCatgCG
1151  TATTCCGCCA TGCCGTCCGC CTGTCCCTCG TCGTTGCCGC CGCCTGCACC
1201  ATCGTCgaag cCCTCAACCT CAACCTCGGC TACTGGATAC TGCTGACCGC
1251  CCTTTTCGTC TGCCAACCCA ACTACACCGC CACCAAAAGC CGCGTGTACC
1301  AACGCATCGC CGGCACCGTA CTCGGCGTAA TCGTCGGCTC GCTCGTCCCC
1351  TACTTCACCC CCTCCGTCGA AACCAAACTC TGGATTGTCA TCGCCGGTAC
1401  CACCCTGTTC TTCATGACCC GCACCTACAA ATACAGTTTC TCCACCTTCT
1451  TCATCACCAT TCAGGCACTG ACCAGCCTCT CCCTCGCAGG TTTGGACGTA
1501  TACGCCGCCA TGCCCGTGCG CATCATcgaC ACCATTATCG GCGCATCCCT
1551  TGCCTGGGCG GCGGTCAGCT ACCTGTGGCC AGACTGGAAA TACCTCACGC
1601  TCGAACGCAC CGCCGCCCTT GCCGTATGCA GCAGCGGCAC ATACCTCCAA
1651  AAAATTGCCG AACGCCTCAA AACCGGCGAA ACCGGCGACG ACATAGAATA
1701  CCGCATCACC CGCCGCCGCG CCCACGAACA CACCGCCGCC CTCAGCAGCA
1751  CCCTTTCCGA CATGAGCAGC GAACCCGCAA AATTCGCCGA CAGCCTGCAA
1801  CCCGGCTTTA CCCTGCTCAA AACCGGCTAC GCCCTGACCG GCTACATCTC
1851  CGCCCTCGGC GCATACCGCA GCGAAATGCA CGAAGAATGC AGCCCCGACT
1901  TTACCGCACA GTTCCACCTT GCCGCCGAAC ACACCGCCCA CATCTTCCAA
1951  CACCTGCCCG ACATGGGACC CGACGACTTT CAGACGGCAT TGGATACACT
2001  GCGCGGCGAA CTCGGCACCC TCCGCACCCG CAGCAGCGGA ACACAAAGCC
2051  ACATCCTCCT CCAACAGCTC CAACTCATCG CccgGCAACT CGAACCCTAC
2101  TACCGCGCCT ACCGACAAAT TCCGCACAGG CAGCCCCAAA ACGCAGCCTG
2151  A
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 112; ORF19ng-1>:

```
   1  MKTPLLKPLL ITSLPVFASV FTAASIVWQL GEPKLAMPFV LGIIAGGLVD
  51  LDNRLTGRLK NIIATVALFT LSSLTAQSTL GTGLPFILAM TLMTFGFTIL
 101  GAVGLKYRTF AFGALAVATY TTLTYTPETY WLTNPFMILC GTVLYSTAII
 151  LFQIILPHRP VQESVANAYE ALGGYLEAKA DFFDPDEAAW IGNRHIDLAM
 201  SNTGVITAFN QCRSALFYRL RGKHRHPRTA KMLRYYFAAQ DIHERISSAH
 251  VDYQEMSEKF KNTDIIFRIR RLLEMQGQAC RNTAQAIRSG KDYVYSKRLG
 301  RAIEGCRQSL RLLSDGNDSP DIRHLSRLLD NLGSVDQQFR QLRHSDSPAE
 351  NDRMGDTRIA ALETGSFKNT WQAIRPQLNL ESCVFRHAVR LSLVVAAACT
 401  IVEALNLNLG YWILLTALFV CQPNYTATKS RVYQRIAGTV LGVIVGSLVP
 451  YFTPSVETKL WIVIAGTTLF FMTRTYKYSF STFFITIQAL TSLSLAGLDV
 501  YAAMPVRIID TIIGASLAWA AVSYLWPDWK YLTLERTAAL AVCSSGTYLQ
 551  KIAERLKTGE TGDDIEYRIT RRRAHEHTAA LSSTLSDMSS EPAKFADSLQ
 601  PGFTLLKTGY ALTGYISALG AYRSEMHEEC SPDFTAQFHL AAEHTAHIFQ
 651  HLPDMGPDDF QTALDTLRGE LGTLRTRSSG TQSHILLQQL QLIARQLEPY
 701  YRAYRQIPHR QPQNAA*
```

ORF19ng-1 and ORF19-1 show 95.5% identity in 716 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf19-1.pep     MKTPLLKPLLITSLPVFASVFTAASIVWQLGEPKLAMPFVLGIIAGGLVDLDNRLTGRLK
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf19ng-1       MKTPLLKPLLITSLPVFASVFTAASIVWQLGEPKLAMPFVLGIIAGGLVDLDNRLTGRLK
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf19-1.pep     NIITTVALFTLSSLTAQSTLGTGLPFILAMTLMTFGFTILGAVGLKYRTFAFGALAVATY
                |||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf19ng-1       NIIATVALFTLSSLTAQSTLGTGLPFILAMTLMTFGFTILGAVGLKYRTFAFGALAVATY
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf19-1.pep     TTLTYTPETYWLTNPFMILCGTVLYSTAILLFQIVLPHRPVQESVANAYDALGGYLEAKA
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||:|||||||||||||:||||||||||||||
orf19ng-1       TTLTYTPETYWLTNPFMILCGTVLYSTAIILFQIILPHRPVQESVANAYEALGGYLEAKA
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf19-1.pep     DFFDPDEAAWIGNRHIDLAMSNTGVITAFNQCRSALFYRLRGKHRHPRTAKMLRYYFAAQ
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf19ng-1       DFFDPDEAAWIGNRHIDLAMSNTGVITAFNQCRSALFYRLRGKHRHPRTAKMLRYYFAAQ
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260       270       280       290       300
orf19-1.pep     DIHERISSAHVDYQEMSEKFKNTDIIFRIHRLLEMQGQACRNTAQALRASKDYVYSKRLG
```

```
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||:|::|||||||||
orf19ng-1       DIHERISSAHVDYQEMSEKFKNTDIIFRIRRLLEMQGQACRNTAQAIRSGKDYVYSKRLG
                       250       260       270       280       290       300

                       310       320       330       340       350       360
orf19-1.pep     RAIEGCRQSLRLLSDSNDSPDIRHLRRLLDNLGSVDQQFRQLQHNGLQAENDRMGDTRIA
                |||||||||||||||:||||||||| ||||||||||||||||:|:   ||||||||||||
orf19ng-1       RAIEGCRQSLRLLSDGNDSPDIRHLSRLLDNLGSVDQQFRQLRHSDSPAENDRMGDTRIA
                       310       320       330       340       350       360

                       370       380       390       400       410       420
orf19-1.pep     ALETSSLKNTWQAIRPQLNLESGVFRHAVRLSLVVAAACTIVEALNLNLGYWILLTALFV
                ||||:|:||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf19ng-1       ALETGSFKNTWQAIRPQLNLESCVFRHAVRLSLVVAAACTIVEALNLNLGYWILLTALFV
                       370       380       390       400       410       420

                       430       440       450       460       470       480
orf19-1.pep     CQPNYTATKSRVRQRIAGTVLGVIVGSLVPYFTPSVETKLWIVIASTTLFFMTRTYKYSF
                |||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||
orf19ng-1       CQPNYTATKSRVYQRIAGTVLGVIVGSLVPYFTPSVETKLWIVIAGTTLFFMTRTYKYSF
                       430       440       450       460       470       480

                       490       500       510       520       530       540
orf19-1.pep     STFFITIQALTSLSLAGLDVYAAMPVRIIDTIIGASLAWAAVSYLWPDWKYLTLERTAAL
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf19ng-1       STFFITIQALTSLSLAGLDVYAAMPVRIIDTIIGASLAWAAVSYLWPDWKYLTLERTAAL
                       490       500       510       520       530       540

                       550       560       570       580       590       600
orf19-1.pep     AVCSNGAYLEKITERLKSGETGDDVEYRATRRRAHEHTAALSSTLSDMSSEPAKFADSLQ
                ||||:|:||:||:||||:||||||:|| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf19ng-1       AVCSSGTYLQKIAERLKTGETGDDIEYRITRRRAHEHTAALSSTLSDMSSEPAKFADSLQ
                       550       560       570       580       590       600

                       610       620       630       640       650       660
orf19-1.pep     PGFTLLKTGYALTGYISALGAYRSEMHEECSPDFTAQFHLAAEHTAHIFQHLPETEPDDF
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:  ||||
orf19ng-1       PGFTLLKTGYALTGYISALGAYRSEMHEECSPDFTAQFHLAAEHTAHIFQHLPDMGPDDF
                       610       620       630       640       650       660

                       670       680       690       700       710
orf19-1.pep     QTALDTLRGELDTLRTHSSGTQSHILLQQLQLIARQLEPYYRAYRQIPHRQPQNAAX
                ||||||||||| ||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf19ng-1       QTALDTLRGELGTLRTRSSGTQSHILLQQLQLIARQLEPYYRAYRQIPHRQPQNAAX
                       670       680       690       700       710
```

In addition, ORF19ng-1 shows significant homology to a hypothetical gonococcal protein previously entered in the databases:

```
sp|O33369|YOR2_NEIGO HYPOTHETICAL 45.5 KD PROTEIN (ORF2) gnl|PID|e1154438
(AJ002423) hypothetical protein [Neisseria gonorrh] Length = 417
 Score = 1512 (705.6 bits), Expect = 5.3e-203, P = 5.3e-203
 Identities = 301/326 (92%), Positives = 306/326 (93%)

Query:   307 RQSLRLLSDGNDSPDIRHLSRLLDNLGSVDQQFRQLRHSDSPAENDRMGDTRIAALETGS 366
             RQSLRLLSDGNDS DIRHLSRLLDNLGSVDQQFRQLRHSDSPAENDRMGDTRIAALETGS
Sbjct:     1 RQSLRLLSDGNDSXDIRHLSRLLDNLGSVDQQFRQLRHSDSPAENDRMGDTRIAALETGS 60

Query:   367 FKNTWQAIRPQLNLESCVFRHAVRLSLVVAAACTIVEALNLNLGYWILLTALFVCQPNYT 426
             FKNTWQAIRPQLNLES VFRHAVRLSLVVAAACTIVEALNLNLGYWILLT LFVCQPNYT
Sbjct:    61 FKNTWQAIRPQLNLESGVFRHAVRLSLVVAAACTIVEALNLNLGYWILLTRLFVCQPNYT 120

Query:   427 ATKSRVYQRIAGTVLGVIVGSLVPYFTPSVETKLWIVIAGTTLFFMTRTYKYSFSTFFIT 486
             ATKSRVYQRIAGTVLGVIVGSLVPYFTPSVETKLWIVIAGTTLFFMTRTYKYSFSTFFIT
Sbjct:   121 ATKSRVYQRIAGTVLGVIVGSLVPYFTPSVETKLWIVIAGTTLFFMTRTYKYSFSTFFIT 180

Query:   487 IQALTSLSLAGLDVYAAMPVRIIDTIIGASLAWAAVSYLWPDWKYLTLERTAALAVCSSG 546
             IQALTSLSLAGLDVYAAMPVRIIDTIIGASLAWAAVSYLWPDWKYLTLERTAALAVCSSG
Sbjct:   181 IQALTSLSLAGLDVYAAMPVRIIDTIIGASLAWAAVSYLWPDWKYLTLERTAALAVCSSG 240
```

```
Query:   547 TYLQKIAERLKTGETGDDIEYRITRRRAHEHTAALSSTLSDMSSEPAKFADSLQPGFTLL 606
             TYLQKIAERLKTGETGDDIEYRITRRRAHEHTAALSSTLSDMSSEPAKFAD+  P
Sbjct:   241 TYLQKIAERLKTGETGDDIEYRITRRRAHEHTAALSSTLSDMSSEPAKFADTCNPALPCS 300

Query:   607 KTGYALTGYISALGAYRSEMHEECSP 632
             K   ALTGYISALG   ++  +  +P
Sbjct:   301 KPATALTGYISALGHTAAKCTKNAAP 326
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of several putative transmembrane domains in the gonococcal protein (the first of which is also seen in the meningococcal protein), and on homology with the YHFK protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 14

The following DNA sequence, believed to be complete, was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 113>:

```
   1  ATGAATATGC TGGGAGCTTT GGCAAAAGTC GGCAGCCTGA CGATGGTGTC
  51  GCGCGTTTTG GGATTTGTGC GCGATACGGT CATTGCGCGG GCATTCGGCG
 101  CGGGTATGGC GACGGATGCG TTTTTTGTCG CGTTCAAACT GCCCAACCTG
 151  CTTCGCCGCG TGTTTGCGGA GGGGGCGTTT GCCCAAGCGT TTGTGCCGAT
 201  TTTGGCGGAA TACAAGGAAA CGCGTTCAAA AGAGGCGG.C GAAGCCTTTA
 251  TCCGCCATGT GGCGGGGATG CTGTCGTTTG TACTGGTTAT CGTTACCGCG
 301  CTGGGCATAC TTGCCGCGCC TTGGGTGATT TATGTTTCCG CACCCGAGTT
 351  TTGCCCAAGA TGCCGACAAA TTTCAGCTCT CCATCGATTT GCTGCGGATT
 401  ACGTTTCCTT ATATATTATT GATTTCCCTG TCTTCATTTG TCGGCTCGGT
 451  ACTCAATTCT TATCATAAGT TCGGCATTCC GGCGTTTACG CCAC.GTTTC
 501  TGAACGTGTC GTTTATCGTA TTCGCGCTGT TTTTCGTGCC GTATTTCGAT
 551  CCGCCCGTTA CCGCGCyGGC GTGGGCGGTC TTTGTCGGCG GCATTTTGCA
 601  ACTCGrmTTC CAACTGCCCT GGCTGGCGAA ACTGGGCTTT TTGAAACTGC
 651  CCAAACtGAG TTTCAAAGAT GCGGCGGTCA ACCGCGTGAT GAAACAGATG
 701  GCGCCTGCgA TTTTgGGCGT GAgCGTGGCG CAGGTTTCTT TGGTGATCAA
 751  CACGATTTTc GCGTCTTATC TGCAATCGGG CAGCGTTTCA TGGATGTATT
 801  ACGCCGACCG CATGATGGAG CTGCCCAGCG GCGTGCTGGG GGCGGCACTC
 851  GGTACGATTT TGCTGCCGAC TTTGTCCAAA CACTCGGCAA ACCaAGATAC
 901  GGaACAGTTT TCCGCCCTGC TCGACTGGGG TTTGCGCCTG TGCATGCtgc
 951  TGACGCTGCC GGCGgcGGTC GGACTGGCGG TGTTGTCGTT cCCgCtGGTG
1001  GCGACGCTGT TTATGTACCG CGwATTTACG CTGTTTGACG CGCAGATGAC
1051  GCAACACGCG CTGATTGCCT ATTCTTTCGG TTTAATCGGC TTAATCATGA
1101  TTAAAGTGTT GGCACCCGGC TTCTATGCGC GGCAAAACAT CAAwAmGCCC
1151  GTCAAAATCG CCATCTTCAC GCTCATCTGC mCGCAGTTGA TGAACCTTGs
1201  CTTTAyCGGC CCACTrrAAC rCasTCGGAC TTTCGCTTGC CATCGGTCTG
1251  GGCGCGTGTA TCAATGCCGG ATTGTTGTTT TACCTGTTGC GCAGACACGG
1301  TATTTACCAA CCTGG.CAAG GGTTGGGCAG CGTTCTT.AG CAAAAATGCT
1351  GcTCTCGCTC GCCGTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 114; ORF20>:

```
   1  MNMLGALAKV GSLTMVSRVL GFVRDTVIAR AFGAGMATDA FFVAFKLPNL
  51  LRRVFAEGAF AQAFVPILAE YKETRSKEAX EAFIRHVAGM LSFVLVIVTA
 101  LGILAAPWVI YVSAPSFAQD ADKFQLSIDL LRITFPYILL ISLSSFVGSV
 151  LNSYHKFGIP AFTPXFLNVS FIVFALFFVP YFDPPVTAXA WAVFVGGILQ
 201  LXFQLPWLAK LGFLKLPKLS FKDAAVNRVM KQMAPAILGV SVAQVSLVIN
 251  TIFASYLQSG SVSWMYYADR MMELPSGVLG AALGTILLPT LSKHSANQDT
 301  EQFSALLDWG LRLCMLLTLP AAVGLAVLSF PLVATLFMYR XFTLFDAQMT
 351  QHALIAYSFG LIGLIMIKVL APGFYARQNI XXPVKIAIFT LICXQLMNLX
 401  FXGPLXXIGL SLAIGLGACI NAGLLFYLLR RHGIYQPXQG LGSVLXQKCC
 451  SRSP*
```

These sequences were elaborated, and the complete DNA sequence <SEQ ID 115> is:

```
   1  ATGAATATGC TGGGAGCTTT GGCAAAAGTC GGCAGCCTGA CGATGGTGTC
  51  GCGCGTTTTG GGATTTGTGC GCGATACGGT CATTGCGCGG GCATTCGGCG
```

```
 101  CGGGTATGGC GACGGATGCG TTTTTTGTCG CGTTCAAACT GCCCAACCTG
 151  CTTCGCCGCG TGTTTGCGGA GGGGGCGTTT GCCCAAGCGT TTGTGCCGAT
 201  TTTGGCGGAA TACAAGGAAA CGCGTTCAAA AGAGGCGGCG GAGGCTTTTA
 251  TCCGCCATGT GGCGGGGATG CTGTCGTTTG TACTGGTTAT CGTTACCGCG
 301  CTGGGCATAC TTGCCGCGCC TTGGGTGATT TATGTTTCCG CACCCGGTTT
 351  TGCCCAAGAT GCCGACAAAT TTCAGCTCTC CATCGATTTG CTGCGGATTA
 401  CGTTTCCTTA TATATTATTG ATTTCCCTGT CTTCATTTGT CGGCTCGGTA
 451  CTCAATTCTT ATCATAAGTT CGGCATTCCG GCGTTTACGC CCACGTTTCT
 501  GAACGTGTCG TTTATCGTAT TCGCGCTGTT TTTCGTGCCG TATTTCGATC
 551  CGCCCGTTAC CGCGCTGGCG TGGGCGGTCT TTGTCGGCGG CATTTTGCAA
 601  CTCGGCTTCC AACTGCCCTG GCTGGCGAAA CTGGGCTTTT TGAAACTGCC
 651  CAAACTGAGT TTCAAAGATG CGGCGGTCAA CCGCGTGATG AAACAGATGG
 701  CGCCTGCGAT TTTGGGCGTG AGCGTGGCGC AGGTTTCTTT GGTGATCAAC
 751  ACGATTTTCG CGTCTTATCT GCAATCGGGC AGCGTTTCAT GGATGTATTA
 801  CGCCGACCGC ATGATGGAGC TGCCCAGCGG CGTGCTGGGG GCGGCACTCG
 851  GTACGATTTT GCTGCCGACT TTGTCCAAAC ACTCGGCAAA CCAAGATACG
 901  GAACAGTTTT CCGCCCTGCT CGACTGGGGT TTGCGCCTGT GCATGCTGCT
 951  GACGCTGCCG GCGGCGGTCG GACTGGCGGT GTTGTCGTTC CCGCTGGTGG
1001  CGACGCTGTT TATGTACCGC GAATTTACGC TGTTTGACGC GCAGATGACG
1051  CAACACGCGC TGATTGCCTA TTCTTTCGGT TTAATCGGCT TAATCATGAT
1101  TAAAGTGTTG GCACCCGGCT TCTATGCGCG GCAAAACATC AAAACGCCCG
1151  TCAAAATCGC CATCTTCACG CTCATCTGCA CGCAGTTGAT GAACCTTGCC
1201  TTTATCGGCC CACTGAAACA CGTCGGACTT TCGCTTGCCA TCGGTCTGGG
1251  CGCGTGTATC AATGCCGGAT TGTTGTTTTA CCTGTTGCGC AGACACGGTA
1301  TTTACCAACC TGGCAAGGGT TGGGCAGCGT TCTTAGCAAA AATGCTGCTC
1351  TCGCTCGCCG TGATGTGCGG CGGACTGTGG GCAGCGCAGG CTTACCTGCC
1401  GTTTGAATGG GCGCACGCCG GCGGAATGCG GAAAGCGGGG CAGCTCTGCA
1451  TCCTGATTGC CGTCGGCGGC GGACTGTATT TCGCATCACT GGCGGCTTTG
1501  GGCTTCCGTC CGCGCCATTT CAAACGCGTG GAAAACTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 116; ORF20-1>:

```
   1  MNMLGALAKV GSLTMVSRVL GFVRDTVIAR AFGAGMATDA FFVAFKLPNL
  51  LRRVFAEGAF AQAFVPILAE YKETRSKEAA EAFIRHVAGM LSFVLVIVTA
 101  LGILAAPWVI YVSAPGFAQD ADKFQLSIDL LRITFPYILL ISLSSFVGSV
 151  LNSYHKFGIP AFTPTFLNVS FIVFALFFVP YFDPPVTALA WAVFVGGILQ
 201  LGFQLPWLAK LGFLKLPKLS FKDAAVNRVM KQMAPAILGV SVAQVSLVIN
 251  TIFASYLQSG SVSWMYYADR MMELPSGVLG AALGTILLPT LSKHSANQDT
 301  EQFSALLDWG LRLCMLLTLP AAVGLAVLSF PLVATLFMYR EFTLFDAQMT
 351  QHALIAYSFG LIGLIMIKVL APGFYARQNI KTPVKIAIFT LICTQLMNLA
 401  FIGPLKHVGL SLAIGLGACI NAGLLFYLLR RHGIYQPGKG WAAFLAKMLL
 451  SLAVMCGGLW AAQAYLPFEW AHAGGMRKAG QLCILIAVGG GLYFASLAAL
 501  GFRPRHFKRV EN*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with the MviN virulence factor of *S. typhimurium* (accession number P37169)

ORF20 and MviN proteins show 63% aa identity in 440aa overlap:

```
Orf20   1  MNMLGALAKVGSLTMVSRVLGFVRDTVIARAFGAGMATDAFFVAFKLPNLLRRVFAEGAF 60
           MN+L +LA V S+TM SRVLGF RD ++AR FGAGMATDAFFVAFKLPNLLRR+FAEGAF
MviN   14  MNLLKSLAAVSSMTMFSRVLGFARDAIVARIFGAGMATDAFFVAFKLPNLLRRIFAEGAF 73

Orf20  61  AQAFVPILAEYKETRSKEAXEAFIRHVAGMLSFVLVIVTALGILAAPWVIYVSAPSFAQD 120
           +QAFVPILAEYK  + +EA   F+ +V+G+L+  L +VT  G+LAAPWVI V+AP FA
MviN   74  SQAFVPILAEYKSKQGEEATRIFVAYVSGLLTLALAVVTVAGMLAAPWVIMVTAPGFADT 133

Orf20  121 ADKFQLSIDLLRITFPYILLISLSSFVGSVLNSYHKFGIPAFTPXFLNVSFIVFALFFVP 180
           ADKF L+  LLRITFPYILLISL+S VG++LN++++F IPAF P FLN+S I FALF  P
MviN   134 ADKFALTTQLLRITFPYILLISLASLVGAILNTWNRFSIPAFAPTFLNISMIGFALFAAP 193

Orf20  181 YFDPPVTAXAWAVFVGGILQLXFQLPWLAKLGFLKLPKLSFKDAAVNRVMKQMAPAILGV 240
           YF+PPV A AWAV VGG+LQL +QLP+L K+G L LP+++F+D     RV+KQM PAILGV
MviN   194 YFNPPVLALAWAVTVGGVLQLVYQLPYLKKIGMLVLPRINFRDTGAMRVVKQMGPAILGV 253

Orf20  241 SVAQVSLVINTIFASYLQSGSVSWMYYADRMMELPSGVLGAALGTILLPTLSKHSANQDT 300
           SV+Q+SL+INTIFAS+L SGSVSWMYYADR+ME PSGVLG ALGTILLP+LSK  A+ +
MviN   254 SVSQISLIINTIFASFLASGSVSWMYYADRLMEFPSGVLGVALGTILLPSLSKSFASGNH 313
```

```
Orf20   301 EQFSALLDWGLRLCMLLTLPAAVGLAVLSFPLVATLFMYRXFTLFDAQMTQHALIAYSFG 360
            +++  L+DWGLRLC LL LP+AV L +L+ PL  +LF Y  FT FDA MTQ ALIAYS G
MviN    314 DEYCRLMDWGLRLCFLLALPSAVALGILAKPLTVSLFQYSKFTAFDAAMTQRALIAYSVG 373

Orf20   361 LIGLIMIKVLAPGFYARQNIXXPVKIAIFTLICXQLMNLXFXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXCI 420
            LIGLI++KVLAPGFY+RQ+I  PVKIAI TLI  QLMNL F                C+
MviN    374 LIGLIVVKVLAPGFYSRQDIKTPVKIAIVTLIMTQLMNLAFIGPLKHAGLSLSIGLAACL 433

Orf20   421 NAGLLFYLLRRHGIYQPXQG 440
            NA LL++ LR+  I+ P  G
MviN    434 NASLLYWQLRKQNIFTPQPG 453
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF20 shows 93.5% identity over a 447aa overlap with an ORF (ORF20a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf20.pep       MNMLGALAKVGSLTMVSRVLGFVRDTVIARAFGAGMATDAFFVAFKLPNLLRRVFAEGAF
                |||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf20a          MNMLGALVKVGSLTMVSRVLGFVRDTVIARAFGAGMATDAFFVAFKLPNLLRRVFAEGAF
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf20.pep       AQAFVPILAEYKETRSKEAXEAFIRHVAGMLSFVLVIVTALGILAAPWVIYVSAPSFAQD
                |||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||:|
orf20a          AQAFVPILAEYKETRSKEATEAFIRHVAGMLSFVLVIVTALGILAAPWVIYVSAPGFAKD
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf20.pep       ADKFQLSIDLLRITFPYILLISLSSFVGSVLNSYHKFGIPAFTPXFLNVSFIVFALFFVP
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||:|||||||||||||||
orf20a          ADKFQLSIDLLRITFPYILLISLSSFVGSVLNSYHKFSIPAFTPTFLNVSFIVFALFFVP
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf20.pep       YFDPPVTAXAWAVFVGGILQLXFQLPWLAKLGFLKLPKLSFKDAAVNRVMKQMAPAILGV
                |||||||| ||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf20a          YFDPPVTALAWAVFVGGILQLGFQLPWLAKLGFLKLPKLSFKDAAVNRVMKQMAPAILGV
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260       270       280       290       300
orf20.pep       SVAQVSLVINTIFASYLQSGSVSWMYYADRMMELPSGVLGAALGTILLPTLSKHSANQDT
                ||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf20a          SVAQISLVINTIFASYLQSGSVSWMYYADRMMELPGGVLGAALGTILLPTLSKHSANQDT
                250       260       270       280       290       300

                310       320       330       340       350       360
orf20.pep       EQFSALLDWGLRLCMLLTLPAAVGLAVLSFPLVATLFMYRXFTLFDAQMTQHALIAYSFG
                |||||||||||| ||||||||||:|||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||
orf20a          EQFSALLDWGLRXCMLLTLPAAVGMAVLSFPLVATLFMYREFTLFDAQMTQHALIAYSFG
                310       320       330       340       350       360

                370       380       390       400       410       420
orf20.pep       LIGLIMIKVLAPGFYARQNIXXPVKIAIFTLICXQLMNLXFXGPLXXIGLSLAIGLGACI
                |||||||||||||||||||| :|||||||||||:||||| | ||| :||||||||||||
orf20a          LIGLIMIKVLAPGFYARQNIKTPVKIAIFTLICTQLMNLAFIGPLKHVGLSLAIGLGACI
                370       380       390       400       410       420

                430       440       450
orf20.pep       NAGLLFYLLRRHGIYQPXQGLGSVLXQKCCSRSPX
                |||||||||||||||||| :| :: | :
orf20a          NAGLLFYLLRRHGIYQPGKGWAAFLAKMLLSLAVMGGGLYAAQIWLPFDWAHAGGMQKAA
                430       440       450       460       470       480
```

The complete length ORF20a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 117> is:

```
   1  ATGAATATGC TGGGAGCTTT GGTAAAAGTC GGCAGCCTGA CGATGGTGTC
  51  GCGCGTTTTG GGATTTGTGC GCGATACGGT CATTGCGCGC GCATTCGGCG
 101  CAGGCATGGC GACGGATGCG TTCTTTGTCG CGTTCAAACT GCCCAACCTG
```

```
 151  CTTCGCCGCG TGTTTGCGGA GGGGGCGTTT GCCCAAGCGT TTGTGCCGAT
 201  TTTGGCGGAA TATAAGGAAA CGCGTTCTAA AGAGGCGACG GAGGCTTTTA
 251  TCCGCCATGT GGCGGGGATG CTGTCGTTTG TACTGGTCAT CGTTACCGCG
 301  CTGGGCATAC TTGCCGCGCC TTGGGTGATT TATGTTTCCG CACCCGGTTT
 351  TGCCAAAGAT GCCGACAAAT TTCAGCTCTC TATCGATTTG CTGCGGATTA
 401  CGTTTCCTTA TATCTTATTG ATTTCACTTT CCTCTTTTGT CGGCTCGGTA
 451  CTCAATTCCT ATCATAAATT CAGCATTCCT GCGTTTACGC CCACGTTCCT
 501  GAACGTGTCG TTTATCGTAT TCGCGCTGTT TTTCGTGCCG TATTTCGATC
 551  CTCCCGTTAC CGCGCTGGCT TGGGCGGTTT TTGTCGGCGG CATTTTGCAA
 601  CTCGGCTTCC AACTGCCCTG GCTGGCGAAA CTGGGTTTTT TGAAACTGCC
 651  CAAACTGAGT TTCAAAGATG CGGCGGTCAA CCGCGTGATG AAACAGATGG
 701  CGCCTGCGAT TTTGGGCGTG AGCGTGGCGC AGATTTCTTT GGTGATCAAC
 751  ACGATTTTCG CGTCTTATCT GCAATCGGGC AGCGTTTCAT GGATGTATTA
 801  CGCCGACCGC ATGATGGAAC TGCCCGGCGG CGTGCTGGGG GCGGCACTCG
 851  GTACGATTTT GCTGCCGACT TTGTCCAAAC ACTCGGCAAA CCAAGATACG
 901  GAACAGTTTT CCGCCCTGCT CGACTGGGGT TTGCGCNTGT GCATGCTGCT
 951  GACGCTGCCG GCGGCGGTCG GAATGGCGGT GTTGTCGTTC CCGCTGGTGG
1001  CAACCTTGTT TATGTACCGA GAATTCACGC TGTTTGACGC GCAGATGACG
1051  CAACACGCGC TGATTGCCTA TTCTTTCGGT TTAATCGGTT TAATCATGAT
1101  TAAAGTGTTG GCGCCCGGCT TTTATGCGCG GCAAAACATC AAAACGCCCG
1151  TCAAAATCGC CATCTTCACG CTCATTTGCA CGCAGTTGAT GAACCTTGCC
1201  TTTATCGGCC CACTGAAACA CGTCGGACTT TCGCTTGCCA TCGGTCTGGG
1251  CGCGTGTATC AATGCCGGAT TGTTGTTTTA CCTGTTGCGC AGACACGGTA
1301  TTTACCAACC TGGCAAGGGT TGGGCAGCGT TCTTGGCAAA AATGCTGCTC
1351  TCGCTCGCCG TGATGGGAGG CGGCCTGTAT GCCGCCCAAA TCTGGCTGCC
1401  GTTCGACTGG GCACACGCCG GCGGAATGCA AAAGGCCGCC CGGCTCTTCA
1451  TCCTGATTGC CGTCGGCGGC GGACTGTATT TCGCATCACT GGCGGCTTTG
1501  GGCTTCCGTC CGCGCCATTT CAAACGCGTG GAAAGCTGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 118>:

```
   1  MNMLGALVKV GSLTMVSRVL GFVRDTVIAR AFGAGMATDA FFVAFKLPNL
  51  LRRVFAEGAF AQAFVPILAE YKETRSKEAT EAFIRHVAGM LSFVLVIVTA
 101  LGILAAPWVI YVSAPGFAKD ADKFQLSIDL LRITFPYILL ISLSSFVGSV
 151  LNSYHKFSIP AFTPTFLNVS FIVFALFFVP YFDPPVTALA WAVFVGGILQ
 201  LGFQLPWLAK LGFLKLPKLS FKDAAVNRVM KQMAPAILGV SVAQISLVIN
 251  TIFASYLQSG SVSWMYYADR MMELPGGVLG AALGTILLPT LSKHSANQDT
 301  EQFSALLDWG LRXCMLLTLP AAVGMAVLSF PLVATLFMYR EFTLFDAQMT
 351  QHALIAYSFG LIGLIMIKVL APGFYARQNI KTPVKIAIFT LICTQLMNLA
 401  FIGPLKHVGL SLAIGLGACI NAGLLFYLLR RHGIYQPGKG WAAFLAKMLL
 451  SLAVMGGGLY AAQIWLPFDW AHAGGMQKAA RLFILIAVGG GLYFASLAAL
 501  GFRPRHFKRV ES*
```

ORF20a and ORF20-1 show 96.5% identity in 512 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf20a.pep      MNMLGALVKVGSLTMVSRVLGFVRDTVIARAFGAGMATDAFFVAFKLPNLLRRVFAEGAF
                |||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf20-1         MNMLGALAKVGSLTMVSRVLGFVRDTVIARAFGAGMATDAFFVAFKLPNLLRRVFAEGAF
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf20a.pep      AQAFVPILAEYKETRSKEATEAFIRHVAGMLSFVLVIVTALGILAAPWVIYVSAPGFAKD
                ||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|
orf20-1         AQAFVPILAEYKETRSKEAAEAFIRHVAGMLSFVLVIVTALGILAAPWVIYVSAPGFAQD
                70        80        90        100       110       120

               130       140       150       160       170       180
orf20a.pep      ADKFQLSIDLLRITFPYILLISLSSFVGSVLNSYHKFSIPAFTPTFLNVSFIVFALFFVP
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||
orf20-1         ADKFQLSIDLLRITFPYILLISLSSFVGSVLNSYHKFGIPAFTPTFLNVSFIVFALFFVP
                130       140       150       160       170       180

               190       200       210       220       230       240
orf20a.pep      YFDPPVTALAWAVFVGGILQLGFQLPWLAKLGFLKLPKLSFKDAAVNRVMKQMAPAILGV
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf20-1         YFDPPVTALAWAVFVGGILQLGFQLPWLAKLGFLKLPKLSFKDAAVNRVMKQMAPAILGV
                190       200       210       220       230       240

               250       260       270       280       290       300
orf20a.pep      SVAQISLVINTIFASYLQSGSVSWMYYADRMMELPGGVLGAALGTILLPTLSKHSANQDT
```

```
                 ||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||
orf20-1          SVAQVSLVINTIFASYLQSGSVSWMYYADRMMELPSGVLGAALGTILLPTLSKHSANQDT
                        250       260       270       280       290       300

                        310       320       330       340       350       360
orf20a.pep       EQFSALLDWGLRXCMLLTLPAAVGMAVLSFPLVATLFMYREFTLFDAQMTQHALIAYSFG
                 |||||||||||| ||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf20-1          EQFSALLDWGLRLCMLLTLPAAVGLAVLSFPLVATLFMYREFTLFDAQMTQHALIAYSFG
                        310       320       330       340       350       360

                        370       380       390       400       410       420
orf20a.pep       LIGLIMIKVLAPGFYARQNIKTPVKIAIFTLICTQLMNLAFIGPLKHVGLSLAIGLGACI
                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf20-1          LIGLIMIKVLAPGFYARQNIKTPVKIAIFTLICTQLMNLAFIGPLKHVGLSLAIGLGACI
                        370       380       390       400       410       420

                        430       440       450       460       470       480
orf20a.pep       NAGLLFYLLRRHGIYQPGKGWAAFLAKMLLSLAVMGGGLYAAQIWLPFDWAHAGGMQKAA
                 |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||:||| :|||:|||||||:||:
orf20-1          NAGLLFYLLRRHGIYQPGKGWAAFLAKMLLSLAVMCGGLWAAQAYLPFEWAHAGGMRKAG
                        430       440       450       460       470       480

                        490       500       510
orf20a.pep       RLFILIAVGGGLYFASLAALGFRPRHFKRVESX
                 :| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|
orf20-1          QLCILIAVGGGLYFASLAALGFRPRHFKRVENX
                        490       500       510
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF20 shows 92.1% identity over a 454aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF20ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf20.pep        MNMLGALAKVGSLTMVSRVLGFVRDTVIARAFGAGMATDAFFVAFKLPNLLRRVFAEGAF  60
                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf20ng          MNMLGALAKVGSLTMVSRVLGFVRDTVIARAFGAGMATDAFFVAFKLPNLLRRVFAEGAF  60

orf20.pep        AQAFVPILAEYKETRSKEAXEAFIRHVAGMLSFVLVIVTALGILAAPWVIYVSAPSFAQD 120
                 |||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||::||||||||||||||||||:|::|
orf20ng          AQAFVPILAEYKETRSKEATEAFIRHVAGMLSFVLIVVTALGILAAPWVIYVSAPGFTKD 120

orf20.pep        ADKFQLSIDLLRITFPYILLISLSSFVGSVLNSYHKFGIPAFTPXFLNVSFIVFALFFVP 180
                 ||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||:|||:||||||||||||
orf20ng          ADKFQLSISLLRITFPYILLISLSSFVGSILNSYHKFGIPAFTPTFLNISFIVFALFFVP 180

orf20.pep        YFDPPVTAXAWAVFVGGILQLXFQLPWLAKLGFLKLPKLSFKDAAVNRVMKQMAPAILGV 240
                 |||||||| |||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||
orf20ng          YFDPPVTALAWAVFVGGILQLGFQLPWLAKLGFLKLPKLNFKDAAVNRVMKQMAPAILGV 240

orf20.pep        SVAQVSLVINTIFASYLQSGSVSWMYYADRMMELPSGVLGAALGTILLPTLSKHSANQDT 300
                 ||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf20ng          SVAQISLVINTIFASYLQSGSVSWMYYADRMMELPGGVLGAALGTILLPTLSKHSANQDT 300

orf20.pep        EQFSALLDWGLRLCMLLTLPAAVGLAVLSFPLVATLFMYRXFTLFDAQMTQHALIAYSFG 360
                 ||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||
orf20ng          EQFSALLDWGLRLCMLLTLPAAAGLAVLSFPLVATLFMYREFTLFDAQMTQHALIAYSFG 360

orf20.pep        LIGLIMIKVLAPGFYARQNIXXPVKIAIFTLICXQLMNLXFXGPLXXIGLSLAIGLGACI 420
                 |||||||||| |||||||| :||||||||||:||||| | |||   ||||||||||||
orf20ng          LIGLIMIKVLASGFYARQNIKTPVKIAIFTLICTQLMNLAFIGPLKHAGLSLAIGLGACI 420

orf20.pep        NAGLLFYLLRRHGIYQPXQGLGSVLXQKCCSRSP  454
                 ||||||:|:|:|||||:| ||||:   :|||||||
orf20ng          NAGLLFFLFRKHGIYRPGQGLGQPSWRKCCSRSP  454
```

An ORF20ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 119> was predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 120>:

```
   1  MNMLGALAKV GSLTMVSRVL GFVRDTVIAR AFGAGMATDA FFVAFKLPNL
  51  LRRVFAEGAF AQAFVPILAE YKETRSKEAT EAFIRHVAGM LSFVLIVVTA
 101  LGILAAPWVI YVSAPGFTKD ADKFQLSISL LRITFPYILL ISLSSFVGSI
 151  LNSYHKFGIP AFTPTFLNIS FIVFALFFVP YFDPPVTALA WAVFVGGILQ
 201  LGFQLPWLAK LGFLKLPKLN FKDAAVNRVM KQMAPAILGV SVAQISLVIN
 251  TIFASYLQSG SVSWMYYADR MMELPGGVLG AALGTILLPT LSKHSANQDT
 301  EQFSALLDWG LRLCMLLTLP AAAGLAVLSF PLVATLFMYR EFTLFDAQMT
 351  QHALIAYSFG LIGLIMIKVL ASGFYARQNI KTPVKIAIFT LICTQLMNLA
 401  FIGPLKHAGL SLAIGLGACI NAGLLFFLFR KHGIYRPGQG LGQPSWRKCC
 451  SRSP*
```

Further DNA sequence analysis revealed the following DNA sequence <SEQ ID 121>:

```
   1  ATGAATATGC TTGGAGCTTT GGCAAAAGTC GGCAGCCTGA CGATGGTGTC
  51  GCGCGTTTTG GGATTTGTGC GCGATACGGT CATTGCGCGG GCATTCGGCG
 101  CGGGTATGGC GACGGATGCG TTTTTTGTCG CGTTCAAACT GCCCAACCTG
 151  CTTCGCCGCG TGTTTGCGGA GGGGGCGTTT GCCCAAGCGT TTGTGCCGAT
 201  TTTGGCGGAA TATAAGGAAA CGCGTTCTAA AGAGGCGACg gAGGCTTTTA
 251  TCCGCCACGt tgcgggAatg CTGTCGTTTG TGCTGATcgt cGttacCGCG
 301  CTGGGCATAC TTGCCGCgcc tTGGGTGATT TATGTTtccg CgcccGGCTT
 351  TACCAAAGAC GCGGACAAGT TCCAACTTTC CATCAGCCTG CTGCGGATTA
 401  CGTTTCCTTA TATATTATTG ATTTCTTTGT CTTCTTTTGT CGGCTCGATA
 451  CTCAATTCCT ACCATAAGTT CGGCATTCCC GCGTTTACGC CCACGTTTTT
 501  AAACATCTCT TTTATCGTAT TCGCACTGTT TTTCGTGCCG TATTTCGATC
 551  CGCCCGTTAC CGCGCTGGCG TGGGCGGTTT TTGTCGGCGG TATTTTGCAG
 601  CTCGGTTTCC AACTGCCGTG GCTGGCGAAA CTGGGCTTTT TGAAACTGCC
 651  CAAACTGAAT TTCAAAGATG CGGCGGTCAA CCGCGTCATG AAACAGATGG
 701  CGCCTGCGAT TTTGGGCGTG agcgTGGCGC AAATTTCTTT GgttATCAAC
 751  ACGATTTTCG CGTCTTATCT GCAATCGGGC AGCGTTTCAT GGATGTatta
 801  cgCCGACCGC ATGATGGAGc tgcgccGGGG CGTGCTGGGG GCTGCACTCG
 851  GTACAATTTT GCTGCCGACT TTGTCCAAAC ACTCGGCAAA CCAAGATACG
 901  GAACAGTTTT CCGCCCTGCT CGACTGGGGT TTGCGCCTGT GCATGCTGCT
 951  GACGCTGCCG GCGGCGGccg GACTGGCGGT ATTGTCGTTC CCGCTGGTGG
1001  CGACGCTGTT TATGTACCGA GAATTCACGC TGTTTGACGC ACAAATGACG
1051  CAACACGCGC TGATTGCCTA TTCTTTCGGT TTAATCGGTT TAATTATGAT
1101  TAAAGTGTTG GCATCCGGCT TTTATGCGCG GCAAAACATC AAAACGCCCG
1151  TCAAAATCGC CATCTTCACG CTCATCTGCA CGCAGTTGAT GAACCTCGCC
1201  TTTATCGGTC CGTTGAAACA CGCCGGGCTT TCGCTCGCCA TCGGCCTGGG
1251  CGCGTGCATC AACGCCGGAT TGTTGTTCTT CCTGTTGCGC AAACACGGTA
1301  TTTACCGGCC cggcaggggt tgggcggcgt TCTTGGCGAA AATGCTGCTC
1351  GCGCTCGCCG TGATGTGCGG CGGACTGTGG GCGGCGCAGG CTTGCCTGCC
1401  GTTCGAATGG GCGCACGCCG GCGGAATGCG GAAAGCGGGG CAGCTCTGCA
1451  TCCTGATTGC CGTCGGCGGC GGACTGTATT TCGCATCTCT GGCGGCTTTG
1501  GGCTTCCGTC CGCGCCATTT CAAACGCGTG GAAAGCTGA
```

This encodes the following amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 122; ORF20ng-1>:

```
   1  MNMLGALAKV GSLTMVSRVL GFVRDTVIAR AFGAGMATDA FFVAFKLPNL
  51  LRRVFAEGAF AQAFVPILAE YKETRSKEAT EAFIRHVAGM LSFVLIVVTA
 101  LGILAAPWVI YVSAPGFTKD ADKFQLSISL LRITFPYILL ISLSSFVGSI
 151  LNSYHKFGIP AFTPTFLNIS FIVFALFFVP YFDPPVTALA WAVFVGGILQ
 201  LGFQLPWLAK LGFLKLPKLN FKDAAVNRVM KQMAPAILGV SVAQISLVIN
 251  TIFASYLQSG SVSWMYYADR MMELRRGVLG AALGTILLPT LSKHSANQDT
 301  EQFSALLDWG LRLCMLLTLP AAAGLAVLSF PLVATLFMYR EFTLFDAQMT
 351  QHALIAYSFG LIGLIMIKVL ASGFYARQNI KTPVKIAIFT LICTQLMNLA
 401  FIGPLKHAGL SLAIGLGACI NAGLLFFLLR KHGIYRPGRG WAAFLAKMLL
 451  ALAVMCGGLW AAQACLPFEW AHAGGMRKAG QLCILIAVGG GLYFASLAAL
 501  GFRPRHFKRV ES*
```

ORF20ng-1 and ORF20-1 show 95.7% identity in 512 aa overlap:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf20-1.pep     MNMLGALAKVGSLTMVSRVLGFVRDTVIARAFGAGMATDAFFVAFKLPNLLRRVFAEGAF
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf20ng-1       MNMLGALAKVGSLTMVSRVLGFVRDTVIARAFGAGMATDAFFVAFKLPNLLRRVFAEGAF
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf20-1.pep     AQAFVPILAEYKETRSKEAAEAFIRHVAGMLSFVLVIVTALGILAAPWVIYVSAPGFAQD
                |||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||::|||||||||||||||||||||||::|
orf20ng-1       AQAFVPILAEYKETRSKEATEAFIRHVAGMLSFVLIVVTALGILAAPWVIYVSAPGFTKD
```

```
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf20-1.pep    ADKFQLSIDLLRITFPYILLISLSSFVGSVLNSYHKFGIPAFTPTFLNVSFIVFALFFVP
               ||||||||:||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||
orf20ng-1      ADKFQLSISLLRITFPYILLISLSSFVGSILNSYHKFGIPAFTPTFLNISFIVFALFFVP
                   130       140       150       160       170       180

                   190       200       210       220       230       240
orf20-1.pep    YFDPPVTALAWAVFVGGILQLGFQLPWLAKLGFLKLPKLSFKDAAVNRVMKQMAPAILGV
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||
orf20ng-1      YFDPPVTALAWAVFVGGILQLGFQLPWLAKLGFLKLPKLNFKDAAVNRVMKQMAPAILGV
                   190       200       210       220       230       240

                   250       260       270       280       290       300
orf20-1.pep    SVAQVSLVINTIFASYLQSGSVSWMYYADRMMELPSGVLGAALGTILLPTLSKHSANQDT
               ||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||  ||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf20ng-1      SVAQISLVINTIFASYLQSGSVSWMYYADRMMELRRGVLGAALGTILLPTLSKHSANQDT
                   250       260       270       280       290       300

                   310       320       330       340       350       360
orf20-1.pep    EQFSALLDWGLRLCMLLTLPAAVGLAVLSFPLVATLFMYREFTLFDAQMTQHALIAYSFG
               ||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf20ng-1      EQFSALLDWGLRLCMLLTLPAAAGLAVLSFPLVATLFMYREFTLFDAQMTQHALIAYSFG
                   310       320       330       340       350       360

                   370       380       390       400       410       420
orf20-1.pep    LIGLIMIKVLAPGFYARQNIKTPVKIAIFTLICTQLMNLAFIGPLKHVGLSLAIGLGACI
               |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||
orf20ng-1      LIGLIMIKVLASGFYARQNIKTPVKIAIFTLICTQLMNLAFIGPLKHAGLSLAIGLGACI
                   370       380       390       400       410       420

                   430       440       450       460       470       480
orf20-1.pep    NAGLLFYLLRRHGIYQPGKGWAAFLAKMLLSLAVMCGGLWAAQAYLPFEWAHAGGMRKAG
               ||||||:|||:||||:|||:||||||||||:|||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||
orf20ng-1      NAGLLFFLLRKHGIYRPGRGWAAFLAKMLLALAVMCGGLWAAQACLPFEWAHAGGMRKAG
                   430       440       450       460       470       480

                   490       500       510
orf20-1.pep    QLCILIAVGGGLYFASLAALGFRPRHFKRVENX
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|
orf20ng-1      QLCILIAVGGGLYFASLAALGFRPRHFKRVESX
                   490       500       510
```

In addition, ORF20ng-1 shows significant homology with a virulence factor of *S.typhimurium*:

```
sp|P37169|MVIN_SALTY VIRULENCE FACTOR MVIN pir||S40271 mviN protein - Salmonella
typhimurium gi|438252 (Z26133) mviB gene product [Salmonella typhimurium]
gnl|PID|d1005521 (D25292) ORF2 [Salmonella typhimurium] Length = 524
 Score = 1573 (750.1 bits), Expect = 1.1e-220, Sum P(2) = 1.1e-220
 Identities = 309/467 (66%), Positives = 368/467 (78%)

Query:     1 MNMLGALAKVGSLTMVSRVLGFVRDTVIARAFGAGMATDAFFVAFKLPNLLRRVFAEGAF 60
             MN+L +LA V S+TM SRVLGF RD ++AR FGAGMATDAFFVAFKLPNLLRR+FAEGAF
Sbjct:    14 MNLLKSLAAVSSMTMFSRVLGFARDAIVARIFGAGMATDAFFVAFKLPNLLRRIFAEGAF 73

Query:    61 AQAFVPILAEYKETRSKEATEAFIRHVAGMLSFVLIVVTALGILAAPWVIYVSAPGFTKD 120
             +QAFVPILAEYK  + +EAT  F+ +V+G+L+  L VVT  G+LAAPWVI V+APGF
Sbjct:    74 SQAFVPILAEYKSKQGEEATRIFVAYVSGLLTLALAVVTVAGMLAAPWVIMVTAPGFADT 133

Query:   121 ADKFQLSISLLRITFPYILLISLSSFVGSILNSYHKFGIPAFTPTFLNISFIVFALFFVP 180
             ADKF L+  LLRITFPYILLISL+S VG+ILN++++F IPAF PTFLNIS I FALF  P
Sbjct:   134 ADKFALTTQLLRITFPYILLISLASLVGAILNTWNRFSIPAFAPTFLNISMIGFALFAAP 193

Query:   181 YFDPPVTALAWAVFVGGILQLGFQLPWLAKLGFLKLPKLNFKDAAVNRVMKQMAPAILGV 240
             YF+PPV ALAWAV VGG+LQL +QLP+L K+G L LP++NF+D    RV+KQM PAILGV
Sbjct:   194 YFNPPVLALAWAVTVGGVLQLVYQLPYLKKIGMLVLPRINFRDTGAMRVVKQMGPAILGV 253

Query:   241 SVAQISLVINTIFASYLQSGSVSWMYYADRMMELRRGVLGAALGTILLPTLSKHSANQDT 300
             SV+QISL+INTIFAS+L SGSVSWMYYADR+ME   GVLG ALGTILLP+LSK  A+ +
Sbjct:   254 SVSQISLIINTIFASFLASGSVSWMYYADRLMEFPSGVLGVALGTILLPSLSKSFASGNH 313
```

```
Query:   301 EQFSALLDWGLRLCMLLTLPAAAGLAVLSFPLVATLFMYREFTLFDAQMTQHALIAYSFG 360
             +++  L+DWGLRLC LL LP+A  L +L+ PL  +LF Y +FT FDA MTQ ALIAYS G
Sbjct:   314 DEYCRLMDWGLRLCFLLALPSAVALGILAKPLTVSLFQYGKFTAFDAAMTQRALIAYSVG 373

Query:   361 LIGLIMIKVLASGFYARQNIKTPVKIAIFTLICTQLMNLAFIGPLKHAGLSLAIGLGACI 420
             LIGLI++KVLA GFY+RQ+IKTPVKIAI TLI TQLMNLAFIGPLKHAGLSL+IGL AC+
Sbjct:   374 LIGLIVVKVLAPGFYSRQDIKTPVKIAIVTLIMTQLMNLAFIGPLKHAGLSLSIGLAACL 433

Query:   421 NAGLLFFLLRKHGIYRPGRGWXXXXXXXXXXXXVMCGGLWAAQACLP 467
             NA LL++ LRK  I+ P  GW            VM   L+     +P
Sbjct:   434 NASLLYWQLRKQNIFTPQPGWMWFLMRLIISVLVMAAVLFGVLHIMP 480

 Score = 70 (33.4 bits), Expect = 1.1e-220, Sum P(2) = 1.1e-220
 Identities = 14/41 (34%), Positives = 23/41 (56%)

Query:   469 EWAHAGGMRKAGQLCILIAVGGGLYFASLAALGFRPRHFKR 509
             EW+    + +  +L  ++  G   YFA+LA LGF+ + F R
Sbjct:   481 EWSQGSMLWRLLRLMAVVIAGIAAYFAALAVLGFKVKEFVR 521
```

Based on this analysis, including the homology with a virulence factor from *S.typhimurium*, it is predicted that these proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 15

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 123>:

```
   1  atGATTAAAA TCAAAAAAGG TCTAAACCTG CCCATCGCGG GCAGACCGGA
  51  GCAAGCCGTT tACGACGGCC CGGCCaTTAC CGAAGtCGCG TTGCTTGGCG
 101  AAGAATATGC CGGTATGCGC CCCTCGATGA AAGTCAAGGA AGGCGATGCC
 151  GTcAAAAAAG GCCAAGTGCT GTTTGAAGAC AAAAAGAATC CGGGCGTGGT
 201  GTTTACTGCG CCGGCTTCAG GcAAAATCGC CGCGATTCAC CGTGGCGAAA
 251  AGCGCGTACT TCAGTCAGTC GTGATTGCCG TTGAArGCAA CGACGAAATC
 301  GAGTTTGAAC GCTACGCACC TGAAGCGCTG GCAAACTTAA GCGGCGAAGA
 351  AGTGCGCCGC AACCTGATCC AATCCGGTTT GTGGACTGCG CTGCGCACCC
 401  GTCCGTTCAG CAAAATTCCT GCCGTCGATG CCGAGCCGTT CGCCATCTTC
 451  GTCAATGCGA tGGACACCAA TCCG..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 124; ORF22>:

```
   1  MIKIKKGLNL PIAGRPEQAV YDGPAITEVA LLGEEYAGMR PSMKVKEGDA
  51  VKKGQVLFED KKNPGVVFTA PASGKIAAIH RGEKRVLQSV VIAVEXNDEI
 101  EFERYAPEAL ANLSGEEVRR NLIQSGLWTA LRTRPFSKIP AVDAEPFAIF
 151  VNAMDTNP..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 125>:

```
   1  ATGATTAAAA TCAAAAAAGG TCTAAACCTG CCCATCGCGG GCAGACCGGA
  51  GCAAGCCGTT TACGACGGCC CGGCCATTAC CGAAGTCGCG TTGCTTGGCG
 101  AAGAATATGC CGGTATGCGC CCCTCGATGA AAGTCAAGGA AGGCGATGCC
 151  GTCAAAAAAG GCCAAGTGCT GTTTGAAGAC AAAAAGAATC CGGGCGTGGT
 201  GTTTACTGCG CCGGCTTCAG GCAAAATCGC CGCGATTCAC CGTGGCGAAA
 251  AGCGCGTACT TCAGTCAGTC GTGATTGCCG TTGAAGGCAA CGACGAAATC
 301  GAGTTTGAAC GCTACGCACC TGAAGCGCTG GCAAACTTAA GCGGCGAAGA
 351  AGTGCGCCGC AACCTGATCC AATCCGGTTT GTGGACTGCG CTGCGCACCC
 401  GTCCGTTCAG CAAAATTCCT GCCGTCGATG CCGAGCCGTT CGCCATCTTC
 451  GTCAATGCGA TGGACACCAA TCCGCTGGCT GCCGACCCTA CGGTCATTAT
 501  CAAAGAAGCC GCCGAGGATT TCAAACGCGG CCTGTTGGTA TTGAGCCGTT
 551  TGACCGAACG CAAAATCCAT GTTTGTAAGG CAGCTGGCGC AGACGTGCCG
 601  TCTGAAAATG CTGCCAACAT CGAAACACAT GAATTCGGCG GCCCGCATCC
 651  TGCCGGTTTG AGTGGCACGC ACATTCATTT CATCGAGCCG GTCGGCGCGA
 701  ATAAAACCGT GTGGACCATC AATTATCAAG ATGTAATTAC CATTGGCCGT
 751  TTGTTTGCAA CAGGCCGTCT GAACACCGAG CGCGTGATTG CCCTAGGTGG
 801  TTCTCAAGTC AACAAACCGC GCCTCTTGCG TACCGTTTTG GGTGCGAAAG
 851  TATCGCAAAT TACTGCGGGC GAATTGGTTG ACACAGACAA CCGCGTGATT
 901  TCCGGTTCGG TATTGAACGG CGCGATTACA CAAGGCGCGC ACGATTATTT
```

```
 951  GGGACGCTAC CACAATCAGA TTTCCGTTAT CGAAGAAGGC CGCAGCAAAG
1001  AGCTGTTCGG CTGGGTTGCG CCGCAGCCGG ACAAATACTC CATCACGCGT
1051  ACAACCCTCG GCCATTTCCT GAAAAACAAA CTCTTCAAGT TCAACACAGC
1101  CGTCAACGGC GGCGACCGCG CCATGGTGCC GATTGGTACT TACGAGCGCG
1151  TGATGCCCTT GGATATCCTG CCCACCCTGC TTTTGCGCGA TTTAATCGTC
1201  GGCGATACCG ACAGCGCGCA GGCATTGGGT TGCTTGGAAT TGGACGAAGA
1251  AGACCTCGCT TTGTGCAGCT TCGTCTGCCC GGGCAAATAC GAATACGGCC
1301  CGCTGTTGCG CAAAGTGCTG GAAACCATTG AGAAGGAAGG CTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 126; ORF22-1>:

```
   1  MIKIKKGLNL PIAGRPEQAV YDGPAITEVA LLGEEYAGMR PSMKVKEGDA
  51  VKKGQVLFED KKNPGVVFTA PASGKIAAIH RGEKRVLQSV VIAVEGNDEI
 101  EFERYAPEAL ANLSGEEVRR NLIQSGLWTA LRTRPFSKIP AVDAEPFAIF
 151  VNAMDTNPLA ADPTVIIKEA AEDFKRGLLV LSRLTERKIH VCKAAGADVP
 201  SENAANIETH EFGGPHPAGL SGTHIHFIEP VGANKTVWTI NYQDVITIGR
 251  LFATGRLNTE RVIALGGSQV NKPRLLRTVL GAKVSQITAG ELVDTDNRVI
 301  SGSVLNGAIT QGAHDYLGRY HNQISVIEEG RSKELFGWVA PQPDKYSITR
 351  TTLGHFLKNK LFKFNTAVNG GDRAMVPIGT YERVMPLDIL PTLLLRDLIV
 401  GDTDSAQALG CLELDEEDLA LCSFVCPGKY EYGPLLRKVL ETIEKEG*
```

Further work identified the corresponding gene in strain A of *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 127>:

```
   1  ATGATTAAAA TCAAAAAAGG TCTAAACCTG CCCATCGCGG GCAGACCGGA
  51  GCAAGTCATT TATGACGGGC CCGTCATTAC CGAAGTCGCG TTGCTTGGCG
 101  AAGAATATGC CGGTATGCGC CCCTNGATGA AAGTCAAGGA AGGCGATGCC
 151  GTCAAAAAAG GCCAAGTGCT GTTTGAAGAC AAAAAGNATC CGGGCGTGGT
 201  GTTTACCGCG CCNGTTTCAG GCAAAATCGC CGCCATCCAT CGCGGCGAAA
 251  AGCGCGTACT TCAGTCGGTC GTGATTGCCG TTGAAGGCAA CGACGAAATC
 301  GAGTTCGAAC GCTACGCGCC CGAAGCGTTG GCAAACTTAA GCGGCGANGA
 351  ANTNNGNNGC AATCTGATCC AATCCGGTTT GTGGACTGCG CTGCGTANCC
 401  GTCCGTTCAG CAAAATCCCT GCCGTCGATG CCGAGCCGTT CGCCATCTTC
 451  GTCAATGCGA TGGACACCAA TCCGCTNGCG GCAGACCCTG TGGTTGTGAT
 501  CAAAGAAGCC GNCGANGATT TCAGACGANG TNTGCTGGTA TTGAGCCGTT
 551  TGACCGAGCG TAAAATCCAT GTGTGTAAGG CAGCTGGCGC AGACGTGCCG
 601  TCTGAAAATG CTGCCAACAT CGAAACACAT GAATTCGGCG GCCCGCATCC
 651  GGCCGGTTTG AGTGGCACGC ACATTCATTT CATTGAGCCG GTCGGTGCAA
 701  ACAAAACCGT TTGGACCATC AATTATCAAG ATGTAATTGC CATCGGACGT
 751  TTGTTTGCAA CAGGCCGTCT GAACACCGAG CGCGTGATTG CTTTGGGTGG
 801  TTCTCAAGTC AACAAACCAC GCCTCTTGCG TACCGTTTTG GGTGCGAAAG
 851  TATCGCAAAT TACTGCGGGC GAATTGGTTG ACGCAGACAA CCGCGTGATT
 901  TCCGGTTCGG TATTGAACGG CGCGATTACA CAAGGCGCGC ACGATTATTT
 951  GGGACGCTAC CACAATCAGA TTTCCGTTAT CGAAGAAGGC CGCAGCAAAG
1001  AGCTGTTCGG CTGGGTTGCG CCGCAGCCGG ACAAATACTC CATCACGCGT
1051  ACGACCCTCG GCCATTTCCT GAAAAACAAA CTCTTCAAGT TCACGACAGC
1101  CGTCAACGGT GGCGACCGCG CCATGGTGCC GATTGGTACT TACGAGCGCG
1151  TAATGCCGCT AGACATCCTG CCTACCCTGC TTTTGCGCGA TTTAATCGTC
1201  GGCGATACCG ACAGCGCGCA AGCATTGGGT TGCTTGGAAT TGGACGAAGA
1251  AGACCTCGCT TTGTGCAGCT TCGTCTGCCC GGGCAAATAC GAATANGGCC
1301  CGCTGTTGCG TAAGGTGCTG GAAACCNTTG AGAAGGAAGG CTGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 128; ORF22a>:

```
   1  MIKIKKGLNL PIAGRPEQVI YDGPVITEVA LLGEEYAGMR PXMKVKEGDA
  51  VKKGQVLFED KKXPGVVFTA PVSGKIAAIH RGEKRVLQSV VIAVEGNDEI
 101  EFERYAPEAL ANLSGXEXXX NLIQSGLWTA LRXRPFSKIP AVDAEPFAIF
 151  VNAMDTNPLA ADPVVVIKEA XXDFRRXXLV LSRLTERKIH VCKAAGADVP
 201  SENAANIETH EFGGPHPAGL SGTHIHFIEP VGANKTVWTI NYQDVIAIGR
 251  LFATGRLNTE RVIALGGSQV NKPRLLRTVL GAKVSQITAG ELVDADNRVI
 301  SGSVLNGAIT QGAHDYLGRY HNQISVIEEG RSKELFGWVA PQPDKYSITR
 351  TTLGHFLKNK LFKFTTAVNG GDRAMVPIGT YERVMPLDIL PTLLLRDLIV
 401  GDTDSAQALG CLELDEEDLA LCSFVCPGKY EXGPLLRKVL ETXEKEG*
```

The originally-identified partial strain B sequence (ORF22) shows 94.2% identity over a 158aa overlap with ORF22a:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf22.pep       MIKIKKGLNLPIAGRPEQAVYDGPAITEVALLGEEYAGMRPSMKVKEGDAVKKGQVLFED
                ||||||||||||||||||::||||:||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||
orf22a          MIKIKKGLNLPIAGRPEQVIYDGPVITEVALLGEEYAGMRPXMKVKEGDAVKKGQVLFED
```

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf22.pep   KKNPGVVFTAPASGKIAAIHRGEKRVLQSVVIAVEXNDEIEFERYAPEALANLSGEEVRR
            || ||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||| |
orf22a      KKXPGVVFTAPVSGKIAAIHRGEKRVLQSVVIAVEGNDEIEFERYAPEALANLSGXEXXX
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                   130       140       150
orf22.pep   NLIQSGLWTALRTRPFSKIPAVDAEPFAIFVNAMDTNP
            ||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf22a      NLIQSGLWTALRXRPFSKIPAVDAEPFAIFVNAMDTNPLAADPVVVIKEAXXDFRRXXLV
                   130       140       150       160       170       180
```

The complete strain B sequence (ORF22-1) and ORF22a show 94.9% identity in 447 aa overlap:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf22a.pep  MIKIKKGLNLPIAGRPEQVIYDGPVITEVALLGEEYAGMRPXMKVKEGDAVKKGQVLFED
            ||||||||||||||||||::||||:|||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||
orf22-1     MIKIKKGLNLPIAGRPEQAVYDGPAITEVALLGEEYAGMRPSMKVKEGDAVKKGQVLFED
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf22a.pep  KKXPGVVFTAPVSGKIAAIHRGEKRVLQSVVIAVEGNDEIEFERYAPEALANLSGXEXXX
            || ||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |
orf22-1     KKNPGVVFTAPASGKIAAIHRGEKRVLQSVVIAVEGNDEIEFERYAPEALANLSGEEVRR
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf22a.pep  NLIQSGLWTALRXRPFSKIPAVDAEPFAIFVNAMDTNPLAADPVVVIKEAXXDFRRXXLV
            ||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|:|||| ||:| ||
orf22-1     NLIQSGLWTALRTRPFSKIPAVDAEPFAIFVNAMDTNPLAADPTVIIKEAAEDFKRGLLV
                   130       140       150       160       170       180

                   190       200       210       220       230       240
orf22a.pep  LSRLTERKIHVCKAAGADVPSENAANIETHEFGGPHPAGLSGTHIHFIEPVGANKTVWTI
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf22-1     LSRLTERKIHVCKAAGADVPSENAANIETHEFGGPHPAGLSGTHIHFIEPVGANKTVWTI
                   190       200       210       220       230       240

                   250       260       270       280       290       300
orf22a.pep  NYQDVIAIGRLFATGRLNTERVIALGGSQVNKPRLLRTVLGAKVSQITAGELVDADNRVI
            ||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||
orf22-1     NYQDVITIGRLFATGRLNTERVIALGGSQVNKPRLLRTVLGAKVSQITAGELVDTDNRVI
                   250       260       270       280       290       300

                   310       320       330       340       350       360
orf22a.pep  SGSVLNGAITQGAHDYLGRYHNQISVIEEGRSKELFGWVAPQPDKYSITRTTLGHFLKNK
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf22-1     SGSVLNGAITQGAHDYLGRYHNQISVIEEGRSKELFGWVAPQPDKYSITRTTLGHFLKNK
                   310       320       330       340       350       360

                   370       380       390       400       410       420
orf22a.pep  LFKFTTAVNGGDRAMVPIGTYERVMPLDILPTLLLRDLIVGDTDSAQALGCLELDEEDLA
            ||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf22-1     LFKFNTAVNGGDRAMVPIGTYERVMPLDILPTLLLRDLIVGDTDSAQALGCLELDEEDLA
                   370       380       390       400       410       420

                   430       440
orf22a.pep  LCSFVCPGKYEXGPLLRKVLETXEKEGX
            |||||||||||| |||||||||| |||||
orf22-1     LCSFVCPGKYEYGPLLRKVLETIEKEGX
                   430       440
```

Further work identified a partial gene sequence <SEQ ID 129> from *N.gonorrhoeae*, which encodes the following amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 130; ORF22ng>:

```
  1  MIKIKKGLNL PIAGRPEQVI YDGPAITEVA LLGEEYVGMR PSMKIKEGEA
 51  VKKGQVLFED KKNPGVVFTA PASGKIAAIH RGEKRVLQSV VIAVEGNDEI
101  EFERYVPEAL AKLSSEKVRR NLIQSGLWTA LRTRPFSKIP AVDAEPFAIF
```

```
151  VNAMDTNPLA ADPTVIIKEA AEDFKRGLLV LSRLTERKIH VCKAAGADVP
201  SENAANIETH EFGGPHPAGL SGTHIHFIEP VGANKTVWTI NYQDVIAIGR
251  LFVTGRLNTE RVVALGGLQV NKPRLLRTVL GAKVSQLTAG ELVDADNRVI
301  SGSVLNGAIA QGAHDYLGRY HN*
```

Further work identified complete gonococcal gene <SEQ ID 131>:

```
   1  ATGATTAAAA TCAAAAAAGG TCTAAATCTG CCCATCGCGG GCAGACCGGA
  51  GCAAGTCATT TATGACGGCC CGGCCATTAC CGAAGTCGCG TTGCTTGGCG
 101  AAGAATATGT CGGCATGCGC CCCTCGATGA AAATCAAGGA AGGTGAAGCC
 151  GTCAAAAAAG GCCAAGTGCT GTTTGAAGAC AAAAAGAATC CGGGCGTAGT
 201  ATTTACTGCG CCGGCTTCAG GCAAAATCGC CGCTATTCAC CGTGGCGAAA
 251  AGCGCGTACT TCAGTCAGTC GTGATTGCCG TTGAAGGCAA CGACGAAATC
 301  GAGTTCGAAC GCTACGTACC TGAAGCGCTG GCAAAATTGA GCAGCGAAAA
 351  AGTGCGCCGC AACCTGATTC AATCAGGCTT ATGGACTGCG CTTCGCACCC
 401  GTCCGTTCAG CAAAATCCCT GCCGTAGATG CCGAGCCGTT CGCCATCTTC
 451  GTCAATGCGA TGGACACCAA TCCGCTGGCT GCCGACCCTA CGGTCATCAT
 501  CAAAGAAGCC GCCGAAGACT TCAAACGCGG CCTGTTGGTA TTGAGCCGCC
 551  TGACCGAACG TAAAATCCAT GTGTGTAAAG CAGCAGGCGC AGACGTGCCG
 601  TCTGAAAATG CTGCCAATAT CGAAACACAT GAATTTGGCG GCCCGCATCC
 651  TGCCGGCTTG AGTGGCACGC ACATTCATTT CATCGAGCCA GTCGGCGCGA
 701  ATAAAACCGT GTGGACCATC AATTATCAAG ACGTGATTGC TATCGGACGT
 751  TTGTTCGTAA CAGGCCGTCT GAATACCGAG CGCGTGGTTG CCTTGGGCGG
 801  CCTGCAAGTC AACAAACCGC GCCTCTTGCG TACCGTTTTG GGTGCGAAGG
 851  TGTCTCAACT TACCGCCGGC GAATTGGTTG ACGCGGACAA CCGCGTGATT
 901  TCCGGTTCGG TATTGAACGG TGCGATTGCA CAAGGCGCGC ATGATTATTT
 951  GGGACGCTAC CACAATCAGA TTTCCGTTAT CGAAGAAGGC CGCAGCAAAG
1001  AGCTGTTCGG CTGGGTTGCG CCGCAGCCGG ACAAATACTC CATCACGCGC
1051  ACCACTCTCG GCCATTTCCT AAAAAACAAA CTCTTCAAGT TCACGACAGC
1101  CGTCAACGGC GGCGACCGCG CCATGGTACC GATCGGCACT TATGAGCGCG
1151  TAATGCCGTT GGACATCCTG CCTACCTTGC TTTTGCGCGA TTTAATCGTC
1201  GGCGATACCG ACAGCGCGCA GGCTTTGGGT TGCTTGGAAT TGGACGAAGA
1251  AGACCTCGCT TTGTGCAGCT TCGTCTGCCC GGGCAAATAC GAATACGGCC
1301  CGCTGTTGCG CAAAGTGCTG GAAACCATTG AGAAGGAAGG CTGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 132; ORF22ng-1>:

```
   1  MIKIKKGLNL PIAGRPEQVI YDGPAITEVA LLGEEYVGMR PSMKIKEGEA
  51  VKKGQVLFED KKNPGVVFTA PASGKIAAIH RGEKRVLQSV VIAVEGNDEI
 101  EFERYVPEAL AKLSSEKVRR NLIQSGLWTA LRTRPFSKIP AVDAEPFAIF
 151  VNAMDTNPLA ADPTVIIKEA AEDFKRGLLV LSRLTERKIH VCKAAGADVP
 201  SENAANIETH EFGGPHPAGL SGTHIHFIEP VGANKTVWTI NYQDVIAIGR
 251  LFVTGRLNTE RVVALGGLQV NKPRLLRTVL GAKVSQLTAG ELVDADNRVI
 301  SGSVLNGAIA QGAHDYLGRY HNQISVIEEG RSKELFGWVA PQPDKYSITR
 351  TTLGHFLKNK LFKFTTAVNG GDRAMVPIGT YERVMPLDIL PTLLLRDLIV
 401  GDTDSAQALG CLELDEEDLA LCSFVCPGKY EYGPLLRKVL ETIEKEG*
```

The originally-identified partial strain B sequence (ORF22) shows 93.7% identity over a 158aa overlap with ORF22ng:

```
orf22.pep    MIKIKKGLNLPIAGRPEQAVYDGPAITEVALLGEEYAGMRPSMKVKEGDAVKKGQVLFED   60
             ||||||||||||||||||::||||||||||||||:|||||||:|||:||||||||||||
orf22ng      MIKIKKGLNLPIAGRPEQVIYDGPAITEVALLGEEYVGMRPSMKIKEGEAVKKGQVLFED   60

orf22.pep    KKNPGVVFTAPASGKIAAIHRGEKRVLQSVVIAVEXNDEIEFERYAPEALANLSGEEVRR  120
             |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||:||||:||:|:|||
orf22ng      KKNPGVVFTAPASGKIAAIHRGEKRVLQSVVIAVEGNDEIEFERYVPEALAKLSSEKVRR  120

orf22.pep    NLIQSGLWTALRTRPFSKIPAVDAEPFAIFVNAMDTNP                        158
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf22ng      NLIQSGLWTALRTRPFSKIPAVDAEPFAIFVNAMDTNPLAADPTVIIKEAAEDFKRGLLV  180
```

The complete sequences from strain B (ORF22-1) and gonococcus (ORF22ng) show 96.2% identity in 447 aa overlap:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf22-1.pep  MIKIKKGLNLPIAGRPEQAVYDGPAITEVALLGEEYAGMRPSMKVKEGDAVKKGQVLFED
```

```
                ||||||||||||||||||::||||||||||||||||:|||||||:|||:|||||||||||
orf22ng-1       MIKIKKGLNLPIAGRPEQVIYDGPAITEVALLGEEYVGMRPSMKIKEGEAVKKGQVLFED
                         10        20        30        40        50        60

                         70        80        90       100       110       120
orf22-1.pep     KKNPGVVFTAPASGKIAAIHRGEKRVLQSVVIAVEGNDEIEFERYAPEALANLSGEEVRR
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||:||:|:||||
orf22ng-1       KKNPGVVFTAPASGKIAAIHRGEKRVLQSVVIAVEGNDEIEFERYVPEALAKLSSEKVRR
                         70        80        90       100       110       120

                        130       140       150       160       170       180
orf22-1.pep     NLIQSGLWTALRTRPFSKIPAVDAEPFAIFVNAMDTNPLAADPTVIIKEAAEDFKRGLLV
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf22ng-1       NLIQSGLWTALRTRPFSKIPAVDAEPFAIFVNAMDTNPLAADPTVIIKEAAEDFKRGLLV
                        130       140       150       160       170       180

                        190       200       210       220       230       240
orf22-1.pep     LSRLTERKIHVCKAAGADVPSENAANIETHEFGGPHPAGLSGTHIHFIEPVGANKTVWTI
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf22ng-1       LSRLTERKIHVCKAAGADVPSENAANIETHEFGGPHPAGLSGTHIHFIEPVGANKTVWTI
                        190       200       210       220       230       240

                        250       260       270       280       290       300
orf22-1.pep     NYQDVITIGRLFATGRLNTERVIALGGSQVNKPRLLRTVLGAKVSQITAGELVDTDNRVI
                ||||||:|||||:|||||||||:|||| ||||||||||||||||||:|||||||:|||||
orf22ng-1       NYQDVIAIGRLFVTGRLNTERVVALGGLQVNKPRLLRTVLGAKVSQLTAGELVDADNRVI
                        250       260       270       280       290       300

                        310       320       330       340       350       360
orf22-1.pep     SGSVLNGAITQGAHDYLGRYHNQISVIEEGRSKELFGWVAPQPDKYSITRTTLGHFLKNK
                |||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf22ng-1       SGSVLNGAIAQGAHDYLGRYHNQISVIEEGRSKELFGWVAPQPDKYSITRTTLGHFLKNK
                        310       320       330       340       350       360

                        370       380       390       400       410       420
orf22-1.pep     LFKFNTAVNGGDRAMVPIGTYERVMPLDILPTLLLRDLIVGDTDSAQALGCLELDEEDLA
                ||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf22ng-1       LFKFTTAVNGGDRAMVPIGTYERVMPLDILPTLLLRDLIVGDTDSAQALGCLELDEEDLA
                        370       380       390       400       410       420

                        430       440
orf22-1.pep     LCSFVCPGKYEYGPLLRKVLETIEKEGX
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf22ng-1       LCSFVCPGKYEYGPLLRKVLETIEKEGX
                        430       440
```

Computer analysis of these sequences gave the following results:

<u>Homology with 48kDa outer membrane protein of *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae* (accession number U24492).</u>

ORF22 and this 48kDa protein show 72% aa identity in 158aa overlap:

```
Orf22    1   MIKIKKGLNLPIAGRPEQAVYDGPAITEVALLGEEYAGMRPSMKVKEGDAVKKGQVLFED 60
             MI IKKGL+LPIAG P Q +++G  + EVA+LGEEY GMRPSMKV+EGD VKKGQVLFED
48kDa    1   MITIKKGLDLPIAGTPAQVIHNGNTVNEVAMLGEEYVGMRPSMKVREGDVVKKGQVLFED 60

orf22    61  KKNPGVVFTAPASGKIAAIHRGEKRVLQSVVIAVEXNDEIEFERYAPEALANLSGEEVRR 120
             KKNPGVVFTAPASG +  I+RGEKRVLQSVVI VE +++I F RY     LA+LS E+V++
48kDa    61  KKNPGVVFTAPASGTVVTINRGEKRVLQSVVIKVEGDEQITFTRYEAAQLASLSAEQVKQ 120

orf22    121 NLIQSGLWTALRTRPFSKIPAVDAEPFAIFVNAMDTNP 158
             NLI+SGLWTA RTRPFSK+PA+DA P +IFVNAMDTNP
48kDa    121 NLIESGLWTAFRTRPFSKVPALDAIPSSIFVNAMDTNP 158
```

ORF22a also shows homology to the 48kDa *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae* protein:

```
gi|1185395 (U24492) 48 kDa outer membrane protein [Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae]
Length = 449

 Score =  530 bits (1351), Expect = e-150
```

```
 Identities = 274/450 (60%), Positives = 323/450 (70%), Gaps = 4/450 (0%)

Query: 1   MIKIKKGLNLPIAGRPEQVIYDGPVITEVALLGEEYAGMRPXMKVKEGDAVKKGQVLFED 60
           MI IKKGL+LPIAG P QVI++G  + EVA+LGEEY GMRP MKV+EGD VKKGQVLFED
Sbjct: 1   MITIKKGLDLPIAGTPAQVIHNGNTVNEVAMLGEEYVGMRPSMKVREGDVVKKGQVLFED 60

Query: 61  KKXPGVVFTAPVSGKIAAIHRGEKRVLQSVVIAVEGNDEIEFERYAPEALANLSGXEXXX 120
           KK PGVVFTAP SG +  I+RGEKRVLQSVVI VEG+++I F RY    LA+LS  +
Sbjct: 61  KKNPGVVFTAPASGTVVTINRGEKRVLQSVVIKVEGDEQITFTRYEAAQLASLSAEQVKQ 120

Query: 121 NLIQSGLWTALRXRPFSKIPAVDAEPFAIFVNAMDTNPLAADPVVVIKEAXXDFRRXXLV 180
           NLI+SGLWTA R RPFSK+PA+DA P +IFVNAMDTNPLAADP VV+KE   DF+    V
Sbjct: 121 NLIESGLWTAFRTRPFSKVPALDAIPSSIFVNAMDTNPLAADPEVVLKEYETDFKDGLTV 180

Query: 181 LSRL--TERKIHVCKAAGADVP-SENAANIETHEFGGPHPAGLSGTHIHFIEPVGANKTV 237
           L+RL   ++ +++CK A +++P S     I    F G HPAGL GTHIHF++PVGA K V
Sbjct: 181 LTRLFNGQKPVYLCKDADSNIPLSPAIEGITIKSFSGVHPAGLVGTHIHFVDPVGATKQV 240

Query: 238 WTINYQDVIAIGRLFATGRLNTERVIALGGSQVNKPRLLRTVLGAKVSQITAGELVDADN 297
           W +NYQDVIAIG+LF TG L T+R+I+L G QV  PRL+RT LGA +SQ+TA EL   +N
Sbjct: 241 WHLNYQDVIAIGKLFTTGELFTDRIISLAGPQVKNPRLVRTRLGANLSQLTANELNAGEN 300

Query: 298 RVISGSVLNGAITQGAHDYLGRYHNQISVIEEGRSKELFGWVAPQPDKYSITRTTLGHFL 357
           RVISGSVL+GA   G  DYLGRY  Q+SV+ EGR KELFGW+ P  DK+SITRT LGHF
Sbjct: 301 RVISGSVLSGATAAGPVDYLGRYALQVSVLAEGREKELFGWIMPGSDKFSITRTVLGHFG 360

Query: 358 KNKLFKFTTAVNGGDRAMVPIGTYERVMXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXVGDTDSAQXXXXXXXXXX 417
           K KLF FTTAV+GG+RAMVPIG YERVM                GDTDSAQ
Sbjct: 361 K-KLFNFTTAVHGGERAMVPIGAYERVMPLDIIPTLLLRDLAAGDTDSAQNLGCLELDEE 419

Query: 418 XXXXXSFVCPGKYEXGPLLRKVLETXEKEG 447
                ++VCPGK   GP+LR  LE  EKEG
```

ORF22ng-1 also shows homology with the OMP from *A.pleuropneumoniae*:

```
 gi|1185395  (U24492)  48  kDa  outer  membrane  protein  [Actinobacillus
pleuropneumoniae] Length = 449
 Score =  555 bits (1414), Expect = e-157
 Identities = 284/450 (63%), Positives = 337/450 (74%), Gaps = 4/450 (0%)

Query: 27  MIKIKKGLNLPIAGRPEQVIYDGPAITEVALLGEEYVGMRPSMKIKEGEAVKKGQVLFED 86
           MI IKKGL+LPIAG P QVI++G  + EVA+LGEEYVGMRPSMK++EG+ VKKGQVLFED
Sbjct: 1   MITIKKGLDLPIAGTPAQVIHNGNTVNEVAMLGEEYVGMRPSMKVREGDVVKKGQVLFED 60

Query: 87  KKNPGVVFTAPASGKIAAIHRGEKRVLQSVVIAVEGNDEIEFERYVPEALAKLSSEKVRR 146
           KKNPGVVFTAPASG +  I+RGEKRVLQSVVI VEG+++I F RY    LA LS+E+V++
Sbjct: 61  KKNPGVVFTAPASGTVVTINRGEKRVLQSVVIKVEGDEQITFTRYEAAQLASLSAEQVKQ 120

Query: 147 NLIQSGLWTALRTRPFSKIPAVDAEPFAIFVNAMDTNPLAADPTVIIKEAAEDFKRGLLV 206
           NLI+SGLWTA RTRPFSK+PA+DA P +IFVNAMDTNPLAADP V++KE   DFK GL V
Sbjct: 121 NLIESGLWTAFRTRPFSKVPALDAIPSSIFVNAMDTNPLAADPEVVLKEYETDFKDGLTV 180

Query: 207 LSRL--TERKIHVCKAAGADVP-SENAANIETHEFGGPHPAGLSGTHIHFIEPVGANKTV 263
           L+RL   ++ +++CK A +++P S     I    F G HPAGL GTHIHF++PVGA K V
Sbjct: 181 LTRLFNGQKPVYLCKDADSNIPLSPAIEGITIKSFSGVHPAGLVGTHIHFVDPVGATKQV 240

Query: 264 WTINYQDVIAIGRLFVTGRLNTERVVALGGLQVNKPRLLRTVLGAKVSQLTAGELVDADN 323
           W +NYQDVIAIG+LF TG L T+R++++L G QV  PRL+RT LGA +SQLTA EL   +N
Sbjct: 241 WHLNYQDVIAIGKLFTTGELFTDRIISLAGPQVKNPRLVRTRLGANLSQLTANELNAGEN 300

Query: 324 RVISGSVLNGAIAQGAHDYLGRYHNQISVIEEGRSKELFGWVAPQPDKYSITRTTLGHFL 383
           RVISGSVL+GA A G  DYLGRY  Q+SV+ EGR KELFGW+ P  DK+SITRT LGHF
Sbjct: 301 RVISGSVLSGATAAGPVDYLGRYALQVSVLAEGREKELFGWIMPGSDKFSITRTVLGHFG 360

Query: 384 KNKLFKFTTAVNGGDRAMVPIGTYERVMXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXVGDTDSAQXXXXXXXXXX 443
           K KLF FTTAV+GG+RAMVPIG YERVM                GDTDSAQ
Sbjct: 361 K-KLFNFTTAVHGGERAMVPIGAYERVMPLDIIPTLLLRDLAAGDTDSAQNLGCLELDEE 419

Query: 444 XXXXXSFVCPGKYEYGPLLRKVLETIEKEG 473
                ++VCPGK  YGP+LR  LE IEKEG
Sbjct: 420 DLALCTYVCPGKNNYGPMLRAALEKIEKEG 449
```

Based on this analysis, including the homology with the outer membrane protein of *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae*, it was predicted that these proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

ORF22-1 (35.4kDa) was cloned in pET and pGex vectors and expressed in *E.coli*, as described above. The products of protein expression and purification were analyzed by SDS-PAGE. Figure 5A shows the results of affinity purification of the GST-fusion protein, and Figure 5B shows the results of expression of the His-fusion in *E.coli*. Purified GST-fusion protein was used to immunise mice, whose sera were used for ELISA (positive result) and FACS analysis (Figure 5C). These experiments confirm that ORF22-1 is a surface-exposed protein, and that it is a useful immunogen.

Example 16

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 133>:

```
   1  ..GCGnCGnAAA TCATCCATCC CC..nACGTC GTAGGCCCTG AAGCCAACTG
  51    GTTTTTTATG GTAGCCAGTA CGTTTGTGAT TGCTTTGATT GGTTATTTTG
 101    TTACTGAAAA AATCGTCGAA CCGCAATTGG GCCCTTATCA ATCAGATTTG
 151    TCACAAGAAG AAAAAGACAT TCGGCATTCC AATGAAATCA CGCCTTTGGA
 201    ATATAAAGGA TTAATTTGGG CTGGCGTGGT GTTTGTTGCC TTATCCGCCC
 251    TATTGGCTTG GAGCATCGTC CCTGCCGACG GTATTTTGCG TCATCCTGAA
 301    ACAGGATTGG TTTCCGGTTC GCCGTTTTTA AAATCGATTG TTGTTTTTAT
 351    TTTCTTGTTG TTTGCACTGC CGGGCATTGT TTATGGCCGG GTAACCCGAA
 401    GTTTGCGCGG CGAACAGGAA GTCGTTAATG CGmyGGCCGA ATCGATGAGT
 451    ACTCTGGsGC TTTmTTTGsw CAkcATCTTT TTTGCCGCAC AGTTTGTCGC
 501    ATTTTTTAAT TGGACGAATA TTGGGCAATA TATTGCCGTT AAAGGGGCGA
 551    CGTTCTTAAA AGAAGTCGGC TTGGGCGGCA GCGTGTTGTT TATCGGTTTT
 601    ATTTTAATTT GTGCTTTTAT CAATCTGATG ATAGGCTCCG CCTCCGCGCA
 651    ATGGGCGGTA ACTGCGCCGA TTTTCGTCCC TATGCTGATG TTGGCCGGCT
 701    ACGCGCCCGA AGTCATTCAA GCCGCTTACC GCATCGGTGA TTCCGTTACC
 751    AATATTATTA CGCCGATGAT GAGTTATTTC GGGCTGATTA TGGCGACGGT
 801    GrkCmmmTAC AAAAAAGATG CGGGCGTGGG TaCGcTGATT wCTATGATGT
 851    TGCCGTATTC CGCTTTCTTC TTGATTGCgT GGATTGCCTT ATTCTGCATT
 901    TGGGTATTTg TTTTGGGCCT GCCCGTCGGT CCCGGCGCGC CCACATTCTA
 951    TCCCGCACCT TAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 134; ORF12>:

```
   1  ..AXXIIHPXXV VGPEANWFFM VASTFVIALI GYFVTEKIVE PQLGPYQSDL
  51    SQEEKDIRHS NEITPLEYKG LIWAGVVFVA LSALLAWSIV PADGILRHPE
 101    TGLVSGSPFL KSIVVFIFLL FALPGIVYGR VTRSLRGEQE VVNAXAESMS
 151    TLXLXLXXIF FAAQFVAFFN WTNIGQYIAV KGATFLKEVG LGGSVLFIGF
 201    ILICAFINLM IGSASAQWAV TAPIFVPMLM LAGYAPEVIQ AAYRIGDSVT
 251    NIITPMMSYF GLIMATVXXY KKDAGVGTLI XMMLPYSAFF LIAWIALFCI
 301    WVFVLGLPVG PGAPTFYPAP *
```

Further sequence analysis revealed the complete DNA sequence <SEQ ID 135> to be:

```
   1  ATGAGTCAAA CCGATACGCA ACGGGACGGA CGATTTTTAC GCACAGTCGA
  51  ATGGCTGGGC AATATGTTGC CGCATCCGGT TACGCTTTTT ATTATTTTCA
 101  TTGTGTTATT GCTGATTGCC TCTGCCGTCG GTGCGTATTT CGGACTATCC
 151  GTCCCCGATC CGCGCCCTGT TGGTGCGAAA GGACGTGCCG ATGACGGTTT
 201  GATTTACATT GTCAGCCTGC TCAATGCCGA CGGTTTTATC AAAATCCTGA
 251  CGCATACCGT TAAAAATTTC ACCGGTTTCG CGCCGTTGGG AACGGTGTTG
 301  GTTTCTTTAT TGGGCGTGGG GATTGCGGAA AAATCGGGCT TGATTTCCGC
 351  ATTAATGCGC TTATTGCTCA CAAAATCGCC ACGCAAACTC ACTACTTTTA
 401  TGGTTGTTTT TACAGGGATT TTATCTAATA CCGCTTCTGA ATTGGGCTAT
 451  GTCGTCCTAA TCCCTTTGTC CGCCATCATC TTTCATTCCC TCGGCCGCCA
 501  TCCGCTTGCC GGTCTGGCTG CGGCTTTCGC CGGCGTTTCG GGCGGTTATT
```

```
 551  CGGCCAATCT GTTCTTAGGC ACAATCGATC CGCTCTTGGC AGGCATCACC
 601  CAACAGGCGG CGCAAATCAT CCATCCCGAC TACGTCGTAG GCCCTGAAGC
 651  CAACTGGTTT TTTATGGTAG CCAGTACGTT TGTGATTGCT TTGATTGGTT
 701  ATTTTGTTAC TGAAAAAATC GTCGAACCGC AATTGGGCCC TTATCAATCA
 751  GATTTGTCAC AAGAAGAAAA AGACATTCGG CATTCCAATG AAATCACGCC
 801  TTTGGAATAT AAAGGATTAA TTTGGGCTGG CGTGGTGTTT GTTGCCTTAT
 851  CCGCCCTATT GGCTTGGAGC ATCGTCCCTG CCGACGGTAT TTTGCGTCAT
 901  CCTGAAACAG GATTGGTTTC CGGTTCGCCG TTTTTAAAAT CGATTGTTGT
 951  TTTTATTTTC TTGTTGTTTG CACTGCCGGG CATTGTTTAT GGCCGGGTAA
1001  CCCGAAGTTT GCGCGGCGAA CAGGAAGTCG TTAATGCGAT GGCCGAATCG
1051  ATGAGTACTC TGGGGCTTTA TTTGGTCATC ATCTTTTTTG CCGCACAGTT
1101  TGTCGCATTT TTTAATTGGA CGAATATTGG GCAATATATT GCCGTTAAAG
1151  GGGCGACGTT CTTAAAAGAA GTCGGCTTGG GCGGCAGCGT GTTGTTTATC
1201  GGTTTTATTT TAATTTGTGC TTTTATCAAT CTGATGATAG GCTCCGCCTC
1251  CGCGCAATGG GCGGTAACTG CGCCGATTTT CGTCCCTATG CTGATGTTGG
1301  CCGGCTACGC GCCCGAAGTC ATTCAAGCCG CTTACCGCAT CGGTGATTCC
1351  GTTACCAATA TTATTACGCC GATGATGAGT TATTTCGGGC TGATTATGGC
1401  GACGGTGATC AAATACAAAA AAGATGCGGG CGTGGGTACG CTGATTTCTA
1451  TGATGTTGCC GTATTCCGCT TTCTTCTTGA TTGCGTGGAT TGCCTTATTC
1501  TGCATTTGGG TATTTGTTTT GGGCCTGCCC GTCGGTCCCG GCGCGCCCAC
1551  ATTCTATCCC GCACCTTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 136; ORF12-1>:

```
   1  MSQTDTQRDG RFLRTVEWLG NMLPHPVTLF IIFIVLLLIA SAVGAYFGLS
  51  VPDPRPVGAK GRADDGLIYI VSLLNADGFI KILTHTVKNF TGFAPLGTVL
 101  VSLLGVGIAE KSGLISALMR LLLTKSPRKL TTFMVVFTGI LSNTASELGY
 151  VVLIPLSAII FHSLGRHPLA GLAAAFAGVS GGYSANLFLG TIDPLLAGIT
 201  QQAAQIIHPD YVVGPEANWF FMVASTFVIA LIGYFVTEKI VEPQLGPYQS
 251  DLSQEEKDIR HSNEITPLEY KGLIWAGVVF VALSALLAWS IVPADGILRH
 301  PETGLVSGSP FLKSIVVFIF LLFALPGIVY GRVTRSLRGE QEVVNAMAES
 351  MSTLGLYLVI IFFAAQFVAF FNWTNIGQYI AVKGATFLKE VGLGGSVLFI
 401  GFILICAFIN LMIGSASAQW AVTAPIFVPM LMLAGYAPEV IQAAYRIGDS
 451  VTNIITPMMS YFGLIMATVI KYKKDAGVGT LISMMLPYSA FFLIAWIALF
 501  CIWVFVLGLP VGPGAPTFYP AP*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF12 shows 96.3% identity over a 320aa overlap with an ORF (ORF12a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                                  10        20        30
orf12.pep                                        AXXIIHPXXVVGPEANWFFMVASTFVIALI
                                                 |  ||||  ||||||||||||||||||||||
orf12a       AAAFAGVSGGYSANLFLGTIDPLLAGITQQAAQIIHPDYVVGPEANWFFMVASTFVIALI
                  180       190       200       210       220       230

                    40        50        60        70        80        90
orf12.pep    GYFVTEKIVEPQLGPYQSDLSQEEKDIRHSNEITPLEYKGLIWAGVVFVALSALLAWSIV
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf12a       GYFVTEKIVEPQLGPYQSDLSQEEKDIRHSNEITPLEYKGLIWAGVVFVALSALLAWSIV
                  240       250       260       270       280       290

                   100       110       120       130       140       150
orf12.pep    PADGILRHPETGLVSGSPFLKSIVVFIFLLFALPGIVYGRVTRSLRGEQEVVNAXAESMS
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||
orf12a       PADGILRHPETGLVSGSPFLKSIVVFIFLLFALPGIVYGRVTRSLRGEQEVVNAMAESMS
                  300       310       320       330       340       350

                   160       170       180       190       200       210
orf12.pep    TLXLXLXXIFFAAQFVAFFNWTNIGQYIAVKGATFLKEVGLGGSVLFIGFILICAFINLM
             || | | ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf12a       TLGLYLVIIFFAAQFVAFFNWTNIGQYIAVKGATFLKEVGLGGSVLFIGFILICAFINLM
                  360       370       380       390       400       410

                   220       230       240       250       260       270
orf12.pep    IGSASAQWAVTAPIFVPMLMLAGYAPEVIQAAYRIGDSVTNIITPMMSYFGLIMATVXXY
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||  |
```

```
orf12a          IGSASAQWAVTAPIFVPMLMLAGYAPEVIQAAYRIGDSVTNIITPMMSYFGLIMATVIKY
                     420       430       440       450       460       470

                   280       290       300       310       320
orf12.pep       KKDAGVGTLIXMMLPYSAFFLIAWIALFCIWVFVLGLPVGPGAPTFYPAPX
                ||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf12a          KKDAGVGTLISMMLPYSAFFLIAWIALFCIWVFVLGLPVGPGAPTFYPAPX
                     480       490       500       510       520
```

The complete length ORF12a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 137> is:

```
     1  ATGAGTCAAA CCGATACGCA ACGGGACGGA CGATTTTTAC GCACAGTCGA
    51  ATGGCTGGGC AATATGTTGC CGCACCCGGT TACGCTTTTT ATTATTTTCA
   101  TTGTGTTATT GCTGATTGCC TCTGCCGCCG GTGCGTATTT CGGACTATCC
   151  GTCCCCGATC CGCGCCCTGT TGGTGCGAAA GGACGTGCCG ATGACGGTTT
   201  GATTCACGTT GTCAGCCTGC TCGATGCTGA CGGTTTGATC AAAATCCTGA
   251  CGCATACCGT TAAAAATTTC ACCGGTTTCG CGCCGTTGGG AACGGTGTTG
   301  GTTTCTTTAT TGGGCGTGGG GATTGCGGAA AAATCGGGCT TGATTTCCGC
   351  ATTAATGCGC TTATTGCTCA CAAAATCTCC ACGCAAACTC ACTACTTTTA
   401  TGGTTGTTTT TACAGGGATT TTATCTAATA CCGCTTCTGA ATTGGGCTAT
   451  GTCGTCCTAA TCCCTTTGTC CGCCATCATC TTTCATTCCC TCGGCCGCCA
   501  TCCGCTTGCC GGTCTGGCTG CGGCTTTCGC CGGCGTTTCG GGCGGTTATT
   551  CGGCCAATCT GTTCTTAGGC ACAATCGATC CGCTCTTGGC AGGCATCACC
   601  CAACAGGCGG CGCAAATCAT CCATCCCGAC TACGTCGTAG GCCCTGAAGC
   651  CAACTGGTTT TTTATGGTAG CCAGTACGTT TGTGATTGCT TTGATTGGTT
   701  ATTTTGTTAC TGAAAAAATC GTCGAACCGC AATTGGGCCC TTATCAATCA
   751  GATTTGTCAC AAGAAGAAAA AGACATTCGA CATTCCAATG AAATCACGCC
   801  TTTGGAATAT AAAGGATTAA TTTGGGCTGG CGTGGTGTTT GTTGCCTTAT
   851  CCGCCCTATT GGCTTGGAGC ATCGTCCCTG CCGACGGTAT TTTGCGTCAT
   901  CCTGAAACAG GATTGGTTTC CGGTTCGCCG TTTTTAAAAT CAATTGTTGT
   951  TTTTATTTTC TTGTTGTTTG CACTGCCGGG CATTGTTTAT GGCCGGGTAA
  1001  CCCGAAGTTT GCGCGGCGAA CAGGAAGTCG TTAATGCGAT GGCCGAATCG
  1051  ATGAGTACTC TGGGGCTTTA TTTGGTCATC ATCTTTTTTG CCGCACAGTT
  1101  TGTCGCATTT TTTAATTGGA CGAATATTGG GCAATATATT GCCGTTAAAG
  1151  GGGCGACGTT CTTAAAAGAA GTCGGCTTGG GCGGCAGCGT GTTGTTTATC
  1201  GGTTTTATTT TAATTTGTGC TTTTATCAAT CTGATGATAG GCTCCGCCTC
  1251  CGCGCAATGG GCGGTAACTG CGCCGATTTT CGTCCCTATG CTGATGTTGG
  1301  CCGGCTACGC GCCCGAAGTC ATTCAAGCCG CTTACCGCAT CGGTGATTCC
  1351  GTTACCAATA TTATTACGCC GATGATGAGT TATTTCGGGC TGATTATGGC
  1401  GACGGTGATC AAATACAAAA AAGATGCGGG CGTGGGTACG CTGATTTCTA
  1451  TGATGTTGCC GTATTCCGCT TTCTTCTTGA TTGCGTGGAT TGCCTTATTC
  1501  TGCATTTGGG TATTTGTTTT GGGCCTGCCC GTCGGTCCCG GCGCGCCCAC
  1551  ATTCTATCCC GCACCTTAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 138>:

```
     1  MSQTDTQRDG RFLRTVEWLG NMLPHPVTLF IIFIVLLLIA SAAGAYFGLS
    51  VPDPRPVGAK GRADDGLIHV VSLLDADGLI KILTHTVKNF TGFAPLGTVL
   101  VSLLGVGIAE KSGLISALMR LLLTKSPRKL TTFMVVFTGI LSNTASELGY
   151  VVLIPLSAII FHSLGRHPLA GLAAAFAGVS GGYSANLFLG TIDPLLAGIT
   201  QQAAQIIHPD YVVGPEANWF FMVASTFVIA LIGYFVTEKI VEPQLGPYQS
   251  DLSQEEKDIR HSNEITPLEY KGLIWAGVVF VALSALLAWS IVPADGILRH
   301  PETGLVSGSP FLKSIVVFIF LLFALPGIVY GRVTRSLRGE QEVVNAMAES
   351  MSTLGLYLVI IFFAAQFVAF FNWTNIGQYI AVKGATFLKE VGLGGSVLFI
   401  GFILICAFIN LMIGSASAQW AVTAPIFVPM LMLAGYAPEV IQAAYRIGDS
   451  VTNIITPMMS YFGLIMATVI KYKKDAGVGT LISMMLPYSA FFLIAWIALF
   501  CIWVFVLGLP VGPGAPTFYP AP*
```

ORF12a and ORF12-1 show 99.0% identity in 522 aa overlap:

```
                  10        20        30        40        50        60
orf12a.pep      MSQTDTQRDGRFLRTVEWLGNMLPHPVTLFIIFIVLLLIASAAGAYFGLSVPDPRPVGAK
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||
orf12-1         MSQTDTQRDGRFLRTVEWLGNMLPHPVTLFIIFIVLLLIASAVGAYFGLSVPDPRPVGAK
                  10        20        30        40        50        60

                  70        80        90       100       110       120
orf12a.pep      GRADDGLIHVVSLLDADGLIKILTHTVKNFTGFAPLGTVLVSLLGVGIAEKSGLISALMR
                ||||||||:::||||:|||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf12-1         GRADDGLIYIVSLLNADGFIKILTHTVKNFTGFAPLGTVLVSLLGVGIAEKSGLISALMR
```

```
                    70        80        90       100       110       120
                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf12a.pep  LLLTKSPRKLTTFMVVFTGILSNTASELGYVVLIPLSAIIFHSLGRHPLAGLAAAFAGVS
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf12-1     LLLTKSPRKLTTFMVVFTGILSNTASELGYVVLIPLSAIIFHSLGRHPLAGLAAAFAGVS
                   130       140       150       160       170       180

                   190       200       210       220       230       240
orf12a.pep  GGYSANLFLGTIDPLLAGITQQAAQIIHPDYVVGPEANWFFMVASTFVIALIGYFVTEKI
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf12-1     GGYSANLFLGTIDPLLAGITQQAAQIIHPDYVVGPEANWFFMVASTFVIALIGYFVTEKI
                   190       200       210       220       230       240

                   250       260       270       280       290       300
orf12a.pep  VEPQLGPYQSDLSQEEKDIRHSNEITPLEYKGLIWAGVVFVALSALLAWSIVPADGILRH
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf12-1     VEPQLGPYQSDLSQEEKDIRHSNEITPLEYKGLIWAGVVFVALSALLAWSIVPADGILRH
                   250       260       270       280       290       300

                   310       320       330       340       350       360
orf12a.pep  PETGLVSGSPFLKSIVVFIFLLFALPGIVYGRVTRSLRGEQEVVNAMAESMSTLGLYLVI
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf12-1     PETGLVSGSPFLKSIVVFIFLLFALPGIVYGRVTRSLRGEQEVVNAMAESMSTLGLYLVI
                   310       320       330       340       350       360

                   370       380       390       400       410       420
orf12a.pep  IFFAAQFVAFFNWTNIGQYIAVKGATFLKEVGLGGSVLFIGFILICAFINLMIGSASAQW
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf12-1     IFFAAQFVAFFNWTNIGQYIAVKGATFLKEVGLGGSVLFIGFILICAFINLMIGSASAQW
                   370       380       390       400       410       420

                   430       440       450       460       470       480
orf12a.pep  AVTAPIFVPMLMLAGYAPEVIQAAYRIGDSVTNIITPMMSYFGLIMATVIKYKKDAGVGT
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf12-1     AVTAPIFVPMLMLAGYAPEVIQAAYRIGDSVTNIITPMMSYFGLIMATVIKYKKDAGVGT
                   430       440       450       460       470       480

                   490       500       510       520
orf12a.pep  LISMMLPYSAFFLIAWIALFCIWVFVLGLPVGPGAPTFYPAPX
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf12-1     LISMMLPYSAFFLIAWIALFCIWVFVLGLPVGPGAPTFYPAPX
                   490       500       510       520
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF12 shows 92.5% identity over a 320aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF12.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf12.pep                                    AXXIIHPXXVVGPEANWFFMVASTFVIALI   30
                                             |  ||||  |||||||||||:|||||||||
orf12ng     AAAFAGVSGGYSANLFLGTIDPLLAGITQQAAQIIHPDYVVGPEANWFFMAASTFVIALI  232

orf12.pep   GYFVTEKIVEPQLGPYQSDLSQEEKDIRHSNEITPLEYKGLIWAGVVFVALSALLAWSIV   90
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf12ng     GYFVTEKIVEPQLGPYQSDLSQEEKDIRHSNEITPLEYKGLIWAGVVFVALSALLAWSIV  292

orf12.pep   PADGILRHPETGLVSGSPFLKSIVVFIFLLFALPGIVYGRVTRSLRGEQEVVNAXAESMS  150
            |||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||:|||||  |||||
orf12ng     PADGILRHPETGLVAGSPFLKSIVVFIFLLFALPGIVYGRITRSLRGEREVVNAMAESMS  352

orf12.pep   TLXLXLXXIFFAAQFVAFFNWTNIGQYIAVKGATFLKEVGLGGSVLFIGFILICAFINLM  210
            ||  | |  |||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||:  ||||||||||||||||||
orf12ng     TLGLYLVIIFFAAQFVAFFNWTNIGQYIAVKGAVFLKKFRLGGSVLFIGFILICAFINLM  412

orf12.pep   IGSASAQWAVTAPIFVPMLMLAGYAPEVIQAAYRIGDSVTNIITPMMSYFGLIMATVXXY  270
            ||||||||||||||||||||||  ||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||  |
orf12ng     IGSASAQWAVTAPIFVPMLMLAGNAPQVIQAAYRIGDSVTNIITPMMSYFGLIMATVIKY  472
```

```
orf12.pep     KKDAGVGTLIXMMLPYSAFFLIAWIALFCIWVFVLGLPVGPGAPTFYPAP  320
              ||||||||||.|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||:|
orf12ng       KKDAGVGTLISMMLPYSAFFLIAWIALFCIWVFVLGLPVGPGTPTFYPVP  522
```

The complete length ORF12ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 139> is:

```
     1  ATGAGTCAAA CCGACGCGCG TCGTAGCGGA CGATTTTTAC GCACAGTCGA
    51  ATGGCTGGGC AATATGTTGC CGCACCCGGT TACGCTTTTT ATTATTTTCA
   101  TTGTGTTATT GCTGATTGcc tctgCCGTCG GTGCGTATTT CGGACTATCC
   151  GTCCCCGATC CGCGTCCTGT TGGGGCGAAA GGACGTGCCG ATGACGGTTT
   201  GATTCACGTT GTCAGCCTGC TCGATGCCGA CGGTTTGATC AAAATCCTGA
   251  CGCATACCGT TAAAAATTTC ACCGGTTTCG CGCCGTTGGG AACGGTGTTG
   301  GTTTCTTTAT TGGGCGTGGG GATTGCGGAA AAATCGGGCT TGATTTCCGC
   351  ATTAATGCGC TTATTGCTCA CAAAATCCCC ACGCAAACTC ACTACTTTTA
   401  TGGTTGTTTT TACAGGGATT TTATCCAATA CGGCTTCTGA ATTGGGCTAT
   451  GTCGTCCTAA TCCCTTTGTC CGCCGTCATC TTTCATTCGC TCGGCCGCCA
   501  TCCGCTTGCC GGTTTGGCTG CGGCTTTCGC CGGCGTTTCG GGCGGTTATT
   551  CGGCCAATCT GTTCTTAGGC ACAATCGATC CGCTCTTGGC AGGCATCACC
   601  CAACAGGCGG CGCAAATCAT CCATCCCGAC TACGTCGTAG GCCCTGAAGC
   651  CAACTGGTTT TTTATGGCAG CCAGTACGTT TGTGATTGCT TTGATTGGTT
   701  ATTTTGTTAC TGAAAAAATC GTCGAACCGC AATTGGGCCC TTATCAATCA
   751  GATTTGTCAC AAGAAGAAAA AGACATTCGG CATTCCAATG AAATCACGCC
   801  TTTGGAATAT AAAGGATTAA TTTGGGCAGG CGTGGTGTTT GTTGCCTTAT
   851  CCGCCCTATT GGCTTGGAGC ATCGTCCCTG CCGACGGTAT TTTGCGTCAT
   901  CCTGAAACAG GATTGGTTGC CGGTTCGCCG TTTTTAAAAT CGATTGTTGT
   951  TTTTATTTTC TTGTTGTTTG CGCTGCCGGG CATTGTTTAT GGCCGGATAA
  1001  CCCGAAGTTT GCGCGGCGAA CGGGAAGTCG TTAATGCGAT GGCCGAATCG
  1051  ATGAGTACTT TGGGACTTTA TTTGGTCATC ATCTTTTTTG CCGCACAGTT
  1101  TGTCGCATTT TTTAATTGGA CGAATATTGG GCAATATATT GCCGTTAAAG
  1151  GGGCGGTGTT CTTAAAAGAA GTCGGCTTGG GCGGCAGTGT GTTGTTTATC
  1201  GGTTTTATTT TAATTTGTGC TTTTATCAAT CTGATGATAG GCTCCGCCTC
  1251  CGCGCAATGG GCGGTAACTG CGCCGATTTT CGTCCCTATG CTGATGTTGG
  1301  CCGGCTACGC GCCCGAAGTC ATTCAAGCCG CTTACCGCAT CGGTGATTCC
  1351  GTTACCAATA TTATTACGCC GATGATGAGT TATTTCGGGC TGATTATGGC
  1401  GACGGTAATC AAATACAAAA AAGATGCGGG CGTAGGCACG CTGATTTCTA
  1451  TGATGTTGCC GTATTCCGCT TTCTTCTTAA TTGCATGGAT CGCCTTATTC
  1501  TGCATTTGGG TATTTGTTTT GGGTCTGCCC GTCGGTCCCG GCACACCCAC
  1551  ATTCTATCCG GTGCCTTAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 140>:

```
     1  MSQTDARRSG RFLRTVEWLG NMLPHPVTLF IIFIVLLLIA SAVGAYFGLS
    51  VPDPRPVGAK GRADDGLIHV VSLLDADGLI KILTHTVKNF TGFAPLGTVL
   101  VSLLGVGIAE KSGLISALMR LLLTKSPRKL TTFMVVFTGI LSNTASELGY
   151  VVLIPLSAVI FHSLGRHPLA GLAAAFAGVS GGYSANLFLG TIDPLLAGIT
   201  QQAAQIIHPD YVVGPEANWF FMAASTFVIA LIGYFVTEKI VEPQLGPYQS
   251  DLSQEEKDIR HSNEITPLEY KGLIWAGVVF VALSALLAWS IVPADGILRH
   301  PETGLVAGSP FLKSIVVFIF LLFALPGIVY GRITRSLRGE REVVNAMAES
   351  MSTLGLYLVI IFFAAQFVAF FNWTNIGQYI AVKGAVFLKK FRLGGSVLFI
   401  GFILICAFIN LMIGSASAQW AVTAPIFVPM LMLAGNAPQV IQAAYRIGDS
   451  VTNIITPMMS YFGLIMATVI KYKKDAGVGT LISMMLPYSA FFLIAWIALF
   501  CIWVFVLGLP VGPGTPTFYP VP*
```

ORF12ng shows 97.1% identity in 522 aa overlap with ORF12-1:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf12-1.pep   MSQTDTQRDGRFLRTVEWLGNMLPHPVTLFIIFIVLLLIASAVGAYFGLSVPDPRPVGAK
              ||||||:|:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf12ng       MSQTDARRSGRFLRTVEWLGNMLPHPVTLFIIFIVLLLIASAVGAYFGLSVPDPRPVGAK
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf12-1.pep   GRADDGLIYIVSLLNADGFIKILTHTVKNFTGFAPLGTVLVSLLGVGIAEKSGLISALMR
              ||||||||::||||:|||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf12ng       GRADDGLIHVVSLLDADGLIKILTHTVKNFTGFAPLGTVLVSLLGVGIAEKSGLISALMR
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf12-1.pep   LLLTKSPRKLTTFMVVFTGILSNTASELGYVVLIPLSAIIFHSLGRHPLAGLAAAFAGVS
              |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||
orf12ng       LLLTKSPRKLTTFMVVFTGILSNTASELGYVVLIPLSAVIFHSLGRHPLAGLAAAFAGVS
```

```
                    130       140       150       160       170       180

                    190       200       210       220       230       240
orf12-1.pep     GGYSANLFLGTIDPLLAGITQQAAQIIHPDYVVGPEANWFFMVASTFVIALIGYFVTEKI
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||
orf12ng         GGYSANLFLGTIDPLLAGITQQAAQIIHPDYVVGPEANWFFMAASTFVIALIGYFVTEKI
                    190       200       210       220       230       240

                    250       260       270       280       290       300
orf12-1.pep     VEPQLGPYQSDLSQEEKDIRHSNEITPLEYKGLIWAGVVFVALSALLAWSIVPADGILRH
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf12ng         VEPQLGPYQSDLSQEEKDIRHSNEITPLEYKGLIWAGVVFVALSALLAWSIVPADGILRH
                    250       260       270       280       290       300

                    310       320       330       340       350       360
orf12-1.pep     PETGLVSGSPFLKSIVVFIFLLLFALPGIVYGRVTRSLRGEQEVVNAMAESMSTLGLYLVI
                ||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||
orf12ng         PETGLVAGSPFLKSIVVFIFLLLFALPGIVYGRITRSLRGEREVVNAMAESMSTLGLYLVI
                    310       320       330       340       350       360

                    370       380       390       400       410       420
orf12-1.pep     IFFAAQFVAFFNWTNIGQYIAVKGATFLKEVGLGGSVLFIGFILICAFINLMIGSASAQW
                |||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf12ng         IFFAAQFVAFFNWTNIGQYIAVKGAVFLKEVGLGGSVLFIGFILICAFINLMIGSASAQW
                    370       380       390       400       410       420

                    430       440       450       460       470       480
orf12-1.pep     AVTAPIFVPMLMLAGYAPEVIQAAYRIGDSVTNIITPMMSYFGLIMATVIKYKKDAGVGT
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf12ng         AVTAPIFVPMLMLAGYAPEVIQAAYRIGDSVTNIITPMMSYFGLIMATVIKYKKDAGVGT
                    430       440       450       460       470       480

                    490       500       510       520
orf12-1.pep     LISMMLPYSAFFLIAWIALFCIWVFVLGLPVGPGAPTFYPAPX
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||:||
orf12ng         LISMMLPYSAFFLIAWIALFCIWVFVLGLPVGPGTPTFYPVPX
                    490       500       510       520
```

In addition, ORF12ng shows significant homology with a hypotehtical protein from *E.coli*:

```
sp|P46133|YDAH_ECOLI HYPOTHETICAL 55.1 KD PROTEIN IN OGT-DBPA INTERGENIC REGION
>gi|1787597 (AE000231) hypothetical protein in ogt 5'region [Escherichia coli]
Length = 510
 Score =  329 bits (835), Expect = 2e-89
 Identities = 178/507 (35%), Positives = 281/507 (55%), Gaps = 15/507 (2%)

Query: 8   RSGRFLRTVEWLGNMLPHPVTXXXXXXXXXXXASAVGAYFGLSVPDPRPVGAKGRADDGL 67
            +SG+    VE +GN +PHP               +A+ + FG+S  +P          D
Sbjct: 13  QSGKLYGWVERIGNKVPHPFLLFIYLIIVLMVTTAILSAFGVSAKNP---------TDGTP 64

Query: 68  IHVVSLLDADGLIKILTHTVKNFTGFAPXXXXXXXXXXXXIAEKSGLISALMRLLLTKSP 127
            + V +LL   +GL    L + +KNF+GFAP             +AE+ GL+ ALM   + +
Sbjct: 65  VVVKNLLSVEGLHWFLPNVIKNFSGFAPLGAILALVLGAGLAERVGLLPALMVKMASHVN 124

Query: 128 RKLTTFMVVFTGILSNTASELGYVVLIPLSAVIFHSLGRHPLAGLAAAFAGVSGGYSANL 187
             +  ++MV+F    S+ +S+   V++ P+ A+IF ++GRHP+AGL AA AGV  G++ANL
Sbjct: 125 ARYASYMVLFIAFFSHISSDAALVIMPPMGALIFLAVGRHPVAGLLAAIAGVGCGFTANL 184

Query: 188 FLGTIDPLLAGITQQAAQIIHPDYVVGPEANWFFMAASTFVIALIGYFVTEKIVEPQLGP 247
             + T D LL+GI+ +AA   +P   V    NW+FMA+S  V+ ++G  +T+KI+EP+LG
Sbjct: 185 LIVTTDVLLSGISTEAAAAFNPQMHVSVIDNWYFMASSVVVLTIVGGLITDKIIEPRLGQ 244

Query: 248 YQSDLSQEEKDIRHSNEITPLEYKGLIWAGVVFVALSALLAWSIVPADGILRHPETGLVA 307
            +Q +  ++ + +  S         GL  AGVV +   A +A  ++P +GILR P    V
Sbjct: 245 WQGNSDEKLQTLTESQRF------GLRIAGVVSLLFIAAIALMVIPQNGILRDPINHTVM 298

Query: 308 GSPFLKSIVVFIFLLFALPGIVYGRITRSLRGEREVVNAMAESMSTLGLYLXXXXXXXXX 367
             SPF+K IV  I L F +  + YG  TR++R + ++ + M E M  +  ++
Sbjct: 299 PSPFIKGIVPLIILFFFVVSLAYGIATRTIRRQADLPHLMIEPMKEMAGFIVMVFPLAQF 358

Query: 368 XXXXNWTNIGQYIAVKGAVFLKEVGLGGSVLFIGFILICAFINLMIGSASAQWAVTAPIF 427
               NW+N+G++IAV     L+  GL G   F+G  L+ +F+ + I S SA W++ APIF
```

```
Sbjct: 359 VAMFNWSNMGKFIAVGLTDILESSGLSGIPAFVGLALLSSFLCMFIASGSAIWSILAPIF 418

Query: 428 VPMLMLAGYAPEVIQAAYRIGDSVTNIITPMMSYFGLIMATVIKYKKDAGVGTLISMMLP 487
           VPM ML G+ P   Q  +RI DS    + P+  +  L +  + +YK DA +GT  S++LP
Sbjct: 419 VPMFMLLGFHPAFAQILFRIADSSVLPLAPVSPFVPLFLGFLQRYKPDAKLGTYYSLVLP 478

Query: 488 YSAFFLIAWIALFCIWVFVLGLPVGPG 514
           Y   FL+ W+ +   W +++GLP+GPG
Sbjct: 479 YPLIFLVVWLLMLLAW-YLVGLPIGPG 504
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of several putative transmembrane domains and the predicted actinin-type actin-binding domain signature (shown in bold) in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 17

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 141>:

```
   1  ..ACAGCCGGCG CAGCAGGTTn CnCGGTCTTC GTTTTCGTAA CGGACAGTCA
  51    GGTGGAGGTG TTCGGGAACA TCCAGACCGC AGTGGAAACA GGTTTTTTTC
 101    ATGGCATTTC GGTTTCGTCT GTGTTTGGTG CGGCGGCACA AGACTCGGCA
 151    ATgGCTTCGC GCAGTGCGTC TATACCGGTA TTTTCAGCAA CGGAAATGCG
 201    GACGGcGgCA ATTTTTCCCG CAGCGTCGCG CCATATGCCC GTGTTTTgTT
 251    CTTCAGACGG CAGCAGGTCG GTTTTGTTGT ACACCTTgAT GCACGGAaTA
 301    TCGCCGGCAT GGATTTCTTG CAGTACGTTT TCCACGTCTT CAATCTGCTG
 351    TCCGCTGTTC GGAGCGGCGG CATCGACGAC GTGCAGCAGC ACATCgGcTT
 401    gCGCGGTTTC TTCCAGCGTG GCgGAAAAGG CGGAAATCAG TTTgTGCGGC
 451    agATyGCTnA CGAATCCGAC GGTATCGGTC AGGATAATGC TGCATTCGGG
 501    ACT..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 142; ORF14>:

```
   1  ..TAGAAGXXVF VFVTDSQVEV FGNIQTAVET GFFHGISVSS VFGAAAQDSA
  51    MASRSASIPV FSATEMRTAA IFPAASRHMP VFCSSDGSRS VLLYTLMHGI
 101    SPAWISCSTF STSSICCPLF GAAASTTCSS TSACAVSSSV AEKAEISLCG
 151    RXLTNPTVSV RIMLHSG..
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF14 shows 94.0% identity over a 167aa overlap with an ORF (ORF14a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                                    10        20        30
orf14.pep                                          TAGAAGXXVFVFVTDSQVEVFGNIQTAVET
                                                   |:||||  |||||||:|::|||||:| ||||
orf14a       GRQLGFLRVGGALFVITAQARVNNALCDCLTTGAAGFAVFVFVTDGQMQVFGNVQPAVET
            150       160       170       180       190       200

                     40        50        60        70        80        90
orf14.pep    GFFHGISVSSVFGAAAQDSAMASRSASIPVFSATEMRTAAIFPAASRHMPVFCSSDGSRS
             |||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf14a       GFFHGISVSSVFGAAAQYSAMASRSASIPVFSATEMRTAAIFPAASRHMPVFCSSDGSRS
            210       220       230       240       250       260

                   100       110       120       130       140       150
orf14.pep    VLLYTLMHGISPAWISCSTFSTSSICCPLFGAAASTTCSSTSACAVSSSVAEKAEISLCG
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf14a       VLLYTLMHGISPAWISCSTFSTSSICCPLFGAAASTTCSSTSACAVSSSVAEKAEISLCG
            270       280       290       300       310       320
```

```
                    160
orf14.pep     RXLTNPTVSVRIMLHSG
              | ||||||||||||||||
orf14a        RSLTNPTVSVRIMLHSGLMYSRRAVVSSVAKSWSFAYMPDLVSRLNRLDLPTLVX
             330       340       350       360       370       380
```

The complete length ORF14a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 143> is:

```
   1  ATGGAGGATT TGCAGGAAAT CGGGTTCGAT GTCGCCGCCG TAAAGGTAGG
  51  TCGGCAGCGC GAACATCATC GTCTGCATCA TCCCCAGCCC GGCAACGGCG
 101  AGGCGGACGA TGTATTGTTT GCGTTCTTTT TGGTTGGCGG CTTCGATTTT
 151  TTGCGCGTCA TAGGGTGCGG CGGTGTAGCC TATCTGCCTG ATTTTCAACA
 201  GAATGTCGGA AAGGCGGATT TTGCCGTCGT CCCAGACGAC GCGGCAGCGG
 251  TGCGTGCTGT AATTGAGGTC GATGCGGACG ATGCCGTCTG TACGCAAAAG
 301  CTGCTGTTCG ATCAGCCAGA CGCAGGCGGC GCAGGTGATG CCGCCGAGCA
 351  TTAAAACCGC CTCGCGCGTG CCGCCGTGGG TTTCCACAAA GTCGGACTGG
 401  ACTTCGGGCA GGTCGTACAG GCGGATTTGG TCGAGGATTT CTTGGGGCGG
 451  CAGCTCGGTT TTTTGCGCGT CGGCGGTGCG TTGTTTGTAA TAACTGCCCA
 501  AGCCCGCGTC AATAATGCTT TGTGCGACTG CCTGACAACC GGCGCAGCAG
 551  GTTTCGCGGT CTTCGTTTTC GTAACGGACG GTCAGATGCA GGTTTTCGGG
 601  AACGTCCAGC CCGCAGTGGA AACAGGTTTT TTTCATGGCA TTTCGGTTTC
 651  GTCTGTGTTT GGTGCGGCGG CACAATACTC GGCAATGGCT TCGCGCAGTG
 701  CGTCTATACC GGTATTTTCA GCAACGGAAA TGCGGACGGC GGCAATTTTT
 751  CCCGCAGCGT CGCGCCATAT GCCCGTGTTT TGTTCTTCAG ACGGCAGCAG
 801  GTCGGTTTTG TTGTACACCT TGATGCACGG AATATCGCCG GCATGGATTT
 851  CTTGCAGTAC GTTTTCCACG TCTTCAATCT GCTGTCCGCT GTTCGGAGCG
 901  GCGGCATCGA CGACGTGCAG CAGCACATCG GCTTGCGCGG TTTCTTCCAG
 951  CGTGGCGGAA AAGGCGGAAA TCAGTTTGTG CGGCAGATCG CTGACGAATC
1001  CGACGGTATC GGTCAGGATA ATGCTGCATT CGGGACTGAT GTACAGCCGC
1051  CGCGCCGTCG TGTCGAGTGT GGCGAAAAGC TGGTCTTTCG CATATATGCC
1101  CGACTTGGTC AGCCGGTTGA ACAGACTGGA TTTGCCGACA TTGGTATAG
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 144>:

```
   1  MEDLQEIGFD VAAVKVGRQR EHHRLHHPQP GNGEADDVLF AFFLVGGFDF
  51  LRVIGCGGVA YLPDFQQNVG KADFAVVPDD AAAVRAVIEV DADDAVCTQK
 101  LLFDQPDAGG AGDAAEH*NR LARAAVGFHK VGLDFGQVVQ ADLVEDFLGR
 151  QLGFLRVGGA LFVITAQARV NNALCDCLTT GAAGFAVFVF VTDGQMQVFG
 201  NVQPAVETGF FHGISVSSVF GAAAQYSAMA SRSASIPVFS ATEMRTAAIF
 251  PAASRHMPVF CSSDGSRSVL LYTLMHGISP AWISCSTFST SSICCPLFGA
 301  AASTTCSSTS ACAVSSSVAE KAEISLCGRS LTNPTVSVRI MLHSGLMYSR
 351  RAVVSSVAKS WSFAYMPDLV SRLNRLDLPT LV*
```

It should be noted that this sequence includes a stop codon at position 118.

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF14 shows 89.8% identity over a 167aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF14.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf14.pep                                    TAGAAGXXVFVFVTDSQVEVFGNIQTAVET   30
                                             || |||  ||:||:|:|::|||||:| ||||
orf14ng      GRQFGFFRVGGASFVITAQAGIDDALCDCLTADAAGFAVFAFVADGQMQVFGNVQPAVET  208

orf14.pep    GFFHGISVSSVFGAAAQDSAMASRSASIPVFSATEMRTAAIFPAASRHMPVFCSSDGSRS   90
             |||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf14ng      GFFHGISVSSVFGAAAQYSAMASRSASIPVFSATEMRTAAIFPAASRHMPVFCSSDGSRS  268

orf14.pep    VLLYTLMHGISPAWISCSTFSTSSICCPLFGAAASTTCSSTSACAVSSSVAEKAEISLCG  150
             |||||||||| |||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||:|||:||||||||||||
orf14ng      VLLYTLMHGISWAWISCSTFSTSSICCPLFRAAASTTCSSTSACTVSSKVAEKAEISLCG  328

orf14.pep    RXLTNPTVSVRIMLHSG                                            167
             | |||||||||||||:|
orf14ng      RSLTNPTVSVRIMLHAGLMYSRRAVVSRVAKSWSFAYMPDLVSRLNRLDLPTLV      382
```

The complete length ORF14ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 145> is predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 146>:

```
   1  MEDLQEIGFD VAAVKVGRQR EHHRLHHTQS GNGKADDVLF AFFLVGGFDF
  51  LRVIGCGGVA CLPDFQQNVG EADFAVVPDD AAAVRAVIEV DADDAVCAQK
 101  LLFDQPDAGG AGNAAEHQHC FVRAIMGFHK VGLDFGQVVQ ADLVEDFLGR
 151  QFGFFRVGGA SFVITAQAGI DDALCDCLTA DAAGFAVFAF VADGQMQVFG
 201  NVQPAVETGF FHGISVSSVF GAAAQYSAMA SRSASIPVFS ATEMRTAAIF
 251  PAASRHMPVF CSSDGSRSVL LYTLMHGISW AWISCSTFST SSICCPLFRA
 301  AASTTCSSTS ACTVSSKVAE KAEISLCGRS LTNPTVSVRI MLHAGLMYSR
 351  RAVVSRVAKS WSFAYMPDLV SRLNRLDLPT LV*
```

Based on the putative transmembrane domain in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 18

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 147>:

```
   1  ..GGCCATTACT CCGACCGCAC TTGGAAGCCG CGTTTGGNCG GCCGCCGTCT
  51    GCCGTATCTG CTTTATGGCA CGCTGATTGC GGTTATTGTG ATGATTTTGA
 101    TGCCGAACTC GGGCAGCTTC GGTTTCGGCT ATGCGTCGCT GGCGGCTTTG
 151    TCGTTCGGCG CGCTGATGAT TGCGCTGTTA GACGTGTCGT CAAATATGGC
 201    GATGCAGCCG TTTAAGATGA TGGTCGGCGA CATGGTCAAC GAGGAGCAGA
 251    AAA.NTACGC CTACGGGATT CAAAGTTTCT TAGCAAATAC GGGCGCGGTC
 301    GTGGCGGCGA TTCTGCCGTT TGTGTTTGCG TATATCGGTT TGGCGAACAC
 351    CGCCGANAAA GGCGTTGTGC CGCAGACCGT GGTCGTGGCG TTTTATGTGG
 401    GTGCGGCGTT GCTGGTGATT ACCAGCGCGT TCACGATTTT CAAAGTGAAG
 451    GAATACGANC CGGAAACCTA CGCCCGTTAC CACGGCATCG ATGTCGCCGC
 501    GAATCAGGAA AAAGCCAACT GGATCGCACT CTTAAAA.CC GCGC..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 148; ORF16>:

```
   1  ..GHYSDRTWKP RLXGRRLPYL LYGTLIAVIV MILMPNSGSF GFGYASLAAL
  51    SFGALMIALL DVSSNMAMQP FKMMVGDMVN EEQKXYAYGI QSFLANTGAV
 101    VAAILPFVFA YIGLANTAXK GVVPQTVVVA FYVGAALLVI TSAFTIFKVK
 151    EYXPETYARY HGIDVAANQE KANWIALLKX A..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 149>:

```
   1  ATGTCGGAAT ATACGCCTCA AACAGCAAAA CAAGGTTTGC CCGCGCTGGC
  51  AAAAAGCACG ATTTGGATGC TCAGTTTCGG CTTTCTCGGC GTTCAGACGG
 101  CCTTTACCCT GCAAAGCTCG CAAATGAGCC GCATTTTTCA AACGCTAGGC
 151  GCAGACCCGC ACAATTTGGG CTGGTTTTTC ATCCTGCCGC CGCTGGCGGG
 201  GATGCTGGTG CAGCCGATTG TCGGCCATTA CTCCGACCGC ACTTGGAAGC
 251  CGCGTTTGGG CGGCCGCCGT CTGCCGTATC TGCTTTATGG CACGCTGATT
 301  GCGGTTATTG TGATGATTTT GATGCCGAAC TCGGGCAGCT TCGGTTTCGG
 351  CTATGCGTCG CTGGCGGCTT TGTCGTTCGG CGCGCTGATG ATTGCGCTGT
 401  TAGACGTGTC GTCAAATATG GCGATGCAGC CGTTTAAGAT GATGGTCGGC
 451  GACATGGTCA ACGAGGAGCA GAAAGGCTAC GCCTACGGGA TTCAAAGTTT
 501  CTTAGCAAAT ACGGGCGCGG TCGTGGCGGC GATTCTGCCG TTTGTGTTTG
 551  CGTATATCGG TTTGGCGAAC ACCGCCGAGA AAGGCGTTGT GCCGCAGACC
 601  GTGGTCGTGG CGTTTTATGT GGGTGCGGCG TTGCTGGTGA TTACCAGCGC
 651  GTTCACGATT TTCAAAGTGA AGGAATACGA TCCGGAAACC TACGCCCGTT
 701  ACCACGGCAT CGATGTCGCC GCGAATCAGG AAAAAGCCAA CTGGATCGAA
 751  CTCTTGAAAA CCGCGCCTAA GGCGTTTTGG ACGGTTACTT TGGTGCAATT
 801  CTTCTGCTGG TTCGCCTTCC AATATATGTG GACTTACTCG GCAGGCGCGA
 851  TTGCGGAAAA CGTCTGGCAC ACCACCGATG CGTCTTCCGT AGGTTATCAG
 901  GAGGCGGGTA ACTGGTACGG CGTTTTGGCG GCGGTGCAGT CGGTTGCGGC
 951  GGTGATTTGT TCGTTTGTAT TGGCGAAAGT GCCGAATAAA TACCATAAGG
1001  CGGGTTATTT CGGCTGTTTG GCTTTGGGCG CGCTCGGCTT TTTCTCCGTT
1051  TTCTTCATCG GCAACCAATA CGCGCTGGTG TTGTCTTATA CCTTAATCGG
1101  CATCGCTTGG GCGGGCATTA TCACTTATCC GCTGACGATT GTGACCAACG
1151  CCTTGTCGGG CAAGCATATG GGCACTTACT TGGGCTTGTT TAACGGCTCT
1201  ATCTGTATGC CTCAAATCGT CGCTTCGCTG TTGAGTTTCG TGCTTTTCCC
1251  TATGCTGGGC GGCTTGCAGG CCACTATGTT CTTGGTAGGG GGCGTCGTCC
1301  TGCTGCTGGG CGCGTTTTCC GTGTTCCTGA TTAAAGAAAC ACACGGCGGG
1351  GTTTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 150; ORF16-1>:

```
  1  MSEYTPQTAK QGLPALAKST IWMLSFGFLG VQTAFTLQSS QMSRIFQTLG
 51  ADPHNLGWFF ILPPLAGMLV QPIVGHYSDR TWKPRLGGRR LPYLLYGTLI
101  AVIVMILMPN SGSFGFGYAS LAALSFGALM IALLDVSSNM AMQPFKMMVG
151  DMVNEEQKGY AYGIQSFLAN TGAVVAAILP FVFAYIGLAN TAEKGVVPQT
201  VVVAFYVGAA LLVITSAFTI FKVKEYDPET YARYHGIDVA ANQEKANWIE
251  LLKTAPKAFW TVTLVQFFCW FAFQYMWTYS AGAIAENVWH TTDASSVGYQ
301  EAGNWYGVLA AVQSVAAVIC SFVLAKVPNK YHKAGYFGCL ALGALGFFSV
351  FFIGNQYALV LSYTLIGIAW AGIITYPLTI VTNALSGKHM GTYLGLFNGS
401  ICMPQIVASL LSFVLFPMLG GLQATMFLVG GVVLLLGAFS VFLIKETHGG
451  V*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF16 shows 96.7% identity over a 181aa overlap with an ORF (ORF16a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                                    10        20        30
orf16.pep                                           GHYSDRTWKPRLXGRRLPYLLYGTLIAVIV
                                                    ||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||
orf16a      IFQTLGADPHSLGWFFILPPLAGMLVQPIVGHYSDRTWKPRLGGRRLPYLLYGTLIAVIV
               50        60        70        80        90        100

                    40        50        60        70        80        90
orf16.pep   MILMPNSGSFGFGYASLAALSFGALMIALLDVSSNMAMQPFKMMVGDMVNEEQKXYAYGI
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||
orf16a      MILMPNSGSFGFGYASLAALSFGALMIALLDVSSNMAMQPFKMMVGDMVNEEQKGYAYGI
               110       120       130       140       150       160

                   100       110       120       130       140       150
orf16.pep   QSFLANTGAVVAAILPFVFAYIGLANTAXKGVVPQTVVVAFYVGAALLVITSAFTIFKVK
            |||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf16a      QSFLANTGAVVAAILPFVFAYIGLANTAEKGVVPQTVVVAFYVGAALLVITSAFTIFKVK
               170       180       190       200       210       220

                   160       170       180
orf16.pep   EYXPETYARYHGIDVAANQEKANWIALLKXA
            || |||||||||||||||||||| |||:|
orf16a      EYNPETYARYHGIDVAANQEKANWIELLKTAPKAFWTVTLVQFFCWFAFQYMWTYSAGAI
               230       240       250       260       270       280

orf16a      AENVWHTTDASSVGYQEAGNWYGVLAAVQSVAAVICSFVLAKVPNKYHKAGYFGCLALGA
               290       300       310       320       330       340
```

The complete length ORF16a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 151> is:

```
  1  ATGTCGGAAT ATACGCCTCA AACAGCAAAA CAAGGTTTGC CCGCGCTGGC
 51  AAAAAGCACG ATTTGGATGC TCAGTTTCGG CTTTCTCGGC GTTCAGACGG
101  CCTTTACCCT GCAAAGCTCG CAGATGAGCC GCATCTTCCA GACGCTCGGT
151  GCCGATCCGC ACAGCCTCGG CTGGTTCTTT ATCCTGCCGC CGCTGGCGGG
201  GATGCTGGTG CAGCCGATTG TCGGCCATTA CTCCGACCGC ACTTGGAAGC
251  CGCGTTTGGG CGGCCGCCGT CTGCCGTATC TGCTTTATGG CACGCTGATT
301  GCGGTTATTG TGATGATTTT GATGCCGAAC TCGGGCAGCT TCGGTTTCGG
351  CTATGCGTCG CTGGCGGCTT TGTCGTTCGG CGCGCTGATG ATTGCGCTGT
401  TAGACGTGTC GTCAAATATG GCGATGCAGC CGTTTAAGAT GATGGTCGGC
451  GACATGGTCA ACGAGGAGCA GAAAGGCTAC GCCTACGGGA TTCAAAGTTT
501  CTTAGCGAAT ACGGGCGCGG TCGTGGCGGC GATTCTGCCG TTTGTGTTTG
551  CGTATATCGG TTTGGCGAAC ACCGCCGAGA AAGGCGTTGT GCCGCAGACC
601  GTGGTCGTGG CGTTTTATGT GGGTGCGGCG TTGCTGGTGA TTACCAGCGC
651  GTTCACGATT TTCAAAGTGA AGGAATACAA TCCGGAAACC TACGCCCGTT
701  ACCACGGCAT CGATGTCGCC GCGAATCAGG AAAAAGCCAA CTGGATCGAA
751  CTCTTGAAAA CCGCGCCTAA GGCGTTTTGG ACGGTTACTT TGGTGCAATT
801  CTTCTGCTGG TTCGCCTTCC AATATATGTG GACTTACTCG GCAGGCGCGA
851  TTGCGGAAAA CGTCTGGCAC ACCACCGATG CGTCTTCCGT AGGTTATCAG
901  GAGGCGGGTA ACTGGTACGG CGTTTTGGCG GCGGTGCAGT CGGTTGCGGC
951  GGTGATTTGT TCGTTTGTAT TGGCGAAAGT GCCGAATAAA TACCATAAGG
```

```
1001  CGGGTTATTT CGGCTGTTTG GCTTTGGGCG CGCTCGGCTT TTTCTCCGTT
1051  TTCTTCATCG GCAACCAATA CGCGCTGGTG TTGTCTTATA CCTTAATCGG
1101  CATCGCTTGG GCGGGCATTA TCACTTATCC GCTGACGATT GTGACCAACG
1151  CCTTGTCGGG CAAGCATATG GGCACTTACT TGGGCCTGTT TAACGGCTCT
1201  ATCTGTATGC CGCAAATCGT CGCTTCGCTG TTGAGTTTCG TGCTTTTCCC
1251  TATGCTGGGC GGCTTGCAGG CCACTATGTT CTTGGTAGGG GGCGTCGTCC
1301  TGCTGCTGGG CGCGTTTTCC GTGTTCCTGA TTAAAGAAAC ACACGGCGGG
1351  GTTTGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 152>:

```
   1  MSEYTPQTAK QGLPALAKST IWMLSFGFLG VQTAFTLQSS QMSRIFQTLG
  51  ADPHSLGWFF ILPPLAGMLV QPIVGHYSDR TWKPRLGGRR LPYLLYGTLI
 101  AVIVMILMPN SGSFGFGYAS LAALSFGALM IALLDVSSNM AMQPFKMMVG
 151  DMVNEEQKGY AYGIQSFLAN TGAVVAAILP FVFAYIGLAN TAEKGVVPQT
 201  VVVAFYVGAA LLVITSAFTI FKVKEYNPET YARYHGIDVA ANQEKANWIE
 251  LLKTAPKAFW TVTLVQFFCW FAFQYMWTYS AGAIAENVWH TTDASSVGYQ
 301  EAGNWYGVLA AVQSVAAVIC SFVLAKVPNK YHKAGYFGCL ALGALGFFSV
 351  FFIGNQYALV LSYTLIGIAW AGIITYPLTI VTNALSGKHM GTYLGLFNGS
 401  ICMPQIVASL LSFVLFPMLG GLQATMFLVG GVVLLLGAFS VFLIKETHGG
 451  V*
```

ORF16a and ORF16-1 show 99.6% identity in 451 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf16a.pep      MSEYTPQTAKQGLPALAKSTIWMLSFGFLGVQTAFTLQSSQMSRIFQTLGADPHSLGWFF
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||
orf16-1         MSEYTPQTAKQGLPALAKSTIWMLSFGFLGVQTAFTLQSSQMSRIFQTLGADPHNLGWFF
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf16a.pep      ILPPLAGMLVQPIVGHYSDRTWKPRLGGRRLPYLLYGTLIAVIVMILMPNSGSFGFGYAS
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf16-1         ILPPLAGMLVQPIVGHYSDRTWKPRLGGRRLPYLLYGTLIAVIVMILMPNSGSFGFGYAS
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf16a.pep      LAALSFGALMIALLDVSSNMAMQPFKMMVGDMVNEEQKGYAYGIQSFLANTGAVVAAILP
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf16-1         LAALSFGALMIALLDVSSNMAMQPFKMMVGDMVNEEQKGYAYGIQSFLANTGAVVAAILP
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf16a.pep      FVFAYIGLANTAEKGVVPQTVVVAFYVGAALLVITSAFTIFKVKEYNPETYARYHGIDVA
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||
orf16-1         FVFAYIGLANTAEKGVVPQTVVVAFYVGAALLVITSAFTIFKVKEYDPETYARYHGIDVA
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260       270       280       290       300
orf16a.pep      ANQEKANWIELLKTAPKAFWTVTLVQFFCWFAFQYMWTYSAGAIAENVWHTTDASSVGYQ
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf16-1         ANQEKANWIELLKTAPKAFWTVTLVQFFCWFAFQYMWTYSAGAIAENVWHTTDASSVGYQ
                250       260       270       280       290       300

                310       320       330       340       350       360
orf16a.pep      EAGNWYGVLAAVQSVAAVICSFVLAKVPNKYHKAGYFGCLALGALGFFSVFFIGNQYALV
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf16-1         EAGNWYGVLAAVQSVAAVICSFVLAKVPNKYHKAGYFGCLALGALGFFSVFFIGNQYALV
                310       320       330       340       350       360

                370       380       390       400       410       420
orf16a.pep      LSYTLIGIAWAGIITYPLTIVTNALSGKHMGTYLGLFNGSICMPQIVASLLSFVLFPMLG
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf16-1         LSYTLIGIAWAGIITYPLTIVTNALSGKHMGTYLGLFNGSICMPQIVASLLSFVLFPMLG
                370       380       390       400       410       420

                430       440       450
orf16a.pep      GLQATMFLVGGVVLLLGAFSVFLIKETHGGVX
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf16-1         GLQATMFLVGGVVLLLGAFSVFLIKETHGGVX
                430       440       450
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF16 shows 93.9% identity over a 181aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF16.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf16.pep                                        GHYSDRTWKPRLXGRRLPYLLYGTLIAVIV   30
                                                 |:||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||
orf16ng      HFSNARRRPAQFGLVFHPAAAGGDAGSADSGYYSDRTWKPRLGGRRLPYLLYGTLIAVIV  131

orf16.pep    MILMPNSGSFGFGYASLAALSFGALMIALLDVSSNMAMQPFKMMVGDMVNEEQKXYAYGI   90
             |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||
orf16ng      MILMPNSGSFGFGYASLAALSFGALMIALLDVSSNMAMQPFKMMVGDMVNEEQKSYAYGI  191

orf16.pep    QSFLANTGAVVAAILPFVFAYIGLANTAXKGVVPQTVVVAFYVGAALLVITSAFTIFKVK  150
             ||||||| |||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||:||||||| |||
orf16ng      QSFLANTDAVVAAILPFVFAYIGLANTAEKGVVPQTVVVAFYVGAALLIITSAFTISKVK  251

orf16.pep    EYXPETYARYHGIDVAANQEKANWIALLKXA                                181
             || ||||||||||||||||||||: |||:|
orf16ng      EYDPETYARYHGIDVAANQEKANWFELLKTAPKVFWTVTPVQFFCWFAFRYMWTYSAGAI  311
```

The complete length ORF16ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 153> is:

```
   1  ATGATAGGGG ATCGCCGCGC CGGCAACCAT TTCGGATTTT CCAAAGCAAA
  51  TACTTTTCAA ATCAAAAAAA AGGATTTACT TTATGTCGGA ATATACGCCT
 101  CAAACAGCAA AACAAGGTTT GCCCGCGCCG GCAAAAAGCA CGATTTGGAT
 151  GTTGAGCTTC GGCTATCTCG GCGTTCAGAC GGCCTTTACC CTGCAAAGCT
 201  CGCAGATGAG CCGCATTTTT CAAACGCTAG GCGCAGACCC GCACAATTTG
 251  GGCTGGTTTT TCATCCTGCC GCCGCTGGCG GGGATGCTGG TTCAGCCGAT
 301  AGTGGCTACT ACTCAGACCG CACTTGGAAG CCGCGCTTGG GCGGCCGCCG
 351  CCTGCCGTAT CTGCTTTACG GCACGCTGAT TGCGGTCATC GTGATGATTT
 401  TGATGCCGAA CTCGGGCAGC TTCGGTTTCG GCTATGCGTC GCTGGCGGCC
 451  TTGTCGTTCG GCGCGCTGAT GATTGCGCTG TTGGACGTGT CGTCGAATAT
 501  GGCGATGCAG CCGTTTAAGA TGATGGTCGG CGATATGGTC AACGAGGAGC
 551  AGAAAAGCTA CGCCTACGGG ATTCAAAGTT TCTTAGCGAA TACGGACGCG
 601  GTTGTGGCAG CGATTCTGCC GTTTGTGTTC GCGTATATCG GTTTGGCGAA
 651  CACTGCCGAG AAAGGCGTTG TGCCACAAAC CGTGGTCGTA GCATTCTATG
 701  TGGGTGCGGC GTTACTGATT ATTACCAGTG CGTTCACAAT CTCCAAAGTC
 751  AAAGAATACG ACCCGGAAAC CTACGCCCGT TACCACGGCA TCGATGTCGC
 801  CGCGAATCAG GAAAAAGCCA ACTGGTTCGA ACTCTTAAAA ACCGCGCCTA
 851  AAGTGTTTTG GACGGTTACT CCGGTACAGT TTTTCTGCTG GTTCGCCTTC
 901  CGGTATATGT GGACTTACTC GGCAGGCGCG ATTGCAGAAA ACGTCTGGCA
 951  CACTACCGAT GCGTCTTCCG TAGGCCATCA GGAGGCGGGC AACCGGTACG
1001  GCGTTTTGGC GGCGGTGTAG
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 154>:

```
   1  MIGDRRAGNH FGFSKANTFQ IKKKDLLYVG IYASNSKTRF ARAGKKHDLD
  51  VELRLSRRSD GLYPAKLADE PHFSNARRRP AQFGLVFHPA AAGGDAGSAD
 101  SGYYSDRTWK PRLGGRRLPY LLYGTLIAVI VMILMPNSGS FGFGYASLAA
 151  LSFGALMIAL LDVSSNMAMQ PFKMMVGDMV NEEQKSYAYG IQSFLANTDA
 201  VVAAILPFVF AYIGLANTAE KGVVPQTVVV AFYVGAALLI ITSAFTISKV
 251  KEYDPETYAR YHGIDVAANQ EKANWFELLK TAPKVFWTVT PVQFFCWFAF
 301  RYMWTYSAGA IAENVWHTTD ASSVGHQEAG NRYGVLAAV*
```

ORF16ng and ORF16-1 show 89.3% identity in 261 aa overlap:

```
                  30        40        50        60        70        80
orf16-1.pep       MLSFGFLGVQTAFTLQSSQMSRIFQTLGADPHNLGWFFILPPLAGMLVQPI-VGHYSDRT
                                                 | ::|  |  |  ||  :     |:|||||
orf16ng           DVELRLSRRSDGLYPAKLADEPHFSNARRRPAQFGLVF-HPAAAGGDAGSADSGYYSDRT
                  50        60        70        80        90        100

                         90        100       110       120       130       140
orf16-1.pep       WKPRLGGRRLPYLLYGTLIAVIVMILMPNSGSFGFGYASLAALSFGALMIALLDVSSNMA
                  ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf16ng           WKPRLGGRRLPYLLYGTLIAVIVMILMPNSGSFGFGYASLAALSFGALMIALLDVSSNMA
                  110       120       130       140       150       160
```

```
                    150       160       170       180       190       200
orf16-1.pep    MQPFKMMVGDMVNEEQKGYAYGIQSFLANTGAVVAAILPFVFAYIGLANTAEKGVVPQTV
               ||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf16ng        MQPFKMMVGDMVNEEQKSYAYGIQSFLANTDAVVAAILPFVFAYIGLANTAEKGVVPQTV
              170       180       190       200       210       220

                    210       220       230       240       250       260
orf16-1.pep    VVAFYVGAALLVITSAFTIFKVKEYDPETYARYHGIDVAANQEKANWIELLKTAPKAFWT
               ||||||||||:|||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||:|||
orf16ng        VVAFYVGAALLIITSAFTISKVKEYDPETYARYHGIDVAANQEKANWFELLKTAPKVFWT
              230       240       250       260       270       280

                    270       280       290       300       310       320
orf16-1.pep    VTLVQFFCWFAFQYMWTYSAGAIAENVWHTTDASSVGYQEAGNWYGVLAAVQSVAAVICS
               || |||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||:||||| |||||||
orf16ng        VTPVQFFCWFAFRYMWTYSAGAIAENVWHTTDASSVGHQEAGNRYGVLAAVX
              290       300       310       320       330       340
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of several putative transmembrane domains in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 19

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 155>:

```
   1  ATGTTGTTCC GTAAAACGAC CGCCGCCGTT TTGGCGCATA CCTTGATGCT
  51  GAACGGCTGT ACGTTGATGT TGTGGGGAAT GAACAACCCG GTCAGCGAAA
 101  CAATCACCCG NAAACACGTT GNCAAAGACC AAATCCGNGN CTTCGGTGTG
 151  GTTGCCGAAG ACAATGCCCA ATTGGAAAAG GGCAGCCTGG TGATGATGGG
 201  CGGAAAATAC TGGTTCGTCG TCAATCCCGA AGATTCGGCG AA.NTGACGG
 251  GNATTTTGAN GGCAGGGCTG GACAAACCCT TCCAAATAGT TNAGGATACC
 301  CCGAGCTATG C.TGCCACCA AGCCCTGCCG GTCAAACTCG GATCGNCTGG
 351  CAGCCAGAAT...
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 156; ORF28>:

```
   1  MLFRKTTAAV LAHTLMLNGC TLMLWGMNNP VSETITRKHV XKDQIRXFGV
  51  VAEDNAQLEK GSLVMMGGKY WFVVNPEDSA XXTGILXAGL DKPFQIVXDT
 101  PSYXCHQALP VKLGSXGSQN...
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 157>:

```
   1  ATGTTGTTCC GTAAAACGAC CGCCGCCGTT TTGGCGGCAA CCTTGATGCT
  51  GAACGGCTGT ACGTTGATGT TGTGGGGAAT GAACAACCCG GTCAGCGAAA
 101  CAATCACCCG CAAACACGTT GACAAAGACC AAATCCGCGC CTTCGGTGTG
 151  GTTGCCGAAG ACAATGCCCA ATTGGAAAAG GGCAGCCTGG TGATGATGGG
 201  CGGAAAATAC TGGTTCGTCG TCAATCCCGA AGATTCGGCG AAGCTGACGG
 251  GCATTTTGAA GGCAGGGCTG GACAAACCCT TCCAAATAGT TGAGGATACC
 301  CCGAGCTATG CTCGCCACCA AGCCCTGCCG GTCAAACTCG AATCGCCTGG
 351  CAGCCAGAAT TTCAGTACCG AAGGCCTTTG CCTGCGCTAC GATACCGACA
 401  AGCCTGCCGA CATCGCCAAG CTGAAACAGC TCGGGTTTGA AGCGGTCAAA
 451  CTCGACAATC GGACCATTTA CACGCGCTGC GTATCCGCCA AAGGCAAATA
 501  CTACGCCACA CCGCAAAAAC TGAACGCCGA TTACCATTTT GAGCAAAGTG
 551  TGCCTGCCGA TATTTATTAC ACGGTTACTG AAGAACATAC CGACAAATCC
 601  AAGCTGTTTG CAAATATCTT ATATACGCCC CCCTTTTTGA TACTGGATGC
 651  GGCGGGCGCG GTACTGGCCT TGCCTGCGGC GGCTCTGGGT GCGGTCGTGG
 701  ATGCCGCCCG CAAATGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 158; ORF28-1>:

```
   1  MLFRKTTAAV LAATLMLNGC TLMLWGMNNP VSETITRKHV DKDQIRAFGV
  51  VAEDNAQLEK GSLVMMGGKY WFVVNPEDSA KLTGILKAGL DKPFQIVEDT
 101  PSYARHQALP VKLESPGSQN FSTEGLCLRY DTDKPADIAK LKQLGFEAVK
 151  LDNRTIYTRC VSAKGKYYAT PQKLNADYHF EQSVPADIYY TVTEEHTDKS
```

```
201  KLFANILYTP PFLILDAAGA VLALPAAALG AVVDAARK*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF28 shows 79.2% identity over a 120aa overlap with an ORF (ORF28a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf28.pep       MLFRKTTAAVLAHTLMLNGCTLMLWGMNNPVSETITRKHVXKDQIRXFGVVAEDNAQLEK
                ||||||||||| |||||||:|:||||:| ||| :|||| ||||| ||||||||||||
orf28a          MLFRKTTAAVLAATLMLNGCTVMMWGMNSPFSETTARKHVDKDQIRAFGVVAEDNAQLEK
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf28.pep       GSLVMMGGKYWFVVNPEDSAXXTGILXAGLDKPFQIVXDTPSYXCHQALPVKLGSXGSQN
                |||||||||||||||||||  |||| ||||| ||:|  :| :  :|||||||  | :|||
orf28a          GSLVMMGGKYWFVVNPEDSAKLTGILKAGLDKQFQMVEPNPRFA-YQALPVKLESPASQN
                70        80        90        100       110

orf28a          FSTEGLCLRYDTDRPADIAKLKQLEFEAVELDNRTIYTRCVSAKGKYYATPQKLNADYHF
              120       130       140       150       160       170
```

The complete length ORF28a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 159> is:

```
   1  ATGTTGTTCC GTAAAACGAC CGCCGCCGTT TTGGCGGCAA CCTTGATGTT
  51  GAACGGCTGT ACGGTAATGA TGTGGGGTAT GAACAGCCCG TTCAGCGAAA
 101  CGACCGCCCG CAAACACGTT GACAAGGACC AAATCCGCGC CTTCGGTGTG
 151  GTTGCCGAAG ACAATGCCCA ATTGGAAAAG GGCAGCCTGG TGATGATGGG
 201  CGGGAAATAC TGGTTCGTCG TCAATCCTGA AGATTCGGCG AAGCTGACGG
 251  GCATTTTGAA GGCCGGGTTG GACAAGCAGT TTCAAATGGT TGAGCCCAAC
 301  CCGCGCTTTG CCTACCAAGC CCTGCCGGTC AAACTCGAAT CGCCCGCCAG
 351  CCAGAATTTC AGTACCGAAG GCCTTTGCCT GCGCTACGAT ACCGACAGAC
 401  CTGCCGACAT CGCCAAGCTG AAACAGCTTG AGTTTGAAGC GGTCGAACTC
 451  GACAATCGGA CCATTTACAC GCGCTGCGTC TCCGCCAAAG GCAAATACTA
 501  CGCCACACCG CAAAAACTGA ACGCCGATTA TCATTTTGAG CAAAGTGTGC
 551  CTGCCGATAT TTATTACACG GTTACGAAAA AACATACCGA CAAATCCAAG
 601  TTGTTTGAAA ATATTGCATA TACGCCCACC ACGTTGATAC TGGATGCGGT
 651  GGGCGCGGTG CTGGCCTTGC CTGTCGCGGC GTTGATTGCA GCCACGAATT
 701  CCTCAGACAA ATGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 160>:

```
   1  MLFRKTTAAV LAATLMLNGC TVMMWGMNSP FSETTARKHV DKDQIRAFGV
  51  VAEDNAQLEK GSLVMMGGKY WFVVNPEDSA KLTGILKAGL DKQFQMVEPN
 101  PRFAYQALPV KLESPASQNF STEGLCLRYD TDRPADIAKL KQLEFEAVEL
 151  DNRTIYTRCV SAKGKYYATP QKLNADYHFE QSVPADIYYT VTKKHTDKSK
 201  LFENIAYTPT TLILDAVGAV LALPVAALIA ATNSSDK*
```

ORF28a and ORF28-1 show 86.1% identity in 238 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf28a.pep      MLFRKTTAAVLAATLMLNGCTVMMWGMNSPFSETTARKHVDKDQIRAFGVVAEDNAQLEK
                ||||||||||||||||||||||:|:||||:| ||| :|||||||||||||||||||||||
orf28-1         MLFRKTTAAVLAATLMLNGCTLMLWGMNNPVSETITRKHVDKDQIRAFGVVAEDNAQLEK
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       119
orf28a.pep      GSLVMMGGKYWFVVNPEDSAKLTGILKAGLDKQFQMVEPNPRFA-YQALPVKLESPASQN
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||:|| :| :| :|||||||||||:|||
orf28-1         GSLVMMGGKYWFVVNPEDSAKLTGILKAGLDKPFQIVEDTPSYARHQALPVKLESPGSQN
                70        80        90        100       110       120

              120       130       140       150       160       170       179
orf28a.pep      FSTEGLCLRYDTDRPADIAKLKQLEFEAVELDNRTIYTRCVSAKGKYYATPQKLNADYHF
                |||||||||||||:|||||||||| ||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf28-1         FSTEGLCLRYDTDKPADIAKLKQLGFEAVKLDNRTIYTRCVSAKGKYYATPQKLNADYHF
                130       140       150       160       170       180
```

```
                180       190       200       210       220       230
orf28a.pep      EQSVPADIYYTVTKKHTDKSKLFENIAYTPTTLILDAVGAVLALPVAALIAATNSSDKX
                ||||||||||||||::|||||||| || ||| |||||:|||||||:||| |:::: ||
orf28-1         EQSVPADIYYTVTEEHTDKSKLFANILYTPPFLILDAAGAVLALPAAALGAVVDAARKX
                        190       200       210       220       230
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF28 shows 84.2% identity over a 120aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF28.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf28.pep       MLFRKTTAAVLAHTLMLNGCTLMLWGMNNPVSETITRKHVXKDQIRXFGVVAEDNAQLEK   60
                |||||||||||| ||:|||||:|| |||||||:|||||| ||||| ||||||||||||
orf28ng         MLFRKTTAAVLAATLILNGCTMMLRGMNNPVSQTITRKHVDKDQIRAFGVVAEDNAQLEK   60

orf28.pep       GSLVMMGGKYWFVVNPEDSAXXTGILXAGLDKPFQIVXDTPSYXCHQALPVKLGSXGSQN  120
                |||||||||||:|||||||  ||:| |||||||||| |||||  |||||||: : ||||
orf28ng         GSLVMMGGKYWFAVNPEDSAKLTGLLKAGLDKPFQIVEDTPSYARHQALPVKFEAPGSQN  120
```

The complete length ORF28ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 161> is

```
   1  ATGTTGTTCC GTAAAACGAC CGCCGCCGTT TTGGCGGCAA CCTTGATACT
  51  GAACGGCTGT ACGATGATGT TGCGGGGGAT GAACAACCCG GTCAGCCAAA
 101  CAATCACCCG CAAACACGTT GACAAAGACC AAATCCGCGC CTTCGGTGTG
 151  GTTGCCGAAG ACAATGCCCA ATTGGAAAAG GGCAGCCTGG TGATGATGGG
 201  CGGGAAATAC TGGTTCGCCG TCAATCCCGA AGATTCGGCG AAGCTGACGG
 251  GCCTTTTGAA GGCCGGGTTG GACAAGCCCT TCCAAATAGT TGAGGATACC
 301  CCGAGCTATG CCCGCCACCA AGCCCTGCCG GTCAAATTCG AAGCGCCCGG
 351  CAGCCAGAAT TTCAGTACCG GAGGTCTTTG CCTGCGCTAT GATACCGGCA
 401  GACCTGACGA CATCGCCAAG CTGAAACAGC TTGAGTTTAA AGCGGTCAAA
 451  CTCGACAATC GGACCATTTA CACGCGCTGC GTATCCGCCA AAGGCAAATA
 501  CTACGCCACG CCGCAAAAAC TGAACGCCGA TTATCATTTT GAGCAAAGTG
 551  TGCCCGCCGA TATTTATTAT ACGGTTACTG AAAAACATAC CGACAAATCC
 601  AAGCTGTTTG GAAATATCTT ATATACGCCC CCCTTGTTGA TATTGGATGC
 651  GGCGGCCGCG GTGCTGGTCT TGCCTATGGC TCTGATTGCA GCCGCGAATT
 701  CCTCAGACAA ATGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 162>:

```
   1  MLFRKTTAAV LAATLILNGC TMMLRGMNNP VSQTITRKHV DKDQIRAFGV
  51  VAEDNAQLEK GSLVMMGGKY WFAVNPEDSA KLTGLLKAGL DKPFQIVEDT
 101  PSYARHQALP VKFEAPGSQN FSTGGLCLRY DTGRPDDIAK LKQLEFKAVK
 151  LDNRTIYTRC VSAKGKYYAT PQKLNADYHF EQSVPADIYY TVTEKHTDKS
 201  KLFGNILYTP PLLILDAAAA VLVLPMALIA AANSSDK*
```

ORF28ng and ORF28-1 share 90.0% identity in 231 aa overlap:

```
                  10        20        30        40        50        60
orf28-1.pep       MLFRKTTAAVLAATLMLNGCTLMLWGMNNPVSETITRKHVDKDQIRAFGVVAEDNAQLEK
                  ||||||||||||||||:|||||:|| |||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf28ng           MLFRKTTAAVLAATLILNGCTMMLRGMNNPVSQTITRKHVDKDQIRAFGVVAEDNAQLEK
                          10        20        30        40        50        60

                          70        80        90       100       110       120
orf28-1.pep       GSLVMMGGKYWFVVNPEDSAKLTGILKAGLDKPFQIVEDTPSYARHQALPVKLESPGSQN
                  |||||||||||||:|||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|:|||||
orf28ng           GSLVMMGGKYWFAVNPEDSAKLTGLLKAGLDKPFQIVEDTPSYARHQALPVKFEAPGSQN
                          70        80        90       100       110       120

                         130       140       150       160       170       180
orf28-1.pep       FSTEGLCLRYDTDKPADIAKLKQLGFEAVKLDNRTIYTRCVSAKGKYYATPQKLNADYHF
                  ||| |||||||| :| |||||||| |:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf28ng           FSTGGLCLRYDTGRPDDIAKLKQLEFKAVKLDNRTIYTRCVSAKGKYYATPQKLNADYHF
                         130       140       150       160       170       180

                         190       200       210       220       230       239
orf28-1.pep       EQSVPADIYYTVTEEHTDKSKLFANILYTPPFLILDAAGAVLALPAAALGAVVDAARKX
                  ||||||||||||||:||||||||:||||||||:||||||:|||:|| | ::|:
orf28ng           EQSVPADIYYTVTEKHTDKSKLFGNILYTPPLLILDAAAAVLVLPMALIAAANSSDKX
```

190 200 210 220 230

Based on this analysis, including the presence of a putative transmembrane domain in the gonococcal protein, it was predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

ORF28-1 (24kDa) was cloned in pET and pGex vectors and expressed in *E.coli*, as described above. The products of protein expression and purification were analyzed by SDS-PAGE. Figure 6A shows the results of affinity purification of the GST-fusion protein, and Figure 6B shows the results of expression of the His-fusion in *E.coli*. Purified GST-fusion protein was used to immunise mice, whose sera were used for ELISA, which gave a positive result. These experiments confirm that ORF28-1 is a surface-exposed protein, and that it may be a useful immunogen.

Example 20

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 163>:

```
   1  ..GTCAGTCCTG TACTGCCTAT TACACACGAA CGGACAGGGT TTGAAGGTGT
  51    TATCGGTTAT GAAACCCATT TTTCAGGGCA CGGACATGAA GTACACAGTC
 101    CGTTCGATCA TCATGATTCA AAAAGCACTT CTGATTTCAG CGGCGGTGTA
 151    GACGGCGGTT TTACTGTTTA CCAACTTCAT CGAACATGGT CGGAAATCCA
 201    TCCGGAGGAT GAATATGACG GGCCGCAAGC AGCG.ATTAT CCGCCCCCCG
 251    GAGGAGCAAG GGATATATAC AGCTATTATG TCAAAGGAAC TTCAACAAAA
 301    ACAAAGACTA GTATTGTCCC TCAAGCCCCA TTTTCAGACC GTTGGCTAGA
 351    AGAAAATGCC GGTGCCGCCT CTGGT..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 164; ORF29>:

```
   1  ..VSPVLPITHE RTGPEGVIGY ETHFSGHGHE VHSPFDHHDS KSTSDFSGGV
  51    DGGFTVYQLH RTWSEIHPED EYDGPQAAXY PPPGGARDIY SYYVKGTSTK
 101    TKTSIVPQAP FSDRWLEENA GAASG..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 165>:

```
   1  ATGAATTTGC CTATTCAAAA ATTCATGATG CTGTTTGCAG CAGCAATATC
  51  GTTGCTGCAA ATCCCCATTA GTCATGCGAA CGGTTTGGAT GCCCGTTTGC
 101  GCGATGATAT GCAGGCAAAA CACTACGAAC CGGGTGGTAA ATACCATCTG
 151  TTTGGTAATG CTCGCGGCAG TGTTAAAAAG CGGGTTTACG CCGTCCAGAC
 201  ATTTGATGCA ACTGCGGTCA GTCCTGTACT GCCTATTACA CACGAACGGA
 251  CAGGGTTTGA AGGTGTTATC GGTTATGAAA CCCATTTTTC AGGGCACGGA
 301  CATGAAGTAC ACAGTCCGTT CGATCATCAT GATTCAAAAA GCACTTCTGA
 351  TTTCAGCGGC GGTGTAGACG GCGGTTTTAC TGTTTACCAA CTTCATCGAA
 401  CAGGGTCGGA AATCCATCCG GAGGATGGAT ATGACGGGCC GCAAGGCAGC
 451  GATTATCCGC CCCCCGGAGG AGCAAGGGAT ATATACAGCT ATTATGTCAA
 501  AGGAACTTCA ACAAAAACAA AGACTAATAT TGTCCCTCAA GCCCCATTTT
 551  CAGACCGTTG GCTAAAAGAA AATGCCGGTG CCGCCTCTGG TTTTTTCAGC
 601  CGTGCGGATG AAGCAGGAAA ACTGATATGG GAAAGCGACC CCAATAAAAA
 651  TTGGTGGGCT AACCGTATGG ATGATGTTCG CGGCATCGTC CAAGGTGCGG
 701  TTAATCCTTT TTTAATGGGT TTTCAAGGAG TAGGGATTGG GGCAATTACA
 751  GACAGTGCAG TAAGCCCGGT CACAGATACA GCCGCGCAGC AGACTCTACA
 801  AGGTATTAAT GATTTAGGAA AATTAAGTCC GGAAGCACAA CTTGCTGCCG
 851  CGAGCCTATT ACAGGACAGT GCTTTTGCGG TAAAAGACGG TATCAACTCT
 901  GCCAAACAAT GGGCTGATGC CCATCCAAAT ATAACAGCTA CTGCCCAAAC
 951  TGCCCTTTCC GCAGCAGAGG CCGCAGGTAC GGTTTGGAGA GGTAAAAAAG
1001  TAGAACTTAA CCCGACTAAA TGGGATTGGG TTAAAAATAC CGGTTATAAA
1051  AAACCTGCTG CCCGCCATAT GCAGACTTTA GATGGGGAGA TGGCAGGTGG
1101  GAATAAACCT ATTAAATCTT TACCAAACAG TGCCGCTGAA AAAAGAAAAC
1151  AAAATTTTGA GAAGTTTAAT AGTAACTGGA GTTCAGCAAG TTTTGATTCA
```

```
1201  GTGCACAAAA CACTAACTCC CAATGCACCT GGTATTTTAA GTCCTGATAA
1251  AGTTAAAACT CGATACACTA GTTTAGATGG AAAAATTACA ATTATAAAAG
1301  ATAACGAAAA CAACTATTTT AGAATCCATG ATAATTCACG AAAACAGTAT
1351  CTTGATTCAA ATGGTAATGC TGTGAAAACC GGTAATTTAC AAGGTAAGCA
1401  AGCAAAAGAT TATTTACAAC AACAAACTCA TATCAGGAAC TTAGACAAAT
1451  GA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 166; ORF29-1>:

```
   1  MNLPIQKFMM LFAAAISLLQ IPISHANGLD ARLRDDMQAK HYEPGGKYHL
  51  FGNARGSVKK RVYAVQTFDA TAVSPVLPIT HERTGFEGVI GYETHFSGHG
 101  HEVHSPFDHH DSKSTSDFSG GVDGGFTVYQ LHRTGSEIHP EDGYDGPQGS
 151  DYPPPGGARD IYSYYVKGTS TKTKTNIVPQ APFSDRWLKE NAGAASGFFS
 201  RADEAGKLIW ESDPNKNWWA NRMDDVRGIV QGAVNPFLMG FQGVGIGAIT
 251  DSAVSPVTDT AAQQTLQGIN DLGKLSPEAQ LAAASLLQDS AFAVKDGINS
 301  AKQWADAHPN ITATAQTALS AAEAAGTVWR GKKVELNPTK WDWVKNTGYK
 351  KPAARHMQTL DGEMAGGNKP IKSLPNSAAE KRKQNFEKFN SNWSSASFDS
 401  VHKTLTPNAP GILSPDKVKT RYTSLDGKIT IIKDNENNYF RIHDNSRKQY
 451  LDSNGNAVKT GNLQGKQAKD YLQQQTHIRN LDK*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF29 shows 88.0% identity over a 125aa overlap with an ORF (ORF29a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                                  10        20        30
orf29.pep                                         VSPVLPITHERTGFEGVIGYETHFSGHGHE
                                                  :::::::::::::::::::::::::::::
orf29a       EPGGKYHLFGNARGSVKNRVYAVQTFDATAVGPILPITHERTGFEGIIGYETHFSGHGHE
                   50        60        70        80        90        100

                    40        50        60        70        80        90
orf29.pep    VHSPFDHHDSKSTSDFSGGVDGGFTVYQLHRTWSEIHPEDEYDGPQAAXYPPPGGARDIY
             ::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::: ::::::: ::::::: ::::::::::
orf29a       VHSPFDNHDSKSTSDFSGGVDGGFTVYQLHRTGSEIHPEDGYDGPQGSDYPPPGGARDIY
                  110       120       130       140       150       160

                   100       110       120
orf29.pep    SYYVKGTSTKTKTSIVPQAPFSDRWLEENAGAASG
               ::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::
orf29a       XXYVKGTSTKTKSNIVPRAPFSDRWLKENAGAASGFFSRADEAGKLIWESDPNKNWWANR
                  170       180       190       200       210       220

orf29a       MDDIRGIVQGAVNPFLMGFQGVGIGAITDSAVSPVTDTAAQQTLQGXNHLGXLSPEAQLA
                  230       240       250       260       270       280
```

The complete length ORF29a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 167> is:

```
   1  ATGAATTNGC CTATTCAAAA ATTCATGATG CTGTTTGCAG CAGCAATATC
  51  GTNGCTGCAA ATCCCNATTA GTCATGCGAA CGGTTTGGAT GCCCGTTTGC
 101  GCGATGATAT GCAGGCAAAA CACTACGAAC CGGGTGGTAA ATACCATCTG
 151  TTTGGTAATG CTCGCGGCAG TGTTAAAAAT CGGGTTTACG CCGTCCAAAC
 201  ATTTGATGCA ACTGCGGTCG GCCCCATACT GCCTATTACA CACGAACGGA
 251  CAGGATTTGA AGGCATTATC GGTTATGAAA CCCATTTTTC AGGACATGGA
 301  CATGAAGTAC ACAGTCCGTT CGATAATCAT GATTCAAAAA GCACTTCTGA
 351  TTTCAGCGGC GGCGTAGACG GTGGTTTTAC CGTTTACCAA CTTCATCGGA
 401  CAGGGTCGGA AATCCATCCG GAGGATGGAT ATGACGGGCC GCAAGGCAGC
 451  GATTATCCGC CCCCCGGAGG AGCAAGGGAT ATATACANNT ANTATGTCAA
 501  AGGAACTTCA ACAAAAACAA AGAGTAATAT TGTTCCCCGA GCCCCATTTT
 551  CAGACCGCTG GCTAAAAGAA AATGCCGGTG CCGCCTCTGG TTTTTTCAGC
 601  CGTGCTGATG AAGCAGGAAA ACTGATATGG GAAAGCGACC CCAATAAAAA
 651  TTGGTGGGCT AACCGTATGG ATGATATTCG CGGCATCGTC CAAGGTGCGG
 701  TTAATCCTTT TTTAATGGGT TTTCAAGGAG TAGGGATTGG GGCAATTACA
 751  GACAGTGCAG TAAGCCCGGT CACAGATACA GCCGCGCAGC AGACTCTACA
 801  AGGTATNAAT CATTTAGGAA ANTTAAGTCC CGAAGCACAA CTTGCGGCTG
 851  CAACCGCATT ACAAGACAGT GCTTTTGCGG TAAAAGACGG TATCAATTCC
 901  GCCAGACAAT GGGCTGATGC CCATCCGAAT ATAACTGCAA CAGCCCAAAC
```

```
 951  TGCCCTTGCC GTAGCAGANG CCGCAACTAC GGTTTGGGGC GGTAAAAAAG
1001  TAGAACTTAA CCCGACCAAA TGGGATTGGG TTAAAAATAC NGGCTATAAN
1051  ACACCTGCTG TTCGCACCAT GCATACTTTG GATGGGGAAA TGGCCGGTGG
1101  GAATAGACCG CCTAAATCTA TAACGTCCAA CAGCAAAGCA GATGCTTCCA
1151  CACAACCGTC TTTACAAGCG CAACTAATTG GAGAACAAAT TANNNNNGGG
1201  CATGCTTATA ACAAGCATGT CATAAGACAA CAAGAATTTA CGGATTTAAA
1251  TATCAATTCA CCAGCAGATT TTGCTCGGCA TATTGAAAAT ATTGTTAGCC
1301  ATCCANCAAA TATGAAAGAG TTACCTCGCG GTAGAACTGC GTATTGGGAT
1351  NATAAAACAG GGACNATAGT TATCCGAGAT AAAAATTCTG ACGATGGAGG
1401  TACAGCATTT AGACCAACAT CAGGTAAAAA ATATTATGAT GATTTATAG
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 168>:

```
   1  MNXPIQKFMM LFAAAISXLQ IPISHANGLD ARLRDDMQAK HYEPGGKYHL
  51  FGNARGSVKN RVYAVQTFDA TAVGPILPIT HERTGFEGII GYETHFSGHG
 101  HEVHSPFDNH DSKSTSDFSG GVDGGFTVYQ LHRTGSEIHP EDGYDGPQGS
 151  DYPPPGGARD IYXXYVKGTS TKTKSNIVPR APFSDRWLKE NAGAASGFFS
 201  RADEAGKLIW ESDPNKNWWA NRMDDIRGIV QGAVNPFLMG FQGVGIGAIT
 251  DSAVSPVTDT AAQQTLQGXN HLGXLSPEAQ LAAATALQDS AFAVKDGINS
 301  ARQWADAHPN ITATAQTALA VAXAATTVWG GKKVELNPTK WDWVKNTGYX
 351  TPAVRTMHTL DGEMAGGNRP PKSITSNSKA DASTQPSLQA QLIGEQIXXG
 401  HAYNKHVIRQ QEFTDLNINS PADFARHIEN IVSHPXNMKE LPRGRTAYWD
 451  XKTGTIVIRD KNSDDGGTAF RPTSGKKYYD DL*
```

ORF29a and ORF29-1 show 90.1% identity in 385 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf29a.pep      MNXPIQKFMMLFAAAISXLQIPISHANGLDARLRDDMQAKHYEPGGKYHLFGNARGSVKN
                || ||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:
orf29-1         MNLPIQKFMMLFAAAISLLQIPISHANGLDARLRDDMQAKHYEPGGKYHLFGNARGSVKK
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf29a.pep      RVYAVQTFDATAVGPILPITHERTGFEGIIGYETHFSGHGHEVHSPFDNHDSKSTSDFSG
                |||||||||||||:|:||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||
orf29-1         RVYAVQTFDATAVSPVLPITHERTGFEGVIGYETHFSGHGHEVHSPFDHHDSKSTSDFSG
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf29a.pep      GVDGGFTVYQLHRTGSEIHPEDGYDGPQGSDYPPPGGARDIYXXYVKGTSTKTKSNIVPR
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:
orf29-1         GVDGGFTVYQLHRTGSEIHPEDGYDGPQGSDYPPPGGARDIYSYYVKGTSTKTKTNIVPQ
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf29a.pep      APFSDRWLKENAGAASGFFSRADEAGKLIWESDPNKNWWANRMDDIRGIVQGAVNPFLMG
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf29-1         APFSDRWLKENAGAASGFFSRADEAGKLIWESDPNKNWWANRMDDVRGIVQGAVNPFLMG
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260       270       280       290       300
orf29a.pep      FQGVGIGAITDSAVSPVTDTAAQQTLQGXNHLGXLSPEAQLAAATALQDSAFAVKDGINS
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| | || ||||||||||: ||||||||||||||
orf29-1         FQGVGIGAITDSAVSPVTDTAAQQTLQGINDLGKLSPEAQLAAASLLQDSAFAVKDGINS
                250       260       270       280       290       300

                310       320       330       340       350       360
orf29a.pep      ARQWADAHPNITATAQTALAVAXAATTVWGGKKVELNPTKWDWVKNTGYXTPAVRTMHTL
                |:||||||||||||||||::| || ||| ||||||||||||||||||  ||:| |:||
orf29-1         AKQWADAHPNITATAQTALSAAEAAGTVWRGKKVELNPTKWDWVKNTGYKKPAARHMQTL
                310       320       330       340       350       360

                370       380       390       400       410       420
orf29a.pep      DGEMAGGNRPPKSITSNSKADASTQPSLQAQLIGEQIXXGHAYNKHVIRQQEFTDLNINS
                ||||||||:| ||:  || |:   |
orf29-1         DGEMAGGNKPIKSLP-NSAAEKRKQNFEKFNSNWSSASFDSVHKTLTPNAPGILSPDKVK
                370       380       390       400       410
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF29 shows 88.8% identity over a 125aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF29.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf29.pep                                    VSPVLPITHERTGFEGVIGYETHFSGHGHE   30
                                             |:|:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf29ng      EPGGKYHLFGNARGSVKNRVCAVQTFDATAVGPILPITHERTGFEGVIGYETHFSGHGHE  102

orf29.pep    VHSPFDHHDSKSTSDFSGGVDGGFTVYQLHRTWSEIHPEDEYDGPQAAXYPPPGGARDIY   90
             ||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||| |||||:: ||||||||||
orf29ng      VHSPFDNHDSKSTSDFSGGVDGGFTVYQLHRTGSEIHPEDGYDGPQGGGYPPPGGARDIY  162

orf29.pep    SYYVKGTSTKTKTSIVPQAPFSDRWLEENAGAASG                            125
             ||:|||||||| : ||||||||||:||||||||
orf29ng      SYHIKGTSTKTKINTVPQAPFSDRWLKENAGAASGFLSRADEAGKLIWENDPDKNWRANR  222
```

The complete length ORF29ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 169> is predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 170>:

```
   1  MNLPIQKFMM LFAAAISLLQ IPISHANGLD ARLRDDMQAK HYEPGGKYHL
  51  FGNARGSVKN RVCAVQTFDA TAVGPILPIT HERTGFEGVI GYETHFSGHG
 101  HEVHSPFDNH DSKSTSDFSG GVDGGFTVYQ LHRTGSEIHP EDGYDGPQGG
 151  GYPPPGGARD IYSYHIKGTS TKTKINTVPQ APFSDRWLKE NAGAASGFLS
 201  RADEAGKLIW ENDPDKNWRA NRMDDIRGIV QGAVNPFLTG FQGLGVGAIT
 251  DSAVSPVTYA AARKTLQGIH NLGNLSPEAQ LAAATALQDS AFAVKDSINS
 301  ARQWADAHPN ITATAQTALA VTEAATTVWG GKKVELNPAK WDWVKNTGYK
 351  KPAARHMQTV DGEMAGGNKP LESKNTVTTN NFFENTGYTE KVLRQASNGD
 401  YHGFPQSVDA FSENGTVIQI VGGDNIVRHK LYIPGSYKGK DGNFEYIREA
 451  DGKINHRLFV PNQQLPEK*
```

In a second experiment, the following DNA sequence <SEQ ID 171> was identified:

```
   1  atgAATTTGC CTATTCAAAA ATTCATGATG ctgttggcAg cggcaatatc
  51  gatgctGCat ATCCCCATTA GTCATGCGAA CGGTTTGGAT GCCCGTTTGC
 101  GCGATGATAT GCAGGCAAAA CACTACGAAC CGGGTGGCAA ATACCATCTG
 151  TTTGGTAATG CTCGCGGCAG TGTTAAAAAT CGGGTTTGCG CCGTCCAAAC
 201  ATTTGATGCA ACTGCGGTCG GCCCCATACT GCCTATTACA CACGAACGGA
 251  CAGGATTTGA AGGTGTTATC GGCTATGAAA CCCATTTTTC AGGACACGGA
 301  CACGAAGTAC ACAGTCCGTT CGATAATCAT GATTCAAAAA GCACTTCTGA
 351  TTTCAGCGGC GGCGTAGACG GCGGTTTTAC CGTTTACCAA CTTCATCGGA
 401  CAGGGTCGGA AATACATCCC GCAGACGGAT ATGACGGGCC TCAAGGCGGC
 451  GGTTATCCGG AACCACAAGG GGCAAGGGAT ATATACAGCT ACCATATCAA
 501  AGGAACTTCA ACCAAAACAA AGATAAACAC TGTTCCGCAA GCCCCTTTTT
 551  CAGACCGCTG GCTAAAAGAA AATGCCGGTG CCGCTTCCGG TTTTCTCAGC
 601  CGTGCGGATG AAGCAGGAAA ACTGATATGG GAAAACGACC CCGATAAAAA
 651  TTGGCGGGCT AACCGTATGG ATGATATTCG CGGCATCGTC CAAGGTGCGG
 701  TTAATCCTTT TTTAACGGGT TTTCAAGGGG TAGGGATTGG GGCAATTACA
 751  GACAGTGCGG TAAGCCCGGT CACAGATACA GCCGCTCAGC AGACTCTACA
 801  AGGTATTAAT GATTTAGGAA ATTTAAGTCC GGAAGCACAA CTTGCCGCCG
 851  CGAGCCTATT ACAGGACAGT GCCTTTGCGG TAAAAGACGG CATCAATTCC
 901  GCCAGACAAT GGGCTGATGC CCATCCGAAT ATAACAGCAA CAGCCCAAAC
 951  TGCCCTTGCC GTAGCAGAGG CCGCAGGTAC GGTTTGGCGC GGTAAAAAAG
1001  TAGAACTTAA CCCGACCAAA TGGGATTGGG TTAAAAATAC CGGCTATAAA
1051  AAACCTGCTG CCCGCCATAT GCAGACTGTA GATGGGGAGA TGGCAGGGGG
1101  GAATAGACCG CCTAAATCTA TAACGTCGGA AGGAAAAGCT AATGCTGCAA
1151  CCTATCCTAA GTTGGTTAAT CAGCTAAATG AGCAAAACTT AAATAACATT
1201  GCGGCTCAAG ATCCAAGATT GAGTCTAGCT ATTCATGAGG GTAAAAAAAA
1251  TTTTCCAATA GGAACTGCAA CTTATGAAGA GGCAGATAGA CTAGGTAAAA
1301  TTTGGGTTGG TGAGGGTGCA AGACAAACTA GTGGAGGCGG ATGGTTAAGT
1351  AGAGATGGCA CTCGACAATA TCGGCCACCA ACAGAAAAAA AATCACAATT
1401  TGCAACTACA GGTATTCAAG CAAATTTTGA AACTTATACT ATTGATTCAA
1451  ATGAAAAAAG AAATAAAATT AAAAATGGAC ATTTAAATAT TAGGTAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 172; ORF29ng-1>:

```
   1  MNLPIQKFMM LLAAAISMLH IPISHANGLD ARLRDDMQAK HYEPGGKYHL
  51  FGNARGSVKN RVCAVQTFDA TAVGPILPIT HERTGFEGVI GYETHFSGHG
```

```
101  HEVHSPFDNH DSKSTSDFSG GVDGGFTVYQ LHRTGSEIHP ADGYDGPQGG
151  GYPEPQGARD IYSYHIKGTS TKTKINTVPQ APFSDRWLKE NAGAASGFLS
201  RADEAGKLIW ENDPDKNWRA NRMDDIRGIV QGAVNPFLTG FQGVGIGAIT
251  DSAVSPVTDT AAQQTLQGIN DLGNLSPEAQ LAAASLLQDS AFAVKDGINS
301  ARQWADAHPN ITATAQTALA VAEAAGTVWR GKKVELNPTK WDWVKNTGYK
351  KPAARHMQTV DGEMAGGNRP PKSITSEGKA NAATYPKLVN QLNEQNLNNI
401  AAQDPRLSLA IHEGKKNFPI GTATYEEADR LGKIWVGEGA RQTSGGGWLS
451  RDGTRQYRPP TEKKSQFATT GIQANFETYT IDSNEKRNKI KNGHLNIR*
```

ORF29ng-1 and ORF29-1 show 86.0% identity in 401 aa overlap:

```
                          10        20        30        40        50        60
orf29ng-1.pep  MNLPIQKFMMLLAAAISMLHIPISHANGLDARLRDDMQAKHYEPGGKYHLFGNARGSVKN
               ||||||||||||:|||||:|:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:
orf29-1        MNLPIQKFMMLFAAAISLLQIPISHANGLDARLRDDMQAKHYEPGGKYHLFGNARGSVKK
                          10        20        30        40        50        60

                          70        80        90       100       110       120
orf29ng-1.pep  RVCAVQTFDATAVGPILPITHERTGFEGVIGYETHFSGHGHEVHSPFDNHDSKSTSDFSG
               || ||||||||||:|:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||
orf29-1        RVYAVQTFDATAVSPVLPITHERTGFEGVIGYETHFSGHGHEVHSPFDHHDSKSTSDFSG
                          70        80        90       100       110       120

                         130       140       150       160       170       180
orf29ng-1.pep  GVDGGFTVYQLHRTGSEIHPADGYDGPQGGGYPEPQGARDIYSYHIKGTSTKTKINTVPQ
               |||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||: || | ||||||||::|||||||| | |||
orf29-1        GVDGGFTVYQLHRTGSEIHPEDGYDGPQGSDYPPPGGARDIYSYYVKGTSTKTKTNIVPQ
                         130       140       150       160       170       180

                         190       200       210       220       230       240
orf29ng-1.pep  APFSDRWLKENAGAASGFLSRADEAGKLIWENDPDKNWRANRMDDIRGIVQGAVNPFLTG
               ||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||:||:||| ||||||:|||||||||||| |
orf29-1        APFSDRWLKENAGAASGFFSRADEAGKLIWESDPNKNWWANRMDDVRGIVQGAVNPFLMG
                         190       200       210       220       230       240

                         250       260       270       280       290       300
orf29ng-1.pep  FQGVGIGAITDSAVSPVTDTAAQQTLQGINDLGNLSPEAQLAAASLLQDSAFAVKDGINS
               |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||
orf29-1        FQGVGIGAITDSAVSPVTDTAAQQTLQGINDLGKLSPEAQLAAASLLQDSAFAVKDGINS
                         250       260       270       280       290       300

                         310       320       330       340       350       360
orf29ng-1.pep  ARQWADAHPNITATAQTALAVAEAAGTVWRGKKVELNPTKWDWVKNTGYKKPAARHMQTV
               |:||||||||||||||||::|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:
orf29-1        AKQWADAHPNITATAQTALSAAEAAGTVWRGKKVELNPTKWDWVKNTGYKKPAARHMQTL
                         310       320       330       340       350       360

                         370       380       390       400       410       419
orf29ng-1.pep  DGEMAGGNRPPKSI-TSEGKANAATYPKLVNQLNEQNLNNIAAQDPRLSLAIHEGKKNFP
               ||||||||:| ||: :| ::    :: |: :: :  :::::
orf29-1        DGEMAGGNKPIKSLPNSAAEKRKQNFEKFNSNWSSASFDSVHKTLTPNAPGILSPDKVKT
                         370       380       390       400       410       420

                420       430       440       450       460       470       479
orf29ng-1.pep  IGTATYEEADRLGKIWVGEGARQTSGGGWLSRDGTRQYRPPTEKKSQFATTGIQANFETY

orf29-1        RYTSLDGKITIIKDNENNYFRIHDNSRKQYLDSNGNAVKTGNLQGKQAKDYLQQQTHIRN
                         430       440       450       460       470       480
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of a putative leader sequence in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 21

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 173>:

```
   1  ATGAAAAAAC AAATCACCGC AGCCGTAATG ATGCTGTCTA TGATTGCCCC
  51  CGCAATGGCA AACGGCTTGG ACAATCAGGC ATTTGAAGAC CAAATGTTCC
 101  ACACGCGGGC AGATGCACCG ATGCAG...
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 174; ORF30>:

```
   1  MKKQITAAVM MLSMIAPAMA NGLDNQAFED QMFHTRADAP MQ..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 175>:

```
   1  ATGAAAAAAC AAATCACCGC AGCCGTAATG ATGCTGTCTA TGATTGCCCC
  51  CGCAATGGCA AACGGCTTGG ACAATCAGGC ATTTGAAGAC CAAGTGTTCC
 101  ACACGCGGGC AGATGCACCG ATGCAGTTGG CGGAGCTTTC TCAAAAGGAG
 151  ATGAAGGAGA CAGAGGGGGC GTTTCTTCCA TTGGCTATCT TGGGTGGTGC
 201  TGCCATTGGT ATGTGGACAC AGCATGGTTT TAGTTATGCA ACGACAGGCA
 251  GACCAGCTTC TGTTAGAGAT GTTGCTATTG CTGGCGGATT AGGCGCAATT
 301  CCTGGTGGTG TAGGCGCCGC AGGAAAGGTT GTTTCCTTTG CTAAATATGG
 351  ACGTGAGATT AAAATCGGCA ATAATATGCG GATAGCCCCT TTCGGTAATA
 401  GAACAGGTCA TCCTATTGGA AAATTTCCCC ATTATCATCG TCGAGTTACG
 451  GATAATACGG GCAAGACTTT GCCTGGACAG GGAATTGGTC GTCATCGCCC
 501  TTGGGAATCA AAATCTACGG ACAGATCATG GAAAAACCGC TTCTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 176; ORF30-1>:

```
   1  MKKQITAAVM MLSMIAPAMA NGLDNQAFED QVFHTRADAP MQLAELSQKE
  51  MKETEGAFLP LAILGGAAIG MWTQHGFSYA TTGRPASVRD VAIAGGLGAI
 101  PGGVGAAGKV VSFAKYGREI KIGNNMRIAP FGNRTGHPIG KFPHYHRRVT
 151  DNTGKTLPGQ GIGRHRPWES KSTDRSWKNR F*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF30 shows 97.6% identity over a 42aa overlap with an ORF (ORF30a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                10        20        30        40
orf30.pep       MKKQITAAVMMLSMIAPAMANGLDNQAFEDQMFHTRADAPMQ
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||
orf30a          MKKQITAAVMMLSMIAPAMANGLDNQAFEDQVFHTRADAPMQLAELSQKEMKXTXGAFLP
                10        20        30        40        50        60

orf30a          LXILGGAAIGMWTQHGFSYATTGRPASVRDVAIAGGLGAIPGXVGAAGKVVSFAKYGREI
                70        80        90        100       110       120
```

The complete length ORF30a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 177> is:

```
   1  ATGAAAAAAC AAATCACCGC AGCCGTAATG ATGCTGTCTA TGATTGCCCC
  51  CGCAATGGCA AACGGCTTGG ACAATCAGGC ATTTGAAGAC CAAGTGTTCC
 101  ACACGCGGGC AGATGCACCG ATGCAGTTGG CGGAGCTTTC TCAAAAGGAG
 151  ATGAAGGANA CAGNGGGGGC GTTTCTTCCA TTGGNTATCT TGGGTGGTGC
 201  TGCCATTGGT ATGTGGACAC AGCATGGTTT TAGTTATGCA ACGACAGGCA
 251  GACCAGCTTC TGTTAGAGAT GTTGCTATTG CTGGCGGATT AGGCGCAATT
 301  CCTGGTGNTG TAGGCGCCGC AGGAAAGGTT GTTTCCTTTG CTAAATATGG
 351  ACGTGAGATT AAAATCGGCA ATAATATGCG GATAGCCCCT TTCGGTAATA
 401  GAACAGGTCA TCCTATTGGN AAATTTCCCC ATTATCATCG TCGAGTTACG
 451  GATAATACGG GCAAGACTTT GCCTGGACAG GGAATTGGTC GTCATCGCCC
 501  TTGGGAATCA AAATCTACGG ACAGATCATG GAAAAACCGC TTCTAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 178>:

```
   1  MKKQITAAVM MLSMIAPAMA NGLDNQAFED QVFHTRADAP MQLAELSQKE
  51  MKXTXGAFLP LXILGGAAIG MWTQHGFSYA TTGRPASVRD VAIAGGLGAI
 101  PGXVGAAGKV VSFAKYGREI KIGNNMRIAP FGNRTGHPIG KFPHYHRRVT
 151  DNTGKTLPGQ GIGRHRPWES KSTDRSWKNR F*
```

ORF30a and ORF30-1 show 97.8% identity in 181 aa overlap:

```
orf30a.pep      MKKQITAAVMMLSMIAPAMANGLDNQAFEDQVFHTRADAPMQLAELSQKEMKXTXGAFLP  60
```

```
                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| | |||||
orf30-1          MKKQITAAVMMLSMIAPAMANGLDNQAFEDQVFHTRADAPMQLAELSQKEMKETEGAFLP  60

orf30a.pep       LXILGGAAIGMWTQHGFSYATTGRPASVRDVAIAGGLGAIPGXVGAAGKVVSFAKYGREI 120
                 | ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||
orf30-1          LAILGGAAIGMWTQHGFSYATTGRPASVRDVAIAGGLGAIPGGVGAAGKVVSFAKYGREI 120

orf30a.pep       KIGNNMRIAPFGNRTGHPIGKFPHYHRRVTDNTGKTLPGQGIGRHRPWESKSTDRSWKNR 180
                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf30-1          KIGNNMRIAPFGNRTGHPIGKFPHYHRRVTDNTGKTLPGQGIGRHRPWESKSTDRSWKNR 180

orf30a.pep       FX
                 ||
orf30-1          FX
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF30 shows 97.6% identity over a 42aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF30.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf30.pep        MKKQITAAVMMLSMIAPAMANGLDNQAFEDQMFHTRADAPMQ                    42
                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||
orf30ng          MKKQITAAVMMLSMIAPAMANGLDNQAFEDQVFHTRADAPMQLAELSQKEMKETEGAFLP  60
```

The complete length ORF30ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 179> is

```
   1  ATGAAAAAAC AAATCACCGC AGCCGTAATG ATGCTGTCTA TGATCGCCCC
  51  CGCAATGGCA AACGGATTGG ACAATCAGGC ATTTGAAGAC CAAGTGTTCC
 101  ACACGCGGGC AGATGCGCCG ATGCAGTTGG CGGAGCTTTC TCAGAAGGAG
 151  ATGAAGGAGA CTGAAGGGGC TTTTCTTCCA TTGGCTATCT TGGGTGGTGC
 201  TGCCATTGGT ATGTGGACAC AGCATGGTTT TAGTTATGCA ACGACAGGCA
 251  GACCAGCTTC TGTTAGAGAT GTTGCTGGCG GATTAGGCGC AATTCCTGGT
 301  GATGTAGGTG CTGCAGGAAA GGTTGTTTCC TTTGCTAAAT ATGGACGTGA
 351  GATTAAAATC GGCAATAATA TGCGGATAGC CCCTTTCGGT AATAGAACAG
 401  GTCATCCTAT TGGAAAATTT CCCCATTATC ATCGTCGAGT TACGGATAAT
 451  ACGGGCAAGA CTTTGCCTGG ACAGGGAATT GGTCGTCATC GCCCTTGGGA
 501  ATCAAAATCT ACGGACAGAT CATGGAAAAA CCGCTTCTAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 180>:

```
   1  MKKQITAAVM MLSMIAPAMA NGLDNQAFED QVFHTRADAP MQLAELSQKE
  51  MKETEGAFLP LAILGGAAIG MWTQHGFSYA TTGRPASVRD VAGGLGAIPG
 101  DVGAAGKVVS FAKYGREIKI GNNMRIAPFG NRTGHPIGKF PHYHRRVTDN
 151  TGKTLPGQGI GRHRPWESKS TDRSWKNRF*
```

ORF30ng and ORF30-1 show 98.3% identity in 181 aa overlap:

```
                        10        20        30        40        50        60
orf30ng.pep      MKKQITAAVMMLSMIAPAMANGLDNQAFEDQVFHTRADAPMQLAELSQKEMKETEGAFLP
                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf30-1          MKKQITAAVMMLSMIAPAMANGLDNQAFEDQVFHTRADAPMQLAELSQKEMKETEGAFLP
                        10        20        30        40        50        60

                        70        80        90        100       110
orf30ng.pep      LAILGGAAIGMWTQHGFSYATTGRPASVRDVA--GGLGAIPGDVGAAGKVVSFAKYGREI
                 |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||  ||||||| ||||||||||||||||||
orf30-1          LAILGGAAIGMWTQHGFSYATTGRPASVRDVAIAGGLGAIPGGVGAAGKVVSFAKYGREI
                        70        80        90        100       110       120

                120       130       140       150       160       170
orf30ng.pep      KIGNNMRIAPFGNRTGHPIGKFPHYHRRVTDNTGKTLPGQGIGRHRPWESKSTDRSWKNR
                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf30-1          KIGNNMRIAPFGNRTGHPIGKFPHYHRRVTDNTGKTLPGQGIGRHRPWESKSTDRSWKNR
                       130       140       150       160       170       180

                180
orf30ng.pep      FX
                 ||
orf30-1          FX
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of a putative leader sequence in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 22

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 181>:

```
   1  ATGAATAAAA CTCTCTATCG TGTAATTTTC AACCGCAAAC GTGGGGCTGT
  51  GrTAGCCGTT GCTGAAACTA CCAAGCGCGA AGGTAAAAGC TGTGCCGATA
 101  GTGATTCAGG CAGCGCTCAT GTGAAATCTG TTCCTTTTGG TACTACTCAT
 151  GCACCTGTTT GTg.CGTTaC AAATATCTTT TCTTTTTCTT TATTGGGCTT
 201  TTCTTTATGT TTGGCTGTAG GtacGGyCAA TATTGCTTTT GCTGATGGCA
 251  TT..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 182; ORF31>:

```
   1  MNKTLYRVIF NRKRGAVXAV AETTKREGKS CADSDSGSAH VKSVPFGTTH
  51  APVCXVTNIF SFSLLGFSLC LAVGTXNIAF ADGI..
```

Further work revealed a further partial nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 183>:

```
   1  ATGAATAAAA CTCTCTATCG TGTAATTTTC AACCGCAAAC GTGGGGCTGT
  51  GGTAGCCGTT GCTGAAACTA CCAAGCGCGA AGGTAAAAGC TGTGCCGATA
 101  GTGATTCAGG CAGCGCTCAT GTGAAATCTG TTCCTTTTGG TACTACTCAT
 151  GCACCTGTTT GTCGTTCAAA TATCTTTTCT TTTTCTTTAT TGGGCTTTTC
 201  TTTATGTTTG GCTGTAGGTA CGGCCAATAT TGCTTTTGCT GATGGCATT..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 184; ORF31-1>:

```
   1  MNKTLYRVIF NRKRGAVVAV AETTKREGKS CADSDSGSAH VKSVPFGTTH
  51  APVCRSNIFS FSLLGFSLCL AVGTANIAFA DGI..
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF31 shows 76.2% identity over a 84aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF31.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf31.pep    MNKTLYRVIFNRKRGAVXAVAETTKREGKSCADSDSGSAHVKSVPFGTTHAPVCXVTNIF   60
             ||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||| |||::|||| |  ||      :: |
orf31ng      MNKTLYRVIFNRKRGAVVAVAETTKREGKSCADSGSGSVYVKSVSFIPTH------SKAF   54

orf31.pep    SFSLLGFSLCLAVGTXNIAFADGI                                      84
              || ||||||||:|| ||||||||
orf31ng      CFSALGFSLCLALGTVNIAFADGIITDKAAPKTQQATILQTGNGIPQVNIQTPTSAGVSV  114
```

The complete length ORF31ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 185> is:

```
   1  ATGAACAAAA CCCTCTATCG TGTGATTTTC AACCGCAAAC GCGGTGCTGT
  51  GGTAGCTGTT GCCGAAACCA CCAAGCGCGA AGGTAAAAGC TGTGCCGATA
 101  GTGGTTCGGG CAGCGTTTAT GTGAAATCCG TTTCTTTCAT TCCTACTCAT
 151  TCCAAAGCCT TTTGTTTTTC TGCATTAGGC TTTTCTTTAT GTTTGGCTTT
 201  GGGTACGGTC AATATTGCTT TTGCTGACGG CATTATTACT GATAAAGCTG
 251  CTCCTAAAAC CCAACAAGCC ACGATTCTGC AAACAGGTaa cGGCATACCG
 301  CAAGTCAATA TTCAAACCCC TACTTCGGCA GGGGTTTCTG TTAATCAATA
 351  TGCCCAGTTT GATGTGGGTA ATCGCGGGGC GATTTTAAAC AACAGTCGCA
 401  GCAACACCCA AACACAGCTA GGCGGTTGGA TTCAAGGCAA TCCTTGGTTG
 451  ACAAGGGGCG AAGCACGTGT GGTTGTAAAC CAAATCAACA GCAGCCATCC
 501  TTCACAACTG AATGGCTATA TTGAAGTGGG TGGACGACGT GCAGAAGTCG
 551  TTATTGCCAA TCCGGCAGGG ATTGCAGTCA ATGGTGGTGG TTTTATCAAT
 601  GCTTCCCGTG CCACTTTGAC GACAGGCCAA CCGCAATATC AAGCAGGAGA
 651  CTTTAGCGGC TTTAAGATAA GGCAAGGCAA TGCTGTAATC GCCGGACACG
```

```
701  GTTTGGATGC CCGTGATACC GATTTCACAC GTATTCTTGT ATGCCAACAA
751  AATCACCTTG ATCAGTACGG CCGAACAAGC AGGCATTCGT AA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 186>:

```
  1  MNKTLYRVIF NRKRGAVVAV AETTKREGKS CADSGSGSVY VKSVSFIPTH
 51  SKAFCFSALG FSLCLALGTV NIAFADGIIT DKAAPKTQQA TILQTGNGIP
101  QVNIQTPTSA GVSVNQYAQF DVGNRGAILN NSRSNTQTQL GGWIQGNPWL
151  TRGEARVVVN QINSSHPSQL NGYIEVGGRR AEVVIANPAG IAVNGGGFIN
201  ASRATLTTGQ PQYQAGDFSG FKIRQGNAVI AGHGLDARDT DFTRILVCQQ
251  NHLDQYGRTS RHS*
```

This gonococcal protein shares 50% identity over a 149aa overlap with the pore-forming hemolysins-like HecA protein from *Erwinia chrysanthemi* (accession number L39897):

```
orf31ng   96  GNGIPQVNIQTPTSAGVSVNQYAQFDVGNRGAILNNSRSN-TQTQLGGWIQGNPWLTRGE 154
              GNG+P VNI TP ++G+S N+Y  F+V NRG ILNN  +  T +QLGG IQ NP L
HecA      45  GNGVPVVNIATPDASGLSHNRYHDFNVDNRGLILNNGTARLTPSQLGGLIQNNPNLNGRA 104

Orf31ng  155  ARVVVNQINSSHPSQLNGYIEVGGRRAEVVIANPAGIAVNGGGFINASRATLTTGQPQYQ 214
              A  ++N++ S + S+L GY+EV G+ A VV+ANP GI  +G GF+N  R TLTTG PQ+
HecA     105  AAAILNEVVSPNRSRLAGYLEVAGQAANVVVANPYGITCSGCGFLNTPRLTLTTGTPQFD 164

Orf31ng  215  -AGDFSGFKIRQGNAVIAGHGLDARDTDF 242
               AG  SG  +R G+ +I G GLDA  +D+
HecA     165  AAGGLSGLDVRGGDILIDGAGLDASRSDY 193
```

Furthermore, ORF31ng and ORF31-1 show 79.5% identity in 83 aa overlap:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf31-1.pep  MNKTLYRVIFNRKRGAVVAVAETTKREGKSCADSDSGSAHVKSVPFGTTHAPVCRSNIFS
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||::|||| |  ||     |: |
orf31ng      MNKTLYRVIFNRKRGAVVAVAETTKREGKSCADSGSGSVYVKSVSFIPTH-----SKAFC
                    10        20        30        40        50

                    70        80
orf31-1.pep  FSLLGFSLCLAVGTANIAFADGI
             || ||||||||:||:||||||||
orf31ng      FSALGFSLCLALGTVNIAFADGIITDKAAPKTQQATILQTGNGIPQVNIQTPTSAGVSVN
                60        70        80        90       100       110
```

On this basis, including the homology with hemolysins, and also with adhesins, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 23

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 187>:

```
  1  ATGAATACTC CTCCTTTTGT CTGTTGGATT TTTTGCAAGG TCATCGACAA
 51  TTTCGGCGAC ATCGGCGTTT CGTGGCGGCT CGCCCGTGTT TTGCACCGCG
101  AACTCGGTTG GCAGGTGCAT TTGTGGACGG ACGATGTGTC CGCCTTGCGT
151  GCGCTTTGCC CTGATTTGCC CGATGTTCCC TGCGTTCATC AGGATATTCA
201  TGTCCGCACT TGGCATTCCG ATGCGGCAGA TATTGATACC GCG..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 188; ORF32>:

```
  1  MNTPPFVCWI FCKVIDNFGD IGVSWRLARV LHRELGWQVH LWTDDVSALR
 51  ALCPDLPDVP CVHQDIHVRT WHSDAADIDT A..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 189>:

```
  1  ATGAATACTC CTCCTTTTGT CTGTTGGATT TTTTGCAAGG TCATCGACAA
 51  TTTCGGCGAC ATCGGCGTTT CGTGGCGGCT CGCCCGTGTT TTGCACCGCG
101  AACTCGGTTG GCAGGTGCAT TTGTGGACGG ACGATGTGTC CGCCTTGCGT
```

```
 151  GCGCTTTGCC CTGATTTGCC CGATGTTCCC TGCGTTCATC AGGATATTCA
 201  TGTCCGCACT TGGCATTCCG ATGCGGCAGA TATTGATACC GCGCCTGTTC
 251  CCGATGTCGT CATCGAAACT TTTGCCTGCG ACCTGCCCGA AAATGTGCTG
 301  CACATTATCC GCCGACACAA GCCGCTTTGG CTGAATTGGG AATATTTGAG
 351  CGCGGAGGAA AGCAATGAAA GGCTGCATCT GATGCCTTCG CCGCAGGAGG
 401  GTGTTCAAAA ATATTTTTGG TTTATGGGTT TCAGCGAAAA AAGCGGCGGG
 451  TTGATACGCG AACGTGATTA CTGCGAAGCC GTCCGTTTCG ATACTGAAGC
 501  CCTGCGAGAG CGGCTGATGC TGCCCGAAAA AAACGCCTCC GAATGGCTGC
 551  TTTTCGGCTA TCGGAGCGAT GTTTGGGCAA AGTGGCTGGA AATGTGGCGA
 601  CAGGCAGGCA GCCCGATGAC ACTGTTGCTG GCGGGGACGC AAATCATCGA
 651  CAGCCTCAAA CAAAGCGGCG TTATTCCGCA AGATGCCCTG CAAAACGACG
 701  GCGATGTTTT TCAGACGGCA TCCGTCCGCC TCGTCAAAAT CCCTTTCGTG
 751  CCGCAACAGG ACTTCGACCA ACTGCTGCAC CTTGCCGACT GCGCCGTCAT
 801  CCGCGGCGAA GACAGTTTCG TGCGCGCCCA GCTTGCGGGC AAACCCTTCT
 851  TTTGGCACAT CTACCCGCAA GACGAGAATG TCCATCTCGA CAAACTCCAC
 901  GCCTTTTGGG ATAAGGCACA CGGTTTCTAC ACGCCCGAAA CCGTGTCGGC
 951  ACACCGCCGT CTTTCGGACG ACCTCAACGG CGGAGAGGCT TTATCCGCAA
1001  CACAACGCCT CGAATGTTGG CAAACCCTGC AACAACATCA AAACGGCTGG
1051  CGGCAAGGCG CGGAGGATTG GAGCCGTTAT CTTTTCGGGC AGCCGTCAGC
1101  TCCTGAAAAA CTCGCTGCCT TTGTTTCAAA GCATCAAAAA ATACGCTAG
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 190; ORF32-1>:

```
   1  MNTPPFVCWI FCKVIDNFGD IGVSWRLARV LHRELGWQVH LWTDDVSALR
  51  ALCPDLPDVP CVHQDIHVRT WHSDAADIDT APVPDVVIET FACDLPENVL
 101  HIIRRHKPLW LNWEYLSAEE SNERLHLMPS PQEGVQKYFW FMGFSEKSGG
 151  LIRERDYCEA VRFDTEALRE RLMLPEKNAS EWLLFGYRSD VWAKWLEMWR
 201  QAGSPMTLLL AGTQIIDSLK QSGVIPQDAL QNDGDVFQTA SVRLVKIPFV
 251  PQQDFDQLLH LADCAVIRGE DSFVRAQLAG KPFFWHIYPQ DENVHLDKLH
 301  AFWDKAHGFY TPETVSAHRR LSDDLNGGEA LSATQRLECW QTLQQHQNGW
 351  RQGAEDWSRY LFGQPSAPEK LAAFVSKHQK IR*w
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF32 shows 93.8% identity over a 81aa overlap with an ORF (ORF32a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf32.pep   MNTPPFVCWIFCKVIDNFGDIGVSWRLARVLHRELGWQVHLWTDDVSALRALCPDLPDVP
            ||||||    ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf32a      MNTPPFSAGXFCKVIDNFGDIGVSWRLARVLHRELGWQVHLWTDDVSALRALCPDLPDVX
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80
orf32.pep   CVHQDIHVRTWHSDAADIDTA
            |||||||||||||||||||||
orf32a      CVHQDIHVRTWHSDAADIDTAPVXDVVIETFACDLPENVLHIIRRHKPLWLXWEYLSAEX
                70        80        90       100       110       120
```

The complete length ORF32a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 191> is:

```
   1  ATGAATACTC CTCCTTTTTC TGCTGGANTT TTTTGCAAGG TCATCGACAA
  51  TTTCGGCGAC ATCGGCGTTT CGTGGCGGCT TGCCCGTGTT TTGCACCGCG
 101  AACTCGGTTG GCAGGTGCAT TTGTGGACGG ACGATGTGTC CGCCTTGCGT
 151  GCGCTTTGCC CTGATTTGCC CGATGTTCNC TGCGTTCATC AGGATATTCA
 201  TGTCCGCACT TGGCATTCCG ATGCGGCAGA TATTGATACC GCGCCTGTTC
 251  NCGATGTCGT CATCGAAACT TTTGCCTGCG ACCTGCCCGA AAATGTGCTG
 301  CACATCATCC GCCGACACAA GCCGCTTTGG CTGAANTGGG AATATTTGAG
 351  CGCGGAGGAN AGCAATGAAA GGCTGCACNT GATGCCTTCG CCGCAGGAGA
 401  GTGTTCNAAA ATANTTTTGG TTTATGGGTT TCAGCGAANN NAGCGGCGGA
 451  CTGATACGCG AACGCGATTA CTGCGAAGCC GTCCGTTTCG ATAGCGGAGC
 501  CTTGCGCAAG AGGCTGATGC TTCCCGAAAA AAACGNCCCC GAATGGCTGC
 551  TTTTCGGCTA TCGGAGCGAT GTTTGGGCAA AGTGGCTGGA AATGTGGCGA
 601  CAGGCAGGCA GTCCGTTGAC ACTTTTGCTG GCNGGGGCGC ANATTATCGA
 651  CAGCCTCAAA CAAAACGGCG TTATTCCGCA AGATGCCCTG CAAAACGACG
 701  GCGATGTTTT TCAGACGGCA TCCGTCCGCC TCGTCAAAAT CCCTTTCGTG
 751  CCGCAACAGG ACTTCGACAA ACTGCTGCAC CTTGCCGACT GCGCCGTCAT
```

```
 801  CCGCGGCGAA GACAGTTTCG TGCGCGCCCA GCTTGCGGGC AAACCCTTCT
 851  TTTGGCACAT GTACCCGCAA GATGAGAATG TCCATCTCGA CAAACTCCAC
 901  GCCTTTTGGG ATAAGGCACA CGGTTTCTAC ACGCCCGAAA CCGCATCGGC
 951  ACACCGCCGC CTTTCAGACG ACCTCAACGG CGGAGAGGCT TTATCCGCAA
1001  CACAACGCCT CGAATGTTGG CAAATCCTGC AACAACATCA AAACGGCTGG
1051  CGGCAAGGCG CGGAGGATTG GAGCCGTTAT CTTTTTGGGC AGCCTTCCGC
1101  ATCCGAAAAA CTCGCCGCCT TTGTTTCAAA GCATCAAAAA ATACGCTAG
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 192>:

```
   1  MNTPPFSAGX FCKVIDNFGD IGVSWRLARV LHRELGWQVH LWTDDVSALR
  51  ALCPDLPDVX CVHQDIHVRT WHSDAADIDT APVXDVVIET FACDLPENVL
 101  HIIRRHKPLW LXWEYLSAEX SNERLHXMPS PQESVXKXFW FMGFSEXSGG
 151  LIRERDYCEA VRFDSGALRK RLMLPEKNXP EWLLFGYRSD VWAKWLEMWR
 201  QAGSPLTLLL AGAXIIDSLK QNGVIPQDAL QNDGDVFQTA SVRLVKIPFV
 251  PQQDFDKLLH LADCAVIRGE DSFVRAQLAG KPFFWHIYPQ DENVHLDKLH
 301  AFWDKAHGFY TPETASAHRR LSDDLNGGEA LSATQRLECW QILQQHQNGW
 351  RQGAEDWSRY LFGQPSASEK LAAFVSKHQK IR*
```

ORF32a and ORF32-1 show 93.2% identity in 382 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf32-1.pep     MNTPPFVCWIFCKVIDNFGDIGVSWRLARVLHRELGWQVHLWTDDVSALRALCPDLPDVP
                ||||||    ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf32a          MNTPPFSAGXFCKVIDNFGDIGVSWRLARVLHRELGWQVHLWTDDVSALRALCPDLPDVX
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf32-1.pep     CVHQDIHVRTWHSDAADIDTAPVPDVVIETFACDLPENVLHIIRRHKPLWLNWEYLSAEE
                |||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||
orf32a          CVHQDIHVRTWHSDAADIDTAPVXDVVIETFACDLPENVLHIIRRHKPLWLXWEYLSAEX
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf32-1.pep     SNERLHLMPSPQEGVQKYFWFMGFSEKSGGLIRERDYCEAVRFDTEALRERLMLPEKNAS
                |||||| |||||:| | |||||||| ||||||||||||||||: |||:||||||||
orf32a          SNERLHXMPSPQESVXKXFWFMGFSEXSGGLIRERDYCEAVRFDSGALRKRLMLPEKNXP
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf32-1.pep     EWLLFGYRSDVWAKWLEMWRQAGSPMTLLLAGTQIIDSLKQSGVIPQDALQNDGDVFQTA
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||: |||||||:||||||||||||||||||
orf32a          EWLLFGYRSDVWAKWLEMWRQAGSPLTLLLAGAXIIDSLKQNGVIPQDALQNDGDVFQTA
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260       270       280       290       300
orf32-1.pep     SVRLVKIPFVPQQDFDQLLHLADCAVIRGEDSFVRAQLAGKPFFWHIYPQDENVHLDKLH
                |||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf32a          SVRLVKIPFVPQQDFDKLLHLADCAVIRGEDSFVRAQLAGKPFFWHIYPQDENVHLDKLH
                250       260       270       280       290       300

                310       320       330       340       350       360
orf32-1.pep     AFWDKAHGFYTPETVSAHRRLSDDLNGGEALSATQRLECWQTLQQHQNGWRQGAEDWSRY
                ||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||
orf32a          AFWDKAHGFYTPETASAHRRLSDDLNGGEALSATQRLECWQILQQHQNGWRQGAEDWSRY
                310       320       330       340       350       360

                370       380
orf32-1.pep     LFGQPSAPEKLAAFVSKHQKIRX
                ||||||| ||||||||||||||
orf32a          LFGQPSASEKLAAFVSKHQKIRX
                370       380
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF32 shows 95.1% identity over a 82aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF32.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf32.pep       MNTPPF-VCWIFCKVIDNFGDIGVSWRLARVLHRELGWQVHLWTDDVSALRALCPDLP   57
                |||   | ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
```

```
orf32ng      MVMNTYAFPVCWIFCKVIDNFGDIGVSWRLARVLHRELGWQVHLWTDDVSALRALCPDLP   60

orf32.pep    DVPCVHQDIHVRTWHSDAADIDTA                                       81
             ||| ||||||||||||||||||||
orf32ng      DVPFVHQDIHVRTWHSDAADIDTAPVPDAVIETFACDLPENVLNIIRRHKPLWLNWEYLS  120
```

An ORF32ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 193> was predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 194>:

```
   1  MVMNTYAFPV CWIFCKVIDN FGDIGVSWRL ARVLHRELGW QVHLWTDDVS
  51  ALRALCPDLP DVPFVHQDIH VRTWHSDAAD IDTAPVPDAV IETFACDLPE
 101  NVLNIIRRHK PLWLNWEYLS AEESNERLHL MPSPQEGVQK YFWFMGFSEK
 151  SGGLIRERDY REAVRFDTEA LRRRLVLPEK NAPEWLLFGY RGDVWAKWLD
 201  MWQQAGSLMT LLLAGAQIID SLKQSGVIPQ NALQNEGGVF QTASVRLVKI
 251  PFVPQQDFDK LLHLADCAVI RGEDSFVRTQ LAGKPFFWHI YPQDENVHLD
 301  KLHAFWDKAY GFYTPETASV HRLLSDDLNG GEALSATQRL ECGVL*
```

Further sequencing revealed the following DNA sequence <SEQ ID 195>:

```
   1  ATGAATACAT ACGCTTTTCC TGTCTGTTGG ATTTTTTGCA AGGTCATCGA
  51  CAATTTCGGC GACATCGGCG TTTCGTGGCG GCTCGCCCGT GTTTTGCACC
 101  GCGAACTCGG TTGGCAGGTG CATTTGTGGA CGGACGACGT GTCCGCCTTG
 151  CGCGCGCTTT GTCCCGATTT GCCCGATGTT CCCTTCGTTC ATCAGGATAT
 201  TCATGTCCGC ACTTGGCATT CCGATGCGGC AGACATTGAT ACCGCGCCCG
 251  TTCCCGATGC CGTTATCGAA ACTTTTGCCT GCGACCTGCC CGAAAATGTG
 301  CTGAACATCA TCCGCCGACA CAAACCGCTT TGGCTGAATT GGGAATATTT
 351  GAGCGCGGAG GAAAGCAATG AAAGGCTGCA CCTGATGCCT TCGCCGCAGG
 401  AGGGCGTTCA AAAATATTTT TGGTTTATGG GTTTCAGCGA AAAAAGCGGC
 451  GGGTTGATAC GCGAACGCGA TTACCGCGAA GCCGTCCGTT TCGATACCGA
 501  AGCCCTGCGC CGGCGGCTGG TGCTGCCCGA AAAAAACGCC CCCGAATGGC
 551  TGCTTTTCGG CTATCGGGGC GATGTTTGGG CAAAGTGGCT GGACATGTGG
 601  CAACAGGCAG GCAGCCTGAT GACCCTACTG CTGGCGGGGG CGCAAATTAT
 651  CGACAGCCTC AAACAAAGCG GCGTTATTCC GCAAAACGCC CTGCAAAATg
 701  aaggcgGTGT CTTTCagacG gcatccgTcC gccttGTCAA AAtcCCGTTC
 751  GTGCcGCAAC AGGAcTTCGA CAAATTGCTG CAcctcgcCG ACTGCGCCGT
 801  GATACGCGGC GAAGACAGTT TCGTGCGTAC CCAGCTTGCC GGAAAACCCT
 851  TTTTTTGGCA CATCTACCCG CAAGACGAGA ATGTCCATCT CGACAAACTC
 901  CACGCCTTTT GGGATAAGGC ATACGGCTTC TACACGCCCG AAACCGCATC
 951  GGTGCACCGC CTCCTTTCGG ACGACCTCAA CGGCGGAGAG GCTTTATCCG
1001  CAACACAACG CCTCGAATGT TGGCAAACCC TGCAACAACA TCAAAACGGC
1051  TGGCGGCAAG GCGCGGAGGA TTGGAGCCGT TATCTTTTCG GGCAGCCTTC
1101  CGCATCCGAA AAACTCGCCG CCTTTGTTTC AAAGCATCAA AAAATACGCT
1151  AG
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 196; ORF32ng-1>:

```
   1  MNTYAFPVCW IFCKVIDNFG DIGVSWRLAR VLHRELGWQV HLWTDDVSAL
  51  RALCPDLPDV PFVHQDIHVR TWHSDAADID TAPVPDAVIE TFACDLPENV
 101  LNIIRRHKPL WLNWEYLSAE ESNERLHLMP SPQEGVQKYF WFMGFSEKSG
 151  GLIRERDYRE AVRFDTEALR RRLVLPEKNA PEWLLFGYRG DVWAKWLDMW
 201  QQAGSLMTLL LAGAQIIDSL KQSGVIPQNA LQNEGGVFQT ASVRLVKIPF
 251  VPQQDFDKLL HLADCAVIRG EDSFVRTQLA GKPFFWHIYP QDENVHLDKL
 301  HAFWDKAYGF YTPETASVHR LLSDDLNGGE ALSATQRLEC WQTLQQHQNG
 351  WRQGAEDWSR YLFGQPSASE KLAAFVSKHQ KIR*
```

ORF32ng-1 and ORF32-1 show 93.5% identity in 383 aa overlap:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        59
orf32-1.pep     MNTPPF-VCWIFCKVIDNFGDIGVSWRLARVLHRELGWQVHLWTDDVSALRALCPDLPDV
                ||| | ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf32ng-1       MNTYAFPVCWIFCKVIDNFGDIGVSWRLARVLHRELGWQVHLWTDDVSALRALCPDLPDV
                        10        20        30        40        50        60

               60        70        80        90       100       110       119
orf32-1.pep     PCVHQDIHVRTWHSDAADIDTAPVPDVVIETFACDLPENVLHIIRRHKPLWLNWEYLSAE
                | ||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||
orf32ng-1       PFVHQDIHVRTWHSDAADIDTAPVPDAVIETFACDLPENVLNIIRRHKPLWLNWEYLSAE
                        70        80        90       100       110       120

              120       130       140       150       160       170       179
```

```
orf32-1.pep    ESNERLHLMPSPQEGVQKYFWFMGFSEKSGGLIRERDYCEAVRFDTEALRERLMLPEKNA
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||:||||||
orf32ng-1      ESNERLHLMPSPQEGVQKYFWFMGFSEKSGGLIRERDYREAVRFDTEALRRRLVLPEKNA
                      130       140       150       160       170       180

               180       190       200       210       220       230       239
orf32-1.pep    SEWLLFGYRSDVWAKWLEMWRQAGSPMTLLLAGTQIIDSLKQSGVIPQDALQNDGDVFQT
               ||||||||:|||||||:||:|||| |||||||:||||||||||||||:||||:| ||||
orf32ng-1      PEWLLFGYRGDVWAKWLDMWQQAGSLMTLLLAGAQIIDSLKQSGVIPQNALQNEGGVFQT
                      190       200       210       220       230       240

               240       250       260       270       280       290       299
orf32-1.pep    ASVRLVKIPFVPQQDFDQLLHLADCAVIRGEDSFVRAQLAGKPFFWHIYPQDENVHLDKL
               ||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf32ng-1      ASVRLVKIPFVPQQDFDKLLHLADCAVIRGEDSFVRTQLAGKPFFWHIYPQDENVHLDKL
                      250       260       270       280       290       300

               300       310       320       330       340       350       359
orf32-1.pep    HAFWDKAHGFYTPETVSAHRRLSDDLNGGEALSATQRLECWQTLQQHQNGWRQGAEDWSR
               |||||||:|||||||:|:|| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf32ng-1      HAFWDKAYGFYTPETASVHRLLSDDLNGGEALSATQRLECWQTLQQHQNGWRQGAEDWSR
                      310       320       330       340       350       360

               360       370       380
orf32-1.pep    YLFGQPSAPEKLAAFVSKHQKIRX
               |||||||| ||||||||||||||
orf32ng-1      YLFGQPSASEKLAAFVSKHQKIRX
                      370       380
```

On this basis, including the RGD sequence in the gonococcal protein, characteristic of adhesins, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

ORF32-1 (42kDa) was cloned in pET and pGex vectors and expressed in *E.coli*, as described above. The products of protein expression and purification were analyzed by SDS-PAGE. Figure 7A shows the results of affinity purification of the His-fusion protein, and Figure 7B shows the results of expression of the GST-fusion in *E.coli*. Purified His-fusion protein was used to immunise mice, whose sera were used for ELISA, giving a positive result. These experiments confirm that ORF32-1 is a surface-exposed protein, and that it is a useful immunogen.

Example 24

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 197>:

```
   1  ..TTGTTCCTGC GTGTNAAAGT GGGGCGTTTT TTCAGCAGTC CGGCGACGTG
  51    GTTTCGGGNC AAAGACCCTG TAAATCAGGC GGTGTTGCGG CTGTATNCGG
 101    ACGAGTGGCG GCA.ACTTCG GTACGTTGGA AAATAGNCGC AACGTCGCAC
 151    AGCCTGTGGC TCTGCACGCT GCTCGGAATG CTGGTGTCGG TATTGTTGCT
 201    GCTTTTGGTG CGGCAATATA CGTTCAACTG GGAAAGCACG CTGTTGAGCA
 251    ATGCCGCTTC GGTACGCGCG GTGGAAATGT TGGCATGGCT GCCGTCGAAA
 301    CTCGGTTTCC CTGTCCCCGA TGCGCGGTCG GTCATCGAAG GCCGTCTGAA
 351    CGGCAATATT GCCGATGCGC GGGCTTGGTC GGGGCTGCTG GTCGNCAGTA
 401    TCGCCTGCTA NGGCATCCTG CCGCGCCTG..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 198; ORF33>:

```
   1  ..LFLRVKVGRF FSSPATWFRX KDPVNQAVLR LYXDEWRXTS VRWKIXATSH
  51    SLWLCTLLGM LVSVLLLLLV RQYTFNWEST LLSNAASVRA VEMLAWLPSK
 101    LGFPVPDARS VIEGRLNGNI ADARAWSGLL VXSIACXGIL PRL..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 199>:

```
   1  ATGTTGAATC CATCCCGAAA ACTGGTTGAG CTGGTCCGTA TTTTGGACGA
  51  AGGCGGTTTT ATTTTCAGCG GCGATCCCGT ACAGGCGACG GAGGCTTTGC
 101  GCCGCGTGGA CGGCAGTACG GAGGAAAAAA TCATCCGTCG GGCGGAGATG
 151  ATTGACAGGA ACCGTATGCT GCGGGAGACG TTGGAACGTG TGCGTGCGGG
 201  GTCGTTCTGG TTGTGGGTGG TGGCGGCGAC GTTTGCATTT TTTACCGGTT
 251  TTTCAGTCAC TTATCTTCTA ATGGACAATC AGGGTCTGAA TTTCTTTTTG
 301  GTTTTGGCGG GCGTGTTGGG CATGAATACG CTGATGCTGG CAGTATGGTT
 351  GGCAATGTTG TTCCTGCGTG TGAAAGTGGG GCGTTTTTTC AGCAGTCCGG
 401  CGACGTGGTT TCGGGGCAAA GACCCTGTAA ATCAGGCGGT GTTGCGGCTG
 451  TATGCGGACG AGTGGCGGCA ACCTTCGGTA CGTTGGAAAA TAGGCGCAAC
 501  GTCGCACAGC CTGTGGCTCT GCACGCTGCT CGGAATGCTG GTGTCGGTAT
 551  TGTTGCTGCT TTTGGTGCGG CAATATACGT TCAACTGGGA AAGCACGCTG
 601  TTGAGCAATG CCGCTTCGGT ACGCGCGGTG GAAATGTTGG CATGGCTGCC
 651  GTCGAAACTC GGTTTCCCTG TCCCCGATGC GCGGGCGGTC ATCGAAGGCC
 701  GTCTGAACGG CAATATTGCC GATGCGCGGG CTTGGTCGGG GCTGCTGGTC
 751  GGCAGTATCG CCTGCTACGG CATCCTGCCG CGCCTGCTGG CTTGGGTAGT
 801  GTGTAAAATC CTTTTGAAAA CAAGCGAAAA CGGATTGGAT TTGGAAAAGC
 851  CCTATTATCA GGCGGTCATC CGCCGCTGGC AGAACAAAAT CACCGATGCG
 901  GATACGCGTC GGGAAACCGT GTCCGCCGTT TCACCGAAAA TCATCTTGAA
 951  CGATGCGCCG AAATGGGCGG TCATGCTGGA GACCGAGTGG CAGGACGGCG
1001  AATGGTTCGA GGGCAGGCTG GCGCAGGAAT GGCTGGATAA GGGCGTTGCC
1051  ACCAATCGGG AACAGGTTGC CGCGCTGGAG ACAGAGCTGA AGCAGAAACC
1101  GGCGCAACTG CTTATCGGCG TGCGCGCCCA AACTGTGCCG GACCGCGGCG
1151  TGTTGCGGCA GATTGTCCGA CTCTCGGAAG CGGCGCAGGG CGGCGCGGTG
1201  GTGCAGCTTT TGGCGGAACA GGGGCTTTCA GACGACCTTT CGGAAAAGCT
1251  GGAACATTGG CGTAACGCGC TGGCCGAATG CGGCGCGGCG TGGCTTGAGC
1301  CTGACAGGGC GGCGCAGGAA GGGCGTTTGA AAGACCAATA A
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 200; ORF33-1>:

```
   1  MLNPSRKLVE LVRILDEGGF IFSGDPVQAT EALRRVDGST EEKIIRRAEM
  51  IDRNRMLRET LERVRAGSFW LWVVAATFAF FTGFSVTYLL MDNQGLNFFL
 101  VLAGVLGMNT LMLAVWLAML FLRVKVGRFF SSPATWFRGK DPVNQAVLRL
 151  YADEWRQPSV RWKIGATSHS LWLCTLLGML VSVLLLLLVR QYTFNWESTL
 201  LSNAASVRAV EMLAWLPSKL GFPVPDARAV IEGRLNGNIA DARAWSGLLV
 251  GSIACYGILP RLLAWVVCKI LLKTSENGLD LEKPYYQAVI RRWQNKITDA
 301  DTRRETVSAV SPKIILNDAP KWAVMLETEW QDGEWFEGRL AQEWLDKGVA
 351  TNREQVAALE TELKQKPAQL LIGVRAQTVP DRGVLRQIVR LSEAAQGGAV
 401  VQLLAEQGLS DDLSEKLEHW RNALAECGAA WLEPDRAAQE GRLKDQ*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF33 shows 90.9% identity over a 143aa overlap with an ORF (ORF33a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                                    10        20        30
orf33.pep                                          LFLRVKVGRFFSSPATWFRXKDPVNQAVLR
                                                   ||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||
orf33a       LMDNQGLNFFLVLAGVXGMNTLMLAVWLAMLFLRVKVGRFFSSPATWFRGKDPVNQAVLR
            90        100       110       120       130       140

                     40        50        60        70        80        90
orf33.pep    LYXDEWRXTSVRWKIXATSHSLWLCTLLGMLVSVLLLLLVRQYTFNWESTLLSNAASVRA
             || ||||| |||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:::|||
orf33a       LYADEWRXPSVRWKIGATSHSLWLCTLLGMLVSVLLLLLVRQYTFNWESTLLGDSSSVRL
           150       160       170       180       190       200

                   100       110       120       130       140
orf33.pep    VEMLAWLPSKLGFPVPDARSVIEGRLNGNIADARAWSGLLVXSIACXGILPRL
             ||||||||:|||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||| |||| ||||||
orf33a       VEMLAWLPAKLGFPVPDARAVIEGRLNGNIADARAWSGLLVGSIACYGILPRLLAWAVCK
           210       220       230       240       250       260

orf33a       ILXXTSENGLDLEKXXXXXXIRRWQNKITDADTRRETVSAVSPKIVLNDAPKWAVMLETE
           270       280       290       300       310       320
```

The complete length ORF33a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 201> is:

```
   1  ATGTTGAATC CATCCCGAAA ACTGGTTGAG CTGGTCCGTA TTTTGGAAGA
  51  AGGCGGCTTT ATTTTCAGCG GCGATCCCGT GCAGGCGACG GAGGCTTTGC
 101  GCCGCGTGGA CGGCAGTACG GAGGAAAAAA TCATCCGTCG GGCGAAGATG
 151  ATCGACAGGA ACCGTATGCT GCGGGAGACG TTGGAACGTG TGCGTGCGGG
 201  GTCGTTCTGG TTGTGGGTGG CGGCGGCGAC GTTTGCGTTT NTTACCGNTT
 251  TTTCAGTTAC TTATCTTCTA ATGGACAATC AGGGTCTGAA TTTCTTTTTG
 301  GTTTTGGCGG GCGTGNTGGG CATGAATACG CTGATGCTGG CAGTATGGTT
 351  GGCAATGTTG TTCCTGCGCG TGAAAGTGGG GCGTTTTTTC AGCAGTCCGG
 401  CGACGTGGTT TCGGGGCAAA GACCCTGTCA ATCAGGCGGT GTTGCGGCTG
 451  TATGCGGACG AGTGGCGGCN ACCTTCGGTA CGTTGGAAAA TAGGCGCAAC
 501  GTCGCACAGC CTGTGGCTCT GCACGCTGCT CGGAATGCTG GTGTCGGTAT
 551  TGTTGCTGCT TTTGGTGCGG CAATATACGT TCAACTGGGA AAGCACGCTG
 601  TTGGGCGATT CGTCTTCGGT ACGGCTGGTG GAAATGTTGG CATGGCTGCC
 651  TGCGAAACTG GGTTTTCCCG TGCCTGATGC GCGGGCGGTC ATCGAAGGTC
 701  GTCTGAACGG CAATATTGCC GATGCGCGGG CTTGGTCGGG GCTGCTGGTC
 751  GGCAGTATCG CCTGCTACGG CATCCTGCCG CGCCTCTTGG CTTGGGCGGT
 801  ATGCAAAATC CTTNTGNAAA CAAGCGAAAA CGGCTTGGAT TTGGAAAAGC
 851  NCNNNNNTCN NNCGNTCATC CGCCGCTGGC AGAACAAAAT CACCGATGCG
 901  GATACGCGTC GGGAAACCGT GTCCGCCGTT TCGCCGAAAA TCGTCTTGAA
 951  CGATGCGCCG AAATGGGCGG TCATGCTGGA GACCGAATGG CAGGACGGCG
1001  AATGGTTCGA GGGCAGGCTG GCGCAGGAAT GGCTGGATAA GGGCGTTGCC
1051  GCCAATCGGG AACAGGTTGC CGCGCTGGAG ACAGAGCTGA AGCAGAAACC
1101  GGCGCAACTG CTTATCGGCG TGCGCGCCCA AACTGTGCCC GACCGCGGCG
1151  TGTTGCGGCA GATCGTCCGA CTTTCGGAAG CGGCGCAGGG CGGCGCGGTG
1201  GTGCANCTTT TGGCGGAACA GGGGCTTTCA GACGACCTTT CGGAAAAGCT
1251  GGAACATTGG CGTAACGCGC TGACCGAATG CGGCGCGGCG TGGCTGGAAC
1301  CCGACAGAGC GGCGCAGGAA GGCCGTCTGA AAACCAACGA CCGCACTTGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 202>:

```
   1  MLNPSRKLVE LVRILEEGGF IFSGDPVQAT EALRRVDGST EEKIIRRAKM
  51  IDRNRMLRET LERVRAGSFW LWVAAATFAF XTXFSVTYLL MDNQGLNFFL
 101  VLAGVXGMNT LMLAVWLAML FLRVKVGRFF SSPATWFRGK DPVNQAVLRL
 151  YADEWRXPSV RWKIGATSHS LWLCTLLGML VSVLLLLLVR QYTFNWESTL
 201  LGDSSSVRLV EMLAWLPAKL GFPVPDARAV IEGRLNGNIA DARAWSGLLV
 251  GSIACYGILP RLLAWAVCKI LXXTSENGLD LEKXXXXXXI RRWQNKITDA
 301  DTRRETVSAV SPKIVLNDAP KWAVMLETEW QDGEWFEGRL AQEWLDKGVA
 351  ANREQVAALE TELKQKPAQL LIGVRAQTVP DRGVLRQIVR LSEAAQGGAV
 401  VXLLAEQGLS DDLSEKLEHW RNALTECGAA WLEPDRAAQE GRLKTNDRT*
```

ORF33a and ORF33-1 show 94.1% identity in 444 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf33a.pep      MLNPSRKLVELVRILEEGGFIFSGDPVQATEALRRVDGSTEEKIIRRAKMIDRNRMLRET
                ||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||
orf33-1         MLNPSRKLVELVRILDEGGFIFSGDPVQATEALRRVDGSTEEKIIRRAEMIDRNRMLRET
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf33a.pep      LERVRAGSFWLWVAAATFAFXTXFSVTYLLMDNQGLNFFLVLAGVXGMNTLMLAVWLAML
                ||||||||||||||:|||||| | ||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||
orf33-1         LERVRAGSFWLWVVAATFAFFTGFSVTYLLMDNQGLNFFLVLAGVLGMNTLMLAVWLAML
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf33a.pep      FLRVKVGRFFSSPATWFRGKDPVNQAVLRLYADEWRXPSVRWKIGATSHSLWLCTLLGML
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||
orf33-1         FLRVKVGRFFSSPATWFRGKDPVNQAVLRLYADEWRQPSVRWKIGATSHSLWLCTLLGML
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf33a.pep      VSVLLLLLVRQYTFNWESTLLGDSSSVRLVEMLAWLPAKLGFPVPDARAVIEGRLNGNIA
                |||||||||||||||||||||||:::|||| ||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||
orf33-1         VSVLLLLLVRQYTFNWESTLLSNAASVRAVEMLAWLPSKLGFPVPDARAVIEGRLNGNIA
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260       270       280       290       300
orf33a.pep      DARAWSGLLVGSIACYGILPRLLAWAVCKILXXTSENGLDLEKXXXXXXIRRWQNKITDA
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||  ||||||||||      ||||||||||
```

```
orf33-1         DARAWSGLLVGSIACYGILPRLLAWVVCKILLKTSENGLDLEKPYYQAVIRRWQNKITDA
                       250       260       270       280       290       300

                       310       320       330       340       350       360
orf33a.pep      DTRRETVSAVSPKIVLNDAPKWAVMLETEWQDGEWFEGRLAQEWLDKGVAANREQVAALE
                ||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||
orf33-1         DTRRETVSAVSPKIILNDAPKWAVMLETEWQDGEWFEGRLAQEWLDKGVATNREQVAALE
                       310       320       330       340       350       360

                       370       380       390       400       410       420
orf33a.pep      TELKQKPAQLLIGVRAQTVPDRGVLRQIVRLSEAAQGGAVVXLLAEQGLSDDLSEKLEHW
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||
orf33-1         TELKQKPAQLLIGVRAQTVPDRGVLRQIVRLSEAAQGGAVVQLLAEQGLSDDLSEKLEHW
                       370       380       390       400       410       420

                       430       440       450
orf33a.pep      RNALTECGAAWLEPDRAAQEGRLKTNDRTX
                ||||:||||||||||||||||||||
orf33-1         RNALAECGAAWLEPDRAAQEGRLKDQX
                       430       440
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF33 shows 91.6% identity over a 143aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF33.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf33.pep                                   LFLRVKVGRFFSSPATWFRXKDPVNQAVLR   30
                                            |||||||||||||||||||| | ||||||||
orf33ng         LMDNQGLNFFLVLAGVLGMNTLMLAVWLATLFLRVKVGRFFSSPATWFRGKGPVNQAVLR  100

orf33.pep       LYXDEWRXTSVRWKIXATSHSLWLCTLLGMLVSVLLLLLVRQYTFNWESTLLSNAASVRA   90
                || |:|| |||||| ||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf33ng         LYADQWRQPSVRWKIGATAHSLWLCTLLGMLVSVLLLLLVRQYTFNWESTLLSNAASVRA  160

orf33.pep       VEMLAWLPSKLGFPVPDARSVIEGRLNGNIADARAWSGLLVXSIACXGILPRL          143
                ||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||| ||:| ||||||
orf33ng         VEMLAWLPSKLGFPVPDARAVIEGRLNGNIADARAWSGLLVGSIVCYGILPRLLAWVVCK  220
```

An ORF33ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 203> was predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 204>:

```
   1  MIDRDRMLRD TLERVRAGSF WLWVVVASMM FTAGFSGTYL LMDNQGLNFF
  51  LVLAGVLGMN TLMLAVWLAT LFLRVKVGRF FSSPATWFRG KGPVNQAVLR
 101  LYADQWRQPS VRWKIGATAH SLWLCTLLGM LVSVLLLLLV RQYTFNWEST
 151  LLSNAASVRA VEMLAWLPSK LGFPVPDARA VIEGRLNGNI ADARAWSGLL
 201  VGSIVCYGIL PRLLAWVVCK ILLKTSENGL DLEKTYYQAV IRRWQNKITD
 251  ADTRRETVSA VSPKIVLNDA PKWALMLETE WQDGQWFEGR LAQEWLDKGV
 301  AANREQVAAL ETELKQKPAQ LLIGVRAQTV PDRGVLRQIV RLSEAAQGGA
 351  VVQLLAEQGL SDDLSEKLEH WRNALTECGA AWLEPDRVAQ EGRLKDQ*
```

Further sequence analysis revealed the following DNA sequence <SEQ ID 205>:

```
   1  ATGTTGaatC CATCCCgaAA ACTGgttgag ctGgTCCgtA Ttttgaataa
  51  agggggtTTT attttcagcg gcgatcctgt gcaggcgacg gaggctttgc
 101  gccgcgtgga cggcAGTACG GAggAaaaaa tcttccgtcg GGCGGAGAtg
 151  atcgACAGGg accgtatgtt gcgggACaCg TtggaacGTG TGCGTGCggg
 201  gtcgtTctgG TTATGGGTGG TggtggCAtC gATGATGTtt aCCGCCGGAT
 251  TTTCAGgcac ttatCttCTG ATGGACaatC AGGGGCtGAA TtTCTTTTTA
 301  GTTTTggcgG GAGTGTtggG CATGaatacG ctgATGCTGG CAGTATGGtt
 351  gGCAACGTTG TTCCTGCGCG TGAAAGTGGG ACGGTTTTTC AGCAGTCCGG
 401  CGACGTGGTT TCGGGGCAAA GGCCCTGTAA ATCAGGCGGT GTTGCGGCTG
 451  TATGCGGACC AGTGGCGGCA ACCTTCGGTA CGATGGAAAA TAGGCGCAAC
 501  GGCGCACAGC TTGTGGCTCT GCACGCTGCT CGGAATGCTG GTGTCGGTAT
 551  TGCTGCTGCT TTTGGTGCGG CAATATACGT TCAACTGGGA AAGCACGCTG
 601  TTGAGCAATG CCGCTTCGGT ACGCGCGGTG GAAATGTTGG CATGGCTGCC
 651  GTCGAAACTC GGTTTCCCTG TCCCCGATGC GCGGGCGGTC ATCGAAGGTC
 701  GTCTGAACGG CAATATTGCC GATGCGCGGG CTTGGTCGGG GCTGCTGGTC
 751  GGCAGTATCG TCTGCTACGG CATCCTGCCG CGCCTCTTGG CTTGGGTAGT
```

```
 801  GTGTAAAATC CTTTTGAAAA CAAGCGAAAA CGGattgGAT TTGGAAAAAA
 851  CCTATTATCA GGCGGTCATC CGCCGCTGGC AGAACAAAAT CACCGATGCG
 901  GATACGCGTC GGGAAACCGT GTCCGCCGTT TCGCcgaAAA TCGTCTTGAA
 951  CGATGCGCCG AAATGGGCGC TCATGCTGGA GACCGAGTGG CAGGACGGCC
1001  AATGGTTCGA GGGCAGGCTG GCGCAGGAAT GGCTGGATAA GGGCGTTGCC
1051  GCCAATCGGG AACAGGTTGC CGCGCTGGAG ACAGAGCTGA AGCAGAAACC
1101  GGCGCAACTG CTTATCGGCG TACGCGCCCA AACTGTGCCG GACCGGGGCG
1151  TGCTGCGGCA GATTGTGCGG CTTTCGGAAG CGGCGCAGGG CGGCGCGGTG
1201  GTGCAGCTTT TGGCGGAACA GGGGCTTTCA GACGACCTTT CGGAAAAGCT
1251  GGAACATTGG CGTAACGCGC TGACCGAATG CGGCGCGGCG TGGCTTGAGC
1301  CTGACAGGGT GGCGCAGGAA GGCCGTTTGA AAGACCAATA A
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 206; ORF33ng-1>:

```
   1  MLNPSRKLVE LVRILNKGGF IFSGDPVQAT EALRRVDGST EEKIFRRAEM
  51  IDRDRMLRDT LERVRAGSFW LWVVVASMMF TAGFSGTYLL MDNQGLNFFL
 101  VLAGVLGMNT LMLAVWLATL FLRVKVGRFF SSPATWFRGK GPVNQAVLRL
 151  YADQWRQPSV RWKIGATAHS LWLCTLLGML VSVLLLLLVR QYTFNWESTL
 201  LSNAASVRAV EMLAWLPSKL GFPVPDARAV IEGRLNGNIA DARAWSGLLV
 251  GSIVCYGILP RLLAWVVCKI LLKTSENGLD LEKTYYQAVI RRWQNKITDA
 301  DTRRETVSAV SPKIVLNDAP KWALMLETEW QDGQWFEGRL AQEWLDKGVA
 351  ANREQVAALE TELKQKPAQL LIGVRAQTVP DRGVLRQIVR LSEAAQGGAV
 401  VQLLAEQGLS DDLSEKLEHW RNALTECGAA WLEPDRVAQE GRLKDQ*
```

ORF33ng-1 and ORF33-1 show 94.6% identity in 446 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf33-1.pep     MLNPSRKLVELVRILDEGGFIFSGDPVQATEALRRVDGSTEEKIIRRAEMIDRNRMLRET
                ||||||||||||||||::||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||:||||:|
orf33ng-1       MLNPSRKLVELVRILNKGGFIFSGDPVQATEALRRVDGSTEEKIFRRAEMIDRDRMLRDT
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf33-1.pep     LERVRAGSFWLWVVAATFAFFTGFSVTYLLMDNQGLNFFLVLAGVLGMNTLMLAVWLAML
                ||||||||||||||:|::  | :||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |
orf33ng-1       LERVRAGSFWLWVVVASMMFTAGFSGTYLLMDNQGLNFFLVLAGVLGMNTLMLAVWLATL
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf33-1.pep     FLRVKVGRFFSSPATWFRGKDPVNQAVLRLYADEWRQPSVRWKIGATSHSLWLCTLLGML
                |||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||:||||||||||||:||||||||||||
orf33ng-1       FLRVKVGRFFSSPATWFRGKGPVNQAVLRLYADQWRQPSVRWKIGATAHSLWLCTLLGML
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf33-1.pep     VSVLLLLLVRQYTFNWESTLLSNAASVRAVEMLAWLPSKLGFPVPDARAVIEGRLNGNIA
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf33ng-1       VSVLLLLLVRQYTFNWESTLLSNAASVRAVEMLAWLPSKLGFPVPDARAVIEGRLNGNIA
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260       270       280       290       300
orf33-1.pep     DARAWSGLLVGSIACYGILPRLLAWVVCKILLKTSENGLDLEKPYYQAVIRRWQNKITDA
                ||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||
orf33ng-1       DARAWSGLLVGSIVCYGILPRLLAWVVCKILLKTSENGLDLEKTYYQAVIRRWQNKITDA
                250       260       270       280       290       300

                310       320       330       340       350       360
orf33-1.pep     DTRRETVSAVSPKIILNDAPKWAVMLETEWQDGEWFEGRLAQEWLDKGVATNREQVAALE
                ||||||||||||||:||||||||:||||||||:||||||||||||||||:|||||||||
orf33ng-1       DTRRETVSAVSPKIVLNDAPKWALMLETEWQDGQWFEGRLAQEWLDKGVAANREQVAALE
                310       320       330       340       350       360

                370       380       390       400       410       420
orf33-1.pep     TELKQKPAQLLIGVRAQTVPDRGVLRQIVRLSEAAQGGAVVQLLAEQGLSDDLSEKLEHW
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf33ng-1       TELKQKPAQLLIGVRAQTVPDRGVLRQIVRLSEAAQGGAVVQLLAEQGLSDDLSEKLEHW
                370       380       390       400       410       420

                430       440
orf33-1.pep     RNALAECGAAWLEPDRAAQEGRLKDQX
                ||||:||||||||||:||||||||||
```

```
orf33ng-1       RNALTECGAAWLEPDRVAQEGRLKDQX
                        430       440
```

Based on the presence of several putative transmembrane domains in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 25

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 207>:

```
   1  ..CAGAAGAGTT TGTCGAGAAT TTCTTTATGG GGTTTGGGCG GCGTGTTTTT
  51    CGGGGTGTCC GGTCTGGTAT GGTTTTCTTT GGGCGTTTCT TT.GAGTGCG
 101    CCTGTTTTTC GGGTGTTTCT TTTCGGGGTT CGGGACGGGG GACGTTTGTG
 151    GGCAGTACGG GGGTTTCTTT GAGTGTGTTT TCAGCTTGTG TTCC.GGCGT
 201    CGTCCGGCTG CCTGTCGGTT TGAGCTGTGT CGGCAGGTTG CG..GTTTGA
 251    CCCGGTTTTT CTTGGGTGCG GCAGGGGACG TCATTCTCCT GCCGCTTTCG
 301    TCTGTGCCGT CCGGCTGTGC GGGTTCGGAT GAGGCGGCGT GGTGGTGTTC
 351    GGGTTGGGCG GCATCTTGTT CCGACTACGC CGTTTGGCAG CCAGAATTCG
 401    GTTTCGCGGG GGCTGTCGGT GTGTTGCGGT TCGGCTTGAA GGGTTTTGTC
 451    GTCC..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 208; ORF34>:

```
   1  ..QKSLSRISLW GLGGVFFGVS GLVWFSLGVS XECACFSGVS FRGSGRGTFV
  51    GSTGVSLSVF SACVXGVVRL PVGLSCVGRL XXLTRFFLGA AGDVILLPLS
 101    SVPSGCAGSD EAAWWCSGWA ASCPTTPFGS QNSVSRGLSV CCGSA*RVLS
 151    S..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 209>:

```
   1  ATGATGATGC CGTTCATAAT GCTTCCTTGG ATTGCkGGTG TGCCTGCCGT
  51  GCCGGGTCAG AATAGGTTGT CCAGAATTTC TTTATGGGGT TTGGGCGGCG
 101  TGTTTTTCGG GGTGTCCGGT TTGGTATGGT TTTCTTTGGG CGTTTCTTTG
 151  GGCTGCGCCT GTTTTTCGGG TGTTTCTTTT CGGGGTTCGG GACGGGGGAC
 201  GTTTGTGGGC AGTACGGGGG TTTCTTTGAG TGTGTTTTCA GCTTGTGTTC
 251  CGGCGTCGTC CGGCTGCCTG TCGGTTTGAG CTGTGTCGGC AGGTTGCGGT
 301  TTGACCCGGT TTTTCTTGGG TGCGGCAGGG GACGGCAGTC CGCTGCCGCT
 351  TTCGTCTGTG CCGTCCGGCT GTGCGGGTTC GGATGAGGCG GCGTGGTGGT
 401  GTTCGGGTTG GGCGGCATCT TGTCCGACTA CGCCGTTTGG CAGCCAGAAT
 451  TCGGTTTCGC GGGGGCTGTC GGTGTGTTGC GGTTCGGCTT GAAGGGTTTT
 501  GTCGCCGTTC GGGTTGAATG TGCTGACGAT GCCTATTGCC AATGCGCCGA
 551  TGGCGGCGAT ACAGATGAGC AATACGGCGC GTATCAGGAG TTTGGGGGTC
 601  AGCCTGAAGG GTTTGTTCGG TTTTTTTGCC ATTTTGATTG TGCTTTTGGG
 651  GTGTCGGGCA ATGCCGTCTG AAGGCGGTTC AGACGGCATT GCCGAGTCAG
 701  CGTTGGACGT AGTTTTGGTA GAGGGTGATG ACTTTTTGTA CGCCGACGGT
 751  GGTGCTGACT TTTTGGGTAA TCTGCGCCTG TTCTTCGGGG GTGAGGATGC
 801  CCATAACGTA GGTTACGTTG CCGTAGGTAA CGATTTTGAC GCGCGCCTGT
 851  GTGGCGGGGC TGATGCCCAA CAGCGTGGCG CGGACTTTGG ATGTGTTCCA
 901  AGTGTCGCCG GCGATGTCGC CGGCAGTGCG CGGCAGGGAG GCGACGGTAA
 951  TATAGTTGTA CACGCCTTCG GCGGCCTGTT CGGAACGTGC AATCTGACCG
1001  ACGAACTGTT TTTCGCCTTC GGTGGCGACT TGTCCGAGCA GCAGCAGGTG
1051  GCGGTTGTAG CCGACGACGG AGATTTGGGG CGTGTAGCCT TTGGTTTGGT
1101  TGTTTTGGCG CAGATAGGAA CGGGCGGTGG TTTCGATACG CAACGCCATA
1151  ACGTTGTCGT CGGTTTGCGC GCCGGTGGTT CGGCGGTCGA CGGCGGATTT
1201  CGCGCCGACG GCGGCGCTTC CGATTACTGC GCTGACGCAG CCGCTAAGGG
1251  CAAGGCTGAA AATGGCGGCA ATCAGGGTGC GGACGGTGTG CGGTTTGGGT
1301  TTCATCGGGT GCTTCCTTTC TTGGGCGTTT CAGACGGCAT TGCTTTGCGC
1351  CATGCCGTCT GA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 210; ORF34-1>:

```
   1  MMMPFIMLPW IAGVPAVPGQ NRLSRISLWG LGGVFFGVSG LVWFSLGVSL
  51  GCACFSGVSF RGSGRGTFVG STGVSLSVFS ACVPASSGCL SV*AVSAGCG
 101  LTRFFLGAAG DGSPLPLSSV PSGCAGSDEA AWWCSGWAAS CPTTPFGSQN
 151  SVSRGLSVCC GSA*RVLSPF GLNVLTMPIA NAPMAAIQMS NTARIRSLGV
```

```
201  SLKGLFGFFA ILIVLLGCRA MPSEGGSDGI AESALDVVLV EGDDFLYADG
251  GADFLGNLRL FFGGEDAHNV GYVAVGNDFD ARLCGGADAQ QRGADFGCVP
301  SVAGDVAGSA RQGGDGNIVV HAFGGLFGTC NLTDELFFAF GGDLSEQQQV
351  AVVADDGDLG RVAFGLVVLA QIGTGGGFDT QRHNVVVGLR AGGSAVDGGF
401  RADGGASDYC ADAAAKGKAE NGGNQGADGV RFGFHRVLPF LGVSDGIALR
451  HAV*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF34 shows 73.3% identity over a 161aa overlap with an ORF (ORF34a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                          10        20        30
orf34.pep                          QKSLSRISLWGLGGVFFGVSGLVWFSLGVSXE------CAC
                                   || ||| ||||||| ||||||||||||||||||        |||
orf34a      MMXPXIMLPWIAGVPAVPGQKRLSRXSLWGLGGXFFGVSGLVWFSLGVSXSLGVSXGCAC
                   10        20        30        40        50        60

              40        50        60        70        80              90
orf34.pep     FSGVSFRGSGRGTFVGSTGVSLSVFSACVXGVVRLPVGLSCVGRLXX-----LTRFFLGA
              |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:     |:: :|::          ||| | ||
orf34a        FSGVSFRGSGRGTFVGSTGVSLSVFSACA------PASSGCLSVXAVSAGCGLTRXFXGA
                   70        80              90        100       110

                  100       110       120       130       140       150
orf34.pep     AGDVILLPLSSVPSGCAGSDEAAWWCSGWAASCPTTPFGSQNSVSRGLSVCCGSAXRVLS
              |||   |||||||||||||:|| |  |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||: ||||
orf34a        AGDGSPLPLSSVPSGCAGADEEAXXCSGWAASCPTTPFGSQNSVSRGLSVCCGSVWRVLS
                 120       130       140       150       160       170

orf34.pep     S

orf34a        PFGXNVLTMPIANAPMAVIQMSNTARIRSLGVSLKGLFXFFAILIVLLGCRAMPSEGGSD
                 180       190       200       210       220       230
```

The complete length ORF34a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 211> is:

```
   1  ATGATGATNC CGTTNATAAT GCTTCCTTGG ATTGCGGGTG TGCCTGCCGT
  51  GCCGGGTCAG AAGAGGTTGT CGAGAANTTC TTTATGGGGT TTAGGCGGCN
 101  TGTTTTTCGG GGTGTCCGGT TTGGTATGGT TTTCTTTGGG CGTTTCTNTT
 151  TCTTTGGGTG TTTCTNTGGG CTGTGCCTGT TTTTCGGGTG TTTCTTTTCG
 201  GGGTTCGGGA CGGGGGACGT TTGTGGGCAG TACNGGGGTT TCTTTGAGTG
 251  TGTTTTCAGC TTGTGCTCCG GCGTCGTCCG GCTGCCTGTC GGTTTNAGCT
 301  GTGTCGGCAG GTTGCGGTTT GACCCGGNTT TTCTTNGGTG CGGCAGGGGA
 351  CGGCAGTCCG CTGCCGCTTT CGTCTGTGCC GTCCGGCTGT GCGGGTGCGG
 401  ATGAGGAGGC GTNGTNGTGT TCGGGTTGGG CGGCATCTTG TCCGACTACG
 451  CCGTTTGGCA GCCAGAATTC GGTTTCGCGG GGGCTGTCGG TGTGTTGCGG
 501  TTCGGTNTGG AGGGTTTTGT CNCCGTTCGG GTNGAATGTG CTGACGATGC
 551  CTATTGCCAA TGCGCCGATG GCGGTGATAC AGATGAGCAA TACGGCGCGT
 601  ATCAGGAGTT TGGGGGTCAG CCTGAAGGGT TTGTTCNGTT TTTTTGCCAT
 651  TTTGATTGTG CTTTTGGGGT GTCGGGCAAT GCCGTCTGAA GGCGGTTCAG
 701  ACGGCATTGC CGAGTCAGCG TTGGACGTAG TTTNGGTAGA GGGTGATGAC
 751  TTTTTGTACG CCGACGGTGG TGCTGACTTT TTGGGTAATC TGCGCCTGTT
 801  CTTCGGGGGT GAGGATGCCC ATAACGTAGG TTACGTTGCC GTAGGTAACG
 851  ATTTTGACGC GCGCCTGTGT GGCGGGGCTG ATGCCCAACA GCGTGGCGCG
 901  GACTTTGGAT GTGTTCCAAG TGTCGCCGGC GATGTCGCCG GCAGTGCGCG
 951  GCAGGGAGGC GACGGTAATG TANTTGTACA CGCCTTCGGC GGCCTGTTCG
1001  GAACGTGCAA TCTGACCGAC GAACTGTTTC TCGCCTTCGG TGGCGACTTG
1051  TCCGAGCAGC AGCAGGTGGC GGTTGTAGCC GACAACGGAG ATTTGGGGCG
1101  TGTANCCTTT GGTTTGGTTG TTTTGGCGCA GATAGGAGCG GGCGGTGGTT
1151  TCGATACGCA GCGCCATTAC GTTGTCGTCG GTTNGCGCGC CGGTGGTTCG
1201  GCGGTCGACG GCGGATTTCG CGCCGACCGC CGCGCCGCCG ACGACTGCGC
1251  TGACGCAGCC GCCGAGGGCA AGGCTGAGGA CGGCGGCAGT CAGGGTGCGG
1301  ACGGTGTGCG GTTTGGGTTT CATCGGGTGC TTCCTTTCTT GGGCGTTTCA
1351  GACGGCATTG CTTTGCGCCA TGCCGTCTGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 212>:

```
   1  MMXPXIMLPW IAGVPAVPGQ KRLSRXSLWG LGGXFFGVSG LVWFSLGVSX
  51  SLGVSXGCAC FSGVSFRGSG RGTFVGSTGV SLSVFSACAP ASSGCLSVXA
 101  VSAGCGLTRX FXGAAGDGSP LPLSSVPSGC AGADEEAXXC SGWAASCPTT
 151  PFGSQNSVSR GLSVCCGSVW RVLSPFGXNV LTMPIANAPM AVIQMSNTAR
 201  IRSLGVSLKG LFXFFAILIV LLGCRAMPSE GGSDGIAESA LDVVXVEGDD
 251  FLYADGGADF LGNLRLFFGG EDAHNVGYVA VGNDFDARLC GGADAQQRGA
 301  DFGCVPSVAG DVAGSARQGG DGNVXVHAFG GLFGTCNLTD ELFLAFGGDL
 351  SEQQQVAVVA DNGDLGRVXF GLVVLAQIGA GGGFDTQRHY VVVGXRAGGS
 401  AVDGGFRADR RAADDCADAA AEGKAEDGGS QGADGVRFGF HRVLPFLGVS
 451  DGIALRHAV*
```

ORF34a and ORF34-1 show 91.3% identity in 459 aa overlap:

```
                        10        20        30        40        50        60
orf34a.pep      MMXPXIMLPWIAGVPAVPGQKRLSRXSLWGLGGXFFGVSGLVWFSLGVSXSLGVSXGCAC
                || | ||||||||||||||||:|||| ||||||| ||||||||||||||        ||||
orf34-1         MMMPFIMLPWIAGVPAVPGQNRLSRISLWGLGGVFFGVSGLVWFSLGVSL------GCAC
                        10        20        30        40        50

                        70        80        90       100       110       120
orf34a.pep      FSGVSFRGSGRGTFVGSTGVSLSVFSACAPASSGCLSVXAVSAGCGLTRXFXGAAGDGSP
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||| | ||||||||
orf34-1         FSGVSFRGSGRGTFVGSTGVSLSVFSACVPASSGCLSVXAVSAGCGLTRFFLGAAGDGSP
                    60        70        80        90       100       110

                       130       140       150       160       170       180
orf34a.pep      LPLSSVPSGCAGADEEAXXCSGWAASCPTTPFGSQNSVSRGLSVCCGSVWRVLSPFGXNV
                |||||||||||:|| | ||||||||||||||||||||||||||: ||||||| ||
orf34-1         LPLSSVPSGCAGSDEAAWWCSGWAASCPTTPFGSQNSVSRGLSVCCGSAXRVLSPFGLNV
                   120       130       140       150       160       170

                       190       200       210       220       230       240
orf34a.pep      LTMPIANAPMAVIQMSNTARIRSLGVSLKGLFXFFAILIVLLGCRAMPSEGGSDGIAESA
                |||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf34-1         LTMPIANAPMAAIQMSNTARIRSLGVSLKGLFGFFAILIVLLGCRAMPSEGGSDGIAESA
                   180       190       200       210       220       230

                       250       260       270       280       290       300
orf34a.pep      LDVVXVEGDDFLYADGGADFLGNLRLFFGGEDAHNVGYVAVGNDFDARLCGGADAQQRGA
                |||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf34-1         LDVVLVEGDDFLYADGGADFLGNLRLFFGGEDAHNVGYVAVGNDFDARLCGGADAQQRGA
                   240       250       260       270       280       290

                       310       320       330       340       350       360
orf34a.pep      DFGCVPSVAGDVAGSARQGGDGNVXVHAFGGLFGTCNLTDELFLAFGGDLSEQQQVAVVA
                |||||||||||||||||||||||: |||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||
orf34-1         DFGCVPSVAGDVAGSARQGGDGNIVVHAFGGLFGTCNLTDELFFAFGGDLSEQQQVAVVA
                   300       310       320       330       340       350

                       370       380       390       400       410       420
orf34a.pep      DNGDLGRVXFGLVVLAQIGAGGGFDTQRHYVVVGXRAGGSAVDGGFRADRRAADDCADAA
                |:|||||| ||||||||||:|||||||| |||| |||||||||||||  |:| |||||
orf34-1         DDGDLGRVAFGLVVLAQIGTGGGFDTQRHNVVVGLRAGGSAVDGGFRADGGASDYCADAA
                   360       370       380       390       400       410

                       430       440       450       460
orf34a.pep      AEGKAEDGGSQGADGVRFGFHRVLPFLGVSDGIALRHAVX
                |:||||:||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf34-1         AKGKAENGGNQGADGVRFGFHRVLPFLGVSDGIALRHAVX
                   420       430       440       450
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF34 shows 77.6% identity over a 161aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF34.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf34.pep                    QKSLSRISLWGLGGVFFGVSGLVWFSLGVSXE------CAC   35
```

```
orf34ng      MMMPFIMLPWIAGVPAVPGQKRLSRISLWGLAGVFFGVSGLVWFSLGVSFSLGVSLGCAC  60

orf34.pep    FSGVSFRGSGRGTFVGSTGVSLSVFSACVXGVVRLPVGLSCV-----GRLXXLTRFFLGA  90

orf34ng      FSGVSFRGSGWGAFVGSTGVSLSVFSACVP----VPVNESAARAASEGR--GLTRFFLGA 114

orf34.pep    AGDVILLPLSSVPSGCAGSDEAAWWCSGWAASCPTTPFGSQNSVSRGLSVCCGSAXRVLS 150

orf34ng      AGDGSPLPLSSVPSGCAGSDEAAWWCSGWAASCPTAPFGSQNSVSRGLSVCCGSVWRVLS 174

orf34.pep    S                                                           175

orf34ng      PFGLNVLTMPTANAPMAVIQMSNTARIRSLGVSLKGLFGFFAILIVLLGCRAMPSEGGSD 234
```

The complete length ORF34ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 213> is:

```
   1 ATGATGATGC CGTTCATAAT GCTTCCTTGG ATTGCGGGTG TGCCTGCCGT
  51 GCCGGGTCAA AAGAGGTTGT CGAGAATCTC TTTATGGGGT TTGGCCGGCG
 101 TGTTTTTCGG GGTGTCCGGT TTGGTATGGT TTTCTTTGGG CGTTTCTTTT
 151 TCTTTGGGTG TTTCTTTGGG CTGCGCCTGT TTTTCGGGTG TTTCTTTTCG
 201 GGGTTCGGGA TGGGGGGCGT TTGTGGGCAG TACGGGGGTT TCTTTGAGTG
 251 TGTTTTCAGC TTGTGTTCCG GTGCCGGTTA ACGAATCGGC TGCCCGGGCC
 301 GCATCCGAAG GGCGCGGTTT gACCCGGTTT TTCTTGGGTG CGGCAGGGGA
 351 CGGCAGTCCG CTGCCGCTTT CTTCTGTGCC GTCCGGCTGT GCGGGTTCGG
 401 ATGAGGCGGC GTGGTGGTGT TCGGGTTGGG CGGCATCTTG TCCGACGGCG
 451 CCGTTTGGCA GCCAGAATTC GGTTTCGCGG GGGCTGTCGG TGTGTTGCGG
 501 TTCGGTTTGG AGGGTTTTGT CGCCGTTCGG GTTGAATGTG CTGACGATGC
 551 CTACTGCCAA TGCGCCGATG GCGGTGATAC AGATGAGCAA TACGGCGCGT
 601 ATCAGGAGTT TGGGGGTCAG CCTGAAGGGT TTGTTCGGTT TTTTTGCCAT
 651 TTTGATTGTG CTTTTGGGGT GTCGGGCAAT GCCGTCTGAA GGCGGTTCAG
 701 ACGGCATTGC CGAGTCAGCG TTGGACGTAG TTTTGGTAGA GGGTAATGAC
 751 TTTTTGTACG CCGAcggTGG TGCTGACTTT TTGGGTAATC TGCGCCTGTT
 801 CTTCGGGGGT GAGGATGCCC ATAACGTAGG TTACATTGCC GTAGGTAATG
 851 ATTTTGACGC GCGCCTGTGT AGCGGGGCTG ATGCCCAGCA GcgtgGCGCG
 901 GACTTTGGAC GTGTTCCAAG TGTCGCCGGC GATGTCGCCC GCAGTGCGCG
 951 GCAGGGAGGC GACGGTAATG TAGTTGTATA CGCCTTCGGC GGCCTGTTCG
1001 GAACGTGCAA TCTGACCGAC GAACTGTTTT TCGCCTTCGG TGGCGACTTG
1051 TCCGAGCAGC AGCAGGTGGC GGTTGTAGCC GACGACGGAG ATTTGGGGCG
1101 TGTAGCCTTT GGTTTGGTTG TTTTGGCGCA GGTAGGAACG GGCGGTGGTT
1151 TCGATACGCA ACGCCATAAC GTtgtCATCG GTTtgcgcgc CGGTGGTTcg
1201 gCGGTCGATG ACGGATTTTG CGCCGACGGC GGCCCCGCCG ACGACTGCGC
1251 TGAAGCAGCC GCCGAGGGCA AGGCTGAGGA CGGCGGCAAT CAGGGTGCGG
1301 ACGGTGTGTG GTTTGGGTTT CATCGGGGAC TTCCTTTCTT GGGCGTTTCA
1351 GACGGCATTG CTTTGCGCCA TGCCGTCTGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 214>:

```
   1 MMMPFIMLPW IAGVPAVPGQ KRLSRISLWG LAGVFFGVSG LVWFSLGVSF
  51 SLGVSLGCAC FSGVSFRGSG WGAFVGSTGV SLSVFSACVP VPVNESAARA
 101 ASEGRGLTRF FLGAAGDGSP LPLSSVPSGC AGSDEAAWWC SGWAASCPTA
 151 PFGSQNSVSR GLSVCCGSVW RVLSPFGLNV LTMPTANAPM AVIQMSNTAR
 201 IRSLGVSLKG LFGFFAILIV LLGCRAMPSE GGSDGIAESA LDVVLVEGND
 251 FLYADGGADF LGNLRLFFGG EDAHNVGYIA VGNDFDARLC SGADAQQRGA
 301 DFGRVPSVAG DVARSARQGG DGNVVVYAFG GLFGTCNLTD ELFFAFGGDL
 351 SEQQQVAVVA DDGDLGRVAF GLVVLAQVGT GGGFDTQRHN VVIGLRAGGS
 401 AVDDGFCADG GPADDCAEAA AEGKAEDGGN QGADGVWFGF HRGLPFLGVS
 451 DGIALRHAV*
```

ORF34ng and ORF34-1 show 90.0% identity in 459 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        4         50
orf34-1.pep  MMMPFIMLPWIAGVPAVPGQNRLSRISLWGLGGVFFGVSGLVWFSLGVS------LGCAC
             ||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||      |||||
orf34ng      MMMPFIMLPWIAGVPAVPGQKRLSRISLWGLAGVFFGVSGLVWFSLGVSFSLGVSLGCAC
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                60        70        80        90        100       110
orf34-1.pep  FSGVSFRGSGRGTFVGSTGVSLSVFSACVPASSGCLSVXAVSAGCGLTRFFLGAAGDGSP
             |||||||||| |:|||||||||||||||||||: :  :: |:| | ||||||||||||||||
orf34ng      FSGVSFRGSGWGAFVGSTGVSLSVFSACVPVPVNESAARAASEGRGLTRFFLGAAGDGSP
```

```
                          70        80        90        100       110       120

                  120       130       140       150       160       170
orf34-1.pep       LPLSSVPSGCAGSDEAAWWCSGWAASCPTTPFGSQNSVSRGLSVCCGSAXRVLSPFGLNV
                  ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||: ||||||||||
orf34ng           LPLSSVPSGCAGSDEAAWWCSGWAASCPTAPFGSQNSVSRGLSVCCGSVWRVLSPFGLNV
                         130       140       150       160       170       180

                  180       190       200       210       220       230
orf34-1.pep       LTMPIANAPMAAIQMSNTARIRSLGVSLKGLFGFFAILIVLLGCRAMPSEGGSDGIAESA
                  |||| |||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf34ng           LTMPTANAPMAVIQMSNTARIRSLGVSLKGLFGFFAILIVLLGCRAMPSEGGSDGIAESA
                         190       200       210       220       230       240

                  240       250       260       270       280       290
orf34-1.pep       LDVVLVEGDDFLYADGGADFLGNLRLFFGGEDAHNVGYVAVGNDFDARLCGGADAQQRGA
                  ||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||:|||||||||||||
orf34ng           LDVVLVEGNDFLYADGGADFLGNLRLFFGGEDAHNVGYIAVGNDFDARLCSGADAQQRGA
                         250       260       270       280       290       300

                  300       310       320       330       340       350
orf34-1.pep       DFGCVPSVAGDVAGSARQGGDGNIVVHAFGGLFGTCNLTDELFFAFGGDLSEQQQVAVVA
                  ||| |||||||||| |||||||||:||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf34ng           DFGRVPSVAGDVARSARQGGDGNVVVYAFGGLFGTCNLTDELFFAFGGDLSEQQQVAVVA
                         310       320       330       340       350       360

                  360       370       380       390       400       410
orf34-1.pep       DDGDLGRVAFGLVVLAQIGTGGGFDTQRHNVVVGLRAGGSAVDGGFRADGGASDYCADAA
                  ||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||:|||||||||| || |||| :| ||:||
orf34ng           DDGDLGRVAFGLVVLAQVGTGGGFDTQRHNVVIGLRAGGSAVDDGFCADGGPADDCAEAA
                         370       380       390       400       410       420

                  420       430       440       450
orf34-1.pep       AKGKAENGGNQGADGVRFGFHRVLPFLGVSDGIALRHAVX
                  |:||||:||||||||| ||||| ||||||||||||||||
orf34ng           AEGKAEDGGNQGADGVWFGFHRGLPFLGVSDGIALRHAVX
                         430       440       450       460
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of a putative leader sequence (double-underlined) and several putative transmembrane domains (single-underlined) in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 26

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 215>:

```
   1  ATGAAAACCT TCTTCAAAAC CCTTTCCGCC GCCGCACTCG CGCTCATCCT
  51  CGCCGCCTGC GGATT.CAAA AAGACAGCGC GCCCGCCGCA TCCGCTTCTG
 101  CCGCCGCCGA CAACGGCGCG GCGTAAAAAA GAAATCGTCT TCGGCACGAC
 151  CGTCGGCGAC TTCGGCGATA TGGTCAAAGA ACAAATCCAA GCCGAGCTGG
 201  AGAAAAAAGG CTACACCGTC AAACTGGTCG AGTTTACCGA CTATGTACGC
 251  CCGAATCTGG CATTGGCTGA GGGCGAGTTG
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 216; ORF4>:

```
   1  MKTFFKTLSA AALALILAAC G.QKDSAPAA SASAAADNGA AKKEIVFGTT
  51  VGDFGDMVKE QIQAELEKKG YTVKLVEFTD YVRPNLALAE GEL
```

Further sequence analysis revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 217>:

```
   1  ATGAAAACCT TCTTCAAAAC CCTTTCCGCC GCCGCACTCG CGCTCATCCT
  51  CGCCGCCTGC GGCGGTCAAA AAGACAGCGC GCCCGCCGCA TCCGCTTCTG
 101  CCGCCGCCGA CAACGGCGCG GCGAAAAAAG AAATCGTCTT CGGCACGACC
 151  GTCGGCGACT TCGGCGATAT GGTCAAAGAA CAAATCCAAG CCGAGCTGGA
 201  GAAAAAAGGC TACACCGTCA AACTGGTCGA GTTTACCGAC TATGTACGCC
```

```
 251  CGAATCTGGC ATTGGCTGAG GGCGAGTTGG ACATCAACGT CTTCCAACAC
 301  AAACCCTATC TTGACGACTT CAAAAAAGAA CACAATCTGG ACATCACCGA
 351  AGTCTTCCAA GTGCCGACCG CGCCTTTGGG ACTGTACCCG GGCAAGCTGA
 401  AATCGCTGGA AGAAGTCAAA GACGGCAGCA CCGTATCCGC GCCCAACGAC
 451  CCGTCCAACT TCGCCCGCGT CTTGGTGATG CTCGACGAAC TGGGTTGGAT
 501  CAAACTCAAA GACGGCATCA ATCCGTTGAC CGCATCCAAA GCGGACATCG
 551  CCGAGAACCT GAAAAACATC AAAATCGTCG AGCTTGAAGC CGCGCAACTG
 601  CCGCGTAGCC GCGCCGACGT GGATTTTGCC GTCGTCAACG GCAACTACGC
 651  CATAAGCAGC GGCATGAAGC TGACCGAAGC CCTGTTCCAA GAACCGAGCT
 701  TTGCCTATGT CAACTGGTCT GCCGTCAAAA CCGCCGACAA AGACAGCCAA
 751  TGGCTTAAAG ACGTAACCGA GGCCTATAAC TCCGACGCGT TCAAAGCCTA
 801  CGCGCACAAA CGCTTCGAGG GCTACAAATC CCCTGCCGCA TGGAATGAAG
 851  GCGCAGCCAA ATAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 218; ORF4-1>:

```
   1  MKTFFKTLSA AALALILAAC GGQKDSAPAA SASAAADNGA AKKEIVFGTT
  51  VGDFGDMVKE QIQAELEKKG YTVKLVEFTD YVRPNLALAE GELDINVFQH
 101  KPYLDDFKKE HNLDITEVFQ VPTAPLGLYP GKLKSLEEVK DGSTVSAPND
 151  PSNFARVLVM LDELGWIKLK DGINPLTASK ADIAENLKNI KIVELEAAQL
 201  PRSRADVDFA VVNGNYAISS GMKLTEALFQ EPSFAYVNWS AVKTADKDSQ
 251  WLKDVTEAYN SDAFKAYAHK RFEGYKSPAA WNEGAAK*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF4 shows 93.5% identity over a 93aa overlap with an ORF (ORF4a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                    10         20         30         40         50         59
orf4.pep    MKTFFKTLSAAALALILAACG-QKDSAPAASASAAADNGAAKKEIVFGTTVGDFGDMVKE
            ||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||
orf4a       MKTFFKTLSAAALALILAACGGQKDSAPAASASAAADNGAAXKEIVFGTTVGDFGDMVKE
                    10         20         30         40         50         60

            60         70         80         90
orf4.pep    QIQAELEKKGYTVKLVEFTDYVRPNLALAEGEL
             || |||||||||||| ||||| |||||||||
orf4a       XIQPELEKKGYTVKLVEXTDYVRXNLALAEGELDINVXQHXXYLDDXKKXHNLDITXVXQ
                    70         80         90        100        110        120

orf4a       VPTAPLGLYPGKLKSLXXVKXGSTVSAPNDPXXFXRVLVMLDELGXIKLKDXIXXXXXXX
                   130        140        150        160        170        180
```

The complete length ORF4a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 219> is:

```
   1  ATGAAAACCT TCTTCAAAAC CCTTTCCGCC GCCGCACTCG CGCTCATCCT
  51  CGCCGCCTGC GGCGGTCAAA AAGATAGCGC GCCCGCCGCA TCCGCTTCTG
 101  CCGCCGCCGA CAACGGCGCG GCGAANAAAG AAATCGTCTT CGGCACGACC
 151  GTCGGCGACT TCGGCGATAT GGTCAAAGAA CANATCCAAC CCGAGCTGGA
 201  GAAAAAAGGC TACACCGTCA AACTGGTCGA GTNTACCGAC TATGTGCGCN
 251  CGAATCTGGC ATTGGCTGAG GGCGAGTTGG ACATCAACGT CTTNCAACAC
 301  ANACNCTATC TTGACGACTN CAAAAAANAA CACAATCTGG ACATCACCNN
 351  AGTCTTNCAA GTGCCGACCG CGCCTTTGGG ACTGTACCCG GGCAAGCTGA
 401  AATCGCTGGA NNAAGTCAAA GANGGCAGCA CCGTATCCGC GCCCAACGAC
 451  CCGTNNNACT TCGNCCGCGT CTTGGTGATG CTCGACGAAC TGGGTTNGAT
 501  CAAACTCAAA GACNGCATCA NNNNGNNGNN NNNANCNANA NNNGANANNN
 551  NNNNANNNNT NNNNNNNNNN NNNNNCNNCG NNNNNNNANN NNNNNNNNNN
 601  NCGNNTNNNN NNGCNNNNNT NNANNNTNNN NNCNNCNNNN NNNNNTNNNN
 651  NANNANNAGC GGCATGAAGC TGACCGAAGC CCTGTTCCAA GAACCGAGCT
 701  TTGCCTATGT CAACTGGTCT GCCGTCAAAA CCGCCGACAA AGACAGCCAA
 751  TGGCTTAAAG ACGTAACCGA GGCCTATAAC TCCGACGCGT TCAAAGCCTA
 801  CGCGCACAAA CGCTTCGAGG GCTACAAATC CCCTGCCGCA TGGAATGAAG
 851  GCGCAGCCAA ATAA
```

This is predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 220>:

```
   1  MKTFFKTLSA AALALILAAC GGQKDSAPAA SASAAADNGA AXKEIVFGTT
```

```
  51  VGDFGDMVKE XIQPELEKKG YTVKLVEXTD YVRXNLALAE GELDINVXQH
 101  XXYLDDXKKX HNLDITXVXQ VPTAPLGLYP GKLKSLXXVK XGSTVSAPND
 151  PXXFXRVLVM LDELGXIKLK DXIXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXX
 201  XXXXAXXXXX XXXXXXXXXS GMKLTEALFQ EPSFAYVNWS AVKTADKDSQ
 251  WLKDVTEAYN SDAFKAYAHK RFEGYKSPAA WNEGAAK*
```

A leader peptide is underlined.

Further analysis of these strain A sequences revealed the complete DNA sequence <SEQ ID 221>:

```
   1  ATGAAAACCT TCTTCAAAAC CCTTTCCGCC GCCGCACTCG CGCTCATCCT
  51  CGCCGCCTGC GGCGGTCAAA AAGATAGCGC GCCCGCCGCA TCCGCTTCTG
 101  CCGCCGCCGA CAACGGCGCG GCGAAAAAAG AAATCGTCTT CGGCACGACC
 151  GTCGGCGACT TCGGCGATAT GGTCAAAGAA CAAATCCAAC CCGAGCTGGA
 201  GAAAAAAGGC TACACCGTCA AACTGGTCGA GTTTACCGAC TATGTGCGCC
 251  CGAATCTGGC ATTGGCTGAG GGCGAGTTGG ACATCAACGT CTTCCAACAC
 301  AAACCCTATC TTGACGACTT CAAAAAAGAA CACAATCTGG ACATCACCGA
 351  AGTCTTCCAA GTGCCGACCG CGCCTTTGGG ACTGTACCCG GGCAAGCTGA
 401  AATCGCTGGA AGAAGTCAAA GACGGCAGCA CCGTATCCGC GCCCAACGAC
 451  CCGTCCAACT TCGCCCGCGT CTTGGTGATG CTCGACGAAC TGGGTTGGAT
 501  CAAACTCAAA GACGGCATCA ATCCGCTGAC CGCATCCAAA GCGGACATTG
 551  CCGAAAACCT GAAAAACATC AAAATCGTCG AGCTTGAAGC CGCGCAACTG
 601  CCGCGTAGCC GCGCCGACGT GGATTTTGCC GTCGTCAACG GCAACTACGC
 651  CATAAGCAGC GGCATGAAGC TGACCGAAGC CCTGTTCCAA GAACCGAGCT
 701  TTGCCTATGT CAACTGGTCT GCCGTCAAAA CCGCCGACAA AGACAGCCAA
 751  TGGCTTAAAG ACGTAACCGA GGCCTATAAC TCCGACGCGT TCAAAGCCTA
 801  CGCGCACAAA CGCTTCGAGG GCTACAAATC CCCTGCCGCA TGGAATGAAG
 851  GCGCAGCCAA ATAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 222; ORF4a-1>:

```
   1  MKTFFKTLSA AALALILAAC GGQKDSAPAA SASAAADNGA AKKEIVFGTT
  51  VGDFGDMVKE QIQPELEKKG YTVKLVEFTD YVRPNLALAE GELDINVFQH
 101  KPYLDDFKKE HNLDITEVFQ VPTAPLGLYP GKLKSLEEVK DGSTVSAPND
 151  PSNFARVLVM LDELGWIKLK DGINPLTASK ADIAENLKNI KIVELEAAQL
 201  PRSRADVDFA VVNGNYAISS GMKLTEALFQ EPSFAYVNWS AVKTADKDSQ
 251  WLKDVTEAYN SDAFKAYAHK RFEGYKSPAA WNEGAAK*
```

ORF4a-1 and ORF4-1 show 99.7% identity in 287 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf4a-1     MKTFFKTLSAAALALILAACGGQKDSAPAASASAAADNGAAKKEIVFGTTVGDFGDMVKE
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf4-1      MKTFFKTLSAAALALILAACGGQKDSAPAASASAAADNGAAKKEIVFGTTVGDFGDMVKE
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90       100       110       120
orf4a-1     QIQPELEKKGYTVKLVEFTDYVRPNLALAEGELDINVFQHKPYLDDFKKEHNLDITEVFQ
            ||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf4-1      QIQAELEKKGYTVKLVEFTDYVRPNLALAEGELDINVFQHKPYLDDFKKEHNLDITEVFQ
                70        80        90       100       110       120

               130       140       150       160       170       180
orf4a-1     VPTAPLGLYPGKLKSLEEVKDGSTVSAPNDPSNFARVLVMLDELGWIKLKDGINPLTASK
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf4-1      VPTAPLGLYPGKLKSLEEVKDGSTVSAPNDPSNFARVLVMLDELGWIKLKDGINPLTASK
               130       140       150       160       170       180

               190       200       210       220       230       240
orf4a-1     ADIAENLKNIKIVELEAAQLPRSRADVDFAVVNGNYAISSGMKLTEALFQEPSFAYVNWS
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf4-1      ADIAENLKNIKIVELEAAQLPRSRADVDFAVVNGNYAISSGMKLTEALFQEPSFAYVNWS
               190       200       210       220       230       240

               250       260       270       280
orf4a-1     AVKTADKDSQWLKDVTEAYNSDAFKAYAHKRFEGYKSPAAWNEGAAKX
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf4-1      AVKTADKDSQWLKDVTEAYNSDAFKAYAHKRFEGYKSPAAWNEGAAKX
               250       260       270       280
```

Homology with an outer membrane protein of *Pasteurella haemolitica* (accession q08869).

ORF4 and this outer membrane protein show 33% aa identity in 91aa overlap:

```
                                                  10        20
lip2.pasha                                      MNFKKLLGVALVSALALTACKDEKAQAP----
                                                  || | ::|| || |:|| :|:  |
ORF4          VXTPNPDGRTPCPSFLFETATTSGENMKTFFKTLSAAAL--ALILAACGFKKTARPPHPL
                     110       120       130       140       150

               30        40        50        60        70        80
lip2.pasha    -ATTAKTENKAPLKVGVMTGPEAQMTEVAVKIAKEKYGLDVELVQFTEYTQPNAALHSKD
                  : :: |  :  |: :|  ::|::  ::   || |  |:|||:||:|::|| ||   :
ORF4          LPPPTTARRKKEIVFGTTVGDFGDMVKEQIQAELEKKGYTVKLVEFTDYVRPNLALAEGE
            160       170       180       190       200       210

               90       100       110       120       130       140
lip2.pasha    LDANAFQTVPYLEQEVKDRGYKLAIIGNTLVWPIAAYSKKIKNISELKDGATVAIPNNAS
              |
ORF4          L.....
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF4 shows 93.6% identity over a 94aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF4.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
                                                    10        20        30
orf4nm.pep                                        MKTFFKTLSAAALALILAACGXQKDSAPAA
                                                  |||||||||:|:|||||||||  ||||||||
orf4ng        RANAVXTPNPDGRTPCLSFLFETATTSGENMKTFFKTLSTASLALILAACGGQKDSAPAA
                     200       210       220       230       240       250

                      40        50        60        70        80        89
orf4nm.pep    SASA-AADNGAAKKEIVFGTTVGDFGDMVKEQIQAELEKKGYTVKLVEFTDYVRPNLALA
              ||:| :||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf4ng        SAAAPSADNGAAKKEIVFGTTVGDFGDMVKEQIQAELEKKGYTVKLVEFTDYVRPNLALA
                     260       270       280       290       300       310

                   90
orf4nm.pep    EGEL
              ||||
orf4ng        EGELDINVFQHKPYLDDFKKEHNLDITEAFQVPTAPLGLYPGKLKSLEEVKDGSTVSAPN
                     320       330       340       350       360       370
```

The complete length ORF4ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 223> was predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 224>:

```
   1  MKTFFKTLST ASLALILAAC GGQKDSAPAA SAAAPSADNG AAKKEIVFGT
  51  TVGDFGDMVK EQIQAELEKK GYTVKLVEFT DYVRPNLALA EGELDINVFQ
 101  HKPYLDDFKK EHNLDITEAF QVPTAPLGLY PGKLKSLEEV KDGSTVSAPN
 151  DPSNFARALV MLNELGWIKL KDGINPLTAS KADIAENLKN IKIVELEAAQ
 201  LPRSRADVDF AVVNGNYAIS SGMKLTEALF QEPSFAYVNW SAVKTADKDS
 251  QWLKDVTEAY NSDAFKAYAH KRFEGYKYPA AWNEGAAK*
```

Further analysis revealed the complete length ORF4ng DNA sequence <SEQ ID 225> to be:

```
   1  atgAAAACCT TCTTCAAAAC cctttccgcc gccgcaCTCG CGCTCATCCT
  51  CGCAGCCTGc ggCggtcaAA AAGACAGCGC GCCCgcagcc tctgcCGCCG
 101  CCCCTTCTGC CGATAACGgc gCgGCGAAAA AAGAAAtcgt ctTCGGCACG
 151  Accgtgggcg acttcggcgA TAtggTCAAA GAACAAATCC AagcCGAgct
 201  gGAGAAAAAA GgctACACcg tcAAattggt cgaatttacc gactatgtGC
 251  gCCCGAATCT GGCATTGGCG GAGGGCGAGT TGGACATCAA CGTCTTCCAA
 301  CACAAACCCT ATCTTGACGA TTTCAAAAAA GAACACAACC TGGACATCAC
 351  CGAAGCCTTC CAAGTGCCGA CCGCGCCTTT GGGACTGTAT CCGGGCAAAC
 401  TGAAATCGCT GGAAGAAGTC AAAGACGGCA GCACCGTATC CGCGCCCAac
 451  gACccgTCCA ACTTCGCACG CGCCTTGGTG ATGCTGAACG AACTGGGTTG
 501  GATCAAACTC AAAGACGGCA TCAATCCGCT GACCGCATCC AAAGCCGACA
 551  TCGCGGAAAA CCTGAAAAAC ATCAAAATCG TCGAGCTTGA AGCCGCACAA
```

```
601  CTGCCGCGCA GCCGCGCCGA CGTGGATTTT GCCGTCGTCA ACGGCAACTA
651  CGCCATAAGC AGCGGCATGA AGCTGACCGA AGCCCTGTTC CAAGAGCCGA
701  GCTTTGCCTA TGTCAACTGG TCTGCCgtcA AAACCGCCGA CAAAGACAGC
751  CAATGGCTTA AAGACGTAAC CGAGGCCTAT AACTCCGACG CGTTCAAAGC
801  CTACGCGCAC AAACGCTTCG AGGGCTACAA ATACCCTGCC GCATGGAATG
851  AAGGCGCAGC CAAATAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 226; ORF4ng-1>:

```
  1  MKTFFKTLSA AALALILAAC GGQKDSAPAA SAAAPSADNG AAKKEIVFGT
 51  TVGDFGDMVK EQIQAELEKK GYTVKLVEFT DYVRPNLALA EGELDINVFQ
101  HKPYLDDFKK EHNLDITEAF QVPTAPLGLY PGKLKSLEEV KDGSTVSAPN
151  DPSNFARALV MLNELGWIKL KDGINPLTAS KADIAENLKN IKIVELEAAQ
201  LPRSRADVDF AVVNGNYAIS SGMKLTEALF QEPSFAYVNW SAVKTADKDS
251  QWLKDVTEAY NSDAFKAYAH KRFEGYKYPA AWNEGAAK*
```

This shows 97.6% identity in 288 aa overlap with ORF4-1:

```
                        10        20        30        40        50        59
orf4-1.pep      MKTFFKTLSAAALALILAACGGQKDSAPAASASA-AADNGAAKKEIVFGTTVGDFGDMVK
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:| :|||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf4ng-1        MKTFFKTLSAAALALILAACGGQKDSAPAASAAAPSADNGAAKKEIVFGTTVGDFGDMVK
                        10        20        30        40        50        60

                60        70        80        90       100       110       119
orf4-1.pep      EQIQAELEKKGYTVKLVEFTDYVRPNLALAEGELDINVFQHKPYLDDFKKEHNLDITEVF
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|
orf4ng-1        EQIQAELEKKGYTVKLVEFTDYVRPNLALAEGELDINVFQHKPYLDDFKKEHNLDITEAF
                        70        80        90       100       110       120

               120       130       140       150       160       170       179
orf4-1.pep      QVPTAPLGLYPGKLKSLEEVKDGSTVSAPNDPSNFARVLVMLDELGWIKLKDGINPLTAS
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||:||||||||||||||||||
orf4ng-1        QVPTAPLGLYPGKLKSLEEVKDGSTVSAPNDPSNFARALVMLNELGWIKLKDGINPLTAS
                        130       140       150       160       170       180

               180       190       200       210       220       230       239
orf4-1.pep      KADIAENLKNIKIVELEAAQLPRSRADVDFAVVNGNYAISSGMKLTEALFQEPSFAYVNW
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf4ng-1        KADIAENLKNIKIVELEAAQLPRSRADVDFAVVNGNYAISSGMKLTEALFQEPSFAYVNW
                        190       200       210       220       230       240

               240       250       260       270       280
orf4-1.pep      SAVKTADKDSQWLKDVTEAYNSDAFKAYAHKRFEGYKSPAAWNEGAAKX
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||
orf4ng-1        SAVKTADKDSQWLKDVTEAYNSDAFKAYAHKRFEGYKYPAAWNEGAAKX
                        250       260       270       280
```

In addition, ORF4ng-1 shows significant homology with an outer membrane protein from the database:

```
ID   LIP2_PASHA     STANDARD;      PRT;   276 AA.
AC   Q08869;
DT   01-NOV-1995 (REL. 32, CREATED)
DT   01-NOV-1995 (REL. 32, LAST SEQUENCE UPDATE)
DT   01-NOV-1995 (REL. 32, LAST ANNOTATION UPDATE)
DE   28.2 KD OUTER MEMBRANE PROTEIN PRECURSOR. . . .
SCORES      Init1:   279 Initn:   416 Opt:   494
Smith-Waterman score: 494;    36.0% identity in 275 aa overlap

                        10        20        30        40        50
orf4ng-1.pep    MKTFFKTLSAAAL--ALILAACGGQKDSAPAASAAAPSADNGAAKKEIVFGTTVGDFGDM
                   || | ::||  || |:||  :| :|||::|   :::| |  |    |: :|  ::|
lip2_pasha        MNFKKLLGVALVSALALTACKDEKAQAPATTA---KTENKAPLK---VGVMTGPEAQM
                          10        20        30            40            50

                60        70        80        90       100       110
orf4ng-1.pep    VKEQIQAELEKKGYTVKLVEFTDYVRPNLALAEGELDINVFQHKPYLDDFKKEHNLDITE
                ::  ::   || |  |:||:||:|::|| ||   :|| |:||  |||::  |::: ::
```

```
lip2_pasha      TEVAVKIAKEKYGLDVELVQFTEYTQPNAALHSKDLDANAFQTVPYLEQEVKDRGYKLAI
                      60        70        80        90       100       110

                120       130       140       150       160       170
orf4ng-1.pep    AFQVPTAPLGLYPGKLKSLEEVKDGSTVSAPNDPSNFARALVMLNELGWIKLKDGINPLT
                  :: : |:: |  |:|:: |:|||:||: ||: || ||||::|:  | :|||| | :
lip2_pasha      IGNTLVWPIAAYSKKIKNISELKDGATVAIPNNASNTARALLLLQAHGLLKLKDPKN-VF
                     120       130       140       150       160       170

                180       190       200       210       220       230
orf4ng-1.pep    ASKADIAENLKNIKIVELEAAQLPRSRADVDFAVVNGNYAISSGMKLTE--ALFQEPSFA
                |:: || || ||||||: ::: | |   ||::||:|::|| ::|::  :   : : :
lip2_pasha      ATENDIIENPKNIKIVQADTSLLTRMLDDVELAVINNTYAGQAGLSPDKDGIIVESKDSP
                      180       190       200       210       220       230

                 240       250       260       270       280       289
orf4ng-1.pep    YVNWSAVKTADKDSQWLKDVTEAYNSDAFKAYAHKRFEGYKYPAAWNEGAAKX
                |||  : :  :||:  |:  :::::::     | | |:|
lip2_pasha      YVNLVVSREDNKDDPRLQTFVKSFQTEEVFQEALKLFNGGVVKGW
                      240       250       260       270
```

Based on this analysis, including the homology with the outer membrane protein of *Pasteurella haemolitica*, and on the presence of a putative prokaryotic membrane lipoprotein lipid attachment site in the gonococcal protein, it was predicted that these proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

ORF4-1 (30kDa) was cloned in pET and pGex vectors and expressed in *E.coli*, as described above. The products of protein expression and purification were analyzed by SDS-PAGE. Figures 8A and 8B show, repsectively, the results of affinity purification of the His-fusion and GST-fusion proteins. Purified His-fusion protein was used to immunise mice, whose sera were used for ELISA (positive result), Western blot (Figure 8C), FACS analysis (Figure 8D), and a bactericidal assay (Figure 8E). These experiments confirm that ORF4-1 is a surface-exposed protein, and that it is a useful immunogen.

Figure 8F shows plots of hydrophilicity, antigenic index, and AMPHI regions for ORF4-1.

Example 27

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 227>:

```
   1  CCTCGTCGTC CTCGGCATGC TCCAGTTTCA AGGGGCGATT TACTCCAAGG
  51  CGGTGGAACG TATGCTCGGC ACGGTCATCG GGCTGGGCGC GGGTTTGGGC
 101  GTTTTATGGC TGAACCAGCA TTATTTCCAC GGCAACCTCC TCTTCTACCT
 151  CACCGTCGGC ACGGCAAGCG CACTGGCCGG CTGGGCGGCG GTCGGCAAAA
 201  ACGGCTACGT CCCTmTGCTG GCAGGGCTGA CGATGTGTAT GCTCATCGGC
 251  GACAACGGCA GCGAATGGCT CGACAGCGGA CTCATGCGCG CCATGAACGT
 301  CCTCATCGGC GyGGCCATCG CCATCGCCGC CGCCAAACTG CTGCCGCTGA
 351  AATCCACACT GATGTGGCGT TTCATGCTTG CCGACAACCT GGCCGACTGC
 401  AGCAAAATGA TTGCCGAAAT CAGCAACGGC AGGCGCATGA CCCGCGAACG
 451  CCTCGAGGAG AACATGGCGA AAATGCGCCA AATCAACGCA CGCATGGTCA
 501  AAAGCCGCAG CCATCTCGCC GCCACATCGG GCGAAAGCTG CATCAGCCCC
 551  GCCATGATGG AAGCCATGCA GCACGCCCAC CGTAAAATCG TCAACACCAC
 601  CGAGCTGCTC CTGACCACCG CCGCCAAGCT GCAATCTCCC AAACTCAACG
```

```
651  GCAGCGAAAT CCGGCTGCTT GACCGCCACT TCACACTGCT CCAAAC....
701  ............................ GC AGACACGCCC GCCGCATCCG
751  CATCGACACC GCCATCAACC CCGAACTGGA AGCCCTCGCC GAACACCTCC
801  ACTACCAATG GCAGGGCTTC CTCTGGCTCA GCACCGATAT GCGTCAGGAA
851  ATTTCCGCCC TCGTCATCCT GCTGCAACGC ACCCGCCGCA AATGGCTGGA
901  TGCCCACGAA CGCCAACACC TGCGCCAAAG CCTGCTTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 228; ORF8>:

```
  1  ......PRRP RHAPVSRGDL LQGGGTYARH GHRAGRGFGR FMAEPALFPR
 51  QPPLLPHRRH GKRTGRLGGG RQKRLRPXAG RADDVYAHRR QRQRMARQRT
101  HARHERPHRR GHRHRRRQTA AAEIHTDVAF HACRQPGRLQ QNDCRNQQRQ
151  AHDPRTPRGE HGENAPNQRT HGQKPQPSRR HIGRKLHQPR HDGSHAARPP
201  XNRQHHRAAP DHRRQAAISQ TQRQRNPAAX PPLHTAPN.. .........Q
251  TRPPHPHRHR HQPRTGSPRR TPPLPMAGLP LAQHRYASGN FRPRHPAATH
301  PPQMAGCPRT PTPAPKPA*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Sequence motifs

ORF8 is proline-rich and has a distribution of proline residues consistent with a surface localization. Furthermore the presence of an RGD motif may indicate a possible role in bacterial adhesion events.

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF8 shows 86.5% identity over a 312aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF8.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf8ng      1 MDRDDRLRRPRHAPVPRRDLLQRGGTYARYGHRAGRGFGRFMAEPALFPR 50
              ||||||||  |  ||||  ||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||
orf8.pep    1 ......PRRPRHAPVSRGDLLQGGGTYARHGHRAGRGFGRFMAEPALFPR 44

orf8ng     51 QPPLLPDHRHGKRTGRLGGGRQKRLRPYVGGADDVHAHRRQRQRMARQRP 100
              ||||||  ||||||||||||||||||  | ||||:||||||||||||||
orf8.pep   45 QPPLLPHRRHGKRTGRLGGGRQKRLRPXAGRADDVYAHRRQRQRMARQRT 94

orf8ng    101 DARDERPHRRRHRHCRRQTAAAEIHTDVAFHACRQPGRLQQNDCRNQQRQ 150
               || ||||||| ||| ||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||
orf8.pep   95 HARHERPHRRGHRHRRRQTAAAEIHTDVAFHACRQPGRMQQNDCRNQQRQ 144

orf8ng    151 AYDARTFGAEYGQNAPNQRTHGQKPQPPRRHIGRKPHQPLHDGSHAARPP 200
              |:| ||   |:|:|||||||||||||| ||||||| ||| ||||||||||
orf8.pep  145 AHDPRTPRGEHGENAPNQRTHGQKPQPSRRHIGRKLHQPRHDGSHAARPP 194

orf8ng    201 QNRQHHRAAPDHRRQAAISQTQRQRNPAARPPLHTAPNRPATNRRPHQRQ 250
               |||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||           |
orf8.pep  195 XNRQHHRAAPDHRRQAAISQTQRQRNPAAXPPLHTAPN.....Q 244

orf8ng    251 TRPPHPHRHRHQPRTGSPRRTPPLPMAGFPLAQHQYASGNFRPRHPPATH 300
              |||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||.|||||||||| |||
orf8.pep  245 TRPPHPHRHRHQPRTGSPRRTPPLPMAGLPLAQHRYASGNFRPRHPAATH 294

orf8ng    301 PPQMAGCPRTPTPAPKPA* 319
              ||||||||||||||||||
orf8.pep  295 PPQMAGCPRTPTPAPKPA* 313
```

The complete length ORF8ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 229> is predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 230>:

```
  1  MDRDDRLRRP RHAPVPRRDL LQRGGTYARY GHRAGRGFGR FMAEPALFPR
 51  QPPLLPDHRH GKRTGRLGGG RQKRLRPYVG GADDVHAHRR QRQRMARQRP
101  DARDERPHRR RHRHCRRQTA AAEIHTDVAF HACRQPGRLQ QNDCRNQQRQ
151  AYDARTFGAE YGQNAPNQRT HGQKPQPPRR HIGRKPHQPL HDGSHAARPP
```

```
201  QNRQHHRAAP DHRRQAAISQ TQRQRNPAAR PPLHTAPNRP ATNRRPHQRQ
251  TRPPHPHRHR HQPRTGSPRR TPPLPMAGFP LAQHQYASGN FRPRHPPATH
301  PPQMAGCPRT PTPAPKPA*
```

Based on the sequence motifs in these proteins, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 28

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 231>:

```
  1  ..GAAATCAGCC TGCGGTCCGA CNACAGGCCG GTTTCCGTGN CGAAGCGGCG
 51    GGATTCGGAA CGTTTTCTGC TGTTGGACGG CGGCAACAGC CGGCTCAAGT
101    GGGCGTGGGT GGAAAACGGC ACGTTCGCAA CCGTCGGTAG CGCGCCGTAC
151    CGCGATTTGT CGCCTTTGGG CGCGGAGTGG GCGGAAAAGG CGGATGGAAA
201    TGTCCGCATC GTCGGTTGCG CTGTGTGCGG AGAATTCAAA AAGGCACAAG
251    TGCAGGAACA GCTCGCCCGA AAAATCGAGT GGCTGCCGTC TTCCGCACAG
301    GCTTT.GGCA TACGCAACCA CTACCGCCAC CCCGAAGAAC ACGGTTCCGA
351    CCGCTGGTTC AACGCCTTGG GCAGCCGCCG CTTCAGCCGC AACGCCTGCG
401    TCGTCGTCAG TTGCGGCACG GCGGTAACGG TTGACGCGCT CACCGATGAC
451    GGACATTATC TCGGAGA.GG AACCATCATG CCCGGTTTCC ACCTGATGAA
501    AGAATCGCTC GCCGTCCGAA CCGCCAACCT CAACCGGCAC GCCGGTAAGC
551    GTTATCCTTT CCCGACCGG..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 232; ORF61>:

```
  1  ..EISLRSDXRP VSVXKRRDSE RFLLLDGGNS RLKWAWVENG TFATVGSAPY
 51    RDLSPLGAEW AEKADGNVRI VGCAVCGEFK KAQVQEQLAR KIEWLPSSAQ
101    AXGIRNHYRH PEEHGSDRWF NALGSRRFSR NACVVVSCGT AVTVDALTDD
151    GHYLGXGTIM PGFHLMKESL AVRTANLNRH AGKRYPFPT..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 233>:

```
   1  ATGACGGTTT TGAAGCTTTC GCACTGGCGG GTGTTGGCGG AGCTTGCCGA
  51  CGGTTTGCCG CAACACGTCT CGCAACTGGC GCGTATGGCG GATATGAAGC
 101  CGCAGCAGCT CAACGGTTTT TGGCAGCAGA TGCCGGCGCA CATACGCGGG
 151  CTGTTGCGCC AACACGACGG CTATTGGCGG CTGGTGCGCC CATTGGCGGT
 201  TTTCGATGCC GAAGGTTTGC GCGAGCTGGG GGAAAGGTCG GGTTTTCAGA
 251  CGGCATTGAA GCACGAGTGC GCGTCCAGCA ACGACGAGAT ACTGGAATTG
 301  GCGCGGATTG CGCCGGACAA GGCGCACAAA ACCATATGCG TGACCCACCT
 351  GCAAAGTAAG GGCAGGGGGC GGCAGGGGCG GAAGTGGTCG CACCGTTTGG
 401  GCGAGTGTCT GATGTTCAGT TTTGGCTGGG TGTTTGACCG GCCGCAGTAT
 451  GAGTTGGGTT CGCTGTCGCC TGTTGCGGCA GTGGCGTGTC GGCGCGCCTT
 501  GTCGCGTTTA GGTTTGGATG TGCAGATTAA GTGGCCCAAT GATTTGGTTG
 551  TCGGACGCGA CAAATTGGGC GGCATTCTGA TTGAAACGGT CAGGACGGGC
 601  GGCAAAACGG TTGCCGTGGT CGGTATCGGC ATCAATTTTG TCCTGCCCAA
 651  GGAAGTAGAA AATGCCGCTT CCGTGCAATC GCTGTTTCAG ACGGCATCGC
 701  GGCGGGGCAA TGCCGATGCC GCCGTGCTGC TGGAAACGCT GTTGGTGGAA
 751  CTGGACGCGG TGTTGTTGCA ATATGCGCGG GACGGATTTG CGCCTTTTGT
 801  GGCGGAATAT CAGGCTGCCA ACCGCGACCA CGGCAAGGCG GTATTGCTGT
 851  TGCGCGACGG CGAAACCGTG TTCGAAGGCA CGGTTAAAGG CGTGGACGGA
 901  CAAGGCGTTT TGCACTTGGA AACGGCAGAG GGCAAACAGA CGGTCGTCAG
 951  CGGCGAAATC AGCCTGCGGT CCGACGACAG GCCGGTTTCC GTGCCGAAGC
1001  GGCGGGATTC GGAACGTTTT CTGCTGTTGG ACGGCGGCAA CAGCCGGCTC
1051  AAGTGGGCGT GGGTGGAAAA CGGCACGTTC GCAACCGTCG GTAGCGCGCC
1101  GTACCGCGAT TTGTCGCCTT TGGGCGCGGA GTGGGCGGAA AAGGCGGATG
1151  GAAATGTCCG CATCGTCGGT TGCGCTGTGT GCGGAGAATT CAAAAAGGCA
1201  CAAGTGCAGG AACAGCTCGC CCGAAAAATC GAGTGGCTGC CGTCTTCCGC
1251  ACAGGCTTTG GGCATACGCA ACCACTACCG CCACCCCGAA GAACACGGTT
1301  CCGACCGCTG GTTCAACGCC TTGGGCAGCC GCCGCTTCAG CCGCAACGCC
1351  TGCGTCGTCG TCAGTTGCGG CACGGCGGTA ACGGTTGACG CGCTCACCGA
1401  TGACGGACAT TATCTCGGGG GAACCATCAT GCCCGGTTTC CACCTGATGA
1451  AAGAATCGCT CGCCGTCCGA ACCGCCAACC TCAACCGGCA CGCCGGTAAG
1501  CGTTATCCTT TCCCGACCAC AACGGGCAAT GCCGTCGCCA GCGGCATGAT
1551  GGATGCGGTT TGCGGCTCGG TTATGATGAT GCACGGGCGT TTGAAAGAAA
1601  AAACCGGGGC GGGCAAGCCT GTCGATGTCA TCATTACCGG CGGCGGCGCG
```

```
1651  GCAAAAGTTG CCGAAGCCCT GCCGCCTGCA TTTTTGGCGG AAAATACCGT
1701  GCGCGTGGCG GACAACCTCG TCATTTACGG GTTGTTGAAC ATGATTGCCG
1751  CCGAAGGCAG GGAATATGAA CATATTTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 234; ORF61-1>:

```
   1  MTVLKLSHWR VLAELADGLP QHVSQLARMA DMKPQQLNGF WQQMPAHIRG
  51  LLRQHDGYWR LVRPLAVFDA EGLRELGERS GFQTALKHEC ASSNDEILEL
 101  ARIAPDKAHK TICVTHLQSK GRGRQGRKWS HRLGECLMFS FGWVFDRPQY
 151  ELGSLSPVAA VACRRALSRL GLDVQIKWPN DLVVGRDKLG GILIETVRTG
 201  GKTVAVVGIG INFVLPKEVE NAASVQSLFQ TASRRGNADA AVLLETLLVE
 251  LDAVLLQYAR DGFAPFVAEY QAANRDHGKA VLLLRDGETV FEGTVKGVDG
 301  QGVLHLETAE GKQTVVSGEI SLRSDDRPVS VPKRRDSERF LLLDGGNSRL
 351  KWAWVENGTF ATVGSAPYRD LSPLGAEWAE KADGNVRIVG CAVCGEFKKA
 401  QVQEQLARKI EWLPSSAQAL GIRNHYRHPE EHGSDRWFNA LGSRRFSRNA
 451  CVVVSCGTAV TVDALTDDGH YLGGTIMPGF HLMKESLAVR TANLNRHAGK
 501  RYPFPTTTGN AVASGMMDAV CGSVMMMHGR LKEKTGAGKP VDVIITGGGA
 551  AKVAEALPPA FLAENTVRVA DNLVIYGLLN MIAAEGREYE HI*
```

Figure 9 shows plots of hydrophilicity, antigenic index, and AMPHI regions for ORF61-1. Further computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with the baf protein of *B. pertussis* (accession number U12020).

ORF61 and baf protein show 33% aa identity in 166aa overlap:

```
orf61   23  LLLDGGNSRLKWAWVE-NGTFATVGSAPYR----DLSPLGAEWAEKADGNVRIVGCAVCG 77
            +L+D GNSRLK  W + +   A    AP      DL  LG   A       R +G  V G
baf      3  ILIDSGNSRLKVGWFDPDAPQAAREPAPVAFDNLDLDALGRWLATLPRRPQRALGVNVAG 62

orf61   78  EFKKAQVQEQLAR---KIEWLPSSAQAXGIRNHYRHPEEHGSDRW---FNALGSRRFSRN 131
              +   +   L      I WL +   A G+RN YR+P++ G+DRW      L  +
baf     63  LARGEAIAATLRAGGCDIRWLRAQPLAMGLRNGYRNPDQLGADRWACMVGVLARQPSVHP 122

orf61  132 ACVVVSCGTAVTVDALTDDGHYLGXGTIMPGFHLMKESLAVRTANL 177
             +V S GTA T+D +   D  + G G I+PG   +M+ +LA  TA+L
baf    123 PLLVASFGTATTLDTIGPDNVFPG-GLILPGPAMMRGALAYGTAHL 167
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF61 shows 97.4% identity over a 189aa overlap with an ORF (ORF61a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                                  10        20        30
orf61.pep                                        EISLRSDXRPVSVXKRRDSERFLLLDGGNS
                                                 ||||||| ||||| ||||||||||||||||
orf61a        TVFEGTVKGVDGQGVLHLETAEGKQTVVSGEISLRSDDRPVSVPKRRDSERFLLLDGGNS
             290       300       310       320       330       340

                      40        50        60        70        80        90
orf61.pep     RLKWAWVENGTFATVGSAPYRDLSPLGAEWAEKADGNVRIVGCAVCGEFKKAQVQEQLAR
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf61a        RLKWAWVENGTFATVGSAPYRDLSPLGAEWAEKVDGNVRIVGCAVCGEFKKAQVQEQLAR
             350       360       370       380       390       400

                    100       110       120       130       140       150
orf61.pep     KIEWLPSSAQAXGIRNHYRHPEEHGSDRWFNALGSRRFSRNACVVVSCGTAVTVDALTDD
              |||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf61a        KIEWLPSSAQALGIRNHYRHPEEHGSDRWFNALGSRRFSRNACVVVSCGTAVTVDALTDD
             410       420       430       440       450       460

                    160       170       180       189
orf61.pep     GHYLGXGTIMPGFHLMKESLAVRTANLNRHAGKRYPFPT
              ||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf61a        GHYLG-GTIMPGFHLMKESLAVRTANLNRHAGKRYPFPTTTGNAVASGMMDAVCGSVMMM
             470       480       490       500       510       520

orf61a        HGRLKEKTGAGKPVDVIITGGGAAKVAEALPPAFLAENTVRVADNLVIHGLLNLIAAEGG
```

530 540 550 560 570 580

The complete length ORF61a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 235> is:

```
   1 ATGACGGTTT TGAAGCCTTC GCACTGGCGG GTGTTGGCGG AGCTTGCCGA
  51 CGGTTTGCCG CAACACGTCT CGCAACTGGC GCGTATGGCG GATATGAAGC
 101 CGCAGCAGCT CAACGGTTTT TGGCAGCAGA TGCCGGCGCA CATACGCGGG
 151 CTGTTGCGCC AACACGACGG CTATTGGCGG CTGGTGCGCC CATTGGCGGT
 201 TTTCGATGCC GAAGGTTTGC GCGAGCTGGG GGAAAGGTCG GGTTTTCAGA
 251 CGGCATTGAA GCACGAGTGC GCGTCCAGCA ACGACGAGAT ACTGGAATTG
 301 GCGCGGATTG CGCCGGACAA GGCGCACAAA ACCATATGTG TGACCCACCT
 351 GCAAAGTAAG GGCAGGGGGC GGCAGGGGCG GAAGTGGTCG CACCGTTTGG
 401 GCGAGTGTCT GATGTTCAGT TTTGGCTGGG TGTTTGACCG GCCGCAGTAT
 451 GAGTTGGGTT CGCTGTCGCC TGTTGCGGCA GTGGCGTGCC GGCGCGCCTT
 501 GTCGCGTTTG GGTTTGAAAA CGCAAATCAA GTGGCCAAAC GATTTGGTCG
 551 TCGGACGCGA CAAATTGGGC GGCATTCTGA TTGAAACGGT CAGGACGGGC
 601 GGCAAAACGG TTGCCGTGGT CGGTATCGGC ATCAATTTCG TGCTGCCCAA
 651 GGAAGTGGAA AACGCCGCTT CCGTGCAATC GCTGTTTCAG ACGGCATCGC
 701 GGCGGGGAAA TGCCGATGCC GCCGTGTTGC TGGAAACGCT GTTGGCGGAA
 751 CTTGATGCGG TGTTGTTGCA ATATGCGCGG GACGGATTTG CGCCTTTTGT
 801 GGCGGAATAT CAGGCTGCCA ACCGCGACCA CGGCAAGGCG GTATTGCTGT
 851 TGCGCGACGG CGAAACCGTG TTCGAAGGCA CGGTTAAAGG CGTGGACGGA
 901 CAAGGCGTTC TGCACTTGGA AACGGCAGAG GGCAAACAGA CGGTCGTCAG
 951 CGGCGAAATC AGCCTGCGGT CCGACGACAG GCCGGTTTCC GTGCCGAAGC
1001 GGCGGGATTC GGAACGTTTT CTGCTGTTGG ACGGCGGCAA CAGCCGGCTC
1051 AAGTGGGCGT GGGTGGAAAA CGGCACGTTC GCAACCGTCG GTAGCGCGCC
1101 GTACCGCGAT TTGTCGCCTT TGGGCGCGGA GTGGGCGGAA AAGGTGGATG
1151 GAAATGTCCG CATCGTCGGT TGCGCCGTGT GCGGAGAATT CAAAAAGGCA
1201 CAAGTGCAGG AACAGCTCGC CCGAAAAATC GAGTGGCTGC CGTCTTCCGC
1251 ACAGGCTTTG GGCATACGCA ACCACTACCG CCACCCCGAA GAACACGGTT
1301 CCGACCGCTG GTTCAACGCC TTGGGCAGCC GCCGCTTCAG CCGCAACGCC
1351 TGCGTCGTCG TCAGTTGCGG CACGGCGGTA ACGGTTGACG CGCTCACCGA
1401 TGACGGACAT TATCTCGGGG GAACCATCAT GCCCGGTTTC CACCTGATGA
1451 AAGAATCGCT CGCCGTCCGA ACCGCCAACC TCAACCGGCA CGCCGGTAAG
1501 CGTTATCCTT TCCCGACCAC AACGGGCAAT GCCGTCGCCA GCGGCATGAT
1551 GGATGCGGTT TGCGGCTCGG TTATGATGAT GCACGGGCGT TTGAAAGAAA
1601 AAACCGGGGC GGGCAAGCCT GTCGATGTCA TCATTACCGG CGGCGGCGCG
1651 GCAAAAGTTG CCGAAGCCCT GCCGCCTGCA TTTTTGGCGG AAAATACCGT
1701 GCGCGTGGCG GACAACCTCG TCATTCACGG GCTGCTGAAC CTGATTGCCG
1751 CCGAAGGCGG GGAATCGGAA CATACTTAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 236>:

```
   1 MTVLKPSHWR VLAELADGLP QHVSQLARMA DMKPQQLNGF WQQMPAHIRG
  51 LLRQHDGYWR LVRPLAVFDA EGLRELGERS GFQTALKHEC ASSNDEILEL
 101 ARIAPDKAHK TICVTHLQSK GRGRQGRKWS HRLGECLMFS FGWVFDRPQY
 151 ELGSLSPVAA VACRRALSRL GLKTQIKWPN DLVVGRDKLG GILIETVRTG
 201 GKTVAVVGIG INFVLPKEVE NAASVQSLFQ TASRRGNADA AVLLETLLAE
 251 LDAVLLQYAR DGFAPFVAEY QAANRDHGKA VLLLRDGETV FEGTVKGVDG
 301 QGVLHLETAE GKQTVVSGEI SLRSDDRPVS VPKRRDSERF LLLDGGNSRL
 351 KWAWVENGTF ATVGSAPYRD LSPLGAEWAE KVDGNVRIVG CAVCGEFKKA
 401 QVQEQLARKI EWLPSSAQAL GIRNHYRHPE EHGSDRWFNA LGSRRFSRNA
 451 CVVVSCGTAV TVDALTDDGH YLGGTIMPGF HLMKESLAVR TANLNRHAGK
 501 RYPFPTTTGN AVASGMMDAV CGSVMMMHGR LKEKTGAGKP VDVIITGGGA
 551 AKVAEALPPA FLAENTVRVA DNLVIHGLLN LIAAEGGESE HT*
```

ORF61a and ORF61-1 show 98.5% identity in 591 aa overlap:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf61a.pep      MTVLKPSHWRVLAELADGLPQHVSQLARMADMKPQQLNGFWQQMPAHIRGLLRQHDGYWR
                ||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf61-1         MTVLKLSHWRVLAELADGLPQHVSQLARMADMKPQQLNGFWQQMPAHIRGLLRQHDGYWR
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf61a.pep      LVRPLAVFDAEGLRELGERSGFQTALKHECASSNDEILELARIAPDKAHKTICVTHLQSK
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf61-1         LVRPLAVFDAEGLRELGERSGFQTALKHECASSNDEILELARIAPDKAHKTICVTHLQSK
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
```

```
orf61a.pep   GRGRQGRKWSHRLGECLMFSFGWVFDRPQYELGSLSPVAAVACRRALSRLGLKTQIKWPN
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| :||||||
orf61-1      GRGRQGRKWSHRLGECLMFSFGWVFDRPQYELGSLSPVAAVACRRALSRLGLDVQIKWPN
                    130       140       150       160       170       180

                    190       200       210       220       230       240
orf61a.pep   DLVVGRDKLGGILIETVRTGGKTVAVVGIGINFVLPKEVENAASVQSLFQTASRRGNADA
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf61-1      DLVVGRDKLGGILIETVRTGGKTVAVVGIGINFVLPKEVENAASVQSLFQTASRRGNADA
                    190       200       210       220       230       240

                    250       260       270       280       290       300
orf61a.pep   AVLLETLLAELDAVLLQYARDGFAPFVAEYQAANRDHGKAVLLLRDGETVFEGTVKGVDG
             ||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf61-1      AVLLETLLVELDAVLLQYARDGFAPFVAEYQAANRDHGKAVLLLRDGETVFEGTVKGVDG
                    250       260       270       280       290       300

                    310       320       330       340       350       360
orf61a.pep   QGVLHLETAEGKQTVVSGEISLRSDDRPVSVPKRRDSERFLLLDGGNSRLKWAWVENGTF
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf61-1      QGVLHLETAEGKQTVVSGEISLRSDDRPVSVPKRRDSERFLLLDGGNSRLKWAWVENGTF
                    310       320       330       340       350       360

                    370       380       390       400       410       420
orf61a.pep   ATVGSAPYRDLSPLGAEWAEKVDGNVRIVGCAVCGEFKKAQVQEQLARKIEWLPSSAQAL
             ||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf61-1      ATVGSAPYRDLSPLGAEWAEKADGNVRIVGCAVCGEFKKAQVQEQLARKIEWLPSSAQAL
                    370       380       390       400       410       420

                    430       440       450       460       470       480
orf61a.pep   GIRNHYRHPEEHGSDRWFNALGSRRFSRNACVVVSCGTAVTVDALTDDGHYLGGTIMPGF
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf61-1      GIRNHYRHPEEHGSDRWFNALGSRRFSRNACVVVSCGTAVTVDALTDDGHYLGGTIMPGF
                    430       440       450       460       470       480

                    490       500       510       520       530       540
orf61a.pep   HLMKESLAVRTANLNRHAGKRYPFPTTTGNAVASGMMDAVCGSVMMMHGRLKEKTGAGKP
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf61-1      HLMKESLAVRTANLNRHAGKRYPFPTTTGNAVASGMMDAVCGSVMMMHGRLKEKTGAGKP
                    490       500       510       520       530       540

                    550       560       570       580       590
orf61a.pep   VDVIITGGGAAKVAEALPPAFLAENTVRVADNLVIHGLLNLIAAEGGESEHTX
             |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||:|||||  |  ||
orf61-1      VDVIITGGGAAKVAEALPPAFLAENTVRVADNLVIYGLLNMIAAEGREYEHIX
                    550       560       570       580       590
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF61 shows 94.2% identity over a 189aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF61.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf61.pep                                          EISLRSDXRPVSVXKRRDSERFLLLDGGNS   30
                                                   ||||| | | ||| || ||||||||:||||
orf61ng      TVCEGTVKGVDGRGVLHLETAEGEQTVVSGEISLRPDNRSVSVPKRPDSERFLLLEGGNS  211

orf61.pep    RLKWAWVENGTFATVGSAPYRDLSPLGAEWAEKADGNVRIVGCAVCGEFKKAQVQEQLAR   90
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||:|||||
orf61ng      RLKWAWVENGTFATVGSAPYRDLSPLGAEWAEKADGNVRIVGCAVCGESKKAQVKEQLAR  271

orf61.pep    KIEWLPSSAQAXGIRNHYRHPEEHGSDRWFNALGSRRFSRNACVVVSCGTAVTVDALTDD  150
             |||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf61ng      KIEWLPSSAQALGIRNHYRHPEEHGSDRWFNALGSRRFSRNACVVVSCGTAVTVDALTDD  331

orf61.pep    GHYLGXGTIMPGFHLMKESLAVRTANLNRHAGKRYPFPT                        189
             ||||| |||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||
orf61ng      GHYLG-GTIMPGFHLMKESLAVRTANLNRPAGKRYPFPTTTGNAVASGMMDAVCGSIMMM  390
```

An ORF61ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 237> was predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 238>:

```
   1  MFSFGWAFDR PQYELGSLSP VAALACRRAL GCLGLETQIK WPNDLVVGRD
  51  KLGGILIETV RAGGKTVAVV GIGINFVLPK EVENAASVQS LFQTASRRGN
 101  ADAAVLLETL LAELGAVLEQ YAEEGFAPFL NEYETANRDH GKAVLLLRDG
 151  ETVCEGTVKG VDGRGVLHLE TAEGEQTVVS GEISLRPDNR SVSVPKRPDS
 201  ERFLLLEGGN SRLKWAWVEN GTFATVGSAP YRDLSPLGAE WAEKADGNVR
 251  IVGCAVCGES KKAQVKEQLA RKIEWLPSSA QALGIRNHYR HPEEHGSDRW
 301  FNALGSRRFS RNACVVVSCG TAVTVDALTD DGHYLGGTIM PGFHLMKESL
 351  AVRTANLNRP AGKRYPFPTT TGNAVASGMM DAVCGSIMMM HGRLKEKNGA
 401  GKPVDVIITG GGAAKVAEAL PPAFLAENTV RVADNLVIHG LLNLIAAEGG
 451  ESEHA*
```

Further analysis revealed the complete gonococcal DNA sequence <SEQ ID 239> to be:

```
   1  ATGACGGTTT TGAAGCCTTC GCATTGGCGG GTGTTGGCGG AGCTTGCCGA
  51  CGGTTTGCCG CAACACGTAT CGCAATTGGC GCGTGAGGCG GACATGAAGC
 101  CGCAGCAGCT CAACGGTTTT TGGCAGCAGA TGCCGGCGCA TATACGCGGG
 151  CTGTTGCGCC AACACGACGG CTATTGGCGG CTGGTGCGCC CCTTGGCGGT
 201  TTTCGATGCC GAAGGTTTGC GCGATCTGGG GGAAAGGTCG GGTTTTCAGA
 251  CGGCATTGAA GCACGAGTGC GCGTCCAGCA ACGACGAGAT ACTGGAATTG
 301  GCGCGGATTG CGCCGGACAA GGCGCACAAA ACCATATGCG TGACCCACCT
 351  GCAAAGTAAG GGCAGGGGGC GGCAGGGGCG GAAGTGGTCG CACCGTTTGG
 401  GCGAGTGCCT GATGTTCAGT TTCGGCTGGG CGTTTGACCG GCCGCAGTAT
 451  GAGTTGGGTT CGCTGTCGCC TGTTGCGGCA CTTGCGTGCC GGCGCGCTTT
 501  GGGGTGTTTG GGTTTGGAAA CGCAAATCAA GTGGCCAAAC GATTTGGTCG
 551  TCGGACGCGA CAAATTGGGC GGCATTCTGA TTGAAACAGT CAGGGCGGGC
 601  GGTAAAACGG TTGCCGTGGT CGGTATCGGC ATCAATTTCG TGCTGCCCAA
 651  GGAAGTGGAA AACGCCGCTT CCGTGCAGTC GCTGTTTCAG ACGGCATCGC
 701  GGCGGGGCAA TGCCGATGCC GCCGTATTGC TGGAAACATT GCTTGCGGAA
 751  CTGGGCGCGG TGTTGGAACA ATATGCGGAA GAAGGGTTCG CGCCATTTTT
 801  AAATGAGTAT GAAACGGCCA ACCGCGACCA CGGCAAGGCG GTATTGCTGT
 851  TGCGCGACGG CGAAACCGTG TGCGAAGGCA CGGTTAAAGG CGTGGACGGA
 901  CGAGGCGTTC TGCACTTGGA AACGGCAgaa ggcgaACAGa cggtcgtcag
 951  cggcgaaaTC AGcctGCggc ccgacaacaG GTCGGtttcc gtgccgaagc
1001  ggccggatTC GgaacgtTTT tTGCtgttgg aaggcgggaa cagccgGCTC
1051  AAGTGGGCGT GggtggAAAa cggcacgttc gcaaccgtgg gcagcgcgCc
1101  gtaCCGCGAT TTGTCGCCTT TGGGCGCGGA GTGGGCGGAA AAGGCGGATG
1151  GAAATGTCCG CATCGTCGGT TGCGCCGTGT GCGGAGAATC CAAAAAGGCA
1201  CAAGTGAAGG AACAGCTCGC CCGAAAAATC GAGTGGCTGC CGTCTTCCGC
1251  ACAGGCTTTG GGCATACGCA ACCACTACCG CCACCCCGAA GAACACGGTT
1301  CCGACCGTTG GTTCAACGCC TTGGGCAGCC GCCGCTTCAG CCGCAACGCC
1351  TGCGTCGTCG TCAGTTGCGG CACGGCGGTA ACGGTTGACG CGCTCACCGA
1401  TGACGGACAT TATCTCGGCG GAACCATCAT GCCCGGCTTC CACCTGATGA
1451  AAGAATCGCT CGCCGTCCGA ACCGCCAACC TCAACCGCCC CGCCGGCAAA
1501  CGTTACCCTT TCCCGACCAC AACGGGCAAC GCCGTCGCAA GCGGCATGAT
1551  GGACGCGGTT TGCGGCTCGA TAATGATGAT GCACGGCCGT TTGAAAGAAA
1601  AAAACGGCGC GGGCAAGCCT GTCGATGTCA TCATTACCGG CGGCGGCGCG
1651  GCGAAAGTCG CCGAAGCCCT GCCGCCTGCA TTTTTGGCGG AAAATACCGT
1701  GCGCGTGGCG GACAACCTCG TCATCCACGG GCTGCTGAAC CTGATTGCCG
1751  CCGAAGGCGG GGAATCGGAA CACGCTTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 240; ORF61ng-1>:

```
   1  MTVLKPSHWR VLAELADGLP QHVSQLAREA DMKPQQLNGF WQQMPAHIRG
  51  LLRQHDGYWR LVRPLAVFDA EGLRDLGERS GFQTALKHEC ASSNDEILEL
 101  ARIAPDKAHK TICVTHLQSK GRGRQGRKWS HRLGECLMFS FGWAFDRPQY
 151  ELGSLSPVAA LACRRALGCL GLETQIKWPN DLVVGRDKLG GILIETVRAG
 201  GKTVAVVGIG INFVLPKEVE NAASVQSLFQ TASRRGNADA AVLLETLLAE
 251  LGAVLEQYAE EGFAPFLNEY ETANRDHGKA VLLLRDGETV CEGTVKGVDG
 301  RGVLHLETAE GEQTVVSGEI SLRPDNRSVS VPKRPDSERF LLLEGGNSRL
 351  KWAWVENGTF ATVGSAPYRD LSPLGAEWAE KADGNVRIVG CAVCGESKKA
 401  QVKEQLARKI EWLPSSAQAL GIRNHYRHPE EHGSDRWFNA LGSRRFSRNA
 451  CVVVSCGTAV TVDALTDDGH YLGGTIMPGF HLMKESLAVR TANLNRPAGK
 501  RYPFPTTTGN AVASGMMDAV CGSIMMMHGR LKEKNGAGKP VDVIITGGGA
 551  AKVAEALPPA FLAENTVRVA DNLVIHGLLN LIAAEGGESE HA*
```

ORF61ng-1 and ORF61-1 show 93.9% identity in 591 aa overlap:

```
orf61ng-1.pep  MTVLKPSHWRVLAELADGLPQHVSQLAREADMKPQQLNGFWQQMPAHIRGLLRQHDGYWR  60
               |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf61-1        MTVLKLSHWRVLAELADGLPQHVSQLARMADMKPQQLNGFWQQMPAHIRGLLRQHDGYWR  60

orf61ng-1.pep  LVRPLAVFDAEGLRDLGERSGFQTALKHECASSNDEILELARIAPDKAHKTICVTHLQSK 120
               |||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf61-1        LVRPLAVFDAEGLRELGERSGFQTALKHECASSNDEILELARIAPDKAHKTICVTHLQSK 120

orf61ng-1.pep  GRGRQGRKWSHRLGECLMFSFGWAFDRPQYELGSLSPVAALACRRALGCLGLETQIKWPN 180
               |||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||:||||||: |||::||||||
orf61-1        GRGRQGRKWSHRLGECLMFSFGWVFDRPQYELGSLSPVAAVACRRALSRLGLDVQIKWPN 180

orf61ng-1.pep  DLVVGRDKLGGILIETVRAGGKTVAVVGIGINFVLPKEVENAASVQSLFQTASRRGNADA 240
               |||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf61-1        DLVVGRDKLGGILIETVRTGGKTVAVVGIGINFVLPKEVENAASVQSLFQTASRRGNADA 240

orf61ng-1.pep  AVLLETLLAELGAVLEQYAEEGFAPFLNEYETANRDHGKAVLLLRDGETVCEGTVKGVDG 300
               |||||||||:|| ||| |||::||||||: ||::|||||||||||||||| |||||||||
orf61-1        AVLLETLLVELDAVLLQYARDGFAPFVAEYQAANRDHGKAVLLLRDGETVFEGTVKGVDG 300

orf61ng-1.pep  RGVLHLETAEGEQTVVSGEISLRPDNRSVSVPKRPDSERFLLLEGGNSRLKWAWVENGTF 360
               :|||||||||:|||||||||||| |:| |||||| ||||||||:|||||||||||||||
orf61-1        QGVLHLETAEGKQTVVSGEISLRSDDRPVSVPKRRDSERFLLLDGGNSRLKWAWVENGTF 360

orf61ng-1.pep  ATVGSAPYRDLSPLGAEWAEKADGNVRIVGCAVCGESKKAQVKEQLARKIEWLPSSAQAL 420
               |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||:||||||||||
orf61-1        ATVGSAPYRDLSPLGAEWAEKADGNVRIVGCAVCGEFKKAQVQEQLARKIEWLPSSAQAL 420

orf61ng-1.pep  GIRNHYRHPEEHGSDRWFNALGSRRFSRNACVVVSCGTAVTVDALTDDGHYLGGTIMPGF 480
               |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf61-1        GIRNHYRHPEEHGSDRWFNALGSRRFSRNACVVVSCGTAVTVDALTDDGHYLGGTIMPGF 480

orf61ng-1.pep  HLMKESLAVRTANLNRPAGKRYPFPTTTGNAVASGMMDAVCGSIMMMHGRLKEKNGAGKP 540
               |||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||:|||||
orf61-1        HLMKESLAVRTANLNRHAGKRYPFPTTTGNAVASGMMDAVCGSVMMMHGRLKEKTGAGKP 540

orf61ng-1.pep  VDVIITGGGAAKVAEALPPAFLAENTVRVADNLVIHGLLNLIAAEGGESEHAX  593
               |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||:||||| | ||
orf61-1        VDVIITGGGAAKVAEALPPAFLAENTVRVADNLVIYGLLNMIAAEGREYEHIX  593
```

Based on this analysis, including the homology with the baf protein of *B.pertussis* and the presence of a putative prokaryotic membrane lipoprotein lipid attachment site, it is predicted that these proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 29

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 241>:

```
   1  ATGTTTTACC AAATCCTTGC CCTGATTATC TGGAGCAGCT CGTTTATTGC
  51  CGCCAAATAT GTCTATGGCG GCATCGATCC CGCATTGATG GTCGGCGTGC
 101  GCCTGCTAAT TGCCGCGCTG CCTGCACTGC CCGCCTGCCG CCGTCATGTC
 151  GGCAAGATTC CGCGTGAGGA ATGGAAGCCG TTGCTGATTG TGTCGTTCGT
 201  CAACTATGTG CTGACCCTGC TGCTTCAGTT TGTCGGGTTG AAATACACTT
 251  CCGCCGCCAG CGCATCGGTC ATTGTCGGAC TCGAGCCGCT GCTGATGGTG
 301  TTTGTCGGAC ACTTTTTCTT CAACGACAAA GCGCGTGCCT ACCACTGGAT
 351  ATGCGGCGCG GCGGCATTTG CCGGTGTCGC GCTGCTGATG GCGGGCGGTG
 401  CGGaAGAGGG CGGCGaAGTC GGCTGGTTCG GCTGCCTGCT GGTGTTGTTG
 451  GCGGGCGCGG GCTTTTGTGC CGCTATGCGT CCGACGCAAA GGCTGATTGC
 501  ACGCATCGGC GCACCGGCAT TCACATCTGT TTCCATTGCC GCCGCATCGT
 551  TGATGTGCCT GCCGTTTTCG CTTGCTTTGG CGCAAAGTTA TACCGTGGAC
 601  TGGAGCGTCG GGATGGTATT GTCGCTGCTG TATTTGGGTT TGGGGTGC..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 242; ORF62>:

```
   1  MFYQILALII WSSSFIAAKY VYGGIDPALM VGVRLLIAAL PALPACRRHV
  51  GKIPREEWKP LLIVSFVNYV LTLLLQFVGL KYTSAASASV IVGLEPLLMV
 101  FVGHFFFNDK ARAYHWICGA AAFAGVALLM AGGAEEGGEV GWFGCLLVLL
 151  AGAGFCAAMR PTQRLIARIG APAFTSVSIA AASLMCLPFS LALAQSYTVD
 201  WSVGMVLSLL YLGLGC..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 243>:

```
   1  ATGTTTTACC AAATCCTTGC CCTGATTATC TGGAGCAGCT CGTTTATTGC
  51  CGCCAAATAT GTCTATGGCG GCATCGATCC CGCATTGATG GTCGGCGTGC
 101  GCCTGCTAAT TGCCGCGCTG CCTGCACTGC CCGCCTGCCG CCGTCATGTC
 151  GGCAAGATTC CGCGTGAGGA ATGGAAGCCG TTGCTGATTG TGTCGTTCGT
 201  CAACTATGTG CTGACCCTGC TGCTTCAGTT TGTCGGGTTG AAATACACTT
 251  CCGCCGCCAG CGCATCGGTC ATTGTCGGAC TCGAGCCGCT GCTGATGGTG
 301  TTTGTCGGAC ACTTTTTCTT CAACGACAAA GCGCGTGCCT ACCACTGGAT
 351  ATGCGGCGCG GCGGCATTTG CCGGTGTCGC GCTGCTGATG GCGGGCGGTG
 401  CGGAAGAGGG CGGCGAAGTC GGCTGGTTCG GCTGCCTGCT GGTGTTGTTG
 451  GCGGGCGCGG GCTTTTGTGC CGCTATGCGT CCGACGCAAA GGCTGATTGC
 501  ACGCATCGGC GCACCGGCAT TCACATCTGT TTCCATTGCC GCCGCATCGT
 551  TGATGTGCCT GCCGTTTTCG CTTGCTTTGG CGCAAAGTTA TACCGTGGAC
 601  TGGAGCGTCG GGATGGTATT GTCGCTGCTG TATTTGGGTT TGGGGTGCGG
 651  CTGGTACGCC TATTGGCTGT GGAACAAGGG GATGAGCCGT GTTCCTGCCA
 701  ATGTTTCGGG ACTGTTGATT TCGCTCGAAC CCGTCGTCGG CGTGCTGCTG
 751  GCGGTTTTGA TTTTGGGCGA ACACCTGTCG CCCGTGTCCG CCTTGGGCGT
 801  GTTTGTCGTC ATCGCCGCCA CCTTGGTTGC CGGCCGGCTG TCGCATCAAA
 851  AATAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 244; ORF62-1>:

```
   1  MFYQILALII WSSSFIAAKY VYGGIDPALM VGVRLLIAAL PALPACRRHV
  51  GKIPREEWKP LLIVSFVNYV LTLLLQFVGL KYTSAASASV IVGLEPLLMV
 101  FVGHFFFNDK ARAYHWICGA AAFAGVALLM AGGAEEGGEV GWFGCLLVLL
 151  AGAGFCAAMR PTQRLIARIG APAFTSVSIA AASLMCLPFS LALAQSYTVD
 201  WSVGMVLSLL YLGLGCGWYA YWLWNKGMSR VPANVSGLLI SLEPVVGVLL
 251  AVLILGEHLS PVSALGVFVV IAATLVAGRL SHQK*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with hypothetical transmembrane protein HI0976 of *H. influenzae* (accession number Q57147)

ORF62 and HI0976 show 50% aa identity in 114aa overlap:

```
Orf62    1   MFYQILALIIWSSSFIAAKYVYGGIDPALMVGVRXXXXXXXXXXXXCRRHVGKIPREEWKP 60
             M YQILAL+IWSSS I  K  Y  +DP L+V VR              R   KI +   K
HI0976   1   MLYQILALLIWSSSLIVGKLTYSMMDPVLVVQVRLIIAMIIVMPLFLRRWKKIDKPMRKQ 60

Orf62    61  LLIVSFVNYVLTLLLQFVGLKYTSAASASVIVGLEPLLMVFVGHFFFNDKARAY 114
             L  ++F NY    LLQF+GLKYTSA+SA  ++GLEPLL+VFVGHFFF  K   +
HI0976   61  LWWLAFFNYTAVFLLQFIGLKYTSASSAVTMIGLEPLLVVFVGHFFFKTKQNGF 114
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF62 shows 99.5% identity over a 216aa overlap with an ORF (ORF62a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf62.pep    MFYQILALIIWSSSFIAAKYVYGGIDPALMVGVRLLIAALPALPACRRHVGKIPREEWKP
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf62a       MFYQILALIIWSSSFIAAKYVYGGIDPALMVGVRLLIAALPALPACRRHVGKIPREEWKP
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf62.pep    LLIVSFVNYVLTLLLQFVGLKYTSAASASVIVGLEPLLMVFVGHFFFNDKARAYHWICGA
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf62a       LLIVSFVNYVLTLLLQFVGLKYTSAASASVIVGLEPLLMVFVGHFFFNDKARAYHWICGA
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf62.pep    AAFAGVALLMAGGAEEGGEVGWFGCLLVLLAGAGFCAAMRPTQRLIARIGAPAFTSVSIA
```

```
                                                                                                                    
orf62a      AAFAGVALLMAGGAEEGGEVGWFGCLLVLLAGAGFCAAMRPTQRLIARIGAPAFTSVSIA
                   130       140       150       160       170       180

                   190       200       210
orf62.pep   AASLMCLPFSLALAQSYTVDWSVGMVLSLLYLGLGC
                                                :||
orf62a      AASLMCLPFSLALAQSYTVDWSVGMVLSLLYLGVGCSWYAYWLWNKGMSRVPANVSGLLI
                   190       200       210       220       230       240

orf62a      SLEPVVGVLLAVLILGEHLSPVSVLGVFVVIAATLVAGRLSHQKX
                   250       260       270       280
```

The complete length ORF62a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 245> is:

```
   1  ATGTTTTACC AAATCCTTGC CCTGATTATC TGGAGCAGCT CGTTTATTGC
  51  CGCCAAATAT GTCTATGGCG GCATCGATCC CGCATTGATG GTCGGCGTGC
 101  GCCTGCTGAT TGCTGCGCTG CCTGCACTGC CCGCCTGCCG CCGTCATGTC
 151  GGCAAGATTC CGCGTGAGGA ATGGAAGCCG TTGCTGATTG TGTCGTTCGT
 201  CAACTATGTG CTGACCCTGC TACTTCAGTT TGTCGGGTTG AAATACACTT
 251  CCGCCGCCAG CGCATCGGTC ATTGTCGGAC TCGAGCCACT GCTGATGGTG
 301  TTTGTCGGAC ACTTTTTCTT CAACGACAAA GCGCGTGCCT ACCACTGGAT
 351  ATGCGGCGCG GCGGCATTTG CCGGTGTCGC GCTGCTGATG GCGGGCGGTG
 401  CGGAAGAGGG CGGCGAAGTC GGCTGGTTCG GCTGCCTGCT GGTGTTGTTG
 451  GCGGGCGCGG GCTTTTGTGC CGCTATGCGT CCGACGCAAA GGCTGATTGC
 501  ACGCATCGGC GCACCGGCAT TCACATCTGT TTCCATTGCC GCCGCATCGT
 551  TGATGTGCGT GCCGTTTTCG CTTGCTTTGG CGCAAAGTTA TACCGTGGAC
 601  TGGAGCGTCG GAATGGTATT GTCGCTGCTG TATTTGGGCG TGGGGTGCAG
 651  CTGGTACGCC TATTGGCTGT GGAACAAGGG GATGAGCCGT GTTCCTGCCA
 701  ACGTTTCGGG ACTGTTGATT TCGCTCGAAC CCGTCGTCGG CGTGCTGCTG
 751  GCGGTTTTGA TTTTGGGCGA ACACCTGTCG CCCGTGTCCG TCTTGGGCGT
 801  GTTTGTCGTC ATCGCCGCCA CCTTGGTTGC CGGCCGGCTG TCGCATCAAA
 851  AATAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 246>:

```
   1  MFYQILALII WSSSFIAAKY VYGGIDPALM VGVRLLIAAL PALPACRRHV
  51  GKIPREEWKP LLIVSFVNYV LTLLLQFVGL KYTSAASASV IVGLEPLLMV
 101  FVGHFFFNDK ARAYHWICGA AAFAGVALLM AGGAEEGGEV GWFGCLLVLL
 151  AGAGFCAAMR PTQRLIARIG APAFTSVSIA AASLMCLPFS LALAQSYTVD
 201  WSVGMVLSLL YLGVGCSWYA YWLWNKGMSR VPANVSGLLI SLEPVVGVLL
 251  AVLILGEHLS PVSVLGVFVV IAATLVAGRL SHQK*
```

ORF62a and ORF62-1 show 98.9% identity in 284 aa overlap:

```
orf62a.pep  MFYQILALIIWSSSFIAAKYVYGGIDPALMVGVRLLIAALPALPACRRHVGKIPREEWKP  60
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf62-1     MFYQILALIIWSSSFIAAKYVYGGIDPALMVGVRLLIAALPALPACRRHVGKIPREEWKP  60

orf62a.pep  LLIVSFVNYVLTLLLQFVGLKYTSAASASVIVGLEPLLMVFVGHFFFNDKARAYHWICGA 120
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf62-1     LLIVSFVNYVLTLLLQFVGLKYTSAASASVIVGLEPLLMVFVGHFFFNDKARAYHWICGA 120

orf62a.pep  AAFAGVALLMAGGAEEGGEVGWFGCLLVLLAGAGFCAAMRPTQRLIARIGAPAFTSVSIA 180
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf62-1     AAFAGVALLMAGGAEEGGEVGWFGCLLVLLAGAGFCAAMRPTQRLIARIGAPAFTSVSIA 180

orf62a.pep  AASLMCLPFSLALAQSYTVDWSVGMVLSLLYLGVGCSWYAYWLWNKGMSRVPANVSGLLI 240
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||:||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf62-1     AASLMCLPFSLALAQSYTVDWSVGMVLSLLYLGLGCGWYAYWLWNKGMSRVPANVSGLLI 240

orf62a.pep  SLEPVVGVLLAVLILGEHLSPVSVLGVFVVIAATLVAGRLSHQKX  285
            ||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf62-1     SLEPVVGVLLAVLILGEHLSPVSALGVFVVIAATLVAGRLSHQKX  285
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF62 shows 99.5% identity over a 216aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF62.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf62.pep    MFYQILALIIWSSSFIAAKYVYGGIDPALMVGVRLLIAALPALPACRRHVGKIPREEWKP   60
             ||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf62ng      MFYQILALIIWGSSFIAAKYVYGGIDPALMVGVRLLIAALPALPACRRHVGKIPREEWKP   60

orf62.pep    LLIVSFVNYVLTLLLQFVGLKYTSAASASVIVGLEPLLMVFVGHFFFNDKARAYHWICGA  120
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf62ng      LLIVSFVNYVLTLLLQFVGLKYTSAASASVIVGLEPLLMVFVGHFFFNDKARAYHWICGA  120

orf62.pep    AAFAGVALLMAGGAEEGGEVGWFGCLLVLLAGAGFCAAMRPTQRLIARIGAPAFTSVSIA  180
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf62ng      AAFAGVALLMAGGAEEGGEVGWFGCLLVLLAGAGFCAAMRPTQRLIARIGAPAFTSVSIA  180

orf62.pep    AASLMCLPFSLALAQSYTVDWSVGMVLSLLYLGLGC                           216
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf62ng      AASLMCLPFSLALAQSYTVDWSVGMVLSLLYLGLGCGWYAYWLWNKGMSRVPANASGLLI  240
```

The complete length ORF62ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 247> is:

```
   1  ATGTTTTACC AAATCCTTGC CCTGATTATC TGGGGCAGCT CGTTTATTGC
  51  CGCCAAATAT GTCTATGGCG GCATCGATCC CGCATTGATG GTCGGCGTGC
 101  GCCTGCTGAT TGCCGCGCTG CCTGCACTGC CCGCCTGCCG CCGTCATGTC
 151  GGCAAGATTC CGCGTGAGGA ATGGAAGCCG TTGCTGATTG TGTCGTTCGT
 201  CAACTATGTG CTGACCCTGC TGCTTCAGTT TGTCGGGTTG AAATACACTT
 251  CCGCCGCCAG CGCATCGGTC ATTGTCGGAC TCGAGCCGCT GCTGATGGTG
 301  TTTGTCGGAC ACTTTTTCTT CAACGACAAA GCGCGTGCCT ACCACTGGAT
 351  ATGCGGCGCG GCGGCATTTG CCGGTGTCGC GCTGCTGATG GCGGGCGGTG
 401  CGGAAGAGGG CGGCGAAGTC GGCTGGTTCG GCTGCCTGCT GGTGTTGTTG
 451  GCGGGCGCGG GCTTTTGTGC CGCTATGCGT CCGACGCAAA GGCTGATTGC
 501  CCGCATCGGC GCACCGGCAT TCACATCTGT TTCCATTGCC GCCGCATCGT
 551  TGATGTGCCT GCCGTTTTCG CTTGCTTTGG CGCAAAGTTA TACCGTGGAC
 601  TGGAGCGTCG GGATGGTATT GTCGCTGTTG TATTTGGGTT TGGGGTGCGG
 651  CTGGTACGCC TATTGGCTGT GGAACAAGGG GATGAGCCGT GTTCCTGCCA
 701  ACGCGTCGGG ACTGTTGATT TCGCTCGAAC CCGTCGTCGG CGTGCTGTTG
 751  GCGGTTTTGA TTTTGGGCGA ACATTTATCG CCCGTGTCCG CCTTGGGCGT
 801  GTTTGTCGTC ATCGCCGCCA CTTTCGCCGC CGGCCGGCTG TCGCGCAGGG
 851  ACGCGCAAAA CGGCAATGCC GTCTGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 248>:

```
   1  MFYQILALII WGSSFIAAKY VYGGIDPALM VGVRLLIAAL PALPACRRHV
  51  GKIPREEWKP LLIVSFVNYV LTLLLQFVGL KYTSAASASV IVGLEPLLMV
 101  FVGHFFFNDK ARAYHWICGA AAFAGVALLM AGGAEEGGEV GWFGCLLVLL
 151  AGAGFCAAMR PTQRLIARIG APAFTSVSIA AASLMCLPFS LALAQSYTVD
 201  WSVGMVLSLL YLGLGCGWYA YWLWNKGMSR VPANASGLLI SLEPVVGVLL
 251  AVLILGEHLS PVSALGVFVV IAATFAAGRL SRRDAQNGNA V*
```

ORF62ng and ORF62-1 show 97.9% identity in 283 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf62ng.pep     MFYQILALIIWGSSFIAAKYVYGGIDPALMVGVRLLIAALPALPACRRHVGKIPREEWKP
                ||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf62-1         MFYQILALIIWSSSFIAAKYVYGGIDPALMVGVRLLIAALPALPACRRHVGKIPREEWKP
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf62ng.pep     LLIVSFVNYVLTLLLQFVGLKYTSAASASVIVGLEPLLMVFVGHFFFNDKARAYHWICGA
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf62-1         LLIVSFVNYVLTLLLQFVGLKYTSAASASVIVGLEPLLMVFVGHFFFNDKARAYHWICGA
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf62ng.pep     AAFAGVALLMAGGAEEGGEVGWFGCLLVLLAGAGFCAAMRPTQRLIARIGAPAFTSVSIA
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf62-1         AAFAGVALLMAGGAEEGGEVGWFGCLLVLLAGAGFCAAMRPTQRLIARIGAPAFTSVSIA
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf62ng.pep     AASLMCLPFSLALAQSYTVDWSVGMVLSLLYLGLGCGWYAYWLWNKGMSRVPANASGLLI
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||
orf62-1         AASLMCLPFSLALAQSYTVDWSVGMVLSLLYLGLGCGWYAYWLWNKGMSRVPANVSGLLI
                190       200       210       220       230       240
```

```
                          250       260       270       280       290
orf62ng.pep     SLEPVVGVLLAVLILGEHLSPVSALGVFVVIAATFAAGRLSRRDAQNGNAVX
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||::|||||::
orf62-1         SLEPVVGVLLAVLILGEHLSPVSALGVFVVIAATLVAGRLSHQKX
                          250       260       270       280
```

Furthermore, ORF62ng shows significant homology to a hypothetical *H.influenzae* protein:

```
sp|Q57147|Y976_HAEIN HYPOTHETICAL PROTEIN HI0976 >gi|1074589|pir||B64163
hypothetical protein HI0976 - Haemophilus influenzae (strain Rd KW20)
>gi|1574004 (U32778) hypothetical [Haemophilus influenzae] Length = 128
 Score =  106 bits (262), Expect = 2e-22
 Identities = 56/114 (49%), Positives = 68/114 (59%)

Query: 1   MFYQILALIIWGSSFIAAKYVYGGIDPALMVGVRXXXXXXXXXXXCRRHVGKIPREEWKP 60
            M YQILAL+IW SS I  K  Y  +DP L+V VR             R   KI +   K
Sbjct: 1   MLYQILALLIWSSSLIVGKLTYSMMDPVLVVQVRLIIAMIIVMPLFLRRWKKIDKPMRKQ 60

Query: 61  LLIVSFVNYVLTLLLQFVGLKYTSAASASVIVGLEPLLMVFVGHFFFNDKARAY 114
            L  ++F NY    LLQF+GLKYTSA+SA  ++GLEPLL+VFVGHFFF  K   +
Sbjct: 61  LWWLAFFNYTAVFLLQFIGLKYTSASSAVTMIGLEPLLVVFVGHFFFKTKQNGF 114
```

Based on this analysis, including the homology with the transmembrane protein of *H.influenzae* and the putative leader sequecne and several transmembrane domains in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that these proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 30

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 249>:

```
   1  ATGCGCCGTT TTCTACCGAT CGCAGCCATA TGCGCmGwms TCCTGkkGTA
  51  sGGACTGACG GCGGCAACCG GCAGCACCAG TTCGCTGGCG GATTATTTCT
 101  GGTGGATTGT TGCGTTCAGC GCAATGCTGC TGCTGGTGTT GTCCGCCGTT
 151  TTGGCACGTT ATGTCATATT GCTGTTGAAA GACAGGCGCG ACGGCGTATT
 201  CGGTTCGCtA srTyGCCAAA gsGCCTgkks TGGG.ATGTT TACGCTGGTT
 251  GCCGkACTGC CCGGCGTGTT TCTGTTCGGC TTTCCCGCAC AGTTCATCAA
 301  CGGCACGATT AATTCGTGGT TCGGCAACGA TACCCACGAG GCGCTTGAAC
 351  GCAGCCTCAA TTTGAGCAAG TCCGCATTGA ATTTGGCGGC AGACAACGCC
 401  CTCGGCAACG CCGTCCCCGT GCAGATAGAC CTCATCGGCG CGGCTTCCCT
 451  GCCCGGGGAT ATGGGCAGGG TGCTGGAACA TTACGCCGGC AGCGGTTTTG
 501  CCCAGCTTGC CCTGTACAAy ksCGCAAGCG GCAAAATCGA AAAAAGCATC
 551  AACCCGCACA AGCTCGATCA GCCGTTTCCA GGTAAGGCGC GTTGGGAaAa
 601  AATCCaACGG GCGGGTTCGG TCAGGGATTT GGAAAGCATA GGCGGCGTAT
 651  TGTaCGCGCA GGGCTGGCTG TCGGCGGGTA CGCACwACGG GCGCGATTAC
 701  GCCTTGTTTT TCCGTCAGCC GGTTCCCAAA GGCGTGGCAG AGGATGCCGT
 751  yTTAATCGAA AAGGCAAGGG CGAAATATGC TGAGTTGAGT TACAGCAAAA
 801  AAGGTTTGCA GACCTTTTTC CTGGCAACCC TGCTGATTGC CTCGCTGCTG
 851  TCGATTTTTC TTGCACTGGT CATGGCACTG TATTTCGCCC GCCGTTTCGT
 901  CGAACCCGTC CTATCGCTTG CCGAGGGGGC GAAGGCGGTG GCGCAAGGCG
 951  ATTTCAGCCA GACGCGCCCC GTGTTGCGCA ACGACGAGTT CGGACGCTTG
1001  ACCArGTTGT TCAACCACAT GACCGAGCAG CTTTCCATCG CCAAAGATGC
1051  AGACGAGCGC AACCGCCGGC GCGAGGAAGC CGCCAGGCAT TATCTTGAAT
1101  GCGTGTTGGA GGGGCTGACC ACGGGCGTGG TGGTGTTTGA CGAACAAGGC
1151  TGTCTGAAAA CCTTCAACAA AGCGGCGGGT ACC..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 250; ORF64>:

```
   1  MRRFLPIAAI CAXXLXXGLT AATGSTSSLA DYFWWIVAFS AMLLLVLSAV
  51  LARYVILLLK DRRDGVFGSX XAKXPXXXMF TLVAXLPGVF LFGFPAQFIN
 101  GTINSWFGND THEALERSLN LSKSALNLAA DNALGNAVPV QIDLIGAASL
 151  PGDMGRVLEH YAGSGFAQLA LYNXASGKIE KSINPHKLDQ PFPGKARWEK
 201  IQRAGSVRDL ESIGGVLYAQ GWLSAGTHXG RDYALFFRQP VPKGVAEDAV
 251  LIEKARAKYA ELSYSKKGLQ TFFLATLLIA SLLSIFLALV MALYFARRFV
```

```
301  EPVLSLAEGA KAVAQGDFSQ TRPVLRNDEF GRLTXLFNHM TEQLSIAKDA
351  DERNRRREEA ARHYLECVLE GLTTGVVVFD EQGCLKTFNK AAGT..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 251>:

```
   1  ATGCGCCGTT TTCTACCGAT CGCAGCCATA TGCGCCGTCG TCCTGTTGTA
  51  CGGACTGACG GCGGCAACCG GCAGCACCAG TTCGCTGGCG GATTATTTCT
 101  GGTGGATTGT TGCGTTCAGC GCAATGCTGC TGCTGGTGTT GTCCGCCGTT
 151  TTGGCACGTT ATGTCATATT GCTGTTGAAA GACAGGCGCG ACGGCGTATT
 201  CGGTTCGCAG ATTGCCAAAC GCCTTTCTGG GATGTTTACG CTGGTTGCCG
 251  TACTGCCCGG CGTGTTTCTG TTCGGCGTTT CCGCACAGTT CATCAACGGC
 301  ACGATTAATT CGTGGTTCGG CAACGATACC CACGAGGCGC TTGAACGCAG
 351  CCTCAATTTG AGCAAGTCCG CATTGAATTT GGCGGCAGAC AACGCCCTCG
 401  GCAACGCCGT CCCCGTGCAG ATAGACCTCA TCGGCGCGGC TTCCCTGCCC
 451  GGGGATATGG GCAGGGTGCT GGAACATTAC GCCGGCAGCG GTTTTGCCCA
 501  GCTTGCCCTG TACAATGCCG CAAGCGGCAA AATCGAAAAA AGCATCAACC
 551  CGCACAAGCT CGATCAGCCG TTTCCAGGTA AGGCGCGTTG GGAAAAAATC
 601  CAACGGGCGG GTTCGGTCAG GGATTTGGAA AGCATAGGCG GCGTATTGTA
 651  CGCGCAGGGC TGGCTGTCGG CGGGTACGCA CAACGGGCGC GATTACGCCT
 701  TGTTTTTCCG TCAGCCGGTT CCCAAAGGCG TGGCAGAGGA TGCCGTCTTA
 751  ATCGAAAAGG CAAGGGCGAA ATATGCTGAG TTGAGTTACA GCAAAAAAGG
 801  TTTGCAGACC TTTTTCCTGG CAACCCTGCT GATTGCCTCG CTGCTGTCGA
 851  TTTTTCTTGC ACTGGTCATG GCACTGTATT TCGCCCGCCG TTTCGTCGAA
 901  CCCGTCCTAT CGCTTGCCGA GGGGGCGAAG GCGGTGGCGC AAGGCGATTT
 951  CAGCCAGACG CGCCCCGTGT TGCGCAACGA CGAGTTCGGA CGCTTGACCA
1001  AGTTGTTCAA CCACATGACC GAGCAGCTTT CCATCGCCAA AGAAGCAGAC
1051  GAGCGCAACC GCCGGCGCGA GGAAGCCGCC AGGCATTATC TTGAATGCGT
1101  GTTGGAGGGG CTGACCACGG GCGTGGTGGT GTTTGACGAA CAAGGCTGTC
1151  TGAAAACCTT CAACAAAGCG GCGGAACAGA TTTTGGGGAT GCCGCTTACC
1201  CCCCTGTGGG GCAGCAGCCG GCACGGTTGG CACGGCGTTT CGGCGCAGCA
1251  GTCCCTGCTT GCCGAAGTGT TTGCCGCCAT CGGCGCGGCG GCAGGTACGG
1301  ACAAACCGGT CCATGTGAAA TATGCCGCGC CGGACGATGC CAAAATCCTG
1351  CTGGGCAAGG CAACCGTCCT GCCCGAAGAC AACGGCAACG GCGTGGTAAT
1401  GGTGATTGAC GACATCACCG TTTTGATACA CGCGCAAAAA GAAGCCGCGT
1451  GGGGCGAAGT GGCGAAGCGG CTGGCACACG AAATCCGCAA TCCGCTCACG
1501  CCCATCCAGC TTTCCGCCGA ACGGCTGGCG TGGAAATTGG GCGGGAAGCT
1551  GGATGAGCAG GATGCGCAAA TCCTGACGCG TTCGACCGAC ACCATCGTCA
1601  AACAGGTGGC GGCATTGAAG GAAATGGTCG AAGCATTCCG CAATTATGCG
1651  CGTTCCCCTT CGCTCAAATT GGAAAATCAG GATTTGAACG CCTTAATCGG
1701  CGATGTGTTG GCATTGTATG AAGCCGGTCC GTGCCGGTTT GCGGCGGAGC
1751  TTGCCGGCGA ACCGCTGACG GTGGCGGCGG ATACGACCGC CATGCGGCAG
1801  GTGCTGCACA ATATTTTCAA AAATGCCGCC GAAGCGGCGG AAGAAGCCGA
1851  TGTGCCCGAA GTCAGGGTAA AATCGGAAAC AGGGCAGGAC GGTCGGATTG
1901  TCCTGACGGT TTGCGACAAC GGCAAAGGGT TCGGCAGGGA AATGCTGCAC
1951  AACGCCTTCG AGCCGTATGT AACGGACAAA CCGGCGGGAA CGGGATTGGG
2001  TCTGCCTGTG GTGAAAAAAA TCATTGAAGA ACACGGCGGC CGCATCAGCC
2051  TGAGCAATCA GGATGCGGGT GGCGCGTGTG TCAGAATCAT CTTGCCAAAA
2101  ACGGTAAAAA CTTATGCGTA G
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 252; ORF64-1>:

```
   1  MRRFLPIAAI CAVVLLYGLT AATGSTSSLA DYFWWIVAFS AMLLLVLSAV
  51  LARYVILLLK DRRDGVFGSQ IAKRLSGMFT LVAVLPGVFL FGVSAQFING
 101  TINSWFGNDT HEALERSLNL SKSALNLAAD NALGNAVPVQ IDLIGAASLP
 151  GDMGRVLEHY AGSGFAQLAL YNAASGKIEK SINPHKLDQP FPGKARWEKI
 201  QRAGSVRDLE SIGGVLYAQG WLSAGTHNGR DYALFFRQPV PKGVAEDAVL
 251  IEKARAKYAE LSYSKKGLQT FFLATLLIAS LLSIFLALVM ALYFARRFVE
 301  PVLSLAEGAK AVAQGDFSQT RPVLRNDEFG RLTKLFNHMT EQLSIAKEAD
 351  ERNRRREEAA RHYLECVLEG LTTGVVVFDE QGCLKTFNKA AEQILGMPLT
 401  PLWGSSRHGW HGVSAQQSLL AEVFAAIGAA AGTDKPVHVK YAAPDDAKIL
 451  LGKATVLPED NGNGVVMVID DITVLIHAQK EAAWGEVAKR LAHEIRNPLT
 501  PIQLSAERLA WKLGGKLDEQ DAQILTRSTD TIVKQVAALK EMVEAFRNYA
 551  RSPSLKLENQ DLNALIGDVL ALYEAGPCRF AAELAGEPLT VAADTTAMRQ
 601  VLHNIFKNAA EAAEEADVPE VRVKSETGQD GRIVLTVCDN GKGFGREMLH
 651  NAFEPYVTDK PAGTGLGLPV VKKIIEEHGG RISLSNQDAG GACVRIILPK
 701  TVKTYA*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF64 shows 92.6% identity over a 392aa overlap with an ORF (ORF64a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf64.pep     MRRFLPIAAICAXXLXXGLTAATGSTSSLADYFWWIVAFSAMLLLVLSAVLARYVILLLK
              ||||||||||||  |  ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf64a        MRRFLPIAAICAVVLLYGLTAATGSTSSLADYFWWIVAFSAMLLLVLSAVLARYVILLLK
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf64.pep     DRRDGVFGSXXAKXPXXXMFTLVAXLPGVFLFGFPAQFINGTINSWFGNDTHEALERSLN
              |||||||||  ||     ||||||  ||||||||  ||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf64a        DRRDGVFGSQIAKR-LSGMFTLVAVLPGVFLFGVSAQFINGTINSWFGNDTHEALERSLN
                    70        80        90       100       110

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf64.pep     LSKSALNLAADNALGNAVPVQIDLIGAASLPGDMGRVLEHYAGSGFAQLALYNXASGKIE
              ||||||||||||||||||:|||||  ||||||  ||||||||||||||||||||  ||||||
orf64a        LSKSALNLAADNALGNAIPVQIDXIGAASLPXDMGRVLEHYAGSGFAQLALYNAASGKIE
            120       130       140       150       160       170

                   190       200       210       220       230       240
orf64.pep     KSINPHKLDQPFPGKARWEKIQRAGSVRDLESIGGVLYAQGWLSAGTHXGRDYALFFRQP
              ||||||||||||||||||||:|||||  |||||||||  |||||  ||  ||||||||||
orf64a        KSINPHKLDQPFPGKARWEKIQQAGSVRDXESIGGVLYAXGWLSAXTHNGRDYALFFRQP
            180       190       200       210       220       230

                   250       260       270       280       290       300
orf64.pep     VPKGVAEDAVLIEKARAKYAELSYSKKGLQTFFLATLLIASLLSIFLALVMALYFARRFV
              ||||||||||||||||  ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf64a        VPKGVAEDAVLIEKARAXXXXLSYSKKGLQTFFLATLLIASLLSIFLALVMALYFARRFV
            240       250       260       270       280       290

                   310       320       330       340       350       360
orf64.pep     EPVLSLAEGAKAVAQGDFSQTRPVLRNDEFGRLTXLFNHMTEQLSIAKDADERNRRREEA
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||  ||||||||||||:||||||||||||
orf64a        EPVLSLAEGAKAVAQGDFSQTRPVLRNDEFGRLTKLFNHMTEQLSIAKEADERNRRREEA
            300       310       320       330       340       350

                   370       380       390
orf64.pep     ARHYLECVLEGLTTGVVVFDEQGCLKTFNKAAGT
              |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf64a        ARHYLECVLEGLTTGVVVFDEQGCLKTFNKAAEQILGMPLTPLWGSSRHGWHGVSAQQSL
            360       370       380       390       400       410

orf64a        LAEVFAAIGAAAGTDKPVHVKYAAPDDAKILLGKATVLPEDNXNGVVMVIDDITVLIHAQ
            420       430       440       450       460       470
```

The complete length ORF64a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 253> is:

```
      1  ATGCGCCGTT TTCTACCGAT CGCAGCCATA TGCGCCGTCG TCCTGTTGTA
     51  CGGACTGACG GCGGCAACCG GCAGCACCAG TTCGCTGGCG GATTATTTCT
    101  GGTGGATTGT TGCGTTCAGC GCAATGCTGC TGCTGGTGTT GTCCGCCGTT
    151  TTGGCACGTT ATGTCATATT GCTGTTGAAA GACAGGCGCG ACGGCGTATT
    201  CGGTTCGCAG ATTGCCAAAC GCCTTTCCGG GATGTTTACG CTGGTTGCCG
    251  TACTGCCCGG CGTGTTTCTG TTCGGCGTTT CCGCACAGTT TATCAACGGC
    301  ACGATTAATT CGTGGTTCGG CAACGATACC CACGAGGCGC TTGAACGCAG
    351  CCTCAATTTG AGCAAGTCCG CATTGAATCT GGCGGCAGAC AACGCCCTTG
    401  GCAACGCCAT CCCCGTGCAG ATAGACNTCA TCGGCGCGGC TTCCCTGCCC
    451  NGGGATATGG GCAGGGTGCT GGAACATTAC GCCGGCAGCG GTTTTGCCCA
    501  GCTTGCCCTG TACAATGCCG CAAGCGGCAA AATCGAAAAA AGCATCAACC
    551  CGCACAAGCT CGATCAGCCG TTTCCAGGTA AGGCGCGTTG GGAAAAAATC
    601  CAACAGGCGG GTTCGGTCAG GGATNNGGAA AGCATAGGCG GCGTATTGTA
    651  CGCGCANGGC TGGCTGTCGG CAGNNACGCA CAACGGGCGC GATTACGCCT
    701  TGTTTTTCCG TCAGCCGGTT CCCAAAGGCG TGGCAGAGGA TGCCGTCTTA
    751  ATCGAAAAGG CAAGGGCGNA ANANNNTNAG TTGAGTTACA GCAAAAAAGG
    801  TTTGCAGACC TTTTTCCTNG CAACCCTGCT GATTGCCTCN CTGCTGTCGA
    851  TTTTTCTTGC ACTGGTCATG GCACTGTATT TCGCCCGCCG TTTCGTCGAA
```

```
 901  CCCGTCCTAT CGCTTGCCGA GGGGGCGAAG GCGGTGGCGC AAGGCGATTT
 951  CAGCCAGACG CGCCCCGTGT TGCGCAACGA CGAGTTCGGA CGCTTGACCA
1001  AGTTGTTCAA CCACATGACC GAGCAGCTTT CCATCGCCAA AGAAGCAGAC
1051  GAGCGCAACC GCCGGCGCGA GGAAGCCGCC AGACATTATC TCGAATGCGT
1101  GTTGGAGGGG CTGACCACGG GCGTGGTGGT GTTTGACGAA CAAGGCTGTC
1151  TGAAAACCTT CAACAAAGCG GCGGAACAGA TTTTGGGGAT GCCGCTTACC
1201  CCCCTGTGGG GCAGCAGCCG GCACGGTTGG CACGGCGTTT CGGCGCAGCA
1251  GTCCCTGCTT GCCGAAGTGT TTGCCGCCAT CGGCGCGGCG GCAGGTACGG
1301  ACAAACCGGT CCATGTGAAA TATGCCGCGC CGGACGATGC CAAAATCCTG
1351  CTGGGCAAGG CAACCGTCCT GCCCGAAGAC AACNGCAACG GCGTGGTAAT
1401  GGTGATTGAC GACATCACCG TTTTGATACA CGCGCAAAAA GAAGCCGCGT
1451  GGGGCGAAGT GGCAAAACGG CTGGCACACG AAATCCGCAA TCCGCTCACG
1501  CCCATCCAGC TTTCTGCCGA ACGGCTGGCG TGGAAATTGG GCGGGAAGCT
1551  GGACGAGCAN GACGCGCAAA TCCTGACACG TTCGACCGAC ACCATCATCA
1601  AACAAGTGGC GGCATTAAAA GAAATGGTCG AGGCATTCCG CAATTACNCG
1651  CGTTCCCCTT CGNCTCAATT GGAAAATCAG GATTTGAACG CCTTAATCGG
1701  CGATGTGTTG GCATTGTACG AAGCTGGTCC GTGCCGGTTT GCGGCGGAAC
1751  TTGCCGGCGA ACCGCTGATG ATGGCGGCGG ATACGACCGC CATGCGGCAG
1801  GTGCTGCACA ATATTTTCAA AAATGCCGCC GAAGCGGCGG AAGAAGCCGA
1851  TGTGCCCGAA GTCAGGGTAA AATCGGAAGC GGGGCAGGAC GGACGGATTG
1901  TCCTGACAGT TTGCGACAAC GGCAAGGGGT TCGGCAGGGA AATGCTGCAC
1951  AATGCCTTCG AGCCGTATGT AACGGACAAA CCGGCTGGAA CGGGATTGNG
2001  ACTGCCCGTG GTGAAAAAAA TCATTGAAGA ACACGGCGGC CNCATCAGCC
2051  TGAGCAATCA GGATGCGGGC GGCGCGTNTG TCAGAATCAT CTTGCCAAAA
2101  ACGGTAGAAA CTTATGCGTA G
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 254>:

```
   1  MRRFLPIAAI CAVVLLYGLT AATGSTSSLA DYFWWIVAFS AMLLLVLSAV
  51  LARYVILLLK DRRDGVFGSQ IAKRLSGMFT LVAVLPGVFL FGVSAQFING
 101  TINSWFGNDT HEALERSLNL SKSALNLAAD NALGNAIPVQ IDXIGAASLP
 151  XDMGRVLEHY AGSGFAQLAL YNAASGKIEK SINPHKLDQP FPGKARWEKI
 201  QQAGSVRDXE SIGGVLYAXG WLSAXTHNGR DYALFFRQPV PKGVAEDAVL
 251  IEKARAXXXX LSYSKKGLQT FFLATLLIAS LLSIFLALVM ALYFARRFVE
 301  PVLSLAEGAK AVAQGDFSQT RPVLRNDEFG RLTKLFNHMT EQLSIAKEAD
 351  ERNRRREEAA RHYLECVLEG LTTGVVVFDE QGCLKTFNKA AEQILGMPLT
 401  PLWGSSRHGW HGVSAQQSLL AEVFAAIGAA AGTDKPVHVK YAAPDDAKIL
 451  LGKATVLPED NXNGVVMVID DITVLIHAQK EAAWGEVAKR LAHEIRNPLT
 501  PIQLSAERLA WKLGGKLDEX DAQILTRSTD TIIKQVAALK EMVEAFRNYX
 551  RSPSXQLENQ DLNALIGDVL ALYEAGPCRF AAELAGEPLM MAADTTAMRQ
 601  VLHNIFKNAA EAAEEADVPE VRVKSEAGQD GRIVLTVCDN GKGFGREMLH
 651  NAFEPYVTDK PAGTGLXLPV VKKIIEEHGG XISLSNQDAG GAXVRIILPK
 701  TVETYA*
```

ORF64a and ORF64-1 show 96.6% identity in 706 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf64a.pep      MRRFLPIAAICAVVLLYGLTAATGSTSSLADYFWWIVAFSAMLLLVLSAVLARYVILLLK
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf64-1         MRRFLPIAAICAVVLLYGLTAATGSTSSLADYFWWIVAFSAMLLLVLSAVLARYVILLLK
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf64a.pep      DRRDGVFGSQIAKRLSGMFTLVAVLPGVFLFGVSAQFINGTINSWFGNDTHEALERSLNL
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf64-1         DRRDGVFGSQIAKRLSGMFTLVAVLPGVFLFGVSAQFINGTINSWFGNDTHEALERSLNL
                70        80        90        100       110       120

               130       140       150       160       170       180
orf64a.pep      SKSALNLAADNALGNAIPVQIDXIGAASLPXDMGRVLEHYAGSGFAQLALYNAASGKIEK
                |||||||||||||||:|||||| |||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf64-1         SKSALNLAADNALGNAVPVQIDLIGAASLPGDMGRVLEHYAGSGFAQLALYNAASGKIEK
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf64a.pep      SINPHKLDQPFPGKARWEKIQQAGSVRDXESIGGVLYAXGWLSAXTHNGRDYALFFRQPV
                ||||||||||||||||||||:|||||| ||||||||| ||||| ||||||||||||||||
orf64-1         SINPHKLDQPFPGKARWEKIQRAGSVRDLESIGGVLYAQGWLSAGTHNGRDYALFFRQPV
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260       270       280       290       300
```

```
orf64a.pep   PKGVAEDAVLIEKARAXXXXLSYSKKGLQTFFLATLLIASLLSIFLALVMALYFARRFVE
             ||||||||||||||||  ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf64-1      PKGVAEDAVLIEKARAKYAELSYSKKGLQTFFLATLLIASLLSIFLALVMALYFARRFVE
                    250       260       270       280       290       300

                    310       320       330       340       350       360
orf64a.pep   PVLSLAEGAKAVAQGDFSQTRPVLRNDEFGRLTKLFNHMTEQLSIAKEADERNRRREEAA
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf64-1      PVLSLAEGAKAVAQGDFSQTRPVLRNDEFGRLTKLFNHMTEQLSIAKEADERNRRREEAA
                    310       320       330       340       350       360

                    370       380       390       400       410       420
orf64a.pep   RHYLECVLEGLTTGVVVFDEQGCLKTFNKAAEQILGMPLTPLWGSSRHGWHGVSAQQSLL
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf64-1      RHYLECVLEGLTTGVVVFDEQGCLKTFNKAAEQILGMPLTPLWGSSRHGWHGVSAQQSLL
                    370       380       390       400       410       420

                    430       440       450       460       470       480
orf64a.pep   AEVFAAIGAAAGTDKPVHVKYAAPDDAKILLGKATVLPEDNXNGVVMVIDDITVLIHAQK
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||  ||||||||||||||||||
orf64-1      AEVFAAIGAAAGTDKPVHVKYAAPDDAKILLGKATVLPEDNGNGVVMVIDDITVLIHAQK
                    430       440       450       460       470       480

                    490       500       510       520       530       540
orf64a.pep   EAAWGEVAKRLAHEIRNPLTPIQLSAERLAWKLGGKLDEXDAQILTRSTDTIIKQVAALK
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||  ||||||||||:|||||||
orf64-1      EAAWGEVAKRLAHEIRNPLTPIQLSAERLAWKLGGKLDEQDAQILTRSTDTIVKQVAALK
                    490       500       510       520       530       540

                    550       560       570       580       590       600
orf64a.pep   EMVEAFRNYXRSPSXQLENQDLNALIGDVLALYEAGPCRFAAELAGEPLMMAADTTAMRQ
             |||||||| |||| :||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| :|||||||||
orf64-1      EMVEAFRNYARSPSLKLENQDLNALIGDVLALYEAGPCRFAAELAGEPLTVAADTTAMRQ
                    550       560       570       580       590       600

                    610       620       630       640       650       660
orf64a.pep   VLHNIFKNAAEAAEEADVPEVRVKSEAGQDGRIVLTVCDNGKGFGREMLHNAFEPYVTDK
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf64-1      VLHNIFKNAAEAAEEADVPEVRVKSETGQDGRIVLTVCDNGKGFGREMLHNAFEPYVTDK
                    610       620       630       640       650       660

                    670       680       690       700
orf64a.pep   PAGTGLXLPVVKKIIEEHGGXISLSNQDAGGAXVRIILPKTVETYAX
             |||||| |||||||||||||| |||||||||| |||||||||:||||
orf64-1      PAGTGLGLPVVKKIIEEHGGRISLSNQDAGGACVRIILPKTVKTYAX
                    670       680       690       700
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF64 shows 86.6% identity over a 387aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF64.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf64.pep    MRRFLPIAAICAXXLXXGLTAATGSTSSLADYFWWIVAFSAMLLLVLSAVLARYVILLLK  60
             ||||||||||||  |  |||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||
orf64ng      MRRFLPIAAICAVVLLYGLTAATGSTSSLADYFWWIVSFSAMLLLVLSAVLARYVILLLK  60

orf64.pep    DRRDGVFGSXXAKXPXXXMFTLVAXLPGVFLFGFPAQFINGTINSWFGNDTHEALERSLN 120
             |||:|||||  ||     |||||| |||:||||: ||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf64ng      DRRNGVFGSQIAKR-LSGMFTLVAVLPGLFLFGISAQFINGTINSWFGNDTHEALERSLN 119

orf64.pep    LSKSALNLAADNALGNAVPVQIDLIGAASLPGDMGRVLEHYAGSGFAQLALYNXASGKIE 180
             ||||||:||||||::||||||||||||:||| |:|| |||||||||||||||| ||||||
orf64ng      LSKSALDLAADNAVSNAVPVQIDLIGTASLSGNMGSVLEHYAGSGFAQLALYNAASGKIE 179

orf64.pep    KSINPHKLDQPFPGKARWEKIQRAGSVRDLESIGGVLYAQGWLSAGTHXGRDYALFFRQP 240
             ||||||::|||:| | :||:||::||||:|||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||
orf64ng      KSINPHQFDQPLPDKEHWEQIQQTGSVRSLESIGGVLYAQGWLSAGTHNGRDYALFFRQP 239
```

```
orf64.pep    VPKGVAEDAVLIEKARAKYAELSYSKKGLQTFFLATLLIASLLSIFLALVMALYFARRFV  300
             :|::||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||
orf64ng      IPENVAQDAVLIEKARAKYAELSYSKKGLQTFFLVTLLIASLLSIFLALVMALYFARRFV  299

orf64.pep    EPVLSLAEGAKAVAQGDFSQTRPVLRNDEFGRLTXLFNHMTEQLSIAKDADERNRRREEA  360
             ||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||:||||||||||||
orf64ng      EPILSLAEGAKAVAQGDFSQTRPVLRNDEFGRLTKLFNHMTEQLSIAKEADERNRRREEA  359

orf64.pep    ARHYLECVLEGLTTGVVVFDEQGCLKTFNKAAGT          394
             |||||||||:||||||||     :| :|
orf64ng      ARHYLECVLDGLTTGVVVSYPLSCCRTAVFSTCHSSPLSYF   400
```

An ORF64ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 255> was predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 256>:

```
   1  MRRFLPIAAI CAVVLLYGLT AATGSTSSLA DYFWWIVSFS AMLLLVLSAV
  51  LARYVILLLK DRRNGVFGSQ IAKRLSGMFT LVAVLPGLFL FGISAQFING
 101  TINSWFGNDT HEALERSLNL SKSALDLAAD NAVSNAVPVQ IDLIGTASLS
 151  GNMGSVLEHY AGSGFAQLAL YNAASGKIEK SINPHQFDQP LPDKEHWEQI
 201  QQTGSVRSLE SIGGVLYAQG WLSAGTHNGR DYALFFRQPI PENVAQDAVL
 251  IEKARAKYAE LSYSKKGLQT FFLVTLLIAS LLSIFLALVM ALYFARRFVE
 301  PILSLAEGAK AVAQGDFSQT RPVLRNDEFG RLTKLFNHMT EQLSIAKEAD
 351  ERNRRREEAA RHYLECVLDG LTTGVVVSYP LSCCRTAVFS TCHSSPLSYF*
```

Further work revealed the complete gonococcal DNA sequence <SEQ ID 257>:

```
   1  ATGCGCCGCT TCCTACCGAT CGCAGCCATA TGCGCCGTCG TCCTGCTGTA
  51  CGGATTGACG GCGGCGACCG GCAGCACCAG TTCGCTGGCG GATTATTTCT
 101  GGTGGATAGT CTCGTTCAGC GCAATGCTGC TGCTGGTGTT GTCCGCCGTT
 151  TTGGCACGTT ATGTCATATT GCTGTTGAAA GACAGGCGCA ACGGCGTGTT
 201  CGGTTCGCAG ATTGCCAAAC GCCTTTCCGG GATGTTCACG CTGGTCGCCG
 251  TACTGCCCGG CTTGTTCCTG TTCGGCATTT CCGCGCAGTT TATCAACGGC
 301  ACGATTAATT CGTGGTTCGG CAACGACACC CACGAAGCCC TCGAACGCAG
 351  CCTTAATTTG AGCAAGTCCG CACTGGATTT GGCGGCAGAC AATGCCGTCA
 401  GCAACGCCGT TCCCGTACAG ATAGACCTCA TCGGCACCGC CTCCCTGTCG
 451  GGCAATATGG GCAGTGTGCT GGAACACTAC GCCGGCAGCG GTTTTGCCCA
 501  GCTTGCCCTG TACAATGCCG CAAGCGGGAA AATCGAAAAA AGCATCAATC
 551  CGCACCAATT CGACCAGCCG CTTCCCGACA AAGAACATTG GGAACAGATT
 601  CAGCAGACCG GTTCGGTTCG GAGTTTGGAA AGCATAGGCG GCGTATTGTA
 651  CGCGCAGGGA TGGTTGTCGG CAGGTACGCA CAACGGGCGC GATTACGCGC
 701  TGTTCTTCCG CCAGCCGATT CCCGAAAATG TGGCACAGGA TGCCGTTCTG
 751  ATTGAAAAGG CGCGGGCGAA ATATGCCGAA TTGAGTTACA GCAAAAAAGG
 801  TTTGCAGACC TTTTTTCTGG TAACCCTGCT GATTGCCTCG CTGCTGTCGA
 851  TTTTTCTTGC GCTGGTAATG GCACTGTATT TTGCCCGCCG TTTCGTCGAA
 901  CCCATTCTGT CGCTTGCCGA GGGCGCAAAG GCGGTGGCGC AGGGTGATTT
 951  CAGCCAGACG CGCCCCGTAT TGCGCAACGA CGAGTTCGGA CGTTTGACCA
1001  AGCTGTTCAA CCATATGACC GAGCAGCTTT CCATCGCCAA AGAAGCAGAC
1051  GAACGCAACC GCCGGCGCGA GGAAGCCGCC CGTCACTACC TCGAGTGCGT
1101  GTTGGATGGG TTGACTACCG GTGTGGTGGT GTTTGACGAA AAAGGCCGTT
1151  TGAAAACCTT CAACAAGGCG GCGGAACAGA TTTTGGGGAT GCCGCTCGCC
1201  CCCCTGTGGG GCAGCAGCCG GCACGGTTGG CACGGCGTTT CGGCGCAGCA
1251  GTCCCTGCTT GCCGAAGTGT TtgccgccAT CGGTGCGGCG GCAGGTACGG
1301  ACAAACCGGT CCAGGTGGAA TATGCCGCGC CGGACGATGC CAAAATCCTG
1351  CTGGGCAAGG CGACGGTATT GCCCGAAGAC AACGGCAACG GCGTGGTGAT
1401  GGTGATTGAC GACATCACCG TGCTGATACG CGCGCAAAAA GAAGCCGCGT
1451  GGGGTGAAGT GGCGAAGCGG CTGGCACACG AAATCCGCAA TCCGCTCACG
1501  CCCATCCAGC TTTCCGCCGA ACGGCTGGCG TGGAAATTGG GCGGGAAGCT
1551  GGACGATCAG GACGCGCAAA TCCTGACGCG TtcgACCGAC ACCATCATCA
1601  AACAGgtggc gGCGTTAAAA GAAATGGTCG AGGCATTCCG CAATTACGCG
1651  CGCGCCCCTT CGCTCAAACT GGAAAATCAG GATTTGAACG CCTTAATCGG
1701  CGATGTTTTG GCCCTGTACG AAGCCGGCCC GTGCCGGTTT GAGGCGGAAC
1751  TTGCCGGCGA ACCGCTGATG ATGGCGGCGG ATACGACCGC CATGCGGCAG
1801  GTGCTGCACA ATATTTTCAA AAATGCCGCC GAAGCGGCGG AAGAAGCCGA
1851  TATGCCCGAA GTCAGGGTAA AATCGGAAAC GGGGCAGGAC GGACGGATTG
1901  TCCTGACGGT TTGCGACAAC GGCAAGGGAT TCGGCAAGGA AATGCTGCAC
1951  AATGCTTTCG AGCCGTATGT GACGGATAAG CCGGCGGGAA CGGGACTGGG
2001  TCTGCCTGTA GTGAAAAAAA TCATTGGAGA ACACGGCGGC CGCATCAGCC
2051  TGAGCAATCA GGATGCGGGT GGGGCGTGTG TCAGAATCAT CTTGCCAAAA
2101  ACGGTAGAAA CTTATGCGTA G
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 258; ORF64ng-1>:

```
   1  MRRFLPIAAI CAVVLLYGLT AATGSTSSLA DYFWWIVSFS AMLLLVLSAV
  51  LARYVILLLK DRRNGVFGSQ IAKRLSGMFT LVAVLPGLFL FGISAQFING
 101  TINSWFGNDT HEALERSLNL SKSALDLAAD NAVSNAVPVQ IDLIGTASLS
 151  GNMGSVLEHY AGSGFAQLAL YNAASGKIEK SINPHQFDQP LPDKEHWEQI
 201  QQTGSVRSLE SIGGVLYAQG WLSAGTHNGR DYALFFRQPI PENVAQDAVL
 251  IEKARAKYAE LSYSKKGLQT FFLVTLLIAS LLSIFLALVM ALYFARRFVE
 301  PILSLAEGAK AVAQGDFSQT RPVLRNDEFG RLTKLFNHMT EQLSIAKEAD
 351  ERNRRREEAA RHYLECVLDG LTTGVVVFDE KGRLKTFNKA AEQILGMPLA
 401  PLWGSSRHGW HGVSAQQSLL AEVFAAIGAA AGTDKPVQVE YAAPDDAKIL
 451  LGKATVLPED NGNGVVMVID DITVLIRAQK EAAWGEVAKR LAHEIRNPLT
 501  PIQLSAERLA WKLGGKLDDQ DAQILTRSTD TIIKQVAALK EMVEAFRNYA
 551  RAPSLKLENQ DLNALIGDVL ALYEAGPCRF EAELAGEPLM MAADTTAMRQ
 601  VLHNIFKNAA EAAEEADMPE VRVKSETGQD GRIVLTVCDN GKGFGKEMLH
 651  NAFEPYVTDK PAGTGLGLPV VKKIIGEHGG RISLSNQDAG GACVRIILPK
 701  TVETYA*
```

ORF64ng-1 and ORF64-1 show 93.8% identity in 706 aa overlap:

```
                          10        20        30        40        50        60
orf64ng-1.pep  MRRFLPIAAICAVVLLYGLTAATGSTSSLADYFWWIVSFSAMLLLVLSAVLARYVILLLK
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||
orf64-1        MRRFLPIAAICAVVLLYGLTAATGSTSSLADYFWWIVAFSAMLLLVLSAVLARYVILLLK
                          10        20        30        40        50        60

                          70        80        90       100       110       120
orf64ng-1.pep  DRRNGVFGSQIAKRLSGMFTLVAVLPGLFLFGISAQFINGTINSWFGNDTHEALERSLNL
               |||:||||||||||||||||||||||:||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf64-1        DRRDGVFGSQIAKRLSGMFTLVAVLPGVFLFGVSAQFINGTINSWFGNDTHEALERSLNL
                          70        80        90       100       110       120

                         130       140       150       160       170       180
orf64ng-1.pep  SKSALDLAADNAVSNAVPVQIDLIGTASLSGNMGSVLEHYAGSGFAQLALYNAASGKIEK
               |||||:||||||::|||||||||||:||| |:|| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf64-1        SKSALNLAADNALGNAVPVQIDLIGAASLPGDMGRVLEHYAGSGFAQLALYNAASGKIEK
                         130       140       150       160       170       180

                         190       200       210       220       230       240
orf64ng-1.pep  SINPHQFDQPLPDKEHWEQIQQTGSVRSLESIGGVLYAQGWLSAGTHNGRDYALFFRQPI
               ||||||:|||:| | :||:||::||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:
orf64-1        SINPHKLDQPFPGKARWEKIQRAGSVRDLESIGGVLYAQGWLSAGTHNGRDYALFFRQPV
                         190       200       210       220       230       240

                         250       260       270       280       290       300
orf64ng-1.pep  PENVAQDAVLIEKARAKYAELSYSKKGLQTFFLVTLLIASLLSIFLALVMALYFARRFVE
               |::||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf64-1        PKGVAEDAVLIEKARAKYAELSYSKKGLQTFFLATLLIASLLSIFLALVMALYFARRFVE
                         250       260       270       280       290       300

                         310       320       330       340       350       360
orf64ng-1.pep  PILSLAEGAKAVAQGDFSQTRPVLRNDEFGRLTKLFNHMTEQLSIAKEADERNRRREEAA
               |:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf64-1        PVLSLAEGAKAVAQGDFSQTRPVLRNDEFGRLTKLFNHMTEQLSIAKEADERNRRREEAA
                         310       320       330       340       350       360

                         370       380       390       400       410       420
orf64ng-1.pep  RHYLECVLDGLTTGVVVFDEKGRLKTFNKAAEQILGMPLAPLWGSSRHGWHGVSAQQSLL
               ||||||||:||||||||||:| ||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf64-1        RHYLECVLEGLTTGVVVFDEQGCLKTFNKAAEQILGMPLTPLWGSSRHGWHGVSAQQSLL
                         370       380       390       400       410       420

                         430       440       450       460       470       480
orf64ng-1.pep  AEVFAAIGAAAGTDKPVQVEYAAPDDAKILLGKATVLPEDNGNGVVMVIDDITVLIRAQK
               ||||||||||||||||:|:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||
orf64-1        AEVFAAIGAAAGTDKPVHVKYAAPDDAKILLGKATVLPEDNGNGVVMVIDDITVLIHAQK
                         430       440       450       460       470       480

                         490       500       510       520       530       540
orf64ng-1.pep  EAAWGEVAKRLAHEIRNPLTPIQLSAERLAWKLGGKLDDQDAQILTRSTDTIIKQVAALK
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||:|||||||
```

```
orf64-1          EAAWGEVAKRLAHEIRNPLTPIQLSAERLAWKLGGKLDEQDAQILTRSTDTIVKQVAALK
                       490       500       510       520       530       540

                       550       560       570       580       590       600
orf64ng-1.pep    EMVEAFRNYARAPSLKLENQDLNALIGDVLALYEAGPCRFEAELAGEPLMMAADTTAMRQ
                 ||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||| :|||||||||
orf64-1          EMVEAFRNYARSPSLKLENQDLNALIGDVLALYEAGPCRFAAELAGEPLTVAADTTAMRQ
                       550       560       570       580       590       600

                       610       620       630       640       650       660
orf64ng-1.pep    VLHNIFKNAAEAAEEADMPEVRVKSETGQDGRIVLTVCDNGKGFGKEMLHNAFEPYVTDK
                 |||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||
orf64-1          VLHNIFKNAAEAAEEADVPEVRVKSETGQDGRIVLTVCDNGKGFGREMLHNAFEPYVTDK
                       610       620       630       640       650       660

                       670       680       690       700
orf64ng-1.pep    PAGTGLGLPVVKKIIGEHGGRISLSNQDAGGACVRIILPKTVETYAX
                 |||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||
orf64-1          PAGTGLGLPVVKKIIEEHGGRISLSNQDAGGACVRIILPKTVKTYAX
                       670       680       690       700
```

Furthermore, ORF64ng-1 shows significant homology to a protein from *A.caulinodans*:

```
sp|Q04850|NTRY_AZOCA NITROGEN REGULATION PROTEIN NTRY >gi|77479|pir||S18624 ntrY
protein - Azorhizobium caulinodans >gi|38737 (X63841) NtrY gene product
[Azorhizobium caulinodans] Length = 771
 Score =  218 bits (550), Expect = 7e-56
 Identities = 195/720 (27%), Positives = 320/720 (44%), Gaps = 58/720 (8%)

Query: 7   IAAICAVVLLYGLTAATGSTSSLADYFWWIXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXRYVILLLKDRRNGV 66
            I+A+   ++L GLT     +   +                  R +  + K R  G
Sbjct: 35  ISALATFLILMGLTPVVPTHQVVIS----VLLVNAAAVLILSAMVGREIWRIAKARARGR 90

Query: 67  FGSQIAKRLSGMFTLVAVLPGLFLFGISAQFINGTINSWFGNDTHEALERSLNLSKSALD 126
              +++   R+ G+F +V+V+P + +  +++  ++  ++ WF   T E +  S++++++ +
Sbjct: 91  AAARLHIRIVGLFAVVSVVPAILVAVVASLTLDRGLDRWFSMRTQEIVASSVSVAQTYVR 150

Query: 127 LAADNAVSNAVPVQIDLIGTASLSGNMGSVLEHYAG--SGFAQLALYNAASGKIEKSINP 184
              A N   + + +  DL    S+          Y G  S F Q+    AA   +  ++
Sbjct: 151 EHALNIRGDILAMSADLTRLKSV----------YEGDRSRFNQILTAQAALRNLPGAMLI 200

Query: 185 HQFDQPLPDKEHWEQIQQTGSVRSLESIGGVLYAQGWLSAGTHNGRDYA---------- 233
             + D  + ++ +   I +   V +  +IG     Q  +     N  DY
Sbjct: 201 RR-DLSVVERAN-VNIGREFIVPANLAIGDATPDQPVIYLP--NDADYVAAVVPLKDYDD 256

Query: 234 --LFFRQPIPENVAQDAVLIEKARAKYAELSYSKKGLQTFFLVTXXXXXXXXXXXXXVMA 291
              L+  + I   V       ++  A Y  L   + G+Q  F +                +
Sbjct: 257 LYLYVARLIDPRVIGYLKTTQETLADYRSLEERRFGVQVAFALMYAVITLIVLLSAVWLG 316

Query: 292 LYFARRFVEPILSLAEGAKAVAQGDFSQTRPVLRND-EFGRLTKLFNHMTEQLSIXXXXX 350
            L F++  V PI  L   A  VA+G+     P+ R + +   L + FN MT +L
Sbjct: 317 LNFSKWLVAPIRRLMSAADHVAEGNLDVRVPIYRAEGDLASLAETFNKMTHELRSQREAI 376

Query: 351 XXXXXXXXXXHYLECVLDGLTTGVVVFDEKGRLKTFNKAAEQILGMPLAPLWGSSRHGW 410
                    + E VL G+  GV+  D + R+   N++AE++LG  L+ +    RH
Sbjct: 377 LTARDQIDSRRRFTEAVLSGVGAGVIGLDSQERITILNRSAERLLG--LSEVEALHRHLA 434

Query: 411 HGVSAQQSLLAEVFXXXXXXXXTDKPVQVEYAAPDDAKILLGKATVLPEDNG---NGVVM 467
              V     LL E             + VQ        D +  +    V  E +    +G V+
Sbjct: 435 EVVPETAGLLEEA------EHARQRSVQGNITLTRDGRERVFAVRVTTEQSPEAEHGWVV 488

Query: 468 VIDDITVLIRAQKEAAWGEVAKRLAHEIRNPLTPIQLSAERLAWKLGGKLDDQDAQILTR 527
             +DDIT LI AQ+ +AW +VA+R+AHEI+NPLTPIQLSAERL  K G  +  QD +I  +
Sbjct: 489 TLDDITELISAQRTSAWADVARRIAHEIKNPLTPIQLSAERLKRKFGRHV-TQDREIFDQ 547

Query: 528 STDTIIKQVAALKEMVEAFRNYARAPSLKLENQDLNALIGDVLALYEAGPCRFEAELAGE 587
              TDTII+QV  +  MV+ F ++AR P    +++QD++ +I   + L   G       +
Sbjct: 548 CTDTIIRQVGDIGRMVDEFSSFARMPKPVVDSQDMSEIIRQTVFLMRVGHPEVVFDSEVP 607

Query: 588 PLMMAA-DTTAMRQVLHNIFKNXXXXXXXXDMPEVRVK-------SETGQDGRIVLTVCD 639
            P M A  D   + Q L NI KN           P+VR +       +  G+D  +V+ + D
Sbjct: 608 PAMPARFDRRLVSQALTNILKNAAEAIEAVP-PDVRGQGRIRVSANRVGED--LVIDIID 664
```

```
Query: 640 NGKGFGKEMLHNAFEPYVTDKPAGTGLGLPVVKKIIGEHGGRISLSNQDAG-GACVRIIL 698
          NG G  +E  +   EPYVT +  GTGLGL +V KI+ EHGG I L++   G GA +R+ L
Sbjct: 665 NGTGLPQESRNRLLEPYVTTREKGTGLGLAIVGKIMEEHGGGIELNDAPEGRGAWIRLTL 724
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of a putative leader sequence (double-underlined) and several putative transmembrane domains (single-underlined) in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 31

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 259>:

```
   1  ATGTACGCAT TTACCGCCGC ACAGCAACAG AAGGCACTCT TCCGGCTGGT
  51  GCTTTTTCAT ATCCTCATCA TCGCCGCCAG CAACTATCTG GTGCAGTTCC
 101  CTTTCCAAAT TTTCGGCATC CACACCACTT GGGGCGCATT TTCCTTTCCC
 151  TTCATCTTCC TTGCCACCGA CCTGACCGTC CGCATTTTCG GTTCTCACTT
 201  GGCACGGCGG ATTATCTTTT GGGTGATGTT CCCCGCCCTT TTGCTTTCCT
 251  ACGTCTTTTC CGTTTTGTTC CACAACGGCA GTTGGACAGG CTTGGGCGCG
 301  CTGTCCGAAT TCAACACCTT TGTCGGACGC ATCGCCTTAG CCAGCTTTGC
 351  CGCCTACGCG ATCGGACAAA TCCTTGATAT TTTTGTATTC AACAAATTAC
 401  GCCGTCTGAA AGCGTGGTGG ATTGCACCGA ACGCATCAAC CGTCATCGGG
 451  CACGCGTTGG ATACG...
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 260; ORF66>:

```
   1  MYAFTAAQQQ KALFRLVLFH ILIIAASNYL VQFPFQIFGI HTTWGAFSFP
  51  FIFLATDLTV RIFGSHLARR IIFWVMFPAL LLSYVFSVLF HNGSWTGLGA
 101  LSEFNTFVGR IALASFAAYA IGQILDIFVF NKLRRLKAWW IAPNASTVIG
 151  HALDT...
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 261>:

```
   1  ATGTACGCAT TTACCGCCGC ACAGCAACAG AAGGCACTCT TCCGGCTGGT
  51  GCTTTTTCAT ATCCTCATCA TCGCCGCCAG CAACTATCTG GTGCAGTTCC
 101  CTTTCCAAAT TTTCGGCATC CACACCACTT GGGGCGCATT TTCCTTTCCC
 151  TTCATCTTCC TTGCCACCGA CCTGACCGTC CGCATTTTCG GTTCTCACTT
 201  GGCACGGCGG ATTATCTTTT GGGTGATGTT CCCCGCCCTT TTGCTTTCCT
 251  ACGTCTTTTC CGTTTTGTTC CACAACGGCA GTTGGACAGG CTTGGGCGCG
 301  CTGTCCGAAT TCAACACCTT TGTCGGACGC ATCGCCTTAG CCAGCTTTGC
 351  CGCCTACGCG ATCGGACAAA TCCTTGATAT TTTTGTATTC AACAAATTAC
 401  GCCGTCTGAA AGCGTGGTGG ATTGCACCGA CCGCATCAAC CGTCATCGGC
 451  AACGCCTTGG ATACGCTGGT ATTTTTCGCC GTTGCCTTCT ACGCAAGCAG
 501  CGATGGATTT ATGGCGGCAA ACTGGCAGGG CATCGCTTTT GTCGATTACC
 551  TGTTCAAACT TACCGTCTGC ACCCTCTTCT TCCTGCCCGC CTACGGCGTG
 601  ATACTGAATC TGCTGACGAA AAAACTGACA ACCCTGCAAA CCAAACAGGC
 651  GCAAGACCGC CCCGCGCCCT CGCTGCAAAA TCCGTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 262; ORF66-1>:

```
   1  MYAFTAAQQQ KALFRLVLFH ILIIAASNYL VQFPFQIFGI HTTWGAFSFP
  51  FIFLATDLTV RIFGSHLARR IIFWVMFPAL LLSYVFSVLF HNGSWTGLGA
 101  LSEFNTFVGR IALASFAAYA IGQILDIFVF NKLRRLKAWW IAPTASTVIG
 151  NALDTLVFFA VAFYASSDGF MAANWQGIAF VDYLFKLTVC TLFFLPAYGV
 201  ILNLLTKKLT TLQTKQAQDR PAPSLQNP*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with the hypothetical protein o221 of *E. coli* (accession number P37619)

ORF66 and o221 protein show 67% aa identity in 155aa overlap:

```
orf66  1   MYAFTAAQQQKALFRLVLFHILIIAASNYLVQFPFQIFGIHTTWGAFSFPFIFLATDLTV 60
           M  F+  Q+ KALF L LFH+L+I +SNYLVQ P  I G HTTWGAFSFPFIFLATDLTV
o221   1   MNVFSQTQRYKALFWLSLFHLLVITSSNYLVQLPVSILGFHTTWGAFSFPFIFLATDLTV 60

orf66  61  RIFGSHLARRIIFWVMFPALLLSYVFSVLFHNGSWTGLGALSEFNTFVGRIALASFAAYA 120
           RIFG+ LARRIIF VM PALL+SYV S LF+ GSW G GAL+ FN FV RIA ASF AYA
o221   61  RIFGAPLARRIIFAVMIPALLISYVISSLFYMGSWQGFGALAHFNLFVARIATASFMAYA 120

orf66  121 IGQILDIFVFNKLRRLKAWWIAPNASTVIGHALDT 155
           +GQILD+ VFN+LR+ + WW+AP AST+ G+  DT
o221   121 LGQILDVHVFNRLRQSRRWWLAPTASTLFGNVSDT 155
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF66 shows 96.1% identity over a 155aa overlap with an ORF (ORF66a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf66.pep   MYAFTAAQQQKALFRLVLFHILIIAASNYLVQFPFQIFGIHTTWGAFSFPFIFLATDLTV
            ||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf66a      MYAFTAAQQQKALFWLVLFHILIIAASNYLVQFPFQISGIHTTWGAFSFPFIFLATDLTV
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf66.pep   RIFGSHLARRIIFWVMFPALLLSYVFSVLFHNGSWTGLGALSEFNTFVGRIALASFAAYA
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf66a      RIFGSHLARRIIFWVMFPALLLSYVFSVLFHNGSWTGLGALSEFNTFVGRIALASFAAYA
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                   130       140       150
orf66.pep   IGQILDIFVFNKLRRLKAWWIAPNASTVIGHALDT
            :|||||||||||||||||||:||:|||||:||||
orf66a      LGQILDIFVFNKLRRLKAWWVAPTASTVIGNALDTLVFFAVAFYASSDGFMAANWQGIAF
                   130       140       150       160       170       180

orf66a      VDYLFKLTVCGLFFLPAYGVILNLLTKKLTTLQTKQAQDRPAPSLQNPX
                   190       200       210       220
```

The complete length ORF66a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 263> is:

```
   1  ATGTACGCAT TTACCGCCGC ACAGCAACAG AAGGCACTCT TCTGGCTGGT
  51  GCTTTTTCAT ATCCTCATCA TCGCCGCCAG CAACTATCTG GTGCAGTTCC
 101  CCTTCCAAAT TTCCGGCATC CACACCACTT GGGGCGCGTT TTCCTTTCCC
 151  TTCATCTTCC TCGCCACCGA CCTGACCGTC CGCATTTTCG GTTCGCACTT
 201  GGCACGGCGG ATTATCTTTT GGGTCATGTT CCCCGCCCTT TTGCTTTCCT
 251  ACGTCTTTTC CGTTTTGTTC CACAACGGCA GTTGGACGGG CTTGGGCGCG
 301  CTGTCCGAAT TCAACACCTT TGTCGGACGC ATCGCGCTGG CAAGTTTTGC
 351  CGCCTACGCG CTCGGACAAA TCCTTGATAT TTTTGTGTTC AACAAATTAC
 401  GCCGTCTGAA AGCGTGGTGG GTTGCCCCGA CTGCATCAAC CGTCATCGGC
 451  AACGCCTTAG ATACGTTGGT ATTTTTCGCC GTTGCCTTCT ACGCAAGCAG
 501  CGATGGATTT ATGGCGGCAA ACTGGCAGGG CATCGCTTTT GTCGATTACC
 551  TGTTCAAACT CACCGTCTGC GGTCTGTTTT TCCTGCCCGC CTACGGCGTG
 601  ATTCTGAATC TGCTGACGAA AAAACTGACG ACCCTGCAAA CCAAACAGGC
 651  GCAAGACCGC CCCGCGCCCT CGCTGCAAAA TCCGTAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 264>:

```
   1  MYAFTAAQQQ KALFWLVLFH ILIIAASNYL VQFPFQISGI HTTWGAFSFP
  51  FIFLATDLTV RIFGSHLARR IIFWVMFPAL LLSYVFSVLF HNGSWTGLGA
 101  LSEFNTFVGR IALASFAAYA LGQILDIFVF NKLRRLKAWW VAPTASTVIG
 151  NALDTLVFFA VAFYASSDGF MAANWQGIAF VDYLFKLTVC GLFFLPAYGV
 201  ILNLLTKKLT TLQTKQAQDR PAPSLQNP*
```

ORF66a and ORF66-1 show 97.8% identity in 228 aa overlap:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf66a.pep  MYAFTAAQQQKALFWLVLFHILIIAASNYLVQFPFQISGIHTTWGAFSFPFIFLATDLTV
            ||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf66-1     MYAFTAAQQQKALFRLVLFHILIIAASNYLVQFPFQIFGIHTTWGAFSFPFIFLATDLTV
```

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf66a.pep  RIFGSHLARRIIFWVMFPALLLSYVFSVLFHNGSWTGLGALSEFNTFVGRIALASFAAYA
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf66-1     RIFGSHLARRIIFWVMFPALLLSYVFSVLFHNGSWTGLGALSEFNTFVGRIALASFAAYA
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf66a.pep  LGQILDIFVFNKLRRLKAWWVAPTASTVIGNALDTLVFFAVAFYASSDGFMAANWQGIAF
            :||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf66-1     IGQILDIFVFNKLRRLKAWWIAPTASTVIGNALDTLVFFAVAFYASSDGFMAANWQGIAF
                   130       140       150       160       170       180

                   190       200       210       220       229
orf66a.pep  VDYLFKLTVCGLFFLPAYGVILNLLTKKLTTLQTKQAQDRPAPSLQNPX
            |||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf66-1     VDYLFKLTVCTLFFLPAYGVILNLLTKKLTTLQTKQAQDRPAPSLQNPX
                   190       200       210       220
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF66shows 94.2% identity over a 155aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF66.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf66.pep   MYAFTAAQQQKALFRLVLFHILIIAASNYLVQFPFQIFGIHTTWGAFSFPFIFLATDLTV   60
            |||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf66ng     MYALTAAQQQKALFRLVLFHILIIAASNYLVQFPFRIFGIHTTWGAFSFPFIFLATDLTV   60

orf66.pep   RIFGSHLARRIIFWVMFPALLLSYVFSVLFHNGSWTGLGALSEFNTFVGRIALASFAAYA  120
            |||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||| |:||||||||||||||||||
orf66ng     RIFGSHLARRIIFWVMFPALSLSYVFSVLFHNGSWTGLGAPSQFNTFVGRIALASFAAYA  120

orf66.pep   IGQILDIFVFNKLRRLKAWWIAPNASTVIGHALDT                          155
            :|||||||||:|||||||||||| ||||||:||||
orf66ng     LGQILDIFVFDKLRRLKAWWIAPAASTVIGNALDTLVFFAVAFYASSDEFMAANWQGIAF  180
```

The complete length ORF66ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 265> is:

```
      1  ATGTACGCAT TGACCGCCGC ACAGCAACAG AAGGCACTCT TCCGGCTGGT
     51  GCTTTTCCAT ATCCTCATCA TCGCCGCCAG CAACTATCTG GTGCAGTTCC
    101  CCTTCCGGAT TTTCGGCATC CACACCACTT GGGGCGCGTT TTCCTTTCCC
    151  TTCATCTTCC TCGCCACCGA CCTGACCGTC CGCATTTTCG GTTCGCACTT
    201  GGCGCGGCGG ATTATCTTTT GGGTGATGTT CCCCGCCCTT ttgCTTTcat
    251  aCGTCTTTTC CGTTTTGTTC CACAACGGCA GTTGGACGGG CTTGGGCGCG
    301  ctgTCCCAAT TCAACACCTT TGTCGGACGC ATCGCGCTGG CAAGTTTTGC
    351  CGCCTACGCG CTCGGACAAA TCCTTGATAT TTTCGTATTC GACAAATTAC
    401  GCCGTCTGAA AGCGTGGTGG ATTGCCCCGG CCGCATCAAC CGTCATCGGC
    451  AATGCACTGG ACACGTTAGT ATTTTTTGCC GTTGCCTTTT ACGCAAGCAG
    501  CGATGAATTT ATGGCGGCAA ACTGGCAGGG CATCGCTTTT GTCGATTACC
    551  TGTTCAAACT TACCGTCTGC ACCCTCTTCT TCCTGCCCGC CTACGGCGTG
    601  ATACTGAATC TGCTGACGAA AAAACTGACG GCCCTGCAAA CCAAACAGGC
    651  GCAAGACCGC CCCGTGCCCT CGCTGCAAAA TCCGTAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 266>:

```
      1  MYALTAAQQQ KALFRLVLFH ILIIAASNYL VQFPFRIFGI HTTWGAFSFP
     51  FIFLATDLTV RIFGSHLARR IIFWVMFPAL SLSYVFSVLF HNGSWTGLGA
    101  PSQFNTFVGR IALASFAAYA LGQILDIFVF DKLRRLKAWW IAPAASTVIG
    151  NALDTLVFFA VAFYASSDEF MAANWQGIAF VDYLFKLTVC TLFFLPAYGV
    201  ILNLLTKKLT ALQTKQAQDR PVPSLQNP*
```

An alternative annotated sequence is:

```
      1  MYALTAAQQQ KALFRLVLFH ILIIAASNYL VQFPFRIFGI HTTWGAFSFP
     51  FIFLATDLTV RIFGSHLARR IIFWVMFPAL LLSYVFSVLF HNGSWTGLGA
    101  LSQFNTFVGR IALASFAAYA LGQILDIFVF DKLRRLKAWW IAPAASTVIG
    151  NALDTLVFFA VAFYASSDEF MAANWQGIAF VDYLFKLTVC TLFFLPAYGV
    201  ILNLLTKKLT ALQTKQAQDR PVPSLQNP*
```

ORF66ng and ORF66-1 show 96.1% identity in 228 aa overlap:

```
orf66-1.pep  MYAFTAAQQQKALFRLVLFHILIIAASNYLVQFPFQIFGIHTTWGAFSFPFIFLATDLTV  60
             |||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||
orf66ng      MYALTAAQQQKALFRLVLFHILIIAASNYLVQFPFRIFGIHTTWGAFSFPFIFLATDLTV  60

orf66-1.pep  RIFGSHLARRIIFWVMFPALLLSYVFSVLFHNGSWTGLGALSEFNTFVGRIALASFAAYA 120
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||
orf66ng      RIFGSHLARRIIFWVMFPALLLSYVFSVLFHNGSWTGLGALSQFNTFVGRIALASFAAYA 120

orf66-1.pep  IGQILDIFVFNKLRRLKAWWIAPTASTVIGNALDTLVFFAVAFYASSDGFMAANWQGIAF 180
             :||||||||:||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||
orf66ng      LGQILDIFVFDKLRRLKAWWIAPAASTVIGNALDTLVFFAVAFYASSDEFMAANWQGIAF 180

orf66-1.pep  VDYLFKLTVCTLFFLPAYGVILNLLTKKLTTLQTKQAQDRPAPSLQNPX   229
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||:|||||||
orf66ng      VDYLFKLTVCTLFFLPAYGVILNLLTKKLTALQTKQAQDRPVPSLQNPX   229
```

Furthermore, ORF66ng shows significant homology with an *E.coli* ORF:

```
 sp|P37619|YHHQ_ECOLI HYPOTHETICAL 25.3 KD PROTEIN IN FTSY-NIKA INTERGENIC
REGION (O221)
>gi|1073495|pir||S47690 hypothetical protein o221 - Escherichia coli >gi|466607
(U00039) No definition line found [Escherichia coli] >gi|1789882 (AE000423)
hypothetical 25.3 kD protein in ftsY-nikA intergenic region [Escherichia coli]
Length = 221
 Score =  273 bits (692), Expect = 5e-73
 Identities = 132/203 (65%), Positives = 155/203 (76%)

Query: 1   MYALTAAQQQKALFRLVLFHILIIAASNYLVQFPFRIFGIHTTWGAFSFPFIFLATDLTV 60
            M   +  Q+ KALF L LFH+L+I +SNYLVQ P  I G HTTWGAFSFPFIFLATDLTV
Sbjct: 1   MNVFSQTQRYKALFWLSLFHLLVITSSNYLVQLPVSILGFHTTWGAFSFPFIFLATDLTV 60

Query: 61  RIFGSHLARRIIFWVMFPALLLSYVFSVLFHNGSWTGLGALSQFNTFVGRIALASFAAYA 120
            RIFG+ LARRIIF VM PALL+SYV S LF+ GSW G GAL+ FN FV RIA ASF AYA
Sbjct: 61  RIFGAPLARRIIFAVMIPALLISYVISSLFYMGSWQGFGALAHFNLFVARIATASFMAYA 120

Query: 121 LGQILDIFVFDKLRRLKAWWIAPAASTVIGNALDTLVFFAVAFYASSDEFMAANWQGIAF 180
            LGQILD+ VF++LR+ + WW+AP AST+ GN  DTL FF +AF+ S D FMA +W  IA
Sbjct: 121 LGQILDVHVFNRLRQSRRWWLAPTASTLFGNVSDTLAFFFIAFWRSPDAFMAEHWMEIAL 180

Query: 181 VDYLFKLTVCTLFFLPAYGVILN 203
            VDY FK+ +  +FFLP YGV+LN
Sbjct: 181 VDYCFKVLISIVFFLPMYGVLLN 203
```

Based on this analysis, including the homology with the *E.coli* protein and the presence of several putative transmembrane domains in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that these proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 32

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 267>:

```
   1  ATGGTCATAA AATATACAAA TTTGAATTTT GCGAAATTGT CGATAATTGC
  51  AATTTTGATG ATGTATTCGT TTGAAGCGAA TGCAAAyGCA GTmwrAATAT
 101  CTGAAACTGT TTCAGTTGAT ACCGGACAAG GTGCGAAAAT TCATAAGTTT
 151  GTACCTAAAA ATAGTAAAAC TTATTCATCT GATTTAATAA AAACGGTAGA
 201  TTTAACACAC AyyCCTACGG GCGCAAAAGC CCGAATCAAC GCCAAAATAA
 251  CCGCCAGCGT ATCCCGCGCC GGCGTATTGG CGGGGGTCGG CAAACTTGCC
 301  CGCTTAGgCG CGAAATTCAG CACAAGGGCG GTtCCCTATG TCGGAACAGC
 351  CcTTTTAGCC CACGACGTAT ACGAAAcTTT CAAAGAAGAC ATACAGGCAC
 401  GAGGCTACCA ATACGACCCC GAAACCGACA AATTTGTAAA AGGCTACGAA
 451  TATAGTAATT GCCTTTGGTA CGAAGACAAA AGACGTATTA ATAGAACCTA
```

```
501  TGGCTGCTAC GGCGTTGAT..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 268; ORF72>:

```
  1  MVIKYTNLNF AKLSIIAILM MYSFEANANA VXISETVSVD TGQGAKIHKF
 51  VPKNSKTYSS DLIKTVDLTH XPTGAKARIN AKITASVSRA GVLAGVGKLA
101  RLGAKFSTRA VPYVGTALLA HDVYETFKED IQARGYQYDP ETDKFVKGYE
151  YSNCLWYEDK RRINRTYGCY GVD..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 269>:

```
  1  ATGGTCATAA AATATACAAA TTTGAATTTT GCGAAATTGT CGATAATTGC
 51  AATTTTGATG ATGTATTCGT TTGAAGCGAA TGCAAATGCA GTAAAAATAT
101  CTGAAACTGT TTCAGTTGAT ACCGGACAAG GTGCGAAAAT TCATAAGTTT
151  GTACCTAAAA ATAGTAAAAC TTATTCATCT GATTTAATAA AAACGGTAGA
201  TTTAACACAC ATCCCTACGG GCGCAAAAGC CCGAATCAAC GCCAAAATAA
251  CCGCCAGCGT ATCCCGCGCC GGCGTATTGG CGGGGGTCGG CAAACTTGCC
301  CGCTTAGGCG CGAAATTCAG CACAAGGGCG GTTCCCTATG TCGGAACAGC
351  CCTTTTAGCC CACGACGTAT ACGAAACTTT CAAAGAAGAC ATACAGGCAC
401  GAGGCTACCA ATACGACCCC GAAACCGACA AATTTGCAAA GGTCTCAGGC
451  TAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 270; ORF72-1>:

```
  1  MVIKYTNLNF AKLSIIAILM MYSFEANANA VKISETVSVD TGQGAKIHKF
 51  VPKNSKTYSS DLIKTVDLTH IPTGAKARIN AKITASVSRA GVLAGVGKLA
101  RLGAKFSTRA VPYVGTALLA HDVYETFKED IQARGYQYDP ETDKFAKVSG
151  *
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF72 shows 98.0% identity over a 147aa overlap with an ORF (ORF72a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf72.pep       MVIKYTNLNFAKLSIIAILMMYSFEANANAVXISETVSVDTGQGAKIHKFVPKNSKTYSS
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf72a          MVIKYTNLNFAKLSIIAILMMYSFEANANAVKISETVSVDTGQGAKIHKFVPKNSKTYSS
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf72.pep       DLIKTVDLTHXPTGAKARINAKITASVSRAGVLAGVGKLARLGAKFSTRAVPYVGTALLA
                |||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf72a          DLIKTVDLTHIPTGAKARINAKITASVSRAGVLAGVGKLARLGAKFSTRAVPYVGTALLA
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170
orf72.pep       HDVYETFKEDIQARGYQYDPETDKFVKGYEYSNCLWYEDKRRINRTYGCYGVD
                |||||||||||||||||||||||:|
orf72a          HDVYETFKEDIQARGYQYDPETDKFAKVSGX
                130       140       150
```

The complete length ORF72a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 271> is:

```
  1  ATGGTCATAA AATATACAAA TTTGAATTTT GCGAAATTGT CGATAATTGC
 51  AATTTTGATG ATGTATTCGT TTGAAGCGAA TGCAAATGCA GTAAAAATAT
101  CTGAAACTGT TTCAGTTGAT ACCGGACAAG GTGCGAAAAT TCATAAGTTT
151  GTACCTAAAA ATAGTAAAAC TTATTCATCT GATTTAATAA AAACGGTAGA
201  TTTAACACAC ATCCCTACGG GCGCAAAAGC CCGAATCAAC GCCAAAATAA
251  CCGCCAGCGT ATCCCGCGCC GGCGTATTGG CGGGGGTCGG CAAACTTGCC
301  CGCTTAGGCG CGAAATTCAG CACAAGGGCG GTTCCCTATG TCGGAACAGC
351  CCTTTTAGCC CACGACGTAT ACGAAACTTT CAAAGAAGAC ATACAGGCAC
401  GAGGCTACCA ATACGACCCC GAAACCGACA AATTTGCAAA GGTCTCAGGC
451  TAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 272>:

```
  1  MVIKYTNLNF AKLSIIAILM MYSFEANANA VKISETVSVD TGQGAKIHKF
 51  VPKNSKTYSS DLIKTVDLTH IPTGAKARIN AKITASVSRA GVLAGVGKLA
101  RLGAKFSTRA VPYVGTALLA HDVYETFKED IQARGYQYDP ETDKFAKVSG
151  *
```

ORF72a and ORF72-1 show 100.0% identity in 150 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf72a.pep      MVIKYTNLNFAKLSIIAILMMYSFEANANAVKISETVSVDTGQGAKIHKFVPKNSKTYSS
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf72-1         MVIKYTNLNFAKLSIIAILMMYSFEANANAVKISETVSVDTGQGAKIHKFVPKNSKTYSS
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf72a.pep      DLIKTVDLTHIPTGAKARINAKITASVSRAGVLAGVGKLARLGAKFSTRAVPYVGTALLA
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf72-1         DLIKTVDLTHIPTGAKARINAKITASVSRAGVLAGVGKLARLGAKFSTRAVPYVGTALLA
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150
orf72a.pep      HDVYETFKEDIQARGYQYDPETDKFAKVSGX
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf72-1         HDVYETFKEDIQARGYQYDPETDKFAKVSGX
                130       140       150
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF72 shows 89% identity over a 173aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF72.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf72.pep       MVIKYTNLNFAKLSIIAILMMYSFEANANAVXISETVSVDTGQGAKIHKFVPKNSKTYSS  60
                ||  |:|||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||:|||||||||:|||||||:|: |||
orf72ng         MVTKHTNLNFAKLSIIAILMMYSFEANANAVKISETLSVDTGQGAKVHKFVPKSSNIYSS  60
orf72.pep       DLIKTVDLTHXPTGAKARINAKITASVSRAGVLAGVGKLARLGAKFSTRAVPYVGTALLA 120
                ||  |:|||||  |||||||||||||||||||||||:||||:| ||||:|||||||||||||
orf72ng         DLTKAVDLTHIPTGAKARINAKITASVSRAGVLSGVGKLVRQGAKFGTRAVPYVGTALLA 120
orf72.pep       HDVYETFKEDIQARGYQYDPETDKFVKGYEYSNCLWYEDKRRINRTYGCYGVD         173
                |||||||||||||| :|||||||||||||:|||||||:||||||||||||||
orf72ng         HDVYETFKEDIQARGCRYDPETDKFVKGYEYANCLWYEDERRINRTYGCYGVDSSIMRLM 180
```

An ORF72ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 273> was predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 274>:

```
  1  MVTKHTNLNF AKLSIIAILM MYSFEANANA VKISETLSVD TGQGAKVHKF
 51  VPKSSNIYSS DLTKAVDLTH IPTGAKARIN AKITASVSRA GVLSGVGKLV
101  RQGAKFGTRA VPYVGTALLA HDVYETFKED IQARGCRYDP ETDKFVKGYE
151  YANCLWYEDE RRINRTYGCY GVDSSIMRLM PDRSRFPEVK QLMESQMYRL
201  ARPFWNWRKE ELNKLSSLDW NNFVLNRCTF DWNGGGCAVN KGDDFRAGAS
251  FSLGRNPKYK EEMDAKKPEE ILSLKVDADP DKYIEATGYP GYSEKVEVAP
301  GTKVNMGPVT DRNGNPVQVA ATFGRDAQGN TTADVQVIPR PDLTPASAEA
351  PHAQPLPEVS PAENPANNPD PDENPGTRPN PEPDPDLNPD ANPDTDGQPG
401  TSPDSPAVPD RPNGRHRKER KEGEDGGLSC DYFPEILACQ EMGKPSDRMF
451  HDISIPQVTD DKTWSSHNFL PSNGVCPQPK TFHVFGRQYR ASYEPLCVFA
501  EKIRFAVLLA FIIMSAFVVF GSLGGE*
```

After further analysis, the following gonococcal DNA sequence <SEQ ID 275> was identified:

```
  1  ATGGTCACAA AACATACAAA TTTGAATTTT GCGAAATTGT CGATAATTGC
 51  AATTTTGATG ATGTATTCGT TTGAAGCGAA TGCAAATGCA GTAAAAATAT
101  CTGAAACTCT TTCGGTTGAT ACCGGACAAG GCGCGAAAGT TCATAAGTTC
151  GTTCCTAAAT CAAGTAATAT TTATTCATCT GATTTAACAA AAGCGGTAGA
201  TTTAACGCAT ATCCCCACGG GCGCAAAAGC CCGAATCAAC GCCAAAATAA
251  CCGCCAGCGT ATCCCGCGCC GGCGTATTGT CGGGGGTCGG CAAACTTGTC
301  CGCCAAGGCG CGAAATTCGG CACAAGGGCG GTTCCCTATG TCGGAACAGC
351  CCTTTTAGCC CACGACGTAT ACGAAACTTT CAAAGAAGAC ATACAGGCAC
401  GAGGCTGCCG ATACGATCCC GAAACCGACA AATTT
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 276; ORF72ng-1>:

```
  1  MVTKHTNLNF AKLSIIAILM MYSFEANANA VKISETLSVD TGQGAKVHKF
 51  VPKSSNIYSS DLTKAVDLTH IPTGAKARIN AKITASVSRA GVLSGVGKLV
101  RQGAKFGTRA VPYVGTALLA HDVYETFKED IQARGCRYDP ETDKF
```

ORF72ng-1 and ORF721-1 show 89.7% identity in 145 aa overlap:

```
                      10        20        30        40        50        60
orf72ng-1.pe MVTKHTNLNFAKLSIIAILMMYSFEANANAVKISETLSVDTGQGAKVHKFVPKSSNIYSS
             || |:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||:||||||:|: |||
orf72-1      MVIKYTNLNFAKLSIIAILMMYSFEANANAVKISETVSVDTGQGAKIHKFVPKNSKTYSS
                      10        20        30        40        50        60

                      70        80        90       100       110       120
orf72ng-1.pe DLTKAVDLTHIPTGAKARINAKITASVSRAGVLSGVGKLVRQGAKFGTRAVPYVGTALLA
             || |:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||:| ||||:||||||||||||
orf72-1      DLIKTVDLTHIPTGAKARINAKITASVSRAGVLAGVGKLARLGAKFSTRAVPYVGTALLA
                      70        80        90       100       110       120

                     130       140
orf72ng-1.pe HDVYETFKEDIQARGCRYDPETDKF
             ||||||||||||||| :|||||||
orf72-1      HDVYETFKEDIQARGYQYDPETDKFAKVSGX
                     130       140       150
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of a putative leader sequence and transmembrane domains in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 33

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 277>:

```
  1  ATGAGATTTT TCGGTATCGG TTTTTTGGTG CTGCTGTTTT TGGAGATTAT
 51  GTCGATTGTG TGGGTTGCCG ATTGGCTGGG CGGCGGCTGG ACGTTGTTTT
101  TGATGGCGGC AGGTTTTGCC GCCGGCGTGC TGATGCTCAG GCAAACCGGG
151  GCTGACCGGT CTTTTATTGG CGGGCGCGGC AATGAGAAGC GGCGGGAAGG
201  TATCCGTTTA TCAGATGTTG TGGCCTATC..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 278; ORF73>:

```
  1  MRFFGIGFLV LLFLEIMSIV WVADWLGGGW TLFLMAAGFA AGVLMLRQTG
 51  LTGLLLAGAA MRSGGKVSVY QMLWPI..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 279>:

```
  1  ATGAGATTTT TCGGTATCGG TTTTTTGGTG CTGCTGTTTT TGGAGATTAT
 51  GTCGATTGTG TGGGTTGCCG ATTGGCTGGG CGGCGGCTGG ACGTTGTTTT
101  TGATGGCGGC AGGTTTTGCC GCCGGCGTGC TGATGCTCAG GCATACGGGG
151  CTGTCCGGTC TTTTATTGGC GGGCGCGGCA ATGAGAAGCG GCGGGAGGGT
201  ATCCGTTTAT CAGATGTTGT GGCCTATCCG TTATACGGTG GCGGCTGTGT
251  GTCTGATGAG TCCGGGATTC GTATCCTCGG TGTTGGCGGT ATTGCTGCTG
301  CTGCCGTTTA AGGGAGGGGC AGTGTTGCAG GCAGGAGGTG CGGAAAATTT
351  TTTCAACATG AACCAATCGG GCAGAAAAGA GGGCTTTTCC CGCGATGACG
401  ATATTATCGA GGGAGAATAT ACGGTTGAAG AGCCTTACGG CGGCAATCGT
451  TCCCGAAACG CCATCGAACA CAAAAAAGAC GAATAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 280; ORF73-1>:

```
  1  MRFFGIGFLV LLFLEIMSIV WVADWLGGGW TLFLMAAGFA AGVLMLRHTG
 51  LSGLLLAGAA MRSGGRVSVY QMLWPIRYTV AAVCLMSPGF VSSVLAVLLL
101  LPFKGGAVLQ AGGAENFFNM NQSGRKEGFS RDDDIIEGEY TVEEPYGGNR
```

```
151  SRNAIEHKKD E*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF73 shows 90.8% identity over a 76aa overlap with an ORF (ORF73a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf73.pep       MRFFGIGFLVLLFLEIMSIVWVADWLGGGWTLFLMAAGFAAGVLMLRQTGLTGLLLAGAA
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||:|||:|||:||||||||
orf73a          MRFFGIGFLVLLFLEIMSIVWVADWLGGGWTLFLMAATFAAGVVMLRHTGLSGLLLAGAA
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70
orf73.pep       MRSGGKVSVYQMLWPI
                |||||:|||| ||| |
orf73a          MRSGGRVSVYXMLWXIRYTVAAVCXMSPGFVSSVXAVLLXLPFKGGAVLQAGGAENFFNM
```

The complete length ORF73a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 281> is:

```
   1  ATGAGATTTT TCGGTATCGG TTTTTTGGTG CTGCTGTTTT TGGAGATTAT
  51  GTCGATTGTG TGGGTTGCCG ATTGGTTGGG CGGCGGTTGG ACGCTGTTTC
 101  TAATGGCGGC AACCTTTGCC GCCGGCGTGG TGATGCTCAG GCATACGGGG
 151  CTGTCCGGTC TTTTATTGGC GGGCGCGGCA ATGAGAAGCG GCGGGAGGGT
 201  ATCCGTTTAT CANATGTTGT GGCNTATCCG TTATACGGTG GCGGCGGTGT
 251  GTCNGATGAG TCCGGGATTC GTATCCTCGG TGTNGGCGGT ATTGCTGNTG
 301  CTNCCGTTTA AGGGAGGTGC AGTGTTGCAG GCAGGAGGTG CGGAAAATTT
 351  TTTCAACATG AACCANTCGG GCAGAAAAGA NGGCNTTTCC CGCGATGACG
 401  ATATTATCGA GGGGGAATAT ACGGTTGAAG ANCCTTACGG CGGCANTCGT
 451  TTCCGAAACG CCNTNGAACA CAAAAAAGAC GAATAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 282>:

```
   1  MRFFGIGFLV LLFLEIMSIV WVADWLGGGW TLFLMAATFA AGVVMLRHTG
  51  LSGLLLAGAA MRSGGRVSVY XMLWXIRYTV AAVCXMSPGF VSSVXAVLLX
 101  LPFKGGAVLQ AGGAENFFNM NXSGRKXGXS RDDDIIEGEY TVEXPYGGXR
 151  FRNAXEHKKD E*
```

ORF73a and ORF73-1 show 91.3% identity in 161 aa overlap

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf73a.pep      MRFFGIGFLVLLFLEIMSIVWVADWLGGGWTLFLMAATFAAGVVMLRHTGLSGLLLAGAA
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||:|||||||||||||||||
orf73-1         MRFFGIGFLVLLFLEIMSIVWVADWLGGGWTLFLMAAGFAAGVLMLRHTGLSGLLLAGAA
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf73a.pep      MRSGGRVSVYXMLWXIRYTVAAVCXMSPGFVSSVXAVLLXLPFKGGAVLQAGGAENFFNM
                |||||||||| ||| ||||||||| ||||||||| |||| ||||||||||||||||||||
orf73-1         MRSGGRVSVYQMLWPIRYTVAAVCLMSPGFVSSVLAVLLLLPFKGGAVLQAGGAENFFNM
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160
orf73a.pep      NXSGRKXGXSRDDDIIEGEYTVEXPYGGXRFRNAXEHKKDEX
                | |||| | ||||||||||||||| |||| | ||| |||||||
orf73-1         NQSGRKEGFSRDDDIIEGEYTVEEPYGGNRSRNAIEHKKDEX
                130       140       150       160
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF73 shows 92.1% identity over a 76aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF73.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf73.pep       MRFFGIGFLVLLFLEIMSIVWVADWLGGGWTLFLMAAGFAAGVLMLRQTGLTGLLLAGAA   60
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||:|||:||||||||
```

```
orf73ng      MRFFGIGFLVLLFLEIMSIVWVADWLGGGWTLFLMAATFAAGVLMLRHTGLSGLLLAGAA   60

orf73.pep    MRSGGKVSVYQMLWPI                                               76
             ::|:||||||||||||
orf73ng      VKSSGKVSVYQMLWPIRYTVAAVCLMSPGFVSSVLAVLLLLPFKGGAVLQAGGAENFFNM  120
```

The complete length ORF73ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 283> is:

```
   1  ATGAGATTTT TCGGTATCGG TTTTTTGGTG CTGCTGTTTT TGGAAATTAT
  51  GTCGATTGTG TGGGTTGCCG ATTGGCTGGG CGGCGGTTGG AcgcTGTTTC
 101  TAATGGCGGC AACCTTTGCC GCCGGTGTGC TGATGCTCAG GCATAcggGG
 151  CTGTCCGGTC TTTTATTGGC TGGCGCGGCG GTAAAAagta gtgGGAAGGT
 201  ATCTGTTTAT CagatgtTGT GGCCTATCCG TTATAcggtg gcggcggtgT
 251  GTCTGatgag tCcggGATTC GTATCCTccg tgttggCGGT ATTGCTGCTG
 301  CTGCcgttta aggGaggGgc agtgttgcag gcaggaggtg cggaaaATTT
 351  TTTCAACATg aaCcaatcgg gcagaaAaga gggatttttc cacgatgacg
 401  atattatcga gggagaatat acggttgaaa aacctgacgg cggcaatcgt
 451  tcccgaAAcg ccatcgaaca cgaaaAagac gaataA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 284>:

```
   1  MRFFGIGFLV LLFLEIMSIV WVADWLGGGW TLFLMAATFA AGVLMLRHTG
  51  LSGLLLAGAA VKSSGKVSVY QMLWPIRYTV AAVCLMSPGF VSSVLAVLLL
 101  LPFKGGAVLQ AGGAENFFNM NQSGRKEGFF HDDDIIEGEY TVEKPDGGNR
 151  SRNAIEHEKD E*
```

ORF73ng and ORG73-1 show 93.8% identity in 161 aa overlap

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf73-1.pep  MRFFGIGFLVLLFLEIMSIVWVADWLGGGWTLFLMAAGFAAGVLMLRHTGLSGLLLAGAA
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||
orf73ng      MRFFGIGFLVLLFLEIMSIVWVADWLGGGWTLFLMAATFAAGVLMLRHTGLSGLLLAGAA
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90       100       110       120
orf73-1.pep  MRSGGRVSVYQMLWPIRYTVAAVCLMSPGFVSSVLAVLLLLPFKGGAVLQAGGAENFFNM
             ::|:|:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf73ng      VKSSGKVSVYQMLWPIRYTVAAVCLMSPGFVSSVLAVLLLLPFKGGAVLQAGGAENFFNM
                70        80        90       100       110       120

               130       140       150       160
orf73-1.pep  NQSGRKEGFSRDDDIIEGEYTVEEPYGGNRSRNAIEHKKDEX
             ||||||||| :|||||||||||:| |||||||||||:||||
orf73ng      NQSGRKEGFFHDDDIIEGEYTVEKPDGGNRSRNAIEHEKDEX
               130       140       150       160
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of a putative leader sequence and putative transmembrane domain in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 34

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 285>:

```
   1  ATGTTTGTTT TTCAGACGGC ATTCTT.ATG TTTCAGAAAC ATTTGCAGAA
  51  AGCCTCCGAC AGCGTCGTCG GAGGGACATT ATACGTGGTT GCCACGCCCA
 101  TCGGCAATTT GGCGGACATT ACCCTGCGCG CTTTGGCGGT ATTGCAAAAG
 151  GCG.......  .....GCCGA AGACACGCGC GTTACCGCAC AGCTTTTGAG
 201  CGCGTACGGC ATTCAGGGCA AACTCGTCAG TGTGCGCGAA CACAACGAAC
 251  GGCAGATGGC GGACAAGATT GTCGGCTATC TTTCAGACGG CATGGTTGTG
 301  GCACAGGTTT CCGATGCGGG TACGCCGGCC GTGTGCGACC CGGGCGCGAA
 351  ACTCGCCCGC CGCGTGCGTG AGGCCGGGTT TAAAGTCGTT CCCGTCGTGG
 401  GCGCAAC.GC GGTGATGGCG GCTTTGAGCG TGGCCGGTGT GGAAGGATCC
 451  GATTTTTATT TCAACGGTTT TGTACCGCCG AAATCGGGAG AACGCAGGAA
```

```
501  ACTGTTTGCC AAATGGGTGC GGGCGGCGTT TCCTATCGTC ATGTTTGAAA
551  CGCCGCACCG CATCGGTGCA GCGCTTGCCG ATATGGCGGA ACTGTTCCCC
601  GAACGCCGAT TAATGCTGGC GCGCGAAATT ACGAAAACGT TTGAAACGTT
651  CTTAAGCGGC ACGGTTGGGG AAATTCAGAC GGCATTGTCT GCCGACGGCG
701  ACCAATCGCG CGGCGAGATG GTGTTGGTGC TTTATCCGGC GCAGGATGAA
751  AAACACGAAG GCTTGTCCGA GTCCGCGCAA AACATCATGA AAATCCTCAC
801  AGCCGAGCTG CCGACCAAAC AGGCGGCGGA GCTTGCTGCC AAAATCACGG
851  GCGAGGGAAA GAAAGCTTTG TACGAT..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 286; ORF75>:

```
  1  MFVFQTAFXM FQKHLQKASD SVVGGTLYVV ATPIGNLADI TLRALAVLQK
 51  A....AEDTR VTAQLLSAYG IQGKLVSVRE HNERQMADKI VGYLSDGMVV
101  AQVSDAGTPA VCDPGAKLAR RVREAGFKVV PVVGAXAVMA ALSVAGVEGS
151  DFYFNGFVPP KSGERRKLFA KWVRAAFPIV MFETPHRIGA ALADMAELFP
201  ERRLMLAREI TKTFETFLSG TVGEIQTALS ADGDQSRGEM VLVLYPAQDE
251  KHEGLSESAQ NIMKILTAEL PTKQAAELAA KITGEGKKAL YD..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 287>:

```
  1  ATGTTTCAGA AACATTTGCA GAAAGCCTCC GACAGCGTCG TCGGAGGGAC
 51  ATTATACGTG GTTGCCACGC CCATCGGCAA TTTGGCGGAC ATTACCCTGC
101  GCGCTTTGGC GGTATTGCAA AAGGCGGACA TCATCTGTGC CGAAGACACG
151  CGCGTTACCG CACAGCTTTT GAGCGCGTAC GGCATTCAGG GCAAACTCGT
201  CAGTGTGCGC GAACACAACG AACGGCAGAT GGCGGACAAG ATTGTCGGCT
251  ATCTTTCAGA CGGCATGGTT GTGGCACAGG TTTCCGATGC GGGTACGCCG
301  GCCGTGTGCG ACCCGGGCGC GAAACTCGCC CGCCGCGTGC GTGAGGCCGG
351  GTTTAAAGTC GTTCCCGTCG TGGGCGCAAG CGCGGTGATG GCGGCTTTGA
401  GCGTGGCCGG TGTGGAAGGA TCCGATTTTT ATTTCAACGG TTTTGTACCG
451  CCGAAATCGG GAGAACGCAG GAAACTGTTT GCCAAATGGG TGCGGGCGGC
501  GTTTCCTATC GTCATGTTTG AAACGCCGCA CCGCATCGGT GCGACGCTTG
551  CCGATATGGC GGAACTGTTC CCCGAACGCC GATTAATGCT GGCGCGCGAA
601  ATTACGAAAA CGTTTGAAAC GTTCTTAAGC GGCACGGTTG GGGAAATTCA
651  GACGGCATTG TCTGCCGACG GCAACCAATC GCGCGGCGAG ATGGTGTTGG
701  TGCTTTATCC GGCGCAGGAT GAAAAACACG AAGGCTTGTC CGAGTCCGCG
751  CAAAACATCA TGAAAATCCT CACAGCCGAG CTGCCGACCA AACAGGCGGC
801  GGAGCTTGCT GCCAAAATCA CGGGCGAGGG AAAGAAAGCT TTGTACGATC
851  TGGCTCTGTC TTGGAAAAAC AAATAG
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 288; ORF75-1>:

```
  1  MFQKHLQKAS DSVVGGTLYV VATPIGNLAD ITLRALAVLQ KADIICAEDT
 51  RVTAQLLSAY GIQGKLVSVR EHNERQMADK IVGYLSDGMV VAQVSDAGTP
101  AVCDPGAKLA RRVREAGFKV VPVVGASAVM AALSVAGVEG SDFYFNGFVP
151  PKSGERRKLF AKWVRAAFPI VMFETPHRIG ATLADMAELF PERRLMLARE
201  ITKTFETFLS GTVGEIQTAL SADGNQSRGE MVLVLYPAQD EKHEGLSESA
251  QNIMKILTAE LPTKQAAELA AKITGEGKKA LYDLALSWKN K*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF75 shows 95.8% identity over a 283aa overlap with an ORF (ORF75a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf75.pep   MFVFQTAFXMFQKHLQKASDSVVGGTLYVVATPIGNLADITLRALAVLQKAXXXXAEDTR
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||    |||||
orf75a          MFQKHLQKASDSVVGGTLYVVATPIGNLADITLRALAVLQKADIICAEDTR
                          10        20        30        40        50

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf75.pep   VTAQLLSAYGIQGKLVSVREHNERQMADKIVGYLSDGMVVAQVSDAGTPAVCDPGAKLAR
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf75a      VTAQLLSAYGIQGKLVSVREHNERQMADKIVGYLSDGMVVAQVSDAGTPAVCDPGAKLAR
                    60        70        80        90        100       110

               130       140       150       160       170       180
orf75.pep   RVREAGFKVVPVVGAXAVMAALSVAGVEGSDFYFNGFVPPKSGERRKLFAKWVRAAFPIV
```

```
                 ||||:|||||||||| |||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||:|||:|
orf75a           RVREVGFKVVPVVGASAVMAALSVAGVAGSDFYFNGFVPPKSGERRKLFAKWVRVAFPVV
                       120        130        140        150        160        170

                       190        200        210        220        230        240
orf75.pep        MFETPHRIGAALADMAELFPERRLMLAREITKTFETFLSGTVGEIQTALSADGDQSRGEM
                 ||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||:||||||
orf75a           MFETPHRIGATLADMAELFPERRLMLAREITKTFETFLSGTVGEIQTALAADGNQSRGEM
                       180        190        200        210        220        230

                       250        260        270        280        290
orf75.pep        VLVLYPAQDEKHEGLSESAQNIMKILTAELPTKQAAELAAKITGEGKKALYD
                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf75a           VLVLYPAQDEKHEGLSESAQNIMKILTAELPTKQAAELAAKITGEGKKALYDLALSWKNK
                       240        250        260        270        280        290

orf75a           X
```

The complete length ORF75a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 289> is:

```
   1  ATGTTTCAGA AACATTTGCA GAAAGCCTCC GACAGCGTCG TCGGAGGGAC
  51  ATTATACGTG GTTGCCACGC CCATCGGCAA TTTGGCGGAC ATTACCCTGC
 101  GCGCTTTGGC GGTATTGCAA AAGGCGGACA TCATCTGTGC CGAAGACACG
 151  CGCGTTACCG CGCAGCTTTT GAGCGCGTAC GGCATTCAGG GCAAACTCGT
 201  CAGCGTGCGC GAACACAACG AACGGCAGAT GGCGGACAAG ATTGTCGGCT
 251  ATCTTTCAGA CGGCATGGTT GTGGCACAGG TTTCCGATGC GGGTACGCCG
 301  GCCGTGTGCG ACCCGGGCGC GAAACTCGCC CGCCGCGTGC GTGAGGTCGG
 351  GTTTAAAGTT GTCCCTGTTG TCGGCGCAAG CGCGGTGATG GCGGCTTTGA
 401  GTGTGGCTGG TGTGGCGGGA TCCGATTTTT ATTTCAACGG TTTTGTACCG
 451  CCGAAATCGG GCGAACGTAG GAAATTGTTT GCCAAATGGG TGCGGGTGGC
 501  GTTTCCCGTC GTGATGTTTG AAACGCCGCA CCGCATCGGG GCGACGCTTG
 551  CCGATATGGC GGAACTGTTC CCCGAACGCC GATTAATGCT GGCGCGCGAA
 601  ATCACGAAAA CGTTTGAAAC GTTCTTAAGC GGCACGGTTG GGGAAATTCA
 651  GACGGCATTG GCGGCGGACG GCAACCAATC GCGCGGCGAG ATGGTGTTGG
 701  TGCTTTATCC GGCGCAGGAT GAAAAACACG AAGGCTTGTC CGAGTCCGCG
 751  CAAAACATCA TGAAAATCCT CACAGCCGAG CTGCCGACCA AACAGGCGGC
 801  GGAGCTTGCC GCCAAAATCA CGGGCGAGGG AAAAAAAGCT TTGTACGATC
 851  TGGCACTGTC TTGGAAAAAC AAATGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 290>:

```
   1  MFQKHLQKAS DSVVGGTLYV VATPIGNLAD ITLRALAVLQ KADIICAEDT
  51  RVTAQLLSAY GIQGKLVSVR EHNERQMADK IVGYLSDGMV VAQVSDAGTP
 101  AVCDPGAKLA RRVREVGFKV VPVVGASAVM AALSVAGVAG SDFYFNGFVP
 151  PKSGERRKLF AKWVRVAFPV VMFETPHRIG ATLADMAELF PERRLMLARE
 201  ITKTFETFLS GTVGEIQTAL AADGNQSRGE MVLVLYPAQD EKHEGLSESA
 251  QNIMKILTAE LPTKQAAELA AKITGEGKKA LYDLALSWKN K*
```

ORF75a and ORF75-1 show 98.3% identity in 291 aa overlap:

```
                       10         20         30         40         50         60
orf75a.pep       MFQKHLQKASDSVVGGTLYVVATPIGNLADITLRALAVLQKADIICAEDTRVTAQLLSAY
                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf75-1          MFQKHLQKASDSVVGGTLYVVATPIGNLADITLRALAVLQKADIICAEDTRVTAQLLSAY
                       10         20         30         40         50         60

                       70         80         90        100        110        120
orf75a.pep       GIQGKLVSVREHNERQMADKIVGYLSDGMVVAQVSDAGTPAVCDPGAKLARRVREVGFKV
                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||
orf75-1          GIQGKLVSVREHNERQMADKIVGYLSDGMVVAQVSDAGTPAVCDPGAKLARRVREAGFKV
                       70         80         90        100        110        120

                      130        140        150        160        170        180
orf75a.pep       VPVVGASAVMAALSVAGVAGSDFYFNGFVPPKSGERRKLFAKWVRVAFPVVMFETPHRIG
                 |||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||:|||:||||||||||
orf75-1          VPVVGASAVMAALSVAGVEGSDFYFNGFVPPKSGERRKLFAKWVRAAFPIVMFETPHRIG
                      130        140        150        160        170        180

                      190        200        210        220        230        240
orf75a.pep m     ATLADMAELFPERRLMLAREITKTFETFLSGTVGEIQTALAADGNQSRGEMVLVLYPAQD
                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||
```

```
orf75-1      ATLADMAELFPERRLMLAREITKTFETFLSGTVGEIQTALSADGNQSRGEMVLVLYPAQD
                    190       200       210       220       230       240

                    250       260       270       280       290
orf75a.pep   EKHEGLSESAQNIMKILTAELPTKQAAELAAKITGEGKKALYDLALSWKNKX
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf75-1      EKHEGLSESAQNIMKILTAELPTKQAAELAAKITGEGKKALYDLALSWKNKX
                    250       260       270       280       290
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF75 shows 93.2% identity over a 292aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF75.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf75.pep    MFVFQTAFXMFQKHLQKASDSVVGGTLYVVATPIGNLADITLRALAVLQKA----AEDTR   56
             | |||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||     |||||
orf75ng      MSVFQTAFFMFQKHLQKASDSVVGGTLYVVATPIGNLADITLRALAVLQKADIICAEDTR   60

orf75.pep    VTAQLLSAYGIQGKLVSVREHNERQMADKIVGYLSDGMVVAQVSDAGTPAVCDPGAKLAR  116
             |||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||::|:||||:||||||||||||||||||||||
orf75ng      VTAQLLSAYGIQGRLVSVREHNERQMADKVIGFLSDGLVVAQVSDAGTPAVCDPGAKLAR  120

orf75.pep    RVREAGFKVVPVVGAXAVMAALSVAGVEGSDFYFNGFVPPKSGERRKLFAKWVRAAFPIV  176
             |||||||||||||||| ||||||||||  |||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|
orf75ng      RVREAGFKVVPVVGASAVMAALSVAGVAESDFYFNGFVPPKSGERRKLFAKWVRAAFPVV  180

orf75.pep    MFETPHRIGAALADMAELFPERRLMLAREITKTFETFLSGTVGEIQTALSADGDQSRGEM  236
             ||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||:||||||
orf75ng      MFETPHRIGATLADMAELFPERRLMLAREITKTFETFLSGTVGEIQTALAADGNQSRGEM  240

orf75.pep    VLVLYPAQDEKHEGLSESAQNIMKILTAELPTKQAAELAAKITGEGKKALYD          288
             |||||||||||||||||||| ||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||
orf75ng      VLVLYPAQDEKHEGLSESAQNAMKILAAELPTKQAAELAAKITGEGKKALYDLALSWKNK  300
```

An ORF75ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 291> was predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 292>:

```
   1  MSVFQTAFFM FQKHLQKASD SVVGGTLYVV ATPIGNLADI TLRALAVLQK
  51  ADIICAEDTR VTAQLLSAYG IQGRLVSVRE HNERQMADKV IGFLSDGLVV
 101  AQVSDAGTPA VCDPGAKLAR RVREAGFKVV PVVGASAVMA ALSVAGVAES
 151  DFYFNGFVPP KSGERRKLFA KWVRAAFPVV MFETPHRIGA TLADMAELFP
 201  ERRLMLAREI TKTFETFLSG TVGEIQTALA ADGNQSRGEM VLVLYPAQDE
 251  KHEGLSESAQ NAMKILAAEL PTKQAAELAA KITGEGKKAL YDLALSWKNK
 301  *
```

After further analysis, the following gonococcal DNA sequence <SEQ ID 293> was identified:

```
   1  ATGTTTCAGA AACACTTGCA GAAAGCCTCC GACAGCGTCG TCGGAGGGAC
  51  ATTATACGTG GTTGCCACGC CCATCGGCAA TTTGGCAGAC ATTACCCTGC
 101  GCGCTTTGGC GGTATTGCAA AAGGCGGACA TCATTTGTGC CGAAGACACG
 151  CGCGTTACTG CGCAGCTTTT GAGCGCGTAC GGCATTCAGG GCAGGTTGGT
 201  CAGTGTGCGC GAACACAACG AGCGGCAGAT GGCGGACAAG GTAATCGGTT
 251  TCCTTTCAGA CGGCCTGGTT GTGGCGCAGG TTTCCGATGC GGGTACGCCG
 301  GCCGTGTGCG ACCCGGGCGC GAAACTCGCC CGCCGCGTGC GCGAAGCAGG
 351  GTTCAAAGTC GTTCCCGTCG TGGGCGCAAG CGCGGTAATG GCGGCGTTGA
 401  GTGTGGCCGG TGTGGCGGAA TCCGATTTTT ATTTCAACGG TTTTGTACCG
 451  CCGAAATCGG GCGAACGTAG GAAATTGTTT GCCAAATGGG TGCGGGCGGC
 501  ATTTCCTGTC GTCATGTTTG AAACGCCGCA CCGAATCGGG GCAACGCTTG
 551  CCGATATGGC GGAATTGTTC CCCGAACGCC GTCTGATGCT GGCGCGCGAA
 601  ATCACGAAAA CGTTTGAAAC GTTCTTAAGC GGCACGGTTG GGGAAATTCA
 651  GACGGCATTG GCGGCGGACG GCAACCAATC GCGCGGCGAG ATGGTGTTGG
 701  TGCTTTATCC GGCGCAGGAT GAAAAACACG AAGGCTTGTC CGAGTCTGCG
 751  CAAAATGCGA TGAAAATCCT TGCGGCCGAG CTGCCGACCA AGCAGGCGGC
 801  GGAGCTTGCC GCCAAGATTA CAGGTGAGGG CAAAAAGGCT TTGTACGATT
 851  TGGCACTGTC GTGGAAAAAC AAATGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 294; ORF75ng-1>:

```
   1  MFQKHLQKAS DSVVGGTLYV VATPIGNLAD ITLRALAVLQ KADIICAEDT
  51  RVTAQLLSAY GIQGRLVSVR EHNERQMADK VIGFLSDGLV VAQVSDAGTP
 101  AVCDPGAKLA RRVREAGFKV VPVVGASAVM AALSVAGVAE SDFYFNGFVP
 151  PKSGERRKLF AKWVRAAFPV VMFETPHRIG ATLADMAELF PERRLMLARE
 201  ITKTFETFLS GTVGEIQTAL AADGNQSRGE MVLVLYPAQD EKHEGLSESA
 251  QNAMKILAAE LPTKQAAELA AKITGEGKKA LYDLALSWKN K*
```

ORF75ng-1 and ORF75-1 show 96.2% identity in 291 aa overlap:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf75-1.pep  MFQKHLQKASDSVVGGTLYVVATPIGNLADITLRALAVLQKADIICAEDTRVTAQLLSAY
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf75ng-1    MFQKHLQKASDSVVGGTLYVVATPIGNLADITLRALAVLQKADIICAEDTRVTAQLLSAY
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf75-1.pep  GIQGKLVSVREHNERQMADKIVGYLSDGMVVAQVSDAGTPAVCDPGAKLARRVREAGFKV
             ||||:|||||||||||||||:|:||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf75ng-1    GIQGRLVSVREHNERQMADKVIGFLSDGLVVAQVSDAGTPAVCDPGAKLARRVREAGFKV
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf75-1.pep  VPVVGASAVMAALSVAGVEGSDFYFNGFVPPKSGERRKLFAKWVRAAFPIVMFETPHRIG
             |||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||
orf75ng-1    VPVVGASAVMAALSVAGVAESDFYFNGFVPPKSGERRKLFAKWVRAAFPVVMFETPHRIG
                   130       140       150       160       170       180

                   190       200       210       220       230       240
orf75-1.pep  ATLADMAELFPERRLMLAREITKTFETFLSGTVGEIQTALSADGNQSRGEMVLVLYPAQD
             |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||
orf75ng-1    ATLADMAELFPERRLMLAREITKTFETFLSGTVGEIQTALAADGNQSRGEMVLVLYPAQD
                   190       200       210       220       230       240

                   250       260       270       280       290
orf75-1.pep  EKHEGLSESAQNIMKILTAELPTKQAAELAAKITGEGKKALYDLALSWKNKX
             |||||||||||| ||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf75ng-1    EKHEGLSESAQNAMKILAAELPTKQAAELAAKITGEGKKALYDLALSWKNKX
                   250       260       270       280       290
```

Furthermore, ORG75ng-1 shows significant homology to a hypothetical *E.coli* protein:

```
sp|P45528|YRAL_ECOLI HYPOTHETICAL 31.3 KD PROTEIN IN AGAI-MTR INTERGENIC REGION
(F286)
>gi|606086 (U18997) ORF_f286 [Escherichia coli]
>gi|1789535 (AE000395) hypothetical 31.3 kD protein in agai-mtr intergenic
region [Escherichia coli] Length = 286
 Score =  218 bits (550), Expect = 3e-56
 Identities = 128/284 (45%), Positives = 171/284 (60%), Gaps = 4/284 (1%)

Query: 4   KHLQKASDSVVGGTLYVVATPIGNLADITLRALAVLQKADIICAEDTRVTAQLLSAYGIQ 63
           K  Q A +S   G LY+V TPIGNLADIT RAL VLQ  D+I AEDTR T  LL  +GI
Sbjct: 2   KQHQSADNSQ--GQLYIVPTPIGNLADITQRALEVLQAVDLIAAEDTRHTGLLLQHFGIN 59

Query: 64  GRLVSVREHNERQMADKVIGFLSDGLVVAQVSDAGTPAVCDPGAKLARRVREAGFKVVPV 123
            RL ++ +HNE+Q A+ ++  L +G  +A VSDAGTP + DPG  L R  REAG +VVP+
Sbjct: 60  ARLFALHDHNEQQKAETLLAKLQEGQNIALVSDAGTPLINDPGYHLVRTCREAGIRVVPL 119

Query: 124 VGASAVMAALSVAGVAESDFYFNGFVPPKSGERRKLFAKWVRAAFPVVMFETPHRIGATL 183
            G  A + ALS AG+    F + GF+P KS  RR              ++ +E+ HR+  +L
Sbjct: 120 PGPCAAITALSAAGLPSDRFCYEGFLPAKSKGRRDALKAIEAEPRTLIFYESTHRLLDSL 179

Query: 184 ADMAELFPERR-LMLAREITKTFETFLSGTVGEIQTALAADGNQSRGEMVLVLYPAQDEK 242
            D+  +  E R ++LARE+TKT+ET     VGE+   +  D N+ +GEMVL++      +
Sbjct: 180 EDIVAVLGESRYVVLARELTKTWETIHGAPVGELLAWVKEDENRRKGEMVLIV-EGHKAQ 238

Query: 243 HEGLSESAQNAMKILAAELPTKQAAELAAKITGEGKKALYDLAL 286
            E L   A   + +L AELP K+AA LAA+I G  K ALY  AL
Sbjct: 239 EEDLPADALRTLALLQAELPLKKAAALAAEIHGVKKNALYKYAL 282
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of a putative transmembrane domain in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 35

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 295>:

```
   1  ATGAAACAGA AAAAAACCGC TGCCGCAGTT ATTGCTGCAA TGTTGGCAGG
  51  TTTTGCGGCA GC.AAAGCAC CCGAAATCGA CCCGGCTTTG ..........
                                      //
 651  .......... ...GAGTTGG TCAGAAACCA GTTGGAGCAG GGTTTGAGAC
 701  AGGAAAAAGC CCGCTTGAAA ATCGATGCCC TTTTGGAAGA AAACGGTGTC
 751  AAACCGTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 296; ORF76>:

```
   1  MKQKKTAAAV IAAMLAGFAA XKAPEIDPAL .......... ..........
                                      //
 201  .......... .......... ELVRNQLEQG LRQEKARLKI DALLEENGVK
 251  P*
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 297>:

```
   1  ATGAAACAGA AAAAAACCGC TGCCGCAGTT ATTGCTGCAA TGTTGGCAGG
  51  TTTTGCGGCA GCCAAAGCAC CCGAAATCGA CCCGGCTTTG GTGGATACGC
 101  TGGTGGCGCA GATCATGCAG CAGGCAGACC GGCATGCGGA GCAGTCCCAA
 151  AAACCGGACG GGCAGGCAAT CCGAAACGAT GCCGTCCGCC GGCTACAAAC
 201  TTTGGAAGTT TTGAAAAACA GGGCATTGAA GGAAGGTTTG GATAAGGATA
 251  AGGATGTCCA AAACCGCTTT AAAATCGCCG AAGCGTCTTT TTATGCCGAG
 301  GAGTACGTCC GTTTTCTGGA ACGTTCGGAA ACGGTTTCCG AAGACGAGCT
 351  GCACAAGTTT TACGAACAGC AAATCCGCAT GATCAAATTG CAGCAGGTCA
 401  GCTTCGCAAC CGAAGAGGAG GCGCGTCAGG CGCAGCAGCT CCTGCTCAAA
 451  GGGCTGTCTT TTGAAGGGCT GATGAAGCGT TATCCGAACG ACGAGCAGGC
 501  TTTTGACGGT TTCATTATGG CGCAGCAGCT TCCCGAGCCG CTGGCTTCGC
 551  AGTTTGCCGC GATGAATCGG GGCGACGTTA CCCGCGATCC GGTCAAATTG
 601  GGCGAACGCT ATTATCTGTT CAAACTCAGC GAGGTCGGGA AAAACCCCGA
 651  CGCGCAGCCT TTCGAGTTGG TCAGAAACCA GTTGGAGCAG GGTTTGAGAC
 701  AGGAAAAAGC CCGCTTGAAA ATCGATGCCC TTTTGGAAGA AAACGGTGTC
 751  AAACCGTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 298; ORF76-1>:

```
   1  MKQKKTAAAV IAAMLAGFAA AKAPEIDPAL VDTLVAQIMQ QADRHAEQSQ
  51  KPDGQAIRND AVRRLQTLEV LKNRALKEGL DKDKDVQNRF KIAEASFYAE
 101  EYVRFLERSE TVSEDELHKF YEQQIRMIKL QQVSFATEEE ARQAQQLLLK
 151  GLSFEGLMKR YPNDEQAFDG FIMAQQLPEP LASQFAAMNR GDVTRDPVKL
 201  GERYYLFKLS EVGKNPDAQP FELVRNQLEQ GLRQEKARLK IDALLEENGV
 251  KP*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF76 shows 96.7% identity over a 30aa overlap and 96.8% identity over a 31aa overlap with an ORF (ORF76a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                  10        20        30
orf76.pep     MKQKKTAAAVIAAMLAGFAAXKAPEIDPAL
              ||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||
orf76a        MKQKKTAAAVIAAMLAGFAAAKAPEIDPALVDTLVAQIMQQADRHAEQSQKPDGQAIRND
                  10        20        30        40        50        60
                        //
                                                  70        80        90
```

```
orf76.pep                                          XELVRNQLEQGLRQEKARLKIDALLEENGVKPX
                                                   ||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||
orf76a          DVTRDPVKLGERYYLFKLSEVGKNPDAQPFELVRNQLEQGLRQEKARLKIDAILEENGVKPX
                      200       210       220       230       240       250
```

The complete length ORF76a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 299> is:

```
     1  ATGAAACAGA AAAAAACCGC TGCCGCAGTT ATTGCTGCAA TGTTGGCAGG
    51  TTTTGCGGCA GCCAAAGCAC CCGAAATCGA CCCGGCTTTG GTGGATACGC
   101  TGGTGGCGCA GATCATGCAG CAGGCAGACC GGCATGCGGA GCAGTCCCAA
   151  AAACCGGACG GGCAGGCAAT CCGAAACGAT GCCGTCCGTC GGCTGCAAAC
   201  TTTGGAAGTT TTGAAAAACA GGGCATTGAA GGAAGGTTTG GATAAGGATA
   251  AGGATGTCCA AAACCGCTTT AAAATCGCCG AAGCGTCTTT TTATGCCGAG
   301  GAGTACGTCC GTTTTCTGGA ACGTTCGGAA ACGGTTTCCG AAAGCGCACT
   351  GCGTCAGTTT TATGAGCGGC AAATCCGCAT GATCAAATTG CAGCAGGTCA
   401  GCTTCGCAAC CGAAGAGGAG GCGCGTCAGG CGCAGCAGCT CCTGCTCAAA
   451  GGGCTGTCTT TTGAAGGGCT GATGAAGCGT TATCCGAACG ACGAGCAGGC
   501  TTTTGACGGT TTCATTATGG CGCAGCAGCT TCCCGAGCCG CTGGCTTCGC
   551  AGTTTGCAGC GATGAATCGG GGCGACGTTA CCCGCGATCC GGTCAAATTG
   601  GGCGAACGCT ATTATCTGTT CAAACTCAGC GAGGTCGGGA AAAACCCCGA
   651  CGCGCAGCCT TTCGAGTTGG TCAGAAACCA GTTGGAACAA GGTTTGAGAC
   701  AGGAAAAAGC CCGCTTGAAA ATCGATGCCA TTTTGGAAGA AAACGGTGTC
   751  AAACCGTAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 300>:

```
     1  MKQKKTAAAV IAAMLAGFAA AKAPEIDPAL VDTLVAQIMQ QADRHAEQSQ
    51  KPDGQAIRND AVRRLQTLEV LKNRALKEGL DKDKDVQNRF KIAEASFYAE
   101  EYVRFLERSE TVSESALRQF YERQIRMIKL QQVSFATEEE ARQAQQLLLK
   151  GLSFEGLMKR YPNDEQAFDG FIMAQQLPEP LASQFAAMNR GDVTRDPVKL
   201  GERYYLFKLS EVGKNPDAQP FELVRNQLEQ GLRQEKARLK IDAILEENGV
   251  KP*
```

ORF76a and ORF76-1 show 97.6% identity in 252 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf76a.pep      MKQKKTAAAVIAAMLAGFAAAKAPEIDPALVDTLVAQIMQQADRHAEQSQKPDGQAIRND
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf76-1         MKQKKTAAAVIAAMLAGFAAAKAPEIDPALVDTLVAQIMQQADRHAEQSQKPDGQAIRND
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf76a.pep      AVRRLQTLEVLKNRALKEGLDKDKDVQNRFKIAEASFYAEEYVRFLERSETVSESALRQF
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||: |::|
orf76-1         AVRRLQTLEVLKNRALKEGLDKDKDVQNRFKIAEASFYAEEYVRFLERSETVSEDELHKF
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf76a.pep      YERQIRMIKLQQVSFATEEEARQAQQLLLKGLSFEGLMKRYPNDEQAFDGFIMAQQLPEP
                ||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf76-1         YEQQIRMIKLQQVSFATEEEARQAQQLLLKGLSFEGLMKRYPNDEQAFDGFIMAQQLPEP
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf76a.pep      LASQFAAMNRGDVTRDPVKLGERYYLFKLSEVGKNPDAQPFELVRNQLEQGLRQEKARLK
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf76-1         LASQFAAMNRGDVTRDPVKLGERYYLFKLSEVGKNPDAQPFELVRNQLEQGLRQEKARLK
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250
orf76a.pep      IDAILEENGVKPX
                |||:||||||||||
orf76-1         IDALLEENGVKPX
                250
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

The aligned aa sequences of ORF76 and a predicted ORF (ORF76.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae* of the N- and C-termini show 96.7 % and 100% identity in 30 and 31 overlap, respectively:

```
orf76.pep    MKQKKTAAAVIAAMLAGFAAXKAPEIDPAL                                  30
             ||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||
orf76ng      MKQKKTAAAVIAAMLAGFAAAKAPEIDPALVDTLVAQIMQQADRHAEQSQRPDGQAIRND   60
                                       //
orf76.pep                                    ELVRNQLEQGLRQEKARLKIDALLEENGVKP  251
                                             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf76ng      VTRNPVKLGERYYLFKLGAVGKNPDAQPFELVRNQLEQGLRQEKARLKIDALLEENGVKP  251
```

The complete length ORF76ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 301> is:

```
   1  ATGAAACAGA AAAAGACCGC TGCCGCAGTT ATTGCTGCAA TGTTGGCAGG
  51  TTTTGCGGCA GCCAAAGCAC CCGAAATCGA CCCGGCTTTG GTGGATACGC
 101  TGGTGGCGCA GATCATGCAG CAGGCAGACC GGCATGCGGA GCAGTCCCAA
 151  AGACCGGACG GGCAGGCAAT CCGAAACGAT GCCGTCCGCC GGCTGCAAAC
 201  TTTGGAAGTT TTGAAAAACA GGGCATTGAA GGAAGGTTTG GATAAGGATA
 251  AGGATGTCCA AAACCGCTTT AAAATCGCCG AAGCGTCTTT TTATGCCGAG
 301  GAGTACGTCC GTTTTCTGGA ACGTTCGGAA ACGGTTTCCG AAAGCGCACT
 351  GCGTCAGTTT TATGAGCGGC AAATCCGCAT GATCAAATTG CAGCAGGTCA
 401  GCTTCGCAAC CGAAGAGGAG GCGCGTCAGG CGCAGCAGCT CCTGCTCAAA
 451  GGGCTGTCTT TTGAAGGGCT GATGAAGCGT TATCCGAACG ACGAGCAGGC
 501  GTTCGACGGT TTCATTATGG CGCAGCAGCT TCCCGAGCCG CTGGCTTcgc
 551  agtttgCCGG TATGAACCGT GGCGACGTTA CCCGCAATCC GGTCAAATTG
 601  GGCGAACGCT ATTACCTGTT CAAACTCGGC GCGGTCGGGA AAAACCCCGA
 651  CGCGCAGCCT TTCGAGTTGG TCAGAAACCA GTTGGAACAA GGTTTGAGGC
 701  AGGAAAAAGC CCGCTTGAAA ATCGATGCCC TTTTGGAaga Aaacggtgtc
 751  AaacCGTAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 302>:

```
   1  MKQKKTAAAV IAAMLAGFAA AKAPEIDPAL VDTLVAQIMQ QADRHAEQSQ
  51  RPDGQAIRND AVRRLQTLEV LKNRALKEGL DKDKDVQNRF KIAEASFYAE
 101  EYVRFLERSE TVSESALRQF YERQIRMIKL QQVSFATEEE ARQAQQLLLK
 151  GLSFEGLMKR YPNDEQAFDG FIMAQQLPEP LASQFAGMNR GDVTRNPVKL
 201  GERYYLFKLG AVGKNPDAQP FELVRNQLEQ GLRQEKARLK IDALLEENGV
 251  KP*
```

ORF76ng and ORF76-1 show 96.0% identity in 252 aa overlap

```
                      10        20        30        40        50        60
orf76-1.pep  MKQKKTAAAVIAAMLAGFAAAKAPEIDPALVDTLVAQIMQQADRHAEQSQKPDGQAIRND
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||
orf76ng      MKQKKTAAAVIAAMLAGFAAAKAPEIDPALVDTLVAQIMQQADRHAEQSQRPDGQAIRND
                      10        20        30        40        50        60

                      70        80        90       100       110       120
orf76-1.pep  AVRRLQTLEVLKNRALKEGLDKDKDVQNRFKIAEASFYAEEYVRFLERSETVSEDELHKF
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||: |::|
orf76ng      AVRRLQTLEVLKNRALKEGLDKDKDVQNRFKIAEASFYAEEYVRFLERSETVSESALRQF
                      70        80        90       100       110       120

                     130       140       150       160       170       180
orf76-1.pep  YEQQIRMIKLQQVSFATEEEARQAQQLLLKGLSFEGLMKRYPNDEQAFDGFIMAQQLPEP
             ||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf76ng      YERQIRMIKLQQVSFATEEEARQAQQLLLKGLSFEGLMKRYPNDEQAFDGFIMAQQLPEP
                     130       140       150       160       170       180

                     190       200       210       220       230       240
orf76-1.pep  LASQFAAMNRGDVTRDPVKLGERYYLFKLSEVGKNPDAQPFELVRNQLEQGLRQEKARLK
             ||||||:||||||||:||||||||||||: ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf76ng      LASQFAGMNRGDVTRNPVKLGERYYLFKLGAVGKNPDAQPFELVRNQLEQGLRQEKARLK
                     190       200       210       220       230       240

                     250
orf76-1.pep  IDALLEENGVKPX
             |||||||||||||
orf76ng      IDALLEENGVKPX
                     250
```

Furthermore, ORF76ng shows significant homology to a *B.subtilis* export protein precursor:

```
sp|P24327|PRSA_BACSU PROTEIN EXPORT PROTEIN PRSA PRECURSOR >gi|98227|pir||S15269
33K lipoprotein - Bacillus subtilis >gi|39782 (X57271) 33kDa lipoprotein
[Bacillus subtilis]
>gi|2226124|gnl|PID|e325181 (Y14077) 33kDa lipoprotein [Bacillus subtilis]
>gi|2633331|gnl|PID|e1182997 (Z99109) molecular chaperonin [Bacillus subtilis]
Length = 292
 Score = 50.4 bits (118), Expect = 1e-05
 Identities = 48/199 (24%), Positives = 82/199 (41%), Gaps = 32/199 (16%)

Query: 70  VLKNRALKEGLDK-----DKDVQNRFKIAEASF----------YAEEYVRFLERSETVSE 114
           VL     ++ LDK     DK++ N+ K  +             Y ++Y++    + E +++
Sbjct: 53  VLTQLVQEKVLDKKYKVSDKEIDNKLKEYKTQLGDQYTALEKQYGKDYLKEQVKYELLTQ 112

Query: 115 SA----------LRQFYERQIRMIKLQQVSFATEEEARQAQQLLLKGLSFEGLMKRYPN 163
            A           +++++E     I+   +  A ++ A + ++ L KG  FE L K Y
Sbjct: 113 KAAKDNIKVTDADIKEYWEGLKGKIRASHILVADKKTAEEVEKKLKKGEKFEDLAKEYST 172

Query: 164 DEQAFDG-----FIMAQQLPEPLASQFAAMNRGDVTRDPVKLGERYYLFKLSEVGKNPDA 218
           D  A  G     F    Q+ E  +     +  G+V+ DPVK    Y++ K +E     D
Sbjct: 173 DSSASKGGDLGWFAKEGQMDETFSKAAFKLKTGEVS-DPVKTQYGYHIIKKTEERGKYDD 231

Query: 219 QPFELVRNQLEQGLRQEKA 237
              EL    LEQ L    A
Sbjct: 232 MKKELKSEVLEQKLNDNAA 250
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of a putative leader sequence and a RGD motif in the gonococcal protein, it was predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

ORF76-1 (27.8kDa) was cloned in the pET vector and expressed in *E.coli*, as described above. The products of protein expression and purification were analyzed by SDS-PAGE. Figure 10A shows the results of affinity purification of the His-fusion protein, Purified His-fusion protein was used to immunise mice, whose sera were used for Western blot (Figure 10B), ELISA (positive result), and FACS analysis (Figure 10C). These experiments confirm that ORF76-1 is a surface-exposed protein, and that it is a useful immunogen.

Example 36

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 303>:

```
   1  ATGAAAAAAT CTTTCCTTAC GCTTGTTCTG TATTCGTCTT TACTTACCGC
  51  CAGCGAAATT GCCTTACCCC TTGGAATTGG GGATTGAAAC CTTACCGGCG
 101  GCAAAAATTG CGGAAACGTT TGCGCTGACA TTTGTGATTG CTGCGCTGTA
 151  TCTGTTTGCG CGTAATAAGG TGACGCGTTT GTTGATTGCG GTGTTTTTTG
 201  CGTTCAGCAT TATTGCCAAC AATGTGCATT ACGCGGATTA TCAAAGCTGG
 251  ATGACG.... .......... .......... .......... ..........
                           //
1201  .......... CAAACCGTAT TCGAGCAGCT GCAAAAGACT CCTGACGGCA
1251  ACTGGCTGTT TGCCTATACC TCCGATCATG GCCAGTATGT TCGCCAAGAT
1301  ATCTACAATC AAGGCACGGT GCAGCCCGAC AGCTATCTCG TGCCGCTAGT
1351  GTTGTACAGC CCGGATAAGG CCGTGCAACA GGCTGCCAAC CAGGCTTTTG
1401  CGCCTTGCGA GATTGCCTTC CATCAGCAGC TTTCAACGTT CCTGATTCAC
1451  ACGTTGGGCT ACGATATGCC GGTTTCAGGT TGTCGCGAAG GCTCGGTAAC
1501  GGGCAACCTG ATTACGGGTG ATGCAGGCAG CTTGAACATT CGCGACGGCA
1551  AGGCGGAATA TGTTTATCCG CAATGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 304; ORF81>:

```
   1  MKKSFLTLVL YSSLLTASEI AYPLELGIET LPAAKIAETF ALTFVIAALY
```

```
  51  LFARNKVTRL LIAVFFAFSI IANNVHYADY QSWMT..... ..........
                                 //
 401  ...QTVFEQL QKTPDGNWLF AYTSDHGQYV RQDIYNQGTV QPDSYLVPLV
 451  LYSPDKAVQQ AANQAFAPCE IAFHQQLSTF LIHTLGYDMP VSGCREGSVT
 501  GNLITGDAGS LNIRDGKAEY VYPQ*
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 305>:

```
   1  ATGAAAAAAT CTTTCCTTAC GCTTGTTCTG TATTCGTCTT TACTTACCGC
  51  CAGCGAAATT GCCTATCGCT TTGTATTTGG GATTGAAACC TTACCGGCGG
 101  CAAAAATTGC GGAAACGTTT GCGCTGACAT TTGTGATTGC TGCGCTGTAT
 151  CTGTTTGCGC GTTATAAGGT GACGCGTTTG TTGATTGCGG TGTTTTTTGC
 201  GTTCAGCATT ATTGCCAACA ATGTGCATTA CGCGGTTTAT CAAAGCTGGA
 251  TGACGGGCAT CAATTATTGG CTGATGCTGA AAGAGGTTAC CGAAGTCGGC
 301  AGCGCGGGTG CGTCGATGTT GGATAAGTTG TGGCTGCCTG TGTTGTGGGG
 351  CGTGTTGGAA GTCATGTTGT TTTGCAGCCT TGCCAAGTTC CGCCGTAAGA
 401  CGCATTTTTC TGCCGATATA CTGTTTGCCT TCCTAATGCT GATGATTTTC
 451  GTGCGTTCGT TCGACACGAA ACAAGAGCAC GGTATTTCGC CCAAACCGAC
 501  ATACAGCCGC ATCAAAGCCA ATTATTTCAG CTTCGGTTAT TTTGTCGGAC
 551  GCGTGTTGCC GTATCAGTTG TTTGATTTAA GCAGGATTCC CGCCTTTAAG
 601  CAGCCTGCTC CAAGCAAAAT CGGGCAGGGC AGTGTTCAAA ATATCGTCCT
 651  GATTATGGGC GAAAGCGAAA GCGCGGCGCA TTTGAAGCTG TTTGGCTACG
 701  GACGCGAAAC TTCGCCGTTT TTAACCCGGC TGTCGCAAGC CGATTTTAAG
 751  CCGATTGTGA AACAAAGTTA TTCCGCAGGC TTTATGACTG CAGTGTCCCT
 801  GCCCAGTTTT TTCAATGCGA TACCGCACGC CAACGGCTTG GAACAAATCA
 851  GCGGCGGCGA TACCAATATG TTCCGCCTCG CCAAAGAGCA GGGCTATGAA
 901  ACGTATTTTT ACAGCGCGCA GGCGGAAAAC GAGATGGCGA TTTTGAACTT
 951  AATCGGTAAG AAATGGATAG ACCATCTGAT TCAGCCGACG CAACTTGGCT
1001  ACGGCAACGG CGACAATATG CCCGATGAGA AGCTGCTGCC GTTGTTCGAC
1051  AAAATCAATT TGCAGCAGGG CAAGCATTTT ATCGTGTTGC ACCAACGCGG
1101  TTCGCACGCC CCATACGGCG CATTGTTGCA GCCTCAAGAT AAAGTATTCG
1151  GCGAAGCCGA TATTGTGGAT AAGTACGACA ACACCATCCA CAAAACCGAC
1201  CAAATGATTC AAACCGTATT CGAGCAGCTG CAAAAGCAGC CTGACGGCAA
1251  CTGGCTGTTT GCCTATACCT CCGATCATGG CCAGTATGTT CGCCAAGATA
1301  TCTACAATCA AGGCACGGTG CAGCCCGACA GCTATCTCGT GCCGCTAGTG
1351  TTGTACAGCC CGGATAAGGC CGTGCAACAG GCTGCCAACC AGGCTTTTGC
1401  GCCTTGCGAG ATTGCCTTCC ATCAGCAGCT TTCAACGTTC CTGATTCACA
1451  CGTTGGGCTA CGATATGCCG GTTTCAGGTT GTCGCGAAGG CTCGGTAACG
1501  GGCAACCTGA TTACGGGTGA TGCAGGCAGC TTGAACATTC GCGACGGCAA
1551  GGCGGAATAT GTTTATCCGC AATGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 306; ORF81-1>:

```
   1  MKKSFLTLVL YSSLLTASEI AYRFVFGIET LPAAKIAETF ALTFVIAALY
  51  LFARYKVTRL LIAVFFAFSI IANNVHYAVY QSWMTGINYW LMLKEVTEVG
 101  SAGASMLDKL WLPVLWGVLE VMLFCSLAKF RRKTHFSADI LFAFLMLMIF
 151  VRSFDTKQEH GISPKPTYSR IKANYFSFGY FVGRVLPYQL FDLSRIPAFK
 201  QPAPSKIGQG SVQNIVLIMG ESESAAHLKL FGYGRETSPF LTRLSQADFK
 251  PIVKQSYSAG FMTAVSLPSF FNAIPHANGL EQISGGDTNM FRLAKEQGYE
 301  TYFYSAQAEN EMAILNLIGK KWIDHLIQPT QLGYGNGDNM PDEKLLPLFD
 351  KINLQQGKHF IVLHQRGSHA PYGALLQPQD KVFGEADIVD KYDNTIHKTD
 401  QMIQTVFEQL QKQPDGNWLF AYTSDHGQYV RQDIYNQGTV QPDSYLVPLV
 451  LYSPDKAVQQ AANQAFAPCE IAFHQQLSTF LIHTLGYDMP VSGCREGSVT
 501  GNLITGDAGS LNIRDGKAEY VYPQ*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF81 shows 84.7% identity over a 85aa overlap and 99.2% identity over a 121aa overlap with an ORF (ORF81a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf81.pep   MKKSFLTLVLYSSLLTASEIAYPLELGIETLPAAKIAETFALTFVIAALYLFARNKVTRL
            ||||:::| ||||||||||||| : :|||||||||:|||||||||||||||||| |:|||
orf81a      MKKSLFVLFLYSSLLTASEIAYRFVFGIETLPAAKMAETFALTFVIAALYLFARYKATRL
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80
```

```
orf81.pep    LIAVFFAFSIIANNVHYADYQSWMT
             ||||||||||||||||||| ||||:|
orf81a       LIAVFFAFSIIANNVHYAVYQSWITGINYWLMLKEITEVGGAGASMLDKLWLPALWGVLE
                    70        80        90        100       110       120
                              //
                                                  120       130       140
orf81.pep                                        QTVFEQLQKTPDGNWLFAYTSDHGQYVRQD
                                                 ||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||
orf81a       IPHANGLEQISGGDIVDKYDNTIHKTDQMIQTVFEQLQKQPDGNWLFAYTSDHGQYVRQD
                280       290       300       310       320       330

                   150       160       170       180       190       200
orf81.pep    IYNQGTVQPDSYLVPLVLYSPDKAVQQAANQAFAPCEIAFHQQLSTFLIHTLGYDMPVSG
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf81a       IYNQGTVQPDSYLVPLVLYSPDKAVQQAANQAFAPCEIAFHQQLSTFLIHTLGYDMPVSG
                340       350       360       370       380       390

                   210       220       230
orf81.pep    CREGSVTGNLITGDAGSLNIRDGKAEYVYPQX
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf81a       CREGSVTGNLITGDAGSLNIRDGKAEYVYPQX
                400       410       420
```

The complete length ORF81a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 307> is:

```
   1  ATGAAAAAAT CCCTTTTCGT TCTCTTTCTG TATTCGTCCC TACTTACTGC
  51  CAGCGAAATT GCTTATCGCT TTGTATTCGG AATTGAAACC TTACCGGCTG
 101  CAAAAATGGC AGAAACGTTT GCGCTGACAT TTGTGATTGC TGCGCTGTAT
 151  CTGTTTGCGC GTTATAAGGC AACGCGTTTG TTGATTGCGG TGTTTTTCGC
 201  GTTCAGCATT ATTGCCAACA ATGTGCATTA CGCGGTTTAT CAAAGCTGGA
 251  TAACGGGCAT TAATTATTGG CTGATGCTGA AAGAGATTAC CGAAGTTGGC
 301  GGCGCAGGGG CGTCGATGTT GGATAAGTTG TGGCTGCCTG CGTTGTGGGG
 351  CGTGTTGGAA GTCATGTTGT TTTGCAGCCT TGCCAAGTTC CGCCGTAAGA
 401  CGCATTTTTC TGCCGATATA CTGTTTGCCT TCCTAATGCT GATGATTTTC
 451  GTGCGTTCGT TCGACACGAA ACAAGAACAC GGTATTTCGC CCAAACCGAC
 501  ATACAGCCGC ATCAAAGCCA ATTATTTCAG CTTCGGTTAT TTTGTCGGAC
 551  GCGTGTTGCC GTATCAGTTG TTTGATTTAA GCAAGATTCC TGTGTTCAAA
 601  CAGCCTGCTC CAAGCAGAAT CGGGCAAGGC AGTATTCAAA ATATCGTCCT
 651  GATTATGGGC GAAAGCGAAA GCGCGGCGCA TTTGAAATTG TTTGGCTACG
 701  GGCGCGAAAC TTCGCCGTTT TTGACCCAGC TTTCGCAAGC CGATTTTAAG
 751  CCGATTGTGA AACAAAGTTA TTCCGCAGGC TTTATGACGG CAGTATCCCT
 801  GCCCAGTTTC TTTAACGTCA TACCGCATGC CAACGGCTTG GAACAAATCA
 851  GCGGCGGCGA TATTGTGGAT AAGTACGACA ACACCATCCA CAAAACCGAC
 901  CAAATGATTC AAACCGTATT CGAGCAGCTG CAAAAGCAGC CTGACGGCAA
 951  CTGGCTGTTT GCCTATACCT CCGATCATGG CCAGTATGTT CGCCAAGATA
1001  TCTACAATCA AGGCACGGTG CAGCCCGACA GCTATCTCGT GCCGCTGGTG
1051  TTGTACAGCC CGGATAAGGC CGTGCAACAG GCTGCCAACC AGGCTTTTGC
1101  GCCTTGCGAG ATTGCCTTCC ATCAGCAGCT TTCAACGTTC CTGATTCACA
1151  CGTTGGGCTA CGATATGCCG GTTTCAGGTT GTCGCGAAGG CTCGGTAACG
1201  GGCAACCTGA TTACGGGTGA TGCAGGCAGC TTGAACATTC GCGACGGCAA
1251  GGCGGAATAT GTTTATCCGC AATGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 308>:

```
   1  MKKSLFVLFL YSSLLTASEI AYRFVFGIET LPAAKMAETF ALTFVIAALY
  51  LFARYKATRL LIAVFFAFSI IANNVHYAVY QSWITGINYW LMLKEITEVG
 101  GAGASMLDKL WLPALWGVLE VMLFCSLAKF RRKTHFSADI LFAFLMLMIF
 151  VRSFDTKQEH GISPKPTYSR IKANYFSFGY FVGRVLPYQL FDLSKIPVFK
 201  QPAPSRIGQG SIQNIVLIMG ESESAAHLKL FGYGRETSPF LTQLSQADFK
 251  PIVKQSYSAG FMTAVSLPSF FNVIPHANGL EQISGGDIVD KYDNTIHKTD
 301  QMIQTVFEQL QKQPDGNWLF AYTSDHGQYV RQDIYNQGTV QPDSYLVPLV
 351  LYSPDKAVQQ AANQAFAPCE IAFHQQLSTF LIHTLGYDMP VSGCREGSVT
 401  GNLITGDAGS LNIRDGKAEY VYPQ*
```

ORF81a and ORF81-1 show 77.9% identity in 524 aa overlap:

```
                   10        20        30        40        50        60
orf81a.pep   MKKSLFVLFLYSSLLTASEIAYRFVFGIETLPAAKMAETFALTFVIAALYLFARYKATRL
             ||||:::| ||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||:|||
orf81-1      MKKSFLTLVLYSSLLTASEIAYRFVFGIETLPAAKIAETFALTFVIAALYLFARYKVTRL
                   10        20        30        40        50        60
```

```
                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf81a.pep   LIAVFFAFSIIANNVHYAVYQSWITGINYWLMLKEITEVGGAGASMLDKLWLPALWGVLE
             ||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||:||||:||||||||||||:||||||
orf81-1      LIAVFFAFSIIANNVHYAVYQSWMTGINYWLMLKEVTEVGSAGASMLDKLWLPVLWGVLE
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf81a.pep   VMLFCSLAKFRRKTHFSADILFAFLMLMIFVRSFDTKQEHGISPKPTYSRIKANYFSFGY
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf81-1      VMLFCSLAKFRRKTHFSADILFAFLMLMIFVRSFDTKQEHGISPKPTYSRIKANYFSFGY
                   130       140       150       160       170       180

                   190       200       210       220       230       240
orf81a.pep   FVGRVLPYQLFDLSKIPVFKQPAPSRIGQGSIQNIVLIMGESESAAHLKLFGYGRETSPF
             ||||||||||||||:||:|||||||:|||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf81-1      FVGRVLPYQLFDLSRIPAFKQPAPSKIGQGSVQNIVLIMGESESAAHLKLFGYGRETSPF
                   190       200       210       220       230       240

                   250       260       270       280
orf81a.pep   LTQLSQADFKPIVKQSYSAGFMTAVSLPSFFNVIPHANGLEQISGGD----------
             ||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||
orf81-1      LTRLSQADFKPIVKQSYSAGFMTAVSLPSFFNAIPHANGLEQISGGDTNMFRLAKEQGYE
                   250       260       270       280       290       300

orf81a.pep   ------------------------------------------------------------

orf81-1      TYFYSAQAENEMAILNLIGKKWIDHLIQPTQLGYGNGDNMPDEKLLPLFDKINLQQGKHF
                   310       320       330       340       350       360

                                       290       300       310       320
orf81a.pep   --------------------------IVDKYDNTIHKTDQMIQTVFEQLQKQPDGNWLF
                                         ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf81-1      IVLHQRGSHAPYGALLQPQDKVFGEADIVDKYDNTIHKTDQMIQTVFEQLQKQPDGNWLF
                   370       380       390       400       410       420

                   330       340       350       360       370       380
orf81a.pep   AYTSDHGQYVRQDIYNQGTVQPDSYLVPLVLYSPDKAVQQAANQAFAPCEIAFHQQLSTF
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf81-1      AYTSDHGQYVRQDIYNQGTVQPDSYLVPLVLYSPDKAVQQAANQAFAPCEIAFHQQLSTF
                   430       440       450       460       470       480

                   390       400       410       420
orf81a.pep   LIHTLGYDMPVSGCREGSVTGNLITGDAGSLNIRDGKAEYVYPQX
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf81-1      LIHTLGYDMPVSGCREGSVTGNLITGDAGSLNIRDGKAEYVYPQX
                   490       500       510       520
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

The aligned aa sequences of ORF81 and a predicted ORF (ORF81.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae* of the N- and C-termini show 82.4 % and 97.5% identity in 85 and 121 overlap, respectively:

```
orf81.pep    MKKSFLTLVLYSSLLTASEIAYPLELGIETLPAAKIAETFALTFVIAALYLFARNKVTRL   60
             ||||:::| |||||||||||||| : :|||||||||:||||||||:||||||||| |::||
orf81ng      MKKSLFVLFLYSSLLTASEIAYRFVFGIETLPAAKMAETFALTFMIAALYLFARYKASRL   60

orf81.pep    LIAVFFAFSIIANNVHYADYQSWMT                                      85
             |||||||||:|||||||| ||||||
orf81ng      LIAVFFAFSMIANNVHYAVYQSWMTGINYWLMLKEVTEVGSAGASMLDKLWLPALWGVAE  120
                                    //
orf81.pep                                    QTVFEQLQKTPDGNWLFAYTSDHGQYVRQD  433
                                             |||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||
orf81ng      ALLQPQDKVFGEADIVDKYDNTIHKTDQMIQTVFEQLQKQPDGNWLFAYTSDHGQYVRQD  433

orf81.pep    IYNQGTVQPDSYLVPLVLYSPDKAVQQAANQAFAPCEIAFHQQLSTFLIHTLGYDMPVSG  493
             ||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf81ng      IYNQGTVQPDSYIVPLVLYSPDKAVQQAANQAFAPCEIAFHQQLSTFLIHTLGYDMPVSG  493
```

```
orf81.pep     CREGSVTGNLITGDAGSLNIRDGKAEYVYPQ  524
              ||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||
orf81ng       CREGSVTGNLITGDAGSLNIRNGKAEYVYPQ  524
```

The complete length ORF81ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 309> is:

```
    1 ATGAAAAAAT CCCTTTTCGT TCTCTTTCTG TATTCATCCC TACTTACCGC
   51 CAGCGAAATC GCCTATCGCT TTGTATTCGG AATTGAAACC TTACCGGCTG
  101 CAAAAATGGC GGAAACGTTT GCGCTGACAT TTATGATTGC TGCGCTGTAT
  151 CTGTTTGCGC GTTATAAGGC TTCGCGGCTG CTGATTGCGG TGTTTTTCGC
  201 GTTCAGCATG ATTGCCAACA ATGTGCATTA CGCGGTTTAT CAAAGCTGGA
  251 TGACGGGTAT TAACTATTGG CTGATGCTGA AAGAGGTTAC CGAAGTCGGC
  301 AGCGCGGGCG CGTCGATGTT GGATAAGTTG TGGCTGCCTG CTTTGTGGGG
  351 CGTGGCGGAA GTCATGTTGT TTTGCAGCCT TGCCAAGTTC CGCCGTAAGA
  401 CGCATTTTTC TGCCGATATA CTGTTTGCCT TCCTAATGCT GATGATTTTC
  451 GTGCGTTCGT TCGACACGAA ACAAGAGCAC GGTATTTCGC CCAAACCGAC
  501 ATACAGCCGC ATCAAAGCCA ATTATTTCAG CTTCGGTTAT TTTGTCGGGC
  551 GCGTGTTGCC GTATCAGTTG TTTGATTTAA GCAAGATCCC TGTGTTCAAA
  601 CAGCCTGCTC CAAGCAAAAT CGGGCAAGGC AGTATTCAAA ATATCGTCCT
  651 GATTATGGGC GAAAGCGAAA GCGCGGCGCA TTTGAAATTG TTTGGTTACG
  701 GGCGCGAAAC TTCGCCGTTT TTAACCCGGC TGTCGCAAGC CGATTTTAAG
  751 CCGATTGTGA AACAAAGTTA TTCCGCAGGC TTTATGACGG CAGTATCCCT
  801 GCCCAGTTTC TTTAACGTCA TACCGCACGC CAACGGCTTG GAACAAATCA
  851 GCGGCGGCGA TACCAATATG TTCCGCCTCG CCAAAGAGCA GGGCTATGAA
  901 ACGTATTTTT ACAGTGCCCA GGCTGAAAAC CAAATGGCAA TTTTGAACTT
  951 AATCGGTAAG AAATGGATAG ACCATCTGAT TCAGCCGACG CAACTTGGCT
 1001 ACGGCAACGG CGACAATATG CCCGATGAGA AGCTGCTGCC GTTGTTCGAC
 1051 AAAATCAATT TGCAGCAGGG CAGGCATTTT ATCGTGTTGC ACCAACGCGG
 1101 TTCGCACGCC CCATACGGCG CATTGTTGCA GCCTCAAGAT AAAGTATTCG
 1151 GCGAAGCCGA TATTGTGGAT AAGTACGACA ACACCATCCA CAAAACCGAC
 1201 CAAATGATTC AAACCGTATT CGAGCAGCTG CAAAAGCAGC CTGACGGCAA
 1251 CTGGCTGTTT GCCTATACCT CCGATCATGG CCAGTATGTG CGCCAAGATA
 1301 TCTACAATCA AGGCACGGTG CAGCCCGACA GCTATATTGT GCCTCTGGTT
 1351 TTGTACAGCC CGGATAAGGC CGTGCAACAG GCTGCCAACC AGGCTTTTGC
 1401 GCCTTGCGAG ATTGCCTTCC ATCAGCAGCT TTCAACGTTC CTGATTCACA
 1451 CGTTGGGCTA CGATATGCCG GTTTCAGGTT GTCGCGAAGG CTCGGTAACA
 1501 GGCAACCTGA TTACGGGCGA TGCAGGCAGC TTGAACATTC GCAACGGCAA
 1551 GGCGGAATAT GTTTATCCGC AATAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 310>:

```
   1 MKKSLFVLFL YSSLLTASEI AYRFVFGIET LPAAKMAETF ALTFMIAALY
  51 LFARYKASRL LIAVFFAFSM IANNVHYAVY QSWMTGINYW LMLKEVTEVG
 101 SAGASMLDKL WLPALWGVAE VMLFCSLAKF RRKTHFSADI LFAFLMLMIF
 151 VRSFDTKQEH GISPKPTYSR IKANYFSFGY FVGRVLPYQL FDLSKIPVFK
 201 QPAPSKIGQG SIQNIVLIMG ESESAAHLKL FGYGRETSPF LTRLSQADFK
 251 PIVKQSYSAG FMTAVSLPSF FNVIPHANGL EQISGGDTNM FRLAKEQGYE
 301 TYFYSAQAEN QMAILNLIGK KWIDHLIQPT QLGYGNGDNM PDEKLLPLFD
 351 KINLQQGRHF IVLHQRGSHA PYGALLQPQD KVFGEADIVD KYDNTIHKTD
 401 QMIQTVFEQL QKQPDGNWLF AYTSDHGQYV RQDIYNQGTV QPDSYIVPLV
 451 LYSPDKAVQQ AANQAFAPCE IAFHQQLSTF LIHTLGYDMP VSGCREGSVT
 501 GNLITGDAGS LNIRNGKAEY VYPQ*
```

ORF81ng and ORF81-1 show 96.4% identity in 524 aa overlap:

```
                        10        20        30        40        50        60
orf81ng-1.pep  MKKSLFVLFLYSSLLTASEIAYRFVFGIETLPAAKMAETFALTFMIAALYLFARYKASRL
               ||||:::| ||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||:||||||||||::||
orf81-1        MKKSFLTLVLYSSLLTASEIAYRFVFGIETLPAAKIAETFALTFVIAALYLFARYKVTRL
                        10        20        30        40        50        60

                        70        80        90       100       110       120
orf81ng-1.pep  LIAVFFAFSMIANNVHYAVYQSWMTGINYWLMLKEVTEVGSAGASMLDKLWLPALWGVAE
               |||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||| |
orf81-1        LIAVFFAFSIIANNVHYAVYQSWMTGINYWLMLKEVTEVGSAGASMLDKLWLPVLWGVLE
                        70        80        90       100       110       120

                       130       140       150       160       170       180
orf81ng-1.pep  VMLFCSLAKFRRKTHFSADILFAFLMLMIFVRSFDTKQEHGISPKPTYSRIKANYFSFGY
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf81-1        VMLFCSLAKFRRKTHFSADILFAFLMLMIFVRSFDTKQEHGISPKPTYSRIKANYFSFGY
```

```
                    130       140       150       160       170       180

                    190       200       210       220       230       240
orf81ng-1.pep       FVGRVLPYQLFDLSKIPVFKQPAPSKIGQGSIQNIVLIMGESESAAHLKLFGYGRETSPF
                    ||||||||||||||:||:||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf81-1             FVGRVLPYQLFDLSRIPAFKQPAPSKIGQGSVQNIVLIMGESESAAHLKLFGYGRETSPF
                    190       200       210       220       230       240

                    250       260       270       280       290       300
orf81ng-1.pep       LTRLSQADFKPIVKQSYSAGFMTAVSLPSFFNVIPHANGLEQISGGDTNMFRLAKEQGYE
                    ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf81-1             LTRLSQADFKPIVKQSYSAGFMTAVSLPSFFNAIPHANGLEQISGGDTNMFRLAKEQGYE
                    250       260       270       280       290       300

                    310       320       330       340       350       360
orf81ng-1.pep       TYFYSAQAENQMAILNLIGKKWIDHLIQPTQLGYGNGDNMPDEKLLPLFDKINLQQGRHF
                    |||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||
orf81-1             TYFYSAQAENEMAILNLIGKKWIDHLIQPTQLGYGNGDNMPDEKLLPLFDKINLQQGKHF
                    310       320       330       340       350       360

                    370       380       390       400       410       420
orf81ng-1.pep       IVLHQRGSHAPYGALLQPQDKVFGEADIVDKYDNTIHKTDQMIQTVFEQLQKQPDGNWLF
                    ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf81-1             IVLHQRGSHAPYGALLQPQDKVFGEADIVDKYDNTIHKTDQMIQTVFEQLQKQPDGNWLF
                    370       380       390       400       410       420

                    430       440       450       460       470       480
orf81ng-1.pep       AYTSDHGQYVRQDIYNQGTVQPDSYIVPLVLYSPDKAVQQAANQAFAPCEIAFHQQLSTF
                    ||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf81-1             AYTSDHGQYVRQDIYNQGTVQPDSYLVPLVLYSPDKAVQQAANQAFAPCEIAFHQQLSTF
                    430       440       450       460       470       480

                    490       500       510       520
orf81ng-1.pep       LIHTLGYDMPVSGCREGSVTGNLITGDAGSLNIRNGKAEYVYPQX
                    |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||
orf81-1             LIHTLGYDMPVSGCREGSVTGNLITGDAGSLNIRDGKAEYVYPQX
                    490       500       510       520
```

Furthermore, ORF81ng shows significant homology to an *E.coli* OMP:

```
gi|1256380 (U50906) outer membrane adherence protein-associated protein [E.
coli] Length = 547
 Score = 87.4 bits (213), Expect = 2e-16
 Identities = 122/468 (26%), Positives = 198/468 (42%), Gaps = 70/468 (14%)

Query: 25  VFGIETLPAAKMAETFA-LTFMIAALYLFARYKAS--RLLIAVFFAFSMIANNVHYAVYQ 81
           VFGI  L A+  A     L F +  + +  R  +   RLL+A  F   + A ++  ++Y
Sbjct: 29  VFGITNLVASSGAHMVQRLLFFVLTILVVKRISSLPLRLLVAAPFVL-LTAADMSISLY- 86

Query: 82  SWMT-------GINYWLMLKEVTEVGSAGASMLDKLWLPALWGVAEVMLFCSLAKFRRKT 134
           SW T       G    ++  +  EV    A ML  ++ P L   A + L        +
Sbjct: 87  SWCTFGTTFNDGFAISVLQSDPDEV-----AKMLG-MYSPYLCAFAFLSLLFLAVIIKYDV 141

Query: 135 HFSADILFAFLMLMIFVRSF---------DTKQEHGISPKPTYSRIKAN--YFSFGYFVG 183
                +   L+L++   S           D K ++  SP     SR       +F+  YF
Sbjct: 142 SLPTKKVTGILLLIVISGSLFSACQFAYKDAKNKNAFSPYILASRFATYTPFFNLNYFAL 201

Query: 184 RVLPYQ--LFDLSKIPVFKQPAPSKIGQGSIQNIVLIMGESESAAHLKLFGYGRETSPFL 241
               +Q  L    + +P F+       +     I   VLI+GES     ++ L+GY R T+P +
Sbjct: 202 AAKEHQRLLSIANTVPYFQL-----SVRDTGIDTYVLIVGESVRVDNMSLYGYTRSTTPQV 257

Query: 242 TRLSQADFKPIVKQSYSAGFMTAVSLP---SFFNVIPHANGLEQISGGDTNMFRLAKEQG 298
              +Q     +  Q+ S    TA+S+P   +  +V+ H       I      N+  +A + G
Sbjct: 258 E--AQRKQIKLFNQAISGAPYTALSVPLSLTADSVLSH-----DIHNYPDNIINMANQAG 310

Query: 299 YETYFYSAQA---ENQMAILNLIGKKWIDHLIQPTQLGYGNGDNMPDEKLLPLFDKINLQ 355
           ++T++ S+Q+   +N  A+ ++          ++  +  Y  G    DE LLP   +   Q
Sbjct: 311 FQTFWLSSQSAFRQNGTAVTSI--------AMRAMETVYVRGF---DELLLPHLSQALQQ 359

Query: 356 --QGRHFIVLHQRGSHAPYGALLQPQDKVFGEADIVDK-YDNTIHKTDQMIQTVFEQLQK 412
             Q +  IVLH  GSH P  +        VF   D  D  YDN+IH TD ++  VFE L+
Sbjct: 360 NTQQKKLIVLHLNGSHEPACSAYPQSSAVFQPQDDQDACYDNSIHYTDSLLGQVFELLK- 418
```

```
Query: 413 QPDGNWLFAYTSDHG---QYVRQDIYNQG--TVQPDSYIVPL-VLYSP 454
           D      Y +DHG       ++++Y  G       +Y VP+ + YSP
Sbjct: 419 --DRRASVMYFADHGLERDPTKKNVYFHGGREASQQAYHVPMFIWYSP 464
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of a putative leader sequence (double-underlined) and several putative transmembrane domains (single-underlined) in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 37

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 311>:

```
   1  ...ACCCTGCTCC TCTTCATCCC CCTCGTCCTC ACAC.GTGCG GCACACTGAC
  51     CGGCATACTC GCCCaCGGCG GCGGCAAACG CTTTGCCGTC GAACAAGAAC
 101     TCGTCGCCGC ATCGTCCCGC GCCGCCGTCA AAGAAATGGA TTTGTCCGCC
 151     yTAAAAGGAC GCAAAGCCGC CyTTTACGTC TCCGTTATGG GCGACCAAGG
 201     TTCGGGCAAC ATAAGCGGCG GACGCTACTC TATCGACGCA CTGATACGCG
 251     GCGGCTACCA CAACAACCCC GAAAGTGCCA CCCAATACAG CTACCCCGCC
 301     TACGACACTA CCGCCACCAC CAAATCCGAC GCGCTCTCCA GCGTAACCAC
 351     TTCCACATCG CTTTTGAACG CCCCCGCCGC CGyCyTGACG AAAAACAGCG
 401     GACGCAAAGG CGAACGcTCC GCCGGACTGT CCGTCAACGG CACGGGCGAC
 451     TACCGCAACG AAACCCTGCT CGCCAACCCC CGCGACGTTT CCTTCCTGAC
 501     CAACCTCATC CAAACCGTCT TCTACCTGCG CGGCATCGAA GTCgTACCGC
 551     CCGrATACGC CGACACCGAC GTATTCGTAA CCGTCGACGT A...
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 312; ORF83>:

```
   1  ..TLLLFIPLVL TXCGTLTGIL AHGGGKRFAV EQELVAASSR AAVKEMDLSA
  51     LKGRKAAXYV SVMGDQGSGN ISGGRYSIDA LIRGGYHNNP ESATQYSYPA
 101     YDTTATTKSD ALSSVTTSTS LLNAPAAXLT KNSGRKGERS AGLSVNGTGD
 151     YRNETLLANP RDVSFLTNLI QTVFYLRGIE VVPPXYADTD VFVTVDV..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 313>:

```
   1  ATGAAAACCC TGCTCCTCCT CATCCCCCTC GTCCTCACAG CCTGCGGCAC
  51  ACTGACCGGC ATACCCGCCC ACGGCGGCGG CAAACGCTTT GCCGTCGAAC
 101  AAGAACTCGT CGCCGCATCG TCCCGCGCCG CCGTCAAAGA AATGGATTTG
 151  TCCGCCCTAA AAGGACGCAA AGCCGCCCTT TACGTCTCCG TTATGGGCGA
 201  CCAAGGTTCG GGCAACATAA GCGGCGGACG CTACTCTATC GACGCACTGA
 251  TACGCGGCGG CTACCACAAC AACCCCGAAA GTGCCACCCA ATACAGCTAC
 301  CCCGCCTACG ACACTACCGC CACCACCAAA TCCGACGCGC TCTCCAGCGT
 351  AACCACTTCC ACATCGCTTT TGAACGCCCC CGCCGCCGCC CTGACGAAAA
 401  ACAGCGGACG CAAAGGCGAA CGCTCCGCCG GACTGTCCGT CAACGGCACG
 451  GGCGACTACC GCAACGAAAC CCTGCTCGCC AACCCCCGCG ACGTTTCCTT
 501  CCTGACCAAC CTCATCCAAA CCGTCTTCTA CCTGCGCGGC ATCGAAGTCG
 551  TACCGCCCGA ATACGCCGAC ACCGACGTAT TCGTAACCGT CGACGTATTC
 601  GGCACCGTCC GCAGCCGTAC CGAACTGCAC CTCTACAACG CCGAAACCCT
 651  TAAAGCCCAA ACCAAGCTCG AATATTTCGC CGTTGACCGC GACAGCCGGA
 701  AACTGCTGAT TACCCCTAAA ACCGCCGCCT ACGAATCCCA ATACCAAGAA
 751  CAATACGCCC TTTGGACCGG CCCTTACAAA GTCAGCAAAA CCGTCAAAGC
 801  CTCAGACCGC CTGATGGTCG ATTTCTCCGA CATTACCCCC TACGGCGACA
 851  CAACCGCCCA AAACCGTCCC GACTTCAAAC AAAACAACGG TAAAAAACCC
 901  GATGTCGGCA ACGAAGTCAT CCGCCGCCGC AAAGGAGGAT AA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 314; ORF83-1>:

```
   1  MKTLLLLIPL VLTACGTLTG IPAHGGGKRF AVEQELVAAS SRAAVKEMDL
  51  SALKGRKAAL YVSVMGDQGS GNISGGRYSI DALIRGGYHN NPESATQYSY
 101  PAYDTTATTK SDALSSVTTS TSLLNAPAAA LTKNSGRKGE RSAGLSVNGT
 151  GDYRNETLLA NPRDVSFLTN LIQTVFYLRG IEVVPPEYAD TDVFVTVDVF
 201  GTVRSRTELH LYNAETLKAQ TKLEYFAVDR DSRKLLITPK TAAYESQYQE
 251  QYALWTGPYK VSKTVKASDR LMVDFSDITP YGDTTAQNRP DFKQNNGKKP
```

```
301  DVGNEVIRRR KGG*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF83 shows 96.4% identity over a 197aa overlap with an ORF (ORF83a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                    10        20        30        40        50
orf83.pep     TLLLFIPLVLTXCGTLTGILAHGGGKRFAVEQELVAASSRAAVKEMDLSALKGRKAAX
              ||| :|||||| ||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf83a        MKTLLXLIPLVLTACGTLTGIPAHGGGKRFAVEQELVAASSRAAVKEMDLSALKGRKAAL
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

              60        70        80        90        100       110
orf83.pep     YVSVMGDQGSGNISGGRYSIDALIRGGYHNNPESATQYSYPAYDTTATTKSDALSSVTTS
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf83a        YVSVMGDQGSGNISGGRYSIDALIRGGYHNNPESATQYSYPAYDTTATTKSDALSSVTTS
                      70        80        90        100       110       120

             120       130       140       150       160       170
orf83.pep     TSLLNAPAAXLTKNSGRKGERSAGLSVNGTGDYRNETLLANPRDVSFLTNLIQTVFYLRG
              ||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf83a        TSLLNAPAAALTKNSGRKGERSAGLSVNGTGDYRNETLLANPRDVSFLTNLIQTVFYLRG
                      130       140       150       160       170       180

             180       190
orf83.pep     IEVVPPXYADTDVFVTVDV
              |||||| ||||||||||||
orf83a        IEVVPPEYADTDVFVTVDVFGTVRSRTELHLYNAETLKAQTKLEYFAVDRDSRKLLIAPK
                      190       200       210       220       230       240
```

The complete length ORF83a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 315> is:

```
   1  ATGAAAACCC TGCTCNTCCT CATCCCCCTC GTCCTCACAG CCTGCGGCAC
  51  ACTGACCGGC ATACCCGCCC ACGGCGGCGG CAAACGCTTT GCCGTCGAAC
 101  AAGAACTCGT CGCCGCATCG TCCCGCGCCG CCGTCAAAGA AATGGACTTG
 151  TCCGCCCTGA AAGGACGCAA AGCCGCCCTT TACGTCTCCG TTATGGGCGA
 201  CCAAGGTTCG GGCAACATAA GCGGCGGACG CTACTCTATC GACGCACTGA
 251  TACGCGGCGG CTACCACAAC AACCCCGAAA GTGCCACCCA ATACAGCTAC
 301  CCCGCCTACG ACACTACCGC CACCACCAAA TCCGACGCGC TCTCCAGCGT
 351  AACCACTTCC ACATCGCTTT TGAACGCCCC CGCCGCCGCC CTGACGAAAA
 401  ACAGCGGACG CAAAGGCGAA CGCTCCGCCG GACTGTCCGT CAACGGCACG
 451  GGCGACTACC GCAACGAAAC CCTGCTCGCC AACCCCCGCG ACGTTTCCTT
 501  CCTGACCAAC CTCATCCAAA CCGTCTTCTA CCTGCGCGGC ATCGAAGTCG
 551  TACCGCCCGA ATACGCCGAC ACCGACGTAT TCGTAACCGT CGACGTATTC
 601  GGCACCGTCC GCAGCCGCAC CGAACTGCAC CTCTACAACG CCGAAACCCT
 651  TAAAGCCCAA ACCAAGCTCG AATATTTCGC CGTTGACCGC GACAGCCGGA
 701  AACTGCTGAT TGCCCCTAAA ACCGCCGCCT ACGAATCCCA ATACCAAGAA
 751  CAATACGCCC TCTGGATGGG ACCTTACAGC GTCGGCAAAA CCGTCAAAGC
 801  CTCAGACCGC CTGATGGTCG ATTTCTCCGA CATCACCCCC TACGGCGACA
 851  CAACCGCCCA AAACCGTCCC GACTTCAAAC AAAACAACGG TAAAAAACCC
 901  GATGTCGGCA ACGAAGTCAT CCGCCGCCGC AAAGGAGGAT AA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 316>:

```
   1  MKTLLXLIPL VLTACGTLTG IPAHGGGKRF AVEQELVAAS SRAAVKEMDL
  51  SALKGRKAAL YVSVMGDQGS GNISGGRYSI DALIRGGYHN NPESATQYSY
 101  PAYDTTATTK SDALSSVTTS TSLLNAPAAA LTKNSGRKGE RSAGLSVNGT
 151  GDYRNETLLA NPRDVSFLTN LIQTVFYLRG IEVVPPEYAD TDVFVTVDVF
 201  GTVRSRTELH LYNAETLKAQ TKLEYFAVDR DSRKLLIAPK TAAYESQYQE
 251  QYALWMGPYS VGKTVKASDR LMVDFSDITP YGDTTAQNRP DFKQNNGKKP
 301  DVGNEVIRRR KGG*
```

ORF83a and ORF83-1 show 98.4% identity in 313 aa overlap:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf83a.pep    MKTLLXLIPLVLTACGTLTGIPAHGGGKRFAVEQELVAASSRAAVKEMDLSALKGRKAAL
```

```
                 ||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf83-1          MKTLLLLIPLVLTACGTLTGIPAHGGGKRFAVEQELVAASSRAAVKEMDLSALKGRKAAL
                        10        20        30        40        50        60

                        70        80        90       100       110       120
orf83a.pep       YVSVMGDQGSGNISGGRYSIDALIRGGYHNNPESATQYSYPAYDTTATTKSDALSSVTTS
                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf83-1          YVSVMGDQGSGNISGGRYSIDALIRGGYHNNPESATQYSYPAYDTTATTKSDALSSVTTS
                        70        80        90       100       110       120

                       130       140       150       160       170       180
orf83a.pep       TSLLNAPAAALTKNSGRKGERSAGLSVNGTGDYRNETLLANPRDVSFLTNLIQTVFYLRG
                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf83-1          TSLLNAPAAALTKNSGRKGERSAGLSVNGTGDYRNETLLANPRDVSFLTNLIQTVFYLRG
                       130       140       150       160       170       180

                       190       200       210       220       230       240
orf83a.pep       IEVVPPEYADTDVFVTVDVFGTVRSRTELHLYNAETLKAQTKLEYFAVDRDSRKLLIAPK
                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||
orf83-1          IEVVPPEYADTDVFVTVDVFGTVRSRTELHLYNAETLKAQTKLEYFAVDRDSRKLLITPK
                       190       200       210       220       230       240

                       250       260       270       280       290       300
orf83a.pep       TAAYESQYQEQYALWMGPYSVGKTVKASDRLMVDFSDITPYGDTTAQNRPDFKQNNGKKP
                 ||||||||||||||| |||:|:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf83-1          TAAYESQYQEQYALWTGPYKVSKTVKASDRLMVDFSDITPYGDTTAQNRPDFKQNNGKKP
                       250       260       270       280       290       300

                       310
orf83a.pep       DVGNEVIRRRKGGX
                 ||||||||||||||
orf83-1          DVGNEVIRRRKGGX
                       310
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF83 shows 94.9% identity over a 197aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF83.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf83.pep          TLLLFIPLVLTXCGTLTGILAHGGGKRFAVEQELVAASSRAAVKEMDLSALKGRKAAX   58
                   ||||:|||||| |||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf83ng            MKTLLLLIPLVLTACGTLTGIPAHGGGKRFAVEQELVAASSRAAVKEMDLSALKGRKAAL   60

orf83.pep          YVSVMGDQGSGNISGGRYSIDALIRGGYHNNPESATQYSYPAYDTTATTKSDALSSVTTS  118
                   ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||:||||||||||||||||||:||||
orf83ng            YVSVMGDQGSGNISGGRYSIDALIRGGYHNNPDSATRYSYPAYDTTATTKSDALSGVTTS  120

orf83.pep          TSLLNAPAAXLTKNSGRKGERSAGLSVNGTGDYRNETLLANPRDVSFLTNLIQTVFYLRG  178
                   |||||||| ||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf83ng            TSLLNAPAAALTKNNGRKGERSAGLSVNGTGDYRNETLLANPRDVSFLTNLIQTVFYLRG  180

orf83.pep          IEVVPPXYADTDVFVTVDV                                          197
                   |||||| ||||||||||||
orf83ng            IEVVPPEYADTDVFVTVDVFGTVRSRTELHLYNAETLKAQTKLEYFAVDRDSRKLLIAPK  240
```

The complete length ORF83ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 317> is:

```
   1  ATGAAAACCC TGCTCCTCCT CATCCCCCTC GTACTCACCG CCTGCGGCAC
  51  ACTGACCGGC ATACCCGCCC ACGGCGGCGG CAAACGCTTT GCCGTCGAAC
 101  AGGAACTCGT CGCCGCATCG TCCCGCGCCG CCGTCAAAGA AATGGACTTG
 151  TCCGCCCTGA AAGGACGCAA AGCCGCCCTT TACGTCTCCG TTATGGGCGA
 201  CCAAGGTTCG GGCAACATAA GCGGCGGACG CTACTCCATC GACGCACTGA
 251  TACGCGGCGG CTACCACAAC AACCCCGACA GCGCCACCCG ATACAGCTAC
 301  CCCGCCTATG ACACTACCGC CACCACCAAA TCCGACGCGC TCTCCGGCGT
 351  AACCACTTCC ACATCGCTTT TGAACGCCCC CGCCGCCGCC CTGACGAAAA
 401  ACAACGGACG CAAAGGCGAA CGCTCCGCCG GACTGTCCGT CAACGGCACG
 451  GGCGACTACC GCAACGAAAC CCTGCTCGCC AACCCCCGCG ACGTTTCCTT
 501  CCTGACCAAC CTCATCCAAA CCGTCTTCTA CCTGCGCGGC ATCGAAGTCG
 551  TACCGCCCGA ATACGCCGAC ACCGACGTAT TCGTAACCGT CGACGTATTC
 601  GGCACCGTCC GCAGCCGTAC CGAACTGCAC CTCTACAACG CCGAAACCCT
```

```
651  TAAAGCCCAA ACCAAGCTCG AATATTTCGC CGTCGACCGC GACAGCCGGA
701  AACTGCTGAT TGCCCCTAAA ACCGCCGCCT ACGAATCCCA ATACCAAGAA
751  CAATACGCCC TCTGGATGGG ACCTTACAGC GTCGGCAAAA CCGTCAAAGC
801  CTCAGACCGC CTGATGGTCG ATTTCTCCGA CATCACCCCC TACGGCGACA
851  CAACCGCCCA AAACCGTCCC GACTTCAAAC AAAACAACGG TAAAAACCCC
901  GATGTCGGCA ACGAAGTCAT CCGCCGCCGC AAAGGAGGAT AA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 318>:

```
  1  MKTLLLLLIPL VLTACGTLTG IPAHGGGKRF AVEQELVAAS SRAAVKEMDL
 51  SALKGRKAAL YVSVMGDQGS GNISGGRYSI DALIRGGYHN NPDSATRYSY
101  PAYDTTATTK SDALSGVTTS TSLLNAPAAA LTKNNGRKGE RSAGLSVNGT
151  GDYRNETLLA NPRDVSFLTN LIQTVFYLRG IEVVPPEYAD TDVFVTVDVF
201  GTVRSRTELH LYNAETLKAQ TKLEYFAVDR DSRKLLIAPK TAAYESQYQE
251  QYALWMGPYS VGKTVKASDR LMVDFSDITP YGDTTAQNRP DFKQNNGKNP
301  DVGNEVIRRR KGG*
```

ORF83ng and ORF83-1 show 97.1% identity in 313 aa overlap

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf83-1.pep     MKTLLLLIPLVLTACGTLTGIPAHGGGKRFAVEQELVAASSRAAVKEMDLSALKGRKAAL
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf83ng         MKTLLLLIPLVLTACGTLTGIPAHGGGKRFAVEQELVAASSRAAVKEMDLSALKGRKAAL
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf83-1.pep     YVSVMGDQGSGNISGGRYSIDALIRGGYHNNPESATQYSYPAYDTTATTKSDALSSVTTS
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||:||||||||||||||||||:||||
orf83ng         YVSVMGDQGSGNISGGRYSIDALIRGGYHNNPDSATRYSYPAYDTTATTKSDALSGVTTS
                70        80        90        100       110       120

               130       140       150       160       170       180
orf83-1.pep     TSLLNAPAAALTKNSGRKGERSAGLSVNGTGDYRNETLLANPRDVSFLTNLIQTVFYLRG
                |||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf83ng         TSLLNAPAAALTKNNGRKGERSAGLSVNGTGDYRNETLLANPRDVSFLTNLIQTVFYLRG
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf83-1.pep     IEVVPPEYADTDVFVTVDVFGTVRSRTELHLYNAETLKAQTKLEYFAVDRDSRKLLITPK
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||
orf83ng         IEVVPPEYADTDVFVTVDVFGTVRSRTELHLYNAETLKAQTKLEYFAVDRDSRKLLIAPK
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260       270       280       290       300
orf83-1.pep     TAAYESQYQEQYALWTGPYKVSKTVKASDRLMVDFSDITPYGDTTAQNRPDFKQNNGKKP
                |||||||||||||| |||:|:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|
orf83ng         TAAYESQYQEQYALWMGPYSVGKTVKASDRLMVDFSDITPYGDTTAQNRPDFKQNNGKNP
                250       260       270       280       290       300

                310
orf83-1.pep     DVGNEVIRRRKGGX
                |||||||||||||
orf83ng         DVGNEVIRRRKGGX
                310
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of a putative ATP/GTP-binding site motif A (P-loop) in the gonococcal protein (double-underlined) and a putative prokaryotic membrane lipoprotein lipid attachment site (single-underlined), it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 38

The following DNA sequence, believed to be complete, was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 319>:

```
   1  ATGGCAGAGA TCTGTTTGAT AACCGGCACG CCCGGTTCAG GGAAAACATT
  51  AAAAATGGTT TCCATGATGG CGAATGATGA AATGTTTAAG CCTGATGAAA
 101  AAGCCATACG CCGTAAAGTA TTTACGAACA TAAAAGGCTT GAAAATACCG
 151  CACACCTACA TAGAAACGGA CGCAAAAAAG CTGCCGAAAT CGACAGATGA
 201  GCAGCTTTCG GCGCATGATA TGTACGAATG GATAAAGAAG CCCGAAAATA
 251  TCGGGTCTAT TGTCATTGTA GATGAAGCTC AAGACGTATG GCCGGCACGC
 301  TCGGCAGGTT CAAAAATCCC TGAAAATGTC CAATGGCTGA ATACGCACAG
 351  ACATCAGGGC ATTGATATAT TTGTTTTGAC TCAAGGTCCT AAGCTTCTAG
 401  ATCAAAATCT TAGAACGCTT GTACGGAAAC ATTACCACAT CGCTTCAAAC
 451  AAGATGGGTA TGCGTACGCT TTTAGAATGG AAAATATGCG CGGACGATCC
 501  CGTAAAAATG GCATCAAGCG CATTCTCCAG TATCTATACA CTGGATAAAA
 551  AAGTTTATGA CTTGTAysrr TmmGCGGAAG TTCATACCGT AAATAAGGTC
 601  AAGCGGTCAA AGTGGTTTTA CACTCTGCCa GTAATAGTAT TGCTGATTCC
 651  CGTGTTTGTC GGCCTGTCCT ATAAAATGTT GagCaGTTAC GGAAAAAAAC
 701  aGGAAGAACC CGCAGCACAA GAATCGGCGG CAACAGAACA GCAGGCAGTA
 751  CTTCCGGATA AAACAGAAGG CGAGCCGGTA AATAACGGCA ACCTTACCGC
 801  AGATATGTTT GTTCCGACAT TGTCCGAaAA ACCCGrAAGC AAGCcgaTTT
 851  ATAACGGTGT AAGGCAGGTA AGAACCTTTG AATATATAGC AGGCTGTATA
 901  GAAGGCGGAA GAACCGGATG CGCCTGCTAT TCGCaTCAAG GGACGGCATt
 951  gaAAGAAGTG ACGGaGTTGA TGTGCcaAgG aCTATGTaAA AAacGGCTTG
1001  CCGTTTAACC CaTACAAAGA AGAAAGCCAA GGGCAGGAAG TTCAGCAAAG
1051  CGCGCAgCAA CATTCGGACA GGGCGcCAAG TTGCCACATT GGGCGGAAAA
1101  CCGTAGCAGA ACCTAATGTA CGATAATTGG GAAGAACGCG GGAAACCGTT
1151  TGAAGGAATC GGaCGGGGGC GTGGTCGGAT CGGCAAACTG A
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 320; ORF84>:

```
   1  MAEICLITGT PGSGKTLKMV SMMANDEMFK PDEKAIRRKV FTNIKGLKIP
  51  HTYIETDAKK LPKSTDEQLS AHDMYEWIKK PENIGSIVIV DEAQDVWPAR
 101  SAGSKIPENV QWLNTHRHQG IDIFVLTQGP KLLDQNLRTL VRKHYHIASN
 151  KMGMRTLLEW KICADDPVKM ASSAFSSIYT LDKKVYDLYX XAEVHTVNKV
 201  KRSKWFYTLP VIVLLIPVFV GLSYKMLSSY GKKQEEPAAQ ESAATEQQAV
 251  LPDKTEGEPV NNGNLTADMF VPTLSEKPXS KPIYNGVRQV RTFEYIAGCI
 301  EGGRTGCACY SHQGTALKEV TELMCKDYVK NGLPFNPYKE ESQGQEVQQS
 351  AQQHSDRAQV ATLGGKPXQN LMYDNWEERG KPFEGIGGGV VGSAN*
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 321>:

```
   1  ATGGCAGAGA TCTGTTTGAT AACCGGCACG CCCGGTTCAG GGAAAACATT
  51  AAAAATGGTT TCCATGATGG CGAATGATGA AATGTTTAAG CCTGATGAAA
 101  ACGGCATACG CCGTAAAGTA TTTACGAACA TAAAAGGCTT GAAAATACCG
 151  CACACCTACA TAGAAACGGA CGCAAAAAAG CTGCCGAAAT CGACAGATGA
 201  GCAGCTTTCG GCGCATGATA TGTACGAATG GATAAAGAAG CCCGAAAATA
 251  TCGGGTCTAT TGTCATTGTA GATGAAGCTC AAGACGTATG GCCGGCACGC
 301  TCGGCAGGTT CAAAAATCCC TGAAAATGTC CAATGGCTGA ATACGCACAG
 351  ACATCAGGGC ATTGATATAT TTGTTTTGAC TCAAGGTCCT AAGCTTCTAG
 401  ATCAAAATCT TAGAACGCTT GTACGGAAAC ATTACCACAT CGCTTCAAAC
 451  AAGATGGGTA TGCGTACGCT TTTAGAATGG AAAATATGCG CGGACGATCC
 501  CGTAAAAATG GCATCAAGCG CATTCTCCAG TATCTATACA CTGGATAAAA
 551  AAGTTTATGA CTTGTACGAA TCAGCGGAAG TTCATACCGT AAATAAGGTC
 601  AAGCGGTCAA AGTGGTTTTA CACTCTGCCA GTAATAGTAT TGCTGATTCC
 651  CGTGTTTGTC GGCCTGTCCT ATAAAATGTT GAGCAGTTAC GGAAAAAAAC
 701  AGGAAGAACC CGCAGCACAA GAATCGGCGG CAACAGAACA GCAGGCAGTA
 751  CTTCCGGATA AAACAGAAGG CGAGCCGGTA AATAACGGCA ACCTTACCGC
 801  AGATATGTTT GTTCCGACAT TGTCCGAAAA ACCCGAAAGC AAGCCGATTT
 851  ATAACGGTGT AAGGCAGGTA AGAACCTTTG AATATATAGC AGGCTGTATA
 901  GAAGGCGGAA GAACCGGATG CGCCTGCTAT TCGCATCAAG GGACGGCATT
 951  GAAAGAAGTG ACGGAGTTGA TGTGCAAGGA CTATGTAAAA AACGGCTTGC
1001  CGTTTAACCC ATACAAAGAA GAAAGCCAAG GGCAGGAAGT TCAGCAAAGC
1051  GCGCAGCAAC ATTCGGACAG GGCGCAAGTT GCCACATTGG GCGGAAAACC
1101  GTAGCAGAAC CTAATGTACG ATAATTGGGA AGAACGCGGG AAACCGTTTG
1151  AAGGAATCGG CGGGGGCGTG GTCGGATCGG CAAACTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 322; ORF84-1>:

```
  1  MAEICLITGT PGSGKTLKMV SMMANDEMFK PDENGIRRKV FTNIKGLKIP
 51  HTYIETDAKK LPKSTDEQLS AHDMYEWIKK PENIGSIVLV DEAQDVWPAR
101  SAGSKIPENV QWLNTHRHQG IDIFVLTQGP KLLDQNLRTL VRKHYHIASN
151  KMGMRTLLEW KICADDPVKM ASSAFSSIYT LDKKVYDLYE SAEVHTVNKV
201  KRSKWFYTLP VIVLLIPVFV GLSYKMLSSY GKKQEEPAAQ ESAATEQQAV
251  LPDKTEGEPV NNGNLTADMF VPTLSEKPES KPIYNGVRQV RTFEYIAGCI
301  EGGRTGCACY SHQGTALKEV TELMCKDYVK NGLPFNPYKE ESQGQEVQQS
351  AQQHSDRAQV ATLGGKP*QN LMYDNWEERG KPFEGIGGGV VGSAN*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF84 shows 93.9% identity over a 395aa overlap with an ORF (ORF84a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf84.pep       MAEICLITGTPGSGKTLKMVSMMANDEMFKPDEKAIRRKVFTNIKGLKIPHTYIETDAKK
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||::||||||||||||||||||||||
orf84a          MAEICLITGTPGSGKTLKMVSMMANDEMFKPDENGIRRKVFTNIKGLKIPHTYIETDAKK
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf84.pep       LPKSTDEQLSAHDMYEWIKKPENIGSIVIVDEAQDVWPARSAGSKIPENVQWLNTHRHQG
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf84a          LPKSTDEQLSAHDMYEWIKKPENIGSIVIVDEAQDVWPARSAGSKIPENVQWLNTHRHQG
                70        80        90        100       110       120

               130       140       150       160       170       180
orf84.pep       IDIFVLTQGPKLLDQNLRTLVRKHYHIASNKMGMRTLLEWKICADDPVKMASSAFSSIYT
                ||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf84a          IDIFVLTQGSKLLDQNLRTLVRKHYHIASNKMGMRTLLEWKICADDPVKMASSAFSSIYT
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf84.pep       LDKKVYDLYXXAEVHTVNKVKRSKWFYTLPVIVLLIPVFVGLSYKMLSSYGKKQEEPAAQ
                ||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf84a          LDKKVYDLYESAEVHTVNKVKRSKWFYTLPVIILLIPVFVGLSYKMLSSYGKKQEEPAAQ
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260       270       280       290       300
orf84.pep       ESAATEQQAVLPDKTEGEPVNNGNLTADMFVPTLSEKPXSKPIYNGVRQVRTFEYIAGCI
                |||||||:|||: |||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||:
orf84a          ESAATEHQAVFQDKTEGEPVNNGNLTADMFVPTLSEKPESKPIYNGVRQVRTFEYIAGCV
                250       260       270       280       290       300

                310       320       330       340       350       360
orf84.pep       EGGRTGCACYSHQGTALKEVTELMCKDYVKNGLPFNPYKEESQGQEVQQSAQQHSDRAQV
                |||||||:||||||||||:|: |||||::|||||||||||||::|||| |:|||| ||
orf84a          EGGRTGCTCYSHQGTALKEITKEMCKDYARNGLPFNPYKEESQGRDVQQSEQHHSDRPQV
                310       320       330       340       350       360

                370       380       390
orf84.pep       ATLGGKPXQNLMYDNWEERGKPFEGIGGGVVGSANX
                ||||||| ||||||||:||||||||||||||||||
orf84a          ATLGGKPWQNLMYDNWQERGKPFEGIGGGVVGSANX
                370       380       390
```

The complete length ORF84a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 323> is:

```
  1  ATGGCAGAGA TCTGTTTGAT AACCGGCACG CCCGGTTCAG GGAAAACATT
 51  AAAAATGGTT TCCATGATGG CAAACGATGA AATGTTTAAG CCGGATGAAA
101  ACGGCATACG CCGTAAAGTA TTTACGAACA TCAAAGGCTT GAAGATACCG
151  CACACCTACA TAGAAACGGA CGCGAAAAAG CTGCCGAAAT CGACAGATGA
201  GCAGCTTTCG GCGCATGATA TGTACGAATG GATAAAGAAG CCCGAAAATA
251  TCGGGTCTAT TGTCATTGTA GATGAAGCTC AAGACGTATG GCCGGCACGC
301  TCGGCAGGTT CAAAAATCCC TGAAAATGTC CAATGGCTGA ATACGCACAG
351  ACATCAGGGC ATTGATATAT TTGTTTTGAC TCAAGGCTCT AAGCTTCTAG
401  ATCAAAATCT TAGAACGCTT GTACGGAAAC ATTACCACAT CGCTTCAAAC
451  AAGATGGGTA TGCGTACGCT TTTAGAATGG AAAATATGCG CGGACGATCC
```

```
 501  CGTAAAAATG GCATCAAGCG CATTCTCCAG TATCTATACA CTGGATAAAA
 551  AAGTTTATGA CTTGTACGAA TCAGCGGAAG TTCATACCGT AAATAAGGTC
 601  AAGCGGTCAA AATGGTTTTA TACTCTGCCA GTAATAATAT TGCTGATTCC
 651  CGTTTTTGTC GGCCTGTCCT ATAAAATGTT AAGTAGTTAT GGAAAAAAAC
 701  AGGAAGAACC CGCAGCACAA GAATCGGCGG CAACAGAACA TCAGGCAGTA
 751  TTTCAGGATA AAACAGAAGG CGAGCCGGTA AACAACGGTA ACCTTACCGC
 801  AGATATGTTT GTTCCGACAT TGTCCGAAAA ACCCGAAAGC AAGCCGATTT
 851  ATAACGGTGT AAGGCAGGTA AGAACCTTTG AATATATAGC AGGCTGTGTA
 901  GAAGGCGGAA GAACCGGATG CACATGCTAT TCGCATCAAG GGACGGCATT
 951  GAAAGAAATT ACAAAGGAAA TGTGCAAGGA TTACGCAAGA AACGGATTGC
1001  CGTTTAACCC ATATAAAGAA GAAAGCCAAG GGCGGGATGT CCAGCAAAGT
1051  GAGCAGCACC ATTCGGACAG ACCGCAAGTT GCCACGTTGG GCGGAAAGCC
1101  GTGGCAAAAT CTTATGTATG ATAATTGGCA GGAGCGCGGA AAACCGTTTG
1151  AAGGAATCGG CGGGGGCGTG GTCGGATCGG CAAACTGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 324>:

```
   1  MAEICLITGT PGSGKTLKMV SMMANDEMFK PDENGIRRKV FTNIKGLKIP
  51  HTYIETDAKK LPKSTDEQLS AHDMYEWIKK PENIGSIVIV DEAQDVWPAR
 101  SAGSKIPENV QWLNTHRHQG IDIFVLTQGS KLLDQNLRTL VRKHYHIASN
 151  KMGMRTLLEW KICADDPVKM ASSAFSSIYT LDKKVYDLYE SAEVHTVNKV
 201  KRSKWFYTLP VIILLIPVFV GLSYKMLSSY GKKQEEPAAQ ESAATEHQAV
 251  FQDKTEGEPV NNGNLTADMF VPTLSEKPES KPIYNGVRQV RTFEYIAGCV
 301  EGGRTGCTCY SHQGTALKEI TKEMCKDYAR NGLPFNPYKE ESQGRDVQQS
 351  EQHHSDRPQV ATLGGKPWQN LMYDNWQERG KPFEGIGGGV VGSAN*
```

ORF84a and ORF84-1 show 95.2% identity in 395 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf84a.pep      MAEICLITGTPGSGKTLKMVSMMANDEMFKPDENGIRRKVFTNIKGLKIPHTYIETDAKK
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf84-1         MAEICLITGTPGSGKTLKMVSMMANDEMFKPDENGIRRKVFTNIKGLKIPHTYIETDAKK
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf84a.pep      LPKSTDEQLSAHDMYEWIKKPENIGSIVIVDEAQDVWPARSAGSKIPENVQWLNTHRHQG
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf84-1         LPKSTDEQLSAHDMYEWIKKPENIGSIVIVDEAQDVWPARSAGSKIPENVQWLNTHRHQG
                70        80        90        100       110       120

               130       140       150       160       170       180
orf84a.pep      IDIFVLTQGSKLLDQNLRTLVRKHYHIASNKMGMRTLLEWKICADQPVKMASSAFSSIYT
                ||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf84-1         IDIFVLTQGPKLLDQNLRTLVRKHYHIASNKMGMRTLLEWKICADDPVKMASSAFSSIYT
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf84a.pep      LDKKVYDLYESAEVHTVNKVKRSKWFYTLPVIILLIPVFVGLSYKMLSSYGKKQEEPAAQ
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf84-1         LDKKVYDLYESAEVHTVNKVKRSKWFYTLPVIVLLIPVFVGLSYKMLSSYGKKQEEPAAQ
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260       270       280       290       300
orf84a.pep      ESAATEHQAVFQDKTEGEPVNNGNLTADMFVPTLSEKPESKPIYNGVRQVRTFEYIAGCV
                ||||||:|||: ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:
orf84-1         ESAATEQQAVLPDKTEGEPVNNGNLTADMFVPTLSEKPESKPIYNGVRQVRTFEYIAGCI
                250       260       270       280       290       300

                310       320       330       340       350       360
orf84a.pep      EGGRTGCTCYSHQGTALKEITKEMCKDYARNGLPFNPYKEESQGRDVQQSEQHHSDRPQV
                |||||||:|||||||||||:|: |||||::|||||||||||||::|||| |:|||| ||
orf84-1         EGGRTGCACYSHQGTALKEVTELMCKDYVKNGLPFNPYKEESQGQEVQQSAQQHSDRAQV
                310       320       330       340       350       360

                370       380       390
orf84a.pep      ATLGGKPWQNLMYDNWQERGKPFEGIGGGVVGSANX
                ||||||| ||||||||:||||||||||||||||||
orf84-1         ATLGGKPXQNLMYDNWEERGKPFEGIGGGVVGSANX
                370       380       390
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF84 shows 94.2% identity over a 395aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF84.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf84.pep   MAEICLITGTPGSGKTLKMVSMMANDEMFKPDEKAIRRKVFTNIKGLKIPHTYIETDAKK  60
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||::||||||||||||||||||:|||||||
orf84ng     MAEICLITGTPGSGKTLKMVSMMANDEMFKPDENGVRRKVFTNIKGLKIPHTHIETDAKK  60

orf84.pep   LPKSTDEQLSAHDMYEWIKKPENIGSIVIVDEAQDVWPARSAGSKIPENVQWLNTHRHQG  120
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||:|:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf84ng     LPKSTDEQLSAHDMYEWIKKPENVGAIVIVDEAQDVWPARSAGSKIPENVQWLNTHRHQG  120

orf84.pep   IDIFVLTQGPKLLDQNLRTLVRKHYHIASNKMGMRTLLEWKICADDPVKMASSAFSSIYT  180
            ||||||||||||||||||||||::|||||:||||:|||||||:||||||||||||||||||
orf84ng     IDIFVLTQGPKLLDQNLRTLVKRHYHIAANKMGLRTLLEWKVCADDPVKMASSAFSSIYT  180

orf84.pep   LDKKVYDLYXXAEVHTVNKVKRSKWFYTLPVIVLLIPVFVGLSYKMLSSYGKKQEEPAAQ  240
            |||||||||  ||:|||||||||||||:||||:||||:|||||||||:||||||||||||
orf84ng     LDKKVYDLYESAEIHTVNKVKRSKWFYALPVIILLIPLFVGLSYKMLGSYGKKQEEPAAQ  240

orf84.pep   ESAATEQQAVLPDKTEGEPVNNGNLTADMFVPTLSEKPXSKPIYNGVRQVRTFEYIAGCI  300
            |||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||| ||| ||||||||||||||||||||||
orf84ng     ESAATEQQAVLPDKTEGESVNNGNLTADMFVPTLPEKPESKPIYNGVRQVRTFEYIAGCI  300

orf84.pep   EGGRTGCACYSHQGTALKEVTELMCKDYVKNGLPFNPYKEESQGQEVQQSAQQHSDRAQV  360
            |||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf84ng     EGGRTGCTCYSHQGTALKEVTELMCKDYVKNGLPFNPYKEESQGQEVQQSAQQHSDRAQV  360

orf84.pep   ATLGGKPXQNLMYDNWEERGKPFEGIGGGVVGSAN  395
            |||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf84ng     ATLGGKPQQNLMYDNWEERGKPFEGIGGGVVGSAN  395
```

The complete length ORF84ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 325> is:

```
   1  ATGGCAGAAA TCTGTTTGAT AACCGGCACG CCCGGTTCAG GGAAAACATT
  51  AAAAATGGTT TCCATGATGG CAAACGATGA AATGTTTAAG CCAGATGAAA
 101  ACGGCGTACG CCGTAAAGTA TTTACGAACA TCAAAGGTTT GAAGATACCG
 151  CACACCCACA TAGAAACAGA CGCAAAGAAG CTGCCGAAAT CAACCGATGA
 201  ACAGCTTTCG GCGCATGATA TGTATGAATG GATCAAGAAG CCTGAAAacg
 251  tcggcgCAAT CGTTATTGTC GATGAGGCGC AAGACGTATG GCCCGCACGC
 301  TccgCAGGTT CGAAAATCCC CGAAAACGTC CAATGGCTGA ACACACACAG
 351  GCATCAGGGC ATAGATATAT TTGTATTGAC ACAAGGTCCT AAACTCTTAG
 401  ATCAGAACTT GCGAACATTG GTTAAAAGAC ATTACCACAT TGCGGCCAAC
 451  AAAATGGGTT TGCGTACCCT GCTTGAATGG AAAGTATGCG CGGATGACCC
 501  GGTAAAAATG GCATCAAGTG CATTTTCCAG TATCTACACA CTGGATAAAA
 551  AAGTTTATGA CTTGTACGAA TCCGCAGAAA TTCACACGGT AAACAAAGTC
 601  AAGCGTTCAA AATGGTTTTA TGCATTGCCC GTCATCATAT TATTGATTCC
 651  GCTATTTGTC GGTTTGTCTT ACAAAATGTT GGGCAGTTAC GGAAAAAAAC
 701  AGGAAGAACC CGCAGCACAA GAATCGGCGG CAACAGAACA GCAGGCAGTA
 751  CTTCCGGATA AAACAGAAGG AGAATCGGTG AATAACGGAA ACCTTACGGC
 801  AGATATGTTT GTTCCGACAT TGCCCGAAAA ACCCGAAAGC AAGCCGATTT
 851  ATAACGGTGT AAGGCAGGTA AGGACCTTTG AATATATAGC AGGCTGTATA
 901  GAAGGCGGAA GAACCGGATG CACCTGCTAT TCGCATCAAG GGACGGCATT
 951  GAAAGAAGTG ACGGAGTTGA TGTGCAAGGA CTATGTAAAA AACGGCTTGC
1001  CGTTTAACCC ATACAAAGAA GAAAGCCAAG GGCAGGAAGT TCAGCAAAGC
1051  GCGCAGCAAC ATTCGGACAG GGCGCAAGTT GCCACCTTGG GCGGAAAACC
1101  GCAGCAGAAC CTAATGTACG ACAATTGGGA AGAACGCGGG AAACCGTTTG
1151  AAGGAATCGG CGGGGGCGTG GTCGGATCGG CAAACTGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 326>:

```
   1  MAEICLITGT PGSGKTLKMV SMMANDEMFK PDENGVRRKV FTNIKGLKIP
  51  HTHIETDAKK LPKSTDEQLS AHDMYEWIKK PENVGAIVIV DEAQDVWPAR
 101  SAGSKIPENV QWLNTHRHQG IDIFVLTQGP KLLDQNLRTL VKRHYHIAAN
 151  KMGLRTLLEW KVCADDPVKM ASSAFSSIYT LDKKVYDLYE SAEIHTVNKV
 201  KRSKWFYALP VIILLIPLFV GLSYKMLGSY GKKQEEPAAQ ESAATEQQAV
 251  LPDKTEGESV NNGNLTADMF VPTLPEKPES KPIYNGVRQV RTFEYIAGCI
 301  EGGRTGCTCY SHQGTALKEV TELMCKDYVK NGLPFNPYKE ESQGQEVQQS
 351  AQQHSDRAQV ATLGGKPQQN LMYDNWEERG KPFEGIGGGV VGSAN*
```

ORF84ng and ORF84-1 show 95.4% identity in 395 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf84-1.pep     MAEICLITGTPGSGKTLKMVSMMANDEMFKPDENGIRRKVFTNIKGLKIPHTYIETDAKK
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||:||||||
orf84ng         MAEICLITGTPGSGKTLKMVSMMANDEMFKPDENGVRRKVFTNIKGLKIPHTHIETDAKK
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf84-1.pep     LPKSTDEQLSAHDMYEWIKKPENIGSIVIVDEAQDVWPARSAGSKIPENVQWLNTHRHQG
                ||||||||||||||||||||||:|:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf84ng         LPKSTDEQLSAHDMYEWIKKPENVGAIVIVDEAQDVWPARSAGSKIPENVQWLNTHRHQG
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf84-1.pep     IDIFVLTQGPKLLDQNLRTLVRKHYHIASNKMGMRTLLEWKICADDPVKMASSAFSSIYT
                ||||||||||||||||||||||::||||:||||:|||||||:||||||||||||||||||
orf84ng         IDIFVLTQGPKLLDQNLRTLVKRHYHIAANKMGLRTLLEWKVCADDPVKMASSAFSSIYT
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf84-1.pep     LDKKVYDLYESAEVHTVNKVKRSKWFYTLPVIVLLIPVFVGLSYKMLSSYGKKQEEPAAQ
                |||||||||||||:||||||||||||||:||||:||||:|||||||||:||||||||||||
orf84ng         LDKKVYDLYESAEIHTVNKVKRSKWFYALPVIILLIPLFVGLSYKMLGSYGKKQEEPAAQ
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260       270       280       290       300
orf84-1.pep     ESAATEQQAVLPDKTEGEPVNNGNLTADMFVPTLSEKPESKPIYNGVRQVRTFEYIAGCI
                |||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf84ng         ESAATEQQAVLPDKTEGESVNNGNLTADMFVPTLPEKPESKPIYNGVRQVRTFEYIAGCI
                250       260       270       280       290       300

                310       320       330       340       350       360
orf84-1.pep     EGGRTGCACYSHQGTALKEVTELMCKDYVKNGLPFNPYKEESQGQEVQQSAQQHSDRAQV
                |||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf84ng         EGGRTGCTCYSHQGTALKEVTELMCKDYVKNGLPFNPYKEESQGQEVQQSAQQHSDRAQV
                310       320       330       340       350       360

                370       380       390
orf84-1.pep     ATLGGKPXQNLMYDNWEERGKPFEGIGGGVVGSANX
                ||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf84ng         ATLGGKPQQNLMYDNWEERGKPFEGIGGGVVGSANX
                370       380       390
```

Based on this analysis, includng the presence of a putative transmembrane domain (single-underlined) in the gonococcal protein, and a putative ATP/GTP-binding site motif A (P-loop, double-underlined), it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 39

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 327>:

```
   1  GTGGTTTTCC TGAATGCCGA CAACGGGATA TTGGTTCAGG ACTTGCCTTT
  51  TGAAGTCAAA CTGAAAAAAT TCCATATCGA TTTTTACAAT ACGGGTATGC
 101  CGCGTGATTT CGCCAGCGAT ATTGAAGTGA CGGACAAGGC AACCGGTGAG
 151  AAACTCGAGC GCACCATCCG CGTGAACCAT CCTTTGACCT TGCACGGCAT
 201  CACGATTTAT CAGGCGAGTT TTGCCGACGG CGGTTCGGAT TTGACATTCA
 251  AGGCGTGGAA TTTGGGTGAT GCTTCGCGCG AGCCTGTCGT GTTGAAGGCA
 301  ACATCCATAC ACCAGTTTCC GTTGGAAATT GGCAAACACA AATATCGTCT
 351  TGAGTTCGAT CAGTTCACTT CTATGAATGT GGAGGACATG AGCGAGGGCG
 401  CGGAACGGGA AAAAAGCCTG AAATCCACGC TGCCCGATGT CCGCGCCGTT
 451  ACTCAGGAAG GTCACAAATA CACCAAT... ..........  .....TACCG
 501  TATCCGTGAT GCGCCAGGCC AGGCGGTCGA ATATAAAAAC TATATGCTGC
 551  CGGTTTTGCA GGAACAGGAT TATTTTTGGA TTACCGGCAC GCGCAGCGC.
```

```
 601  TTGCAGCAGC AATACCGCTG GCTGCGTATC CCCTTGGACA AGCAGTTGAA
 651  AGCGGACACC TTTATGGCAT TGCGTGAGTT TTTGAAAGAT GGGGAAGGGC
 701  GCAAACGTCT .GTTGCCGAC GCAACCAAAG GCGCACCTGC CGAAATCCGC
 751  GAACAATTCA TGCTGGCTGC GGAAAACACG CTGAACATCT TTGCACAAAA
 801  AGGCTATTTG GGATTGGACG AATTTATTAC GTCCAATATC CCGAAAGAGC
 851  AGCAGGATAA GATGCAGGGC TATTTCTACG AAATGCTTTA CGGCGTGATG
 901  AACGCTGCTT TGGATGAAAC CAT.ACCCGG TACGGCTTGC CCGAATGGCA
 951  GCAGGATGAA GCGCGGAATC GTTTCCTGCT GCACAGTATG GATGCGTACA
1001  CGGGTTTGAC CGAATATCCC GCGCCTATGC TGCTGCAACT TGATGGGTTT
1051  TCCGAGGTGC GTTCGTCGGG TTTGCAGATG ACCCGTTCCC C.GGTCCGCT
1101  TTTGGTCTAT CTC...
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 328; ORF88>:

```
   1  MVFLNADNGI LVQDLPFEVK LKKFHIDFYN TGMPRDFASD IEVTDKATGE
  51  KLERTIRVNH PLTLHGITIY QASFADGGSD LTFKAWNLGD ASREPVVLKA
 101  TSIHQFPLEI GKHKYRLEFD QFTSMNVEDM SEGAEREKSL KSTLPDVRAV
 151  TQEGHKYTNX XXXXXYRIRD APGQAVEYKN YMLPVLQEQD YFWITGTRSX
 201  LQQQYRWLRI PLDKQLKADT FMALREFLKD GEGRKRXVAD ATKGAPAEIR
 251  EQFMLAAENT LNIFAQKGYL GLDEFITSNI PKEQQDKMQG YFYEMLYGVM
 301  NAALDETXTR YGLPEWQQDE ARNRFLLHSM DAYTGLTEYP APMLLQLDGF
 351  SEVRSSGLQM TRSXGPLLVY L...
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 329>:

```
   1  ATGAGTAAAT CCCGTAGATC TCCCCCACTT CTTTCCCGTC CGTGGTTCGC
  51  TTTTTTCAGC TCCATGCGCT TTGCAGTCGC TTTGCTCAGT CTGCTGGGTA
 101  TTGCATCGGT TATCGGTACG GTGTTGCAGC AAAACCAGCC GCAGACGGAT
 151  TATTTGGTCA AATTCGGATC GTTTTGGGCG CAGATTTTTG GTTTTCTGGG
 201  ACTGTATGAC GTCTATGCTT CGGCATGGTT TGTCGTTATC ATGATGTTTT
 251  TGGTGGTTTC TACCAGTTTG TGCCTGATTC GCAATGTGCC GCCGTTCTGG
 301  CGCGAAATGA AGTCTTTTCG GGAAAAGGTT AAAGAAAAAT CTCTGGCGGC
 351  GATGCGCCAT TCTTCGCTGT TGGATGTAAA AATTGCGCCC GAGGTTGCCA
 401  AACGTTATCT GGAAGTACAA GGTTTTCAGG GAAAAACCAT TAACCGTGAA
 451  GACGGGTCGG TTCTGATTGC CGCCAAAAAA GGCACAATGA ACAAATGGGG
 501  CTATATCTTT GCCCATGTTG CTTTGATTGT CATTTGCCTG GGCGGGTTGA
 551  TAGACAGTAA CCTGCTGTTG AAACTGGGTA TGCTGACCGG TCGGATTGTT
 601  CCGGACAATC AGGCGGTTTA TGCCAAGGAT TTCAAGCCCG AAAGTATTTT
 651  GGGTGCGTCC AATCTCTCAT TTAGGGGCAA CGTCAATATT TCCGAGGGGC
 701  AGAGTGCGGA TGTGGTTTTC CTGAATGCCG ACAACGGGAT ATTGGTTCAG
 751  GACTTGCCTT TTGAAGTCAA ACTGAAAAAA TTCCATATCG ATTTTTACAA
 801  TACGGGTATG CCGCGTGATT TCGCCAGCGA TATTGAAGTG ACGGACAAGG
 851  CAACCGGTGA GAAACTCGAG CGCACCATCC GCGTGAACCA TCCTTTGACC
 901  TTGCACGGCA TCACGATTTA TCAGGCGAGT TTTGCCGACG GCGGTTCGGA
 951  TTTGACATTC AAGGCGTGGA ATTTGGGTGA TGCTTCGCGC GAGCCTGTCG
1001  TGTTGAAGGC AACATCCATA CACCAGTTTC CGTTGGAAAT TGGCAAACAC
1051  AAATATCGTC TTGAGTTCGA TCAGTTCACT TCTATGAATG TGGAGGACAT
1101  GAGCGAGGGC GCGGAACGGG AAAAAAGCCT GAAATCCACG CTGAACGATG
1151  TCCGCGCCGT TACTCAGGAA GGTAAAAAAT ACACCAATAT CGGCCCTTCC
1201  ATTGTTTACC GTATCCGTGA TGCGGCAGGG CAGGCGGTCG AATATAAAAA
1251  CTATATGCTG CCGGTTTTGC AGGAACAGGA TTATTTTTGG ATTACCGGCA
1301  CGCGCAGCGG CTTGCAGCAG CAATACCGCT GGCTGCGTAT CCCCTTGGAC
1351  AAGCAGTTGA AAGCGGACAC CTTTATGGCA TTGCGTGAGT TTTTGAAAGA
1401  TGGGGAAGGG CGCAAACGTC TGGTTGCCGA CGCAACCAAA GGCGCACCTG
1451  CCGAAATCCG CGAACAATTC ATGCTGGCTG CGGAAAACAC GCTGAACATC
1501  TTTGCACAAA AAGGCTATTT GGGATTGGAC GAATTTATTA CGTCCAATAT
1551  CCCGAAAGAG CAGCAGGATA AGATGCAGGG CTATTTCTAC GAAATGCTTT
1601  ACGGCGTGAT GAACGCTGCT TTGGATGAAA CCATACGCCG GTACGGCTTG
1651  CCCGAATGGC AGCAGGATGA AGCGCGGAAT CGTTTCCTGC TGCACAGTAT
1701  GGATGCGTAC ACGGGTTTGA CCGAATATCC CGCGCCTATG CTGCTGCAAC
1751  TTGATGGGTT TTCCGAGGTG CGTTCGTCGG GTTTGCAGAT GACCCGTTCC
1801  CCGGGTGCGC TTTTGGTCTA TCTCGGCTCG GTGCTGTTGG TATTGGGTAC
1851  GGTATTGATG TTTTATGTGC GCGAAAAACG GGCGTGGGTA TTGTTTTCAG
1901  ACGGCAAAAT CCGTTTTGCC ATGTCTTCGG CCCGCAGCGA ACGGGATTTG
1951  CAGAAGGAAT TTCCAAAACA CGTCGAGAGT CTGCAACGGC TCGGCAAGGA
2001  CTTGAATCAT GACTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 330; ORF88-1>:

```
   1  MSKSRRSPPL LSRPWFAFFS SMRFAVALLS LLGIASVIGT VLQQNQPQTD
  51  YLVKFGSFWA QIFGFLGLYD VYASAWFVVI MMFLVVSTSL CLIRNVPPFW
```

```
 101  REMKSFREKV KEKSLAAMRH SSLLDVKIAP EVAKRYLEVQ GFQGKTINRE
 151  DGSVLIAAKK GTMNKWGYIF AHVALIVICL GGLIDSNLLL KLGMLTGRIV
 201  PDNQAVYAKD FKPESILGAS NLSFRGNVNI SEGQSADVVF LNADNGILVQ
 251  DLPFEVKLKK FHIDFYNTGM PRDFASDIEV TDKATGEKLE RTIRVNHPLT
 301  LHGITIYQAS FADGGSDLTF KAWNLGDASR EPVVLKATSI HQFPLEIGKH
 351  KYRLEFDQFT SMNVEDMSEG AEREKSLKST LNDVRAVTQE GKKYTNIGPS
 401  IVYRIRDAAG QAVEYKNYML PVLQEQDYFW ITGTRSGLQQ QYRWLRIPLD
 451  KQLKADTFMA LREFLKDGEG RKRLVADATK GAPAEIREQF MLAAENTLNI
 501  FAQKGYLGLD EFITSNIPKE QQDKMQGYFY EMLYGVMNAA LDETIRRYGL
 551  PEWQQDEARN RFLLHSMDAY TGLTEYPAPM LLQLDGFSEV RSSGLQMTRS
 601  PGALLVYLGS VLLVLGTVLM FYVREKRAWV LFSDGKIRFA MSSARSERDL
 651  QKEFPKHVES LQRLGKDLNH D*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF88 shows 95.7% identity over a 371aa overlap with an ORF (ORF88a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                                  10        20        30
orf88.pep                                         MVFLNADNGILVQDLPFEVKLKKFHIDFYN
                                                  :||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf88a        AKDFKPESILGASNLSFRGNVNISEGQSADVVFLNADNGILVQDLPFEVKLKKFHIDFYN
              210       220       230       240       250       260

                     40        50        60        70        80        90
orf88.pep     TGMPRDFASDIEVTDKATGEKLERTIRVNHPLTLHGITIYQASFADGGSDLTFKAWNLGD
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf88a        TGMPRDFASDIEVTDKATGEKLERTIRVNHPLTLHGITIYQASFADGGSDLTFKAWNLGD
              270       280       290       300       310       320

                    100       110       120       130       140       150
orf88.pep     ASREPVVLKATSIHQFPLEIGKHKYRLEFDQFTSMNVEDMSEGAEREKSLKSTLPDVRAV
              |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||
orf88a        ASREPVVLKATSIHQFPLEIGKHKYRLEFDQFTSMNVEDMSEGAEREKSLKSTLNDVRAV
              330       340       350       360       370       380

                    160       170       180       190       200       210
orf88.pep     TQEGHKYTNXXXXXXYRIRDAPGQAVEYKNYMLPVLQEQDYFWITGTRSXLQQQYRWLRI
              ||||:|||| |||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||
orf88a        TQEGKKYTNIGPSIVYRIRDAAGQAVEYKNYMLPVLQEQDYFWITGTRSGLQQQYRWLRI
              390       400       410       420       430       440

                    220       230       240       250       260       270
orf88.pep     PLDKQLKADTFMALREFLKDGEGRKRXVADATKGAPAEIREQFMLAAENTLNIFAQKGYL
              |||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf88a        PLDKQLKADTFMALREFLKDGEGRKRLVADATKGAPAEIREQFMLAAENTLNIFAQKGYL
              450       460       470       480       490       500

                    280       290       300       310       320       330
orf88.pep     GLDEFITSNIPKEQQDKMQGYFYEMLYGVMNAALDETXTRYGLPEWQQDEARNRFLLHSM
              |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||
orf88a        GLDEFITSNIPKEQQDKMQGYFYEMLYGVMNAALDETIRRYGLPEWQQDEARNRFLLHSM
              510       520       530       540       550       560

                    340       350       360       370
orf88.pep     DAYTGLTEYPAPMLLQLDGFSEVRSSGLQMTRSXGPLLVYL
              |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| | |||||
orf88a        DAYTGLTEYPAPMLLQLDGFSEVRSSGLQMTRSPGALLVYLGSVLLVLGTVLMFYVREKR
              570       580       590       600       610       620

orf88a        AWVLFSDGKIRFAMSSARSERDLQKEFPKHVESLQRLGKDLNHDX
              630       640       650       660       670
```

The complete length ORF88a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 331> is:

```
   1  ATGAGTAAAT CCCGTAGATC TCCCCCACTT CTTTCCCGTC CGTGGTTCGC
  51  TTTTTTCAGC TCCATGCGCT TTGCGGTCGC TTTGCTCAGT CTGCTGGGTA
 101  TTGCATCGGT TATCGGTACG GTGTTGCAGC AAAACCAGCC GCAGACGGAT
```

```
 151  TATTTGGTCA AATTCGGATC GTTTTGGGCG CAGATTTTTG GTTTTCTGGG
 201  ACTGTATGAC GTCTATGCTT CGGCATGGTT TGTCGTTATC ATGATGTTTT
 251  TGGTGGTTTC TACCAGTTTG TGCCTGATTC GCAATGTGCC GCCGTTCTGG
 301  CGCGAAATGA AGTCTTTTCG GGAAAAGGTT AAAGAAAAAT CTCTGGCGGC
 351  GATGCGCCAT TCTTCGCTGT TGGATGTAAA AATTGCGCCC GAGGTTGCCA
 401  AACGTTATCT GGAAGTACAA GGTTTTCAGG GAAAAACCAT TAACCGTGAA
 451  GACGGGTCGG TTCTGATTGC CGCCAAAAAA GGCACAATGA ACAAATGGGG
 501  CTATATCTTT GCCCATGTTG CTTTGATTGT CATTTGCCTG GGCGGGTTGA
 551  TAGACAGTAA CCTGCTGTTG AAACTGGGTA TGCTGACCGG TCGGATTGTT
 601  CCGGACAATC AGGCGGTTTA TGCCAAGGAT TTCAAGCCCG AAAGTATTTT
 651  GGGTGCGTCC AATCTCTCAT TTAGGGGCAA CGTCAATATT TCCGAGGGGC
 701  AGAGTGCGGA TGTGGTTTTC CTGAATGCCG ACAACGGGAT ATTGGTTCAG
 751  GACTTGCCTT TTGAAGTCAA ACTGAAAAAA TTCCATATCG ATTTTTACAA
 801  TACGGGTATG CCGCGCGATT TTGCCAGTGA TATTGAAGTA ACGGATAAGG
 851  CAACCGGTGA GAAACTCGAG CGCACCATCC GCGTGAACCA TCCTTTGACC
 901  TTGCACGGCA TCACGATTTA TCAGGCGAGT TTTGCCGACG GCGGTTCGGA
 951  TTTGACATTC AAGGCGTGGA ATTTGGGTGA TGCTTCGCGC GAGCCTGTCG
1001  TGTTGAAGGC AACATCCATA CACCAGTTTC CGTTGGAAAT TGGCAAACAC
1051  AAATATCGTC TTGAGTTCGA TCAGTTTACT TCTATGAATG TGGAGGACAT
1101  GAGCGAGGGC GCGGAACGGG AAAAAAGCCT GAAATCCACG CTGAACGATG
1151  TCCGCGCCGT TACTCAGGAA GGTAAAAAAT ACACCAATAT CGGCCCTTCC
1201  ATTGTTTACC GTATCCGTGA TGCGGCAGGG CAGGCGGTCG AATATAAAAA
1251  CTATATGCTG CCGGTTTTGC AGGAACAGGA TTATTTTTGG ATTACCGGCA
1301  CGCGCAGCGG CTTGCAGCAG CAATACCGCT GGCTGCGTAT CCCCTTGGAC
1351  AAGCAGTTGA AAGCGGACAC CTTTATGGCA TTGCGTGAGT TTTTGAAAGA
1401  TGGGGAAGGG CGCAAACGTC TGGTTGCCGA CGCAACCAAA GGCGCACCTG
1451  CCGAAATCCG CGAACAATTC ATGCTGGCTG CGGAAAACAC GCTGAACATC
1501  TTTGCACAAA AAGGCTATTT GGGATTGGAC GAATTTATTA CGTCCAATAT
1551  CCCGAAAGAG CAGCAGGATA AGATGCAGGG CTATTTCTAC GAAATGCTTT
1601  ACGGCGTGAT GAACGCTGCT TTGGATGAAA CCATACGCCG GTACGGCTTG
1651  CCCGAATGGC AGCAGGATGA AGCGCGGAAT CGTTTCCTGC TGCACAGTAT
1701  GGATGCGTAC ACGGGTTTGA CCGAATATCC CGCGCCTATG CTGCTGCAAC
1751  TTGATGGGTT TTCCGAGGTG CGTTCGTCGG GTTTGCAGAT GACCCGTTCC
1801  CCGGGTGCGC TTTTGGTCTA TCTCGGCTCG GTGCTGTTGG TATTGGGTAC
1851  GGTATTGATG TTTTATGTGC GCGAAAAACG GGCGTGGGTA TTGTTTTCAG
1901  ACGGCAAAAT CCGTTTTGCC ATGTCTTCGG CCCGCAGCGA ACGGGATTTG
1951  CAGAAGGAAT TTCCAAAACA CGTCGAGAGT CTGCAACGGC TCGGCAAGGA
2001  CTTGAATCAT GACTGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 332>:

```
   1  MSKSRRSPPL LSRPWFAFFS SMRFAVALLS LLGIASVIGT VLQQNQPQTD
  51  YLVKFGSFWA QIFGFLGLYD VYASAWFVVI MMFLVVSTSL CLIRNVPPFW
 101  REMKSFREKV KEKSLAAMRH SSLLDVKIAP EVAKRYLEVQ GFQGKTINRE
 151  DGSVLIAAKK GTMNKWGYIF AHVALIVICL GGLIDSNLLL KLGMLTGRIV
 201  PDNQAVYAKD FKPESILGAS NLSFRGNVNI SEGQSADVVF LNADNGILVQ
 251  DLPFEVKLKK FHIDFYNTGM PRDFASDIEV TDKATGEKLE RTIRVNHPLT
 301  LHGITIYQAS FADGGSDLTF KAWNLGDASR EPVVLKATSI HQFPLEIGKH
 351  KYRLEFDQFT SMNVEDMSEG AEREKSLKST LNDVRAVTQE GKKYTNIGPS
 401  IVYRIRDAAG QAVEYKNYML PVLQEQDYFW ITGTRSGLQQ QYRWLRIPLD
 451  KQLKADTFMA LREFLKDGEG RKRLVADATK GAPAEIREQF MLAAENTLNI
 501  FAQKGYLGLD EFITSNIPKE QQDKMQGYFY EMLYGVMNAA LDETIRRYGL
 551  PEWQQDEARN RFLLHSMDAY TGLTEYPAPM LLQLDGFSEV RSSGLQMTRS
 601  PGALLVYLGS VLLVLGTVLM FYVREKRAWV LFSDGKIRFA MSSARSERDL
 651  QKEFPKHVES LQRLGKDLNH D*
```

ORF88a and ORF88-1 100.0% identity in 671 aa overlap:

```
orf88a.pep   MSKSRRSPPLLSRPWFAFFSSMRFAVALLSLLGIASVIGTVLQQNQPQTDYLVKFGSFWA  60
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf88-1      MSKSRRSPPLLSRPWFAFFSSMRFAVALLSLLGIASVIGTVLQQNQPQTDYLVKFGSFWA  60

orf88a.pep   QIFGFLGLYDVYASAWFVVIMMFLVVSTSLCLIRNVPPFWREMKSFREKVKEKSLAAMRH 120
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf88-1      QIFGFLGLYDVYASAWFVVIMMFLVVSTSLCLIRNVPPFWREMKSFREKVKEKSLAAMRH 120

orf88a.pep   SSLLDVKIAPEVAKRYLEVQGFQGKTINREDGSVLIAAKKGTMNKWGYIFAHVALIVICL 180
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf88-1      SSLLDVKIAPEVAKRYLEVQGFQGKTINREDGSVLIAAKKGTMNKWGYIFAHVALIVICL 180

orf88a.pep   GGLIDSNLLLKLGMLTGRIVPDNQAVYAKDFKPESILGASNLSFRGNVNISEGQSADVVF 240
```

```
orf88-1      GGLIDSNLLLKLGMLTGRIVPDNQAVYAKDFKPESILGASNLSFRGNVNISEGQSADVVF 240

orf88a.pep   LNADNGILVQDLPFEVKLKKFHIDFYNTGMPRDFASDIEVTDKATGEKLERTIRVNHPLT 300
orf88-1      LNADNGILVQDLPFEVKLKKFHIDFYNTGMPRDFASDIEVTDKATGEKLERTIRVNHPLT 300

orf88a.pep   LHGITIYQASFADGGSDLTFKAWNLGDASREPVVLKATSIHQFPLEIGKHKYRLEFDQFT 360
orf88-1      LHGITIYQASFADGGSDLTFKAWNLGDASREPVVLKATSIHQFPLEIGKHKYRLEFDQFT 360

orf88a.pep   SMNVEDMSEGAEREKSLKSTLNDVRAVTQEGKKYTNIGPSIVYRIRDAAGQAVEYKNYML 420
orf88-1      SMNVEDMSEGAEREKSLKSTLNDVRAVTQEGKKYTNIGPSIVYRIRDAAGQAVEYKNYML 420

orf88a.pep   PVLQEQDYFWITGTRSGLQQQYRWLRIPLDKQLKADTFMALREFLKDGEGRKRLVADATK 480
orf88-1      PVLQEQDYFWITGTRSGLQQQYRWLRIPLDKQLKADTFMALREFLKDGEGRKRLVADATK 480

orf88a.pep   GAPAEIREQFMLAAENTLNIFAQKGYLGLDEFITSNIPKEQQDKMQGYFYEMLYGVMNAA 540
orf88-1      GAPAEIREQFMLAAENTLNIFAQKGYLGLDEFITSNIPKEQQDKMQGYFYEMLYGVMNAA 540

orf88a.pep   LDETIRRYGLPEWQQDEARNRFLLHSMDAYTGLTEYPAPMLLQLDGFSEVRSSGLQMTRS 600
orf88-1      LDETIRRYGLPEWQQDEARNRFLLHSMDAYTGLTEYPAPMLLQLDGFSEVRSSGLQMTRS 600

orf88a.pep   PGALLVYLGSVLLVLGTVLMFYVREKRAWVLFSDGKIRFAMSSARSERDLQKEFPKHVES 660
orf88-1      PGALLVYLGSVLLVLGTVLMFYVREKRAWVLFSDGKIRFAMSSARSERDLQKEFPKHVES 660

orf88a.pep   LQRLGKDLNHD  672
orf88-1      LQRLGKDLNHD  672
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF88 shows 93.8% identity over a 371aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF88.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf88.pep    MVFLNADNGILVQDLPFEVKLKKFHIDFYNTGMPRDFASDIEVTDKATGEKLERTIRVNH  60
orf88ng      MVFLNADNGMLVQDLPFEVKLKKFHIDFYNTGMPRDFASDIEVTDKATGEKLERTIRVNH  60

orf88.pep    PLTLHGITIYQASFADGGSDLTFKAWNLGDASREPVVLKATSIHQFPLEIGKHKYRLEFD 120
orf88ng      PLTLHGITIYQASFADGGSDLTFKAWNLRDASREPVVLKATSIHQFPLEIGKHKYRLEFD 120

orf88.pep    QFTSMNVEDMSEGAEREKSLKSTLPDVRAVTQEGHKYTNXXXXXXYRIRDAPGQAVEYKN 180
orf88ng      QFTSMNVEDMSEGAEREKSLKSTLNDVRAVTQEGKKYTNIGPSIVYRIRDAAGQAVEYKN 180

orf88.pep    YMLPVLQEQDYFWITGTRSXLQQQYRWLRIPLDKQLKADTFMALREFLKDGEGRKRXVAD 240
orf88ng      YMLPILQDKDYFWLTGTRSGLQQQYRWLRIPLDKQLKADTFMALREFLKDGEGRKRLVAD 240

orf88.pep    ATKGAPAEIREQFMLAAENTLNIFAQKGYLGLDEFITSNIPKEQQDKMQGYFYEMLYGVM 300
orf88ng      ATKDAPAEIREQFMLAAENTLNIFAQKGYLGLDEFITSNIPKGQQDKMQGYFYEMLYGVM 300

orf88.pep    NAALDETXTRYGLPEWQQDEARNRFLLHSMDAYTGLTEYPAPMLLQLDGFSEVRSSGLQM 360
orf88ng      NAALDETIRRYGLPEWQQDEARNRFLLHSMDAYTGLTEYPAPMLLQLDGFSEVRSSGLQM 360

orf88.pep    TRSXGPLLVYL  371
orf88ng      TRSPGALLVYLGSVLLVLGTVFMFYVPKKRAWVLFSNXKIRFAMSSARSERDLQKEFPKH 420
```

An ORF88ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 333> was predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 334>:

```
   1  MVFLNADNGM LVQDLPFEVK LKKFHIDFYN TGMPRDFASD IEVTDKATGE
  51  KLERTIRVNH PLTLHGITIY QASFADGGSD LTFKAWNLRD ASREPVVLKA
 101  TSIHQFPLEI GKHKYRLEFD QFTSMNVEDM SEGAEREKSL KSTLNDVRAV
 151  TQEGKKYTNI GPSIVYRIRD AAGQAVEYKN YMLPILQDKD YFWLTGTRSG
 201  LQQQYRWLRI PLDKQLKADT FMALREFLKD GEGRKRLVAD ATKDAPAEIR
 251  EQFMLAAENT LNIFAQKGYL GLDEFITSNI PKGQQDKMQG YFYEMLYGVM
 301  NAALDETIRR YGLPEWQQDE ARNRFLLHSM DAYTGLTEYP APMLLQLDGF
 351  SEVRSSGLQM TRSPGALLVY LGSVLLVLGT VFMFYVPKKR AWVLFSNXKI
 401  RFAMSSARSE RDLQKEFPKH VESLQRLGKD LNHD*
```

Further work revealed the complete gonococcal DNA sequence <SEQ ID 335>:

```
   1  ATGAGTAAAT CCCGTATATC TCCCACACTT CTTTCCCGTC CGTGGTTCGC
  51  TTTTTTCAGC TCCATGCGCT TTGCGGTCGC TTTGCTCAGT CTGCTGGGTA
 101  TTGCATCGGT TATCGGCACG GTGTTACAGC AAAACCAGCC GCAGACGGAT
 151  TATTTGGTCA AATTCGGACC GTTTTGGACT CGGATTTTTG ATTTTTTGGG
 201  TTTGTATGAT GTCTATGCTT CGGCATGGTT TGTCGTTATC ATGATGTTTC
 251  TGGTGGTTTC TACCAGTTTG TGTTTAATCC GTAACGTTCC GCCGTTTTGG
 301  CGCGAAATGA AGTCTTTCCG GGAAAAGGTT AAAGAAAAAT CTCTGGCGGC
 351  GATGCGCCAT TCTTCGCTGT TGGATGTAAA AATTGCCCCC GAAGTTGCCA
 401  AACGTTATCT GGAGGTGCGG GGTTTTCAGG GAAAAACCGT CAGCCGTGAG
 451  GACGGGTCGG TTCTGATTGC CGCCAAAAAA GGCAcaatga acaaATGGGG
 501  CTATATCTTT GCccaagtag ctTTGATTGT CATTTGCCTG GGCGGGTTGA
 551  TAGACAGTAA CCTGCTGCTG AAGCTGGGTA TGCTGGCCGG TCGGATTGTT
 601  CCGGACAATC AGGCGGTTTA TGCCAAGGAT TTCAAGCCCG AAAGTATTTT
 651  GGGTGCGTCC AATCTCTCAT TTAGGGGCAA CGTCAATATT TCCGAGGGGC
 701  AAAGTGCGGA TGTGGTTTTC CTGAATGCCG ACAACGGGAT GTTGGTTCAG
 751  GACTTGCCTT TTGAAGTCAA ACTGAAAAAA TTCCATATCG ATTTTTACAA
 801  TACGGGTATG CCGCGCGATT TTGCCAGCGA TATTGAAGTA ACGGACAAGG
 851  CAACCGGTGA GAAACTCGAG CGCACCATCC GCGTGAACCA TCCTTTGACC
 901  TTGCACGGCA TCACGATTTA TCAGGCGAGT TTTGCCGACG GCGGTTCGGA
 951  TTTGACATTC AAGGCGTGGA ATTTGAGGGA TGCTTCGCGC GAACCTGTCG
1001  TGTTGAAGGC AACCTCCATA CACCAGTTTC CGTTGGAAAT CGGCAAACAC
1051  AAATATCGTC TTGAGTTCGA TCAGTTCACT TCTATGAATG TGGAGGACAT
1101  GAGCGAGGGT GCGGAACGGG AAAAAAGCCT GAAATCCACT CTGAACGATG
1151  TCCGCGCCGT TACTCAGGAA GGTAAAAAAT ACACCAATAT CGGCCCTTCC
1201  ATCGTGTACC GCATCCGTGA TGcggCAGGG CAGGCGGTCG AATATAAAAA
1251  CTATATGCTG CCGATTTTGC AGGACAAAGA TTATTTTTGG CTGACCGGCA
1301  CGCGCAGCGG CTTGCAGCAG CAATACCGCT GGCTGCGTAT CCCCTTGGAC
1351  AAGCAGTTGA AAGCGGACAC CTTTATGGCA TTGCGTGAGT TTTTGAAAGA
1401  TGGGGAAGGG CGCAAACGTC TGGTTGCCGA CGCAACCAAA GACGCACCTG
1451  CCGAAATCCG CGAACAATTC ATGCTGGCTG CGGAAAACAC GCTGAATATC
1501  TTTGCGCAAA AAGGCTATTT GGGATTGGAC GAATTTATTA CGTCCAATAT
1551  CCCGAAAGGG CAGCAGGATA AGATGCAGGG CTATTTCTAC GAAATGCTTT
1601  ACGGCGTGAT GAACGCTGCT TTGGATGAAA CCATACGCCG GTACGGCTTG
1651  CCCGAATGGC AGCAGGATGA AGCGCGGAAC CGTTTCCTGC TGCACAGTAT
1701  GGATGCCTAT ACGGGGCTGA CGGAATATCC CGCGCCTATG CTGCTCCAGC
1751  TTGACGGGTT TTCCGAGGTG CGTTCCTCAG GTTTGCAGAT GACCCGTTCG
1801  CCGGGTGCGC TTTTGGTCTA TCtcggctcg gtattgttgg TTTTGGgtac
1851  ggtaTttatg tTTTATGTGC GCGAAAAACG GGCGTGGgta tTGTTTTCag
1901  aCGGCAAAAT CCGTTTTGCT ATGtCTTcgg CCcgcagcga ACGGGATTTG
1951  cAGAaggaaT TTCCAAAACA CGtcgAGAGC CTGCAACggc tcggcaaggA
2001  CttgaaTCAT GACTga
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 336; ORF88ng-1>:

```
   1  MSKSRISPTL LSRPWFAFFS SMRFAVALLS LLGIASVIGT VLQQNQPQTD
  51  YLVKFGPFWT RIFDFLGLYD VYASAWFVVI MMFLVVSTSL CLIRNVPPFW
 101  REMKSFREKV KEKSLAAMRH SSLLDVKIAP EVAKRYLEVR GFQGKTVSRE
 151  DGSVLIAAKK GTMNKWGYIF AQVALIVICL GGLIDSNLLL KLGMLAGRIV
 201  PDNQAVYAKD FKPESILGAS NLSFRGNVNI SEGQSADVVF LNADNGMLVQ
 251  DLPFEVKLKK FHIDFYNTGM PRDFASDIEV TDKATGEKLE RTIRVNHPLT
 301  LHGITIYQAS FADGGSDLTF KAWNLRDASR EPVVLKATSI HQFPLEIGKH
 351  KYRLEFDQFT SMNVEDMSEG AEREKSLKST LNDVRAVTQE GKKYTNIGPS
 401  IVYRIRDAAG QAVEYKNYML PILQDKDYFW LTGTRSGLQQ QYRWLRIPLD
 451  KQLKADTFMA LREFLKDGEG RKRLVADATK DAPAEIREQF MLAAENTLNI
 501  FAQKGYLGLD EFITSNIPKG QQDKMQGYFY EMLYGVMNAA LDETIRRYGL
```

```
551  PEWQQDEARN RFLLHSMDAY TGLTEYPAPM LLQLDGFSEV RSSGLQMTRS
601  PGALLVYLGS VLLVLGTVFM FYVREKRAWV LFSDGKIRFA MSSARSERDL
651  QKEFPKHVES LQRLGKDLNH D*
```

ORF88ng-1 and ORF88-1 show 97.0% identity in 671 aa overlap:

```
orf88-1.pep   MSKSRRSPPLLSRPWFAFFSSMRFAVALLSLLGIASVIGTVLQQNQPQTDYLVKFGSFWA  60
              ||||| || ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||:
orf88ng-1     MSKSRISPTLLSRPWFAFFSSMRFAVALLSLLGIASVIGTVLQQNQPQTDYLVKFGPFWT  60

orf88-1.pep   QIFGFLGLYDVYASAWFVVIMMFLVVSTSLCLIRNVPPFWREMKSFREKVKEKSLAAMRH 120
              :|| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf88ng-1     RIFDFLGLYDVYASAWFVVIMMFLVVSTSLCLIRNVPPFWREMKSFREKVKEKSLAAMRH 120

orf88-1.pep   SSLLDVKIAPEVAKRYLEVQGFQGKTINREDGSVLIAAKKGTMNKWGYIFAHVALIVICL 180
              ||||||||||||||||||:||||||::|||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||
orf88ng-1     SSLLDVKIAPEVAKRYLEVRGFQGKTVSREDGSVLIAAKKGTMNKWGYIFAQVALIVICL 180

orf88-1.pep   GGLIDSNLLLKLGMLTGRIVPDNQAVYAKDFKPESILGASNLSFRGNVNISEGQSADVVF 240
              ||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf88ng-1     GGLIDSNLLLKLGMLAGRIVPDNQAVYAKDFKPESILGASNLSFRGNVNISEGQSADVVF 240

orf88-1.pep   LNADNGILVQDLPFEVKLKKFHIDFYNTGMPRDFASDIEVTDKATGEKLERTIRVNHPLT 300
              ||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf88ng-1     LNADNGMLVQDLPFEVKLKKFHIDFYNTGMPRDFASDIEVTDKATGEKLERTIRVNHPLT 300

orf88-1.pep   LHGITIYQASFADGGSDLTFKAWNLGDASREPVVLKATSIHQFPLEIGKHKYRLEFDQFT 360
              |||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf88ng-1     LHGITIYQASFADGGSDLTFKAWNLRDASREPVVLKATSIHQFPLEIGKHKYRLEFDQFT 360

orf88-1.pep   SMNVEDMSEGAEREKSLKSTLNDVRAVTQEGKKYTNIGPSIVYRIRDAAGQAVEYKNYML 420
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf88ng-1     SMNVEDMSEGAEREKSLKSTLNDVRAVTQEGKKYTNIGPSIVYRIRDAAGQAVEYKNYML 420

orf88-1.pep   PVLQEQDYFWITGTRSGLQQQYRWLRIPLDKQLKADTFMALREFLKDGEGRKRLVADATK 480
              |:|||::|||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf88ng-1     PILQDKDYFWLTGTRSGLQQQYRWLRIPLDKQLKADTFMALREFLKDGEGRKRLVADATK 480

orf88-1.pep   GAPAEIREQFMLAAENTLNIFAQKGYLGLDEFITSNIPKEQQDKMQGYFYEMLYGVMNAA 540
               |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||
orf88ng-1     DAPAEIREQFMLAAENTLNIFAQKGYLGLDEFITSNIPKGQQDKMQGYFYEMLYGVMNAA 540

orf88-1.pep   LDETIRRYGLPEWQQDEARNRFLLHSMDAYTGLTEYPAPMLLQLDGFSEVRSSGLQMTRS 600
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf88ng-1     LDETIRRYGLPEWQQDEARNRFLLHSMDAYTGLTEYPAPMLLQLDGFSEVRSSGLQMTRS 600

orf88-1.pep   PGALLVYLGSVLLVLGTVLMFYVREKRAWVLFSDGKIRFAMSSARSERDLQKEFPKHVES 660
              |||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf88ng-1     PGALLVYLGSVLLVLGTVFMFYVREKRAWVLFSDGKIRFAMSSARSERDLQKEFPKHVES 660

orf88-1.pep   LQRLGKDLNHD   671
              ||||||||||
orf88ng-1     LQRLGKDLNHD   671
```

Furthermore, ORG88ng-1 shows homology with a hypothetical protein from *Aquifex aeolicus*:

```
gi|2984296 (AE000771) hypothetical protein [Aquifex aeolicus] Length = 537
 Score = 94.4 bits (231), Expect = 2e-18
 Identities = 91/334 (27%), Positives = 159/334 (47%), Gaps = 59/334 (17%)

Query: 16  FAFFSSMRFAVALLSLLGIASVIG-TVLQQNQPQTDYLVKFGPFWTRIFDFLGLYDVYAS 74
           + F +S++ A+ ++ +LGI S++G T ++QNQ    YL +FG          L L DV+ S
Sbjct: 80  YDFLASLKLAIFIMLVLGILSMLGSTYIKQNQSFEWYLDQFGYDVGIWIWKLWLNDVFHS 139

Query: 75  AWFVVIMMFLVVSTSLCLIRNVPPFWREMKSFREKVKEKSLAAMRHSSLLDVKIAPEVAK 134
            ++++ ++ L V+   C I+ +P  W++  S +E++ +    A +H   + VKI P+  K
Sbjct: 140 WYYILFIVLLAVNLIFCSIKRLPRVWKQAFS-KERILKLDEHAEKHLKPITVKI-PDKDK 197

Query: 135 --RYLEVRGFQGKTVSREDGSVLIAAKKGTMNKWGYIFAQVALIVICLGGLIDSNLLLKL 192
             ++L  +GF+   V  E   + + A+KG  ++ G     +AL+VI  G LID
Sbjct: 198 VLKFLLKKGFK-VFVEEEGNKLYVFAEKGRFSRLGVYITHIALLVIMAGALID------- 249
```

```
Query: 193 GMLAGRIVPDNQAVYAKDFKPESILGASNLSFRGNVNISEGQSADVVFLNADNGMLVQDL 252
                              +I+G      RG++ ++EG + DV+ + A+       L
Sbjct: 250 ----------------------AIVGV-----RGSLIVAEGDTNDVMLVGAE--QKPYKL 280

Query: 253 PFEVKLKKFHIDFY---NTGMPRDFA-------SDIEVTDKATGEKLER--TIRVNHPLT 300
           PF V L  F I  Y   N  + + FA       SDIE+ +   G K+E   T++VN P
Sbjct: 281 PFAVHLIDFRIKTYAEENPNVDKRFAQAVSSYESDIEIIN---GGKVEAKGTVKVNEPFD 337

Query: 301 LHGITIYQASFA--DGGSDLTFKAWNLRDASREP 332
                ++QA++   DG S +     + + A  +P
Sbjct: 338 FGRYRLFQATYGILDGTSGMGVIVVDRKKAHEDP 371
```

Based on this analysis, including the putative transmembrane domain in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 40

The following DNA sequence, believed to be complete, was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 337>:

```
   1  ATGATGAGTA ATAmAATGGm ACAAAAAGGG TTTACATTGA TTGmGmTGAT
  51  GATAGTCGTC GCGATACTCG GCATTATCAG CGTCATTGCC ATACCTTCTT
 101  ATCmAAGTTA TATTGAAAAA GGCTATCAGT CCCAGCTTTA TACGGAGATG
 151  GyCGGTATCA ACAATATTTC CAAACAGTTT ATTTTGAAAA ATCCCCTGGA
 201  CGATAATCAG ACCATCGAGA ACAAACTGGA AATATTTGTC TCAGGCTATA
 251  AGATGAATCC GAAAATTGCC AAAAAaTATA GTGTTTCGGT AAAGTTTGTC
 301  GATAAGGAAA AATCAAGGGC ATACAGGTTG GTCGGCGTTC CGAAGGCGGG
 351  GACGGGTTAT ACTTTGTCGG TATGGATGAA CAGCGTGGGC GACGGATACA
 401  AATGCCGTGA TGCCGCTTCT GCCCAAGCCC ATTTGGAGAC CTTGTCCTCA
 451  GATGTCGGCT GTGAAGCCTT CTCTAATCGT AAAAAATAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 338; ORF89>:

```
   1  MMSNXMXQKG FTLIXXMIVV AILGIISVIA IPSYXSYIEK GYQSQLYTEM
  51  XGINNISKQF ILKNPLDDNQ TIENKLEIFV SGYKMNPKIA KKYSVSVKFV
 101  DKEKSRAYRL VGVPKAGTGY TLSVWMNSVG DGYKCRDAAS AQAHLETLSS
 151  DVGCEAFSNR KK*
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 339>:

```
   1  ATGATGAGTA ATAAAATGGA ACAAAAAGGG TTTACATTGA TTGAGATGAT
  51  GATAGTCGTC GCGATACTCG GCATTATCAG CGTCATTGCC ATACCTTCTT
 101  ATCAAAGTTA TATTGAAAAA GGCTATCAGT CCCAGCTTTA TACGGAGATG
 151  GTCGGTATCA ACAATATTTC CAAACAGTTT ATTTTGAAAA ATCCCCTGGA
 201  CGATAATCAG ACCATCGAGA ACAAACTGGA AATATTTGTC TCAGGCTATA
 251  AGATGAATCC GAAAATTGCC AAAAAATATA GTGTTTCGGT AAAGTTTGTC
 301  GATAAGGAAA AATCAAGGGC ATACAGGTTG GTCGGCGTTC CGAAGGCGGG
 351  GACGGGTTAT ACTTTGTCGG TATGGATGAA CAGCGTGGGC GACGGATACA
 401  AATGCCGTGA TGCCGCTTCT GCCCAAGCCC ATTTGGAGAC CTTGTCCTCA
 451  GATGTCGGCT GTGAAGCCTT CTCTAATCGT AAAAAATAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 340; ORF89-1>:

```
   1  MMSNKMEQKG FTLIEMMIVV AILGIISVIA IPSYQSYIEK GYQSQLYTEM
  51  VGINNISKQF ILKNPLDDNQ TIENKLEIFV SGYKMNPKIA KKYSVSVKFV
 101  DKEKSRAYRL VGVPKAGTGY TLSVWMNSVG DGYKCRDAAS AQAHLETLSS
 151  DVGCEAFSNR KK*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with PilE of *N. gonorrhoeae* (accession number Z69260).

ORF89 and PilE protein show 30% aa identity in 120a overlap:

```
orf89   8   QKGFTLIXXMIVVAILGIISVIAIPSYXSYIEKGYQSQLYTEMXGINNISKQFILKNPL- 66
            QKGFTLI  MIV+AI+GI++ +A+P+Y  Y  +   S+      G  +   ++ L + +
PilE    5   QKGFTLIELMIVIAIVGILAAVALPAYQDYTARAQVSEAILLAEGQKSAVTEYYLNHGIW 64

orf89   67  -DDNQTIENKLEIFVSGYKMNPKIAKKYSVSVKFVDKEKSRAYRLVGVPKAGTGYTLSVW 125
              DN +         +G   + KI  KY  SV       +      GV K   G  LS+W
PilE    65  PKDNTS---------AGVASSDKIKGKYVQSVTVAKGVVTAEMASTGVNKEIQGKKLSLW 115
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF89 shows 83.3% identity over a 162aa overlap with an ORF (ORF89a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf89.pep       MMSNXMXQKGFTLIXXMIVVAILGIISVIAIPSYXSYIEKGYQSQLYTEMXGINNISKQF
                |||| | |||||||||    ||   |||   ||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||
orf89a          MMSNKMEQKGFTLIXXXXXXAIXXXXSVIXXXXYXSYIEKGYQSQLYTEMVGINNISKQX
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf89.pep       ILKNPLDDNQTIENKLEIFVSGYKMNPKIAKKYSVSVKFVDKEKSRAYRLVGVPKAGTGY
                |||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||:||:|||:||::|| ||| ||||||:||||
orf89a          ILKNPLDDNQTIKSKLEIFVSGYKMNPKIAEKYNVSVHFVNEEKPRAYSLVGVPKTGTGY
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160
orf89.pep       TLSVWMNSVGDGYKCRDAASAQAHLETLSSDVGCEAFSNRKKX
                |||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||
orf89a          TLSVWMNSVGDGYKCRDAASARAHLETLSSDVGCEAFSNRKKX
                130       140       150       160
```

The complete length ORF89a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 341> is:

```
   1  ATGATGAGTA ATAAAATGGA ACAAAAAGGG TTTACATTGA TTGNGANGNT
  51  NATNGNCNTC GCGATACNCN GCNTTANCAG CGTCATTNCN ATNNNTNCNT
 101  ATCNNAGTTA TATTGAAAAA GGCTATCAGT CCCAGCTTTA TACGGAGATG
 151  GTCGGTATCA ACAATATTTC CAAACAGTNT ATTTTGAAAA ATCCCCTGGA
 201  CGATAATCAG ACCATCAAGA GCAAACTGGA AATATTTGTC TCAGGCTATA
 251  AGATGAATCC GAAAATTGCC GAAAAATATA ATGTTTCGGT GCATTTTGTC
 301  AATGAGGAAA AACCNAGGGC ATACAGCTTG GTCGGCGTTC CAAAGACGGG
 351  GACGGGTTAT ACTTTGTCGG TATGGATGAA CAGCGTGGGC GACGGATACA
 401  AATGCCGTGA TGCCGCTTCT GCCCGAGCCC ATTTGGAGAC CTTGTCCTCA
 451  GATGTCGGCT GTGAAGCCTT CTCTAATCGT AAAAAATAG
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 342>:

```
   1  MMSNKMEQKG FTLIXXXXXX AIXXXXSVIX XXXYXSYIEK GYQSQLYTEM
  51  VGINNISKQX ILKNPLDDNQ TIKSKLEIFV SGYKMNPKIA EKYNVSVHFV
 101  NEEKPRAYSL VGVPKTGTGY TLSVWMNSVG DGYKCRDAAS ARAHLETLSS
 151  DVGCEAFSNR KK*
```

ORF89a and ORF89-1 show 83.3% identity in 162 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf89a.pep      MMSNKMEQKGFTLIXXXXXXAIXXXXSVIXXXXYXSYIEKGYQSQLYTEMVGINNISKQX
                |||||||||||||      ||    |||    | ||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf89-1         MMSNKMEQKGFTLIEMMIVVAILGIISVIAIPSYQSYIEKGYQSQLYTEMVGINNISKQF
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf89a.pep      ILKNPLDDNQTIKSKLEIFVSGYKMNPKIAEKYNVSVHFVNEEKPRAYSLVGVPKTGTGY
                |||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||:||:|||:||::|| ||| ||||||:||||
orf89-1         ILKNPLDDNQTIENKLEIFVSGYKMNPKIAKKYSVSVKFVDKEKSRAYRLVGVPKAGTGY
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160
orf89a.pep      TLSVWMNSVGDGYKCRDAASARAHLETLSSDVGCEAFSNRKKX
                |||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||
orf89-1         TLSVWMNSVGDGYKCRDAASAQAHLETLSSDVGCEAFSNRKKX
```

```
                                130       140       150       160
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF89 shows 84.6% identity over a 162aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF89.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf89      MMSNXMXQKGFTLIXXMIVVAILGIISVIAIPSYXSYIEKGYQSQLYTEMXGINNISKQF   60
           |||| | |||||||  ||||:||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||| ||||: |||
orf89ng    MMSNKMEQKGFTLIEMMIVVTILGIISVIAIPSYQSYIEKGYQSQLYTEMVGINNVLKQF   60

orf89      ILKNPLDDNQTIENKLEIFVSGYKMNPKIAKKYSVSVKFVDKEKSRAYRLVGVPKAGTGY  120
           ||||| |||:|:::||:|||||||||||||||||||:||| || |||||||||:|||||
orf89ng    ILKNPQDDNDTLKSKLKIFVSGYKMNPKIAKKYSVSVRFVDAEKPRAYRLVGVPNAGTGY  120

orf89      TLSVWMNSVGDGYKCRDAASAQAHLETLSSDVGCEAFSNRKK  162
           ||||||||||||||||||:||||: :|||:| ||||||||||
orf89ng    TLSVWMNSVGDGYKCRDATSAQAYSDTLSADSGCEAFSNRKK  162
```

The complete length ORF89ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 343> is:

```
   1  aTGATGAGCA ATAAAATGGA ACAAAAAGGG TTTACATTGA TTGAGATGAT
  51  GATAGTTGTC ACGATACTCG GCATCATCAG CGTCATTGCC ATACCTTCTT
 101  ATCAGAGTTA TATTGAAAAA GGCTATCAGT CCCAGCTTTA TACGGAGATG
 151  GTCGGTATCA ACAATGTTCT CAAACAGTTT ATTTTGAAAA ATCCCCAGGA
 201  CGATAATGAT ACCCTCAAGA GCAAACTGAA AATATTTGTC TCAGGCTATA
 251  AGATGAATCC GAAAAttgCC AAAAAATATA GTGTTTCGGt aaggtttGTC
 301  gatGCGGAAA AACCAAGGGC ATACAGGTTG GTCGGCGTTC CGAACGCGGG
 351  GACGGGTTAT ACTTTGTCGG TATGGATGAA CAGCGTGGGC GACGGATACA
 401  AATGCCGTGA TGCCACTTCT GCCCAGGCCT ATTCGGACAC CTTGTCCGCA
 451  GATAGCGGCT GTGAAGCTTT CTCTAATCGT AAAAAATAG
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 344>:

```
   1  MMSNKMEQKG FTLIEMMIVV TILGIISVIA IPSYQSYIEK GYQSQLYTEM
  51  VGINNVLKQF ILKNPQDDND TLKSKLKIFV SGYKMNPKIA KKYSVSVRFV
 101  DAEKPRAYRL VGVPNAGTGY TLSVWMNSVG DGYKCRDATS AQAYSDTLSA
 151  DSGCEAFSNR KK*
```

This gonococcal protein has a putative leader peptide (underlined) and N-terminal methylation site (NMePhe or type-4 pili, double-underlined). In addition, ORF89ng and ORF89-1 show 88.3% identity in 162 aa overlap:

```
                   10        20        30        40        50        60
orf89-1.pep  MMSNKMEQKGFTLIEMMIVVAILGIISVIAIPSYQSYIEKGYQSQLYTEMVGINNISKQF
             ||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||: |||
orf89ng      MMSNKMEQKGFTLIEMMIVVTILGIISVIAIPSYQSYIEKGYQSQLYTEMVGINNVLKQF
                   10        20        30        40        50        60

                   70        80        90       100       110       120
orf89-1.pep  ILKNPLDDNQTIENKLEIFVSGYKMNPKIAKKYSVSVKFVDKEKSRAYRLVGVPKAGTGY
             ||||| |||:|:::||:|||||||||||||||||||:||| || |||||||||:|||||
orf89ng      ILKNPQDDNDTLKSKLKIFVSGYKMNPKIAKKYSVSVRFVDAEKPRAYRLVGVPNAGTGY
                   70        80        90       100       110       120

                  130       140       150       160
orf89-1.pep  TLSVWMNSVGDGYKCRDAASAQAHLETLSSDVGCEAFSNRKKX
             ||||||||||||||||||:||||: :|||:| ||||||||||
orf89ng      TLSVWMNSVGDGYKCRDATSAQAYSDTLSADSGCEAFSNRKKX
                  130       140       150       160
```

Based on this analysis, including the gonococcal motifs and the homology with the known PilE protein, it was predicted that these proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

ORF89-1 (13.6kDa) was cloned in the pGex vector and expressed in *E.coli*, as described above. The products of protein expression and purification were analyzed by SDS-PAGE. Figure 11A shows the results of affinity purification of the GST-fusion protein. Purified GST-fusion protein was used to immunise mice, whose sera gave a positive result in the ELISA test., confirming that ORF89-1 is a surface-exposed protein, and that it is a useful immunogen.

Example 41

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 345>:

```
   1  ATGAAAAAAT CCTCCCTCAT CAGCGCATTG GGCATCGGTA TTTTGAGCAT
  51  CGGCATGGCA TTTGCCGCCC CTGCCGACGC GGTAAGCCAA ATCCGTCAAA
 101  ACGCCACTCA AGTATTGAGC ATCTTAAAAA ACGGCGATGC CAACACCGCT
 151  CGCCAAAAAG CCGAAGCCTA TGCGATTCCC TATTTCGATT TCCAACGTAT
 201  GACCGCATTG GCGGTCGGCA ACCCTTGGsG CACCG.GTCC GACG.GCAAA
 251  AACAAGCGTT GGCCn.AGAA TTTCAACCC...
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 346; ORF91>:

```
   1  MKKSSLISAL GIGILSIGMA FAAPADAVSQ IRQNATQVLS ILKNGDANTA
  51  RQKAEAYAIP YFDFQRMTAL AVGNPWXTXS DXQKQALAXE FQP...
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 347>:

```
   1  ATGAAAAAAT CCTCCCTCAT CAGCGCATTG GGCATCGGTA TTTTGAGCAT
  51  CGGCATGGCA TTTGCCGCCC CTGCCGACGC GGTAAGCCAA ATCCGTCAAA
 101  ACGCCACTCA AGTATTGAGC ATCTTAAAAA ACGGCGATGC CAACACCGCT
 151  CGCCAAAAAG CCGAAGCCTA TGCGATTCCC TATTTCGATT TCCAACGTAT
 201  GACCGCATTG GCGGTCGGCA ACCCTTGGCG CACCGCGTCC GACGCGCAAA
 251  AACAAGCGTT GGCCAAAGAA TTTCAAACCC TGCTGATCCG CACCTATTCC
 301  GGCACGATGC TGAAATTAAA AAACGCCAAC GTCAACGTCA AAGACAATCC
 351  CATCGTCAAT AAAGGCGGCA AAGAAATCAT CGTCCGCGCC GAAGTCGGCG
 401  TACCCGGGCA AAAACCCGTC AACATGGACT TCACCACCTA CCAAAGCGGC
 451  GGTAAATACC GTACCTACAA CGTCGCCATC GAAGGCGCGA GCCTGGTTAC
 501  CGTGTACCGC AACCAATTCG GCGAAATTAT CAAAGCGAAA GGCGTGGACG
 551  GACTGATTGC CGAGTTGAAA GCCAAAAACG GCGGCAAATA A
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 348; ORF91-1>:

```
   1  MKKSSLISAL GIGILSIGMA FAAPADAVSQ IRQNATQVLS ILKNGDANTA
  51  RQKAEAYAIP YFDFQRMTAL AVGNPWRTAS DAQKQALAKE FQTLLIRTYS
 101  GTMLKLKNAN VNVKDNPIVN KGGKEIIVRA EVGVPGQKPV NMDFTTYQSG
 151  GKYRTYNVAI EGASLVTVYR NQFGEIIKAK GVDGLIAELK AKNGGK*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF91 shows 92.4% identity over a 92aa overlap with an ORF (ORF91a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf91.pep    MKKSSLISALGIGILSIGMAFAAPADAVSQIRQNATQVLSILKNGDANTARQKAEAYAIP
             |||||:||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||
orf91a       MKKSSFISALGIGILSIGMAFAAPADAVNQIRQNATQVLSILKSGDANTARQKAEAYAIP
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90
orf91.pep    YFDFQRMTALAVGNPWXTXSDXQKQALAXEFQP
             |||||||||||||||| | || |||||| |||
orf91a       YFDFQRMTALAVGNPWRTASDAQKQALAKEFQTLLIRTYSGTMLKLKNANVNVKDNPIVN
                    70        80        90       100       110       120
```

```
orf91a      KGGKEIIVRAEVGVPGQKPVNMDFTTYQSGGKYRTYNVAIEGASLVTVYRNQFGEIIKAK
                   130       140       150       160       170       180
```

The complete length ORF91a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 349> is:

```
     1  ATGAAAAAAT CCTCCTTCAT CAGCGCATTG GGCATCGGTA TTTTGAGCAT
    51  CGGCATGGCA TTTGCCGCCC CTGCCGACGC GGTAAACCAA ATCCGTCAAA
   101  ACGCCACTCA AGTATTGAGC ATCTTAAAAA GCGGTGATGC CAACACCGCC
   151  CGCCAAAAAG CCGAAGCCTA TGCGATTCCC TATTTCGATT TCCAACGTAT
   201  GACCGCATTG GCGGTCGGCA ACCCTTGGCG CACCGCGTCC GACGCGCAAA
   251  AACAAGCGTT GGCCAAAGAA TTTCAAACCC TGCTGATCCG CACCTATTCC
   301  GGCACGATGC TGAAATTAAA AAACGCCAAC GTCAACGTCA AAGACAATCC
   351  CATCGTCAAT AAAGGCGGCA AAGAAATCAT CGTCCGCGCC GAAGTCGGCG
   401  TACCCGGGCA AAAACCCGTC AACATGGACT TCACCACCTA CCAAAGCGGC
   451  GGTAAATACC GTACCTACAA CGTCGCCATC GAAGGCGCGA GCCTGGTTAC
   501  CGTGTACCGC AACCAATTCG GCGAAATTAT CAAAGCGAAA GGCGTGGACG
   551  GACTGATTGC CGAGTTGAAG GCTAAAAACG GCAGCAAGTA A
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 350>:

```
     1  MKKSSFISAL GIGILSIGMA FAAPADAVNQ IRQNATQVLS ILKSGDANTA
    51  RQKAEAYAIP YFDFQRMTAL AVGNPWRTAS DAQKQALAKE FQTLLIRTYS
   101  GTMLKLKNAN VNVKDNPIVN KGGKEIIVRA EVGVPGQKPV NMDFTTYQSG
   151  GKYRTYNVAI EGASLVTVYR NQFGEIIKAK GVDGLIAELK AKNGSK*
```

ORF91a and ORF91-1 show 98.0% identity in 196 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf91a.pep      MKKSSFISALGIGILSIGMAFAAPADAVNQIRQNATQVLSILKSGDANTARQKAEAYAIP
                |||||:|||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||
orf91-1         MKKSSLISALGIGILSIGMAFAAPADAVSQIRQNATQVLSILKNGDANTARQKAEAYAIP
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf91a.pep      YFDFQRMTALAVGNPWRTASDAQKQALAKEFQTLLIRTYSGTMLKLKNANVNVKDNPIVN
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf91-1         YFDFQRMTALAVGNPWRTASDAQKQALAKEFQTLLIRTYSGTMLKLKNANVNVKDNPIVN
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf91a.pep      KGGKEIIVRAEVGVPGQKPVNMDFTTYQSGGKYRTYNVAIEGASLVTVYRNQFGEIIKAK
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf91-1         KGGKEIIVRAEVGVPGQKPVNMDFTTYQSGGKYRTYNVAIEGASLVTVYRNQFGEIIKAK
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190
orf91a.pep      GVDGLIAELKAKNGSKX
                |||||||||||||||:||
orf91-1         GVDGLIAELKAKNGGKX
                190
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF91 shows 84.8% identity over a 92aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF91.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf91.pep       MKKSSLISALGIGILSIGMAFAAPADAVSQIRQNATQVLSILKNGDANTARQKAEAYAIP   60
                :||||:|||||||||||||||:|||||:||||||||||:|||:||| :|| ||||||:|
orf91ng         VKKSSFISALGIGILSIGMAFASPADAVGQIRQNATQVLTILKSGDAASARPKAEAYAVP   60

orf91.pep       YFDFQRMTALAVGNPWXTXSDXQKQALAXEFQP                              93
                |||||||||||||||| | || |||||| |||
orf91ng         YFDFQRMTALAVGNPWRTASDAQKQALAKEFQTLLIRTYSGTMLKFKNATVNVKDNPIVN  120
```

The complete length ORF91ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 351> is predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 352>:

```
   1  VKKSSFISAL GIGILSIGMA FASPADAVGQ IRQNATQVLT ILKSGDAASA
  51  RPKAEAYAVP YFDFQRMTAL AVGNPWRTAS DAQKQALAKE FQTLLIRTYS
 101  GTMLKFKNAT VNVKDNPIVN KGGKEIVVRA EVGIPGQKPV NMDFTTYQSG
 151  GKYRTYNVAI EGTSLVTVYR NQFGEIIKAK GIDGLIAELK AKNGGK*
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 353>:

```
   1  ATGAAAAAAT CCTCCTTCAT CAGCGCATTG GGCATCGGTA TTTTGAGCAT
  51  CGGCATGGCA TTTGCCTCCC CGGCCGACGC AGTGGGACAA ATCCGCCAAA
 101  ACGCCACACA GGTTTTGACC ATCCTCAAAA GCGGCGACGC GGCTTCTGCA
 151  CGCCCAAAAG CCGAAGCCTA TGCGGTTCCC TATTTCGATT TCCAACGTAT
 201  GACCGCATTG GCGGTCGGCA ACCCTTGGCG TACCGCGTCC GACGCGCAAA
 251  AACAAGCGTT GGCCAAAGAA TTTCAAACCC TGCTGATCCG CACCTATTCC
 301  GGCACGATGC TGAAATTCAA AAACGCGACC GTCAACGTCA AAGACAATCC
 351  CATCGTCAAT AAGGGCGGCA AGGAAATCGT CGTCCGTGCC GAAGTCGGCA
 401  TCCCCGGTCA GAAGCCCGTC AATATGGACT TTACCACCTA CCAAAGCGGC
 451  GGCAAATACC GTACCTACAA CGTCGCCATC GAAGGCACGA GCCTGGTTAC
 501  CGTGTACCGC AACCAATTCG GCGAAATCAT CAAAGCCAAA GGCATCGACG
 551  GGCTGATTGC CGAGTTGAAA GCCAAAAACG GCGGCAAATA A
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 354; ORF91ng-1>:

```
   1  MKKSSFISAL GIGILSIGMA FASPADAVGQ IRQNATQVLT ILKSGDAASA
  51  RPKAEAYAVP YFDFQRMTAL AVGNPWRTAS DAQKQALAKE FQTLLIRTYS
 101  GTMLKFKNAT VNVKDNPIVN KGGKEIVVRA EVGIPGQKPV NMDFTTYQSG
 151  GKYRTYNVAI EGTSLVTVYR NQFGEIIKAK GIDGLIAELK AKNGGK*
```

ORF91ng-1 and ORF91-1 show 92.3% identity in 196 aa overlap:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf91-1.pep  MKKSSLISALGIGILSIGMAFAAPADAVSQIRQNATQVLSILKNGDANTARQKAEAYAIP
             ||||||:||||||||||||||||:|||||:||||||||||:|||:||| :|| ||||||:|
orf91ng-1    MKKSSFISALGIGILSIGMAFASPADAVGQIRQNATQVLTILKSGDAASARPKAEAYAVP
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf91-1.pep  YFDFQRMTALAVGNPWRTASDAQKQALAKEFQTLLIRTYSGTMLKLKNANVNVKDNPIVN
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||:||||||||||
orf91ng-1    YFDFQRMTALAVGNPWRTASDAQKQALAKEFQTLLIRTYSGTMLKFKNATVNVKDNPIVN
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf91-1.pep  KGGKEIIVRAEVGVPGQKPVNMDFTTYQSGGKYRTYNVAIEGASLVTVYRNQFGEIIKAK
             ||||||:|||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||
orf91ng-1    KGGKEIVVRAEVGIPGQKPVNMDFTTYQSGGKYRTYNVAIEGTSLVTVYRNQFGEIIKAK
                   130       140       150       160       170       180

                   190
orf91-1.pep  GVDGLIAELKAKNGGKX
             |:|||||||||||||||
orf91ng-1    GIDGLIAELKAKNGGKX
                   190
```

In addition, ORF91ng-1 shows homology to a hypothetical *E.coli* protein:

```
 sp|P45390|YRBC_ECOLI HYPOTHETICAL 24.0 KD PROTEIN IN MURA-RPON INTERGENIC
REGION PRECURSOR (F211) >gi|606130 (U18997) ORF_f211 [Escherichia coli]
>gi|1789583 (AE000399) hypothetical 24.0 kD protein in murZ-rpoN intergenic
region [Escherichia coli]Length = 211

 Score = 70.6 bits (170), Expect = 6e-12
 Identities = 42/137 (30%), Positives = 76/137 (54%), Gaps = 6/137 (4%)

Query: 59  VPYFDFQRMTALAVGNPWRTASDAQKQALAKEFQTLLIRTYSGTMLKFKNATVNVKDNPI 118
           +PY   +   AL +G  +++A+ AQ++A     F+  L + Y   +  +  T  +   P
Sbjct: 65  LPYVQVKYAGALVLGQYYKSATPAQREAYFAAFREYLKQAYGQALAMYHGQTYQIA--PE 122

Query: 119 VNKGGKEIV-VRAEVGIP-GQKPVNMDFTTYQSG--GKYRTYNVAIEGTSLVTVYRNQFG 174
              G K IV +R   +  P G+ PV +DF   ++   G ++ Y++  EG S++T  +N++G
Sbjct: 123 QPLGDKTIVPIRVTIIDPNGRPPVRLDFQWRKNSQTGNWQAYDMIAEGVSMITTKQNEWG 182
```

```
Query: 175 EIIKAKGIDGLIAELKA 191
           +++ KGIDGL A+LK+
Sbjct: 183 TLLRTKGIDGLTAQLKS 199
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of a putative leader sequence in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 42

The following DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 355>:

```
   1  ATGAAACACA TACTCCCCCT GATTGCCGCA TCCGCACTCT GCATTTCAAC
  51  CGCTTCGGCA CATCCTGCCA GCGAACCGTC CACTCAAAAC GAAACCGCTA
 101  TGATCACGCA TACCCTCATC TCAAAATACA GTTTTGGnnn nnnnnnnnnn
 151  nnnnnnnnnn nnGCCATAAA AAGCAAAGGG ATGGACATTT TTGCCGTCAT
 201  CGACCATCAG GAAGCCGCAC GCCGAAACGG CTTAACGATG CAGCCGGCAA
 251  AAGTCATCGT CTTCGGCACG CCCAAAGCCG GCACGCCGCT GATGGTCAAA
 301  GACCCCGCCT TCGCCCTGCA ACTGCCCCTA CGCGTCCTCG TTACCGAAAC
 351  GGACGGCAAA GTACGCGCCG CCTATACCGA TACGCGCGCC CTCATCGCCG
 401  GCAGCCGCAT CGGTTTCGAC GAAGTGGCAA ACACTTTGGC AAACGCCGAA
 451  AAACTGATAC AAAAAACCGT AGGCGAATAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 356; ORF97>:

```
   1  MKHILPLIAA SALCISTASA HPASEPSTQN ETAMITHTLI SKYSFGXXXX
  51  XXXXAIKSKG MDIFAVIDHQ EAARRNGLTM QPAKVIVFGT PKAGTPLMVK
 101  DPAFALQLPL RVLVTETDGK VRAAYTDTRA LIAGSRIGFD EVANTLANAE
 151  KLIQKTVGE*
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 357>:

```
   1  ATGAAACACA TACTCCCCCT GATTGCCGCA TCCGCACTCT GCATTTCAAC
  51  CGCTTCGGCA CATCCTGCCA GCGAACCGTC CACCCAAAAC GAAACCGCTA
 101  TGACCACGCA TACCCTCACC TCAAAATACA GTTTTGACGA AACCGTCAGC
 151  CGCCTTGAAA CCGCCATAAA AAGCAAAGGG ATGGACATTT TTGCCGTCAT
 201  CGACCATCAG GAAGCCGCCC GCCGAAACGG CTTAACGATG CAGCCGGCAA
 251  AAGTCATCGT CTTCGGCACG CCCAAAGCCG GCACGCCGCT GATGGTCAAA
 301  GACCCCGCCT TCGCCCTGCA ACTGCCCCTA CGCGTCCTCG TTACCGAAAC
 351  GGACGGCAAA GTACGCGCCG CCTATACCGA TACGCGCGCC CTCATCGCCG
 401  GCAGCCGCAT CGGTTTCGAC GAAGTGGCAA ACACTTTGGC AAACGCCGAA
 451  AAACTGATAC AAAAAACCGT AGGCGAATAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 358; ORF97-1>:

```
   1  MKHILPLIAA SALCISTASA HPASEPSTQN ETAMTTHTLT SKYSFDETVS
  51  RLETAIKSKG MDIFAVIDHQ EAARRNGLTM QPAKVIVFGT PKAGTPLMVK
 101  DPAFALQLPL RVLVTETDGK VRAAYTDTRA LIAGSRIGFD EVANTLANAE
 151  KLIQKTVGE*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF97 shows 88.7% identity over a 159aa overlap with an ORF (ORF97a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf97.pep   MKHILPLIAASALCISTASAHPASEPSTQNETAMITHTLISKYSFGXXXXXXXXAIKSKG
            | ||||| ||||||||||| |||||||:||||||| |||| ||||| :     :|||||||
orf97a      MXHILPLXXASALCISTASXHPASEPQTQNETAMTTHTLTSKYSFDETVSRLETAIKSKG
                10        20        30        40        50        60
```

```
                    70        80        90        100       110       120
orf97.pep    MDIFAVIDHQEAARRNGLTMQPAKVIVFGTPKAGTPLMVKDPAFALQLPLRVLVTETDGK
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||
orf97a       MDIFAVIDHQEAARRNGLTMQPAKVIVFGTPKAGTPLMVKDPAFALQLPLRVXVTETDGK
                    70        80        90        100       110       120

                   130       140       150       160
orf97.pep    VRAAYTDTRALIAGSRIGFDEVANTLANAEKLIQKTVGEX
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||
orf97a       VRAAYTDTRALIAGSRIGFDEVANTLANAEKLIQKTIGEX
                   130       140       150       160
```

The complete length ORF97a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 359> is:

```
   1  ATGANACACA TACTCCCCCT GANTGNCGCA TCCGCACTCT GCATTTCAAC
  51  CGCTTCGGNN CATCCTGCCA GCGAACCGCA AACCCAAAAC GAAACCGCTA
 101  TGACCACGCA TACCCTCACC TCAAAATACA GTTTTGACGA AACCGTCAGC
 151  CGCCTTGAAA CCGCCATAAA AAGCAAAGGG ATGGACATTT TTGCCGTCAT
 201  CGACCATCAG GAAGCCGCCC GCCGAAACGG CTTAACGATG CAGCCGGCAA
 251  AAGTCATCGT CTTCGGCACG CCCAAAGCCG GTACGCCGCT GATGGTCAAA
 301  GACCCCGCCT TCGCCCTGCA ACTGCCCCTG CGCGTCNTCG TTACCGAAAC
 351  GGACGGCAAA GTACGCGCCG CCTATACCGA TACGCGCGCC CTCATCGCCG
 401  GCAGCCGCAT CGGTTTCGAC GAAGTGGCAA ACACTTTGGC AAACGCCGAA
 451  AAACTGATAC AAAAAACCAT AGGCGAATAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 360>:

```
   1  MXHILPLXXA SALCISTASX HPASEPQTQN ETAMTTHTLT SKYSFDETVS
  51  RLETAIKSKG MDIFAVIDHQ EAARRNGLTM QPAKVIVFGT PKAGTPLMVK
 101  DPAFALQLPL RVXVTETDGK VRAAYTDTRA LIAGSRIGFD EVANTLANAE
 151  KLIQKTIGE*
```

ORF97a and ORF97-1 show 95.6% identity in 159 aa overlap:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf97a.pep   MXHILPLXXASALCISTASXHPASEPQTQNETAMTTHTLTSKYSFDETVSRLETAIKSKG
             | |||||  ||||||||||| ||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf97-1      MKHILPLIAASALCISTASAHPASEPSTQNETAMTTHTLTSKYSFDETVSRLETAIKSKG
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90        100       110       120
orf97a.pep   MDIFAVIDHQEAARRNGLTMQPAKVIVFGTPKAGTPLMVKDPAFALQLPLRVXVTETDGK
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||
orf97-1      MDIFAVIDHQEAARRNGLTMQPAKVIVFGTPKAGTPLMVKDPAFALQLPLRVLVTETDGK
                    70        80        90        100       110       120

                   130       140       150       160
orf97a.pep   VRAAYTDTRALIAGSRIGFDEVANTLANAEKLIQKTIGEX
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||
orf97-1      VRAAYTDTRALIAGSRIGFDEVANTLANAEKLIQKTVGEX
                   130       140       150       160
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF97 shows 88.1% identity over a 159aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF97.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf97.pep    MKHILPLIAASALCISTASAHPASEPSTQNETAMITHTLISKYSFGXXXXXXXXAIKSKG   60
             |||||| |||||:|||||||||||::| |||||||  |||| |||||  :     :|||||||
orf97ng      MKHILPPIAASAFCISTASAHPAGKPPTQNETAMTTHTLTSKYSFDETVSRLETAIKSKG   60

orf97.pep    MDIFAVIDHQEAARRNGLTMQPAKVIVFGTPKAGTPLMVKDPAFALQLPLRVLVTETDGK  120
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf97ng      MDIFAVIDHQEAARRNGLTMQPAKVIVFGTPKAGTPLMVKDPAFALQLPLRVLVTETDGK  120

orf97.pep    VRAAYTDTRALIAGSRIGFDEVANTLANAEKLIQKTVGE  159
             ||:|||||||||:|||||:||||||||||||||||||||
orf97ng      VRTAYTDTRALIVGSRISFDEVANTLANAEKLIQKTVGE  159
```

The complete length ORF97ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 361> is predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 362>:

```
  1  MKHILPPIAA SAFCISTASA HPAGKPPTQN ETAMTTHTLT SKYSFDETVS
 51  RLETAIKSKG MDIFAVIDHQ EAARRNGLTM QPAKVIVFGT PKAGTPLMVK
101  DPAFALQLPL RVLVTETDGK VRTAYTDTRA LIVGSRISFD EVANTLANAE
151  KLIQKTVGE*
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 363>:

```
  1  ATGAAACACA TACTCCCcct gatcgccgca TccgcactCT GCATTTCAAC
 51  CGCTTCGGCA CACCCTGCCG GCAAACCGCC CACCCAAAAC GAAACCGCTA
101  TGACCACGCA CACCCTCACC TCGAAATACA GTTTTGACGA AACCGTCAGC
151  CGCCTTGAAA CCGCCATAAA AAGCAAAGGG ATGGACATTT TTGCCGTCAT
201  CGACCATCAG GAAGCGGCAC GCCGAAACGG CCTGACCATG CAGCCGGCAA
251  AAGTCATCGT CTTCGGCACG CCCAAGGCCG GTACGCCgct GATGGTCAAA
301  GACCCCGCCT TCGCCCTGCA ACTGCCCCTG CGCGTCCTCG TTACCGAAAC
351  GGACGGCAAA GTACGCACCG CCTATACCGA TACGCGCGCC CTCATCGTCG
401  GCAGCCGCAT CAGTTTCGAC GAAGTGGCAA ACACTTTGGC AAACGCCGAA
451  AAACTGATAC AAAAAACCGT AGGCGAATAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 364; ORF97ng-1>:

```
  1  MKHILPLIAA SALCISTASA HPAGKPPTQN ETAMTTHTLT SKYSFDETVS
 51  RLETAIKSKG MDIFAVIDHQ EAARRNGLTM QPAKVIVFGT PKAGTPLMVK
101  DPAFALQLPL RVLVTETDGK VRTAYTDTRA LIVGSRISFD EVANTLANAE
151  KLIQKTVGE*
```

ORF97ng-1 and ORF97-1 show 96.2% identity in 159 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf97-1.pep     MKHILPLIAASALCISTASAHPASEPSTQNETAMTTHTLTSKYSFDETVSRLETAIKSKG
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||::| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf97ng-1       MKHILPLIAASALCISTASAHPAGKPPTQNETAMTTHTLTSKYSFDETVSRLETAIKSKG
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf97-1.pep     MDIFAVIDHQEAARRNGLTMQPAKVIVFGTPKAGTPLMVKDPAFALQLPLRVLVTETDGK
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf97ng-1       MDIFAVIDHQEAARRNGLTMQPAKVIVFGTPKAGTPLMVKDPAFALQLPLRVLVTETDGK
                70        80        90        100       110       120

               130       140       150       160
orf97-1.pep     VRAAYTDTRALIAGSRIGFDEVANTLANAEKLIQKTVGEX
                ||:|||||||||:||||:|||||||||||||||||||||
orf97ng-1       VRTAYTDTRALIVGSRISFDEVANTLANAEKLIQKTVGEX
                130       140       150       160
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of a putative leader sequence in the gonococcal protein, it was predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

ORF97-1 (15.3kDa) was cloned in pET and pGex vectors and expressed in *E.coli*, as described above. The products of protein expression and purification were analyzed by SDS-PAGE. Figures 12A & 12B show, repsectively, the results of affinity purification of the GST-fusion and His-fusion proteins. Purified GST-fusion protein was used to immunise mice, whose sera were used for Western Blot (Figure 12C), ELISA (positive result), and FACS analysis (Figure 12D). These experiments confirm that ORF97-1 is a surface-exposed protein, and that it is a useful immunogen.

Figure 12E shows plots of hydrophilicity, antigenic index, and AMPHI regions for ORF97-1.

Example 43

The following DNA, believed to be complete, sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 365>:

```
      1  ATGGCTTTTA TTACGCGCTT ATTCAAAAGC AGTAAATGGC TGATTGTGCC
     51  GCTGATGCTC CCCGCCTTTC AGAATGTGGC GGCGGAGGGG ATAGATGTGA
    101  GCCGTGCCGA AGCGAGGATA ACCGACGGCG GGCAGCTTTC CATCAGCAGC
    151  CGCTTCCAAA CCGAGCTGCC CGACCAGCTC CAACAGGCGT TGCGCCGGGg
    201  CGTGCCGCTC AACTTTACCT TAAGCTGGCA GCTTTCCGCC CCGATAATCG
    251  CTTCTTATCG GTTTAAATTG GGGCAACTGA TTGGCGATGA CGACaATATT
    301  GACTACAAAC TGAGTTTCCA TCCGCTGACc AaACGCTACC GCGTTACCgT
    351  CGgCGCGTTT TCGACAGACT ACGACACCTT GGATGCGGCA TTGCGCGCGA
    401  CCGGCGCGGT TGCCAACTGG AAAGTCCTGA ACAAAGGCGC GCTGTCCGGT
    451  GCGGAAGCAG GGGAAACCAA GGCGGAAATC CGCCTGACGC TGTCCACTTC
    501  AAAACTGCCC AAGCCTTTTC AAATCAATGC ATTGACTTCT CAAAACTGGC
    551  ATTTGGATTC GGGTTGGAAA CCTCTAAACA TCATCGGGAA CAAATAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 366; ORF106>:

```
      1  MAFITRLFKS SKWLIVPLML PAFQNVAAEG IDVSRAEARI TDGGQLSISS
     51  RFQTELPDQL QQALRRGVPL NFTLSWQLSA PIIASYRFKL GQLIGDDDNI
    101  DYKLSFHPLT KRYRVTVGAF STDYDTLDAA LRATGAVANW KVLNKGALSG
    151  AEAGETKAEI RLTLSTSKLP KPFQINALTS QNWHLDSGWK PLNIIGNK*
```

Further work revealed the following DNA sequence <SEQ ID 367>:

```
      1  ATGGCTTTTA TTACGCGCTT ATTCAAAAGC AGTAAATGGC TGATTGTGCC
     51  GCTGATGCTC CCCGCCTTTC AGAATGTGGC GGCGGAGGGG ATAGATGTGA
    101  GCCGTGCCGA AGCGAGGATA ACCGACGGCG GGCAGCTTTC CATCAGCAGC
    151  CGCTTCCAAA CCGAGCTGCC CGACCAGCTC CAACAGGCGT TGCGCCGGGG
    201  CGTGCCGCTC AACTTTACCT TAAGCTGGCA GCTTTCCGCC CCGATAATCG
    251  CTTCTTATCG GTTTAAATTG GGGCAACTGA TTGGCGATGA CGACAATATT
    301  GACTACAAAC TGAGTTTCCA TCCGCTGACC AACCGCTACC GCGTTACCGT
    351  CGGCGCGTTT TCGACAGACT ACGACACCTT GGATGCGGCA TTGCGCGCGA
    401  CCGGCGCGGT TGCCAACTGG AAAGTCCTGA ACAAAGGCGC GCTGTCCGGT
    451  GCGGAAGCAG GGGAAACCAA GGCGGAAATC CGCCTGACGC TGTCCACTTC
    501  AAAACTGCCC AAGCCTTTTC AAATCAATGC ATTGACTTCT CAAAACTGGC
    551  ATTTGGATTC GGGTTGGAAA CCTCTAAACA TCATCGGGAA CAAATAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 368; ORF106-1>:

```
      1  MAFITRLFKS SKWLIVPLML PAFQNVAAEG IDVSRAEARI TDGGQLSISS
     51  RFQTELPDQL QQALRRGVPL NFTLSWQLSA PIIASYRFKL GQLIGDDDNI
    101  DYKLSFHPLT NRYRVTVGAF STDYDTLDAA LRATGAVANW KVLNKGALSG
    151  AEAGETKAEI RLTLSTSKLP KPFQINALTS QNWHLDSGWK PLNIIGNK*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF106 shows 87.4% identity over a 199aa overlap with an ORF (ORF106a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                    10         20         30         40         50         59
orf106.pep   MAFITRLFKSSK-WLIVPLMLPAFQNVAAEGIDVSRAEARITDGGQLSISSRFQTELPDQ
             |||||||||| | ||::  || :: ::|||||||||||||||:|||||  ||||||||||
orf106a      MAFITRLFKSIKQWLVLLPMLSVLPDAAAEGIDVSRAEARIXDGGQLSXXSRFQTELPDQ
                    10         20         30         40         50         60

                   60         70         80         90        100        110        119
orf106.pep   LQQALRRGVPLNFTLSWQLSAPIIASYRFKLGQLIGDDDNIDYKLSFHPLTKRYRVTVGA
             || |  ||| || || ||||||||||||| ||||||||| ||||||||||:||||||||
```

```
orf106a      LQXAXXRGVXLNXTLXWQLSAPIIASYRFXLGQLIGDDDXIDYKLSFHPLTNRYRVTVGA
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

           120       130       140       150       160       170       179
orf106.pep   FSTDYDTLDAALRATGAVANWKVLNKGALSGAEAGETKAEIRLTLSTSKLPKPFQINALT
             ||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf106a      FSTXYDTLDAALRATGAVANWKVLNKGALSGAEAGETKAEIRLTLSTSKLPKPFQINALT
                   130       140       150       160       170       180

           180       190       199
orf106.pep   SQNWHLDSGWKPLNIIGNKX
             ||||||||||||||||||||
orf106a      SQNWHLDSGWKPLNIIGNKX
                   190       200
```

Due to the K→N substitution at residue 111, the homology between ORF106a and ORF106-1 is 87.9% over the same 199 aa overlap.

The complete length ORF106a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 369> is:

```
   1  ATGGCTTTTA TTACGCGCTT ATTCAAAAGC ATTAAACAAT GGCTTGTGCT
  51  GCTGCCGATG CTTTCCGTTT TGCCGGACGC GGCGGCGGAG GGGATAGATG
 101  TGAGCCGCGC CGAAGCGAGG ATAANCGACG GCGGGCAGCT TTCCATNAGN
 151  AGCCGCTTCC AAACCGAGCT GCCCGACCAG CTCCAANNNG CGNNGNGCCG
 201  GGGCGTGNCG CTCAACTNTA CCTTAAGNTG GCAGCTTTCC GCCCCGATAA
 251  TCGCTTCTTA TCGGTTTNAA TTGGGGCAAC TGATTGGCGA TGACGACNAT
 301  ATTGACTACA AACTGAGTTT CCATCCGCTG ACCAACCGCT ACCGCGTTAC
 351  CGTCGGCGCG TTTTCGACAG ANTACGACAC CTTGGATGCG GCATTGCGCG
 401  CGACCGGCGC GGTTGCCAAC TGGAAAGTCC TGAACAAAGG CGCGCTGTCC
 451  GGTGCGGAAG CAGGGGAAAC CAAGGCGGAA ATCCGCCTGA CGCTGTCCAC
 501  TTCAAAACTG CCCAAGCCTT TTCAAATCAA TGCATTGACT TCTCAAAACT
 551  GGCATTTGGA TTCGGGTTGG AAACCTCTAA ACATCATCGG GAACAAATAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 370>:

```
   1  MAFITRLFKS IKQWLVLLPM LSVLPDAAAE GIDVSRAEAR IXDGGQLSXX
  51  SRFQTELPDQ LQXAXXRGVX LNXTLXWQLS APIIASYRFX LGQLIGDDDX
 101  IDYKLSFHPL TNRYRVTVGA FSTXYDTLDA ALRATGAVAN WKVLNKGALS
 151  GAEAGETKAE IRLTLSTSKL PKPFQINALT SQNWHLDSGW KPLNIIGNK*
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF106 shows 90.5% identity over a 199aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF106.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf106.pep   MAFITRLFKSSK-WLIVPLMLPAFQNVAAEGIDVSRAEARITDGGQLSISSRFQTELPDQ   59
             |||||||||| | ||::  :| :: ::|||||| ::|||||||||||:|||||||||||||
orf106ng     MAFITRLFKSIKQWLVLLPILSVLPDAAAEGIAATRAEARITDGGRLSISSRFQTELPDQ   60

orf106.pep   LQQALRRGVPLNFTLSWQLSAPIIASYRFKLGQLIGDDDNIDYKLSFHPLTKRYRVTVGA  119
             ||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||
orf106ng     LQQALRRGVPLNFTLSWQLSAPTIASYRFKLGQLIGDDDNIDYKLSFHPLTNRYRVTVGA  120

orf106.pep   FSTDYDTLDAALRATGAVANWKVLNKGALSGAEAGETKAEIRLTLSTSKLPKPFQINALT  179
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf106ng     FSTDYDTLDAALRATGAVANWKVLNKGALSGAEAGETKAEIRLTLSTSKLPKPFQINALT  180

orf106.pep   SQNWHLDSGWKPLNIIGNK  198
             |||||||||||||||||||
orf106ng     SQNWHLDSGWKPLNIIGNK  199
```

Due to the K→N substitution at residue 111, the homology between ORF106ng and ORF106-1 is 91.0% over the same 199 aa overlap.

The complete length ORF106ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 371> is:

```
   1  ATGGCTTTTA TTACGCGCTT ATTCAAAAGC ATTAAACAAT GGCTTGTGCT
  51  GTTGCCGATA CTCTCCGTTT TGCCGGACGC GGCGGCGGAG GGCATTGCCG
 101  CGACCCGCGC CGAAGCGAGG ATAACCGACG GCGGGCGGCT TTCCATCAGC
 151  AGCCGCTTCC AAACCGAGCT GCCCGACCAG CTCCAACAGG CGTTGCGCCG
 201  GGGCGTACCG CTCAACTTTA CCTTAAGCTG GCAGCTTTCC GCCCCGACAA
 251  TCGCTTCTTA TCGGTTTAAA TTGGGGCAAC TGATTGGCGA TGACGACAAT
 301  ATTGACTACA AACTAAGTTT CCATCCGCTG ACCAACCGCT ACCGCGTTAC
 351  CGTCGGCGCA TTTTCCACCG ATTACGACAC TTTGGATGCG GCATTGCGCG
 401  CGACCGGCGC GGTTGCCAAC TGGAAAGTCC TGAACAAAGG CGCGTTGTCC
 451  GGTGCGGAAG CAGGGGAAAC CAAGGCGGAA ATCCGCCTGA CGCTGTCCAC
 501  TTCAAAACTG CCCAAGCCTT TCCAAATCAA CGCATTGACT TCTCAAAACT
 551  GGCATTTGGA TTCGGGTTGG AAACCTCTAA ACATCATCGG GAACAAATAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 372>:

```
   1  MAFITRLFKS IKQWLVLLPI LSVLPDAAAE GIAATRAEAR ITDGGRLSIS
  51  SRFQTELPDQ LQQALRRGVP LNFTLSWQLS APTIASYRFK LGQLIGDDDN
 101  IDYKLSFHPL TNRYRVTVGA FSTDYDTLDA ALRATGAVAN WKVLNKGALS
 151  GAEAGETKAE IRLTLSTSKL PKPFQINALT SQNWHLDSGW KPLNIIGNK*
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of a putative leader sequence in the gonococcal protein, it was predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

ORF106-1 (18kDa) was cloned in pET and pGex vectors and expressed in *E.coli*, as described above. The products of protein expression and purification were analyzed by SDS-PAGE. Figure 13A shows the results of affinity purification of the His-fusion protein, and Figure 13B shows the results of expression of the GST-fusion in *E.coli*. Purified His-fusion protein was used to immunise mice, whose sera were used for FACS analysis (Figure 13C) These experiments confirm that ORF106-1 is a surface-exposed protein, and that it is a useful immunogen.

Example 44

The following DNA sequence, believed to be complete, was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 373>:

```
   1  ATGGACACAA AAGAAATCCT CGG.TACGCG GcAGGcTCGA TCGGCAGCGC
  51  GGTTTTAGCC GTCATCATCc TGCCGCTGCT GTCGTGGTAT TTCCCCGCCG
 101  ACGACATCGG GCGCATCGTG CTGATGCAGA CGGCGGCGGG GCTgACGGTG
 151  TCGGTGTTGT GCCTCGGGCT GGATCAGGCA TACGTCCGCG AATACTATGC
 201  CACCGCCGAC AAAGACAcCT TGTTCAAAAC CCTGTTCCTG CCGCCGCTGC
 251  TGTCTGCCGC CGCGATAGCC GCCCTGCTGC TTTCCCGCCC GTCCCTGCCG
 301  TCTGAAATCC TGTTTTCACT CGACGATGCC gCCGCCGGCa TCGGGCTGGT
 351  GCTGTTTGAA CtGAGCTTCC TGCCCATCCG cTTTCTCTTA CTGGTTTTGC
 401  GTATGGAAGG ACGCGCCcTT GCCTTTTCGT CCGCGCAACT CGTGCcCAAG
 451  CTCGCCATCC TGCTGCTG.T GCCGCTGACG GTCGGGCTGC TGCACTTTCC
 501  AGCGAACACC GCCGTCCTGA CCGCCGTTTA CGCGCTGGCA AACCTTGCCG
 551  CCGCCGCCTT TTTGCTGTTT CAAAACCGAT GCCGTCTGAA GGCCGTCCGG
 601  CACGCACCGT TTTCGCCCGC CGTCCTGCAC CGGGGG.TGC GCTACGGCAT
 651  ACCGATCGCA CTGAGCAGCA TCGCCTATTG GGGGCTGGCA TCCGCCGACC
 701  GTTTGTTCCT GAAAAAATAT GCCGGCCTGG AACAGCTCGG CGTTTATTCG
 751  ATGGGTATTT CGTTCGGCGG GGCGGCATTA TTGTTCCAAA GCATCTTTTC
 801  AACGGTCTGG ACACCGTATA TTTTCCGCGC AATCGAAGAA AACGCCCCGC
 851  CCGCTCGCCT CTCGGCAACG GCAGAATCCG CCGCCGCCCT GCTTGCCTCC
 901  GCCCTCTGC. TGACCGGCAT TTTCTCGCCC CTTGCCTCCC TCCTGCTGCC
 951  GGAAAACTAC GCCGCCGTCC GGTTTATCGT CGTATCGTGT ATG.TGCCGC
```

```
1001  CGCTGTTTTG CACGCTGGCG GAAATCAGCG GCATCGGTTT GAACGTCGTT
1051  CGCAAAACGC GCCCGATCGC GCTCGCCACC TTGGGCGCGC TGGCGGCAAA
1101  CCTGCTGCTG CTGGGGCTTG ACCGTGCCGT ACCGGCGAGG CCGCC.GGCG
1151  CGGCGGTTGC CTGTGCCGCC TCATTCTGGC TGTTTTTTGC CTTCAAGACC
1201  GAAAGCTCyT GCCGCCTGTG GCAGCCGCTC AAACGCCTGC CGCTTTATCT
1251  GCACACATTG TTCTGCCTGA CCTCCTCGGC GGCCTACACC TGCTTCGGCA
1301  CGCCGGCAAA CTATCCCCTG TTTGCCGGCG TATGGGCGGC ATATCTGGCA
1351  GGCTGCATCC TGCGCCACCG GAAAGATTTG CACAAACTGT TTCATTATTT
1401  GAAAAAACAA GGTTTCCCAT TATGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 374; ORF10>:

```
   1  MDTKEILXYA AGSIGSAVLA VIILPLLSWY FPADDIGRIV LMQTAAGLTV
  51  SVLCLGLDQA YVREYYATAD KDTLFKTLFL PPLLSAAAIA ALLLSRPSLP
 101  SEILFSLDDA AAGIGLVLFE LSFLPIRFLL LVLRMEGRAL AFSSAQLVPK
 151  LAILLLXPLT VGLLHFPANT AVLTAVYALA NLAAAAFLLF QNRCRLKAVR
 201  HAPFSPAVLH RGXRYGIPIA LSSIAYWGLA SADRLFLKKY AGLEQLGVYS
 251  MGISFGGAAL LFQSIFSTVW TPYIFRAIEE NAPPARLSAT AESAAALLAS
 301  ALCXTGIFSP LASLLLPENY AAVRFIVVSC MXPPLFCTLA EISGIGLNVV
 351  RKTRPIALAT LGALAANLLL LGLDRAVPAR PXGAAVACAA SFWLFFAFKT
 401  ESSCRLWQPL KRLPLYLHTL FCLTSSAAYT CFGTPANYPL FAGVWAAYLA
 451  GCILRHRKDL HKLFHYLKKQ GFPL*
```

Further sequence analysis revealed the complete DNA sequence<SEQ ID 375> to be:

```
   1  ATGGACACAA AAGAAATCCT CGGCTACGCG GCAGGCTCGA TCGGCAGCGC
  51  GGTTTTAGCC GTCATCATCC TGCCGCTGCT GTCGTGGTAT TTCCCCGCCG
 101  ACGACATCGG GCGCATCGTG CTGATGCAGA CGGCGGCGGG GCTGACGGTG
 151  TCGGTGTTGT GCCTCGGGCT GGATCAGGCA TACGTCCGCG AATACTATGC
 201  CACCGCCGAC AAAGACACCT TGTTCAAAAC CCTGTTCCTG CCGCCGCTGC
 251  TGTCTGCCGC CGCGATAGCC GCCCTGCTGC TTTCCCGCCC GTCCCTGCCG
 301  TCTGAAATCC TGTTTTCACT CGACGATGCC GCCGCCGGCA TCGGGCTGGT
 351  GCTGTTTGAA CTGAGCTTCC TGCCCATCCG CTTTCTCTTA CTGGTTTTGC
 401  GTATGGAAGG ACGCGCCCTT GCCTTTTCGT CCGCGCAACT CGTGCCCAAG
 451  CTCGCCATCC TGCTGCTGCT GCCGCTGACG GTCGGGCTGC TGCACTTTCC
 501  AGCGAACACC GCCGTCCTGA CCGCCGTTTA CGCGCTGGCA AACCTTGCCG
 551  CCGCCGCCTT TTTGCTGTTT CAAAACCGAT GCCGTCTGAA GGCCGTCCGG
 601  CACGCACCGT TTTCGCCCGC CGTCCTGCAC CGGGGGCTGC GCTACGGCAT
 651  ACCGATCGCA CTGAGCAGCA TCGCCTATTG GGGGCTGGCA TCCGCCGACC
 701  GTTTGTTCCT GAAAAAATAT GCCGGCCTGG AACAGCTCGG CGTTTATTCG
 751  ATGGGTATTT CGTTCGGCGG GGCGGCATTA TTGTTCCAAA GCATCTTTTC
 801  AACGGTCTGG ACACCGTATA TTTTCCGCGC AATCGAAGAA AACGCCCCGC
 851  CCGCCCGCCT CTCGGCAACG GCAGAATCCG CCGCCGCCCT GCTTGCCTCC
 901  GCCCTCTGCC TGACCGGCAT TTTCTCGCCC CTTGCCTCCC TCCTGCTGCC
 951  GGAAAACTAC GCCGCCGTCC GGTTTATCGT CGTATCGTGT ATGCTGCCGC
1001  CGCTGTTTTG CACGCTGGCG GAAATCAGCG GCATCGGTTT GAACGTCGTC
1051  CGCAAAACGC GCCCGATCGC GCTCGCCACC TTGGGCGCGC TGGCGGCAAA
1101  CCTGCTGCTG CTGGGGCTTG CCGTGCCGTC CGGCGGCGCG CGCGGCGCGG
1151  CGGTTGCCTG TGCCGCCTCA TTCTGGCTGT TTTTTGCCTT CAAGACCGAA
1201  AGCTCCTGCC GCCTGTGGCA GCCGCTCAAA CGCCTGCCGC TTTATCTGCA
1251  CACATTGTTC TGCCTGACCT CCTCGGCGGC CTACACCTGC TTCGGCACGC
1301  CGGCAAACTA TCCCCTGTTT GCCGGCGTAT GGGCGGCATA TCTGGCAGGC
1351  TGCATCCTGC GCCACCGGAA AGATTTGCAC AAACTGTTTC ATTATTTGAA
1401  AAAACAAGGT TTCCCATTAT GA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 376; ORF10-1>:

```
   1  MDTKEILGYA AGSIGSAVLA VIILPLLSWY FPADDIGRIV LMQTAAGLTV
  51  SVLCLGLDQA YVREYYATAD KDTLFKTLFL PPLLSAAAIA ALLLSRPSLP
 101  SEILFSLDDA AAGIGLVLFE LSFLPIRFLL LVLRMEGRAL AFSSAQLVPK
 151  LAILLLLPLT VGLLHFPANT AVLTAVYALA NLAAAAFLLF QNRCRLKAVR
 201  HAPFSPAVLH RGLRYGIPIA LSSIAYWGLA SADRLFLKKY AGLEQLGVYS
 251  MGISFGGAAL LFQSIFSTVW TPYIFRAIEE NAPPARLSAT AESAAALLAS
 301  ALCLTGIFSP LASLLLPENY AAVRFIVVSC MLPPLFCTLA EISGIGLNVV
 351  RKTRPIALAT LGALAANLLL LGLAVPSGGA RGAAVACAAS FWLFFAFKTE
 401  SSCRLWQPLK RLPLYLHTLF CLTSSAAYTC FGTPANYPLF AGVWAAYLAG
 451  CILRHRKDLH KLFHYLKKQG FPL*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Prediction

ORF10-1 is predicted to be the precursor of an integral membrane protein, since it comprises several (12-13) potential transmembrane segments, and a probable cleavable signal peptide

Homology with EpsM from *Streptococcus thermophilus* (accession number U40830).

ORF10 shows homology with the epsM gene of *S. thermophilus*, which encodes a protein of a size similar to ORF10 and is involved in expolysaccharide synthesis. Other homologies are with prokaryotic membrane proteins:

```
Identities = (25%)

Query:   213 LRYGIPLALSSLAYWGLASADRLFLKKYAGLEQLGVYSMGISFGGAALLLQSIFSTVW 270
             L Y +PL  SS+ +W L ++ R F+  + G    G+ ++          +  +IF+  W
Sbjct:   210 LYYALPLIPSSILWWLLNASSRYFVLFFLGAGANGLLAVATKIPSIISIFNTIFTQAW 267


Identities = 15/57 (26%), Positives = 31/57 (54%)

Query:     7 LGYAAGSIGSAVLAVIILPLLSWYFPADDIGRIVLMQTAAGLTVSVLCLGLDQAYVR 63
             L +  G++GS +L  +++PL ++     + G   L QT A L + ++ + +  A +R
Sbjct:    12 LVFTIGNLGSKLLVFLLVPLYTYAMTPQEYGMADLYQTTANLLLPLITMNVFDATLR 68

Identities = 16/96 (16%), Positives = 36/96 (37%)

Query: 307 IFSPLASLLLPENYAAVRFTVVSCMLPPLFYTLTEISGIGLNVVRKTRPIXXXXXXXXXX 366
             +  P+   ++  +YA+    V   ML  LF + ++  G      ++T+ +
Sbjct: 305 VLKPIVEKVVSSDYASSWQYVPFFMLSMLFSSFSDFFGTNYIAAKQTKGVFMTSIYGTIV 364
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF10 shows 95.4% identity over a 475aa overlap with an ORF (ORF10a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf10.pep       MDTKEILKYAAGSIGSAVLAVIILPLLSWYFPADDIGRIVLMQTAAGLTVSVLCLGLDQA
                |||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf10a          MDTKEILGYAAGSIGSAVLAVIILPLLSWYFPADDIGRIVLMQTAAGLTVSVLCLGLDQA
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf10.pep       YVREYYATADKDTLFKTLFLPPLLSAAAIAALLLSRPSLPSEILFSLDDAAAGIGLVLFE
                |||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf10a          YVREYYAAADKDTLFKTLFLPPLLSAAAIAALLLSRPSLPSEILFSLDDAAAGIGLVLFE
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf10.pep       LSFLPIRFLLLVLRMEGRALAFSSAQLVPKLAILLLXPLTVGLLHFPANTAVLTAVYALA
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||
orf10a          LSFLPIRFLLLVLRMEGRALAFSSAQLVSKLAILLLLPLTVGLLHFPANTAVLTAVYALA
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf10.pep       NLAAAAFLLFQNRCRLKAVRHAPFSPAVLHRGXRYGIPIALSSIAYWGLASADRLFLKKY
                |||||||||||||||||||:|||| ||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf10a          NLAAAAFLLFQNRCRLKAVRRAPFSSAVLHRGLRYGIPIALSSIAYWGLASADRLFLKKY
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260       270       280       290       300
orf10.pep       AGLEQLGVYSMGISFGGAALLFQSIFSTVWTPYIFRAIEENAPPARLSATAESAAALLAS
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||
orf10a          AGLEQLGVYSMGISFGGAALLFQSIFSTVWTPYIFRAIEANAPPARLSATAESAAALLAS
                250       260       270       280       290       300
```

```
                    310       320       330       340       350       360
orf10.pep    ALCXTGIFSPLASLLLPENYAAVRFIVVSCMXPPLFCTLAEISGIGLNVVRKTRPIALAT
             ||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||:||||||||||||||||||||
orf10a       ALCLTGIFSPLASLLLPENYAAVRFIVVSCMLPPLFCTLVEISGIGLNVVRKTRPIALAT
                    310       320       330       340       350       360

                    370       380       390       400       410       419
orf10.pep    LGALAANLLLLGLDRAVPAR-PXGAAVACAASFWLFFAFKTESSCRLWQPLKRLPLYLHT
             ||||||||||||| |||:   ||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||:||
orf10a       LGALAANLLLLGL--AVPSGGARGAAVACAASFWLFFVFKTESSCRLWQPLKRLPLYMHT
                    370       380       390       400       410

                  420       430       440       450       460       470
orf10.pep      LFCLTSSAAYTCFGTPANYPLFAGVWAAYLAGCILRHRKDLHKLFHYLKKQGFPLX
               ||||:||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf10a         LFCLASSAAYTCFGTPANYPLFAGVWAVYLAGCILRHRKDLHKLFHYLKKQGFPLX
                  420       430       440       450       460       470
```

The complete length ORF10a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 377> is:

```
   1  ATGGACACAA AAGAAATCCT CGGCTACGCG GCAGGCTCGA TCGGCAGCGC
  51  GGTTTTAGCC GTCATCATCC TGCCGCTGCT GTCGTGGTAT TTCCCTGCCG
 101  ACGACATCGG ACGCATCGTG CTGATGCAGA CGGCGGCGGG GCTGACGGTG
 151  TCGGTGTTGT GCCTCGGGCT GGATCAGGCA TACGTCCGCG AATACTATGC
 201  CGCCGCCGAC AAAGACACTT TGTTCAAAAC CCTGTTCCTG CCGCCGCTGC
 251  TGTCTGCCGC CGCGATAGCC GCCCTGCTGC TTTCCCGCCC ATCCCTGCCG
 301  TCTGAAATCC TGTTTTCGCT CGACGATGCC GCCGCCGGCA TCGGGCTGGT
 351  GCTGTTTGAA CTGAGCTTCC TGCCCATCCG CTTTCTCTTA CTGGTTTTGC
 401  GTATGGAAGG ACGCGCCCTT GCCTTTTCGT CCGCGCAACT CGTGTCCAAG
 451  CTCGCCATCC TGCTGCTGCT GCCGCTGACG GTCGGGCTGC TGCACTTTCC
 501  GGCGAACACC GCCGTCCTGA CCGCCGTTTA CGCGCTGGCA AACCTTGCCG
 551  CCGCCGCCTT TTTGCTGTTT CAAAACCGAT GCCGTCTGAA GGCCGTCCGG
 601  CGCGCACCGT TTTCATCCGC CGTCCTGCAT CGCGGCCTGC GCTACGGCAT
 651  ACCGATCGCA CTAAGCAGCA TCGCCTATTG GGGGCTGGCA TCCGCCGACC
 701  GTTTGTTCCT GAAAAAATAT GCCGGCCTAG AACAGCTCGG CGTTTATTCG
 751  ATGGGTATTT CGTTCGGCGG AGCGGCATTA TTGTTCCAAA GCATCTTTTC
 801  AACGGTCTGG ACACCGTATA TTTTCCGCGC AATCGAAGCA AACGCCCCGC
 851  CCGCCCGCCT CTCGGCAACG GCAGAATCCG CCGCCGCCCT GCTTGCCTCC
 901  GCCCTCTGCC TGACCGGCAT TTTCTCGCCC CTCGCCTCCC TCCTGCTGCC
 951  GGAAAACTAC GCCGCCGTCC GGTTTATCGT CGTATCGTGT ATGCTGCCTC
1001  CGCTGTTTTG CACGCTGGTA GAAATCAGCG GCATCGGTTT GAACGTCGTC
1051  CGAAAAACAC GCCCGATCGC GCTCGCCACC TTGGGCGCGC TGGCGGCAAA
1101  CCTGCTGCTG CTGGGGCTTG CCGTACCGTC CGGCGGCGCG CGCGGCGCGG
1151  CGGTTGCCTG TGCCGCCTCA TTTTGGCTGT TTTTTGTTTT CAAGACCGAA
1201  AGCTCCTGCC GCCTGTGGCA GCCGCTCAAA CGCCTGCCGC TTTATATGCA
1251  CACATTGTTC TGCCTGGCCT CCTCGGCGGC CTACACCTGC TTCGGCACTC
1301  CGGCAAACTA CCCCCTGTTT GCCGGCGTAT GGGCGGTATA TCTGGCAGGC
1351  TGCATCCTGC GCCACCGGAA AGATTTGCAC AAACTGTTTC ATTATTTGAA
1401  AAAACAAGGT TTCCCATTAT GA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 378>:

```
   1  MDTKEILGYA AGSIGSAVLA VIILPLLSWY FPADDIGRIV LMQTAAGLTV
  51  SVLCLGLDQA YVREYYAAAD KDTLFKTLFL PPLLSAAAIA ALLLSRPSLP
 101  SEILFSLDDA AAGIGLVLFE LSFLPIRFLL LVLRMEGRAL AFSSAQLVSK
 151  LAILLLLPLT VGLLHFPANT AVLTAVYALA NLAAAAFLLF QNRCRLKAVR
 201  RAPFSSAVLH RGLRYGIPIA LSSIAYWGLA SADRLFLKKY AGLEQLGVYS
 251  MGISFGGAAL LFQSIFSTVW TPYIFRAIEA NAPPARLSAT AESAAALLAS
 301  ALCLTGIFSP LASLLLPENY AAVRFIVVSC MLPPLFCTLV EISGIGLNVV
 351  RKTRPIALAT LGALAANLLL LGLAVPSGGA RGAAVACAAS FWLFFVFKTE
 401  SSCRLWQPLK RLPLYMHTLF CLASSAAYTC FGTPANYPLF AGVWAVYLAG
 451  CILRHRKDLH KLFHYLKKQG FPL*
```

ORF10a and ORF10-1 show 95.4% identity in 475 aa overlap:

```
                   10        20        30        40        50        60
orf10-1.pep  MDTKEILXYAAGSIGSAVLAVIILPLLSWYFPADDIGRIVLMQTAAGLTVSVLCLGLDQA
             ||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf10a       MDTKEILGYAAGSIGSAVLAVIILPLLSWYFPADDIGRIVLMQTAAGLTVSVLCLGLDQA
                   10        20        30        40        50        60
```

```
                    70        80        90        100       110       120
orf10-1.pep    YVREYYATADKDTLFKTLFLPPLLSAAAIAALLLSRPSLPSEILFSLDDAAAGIGLVLFE
               |||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf10a         YVREYYAAADKDTLFKTLFLPPLLSAAAIAALLLSRPSLPSEILFSLDDAAAGIGLVLFE
                    70        80        90        100       110       120

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf10-1.pep    LSFLPIRFLLLVLRMEGRALAFSSAQLVPKLAILLLXPLTVGLLHFPANTAVLTAVYALA
               |||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf10a         LSFLPIRFLLLVLRMEGRALAFSSAQLVSKLAILLLLPLTVGLLHFPANTAVLTAVYALA
                   130       140       150       160       170       180

                   190       200       210       220       230       240
orf10-1.pep    NLAAAAFLLFQNRCRLKAVRHAPFSPAVLHRGXRYGIPIALSSIAYWGLASADRLFLKKY
               ||||||||||||||||||||:|||| |||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf10a         NLAAAAFLLFQNRCRLKAVRRAPFSSAVLHRGLRYGIPIALSSIAYWGLASADRLFLKKY
                   190       200       210       220       230       240

                   250       260       270       280       290       300
orf10-1.pep    AGLEQLGVYSMGISFGGAALLFQSIFSTVWTPYIFRAIEENAPPARLSATAESAAALLAS
               |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||
orf10a         AGLEQLGVYSMGISFGGAALLFQSIFSTVWTPYIFRAIEANAPPARLSATAESAAALLAS
                   250       260       270       280       290       300

                   310       320       330       340       350       360
orf10-1.pep    ALCXTGIFSPLASLLLPENYAAVRFIVVSCMXPPLFCTLAEISGIGLNVVRKTRPIALAT
               ||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||:||||||||||||||||
orf10a         ALCLTGIFSPLASLLLPENYAAVRFIVVSCMLPPLFCTLVEISGIGLNVVRKTRPIALAT
                   310       320       330       340       350       360

                   370       380       390       400       410       419
orf10-1.pep    LGALAANLLLLGLDRAVPAR-PXGAAVACAASFWLFFAFKTESSCRLWQPLKRLPLYLHT
               |||||||||||||  |||:    ||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||:||
orf10a         LGALAANLLLLGL--AVPSGGARGAAVACAASFWLFFVFKTESSCRLWQPLKRLPLYMHT
                   370       380       390       400       410

               420       430       440       450       460       470
orf10-1.pep    LFCLTSSAAYTCFGTPANYPLFAGVWAAYLAGCILRHRKDLHKLFHYLKKQGFPLX
               ||||:|||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf10a         LFCLASSAAYTCFGTPANYPLFAGVWAVYLAGCILRHRKDLHKLFHYLKKQGFPLX
               420       430       440       450       460       470
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF10 shows 94.1% identity over a 475aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF10.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf10ng.pep  MDTKEILGYAAGSIGSAVLAVIILPLLSWYFPADDIGRIVLMQTAAGLTVSVLCLGLDQA  60
             ||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf10nm      MDTKEILXYAAGSIGSAVLAVIILPLLSWYFPADDIGRIVLMQTAAGLTVSVLCLGLDQA  60

orf10ng.pep  YVREYYAAADKDTLFKTLFLPPLLFSAAIAALLLSRPSLPSEILFSLDDAAAGIGLVLFE 120
             |||||||:|||||||||||||||| :||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf10nm      YVREYYATADKDTLFKTLFLPPLLSAAAIAALLLSRPSLPSEILFSLDDAAAGIGLVLFE 120

orf10ng.pep  LSFLPIRFLLLVLRMEGRALAFSSAQLVPKLAILLLLPLTVGLLHFPANTSVLTAVYALA 180
             |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||:|||||||||
orf10nm      LSFLPIRFLLLVLRMEGRALAFSSAQLVPKLAILLLXPLTVGLLHFPANTAVLTAVYALA 180

orf10ng.pep  NLAAAAFLLFQNRCRLKAVRRAPFSPAVLHRGLRYGIPLALSSLAYWGLASADRLFLKKY 240
             ||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||| |||||:||||:||||||||||||||||
orf10nm      NLAAAAFLLFQNRCRLKAVRHAPFSPAVLHRGXRYGIPIALSSIAYWGLASADRLFLKKY 240

orf10ng.pep  AGLEQLGVYSMGISFGGAALLLQSIFSTVWTPYIFRAIEENATPARLSATAESAAALLAS 300
             ||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||
orf10nm      AGLEQLGVYSMGISFGGAALLFQSIFSTVWTPYIFRAIEENAPPARLSATAESAAALLAS 300

orf10ng.pep  ALCLTGIFSPLASLLLPENYAAVRFTVVSCMLPPLFYTLTEISGIGLNVVRKTRPIALAT 360
             ||| |||||||||||||||||||| ||||| |||| ||:|||||||||||||||||||||
orf10nm      ALCXTGIFSPLASLLLPENYAAVRFIVVSCMXPPLFCTLAEISGIGLNVVRKTRPIALAT 360
```

```
                370        380        390        400        410
orf10ng.pep  LGALAANLLLLGL--AVPSGGTRGAAVACAASFWLFFVFKTESSCRLWQPLKRLPLYMHT
             ||||||||||||  |||:    ||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||:||
orf10nm      LGALAANLLLLGLDRAVPAR-PXGAAVACAASFWLFFAFKTESSCRLWQPLKRLPLYLHT
                   370        380        390        400        410

               420        430        440        450        460        470
orf10ng.pep  LFCLASSAAYTCFGTPANYPLFAGVWAAYLAGCILRHRKNLHKLFHYLKKQGFPLX
             ||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||
orf10nm      LFCLTSSAAYTCFGTPANYPLFAGVWAAYLAGCILRHRKDLHKLFHYLKKQGFPLX
             420        430        440        450        460        470
```

The complete length ORF10ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 379> is:

```
   1  ATGGACACAA AAGAAATCCT CGGCTACGCG GCAGGCTCGA TCGGCAGCGC
  51  GGTTTTAGCC GTCATCATCC TGCCGCTGCT GTCGTGGTAT TTCcccgCCG
 101  ACGACATCGG GCGCATCGTG CTGATGCAGA CGGCGGCGGG ACTGACGGTG
 151  TCGGTATTGT GCCTCGGGCT GGATCAGGCA TACGTCCGCG AATACTATGC
 201  CGCCGCCGAC AAAGACACTT TGTTCAAAAC CCTGTTCCTG CCGCCGCTGC
 251  TGTTTTCCGC CGCGATAGCC GCCCTGCTGC TTTCCCGCCC GTCCCTGCCG
 301  TCTGAAATCC TGTTTTCGCT CGACGATGCC GCCGCCGGCA TCGGGCTGGT
 351  GCTGTTTGAA CTGAGCTTCC TGCCCATCCG CTTTCTCTTA CTGGTTTTGC
 401  GTATGGAAGG GCGCGCCCTT GCCTTTTCGT CCGCGCAACT CGTGCCCAAA
 451  CTCGCCATTC TGCTGCTGTT GCCGCTGACG GTCGGGCTGC TGCACTTTCC
 501  GGCGAACACC TCCGTCCTGA CCGCCGTTTA CGCGCTGGCA AACCTTGCCG
 551  CCGCCGCCTT TTTGCTGTTT CAAAACCGAT GCCGTCTGAA GGCCGTCCGG
 601  CGCGCGCCGT TTTCGCCCGC CGTCCTGCAC CGGGGGCTGC GCTACGGCAT
 651  ACCGCTCGCA CTGAGCAGCC TTGCCTATTG GGGGCTGGCA TCCGCCGACC
 701  GTTTGTTCCT GAAAAAATAT GCGGGCCTGG AACAGCTCGG CGTTTATTCG
 751  ATGGGTATTT CGTTCGGCGG GGCGGCATTA TTGCTCCAAA GCATCTTTTC
 801  AACGGTCTGG ACACCGTATA TTTTCCGTGC AATCGAAGAA AACGCCACGC
 851  CCGCCCGCCT CTCGGCAACG GCAGAATCCG CCGCCGCCCT GCTTGCCTCC
 901  GCCCTCTGCC TGACCGGAAT TTTCTCGCCC CTCGCCTCCC TCCTGCTGCC
 951  GGAAAACTAC GCCGCCGTCC GGTTTACCGT CGTATCGTGT ATGCTGccgc
1001  cgctGTTTTA CACGCTGACC GAAATCAGCG GCATCGGTTT GAACGTCGTC
1051  CGCAAAACGC GTCCGATCGC GCTTGCCACC TTGGGCGCGC TGGCGGCAAA
1101  CCTGCTGCTG CTGGGGCTTG CCGTACCGTC CGGCGGCACG CGCGGCGCGG
1151  CGGTTGCCTG TGCCGCCTCA TTCTGGTTGT TTTTTGTTTT CAAGACAGAA
1201  AGCTCCTGCC GCCTGTGGCA GCCGCTCAAA CGCCTGCCGC TTTATATGCA
1251  CACATTGTTC TGCCTgGCCT CCTCGGCGGC CTACACCTGC TTCGGCACAC
1301  CGGCAAACTA CCCcctgttt gccggcgtAT GGGCGGCATA TCTGGCAGGC
1351  TGCATCCTGC GCCACCGGAA AAATTTGCAC AAACTGTTTC ATTATTTGAA
1401  AAAACAAGGT TTCCCATTAT GA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 380>:

```
   1  MDTKEILGYA AGSIGSAVLA VIILPLLSWY FPADDIGRIV LMQTAAGLTV
  51  SVLCLGLDQA YVREYYAAAD KDTLFKTLFL PPLLFSAAIA ALLLSRPSLP
 101  SEILFSLDDA AAGIGLVLFE LSFLPIRFLL LVLRMEGRAL AFSSAQLVPK
 151  LAILLLLPLT VGLLHFPANT SVLTAVYALA NLAAAAFLLF QNRCRLKAVR
 201  RAPFSPAVLH RGLRYGIPLA LSSLAYWGLA SADRLFLKKY AGLEQLGVYS
 251  MGISFGGAAL LLQSIFSTVW TPYIFRAIEE NATPARLSAT AESAAALLAS
 301  ALCLTGIFSP LASLLLPENY AAVRFTVVSC MLPPLFYTLT EISGIGLNVV
 351  RKTRPIALAT LGALAANLLL LGLAVPSGGT RGAAVACAAS FWLFFVFKTE
 401  SSCRLWQPLK RLPLYMHTLF CLASSAAYTC FGTPANYPLF AGVWAAYLAG
 451  CILRHRKNLH KLFHYLKKQG FPL*
```

ORF10ng and ORF10-1 show 96.4% identity in 473 aa overlap:

```
                   10         20         30         40         50         60
orf10-1.pep  MDTKEILGYAAGSIGSAVLAVIILPLLSWYFPADDIGRIVLMQTAAGLTVSVLCLGLDQA
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf10ng-1    MDTKEILGYAAGSIGSAVLAVIILPLLSWYFPADDIGRIVLMQTAAGLTVSVLCLGLDQA
                   10         20         30         40         50         60

                   70         80         90        100        110        120
orf10-1.pep  YVREYYATADKDTLFKTLFLPPLLSAAAIAALLLSRPSLPSEILFSLDDAAAGIGLVLFE
             |||||||:|||||||||||||||| :||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf10ng-1    YVREYYAAADKDTLFKTLFLPPLLFSAAIAALLLSRPSLPSEILFSLDDAAAGIGLVLFE
                   70         80         90        100        110        120
```

```
                    130       140       150       160       170       180
orf10-1.pep  LSFLPIRFLLLVLRMEGRALAFSSAQLVPKLAILLLLPLTVGLLHFPANTAVLTAVYALA
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||
orf10ng-1    LSFLPIRFLLLVLRMEGRALAFSSAQLVPKLAILLLLPLTVGLLHFPANTSVLTAVYALA
                    130       140       150       160       170       180

                    190       200       210       220       230       240
orf10-1.pep  NLAAAAFLLFQNRCRLKAVRHAPFSPAVLHRGLRYGIPIALSSIAYWGLASADRLFLKKY
             ||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||:||||:||||||||||||||||
orf10ng-1    NLAAAAFLLFQNRCRLKAVRRAPFSPAVLHRGLRYGIPLALSSLAYWGLASADRLFLKKY
                    190       200       210       220       230       240

                    250       260       270       280       290       300
orf10-1.pep  AGLEQLGVYSMGISFGGAALLFQSIFSTVWTPYIFRAIEENAPPARLSATAESAAALLAS
             ||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||
orf10ng-1    AGLEQLGVYSMGISFGGAALLLQSIFSTVWTPYIFRAIEENATPARLSATAESAAALLAS
                    250       260       270       280       290       300

                    310       320       330       340       350       360
orf10-1.pep  ALCLTGIFSPLASLLLPENYAAVRFIVVSCMLPPLFCTLAEISGIGLNVVRKTRPIALAT
             |||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||| ||:||||||||||||||||||||
orf10ng-1    ALCLTGIFSPLASLLLPENYAAVRFTVVSCMLPPLFYTLTEISGIGLNVVRKTRPIALAT
                    310       320       330       340       350       360

                    370       380       390       400       410       420
orf10-1.pep  LGALAANLLLLGLAVPSGGARGAAVACAASFWLFFAFKTESSCRLWQPLKRLPLYLHTLF
             ||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||:||||
orf10ng-1    LGALAANLLLLGLAVPSGGTRGAAVACAASFWLFFVFKTESSCRLWQPLKRLPLYMHTLF
                    370       380       390       400       410       420

                    430       440       450       460       470
orf10-1.pep  CLTSSAAYTCFGTPANYPLFAGVWAAYLAGCILRHRKDLHKLFHYLKKQGFPLX
             ||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||
orf10ng-1    CLASSAAYTCFGTPANYPLFAGVWAAYLAGCILRHRKNLHKLFHYLKKQGFPLX
                    430       440       450       460       470
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of a putative leader peptide and several transmembrane segments and the presence of a leucine-zipper motif (4 Leu residues spaced by 6 aa, shown in bold), it is predicted that these proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 45

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 381>:

```
   1..ATCCTGAAAC CGCATAACCA GCTTAAGGAA GACATCCAAC CTGATCCGGC
  51  CGATCAAAAC GCCTTGTCCG AACCGGATGC TGCGACAGAG GCAGAGCAGT
 101  CGGATGCGGA AAATGCTGCC GACAAGCAGC CCGTTGCCGA TAAAGCCGAC
 151  GAGGTTGAAG AAAAGGCGGG CGAGCCGGAA CGGGAAGAGC CGGACGGACA
 201  GGCAGTGCGT AAGAAAGCGC TGACGGAAGA GCGTGAACAA ACCGTCAGGG
 251  AAAAAGCGCA GAAGAAAGAT GCCGAAACGG TTAAAATACA AGCGGTAAAA
 301  CCGTCTAAAG AAACAGAGAA AAAAGCTTCA AAAGAAGAGA AAAAGGCGGC
 351  GAAGGAAAAA GTTGCACCCA AACCAACCCC GGAACAAATC CTCAACAGCG
 401  GCAgCATCGA AAAmGCGCGC AgTGCCGCCG CCAAAGAAGT GCAGAAAATG
 451  AA.AACGTCC GACAAGGCGG AAGC.AACGC ATTATCTGCA AATGGGCGCG
 501  TATGCCGACC GTCAGAGCGC GGAAGGGCAG CGTGCCAAAC TGGCAATCTT
 551  GGGCATATCT TCCAAGGTGG TCGGTTATCA GGCGGGACAT AAAACGCTTT
 601  ACCGGGTGCA AAGCGGCAAT ATGTCTGCCG ATGCGGTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 382; ORF65>:

```
   1..ILKPHNQLKE DIQPDPADQN ALSEPDAATE AEQSDAENAA DKQPVADKAD
  51  EVEEKAGEPE REEPDGQAVR KKALTEEREQ TVREKAQKKD AETVKIQAVK
```

```
101  PSKETEKKAS KEEKKAAKEK VAPKPTPEQI LNSGSIEXAR SAAAKEVQKM
151  XNVRQGGSXR IICKWARMPT VRARKGSVPN WQSWAYLPRW SVIRRDIKRF
201  TGCKAAICLP MR*
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 383>:

```
  1  ATGTTTATGA ACAAATTTTC CCAATCCGGA AAAGGTCTGT CCGGTTTTTT
 51  CTTCGGTTTG ATACTGGCGA CGGTCATTAT TGCCGGTATT TTGTTTTATC
101  TGAACCAGAG CGGTCAAAAT GCGTTCAAAA TCCCGGCTTC GTCGAAGCAG
151  CCTGCAGAAA CGGAAATCCT GAAACCGAAA AACCAGCCTA AGGAAGACAT
201  CCAACCTGAA CCGGCCGATC AAAACGCCTT GTCCGAACCG GATGCTGCGA
251  CAGAGGCAGA GCAGTCGGAT GCGGAAAAAG CTGCCGACAA GCAGCCCGTT
301  GCCGATAAAG CCGACGAGGT TGAAGAAAAG GCGGGCGAGC CGGAACGGGA
351  AGAGCCGGAC GGACAGGCAG TGCGTAAGAA AGCGCTGACG GAAGAGCGTG
401  AACAAACCGT CAGGGAAAAA GCGCAGAAGA AAGATGCCGA AACGGTTAAA
451  AAACAAGCGG TAAAACCGTC TAAAGAAACA GAGAAAAAAG CTTCAAAAGA
501  AGAGAAAAAG GCGGCGAAGG AAAAAGTTGC ACCCAAACCA ACCCCGGAAC
551  AAATCCTCAA CAGCGGCAGC ATCGAAAAAG CGCGCAGTGC CGCCGCCAAA
601  GAAGTGCAGA AAATGAAAAC GTCCGACAAG GCGGAAGCAA CGCATTATCT
651  GCAAATGGGC GCGTATGCCG ACCGTCAGAG CGCGGAAGGG CAGCGTGCCA
701  AACTGGCAAT CTTGGGCATA TCTTCCAAGG TGGTCGGTTA TCAGGCGGGA
751  CATAAAACGC TTTACCGGGT GCAAAGCGGC AATATGTCTG CCGATGCGGT
801  GAAAAAAATG CAGGACGAGT TGAAAAAACA TGAAGTCGCC AGCCTGATCC
851  GTTCTATCGA AAGCAAATAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 384; ORF65-1>:

```
  1  MFMNKFSQSG KGLSGFFFGL ILATVIIAGI LFYLNQSGQN AFKIPASSKQ
 51  PAETEILKPK NQPKEDIQPE PADQNALSEP DAATEAEQSD AEKAADKQPV
101  ADKADEVEEK AGEPEREEPD GQAVRKKALT EEREQTVREK AQKKDAETVK
151  KQAVKPSKET EKKASKEEKK AAKEKVAPKP TPEQILNSGS IEKARSAAAK
201  EVQKMKTSDK AEATHYLQMG AYADRQSAEG QRAKLAILGI SSKVVGYQAG
251  HKTLYRVQSG NMSADAVKKM QDELKKHEVA SLIRSIESK*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF65 shows 92.0% identity over a 150aa overlap with an ORF (ORF65a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                                  10        20        30
orf65.pep                                        ILKPHNQLKEDIQPDPADQNALSEPDAATE
                                                 ||||:|| ||||||:|||||||||||||| |
orf65a        IIAGILFYLNQSGQNAFKIPVPSKQPAETEILKPKNQPKEDIQPEPADQNALSEPDAAKE
                 30        40        50        60        70        80

                       40        50        60        70        80        90
orf65.pep     AEQSDAENAADKQPVADKADEVEEKAGEPEREEPDGQAVRKKALTEEREQTVREKAQKKD
              |||||||:|||||||||||||||||||| ||||||: |||||||||||||||||| |||||||
orf65a        AEQSDAEKAADKQPVADKADEVEEKADEPEREKSDGQAVRKKALTEEREQTVGEKAQKKD
                 90        100       110       120       130       140

              100       110       120       130       140       150
orf65.pep     AETVKIQAVKPSKETEKKASKEEKKAAKEKVAPKPTPEQILNSGSIEKARSAAAKEVQKM
              ||||| |||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||
orf65a        AETVKKQAVKPSKETEKKASKEEKKAEKEKVAPKPTPEQILNSGSIEKARSAAAKEVQKM
                150       160       170       180       190       200

              160       170       180       190       200       210
orf65.pep     XNVRQGGSXRIICKWARMPTVRARKGSVPNWQSWAYLPRWSVIRRDIKRFTGCKAAICLP

orf65a        KTPDKAEATHYLQMGAYADRRSAEGQRAKLAILGISSKVVGYQAGHKTLYRVQSGNMSAD
                210       220       230       240       250       260
```

The complete length ORF65a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 385> is:

```
  1  ATGTTTATGA ACAAATTTTC CCAATCCGGA AAAGGTCTGT CCGGTTTTTT
 51  CTTCGGTTTG ATACTGGCGA CGGTCATTAT TGCCGGTATT TTGTTTTATC
```

```
101  TGAACCAGAG CGGTCAAAAT GCGTTCAAAA TCCCGGTTCC GTCGAAGCAG
151  CCTGCAGAAA CGGAAATCCT GAAACCGAAA AACCAGCCTA AGGAAGACAT
201  CCAACCTGAA CCGGCCGATC AAAACGCCTT GTCCGAACCG GATGCTGCGA
251  AAGAGGCAGA GCAGTCGGAT GCGGAAAAAG CTGCCGACAA GCAGCCCGTT
301  GCCGACAAAG CCGACGAGGT TGAGGAAAAG GCGGACGAGC CGGAGCGGGA
351  AAAGTCGGAC GGACAGGCAG TGCGCAAGAA AGCACTGACG GAAGAGCGTG
401  AACAAACCGT CGGGGAAAAA GCGCAGAAGA AAGATGCCGA AACGGTTAAA
451  AAACAAGCGG TAAAACCATC TAAAGAAACA GAGAAAAAAG CTTCAAAAGA
501  AGAGAAAAAG GCGGAGAAGG AAAAAGTTGC ACCCAAACCG ACCCCGGAAC
551  AAATCCTCAA CAGCGGCAGC ATCGAAAAAG CGCGCAGTGC CGCTGCCAAA
601  GAAGTGCAGA AAATGAAAAC GCCCGACAAG GCGGAAGCAA CGCATTATCT
651  GCAAATGGGC GCGTATGCCG ACCGCCGGAG CGCGGAAGGG CAGCGTGCCA
701  AACTGGCAAT CTTGGGCATA TCTTCCAAGG TGGTCGGTTA TCAGGCGGGA
751  CATAAAACGC TTTACCGGGT GCAAAGCGGC AATATGTCTG CCGATGCGGT
801  GAAAAAAATG CAGGACGAGT TGAAAAAACA TGAAGTCGCC AGCCTGATCC
851  GTTCTATCGA AAGCAAATAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 386>:

```
1    MFMNKFSQSG KGLSGFFFGL ILATVIIAGI LFYLNQSGQN AFKIPVPSKQ
51   PAETEILKPK NQPKEDIQPE PADQNALSEP DAAKEAEQSD AEKAADKQPV
101  ADKADEVEEK ADEPEREKSD GQAVRKKALT EEREQTVGEK AQKKDAETVK
151  KQAVKPSKET EKKASKEEKK AEKEKVAPKP TPEQILNSGS IEKARSAAAK
201  EVQKMKTPDK AEATHYLQMG AYADRRSAEG QRAKLAILGI SSKVVGYQAG
251  HKTLYRVQSG NMSADAVKKM QDELKKHEVA SLIRSIESK*
```

ORF65a and ORF65-1 show 96.5% identity in 289 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf65a.pep      MFMNKFSQSGKGLSGFFFGLILATVIIAGILFYLNQSGQNAFKIPVPSKQPAETEILKPK
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||: ||||||||||||
orf65-1         MFMNKFSQSGKGLSGFFFGLILATVIIAGILFYLNQSGQNAFKIPASSKQPAETEILKPK
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf65a.pep      NQPKEDIQPEPADQNALSEPDAAKEAEQSDAEKAADKQPVADKADEVEEKADEPEREKSD
                |||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||: |
orf65-1         NQPKEDIQPEPADQNALSEPDAATEAEQSDAEKAADKQPVADKADEVEEKAGEPEREEPD
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf65a.pep      GQAVRKKALTEEREQTVGEKAQKKDAETVKKQAVKPSKETEKKASKEEKKAEKEKVAPKP
                |||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||
orf65-1         GQAVRKKALTEEREQTVREKAQKKDAETVKKQAVKPSKETEKKASKEEKKAAKEKVAPKP
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf65a.pep      TPEQILNSGSIEKARSAAAKEVQKMKTPDKAEATHYLQMGAYADRRSAEGQRAKLAILGI
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||
orf65-1         TPEQILNSGSIEKARSAAAKEVQKMKTSDKAEATHYLQMGAYADRQSAEGQRAKLAILGI
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260       270       280       290
orf65a.pep      SSKVVGYQAGHKTLYRVQSGNMSADAVKKMQDELKKHEVASLIRSIESKX
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf65-1         SSKVVGYQAGHKTLYRVQSGNMSADAVKKMQDELKKHEVASLIRSIESKX
                250       260       270       280       290
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF65 shows 89.6% identity over a 212aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF65.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
                30        40        50        60        70        80
ORF65ng IIAGILLYLNQGGQNAFKIPAPSKQPAETEILKLKNQPKEDIQPEPADQNALSEPDVAKE
                                              ||| :|| |||||:||||||||||:| |
ORF65                                         ILKPHNQLKEDIQPDPADQNALSEPDAATE
                                                        10        20        30
```

```
                  90        100       110       120       130       140
ORF65ng AEQSDAEKAADKQPVADKADEVEEKAGEPEREEPDGQAVRKKALTEEREQTVREKAQKKD
        |||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
ORF65    AEQSDAENAADKQPVADKADEVEEKAGEPEREEPDGQAVRKKALTEEREQTVREKAQKKD
                 40        50        60        70        80        90

                 150       160       170       180       190       200
ORF65ng AETVKKKAVKPSKETEKKASKEEKKAAKEKVAPKPTPEQILNSRSIEKARSAAAKEVQKM
        ||||| :|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||| ||||||||||||
ORF65    AETVKIQAVKPSKETEKKASKEEKKAAKEKVAPKPTPEQILNSGSIEXARSAAAKEVQKM
                100       110       120       130       140       150

                 210       220       230       240       250       260
ORF65ng KNFGQGGSQRIICKWARMPNPGARKGSVPNWQSWAYLPKWSAIRRDIKRFTACKAAICPP
        |  |||| ||||||||||:  |||||||||||||||:||:|||||||||:|||||| |
ORF65    XNVRQGGSXRIICKWARMPTVRARKGSVPNWQSWAYLPRWSVIRRDIKRFTGCKAAICLP
                160       170       180       190       200       210

ORF65ng  MR
         ||
ORF65    MR
```

An ORF65ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 387> was predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 388>:

```
   1  MFMNKFSQSG KGLSGFFFGL ILATVIIAGI LLYLNQGGQN AFKIPAPSKQ
  51  PAETEILKLK NQPKEDIQPE PADQNALSEP DVAKEAEQSD AEKAADKQPV
 101  ADKADEVEEK AGEPEREEPD GQAVRKKALT EEREQTVREK AQKKDAETVK
 151  KKAVKPSKET EKKASKEEKK AAKEKVAPKP TPEQILNSRS IEKARSAAAK
 201  EVQKMKNFGQ GGSQRIICKW ARMPNPGARK GSVPNWQSWA YLPKWSAIRR
 251  DIKRFTACKA AICPPMR*
```

After further analysis, the complete gonococcal DNA sequence <SEQ ID 389> was found to be:

```
   1  ATGTTTATGA ACAAATTTTC CCAATCCGGA AAAGGTCTGT CCGGTTTCTT
  51  CTTCGGTTTG ATACTGGCAA CGGTCATTAT TGCCGGTATT TTGCTTTATC
 101  TGAACCAGGG CGGTCAAAAT GCGTTCAAAA TCCCGGCTCC GTCGAAGCAG
 151  CCTGCAGAAA CGGAAATCCT GAAACTGAAA AACCAGCCTA AGGAAGACAT
 201  CCAACCTGAA CCGGCCGATC AAAACGCCTT GTCCGAACCG GATGTTGCGA
 251  AAGAGGCAGA GCAGTCGGAT GCGGAAAAAG CTGCCGACAA GCAGCCCGTT
 301  GCCGACAAag ccgacgAGGT TGAAGAAAag GcGGgcgAgc cggaACGGga
 351  aGAGCCGGAC ggACAGGCAG TGCGCAAGAA AGCACTGAcg gAAGAgcGTG
 401  AACAAACcgt cagggAAAAA GCGCagaaga AAGATGCCGA AACGgTTAAA
 451  AAacaaGCgg tAaaaccgtc tAAAGAAACa gagaaaaaag cTtcaaaaga
 501  agagaaaaag gcggcgaaag aaaAAGttgc acccaaaccg accccggaaC
 551  aaatcctcaa cagccgCagc atcgaaaaag cgcgtagtgc cgctgccaaa
 601  gaAgtgcaGA AAatgaaaaa ctTtgggcaa ggcgGaagcc aacgcattaT
 651  CTGcaaatgg gcgcgtatgc cgaccgtccg gagcgcggaA gggcagcgtg
 701  ccaaACtggc aAtcttgGgc atatctTccg aagtggtcgG CTATCAGGCG
 751  GGACATAAAA CGCTTTACCG CGTGCAAagc GGCAatatgt ccgccgatgc
 801  gGTGAAAAAA ATGCAGGACG AGTTGAAAAA GCATGGGGtt gcCAGCCTGA
 851  TCCGTGcgAT TGAAGGCAAA TAA
```

This encodes the following amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 390>:

```
   1  MFMNKFSQSG KGLSGFFFGL ILATVIIAGI LLYLNQGGQN AFKIPAPSKQ
  51  PAETEILKLK NQPKEDIQPE PADQNALSEP DVAKEAEQSD AEKAADKQPV
 101  ADKADEVEEK AGEPEREEPD GQAVRKKALT EEREQTVREK AQKKDAETVK
 151  KQAVKPSKET EKKASKEEKK AAKEKVAPKP TPEQILNSRS IEKARSAAAK
 201  EVQKMKNFGQ GGSQRIICKW ARMPTVRSAE GQRAKLAILG ISSEVVGYQA
 251  GHKTLYRVQS GNMSADAVKK MQDELKKHGV ASLIRAIEGK *
```

ORF65ng-1 and ORF65-1 show 89.0% identity in 290 aa overlap:

```
                  10        20        30        40        50        60
orf65-1.pep  MFMNKFSQSGKGLSGFFFGLILATVIIAGILFYLNQSGQNAFKIPASSKQPAETEILKPK
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||:|||||||||| |||||||||| |
orf65ng-1    MFMNKFSQSGKGLSGFFFGLILATVIIAGILLYLNQGGQNAFKIPAPSKQPAETEILKLK
                  10        20        30        40        50        60
```

```
                    70        80        90        100       110       120
orf65-1.pep  NQPKEDIQPEPADQNALSEPDAATEAEQSDAEKAADKQPVADKADEVEEKAGEPEREEPD
             ||||||||||||||||||||:| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf65ng-1    NQPKEDIQPEPADQNALSEPDVAKEAEQSDAEKAADKQPVADKADEVEEKAGEPEREEPD
                    70        80        90        100       110       120

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf65-1.pep  GQAVRKKALTEEREQTVREKAQKKDAETVKKQAVKPSKETEKKASKEEKKAAKEKVAPKP
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf65ng-1    GQAVRKKALTEEREQTVREKAQKKDAETVKKQAVKPSKETEKKASKEEKKAAKEKVAPKP
                   130       140       150       160       170       180

                   190       200       210       220       230       239
orf65-1.pep  TPEQILNSGSIEKARSAAAKEVQKMKTSDKAEATHYL-QMGAYADRQSAEGQRAKLAILG
             |||||||| |||||||||||||||:  :: : : : : : :   :|||||||||||||
orf65ng-1    TPEQILNSRSIEKARSAAAKEVQKMKNFGQGGSQRIICKWARMPTVRSAEGQRAKLAILG
                   190       200       210       220       230       240

           240       250       260       270       280       290
orf65-1.pep  ISSKVVGYQAGHKTLYRVQSGNMSADAVKKMQDELKKHEVASLIRSIESKX
             |||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||:||:||
orf65ng-1    ISSEVVGYQAGHKTLYRVQSGNMSADAVKKMQDELKKHGVASLIRAIEGKX
                   250       260       270       280       290
```

On this basis, including the presence of a putative transmembrane domain in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 46

The following DNA sequence, believed to be complete, was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 391>:

```
   1  ATGAACCACG ACATCACTTT CCTCACCCTG TTCCTACTCG GTkTCTTCGG
  51  CGGAAcGCAC TGCATCGGTA TGTGCGGCGG ATTAAGCAGC GcGTTTGs.s
 101  TCCAACTCCC CCCGCATATC AACCGCTTTT GGCTGATCCT GCTGCTTAAC
 151  ACAGGACGGG TAAGCAGCTA TACGGCAAtC GGCCTGATAC TCGGATTAAT
 201  CGGACAGGTC GGCGTTTCAC TCGAcCAaAC CCGCGTCCTG CAGAATATTT
 251  TATACACGGC CGCCAACCTC CTGCTGCTCT TTTTAGGCTT ATACTTGAGC
 301  GGTATTTCTT CCTTGGCGGC AAAAATCGAG AAaATCGGCA AACCGATATG
 351  GCGGAACCTG AACCCGATAC TCAACCGGCT GTTACCCATA AAATCCATAC
 401  CCGCCTGCCT tGCGgTCGGA ATATTATGGG GCTGGCTGCC GTGCGGACTG
 451  GTTTACAGCG CGTCGCTTTA CGCGCTGGGA AgCGGTAGTG CGGCAACGGG
 501  CGGGTTATAT ATGCTTGCCT TTGCACTGGG TACGCTGCCC AATCTTTtTAG
 551  CAATCGGCAT TTTtTCCCTG CAACTGAAwA AAATCATGCA AAACCGATAT
 601  ATCCGCCTGT GTACGGGATT ATCCGTATCA TTATGGGCAT TATGGAAACT
 651  TGCCGTCCTG TGGCTGTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 392; ORF103>:

```
   1  MNHDITFLTL FLLGXFGGTH CIGMCGGLSS AFXXQLPPHI NRFWLILLLN
  51  TGRVSSYTAI GLILGLIGQV GVSLDQTRVL QNILYTAANL LLLFLGLYLS
 101  GISSLAAKIE KIGKPIWRNL NPILNRLLPI KSIPACLAVG ILWGWLPCGL
 151  VYSASLYALG SGSAATGGLY MLAFALGTLP NLLAIGIFSL QLXKIMQNRY
 201  IRLCTGLSVS LWALWKLAVL WL*
```

Further work elaborated the DNA sequence <SEQ ID 393> as:

```
   1  ATGAACCACG ACATCACTTT CCTCACCCTG TTCCTACTCG GTTTCTTCGG
  51  CGGAACGCAC TGCATCGGTA TGTGCGGCGG ATTAAGCAGC GCGTTTGCGC
 101  TCCAACTCCC CCCGCATATC AACCGCTTTT GGCTGATCCT GCTGCTTAAC
 151  ACAGGACGGG TAAGCAGCTA TACGGCAATC GGCCTGATAC TCGGATTAAT
 201  CGGACAGGTC GGCGTTTCAC TCGACCAAAC CCGCGTCCTG CAGAATATTT
 251  TATACACGGC CGCCAACCTC CTGCTGCTCT TTTTAGGCTT ATACTTGAGC
 301  GGTATTTCTT CCTTGGCGGC AAAAATCGAG AAAATCGGCA AACCGATATG
```

```
351  GCGGAACCTG AACCCGATAC TCAACCGGCT GTTACCCATA AAATCCATAC
401  CCGCCTGCCT TGCGGTCGGA ATATTATGGG GCTGGCTGCC GTGCGGACTG
451  GTTTACAGCG CGTCGCTTTA CGCGCTGGGA AGCGGTAGTG CGGCAACGGG
501  CGGGTTATAT ATGCTTGCCT TTGCACTGGG TACGCTGCCC AATCTTTTAG
551  CAATCGGCAT TTTTTCCCTG CAACTGAAAA AAATCATGCA AAACCGATAT
601  ATCCGCCTGT GTACGGGATT ATCCGTATCA TTATGGGCAT TATGGAAACT
651  TGCCGTCCTG TGGCTGTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 394; ORF103-1>:

```
  1  MNHDITFLTL FLLGFFGGTH CIGMCGGLSS AFALQLPPHI NRFWLILLLN
 51  TGRVSSYTAI GLILGLIGQV GVSLDQTRVL QNILYTAANL LLLFLGLYLS
101  GISSLAAKIE KIGKPIWRNL NPILNRLLPI KSIPACLAVG ILWGWLPCGL
151  VYSASLYALG SGSAATGGLY MLAFALGTLP NLLAIGIFSL QLKKIMQNRY
201  IRLCTGLSVS LWALWKLAVL WL*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF103 shows 93.8% identity over a 222aa overlap with an ORF (ORF103a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf103.pep      MNHDITFLTLFLLGXFGGTHCIGMCGGLSSAFXXQLPPHINRFWLILLLNTGRVSSYTAI
                || |||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||. |||||||| ||||||||||||||||||
orf103a         MNXDITFLTLFLLGFFGGTHCIGMCGGLSSAFALQLPPHINRXWLILLLNTGRVSSYTAI
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf103.pep      GLILGLIGQVGVSLDQTRVLQNILYTAANLLLLFLGLYLSGISSLAAKIEKIGKPIWRNL
                |||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf103a         GLILGLIGQVGVSLDQTRVXQNILYTAANLLLLFLGLYLSGISSLAAKIEKIGKPIWRNL
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf103.pep      NPILNRLLPIKSIPACLAVGILWGWLPCGLVYSASLYALGSGSAATGGLYMLAFALGTLP
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf103a         NPILNRLLPIKSIPACLAVGILWGWLPCGLVYSASLYALGSGSAATGGLYMLAFALGTLP
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220
orf103.pep      NLLAIGIFSLQLXKIMQNRYIRLCTGLSVSLWALWKLAVLWLX
                || |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf103a         NLXAIGIFSLQLXKIMQNRYIRLCTGLSVSLWALWKLAVLWLX
                190       200       210       220
```

The complete length ORF103a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 395> is:

```
  1  ATGAACCANG ACATCACTTT CCTCACCCTG TTCCTACTCG GTTTCTTCGG
 51  CGGAACGCAC TGCATCGGTA TGTGCGGCGG ATTAAGCAGC GCGTTTGCGC
101  TCCAACTCCC CCCGCATATC AACCGCTTNT GGCTGATCCT GCTGCTTAAC
151  ACAGGACGGG TAAGCAGCTA TACGGCAATC GGCCTGATAC TCGGATTAAT
201  CGGACAGGTC GGCGTTTCAC TCGACCAAAC CCGCGTCNTG CAGAATATTT
251  TATACACGGC CGCCAACCTC CTGCTGCTCT TTTTAGGCTT ATACTTGAGC
301  GGTATTTCTT CCTTGGCGGC AAAAATCGAG AAAATCGGCA AACCGATATG
351  GCGGAACCTG AACCCGATAC TCAACCGGCT GTTACCCATA AAATCCATAC
401  CCGCCTGCCT TGCGGTCGGA ATATTATGGG GCTGGCTGCC GTGCGGACTA
451  GTTTACAGCG CGTCGCTTTA CGCGCTGGGA AGCGGTAGTG CGGCAACGGG
501  CGGGTTATAT ATGCTTGCCT TTGCACTGGG TACGCTGCCC AATCTTTNGG
551  CAATCGGCAT TTTTTCCCTG CAACTGNAAA AAATCATGCA AAACCGATAT
601  ATCCGCCTGT GTACGGGATT ATCCGTATCA TTATGGGCAT TATGGAAACT
651  TGCCGTCCTG TGGCTGTAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 396>:

```
  1  MNXDITFLTL FLLGFFGGTH CIGMCGGLSS AFALQLPPHI NRXWLILLLN
 51  TGRVSSYTAI GLILGLIGQV GVSLDQTRVX QNILYTAANL LLLFLGLYLS
101  GISSLAAKIE KIGKPIWRNL NPILNRLLPI KSIPACLAVG ILWGWLPCGL
```

```
151  VYSASLYALG SGSAATGGLY MLAFALGTLP NLXAIGIFSL QLXKIMQNRY
201  IRLCTGLSVS LWALWKLAVL WL*
```

ORF103a and ORF103-1 show 97.7% identity in 222 aa overlap:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf103a.pep     MNXDITFLTLFLLGFFGGTHCIGMCGGLSSAFALQLPPHINRXWLILLLNTGRVSSYTAI
                || |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||
orf103-1        MNHDITFLTLFLLGFFGGTHCIGMCGGLSSAFALQLPPHINRFWLILLLNTGRVSSYTAI
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf103a.pep     GLILGLIGQVGVSLDQTRVXQNILYTAANLLLLFLGLYLSGISSLAAKIEKIGKPIWRNL
                |||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf103-1        GLILGLIGQVGVSLDQTRVLQNILYTAANLLLLFLGLYLSGISSLAAKIEKIGKPIWRNL
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf103a.pep     NPILNRLLPIKSIPACLAVGILWGWLPCGLVYSASLYALGSGSAATGGLYMLAFALGTLP
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf103-1        NPILNRLLPIKSIPACLAVGILWGWLPCGLVYSASLYALGSGSAATGGLYMLAFALGTLP
                   130       140       150       160       170       180

                   190       200       210       220
orf103a.pep     NLXAIGIFSLQLXKIMQNRYIRLCTGLSVSLWALWKLAVLWLX
                || ||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf103-1        NLLAIGIFSLQLKKIMQNRYIRLCTGLSVSLWALWKLAVLWLX
                   190       200       210       220
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF103 shows 95.5% identity over a 222aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF103.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf103.pep   MNHDITFLTLFLLGXFGGTHCIGMCGGLSSAFXXQLPPHINRFWLILLLNTGRVSSYTAI   60
             ||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||  |||||||||||||||||||:||||||
orf103ng     MNHDITFLTLFLLGFFGGTHCIGMCGGLSSAFALQLPPHINRFWLILLLNTGRISSYTAI   60

orf103.pep   GLILGLIGQVGVSLDQTRVLQNILYTAANLLLLFLGLYLSGISSLAAKIEKIGKPIWRNL  120
             ||:|||||:|:|||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf103ng     GLMLGLIGQLGISLDQTRVLQNILYTASNLLLLFLGLYLSGISSLAAKIEKIGKPIWRNL  120

orf103.pep   NPILNRLLPIKSIPACLAVGILWGWLPCGLVYSASLYALGSGSAATGGLYMLAFALGTLP  180
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||
orf103ng     NPILNRLLPIKSIPACLAVGILWGWLPCGLVYSASLYALGSGSATTGGLYMLAFALGTLP  180

orf103.pep   NLLAIGIFSLQLXKIMQNRYIRLCTGLSVSLWALWKLAVLWL  222
             |||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf103ng     NLLAIGIFSLQLKKIMQNRYIRLCTGLSVSLWALWKLAVLWL  222
```

The complete length ORF103ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 397> is:

```
   1  ATGAACCACG ACATCACTTT CCTCACCCTG TTCCTGCTCG GTTTCTTCGG
  51  CGGAACTCAC TGCATCGGTA TGTGCGGCGG ATTAAGCAGC GCGTTTGCGC
 101  TCCAACTCCC CCCGCATATC AACCGCTTTT GGCTGATTCT GCTGCTTAAC
 151  ACAGGACGGA TAAGCAGCTA TACGGCAATC GGCCTGATGC TCGGATTAAT
 201  CGGACAACTC GGCATTTCAC TCGACCAAAc ccgcgTCCTG CAAAATATTT
 251  tatacacagc ctccaaCCTC CTGCTGCTCT TTTTAGGCTT ATACTTGAGC
 301  GGTATTTCTT CCTTGGCGGC AAAAATCGAG AAAATCGGCA AACCGATATG
 351  GCGCAACCTG AACCCGATAC TCAACCGGCT GCTGCCCATA AAATCCATAC
 401  CCGCCTGCCT TGCTGTCGGA ATATTATGGG GCTGGCTGCC GTGCGGACTG
 451  GTTTACAGCG CATCACTTTA CGCGCTGGGA AGCGGTAGTG CGACAACCGG
 501  CGGACTGTAT ATGCTTGCCT TTGCACTGGG TACGCTGCCC AATCTTTTGG
 551  CAATCGGCAT TTTTTCCCTG CAACTGAAAA AAATCATGCA AAACCGATAT
 601  ATCCGCCTGT GTACAGGATT ATCCGTATCA TTATGGGCAT TATGGAAGCT
 651  TGCCGTCCTG TGGCTGTAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 398>:

```
  1  MNHDITFLTL FLLGFFGGTH CIGMCGGLSS AFALQLPPHI NRFWLILLLN
 51  TGRISSYTAI GLMLGLIGQL GISLDQTRVL QNILYTASNL LLLFLGLYLS
101  GISSLAAKIE KIGKPIWRNL NPILNRLLPI KSIPACLAVG ILWGWLPCGL
151  VYSASLYALG SGSATTGGLY MLAFALGTLP NLLAIGIFSL QLKKIMQNRY
201  IRLCTGLSVS LWALWKLAVL WL*
```

In addition, ORF103ng and ORF103-1 show 97.3% identity in 222 aa overlap:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf103-1.pep   MNHDITFLTLFLLGFFGGTHCIGMCGGLSSAFALQLPPHINRFWLILLLNTGRVSSYTAI
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||
orf103ng       MNHDITFLTLFLLGFFGGTHCIGMCGGLSSAFALQLPPHINRFWLILLLNTGRISSYTAI
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf103-1.pep   GLILGLIGQVGVSLDQTRVLQNILYTAANLLLLFLGLYLSGISSLAAKIEKIGKPIWRNL
               ||:|||||||:|:|||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf103ng       GLMLGLIGQLGISLDQTRVLQNILYTASNLLLLFLGLYLSGISSLAAKIEKIGKPIWRNL
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf103-1.pep   NPILNRLLPIKSIPACLAVGILWGWLPCGLVYSASLYALGSGSAATGGLYMLAFALGTLP
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||
orf103ng       NPILNRLLPIKSIPACLAVGILWGWLPCGLVYSASLYALGSGSATTGGLYMLAFALGTLP
                   130       140       150       160       170       180

                   190       200       210       220
orf103-1.pep   NLLAIGIFSLQLKKIMQNRYIRLCTGLSVSLWALWKLAVLWLX
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf103ng       NLLAIGIFSLQLKKIMQNRYIRLCTGLSVSLWALWKLAVLWLX
                   190       200       210       220
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of a putative leader sequence (double-underlined) and several putative transmembrane domains (single-underlined) in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 47

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 399>:

```
  1  ATGGAAAACC AAAGGCCGCT CCTAGGCTTT CGCTTGGCAC TTTTGGCGGC
 51  GATGACGTGG GGAACGCTGC CGAT.TCCGT GCGGCAGGTA TTGAAGTTTG
101  TCGATGCGCC GACGCTGGTG TGGGTGCGTT TTACCGTGGC GGCGGCGGTA
151  TTGTTTGTTT TGCTGGCACT GGGCGGGCGG CTGCcGAAGC GGCGaGGATT
201  TTTCTTGGTG CTCATTCAGG CTGCTGCTGC TCGGCGTGGC GGGCATTTCG
251  GCAAACTTTG TGCTGATTGC CCAAGGGCTG CATTATATTT CGCCGACCAC
301  GACGCAGGTT TTGTGGCAGA TTTCGCCGTT TACGATGATT GTwGTCGGTG
351  TGTTGGTGTT TAAAGACCGG ATGACTGCCG CTCAGAAAAT CGGCTTGGTT
401  TTGCTGCTTG CCGGTTTGCT TATGTATTTT AACGATAAAT TCGGCGAGTT
451  GTCGGGTTTG GGCGCGTATG C.AGGGCGT GTTGCTGTGT GCGGCAGGCA
501  GTATGGCATG GGTGTGTAAT GCCGTGGCGC AAAAGCTGCT GTCGGCGCAA
551  TTCGGGCCGC AACAGATTCT GCTGTTGATT TATGCGGCAA GTGCCGCCGT
601  GTTCCTGCCG TTTGCCGAAC CGGCACACAT CGGAAGTATG GACGGTACGT
651  TGGCGTGGGT ATGTATTGCG TATTGCTGCT TGAATACGTT AATCGGTTAC
701  GGCTCGTTCG GCGAGGCGTT GAAACATTGG GAGGCTTCCA AAGTCAGCGC
751  GGTAACAACC TTGCTCCCCG TGTTTACCGT AATAAATACT TTGCTCGGGC
801  ATTATGTGAT GCCTGAAACT TTTGCCGCGC CGGA..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 400; ORF104>:

```
  1  MENQRPLLGF RLALLAAMTW GTLPXSVRQV LKFVDAPTLV WVRFTVAAAV
 51  LFVLLALGGR LPKRRDFSWC SFRLLLLGVA GISANFVLIA QGLHYISPTT
101  TQVLWQISPF TMIVVGVLVF KDRMTAAQKI GLVLLLAGLL MYFNDKFGEL
151  SGLGAYXKGV LLCAAGSMAW VCNAVAQKLL SAQFGPQQIL LLIYAASAAV
201  FLPFAEPAHI GSMDGTLAWV CIAYCCLNTL IGYGSFGEAL KHWEASKVSA
```

```
251  VTTLLPVFTV INTLLGHYVM PETFAAP...
```

Further work revealed further partial DNA sequence <SEQ ID 401>:

```
  1  ATGGAAAACC AAAGGCCGCT CCTAGGCTTC GCGTTGGCAC TTTTGGCGGC
 51  GATGACGTGG GGAACGCTGC CGATTGCCGT GCGGCAGGTA TTGAAGTTTG
101  TCGATGCGCC GACGCTGGTG TGGGTGCGTT TTACCGTGGC GGCGGCGGTA
151  TTGTTTGTTT TGCTGGCACT GGGCGGGCGG CTGCCGAAGC GGCGGGATTT
201  TTCTTGGTGC TCATTCAGGC TGCTGCTGCT CGGCGTGGCG GGCATTTCGG
251  CAAACTTTGT GCTGATTGCC CAAGGGCTGC ATTATATTTC GCCGACCACG
301  ACGCAGGTTT TGTGGCAGAT TTCGCCGTTT ACGATGATTG TTGTCGGTGT
351  GTTGGTGTTT AAAGACCGGA TGACTGCCGC TCAGAAAATC GGCTTGGTTT
401  TGCTGCTTGC CGGTTTGCTT ATGTTTTTTA ACGATAAATT CGGCGAGTTG
451  TCGGGTTTGG GCGCGTATGC GAAGGGCGTG TTGCTGTGTG CGGCAGGCAG
501  TATGGCATGG GTGTGTTATG CCGTGGCGCA AAAGCTGCTG TCGGCGCAAT
551  TCGGGCCGCA ACAGATTCTG CTGTTGATTT ATGCGGCAAG TGCCGCCGTG
601  TTCCTGCCGT TTGCCGAACC GGCACACATC GGAAGTTTGG ACGGTACGTT
651  GGCGTGGGTT TGTTTTGCGT ATTGCTGCTT GAATACGTTA ATCGGTTACG
701  GCTCGTTCGG CGAGGCGTTG AAACATTGGG AGGCTTCCAA AGTCAGCGCG
751  GTAACAACCT TGCTCCCCGT GTTTACCGTA ATAwTwwCTT TGCTCGGGCA
801  TTATGTGATG CCTGAAACTT TTGCCGCGCC GGA...
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 402; ORF104-1>:

```
  1  MENQRPLLGF ALALLAAMTW GTLPIAVRQV LKFVDAPTLV WVRFTVAAAV
 51  LFVLLALGGR LPKRRDFSWC SFRLLLLGVA GISANFVLIA QGLHYISPTT
101  TQVLWQISPF TMIVVGVLVF KDRMTAAQKI GLVLLLAGLL MFFNDKFGEL
151  SGLGAYAKGV LLCAAGSMAW VCYAVAQKLL SAQFGPQQIL LLIYAASAAV
201  FLPFAEPAHI GSLDGTLAWV CFAYCCLNTL IGYGSFGEAL KHWEASKVSA
251  VTTLLPVFTV IXXLLGHYVM PETFAAP...
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with hypothetical HI0878 protein of *H. influenzae* (accession number U32769)

ORF104 and HI0878 show 40% aa identity in 277aa overlap:

```
orf104   4   QRPLLGFRLALLAAMTWGTLPXSVRQVLKFVDAPTLVWXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXP- 62
             Q+PLLGF  AL+ AM WG+LP +++QVL  ++A T+VW                      P
HI0878   3   QQPLLGFTFALITAMAWGSLPIALKQVLSVMNAQTIVWYRFIIAAVSLLALLAYKKQLPE 62

orf104   63  --KRRDFSWCSFRLLLLGVAGISANFVLIAQGLHYISPTTTQVLWQISPFTMIVVGVLVF 120
               K R ++W    ++L+GV G+++NF+L +  L+YI P+  Q+    +S F M++ GVL+F
HI0878   63  LMKVRQYAW----IMLIGVIGLTSNFLLFSSSLNYIEPSVAQIFIHLSSFGMLICGVLIF 118

orf104   121 KDRMTAAQKIXXXXXXXXXXMYFNDKFGELSGLGAYXKGVLLCAAGSMAWVCNAVAQKLL 180
             K+++   QKI           ++FND+F   +GL  Y  GV+L   G++ WV   +AQKL+
HI0878   119 KEKLGLHQKIGLFLLLIGLGLFFNDRFDAFAGLNQYSTGVILGVGGALIWVAYGMAQKLM 178

orf104   181 SAQFGPQQILLLIYAASAAVFLPFAEPAHIGSMDGTLAWVCIAYCCLNTLIGYGSFGEAL 240
               +F  QQILL++Y   A  F+P A+ + +  +   LA +C  YCCLNTLIGYGS+ EAL
HI0878   179 LRKFNSQQILLMMYLGCAIAFMPMADFSQVQELT-PLALICFIYCCLNTLIGYGSYAEAL 237

orf104   241 KHWEASKVSAVTTLLPVFTVINTLLGHYVMPETFAAP 277
               W+ SKVS V TL+P+FT++ + + HY  P  FAAP
HI0878   238 NRWDVSKVSVVITLVPLFTILFSHIAHYFSPADFAAP 274
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF104 shows 95.3% identity over a 277aa overlap with an ORF (ORF104a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf104.pep  MENQRPLLGFRLALLAAMTWGTLPXSVRQVLKFVDAPTLVWVRFTVAAAVLFVLLALGGR
            |||||||||| ||||||||||||| :||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf104a     MENQRPLLGFALALLAAMTWGTLPIAVRQVLKFVDAPTLVWVRFTVAAAVLFVLLALGGR
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
```

```
orf104.pep   LPKRRDFSWCSFRLLLLGVAGISANFVLIAQGLHYISPTTTQVLWQISPFTMIVVGVLVF
             ||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf104a      LPKWRDFSWCSFRLLLLGVAGISANFVLIAQGLHYISPTTTQVLWQISPFTMIVVGVLVF
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf104.pep   KDRMTAAQKIGLVLLLAGLLMYFNDKFGELSGLGAYXKGVLLCAAGSMAWVCNAVAQKLL
             ||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||| |||||||
orf104a      KDRMTAAQKIGLVLLLAGLLMFFNDKFGELSGLGAYAKGVLLCAAGSMAWVCYAVAQKLL
                   130       140       150       160       170       180

                   190       200       210       220       230       240
orf104.pep   SAQFGPQQILLLIYAASAAVFLPFAEPAHIGSMDGTLAWVCIAYCCLNTLIGYGSFGEAL
             |||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||:||||||||:||||||||||||||||||
orf104a      SAQFGPQQILLLIYAASAAVFLPFAELAHIGSLDGTLAWVCFAYCCLNTLIGYGSFGEAL
                   190       200       210       220       230       240

                   250       260       270
orf104.pep   KHWEASKVSAVTTLLPVFTVINTLLGHYVMPETFAAP
             |||||||||||||||||||| :||||||||:|||||
orf104a      KHWEASKVSAVTTLLPVFTVIFSLLGHYVMPDTFAAPDMNGLGYAGALVVVGGAVTAAVG
                   250       260       270       280       290       300
```

The complete length ORF104a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 403> is:

```
   1  ATGGAAAACC AAAGGCCGCT CCTAGGCTTC GCGTTGGCAC TTTTGGCGGC
  51  GATGACGTGG GGAACGCTGC CGATTGCCGT GCGGCAGGTA TTGAAGTTTG
 101  TCGATGCGCC GACGCTGGTG TGGGTGCGTT TTACCGTGGC GGCGGCGGTA
 151  TTGTTTGTTT TGCTGGCATT GGGCGGGCGG CTGCCGAAGT GGCGGGATTT
 201  TTCTTGGTGC TCATTCAGGC TGCTGCTGCT CGGCGTGGCG GGCATTTCGG
 251  CAAACTTTGT GCTGATTGCC CAAGGGCTGC ATTATATTTC GCCGACCACG
 301  ACGCAGGTTT TGTGGCAGAT TTCGCCGTTT ACGATGATTG TTGTCGGTGT
 351  GTTGGTGTTT AAAGACCGGA TGACTGCCGC TCAGAAAATC GGCTTGGTTT
 401  TGCTGCTTGC CGGTTTGCTT ATGTTTTTTA ACGATAAATT CGGCGAGTTG
 451  TCGGGTTTGG GCGCGTATGC GAAGGGCGTG TTGCTGTGTG CGGCAGGCAG
 501  TATGGCATGG GTGTGTTATG CCGTGGCGCA AAAGCTGCTG TCGGCGCAAT
 551  TCGGGCCGCA ACAGATTCTG CTGTTGATTT ATGCGGCAAG TGCCGCCGTG
 601  TTCCTGCCGT TTGCCGAACT GGCACACATC GGAAGTTTGG ACGGTACGTT
 651  GGCGTGGGTT TGTTTTGCGT ATTGCTGCTT GAATACGTTA ATCGGTTACG
 701  GCTCGTTCGG CGAGGCGTTG AAACATTGGG AGGCTTCCAA AGTCAGCGCG
 751  GTAACAACCT TGCTCCCCGT GTTTACCGTA ATATTTTCTT TGCTCGGGCA
 801  TTATGTGATG CCTGATACTT TTGCCGCGCC GGATATGAAC GGTTTGGGTT
 851  ATGCCGGCGC ACTGGTCGTG GTCGGGGGTG CGGTTACGGC GGCGGTGGGG
 901  GACAGGCTGT TCAAACGCCG CTAG
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 404>:

```
   1  MENQRPLLGF ALALLAAMTW GTLPIAVRQV LKFVDAPTLV WVRFTVAAAV
  51  LFVLLALGGR LPKWRDFSWC SFRLLLLGVA GISANFVLIA QGLHYISPTT
 101  TQVLWQISPF TMIVVGVLVF KDRMTAAQKI GLVLLLAGLL MFFNDKFGEL
 151  SGLGAYAKGV LLCAAGSMAW VCYAVAQKLL SAQFGPQQIL LLIYAASAAV
 201  FLPFAELAHI GSLDGTLAWV CFAYCCLNTL IGYGSFGEAL KHWEASKVSA
 251  VTTLLPVFTV IFSLLGHYVM PDTFAAPDMN GLGYAGALVV VGGAVTAAVG
 301  DRLFKRR*
```

ORF104a and ORF104-1 show 98.2% identity in 277 aa overlap:

```
                   10        20        30        40        50        60
orf104a.pep  MENQRPLLGFALALLAAMTWGTLPIAVRQVLKFVDAPTLVWVRFTVAAAVLFVLLALGGR
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf104-1     MENQRPLLGFALALLAAMTWGTLPIAVRQVLKFVDAPTLVWVRFTVAAAVLFVLLALGGR
                   10        20        30        40        50        60

                   70        80        90       100       110       120
orf104a.pep  LPKWRDFSWCSFRLLLLGVAGISANFVLIAQGLHYISPTTTQVLWQISPFTMIVVGVLVF
             ||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf104-1     LPKRRDFSWCSFRLLLLGVAGISANFVLIAQGLHYISPTTTQVLWQISPFTMIVVGVLVF
                   70        80        90       100       110       120

                  130       140       150       160       170       180
orf104a.pep  KDRMTAAQKIGLVLLLAGLLMFFNDKFGELSGLGAYAKGVLLCAAGSMAWVCYAVAQKLL
```

```
                                                                                                                    
orf104-1        KDRMTAAQKIGLVLLLAGLLMFFNDKFGELSGLGAYAKGVLLCAAGSMAWVCYAVAQKLL
                       130       140       150       160       170       180

                       190       200       210       220       230       240
orf104a.pep     SAQFGPQQILLLIYAASAAVFLPFAELAHIGSLDGTLAWVCFAYCCLNTLIGYGSFGEAL
                                                                                
orf104-1        SAQFGPQQILLLIYAASAAVFLPFAEPAHIGSLDGTLAWVCFAYCCLNTLIGYGSFGEAL
                       190       200       210       220       230       240

                       250       260       270       280       290       300
orf104a.pep     KHWEASKVSAVTTLLPVFTVIFSLLGHYVMPDTFAAPDMNGLGYAGALVVVGGAVTAAVG
                                                                                
orf104-1        KHWEASKVSAVTTLLPVFTVIXXLLGHYVMPETFAAP
                       250       260       270
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF104 shows 93.9% identity over a 277aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF104.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf104.pep      MENQRPLLGFRLALLAAMTWGTLPXSVRQVLKFVDAPTLVWVRFTVAAAVLFVLLALGGR   60
                                                                                
orf104ng        MENQRPLLGFALALLAAMTWGTLPIAVRQVLKFVDAPTLVWVRFTVAAAVLFVLLALGGR   60

orf104.pep      LPKRRDFSWCSFRLLLLGVAGISANFVLIAQGLHYISPTTTQVLWQISPFTMIVVGVLVF  120
                                                                                
orf104ng        LPKRRDFSWHSFRLLLLGVTGISANFVLIAQGLHYISPTTTQVLWQISPFTMIVVGVLVF  120

orf104.pep      KDRMTAAQKIGLVLLLAGLLMYFNDKFGELSGLGAYXKGVLLCAAGSMAWVCNAVAQKLL  180
                                                                                
orf104ng        KDRMTAAQKIGLVLLLVGLLMFFNDKFGELSGLGAYAKGVLLCAAGSMAWVCYAVAQKLL  180

orf104.pep      SAQFGPQQILLLIYAASAAVFLPFAEPAHIGSMDGTLAWVCIAYCCLNTLIGYGSFGEAL  240
                                                                                
orf104ng        SAQFGPQQILLLIYAASAAVFLLXAEPAHIGSLDGTLAWVCFVYCCLNTLIGYGSFGEAL  240

orf104.pep      KHWEASKVSAVTTLLPVFTVINTLLGHYVMPETFAAP                          277
                                                                                
orf104ng        KHWEASKVSAVTTLLPVFTVIFSLLGHYVMPDTFAAPDMNGLGYVGALVVVGGAVTAAVG  300
```

The complete length ORF104ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 405> is predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 406>:

```
   1  MENQRPLLGF ALALLAAMTW GTLPIAVRQV LKFVDAPTLV WVRFTVAAAV
  51  LFVLLALGGR LPKRRDFSWH SFRLLLLGVT GISANFVLIA QGLHYISPTT
 101  TQVLWQISPF TMIVVGVLVF KDRMTAAQKI GLVLLLVGLL MFFNDKFGEL
 151  SGLGAYAKGV LLCAAGSMAW VCYAVAQKLL SAQFGPQQIL LLIYAASAAV
 201  FLLXAEPAHI GSLDGTLAWV CFVYCCLNTL IGYGSFGEAL KHWEASKVSA
 251  VTTLLPVFTV IFSLLGHYVM PDTFAAPDMN GLGYVGALVV VGGAVTAAVG
 301  DRPFKRR*
```

Further work revealed the complete gonococcal nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 407>:

```
   1  ATGGAAAACC AAAGGCCGCT CCTAGGCTTC GCGTTGGCAC TTTTGGCGGC
  51  GATGACGTGG GGGACGCTGC CGATTGCCGT GCGGCAGGTA TTGAAGTTTG
 101  TCGATGCGCC GACGCTGGTG TGGGTGCGTT TTACCGTGGC GGCGGCGGTA
 151  TTGTTTGTTT TGCTGGCATT GGGCGGGCGG CTGCCGAAGC GGCGGGATTT
 201  TTCTTGGCAT TCATTCAGGC TGCTGCTGCT CGGCGTGACG GGCATTTCGG
 251  CAAACTTTGT GCTGATTGCC CAAGGGCTGC ATTATATTTC GCCGACCACG
 301  ACGCAGGTTT TGTGGCAGAT TTCGCCGTTT ACGATGATTG TTGTCGGCGT
 351  GTTGGTGTTT AAAGACCGGA tgaCTGCCGC GCAGAAAATC GGTTTGGTTT
 401  TGCTGCttgT CGGTttgCTT ATGTTTTtta ACGACAAATT CGGCGAGTTG
 451  TCGGGTTTGG GCGCGTATGC GAAGGGCGTG TTGCTGTGTG CGGCAGGCAG
 501  TATGGCCTGG GTGTGTTATG CCGTGGCGCA AAAGCTGCTG TCGGCGCAAT
 551  TCGGGCCGCA ACAGATTCTG CTGTTGATTT ATGCGGcaag tgccgccGTG
 601  TTCCtgccgT TTGccgaaCC GGCACACATC GGAAGTTTgg aCGGTACGtt
 651  GGCGTGGGTT TGTTTTGTGT ATTGCTGCTT GAATACGTTA ATCGGTTACG
```

```
701  GCTCGTTCGG CGAGGCGTTG AAACATTGGG AGGCTTCCAA AGTCAGCGCG
751  GTAACAACCT TGCTCCCCGT GTTTACCGTA ATATTTTCTT TGCTCGGGCA
801  TTATGTGATG CCTGATACTT TTGCCGCGCC GGATATGAAC GGTTTGGGTT
851  ATGTCGGCGC ACTGGTCGTG GTCGGGGGTG CGGTTACGGC GGCGGTGGGG
901  GACAGGCCGT TCAAACGCCG CTAG
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 408; ORF104ng-1>:

```
  1  MENQRPLLGF ALALLAAMTW GTLPIAVRQV LKFVDAPTLV WVRFTVAAAV
 51  LFVLLALGGR LPKRRDFSWH SFRLLLLGVT GISANFVLIA QGLHYISPTT
101  TQVLWQISPF TMIVVGVLVF KDRMTAAQKI GLVLLLVGLL MFFNDKFGEL
151  SGLGAYAKGV LLCAAGSMAW VCYAVAQKLL SAQFGPQQIL LLIYAASAAV
201  FLPFAEPAHI GSLDGTLAWV CFVYCCLNTL IGYGSFGEAL KHWEASKVSA
251  VTTLLPVFTV IFSLLGHYVM PDTFAAPDMN GLGYVGALVV VGGAVTAAVG
301  DRPFKRR*
```

ORF104ng-1 and ORF104-1 show 97.5% identity in 277 aa overlap:

```
                        10        20        30        40        50        60
orf104-1.pep    MENQRPLLGFALALLAAMTWGTLPIAVRQVLKFVDAPTLVWVRFTVAAAVLFVLLALGGR
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf104ng-1      MENQRPLLGFALALLAAMTWGTLPIAVRQVLKFVDAPTLVWVRFTVAAAVLFVLLALGGR
                        10        20        30        40        50        60

                        70        80        90       100       110       120
orf104-1.pep    LPKRRDFSWCSFRLLLLGVAGISANFVLIAQGLHYISPTTTQVLWQISPFTMIVVGVLVF
                ||||||||| |||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf104ng-1      LPKRRDFSWHSFRLLLLGVTGISANFVLIAQGLHYISPTTTQVLWQISPFTMIVVGVLVF
                        70        80        90       100       110       120

                       130       140       150       160       170       180
orf104-1.pep    KDRMTAAQKIGLVLLLAGLLMFFNDKFGELSGLGAYAKGVLLCAAGSMAWVCYAVAQKLL
                |||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf104ng-1      KDRMTAAQKIGLVLLLVGLLMFFNDKFGELSGLGAYAKGVLLCAAGSMAWVCYAVAQKLL
                       130       140       150       160       170       180

                       190       200       210       220       230       240
orf104-1.pep    SAQFGPQQILLLIYAASAAVFLPFAEPAHIGSLDGTLAWVCFAYCCLNTLIGYGSFGEAL
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||
orf104ng-1      SAQFGPQQILLLIYAASAAVFLPFAEPAHIGSLDGTLAWVCFVYCCLNTLIGYGSFGEAL
                     190       200       210       220       230       240

                       250       260       270
orf104-1.pep    KHWEASKVSAVTTLLPVFTVIXXLLGHYVMPETFAAP
                |||||||||||||||||||  ||||||||:|||||
orf104ng-1      KHWEASKVSAVTTLLPVFTVIFSLLGHYVMPDTFAAPDMNGLGYVGALVVVGGAVTAAVG
                       250       260       270       280       290       300
```

In addition, ORF104ng-1 shows significant homology with a hypothetical *H.influenzae* protein:

```
gi|1573895 (U32769) hypothetical [Haemophilus influenzae] Length = 306
 Score =  237 bits (598), Expect = 8e-62
 Identities = 114/280 (40%), Positives = 168/280 (59%), Gaps = 8/280 (2%)

Query: 30  QRPXXXXXXXXXXXXMTWGTLPIAVRQVLKFVDAPTLVWXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXP- 88
           Q+P            M WG+LPIA++QVL  ++A T+VW                      P
Sbjct: 3   QQPLLGFTFALITAMAWGSLPIALKQVLSVMNAQTIVWYRFIIAAVSLLALLAYKKQLPE 62

Query: 89  --KRRDFSWHSFRLLLLGVTGISANFVLIAQGLHYISPTTTQVLWQISPFTMIVVGVLVF 146
             K R ++W    ++L+GV G+++NF+L +  L+YI P+  Q+    +S F M++ GVL+F
Sbjct: 63  LMKVRQYAW----IMLIGVIGLTSNFLLFSSSLNYIEPSVAQIFIHLSSFGMLICGVLIF 118

Query: 147 KDRMTAAQKIXXXXXXXXXXMFFNDKFGELSGLGAYAKGVLLCAAGSMAWVCYAVAQKLL 206
           K+++   QKI           +FFND+F   +GL  Y+ GV+L   G++ WV Y +AQKL+
Sbjct: 119 KEKLGLHQKIGLFLLLIGLGLFFNDRFDAFAGLNQYSTGVILGVGGALIWVAYGMAQKLM 178

Query: 207 SAQFGPQQILLLIYAASAAVFLPFAEPAHIGSLDGTLAWVCFVYCCLNTLIGYGSFGEAL 266
             +F  QQILL++Y   A  F+P A+ + +  L   LA +CF+YCCLNTLIGYGS+ EAL
Sbjct: 179 LRKFNSQQILLMMYLGCAIAFMPMADFSQVQELT-PLALICFIYCCLNTLIGYGSYAEAL 237

Query: 267 KHWEASKVSAVTTLLPVFTVIFSLLGHYVMPDTFAAPDMN 306
```

```
          W+ SKVS V TL+P+FT++FS + HY  P  FAAP++N
Sbjct: 238 NRWDVSKVSVVITLVPLFTILFSHIAHYFSPADFAAPELN 277
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of a putative leader sequence and several putative transmembrane domains in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 48

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 409>:

```
   1  ATGGTAGCTC GTCGGGCTCA TAACCCGAAG GTCGTAGGTT CGAATCCTGT
  51  .CCCGCAACC TAATTTCAAA CCCCTCGGTT CAATGCCGAG GG.GTTTTGT
 101  T.TTGCCTGT TTCCTGTTTC CTGTTTCCTG CCGCCTCCGT TTTTTGCCGG
 151  ATTTTCCTTC CGGCCGCAAT ATCGGAACGG CAGACCGCCG TCTGTTTGCG
 201  GTTGCAAATT CAGGCAGTTT GGCTACAATC TTCCGCATTG TCTTCAAGAA
 251  AGCCAACCAT GCCGACCGTC CGTTTTACCG AATCCGTCAG CAAACAAGAC
 301  CTTGATGCTC TGTTCGAGTG GGCAAAAGCA AGTTACGGTG CAGAAAGTTG
 351  CTGGAAAACG CTGTATCTGA ACGGTCysCC TTTGGGCAAC CTGTCGCCGG
 401  AATGGGTGGA ACGCGTsmmA AAAGACTGGG AGGCAGGCTG CyCGGAGTCT
 451  TCAGACGGCA TTTTTCTGAA TgCGGACGGc TGgCctGATA TGGgCGGAcg
 501  cTTACAGCAC CTCGCCCTCG GTTGGCACTG TGCGGGGCTG TTGGACGgsT
 551  GGCGCAACGA GTGTTTCGAC CTGACCGACG GCGGCGGCAA CCCCTTGTTC
 601  ACGCTCGaAc GCGCCGyTTT mCGTCCTkTC GGACTGCTCA GCCGCGCCGT
 651  CCATCTCAAC GGTCTGACCG AATCGGACGG CCGATGGCAT TTCTGGATAG
 701  GCAGGCGCAG TCCGCACAAA GCAGTCGATC CCAACAAACT CGACAATACT
 751  rCCGCCGGCG GTGTTTCCGG CGGCGAAATG CCGTCTGAAG CCGTGTGTCG
 801  CGAAAGCAGC GAAGAAGCCG GTTTGGATAA AACGCTGcTT CCGCTCATCC
 851  GCCCGGTATC GCAGCTGCAC AGCCTGCGCT CCGTCAGCCG GGGTGTACAC
 901  AATGAAATCC TGTATGTATT CGATGCCGTC CTGCCG...
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 410; ORF105>:

```
   1  MVARRAHNPK VVGSNPXPAT XFQTPRFNAE XVLXLPVSCF LFPAASVFCR
  51  IFLPAAISER QTAVCLRLQI QAVWLQSSAL SSRKPTMPTV RFTESVSKQD
 101  LDALFEWAKA SYGAESCWKT LYLNGXPLGN LSPEWVERVX KDWEAGCXES
 151  SDGIFLNADG WPDMGGRLQH LALGWHCAGL LDGWRNECFD LTDGGGNPLF
 201  TLERAXXRPX GLLSRAVHLN GLTESDGRWH FWIGRRSPHK AVDPNKLDNT
 251  XAGGVSGGEM PSEAVCRESS EEAGLDKTLL PLIRPVSQLH SLRSVSRGVH
 301  NEILYVFDAV LP...
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 411>:

```
   1  ATGCCGACCG TCCGTTTTAC CGAATCCGTC AGCAAACAAG ACCTTGATGC
  51  TCTGTTCGAG TGGGCAAAAG CAAGTTACGG TGCAGAAAGT TGCTGGAAAA
 101  CGCTGTATCT GAACGGTCTG CCTTTGGGCA ACCTGTCGCC GGAATGGGTG
 151  GAACGCGTCA AAAAAGACTG GGAGGCAGGC TGCTCGGAGT CTTCAGACGG
 201  CATTTTTCTG AATGCGGACG GCTGGCCTGA TATGGGCGGA CGCTTACAGC
 251  ACCTCGCCCT CGGTTGGCAC TGTGCGGGGC TGTTGGACGG CTGGCGCAAC
 301  GAGTGTTTCG ACCTGACCGA CGGCGGCGGC AACCCCTTGT TCACGCTCGA
 351  ACGCGCCGCT TTCCGTCCTT TCGGACTGCT CAGCCGCGCC GTCCATCTCA
 401  ACGGTCTGAC CGAATCGGAC GGCCGATGGC ATTTCTGGAT AGGCAGGCGC
 451  AGTCCGCACA AAGCAGTCGA TCCCAACAAA CTCGACAATA CTGCCGCCGG
 501  CGGTGTTTCC GGCGGCGAAA TGCCGTCTGA AGCCGTGTGT CGCGAAAGCA
 551  GCGAAGAAGC CGGTTTGGAT AAAACGCTGC TTCCGCTCAT CCGCCCGGTA
 601  TCGCAGCTGC ACAGCCTGCG CTCCGTCAGC CGGGGTGTAC ACAATGAAAT
 651  CCTGTATGTA TTCGATGCCG TCCTGCCCGA AACCTTCCTG CCTGAAAATC
 701  AGGATGGCGA AGTGGCGGGT TTTGAGAAAA TGGACATCGG CGGTCTGTTG
 751  GATGCCATGT TGTCGGGAAA CATGATGCAC GACGCGCAAC TGGTTACGCT
 801  GGACGCGTTT TGCCGTTACG GTCTGATTGA TGCCGCCCAT CCGCTGTCCG
 851  AGTGGCTGGA CGGCATACGT TTATAG
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 412; ORF105-1>:

```
   1  MPTVRFTESV SKQDLDALFE WAKASYGAES CWKTLYLNGL PLGNLSPEWV
  51  ERVKKDWEAG CSESSDGIFL NADGWPDMGG RLQHLALGWH CAGLLDGWRN
 101  ECFDLTDGGG NPLFTLERAA FRPFGLLSRA VHLNGLTESD GRWHFWIGRR
 151  SPHKAVDPNK LDNTAAGGVS GGEMPSEAVC RESSEEAGLD KTLLPLIRPV
 201  SQLHSLRSVS RGVHNEILYV FDAVLPETFL PENQDGEVAG FEKMDIGGLL
 251  DAMLSGNMMH DAQLVTLDAF CRYGLIDAAH PLSEWLDGIR L*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF105 shows 89.4% identity over a 226aa overlap with an ORF (ORF105a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                60        70        80        90       100       110
orf105.pep      ISERQTAVCLRLQIQAVWLQSSALSSRKPTMPTVRFTESVSKQDLDALFEWAKASYGAES
                                                 ||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||
orf105a                                          MPTVRFTESVSKHDLDALFEWAKASYGAES
                                                        10        20        30

                120       130       140       150       160       170
orf105.pep      CWKTLYLNGXPLGNLSPEWVERVXKDWEAGCXESSDGIFLNADGWPDMGGRLQHLALGWH
                ||||||||| |||||||||:||| ||||||| |||||||||||||||| |||||| |:
orf105a         CWKTLYLNGLPLGNLSPEWAERVKKDWEAGCSESSDGIFLNADGWPDMGRRLQHLARIWK
                       40        50        60        70        80        90

                180       190       200       210       220       230
orf105.pep      CAGLLDGWRNECFDLTDGGGNPLFTLERAXXRPXGLLSRAVHLNGLTESDGRWHFWIGRR
                 |||| |||:|||||||||:||||:|||| || ||||||||||||:||||||||||||
orf105a         EAGLLHGWRDECFDLTDGGSNPLFALERAAFRPFGLLSRAVHLNGLVESDGRWHFWIGRR
                      100       110       120       130       140       150

                240       250       260       270       280       290
orf105.pep      SPHKAVDPNKLDNTXAGGVSGGEMPSEAVCRESSEEAGLDKTLLPLIRPVSQLHSLRSVS
                ||||||||:|||||| |||||:||:|||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||
orf105a         SPHKAVDPDKLDNTAAGGVSSGELPSETVCRESSEEAGLDKTLLPLIRPVSQLHSLRPVS
                      160       170       180       190       200       210

                300       310
orf105.pep      RGVHNEILYVFDAVLP
                ||||||||||||||||
orf105a         RGVHNEILYVFDAVLPETFLPENQDGEVAGFEKMDIGGLLAAMLSGNMMHDAQLVTLDAF
                      220       230       240       250       260       270
```

The complete length ORF105a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 413> is:

```
   1  ATGCCGACCG TCCGTTTTAC CGAATCCGTC AGCAAACACG ACCTTGATGC
  51  CCTATTCGAG TGGGCAAAGG CAAGTTACGG TGCGGAAAGT TGCTGGAAAA
 101  CGCTGTATCT GAACGGTCTG CCTTTGGGCA ATCTGTCGCC GGAATGGGCG
 151  GAGCGCGTCA AAAAAGACTG GGAGGCAGGC TGCTCGGAGT CTTCAGACGG
 201  CATTTTCCTG AATGCGGACG GCTGGCCAGA TATGGGCAGA CGCTTGCAGC
 251  ACCTCGCCCG AATATGGAAA GAAGCGGGAC TGCTTCACGG CTGGCGCGAC
 301  GAGTGTTTCG ACCTGACCGA CGGCGGCAGC AATCCCTTGT TCGCGCTCGA
 351  ACGCGCCGCT TTCCGTCCGT TCGGACTGCT CAGCCGCGCC GTCCATCTCA
 401  ACGGTTTGGT CGAATCGGAC GGCCGATGGC ATTTCTGGAT AGGCAGGCGC
 451  AGTCCGCACA AAGCAGTCGA TCCCGACAAA CTCGACAATA CTGCCGCCGG
 501  CGGTGTTTCC AGCGGTGAAT TGCCGTCTGA AACCGTGTGT CGCGAAAGCA
 551  GCGAAGAAGC CGGTTTGGAT AAAACGCTGC TTCCGCTCAT CCGCCCGGTA
 601  TCGCAGCTGC ACAGCCTGCG CCCCGTCAGC CGGGGTGTGC ACAATGAAAT
 651  CCTGTATGTA TTCGATGCCG TCCTGCCCGA AACCTTCCTG CCTGAAAATC
 701  AGGATGGCGA AGTGGCGGGT TTTGAGAAAA TGGACATCGG CGGTCTGTTG
 751  GCTGCCATGT TGTCGGGAAA CATGATGCAC GACGCGCAAC TGGTTACGCT
 801  GGACGCGTTT TGCCGTTACG GTCTGATTGA TGCCGCCCAT CCGCTGTCCG
 851  AGTGGCTGGA CGGCATACGT TTATAG
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 414>:

```
   1  MPTVRFTESV SKHDLDALFE WAKASYGAES CWKTLYLNGL PLGNLSPEWA
  51  ERVKKDWEAG CSESSDGIFL NADGWPDMGR RLQHLARIWK EAGLLHGWRD
```

```
101  ECFDLTDGGS NPLFALERAA FRPFGLLSRA VHLNGLVESD GRWHFWIGRR
151  SPHKAVDPDK LDNTAAGGVS SGELPSETVC RESSEEAGLD KTLLPLIRPV
201  SQLHSLRPVS RGVHNEILYV FDAVLPETFL PENQDGEVAG FEKMDIGGLL
251  AAMLSGNMMH DAQLVTLDAF CRYGLIDAAH PLSEWLDGIR L*
```

ORF105a and ORF105-1 show 93.8% identity in 291 aa overlap:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf105a.pep     MPTVRFTESVSKHDLDALFEWAKASYGAESCWKTLYLNGLPLGNLSPEWAERVKKDWEAG
                ||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||
orf105-1        MPTVRFTESVSKQDLDALFEWAKASYGAESCWKTLYLNGLPLGNLSPEWVERVKKDWEAG
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90        100       110       120
orf105a.pep     CSESSDGIFLNADGWPDMGRRLQHLARIWKEAGLLHGWRDECFDLTDGGSNPLFALERAA
                |||||||||||||||||| ||||||  |: |||| |||:|||||||||:||||:|||||
orf105-1        CSESSDGIFLNADGWPDMGGRLQHLALGWHCAGLLDGWRNECFDLTDGGGNPLFTLERAA
                    70        80        90        100       110       120

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf105a.pep     FRPFGLLSRAVHLNGLVESDGRWHFWIGRRSPHKAVDPDKLDNTAAGGVSSGELPSETVC
                ||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||:||:|||:||
orf105-1        FRPFGLLSRAVHLNGLTESDGRWHFWIGRRSPHKAVDPNKLDNTAAGGVSGGEMPSEAVC
                   130       140       150       160       170       180

                   190       200       210       220       230       240
orf105a.pep     RESSEEAGLDKTLLPLIRPVSQLHSLRPVSRGVHNEILYVFDAVLPETFLPENQDGEVAG
                |||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf105-1        RESSEEAGLDKTLLPLIRPVSQLHSLRSVSRGVHNEILYVFDAVLPETFLPENQDGEVAG
                   190       200       210       220       230       240

                   250       260       270       280       290
orf105a.pep     FEKMDIGGLLAAMLSGNMMHDAQLVTLDAFCRYGLIDAAHPLSEWLDGIRLX
                |||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf105-1        FEKMDIGGLLDAMLSGNMMHDAQLVTLDAFCRYGLIDAAHPLSEWLDGIRLX
                   250       260       270       280       290
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF105 shows 87.5% identity over a 312aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF105.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf105.pep   MVARRAHNPKVVGSNPXPATXFQTPRFNAEXVLXLPVSCFLFPAASVFCRIFLPAAISER   60
             |||||||||||||||| ||| :|||||||| ||      ||||||||||||||||||||
orf105ng     MVARRAHNPKVVGSNPAPATKYQTPRFNAEGVLF-----FLFPAASVFCRIFLPAAISER   55

orf105.pep   QTAVCLRLQIQAVWLQSSALSSRKPTMPTVRFTESVSKQDLDALFEWAKASYGAESCWKT  120
             |:|||||||||||||||| ||||:|||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||
orf105ng     QAAVCLRLQIQAVWLQSSALCSRKPAMPTVRFTESVSKQDLDALFERAKASYGAESCWKT  115

orf105.pep   LYLNGXPLGNLSPEWVERVKKDWEAGCXESSDGIFLNADGWPDMGGRLQHLALGWHCAGL  180
             ||||  |||||||||:||: ||||||| |||:|||||||||||||||||||  |: |||
orf105ng     LYLNRLPLGNLSPEWAERIKKDWEAGCSESSNGIFLNADGWPDMGGRLQHLARTWNKAGL  175

orf105.pep   LDGWRNECFDLTDGGGNPLFTLERAXXRPXGLLSRAVHLNGLTESDGRWHFWIGRRSPHK  240
             | ||||||||||||||||||||||||  || ||| ||||||||:||:|||||||||||||
orf105ng     LHGWRNECFDLTDGGGNPLFTLERAAFRPFGLLIRAVHLNGLVESNGRWHFWIGRRSPHK  235

orf105.pep   AVDPNKLDNTXAGGVSGGEMPSEAVCRESSEEAGLDKTLLPLIRPVSQLHSLRSVSRGVH  300
             ||||:|||| :|||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||:||||| ||||||
orf105ng     AVDPGKLDNIAGGGVSGGEMPSEAVCRESSEEAGLDKTLFPLIRPVSRLHSLRPVSRGVH  295

orf105.pep   NEILYVFDAVLP                                                312
             ||||||||||||
orf105ng     NEILYVFDAVLPETFLPENQDGEVAGFEKMDIGGLLDAMLSKNMMHDAQLVTLDAFYRYG  355
```

A complete length ORF105ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 415> was predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 416>:

```
   1  MVARRAHNPK VVGSNPAPAT KYQTPRFNAE GVLFFLFPAA SVFCRIFLPA
  51  AISERQAAVC LRLQIQAVWL QSSALCSRKP AMPTVRFTES VSKQDLDALF
 101  ERAKASYGAE SCWKTLYLNR LPLGNLSPEW AERIKKDWEA GCSESSNGIF
 151  LNADGWPDMG GRLQHLARTW NKAGLLHGWR NECFDLTDGG GNPLFTLERA
 201  AFRPFGLLIR AVHLNGLVES NGRWHFWIGR RSPHKAVDPG KLDNIAGGGV
 251  SGGEMPSEAV CRESSEEAGL DKTLFPLIRP VSRLHSLRPV SRGVHNEILY
 301  VFDAVLPETF LPENQDGEVA GFEKMDIGGL LDAMLSKNMM HDAQLVTLDA
 351  FYRYGLIDAA HPLSEWLDGI RL*
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 417>:

```
   1  ATGCCGACCG TCCGTTTTAC CGAATCCGTC AGCAAACAAG ACCTTGATGC
  51  CCTGTTCGAG CGGGCAAAAG CAAGTTACGG TGCCGAAAGT TGCTGGAAAA
 101  CGCTGTATCT GAACCGTCTT CCTTTGGGCA ATCTGTCGCC GGAATGGGCT
 151  GAGCGCATCA AAAAAGACTG GGAGGCAGGC TGCTCCGAGT CTTCAGACGG
 201  CATTTTTCTG AATGCGGACG GCTGGCCGGA TATGGGCGGA CGCTTGCAGC
 251  ACCTCGCCCG CACATGGAAC AAGGCGGGGC TGCTTCACGG ATGGCGCAAC
 301  GAGTGTTTCG ACCTGACCGA CGGCGGCGGC AACCCCTTGT TCACGCTCGA
 351  ACGCGCCGCT TTCCGTCCGT TCGGACTACT CAGCCGCGCC GTCCATCTCA
 401  ACGGTTTGGT CGAATCGAAC GGCAGATGGC ATTTTTGGAT AGGCAGGCGC
 451  AGTCCGCACA AAGCAGTCGa tcCCGGCAAG CTCGACAATA TTGCCGGCGG
 501  CGGTGTTTCC GGCGGCGAAA TGCCGTCTGA AGCCGTGTGC CGCGAAAGCA
 551  GCGAAGAAGC CGGTTTGGAT AAAACGCTGT TTCCGCTCAT CCGCCCAGTA
 601  TCGCGGCTGC ACAGCCTTCG CCCCGTCAGC CGAGGTGTGC ACAATGAAAT
 651  CCTGTATGTG TTCGATGCCG TCCTGCCCGA AACCTTCCTG CCTGAAAATC
 701  AGGATGGCGA GGTAGCGGGT TTTGAAAAGA TGGACATTGG CGGCCTATTG
 751  GATGCCATGT TGTCGAAAAA CATGATGCAC GACGCGCAAC TGGTTACGCT
 801  GGACGCGTTT TACCGTTACG GTCTGATTGA TGCCGCCCAT CCGCTGTCCG
 851  AGTGGCTGGA CGGCATACGT TTATAG
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 418; ORF105ng-1>:

```
   1  MPTVRFTESV SKQDLDALFE RAKASYGAES CWKTLYLNRL PLGNLSPEWA
  51  ERIKKDWEAG CSESSDGIFL NADGWPDMGG RLQHLARTWN KAGLLHGWRN
 101  ECFDLTDGGG NPLFTLERAA FRPFGLLSRA VHLNGLVESN GRWHFWIGRR
 151  SPHKAVDPGK LDNIAGGGVS GGEMPSEAVC RESSEEAGLD KTLFPLIRPV
 201  SRLHSLRPVS RGVHNEILYV FDAVLPETFL PENQDGEVAG FEKMDIGGLL
 251  DAMLSKNMMH DAQLVTLDAF YRYGLIDAAH PLSEWLDGIR L*
```

ORG105ng-1 and ORF105-1 show 93.5% identity in 291 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf105-1.pep    MPTVRFTESVSKQDLDALFEWAKASYGAESCWKTLYLNGLPLGNLSPEWVERVKKDWEAG
                ||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||| ||||||||||:||:|||||||
orf105ng-1      MPTVRFTESVSKQDLDALFERAKASYGAESCWKTLYLNRLPLGNLSPEWAERIKKDWEAG
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf105-1.pep    CSESSDGIFLNADGWPDMGGRLQHLALGWHCAGLLDGWRNECFDLTDGGGNPLFTLERAA
                |||||||||||||||||||||  |: |||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf105ng-1      CSESSDGIFLNADGWPDMGGRLQHLARTWNKAGLLHGWRNECFDLTDGGGNPLFTLERAA
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf105-1.pep    FRPFGLLSRAVHLNGLTESDGRWHFWIGRRSPHKAVDPNKLDNTAAGGVSGGEMPSEAVC
                ||||||||||||||||:||:||||||||||||||||||:|||| |:|||||||||||||||
orf105ng-1      FRPFGLLSRAVHLNGLVESNGRWHFWIGRRSPHKAVDPGKLDNIAGGGVSGGEMPSEAVC
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf105-1.pep    RESSEEAGLDKTLLPLIRPVSQLHSLRSVSRGVHNEILYVFDAVLPETFLPENQDGEVAG
                |||||||||||||:|||||||:|||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf105ng-1      RESSEEAGLDKTLFPLIRPVSRLHSLRPVSRGVHNEILYVFDAVLPETFLPENQDGEVAG
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260       270       280       290
orf105-1.pep    FEKMDIGGLLDAMLSGNMMHDAQLVTLDAFCRYGLIDAAHPLSEWLDGIRLX
                ||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||
orf105ng-1      FEKMDIGGLLDAMLSKNMMHDAQLVTLDAFYRYGLIDAAHPLSEWLDGIRLX
                250       260       270       280       290
```

Furthermore, ORF105ng-1 shows homology with a yeast enzyme:

```
sp|P41888|TNR3_SCHPO THIAMIN PYROPHOSPHOKINASE (TPK) (THIAMIN KINASE)
>gi|1076928|pir||S52350 thiamin pyrophosphokinase (EC 2.7.6.2) - fission yeast
(Schizosaccharomyces pombe) >gi|666111 (X84417) thiamin pyrophosphokinase
[Schizosaccharomyces pombe] >gi|2330852|gnl|PID|e334056  (Z98533) thiamin
pyrophosphokinase [Schizosaccharomyces pombe] Length = 569
 Score =  105 bits (259), Expect = 4e-22
 Identities = 64/192 (33%), Positives = 94/192 (48%), Gaps = 3/192 (1%)

Query: 268 NKAGLLHGWRNECFDLTDGGGNPLFTLERAAFRPFGLLSRAVHLNGLVESNGRW--HFWI 441
           N  G+   WRNE + +      P+  +ER  F  FG LS  VH    + +        W+
Sbjct: 96  NTFGIADQWRNELYTVYGKSKKPVLAVERGGFWLFGFLSTGVHCTMYIPATKEHPLRIWV 155

Query: 442 GRRSPHKAVDPGKLDNIAGGGVSGGEMPSEAVCRESSEEAGLDKTLFPLIRPVSRLHSLR 621
            RRSP K   P  LDN   GG++ G+     + +E SEEA LD +   LI P   +  ++
Sbjct: 156 PRRSPTKQTWPNYLDNSVAGGIAHGDSVIGTMIKEFSEEANLDVSSMNLI-PCGTVSYIK 214

Query: 622 PVSRG-VHNEILYVFDAVLPETFLPENQDGEVAGFEKMDIGGLLDAMLSKNMMHDAQLVT 798
              R  +  E+ YVFD  + +  +P   DGEVAGF  + +  +L  +  K+  +  LV
Sbjct: 215 MEKRHWIQPELQYVFDLPVDDLVIPRINDGEVAGFSLLPLNQVLHELELKSFKPNCALVL 274

Query: 799 LDAFYRYGLIDAAHP 843
           LD   R+G+I   HP
Sbjct: 275 LDFLIRHGIITPQHP 289
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of a putative transmembrane domain in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 49

The following DNA sequence, believed to be complete, was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 419>:

```
   1  ATGAATAGAC CCAAGCAACC CTTCTTCCGT CCCGAAGTCG CCGTTGCCCG
  51  CCAAACCAGC CTGACGGGTA AAGTGATTCT GACACGACCG TTGTCATTTT
 101  CCCTATGGAC GACATTTGCA TCGATATCTG CGTTATTGAT TATCCTGTTT
 151  TTGATATTTG GTAACTATAC GCGAAAGACA ACAGTGGAGG GACAAATTTT
 201  ACCTGCATCG GGCGTAATCA GGGTGTATGC ACCGgATACG rGkACAATTA
 251  CAGCGAAATT CGTGGAAGAT GGmsAAAAGG TTAAGGCTGG CGACAAGCTA
 301  TTTGCGCTTT CGACCTCACG TTTCGGCGCA GGAGGTAGCG TGCAGCAGCA
 351  GTTGAAAACG GAGGCAGTTT TGAAGAAAAC GTTGGCAGAA CAGGAACTGG
 401  GTCGTCTGAA GCTGATACAC GGGAATGAAA CGCGCAgCcT TAAAGCAACT
 451  GTCGAACGTT TGGAAAACCA GGAACTCCAT ATTTCGCAAC AGATAGACGG
 501  TCAGAAAAGG CGCATTAGAC TTGCGGAAGA AATGTTGCAG AAATATCGTT
 551  TCCTATCCGC .CAATGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 420; ORF107>:

```
   1  MNRPKQPFFR PEVAVARQTS LTGKVILTRP LSFSLWTTFA SISALLIILF
  51  LIFGNYTRKT TVEGQILPAS GVIRVYAPDT XTITAKFVED GXKVKAGDKL
 101  FALSTSRFGA GGSVQQQLKT EAVLKKTLAE QELGRLKLIH GNETRSLKAT
 151  VERLENQELH ISQQIDGQKR RIRLAEEMLQ KYRFLSXQ*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF107 shows 97.8% identity over a 186aa overlap with an ORF (ORF107a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
```

```
orf107.pep   MNRPKQPFFRPEVAVARQTSLTGKVILTRPLSFSLWTTFASISALLIILFLIFGNYTRKT
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf107a      MNRPKQPFFRPEVAVARQTSLTGKVILTRPLSFSLWTTFASISALLIILFLIFGNYTRKT
                     10        20        30        40        50        60

                     70        80        90       100       110       120
orf107.pep   TVEGQILPASGVIRVYAPDTXTITAKFVEDGXKVKAGDKLFALSTSRFGAGGSVQQQLKT
             |||||||||||||||||||| |||||| ||| |||||||||||||||||| ||||||||
orf107a      TVEGQILPASGVIRVYAPDTGTITAKFXEDGEKVKAGDKLFALSTSRFGAGDSVQQQLKT
                     70        80        90       100       110       120

                    130       140       150       160       170       180
orf107.pep   EAVLKKTLAEQELGRLKLIHGNETRSLKATVERLENQELHISQQIDGQKRRIRLAEEMLQ
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf107a      EAVLKKTLAEQELGRLKLIHGNETRSLKATVERLENQELHISQQIDGQKRRIRLAEEMLQ
                    130       140       150       160       170       180

                  189
orf107.pep   KYRFLSXQX
             ||||||
orf107a      KYRFLSANDAVPKQEMMNVKAELLEQKAKLDAYRREEVGLLQEIRTQNLTLXSLPQAAX
                    190       200       210       220       230
```

The complete length ORF107a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 421> is:

```
   1  ATGAATAGAC CCAAGCAACC NTTCTTCCGT CCCGAAGTCG CCGTTGCCCG
  51  CCAAACCAGC CTGACGGGTA AAGTGATTCT GACACGACCG TTGTCATTTT
 101  CCCTATGGAC GACATTTGCA TCGATATCTG CGTTATTGAT TATCCTGTTT
 151  TTGATATTTG GTAACTATAC GCGAAAGACA ACAGTGGAGG GACAAATTTT
 201  ACCTGCATCG GGCGTAATCA GGGTGTATGC ACCGGATACG GGGACAATTA
 251  CNGCGAAATT CNTGGAAGAT GGAGAAAAGG TTAAGGCTGG CGACAAGCTA
 301  TTTGCGCTTT CGACCTCACG TTTCGGCGCA GGAGATAGCG TGCAGCAGCA
 351  GTTGAAAACG GAGGCAGTTT TGAAGAAAAC GTTGGCAGAA CAGGAACTGG
 401  GTCGTCTGAA GCTGATACAC GGGAATGAAA CGCGCAGCCT TAAAGCAACT
 451  GTCGAACGTT TGGAAAACCA GGAACTCCAT ATTTCGCAAC AGATAGACGG
 501  TCAGAAAAGG CGCATTAGAC TTGCGGAAGA AATGTTGCAG AAATATCGTT
 551  TCCTATCCGC CAATGATGCA GTGCCAAAAC AAGAAATGAT GAATGTCAAG
 601  GCAGAGCTTT TAGAGCAGAA AGCCAAACTT GATGCCTACC GCCGAGAAGA
 651  AGTCGGGCTG CTTCAGGAAA TCCGCACGCA GAATCTGACA TTGGNNAGCC
 701  TCCCCCAAGC GGCATGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 422>:

```
   1  MNRPKQPFFR PEVAVARQTS LTGKVILTRP LSFSLWTTFA SISALLIILF
  51  LIFGNYTRKT TVEGQILPAS GVIRVYAPDT GTITAKFXED GEKVKAGDKL
 101  FALSTSRFGA GDSVQQQLKT EAVLKKTLAE QELGRLKLIH GNETRSLKAT
 151  VERLENQELH ISQQIDGQKR RIRLAEEMLQ KYRFLSANDA VPKQEMMNVK
 201  AELLEQKAKL DAYRREEVGL LQEIRTQNLT LXSLPQAA*
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF107 shows 95.7% identity over a 188aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF107.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf107.pep   MNRPKQPFFRPEVAVARQTSLTGKVILTRPLSFSLWTTFASISALLIILFLIFGNYTRKT   60
             ||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf107ng     MNRPKQPFFRPEVAIARQTSLTGKVILTRPLSFSLWTTFASISALLIILFLIFGNYTRKT   60

orf107.pep   TVEGQILPASGVIRVYAPDTXTITAKFVEDGXKVKAGDKLFALSTSRFGAGGSVQQQLKT  120
             |:|||||||||||||||||| |||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf107ng     TMEGQILPASGVIRVYAPDTGTITAKFVEDGEKVKAGDKLFALSTSRFGAGGSVQQQLKT  120

orf107.pep   EAVLKKTLAEQELGRLKLIHGNETRSLKATVERLENQELHISQQIDGQKRRIRLAEEMLQ  180
             |||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||:
orf107ng     EAVLKKTLAEQELGRLKLIHENETRSLKATVERLENQKLHISQQIDGQKRRIRLAEEMLR  180

orf107.pep   KYRFLSXQ  188
             |||||| |
orf107ng     KYRFLSAQ  188
```

The complete length ORF107ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 423> is predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 424>:

```
  1  MNRPKQPFFR PEVAIARQTS LTGKVILTRP LSFSLWTTFA SISALLIILF
 51  LIFGNYTRKT TMEGQILPAS GVIRVYAPDT GTITAKFVED GEKVKAGDKL
101  FALSTSRFGA GGSVQQQLKT EAVLKKTLAE QELGRLKLIH ENETRSLKAT
151  VERLENQKLH ISQQIDGQKR RIRLAEEMLR KYRFLSAQ*
```

Based on the presence of a putative ransmembrane domain in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 50

The following DNA sequence, believed to be complete, was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 425>:

```
  1  ATGCTGAATA CTTTTTTTGC CGTATTGGGC GGCTGCCTGC TGCT.TTGCC
 51  GTGCGGCAAA TCCGTAAATA CGGCGGTACA GCCGCAAAAC GCGGTACAAA
101  GCGCGCCGAA ACCGGTTTTC AAAGTCATAT ATATCGACAA TACGGCGATT
151  GCCGGTTTGG ATTTGGGACA AAGCAGCGAA GGCAAAACCA ACGACGGCAA
201  AAAACAAATC AGTTATCCGA TTAAAGGCTT GCCGGAACAA AATGTTATCC
251  GACTGATCGG CAAGCATCCC GGCGACTTGG AAGCCGTCAG CGGCAAATGT
301  ATGGAAACCG ATGATAAGGA CAGTCCGGCA GGTTGGGCAG AAAACGGCGT
351  GTGCCATACC TTGTTTGCCA AACTGGTGGG CAATATCGCC GAAGACGGCG
401  GCAAACTGAC GGATTACCTA GTTTCGCATG CCGCCCTGCA ACCCTATCAG
451  GCAGGCAAAA GCGGCTATGC CGCCGTGCAG AACGGACGCT ATGTGCTGGA
501  AATCGACAGC GAAGGGGCGT TTTATTTCCG CCGCCGCCAT TATTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 426; ORF108>:

```
  1  MLNTFFAVLG GCLLXLPCGK SVNTAVQPQN AVQSAPKPVF KVIYIDNTAI
 51  AGLDLGQSSE GKTNDGKKQI SYPIKGLPEQ NVIRLIGKHP GDLEAVSGKC
101  METDDKDSPA GWAENGVCHT LFAKLVGNIA EDGGKLTDYL VSHAALQPYQ
151  AGKSGYAAVQ NGRYVLEIDS EGAFYFRRRH Y*
```

Further work revealed the following DNA sequence <SEQ ID 427>:

```
  1  ATGCTGAAAA CATCTTTTGC CGTATTGGGC GGCTGCCTGC TGCTTGCCGC
 51  CTGCGGCAAA TCCGAAAATA CGGCGGAACA GCCGCAAAAC GCGGTACAAA
101  GCGCGCCGAA ACCGGTTTTC AAAGTCAAAT ATATCGACAA TACGGCGATT
151  GCCGGTTTGG ATTTGGGACA AAGCAGCGAA GGCAAAACCA ACGACGGCAA
201  AAAACAAATC AGTTATCCGA TTAAAGGCTT GCCGGAACAA AATGTTATCC
251  GACTGATCGG CAAGCATCCC GGCGACTTGG AAGCCGTCAG CGGCAAATGT
301  ATGGAAACCG ATGATAAGGA CAGTCCGGCA GGTTGGGCAG AAAACGGCGT
351  GTGCCATACC TTGTTTGCCA AACTGGTGGG CAATATCGCC GAAGACGGCG
401  GCAAACTGAC GGATTACCTA GTTTCGCATG CCGCCCTGCA ACCCTATCAG
451  GCAGGCAAAA GCGGCTATGC CGCCGTGCAG AACGGACGCT ATGTGCTGGA
501  AATCGACAGC GAAGGGGCGT TTTATTTCCG CCGCCGCCAT TATTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 428; ORF108-1>:

```
  1  MLKTSFAVLG GCLLLAACGK SENTAEQPQN AVQSAPKPVF KVKYIDNTAI
 51  AGLDLGQSSE GKTNDGKKQI SYPIKGLPEQ NVIRLIGKHP GDLEAVSGKC
101  METDDKDSPA GWAENGVCHT LFAKLVGNIA EDGGKLTDYL VSHAALQPYQ
151  AGKSGYAAVQ NGRYVLEIDS EGAFYFRRRH Y*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF108 shows 88.4% identity over a 181aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF108.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf108.pep   MLNTFFAVLGGCLLXLPCGKSVNTAVQPQNAVQSAPKPVFKVIYIDNTAIAGLDLGQSSE  60
             ||:  |||||||||   |||| ||| |||||:|||||||||| ||||||||| ||||||
orf108ng     MLKIPFAVLGGCLLLAACGKSENTAEQPQNAAQSAPKPVFKVKYIDNTAIAGLALGQSSE  60

orf108.pep   GKTNDGKKQISYPIKGLPEQNVIRLIGKHPGDLEAVSGKCMETDDKDSPAGWAENGVCHT 120
             ||||||||||||||||||||||::|| ||||:||||| ||||||| ||:|:|||||||||
orf108ng     GKTNDGKKQISYPIKGLPEQNAVRLTGKHPNDLEAVVGKCMETDGKDAPSGWAENGVCHT 120

orf108.pep   LFAKLVGNIAEDGGKLTDYLVSHAALQPYQAGKSGYAAVQNGRYVLEIDSEGAFYFRRRHY 181
             ||||||||||||||||||:||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf108ng     LFAKLVGNIAEDGGKLTDYLISHSALQPYQAGKSGYAAVQNGRYVLEIDSEGAFYFRRRHY 181
```

ORF108-1 shows 92.3% identity with ORF108ng over the same 181 aa overlap:

```
orf108-1.pep   MLKTSFAVLGGCLLLAACGKSENTAEQPQNAVQSAPKPVFKVKYIDNTAIAGLDLGQSSE  60
               |||  |||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||| ||||||
orf108ng-1     MLKIPFAVLGGCLLLAACGKSENTAEQPQNAAQSAPKPVFKVKYIDNTAIAGLALGQSSE  60

orf108-1.pep   GKTNDGKKQISYPIKGLPEQNVIRLIGKHPGDLEAVSGKCMETDDKDSPAGWAENGVCHT 120
               |||||||||||||||||||||::|| ||||:||||| ||||||| ||:|:|||||||||
orf108ng-1     GKTNDGKKQISYPIKGLPEQNAVRLTGKHPNDLEAVVGKCMETDGKDAPSGWAENGVCHT 120

orf108-1.pep   LFAKLVGNIAEDGGKLTDYLVSHAALQPYQAGKSGYAAVQNGRYVLEIDSEGAFYFRRRHY 181
               ||||||||||||||||||:||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf108ng-1     LFAKLVGNIAEDGGKLTDYLISHSALQPYQAGKSGYAAVQNGRYVLEIDSEGAFYFRRRHY 181
```

The complete length ORF108ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 429> is:

```
   1  ATGCTGAAAa tacctTTTGC CGTGTtgggc ggCtgcctGC TGCTTGCCGC
  51  CTGCGGCAAA TCCGAAAATa cggcggaACA GCCGCAAAAT gcggCACAAA
 101  GCGCGCCGAA ACCGGTTTTC AAAGTCAAAT ACATCGACAA TACGGCGATT
 151  GCCGGTTTGG CTTTGGGACA AAGTAGCGAA GGCAAAACCA acgacgGCAA
 201  AAAACAAATC AGTTATccgA TTAAAGGCTT GCCGGAACAA Aacgccgtcc
 251  gGCTGACCGG AAAGCATCCC AACGACTTGG Aagccgtcgt CGGCAAATGT
 301  ATGGAAACCG ACGGAAAGGA CGCGCCTTCG GGCTGGGCGG AAAACGGCGT
 351  GTGCCATACC TTGTTTGCCA AACTGGTGGG CAATATCGCC GAAGACGGCG
 401  GCAAACTGAC TGATTACCTG ATTTCGCATT CCGCCCTGCA ACCCTATCAG
 451  GCAGGCAAAA GCGGCTATGC CGCCGTGCAG AACGGACGCT ATGTGCTGGA
 501  AATCGACAGC GagggGGCGT TTTATttccg ccgccgccat tattgA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 430>:

```
   1  MLKIPFAVLG GCLLLAACGK SENTAEQPQN AAQSAPKPVF KVKYIDNTAI
  51  AGLALGQSSE GKTNDGKKQI SYPIKGLPEQ NAVRLTGKHP NDLEAVVGKC
 101  METDGKDAPS GWAENGVCHT LFAKLVGNIA EDGGKLTDYL ISHSALQPYQ
 151  AGKSGYAAVQ NGRYVLEIDS EGAFYFRRRH Y*
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of a predicted prokaryotic membrane lipoprotein lipid attachment site (underlined) and a putative ATP/GTP-binding site motif A (P-loop, double-underlined) in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 51

The following DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 431>:

```
   1  ATGGAAGATT TATATATAAT ACTCGCTTTG GGTTTGGTTG CGATGATTGC
  51  CGgATTTATC GATgcgatTg cGggCGGGGG TGGTTTGATT ACGCTGCCCG
 101  CACTCTTGTT GGCAGGTATT CCTCCCGTGT CGGCAATTGC CACCAACAAG
 151  CTGCAAgCAG CCGCTGCTAC GTTTTCAGCT ACGGTTTCTT TTGCACGCAA
 201  AGGTTTGATT GATTGGAAGA AAGGTCTCCC GATTGCCGCA GCATCGTTTG
 251  TAGGCGGCGT GGcCGGTGCA TTATCGGTCA GCTTGGTTTC CAAAGATATT
 301  CTgCTgGCGG TCGTGCCGGT TTTGTTGATA TTTGTCGCAC TGTATTTTGT
 351  GTTTTCGCCC AAGCTCGACG GCAGTAAGGA AGGCAAAGCC AGAATGTCTT
 401  TTTTTCTGTT cGGGCTGACG GTCGC.ACCG CTTTTGGGTT TTTACGACGG
 451  TGTGTTCGGA CCGGGTGTCG GCTCGTTTTT TCTGATTGCC TTTATTGTTT
 501  TGCTCGGCTG CAAgCTGTTG AACGCGATGT CTTACACCAA ATTGGCGAAC
 551  GTTGCCTGCA ATCTTGGTTC GCTATCGGTA TTCCTGCTGC ACGGTTCGAT
 601  TATTTTCCCG ATTGCGGCAA CGaTGGCGGT CGGTGCGTTT GTCGGtGCGA
 651  ATTTAgGTGC GAGATTTGCC GTaCgctTCG GTTCGAAGCT GATTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 432; ORF109>:

```
   1  MEDLYIILAL GLVAMIAGFI DAIAGGGGLI TLPALLLAGI PPVSAIATNK
  51  LQAAAATFSA TVSFARKGLI DWKKGLPIAA ASFVGGVAGA LSVSLVSKDI
 101  LLAVVPVLLI FVALYFVFSP KLDGSKEGKA RMSFFLFGLT VXTAFGFLRR
 151  CVRTGCRLVF SDCLYCFARL QAVERDVLHQ IGERCLQSWF AIGIPAARFD
 201  YFPDCGNDGG RCVCRCEFRC EICRTLRFEA D*
```

Further work revealed the following DNA sequence <SEQ ID 433>:

```
   1  ATGGAAGATT TATATATAAT ACTCGCTTTG GGTTTGGTTG CGATGATTGC
  51  CGGATTTATC GATGCGATTG CGGGCGGGGG TGGTTTGATT ACGCTGCCCG
 101  CACTCTTGTT GGCAGGTATT CCTCCCGTGT CGGCAATTGC CACCAACAAG
 151  CTGCAAGCAG CCGCTGCTAC GTTTTCAGCT ACGGTTTCTT TTGCACGCAA
 201  AGGTTTGATT GATTGGAAGA AAGGTCTCCC GATTGCCGCA GCATCGTTTG
 251  TAGGCGGCGT GGCCGGTGCA TTATCGGTCA GCTTGGTTTC CAAAGATATT
 301  CTGCTGGCGG TCGTGCCGGT TTTGTTGATA TTTGTCGCAC TGTATTTTGT
 351  GTTTTCGCCC AAGCTCGACG GCAGTAAGGA AGGCAAAGCC AGAATGTCTT
 401  TTTTTCTGTT CGGGCTGACG GTCGCACCGC TTTTGGGTTT TTACGACGGT
 451  GTGTTCGGAC CGGGTGTCGG CTCGTTTTTT CTGATTGCCT TTATTGTTTT
 501  GCTCGGCTGC AAGCTGTTGA ACGCGATGTC TTACACCAAA TTGGCGAACG
 551  TTGCCTGCAA TCTTGGTTCG CTATCGGTAT TCCTGCTGCA CGGTTCGATT
 601  ATTTTCCCGA TTGCGGCAAC GATGGCGGTC GGTGCGTTTG TCGGTGCGAA
 651  TTTAGGTGCG AGATTTGCCG TCCGCTTCGG TTCGAAGCTG ATTAAGCCGC
 701  TGCTGATTGT CATCAGCATT TCGATGGCTG TGAAATTGTT GATAGACGAG
 751  AGAAATCCGC TGTATCAGAT GATTGTTTCG ATGTTTTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 434; ORF109-1>:

```
   1  MEDLYIILAL GLVAMIAGFI DAIAGGGGLI TLPALLLAGI PPVSAIATNK
  51  LQAAAATFSA TVSFARKGLI DWKKGLPIAA ASFVGGVAGA LSVSLVSKDI
 101  LLAVVPVLLI FVALYFVFSP KLDGSKEGKA RMSFFLFGLT VAPLLGFYDG
 151  VFGPGVGSFF LIAFIVLLGC KLLNAMSYTK LANVACNLGS LSVFLLHGSI
 201  IFPIAATMAV GAFVGANLGA RFAVRFGSKL IKPLLIVISI SMAVKLLIDE
 251  RNPLYQMIVS MF*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF109 shows 95.9% identity over a 147aa overlap with an ORF (ORF109a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf109.pep      MEDLYIILALGLVAMIAGFIDAIAGGGGLITLPALLLAGIPPVSAIATNKLQAAAATFSA
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf109a         MEDLYIILALGLVAMIAGFIDAIAGGGGLITLPALLLAGIPPVSAIATNKLQAAAATFSA
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf109.pep      TVSFARKGLIDWKKGLPIAAASFVGGVAGALSVSLVSKDILLAVVPVLLIFVALYFVFSP
                ||||||||||||||||||||||:|||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf109a         TVSFARKGLIDWKKGLPIAAASFAGGVVGALSVSLVSKDILLAVVPVLLIFVALYFVFSP
                70        80        90        100       110       120
```

```
                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf109.pep      KLDGSKEGKARMSFFLFGLTVXTAFGFLRRCVRTGCRLVFSDCLYCFARLQAVERDVLHQ
                ||||||||||||||||||||||    :||
orf109a         KLDGSKEGKARMSFFLFGLTVAPLLGFYDGVFGPGVGSFFLIAFIVLLGCKLLNAMSYTK
                130       140       150       160       170       180
```

The complete length ORF109a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 435> is:

```
   1  ATGGAAGATT TATACATAAT ACTCGCTTTG GGTTTGGTTG CGATGATTGC
  51  CGGATTTATC GATGCGATTG CGGGTGGGGG TGGTTTGATT ACGCTGCCTG
 101  CACTCTTGTT GGCAGGTATT CCTCCCGTGT CGGCAATTGC CACCAACAAG
 151  CTGCAAGCAG CCGCTGCTAC GTTTTCGGCT ACGGTTTCTT TTGCACGCAA
 201  AGGTTTGATT GATTGGAAGA AAGGTCTCCC GATTGCGGCA GCATCGTTTG
 251  CAGGCGGCGT GGTCGGTGCA TTATCGGTCA GCTTGGTTTC CAAAGATATT
 301  CTGCTGGCGG TCGTGCCGGT TTTGTTGATA TTTGTCGCGC TGTATTTTGT
 351  GTTTTCGCCC AAGCTCGACG GCAGTAAGGA AGGCAAAGCC AGAATGTCTT
 401  TTTTTCTGTT CGGTCTGACG GTTGCACCAC TTTTGGGTTT TTACGACGGT
 451  GTGTTCGGAC CGGGTGTCGG CTCGTTTTTT CTGATTGCCT TTATTGTTTT
 501  GCTCGGCTGC AAGCTGTTGA ACGCGATGTC TTACACCAAA TTGGCGAACG
 551  TTGCCTGCAA TCTTGGTTCG CTATCGGTAT TCCTGCTGCA CGGTTCGATT
 601  ATTTTCCCGA TTGCGGCAAC GATGGCGGTC GGTGCGTTTG TCGGTGCGAA
 651  TTTAGGTGCG AGATTTGCCG TCCGCTTCGG TTCGAAGCTG ATTAAGCCGC
 701  TGCTGATTGT CATCAGCATT TCGATGGCTG TGAAATTGTT GATAGACGAG
 751  AGAAATCCGC TGTATCAGAT GATTGTTTCG ATGTTTTAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 436>:

```
   1  MEDLYIILAL GLVAMIAGFI DAIAGGGGLI TLPALLLAGI PPVSAIATNK
  51  LQAAAATFSA TVSFARKGLI DWKKGLPIAA ASFAGGVVGA LSVSLVSKDI
 101  LLAVVPVLLI FVALYFVFSP KLDGSKEGKA RMSFFLFGLT VAPLLGFYDG
 151  VFGPGVGSFF LIAFIVLLGC KLLNAMSYTK LANVACNLGS LSVFLLHGSI
 201  IFPIAATMAV GAFVGANLGA RFAVRFGSKL IKPLLIVISI SMAVKLLIDE
 251  RNPLYQMIVS MF*
```

ORF109a and ORF109-1 show 99.2% identity in 262 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf109a.pep     MEDLYIILALGLVAMIAGFIDAIAGGGGLITLPALLLAGIPPVSAIATNKLQAAAATFSA
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf109-1        MEDLYIILALGLVAMIAGFIDAIAGGGGLITLPALLLAGIPPVSAIATNKLQAAAATFSA
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf109a.pep     TVSFARKGLIDWKKGLPIAAASFAGGVVGALSVSLVSKDILLAVVPVLLIFVALYFVFSP
                ||||||||||||||||||||||:|||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf109-1        TVSFARKGLIDWKKGLPIAAASFVGGVAGALSVSLVSKDILLAVVPVLLIFVALYFVFSP
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf109a.pep     KLDGSKEGKARMSFFLFGLTVAPLLGFYDGVFGPGVGSFFLIAFIVLLGCKLLNAMSYTK
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf109-1        KLDGSKEGKARMSFFLFGLTVAPLLGFYDGVFGPGVGSFFLIAFIVLLGCKLLNAMSYTK
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf109a.pep     LANVACNLGSLSVFLLHGSIIFPIAATMAVGAFVGANLGARFAVRFGSKLIKPLLIVISI
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf109-1        LANVACNLGSLSVFLLHGSIIFPIAATMAVGAFVGANLGARFAVRFGSKLIKPLLIVISI
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260
orf109a.pep     SMAVKLLIDERNPLYQMIVSMFX
                |||||||||||||||||||||||
orf109-1        SMAVKLLIDERNPLYQMIVSMFX
                250       260
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF109 shows 98.3% identity over a 231aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF109.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf109.pep   MEDLYIILALGLVAMIAGFIDAIAGGGGLITLPALLLAGIPPVSAIATNKLQAAAATFSA   60
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf109ng     MEDLYIILALGLVAMIAGFIDAIAGGGGLITLPALLLAGIPPVSAIATNKLQAAAATFSA   60

orf109.pep   TVSFARKGLIDWKKGLPIAAASFVGGVAGALSVSLVSKDILLAVVPVLLIFVALYFVFSP  120
             ||||||||||||||||||||||:|||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf109ng     TVSFARKGLIDWKKGLPIAAASFAGGVVGALSVSLVSKDILLAVVPVLLIFVALYFVFSP  120

orf109.pep   KLDGSKEGKARMSFFLFGLTVXTAFGFLRRCVRTGCRLVFSDCLYCFARLQAVERDVLHQ  180
             ||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf109ng     KLDGSKEGKARMSFFLFGLTVATAFGFLRRCVRTGCRLVFSDCLYCFARLQAVERDVLHQ  180

orf109.pep   IGERCLQSWFAIGIPAARFDYFPDCGNDGGRCVCRCEFRCEICRTLRFEAD  231
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||
orf109ng     IGERCLQSWFAIGIPAARFDYFPDCGNDGGRCVCRCEFRCEICRPLRFEAD  231
```

An ORF109ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 437> was predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 438>:

```
   1  MEDLYIILAL GLVAMIAGFI DAIAGGGGLI TLPALLLAGI PPVSAIATNK
  51  LQAAAATFSA TVSFARKGLI DWKKGLPIAA ASFAGGVVGA LSVSLVSKDI
 101  LLAVVPVLLI FVALYFVFSP KLDGSKEGKA RMSFFLFGLT VATAFGFLRR
 151  CVRTGCRLVF SDCLYCFARL QAVERDVLHQ IGERCLQSWF AIGIPAARFD
 201  YFPDCGNDGG RCVCRCEFRC EICRPLRFEA D*
```

Further work revealed the following gonococcal DNA sequence <SEQ ID 439>:

```
   1  ATGGAAGATT TATACATAAT ACTCGCTTTG GGTTTGGTTG CGATGATCGC
  51  CGGATTTATC GATGCGATTG CGGGCGGGGG TGGTTTGATT ACGCTGCCTG
 101  CACTCTTGTT GGCAGGTATT CCTCCCGTGT CGGCAATTGC CACCAACAAG
 151  CTGCAAGCAG CCGCTGCTAC GTTTTCGGCT ACGGTTTCTT TTGCACGCAA
 201  AGGTTTGATT GATTGGAAGA AAGGTCTCCC GATTGCCGCA GCATCGTTTG
 251  CAGGCGGCGT GGTCGGTGCA TTATCGGTCA GCTTGGTTTC CAAAGATATT
 301  TTGCTGGCGG TCGTGCCGGT TTTGTTGATA TTTGTCGCGC TGTATTTTGT
 351  GTTTTCGCCC AAGCTCGACG GCAGTAAGGA AGGCAAAGCC AGAATGTCTT
 401  TTTTTCTATT CGGGCTGACG GTTGCACCGC TTTTGGGTTT TTACGACGGT
 451  GTGTTCGGAC CGGGTGTCGG CTCGTTTTTT CTGATTGCCT TTATTGTTTT
 501  GCTCGGCTGC AAGCTGTTGA ACGCGATGTC TTACACCAAA TTGGCGAACG
 551  TTGCTTGCAA TCTTGGTTCG CTATCGGTAT TCCTGCTGCA CGGTTCGATT
 601  ATTTTCCCGA TTGTGGCAAC GATGGCGGTC GGTGCGTTTG TCGGTGCGAA
 651  TTTAGGTGCG AGATTTGCCG TCCGCTTCGG TTCGAAGCTG ATTAAGCCGC
 701  TGCTGATTGT CATCAGCATT TCGATGGCTG TGAAATTGTT GATAGACGAG
 751  AGAAATCCGC TGTATCAGAT GATTGTTTCG ATGTTTTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 440; ORF109ng-1>:

```
   1  MEDLYIILAL GLVAMIAGFI DAIAGGGGLI TLPALLLAGI PPVSAIATNK
  51  LQAAAATFSA TVSFARKGLI DWKKGLPIAA ASFAGGVVGA LSVSLVSKDI
 101  LLAVVPVLLI FVALYFVFSP KLDGSKEGKA RMSFFLFGLT VAPLLGFYDG
 151  VFGPGVGSFF LIAFIVLLGC KLLNAMSYTK LANVACNLGS LSVFLLHGSI
 201  IFPIVATMAV GAFVGANLGA RFAVRFGSKL IKPLLIVISI SMAVKLLIDE
 251  RNPLYQMIVS MF*
```

ORF109ng-1 and ORF109-1 show 98.9% identity in 262 aa overlap:

```
                        10        20        30        40        50        60
orf109ng-1.pep MEDLYIILALGLVAMIAGFIDAIAGGGGLITLPALLLAGIPPVSAIATNKLQAAAATFSA
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf109-1       MEDLYIILALGLVAMIAGFIDAIAGGGGLITLPALLLAGIPPVSAIATNKLQAAAATFSA
                        10        20        30        40        50        60

                        70        80        90       100       110       120
orf109ng-1.pep TVSFARKGLIDWKKGLPIAAASFAGGVVGALSVSLVSKDILLAVVPVLLIFVALYFVFSP
```

```
                    ||||||||||||||||||||||:|||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf109-1            TVSFARKGLIDWKKGLPIAAASFVGGVAGALSVSLVSKDILLAVVPVLLIFVALYFVFSP
                           70         80         90        100        110        120

                          130        140        150        160        170        180
orf109ng-1.pep      KLDGSKEGKARMSFFLFGLTVAPLLGFYDGVFGPGVGSFFLIAFIVLLGCKLLNAMSYTK
                    ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf109-1            KLDGSKEGKARMSFFLFGLTVAPLLGFYDGVFGPGVGSFFLIAFIVLLGCKLLNAMSYTK
                          130        140        150        160        170        180

                          190        200        210        220        230        240
orf109ng-1.pep      LANVACNLGSLSVFLLHGSIIFPIVATMAVGAFVGANLGARFAVRFGSKLIKPLLIVISI
                    ||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf109-1            LANVACNLGSLSVFLLHGSIIFPIAATMAVGAFVGANLGARFAVRFGSKLIKPLLIVISI
                          190        200        210        220        230        240

                          250        260
orf109ng-1.pep      SMAVKLLIDERNPLYQMIVSMFX
                    ||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf109-1            SMAVKLLIDERNPLYQMIVSMFX
                          250        260
```

In addition, ORF109ng-1 shows homology to a hypothetical *Pseudomonas* protein:

```
sp|P29942|YCB9_PSEDE HYPOTHETICAL 27.4 KD PROTEIN IN COBO 3'REGION (ORF9)
>gi|94984|pir||I38164 hypothetical protein 9 - Pseudomonas sp >gi|551929
(M62866) ORF9 [Pseudomonas denitrificans] Length = 261
 Score =  175 bits (439), Expect = 3e-43
 Identities = 83/214 (38%), Positives = 131/214 (60%), Gaps = 1/214 (0%)

Query: 41  PPVSAIATNKLQXXXXXXXXXXXXXRKGLIDWKKGLPIXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXKDI 100
            PP+  + TNKLQ               R+G ++ K+ LP+                  D+
Sbjct: 43  PPLQTLGTNKLQGLFGSGSATLSYARRGHVNLKEQLPMALMSAAGAVLGALLATIVPGDV 102

Query: 101 LLAVVPVLLIFVALYFVFSPKLDGSKEGKARMSFFLFGLTVAPLLGFYDGVFGPGVGSFF 160
            L A++P LLI +ALYF   P + G  +  +R++ F+F LT+ PL+GFYDGVFGPG GSFF
Sbjct: 103 LKAILPFLLIAIALYFGLKPNM-GDVDQHSRVTPFVFTLTLVPLIGFYDGVFGPGTGSFF 161

Query: 161 LIAFIVLLGCKLLNAMSYTKLANVACNLGSLSVFLLHGSIIFPIVATMAVGAFVGANLGA 220
            ++ F+ L G  +L A ++TK  N   N+G+  VFL  G++++ +   M +G F+GA +G+
Sbjct: 162 MLGFVTLAGFGVLKATAHTKFLNFGSNVGAFGVFLFFGAVLWKVGLLMGLGQFLGAQVGS 221

Query: 221 RFAVRFGSKLIKPLLIVISISMAVKLLIDERNPL 254
            R+A+  G+K+IKPLL+++SI++A++LL D  +PL
Sbjct: 222 RYAMAKGAKIIKPLLVIVSIALAIRLLADPTHPL 255
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of a putative leader sequence (double-underlined) and several putative transmembrane domains (single-underlined) in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 52

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 441>:

```
     1  ..CTGCTAGGGT ATTGCATCGG TTATCGGTAC GGCTGTTGCA GCAAAACCAG
    51    CCGCAGACGG ATTATTTGGT CAAATTCGGA TCGTTTTGGG CGAG.ATTTT
   101    TGGTTTTCTG GGACTGTATG ACGTCTATGC TTCGGCATGG TTTGTCGTTA
   151    TCATGATGTT TTTGGTGGTT TCTACCAGTT TGTGCCTGAT TCGCAATGTG
   201    CCGCCGTTCT GGCGCGAAAT GAAGTCTTTT CGGGAAAAGG TTAAAGAAAA
   251    ATCTCTGGCG GCGATGCGCC ATTCTTCGCT GTTGGATGTA AAAATTGCGC
   301    CCGAGGTTGC CAAACGTTAT CTGGAAGTAC AAGGTTTTCA GGGGAAAACC
   351    ATTAACCGTG AAGACGGGTC GGTTCTGATT GCCGCCAAAA AAGGCACAAT
   401    GAACAAATGG GGCTATATCT TTGCCCATGT TGCTTTGATT GTCATTTGCC
   451    TGGGCGGGTT GATAGACAGT AACCTGCTGT TGAAACTGGG TATGCTGACC
   501    GGTCGGATTG TTCCGGACAA TCAGGCGGTT TATGCCAAGG ATTTC.AAGC
```

```
551    CCGAAAGTAT .TTTGGGTGC gTCCAATCTC TCATTTAGGG GCAACGTCAA
601    TATTTCCG.A GGGGCAGAgT GCGGATGTGG TTTTCCTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 442; ORF110>:

```
  1  ..LLGIASVIGT LLQQNQPQTD YLVKFGSFWA XIFGFLGLYD VYASAWFVVI
 51    MMFLVVSTSL CLIRNVPPFW REMKSFREKV KEKSLAAMRH SSLLDVKIAP
101    EVAKRYLEVQ GFQGKTINRE DGSVLIAAKK GTMNKWGYIF AHVALIVICL
151    GGLIDSNLLL KLGMLTGRIF RTIRRFMPRI XKPESXFGCV QSLI*GQRQY
201    FXRGRVRMWF S*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with ORF88a from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF110 shows 91.5% identity over a 188aa overlap with ORF88a from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf88a.pep  MSKSRRSPPLLSRPWFAFFSSMRFAVALLSLLGIASVIGTVLQQNQPQTDYLVKFGSFWA
                                          ||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||
orf110                                    LLGIASVIGTLLQQNQPQTDYLVKFGSFWA
                                                10        20        30

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf88a.pep  QIFGFLGLYDVYASAWFVVIMMFLVVSTSLCLIRNVPPFWREMKSFREKVKEKSLAAMRH
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf110      XIFGFLGLYDVYASAWFVVIMMFLVVSTSLCLIRNVPPFWREMKSFREKVKEKSLAAMRH
                    40        50        60        70        80        90

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf88a.pep  SSLLDVKIAPEVAKRYLEVQGFQGKTINREDGSVLIAAKKGTMNKWGYIFAHVALIVICL
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf110      SSLLDVKIAPEVAKRYLEVQGFQGKTINREDGSVLIAAKKGTMNKWGYIFAHVALIVICL
                   100       110       120       130       140       150

                   190       200       210       220       230       240
orf88a.pep  GGLIDSNLLLKLGMLTGRIVPDNQAVYAKDFKPESILGASNLSFRGNVNISEGQSADVVF
            ||||||||||||||||||    :  : :  |||| :|
orf110      GGLIDSNLLLKLGMLTGRIFRTIRRFMPRIXKPESXFGCVQSLIXGQRQYFXRGRVRMWF
                   160       170       180       190       200       210

                   250       260       270       280       290       300
orf88a.pep  LNADNGILVQDLPFEVKLKKFHIDFYNTGMPRDFASDIEVTDKATGEKLERTIRVNHPLT

orf110      SX
```

However, ORF88 and ORF110 do not align, because they represent two different fragments of the same protein.

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF110 shows 88.6% identity over a 211aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF110.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf110.pep                                LLGIASVIGTLLQQNQPQTDYLVKFGSFWA   30
                                          ||||||||||:|||||||||||||| ||:
orf110ng    MSKSRISPTLLSRPWFAFFSSMRFAVALLSLLGIASVIGTVLQQNQPQTDYLVKFGPFWT   60

orf110.pep  XIFGFLGLYDVYASAWFVVIMMFLVVSTSLCLIRNVPPFWREMKSFREKVKEKSLAAMRH   90
             || ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf110ng    RIFDFLGLYDVYASAWFVVIMMFLVVSTSLCLIRNVPPFWREMKSFREKVKEKSLAAMRH  120

orf110.pep  SSLLDVKIAPEVAKRYLEVQGFQGKTINREDGSVLIAAKKGTMNKWGYIFAHVALIVICL  150
            ||||||||||||||||||:||||||::|||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||
orf110ng    SSLLDVKIAPEVAKRYLEVRGFQGKTVSREDGSVLIAAKKGTMNKWGYIXAHVALIVICL  180
```

```
orf110.pep    GGLIDSNLLLKLGMLTGRIFRTIRRFMPRIXKPESXFGCVQSLIXGQRQYFXRGRVRMWF  210
              |  ||: |||||||||:| |||: || |||| |||| || ||||| |||||| ||:||||
orf110ng      GRLINXNLLLKLGMLAGSIFRNNRRVMPRISKPESIWGGVQSLIKGQRQYFQRGKVRMWF  240

orf110.pep    S  211
              |
orf110ng      S  241
```

The complete length ORF110ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 443> is predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 444>:

```
   1  MSKSRISPTL LSRPWFAFFS SMRFAVALLS LLGIASVIGT VLQQNQPQTD
  51  YLVKFGPFWT RIFDFLGLYD VYASAWFVVI MMFLVVSTSL CLIRNVPPFW
 101  REMKSFREKV KEKSLAAMRH SSLLDVKIAP EVAKRYLEVR GFQGKTVSRE
 151  DGSVLIAAKK GTMNKWGYIX AHVALIVICL GRLINXNLLL KLGMLAGSIF
 201  RNNRRVMPRI SKPESIWGGV QSLIKGQRQY FQRGKVRMWF S*
```

Based on the putative transmembrane domains in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 53

The following DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 445>:

```
   1  ATGCCGTCTG AAACACGCCT GCCGAACTTT ATCCGCGTCT TGATATTTGC
  51  CCTGGGTTTC ATCTTCCTGA ACGCCTGTTC GGAACAAACC GCGCAAACCG
 101  TTACCCTGCA AGGCGAAACG ATGGGCACGA CCTATACCGT CAAATACCTT
 151  TCAAATAATC GGGACAAACT CCCCTCACCT GCCGAAATAC AAAAACGCAT
 201  CGATGACGCG CTTAAAGAAG TCAACCGGCA GATGTCCACC TATCAGCCCG
 251  ACTCCGAAAT CAGCCGGTTC AACCAACACA CAGCCGGCAA GCCCCTCCGC
 301  ATTTCAAGCG ACTTCGCACA CGTTACTGCC GAAGCCGTCC GCCTGAACCG
 351  CCTGACACAC GGCGCGCTGG ACGTAACCGT CGGCCCCTTG GTCAACCTTT
 401  GGGGATTCGG CCCCGACAAA TCCGTTACCC GTGAACCGTC GCCGGAACAA
 451  ATCAAACAGG CGGCATCTTA TACGGGCATA GACAAAATCA TTTTGAAACA
 501  AGGCAAAGAT TACGCTTCCT TGAGCAAAAC CCACCCCAAG GCCTATTTGG
 551  ATTTATCTTC GATTGCCAAA GGCTTCGGCG TTGATAAAGT TGCGGGCGAA
 601  CTGGAAAAAT ACGGCATTCA AAATTATCTG GTCGAAATCG GCGGCGAGTT
 651  GCACGGCAAA GGCAAAAACG CGCGCGGCGA ACCGTGGCGC ATCGGTATCG
 701  AGCAGCCCAA TATCGTCCAA GGCGGCAATA CGCAGATTAT CGTCCCGCTG
 751  AACAACCGTT CGCTTGCCAC TTCCGGCGAT TACCGTATTT TCCACGTCGA
 801  TAAAAACGGC AAACGCCTCT CCCATATCAT CAACCCGAAC AACAAACGAC
 851  CCATCAGCCA CAACCTCGCC TCCATCAGCG TGGTCGCAGA CAGTGCGATG
 901  ACGGCGGACG GCTTGTCCAC AGGATTATTC GTATTGGGCG AAACCGAAGC
 951  CTTAAAGCTG GCAGAGCGCG AAAAACTCGC TGTTTTCCTG ATTGTCAGGG
1001  ATAAAGGCGG CTACCGCACC GCCATGTCTT CCGAATTTGA AAAACTGCTC
1051  CGCTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 446; ORF111>:

```
   1  MPSETRLPNF IRVLIFALGF IFLNACSEQT AQTVTLQGET MGTTYTVKYL
  51  SNNRDKLPSP AEIQKRIDDA LKEVNRQMST YQPDSEISRF NQHTAGKPLR
 101  ISSDFAHVTA EAVRLNRLTH GALDVTVGPL VNLWGFGPDK SVTREPSPEQ
 151  IKQAASYTGI DKIILKQGKD YASLSKTHPK AYLDLSSIAK GFGVDKVAGE
 201  LEKYGIQNYL VEIGGELHGK GKNARGEPWR IGIEQPNIVQ GGNTQIIVPL
 251  NNRSLATSGD YRIFHVDKNG KRLSHIINPN NKRPISHNLA SISVVADSAM
 301  TADGLSTGLF VLGETEALKL AEREKLAVFL IVRDKGGYRT AMSSEFEKLL
 351  R*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF111 shows 96.9% identity over a 351aa overlap with an ORF (ORF111a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf111a.pep  MPSETRLPNFIRTLIFALSFIFLNACSEQTAQTVTLQGETMGTTYTVKYLSNNRDXLPSP
             ||||||||||||:|||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||
orf111       MPSETRLPNFIRVLIFALGFIFLNACSEQTAQTVTLQGETMGTTYTVKYLSNNRDKLPSP
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf111a.pep  AEIQXRIDDALKEVNRQMSTYQPDSEISRFNQHTAGKPLRISSDFAHVTAEAVHLNRLTH
             |||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||
orf111       AEIQKRIDDALKEVNRQMSTYQPDSEISRFNQHTAGKPLRISSDFAHVTAEAVRLNRLTH
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf111a.pep  GALDVTVGPLVNLWGFGPDKSVTREPSPEQIKQAASYTGIDKIILKQGKDYASLSKTHPK
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf111        GALDVTVGPLVNLWGFGPDKSVTREPSPEQIKQAASYTGIDKIILKQGKDYASLSKTHPK
                   130       140       150       160       170       180

                   190       200       210       220       230       240
orf111a.pep  AYLDLSSIAKGFGVDXVAGELEKYGIQNYLVEIGGELHGKXKNARGEPWRIGIEQPNIVQ
             ||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||
orf111        AYLDLSSIAKGFGVDKVAGELEKYGIQNYLVEIGGELHGKGKNARGEPWRIGIEQPNIVQ
                   190       200       210       220       230       240

                   250       260       270       280       290       300
orf111a.pep  GGNTQIIVPLNNRSXATSGDYRIFHVDKSGKRLSHIINPNNKRPISHNLASISVXADSAM
             |||||||||||||| ||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||
orf111        GGNTQIIVPLNNRSLATSGDYRIFHVDKNGKRLSHIINPNNKRPISHNLASISVVADSAM
                   250       260       270       280       290       300

                   310       320       330       340       350
orf111a.pep  TADGXSTGLFVLGETEALKLAEREKLAVFLIVRDKGGYRTAMSSEFEKLLRX
             |||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf111       TADGLSTGLFVLGETEALKLAEREKLAVFLIVRDKGGYRTAMSSEFEKLLRX
                   310       320       330       340       350
```

The complete length ORF111a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 447> is:

```
     1  ATGCCGTCTG AAACACGCCT GCCGAACTTT ATCCGCACCT TGATATTTGC
    51  CCTGAGTTTT ATCTTCCTGA ACGCCTGTTC GGAACAAACC GCGCAAACCG
   101  TTACCCTGCA AGGTGAAACG ATGGGCACGA CCTATACCGT CAAATACCTT
   151  TCAAATAATC GGGACNAACT CCCNTCACCT GCCGAAATAC AAAANCGCAT
   201  CGATGACGCG CTTAAAGAAG TCAACCGGCA GATGTCCACC TATCAGCCCG
   251  ACTCCGAAAT CAGCCGGTTC AACCAACACA CAGCCGGCAA GCCCCTCCGC
   301  ATTTCAAGCG ACTTCGCACA CGTTACTGCC GAAGCCGTCC ACCTGAACCG
   351  CCTGACACAC GGCGCGCTGG ACGTAACCGT CGGCCCCTTG GTCAACCTTT
   401  GGGGATTCGG CCCCGACAAA TCCGTTACCC GTGAACCGTC GCCGGAACAA
   451  ATCAAACAAG CAGCATCTTA TACGGGCATA GACAAAATCA TTTTGAAACA
   501  AGGCAAAGAT TACGCTTCCT TGAGCAAAAC CCACCCCAAG GCCTATTTGG
   551  ATTTATCTTC GATTGCCAAA GGCTTCGGCG TTGATNANGT TGCGGGCGAA
   601  CTGGAAAAAT ACGGCATTCA AAATTATCTG GTCGAAATCG GCGGNGAGTT
   651  GCACGGCAAA GNCAAAAACG CGCGCGGCGA ACCTTGGCGC ATCGGCATCG
   701  AACAGCCCAA CATCGTCCAA GGCGGCAATA CGCAGATTAT CGTCCCGCTG
   751  AACAACCGTT CGNTTGCCAC TTCCGGCGAT TACCGTATTT TCCACGTCGA
   801  TAAAAGCGGC AAACGCCTCT CCCATATCAT TAATCCGAAC AACAAACGAC
   851  CCATCAGCCA CAACCTCGCC TCCATCAGCG TGNTCGCAGA CAGTGCGATG
   901  ACGGCGGACG GCTTNTCCAC AGGATTATTC GTATTGGGCG AAACCGAAGC
   951  CTTAAAGCTG GCAGAGCGCG AAAAACTCGC TGTTTTCCTG ATTGTCAGGG
  1001  ATAAAGGCGG CTACCGCACC GCCATGTCTT CCGAATTTGA AAAACTGCTC
  1051  CGCTAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 448>:

```
     1  MPSETRLPNF IRTLIFALSF IFLNACSEQT AQTVTLQGET MGTTYTVKYL
    51  SNNRDXLPSP AEIQXRIDDA LKEVNRQMST YQPDSEISRF NQHTAGKPLR
```

```
101  ISSDFAHVTA EAVHLNRLTH GALDVTVGPL VNLWGFGPDK SVTREPSPEQ
151  IKQAASYTGI DKIILKQGKD YASLSKTHPK AYLDLSSIAK GFGVDXVAGE
201  LEKYGIQNYL VEIGGELHGK XKNARGEPWR IGIEQPNIVQ GGNTQIIVPL
251  NNRSXATSGD YRIFHVDKSG KRLSHIINPN NKRPISHNLA SISVXADSAM
301  TADGXSTGLF VLGETEALKL AEREKLAVFL IVRDKGGYRT AMSSEFEKLL
351  R*
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF111 shows 96.6% identity over a 351aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF111.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf111ng        MPSETRLPNLIRALIFALGFIFLNACSEQTAQTVTLQGETMGTTYTVKYLSNNRDKLPSP
                |||||||||:||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf111           MPSETRLPNFIRVLIFALGFIFLNACSEQTAQTVTLQGETMGTTYTVKYLSNNRDKLPSP
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90       100       110       120
orf111          AKIQKRIDDALKEVNRQMSTYQTDSEISRFNQHTAGKPLRISSDFAHVTAEAVRLNRLTH
                |:|||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf111           AEIQKRIDDALKEVNRQMSTYQPDSEISRFNQHTAGKPLRISSDFAHVTAEAVRLNRLTH
                70        80        90       100       110       120

               130       140       150       160       170       180
orf111ng        GALDVTVGPLVNLWGFGPDKSVTREPSPEQIKQAASYTGIDKIILQQGKDYASLSKTHPK
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||
orf111           GALDVTVGPLVNLWGFGPDKSVTREPSPEQIKQAASYTGIDKIILKQGKDYASLSKTHPK
               130       140       150       160       170       180

               190       200       210       220       230       240
orf111ng        AYLDLSSIAKGFGVDKVAGELEKYGIQNYLVEIGGELHGKGKNAHGEPWRIGIEQPNIIQ
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||:|
orf111           AYLDLSSIAKGFGVDKVAGELEKYGIQNYLVEIGGELHGKGKNARGEPWRIGIEQPNIVQ
               190       200       210       220       230       240

               250       260       270       280       290       300
orf111ng        GGNTQIIVPLNNRSLATSGDYRIFHVDKNGKRLSHIINPNNKRPISHNLASISVVSDSAM
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||
orf111           GGNTQIIVPLNNRSLATSGDYRIFHVDKNGKRLSHIINPNNKRPISHNLASISVVADSAM
               250       260       270       280       290       300

               310       320       330       340       350
orf111ng        TADGLSTGLFVLGETEALRLAEQEKLAVFLIVRDKDGYRTAMSSEFAKLLRX
                |||||||||||||||||:|||:|||||||||||| |||||||||| |||||
orf111           TADGLSTGLFVLGETEALKLAEREKLAVFLIVRDKGGYRTAMSSEFEKLLRX
               310       320       330       340       350
```

The complete length ORF111ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 449> is:

```
   1  ATGCCGTCTG AAACACGCCT GCCGAACCTT ATCCGCGCCT TGATATTTGC
  51  CCTGGGTTTC ATCTTCCTGA ACGCCTGTTC GGaacaaacC GCGCAaaccg
 101  TTACCCTGCA AGGCGAAAcg aTGGGTACGA CCTATACCGT CAAATACCTT
 151  TCAAATAATC GGGACAAACT CCCCTCCCCT GCCAAAATAC AAAAGCGCAT
 201  TGATGATGCG CTTAAAGAAG TCAACCGGCA GATGTCCACC TACCAGACCG
 251  ATTCCGAAAT CAGCCGGTTC AACCAACACA CAGCCGGCAA GCCCCTCCGC
 301  ATTTCAAGCG ATTTCGCACA CGTTACCGCC GAAGCCGTCC GCCTGAACCG
 351  CCTGACTCAC GGCGCACTGG ACGTAACCGT CGGCCCTTTG GTCAACCTTT
 401  GGGGGTTCGG CCCCGACAAA TCCGTTACCC GTGAACCGTC GCCGGAACAA
 451  ATCAAACAGG CGGCATCTTA TACGGGCATA GACAAAATCA TTTTGCAACA
 501  AGGCAAAGAT TACGCTTCCT TGAGCAAAAC CCACCCCAAA GCCTATTTGG
 551  ATTTATCTTC GATTGCCAAA GGCTTCGGCG TTGATAAAGT TGCGGGCGAA
 601  CTGGAAAAAT ACGGCATTCA AAATTATCTG GTCGAAAtcg gcggcGAGTT
 651  GCACGGCAAA GGCAAAAATG CGCACGGCGA ACCGTGGCGC ATCGGTATAG
 701  AGCAACCCAA TATCATCCAA GgcgGCAata CGCAGATTAt cgtcccgctg
 751  aaCaaccgtt cgctTGCCAC TTCCGGCGAT TAccgtaTTT tccacgtcgA
 801  TAAAAAcggc aaacgccttt cccacaTCAT CAATCCCaAC aacAAACgac
 851  ccATCAGcca caacctcgcc tccatcagcg tggtctcAGA CAGTGCAATG
 901  ACGGCGGACG GTTtatCCAC AGGATTATTT GTTTTAGGCG AAACCGAAGC
 951  CTTAAGGCTG GCAGAACAAG AAAAACTCGC TGTTTTCCTA ATTGTCCGGG
```

```
1001  ATAAGGACGG CTACCGCACC GCCATGTCTT CCGAATTTGC CAAGCTGCTC
1051  CGCTAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 450>:

```
   1  MPSETRLPNL IRALIFALGF IFLNACSEQT AQTVTLQGET MGTTYTVKYL
  51  SNNRDKLPSP AKIQKRIDDA LKEVNRQMST YQTDSEISRF NQHTAGKPLR
 101  ISSDFAHVTA EAVRLNRLTH GALDVTVGPL VNLWGFGPDK SVTREPSPEQ
 151  IKQAASYTGI DKIILQQGKD YASLSKTHPK AYLDLSSIAK GFGVDKVAGE
 201  LEKYGIQNYL VEIGGELHGK GKNAHGEPWR IGIEQPNIIQ GGNTQIIVPL
 251  NNRSLATSGD YRIFHVDKNG KRLSHIINPN NKRPISHNLA SISVVSDSAM
 301  TADGLSTGLF VLGETEALRL AEQEKLAVFL IVRDKDGYRT AMSSEFAKLL
 351  R*
```

This protein shosw homology with a hypothetical lipoprotein precursor from *H.influenzae*:

```
sp|P44550|YOJL_HAEIN HYPOTHETICAL LIPOPROTEIN HI0172 PRECURSOR >gi|1074292|pir|4
hypothetical protein HI0172 - Haemophilus influenzae (strain Rd KW20)
>gi|1573128 (U32702) hypothetical  [Haemophilus influenzae] Length = 346
 Score =  353 bits (896), Expect = 9e-97
 Identities = 181/344 (52%), Positives = 247/344 (71%), Gaps = 4/344 (1%)

Query: 7   LPNLIRALIFALGFIFLNACSEQTAQTVTLQGETMGTTYTVKYLSNNRDKLPSPAKIQKR 66
           +  LI  +I     + L AC ++T + ++L G+TMGTTY VKYL +      S  K  +
Sbjct: 1   MKKLISGIIAVAMALSLAACQKET-KVISLSGKTMGTTYHVKYLDDGSITATSE-KTHEE 58

Query: 67  IDDALKEVNRQMSTYQTDSEISRFNQHT-AGKPLRISSDFAHVTAEAVRLNRLTHGALDV 125
           I+  LK+VN +MSTY+ DSE+SRFNQ+T    P+ IS+DFA V AEA+RLN++T GALDV
Sbjct: 59  IEAILKDVNAKMSTYKKDSELSRFNQNTQVNTPIEISADFAKVLAEAIRLNKVTEGALDV 118

Query: 126 TVGPLVNLWGFGPDKSVTREPSPEQIKQAASYTGIDKIILQQGKDYASLSKTHPKAYLDL 185
           TVGP+VNLWGFGP+K   ++P+PEQ+ +  ++ GIDKI L   K+ A+LSK  P+ Y+DL
Sbjct: 119 TVGPVVNLWGFGPEKRPEKQPTPEQLAERQAWVGIDKITLDTNKEKATLSKALPQVYVDL 178

Query: 186 SSIAKGFGVDKVAGELEKYGIQNYLVEIGGELHGKGKNAHGEPWRIGIEQPNIIQGGNTQ 245
           SSIAKGFGVD+VA +LE+   QNY+VEIGGE+  KGKN  G+PW+I IE+P        +

Sbjct: 179 SSIAKGFGVDQVAEKLEQLNAQNYMVEIGGEIRAKGKNIEGKPWQIAIEKPTTTGERAVE 238
Query: 246 IIVPLNNRSLATSGDYRIFHVDKNGKRLSHIINPNNKRPISHNLASISVVSDSAMTADGL 305
            ++ LNN  +A+SGDYRI+  ++NGKR +H I+P    PI H+LASI+V++ ++MTADGL
Sbjct: 239 AVIGLNNMGMASSGDYRIY-FEENGKRFAHEIDPKTGYPIQHHLASITVLAPTSMTADGL 297

Query: 306 STGLFVLGETEALRLAEQEKLAVFLIVRDKDGYRTAMSSEFAKL 349
           STGLFVLGE +AL +AE+  LAV+LI+R  +G+ T  SS F KL
Sbjct: 298 STGLFVLGEDKALEVAEKNNLAVYLIIRTDNGFVTKSSSAFKKL 341
```

Based on this analysis, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 54

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 451>:

```
   1  ..CCGTGCCGCC GACAGGGCGA CGACGTGTAT GCGGCGCACG CGTCCCGTCA
  51    AAAATTGTGG CTGCGCTTCA TCGGCGGCCG GTCGCATCAA AATATACGGG
 101    GCGGCGCGGC TGCGGACGGG TGGCGCAAAG GCGTGCAAAT CGGCGGCGAG
 151    GTGTTTGTAC GGCAAAATGA AGGCAGCCkA yTGGCAATCG GCGTGATGGG
 201    CGGCAGGGCC GGCCAGCACG CwTCAGTCAA CGGCAAAGGC GGTGCGGCAG
 251    gCAGTGATTT GTATGGTTAT GgCGGGGgTG TTTATGCTgC GTGGCATCAG
 301    TTGCGCGATA AACAAACGGG TgCGTATTTG GACGGCTGGT TGCAATACCA
 351    ACGTTTCAAA CACCGCATCA ATGATGAAAA CCGTGCGGAA CgCTACAAAA
 401    CCAAAGGTTG GACGGCTTCT GTCGAAGGCG GCTACAACGC GCTTGTGGCG
 451    GAAGGCATTG TCGGAAAAGG CAATAATGTG CGGTTTTACC TACAACCGCA
 501    GgCGCAGTTT ACCTACTTGG GCGTAAACGG CGGCTTTACC GACAGCGAGG
 551    GGACGGCGGT CGGACTGCTC GGCAGCGGTC AGTGGCAAAG CCGCGCCGGC
 601    AtTCGGGCAA AAACCCGTTT TGCTTTGCGT AACGGTGTCA ATCTTCAGCC
 651    TTTTGCCGCT TTTAATGTtt TGCACAGGTC AAAATCTTTC GGCGTGGAAA
 701    TGGACGGCGA AAAACAGACG CTGGCAGGCA GGACGGCACT CGAAGGGCGG
```

```
751    TTCGGTATTG AAGCCGGTTG GAAAGGCCAT ATGTCCGCA..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 452; ORF35>:

```
  1  ..PCRRQGDDVY AAHASRQKLW LRFIGGRSHQ NIRGGAAADG WRKGVQIGGE
 51    VFVRQNEGSX LAIGVMGGRA GQHASVNGKG GAAGSDLYGY GGGVYAAWHQ
101    LRDKQTGAYL DGWLQYQRFK HRINDENRAE RYKTKGWTAS VEGGYNALVA
151    EGIVGKGNNV RFYLQPQAQF TYLGVNGGFT DSEGTAVGLL GSGQWQSRAG
201    IRAKTRFALR NGVNLQPFAA FNVLHRSKSF GVEMDGEKQT LAGRTALEGR
251    FGIEAGWKGH MSA..
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with putative secreted VirG-homolgue of *N. meningitidis* (accession number A32247)

ORF and virg-h protein show 51% aa identity in 261aa overlap:

```
Orf35   5   QGDDVYAAHASRQKLWLRFIGGRSHQNIRGGAA-ADGWRKGVQIGGEVFVRQNEGSXLAI 63
            +  D++      R+ LWLR I G S+Q ++G  A  +G+RKGVQ+GGEVF  QNE + L+I
virg-h 396  KNSDIFDRTLPRKGLWLRVIDGHSNQWVQGKTAPVEGYRKGVQLGGEVFTWQNESNQLSI 455

Orf35  64   GVMGGRAGQHASVNGKG--GAAGSDLYGYGGGVYAAWHQLRDKQTGAYLDGWLQYQRFKH 121
            G+MGG+A Q ++ +           ++ G+G GVYA WHQL+DKQTGAY D W+QYQRF+H
virg-h 456  GLMGGQAEQRSTFHNPDTDNLTTGNVKGFGAGVYATWHQLQDKQTGAYADSWMQYQRFRH 515

Orf35  122  RINDENRAERYKTKGWTASVEGGYNALVAEGIVGKGNNVRFYLQPQAQFTYLGVNGGFTD 181
            RIN E+  ER+ +KG TAS+E GYNAL+AE    KGN++R YLQPQAQ TYLGVNG F+D
virg-h 516  RINTEDGTERFTSKGITASIEAGYNALLAEHFTKKGNSLRVYLQPQAQLTYLGVNGKFSD 575

Orf35  182  SEGTAVGLLGSGQWQSRAGIRAKTRFALRNGVNLQPFAAFNVLHRSKSFGVEMDGEKQTL 241
            SE   V LLGS Q Q+R G++AK +F+L   + ++PFAA N L+ +K FGVEMDGE++ +
virg-h 576  SENAHVNLLGSRQLQTRVGVQAKAQFSLYKNIAIEPFAAVNALYHNKPFGVEMDGERRVI 635

Orf35  242  AGRTALEGRFGIEAGWKGHMS 262
               +TA+E + G+    K H++
virg-h 636  NNKTAIESQLGVAVKIKSHLT 656
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF35 shows 96.9% identity over a 259aa overlap with an ORF (ORF35a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                          10        20        30
orf35.pep                              PCRRQGDDVYAAHASRQKLWLRFIGGRSHQNIRG
                                          :|||||||  ||||||||||||||||||||
orf35a       QRLAIPEAEAVLYAQQAYAANTLFGLRAADRGDDVYAADPSRQKLWLRFIGGRSHQNIRG
           310       320       330       340       350       360

               40        50        60        70        80        90
orf35.pep   GAAADGWRKGVQIGGEVFVRQNEGSXLAIGVMGGRAGQHASVNGKGGAAGSDLYGYGGGV
            |||||| ||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||| |:|||||||
orf35a      GAAADGRRKGVQIGGEVFVRQNEGSRLAIGVMGGRAGQHASVNGKGGAAGSYLHGYGGGV
           370       380       390       400       410       420

              100       110       120       130       140       150
orf35.pep   YAAWHQLRDKQTGAYLDGWLQYQRFKHRINDENRAERYKTKGWTASVEGGYNALVAEGIV
            |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|
orf35a      YAAWHQLRDKQTGAYLDGWLQYQRFKHRINDENRAERYKTKGWTASVEGGYNALVAEGVV
           430       440       450       460       470       480

              160       170       180       190       200       210
orf35.pep   GKGNNVRFYLQPQAQFTYLGVNGGFTDSEGTAVGLLGSGQWQSRAGIRAKTRFALRNGVN
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf35a      GKGNNVRFYLQPQAQFTYLGVNGGFTDSEGTAVGLLGSGQWQSRAGIRAKTRFALRNGVN
           490       500       510       520       530       540

              220       230       240       250       260
orf35.pep   LQPFAAFNVLHRSKSFGVEMDGEKQTLAGRTALEGRFGIEAGWKGHMSA
            |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
```

```
orf35a      LQPFAAFNVLHRSKSFGVEMDGEKQTLAGRTALEGRFGIEAGWKGHMSARIGYGKRTDGD
           550       560       570       580       590       600

orf35a      KEAALSLKWLFX
           610       620
```

The complete length ORF35a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 453> is:

```
   1 ATGTTCAGAG CTCAGCTTGG TTCAAATACT CGTTCTACCA AAATCGGCGA
  51 CGATGCCGAT TTTTCATTTT CAGACAAGCC GAAACCCGGC ACTTCCCATT
 101 ATTTTTCCAG CGGTAAAACC GATCAAAATT CATCCGAATA TGGGTATGAC
 151 GAAATCAATA TCCAAGGTAA AAACTACAAT AGCGGCATAC TCGCCGTCGA
 201 TAATATGCCC GTTGTTAAGA AATATATTAC AGATACTTAC GGGGATAATT
 251 TAAAGGATGC GGTTAAGAAG CAATTACAGG ATTTATACAA AACAAGACCC
 301 GAAGCTTGGG AAGAAAATAA AAAACGGACT GAGGAGGCGT ATATAGAACA
 351 GCTTGGACCA AAATTTAGTA TACTCAAACA GAAAAACCCC GATTTAATTA
 401 ATAAATTGGT AGAAGATTCC GTACTCACTC CTCATAGTAA TACATCACAG
 451 ACTAGTCTCA ACAACATCTT CAATAAAAAA TTACACGTCA AAATCGAAAA
 501 CAAATCCCAC GTCGCCGGAC AGGTGTTGGA ACTGACCAAG ATGACGCTGA
 551 AAGATTCCCT TTGGGAACCG CGCCGCCATT CCGACATCCA TATGCTGGAA
 601 ACTTCCGATA ATGCCCGCAT CCGCCTGAAC ACGAAAGATG AAAAACTGAC
 651 CGTCCATAAA GCGTATCAGG GCGGTGCGGA TTTCCTGTTC GGCTACGACG
 701 TGCGGGAGTC GGACAAACCC GCCCTGACCT TTGAAGAAAA AGTCAGCGGA
 751 CAATCCGGCG TGGTTTTGGA ACGCCGGCCG GAAAATCTGA AAACGCTCGA
 801 CGGGCGCAAA CTGATTGCGG CGGAAAAGGC AGACTCTAAT TCGTTTGCGT
 851 TTAAACAAAA TTACCGGCAG GGACTGTACG AATTATTGCT CAAGCAATGC
 901 GAAGGCGGAT TTTGCTTGGG CGTGCAGCGT TTGGCTATCC CCGAGGCGGA
 951 AGCGGTTTTA TATGCCCAAC AGGCTTATGC GGCAAATACT TTGTTCGGGC
1001 TGCGTGCCGC CGACAGGGGC GACGACGTGT ATGCCGCCGA TCCGTCCCGT
1051 CAAAAATTGT GGCTGCGCTT CATCGGCGGC CGGTCGCATC AAAATATACG
1101 GGGCGGCGCG GCTGCGGACG GGCGGCGCAA AGGCGTGCAA ATCGGCGGCG
1151 AGGTGTTTGT ACGGCAAAAT GAAGGCAGCC GGCTGGCAAT CGGCGTGATG
1201 GGCGGCAGGG CTGGCCAGCA CGCATCAGTC AACGGCAAAG GCGGTGCGGC
1251 AGGCAGTTAT TTGCATGGTT ATGGCGGGGG TGTTTATGCT GCGTGGCATC
1301 AGTTGCGCGA TAAACAAACG GGTGCGTATT TGGACGGCTG GTTGCAATAC
1351 CAACGTTTCA AACACCGCAT CAATGATGAA AACCGTGCGG AACGCTACAA
1401 AACCAAAGGT TGGACGGCTT CTGTCGAAGG CGGCTACAAC GCGCTTGTGG
1451 CGGAAGGCGT TGTCGGAAAA GGCAATAATG TGCGGTTTTA CCTGCAACCG
1501 CAGGCGCAGT TTACCTACTT GGGCGTAAAC GGCGGCTTTA CCGACAGCGA
1551 GGGGACGGCG GTCGGACTGC TCGGCAGCGG TCAGTGGCAA AGCCGCGCCG
1601 GCATTCGGGC AAAAACCCGT TTTGCTTTGC GTAACGGTGT CAATCTTCAG
1651 CCTTTTGCCG CTTTTAATGT TTTGCACAGG TCAAAATCTT TCGGCGTGGA
1701 AATGGACGGC GAAAAACAGA CGCTGGCAGG CAGGACGGCG CTCGAAGGGC
1751 GGTTCGGCAT TGAAGCCGGT TGGAAAGGCC ATATGTCCGC ACGCATCGGA
1801 TACGGCAAAA GGACGGACGG CGACAAAGAA GCCGCATTGT CGCTCAAATG
1851 GCTGTTTTGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 454>:

```
   1 MFRAQLGSNT RSTKIGDDAD FSFSDKPKPG TSHYFSSGKT DQNSSEYGYD
  51 EINIQGKNYN SGILAVDNMP VVKKYITDTY GDNLKDAVKK QLQDLYKTRP
 101 EAWEENKKRT EEAYIEQLGP KFSILKQKNP DLINKLVEDS VLTPHSNTSQ
 151 TSLNNIFNKK LHVKIENKSH VAGQVLELTK MTLKDSLWEP RRHSDIHMLE
 201 TSDNARIRLN TKDEKLTVHK AYQGGADFLF GYDVRESDKP ALTFEEKVSG
 251 QSGVVLERRP ENLKTLDGRK LIAAEKADSN SFAFKQNYRQ GLYELLLKQC
 301 EGGFCLGVQR LAIPEAEAVL YAQQAYAANT LFGLRAADRG DDVYAADPSR
 351 QKLWLRFIGG RSHQNIRGGA AADGRRKGVQ IGGEVFVRQN EGSRLAIGVM
 401 GGRAGQHASV NGKGGAAGSY LHGYGGGVYA AWHQLRDKQT GAYLDGWLQY
 451 QRFKHRINDE NRAERYKTKG WTASVEGGYN ALVAEGVVGK GNNVRFYLQP
 501 QAQFTYLGVN GGFTDSEGTA VGLLGSGQWQ SRAGIRAKTR FALRNGVNLQ
 551 PFAAFNVLHR SKSFGVEMDG EKQTLAGRTA LEGRFGIEAG WKGHMSARIG
 601 YGKRTDGDKE AALSLKWLF*
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF35 shows 51.7% identity over a 261aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF35ngh) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf35.pep                                  PCRRQGDDVYAAHASRQKLWLRFIGGRSHQNIRG   34
                                              :::|::     |: |||| | |:|:| ::|
orf35ngh     FTKVQERDDIAIYAQQAQAANTLFALRLNDKNSDIFDRTLPRKGLWLRVIDGHSNQWVQG  370
```

```
orf35.pep     GAA-ADGWRKGVQIGGEVFVRQNEGSXLAIGVMGGRAGQHASVNGKG--GAAGSDLYGYG   91
orf35ngh      KTAPVEGYRKGVQLGGEVFTWQNESNQLSIGLMGGQAEQRSTFRNPDTDNLTTGNVKGFG  430

orf35.pep     GGVYAAWHQLRDKQTGAYLDGWLQYQRFKHRINDENRAERYKTKGWTASVEGGYNALVAE  151
orf35ngh      AGVYATWHQLQDKQTGAYVDSWMQYQRFRHRINTEYATERFTSKGITASIEAGYNALLAE  490

orf35.pep     GIVGKGNNVRFYLQPQAQFTYLGVNGGFTDSEGTAVGLLGSGQWQSRAGIRAKTRFALRN  211
orf35ngh      HFTKKGNSLRVYLQPQAQLTYLGVNGKFSDSENAQVNLLGSRQLQSRVGVQAKAQFAFTN  550

orf35.pep     GVNLQPFAAFNVLHRSKSFGVEMDGEKQTLAGRTALEGRFGIEAGWKGHMSA          263
orf35ngh      GVTFQPFVAVNSIYQQKPFGVEIDGDRRVINNKTVIETQLGVAAKIKSHLTLQASFNRQT  610
```

A partial ORF35ngh nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 455> is predicted to encode a protein having partial amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 456>:

```
   1  ..KKLRDRNSEY WKEETYHIKS NGRTYPNIPA LFPKHPFDPF ENINNSKKIS
  51    FYDKEYTEDY LVGFARGFGV EKRNGEEEKP LRQYFKDCVN TENSNNDNCK
 101    ISSFGNYGPI LIKSDIFALA SQIKNSHINS EILSVGNYIE WLRPTLNKLT
 151    GWQEHLYAGL DPFHYIEVTD NSHVIGQTID LGALELTNSL WKPRWNSNID
 201    YLITKNAEIR FNTKNESLLV KEDYAGGARF RFAYDLKDKV PEIPVLTFEK
 251    NITGTSDIIF EGKALDNLKH LDGHQIVKVN DTADKDAFRL SSKYRKGIYT
 301    LSLQQRPEGF FTKVQERDDI AIYAQQAQAA NTLFALRLND KNSDIFDRTL
 351    PRKGLWLRVI DGHSNQWVQG KTAPVEGYRK GVQLGGEVFT WQNESNQLSI
 401    GLMGGQAEQR STFRNPDTDN LTTGNVKGFG AGVYATWHQL QDKQTGAYVD
 451    SWMQYQRFRH RINTEYATER FTSKGITASI EAGYNALLAE HFTKKGNSLR
 501    VYLQPQAQLT YLGVNGKFSD SENAQVNLLG SRQLQSRVGV QAKAQFAFTN
 551    GVTFQPFVAV NSIYQQKPFG VEIDGDRRVI NNKTVIETQL GVAAKIKSHL
 601    TLQASFNRQT SKHHHAKQGA LNLQWTF*
```

Based on this prediction, these proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 55

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 457>:

```
   1  ..GCGGAATATG TTCAGTTCTC TATAGATTTG TTCAGTGTGG GTAAATCGGG
  51    GGGCGGTATA CCTAAGGCTA AGCCTGTGTT TGATGCGAAA CCGAGATGGG
 101    AGGTTGATAG GAAGCTTAAT AAATTGACAA CTCGTGAGCA GGTGGAGAAA
 151    AATGTTCAGG AAACGAGAAG AAGGAGTCAG AGTAGTCAGT TTAAAGCCCA
 201    TGCGCAACGA GAATGGGAAA ATAAAACAGG GTTAGATTTT AATCATTTTA
 251    TAGGTGGTGA TATCAATAAA AAAGGCACAG TAACAGGAGG GCATAGTCTA
 301    ACCCGTGGTG ATGTACGGGT GATACAACAA ACCTCGGCAC CTGATAAACA
 351    TGGGGT.TTA TCAAGCGACA GTGGAAATTN A
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 458; ORF46>:

```
   1  ..AEYVQFSIDL FSVGKSGGGI PKAKPVFDAK PRWEVDRKLN KLTTREQVEK
  51    NVQETRRRSQ SSQFKAHAQR EWENKTGLDF NHFIGGDINK KGTVTGGHSL
 101    TRGDVRVIQQ TSAPDKHGXL SSDSGNX
```

Further work revealed further partial nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 459>:

```
   1  ..GCAGTGTGCC TnCCGATGCA TGCACACGCC TCAnATTTGG CAAACGATTC
  51    TTTTATCCGG CAGGTTCTCG ACCGTCAGCA TTTCGAACCC GACGGGAAAT
 101    ACCACCTATT CGGCAGCAGG GGGGAACTTG CCGAGCGCCA GTCTCATATC
 151    GGATTGGGAA AAATACAAAG CCATCAGTTG GGCAACCTGA TGATTCAACA
 201    GGCGGCCATT AAAGGAAATA TCGGCTACAT TGTCCGCTTT TCCGATCACG
 251    GGCACGAAGT CCATTCCCCs TTCGACAACC ATGCCTCACA TTCCGATTCT
 301    GATGAAGCCG GTAGTCCCGT TGACGGATTT AGCCTTTACC GCATCCATTG
 351    GGACGGATAC GAACACCATC CCGCCGACGG CTATGACGGG CCACAGGGCG
 401    GCGGCTATCC CGCTCCCAAA GGCGCGAGGG ATATATACAG TTACGACATA
```

```
451    AAAGGCGTTG CCCAAAATAT CCGCCTCAAC CTGACCGACA ACCGCAGCAC
501    CGGACAACGG CTTGCCGACC GTTTCCACAA TGCCGGTAGT ATGCTGACGC
551    AAGGAGTAGG CGACGGATTC AAACGCGCCA CCCGATACAG CCCCGAGCTG
601    GACAGATCGG GCAATGCCGC CGAAGCCTTC AACGGCACTG CAGATATCGT
651    TAAAAACATC ATCGGCGCTG CAGGAGAAAT TGT
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 460; ORF46-1>:

```
  1  ..AVCLPMHAHA SXLANDSFIR QVLDRQHFEP DGKYHLFGSR GELAERQSHI
 51    GLGKIQSHQL GNLMIQQAAI KGNIGYIVRF SDHGHEVHSP FDNHASHSDS
101    DEAGSPVDGF SLYRIHWDGY EHHPADGYDG PQGGGYPAPK GARDIYSYDI
151    KGVAQNIRLN LTDNRSTGQR LADRFHNAGS MLTQGVGDGF KRATRYSPEL
201    DRSGNAAEAF NGTADIVKNI IGAAGEI
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF46 shows 98.2% identity over a 111aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF46ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf46.pep                    AEYVQFSIDLFSVGKSGGGIPKAKPVFDAKPRWEVDRKLNKLTTR   45
                                                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf46ng      PKTGVPFDGKGFPNFEKHVKYDTKLDIQELSGGGIPKAKPVFDAKPRWEVDRKLNKLTTR  217

orf46.pep    EQVEKNVQETRRRSQSSQFKAHAQREWENKTGLDFNHFIGGDINKKGTVTGGHSLTRGDV  105
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||
orf46ng      EQVEKNVQETRRRSQSSQFKAHAQREWENKTGLDFNHFIGGDINKKGAVTGGHSLTRGDV  277

orf46.pep    RVIQQTSAPDKHGXLSSDSGN  126
             |||||||||||| |||||||
orf46ng      RVIQQTSAPDKHGVLSSDSGN  298
```

A partial ORF46ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 461> is predicted to encode a protein having partial amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 462>:

```
  1  ..RRLKHCCHAR LGSAFHRKQD GAHQRFGRYG ATQRLCRSSH PRLGSPKPQC
 51    RTRHRSRQQY LYGSHPHQRD WSCPGKIQLG RHHGTSCRAV ADXRDRICER
101    EIRRQRQXCR CRLGKIPSLS IPKYPLKLEQ RYGKENITSS TVPPSNGKNV
151    KLADQRHPKT GVPFDGKGFP NFEKHVKYDT KLDIQELSGG GIPKAKPVFD
201    AKPRWEVDRK LNKLTTREQV EKNVQETRRR SQSSQFKAHA QREWENKTGL
251    DFNHFIGGDI NKKGAVTGGH SLTRGDVRVI QQTSAPDKHG VLSSDSGN*
```

Further work revealed the complete gonococcal DNA sequence <SEQ ID 463>:

```
   1  TTGGGCATTT CCCGCAAAAT ATCCCTTATT CTGTCCATAC TGGCAGTGTG
  51  CCTGCCGATG CATGCACACG CCTCAGATTT GGcaAACGAT CCCTTTATCC
 101  GgCaggttcT CGaccGTCAG CATTTCGaac ccgacggGAa ATACCaCCTA
 151  TTcggCaGCA GGGGGGAGCT TgccnagcGC aacggccATa tcggattggG
 201  aaacaTAcaa Agccatcagt tGggccacct gatgattcaa caggcggccg
 251  ttgaaggaaA TAtcgGctac attgtccgct tttccgatca cgggcacaaa
 301  ttccattcgc ccttcGAcaa ccaTGCCTCA CATTCCGATT CTGACGAAGC
 351  CGGTAGTCCC GTTGACGGAT TCAGCCTTTA CCGCATCCAT TGGGACGGAT
 401  ACGAACACCA TCCCGCCGAC GGCTATGACG GGCCACAGGG CGGCGGCTAT
 451  CCCGCTCCCA AAGGCGCGAG GGATATATAC AGCTACGACA TAAAAGGCGT
 501  TGCCCAAAAT ATCCGCCTCA ACCTGACCGA CAACCGCAGC ACCGGACAAC
 551  GGCTTGCCGA CCGTTTCCAC AATGCCGGCG CTATGCTGAC GCAAGGAGTA
 601  GGCGACGGAT TCAAACGCGC CACCCGATAC AGCCCCGAGC TGGACAGATC
 651  GGGCAATGCc gccGAAGCCT TCAACGGCAC TGCAGATATC GTCAAAAACA
 701  TCATCGGCGC GGCAGGAGAA ATTGTCGGCG CAGGCGATGC CGTGCagGGT
 751  ATAAGCGAAG GCTCAAACAT TGCTGTCATG CACGGCTTGG GTCTGCTTTC
 801  CACCGAAAAC AAGATGGCGC GCATCAACGA TTTGGCAGAT ATGGCGCAAC
 851  TCAAAGACTA TGCCGCAGCA GCCATCCGCG ATTGGGCAGT CCAAAACCCC
 901  AATGCCGCAC AAGGCATAGA AGCCGTCAGC AATATCTTTA TGGCAGCCAT
 951  CCCCATCAAA GGGATTGGAG CTGTCCGGGG AAAATACGGC TTGGGCGGCA
1001  TCACGGCACA TCCTGTCAAG CGGTCGCAGA TGGGCGCGAT CGCATTGCCG
1051  AAAGGGAAAT CCGCCGTCAG CGACAATTTT GCCGATGCGG CATACGCCAA
1101  ATACCCGTCC CCTTACCATT CCCGAAATAT CCGTTCAAAC TTGGAGCAGC
```

```
1151  GTTACGGCAA AGAAAACATC ACCTCCTCAA CCGTGCCGCC GTCAAACGGC
1201  AAAAATGTCA AACTGGCAGA CCAACGCCAC CCGAAGACAG GCGTACCGTT
1251  TGACGGTAAA GGGTTTCCGA ATTTTGAGAA GCACGTGAAA TATGATACGA
1301  AGCTCGATAT TCAAGAATTA TCGGGGGGCG GTATACCTAA GGCTAAGCCT
1351  GTGTTTGATG CGAAACCGAG ATGGGAGGTT GATAGGAAGC TTAATAAATT
1401  GACAACTCGT GAGCAGGTGG AGAAAAATGT TCAGGAAACG AGAAGAAGGA
1451  GTCAGAGTAG TCAGTTTAAA GCCCATGCGC AACGAGAATG GGAAAATAAA
1501  ACAGGGTTAG ATTTTAATCA TTTTATAGGT GGTGATATCA ATAAGAAAGG
1551  CACAGTAACA GGAGGGCATA GTCTAACCCG TGGTGATGTA CGGGTGATAC
1601  AACAAACCTC GGCACCTGAT AAACATGGGG TTTATCAAGC GACAGTGGAA
1651  ATTAAAAAGC CTGATGGAAG TTGGGAGGTG AAAACGAAAA AAGGTGGGAA
1701  AGTGATGACC AAGCACACCA TGTTCCCAAA AGATTGGGAT GAGGCTAGAA
1751  TTAGGGCTGA AGTTACTTCG GCTTGGGAAA GTAGAATAAT GCTTAAGGAT
1801  AATAAATGGC AGGGTACAAG TAAATCGGGT ATTAAAATAG AAGGATTTAC
1851  CGAACCTAAT AGAACAGCAT ATCCCATTTA TGAATAG
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 464; ORF46ng-1>:

```
   1  LGISRKISLI LSILAVCLPM HAHASDLAND PFIRQVLDRQ HFEPDGKYHL
  51  FGSRGELAXR NGHIGLGNIQ SHQLGHLMIQ QAAVEGNIGY IVRFSDHGHK
 101  FHSPFDNHAS HSDSDEAGSP VDGFSLYRIH WDGYEHHPAD GYDGPQGGGY
 151  PAPKGARDIY SYDIKGVAQN IRLNLTDNRS TGQRLADRFH NAGAMLTQGV
 201  GDGFKRATRY SPELDRSGNA AEAFNGTADI VKNIIGAAGE IVGAGDAVQG
 251  ISEGSNIAVM HGLGLLSTEN KMARINDLAD MAQLKDYAAA AIRDWAVQNP
 301  NAAQGIEAVS NIFMAAIPIK GIGAVRGKYG LGGITAHPVK RSQMGAIALP
 351  KGKSAVSDNF ADAAYAKYPS PYHSRNIRSN LEQRYGKENI TSSTVPPSNG
 401  KNVKLADQRH PKTGVPFFDGK GFPNFEKHVK YDTKLDIQEL SGGGIPKAKP
 451  VFDAKPRWEV DRKLNKLTTR EQVEKNVQET RRRSQSSQFK AHAQREWENK
 501  TGLDFNHFIG GDINKKGTVT GGHSLTRGDV RVIQQTSAPD KHGVYQATVE
 551  IKKPDGSWEV KTKKGGKVMT KHTMFPKDWD EARIRAEVTS AWESRIMLKD
 601  NKWQGTSKSG IKIEGFTEPN RTAYPIYE*
```

ORF46ng-1 and ORF46-1 show 94.7% identity in 227 aa overlap:

```
                                    10        20        30        40
orf46-1.pep                    AVCLPMHAHASXLANDSFIRQVLDRQHFEPDGKYHLFGSRGELAER
                               ||||||||||| |||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |
orf46ng-1      LGISRKISLILSILAVCLPMHAHASDLANDPFIRQVLDRQHFEPDGKYHLFGSRGELAXR
                      10        20        30        40        50        60

                50        60        70        80        90        100
orf46-1.pep    QSHIGLGKIQSHQLGNLMIQQAAIKGNIGYIVRFSDHGHEVHSPFDNHASHSDSDEAGSP
               ::|||||:|||||||:|||||||::|||||||||||||||: ||||||||||||||||||
orf46ng-1      NGHIGLGNIQSHQLGHLMIQQAAVEGNIGYIVRFSDHGHKFHSPFDNHASHSDSDEAGSP
                      70        80        90        100       110       120

                110       120       130       140       150       160
orf46-1.pep    VDGFSLYRIHWDGYEHHPADGYDGPQGGGYPAPKGARDIYSYDIKGVAQNIRLNLTDNRS
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf46ng-1      VDGFSLYRIHWDGYEHHPADGYDGPQGGGYPAPKGARDIYSYDIKGVAQNIRLNLTDNRS
                      130       140       150       160       170       180

                170       180       190       200       210       220
orf46-1.pep    TGQRLADRFHNAGSMLTQGVGDGFKRATRYSPELDRSGNAAEAFNGTADIVKNIIGAAGE
               |||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf46ng-1      TGQRLADRFHNAGAMLTQGVGDGFKRATRYSPELDRSGNAAEAFNGTADIVKNIIGAAGE
                      190       200       210       220       230       240

orf46-1.pep    I
               |
orf46ng-1      IVGAGDAVQGISEGSNIAVMHGLGLLSTENKMARINDLADMAQLKDYAAAAIRDWAVQNP
                      250       260       270       280       290       300
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF46ng-1 shows 87.4% identity over a 486aa overlap with an ORF (ORF46a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
```

```
orf46a.pep      LGISRKISLILSILAVCLPMHAHASDLANDSFIRQVLDRQHFEPDGKYHLFGSRGELAER
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||| |
orf46ng-1       LGISRKISLILSILAVCLPMHAHASDLANDPFIRQVLDRQHFEPDGKYHLFGSRGELAXR
                       10        20        30        40        50        60

                       70        80        90       100       110       120
orf46a.pep      SGHIGLGNIQSHQLGNLFIQQAAIKGNIGYIVRFSDHGHEVHSPFDNHASHSDSDEAGSP
                :|||||||||||||||:|:|||||::|||||||||||||||: ||||||||||||||||||
orf46ng-1       NGHIGLGNIQSHQLGHLMIQQAAVEGNIGYIVRFSDHGHKFHSPFDNHASHSDSDEAGSP
                       70        80        90       100       110       120

                      130       140       150       160       170       180
orf46a.pep      VDGFSLYRIHWDGYEHHPADGYDGPQGGGYPAPKGARDIYSYDIKGVAQNIRLNLTDNRS
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf46ng-1       VDGFSLYRIHWDGYEHHPADGYDGPQGGGYPAPKGARDIYSYDIKGVAQNIRLNLTDNRS
                      130       140       150       160       170       180

                      190       200       210       220       230       240
orf46a.pep      TGQRLVDRFHNTGSMLTQGVGDGFKRATRYSPELDRSGNAAEAFNGTADIVKNIIGAAGE
                |||||:|||||:|:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf46ng-1       TGQRLADRFHNAGAMLTQGVGDGFKRATRYSPELDRSGNAAEAFNGTADIVKNIIGAAGE
                      190       200       210       220       230       240

                      250       260       270       280       290       300
orf46a.pep      IVGAGDAVQGISEGSNIAVMHGLGLLSTENKMARINDLADMAQLKDYAAAAIRDWAVQNP
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf46ng-1       IVGAGDAVQGISEGSNIAVMHGLGLLSTENKMARINDLADMAQLKDYAAAAIRDWAVQNP
                      250       260       270       280       290       300

                      310       320       330       340       350       360
orf46a.pep      NAAQGIEAVSNIFTAVIPVKGIGAVRGKYGLGGITAHPVKRSQMGEIALPKGKSAVSDNF
                |||||||||||||  |:||:|||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||
orf46ng-1       NAAQGIEAVSNIFMAAIPIKGIGAVRGKYGLGGITAHPVKRSQMGAIALPKGKSAVSDNF
                      310       320       330       340       350       360

                      370       380       390       400       410       420
orf46a.pep      ADAAYAKYPSPYHSRNIRSNLEQRYGKENITSSTVPPSNGKNVKLANKRHPKTKVPFDGK
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||| ||||||
orf46ng-1       ADAAYAKYPSPYHSRNIRSNLEQRYGKENITSSTVPPSNGKNVKLADQRHPKTGVPFDGK
                      370       380       390       400       410       420

                      430       440           450         460       470
orf46a.pep      GFPNFEKDVKYDTRINTAVPQVN-----PIDEPVFN--PKGSVGSAHSWSITARIQYAKLP
                ||||||| |||||:::  : :::    |  :|||:  |: |    : ::|:| |  |
orf46ng-1       GFPNFEKHVKYDTKLD--IQELSGGGIPKAKPVFDAKPRWEVDRKLN-KLTTREQVEKNV
                      430       440       450       460       470

                   480       490       500       510       520       530
orf46a.pep      RQGRIRYIPPKNYSPSAPLPKGPNNGYLDKFGNEWTKGPSRTKGQEFEWDVQLSKTGREQ
                :: | |
orf46ng-1       QETRRRSQSSQFKAHAQREWENKTGLDFNHFIGGDINKKGTVTGGHSLTRGDVRVIQQTS
                480       490       500       510       520       530
```

The complete length ORF46a DNA sequence <SEQ ID 465> is:

```
   1  TTGGGCATTT CCCGCAAAAT ATCCCTTATT CTGTCCATAC TGGCAGTGTG
  51  CCTGCCGATG CATGCACACG CCTCAGATTT GGCAAACGAT TCTTTTATCC
 101  GGCAGGTTCT CGACCGTCAG CATTTCGAAC CCGACGGGAA ATACCACCTA
 151  TTCGGCAGCA GGGGGGAACT TGCCGAGCGC AGCGGTCATA TCGGATTGGG
 201  AAACATACAA AGCCATCAGT TGGGCAACCT GTTCATCCAG CAGGCGGCCA
 251  TTAAAGGAAA TATCGGCTAC ATTGTCCGCT TTTCCGATCA CGGGCACGAA
 301  GTCCATTCCC CCTTCGACAA CCATGCCTCA CATTCCGATT CTGATGAAGC
 351  CGGTAGTCCC GTTGACGGAT TCAGCCTTTA CCGCATCCAT TGGGACGGAT
 401  ACGAACACCA TCCCGCCGAC GGCTATGACG GGCCACAGGG CGGCGGCTAT
 451  CCCGCTCCCA AAGGCGCGAG GGATATATAC AGCTACGACA TAAAAGGCGT
 501  TGCCCAAAAT ATCCGCCTCA ACCTGACCGA CAACCGCAGC ACCGGACAAC
 551  GGCTTGTCGA CCGTTTCCAC AATACCGGTA GTATGCTGAC GCAAGGAGTA
 601  GGCGACGGAT TCAAACGCGC CACCCGATAC AGCCCCGAGC TGGACAGATC
 651  GGGCAATGCC GCCGAAGCTT TCAACGGCAC TGCAGATATC GTCAAAAACA
 701  TCATCGGCGC GGCAGGAGAA ATTGTCGGCG CAGGCGATGC CGTGCAGGGT
 751  ATAAGCGAAG GCTCAAACAT TGCTGTTATG CACGGCTTGG GTCTGCTTTC
 801  CACCGAAAAC AAGATGGCGC GCATCAACGA TTTGGCAGAT ATGGCGCAAC
```

```
 851  TCAAAGACTA TGCCGCAGCA GCCATCCGCG ATTGGGCAGT CCAAAACCCC
 901  AATGCCGCAC AAGGCATAGA AGCCGTCAGC AATATCTTTA CGGCAGTCAT
 951  CCCCGTCAAA GGGATTGGAG CTGTTCGGGG AAAATACGGC TTGGGCGGCA
1001  TCACGGCACA TCCTGTCAAG CGGTCGCAGA TGGGCGAGAT CGCATTGCCG
1051  AAAGGGAAAT CCGCCGTCAG CGACAATTTT GCCGATGCGG CATACGCCAA
1101  ATACCCGTCC CCTTACCATT CCCGAAATAT CCGTTCAAAC TTGGAGCAGC
1151  GTTACGGCAA AGAAAACATC ACCTCCTCAA CCGTGCCGCC GTCAAACGGA
1201  AAGAATGTGA AACTGGCAAA CAAACGCCAC CCGAAGACCA AAGTGCCGTT
1251  TGACGGTAAA GGGTTTCCGA ATTTTGAAAA AGACGTAAAA TACGATACGA
1301  GAATTAATAC CGCTGTACCA CAAGTGAATC CTATAGATGA ACCCGTCTTT
1351  AATCCTAAAG GTTCTGTCGG ATCGGCTCAT TCTTGGTCTA TAACTGCCAG
1401  AATTCAATAC GCAAAATTAC CAAGGCAAGG TAGAATCAGA TATATCCCAC
1451  CTAAAAATTA CTCTCCTTCA GCACCGCTAC CAAAAGGACC TAATAATGGA
1501  TATTTGGATA AATTTGGTAA TGAATGGACT AAAGGTCCAT CAAGAACTAA
1551  AGGTCAAGAA TTTGAATGGG ATGTTCAATT GTCTAAAACA GGAAGAGAGC
1601  AACTTGGATG GGCTAGTAGG GATGGTAAGC ATTTAAATAT ATCAATTGAT
1651  GGAAAGATTA CACACAAATG A
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 466>:

```
   1  LGISRKISLI LSILAVCLPM HAHASDLAND SFIRQVLDRQ HFEPDGKYHL
  51  FGSRGELAER SGHIGLGNIQ SHQLGNLFIQ QAAIKGNIGY IVRFSDHGHE
 101  VHSPFDNHAS HSDSDEAGSP VDGFSLYRIH WDGYEHHPAD GYDGPQGGGY
 151  PAPKGARDIY SYDIKGVAQN IRLNLTDNRS TGQRLVDRFH NTGSMLTQGV
 201  GDGFKRATRY SPELDRSGNA AEAFNGTADI VKNIIGAAGE IVGAGDAVQG
 251  ISEGSNIAVM HGLGLLSTEN KMARINDLAD MAQLKDYAAA AIRDWAVQNP
 301  NAAQGIEAVS NIFTAVIPVK GIGAVRGKYG LGGITAHPVK RSQMGEIALP
 351  KGKSAVSDNF ADAAYAKYPS PYHSRNIRSN LEQRYGKENI TSSTVPPSNG
 401  KNVKLANKRH PKTKVPFDGK GFPNFEKDVK YDTRINTAVP QVNPIDEPVF
 451  NPKGSVGSAH SWSITARIQY AKLPRQGRIR YIPPKNYSPS APLPKGPNNG
 501  YLDKFGNEWT KGPSRTKGQE FEWDVQLSKT GREQLGWASR DGKHLNISID
 551  GKITHK*
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of a RGD sequence in the gonococcal protein, typical of adhesins, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 56

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 467>:

```
   1  ATGAATATTC ACACCCTGCT CTCCAAACAA TGGACGCTGC CGCCATTCCT
  51  GCCGAAACGG CTGCTGCTGT CCCTGCTGAT ACTGCTTGCC CCCAATGCGG
 101  TGTTTTGGGT TTTGGCACTG CTGACCGCCA CCGCCCGCCC GATTGTCAAT
 151  TTGGACTATC TTCCCGCCGC GCTGCTGATC GCCCTGCCTT GGCGTTTCGT
 201  CAAAATTGCC GGCGTATTGG CGTTTTGGCT GGCGGTTTTG TTTGACGGGC
 251  TGATGATGGT GATCCAACTC TTCCCTTTTA TGGATCTCAT CGGCGCCATC
 301  AACCTCGTCC CCTTCATCCT GACCGCCCCC GCCCCTTATC AGATAATGAC
 351  CGGGCTG...
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 468; ORF48>:

```
   1  MNIHTLLSKQ WTLPPFLPKR LLLSLLILLA PNAVFWVLAL LTATARPIVN
  51  LDYLPAALLI ALPWRFVKIA GVLAFWLAVL FDGLMMVIQL FPFMDLIGAI
 101  NLVPFILTAP APYQIMTGL...
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 469>:

```
   1  ATGAATATTC ACACCCTGCT CTCCAAACAA TGGACGCTGC CGCCATTCCT
  51  GCCGAAACGG CTGCTGCTGT CCCTGCTGAT ACTGCTTGCC CCCAATGCGG
 101  TGTTTTGGGT TTTGGCACTG CTGACCGCCA CCGCCCGCCC GATTGTCAAT
 151  TTGGACTATC TTCCCGCCGC GCTGCTGATC GCCCTGCCTT GGCGTTTCGT
 201  CAAAATTGCC GGCGTATTGG CGTTTTGGCT GGCGGTTTTG TTTGACGGGC
 251  TGATGATGGT GATCCAACTC TTCCCTTTTA TGGATCTCAT CGGCGCCATC
 301  AACCTCGTCC CCTTCATCCT GACCGCCCCC GCCCCTTATC AGATAATGAC
 351  CGGGCTGTTG CTGCTGTATA TGCTGGCGAT GCCGTTTGTG TTGCAGAAAG
```

```
401  CCGCCGCCAA AACCGACTTC CGGCACATTG CCGTCTGCGC CGCCGTTGTG
451  GCGGCAGCCG GCTATTTCAC CGGCCATTTG AGTTACTACG ACCGGGGTCG
501  GATGGCCAAT ATCTTCGGCG CAAACAACTT CTACTACGCC AAAAGTCAGG
551  CGATGCTCTA CACCGTCAGC CAGAATGCCG ACTTTATTAC CGCCGGCCTG
601  GTCGATCCCG TCTTCCTCCC CTTGGGCAAT CAACAGCGTG CCGCCACGCA
651  TCTGAACGAG CCGAAATCTC AAAAAATCCT CTTTATCGTC GCCGAATCTT
701  GGGGGCTGCC GGCCAATCCC GAACTTCAAA ACGCCACTTT TGCCAAACTG
751  CTGGCGCAAA AAGACCGTTT TTCGGTTTGG GAAAGCGGCA GTTTTCCCTT
801  CATCGGCGCG ACGGTCGAAG GCGAAATGCG CGAACTGTGT GCCTACGGCG
851  GTTTGCGCGG GTTCGCACTG CGCCGCGCGC CCGACGAAAA ATTTGCCCGC
901  TGCCTCCCCA ACCGTTTGAA ACAAGAAGGT TACGCCACCT TTGCGATGCA
951  CGGCGCGGGC AGTTCGCTTT ACGACCGCTT CAGCTGGTAT CCGAGGGCGG
1001 GCTTTCAAGA AATCAAAACC GCCGAAAACC TGATCGGTAA AAAAACCTGC
1051 GCCATTTTCG GCGGCGTGTG CGACAGCGAG CTGTTCGGCG AAGTGTCGGC
1101 ATTTTTCAAA AAACACGACA AGGGACTGTT TTACTGGATG ACGCTGACCA
1151 GCCACGCCGA CTATCCCGAA TCCGACATTT TCAACCACAG GCTCAAATGC
1201 ACCGAATATG GCCTGCCCGC CGAAACCGAC CTCTGCCGCA ATTTCAGCCT
1251 GCACACCCAA TTCTTCGACC AACTGGCGGA TTTGATCCAA CGCCCCGAAA
1301 TGAAAGGCAC GGAAGTCATC ATCGTCGGCG ACCATCCGCC GCCCGTCGGC
1351 AACCTCAATG AAACCTTCCG CTACCTCAAA CAGGGGCACG TCGCCTGGCT
1401 GAACTTCAAA ATCAAATAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 470; ORF48-1>:

```
1   MNIHTLLSKQ WTLPPFLPKR LLLSLLILLA PNAVFWVLAL LTATARPIVN
51  LDYLPAALLI ALPWRFVKIA GVLAFWLAVL FDGLMMVIQL FPFMDLIGAI
101 NLVPFILTAP APYQIMTGLL LLYMLAMPFV LQKAAAKTDF RHIAVCAAVV
151 AAAGYFTGHL SYYDRGRMAN IFGANNFYYA KSQAMLYTVS QNADFITAGL
201 VDPVFLPLGN QQRAATHLNE PKSQKILFIV AESWGLPANP ELQNATFAKL
251 LAQKDRFSVW ESGSFPFIGA TVEGEMRELC AYGGLRGFAL RRAPDEKFAR
301 CLPNRLKQEG YATFAMHGAG SSLYDRFSWY PRAGFQEIKT AENLIGKKTC
351 AIFGGVCDSE LFGEVSAFFK KHDKGLFYWM TLTSHADYPE SDIFNHRLKC
401 TEYGLPAETD LCRNFSLHTQ FFDQLADLIQ RPEMKGTEVI IVGDHPPPVG
451 NLNETFRYLK QGHVAWLNFK IK*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF48 shows 94.1% identity over a 119aa overlap with an ORF (ORF48a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf48.pep   MNIHTLLSKQWTLPPFLPKRLLLSLLILLAPNAVFWVLALLTATARPIVNLDYLPAALLI
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||
orf48a      MNIHTLLSKQWTLPPFLPKRLLLSLLILLXPNAVFWVLALLTATARPIVNLXYLPAALLI
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       119
orf48.pep   ALPWRFVKIAGVLAFWLAVLFDGLMMVIQLFPFMDLIGAINLVPFILTAPAPYQIMTGL
            ||||| ||| |||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||| |||||||
orf48a      ALPWRXVKIXGVLAXWLAVLFDGLMMVIQLFPFMDLIGAINLVPFIXTAPALYQIMTGLL
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

orf48a      LLYMLAMPFVLQKAAAKTDFRHIAACAAVVVAAGYFTGHLSXYDRGRMANIFGANNFYYA
                   130       140       150       160       170       180
```

The complete length ORF48a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 471> is:

```
1   ATGAATATTC ACACCCTGCT CTCCAAACAA TGGACGCTGC CGCCATTCCT
51  GCCGAAACGG CTGCTGCTGT CCCTGCTGAT ACTGCTNNCC CCCAATGCGG
101 TGTTTTGGGT TTTGGCACTG CTGACCGCCA CCGCCCGCCC GATTGTCAAT
151 TTGGANTACC TTCCCGCCGC GCTGCTGATC GCCCTGCCTT GGCGTNTCGT
201 CAAAATTGNC GGCGTATTGG CGTNTTGGCT GGCGGTTTTG TTTGACGGGC
251 TGATGATGGT GATCCAACTC TTCCCTTTTA TGGATCTCAT CGGCGCCATC
301 AACCTCGTCC CCTTCATCNT GACCGCCCCC GCCCTTTATC AGATAATGAC
351 CGGGCTGTTA CTGCTGTATA TGCTGGCGAT GCCGTTTGTG TTGCAGAAAG
401 CCGCCGCCAA AACCGACTTC CGACACATTG CCGCCTGTGC CGCCGTTGTG
451 GTGGCAGCCG GCTATTTTAC CGGCCATTTG AGTTANTACG ACCGGGGGCG
```

```
 501  GATGGCCAAT ATCTTCGGCG CAAACAACTT CTATTACGCC AAAAGTCAGG
 551  CGATGCTCTA CACCGTCAGC CAGAATGCCG ACTTTATTAC CGCCGGCCTG
 601  GTCGATCCCG TCTTCCTCCC CTTGGGCAAT CAACAGCGTG CCGCCACGCA
 651  TCTGAACGAG CCGAAATCTC AAAAAATCCT CTTTATCGTC GCCGAATCTT
 701  GGGGGCTGCC GGCCAATCCC GAACTTCAAA ACGCCACTTT TGCCAAACTG
 751  CTGGCGCAAA AAGANCGTTT TTCGGTTTGG GAAAGCGGCA GTTTTCCCTT
 801  CATCGGCGCG ACGATCGAAG GCGAAATGCG CGAACTGTGT GCCTACGGCG
 851  GTTTGCGCGG GTTCGCACTG CGCCGCGCGC CCGACGAAAA ATTTGCCCGC
 901  TGCCTCCCCA ACCGTTTGAA ACAAGAAGGT TACGCCACCT TTGCGATGCA
 951  CGGCGCGGGC AGTTCGCTTT ACGACCGCTT CAGCTGGTAT CCGAGGGCGG
1001  GCTTTCAAGA AATCAAAACC GCCGAAAACC TGATCGGTAA AAAAACCTGC
1051  GCCATTTTCG GCGGCGTGTG CGACAGCGAG CTGTTCGGCG AAGTGTCGGC
1101  ANTTTTCAAA AAACACGACA AGGGACTGTT TTACTGGATG ACGCTGACCA
1151  GCCACGCCGA CTATCCCGAA TCNGACATTT TCAACCACAG GCTCAAATGC
1201  ACCGAATATG GCCTGCCCGC CGAAACCGAC NTCTGCCGCA ATTTCAGCCT
1251  GCACACCCAA TTCTTCGACC AACTGGCGGA TTTGATCCAA CGCCCCGAAA
1301  TGAAAGGCAC GGAAGTCATC ATCGTCGGCG ACCATCCGCC GCCCGTCGGC
1351  AACCTCAATG AAACCTTCCG CTACCTCAAA CAGGGGCACG TCGNCTGGCT
1401  GAACTTCAAA ATCAAATAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 472>:

```
   1  MNIHTLLSKQ WTLPPFLPKR LLLSLLILLX PNAVFWVLAL LTATARPIVN
  51  LXYLPAALLI ALPWRXVKIX GVLAXWLAVL FDGLMMVIQL FPFMDLIGAI
 101  NLVPFIXTAP ALYQIMTGLL LLYMLAMPFV LQKAAAKTDF RHIAACAAVV
 151  VAAGYFTGHL SXYDRGRMAN IFGANNFYYA KSQAMLYTVS QNADFITAGL
 201  VDPVFLPLGN QQRAATHLNE PKSQKILFIV AESWGLPANP ELQNATFAKL
 251  LAQKXRFSVW ESGSFPFIGA TIEGEMRELC AYGGLRGFAL RRAPDEKFAR
 301  CLPNRLKQEG YATFAMHGAG SSLYDRFSWY PRAGFQEIKT AENLIGKKTC
 351  AIFGGVCDSE LFGEVSAXFK KHDKGLFYWM TLTSHADYPE SDIFNHRLKC
 401  TEYGLPAETD XCRNFSLHTQ FFDQLADLIQ RPEMKGTEVI IVGDHPPPVG
 451  NLNETFRYLK QGHVXWLNFK IK*
```

ORF48a and ORF48-1 show 96.8% identity in 472 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf48a.pep      MNIHTLLSKQWTLPPFLPKRLLLSLLILLXPNAVFWVLALLTATARPIVNLXYLPAALLI
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||
orf48-1         MNIHTLLSKQWTLPPFLPKRLLLSLLILLAPNAVFWVLALLTATARPIVNLDYLPAALLI
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf48a.pep      ALPWRXVKIXGVLAXWLAVLFDGLMMVIQLFPFMDLIGAINLVPFIXTAPALYQIMTGLL
                ||||| ||| |||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||| ||||||||
orf48-1         ALPWRFVKIAGVLAFWLAVLFDGLMMVIQLFPFMDLIGAINLVPFILTAPAPYQIMTGLL
                70        80        90        100       110       120

               130       140       150       160       170       180
orf48a.pep      LLYMLAMPFVLQKAAAKTDFRHIAACAAVVVAAGYFTGHLSXYDRGRMANIFGANNFYYA
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||:|||||||||| ||||||||||||||||
orf48-1         LLYMLAMPFVLQKAAAKTDFRHIAVCAAVVAAAGYFTGHLSYYDRGRMANIFGANNFYYA
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf48a.pep      KSQAMLYTVSQNADFITAGLVDPVFLPLGNQQRAATHLNEPKSQKILFIVAESWGLPANP
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf48-1         KSQAMLYTVSQNADFITAGLVDPVFLPLGNQQRAATHLNEPKSQKILFIVAESWGLPANP
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260       270       280       290       300
orf48a.pep      ELQNATFAKLLAQKXRFSVWESGSFPFIGATIEGEMRELCAYGGLRGFALRRAPDEKFAR
                |||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf48-1         ELQNATFAKLLAQKDRFSVWESGSFPFIGATVEGEMRELCAYGGLRGFALRRAPDEKFAR
                250       260       270       280       290       300

                310       320       330       340       350       360
orf48a.pep      CLPNRLKQEGYATFAMHGAGSSLYDRFSWYPRAGFQEIKTAENLIGKKTCAIFGGVCDSE
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf48-1         CLPNRLKQEGYATFAMHGAGSSLYDRFSWYPRAGFQEIKTAENLIGKKTCAIFGGVCDSE
                310       320       330       340       350       360
```

```
                    370        380        390        400        410        420
orf48a.pep   LFGEVSAXFKKHDKGLFYWMTLTSHADYPESDIFNHRLKCTEYGLPAETDXCRNFSLHTQ
             ||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||
orf48-1      LFGEVSAFFKKHDKGLFYWMTLTSHADYPESDIFNHRLKCTEYGLPAETDLCRNFSLHTQ
                    370        380        390        400        410        420

                    430        440        450        460        470
orf48a.pep   FFDQLADLIQRPEMKGTEVIIVGDHPPPVGNLNETFRYLKQGHVXWLNFKIKX
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||
orf48-1      FFDQLADLIQRPEMKGTEVIIVGDHPPPVGNLNETFRYLKQGHVAWLNFKIKX
                    430        440        450        460        470
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF48 shows 97.5% identity over a 119aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF48ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf48.pep    MNIHTLLSKQWTLPPFLPKRLLLSLLILLAPNAVFWVLALLTATARPIVNLDYLPAALLI   60
             ||||:|||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf48ng      MNIHALLSEQWTLPPFLPKRLLLSLLILLAPNAVFWVLALLTATARPIVNLDYLPAALLI   60

orf48.pep    ALPWRFVKIAGVLAFWLAVLFDGLMMVIQLFPFMDLIGAINLVPFILTAPAPYQIMTGL   119
             |||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf48ng      ALPWRFVKIAGVLAFWPAVLFDGLMMVIQLFPFMDLIGAINLVPFILTAPAPYQIMTGLL  120
```

The ORF48ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 473> was predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 474>:

```
   1  MNIHALLSEQ WTLPPFLPKR LLLSLLILLA PNAVFWVLAL LTATARPIVN
  51  LDYLPAALLI ALPWRFVKIA GVLAFWPAVL FDGLMMVIQL FPFMDLIGAI
 101  NLVPFILTAP APYQIMTGLL LLYMLAMPFV LQKAAVKTDF RHIAVCAAVV
 151  AAARYFTGPF ELLRTGGRWQ YVQHRRLLLS GSRASFRRRQ KADVLRRLGN
 201  PYASMGNGG..
```

Further work identified the complete gonococcal DNA sequence <SEQ ID 475>:

```
   1  ATGAATATTC ACGCCCTGCT CTCCGAACAA TGGACGCTGC CGCCATTCCT
  51  GCCGAAACGG CTGCTGCTGT CCCTGCTGAT ACTGCTGGCC CCCAATGCGG
 101  TGTTTTGGGT TTTGGCACTG CTGACCGCCA CCGCCCGCCC GATTGTCAAT
 151  TTGGACTACC TTCCCGCCGC GCTGCTGATC GCCCTGCCTT GGCGTTTCGT
 201  CAAAATTGCC GGCGTATTGG CGTTTTGGCC GGCGGTTTTG TTTGACGGGC
 251  TGATGATGGT GATCCAACTC TTCCCTTTTA TGGACCTCAT CGGCGCCATC
 301  AACCTCGTCC CCTTCATCCT GACCGCCCCC GCCCCTTATC AGATAATGAC
 351  CGGGCTGTTG CTGCTGTATA TGCTGGCGAT GCCGTTTGTG TTGCAAAAAG
 401  CCGCCGTCAA AACCGACTTC CGACACATTG CCGTCTGTGC CGCCGTTGTG
 451  GCGGCAGCCG GCTATTTCAC CGGCCATTTG AGTTACTACG ACCGGGGGCG
 501  GATGGCCAAT ATCTTCGGCG CAAACAACTT CTATTACGCc aAAAGTCAGG
 551  CGATGCTCTA CACCGTCAGC CAGAATGCCG ACTTTATTAC CGCCGgcctG
 601  GTCGACCCCG TCTTCCTCCC CTTGGGCAAT CAGCAGCGTG CCGCCACGCG
 651  GCTGAGTGAG CCGAAATCTC AAAAAATCCT CTTTATCGTC GCCGAATCTT
 701  GGGGGCTGCC GGGCAATCCC GAGCTTCAAA ACGCCACTTT TGCCAAACTG
 751  CTGGCGCAAA AAGACCGTTT TTCGGTTTGG GAAAGCGGCA GTTTTCCCTT
 801  CATCGGCGCG ACGGTCGAAG GCGAAATGCG CGAATTGTGC GCCTACGGCG
 851  GTTTGCGCGG GTTCGCACTG CGCCGCGCGC CCGACGAAAA ATTTGCCCGC
 901  TGCCTCCCCA ACCGTTTGAA ACAAGAAGGT TACGCCACCT TTGCGATGCA
 951  CGGCGCGGGT AGTTCGCTTT ACGACCGCTT CAGCTGGTAT CCGAGGGCGG
1001  GCTTTCAAAA AATCAAAACC GCCGAAAACC TGATCGGTAA AAAAACCTGC
1051  GCCATTTTCG GCGGCGTGTG CGACAGCGAG CTGTTCGGCG AAGTGTCGGC
1101  ATTTTTCAAA AAACACGACA AGGGACTGTT TTACTGGATG ACGCTGACCA
1151  GCCACGCCGA CTATCCCGAA TCCGACATTT TCAACCACAG GCTCAAATGC
1201  ACCGAATACG GCCTGCCCGC CGAAACCGAC CTCTGCCGCA ATTTCAGCCT
1251  GCACACCCAA TtcttcgACC AACTGGCGGA TTTGATCCGA CGCCCCGAAA
1301  TGAAAGGCAC GGAAGTCATC ATCGTCGGCG ACCATCCGCC GCCCGTCGGC
1351  AACCTCAATG AAACCTTCCG CTACCTCAAA CAGGGACACG TCGCCTGGCT
1401  GCACTTCAAA ATCAAATAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 476; ORF48ng-1>:

```
  1  MNIHALLSEQ WTLPPFLPKR LLLSLLILLA PNAVFWVLAL LTATARPIVN
 51  LDYLPAALLI ALPWRFVKIA GVLAFWPAVL FDGLMMVIQL FPFMDLIGAI
101  NLVPFILTAP APYQIMTGLL LLYMLAMPFV LQKAAVKTDF RHIAVCAAVV
151  AAAGYFTGHL SYYDRGRMAN IFGANNFYYA KSQAMLYTVS QNADFITAGL
201  VDPVFLPLGN QQRAATRLSE PKSQKILFIV AESWGLPGNP ELQNATFAKL
251  LAQKDRFSVW ESGSFPFIGA TVEGEMRELC AYGGLRGFAL RRAPDEKFAR
301  CLPNRLKQEG YATFAMHGAG SSLYDRFSWY PRAGFQKIKT AENLIGKKTC
351  AIFGGVCDSE LFGEVSAFFK KHDKGLFYWM TLTSHADYPE SDIFNHRLKC
401  TEYGLPAETD LCRNFSLHTQ FFDQLADLIR RPEMKGTEVI IVGDHPPPVG
451  NLNETFRYLK QGHVAWLHFK IK*
```

ORG48ng-1 and ORF48-1 show 97.9% identity in 472 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf48-1.pep     MNIHTLLSKQWTLPPFLPKRLLLSLLILLAPNAVFWVLALLTATARPIVNLDYLPAALLI
                ||||:|||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf48ng-1       MNIHALLSEQWTLPPFLPKRLLLSLLILLAPNAVFWVLALLTATARPIVNLDYLPAALLI
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90       100       110       120
orf48-1.pep     ALPWRFVKIAGVLAFWLAVLFDGLMMVIQLFPFMDLIGAINLVPFILTAPAPYQIMTGLL
                |||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf48ng-1       ALPWRFVKIAGVLAFWPAVLFDGLMMVIQLFPFMDLIGAINLVPFILTAPAPYQIMTGLL
                70        80        90       100       110       120

               130       140       150       160       170       180
orf48-1.pep     LLYMLAMPFVLQKAAAKTDFRHIAVCAAVVAAAGYFTGHLSYYDRGRMANIFGANNFYYA
                ||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf48ng-1       LLYMLAMPFVLQKAAVKTDFRHIAVCAAVVAAAGYFTGHLSYYDRGRMANIFGANNFYYA
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf48-1.pep     KSQAMLYTVSQNADFITAGLVDPVFLPLGNQQRAATHLNEPKSQKILFIVAESWGLPANP
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|:||||||||||||||||||:||
orf48ng-1       KSQAMLYTVSQNADFITAGLVDPVFLPLGNQQRAATRLSEPKSQKILFIVAESWGLPGNP
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260       270       280       290       300
orf48-1.pep     ELQNATFAKLLAQKDRFSVWESGSFPFIGATVEGEMRELCAYGGLRGFALRRAPDEKFAR
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf48ng-1       ELQNATFAKLLAQKDRFSVWESGSFPFIGATVEGEMRELCAYGGLRGFALRRAPDEKFAR
                250       260       270       280       290       300

                310       320       330       340       350       360
orf48-1.pep     CLPNRLKQEGYATFAMHGAGSSLYDRFSWYPRAGFQEIKTAENLIGKKTCAIFGGVCDSE
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf48ng-1       CLPNRLKQEGYATFAMHGAGSSLYDRFSWYPRAGFQKIKTAENLIGKKTCAIFGGVCDSE
                310       320       330       340       350       360

                370       380       390       400       410       420
orf48-1.pep     LFGEVSAFFKKHDKGLFYWMTLTSHADYPESDIFNHRLKCTEYGLPAETDLCRNFSLHTQ
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf48ng-1       LFGEVSAFFKKHDKGLFYWMTLTSHADYPESDIFNHRLKCTEYGLPAETDLCRNFSLHTQ
                370       380       390       400       410       420

                430       440       450       460       470
orf48-1.pep     FFDQLADLIQRPEMKGTEVIIVGDHPPPVGNLNETFRYLKQGHVAWLNFKIKX
                |||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||
orf48ng-1       FFDQLADLIRRPEMKGTEVIIVGDHPPPVGNLNETFRYLKQGHVAWLHFKIKX
                430       440       450       460       470
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of a putative leader sequence (double-underlined) and two putative transmembrane domains (single-underlined) in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 57

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 477>:

```
   1  ..GTGAGCGGAC GTTACCGCGC TTTGGATCGC GTTTCCAAAA TCATCATCGT
  51    TACTTTGAGT ATCGCCACGC TTGCCGCCGC CGGCATCGCT ATGTCGCGCG
 101    GTATGCAGAT GCAGTCCGAT TTTATCGAGC CGACACCGTG GACGCTTGCC
 151    GGTTTGGGCT TCCTGATCGC GCTGATGGGC TGGATGCCCG CGCCGATTGA
 201    AATTTCCGCC ATCAATTCTT TGTGGGTAAC CGAAAAACAA CGCATCAATC
 251    CTTCCGAATA CCGCGACGGG ATTTTTGAAT TCAACGTCGG TTATATCGCC
 301    AGTGCGGTTT TGGCTTTGGT TTTCCTTGCA CTGGGCGC.G TAGCGCCGAA
 351    CGGCAACGGC GA.ACAGTGC AGATGGCGGG CGGCAAATAT AACGGGCAAT
 401    TGATCAATAT GTACGCC..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 478; ORF53>:

```
   1  ..VSGRYRALDR VSKIIIVTLS IATLAAAGIA MSRGMQMQSD FIEPTPWTLA
  51    GLGFLIALMG WMPAPIEISA INSLWVTEKQ RINPSEYRDG IFEFNVGYIA
 101    SAVLALVFLA LGXVAPNGNG XTVQMAGGKY NGQLINMYA..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 479>:

```
   1  ATGTCCGAAC AACATATTTC GACTTGGAAA AGTAAAATCA ACGCATTGGG
  51  TCCGGGGATC ATGATGGCTT CGGCGGCGGT CGGCGGTTCG CACCTGATTG
 101  CCTCGACGCA GGCGGGCGCG CTTTACGGCT GGCAGATCGC GCTCATCATC
 151  ATCCTGACCA ACCTCTTCAA ATACCCGTTT TTCCGCTTCA GCGCGCATTA
 201  CACGCTGGAC ACGGGCAAGA GCCTGATTGA AGGTTATGCC GAGAAAAGCC
 251  GCGTTTATTT GTGGGTATTC CTGATTTTGT GCATCCTCTC CGCCACGATT
 301  AACGCGGGCG CGGTCGCCAT TGTAACCGCC GCCATCGTCA AAATGGCGAT
 351  TCCCTCGCTG ATGTTTGATG CCGGCACGGT TGCCGCCTTG ATTATGGCAT
 401  CCTGCCTGAT TATTTTGGTG AGCGGACGTT ACCGCGCTTT GGATCGCGTT
 451  TCCAAAATCA TCATCGTTAC TTTGAGTATC GCCACGCTTG CCGCCGCCGG
 501  CATCGCTATG TCGCGCGGTA TGCAGATGCA GTCCGATTTT ATCGAGCCGA
 551  CACCGTGGAC GCTTGCCGGT TTGGGCTTCC TGATCGCGCT GATGGGCTGG
 601  ATGCCCGCGC CGATTGAAAT TTCCGCCATC AATTCTTTGT GGGTAACCGA
 651  AAAACAACGC ATCAATCCTT CCGAATACCG CGACGGGATT TTTGATTTCA
 701  ACGTCGGTTA TATCGCCAGT GCGGTTTTGG CTTTGGTTTT CCTTGCACTG
 751  GGCGCGTTTG TGCAATACGG CAACGGCGAA GCAGTGCAGA TGGCGGGCGG
 801  CAAATATATC GGGCAATTGA TCAATATGTA CGCCGTTACC ATCGGCGGCT
 851  GGTCGCGCCC GCTGGTGGCG TTTATCGCGT TTGCCTGTAT GTACGGCACG
 901  ACGATTACCG TCGTGGACGG CTATGCCCGT GCCATTGCCG AACCCGTGCG
 951  CCTGCTGCGC GGAAAAGACA AAACGGGCAA CGCCGAATTC TTTGCCTGGA
1001  ATATTTGGGT GGCGGGCAGC GGTTTGGCGG TGATTTTCTG GTTTGACGGC
1051  GTAATGGCGA ATCTGCTCAA ATTTGCGATG ATTGCCGCTT TTGTGTCCGC
1101  CCCTGTGTTT GCCTGGCTGA ATTACCGTTT GGTTAAAGGT GATGAAAAAC
1151  ACAAACTCAC ATCAGGTATG AATGCCCTTG CATTGGCAGG CTTGATTTAT
1201  CTGACCGGTT TTACCGTTTT GTTCTTATTG AATTTGGCGG GAATGTTCAA
1251  ATGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 480; ORF53-1>:

```
   1  MSEQHISTWK SKINALGPGI MMASAAVGGS HLIASTQAGA LYGWQIALII
  51  ILTNLFKYPF FRFSAHYTLD TGKSLIEGYA EKSRVYLWVF LILCILSATI
 101  NAGAVAIVTA AIVKMAIPSL MFDAGTVAAL IMASCLIILV SGRYRALDRV
 151  SKIIIVTLSI ATLAAAGIAM SRGMQMQSDF IEPTPWTLAG LGFLIALMGW
 201  MPAPIEISAI NSLWVTEKQR INPSEYRDGI FDFNVGYIAS AVLALVFLAL
 251  GAFVQYGNGE AVQMAGGKYI GQLINMYAVT IGGWSRPLVA FIAFACMYGT
 301  TITVVDGYAR AIAEPVRLLR GKDKTGNAEF FAWNIWVAGS GLAVIFWFDG
 351  VMANLLKFAM IAAFVSAPVF AWLNYRLVKG DEKHKLTSGM NALALAGLIY
 401  LTGFTVLFLL NLAGMFK*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF53 shows 93.5% identity over a 139aa overlap with an ORF (ORF53a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                                    10        20        30
orf53.pep                                          VSGRYRALDRVSKIIIVTLSIATLAAAGIA
                                                   ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf53a          AAIVKMAIPSLMFDAGTVAALIMASCLIILVSGRYRALDRVSKIIIVTLSIATLAAAGIA
               110       120       130       140       150       160

                        40        50        60        70        80        90
orf53.pep       MSRGMQMQSDFIEPTPWTLAGLGFLIALMGWMPAPIEISAINSLWVTEKQRINPSEYRDG
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf53a          MSRGMQMQSDFIEPTPWTLAGLGFLIALMGWMPAPIEISAINSLWVTEKQRINPSEYRDG
               170       180       190       200       210       220

                      100       110       120       130       139
orf53.pep       IFEFNVGYIASAVLALVFLALGXVAPNGNGXTVQMAGGKYNGQLINMYA
                ||:|||||||||||||||||||  :  ||| :||||||| |||||||
orf53a          IFDFNVGYIASAVLALVFLALGAFVQYGNGEAVQMAGGKYIGQLINMYAVTIGGWSRPLV
               230       240       250       260       270       280

orf53a          AFIAFACMYGTTITVVDGYARAIAEPVRLLRGKDKTGNAEFFAWNIWVAGSGLAVIFWFD
               290       300       310       320       330       340
```

The complete length ORF53a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 481> is:

```
   1  ATGTCCGAAC AACATATTTC GACTTGGAAA AGTAAAATCA ACGCATTGGG
  51  ACCGGGGATT ATGATGGCTT CGGCGGCGGT CGGCGGTTCG CACCTGATTG
 101  CCTCGACGCA GGCGGGCGCG CTTTACGGCT GGCAGATCGC GCTCATCATC
 151  ATCCTGACCA ACCTCTTCAA ATACCCGTTT TTCCGCTTCA GCGCGCATTA
 201  CACGCTGGAC ACGGGCAAGA GCCTGATTGA AGGTTATGCC GAGAAAAGCC
 251  GCGTTTATTT GTGGGTATTC CTGATTTTGT GCATCCTCTC CGCCACGATT
 301  AACGCGGGCG CGGTCGCCAT TGTAACCGCC GCCATCGTCA AAATGGCGAT
 351  TCCCTCGCTG ATGTTTGATG CCGGCACGGT TGCCGCCTTG ATTATGGCAT
 401  CCTGCCTGAT TATTTTGGTG AGCGGACGTT ACCGCGCTTT GGATCGCGTT
 451  TCCAAAATCA TCATCGTTAC TTTGAGTATC GCCACGCTTG CCGCCGCCGG
 501  CATCGCTATG TCGCGCGGTA TGCAGATGCA GTCCGATTTT ATCGAGCCGA
 551  CACCGTGGAC GCTTGCCGGT TTGGGCTTCC TGATCGCGCT GATGGGCTGG
 601  ATGCCCGCGC CGATTGAAAT TTCCGCCATC AATTCTTTGT GGGTAACCGA
 651  AAAACAACGC ATCAATCCTT CCGAATACCG CGACGGGATT TTTGATTTCA
 701  ACGTCGGTTA TATCGCCAGT GCGGTTTTGG CTTTGGTTTT CCTTGCACTG
 751  GGCGCGTTTG TGCAATACGG CAACGGCGAA GCAGTGCAGA TGGCGGGCGG
 801  CAAATATATC GGGCAATTGA TCAATATGTA CGCCGTTACC ATCGGCGGCT
 851  GGTCGCGCCC GCTGGTGGCG TTTATCGCGT TTGCCTGTAT GTACGGCACG
 901  ACGATTACCG TTGTGGACGG CTATGCCCGT GCCATTGCCG AACCCGTGCG
 951  CCTGCTGCGC GGAAAAGACA AAACGGGCAA CGCCGAATTC TTTGCCTGGA
1001  ATATTTGGGT GGCGGGCAGC GGTTTGGCGG TGATTTTCTG GTTTGACGGC
1051  GTAATGGCGA ATCTGCTCAA ATTTGCGATG ATTGCCGCTT TTGTGTCCGC
1101  CCCTGTGTTT GCCTGGCTGA ATTACCGTTT GGTCAAAGGT GATGAAAAAC
1151  ACAAACTCAC ATCAGGTATG AATGCCCTTG CATTGGCAGG CTTGATTTAT
1201  CTGACCGGTT TTACCGTTTT GTTCTTATTG AATTTGGCGG GAATGTTCAA
1251  ATGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 482>:

```
   1  MSEQHISTWK SKINALGPGI MMASAAVGGS HLIASTQAGA LYGWQIALII
  51  ILTNLFKYPF FRFSAHYTLD TGKSLIEGYA EKSRVYLWVF LILCILSATI
 101  NAGAVAIVTA AIVKMAIPSL MFDAGTVAAL IMASCLIILV SGRYRALDRV
 151  SKIIIVTLSI ATLAAAGIAM SRGMQMQSDF IEPTPWTLAG LGFLIALMGW
 201  MPAPIEISAI NSLWVTEKQR INPSEYRDGI FDFNVGYIAS AVLALVFLAL
 251  GAFVQYGNGE AVQMAGGKYI GQLINMYAVT IGGWSRPLVA FIAFACMYGT
 301  TITVVDGYAR AIAEPVRLLR GKDKTGNAEF FAWNIWVAGS GLAVIFWFDG
 351  VMANLLKFAM IAAFVSAPVF AWLNYRLVKG DEKHKLTSGM NALALAGLIY
 401  LTGFTVLFLL NLAGMFK*
```

ORF 53a shows 100.0% identity in 417 aa overlap with ORF53-1:

```
                        10        20        30        40        50        60
orf53a.pep      MSEQHISTWKSKINALGPGIMMASAAVGGSHLIASTQAGALYGWQIALIIILTNLFKYPF
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf53-1         MSEQHISTWKSKINALGPGIMMASAAVGGSHLIASTQAGALYGWQIALIIILTNLFKYPF
                        10        20        30        40        50        60

                        70        80        90       100       110       120
```

```
orf53a.pep   FRFSAHYTLDTGKSLIEGYAEKSRVYLWVFLILCILSATINAGAVAIVTAAIVKMAIPSL
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf53-1      FRFSAHYTLDTGKSLIEGYAEKSRVYLWVFLILCILSATINAGAVAIVTAAIVKMAIPSL
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf53a.pep   MFDAGTVAALIMASCLIILVSGRYRALDRVSKIIIVTLSIATLAAAGIAMSRGMQMQSDF
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf53-1      MFDAGTVAALIMASCLIILVSGRYRALDRVSKIIIVTLSIATLAAAGIAMSRGMQMQSDF
                   130       140       150       160       170       180

                   190       200       210       220       230       240
orf53a.pep   IEPTPWTLAGLGFLIALMGWMPAPIEISAINSLWVTEKQRINPSEYRDGIFDFNVGYIAS
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf53-1      IEPTPWTLAGLGFLIALMGWMPAPIEISAINSLWVTEKQRINPSEYRDGIFDFNVGYIAS
                   190       200       210       220       230       240

                   250       260       270       280       290       300
orf53a.pep   AVLALVFLALGAFVQYGNGEAVQMAGGKYIGQLINMYAVTIGGWSRPLVAFIAFACMYGT
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf53-1      AVLALVFLALGAFVQYGNGEAVQMAGGKYIGQLINMYAVTIGGWSRPLVAFIAFACMYGT
                   250       260       270       280       290       300

                   310       320       330       340       350       360
orf53a.pep   TITVVDGYARAIAEPVRLLRGKDKTGNAEFFAWNIWVAGSGLAVIFWFDGVMANLLKFAM
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf53-1      TITVVDGYARAIAEPVRLLRGKDKTGNAEFFAWNIWVAGSGLAVIFWFDGVMANLLKFAM
                   310       320       330       340       350       360

                   370       380       390       400       410
orf53a.pep   IAAFVSAPVFAWLNYRLVKGDEKHKLTSGMNALALAGLIYLTGFTVLFLLNLAGMFKX
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf53-1      IAAFVSAPVFAWLNYRLVKGDEKHKLTSGMNALALAGLIYLTGFTVLFLLNLAGMFKX
                   370       380       390       400       410
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF53 shows 92.1% identity over a 139aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF53ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf53.pep                                    VSGRYRALDRVSKIIIVTLSIATLAAAGIA   30
                                             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf53ng      AAIVKMAIPSLMFDAGTVAALIMASCLIILVSGRYRALDRVSKIIIVTLSIATLAAAGIA   91

orf53.pep    MSRGMQMQSDFIEPTPWTLAGLGFLIALMGWMPAPIEISAINSLWVTEKQRINPSEYRDG   90
             |||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf53ng      MSRGMQMQPDFIEPTPWTLAGLGFLIALMGWMPAPIEISAINSLWVTEKQRINPSEYRDG  151

orf53.pep    IFEFNVGYIASAVLALVFLALGXVAPNGNGXTVQMAGGKYNGQLINMYA              139
             ||:|||||||||||||||||||  :  ||| :|||:|||| ||||||||
orf53ng      IFDFNVGYIASAVLALVFLALGAFVQYGNGEAVQMGGGKYIGQLINMYAVTIGGGSRPLV  211
```

An ORF53ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 483> was predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 484>:

```
   1  MPKKSCVYLW VFLILCIASA TINAGAVAIV TAAIVKMAIP SLMFDAGTVA
  51  ALIMASCLII LVSGRYRALD RVSKIIIVTL SIATLAAAGI AMSRGMQMQP
 101  DFIEPTPWTL AGLGFLIALM GWMPAPIEIS AINSLWVTEK QRINPSEYRD
 151  GIFDFNVGYI ASAVLALVFL ALGAFVQYGN GEAVQMGGGK YIGQLINMYA
 201  VTIGGGSRPL VAFIAFACMY GAASTVVDGY ARAIAEPVRL LRGKDKTARP
 251  IVLLEKLGGR HRFGRDFLV*
```

Further analysis revealed further partial DNA gonococcal sequence <SEQ ID 485>:

```
   1  ..aagaAAAGCT GCGTTTATTT GTGGGTTTTT TTGATTTTGT GTATCGCCTC
  51    CGCCACGATT AACGCGGGCG CGGTCGCCAT TGTAACCGCC GCCATCGTCA
 101    AAATGGCGAT TCCCTCGCTG ATGTTTGATG CCGGCACGGT TGCCGCCTTG
```

```
 151   ATTATGGCAT CCTGCCTGAT TATTTTGGTG AGCGGACGTT ACCGCGCTTT
 201   GGATCGTGTT TCCAAAATCA TCATTGTTAC TTTGAGCATC GCCACGCTTG
 251   CCGCCGCCGG CATCGCTATG TCGCGCGGTA TGCAGATGCA GCCCGATTTT
 301   ATCGAGCCGA CACCGTGGAC GCTTGCCGGT TTGGGCTTCC TGATCGCGCT
 351   GATGGGCTGG ATGCCCGCGC CGATCGAAAT TTCCGCCATC AATTCTTTGT
 401   GGGTAACCGA AAAACAACGC ATCAATCCTT CTGAATACCG CGACGGGATT
 451   TTCGATTTCA ACGTCGGTTA TATCGCcagT GCGGTTTTGG CTTTGGTTTT
 501   CCTTGCACTG GGCGCGTTTG TGCAATACGG CAACGGCGAA GCAGTGCAGA
 551   TGGCGGGCGG CAAATATATC GGGCAATTGA TTAATATGTA TGCCGTAACC
 601   ATCGGCGGCT GGTCTCGTCC GCTGGTGGCG TTTATCGCGT TTGCCTGTAT
 651   GTACGGCACG ACGATTACCG TTGTGGACGG TTATGCGCGT GCCATTGCCG
 701   AACCCGTGCG CCTGCTGCGC GGCAGGGATA AAACCGGCAA CGCCGAGTTG
 751   TTtgccTGGA ATATTTGGGT GGCGGGCAGC GGTTTGGCGG TGATTTTCTG
 801   GTTTGACggc gcaaTGGCgG AACtgcTCAA ATTTGCGATG ATtgccgcCT
 851   TTGTGTCCGC CCCTGTGTTC GCCTGGCTCA ACTACCGCCT CGTCAAAGGG
 901   GACAAACGCC ACAGGCTTAC CGCCGGTATG AACGCCCTTG CCATTGTCGG
 951   CCTGCTCTAC CTGGCCGGGT TTGCCGTTTT GTTCCTGTTG AACCTTACCG
1001   GACTTTTGGC ATAG
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 486; ORF53ng-1>:

```
  1   ..KKSCVYLWVF LILCIASATI NAGAVAIVTA AIVKMAIPSL MFDAGTVAAL
 51     IMASCLIILV SGRYRALDRV SKIIIVTLSI ATLAAAGIAM SRGMQMQPDF
101     IEPTPWTLAG LGFLIALMGW MPAPIEISAI NSLWVTEKQR INPSEYRDGI
151     FDFNVGYIAS AVLALVFLAL GAFVQYGNGE AVQMAGGKYI GQLINMYAVT
201     IGGWSRPLVA FIAFACMYGT TITVVDGYAR AIAEPVRLLR GRDKTGNAEL
251     FAWNIWVAGS GLAVIFWFDG AMAELLKFAM IAAFVSAPVF AWLNYRLVKG
301     DKRHRLTAGM NALAIVGLLY LAGFAVLFLL NLTGLLA*
```

ORF53ng-1 and ORF53-1 show 94.0% identity in 336 aa overlap:

```
                    60        70        80        90       100       110
orf53-1.pep  ILTNLFKYPFFRFSAHYTLDTGKSLIEGYAEKSRVYLWVFLILCILSATINAGAVAIVTA
                                          :|| |||||||||| |||||||||||||
orf53ng-1                                 KKSCVYLWVFLILCIASATINAGAVAIVTA
                                                10        20        30

                   120       130       140       150       160       170
orf53-1.pep  AIVKMAIPSLMFDAGTVAALIMASCLIILVSGRYRALDRVSKIIIVTLSIATLAAAGIAM
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf53ng-1    AIVKMAIPSLMFDAGTVAALIMASCLIILVSGRYRALDRVSKIIIVTLSIATLAAAGIAM
                    40        50        60        70        80        90

                   180       190       200       210       220       230
orf53-1.pep  SRGMQMQSDFIEPTPWTLAGLGFLIALMGWMPAPIEISAINSLWVTEKQRINPSEYRDGI
             |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf53ng-1    SRGMQMQPDFIEPTPWTLAGLGFLIALMGWMPAPIEISAINSLWVTEKQRINPSEYRDGI
                   100       110       120       130       140       150

                   240       250       260       270       280       290
orf53-1.pep  FDFNVGYIASAVLALVFLALGAFVQYGNGEAVQMAGGKYIGQLINMYAVTIGGWSRPLVA
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf53ng-1    FDFNVGYIASAVLALVFLALGAFVQYGNGEAVQMAGGKYIGQLINMYAVTIGGWSRPLVA
                   160       170       180       190       200       210

                   300       310       320       330       340       350
orf53-1.pep  FIAFACMYGTTITVVDGYARAIAEPVRLLRGKDKTGNAEFFAWNIWVAGSGLAVIFWFDG
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||:||||||||||||||||||||
orf53ng-1    FIAFACMYGTTITVVDGYARAIAEPVRLLRGRDKTGNAELFAWNIWVAGSGLAVIFWFDG
                   220       230       240       250       260       270

                   360       370       380       390       400       410
orf53-1.pep  VMANLLKFAMIAAFVSAPVFAWLNYRLVKGDEKHKLTSGMNALALAGLIYLTGFTVLFLL
             :||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||::|:||:|||||||::||:||:||:||||||
orf53ng-1    AMAELLKFAMIAAFVSAPVFAWLNYRLVKGDKRHRLTAGMNALAIVGLLYLAGFAVLFLL
                   280       290       300       310       320       330

orf53-1.pep  NLAGMFKX
             ||:|::
orf53ng-1    NLTGLLAX
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of a putative leader sequence (double-underlined) and several putative transmembrane domains (single-underlined) in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 58

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 487>:

```
   1  ..TTGCGGGAAA CGGCATATGT TTTGGATAGT TTTGATCGTT ATTTTGTTGT
  51    TGCGCTTGCC GGCTTGTTTT TTGTCCGCGC ACAATCCGAA CGCGAGTGGA
 101    TGCGCGAGGT TTCTGCGTGG CAGGAAAAGA AAGGGGAAAA ACAGGCGGAG
 151    CTGCCTGAAA TCAAAGACGG TATGCCCGAT TTTCCCGAAC TTGCCCTGAT
 201    GCTTTTCCAC GCCGTCAAAA CGGCAGTGTA TTGGCTGTTT GTCGGTGTCG
 251    TCCGTTTCTG CCGAAACTAT CTGGCGCACG AATCCGAACC GGACAGGCCC
 301    GTTCCGCCT..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 488; ORF58>:

```
   1  ..LRETAYVLDS FDRYFVVALA GLFFVRAQSE REWMREVSAW QEKKGEKQAE
  51    LPEIKDGMPD FPELALMLFH AVKTAVYWLF VGVVRFCRNY LAHESEPDRP
 101    VPP..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 489>:

```
   1  ATGTTTTGGA TAGTTTTGAT CGTTATTTTG TTGCTTGCGC TTGCCGGCTT
  51  GTTTTTTGTC CGCGCACAAT CCGAACGCGA GTGGATGCGC GAGGTTTCTG
 101  CGTGGCAGGA AAAGAAAGGG GAAAAACAGG CGGAGCTGCC TGAAATCAAA
 151  GACGGTATGC CCGATTTTCC CGAACTTGCC CTGATGCTTT TCCATGCCGT
 201  CAAAACGGCA GTGTATTGGC TGTTTGTCGG TGTCGTCCGT TTCTGCCGAA
 251  ACTATCTGGC GCACGAATCC GAACCGGACA GGCCCGTTCC GCCTGCTTCT
 301  GCAAACCGTG CGGATGTTCC GACCGCATCC GACGGATATT CAGACAGTGG
 351  AAACGGGACG GAAGAAGCGG AAACGGAAGA AGCAGAAGCT GCGGAGGAAG
 401  AGGCTGCCGA TACGGAAGAC ATTGCAACTG CCGTAATCGA CAACCGCCGC
 451  ATCCCATTCG ACCGGAGTAT TGCTGAAGGG TTGATGCCGT CTGAAAGCGA
 501  AATTTCGCCC GTCCGTCCGG TTTTTAAAGA AATCACTTTG GAAGAAGCAA
 551  CGCGTGCTTT AAACAGCGCG GCTTTAAGGG AAACGAAAAA ACGCTATATC
 601  GATGCATTTG AGAAAAACGA AACAGCGGTC CCCAAAGTCC GCGTGTCCGA
 651  TACCCCGATG GAAGGGCTGC AGATTATCGG TTTGGACGAC CCTGTGCTTC
 701  AACGCACGTA TTCCCATATG TTCGATGCGG ACAAAGAAGC GTTTTCCGAG
 751  TCTGCGGATT ACGGATTTGA GCCGTATTTT GAGAAGCAGC ATCCGTCTGC
 801  CTTTTCTGCA GTCAAAGCCG AAAATGCACG GAATGCGCCG TTCCACCGTC
 851  ATGCAGGGCA GGGGAAAGGG CAGGCGGAGG CAAAATCCCC GGATGTTTCC
 901  CAAGGGCAGT CCGTTTCAGA CGGCACGGCC GTCCGCGATG CCCGCCGCCG
 951  CGTTTCCGTC AATTTGAAAG AACCGAACAA GGCAACGGTT TCTGCGGAGG
1001  CGCGAATTTC TCGCCTGATT CCGGAAAGTC AGACGGTTGT CGGGAAACGG
1051  GATGTCGAAA TGCCGTCTGA AACCGAAAAT GTTTTCACGG AAACCGTTTC
1101  GTCTGTGGGA TACGGCGGTC CGGTTTATGA TGAAACTGCC GATATCCATA
1151  TTGAAGAACC TGCCGCGCCC GATGCTTGGG TGGTCGAACC ACCCGAAGTG
1201  CCGAAAGTTC CCATGACCGC AATCGATATT CAGCCGCCGC CTCCCGTATC
1251  GGAAATCTAC AACCGTACCT ATGAACCGCC GTCAGGATTC GAGCAGGTGC
1301  AACGCAGCCG CATTGCCGAG ACCGACCATC TTGCCGATGA TGTTTTGAAT
1351  GGAGGTTGGC AGGAGGAAAC CGCCGCTATT GCGGATGACG GCAGTGAAGG
1401  TGCGGCAGAG CGGTCAAGCG GGCAATATCT GTCGGAAACC GAAGCGTTCG
1451  GGCATGACAG TCAGGCGGTT TGTCCGTTTG AAAATGTGCC GTCTGAACGC
1501  CCGTCCTGCC GGGTATCGGA TACGGAAGCG GATGAAGGGG CGTTCCCATC
1551  TGAAGAAACC GGTGCGGTAT CCGAACACCT GCCGACAACC GACCTGCTTC
1601  TGCCTCCGCT GTTCAATCCC GAGGCGACGC AAACCGAAGA AGAACTGTTG
1651  GAAAACAGCA TCACCATCGA AGAAAAATTG GCGGAGTTCA AAGTCAAGGT
1701  CAAGGTTGTC GATTCTTATT CCGGCCCCGT AATTACGCGT TATGAAATCG
1751  AACCCGATGT CGGCGTGCGC GGCAATTCCG TTCTGAATCT GGAAAAAGAT
1801  TTGGCGCGTT CGCTCGGCGT GGCTTCCATC CGCGTTGTCG AAACCATCCC
1851  CGGCAAAACC TGCATGGGTT TGGAACTTCC GAACCCGAAA CGCCAAATGA
```

```
1901  TACGCCTGAG CGAAATCTTC AATTCGCCCG AGTTTGCCGA ATCCAAATCC
1951  AAGCTGACGC TCGCGCTCGG TCAGGACATC ACCGGACAGC CCGTCGTAAC
2001  CGACTTGGGA AAAGCACCGC ATTTGTTGGT TGCCGGCACG ACCGGTTCGG
2051  GCAAATCGGT GGGTGTCAAC GCGATGATTC TGTCTATGCT TTTCAAAGCC
2101  GCGCCGGAAG ACGTGCGTAT GATTATGATC GATCCGAAAA TGCTGGAATT
2151  GAGCATTTAC GAAGGCATCC CGCACCTGCT CGCCCCTGTC GTTACCGATA
2201  TGAAGCTGGC GGCAAACGCG CTGAACTGGT GTGTTAACGA AATGGAAAAA
2251  CGCTACCGCC TGATGAGCTT TATGGGCGTG CGTAATCTTG CGGGCTTCAA
2301  TCAAAAAATC GCCGAAGCCG CAGCAAGGGG AGAAAAAATC GGCAATCCGT
2351  TCAGCCTCAC GCCCGACGAT CCCGAACCTT TGGAAAAACT GCCGTTTATC
2401  GTGGTCGTGG TCGATGAGTT TGCCGACCTG ATGATGACGG CAGGCAAGAA
2451  AATCGAAGAA CTGATTGCCC GCCTCGCCCA AAAAGCCCGC GCGGCAGGCA
2501  TCCATTTGAT TCTTGCCACA CAACGCCCCA GCGTCGATGT CATCACGGGT
2551  CTGATTAAGG CGAACATCCC GACGCGTATC GCGTTCCAAG TGTCCAGCAA
2601  AATCGACAGC CGCACGATTC TCGACCAAAT GGGCGCGGAA AACCTGCTCG
2651  GTCAGGGCGA TATGCTGTTC CTGCTGCCGG GTACTGCCTA TCCGCAGCGC
2701  GTTCACGGCG CGTTTGCCTC GGATGAAGAG GTGCACCGCG TGGTCGAATA
2751  TTTGAAACAG TTTGGCGAAC CGGACTATGT TGACGATATT TTGAGCGGCG
2801  GCGGCAGCGA AGAGCTGCCC GGCATCGGGC GCAGCGGCGA CGACGAAACC
2851  GATCCGATGT ACGACGAGGC CGTATCCGTT GTCCTGAAAA CGCGCAAAGC
2901  CAGCATTTCG GGCGTACAGC GCGCCTTGCG TATCGGCTAC AACCGCGCCG
2951  CGCGTCTGAT TGACCAGATG GAGGCGGAAG GCATTGTGTC CGCACCGGAA
3001  CACAACGGCA ACCGTACGAT TCTCGTCCCC TTGGACAATG CTTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 490; ORF58-1>:

```
   1  MFWIVLIVIL LLALAGLFFV RAQSEREWMR EVSAWQEKKG EKQAELPEIK
  51  DGMPDFPELA LMLFHAVKTA VYWLFVGVVR FCRNYLAHES EPDRPVPPAS
 101  ANRADVPTAS DGYSDSGNGT EEAETEEAEA AEEEAADTED IATAVIDNRR
 151  IPFDRSIAEG LMPSESEISP VRPVFKEITL EEATRALNSA ALRETKKRYI
 201  DAFEKNETAV PKVRVSDTPM EGLQIIGLDD PVLQRTYSHM FDADKEAFSE
 251  SADYGFEPYF EKQHPSAFSA VKAENARNAP FHRHAGQGKG QAEAKSPDVS
 301  QGQSVSDGTA VRDARRRVSV NLKEPNKATV SAEARISRLI PESQTVVGKR
 351  DVEMPSETEN VFTETVSSVG YGGPVYDETA DIHIEEPAAP DAWVVEPPEV
 401  PKVPMTAIDI QPPPPVSEIY NRTYEPPSGF EQVQRSRIAE TDHLADDVLN
 451  GGWQEETAAI ADDGSEGAAE RSSGQYLSET EAFGHDSQAV CPFENVPSER
 501  PSCRVSDTEA DEGAFPSEET GAVSEHLPTT DLLLPPLFNP EATQTEEELL
 551  ENSITIEEKL AEFKVKVKVV DSYSGPVITR YEIEPDVGVR GNSVLNLEKD
 601  LARSLGVASI RVVETIPGKT CMGLELPNPK RQMIRLSEIF NSPEFAESKS
 651  KLTLALGQDI TGQPVVTDLG KAPHLLVAGT TGSGKSVGVN AMILSMLFKA
 701  APEDVRMIMI DPKMLELSIY EGIPHLLAPV VTDMKLAANA LNWCVNEMEK
 751  RYRLMSFMGV RNLAGFNQKI AEAAARGEKI GNPFSLTPDD PEPLEKLPFI
 801  VVVVDEFADL MMTAGKKIEE LIARLAQKAR AAGIHLILAT QRPSVDVITG
 851  LIKANIPTRI AFQVSSKIDS RTILDQMGAE NLLGQGDMLF LLPGTAYPQR
 901  VHGAFASDEE VHRVVEYLKQ FGEPDYVDDI LSGGGSEELP GIGRSGDDET
 951  DPMYDEAVSV VLKTRKASIS GVQRALRIGY NRAARLIDQM EAEGIVSAPE
1001  HNGNRTILVP LDNA*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence predicts the indicated transmembrane region, and also gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF58 shows 96.6% identity over a 89aa overlap with an ORF (ORF58a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf58.pep   LRETAYVLDSFDRYFVVALAGLFFVRAQSEREWMREVSAWQEKKGEKQAELPEIKDGMPD
                          :::||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf58a            MFWIVLIVILLLALAGLFFVRAQSEREWMREVSAWQEKKGEKQAELPEIKDGMPD
                         10        20        30        40        50

                70        80        90       100
orf58.pep   FPELALMLFHAVKTAVYWLFVGVVRFCRNYLAHESEPDRPVPP
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf58a      FPELALMLFHAVKTAVYWLFVGVVRFCRNYLAHESEPDRPVPPASANRADVPTASDGYSD
               60        70        80        90       100       110
```

The complete length ORF58a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 491> is:

```
   1 ATGTTTTGGA TAGTTTTGAT CGTTATTTTG TTGCTTGCGC TTGCCGGCTT
  51 GTTTTTTGTC CGCGCACAAT CCGAACGCGA GTGGATGCGC GAGGTTTCTG
 101 CGTGGCAGGA AAAGAAAGGG GAAAAACAGG CGGAGCTGCC TGAAATCAAA
 151 GACGGTATGC CCGATTTTCC CGAACTTGCC CTGATGCTTT TCCATGCCGT
 201 CAAAACGGCA GTGTATTGGC TGTTTGTCGG TGTCGTCCGT TTCTGCCGAA
 251 ACTATCTGGC GCACGAATCC GAACCGGACA GGCCCGTTCC GCCTGCTTCT
 301 GCAAATCGTG GGGATGTTCC GACCGCATCC GACGGATATT CAGACAGTGG
 351 AAACGGGACG GAAGAAGCGG AAACGGAAGA AGCAGAAGCT GCGGAGGAAG
 401 AGGCTGCCGA TACGGAAGAC ATTGCAACTG CCGTAATCGA CAACCGCCGC
 451 ATCCCATTCG ACCGGAGTAT TGCTGAAGGG TTGATGCCGT CTGAAAGCGA
 501 AATTTCGCCC GTCCGTCCGG TTTTTAAGGA AATCACTTTG GAAGAAGCAA
 551 CGCGTGCTTT AAACAGCGCG GCTTTAAGGG AAACGAAAAA ACGCTATATC
 601 GATGCATTTG AGAAAAACGA AACAGCGGTC CCCAAAGTCC GCGTGTCCGA
 651 TACCCCGATG GAAGGGCTGC AGATTATCGG TTTGGACGAC CCTGTGCTTC
 701 AACGCACGTA TTCCCGTATG TTCGATGCGG ACAAAGAAGC GTTTTCCGAG
 751 TCTGCGGATT ACGGATTTGA GCCGTATTTT GAGAAGCAGC ATCCGTCTGC
 801 CTTTTCTGCA GTCAAAGCCG AAAATGCACG GAATGCGCCG TTCCGCCGTC
 851 ATGCAGGGCA GGGNAAAGGG CAGGCGGAGG CNAAATCCCC GGATGTTTCC
 901 CAAGGGCAGT CCGTTTCAGA CGGCACAGCC GTCCGCGATG CCNGCCGCCG
 951 CGTTTCCGTC AATTTGAAAG AACCGAACAA GGCAACGGTT TCTGCGGAGG
1001 CGCGGATTTC GCGCCTGATT CCGGAAAGTC GGACGGTTGT CGGGAAACGG
1051 GATGTCGAAA TGCCGTCTGA AACCGAAAAT GTTTTCACGG AAANTGTTTC
1101 GTCTGTGGGA TACGGCGNTC CGGTTTATGA TGAAACTGCC GATATCCATA
1151 TTGAAGAACC TGCCGCGCCC GATGCTTGGG TGGTCGAACC ACCCGAAGTG
1201 CCGAAAGTTC CCATGCCCGC AATNGATATT CCGCCGCCGC CTCCCGTATC
1251 GGAAATCTAC AACCGTACCT ATGAACCGCC GGCAGGATTC GAGCAGGTGC
1301 AACGCAGCCG CATTGCCGAA ACCGATCATC TTGCCGATGA TGTTTTGAAT
1351 GGAGGTTGGC AGGAGGAAAC CGCCGCTATT GCGAATGACG GCAGTGAGGG
1401 TGTGGCAGAG CGGTCAAGCG GGCAATATTT GTCGGAAACC GAAGCGTTCG
1451 GGCATGACAG TCAGGCGGTT TGTCCGTTTG AAAATGTGCC GTCTGAACGC
1501 CCGTCCCGCC GGGCATNGGA TACGGAAGCG GATGAAGGGG CGTTCCAATC
1551 TGAAGAAACC GGTGCGGTAT CCGAACACCT GCCGACAACC GACCTGCTTC
1601 TGCCGCCGCT GTTCAATCCC GGGGCGACGC AAACCGAAGA AGANCTGTTG
1651 GANAACAGCA TCACCATCGA AGAAAAATNG GCGGAGTTCA AAGTCAAGGT
1701 CAAGGTTGTC GATTCTTATT CCGGCCCCGT GATTACGCGT TATGAAATCG
1751 AACCCGATGT CGGCGTGCGC GGCAATTCCG TTCTAAATCT GGAAAAAGAN
1801 TTGGCGCGTT CGCTCGGCGT GGCTTCCATC CGCGTTGTCG AAACCATCCT
1851 CGGCAAAACC TGTATGGGTT TGGAACTTCC GAACCCGAAA CGCCAAATGA
1901 TACGCCTGAG CGAAATCTTC AATTCGCCCG AGTTTGCCGA ATCCAAATCC
1951 AAGCTGACGC TCGCGCTCGG TCAGGACATC ACCGGACAGC CCGTCGTAAC
2001 CGACTTGGGC AAAGCACCGC ATTTGTTGGT TGCCGGCACG ACCGGTTCGG
2051 GCAAATCGGT GGGTGTCAAC GCGATGATTC TGTCTATGCT TTTCAAAGCC
2101 GCGCCGGAAG ACGTGCGTAT GATTATGATC GATCCGAAAA TGCTGGAATT
2151 GAGCATTTAC GAAGGCATCC CGCACCTGCT CGCCCCTGTC GTTACCGATA
2201 TGAAGCTGGC GGCAAACGCG CTGAACTGGT GTGTTAACGA AATGGAAAAA
2251 CGCTACCGCC TGATGAGCTT TATGGGCGTG CGCAATCTTG CGGGTNTCAA
2301 TCAAAAAATC GCCGAAGCCG CAGCAAGGGG GGAGAAAATC GGCAACCCGT
2351 TCAGCCTCAC GCCCGACAAT CCCGAACCTT TGGANAAATT GCCGTTTATC
2401 GTGGTCGTGG TTGATGAGTT TGCCGACCTG ATGATGACGG CAGGCAAGAA
2451 AATCGAAGAA CTGATTGCCC GCCTCGCCCA AAAAGCCCGC GCGGCAGGCA
2501 TCCATCTTAT CCTTGCCACA CAACGCCCCA GTGTCGATGT CATCACGGGT
2551 CTGATTAAGG CGAACATCCC GACGCGTATC GCGTTCCAAG TGTCCAGCAA
2601 AATCGACAGC CGCACGATTC TTGACCAAAT GGGTGCGGAA AACCTGCTCG
2651 GGCAGGGCGA TATGCTGTTC CTGCCGCCGG GTACGGCCTA TCCGCAGCGC
2701 GTTCACGGCG CGTTTGCCTC GGATGAAGAG GTGCACCGCG TGGTCGAATA
2751 TCTGAAACAG TTTGGCGAAC CGGACTATGT TGACGATATN TTGAGCGGCG
2801 GTATGTCCGA CGATTTGCTG GGAATCAGCC GGAGCGGCGA CGGCGAAACC
2851 GATCCGATGT ACGACGAGGC CGTGTCNGTT GTTTTGAAAA CGCGCAAAGC
2901 CAGCATTTCT GGCGTGCAGC GCGCATTGCG TATCGGCTAT AATCGCGCCG
2951 CGCGTCTGAT TGACCAGATG GAGGCGGAAG GCATTGTGTC CGCACCGGAA
3001 CACAACGGCA ACCGTACGAT TCTCGTCCCC TTNGACAATG CTTGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 492>:

```
  1 MFWIVLIVIL LLALAGLFFV RAQSEREWMR EVSAWQEKKG EKQAELPEIK
 51 DGMPDFPELA LMLFHAVKTA VYWLFVGVVR FCRNYLAHES EPDRPVPPAS
101 ANRADVPTAS DGYSDSGNGT EEAETEEAEA AEEEAADTED IATAVIDNRR
151 IPFDRSIAEG LMPSESEISP VRPVFKEITL EEATRALNSA ALRETKKRYI
201 DAFEKNETAV PKVRVSDTPM EGLQIIGLDD PVLQRTYSRM FDADKEAFSE
```

```
 251  SADYGFEPYF EKQHPSAFSA VKAENARNAP FRRHAGQGKG QAEAKSPDVS
 301  QGQSVSDGTA VRDAXRRVSV NLKEPNKATV SAEARISRLI PESRTVVGKR
 351  DVEMPSETEN VFTEXVSSVG YGXPVYDETA DIHIEEPAAP wDAWVVEPPEV
 401  PKVPMPAXDI PPPPPVSEIY NRTYEPPAGF EQVQRSRIAE TDHLADDVLN
 451  GGWQEETAAI ANDGSEGVAE RSSGQYLSET EAFGHDSQAV CPFENVPSER
 501  PSRRAXDTEA DEGAFQSEET GAVSEHLPTT DLLLPPLFNP GATQTEEXLL
 551  XNSITIEEKX AEFKVKVKVV DSYSGPVITR YEIEPDVGVR GNSVLNLEKX
 601  LARSLGVASI RVVETILGKT CMGLELPNPK RQMIRLSEIF NSPEFAESKS
 651  KLTLALGQDI TGQPVVTDLG KAPHLLVAGT TGSGKSVGVN AMILSMLFKA
 701  APEDVRMIMI DPKMLELSIY EGIPHLLAPV VTDMKLAANA LNWCVNEMEK
 751  RYRLMSFMGV RNLAGXNQKI AEAAARGEKI GNPFSLTPDN PEPLXKLPFI
 801  VVVVDEFADL MMTAGKKIEE LIARLAQKAR AAGIHLILAT QRPSVDVITG
 851  LIKANIPTRI AFQVSSKIDS RTILDQMGAE NLLGQGDMLF LPPGTAYPQR
 901  VHGAFASDEE VHRVVEYLKQ FGEPDYVDDX LSGGMSDDLL GISRSGDGET
 951  DPMYDEAVSV VLKTRKASIS GVQRALRIGY NRAARLIDQM EAEGIVSAPE
1001  HNGNRTILVP XDNA*
```

ORF58a and ORF58-1 show 96.6% identity in 1014 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf58a.pep      MFWIVLIVILLLALAGLFFVRAQSEREWMREVSAWQEKKGEKQAELPEIKDGMPDFPELA
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf58-1         MFWIVLIVILLLALAGLFFVRAQSEREWMREVSAWQEKKGEKQAELPEIKDGMPDFPELA
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf58a.pep      LMLFHAVKTAVYWLFVGVVRFCRNYLAHESEPDRPVPPASANRADVPTASDGYSDSGNGT
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf58-1         LMLFHAVKTAVYWLFVGVVRFCRNYLAHESEPDRPVPPASANRADVPTASDGYSDSGNGT
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf58a.pep      EEAETEEAEAAEEEAADTEDIATAVIDNRRIPFDRSIAEGLMPSESEISPVRPVFKEITL
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf58-1         EEAETEEAEAAEEEAADTEDIATAVIDNRRIPFDRSIAEGLMPSESEISPVRPVFKEITL
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf58a.pep      EEATRALNSAALRETKKRYIDAFEKNETAVPKVRVSDTPMEGLQIIGLDDPVLQRTYSRM
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|
orf58-1         EEATRALNSAALRETKKRYIDAFEKNETAVPKVRVSDTPMEGLQIIGLDDPVLQRTYSHM
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260       270       280       290       300
orf58a.pep      FDADKEAFSESADYGFEPYFEKQHPSAFSAVKAENARNAPFRRHAGQGKGQAEAKSPDVS
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||
orf58-1         FDADKEAFSESADYGFEPYFEKQHPSAFSAVKAENARNAPFHRHAGQGKGQAEAKSPDVS
                250       260       270       280       290       300

                310       320       330       340       350       360
orf58a.pep      QGQSVSDGTAVRDAXRRVSVNLKEPNKATVSAEARISRLIPESRTVVGKRDVEMPSETEN
                |||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||
orf58-1         QGQSVSDGTAVRDARRRVSVNLKEPNKATVSAEARISRLIPESQTVVGKRDVEMPSETEN
                310       320       330       340       350       360

                370       380       390       400       410       420
orf58a.pep      VFTEXVSSVGYGXPVYDETADIHIEEPAAPDAWVVEPPEVPKVPMPAXDIPPPPPVSEIY
                ||||:||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| | || |||||||||
orf58-1         VFTETVSSVGYGGPVYDETADIHIEEPAAPDAWVVEPPEVPKVPMTAIDIQPPPPVSEIY
                370       380       390       400       410       420

                430       440       450       460       470       480
orf58a.pep      NRTYEPPAGFEQVQRSRIAETDHLADDVLNGGWQEETAAIANDGSEGVAERSSGQYLSET
                |||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||:||||||||||||
orf58-1         NRTYEPPSGFEQVQRSRIAETDHLADDVLNGGWQEETAAIADDGSEGAAERSSGQYLSET
                430       440       450       460       470       480

                490       500       510       520       530       540
orf58a.pep      EAFGHDSQAVCPFENVPSERPSRRAXDTEADEGAFQSEETGAVSEHLPTTDLLLPPLFNP
                |||||||||||||||||||||| |: |||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf58-1         EAFGHDSQAVCPFENVPSERPSCRVSDTEADEGAFPSEETGAVSEHLPTTDLLLPPLFNP
                490       500       510       520       530       540
```

```
                    550       560       570       580       590       600
orf58a.pep  GATQTEEXLLXNSITIEEKXAEFKVKVKVVDSYSGPVITRYEIEPDVGVRGNSVLNLEKX
                    ||||||  ||  ||||||||  ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf58-1     EATQTEEELLENSITIEEKLAEFKVKVKVVDSYSGPVITRYEIEPDVGVRGNSVLNLEKD
                    550       560       570       580       590       600

                    610       620       630       640       650       660
orf58a.pep  LARSLGVASIRVVETILGKTCMGLELPNPKRQMIRLSEIFNSPEFAESKSKLTLALGQDI
            ||||||||||||||||  ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf58-1     LARSLGVASIRVVETIPGKTCMGLELPNPKRQMIRLSEIFNSPEFAESKSKLTLALGQDI
                    610       620       630       640       650       660

                    670       680       690       700       710       720
orf58a.pep  TGQPVVTDLGKAPHLLVAGTTGSGKSVGVNAMILSMLFKAAPEDVRMIMIDPKMLELSIY
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf58-1     TGQPVVTDLGKAPHLLVAGTTGSGKSVGVNAMILSMLFKAAPEDVRMIMIDPKMLELSIY
                    670       680       690       700       710       720

                    730       740       750       760       770       780
orf58a.pep  EGIPHLLAPVVTDMKLAANALNWCVNEMEKRYRLMSFMGVRNLAGXNQKIAEAAARGEKI
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||  ||||||||||||||
orf58-1     EGIPHLLAPVVTDMKLAANALNWCVNEMEKRYRLMSFMGVRNLAGFNQKIAEAAARGEKI
                    730       740       750       760       770       780

                    790       800       810       820       830       840
orf58a.pep  GNPFSLTPDNPEPLXKLPFIVVVVDEFADLMMTAGKKIEELIARLAQKARAAGIHLILAT
            |||||||||:||||  ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf58-1     GNPFSLTPDDPEPLEKLPFIVVVVDEFADLMMTAGKKIEELIARLAQKARAAGIHLILAT
                    790       800       810       820       830       840

                    850       860       870       880       890       900
orf58a.pep  QRPSVDVITGLIKANIPTRIAFQVSSKIDSRTILDQMGAENLLGQGDMLFLPPGTAYPQR
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||  ||||||||
orf58-1     QRPSVDVITGLIKANIPTRIAFQVSSKIDSRTILDQMGAENLLGQGDMLFLLPGTAYPQR
                    850       860       870       880       890       900

                    910       920       930       940       950       960
orf58a.pep  VHGAFASDEEVHRVVEYLKQFGEPDYVDDXLSGGMSDDLLGISRSGDGETDPMYDEAVSV
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||  ||||  |:|  ||:||||  ||||||||||||
orf58-1     VHGAFASDEEVHRVVEYLKQFGEPDYVDDILSGGGSEELPGIGRSGDDETDPMYDEAVSV
                    910       920       930       940       950       960

                    970       980       990      1000      1010
orf58a.pep  VLKTRKASISGVQRALRIGYNRAARLIDQMEAEGIVSAPEHNGNRTILVPXDNAX
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||  ||||
orf58-1     VLKTRKASISGVQRALRIGYNRAARLIDQMEAEGIVSAPEHNGNRTILVPLDNAX
                    970       980       990      1000      1010
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF58 shows complete identity over a 9aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF58ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf58.pep   ALMLFHAVKTAVYWLFVGVVRFCRNYLAHESEPDRPVPP                      103
                                              |||||||||
orf58ng                                       SEPDRPVPPASANRADVPTASDGYSDSGNG   30
```

The ORF58ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 493> is predicted to encode a protein having partial amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 494>:

```
  1  ..SEPDRPVPPA SANRADVPTA SDGYSDSGNG TEEAETEAAE AAEEEAADTE
 51    DIATAVIDNR RIPFDRSIAE GLMQSESKTS PVRPVFKEIT LEEATRALSS
101    AALRETKKRY IDAFEKNGTA VPKVRVSDTP MEGLQIIGLD DPVLQRTYSR
151    MFDADKEAFS ESADYGFEPY FEKQHPSAFS AVKAENARNA PFRRHAGQEK
201    GQAEAKSPDV SQGQSVSDGT AVRDARRRVS VNLKEPNKAT VSAEARISRL
251    IPESRTVVGK RDVEMPSETE NVFTETVSSV GYGGPVYDEA ADIHIEEPAA
301    PDAWVVEPPE VPEVAVPEID ILPPPPVSEI YNRTYEPPAG FEQAQRSRIA
```

```
351   ETDHLAADVL NGGWQEETAA IADDGSEGAA ERSSGQYLSE TEAFGHDSQA
401   VCPFEDVPSE RPSCRVSDTE ADEGAFQSEE TGAVSEHLPT TDLLLPPLFN
451   PEATQTEEEL LENSITIEEK LAEFKVKVKV VDSYSGPVIT RYEIEPDVGV
501   RGNSVLNLEK DLARSLGVAS IRVVETIPGK TCMGLELPNP KRQMIRLSEI
551   FNSPEFAESK SKLTLALGQD ITGQPVVTDL GKAPHLLVAG TTGSGKSVGV
601   NAMILSMLFK AAPEDVRMIM IDPKMLELSI YEGITHLLAP VVTDMKLAAN
651   ALNWCVNEME KRYRLMSFMG VRNLAGFNQK IAEAAARGEK IGNPFSLTPD
701   DPEPLEKLPF IVVVVDEFAD LMMTAGKKIE ELIARLAQKA RAAGIHLILA
751   TQRPSVDVIT GLIKANIPTR IAFQVSSKID SRTILDQMGA ENLLGQGDML
801   FLPPGTAYPQ RVHGAFASDE EVHRVVEYLK QFGEPDYVDD ILSGGGSEEL
851   PGIGRSGDGE TDPMYDEAVS VVLKTRKASI SGVQRALRIG YNRAARLIDQ
901   MEAEGIVSAP EHNGNRTILV PLDNA*
```

This partial gonococcal sequence contains a predicted transmembrane region and a predicted ATP/GTP-binding site motif A (P-loop; double underlined). Furthermore, it has a domain homologous to the FTSK cell division protein of *E. coli*. Alignment of ORF58ng and FtsK (accession number p46889) show a 65 % amino acid identity in 459 overlap:

```
ORF58ng:  467  IEEKLAEFKVKVKVVDSYSGPVITRYEIEPDVGVRGNSVLNLEKDLARSLGVASIRVVET 526
               +E +LA+F++K  VV+   GPVITR+E+    GV+   + NL +DLARSL   ++RVVE
FtsK:     868  VEARLADFRIKADVVNYSPGPVITRFELNLAPGVKAARISNLSRDLARSLSTVAVRVVEV 927

ORF58ng:  527  IPGKTCMGLELPNPKRQMIRLSEIFNSPEFAESKSKLTLALGQDITGQPVVTDLGKAPHL 586
               IPGK  +GLELPN KRQ + L E+ ++ +F ++ S LT+ LG+DI G+PVV DL K PHL
FtsK:     928  IPGKPYVGLELPNKKRQTVYLREVLDNAKFRDNPSPLTVVLGKDIAGEPVVADLAKMPHL 987

ORF58ng:  587  LVAGTTGSGKSVGVNAMILSMLFKAAPEDVRMIMIDPKMLELSIYEGITHLLAPVVTDMK 646
               LVAGTTGSGKSVGVNAMILSML+KA PEDVR IMIDPKMLELS+YEGI HLL  VVTDMK
FtsK:     988  LVAGTTGSGKSVGVNAMILSMLYKAQPEDVRFIMIDPKMLELSVYEGIPHLLTEVVTDMK 1047

ORF58ng:  647  LAANALNWCVNEMEKRYRLMSFMGVRNLAGFNQKIAEAAARGEKIGNPFSLTPDDPEP-- 704
                AANAL WCVNEME+RY+LMS +GVRNLAG+N+KIAEA      I +P+    D  +
FtsK:     1048 DAANALRWCVNEMERRYKLMSALGVRNLAGYNEKIAEADRMMRPIPDPYWKPGDSMDAQH 1107

ORF58ng:  705  --LEKLPFIVVVVDEFADLMMTAGKKIEELIARLAQKARAAGIHLILATQRPSVDVITGL 762
                 L+K P+IVV+VDEFADLMMT GKK+EELIARLAQKARAAGIHL+LATQRPSVDVITGL
FtsK:     1108 PVLKKEPYIVVLVDEFADLMMTVGKKVEELIARLAQKARAAGIHLVLATQRPSVDVITGL 1167

ORF58ng:  763  IKANIPTRIAFQVSSKIDSRTILDQMGAENLLGQGDMLFLPPGTAYPQRVHGAFASDEEV 822
               IKANIPTRIAF VSSKIDSRTILDQ GAE+LLG GDML+  P +  P RVHGAF  D+EV
FtsK:     1168 IKANIPTRIAFTVSSKIDSRTILDQAGAESLLGMGDMLYSGPNSTLPVRVHGAFVRDQEV 1227

ORF58ng:  823  HRVVEYLKQFGEPDYVDDILSGGGSEELPGIGRSGDGETDPMYDEAVSVVLKTRKASISG 882
               H VV+  K  G P YVD I S   SE   G G  G  E DP++D+AV  V + RKASISG
FtsK:     1228 HAVVQDWKARGRPQYVDGITSDSESEGGAG-GFDGAEELDPLFDQAVQFVTEKRKASISG 1286

ORF58ng:  883  VQRALRIGYNRAARLIDQMEAEGIVSAPEHNGNRTILVP 921
               VQR  RIGYNRAAR+I+QMEA+GIVS   HNGNR +L P
FtsK:     1287 VQRQFRIGYNRAARIIEQMEAQGIVSEQGHNGNREVLAP 1325
```

Further work on ORF58ng revealed the complete gonococcal DNA sequence to be <SEQ ID 495>:

```
   1  ATGTTTTGGA TAGTTTTGAT CGTTATtgtg TTGCTTGCGC TTGCCGGCCT
  51  GTTTTTTGTC CGCGCACAAT CCGAACGCGA GTGGATGCGC GAGGTTTCTG
 101  CGTGGCAGGA AAAGAAAGGG GAAAAACAGG CGGAGCTGCC TGAAATCAAA
 151  GACGGTATGC CCGATTTTCC CGAGTTTTCC CTGATGCTTT TCCATGCCGT
 201  CAAAACGGCA GTGTATTGGC TGTTTGTCGG TGTCGTCCGT TTCTGCCGAA
 251  ACTATCTGGC GCACGAATCC GAACCGGACA GGCCCGTTCC GCCTGCTTCT
 301  GCAAACCGTG CGGATGTTCC GACCGCATCC GACGGGTATT CAGACAGTGG
 351  AAACGGGACG GAAGAAGCGG AAACGGAAGC AGCAGAAGCT GCGGAGGAAG
 401  AGGCTGCCgA TACgGAAGAC ATTGCAACTG CCGTAATCGA CAACCGCCGC
 451  ATCCcatTCG ACCGGAGTAT TGCTGAAGGG TTGATGCAGT CTGAAAGCAA
 501  AACTTCGCCC GTCCGTCCGG TTTTTAAGGA AATCACTTTG GAAGAAGCAA
 551  CGCGTGCTTT AAGCAGCGCG GCTTTAAGGG AAACGAAAAA ACGCTATATC
 601  GATGCATTTG AGAAAAACGG AACAGCCGTC CCCAAAGTAC GCGTGTCCGA
 651  TACCCCGATG GAAGGGCTGC AGATTATCGG TTTGGACGAC CCTGTGCTTC
 701  AACGCACGTA TTCCCGTATG TTTGATGCGG ACAAAGAAGC GTTTTCCGAG
 751  TCTGCGGATT ACGGATTTGA GCCGTATTTT GAGAAGCAGC ATCCGTCTGC
```

```
 801  CTTTTCTGCA GTCAAAGCCG AAAATGCACG GAATGCGCCG TTCCGCCGTC
 851  ATGCAGGGCA GGAGAAAGGG CAGGCGGAGG CAAAATCCCC GGATGTTTCC
 901  CAAGGGCAGT CCGTTTCAGA CGGCACAGCC GTCCGCGATG CCCGCCGCCG
 951  CGTTTCCGTC AATTTGAAAG AACCGAACAA GGCAACGGTT TCTGCGGAGG
1001  CGCGGATTTC GCGCCTGATT CCGGAAAGTC GGACGGTTGT CGGGAAACGG
1051  GATGTCGAAA TGCCGTCTGA AACCGAAAAT GTTTTCACGG AAACCGTTTC
1101  GTCTGTGGGA TACGGCGGTC CGGTTTATGA TGAAGCTGCC GATATCCATA
1151  TTGAAGAGCC TGCCGCGCCC GATGCTTGGG TGGTCGAACC ACCCGAAGTG
1201  CCGGAGGTAG CCGTACCCGA AATCGATATT CTGCCGCCGC CTCCCGTATC
1251  GGAAATCTAC AACCGTACCT ATGAGCCGCC GGCAGGATTC GAGCAGGCGC
1301  AACGCAGCCG CATTGCCGAA ACCGACCATC TTGCCGCTGA TGTTTTGAAT
1351  GGAGGTTGGC AGGAGGAAAC CGCCGCTATT GCAGATGACG GCAGTGAGGG
1401  TGCGGCAGAG CGGTCAAGCG GGCAATATCT GTCGGAAACC GAAGCGTTCG
1451  GGCATGACAG TCAGGCGGTT TGTCCGTTTG AAGATGTGCC GTCTGAACGC
1501  CCGTCCTGCC GGGTATCGGA TACGGAAGCG GATGAAGGGG CGTTCCAATC
1551  GGAAGAGACC GGTGCGGTAT CCGAACACCT GCCGACAACC GACCTGCTTC
1601  TGCCTCCGCT GTTCAATCCC GAGGCGACGC AAACCGAAGA AGAACTGTTG
1651  GAAAACAGCA TCACCATCGA AGAAAAATTG GCGGAGTTCA AAGTCAAGGT
1701  CAAGGTTGTC GATTCTTATT CCGGCCCCGT GATTACGCGT TATGAAATCG
1751  AACCCGATGT CGGCGTGCGC GGCAATTCCG TTCTGAATTT GGAAAAAGAC
1801  TTGGCGCGTT CGCTCGGCGT GGCTTCCATC CGCGTTGTCG AAACCATCCC
1851  CGGCAAAACC TGCATGGGTT TGGAACTTCC GAACCCGAAA CGCCAAATGA
1901  TACGCCTGAG CGAAATTTTC AATTCGCCCG AGTTTGCCGA ATCCAAATCC
1951  AAGCTGACGC TCGCGCTCGG TCAGGACATT ACCGGACAGC CCGTCGTAAC
2001  CGACTTGGGC AAAGCACCGC ATTTGCTGGT TGCCGGCACG ACCGGTTCGG
2051  GCAAATCGGT GGGTGTCAAC GCGATGATTC TGTCTATGCT TTTCAAAGCC
2101  GCGCCGGAAG ACGTGCGTAT GATTATGATC GATCCGAAAA TGCTGGAATT
2151  GAGCATTTAC GAAGGCATCA CGCACCTGCT CGCCCCTGTC GTTACCGATA
2201  TGAAGCTGGC GGCAAACGCG CTGAACTGGT GTGTTAACGA AATGGAAAAA
2251  CGCTACCGCC TGATGAGCTT TATGGGCGTG CGCAATCTTG CGGGCTTCAA
2301  CCAAAAAATC GCCGAAGCCG CAGCAAGGGG AGAAAAAATC GGCAATCCGT
2351  TCAGCCTCAC GCCCGACGAT CCCGAACCTT TGGAAAAACT GCCGTTTATC
2401  GTGGTCGTGG TCGATGAGTT TGCCGATTTG ATGATGACGG CAGGCAAGAA
2451  AATCGAAGAA CTGATTGCGC GCCTCGCCCA AAAAGCCCGC GCGGCAGGCA
2501  TCCACCTTAT CCTTGCCACA CAACGCCCCA GCGTCGATGT CATCACGGGT
2551  CTGATTAAGG CGAACATCCC GACGCGTATC GCGTTCCAAG TGTCCAGCAA
2601  AATCGACAGC CGCACGATTC TCGACCAAAT GGGCGCGGAA AACCTGCTCG
2651  GTCAGGGCGA TATGCTGTTC CTGCCGCCGG GTACTGCCTA TCCGCAGCGC
2701  GTTCACGGCG CGTTTGCCTC GGATGAAGAG GTGCACCGCG TGGTCGAATA
2751  TCTGAAGCAG TTTGGCGAGC CGGACTATGT TGACGATATT TTGAGCGGCG
2801  GCGGCAGCGA AGAGCTGCCC GGCATCGGGC GCAGCGGCGA CGGCGAAACC
2851  GATCCGATGT ACGACGAGGC CGTATCCGTT GTCCTGAAAA CGCGCAAAGC
2901  CAGCATTTCG GGCGTACAGC GCGCCTTGCG CATCGGCTAC AACCGCGCCG
2951  CGCGTCTGAT TGACCAAATG GAAGCGGAAG GCATTGTGTC CGCACCGGAA
3001  CACAACGGCA ACCGTACGAT TCTCGTCCCC TTGGACAATG CTTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 496; ORF58ng-1>:

```
   1  MFWIVLIVIV LLALAGLFFV RAQSEREWMR EVSAWQEKKG EKQAELPEIK
  51  DGMPDFPEFS LMLFHAVKTA VYWLFVGVVR FCRNYLAHES EPDRPVPPAS
 101  ANRADVPTAS DGYSDSGNGT EEAETEAAEA AEEEAADTED IATAVIDNRR
 151  IPFDRSIAEG LMQSESKTSP VRPVFKEITL EEATRALSSA ALRETKKRYI
 201  DAFEKNGTAV PKVRVSDTPM EGLQIIGLDD PVLQRTYSRM FDADKEAFSE
 251  SADYGFEPYF EKQHPSAFSA VKAENARNAP FRRHAGQEKG QAEAKSPDVS
 301  QGQSVSDGTA VRDARRRVSV NLKEPNKATV SAEARISRLI PESRTVVGKR
 351  DVEMPSETEN VFTETVSSVG YGGPVYDEAA DIHIEEPAAP DAWVVEPPEV
 401  PEVAVPEIDI LPPPPVSEIY NRTYEPPAGF EQAQRSRIAE TDHLAADVLN
 451  GGWQEETAAI ADDGSEGAAE RSSGQYLSET EAFGHDSQAV CPFEDVPSER
 501  PSCRVSDTEA DEGAFQSEET GAVSEHLPTT DLLLPPLFNP EATQTEEELL
 551  ENSITIEEKL AEFKVKVKVV DSYSGPVITR YEIEPDVGVR GNSVLNLEKD
 601  LARSLGVASI RVVETIPGKT CMGLELPNPK RQMIRLSEIF NSPEFAESKS
 651  KLTLALGQDI TGQPVVTDLG KAPHLLVAGT TGSGKSVGVN AMILSMLFKA
 701  APEDVRMIMI DPKMLELSIY EGITHLLAPV VTDMKLAANA LNWCVNEMEK
 751  RYRLMSFMGV RNLAGFNQKI AEAAARGEKI GNPFSLTPDD PEPLEKLPFI
 801  VVVVDEFADL MMTAGKKIEE LIARLAQKAR AAGIHLILAT QRPSVDVITG
 851  LIKANIPTRI AFQVSSKIDS RTILDQMGAE NLLGQGDMLF LPPGTAYPQR
 901  VHGAFASDEE VHRVVEYLKQ FGEPDYVDDI LSGGGSEELP GIGRSGDGET
 951  DPMYDEAVSV VLKTRKASIS GVQRALRIGY NRAARLIDQM EAEGIVSAPE
1001  HNGNRTILVP LDNA*
```

ORF58ng-1 and ORF58-1 show 97.2% identity in 1014 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf58-1.pep     MFWIVLIVILLLALAGLFFVRAQSEREWMREVSAWQEKKGEKQAELPEIKDGMPDFPELA
                ||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||::
orf58ng-1       MFWIVLIVIVLLALAGLFFVRAQSEREWMREVSAWQEKKGEKQAELPEIKDGMPDFPEFS
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf58-1.pep     LMLFHAVKTAVYWLFVGVVRFCRNYLAHESEPDRPVPPASANRADVPTASDGYSDSGNGT
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf58ng-1       LMLFHAVKTAVYWLFVGVVRFCRNYLAHESEPDRPVPPASANRADVPTASDGYSDSGNGT
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf58-1.pep     EEAETEEAEAAEEEAADTEDIATAVIDNRRIPFDRSIAEGLMPSESEISPVRPVFKEITL
                |||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||: ||||||||||||
orf58ng-1       EEAETEAAEAAEEEAADTEDIATAVIDNRRIPFDRSIAEGLMQSESKTSPVRPVFKEITL
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf58-1.pep     EEATRALNSAALRETKKRYIDAFEKNETAVPKVRVSDTPMEGLQIIGLDDPVLQRTYSHM
                |||||||:|||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|
orf58ng-1       EEATRALSSAALRETKKRYIDAFEKNGTAVPKVRVSDTPMEGLQIIGLDDPVLQRTYSRM
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260       270       280       290       300
orf58-1.pep     FDADKEAFSESADYGFEPYFEKQHPSAFSAVKAENARNAPFHRHAGQGKGQAEAKSPDVS
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||| ||||||||||||
orf58ng-1       FDADKEAFSESADYGFEPYFEKQHPSAFSAVKAENARNAPFRRHAGQEKGQAEAKSPDVS
                250       260       270       280       290       300

                310       320       330       340       350       360
orf58-1.pep     QGQSVSDGTAVRDARRRVSVNLKEPNKATVSAEARISRLIPESQTVVGKRDVEMPSETEN
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||
orf58ng-1       QGQSVSDGTAVRDARRRVSVNLKEPNKATVSAEARISRLIPESRTVVGKRDVEMPSETEN
                310       320       330       340       350       360

                370       380       390       400       410       420
orf58-1.pep     VFTETVSSVGYGGPVYDETADIHIEEPAAPDAWVVEPPEVPKVPMTAIDIQPPPPVSEIY
                ||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||:| :  ||| |||||||||
orf58ng-1       VFTETVSSVGYGGPVYDEAADIHIEEPAAPDAWVVEPPEVPEVAVPEIDILPPPPVSEIY
                370       380       390       400       410       420

                430       440       450       460       470       480
orf58-1.pep     NRTYEPPSGFEQVQRSRIAETDHLADDVLNGGWQEETAAIADDGSEGAAERSSGQYLSET
                |||||||:||||:|||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf58ng-1       NRTYEPPAGFEQAQRSRIAETDHLAADVLNGGWQEETAAIADDGSEGAAERSSGQYLSET
                430       440       450       460       470       480

                490       500       510       520       530       540
orf58-1.pep     EAFGHDSQAVCPFENVPSERPSCRVSDTEADEGAFPSEETGAVSEHLPTTDLLLPPLFNP
                ||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf58ng-1       EAFGHDSQAVCPFEDVPSERPSCRVSDTEADEGAFQSEETGAVSEHLPTTDLLLPPLFNP
                490       500       510       520       530       540

                550       560       570       580       590       600
orf58-1.pep     EATQTEEELLENSITIEEKLAEFKVKVKVVDSYSGPVITRYEIEPDVGVRGNSVLNLEKD
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf58ng-1       EATQTEEELLENSITIEEKLAEFKVKVKVVDSYSGPVITRYEIEPDVGVRGNSVLNLEKD
                550       560       570       580       590       600

                610       620       630       640       650       660
orf58-1.pep     LARSLGVASIRVVETIPGKTCMGLELPNPKRQMIRLSEIFNSPEFAESKSKLTLALGQDI
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf58ng-1       LARSLGVASIRVVETIPGKTCMGLELPNPKRQMIRLSEIFNSPEFAESKSKLTLALGQDI
                610       620       630       640       650       660

                670       680       690       700       710       720
orf58-1.pep     TGQPVVTDLGKAPHLLVAGTTGSGKSVGVNAMILSMLFKAAPEDVRMIMIDPKMLELSIY
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf58ng-1       TGQPVVTDLGKAPHLLVAGTTGSGKSVGVNAMILSMLFKAAPEDVRMIMIDPKMLELSIY
                670       680       690       700       710       720
```

```
                730       740       750       760       770       780
orf58-1.pep  EGIPHLLAPVVTDMKLAANALNWCVNEMEKRYRLMSFMGVRNLAGFNQKIAEAAARGEKI
             ||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf58ng-1    EGITHLLAPVVTDMKLAANALNWCVNEMEKRYRLMSFMGVRNLAGFNQKIAEAAARGEKI
                730       740       750       760       770       780

                790       800       810       820       830       840
orf58-1.pep  GNPFSLTPDDPEPLEKLPFIVVVVDEFADLMMTAGKKIEELIARLAQKARAAGIHLILAT
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf58ng-1    GNPFSLTPDDPEPLEKLPFIVVVVDEFADLMMTAGKKIEELIARLAQKARAAGIHLILAT
                790       800       810       820       830       840

                850       860       870       880       890       900
orf58-1.pep  QRPSVDVITGLIKANIPTRIAFQVSSKIDSRTILDQMGAENLLGQGDMLFLLPGTAYPQR
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||
orf58ng-1    QRPSVDVITGLIKANIPTRIAFQVSSKIDSRTILDQMGAENLLGQGDMLFLPPGTAYPQR
                850       860       870       880       890       900

                910       920       930       940       950       960
orf58-1.pep  VHGAFASDEEVHRVVEYLKQFGEPDYVDDILSGGGSEELPGIGRSGDDETDPMYDEAVSV
             |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||
orf58ng-1    VHGAFASDEEVHRVVEYLKQFGEPDYVDDILSGGGSEELPGIGRSGDGETDPMYDEAVSV
                910       920       930       940       950       960

                970       980       990      1000      1010
orf58-1.pep  VLKTRKASISGVQRALRIGYNRAARLIDQMEAEGIVSAPEHNGNRTILVPLDNAX
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf58ng-1    VLKTRKASISGVQRALRIGYNRAARLIDQMEAEGIVSAPEHNGNRTILVPLDNAX
                970       980       990      1000      1010
```

Furthermore, ORF58ng-1 shows significant homology to the *E.coli* protein FtsK:

```
sp|P46889|FTSK_ECOLI CELL DIVISION PROTEIN FTSK >gi|1651412|gnl|PID|d1015290 (D1
division protein FtsK [Escherichia coli] >gi|1651418|gnl|PID|d1015296 (D90727) Cell
division protein FtsK [Escherichia coli] >gi|1787117 (AE000191) cell division
protein FtsK [Escherichia coli] Length = 1329
 Score =  576 bits (1469), Expect = e-163
 Identities = 301/459 (65%), Positives = 353/459 (76%), Gaps = 5/459 (1%)

Query: 556  IEEKLAEFKVKVKVVDSYSGPVITRYEIEPDVGVRGNSVLNLEKDLARSLGVASIRVVET 615
             +E +LA+F++K  VV+   GPVITR+E+    GV+   + NL +DLARSL   ++RVVE
Sbjct: 868  VEARLADFRIKADVVNYSPGPVITRFELNLAPGVKAARISNLSRDLARSLSTVAVRVVEV 927

Query: 616  IPGKTCMGLELPNPKRQMIRLSEIFNSPEFAESKSKLTLALGQDITGQPVVTDLGKAPHL 675
            IPGK  +GLELPN KRQ + L E+ ++ +F ++ S LT+ LG+DI G+PVV DL K PHL
Sbjct: 928  IPGKPYVGLELPNKKRQTVYLREVLDNAKFRDNPSPLTVVLGKDIAGEPVVADLAKMPHL 987

Query: 676  LVAGTTGSGKSVGVNAMILSMLFKAAPEDVRMIMIDPKMLELSIYEGITHLLAPVVTDMK 735
            LVAGTTGSGKSVGVNAMILSML+KA PEDVR IMIDPKMLELS+YEGI HLL  VVTDMK
Sbjct: 988  LVAGTTGSGKSVGVNAMILSMLYKAQPEDVRFIMIDPKMLELSVYEGIPHLLTEVVTDMK 1047

Query: 736  LAANALNWCVNEMEKRYRLMSFMGVRNLAGFNQKIAEAAARGEKIGNPFSLTPDDPEP-- 793
             AANAL WCVNEME+RY+LMS +GVRNLAG+N+KIAEA      I +P+    D  +
Sbjct: 1048 DAANALRWCVNEMERRYKLMSALGVRNLAGYNEKIAEADRMMRPIPDPYWKPGDSMDAQH 1107

Query: 794  --LEKLPFIVVVVDEFADLMMTAGKKIEELIARLAQKARAAGIHLILATQRPSVDVITGL 851
              L+K P+IVV+VDEFADLMMT GKK+EELIARLAQKARAAGIHL+LATQRPSVDVITGL
Sbjct: 1108 PVLKKEPYIVVLVDEFADLMMTVGKKVEELIARLAQKARAAGIHLVLATQRPSVDVITGL 1167

Query: 852  IKANIPTRIAFQVSSKIDSRTILDQMGAENLLGQGDMLFLPPGTAYPQRVHGAFASDEEV 911
            IKANIPTRIAF VSSKIDSRTILDQ GAE+LLG GDML+  P +  P RVHGAF  D+EV
Sbjct: 1168 IKANIPTRIAFTVSSKIDSRTILDQAGAESLLGMGDMLYLSGPNSTLPVRVHGAFVRDQEV 1227

Query: 912  HRVVEYLKQFGEPDYVDDILSGGGSEELPGIGRSGDGETDPMYDEAVSVVLKTRKASISG 971
            H VV+  K  G P YVD I S   SE   G G  G  E DP++D+AV  V + RKASISG
Sbjct: 1228 HAVVQDWKARGRPQYVDGITSDSESEGGAG-GFDGAEELDPLFDQAVQFVTEKRKASISG 1286

Query: 972  VQRALRIGYNRAARLIDQMEAEGIVSAPEHNGNRTILVP 1010
            VQR  RIGYNRAAR+I+QMEA+GIVS   HNGNR +L P
Sbjct: 1287 VQRQFRIGYNRAARIIEQMEAQGIVSEQGHNGNREVLAP 1325
```

Based on this analysis, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 59

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 497>:

```
   1  ATGATTTATC AAAGAAACCT CATCAAAGAA CTCTCTTTTA CCGCCGTCGG
  51  CATTTTCGTC GTCCTCTTGG CGGTATTGGT CTCCACGCAG GCAATCAACC
 101  TGCTCGGCCG TGCCGCCGAC GGGC..GTGA TCGCCATCGA TGCCGTGTTG
 151  GCATTGGTCG GCTTCTGGGT C..... ..... .....
                                  //
 901  .........A TTGCCATCGG TTTGTTTTTA ATTTACCAAA ACGGGCTGAC
 951  CCTGCTTTTT GAAGCCGTGG AAGACGGCAA AATCCATTTT TGGCTCGGAC
1001  TGCTGCCTAT GCACATTATC ATGTTTGTCC TTGCACTCAT CCTGTTGCGC
1051  GTCCGCAGTA TGCCCAGCCA GCCCTTCTGG CAGGCGGTTG GCAAAAGTCT
1101  GACATTGAAA GGCGGAAAAT GA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 498; ORF101>:

```
   1  MIYQRNLIKE LSFTAVGIFV VLLAVLVSTQ AINLLGRAAD GXVIAIDAVL
  51  ALVGFWV... ..... ..... ..... .....
                         //
 301  ...IAIGLFL IYQNGLTLLF EAVEDGKIHF WLGLLPMHII MFVLALILLR
 351  VRSMPSQPFW QAVGKSLTLK GGK*
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 499>:

```
   1  ATGATTTATC AAAGAAACCT CATCAAAGAA CTCTCTTTTA CCGCCGTCGG
  51  CATTTTCGTC GTCCTCTTGG CGGTATTGGT CTCCACGCAG GCAATCAACC
 101  TGCTCGGCCG TGCCGCCGAC GGGCGTGTCG CCATCGATGC CGTGTTGGCA
 151  TTGGTCGGCT TCTGGGTCAT CGGTATGACG CCGCTTTTGC TGGTGTTGAC
 201  CGCATTTATC AGTACGTTGA CCGTGTTGAC CCGCTACTGG CGCGACAGCG
 251  AAATGTCGGT CTGGCTATCC TGCGGATTGG CATTGAAACA ATGGATACGC
 301  CCGGTGATGC AGTTTGCCGT GCCGTTTGCC GTTTTGGTTG CCGTCATGCA
 351  GCTTTGGGTG ATACCGTGGG CAGAGCTACG CAGCCGCGAA TACGCTGAAA
 401  TCCTGAAGCA GAAGCAGGAA TTGTCTTTGG TGGAGGCAGG CGAGTTCAAC
 451  AGTTTGGGCA AGCGCAACGG CAGGGTTTAT TTTGTCGAAA CCTTCGATAC
 501  CGAATCCGGC ATCATGAAAA ACCTGTTCCT GCGCGAACAG GACAAAAACG
 551  GCGGCGACAA CATCATCTTC GCCAAAGAAG GTAACTTCTC GCTGAACGAC
 601  AACAAACGCA CGCTCGAATT GCGCCACGGC TACCGTTACA GCGGCACGCC
 651  CGGACGCGCC GACTACAATC AGGTTTCCTT CCAAAAACTC AACCTGATTA
 701  TCAGCACCAC GCCCAAACTC ATCGACCCCG TTTCCCACCG CCGTACCATT
 751  CCGACCGCCC AACTGATTGG CAGCAGCAAC CCGCAACATC AGGCGGAATT
 801  GATGTGGCGC ATCTCGCTGA CCGTCAGCGT CCTCCTACTC TGCCTGCTTG
 851  CCGTGCCGCT TTCCTATTTC AACCCGCGCA GCGGACATAC CTACAATATC
 901  TTGATTGCCA TCGGTTTGTT TTTAATTTAC CAAAACGGGC TGACCCTGCT
 951  TTTTGAAGCC GTGGAAGACG GCAAAATCCA TTTTTGGCTC GGACTGCTGC
1001  CTATGCACAT TATCATGTTT GCCGTTGCAC TCATCCTGTT GCGCGTCCGC
1051  AGTATGCCCA GCCAGCCCTT CTGGCAGGCG GTTGGCAAAA GTCTGACATT
1101  GAAAGGCGGA AAATGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 500; ORF101-1>:

```
   1  MIYQRNLIKE LSFTAVGIFV VLLAVLVSTQ AINLLGRAAD GRVAIDAVLA
  51  LVGFWVIGMT PLLLVLTAFI STLTVLTRYW RDSEMSVWLS CGLALKQWIR
 101  PVMQFAVPFA VLVAVMQLWV IPWAELRSRE YAEILKQKQE LSLVEAGEFN
 151  SLGKRNGRVY FVETFDTESG IMKNLFLREQ DKNGGDNIIF AKEGNFSLND
 201  NKRTLELRHG YRYSGTPGRA DYNQVSFQKL NLIISTTPKL IDPVSHRRTI
 251  PTAQLIGSSN PQHQAELMWR ISLTVSVLLL CLLAVPLSYF NPRSGHTYNI
 301  LIAIGLFLIY QNGLTLLFEA VEDGKIHFWL GLLPMHIIMF AVALILLRVR
 351  SMPSQPFWQA VGKSLTLKGG K*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF101 shows 91.2% identity over a 57aa overlap and 95.7% identity over a 69aa overlap with an ORF (ORF101a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                    10        20        30        40        50
orf101.pep   MIYQRNLIKELSFTAVGIFVVLLAVLVSTQAINLLGRAADGXVIAIDAVLALVGFWVX
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||    ||||||||||||||
orf101a      MIYQRNLIKELSFTAVGIFVVLLAVLVSTQAINLLGXAADXRX-AIDAVLALVGFWVXXM
                    10        20        30        40        50
                                       //
                                                 90       100       110
orf101.pep   ............................IAIGLFLIYQNGLTLLFEAVEDGKIHFWLGL
                                         ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf101a      LTVSVLLLCLLAVPLSYFNPRSGHTYNILXAIGLFLIYQNGLTLLFEAVEDGKIHFWLGL
                  280       290       300       310       320       330

               120       130       140       150
orf101.pep   LPMHIIMFVLALILLRVRSMPSQPFWQAVGKSLTLKGGKX
             |||||||||:|::||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf101a      LPMHIIMFVIAIVLLRVRSMPSQPFWQAVGKSLTLKGGKX
                  340       350       360       370
```

The complete length ORF101a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 501> is:

```
   1  ATGATTTATC AAAGAAACCT CATCAAAGAA CTCTCTTTTA CCGCCGTCGG
  51  CATTTTCGTC GTCCTCTTGG CGGTATTGGT CTCCACGCAG GCAATCAACC
 101  TGCTCGGCCN TGCCGCCGAC NGGCGTNTCG CCATCGATGC CGTGTTGGCA
 151  TTGGTCGGCT TCTGGGTCNN NNGNATGACG CCGCTTTTGC TNGTGTTGAC
 201  CGCATTTATC AGTACGTTGA CCGTGTTGAC CCGCTACTGG CGNGACAGCG
 251  AAATGTCGGT CTGGNTATCC TGCGGATTGG CATTGAAACA ATGGATACGC
 301  CCGGTGATGC AGTTTGCCGT GCCGTTTGCC GTTTTGGTTG CCGTCATGCA
 351  GCTTTGGGTG ATACCGTGGG CAGAGCTACG CAGCCGCGAA TACGCTGAAA
 401  TCCTGAAGCA GAAGCAGGAA TTGTCTTTGG TGGAGGCAGG CGGGTTCAAC
 451  AGTTTGGGCA AGCGCAACGG CAGGGTTTAT TTTGTCGAAA CCTTCGATAC
 501  CGAATCCGGC ATCATGAAAA ACCTGTTCCT GCGCGAACAG GACAAAAACG
 551  GCGGCGACAA CATCATCTTC NCCAAAGAAA GTAACTTCTC GCTGAACGAC
 601  AACAAACGCA CGCTCGAATT GCGCCACGGC TACCGTTACA GCGGCACGCC
 651  CGGACGCGCC GACTACAATC AGGTTTCCTT CCNAAAACTC AACCTGATTA
 701  TCAGCACCAC GCCCAAACTC ATCGACCCCG TTTCCCACCG CCGTACNATN
 751  CCNACNGCCC AACTGATTGG CAGCAGCAAC CCGCAACATC ANGCGGAATT
 801  GATGTGGCGC ATCTCGCTGA CCGTCAGCGT CCTCCTACTC TGCCTGCTTG
 851  CCGTGCCGCT TTCCTATTTC AACCCGCGCA GCGGACATAC CTACAATATC
 901  TTGANTGCCA TCGGTTTGTT TTTAATTTAC CAAAACGGGC TGACCCTGCT
 951  TTTTGAAGCC GTGGAAGACG GCAAAATCCA TTTTTGGCTC GGACTGCTGC
1001  CTATGCACAT CATCATGTTC GTCATCGCAA TCGTACTTCT GCGCGTCCGC
1051  AGCATGCCCA GCCAGCCCTT CTGGCAGGCG GTTGGCAAAA GTCTGACATT
1101  GAAAGGCGGA AAATGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 502>:

```
   1  MIYQRNLIKE LSFTAVGIFV VLLAVLVSTQ AINLLGXAAD XRXAIDAVLA
  51  LVGFWVXXMT PLLLVLTAFI STLTVLTRYW RDSEMSVWXS CGLALKQWIR
 101  PVMQFAVPFA VLVAVMQLWV IPWAELRSRE YAEILKQKQE LSLVEAGGFN
 151  SLGKRNGRVY FVETFDTESG IMKNLFLREQ DKNGGDNIIF XKESNFSLND
 201  NKRTLELRHG YRYSGTPGRA DYNQVSFXKL NLIISTTPKL IDPVSHRRTX
 251  PTAQLIGSSN PQHXAELMWR ISLTVSVLLL CLLAVPLSYF NPRSGHTYNI
 301  LXAIGLFLIY QNGLTLLFEA VEDGKIHFWL GLLPMHIIMF VIAIVLLRVR
 351  SMPSQPFWQA VGKSLTLKGG K*
```

ORF101a and ORF101-1 show 95.4% identity in 371 aa overlap:

```
orf101a.pep   MIYQRNLIKELSFTAVGIFVVLLAVLVSTQAINLLGXAADXRXAIDAVLALVGFWVXXMT  60
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||| | ||||||||||||  ||
orf101-1      MIYQRNLIKELSFTAVGIFVVLLAVLVSTQAINLLGRAADGRVAIDAVLALVGFWVIGMT  60

orf101a.pep   PLLLVLTAFISTLTVLTRYWRDSEMSVWXSCGLALKQWIRPVMQFAVPFAVLVAVMQLWV 120
              |||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf101-1      PLLLVLTAFISTLTVLTRYWRDSEMSVWLSCGLALKQWIRPVMQFAVPFAVLVAVMQLWV 120
```

```
orf101a.pep    IPWAELRSREYAEILKQKQELSLVEAGGFNSLGKRNGRVYFVETFDTESGIMKNLFLREQ 180
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf101-1       IPWAELRSREYAEILKQKQELSLVEAGEFNSLGKRNGRVYFVETFDTESGIMKNLFLREQ 180

orf101a.pep    DKNGGDNIIFXKESNFSLNDNKRTLELRHGYRYSGTPGRADYNQVSFXKLNLIISTTPKL 240
               |||||||||| ||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||
orf101-1       DKNGGDNIIFAKEGNFSLNDNKRTLELRHGYRYSGTPGRADYNQVSFQKLNLIISTTPKL 240

orf101a.pep    IDPVSHRRTXPTAQLIGSSNPQHXAELMWRISLTVSVLLLCLLAVPLSYFNPRSGHTYNI 300
               ||||||||| |||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf101-1       IDPVSHRRTIPTAQLIGSSNPQHQAELMWRISLTVSVLLLCLLAVPLSYFNPRSGHTYNI 300

orf101a.pep    LXAIGLFLIYQNGLTLLFEAVEDGKIHFWLGLLPMHIIMFVIAIVLLRVRSMPSQPFWQA 360
               | ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||::|::|||||||||||||||
orf101-1       LIAIGLFLIYQNGLTLLFEAVEDGKIHFWLGLLPMHIIMFAVALILLRVRSMPSQPFWQA 360

orf101a.pep    VGKSLTLKGGK  371
               ||||||||||||
orf101-1       VGKSLTLKGGK  371
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF101 shows 96.5 % identity in 57aa overlap at the N-terminal domain and 95.1% identity in 61aa overlap at the C-terminal domain, respectively, with a predicted ORF (ORF101ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf101.pep     MIYQRNLIKELSFTAVGIFVVLLAVLVSTQAINLLGRAADGXVIAIDAVLALVGFWV      57
               |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| | ||||||||||||
orf101ng       MIYQRNLIKELSFTAVGIFVVLLAVLVSTQAINLLGRAADGRV-AIDAVLALVGFWVIGM  59

                                                //

orf101.pep                                     IAIGLFLIYQNGLTLLFEAVEDGKIHFWLG  333
                                               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf101ng       SLTVSVLLLCLLAVPLSYFNPRSGHTYNILIAIGLFLIYQNGLTLLFEAVEDGKIHFWLG  331

orf101.pep     LLPMHIIMFVLALILLRVRSMPSQPFWQAVGKSLTLKGGK  373
               ||||||||||:|::|||||||||||||||||
orf101ng       LLPMHIIMFVIAIVLLRVRSMPSQPFWQAVG           362
```

The ORF101ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 503> is predicted to encode a protein having partial amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 504>:

```
   1  MIYQRNLIKE LSFTAVGIFV VLLAVLVSTQ AINLLGRAAD GRVAIDAVLA
  51  LVGFWVIGMT PLLLVLTAFI STLTVLTRYW RDSEMSVWLS CGLALKQWIR
 101  PVMQFAVPFA ILIAVMQLWV IPWAELRSRE YAEILKQKQE LSLVEAGEFN
 151  NLGKRNGRVY FVETFDTESG IMKNLFLREQ DKNGGDNIIF AKEGNFSLKD
 201  NKRTLELRHG YRYSGTPGRA DYNQVSFQKL NLIISTTPKL IDPVSHRRTI
 251  STAQLIGSSN PQHQAELMWR ISLTVSVLLL CLLAVPLSYF NPRSGHTYNI
 301  LIAIGLFLIY QNGLTLLFEA VEDGKIHFWL GLLPMHIIMF VIAIVLLRVR
 351  SMPSQPFWQA VG...
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 505>:

```
   1  ATGATTTATC AAAGAAACCT CATCAAAGAA CTCTCTTTTA CCGCCGTCGG
  51  CATTTTCGTC GTCCTCTTGG CGGTGTTGGT GTCCACGCAG GCGATCAACC
 101  TGCTTGGCCG CGCAGCTGAC GGGCGTGTCG CCATCGATGC CGTGTTGGCC
 151  TTAGTCGGCT TCTGGGTCAT CGGTATGACC CCGCTTTTGC TGGTGTTGAC
 201  CGCATTCATC AGCACGCTGA CCGTATTGAC CCGCTACTGG CGCGACAGCG
 251  AAATGTCGGT CTGGCTATCC TGCGGATTGG CGTTGAAACA GTGGATACGC
 301  CCCGTCATGC AGTTTGCCGT GCCGTTTGCC ATCCTGATTG CCGTCATGCA
 351  GCTTTGGGTG ATACCGTGGG CAGAGCTGCG CAGCCGCGAA TATGCCGAAA
 401  TTTTGAAGCA GAAGCAGGAA TTGTCTTTGG TGGAAGCCGG CGAGTTCAAT
 451  AACTTGGGCA AGCGCAACGG CAgggtttaT TtcgtcgaaA CCTTTGACAC
 501  CGaatccgGC ATCATGAAAA ACCTGTtcct GcGCGAACAG GACAAAAACG
 551  gcggcgacaA CATCATCTTC GCcaaaGAag gtaactTctc gctgaaggaC
```

```
 601  AACAAAcgca cgctcgaATT GCGCCACGGC TACCGTTACA GCGGcacgcC
 651  CGGacGCGCc gactaCAATC AGGTTtcctt cCAAAAacTc aacctgATta
 701  TCAGCACCAC GCCCAAacTT ATCGaccCCG TTTCCCACCG CCGCACCATT
 751  tcgacCGCCC AAcTGATTGG CAGCAGCAAT CCGCAACATC AGGCAGAATT
 801  GATGTGGCGC ATCTCGCTGA CCGTCAGCGT CCTCCTGCTC TGCCTACTCG
 851  CCGTGCCGCT TTCCTATTTC AACCCGCGCA GCGGACATAC CTACAATATC
 901  TTGATTGCCA TCGGTTTGTT TTTAATTTAC CAAAACGGGC TGACCCTGCT
 951  TTTTGAAGCC GTGGAAGACG GCAAAATCCA TTTTTGGCTC GGACTGCTGC
1001  CTATGCACAT CATCATGTTC GTCATCGCAA TCGTACTTCT GCGCGTCCGC
1051  AGTATGCCCA GCCAGCCCTT CTGGCAGGCG GTTGGCAAAA GTCTGACATT
1101  GAAAGgcgGA AAATGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 506; ORF101ng-1>:

```
   1  MIYQRNLIKE LSFTAVGIFV VLLAVLVSTQ AINLLGRAAD GRVAIDAVLA
  51  LVGFWVIGMT PLLLVLTAFI STLTVLTRYW RDSEMSVWLS CGLALKQWIR
 101  PVMQFAVPFA ILIAVMQLWV IPWAELRSRE YAEILKQKQE LSLVEAGEFN
 151  NLGKRNGRVY FVETFDTESG IMKNLFLREQ DKNGGDNIIF AKEGNFSLKD
 201  NKRTLELRHG YRYSGTPGRA DYNQVSFQKL NLIISTTPKL IDPVSHRRTI
 251  STAQLIGSSN PQHQAELMWR ISLTVSVLLL CLLAVPLSYF NPRSGHTYNI
 301  LIAIGLFLIY QNGLTLLFEA VEDGKIHFWL GLLPMHIIMF VIAIVLLRVR
 351  SMPSQPFWQA VGKSLTLKGG K*
```

ORF101ng-1 and ORF101-1 show 97.6% identity in 371 aa overlap:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf101-1.pep        MIYQRNLIKELSFTAVGIFVVLLAVLVSTQAINLLGRAADGRVAIDAVLALVGFWVIGMT
                    ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf101ng-1          MIYQRNLIKELSFTAVGIFVVLLAVLVSTQAINLLGRAADGRVAIDAVLALVGFWVIGMT
                            10        20        30        40        50        60

                            70        80        90       100       110       120
orf101-1.pep        PLLLVLTAFISTLTVLTRYWRDSEMSVWLSCGLALKQWIRPVMQFAVPFAVLVAVMQLWV
                    ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|:|||||||
orf101ng-1          PLLLVLTAFISTLTVLTRYWRDSEMSVWLSCGLALKQWIRPVMQFAVPFAILIAVMQLWV
                            70        80        90       100       110       120

                           130       140       150       160       170       180
orf101-1.pep        IPWAELRSREYAEILKQKQELSLVEAGEFNSLGKRNGRVYFVETFDTESGIMKNLFLREQ
                    ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf101ng-1          IPWAELRSREYAEILKQKQELSLVEAGEFNNLGKRNGRVYFVETFDTESGIMKNLFLREQ
                           130       140       150       160       170       180

                           190       200       210       220       230       240
orf101-1.pep        DKNGGDNIIFAKEGNFSLNDNKRTLELRHGYRYSGTPGRADYNQVSFQKLNLIISTTPKL
                    ||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf101ng-1          DKNGGDNIIFAKEGNFSLKDNKRTLELRHGYRYSGTPGRADYNQVSFQKLNLIISTTPKL
                           190       200       210       220       230       240

                           250       260       270       280       290       300
orf101-1.pep        IDPVSHRRTIPTAQLIGSSNPQHQAELMWRISLTVSVLLLCLLAVPLSYFNPRSGHTYNI
                    |||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf101ng-1          IDPVSHRRTISTAQLIGSSNPQHQAELMWRISLTVSVLLLCLLAVPLSYFNPRSGHTYNI
                           250       260       270       280       290       300

                           310       320       330       340       350       360
orf101-1.pep        LIAIGLFLIYQNGLTLLFEAVEDGKIHFWLGLLPMHIIMFAVALILLRVRSMPSQPFWQA
                    ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||::|::|||||||||||||||
orf101ng-1          LIAIGLFLIYQNGLTLLFEAVEDGKIHFWLGLLPMHIIMFVIAIVLLRVRSMPSQPFWQA
                           310       320       330       340       350       360

                           370
orf101-1.pep        VGKSLTLKGGKX
                    ||||||||||||
orf101ng-1          VGKSLTLKGGKX
                           370
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of a putative leader sequence (double-underlined) and several putative transmembrane domains (single-underlined) in the gonococcal protein, it is

predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 60

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 507>:

```
   1  ..GGTGGTGGTT TTATCAATGC TTCCTGTGCC ACTTTGACGA CAGCCAAACC
  51    GCAATATCAA GCAGGAGACC TTAGCGCTTT TAAGATAAGG CAAGGCAATG
 101    TTGTAATCGC CGGACACGGT TTGGATGCAC GTGATACCGA TTACACACGT
 151    ATTCTCAGTT ATCATTCCAA AATCGATGCA CCCGTATGGG GACAAGATGT
 201    TCGTGTCGTC GCGGGACAAA ACGATGTGGC CGCAACAGGT GATGCACATT
 251    CGCCTATTCT CAATAATGCT GCTGCCAATA CGTCAAACAA TACAGCCAAC
 301    AACGGCACAC ATATCCCTTT ATTTGCGATT GATACAGGCA AATTAGGAGG
 351    TAT.GTATGC CAACAAAATC ACCTTGATCA GTACGGTCGA GCAAGCAGGC
 401    ATTCGTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 508; ORF113>:

```
   1  ..GGGFINASCA TLTTAKPQYQ AGDLSAFKIR QGNVVIAGHG LDARDTDYTR
  51    ILSYHSKIDA PVWGQDVRVV AGQNDVAATG DAHSPILNNA AANTSNNTAN
 101    NGTHIPLFAI DTGKLGGXVC QQNHLDQYGR ASRHS*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with with pspA putative secreted protein of *N.meningitidis* (accession AF030941)

ORF and pspA show 44% aa identity in 179aa overlap:

```
orf113   GGGFINASCATLTTAKPQYQAGDLSAFKIRQGNVVIAGHGLDARDTDYTRILSYHSKIDA 60
         GGG INA+  TLT+  P   G+L+ F +  G VVI G GLD  D DYTRILS  ++I+A
pspa     GGGLINAASVTLTSGVPVLNNGNLTGFDVSSGKVVIGGKGLDTSDADYTRILSRAAEINA 256

orf113   PVWGQDVRVVAGQNDVAATGDAHSPILXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXGTHIPLFAIDTGKLGGMYA 120
          VWG+DV+VV+G+N +   G                        +  P  AIDT  LGGMYA
pspa     GVWGKDVKVVSGKNKLDFDG---------SLAKTASAPSSSDSVTPTVAIDTATLGGMYA 307

orf113   NKITLISTVEQAGIRNQGQWFASAGNVAVNAEGKLVNTGMIAATGENHAVSLHARNVHN 179
         +KITLIST   A IRN+G+ FA+ G V ++A+GKL N+G I A      +++ A+ V N
pspa     DKITLISTDNGAVIRNKGRIFAATGGVTLSADGKLSNSGSIDAA----EITISAQTVDN 362
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF113 shows 86.5% identity in 52aa overlap at the N- terminal part and 94.1% identity in 17aa overlap at the C-terminal part with a predicted ORF (ORF113ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae:*

```
orf113                                        GGGFINASCATLTTAKPQYQAGDLSAFKIR   30
                                              ||||||||  |||||::|||||||:|:||||
orf113ng      SHPSQLNGYIEVGGRRAEVVIANPAGIAVNGGGFINASRATLTTGQPQYQAGDFSGFKIR  224

orf113        QGNVVIAGHGLDARDTDYTRILSYHSKIDAPVWGQDVRVVAGQNDVAATGDAHSPILNNA   90
              |||:||||||||||||:||||
orf113ng      QGNAVIAGHGLDARDTDFTRILVCQQNHLDQYGRTSRHS  263

orf113                                IDTGKLGGXVCQQNHLDQYGRASRHS  135
                                      ||||||||||||:||||
orf113ng      DFSGFKIRQGNAVIAGHGLDARDTDFTRILVCQQNHLDQYGRTSRHS  263
```

The complete length ORF113ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 509> is predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 510>:

```
   1  MNKTLYRVIF NRKRGAVVAV AETTKREGKS CADSGSGSVY VKSVSFIPTH
  51  SKAFCFSALG FSLCLALGTV NIAFADGIIT DKAAPKTQQA TILQTGNGIP
```

```
101  QVNIQTPTSA GVSVNQYAQF DVGNRGAILN NSRSNTQTQL GGWIQGNPWL
151  TRGEARVVVN QINSSHPSQL NGYIEVGGRR AEVVIANPAG IAVNGGGFIN
201  ASRATLTTGQ PQYQAGDFSG FKIRQGNAVI AGHGLDARDT DFTRILVCQQ
251  NHLDQYGRTS RHS*
```

Based on this analysis, it is predicted that these proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 61

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 511>:

```
   1  ..TCAACGGGAC ATAGCGAACA AAATTACACT TTGCCGCGAG AAATCACACG
  51    CAACATTTCA CTGGGTTCAT TTGCCTATGA ATCGCATCGC AAAGCATTAA
 101    GCCATCATGC GCCCAGCCAA GGCACTGAGT TGCCGCAAAG CAACGGTATT
 151    TCGCTACCCT ATACGTCCAA TTCTTTTACC CCATTACCCA GCAGCAGCTT
 201    ATACATTATC AATCCTGTCA ATAAAGGCTA TCTTGTTGAA ACCGATCCAC
 251    GCTTTGCCAA CTACCGTCAA TGGTTGGGTA GTGACTATAT GCtGGACAGC
 301    CTCAAACTAG ACCCAAACAA TTTACATAAA CGTTTGGGTG ATGGTTATTA
 351    CGAGCAACGT TTAATCAATG AACAAATCGC AGAGCTGACA GGGCATCGTC
 401    GTTTAGAcGG TTATCAAAAC GACGAAGAAC AATTTAAAGC CTTAATGGAT
 451    AATGGCGCGA CTGCGGCACG TTcGATGAAT CTCAGCGTTG GCATTGCATT
 501    AAGTGCCGAG CAAGTAGCGC AACTGACCAG CGATATTGTT TGGTTGGTAC
 551    AAAAAGAAGT TAAGCTTCCT GATGGCGGCA CACAAACCGT ATTGGTGCCA
 601    CAGGTTTATG TACGCGTTAA AAATGGCGAC ATAGACGGTA AAGGTGCATT
 651    GTTGTCAGGC AGCAATACAC AAATCAATGT TTCAGGCAGC CTGAAAAACT
 701    CAGGCACGAT TGCAGGgCGC AATGCGCTTA TTATCAATAC CGATACGCTA
 751    GACAATATCG GTGGGCGTAT TCATGCGCAA AAATCAGCGG TTACGGCCAC
 801    ACAAGACATC AATAATATTG GCGGCATGCT TTCTGCCGAA CAGACATTAT
 851    TGCTCAACGC AGGCAACAAC ATCAACAGCC AAAGCACCAC CGCCAGCAGT
 901    CAAAATACAC AAGGCAGCAG CACCTACCTA GACCGAATGG CAGGTATTTA
 951    TATCACAGGC AAAGAAAAAG GTGTTT..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 512; ORF115>:

```
   1  ..STGHSEQNYT LPREITRNIS LGSFAYESHR KALSHHAPSQ GTELPQSNGI
  51    SLPYTSNSFT PLPSSSLYII NPVNKGYLVE TDPRFANYRQ WLGSDYMLDS
 101    LKLDPNNLHK RLGDGYYEQR LINEQIAELT GHRRLDGYQN DEEQFKALMD
 151    NGATAARSMN LSVGIALSAE QVAQLTSDIV WLVQKEVKLP DGGTQTVLVP
 201    QVYVRVKNGD IDGKGALLSG SNTQINVSGS LKNSGTIAGR NALIINTDTL
 251    DNIGGRIHAQ KSAVTATQDI NNIGGMLSAE QTLLLNAGNN INSQSTTASS
 301    QNTQGSSTYL DRMAGIYITG KEKGV..
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with the pspA putative secreted protein of *N.meningitidis* (accession number AF030941)

ORF115 and pspA protein show 50% aa identity in 325aa overlap:

```
Orf115:   1  STGHSEQNYTLPREITRNISLGSFAYESHRKALSHHAPSQGTELPQSNGISLPYTSNSFT  60
             STG+S   Y    E++ +I +G  AY+ +    +   P     +   NGI   +T
pspA:   778  STGYSRSPYEPAPEVS-SIRMGISAYKGYAPQQASDIPGTVVPVVAENGIHPTFT-----  831

Orf115:  61  PLPSSSLYIINPVNKGYLVETDPRFANYRQWLGSDYMLDSLKLDPNNLHKRLGDGYYEQR  120
              LP+SSL+ I P NKGYL+ETDP F +YR+WLGS YML +L+ DPN++HKRLGDGYYEQ+
pspA:   832  -LPNSSLFAIAPNNKGYLIETDPAFTDYRKWLGSGYMLAALQQDPNHIHKRLGDGYYEQK  890

Orf115: 121  LINEQIAELTGHRRLDGYQNDEEQFKALMDNGATAARSMNLSVGIALSAEQVAQLTSDIV  180
             L+NEQIA+LTG+RRLDGY NDEEQFKALMDNG T A+ + L+ GIALSAEQVA+LTSDIV
pspA:   891  LVNEQIAKLTGYRRLDGYTNDEEQFKALMDNGITIAKELQLTPGIALSAEQVARLTSDIV  950

Orf115: 181  WLVQKEVKLPDGGTQTVLVPQVYVRVKNGDIDGKGALLSGSNTQINVSGSLKN-SGTIAG  239
             WL  + V LPDG TQTVL P+VYVR +  D++G+GALLSGS   I  SG+++N  G IAG
pspA:   951  WLENETVTLPDGTTQTVLKPKVYVRARPKDMNGQGALLSGSVVDIG-SGAIENRGGLIAG 1009
```

```
Orf115: 240  RNALIINTDTLDNIGGRIHAQKSAVTATQDINNIGGMLSAEQTLLLNAGXXXXXXXXXXX 299
             R ALI+N   + N+ G +  +     A  DI N G  + AE  LLL A
pspA:   1010 REALILNAQNIKNLQGDLQGKNIFAAAGSDITNTGS-IGAENALLLKASNNIESRSETRS 1068

Orf115: 300  XXXXXXXXXYLDRMAGIYITGKEKG 324
                     + R+AGIY+TG++ G
pspA:   1069 NQNEQGSVRNIGRVAGIYLTGRQNG 1093
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF115 shows 91.9% identity over a 334aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF115ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf115.pep                                        STGHSEQNYTLPREITRNISLGSFAYESHRK   31
                                                  ||| ||||||:||||:||||||||||| |
orf115ng     NEQTFGEKKVFSENGKLHNYWRARRKGHDETGHREQNYTLPEEITRDISLGSFAYESHSK   71

orf115.pep   ALSHHAPSQGTELPQSN----------GISLPYTSNSFTPLPSSSLYIINPVNKGYLVET   81
             |||:|||||||||||||          ||||||| |||||||:||||||||:||||||||
orf115ng     ALSRHAPSQGTELPQSNRDNIRTAKSNGISLPYTPNSFTPLPGSSLYIINPANKGYLVET  131

orf115.pep   DPRFANYRQWLGSDYMLDSLKLDPNNLHKRLGDGYYEQRLINEQIAELTGHRRLDGYQND  141
             |||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf115ng     DPRFANYRQWLGSDYMLGSLKLDPNNLHKRLGDGYYEQRLINEQIAELTGHRRLDGYQND  191

orf115.pep   EEQFKALMDNGATAARSMNLSVGIALSAEQVAQLTSDIVWLVQKEVKLPDGGTQTVLVPQ  201
             |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||:||
orf115ng     EEQFKALMDNGATAARSMNLSVGIALSAEQAAQLTSDIVWLVQKEVKLPDGGTQTVLMPQ  251

orf115.pep   VYVRVKNGDIDGKGALLSGSNTQINVSGSLKNSGTIAGRNALIINTDTLDNIGGRIHAQK  261
             |||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf115ng     VYVRVKNGGIDGKGALLSGSNTQINVSGSLKNSGTIAGRNALIINTDTLDNIGGRIHAQK  311

orf115.pep   SAVTATQDINNIGGMLSAEQTLLLNAGNNINSQSTTASSQNTQGSSTYLDRMAGIYITGK  321
             |||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||:|||: ||||:||||||||||||||||||
orf115ng     SAVTATQDINNIGGILSAEQTLLLNAGNNINNQSTAKSSQNAQGSSTYLDRMAGIYITGK  371

orf115.pep   EKGV                                                          325
             ||||
orf115ng     EKGVLAAQAGKDINIIAGQISNQSDQGQTRLQAGRDINLDTVQTGKYQEIHFDADNHTIR  431
```

An ORF115ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 513> was predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 514>:

```
   1  MLVQTEKDGL HNEQTFGEKK VFSENGKLHN YWRARRKGHD ETGHREQNYT
  51  LPEEITRDIS LGSFAYESHS KALSRHAPSQ GTELPQSNRD NIRTAKSNGI
 101  SLPYTPNSFT PLPGSSLYII NPANKGYLVE TDPRFANYRQ WLGSDYMLGS
 151  LKLDPNNLHK RLGDGYYEQR LINEQIAELT GHRRLDGYQN DEEQFKALMD
 201  NGATAARSMN LSVGIALSAE QAAQLTSDIV WLVQKEVKLP DGGTQTVLMP
 251  QVYVRVKNGG IDGKGALLSG SNTQINVSGS LKNSGTIAGR NALIINTDTL
 301  DNIGGRIHAQ KSAVTATQDI NNIGGILSAE QTLLLNAGNN INNQSTAKSS
 351  QNAQGSSTYL DRMAGIYITG KEKGVLAAQA GKDINIIAGQ ISNQSDQGQT
 401  RLQAGRDINL DTVQTGKYQE IHFDADNHTI RGSTNEVGSS IQTKGDVTLL
 451  SGNNLNAKAA EVGSAKGTLA VYAKNDITIS SGIHAGQVDD ASKHTGRSGG
 501  GNKLVITDKA QSHHETAQSS TFEGKQVVLQ AGNDANILGS NVISDNGTRI
 551  QAGNHVRIGT TQTQSQSETY HQTQKSGLMS AGIGFTIGSK TNTQENQSQS
 601  NEHTGSTVGS LKGDTTIVAS KHYEQTGSNV SSPEGNNLIS TQSMDIGAAQ
 651  NQLNSKTTQT YEQKGLTVAF SSPVTDLAQQ AIAVAHKAAK QFDKAKTTAL
 701  MPWRLPMQVG RLFKQAKAPK K*
```

Further work revealed the following partial gonococcal DNA sequence <SEQ ID 515>:

```
   1  TTGCTTGTGC AAACAGAAAA AGACGGTTTG CATAACGAGC AAACCTTTGG
  51  CGAGAAGAAA GTCTTCAGCG AAAATGGTAA GTTGCACAAC TACTGGCGTG
 101  CGCGTCGTAA AGGACATGAT GAAACAGGGC ATCGTGAACA AAATTATACT
 151  TTGCCGGAGG AAATCACACG CGACATTTCA CTGGGTTCAT TTGCCTATGA
 201  ATCGCATAGC AAAGCATTAA GCCGTCATGC GCCCAGCCAA GGCACTGAGT
 251  TGCCACAAAG TAACCGGGAT AATATCCGTA CTGCGAAAAG CAACGGTATT
```

```
 301  TCGCTACCCT ATACGCCCAA TTCTTTTACC CCATTACCCG GCAGCAGCTT
 351  ATACATTATC AATCCTGCCA ATAAAGGCTA TCTTGTTGAA ACCGATCCAC
 401  GCTTTGCCAA CTACCGTCAA TGGTTGGGTA GTGACTATAT GCTGGGCAGC
 451  CTCAAACTAG ACCCAAACAA TTTACATAAA CGTTTGGGTG ATGGTTATTA
 501  CGAGCAACGT TTAATCAATG AACAAATCGC AGAGCTGACA GGGCATCGTC
 551  GTTTAGACGG TTATCAAAAC GACGAAGAAC AATTTAAAGC CTTAATGGAT
 601  AATGGCGCGA CTGCGGCACG TTCGATGAAT CTCAGCGTTG GCATTGCATT
 651  AAGTGCCGAG CAAGCAGCGC AACTGACCAG CGATATTGTT TGGTTGGTAC
 701  AAAAAGAAGT TAAACTTCCT GATGGCGGCA CACAAACCGT ATTGATGCCA
 751  CAGGTTTATG TACGCGTTAA AAATGGCGGC ATAGACGGTA AAGGTGCATT
 801  GTTGTCAGGC AGCAATACAC AAATCAATGT TTCAGGCAGC CTGAAAAACT
 851  CAGGCACGAT TGCAGGGCGC AATGCGCTTA TTATCAATAC CGATACGCTA
 901  GACAATATCG GTGGGCGTAT TCATGCGCAA AAATCAGCGG TTACGGCCAC
 951  ACAAGACATC AATAATATTG GCGGCATTCT TTCTGCCGAA CAGACATTAT
1001  TGCTCAATGC GGGTAACAAC ATCAACAACC AAAGCACGGC CAAGAGCAGT
1051  CAAAATGCAC AAGGTAGCAG CACCTACCTA GACCGAATGG CAGGTATTTA
1101  TATCACAGGC AAAGAAAAAG GTGTTTTAGC AGCGCAGGCA GGCAAAGACA
1151  TCAACATCAT TGCCGGTCAA ATCAGCAATC AATCAGATCA AGGGCAAACC
1201  CGGCTGCAGG CAGGACGCGA CATTAACCTG GATACGGTAC AAACCGGCAA
1251  ATATCAAGAA ATCCATTTTG ATGCCGATAA CCATACCATC CGAGGTTCAA
1301  CGAACGAAGT CGGCAGCAGC ATTCAAACAA AAGGCGATGT TACCCtatTG
1351  TCAGGGAATA ATCTCAATGC CAAAGCTGCC GAAGTCGGCA GCGCAAAAGG
1401  CACACTTGCC GTGTATGCTA AAAATGACAT TACTATCAGC TCAGGCATCC
1451  ATGCCGGCCA AGTTGATGAT GCGTCCAAAC ATACAGGCAG AAGCGGCGGC
1501  GGTAATAAAT TAGTCATTAC CGATAAAGCC CAAAGTCATC ACGAAACTGC
1551  TCAAAGCAGC ACCTTTGAAG GCAAGCAAGT TGTATTGCAG GCAGGAAACG
1601  ATGCCAACAT CCTTGGCAGT AATGTTATTT CCGATAATGG CACCCGGATT
1651  CAAGCAGGCA ATCATGTTCG CATTGGTACA ACCCAAACTC AAAGCCAAAG
1701  CGAAACCTAT CATCAAACCC AAAAATCAGG ATTGATGAGT GCAGGTATCG
1751  GCTTCACTAT TGGCAGCAAG ACAAACACAC AAGAAAACCA ATCCCAAAGC
1801  AACGAACATA CAGGCAGTAC CGTAGGCAGC CTGAAAGGCG ATACCACCAT
1851  TGTTGCAAGC AAACACTACG AACAAACCGG CAGCAACGTT TCCAGCCCTG
1901  AGGGCAACAA CCTTATCAGC ACGCAAAGTA TGGATATTGG CGCAGCACAA
1951  AACCAATTAA ACAGCAAAAC CACCCAAACC TACGAACAAA AAGGCTTAAC
2001  GGTGGCATTC AGTTCGCCCG TTACCGATTT GGCACAACAA GCGATTGCCG
2051  TAGCACACAA AGCAGCAAAC AAGTCGGACA AAGCAAAAAC GACCGCGTTA
2101  ATGCCATGGC GGCTGCCAAT GCAGGTTGGC AGGCCTATCA AACAGGCAAA
2151  GGCGCACAAA ACTTAG
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 516; ORF115ng-1>:

```
   1  LLVQTEKDGL HNEQTFGEKK VFSENGKLHN YWRARRKGHD ETGHREQNYT
  51  LPEEITRDIS LGSFAYESHS KALSRHAPSQ GTELPQSNRD NIRTAKSNGI
 101  SLPYTPNSFT PLPGSSLYII NPANKGYLVE TDPRFANYRQ WLGSDYMLGS
 151  LKLDPNNLHK RLGDGYYEQR LINEQIAELT GHRRLDGYQN DEEQFKALMD
 201  NGATAARSMN LSVGIALSAE QAAQLTSDIV WLVQKEVKLP DGGTQTVLMP
 251  QVYVRVKNGG IDGKGALLSG SNTQINVSGS LKNSGTIAGR NALIINTDTL
 301  DNIGGRIHAQ KSAVTATQDI NNIGGILSAE QTLLLNAGNN INNQSTAKSS
 351  QNAQGSSTYL DRMAGIYITG KEKGVLAAQA GKDINIIAGQ ISNQSDQGQT
 401  RLQAGRDINL DTVQTGKYQE IHFDADNHTI RGSTNEVGSS IQTKGDVTLL
 451  SGNNLNAKAA EVGSAKGTLA VYAKNDITIS SGIHAGQVDD ASKHTGRSGG
 501  GNKLVITDKA QSHHETAQSS TFEGKQVVLQ AGNDANILGS NVISDNGTRI
 551  QAGNHVRIGT TQTQSQSETY HQTQKSGLMS AGIGFTIGSK TNTQENQSQS
 601  NEHTGSTVGS LKGDTTIVAS KHYEQTGSNV SSPEGNNLIS TQSMDIGAAQ
 651  NQLNSKTTQT YEQKGLTVAF SSPVTDLAQQ AIAVAHKAAN KSDKAKTTAL
 701  MPWRLPMQVG RPIKQAKAHK T*
```

This gonococcal protein (ORF115ng-1) shows 91.9% identity with ORF115 over 334aa:

```
                    20        30        40        50        60        70
orf115ng-1.p NEQTFGEKKVFSENGKLHNYWRARRKGHDETGHREQNYTLPEEITRDISLGSFAYESHSK
                                            ||| ||||||:||||:|||||||||| |
orf115                                    STGHSEQNYTLPREITRNISLGSFAYESHRK
                                                  10        20        30

                    80        90       100       110       120       130
orf115ng-1.p ALSRHAPSQGTELPQSNRDNIRTAKSNGISLPYTPNSFTPLPGSSLYIINPANKGYLVET
             |||:|||||||||||||           |||||| |||||||:||||||||:||||||||
orf115       ALSHHAPSQGTELPQSN----------GISLPYTSNSFTPLPSSSLYIINPVNKGYLVET
                    40                  50        60        70        80
```

```
                    140       150       160       170       180       190
orf115ng-1.p DPRFANYRQWLGSDYMLGSLKLDPNNLHKRLGDGYYEQRLINEQIAELTGHRRLDGYQND
             ||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf115       DPRFANYRQWLGSDYMLDSLKLDPNNLHKRLGDGYYEQRLINEQIAELTGHRRLDGYQND
                     90       100       110       120       130       140

                    200       210       220       230       240       250
orf115ng-1.p EEQFKALMDNGATAARSMNLSVGIALSAEQAAQLTSDIVWLVQKEVKLPDGGTQTVLMPQ
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||
orf115       EEQFKALMDNGATAARSMNLSVGIALSAEQVAQLTSDIVWLVQKEVKLPDGGTQTVLVPQ
                    150       160       170       180       190       200

                    260       270       280       290       300       310
orf115ng-1.p VYVRVKNGGIDGKGALLSGSNTQINVSGSLKNSGTIAGRNALIINTDTLDNIGGRIHAQK
             |||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf115       VYVRVKNGDIDGKGALLSGSNTQINVSGSLKNSGTIAGRNALIINTDTLDNIGGRIHAQK
                    210       220       230       240       250       260

                    320       330       340       350       360       370
orf115ng-1.p SAVTATQDINNIGGILSAEQTLLLNAGNNINNQSTAKSSQNAQGSSTYLDRMAGIYITGK
             |||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||:|||: ||||:|||||||||||||||||||
orf115       SAVTATQDINNIGGMLSAEQTLLLNAGNNINSQSTTASSQNTQGSSTYLDRMAGIYITGK
                    270       280       290       300       310       320

                    380       390       400       410       420       430
orf115ng-1.p EKGVLAAQAGKDINIIAGQISNQSDQGQTRLQAGRDINLDTVQTGKYQEIHFDADNHTIR
             ||||
orf115       EKGV
```

In addition, it shows homology with a secreted *N.meningitidis* protein in the database:

```
gi|2623258 (AF030941) putative secreted protein [Neisseria meningitidis] Length
= 2273
 Score =  604 bits (1541), Expect = e-172
 Identities = 325/678 (47%), Positives = 449/678 (65%), Gaps = 22/678 (3%)

Query: 1    LLVQTEKDGLHNEQTFGEKKVFSENGKLHNYWRARRKGHDETGHREQNYTLPEEITRDIS 60
             L+V T +  L N++T G K + ++ G LH Y R  +KG D TG+     Y    E++  I
Sbjct: 739  LIVGTPESALDNDETLGTKTI-TDKGDLHRYHRHHKKGRDSTGYSRSPYEPAPEVS-SIR 796

Query: 61   LGSFAYESHSKALSRHAPSQGTELPQSNRDNIRTAKSNGISLPYTPNSFTPLPGSSLYII 120
             +G  AY+ +        AP Q +++P +     +      NGI    +T       LP SSL+ I
Sbjct: 797  MGISAYKGY--------APQQASDIPGTV---VPVVAENGIHPTFT------LPNSSLFAI 840

Query: 121  NPANKGYLVETDPRFANYRQWLGSDYMLGSLKLDPNNLHKRLGDGYYEQRLINEQIAELT 180
              P NKGYL+ETDP F +YR+WLGS YML +L+ DPN++HKRLGDGYYEQ+L+NEQIA+LT
Sbjct: 841  APNNKGYLIETDPAFTDYRKWLGSGYMLAALQQDPNHIHKRLGDGYYEQKLVNEQIAKLT 900

Query: 181  GHRRLDGYQNDEEQFKALMDNGATAARSMNLSVGIALSAEQAAQLTSDIVWLVQKEVKLP 240
             G+RRLDGY NDEEQFKALMDNG T A+ + L+ GIALSAEQ A+LTSDIVWL  + V LP
Sbjct: 901  GYRRLDGYTNDEEQFKALMDNGITIAKELQLTPGIALSAEQVARLTSDIVWLENETVTLP 960

Query: 241  DGGTQTVLMPQVYVRVKNGGIDGKGALLSGSNTQINVSGSLKN-SGTIAGRNALIINTDT 299
             DG TQTVL P+VYVR +    ++G+GALLSGS   I  SG+++N  G IAGR ALI+N
Sbjct: 961  DGTTQTVLKPKVYVRARPKDMNGQGALLSGSVVDIG-SGAIENRGGLIAGREALILNAQN 1019

Query: 300  LDNIGGRIHAQKSAVTATQDINNIGGILSAEQTLLLNAGNNINNQSTAKSSQNAQGSSTY 359
             + N+ G +  +     A  DI N G I  AE  LLL A NNI ++S  +S+QN QGS
Sbjct: 1020 IKNLQGDLQGKNIFAAAGSDITNTGSI-GAENALLLKASNNIESRSETRSNQNEQGSVRN 1078

Query: 360  LDRMAGIYITGKEKGVLAAQAGKDINIIAGQISNQSDQGQTRLQAGRDINLDTVQTGKYQ 419
             + R+AGIY+TG++ G +   AG +I + A +++NQS+ GQT L AG DI   DT    + Q
Sbjct: 1079 IGRVAGIYLTGRQNGSVLLDAGNNIVLTASELTNQSEDGQTVLNAGGDIRSDTTGISRNQ 1138

Query: 420  EIHFDADNHTIRGSTNEVGSSIQTKGDVTLLSGNNLNAKAAEVGSAKGTLAVYAKNDITI 479
               FD+DN+ IR   NEVGS+I+T+G+++L +  ++  +AAEVGS +G L + A  DI +
Sbjct: 1139 NTIFDSDNYVIRKEQNEVGSTIRTRGNLSLNAKGDIRIRAAEVGSEQGRLKLAAGRDIKV 1198

Query: 480  SSGIHAGQVDDASKHTGRSGGGNKLVITDKAQSHHETAQSSTFEGKQVVLQAGNDANILG 539
              +G    + +DA K+TGRSGGG K  +T   ++ +  A S T +GK+++L +G D  + G
Sbjct: 1199 EAGKAHTETEDALKYTGRSGGGIKQKMTRHLKNQNGQAVSGTLDGKEIILVSGRDITVTG 1258
```

```
Query: 540  SNVISDNGTRIQAGNHVRIGTTQTQSQSETYHQTQKSGLM-SAGIGFTIGSKTNTQENQS 598
            SN+I+DN T + A N++ +   +T+S+S   ++ +KSGLM S GIGFT GSK +TQ N+S
Sbjct: 1259 SNIIADNHTILSAKNNIVLKAAETRSRSAEMNKKEKSGLMGSGGIGFTAGSKKDTQTNRS 1318

Query: 599  QSNEHTGSTVGSLKGDTTIVASKHYEQTGSNVSSPEGNNLISTQSMDIGAAQNQLNSKTT 658
            ++  HT S VGSL G+T I A KHY QTGS +SSP+G+  IS+  + I AAQN+ + ++
Sbjct: 1319 ETVSHTESVVGSLNGNTLISAGKHYTQTGSTISSPQGDVGISSGKISIDAAQNRYSQESK 1378

Query: 659  QTYEQKGLTVAFSSPVTD 676
            Q YEQKG+TVA S PV +
Sbjct: 1379 QVYEQKGVTVAISVPVVN 1396
```

Based on this analysis, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 62

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 517>:

```
   1  ..TCAGGGAATA ACCTCAATGC CAAAGCTGCC GAAGTCAGCA GCGCAAACGG
  51    TACACTCGCT GTGTCTGCCA ATAATGACAT CAACATCAGC GCAGGCATCA
 101    ACACGACCCA TGTTGATGAT GCGTCCAAAC ACACAGGCAG AAGCGGTGGT
 151    GGCAATAAAT TAGTCATTAC CGATAAAGCC CAAAGTCATC ACGAAACCGC
 201    CCAAAGCAGC ACCTTTGAAG GCAAGCAAGT TGTATTGCAG GCAGGAAACG
 251    ATGCCAACAT CCTTGGCAGC AATGTTATTT CCGATAATGG CACCCAGATT
 301    CAAGCAGGCA ATCATGTTCG CATTGGTACA ACCCAAACTC AAAGCCAAAG
 351    CGAAACCTAT CATCAAACCC AGAAATCAGG ATTGATGAGT GCAGGTATCG
 401    GCTTCACTAT TGGCAGCAAG ACAAACACAC AAGAAAACCA ATCCCAAAGC
 451    AACGAACATA CAGGCAGTAC CGTAGGCAGC TTGAAAGGCG ATACCACCAT
 501    TGTTGCAGGC AAACACTACG AACAAATCGG CAGTACCGTT TCCAGCCCGG
 551    AAGGCAACAA TACCATCTAT GCCCAAAGCA TAGACATTCA AGCGGCACAC
 601    AACAAATTAA ACAGTAATAC CACCCAAACC TATGAACAAA AAGG.CTAAC
 651    GGTGGCATTC AGTTCGCCCG TTACCGATTT GGCACAACAA ...
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 518; ORF117>:

```
   1  ..SGNNLNAKAA EVSSANGTLA VSANNDINIS AGINTTHVDD ASKHTGRSGG
  51    GNKLVITDKA QSHHETAQSS TFEGKQVVLQ AGNDANILGS NVISDNGTQI
 101    QAGNHVRIGT TQTQSQSETY HQTQKSGLMS AGIGFTIGSK TNTQENQSQS
 151    NEHTGSTVGS LKGDTTIVAG KHYEQIGSTV SSPEGNNTIY AQSIDIQAAH
 201    NKLNSNTTQT YEQKXLTVAF SSPVTDLAQQ ...
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with the pspA putative secreted protein of *N.meningitidis* (accession number AF030941)

ORF117 and pspA protein show 45% aa identity in 224aa overlap:

```
Orf117:  4    NLNAKAAEVSSANGTLAVSANNDINISAGINTTHVDDASKHTGRSGGGNKLVITDKAQSH 63
              ++  +AAEV S  G L ++A  DI + AG   T  +DA K+TGRSGGG K  +T   ++
pspA:    1173 DIRIRAAEVGSEQGRLKLAAGRDIKVEAGKAHTETEDALKYTGRSGGGIKQKMTRHLKNQ 1232

Orf117:  64   HETAQSSTFEGKQVVLQAGNDANILGSNVISDNGTQIQAGNHVRIGTTQTQSQSETYHQT 123
              +  A S T +GK+++L +G D  + GSN+I+DN T + A N++ +   +T+S+S   ++
pspA:    1233 NGQAVSGTLDGKEIILVSGRDITVTGSNIIADNHTILSAKNNIVLKAAETRSRSAEMNKK 1292

Orf117:  124  QKSGLM-SAGIGFTIGSKTNTQENQSQSNEHTGSTVGSLKGDTTIVAGKHYEQIGSTVSS 182
              +KSGLM S GIGFT GSK +TQ N+S++  HT S VGSL G+T I AGKHY Q GST+SS
pspA:    1293 EKSGLMGSGGIGFTAGSKKDTQTNRSETVSHTESVVGSLNGNTLISAGKHYTQTGSTISS 1352

Orf117:  183  PEGNNTIYAQSIDIQAAHNKLNSNTTQTYEQKXLTVAFSSPVTD 226
              P+G+  I +  I I AA N+ +  + Q YEQK +TVA S PV +
pspA:    1353 PQGDVGISSGKISIDAAQNRYSQESKQVYEQKGVTVAISVPVVN 1396
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF117 shows 90% identity over a 230aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF117ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf117.pep                                  SGNNLNAKAAEVSSANGTLAVSANNDINIS   30
                                            ||||||||||||:||:|||||  |:|||:||
orf117ng     IHFDADNHTIRGSTNEVGSSIQTKGDVTLLSGNNLNAKAAEVGSAKGTLAVYAKNDITIS  480

orf117.pep   AGINTTHVDDASKHTGRSGGGNKLVITDKAQSHHETAQSSTFEGKQVVLQAGNDANILGS   90
             :|||: :||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf117ng     SGIHAGQVDDASKHTGRSGGGNKLVITDKAQSHHETAQSSTFEGKQVVLQAGNDANILGS  540

orf117.pep   NVISDNGTQIQAGNHVRIGTTQTQSQSETYHQTQKSGLMSAGIGFTIGSKTNTQENQSQS  150
             ||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf117ng     NVISDNGTRIQAGNHVRIGTTQTQSQSETYHQTQKSGLMSAGIGFTIGSKTNTQENQSQS  600

orf117.pep   NEHTGSTVGSLKGDTTIVAGKHYEQIGSTVSSPEGNNTIYAQSIDIQAAHNKLNSNTTQT  210
             ||||||||||||||||||:|||||  ||:|||||||  | :||:|| ||:|:|||:||||
orf117ng     NEHTGSTVGSLKGDTTIVASKHYEQTGSNVSSPEGNNLISTQSMDIGAAQNQLNSKTTQT  660

orf117.pep   YEQKXLTVAFSSPVTDLAQQ                                          230
             ||||  ||||||||||||||
orf117ng     YEQKGLTVAFSSPVTDLAQQAIAVAHKAAKQFDKAKTTALMPWRLPMQVGRLFKQAKAPK  720
```

An ORF117ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 519> was predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 520>:

```
   1  ..LLVQTEKDGL HNEQTFGEKK VFSENGKLHN YWRARRKGHD ETGHREQNYT
  51    LPEEITRDIS LGSFAYESHS KALSRHAPSQ GTELPQSNRD NIRTAKSNGI
 101    SLPYTPNSFT PLPGSSLYII NPANKGYLVE TDPRFANYRQ WLGSDYMLGS
 151    LKLDPNNLHK RLGDGYYEQR LINEQIAELT GHRRLDGYQN DEEQFKALMD
 201    NGATAARSMN LSVGIALSAE QAAQLTSDIV WLVQKEVKLP DGGTQTVLMP
 251    QVYVRVKNGG IDGKGALLSG SNTQINVSGS LKNSGTIAGR NALIINTDTL
 301    DNIGGRIHAQ KSAVTATQDI NNIGGILSAE QTLLLNAGNN INNQSTAKSS
 351    QNAQGSSTYL DRMAGIYITG KEKGVLAAQA GKDINIIAGQ ISNQSDQGQT
 401    RLQAGRDINL DTVQTGKYQE IHFDADNHTI RGSTNEVGSS IQTKGDVTLL
 451    SGNNLNAKAA EVGSAKGTLA VYAKNDITIS SGIHAGQVDD ASKHTGRSGG
 501    GNKLVITDKA QSHHETAQSS TFEGKQVVLQ AGNDANILGS NVISDNGTRI
 551    QAGNHVRIGT TQTQSQSETY HQTQKSGLMS AGIGFTIGSK TNTQENQSQS
 601    NEHTGSTVGS LKGDTTIVAS KHYEQTGSNV SSPEGNNLIS TQSMDIGAAQ
 651    NQLNSKTTQT YEQKGLTVAF SSPVTDLAQQ AIAVAHKAAK QFDKAKTTAL
 701    MPWRLPMQVG RLFKQAKAPK K*
```

Further work revealed the following gonococcal partial DNA sequence <SEQ ID 521>:

```
   1  TTGCTTGTGC AAACAGAAAA AGACGGTTTG CATAACGAGC AAACCTTTGG
  51  CGAGAAGAAA GTCTTCAGCG AAAATGGTAA GTTGCACAAC TACTGGCGTG
 101  CGCGTCGTAA AGGACATGAT GAAACAGGGC ATCGTGAACA AAATTATACT
 151  TTGCCGGAGG AAATCACACG CGACATTTCA CTGGGTTCAT TTGCCTATGA
 201  ATCGCATAGC AAAGCATTAA GCCGTCATGC GCCCAGCCAA GGCACTGAGT
 251  TGCCACAAAG TAACCGGGAT AATATCCGTA CTGCGAAAAG CAACGGTATT
 301  TCGCTACCCT ATACGCCCAA TTCTTTTACC CCATTACCCG GCAGCAGCTT
 351  ATACATTATC AATCCTGCCA ATAAAGGCTA TCTTGTTGAA ACCGATCCAC
 401  GCTTTGCCAA CTACCGTCAA TGGTTGGGTA GTGACTATAT GCTGGGCAGC
 451  CTCAAACTAG ACCCAAACAA TTTACATAAA CGTTTGGGTG ATGGTTATTA
 501  CGAGCAACGT TTAATCAATG AACAAATCGC AGAGCTGACA GGGCATCGTC
 551  GTTTAGACGG TTATCAAAAC GACGAAGAAC AATTTAAAGC CTTAATGGAT
 601  AATGGCGCGA CTGCGGCACG TTCGATGAAT CTCAGCGTTG GCATTGCATT
 651  AAGTGCCGAG CAAGCAGCGC AACTGACCAG CGATATTGTT TGGTTGGTAC
 701  AAAAAGAAGT TAAACTTCCT GATGGCGGCA CACAAACCGT ATTGATGCCA
 751  CAGGTTTATG TACGCGTTAA AAATGGCGGC ATAGACGGTA AAGGTGCATT
 801  GTTGTCAGGC AGCAATACAC AAATCAATGT TTCAGGCAGC CTGAAAAACT
 851  CAGGCACGAT TGCAGGGCGC AATGCGCTTA TTATCAATAC CGATACGCTA
 901  GACAATATCG GTGGGCGTAT TCATGCGCAA AAATCAGCGG TTACGGCCAC
 951  ACAAGACATC AATAATATTG GCGGCATTCT TTCTGCCGAA CAGACATTAT
1001  TGCTCAATGC GGGTAACAAC ATCAACAACC AAAGCACGGC CAAGAGCAGT
1051  CAAAATGCAC AAGGTAGCAG CACCTACCTA GACCGAATGG CAGGTATTTA
```

```
1101  TATCACAGGC AAAGAAAAAG GTGTTTTAGC AGCGCAGGCA GGCAAAGACA
1151  TCAACATCAT TGCCGGTCAA ATCAGCAATC AATCAGATCA AGGGCAAACC
1201  CGGCTGCAGG CAGGACGCGA CATTAACCTG GATACGGTAC AAACCGGCAA
1251  ATATCAAGAA ATCCATTTTG ATGCCGATAA CCATACCATC CGAGGTTCAA
1301  CGAACGAAGT CGGCAGCAGC ATTCAAACAA AAGGCGATGT TACCCtatTG
1351  TCAGGGAATA ATCTCAATGC CAAAGCTGCC GAAGTCGGCA GCGCAAAAGG
1401  CACACTTGCC GTGTATGCTA AAAATGACAT TACTATCAGC TCAGGCATCC
1451  ATGCCGGCCA AGTTGATGAT GCGTCCAAAC ATACAGGCAG AAGCGGCGGC
1501  GGTAATAAAT TAGTCATTAC CGATAAAGCC CAAAGTCATC ACGAAACTGC
1551  TCAAAGCAGC ACCTTTGAAG GCAAGCAAGT TGTATTGCAG GCAGGAAACG
1601  ATGCCAACAT CCTTGGCAGT AATGTTATTT CCGATAATGG CACCCGGATT
1651  CAAGCAGGCA ATCATGTTCG CATTGGTACA ACCCAAACTC AAAGCCAAAG
1701  CGAAACCTAT CATCAAACCC AAAAATCAGG ATTGATGAGT GCAGGTATCG
1751  GCTTCACTAT TGGCAGCAAG ACAAACACAC AAGAAAACCA ATCCCAAAGC
1801  AACGAACATA CAGGCAGTAC CGTAGGCAGC CTGAAAGGCG ATACCACCAT
1851  TGTTGCAAGC AAACACTACG AACAAACCGG CAGCAACGTT TCCAGCCCTG
1901  AGGGCAACAA CCTTATCAGC ACGCAAAGTA TGGATATTGG CGCAGCACAA
1951  AACCAATTAA ACAGCAAAAC CACCCAAACC TACGAACAAA AAGGCTTAAC
2001  GGTGGCATTC AGTTCGCCCG TTACCGATTT GGCACAACAA GCGATTGCCG
2051  TAGCACACAA AGCAGCAAAC AAGTCGGACA AAGCAAAAAC GACCGCGTTA
2101  ATGCCATGGC GGCTGCCAAT GCAGGTTGGC AGGCCTATCA AACAGGCAAA
2151  GGCGCACAAA ACTTAG
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 522; ORF117ng-1>:

```
   1  LLVQTEKDGL HNEQTFGEKK VFSENGKLHN YWRARRKGHD ETGHREQNYT
  51  LPEEITRDIS LGSFAYESHS KALSRHAPSQ GTELPQSNRD NIRTAKSNGI
 101  SLPYTPNSFT PLPGSSLYII NPANKGYLVE TDPRFANYRQ WLGSDYMLGS
 151  LKLDPNNLHK RLGDGYYEQR LINEQIAELT GHRRLDGYQN DEEQFKALMD
 201  NGATAARSMN LSVGIALSAE QAAQLTSDIV WLVQKEVKLP DGGTQTVLMP
 251  QVYVRVKNGG IDGKGALLSG SNTQINVSGS LKNSGTIAGR NALIINTDTL
 301  DNIGGRIHAQ KSAVTATQDI NNIGGILSAE QTLLLNAGNN INNQSTAKSS
 351  QNAQGSSTYL DRMAGIYITG KEKGVLAAQA GKDINIIAGQ ISNQSDQGQT
 401  RLQAGRDINL DTVQTGKYQE IHFDADNHTI RGSTNEVGSS IQTKGDVTLL
 451  SGNNLNAKAA EVGSAKGTLA VYAKNDITIS SGIHAGQVDD ASKHTGRSGG
 501  GNKLVITDKA QSHHETAQSS TFEGKQVVLQ AGNDANILGS NVISDNGTRI
 551  QAGNHVRIGT TQTQSQSETY HQTQKSGLMS AGIGFTIGSK TNTQENQSQS
 601  NEHTGSTVGS LKGDTTIVAS KHYEQTGSNV SSPEGNNLIS TQSMDIGAAQ
 651  NQLNSKTTQT YEQKGLTVAF SSPVTDLAQQ AIAVAHKAAN KSDKAKTTAL
 701  MPWRLPMQVG RPIKQAKAHK T*
```

ORF117ng-1 shows the same 90% identity over a 230aa overlap with ORF117. In addition, it shows homology with a secreted *N.meningitidis* protein in the database:

```
gi|2623258 (AF030941) putative secreted protein [Neisseria meningitidis]Length =
2273
 Score =  604 bits (1541), Expect = e-172
 Identities = 325/678 (47%), Positives = 449/678 (65%), Gaps = 22/678 (3%)

Query: 1    LLVQTEKDGLHNEQTFGEKKVFSENGKLHNYWRARRKGHDETGHREQNYTLPEEITRDIS 60
             L+V T +  L N++T G K + ++ G LH Y R  +KG D TG+    Y    E++  I
Sbjct: 739  LIVGTPESALDNDETLGTKTI-TDKGDLHRYHRHHKKGRDSTGYSRSPYEPAPEVS-SIR 796

Query: 61   LGSFAYESHSKALSRHAPSQGTELPQSNRDNIRTAKSNGISLPYTPNSFTPLPGSSLYII 120
             +G  AY+ +        AP Q +++P +     +     NGI    +T      LP SSL+ I
Sbjct: 797  MGISAYKGY-------APQQASDIPGTV---VPVVAENGIHPTFT------LPNSSLFAI 840

Query: 121  NPANKGYLVETDPRFANYRQWLGSDYMLGSLKLDPNNLHKRLGDGYYEQRLINEQIAELT 180
              P NKGYL+ETDP F +YR+WLGS YML +L+ DPN++HKRLGDGYYEQ+L+NEQIA+LT
Sbjct: 841  APNNKGYLIETDPAFTDYRKWLGSGYMLAALQQDPNHIHKRLGDGYYEQKLVNEQIAKLT 900

Query: 181  GHRRLDGYQNDEEQFKALMDNGATAARSMNLSVGIALSAEQAAQLTSDIVWLVQKEVKLP 240
             G+RRLDGY NDEEQFKALMDNG T A+ + L+ GIALSAEQ A+LTSDIVWL  + V LP
Sbjct: 901  GYRRLDGYTNDEEQFKALMDNGITIAKELQLTPGIALSAEQVARLTSDIVWLENETVTLP 960

Query: 241  DGGTQTVLMPQVYVRVKNGGIDGKGALLSGSNTQINVSGSLKN-SGTIAGRNALIINTDT 299
             DG TQTVL P+VYVR +   ++G+GALLSGS   I  SG+++N  G IAGR ALI+N
Sbjct: 961  DGTTQTVLKPKVYVRARPKDMNGQGALLSGSVVDIG-SGAIENRGGLIAGREALILNAQN 1019

Query: 300  LDNIGGRIHAQKSAVTATQDINNIGGILSAEQTLLLNAGNNINNQSTAKSSQNAQGSSTY 359
```

```
            + N+ G +  +     A  DI N G I  AE  LLL A NNI ++S  +S+QN QGS
Sbjct: 1020 IKNLQGDLQGKNIFAAAGSDITNTGSI-GAENALLLKASNNIESRSETRSNQNEQGSVRN 1078

Query: 360  LDRMAGIYITGKEKGVLAAQAGKDINIIAGQISNQSDQGQTRLQAGRDINLDTVQTGKYQ 419
            + R+AGIY+TG++ G +   AG +I + A +++NQS+ GQT L AG DI  DT    + Q
Sbjct: 1079 IGRVAGIYLTGRQNGSVLLDAGNNIVLTASELTNQSEDGQTVLNAGGDIRSDTTGISRNQ 1138

Query: 420  EIHFDADNHTIRGSTNEVGSSIQTKGDVTLLSGNNLNAKAAEVGSAKGTLAVYAKNDITI 479
               FD+DN+ IR   NEVGS+I+T+G+++L +  ++  +AAEVGS +G L + A  DI +
Sbjct: 1139 NTIFDSDNYVIRKEQNEVGSTIRTRGNLSLNAKGDIRIRAAEVGSEQGRLKLAAGRDIKV 1198

Query: 480  SSGIHAGQVDDASKHTGRSGGGNKLVITDKAQSHHETAQSSTFEGKQVVLQAGNDANILG 539
             +G    + +DA K+TGRSGGG K  +T   ++ +  A S T +GK+++L +G D  + G
Sbjct: 1199 EAGKAHTETEDALKYTGRSGGGIKQKMTRHLKNQNGQAVSGTLDGKEIILVSGRDITVTG 1258

Query: 540  SNVISDNGTRIQAGNHVRIGTTQTQSQSETYHQTQKSGLM-SAGIGFTIGSKTNTQENQS 598
            SN+I+DN T + A N++ +   +T+S+S   ++ +KSGLM S GIGFT GSK +TQ N+S
Sbjct: 1259 SNIIADNHTILSAKNNIVLKAAETRSRSAEMNKKEKSGLMGSGGIGFTAGSKKDTQTNRS 1318

Query: 599  QSNEHTGSTVGSLKGDTTIVASKHYEQTGSNVSSPEGNNLISTQSMDIGAAQNQLNSKTT 658
            ++  HT S VGSL G+T I A KHY QTGS +SSP+G+  IS+  + I AAQN+ + ++
Sbjct: 1319 ETVSHTESVVGSLNGNTLISAGKHYTQTGSTISSPQGDVGISSGKISIDAAQNRYSQESK 1378

Query: 659  QTYEQKGLTVAFSSPVTD 676
            Q YEQKG+TVA S PV +
Sbjct: 1379 QVYEQKGVTVAISVPVVN 1396
```

Based on this analysis, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 63

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 523>:

```
   1  ATGATTTACA TCGTACTGTT TCTAGCTGTC GTCCTCGCCG TTGTCGCCTA
  51  CAACATGTAT CAGGAAAACC AATACCGCAA AAAAGTGCGC GACCAGTTCG
 101  GACACTCCGA CAAAGATGCC CTGCTCAACA GCAwAACCAG CCATGTCCGC
 151  GACGGCAAAC CGTCCGGCGG GTCAGTCATG ATGCCGAAAC CCCAACCGGC
 201  GGTCAAAAAA ACGGCAAAAC CCCAAGACCC CGyCATGCGC AACCTGCAAG
 251  AACAGGATGC CGTCTACATC GCCAAGCAGA AACAGGCAAA AGCCTCCCCG
 301  TTCAAAACCG AAATCGAAAC CGCCTTGGAA GAAAGCGGCA TTATCGGCAA
 351  CTCCGCCCAC ACCGTTTCCG AACCCCAAAC CGGACATTCC GCAACGAAAC
 401  CTGCCGACGC GTCGGCAAAA CCTGCACCCG TTCCGCAAAC ACCTGCAAAA
 451  CCGCTGATTA CGCTCAAAGA ACTGTCAAAA GTCGAATTAT CCTGGTTTGA
 501  CGTGCGCATC GACTTCATCT CCTAT...
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 524; ORF119>:

```
   1  MIYIVLFLAV VLAVVAYNMY QENQYRKKVR DQFGHSDKDA LLNSXTSHVR
  51  DGKPSGGSVM MPKPQPAVKK TAKPQDPXMR NLQEQDAVYI AKQKQAKASP
 101  FKTEIETALE ESGIIGNSAH TVSEPQTGHS ATKPADASAK PAPVPQTPAK
 151  PLITLKELSK VELSWFDVRI DFISY...
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 525>:

```
   1  ATGATTTACA TCGTACTGTT TCTAGCTGTC GTCCTCGCCG TTGTCGCCTA
  51  CAACATGTAT CAGGAAAACC AATACCGCAA AAAAGTGCGC GACCAGTTCG
 101  GACACTCCGA CAAAGATGCC CTGCTCAACA GCAAAACCAG CCATGTCCGC
 151  GACGGCAAAC CGTCCGGCGG GTCAGTCATG ATGCCGAAAC CCCAACCGGC
 201  GGTCAAAAAA ACGGCAAAAC CCCAAGACCC CGCCATGCGC AACCTGCAAG
 251  AACAGGATGC CGTCTACATC GCCAAGCAGA AACAGGCAAA AGCCTCCCCG
 301  TTCAAAACCG AAATCGAAAC CGCCTTGGAA GAAAGCGGCA TTATCGGCAA
 351  CTCCGCCCAC ACCGTTTCCG AACCCCAAAC CGGACATTCC GCACCGAAAC
 401  CTGCCGACGC GCCGGCAAAA CCTGCACCCG TTCCGCAAAC ACCTGCAAAA
 451  CCGCTGATTA CGCTCAAAGA ACTGTCAAAA GTCGAATTAC CCTGGTTTGA
 501  CGTGCGCTTC GACTTCATCT CCTATATCGC GCTGACCGAA GCCAAAGAAC
 551  TGCACGCACT GCCGCGCCTT TCCAACCGCT GCCGCTACCA GATTGTCGGC
 601  TGCACCATGG ACGACCATTT CCAGATTGCC GAACCCATCC CGGGCATCCG
```

```
 651  CTATCAGGCA TTTATCGTGG GTATTCAGGC AGTCAGCCGC AACGGACTTG
 701  CCTCGCAGGA AGAACTCTCC GCATTCAACC GCCAGGTGGA CGCATTCGCA
 751  CAAAGCATGG GCGGTCAGAC GCTGCACACC GACCTTGCCG CCTTTATCGA
 801  AGTGGCTTCC GCACTGGACG CATTCTGCGC GCGCGTCGAC CAGACCATCG
 851  CCATCCATTT GGTTTCCCCG ACCAGCATCA GCGGCGTAGA ACTGCGTTCC
 901  GCCGTAACGG GCGTGGGTTT CGTTTTGGAA GACGACGGCG CGTTCCACTA
 951  TACCGACACG TCGGGCTCGA CCATGTTCTC CATCTGCTCG CTCAACAACG
1001  AGCCGTTTAC CAACGCCCTT TTGGACAACC AGTCCTACAA AGGCTTCAGT
1051  ATGCTGCTCG ACATCCCGCA CTCTCCGGCA GGCGAAAAAA CCTTCGACGA
1101  TTTGTTTATG GATTTGGCGG TACGCCTGTC CGGCCAGTTG AACCTGAATC
1151  TGGTCAACGA CAAAATGGAA GAAGTTTCGA CCCAATGGCT CAAAGACGTG
1201  CGCACTTATG TATTGGCGCG TCAGTCCGAG ATGCTCAAAG TCGGTATCGA
1251  ACCGGGCGGC AAAACCGCAT TGCGCCTGTT CTCCTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 526; ORF119-1>:

```
   1  MIYIVLFLAV VLAVVAYNMY QENQYRKKVR DQFGHSDKDA LLNSKTSHVR
  51  DGKPSGGSVM MPKPQPAVKK TAKPQDPAMR NLQEQDAVYI AKQKQAKASP
 101  FKTEIETALE ESGIIGNSAH TVSEPQTGHS APKPADAPAK PAPVPQTPAK
 151  PLITLKELSK VELPWFDVRF DFISYIALTE AKELHALPRL SNRCRYQIVG
 201  CTMDDHFQIA EPIPGIRYQA FIVGIQAVSR NGLASQEELS AFNRQVDAFA
 251  QSMGGQTLHT DLAAFIEVAS ALDAFCARVD QTIAIHLVSP TSISGVELRS
 301  AVTGVGFVLE DDGAFHYTDT SGSTMFSICS LNNEPFTNAL LDNQSYKGFS
 351  MLLDIPHSPA GEKTFDDLFM DLAVRLSGQL NLNLVNDKME EVSTQWLKDV
 401  RTYVLARQSE MLKVGIEPGG KTALRLFS*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF119 shows 93.7% identity over a 175aa overlap with an ORF (ORF119a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf119.pep      MIYIVLFLAVVLAVVAYNMYQENQYRKKVRDQFGHSDKDALLNSXTSHVRDGKPSGGSVM
                ||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||| ||
orf119a         MIYIVLFLAAVLAVVAYNMYQENQYRKKVRDQFGHSDKDALLNSKTSHVRDGKPSGGPVM
                        10        20        30        40        50        60

                        70        80        90       100       110       120
orf119.pep      MPKPQPAVKKTAKPQDPXMRNLQEQDAVYIAKQKQAKASPFKTEIETALEESGIIGNSAH
                |||||||||||| ||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf119a         MPKPQPAVKKTAKSQDPAMRNLQEQDAVYIAKQKQAKASPFKTEIETALEESGIIGNSAH
                        70        80        90       100       110       120

                       130       140       150       160       170
orf119.pep      TVSEPQTGHSATKPADASAKPAPVPQTPAKPLITLKELSKVELSWFDVRIDFISY
                || |||||||| ||||| |||:|||||||||||||||||| ||||||:|||||
orf119a         TVPEPQTGHSAPKPADAPAKPVPVPQTPAKPLITLKELSKVELPWFDVRFDFISYIALTE
                       130       140       150       160       170       180

orf119a         AKELHALPRLSNRCRYQIVGCTMDDHFQIAEPIPGIRYQAFIVGIQAVSRNGLASQEELS
                       190       200       210       220       230       240
```

The complete length ORF119a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 527> is:

```
   1  ATGATTTACA TCGTACTGTT CCTCGCCGCC GTCCTCGCCG TTGTCGCCTA
  51  CAATATGTAT CAGGAAAACC AATACCGCAA AAAAGTGCGC GACCAGTTCG
 101  GGCACTCCGA CAAAGATGCC CTGCTCAACA GCAAAACCAG CCATGTCCGC
 151  GACGGCAAAC CGTCCGGCGG GCCAGTCATG ATGCCGAAAC CCCAACCGGC
 201  GGTCAAAAAA ACGGCAAAAT CCCAAGACCC CGCCATGCGC AACCTGCAAG
 251  AGCAGGATGC CGTCTACATC GCCAAGCAGA AACAGGCAAA AGCCTCCCCG
 301  TTCAAAACCG AAATCGAAAC CGCCTTGGAA GAAAGCGGCA TTATCGGCAA
 351  CTCCGCCCAC ACCGTTCCCG AACCCCAAAC CGGACATTCC GCACCAAAAC
 401  CTGCCGACGC GCCGGCAAAA CCTGTTCCCG TTCCGCAAAC GCCGGCAAAA
 451  CCGCTGATTA CGCTCAAAGA GCTGTCGAAG GTCGAGCTGC CCTGGTTTGA
 501  CGTGCGCTTC GACTTCATCT CTTATATCGC GCTGACCGAA GCCAAAGAAC
 551  TGCACGCACT GCCGCGCCTT TCCAACCGCT GCCGCTACCA GATTGTCGGC
 601  TGCACCATGG ACGACCATTT CCAGATTGCC GAACCCATCC CGGGCATCCG
```

```
651  CTATCAGGCA TTTATCGTGG GTATTCAGGC AGTCAGCCGC AACGGACTTG
701  CCTCGCAGGA AGAACTCTCC GCATTCAACC GCCAGGTGGA TGCATTCGCA
751  CACAGCATGG GCGGTCAGAC GCTGCACACC GACCTTGCCG CCTTTATCGA
801  AGTGGCTTCC GCACTGGACG CATTCTGCGC GCGCGTCGAC CAGACTATCG
851  CCATCCATTT GGTTTCCCCG ACCAGCATCA GCGGCGTAGA ACTGCGTTCC
901  GCCGTAACGG GCGTGGGTTT CGTTTTGGAA GACGACGGCG CGTTCCACTA
951  TACCGACACG TCGGGCTCGA CCATGTTCTC CATCTGCTCG CTCAACAACG
1001 AGCCGTTTAC CAATGCCCTT TTGGACAACC AGTCCTATAA AGGCTTCAGT
1051 ATGCTGCTCG ACATCCCGCA CTCTCCGGCA GGCGAAAAAA CCTTCGACGA
1101 TTTGTTTATG GATTTGGCGG TACGCCTGTC CGGCCAGTTG AACCTGAATC
1151 TGGTCAACGA CAAAATGGAA GAAGTTTCGA CCCAATGGCT CAAAGACGTG
1201 CGCACTTATG TATTGGCTCG TCAGTCCGAG ATGCTCAAAG TCGGTATCGA
1251 ACCGGGCGGC AAAACCGCAT TGCGCCTGTT CTCCTAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 528>:

```
1   MIYIVLFLAA VLAVVAYNMY QENQYRKKVR DQFGHSDKDA LLNSKTSHVR
51  DGKPSGGPVM MPKPQPAVKK TAKSQDPAMR NLQEQDAVYI AKQKQAKASP
101 FKTEIETALE ESGIIGNSAH TVPEPQTGHS APKPADAPAK PVPVPQTPAK
151 PLITLKELSK VELPWFDVRF DFISYIALTE AKELHALPRL SNRCRYQIVG
201 CTMDDHFQIA EPIPGIRYQA FIVGIQAVSR NGLASQEELS AFNRQVDAFA
251 HSMGGQTLHT DLAAFIEVAS ALDAFCARVD QTIAIHLVSP TSISGVELRS
301 AVTGVGFVLE DDGAFHYTDT SGSTMFSICS LNNEPFTNAL LDNQSYKGFS
351 MLLDIPHSPA GEKTFDDLFM DLAVRLSGQL NLNLVNDKME EVSTQWLKDV
401 RTYVLARQSE MLKVGIEPGG KTALRLFS*
```

ORF119a and ORF119-1 show 98.6% identity in 428 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf119a.pep     MIYIVLFLAAVLAVVAYNMYQENQYRKKVRDQFGHSDKDALLNSKTSHVRDGKPSGGPVM
                ||||||||| :|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||
orf119-1        MIYIVLFLAVVLAVVAYNMYQENQYRKKVRDQFGHSDKDALLNSKTSHVRDGKPSGGSVM
                        10        20        30        40        50        60

                        70        80        90       100       110       120
orf119a.pep     MPKPQPAVKKTAKSQDPAMRNLQEQDAVYIAKQKQAKASPFKTEIETALEESGIIGNSAH
                |||||||||||||  ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf119-1        MPKPQPAVKKTAKPQDPAMRNLQEQDAVYIAKQKQAKASPFKTEIETALEESGIIGNSAH
                        70        80        90       100       110       120

                       130       140       150       160       170       180
orf119a.pep     TVPEPQTGHSAPKPADAPAKPVPVPQTPAKPLITLKELSKVELPWFDVRFDFISYIALTE
                || |||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf119-1        TVSEPQTGHSAPKPADAPAKPAPVPQTPAKPLITLKELSKVELPWFDVRFDFISYIALTE
                       130       140       150       160       170       180

                       190       200       210       220       230       240
orf119a.pep     AKELHALPRLSNRCRYQIVGCTMDDHFQIAEPIPGIRYQAFIVGIQAVSRNGLASQEELS
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf119-1        AKELHALPRLSNRCRYQIVGCTMDDHFQIAEPIPGIRYQAFIVGIQAVSRNGLASQEELS
                       190       200       210       220       230       240

                       250       260       270       280       290       300
orf119a.pep     AFNRQVDAFAHSMGGQTLHTDLAAFIEVASALDAFCARVDQTIAIHLVSPTSISGVELRS
                |||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf119-1        AFNRQVDAFAQSMGGQTLHTDLAAFIEVASALDAFCARVDQTIAIHLVSPTSISGVELRS
                       250       260       270       280       290       300

                       310       320       330       340       350       360
orf119a.pep     AVTGVGFVLEDDGAFHYTDTSGSTMFSICSLNNEPFTNALLDNQSYKGFSMLLDIPHSPA
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf119-1        AVTGVGFVLEDDGAFHYTDTSGSTMFSICSLNNEPFTNALLDNQSYKGFSMLLDIPHSPA
                       310       320       330       340       350       360

                       370       380       390       400       410       420
orf119a.pep     GEKTFDDLFMDLAVRLSGQLNLNLVNDKMEEVSTQWLKDVRTYVLARQSEMLKVGIEPGG
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf119-1        GEKTFDDLFMDLAVRLSGQLNLNLVNDKMEEVSTQWLKDVRTYVLARQSEMLKVGIEPGG
                       370       380       390       400       410       420
```

```
orf119a.pep    KTALRLFSX
               |||||||||
orf119-1       KTALRLFSX
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF119 shows 93.1% identity over a 175aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF119ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf119.pep    MIYIVLFLAVVLAVVAYNMYQENQYRKKVRDQFGHSDKDALLNSXTSHVRDGKPSGGSVM   60
              |||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||| ||
orf119ng      MIYIVLFLAAVLAVVAYNMYQENQYRKKVRDQFGHSDKDALLNSKTSHVRDGKPSGGPVM   60

orf119.pep    MPKPQPAVKKTAKPQDPXMRNLQEQDAVYIAKQKQAKASPFKTEIETALEESGIIGNSAH  120
              |||||||||| ||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||
orf119ng      MPKPQPAVKKPAKPQDSAMRNLQEQDAVYIAKQKQAKASPFKTEIETALEEIGIIGNSAH  120

orf119.pep    TVSEPQTGHSATKPADASAKPAPVPQTPAKPLITLKELSKVELSWFDVRIDFISY       175
              |||||||||||| ||||| |||:|||||||||||||||||||| |||||:|||||
orf119ng      TVSEPQTGHSAPKPADAPAKPVPVPQTPAKPLITLKELSKVELPWFDVRFDFISYIALTE  180
```

The complete length ORF119ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 529> is:

```
   1  ATGATTTACA TCGTACTGTT CCTCGCCGCC GTCCTCGCCG TTGTCGCCTA
  51  CAATATGTAT CAGGAAAACC AATACCGCAA AAAAGTGCGC GACCAGTTCG
 101  GACACTCCGA CAAAGATGCC CTGCTCAACA GCAAAACCAG CCATGTCCGC
 151  GACGGCAAAC CGTCCGGCGG GCCAGTCATG ATGCCGAAAC CCCAACCGGC
 201  GGTCAAAAAA CCGGCCAAAC CCCAAGACTC CGCCATGCGC AACCTGCAAG
 251  AACAGGATGC CGTCTACATC GCCAAGCAGA AACAGGCAAA AGCCTCCCCG
 301  TTCAAAACCG AAATCGAAAC CGCCTTGGAA GAAATCGGCA TTATCGGCAA
 351  CTCCGCCCAC ACCGTTTCCG AACCCCAAAC CGGACATTCC GCACCGAAAC
 401  CTGCCGACGC GCCGGCAAAA CCCGTTCCCG TTCCGCAAAC GCCGGCAAAA
 451  CCGCTGATTA CGCTCAAAGA GCTGTCGAAG GTCGAGCTGC CCTGGTTTGA
 501  CGTGCGCTtc gACTTCATCT CCTATATCGC GCTGACCGAA GCCAAAGAAC
 551  TGCACGCACT GCCGCGCCTT tccAACCGCT GCCGCTACCA GATTGTCGGC
 601  TGCACCATGG ACGACCATTT CCAGATTGCC GAACCCATCC CGGGCATCCG
 651  CTATCAGGCA TTTATCGTGG GTATCCAGGC AGTCAGCCGC AACGGACTTG
 701  CCTCGCAGGA AGAACTCTCC GCATTCAACC GCCAGGCGGA CGCATTCGCA
 751  CAAAGCATGG GCGGTCAGAC GCTGCACACC GACCTTGCCG CCTTTATCGA
 801  AGTGGCTTCC GCACTGGACG CATTCTGCGC GCGCGTCGAC CAGACCATCG
 851  CCATCCATTT GGTTTCGCCG ACCAGCATCA GCGGCGTAGA ACTGCGTTCC
 901  GCCGTAACGG GCGTGGGTTT CGTTTTGGAA GACGACGGCG CGTTCCACTA
 951  TACCGACACG TCGGGCTCGA CCATGTTCTC CATCTGCTCG CTCAACAACG
1001  AGCCGTTTAC CAATGCCCTT TTGGACAACC AGTCCTACAA AGGCTTCAGT
1051  ATGCTGCTCG ACATCCCGCA CTCTCCGGCA GGCGAAAAAA CCTTCGACGA
1101  TTTGTTTATG GATTTGGCGG TACGCCTGTC CGGTCAGTTG AACCTGAATC
1151  TGGTCAACGA CAAAATGGAA GAAGTTTCGA CCCAATGGCT CAAAGACGTA
1201  CGCACTTATG TATTGGCGCG TCAGTCCGAG ATGCTCAAAG TCGGTATCGA
1251  ACCGGGCGGC AAAACCGCCC TGCGCCTGTT TTCATAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 530>:

```
   1  MIYIVLFLAA VLAVVAYNMY QENQYRKKVR DQFGHSDKDA LLNSKTSHVR
  51  DGKPSGGPVM MPKPQPAVKK PAKPQDSAMR NLQEQDAVYI AKQKQAKASP
 101  FKTEIETALE EIGIIGNSAH TVSEPQTGHS APKPADAPAK PVPVPQTPAK
 151  PLITLKELSK VELPWFDVRF DFISYIALTE AKELHALPRL SNRCRYQIVG
 201  CTMDDHFQIA EPIPGIRYQA FIVGIQAVSR NGLASQEELS AFNRQADAFA
 251  QSMGGQTLHT DLAAFIEVAS ALDAFCARVD QTIAIHLVSP TSISGVELRS
 301  AVTGVGFVLE DDGAFHYTDT SGSTMFSICS LNNEPFTNAL LDNQSYKGFS
 351  MLLDIPHSPA GEKTFDDLFM DLAVRLSGQL NLNLVNDKME EVSTQWLKDV
 401  RTYVLARQSE MLKVGIEPGG KTALRLFS*
```

ORF119ng and ORF119-1 show 98.4% identity over 428 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf119ng      MIYIVLFLAAVLAVVAYNMYQENQYRKKVRDQFGHSDKDALLNSKTSHVRDGKPSGGPVM
              |||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||
orf119-1      MIYIVLFLAVVLAVVAYNMYQENQYRKKVRDQFGHSDKDALLNSKTSHVRDGKPSGGSVM
                10        20        30        40        50        60
```

```
                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf119ng     MPKPQPAVKKPAKPQDSAMRNLQEQDAVYIAKQKQAKASPFKTEIETALEEIGIIGNSAH
             |||||||||| ||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||
orf119-1     MPKPQPAVKKTAKPQDPAMRNLQEQDAVYIAKQKQAKASPFKTEIETALEESGIIGNSAH
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf119ng     TVSEPQTGHSAPKPADAPAKPVPVPQTPAKPLITLKELSKVELPWFDVRFDFISYIALTE
             |||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf119-1     TVSEPQTGHSAPKPADAPAKPAPVPQTPAKPLITLKELSKVELPWFDVRFDFISYIALTE
                   130       140       150       160       170       180

                   190       200       210       220       230       240
orf119ng     AKELHALPRLSNRCRYQIVGCTMDDHFQIAEPIPGIRYQAFIVGIQAVSRNGLASQEELS
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf119-1     AKELHALPRLSNRCRYQIVGCTMDDHFQIAEPIPGIRYQAFIVGIQAVSRNGLASQEELS
                   190       200       210       220       230       240

                   250       260       270       280       290       300
orf119ng     AFNRQADAFAQSMGGQTLHTDLAAFIEVASALDAFCARVDQTIAIHLVSPTSISGVELRS
             |||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf119-1     AFNRQVDAFAQSMGGQTLHTDLAAFIEVASALDAFCARVDQTIAIHLVSPTSISGVELRS
                   250       260       270       280       290       300

                   310       320       330       340       350       360
orf119ng     AVTGVGFVLEDDGAFHYTDTSGSTMFSICSLNNEPFTNALLDNQSYKGFSMLLDIPHSPA
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf119-1     AVTGVGFVLEDDGAFHYTDTSGSTMFSICSLNNEPFTNALLDNQSYKGFSMLLDIPHSPA
                   310       320       330       340       350       360

                   370       380       390       400       410       420
orf119ng     GEKTFDDLFMDLAVRLSGQLNLNLVNDKMEEVSTQWLKDVRTYVLARQSEMLKVGIEPGG
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf119-1     GEKTFDDLFMDLAVRLSGQLNLNLVNDKMEEVSTQWLKDVRTYVLARQSEMLKVGIEPGG
                   370       380       390       400       410       420

                  429
orf119ng     KTALRLFSX
             |||||||||
orf119-1     KTALRLFSX
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of a putative leader sequence in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 64

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 531>

```
   1  ..GCGCGGCACG GCACGGAAGA TTTCTTCATG AACAACAGCG ACAC.ATCAG
  51    GCAGATAGTC GAAAGCACCA CCGGTACGAT GAAGCTGCTG ATTTCCTCCA
 101    TCGCCCTGAT TTCATTGGTA GTCGGCGGCA TCGGCGTGAT GAACATCATG
 151    CTGGTGTCCG TTACCGAGCG CACCAAAGAA ATCGGCATAC GGATGGCAAT
 201    CGGCGCGCGG CGCGGCAATA TTTyGCAGCA GTTTTTGATT GAGGCGGTGT
 251    TAATCTGCGT CATCGGCGGT TTGGTCGGCG TGGGTTTGTC CGCCGCCGTC
 301    AGCCTCGTGT TCAATCATTT TGTAACCGAC TTCCCGATGG ACATTTCCGC
 351    CATGTCCGTC ATCGGCGCGG TCGCCTGTTC GACCGGAATC GGCATCGCGT
 401    TCGGCTTTAT GCCTGCCAAT AAAGCAGCCA AACTCAATCC GATAGACGCA
 451    TTGGCACAGG ATTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 532; ORF134>:

```
   1  ..ARHGTEDFFM NNSDXIRQIV ESTTGTMKLL ISSIALISLV VGGIGVMNIM
  51    LVSVTERTKE IGIRMAIGAR RGNIXQQFLI EAVLICVIGG LVGVGLSAAV
 101    SLVFNHFVTD FPMDISAMSV IGAVACSTGI GIAFGFMPAN KAAKLNPIDA
 151    LAQD*
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 533>:

```
   1  ATGTCGGTGC AAGCAGTATT GGCGCACAAA ATGCGTTCGC TTCTGACGAT
  51  GCTCGGCATC ATCATCGGTA TCGCGTCGGT GGTTTCCGTC GTCGCATTGG
 101  GCAATGGTTC GCAGAAAAAA ATCCTTGAAG ACATCAGTTC GATAGGGACG
 151  AACACCATCA GCATCTTCCC GGGGCGCGGC TTCGGCGACA GGCGCAGCGG
 201  CAGGATTAAA ACCCTGACCA TAGACGACGC AAAAATCATC GCCAAACAAA
 251  GCTACGTTGC TTCCGCCACG CCCATGACTT CGAGCGGCGG CACGCTGACT
 301  TACCGCAACA CCGACCTGAC CGCCTCGCTT TACGGCGTGG GCGAACAATA
 351  TTTCGACGTG CGCGGACTGA AGCTGGAAAC GGGGCGGCTG TTTGACGAAA
 401  ACGATGTGAA AGAAGACGCG CAGGTCGTCG TCATCGACCA AAATGTCAAA
 451  GACAAACTCT TTGCGGACTC GGATCCGTTG GGTAAAACCA TTTTGTTCAG
 501  GAAACGCCCC TTGACCGTCA TCGGCGTGAT GAAAAAAGAC GAAAACGCTT
 551  TCGGCAATTC CGACGTGCTG ATGCTTTGGT CGCCCTATAC GACGGTGATG
 601  CACCAAATCA CAGGCGAGAG CCACACCAAC TCCATCACCG TCAAAATCAA
 651  AGACAATGCC AATACCCAGG TTGCCGAAAA AGGGCTGACC GATCTGCTCA
 701  AAGCGCGGCA CGGCACGGAA GATTTCTTCA TGAACAACAG CGACAGCATC
 751  AGGCAGATAG TCGAAAGCAC CACCGGTACG ATGAAGCTGC TGATTTCCTC
 801  CATCGCCCTG ATTTCATTGG TAGTCGGCGG CATCGGCGTG ATGAACATCA
 851  TGCTGGTGTC CGTTACCGAG CGCACCAAAG AAATCGGCAT ACGGATGGCA
 901  ATCGGCGCGC GGCGCGGCAA TATTTTGCAG CAGTTTTTGA TTGAGGCGGT
 951  GTTAATCTGC GTCATCGGCG GTTTGGTCGG CGTGGGTTTG TCCGCCGCCG
1001  TCAGCCTCGT GTTCAATCAT TTTGTAACCG ACTTCCCGAT GGACATTTCC
1051  GCCATGTCCG TCATCGGCGC GGTCGCCTGT TCGACCGGAA TCGGCATCGC
1101  GTTCGGCTTT ATGCCTGCCA ATAAAGCAGC CAAACTCAAT CCGATAGACG
1151  CATTGGCACA GGATTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 534; ORF134-1>:

```
   1  MSVQAVLAHK MRSLLTMLGI IIGIASVVSV VALGNGSQKK ILEDISSIGT
  51  NTISIFPGRG FGDRRSGRIK TLTIDDAKII AKQSYVASAT PMTSSGGTLT
 101  YRNTDLTASL YGVGEQYFDV RGLKLETGRL FDENDVKEDA QVVVIDQNVK
 151  DKLFADSDPL GKTILFRKRP LTVIGVMKKD ENAFGNSDVL MLWSPYTTVM
 201  HQITGESHTN SITVKIKDNA NTQVAEKGLT DLLKARHGTE DFFMNNSDSI
 251  RQIVESTTGT MKLLISSIAL ISLVVGGIGV MNIMLVSVTE RTKEIGIRMA
 301  IGARRGNILQ QFLIEAVLIC VIGGLVGVGL SAAVSLVFNH FVTDFPMDIS
 351  AMSVIGAVAC STGIGIAFGF MPANKAAKLN PIDALAQD*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with the hypothetical protein o648 of *E.coli* (accession number AE000189)

ORF134 and o648 protein show 45% aa identity in 153aa overlap:

```
Orf134:   2  RHGTEDFFMNNSDXIRQIVESTTGTMKXXXXXXXXXXXXVVGGIGVMNIMLVSVTERTKEI  61
             RHG +DFF  N D + + VE TT T++              VVGGIGVMNIMLVSVTERT+EI
o648:   496  RHGKKDFFTWNMDGVLKTVEKTTRTLQLFLTLVAVISLVVGGIGVMNIMLVSVTERTREI  555

Orf134:  62  GIRMAIGARRGNIXQQFLIEAXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXFNHFVTDFPMDISAMSVI  121
             GIRMA+GAR  ++ QQFLIEA                          F+  + +  S ++++
o648:   556  GIRMAVGARASDVLQQFLIEAVLVCLVGGALGITLSLLIAFTLQLFLPGWEIGFSPLALL  615

Orf134:  122 GAVACSTGIGIAFGFMPANKAAKLNPIDALAQD 154
              A  CST  GI FG++PA  AA+L+P+DALA++
o648:   616  LAFLCSTVTGILFGWLPARNAARLDPVDALARE 648
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF134 shows 98.7% identity over a 154aa overlap with an ORF (ORF134a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                                    10        20        30
orf134.pep                                         ARHGTEDFFMNNSDXIRQIVESTTGTMKLL
                                                   ||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||
orf134a       GESHTNSITVKIKDNANTQVAEKGLTDLLKARHGTEDFFMNNSDSIRQIVESTTGTMKLL
                  210       220       230       240       250       260

                        40        50        60        70        80        90
```

```
orf134.pep   ISSIALISLVVGGIGVMNIMLVSVTERTKEIGIRMAIGARRGNIXQQFLIEAVLICVIGG
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||
orf134a      ISSIALISLVVGGIGVMNIMLVSVTERTKEIGIRMAIGARRGNILQQFLIEAVLICVIGG
                270       280       290       300       310       320

                    100       110       120       130       140       150
orf134.pep   LVGVGLSAAVSLVFNHFVTDFPMDISAMSVIGAVACSTGIGIAFGFMPANKAAKLNPIDA
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf134a      LVGVGLSAAVSLVFNHFVTDFPMDISAMSVIGAVACSTGIGIAFGFMPANKAAKLNPIDA
                330       340       350       360       370       380

orf134.pep   LAQDX
             |||||
orf134a      LAQDX
```

The complete length ORF134a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 535> is:

```
   1  ATGTCGGTGC AAGCAGTATT GGCGCACAAA ATGCGTTCGC TTCTGACGAT
  51  GCTCGGCATC ATCATCGGTA TCGCTTCGGT TGTCTCCGTC GTCGCATTGG
 101  GCAACGGTTC GCAGAAAAAA ATCCTTGAAG ACATCAGTTC GATAGGGACG
 151  AACACCATCA GCATCTTCCC AGGGCGCGGC TTCGGCGACA GGCGCAGCGG
 201  CAGGATTAAA ACCCTGACCA TAGACGACGC AAAAATCATC GCCAAACAAA
 251  GCTACGTTGC TTCCGCCACG CCCATGACTT CGAGCGGCGG CACGCTGACT
 301  TACCGCAATA CCGACCTGAC CGCTTCTTTG TACGGTGTGG GCGAACAATA
 351  TTTCGACGTG CGCGGGCTGA AGCTGGAAAC GGGGCGGCTG TTTGACGAAA
 401  ACGATGTGAA AGAAGACGCG CAGGTCGTCG TCATCGACCA AAATGTCAAA
 451  GACAAACTCT TTGCGGACTC GGATCCGTTG GGTAAAACCA TTTTGTTCAG
 501  GAAACGCCCC TTGACCGTCA TCGGCGTGAT GAAAAAAGAC GAAAACGCTT
 551  TCGGCAATTC CGACGTGCTG ATGCTTTGGT CGCCCTATAC GACGGTGATG
 601  CACCAAATCA CAGGCGAGAG CCACACCAAC TCCATCACCG TCAAAATCAA
 651  AGACAATGCC AATACCCAGG TTGCCGAAAA AGGGCTGACC GATCTGCTCA
 701  AAGCGCGGCA CGGCACGGAA GATTTCTTCA TGAACAACAG CGACAGCATC
 751  AGGCAGATAG TCGAAAGCAC CACCGGTACG ATGAAGCTGC TGATTTCCTC
 801  CATCGCCCTG ATTTCATTGG TAGTCGGCGG CATCGGCGTG ATGAACATCA
 851  TGCTGGTGTC CGTTACCGAG CGCACCAAAG AAATCGGCAT ACGGATGGCA
 901  ATCGGCGCGC GGCGCGGCAA TATTTTGCAG CAGTTTTTGA TTGAGGCGGT
 951  GTTAATCTGC GTCATCGGCG GTTTGGTCGG CGTGGGTTTG TCCGCCGCCG
1001  TCAGCCTCGT GTTCAATCAT TTTGTAACCG ACTTCCCGAT GGACATTTCC
1051  GCCATGTCCG TCATCGGCGC GGTCGCCTGT TCGACCGGAA TCGGCATCGC
1101  GTTCGGCTTT ATGCCTGCCA ATAAAGCAGC CAAACTCAAT CCGATAGATG
1151  CATTGGCGCA GGATTGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 536>:

```
   1  MSVQAVLAHK MRSLLTMLGI IIGIASVVSV VALGNGSQKK ILEDISSIGT
  51  NTISIFPGRG FGDRRSGRIK TLTIDDAKII AKQSYVASAT PMTSSGGTLT
 101  YRNTDLTASL YGVGEQYFDV RGLKLETGRL FDENDVKEDA QVVVIDQNVK
 151  DKLFADSDPL GKTILFRKRP LTVIGVMKKD ENAFGNSDVL MLWSPYTTVM
 201  HQITGESHTN SITVKIKDNA NTQVAEKGLT DLLKARHGTE DFFMNNSDSI
 251  RQIVESTTGT MKLLISSIAL ISLVVGGIGV MNIMLVSVTE RTKEIGIRMA
 301  IGARRGNILQ QFLIEAVLIC VIGGLVGVGL SAAVSLVFNH FVTDFPMDIS
 351  AMSVIGAVAC STGIGIAFGF MPANKAAKLN PIDALAQD*
```

ORF134a and ORF134-1 show 100.0% identity in 388 aa overlap:

```
orf134a.pep   MSVQAVLAHKMRSLLTMLGIIIGIASVVSVVALGNGSQKKILEDISSIGTNTISIFPGRG
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf134-1      MSVQAVLAHKMRSLLTMLGIIIGIASVVSVVALGNGSQKKILEDISSIGTNTISIFPGRG

orf134a.pep   FGDRRSGRIKTLTIDDAKIIAKQSYVASATPMTSSGGTLTYRNTDLTASLYGVGEQYFDV
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf134-1      FGDRRSGRIKTLTIDDAKIIAKQSYVASATPMTSSGGTLTYRNTDLTASLYGVGEQYFDV

orf134a.pep   RGLKLETGRLFDENDVKEDAQVVVIDQNVKDKLFADSDPLGKTILFRKRPLTVIGVMKKD
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf134-1      RGLKLETGRLFDENDVKEDAQVVVIDQNVKDKLFADSDPLGKTILFRKRPLTVIGVMKKD

orf134a.pep   ENAFGNSDVLMLWSPYTTVMHQITGESHTNSITVKIKDNANTQVAEKGLTDLLKARHGTE
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf134-1      ENAFGNSDVLMLWSPYTTVMHQITGESHTNSITVKIKDNANTQVAEKGLTDLLKARHGTE
```

```
orf134a.pep    DFFMNNSDSIRQIVESTTGTMKLLISSIALISLVVGGIGVMNIMLVSVTERTKEIGIRMA
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf134-1       DFFMNNSDSIRQIVESTTGTMKLLISSIALISLVVGGIGVMNIMLVSVTERTKEIGIRMA

orf134a.pep    IGARRGNILQQFLIEAVLICVIGGLVGVGLSAAVSLVFNHFVTDFPMDISAMSVIGAVAC
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf134-1       IGARRGNILQQFLIEAVLICVIGGLVGVGLSAAVSLVFNHFVTDFPMDISAMSVIGAVAC

orf134a.pep    STGIGIAFGFMPANKAAKLNPIDALAQDX
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf134-1       STGIGIAFGFMPANKAAKLNPIDALAQDX
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF134 shows 96.8% identity over a 154aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF134.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf134.pep                                        ARHGTEDFFMNNSDXIRQIVESTTGTMKLL   30
                                                  ||||||||||||||| |||:||||||||||||
orf134ng       GESHTNSITVKIKDNANTRVAEKGLAELLKARHGTEDFFMNNSDSIRQMVESTTGTMKLL  264

orf134.pep     ISSIALISLVVGGIGVMNIMLVSVTERTKEIGIRMAIGARRGNIXQQFLIEAVLICVIGG   90
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||:|||
orf134ng       ISSIALISLVVGGIGVMNIMLVSVTERTKEIGIRMAIGARRGNILQQFLIEAVLICIIGG  324

orf134.pep     LVGVGLSAAVSLVFNHFVTDFPMDISAMSVIGAVACSTGIGIAFGFMPANKAAKLNPIDA  150
               |||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf134ng       LVGVGLSAAVSLVFNHFVTDFPMDISAASVIGAVACSTGIGIAFGFMPANKAAKLNPIDA  384

orf134.pep     LAQD  154
               ||||
orf134ng       LAQD  388
```

The complete length ORF134ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 537> is:

```
   1  ATGTCGGTGC AAGCAGTATT GGCGCACAAA ATGCGTTCGC TTCTGACCAT
  51  GCTCGGCATC ATCATCGGTA TCGCTTCGGT TGTCTCCGTC GTCGCGCTGG
 101  GCAACGGTTC GCAGAAAAAA ATCCTCGAAG ACATCAGTTC GATGGGGACG
 151  AACACCATCA GCATCTTCCC CGGGCGCGGC TTCGGCGACA GGCGCAGCGG
 201  CAAAATCAAA ACCCTGACCA TAGACGACGC AAAAATCATC GCCAAACAAA
 251  GCTACGTTGC CTCCGCCACG CCCATGACTT CGAGCGGCGG CACGCTGACC
 301  TACCGCAATA CCGACCTGAC CGCTTCTTTG TACGGTGTGG GCGAACAATA
 351  TTTCGACGTG CGCGGGCTGA AGCTGGAAAC GGGGCGGCTG TTTGATGAGA
 401  ACGATGTGAA AGAAGACGCG CAAGTCGTCG TCATCGACCA AAATGTCAAA
 451  GACAAACTCT TTGCGGACTC GGATCCGTTG GGTAAAACCA TTTTGTTCAG
 501  GAAACGCCCC TTGACCGTCA TCGGCGTGAT GAAAAAAGAC GAAAACGCTT
 551  TCGGCAATTC CGACGTGCTG ATGCTTTGGT CGCCCTATAC GACGGTGATG
 601  CACCAAATCA CAGGCGAGAG CCACACCAAC TCCATCACCG TCAAAATCAA
 651  AGACAATGCC AATACCCGGG TTGCCGAAAA AGGGCTGGCC GAGCTGCTCA
 701  AAGCACGGCA CGGCACGGAA GACTTCTTTA TGAACAACAG CGACAGCATC
 751  AGGCAGATGG TCGAAAGCAC CACCGGTACG ATGAAGCTGC TGATTTCCTC
 801  CATCGCCCTG ATTTCATTGG TAGTCGGCGG CATCGGTGTG ATGAACATTA
 851  TGCTGGTGTC CGTTACCGAG CGCACCAAAG AAATCGGCAT ACGGATGGCA
 901  ATCGGCGCGC GGCGCGGCAA TATTTTGCAG CAGTTTTTGA TTGAGGCGGT
 951  GTTAATCTGC ATCATCGGAG GCTTGGTCGG CGTAGGTTTG TCCGCCGCCG
1001  TCAGCCTCGT GTTCAATCAT TTTGTAACCG ATTTCCCGAT GGACATTTCG
1051  GCGGCATCCG TTATCGGGGC GGTCGCCTGT TCGACCGGAA TCGGCATCGC
1101  GTTCGGCTTT ATGCCTGCCA ATAAGGCAGC CAAACTCAAT CCGATAGATG
1151  CATTGGCGCA GGATTGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 538>:

```
   1  MSVQAVLAHK MRSLLTMLGI IIGIASVVSV VALGNGSQKK ILEDISSMGT
  51  NTISIFPGRG FGDRRSGKIK TLTIDDAKII AKQSYVASAT PMTSSGGTLT
 101  YRNTDLTASL YGVGEQYFDV RGLKLETGRL FDENDVKEDA QVVVIDQNVK
 151  DKLFADSDPL GKTILFRKRP LTVIGVMKKD ENAFGNSDVL MLWSPYTTVM
 201  HQITGESHTN SITVKIKDNA NTRVAEKGLA ELLKARHGTE DFFMNNSDSI
 251  RQMVESTTGT MKLLISSIAL ISLVVGGIGV MNIMLVSVTE RTKEIGIRMA
 301  IGARRGNILQ QFLIEAVLIC IIGGLVGVGL SAAVSLVFNH FVTDFPMDIS
```

```
351  AASVIGAVAC STGIGIAFGF MPANKAAKLN PIDALAQD*
```

ORF134ng and ORF134-1 show 97.9% identity in 388 aa overlap:

```
orf134ng      MSVQAVLAHKMRSLLTMLGIIIGIASVVSVVALGNGSQKKILEDISSMGTNTISIFPGRG
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||
orf134-1      MSVQAVLAHKMRSLLTMLGIIIGIASVVSVVALGNGSQKKILEDISSIGTNTISIFPGRG

orf134ng      FGDRRSGKIKTLTIDDAKIIAKQSYVASATPMTSSGGTLTYRNTDLTASLYGVGEQYFDV
              |||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf134-1      FGDRRSGRIKTLTIDDAKIIAKQSYVASATPMTSSGGTLTYRNTDLTASLYGVGEQYFDV

orf134ng      RGLKLETGRLFDENDVKEDAQVVVIDQNVKDKLFADSDPLGKTILFRKRPLTVIGVMKKD
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf134-1      RGLKLETGRLFDENDVKEDAQVVVIDQNVKDKLFADSDPLGKTILFRKRPLTVIGVMKKD

orf134ng      ENAFGNSDVLMLWSPYTTVMHQITGESHTNSITVKIKDNANTRVAEKGLAELLKARHGTE
              |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||::|||||||||||
orf134-1      ENAFGNSDVLMLWSPYTTVMHQITGESHTNSITVKIKDNANTQVAEKGLTDLLKARHGTE

orf134ng      DFFMNNSDSIRQMVESTTGTMKLLISSIALISLVVGGIGVMNIMLVSVTERTKEIGIRMA
              ||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf134-1      DFFMNNSDSIRQIVESTTGTMKLLISSIALISLVVGGIGVMNIMLVSVTERTKEIGIRMA

orf134ng      IGARRGNILQQFLIEAVLICIIGGLVGVGLSAAVSLVFNHFVTDFPMDISAASVIGAVAC
              ||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||
orf134-1      IGARRGNILQQFLIEAVLICVIGGLVGVGLSAAVSLVFNHFVTDFPMDISAMSVIGAVAC

orf134ng      STGIGIAFGFMPANKAAKLNPIDALAQDX
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf134-1      STGIGIAFGFMPANKAAKLNPIDALAQDX
```

ORF134ng also shows homology to an *E.coli* ABC transporter:

```
sp|P75831|YBJZ_ECOLI HYPOTHETICAL ABC TRANSPORTER ATP-BINDING PROTEIN YBJZ >gi5
(AE000189) o648; similar to YBBA_HAEIN SW: P45247 [Escherichia coli] Length =
648
 Score =  297 bits (753), Expect = 6e-80
 Identities = 162/389 (41%), Positives = 230/389 (58%), Gaps = 1/389 (0%)

Query: 1   MSVQAVLAHKMRSLLTMLXXXXXXXXXXXXXXLGNGSQKKILEDISSMGTNTISIFPGRG 60
            M+ +A+ A+KMR+LLTML               +G+ +++ +L DI S+GTNTI ++PG+
Sbjct: 260 MAWRALAANKMRTLLTMLGIIIGIASVVSIVVVGDAAKQMVLADIRSIGTNTIDVYPGKD 319

Query: 61  FGDRRSGKIKTLTIDDAKIIAKQSYVASATPMTSSGGTLTYRNTDLTASLYGVGEQYFDV 120
            FGD      + L  DD   I KQ +VASATP  S    L Y N D+ AS  GV   YF+V
Sbjct: 320 FGDDDPQYQQALKYDDLIAIQKQPWVASATPAVSQNLRLRYNNVDVAASANGVSGDYFNV 379

Query: 121 RGLKLETGRLFDENDVKEDAQVVVIDQNVKDKLFAD-SDPLGKTILFRKRPLTVIGVMKK 179
             G+    G  F++  +   AQVVV+D N + +LF   +D +G+ IL    P  VIGV ++
Sbjct: 380 YGMTFSEGNTFNQEQLNGRAQVVVLDSNTRRQLFPHKADVVGEVILVGNMPARVIGVAEE 439

Query: 180 DENAFGNSDVLMLWSPYTTVMHQITGESHTNSITVKIKDNANTRVAEKGLAELLKARHGT 239
             ++ FG+S VL +W PY+T+  ++ G+S  NSITV++K+  ++  AE+ L  LL  RHG
Sbjct: 440 KQSMFGSSKVLRVWLPYSTMSGRVMGQSWLNSITVRVKEGFDSAEAEQQLTRLLSLRHGK 499

Query: 240 EDFFMNNSDSIRQMVESTTGTMKXXXXXXXXXXXXVVGGIGVMNIMLVSVTERTKEIGIRM 299
            +DFF  N D + + VE TT T++            VVGGIGVMNIMLVSVTERT+EIGIRM
Sbjct: 500 KDFFTWNMDGVLKTVEKTTRTLQLFLTLVAVISLVVGGIGVMNIMLVSVTERTREIGIRM 559

Query: 300 AIGARRGNILQQFLIEXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXFNHFVTDFPMDISAASVIGAVA 359
            A+GAR  ++LQQFLIE                      F+  + +  S  +++ A
Sbjct: 560 AVGARASDVLQQFLIEAVLVCLVGGALGITLSLLIAFTLQLFLPGWEIGFSPLALLLAFL 619

Query: 360 CSTGIGIAFGFMPANKAAKLNPIDALAQD 388
            CST  GI FG++PA  AA+L+P+DALA++
Sbjct: 620 CSTVTGILFGWLPARNAARLDPVDALARE 648
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of the leader peptide and transmembrane regions in the gonococcal protein, it is prediceted that these proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 65

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 539>:

```
   1  ..GGGACGGGAG CGATGCTGCT GCTGTTTTAC GCGGTAACGA T.CTGCCTTT
  51    GGCCACTGGC GTTACCCTGA GTTACACCTC GTCGATTTTT TTGGCGGTAT
 101    TTTCCTTCCT GATTTTGAAA GAACGGATTT CCGTTTACAC GCAGGCGGTG
 151    CTGCTCCTTG GTTTTGCCGG CGTGGTATTG CTGCTTAATC CCTCGTTCCG
 201    CAGCGGTCAG GAAACGGCGG CACTCGCCGG GCTGGCGGGC GGCGCGATGT
 251    CCGGCTGGGC GTATTTGAAA GTGCGCGAAC TGTCTTTGGC GGGCGAACCC
 301    GGCTGGCGCG TCGTGTTTTA CCTTTCCGTG ACAGGTGTGG CGATGTCGTC
 351    GGTTTGGGCG ACGCTGACCG GCTGGCACAC CCTGTCCTTT CCATCGGCAG
 401    TTTATCTGTC GTGCATCGGC GTGTCCGCGC TGATTGCCCA ACTGTCGATG
 451    ACGCGCGCCT ACAAAGTCGG CGACAAATTC ACGGTTGCCT CGCTTTCCTA
 501    TATGACCGTC GTTTTTTCCG CTCTGTCTGC CGCATTTTTT CTGGGCGAAG
 551    AGCTTTTCTG GCAGGAAATA CTCGGTATGT GCATCATCAT CCTCAGCGGT
 601    ATTTTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 540; ORF135>:

```
   1  ..GTGAMLLLFY AVTILPLATG VTLSYTSSIF LAVFSFLILK ERISVYTQAV
  51    LLLGFAGVVL LLNPSFRSGQ ETAALAGLAG GAMSGWAYLK VRELSLAGEP
 101    GWRVVFYLSV TGVAMSSVWA TLTGWHTLSF PSAVYLSCIG VSALIAQLSM
 151    TRAYKVGDKF TVASLSYMTV VFSALSAAFF LGEELFWQEI LGMCIIISAV
 201    F*
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 541>:

```
   1  ATGGATACCG CAAAAAAAGA CATTTTAGGA TCGGGCTGGA TGCTGGTGGC
  51  GGCGGCCTGC TTTACCATTA TGAACGTATT GATTAAAGAG GCATCGGCAA
 101  AATTTGCCCT CGGCAGCGGC GAATTGGTCT TTTGGCGCAT GCTGTTTTCA
 151  ACCGTTGCGC TCGGGGCTGC CGCCGTATTG CGTCGGGACA mCTTCCGCAC
 201  GCCCCATTGG AAAAACCACT TAAACCGCAG TATGGTCGGG ACGGGGGCGA
 251  TGCTGCTGCT GTTTTACGCG GTAACGCATC TGCCTTTGGC CACTGGCGTT
 301  ACCCTGAGTT ACACCTCGTC GATTTTTTTG GCGGTATTTT CCTTCCTGAT
 351  TTTGAAAGAA CGGATTTCCG TTTACACGCA GGCGGTGCTG CTCCTTGGTT
 401  TTGCCGGCGT GGTATTGCTG CTTAATCCCT CGTTCCGCAG CGGTCAGGAA
 451  ACGGCGGCAC TCGCCGGGCT GGCGGGCGGC GCGATGTCCG GCTGGGCGTA
 501  TTTGAAAGTG CGCGAACTGT CTTTGGCGGG CGAACCCGGC TGGCGCGTCG
 551  TGTTTTACCT TTCCGTGACA GGTGTGGCGA TGTCGTCGGT TTGGGCGACG
 601  CTGACCGGCT GGCACACCCT GTCCTTTCCA TCGGCAGTTT ATCTGTCGTG
 651  CATCGGCGTG TCCGCGCTGA TTGCCCAACT GTCGATGACG CGCGCCTACA
 701  AAGTCGGCGA CAAATTCACG GTTGCCTCGC TTTCCTATAT GACCGTCGTT
 751  TTTTCCGCTC TGTCTGCCGC ATTTTTTCTG GGCGAAGAGC TTTTCTGGCA
 801  GGAAATACTC GGTATGTGCA TCATCATCCT CAGCGGTATT TTGAGCAGCA
 851  TCCGCCCCAC TGCCTTCAAA CAGCGGCTGC AATCCCTGTT CCGCCAAAGA
 901  TAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 542; ORF135-1>:

```
   1  MDTAKKDILG SGWMLVAAAC FTIMNVLIKE ASAKFALGSG ELVFWRMLFS
  51  TVALGAAAVL RRDXFRTPHW KNHLNRSMVG TGAMLLLFYA VTHLPLATGV
 101  TLSYTSSIFL AVFSFLILKE RISVYTQAVL LLGFAGVVLL LNPSFRSGQE
 151  TAALAGLAGG AMSGWAYLKV RELSLAGEPG WRVVFYLSVT GVAMSSVWAT
 201  LTGWHTLSFP SAVYLSCIGV SALIAQLSMT RAYKVGDKFT VASLSYMTVV
 251  FSALSAAFFL GEELFWQEIL GMCIIILSGI LSSIRPTAFK QRLQSLFRQR
 301  *
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF135 shows 99.0% identity over a 197aa overlap with an ORF (ORF135a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                                    10        20        30
orf135.pep                                         GTGAMLLLFYAVTILPLATGVTLSYTSSIF
                                                   ||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||
orf135a          STVALGAAAVLRRDTFRTPHWKNHLNRSMVGTGAMLLLFYAVTHLPLATGVTLSYTSSIF
                50        60        70        80        90        100

                         40        50        60        70        80        90
orf135.pep       LAVFSFLILKERISVYTQAVLLLGFAGVVLLLNPSFRSGQETAALAGLAGGAMSGWAYLK
                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf135a          LAVFSFLILKERISVYTQAVLLLGFAGVVLLLNPSFRSGQETAALAGLAGGAMSGWAYLK
               110       120       130       140       150       160

                        100       110       120       130       140       150
orf135.pep       VRELSLAGEPGWRVVFYLSVTGVAMSSVWATLTGWHTLSFPSAVYLSCIGVSALIAQLSM
                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf135a          VRELSLAGEPGWRVVFYLSVTGVAMSSVWATLTGWHTLSFPSAVYLSCIGVSALIAQLSM
               170       180       190       200       210       220

                        160       170       180       190       200
orf135.pep       TRAYKVGDKFTVASLSYMTVVFSALSAAFFLGEELFWQEILGMCIIISAVFX
                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||
orf135a          TRAYKVGDKFTVASLSYMTVVFSALSAAFFLAEELFWQEILGMCIIILSGILSSIRPTAF
               230       240       250       260       270       280

orf135a          KQRLQSLFRQRX
               290       300
```

The complete length ORF135a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 543> is:

```
   1  ATGGATACCG CAAAAAAAGA CATTTTAGGA TCGGGCTGGA TGCTGGTGGC
  51  GGCGGCCTGC TTTACCATTA TGAACGTATT GATTAAAGAG GCATCGGCAA
 101  AATTTGCCCT CGGCAGCGGC GAATTGGTCT TTTGGCGCAT GCTGTTTTCA
 151  ACCGTTGCGC TCGGGGCTGC CGCCGTATTG CGTCGGGACA CCTTCCGCAC
 201  GCCCCATTGG AAAAACCACT TAAACCGCAG TATGGTCGGG ACGGGGGCGA
 251  TGCTGCTGCT GTTTTACGCG GTAACGCATC TGCCTTTGGC CACCGGCGTT
 301  ACCCTGAGTT ACACCTCGTC GATTTTTTTG GCGGTATTTT CCTTCCTGAT
 351  TTTGAAAGAA CGGATTTCCG TTTACACGCA GGCGGTGCTG CTCCTTGGTT
 401  TTGCCGGCGT GGTATTGCTG CTTAATCCCT CGTTCCGCAG CGGTCAGGAA
 451  ACGGCGGCAC TCGCCGGGCT GGCGGGCGGC GCGATGTCCG GCTGGGCGTA
 501  TTTGAAAGTG CGCGAACTGT CTTTGGCGGG CGAACCCGGC TGGCGCGTCG
 551  TGTTTTACCT TTCCGTGACA GGTGTGGCGA TGTCATCGGT TTGGGCGACG
 601  CTGACCGGCT GGCACACCCT GTCCTTTCCA TCGGCAGTTT ATCTGTCGTG
 651  CATCGGCGTG TCCGCGCTGA TTGCCCAACT GTCGATGACG CGCGCCTACA
 701  AAGTCGGCGA CAAATTCACG GTTGCCTCGC TTTCCTATAT GACCGTCGTT
 751  TTTTCCGCTC TGTCTGCCGC ATTTTTTCTG GCCGAAGAGC TTTTCTGGCA
 801  GGAAATACTC GGTATGTGCA TCATCATCCT CAGCGGTATT TTGAGCAGCA
 851  TCCGCCCCAC TGCCTTCAAA CAGCGGCTGC AATCCCTGTT CCGCCAAAGA
 901  TAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 544>:

```
   1  MDTAKKDILG SGWMLVAAAC FTIMNVLIKE ASAKFALGSG ELVFWRMLFS
  51  TVALGAAAVL RRDTFRTPHW KNHLNRSMVG TGAMLLLFYA VTHLPLATGV
 101  TLSYTSSIFL AVFSFLILKE RISVYTQAVL LLGFAGVVLL LNPSFRSGQE
 151  TAALAGLAGG AMSGWAYLKV RELSLAGEPG WRVVFYLSVT GVAMSSVWAT
 201  LTGWHTLSFP SAVYLSCIGV SALIAQLSMT RAYKVGDKFT VASLSYMTVV
 251  FSALSAAFFL AEELFWQEIL GMCIIILSGI LSSIRPTAFK QRLQSLFRQR
 301  *
```

ORF135a and ORF135-1 show 99.3% identity in 300 aa overlap:

```
orf135a.pep      MDTAKKDILGSGWMLVAAACFTIMNVLIKEASAKFALGSGELVFWRMLFSTVALGAAAVL
                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf135-1         MDTAKKDILGSGWMLVAAACFTIMNVLIKEASAKFALGSGELVFWRMLFSTVALGAAAVL
```

```
orf135a.pep    RRDTFRTPHWKNHLNRSMVGTGAMLLLFYAVTHLPLATGVTLSYTSSIFLAVFSFLILKE
               |||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf135-1       RRDXFRTPHWKNHLNRSMVGTGAMLLLFYAVTHLPLATGVTLSYTSSIFLAVFSFLILKE

orf135a.pep    RISVYTQAVLLLGFAGVVLLLNPSFRSGQETAALAGLAGGAMSGWAYLKVRELSLAGEPG
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf135-1       RISVYTQAVLLLGFAGVVLLLNPSFRSGQETAALAGLAGGAMSGWAYLKVRELSLAGEPG

orf135a.pep    WRVVFYLSVTGVAMSSVWATLTGWHTLSFPSAVYLSCIGVSALIAQLSMTRAYKVGDKFT
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf135-1       WRVVFYLSVTGVAMSSVWATLTGWHTLSFPSAVYLSCIGVSALIAQLSMTRAYKVGDKFT

orf135a.pep    VASLSYMTVVFSALSAAFFLAEELFWQEILGMCIIILSGILSSIRPTAFKQRLQSLFRQR
               ||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf135-1       VASLSYMTVVFSALSAAFFLGEELFWQEILGMCIIILSGILSSIRPTAFKQRLQSLFRQR
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF135 shows 97% identity over a 201aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF135ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf135.pep                                        GTGAMLLLFYAVTXLPLATGVTLSYTSSIF   30
                                                  |||||||||||||| |||:||||||||||||
orf135ng       STVTLGAAAVLRRDTFRTPHWKNHLNRSMVGTGAMLLLFYAVTHLPLTTGVTLSYTSSIF  335

orf135.pep     LAVFSFLILKERISVYTQAVLLLGFAGVVLLLNPSFRSGQETAALAGLAGGAMSGWAYLK   90
               |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||
orf135ng       LAVFSFLILKERISVYTQAVLLLGFAGVVLLLNPSFRSGQEPAALAGLAGGAMSGWAYLK  395

orf135.pep     VRELSLAGEPGWRVVFYLSVTGVAMSSVWATLTGWHTLSFPSAVYLSCIGVSALIAQLSM  150
               ||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||
orf135ng       VRELSLAGEPGWRVVFYLSATGVAMSSVWATLTGWHTLSFPSAVYLSGIGVSALIAQLSM  455

orf135.pep     TRAYKVGDKFTVASLSYMTVVFSALSAAFFLGEELFWQEILGMCIIISAVF  201
               |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|
orf135ng       TRAYKVGDKFTVASLSYMTVVFSALSAAFFLGEELFWQEILGMCIIISAAF  506
```

An ORF135ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 545> was predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 546>:

```
   1  MPSEKAFRRH LRTASFQGLH LHHFHQKVGK CGIIGFGIHI FPTLLPAAQG
  51  ILDIQLGLFR IDFAALAVYR RTQVDFIHTV IDGIASDQAF SEVVQILRRL
 101  NLGHFTDTHL IAQARRFIAD FGNIRPMRRG EAKTFCRCFR FDGIDGIHGD
 151  FRQCGHINRL APGKDCRNGK RDKVFFHTRH YNQVCLEKTN CSARKIKFRH
 201  QKQAKTHSTS LAARFTIRPS LSQRPFMDTA KKDILGSGWM LVAAACFTVM
 251  NVLIKEASAK FALGSGELVF WRMLFSTVTL GAAAVLRRDT FRTPHWKNHL
 301  NRSMVGTGAM LLLFYAVTHL PLTTGVTLSY TSSIFLAVFS FLILKERISV
 351  YTQAVLLLGF AGVVLLLNPS FRSGQEPAAL AGLAGGAMSG WAYLKVRELS
 401  LAGEPGWRVV FYLSATGVAM SSVWATLTGW HTLSFPSAVY LSGIGVSALI
 451  AQLSMTRAYK VGDKFTVASL SYMTVVFSAL SAAFFLGEEL FWQEILGMCI
 501  IISAAF*
```

Further work revealed the following gonococcal sequence <SEQ ID 547>:

```
   1  ATGGATACCG CAAAAAAAGA CATTTTAGGA TCGGGCTGGA TGCTGGTGGC
  51  GGCGGCCTGC TTCACCGTTA TGAACGTATT GATTAAAGAG GCATCGGCAA
 101  AATTTGCCCT CGGCAGCGGC GAATTGGTCT TTTGGCGCAT GCTGTTTTCA
 151  ACCGTTACGC TCGGTGCTGC CGCCGTATTG CGGCGCGACA CCTTCCGCAC
 201  GCCCCATTGG AAAAACCACT TAAACCGCAG TATGGTCGGG ACGGGGGCGA
 251  TGCTGCTGCT GTTTTACGCG GTAACGCATC TGCCTTTGAC AACCGGCGTT
 301  ACCCTGAGTT ACACCTCGTC GATTTTTttg GCGGTATTTT CCTTCCTGAT
 351  TTTGAAAGAA CGGATTTCCG TTTACACGCA GGCGGTGCTG CTCCTTGGTT
 401  TTGCCGGCGT GGTATTGCTG CTTAATCCCT CGTTCCGCAG CGGTCAGGAA
 451  CCGGCGGCAC TCGCCGGGCT GGCGGGGCGGC GCGATGTCCG GCTGGGCGTA
 501  TTTGAAAGTG CGCGAACTGT CTTTGGCGGG CGAACCCGGC TGGCGCGTCG
 551  TGTTTTACCT TTCCGCAACC GGCGTGGCGA TGTCGTCggt ttgggcgacg
 601  Ctgaccggct ggCACAcccT GTCCTTTcca tcggcagttt ATCtgtCGGG
```

```
651  CATCGGCGTG tccgcgCtgA TTGCCCAaCT GtcgatgAcg cGCGcctaca
701  aaGTCGGCGA CAAATTCACG GTTGCCTCGC tttcctaTAt gaccgtcGTC
751  TTTTCCGCCC TGTCTGCCGC ATTTTTTCTg ggcgaagagc tttTCtggCA
801  GGAAATACTC GGTATGTGCA TCATTAtccT CAGCGGCATT TTGAGCAGCA
851  TCCGCCCCAT TGCCTTCAAA CAGCGGCTGC AAGCCCTCTT CCGCCAAAGA
901  TAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 548; ORF135ng-1>:

```
  1  MDTAKKDILG SGWMLVAAAC FTVMNVLIKE ASAKFALGSG ELVFWRMLFS
 51  TVTLGAAAVL RRDTFRTPHW KNHLNRSMVG TGAMLLLFYA VTHLPLTTGV
101  TLSYTSSIFL AVFSFLILKE RISVYTQAVL LLGFAGVVLL LNPSFRSGQE
151  PAALAGLAGG AMSGWAYLKV RELSLAGEPG WRVVFYLSAT GVAMSSVWAT
201  LTGWHTLSFP SAVYLSGIGV SALIAQLSMT RAYKVGDKFT VASLSYMTVV
251  FSALSAAFFL GEELFWQEIL GMCIIILSGI LSSIRPIAFK QRLQALFRQR
301  *
```

ORF135ng-1 and ORF135-1 show 97.0% identity in 300 aa overlap:

```
orf135ng-1.pep MDTAKKDILGSGWMLVAAACFTVMNVLIKEASAKFALGSGELVFWRMLFSTVTLGAAAVL
               ||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||
orf135-1       MDTAKKDILGSGWMLVAAACFTIMNVLIKEASAKFALGSGELVFWRMLFSTVALGAAAVL

orf135ng-1.pep RRDTFRTPHWKNHLNRSMVGTGAMLLLFYAVTHLPLTTGVTLSYTSSIFLAVFSFLILKE
               |||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||
orf135-1       RRDXFRTPHWKNHLNRSMVGTGAMLLLFYAVTHLPLATGVTLSYTSSIFLAVFSFLILKE

orf135ng-1.pep RISVYTQAVLLLGFAGVVLLLNPSFRSGQEPAALAGLAGGAMSGWAYLKVRELSLAGEPG
               |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf135-1       RISVYTQAVLLLGFAGVVLLLNPSFRSGQETAALAGLAGGAMSGWAYLKVRELSLAGEPG

orf135ng-1.pep WRVVFYLSATGVAMSSVWATLTGWHTLSFPSAVYLSGIGVSALIAQLSMTRAYKVGDKFT
               ||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||
orf135-1       WRVVFYLSVTGVAMSSVWATLTGWHTLSFPSAVYLSCIGVSALIAQLSMTRAYKVGDKFT

orf135ng-1.pep VASLSYMTVVFSALSAAFFLGEELFWQEILGMCIIILSGILSSIRPIAFKQRLQALFRQR
               |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||:|||||
orf135-1       VASLSYMTVVFSALSAAFFLGEELFWQEILGMCIIILSGILSSIRPTAFKQRLQSLFRQR
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of several putative transmembrane domains in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 66

The following DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 549>:

```
  1  ATGAAGCGGC GTATAGCCGT CTTCGTCCTG TTCCCGCAGA TAATCCGAGT
 51  TTTGGGACAA CTGTTGCCGA AAATCGTCAA TACAGTTCCG GCACATCGGA
101  TGCTCTTCCA GATTTTCGGG ATGTTCTTTT TCTTCATACA CCAGCAATAT
151  CTGCCCGGGA TCGCCGAAAT CGATTCCCCA TGCGGCATCG TGTTCGGTGC
201  GCTCCTCTTC CGTCATCTGC CCGCGCATTG CCTGTATGGT AAAGCCGCCG
251  TAGGGGATGC CgTTGCACAC GAACATCCAG TCGCTGATGT CGTCAACCGG
301  AACGCAAACG cTTTCGCCTT GTTCGACATT GGTCAGTTCG CCsGGTTCAT
351  TGTTCAGCAC ACCGTAAATA TAAAGACCGT CAAAATAAAT ATCGTCGATC
401  CACATATGTT CGCAAATTTC GCCGTCTTCG CCGTCTTGGA AAAAAGGGAC
451  TTTGACCATG GCAAAATCCA AGGCGGAAAT AATGCGGCGG CGTTCCCAAA
501  AAAGcTCGCG CCAAAAATAT TTGAATGTTT TACGGGCGCG TTCGTCGGCA
551  CGGTTTACCG GTTCGTCTGC CTGTTCTACA TAATAAATGA CGGAATCGCC
601  CATCATATCT GCTCCTCAAC GTGTACGGTA TCTGTTTGCA CCTTACTGCG
651  GCTTTCTgcC kTCGGCATCC GATTCGGATT TGAAAAGTTC mmrwyATTCG
701  GAATAG
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 550; ORF136>:

```
  1  MKRRIAVFVL FPQIIRVLGQ LLPKIVNTVP AHRMLFQIFG MFFFFIHQQY
 51  LPGIAEIDSP CGIVFGALLF RHLPAHCLYG KAAVGDAVAH EHPVADVVNR
```

```
101  NANAFALFDI GQFAXFIVQH TVNIKTVKIN IVDPHMFANF AVFAVLEKRD
151  FDHGKIQGGN NAAAFPKKLA PKIFECFTGA FVGTVYRFVC LFYIINDGIA
201  HHSAPQRVRY LFAPYCGFLP SASDSDLKSS XXSE*
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 551>:

```
  1  ATGATGAAGC GGCGTATAGC CGTCTTCGTC CTGTTCCCGC AGATAATCCG
 51  AGTTTTGGGA CAACTGTTGC CGAAAATCGT CAATACAGTT CCGGCACATC
101  GGATGCTCTT CCAGATTTTC GGGATGTTCT TTTTCTTCAT ACACCAGCAA
151  TATCTGCCCG GGATCGCCGA AATCGATTCC CCATGCGGCA TCGTGTTCGG
201  TGCGCTCCTC TTCCGTCATC TGCCCGCGCA TTGCCTGTAT GGTAAAGCCG
251  CCGTAGGGGA TGCCGTTGCA CACGAACATC CAGTCGCTGA TGTCGTCAAC
301  CGGAACGCAA ACGCTTTCGC CTTGTTCGAC ATTGGTCAGT TCGCCGGGTT
351  CATTGTTCAG CACACCGTAA ATATAAAGAC CGTCAAAATA AATATCGTCG
401  ATCCACATAT GTTCGCAAAT TTCGCCGTCT TCGCCGTCTT GGAAAAAAGG
451  GACTTTGACC ATGGCAAAAT CCAAGGCGGA AATAATGCGG CGGCGTTCCC
501  AAAAAAGCTC GCGCCAAAAA TATTTGAATG TTTTACGGGC GCGTTCGTCG
551  GCACGGTTTA CCGGTTCGTC TGCCTGTTCT ACATAATAAA TGACGGAATC
601  GCCCATCATT CTGCTCCTCA ACGTGTACGG TATCTGTTTG CACCTTACTG
651  CGGCTTTCTG CCTTCGGCAT CCGATTCGGA TTTGAAAAGT TCCAAATATT
701  CGGAATAG
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 552; ORF136-1>:

```
  1  MMKRRIAVFV LFPQIIRVLG QLLPKIVNTV PAHRMLFQIF GMFFFFIHQQ
 51  YLPGIAEIDS PCGIVFGALL FRHLPAHCLY GKAAVGDAVA HEHPVADVVN
101  RNANAFALFD IGQFAGFIVQ HTVNIKTVKI NIVDPHMFAN FAVFAVLEKR
151  DFDHGKIQGG NNAAAFPKKL APKIFECFTG AFVGTVYRFV CLFYIINDGI
201  AHHSAPQRVR YLFAPYCGFL PSASDSDLKS SKYSE*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF136 shows 71.7% identity over a 237aa overlap with an ORF (ORF136a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                    10         20         30         40         50         59
orf136.pep    MKRRIAVFVLFPQIIRVLGQLLPKIVNTVPAHRMLFQIFGMFFFFIHQQYLPGIAEIDS
              ||||||||||: | ||:||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||
orf136a       MMKRRIAVFVLLMQKIRILGQLLPKIVNTVPAHRMLFQXFGMFFFFIHQQYLPGIAEIDS
                     10         20         30         40         50         60

              60         70         80         90         100        110        119
orf136.pep    PCGIVFGALLFRHLPAHCLYGKAAVGDAVAHEHPVADVVNRNANAFALFDIGQFAXFIVQ
              |||||||:|||||  :||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||
orf136a       PCGIVFGTLLFRHXSTHCLYGKAAVGNAVAHEHPVADVVNRNANAFALFDIGQFAGFIVQ
                     70         80         90         100        110        120

             120        130        140        150        160        170        179
orf136.pep    HTVNIKTVKINIVDPHMFANFAVFAVLEKRDFDHGKIQGGNNAAAFPKKLAPKIFECFTG
              |::|:|||||||||||||||||| ||||||| :  :| :          |:   | :: : :
orf136a       HAINVKTVKINIVDPHMFANFAXFAVLEKRALTMAKSKXXXMRRRSQKSSRQKYLNVLRA
                     130        140        150        160        170        180

             180        190        200          210        220        230
orf136.pep    AFVGTVYRFVCLFYIINDGIAHH---SAPQRVRYLFAPYCGFLPSASDSDLKSSXXSEX
                 :  ||: |    :  :::    |||||||||||||||||||||||||||  |||
orf136a       R---SPARFTGLSACSTXXMTESPIISAPQRVRYLFAPYCGFLPSASDSDLKSSKYSEX
                        190        200        210        220        230
```

The complete length ORF136a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 553> is:

```
  1  ATGATGAAGC GGCGTATAGC CGTCTTCGTC CTGCTCATGC AGAAAATCCG
 51  GATTTTGGGA CAACTGTTGC CGAAAATCGT CAATACAGTT CCGGCACATC
101  GGATGCTCTT CCAGATNTTC GGGATGTTCT TTTTCTTCAT ACACCAGCAA
151  TACCTGCCCG GGATCGCCGA AATCGATTCC CCATGCGGCA TCGTGTTCGG
201  TACGCTCCTC TTCCGTCATC NGTCCACGCA TTGCCTGTAT GGTAAAGCCG
251  CCGTAGGGAA TGCCGTTGCA CACGAACATC CAGTCGCTGA TGTCGTCAAC
```

```
301  CGGAACGCAA ACGCTTTCGC CTTGTTCGAC ATTGGTCAGT TCGCCGGGTT
351  CATTGTTCAG CACGCCATAA ATGTAAAGAC CGTCAAAATA AATATCGTCG
401  ATCCACATAT GTTCGCAAAT TTCGCCNTCT TCGCCGTCTT GGAAAAAAGG
451  GCTTTGACCA TGGCAAAATC TAAGGNGNNA NNGATGCGGC GGCGTTCCCA
501  AAAAAGCTCG CGCCAAAAAT ATTTGAATGT TTTGCGGGCG CGTTCGCCGG
551  CACGGTTTAC CGGTTTGTCT GCCTGTTCTA CATAATAAAT GACGGAATCG
601  CCCATCATAT CTGCTCCTCA ACGTGTACGG TATCTGTTTG CACCTTACTG
651  CGGCTTTCTG CCTTCGGCAT CCGATTCGGA TTTGAAAAGT TCCAAATATT
701  CGGAATAG
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 554>:

```
  1  MMKRRIAVFV LLMQKIRILG QLLPKIVNTV PAHRMLFQXF GMFFFFIHQQ
 51  YLPGIAEIDS PCGIVFGTLL FRHXSTHCLY GKAAVGNAVA HEHPVADVVN
101  RNANAFALFD IGQFAGFIVQ HAINVKTVKI NIVDPHMFAN FAXFAVLEKR
151  ALTMAKSKXX XMRRRSQKSS RQKYLNVLRA RSPARFTGLS ACST**MTES
201  PIISAPQRVR YLFAPYCGFL PSASDSDLKS SKYSE*
```

ORF136a and ORF136-1 show 73.1% identity in 238 aa overlap:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf136a.pep     MMKRRIAVFVLLMQKIRILGQLLPKIVNTVPAHRMLFQXFGMFFFFIHQQYLPGIAEIDS
                ||||||||||| | ||:||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||
orf136-1        MMKRRIAVFVLFPQIIRVLGQLLPKIVNTVPAHRMLFQIFGMFFFFIHQQYLPGIAEIDS
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf136a.pep     PCGIVFGTLLFRHXSTHCLYGKAAVGNAVAHEHPVADVVNRNANAFALFDIGQFAGFIVQ
                |||||||:|||||  :||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf136-1        PCGIVFGALLFRHLPAHCLYGKAAVGDAVAHEHPVADVVNRNANAFALFDIGQFAGFIVQ
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf136a.pep     HAINVKTVKINIVDPHMFANFAXFAVLEKRALTMAKSKXXXMRRRSQKSSRQKYLNVLRA
                |::|:|||||||||||||||||| ||||||| :  :| :          |:    | :: : :
orf136-1        HTVNIKTVKINIVDPHMFANFAVFAVLEKRDFDHGKIQGGNNAAAFPKKLAPKIFECFTG
                   130       140       150       160       170       180

                     190       200       210       220       230
orf136a.pep     R---SPARFTGLSACSTXXMTESPIISAPQRVRYLFAPYCGFLPSASDSDLKSSKYSEX
                    :  ||: |    :  :::    ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf136-1        AFVGTVYRFVCLFYIINDGIAHH---SAPQRVRYLFAPYCGFLPSASDSDLKSSKYSEX
                   190       200       210       220       230
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF136 shows 92.3% identity over a 234aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF136ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf136.pep    MKRRIAVFVLFPQIIRVLGQLLPKIVNTVPAHRMLFQIFGMFFFFIHQQYLPGIAEIDS   59
              ||||||||||: | ||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||
orf136ng      MMKRRIAVFVLLMQKIRILGQLLPKIVNTVPAHRMLFQIFGMFFFFIHRQYLPGIAEIDS   60

orf136.pep    PCGIVFGALLFRHLPAHCLYGKAAVGDAVAHEHPVADVVNRNANAFALFDIGQFAXFIVQ  119
              | |||||:|||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||| | ||||
orf136ng      PGGIVFGTLLFRHLSAHCLYGKAAVGDAVAHEHPVADVANRNANAFALFDIGQSAGFIVQ  120

orf136.pep    HTVNIKTVKINIVDPHMFANFAVFAVLEKRDFDHGKIQGGNNAAAFPKKLAPKIFECFTG  179
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||
orf136ng      HTVNIKTVKINIVDPHMFANFAVFAVLEKRDFDHGKIQGGNNAAAFPKKLAPKVFECFTG  180

orf136.pep    AFVGTVYRFVCLFYIINDGIAHHSAPQRVRYLFAPYCGFLPSASDSDLKSSXXSE  234
              ||:|||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||| |||| |||||||||  ||
orf136ng      AFAGTVYRFVCLFYIINDGIAHHTAPQRVRYLFAPYRGFLPPASDSDLKSSKYSE  235
```

The complete length ORF136ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 555> is:

```
  1  ATGATGAAGC GGCGTATAGC CGTCTTCGTC CTGCTCATGC AGAAAATCCG
 51  GATTTTGGGA CAACTGTTGC CGAAAATCGT CAATACAGTT CCGGCACATC
```

```
 101  GGATGCTCTT CCAAATTTTC GGGATGTTCT TTTTCTTCAT ACACCGGCAA
 151  TACCTGCCCG GGATCGCCGA AATCGATTCC CCAGGCGGTA TCGTGTTCGG
 201  TACGCTCCTC TTCCGTCATC TGTCCGCGCA TTGCCTGTAC GGTAAAGCCG
 251  CCGTAGGGGA TGCCGTTGCA CACGAACATC CAGTCGCTGA TGTCGCCAAC
 301  CGGAACGCAA ACGCTTTCGC CTTGTTCGAC ATTGGTCAGT CCGCCGGGTT
 351  CATTGTTCAG CACACCGTAA ATATAAAGAC CGTCAAAATA AATATCGTCG
 401  ATCCACATAT GTTCGCAAAT TTCGCCGTCT TCGCCGTCTT GGAAAAAAGG
 451  GACTTTGACC ATGGCAAAAT CCAAGGCGGA AATAATGCGG CGGCGTTCCC
 501  AAAAAAGCTC GCGCCAAAAG TATTTGAATG TTTTACGGGC GCGTTCGCCG
 551  GCACGGTTTA CCGGTTCGTC TGCCTGTTCT ACATAATAAA TGACGGAATC
 601  GCCCATCATA CTGCTCCTCA ACGTGTACGG TATCTGTTTG CACCTTACCG
 651  CGGTTTTCTA CCTCCGGCAT CCGATTCGGA TTTGAAAAGT TCCAAATATT
 701  CGGAATAG
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 556>:

```
   1  MMKRRIAVFV LLMQKIRILG QLLPKIVNTV PAHRMLFQIF GMFFFFIHRQ
  51  YLPGIAEIDS PGGIVFGTLL FRHLSAHCLY GKAAVGDAVA HEHPVADVAN
 101  RNANAFALFD IGQSAGFIVQ HTVNIKTVKI NIVDPHMFAN FAVFAVLEKR
 151  DFDHGKIQGG NNAAAFPKKL APKVFECFTG AFAGTVYRFV CLFYIINDGI
 201  AHHTAPQRVR YLFAPYRGFL PPASDSDLKS SKYSE*
```

ORF136ng and ORF136-1 show 93.6% identity in 235 aa overlap:

```
orf136ng    MMKRRIAVFVLLMQKIRILGQLLPKIVNTVPAHRMLFQIFGMFFFFIHRQYLPGIAEIDS
            ||||||||||| | ||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||
orf136-1    MMKRRIAVFVLFPQIIRVLGQLLPKIVNTVPAHRMLFQIFGMFFFFIHQQYLPGIAEIDS

orf136ng    PGGIVFGTLLFRHLSAHCLYGKAAVGDAVAHEHPVADVANRNANAFALFDIGQSAGFIVQ
            | ||||:|||||| |||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||| ||||||
orf136-1    PCGIVFGALLFRHLPAHCLYGKAAVGDAVAHEHPVADVVNRNANAFALFDIGQFAGFIVQ

orf136ng    HTVNIKTVKINIVDPHMFANFAVFAVLEKRDFDHGKIQGGNNAAAFPKKLAPKVFECFTG
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||
orf136-1    HTVNIKTVKINIVDPHMFANFAVFAVLEKRDFDHGKIQGGNNAAAFPKKLAPKIFECFTG

orf136ng    AFAGTVYRFVCLFYIINDGIAHHTAPQRVRYLFAPYRGFLPPASDSDLKSSKYSEX
            ||:|||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||| |||| ||||||||||||||
orf136-1    AFVGTVYRFVCLFYIINDGIAHHSAPQRVRYLFAPYCGFLPSASDSDLKSSKYSEX
```

Based on the presence of the putative transmembrane domains in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 67

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 557>:

```
   1  ATGGAAAATA TGGTAACGTT TTCAAAAATC AGACCGCTTT TGGCAATCGC
  51  CGCCGCCGCG TTGCTTGCCG CC.TGCGGAC GGCGGGAAAT AATGCTGTCC
 101  GCAAGCCGGT GCAAACCGCC AAACCCGCCG CAGTGGTCGG TTTGGCACTC
 151  GGTGGCGGCG CATCTAAAGG ATTTGCCCAT GTAGGTATTA TTAAGGTTTT
 201  GAAAGAAAAC GGTATTCCTG TGAAGGTGGT TACCGGCACC TCCGCAGGTT
 251  CGATTGTCGG CAACCTTTTT GCATCGGGTA TGTCGCCCGA CCGCCTCGAA
 301  TTGGAAGCCG AAATTTTAGG CAAAACCGAT TTGGTCGATT TAACCTTGTC
 351  CACCAATGGG TTTATCAAAG GCGCAAAGCT GCAAAATTAC ATCAACCGAA
 401  AACTCCGCGG CATGCAGATT CAGCAGTTTC CCATCAAATT TGCCGCC..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 558; ORF137>:

```
   1  MENMVTFSKI RPLLAIAAAA LLAAXRTAGN NAVRKPVQTA KPAAVVGLAL
  51  GGGASKGFAH VGIIKVLKEN GIPVKVVTGT SAGSIVGNLF ASGMSPDRLE
 101  LEAEILGKTD LVDLTLSTNG FIKGAKLQNY INRKLRGMQI QQFPIKFAA..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 559>:

```
   1  ATGGAAAATA TGGTAACGTT TTCAAAAATC AGACCGCTTT TGGCAATCGC
  51  CGCCGCCGCG TTGCTTGCCG CCTGCGGCAC GGCGGGAAAT AATGCTGTCC
 101  GCAAGCCGGT GCAAACCGCC AAACCCGCCG CAGTGGTCGG TTTGGCACTC
 151  GGTGGCGGCG CATCTAAAGG ATTTGCCCAT GTAGGTATTA TTAAGGTTTT
 201  GAAAGAAAAC GGTATTCCTG TGAAGGTGGT TACCGGCACA TCGGCAGGTT
 251  CGATTGTCGG CAGCCTTTTT GCATCGGGTA TGTCGCCCGA CCGCCTCGAA
 301  TTGGAAGCCG AAATTTTAGG CAAAACCGAT TTGGTCGATT TAACCTTGTC
 351  CACCAGTGGT TTTATCAAAG GCGAAAAGCT GCAAAATTAC ATCAACCGAA
 401  AAGTCGGCGG CAGGCAGATT CAGCAGTTTC CCATCAAATT TGCCGCCGTT
 451  GCTACTGATT TTGAAACCGG CAAGGCCGTC GCTTTCAATC AGGGGAATGC
 501  CGGGCAGGCT GTGCGCGCTT CCGCCGCCAT TCCCAATGTG TTCCAACCCG
 551  TTATCATCGG CAGGCATACA TATGTTGACG GCGGTCTGTC GCAGCCCGTG
 601  CCCGTCAGTG CCGCCCGGCG GCAGGGGGCG AATTTCGTGA TTGCCGTCGA
 651  TATTTCCGCC CGTCCGGGCA AAAACATCAG CCAAGGTTTC TTCTCTTATC
 701  TCGATCAGAC GCTGAACGTA ATGAGCGTTT CTGCGTTGCA AAATGAGTTG
 751  GGGCAGGCGG ATGTGGTTAT CAAACCGCAG GTTTTGGATT TGGGTGCAGT
 801  CGGCGGATTC GATCAGAAAA AACGCGCCAT CCGGTTGGGT GAGGAGGCAG
 851  CACGTGCCGC ATTGCCTGAA ATCAAACGCA AACTGGCGGC ATACCGTTAT
 901  TGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 560; ORF137-1>:

```
   1  MENMVTFSKI RPLLAIAAAA LLAACGTAGN NAVRKPVQTA KPAAVVGLAL
  51  GGGASKGFAH VGIIKVLKEN GIPVKVVTGT SAGSIVGSLF ASGMSPDRLE
 101  LEAEILGKTD LVDLTLSTSG FIKGEKLQNY INRKVGGRQI QQFPIKFAAV
 151  ATDFETGKAV AFNQGNAGQA VRASAAIPNV FQPVIIGRHT YVDGGLSQPV
 201  PVSAARRQGA NFVIAVDISA RPGKNISQGF FSYLDQTLNV MSVSALQNEL
 251  GQADVVIKPQ VLDLGAVGGF DQKKRAIRLG EEAARAALPE IKRKLAAYRY
 301  *
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF137 shows 93.3% identity over a 149aa overlap with an ORF (ORF137a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                  10        20        30        40        50        60
orf137.pep   MENMVTFSKIRPLLAIAAAALLAAXRTAGNNAVRKPVQTAKPAAVVGLALGGGASKGFAH
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||  ||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf137a      MENMVTFSKIRPLLAIAAAALLAACGTAGNNAARKPVQTAKPAAVVGLALGGGASKGFAH
                  10        20        30        40        50        60

                  70        80        90        100       110       120
orf137.pep   VGIIKVLKENGIPVKVVTGTSAGSIVGNLFASGMSPDRLELEAEILGKTDLVDLTLSTNG
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|
orf137a      VGIIKVLKENGIPVKVVTGTSAGSIVGSLFASGMSPDRLELEAEILGKTDLVDLTLSTSG
                  70        80        90        100       110       120

                 130       140      149
orf137.pep   FIKGAKLQNYINRKLRGMQIQQFPIKFAA
             |||| |||||||||: | :||||||||||
orf137a      FIKGEKLQNYINRKVGGRRIQQFPIKFAAVATDFETGKAVAFNQGNAGQAVRASAAIPNV
                 130       140       150       160       170       180
```

The complete length ORF137a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 561> is:

```
   1  ATGGAAAATA TGGTAACGTT TTCAAAAATC AGACCGCTTT TGGCAATCGC
  51  CGCCGCCGCG TTGCTTGCCG CCTGCGGCAC GGCGGGAAAT AATGCTGCCC
 101  GCAAGCCGGT GCAAACCGCC AAACCCGCCG CAGTGGTCGG TTTGGCACTC
 151  GGTGGCGGCG CATCTAAAGG ATTTGCCCAT GTAGGTATTA TTAAGGTTTT
 201  GAAAGAAAAC GGTATTCCTG TGAAGGTGGT TACCGGCACA TCGGCAGGTT
 251  CGATAGTCGG CAGCCTTTTT GCATCGGGTA TGTCGCCCGA CCGCCTCGAA
 301  TTGGAAGCCG AAATTTTAGG TAAAACCGAT TTGGTCGATT TAACCTTGTC
 351  CACCAGTGGT TTTATCAAAG GCGAAAAGCT GCAAAATTAC ATCAACCGAA
 401  AAGTCGGCGG CAGGCGGATT CAGCAGTTTC CCATCAAATT TGCCGCCGTT
 451  GCTACTGATT TTGAAACCGG CAAGGCCGTC GCTTTCAATC AAGGGAATGC
 501  CGGGCAGGCT GTGCGCGCTT CCGCCGCCAT TCCCAATGTG TTCCAACCCG
 551  TTATCATCGG CAGGCATACA TATGTTGACG GCGGTCTGTC GCAGCCCGTG
```

```
601  CCCGTCAGTG CCGCCCGGCG GCANGNNNNG NATNTCGTGA TTGCCGTCGA
651  TATTTCCGCC CGTCCGAGCA AAAACATCAG CCAAGGCTTC TTCTCTTATC
701  TCGATCAGAC GCTGAACGTA ATGAGCGTTT CCGCGTTGCA AAATGAGTTG
751  GGGCAGGCGG ATGTGGTTAT CAAACCGCAG GTTTTGGATT TGGGTGCAGT
801  CGGCGGATTC GATCAGAAAA AACGCGCCAT CCGGTTGGGT GAGGAGGCAG
851  CACGTGCCGC ATTGCCTGAA ATCAAACGCA AACTGGCGGC ATACCGTTAT
901  TGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 562>:

```
  1  MENMVTFSKI RPLLAIAAAA LLAACGTAGN NAARKPVQTA KPAAVVGLAL
 51  GGGASKGFAH VGIIKVLKEN GIPVKVVTGT SAGSIVGSLF ASGMSPDRLE
101  LEAEILGKTD LVDLTLSTSG FIKGEKLQNY INRKVGGRRI QQFPIKFAAV
151  ATDFETGKAV AFNQGNAGQA VRASAAIPNV FQPVIIGRHT YVDGGLSQPV
201  PVSAARRXXX XXVIAVDISA RPSKNISQGF FSYLDQTLNV MSVSALQNEL
251  GQADVVIKPQ VLDLGAVGGF DQKKRAIRLG EEAARAALPE IKRKLAAYRY
301  *
```

ORF137a and ORF137-1 show 97.3% identity in 300 aa overlap:

```
orf137a.pep   MENMVTFSKIRPLLAIAAAALLAACGTAGNNAARKPVQTAKPAAVVGLALGGGASKGFAH
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf137-1      MENMVTFSKIRPLLAIAAAALLAACGTAGNNAVRKPVQTAKPAAVVGLALGGGASKGFAH

orf137a.pep   VGIIKVLKENGIPVKVVTGTSAGSIVGSLFASGMSPDRLELEAEILGKTDLVDLTLSTSG
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf137-1      VGIIKVLKENGIPVKVVTGTSAGSIVGSLFASGMSPDRLELEAEILGKTDLVDLTLSTSG

orf137a.pep   FIKGEKLQNYINRKVGGRRIQQFPIKFAAVATDFETGKAVAFNQGNAGQAVRASAAIPNV
              ||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf137-1      FIKGEKLQNYINRKVGGRQIQQFPIKFAAVATDFETGKAVAFNQGNAGQAVRASAAIPNV

orf137a.pep   FQPVIIGRHTYVDGGLSQPVPVSAARRXXXXXVIAVDISARPSKNISQGFFSYLDQTLNV
              |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||      ||||||||||:||||||||||||||
orf137-1      FQPVIIGRHTYVDGGLSQPVPVSAARRQGANFVIAVDISARPGKNISQGFFSYLDQTLNV

orf137a.pep   MSVSALQNELGQADVVIKPQVLDLGAVGGFDQKKRAIRLGEEAARAALPEIKRKLAAYRY
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf137-1      MSVSALQNELGQADVVIKPQVLDLGAVGGFDQKKRAIRLGEEAARAALPEIKRKLAAYRY
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF137 shows 89.9% identity over a 149aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF137ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf137.pep   MENMVTFSKIRPLLAIAAAALLAAXRTAGNNAVRKPVQTAKPAAVVGLALGGGASKGFAH   60
             |||||||||||  :|||||||||||  ||||||:|||||||||||||:||||||||||||
orf137ng     MENMVTFSKIRSFLAIAAAALLAACGTAGNNAARKPVQTAKPAAVVALALGGGASKGFAH   60

orf137.pep   VGIIKVLKENGIPVKVVTGTSAGSIVGNLFASGMSPDRLELEAEILGKTDLVDLTLSTNG  120
             :||:|||||||||||||||||||||||:|:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|
orf137ng     IGIVKVLKENGIPVKVVTGTSAGSIVGSLLASGMSPDRLELEAEILGKTDLVDLTLSTSG  120

orf137.pep   FIKGAKLQNYINRKLRGMQIQQFPIKFAA                                 149
             |||| |||||||||: | ||||||||||
orf137ng     FIKGEKLQNYINRKVGGRQIQQFPIKFAAVATDFETGKAVAFNQGNAGQAVRASAAIPNV  180
```

The complete length ORF137ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 563> is:

```
  1  ATGGAAAATA TGGTAACGTT TTCAAAAATC AGATCATTTT TGGCAATCGC
 51  CGCCGCCGCG TTGCTTGCCG CCTGCGGTAC GGCGGGAAAC AATGCCGCCC
101  GCAAGCCGGT GCAAACCGCC AAACCCGCCG CAGTGGTCGC TTTGGCACTC
151  GGTGGCGGCG CATCTAAAGG ATTTGCCCAT ATAGGAATTG TTAAGGTTTT
201  GAAAGAAAAC GGTATTCCTG TGAAGGTGGT TACCGGCACA TCGGCAGGTT
251  CGATAGTCGG CAGCCTTTTG GCATCGGGTA TGTCGCCCGA CCGCCTCGAA
301  TTGGAAGCCG AGATTTTAGG TAAAACCGAT TTAGTCGATT TAACCTTGTC
351  CACCAGTGGT TTTATCAAAG GCGAAAAGCT GCAAAATTAC ATCAACCGAA
401  AAGTCGGCGG CAGGCAGATT CAGCAGTTTC CCATCAAATT TGCCGCCGTT
451  GCCACTGATT TTGAAACCGG CAAGGCCGTC GCTTTCAATC AAGGGAATGC
```

```
501  CGGGCAGGCG GTTCGTGCTT CCGCCGCCAT TCCCAATGTG TTCCAGCCAG
551  TCATCATCGG CAGGCACAAA TATGTTGACG GCGGTCTGTC GCAGCCCGTG
601  CCCGTCAGTG CCGCTCGGCG GCAGGGGGCG AATTTCGTGA TTGCCGTCGA
651  TATTTCCGCA CGTCCGAGCA AAAATGTCGG TCAAGGTTTC TTCTCTTATC
701  TCGATCAGAC GCTGAACGTG ATGAGCGTTT CCGTGTTGCA AAACGAGTTG
751  gggcAGGCGG ATGTGGTTAT CAAACCGCag gtTTTGGATT TGGGTGCAGT
801  CGGCGGATTC GATCAGAAAA AGCGCGCCAT CCGGTTGGGC GAGGAGGCAG
851  CACGTGCCGC ATTGCCTGAA ATCAAACGCA AACTGGCGGC ATACCGTTAT
901  TGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 564>:

```
  1  MENMVTFSKI RSFLAIAAAA LLAACGTAGN NAARKPVQTA KPAAVVALAL
 51  GGGASKGFAH IGIVKVLKEN GIPVKVVTGT SAGSIVGSLL ASGMSPDRLE
101  LEAEILGKTD LVDLTLSTSG FIKGEKLQNY INRKVGGRQI QQFPIKFAAV
151  ATDFETGKAV AFNQGNAGQA VRASAAIPNV FQPVIIGRHK YVDGGLSQPV
201  PVSAARRQGA NFVIAVDISA RPSKNVGQGF FSYLDQTLNV MSVSVLQNEL
251  GQADVVIKPQ VLDLGAVGGF DQKKRAIRLG EEAARAALPE IKRKLAAYRY
301  *
```

ORF137ng and ORF137-1 show 96.0% identity in 300 aa overlap:

```
orf137ng      MENMVTFSKIRSFLAIAAAALLAACGTAGNNAARKPVQTAKPAAVVALALGGGASKGFAH
              ||||||||||| :|||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||:||||||||||||
orf137-1      MENMVTFSKIRPLLAIAAAALLAACGTAGNNAVRKPVQTAKPAAVVGLALGGGASKGFAH

orf137ng      IGIVKVLKENGIPVKVVTGTSAGSIVGSLLASGMSPDRLELEAEILGKTDLVDLTLSTSG
              :||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf137-1      VGIIKVLKENGIPVKVVTGTSAGSIVGSLFASGMSPDRLELEAEILGKTDLVDLTLSTSG

orf137ng      FIKGEKLQNYINRKVGGRQIQQFPIKFAAVATDFETGKAVAFNQGNAGQAVRASAAIPNV
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf137-1      FIKGEKLQNYINRKVGGRQIQQFPIKFAAVATDFETGKAVAFNQGNAGQAVRASAAIPNV

orf137ng      FQPVIIGRHKYVDGGLSQPVPVSAARRQGANFVIAVDISARPSKNVGQGFFSYLDQTLNV
              ||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||::||||||||||||||
orf137-1      FQPVIIGRHTYVDGGLSQPVPVSAARRQGANFVIAVDISARPGKNISQGFFSYLDQTLNV

orf137ng      MSVSVLQNELGQADVVIKPQVLDLGAVGGFDQKKRAIRLGEEAARAALPEIKRKLAAYRY
              ||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf137         MSVSALQNELGQADVVIKPQVLDLGAVGGFDQKKRAIRLGEEAARAALPEIKRKLAAYRY
```

Based on the presence of a predicted prokaryotic membrane lipoprotein lipid attachment site (underlined) in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 68

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 565>:

```
  1  ATGTTTCGTT TACAATTCAG GCTGTTTCCC CCTTTGCGAA CCGCCATGCA
 51  CATCCTGTTG ACCGCCCTGC TCAAATGCCT CTCCCTGcTG CCGCTTTCCT
101  GTCTGCACAC GCTGGGAAAC CGGCTCGGAC ATCTGGCGTT TTACCTTTTA
151  AAGGAAGACC GCGCGCGCAT CGTCGCCmAT ATGCGGCAGG CGGGTTTGAA
201  CCCCGACCCC AAAACGGTCA AAGCCGTTTT TGCGGAAACG GCAAAAGGCG
251  GTTTGGAACT TGCCCCCGCG TTTTTCAGAA AACCGGAAGA CATAGAAACA
301  ATGTTCAAAG CGGTACACGG CTGGGAACAT GTGCAGCAGG CTTTGGACAA
351  ACACGAAGGG CTGCTATTC..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 566; ORF138>:

```
  1  MFRLQFRLFP PLRTAMHILL TALLKCLSLL PLSCLHTLGN RLGHLAFYLL
 51  KEDRARIVAX MRQAGLNPDP KTVKAVFAET AKGGLELAPA FFRKPEDIET
101  MFKAVHGWEH VQQALDKHEG LLF
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 567>:

```
   1  ATGTTTCGTT TACAATTCAG GCTGTTTCCC CCTTTGCGAA CCGCCATGCA
  51  CATCCTGTTG ACCGCCCTGC TCAAATGCCT CTCCCTGCTG CCGCTTTCCT
 101  GTCTGCACAC GCTGGGAAAC CGGCTCGGAC ATCTGGCGTT TTACCTTTTA
 151  AAGGAAGACC GCGCGCGCAT CGTCGCCAAT ATGCGGCAGG CGGGTTTGAA
 201  CCCCGACCCC AAAACGGTCA AAGCCGTTTT TGCGGAAACG GCAAAAGGCG
 251  GTTTGGAACT TGCCCCCGCG TTTTTCAGAA AACCGGAAGA CATAGAAACA
 301  ATGTTCAAAG CGGTACACGG CTGGGAACAT GTGCAGCAGG CTTTGGACAA
 351  ACACGAAGGG CTGCTATTCA TCACGCCGCA CATCGGCAGC TACGATTTGG
 401  GCGGACGCTA CATCAGCCAG CAGCTTCCGT TCCCGCTGAC CGCCATGTAC
 451  AAACCGCCGA AAATCAAAGC GATAGACAAA ATCATGCAGG CGGGCAGGGT
 501  TCGCGGCAAA GGAAAAACCG CGCCTACCAG CATACAAGGG GTCAAACAAA
 551  TCATCAAAGC CCTGCGTTCG GGCGAAGCAA CCATCGTCCT GCCCGACCAC
 601  GTCCCCTCCC CTCAAGAAGG CGGGGAAGGC GTATGGGTGG ATTTCTTCGG
 651  CAAACCTGCC TATACCATGA CGCTGGCGGC AAAATTGGCA CACGTCAAAG
 701  GCGTGAAAAC CCTGTTTTTC TGCTGCGAAC GCCTGCCTGG CGGACAAGGT
 751  TTCGATTTGC ACATCCGCCC CGTCCAAGGG GAATTGAACG GCGACAAAGC
 801  CCATGATGCC GCCGTGTTCA ACCGCAATGC CGAATATTGG ATACGCCGTT
 851  TTCCGACGCA GTATCTGTTT ATGTACAACC GCTACAAAAT GCCGTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 568; ORF138-1>:

```
   1  MFRLQFRLFP PLRTAMHILL TALLKCLSLL PLSCLHTLGN RLGHLAFYLL
  51  KEDRARIVAN MRQAGLNPDP KTVKAVFAET AKGGLELAPA FFRKPEDIET
 101  MFKAVHGWEH VQQALDKHEG LLFITPHIGS YDLGGRYISQ QLPFPLTAMY
 151  KPPKIKAIDK IMQAGRVRGK GKTAPTSIQG VKQIIKALRS GEATIVLPDH
 201  VPSPQEGGEG VWVDFFGKPA YTMTLAAKLA HVKGVKTLFF CCERLPGGQG
 251  FDLHIRPVQG ELNGDKAHDA AVFNRNAEYW IRRFPTQYLF MYNRYKMP*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF138 shows 99.2% identity over a 123aa overlap with an ORF (ORF138a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf138.pep  MFRLQFRLFPPLRTAMHILLTALLKCLSLLPLSCLHTLGNRLGHLAFYLLKEDRARIVAX
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf138a     MFRLQFRLFPPLRTAMHILLTALLKCLSLLPLSCLHTLGNRLGHLAFYLLKEDRARIVAN
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf138.pep  MRQAGLNPDPKTVKAVFAETAKGGLELAPAFFRKPEDIETMFKAVHGWEHVQQALDKHEG
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf138a     MRQAGLNPDPKTVKAVFAETAKGGLELAPAFFRKPEDIETMFKAVHGWEHVQQALDKHEG
                    70        80        90       100       110       120


orf138.pep  LLF
            |||
orf138a     LLFITPHIGSYDLGGRYISQQLPFPLTAMYKPPKIKAIDKIMQAGRVRGKGKTAPTSIQG
                  130       140       150       160       170       180
```

The complete length ORF138a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 569> is:

```
   1  ATGTTTCGTT TACAATTCAG GCTGTTTCCC CCTTTGCGAA CCGCCATGCA
  51  CATCCTGTTG ACCGCCCTGC TCAAATGCCT CTCCCTGCTG CCGCTTTCCT
 101  GTCTGCACAC GCTGGGAAAC CGGCTCGGAC ATCTGGCGTT TTACCTTTTA
 151  AAGGAAGACC GCGCGCGCAT CGTCGCCAAT ATGCGTCAGG CAGGCATGAA
 201  TCCCGACCCC AAAACGGTCA AAGCCGTTTT TGCGGAAACG GCAAAAGGCG
 251  GTTTGGAACT TGCCCCCGCG TTTTTCAGAA AACCGGAAGA CATAGAAACA
 301  ATGTTCAAAG CGGTACACGG CTGGGAACAT GTGCAGCAGG CTTTGGACAA
 351  ACACGAAGGG CTGCTATTCA TCACGCCGCA CATCGGCAGC TACGATTTGG
 401  GCGGACGCTA CATCAGCCAG CAGCTTCCGT TCCCGCTGAC CGCCATGTAC
 451  AAACCGCCGA AAATCAAAGC GATAGACAAA ATCATGCAGG CGGGCAGGGT
 501  TCGCGGCAAA GGAAAAACCG CGCCTACCAG CATACAAGGG GTCAAACAAA
 551  TCATCAAAGC CCTGCGTTCG GGCGAAGCAA CCATCGTCCT GCCCGACCAC
```

```
601  GTCCCCTCCC CTCAAGAAGG CGGGGAAGGC GTATGGGTGG ATTTCTTCGG
651  CAAACCTGCC TATACCATGA CGCTGGCGGC AAAATTGGCA CACGTCAAAG
701  GCGTGAAAAC CCTGTTTTTC TGCTGCGAAC GCCTGCCTGG CGGACAAGGT
751  TTCGATTTGC ACATCCGCCC CGTCCAAGGG GAATTGAACG GCGACAAAGC
801  CCATGATGCC GCCGTGTTCA ACCGCAATGC CGAATATTGG ATACGCCGTT
851  TTCCGACGCA GTATCTGTTT ATGTACAACC GCTACAAAAT GCCGTAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 570>:

```
  1  MFRLQFRLFP PLRTAMHILL TALLKCLSLL PLSCLHTLGN RLGHLAFYLL
 51  KEDRARIVAN MRQAGLNPDP KTVKAVFAET AKGGLELAPA FFRKPEDIET
101  MFKAVHGWEH VQQALDKHEG LLFITPHIGS YDLGGRYISQ QLPFPLTAMY
151  KPPKIKAIDK IMQAGRVRGK GKTAPTSIQG VKQIIKALRS GEATIVLPDH
201  VPSPQEGGEG VWVDFFGKPA YTMTLAAKLA HVKGVKTLFF CCERLPGGQG
251  FDLHIRPVQG ELNGDKAHDA AVFNRNAEYW IRRFPTQYLF MYNRYKMP*
```

ORF138a and ORF138-1 show 99.7% identity over a 298aa overlap:

```
orf138a.pep   MFRLQFRLFPPLRTAMHILLTALLKCLSLLPLSCLHTLGNRLGHLAFYLLKEDRARIVAN
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf138-1      MFRLQFRLFPPLRTAMHILLTALLKCLSLLPLSCLHTLGNRLGHLAFYLLKEDRARIVAN

orf138a.pep   MRQAGMNPDPKTVKAVFAETAKGGLELAPAFFRKPEDIETMFKAVHGWEHVQQALDKHEG
              ||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf138-1      MRQAGLNPDPKTVKAVFAETAKGGLELAPAFFRKPEDIETMFKAVHGWEHVQQALDKHEG

orf138a.pep   LLFITPHIGSYDLGGRYISQQLPFPLTAMYKPPKIKAIDKIMQAGRVRGKGKTAPTSIQG
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf138-1      LLFITPHIGSYDLGGRYISQQLPFPLTAMYKPPKIKAIDKIMQAGRVRGKGKTAPTSIQG

orf138a.pep   VKQIIKALRSGEATIVLPDHVPSPQEGGEGVWVDFFGKPAYTMTLAAKLAHVKGVKTLFF
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf138-1      VKQIIKALRSGEATIVLPDHVPSPQEGGEGVWVDFFGKPAYTMTLAAKLAHVKGVKTLFF

orf138a.pep   CCERLPGGQGFDLHIRPVQGELNGDKAHDAAVFNRNAEYWIRRFPTQYLFMYNRYKMP
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf138-1      CCERLPGGQGFDLHIRPVQGELNGDKAHDAAVFNRNAEYWIRRFPTQYLFMYNRYKMP
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF138 shows 94.3% identity over a 123aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF138ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf138.pep   MFRLQFRLFPPLRTAMHILLTALLKCLSLLPLSCLHTLGNRLGHLAFYLLKEDRARIVAX   60
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf138ng     MFRLQFRLFPPLRTAMHILLTALLKCLSLLSLSCLHTLGNRLGHLAFYLLKEDRARIVAN   60

orf138.pep   MRQAGLNPDPKTVKAVFAETAKGGLELAPAFFRKPEDIETMFKAVHGWEHVQQALDKHEG  120
             |||||||||  :|||||||||||  |||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||  ||
orf138ng     MRQAGLNPDTQTVKAVFAETAKCGLELAPAFFKKPEDIETMFKAVHGWEHVQQALDKGEG  120

orf138.pep   LLF                                                          123
             |||
orf138ng     LLFITPHIGSYDLGGRYISQQLPFHLTAMYKPPKIKAIDKIMQAGRVRGKGKTAPTGIQG  180
```

The complete length ORF138ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 571> is:

```
  1  ATGTTTCGTT TACAATTCAG GCTGTTTCCC CCTTTGCGAA CCGCCATGCA
 51  CATCCTGTTG ACCGCCCTGC TCAAATGCCT CTCCCTGCTG TCGCTTTCCT
101  GTCTGCACAC GCTGGGAAAC CGGCTCGGAC ATCTGGCGTT TTACCTTTTA
151  AAGGAAGACC GCGCGCGCAT CGTCGCCAAT ATGCGGCAGG CGGGTTTGAA
201  CCCCGACACG CAGACGGTCA AAGCCGTTTT TGCGGAAACG GCAAAATGCG
251  GTTTGGAACT TGCCCCCGCG TTTTTCAAAA AACCGGAAGA CATCGAAACA
301  ATGTTCAAAG CGGTACACGG CTGGGAACAC GTGCAGCAGG CTTTGGACAA
351  GGGCGAAGGG CTGCTGTTCA TCACGCCGCA CATCGGCAGC TACGATTTGG
401  GCGGACGCTA CATCAGCCAG CAGCTTCCGT TCCACCTGAC CGCCATGTAC
451  AAGCCGCCGA AAATCAAAGC GATAGACAAA ATCATGCAGG CGGGCAGGGT
501  GCGCGGCAAA GGCAAAACCg cgcccaccgg catACAAGGG GTCAAACAAA
551  tcatcaAGGC CCTGCGCGCG GGCGAGGCAA CCAtcATCCT GCCCGACCAC
```

```
601  GTCCCTTCTC CGCAGGAagg cggCGGCGTG TGGGCGGATT TTTTCGGCAA
651  ACCTGCATAc acCATGACAC TGGCGGCAAA ATTGGCACAC GTCAAAGGCG
701  TGAAAACCCT GTTTTTCTGC TGCGAACGCC TGCCCGACGG ACAAGGCTTC
751  GTGTTGCACA TCCGCCCCGT CCAAGGGGAA TTGAACGGCA ACAAAGCCCA
801  CGATGCCGCC GTGTTCAACC GCAATACCGA ATATTGGATA CGCCGTTTTC
851  CGACGCAGTA TCTGTTTATG TACAACCGCT ATAAAACGCC GTAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 572>:

```
  1  MFRLQFRLFP PLRTAMHILL TALLKCLSLL SLSCLHTLGN RLGHLAFYLL
 51  KEDRARIVAN MRQAGLNPDT QTVKAVFAET AKCGLELAPA FFKKPEDIET
101  MFKAVHGWEH VQQALDKGEG LLFITPHIGS YDLGGRYISQ QLPFHLTAMY
151  KPPKIKAIDK IMQAGRVRGK GKTAPTGIQG VKQIIKALRA GEATIILPDH
201  VPSPQEGGGV WADFFGKPAY TMTLAAKLAH VKGVKTLFFC CERLPDGQGF
251  VLHIRPVQGE LNGNKAHDAA VFNRNTEYWI RRFPTQYLFM YNRYKTP*
```

ORF138ng and ORF138-1 show 94.3% identity over 299aa overlap:

```
orf138-1.pep  MFRLQFRLFPPLRTAMHILLTALLKCLSLLPLSCLHTLGNRLGHLAFYLLKEDRARIVAN
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf138ng      MFRLQFRLFPPLRTAMHILLTALLKCLSLLSLSCLHTLGNRLGHLAFYLLKEDRARIVAN

orf138-1.pep  MRQAGLNPDPKTVKAVFAETAKGGLELAPAFFRKPEDIETMFKAVHGWEHVQQALDKHEG
              ||||||||| :||||||||||| |||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||| ||
orf138ng      MRQAGLNPDTQTVKAVFAETAKCGLELAPAFFKKPEDIETMFKAVHGWEHVQQALDKGEG

orf138-1.pep  LLFITPHIGSYDLGGRYISQQLPFPLTAMYKPPKIKAIDKIMQAGRVRGKGKTAPTSIQG
              |||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||
orf138ng      LLFITPHIGSYDLGGRYISQQLPFHLTAMYKPPKIKAIDKIMQAGRVRGKGKTAPTGIQG

orf138-1.pep  VKQIIKALRSGEATIVLPDHVPSPQEGGEGVWVDFFGKPAYTMTLAAKLAHVKGVKTLFF
              |||||||||:|||||:|||||||||||| |||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf138ng      VKQIIKALRAGEATIILPDHVPSPQEGG-GVWADFFGKPAYTMTLAAKLAHVKGVKTLFF

orf138-1.pep   CCERLPGGQGFDLHIRPVQGELNGDKAHDAAVFNRNAEYWIRRFPTQYLFMYNRYKMP
               |||||| |||| ||||||||||||:||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||| |
orf138ng       CCERLPDGQGFVLHIRPVQGELNGNKAHDAAVFNRNTEYWIRRFPTQYLFMYNRYKTP
```

In addition, ORF138ng is homologous to htrB protein from *Pseudomonas fluorescens*:

```
gnl|PID|e334283 (Y14568) htrB [Pseudomonas fluorescens] Length = 253
 Score = 80.8 bits (196), Expect = 9e-15
 Identities = 49/151 (32%), Positives = 79/151 (51%), Gaps = 6/151 (3%)

Query: 101 MFKAVHGWEHVQQALDKGEGLLFITPHIGSYD-LGGRYISQQLPFHLTAMYKPPKIKAID 159
           + + V G E +++AL  G+G++ IT H+G+++ L   Y SQ  P      Y+PPK+KA+D
Sbjct: 94  LVREVEGLEVLKEALASGKGVVGITSHLGNWEVLNHFYCSQCKPI---IFYRPPKLKAVD 150

Query: 160 KIMQAGRVRGKGKTAPTGIQGVKQIIKALRAGEATIILPDHVPSPQEGGGVWADFFGKPA 219
           ++++  RV+   K A +  +G+  +IK +R G    I  D  P P E  G++  FF   A
Sbjct: 151 ELLRKQRVQLGNKVAASTKEGILSVIKEVRKGGQVGIPAD--PEPAESAGIFVPFFATQA 208

Query: 220 YTMTLAAKLAHVKGVKTLFFCCERLPDGQGF 250
            T     +      +F    RLPDG G+
Sbjct: 209 LTSKFVPNMLAGGKAVGVFLHALRLPDGSGY 239
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of a putative transmembrane domain in the gonococcal protein, it was predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

ORF138-1 (57kDa) was cloned in the pGex vectors and expressed in *E.coli*, as described above. The products of protein expression and purification were analyzed by SDS-PAGE. Figure 14A shows the results of affinity purification of the GST-fusion protein. Purified GST-fusion protein was used to immunise mice, whose sera were used for ELISA (positive result) and FACS analysis

(Figure 14B). These experiments confirm that ORF138-1 is a surface-exposed protein, and that it is a useful immunogen.

Example 69

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 573>:

```
   1  ..GCGTGGTCGG CCGGCGAATC GTGGCGTGTG TTAATGGAAA GTGAAACGTG
  51    GCATGCGGTG TGGAATACTT TGCGCTTCTC GGCGGCGGCG GTGTATGCGG
 101    CAGCGGTTTT GGGTGTGGTG TATGCGGCGC CGGCGCGGCG GTCGGCGTGG
 151    ATGCGCGGGC TGATGTTTTA GCCGTTTATG GTGTCGCCGG TTTGTGTTTC
 201    GGCGGGCGTG CTGCTGCTTT ATCCGCAGTG GACGGCTTCG TTGCCGTTGC
 251    TGCTGGCGAT GTATGCGCTG CTGGCGTATC CGTTTGTGGC AAAAGATGTT
 301    TTATCAGCCT GGGATGCACT GCCGCCGGAT TACGGCAGGG CGGCGGCGGG
 351    TTTGGGTGCA AACGGCTTTC AGACGGCATG CCGCATCACG TTCCCCCTCT
 401    TGAAACCGGC GTTGCGGCGC GGTCTGACTT TGGCGGCGGC AACCTGCGTG
 451    GGCGAATTTG CGGCGACATT GTTTCTGTCG CGTCCGGAAT GGCAGACGCT
 501    GACGACTTTG ATTTATGCCT ATTTGGGACG CGCGGGTGAG GATAATTACG
 551    CGCGGGCGAT GGTGCTG..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 574; ORF139>:

```
   1  ..AWSAGESWRV LMESETWHAV WNTLRFSAAA VYAAAVLGVV YAAPARRSAW
  51    MRGLMFXPFM VSPVCVSAGV LLLYPQWTAS LPLLLAMYAL LAYPFVAKDV
 101    LSAWDALPPD YGRAAAGLGA NGFQTACRIT FPLLKPALRR GLTLAAATCV
 151    GEFAATLFLS RPEWQTLTTL IYAYLGRAGE DNYARAMVL..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 575>:

```
   1  ATGGATGGAC GGCGTTGGGT GGTATGGGGT GCTTTTGCCC TGCTGCCTTC
  51  GGCTTTTTTG GCGGTAATGG TCGTTGCGCC TTTGTGGGCG GTGGCGGCGT
 101  ATGACGGTTT GGCGTGGCGC GCGGTGCTGT CGGATGCCTA TATGCTCAAA
 151  CGTTTGGCGT GGACGGTATT TCAGGCAGCG GCAACCTGTG TGCTGGTGCT
 201  GCCTTTGGGC GTGCCTGTCG CGTGGGTGCT GGCGCGGCTG GCGTTTCCGG
 251  GGCGGGCTTT GGTGCTGCGC CTGCTGATGC TGCCTTTTGT GATGCCCACG
 301  TTGGTGGCGG GCGTGGGCGT GCTGGCCCTG TTCGGGGCGG ACGGGCTGTT
 351  GTGGCGCGGC AGGCAGGATA CGCCGTATCT GTTGTTGTAC GGCAATGTGT
 401  TTTTCAACCT TCCTGTGTTG GTCAGGGCGG CGTATCAGGG GTTTGTGCAA
 451  GTGCCTGCGG CACGGCTTCA GACGGCACGG ACGTTGGGCG CGGGGGCGTG
 501  GCGGCGGTTT TGGGACATTG AAATGCCCGT TTTGCGCCCG TGGCTTGCCG
 551  GCGGCGTGTG CCTTGTCTTT CTGTATTGTT TTTCCGGGTT CGGGCTGGCG
 601  CTGCTGCTGG GCGGCAGCCG TTATGCCACG GTCGAAGTGG AAATTTACCA
 651  GTTGGTCATG TTCGAACTCG ATATGGCGGT TGCTTCGGTG CTGGTGTGGC
 701  TGGTGTTGGG GGTAACGGCG GCGGCAGGGT TGCTGTATGC GTGGTTCGGC
 751  AGGCGCGCGG TTTCGGATAA GGCGGTTTCC CCTGTGATGC CGTCGCCGCC
 801  GCAGTCGGTC GGGGAATATG TGCTGCTGGC GTTTGCGGCG GCGGTGTTGT
 851  CTGTGTGCTG CCTGTTTCCT TTGTTGGCAA TTGTTGTGAA AGCGTGGTCG
 901  GCCGGCGAAT CGTGGCGTGT GTTAATGGAA AGTGAAACGT GGCAGGCGGT
 951  GTGGAATACT TTGCGCTTCT CGGCGGCGGC GGTGTATGCG GCGGCGGTTT
1001  TGGGTGTGGT GTATGCGGCG GCGGCGCGGC GGTCGGCGTG GATGCGCGGG
1051  CTGATGTTTT TGCCGTTTAT GGTGTCGCCG GTTTGTGTTT CGGCGGGCGT
1101  GCTGCTGCTT TATCCGCAGT GGACGGCTTC GTTGCCGTTG CTGCTGGCGA
1151  TGTATGCGCT GCTGGCGTAT CCGTTTGTGG CAAAAGATGT TTTATCAGCC
1201  TGGGATGCAC TGCCGCCGGA TTACGGCAGG GCGGCGGCGG GTTTGGGTGC
1251  AAACGGCTTT CAGACGGCAT GCCGCATCAC GTTCCCCCTC TTGAAACCGG
1301  CGTTGCGGCG CGGTCTGACT TTGGCGGCGG CAACCTGCGT GGGCGAATTT
1351  GCGGCGACAT TGTTTCTGTC GCGTCCGGAA TGGCAGACGC TGACGACTTT
1401  GATTTATGCC TATTTGGGAC GCGCGGGTGA GGATAATTAC GCGCGGGCGA
1451  TGGTGCTGAC ATTGCTGTTG GCGGCGTTCG CGCTGGGTAT TTTCCTGCTG
1501  TTGGACGGCG GCGAAGGCGG AAAACAGACG GAAACGTTAT AA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 576; ORF139-1>:

```
   1  MDGRRWVVWG AFALLPSAFL AVMVVAPLWA VAAYDGLAWR AVLSDAYMLK
  51  RLAWTVFQAA ATCVLVLPLG VPVAWVLARL AFPGRALVLR LLMLPFVMPT
 101  LVAGVGVLAL FGADGLLWRG RQDTPYLLLY GNVFFNLPVL VRAAYQGFVQ
 151  VPAARLQTAR TLGAGAWRRF WDIEMPVLRP WLAGGVCLVF LYCFSGFGLA
```

```
201  LLLGGSRYAT VEVEIYQLVM FELDMAVASV LVWLVLGVTA AAGLLYAWFG
251  RRAVSDKAVS PVMPSPPQSV GEYVLLAFAA AVLSVCCLFP LLAIVVKAWS
301  AGESWRVLME SETWQAVWNT LRFSAAAVYA AAVLGVVYAA AARRSAWMRG
351  LMFLPFMVSP VCVSAGVLLL YPQWTASLPL LLAMYALLAY PFVAKDVLSA
401  WDALPPDYGR AAAGLGANGF QTACRITFPL LKPALRRGLT LAAATCVGEF
451  AATLFLSRPE WQTLTTLIYA YLGRAGEDNY ARAMVLTLLL AAFALGIFLL
501  LDGGEGGKQT ETL*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF139 shows 94.7% identity over a 189aa overlap with an ORF (ORF139a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                                    10        20        30
orf139.pep                                          AWSAGESWRVLMESETWHAVWNTLRFSAAA
                                                    ||||||||||||||||||:|||||  ||||||
orf139a      QSVGEYVLLAFAAAVXSVCCLFXLLAIVVKAWSAGESWRVLMESETWQAVWNTXRFSAAA
             270       280       290       300       310       320

                    40        50        60        70        80        90
orf139.pep   VYAAAVLGVVYAAPARRSAWMRGLMFXPFMVSPVCVSAGVLLLYPQWTASLPLLLAMYAL
             ||||||||||||| |||||||||||| |||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||
orf139a      VYAAAVLGVVYAAAARRSAWMRGLMFLPFMVSPVCVSAGVLLLXPQWTASLPLLLAMYAL
             330       340       350       360       370       380

                   100       110       120       130       140       150
orf139.pep   LAYPFVAKDVLSAWDALPPDYGRAAAGLGANGFQTACRITFPLLKPALRRGLTLAAATCV
             |||||||| |||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf139a      LAYPFVAKDVLSAXDALPPDYGRAAAGLGANGFQTACRITFPLLKPALRRGLTLAAATCV
             390       400       410       420       430       440

                   160       170       180      189
orf139.pep   GEFAATLFLSRPEWQTLTTLIYAYLGRAGEDNYARAMVL
             |||||||| || ||||||||||||| |||| |||||||||
orf139a      GEFAATLFXSRXEWQTLTTLIYAYXGRAGXDNYARAMVLTLLLAAFALGXFLLLDGGEGG
             450       460       470       480       490       500
```

The complete length ORF139a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 577> is:

```
   1  ATGGATGGAC GGCGTTGGGC GGTATGGGGT GCTTTTGCCC TGCTGCCTTC
  51  GGCTTTTTTG GCGGCAATGG TCGTTGCGCC TTTGTGGGCG GTGGCGGCGT
 101  ATGACGGTTT GGCGTGGCGC GCGGTGCTGT CGGATGCCTA TATGCTCAAA
 151  CGTTTGGCGT GGACGGTATT TCAGGCAGCG GCAACCTGTG TGCTGGTGCT
 201  GCCTTTGGGC GTGCCTGTCG CGTGGGTGCT GGCGCGGCTG GCGTTTCCGG
 251  GGCGGGCTTT GGTGCTGCGC CTGCTGATGC TGCCTTTTGT GATGCCCACG
 301  TTGGTGGCGG GCGTGGGCGT GCTGGCTCTG TTCGGGGCGG ACGGCCTGTN
 351  GTGGCGCGGC TGGCAGGATA CGCCGTATCT GTTGTTGTAC GGCAATGTGT
 401  TTTTTNACCT TCCTGTGTTG GTCAGGGCGG CATATCAGGG GTTTGTGCAA
 451  GTGCCTGCGG CACGGCTTCA GACGGCACNG ACATTGGGCG CGGGGGCGTG
 501  GCGGCGGTTT TGGGACATTG AAATGCCCGT TTTGCGCCCG TGGCTTGCCG
 551  GCGGCGTGTG CCTTGTCTTC CTGTATTGTT TTTCGGGGTT CGGGCTGGCA
 601  TTGCTGCTGG GCGGCAGCCG TTATGCCACG GTCGAAGTGG AAATTTACCA
 651  GTTGGTCATG TTCGAACTCG ATATGGCGGT TGCTTCGGTG CTNGTGTGGC
 701  TGGTGTNGGG GGTAACNGCG GCGGCAGGGT TGCTGTATGC GTGGTTCGGC
 751  AGGCGCGCGG TTTCGGATAA GGCNGTTTCC CCTGTGATGC CGTCGCCGCC
 801  GCAGTCGGTC GGGGAATATG TGCTNCTGGC GTTTGCGGCG GCGGTGTNGT
 851  CTGTGTGCTG CCTGTTTCNT TTGTTGGCAA TTGTTGTGAA AGCGTGGTCG
 901  GCCGGCGAAT CGTGGCGTGT GTTAATGGAA AGTGAAACGT GGCAGGCGGT
 951  GTGGAATACT NTGCGCTTCT CGGCGGCGGC GGTGTATGCG GCGGCGGTTT
1001  TGGGTGTGGT GTATGCGGCG GCGGCGCGGC GGTCGGCGTG GATGCGCGGG
1051  CTGATGTTTT TGCCGTTTAT GGTGTCGCCG GTTTGTGTTT CGGCGGGCGT
1101  GCTGCTGCTT NATCCGCAGT GGACGGCTTC GTTGCCGCTG CTGCTGGCGA
1151  TGTATGCGCT GCTGGCGTAT CCGTTTGTGG CAAAAGATGT TTTATCAGCC
1201  TGNGATGCAC TGCCGCCGGA TTACGGCAGG GCGGCGGCGG GTTTGGGTGC
1251  AAACGGCTTT CAGACGGCAT GCCGCATCAC GTTCCCCCTC TTGAAACCGG
1301  CGTTGCGGCG CGGTCTGACT TTGGCGGCGG CAACCTGCGT GGGCGAATTT
1351  GCGGCAACCT TGTTCNTGTC GCGTCNCGAG TGGCAGACGC TGACGACTTT
```

```
1401  GATTTATGCC TATNTGGGAC GCGCGGGTGA NGATAATTAC GCGCGGGCGA
1451  TGGTGCTGAC ATTGCTGTTG GCGGCGTTCG CGCTGGGTAT NTTCCTGCTG
1501  TTGGACGGCG GCGAAGGCGG AAAACGGACG GAAACGTTAT AA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 578>:

```
   1  MDGRRWAVWG AFALLPSAFL AAMVVAPLWA VAAYDGLAWR AVLSDAYMLK
  51  RLAWTVFQAA ATCVLVLPLG VPVAWVLARL AFPGRALVLR LLMLPFVMPT
 101  LVAGVGVLAL FGADGLXWRG WQDTPYLLLY GNVFFXLPVL VRAAYQGFVQ
 151  VPAARLQTAX TLGAGAWRRF WDIEMPVLRP WLAGGVCLVF LYCFSGFGLA
 201  LLLGGSRYAT VEVEIYQLVM FELDMAVASV LVWLVXGVTA AAGLLYAWFG
 251  RRAVSDKAVS PVMPSPPQSV GEYVLLAFAA AVXSVCCLFX LLAIVVKAWS
 301  AGESWRVLME SETWQAVWNT XRFSAAAVYA AAVLGVVYAA AARRSAWMRG
 351  LMFLPFMVSP VCVSAGVLLL XPQWTASLPL LLAMYALLAY PFVAKDVLSA
 401  XDALPPDYGR AAAGLGANGF QTACRITFPL LKPALRRGLT LAAATCVGEF
 451  AATLFXSRXE WQTLTTLIYA YXGRAGXDNY ARAMVLTLLL AAFALGXFLL
 501  LDGGEGGKRT ETL*
```

ORF139a and ORF139-1 show 96.5% homology over a 514aa overlap:

```
orf139a.pep  MDGRRWAVWGAFALLPSAFLAAMVVAPLWAVAAYDGLAWRAVLSDAYMLKRLAWTVFQAA
             |||||||:|||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf139-1     MDGRRWVVWGAFALLPSAFLAVMVVAPLWAVAAYDGLAWRAVLSDAYMLKRLAWTVFQAA

orf139a.pep  ATCVLVLPLGVPVAWVLARLAFPGRALVLRLLMLPFVMPTLVAGVGVLALFGADGLXWRG
             |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||
orf139-1     ATCVLVLPLGVPVAWVLARLAFPGRALVLRLLMLPFVMPTLVAGVGVLALFGADGLLWRG

orf139a.pep  WQDTPYLLLYGNVFFXLPVLVRAAYQGFVQVPAARLQTAXTLGAGAWRRFWDIEMPVLRP
             |||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||
orf139-1     RQDTPYLLLYGNVFFNLPVLVRAAYQGFVQVPAARLQTARTLGAGAWRRFWDIEMPVLRP

orf139a.pep  WLAGGVCLVFLYCFSGFGLALLLGGSRYATVEVEIYQLVMFELDMAVASVLVWLVXGVTA
             |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||
orf139-1     WLAGGVCLVFLYCFSGFGLALLLGGSRYATVEVEIYQLVMFELDMAVASVLVWLVLGVTA

orf139a.pep  AAGLLYAWFGRRAVSDKAVSPVMPSPPQSVGEYVLLAFAAAVXSVCCLFXLLAIVVKAWS
             |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||| ||||||||||
orf139-1     AAGLLYAWFGRRAVSDKAVSPVMPSPPQSVGEYVLLAFAAAVLSVCCLFPLLAIVVKAWS

orf139a.pep  AGESWRVLMESETWQAVWNTXRFSAAAVYAAAVLGVVYAAAARRSAWMRGLMFLPFMVSP
             |||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf139-1     AGESWRVLMESETWQAVWNTLRFSAAAVYAAAVLGVVYAAAARRSAWMRGLMFLPFMVSP

orf139a.pep  VCVSAGVLLLXPQWTASLPLLLAMYALLAYPFVAKDVLSAXDALPPDYGRAAAGLGANGF
             |||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||
orf139-1     VCVSAGVLLLYPQWTASLPLLLAMYALLAYPFVAKDVLSAWDALPPDYGRAAAGLGANGF

orf139a.pep  QTACRITFPLLKPALRRGLTLAAATCVGEFAATLFXSRXEWQTLTTLIYAYXGRAGXDNY
             |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| || |||||||||||| |||| |||
orf139-1     QTACRITFPLLKPALRRGLTLAAATCVGEFAATLFLSRPEWQTLTTLIYAYLGRAGEDNY

orf139a.pep  ARAMVLTLLLAAFALGXFLLLDGGEGGKRTETLX
             |||||||||||||||| ||||||||||:|||||
orf139-1     ARAMVLTLLLAAFALGIFLLLDGGEGGKQTETLX
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF139 shows 95.2% identity over a 189aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF139ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf139.pep                                    AWSAGESWRVLMESETWHAVWNTLRFSAAA  30
                                              ||||||| |||||||||:|||||||||||||
orf139ng     QSVGEYVLLAFSVAVLSVCCLFPLSAIVVKAWSAGESRRVLMESETWQAVWNTLRFSAAA 327

orf139.pep   VYAAAVLGVVYAAPARRSAWMRGLMFXPFMVSPVCVSAGVLLLYPQWTASLPLLLAMYAL  90
             |:||||||||||| ||| :|||||:| |||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||
orf139ng     VFAAAVLGVVYAAAARRLVWMRGLVFLPFMVSPVCVSAGVLLLYPGWTASLPLLLAMYAL 387
```

```
orf139.pep   LAYPFVAKDVLSAWDALPPDYGRAAAGLGANGFQTACRITFPLLKPALRRGLTLAAATCV  150
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf139ng     LAYPFVAKDVLSAWDALPPDYGRAAAGLGANGFQTACRITFPLLKPALRRGLTLAAATCV  447

orf139.pep   GEFAATLFLSRPEWQTLTTLIYAYLGRAGEDNYARAMVL                      189
             |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf139ng     GEFAATLFLSRPEWQTLTTLIYAYLGRAGEDNYARAMVLTLLLSAFAVCIFLLLDNGEGG  507
```

The complete length ORF139ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 579> is predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 580>:

```
   1  MDGRCWAVRG AFSLLPSAFL AVMVVAPLWA VAAYDGLAWR AVLSDAYMLK
  51  RLAWTVFQAA ATCVLVLPLG VPVAWVLARL AFPGRALVLR LLMLPFVMPT
 101  LVAGVGVLAL FGADGLLWRG RQDTPYLLLY GNVFFNLPVL VRAAYQGFAQ
 151  VPAARLQTAR TLGAGAWRPF WDIEMPVLRP WLAGGVCLVF LYCFSGFGLA
 201  LLLGGSRYAT VEVEIYQLVM FELDMAGASA LVWLVLGVTA AAGLLYAWFG
 251  RRAVSDKAVS PVMPSPPQSV GEYVLLAFSV AVLSVCCLFP LSAIVVKAWS
 301  AGESRRVLME SETWQAVWNT LRFSAAAVFA AAVLGVVYAA AARRLVWMRG
 351  LVFLPFMVSP VCVSAGVLLL YPGWTASLPL LLAMYALLAY PFVAKDVLSA
 401  WDALPPDYGR AAAGLGANGF QTACRITFPL LKPALRRGLT LAAATCVGEF
 451  AATLFLSRPE WQTLTTLIYA YLGRAGEDNY ARAMVLTLLL SAFAVCIFLL
 501  LDNGEGGKRT ETL*
```

Further work revealed a variant gonococcal DNA sequence <SEQ ID 581>:

```
   1  ATGGATGGAC GGTGTTGGGC GGTACGGGGT GCTTTTTCCC TGCTGCCTTC
  51  GGCTTTTTTG GCGGTAATGG TCGTTGCGCC TTTGTGGGCG GTGGCGGCGT
 101  ATGACGGTTT GGCGTGGCGC GCGGTGCTGT CGGATGCCTA TATGCTCAAA
 151  CGTTTGGCGT GGACGGTGTT TCAGGCGGCG GCAACCTGTG TGCTGGTGCT
 201  GCCTTTGGGC GTGCCTGTCG CGTGGGTGCT GGCGCGGCTG GCGTTCCCGG
 251  GGCGGGCTTT GGTGCTGCGC CTGCTGATGC TGCCGTTTGT GATGCCCACG
 301  CTGGTGGCGG GCGTGGGCGT GCTGGCTCTG TTCGGGGCGG ACGGGCTGTT
 351  GTGGCGCGGC CGGCAGGATA CGCCGTATCT GTTGTTGTAC GGCAATGTGT
 401  TTTTCAACCT GCCCGTGTTG GTCAGGGCGG CGTATCAGGG GTTTGCTCAA
 451  GTGCCTGCGG CACGGCTTCA GACGGCACGG ACGTTGGGCG CGGGGGCGTG
 501  GCGGCGGTTT TGGGACATTG AAATGCCCGT TTTGCGCCCG TGGCTTGCCG
 551  GCGGCGTGTG CCTTGTCTTC CTGTATTGTT TTTCGGGGTT CGGGCTGGCA
 601  TTGCTGTTGG GCGGCAGCCG TTATGCCACG GTCGAAGTGG AAATTTACCA
 651  GTTGGTTATG TTCGAACTCG ATATGGCGGG GGCTTCGGCG CTGGTGTGGC
 701  TGGTGTTGGG GGTAACGGCG GCGGCAGGGT TGCTGTATGC GTGGTTCGGC
 751  AGGCGCGCGG TTTCGGATAA GGCGGTTTCC CCCGTGATGC CGTCGCCGCC
 801  GCAATCGGTG GGGGAATATG TATTGCTGGC ATTTTCGGTG GCGGTGTTGT
 851  CCGTGTGCTG CCTGTTTCCT TTGTCGGCAA TTGTTGTGAA AGCGTGGTCG
 901  GCCGGCGAAT CGCGGCGTGT GTTAATGGAA AGTGAAACGT GGCAGGCAGT
 951  GTGGAATACt ttGCGCTTTT CGGCGGCGGC GGTGTTTGCG GCGGCGGTTT
1001  TGGGTGTGGT GTATGCGGCG GCGGCGCGGC GGCTGGTGTG GATGCGCGGA
1051  CTGGTGTTTT TACCGTTTAT GGTGTCGCCG GTTTGTGTTT CGGCGGGCGT
1101  GCTGCTGCTT TATCCGGGGT GGACGGCTTC GTTACCGCTG CTGCTGGCGA
1151  TGTATGCGCT GCTGGCGTAT CCGTTTGTGG CAAAAGATGT TTTATCGGCC
1201  TGGGATGCAC TGCCGCCGGA TTACGGCAGG GCGGCGGCAG GTTTGGGCGC
1251  AAACGGCTTT CAGACGGCAT GCCGTATCAC GTTCCCCCTC TTGAAACCGG
1301  CGTTGCGGCG CGGTCTGACT TTGGCGGCGG CGACGTGTGT GGGCGAATTT
1351  GCGGCAACCT TGTTCCTGTC GCGTCCGGAA TGGCAGACGT TGACGACTTT
1401  GATTTATGCC TATTTGGGGC GTGCGGGTGA GGACAATTAT GCGCGGGCAA
1451  TGGTGTTGAC ATTGCTGTTG TCGGCATTTG CGGTGTGCAT TTTCCTGCTG
1501  TTGGACAACG GCGAAGGCGg aaaACGGACG GAAACGTTAT AA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 582; ORF139ng-1>:

```
   1  MDGRCWAVRG AFSLLPSAFL AVMVVAPLWA VAAYDGLAWR AVLSDAYMLK
  51  RLAWTVFQAA ATCVLVLPLG VPVAWVLARL AFPGRALVLR LLMLPFVMPT
 101  LVAGVGVLAL FGADGLLWRG RQDTPYLLLY GNVFFNLPVL VRAAYQGFAQ
 151  VPAARLQTAR TLGAGAWRRF WDIEMPVLRP WLAGGVCLVF LYCFSGFGLA
 201  LLLGGSRYAT VEVEIYQLVM FELDMAGASA LVWLVLGVTA AAGLLYAWFG
 251  RRAVSDKAVS PVMPSPPQSV GEYVLLAFSV AVLSVCCLFP LSAIVVKAWS
 301  AGESRRVLME SETWQAVWNT LRFSAAAVFA AAVLGVVYAA AARRLVWMRG
 351  LVFLPFMVSP VCVSAGVLLL YPGWTASLPL LLAMYALLAY PFVAKDVLSA
 401  WDALPPDYGR AAAGLGANGF QTACRITFPL LKPALRRGLT LAAATCVGEF
 451  AATLFLSRPE WQTLTTLIYA YLGRAGEDNY ARAMVLTLLL SAFAVCIFLL
 501  LDNGEGGKRT ETL*
```

ORF139ng-1 and ORF139-1 show 95.9% identity over 513aa overlap:

```
orf139ng    MDGRCWAVRGAFSLLPSAFLAVMVVAPLWAVAAYDGLAWRAVLSDAYMLKRLAWTVFQAA
            |||| |:| |||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf139-1    MDGRRWVVWGAFALLPSAFLAVMVVAPLWAVAAYDGLAWRAVLSDAYMLKRLAWTVFQAA

orf139ng    ATCVLVLPLGVPVAWVLARLAFPGRALVLRLLMLPFVMPTLVAGVGVLALFGADGLLWRG
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf139-1    ATCVLVLPLGVPVAWVLARLAFPGRALVLRLLMLPFVMPTLVAGVGVLALFGADGLLWRG

orf139ng    RQDTPYLLLYGNVFFNLPVLVRAAYQGFAQVPAARLQTARTLGAGAWRRFWDIEMPVLRP
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf139-1    RQDTPYLLLYGNVFFNLPVLVRAAYQGFVQVPAARLQTARTLGAGAWRRFWDIEMPVLRP

orf139ng    WLAGGVCLVFLYCFSGFGLALLLGGSRYATVEVEIYQLVMFELDMAGASALVWLVLGVTA
            |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||:||||||||||
orf139-1    WLAGGVCLVFLYCFSGFGLALLLGGSRYATVEVEIYQLVMFELDMAVASVLVWLVLGVTA

orf139ng    AAGLLYAWFGRRAVSDKAVSPVMPSPPQSVGEYVLLAFSVAVLSVCCLFPLSAIVVKAWS
            |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||::|||||||||||| ||||||||
orf139-1    AAGLLYAWFGRRAVSDKAVSPVMPSPPQSVGEYVLLAFAAAVLSVCCLFPLLAIVVKAWS

orf139ng    AGESRRVLMESETWQAVWNTLRFSAAAVFAAAVLGVVYAAAARRLVWMRGLVFLPFMVSP
            |||| |||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||| :||||||||||||||
orf139      AGESWRVLMESETWQAVWNTLRFSAAAVYAAAVLGVVYAAAARRSAWMRGLMFLPFMVSP

orf139ng    VCVSAGVLLLYPGWTASLPLLLAMYALLAYPFVAKDVLSAWDALPPDYGRAAAGLGANGF
            |||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf139-1    VCVSAGVLLLYPQWTASLPLLLAMYALLAYPFVAKDVLSAWDALPPDYGRAAAGLGANGF

orf139ng    QTACRITFPLLKPALRRGLTLAAATCVGEFAATLFLSRPEWQTLTTLIYAYLGRAGEDNY
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf139-1    QTACRITFPLLKPALRRGLTLAAATCVGEFAATLFLSRPEWQTLTTLIYAYLGRAGEDNY

orf139ng    ARAMVLTLLLSAFAVCIFLLLDNGEGGKRTETL
            ||||||||||:|||: ||||||:|||||:||||
orf139-1    ARAMVLTLLLAAFALGIFLLLDGGEGGKQTETL
```

Based on the presence of a predicted binding-protein-dependent transport systems inner membrane component signature (underlined) in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 70

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 583>:

```
   1  ATGGACGGCT GGACACAGAC GCTGTCCGCG CAAACCCTGT TGGGCATTTC
  51  GGCGGCGGCA ATCATCCTCA TTCTGATTTT AATCGTCAGA TTCCGCATCC
 101  ACGCGCTGCT GACACTGGTC ATCGTCAGCC TGCTGACGGC TTTGGCAACC
 151  GGTTTGCCCA CAGGCAGCAT TGTCAAAGAC ATACTGGTCA AAAACTTCGG
 201  CGGCACGCTC GGCGGCGTGG CGCTTCTGGT CGGCCTGGGC GCGATGCTCG
 251  AACGTTTGGT C...
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 584; ORF140>:

```
   1  MDGWTQTLSA QTLLGISAAA IILILILIVR FRIHALLTLV IVSLLTALAT
  51  GLPTGSIVKD ILVKNFGGTL GGVALLVGLG AMLERLV..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 585>:

```
   1  ATGGACGGCT GGACACAGAC GCTGTCCGCG CAAACCCTGT TGGGCATTTC
  51  GGCGGCGGCA ATCATCCTCA TTCTGATTTT AATCGTCAAA TTCCGCATCC
 101  ACGCGCTGCT GACACTGGTC ATCGTCAGCC TGCTGACGGC TTTGGCAACC
 151  GGTTTGCCCA CAGGCAGCAT TGTCAACGAC ATACTGGTCA AAAACTTCGG
```

```
 201  CGGCACGCTC GGCGGCGTGG CGCTTCTGGT CGGCCTGGGC GCGATGCTCG
 251  GACGTTTGGT CGAAACATCC GGCGGCGCAC AGTCGCTGGC GGACGCGCTG
 301  ATCCGGATGT TCGGCGAAAA ACGCGCACCG TTCGCGCTGG GCGTTGCCTC
 351  GCTGATTTTC GGCTTCCCGA TTTTCTTCGA TGCCGGACTA ATCGTCATGC
 401  TGCCCATCGT GTTCGCCACC GCACGGCGCA TGAAACAGGA CGTACTGCCC
 451  TTCGCGCTTG CCTCCATCGG CGCATTTTCC GTCATGCACG TCTTCCTGCC
 501  GCCCCATCCG GGCCCGATTG CCGCTTCCGA ATTTTACGGC GCGAACATCG
 551  GCCAAGTTTT GATTTTGGGT CTGCCGACCG CCTTCATCAC ATGGTATTTC
 601  AGCGGCTATA TGCTCGGCAA AGTGTTGGGG CGCACCATCC ATGTTCCCGT
 651  TCCCGAACTG CTCAGCGGCG GCACGCAAGA CAACGACCTG CCGAAAGAAC
 701  CTGCCAAAGC AGGAACGGTC GTCGCCATCA TGCTGATTCC CATGCTGCTG
 751  ATTTTCCTGA ATACCGGCGT ATCGGCCCTC ATCAGCGAAA AACTCGTAAG
 801  TGCGGACGAA ACCTGGGTTC AGACGGCAAA AATAATCGGT TCGACACCGA
 851  TCGCCCTTCT GATTTCCGTA TTGGTCGCAC TGTTTGTCTT GGGACGCAAA
 901  CGCGGCGAAA GCGGCAGCGC GTTGGAAAAA ACCGTGGACG GCGCACTCGC
 951  CCCCGTCTGT TCCGTGATTC TGATTACCGG CGCGGGCGGT ATGTTCGGCG
1001  GCGTTTTGCG CGCTTCCGGC ATCGGCAAGG CACTCGCCGA CAGCATGGCG
1051  GATTTGGGCA TTCCCGTCCT TTTGGGCTGT TTCCTTGTCG CCTTGGCACT
1101  GCGTATCGCG CAAGGTTCGG CAACCGTCGC CCTGACCACC GCCGCCGCGC
1151  TGATGGCTCC TGCCGTTGCC GCCGCCGGCT TTACCGACTG GCAGCTCGCC
1201  TGTATCGTAT TGGCAACGGC GGCAGGTTCG GTCGGTTGCA GCCACTTCAA
1251  CGACTCCGGC TTCTGGCTGG TCGGCCGTCT CTTGGACATG GACGTACCGA
1301  CCACGCTGAA AACCTGGACG GTCAACCAAA CCCTCATCGC ACTCATCGGC
1351  TTTGCCTTGT CCGCACTGCT GTTCGCCATC GTCTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 586; ORF140-1>:

```
   1  MDGWTQTLSA QTLLGISAAA IILILILIVK FRIHALLTLV IVSLLTALAT
  51  GLPTGSIVND ILVKNFGGTL GGVALLVGLG AMLGRLVETS GGAQSLADAL
 101  IRMFGEKRAP FALGVASLIF GFPIFFDAGL IVMLPIVFAT ARRMKQDVLP
 151  FALASIGAFS VMHVFLPPHP GPIAASEFYG ANIGQVLILG LPTAFITWYF
 201  SGYMLGKVLG RTIHVPVPEL LSGGTQDNDL PKEPAKAGTV VAIMLIPMLL
 251  IFLNTGVSAL ISEKLVSADE TWVQTAKIIG STPIALLISV LVALFVLGRK
 301  RGESGSALEK TVDGALAPVC SVILITGAGG MFGGVLRASG IGKALADSMA
 351  DLGIPVLLGC FLVALALRIA QGSATVALTT AAALMAPAVA AAGFTDWQLA
 401  CIVLATAAGS VGCSHFNDSG FWLVGRLLDM DVPTTLKTWT VNQTLIALIG
 451  FALSALLFAI V*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF140 shows 95.4% identity over a 87aa overlap with an ORF (ORF140a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf140.pep  MDGWTQTLSAQTLLGISAAAIILILILIVRFRIHALLTLVIVSLLTALATGLPTGSIVKD
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|
orf140a     MDGWTQTLSAQTLLGISAAAIILILILIVKFRIHALLTLVIVSLLTALATGLPTGSIVND
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80
orf140.pep  ILVKNFGGTLGGVALLVGLGAMLERLV
            :|||||||||||||||||||| |||
orf140a     VLVKNFGGTLGGVALLVGLGAMLGRLVETSGGAQSLADALIRMFGEKRAPFALGVASLIF
                    70        80        90       100       110       120
```

The complete length ORF140a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 587> is:

```
   1  ATGGACGGCT GGACACAGAC GCTGTCCGCG CAAACCCTGT TGGGCATTTC
  51  GGCGGCGGCA ATCATCCTCA TTCTGATTTT AATCGTCAAA TTCCGCATCC
 101  ACGCGCTGCT GACACTGGTC ATCGTCAGCC TGCTGACGGC TTTGGCAACC
 151  GGTTTGCCCA CAGGCAGCAT TGTCAACGAC GTACTGGTCA AAAACTTCGG
 201  CGGCACGCTC GGCGGCGTGG CGCTTCTGGT CGGCCTGGGC GCGATGCTCG
 251  GACGTTTGGT CGAAACATCC GGCGGCGCAC AGTCGCTGGC GGACGCGCTG
 301  ATCCGGATGT TCGGCGAAAA ACGCGCACCG TTCGCGCTGG GCGTTGCCTC
 351  GCTGATTTTC GGCTTCCCGA TTTTCTTCGA TGCCGGACTA ATCGTCATGC
 401  TGCCCATCGT GTTCGCCACC GCACGGCGCA TGAAACAGGA CGTACTGCCC
 451  TTCGCGCTTG CCTCCATCGG CGCATTTTCC GTCATGCACG TCTTCCTGCC
```

```
 501  GCCCCATCCG GGCCCGATTG CCGCTTCCGA ATTTTACGGC GCGAACATCG
 551  GCCAAGTTTT GATTTTGGGT CTGCCGACCG CCTTCATCAC ATGGTATTTC
 601  AGCGGCTATA TGCTCGGCAA AGTGTTGGGG CGCACCATCC ATGTTCCCGT
 651  TCCCGAACTG CTCAGCGGCG GCACGCAAGA CAACGACCTG CCGAAAGAAC
 701  CTGCCAAAGC AGGAACGGTC GTCGCCATCA TGCTGATTCC CATGCTGCTG
 751  ATTTTCCTGA ATACCGGCGT ATCGGCCCTC ATCAGCGAAA AACTCGTAAG
 801  TGCGGACGAA ACCTGGGTTC AGACGGCAAA AATAATCGGT TCGACACCGA
 851  TCGCCCTTCT GATTTCCGTA TTGGTCGCAC TGTTTGTCTT GGGACGCAAA
 901  CGCGGCGAAA GCGGCAGCGC GTTGGAAAAA ACCGTGGACG GCGCACTCGC
 951  CCCCGTCTGT TCCGTGATTC TGATTACCGG CGCGGGCGGT ATGTTCGGCG
1001  GCGTTTTGCG CGCTTCCGGC ATCGGCAAGG CACTCGCCGA CAGCATGGCG
1051  GATTTGGGCA TTCCCGTCCT TTTGGGCTGT TTCCTTGTCG CCTTGGCACT
1101  GCGTATCGCG CAAGGTTCGG CAACCGTCGC CCTGACCACC GCCGCCGCGC
1151  TGATGGCTCC TGCCGTTGCC GCCGCCGGCT TTACCGACTG GCAGCTCGCC
1201  TGTATCGTAT TGGCAACGGC GGCAGGTTCG GTCGGTTGCA GCCACTTCAA
1251  CGACTCCGGC TTCTGGCTGG TCGGCCGCCT CTTGGACATG GACGTACCGA
1301  CCACGCTGAA AACCTGGACG GTCAACCAAA CCCTCATCGC ACTCATCGGC
1351  TTTGCCTTGT CCGCACTGCT GTTCGCCATC GTCTGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 588>:

```
   1  MDGWTQTLSA QTLLGISAAA IILILILIVK FRIHALLTLV IVSLLTALAT
  51  GLPTGSIVND VLVKNFGGTL GGVALLVGLG AMLGRLVETS GGAQSLADAL
 101  IRMFGEKRAP FALGVASLIF GFPIFFDAGL IVMLPIVFAT ARRMKQDVLP
 151  FALASIGAFS VMHVFLPPHP GPIAASEFYG ANIGQVLILG LPTAFITWYF
 201  SGYMLGKVLG RTIHVPVPEL LSGGTQDNDL PKEPAKAGTV VAIMLIPMLL
 251  IFLNTGVSAL ISEKLVSADE TWVQTAKIIG STPIALLISV LVALFVLGRK
 301  RGESGSALEK TVDGALAPVC SVILITGAGG MFGGVLRASG IGKALADSMA
 351  DLGIPVLLGC FLVALALRIA QGSATVALTT AAALMAPAVA AAGFTDWQLA
 401  CIVLATAAGS VGCSHFNDSG FWLVGRLLDM DVPTTLKTWT VNQTLIALIG
 451  FALSALLFAI V*
```

ORF140a and ORF140-1 show 99.8% identity over a 461aa overlap:

```
orf140-1.pep  MDGWTQTLSAQTLLGISAAAIILILILIVKFRIHALLTLVIVSLLTALATGLPTGSIVND  60
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf140a       MDGWTQTLSAQTLLGISAAAIILILILIVKFRIHALLTLVIVSLLTALATGLPTGSIVND  60

orf140-1.pep  ILVKNFGGTLGGVALLVGLGAMLGRLVETSGGAQSLADALIRMFGEKRAPFALGVASLIF 120
              :||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf140a       VLVKNFGGTLGGVALLVGLGAMLGRLVETSGGAQSLADALIRMFGEKRAPFALGVASLIF 120

orf140-1.pep  GFPIFFDAGLIVMLPIVFATARRMKQDVLPFALASIGAFSVMHVFLPPHPGPIAASEFYG 180
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf140a       GFPIFFDAGLIVMLPIVFATARRMKQDVLPFALASIGAFSVMHVFLPPHPGPIAASEFYG 810

orf140-1.pep  ANIGQVLILGLPTAFITWYFSGYMLGKVLGRTIHVPVPELLSGGTQDNDLPKEPAKAGTV 240
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf140a       ANIGQVLILGLPTAFITWYFSGYMLGKVLGRTIHVPVPELLSGGTQDNDLPKEPAKAGTV 240

orf140-1.pep  VAIMLIPMLLIFLNTGVSALISEKLVSADETWVQTAKIIGSTPIALLISVLVALFVLGRK 300
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf140a       VAIMLIPMLLIFLNTGVSALISEKLVSADETWVQTAKIIGSTPIALLISVLVALFVLGRK 300

orf140-1.pep  RGESGSALEKTVDGALAPVCSVILITGAGGMFGGVLRASGIGKALADSMADLGIPVLLGC 360
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf140a       RGESGSALEKTVDGALAPVCSVILITGAGGMFGGVLRASGIGKALADSMADLGIPVLLGC 360

orf140-1.pep  FLVALALRIAQGSATVALTTAAALMAPAVAAAGFTDWQLACIVLATAAGSVGCSHFNDSG 420
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf140a       FLVALALRIAQGSATVALTTAAALMAPAVAAAGFTDWQLACIVLATAAGSVGCSHFNDSG 420

orf140-1.pep  FWLVGRLLDMDVPTTLKTWTVNQTLIALIGFALSALLFAIV  461
              |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf140a       FWLVGRLLDMDVPTTLKTWTVNQTLIALIGFALSALLFAIV  461
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF140 shows 92% identity over a 87aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF140ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf140.pep   MDGWTQTLSAQTLLGISAAAIILILILIVRFRIHALLTLVIVSLLTALATGLPTGSIVKD   60
             ||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||:|||||||:||||||||||||||:|
orf140ng     MDGRTQTLSAQTLLGISAAAIILILILIVKFRIRALLTLVIASLLTALATGLPTGSIVND   60

orf140.pep   ILVKNFGGTLGGVALLVGLGAMLERLV                                   87
             :|||||||||||||||||||||||| |||
orf140ng     VLVKNFGGTLGGVALLVGLGAMLGRLVETSGGAQSLADALIRMFGEKRAPFAPGVASLIF  120
```

The complete length ORF140ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 589> was predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 590>:

```
   1  MDGRTQTLSA QTLLGISAAA IILILILIVK FRIRALLTLV IASLLTALAT
  51  GLPTGSIVND VLVKNFGGTL GGVALLVGLG AMLGRLVETS GGAQSLADAL
 101  IRMFGEKRAP FAPGVASLIF GFPIFFDAGL IVMLPIVFAT ARRMKQDVLP
 151  FALASVGAFS VMHVFLPPHP GPIAASEFYG ANIGQVLILG LPTAFITWYF
 201  SGYMLGKVLG RAIHVPVPEL LSGGTQDSDP PKEPAKAGTV VAVMLIPMLL
 251  IFLNTGVSAL ISEKLVSADE TWVQTAKMIG STPVALLISV LAALLVLGRK
 301  RGESGSTLEK TVDGALAPAC SVILITGAGG MFGGVLRASG IGKALADSMA
 351  DLGIPVLLGC FLVALALRIA QGSATVALTT AAALMAPAVA AAGFTDWQLA
 401  CIVLATAAGS VGCSHFNDSG FWLVGRLSDM DVPTTLKTWT VNQTLIAFIG
 451  FALSALLFAI V*
```

Further work revealed a variant gonococcal DNA sequence <SEQ ID 591>:

```
   1  ATGGACGGCC GGACACAGAC GCTGTCCGCG CAAACCTTGT TGGGCATTTC
  51  GGCGGCGGCA ATCATCCTCA TTCTGATTTT AATCGTCAAA TTCCGCATCC
 101  GCGCGCTGCT GACACTGGTC ATCGCCAGCC TGCTGACGGC TTTGGCAACC
 151  GGTTTGCCCA CAGGCAGCAT CGTCAACGAC GTACTGGTCA AAAACTTCGG
 201  CGGCACGCTC GGCGGCGTGG CGCTTCTGGT CGGTCTGGGC GCAATGCTCG
 251  GACGTTTGGT AGAAACATCC GGCGGCGCAC AGTCGCTGGC GGACGCGCTG
 301  ATCCGGATGT TCGGCGAAAA ACGCGCACCG TTCGCTCCGG GCGTTGCCTC
 351  GCTGATTTTC GGCTTCCCGA TTTTCTTCGA TGCCGGACTA ATCGTCATGC
 401  TGCCCATCGT ATTCGCCACC GCACGGCGCA TGAAACAGGA CGTACTGCCC
 451  TTCGCGCTTG CCTCCGTCGG CGCATTTTCC GTCATGCACG TCTTCCTGCC
 501  GCCCCATCCG GGCCCGATTG CCGCTTCCGA ATTTTACGGC GCGAACATCG
 551  GCCAGGTTTT GATTTTGGGT CTGCCGACCG CCTTCATCAC ATGGTATTTC
 601  AGCGGCTATA TGCTCGGCAA AGTGTTGGGG CGCGCCATCC ATGTTCCCGT
 651  TCCCGAACTG CTCAGCGGCG GCACGCAAGA CAGCGACCCG CCGAAAGAAC
 701  CTGCCAAAGC AGGAACGGTC GTCGCCGTCA TGCTGATTCC CATGCTGCTG
 751  ATTTTCCTGA ATACCGGCGT ATCAGCCCTC ATCAGCGAAA AACTCGTAAG
 801  TGCGGACGAA ACTTGGGTTC AGACGGCAAA AATGATCGGT TCGACACCTG
 851  TCGCCCTTCT GATTTCCGTA TTGGCCGCAC TGTTGGTCTT GGGACGCAAA
 901  CGCGGCGAAA GCGGCAGCAC GTTGGAAAAA ACCGTGGACG GCGCACTCGC
 951  CCCCGCCTGT TCCGTGATTC TGATTACCGG CGCGGGCGGT ATGTTCGGCG
1001  GCGTTTTGCG CGCTTCCGGC ATCGGCAAGG CACTCGCCGA CAGCATGGCG
1051  GATTTGGGCA TTCCCGTCCT TTTGGGCTGC TTCCTTGTCG CCTTGGCACT
1101  GCGTATCGCG CAAGGTTCGG CAACCGTCGC CCTGACCACA GCCGCCGCGC
1151  TGATGGCTCC TGCCGTTGCC GCCGCCGGCT TTACCGACTG GCAGCTCGCC
1201  TGTATCGTAT TGGCAACGGC GGCAGGTTCG GTCGGTTGCA GCCACTTCAA
1251  CGACTCCGGC TTCTGGCTGG TCGGCCGCCT CTTGGATATG GACGTACCGA
1301  CCACGCTGAA AACCTGGACG GTCAACCAAA CCCTCATCGC ATTCATCGGC
1351  TTTGCCTTGT CCGCACTGCT GTTTGCCATC GTCTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 592; ORF140ng-1>:

```
   1  MDGRTQTLSA QTLLGISAAA IILILILIVK FRIRALLTLV IASLLTALAT
  51  GLPTGSIVND VLVKNFGGTL GGVALLVGLG AMLGRLVETS GGAQSLADAL
 101  IRMFGEKRAP FAPGVASLIF GFPIFFDAGL IVMLPIVFAT ARRMKQDVLP
 151  FALASVGAFS VMHVFLPPHP GPIAASEFYG ANIGQVLILG LPTAFITWYF
 201  SGYMLGKVLG RAIHVPVPEL LSGGTQDSDP PKEPAKAGTV VAVMLIPMLL
 251  IFLNTGVSAL ISEKLVSADE TWVQTAKMIG STPVALLISV LAALLVLGRK
 301  RGESGSTLEK TVDGALAPAC SVILITGAGG MFGGVLRASG IGKALADSMA
 351  DLGIPVLLGC FLVALALRIA QGSATVALTT AAALMAPAVA AAGFTDWQLA
 401  CIVLATAAGS VGCSHFNDSG FWLVGRLLDM DVPTTLKTWT VNQTLIAFIG
 451  FALSALLFAI V*
```

ORF140ng-1 and ORF140-1 show 96.3% identity over 461aa overlap:

```
orf140ng-1.pep MDGRTQTLSAQTLLGISAAAIILILILIVKFRIRALLTLVIASLLTALATGLPTGSIVND
               ||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||:||||||||||||||||
```

```
orf140-1          MDGWTQTLSAQTLLGISAAAIILILILILIVKFRIHALLTLVIVSLLTALATGLPTGSIVND

orf140ng-1.pep    VLVKNFGGTLGGVALLVGLGAMLGRLVETSGGAQSLADALIRMFGEKRAPFAPGVASLIF
                  :|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||
orf140-1          ILVKNFGGTLGGVALLVGLGAMLGRLVETSGGAQSLADALIRMFGEKRAPFALGVASLIF

orf140ng-1.pep    GFPIFFDAGLIVMLPIVFATARRMKQDVLPFALASVGAFSVMHVFLPPHPGPIAASEFYG
                  |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||
orf140-1          GFPIFFDAGLIVMLPIVFATARRMKQDVLPFALASIGAFSVMHVFLPPHPGPIAASEFYG

orf140ng-1.pep    ANIGQVLILGLPTAFITWYFSGYMLGKVLGRAIHVPVPELLSGGTQDSDPPKEPAKAGTV
                  |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||:| ||||||||||
orf140-1          ANIGQVLILGLPTAFITWYFSGYMLGKVLGRTIHVPVPELLSGGTQDNDLPKEPAKAGTV

orf140ng-1.pep    VAVMLIPMLLIFLNTGVSALISEKLVSADETWVQTAKMIGSTPVALLISVLAALLVLGRK
                  ||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||:|||||||:||:|||||
orf140-1          VAIMLIPMLLIFLNTGVSALISEKLVSADETWVQTAKIIGSTPIALLISVLVALFVLGRK

orf140ng-1.pep    RGESGSTLEKTVDGALAPACSVILITGAGGMFGGVLRASGIGKALADSMADLGIPVLLGC
                  ||||||:||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf140-1          RGESGSALEKTVDGALAPVCSVILITGAGGMFGGVLRASGIGKALADSMADLGIPVLLGC

orf140ng-1.pep    FLVALALRIAQGSATVALTTAAALMAPAVAAAGFTDWQLACIVLATAAGSVGCSHFNDSG
                  ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf140-1          FLVALALRIAQGSATVALTTAAALMAPAVAAAGFTDWQLACIVLATAAGSVGCSHFNDSG

orf140ng-1.pep    FWLVGRLLDMDVPTTLKTWTVNQTLIAFIGFALSALLFAIV
                  |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||
orf140-1          FWLVGRLLDMDVPTTLKTWTVNQTLIALIGFALSALLFAIV
```

Furthermore, ORF140ng-1 is homologous to an *E.coli* protein:

```
gi|882633 (U29579) ORF_o454 [Escherichia coli] >gi|1789097 (AE000358) o454;
This 454 aa ORF is 34% identical (9 gaps) to 444 residues of an approx. 456 aa
protein GNTP_BACLI SW: P46832 [Escherichia coli] Length = 454
 Score =  210 bits (529), Expect = 1e-53
 Identities = 130/384 (33%), Positives = 194/384 (49%), Gaps = 19/384 (4%)

Query: 88  ETSGGAQSLADALIRMFGEKRAPFAPGVASLIFGFPIFFDAGLIVMLPIVFATARRMKQD 147
           E SGGA+SLA+   R  G+KR   A  +A+   G P+FFD G I++ PI++  A+  K
Sbjct: 80  EHSGGAESLANYFSRKLGDKRTIAALTLAAFFLGIPVFFDVGFIILAPIIYGFAKVAKIS 139

Query: 148 VLPFALASVGAFSVMHVFLPPHPGPIAASEFYGANIGQVLILGLPTAFITWYFSGYMLGK 207
            L F L   G    +HV +PPHPGP+AA+    A+IG + I+G+  + I     GY   K
Sbjct: 140 PLKFGLPVAGIMLTVHVAVPPHPGPVAAAGLLHADIGWLTIIGIAIS-IPVGVVGYFAAK 198

Query: 208 VLGRAIHVPVPELL----------SGGTQDSDPPKEPAKAGTVVAVMLIPMLLIFLNTGV 257
           ++ +  +    E+L           G T+ SD    P  A  V ++++IP+ +I   T
Sbjct: 199 IINKRQYAMSVEVLEQMQLAPASEEGATKLSDKINPPGVA-LVTSLIVIPIAIIMAGT-- 255

Query: 258 SALISEKLVSADETWVQTAKMIGSTPXXXXXXXXXXXXXXGRKRGESGSTLEKTVDGALA 317
              +S  L+      + T ++IGS                +RG S      +  AL
Sbjct: 256 ---VSATLMPPSHPLLGTLQLIGSPMVALMIALVLAFWLLALRRGWSLQHTSDIMGSALP 312

Query: 318 PACSVILITGAGGMFGGVLRASGIGKALADSMADLGIPVLLGCFLVALALRIAQGSXXXX 377
            A  VIL+TGAGG+FG VL  SG+GKALA+ +  + +P+L   F+++LALR +QGS
Sbjct: 313 TAAVVILVTGAGGVFGKVLVESGVGKALANMLQMIDLPLLPAAFIISLALRASQGS--AT 370

Query: 378 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXGFTDWQLACIVLATAAGSVGCSHFNDSGFWLVGRLLDMDVPTTLK 437
                    G    Q   + LA   G +G SH NDSGFW+V + L + V   LK
Sbjct: 371 VAILTTGGLLSEAVMGLNPIQCVLVTLAACFGGLGASHINDSGFWIVTKYLGLSVADGLK 430

Query: 438 TWTVNQTLIAFIGFALSALLFAIV 461
           TWTV  T++ F GF ++  ++A++
Sbjct: 431 TWTVLTTILGFTGFLITWCVWAVI 454
```

Based on this analysis, including the identification of the presence of a putative leader sequence (double-underlined) and several putative transmembrane domains (single-underlined) in the

gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 71

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 593>:

```
   1  ..GATTTCGGCA TATCGCCCGT GTATCTTTGG GTTGCCGCCG CGTTCAAACA
  51    TTTGCTGTCG CCGTGGGCTG CCGACTCATA CGATGTCGCA CGCTTTGCAG
 101    GCGTATTTTT TGCCGTTATC GGACTGACTT CCTGCGGCTT TGCCGGTTTC
 151    AACTTTTTGG GCAGACACCA CGGGCGCAC. GTCGTCCTGA TTCTCATCGG
 201    CTGTATCGGG CTGATTCCAG TTGCCCATTT CCTCAACCCC GCTGCCGCCG
 251    CCTTTGCCGC CGCCGGACTG GTGCTGCACG GTTATTCTTT GGCTCGCCGG
 301    CGCGTGATTG CCGCCTCTTT TCTGCTCGGT ACGGGCTGGA CGCTGATGTC
 351    GTTGGCAGCA GCTTATCCGG CAGCATTTGC CCTGATGCTG CCCTTGCCCG
 401    TACTGATGTT TTTCCGTCCG ..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 594; ORF141>:

```
   1  ..DFGISPVYLW VAAAFKHLLS PWAADSYDVA RFAGVFFAVI GLTSCGFAGF
  51    NFLGRHHGRX VVLILIGCIG LIPVAHFLNP AAAAFAAAGL VLHGYSLARR
 101    RVIAASFLLG TGWTLMSLAA AYPAAFALML PLPVLMFFRP ..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 595>:

```
   1  ATGCTGACCT ATACCCCGCC CGATGCCCGC CCGCCCGCCA AAACCCACGA
  51  AAAGCCGTGG CTGCTGCTGT TGATGGCGTT TGCCTGGTTG TGGCCCGGCG
 101  TGTTTTCCCA CGATTTGTGG AATCCTGACG AACCTGCCGT CTATACCGCC
 151  GTCGAAGCAC TGGCAGGCAG CCCCACCCCC TTGGTTGCCC ATCTGTTCGG
 201  TCAAACCGAT TTCGGCATAC CGCCCGTGTA TCTTTGGGTT GCCGCCGCGT
 251  TCAAACATTT GCTGTCGCCG TGGGCTGCCG ACTCATACGA TGCCGCACGC
 301  TTTGCAGGCG TATTTTTTGC CGTTATCGGA CTGACTTCCT GCGGCTTTGC
 351  CGGTTTCAAC TTTTTGGGCA GACACCACGG GCGCAgCGTC GTCCTGATTC
 401  TCATCGGCTG TATCGGGCTG ATTCCAGTTG CCCATTTCCT CAACCCCGCT
 451  GCCGCCGCCT TTGCCGCCGC CGGACTGGTG CTGCACGGTT ATTCTTTGGC
 501  TCGCCGGCGC GTGATTGCCG CCTCTTTTCT GCTCGGTACG GGCTGGACGC
 551  TGATGTCGTT GGCAGCAGCT TATCCGGCAG CATTTGCCCT GATGCTGCCC
 601  TTGCCCGTAC TGATGTTTTT CCGTCCGTGG CAAAGCAGGC GTTTGATGTT
 651  GACGGCAGTC GCCTCACTTG CCTTTGCCCT GCCGCTTATG ACCGTTTACC
 701  CGCTGCTCTT GGCAAAAACG CAGCCCGCGC TGTTCGCGCA ATGGCTCGAC
 751  TATCACGTTT TCGGTACGTT CGGCGGCGTG CGGCACGTTC AGACGGCATT
 801  CAGTTTGTTT TACTATCTGA AAAACCTGCT TTGGTTTGCA TTGCCCGCGC
 851  TGCCGCTGGC GGTTTGGACG GTTTGCCGCA CGCGCCTGTT TTCGACCGAC
 901  TGGGGGATTT TGGGCGTCGT CTGGATGCTT GCCGTTTTGG TGCTGCTTGC
 951  CGTCAATCCG CAGCGTTTTC AGGATAACCT CGTCTGGCTG CTTCCGCCGC
1001  TTGCCCTGTT CGGCGCGGCG CAACTGGACA GCCTGAGGCG CGGCGCGGCG
1051  GCGTTTGTCA ACTGGTTCGG CATTATGGCG TTCGGACTGT TTGCCGTGTT
1101  CCTGTGGACG GGCTTTTTCG CCATGAATTA CGGCTGGCCC GCCAAGCTTG
1151  CCGAACGCGC CGCCTATTTC AGCCCGTATT ATGTTCCTGA TATCGATCCC
1201  ATTCCGATGG CGGTTGCCGT ACTGTTCACA CCCTTGTGGC TGTGGGCGAT
1251  TACCCGGAAA AACATACGCG GCAGGCAGGC GGTTACCAAC TGGGCGGCAG
1301  GCGTTACCCT GACCTGGGCT TTGCTGATGA CGCTGTTCCT GCCGTGGCTG
1351  GACGCGGCGA AAAGCCACGC GCCGGTCGTC CGGAGTATGG AGGCATCGCT
1401  TTCCCCGGAA TTGAAACGGG AGCTTTCAGA CGGCATCGAG TGTATCGGCA
1451  TAGGCGGCGG CGACCTGCAC ACGCGGATTG TTTGGACGCA GTACGGCACA
1501  TTGCCGCACC GCGTCGGCGA TGTACAATGC CGCTACCGCA TCGTCCTCCT
1551  GCCCCAAAAT GCGGATGCGC CGCAAGGCTG GCAGACGGTT TGGCAGGGTG
1601  CGCGTCCGCG CAACAAAGAC AGTAAGTTCG CACTGATACG GAAAATCGGG
1651  GAAAATATAT AA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 596; ORF141-1>:

```
   1  MLTYTPPDAR PPAKTHEKPW LLLLMAFAWL WPGVFSHDLW NPDEPAVYTA
  51  VEALAGSPTP LVAHLFGQTD FGIPPVYLWV AAAFKHLLSP WAADSYDAAR
 101  FAGVFFAVIG LTSCGFAGFN FLGRHHGRSV VLILIGCIGL IPVAHFLNPA
 151  AAAFAAAGLV LHGYSLARRR VIAASFLLGT GWTLMSLAAA YPAAFALMLP
 201  LPVLMFFRPW QSRRLMLTAV ASLAFALPLM TVYPLLLAKT QPALFAQWLD
```

```
251  YHVFGTFGGV RHVQTAFSLF YYLKNLLWFA LPALPLAVWT VCRTRLFSTD
301  WGILGVVWML AVLVLLAVNP QRFQDNLVWL LPPLALFGAA QLDSLRRGAA
351  AFVNWFGIMA FGLFAVFLWT GFFAMNYGWP AKLAERAAYF SPYYVPDIDP
401  IPMAVAVLFT PLWLWAITRK NIRGRQAVTN WAAGVTLTWA LLMTLFLPWL
451  DAAKSHAPVV RSMEASLSPE LKRELSDGIE CIGIGGGDLH TRIVWTQYGT
501  LPHRVGDVQC RYRIVLLPQN ADAPQGWQTV WQGARPRNKD SKFALIRKIG
551  ENI*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF141 shows 95.0% identity over a 140aa overlap with an ORF (ORF141a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                                  10        20        30
orf141.pep                                        DFGISPVYLWVAAAFKHLLSPWAADSYDVA
                                                  |||| ||||||||||||||||||| ||:|
orf141a      WNPDEPAVYTAVEALAGSPTPLVAHLFGQIDFGIPPVYLWVAAAFKHLLSPWAADPYDAA
            40        50        60        70        80        90

                     40        50        60        70        80        90
orf141.pep   RFAGVFFAVIGLTSCGFAGFNFLGRHHGRXVVLILIGCIGLIPVAHFLNPAAAAFAAAGL
             |||||||||:|||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||::|||||||||||||||
orf141a      RFAGVFFAVVGLTSCGFAGFNFLGRHHGRSVVLILIGCIGLIPTVHFLNPAAAAFAAAGL
           100       110       120       130       140       150

                   100       110       120       130       140
orf141.pep   VLHGYSLARRRVIAASFLLGTGWTLMSLAAAYPAAFALMLPLPVLMFFRP
             |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf141a      VLHGYSLARRRVIAASFLLGTGWTLMSLAAAYPAAFALMLPLPVLMFFRPWQSRRLMLTA
           160       170       180       190       200       210

orf141a      VASLAFALPLMTVYPLLLAKTQPALFAQWLDDHVFGTFGGVRHIQTAFSLFYYLKNLLWF
           220       230       240       250       260       270
```

The complete length ORF141a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 597> is:

```
   1  ATGCTGACCT ATACCCCGCC CGATGCCCGC CCGCCCGCCA AAACCCACGA
  51  AAAGCCGTGG CTGTTGCTGT TGATGGCGTT TGCCTGGTTG TGGCCCGGCG
 101  TGTTTTCCCA CGATTTGTGG AATCCTGACG AACCTGCCGT CTATACCGCC
 151  GTCGAAGCAC TGGCAGGCAG CCCCACCCCT TTGGTTGCCC ATCTGTTCGG
 201  TCAAATCGAT TTCGGCATAC CGCCCGTGTA TCTTTGGGTT GCCGCCGCGT
 251  TCAAACATTT GCTGTCGCCG TGGGCTGCCG ACCCGTATGA TGCCGCACGC
 301  TTTGCCGGCG TGTTTTTCGC CGTTGTCGGA CTGACTTCCT GCGGCTTTGC
 351  CGGTTTCAAC TTTTTGGGCA GACACCACGG GCGCAGCGTC GTCCTGATTC
 401  TCATCGGCTG TATCGGGCTG ATTCCGACCG TACACTTTCT CAACCCCGCT
 451  GCCGCCGCCT TTGCCGCCGC CGGACTGGTG CTGCACGGTT ATTCTTTGGC
 501  TCGCCGGCGC GTGATTGCCG CCTCTTTTCT GCTCGGTACG GGTTGGACGC
 551  TGATGTCGTT GGCAGCAGCT TATCCGGCGG CATTTGCCCT GATGCTGCCC
 601  CTGCCCGTGC TGATGTTTTT CCGTCCGTGG CAAAGCAGGC GTTTGATGTT
 651  GACGGCAGTC GCCTCGCTTG CCTTTGCCCT GCCGCTTATG ACCGTTTACC
 701  CGCTGCTCTT GGCAAAAACG CAGCCCGCGC TGTTCGCGCA ATGGCTCGAC
 751  GATCACGTTT TCGGTACGTT CGGCGGCGTG CGGCACATTC AGACGGCATT
 801  CAGTTTGTTT TACTATCTGA AAAACCTGCT TTGGTTTGCA TTGCCTGCGC
 851  TGCCGCTGGC GGTTTGGACG GTTTGCCGCA CGCGCCTGTT TTCGACCGAC
 901  TGGGGGATTT TGGGCGTCGT CTGGATGCTT GCCGTTTTGG TGCTGCTTGC
 951  CGTCAATCCG CAGCGTTTTC AGGATAACCT CGTCTGGCTG CTTCCGCCGC
1001  TTGCCCTGTT CGGCGCGGCG CAACTGGACA GCCTGAGACG CGGCGCGGCG
1051  GCGTTTGTCA ACTGGTTCGG CATTATGGCG TTCGGACTGT TTGCCGTGTT
1101  CCTGTGGACG GGCTTTTTCG CCATGAATTA CGGCTGGCCC GCCAAGCTTG
1151  CCGAACGCGC CGCCTATTTC AGCCCGTATT ATGTTCCTGA TATCGATCCC
1201  ATTCCGATGG CGGTTGCCGT ACTGTTCACA CCCTTGTGGC TGTGGGCGAT
1251  TACCCGCAAA AACATACGCG GCAGGCAGGC GGTTACCAAC TGGGCGGCAG
1301  GCGTTACCCT GACCTGGGCT TTGCTGATGA CGCTGTTCCT GCCGTGGCTG
1351  GACGCGGCGA AAAGCCACGC GCCCGTCGTC CGGAGTATGG AGGCATCGCT
1401  TTCCCCGGAA TTAAAACGGG AGCTTTCAGA CGGCATCGAG TGTATCGACA
1451  TAGGCGGCGG CGACCTACAC ACGCGGATTG TTTGGACGCA GTACGGCACA
1501  TTGCCGCACC GCGTCGGCGA TGTACAATGC CGCTACCGCA TCGTCCGCTT
1551  GCCCCAAAAC GCGGATGCGC CGCAAGGCTG GCAGACGGTC TGGCAGGGTG
```

```
1601  CGCGCCCGCG CAACAAAGAC AGTAAGTTCG CACTGATACG GAAAACCGGG
1651  GAAAATATAT TAAAAACAAC AGATTGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 598>:

```
   1  MLTYTPPDAR PPAKTHEKPW LLLLMAFAWL WPGVFSHDLW NPDEPAVYTA
  51  VEALAGSPTP LVAHLFGQID FGIPPVYLWV AAAFKHLLSP WAADPYDAAR
 101  FAGVFFAVVG LTSCGFAGFN FLGRHHGRSV VLILIGCIGL IPTVHFLNPA
 151  AAAFAAAGLV LHGYSLARRR VIAASFLLGT GWTLMSLAAA YPAAFALMLP
 201  LPVLMFFRPW QSRRLMLTAV ASLAFALPLM TVYPLLLAKT QPALFAQWLD
 251  DHVFGTFGGV RHIQTAFSLF YYLKNLLWFA LPALPLAVWT VCRTRLFSTD
 301  WGILGVVWML AVLVLLAVNP QRFQDNLVWL LPPLALFGAA QLDSLRRGAA
 351  AFVNWFGIMA FGLFAVFLWT GFFAMNYGWP AKLAERAAYF SPYYVPDIDP
 401  IPMAVAVLFT PLWLWAITRK NIRGRQAVTN WAAGVTLTWA LLMTLFLPWL
 451  DAAKSHAPVV RSMEASLSPE LKRELSDGIE CIDIGGGDLH TRIVWTQYGT
 501  LPHRVGDVQC RYRIVRLPQN ADAPQGWQTV WQGARPRNKD SKFALIRKTG
 551  ENILKTTD*
```

ORF141a and ORF141-1 show 98.2% identity in 553 aa overlap:

```
orf141a.pep   MLTYTPPDARPPAKTHEKPWLLLLMAFAWLWPGVFSHDLWNPDEPAVYTAVEALAGSPTP
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf141-1      MLTYTPPDARPPAKTHEKPWLLLLMAFAWLWPGVFSHDLWNPDEPAVYTAVEALAGSPTP

orf141a.pep   LVAHLFGQIDFGIPPVYLWVAAAFKHLLSPWAADPYDAARFAGVFFAVVGLTSCGFAGFN
              |||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||:|||||||||||
orf141-1      LVAHLFGQTDFGIPPVYLWVAAAFKHLLSPWAADSYDAARFAGVFFAVIGLTSCGFAGFN

orf141a.pep   FLGRHHGRSVVLILIGCIGLIPTVHFLNPAAAAFAAAGLVLHGYSLARRRVIAASFLLGT
              ||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf141-1      FLGRHHGRSVVLILIGCIGLIPVAHFLNPAAAAFAAAGLVLHGYSLARRRVIAASFLLGT

orf141a.pep   GWTLMSLAAAYPAAFALMLPLPVLMFFRPWQSRRLMLTAVASLAFALPLMTVYPLLLAKT
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf141-1      GWTLMSLAAAYPAAFALMLPLPVLMFFRPWQSRRLMLTAVASLAFALPLMTVYPLLLAKT

orf141a.pep   QPALFAQWLDDHVFGTFGGVRHIQTAFSLFYYLKNLLWFALPALPLAVWTVCRTRLFSTD
              |||||||||| ||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf141-1      QPALFAQWLDYHVFGTFGGVRHVQTAFSLFYYLKNLLWFALPALPLAVWTVCRTRLFSTD

orf141a.pep   WGILGVVWMLAVLVLLAVNPQRFQDNLVWLLPPLALFGAAQLDSLRRGAAAFVNWFGIMA
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf141-1      WGILGVVWMLAVLVLLAVNPQRFQDNLVWLLPPLALFGAAQLDSLRRGAAAFVNWFGIMA

orf141a.pep   FGLFAVFLWTGFFAMNYGWPAKLAERAAYFSPYYVPDIDPIPMAVAVLFTPLWLWAITRK
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf141-1      FGLFAVFLWTGFFAMNYGWPAKLAERAAYFSPYYVPDIDPIPMAVAVLFTPLWLWAITRK

orf141a.pep   NIRGRQAVTNWAAGVTLTWALLMTLFLPWLDAAKSHAPVVRSMEASLSPELKRELSDGIE
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf141-1      NIRGRQAVTNWAAGVTLTWALLMTLFLPWLDAAKSHAPVVRSMEASLSPELKRELSDGIE

orf141a.pep   CIDIGGGDLHTRIVWTQYGTLPHRVGDVQCRYRIVRLPQNADAPQGWQTVWQGARPRNKD
              || |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf141-1      CIGIGGGDLHTRIVWTQYGTLPHRVGDVQCRYRIVLLPQNADAPQGWQTVWQGARPRNKD

orf141a.pep   SKFALIRKTGENI
              |||||||| ||||
orf141-1      SKFALIRKIGENI
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF141 shows 95% identity over a 140aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF141ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf141.pep                                  DFGISPVYLWVAAAFKHLLSPWAADSYDVA   30
                                            |||| ||||||||||||||||||| ||:|
orf141ng      WNPAEPAVYTAVEALAGSPTPLVAHLFGQTDFGIPPVYLWVAAAFKHLLSPWAAHPYDAA  126
```

```
orf141.pep   RFAGVFFAVIGLTSCGFAGFNFLGRHHGRXVVLILIGCIGLIPVAHFLNPAAAAFAAAGL   90
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||| ||||||||||||:||||||||||||
orf141ng     RFAGVFFAVIGLTSCGFAGFNFLGRHHGRSVVLIHIGCIGLIPVAHFFNPAAAAFAAAGL  186

orf141.pep   VLHGYSLARRRVIAASFLLGTGWTLMSLAAAYPAAFALMLPLPVLMFFRP            140
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf141ng     VLHGYSLARRRVIAASFLLGTGWTLMSLAAAYPAAFALMLPLPVLMFFRPWQSRRLMLTA  246
```

An ORF141ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 599> was predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 600>:

```
   1  MPSEAVSARP LCEYLLHLAI RPFLLTLMLT YTPPDARPPA KTHEKPWLLL
  51  LMAFAWLWPG VFSHDLWNPA EPAVYTAVEA LAGSPTPLVA HLFGQTDFGI
 101  PPVYLWVAAA FKHLLSPWAA HPYDAARFAG VFFAVIGLTS CGFAGFNFLG
 151  RHHGRSVVLI HIGCIGLIPV AHFFNPAAAA FAAAGLVLHG YSLARRRVIA
 201  ASFLLGTGWT LMSLAAAYPA AFALMLPLPV LMFFRPWQSR RLMLTAVASL
 251  AFALPLMTVY PLLLAKTQPA LFAQWLNYHV FGTFGGVRHI QRAFSLFHYL
 301  KNLLWFAPPG LPLAVWTVCR TRLFSTDWGI LGIVWMLAVL VLLAFNPQRF
 351  QDNLVWLLPP LALFGAAQLD SLRRGAAAFV NWFGIMAFGL FAVFLWTGFF
 401  AMNYGWPAKL AERAAYFSPY YVPDIDPIPM AVAVLFTPLW LWAITRKNIR
 451  GRQAVTNWAA GVTLTWALLM TLFLPWLDAA KSHAPVVRSM EASFSPELKR
 501  ELSDGIECIG IGGGDLHTRI VWTQYGTLPH RVGDVRCRYR IVRLPQNADA
 551  PQGWQTVWQG ARPRNKDSKF ALIRKIGENI LKTTD*
```

Further work revealed the following gonococcal DNA sequence <SEQ ID 601>:

```
   1  ATGCTGACCT ATACCCCGCC CGATGCCCGC CCGCCCGCCA AAACCCACGA
  51  AAAACCGTGG CTGCTGCTGT TGATGGCGTT TGCCTGGCTG TGGCCCGGCG
 101  TGTTTTCCCA CGATTTGTGG AATCCTGCCG AACCTGCCGT CTATACCGCC
 151  GTCGAAGCAC TGGCAGGCAG CCCCACCCCC TTGGTTGCCC ATCTGTTCGG
 201  TCAAACCGAT TTCGGCATAC CGCCCGTGTA TCTTTGGGTT GCCGCCGCAT
 251  TCAAACATTT GCTGTCGCCG TGGGCAGCCG ACCCGTATGA TGCCGCACGC
 301  TTTGCAGGCG TATTTTTTGC CGTTATCGGA CTGACTTCTT GCGGCTTTGC
 351  CGGTTTCAAC TTTTTGGGCA GACACCACGG GCGCAGCGTT GTTTTAATCC
 401  ATATCGGCTG TATCGGGCTG ATTCCGGTTG CCCATTTCCT CAATCCcgcc
 451  gccgccgcct tTGCCGCCGC CGGACTGGTG CTGCacggct actcgctgGC
 501  ACGCCGGCGC GTGATtgccg cctctTtccT GCTCGGTACG GGTTGGACGT
 551  TGATGTCGCT GGCGGCAGCT TATCCGGCGG CGTTTGCGCT GATGCTGCCC
 601  CTGCCCGTGC TGATGTTTTT CCGTCCGTGG CAAAGCAGGC GTTTGATGTT
 651  GACGGCAGTC GCCTCGCTTG CCTTTGCCCT GCCGCTTATG ACCGTTTACC
 701  CGCTGCTCTt gGCAAAAACG CAGCCCGCGC TGTTTGCGCA ATGGCTCAAC
 751  TATCACGTTT TCGGTACGTt cggcgGCGTG CGGCAcaTTC AGAggGCatT
 801  Cagtttgttt cactatctgA AAaatctgct ttggttcgca ccgcccgggC
 851  TGCCGCTGGC GGTTTGGACG GTTTGCCGCA CACGCCTGTT TTCGACCGAC
 901  TGGGGGATTT TGGGCATTGT CTGGATGCTT GCCGTTTTGG TGCTGCTCGC
 951  CTTTAATCCG CAGCGTTTTC AAGACAACCT CGTCTGGCTG CTGCCGCCGC
1001  TTGCCCTGTT CGGCGCGGCG CAACTGGACA GCCTGAGGCG CGGCGCGGCG
1051  GCTTTTGTCA ACTGGTTCGG CATTATGGCG TTCGGGCTGT TTGCCGTGTT
1101  CCTGTGGACG GGCTTTTTCG CCATGAATTA CGGCTGGCCC GCCAAGCTTG
1151  CCGAACGCGC CGCCTACTTC AGCCCGTATT ACGTTCCCGA CATCGATCCC
1201  ATTCCGATGG CGGTTGCCGT ACTGTTCACA CCCTTGTGGC TGTGGGCGAT
1251  TACCCGGAAA AACATACGCG GCAGGCAGGC GGTTACCAAC TGGGCGGCAG
1301  GCGTTACCCT GACCTGGGCT TTGCTGATGA CGCTGTTCCT GCCGTGGCTG
1351  GACGCGGCGA AAAGCCACGC GCCCGTCGTC CGGAGTATGG AGGCATCGTT
1401  TTCCCCGGAA TTAAAACGGG AGCTTTCAGA CGGCATCGAG TGTATCGGCA
1451  TAGGCGGCGG CGACCTGCAC ACGCGGATTG TTTGGACGCA GTACGGCACA
1501  TTGCCGCACC GCGTCGGCGA TGTCCGTTGC CGCTACCGTA TCGTCCGCCT
1551  GCCCCAAAAC GCGGATGCGC CGCAAGGCTG GCAGACGGTC TGGCAGGGTG
1601  CGCGCCCGCG CAACAAAGAC AGTAAGTTTG CACTGATACG GAAAATCGGG
1651  GAAAATATAT TAAAAACAAC AGATTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 602; ORF141ng-1>:

```
   1  MLTYTPPDAR PPAKTHEKPW LLLLMAFAWL WPGVFSHDLW NPAEPAVYTA
  51  VEALAGSPTP LVAHLFGQTD FGIPPVYLWV AAAFKHLLSP WAADPYDAAR
 101  FAGVFFAVIG LTSCGFAGFN FLGRHHGRSV VLIHIGCIGL IPVAHFLNPA
 151  AAAFAAAGLV LHGYSLARRR VIAASFLLGT GWTLMSLAAA YPAAFALMLP
 201  LPVLMFFRPW QSRRLMLTAV ASLAFALPLM TVYPLLLAKT QPALFAQWLN
 251  YHVFGTFGGV RHIQRAFSLF HYLKNLLWFA PPGLPLAVWT VCRTRLFSTD
 301  WGILGIVWML AVLVLLAFNP QRFQDNLVWL LPPLALFGAA QLDSLRRGAA
```

```
351  AFVNWFGIMA FGLFAVFLWT GFFAMNYGWP AKLAERAAYF SPYYVPDIDP
401  IPMAVAVLFT PLWLWAITRK NIRGRQAVTN WAAGVTLTWA LLMTLFLPWL
451  DAAKSHAPVV RSMEASFSPE LKRELSDGIE CIGIGGGDLH TRIVWTQYGT
501  LPHRVGDVRC RYRIVRLPQN ADAPQGWQTV WQGARPRNKD SKFALIRKIG
551  ENILKTTD*
```

ORF141ng-1 and ORF141-1 show 97.5% identity in 553 aa overlap:

```
orf141ng-1.pep MLTYTPPDARPPAKTHEKPWLLLLMAFAWLWPGVFSHDLWNPAEPAVYTAVEALAGSPTP
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||
orf141-1       MLTYTPPDARPPAKTHEKPWLLLLMAFAWLWPGVFSHDLWNPDEPAVYTAVEALAGSPTP

orf141ng-1.pep LVAHLFGQTDFGIPPVYLWVAAAFKHLLSPWAADPYDAARFAGVFFAVIGLTSCGFAGFN
               |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf141-1       LVAHLFGQTDFGIPPVYLWVAAAFKHLLSPWAADSYDAARFAGVFFAVIGLTSCGFAGFN

orf141ng-1.pep FLGRHHGRSVVLIHIGCIGLIPVAHFLNPAAAAFAAAGLVLHGYSLARRRVIAASFLLGT
               |||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf141-1       FLGRHHGRSVVLILIGCIGLIPVAHFLNPAAAAFAAAGLVLHGYSLARRRVIAASFLLGT

orf141ng-1.pep GWTLMSLAAAYPAAFALMLPLPVLMFFRPWQSRRLMLTAVASLAFALPLMTVYPLLLAKT
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf141-1       GWTLMSLAAAYPAAFALMLPLPVLMFFRPWQSRRLMLTAVASLAFALPLMTVYPLLLAKT

orf141ng-1.pep QPALFAQWLNYHVFGTFGGVRHIQRAFSLFHYLKNLLWFAPPGLPLAVWTVCRTRLFSTD
               |||||||||:|||||||||||:| |||||:||||||||| |:||||||||||||||||
orf141-1       QPALFAQWLDYHVFGTFGGVRHVQTAFSLFYYLKNLLWFALPALPLAVWTVCRTRLFSTD

orf141ng-1.pep WGILGIVWMLAVLVLLAFNPQRFQDNLVWLLPPLALFGAAQLDSLRRGAAAFVNWFGIMA
               |||||:|||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf141-1       WGILGVVWMLAVLVLLAVNPQRFQDNLVWLLPPLALFGAAQLDSLRRGAAAFVNWFGIMA

orf141ng-1.pep FGLFAVFLWTGFFAMNYGWPAKLAERAAYFSPYYVPDIDPIPMAVAVLFTPLWLWAITRK
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf141-1       FGLFAVFLWTGFFAMNYGWPAKLAERAAYFSPYYVPDIDPIPMAVAVLFTPLWLWAITRK

orf141ng-1.pep NIRGRQAVTNWAAGVTLTWALLMTLFLPWLDAAKSHAPVVRSMEASFSPELKRELSDGIE
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||
orf141-1       NIRGRQAVTNWAAGVTLTWALLMTLFLPWLDAAKSHAPVVRSMEASLSPELKRELSDGIE

orf141ng-1.pep CIGIGGGDLHTRIVWTQYGTLPHRVGDVRCRYRIVRLPQNADAPQGWQTVWQGARPRNKD
               |||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf141-1       CIGIGGGDLHTRIVWTQYGTLPHRVGDVQCRYRIVLLPQNADAPQGWQTVWQGARPRNKD

orf141ng-1.pep SKFALIRKIGENILKTTDX
               |||||||||||||||||
orf141-1       SKFALIRKIGENIX
```

Based on the presence of several putative transmembrane domains in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 72

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 603>:

```
  1  ..CAATCCGCCA AATGGTTATC GGGCCAAACT CTAGTCGGCA CAGCAATTGG
 51    GATACGCGGG CAGATAAAGC TTGGCGGCAA CCTGCATTAC GATATATTTA
101    CCGGCCGCGC ATTGAAAAAG CCCGAATTTT TCCAATCAAG GAAATGGGCA
151    AGCGGTTTTC AGGTAGGCTA TACGTTTTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 604; ORF142>:

```
  1  ..QSAKWLSGQT LVGTAIGIRG QIKLGGNLHY DIFTGRALKK PEFFQSRKWA
 51    SGFQVGYTF*
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 605>:

```
   1  ATGGATAATT CGGGTAGTGA GGCGACAGGA AAATACCAAG GAAATATCAC
  51  TTTCTCTGCC GACAATCCTT TGGGACTGAG TGATATGTTC TATGTAAATT
 101  ATGGACGTTC GATTGGCGGT ACGCCCGATG AGGAAAGTTT TGACGGCCAT
 151  CGCAAAGAAG GCGGATCAAA CAATTACGCC GTACATTATT CAGCCCCTTT
 201  CGGTAAATGG ACATGGGCAT TCAATCACAA TGGCTACCGT TACCATCAGG
 251  CAGTTTCCGG ATTATCGGAA GTCTATGACT ATAATGGAAA AAGTTACAAT
 301  ACTGATTTCG GCTTCAACCG CCTGTTGTAT CGTGATGCCA AACGCAAAAC
 351  CTATCTCGGT GTAAAACTGT GGATGAGGGA AACAAAAAGT TACATTGATG
 401  ATGCCGAACT GACTGTACAA CGGCGTAAAA CTGCGGGTTG GTTGGCAGAA
 451  CTTTCCCACA AAGAATATAT CGGTCGCAGT ACGGCAGATT TTAAGTTGAA
 501  ATATAAACGC GGCACCGGCA TGAAAGATGC TCTGCGCGCG CCTGAAGAAG
 551  CCTTTGGCGA AGGCACGTCA CGTATGAAAA TTTGGACGGC ATCGGCTGAT
 601  GTAAATACTC CTTTTCAAAT CGGTAAACAG CTATTTGCCT ATGACACATC
 651  CGTTCATGCA CAATGGAACA AAACCCCGCT AACATCGCAA GACAAACTGG
 701  CTATCGGCGG ACACCACACC GTACGTGGCT TCGACGGTGA AATGAGTTTG
 751  TCTGCCGAGC GGGGATGGTA TTGGCGCAAC GATTTGAGCT GGCAATTTAA
 801  ACCAGGCCAT CAGCTTTATC TTGGGGCTGA TGTAGGACAT GTTTCAGGAC
 851  AATCCGCCAA ATGGTTATCG GGCCAAACTC TAGTCGGCAC AGCAATTGGG
 901  ATACGCGGGC AGATAAAGCT TGGCGGCAAC CTGCATTACG ATATATTTAC
 951  CGGCCGCGCA TTGAAAAAGC CCGAATTTTT CCAATCAAGG AAATGGGCAA
1001  GCGGTTTTCA GGTAGGCTAT ACGTTTTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 606; ORF142-1>:

```
   1  MDNSGSEATG KYQGNITFSA DNPLGLSDMF YVNYGRSIGG TPDEESFDGH
  51  RKEGGSNNYA VHYSAPFGKW TWAFNHNGYR YHQAVSGLSE VYDYNGKSYN
 101  TDFGFNRLLY RDAKRKTYLG VKLWMRETKS YIDDAELTVQ RRKTAGWLAE
 151  LSHKEYIGRS TADFKLKYKR GTGMKDALRA PEEAFGEGTS RMKIWTASAD
 201  VNTPFQIGKQ LFAYDTSVHA QWNKTPLTSQ DKLAIGGHHT VRGFDGEMSL
 251  SAERGWYWRN DLSWQFKPGH QLYLGADVGH VSGQSAKWLS GQTLVGTAIG
 301  IRGQIKLGGN LHYDIFTGRA LKKPEFFQSR KWASGFQVGY TF*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF142 shows 88.1% identity over a 59aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF142ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf142.pep                                    QSAKWLSGQTLVGTAIGIRGQIKLGGNLHY   30
                                              ||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||
orf142ng     RGWYWRNDLSWQFKPGHQLYLGADVGHVSGQSAKWLSGQTLAGTAIGIRGQIKLGGNLHY  313

orf142.pep   DIFTGRALKKPEFFQSRKWASGFQVGYTF   59
             |||||||||||:||::||::|||||||:|
orf142ng     DIFTGRALKKPEYFQTKKWVTGFQVGYSF  342
```

The complete length ORF142ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 607> is:

```
   1  ATGGATAATT CGGGTAGTGA GGCGACAGGA AAATACCAAG GAAATATCAC
  51  TTTCTCTGCC GACAATCCTT TTGGACTGAG TGATATGTTC TATGTAAATT
 101  ATGGACGTTC AATTGGCGGT ACGCCCGATG AGGAAAATTT TGACGGCCAT
 151  CGCAAAGAAG GCGGATCAAA CAATTACGCC GTACATTATT CAGCCCCTTT
 201  CGGTAAATGG ACATGGGCAT TCAATCACAA TGGCTACCGT TACCATCAGG
 251  CGGTTTCCGG ATTATCGGAA GTCTATGACT ATAATGGAAA AAGTTACAAC
 301  ACTGATTTCG GCTTCAACCG CCTGTTGTAT CGTGATGCCA AACGCAAAAC
 351  CTATCTCAGT GTAAAACTGT GGACGAGGGA AACAAAAAGT TACATTGATG
 401  ATGCCGAACT GACTGTACAA CGGCGTAAAA CCACAGGTTG GTTGGCAGAA
 451  CTTTCCCACA AAGGATATAT CGGTCGCAGT ACGGCAGATT TTAAGTTGAA
 501  ATATAAACAC GGCACCGGCA TGAAAGATGC TCTGCGCGCG CCTGAAGAAG
 551  CCTTTGGCGA AGGCACGTCA CGTATGAAAA TTTGGACGGC ATCGGCTGAT
 601  GTAAATACTC CTTTTCAAAT CGGTAAACAG CTATTTGCCT ATGACACATC
 651  CGTTCATGCA CAATGGAACA AAACCCCGCT AACATCGCAA GACAAACTGG
 701  CTATCGGCGG ACACCACACC GTACGTGGCT TCGACGGTGA AATGAGTTTG
 751  CCTGCCGAGC GGGGATGGTA TTGGCGCAAC GATTTGAGCT GGCAATTTAA
 801  ACCAGGCCAT CAGCTTTATC TTGGGGCTGA TGTAGGACAT GTTTCAGGAC
 851  AATCCGCCAA ATGGTTATCG GGCCAAACTC TAGCCGGCAC AGCAATTGGG
 901  ATACGCGGGC AGATAAAGCT TGGCGGCAAC CTGCATTACG ATATATTTAC
 951  CGGCCGTGCA TTGAAAAAGC CCGAATATTT TCAGACGAAG AAATGGGTAA
```

```
1001  CGGGGTTTCA GGTGGGTTAT TCGTTTTGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 608>:

```
   1  MDNSGSEATG KYQGNITFSA DNPFGLSDMF YVNYGRSIGG TPDEENFDGH
  51  RKEGGSNNYA VHYSAPFGKW TWAFNHNGYR YHQAVSGLSE VYDYNGKSYN
 101  TDFGFNRLLY RDAKRKTYLS VKLWTRETKS YIDDAELTVQ RRKTTGWLAE
 151  LSHKGYIGRS TADFKLKYKH GTGMKDALRA PEEAFGEGTS RMKIWTASAD
 201  VNTPFQIGKQ LFAYDTSVHA QWNKTPLTSQ DKLAIGGHHT VRGFDGEMSL
 251  PAERGWYWRN DLSWQFKPGH QLYLGADVGH VSGQSAKWLS GQTLAGTAIG
 301  IRGQIKLGGN LHYDIFTGRA LKKPEYFQTK KWVTGFQVGY SF*
```

The underlined sequence (aromatic-Xaa-aromatic amino acid motif) is usually found at the C-terminal end of outer membrane proteins.

ORF142ng and ORF142-1 show 95.6% identity over 342aa overlap:

```
orf142-1.pep MDNSGSEATGKYQGNITFSADNPLGLSDMFYVNYGRSIGGTPDEESFDGHRKEGGSNNYA
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||
orf142ng-1   MDNSGSEATGKYQGNITFSADNPFGLSDMFYVNYGRSIGGTPDEENFDGHRKEGGSNNYA

orf142-1.pep VHYSAPFGKWTWAFNHNGYRYHQAVSGLSEVYDYNGKSYNTDFGFNRLLYRDAKRKTYLG
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:
orf142ng-1   VHYSAPFGKWTWAFNHNGYRYHQAVSGLSEVYDYNGKSYNTDFGFNRLLYRDAKRKTYLS

orf142-1.pep VKLWMRETKSYIDDAELTVQRRKTAGWLAELSHKEYIGRSTADFKLKYKRGTGMKDALRA
             |||| |||||||||||||||||||:||||||| ||||||||||||||:||||||||||
orf142ng-1   VKLWTRETKSYIDDAELTVQRRKTTGWLAELSHKGYIGRSTADFKLKYKHGTGMKDALRA

orf142-1.pep PEEAFGEGTSRMKIWTASADVNTPFQIGKQLFAYDTSVHAQWNKTPLTSQDKLAIGGHHT
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf142ng-1   PEEAFGEGTSRMKIWTASADVNTPFQIGKQLFAYDTSVHAQWNKTPLTSQDKLAIGGHHT

orf142-1.pep VRGFDGEMSLSAERGWYWRNDLSWQFKPGHQLYLGADVGHVSGQSAKWLSGQTLVGTAIG
             |||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||
orf142ng-1   VRGFDGEMSLPAERGWYWRNDLSWQFKPGHQLYLGADVGHVSGQSAKWLSGQTLAGTAIG

orf142-1.pep IRGQIKLGGNLHYDIFTGRALKKPEFFQSRKWASGFQVGYTF
             |||||||||||||||||||||||||:||::|||::|||||||:|
orf142ng-1   IRGQIKLGGNLHYDIFTGRALKKPEYFQTKKWVTGFQVGYSF
```

In addition, ORF142ng is homologous to the HecB protein of *E.chrysanthemi*:

```
gi|1772622 (L39897) HecB [Erwinia chrysanthemi] Length = 558
Score =  119 bits (295), Expect = 3e-26
Identities = 88/346 (25%), Positives = 151/346 (43%), Gaps = 22/346 (6%)

Query: 2   DNSGSEATGKYQGNITFSADNPFGLSDMFYVNYGRSIGGTPDEENFDGHRKEGGSNNYAV 61
            DNSG ++TG+ Q N + + DN FGL+D ++++ G S   +    + D    + G
Sbjct: 230 DNSGQKSTGEEQLNGSLALDNVFGLADQWFISAGHS---SRFATSHDAESLQAG------ 280

Query: 62  HYSAPFGKWTWAFNHNGYRYHQAVSGLSEVYDYNGKSYNTDFGFNRLLYRDAKRKTYLSV 121
             +S P+G W   +N++  RY          +   G S    F  +R+++RD   KT ++
Sbjct: 281 -FSMPYGYWNLGYNYSQSRYRNTFINRDFPWHSTGDSDTHRFSLSRVVFRDGTMKTAIAG 339

Query: 122 KLWTRETKSYIDDAELTVQRRKTTGWLAELSHKGYIGRSTADFKLKYKHGTGMKDALRAP 181
               R   +Y++ + L    RK +     ++H   +   A F   Y  G     +
Sbjct: 340 TFSQRTGNNYLNGSLLPSSSRKLSSVSLGVNHSQKLWGGLATFNPTYNRGVRWLGSETDT 399

Query: 182 EEAFGEGTSRMKIWTASADVNTPFQIGKQLFAYDTSVHAQWNKTPLTSQDKLAIGGHHTV 241
            +++  E  +    WT SA    P          Y  S++ Q++   L   ++L +GG  ++
Sbjct: 400 DKSADEPRAEFNKWTLSASYYHPV---TDSITYLGSLYGQYSARALYGSEQLTLGGESSI 456

Query: 242 RGFDGEMSLPAERGWYWRNDLSWQFKP-----GHQLYLGA-DVGHVSGQSAKWLSGQTLAG 296
            RGF  E      RG YWRN+L+WQ       G+  ++ A D GH+         +  +L G
Sbjct: 457 RGF-REQYTSGNRGAYWRNELNWQAWQLPVLGNVTFMAAVDGGHLYNHKQDNSTAASLWG 515

Query: 297 TAIGIRGQIKLGGNLHYDIFTGRALKKPEYFQTKKWVTGFQVGYSF 342
             A+G+    +    L   +  G  +  P + Q    V G++VG SF
```

```
Sbjct: 516 GAVGMTVASRW---LSQQVTVGWPISYPAWLQPDTMVVGYRVGLSF 558
```

On the basis of this analysis, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 73

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 609>:

```
   1  ATGCGGACGA AATGGTCAGC AGTGAGAAGC TGCTTACTTG GgCGGACACC
  51  GCCGACATCG ATACCGCTTT GAACCTGTTG TACCGTTTGC AAAAACTCGA
 101  ATTCCTCTAT GGCGATGAAA ACGGTCATTC AGACGGCATC AATTTGwCGG
 151  ACGAGCAATT GCCGTTGCTG ATGGAACAAT TGTCCGGCAG CGGTAAGGCG
 201  TTATTGGTCG ATCGGAACGG TCTGTATCTT GCCAACGCCA ATTTCCATCA
 251  TGAGGCGGCG GAAGAGTTGG GGTTGTTGGC GGCAGAAGTC GCACAGATGG
 301  AAAAGAAATA CCGGCTGCTG ATTAAGAACA AC..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 610; ORF143>:

```
   1  MRTKWSAVRS CTWADTADID TALNLLYRLQ KLEFLYGDEN GHSDGINLXD
  51  EQLPLLMEQL SGSGKALLVD RNGLYLANAN FHHEAAEELG LLAAEVAQME
 101  KKYRLLIKNN ..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 611>:

```
   1  ATGGAATCAA CACTTTCACT ACAAGCAAAT TTATATCCCC GCCTGACTCC
  51  TGCCGGTGCA TTTTATGCCG TATCCAGCGA TGCCCCCAGT GCCGGTAAAA
 101  CTTTGTTGCA CAGCCTGTTG AAAGCAGATG CGGACGAAAT GGTCAGCAGT
 151  GAGAAGCTGC TTACTTGGGC GGACACCGCC GACATCGATA CCGCTTTGAA
 201  CCTGTTGTAC CGTTTGCAAA AACTCGAATT CCTCTATGGC GATGAAAACG
 251  GTCATTCAGA CGGCATCAAT TTGTCGGACG AGCAATTGCC GTTGCTGATG
 301  GAACAATTGT CCGGCAGCGG TAAGGCGTTA TTGGTCGATC GGAACGGTCT
 351  GTATCTTGCC AACGCCAATT TCCATCATGA GGCGGCGGAA GAGTTGGGGT
 401  TGTTGGCGGC AGAAGTCGCA CAGATGGAAA AGAAATACCG GCTGCTGATT
 451  AAGAACAACC TGTATATCAA CAATAACGCT TGGGGCGTTT GCGATCCTTC
 501  CGGTCAGAGC GAATTGACAT TTTTCCCATT GTATATCGGT TCAACCAAAT
 551  TTATTTTGGT TATCGGCGGC ATTCCCGATT TGGGCAAAGA GGCATTTGTT
 601  ACTTTGGTAA GGATTTTATA CCGCCGTTAC AGCAACCGCG TGTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 612; ORF143-1>:

```
   1  MESTLSLQAN LYPRLTPAGA FYAVSSDAPS AGKTLLHSLL KADADEMVSS
  51  EKLLTWADTA DIDTALNLLY RLQKLEFLYG DENGHSDGIN LSDEQLPLLM
 101  EQLSGSGKAL LVDRNGLYLA NANFHHEAAE ELGLLAAEVA QMEKKYRLLI
 151  KNNLYINNNA WGVCDPSGQS ELTFFPLYIG STKFILVIGG IPDLGKEAFV
 201  TLVRILYRRY SNRV*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF143 shows 92.4% identity over a 105aa overlap with an ORF (ORF143a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                                  10        20        30
orf143.pep                                  MRTKWSAVRSCTWADTADIDTALNLLYRLQKLEFL
                                                    :  :  ||| ||||||||||||||||||||
orf143a      GAFYAVSSDXPSAGKTLLHSLLKADADEMVSSEKLLTWAXTADIDTALNLLYRLQKLEFL
             20        30        40        50        60        70

                40        50        60        70        80        90
orf143.pep   YGDENGHSDGINLXDEQLPLLMEQLSGSGKALLVDRNGLYLANANFHHEAAEELGLLAAE
             |||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
```

```
orf143a      YGDENGHSDGINLSDEQLPLLMEQLSGSGKALLVDRNGLYLANANFHHEAAEELGLLAAE
             80        90        100       110       120       130

               100       110
orf143.pep   VAQMEKKYRLLIKNN
             |||||||||| ||||
orf143a      VAQMEKKYRLXIKNNLYINNNAWGVCDPSGQSELTFFPLYIGSTKFILVIGGIPDLGKEA
            140       150       160       170       180       190
```

The complete length ORF143a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 613> is:

```
   1  ATGGAATCAA CANTTTCACT ACAAGCAAAT TTATATCNCC GCCTGACTCC
  51  TGCCGGTGCA TTTTATGCCG TATCCAGCGA TGNCCCCAGT GCCGGTAAAA
 101  CTTTGTTGCA CAGCCTGTTG AAAGCGGATG CGGACGAAAT GGTNAGCAGT
 151  GAGAAGCTGC TTACCTGGGC GGANACCGCC GACATCGATA CCGCTTTGAA
 201  CCTGTTGTAC CGTTTGCAAA AACTCGAATT CCTCTATGGC GATGAAAACG
 251  GTCATTCAGA CGGCATCAAT TTGTCGGACG AGCAATTGCC GTTGCTGATG
 301  GAACAATTGT CCGGCAGCGG TAAGGCGTTA TTGGTCGATC GGAACGGTCT
 351  GTATCTTGCC AACGCCAATT TCCATCATGA GGCGGCGGAA GAGTTGGGGT
 401  TGTTGGCGGC AGAAGTCGCA CAGATGGAAA AGAAATACCG GCTGCNNATT
 451  AAGAACAACC TGTATATCAA CAATAACGCT TGGGGCGTTT GCGATCCTTC
 501  CGGTCAGAGC GAATTGACAT TTTTCCCATT GTATATCGGT TCAACCAAAT
 551  TTATTTTGGT TATCGGCGGC ATTCCCGATT TGGGCAAAGA GGCATTTGTT
 601  ACTTTGGTAA GGATNTTATA CCNCCNGTTA CAGCAACCGC GTGTAAAACT
 651  TGGGAGAGAG GANGGGTTAT GCAGCAATTA TTGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 614>:

```
   1  MESTXSLQAN LYXRLTPAGA FYAVSSDXPS AGKTLLHSLL KADADEMVSS
  51  EKLLTWAXTA DIDTALNLLY RLQKLEFLYG DENGHSDGIN LSDEQLPLLM
 101  EQLSGSGKAL LVDRNGLYLA NANFHHEAAE ELGLLAAEVA QMEKKYRLXI
 151  KNNLYINNNA WGVCDPSGQS ELTFFPLYIG STKFILVIGG IPDLGKEAFV
 201  TLVRXLYXXL QQPRVKLGRE XGLCSNY*
```

ORF143a and ORF143-1 show 97.1% identity in 207 aa overlap:

```
orf143a.pep   MESTXSLQANLYXRLTPAGAFYAVSSDXPSAGKTLLHSLLKADADEMVSSEKLLTWAXTA
              |||| ||||||| ||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||
orf143-1      MESTLSLQANLYPRLTPAGAFYAVSSDAPSAGKTLLHSLLKADADEMVSSEKLLTWADTA

orf143a.pep   DIDTALNLLYRLQKLEFLYGDENGHSDGINLSDEQLPLLMEQLSGSGKALLVDRNGLYLA
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf143-1      DIDTALNLLYRLQKLEFLYGDENGHSDGINLSDEQLPLLMEQLSGSGKALLVDRNGLYLA

orf143a.pep   NANFHHEAAEELGLLAAEVAQMEKKYRLXIKNNLYINNNAWGVCDPSGQSELTFFPLYIG
              |||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf143-1      NANFHHEAAEELGLLAAEVAQMEKKYRLLIKNNLYINNNAWGVCDPSGQSELTFFPLYIG

orf143a.pep   STKFILVIGGIPDLGKEAFVTLVRXLY
              |||||||||||||||||||||||| ||
orf143-1      STKFILVIGGIPDLGKEAFVTLVRILY
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF143 shows 95.5% identity over a 110aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF143ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf143.pep   MRTKWSAVRSCTWADTADIDTALNLLYRLQKLEFLYGDENGHSDGINLXDEQLPLLMEQL   60
             |||||||||||: |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||
orf143ng     MRTKWSAVRSCSRADTADIDTALNLLYRLQKLEFLYGDENGHSDGINLSDEQLPLLMEQL   60

orf143.pep   SGSGKALLVDRNGLYLANANFHHEAAEELGLLAAEVAQMEKKYRLLIKNN             110
             |||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||:||
orf143ng     SGSGKALLVDRNGLYLANANFHHESAEELGLLAAEVAQMEKKYRLLIRNNLYINNNAWGV  120
```

An ORF143ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 615> was predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 616>:

```
  1  MRTKWSAVRS CSRADTADID TALNLLYRLQ KLEFLYGDEN GHSDGINLSD
 51  EQLPLLMEQL SGSGKALLVD RNGLYLANAN FHHESAEELG LLAAEVAQME
101  KKYRLLIRNN LYINNNAWGV CDPSGQSELT FFPLYIGSTK FILVIAGIPD
151  LSKGGICYFG KDFIPPLQQP RVKLGTGGIM RQLLISILED LNNTSTDIIA
201  SAVISTDGLP MATMLPSHLN SDRVGAISAT LLALGSRSVQ ELACGELEQV
251  MIKGKSGYIL LSQAGKDAVL VLVAKETGRL GLILLDAKRA ARHIAEAI*
```

Further work revealed the following gonococcal DNA sequence <SEQ ID 617>:

```
  1  ATGGAATCAA CACTTTCACT ACAAGCGAAT TTATATCCCT GCCTGACTCC
 51  TGCCGGTGCA TTTTATGCCG TATCCAGCGA TGCCCCCAGT GCCGGTAAAA
101  CTTTGTTGCG CAGCCTGTTG AAAGCGGATG CGGACGAAGT GGTCAGCAGT
151  GAGAAGCTGC TCGCGGCGGA CACCGCCGAC ATCGATACCG CTTTGAACCT
201  GTTGTACCGT TTGCAAAAAC TCGAATTCCT CTATGGCGAT GAAAACGGTC
251  ATTCAGACGG CATCAATTTG TCGGACGAGC AATTGCCGTT GCTGATGGAA
301  CAATTGTCCG GCAGCGGTAA GGCATTATTG GTCGATCGGA ACGGTCTGTA
351  TCTTGCCAAC GCCAATTTCC ATCATGAGTC GGCGGAAGAG TTGGGGTTGT
401  TGGCGGCAGA AGTCGCACAG ATGGAAAAGA AATACCGGCT GCTGATTAGG
451  AACAACCTGT ATATCAACAA TAACGCTTGG GGCGTTTGCG ATCCTTCCGG
501  TCAGAGCGAA TTGACATTTT TCCCATTGTA TATCGGTTCA ACCAAATTTA
551  TTTTGGTTAT CGCCGGCATT CCCGATTTGA GCAAAGAGGC ATTTGTTACT
601  TTGGTAAGGA TTTTATACCG CCGTTACAGC AACCGCGTGT AA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 618; ORF143ng-1>:

```
  1  MESTLSLQAN LYPCLTPAGA FYAVSSDAPS AGKTLLRSLL KADADEVVSS
 51  EKLLAADTAD IDTALNLLYR LQKLEFLYGD ENGHSDGINL SDEQLPLLME
101  QLSGSGKALL VDRNGLYLAN ANFHHESAEE LGLLAAEVAQ MEKKYRLLIR
151  NNLYINNNAW GVCDPSGQSE LTFFPLYIGS TKFILVIAGI PDLSKEAFVT
201  LVRILYRRYS NRV*
```

ORF143ng-1 and ORF143-1 show 95.8% identity in 214 aa overlap:

```
orf143ng-1.pep MESTLSLQANLYPCLTPAGAFYAVSSDAPSAGKTLLRSLLKADADEVVSSEKLLA-ADTA  59
               ||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||:|||||||: ||||
orf143-1       MESTLSLQANLYPRLTPAGAFYAVSSDAPSAGKTLLHSLLKADADEMVSSEKLLTWADTA  60

orf143ng-1.pep DIDTALNLLYRLQKLEFLYGDENGHSDGINLSDEQLPLLMEQLSGSGKALLVDRNGLYLA 119
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf143-1       DIDTALNLLYRLQKLEFLYGDENGHSDGINLSDEQLPLLMEQLSGSGKALLVDRNGLYLA 120

orf143ng-1.pep NANFHHESAEELGLLAAEVAQMEKKYRLLIRNNLYINNNAWGVCDPSGQSELTFFPLYIG 179
               |||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf143-1       NANFHHEAAEELGLLAAEVAQMEKKYRLLIKNNLYINNNAWGVCDPSGQSELTFFPLYIG 180

orf143ng-1.pep STKFILVIAGIPDLSKEAFVTLVRILYRRYSNRV  213
               ||||||||:|||||:||||||||||||||||||
orf143-1       STKFILVIGGIPDLGKEAFVTLVRILYRRYSNRV  214
```

Based on the presence of the putative transmembrane domains in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 74

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 619>:

```
  1  ATGACCTTTT TACAACGTTT GCAAGGTTTG GCAGACAATA AAATCTGTGC
 51  GTTTGCATGG TTCGTCGTCC GCCGCTTTGA TGAAGAACGC GTACCGCAGr
101  CGGCGGCAAG CATGACGTTT ACGACGCTGC TGGCACTCGT CCCCGTGCTG
151  ACCGTGATGG TGGCGGTCGC TTCGATTTTC CCCGTGTTCG ACCGCTGGTC
201  GGATTCGTTC GTCTCCTTCG TCAACCAAAC CATTGTGCCG CA.GGCGCGG
251  ACATGGTGTT CGACTATATC AATGCGTTCC GCGAGCAGGC GAACCGGCTG
301  ACGGCAATCG GCAGCGTGAT GCTGGTCGTT ACCTCGCTGA TGCTGATTCG
351  GACGATAGAC AATACGTTCA ACCGCATCTG GaCGGGTCAA wTyCCAGCGT
401  CCGTGGATG..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 620; ORF144>:

```
   1  MTFLQRLQGL ADNKICAFAW FVVRRFDEER VPQXAASMTF TTLLALVPVL
  51  TVMVAVASIF PVFDRWSDSF VSFVNQTIVP XGADMVFDYI NAFREQANRL
 101  TAIGSVMLVV TSLMLIRTID NTFNRIWRVX XQRPWM...
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 621>:

```
   1  ATGACCTTTT TACAACGTTT GCAAGGTTTG GCAGACAATA AAATCTGTGC
  51  GTTTGCATGG TTCGTCGTCC GCCGCTTTGA TGAAGAACGC GTACCGCAGG
 101  CGGCGGCAAG CATGACGTTT ACGACGCTGC TGGCACTCGT CCCCGTGCTG
 151  ACCGTGATGG TGGCGGTCGC TTCGATTTTC CCCGTGTTCG ACCGCTGGTC
 201  GGATTCGTTC GTCTCCTTCG TCAACCAAAC CATTGTGCCG CAGGGCGCGG
 251  ACATGGTGTT CGACTATATC AATGCGTTCC GCGAGCAGGC GAACCGGCTG
 301  ACGGCAATCG GCAGCGTGAT GCTGGTCGTT ACCTCGCTGA TGCTGATTCG
 351  GACGATAGAC AATACGTTCA ACCGCATCTG GCGGGTCAAT TCCCAGCGTC
 401  CGTGGATGAT GCAGTTTCTC GTCTATTGGG CTTTACTGAC GTTCGGGCCG
 451  CTGTCTTTGG GCGTGGGCAT TTCCTTTATG GTCGGCTCGG TACAGGATGC
 501  CGCGCTTGCC TCAGGTGCGC CGCAGTGGTC GGGCGCGTTG CGAACGGCGG
 551  CGACGCTGAC CTTCATGACG CTTTTGCTGT GGGGGCTGTA CCGCTTCGTG
 601  CCAAACCGCT TCGTTCCCGC GCGGCAGGCG TTTGTCGGGG CTTTGGCAAC
 651  AGCGTTTTGT CTGGAAACCG CGCGCTCCCT CTTCACTTGG TATATGGGCA
 701  ATTTCGACGG CTACCGCTCG ATTTACGGCG CGTTTGCCGC CGTGCCGTTT
 751  TTTCTGTTGT GGCTGAACCT GTTGTGGACG CTGGTCTTGG GCGGCGCGGT
 801  GCTGACTTCT TCACTCTCCT ACTGGCAGGG AGAAGCGTTC CGCAGGGGCT
 851  TCGACTCGCG CGGACGGTTT GACGACGTGT TGAAAATCCT GCTGCTTCTG
 901  GATGCGGCGC AAAAAGAAGG CAAAGCCTTG CCTGTTCAGG AGTTCAGACG
 951  GCATATCAAT ATGGGCTACG ACGAGTTGGG CGAGCTTTTG GAAAAGCTGG
1001  CGCGGCACGG CTACATCTAT TCCGGCAGAC AGGGTTGGGT GTTGAAAACG
1051  GGGGCGGATT CGATTGAGTT GAACGAACTC TTCAAGCTCT TCGTTTACCG
1101  TCCGTTGCCT GTGGAAAGGG ATCATGTGAA CCAAGCTGTC GATGCGGTAA
1151  TGACACCGTG TTTGCAGACT TTGAACATGA CGCTGGCAGA GTTTGACGCT
1201  CAGGCGAAAA AACGGCAGTA G
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 622; ORF144-1>:

```
   1  MTFLQRLQGL ADNKICAFAW FVVRRFDEER VPQAAASMTF TTLLALVPVL
  51  TVMVAVASIF PVFDRWSDSF VSFVNQTIVP QGADMVFDYI NAFREQANRL
 101  TAIGSVMLVV TSLMLIRTID NTFNRIWRVN SQRPWMMQFL VYWALLTFGP
 151  LSLGVGISFM VGSVQDAALA SGAPQWSGAL RTAATLTFMT LLLWGLYRFV
 201  PNRFVPARQA FVGALATAFC LETARSLFTW YMGNFDGYRS IYGAFAAVPF
 251  FLLWLNLLWT LVLGGAVLTS SLSYWQGEAF RRGFDSRGRF DDVLKILLLL
 301  DAAQKEGKAL PVQEFRRHIN MGYDELGELL EKLARHGYIY SGRQGWVLKT
 351  GADSIELNEL FKLFVYRPLP VERDHVNQAV DAVMTPCLQT LNMTLAEFDA
 401  QAKKRQ*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF144 shows 96.3% identity over a 136aa overlap with an ORF (ORF144a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf144.pep      MTFLQRLQGLADNKICAFAWFVVRRFDEERVPQXAASMTFTTLLALVPVLTVMVAVASIF
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf144a         MTFLQRLQGLADNKICAFAWFVVRRFDEERVPQAAASMTFTTLLALVPVLTVMVAVASIF
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf144.pep      PVFDRWSDSFVSFVNQTIVPXGADMVFDYINAFREQANRLTAIGSVMLVVTSLMLIRTID
                |||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||
orf144a         PVFDRWSDSFVSFVNQTIVPQGADMVFDYINAFREQANRLTAIGSVMLVVTSXMLIRTID
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130
orf144.pep      NTFNRIWRVXXQRPWM
                |||||||| |||||
orf144a         NTFNRIWRVNSQRPWMMQFLVYWALLTFGPLSLGVGISFXVGSVQDAALASGAPQWSGAL
```

130 140 150 160 170 180

The complete length ORF144a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 623> is:

```
   1 ATGACCTTTT TACAACGTTT GCAAGGTTTG GCAGACAATA AAATCTGTGC
  51 GTTTGCATGG TTCGTCGTCC GCCGCTTTGA TGAAGAACGC GTACCGCAGG
 101 CGGCGGCAAG CATGACGTTT ACGACACTGC TGGCACTCGT CCCCGTGCTG
 151 ACCGTGATGG TGGCGGTCGC TTCGATTTTC CCCGTGTTCG ACCGNTGGTC
 201 GGATTCGTTC GTCTCCTTCG TCAACCAAAC CATTGTGCCG CAGGGCGCGG
 251 ACATGGTNTT CGACTATATC AATGCGTTCC GCGAGCAGGC GAACCGGCTG
 301 ACGGCAATCG GCAGCGTGAT GCTGGTCGTT ACCTCGCNGA TGCTGATTCG
 351 GACGATAGAC AATACGTTCA ACCGCATCTG GCGGGTCAAT TCCCAGCGTC
 401 CGTGGATGAT GCAGTTTCTC GTCTATTGGG CTTTACTGAC GTTCGGGCCG
 451 CTGTCTTTGG GCGTGGGCAT TTCCTTTATN GTCGGCTCGG TACAGGATGC
 501 CGCGCTTGCC TCAGGTGCGC CGCAGTGGTC GGGCGCGTTG CGAACGGCGG
 551 CGACGCTGAN CTTCATGACG CTTTTGCTGT GGGGGCTGTA CCGCTNCGTG
 601 CCAAACCGCT TCGTTCCCGC GCGGCANGCG TTTGTCGGGG CTTTGGCAAC
 651 AGCGTTCTGT CTGGAAACCG CGCGTTCCCT CTTTACTTGG TATATGGGCA
 701 ATTTCGACGG CTACCGCTCG ATTTACGGNG CGTTTGCCGC CGTGCCGTTT
 751 TTTCTGTTGT GGCTGAACCT GTTGTGGACG CTGGTCTTGG GCGGCGCGGT
 801 GCTGACTTCT TCACTCTCCT ACTGGCAGGG AGAAGCGTTC CGCAGGGNCT
 851 TCGACTCGCG CGGACGGTTT GACGACGTGT TGAAAATCCT GCTGCTTCTG
 901 GATGCGGCGC AAAAAGAAGG CNAAGCCTTG CCTGTTCAGG AGTTCAGACG
 951 GCATATCAAT ATGGGCTACG ACGAGTTGGG CGAGCTTTTG GAAAAGCTGG
1001 CGCGGCACGG CTACATCTAT TCCGGCAGAC AGGGTTGGGT GTTGAAAACG
1051 GGGGCGGATT CGATTGAGTT GAACGAACTC TTCAAGCTCT TCGTTTACCG
1101 TCCGTTGCCT GTGGAAAGGG ATCATGTGAA CCAAGCTGTC GATGCGGTAA
1151 TGATGCCGTG TTTGCAGACT TTGAACATGA CGCTGGCAGA GTTTGACGCT
1201 CAGGCGAAAA AACAGCAGCA ATCTTGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 624>:

```
   1 MTFLQRLQGL ADNKICAFAW FVVRRFDEER VPQAAASMTF TTLLALVPVL
  51 TVMVAVASIF PVFDRWSDSF VSFVNQTIVP QGADMVFDYI NAFREQANRL
 101 TAIGSVMLVV TSXMLIRTID NTFNRIWRVN SQRPWMMQFL VYWALLTFGP
 151 LSLGVGISFX VGSVQDAALA SGAPQWSGAL RTAATLXFMT LLLWGLYRXV
 201 PNRFVPARXA FVGALATAFC LETARSLFTW YMGNFDGYRS IYGAFAAVPF
 251 FLLWLNLLWT LVLGGAVLTS SLSYWQGEAF RRXFDSRGRF DDVLKILLLL
 301 DAAQKEGXAL PVQEFRRHIN MGYDELGELL EKLARHGYIY SGRQGWVLKT
 351 GADSIELNEL FKLFVYRPLP VERDHVNQAV DAVMMPCLQT LNMTLAEFDA
 401 QAKKQQQS*
```

ORF144a and ORF144-1 show 97.8% identity in 406 aa overlap:

```
orf144a.pep   MTFLQRLQGLADNKICAFAWFVVRRFDEERVPQAAASMTFTTLLALVPVLTVMVAVASIF
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf144-1      MTFLQRLQGLADNKICAFAWFVVRRFDEERVPQAAASMTFTTLLALVPVLTVMVAVASIF

orf144a.pep   PVFDRWSDSFVSFVNQTIVPQGADMVFDYINAFREQANRLTAIGSVMLVVTSXMLIRTID
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||
orf144-1      PVFDRWSDSFVSFVNQTIVPQGADMVFDYINAFREQANRLTAIGSVMLVVTSLMLIRTID

orf144a.pep   NTFNRIWRVNSQRPWMMQFLVYWALLTFGPLSLGVGISFXVGSVQDAALASGAPQWSGAL
              |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||
orf144-1      NTFNRIWRVNSQRPWMMQFLVYWALLTFGPLSLGVGISFMVGSVQDAALASGAPQWSGAL

orf144a.pep   RTAATLXFMTLLLWGLYRXVPNRFVPARXAFVGALATAFCLETARSLFTWYMGNFDGYRS
              ||||||:|||||||||||| |||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf144-1      RTAATLTFMTLLLWGLYRFVPNRFVPARQAFVGALATAFCLETARSLFTWYMGNFDGYRS

orf144a.pep   IYGAFAAVPFFLLWLNLLWTLVLGGAVLTSSLSYWQGEAFRRXFDSRGRFDDVLKILLLL
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||
orf144-1      IYGAFAAVPFFLLWLNLLWTLVLGGAVLTSSLSYWQGEAFRRGFDSRGRFDDVLKILLLL

orf144a.pep   DAAQKEGXALPVQEFRRHINMGYDELGELLEKLARHGYIYSGRQGWVLKTGADSIELNEL
              ||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf144-1      DAAQKEGKALPVQEFRRHINMGYDELGELLEKLARHGYIYSGRQGWVLKTGADSIELNEL

orf144a.pep   FKLFVYRPLPVERDHVNQAVDAVMMPCLQTLNMTLAEFDAQAKKQQQS  408
              |||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||:|
orf144-1      FKLFVYRPLPVERDHVNQAVDAVMTPCLQTLNMTLAEFDAQAKKRQ   406
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF144 shows 91.2% identity over a 136aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF144ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf144.pep   MTFLQRLQGLADNKICAFAWFVVRRFDEERVPQXAASMTFTTLLALVPVLTVMVAVASIF  60
             |||||  || ||||||||||||:|||:||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf144ng     MTFLQCWQGSADNKICAFAWFVIRRFSEERVPQAAASMTFTTLLALVPVLTVMVAVASIF  60

orf144.pep   PVFDRWSDSFVSFVNQTIVPXGADMVFDYINAFREQANRLTAIGSVMLVVTSLMLIRTID 120
             |||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||:|||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf144ng     PVFDRWSDSFVSFVNQTIVPQGADMVFDYIDAFRDQANRLTAIGSVMLVVTSLMLIRTID 120

orf144.pep   NTFNRIWRVXXQRPWM                                             136
             |:|||||||  :|||||
orf144ng     NAFNRIWRVNTQRPWMMQFLVYWALLTFGPLSLGVGISFMVGSVQDSVLSSGAQQWADAL 180
```

The complete length ORF144ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 625> is predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 626>:

```
   1  MTFLQCWQGS ADNKICAFAW FVIRRFSEER VPQAAASMTF TTLLALVPVL
  51  TVMVAVASIF PVFDRWSDSF VSFVNQTIVP QGADMVFDYI DAFRDQANRL
 101  TAIGSVMLVV TSLMLIRTID NAFNRIWRVN TQRPWMMQFL VYWALLTFGP
 151  LSLGVGISFM VGSVQDSVLS SGAQQWADAL KTAARLAFMT LLLWGLYRFV
 201  PNRFVPARQA FVGALITAFC LETARFLFTW YMGNFDGYRS IYGAFAAVPF
 251  FLLWLNLLWT LVLGGAVLTS SLSYWQGEAF RRGFDSRGRF DDVLKILLLL
 301  DAAQKEGRTL SVQEFRRHIN MGYDELGELL EKLARYGYIY SGRQGWVLKT
 351  GADSIELSEL FKLFVYRPLP VERDHVNQAV DAVMTPCLQT LNMTLAEFDA
 401  QAKKQQQS*
```

Further work revealed the following gonococcal DNA sequence <SEQ ID 627>:

```
   1  ATGACCTTTT TACAACGTTG GCAAGGTTTG GCGGACAATA AAATCTGTGC
  51  ATTTGCATGG TTCGTCATCC GCCGTTTCAG TGAAGAGCGC GTACCGCAGG
 101  CAGCGGCGAG CATGACGTTT ACGACACTGC TGGCACTCGT CCCCGTACTG
 151  ACCGTAATGG TCGCGGTCGC TTCGATTTTC CCCGTGTTCG ACCGCTGGTC
 201  GGATTCGTTC GTCTCCTTCG TCAACCAAAC CATTGTGCCG CAGGGCGCGG
 251  ATATGGTGTT CGACTATATC GACGCATTCC GCGATCAGGC AAACCGGCTG
 301  ACCGCCATCG GCAGCGTGAT GCTGGTCGTA ACCTCGCTGA TGCTGATTCG
 351  GACGATAGAC AATGCGTTCA ACCGCATCTG GCGGGTTAAC ACGCAACGCC
 401  CCTGGATGAT GCAGTTCCTC GTTTATTGGG CGTTGCTGAC TTTCGGGCCT
 451  TTGTCTTTGG GTGTGGGCAT TTCCTTTATG GTCGGGTCGG TTCAAGACTC
 501  CGTACTCTCC TCCGGAGCGC AACAATGGGC GGACGCGTTG AAGACGGCGG
 551  CAAGGCTGGC TTTCATGACG CTTTTGCTGT GGGGGCTGTA CCGCTTCGTG
 601  CCCAACCGCT TCGTGCCCGC CCGGCAGGCG TTTGTCGGAG CTTTGATTAC
 651  GGCATTCTGC CTGGAGACGG CACGTTTCCT GTTCACCTGG TATATGGGCA
 701  ATTTCGACGG CTACCGCTCG ATTTACGGCG CATTTGCCGC CGTGCCGTTT
 751  TTCCTGCTGT GGTTAAACCT GCTGTGGACG CTGGTCTTGG GCGGGGCGGT
 801  GCTGACTTCG TCGCTGTCTT ATTGGCAGGG CGAGGCCTTC CGCAGGGGAT
 851  TCGACTCGCG CGGACGGTTT GACGACGTGT TGAAAATCCT GCTGCTTCTG
 901  GATGCGGCGC AAAAAGAAGG CCGAACCCTG TCCGTTCAGG AGTTCAGACG
 951  GCATATCAAT ATGGGTTACG ATGAATTGGG CGAGCTTTTG GAAAAGCTGG
1001  CGCGGTACGG CTATATCTAT TCCGGCAGAC AGGGCTGGGT TTTGAAAACG
1051  GGGGCGGATT CGATTGAGTT GAGCGAACTC TTCAAGCTCT TCGTGTACCG
1101  CCCGTTGCct gtggaAAGGG ATCATGTGAA CCAAGCTGtc gaTGCGGTAA
1151  TGAcgccgtG TTTGCAGACT TTGAACATGA CGCTGGCGGA GTTTGACGCT
1201  CAGgcgAAAA AACAGCAGCA GTCTTGA
```

This encodes a variant of ORF144ng, having the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 628; ORF144ng-1>:

```
   1  MTFLQRWQGL ADNKICAFAW FVIRRFSEER VPQAAASMTF TTLLALVPVL
  51  TVMVAVASIF PVFDRWSDSF VSFVNQTIVP QGADMVFDYI DAFRDQANRL
 101  TAIGSVMLVV TSLMLIRTID NAFNRIWRVN TQRPWMMQFL VYWALLTFGP
 151  LSLGVGISFM VGSVQDSVLS SGAQQWADAL KTAARLAFMT LLLWGLYRFV
 201  PNRFVPARQA FVGALITAFC LETARFLFTW YMGNFDGYRS IYGAFAAVPF
 251  FLLWLNLLWT LVLGGAVLTS SLSYWQGEAF RRGFDSRGRF DDVLKILLLL
 301  DAAQKEGRTL SVQEFRRHIN MGYDELGELL EKLARYGYIY SGRQGWVLKT
```

```
351  GADSIELSEL FKLFVYRPLP VERDHVNQAV DAVMTPCLQT LNMTLAEFDA
401  QAKKQQQS*
```

ORF144ng-1 and ORF144-1 show 94.1% identity in 406 aa overlap:

```
orf144ng-1.pep MTFLQRWQGLADNKICAFAWFVIRRFSEERVPQAAASMTFTTLLALVPVLTVMVAVASIF
               |||||| ||||||||||||||||:|||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf144-1       MTFLQRLQGLADNKICAFAWFVVRRFDEERVPQAAASMTFTTLLALVPVLTVMVAVASIF

orf144ng-1.pep PVFDRWSDSFVSFVNQTIVPQGADMVFDYIDAFRDQANRLTAIGSVMLVVTSLMLIRTID
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||:|||||||||||||||||||||||
orf144-1       PVFDRWSDSFVSFVNQTIVPQGADMVFDYINAFREQANRLTAIGSVMLVVTSLMLIRTID

orf144ng-1.pep NAFNRIWRVNTQRPWMMQFLVYWALLTFGPLSLGVGISFMVGSVQDSVLSSGAQQWADAL
               |:|||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||::|:||| ||: ||
orf144-1       NTFNRIWRVNSQRPWMMQFLVYWALLTFGPLSLGVGISFMVGSVQDAALASGAPQWSGAL

orf144ng-1.pep KTAARLAFMTLLLWGLYRFVPNRFVPARQAFVGALITAFCLETARFLFTWYMGNFDGYRS
               :||| |:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||| ||||||||||||||
orf144-1       RTAATLTFMTLLLWGLYRFVPNRFVPARQAFVGALATAFCLETARSLFTWYMGNFDGYRS

orf144ng-1.pep IYGAFAAVPFFLLWLNLLWTLVLGGAVLTSSLSYWQGEAFRRGFDSRGRFDDVLKILLLL
               |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf144-1       IYGAFAAVPFFLLWLNLLWTLVLGGAVLTSSLSYWQGEAFRRGFDSRGRFDDVLKILLLL

orf144ng-1.pep DAAQKEGRTLSVQEFRRHINMGYDELGELLEKLARYGYIYSGRQGWVLKTGADSIELSEL
               |||||||::| ||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||:||
orf144-1       DAAQKEGKALPVQEFRRHINMGYDELGELLEKLARHGYIYSGRQGWVLKTGADSIELNEL

orf144ng-1.pep FKLFVYRPLPVERDHVNQAVDAVMTPCLQTLNMTLAEFDAQAKKQQQS
               |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|
orf144-1       FKLFVYRPLPVERDHVNQAVDAVMTPCLQTLNMTLAEFDAQAKKRQ
```

On this basis of this analysis, including the identification of several putative transmembrane domains in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 75

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 629>:

```
   1  ..AGACACGCCC GCCGCATCCG CATCGACACC GCCATCAACC CCGAACTGGA
  51    AGCCCTCGCC GAACACCTCC ACTACCAATG GCAGGGCTTC CTCTGGCTCA
 101    GCACCGATAT GCGTCAGGAA ATTTCCGCCC TCGTCATCCT GCTGCAACGC
 151    ACCCGCCGCA AATGGCTGGA TGCCCACGAA CGCCAACACC TGCGCCAAAG
 201    CCTGCTTGAA ACACGGGAAC ACGGCTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 630; ORF146>:

```
   1  ..RHARRIRIDT AINPELEALA EHLHYQWQGF LWLSTDMRQE ISALVILLQR
  51    TRRKWLDAHE RQHLRQSLLE TREHG*
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 631>:

```
   1  ATGAACACCT CGCAACGCAA CCGCCTCGTC AGCCGCTGGC TCAACTCCTA
  51  CGAACGCTAC CGCTACCGCC GCCTCATCCA CGCCGTCCGG CTCGGCGGGG
 101  CCGTCCTGTT CGCCACCGCC TCCGCCCGGC TGCTCCACCT CCAACACGGC
 151  GAGTGGATAG GGATGACCGT CTTCGTCGTC CTCGGCATGC TCCAGTTTCA
 201  AGGGGCGATT TACTCCAAGG CGGTGGAACG TATGCTCGGC ACGGTCATCG
 251  GGCTGGGCGC GGGTTTGGGC GTTTTATGGC TGAACCAGCA TTATTTCCAC
 301  GGCAACCTCC TCTTCTACCT CACCGTCGGC ACGGCAAGCG CACTGGCCGG
 351  CTGGGCGGCG GTCGGCAAAA ACGGCTACGT CCCTATGCTG GCAGGGCTGA
 401  CGATGTGTAT GCTCATCGGC GACAACGGCA GCGAATGGCT CGACAGCGGA
 451  CTCATGCGCG CCATGAACGT CCTCATCGGC GCGGCCATCG CCATCGCCGC
```

```
 501  CGCCAAACTG CTGCCGCTGA AATCCACACT GATGTGGCGT TTCATGCTTG
 551  CCGACAACCT GGCCGACTGC AGCAAAATGA TTGCCGAAAT CAGCAACGGC
 601  AGGCGCATGA CCCGCGAACG CCTCGAGGAG AACATGGCGA AAATGCGCCA
 651  AATCAACGCA CGCATGGTCA AAAGCCGCAG CCATCTCGCC GCCACATCGG
 701  GCGAAAGCCG CATCAGCCCC GCCATGATGG AAGCCATGCA GCACGCCCAC
 751  CGTAAAATCG TCAACACCAC CGAGCTGCTC CTGACCACCG CCGCCAAGCT
 801  GCAATCTCCC AAACTCAACG GCAGCGAAAT CCGGCTGCTT GACCGCCACT
 851  TCACACTGCT CCAAACCGAC CTGCAACAAA CCGTCGCCCT TATCAACGGC
 901  AGACACGCCC GCCGCATCCG CATCGACACC GCCATCAACC CCGAACTGGA
 951  AGCCCTCGCC GAACACCTCC ACTACCAATG GCAGGGCTTC CTCTGGCTCA
1001  GCACCAATAT GCGTCAGGAA ATTTCCGCCC TCGTCATCCT GCTGCAACGC
1051  ACCCGCCGCA AATGGCTGGA TGCCCACGAA CGCCAACACC TGCGCCAAAG
1101  CCTGCTTGAA ACACGGGAAC ACGGCTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 632; ORF146-1>:

```
   1  MNTSQRNRLV SRWLNSYERY RYRRLIHAVR LGGAVLFATA SARLLHLQHG
  51  EWIGMTVFVV LGMLQFQGAI YSKAVERMLG TVIGLGAGLG VLWLNQHYFH
 101  GNLLFYLTVG TASALAGWAA VGKNGYVPML AGLTMCMLIG DNGSEWLDSG
 151  LMRAMNVLIG AAIAIAAAKL LPLKSTLMWR FMLADNLADC SKMIAEISNG
 201  RRMTRERLEE NMAKMRQINA RMVKSRSHLA ATSGESRISP AMMEAMQHAH
 251  RKIVNTTELL LTTAAKLQSP KLNGSEIRLL DRHFTLLQTD LQQTVALING
 301  RHARRIRIDT AINPELEALA EHLHYQWQGF LWLSTNMRQE ISALVILLQR
 351  TRRKWLDAHE RQHLRQSLLE TREHG*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF146 shows 98.6% identity over a 74aa overlap with an ORF (ORF146a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                                    10        20        30
orf146.pep                                          RHARRIRIDTAINPELEALAEHLHYQWQGF
                                                    ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf146a      KLNGSEIRLLDRHFTLLQTDLQQTVALINGRHARRIRIDTAINPELEALAEHLHYQWQGF
                    280       290       300       310       320       330

                     40        50        60        70
orf146.pep   LWLSTDMRQEISALVILLQRTRRKWLDAHERQHLRQSLLETREHGX
             |||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:
orf146a      LWLSTNMRQEISALVILLQRTRRKWLDAHERQHLRQSLLETREHSX
             340       350       360       370
```

The complete length ORF146a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 633> is:

```
   1  ATGAACACCT CGCAACGCAA CCGCCTCGTC AGCCGCTGGC TCAACTCCTA
  51  CGAACGCTAC CGCTACCGCC GCCTCATCCA CGCCGTCCGG CTCGGCGGGG
 101  CCGTCCTGTT CGCCACCGCC TCCGCCCGGC TGCTCCACCT CCAACACGGC
 151  GAGTGGATAG GGATGACCGT CTTCGTCGTC CTCGGCATGC TCCAGTTTCA
 201  AGGGGCGATT TACTCCAAGG CGGTGGAACG TATGCTCGGC ACGGTCATCG
 251  GGCTGGGCGC GGGTTTGGGC GTTTTATGGC TGAACCAGCA TTATTTCCAC
 301  GGCAACCTCC TCTTCTACCT CACCGTCGGC ACGGCAAGCG CACTGGCCGG
 351  CTGGGCGGCG GTCGGCAAAA ACGGCTACGT CCCTATGCTG GCGGGGCTGA
 401  CGATGTGCAT GCTCATCGGC GACAACGGCA GCGAATGGTT CGACAGCGGC
 451  CTGATGCGCG CGATGAACGT CCTCATCGGC GCGGCCATCG CCATCGCCGC
 501  CGCCAAACTG CTGCCGCTGA AATCCACACT GATGTGGCGT TTCATGCTTG
 551  CCGACAACCT GACCGACTGC AGCAAAATGA TTGCCGAAAT CAGCAACGGC
 601  AGGCGCATGA CCCGCGAACG CCTCGAAGAG AACATGGCGA AAATGCGCCA
 651  AATCAACGCA CGCATGGTCA AAAGCCGCAG CCACCTCGCC GCCACATCGG
 701  GCGAAAGCCG CATCAGCCCC GCCATGATGG AAGCCATGCA GCACGCCCAC
 751  CGTAAAATTG TCAACACCAC CGAGCTGCTC CTGACCACCG CCGCCAAGCT
 801  GCAATCTCCC AAACTCAACG GCAGCGAAAT CCGGCTGCTT GACCGCCACT
 851  TCACACTGCT CCAAACCGAC CTGCAACAAA CCGTCGCCCT TATCAACGGC
 901  AGACACGCCC GCCGCATCCG CATCGACACC GCCATCAACC CCGAACTGGA
 951  AGCCCTCGCC GAACACCTCC ACTACCAATG GCAGGGCTTC CTCTGGCTCA
1001  GCACCAATAT GCGTCAGGAA ATTTCCGCCC TCGTCATCCT GCTGCAACGC
1051  ACCCGCCGCA AATGGCTGGA TGCCCACGAA CGCCAACACC TGCGCCAAAG
1101  CCTGCTTGAA ACACGGGAAC ACAGTTGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 634>:

```
   1  MNTSQRNRLV SRWLNSYERY RYRRLIHAVR LGGAVLFATA SARLLHLQHG
  51  EWIGMTVFVV LGMLQFQGAI YSKAVERMLG TVIGLGAGLG VLWLNQHYFH
 101  GNLLFYLTVG TASALAGWAA VGKNGYVPML AGLTMCMLIG DNGSEWFDSG
 151  LMRAMNVLIG AAIAIAAAKL LPLKSTLMWR FMLADNLTDC SKMIAEISNG
 201  RRMTRERLEE NMAKMRQINA RMVKSRSHLA ATSGESRISP AMMEAMQHAH
 251  RKIVNTTELL LTTAAKLQSP KLNGSEIRLL DRHFTLLQTD LQQTVALING
 301  RHARRIRIDT AINPELEALA EHLHYQWQGF LWLSTNMRQE ISALVILLQR
 351  TRRKWLDAHE RQHLRQSLLE TREHS*
```

ORF146a and ORF146-1 show 99.5% identity in 374 aa overlap:

```
orf146a.pep   MNTSQRNRLVSRWLNSYERYRYRRLIHAVRLGGAVLFATASARLLHLQHGEWIGMTVFVV
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf146-1      MNTSQRNRLVSRWLNSYERYRYRRLIHAVRLGGAVLFATASARLLHLQHGEWIGMTVFVV

orf146a.pep   LGMLQFQGAIYSKAVERMLGTVIGLGAGLGVLWLNQHYFHGNLLFYLTVGTASALAGWAA
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf146-1      LGMLQFQGAIYSKAVERMLGTVIGLGAGLGVLWLNQHYFHGNLLFYLTVGTASALAGWAA

orf146a.pep   VGKNGYVPMLAGLTMCMLIGDNGSEWFDSGLMRAMNVLIGAAIAIAAAKLLPLKSTLMWR
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf146-1      VGKNGYVPMLAGLTMCMLIGDNGSEWLDSGLMRAMNVLIGAAIAIAAAKLLPLKSTLMWR

orf146a.pep   FMLADNLTDCSKMIAEISNGRRMTRERLEENMAKMRQINARMVKSRSHLAATSGESRISP
              |||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf146-1      FMLADNLADCSKMIAEISNGRRMTRERLEENMAKMRQINARMVKSRSHLAATSGESRISP

orf146a.pep   AMMEAMQHAHRKIVNTTELLLTTAAKLQSPKLNGSEIRLLDRHFTLLQTDLQQTVALING
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf146-1      AMMEAMQHAHRKIVNTTELLLTTAAKLQSPKLNGSEIRLLDRHFTLLQTDLQQTVALING

orf146a.pep   RHARRIRIDTAINPELEALAEHLHYQWQGFLWLSTNMRQEISALVILLQRTRRKWLDAHE
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf146-1      RHARRIRIDTAINPELEALAEHLHYQWQGFLWLSTNMRQEISALVILLQRTRRKWLDAHE

orf146a.pep   RQHLRQSLLETREHSX
              ||||||||||||||:
orf146-1      RQHLRQSLLETREHGX
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF146 shows 97.3% identity over a 75aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF146ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf146.pep                                    RHARRIRIDTAINPELEALAEHLHYQWQGF   30
                                              |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf146ng      KLNGSEIRLLDRHFTLLQTDLQQTAALINGRHARRIRIDTAINPELEALAEHLHYQWQGF  364

orf146.pep    LWLSTDMRQEISALVILLQRTRRKWLDAHERQHLRQSLLETREHG   75
              |||||:||||||||||.|||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf146ng      LWLSTNMRQEISALVIPLQRTRRKWLDAHERQHLRQSLLETREHG  409
```

An ORF146ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 635> was predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 636>:

```
   1  MSGVRFPSPA PIPSTDPPSG SLCFFTFPLQ TASDMNSSQR KRLSGRWLNS
  51  YERYRHRRLI HAVRLGGTVL FATALARLLH LQHGEWIGMT VFVVLGMLQF
 101  QGAIYSNAVE RMLGTVIGLG AGLGVLWLNQ HYFHGNLLFY LTIGTASALA
 151  GWAAVGKNGY VPMLAGLTMC MLIGDNGSEW LDSGLMRAMN VLIGAAIAIA
 201  AAKLLPLKST LMWRFMLADN LADCSKMIAE ISNGRRMTRE RLEQNMVKMR
 251  QINARMVKSR SHLAATSGES RISPSMMEAM QHAHRKIVNT TELLLTTAAK
 301  LQSPKLNGSE IRLLDRHFTL LQTDLQQTAA LINGRHARRI RIDTAINPEL
 351  EALAEHLHYQ WQGFLWLSTN MRQEISALVI PLQRTRRKWL DAHERQHLRQ
 401  SLLETREHG*
```

Further work revealed the following gonococcal DNA sequence <SEQ ID 637>:

```
   1  ATGAACTCCT CGCAACGCAA ACGCCTTTCC GgccGCTGGC TCAACTCCTA
  51  CGAACGCTac cGCCaccGCC GCCTCATACA TGCCGTGCGG CTCGGCggaa
 101  ccgtCCTGTT CGCCACCGCA CTCGCCCGgc tACTCCACCT CCAacacggc
 151  gAATGGATAG GGAtgaCCGT CTTCGTCGTC CTCGGCATGC TCCAGTTCCA
 201  AGGCgcgatt tActccaacg cggtgGAacg taTGctcggt acggtcatcg
 251  ggctgGGCGC GGGTTTGGgc gTTTTATGGC TGAACCAGCA TTAtttccac
 301  ggcaacCTcc tcttctacct gaccatcggc acggcaagcg cactggccgg
 351  ctGGGCGGCG GTCGGCAAAA acggctacgt ccctatgctg GCGGGGctgA
 401  CGATGTGCAT gctcatcggc gACAACGGCA GCGAATGGCT CGACAGCGGC
 451  CTGATGCGCG CGATGAACGT CCTCATCGGC GCCGCCATCG CCATTGCCGC
 501  CGCCAAACTG CTGCCGCTGA AATCCACACT GATGTGGCGT TTCATGCTTG
 551  CCGACAACCT GGCCGACTGC AGCAAAATGA TTGCCGAAAT CAGCAACGGC
 601  AGGCGTATGA CGCGCGAACG TTTGGAGCAG AATATGGTCA AAATGCGCCA
 651  AATCAACGCA CGCATGGTCA AAAGCCGCAG CCACCTCGCC GCCACATCGG
 701  GCGAAAGCCG CATCAGCCCC TCCATGATGG AAGCCATGCA GCACGCCCAC
 751  CGCAAAATCG TCAACACCAC CGAGCTGCTC CTGACCACCG CCGCCAAGCT
 801  GCAATCTCCC AAACTCAACG GCAGCGAAAT CCGGCTGCTC GACCGCCACT
 851  TCACACTGCT CCAAACCGAC CTGCAACAAA CCGCCGCCCT CATCAACGGC
 901  AGACACGCCC GCCGCATCCG CATCGACACC GCCATCAACC CCGAACTGGA
 951  AGCCCTCGCC GAACACCTCC ACTACCAATG GCAGGGCTTC CTCTGGCTCA
1001  GCACCAATAT GCGTCAGGAA ATTTCCGCCC TCGTCATCCT GCTGCAACGC
1051  ACCCGCCGCA AATGGCTGGA TGCCCACGAA CGCCAACACC TGCGCCAAAG
1101  CCTGCTTGAA ACACGGGAAC ACGGCTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 638; ORF146ng-1>:

```
   1  MNSSQRKRLS GRWLNSYERY RHRRLIHAVR LGGTVLFATA LARLLHLQHG
  51  EWIGMTVFVV LGMLQFQGAI YSNAVERMLG TVIGLGAGLG VLWLNQHYFH
 101  GNLLFYLTIG TASALAGWAA VGKNGYVPML AGLTMCMLIG DNGSEWLDSG
 151  LMRAMNVLIG AAIAIAAAKL LPLKSTLMWR FMLADNLADC SKMIAEISNG
 201  RRMTRERLEQ NMVKMRQINA RMVKSRSHLA ATSGESRISP SMMEAMQHAH
 251  RKIVNTTELL LTTAAKLQSP KLNGSEIRLL DRHFTLLQTD LQQTAALING
 301  RHARRIRIDT AINPELEALA EHLHYQWQGF LWLSTNMRQE ISALVILLQR
 351  TRRKWLDAHE RQHLRQSLLE TREHG*
```

ORF146ng-1 and ORF146-1 show 96.5% identity in 375 aa overlap

```
orf146-1.pep    MNTSQRNRLVSRWLNSYERYRYRRLIHAVRLGGAVLFATASARLLHLQHGEWIGMTVFVV
                ||:|||:|| :||||||||||:||||||||||:|||||| ||||||||||||||||||
orf146ng-1      MNSSQRKRLSGRWLNSYERYRHRRLIHAVRLGGTVLFATALARLLHLQHGEWIGMTVFVV

orf146-1.pep    LGMLQFQGAIYSKAVERMLGTVIGLGAGLGVLWLNQHYFHGNLLFYLTVGTASALAGWAA
                ||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||
orf146ng-1      LGMLQFQGAIYSNAVERMLGTVIGLGAGLGVLWLNQHYFHGNLLFYLTIGTASALAGWAA

orf146-1.pep    VGKNGYVPMLAGLTMCMLIGDNGSEWLDSGLMRAMNVLIGAAIAIAAAKLLPLKSTLMWR
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf146ng-1      VGKNGYVPMLAGLTMCMLIGDNGSEWLDSGLMRAMNVLIGAAIAIAAAKLLPLKSTLMWR

orf146-1.pep    FMLADNLADCSKMIAEISNGRRMTRERLEENMAKMRQINARMVKSRSHLAATSGESRISP
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf146ng-1      FMLADNLADCSKMIAEISNGRRMTRERLEQNMVKMRQINARMVKSRSHLAATSGESRISP

orf146-1.pep    AMMEAMQHAHRKIVNTTELLLTTAAKLQSPKLNGSEIRLLDRHFTLLQTDLQQTVALING
                :||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||
orf146ng-1      SMMEAMQHAHRKIVNTTELLLTTAAKLQSPKLNGSEIRLLDRHFTLLQTDLQQTAALING

orf146-1.pep    RHARRIRIDTAINPELEALAEHLHYQWQGFLWLSTNMRQEISALVILLQRTRRKWLDAHE
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf146ng-1      RHARRIRIDTAINPELEALAEHLHYQWQGFLWLSTNMRQEISALVILLQRTRRKWLDAHE

orf146-1.pep    RQHLRQSLLETREHGX
                ||||||||||||||||
orf146ng-1      RQHLRQSLLETREHGX
```

Furthermore, ORF146ng-1 shows homology with a hypothetical *E.coli* protein:

```
sp|P33011|YEEA_ECOLI HYPOTHETICAL 40.0 KD PROTEIN IN COBU-SBMC INTERGENIC REGION
>gi|1736674|gnl|PID|d1016553 (D90838) ORF_ID:o348#20; similar to [SwissProt
Accession Number P33011] [Escherichia coli] >gi|1736682|gnl|PID|d1016560 (D90839)
ORF_ID:o348#20; similar to [SwissProt Accession Number P33011] [Escherichia coli]
```

```
>gi|1788318 (AE000292) f352; 100% identical to fragment YEEA_ECOLI SW: P33011 but
has 203 additional C-terminal residues [Escherichia coli] Length = 352
 Score =  109 bits (271), Expect = 2e-23
 Identities = 89/347 (25%), Positives = 150/347 (42%), Gaps = 21/347 (6%)

Query: 20  YRHRRLIHAVRLGGTVLFATALARLLHLQHGEWIGMTVFVVLGMLQFQGAIYSNAVERML 79
           YRH R++H  R+    L    + RL  +    W  +T+ V++G + F G +   A ER+
Sbjct: 15  YRHYRIVHGTRVALAFLLTFLIIRLFTIPESTWPLVTMVVIMGPISFWGNVVPRAFERIG 74

Query: 80  GTVIGLGAGLGVLWLNQHYFHGNLLFYLTIGTASALAGWAAVGKNGYVPMLAGLTMCMLI 139
           GTV+G   GL  L L         L  +    A  L GW A+GK  Y  +L G+T+ +++
Sbjct: 75  GTVLGSILGLIALQLE---LISLPLMLVWCAAAMFLCGWLALGKKPYQGLLIGVTLAIVV 131

Query: 140 GDNGSEWLDSGLMRAMNVLIGKXXXXXXXKLLPLKSTLMWRFMLADNLADCSKMIAEISN 199
           G    E +D+ L R+ +V++G          + P ++ + WR  LA +L + +++     +
Sbjct: 132 GSPTGE-IDTALWRSGDVILGSLLAMLFTGIWPQRAFIHWRIQLAKSLTEYNRVYQSAFS 190

Query: 200 GRRMTRERLEQNMVKMRQINARMVKSRSHLAATSGESRISPSMMEAMQHAHRKIVNXXXX 259
              + R RLE ++ K+       VK R  +A  S E+RI  S+ E +Q  +R +V
Sbjct: 191 PNLLERPRLESHLQKLL---TDAVKMRGLIAPASKETRIPKSIYEGIQTINRNLVCMLEL 247

Query: 260 XXXXXXXXQSPK---LNGSEIRLLDRHFXXXXXXXXXXAALINGRHARRIRIDTAINPEL 316
                  +      LN  ++R  D               AL  G            +N  +
Sbjct: 248 QINAYWATRPSHFVLLNAQKLR--DTQHMMQQILLSLVHALYEGNPQPVFANTEKLNDAV 305

Query: 317 EALAEHL--HYQWQ-------GFLWLSTNMRQEISALVILLQRTRRK 354
           E L + L  H+  +       G++WL+      ++  L  L+ R  RK
Sbjct: 306 EELRQLLNNHHDLKVVETPIYGYVWLNMETAHQLELLSNLICRALRK 352
```

On the basis of this analysis, including the identification of several transmembrane domains in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 76

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 639>

```
   1  ..GCCGAAGACA CGCGCGTTAC CGCACAGCTT TTGAGCGCGT ACGGCATTCA
  51    GGGCAAACTC GTCAGTGTGC GCGAACACAA CGAACGGCAG ATGGCGGACA
 101    AGATTGTCGG CTATCTTTCA GACGGCATGG TTGTGGCACA GGTTTCCGAT
 151    GCGGGTACGC CGGCCGTGTG CGACCCGGGC GCGAAACTCG CCCGCCGCGT
 201    GCGTGAGGCC GGGTTTAAAG TCGTTCCCGT CGTGGGCGCA AC.GCGGTGA
 251    TGGCGGCTTT GAGCGTGGCC GGTGTGGAAG GATCCGATTT TTATTTCAAC
 301    GGTTTTGTAC CGCCGAAATC GGGAGAACGC AGGAAACTGT TTGCCAAATG
 351    GGTGCGGGCG GCGTTTCCTA TCGTCATGTT TGAAACGCCG CACCGCATCG
 401    GTGCAGCGCT TGCCGATATG GCGGAACTGT TCCCCGAACG CCGATTAATG
 451    CTGGCGCGCG AAATTACGAA AACGTTTGAA ACGTTCTTAA GCGGCACGGT
 501    TGGGGAAATT CAGACGGCAT TGTCTGCCGA CGGCGACCAA TCGCGCGGCG
 551    AGATGGTGTT GGTGCTTTAT CCGGCGCAGG ATGAAAAACA CGAAGGCTTG
 601    TCCGAGTCCG CGCAAAACAT CATGAAAATC CTCACAGCCG AGCTGCCGAC
 651    CAAACAGGCG GCGGAGCTTG CTGCCAAAAT CACGGGCGAG GGAAAGAAAG
 701    CTTTGTACGA T..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 640; ORF147>:

```
   1  ..AEDTRVTAQL LSAYGIQGKL VSVREHNERQ MADKIVGYLS DGMVVAQVSD
  51    AGTPAVCDPG AKLARRVREA GFKVVPVVGA XAVMAALSVA GVEGSDFYFN
 101    GFVPPKSGER RKLFAKWVRA AFPIVMFETP HRIGAALADM AELFPERRLM
 151    LAREITKTFE TFLSGTVGEI QTALSADGDQ SRGEMVLVLY PAQDEKHEGL
 201    SESAQNIMKI LTAELPTKQA AELAAKITGE GKKALYD..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 641>:

```
   1  ATGTTTCAGA AACATTTGCA GAAAGCCTCC GACAGCGTCG TCGGAGGGAC
  51  ATTATACGTG GTTGCCACGC CCATCGGCAA TTTGGCGGAC ATTACCCTGC
 101  GCGCTTTGGC GGTATTGCAA AAGGCGGACA TCATCTGTGC CGAAGACACG
 151  CGCGTTACCG CACAGCTTTT GAGCGCGTAC GGCATTCAGG GCAAACTCGT
```

```
201  CAGTGTGCGC GAACACAACG AACGGCAGAT GGCGGACAAG ATTGTCGGCT
251  ATCTTTCAGA CGGCATGGTT GTGGCACAGG TTTCCGATGC GGGTACGCCG
301  GCCGTGTGCG ACCCGGGCGC GAAACTCGCC CGCCGCGTGC GTGAGGCCGG
351  GTTTAAAGTC GTTCCCGTCG TGGGCGCAAG CGCGGTGATG GCGGCTTTGA
401  GCGTGGCCGG TGTGGAAGGA TCCGATTTTT ATTTCAACGG TTTTGTACCG
451  CCGAAATCGG GAGAACGCAG GAAACTGTTT GCCAAATGGG TGCGGGCGGC
501  GTTTCCTATC GTCATGTTTG AAACGCCGCA CCGCATCGGT GCGACGCTTG
551  CCGATATGGC GGAACTGTTC CCCGAACGCC GATTAATGCT GGCGCGCGAA
601  ATTACGAAAA CGTTTGAAAC GTTCTTAAGC GGCACGGTTG GGGAAATTCA
651  GACGGCATTG TCTGCCGACG GCAACCAATC GCGCGGCGAG ATGGTGTTGG
701  TGCTTTATCC GGCGCAGGAT GAAAAACACG AAGGCTTGTC CGAGTCCGCG
751  CAAAACATCA TGAAAATCCT CACAGCCGAG CTGCCGACCA AACAGGCGGC
801  GGAGCTTGCT GCCAAAATCA CGGGCGAGGG AAAGAAAGCT TTGTACGATC
851  TGGCTCTGTC TTGGAAAAAC AAATAG
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 642; ORF147-1>:

```
  1  MFQKHLQKAS DSVVGGTLYV VATPIGNLAD ITLRALAVLQ KADIICAEDT
 51  RVTAQLLSAY GIQGKLVSVR EHNERQMADK IVGYLSDGMV VAQVSDAGTP
101  AVCDPGAKLA RRVREAGFKV VPVVGASAVM AALSVAGVEG SDFYFNGFVP
151  PKSGERRKLF AKWVRAAFPI VMFETPHRIG ATLADMAELF PERRLMLARE
201  ITKTFETFLS GTVGEIQTAL SADGNQSRGE MVLVLYPAQD EKHEGLSESA
251  QNIMKILTAE LPTKQAAELA AKITGEGKKA LYDLALSWKN K*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with hypothetical protein ORF286 of *E.coli* (accession number U18997)

ORF147 and *E.coli* ORF286 protein show 36% aa identity in 237aa overlap:

```
Orf147:   1 AEDTRVTAQLLSAYGIQGKLVSVREHNERQMADKIVGYLSDGMVVAQVSDAGTPAVCDPG  60
            AEDTR T  LL  +GI  +L ++ +HNE+Q A+ ++  L +G  +A VSDAGTP + DPG
Orf286:  43 AEDTRHTGLLLQHFGINARLFALHDHNEQQKAETLLAKLQEGQNIALVSDAGTPLINDPG 102

Orf147:  61 AKLARRVREXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXEGSDFYFNGFVPPKSGERRKLFAKWVRA 120
              L R  RE                              F + GF+P KS  RR
Orf286: 103 YHLVRTCREAGIRVVPLPGPCAAITALSAAGLPSDRFCYEGFLPAKSKGRRDALKAIEAE 162

Orf147: 121 AFPIVMFETPHRIGAALADMAELFPERR-LMLAREITKTFETFLSGTVGEIQTALSADGD 179
              ++ +E+ HR+  +L D+  +  E R ++LARE+TKT+ET     VGE+   +  D +
Orf286: 163 PRTLIFYESTHRLLDSLEDIVAVLGESRYVVLARELTKTWETIHGAPVGELLAWVKEDEN 222

Orf147: 180 QSRGEMVLVLYPAQDEKHEGLSESAQNIMKILTAELPTKQAAELAAKITGEGKKALY 236
            + +GEMVL++      + E L   A   + +L AELP K+AA LAA+I G  K ALY
Orf286: 223 RRKGEMVLIV-EGHKAQEEDLPADALRTLALLQAELPLKKAAALAAEIHGVKKNALY 278
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF147 shows 96.6% identity over a 237aa overlap with ORF75a from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                                  10        20        30
orf147.pep                                       AEDTRVTAQLLSAYGIQGKLVSVREHNERQ
                                                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf75a       TLYVVATPIGNLADITLRALAVLQKADIICAEDTRVTAQLLSAYGIQGKLVSVREHNERQ
               20        30        40        50        60        70

                      40        50        60        70        80        90
orf147.pep   MADKIVGYLSDGMVVAQVSDAGTPAVCDPGAKLARRVREAGFKVVPVVGAXAVMAALSVA
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||| |||||||||
orf75a       MADKIVGYLSDGMVVAQVSDAGTPAVCDPGAKLARRVREVGFKVVPVVGASAVMAALSVA
               80        90       100       110       120       130

                    100       110       120       130       140       150
orf147.pep   GVEGSDFYFNGFVPPKSGERRKLFAKWVRAAFPIVMFETPHRIGAALADMAELFPERRLM
             || ||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||:||||||||||:|||||||||||||||
orf75a       GVAGSDFYFNGFVPPKSGERRKLFAKWVRVAFPVVMFETPHRIGATLADMAELFPERRLM
              140       150       160       170       180       190

                    160       170       180       190       200       210
orf147.pep   LAREITKTFETFLSGTVGEIQTALSADGDQSRGEMVLVLYPAQDEKHEGLSESAQNIMKI
```

```
                    |||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf75a              LAREITKTFETFLSGTVGEIQTALAADGNQSRGEMVLVLYPAQDEKHEGLSESAQNIMKI
                     200       210       220       230       240       250

                           220       230
orf147.pep          LTAELPTKQAAELAAKITGEGKKALYD
                    ||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf75a              LTAELPTKQAAELAAKITGEGKKALYDLALSWKNKX
                     260       270       280       290
```

ORF147a is identical to ORF75a, which includes aa 56-292 of ORF75.

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF147 shows 94.1% identity over a 237aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF147ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf147.pep                                          AEDTRVTAQLLSAYGIQGKLVSVREHNERQ   30
                                                    ||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||
orf147ng            TLYVVATPIGNLADITLRALAVLQKADIICAEDTRVTAQLLSAYGIQGRLVSVREHNERQ   85

orf147.pep          MADKIVGYLSDGMVVAQVSDAGTPAVCDPGAKLARRVREAGFKVVPVVGAXAVMAALSVA   90
                    |||||:|:||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||
orf147ng            MADKVIGFLSDGLVVAQVSDAGTPAVCDPGAKLARRVREAGFKVVPVVGASAVMAALSVA  145

orf147.pep          GVEGSDFYFNGFVPPKSGERRKLFAKWVRAAFPIVMFETPHRIGAALADMAELFPERRLM  150
                    ||  |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||:|||||||||||||||
orf147ng            GVAESDFYFNGFVPPKSGERRKLFAKWVRAAFPVVMFETPHRIGATLADMAELFPERRLM  205

orf147.pep          LAREITKTFETFLSGTVGEIQTALSADGDQSRGEMVLVLYPAQDEKHEGLSESAQNIMKI  210
                    |||||||||||||||||||||||:|||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||
orf147ng            LAREITKTFETFLSGTVGEIQTALAADGNQSRGEMVLVLYPAQDEKHEGLSESAQNAMKI  265

orf147.pep          LTAELPTKQAAELAAKITGEGKKALYD          237
                    |:|||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf147ng            LAAELPTKQAAELAAKITGEGKKALYDLALSWKNK  300
```

An ORF147ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 643> was predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 644>:

```
   1  MSVFQTAFFM FQKHLQKASD SVVGGTLYVV ATPIGNLADI TLRALAVLQK
  51  ADIICAEDTR VTAQLLSAYG IQGRLVSVRE HNERQMADKV IGFLSDGLVV
 101  AQVSDAGTPA VCDPGAKLAR RVREAGFKVV PVVGASAVMA ALSVAGVAES
 151  DFYFNGFVPP KSGERRKLFA KWVRAAFPVV MFETPHRIGA TLADMAELFP
 201  ERRLMLAREI TKTFETFLSG TVGEIQTALA ADGNQSRGEM VLVLYPAQDE
 251  KHEGLSESAQ NAMKILAAEL PTKQAAELAA KITGEGKKAL YDLALSWKNK
 301  *
```

Further work revealed the following gonococcal DNA sequence <SEQ ID 645>:

```
   1  ATGTTTCAGA AACACTTGCA GAAAGCCTCC GACAGCGTCG TCGGAGGGAC
  51  ATTATACGTG GTTGCCACGC CCATCGGCAA TTTGGCAGAC ATTACCCTGC
 101  GCGCTTTGGC GGTATTGCAA AAGGCGGACA TCATTTGTGC CGAAGACACG
 151  CGCGTTACTG CGCAGCTTTT GAGCGCGTAC GGCATTCAGG GCAGGTTGGT
 201  CAGTGTGCGC GAACACAACG AGCGGCAGAT GGCGGACAAG GTAATCGGTT
 251  TCCTTTCAGA CGGCCTGGTT GTGGCGCAGG TTTCCGATGC GGGTACGCCG
 301  GCCGTGTGCG ACCCGGGCGC GAAACTCGCC CGCCGCGTGC GCGAAGCAGG
 351  GTTCAAAGTC GTTCCCGTCG TGGGCGCAAG CGCGGTAATG GCGGCGTTGA
 401  GTGTGGCCGG TGTGGCGGAA TCCGATTTTT ATTTCAACGG TTTTGTACCG
 451  CCGAAATCGG GCGAACGTAG GAAATTGTTT GCCAAATGGG TGCGGGCGGC
 501  ATTTCCTGTC GTCATGTTTG AAACGCCGCA CCGAATCGGG GCAACGCTTG
 551  CCGATATGGC GGAATTGTTC CCCGAACGCC GTCTGATGCT GGCGCGCGAA
 601  ATCACGAAAA CGTTTGAAAC GTTCTTAAGC GGCACGGTTG GGGAAATTCA
 651  GACGGCATTG GCGGCGGACG GCAACCAATC GCGCGGCGAG ATGGTGTTGG
 701  TGCTTTATCC GGCGCAGGAT GAAAAACACG AAGGCTTGTC CGAGTCTGCG
 751  CAAAATGCGA TGAAAATCCT TGCGGCCGAG CTGCCGACCA AGCAGGCGGC
 801  GGAGCTTGCC GCCAAGATTA CAGGTGAGGG CAAAAAGGCT TTGTACGATT
 851  TGGCACTGTC GTGGAAAAAC AAATGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 646; ORF147ng-1>:

```
   1  MFQKHLQKAS DSVVGGTLYV VATPIGNLAD ITLRALAVLQ KADIICAEDT
  51  RVTAQLLSAY GIQGRLVSVR EHNERQMADK VIGFLSDGLV VAQVSDAGTP
 101  AVCDPGAKLA RRVREAGFKV VPVVGASAVM AALSVAGVAE SDFYFNGFVP
 151  PKSGERRKLF AKWVRAAFPV VMFETPHRIG ATLADMAELF PERRLMLARE
 201  ITKTFETFLS GTVGEIQTAL AADGNQSRGE MVLVLYPAQD EKHEGLSESA
 251  QNAMKILAAE LPTKQAAELA AKITGEGKKA LYDLALSWKN K*
```

ORF147ng shows homology to a hypothetical *E.coli* protein:

```
sp|P45528|YRAL_ECOLI HYPOTHETICAL 31.3 KD PROTEIN IN AGAI-MTR INTERGENIC REGION
(F286)
>gi|606086 (U18997) ORF_f286 [Escherichia coli]
>gi|1789535 (AE000395) hypothetical 31.3 kD protein in agai-mtr intergenic region
[Escherichia coli] Length = 286
 Score =  218 bits (550), Expect = 3e-56
 Identities = 128/284 (45%), Positives = 171/284 (60%), Gaps = 4/284 (1%)

Query: 4   KHLQKASDSVVGGTLYVVATPIGNLADITLRALAVLQKADIICAEDTRVTAQLLSAYGIQ 63
           K  Q A +S   G LY+V TPIGNLADIT RAL VLQ  D+I AEDTR T  LL  +GI
Sbjct: 2   KQHQSADNSQ--GQLYIVPTPIGNLADITQRALEVLQAVDLIAAEDTRHTGLLLQHFGIN 59

Query: 64  GRLVSVREHNERQMADKVIGFLSDGLVVAQVSDAGTPAVCDPGAKLARRVREAGFKVVPV 123
            RL ++ +HNE+Q A+ ++  L +G  +A VSDAGTP + DPG  L R  REAG +VVP+
Sbjct: 60  ARLFALHDHNEQQKAETLLAKLQEGQNIALVSDAGTPLINDPGYHLVRTCREAGIRVVPL 119

Query: 124 VGASAVMAALSVAGVAESDFYFNGFVPPKSGERRKLFAKWVRAAFPVVMFETPHRIGATL 183
            G  A + ALS AG+    F + GF+P KS  RR             ++ +E+ HR+  +L
Sbjct: 120 PGPCAAITALSAAGLPSDRFCYEGFLPAKSKGRRDALKAIEAEPRTLIFYESTHRLLDSL 179

Query: 184 ADMAELFPERR-LMLAREITKTFETFLSGTVGEIQTALAADGNQSRGEMVLVLYPAQDEK 242
            D+  +  E R ++LARE+TKT+ET     VGE+   +  D N+ +GEMVL++      +
Sbjct: 180 EDIVAVLGESRYVVLARELTKTWETIHGAPVGELLAWVKEDENRRKGEMVLIV-EGHKAQ 238

Query: 243 HEGLSESAQNAMKILAAELPTKQAAELAAKITGEGKKALYDLAL 286
            E L   A   + +L AELP K+AA LAA+I G  K ALY  AL
Sbjct: 239 EEDLPADALRTLALLQAELPLKKAAALAAEIHGVKKNALYKYAL 282
```

Based on the computer analysis and the presence of a putative transmembrane domain in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that these proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 77

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 647>

```
   1  ATGAAAACAA CCGACAAACG GACAACCGAA ACACACCGCA AAGCCCCGAA
  51  AACCGGTCGC ATCCGCTTCT C.GCTGCTTA CTTAGCCATA TGCCTGTCGT
 101  TCGGCATTCT TCCCCAAGCC TGGGCGGGAC ACACTTATTT CGGCATCAAC
 151  TACCAATACT ATCGCGACTT TGCCGAAAAT AAAGGCAAGT TTGCAGTCGG
 201  GGCGAAAGAT ATTGAGGTTT ACAACAAAAA AGGGGAGTTG GTCGGCAAAT
 251  CAATGACAAA AGCCCCGATG ATTGATTTTT CTGTGGTGTC GCGTAACGGC
 301  GTGGCGGcAT TGGTGGGCGt ATCAATATAT TGTGAGCGTG GCACATAACG
 351  GCGGCTATAA CAACGTTGAT TTTGGTGCGG AAGGAAk.AA tATCCC.GAT
 401  CAACAwCGww TTACTTATAA AATTGTGAAA CGGAATAATT ATAAAGCAGG
 451  GACTAAAGGC CATCCTTATG GCGGCGATTA TCATATGCCG CGTTTGCATA
 501  AATwTGTCAC AGATGCAGAA CCTGTTGAAA TGACCAGTTA TATGGATGGG
 551  CGGAAATATA TCGATCAAAA TAATTACCCT GACCGTGTTC GTATTGGGGC
 601  AGGCAGGCAA TATTGGCGAT CTGATGAAGA TGAGCCCAAT AACCGCGAAA
 651  GTTCATATCA TATTGCAAGT .......... .......... ..........
 701  .......... .....GGCTC ACCAATGTTT ATCTATGATG CCCAAAAGCA
 751  AAAGTGGTTA ATTAATGGGG TATTGCAAAC GGGCAACCCC TATATAGGAA
 801  AAAGCAATGG CTTCCAGCTG GTTCGTAAAG ATTGGTTCTA TGATGAAATC
 851  TTTGCTGGAG ATACCCATTC AGTATTCTAC GAACCACGTC AAAATGGGAA
 901  ATACTCTTTT AACGACGATA ATAATGGCAC AGGAAAAATC AATGCCAAAC
```

```
 951  ATGAACACAA TTCTCTGCCT AATAGATTAA AAACACGAAC CGTTCAATTG
1001  TTTAATGTTT CTTTATCCGA GACAGCAAGA GAACCTGTTT ATCATGCTGC
1051  AGGTGGTGTC AACAGTTATC GACCCAGACT GAATAATGGA GAAAATATTT
1101  CCTTTATTGA CGAAGGAAAA GGCGAATTGA TACTTACCAG CAACATCAAT
1151  CAAGGTGCTG GAGGATTATA TTTCCAAGGA GATTTTACGG TCTCGCCTGA
1201  AAATAACGAA ACTTGGCAAG GCGCGGGCGT TCATATCAGT GAAGACAGTA
1251  CCGTTACTTG GAAAGTAAAC GGCGTGGCAA ACGACCGCCT GTCCAAAATC
1301  GGCAAAGGCA CGCTG..... ..........  ..........  ..........
                                   //
2101  ..........  ..........  ..........  ..........  ...GATAAAG
2151  TGACTGCTTC ATTGACTAAG ACCGACATCA GCGGCAATGT CGATCTTGCC
2201  GATCACGCTC ATTTAAATCT CACAGGGCTT GCCACACTCA ACGGCAATCT
2251  TAGTGCAAAT GGCGATACAC GTTATACAGT CAGCCACAAC GCCACCCAAA
2301  ACGGCAACCk TAgCCtCGtG G.sAATGcCC AAGCAACATT TAATCAAGCC
2351  ACATTAAACG GCAACACATC GGCTTCgGGC AATGCTTCAT TTAATCTAAG
2401  CGACCACGCC GTACAAAACG GCAGTCTGAC GCTTTCCGGC AACGCTAAGG
2451  CAAACGTAAG CCATTCCGCA CTCAACGGTA ATGTCTCCCT AGCCGATAAG
2501  GCAGTATTCC ATTTTGAAAG CAGCCGCTTT ACCGGACAAA TCAGCGGCGG
2551  CAagGATACG GCATTACACT TAAAAGACAG CGAATGGACG CTGCCGTCAg
2601  GarCGGAATT AGGCAATTTA AACCTTGACA ACGCCACCAT TACaCTCAAT
2651  TCCGCCTATC GCCACGATGC GGCAGGGGCG CAAACCGGCA GTGCGACAGA
2701  TGCGCCGCGC CGCCGTTCGC GCCGTTCGCG CCGTTCCCTA TTATmCGTTA
2751  CACCGCCAAC TTCGGTAGAA TCCCGTTTCA ACACGCTGAC GGTAAACGGC
2801  AAATTGAACG GTCAGGGAAC ATTCCGCTTT ATGTCGGAAC TCTTCGGCTA
2851  CCGCAGCGAC AAATTGAAGC TGGCGGAAAG TTCCGAAGGC ACTTACACCT
2901  TGGCGGTCAA CAATACCGGC AACGAACCTG CAAGCCTCGA ACAATTGACG
2951  GTAGTGGAAG GAAAAGACAA CAAACCGCTG TCCGAAAACC TTAATTTCAC
3001  CCTGCAAAAC GAACACGTCG ATGCAGGCGC GTGG..... ..........
                                   //
3551  ..........  ..........  ....TTAGAC CGCGTATTTG CCGAAGACCG
3601  CCGCAACGCC GTTTGGACAA GCGGCATCCG GGACACCAAA CACTACCGTT
3651  CGCAAGATTT CCGCGCCTAC CGCCAACAAA CCGACCTGCG CCAAATCGGT
3701  ATGCAGAAAA ACCTCGGCAG CGGGCGCGTC GGCATCCTGT TTTCGCACAA
3751  CCGGACCGAA AACACCTTCG ACGACGGCAT CGGCAACTCG GCACGGCTTG
3801  CCCACGGCGC CGTTTTCGGG CAATACGGCA TCGACAGGTT CTACATCGGC
3851  ATCAGnCGCG GGCGCGGGTT TTAGCAGCGG CAGCCTTTcA GACGGCATCG
3901  GAGsmAAAwT CCGCCGCCGC GTGCtGCATT ACGGCATTCA GGCACGAtAC
3951  CGCGCCGgtt tCggCGgATt CGGCATCGAA CCGCACATCG GCGCAACGCg
4001  ctATTTCGTC CAAAAAGCGG ATTACCGCTA CGAAAACGTC AATATCGCCA
4051  CCCCCGGCCT TGCATTCAAC CGcTACCGCG CGGGCATTAa GGCAGATTAT
4101  TCATTCAAAC CGGCGCAACA CATTTCCATC ACGCCTTATT TGAGCCTGTC
4151  CTATACCGAT GCCGCTTCGG GCAAAGTCCG AACACGCGTC AATACCGCCG
4201  TATTGGCTCA GGATTTCGGC AAAACCCGCA GTGCGGAATG GGgCGTAAAC
4251  GCCGAAATCA AAGGTTTCAC GCTGTCCCTC CACGCTGCCG CCGCCAAAGG
4301  CCCGCAACTG GAAGCGCAAC ACAGCGCGGG CATCAAATTA GGCTACCGCT
4351  GGTAA...
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 648; ORF1>:

```
   1  MKTTDKRTTE THRKAPKTGR IRFXAAYLAI CLSFGILPQA WAGHTYFGIN
  51  YQYYRDFAEN KGKFAVGAKD IEVYNKKGEL VGKSMTKAPM IDFSVVSRNG
 101  VAALVGVQYI VSVAHNGGYN NVDFGAEGXN IXDQXRXTYK IVKRNNYKAG
 151  TKGHPYGGDY HMPRLHKXVT DAEPVEMTSY MDGRKYIDQN NYPDRVRIGA
 201  GRQYWRSDED EPNNRESSYH IAS.......  ........GS PMFIYDAQKQ
 251  KWLINGVLQT GNPYIGKSNG FQLVRKDWFY DEIFAGDTHS VFYEPRQNGK
 301  YSFNDDNNGT GKINAKHEHN SLPNRLKTRT VQLFNVSLSE TAREPVYHAA
 351  GGVNSYRPRL NNGENISFID EGKGELILTS NINQGAGGLY FQGDFTVSPE
 401  NNETWQGAGV HISEDSTVTW KVNGVANDRL SKIGKGTL.. ..........
                                   //
 701  ..........  ....DKVTAS LTKTDISGNV DLADHAHLNL TGLATLNGNL
 751  SANGDTRYTV SHNATQNGNX SLVXNAQATF NQATLNGNTS ASGNASFNLS
 801  DHAVQNGSLT LSGNAKANVS HSALNGNVSL ADKAVFHFES SRFTGQISGG
 851  KDTALHLKDS EWTLPSGXEL GNLNLDNATI TLNSAYRHDA AGAQTGSATD
 901  APRRRSRRSR RSLLXVTPPT SVESRFNTLT VNGKLNGQGT FRFMSELFGY
 951  RSDKLKLAES SEGTYTLAVN NTGNEPASLE QLTVVEGKDN KPLSENLNFT
1001  LQNEHVDAGA W.........  ..........  ..........  ..........
                                   //
1151  ..........  ..........  ..........  ..........  .LDRVFAEDR
1201  RNAVWTSGIR DTKHYRSQDF RAYRQQTDLR QIGMQKNLGS GRVGILFSHN
1251  RTENTFDDGI GNSARLAHGA VFGQYGIDRF YIGISAGAGF SSGSLSDGIG
1301  XKXRRRVLHY GIQARYRAGF GGFGIEPHIG ATRYFVQKAD YRYENVNIAT
1351  PGLAFNRYRA GIKADYSFKP AQHISITPYL SLSYTDAASG KVRTRVNTAV
```

```
1401  LAQDFGKTRS AEWGVNAEIK GFTLSLHAAA AKGPQLEAQH SAGIKLGYRW
1451  *
```

Further sequencing analysis revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 649>:

```
   1  ATGAAAACAA CCGACAAACG GACAACCGAA ACACACCGCA AAGCCCCGAA
  51  AACCGGCCGC ATCCGCTTCT CGCCTGCTTA CTTAGCCATA TGCCTGTCGT
 101  TCGGCATTCT TCCCCAAGCC TGGGCGGGAC ACACTTATTT CGGCATCAAC
 151  TACCAATACT ATCGCGACTT TGCCGAAAAT AAAGGCAAGT TTGCAGTCGG
 201  GGCGAAAGAT ATTGAGGTTT ACAACAAAAA AGGGGAGTTG GTCGGCAAAT
 251  CAATGACAAA AGCCCCGATG ATTGATTTTT CTGTGGTGTC GCGTAACGGC
 301  GTGGCGGCAT TGGTGGGCGA TCAATATATT GTGAGCGTGG CACATAACGG
 351  CGGCTATAAC AACGTTGATT TTGGTGCGGA AGGAAGAAAT CCCGATCAAC
 401  ATCGTTTTAC TTATAAAATT GTGAAACGGA ATAATTATAA AGCAGGGACT
 451  AAAGGCCATC CTTATGGCGG CGATTATCAT ATGCCGCGTT TGCATAAATT
 501  TGTCACAGAT GCAGAACCTG TTGAAATGAC CAGTTATATG GATGGGCGGA
 551  AATATATCGA TCAAAATAAT TACCCTGACC GTGTTCGTAT TGGGGCAGGC
 601  AGGCAATATT GGCGATCTGA TGAAGATGAG CCCAATAACC GCGAAAGTTC
 651  ATATCATATT GCAAGTGCGT ATTCTTGGCT CGTTGGTGGC AATACCTTTG
 701  CACAAAATGG ATCAGGTGGT GGCACAGTCA ACTTAGGTAG TGAAAAAATT
 751  AAACATAGCC CATATGGTTT TTTACCAACA GGAGGCTCAT TTGGCGACAG
 801  TGGCTCACCA ATGTTTATCT ATGATGCCCA AAAGCAAAAG TGGTTAATTA
 851  ATGGGGTATT GCAAACGGGC AACCCCTATA TAGGAAAAAG CAATGGCTTC
 901  CAGCTGGTTC GTAAAGATTG GTTCTATGAT GAAATCTTTG CTGGAGATAC
 951  CCATTCAGTA TTCTACGAAC CACGTCAAAA TGGGAAATAC TCTTTTAACG
1001  ACGATAATAA TGGCACAGGA AAAATCAATG CCAAACATGA ACACAATTCT
1051  CTGCCTAATA GATTAAAAAC ACGAACCGTT CAATTGTTTA ATGTTTCTTT
1101  ATCCGAGACA GCAAGAGAAC CTGTTTATCA TGCTGCAGGT GGTGTCAACA
1151  GTTATCGACC CAGACTGAAT AATGGAGAAA ATATTTCCTT TATTGACGAA
1201  GGAAAAGGCG AATTGATACT TACCAGCAAC ATCAATCAAG GTGCTGGAGG
1251  ATTATATTTC CAAGGAGATT TTACGGTCTC GCCTGAAAAT AACGAAACTT
1301  GGCAAGGCGC GGGCGTTCAT ATCAGTGAAG ACAGTACCGT TACTTGGAAA
1351  GTAAACGGCG TGGCAAACGA CCGCCTGTCC AAAATCGGCA AAGGCACGCT
1401  GCACGTTCAA GCCAAAGGGG AAAACCAAGG CTCGATCAGC GTGGGCGACG
1451  GTACAGTCAT TTTGGATCAG CAGGCAGACG ATAAAGGCAA AAAACAAGCC
1501  TTTAGTGAAA TCGGCTTGGT CAGCGGCAGG GGTACGGTGC AACTGAATGC
1551  CGATAATCAG TTCAACCCCG ACAAACTCTA TTTCGGCTTT CGCGGCGGAC
1601  GTTTGGATTT AAACGGGCAT TCGCTTTCGT TCCACCGTAT TCAAAATACC
1651  GATGAAGGGG CGATGATTGT CAACCACAAT CAAGACAAAG AATCCACCGT
1701  TACCATTACA GGCAATAAAG ATATTGCTAC AACCGGCAAT AACAACAGCT
1751  TGGATAGCAA AAAAGAAATT GCCTACAACG GTTGGTTTGG CGAGAAAGAT
1801  ACGACCAAAA CGAACGGGCG GCTCAACCTT GTTTACCAGC CCGCCGCAGA
1851  AGACCGCACC CTGCTGCTTT CCGGCGGAAC AAATTTAAAC GGCAACATCA
1901  CGCAAACAAA CGGCAAACTG TTTTTCAGCG GCAGACCAAC ACCGCACGCC
1951  TACAATCATT TAAACGACCA TTGGTCGCAA AAAGAGGGCA TTCCTCGCGG
2001  GGAAATCGTG TGGGACAACG ACTGGATCAA CCGCACATTT AAAGCGGAAA
2051  ACTTCCAAAT TAAAGGCGGA CAGGCGGTGG TTTCCCGCAA TGTTGCCAAA
2101  GTGAAAGGCG ATTGGCATTT GAGCAATCAC GCCCAAGCAG TTTTTGGTGT
2151  CGCACCGCAT CAAAGCCACA CAATCTGTAC ACGTTCGGAC TGGACGGGTC
2201  TGACAAATTG TGTCGAAAAA ACCATTACCG ACGATAAAGT GATTGCTTCA
2251  TTGACTAAGA CCGACATCAG CGGCAATGTC GATCTTGCCG ATCACGCTCA
2301  TTTAAATCTC ACAGGGCTTG CCACACTCAA CGGCAATCTT AGTGCAAATG
2351  GCGATACACG TTATACAGTC AGCCACAACG CCACCCAAAA CGGCAACCTT
2401  AGCCTCGTGG GCAATGCCCA AGCAACATTT AATCAAGCCA CATTAAACGG
2451  CAACACATCG GCTTCGGGCA ATGCTTCATT TAATCTAAGC GACCACGCCG
2501  TACAAAACGG CAGTCTGACG CTTTCCGGCA ACGCTAAGGC AAACGTAAGC
2551  CATTCCGCAC TCAACGGTAA TGTCTCCCTA GCCGATAAGG CAGTATTCCA
2601  TTTTGAAAGC AGCCGCTTTA CCGGACAAAT CAGCGGCGGC AAGGATACGG
2651  CATTACACTT AAAAGACAGC GAATGGACGC TGCCGTCAGG CACGGAATTA
2701  GGCAATTTAA ACCTTGACAA CGCCACCATT ACACTCAATT CCGCCTATCG
2751  CCACGATGCG GCAGGGGCGC AAACCGGCAG TGCGACAGAT GCGCCGCGCC
2801  GCCGTTCGCG CCGTTCGCGC CGTTCCCTAT TATCCGTTAC ACCGCCAACT
2851  TCGGTAGAAT CCCGTTTCAA CACGCTGACG GTAAACGGCA AATTGAACGG
2901  TCAGGGAACA TTCCGCTTTA TGTCGGAACT CTTCGGCTAC CGCAGCGACA
2951  AATTGAAGCT GGCGGAAAGT TCCGAAGGCA CTTACACCTT GGCGGTCAAC
3001  AATACCGGCA ACGAACCTGC AAGCCTCGAA CAATTGACGG TAGTGGAAGG
3051  AAAAGACAAC AAACCGCTGT CCGAAAACCT TAATTTCACC CTGCAAAACG
3101  AACACGTCGA TGCCGGCGCG TGGCGTTACC AACTCATCCG CAAAGACGGC
3151  GAGTTCCGCC TGCATAATCC GGTCAAAGAA CAAGAGCTTT CCGACAAACT
3201  CGGCAAGGCA GAAGCCAAAA AACAGGCGGA AAAAGACAAC GCGCAAAGCC
3251  TTGACGCGCT GATTGCGGCC GGGCGCGATG CCGTCGAAAA GACAGAAAGC
3301  GTTGCCGAAC CGGCCCGGCA GGCAGGCGGG GAAAATGTCG GCATTATGCA
```

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3351  GGCGGAGGAA GAGAAAAAAC GGGTGCAGGC GGATAAAGAC ACCGCCTTGG
3401  CGAAACAGCG CGAAGCGGAA ACCCGGCCGG CTACCACCGC CTTCCCCCGC
3451  GCCCGCCGCG CCCGCCGGGA TTTGCCGCAA CTGCAACCCC AACCGCAGCC
3501  CCAACCGCAG CGCGACCTGA TCAGCCGTTA TGCCAATAGC GGTTTGAGTG
3551  AATTTTCCGC CACGCTCAAC AGCGTTTTCG CCGTACAGGA CGAATTAGAC
3601  CGCGTATTTG CCGAAGACCG CCGCAACGCC GTTTGGACAA GCGGCATCCG
3651  GGACACCAAA CACTACCGTT CGCAAGATTT CCGCGCCTAC CGCCAACAAA
3701  CCGACCTGCG CCAAATCGGT ATGCAGAAAA ACCTCGGCAG CGGGCGCGTC
3751  GGCATCCTGT TTTCGCACAA CCGGACCGAA AACACCTTCG ACGACGGCAT
3801  CGGCAACTCG GCACGGCTTG CCCACGGCGC CGTTTTCGGG CAATACGGCA
3851  TCGACAGGTT CTACATCGGC ATCAGCGCGG GCGCGGGTTT TAGCAGCGGC
3901  AGCCTTTCAG ACGGCATCGG AGGCAAAATC CGCCGCCGCG TGCTGCATTA
3951  CGGCATTCAG GCACGATACC GCGCCGGTTT CGGCGGATTC GGCATCGAAC
4001  CGCACATCGG CGCAACGCGC TATTTCGTCC AAAAAGCGGA TTACCGCTAC
4051  GAAAACGTCA ATATCGCCAC CCCCGGCCTT GCATTCAACC GCTACCGCGC
4101  GGGCATTAAG GCAGATTATT CATTCAAACC GGCGCAACAC ATTTCCATCA
4151  CGCCTTATTT GAGCCTGTCC TATACCGATG CCGCTTCGGG CAAAGTCCGA
4201  ACACGCGTCA ATACCGCCGT ATTGGCTCAG GATTTCGGCA AAACCCGCAG
4251  TGCGGAATGG GGCGTAAACG CCGAAATCAA AGGTTTCACG CTGTCCCTCC
4301  ACGCTGCCGC CGCCAAAGGC CCGCAACTGG AAGCGCAACA CAGCGCGGGC
4351  ATCAAATTAG GCTACCGCTG GTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 650; ORF1-1>:

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   1  MKTTDKRTTE THRKAPKTGR IRFSPAYLAI CLSFGILPQA WAGHTYFGIN
  51  YQYYRDFAEN KGKFAVGAKD IEVYNKKGEL VGKSMTKAPM IDFSVVSRNG
 101  VAALVGDQYI VSVAHNGGYN NVDFGAEGRN PDQHRFTYKI VKRNNYKAGT
 151  KGHPYGGDYH MPRLHKFVTD AEPVEMTSYM DGRKYIDQNN YPDRVRIGAG
 201  RQYWRSDEDE PNNRESSYHI ASAYSWLVGG NTFAQNGSGG GTVNLGSEKI
 251  KHSPYGFLPT GGSFGDSGSP MFIYDAQKQK WLINGVLQTG NPYIGKSNGF
 301  QLVRKDWFYD EIFAGDTHSV FYEPRQNGKY SFNDDNNGTG KINAKHEHNS
 351  LPNRLKTRTV QLFNVSLSET AREPVYHAAG GVNSYRPRLN NGENISFIDE
 401  GKGELILTSN INQGAGGLYF QGDFTVSPEN NETWQGAGVH ISEDSTVTWK
 451  VNGVANDRLS KIGKGTLHVQ AKGENQGSIS VGDGTVILDQ QADDKGKKQA
 501  FSEIGLVSGR GTVQLNADNQ FNPDKLYFGF RGGRLDLNGH SLSFHRIQNT
 551  DEGAMIVNHN QDKESTVTIT GNKDIATTGN NNSLDSKKEI AYNGWFGEKD
 601  TTKTNGRLNL VYQPAAEDRT LLLSGGTNLN GNITQTNGKL FFSGRPTPHA
 651  YNHLNDHWSQ KEGIPRGEIV WDNDWINRTF KAENFQIKGG QAVVSRNVAK
 701  VKGDWHLSNH AQAVFGVAPH QSHTICTRSD WTGLTNCVEK TITDDKVIAS
 751  LTKTDISGNV DLADHAHLNL TGLATLNGNL SANGDTRYTV SHNATQNGNL
 801  SLVGNAQATF NQATLNGNTS ASGNASFNLS DHAVQNGSLT LSGNAKANVS
 851  HSALNGNVSL ADKAVFHFES SRFTGQISGG KDTALHLKDS EWTLPSGTEL
 901  GNLNLDNATI TLNSAYRHDA AGAQTGSATD APRRRSRRSR RSLLSVTPPT
 951  SVESRFNTLT VNGKLNGQGT FRFMSELFGY RSDKLKLAES SEGTYTLAVN
1001  NTGNEPASLE QLTVVEGKDN KPLSENLNFT LQNEHVDAGA WRYQLIRKDG
1051  EFRLHNPVKE QELSDKLGKA EAKKQAEKDN AQSLDALIAA GRDAVEKTES
1101  VAEPARQAGG ENVGIMQAEE EKKRVQADKD TALAKQREAE TRPATTAFPR
1151  ARRARRDLPQ LQPQPQPQPQ RDLISRYANS GLSEFSATLN SVFAVQDELD
1201  RVFAEDRRNA VWTSGIRDTK HYRSQDFRAY RQQTDLRQIG MQKNLGSGRV
1251  GILFSHNRTE NTFDDGIGNS ARLAHGAVFG QYGIDRFYIG ISAGAGFSSG
1301  SLSDGIGGKI RRRVLHYGIQ ARYRAGFGGF GIEPHIGATR YFVQKADYRY
1351  ENVNIATPGL AFNRYRAGIK ADYSFKPAQH ISITPYLSLS YTDAASGKVR
1401  TRVNTAVLAQ DFGKTRSAEW GVNAEIKGFT LSLHAAAAKG PQLEAQHSAG
1451  IKLGYRW*
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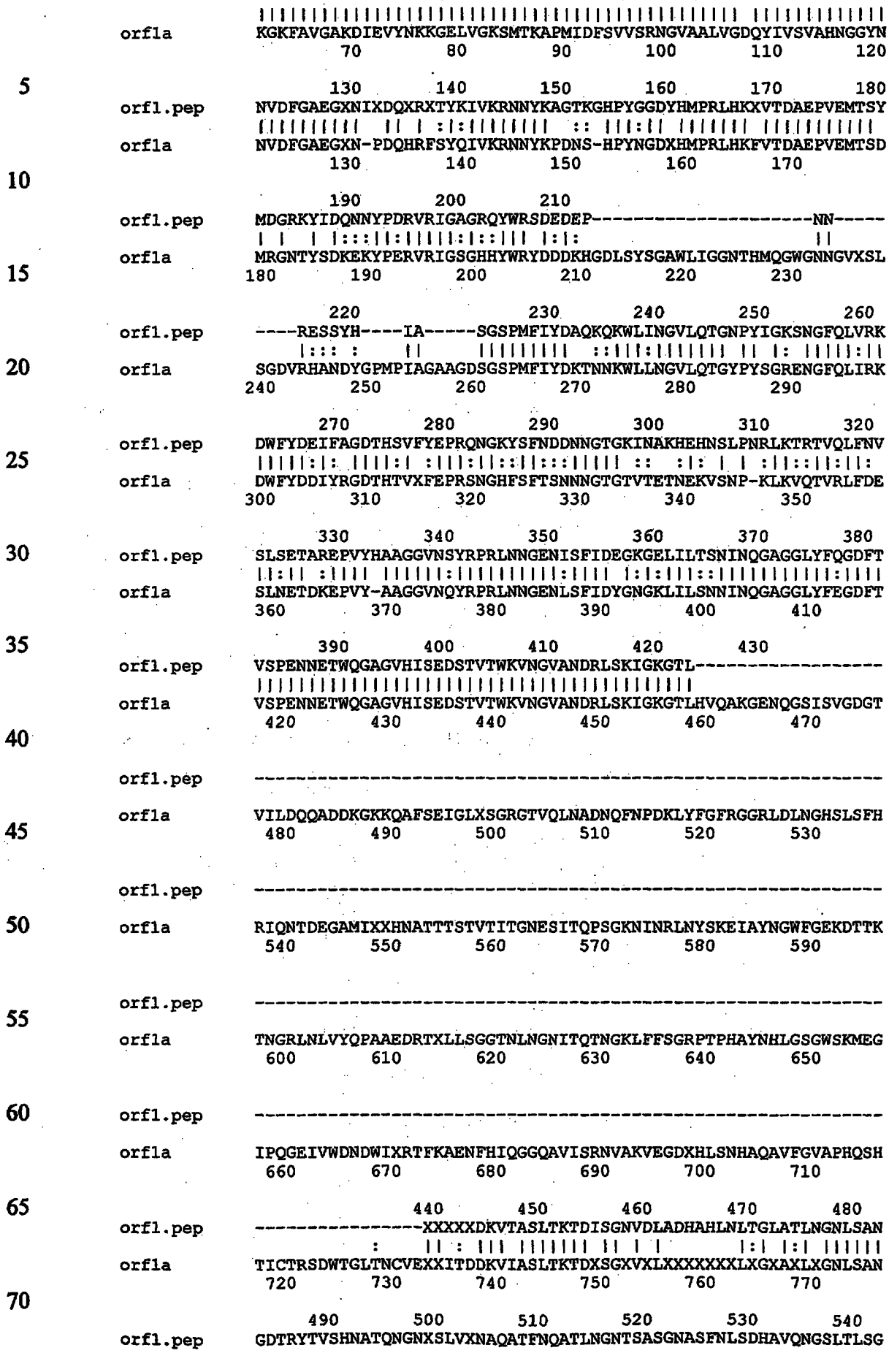
Computer analysis of these sequences gave the following results:

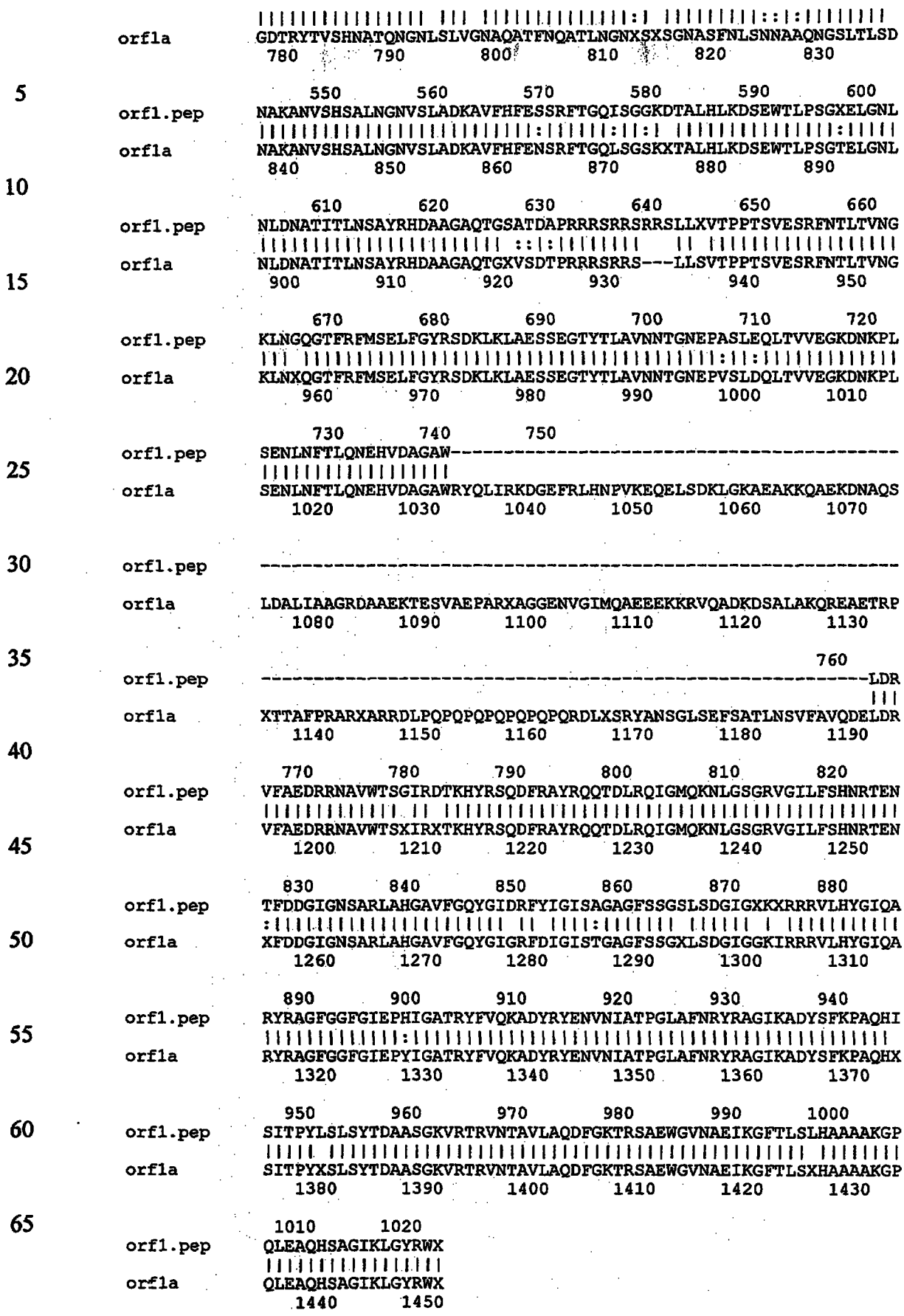
Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF1 shows 57.8% identity over a 1456aa overlap with an ORF (ORF1a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf1.pep    MKTTDKRTTETHRKAPKTGRIRFXAAYLAICLSFGILPQAWAGHTYFGINYQYYRDFAEN
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||  ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf1a       MKTTDKRTTETHRKAPKTGRIRFSPAYLAICLSFGILPQAWAGHTYFGINYQYYRDFAEN
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf1.pep    KGKFAVGAKDIEVYNKKGELVGKSMTKAPMIDFSVVSRNGVAALVGVQYIVSVAHNGGYN
```


orf1a
KGKFAVGAKDIEVYNKKGELVGKSMTKAPMIDFSVVSRNGVAALVGDQYIVSVAHNGGYN
70 80 90 100 110 120
130 140 150 160 170 180
orf1.pep
NVDFGAEGXNIXDQXRXTYKIVKRNNYKAGTKGHPYGGDYHMPRLHKXVTDAEPVEMTSY
orf1a
NVDFGAEGXN-PDQHRFSYQIVKRNNYKPDNS-HPYNGDXHMPRLHKFVTDAEPVEMTSD
130 140 150 160 170
190 200 210
orf1.pep
MDGRKYIDQNNYPDRVRIGAGRQYWRSDEDEP----------NN-----
orf1a
MRGNTYSDKEKYPERVRIGSGHHYWRYDDDKHGDLSYSGAWLIGGNTHMQGWGNNGVXSL
180 190 200 210 220 230
220 230 240 250 260
orf1.pep
----RESSYH----IA-----SGSPMFIYDAQKQKWLINGVLQTGNPYIGKSNGFQLVRK
orf1a
SGDVRHANDYGPMPIAGAAGDSGSPMFIYDKTNNKWLLNGVLQTGYPYSGRENGFQLIRK
240 250 260 270 280 290
270 280 290 300 310 320
orf1.pep
DWFYDEIFAGDTHSVFYEPRQNGKYSFNDDNNGTGKINAKHEHNSLPNRLKTRTVQLFNV
orf1a
DWFYDDIYRGDTHTVXFEPRSNGHFSFTSNNNGTGTVTETNEKVSNP-KLKVQTVRLFDE
300 310 320 330 340 350
330 340 350 360 370 380
orf1.pep
SLSETAREPVYHAAGGVNSYRPRLNNGENISFIDEGKGELILTSNINQGAGGLYFQGDFT
orf1a
SLNETDKEPVY-AAGGVNQYRPRLNNGENLSFIDYGNGKLILSNNINQGAGGLYFEGDFT
360 370 380 390 400 410
390 400 410 420 430
orf1.pep
VSPENNETWQGAGVHISEDSTVTWKVNGVANDRLSKIGKGTL----------
orf1a
VSPENNETWQGAGVHISEDSTVTWKVNGVANDRLSKIGKGTLHVQAKGENQGSISVGDGT
420 430 440 450 460 470
orf1.pep
----
orf1a
VILDQQADDKGKKQAFSEIGLXSGRGTVQLNADNQFNPDKLYFGFRGGRLDLNGHSLSFH
480 490 500 510 520 530
orf1.pep
----
orf1a
RIQNTDEGAMIXXHNATTTSTVTITGNESITQPSGKNINRLNYSKEIAYNGWFGEKDTTK
540 550 560 570 580 590
orf1.pep
----
orf1a
TNGRLNLVYQPAAEDRTXLLSGGTNLNGNITQTNGKLFFSGRPTPHAYNHLGSGWSKMEG
600 610 620 630 640 650
orf1.pep
----
orf1a
IPQGEIVWDNDWIXRTFKAENFHIQGGQAVISRNVAKVEGDXHLSNHAQAVFGVAPHQSH
660 670 680 690 700 710
440 450 460 470 480
orf1.pep
----------XXXXXDKVTASLTKTDISGNVDLADHAHLNLTGLATLNGNLSAN
orf1a
TICTRSDWTGLTNCVEXXITDDKVIASLTKTDXSGXVXLXXXXXXXXLXGXAXLXGNLSAN
720 730 740 750 760 770
490 500 510 520 530 540
orf1.pep
GDTRYTVSHNATQNGNXSLVXNAQATFNQATLNGNTSASGNASFNLSDHAVQNGSLTLSG



The complete length ORF1a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 651> is:

```
   1 ATGAAAACAA CCGACAAACG GACAACCGAA ACACACCGCA AAGCCCCGAA
  51 AACCGGCCGC ATCCGCTTCT CGCCTGCTTA CTTAGCCATA TGCCTGTCGT
 101 TCGGCATTCT TCCCCAAGCT TGGGCGGGAC ACACTTATTT CGGCATCAAC
 151 TACCAATACT ATCGCGACTT TGCCGAAAAT AAAGGCAAGT TTGCAGTCGG
 201 GGCGAAAGAT ATTGAGGTNT ACAACAAAAA AGGGGAGTTG GTCGGCAAAT
 251 CAATGACAAA AGCCCCGATG ATTGATTTTT CTGTGGTGTC GCGTAACGGC
 301 GTGGCGGCAT TGGTGGGCGA TCAATATATT GTGAGCGTGG CACATAACGG
 351 CGGCTATAAC AACGTTGATT TTGGTGCGGA AGGAAGNAAT CCCGATCAGC
 401 ACCGTTTTTC TTACCAAATT GTGAAAAGAA ATAATTATAA GCCTGACAAT
 451 TCACACCCTT ACAACGGCGA TTANCATATG CCGCGTTTGC ATAAATTTGT
 501 CACAGATGCA GAACCTGTCG AAATGACGAG TGACATGAGG GGGAATACCT
 551 ATTCCGATAA AGAAAAATAT CCCGAGCGTG TCCGCATCGG CTCAGGACAC
 601 CACTATTGGC GTTATGATGA TGACAAACAC GGCGATTTAT CCTACTCCGG
 651 CGCATGGTTA ATTGGCGGCA ATACACATAT GCAGGGTTGG GGAAATAATG
 701 GCGTANTTAG TTTGAGCGGC GATGTGCGCC ATGCCAACGA CTATGGCCCT
 751 ATGCCGATTG CAGGTGCGGC AGGCGACAGC GGTTCGCCAA TGTTTATTTA
 801 TGACAAAACA AACAATAAAT GGCTGCTCAA CGGAGTTTTA CAAACCGGCT
 851 ACCCTTATTC CGGCAGGGAA AACGGTTTCC AGCTGATACG CAAAGATTGG
 901 TTCTACGATG ACATTTACAG AGGCGATACA CATACCGTCT NTTTTGAACC
 951 GCGCAGTAAC GGACATTTTT CCTTTACATC CAACAACAAC GGTACGGGTA
1001 CGGTAACAGA AACCAACGAA AAGGTNTCCA ATCCAAAGCT TAAAGTACAG
1051 ACAGTCCGAC TGTTTGACGA ATCTTTGAAT GAAACTGATA AAGAACCAGT
1101 TTACGCGGCA GGGGGTGTTA ATCAGTACCG TCCAAGGTTA AACAACGGTG
1151 AAAACCTTTC TTTTATCGAT TACGGCAACG GCAAACTCAT CTTATCAAAC
1201 AACATCAACC AAGGCGCGGG CGGTTTGTAT TTTGAAGGTG ATTTTACGGT
1251 CTCGCCTGAA AACAACGAAA CGTGGCAAGG CGCGGGCGTT CATATCAGTG
1301 AAGACAGTAC CGTTACTTGG AAAGTAAACG GCGTGGCAAA CGACCGCCTG
1351 TCCAAAATCG GCAAAGGCAC GCTGCACGTT CAAGCCAAAG GGGAAAACCA
1401 AGGCTCGATC AGCGTGGGCG ACGGTACAGT CATTTTGGAT CAGCAGGCAG
1451 ACGATAAAGG CAAAAAACAA GCCTTTAGTG AAATCGGCTT GNTCAGCGGC
1501 AGGGGTACGG TGCAACTGAA TGCCGATAAT CAGTTCAACC CCGACAAACT
1551 CTATTTCGGC TTTCGCGGCG GACGTTTGGA TTTAAACGGG CATTCGCTTT
1601 CGTTCCACCG TATTCAAAAT ACCGATGAAG GGGCGATGAT TGNCNATCAT
1651 AATGCCACAA CAACATCCAC CGTTACCATT ACAGGGAATG AAAGTATTAC
1701 ACAACCGAGT GGTAAGAATA TCAATAGACT TAATTACAGC AAAGAAATTG
1751 CCTACAACGG TTGGTTTGGC GAGAAAGATA CGACCAAAAC GAACGGGCGG
1801 CTCAACCTTG TTTACCAGCC CGCCGCAGAA GACCGCACCC NGCTGCTTTC
1851 CGGCGGAACA AATTTAAACG GCAACATCAC GCAAACAAAC GGCAAACTGT
1901 TTTTCAGCGG CAGACCGACA CCGCACGCCT ACAATCATTT AGGAAGCGGG
1951 TGGTCAAAAA TGGAAGGTAT CCCACAAGGA GAAATCGTGT GGGACAACGA
2001 CTGGATCNAC CGCACGTTTA AAGCGGAAAA TTTCCATATT CAGGGCGGGC
2051 AGGCGGTGAT TTCCCGCAAT GTTGCCAAAG TGGAAGGCGA TTGNCATTTG
2101 AGCAATCACG CCCAAGCAGT TTTTGGTGTC GCACCGCATC AAAGCCATAC
2151 AATCTGTACA CGTTCGGACT GGACNGGTCT GACAAATTGT GTCGAANAAA
2201 NCATTACCGA CGATAAAGTG ATTGCTTCAT TGACTAAGAC NGACNTNAGC
2251 GGCANTGTNA GNCTNNCCNA TNACGNTNNT TNAAANCTCN CNGGGCNTGC
2301 NNCACTNAAN GGCAATCTTA GTGCAAATGG CGATACACGT TATACAGTCA
2351 GCCACAACGC CACCCAAAAC GGCAACCTTA GCCTCGTGGG CAATGCCCAA
2401 GCAACATTTA ATCAAGCCAC ATTAAACGGC AACNCATCGG NTTCGGGCAA
2451 TGCTTCATTT AATCTAAGCA ACAACGCCGC ACAAAACGGC AGTCTGACGC
2501 TTTCCGACAA CGCTAAGGCA AACGTAAGCC ATTCCGCACT CAACGGCAAT
2551 GTCTCCCTAG CCGATAAGGC AGTATTCCAT TTTGAAAACA GCCGCTTTAC
2601 CGGACAACTC AGCGGCAGCA AGGANACAGC ATTACACTTA AAAGACAGCG
2651 AATGGACGCT GCCGTCAGGC ACGGAATTAG GCAATTTAAA CCTTGACAAC
2701 GCCACCATTA CACTCAATTC CGCCTATCGC CACGATGCTG CAGGCGCGCA
2751 AACCGGCAGN GTGTCAGACA CGCCGCGCCG CCGTTCGCGC CGTTCCCTAT
2801 TATCCGTTAC ACCGCCAACT TCGGTAGAAT CCCGTTTCAA CACGCTGACG
2851 GTAAACGGCA AATTGAACNG TCAAGGAACA TTCCGCTTTA TGTCGGAACT
2901 CTTCGGCTAC CGAAGCGACA AATTGAAGCT GGCGGAAAGT TCCGAAGGNA
2951 CTTACACCTT GGCGGTCAAC AATACCGGCA ACGAACCCGT AAGCCTCGAT
3001 CAATTGACGG TAGTGGAAGG GAAAGACAAC AAACCGCTGT CCGAAAACCT
3051 TAATTTCACC CTGCAAAACG AACACGTCGA TGCCGGCGCG TGGCGTTACC
3101 AACTCATCCG CAAAGACGGC GAGTTCCGCC TGCATAATCC GGTCAAAGAA
3151 CAAGAGCTTT CCGACAAACT CGGCAAGGCA GAAGCCAAAA AACAGGCGGA
3201 AAAAGACAAC GCGCAAAGCC TTGACGCGCT GATTGCGGCC GGGCGCGATG
3251 CCGCCGAAAA GACAGAAAGC GTTGCCGAAC CGGCCCGGCN GGCAGGCGGG
3301 GAAAATGTCG GCATTATGCA GGCGGAGGAA GAGAAAAAAC GGGTGCAGGC
3351 GGATAAAGAC AGCGCNTTGG CGAAACAGCG CGAAGCGGAA ACCCGGCCGG
3401 NTACCACCGC CTTCCCCCGC GCCCGCNGCG CCCGCCGGGA TTTGCCGCAA
3451 CCGCAGCCCC AACCGCAACC TCAACCCCAA CCGCAGCGCG ACCTGATNAG
3501 CCGTTATGCC AATAGCGGTT TGAGTGAATT TTCCGCCACG CTCAACAGCG
3551 TTTTCGCCGT ACAGGACGAA TTGGACCGCG TGTTTGCCGA AGACCGCCGC
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```
3601  AACGCNGTTT GGACAAGCNG CATCCGGNAC ACCAAACACT ACCGTTCGCA
3651  AGATTTCCGC GCCTACCGCC AACAAACCGA CCTGCGCCAA ATCGGTATGC
3701  AGAAAAACCT CGGCAGCGGG CGCGTCGGCA TCCTGTTTTC GCACAACCGG
3751  ACCGAAAACA NCTTCGACGA CGGCATCGGC AACTCGGCAC GGCTTGCCCA
3801  CGGCGCCGTT TTCGGGCAAT ACGGCATCGG CAGGTTCGAC ATCGGCATCA
3851  GCACGGGCGC GGGTTTTAGC AGCGGCANTC TNTCAGACGG CATCGGAGGC
3901  AAAATCCGCC GCCGCGTGCT GCATTACGGC ATTCAGGCAC GATACCGCGC
3951  CGGTTTCGGC GGATTCGGCA TCGAACCGTA CATCGGCGCA ACGCGCTATT
4001  TCGTCCAAAA AGCGGATTAC CGCTACGAAA ACGTCAATAT CGCCACCCCC
4051  GGTCTTGCGT TCAACCGNTA CCGNGCGGGC ATTAAGGCAG ATTATTCATT
4101  CAAACCGGCG CAACACATNT CCATCACNCC TTATTTNAGC CTGTCCTATA
4151  CCGATGCCGC TTCGGGCAAA GTCCGAACAC GCGTCAATAC CGCNGTATTG
4201  GCTCAGGATT TCGGCAAAAC CCGCAGTGCG GAATGGGGCG TAAACGCCGA
4251  AATCAAAGGT TTCACGCTGT CCNTCCACGC TGCCGCCGCC AAAGGNCCGC
4301  AACTGGAAGC GCAACACAGC GCGGGCATCA AATTAGGCTA CCGCTGGTAA
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This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 652>:

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   1  MKTTDKRTTE THRKAPKTGR IRFSPAYLAI CLSFGILPQA WAGHTYFGIN
  51  YQYYRDFAEN KGKFAVGAKD IEVYNKKGEL VGKSMTKAPM IDFSVVSRNG
 101  VAALVGDQYI VSVAHNGGYN NVDFGAEGXN PDQHRFSYQI VKRNNYKPDN
 151  SHPYNGDXHM PRLHKFVTDA EPVEMTSDMR GNTYSDKEKY PERVRIGSGH
 201  HYWRYDDDKH GDLSYSGAWL IGGNTHMQGW GNNGVXSLSG DVRHANDYGP
 251  MPIAGAAGDS GSPMFIYDKT NNKWLLNGVL QTGYPYSGRE NGFQLIRKDW
 301  FYDDIYRGDT HTVXFEPRSN GHFSFTSNNN GTGTVTETNE KVSNPKLKVQ
 351  TVRLFDESLN ETDKEPVYAA GGVNQYRPRL NNGENLSFID YGNGKLILSN
 401  NINQGAGGLY FEGDFTVSPE NNETWQGAGV HISEDSTVTW KVNGVANDRL
 451  SKIGKGTLHV QAKGENQGSI SVGDGTVILD QQADDKGKKQ AFSEIGLXSG
 501  RGTVQLNADN QFNPDKLYFG FRGGRLDLNG HSLSFHRIQN TDEGAMIXXH
 551  NATTTSTVTI TGNESITQPS GKNINRLNYS KEIAYNGWFG EKDTTKTNGR
 601  LNLVYQPAAE DRTXLLSGGT NLNGNITQTN GKLFFSGRPT PHAYNHLGSG
 651  WSKMEGIPQG EIVWDNDWIX RTFKAENFHI QGGQAVISRN VAKVEGDXHL
 701  SNHAQAVFGV APHQSHTICT RSDWTGLTNC VEXXITDDKV IASLTKTDXS
 751  GXVXLXXXXX XXLXGXAXLX GNLSANGDTR YTVSHNATQN GNLSLVGNAQ
 801  ATFNQATLNG NXSXSGNASF NLSNNAAQNG SLTLSDNAKA NVSHSALNGN
 851  VSLADKAVFH FENSRFTGQL SGSKXTALHL KDSEWTLPSG TELGNLNLDN
 901  ATITLNSAYR HDAAGAQTGX VSDTPRRRSR RSLLSVTPPT SVESRFNTLT
 951  VNGKLNXQGT FRFMSELFGY RSDKLKLAES SEGTYTLAVN NTGNEPVSLD
1001  QLTVVEGKDN KPLSENLNFT LQNEHVDAGA WRYQLIRKDG EFRLHNPVKE
1051  QELSDKLGKA EAKKQAEKDN AQSLDALIAA GRDAAEKTES VAEPARXAGG
1101  ENVGIMQAEE EKKRVQADKD SALAKQREAE TRPXTTAFPR ARXARRDLPQ
1151  PQPQPQPQPQ PQRDLXSRYA NSGLSEFSAT LNSVFAVQDE LDRVFAEDRR
1201  NAVWTSXIRX TKHYRSQDFR AYRQQTDLRQ IGMQKNLGSG RVGILFSHNR
1251  TENXFDDGIG NSARLAHGAV FGQYGIGRFD IGISTGAGFS SGXLSDGIGG
1301  KIRRRVLHYG IQARYRAGFG GFGIEPYIGA TRYFVQKADY RYENVNIATP
1351  GLAFNRYRAG IKADYSFKPA QHXSITPYXS LSYTDAASGK VRTRVNTAVL
1401  AQDFGKTRSA EWGVNAEIKG FTLSXHAAAA KGPQLEAQHS AGIKLGYRW*
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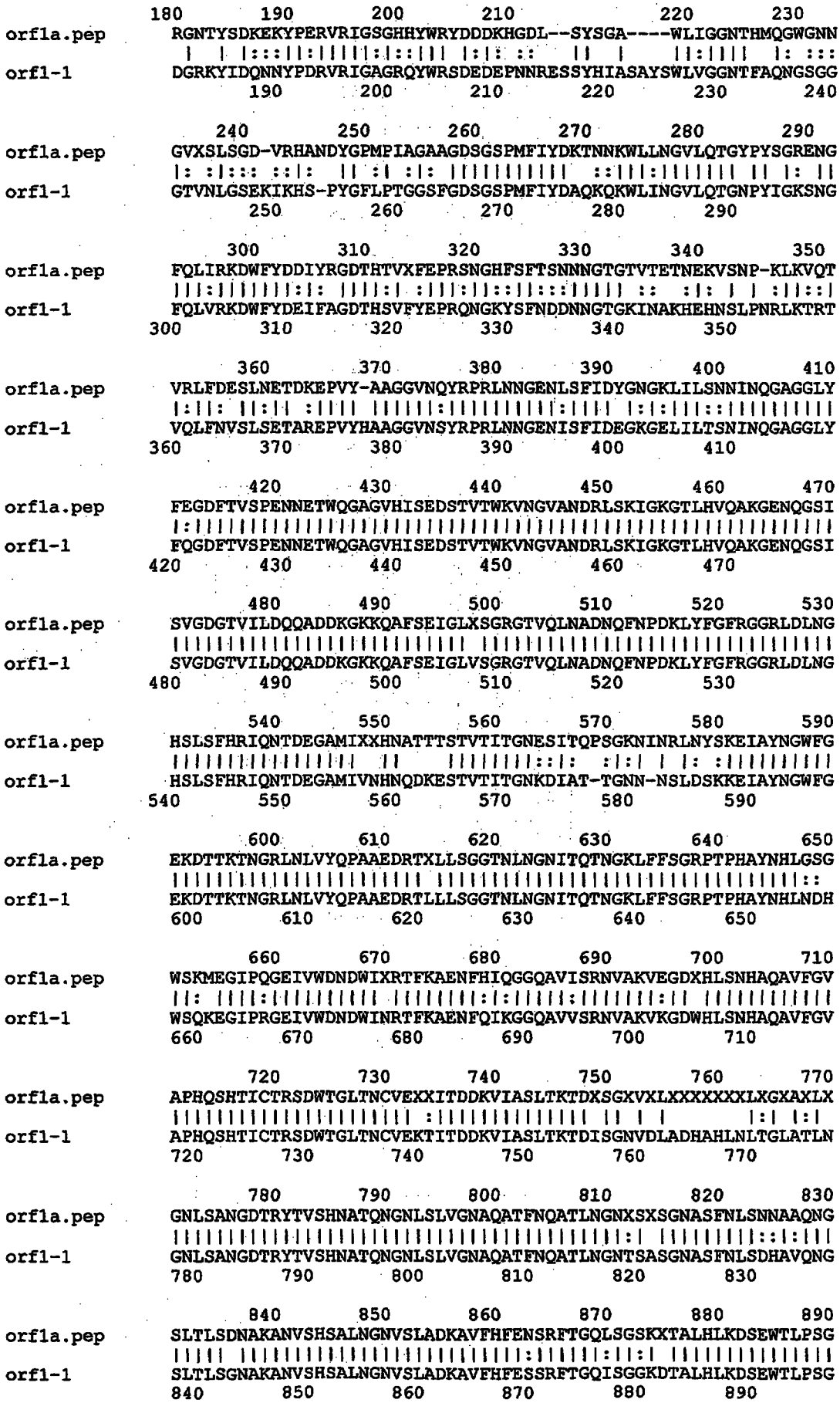
A transmembrane region is underlined.

ORF1-1 shows 86.3% identity over a 1462aa overlap with ORF1a:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf1a.pep       MKTTDKRTTETHRKAPKTGRIRFSPAYLAICLSFGILPQAWAGHTYFGINYQYYRDFAEN
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf1-1          MKTTDKRTTETHRKAPKTGRIRFSPAYLAICLSFGILPQAWAGHTYFGINYQYYRDFAEN
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf1a.pep       KGKFAVGAKDIEVYNKKGELVGKSMTKAPMIDFSVVSRNGVAALVGDQYIVSVAHNGGYN
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf1-1          KGKFAVGAKDIEVYNKKGELVGKSMTKAPMIDFSVVSRNGVAALVGDQYIVSVAHNGGYN
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       179
orf1a.pep       NVDFGAEGXNPDQHRFSYQIVKRNNYKPDNS-HPYNGDXHMPRLHKFVTDAEPVEMTSDM
                |||||||| ||||||:|:|||||||  :: |||:|| |||||||||||||||||| |
orf1-1          NVDFGAEGRNPDQHRFTYKIVKRNNYKAGTKGHPYGGDYHMPRLHKFVTDAEPVEMTSYM
                130       140       150       160       170       180
```


orf1a.pep
orf1-1
orf1a.pep
orf1-1
orf1a.pep
orf1-1
orf1a.pep
orf1-1
orf1a.pep
orf1-1
orf1a.pep
orf1-1
orf1a.pep
orf1-1
orf1a.pep
orf1-1
orf1a.pep
orf1-1
orf1a.pep
orf1-1

```
                    900       910       920       930       940
orf1a.pep     TELGNLNLDNATITLNSAYRHDAAGAQTGXVSDTPRRRSRRS---LLSVTPPTSVESRFN
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ::|:|||||||| |||||||||||||||
orf1-1        TELGNLNLDNATITLNSAYRHDAAGAQTGSATDAPRRRSRRSRRSLLSVTPPTSVESRFN
              900       910       920       930       940       950

              950       960       970       980       990      1000
orf1a.pep     TLTVNGKLNXQGTFRFMSELFGYRSDKLKLAESSEGTYTLAVNNTGNEPVSLDQLTVVEG
              ||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||:|||||||
orf1-1        TLTVNGKLNGQGTFRFMSELFGYRSDKLKLAESSEGTYTLAVNNTGNEPASLEQLTVVEG
              960       970       980       990      1000      1010

             1010      1020      1030      1040      1050      1060
orf1a.pep     KDNKPLSENLNFTLQNEHVDAGAWRYQLIRKDGEFRLHNPVKEQELSDKLGKAEAKKQAE
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf1-1        KDNKPLSENLNFTLQNEHVDAGAWRYQLIRKDGEFRLHNPVKEQELSDKLGKAEAKKQAE
             1020      1030      1040      1050      1060      1070

             1070      1080      1090      1100      1110      1120
orf1a.pep     KDNAQSLDALIAAGRDAAEKTESVAEPARXAGGENVGIMQAEEEKKRVQADKDSALAKQR
              |||||||||||||||:|||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||:||||||
orf1-1        KDNAQSLDALIAAGRDAVEKTESVAEPARQAGGENVGIMQAEEEKKRVQADKDTALAKQR
             1080      1090      1100      1110      1120      1130

             1130      1140      1150      1160      1170      1180
orf1a.pep     EAETRPXTTAFPRARXARRDLPQPQPQPQPQPQPQRDLXSRYANSGLSEFSATLNSVFAV
              |||||| |||||||| ||||||| |||||||| |||| ||||||||||||||||||||
orf1-1        EAETRPATTAFPRARRARRDLPQLQPQPQPQP--QRDLISRYANSGLSEFSATLNSVFAV
             1140      1150      1160       1170      1180      1190

             1190      1200      1210      1220      1230      1240
orf1a.pep     QDELDRVFAEDRRNAVWTSXIRXTKHYRSQDFRAYRQQTDLRQIGMQKNLGSGRVGILFS
              |||||||||||||||||| || ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf1-1        QDELDRVFAEDRRNAVWTSGIRDTKHYRSQDFRAYRQQTDLRQIGMQKNLGSGRVGILFS
               1200      1210      1220      1230      1240      1250

             1250      1260      1270      1280      1290      1300
orf1a.pep     HNRTENXFDDGIGNSARLAHGAVFGQYGIGRFDIGISTGAGFSSGXLSDGIGGKIRRRVL
              ||||||:|||||||||||||||||||| || ||||:||||||| ||||||||||||||
orf1-1        HNRTENTFDDGIGNSARLAHGAVFGQYGIDRFYIGISAGAGFSSGSLSDGIGGKIRRRVL
               1260      1270      1280      1290      1300      1310

             1310      1320      1330      1340      1350      1360
orf1a.pep     HYGIQARYRAGFGGFGIEPYIGATRYFVQKADYRYENVNIATPGLAFNRYRAGIKADYSF
              |||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf1-1        HYGIQARYRAGFGGFGIEPHIGATRYFVQKADYRYENVNIATPGLAFNRYRAGIKADYSF
               1320      1330      1340      1350      1360      1370

             1370      1380      1390      1400      1410      1420
orf1a.pep     KPAQHXSITPYXSLSYTDAASGKVRTRVNTAVLAQDFGKTRSAEWGVNAEIKGFTLSXHA
              ||||| ||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||
orf1-1        KPAQHISITPYLSLSYTDAASGKVRTRVNTAVLAQDFGKTRSAEWGVNAEIKGFTLSLHA
               1380      1390      1400      1410      1420      1430

             1430      1440      1450
orf1a.pep     AAAKGPQLEAQHSAGIKLGYRWX
              |||||||||||||||||||||||
orf1-1        AAAKGPQLEAQHSAGIKLGYRWX
               1440      1450
```

Homology with adhesion and penetration protein hap precursor of *H.influenzae* (accession number P45387)

Amino acids 23-423 of ORF1 show 59% aa identity with hap protein in 450aa overlap:

```
orf1    23  FXAAYLAICLSFGILPQAWAGHTYFGINYQYYRDFAENKGKFAVGAKDIEVYNKKGELVG 82
            F   +L  C+S GI  QAWAGHTYFGI+YQYYRDFAENKGKF VGAK+IEVYNK+G+LVG
hap     6   FRLNFLTACVSLGIASQAWAGHTYFGIDYQYYRDFAENKGKFTVGAKNIEVYNKEGQLVG 65

orf1    83  KSMTKAPMIDFSVVSRNGVAALVGVQYIVSVAHNGGYNNVDFGAEGXNIXDQXRXTYKIV 142
             SMTKAPMIDFSVVSRNGVAALVG QYIVSVAHNGGYN+VDFGAEG N  DQ R TY+IV
hap     66  TSMTKAPMIDFSVVSRNGVAALVGDQYIVSVAHNGGYNDVDFGAEGRN-PDQHRFTYQIV 124
```

```
orf1   143 KRNNYKAGTKGHPYGGDYHMPRLHKKVTDAEPVEMTSYMDGRKYIDQNNYPDRVRIGAGR 202
           KRNNY+A  + HPY GDYHMPRLHK VT+AEPV MT+ MDG+ Y D+ NYP+RVRIG+GR
hap    125 KRNNYQAWERKHPYDGDYHMPRLHKFVTEAEPVGMTTNMDGKVYADRENYPERVRIGSGR 184

orf1   203 QYWRSDEDEPNNRESSYHIA---------------------------------------- 222
           QYWR+D+DE  N  SSY+++
hap    185 QYWRTDKDEETNVHSSYYVSGAYRYLTAGNTHTQSGNGNGTVNLSGNVVSPNHYGPLPTG 244

orf1   223 -----SGSPMFIYDAQKQKWLINGVLQTGNPYIGKSNGFQLVRKDWFYDEIFAGDTHSVF 277
                SGSPMFIYDA+K++WLIN VLQTG+P+ G+ NGFQL+R++WFY+E+ A DT SVF
hap    245 GSKGDSGSPMFIYDAKKKQWLINAVLQTGHPFFGRGNGFQLIREEWFYNEVLAVDTPSVF 304

orf1   278 --YEPRQNGKYSFNDDNNGTGKIN-AKHEHNSLPNRLKTRTVQLFNVSLSETAREPVYHA 334
             Y P  NG YSF  +N+GTGK+   +   +    + +  TV+LFN SL++TA+E V  A
hap    305 QRYIPPINGHYSFVSNNDGTGKLTLTRPSKDGSKAKSEVGTVKLFNPSLNQTAKEHV-KA 363

orf1   335 AGGVNSYRPRLNNGENISFIDEGKGELILTSNINQGAGGLYFQGDFTV-SPENNETWQGA 393
           A G N Y+PR+  G+NI   D+GKG L + +NINQGAGGLYF+G+F V   +NN TWQGA
hap    364 AAGYNIYQPRMEYGKNIYLGDQGKGTLTIENNINQGAGGLYFEGNFVVKGKQNNITWQGA 423

orf1   394 GVHISEDSTVTWKVNGVANDRLSKIGKGTL 423
           GV I +D+TV WKV+   NDRLSKIG GTL
hap    424 GVSIGQDATVEWKVHNPENDRLSKIGIGTL 453
```

Amino acids 715-1011 of ORF1 show 50% aa identity with hap protein in 258aa overlap:

```
Orf1    41  DTRYTVSHNATQ-NGNXSLVXNAQATFNQ-ATLNGNTSASGNASFNLSDHAVQNGSLTLS 98
            DT+   S   TQ NG+ +L  NA    +  A LNGN +   ++ F LS++A Q G++ LS
hap    733 DTKVINSIPITQINGSINLTNNATVNIHGLAKLNGNVTLIDHSQFTLSNNATQTGNIKLS 792

orf1    99  GNAKANVSHSALNGNVSLADKAVFHFESSRFTGQISGGKDTALHLKDSEWTLPSGXELGN 158
             +A A V+++ LNGNV L D A F  ++S F  QI G KDT + L+++ WT+PS   L N
hap    793 NHANATVNNATLNGNVHLTDSAQFSLKNSHFWHQIQGDKDTTVTLENATWTMPSDTTLQN 852

orf1   159 LNLDNATITLNSAYRHDAAGAQTGSATDAPXXXXXXXXXXLLXVTPPTSVESRFNTLTVN 218
           L L+N+T+TLNSAY        + S+ +AP          L   T PTS E RFNTLTVN
hap    853 LTLNNSTVTLNSAY--------SASSNNAPRHRRS-----LETETTPTSAEHRFNTLTVN 899

orf1   219 GKLNGQGTFRFMSELFGYRSDKLKLAESSEGTYTLAVNNTGNEPASLEQLTVVEGKDNKP 278
           GKL+GQGTF+F S LFGY+SDKLKL+  +EG YTL+V NTG EP +LEQLT++E  DNKP
hap    900 GKLSGQGTFQFTSSLFGYKSDKLKLSNDAEGDYTLSVRNTGKEPVTLEQLTLIESLDNKP 959

orf1   279 LSENLNFTLQNEHVDAGA 296
           LS+ L FTL+N+HVDAGA
hap    960 LSDKLKFTLENDHVDAGA 977
```

Amino acids 1192-1450 of ORF1 show 41% aa identity with hap protein in 259aa overlap:

```
Orf1    1    LDRVFAEDRRNAVWTSGIRDTKHYRSQDFRAYRQQTDLRQIGMQKNLGSGRVGILFSHNR 60
             LDR+F +  ++AVWT+  +D + Y S  FRAY+Q+T+LRQIG+QK L +GR+G +FSH+R
hap    1135 LDRLFVDQAQSAVWTNIAQDKRRYDSDAFRAYQQKTNLRQIGVQKALANGRIGAVFSHSR 1194

orf1   61   TENTFDDGIGNSARLAHGAVFGQYGIDRFYXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXIGXKXRRRVLHYG 120
            ++NTFD+ + N A L   + F QY                          K  R+ ++YG
hap    1195 SDNTFDEQVKNHATLTMMSGFAQYQWGDLQFGVNVGTGISASKMAEEQSRKIHRKAINYG 1254

orf1   121  IQARYRAGFGGFGIEPHIGATRYFVQKADYRYENVNIATPGLAFNRYRAGIKADYSFKPA 180
            + A Y+   G  GI+P+ G  RYF+++ +Y+ E V + TP LAFNRY AGI+ DY+F P
hap    1255 VNASYQFRLGQLGIQPYFGVNRYFIERENYQSEEVRVKTPSLAFNRYNAGIRVDYTFTPT 1314

orf1   181  QHISITPYLSLSYTDAASGKVRTRVNTAVLAQDFGKTRSAEWGVNAEIKGFTLSLHAAAA 240
             +IS+ PY  ++Y D ++  V+T VN  VL Q FG+    E G+ AEI  F +S   + +
hap    1315 DNISVKPYFFVNYVDVSNANVQTTVNLTVLQQPFGRYWQKEVGLKAEILHFQISAFISKS 1374

orf1   241  KGPQLEAQHSAGIKLGYRW 259
            +G QL  Q + G+KLGYRW
hap    1375 QGSQLGKQQNVGVKLGYRW 1393
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

The blocks of ORF1 show 83.5%, 88.3%, and 97.7% identities in 467, 298, and 259 aa overlap, respectively with a predicted ORF (ORF1ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf1.pep   MKTTDKRTTETHRKAPKTGRIRFXAAYLAICLSFGILPQAWAGHTYFGINYQYYRDFAEN   60
           ||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||
orf1ng     MKTTDKRTTETHRKAPKTGRIRFSPAYLAICLSFGILPQARAGHTYFGINYQYYRDFAEN   60

orf1.pep   KGKFAVGAKDIEVYNKKGELVGKSMTKAPMIDFSVVSRNGVAALVGVQYIVSVAHNGGYN  120
           ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:| ||||||||||||
orf1ng     KGKFAVGAKDIEVYNKKGELVGKSMTKAPMIDFSVVSRNGVAALAGDQYIVSVAHNGGYN  120

orf1.pep   NVDFGAEGXNIXDQXRXTYKIVKRNNYKAGTKGHPYGGDYHMPRLHKXVTDAEPVEMTSY  180
           |||||||| |  || | :|:|||||||||||:|||||||||||||| ||||||||||||
orf1ng     NVDFGAEGSN-PDQHRFSYQIVKRNNYKAGTNGHPYGGDYHMPRLHKFVTDAEPVEMTSY  179

orf1.pep   MDGRKYIDQNNYPDRVRIGAGRQYWRSDEDEPNNRESSYHIAS----------------- 223
           ||| || | |:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf1ng     MDGWKYADLNKYPDRVRIGAGRQYWRSDEDEPNNRESSYHIASAYSWLVGGNTFAQNGSG 239

orf1.pep   ---------------------------GSPMFIYDAQKQKWLINGVLQTGNPYIGKSNG 255
                                       ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf1ng     GGTVNLGSEKIKHSPYGFLPTGGSFGDSGSPMFIYDAQKQKWLINGVLQTGNPYIGKSNG 289

orf1.pep   FQLVRKDWFYDEIFAGDTHSVFYEPRQNGKYSFNDDNNGTGKINAKHEHNSLPNRLKTRT 315
           |||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||| |||:|||:|||:|||:| ||| ||||||
orf1ng     FQLVRKDWFYDEIFAGDTHSVFYEPHQNGKYFFNDNNNGAGKIDAKHKHYSLPYRLKTRT 359

orf1.pep   VQLFNVSLSETAREPVYHAAGGVNSYRPRLNNGENISFIDEGKGELILTSNINQGAGGLY 375
           ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||
orf1ng     VQLFNVSLSETAREPVYHAAGGVNSYRPRLNNGENISFIDKGKGELILTSNINQGAGGLY

orf1.pep   FQGDFTVSPENNETWQGAGVHISEDSTVTWKVNGVANDRLSKIGKGT               422
           |:|:|||||:|||||||||||||: ||||||||||||||||||||
orf1ng     FEGNFTVSPKNNETWQGAGVHISDGSTVTWKVNGVANDRLSKIGKGTLLVQAKGENQGSV 479
                                     //
orf1.pep                                    DKVTASLTKTDISGNVDLADHAHLNLTGLA 744
                                            ||| |||:|||: |||:||||||||||||||
orf1ng     FGVAPHQSHTICTRSDWTGLTSCTEKTITDDKVIASLSKTDVRGNVSLADHAHLNLTGLA 774

orf1.pep   TLNGNLSANGDTR-YTVSHNATQNGNXSLVXNAQATFNQATLNGNTSASGNASFNLSDHA 803
           |:|||| ::::|| : ||||||| ||| |||||||||||||||| |||||||::|
orf1ng     TFNGNL-VQAETRTIRLRANATQNGNLSLVGNAQATFNQATLNGNTSASDNASFNLSNNA 833

orf1.pep   VQNGSLTLSGNAKANVSHSALNGNVSLADKAVFHFESSRFTGQISGGKDTALHLKDSEWT 863
           |||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||:||||||||||||||||||
orf1ng     VQNGSLTLSDNAKANVSHSALNGNVSLADKAVFHFENSRFTGKISGGKDTALHLKDSEWT 893

orf1.pep   LPSGXELGNLNLDNATITLNSAYRHDAAGAQTGSATDAPRRRSRRSRRSLLXVTPPTSVE 923
           ||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||   || ||||||:|
orf1ng     LPSGTELGNLNLDNATITLNSAYRHDAAGAQTGSAADAPRRRSRRS---LLSVTPPTSAE 950

orf1.pep   SRFNTLTVNGKLNGQGTFRFMSELFGYRSDKLKLAESSEGTYTLAVNNTGNEPASLEQLT 983
           |||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||:||||||
orf1ng     SRFNTLTVNGKLNGQGTFRFMSELFGYRSGKLKLAESSEGTYTLAVNNTGNEPVSLEQLT 1010

orf1.pep   VVEGKDNKPLSENLNFTLQNEHVDAGAW                                  1011
           ||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||
orf1ng     VVEGKDNTPLSENLNFTLQNEHVDAGAWRYQLIRKDGEFRLHNPVKEQELSDKLGKAGET 1070
                                     //
orf1.pep                                    LDRVFAEDRRNAVWTSGIRDTKHYRSQDFR 1211
                                            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf1ng     PQRDLISRYANSGLSEFSATLNSVFAVQDELDRVFAEDRRNAVWTSGIRDTKHYRSQDFR 1239

orf1.pep   AYRQQTDLRQIGMQKNLGSGRVGILFSHNRTENTFDDGIGNSARLAHGAVFGQYGIDRFY 1271
           |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||| ||
orf1ng     AYRQQTDLRQIGMQKNLGSGRVGILFSHNRTGNTFDDGIGNSARLAHGAVFGQYGIGRFD 1299
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orf1.pep    IGISAGAGFSSGSLSDGIGXKXRRRVLHYGIQARYRAGFGGFGIEPHIGATRYFVQKADY 1331
            ||||||||||||||||||  | ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf1ng      IGISAGAGFSSGSLSDGIRGKIRRRVLHYGIQARYRAGFGGFGIEPHIGATRYFVQKADY 1359

orf1.pep    RYENVNIATPGLAFNRYRAGIKADYSFKPAQHISITPYLSLSYTDAASGKVRTRVNTAVL 1391
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf1ng      RYENVNIATPGLAFNRYRAGIKADYSFKPAQHISITPYLSLSYTDAASGKVRTRVNTAVL 1419

orf1.pep    AQDFGKTRSAEWGVNAEIKGFTLSLHAAAAKGPQLEAQHSAGIKLGYRW 1440
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf1ng      AQDFGKTRSAEWGVNAEIKGFTLSLHAAAAKGPQLEAQHSAGIKLGYRW 1468
```

The complete length ORF1ng nucleotide sequence was identified <SEQ ID 653>:

```
   1 ATGAAAACAA CCGACAAACG GACAACCGAA ACACACCGCA AAGCCCCTAA
  51 AACCGGCCGC ATCCGCTTCT CGCCCGCTTA CTTAGCCATA TGCCTGTCGT
 101 TCGGCATTCT GCCCCAAGCC CGGGCGGGAC ACACTTATTT CGGCATCAAC
 151 TACCAATACT ATCGCGACTT TGCCGAAAAT AAAGGCAAGT TTGCAGTCGG
 201 GGCGAAAGAT ATTGAGGTTT ACAACAAAAA AGGGGAGTTG GTCGGCAAAT
 251 CGATGACGAA AGCCCCGATG ATTGATTTTT CTGTGGTATC GCGTAACGGC
 301 GTGGCGGCAT TGGCGGGCGA TCAATATATT GTGAGCGTGG CACATAACGG
 351 CGGCTATAAC AATGTTGATT TTGGTGCGGA GGGAAGCAAT CCCGATCAGC
 401 ACCGCTTTTC TTACCAAATT GTGAAAAGAA ATAATTATAA AGCAGGGACT
 451 AACGGCCATC CTTATGGCGG CGATTATCAT ATGCCGCGTT TGCACAAATT
 501 TGTCACAGAT GCAGAACCTG TTGAGATGAC CAGTTATATG GATGGGTGGA
 551 AATACGCTGA TTTAAATAAA TACCCTGATC GTGTTCGAAT CGGAGCAGGC
 601 AGACAATATT GGCGGTCTGA TGAAGACGAA CCCAATAACC GCGAAAGTTC
 651 ATATCATATT GCAAGCGCAT ATTCTTGGCT CGTCGGTGGC AATACCTTTG
 701 CACAAAATGG ATCAGGTGGT GGCACAGTCA ACTTAGGTAG CGAAAAAATT
 751 AAACATAGCC CATATGGTTT TTTACCAACA GGAGGCTCAT TTGGCGACAG
 801 TGGCTCACCA ATGTTTATCT ATGATGCCCA AAAGCAAAAG TGGTTAATTA
 851 ATGGGGTATT GCAAACAGGC AACCCCTATA TAGGAAAAAG CAATGGCTTC
 901 CAGCTAGTTC GTAAAGATTG GTTCTATGAT GAAATCTTTG CTGGAGATAC
 951 CCATTCAGTA TTCTACGAAC CACATCAAAA TGGGAAATAC TTTTTTAACG
1001 ACAATAATAA TGGCGCAGGA AAAATCGATG CCAAACATAA ACACTATTCT
1051 CTACCTTATA GATTAAAAAC ACGAACCGTT CAATTGTTTA ATGTTTCTTT
1101 ATCCGAGACA GCAAGAGAAC CTGTTTATCA TGCTGCAGGT GGGGTCAACA
1151 GTTATCGACC CAGACTGAAT AATGGAGAAA ATATTTCCTT TATTGACAAA
1201 GGAAAAGGTG AATTGATACT TACCAGCAAC ATCAACCAAG GCGCGGGCGG
1251 TTTGTATTTT GAGGGTAATT TTACGGTCTC GCCTAAAAAC AACGAAACGT
1301 GGCAAGGCGC GGGCGTTCAT ATCAGTGATG GCAGTACCGT TACTTGGAAA
1351 GTAAACGGCG TGGCAAACGA CCGCCTGTCC AAAATCGGCA AAGGCACGCT
1401 GCTGGTTCAA GCCAAAGGGG AAAACCAAGG CTCGGTCAGC GTGGGCGACG
1451 GTAAAGTCAT CTTAGATCAG CAGGCGGACG ATCAAGGCAA AAAACAAGCC
1501 TTTAGTGAAA TCGGCTTGGT CAGCGGCAGG GGGACGGTGC AACTGAATGC
1551 CGATAATCAG TTCAACCCCG ACAAACTCTA TTTCGGCTTT CGCGGCGGAC
1601 GTTTGGATTT GAACGGGCAT TCGCTTTCGT TCCACCGCAT TCAAAATACC
1651 GATGAAGGGG CGATGATTGT CAACCACAAT CAAGACAAAG AATCCACCGT
1701 TACCATTACA GGCAATAAAG ATATTACTAC AACCGGCAAT AACAACAACT
1751 TGGATAGCAA AAAAGAAATT GCCTACAACG GTTGGTTTGG CGAGAAAGAT
1801 GCAACCAAAA CGAACGGGCG GCTCAATCTG AATTACCAAC CGGAAGAAGC
1851 GGATCGCACT TTACTGCTTT CCGGCGGAAC AAATTTAAAC GGCAATATCA
1901 CGCAAACAAA CGGCAAACTG TTTTTCAGCG GCAGACCGAC ACCGCACGCC
1951 TACAATCATT TAGGAAGCGG GTGGTCAAAA ATGGAAGGTA TCCCACAAGG
2001 AGAAATCGTG TGGGACAACG ATTGGATCGA CCGCACATTT AAAGCGGAAA
2051 ACTTCCATAT TCAGGGCGGA CAAGCGGTGG TTTCCCGCAA TGTTGCCAAA
2101 GTGGAAGGCG ATTGGCATTT AAGCAATCAC GCCCAAGCAG TTTTCGGTGT
2151 CGCACCGCAT CAAAGCCACA CAATCTGTAC ACGTTCGGAC TGGACGGGTC
2201 TGACAAGTTG TACCGAAAAA ACCATTACCG ACGATAAAGT GATTGCTTCA
2251 TTGAGCAAGA CCGACATCAG AGGCAATGTC AGCCTTGCCG ATCACGCTCA
2301 TTTAAATCTC ACAGGACTTG CCACACTCAA CGGCAATCTT AGTGCAGGCG
2351 GAGACACGCA CTATACGGTT ACGCGCAACG CCACCCAAAA CGGCAACCTC
2401 AGCCTCGTGG GCAATGCCCA AGCAACATTT AATCAAGCCA CATTAAACGG
2451 CAACACATCG GCTTCGGACA ATGCTTCATT TAATCTAAGC AACAACGCCG
2501 TACAAAACGG CAGTCTGACG CTTTCCGACA ACGCTAAGGC AAACGTAAGC
2551 CATTCCGCAC TCAACGGCAA TGTCTCCCTA GCCGATAAGG CAGTATTCCA
2601 TTTTGAAAAC AGCCGCTTTA CCGGAAAAAT CAGCGGCGGC AAGGATACGG
2651 CATTACACTT AAAAGACAGC GAATGGACGC TGCCGTCGGG CACGGAATTA
2701 GGCAATTTAA ACCTTGACAA CGCCACCATT ACACTCAATT CCGCCTATCG
2751 ACACGATGCG GCAGGCGCGC AAACCGGCAG TGCGGCAGAT GCGCCGCGCC
2801 GCCGTTCGCG CCGTTCCCTA TTATCCGTTA CGCCGCCAAC TTCGGCAGAA
2851 TCCCGTTTCA ACACGCTGAC GGTAAACGGC AAATTGAACG GTCAGGGAAC
```

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2901  ATTCCGCTTT ATGTCGGAAC TCTTCGGCTA CCGCAGCGGC AAATTGAAGC
2951  TGGCGGAAAG TTCCGAAGGC ACTTACACCT TGGCTGTCAA CAATACCGGC
3001  AACGAACCGG TAAGTCTCGA GCAATTGACG GTAGTGCAAG GAAAAGACAA
3051  CACACCGCTG TCCGAAAATC TTAATTTCAC CCTGCaaaAc gaacacgtcg
3101  atgccggcgc atggCGTTAT CAGCTTATCC gcaaagacgG CGAGTTCCgc
3151  CTGCATAATC CGGTCAAAGA ACAAGAGCTT TCCGACAAAC TCGGCAAGgc
3201  gggagaaACA GAggccgccT TGACGGCAAA ACAGGCacaA CTTGCCGCCA
3251  AAcaacaggc ggaaaAAGAC AACgcgcaaa gccttgAcgc gctgattgcg
3301  gCcgggcgca atgccaccga AAAGGCAgaa agtgttgccg aaccgGCCCG
3351  GCAGGCAGGC GGGGAAAAtg ccgGCATTAT GCAGGCGGAG GAAGAGAAAA
3401  AACGGGTGCA GGCGGATAAA GACACCGCCT TGGCGAAACA GCGCGAAGCG
3451  GAAACCCGGC CGGCTACCAC CGCCTTCCCC CGCGCCCGCC GCGCCCGCCG
3501  GGATTTGCCG CAACCGCAGC CCCAACCGCA ACCCCAACCG CAGCGCGACC
3551  TGATCAGCCG TTATGCCAAT AGCGGTTTGA GTGAATTTTC CGCCACGCTC
3601  AACAGCGTTT TCGCCGTACA GGACGAATTG GACCGCGTGT TTGCCGAAGA
3651  CCGCCGCAAC GCCGTTTGGA CAAGCGGCAT CCGGGACACC AAACACTACC
3701  GTTCGCAAGA TTTCCGCGCC TACCGCCAAC AAACCGACCT GCGCCAAATC
3751  GGTATGCAGA AAAACCTCGG CAGCGGGCGC GTCGGCATCC TGTTTTCGCA
3801  CAACCGGACC GGAAACACCT TCGACGACGG CATCGGCAAC TCGGCACGGC
3851  TTGCCCACGG TGCCGTTTTC GGGCAATACG GCATCGGCAG GTTCGACATC
3901  GGCATCAGCG CGGGCGCGGG TTTTAGTAGC GGCAGCCTTT CAGACGGCAT
3951  CAGAGGCAAA ATCCGCCGCC GCGTGCTGCA TTACGGCATT CAGGCAAGAT
4001  ACCGCGCAGG TTTCGGCGGA TTCGGCATCG AACCGCACAT CGGCGCAACG
4051  CGCTATTTCG TCCAAAAAGC GGATTACCGA TACGAAAACG TCAATATCGC
4101  CACCCCGGGC CTTGCATTCA ACCGCTACCG CGCGGGCATT AAGGCAGATT
4151  ATTCATTCAA ACCGGCGCAA CACATTTCCA TCACGCCTTA TTTGAGCCTG
4201  TCCTATACCG ATGCCGCTTC CGGCAAAGTC CGAACGCGCG TCAATACCGC
4251  CGTATTGGCG CAGGATTTCG GCAAAACCCG CAGTGCGGAA TGGGGCGTAA
4301  ACGCCGAAAT CAAAGGTTTC ACGCTGTCCC TCCACGCTGC CGCCGCCAAG
4351  GGGCCGCAAT TGGAAGCGCA GCACAGCGCG GGCATCAAAT TAGGCTACCG
4401  CTGGTAA
```

This is predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 654>:

```
1    MKTTDKRTTE THRKAPKTGR IRFSPAYLAI CLSFGILPQA RAGHTYFGIN
51   YQYYRDFAEN KGKFAVGAKD IEVYNKKGEL VGKSMTKAPM IDFSVVSRNG
101  VAALAGDQYI VSVAHNGGYN NVDFGAEGSN PDQHRFSYQI VKRNNYKAGT
151  NGHPYGGDYH MPRLHKFVTD AEPVEMTSYM DGWKYADLNK YPDRVRIGAG
201  RQYWRSDEDE PNNRESSYHI ASAYSWLVGG NTFAQNGSGG GTVNLGSEKI
251  KHSPYGFLPT GGSFGDSGSP MFIYDAQKQK WLINGVLQTG NPYIGKSNGF
301  QLVRKDWFYD EIFAGDTHSV FYEPHQNGKY FFNDNNNGAG KIDAKHKHYS
351  LPYRLKTRTV QLFNVSLSET AREPVYHAAG GVNSYRPRLN NGENISFIDK
401  GKGELILTSN INQGAGGLYF EGNFTVSPKN NETWQGAGVH ISDGSTVTWK
451  VNGVANDRLS KIGKGTLLVQ AKGENQGSVS VGDGKVILDQ QADDQGKKQA
501  FSEIGLVSGR GTVQLNADNQ FNPDKLYFGF RGGRLDLNGH SLSFHRIQNT
551  DEGAMIVNHN QDKESTVTIT GNKDITTTGN NNNLDSKKEI AYNGWFGEKD
601  ATKTNGGLNL NYPPEEADRT LLLSGGTNLN GNITQTNGKL FFSGRPTPHA
651  YNHLGSGWSK MEGIPQGEIV WDNDWIDRTF KAENFHIQGG QAVVSRNVAK
701  VEGDWHLSNH AQAVFGVAPH QSHTICTRSD WTGLTSCTEK TITDDKVIAS
751  LSKTDVRGNV SLADHAHLNL TGLATFNGNL VQAETRTIRL RANATQNGNL
801  SLVGNAQATF NQATLNGNTS ASDNASFNLS NNAVQNGSLT LSDNAKANVS
851  HSALNGNVSL ADKAVFHFEN SRFTGKISGG KDTALHLKDS EWTLPSGTEL
901  GNLNLDNATI TLNSAYRHDA AGAQTGSAAD APRRRSRRSL LSVTPPTSAE
951  SRFNTLTVNG KLNGQGTFRF MSELFGYRSG KLKLAESSEG TYTLAVNNTG
1001 NEPVSLEQLT VVEGKDNTPL SENLNFTLQN EHVDAGAWRY QLIRKDGEFR
1051 LHNPVKEQEL SDKLGKAGET EAALTAKQAQ LAAKQQAEKD NAQSLDALIA
1101 AGRNATEKAE SVAEPARQAG GENAGIMQAE EEKKRVQADK DTALAKQREA
1151 ETRPATTAFP RARRARRDLP QPQPQPQPQP QRDLISRYAN SGLSEFSATL
1201 NSVFAVQDEL DRVFAEDRRN AVWTSGIRDT KHYRSQDFRA YRQQTDLRQI
1251 GMQKNLGSGR VGILFSHNRT GNTFDDGIGN SARLAHGAVF GQYGIGRFDI
1301 GISAGAGFSS GSLSDGIRGK IRRRVLHYGI QARYRAGFGG FGIEPHIGAT
1351 RYFVQKADYR YENVNIATPG LAFNRYRAGI KADYSFKPAQ HISITPYLSL
1401 SYTDAASGKV RTRVNTAVLA QDFGKTRSAE WGVNAEIKGF TLSLHAAAAK
1451 GPQLEAQHSA GIKLGYRW*
```

Underlined and double-underlined sequences represent the active site of a serine protease (trypsin family) and an ATP/GTP-binding site motif A (P-loop).

ORF1-1 and ORF1ng show 93.7% identity in 1471 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf1-1.pep      MKTTDKRTTETHRKAPKTGRIRFSPAYLAICLSFGILPQAWAGHTYFGINYQYYRDFAEN
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||
orf1ng-1        MKTTDKRTTETHRKAPKTGRIRFSPAYLAICLSFGILPQARAGHTYFGINYQYYRDFAEN
                        10        20        30        40        50        60

                        70        80        90       100       110       120
orf1-1.pep      KGKFAVGAKDIEVYNKKGELVGKSMTKAPMIDFSVVSRNGVAALVGDQYIVSVAHNGGYN
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||
orf1ng-1        KGKFAVGAKDIEVYNKKGELVGKSMTKAPMIDFSVVSRNGVAALAGDQYIVSVAHNGGYN
                        70        80        90       100       110       120

                       130       140       150       160       170       180
orf1-1.pep      NVDFGAEGRNPDQHRFTYKIVKRNNYKAGTKGHPYGGDYHMPRLHKFVTDAEPVEMTSYM
                |||||||| |||||||:|:||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf1ng-1        NVDFGAEGSNPDQHRFSYQIVKRNNYKAGTNGHPYGGDYHMPRLHKFVTDAEPVEMTSYM
                       130       140       150       160       170       180

                       190       200       210       220       230       240
orf1-1.pep      DGRKYIDQNNYPDRVRIGAGRQYWRSDEDEPNNRESSYHIASAYSWLVGGNTFAQNGSGG
                || || | |:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf1ng-1        DGWKYADLNKYPDRVRIGAGRQYWRSDEDEPNNRESSYHIASAYSWLVGGNTFAQNGSGG
                       190       200       210       220       230       240

                       250       260       270       280       290       300
orf1-1.pep      GTVNLGSEKIKHSPYGFLPTGGSFGDSGSPMFIYDAQKQKWLINGVLQTGNPYIGKSNGF
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf1ng-1        GTVNLGSEKIKHSPYGFLPTGGSFGDSGSPMFIYDAQKQKWLINGVLQTGNPYIGKSNGF
                       250       260       270       280       290       300

                       310       320       330       340       350       360
orf1-1.pep      QLVRKDWFYDEIFAGDTHSVFYEPRQNGKYSFNDDNNGTGKINAKHEHNSLPNRLKTRTV
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||| |||:|||:|||:|||:| ||| |||||||
orf1ng-1        QLVRKDWFYDEIFAGDTHSVFYEPHQNGKYFFNDNNNGAGKIDAKHKHYSLPYRLKTRTV
                       310       320       330       340       350       360

                       370       380       390       400       410       420
orf1-1.pep      QLFNVSLSETAREPVYHAAGGVNSYRPRLNNGENISFIDEGKGELILTSNINQGAGGLYF
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||
orf1ng-1        QLFNVSLSETAREPVYHAAGGVNSYRPRLNNGENISFIDKGKGELILTSNINQGAGGLYF
                       370       380       390       400       410       420

                       430       440       450       460       470       480
orf1-1.pep      QGDFTVSPENNETWQGAGVHISEDSTVTWKVNGVANDRLSKIGKGTLHVQAKGENQGSIS
                :|:|||||:|||||||||||: |||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||:|
orf1ng-1        EGNFTVSPKNNETWQGAGVHISDGSTVTWKVNGVANDRLSKIGKGTLLVQAKGENQGSVS
                       430       440       450       460       470       480

                       490       500       510       520       530       540
orf1-1.pep      VGDGTVILDQQADDKGKKQAFSEIGLVSGRGTVQLNADNQFNPDKLYFGFRGGRLDLNGH
                |||| |||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf1ng-1        VGDGKVILDQQADDQGKKQAFSEIGLVSGRGTVQLNADNQFNPDKLYFGFRGGRLDLNGH
                       490       500       510       520       530       540

                       550       560       570       580       590       600
orf1-1.pep      SLSFHRIQNTDEGAMIVNHNQDKESTVTITGNKDIATTGNNNSLDSKKEIAYNGWFGEKD
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||:|||||||||||||||||
orf1ng-1        SLSFHRIQNTDEGAMIVNHNQDKESTVTITGNKDITTTGNNNNLDSKKEIAYNGWFGEKD
                       550       560       570       580       590       600

                       610       620       630       640       650       660
orf1-1.pep      TTKTNGRLNLVYQPAAEDRTLLLSGGTNLNGNITQTNGKLFFSGRPTPHAYNHLNDHWSQ
                :|||||||| |||   ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:: ||:
orf1ng-1        ATKTNGRLNLNYQPEEADRTLLLSGGTNLNGNITQTNGKLFFSGRPTPHAYNHLGSGWSK
                       610       620       630       640       650       660

                       670       680       690       700       710       720
orf1-1.pep      KEGIPRGEIVWDNDWINRTFKAENFQIKGGQAVVSRNVAKVKGDWHLSNHAQAVFGVAPH
                 ||||:|||||||||:|||||||:|:|||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||
orf1ng-1        MEGIPQGEIVWDNDWIDRTFKAENFHIQGGQAVVSRNVAKVEGDWHLSNHAQAVFGVAPH
                       670       680       690       700       710       720
```

```
                730        740        750        760        770        780
orf1-1.pep      QSHTICTRSDWTGLTNCVEKTITDDKVIASLTKTDISGNVDLADHAHLNLTGLATLNGNL
                ||||||||||||||||:|:||||||||||||||:|||:|||:||||||||||||||||||
orf1ng-1        QSHTICTRSDWTGLTSCTEKTITDDKVIASLSKTDIRGNVSLADHAHLNLTGLATLNGNL
                730        740        750        760        770        780

                790        800        810        820        830        840
orf1-1.pep      SANGDTRYTVSHNATQNGNLSLVGNAQATFNQATLNGNTSASGNASFNLSDHAVQNGSLT
                ||:|||:|||::|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||:|||||||||
orf1ng-1        SAGGDTHYTVTRNATQNGNLSLVGNAQATFNQATLNGNTSASDNASFNLSNNAVQNGSLT
                790        800        810        820        830        840

                850        860        870        880        890        900
orf1-1.pep      LSGNAKANVSHSALNGNVSLADKAVFHFESSRFTGQISGGKDTALHLKDSEWTLPSGTEL
                || |||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf1ng-1        LSDNAKANVSHSALNGNVSLADKAVFHFENSRFTGKISGGKDTALHLKDSEWTLPSGTEL
                850        860        870        880        890        900

                910        920        930        940        950        960
orf1-1.pep      GNLNLDNATITLNSAYRHDAAGAQTGSATDAPRRRSRRSRRSLLSVTPPTSVESRFNTLT
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||| |||||||||||:||||||||
orf1ng-1        GNLNLDNATITLNSAYRHDAAGAQTGSAADAPRRRSR---RSLLSVTPPTSAESRFNTLT
                910        920        930          940        950

                970        980        990       1000       1010       1020
orf1-1.pep      VNGKLNGQGTFRFMSELFGYRSDKLKLAESSEGTYTLAVNNTGNEPASLEQLTVVEGKDN
                |||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||
orf1ng-1        VNGKLNGQGTFRFMSELFGYRSGKLKLAESSEGTYTLAVNNTGNEPVSLEQLTVVEGKDN
                960        970        980        990       1000       1010

               1030       1040       1050       1060       1070
orf1-1.pep      KPLSENLNFTLQNEHVDAGAWRYQLIRKDGEFRLHNPVKEQELSDKLGKA----------
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf1ng-1        TPLSENLNFTLQNEHVDAGAWRYQLIRKDGEFRLHNPVKEQELSDKLGKAGETEAALTAK
               1020       1030       1040       1050       1060       1070

                    1080       1090       1100       1110       1120
orf1-1.pep      ----EAKKQAEKDNAQSLDALIAAGRDAVEKTESVAEPARQAGGENVGIMQAEEEKKRVQ
                    ||:|||||||||||||||:|:||:||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||
orf1ng-1        QAQLAAKQQAEKDNAQSLDALIAAGRNATEKAESVAEPARQAGGENAGIMQAEEEKKRVQ
               1080       1090       1100       1110       1120       1130

               1130       1140       1150       1160       1170       1180
orf1-1.pep      ADKDTALAKQREAETRPATTAFPRARRARRDLPQLQPQPQPQPQRDLISRYANSGLSEFS
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf1ng-1        ADKDTALAKQREAETRPATTAFPRARRARRDLPQPQPQPQPQPQRDLISRYANSGLSEFS
               1140       1150       1160       1170       1180       1190

               1190       1200       1210       1220       1230       1240
orf1-1.pep      ATLNSVFAVQDELDRVFAEDRRNAVWTSGIRDTKHYRSQDFRAYRQQTDLRQIGMQKNLG
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf1ng-1        ATLNSVFAVQDELDRVFAEDRRNAVWTSGIRDTKHYRSQDFRAYRQQTDLRQIGMQKNLG
               1200       1210       1220       1230       1240       1250

               1250       1260       1270       1280       1290       1300
orf1-1.pep      SGRVGILFSHNRTENTFDDGIGNSARLAHGAVFGQYGIDRFYIGISAGAGFSSGSLSDGI
                |||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||| || ||||||||||||||||||
orf1ng-1        SGRVGILFSHNRTGNTFDDGIGNSARLAHGAVFGQYGIGRFDIGISAGAGFSSGSLSDGI
               1260       1270       1280       1290       1300       1310

               1310       1320       1330       1340       1350       1360
orf1-1.pep      GGKIRRRVLHYGIQARYRAGFGGFGIEPHIGATRYFVQKADYRYENVNIATPGLAFNRYR
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf1ng-1        RGKIRRRVLHYGIQARYRAGFGGFGIEPHIGATRYFVQKADYRYENVNIATPGLAFNRYR
               1320       1330       1340       1350       1360       1370

               1370       1380       1390       1400       1410       1420
orf1-1.pep      AGIKADYSFKPAQHISITPYLSLSYTDAASGKVRTRVNTAVLAQDFGKTRSAEWGVNAEI
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf1ng-1        AGIKADYSFKPAQHISITPYLSLSYTDAASGKVRTRVNTAVLAQDFGKTRSAEWGVNAEI
               1380       1390       1400       1410       1420       1430
```

```
                1430      1440      1450
orf1-1.pep      KGFTLSLHAAAAKGPQLEAQHSAGIKLGYRWX
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf1ng-1        KGFTLSLHAAAAKGPQLEAQHSAGIKLGYRWX
              1440      1450      1460
```

In addition, ORF1ng shows 55.7% identity with hap protein (P45387) over a 1455aa overlap:

```
SCORES      Init1:  1104 Initn:  4632 Opt:  2680
Smith-Waterman score: 5165;    55.7% identity in 1455 aa overlap

                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf1ng-1.pep    MKTTDKRTTETHRKAPKTGRIRFSPAYLAICLSFGILPQARAGHTYFGINYQYYRDFAEN
                                        |   :|: |:|:||: || ||||||||:||||||||||
p45387                          MKKTVFRLNFLTACISLGIVSQAWAGHTYFGIDYQYYRDFAEN
                                       10        20        30        40

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf1ng-1.pep    KGKFAVGAKDIEVYNKKGELVGKSMTKAPMIDFSVVSRNGVAALAGDQYIVSVAHNGGYN
                ||||:|||::|:|||||:|:||| ||||||||||||||||||||: :|||||||||| ||:
p45387          KGKFTVGAQNIKVYNKQGQLVGTSMTKAPMIDFSVVSRNGVAALVENQYIVSVAHNVGYT
                     50        60        70        80        90       100

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf1ng-1.pep    NVDFGAEGSNPDQHRFSYQIVKRNNYKAGTNGHPYGGDYHMPRLHKFVTDAEPVEMTSYM
                :|||||||:|||||||:|:||||||||    | |||  ||| |||||||||:| |::||| |
p45387          DVDFGAEGNNPDQHRFTYKIVKRNNYKKD-NLHPYEDDYHNPRLHKFVTEAAPIDMTSNM
                    110       120       130       140       150       160

                   190       200       210       220       230       240
orf1ng-1.pep    DGWKYADLNKYPDRVRIGAGRQYWRSDEDEPNNRESSYHIASAYSWLVGGNTFAQNGSGG
                :|  |:| :|||:|||||:|||:||:|:|: :      ::|:|| :|::|||  | |:|:
p45387          NGSTYSDRTKYPERVRIGSGRQFWRNDQDKGD------QVAGAYHYLTAGNTHNQRGAGN
                    170       180       190             200       210

                   250       260       270       280       290       300
orf1ng-1.pep    GTVNLGSEKIKHSPYGFLPTGGSFGDSGSPMFIYDAQKQKWLINGVLQTGNPYIGKSNGF
                |   ||::  | : || || :|| ||||||||||||:||||||||:|: |||: || |||
p45387          GYSYLGGDVRKAGEYGPLPIAGSKGDSGSPMFIYDAEKQKWLINGILREGNPFEGKENGF
                 220       230       240       250       260       270

                   310       320       330       340       350       360
orf1ng-1.pep    QLVRKDWFYDEIFAGDTHSVFYEPHQNGKYFFNDNNNGAGKIDAKHKHYSLPYRLKTRTV
                ||||||:| |||| | |: :|    || | :: |:|| |:|  |    ::| ::|   :
p45387          QLVRKSYF-DEIFERDLHTSLYTRAGNGVYTISGNDNGQGSITQKS---GIPSEIK---I
                 280       290       300       310       320

                   370       380       390       400       410       419
orf1ng-1.pep    QLFNVSLSETAREPVYHAA-GGVNSYRPRLNNGENISFIDKGKGELILTSNINQGAGGLY
                 | |:||    :: |::    | | | |||||||:: |:|: :| ||::|:|||||||||
p45387          TLANMSLPLKEKDKVHNPRYDGPNIYSPRLNNGETLYFMDQKQGSLIFASDINQGAGGLY
               330       340       350       360       370       380

               420       430       440       450       460       470       479
orf1ng-1.pep    FEGNFTVSPKNNETWQGAGVHISDGSTVTWKVNGVANDRLSKIGKGTLLVQAKGENQGSV
                |||||||||::|:|||||||:|:|::|||||||||| :|||||||||| |||||||:||:
p45387          FEGNFTVSPNSNQTWQGAGIHVSENSTVTWKVNGVEHDRLSKIGKGTLHVQAKGENKGSI
               390       400       410       420       430       440

               480       490       500       510       520       530       539
orf1ng-1.pep    SVGDGKVILDQQADDQGKKQAFSEIGLVSGRGTVQLNADNQFNPDKLYFGFRGGRLDLNG
                |||||||||:|||||||:|||||||||||||||||| |:||: ||:|||||||||||||
p45387          SVGDGKVILEQQADDQGNKQAFSEIGLVSGRGTVQLNDDKQFDTDKFYFGFRGGRLDLNG
               450       460       470       480       490       500

               540       550       560       570       580       590
orf1ng-1.pep    HSLSFHRIQNTDEGAMIVNHNQDKESTVTITGNKDITT-TGNN-NNLDSKKEIAYNGWFG
                |||:|:|||||||||||||| : ::|||||||:|:  :||| |:|| :||||||||||
p45387          HSLTFKRIQNTDEGAMIVNHNTTQAANVTITGNESIVLPNGNNININKLDYRKEIAYNGWFG
               510       520       530       540       550       560
```

```
                600       610       620       630       640       650
orf1ng-1.pep    EKDATKTNGRLNLNYQPEEADRTLLLSGGTNLNGNITQTNGKLFFSGRPTPHAYNHLGSG
                                                                        
p45387          ETDKNKHNGRLNLIYKPTTEDRTLLLSGGTNLKGDITQTKGKLFFSGRPTPHAYNHLNKR
              570       580       590       600       610       620

                660       670       680       690       700       710
orf1ng-1.pep    WSKMEGIPQGEIVWDNDWIDRTFKAENFHIQGGQAVVSRNVAKVEGDWHLSNHAQAVFGV
                                                                        
p45387          WSEMEGIPQGEIVWDHDWINRTFKAENFQIKGGSAVVSRNVSSIEGNWTVSNNANATFGV
              630       640       650       660       670       680

                720       730       740       750       760       770
orf1ng-1.pep    APHQSHTICTRSDWTGLTSCTEKTITDDKVIASLSKTDIRGNVSLADHAHLNLTGLATLN
                                                                        
p45387          VPNQQNTICTRSDWTGLTTCQKVDLTDTKVINSIPKTQINGSINLTDNATANVKGLAKLN
              690       700       710       720       730       740

                780       790       800       810       820       830
orf1ng-1.pep    GNLSAGGDTHYTVTRNATQNGNLSLVGNAQATFNQATLNGNTSASDNASFNLSNNAVQNG
                                                                        
p45387          GNVTL-------------------------------------------TNHSQFTLSNNATQIG
              750                                                 760       770

                840       850       860       870       880       890
orf1ng-1.pep    SLTLSDNAKANVSHSALNGNVSLADKAVFHFENSRFTGKISGGKDTALHLKDSEWTLPSG
                                                                        
p45387          NIRLSDNSTATVDNANLNGNVHLTDSAQFSLKNSHFSHQIQGDKGTTVTLENATWTMPSD
                      780       790       800       810       820       830

                900       910       920       930       940       950
orf1ng-1.pep    TELGNLNLDNATITLNSAYRHDAAGAQTGSAADAPRRRSRRSLLSVTPPTSAESRFNTLT
                                                                        
p45387          TTLQNLTLNNSTITLNSAY--------SASSNNTPRRRS---LETETTPTSAEHRFNTLT
                      840               850       860       870

                960       970       980       990      1000      1010
orf1ng-1.pep    VNGKLNGQGTFRFMSELFGYRSGKLKLAESSEGTYTLAVNNTGNEPVSLEQLTVVEGKDN
                                                                        
p45387          VNGKLSGQGTFQFTSSLFGYKSDKLKLSNDAEGDYILSVRNTGKEPETLEQLTLVESKDN
              880       890       900       910       920       930

               1020      1030      1040      1050      1060      1070
orf1ng-1.pep    TPLSENLNFTLQNEHVDAGAWRYQLIRKDGEFRLHNPVKEQELSDKLGKAGETEAALTAK
                                                                        
p45387          QPLSDKLKFTLENDHVDAGALRYKLVKNDGEFRLHNPIKEQELHNDLVRAEQAERTLEAK
              940       950       960       970       980       990

               1080      1090      1100      1110      1120      1130
orf1ng-1.pep    QAQLAAKQQAEKDNAQSLDALIAAGRNAT-EKAESVAEPARQAGGENAGIMQAEEEKKRV
                                                                        
p45387          QVEPTAKTQTGEPKVRSRRAARAAFPDTLPDQSLLNALEAKQAE-LTAETQKSKAKTKKV
             1000      1010      1020      1030      1040      1050

                1140         1150      1160      1170      1180      1190
orf1ng-1.pep    QADK---DTALAKQREAETRPATTAFPRARRARRD-LPQPQPQPQPQPQRDLISRYANSG
                                                                        
p45387          RSKRAVFSDPLLDQSLFALEAALEVIDAPQQSEKDRLAQEEAEKQ-RKQKDLISRYSNSA
              1060      1070      1080      1090      1100      1110

                   1200      1210      1220      1230      1240      1250
orf1ng-1.pep    LSEFSATLNSVFAVQDELDRVFAEDRRNAVWTSGIRDTKHYRSQDFRAYRQQ-TDLRQIG
                                                                        
p45387          LSELSATVNSMLSVQDELDRLFVDQAQSAVWTNIAQDKRRYDSDAFRAYQQQKTNLRQIG
              1120      1130      1140      1150      1160      1170

                   1260      1270      1280      1290      1300      1310
orf1ng-1.pep    MQKNLGSGRVGILFSHNRTGNTFDDGIGNSARLAHGAVFGQYGIGRFDIGISAGAGFSSG
                                                                        
p45387          VQKALANGRIGAVFSHSRSDNTFDEQVKNHATLTMMSGFAQYQWGDLQFGVNVGTGISAS
              1180      1190      1200      1210      1220      1230
```

```
                    1320      1330      1340      1350      1360      1370
orf1ng-1.pep   SLSDGIRGKIRRRVLHYGIQARYRAGFGGFGIEPHIGATRYFVQKADYRYENVNIATPGL
               ::::    ||:|:::::||::| |:  :| :||:|::|::|||||::: :|: |:| : ||:|
p45387         KMAEEQSRKIHRKAINYGVNASYQFRLGQLGIQPYFGVNRYFIERENYQSEEVRVKTPSL
              1240      1250      1260      1270      1280      1290

                    1380      1390      1400      1410      1420      1430
orf1ng-1.pep   AFNRYRAGIKADYSFKPAQHISITPYLSLSYTDAASGKVRTRVNTAVLAQDFGKTRSAEW
               ||||| |||::||:| |:::||: ||: ::|:|:::::|:| || :|| | ||:  : |
p45387         AFNRYNAGIRVDYTFTPTDNISVKPYFFVNYVDVSNANVQTTVNLTVLQQPFGRYWQKEV
              1300      1310      1320      1330      1340      1350

                    1440      1450      1460     1469
orf1ng-1.pep   GVNAEIKGFTLSLHAAAAKGPQLEAQHSAGIKLGYRWX
               |::|||  | :|   : ::| ||  |:::|:||||||
p45387         GLKAEILHFQISAFISKSQGSQLGKQQNVGVKLGYRW
              1360      1370      1380      1390
```

Based on this analysis, it is predicted that these proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 78

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 655>:

```
   1  ..AAGGTGTGGC AATTTGTCGA AGA.CCGCTG CGTGCCGTCG TGCCTGCCGA
  51    CAGTTTTGAA CCGACCGCGC AAAAATTGAA CCTGTTTAAG GCGGGTGCGG
 101    CAACCATTTT GTTTTATGAA GATCAAAATG TCGTCAAAGG TTTGCAGGAG
 151    CAGTTCCCTG CTTATGCCGC TAACTTCCCC GTTTGGGCGg ATCAGGCAAA
 201    CGCGATGGTG CAGTATGCCG TTTGGACGAC ACTTGCCGCG GTCGGCGTAG
 251    GTGCAAACCT GCAACATTAC AATCCCTTGC CCGATGCGGC GATTGCCAAA
 301    GCGTGGAATA TCCCCGAAAA CTGGTTGTTG CGCGCACAAA TGGTTATCGG
 351    CGGTATTGAA GGGGCGGCAG GTGAAAAGAC CTTTGAACCC GTTGCAGAAC
 401    GTTTGAAAGT GTTCGGCGCA TAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 656; ORF6>:

```
   1  ..KVWQFVEXPL RAVVPADSFE PTAQKLNLFK AGAATILFYE DQNVVKGLQE
  51    QFPAYAANFP VWADQANAMV QYAVWTTLAA VGVGANLQHY NPLPDAAIAK
 101    AWNIPENWLL RAQMVIGGIE GAAGEKTFEP VAERLKVFGA *
```

Further sequence analysis revealed a further partial DNA sequence <SEQ ID 657>:

```
   1  ..CTGCGTGCCG TCGTGCCTGC CGACAGTTTT GAACCGACCG CGCAAAAATT
  51    GAACCTGTTT AAGGCGGGTG CGGCAACCAT TTTGTTTTAT GAAGATCAAA
 101    ATGTCGTCAA AGGTTTGCAG GAGCAGTTCC CTGCTTATGC CGCTAACTTC
 151    CCCGTTTGGG CGGATCAGGC AAACGCGATG GTGCAGTATG CCGTTTGGAC
 201    GACACTTGCC GCGGTCGGCG TAGGTGCAAA CCTGCAACAT TACAATCCCT
 251    TGCCCGATGC GGCGATTGCC AAAGCGTGGA ATATCCCCGA AAACTGGTTG
 301    TTGCGCGCAC AAATGGTTAT CGGCGGTATT GAAGGGGCGG CAGGTGAAAA
 351    GACCTTTGAA CCCGTTGCAG AACGTTTGAA AGTGTTCGGC GCATAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 658; ORF6-1>:

```
   1  ..LRAVVPADSF EPTAQKLNLF KAGAATILFY EDQNVVKGLQ EQFPAYAANF
  51    PVWADQANAM VQYAVWTTLA AVGVGANLQH YNPLPDAAIA KAWNIPENWL
 101    LRAQMVIGGI EGAAGEKTFE PVAERLKVFG A*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF6 shows 98.6% identity over a 140aa overlap with an ORF (ORF6a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                    10        20        30
```

```
orf6.pep                                              KVWQFVEXPLRAVVPADSFEPTAQKLNLFK
                                                      ||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||
orf6a          QIVEHAVLHTPSSFNSQSARVVVLFGEEHDKVWQFVEDALRAVVPADSFEPTAQKLNLFK
                      40        50        60        70        80        90

                       40        50        60        70        80        90
orf6.pep       AGAATILFYEDQNVVKGLQEQFPAYAANFPVWADQANAMVQYAVWTTLAAVGVGANLQHY
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf6a          AGAATILFYEDQNVVKGLQEQFPAYAANFPVWADQANAMVQYAVWTTLAAVGVGANLQHY
                     100       110       120       130       140       150

                     100       110       120       130       140
orf6.pep       NPLPDAAIAKAWNIPENWLLRAQMVIGGIEGAAGEKTFEPVAERLKVFGAX
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf6a          NPLPDAAIAKAWNIPENWLLRAQMVIGGIEGAAGEKTFEPVAERLKVFGAX
                     160       170       180       190       200
```

The complete length ORF6a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 659> is:

```
   1  ATGACCCGTC AATCTCTGCA ACAGGCTGCC GAAAGCCGCC GTTCCATTTA
  51  TTCGTTAAAT AAAAATCTGC CCGTCGGCAA AGATGAAATC GTCCAAATCG
 101  TCGAACACGC CGTTTTGCAC ACACCTTCTT CGTTCAATTC CCAATCTGCC
 151  CGTGTGGTCG TGCTGTTTGG CGAAGAGCAT GATAAGGTGT GGCAATTTGT
 201  CGAAGACGCG CTGCGTGCCG TCGTGCCTGC CGACAGTTTT GAACCGACCG
 251  CGCAAAAATT GAACCTGTTT AAGGCGGGTG CGGCAACTAT TTTGTTTTAT
 301  GAAGATCAAA ATGTCGTCAA AGGTTTGCAG GAGCAGTTCC CTGCTTATGC
 351  CGCCAACTTT CCCGTTTGGG CGGACCAGGC GAACGCGATG GTGCAGTATG
 401  CCGTTTGGAC GACACTTGCC GCGGTCGGCG TAGGTGCAAA CCTGCAACAT
 451  TACAATCCCT TGCCCGATGC GGCGATTGCC AAAGCGTGGA ATATCCCCGA
 501  AAACTGGTTG TTGCGCGCAC AAATGGTTAT CGGCGGTATT GAAGGGGCGG
 551  CAGGTGAAAA GACCTTTGAA CCAGTTGCAG AACGTTTGAA AGTGTTCGGC
 601  GCATAA
```

This is predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 660>:

```
   1  MTRQSLQQAA ESRRSIYSLN KNLPVGKDEI VQIVEHAVLH TPSSFNSQSA
  51  RVVVLFGEEH DKVWQFVEDA LRAVVPADSF EPTAQKLNLF KAGAATILFY
 101  EDQNVVKGLQ EQFPAYAANF PVWADQANAM VQYAVWTTLA AVGVGANLQH
 151  YNPLPDAAIA KAWNIPENWL LRAQMVIGGI EGAAGEKTFE PVAERLKVFG
 201  A*
```

ORF6a and ORF6-1 show 100.0% identity in 131 aa overlap:

```
                      50        60        70        80        90        100
orf6a.pep      TPSSFNSQSARVVVLFGEEHDKVWQFVEDALRAVVPADSFEPTAQKLNLFKAGAATILFY
                                                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf6-1                                           LRAVVPADSFEPTAQKLNLFKAGAATILFY
                                                        10        20        30

                     110       120       130       140       150       160
orf6a.pep      EDQNVVKGLQEQFPAYAANFPVWADQANAMVQYAVWTTLAAVGVGANLQHYNPLPDAAIA
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf6-1         EDQNVVKGLQEQFPAYAANFPVWADQANAMVQYAVWTTLAAVGVGANLQHYNPLPDAAIA
                      40        50        60        70        80        90

                     170       180       190       200
orf6a.pep      KAWNIPENWLLRAQMVIGGIEGAAGEKTFEPVAERLKVFGAX
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf6-1         KAWNIPENWLLRAQMVIGGIEGAAGEKTFEPVAERLKVFGAX
                     100       110       120       130
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF6 shows 95.7% identity over a 140aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF6ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf6.pep                                          KVWQFVEXPLRAVVPADSFEPTAQKLNLFK   30
                                                  |||||||  ||||||||||||||||||:|||
orf6ng        SNVSLDMSNPTVLRMGLPLYIASLRRGAIYKVWQFVEDALRAVVPADSFEPTAQKLKLFK   64

orf6.pep      AGAATILFYEDQNVVKGLQEQFPAYAANFPVWADQANAMVQYAVWTTLAAVGVGANLQHY   90
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||
orf6ng        AGAATILFYEDQNVVKGLQEQFPAYAANFPVWADQANAMVQYAVWTTLAAVGAGANLQHY  124

orf6.pep      NPLPDAAIAKAWNIPENWLLRAQMVIGGIEGAAGEKTFEPVAERLKVFGA  140
              |||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||
orf6ng        NPLPDVAIAKAWNIPENWLLRAQMVIGGIEGAAGEKVFEPVAERLKVFGA  174
```

The complete length ORF6ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 661> was identified as:

```
   1  ATGGCCGTTG CGTCAAATGT CAGCTTGGAT ATGTCCAATC CTACGGTGTT
  51  ACGCATGGGA TTACCCTTAT ATATTGCGTC CCTAAGAAGG GGCGCAATAT
 101  ATAAGGTGTG GCAATTTGTC GAAGACGCGC TGCGTGCCGT CGTGCCTGCC
 151  GACAGTTTTG AACCGACCGC GCAAAAATTG AAGCTGTTTA AGGCGGGCGC
 201  GGCAACCATT TTGTTTTATG AAGATCAAAA TGTCGTCAAA GGTTTGCAGG
 251  AGCAGTTCCC TGCTTATGCC GCCAACTTTC CCGTTTGGGC GGACCAGGCG
 301  AACGCTATGG TACAGTATGC CGTCTGGACG ACACTTGCCG CGGTCGGTGC
 351  AGGTGCAAAT CTGCAACATT ACAACCCCTT GCCCGATGTG GCGATTGCTA
 401  AAGCGTGGAA TATTCCCGAA AACTGGCTGT TGCGCGCGCA AATGGTTATC
 451  GGTGGTATTG AAGGGGcggc aggtgaaaaa gtctttgaac CCGTTGCgga
 501  acgtttgAAA GTGTTCGGCG CATAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 662>:

```
   1  MAVASNVSLD MSNPTVLRMG LPLYIASLRR GAIYKVWQFV EDALRAVVPA
  51  DSFEPTAQKL KLFKAGAATI LFYEDQNVVK GLQEQFPAYA ANFPVWADQA
 101  NAMVQYAVWT TLAAVGAGAN LQHYNPLPDV AIAKAWNIPE NWLLRAQMVI
 151  GGIEGAAGEK VFEPVAERLK VFGA*
```

ORF6ng and ORF6-1 show 96.9% identity in 131 aa overlap:

```
                                                  10        20        30
orf6-1.pep                                        LRAVVPADSFEPTAQKLNLFKAGAATILFY
                                                  |||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||
orf6ng        PTVLRMGLPLYIASLRRGAIYKVWQFVEDALRAVVPADSFEPTAQKLKLFKAGAATILFY
                   20        30        40        50        60        70

                        40        50        60        70        80        90
orf6-1.pep    EDQNVVKGLQEQFPAYAANFPVWADQANAMVQYAVWTTLAAVGVGANLQHYNPLPDAAIA
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||:|||
orf6ng        EDQNVVKGLQEQFPAYAANFPVWADQANAMVQYAVWTTLAAVGAGANLQHYNPLPDVAIA
                   80        90       100       110       120       130

                       100       110       120       130
orf6-1.pep    KAWNIPENWLLRAQMVIGGIEGAAGEKTFEPVAERLKVFGAX
              |||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||
orf6ng        KAWNIPENWLLRAQMVIGGIEGAAGEKVFEPVAERLKVFGAX
                  140       150       160       170
```

It is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 79

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 663>

```
   1  ..GGCTACAACT ACCTGTTCGC GCGCGGCAGC CGCATCGCCA ACTACCAAAT
  51    CAACGGCATC CCCGTTGCCG ACGCGCTGGC CGATACGGGt CAATGCCAAC
 101    ACCGCCGCCT ATGAGCGCGT AGAAGTCGTG CGCGGCGTGG CGGGGCTGCT
 151    GGACGGCACG GGCGAGCCTT CCGCCACCGT CAATCTGGTG CGCAAACGCC
 201    TGACCCGCAA GCCATTGTTT GAAGTCCGCG CCGAAGCgGG CAACCGcAAA
```

```
 251   CATTTCGGGC TGGACGCGGA CGTATCGGGC AGCCTGAACA CCGAAG.crC
 301   rCTGCGCgGC CGCCTGGTTT CCAcCTTCGG ACGCGGCGAC TCGTGGCGGC
 351   GGCGCGAACG CAGCCGskAT GCCGAACTCT ACGGCATTTT GGAATACGAC
 401   ATCGCACCGC AAACCCGCGT CCACGCArGC ATGGACTACC AGCAGGCGAA
 451   AGAAACCGCC GACGCGCCGC TCAGcTACGC CGTGTACGAC AGCCAAGGTT
 501   ATGCCACCGC CTTCGGCCCG AAAGACAACC CCGCCACAAA TTGGGCGAAC
 551   AGCCACCACC GTGCGCTCAA CCTGTTCGCC GGCATCGAAC ACCGCTTCAA
 601   CCAAGACTGG AAACTCAAAG CCGAATACGA CTAC..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 664; ORF23>:

```
   1   ..GYNYLFARGS RIANYQINGI PVADALADTG NANTAAYERV EVVRGVAGLL
  51     DGTGEPSATV NLVRKRLTRK PLFEVRAEAG NRKHFGLDAD VSGSLNTEXX
 101     LRGRLVSTFG RGDSWRRRER SRXAELYGIL EYDIAPQTRV HAXMDYQQAK
 151     ETADAPLSYA VYDSQGYATA FGPKDNPATN WANSHHRALN LFAGIEHRFN
 201     QDWKLKAEYD Y..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 665>:

```
   1   ATGACACGCT TCAAATATTC CCTGCTGTTT GCCGCCCTGT TGCCCGTGTA
  51   CGCGCAGGCC GATGTTTCTG TTTCAGACGA CCCCAAACCG CAGGAAAGCA
 101   CTGAATTGCC GACCATCACC GTTACCGCCG ACCGCACCGC GAGTTCCAAC
 151   GACGGCTACA CTGTTTCCGG CACGCACACC CCGCTCGGGC TGCCCATGAC
 201   CCTGCGCGAA ATCCCGCAGA GCGTCAGCGT CATCACATCG CAACAAATGC
 251   GCGACCAAAA CATCAAAACG CTCGACCGCG CCCTGTTGCA GGCGACCGGC
 301   ACCAGCCGCC AGATTTACGG CTCCGACCGC GCGGGCTACA ACTACCTGTT
 351   CGCGCGCGGC AGCCGCATCG CCAACTACCA AATCAACGGC ATCCCCGTTG
 401   CCGACGCGCT GGCCGATACG GGCAATGCCA ACACCGCCGC CTATGAGCGC
 451   GTAGAAGTCG TGCGCGGCGT GGCGGGGCTG CTGGACGGCA CGGGCGAGCC
 501   TTCCGCCACC GTCAATCTGG TGCGCAAACG CCTGACCCGC AAGCCATTGT
 551   TTGAAGTCCG CGCCGAAGCG GGCAACCGCA AACATTTCGG GCTGGACGCG
 601   GACGTATCGG GCAGCCTGAA CACCGAAGGC ACGCTGCGCG GCCGCCTGGT
 651   TTCCACCTTC GGACGCGGCG ACTCGTGGCG GCGGCGCGAA CGCAGCCGCG
 701   ATGCCGAACT CTACGGCATT TTGGAATACG ACATCGCACC GCAAACCCGC
 751   GTCCACGCAG GCATGGACTA CCAGCAGGCG AAAGAAACCG CCGACGCGCC
 801   GCTCAGCTAC GCCGTGTACG ACAGCCAAGG TTATGCCACC GCCTTCGGCC
 851   CGAAAGACAA CCCCGCCACA AATTGGGCGA ACAGCCGCCA CCGTGCGCTC
 901   AACCTGTTCG CCGGCATCGA ACACCGCTTC AACCAAGACT GGAAACTCAA
 951   AGCCGAATAC GACTACACCC GCAGCCGCTT CCGCCAGCCC TACGGCGTAG
1001   CAGGCGTGCT TTCCATCGAC CACAACACCG CCGCCACCGA CCTGATTCCC
1051   GGTTATTGGC ACGCCGACCC GCGCACCCAC AGCGCCAGCG TGTCATTGAT
1101   CGGCAAATAC CGCCTGTTCG GCCGCGAACA CGATTTAATC GCGGGTATCA
1151   ACGGTTACAA ATACGCCAGC AACAAATACG GCGAACGCAG CATCATCCCC
1201   AACGCCATTC CCAACGCCTA CGAATTTTCC CGCACGGGTG CCTACCCGCA
1251   GCCTGCATCG TTTGCCCAAA CCATCCCGCA ATACGGCACC AGGCGGCAAA
1301   TCGGCGGCTA TCTCGCCACC CGTTTCCGCG CCGCCGACAA CCTTTCGCTG
1351   ATTTTGGGCG GACGATACAC CCGTTACCGC ACCGGCAGCT ACGACAGCCG
1401   CACACAAGGC ATGACCTATG TGTCCGCCAA CCGTTTCACC CCCTACACAG
1451   GCATCGTGTT CGACCTGACC GGCAACCTGT CTCTTTACGG CTCGTACAGC
1501   AGCCTGTTCG TCCCGCAATC GCAAAAAGAC GAACACGGCA GCTACCTGAA
1551   ACCCGTAACC GGCAACAATC TGGAAGCCGG CATCAAAGGC GAATGGCTTG
1601   AAGGCCGTCT GAACGCATCC GCCGCCGTGT ACCGCGCCCG TAAAAACAAC
1651   CTCGCCACCG CAGCAGGACG CGACCCGAGC GGCAACACCT ACTACCGCGC
1701   CGCCAACCAA GCCAAAACCC ACGGCTGGGA AATCGAAGTC GGCGGCCGCA
1751   TCACGCCCGA ATGGCAGATA CAGGCAGGTT ACAGCCAAAG CAAAACCCGC
1801   GACCAAGACG GCAGCCGCCT GAACCCCGAC AGCGTACCCG AACGCAGCTT
1851   CAAACTCTTC ACTGCCTACC ACTTTGCCCC CGAAGCCCCC AGCGGCTGGA
1901   CCATCGGCGC AGGCGTGCGC TGGCAGAGCG AAACCCACAC CGACCCTGCC
1951   ACGCTCCGCA TCCCCAACCC CGCCGCCAAA GCCCGCGCCG CCGACAACAG
2001   CCGCCAAAAA GCCTACGCCG TCGCCGACAT CATGGCGCGT TACCGCTTCA
2051   ATCCGCGCGC CGAACTGTCG CTGAACGTGG ACAATCTGTT CAACAAACAC
2101   TACCGCACCC AGCCCGACCG CCACAGCTAC GGCGCACTGC GGACAGTGAA
2151   CGCGGCGTTT ACCTATCGGT TTAAATAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 666; ORF23-1>:

```
   1   MTRFKYSLLF AALLPVYAQA DVSVSDDPKP QESTELPTIT VTADRTASSN
  51   DGYTVSGTHT PLGLPMTLRE IPQSVSVITS QQMRDQNIKT LDRALLQATG
 101   TSRQIYGSDR AGYNYLFARG SRIANYQING IPVADALADT GNANTAAYER
 151   VEVVRGVAGL LDGTGEPSAT VNLVRKRLTR KPLFEVRAEA GNRKHFGLDA
 201   DVSGSLNTEG TLRGRLVSTF GRGDSWRRRE RSRDAELYGI LEYDIAPQTR
```

```
 251  VHAGMDYQQA KETADAPLSY AVYDSQGYAT AFGPKDNPAT NWANSRHRAL
 301  NLFAGIEHRF NQDWKLKAEY DYTRSRFRQP YGVAGVLSID HNTAATDLIP
 351  GYWHADPRTH SASVSLIGKY RLFGREHDLI AGINGYKYAS NKYGERSIIP
 401  NAIPNAYEFS RTGAYPQPAS FAQTIPQYGT RRQIGGYLAT RFRAADNLSL
 451  ILGGRYTRYR TGSYDSRTQG MTYVSANRFT PYTGIVFDLT GNLSLYGSYS
 501  SLFVPQSQKD EHGSYLKPVT GNNLEAGIKG EWLEGRLNAS AAVYRARKNN
 551  LATAAGRDPS GNTYYRAANQ AKTHGWEIEV GGRITPEWQI QAGYSQSKTR
 601  DQDGSRLNPD SVPERSFKLF TAYHFAPEAP SGWTIGAGVR WQSETHTDPA
 651  TLRIPNPAAK ARAADNSRQK AYAVADIMAR YRFNPRAELS LNVDNLFNKH
 701  YRTQPDRHSY GALRTVNAAF TYRFK*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with the ferric-pseudobactin receptor PupB of *Pseudomonas putida* (accession number P38047)

ORF23 and PupB protein show 32% aa identity in 205aa overlap:

```
Orf23   6   FARGSRIANYQINGIPVADALADTGNANTAAYERVEVVRGVAGLLDGTGEPSATVNLVRK 65
            ++RG  I NY+++G+P +  L D  + + A ++RVE+VRG  GL+ G G PSAT+NL+RK
PupB    215 WSRGFAIQNYEVDGVPTSTRL-DNYSQSMAMFDRVEIVRGATGLISGMGNPSATINLIRK 273

Orf23   66  RLTRKPLFEVRAEAGNRKHFGLDADVSGSLNTEXXLRGRLVSTFXXXXXXXXXXXXXXAE 125
            R T +    +  EAGN   +G   DVSG L     +RGR V+ +
PupB    274 RPTAEAQASITGEAGNWDRYGTGFDVSGPLTETGNIRGRFVADYKTEKAWIDRYNQQSQL 333

Orf23   126 LYGILEYDIAPQTRVHAXMDYQQAKETADAPLSYAVYD--SQGYATAFGPKDNPATNWAN 183
            +YGI E+D++  T +     Y   +   D+PL   +    S G  T      N A +W+
PupB    334 MYGITEFDLSEDTLLTVGFSY--LRSDIDSPLRSGLPTRFSTGERTNLKRSLNAAPDWSY 391

Orf23   184 SHHRALNLFAGIEHRFNQDWKLKAE 208
            + H   + F  IE +    W  K E
PupB    392 NDHEQTSFFTSIEQQLGNGWSGKIE 416
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF23 shows 95.7% identity over a 211aa overlap with an ORF (ORF23a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                                  10        20        30
orf23.pep                                        GYNYLFARGSRIANYQINGIPVADALADTG
                                                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf23a      QMRDQNIKALDRALLQATGTSRQIYGSDRAGYNYLFARGSRIANYQINGIPVADALADTG
                   90        100       110       120       130       140

                  40        50        60        70        80        90
orf23.pep   NANTAAYERVEVVRGVAGLLDGTGEPSATVNLVRKRLTRKPLFEVRAEAGNRKHFGLDAD
            |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||| ||
orf23a      NANTAAYERVEVVRGVAGLLDGTGEPSATVNLVRKRPTRKPLFEVRAEAGNRKHFGLGAD
                 150       160       170       180       190       200

                  100       110       120       130       140       150
orf23.pep   VSGSLNTEXXLRGRLVSTFGRGDSWRRRERSRXAELYGILEYDIAPQTRVHAXMDYQQAK
            |||||||:| :|||||||||||||||:||||| |||||||||||||||||| |||||||
orf23a      VSGSLNAEGTLRGRLVSTFGRGDSWRQRERSRDAELYGILEYDIAPQTRVHAGMDYQQAK
                 210       220       230       240       250       260

                  160       170       180       190       200       210
orf23.pep   ETADAPLSYAVYDSQGYATAFGPKDNPATNWANSHHRALNLFAGIEHRFNQDWKLKAEYD
            |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||
orf23a      ETADAPLSYAVYDSQGYATAFGPKDNPATNWANSRHRALNLFAGIEHRFNQDWKLKAEYD
                 270       280       290       300       310       320


orf23.pep   Y
            |
orf23a      YTRSRFRQPYGVAGVLSIDHNTAATDLIPGYWHADPRTHSASVSLIGKYRLFGREHDLIA
                 330       340       350       360       370       380
```

The complete length ORF23a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 667> is:

```
   1  ATGACACGCT TCAAATATTC CCTGCTGTTT GCCGCCCTGT TGCCCGTGTA
  51  CGCGCAGGCC GATGTTTCTG TTTCAGACGA CCCAAAACCG CAGGAAAGCA
 101  CTGAATTGCC GACCATCACC GTTACCGCCG ACCGCACCGC GAGTTCCAAC
 151  GACGGCTACA CTGTTTCCGG CACGCACACC CCGCTCGGGC TGCCCATGAC
 201  CCTGCGCGAA ATCCCGCAGA GCGTCAGCGT CATCACATCG CAACAAATGC
 251  GCGACCAAAA CATCAAAGCG CTCGACCGCG CCCTGTTGCA GGCGACCGGC
 301  ACCAGCCGCC AGATTTACGG CTCCGACCGC GCGGGCTACA ACTACCTGTT
 351  CGCGCGCGGC AGCCGCATCG CCAACTACCA AATCAACGGC ATCCCCGTTG
 401  CCGACGCGCT GGCCGATACG GGCAATGCCA ACACCGCCGC CTATGAGCGC
 451  GTAGAAGTCG TGCGCGGCGT GGCGGGGCTG CTGGACGGCA CGGGCGAGCC
 501  TTCCGCCACC GTCAATCTGG TGCGCAAACG CCCGACCCGC AAGCCATTGT
 551  TTGAAGTCCG CGCCGAAGCG GGCAACCGCA AACATTTCGG GCTGGGCGCG
 601  GACGTATCGG GCAGCCTGAA TGCCGAAGGC ACGCTGCGCG GCCGCCTGGT
 651  TTCCACCTTC GGACGCGGCG ACTCGTGGCG GCAGCGCGAA CGCAGCCGCG
 701  ATGCCGAACT CTACGGCATT TTGGAATACG ACATCGCACC GCAAACCCGC
 751  GTCCACGCAG GCATGGACTA CCAGCAGGCG AAAGAAACCG CCGACGCGCC
 801  GCTCAGCTAC GCCGTGTACG ACAGCCAAGG TTATGCCACC GCCTTCGGCC
 851  CGAAAGACAA CCCCGCCACA AATTGGGCGA ACAGCCGCCA CCGTGCGCTC
 901  AACCTGTTCG CCGGCATCGA ACACCGCTTC AACCAAGACT GGAAACTCAA
 951  AGCCGAATAC GACTACACCC GCAGCCGCTT CCGCCAGCCC TACGGCGTAG
1001  CAGGCGTGCT TTCCATCGAC CACAACACCG CCGCCACCGA CCTGATTCCC
1051  GGTTATTGGC ACGCCGACCC GCGCACCCAC AGCGCCAGCG TGTCATTAAT
1101  CGGCAAATAC CGCCTGTTCG GCCGCGAACA CGATTTAATC GCGGGTATCA
1151  ACGGTTACAA ATACGCCAGC AACAAATACG GCGAACGCAG CATCATCCCC
1201  AACGCCATTC CCAACGCCTA CGAATTTTCC CGCACGGGTG CCTACCCGCA
1251  GCCTGCATCG TTTGCCCAAA CCATCCCGCA ATACGGCACC AGGCGGCAAA
1301  TCGGCGGCTA TCTCGCCACC CGTTTCCGCG CCGCCGACAA CCTTTCGCTG
1351  ATACTCGGCG GCAGATACAG CCGTTACCGC ACCGGCAGCT ACGACAGCCG
1401  CACACAAGGC ATGACCTATG TGTCCGCCAA CCGTTTCACC CCCTACACAG
1451  GCATCGTGTT CGACCTGACC GGCAACCTGT CGCTTTACGG CTCGTACAGC
1501  AGCCTGTTCG TCCCGCAATC GCAAAAAGAC GAACACGGCA GCTACCTGAA
1551  ACCCGTAACC GGCAACAATC TGGAAGCCGG CATCAAAGGC GAATGGCTTG
1601  AAGGCCGTCT GAACGCATCC GCCGCCGTGT ACCGCGCCCG TAAAAACAAC
1651  CTCGCCACCG CAGCAGGACG CGACCCGAGC GGCAACACCT ACTACCGCGC
1701  CGCCAACCAA GCCAAAACCC ACGGCTGGGA AATCGAAGTC GGCGGCCGCA
1751  TCACGCCCGA ATGGCAGATA CAGGCAGGTT ACAGCCAAAG CAAAACCCGC
1801  GACCAAGACG GCAGCCGCCT GAACCCCGAC AGCGTACCCG AACGCAGCTT
1851  CAAACTCTTC ACTGCCTACC ACTTTGCCCC CGAAGCCCCC AGCGGCTGGA
1901  CCATCGGCGC AGGCGTGCGC TGGCAGAGCG AAACCCACAC CGACCCTGCC
1951  ACGCTCCGCA TCCCCAACCC CGCCGCCAAA GCCCGCGCCG CCGACAACAG
2001  CCGCCAAAAA GCCTACGCCG TCGCCGACAT CATGGCGCGT TACCGCTTCA
2051  ATCCGCGCGC CGAACTGTCG CTGAACGTGG ACAATCTGTT CAACAAACAC
2101  TACCGCACCC AGCCCGACCG CCACAGCTAC GGCGCACTGC GGACAGTGAA
2151  CGCGGCGTTT ACCTATCGGT TTAAATAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 668>:

```
   1  MTRFKYSLLF AALLPVYAQA DVSVSDDPKP QESTELPTIT VTADRTASSN
  51  DGYTVSGTHT PLGLPMTLRE IPQSVSVITS QQMRDQNIKA LDRALLQATG
 101  TSRQIYGSDR AGYNYLFARG SRIANYQING IPVADALADT GNANTAAYER
 151  VEVVRGVAGL LDGTGEPSAT VNLVRKRPTR KPLFEVRAEA GNRKHFGLGA
 201  DVSGSLNAEG TLRGRLVSTF GRGDSWRQRE RSRDAELYGI LEYDIAPQTR
 251  VHAGMDYQQA KETADAPLSY AVYDSQGYAT AFGPKDNPAT NWANSRHRAL
 301  NLFAGIEHRF NQDWKLKAEY DYTRSRFRQP YGVAGVLSID HNTAATDLIP
 351  GYWHADPRTH SASVSLIGKY RLFGREHDLI AGINGYKYAS NKYGERSIIP
 401  NAIPNAYEFS RTGAYPQPAS FAQTIPQYGT RRQIGGYLAT RFRAADNLSL
 451  ILGGRYSRYR TGSYDSRTQG MTYVSANRFT PYTGIVFDLT GNLSLYGSYS
 501  SLFVPQSQKD EHGSYLKPVT GNNLEAGIKG EWLEGRLNAS AAVYRARKNN
 551  LATAAGRDPS GNTYYRAANQ AKTHGWEIEV GGRITPEWQI QAGYSQSKTR
 601  DQDGSRLNPD SVPERSFKLF TAYHFAPEAP SGWTIGAGVR WQSETHTDPA
 651  TLRIPNPAAK ARAADNSRQK AYAVADIMAR YRFNPRAELS LNVDNLFNKH
 701  YRTQPDRHSY GALRTVNAAF TYRFK*
```

ORF23a and ORF23-1 show 99.2% identity in 725 aa overlap:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf23a.pep      MTRFKYSLLFAALLPVYAQADVSVSDDPKPQESTELPTITVTADRTASSNDGYTVSGTHT
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf23-1         MTRFKYSLLFAALLPVYAQADVSVSDDPKPQESTELPTITVTADRTASSNDGYTVSGTHT
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
```

```
                70        80        90       100       110       120
orf23a.pep      PLGLPMTLREIPQSVSVITSQQMRDQNIKALDRALLQATGTSRQIYGSDRAGYNYLFARG
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf23-1         PLGLPMTLREIPQSVSVITSQQMRDQNIKTLDRALLQATGTSRQIYGSDRAGYNYLFARG
                70        80        90       100       110       120

               130       140       150       160       170       180
orf23a.pep      SRIANYQINGIPVADALADTGNANTAAYERVEVVRGVAGLLDGTGEPSATVNLVRKRPTR
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||
orf23-1         SRIANYQINGIPVADALADTGNANTAAYERVEVVRGVAGLLDGTGEPSATVNLVRKRLTR
               130       140       150       160       170       180

               190       200       210       220       230       240
orf23a.pep      KPLFEVRAEAGNRKHFGLGADVSGSLNAEGTLRGRLVSTFGRGDSWRQRERSRDAELYGI
                |||||||||||||||||| ||||||||:||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||
orf23-1         KPLFEVRAEAGNRKHFGLDADVSGSLNTEGTLRGRLVSTFGRGDSWRRRERSRDAELYGI
               190       200       210       220       230       240

               250       260       270       280       290       300
orf23a.pep      LEYDIAPQTRVHAGMDYQQAKETADAPLSYAVYDSQGYATAFGPKDNPATNWANSRHRAL
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf23-1         LEYDIAPQTRVHAGMDYQQAKETADAPLSYAVYDSQGYATAFGPKDNPATNWANSRHRAL
               250       260       270       280       290       300

               310       320       330       340       350       360
orf23a.pep      NLFAGIEHRFNQDWKLKAEYDYTRSRFRQPYGVAGVLSIDHNTAATDLIPGYWHADPRTH
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf23-1         NLFAGIEHRFNQDWKLKAEYDYTRSRFRQPYGVAGVLSIDHNTAATDLIPGYWHADPRTH
               310       320       330       340       350       360

               370       380       390       400       410       420
orf23a.pep      SASVSLIGKYRLFGREHDLIAGINGYKYASNKYGERSIIPNAIPNAYEFSRTGAYPQPAS
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf23-1         SASVSLIGKYRLFGREHDLIAGINGYKYASNKYGERSIIPNAIPNAYEFSRTGAYPQPAS
               370       380       390       400       410       420

               430       440       450       460       470       480
orf23a.pep      FAQTIPQYGTRRQIGGYLATRFRAADNLSLILGGRYSRYRTGSYDSRTQGMTYVSANRFT
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf23-1         FAQTIPQYGTRRQIGGYLATRFRAADNLSLILGGRYTRYRTGSYDSRTQGMTYVSANRFT
               430       440       450       460       470       480

               490       500       510       520       530       540
orf23a.pep      PYTGIVFDLTGNLSLYGSYSSLFVPQSQKDEHGSYLKPVTGNNLEAGIKGEWLEGRLNAS
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf23-1         PYTGIVFDLTGNLSLYGSYSSLFVPQSQKDEHGSYLKPVTGNNLEAGIKGEWLEGRLNAS
               490       500       510       520       530       540

               550       560       570       580       590       600
orf23a.pep      AAVYRARKNNLATAAGRDPSGNTYYRAANQAKTHGWEIEVGGRITPEWQIQAGYSQSKTR
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf23-1         AAVYRARKNNLATAAGRDPSGNTYYRAANQAKTHGWEIEVGGRITPEWQIQAGYSQSKTR
               550       560       570       580       590       600

               610       620       630       640       650       660
orf23a.pep      DQDGSRLNPDSVPERSFKLFTAYHFAPEAPSGWTIGAGVRWQSETHTDPATLRIPNPAAK
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf23-1         DQDGSRLNPDSVPERSFKLFTAYHFAPEAPSGWTIGAGVRWQSETHTDPATLRIPNPAAK
               610       620       630       640       650       660

               670       680       690       700       710       720
orf23a.pep      ARAADNSRQKAYAVADIMARYRFNPRAELSLNVDNLFNKHYRTQPDRHSYGALRTVNAAF
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf23-1         ARAADNSRQKAYAVADIMARYRFNPRAELSLNVDNLFNKHYRTQPDRHSYGALRTVNAAF
               670       680       690       700       710       720

orf23a.pep      TYRFKX
                ||||||
orf23-1         TYRFKX
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF23 shows 93.4% identity over a 211aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF23.ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf23.pep          GYNYLFARGSRIANYQINGIPVADALADTGNANTAAYERVEVVRGVAGLLD   51
                   ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |
orf23ng      SAVDACRIPGYNYLFARGSRIANYQINGIPVADALADTGNANTAAYERVEVVRGVAGLPD   60

orf23.pep    GTGEPSATVNLVRKRLTRKPLFEVRAEAGNRKHFGLDADVSGSLNTEXXLRGRLVSTFGR  111
             ||||||||||||||: |||||||||||||||||| |||||||:| :||||||||||||
orf23ng      GTGEPSATVNLVRKHPTRKPLFEVRAEAGNRKHFGLGADVSGSLNAEGTLRGRLVSTFGR  120

orf23.pep    GDSWRRRERSRXAELYGILEYDIAPQTRVHAXMDYQQAKETADAPLSYAVYDSQGYATAF  171
             ||||||: |||| |||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf23ng      GDSWRQLERSRDAELYGILEYDIAPQTRVHAGMDYQQAKETADAPLSYAVYDSQGYATAF  180

orf23.pep    GPKDNPATNWANSHHRALNLFAGIEHRFNQDWKLKAEYDY                      211
             ||||||||||:||::|||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf23ng      GPKDNPATNWSNSRNRALNLFAGIEHRFNQDWKLKAEYDYTRSRFRQPYGVAGVLSIDHS  240
```

The ORF23ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 669> is predicted to encode a protein comprising amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 670>:

```
   1  SAVDACRIPG YNYLFARGSR IANYQINGIP VADALADTGN ANTAAYERVE
  51  VVRGVAGLPD GTGEPSATVN LVRKHPTRKP LFEVRAEAGN RKHFGLGADV
 101  SGSLNAEGTL RGRLVSTFGR GDSWRQLERS RDAELYGILE YDIAPQTRVH
 151  AGMDYQQAKE TADAPLSYAV YDSQGYATAF GPKDNPATNW SNSRNRALNL
 201  FAGIEHRFNQ DWKLKAEYDY TRSRFRQPYG VAGVLSIDHS TAATDLIPGY
 251  WHADPRTHSA SMSLTGKYRL FGREHDLIAG INGYKYASNK YGERSIIPNA
 301  IPNAYEFSRT GAYPQPSSFA QTIPQYDTRR QIGGYLATRF RAADNLSLIL
 351  GGRYSRYRAG SYNSRTQGMT YVSANRFTPY TGIVFDLTGN LSLYGSYSSL
 401  FVPQLQKDEH GSYLKPVTGN NLEADIKGEW LEGRLNASAA VYRARKNNLA
 451  TAAGRDQSGN TYYRAANQAK THGWEIEVGG RITPEWQIQA GYSQSKPRDQ
 501  DGSRLNPDSV PERSFKLFTA YHLAPEAPSG RTIGAGVRRQ GETHTDPAAL
 551  RIPNPAAKAR AVANSRQKAY AVADIMARYR FNPRTELSLN VDNLFNKHYR
 601  TQPDRHSYGA LRTVNAAFTY RFK*
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 671>:

```
   1  ATGACACGCT TCAAATACTC CCTGCTTTTT GCCGCCCTGC TACCCGTGTA
  51  CGCGCAGGCC GATGTTTCTG TTTCAGACGA CCCCAAACCG CAGGAAAGCA
 101  CCGAATTGCC GACCATCACC GTTACCGCCG ACCGCACCGC GAGTTCCAAC
 151  GACGGCTACA CCGTTTCCGG CACGCACACC CCGTTCGGGC TGCCCATGAC
 201  CCTGCGCGAA ATCCCGCAGA GCGTCAGCGT CATCACATCG CAACAAATGC
 251  GCGACCAAAA CATCAAAACG CTCGACCGCG CCCTGTTGCA GGCGACCGGC
 301  ACCAGCCGCC AGATTTACGG CTCCGACCGC GCGGGCTACA ACTACCTGTT
 351  CGCGCGCGGC AGCCGCATCG CCAACTACCA AATCAACGGC ATCCCCGTTG
 401  CCGACGCGCT GGCCGATACG GGCAATGCCA ACACCGCCGC CTATGAGCGC
 451  GTAGAAGTCG TGCGCGGCGT GGCGGGGCTG CCGGACGGCA CGGGCGAGCC
 501  TTCTGCCACC GTCAATCTGG TACGCAAACA CCCGACCCGC AAGCCATTGT
 551  TTGAAGTCCG CGCCGAAGCC GGCAACCGCA AACATTTCGG GCTGGGCGCG
 601  GACGTATCGG GCAGCCTGAA CGCCGAAGGC ACGCTGCGCG GCCGCCTGGT
 651  TTCCACCTTC GGACGCGGCG ACTCGTGGCG GCAGCTCGAA CGCAGCCGCG
 701  ATGCCGAACT CTACGGCATT TTGGAATACG ACATCGCACC GCAAACCCGC
 751  GTCCACGCAG GCATGGACTA CCAGCAGGCG AAAGAAACCG CAGACGCGCC
 801  GCTCAGCTAC GCCGTGTACG ACAGCCAAGG TTATGCCACC GCCTTCGGCC
 851  CAAAAGACAA CCCCGCCACA AATTGGTCGA ACAGCCGCAA CCGTGCGCTC
 901  AACCTGTTCG CCGGCATAGA ACACCGCTTC AACCAAGACT GGAAACTCAA
 951  AGCCGAATAC GACTACACCC GTAGCCGCTT CCGCCAGCCC TACGGTGTGG
1001  CAGGCGTACT TTCCATCGAC CACAGCACTG CCGCCACCGA CCTGATTCCC
1051  GGTTATTGGC ACGCcgatcc GCGCACCCAC AGCGCCAGCA TGTCATTGAC
1101  CGGCAAATAC CgcctGTTCG GCCGCGAGCA CGATTTAATC GCGGGTATCA
1151  ACGGCTACAA ATACGCCAGC AACAAATACG GCGAACGCAG CATCATTCCC
1201  AACGCCATTC CCAACGCCTA CGAATTTTCC CGCACGGGCG CCTATCCGCA
1251  GCCATCATCG TTTGCCCAAA CCATCCCGCA ATACGACACC AGGCGGCAAA
1301  TCGGCGGCTA TCTCGCCACC CGTTTCCGCG CCGCCGACAA CCTTTCGCTG
1351  ATACTCGGCG GCAGATACAG CCGCTACCGC GCAGGCAGCT ACAACAGCCG
```

```
1401  CACACAAGGC ATGACCTATG TGTCCGCCAA CCGTTTCACC CCCTACACAG
1451  GCATCGTGTT CGATCTGACC GGCAACCTGT CGCTTTACGG CTCGTACAGC
1501  AGCCTGTTCG TCCCGCAATT GCAAAAAGAC GAACACGGCA GCTACCTGAA
1551  ACCCGTAACC GGCAACAATC TGGAAGCCGA CATCAAAGGC GAATGGCTTG
1601  AAGGGCGTCT GAACGCATCC GCCGCCGTGT ACCGCGCCCG TAAAAACAAC
1651  CTCGCCACCG CAGCAGGACG CGACCAGAGC GGCAACACCT ACTATCGCGC
1701  CGCCAACCAA GCCAAAACCC ACGGCTGGGA AATCGAAGTC GGCGGCCGCA
1751  TCACGCCCGA ATGGCAGATA CAGGCAGGCT ACAGCCAAAG CAAACCCCGC
1801  GACCAAGACG GCAGCCGCCT GAACCCCGAC AGCGTAcCCG AACGCAGCTT
1851  CAAACTCTTC ACCGCCTACC ACTTAGCCCC CGAAGCCCCC AGCGGCCGGA
1901  CCATcggTGC GGGTGTGCGC CGGCAGGGCG AAACCCACAC CGACCCAGCC
1951  GCGCTCCGCA TCCCCAACCC CGCCGCCAAA GCCCGCGCCG TCGCCAACAG
2001  CCGCCAGAAA GCCTACGCCG TCGCCGACAT CATGGCGCGT TACCGCTTCA
2051  ATCCGCGCAC CGAACTGTCG CTGAACGTGG ACAACCTGTT CAACAAACAC
2101  TACCGCACCC AGCCCGACCG CCACAGCTAC GGCGCACTGC GGACAGTGAA
2151  CGCGGCGTTT ACCTATCGGT TTAAATAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 672; ORF23ng-1>:

```
   1  MTRFKYSLLF AALLPVYAQA DVSVSDDPKP QESTELPTIT VTADRTASSN
  51  DGYTVSGTHT PFGLPMTLRE IPQSVSVITS QQMRDQNIKT LDRALLQATG
 101  TSRQIYGSDR AGYNYLFARG SRIANYQING IPVADALADT GNANTAAYER
 151  VEVVRGVAGL PDGTGEPSAT VNLVRKHPTR KPLFEVRAEA GNRKHFGLGA
 201  DVSGSLNAEG TLRGRLVSTF GRGDSWRQLE RSRDAELYGI LEYDIAPQTR
 251  VHAGMDYQQA KETADAPLSY AVYDSQGYAT AFGPKDNPAT NWSNSRNRAL
 301  NLFAGIEHRF NQDWKLKAEY DYTRSRFRQP YGVAGVLSID HSTAATDLIP
 351  GYWHADPRTH SASMSLTGKY RLFGREHDLI AGINGYKYAS NKYGERSIIP
 401  NAIPNAYEFS RTGAYPQPSS FAQTIPQYDT RRQIGGYLAT RFRAADNLSL
 451  ILGGRYSRYR AGSYNSRTQG MTYVSANRFT PYTGIVFDLT GNLSLYGSYS
 501  SLFVPQLQKD EHGSYLKPVT GNNLEADIKG EWLEGRLNAS AAVYRARKNN
 551  LATAAGRDQS GNTYYRAANQ AKTHGWEIEV GGRITPEWQI QAGYSQSKPR
 601  DQDGSRLNPD SVPERSFKLF TAYHLAPEAP SGRTIGAGVR RQGETHTDPA
 651  ALRIPNPAAK ARAVANSRQK AYAVADIMAR YRFNPRTELS LNVDNLFNKH
 701  YRTQPDRHSY GALRTVNAAF TYRFK*
```

ORF23ng-1 and ORF23-1 show 95.9% identity in 725 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf23-1.pep     MTRFKYSLLFAALLPVYAQADVSVSDDPKPQESTELPTITVTADRTASSNDGYTVSGTHT
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf23ng-1       MTRFKYSLLFAALLPVYAQADVSVSDDPKPQESTELPTITVTADRTASSNDGYTVSGTHT
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf23-1.pep     PLGLPMTLREIPQSVSVITSQQMRDQNIKTLDRALLQATGTSRQIYGSDRAGYNYLFARG
                |:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf23ng-1       PFGLPMTLREIPQSVSVITSQQMRDQNIKTLDRALLQATGTSRQIYGSDRAGYNYLFARG
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

               130       140       150       160       170       180
orf23-1.pep     SRIANYQINGIPVADALADTGNANTAAYERVEVVRGVAGLLDGTGEPSATVNLVRKRLTR
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||: ||
orf23ng-1       SRIANYQINGIPVADALADTGNANTAAYERVEVVRGVAGLPDGTGEPSATVNLVRKHPTR
               130       140       150       160       170       180

               190       200       210       220       230       240
orf23-1.pep     KPLFEVRAEAGNRKHFGLDADVSGSLNTEGTLRGRLVSTFGRGDSWRRRERSRDAELYGI
                |||||||||||||||| ||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||: ||||||||||
orf23ng-1       KPLFEVRAEAGNRKHFGLGADVSGSLNAEGTLRGRLVSTFGRGDSWRQLERSRDAELYGI
               190       200       210       220       230       240

               250       260       270       280       290       300
orf23-1.pep     LEYDIAPQTRVHAGMDYQQAKETADAPLSYAVYDSQGYATAFGPKDNPATNWANSRHRAL
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||:|||
orf23ng-1       LEYDIAPQTRVHAGMDYQQAKETADAPLSYAVYDSQGYATAFGPKDNPATNWSNSRNRAL
               250       260       270       280       290       300

               310       320       330       340       350       360
orf23-1.pep     NLFAGIEHRFNQDWKLKAEYDYTRSRFRQPYGVAGVLSIDHNTAATDLIPGYWHADPRTH
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||
orf23ng-1       NLFAGIEHRFNQDWKLKAEYDYTRSRFRQPYGVAGVLSIDHSTAATDLIPGYWHADPRTH
```

```
                    310       320       330       340       350       360

                    370       380       390       400       410       420
orf23-1.pep     SASVSLIGKYRLFGREHDLIAGINGYKYASNKYGERSIIPNAIPNAYEFSRTGAYPQPAS
                |||:|| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|
orf23ng-1       SASMSLTGKYRLFGREHDLIAGINGYKYASNKYGERSIIPNAIPNAYEFSRTGAYPQPSS
                    370       380       390       400       410       420

                    430       440       450       460       470       480
orf23-1.pep     FAQTIPQYGTRRQIGGYLATRFRAADNLSLILGGRYTRYRTGSYDSRTQGMTYVSANRFT
                |||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||:|||:|||||||||||||||||
orf23ng-1       FAQTIPQYDTRRQIGGYLATRFRAADNLSLILGGRYSRYRAGSYNSRTQGMTYVSANRFT
                    430       440       450       460       470       480

                    490       500       510       520       530       540
orf23-1.pep     PYTGIVFDLTGNLSLYGSYSSLFVPQSQKDEHGSYLKPVTGNNLEAGIKGEWLEGRLNAS
                |||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||
orf23ng-1       PYTGIVFDLTGNLSLYGSYSSLFVPQLQKDEHGSYLKPVTGNNLEADIKGEWLEGRLNAS
                    490       500       510       520       530       540

                    550       560       570       580       590       600
orf23-1.pep     AAVYRARKNNLATAAGRDPSGNTYYRAANQAKTHGWEIEVGGRITPEWQIQAGYSQSKTR
                |||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |
orf23ng-1       AAVYRARKNNLATAAGRDQSGNTYYRAANQAKTHGWEIEVGGRITPEWQIQAGYSQSKPR
                    550       560       570       580       590       600

                    610       620       630       640       650       660
orf23-1.pep     DQDGSRLNPDSVPERSFKLFTAYHFAPEAPSGWTIGAGVRWQSETHTDPATLRIPNPAAK
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||| ||||||| |:||||||||:||||||||
orf23ng-1       DQDGSRLNPDSVPERSFKLFTAYHLAPEAPSGRTIGAGVRRQGETHTDPAALRIPNPAAK
                    610       620       630       640       650       660

                    670       680       690       700       710       720
orf23-1.pep     ARAADNSRQKAYAVADIMARYRFNPRAELSLNVDNLFNKHYRTQPDRHSYGALRTVNAAF
                |||: ||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf23ng-1       ARAVANSRQKAYAVADIMARYRFNPRTELSLNVDNLFNKHYRTQPDRHSYGALRTVNAAF
                    670       680       690       700       710       720

orf23-1.pep     TYRFKX
                ||||||
orf23ng-1       TYRFKX
```

In addition, ORF23ng-1 shows significant homology with an OMP from *E.coli*:

```
sp|P16869|FHUE_ECOLI OUTER-MEMBRANE RECEPTOR FOR FE(III)-COPROGEN, FE(III)-
FERRIOXAMINE B AND FE(III)-RHODOTRULIC ACID PRECURSOR >gi|1651542|gnl|PID|d1015403
(D90745) Outer membrane protein FhuE precursor [Escherichia coli]
>gi|1651545|gnl|PID|d1015405 (D90746) Outer membrane protein FhuE precursor
[Escherichia coli] >gi|1787344 (AE000210) outer-membrane receptor for Fe(III)-
coprogen, Fe(III)-ferrioxamine B and Fe(III)-rhodotrulic acid precursor
[Escherichia coli] Length = 729
 Score =  332 bits (843), Expect = 3e-90
 Identities = 228/717 (31%), Positives = 350/717 (48%), Gaps = 60/717 (8%)

Query: 38  TITVTADRTASSN--DGYTVSGTHTPFGLPMTLREIPQSVSVITSQQMRDQNIKTLDRAL 95
           T+ V    TA  +  + Y+V+ T     + MT R+IPQSV++++ Q+M DQ ++TL   +
Sbjct: 43  TVIVEGSATAPDDGENDYSVTSTSAGTKMQMTQRDIPQSVTIVSQQRMEDQQLQTLGEVM 102

Query: 96  LQATGTSRQIYGSDRAGYNYLFARGSRIANYQINGIP---------VADALADTGNANTAA 147
               G S+    SDRA Y   ++RG +I NY ++GIP         + DAL+D      A
Sbjct: 103 ENTLGISKSQADSDRALY---YSRGFQIDNYMVDGIPTYFESRWNLGDALSDM-----AL 154

Query: 148 YERVEVVRGVAGLPDGTGEPSATVNLVRKHPTRKPLF-EVRAEAGNRKHFGLGADVSGSL 206
           +ERVEVVRG  GL  GTG PSA +N+VRKH T +     +V AE G+         AD+   L
Sbjct: 155 FERVEVVRGATGLMTGTGNPSAAINMVRKHATSREFKGDVSAEYGSWNKERYVADLQSPL 214

Query: 207 NAEGTLRGRLVSTFGRGDSWRQLERSRDAELYGILEYDIAPQTRVHAGMDYQQAKETADA 266
             +G +R R+V   +   DSW      S      GI++ D+    T + AG +YQ+     +
Sbjct: 215 TEDGKIRARIVGGYQNNDSWLDRYNSEKTFFSGIVDADLGDLTTLSAGYEYQRIDVNSPT 274

Query: 267 PLSYAVYDSQGYATAFGPKDNPATNWSNSRNRALNLFAGIEHRFNQDWKLKAEYDYTRSR 326
```

```
                +++ G + ++    + A +W+ +      +F  ++ +F   W+      ++
Sbjct: 275 WGGLPRWNTDGSSNSYDRARSTAPDWAYNDKEINKVFMTLKQQFADTWQATLNATHSEVE 334

Query: 327 F--RQPYGVAGVLSIDHSTAA--TDLIPGY--------WHADPRTHSA-SMSLTGKYRLFG 374
           F  +  Y  A V   D       ++  PG+       W++  R   A  +   G Y LFG
Sbjct: 335 FDSKMMYVDAYVNKADGMLVGPYSNYGPGFDYVGGTGWNSGKRKVDALDLFADGSYELFG 394

Query: 375 REHDLIAGINGYKYASNKYGER--SIIPNAIPNAYEFSRTGAYPQPSSFAQTIPQYDTRR 432
           R+H+L+ G   Y   +N+Y     +I P+ I + Y F+  G +PQ     Q++ Q DT
Sbjct: 395 RQHNLMFG-GSYSKQNNRYFSSWANIFPDEIGSFYNFN--GNFPQTDWSPQSLAQDDTTH 451

Query: 433 QIGGYLATRFRAADNLSLILGGRYSRYRAGSYNSRTQGMTY-VSANRFTPYTGIVFDXXX 491
               Y ATR   AD L LILG RY+ +R  +       +TY +  N  TPY G+VFD
Sbjct: 452 MKSLYAATRVTLADPLHLILGARYTNWRVDT--------LTYSMEKNHTTPYAGLVFDIND 504

Query: 492 XXXXXXXXXXXFVPQLQKDEHGSYLKPVTGNNLEADIKGEWLEGRLNASAAVYRARKNNL 551
                F PQ  +D  G YL P+TGNN E  +K +W+  RL  + A++R  ++N+
Sbjct: 505 NWSTYASYTSIFQPQNDRDSSGKYLAPITGNNYELGLKSDWMNSRLTTTLAIFRIEQDNV 564

Query: 552 ATAAGR---DQSGNTYYRAANQAKTHGWEIEVGGRITPEWQIQAGYSQSKPRDQDGSRLN 608
           A + G      +G T Y+A +   + G E E+ G IT  WQ+  G ++    D +G+ +N
Sbjct: 565 AQSTGTPIPGSNGETAYKAVDGTVSKGVEFELNGAITDNWQLTFGATRYIAEDNEGNAVN 624

Query: 609 PDSVPERSFKLFTAYHLAPEAPSGRTIGAGVRRQGETHTDPAALRIPNPAAKARAVANSR 668
           P ++P  + K+FT+Y L P  P   T+G GV  Q   +TD        P    RA
Sbjct: 625 P-NLPRTTVKMFTSYRL-PVMPE-LTVGGGVNWQNRVYTDTV-----TPYGTFRA----E 672

Query: 669 QKAYAVADIMARYRFNPRTELSLNVDNLFNKHYRTQPDRH-SYGALRTVNAAFTYRF 724
           Q +YA+ D+  RY+      L  NV+NLF+K Y T  +    YG  R  +   TY+F
Sbjct: 673 QGSYALVDLFTRYQVTKNFSLQGNVNNLFDKTYDTNVEGSIVYGTPRNFSITGTYQF 729
```

Based on this analysis, it was predicted that these proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

ORF23-1 (77.5kDa) was cloned in pET and pGex vectors and expressed in *E.coli*, as described above. The products of protein expression and purification were analyzed by SDS-PAGE. Figure 15A shows the results of affinity purification of the His-fusion protein, and Figure 15B shows the results of expression of the GST-fusion in *E.coli*. Purified His-fusion protein was used to immunise mice, whose sera were used for Western blot (Figure 15C) and for ELISA (positive result). These experiments confirm that ORF23-1 is a surface-exposed protein, and that it is a useful immunogen.

Example 80

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 673>:

```
   1  ATGCGCACGG CAGTGGTTTT GCTGTTGATC ATGCCGATGG CGGCTTCGTC
  51  GGCAATGATG CCGGAAATGG TGTGCGCGGG CGTGTCGCCG GGAACGGCAA
 101  TCATATCCAA GCCGACCGAA CAAACGGCGG TCATGGCTTC GAGTTTGTCC
 151  AGCGTCAgcA CGCCTGCTTC GGCGgcGgCa ATCATACCTT CGTCTTCGGA
 201  AACGGGGATA AACGcGCCAC TCAAACCCCC GACCGCGCTG GAAGCCATCA
 251  TGCCGCCTTT TTTCACGGCA TCGTTCAGCA ATGCCAAAGC TGCTGTTGTG
 301  CCGTGCGTAC CGCAGACGCT CAAGCCCATT TnTTCAAGAA TGCGTGCCAC
 351  TnAGTCGCCG ACGGGG..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 674; ORF24>:

```
   1  MRTAVVLLLI MPMAASSAMM PEMVCAGVSP GTAIISKPTE QTAVMASSLS
  51  SVSTPASAAA IIPSSSETGI NAPLKPPTAL EAIMPPFFTA SFSNAKAAVV
 101  PCVPQTLKPI XSRMRATXSP TG..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 675>:

```
   1  ATGCGCACGG CAGTGGTTTT GCTGTTGATC ATGCCGATGG CGGCTTCGTC
  51  GGCAATGATG CCGGAAATGG TGTGCGCGGG CGTGTCGCCG GGAACGGCAA
 101  TCATATCCAA GCCGACCGAA CAAACGGCGG TCATGGCTTC GAGTTTGTCC
 151  AGCGTCAGCA CGCCTGCTTC GGCGGCGGCA ATCATACCTT CGTCTTCGGA
 201  AACGGGGATA AACGCGCCAC TCAAACCCCC GACCGCGCTG GAAGCCATCA
 251  TGCCGCCTTT TTTCACGGCA TCGTTCAGCA ATGCCAAAGC TGCTGTTGTG
 301  CCGTGCGTAC CGCAGACGCT CAAGCCCATT TCTTCAAGAA TGCGTGCCAC
 351  TGAGTCGCCG ACGGCGGGGG TCGGCGCCAG CGACAAGTCG AGAATACCAA
 401  ACGGGATATT CAGCATTTTT GAGGCTTCGC GGCCGATGAG TTCGCCCACG
 451  CGGGTAATTT TGAAAGCAGT TTTCTTCACT ACTTCCGCAA CTTCGGTCAA
 501  TGTCGTTGCA TCTGAATTTT CCAACGCGGC TTTTACGACA CCTGGGCCGG
 551  ATACGCCGAC ATTGATAACG GCATCCGCTT CGCCCGAACC ATGAAACGCG
 601  CCCGCCATAA ACGGGTTGTC TTCCACCGCG TTGCAGAACA CGACAATTTT
 651  AGCGCAGCCG AAACCTTCGG GCGTGATTTC CGCCGTGCGT TTGACGGTTT
 701  CGCCCGCCAG CTTGACCGCA TCCATATTGA TACCGGCACG CGTACTGCCG
 751  ATATTGATGG AGCTGCACAC AATATCGGTA GTCTTCATCG CTTCGGGAAT
 801  GGAGCGGATT AACACCTCAT CCGAAGGCGA CATCCCTTTT TGCACCAACG
 851  CGGAAAAACC GCCGATAAAA GACACACCGA TGGCTTTGGC AGCTTTATCC
 901  AAAGTTTGCG CCACGCTGAC GTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 676; ORF24-1>:

```
   1  MRTAVVLLLI MPMAASSAMM PEMVCAGVSP GTAIISKPTE QTAVMASSLS
  51  SVSTPASAAA IIPSSSETGI NAPLKPPTAL EAIMPPFFTA SFSNAKAAVV
 101  PCVPQTLKPI SSRMRATESP TAGVGASDKS RIPNGIFSIF EASRPMSSPT
 151  RVILKAVFFT TSATSVNVVA SEFSNAAFTT PGPDTPTLIT ASASPEP*NA
 201  PAINGLSSTA LQNTTILAQP KPSGVISAVR LTVSPASLTA SILIPARVLP
 251  ILMELHTISV VFIASGMERI NTSSEGDIPF CTNAEKPPIK DTPMALAALS
 301  KVCATLT*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF24 shows 96.4% identity over a 307 aa overlap with an ORF (ORF24a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf24a.pep      MRTAVVLLLIMPMAASSAMMPEMVCAGVSPGTAIISXPTEQTAVIASSLSNVSTPASAAA
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||:|||||:|||||||||
orf24           MRTAVVLLLIMPMAASSAMMPEMVCAGVSPGTAIISKPTEQTAVMASSLSSVSTPASAAA
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf24a.pep      IIPSSSXTGINAPLKPPTALEAIMPPFFTASFSNAKAAVVPCVPQTLKPISSRMRATESP
                ||||||  ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf24           IIPSSSETGINAPLKPPTALEAIMPPFFTASFSNAKAAVVPCVPQTLKPISSRMRATESP
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf24a.pep      TAGVGASDKSRIPNGIFSIFEASRPMSSPTRVILKAVFFTTSATSVNVVASEFSNAAFTT
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf24           TAGVGASDKSRIPNGIFSIFEASRPMSSPTRVILKAVFFTTSATSVNVVASEFSNAAFTT
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf24a.pep      PGPDTPTLITASASPEPXNAPAIXGLSSXALQNTTILAQPKPSSVISXVRLMVSPASLTA
                |||||||||||||||||||||  ||||:|||||||||||||:|||  |||  ||||||||
orf24           PGPDTPTLITASASPEPXNAPAINGLSSTALQNTTILAQPKPSGVISAVRLTVSPASLTA
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260       270       280       290       300
orf24a.pep      SILIPARVLPILMELHTISVVFIASGMERXNTSSEGDIPFCTSAEKPPIKDTPMALAALS
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||  ||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||
orf24           SILIPARVLPILMELHTISVVFIASGMERINTSSEGDIPFCTNAEKPPIKDTPMALAALS
                250       260       270       280       290       300
```

```
orf24a.pep   KVCATLTX
             ||||||||
orf24        KVCATLTX
```

The complete length ORF24a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 677> is:

```
   1  ATGCGCACGG CAGTGGTTTT GCTGTTGATC ATGCCGATGG CGGCTTCGTC
  51  GGCAATGATG CCGGAAATGG TGTGCGCGGG TGTGTCGCCG GGAACGGCAA
 101  TCATATCCAA NCCGACCGAA CAAACGGCGG TCATCGCTTC GAGTTTATCC
 151  AACGTCAGCA CGCCTGCTTC GGCGGCGGCA ATCATACCTT CGTCTTCGGA
 201  NACGGGGATA AACGCGCCAC TCAAACCGCC AACCGCGCTC GAAGCCATCA
 251  TGCCGCCCTT TTTCACGGCA TCGTTCAGCA ATGCCAAAGC TGCTGTTGTG
 301  CCGTGCGTAC CGCAGACGCT CAAACCCATT TCTTCAAGAA TGCGCGCCAC
 351  CGAGTCGCCG ACGGCAGGGG TCGGTGCCAG CGACAAGTCG AGAATACCAA
 401  ACGGGATATT CAGCATTTTT GAGGCTTCGC GGCCGATGAG TTCGCCCACG
 451  CGGGTAATTT TGAAGGCGGT TTTCTTCACA ACTTCGGCAA CTTCGGTCAA
 501  TGTCGTTGCA TCCGAATTTT CCAACGCGGC TTTTACGACA CCCGGGCCGG
 551  ATACGCCGAC ATTAATCACA GCATCCGCTT CGCCTGAGCC GTGAAACGCG
 601  CCCGCCATAN ACGGGTTGTC TTCCNCCGCG TTGCAGAACA CGACGATTTT
 651  GGCGCAGCCG AAACCTTCTA GTGTGATTTC ANCCGTGCGT TTGATGGTTT
 701  CGCCCGCCAG TCTGACCGCG TCCATATTGA TACCGGCGCG CGTACTGCCG
 751  ATATTGATGG AGCTGCACAC GATATCAGTA GTCTTCATCG CTTCGGGAAT
 801  GGAACGGATN AACACCTCGT CAGAAGGCGA CATACCTTTT TGCACCAGCG
 851  CGGAAAAGCC GCCAATAAAA GACACGCCGA TGGCTTTGGC AGCCTTATCC
 901  AAAGTTTGCG CCACGCTGAC GTAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 678>:

```
   1  MRTAVVLLLI MPMAASSAMM PEMVCAGVSP GTAIISXPTE QTAVIASSLS
  51  NVSTPASAAA IIPSSSXTGI NAPLKPPTAL EAIMPPFFTA SFSNAKAAVV
 101  PCVPQTLKPI SSRMRATESP TAGVGASDKS RIPNGIFSIF EASRPMSSPT
 151  RVILKAVFFT TSATSVNVVA SEFSNAAFTT PGPDTPTLIT ASASPEP*NA
 201  PAIXGLSSXA LQNTTILAQP KPSSVISXVR LMVSPASLTA SILIPARVLP
 251  ILMELHTISV VFIASGMERX NTSSEGDIPF CTSAEKPPIK DTPMALAALS
 301  KVCATLT*
```

It should be noted that this protein includes a stop codon at position 198.

ORF24a and ORF24-1 show 96.4% identity in 307 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf24a.pep      MRTAVVLLLIMPMAASSAMMPEMVCAGVSPGTAIISXPTEQTAVIASSLSNVSTPASAAA
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||:|||||:|||||||||
orf24-1         MRTAVVLLLIMPMAASSAMMPEMVCAGVSPGTAIISKPTEQTAVMASSLSSVSTPASAAA
                        10        20        30        40        50        60

                        70        80        90       100       110       120
orf24a.pep      IIPSSSXTGINAPLKPPTALEAIMPPFFTASFSNAKAAVVPCVPQTLKPISSRMRATESP
                |||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf24-1         IIPSSSETGINAPLKPPTALEAIMPPFFTASFSNAKAAVVPCVPQTLKPISSRMRATESP
                        70        80        90       100       110       120

                       130       140       150       160       170       180
orf24a.pep      TAGVGASDKSRIPNGIFSIFEASRPMSSPTRVILKAVFFTTSATSVNVVASEFSNAAFTT
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf24-1         TAGVGASDKSRIPNGIFSIFEASRPMSSPTRVILKAVFFTTSATSVNVVASEFSNAAFTT
                       130       140       150       160       170       180

                       190       200       210       220       230       240
orf24a.pep      PGPDTPTLITASASPEPXNAPAIXGLSSXALQNTTILAQPKPSSVISXVRLMVSPASLTA
                |||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||:|||||||||||||:||| ||| ||||||||
orf24-1         PGPDTPTLITASASPEPXNAPAINGLSSTALQNTTILAQPKPSGVISAVRLTVSPASLTA
                       190       200       210       220       230       240

                       250       260       270       280       290       300
orf24a.pep      SILIPARVLPILMELHTISVVFIASGMERXNTSSEGDIPFCTSAEKPPIKDTPMALAALS
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||
orf24-1         SILIPARVLPILMELHTISVVFIASGMERINTSSEGDIPFCTNAEKPPIKDTPMALAALS
                       250       260       270       280       290       300
```

```
orf24a.pep      KVCATLTX
                ||||||||
orf24-1         KVCATLTX
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF24 shows 96.7% identity over a 121 aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF24ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf24.pep    MRTAVVLLLIMPMAASSAMMPEMVCAGVSPGTAIISKPTEQTAVMASSLSSVSTPASAAA  60
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||:|||||||
orf24ng      MRTAVVLLLIMPMAASSAMMPEMVCAGVSPGTAIMSKPTEQTAVMASSLSSVNTPASAAA  60

orf24.pep    IIPSSSETGINAPLKPPTALEAIMPPFFTASFSNAKAAVVPCVPQTLKPIXSRMRATXSP 120
             |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||| ||
orf24ng      IIPSSSETGINAPLKPPTALEAIMPPFFTASFSNAKAAVVPCVPQTLKPISSRMRATESP 120

orf24.pep    TG                                                            122
             |:
orf24ng      TAGVGASDKSRMPNGIFSIFEASRPMSSPTRVILKAVFFTTSATSVRLTASEFSSAALTT 180
```

The complete length ORF24ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 679> is:

```
   1  ATGCGCACGG CGGTGGTTTT GCTGTTGATC ATGCCGATGG CGGCTTCGTC
  51  GGCGATGATG CCGGAAATGG TGTGCGCGGG CGTGTCGCCG GGAACGGCAA
 101  TCATGTCCAA ACCAACGGAG CAGACGGCGG TCATGGCTTC GAGTTTGTCC
 151  AGCGTCAACA CGCCTGCCTC GGCGGCGGCA ATCATACCTT CGTCTTCGGA
 201  AACGGGGATA AACGCGCCGC TCAAACCGCC GACCGCGCTG GAAGCCATCA
 251  TGCCGCCCTT TTTCACGGCA TCGTTCAGCA ATGCCAAAGC TGCTGTTGTG
 301  CCGTGCGTAC CGCAGACGCT CAAGCCCATT TCTTCAAGAA TGCGCGCCAC
 351  CGAGTCGCCG ACGGCGGGGG TCGGTGCCAG CGACAAATCG AGAATGCCGA
 401  ACGGGATATT CAGCATTTTT GAGGCTTCGC GACCGATGAG TTCGCCCACG
 451  CGGGTGATTT TGAAAGCGGT TTTCTTCACG ACTTCGGCGA CCTCGGTCAG
 501  GCTGACCGCG TCCGAATTTT CCAGCGCGGC TTTGACCACG CCTGGACCGG
 551  ATACGCCGAC ATTAATCACA GCATCCGCTT CGCCCGAGCC GTGGAACGCA
 601  CCCGCCATAA ACGGATTGTC TTCCACCGCG TTGCAGAACA CGACGATTTT
 651  GGCGCAGCCG AAACCTTCGG GTGTGATTTC AGCCGTGCGT TTGATGGTTT
 701  CGCCTGCCAG CTTGACCGCA TCCATATTGA TACCGGCACG CGTGCTGCCG
 751  ATATTGATGG AGCTGCACAC GATATCGGTA GTTTTCATCG CTTCGGGAAC
 801  GGAACGGATC AACACCTCAT CCGAAGGCGA CATACCTTTT TGCACCAGCG
 851  CGGAAAAGCC GCCGATAAAG GACACGCCGA TGGCTTTGGC TGCCTTGTCC
 901  AAAGTCTGCG CCACGCTGAC ATAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 680>:

```
   1  MRTAVVLLLI MPMAASSAMM PEMVCAGVSP GTAIMSKPTE QTAVMASSLS
  51  SVNTPASAAA IIPSSSETGI NAPLKPPTAL EAIMPPFFTA SFSNAKAAVV
 101  PCVPQTLKPI SSRMRATESP TAGVGASDKS RMPNGIFSIF EASRPMSSPT
 151  RVILKAVFFT TSATSVRLTA SEFSSAALTT PGPDTPTLIT ASASPEPWNA
 201  PAINGLSSTA LQNTTILAQP KPSGVISAVR LMVSPASLTA SILIPARVLP
 251  ILMELHTISV VFIASGTERI NTSSEGDIPF CTSAEKPPIK DTPMALAALS
 301  KVCATLT*
```

ORF24ng and ORF24-1 show 96.1% identity in 307 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf24-1.pep     MRTAVVLLLIMPMAASSAMMPEMVCAGVSPGTAIISKPTEQTAVMASSLSSVSTPASAAA
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||:|||||||
orf24ng         MRTAVVLLLIMPMAASSAMMPEMVCAGVSPGTAIMSKPTEQTAVMASSLSSVNTPASAAA
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf24-1.pep     IIPSSSETGINAPLKPPTALEAIMPPFFTASFSNAKAAVVPCVPQTLKPISSRMRATESP
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf24ng         IIPSSSETGINAPLKPPTALEAIMPPFFTASFSNAKAAVVPCVPQTLKPISSRMRATESP
                70        80        90        100       110       120
```

```
                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf24-1.pep     TAGVGASDKSRIPNGIFSIFEASRPMSSPTRVILKAVFFTTSATSVNVVASEFSNAAFTT
                ||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ::|||||:||:||
orf24ng         TAGVGASDKSRMPNGIFSIFEASRPMSSPTRVILKAVFFTTSATSVRLTASEFSSAALTT
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf24-1.pep     PGPDTPTLITASASPEPXNAPAINGLSSTALQNTTILAQPKPSGVISAVRLTVSPASLTA
                |||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||
orf24ng         PGPDTPTLITASASPEPWNAPAINGLSSTALQNTTILAQPKPSGVISAVRLMVSPASLTA
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260       270       280       290       300
orf24-1.pep     SILIPARVLPILMELHTISVVFIASGMERINTSSEGDIPFCTNAEKPPIKDTPMALAALS
                |||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||
orf24ng         SILIPARVLPILMELHTISVVFIASGTERINTSSEGDIPFCTSAEKPPIKDTPMALAALS
                250       260       270       280       290       300

orf24-1.pep     KVCATLTX
                ||||||||
orf24ng         KVCATLTX
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of a putative leader sequence (first 18 aa – double-underlined) and putative transmembrane domains (single-underlined) in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 81

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 681>:

```
   1  ..ACCGACGTGC AAAAAGAGTT GGTCGGCGAA CAACGCAAGT GGGCGCAGGA
  51    AAAAATCAGC AACTGCCGAC AAGCCGCCGC GCAGGCAGAC CGGCAGGAAT
 101    ACGCCGAATA CCTCAAGCTG CAATGCGACA CGCGGATGAC GCGCGAACGG
 151    ATACAGTATC TTCGCGGCTA TTCCATCGAT TAG
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 682; ORF25>:

```
   1  ..TDVQKELVGE QRKWAQEKIS NCRQAAAQAD RQEYAEYLKL QCDTRMTRER
  51    IQYLRGYSID *
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 683>:

```
   1  ATGTATCGGA AACTCATTGC GCTGCCGTTT GCCCTGCTGC TTGCCGCTTG
  51  CGGCAGGGAA GAACCGCCCA AGGCATTGGA ATGCGCCAAC CCCGCCGTGT
 101  TGCAAGGCAT ACGCGGCAAT ATTCAGGAAA CGCTCACGCA GGAAGCGCGT
 151  TCTTTCGCGC GCGAAGACGG CAGGCAGTTT GTCGATGCCG ACAAAATTAT
 201  CGCCGCCGCC TACGGTTTGG CGTTTTCTTT GGAACACGCT TCGGAAACGC
 251  AGGAAGGCGG GCGCACGTTC TGTATCGCCG ATTTGAACAT TACCGTGCCG
 301  TCTGAAACGC TTGCCGATGC CAAGGCAAAC AGCCCCCTGT TGTACGGGGA
 351  AACTGCTTTG TCGGATATTG TGCGGCAGAA GACGGGCGGC AATGTCGAGT
 401  TTAAAGACGG CGTATTGACG GCAGCCGTCC GCTTCCTGCC CGTCAAAGAC
 451  GGTCAGACGG CATTTGTCGA CAACACGGTC GGTATGGCGG CGCAAACGCT
 501  GTCTGCCGCG CTGCTGCCTT ACGGCGTGAA GAGCATCGTG ATGATAGACG
 551  GCAAGGCGGT GAAAAAAGAA GACGCGGTCA GGATTTTGAG CGGAAAAGCC
 601  CGTGAAGAAG AACCGTCCAA ACCCACGCCC GAAGACATTT TGGAACACAA
 651  TGCCGCCGGC GGCGATGCGG GCGTACCCCA AGCCGCAGAA GGCGCGCCCG
 701  AACCGGAAAT CCTGCATCCT GACGACGGCG AGCGTGCCGA TACCGTTACC
 751  GTATCACGGG GCGAAGTGGA AGAGGCGCGC GTACAAAACC AGCGTGCGGA
 801  ATCCGAAATT ACCAAACTTT GGGGAGGACT CGATACCGAC GTGCAAAAAG
 851  AGTTGGTCGG CGAACAACGC AAGTGGGCGC AGGAAAAAAT CAGCAACTGC
 901  CGACAAGCCG CCGCGCAGGC AGACCGGCAG GAATACGCCG AATACCTCAA
 951  GCTGCAATGC GACACGCGGA TGACGCGCGA ACGGATACAG TATCTTCGCG
1001  GCTATTCCAT CGATTAG
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 684; ORF25-1>:

```
   1  MYRKLIALPF ALLLAACGRE EPPKALECAN PAVLQGIRGN IQETLTQEAR
  51  SFAREDGRQF VDADKIIAAA YGLAFSLEHA SETQEGGRTF CIADLNITVP
 101  SETLADAKAN SPLLYGETAL SDIVRQKTGG NVEFKDGVLT AAVRFLPVKD
 151  GQTAFVDNTV GMAAQTLSAA LLPYGVKSIV MIDGKAVKKE DAVRILSGKA
 201  REEEPSKPTP EDILEHNAAG GDAGVPQAAE GAPEPEILHP DDGERADTVT
 251  VSRGEVEEAR VQNQRAESEI TKLWGGLDTD VQKELVGEQR KWAQEKISNC
 301  RQAAAQADRQ EYAEYLKLQC DTRMTRERIQ YLRGYSID*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF25 shows 98.3% identity over a 60aa overlap with an ORF (ORF25a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                                    10        20        30
orf25.pep                                          TDVQKELVGEQRKWAQEKISNCRQAAAQAD
                                                   |||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||
orf25a       VTVSRGEVEEARVQNQRAESEITKLWGGLDTDVQKELVGEXRKWAQEKISNCRQAAAQAD
           250       260       270       280       290       300

                    40        50        60
orf25.pep          RQEYAEYLKLQCDTRMTRERIQYLRGYSIDX
                   ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf25a             RQEYAEYLKLQCDTRMTRERIQYLRGYSIDX
                  310       320       330
```

The complete length ORF25a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 685> is:

```
   1  ATGTATCGGA AACTCATTGC GCTGCCGTTT GCCCTGCTGC TTGCCGCTTG
  51  CGGCAGGGAA GAACCGCCCA AGGCATTGGA ATGCGCCAAC CCCGCCGTGT
 101  TGCAANGCAT ACGCNGCAAT ATTCAGGAAA CGCTCACGCA GGAAGCGCGT
 151  TCTTTCGCGC GCGAAGACNG CANGCAGTTT GTCGATGCCG ACNAAATTAT
 201  CGCCGCCGCC TANGNTNNGN NGNTNTCTTT GGAACACGCT TCGGAAACGC
 251  AGGAAGGCGG GCGCACGTTC TGTNTCGCCG ATTTGAACAT TACCGTGCCG
 301  TCTGAAACGC TTGCCGATGC CAAGGCAAAC AGCCCCCTGC TGTACGGGGA
 351  AACCGCTTTG TCGGATATTG TGCGGCAGAA GACGGGCGGC AATGTCGAGT
 401  TTAAAGACGG CGTATTGACG GCAGCCGTCC GCTTCCTACC CGTCAAAGAC
 451  GGTCAGANGG CATTTGTCGA CAACACGGTC GGTATGGCGG CGCAAACGCT
 501  GTCTGCCGCG TTGCTGCCTT ACGGCGTGAA GAGCATCGTG ATGATAGACG
 551  GCAAGGCGGT AAAAAAAGAA GACGCGGTCA GGATTNTGAG CNGANAAGCC
 601  CGTGAANAAG AACCGTCCAA ANCCNNGCCC GAAGACATTT TGGAACATAA
 651  TGCCGCCGGA GGGGATGCAG ACGTACCCCA AGCCGGAGAA GACGCGCCCG
 701  AACCGGAAAT CCTGCATCCT GACGACGGCG AGCGTGCCGA TACCGTTACC
 751  GTATCACGGG GCGAAGTGGA AGAGGCGCGN GTACAAAACC AGCGTGCGGA
 801  ATCCGAAATT ACCAAACTTT GGGGAGGACT CGATACCGAC GTGCAAAAAG
 851  AGTTGGTCGG CGAANAACGC AAGTGGGCGC AGGAAAAAAT CAGCAACTGC
 901  CGACAAGCCG CCGCGCAGGC AGACCGGCAG GAATACGCCG AATACCTCAA
 951  GCTGCAATGC GACACGCGGA TGACGCGCGA ACGGATACAG TATCTTCGCG
1001  GCTATTCCAT CGATTAG
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 686>:

```
   1  MYRKLIALPF ALLLAACGRE EPPKALECAN PAVLQXIRXN IQETLTQEAR
  51  SFAREDXXQF VDADKIIAAA XXXXXSLEHA SETQEGGRTF CXADLNITVP
 101  SETLADAKAN SPLLYGETAL SDIVRQKTGG NVEFKDGVLT AAVRFLPVKD
 151  GQXAFVDNTV GMAAQTLSAA LLPYGVKSIV MIDGKAVKKE DAVRIXSXXA
 201  REXEPSKXXP EDILEHNAAG GDADVPQAGE DAPEPEILHP DDGERADTVT
 251  VSRGEVEEAR VQNQRAESEI TKLWGGLDTD VQKELVGEXR KWAQEKISNC
 301  RQAAAQADRQ EYAEYLKLQC DTRMTRERIQ YLRGYSID*
```

ORF25a and ORF25-1 show 93.5% identity in 338 aa overlap:

```
                  10        20        30        40        50        60
orf25a.pep       MYRKLIALPFALLLAACGREEPPKALECANPAVLQXIRXNIQETLTQEARSFAREDXXQF
                 |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| || ||||||||||||||||  ||
orf25-1          MYRKLIALPFALLLAACGREEPPKALECANPAVLQGIRGNIQETLTQEARSFAREDGRQF
```

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf25a.pep  VDADXIIAAAXXXXXSLEHASETQEGGRTFCXADLNITVPSETLADAKANSPLLYGETAL
            |||| |||||     ||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf25-1     VDADKIIAAAYGLAFSLEHASETQEGGRTFCIADLNITVPSETLADAKANSPLLYGETAL
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf25a.pep  SDIVRQKTGGNVEFKDGVLTAAVRFLPVKDGQXAFVDNTVGMAAQTLSAALLPYGVKSIV
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf25-1     SDIVRQKTGGNVEFKDGVLTAAVRFLPVKDGQTAFVDNTVGMAAQTLSAALLPYGVKSIV
                   130       140       150       160       170       180

                   190       200       210       220       230       240
orf25a.pep  MIDGKAVKKEDAVRIXSXXAREXEPSKXXPEDILEHNAAGGDADVPQAGEDAPEPEILHP
            |||||||||||||| |  ||| |||| :|||||||||||||| |||||:| |||||||||
orf25-1     MIDGKAVKKEDAVRILSGKAREEEPSKPTPEDILEHNAAGGDAGVPQAAEGAPEPEILHP
                   190       200       210       220       230       240

                   250       260       270       280       290       300
orf25a.pep  DDGERADTVTVSRGEVEEARVQNQRAESEITKLWGGLDTDVQKELVGEXRKWAQEKISNC
            |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||
orf25-1     DDGERADTVTVSRGEVEEARVQNQRAESEITKLWGGLDTDVQKELVGEQRKWAQEKISNC
                   250       260       270       280       290       300

                   310       320       330       339
orf25a.pep  RQAAAQADRQEYAEYLKLQCDTRMTRERIQYLRGYSIDX
            |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf25-1     RQAAAQADRQEYAEYLKLQCDTRMTRERIQYLRGYSIDX
                   310       320       330
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF25 shows 100% identity over a 60aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF25ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf25.pep                                          TDVQKELVGEQRKWAQEKISNCRQAAAQAD   30
                                                   ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf25ng     VTVSRGEVEEARVQNQRAESEITKLWGGLDTDVQKELVGEQRKWAQEKISNCRQAAAQAD  308

orf25.pep   RQEYAEYLKLQCDTRMTRERIQYLRGYSID   60
            |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf25ng     RQEYAEYLKLQCDTRMTRERIQYLRGYSID  338
```

The complete length ORF25ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 687> is:

```
   1  ATGTATCGGA AACTCATTGC GCTGCCGTTT GCCCTGCTGC TTGCAGCGTG
  51  CGGCAGGGAA GAACCGCCCA AGGCGTTGGA ATGCGCCAAC CCCGCCGTGT
 101  TGCAGGACAT ACGCGGCAGT ATTCAGGAAA CGCTCACGCA GGAAGCGCGT
 151  TCTTTCGCGC GCGAAGACGG CAGGCAGTTT GTCGATGCCG ACAAAATTAT
 201  CGCCGCCGCC TACGGTTTGG CGTTTTCTTT GGAACACGCT TCGGAAACGC
 251  AGGAAGGCGG GCGCACGTTC TGTATCGCCG ATTTGAACAT TACCGTGCCG
 301  TCTGAAACGC TTGCCGATGC CGAGGCAAAC AGCCCCCTGC TGTATGGGGA
 351  AACGTCTTTG GCAGACATCG TGCAGCAGAA GACGGGCGGC AATGTCGAGT
 401  TTAAAGACGG CGTATTGACG GCAGCCGTCC GCTTCCTGCC CGCCAAAGAC
 451  GCTCGGACGG CATTTATCGA CAACACGGTC GGTATGGCGA CGCAAACGCT
 501  GTCTGCCGCG TTGCTGCCTT ACGGCGTGAA GAGCATCGTG ATGATAGACG
 551  GCAAGGCGGT GACAAAAGAA GACGCGGTCA GGGTTTTGAG CGGCAAAGCC
 601  CGTGAAGAAG AACCGTCCAA ACCCACCCCC GAAGACATTT TGGAACACAA
 651  TGCCGCCGGC GGCGATGCGG GCGTACCCCA AGCCGCAGAA GGCGCACCCG
 701  AACCCGAAAT CCTGCATCCC GACGACGTCG AGCGTGCCGA TACCGTTACC
 751  GTATCACGGG GCGAAGTGGA AGAGGCGCGC GTACAAAACC AACGTGCGGA
 801  ATCCGAAATT ACCAAACTTT GGGGAGGACT CGATACCGAC GTGCAAAAAG
 851  AGTTGGTCGG CGAACAGCGC AAGTGGGCGC AGGAAAAAAT CAGcaactgc
 901  cgACAAGCCG CCGCGCAGGC AGACCGGCAG GAATACGCCG AATACCTCAA
 951  GCTCCAATGC GACACGCGGA TGACGCGCGA ACggaTACAG TATCTTCGCG
1001  GCTATTCCAT CGATTAG
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 688>:

```
  1  MYRKLIALPF ALLLAACGRE EPPKALECAN PAVLQDIRGS IQETLTQEAR
 51  SFAREDGRQF VDADKIIAAA YGLAFSLEHA SETQEGGRTF CIADLNITVP
101  SETLADAEAN SPLLYGETSL ADIVQQKTGG NVEFKDGVLT AAVRFLPAKD
151  ARTAFIDNTV GMATQTLSAA LLPYGVKSIV MIDGKAVTKE DAVRVLSGKA
201  REEEPSKPTP EDILEHNAAG GDAGVPQAAE GAPEPEILHP DDVERADTVT
251  VSRGEVEEAR VQNQRAESEI TKLWGGLDTD VQKELVGEQR KWAQEKISNC
301  RQAAAQADRQ EYAEYLKLQC DTRMTRERIQ YLRGYSID*
```

ORF25ng and ORF25-1 show 95.9% identity in 338 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf25-1.pep     MYRKLIALPFALLLAACGREEPPKALECANPAVLQGIRGNIQETLTQEARSFAREDGRQF
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||:||||||||||||||||||||
orf25ng         MYRKLIALPFALLLAACGREEPPKALECANPAVLQDIRGSIQETLTQEARSFAREDGRQF
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90       100       110       120
orf25-1.pep     VDADKIIAAAYGLAFSLEHASETQEGGRTFCIADLNITVPSETLADAKANSPLLYGETAL
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||:|
orf25ng         VDADKIIAAAYGLAFSLEHASETQEGGRTFCIADLNITVPSETLADAEANSPLLYGETSL
                70        80        90       100       110       120

               130       140       150       160       170       180
orf25-1.pep     SDIVRQKTGGNVEFKDGVLTAAVRFLPVKDGQTAFVDNTVGMAAQTLSAALLPYGVKSIV
                :|||:||||||||||||||||||||||:||::|||:|||||||:||||||||||||||||
orf25ng         ADIVQQKTGGNVEFKDGVLTAAVRFLPAKDARTAFIDNTVGMATQTLSAALLPYGVKSIV
                130       140       150       160       170       180

               190       200       210       220       230       240
orf25-1.pep     MIDGKAVKKEDAVRILSGKAREEEPSKPTPEDILEHNAAGGDAGVPQAAEGAPEPEILHP
                ||||||| ||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf25ng         MIDGKAVTKEDAVRVLSGKAREEEPSKPTPEDILEHNAAGGDAGVPQAAEGAPEPEILHP
                190       200       210       220       230       240

               250       260       270       280       290       300
orf25-1.pep     DDGERADTVTVSRGEVEEARVQNQRAESEITKLWGGLDTDVQKELVGEQRKWAQEKISNC
                || ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf25ng         DDVERADTVTVSRGEVEEARVQNQRAESEITKLWGGLDTDVQKELVGEQRKWAQEKISNC
                250       260       270       280       290       300

               310       320       330      339
orf25-1.pep     RQAAAQADRQEYAEYLKLQCDTRMTRERIQYLRGYSIDX
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf25ng         RQAAAQADRQEYAEYLKLQCDTRMTRERIQYLRGYSIDX
                310       320       330
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of a predicted prokaryotic membrane lipoprotein lipid attchment site (underlined) in the gonococcal protein, it was predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

ORF25-1 (37kDa) was cloned in pET and pGex vectors and expressed in *E.coli*, as described above. The products of protein expression and purification were analyzed by SDS-PAGE. Figure 16A shows the results of affinity purification of the GST-fusion protein, and Figure 16B shows the results of expression of the His-fusion in *E.coli*. Purified His-fusion protein was used to immunise mice, whose sera were used for Western blot (Figure 16C), ELISA (positive result), and FACS analysis (Figure 16D). These experiments confirm that ORF25-1 is a surface-exposed protein, and that it is a useful immunogen.

Figure 16E shows plots of hydrophilicity, antigenic index, and AMPHI regions for ORF25-1.

Example 82

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 689>

```
   1  ATGCAGCTGA TCGACTATTC ACATTCATTT TTCTCGGTTG TGCCACCCTT
  51  TTTGGCACTG GCACTTGCCG TCATTACCCG CCGCGTACTG CTGTCTTTAG
 101  GCATCGGTAT TCTGGwysGC GTTGCCTTTT TGGTCGGCGG CAACCCCGTC
 151  GACGGTCTGA CACACCTGAA AGACATGGTC GTCGGCTTGG CTTGGTCAGA
 201  CGsyGATTGG TCGCTGGGCA AACCAAAAAT CTTGGTTTTC CkGATACTTT
 251  TGGGTATTTT TACTTCCCTG CTGACCTACT CCGGCAGCAA T.........
                                      //
 851  .......... .......... .......... ........AC TTCGCTGGTA
 901  TTCGGCGGCA CTTGCGGCGT CTTTGCCGTC GTTCTCTGCA CGCTCGGCAC
 951  GATTAAAACC GCCGACTATC CCAAAGCCGT TTGGCAGGGT GCGAAATCTA
1001  TGTTCGGCGC AATCGCCATT TTAATCCTCG CTTGGCTCAT CAGTACGGTT
1051  GTCGGCGAAA TGCACACCGG CGATTACCTC TCCACACTGG TTGCGGGCAA
1101  CATCCATCCC GGCTTCCTGC CCGTCATCCT CTTCCTGCTC GCCAGCGTGA
1151  TGGCGTTTGC CACAGGCACA AGCTGGGGGA CGTTCGGCAT TATGCTGCCG
1201  ATTGCCGCCG CCATGGCGGT CAAAGTCGAA CCCGCGCTGA TTATCCCGTG
1251  TATGTCCGCA GTAATGGCGG GGGCGGTATG CGGCGACCAC TGCTCGCCCA
1301  TTTCCGACAC GACCATCCTG TCGTCCACCG GCGCGCGCTG CAACCACATC
1351  GACCACGTTA CCTCGCAACT GCCTTACGCC TTAACCGTTG CCGCCGCCGC
1401  CGCATCGGGC TACCTCGCAT TGGGTCTGAC AAAATCCGCG CTGTTGGGCT
1451  TTGGCACGAC AGGCATTGTA TTGGCGGTGC TGATTTTTCT GTTGAAAGAT
1501  AAAAAA..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 690; ORF26>:

```
   1  MQLIDYSHSF FSVVPPFLAL ALAVITRRVL LSLGIGILXX VAFLVGGNPV
  51  DGLTHLKDMV VGLAWSDXDW SLGKPKILVF XILLGIFTSL LTYSGSN...
                                      //
 251  .......... .......... .......... .......... ......TSLV
 301  FGGTCGVFAV VLCTLGTIKT ADYPKAVWQG AKSMFGAIAI LILAWLISTV
 351  VGEMHTGDYL STLVAGNIHP GFLPVILFLL ASVMAFATGT SWGTFGIMLP
 401  IAAAMAVKVE PALIIPCMSA VMAGAVCGDH CSPISDTTIL SSTGARCNHI
 451  DHVTSQLPYA LTVAAAAASG YLALGLTKSA LLGFGTTGIV LAVLIFLLKD
 501  KK..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 691>:

```
   1  ATGCAGCTGA TCGACTATTC ACATTCATTT TTCTCGGTTG TGCCACCCTT
  51  TTTGGCACTG GCACTTGCCG TCATTACCCG CCGCGTACTG CTGTCTTTAG
 101  GCATCGGTAT TCTGGTCGGC GTTGCCTTTT TGGTCGGCGG CAACCCCGTC
 151  GACGGTCTGA CACACCTGAA AGACATGGTC GTCGGCTTGG CTTGGTCAGA
 201  CGGCGATTGG TCGCTGGGCA AACCAAAAAT CTTGGTTTTC CTGATACTTT
 251  TGGGTATTTT TACTTCCCTG CTGACCTACT CCGGCAGCAA TCAGGCGTTT
 301  GCCGACTGGG CAAAACGGCA CATTAAAAAC CGGCGCGGCG CGAAAATGCT
 351  GACCGCCTGC CTCGTGTTCG TAACCTTTAT CGACGACTAT TTCCACAGTC
 401  TCGCCGTCGG TGCGATTGCC CGCCCCGTTA CCGACAAGTT TAAAGTTTCC
 451  CGCACCAAAC TCGCCTACAT CCTCGACTCC ACTGCCGCTC CTATGTGCGT
 501  GCTGATGCCC GTTTCAAGCT GGGGCGCGTC GATTATCGCC ACGCTTGCCG
 551  GACTGCTCGT TACCTACAAA ATCACCGAAT ACACGCCGAT GGGGACGTTT
 601  GTCGCCATGA GCCTGATGAA CTATTACGCA CTGTTTGCCC TGATTATGGT
 651  GTTCGTCGTC GCATGGTTTT CCTTCGACAT CGGCTCGATG GCACGTTTCG
 701  AACAAGCCGC GTTGAACGAA GCCCACGATG AAACTGCCGT TTCAGACGCT
 751  ACCAAAGGTC GTGTTTACGC ACTGATTATT CCCGTTTTGG CCTTAATCGC
 801  CTCAACGGTT TCCGCCATGA TCTACACCGG CGCGCAGGCA AGCGAAACCT
 851  TCAGCATTTT GGGGGCATTT GAAAACACGG ACGTAAACAC TTCGCTGGTA
 901  TTCGGCGGCA CTTGCGGCGT CCTTGCCGTC GTTCTCTGCA CGCTCGGCAC
 951  GATTAAAACC GCCGACTATC CCAAAGCCGT TTGGCAGGGT GCGAAATCTA
1001  TGTTCGGCGC AATCGCCATT TTAATCCTCG CTTGGCTCAT CAGTACGGTT
1051  GTCGGCGAAA TGCACACCGG CGATTACCTC TCCACACTGG TTGCGGGCAA
1101  CATCCATCCC GGCTTCCTGC CCGTCATCCT CTTCCTGCTC GCCAGCGTGA
1151  TGGCGTTTGC CACAGGCACA AGCTGGGGGA CGTTCGGCAT TATGCTGCCG
1201  ATTGCCGCCG CCATGGCGGT CAAAGTCGAA CCCGCGCTGA TTATCCCGTG
1251  TATGTCCGCA GTAATGGCGG GGGCGGTATG CGGCGACCAC TGCTCGCCCA
1301  TTTCCGACAC GACCATCCTG TCGTCCACCG GCGCGCGCTG CAACCACATC
```

```
1351  GACCACGTTA CCTCGCAACT GCCTTACGCC TTAACCGTTG CCGCCGCCGC
1401  CGCATCGGGC TACCTCGCAT TGGGTCTGAC AAAATCCGCG CTGTTGGGCT
1451  TTGGCACGAC AGGCATTGTA TTGGCGGTGC TGATTTTTCT GTTGAAAGAT
1501  AAAAAACGCG CCAACGCCTG A
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 692; ORF26-1>:

```
   1  MQLIDYSHSF FSVVPPFLAL ALAVITRRVL LSLGIGILVG VAFLVGGNPV
  51  DGLTHLKDMV VGLAWSDGDW SLGKPKILVF LILLGIFTSL LTYSGSNQAF
 101  ADWAKRHIKN RRGAKMLTAC LVFVTFIDDY FHSLAVGAIA RPVTDKFKVS
 151  RTKLAYILDS TAAPMCVLMP VSSWGASIIA TLAGLLVTYK ITEYTPMGTF
 201  VAMSLMNYYA LFALIMVFVV AWFSFDIGSM ARFEQAALNE AHDETAVSDA
 251  TKGRVYALII PVLALIASTV SAMIYTGAQA SETFSILGAF ENTDVNTSLV
 301  FGGTCGVLAV VLCTLGTIKT ADYPKAVWQG AKSMFGAIAI LILAWLISTV
 351  VGEMHTGDYL STLVAGNIHP GFLPVILFLL ASVMAFATGT SWGTFGIMLP
 401  IAAAMAVKVE PALIIPCMSA VMAGAVCGDH CSPISDTTIL SSTGARCNHI
 451  DHVTSQLPYA LTVAAAAASG YLALGLTKSA LLGFGTTGIV LAVLIFLLKD
 501  KKRANA*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with the hypothetical transmembrane protein HI1586 of *H.influenzae* (accession number P44263)

ORF26 and HI1586 show 53% and 49% amino acid identity in 97 and 221 aa overlap at the N-terminus and C-terminus, respectively:

```
Orf26   1   MQLIDYSHSFFSVVPPFLALALAVITRRVXXXXXXXXXXXXVAFLVGGNPVDGLTHLKDMV 60
            M+LID+S S +S+VP  LA+ LA+ TRRV               L           +L   V
HI1586 14   MELIDFSSSVWSIVPALLAIILAIATRRVLVSLSAGIIIGSLMLSDWQIGSAFNYLVKNV 73

Orf26   61  VGLAWSDXDWSLGKPKILVFXILLGIFTSLLTYSGSN 97
            V L ++D + +      I++F +LLG+ T+LLT SGSN
HI1586 74   VSLVYADGEIN-SNMNIVLFLLLLGVLTALLTVSGSN 109

                                    //

Orf26   86  IFTSLLTYSGS--NTSLVFGGTCGVFAVVLCTL--GTIKTADYPKAVWQGAKSMFGXXXX 141
            +F+ L T+  +   TSLV GG C +    L  +    +   +Y ++   G KSM G
HI1586 299  VFSVLGTFENTVVGTSLVVGGFCSIIISTLLIILDRQVSVPEYVRSWIVGIKSMSGAIAI 358

Orf26   142 XXXXXXXSTVVGEMHTGDYLSTLVAGNIHPGFLPVILFLLASVMAFATGTSWGTFGIMLP 201
                  + +VG+M TG YLS+LV+GNI    FLPVILF+L + MAF+TGTSWGTFGIMLP
HI1586 359  LFFAWTINKIVGDMQTGKYLSSLVSGNIPMQFLPVILFVLGAAMAFSTGTSWGTFGIMLP 418

Orf26   202 IAAAMAVKVEPALIIPCMSAVMAGAVCGDHCSPISDTTILSSTGARCNHIDHVTSQXXXX 261
            IAAAMA     P L++PC+SAVMAGAVCGDHCSP+SDTTILSSTGA+CNHIDHVT+Q
HI1586 419  IAAAMAANAAPELLLPCLSAVMAGAVCGDHCSPVSDTTILSSTGAKCNHIDHVTTQLPYA 478

Orf26   262 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXKSALLGFGTTGIVLAVLIFLLKDK 302
                            S L GF  T + L V+IF +K +
HI1586 479  ATVATATSIGYIVVGFTYSGLAGFAATAVSLIVIIFAVKKR 519
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF26 shows 58.2% identity over a 502aa overlap with an ORF (ORF26a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf26.pep       MQLIDYSHSFFSVVPPFLALALAVITRRVLLSLGIGILXXVAFLVGGNPVDGLTHLKDMV
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||  ||||||||||||||||||
orf26a          MQLIDYSHSFFSVVPPFLALALAVITRRVLLSLGIGILVGVAFLVGGNPVDGLTHLKDMV
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        99
orf26.pep       VGLAWSDXDWSLGKPKILVFXILLGIFTSLLTYSGSNXX--------------------
                ||||||| |||||||| ||| ||||||||||||||||
orf26a          VGLAWSDGDWSLGKPKXLVFLILLGIFTSLLTYSGSNQAFADWAKRHIKNRRGAKMLTAC
                70        80        90        100       110       120
```

```
orf26.pep  ------------------------------------------------------------
orf26a     LVFVTFIDDYFHSLAVGAXARPVTDKFKVSRAKLAYILDSTAAPMCVLMPVSSWGASIIA
                  130       140       150       160       170       180

orf26.pep  ------------------------------------------------------------
orf26a     TLAGLLVTYKITEYTPMGTFVAMSLMNYYALFALIMVFVVAWFSFDIGSMARFEQAALNE
                  190       200       210       220       230       240

                                                    100       110
orf26.pep  ------------------------------------------------------TSLV
                                                                    ||||
orf26a     AHDETAVSDGSWGRVYALIIPVLALIASTVSAMIYTGAQASETFSILGAFENTDVNTSLV
                  250       260       270       280       290       300

             120       130       140       150       160       170
orf26.pep  FGGTCGVFAVVLCTLGTIKTADYPKAVWQGAKSMFGAIAILILAWLISTVVGEMHTGDYL
           |||||||:||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf26a     FGGTCGVLAVVLCTLGTIKIADYPKAVWQGAKSMFGAIAILILAWLISTVVGEMHTGDYL
                  310       320       330       340       350       360

             180       190       200       210       220       230
orf26.pep  STLVAGNIHPGFLPVILFLLASVMAFATGTSWGTFGIMLPIAAAMAVKVEPALIIPCMSA
           |||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|:|||||||||
orf26a     STLVAGNIHPGFLXVILFLLASVMAFATGTSWGTFGIMLPIAAAMAVKVDPSLIIPCMSA
                  370       380       390       400       410       420

             240       250       260       270       280       290
orf26.pep  VMAGAVCGDHCSPISDTTILSSTGARCNHIDHVTSQLPYALTVAAAAASGYLALGLTKSA
           ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf26a     VMAGAVCGDHCSPISDTTILSSTGARCNHIDHVTSQLPYALTVAAAAASGYLALGLTKSA
                  430       440       450       460       470       480

             300       310
orf26.pep  LLGFGTTGIVLAVLIFLLKDKK
           |||||:|||||||||||||||
orf26a     LLGFGXTGIVLAVLIFLLKDKKRANAX
                  490       500
```

The complete length ORF26a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 693> is:

```
   1  ATGCAGCTGA TCGACTATTC ACATTCATTT TTCTCGGTTG TGCCACCCTT
  51  TTTGGCACTG GCACTTGCCG TCATTACCCG CCGCGTACTG CTGTCTTTAG
 101  GCATCGGTAT TCTGGTCGGC GTTGCCTTTT TGGTCGGCGG CAACCCCGTC
 151  GACGGTCTGA CACACCTGAA AGACATGGTC GTCGGCTTGG CTTGGTCAGA
 201  CGGCGATTGG TCGCTGGGCA AACCAAAANT CTTGGTTTTC CTGATACTTT
 251  TGGGTATTTT TACTTCCCTG CTGACCTACT CCGGCAGCAA TCAGGCGTTT
 301  GCCGACTGGG CAAAACGGCA CATTAAAAAC CGGCGCGGCG CGAAAATGCT
 351  GACCGCCTGC CTCGTGTTCG TAACCTTTAT CGACGACTAT TTCCACAGTC
 401  TCGCCGTCGG TGCGNTTGCC CGCCCCGTTA CCGACAAGTT TAAAGTTTCC
 451  CGCGCCAAAC TCGCCTACAT CCTCGACTCC ACTGCCGCGC CTATGTGCGT
 501  GCTGATGCCC GTTTCAAGCT GGGGCGCGTC GATTATCGCC ACGCTTGCCG
 551  GACTGCTCGT TACCTACAAA ATCACCGAAT ACACGCCGAT GGGGACGTTT
 601  GTCGCCATGA GCCTGATGAA CTATTACGCA CTGTTTGCCC TGATTATGGT
 651  GTTCGTCGTC GCATGGTTCT CCTTCGACAT CGGCTCGATG GCACGTTTCG
 701  AACAAGCCGC GTTGAACGAA GCCCACGATG AAACTGCCGT TTCAGACGGC
 751  AGCTGGGGCA GGGTTTACGC ATTGATTATT CCCGTTTTGG CCTTAATCGC
 801  CTCAACGGTT TCCGCCATGA TCTACACCGG TGCACAGGCA AGCGAAACCT
 851  TCAGCATTTT GGGTGCATTT GAAAATACGG ACGTGAACAC TTCGCTGGTA
 901  TTCGGCGGCA CTTGCGGCGT GCTTGCCGTC GTCCTCTGCA CGCTCGGCAC
 951  GATTAAAATC GCCGATTATC CCAAAGCCGT TTGGCAGGGT GCGAAATCCA
1001  TGTTCGGCGC AATCGCCATT TTAATCCTTG CCTGGCTCAT CAGTACGGTT
1051  GTCGGCGAAA TGCACACAGG CGACTACCTC TCCACGCTGG TTGCGGGCAA
1101  CATCCATCCC GGCTTCCTGN CCGTCATCCT TTTCCTGCTC GCCAGCGTGA
1151  TGGCGTTTGC CACAGGCACA AGCTGGGGGA CGTTCGGCAT CATGCTGCCG
1201  ATTGCCGCCG CCATGGCGGT CAAAGTCGAT CCCTCACTGA TTATCCCGTG
1251  TATGTCCGCC GTGATGGCGG GGGCGGTATG CGGCGACCAC TGCTCGCCCA
1301  TTTCCGACAC GACCATCCTG TCGTCCACCG GCGCGCGCTG CAACCACATC
```

```
1351  GACCACGTTA CNTCGCAACT GCCTTACGCC TTAACCGTTG CCGCCGCCGC
1401  CGCATCGGGN TACCTCGCAT TGGGTCTGAC AAAATCCGCG CTGTTGGGTT
1451  TTGGCANGAC AGGCATTGTA TTGGCGGTGC TGATTTTTGT GTTGAAAGAT
1501  AAAAAACGCG CCAACGCCTG A
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 694>:

```
   1  MQLIDYSHSF FSVVPPFLAL ALAVITRRVL LSLGIGILVG VAFLVGGNPV
  51  DGLTHLKDMV VGLAWSDGDW SLGKPKXLVF LILLGIFTSL LTYSGSNQAF
 101  ADWAKRHIKN RRGAKMLTAC LVFVTFIDDY FHSLAVGAXA RPVTDKFKVS
 151  RAKLAYILDS TAAPMCVLMP VSSWGASIIA TLAGLLVTYK ITEYTPMGTF
 201  VAMSLMNYYA LFALIMVFVV AWFSFDIGSM ARFEQAALNE AHDETAVSDG
 251  SWGRVYALII PVLALIASTV SAMIYTGAQA SETFSILGAF ENTDVNTSLV
 301  FGGTCGVLAV VLCTLGTIKI ADYPKAVWQG AKSMFGAIAI LILAWLISTV
 351  VGEMHTGDYL STLVAGNIHP GFLXVILFLL ASVMAFATGT SWGTFGIMLP
 401  IAAAMAVKVD PSLIIPCMSA VMAGAVCGDH CSPISDTTIL SSTGARCNHI
 451  DHVTSQLPYA LTVAAAAASG YLALGLTKSA LLGFGXTGIV LAVLIFLLKD
 501  KKRANA*
```

ORF26a and ORF26-1 show 97.8% identity in 506 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf26a.pep      MQLIDYSHSFFSVVPPFLALALAVITRRVLLSLGIGILVGVAFLVGGNPVDGLTHLKDMV
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf26-1         MQLIDYSHSFFSVVPPFLALALAVITRRVLLSLGIGILVGVAFLVGGNPVDGLTHLKDMV
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf26a.pep      VGLAWSDGDWSLGKPKXLVFLILLGIFTSLLTYSGSNQAFADWAKRHIKNRRGAKMLTAC
                |||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf26-1         VGLAWSDGDWSLGKPKILVFLILLGIFTSLLTYSGSNQAFADWAKRHIKNRRGAKMLTAC
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf26a.pep      LVFVTFIDDYFHSLAVGAXARPVTDKFKVSRAKLAYILDSTAAPMCVLMPVSSWGASIIA
                |||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf26-1         LVFVTFIDDYFHSLAVGAIARPVTDKFKVSRTKLAYILDSTAAPMCVLMPVSSWGASIIA
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf26a.pep      TLAGLLVTYKITEYTPMGTFVAMSLMNYYALFALIMVFVVAWFSFDIGSMARFEQAALNE
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf26-1         TLAGLLVTYKITEYTPMGTFVAMSLMNYYALFALIMVFVVAWFSFDIGSMARFEQAALNE
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260       270       280       290       300
orf26a.pep      AHDETAVSDGSWGRVYALIIPVLALIASTVSAMIYTGAQASETFSILGAFENTDVNTSLV
                |||||||||:: ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf26-1         AHDETAVSDATKGRVYALIIPVLALIASTVSAMIYTGAQASETFSILGAFENTDVNTSLV
                250       260       270       280       290       300

                310       320       330       340       350       360
orf26a.pep      FGGTCGVLAVVLCTLGTIKIADYPKAVWQGAKSMFGAIAILILAWLISTVVGEMHTGDYL
                |||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf26-1         FGGTCGVLAVVLCTLGTIKTADYPKAVWQGAKSMFGAIAILILAWLISTVVGEMHTGDYL
                310       320       330       340       350       360

                370       380       390       400       410       420
orf26a.pep      STLVAGNIHPGFLXVILFLLASVMAFATGTSWGTFGIMLPIAAAMAVKVDPSLIIPCMSA
                |||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|:||||||||||||
orf26-1         STLVAGNIHPGFLPVILFLLASVMAFATGTSWGTFGIMLPIAAAMAVKVEPALIIPCMSA
                370       380       390       400       410       420

                430       440       450       460       470       480
orf26a.pep      VMAGAVCGDHCSPISDTTILSSTGARCNHIDHVTSQLPYALTVAAAAASGYLALGLTKSA
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf26-1         VMAGAVCGDHCSPISDTTILSSTGARCNHIDHVTSQLPYALTVAAAAASGYLALGLTKSA
                430       440       450       460       470       480

                490       500
orf26a.pep      LLGFGXTGIVLAVLIFLLKDKKRANAX
```

```
                    ||||||:||||||||||||||||||||
orf26-1         LLGFGTTGIVLAVLIFLLKDKKRANAX
                      490       500
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF26 shows 94.8% and 99% identity in 97 and 206 aa overlap at the N-terminus and C-terminus, respectively, with a predicted ORF (ORF26ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf26.pep    MQLIDYSHSFFSVVPPFLALALAVITRRVLLSLGIGILXXVAFLVGGNPVDGLTHLKDMV  60
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||
orf26ng      MQLIDYSHSFFSVVPPFLALALAVITRRVLLSLGIGILVGVAFLVGGNPVDGLTHLKDMV  60

orf26.pep    VGLAWSDXDWSLGKPKILVFXILLGIFTSLLTYSGSN                         97
             |||||:| |||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||
orf26ng      VGLAWADGDWSLGKPKILVFLILLGIFTSLLTYSGSNQAFADWAKRHIKNRCGAKMLTAC 120

                                          //

orf26.pep                                 TSLVFGGTCGVFAVVLCTLGTIKTADYPKA  326
                                          ||||||||||:||||||:||||||||||||
orf26ng      ASTVSAMIYTGAQASETFSILGAFENTDVNTSLVFGGTCGVLAVVLCTFGTIKTADYPKA  326

orf26.pep    VWQGAKSMFGAIAILILAWLISTVVGEMHTGDYLSTLVAGNIHPGFLPVILFLLASVMAF  386
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf26ng      VWQGAKSMFGAIAILILAWLISTVVGEMHTGDYLSTLVAGNIHPGFLPVILFLLASVMAF  386

orf26.pep    ATGTSWGTFGIMLPIAAAMAVKVEPALIIPCMSAVMAGAVCGDHCSPISDTTILSSTGAR  446
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf26ng      ATGTSWGTFGIMLPIAAAMAVKVEPALIIPCMSAVMAGAVCGDHCSPISDTTILSSTGAR  446

orf26.pep    CNHIDHVTSQLPYALTVAAAAASGYLALGLTKSALLGFGTTGIVLAVLIFLLKDKK      502
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf26ng      CNHIDHVTSQLPYALTVAAAAASGYLALGLTKSALLGFGTTGIVLAVLIFLLKDKKRADV  506
```

The complete length ORF26ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 695> is:

```
   1  ATGCAGCTGA TTGACTATTC ACATTCATTT TTCTCGGTTG TGCCACCCTT
  51  TTTGGCACTG GCACTTGCCG TCATTACCCG CCGCGTACTG CTGTCTTTAG
 101  GCATCGGTAT TTTGGTCGGC GTTGCCTTTT TGGTCGGCGG CAACCCCGTC
 151  GACGGTCTGA CACACCTGAA AGACATGGTC GTCGGCTTGG CTTGGGCAGA
 201  CGGCGATTGG TCGCTGGGCA AACCAAAAAT CTTGGTTTTC CTGATACTTT
 251  TGGGCATTTT CACTTCACTG CTGACCTACT CCGGCAGCAA TCAGGCGTTT
 301  GCCGACTGGG CAAAACGGCA CATTAAAAAC CGGTGCGGCG CGAAAATGCT
 351  GACCGCCTGC CTCGTGTTCG TAACCTTTAT CGACGACTAT TTCCACAGCC
 401  TCGCCGTCGG TGCGATTGCC CGCCCCGTTA CCGACAAGTT TAAAGTTTCC
 451  CGCGCCAAAC TCGCCTACAT CCTCGACTCC ACTGCCTCGC CCATGTGCGT
 501  GCTGATGCCC GTTTCAAGCT GGGGCGCGTC GATTATCGCC ACGCTTGCCG
 551  GATTGCTCGT TACCTACAAA ATTACCGAAT ACACGCCGAT GGGGACGTTT
 601  GTCGCCATGA GCCTGATGAA CTATTACGCG CTGTTTGCCC TGATTATGGT
 651  ATTCGTCGTC GCATGGTTCT CCTTCGACAT CGGCTCGAtg gCGCGTTTCG
 701  AACAGGCTGC GTTGAACGAA gcccaggacg aaaccgccgc tTCAGACgCT
 751  ACCAAAGGTC GTGTTTACGC ATTGATTATT CCCGTTTTGG CCTTAATCGC
 801  CTCAACGGTT TCCGCCATGA TCTACACCGG CGCGCAGGCA AGCGAAACCT
 851  TCAGCATTTT GGGGGCATTT GAAAATACCG ACGTAAACAC TTCGCTGGTA
 901  TTCGGCGGCA CTTGCGGCGT GCTTGCCGTC GTCCTCTGCA CGTTCGGCAC
 951  GATTAAAACC GCCGATTATC CCAAAGCCGT GTGGCAGGGT GCGAAATCCA
1001  TGTTCGGCGC AATCGCCATT TTAATCCTCG CCTGGCTCAT CAGTACGGTT
1051  GTCGGCGAAA TGCACACGGG CGACTACCTC TCCACGCTGG TTGCGGGCAA
1101  CATCCATCCC GGCTTCCTGC CCGTCATCCT CTTCCTGCTC GCCAGCGTGA
1151  TGGCGTTTGC CACAGGCACA AGCTGGGGGA CGTTCGGCAT TATGCTGCCG
1201  ATTGCCGCCG CCATGGCGGT CAAAGTCGAA CCCGCGCTGA TTAtcccGTG
1251  TATGTCCGCA GTAATGGCGG GGGCGGTATG CGGCGACCAC TGTTCGCCCA
1301  TCTCCGACAC GACCATCCTG TCGTCCACCG GCGCGCGCTG CAACCACATC
1351  GACCACGTTA CCTCGCAACT GCCTTATGCC CTGACGGTTG CCGCCGCCGC
1401  CGCATCGGGC TACCTCGCAT TGGGTCTGAC AAAATCCGCG CTGTTGGGCT
1451  TTGGCACGAC CGGTATTGTA TTGGCGGTGC TGATTTTTCT GTTGAAAGAT
1501  AAAAAACGCG CCGACGTTTG A
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 696>:

```
  1  MQLIDYSHSF FSVVPPFLAL ALAVITRRVL LSLGIGILVG VAFLVGGNPV
 51  DGLTHLKDMV VGLAWADGDW SLGKPKILVF LILLGIFTSL LTYSGSNQAF
101  ADWAKRHIKN RCGAKMLTAC LVFVTFIDDY FHSLAVGAIA RPVTDKFKVS
151  RAKLAYILDS TASPMCVLMP VSSWGASIIA TLAGLLVTYK ITEYTPMGTF
201  VAMSLMNYYA LFALIMVFVV AWFSFDIGSM ARFEQAALNE AQDETAASDA
251  TKGRVYALII PVLALIASTV SAMIYTGAQA SETFSILGAF ENTDVNTSLV
301  FGGTCGVLAV VLCTFGTIKT ADYPKAVWQG AKSMFGAIAI LILAWLISTV
351  VGEMHTGDYL STLVAGNIHP GFLPVILFLL ASVMAFATGT SWGTFGIMLP
401  IAAAMAVKVE PALIIPCMSA VMAGAVCGDH CSPISDTTIL SSTGARCNHI
451  DHVTSQLPYA LTVAAAAASG YLALGLTKSA LLGFGTTGIV LAVLIFLLKD
501  KKRADV*
```

ORF26ng and ORF26-1 show 98.4% identity in 505 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf26-1.pep     MQLIDYSHSFFSVVPPFLALALAVITRRVLLSLGIGILVGVAFLVGGNPVDGLTHLKDMV
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf26ng         MQLIDYSHSFFSVVPPFLALALAVITRRVLLSLGIGILVGVAFLVGGNPVDGLTHLKDMV
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf26-1.pep     VGLAWSDGDWSLGKPKILVFLILLGIFTSLLTYSGSNQAFADWAKRHIKNRRGAKMLTAC
                |||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||
orf26ng         VGLAWADGDWSLGKPKILVFLILLGIFTSLLTYSGSNQAFADWAKRHIKNRCGAKMLTAC
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf26-1.pep     LVFVTFIDDYFHSLAVGAIARPVTDKFKVSRTKLAYILDSTAAPMCVLMPVSSWGASIIA
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||
orf26ng         LVFVTFIDDYFHSLAVGAIARPVTDKFKVSRAKLAYILDSTASPMCVLMPVSSWGASIIA
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf26-1.pep     TLAGLLVTYKITEYTPMGTFVAMSLMNYYALFALIMVFVVAWFSFDIGSMARFEQAALNE
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf26ng         TLAGLLVTYKITEYTPMGTFVAMSLMNYYALFALIMVFVVAWFSFDIGSMARFEQAALNE
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260       270       280       290       300
orf26-1.pep     AHDETAVSDATKGRVYALIIPVLALIASTVSAMIYTGAQASETFSILGAFENTDVNTSLV
                |:|||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf26ng         AQDETAASDATKGRVYALIIPVLALIASTVSAMIYTGAQASETFSILGAFENTDVNTSLV
                250       260       270       280       290       300

                310       320       330       340       350       360
orf26-1.pep     FGGTCGVLAVVLCTLGTIKTADYPKAVWQGAKSMFGAIAILILAWLISTVVGEMHTGDYL
                ||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf26ng         FGGTCGVLAVVLCTFGTIKTADYPKAVWQGAKSMFGAIAILILAWLISTVVGEMHTGDYL
                310       320       330       340       350       360

                370       380       390       400       410       420
orf26-1.pep     STLVAGNIHPGFLPVILFLLASVMAFATGTSWGTFGIMLPIAAAMAVKVEPALIIPCMSA
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf26ng         STLVAGNIHPGFLPVILFLLASVMAFATGTSWGTFGIMLPIAAAMAVKVEPALIIPCMSA
                370       380       390       400       410       420

                430       440       450       460       470       480
orf26-1.pep     VMAGAVCGDHCSPISDTTILSSTGARCNHIDHVTSQLPYALTVAAAAASGYLALGLTKSA
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf26ng         VMAGAVCGDHCSPISDTTILSSTGARCNHIDHVTSQLPYALTVAAAAASGYLALGLTKSA
                430       440       450       460       470       480

                490       500
orf26-1.pep     LLGFGTTGIVLAVLIFLLKDKKRANAX
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||::
orf26ng         LLGFGTTGIVLAVLIFLLKDKKRADVX
                490       500
```

In addition, ORF26 ng shows significant homology to a hypothetical *H.influenzae* protein:

```
sp|P44263|YF86_HAEIN   HYPOTHETICAL   PROTEIN   HI1586   >gi|1074850|pir||C64037
hypothetical
protein HI1586 - Haemophilus influenzae (strain Rd KW20) >gi|1574427 (U32832) H.
influenzae predicted coding region HI1586 [Haemophilus influenzae] Length = 519
 Score =  538 bits (1370), Expect = e-152
 Identities = 280/507 (55%), Positives = 346/507 (68%), Gaps = 7/507 (1%)

Query: 1   MQLIDYSHSFFSVVPPFLALALAVITRRXXXXXXXXXXXXXAFLVGGNPVDGLTHLKDMV 60
            M+LID+S S +S+VP  LA+ LA+ TRR               L          +L   V
Sbjct: 14  MELIDFSSSVWSIVPALLAIILAIATRRVLVSLSAGIIIGSLMLSDWQIGSAFNYLVKNV 73

Query: 61  VGLAWADGDWSLGKPKILVFLILLGIFTSLLTYSGSNQAFADWAKRHIKNRCGAKMLTAC 120
            V L +ADG+ +     I++FL+LLG+ T+LLT SGSN+AFA+WA+  IK R GAK+L A
Sbjct: 74  VSLVYADGEIN-SNMNIVLFLLLLGVLTALLTVSGSNRAFAEWAQSRIKGRRGAKLLAAS 132

Query: 121 LVFVTFIDDYFHSLAVGAIARPVTDKFKVSRAKLAYILDSTASPMCVLMPVSSWGASIIA 180
            LVFVTFIDDYFHSLAVGAIARPVTD+FKVSRAKLAYILDSTA+PMCV+MPVSSWGA II
Sbjct: 133 LVFVTFIDDYFHSLAVGAIARPVTDRFKVSRAKLAYILDSTAAPMCVMMPVSSWGAYIIT 192

Query: 181 TLAGLLVTYKITEYTPMGTFVAMSLMNYYALFALIMVFVVAWFSFDIGSMARFEQAALNE 240
             + GLL TY ITEYTP+G FVAMS MN+YA+F++IMVF VA+FSFDI SM R E+ AL
Sbjct: 193 LIGGLLATYSITEYTPIGAFVAMSSMNFYAIFSIIMVFFVAYFSFDIASMVRHEKLALKN 252

Query: 241 AQDETAASDATKGRVYALIIPVLALIASTVSAMIYTGAQA----SETFSILGAFENTDVN 296
             +D+      TKG+V  LI+P+L LI +TVS MIYTGA+A     + FS+LG FENT V
Sbjct: 253 TEDQLEEETGTKGQVRNLILPILVLIIATVSMMIYTGAEALAADGKVFSVLGTFFENTVVG 312

Query: 297 TSLVFGGTCGVL--AVVLCTFGTIKTADYPKAVWQGAKSMFGXXXXXXXXXXXSTVVGEM 354
            TSLV GG C ++   +++     +   +Y ++   G KSM G           + +VG+M
Sbjct: 313 TSLVVGGFCSIIISTLLIILDRQVSVPEYVRSWIVGIKSMSGAIAILFFAWTINKIVGDM 372

Query: 355 HTGDYLSTLVAGNIHPGFLPVILFLLASVMAFATGTSWGTFGIMLPIAAAMAVKVEPALI 414
             TG YLS+LV+GNI   FLPVILF+L + MAF+TGTSWGTFGIMLPIAAAMA    P L+
Sbjct: 373 QTGKYLSSLVSGNIPMQFLPVILFVLGAAMAFSTGTSWGTFGIMLPIAAAMAANAAPELL 432

Query: 415 IPCMSAVMAGAVCGDHCSPISDTTILSSTGARCNHIDHVTSQXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX 474
            +PC+SAVMAGAVCGDHCSP+SDTTILSSTGA+CNHIDHVT+Q
Sbjct: 433 LPCLSAVMAGAVCGDHCSPVSDTTILSSTGAKCNHIDHVTTQLPYAATVATATSIGYIVV 492

Query: 475 XXXKSALLGFGTTGIVLAVLIFLLKDK 501
               S L GF  T + L V+IF +K +
Sbjct: 493 GFTYSGLAGFAATAVSLIVIIFAVKKR 519
```

Based on this analysis, it is predicted that these proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 83

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 697>:

```
   1  ..AAGCAATGGT ATGCCGACGN .AGTATCAAG ACGGAAATGG TTATGGTCAA
  51    CGATGAGCCT GCCAAAATTC TGACTTGGGA TGAAAGCGGC CGATTACTCT
 101    CGGAACTGTC TATCCGCCAC CATCAACGCA ACGGGGTGGT TTTGGAGTGG
 151    TATGAAGATG GTTCTAAAAA GAGCGAAGT. GTTTATCAGG ATGACAAGTT
 201    GGTCAGGAAA ACCCAGTGGG ATAAGGATGG TTATTTAATC GAACCCTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 698; ORF27>:

```
   1  ..KQWYADXSIK TEMVMVNDEP AKILTWDESG RLLSELSIRH HQRNGVVLEW
  51    YEDGSKKSEX VYQDDKLVRK TQWDKDGYLI EP*
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 699>:

```
   1  ATGAAAAAAT TATCTCGGAT TGTATTTTCA ACTGTCCTGT TGGGTTTTTC
  51  GGCCGCTTTG CCGGCGCAGA CCTATTCTGT TTATTTTAAT CAGAACGGAA
 101  AGCTGACGGC GACGATGTCT TCTGCCGCTT ATATCAGGCA ATATAGTGTG
 151  GTGGCGGGTA TTGCGCACGC GCAGGATTTT TATTATCCGT CGATGAAGAA
```

```
201  ATATTCTGAA CCTTATATCG TTGCTTCAAC GCAAATCAAA TCTTTTGTGC
251  CTACCCTGCA AAACGGTATG TTGATTTTGT GGCATTTTAA TGGTCAGAAA
301  AAAATGGCGG GGGGCTTCAG CAAGGGTAAG CCGGACGGGG AGTGGGTCAA
351  CTGGTATCCG AACGGTAAAA AATCTGCCGT TATGCCTTAT AAAAATGGCT
401  TGAGTGAGGG TACGGGATAC CGCTATTACC GTAACGGCGG CAAGGAAAGC
451  GAAATCCAGT TTAAGCAAAA TAAGGCAAAC GGCGTATGGA AGCAATGGTA
501  TGCCGACGGC AGTATCAAGA CGGAAATGGT TATGGTCAAC GATGAGCCTG
551  CCAAAATTCT GACTTGGGAT GAAAGCGGCC GATTACTCTC GGAACTGTCT
601  ATCCGCCACC ATCAACGCAA CGGGGTGGTT TTGGAGTGGT ATGAAGATGG
651  TTCTAAAAAG AGCGAAGCTG TTTATCAGGA TGACAAGTTG GTCAGGAAAA
701  CCCAGTGGGA TAAGGATGGT TATTTAATCG AACCCTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 700; ORF27-1>:

```
  1  MKKLSRIVFS TVLLGFSAAL PAQTYSVYFN QNGKLTATMS SAAYIRQYSV
 51  VAGIAHAQDF YYPSMKKYSE PYIVASTQIK SFVPTLQNGM LILWHFNGQK
101  KMAGGFSKGK PDGEWVNWYP NGKKSAVMPY KNGLSEGTGY RYYRNGGKES
151  EIQFKQNKAN GVWKQWYADG SIKTEMVMVN DEPAKILTWD ESGRLLSELS
201  IRHHQRNGVV LEWYEDGSKK SEAVYQDDKL VRKTQWDKDG YLIEP*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF27 shows 91.5% identity over a 82aa overlap with an ORF (ORF27a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                                  10        20        30
orf27.pep                                        KQWYADXSIKTEMVMVNDEPAKILTWDESG
                                                 |||||| :||||||||||||||||||||||
orf27a       LSEGTGXRYYRNGGKESEIQFKQNKANGVWKQWYADGNIKTEMVMVNDEPAKILTWDESG
                 140       150       160       170       180       190

                    40        50        60        70        80
orf27.pep    RLLSELSIRHHQRNGVVLEWYEDGSKKSEXVYQDDKLVRKTQWDKDGYLIEPX
             |||||||||:|| ||||||||||||||| | ||||||||||||| ||||||||
orf27a       RLLSELSIHHHXRNGVVLEWYEDGSKKXEAVYQDDKLVRKTQWDXDGYLIEPX
                 200       210       220       230       240
```

The complete length ORF27a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 701> is:

```
  1  ATGAAAAAAT TATCTCGGAT TGTATTTTCA ACTGTCCTGT TGGGTTTTTC
 51  GGCCGCTTTG CCGGCGCAGA NCTATTCTGT TTATTTTAAT CAGAACGGGA
101  AACTGACGGC GACGNTGTCT TCTGCCGCNT ATATCAGGCA ATATAGTGTG
151  GCGGAGGGTA TTGCGCACGC GCAGGANTTT TANTATCCGT CGATGAAGAA
201  ATATTCCGAA CCTTATATCG TTGCTTCAAC GCAAATCAAA TCTTTTGTGC
251  CTACCCTGCA AAACGGTATG TTGATTTTGT GGCATTTTAA NGGTCAGAAA
301  AAAATGGCNG GGGGCTTCAG CAAGGGTAAG CCGGACGGGG AGTGGGTCAA
351  CTGGTATCCG AACGGTAAAA AATCTGCCGT TATGCCTTAT AAAAATGGTT
401  TGAGTGAAGG TACGGGGTNN CGCTATTACC GTAACGGCGG CAAGGAAAGC
451  GAAATCCAGT TTAAACAGAA TAAGGCAAAC GGCGTATGGA AGCAATGGTA
501  TGCCGACGGC AATATCAAAA CGGAAATGGT TATGGTCAAT GATGAGCCTG
551  CCAAAATTCT GACATGGGAT GAAAGCGGTC GATTACTCTC GGAACTGTCT
601  ATCCATCATC ATNAACGTAA TGGAGTAGTC TTAGAGTGGT ATGAAGATGG
651  TTCTAAAAAG ANTGAAGCTG TTTATCAGGA TGATAAGTTG GTCAGGAAAA
701  CCCAGTGGGA TAANGATGGT TATTTAATCG AACCCTGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 702>:

```
  1  MKKLSRIVFS TVLLGFSAAL PAQXYSVYFN QNGKLTATXS SAAYIRQYSV
 51  AEGIAHAQXF XYPSMKKYSE PYIVASTQIK SFVPTLQNGM LILWHFXGQK
101  KMAGGFSKGK PDGEWVNWYP NGKKSAVMPY KNGLSEGTGX RYYRNGGKES
151  EIQFKQNKAN GVWKQWYADG NIKTEMVMVN DEPAKILTWD ESGRLLSELS
201  IHHHXRNGVV LEWYEDGSKK XEAVYQDDKL VRKTQWDXDG YLIEP*
```

ORF27a and ORF27-1 show 94.7% identity in 245 aa overlap:

```
                        10        20        30        40        50        60
orf27a.pep      MKKLSRIVFSTVLLGFSAALPAQXYSVYFNQNGKLTATXSSAAYIRQYSVAEGIAHAQXF
```

```
                    ||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||| |||||||||||: |||||| |
orf27-1             MKKLSRIVFSTVLLGFSAALPAQTYSVYFNQNGKLTATMSSAAYIRQYSVVAGIAHAQDF
                           10        20        30        40        50        60

                           70        80        90       100       110       120
orf27a.pep          XYPSMKKYSEPYIVASTQIKSFVPTLQNGMLILWHFXGQKKMAGGFSKGKPDGEWVNWYP
                    ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf27-1             YYPSMKKYSEPYIVASTQIKSFVPTLQNGMLILWHFNGQKKMAGGFSKGKPDGEWVNWYP
                           70        80        90       100       110       120

                          130       140       150       160       170       180
orf27a.pep          NGKKSAVMPYKNGLSEGTGXRYYRNGGKESEIQFKQNKANGVWKQWYADGNIKTEMVMVN
                    |||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||
orf27-1             NGKKSAVMPYKNGLSEGTGYRYYRNGGKESEIQFKQNKANGVWKQWYADGSIKTEMVMVN
                          130       140       150       160       170       180

                          190       200       210       220       230       240
orf27a.pep          DEPAKILTWDESGRLLSELSIHHHXRNGVVLEWYEDGSKKXEAVYQDDKLVRKTQWDXDG
                    ||||||||||||||||||||:|| |||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||| ||
orf27-1             DEPAKILTWDESGRLLSELSIRHHQRNGVVLEWYEDGSKKSEAVYQDDKLVRKTQWDKDG
                          190       200       210       220       230       240


orf27a.pep          YLIEPX
                    ||||||
orf27-1             YLIEPX
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF27 shows 96.3% identity over 82 aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF27ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf27.pep                                          KQWYADXSIKTEMVMVNDEPAKILTWDESG   30
                                                   |||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf27ng      LSEGTGYRYYRNGGKESEIQFKQNKANGVWKQWYADGSIKTEMVMVNDEPAKILTWDESG  193

orf27.pep    RLLSELSIRHHQRNGVVLEWYEDGSKKSEXVYQDDKLVRKTQWDKDGYLIEP   82
             ||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||
orf27ng      RLLSELSIRHHKRNGVVLEWYEDGSKKSEAVYQDDKLVRKTQWDKDGYLIEP  245
```

The complete length ORF27ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 703> is:

```
   1  ATGAAGAAAT TATCTCGGAT TGTATTTTCA ATCGTACTGT TGGGTTTTTC
  51  GGCCGCTTTG CCGGCGCAGA CCTATTCTGT TTATTTTAAT CAGAACGGGA
 101  AACTGACGGC GACGATGTCT TCTGCCGCTT ATATCAGGCA ATATAGTGTG
 151  GCGGCGGGTA TCGCACACGC GCAGGATTTT TATTATCCGT CGATGAAGAA
 201  ATATTCCGAA CCTTATATCG TTGCTTCAAC GCAAATCAAA TCTTTTGTGC
 251  CTACCCTGCA AAACGGTATG TTGATTTTGT GGCATTTTAA TGGTCAGAAA
 301  AAAATGGCGG GGGGCTTCAG CAAGGGTAAG CCGGACGGGG AATGGGTCAA
 351  CTGGTATCCG AACGGTAAAA AATCTGCGGT TATGCCTTAT AAAAATGGCT
 401  TGAGTGAGGG TACGGGATAC CGTTATTACC GTAACGGCGG CAAGGAAAGC
 451  GAAATCCAGT TTAAGCAAAA TAAGGCGAAC GGCGTATGGA AGCAATGGTA
 501  TGCCGATGGA AGTATCAAGA CGGAAATGGT TATGGTCAAC GATGAGCCTG
 551  CCAAAATTCT GACTTGGGAT GAAAGCGGCC GATTACTTTC GGAACTGTCT
 601  ATCCGCCACC ATAAACGCAA CGGGGTGGTT TTGGAGTGGT ATGAAGATGG
 651  TTCTAAAAAG AGCGAGGCTG TTTATCAGGA TGACAAGTTG GTCAGGAAAA
 701  CCCAATGGGA TAAGGATGGT TATTTAATCG AACCCTGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 704>:

```
   1  MKKLSRIVFS IVLLGFSAAL PAQTYSVYFN QNGKLTATMS SAAYIRQYSV
  51  AAGIAHAQDF YYPSMKKYSE PYIVASTQIK SFVPTLQNGM LILWHFNGQK
 101  KMAGGFSKGK PDGEWVNWYP NGKKSAVMPY KNGLSEGTGY RYYRNGGKES
 151  EIQFKQNKAN GVWKQWYADG SIKTEMVMVN DEPAKILTWD ESGRLLSELS
 201  IRHHKRNGVV LEWYEDGSKK SEAVYQDDKL VRKTQWDKDG YLIEP*
```

ORF27ng and ORF27-1 show 98.8% identity in 245 aa overlap:

```
                          10        20        30        40        50        60
orf27-1.pep         MKKLSRIVFSTVLLGFSAALPAQTYSVYFNQNGKLTATMSSAAYIRQYSVVAGIAHAQDF
```

```
                                                                                :
orf27ng         MKKLSRIVFSIVLLGFSAALPAQTYSVYFNQNGKLTATMSSAAYIRQYSVAAGIAHAQDF
                        10        20        30        40        50        60

                        70        80        90       100       110       120
orf27-1.pep     YYPSMKKYSEPYIVASTQIKSFVPTLQNGMLILWHFNGQKKMAGGFSKGKPDGEWVNWYP
                                                                              |
orf27ng         YYPSMKKYSEPYIVASTQIKSFVPTLQNGMLILWHFNGQKKMAGGFSKGKPDGEWVNWYP
                        70        80        90       100       110       120

                       130       140       150       160       170       180
orf27-1.pep     NGKKSAVMPYKNGLSEGTGYRYYRNGGKESEIQFKQNKANGVWKQWYADGSIKTEMVMVN
                                                                              |
orf27ng         NGKKSAVMPYKNGLSEGTGYRYYRNGGKESEIQFKQNKANGVWKQWYADGSIKTEMVMVN
                       130       140       150       160       170       180

                       190       200       210       220       230       240
orf27-1.pep     DEPAKILTWDESGRLLSELSIRHHQRNGVVLEWYEDGSKKSEAVYQDDKLVRKTQWDKDG
                                                  :                           |
orf27ng         DEPAKILTWDESGRLLSELSIRHHKRNGVVLEWYEDGSKKSEAVYQDDKLVRKTQWDKDG
                       190       200       210       220       230       240


orf27-1.pep     YLIEPX
                ||||||
orf27ng         YLIEPX
```

Based on this analysis, including the putative leader sequence in the gonococcal protein, it was predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

ORF27-1 (24.5kDa) was cloned in pET and pGex vectors and expressed in *E.coli*, as described above. The products of protein expression and purification were analyzed by SDS-PAGE. Figure 17A shows the results of affinity purification of the GST-fusion protein, and Figure 17B shows the results of expression of the His-fusion in *E.coli*. Purified GST-fusion protein was used to immunise mice, whose sera were used for ELISA, which gave a positive result, confirming that ORF27-1 is a surface-exposed protein and a useful immunogen.

Example 84

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 705>:

```
   1  ATGAAATTTA CCAAGCACCC CGTCTGGGCA ATGGCGTTCC GCCCATTTTA
  51  TTCGCTGGCG GCTCTGTACG GCGCATTGTC CGTATTGCTG TGGGGTTTCG
 101  GCTACACGGG AACGCACkAG CTGTCCGGTT TCTATTGGCA CGCGCATGAg
 151  ATGATTTGGG GTTATGCCGG ACTGGTCGTC ATCGCCTTCC TGCTGACCGC
 201  CGTCGCCACT TGGACGGGGC AGCCGCCCAC GCGGGGCGGC GTaTCTGGTC
 251  GGCTTGACTA TCTTTTGGCT GGCTGCGCGG ATTGCCGCCT TTATCCCGGG
 301  TTGGGGTGCG TCGGCAAGCG GCATACTCGG TACGCTGTTT TTCTGGTACG
 351  GCGCGGTGTG CATGGCTTTG CCCGTTATCC GTTCGCAGAA TCAACGCAAC
 401  TATGTTgCCG TGTTCGCGCT GTTCGTCTTG GGCGGCACGC ATGCGGCGTT
 451  CCACGTCCAG CTGCACAACG GCAACCTAGG CGGACTCTTG AGCGGATTGC
 501  AGTCGGGCTT GGTGATG
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 706; ORF47>:

```
   1  MKFTKHPVWA MAFRPFYSLA ALYGALSVLL WGFGYTGTHX LSGFYWHAHE
  51  MIWGYAGLVV IAFLLTAVAT WTGQPPTRGG VLVGLTIFWL AARIAAFIPG
 101  WGASASGILG TLFFWYGAVC MALPVIRSQN QRNYVAVFAL FVLGGTHAAF
```

```
151  HVQLHNGNLG GLLSGLQSGL VM
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 707>:

```
   1  ATGAAATTTA CCAAGCACCC CGTCTGGGCA ATGGCGTTCC GCCCATTTTA
  51  TTCGCTGGCG GCTCTGTACG GCGCATTGTC CGTATTGCTG TGGGGTTTCG
 101  GCTACACGGG AACGCACGAG CTGTCCGGTT TCTATTGGCA CGCGCATGAG
 151  ATGATTTGGG GTTATGCCGG ACTGGTCGTC ATCGCCTTCC TGCTGACCGC
 201  CGTCGCCACT TGGACGGGGC AGCCGCCCAC GCGGGGCGGC GTTCTGGTCG
 251  GCTTGACTAT CTTTTGGCTG GCTGCGCGGA TTGCCGCCTT TATCCCGGGT
 301  TGGGGTGCGT CGGCAAGCGG CATACTCGGT ACGCTGTTTT TCTGGTACGG
 351  CGCGGTGTGC ATGGCTTTGC CCGTTATCCG TTCGCAGAAT CAACGCAACT
 401  ATGTTGCCGT GTTCGCGCTG TTCGTCTTGG GCGGCACGCA TGCGGCGTTC
 451  CACGTCCAGC TGCACAACGG CAACCTAGGC GGACTCTTGA GCGGATTGCA
 501  GTCGGGCTTG GTGATGGTGT CGGGTTTTAT CGGTCTGATT GGTACGCGGA
 551  TTATTTCGTT TTTTACGTCC AAACGCTTGA ATGTGCCGCA GATTCCCAGT
 601  CCGAAATGGG TGGCGCAGGC TTCGCTGTGG CTGCCCATGC TGACTGCCAT
 651  GCTGATGGCG CACGGTGTGT TGGCTTGGCT GTCTGCCGTT TTTGCCTTTG
 701  CGGCAGGTGT GATTTTTACC GTGCAGGTGT ACCGCTGGTG GTATAAACCC
 751  GTGTTGAAAG AGCCGATGCT GTGGATTCTG TTTGCCGGCT ATCTGTTTAC
 801  CGGATTGGGG CTGATTGCGG TCGGCGCGTC TTATTTCAAA CCCGCTTTCC
 851  TCAATCTGGG TGTGCATCTG ATCGGGGTCG GCGGTATCGG CGTGCTGACT
 901  TTGGGCATGA TGGCGCGTAC CGCGCTTGGT CATACGGGCA ATCCGATTTA
 951  TCCGCCGCCC AAAGCCGTTC CCGTTGCGTT TTGGCTGATG ATGGCGGCAA
1001  CCGCCGTCCG TATGGTTGCC GTATTTTCTT CCGGCACTGC CTACACGCAC
1051  AGCATCCGCA CCTCTTCGGT TTTGTTTGCA CTCGCGCTTT TGGTGTATGC
1101  GTGGAAGTAT ATTCCTTGGC TGATTCGTCC GCGTTCGGAC GGCAGGCCCG
1151  GTTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 708; ORF47-1>:

```
   1  MKFTKHPVWA MAFRPFYSLA ALYGALSVLL WGFGYTGTHE LSGFYWHAHE
  51  MIWGYAGLVV IAFLLTAVAT WTGQPPTRGG VLVGLTIFWL AARIAAFIPG
 101  WGASASGILG TLFFWYGAVC MALPVIRSQN QRNYVAVFAL FVLGGTHAAF
 151  HVQLHNGNLG GLLSGLQSGL VMVSGFIGLI GTRIISFFTS KRLNVPQIPS
 201  PKWVAQASLW LPMLTAMLMA HGVLAWLSAV FAFAAGVIFT VQVYRWWYKP
 251  VLKEPMLWIL FAGYLFTGLG LIAVGASYFK PAFLNLGVHL IGVGGIGVLT
 301  LGMMARTALG HTGNPIYPPP KAVPVAFWLM MAATAVRMVA VFSSGTAYTH
 351  SIRTSSVLFA LALLVYAWKY IPWLIRPRSD GRPG*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence predicts a leader peptide and also gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF47 shows 99.4% identity over a 172aa overlap with an ORF (ORF47a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf47.pep       MKFTKHPVWAMAFRPFYSLAALYGALSVLLWGFGYTGTHXLSGFYWHAHEMIWGYAGLVV
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||
orf47a          MKFTKHPVWAMAFRPFYSLAALYGALSVLLWGFGYTGTHELSGFYWHAHEMIWGYAGLVV
                        10        20        30        40        50        60

                        70        80        90       100       110       120
orf47.pep       IAFLLTAVATWTGQPPTRGGVLVGLTIFWLAARIAAFIPGWGASASGILGTLFFWYGAVC
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf47a          IAFLLTAVATWTGQPPTRGGVLVGLTIFWLAARIAAFIPGWGASASGILGTLFFWYGAVC
                        70        80        90       100       110       120

                       130       140       150       160       170
orf47.pep       MALPVIRSQNQRNYVAVFALFVLGGTHAAFHVQLHNGNLGGLLSGLQSGLVM
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf47a          MALPVIRSQNQRNYVAVFALFVLGGTHAAFHVQLHNGNLGGLLSGLQSGLVMVSGFIGLI
                       130       140       150       160       170       180

orf47a          GTRIISFFTSKRLNVPQIPSPKWVAQASLWLPMLTAMLMAHGVMPWLSAAFAFAAGVIFT
                       190       200       210       220       230       240
```

The complete length ORF47a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 709> is:

```
   1 ATGAAATTTA CCAAGCACCC CGTTTGGGCA ATGGCGTTCC GCCCGTTTTA
  51 TTCACTGGCG GCTCTGTACG GCGCATTGTC CGTATTGCTG TGGGGTTTCG
 101 GCTACACGGG AACGCACGAG CTGTCCGGTT TCTATTGGCA CGCGCATGAG
 151 ATGATTTGGG GTTATGCCGG ACTGGTCGTC ATCGCCTTCC TGCTGACCGC
 201 CGTCGCCACT TGGACGGGGC AGCCGCCCAC GCGGGGCGGC GTTCTGGTCG
 251 GCTTGACTAT CTTTTGGCTG GCTGCGCGGA TTGCCGCCTT TATCCCGGGT
 301 TGGGGTGCGT CGGCAAGCGG CATACTCGGT ACGCTGTTTT TCTGGTACGG
 351 CGCGGTGTGC ATGGCTTTGC CCGTTATCCG TTCGCAGAAT CAACGCAATT
 401 ATGTTGCCGT GTTCGCGCTG TTCGTCTTGG GCGGTACGCA CGCGGCGTTC
 451 CACGTCCAGC TGCACAACGG CAACCTAGGC GGACTCTTGA GCGGATTGCA
 501 GTCGGGCTTG GTGATGGTGT CGGGTTTTAT CGGTCTGATT GGTACGCGGA
 551 TTATTTCGTT TTTTACGTCC AAACGGTTGA ATGTGCCGCA GATTCCCAGT
 601 CCGAAATGGG TGGCGCAGGC TTCGCTGTGG CTGCCCATGC TGACCGCCAT
 651 GCTGATGGCG CACGGCGTGA TGCCTTGGCT GTCGGCGGCT TTCGCGTTTG
 701 CGGCAGGTGT GATTTTTACC GTGCAGGTGT ACCGCTGGTG GTATAAGCCT
 751 GTGTTGAAAG AGCCGATGCT GTGGATTCTG TTTGCCGGCT ATCTGTTTAC
 801 CGGATTGGGG CTGATTGCGG TCGGCGCGTC TTATTTCAAA CCCGCTTTCC
 851 TCAATCTGGG TGTGCATCTG ATCGGGGTCG GCGGTATCGG CGTGCTGACT
 901 TTGGGCATGA TGGCGCGTAC CGCGCTCGGT CATACGGGCA ATCCGATTTA
 951 TCCGCCGCCC AAAGCCGTTC CCGTTGCGTT TTGGCTGATG ATGGCGGCAA
1001 CCGCCGTCCG TATGGTTGCC GTATTTTCTT CCGGCACTGC CTACACGCAC
1051 AGCATACGCA CCTCTTCGGT TTTGTTTGCA CTCGCGCTTT TGGTGTATGC
1101 GTGGAAGTAT ATTCCTTGGC TGATTCGTCC GCGTTCGGAC GGCAGGCCCG
1151 GTTGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 710>:

```
  1 MKFTKHPVWA MAFRPFYSLA ALYGALSVLL WGFGYTGTHE LSGFYWHAHE
 51 MIWGYAGLVV IAFLLTAVAT WTGQPPTRGG VLVGLTIFWL AARIAAFIPG
101 WGASASGILG TLFFWYGAVC MALPVIRSQN QRNYVAVFAL FVLGGTHAAF
151 HVQLHNGNLG GLLSGLQSGL VMVSGFIGLI GTRIISFFTS KRLNVPQIPS
201 PKWVAQASLW LPMLTAMLMA HGVMPWLSAA FAFAAGVIFT VQVYRWWYKP
251 VLKEPMLWIL FAGYLFTGLG LIAVGASYFK PAFLNLGVHL IGVGGIGVLT
301 LGMMARTALG HTGNPIYPPP KAVPVAFWLM MAATAVRMVA VFSSGTAYTH
351 SIRTSSVLFA LALLVYAWKY IPWLIRPRSD GRPG*
```

ORF47a and ORF47-1 show 99.2% identity in 384 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf47a.pep      MKFTKHPVWAMAFRPFYSLAALYGALSVLLWGFGYTGTHELSGFYWHAHEMIWGYAGLVV
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf47-1         MKFTKHPVWAMAFRPFYSLAALYGALSVLLWGFGYTGTHELSGFYWHAHEMIWGYAGLVV
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf47a.pep      IAFLLTAVATWTGQPPTRGGVLVGLTIFWLAARIAAFIPGWGASASGILGTLFFWYGAVC
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf47-1         IAFLLTAVATWTGQPPTRGGVLVGLTIFWLAARIAAFIPGWGASASGILGTLFFWYGAVC
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf47a.pep      MALPVIRSQNQRNYVAVFALFVLGGTHAAFHVQLHNGNLGGLLSGLQSGLVMVSGFIGLI
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf47-1         MALPVIRSQNQRNYVAVFALFVLGGTHAAFHVQLHNGNLGGLLSGLQSGLVMVSGFIGLI
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf47a.pep      GTRIISFFTSKRLNVPQIPSPKWVAQASLWLPMLTAMLMAHGVMPWLSAAFAFAAGVIFT
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||: ||||:||||||||||
orf47-1         GTRIISFFTSKRLNVPQIPSPKWVAQASLWLPMLTAMLMAHGVLAWLSAVFAFAAGVIFT
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260       270       280       290       300
orf47a.pep      VQVYRWWYKPVLKEPMLWILFAGYLFTGLGLIAVGASYFKPAFLNLGVHLIGVGGIGVLT
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf47-1         VQVYRWWYKPVLKEPMLWILFAGYLFTGLGLIAVGASYFKPAFLNLGVHLIGVGGIGVLT
                250       260       270       280       290       300

                310       320       330       340       350       360
```

```
orf47a.pep      LGMMARTALGHTGNPIYPPPKAVPVAFWLMMAATAVRMVAVFSSGTAYTHSIRTSSVLFA
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf47-1         LGMMARTALGHTGNPIYPPPKAVPVAFWLMMAATAVRMVAVFSSGTAYTHSIRTSSVLFA
                       310       320       330       340       350       360

                       370       380
orf47a.pep      LALLVYAWKYIPWLIRPRSDGRPGX
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf47-1         LALLVYAWKYIPWLIRPRSDGRPGX
                       370       380
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF47 shows 97.1% identity over 172 aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF47ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
ORF47     MKFTKHPVWAMAFRPFYSLAALYGALSVLLWGFGYTGTHELSGFYWHAHEMIWGYAGLVV   60
          ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
ORF47ng   MKFTKHPVWAMAFRPFYSLAALYGALSVLLWGFGYTGTHELSGFYWHAHEMIWGYAGLVV   60

ORF47     IAFLLTAVATWTGQPPTRGGVLVGLTIFWLAARIAAFIPGWGASASGILGTLFFWYGAVC  120
          ||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||
ORF47ng   IAFLLTAVATWTGQPPTRGGVLVGLTAFWLAARIAAFIPGWGAAASGILGTLFFWYGAVC  120

ORF47     MALPVIRSQNQRNYVAVFALFVLGGTHAAFHVQLHNGNLGGLLSGLQSGLVM          172
          ||||||||||:||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
ORF47ng   MALPVIRSQNRRNYVAVFAIFVLGGTHAAFHVQLHNGNLGGLLSGLQSGLVMVWGFIGLI  180
```

The ORF47ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 711> is predicted to encode a protein comprising amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 712>:

```
   1  MKFTKHPVWA MAFRPFYSLA ALYGALSVLL WGFGYTGTHE LSGFYWHAHE
  51  MIWGYAGLVV IAFLLTAVAT WTGQPPTRGG VLVGLTAFWL AARIAAFIPG
 101  WGAAASGILG TLFFWYGAVC MALPVIRSQN RRNYVAVFAI FVLGGTHAAF
 151  HVQLHNGNLG GLLSGLQSGL VMVWGFIGLI GMKIISFFTS KRLKLPQIPS
 201  PKWVAHASLW LPMLNAILMA HRVMPWLSAA FPFAAGVIFT VQVYAGGITP
 251  IEETSCGSVA GICYRLGNSS G
```

The predicted leader peptide and transmembrane domains are identical (except for an Ile/Ala substitution at residue 87 and an Leu/Ile substitution at position 140) to sequences in the meningococcal protein (see also *Pseudomonas stutzeri* orf396, accession number e246540):

```
TM segments in ORF47ng
     INTEGRAL    Likelihood = -5.63   Transmembrane   52 -  68
     INTEGRAL    Likelihood = -3.88   Transmembrane  169 - 185
     INTEGRAL    Likelihood = -3.08   Transmembrane   82 -  98
     INTEGRAL    Likelihood = -1.91   Transmembrane  134 - 150
     INTEGRAL    Likelihood = -1.44   Transmembrane  107 - 123
     INTEGRAL    Likelihood = -1.38   Transmembrane  227 - 243
```

Further work revealed the complete gonococcal DNA sequence <SEQ ID 713>:

```
   1  ATGAAATTTA CCAAACATCC CGTCTGGGCA ATGGCGTTCC GCCCGTTTTA
  51  TTCACTGGCG GCACTGTACG GCGCATTGTC CGTATTGCTG TGGGGTTTCG
 101  GCTACACGGG AACGCACGAG CTGTCCGGTT TCTATTGGCA CGCGCATGAG
 151  ATGATTTGGG GTTATGCCGG TCTCGTCGTC ATCGCCTTCC TGCTGACCGC
 201  CGTCGCCACT TGGACGGGAC AGCCGCCCAC GAGGGGCGGC GTTCTGGTCG
 251  GCTTGACCGC CTTTTGGCTG GCTGCGCGGA TTGCCGCCTT TATCCCGGGT
 301  TGGGGTGCGG CGGCAAGCGG CATACTCGGT ACGCTGTTTT TCTGGTACGG
 351  CGCGGTGTGC ATGGCTTTGC CCGTTATCCG TtcgCAAAAC CGGCGCAACT
 401  ATGtcgCCGT ATTCGCAATA TTTGTGCTGG GCGGTACGCA TGCGgcgTTC
 451  CACGtccAgc tGCACAACGG CAACCTAGGC GGACTCTTGA GCGGATTGCA
 501  GTCGGGCCTG GTTATGGTGT CGGGCTTTAT CGGCCTGATT GGGATGAGGA
 551  TTATTTCGTT TTTTACGTCC AAACGGTTGA ACGTGCCGCA GATTCCCAGT
 601  CCGAAATGGG TGGCGCAGGC TTCGCTGTGG CTACCCATGC TGACCGCCAT
```

```
 651  ACTGATGGCG CACGGCGTGA TGCCTTGGCT GTCGGCGGCT TTCGCGTTTG
 701  CGGCGGGCGT GATTTTTACC GTACAGGTGT ACCGCTGGTG GTATAAACCC
 751  GTATTGAAAG AACCGATGCT GTGGATTCTG TTTGCCGGCT ATCTGTTTAC
 801  CGGATTGGGG CTGATTGCGG TCGGCGCGTC TTATTTCAAA CCTGCCTTCC
 851  TCAATCTGGG CGTACATCTG ATCGGGGTCG GCGGTATCGG CGTGCTGACT
 901  TTGGGCATGA TGGCGCGTAC CGCGCTCGGT CATACGGGCA ATTCGATTTA
 951  TCCGCCGCCC AAAGCCGTTC CCGTTGCGTT TTGGCTGATG ATGGCGGCAA
1001  CCGCCGTCCG TATGGTTGCC GTATTTTCTT CCGGCACTGC CTACACGCAC
1051  AGCATCCGCA CGTCTTCGGT TTTGTTTGCA CTCGCGCTGC TGGTGTATGC
1101  GTGGAAATAC ATTCCGTGGC TGATCCGTCC GCGTTCGGAC GGCAGGCCCG
1151  GTTGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 714; ORF47ng-1>:

```
   1  MKFTKHPVWA MAFRPFYSLA ALYGALSVLL WGFGYTGTHE LSGFYWHAHE
  51  MIWGYAGLVV IAFLLTAVAT WTGQPPTRGG VLVGLTAFWL AARIAAFIPG
 101  WGAAASGILG TLFFWYGAVC MALPVIRSQN RRNYVAVFAI FVLGGTHAAF
 151  HVQLHNGNLG GLLSGLQSGL VMVSGFIGLI GMRIISFFTS KRLNVPQIPS
 201  PKWVAQASLW LPMLTAILMA HGVMPWLSAA FAFAAGVIFT VQVYRWWYKP
 251  VLKEPMLWIL FAGYLFTGLG LIAVGASYFK PAFLNLGVHL IGVGGIGVLT
 301  LGMMARTALG HTGNSIYPPP KAVPVAFWLM MAATAVRMVA VFSSGTAYTH
 351  SIRTSSVLFA LALLVYAWKY IPWLIRPRSD GRPG*
```

ORF47ng-1 and ORF47-1 show 97.4% identity in 384 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf47-1.pep     MKFTKHPVWAMAFRPFYSLAALYGALSVLLWGFGYTGTHELSGFYWHAHEMIWGYAGLVV
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf47ng-1       MKFTKHPVWAMAFRPFYSLAALYGALSVLLWGFGYTGTHELSGFYWHAHEMIWGYAGLVV
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf47-1.pep     IAFLLTAVATWTGQPPTRGGVLVGLTIFWLAARIAAFIPGWGASASGILGTLFFWYGAVC
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||
orf47ng-1       IAFLLTAVATWTGQPPTRGGVLVGLTAFWLAARIAAFIPGWGAAASGILGTLFFWYGAVC
                70        80        90        100       110       120

               130       140       150       160       170       180
orf47-1.pep     MALPVIRSQNQRNYVAVFALFVLGGTHAAFHVQLHNGNLGGLLSGLQSGLVMVSGFIGLI
                ||||||||||:||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf47ng-1       MALPVIRSQNRRNYVAVFAIFVLGGTHAAFHVQLHNGNLGGLLSGLQSGLVMVSGFIGLI
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf47-1.pep     GTRIISFFTSKRLNVPQIPSPKWVAQASLWLPMLTAMLMAHGVLAWLSAVFAFAAGVIFT
                | ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||| |||| :|||||||||||
orf47ng-1       GMRIISFFTSKRLNVPQIPSPKWVAQASLWLPMLTAILMAHGVMPWLSAAFAFAAGVIFT
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260       270       280       290       300
orf47-1.pep     VQVYRWWYKPVLKEPMLWILFAGYLFTGLGLIAVGASYFKPAFLNLGVHLIGVGGIGVLT
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf47ng-1       VQVYRWWYKPVLKEPMLWILFAGYLFTGLGLIAVGASYFKPAFLNLGVHLIGVGGIGVLT
                250       260       270       280       290       300

                310       320       330       340       350       360
orf47-1.pep     LGMMARTALGHTGNPIYPPPKAVPVAFWLMMAATAVRMVAVFSSGTAYTHSIRTSSVLFA
                |||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf47ng-1       LGMMARTALGHTGNSIYPPPKAVPVAFWLMMAATAVRMVAVFSSGTAYTHSIRTSSVLFA
                310       320       330       340       350       360

                370       380
orf47-1.pep     LALLVYAWKYIPWLIRPRSDGRPGX
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf47ng-1       LALLVYAWKYIPWLIRPRSDGRPGX
                370       380
```

Furthermore, ORF47ng-1 shows significant homology to an ORF from *Pseudomonas stutzeri*:

```
gnl|PID|e246540 (Z73914) ORF396 protein [Pseudomonas stutzeri] Length = 396
Score =  155 bits (389), Expect = 5e-37
```

```
 Identities = 121/391 (30%), Positives = 169/391 (42%), Gaps = 21/391 (5%)

Query: 7   PVWAMAFRPFYSLAALYGALSVLLWGFGYTGTHELSGFY-------WHAHEMIWGYAGLV 59
           P+W +AFRPF+   +LY  L++ LW   +TG     GF        WH HEM++G+A  +
Sbjct: 14  PIWRLAFRPFFLAGSLYALLAIPLWVAAWTGLWP--GFQPTGGWLAWHRHEMLFGFAMAI 71

Query: 60  VIAFLLTAVATWTGQPPTRGGVLVGLTAFWLAARIAAFIPGWGAAASGILGTLFFWYGAV 119
           V  FLLTAV TWTGQ    G  LVGL A WLAAR+  ++ G  AA    L  LF
Sbjct: 72  VAGFLLTAVQTWTGQTAPSGNRLVGLAAVWLAARL-GWLFGLPAAWLAPLDLLFLVALVW 130

Query: 120 CMALPVIRSQNRRNYVAVFAIFVLGGTHAAFXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXMVSGFIGL 179
            MA  +   + +RNY  V  + ++ G                              +V+  + L
Sbjct: 131 MMAQMLWAVRQKRNYPIVVVLSLMLGADVLILTGLLQGNDALQRQGVLAGLWLVAALMAL 190

Query: 180 IGMRIISFFTSKRLNVPQIPSP-KWVAQASLWLPMLTAILMAHGV----MPWLSAAFAFA 234
           IG R+I FFT + L       P  W+  A L    + A+L A GV     P L   F  A
Sbjct: 191 IGGRVIPFFTQRGLGKVDAVKPWVWLDVALLVGTGVIALLHAFGVAMRPQPLLGLLFV-A 249

Query: 235 AGVIFTVQVYRWWYKPVLKEPMLWILFAGYLFTGLGLIAVGASYF-KPAFXXXXXXXXX 293
            GV   +++ RW+ K + K  +LW L    L+  +    +   +F   A
Sbjct: 250 IGVGHLLRLMRWYDKGIWKVGLLWSLHVAMLWLVVAAFGLALWHFGLLAQSSPSLHALSV 309

Query: 294 XXXXXXXXXMMARTALGHTGNSIYPPPKAVPVAFWLXXXXXXXXXXXXFSSGTAYTHSIR 353
                M+AR  LGHTG  +  P   +  AF L             F S       +
Sbjct: 310 GSMSGLILAMIARVTLGHTGRPLQLPAGIIG-AFVL---FNLGTAARVFLSVAWPVGGLW 365

Query: 354 TSSVLFALALLVYAWKYIPWLIRPRSDGRPG 384
           ++V + LA  +Y W+Y P L+  R DG PG
Sbjct: 366 LAAVCWTLAFALYVWRYAPMLVAARVDGHPG 396
```

Based on this analysis, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 85

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 715>:

```
   1  ..ATGCCGTCTG AAGGTTCAGA CGGCmTCGGT GyCGGGGAAy CAGAAGyGGT
  51    AGCGCATGCC CAATGAGACT TCGTGGGTTT TGAAGCGGGT GTTTTCCAAG
 101    CGTCCCCAGT TGTGGTAACG GTATCCGGTG TCyAArGTCA GCTTGGGyGT
 151    GATGTCGAAa CCGACACCGG CGATGACACC AAGACCyAmG CTGCTGATrC
 201    TGTkGCTTTC GTGATAGGsA GGTTTGyTGG kmksAsyTTG TAyrATwkkG
 251    CCTssCwsTG kAGmGCCkTk CkyTGGTkkA swGrwArTAG TCGTGGTTTy
 301    TkTTyyCACC GAATGAACyT GATGTTTAAC GTGTCCGTAG GCGACGCGCG
 351    CGCCGATATA GGGTTTGAAT TTATCGTTGA GTTTGAAATC GTAAATGGCG
 401    GACAAGCCGA GAGAAGAAAC GGCGTGGAAG CTGCCGTTTC CCTGATGTTT
 451    TGTTTGGGTT TCTTTGTAGT TGTTGTTTAT CTCTTCAGTA ACTTTTTTAG
 501    TAGAAGAATT ACTTTCTTTC CATTTTCTGT AACTGGCATA ATCTGCCGCT
 551    ATTCTCCAGC CGCCGAAATC ..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 716; ORF67>:

```
   1  ..MPSEGSDGXG XGEXEXVAHA QXDFVGFEAG VFQASPVVVT VSGVXXQLGX
  51    DVETDTGDDT KTXAADXVAF VIGRFXGXXL YXXAXXXXAX XWXXXXSRGF
 101    XXHRMNLMFN VSVGDARADI GFEFIVEFEI VNGGQAERRN GVEAAVSLMF
 151    CLGFFVVVVY LFSNFFSRRI TFFPFSVTGI ICRYSPAAEI ..
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF67 shows 51.8% identity over 199 aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF67ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf67.pep                                          MPSEGSDGXGXGEXEXVAHAQXDFVGFEAG   30
                                                   |||||||| | || | |||||  |||||||
orf67ng      TNFEIAVLSGMTVRVFYCARPAPVNGGRLKMPSEGSDGIGIGESEAVAHAQRGFVGFEAG  146
               90        100        110        120        130        140

orf67.pep    VFQASPVVVTVSGVXXQLGXDVETDTGDDTKTXAADXVAFVIGRFXGXXLYXXAXXXXAX   90
             |||||||||:|:||  | | || : :   ::: ||  |||:|| |    :       :
orf67ng      VFQASPVVVAVAGVQGQAGRDVYAHARHRAEAQAAAAVAFLIGVFLRMSVRINRNCCVSI  206

orf67.pep    XWXXXXSRGFXXHRMNLMFNVSVGDARADIGFEFIVEFEIVNGGQAERRNGVEAAVSLMF  150
             :     |  :   |:: : :||||||||:|||||||:|||||||||||||||||| || |||
orf67ng      TRVGGKSTCYFFSRIDAVSDVSVGDARTDIGFEFVVEFEIVNGGQAERRNGVECAVFLMF  266

orf67.pep    CLGFFVV--------VVYLFSNFFSRRITFF-PFSVTGIICRYSPAAEI              190
             | | |         ::  |: |: : | :  || |||||   :||||:
orf67ng      RLLVFYVKLVAAKSFIILSFQLFYVHGIFIVVPFPVTGIIRGDAPAAEVVADRHPGVDGM  326
```

The ORF67ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 717> is predicted to encode a protein comprising amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 718>:

```
   1  MPSETVGSIV NVGVDESVGF SPPFPSIQHF YRFHRIHRIR LFRPPGPMQL
  51  NRHSHGSGNL GRGVWATVLS DKFPCGQVRI PACAGMTNFE IAVLSGMTVR
 101  VFYCARPAPV NGGRLKMPSE GSDGIGIGES EAVAHAQRGF VGFEAGVFQA
 151  SPVVVAVAGV QGQAGRDVYA HARHRAEAQA AAAVAFLIGV FLRMSVRINR
 201  NCCVSITRVG GKSTCYFFSR IDAVSDVSVG DARTDIGFEF VVEFEIVNGG
 251  QAERRNGVEC AVFLMFRLLV FYVKLVAAKS FIILSFQLFY VHGIFIVVPF
 301  PVTGIIRGDA PAAEVVADRH PGVDGMRTDV SEIIAYRAYF VFAWSGWFRI
 351  IVGNAFGGVG *
```

Based on the presence of a several putative transmembrane domains in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 86

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 719>

```
   1  ATGTTTGCTT TTTTAGAAGC CTTTTTTGTC GAATACGGTT ATGCGGCTGT
  51  TTTTTTTGTA TTGGTCATCT GCGGTTTCGG CGTGCCGATT CCCGAGGATT
 101  TGACCTTGGT AACAGGCGGC GTGATTTCGG GTATGGGTTA TACCAATCCG
 151  CATATTATGT TTGCAGTCGG TATGCTCGGC GTATTGGTCG GGGACGGCAT
 201  CATGTTCGCC GCCGGACGAA TTTGGGGGCA GArArTCCTA rGGTTCArAC
 251  CTATTGCGsG CATCATGACG CCGrAACGTT ATGAGCAGGT TCAGGAAAAA
 301  TTCGACAAAT ACGGTAACTG GGTCTTATTT GTCGCCCGTT TCCTGCCCGG
 351  TTTGAGAACG GCCGTATTTG TTACAGCCGG TATCAGCCGC AAGGTTTCAT
 401  ACTTGCGTTT TATCATTATG GATGGACTGG CCGCA...
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 720; ORF78>:

```
   1  MFAFLEAFFV EYGYAAVFFV LVICGFGVPI PEDLTLVTGG VISGMGYTNP
  51  HIMFAVGMLG VLVGDGIMFA AGRIWGQXXL XFXPIAXIMT PXRYEQVQEK
 101  FDKYGNWVLF VARFLPGLRT AVFVTAGISR KVSYLRFIIM DGLAA...
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 721>:

```
   1  ATGTTTGCTT TTTTAGAAGC CTTTTTTGTC GAATACGGTT ATGCGGCTGT
  51  TTTTTTTGTA TTGGTCATCT GCGGTTTCGG CGTGCCGATT CCCGAGGATT
 101  TGACCTTGGT AACAGGCGGC GTGATTTCGG GTATGGGTTA TACCAATCCG
 151  CATATTATGT TTGCAGTCGG TATGCTCGGC GTATTGGTCG GGGACGGCAT
 201  CATGTTCGCC GCCGGACGAA TTTGGGGGCA GAAAATCCTA AGGTTCAAAC
 251  CTATTGCGCG CATCATGACG CCGAAACGTT ATGAGCAGGT TCAGGAAAAA
 301  TTCGACAAAT ACGGTAACTG GGTCTTATTT GTCGCCCGTT TCCTGCCCGG
 351  TTTGAGAACG GCCGTATTTG TTACAGCCGG TATCAGCCGC AAGGTTTCAT
 401  ACTTGCGTTT TATCATTATG GATGGACTGG CCGCACTGAT TTCCGTCCCT
 451  ATTTGGATTT ATCTGGGCGA ATACGGTGCG CACAACATCG ATTGGCTGAT
```

```
501  GGCGAAAATG CACAGCCTGC AATCGGGTAT TTTTGTTATC TTGGGTATAG
551  GTGCGACCGT TGTCGCTTGG ATTTGGTGGA AAAAACGCCA ACGTATCCAG
601  TTTTACCGCA GCAAATTGAA AGAAAAGCGG GCGCAACGCA AAGCCGCCAA
651  GGCAGCCAAA AAAGCCGCGC AAAGCAAACA ATAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 722; ORF78-1>:

```
  1  MFAFLEAFFV EYGYAAVFFV LVICGFGVPI PEDLTLVTGG VISGMGYTNP
 51  HIMFAVGMLG VLVGDGIMFA AGRIWGQKIL RFKPIARIMT PKRYEQVQEK
101  FDKYGNWVLF VARFLPGLRT AVFVTAGISR KVSYLRFIIM DGLAALISVP
151  IWIYLGEYGA HNIDWLMAKM HSLQSGIFVI LGIGATVVAW IWWKKRQRIQ
201  FYRSKLKEKR AQRKAAKAAK KAAQSKQ*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence predicts several transmembrane domains, and also gave the following results:

Homology with the dedA homologue of *H.influenzae* (accession number P45280)

ORF78 and the dedA homologue show 58% aa identity in 144aa overlap:

```
Orf78:  4  FLEAFFVEYGYAAVFFVLVICGFGVPIPEDLTLVTGGVISGM--GYTNPHIMFAVGMLGV 61
           FL  FF EYGY AV FVL+ICGFGVPIPED+TLV+GGVI+G+     N H+M  V M+GV
DedA:  20  FLIGFFTEYGYWAVLFVLIICGFGVPIPEDITLVSGGVIAGLYPENVNSHLMLLVSMIGV 79

Orf78: 62  LVGDGIMFAAGRIWGQXXLXFXPIAXIMTPXRYEQVQEKFDKYGNWVLFVARFLPGLRTA 121
           L GD  M+  GRI+G   L F PI  I+T  R   V+EKF +YGN VLFVARFLPGLR
DedA:  80  LAGDSCMYWLGRIYGTKILRFRPIRRIVTLQRLRMVREKFSQYGNRVLFVARFLPGLRAP 139

Orf78: 122 VFVTAGISRKVSYLRFIIMDGLAA 145
           +++ +GI+R+VSY+RF+++D  AA
DedA:  140 IYMVSGITRRVSYVRFVLIDFCAA 163
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF78 shows 93.8% identity over a 145aa overlap with an ORF (ORF78a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf78.pep   MFAFLEAFFVEYGYAAVFFVLVICGFGVPIPEDLTLVTGGVISGMGYTNPHIMFAVGMLG
            |||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf78a      MFALLEAFFVEYGYAAVFFVLVICGFGVPIPEDLTLVTGGVISGMGYTNPHIMFAVGMLG
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90       100       110       120
orf78.pep   VLVGDGIMFAAGRIWGQXXLXFXPIAXIMTPXRYEQVQEKFDKYGNWVLFVARFLPGLRT
            |||||||||||||||||  | | ||| |||| || ||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf78a      VLVGDGIMFAAGRIWGQKILKFKPIARIMTPKRYAQVQEKFDKYGNWVLFVARFLPGLRT
                70        80        90       100       110       120

               130       140
orf78.pep   AVFVTAGISRKVSYLRFIIMDGLAA
            ||||||||||||||||||:|||||||
orf78a      AVFVTAGISRKVSYLRFLIMDGLAALISVPVWIYLGEYGAHNIDWLMAKMHSLQSGIFIA
               130       140       150       160       170       180
```

The complete length ORF78a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 723> is:

```
  1  ATGTTTGCCC TTTTGGAAGC CTTTTTTGTC GAATACGGCT ATGCGGCCGT
 51  GTTTTTCGTT TTGGTCATCT GCGGTTTCGG CGTGCCGATT CCCGAGGATT
101  TGACCTTGGT AACAGGCGGC GTGATTTCGG GTATGGGTTA TACCAATCCG
151  CATATTATGT TTGCAGTCGG TATGCTCGGC GTATTGGTCG GGGACGGCAT
201  CATGTTCGCC GCCGGACGCA TCTGGGGGCA GAAAATCCTC AAGTTCAAAC
251  CGATTGCGCG CATCATGACG CCGAAACGTT ACGCACAGGT TCAGGAAAAA
301  TTCGACAAAT ACGGCAACTG GGTGTTATTT GTCGCTCGTT TCCTGCCCGG
351  TTTGCGGACT GCCGTTTTCG TTACCGCCGG CATCAGCCGC AAAGTATCGT
401  ATCTGCGCTT TCTGATTATG GACGGGCTTG CCGCGCTGAT TTCCGTGCCC
451  GTTTGGATTT ACTTGGGCGA GTACGGCGCG CACAACATCG ATTGGCTGAT
```

```
501  GGCGAAAATG CACAGCCTGC AATCCGGCAT CTTCATCGCA TTGGGCGTGC
551  TGGCGGCGGC GCTGGCGTGG TTCTGGTGGC GCAAACGCGG ACATTATCAG
601  CTTTACCGCG CACAATTGAG CGAAAAACGC GCCAAACGCA AGGCGGAAAA
651  GGCAGCGAAA AAAGCGGCAC AGAAGCAGCA GTAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 724>:

```
  1  MFALLEAFFV EYGYAAVFFV LVICGFGVPI PEDLTLVTGG VISGMGYTNP
 51  HIMFAVGMLG VLVGDGIMFA AGRIWGQKIL KFKPIARIMT PKRYAQVQEK
101  FDKYGNWVLF VARFLPGLRT AVFVTAGISR KVSYLRFLIM DGLAALISVP
151  VWIYLGEYGA HNIDWLMAKM HSLQSGIFIA LGVLAAALAW FWWRKRRHYQ
201  LYRAQLSEKR AKRKAEKAAK KAAQKQQ*
```

ORF78a and ORF78-1 show 89.0% identity in 227 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf78a.pep      MFALLEAFFVEYGYAAVFFVLVICGFGVPIPEDLTLVTGGVISGMGYTNPHIMFAVGMLG
                |||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf78-1         MFAFLEAFFVEYGYAAVFFVLVICGFGVPIPEDLTLVTGGVISGMGYTNPHIMFAVGMLG
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf78a.pep      VLVGDGIMFAAGRIWGQKILKFKPIARIMTPKRYAQVQEKFDKYGNWVLFVARFLPGLRT
                ||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf78-1         VLVGDGIMFAAGRIWGQKILRFKPIARIMTPKRYEQVQEKFDKYGNWVLFVARFLPGLRT
                70        80        90        100       110       120

               130       140       150       160       170       180
orf78a.pep      AVFVTAGISRKVSYLRFLIMDGLAALISVPVWIYLGEYGAHNIDWLMAKMHSLQSGIFIA
                ||||||||||||||||:||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:
orf78-1         AVFVTAGISRKVSYLRFIIMDGLAALISVPIWIYLGEYGAHNIDWLMAKMHSLQSGIFVI
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220
orf78a.pep      LGVLAAALAWFWWRKRRHYQLYRAQLSEKRAKRKAEKAAKKAAQKQQX
                ||: |:::||:||:|:|:: |:|||:|:||||:||| ||||||||::||
orf78-1         LGIGATVVAWIWWKKRQRIQFYRSKLKEKRAQRKAAKAAKKAAQSKQX
                190       200       210       220
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF78 shows 97.4% identity over 38 aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF78ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf78.pep    XXLXFXPIAXIMTPXRYEQVQEKFDKYGNWVLFVARFLPGLRTAVFVTAGISRKVSYLRF  137
                                                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf78ng                                         YPVLFVARFLPGLRTAVFVTAGISRKVSYLRF   32

orf78.pep    IIMDGLAA                                                       145
             :|||||||
orf78ng      LIMDGLAALISVPVWIYLGEYGAHNIDWLMAKMHSLQSGIFIALGVLAAALAWFWWRKRR   92
```

The ORF78ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 725> is predicted to encode a protein comprising amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 726>:

```
  1  ..YPVLFVARFL PGLRTAVFVT AGISRKVSYL RFLIMDGLAA LISVPVWIYL
 51    GEYGAHNIDW LMAKMHSLQS GIFIALGVLA AALAWFWWRK RRHYQLYRAQ
101    LSEKRAKRKA EKAAKKAAQK QQ*
```

Further work revealed the complete gonococcal nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 727>:

```
  1  atgtttgccc tttTggaagc CTTTTTTGTC GAAtacggCt atgcGGCCGT
 51  GTTTTTCGTT TTGGTCATCT GCGGTTTCGG CGTGCCGATT CCCGAAGATT
101  TGACCTTGGT AACGGGCGGC GTGATTTCGG GTATGGGTTA TACCAATCCG
151  CATATTATGT TTGCGGTCGG TATGCTCGGC GTGTTGGCGG GCGACGGCGT
201  GATGTTTGCC GCCGGACGCA TCTGGGGGCA GAAAATCCTC AAGTTCAAAC
251  CGATTGCGCG CATCATGACG CCGAAACGTT ACGCGCAGGT TCAGGAAAAA
301  TTCGACAAAT ACGGCAACTG GGTTCTGTTT GTCGCCCGTT TCCTGCCGGG
```

```
351  TTTGCGGACT GCCGTTTTCG TTACCGCCGG CATCAGCCGC AAAGTATCGT
401  ATCTGCGCTT TCTGATTATG GACGGGCTGG CCGCGCTGAT TTCCGTGCCC
451  GTTTGGATTT ACTTGGGCGA GTACGGCGCG CACAACATCG ATTGGCTGAT
501  GGCGAAAATG CACAGCCTGC AATCGGGCAT CTTCATCGCA TTGGGCGTGC
551  TGGCGGCGGC GCTGGCGTGG TTCTGGTGGC GCAAACGCCG ACATTATCAG
601  CTTTACCGCG CACAATTGAG CGAAAAACGC GCCAAACGCA AGGCGGAAAA
651  GGCAGCGAAA AAAGCGGCAC AGAAGCAGCA GTAa
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 728; ORF78ng-1>:

```
  1  MFALLEAFFV EYGYAAVFFV LVICGFGVPI PEDLTLVTGG VISGMGYTNP
 51  HIMFAVGMLG VLAGDGVMFA AGRIWGQKIL KFKPIARIMT PKRYAQVQEK
101  FDKYGNWVLF VARFLPGLRT AVFVTAGISR KVSYLRFLIM DGLAALISVP
151  VWIYLGEYGA HNIDWLMAKM HSLQSGIFIA LGVLAAALAW FWWRKRRHYQ
201  LYRAQLSEKR AKRKAEKAAK KAAQKQQ*
```

ORF78ng-1 and ORF78-1 show 88.1% identity in 227 aa overlap:

```
                        10        20        30        40        50        60
orf78-1.pep     MFAFLEAFFVEYGYAAVFFVLVICGFGVPIPEDLTLVTGGVISGMGYTNPHIMFAVGMLG
                ||| :||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf78ng-1       MFALLEAFFVEYGYAAVFFVLVICGFGVPIPEDLTLVTGGVISGMGYTNPHIMFAVGMLG
                        10        20        30        40        50        60

                        70        80        90       100       110       120
orf78-1.pep     VLVGDGIMFAAGRIWGQKILRFKPIARIMTPKRYEQVQEKFDKYGNWVLFVARFLPGLRT
                || :|||:|||||||||||||:|||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf78ng-1       VLAGDGVMFAAGRIWGQKILKFKPIARIMTPKRYAQVQEKFDKYGNWVLFVARFLPGLRT
                        70        80        90       100       110       120

                       130       140       150       160       170       180
orf78-1.pep     AVFVTAGISRKVSYLRFIIMDGLAALISVPIWIYLGEYGAHNIDWLMAKMHSLQSGIFVI
                ||||||||||||||||:||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:
orf78ng-1       AVFVTAGISRKVSYLRFLIMDGLAALISVPVWIYLGEYGAHNIDWLMAKMHSLQSGIFIA
                       130       140       150       160       170       180

                       190       200       210       220
orf78-1.pep     LGIGATVVAWIWWKKRQRIQFYRSKLKEKRAQRKAAKAAKKAAQSKQX
                ||: |:::||:||:||:: |:||::|:||||:||| |||||||||::||
orf78ng-1       LGVLAAALAWFWWRKRRHYQLYRAQLSEKRAKRKAEKAAKKAAQKQQX
                       190       200       210       220
```

Furthermore, orf78ng-1 shows homology to the dedA protein from *H.influenzae*:

```
sp|P45280|YG29_HAEIN HYPOTHETICAL PROTEIN HI1629 >gi|1073983|pir||D64133 dedA
protein (dedA) homolog - Haemophilus influenzae (strain Rd KW20)
>gi|1574476 (U32836) dedA protein (dedA) [Haemophilus influenzae] Length = 212
 Score =  223 bits (563), Expect = 7e-58
 Identities = 108/182 (59%), Positives = 140/182 (76%), Gaps = 2/182 (1%)

Query: 5   LEAFFVEYGYAAVFFVLVICGFGVPIPEDLTLVTGGVISGM--GYTNPHIMFAVGMLGVL 62
            L  FF EYGY AV FVL+ICGFGVPIPED+TLV+GGVI+G+     N H+M  V M+GVL
Sbjct: 21  LIGFFTEYGYWAVLFVLIICGFGVPIPEDITLVSGGVIAGLYPENVNSHLMLLVSMIGVL 80

Query: 63  AGDGVMFAAGRIWGQKILKFKPIARIMTPKRYAQVQEKFDKYGNWVLFVARFLPGLRTAV 122
            AGD  M+  GRI+G KIL+F+PI RI+T +R   V+EKF +YGN VLFVARFLPGLR  +
Sbjct: 81  AGDSCMYWLGRIYGTKILRFRPIRRIVTLQRLRMVREKFSQYGNRVLFVARFLPGLRAPI 140

Query: 123 FVTAGISRKVSYLRFLIMDGLAALISVPVWIYLGEYGAHNIDWLMAKMHSLQSGIFIALG 182
            ++ +GI+R+VSY+RF+++D  AA+ISVP+WIYLGE GA N+DWL  ++   Q  I+I +G
Sbjct: 141 YMVSGITRRVSYVRFVLIDFCAAIISVPIWIYLGELGAKNLDWLHTQIQKGQIVIYIFIG 200

Query: 183 VL 184
             L
Sbjct: 201 YL 202
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of putative transmembrane domains, it is predicted that these proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 87

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 729>:

```
   1  ATGAAAAAAT TATTGGCGGC CGTGATGATG GCAGGTTTGG CAGGCGCGGT
  51  TTCCGCCGCC GGAGTCCACG TTGAGGACGG CTGGGCGCGC ACCACCGTCG
 101  AAGGTATGAA AATAGGCGGC GCGTTCATGA AAATCCACAA CGACGAAGCC
 151  AAACAAGACT TTTTGCTCGG CGGAAGCAGC CCCGTTGCCG ACCGCGTCGA
 201  AGTGCATACC CACATCAACG ACAACGGCGT GATGCGGATG CGCGAAGTCG
 251  AAGGCGGCGT GCCTTTGGAA GCGAAATCCG TTACCGAACT CAAACCCGGC
 301  AGCTATCATG TGATGTTTAT GGGTTTGAAA AAACAATTAA AAGAGGGCGA
 351  TAAAATTCCC GTTACCCTGA AATTTAAAAA CGCCAAAGCG CAAACCGTCC
 401  AACTGGAAGT CAAAATCGCG CCGATGCCGG CAATGAACCA C...
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 730; ORF79>:

```
   1  MKKLLAAVMM AGLAGAVSAA GVHVEDGWAR TTVEGMKIGG AFMKIHNDEA
  51  KQDFLLGGSS PVADRVEVHT HINDNGVMRM REVEGGVPLE AKSVTELKPG
 101  SYHVMFMGLK KQLKEGDKIP VTLKFKNAKA QTVQLEVKIA PMPAMNH..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 731>:

```
   1  ATGAAAAAAT TATTGGCGGC CGTGATGATG GCAGGTTTGG CAGGCGCGGT
  51  TTCCGCCGCC GGAGTCCACG TTGAGGACGG CTGGGCGCGC ACCACCGTCG
 101  AAGGTATGAA AATAGGCGGC GCGTTCATGA AAATCCACAA CGACGAAGCC
 151  AAACAAGACT TTTTGCTCGG CGGAAGCAGC CCCGTTGCCG ACCGCGTCGA
 201  AGTGCATACC CACATCAACG ACAACGGCGT GATGCGGATG CGCGAAGTCG
 251  AAGGCGGCGT GCCTTTGGAA GCGAAATCCG TTACCGAACT CAAACCCGGC
 301  AGCTATCATG TGATGTTTAT GGGTTTGAAA AAACAATTAA AAGAGGGCGA
 351  TAAAATTCCC GTTACCCTGA AATTTAAAAA CGCCAAAGCG CAAACCGTCC
 401  AACTGGAAGT CAAAATCGCG CCGATGCCGG CAATGAACCA CGGTCATCAC
 451  CACGGCGAAG CGCATCAGCA CTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 732; ORF79-1>:

```
   1  MKKLLAAVMM AGLAGAVSAA GVHVEDGWAR TTVEGMKIGG AFMKIHNDEA
  51  KQDFLLGGSS PVADRVEVHT HINDNGVMRM REVEGGVPLE AKSVTELKPG
 101  SYHVMFMGLK KQLKEGDKIP VTLKFKNAKA QTVQLEVKIA PMPAMNHGHH
 151  HGEAHQH*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence revealed a putative leader peptide and also gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF79 shows 94.6% identity over a 147aa overlap with an ORF (ORF79a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf79.pep       MKKLLAAVMMAGLAGAVSAAGVHVEDGWARTTVEGMKIGGAFMKIHNDEAKQDFLLGGSS
                || ||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf79a          MKXLLAAVMMAGLAGAVSAAGIHVEDGWARTTVEGMKMGGAFMKIHNDEAKQDFLLGGSS
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf79.pep       PVADRVEVHTHINDNGVMRMREVEGGVPLEAKSVTELKPGSYHVMFMGLKKQLKEGDKIP
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||| |||||
orf79a          PVADRVEVHTHINDNGVMRMREVEGGVPLEAKSVTELKPGSYHVMFMGXKKQLKXGDKIP
                70        80        90        100       110       120
```

```
                    130       140
orf79.pep     VTLKFKNAKAQTVQLEVKIAPMPAMNH
              ||||||||||||||||||| ||| ||:|
orf79a        VTLKFKNAKAQTVQLEVKTAPMSAMDHGHHHGEAHQHX
                    130       140       150
```

The complete length ORF79a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 733> is:

```
   1  ATGAAANAAC TATTGGCAGC CGTGATGATG GCAGGTTTGG CAGGCGCGGT
  51  TTCCGCCGCC GGAATCCACG TTGAGGACGG CTGGGCGCGC ACCACCGTCG
 101  AAGGTATGAA AATGGGCGGC GCGTTCATGA AAATCCACAA CGACGAAGCC
 151  AAACAAGACT TTTTGCTCGG CGGAAGCAGC CCTGTTGCCG ACCGCGTCGA
 201  AGTGCATACC CATATCAATG ATAACGGTGT GATGCGGATG CGCGAAGTCG
 251  AAGGCGGCGT GCCTTTGGAG GCGAAATCCG TTACCGAACT CAAACCCGGC
 301  AGCTATCATG TCATGTTTAT GGGTNTGAAA AAACAATTAA AAGANGGCGA
 351  CAAGATTCCC GTTACCCTGA AATTTAAAAA CGCCAAAGCA CAAACCGTCC
 401  AACTGGAAGT CAAAACCGCG CCGATGTCGG CAATGGACCA CGGTCATCAC
 451  CACGGCGAAG CGCATCAGCA CTAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 734>:

```
   1  MKXLLAAVMM AGLAGAVSAA GIHVEDGWAR TTVEGMKMGG AFMKIHNDEA
  51  KQDFLLGGSS PVADRVEVHT HINDNGVMRM REVEGGVPLE AKSVTELKPG
 101  SYHVMFMGXK KQLKXGDKIP VTLKFKNAKA QTVQLEVKTA PMSAMDHGHH
 151  HGEAHQH*
```

ORF79a and ORF79-1 show 94.9% identity in 157 aa overlap:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf79a.pep    MKXLLAAVMMAGLAGAVSAAGIHVEDGWARTTVEGMKMGGAFMKIHNDEAKQDFLLGGSS
              || ||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf79-1       MKKLLAAVMMAGLAGAVSAAGVHVEDGWARTTVEGMKIGGAFMKIHNDEAKQDFLLGGSS
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf79a.pep    PVADRVEVHTHINDNGVMRMREVEGGVPLEAKSVTELKPGSYHVMFMGXKKQLKXGDKIP
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||| |||||
orf79-1       PVADRVEVHTHINDNGVMRMREVEGGVPLEAKSVTELKPGSYHVMFMGLKKQLKEGDKIP
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                   130       140       150
orf79a.pep    VTLKFKNAKAQTVQLEVKTAPMSAMDHGHHHGEAHQHX
              ||||||||||||||||||| ||| ||:|||||||||||
orf79-1       VTLKFKNAKAQTVQLEVKIAPMPAMNHGHHHGEAHQHX
                   130       140       150
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF79 shows 96.1% identity over 76 aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF79ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf79.pep     FMKIHNDEAKQDFLLGGSSPVADRVEVHTHINDNGVMRMREVEGGVPLEAKSVTELKPGS  101
                                           ||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||
orf79ng                                    INDNGVMRMREVKGGVPLEAKSVTELKPGS   30

orf79.pep     YHVMFMGLKKQLKEGDKIPVTLKFKNAKAQTVQLEVKIAPMPAMNH              147
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||| ||||
orf79ng       YHVMFMGLKKQLKEGDKIPVTLKFKNAKAQTVQLEVKTAPMSAMNHGHHHGEAHQH    86
```

An ORF79ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 735> was predicted to encode a protein comprising amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 736>:

```
   1  ..INDNGVMRMR EVKGGVPLEA KSVTELKPGS YHVMFMGLKK QLKEGDKIPV
  51    TLKFKNAKAQ TVQLEVKTAP MSAMNHGHHH GEAHQH*
```

Further work revealed the complete gonococcal DNA sequence <SEQ ID 737>:

```
   1  ATGAAAAAAT TATTGGCAGC CGTGATGATG GCAGGTTTGG CAGGCGCGGT
  51  TTccgccgCc GGagTccAtG TCGAggACGG CTGGGCGCGc accaCTGtcg
 101  aaggtATgaa aatggGCGGC GCgttCATga aaATCCACAA CGACGaaGcc
 151  atacaaGACt ttgtgcTCgg CGGaagcatg cccgttgccg accgcGTCGA
 201  AGTGCAtaca cacATCAACG ACAACGGCGT GATGCGTATG CGCGAAGTCA
 251  AAGGCGGCGT GCCTTTGGAG GCGAAATCCG TTACCGAACT CAAACCCGGC
 301  AGCTATCACG TGATGTTTAT GGGTTTGAAA AAACAACTGA AAGAGGGCGA
 351  CAAGATTCCC GTTACCCTGA AATTTAAAAA CGCCAAAGCG CAAACCGTCC
 401  AACTGGAAGT CAAAACCGCG CCGATGTCGG CAATGAACCA CGGTCATCAC
 451  CACGGCGAAG CGCATCAGCA CTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 738; ORF79ng-1>:

```
   1  MKKLLAAVMM AGLAGAVSAA GVHVEDGWAR TTVEGMKMGG AFMKIHNDEA
  51  IQDFVLGGSM PVADRVEVHT HINDNGVMRM REVKGGVPLE AKSVTELKPG
 101  SYHVMFMGLK KQLKEGDKIP VTLKFKNAKA QTVQLEVKTA PMSAMNHGHH
 151  HGEAHQH*
```

ORF79ng-1 and ORF79-1 show 95.5% identity in 157 aa overlap:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf79-1.pep  MKKLLAAVMMAGLAGAVSAAGVHVEDGWARTTVEGMKIGGAFMKIHNDEAKQDFLLGGSS
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||| ||||||
orf79ng-1    MKKLLAAVMMAGLAGAVSAAGVHVEDGWARTTVEGMKMGGAFMKIHNDEAIQDFVLGGSM
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf79-1.pep  PVADRVEVHTHINDNGVMRMREVEGGVPLEAKSVTELKPGSYHVMFMGLKKQLKEGDKIP
             ||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf79ng-1    PVADRVEVHTHINDNGVMRMREVKGGVPLEAKSVTELKPGSYHVMFMGLKKQLKEGDKIP
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                   130       140       150
orf79-1.pep  VTLKFKNAKAQTVQLEVKIAPMPAMNHGHHHGEAHQHX
             |||||||||||||||||| ||| ||||||||||||||
orf79ng-1    VTLKFKNAKAQTVQLEVKTAPMSAMNHGHHHGEAHQHX
                   130       140       150
```

Furthermore, ORF79ng-1 shows significant homology to a protein from *Aquifex aeolicus*:

```
gi|2983695 (AE000731) putative protein [Aquifex aeolicus] Length = 151
 Score = 63.6 bits (152), Expect = 6e-10
 Identities = 38/114 (33%), Positives = 58/114 (50%), Gaps = 1/114 (0%)

Query: 24  VEDGWARTTVEGMKMGGAFMKIHNDEAIQDFVLGGSMPVADRVEVHTHINDNGVMRMREV 83
           V+  W      G       M I N+    D+++G    +A RVE+H  + +N V +M
Sbjct: 27  VKHPWVMEPPPGPNTTMMGMIIVNEGDEPDYLIGAKTDIAQRVELHKTVIENDVAKMVPQ 86

Query: 84  KGGVPLEAKSVTELKPGSYHVMFMGLKKQLKEGDKIPVTLKFKNAKAQTVQLEV 137
           +  + +  K   E K   YHVM +GLKK++KEGDK+ V L F+ +   TV+  V
Sbjct: 87  ER-IEIPPKGKVEFKHHGYHVMIIGLKKRIKEGDKVKVELIFEKSGKITVEAPV 139
```

Based on this analysis, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

ORF79-1 (15.6kDa) was cloned in the pET vector and expressed in *E.coli*, as described above. The products of protein expression and purification were analyzed by SDS-PAGE. Figure 18A shows the results of affinity purification of the His-fusion protein. Purified His-fusion protein was used to immunise mice, whose sera were used for ELISA (positive result) and FACS analysis (Figure 18B) These experiments confirm that ORF79-1 is a surface-exposed protein, and that it is a useful immunogen.

Example 88

The following DNA sequence, believed to be complete, was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 739>:

```
   1  ATGACGGTAA CTGCGGCCGA AGGCGGCAAA GCTGCCAAGG CGTTAAAAAA
  51  ATATCTGATT ACGGGCATTT TGGTCTGGCT GCCGATTGCG GTAACGGTTT
 101  GGGTGGTTTC CTATATCGTT TCCGCGTCCG ATCAGCTCGT CAACCTGCTG
 151  CCGAAGCAAT GGCGGCCGCA ATATGTTTTG GGGTTTAATA TCCCGGGGCT
 201  GGGCGTTATC GTTGCCATTG CCGTATTGTT TGTAACCGGA TTGTTTGCCG
 251  CCAACGTATT GGGTCGGCAG ATCCTCGCCG CGTGGGACAG CCTGTTGGGG
 301  CGGATTCCGG TTGTGAAATC CATCTATTCG AGTGTGAAAA AAGTATCCGA
 351  ATacgTGCTG TCCGACAGCA GCCGTTCGTT TAAAACGCCG GTACTCGTGC
 401  CGTTTCCCCA GCCCGGTATT TGGACGATyG CTTTCGTGTC AGGGCAGGTG
 451  TCGAATGCGG TTAAGGCCGC ATTGCCGAAs GACGGCGATT ATCTTTCCGT
 501  GTATGTTCCG ACCACGCCGA ATCCGACCGG CGGTTACTAT ATTATGGTAA
 551  AGAAAAGCGA TGTGCGCGAA CTCGATATGA GCGTGGACGA AsCATTGAAA
 601  TATGTGATTT CGCTGGGTAT GGTCATCCCT GACGACCTGC CCGTCAAAAC
 651  ATTGGCAsGA CCTATGCCGT CTGAAAAGGC GGATTTGCCC GAACAACAAT
 701  AA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 740; ORF98>:

```
   1  MTVTAAEGGK AAKALKKYLI TGILVWLPIA VTVWVVSYIV SASDQLVNLL
  51  PKQWRPQYVL GFNIPGLGVI VAIAVLFVTG LFAANVLGRQ ILAAWDSLLG
 101  RIPVVKSIYS SVKKVSEYVL SDSSRSFKTP VLVPFPQPGI WTIAFVSGQV
 151  SNAVKAALPX DGDYLSVYVP TTPNPTGGYY IMVKKSDVRE LDMSVDEXLK
 201  YVISLGMVIP DDLPVKTLAX PMPSEKADLP EQQ*
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 741>:

```
   1  ATGACGGAAC nTGCGGCCGA AGGCGGCAAA GCTGCCAArG CGTTAAAAAA
  51  ATATCTGATT ACGGGCATTT TGGTCTGGCT GCCGATTGCG GTAACGGTTT
 101  GGGTGGTTTC CTATATCGTT TCCGCGTCCG ATCAGCTCGT CAACCTGCTG
 151  CCGAAGCAAT GGCGGCCGCA ATATGTTTTG GGGTTTAATA TCCCGGGGCT
 201  GGGCGTTATC GTTGCCATTG CCGTATTGTT TGTAACCGGA TTGTTTGCCG
 251  CCAACGTATT GGGTCGGCAG ATCCTCGCCG CGTGGGACAG CCTGTTGGGG
 301  CGGATTCCGG TTGTGAAATC CATCTATTCG AGTGTGAAAA AAGTATCCGA
 351  ATCGCTGCTG TCCGACAGCA GCCGTTCGTT TAAAACGCCG GTACTCGTGC
 401  CGTTTCCCCA GCCCGGTATT TGGACGATTG CTTTCGTGTC AGGGCAGGTG
 451  TCGAATGCGG TTAAGGCCGC ATTGCCGAAG GACGGCGATT ATCTTTCCGT
 501  GTATGTTCCG ACCACGCCGA ATCCGACCGG CGGTTACTAT ATTATGGTAA
 551  AGAAAAGCGA TGTGCGCGAA CTCGATATGA GCGTGGACGA AGCATTGAAA
 601  TATGTGATTT CGCTGGGTAT GGTCATCCCT GACGACCTGC CCGTCAAAAC
 651  ATTGGCAGGA CCTATGCCGT CTGAAAAGGC GGATTTGCCC GAACAACAAT
 701  AA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 742; ORF98-1>:

```
   1  MTEXAAEGGK AAKALKKYLI TGILVWLPIA VTVWVVSYIV SASDQLVNLL
  51  PKQWRPQYVL GFNIPGLGVI VAIAVLFVTG LFAANVLGRQ ILAAWDSLLG
 101  RIPVVKSIYS SVKKVSESLL SDSSRSFKTP VLVPFPQPGI WTIAFVSGQV
 151  SNAVKAALPK DGDYLSVYVP TTPNPTGGYY IMVKKSDVRE LDMSVDEALK
 201  YVISLGMVIP DDLPVKTLAG PMPSEKADLP EQQ*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF98 shows 96.1% identity over a 233aa overlap with an ORF (ORF98a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf98.pep   MTVTAAEGGKAAKALKKYLITGILVWLPIAVTVWVVSYIVSASDQLVNLLPKQWRPQYVL
            ||  ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf98a      MTEPAAEGGKAAKALKKYLITGILVWLPIAVTVWVVSYIVSASDQLVNLLPKQWRPQYVL
                10        20        30        40        50        60
```

```
                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf98.pep   GFNIPGLGVIVAIAVLFVTGLFAANVLGRQILAAWDSLLGRIPVVKSIYSSVKKVSEYVL
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| :|
orf98a      GFNIPGLGVIVAIAVLFVTGLFAANVLGRQILAAWDSLLGRIPVVKSIYSSVKKVSXSLL
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf98.pep   SDSSRSFKTPVLVPFPQPGIWTIAFVSGQVSNAVKAALPXDGDYLSVYVPTTPNPTGGYY
            |||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||
orf98a      SDSSRSFKTPVLVPFPQSGIWTIAFVSGQVSNAVKAALPKDGDYLSVYVPTTPNPTGGYY
                   130       140       150       160       170       180

                   190       200       210       220       230
orf98.pep   IMVKKSDVRELDMSVDEXLKYVISLGMVIPDDLPVKTLAXPMPSEKADLPEQQX
            |||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||
orf98a      IMVKKSDVRELDMSVDEALKYVISLGMVIPDDLPVKTLAGPMPSEKADLPEQQX
                   190       200       210       220       230
```

The complete length ORF98a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 743> is:

```
   1  ATGACGGAAC CTGCGGCCGA AGGCGGCAAA GCTGCCAAGG CGTTAAAAAA
  51  ATATCTGATT ACGGGCATTT TGGTCTGGCT GCCGATTGCG GTAACGGTTT
 101  GGGTGGTTTC CTATATCGTT TCCGCGTCCG ATCAGCTCGT CAACCTGCTG
 151  CCGAAGCAAT GGCGGCCGCA ATATGTTTTG GGGTTTAATA TCCCGGGGCT
 201  GGGCGTTATC GTTGCCATTG CCGTATTGTT TGTAACCGGA TTATTTGCCG
 251  CAAACGTATT GGGCCGGCAG ATTCTTGCCG CGTGGGACAG CTTGTTGGGG
 301  CGGATTCCGG TTGTGAAGTC CATCTATTCG AGTGTGAAAA AAGTATCCGA
 351  NTCGTTGCTG TCCGACAGCA GCCGTTCGTT TAAAACACCA GTACTCGTGC
 401  CGTTTCCCCA ATCGGGTATT TGGACAATCG CATTCGTGTC CGGTCAGGTG
 451  TCGAATGCGG TTAAGGCCGC ATTGCCGAAG GACGGCGATT ATCTTTCCGT
 501  GTATGTTCCG ACCACGCCGA ATCCGACCGG CGGTTACTAT ATTATGGTAA
 551  AGAAAAGCGA TGTGCGCGAA CTCGATATGA GCGTGGACGA AGCGTTGAAA
 601  TATGTGATTT CGCTGGGTAT GGTCATCCCT GACGACCTGC CCGTCAAAAC
 651  ATTGGCAGGA CCTATGCCGT CTGAAAAGGC GGATTTGCCC GAACAACAAT
 701  AA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 744>:

```
   1  MTEPAAEGGK AAKALKKYLI TGILVWLPIA VTVWVVSYIV SASDQLVNLL
  51  PKQWRPQYVL GFNIPGLGVI VAIAVLFVTG LFAANVLGRQ ILAAWDSLLG
 101  RIPVVKSIYS SVKKVSXSLL SDSSRSFKTP VLVPFPQSGI WTIAFVSGQV
 151  SNAVKAALPK DGDYLSVYVP TTPNPTGGYY IMVKKSDVRE LDMSVDEALK
 201  YVISLGMVIP DDLPVKTLAG PMPSEKADLP EQQ*
```

ORF98a and ORF98-1 show 98.7% identity in 233 aa overlap:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf98a.pep  MTEPAAEGGKAAKALKKYLITGILVWLPIAVTVWVVSYIVSASDQLVNLLPKQWRPQYVL
            ||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf98-1     MTEXAAEGGKAAKALKKYLITGILVWLPIAVTVWVVSYIVSASDQLVNLLPKQWRPQYVL
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf98a.pep  GFNIPGLGVIVAIAVLFVTGLFAANVLGRQILAAWDSLLGRIPVVKSIYSSVKKVSXSLL
            |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||
orf98-1     GFNIPGLGVIVAIAVLFVTGLFAANVLGRQILAAWDSLLGRIPVVKSIYSSVKKVSESLL
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf98a.pep  SDSSRSFKTPVLVPFPQSGIWTIAFVSGQVSNAVKAALPKDGDYLSVYVPTTPNPTGGYY
            |||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf98-1     SDSSRSFKTPVLVPFPQPGIWTIAFVSGQVSNAVKAALPKDGDYLSVYVPTTPNPTGGYY
                   130       140       150       160       170       180

                   190       200       210       220       230
orf98a.pep  IMVKKSDVRELDMSVDEALKYVISLGMVIPDDLPVKTLAGPMPSEKADLPEQQX
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf98-1     IMVKKSDVRELDMSVDEALKYVISLGMVIPDDLPVKTLAGPMPSEKADLPEQQX
                   190       200       210       220       230
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF98 shows 95.3% identity over a 233 aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF98ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf98.pep       MTVTAAEGGKAAKALKKYLITGILVWLPIAVTVWVVSYIVSASDQLVNLLPKQWRPQYVL   60
                ||  ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf98ng         MTEPAAEGGKAAKALKKYLITGILVWLPIAVTVWVVSYIVSASDQLVNLLPKQWRPQYVL   60

orf98.pep       GFNIPGLGVIVAIAVLFVTGLFAANVLGRQILAAWDSLLGRIPVVKSIYSSVKKVSEYVL  120
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|
orf98ng         GFNIPGLGVIVAIAVLFVTGLFAANVLGRQILAAWDSLLXRIPVVKSIYSSVKKVSESLL  120

orf98.pep       SDSSRSFKTPVLVPFPQPGIWTIAFVSGQVSNAVKAALPXDGDYLSVYVPTTPNPTGGYY  180
                |||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||
orf98ng         SDSSRSFKTPVLVPFPQSGIWTIAFVSGQVSNAVKAALPQDGDYLSVYVPTTPNPTGGYY  180

orf98.pep       IMVKKSDVRELDMSVDEXLKYVISLGMVIPDDLPVKTLAXPMPSEKADLPEQQ  233
                |||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||| ||| |||:|||||
orf98ng         IMVKKSDVRELDMSVDEALKYVISLGMVIPDDLPVKTLAGPMPPEKAELPEQQ  233
```

The complete length ORF98ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 745> is predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 746>:

```
   1  MTEPAAEGGK AAKALKKYLI TGILVWLPIA VTVWVVSYIV SASDQLVNLL
  51  PKQWRPQYVL GFNIPGLGVI VAIAVLFVTG LFAANVLGRQ ILAAWDSLLX
 101  RIPVVKSIYS SVKKVSESLL SDSSRSFKTP VLVPFPQSGI WTIAFVSGQV
 151  SNAVKAALPQ DGDYLSVYVP TTPNPTGGYY IMVKKSDVRE LDMSVDEALK
 201  YVISLGMVIP DDLPVKTLAG PMPPEKAELP EQQ*
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 747>:

```
   1  ATGACGGAAC CTGCGGCCGA AGGCGGCAAA GCTGCCAAGG CGTTAAAAAA
  51  ATATCTGATT ACAGGCATTT TGGTCTGGCT GCCGATTGCG GTAACGGTTT
 101  GGGTGGTTTC CTATATCGTT TCCGCGTCCG ACCAGCTTGT CAACCTGCTG
 151  CCGAAGCAAT GGCGGCCGCA ATATGTTTTG GGGTTTAATA TCCCCGGGCT
 201  CGGCGTTATT GTTGCCATTG CCGTATTGTT TGTAACCGGA TTATTTGCCG
 251  CAAACGTGTT GGGCCGGCAG ATTCTTGCCG CGTGGGACAG CCTGTTgggg
 301  cggaTTCCGG TTGTCAAATC CATCTATTCG AGTGTGAAAA AAGTATCCGA
 351  ATCGCTGCTG TCCGACAGCA GCCGTTCGTT TAAAACGCCG GTACTCGTGC
 401  CGTTTCCCCA ATCGGGTATT TGGACAATCG CATTCGTGTC CGGTCAGGTG
 451  TCGAATGCGG TTAAGGCCGC ATTGCCGCAG GATGGCGATT ATCTTTCCGT
 501  GTATGTCCCG ACCACGCCCA ACCCGACCGG CGGTTACTAT ATTATGGTAA
 551  AGAAAAGCGA TGTGCGCGAA CTCGATATGA GCGTGGACGA AGCGTTGAAA
 601  TATGTGATTT CGCTGGGTAT GGTCATCCCT GACGACCTGC CCGTCAAAAC
 651  ATTGGCAGGA CCTATGCCGC CTGAAAAGGC GGAGTTGCCC GAACAACAAT
 701  AA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 748; ORF98ng-1>:

```
   1  MTEPAAEGGK AAKALKKYLI TGILVWLPIA VTVWVVSYIV SASDQLVNLL
  51  PKQWRPQYVL GFNIPGLGVI VAIAVLFVTG LFAANVLGRQ ILAAWDSLLG
 101  RIPVVKSIYS SVKKVSESLL SDSSRSFKTP VLVPFPQSGI WTIAFVSGQV
 151  SNAVKAALPQ DGDYLSVYVP TTPNPTGGYY IMVKKSDVRE LDMSVDEALK
 201  YVISLGMVIP DDLPVKTLAG PMPPEKAELP EQQ*
```

ORF98ng-1 and ORF98-1 show 97.9% identity in 233 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf98-1.pep     MTEXAAEGGKAAKALKKYLITGILVWLPIAVTVWVVSYIVSASDQLVNLLPKQWRPQYVL
                ||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf98ng-1       MTEPAAEGGKAAKALKKYLITGILVWLPIAVTVWVVSYIVSASDQLVNLLPKQWRPQYVL
                        10        20        30        40        50        60

                        70        80        90       100       110       120
orf98-1.pep     GFNIPGLGVIVAIAVLFVTGLFAANVLGRQILAAWDSLLGRIPVVKSIYSSVKKVSESLL
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
```

```
orf98ng-1     GFNIPGLGVIVAIAVLFVTGLFAANVLGRQILAAWDSLLGRIPVVKSIYSSVKKVSESLL
                     70        80        90       100       110       120

                    130       140       150       160       170       180
orf98-1.pep   SDSSRSFKTPVLVPFPQPGIWTIAFVSGQVSNAVKAALPKDGDYLSVYVPTTPNPTGGYY
              ||||||||||||||||  ||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||
orf98ng-1     SDSSRSFKTPVLVPFPQSGIWTIAFVSGQVSNAVKAALPQDGDYLSVYVPTTPNPTGGYY
                    130       140       150       160       170       180

                    190       200       210       220       230
orf98-1.pep   IMVKKSDVRELDMSVDEALKYVISLGMVIPDDLPVKTLAGPMPSEKADLPEQQX
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||:||||||
orf98ng-1     IMVKKSDVRELDMSVDEALKYVISLGMVIPDDLPVKTLAGPMPPEKAELPEQQX
                    190       200       210       220       230
```

Based on this analysis, including the fact that the putative transmembrane domains in the gonococcal protein are identical to the sequences in the meningococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 89

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 749>:

```
   1  ATgAAAACGG TAGTCTGGAT TGTCGTCCTG TTTGCCGCCG CCGTCGGACT
  51  GGCGCTGGCT TCGGGCATTT ACACCGGCGA CGTGTATATC GTACTCGGAC
 101  AGACCATGCT CAGAATCAAC CTGCACGCCT TTGTGTTAGG TTCGCTGATT
 151  GCCGTCGTGG TGTGGTATTT CTTGTTTAAA TTCATTATCG GsGgTACTCA
 201  ATATCCCCGA AAAGATGCAG CGTTTCGGTT CGGCnCGTAA AGGCCkCAAG
 251  ssCGsGCTTG CCTTGAACAA GGCGGGTTTG GCGTATTTTG AAGGGCGTTT
 301  TGAAAAGGCG GAACTAGAAG CCTCACGCGT GTTGGTCAAC AAAGtAGGCC
 351  GaGAGACAAC CGGACTTTGG CATTGATGCT GrGCGCGCAC GCCGCCGGAC
 401  AGATGGAAAA CATCGAssTG CGCGACCGTT ATCTTGCGGA AATCGCCAAA
 451  CTGCCGGAAA AACAGCAGCT TTCCCGTTAT CTTTTGTTGG CGGAATCGGC
 501  GTTGAACCGG CGCGATTACG AAGCGGCGGA AGCCAATCTT CATGCGGCGG
 551  CGAAGATGAA TGCCAACCTT ACGCGCCTCG TGCGTCTGCA .ATTCGTTAC
 601  GCTTTCGACA GGGGCGACGC GTTGCAGGTT CTGGCAAAAA CCGAAAAACT
 651  TTCCAAGGCG GGCGCGTTGG GCAAATCGGA AATGGAACGG TATCAAAATT
 701  GGGCATATCC GTCGCCAGCT GGCGGATGCT GCCGATGCCG CCGCTTTGAA
 751  AACCTGCCTG AAGCGGATTC CCGACAGCCT CAAAAACGGG GAATTGAGCG
 801  TATCGGTTGC GGAAAAGTAC GAACGTTTGG GACTGTATGC CGATGCGGTC
 851  AAATGGGTCA AACAGCATTA TCCGCAsAAC CGCCGCCCCG AGCTTTTGGA
 901  AGCCTTTGTC GAAAGCGTGC GCTTTTTGGG CGAGCGCGAA CAGCAGAAAG
 951  CCATCGATTT TGCCGATGCT TGGCTGAAAG AACAGCCCGA TAACGCGCTT
1001  CTGCTGATGT ATCTCGGTCG GCTCGCCTTC GGCCGCAAAC TTTGGGGCAA
1051  GGCAAAAGGC TACCTTGAAG CGAGCATTGC ATTAAAGCCG AGTATTTCCG
1101  CGCGTTTGGT TCTAACAAAG GTTTTCGACG AAATCGGAGA ACCGCAGAAG
1151  GCGGAGGCGC AC...
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 750; ORF100>:

```
   1  MKTVVWIVVL FAAAVGLALA SGIYTGDVYI VLGQTMLRIN LHAFVLGSLI
  51  AVVVWYFLFK FIIGVLNIPE KMQRFGSARK GXKXXLALNK AGLAYFEGRF
 101  EKAELEASRV LVNKVGRDNR TLALMLXAHA AGQMENIXXR DRYLAEIAKL
 151  PEKQQLSRYL LLAESALNRR DYEAAEANLH AAAKMNANLT RLVRLXIRYA
 201  FDRGDALQVL AKTEKLSKAG ALGKSEMERY QNWAYRRQLA DAADAAALKT
 251  CLKRIPDSLK NGELSVSVAE KYERLGLYAD AVKWVKQHYP XNRRPELLEA
 301  FVESVRFLGE REQQKAIDFA DAWLKEQPDN ALLLMYLGRL AFGRKLWGKA
 351  KGYLEASIAL KPSISARLVL TKVFDEIGEP QKAEAH...
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 751>:

```
   1  ATGAAAACGG TAGTCTGGAT TGTCGTCCTG TTTGCCGCCG CCGTCGGACT
  51  GGCGCTGGCT TCGGGCATTT ACACCGGCGA CGTGTATATC GTACTCGGAC
 101  AGACCATGCT CAGAATCAAC CTGCACGCCT TTGTGTTAGG TTCGCTGATT
 151  GCCGTCGTGG TGTGGTATTT CTTGTTTAAA TTCATTATCG GCGTACTCAA
```

```
 201  TATCCCCGAA AAGATGCAGC GTTTCGGTTC GGCGCGTAAA GGCCGCAAGG
 251  CCGCGCTTGC CTTGAACAAG GCGGGTTTGG CGTATTTTGA AGGGCGTTTT
 301  GAAAAGGCGG AACTAGAAGC CTCACGCGTG TTGGTCAACA AAGAGGCCGG
 351  AGACAACCGG ACTTTGGCAT TGATGCTGGG CGCGCACGCC GCCGGACAGA
 401  TGGAAAACAT CGAGCTGCGC GACCGTTATC TTGCGGAAAT CGCCAAACTG
 451  CCGGAAAAAC AGCAGCTTTC CCGTTATCTT TTGTTGGCGG AATCGGCGTT
 501  GAACCGGCGC GATTACGAAG CGGCGGAAGC CAATCTTCAT GCGGCGGCGA
 551  AGATGAATGC CAACCTTACG CGCCTCGTGC GTCTGCAACT TCGTTACGCT
 601  TTCGACAGGG GCGACGCGTT GCAGGTTCTG GCAAAAACCG AAAAACTTTC
 651  CAAGGCGGGC GCGTTGGGCA AATCGGAAAT GGAACGGTAT CAAAATTGGG
 701  CATACCGCCG CCAGCTGGCG GATGCTGCCG ATGCCGCCGC TTTGAAAACC
 751  TGCCTGAAGC GGATTCCCGA CAGCCTCAAA AACGGGGAAT TGAGCGTATC
 801  GGTTGCGGAA AAGTACGAAC GTTTGGGACT GTATGCCGAT GCGGTCAAAT
 851  GGGTCAAACA GCATTATCCG CACAACCGCC GCCCCGAGCT TTTGGAAGCC
 901  TTTGTCGAAA GCGTGCGCTT TTTGGGCGAG CGCGAACAGC AGAAAGCCAT
 951  CGATTTTGCC GATGCTTGGC TGAAAGAACA GCCCGATAAC GCGCTTCTGC
1001  TGATGTATCT CGGTCGGCTC GCCTACGGCC GCAAACTTTG GGGCAAGGCA
1051  AAAGGCTACC TTGAAGCGAG CATTGCATTA AAGCCGAGTA TTTCCGCGCG
1101  TTTGGTTCTA GCAAAGGTTT TCGACGAAAT CGGAGAACCG CAGAAGGCGG
1151  AGGCGCAGCG CAACTTGGTT TTGGAAGCCG TCTCCGATGA CGAACGTCAC
1201  GCAGCGTTAG AGCAGCATAG CTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 752; ORF100-1>:

```
   1  MKTVVWIVVL FAAAVGLALA SGIYTGDVYI VLGQTMLRIN LHAFVLGSLI
  51  AVVVWYFLFK FIIGVLNIPE KMQRFGSARK GRKAALALNK AGLAYFEGRF
 101  EKAELEASRV LVNKEAGDNR TLALMLGAHA AGQMENIELR DRYLAEIAKL
 151  PEKQQLSRYL LLAESALNRR DYEAAEANLH AAAKMNANLT RLVRLQLRYA
 201  FDRGDALQVL AKTEKLSKAG ALGKSEMERY QNWAYRRQLA DAADAAALKT
 251  CLKRIPDSLK NGELSVSVAE KYERLGLYAD AVKWVKQHYP HNRRPELLEA
 301  FVESVRFLGE REQQKAIDFA DAWLKEQPDN ALLLMYLGRL AYGRKLWGKA
 351  KGYLEASIAL KPSISARLVL AKVFDEIGEP QKAEAQRNLV LEAVSDDERH
 401  AALEQHS*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF100 shows 93.5% identity over a 386aa overlap with an ORF (ORF100a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf100.pep      MKTVVWIVVLFAAAVGLALASGIYTGDVYIVLGQTMLRINLHAFVLGSLIAVVVWYFLFK
                ||||||||||||||| |||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf100a         MKTVVWIVVLFAAAXGLALASGIXTGDVYIVLGQTMLRINLHAFVLGSLIAVVVWYFLFK
                       10        20        30        40        50        60

                       70        80        90       100       110       120
orf100.pep      FIIGVLNIPEKMQRFGSARKGXKXXLALNKAGLAYFEGRFEKAELEASRVLVNKVGRDNR
                ||||||| |||||||||||||| | |||||||||||||||||||||||||| || : |||
orf100a         FIIGVLNXPEKMQRFGSARKGRKAALALNKAGLAYFEGRFEKAELEASRVLGNKEAGDNR
                       70        80        90       100       110       120

                      130       140       150       160       170       180
orf100.pep      TLALMLXAHAAGQMENIXXRDRYLAEIAKLPEKQQLSRYLLLAESALNRRDYEAAEANLH
                |||||| |||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf100a         TLALMLGAHAAGQMENIELRDRYLAEIAKLPEKQQLSRYLLLAESALNRRDYEAAEANLH
                      130       140       150       160       170       180

                      190       200       210       220       230       240
orf100.pep      AAAKMNANLTRLVRLXIRYAFDRGDALQVLAKTEKLSKAGALGKSEMERYQNWAYRRQLA
                |||||||||||||||| :|||||||||||||||||| ||||| ||||||||||||||||||
orf100a         AAAKMNANLTRLVRLQLRYAFDRGDALQVLAKTEKXSKAGAXGKSEMERYQNWAYRRQLX
                      190       200       210       220       230       240

                      250       260       270       280       290       300
orf100.pep      DAADAAALKTCLKRIPDSLKNGELSVSVAEKYERLGLYADAVKWVKQHYPXNRRPELLEA
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||
orf100a         DAADAAALKTCLKRIPDSLKNGELSVSVAEKYERLGLYADAVKWVKQHYPHNRRPELLEA
                      250       260       270       280       290       300
```

```
                310       320       330       340       350       360
orf100.pep      FVESVRFLGEREQQKAIDFADAWLKEQPDNALLLMYLGRLAFGRKLWGKAKGYLEASIAL
                ||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||:||||||||||||||||||
orf100a         FVESVRFLGERDQQKAIDFADAWLKEQPDNALLLXYLGRLAYGRKLWGKAKGYLEASIAL
                310       320       330       340       350       360

                370       380
orf100.pep      KPSISARLVLTKVFDEIGEPQKAEAH
                ||||||||||:||||| ||||||||:
orf100a         KPSISARLVLAKVFDETGEPQKAEAQRNLVLASVAEENRPSAETHX
                370       380       390       400
```

The complete length ORF100a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 753> is:

```
   1  ATGAAAACGG TAGTCTGGAT TGTCGTCCTG TTTGCCGCCG CNNTCGGGCT
  51  GGCATTGGCG TCGGGCATTN ACACCGGCGA CGTGTATATC GTACTCGGAC
 101  AGACCATGCT CAGAATCAAC CTGCACGCCT TTGTGTTAGG TTCGCTGATT
 151  GCCGTCGTGG TGTGGTATTT CCTGTTCAAA TTCATCATCG GCGTACTCAA
 201  TANCCCCGAA AAGATGCAGC GTTTCGGTTC GGCGCGTAAA GGCCGCAAGG
 251  CCGCGCTTGC TTTGAACAAG GCGGGTTTGG CGTATTTTGA AGGGCGTTTT
 301  GAAAAGGCGG AACTTGAAGC CTCGCGCGTA TTGGGAAACA AAGAGGCGGG
 351  GGATAACCGG ACTTTGGCAT TGATGTTGGG CGCACATGCC GCCGGGCAGA
 401  TGGAAAACAT CGAGCTGCGC GACCGTTATC TTGCGGAAAT CGCCAAACTG
 451  CCGGAAAAGC AGCAGCTTTC CCGTTATCTT TTGTTGGCGG AATCGGCGTT
 501  GAACCGGCGC GATTACGAAG CGGCGGAAGC CAATCTTCAT GCGGCGGCGA
 551  AGATGAATGC CAACCTTACG CGCCTCGTGC GTCTGCAACT TCGTTACGCT
 601  TTCGACAGGG GCGACGCGTT GCAGGTTCTG GCAAAAACCG AAAAANTTTC
 651  CAAGGCGGGC GCGTNGGGCA AATCGGAAAT GGAACGGTAT CAAAATTGGG
 701  CATACCGCCG CCAGCTGNCG GATGCTGCCG ATGCCGCCGC TTTGAAAACC
 751  TGCCTGAAGC GGATTCCCGA CAGCCTCAAA AACGGGGAAT TGAGCGTATC
 801  GGTTGCGGAA AAGTACGAAC GTTTGGGACT GTATGCCGAT GCGGTCAAAT
 851  GGGTCAAACA GCATTATCCG CACAACCGCC GACCCGAACT TTTGGAAGCN
 901  TTTGTCGAAA GCGTGCGCTT TTTGGGCGAA CGCGATCAGC AGAAAGCCAT
 951  CGATTTTGCC GATGCTTGGC TGAAAGAACA GCCCGATAAT GCGCTTCTGC
1001  TGANGTATCT CGGTCGGCTC GCCTACGGCC GCAAACTTTG GGGCAAGGCA
1051  AAAGGCTACC TTGAAGCGAG CATTGCATTA AAGCCGAGTA TTTCCGCGCG
1101  TTTGGTTCTG GCAAAGGTTT TTGACGAAAC CGGAGAACCG CAGAAGGCGG
1151  AGGCGCAGCG CAACTTGGTT TTGGCAAGCG TTGCCGAGGA AAACCGNCCT
1201  TCCGCCGAAA CCCATTGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 754>:

```
   1  MKTVVWIVVL FAAAXGLALA SGIXTGDVYI VLGQTMLRIN LHAFVLGSLI
  51  AVVVWYFLFK FIIGVLNXPE KMQRFGSARK GRKAALALNK AGLAYFEGRF
 101  EKAELEASRV LGNKEAGDNR TLALMLGAHA AGQMENIELR DRYLAEIAKL
 151  PEKQQLSRYL LLAESALNRR DYEAAEANLH AAAKMNANLT RLVRLQLRYA
 201  FDRGDALQVL AKTEKXSKAG AXGKSEMERY QNWAYRRQLX DAADAAALKT
 251  CLKRIPDSLK NGELSVSVAE KYERLGLYAD AVKWVKQHYP HNRRPELLEA
 301  FVESVRFLGE RDQQKAIDFA DAWLKEQPDN ALLLXYLGRL AYGRKLWGKA
 351  KGYLEASIAL KPSISARLVL AKVFDETGEP QKAEAQRNLV LASVAEENRP
 401  SAETH*
```

ORF100a and ORF100-1 show 95.1% identity in 406 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf100a.pep     MKTVVWIVVLFAAAXGLALASGIXTGDVYIVLGQTMLRINLHAFVLGSLIAVVVWYFLFK
                ||||||||||||||| |||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf100-1        MKTVVWIVVLFAAAVGLALASGIYTGDVYIVLGQTMLRINLHAFVLGSLIAVVVWYFLFK
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf100a.pep     FIIGVLNXPEKMQRFGSARKGRKAALALNKAGLAYFEGRFEKAELEASRVLGNKEAGDNR
                ||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||
orf100-1        FIIGVLNIPEKMQRFGSARKGRKAALALNKAGLAYFEGRFEKAELEASRVLVNKEAGDNR
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf100a.pep     TLALMLGAHAAGQMENIELRDRYLAEIAKLPEKQQLSRYLLLAESALNRRDYEAAEANLH
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf100-1        TLALMLGAHAAGQMENIELRDRYLAEIAKLPEKQQLSRYLLLAESALNRRDYEAAEANLH
```

```
                    130       140       150       160       170       180

                    190       200       210       220       230       240
orf100a.pep AAAKMNANLTRLVRLQLRYAFDRGDALQVLAKTEKXSKAGAXGKSEMERYQNWAYRRQLX
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||| ||||||||||||||||
orf100-1    AAAKMNANLTRLVRLQLRYAFDRGDALQVLAKTEKLSKAGALGKSEMERYQNWAYRRQLA
                    190       200       210       220       230       240

                    250       260       270       280       290       300
orf100a.pep DAADAAALKTCLKRIPDSLKNGELSVSVAEKYERLGLYADAVKWVKQHYPHNRRPELLEA
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf100-1    DAADAAALKTCLKRIPDSLKNGELSVSVAEKYERLGLYADAVKWVKQHYPHNRRPELLEA
                    250       260       270       280       290       300

                    310       320       330       340       350       360
orf100a.pep FVESVRFLGERDQQKAIDFADAWLKEQPDNALLLXYLGRLAYGRKLWGKAKGYLEASIAL
            ||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf100-1    FVESVRFLGEREQQKAIDFADAWLKEQPDNALLLMYLGRLAYGRKLWGKAKGYLEASIAL
                    310       320       330       340       350       360

                    370       380       390       400
orf100a.pep KPSISARLVLAKVFDETGEPQKAEAQRNLVLASVAEENRPSA-ETHX
            |||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||| :|:::: :| | |
orf100-1    KPSISARLVLAKVFDEIGEPQKAEAQRNLVLEAVSDDERHAALEQHSX
                    370       380       390       400
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF100 shows 93.3% identity over a 386 aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF100ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf100.pep  MKTVVWIVVLFAAAVGLALASGIYTGDVYIVLGQTMLRINLHAFVLGSLIAVVVWYFLFK  60
            ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf100ng    MKTVVWIVVLFAAAVGLALASGIYTGDVYIVLGQTMLRINLHAFVLGSLIAVVVWYFLFK  60

orf100.pep  FIIGVLNIPEKMQRFGSARKGXKXXLALNKAGLAYFEGRFEKAELEASRVLVNKVGRDNR  120
            ||||||||||:|:| |||||| | ||||||||||||||||||||||||| || : |||
orf100ng    FIIGVLNIPENMRRSGSARKGRKAALALNKAGLAYFEGRFEKAELEASRVLGNKEAGDNR  120

orf100.pep  TLALMLXAHAAGQMENIXXRDRYLAEIAKLPEKQQLSRYLLLAESALNRRDYEAAEANLH  180
            |||||| |||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf100ng    TLALMLGAHAAGQMENIELRDRYLAEIAKLPEKQQLSRYLLLAESALNRRDYEAAEANLH  180

orf100.pep  AAAKMNANLTRLVRLXIRYAFDRGDALQVLAKTEKLSKAGALGKSEMERYQNWAYRRQLA  240
            |||||||||||||||| :|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|
orf100ng    AAAKMNANLTRLVRLQLRYAFDRGDALQVLAKTEKLSKAGALGKSEMERYQNWAYRRQMA  240

orf100.pep  DAADAAALKTCLKRIPDSLKNGELSVSVAEKYERLGLYADAVKWVKQHYPXNRRPELLEA  300
            |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||
orf100ng    DAADAAALKTCLKRIPDSLKNGELSVSVAEKYERLGLYADAVKWVKQHYPHNRRPELLEA  300

orf100.pep  FVESVRFLGEREQQKAIDFADAWLKEQPDNALLLMYLGRLAFGRKLWGKAKGYLEASIAL  360
            ||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||
orf100ng    FVESVRFLGEREQQKAIDFADSWLKEQPDNALLLMYLGRLAYGRKLWGKAKGYLEASIAL  360

orf100.pep  KPSISARLVLTKVFDEIGEPQKAEAH                              386
            |||| |||||:||||| :: ||||||:
orf100ng    KPSIPARLVLAKVFDETAQSQKAEAQRNLVLASVAGENRPSAETR             405
```

The complete length ORF100ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 755> is:

```
   1  ATGAAAACGG TAGTCTGGAT TGTTGTCCTG TTTGCCGCCG CCGTCGGACT
  51  GGCGCTGGCT TCGGGCATTT ACACCGGCGA CGTGTATATC GTACTCGGAC
 101  AGACCATGCT CAGAATCAAC CTGCACGCCT TTGTGTTAGG TTCGCTGATT
 151  GCCGTCGTGG TGTGGTATTT CCTGTTTAAA TTCATCATCG GCGTACTCAA
 201  TATCCCCGAA AATATGCGGC GTTCCGGTTC GGCGCGGAAA GGCCGCAAGG
 251  CCGCGCTTGC CTTGAATAAG GCGGGTTTGG CGTATTTCGA AGGGCGTTTT
 301  GAAAAGGCGG AACTCGAAGC CTCTCGAGTG TTGGGCAACA AAGAGGCCGG
 351  AGACAACCGG ACTTTGGCAT TGATGCTGGG CGCGCACGCG GCAGGACAGA
 401  TGGAAAATAT CGAGCTGCGC GACCGTTATC TTGCGGAAAT CGCCAAACTG
```

```
 451  CCGGAAAAAC AGCAGCTTTC CCGCTATCTT CTGCTGGCGG AATCGGCGTT
 501  AAACCGGCGC GATTACGAAG CGGCGGAAGC CAATCTTCAT GCGGCGGCGA
 551  AGATGAATGC CAACCTTACG CGCCTCGTGC GTCTGCAACT TCGTTACGCC
 601  TTCGATCGGG GCGATGCGTT GCAGGTTCTG GCAAAAaccG AAAAACTTTC
 651  CAAGGCGGGC GCGTTGGGCA AATCGGAAAT GGAACGGTAT CAAAATTGGG
 701  CATACCGCCG CCAGATGGCG GATGCTGCCG ATGCCGCCGC TTTGAAAACC
 751  TGCCTGAAGC GGATTCCCGA CAGCCTCAAA AACGGGGAAT TGagcGTATC
 801  GGTTGCGGAA AAGTACGAAC GTTTGGGACT GTATGCCGAT GCGGTCAAAT
 851  GGGTCAAACA GCATTATCCG CACAACCGCC GCCCCGAGCT TTTGGAAGCC
 901  TTTGTCGAAA GCGTGCGCTT TTTGGGCGAG CGCGAACAGC AGAAAGCCAT
 951  CGATTTTGCC GATTCTTGGC TGAAAGAACA GCCCGATAAC GCGCTTCTGC
1001  TGATGTATCT CGGCCGGCTC GCCTACGGCC GCAAACTTTG GGGTAAGGCA
1051  AAAGGCTACC TTGAAGCGAG TATTGCACTG AAGCCGAGTA TTCCGGCGCG
1101  TTTGGTGTTG GCAAAGGTTT TTGACGAAAC CGCACAGTCG CAAAAAGCCG
1151  AAGCACAGCG CAACTTGGTT TTGGCAAGCG TTGCCGGGGA AAACCGCCCT
1201  TCCGCCGAAA CCCGTTGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 756>:

```
   1  MKTVVWIVVL FAAAVGLALA SGIYTGDVYI VLGQTMLRIN LHAFVLGSLI
  51  AVVVWYFLFK FIIGVLNIPE NMRRSGSARK GRKAALALNK AGLAYFEGRF
 101  EKAELEASRV LGNKEAGDNR TLALMLGAHA AGQMENIELR DRYLAEIAKL
 151  PEKQQLSRYL LLAESALNRR DYEAAEANLH AAAKMNANLT RLVRLQLRYA
 201  FDRGDALQVL AKTEKLSKAG ALGKSEMERY QNWAYRRQMA DAADAAALKT
 251  CLKRIPDSLK NGELSVSVAE KYERLGLYAD AVKWVKQHYP HNRRPELLEA
 301  FVESVRFLGE REQQKAIDFA DSWLKEQPDN ALLLMYLGRL AYGRKLWGKA
 351  KGYLEASIAL KPSIPARLVL AKVFDETAQS QKAEAQRNLV LASVAGENRP
 401  SAETR*
```

ORF100ng and ORF100-1 show 95.3% identity in 402 aa overlap:

```
                        10        20        30        40        50        60
orf100-1.pep    MKTVVWIVVLFAAAVGLALASGIYTGDVYIVLGQTMLRINLHAFVLGSLIAVVVWYFLFK
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf100ng        MKTVVWIVVLFAAAVGLALASGIYTGDVYIVLGQTMLRINLHAFVLGSLIAVVVWYFLFK
                        10        20        30        40        50        60

                        70        80        90       100       110       120
orf100-1.pep    FIIGVLNIPEKMQRFGSARKGRKAALALNKAGLAYFEGRFEKAELEASRVLVNKEAGDNR
                |||||||||||:|:| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||
orf100ng        FIIGVLNIPENMRRSGSARKGRKAALALNKAGLAYFEGRFEKAELEASRVLGNKEAGDNR
                        70        80        90       100       110       120

                       130       140       150       160       170       180
orf100-1.pep    TLALMLGAHAAGQMENIELRDRYLAEIAKLPEKQQLSRYLLLAESALNRRDYEAAEANLH
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf100ng        TLALMLGAHAAGQMENIELRDRYLAEIAKLPEKQQLSRYLLLAESALNRRDYEAAEANLH
                       130       140       150       160       170       180

                       190       200       210       220       230       240
orf100-1.pep    AAAKMNANLTRLVRLQLRYAFDRGDALQVLAKTEKLSKAGALGKSEMERYQNWAYRRQLA
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|
orf100ng        AAAKMNANLTRLVRLQLRYAFDRGDALQVLAKTEKLSKAGALGKSEMERYQNWAYRRQMA
                       190       200       210       220       230       240

                       250       260       270       280       290       300
orf100-1.pep    DAADAAALKTCLKRIPDSLKNGELSVSVAEKYERLGLYADAVKWVKQHYPHNRRPELLEA
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf100ng        DAADAAALKTCLKRIPDSLKNGELSVSVAEKYERLGLYADAVKWVKQHYPHNRRPELLEA
                       250       260       270       280       290       300

                       310       320       330       340       350       360
orf100-1.pep    FVESVRFLGEREQQKAIDFADAWLKEQPDNALLLMYLGRLAYGRKLWGKAKGYLEASIAL
                ||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf100ng        FVESVRFLGEREQQKAIDFADSWLKEQPDNALLLMYLGRLAYGRKLWGKAKGYLEASIAL
                       310       320       330       340       350       360

                       370       380       390       400
orf100-1.pep    KPSISARLVLAKVFDEIGEPQKAEAQRNLVLEAVSDDERHAALEQHSX
                |||| |||||||||| :: |||||||||| :|: ::| :|
orf100n         KPSIPARLVLAKVFDETAQSQKAEAQRNLVLASVAGENRPSAETRX
```

370 380 390 400

Based on this analysis, including the presence of a putative leader sequence, a putative transmembrane domain, and a RGD motif, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 90

The following DNA sequence, believed to be complete, was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 757>

```
   1  ATGATGTTTT CTTGGTTCAA GCTGTTTCAC TTGTTTTTTG TCATTTCGTG
  51  GTTTGCAGGG CTGTTTTACC TGCCGAGGAT TTTCGTCAAT ATGGCGATGA
 101  TTGATGTGCC GCGCGGCAAT CCCGAGTATG TGCGTCTGTC GGGCATGGCG
 151  GTGCGGCTGT ACCGTTTTAT GTCGCCGTTG GGCTTCGGCG CGGTCGTGTT
 201  CGGCGCGGCG ATACCGTTTG CCGCCGGCTG GTGGGGCAGC GGCTGGGTAC
 251  ACGTCAAACT GTGTTTGGGC TTGATGCTCT TGGCTTACCA GTTGTATTGC
 301  GGCGTGCTGC TGCGCCGTTT TCAGGATTAC AGCAATGCTT TTTCACACCG
 351  CTGGTACCGC GTGTTCAACG AAATCCCCGT GCTGCTGATG GTTGCCGCGC
 401  TGTATsTGGT CGTGTTCAAA CCGTTTTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 758; ORF102>:

```
   1  MMFSWFKLFH LFFVISWFAG LFYLPRIFVN MAMIDVPRGN PEYVRLSGMA
  51  VRLYRFMSPL GFGAVVFGAA IPFAAGWWGS GWVHVKLCLG LMLLAYQLYC
 101  GVLLRRFQDY SNAFSHRWYR VFNEIPVLLM VAALYXVVFK PF*
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 759>:

```
   1  ATGATGTTTT CTTGGTTCAA GCTGTTTCAC TTGTTTTTTG TCATTTCGTG
  51  GTTTGCAGGG CTGTTTTACC TGCCGAGGAT TTTCGTCAAT ATGGCGATGA
 101  TTGATGTGCC GCGCGGCAAT CCCGAGTATG TGCGTCTGTC GGGCATGGCG
 151  GTGCGGCTGT ACCGTTTTAT GTCGCCGTTG GGCTTCGGCG CGGTCGTGTT
 201  CGGCGCGGCG ATACCGTTTG CCGCCGGCTG GTGGGGCAGC GGCTGGGTAC
 251  ACGTCAAACT GTGTTTGGGC TTGATGCTCT TGGCTTACCA GTTGTATTGC
 301  GGCGTGCTGC TGCGCCGTTT TCAGGATTAC AGCAATGCTT TTTCACACCG
 351  CTGGTACCGC GTGTTCAACG AAATCCCCGT GCTGCTGATG GTTGCCGCGC
 401  TGTATCTGGT CGTGTTCAAA CCGTTTTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 760; ORF102-1>:

```
   1  MMFSWFKLFH LFFVISWFAG LFYLPRIFVN MAMIDVPRGN PEYVRLSGMA
  51  VRLYRFMSPL GFGAVVFGAA IPFAAGWWGS GWVHVKLCLG LMLLAYQLYC
 101  GVLLRRFQDY SNAFSHRWYR VFNEIPVLLM VAALYLVVFK PF*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with HP1484 hypothetical integral membrane protein of *H. pylori* (accession number AE000647)

ORF102 and HP1484 show 33% aa identity in 143aa overlap:

```
orf102   3   FSWFKLFHLFFVISWFAGLFYLPRIFVNMAMIDVPRGNPEYVRLSGMAVRLYRFMSPLGF 62
             F W K FH+  VISW A LFYLPR+FV  A     +     V++      +LY F++
HP1484   8   FLWVKAFHVIAVISWMAALFYLPRLFVYHAENAHKKEFVGVVQIQEK--KLYSFIASPAM 65

orf102   63  GAVVFGAAIPFAAG---WWGSGWVHVKLCLGLMLLAYQLYCGVLLRRFQDYSNAFSHRWY 119
             G  +    +        +   GW+H KL L ++LLAY  YC   +R  +       + R+Y
HP1484   66  GFTLITGILMLLIEPTLFKSGGWLHAKLALVVLLLAYHFYCKKCMRELEKDPTRRNARFY 125

orf102   120 RVFNEIPXXXXXXXXXXXXFKPF 142
             RVFNE P             KPF
HP1484   126 RVFNEAPTILMILIVILVVVKPF 148
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF102 shows 99.3% identity over a 142aa overlap with an ORF (ORF102a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf102.pep      MMFSWFKLFHLFFVISWFAGLFYLPRIFVNMAMIDVPRGNPEYVRLSGMAVRLYRFMSPL
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf102a         MMFSWFKLFHLFFVISWFAGLFYLPRIFVNMAMIDVPRGNPEYVRLSGMAVRLYRFMSPL
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf102.pep      GFGAVVFGAAIPFAAGWWGSGWVHVKLCLGLMLLAYQLYCGVLLRRFQDYSNAFSHRWYR
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf102a         GFGAVVFGAAIPFAAGWWGSGWVHVKLCLGLMLLAYQLYCGVLLRRFQDYSNAFSHRWYR
                70        80        90        100       110       120

               130       140
orf102.pep      VFNEIPVLLMVAALYXVVFKPFX
                ||||||||||||||| |||||||
orf102a         VFNEIPVLLMVAALYLVVFKPFX
               130       140
```

The complete length ORF102a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 761> is:

```
   1  ATGATGTTTT CTTGGTTCAA GCTGTTTCAC TTGTTTTTTG TCATTTCGTG
  51  GTTTGCAGGG CTGTTTTACC TGCCGAGGAT TTTCGTCAAT ATGGCGATGA
 101  TTGATGTGCC GCGCGGCAAT CCCGAGTATG TGCGTCTGTC GGGCATGGCG
 151  GTGCGGCTGT ACCGTTTTAT GTCGCCGTTG GGCTTCGGCG CGGTCGTGTT
 201  CGGCGCGGCG ATACCGTTTG CCGCCGGCTG GTGGGGCAGC GGCTGGGTAC
 251  ACGTCAAACT GTGTTTGGGC TTGATGCTCT TGGCTTACCA GTTGTATTGC
 301  GGCGTGCTGC TGCGCCGTTT TCAGGATTAC AGCAATGCTT TTTCACACCG
 351  CTGGTACCGC GTGTTCAACG AAATCCCCGT GCTGCTGATG GTTGCCGCGC
 401  TGTATCTGGT CGTGTTCAAA CCGTTTTGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 762>:

```
   1  MMFSWFKLFH LFFVISWFAG LFYLPRIFVN MAMIDVPRGN PEYVRLSGMA
  51  VRLYRFMSPL GFGAVVFGAA IPFAAGWWGS GWVHVKLCLG LMLLAYQLYC
 101  GVLLRRFQDY SNAFSHRWYR VFNEIPVLLM VAALYLVVFK PF*
```

ORF102a and ORF102-1 show complete identity in 142 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf102a.pep     MMFSWFKLFHLFFVISWFAGLFYLPRIFVNMAMIDVPRGNPEYVRLSGMAVRLYRFMSPL
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf102-1        MMFSWFKLFHLFFVISWFAGLFYLPRIFVNMAMIDVPRGNPEYVRLSGMAVRLYRFMSPL
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf102a.pep     GFGAVVFGAAIPFAAGWWGSGWVHVKLCLGLMLLAYQLYCGVLLRRFQDYSNAFSHRWYR
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf102-1        GFGAVVFGAAIPFAAGWWGSGWVHVKLCLGLMLLAYQLYCGVLLRRFQDYSNAFSHRWYR
                70        80        90        100       110       120

               130       140
orf102a.pep     VFNEIPVLLMVAALYLVVFKPFX
                |||||||||||||||||||||||
orf102-1        VFNEIPVLLMVAALYLVVFKPFX
               130       140
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF102 shows 97.9% identity over a 142 aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF102ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf102.pep   MMFSWFKLFHLFFVISWFAGLFYLPRIFVNMAMIDVPRGNPEYVRLSGMAVRLYRFMSPL  60
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||
orf102ng     MMFSWFKLFHLFFVISWFAGLFYLPRIFVNMAMIDAPRGNPEYVRLSGMAVRLYRFMSPL  60

orf102.pep   GFGAVVFGAAIPFAAGWWGSGWVHVKLCLGLMLLAYQLYCGVLLRRFQDYSNAFSHRWYR 120
             |||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf102ng     GFGAVVFGAAIPFAAGRWGSGWVHVKLCLGLMLLAYQLYCGVLLRRFQDYSNAFSHRWYR 120

orf102.pep   VFNEIPVLLMVAALYXVVFKPF  142
             ||||||||||||||| ||||||
orf102ng     VFNEIPVLLMVAALYLVVFKPF  142
```

The complete length ORF102ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 763> is:

```
   1  ATGATGTTTT CTTGGTTCAA GCTGTTTCAC TTGTTTTTTG TCATTTCGTG
  51  GTTTGCAGGG CTGTTTTACC TGCCGAGGAT TTTCGTCAAT ATGGCGATGA
 101  TTGATGCGCC GCGCGGCAAT CCCGAGTATG TGCGCCTGTC GGGGATGGCG
 151  GTGCGGTTGT ACCGTTTTAT GTCGCCTTTG GGTTTCGGCG CGGTCGTGTT
 201  CGGCGCGGCG ATACCGTTTG CCGCcggccg GTGGGGCagc ggctggGTTC
 251  ACGTCAAACT GTGTTTGGGC TTGATGCTCT TGGCTTATCA GTTGTATTGC
 301  GGCGTGCTGC TGCGCCGTTT TCAGGATTAC AGCAATGCTT TTTCACACCG
 351  CTGGTACCGC GTGTTCAAcg aAATCCCCGT GCTGCTGATG GTTGCCGCGC
 401  TGTATCTGGT CGTGTTCAAA CCGTTTTGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 764>:

```
   1  MMFSWFKLFH LFFVISWFAG LFYLPRIFVN MAMIDAPRGN PEYVRLSGMA
  51  VRLYRFMSPL GFGAVVFGAA IPFAAGRWGS GWVHVKLCLG LMLLAYQLYC
 101  GVLLRRFQDY SNAFSHRWYR VFNEIPVLLM VAALYLVVFK PF*
```

ORF102ng and ORF102-1 show 98.6% identity in 142 aa overlap:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf102-1.pep   MMFSWFKLFHLFFVISWFAGLFYLPRIFVNMAMIDVPRGNPEYVRLSGMAVRLYRFMSPL
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||
orf102ng       MMFSWFKLFHLFFVISWFAGLFYLPRIFVNMAMIDAPRGNPEYVRLSGMAVRLYRFMSPL
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf102-1.pep   GFGAVVFGAAIPFAAGWWGSGWVHVKLCLGLMLLAYQLYCGVLLRRFQDYSNAFSHRWYR
               |||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf102ng       GFGAVVFGAAIPFAAGRWGSGWVHVKLCLGLMLLAYQLYCGVLLRRFQDYSNAFSHRWYR
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                  130       140
orf102-1.pep   VFNEIPVLLMVAALYLVVFKPFX
               |||||||||||||||||||||||
orf102ng       VFNEIPVLLMVAALYLVVFKPFX
                  130       140
```

In addition, ORF102ng shows significant homology to a membrane protein from *H.pylori*:

```
gi|2314656 (AE000647) conserved hypothetical integral membrane protein
[Helicobacter pylori] Length = 148
 Score = 79.2 bits (192), Expect = 1e-14
 Identities = 50/147 (34%), Positives = 68/147 (46%), Gaps = 13/147 (8%)

Query: 3   FSWFKLFHLFFVISWFAGLFYLPRIFVNMAMIDAPRGNPEYVRLSGMAVRLYRFMSPLGF 62
           F W K FH+  VISW A LFYLPR+FV  A     +     V++     +LY F++
Sbjct: 8   FLWVKAFHVIAVISWMAALFYLPRLFVYHAENAHKKEFVGVVQIQEK--KLYSFIASPAM 65

Query: 63  GAVVFGAAIP-------FAAGRWGSGWVHVKLCLGLMLLAYQLYCGVLLRRFQDYSNAFS 115
           G  +    +        F +G    GW+H KL L ++LLAY   YC    +R  +     +
Sbjct: 66  GFTLITGILMLLIEPTLFKSG----GWLHAKLALVVLLLAYHFYCKKCMRELEKDPTRRN 121

Query: 116 HRWYRVFNEIPXXXXXXXXXXXXFKPF 142
            R+YRVFNE P             KPF
Sbjct: 122 ARFYRVFNEAPTILMILIVILVVVKPF 148
```

Based on this analysis, it is predicted that these proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 91

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 765>:

```
     1  ATGGCAAAAA TGATGAAATG GGCGGCTGTT GCGGCGGTCG CGGCGGCAGC
    51  GGTTTGGGGC GGATGGTCTT AACTGAAGCC CGAGCCGCAC GTGCTTGATA
   101  TTACGGAAAC GGTCAGGCGC GGC // .....
   //..  ATTTCGTTTA CGATTTTGTC CGAACCGGAT ACGCCGATTA AGGCGAAGCT
    51  CGACAGCGTC GACCCCGGGC TGACCACGAT GTCGTCGGGC GGTTACAACA
   101  GCAGTACGGA TACGGCTTCC AATGCGGTCT ACTATTATGC CCGTTCGTTT
   151  GTGCCGAATC CGGACGGCAA ACTCGCCACG GGGATGACGA CGCAGAATAC
   201  GGTTGAAATC GACGGCGTGA AAAATGTGCT GATTATTCCG TCGCTGACCG
   251  TGAAAAATCG CGGCGGCAAG GCGTTTGTGC GCGTGTTGGG TGCGGACGGC
   301  AAGGCGGCGG AACGCGAAAT CCGGACCGGT ATGAGAGACA GTATGAATAC
   351  CGAAGTAAAA AGCGGGTTGA AAGAGGGGGA CAAAGTGGTC ATCTCCGAAA
   401  TAACCGCCGC CGAGCAACAG GAAAGCGGCG AACGCGCCCT AGGCGGCCCG
   451  CCGCGCCGAT AA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 766; ORF85>:

```
     1  MAKMMKWAAV AAVAAAAVWG GWS.LKPEPH VLDITETVRR G.........
    51  .......... .......... .......... .......... ..........
   101  .......... .......... .......... .......... ..........
   151  .......... .......... .......... .......... ..........
   201  .......... .......... .......... .........I SFTILSEPDT
   251  PIKAKLDSVD PGLTTMSSGG YNSSTDTASN AVYYYARSFV PNPDGKLATG
   301  MTTQNTVEID GVKNVLIIPS LTVKNRGGKA FVRVLGADGK AAEREIRTGM
   351  RDSMNTEVKS GLKEGDKVVI SEITAAEQQE SGERALGGPP RR*
```

Further work revealed the further partial nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 767>:

```
     1  ..GTATCGGTCG GCGCGCAGGC ATCGGGGCAG ATTAAGATAC TTTATGTCAA
    51    ACTCGGGCAA CAGGTTAAAA AGGGCGATTT GATTGCGGAA ATCAATTCGA
   101    CCTCGCAGAC CAATACGCTC AATACGGAAA AATCCAAGTT GGAAACGTAT
   151    CAGGCGAAGC TGGTGTCGGC ACAGATTGCA TTGGGCAGCG CGGAGAAGAA
   201    ATATAAGCGT CAGGCGGCGT TATGGAAGGA AAACGCGACT TCCAAAGAGG
   251    ATTTGGAAAG CGCGCAGGAT GCGTTTGCCG CCGCCAAAGC CAATGTTGCC
   301    GAGCTGAAGG CTTTAATCAG ACAGAGCAAA ATTTCCATCA ATACCGCCGA
   351    GTCGGAATTG GGCTACACGC GCATTACCGC AACGATGGAC GGCACGGTGG
   401    TGGCGATTCT CGTGGAAGAG GGGCAGACTG TGAACGCGGC GCAGTCTACG
   451    CCGACGATTG TCCAATTGGC GAATCTGGAT ATGATGTTGA ACAAAATGCA
   501    GATTGCCGAG GGCGATATTA CCAAGGTGAA GGCGGGGCAG GATATTTCGT
   551    TTACGATTTT GTCCGAACCG GATACGCCGA TTAAGGCGAA GCTCGACAGC
   601    GTCGACCCCG GGCTGACCAC GATGTCGTCG GGCGGTTACA ACAGCAGTAC
   651    GGATACGGCT TCCAATGCGG TCTACTATTA TGCCCGTTCG TTTGTGCCGA
   701    ATCCGGACGG CAAACTCGCC ACGGGGATGA CGACGCAGAA TACGGTTGAA
   751    ATCGACGGCG TGAAAAATGT GCTGATTATT CCGTCGCTGA CCGTGAAAAA
   801    TCGCGGCGGC AAGGCGTTTG TGCGCGTGTT GGGTGCGGAC GGCAAGGCGG
   851    CGGAACGCGA AATCCGGACC GGTATGAGAG ACAGTATGAA TACCGAAGTA
   901    AAAAGCGGGT TGAAAGAGGG GGACAAAGTG GTCATCTCCG AAATAACCGC
   951    CGCCGAGCAA CAGGAAAGCG GCGAACGCGC CCTAGGCGGC CCGCCGCGCC
  1001    GATAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 768; ORF85-1>:

```
     1  ..VSVGAQASGQ IKILYVKLGQ QVKKGDLIAE INSTSQTNTL NTEKSKLETY
    51    QAKLVSAQIA LGSAEKKYKR QAALWKENAT SKEDLESAQD AFAAAKANVA
   101    ELKALIRQSK ISINTAESEL GYTRITATMD GTVVAILVEE GQTVNAAQST
   151    PTIVQLANLD MMLNKMQIAE GDITKVKAGQ DISFTILSEP DTPIKAKLDS
   201    VDPGLTTMSS GGYNSSTDTA SNAVYYYARS FVPNPDGKLA TGMTTQNTVE
   251    IDGVKNVLII PSLTVKNRGG KAFVRVLGAD GKAAEREIRT GMRDSMNTEV
   301    KSGLKEGDKV VISEITAAEQ QESGERALGG PPRR*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF85 shows 87.8% identity over a 41aa overlap and 99.3% identity over a 153aa overlap with an ORF (ORF85a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                    10        20        30        40
orf85.pep     MAKMMKWAAVAAVAAAAVWGGWS-LKPEPHVLDITETVRRG
              ||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||::  ||||||||
orf85a        MAKMMKWAAVAAVAAAAVWGGWSYLKPEPQAAYITETVRRGDISRTVSATGEISPSNLVS
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
                                       //
                                              80        90       100
orf85.pep     ............................ISFTILSEPDTPIKAKLDSVDPGLTTMSSG
                                           ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf85a        TIVQLANLDMMLNKMQIAEGDITKVKAGQDISFTILSEPDTPIKAKLDSVDPGLTTMSSG
             210       220       230       240       250       260
              110       120       130       140       150       160
orf85.pep     GYNSSTDTASNAVYYYARSFVPNPDGKLATGMTTQNTVEIDGVKNVLIIPSLTVKNRGGK
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:
orf85a        GYNSSTDTASNAVYYYARSFVPNPDGKLATGMTTQNTVEIDGVKNVLIIPSLTVKNRGGR
             270       280       290       300       310       320
              170       180       190       200       210       220
orf85.pep     AFVRVLGADGKAAEREIRTGMRDSMNTEVKSGLKEGDKVVISEITAAEQQESGERALGGP
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf85a        AFVRVLGADGKAAEREIRTGMRDSMNTEVKSGLKEGDKVVISEITAAEQQESGERALGGP
             330       340       350       360       370       380
              230
orf85.pep     PRRX
              ||||
orf85a        PRRX
             390
```

The complete length ORF85a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 769> is:

```
   1  ATGGCAAAAA TGATGAAATG GCGGCTGTT GCGGCGGTCG CGGCGGCAGC
  51  GGTTTGGGGC GGATGGTCTT ATCTGAAGCC CGAGCCGCAG GCTGCTTATA
 101  TTACGGAAAC GGTCAGGCGC GGCGACATCA GCCGGACGGT TTCTGCAACA
 151  GGGGAGATTT CGCCGTCCAA CCTGGTATCG GTCGGCGCGC AGGCATCGGG
 201  GCAGATTAAG AAACTTTATG TCAAACTCGG GCAACAGGTT AAAAAGGGCG
 251  ATTTGATTGC GGAAATCAAT TCGACCTCGC AGACCAATAC GCTCAATACG
 301  GAAAAATCCA AATTGGAAAC GTATCAGGCG AAGCTGGTGT CGGCACAGAT
 351  TGCATTGGGC AGCGCGGAGA AGAAATATAA GCGTCAGGCG GCGTTGTGGA
 401  AGGATGATGC GACCGCTAAA GAAGATTTGG AAAGCGCACA GGATGCGCTT
 451  GCCGCCGCCA AAGCCAATGT TGCCGAGCTG AAGGCTCTAA TCAGACAGAG
 501  CAAAATTTCC ATCAATACCG CCGAGTCGGA ATTGGGCTAC ACGCGCATTA
 551  CCGCAACGAT GGACGGCACG GTGGTGGCGA TTCTCGTGGA AGAGGGGCAG
 601  ACTGTGAACG CGGCGCAGTC TACGCCGACG ATTGTCCAAT TGGCGAATCT
 651  GGATATGATG TTGAACAAAA TGCAGATTGC CGAGGGCGAT ATTACCAAGG
 701  TGAAGGCGGG GCAGGATATT TCGTTTACGA TTTTGTCCGA ACCGGATACG
 751  CCGATTAAGG CGAAGCTCGA CAGCGTCGAC CCCGGGCTGA CCACGATGTC
 801  GTCGGGCGGC TACAACAGCA GTACGGATAC GGCTTCCAAT GCGGTCTACT
 851  ATTATGCCCG TTCGTTTGTG CCGAATCCGG ACGGCAAACT CGCCACGGGG
 901  ATGACGACGC AGAATACGGT TGAAATCGAC GGTGTGAAAA ATGTGCTGAT
 951  TATTCCGTCG CTGACCGTGA AAAATCGCGG CGGCAGGGCG TTTGTGCGCG
1001  TGTTGGGTGC AGACGGCAAG GCGGCGGAAC GCGAAATCCG GACCGGTATG
1051  AGAGACAGTA TGAATACCGA AGTAAAAAGC GGGTTGAAAG AGGGGGACAA
1101  AGTGGTCATC TCCGAAATAA CCGCCGCCGA GCAGCAGGAA AGCGGCGAAC
1151  GCGCCCTAGG CGGCCCGCCG CGCCGATAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 770>:

```
   1  MAKMMKWAAV AAVAAAAVWG GWSYLKPEPQ AAYITETVRR GDISRTVSAT
  51  GEISPSNLVS VGAQASGQIK KLYVKLGQQV KKGDLIAEIN STSQTNTLNT
 101  EKSKLETYQA KLVSAQIALG SAEKKYKRQA ALWKDDATAK EDLESAQDAL
 151  AAAKANVAEL KALIRQSKIS INTAESELGY TRITATMDGT VVAILVEEGQ
 201  TVNAAQSTPT IVQLANLDMM LNKMQIAEGD ITKVKAGQDI SFTILSEPDT
 251  PIKAKLDSVD PGLTTMSSGG YNSSTDTASN AVYYYARSFV PNPDGKLATG
 301  MTTQNTVEID GVKNVLIIPS LTVKNRGGRA FVRVLGADGK AAEREIRTGM
```

```
351  RDSMNTEVKS GLKEGDKVVI SEITAAEQQE SGERALGGPP RR*
```

ORF85a and ORF85-1 show 98.2% identity in 334 aa overlap:

```
                30        40        50        60        70        80
orf85a.pep      PQAAYITETVRRGDISRTVSATGEISPSNLVSVGAQASGQIKKLYVKLGQQVKKGDLIAE
                                                  ||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||
orf85-1                                           VSVGAQASGQIKILYVKLGQQVKKGDLIAE
                                                         10        20        30

                90       100       110       120       130       140
orf85a.pep      INSTSQTNTLNTEKSKLETYQAKLVSAQIALGSAEKKYKRQAALWKDDATAKEDLESAQD
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||::||:|||||||||
orf85-1         INSTSQTNTLNTEKSKLETYQAKLVSAQIALGSAEKKYKRQAALWKENATSKEDLESAQD
                        40        50        60        70        80        90

               150       160       170       180       190       200
orf85a.pep      ALAAAKANVAELKALIRQSKISINTAESELGYTRITATMDGTVVAILVEEGQTVNAAQST
                |:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf85-1         AFAAAKANVAELKALIRQSKISINTAESELGYTRITATMDGTVVAILVEEGQTVNAAQST
                       100       110       120       130       140       150

               210       220       230       240       250       260
orf85a.pep      PTIVQLANLDMMLNKMQIAEGDITKVKAGQDISFTILSEPDTPIKAKLDSVDPGLTTMSS
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf85-1         PTIVQLANLDMMLNKMQIAEGDITKVKAGQDISFTILSEPDTPIKAKLDSVDPGLTTMSS
                       160       170       180       190       200       210

               270       280       290       300       310       320
orf85a.pep      GGYNSSTDTASNAVYYYARSFVPNPDGKLATGMTTQNTVEIDGVKNVLIIPSLTVKNRGG
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf85-1         GGYNSSTDTASNAVYYYARSFVPNPDGKLATGMTTQNTVEIDGVKNVLIIPSLTVKNRGG
                       220       230       240       250       260       270

               330       340       350       360       370       380
orf85a.pep      RAFVRVLGADGKAAEREIRTGMRDSMNTEVKSGLKEGDKVVISEITAAEQQESGERALGG
                :|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf85-1         KAFVRVLGADGKAAEREIRTGMRDSMNTEVKSGLKEGDKVVISEITAAEQQESGERALGG
                       280       290       300       310       320       330

               390
orf85a.pep      PPRRX
                |||||
orf85-1         PPRRX
```

Figure 19D shows plots of hydrophilicity, antigenic index, and AMPHI regions for ORF85a..

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF85 shows a high degree of identity with a predicted ORF (ORF85ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
ORF85          1 MAKMMKWAAVAAVAAAAVWGGWS.LKPEPHVLDITETVRRG..... 40
                 |||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||::  |||:||||
ORF85ng        1 MAKMMKWAAVAAVAAAAVWGGWSYLKPEPQAAYITEAVRRGDISRTVSAT 50

                                    .         .         .         .
ORF85                 .....................................ISFTILSEPDT 250
                                                           ||||||||||
ORF85ng      201 TVNAAQSTPTIVQLANLDMMLNKMQIAEGDITKVKAGQDISFTILSEPDT 250
                                    .         .         .         .
ORF85        251 PIKAKLDSVDPGLTTMSSGGYNSSTDTASNAVYYYARSFVPNPDGKLATG 300
                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
ORF85ng      251 PIKAKLDSVDPGLTTMSSGGYNSSTDTASNAVYYYARSFVPNPDGKLATG 300
                                    .         .         .         .
ORF85        301 MTTQNTVEIDGVKNVLIIPSLTVKNRGGKAFVRVLGADGKAAEREIRTGM 350
                 |||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||
ORF85ng      301 MTTQNTVEIDGVKNVLLIPSLTVKNRGGKAFVRVLGADGKAVEREIRTGM 350
                                    .         .         .
ORF85        152 RDSMNTEVKSGLKEGDKVVISEITAAEQQESGERALGGPPRR 393
                 :|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
ORF85ng      351 KDSMNTEVKSGLKEGDKVVISEITAAEQQESGERALGGPPRR 393
```

The complete length ORF85ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 771> is:

```
   1  ATGGCAAAAA TGATGAAATG GCGGCTGTT GCGGCGGTCG CGGCGGCaac
  51  GGTTTGGGGC GGATGGTCTT ATCTGAAGCC CGAACCGCAG GCTGCTTATA
 101  TTACGGAaac ggTCAGGCGC GGCGATATCA GCCGGACGGT TTCCGCGACG
 151  GgcgAGATTT CGCCGTCCAA CCTGGTATCG GTCGGCGCGC AGGCTTCGGG
 201  GCAGATTAAA AAGCTTTATG TCAAACTCGG GCAACAGGTC AAAAAGGGCG
 251  ATTTGATTGC GGAAATCAAT TCGACCACGC AGACCAACAC GATCGATATG
 301  GAAAAATCCA AATTGGAAAC GTATCAGGCG AAGCTGGTGT CGGCACAGAT
 351  TGCATTGGGC AGCGCGGAGA AGAAATATAA GCGTCAGGCG GCGTTGTGGA
 401  AGGATGATGC GACCTCTAAA GAAGATTTGG AAAGCGCGCA GGATGCGCTT
 451  GCCGCCGCCA AAGCCAATGT TGCCGAGTTG AAGGCTTTAA TCAGACAGAG
 501  CAAAATTTCC ATCAATACCG CCGAGTCGGA TTTGGGCTAC ACGCGCATTA
 551  CCGCGACGAT GGACGGCACG GTGGTGGCGA TTCCCGTGGA AGAGGGGCAG
 601  ACTGTGAACG CGGCGCAGTC TACGCCGACG ATTGTCCAAT TGGCGAATCT
 651  GGATATGATG TTGAACAAAA TGCAGATTGC CGAGGGCGAT ATTACCAAGG
 701  TGAAGGCGGG GCAGGATATT TCGTTTACGA TTTTGTCCGA ACCGGATACG
 751  CCGATTAAGG CGAAGCTCGA CAGCGTCGAC CCCGGGCTGA CCACGATGTC
 801  GTCGGGCGGC TACAACAGCA GTACGGATAC GGCTTCCAAT GCGGTCTATT
 851  ATTATGCCCG TTCGTTTGTG CCGAATCCGG ACGGCAAACT CGCCACGGGG
 901  ATGACGACGC AGAATACGGT TGAAATCGAC GGTGTGAAAA ATGTGTTGCT
 951  TATTCCGTCG CTGACCGTGA AAAATCGCGG CGGCAAGGCG TTCGTACGCG
1001  TGTTGGGTGC GGACGGCAAG GCAGTGGAAC GCGAAATCCG GACCGGTATG
1051  AAAGACAGTA TGAATACCGA AGTGAAAAGC GGGTTGAAAG AGGGGGACAA
1101  AGTGGTCATC TCCGAAATAA CCGCCGCCGA GCAGCAGGAA AGCGGCGAAC
1151  GCGCCCTAGG CGGCCCGCCG CGCCGATAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 772>:

```
   1  MAKMMKWAAV AAVAAAAVWG GWSYLKPEPQ AAYITEAVRR GDISRTVSAT
  51  GEISPSNLVS VGAQASGQIK KLYVKLGQQV KKGDLIAEIN STTQTNTIDM
 101  EKSKLETYQA KLVSAQIALG SAEKKYKRQA ALWKDDATSK EDLESAQDAL
 151  AAAKANVAEL KALIRQSKIS INTAESDLGY TRITATMDGT VVAIPVEEGQ
 201  TVNAAQSTPT IVQLANLDMM LNKMQIAEGD ITKVKAGQDI SFTILSEPDT
 251  PIKAKLDSVD PGLTTMSSGG YNSSTDTASN AVYYYARSFV PNPDGKLATG
 301  MTTQNTVEID GVKNVLLIPS LTVKNRGGKA FVRVLGADGK AVEREIRTGM
 351  KDSMNTEVKS GLKEGDKVVI SEITAAEQQE SGERALGGPP RR*
```

ORF85ng and ORF85-1 show 96.1% identity in 334 aa overlap:

```
                30        40        50        60        70        80
orf85ng      PQAAYITETVRRGDISRTVSATGEISPSNLVSVGAQASGQIKKLYVKLGQQVKKGDLIAE
                                               |||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||
orf85-1                                        VSVGAQASGQIKILYVKLGQQVKKGDLIAE
                                                      10        20        30

                90       100       110       120       130       140
orf85ng      INSTTQTNTIDMEKSKLETYQAKLVSAQIALGSAEKKYKRQAALWKDDATSKEDLESAQD
             ||||:||||:: |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||
orf85-1      INSTSQTNTLNTEKSKLETYQAKLVSAQIALGSAEKKYKRQAALWKENATSKEDLESAQD
                    40        50        60        70        80        90

               150       160       170       180       190       200
orf85ng      ALAAAKANVAELKALIRQSKISINTAESDLGYTRITATMDGTVVAIPVEEGQTVNAAQST
             |:|||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||
orf85-1      AFAAAKANVAELKALIRQSKISINTAESELGYTRITATMDGTVVAILVEEGQTVNAAQST
                   100       110       120       130       140       150

               210       220       230       240       250       260
orf85ng      PTIVQLANLDMMLNKMQIAEGDITKVKAGQDISFTILSEPDTPIKAKLDSVDPGLTTMSS
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf85-1      PTIVQLANLDMMLNKMQIAEGDITKVKAGQDISFTILSEPDTPIKAKLDSVDPGLTTMSS
                   160       170       180       190       200       210

               270       280       290       300       310       320
orf85ng      GGYNSSTDTASNAVYYYARSFVPNPDGKLATGMTTQNTVEIDGVKNVLLIPSLTVKNRGG
             |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||
orf85-1      GGYNSSTDTASNAVYYYARSFVPNPDGKLATGMTTQNTVEIDGVKNVLIIPSLTVKNRGG
                   220       230       240       250       260       270

               330       340       350       360       370       380
```

```
orf85ng      KAFVRVLGADGKAVEREIRTGMKDSMNTEVKSGLKEGDKVVISEITAAEQQESGERALGG
             ||||||||||||||:||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf85-1      KAFVRVLGADGKAAEREIRTGMRDSMNTEVKSGLKEGDKVVISEITAAEQQESGERALGG
                    280       290       300       310       320       330

                390
orf85ng      PPRRX
             |||||
orf85-1      PPRRX
```

In addition, ORF85ng shows significant homology to an *E.coli* membrane fusion protein:

```
gi|1787104 (AE000189) o380; 27% identical (27 gaps) to 332 residues from
membrane fusion protein precursor, MTRC_NEIGO SW: P43505 (412 aa) [Escherichia
coli] Length = 380
 Score =  193 bits (485), Expect = 2e-48
 Identities = 120/345 (34%), Positives = 182/345 (51%), Gaps = 13/345 (3%)

Query: 29  PQAAYITETVRRGDISRTVSATGEISPSNLVSVGAQASGQIKKLYVKLGQQVKKGDLIAE 88
           P   Y T  VR GD+ ++V ATG++      V VGAQ SGQ+K L V +G +VKK  L+
Sbjct: 41  PVPTYQTLIVRPGDLQQSVLATGKLDALRKVDVGAQVSGQLKTLSVAIGDKVKKDQLLGV 100

Query: 89  INSTTQTNTIDMEKSKLETYQAKLVSAQIALGSAEKKYKRQAALWKDDATSKEXXXXXXX 148
           I+     N I    ++ L   +A+   A+  L  A   Y RQ  L +  A S++
Sbjct: 101 IDPEQAENQIKEVEATLMELRAQRQQAEAELKLARVTYSRQQRLAQTKAVSQQDLDTAAT 160

Query: 149 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXIRQSKISINTAESDLGYTRITATMDGTVVAIPVEEGQTVNAAQST 208
                          I++++ S++TA+++L YTRI A M G V  I   +GQTV AAQ
Sbjct: 161 EMAVKQAQIGTIDAQIKRNQASLDTAKTNLDYTRIVAPMAGEVTQITTLQGQTVIAAQQA 220

Query: 209 PTIVQLANLDMMLNKMQIAEGDITKVKAGQDISFTILSEPDTPIKAKLDSVDPGLTTMSS 268
           P I+ LA++  ML K Q++E D+  +K GQ   FT+L +P T  + ++  V P
Sbjct: 221 PNILTLADMSAMLVKAQVSEADVIHLKPGQKAWFTVLGDPLTRYEGQIKDVLP------- 273

Query: 269 GGYNSSTDTASNAVYYYARSFVPNPDGKLATGMTTQNTVEIDGVKNVLLIPSLTVKNRGG 328
                + +  ++A++YYAR  VPNP+G L   MT Q  +++  VKNVL IP   + +  G
Sbjct: 274 -----TPEKVNDAIFYYARFEVPNPNGLLRLDMTAQVHIQLTDVKNVLTIPLSALGDPVG 328

Query: 329 KAFVRV-LGADGKAVEREIRTGMKDSMNTEVKSGLKEGDKVVISE 372
               +V L  +G+  ERE+  G ++  + E+  GL+ GD+VVI E
Sbjct: 329 DNRYKVKLLRNGETREREVTIGARNDTDVEIVKGLEAGDEVVIGE 373
```

Based on this analysis, it was predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

ORF85-1 (40.4kDa) was cloned in the pGex vectors and expressed in *E.coli*, as described above. The products of protein expression and purification were analyzed by SDS-PAGE. Figure 19A shows the results of affinity purification of the GST-fusion protein. Purified GST-fusion protein was used to immunise mice, whose sera were used for Western blot (Figure 19B), FACS analysis (Figure 19C), and ELISA (positive result). These experiments confirm that ORF85-1 is a surface-exposed protein, and that it is a useful immunogen.

Example 92

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 773>:

```
   1  ..ATTCCCGCCA CGATGACATT TGAACGCAGC GGCAATGCTT ACAAAATCGT
  51    TTCGACGATT AAAGTGCCGC TATACAATAT CCGTTTCGAG TCCGGCGGTA
 101    CGGTTGTCGG CAATACCCTG CACCCTACCT ACTATAGAGA CATACGCAGG
 151    GGCAAACTGT ATGCGGAAgc CAAATTCGCC GACgGcAGCG TAACTTACGG
 201    CAAAGCGGGC GAGAGCAAAA CCGAGCAAAG CCCCAAGGCT ATGGATTTGT
```

```
  251   TCACGCTTGC CTGGCAGTTG GCGGCAAATG ACGCGAAACT CCCCCCGGGG
  301   CTGAAAATCA CCAACGGCAA AAAACTTTAT TCCGTCGGCG GTTTGAATAA
  351   GGCGGGTACA GGAAAATACA GCATAGGCGG CGTGGAAACC GAAGTCGTCA
  401   AATATCGGGT GCGGCGCGGC GACGATGCGG TAATGTATTT cTTCGCACCG
  451   TCCCTGAACA ATATTCCGGC ACAAATCGGC TATACCGACG ACGGCAAAAC
  501   CTATACGCTG AAACTCAAAT CGGTGCAGAT CAACGGCCAG GCAGCCAAAC
  551   CGTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 774; ORF120>:

```
    1   ..IPATMTFERS GNAYKIVSTI KVPLYNIRFE SGGTVVGNTL HPTYYRDIRR
   51     GKLYAEAKFA DGSVTYGKAG ESKTEQSPKA MDLFTLAWQL AANDAKLPPG
  101     LKITNGKKLY SVGGLNKAGT GKYSIGGVET EVVKYRVRRG DDAVMYFFAP
  151     SLNNIPAQIG YTDDGKTYTL KLKSVQINGQ AAKP*
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 775>:

```
    1   ATGATGAAGA CTTTTAAAAA TATATTTTCC GCCGCCATTT TGTCCGCCGC
   51   CCTGCCGTGC GCGTATGCGG CAGGGCTGCC CCAATCCGCC GTGCTGCACT
  101   ATTCCGGCAG CTACGGCATT CCCGCCACGA TGACATTTGA ACGCAGCGGC
  151   AATGCTTACA AAATCGTTTC GACGATTAAA GTGCCGCTAT ACAATATCCG
  201   TTTCGAGTCC GGCGGTACGG TTGTCGGCAA TACCCTGCAC CCTACCTACT
  251   ATAGAGACAT ACGCAGGGGC AAACTGTATG CGGAAGCCAA ATTCGCCGAC
  301   GGCAGCGTAA CTTACGGCAA AGCGGGCGAG AGCAAAACCG AGCAAAGCCC
  351   CAAGGCTATG GATTTGTTCA CGCTTGCCTG GCAGTTGGCG GCAAATGACG
  401   CGAAACTCCC CCCGGGGCTG AAAATCACCA ACGGCAAAAA ACTTTATTCC
  451   GTCGGCGGTT TGAATAAGGC GGGTACAGGA AAATACAGCA TAGGCGGCGT
  501   GGAAACCGAA GTCGTCAAAT ATCGGGTGCG GCGCGGCGAC GATGCGGTAA
  551   TGTATTTCTT CGCACCGTCC CTGAACAATA TTCCGGCACA AATCGGCTAT
  601   ACCGACGACG GCAAAACCTA TACGCTGAAA CTCAAATCGG TGCAGATCAA
  651   CGGCCAGGCA GCCAAACCGT AA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 776; ORF120-1>:

```
    1   MMKTFKNIFS AAILSAALPC AYAAGLPQSA VLHYSGSYGI PATMTFERSG
   51   NAYKIVSTIK VPLYNIRFES GGTVVGNTLH PTYYRDIRRG KLYAEAKFAD
  101   GSVTYGKAGE SKTEQSPKAM DLFTLAWQLA ANDAKLPPGL KITNGKKLYS
  151   VGGLNKAGTG KYSIGGVETE VVKYRVRRGD DAVMYFFAPS LNNIPAQIGY
  201   TDDGKTYTLK LKSVQINGQA AKP*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF120 shows 92.4% identity over a 184aa overlap with an ORF (ORF120a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                                    10        20        30
orf120.pep                                         IPATMTFERSGNAYKIVSTIKVPLYNIRFE
                                                   |||| :     || ||||||||||||||||
orf120a       SAAILSAALPCAYAAGLPXSAVLHYSGSYGIPATXXXXXXXNAXKIVSTIKVPLYNIRFE
                        10        20        30        40        50        60

                              40        50        60        70        80        90
orf120.pep    SGGTVVGNTLHPTYYRDIRRGKLYAEAKFADGSVTYGKAGESKTEQSPKAMDLFTLAWQL
              |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||    : ||||||||||||||
orf120a       SGGTVVGNTLHPTYYRDIRRGKLYAEAKFADGSVTYGKAXXXXXXQSPKAMDLFTLAWQL
                       70        80        90       100       110       120

                             100       110       120       130       140       150
orf120.pep    AANDAKLPPGLKITNGKKLYSVGGLNKAGTGKYSIGGVETEVVKYRVRRGDDAVMYFFAP
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf120a       AANDAKLPPGLKITNGKKLYSVGGLNKAGTGKYSIGGVETEVVKYRVRRGDDAVMYFFAP
                      130       140       150       160       170       180
```

```
                    160       170       180
orf120.pep    SLNNIPAQIGYTDDGKTYTLKLKSVQINGQAAKPX
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf120a       SLNNIPAQIGYTDDGKTYTLKLKSVQINGQAAKPX
           190       200       210       220
```

The complete length ORF120a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 777> is:

```
   1  ATGATGAAGA CTTTTAAAAA TATATTTTCC GCCGCCATTT TGTCCGCCGC
  51  CCTGCCGTGC GCGTATGCGG CAGGGCTGCC CNAATCCGCC GTGCTGCACT
 101  ATTCCGGCAG CTACGGCATT CCCGCCACNA NNANNTNNGN ACNNNGNGNC
 151  AATGCTTNCA AAATCGTTTC GACGATTAAA GTGCCGCTAT ACAATATCCG
 201  TTTCGAGTCC GGCGGTACGG TTGTCGGCAA TACCCTGCAC CCTACCTACT
 251  ATAGAGACAT ACGCAGGGGC AAACTGTATG CGGAAGCCAA ATTCGCCGAC
 301  GGCAGCGTAA CCTACGGCAA AGCGGNNNNN ANCNNNNNNG NGCAAAGCCC
 351  CAAGGCTATG GATTTGTTCA CGCTTGCNTG GCAGTTGGCG GCAAATGACG
 401  CGAAACTCCC CCCGGGGCTG AAAATCACCA ACGGCAAAAA ACTTTATTCC
 451  GTCGGCGGTT TGAATAAGGC GGGTACAGGA AAATACAGCA TAGGCGGCGT
 501  GGAAACCGAA GTCGTCAAAT ATCGGGTGCG GCGCGGCGAC GATGCGGTAA
 551  TGTATTTCTT CGCACCGTCC CTGAACAATA TTCCGGCACA AATCGGCTAT
 601  ACCGACGACG GCAAAACCTA TACGCTGAAA CTCAAATCGG TGCAGATCAA
 651  CGGCCAGGCA GCCAAACCGT AA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 778>:

```
   1  MMKTFKNIFS AAILSAALPC AYAAGLPXSA VLHYSGSYGI PATXXXXXXX
  51  NAKKIVSTIK VPLYNIRFES GGTVVGNTLH PTYYRDIRRG KLYAEAKFAD
 101  GSVTYGKAXX XXXXQSPKAM DLFTLAWQLA ANDAKLPPGL KITNGKKLYS
 151  VGGLNKAGTG KYSIGGVETE VVKYRVRRGD DAVMYFFAPS LNNIPAQIGY
 201  TDDGKTYTLK LKSVQINGQA AKP*
```

ORF120a and ORF120-1 show 93.3% identity in 223 aa overlap:

```
                  10        20        30        40        50        60
orf120a.pep   MMKTFKNIFSAAILSAALPCAYAAGLPXSAVLHYSGSYGIPATXXXXXXXNAKKIVSTIK
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:    ||||||||
orf120-1      MMKTFKNIFSAAILSAALPCAYAAGLPQSAVLHYSGSYGIPATMTFERSGNAYKIVSTIK
                  10        20        30        40        50        60

                  70        80        90       100       110       120
orf120a.pep   VPLYNIRFESGGTVVGNTLHPTYYRDIRRGKLYAEAKFADGSVTYGKAXXXXXXQSPKAM
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||    :||||||
orf120-1      VPLYNIRFESGGTVVGNTLHPTYYRDIRRGKLYAEAKFADGSVTYGKAGESKTEQSPKAM
                  70        80        90       100       110       120

                 130       140       150       160       170       180
orf120a.pep   DLFTLAWQLAANDAKLPPGLKITNGKKLYSVGGLNKAGTGKYSIGGVETEVVKYRVRRGD
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf120-1      DLFTLAWQLAANDAKLPPGLKITNGKKLYSVGGLNKAGTGKYSIGGVETEVVKYRVRRGD
                 130       140       150       160       170       180

                 190       200       210       220
orf120a.pep   DAVMYFFAPSLNNIPAQIGYTDDGKTYTLKLKSVQINGQAAKPX
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf120-1      DAVMYFFAPSLNNIPAQIGYTDDGKTYTLKLKSVQINGQAAKPX
                 190       200       210       220
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF120 shows 97.8% identity over 184 aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF120ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf120.pep                                    IPATMTFERSGNAYKIVSTIKVPLYNIRFE   30
                                              |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf120ng      SAAILSAALPCAYAARLPQSAVLHYSGSYGIPATMTFERSGNAYKIVSTIKVPLYNIRFE   69

orf120.pep    SGGTVVGNTLHPTYYRDIRRGKLYAEAKFADGSVTYGKAGESKTEQSPKAMDLFTLAWQL   90
              ||||||||||||:||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf120ng      SGGTVVGNTLHPAYYKDIRRGKLYAEAKFADGSVTYGKAGESKTEQSPKAMDLFTLAWQL  129
```

```
orf120.pep   AANDAKLPPGLKITNGKKLYSVGGLNKAGTGKYSIGGVETEVVKYRVRRGDDAVMYFFAP  150
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:| |||||
orf120ng     AANDAKLPPGLKITNGKKLYSVGGLNKAGTGKYSIGGVETEVVKYRVRRGDDTVTYFFAP  189

orf120.pep   SLNNIPAQIGYTDDGKTYTLKLKSVQINGQAAKP  184
             |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf120ng     SLNNIPAQIGYTDDGKTYTLKLKSVQINGQAAKP  223
```

The complete length ORF120ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 779> is:

```
   1  ATGATGAAGA CTTTTAAAAA TATATTTTCC GCCGCCATTT TGTCCGCCGC
  51  CCTGCCGTGC GCGTATGCGG CAAGGCTACC CCAATCCGCC GTGCTGCACT
 101  ATTCCGGCAG CTACGGCATT CCCGCCACGA TGACATTTGA ACGCAGCGGC
 151  AATGCTTACA AAATCGTTTC GACGATTAAA GTGCCGCTAT ACAATATCCG
 201  TTTCGAATCC GGCGGTACGG TTGTCGGCAA TACCCTGCAC CCTGCCTACT
 251  ATAAAGACAT ACGCAGGGGC AAACTGTATG CGGAAGCCAA ATTCGCCGAC
 301  GGCAGCGTAA CCTACGGCAA AGCGGGCGAG AGCAAAACCG AGCAAAGCCC
 351  CAAGGCTATG GATTTGTTCA CGCTTGCCTG GCAGTTGGCG GCAAATGACG
 401  CGAAACTCCC CCCGGGTCTG AAAATCACCA ACGGCAAAAA ACTTTATTCC
 451  GTCGGCGGCC TGAATAAGGC GGGTACGGGA AAATACAGCA TaggCGGCGT
 501  GGAAACCGAA GTCGTCAAAT ATCGGGTGCG GCGCGGCGAC GATACGGTAA
 551  CGTATTTCTT CGCACCGTCC CTGAACAATA TTCCGGCACA AATCGGCTAT
 601  ACCGACGACG GCAAAACCTA TACGCTGAAG CTCAAATCGG TGCAGATCAA
 651  CGGACAGGCC GCCAAACCGT AA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 780>:

```
   1  MMKTFKNIFS AAILSAALPC AYAARLPQSA VLHYSGSYGI PATMTFERSG
  51  NAYKIVSTIK VPLYNIRFES GGTVVGNTLH PAYYKDIRRG KLYAEAKFAD
 101  GSVTYGKAGE SKTEQSPKAM DLFTLAWQLA ANDAKLPPGL KITNGKKLYS
 151  VGGLNKAGTG KYSIGGVETE VVKYRVRRGD DTVTYFFAPS LNNIPAQIGY
 201  TDDGKTYTLK LKSVQINGQA AKP*
```

In comparison with ORF120-1, ORF120ng shows 97.8% identity in 223 aa overlap:

```
                        10        20        30        40        50        60
orf120-1.pep   MMKTFKNIFSAAILSAALPCAYAAGLPQSAVLHYSGSYGIPATMTFERSGNAYKIVSTIK
               ||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf120ng       MMKTFKNIFSAAILSAALPCAYAARLPQSAVLHYSGSYGIPATMTFERSGNAYKIVSTIK
                        10        20        30        40        50        60

                        70        80        90       100       110       120
orf120-1.pep   VPLYNIRFESGGTVVGNTLHPTYYRDIRRGKLYAEAKFADGSVTYGKAGESKTEQSPKAM
               |||||||||||||||||||:||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf120ng       VPLYNIRFESGGTVVGNTLHPAYYKDIRRGKLYAEAKFADGSVTYGKAGESKTEQSPKAM
                        70        80        90       100       110       120

                       130       140       150       160       170       180
orf120-1.pep   DLFTLAWQLAANDAKLPPGLKITNGKKLYSVGGLNKAGTGKYSIGGVETEVVKYRVRRGD
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf120ng       DLFTLAWQLAANDAKLPPGLKITNGKKLYSVGGLNKAGTGKYSIGGVETEVVKYRVRRGD
                       130       140       150       160       170       180

                       190       200       210       220
orf120-1.pep   DAVMYFFAPSLNNIPAQIGYTDDGKTYTLKLKSVQINGQAAKPX
               |:| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf120ng       DTVTYFFAPSLNNIPAQIGYTDDGKTYTLKLKSVQINGQAAKPX
                       190       200       210       220
```

This analysis, including the presence of a putative leader sequence in the gonococcal protein suggests that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 93

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 781>:

```
   1  ATGTATCGGA GGAAAGGGCG GGGCATCAAG CCGTGGATGG GTGCCGGTGC
  51  .GCGTTTGCC GCCTTGGTCT GGCTGGTTTT CGCGCTCGGC GATACTTTGA
 101  CTCCGTTTGC GGTTGCGGCG GTGCTGGCGT ATGTATTGGA CCCTTTGGTC
 151  GAATGGTTGC AGAAAAAGGG TTTGAACCGT GCATCCGCTT CGATGTCTGT
 201  GATGGTGTTT TCCTTGATTT TGTTGTTGGC ATTATTGTTG ATTATCGTCC
 251  CTATGCTGGT CGGGCAGTTC AACAATTTGG CATCGCGCCT GCCCCAATTA
 301  ATCGGTTTTA TGCAGAACAC GCTGCTGCCG TGGTTGAAAA ATACAATCGG
 351  CGGATATGTG GAAATCGATC AGGCATCTAT TATTGCGTGG CTTCAGGCGC
 401  ATACGGGAGA GTTGAGCAAC GCGCTTAAGG CGTGGTTTCC CGTTTTGATG
 451  AGGCAGGGCG GCAATATT..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 782; ORF121>:

```
   1  MYRRKGRGIK PWMGAGXAFA ALVWLVFALG DTLTPFAVAA VLAYVLDPLV
  51  EWLQKKGLNR ASASMSVMVF SLILLLALLL IIVPMLVGQF NNLASRLPQL
 101  IGFMQNTLLP WLKNTIGGYV EIDQASIIAW LQAHTGELSN ALKAWFPVLM
 151  RQGGNI..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 783>:

```
   1  ATGTATCGGA GGAAAGGGCG GGGCATCAAG CCGTGGATGG GTGCCGGTGC
  51  GGCGTTTGCC GCCTTGGTCT GGCTGGTTTT CGCGCTCGGC GATACTTTGA
 101  CTCCGTTTGC GGTTGCGGCG GTGCTGGCGT ATGTATTGGA CCCTTTGGTC
 151  GAATGGTTGC AGAAAAAGGG TTTGAACCGT GCATCCGCTT CGATGTCTGT
 201  GATGGTGTTT TCCTTGATTT TGTTGTTGGC ATTATTGTTG ATTATCGTCC
 251  CTATGCTGGT CGGGCAGTTC AACAATTTGG CATCGCGCCT GCCCCAATTA
 301  ATCGGTTTTA TGCAGAACAC GCTGCTGCCG TGGTTGAAAA ATACAATCGG
 351  CGGATATGTG GAAATCGATC AGGCATCTAT TATTGCGTGG CTTCAGGCGC
 401  ATACGGGAGA GTTGAGCAAC GCGCTTAAGG CGTGGTTTCC CGTTTTGATG
 451  AGGCAGGGCG GCAATATTGT CAGCAGTATC GGCAACCTGC TGCTGCTTCC
 501  CTTGCTGCTT TACTATTTCC TGCTGGATTG GCAGCGGTGG TCGTGCGGCA
 551  TTGCCAAACT GGTTCCGAgG CGTTTTGCCG GTGCTTATAC GCGCATTACA
 601  GGCAATTTGA ACGAGGTATT GGGCGAATTT TTGCGCGGGC AGCTTCTGGT
 651  AATGCTGATT ATGGGCTTGG TTTACGGTTT GGGATTGGTG CTGGTCGGGC
 701  TGGATTCGGG GTTTGCCATC GGTATGCTTG CCGGTATTTT GGTGTTTGTC
 751  CCTTATCTCG GGGCGTTTAC GGGATTGCTG CTTGCCACCG TCGCCGCCTT
 801  GCTCCAGTTC GGTTCGTGGA ACGGCATCCT ATCGGTTTGG GCGGTTTTTG
 851  CCGTAGGACA GTTTCTCGAA AGTTTTTTCA TTACGCCGAA AATCGTGGGA
 901  GACCGTATCG GGCTGTCGCC GTTTTGGGTT ATCTTTTCGC TGATGGCGTT
 951  CGGGCAGCTG ATGGGCTTTG TCGGAATGTT GGCGGGATTG CCTTTGGCCG
1001  CCGTAACCTT GGTCTTGCTT CGCGAGGGCG TGCAGAAATA TTTTGCCGGC
1051  AGTTTTTACC GGGGCAGGTA G
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 784; ORF121-1>:

```
   1  MYRRKGRGIK PWMGAGAAFA ALVWLVFALG DTLTPFAVAA VLAYVLDPLV
  51  EWLQKKGLNR ASASMSVMVF SLILLLALLL IIVPMLVGQF NNLASRLPQL
 101  IGFMQNTLLP WLKNTIGGYV EIDQASIIAW LQAHTGELSN ALKAWFPVLM
 151  RQGGNIVSSI GNLLLLPLLL YYFLLDWQRW SCGIAKLVPR RFAGAYTRIT
 201  GNLNEVLGEF LRGQLLVMLI MGLVYGLGLV LVGLDSGFAI GMLAGILVFV
 251  PYLGAFTGLL LATVAALLQF GSWNGILSVW AVFAVGQFLE SFFITPKIVG
 301  DRIGLSPFWV IFSLMAFGQL MGFVGMLAGL PLAAVTLVLL REGVQKYFAG
 351  SFYRGR*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF121 shows 98.7% identity over a 156aa overlap with an ORF (ORF121a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf121.pep      MYRRKGRGIKPWMGAGXAFAALVWLVFALGDTLTPFAVAAVLAYVLDPLVEWLQKKGLNR
                ||||||||||||| || ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf121a         MYRRKGRGIKPWMDAGAAFAALVWLVFALGDTLTPFAVAAVLAYVLDPLVEWLQKKGLNR
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf121.pep      ASASMSVMVFSLILLLALLLIIVPMLVGQFNNLASRLPQLIGFMQNTLLPWLKNTIGGYV
```

```
                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf121a          ASASMSVMVFSLILLLALLLIIVPMLVGQFNNLASRLPQLIGFMQNTLLPWLKNTIGGYV
                        70        80        90       100       110       120

                      130       140       150
orf121.pep       EIDQASIIAWLQAHTGELSNALKAWFPVLMRQGGNI
                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf121a          EIDQASIIAWLQAHTGELSNALKAWFPVLMRQGGNIVSSIGNLLLLPLLLYYFLLDWQRW
                      130       140       150       160       170       180

orf121a          SCGIAKLVPRRFAGAYTRITGNLNEVLGEFLRGQLLVMLIMGLVYGLGLVLVGLDSGFAI
                      190       200       210       220       230       240
```

The complete length ORF121a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 785> is:

```
   1  ATGTATCGGA GGAAAGGGCG GGGCATCAAG CCGTGGATGG ATGCCGGTGC
  51  GGCGTTTGCC GCCTTGGTCT GGCTGGTTTT CGCGCTCGGC GATACTTTGA
 101  CTCCGTTTGC GGTTGCGGCG GTGCTGGCGT ATGTATTGGA CCCTTTGGTC
 151  GAATGGTTGC AGAAAAAGGG TTTGAACCGT GCATCCGCTT CGATGTCTGT
 201  GATGGTGTTT TCCTTGATTT TGTTGTTGGC ATTATTGTTG ATTATTGTCC
 251  CTATGCTGGT CGGGCAGTTC AACAATTTGG CATCGCGCCT GCCCCAATTA
 301  ATCGGTTTTA TGCAGAACAC GCTGCTGCCG TGGTTGAAAA ATACAATCGG
 351  CGGATATGTG GAAATCGATC AGGCATCTAT TATTGCGTGG CTTCAGGCGC
 401  ATACGGGCGA GTTGAGCAAC GCGCTTAAGG CGTGGTTTCC CGTTTTGATG
 451  AGGCAGGGCG GCAATATTGT CAGCAGTATC GGCAACCTGC TGCTGCTTCC
 501  CTTGCTGCTT TACTATTTCC TGCTGGATTG GCAGCGGTGG TCGTGCGGCA
 551  TTGCCAAACT GGTTCCGAGG CGTTTTGCCG GTGCTTATAC GCGCATTACA
 601  GGCAATTTGA ACGAGGTATT GGGCGAATTT TTGCGCGGGC AGCTTCTGGT
 651  GATGCTGATT ATGGGTTTGG TTTACGGCTT GGGGTTGGTG CTGGTCGGGC
 701  TGGATTCGGG GTTTGCAATC GGTATGGTTG CCGGTATTTT GGTTTTTGTT
 751  CCCTATTTGG GCGCGTTTAC AGGACTGCTG CTGGCAACCG TCGCCGCCTT
 801  GCTCCAGTTC GGTTCGTGGA ACGGCATCTT GGCTGTTTGG GCGGTTTTTG
 851  CCGTAGGACA GTTTCTCGAA AGTTTTTTCA TTACGCCGAA AATCGTGGGA
 901  GACCGTATCG GCCTGTCGCC GTTTTGGGTT ATCTTTTCGC TGATGGCGTT
 951  CGGGCAGCTG ATGGGCTTTG TCGGAATGTT GGCCGGATTG CCTTTGGCCG
1001  CCGTAACCTT GGTCTTGCTT CGCGAGGGCG TGCAGAAATA TTTTGCCGGC
1051  AGTTTTTACC GGGGCAGGTA G
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 786>:

```
   1  MYRRKGRGIK PWMDAGAAFA ALVWLVFALG DTLTPFAVAA VLAYVLDPLV
  51  EWLQKKGLNR ASASMSVMVF SLILLLALLL IIVPMLVGQF NNLASRLPQL
 101  IGFMQNTLLP WLKNTIGGYV EIDQASIIAW LQAHTGELSN ALKAWFPVLM
 151  RQGGNIVSSI GNLLLLPLLL YYFLLDWQRW SCGIAKLVPR RFAGAYTRIT
 201  GNLNEVLGEF LRGQLLVMLI MGLVYGLGLV LVGLDSGFAI GMVAGILVFV
 251  PYLGAFTGLL LATVAALLQF GSWNGILAVW AVFAVGQFLE SFFITPKIVG
 301  DRIGLSPFWV IFSLMAFGQL MGFVGMLAGL PLAAVTLVLL REGVQKYFAG
 351  SFYRGR*
```

ORF121a and ORF121-1 show99.2% identity in 356 aa overlap:

```
                        10        20        30        40        50        60
orf121a.pep      MYRRKGRGIKPWMDAGAAFAALVWLVFALGDTLTPFAVAAVLAYVLDPLVEWLQKKGLNR
                 |||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf121-1         MYRRKGRGIKPWMGAGAAFAALVWLVFALGDTLTPFAVAAVLAYVLDPLVEWLQKKGLNR
                        10        20        30        40        50        60

                        70        80        90       100       110       120
orf121a.pep      ASASMSVMVFSLILLLALLLIIVPMLVGQFNNLASRLPQLIGFMQNTLLPWLKNTIGGYV
                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf121-1         ASASMSVMVFSLILLLALLLIIVPMLVGQFNNLASRLPQLIGFMQNTLLPWLKNTIGGYV
                        70        80        90       100       110       120

                      130       140       150       160       170       180
orf121a.pep      EIDQASIIAWLQAHTGELSNALKAWFPVLMRQGGNIVSSIGNLLLLPLLLYYFLLDWQRW
                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf121-1         EIDQASIIAWLQAHTGELSNALKAWFPVLMRQGGNIVSSIGNLLLLPLLLYYFLLDWQRW
                      130       140       150       160       170       180

                      190       200       210       220       230       240
orf121a.pep      SCGIAKLVPRRFAGAYTRITGNLNEVLGEFLRGQLLVMLIMGLVYGLGLVLVGLDSGFAI
```

```
                                                                                
orf121-1        SCGIAKLVPRRFAGAYTRITGNLNEVLGEFLRGQLLVMLIMGLVYGLGLVLVGLDSGFAI
                       190       200       210       220       230       240

                       250       260       270       280       290       300
orf121a.pep     GMVAGILVFVPYLGAFTGLLLATVAALLQFGSWNGILAVWAVFAVGQFLESFFITPKIVG
                ||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||
orf121-1        GMLAGILVFVPYLGAFTGLLLATVAALLQFGSWNGILSVWAVFAVGQFLESFFITPKIVG
                       250       260       270       280       290       300

                       310       320       330       340       350
orf121a.pep     DRIGLSPFWVIFSLMAFGQLMGFVGMLAGLPLAAVTLVLLREGVQKYFAGSFYRGRX
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf121-1        DRIGLSPFWVIFSLMAFGQLMGFVGMLAGLPLAAVTLVLLREGVQKYFAGSFYRGRX
                       310       320       330       340       350
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF121 shows 97.4% identity over a 156 aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF121ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf121.pep      MYRRKGRGIKPWMGAGXAFAALVWLVFALGDTLTPFAVAAVLAYVLDPLVEWLQKKGLNR   60
                |||||||||||||||| |||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf121ng        MYRRKGRGIKPWMGAGAAFAALVWLVYALGDTLTPFAVAAVLAYVLDPLVEWLQKKGLNR   60

orf121.pep      ASASMSVMVFSLILLLALLLIIVPMLVGQFNNLASRLPQLIGFMQNTLLPWLKNTIGGYV  120
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf121ng        ASASMSVMVFSLILLLALLLIIVPMLVGQFNNLASRLPQLIGFMQNTLLPWLKNTIGGYV  120

orf121.pep      EIDQASIIAWLQAHTGELSNALKAWFPVLMRQGGNI                           156
                ||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||:|||||
orf121ng        EIDQASIIAWFQAHTGELSNALKAWFPVLMKQGGNIVSTIGNLLLPPLLLYYFLLDWHRW  180
```

An ORF121ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 787> was predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 788>:

```
   1  MYRRKGRGIK PWMGAGAAFA ALVWLVYALG DTLTPFAVAA VLAYVLDPLV
  51  EWLQKKGLNR ASASMSVMVF SLILLLALLL IIVPMLVGQF NNLASRLPQL
 101  IGFMQNTLLP WLKNTIGGYV EIDQASIIAW FQAHTGELSN ALKAWFPVLM
 151  KQGGNIVSTI GNLLLPPLLL YYFLLDWHRW SCGIPKLVPR RFAGAYTRIT
 201  GNLNKVWGKF LRGQLLGETE RGAVVCRVGR ECWEGGGARS RPSDDGWPRW
 251  GGG*
```

Further work revealed the following gonoccocal DNA sequence <SEQ ID 789>:

```
   1  ATGTATCGGA GAAAAGGACG GGGCATCAAG CCGTGGATGG GTGCCGGCGC
  51  GGCGTTTGCC GCCTTGGTCT GGCTGGTTTA CGCGCTCGGC GATACTTTGA
 101  CTCCGTTTGC GGTTGCGGCG GTGCTGGCGT ATGTGTTGGA CCCTTTGGTC
 151  GAATGGTTGC AGAAAAAGGG TTTGAACCGT GCATCCGCTT CGATGTCTGT
 201  GATGGTGTTT TCCTTGATTT TGTTGTTGGC ATTATTGTTG ATTATTGTCC
 251  CTATGCTGGT CGGGCAGTTC AATAATTTGG CATCTCGCCT GCCCCAATTA
 301  ATCGGTTTTA TGCAGAACAC GCTGCTGCCG TGGTTGAAAA ATACAATCGG
 351  CGGATATGTG GAAATCGATC AGGCATCTAT TATTGCGTGG TTTCAGGCGC
 401  ATACGGGCGA GTTGAGCAAC GCGCTTAAGG CGTGGTTTCC CGTTTTGATG
 451  AAACAGGGCG GCAATATTGT CAGCAGTATC GGCAACCTGC TGCTGCCGCC
 501  CTTGCTGCTT TACTATTTCC TGCTGGATTG GCAGCGGTGG TCGTGCGGCA
 551  TCGCCAAACT GGTTCCGAGG CGTTTTGCCG GTGCTTATAC GCGCATTACG
 601  GGTAATTTGA ACGAGGTATT GGGCGAATTT TTGCGCGGTC AGCTTCTGGT
 651  GATGCTGATT ATGGGCTTGG TTTACGGTTT GGGATTGATG CTAGTCGGAC
 701  TGGATTCGGG ATTTGCCATC GGTATGGTTG CCGGTATTTT GGTGTTTGTC
 751  CCCTATTTGG GTGCGTTTAC GGGATTGCTG CTTGCCACTG TTGCAGCCTT
 801  GCTCCAGTTC GGTTCGTGGA ACGGAATCTT GGCTGTTTGG GCGGTTTTTG
 851  CCGTCGGTCA GTTTCTCGAA AGTTTTTTCA TTACGCCGAA AATTGTAGGA
 901  GACCGTATCG GCCTGTCGCC GTTTTGGGTT ATCTTTTCGC TGATGGCGTT
 951  CGGAGAGCTG ATGGGCTTTG TCGGAATGTT GGCCGGATTG CCTTTGGCCG
1001  CCGTAACCTT GGTCTTGCTT CGCGAGGGCG CGCAGAAATA TTTTGCCGGC
1051  AGTTTTTACC GGGGCAGGTA G
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 790; ORF121ng-1>:

```
   1  MYRRKGRGIK PWMGAGAAFA ALVWLVYALG DTLTPFAVAA VLAYVLDPLV
  51  EWLQKKGLNR ASASMSVMVF SLILLLALLL IIVPMLVGQF NNLASRLPQL
 101  IGFMQNTLLP WLKNTIGGYV EIDQASIIAW FQAHTGELSN ALKAWFPVLM
 151  KQGGNIVSSI GNLLLPPLLL YYFLLDWQRW SCGIAKLVPR RFAGAYTRIT
 201  GNLNEVLGEF LRGQLLVMLI MGLVYGLGLM LVGLDSGFAI GMVAGILVFV
 251  PYLGAFTGLL LATVAALLQF GSWNGILAVW AVFAVGQFLE SFFITPKIVG
 301  DRIGLSPFWV IFSLMAFGEL MGFVGMLAGL PLAAVTLVLL REGAQKYFAG
 351  SFYRGR*
```

ORF121ng-1 and ORF121-1 show 97.5% identity in 356 aa overlap:

```
                          10        20        30        40        50        60
orf121-1.pep      MYRRKGRGIKPWMGAGAAFAALVWLVFALGDTLTPFAVAAVLAYVLDPLVEWLQKKGLNR
                  ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf121ng-1        MYRRKGRGIKPWMGAGAAFAALVWLVYALGDTLTPFAVAAVLAYVLDPLVEWLQKKGLNR
                          10        20        30        40        50        60

                          70        80        90       100       110       120
orf121-1.pep      ASASMSVMVFSLILLLALLLIIVPMLVGQFNNLASRLPQLIGFMQNTLLPWLKNTIGGYV
                  ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf121ng-1        ASASMSVMVFSLILLLALLLIIVPMLVGQFNNLASRLPQLIGFMQNTLLPWLKNTIGGYV
                          70        80        90       100       110       120

                         130       140       150       160       170       180
orf121-1.pep      EIDQASIIAWLQAHTGELSNALKAWFPVLMRQGGNIVSSIGNLLLLPLLLYYFLLDWQRW
                  ||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||
orf121ng-1        EIDQASIIAWFQAHTGELSNALKAWFPVLMKQGGNIVSSIGNLLLPPLLLYYFLLDWQRW
                         130       140       150       160       170       180

                         190       200       210       220       230       240
orf121-1.pep      SCGIAKLVPRRFAGAYTRITGNLNEVLGEFLRGQLLVMLIMGLVYGLGLVLVGLDSGFAI
                  ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||
orf121ng-1        SCGIAKLVPRRFAGAYTRITGNLNEVLGEFLRGQLLVMLIMGLVYGLGLMLVGLDSGFAI
                         190       200       210       220       230       240

                         250       260       270       280       290       300
orf121-1.pep      GMLAGILVFVPYLGAFTGLLLATVAALLQFGSWNGILSVWAVFAVGQFLESFFITPKIVG
                  ||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf121ng-1        GMVAGILVFVPYLGAFTGLLLATVAALLQFGSWNGILAVWAVFAVGQFLESFFITPKIVG
                         250       260       270       280       290       300

                         310       320       330       340       350
orf121-1.pep      DRIGLSPFWVIFSLMAFGQLMGFVGMLAGLPLAAVTLVLLREGVQKYFAGSFYRGRX
                  ||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||
orf121ng-1        DRIGLSPFWVIFSLMAFGELMGFVGMLAGLPLAAVTLVLLREGAQKYFAGSFYRGRX
                         310       320       330       340       350
```

In addition, ORF121ng-1 shows homology to a permease from *H.influenzae*:

```
sp|P43969|PERM_HAEIN PUTATIVE PERMEASE PERM HOMOLOG Length = 349
Score = 69.9 bits (168), Expect = 2e-11
Identities = 67/317 (21%), Positives = 120/317 (37%), Gaps = 7/317 (2%)

Query: 26  VYALGDTLTPFAVAAVLAYVLDPLVEWL-QKKGLNRASASMSVMVFSXXXXXXXXXXXXVP 84
           +Y  GD + P  +A VL+Y+L+  + +L Q     R  A++ +                VP
Sbjct: 32  IYFFGDLIAPLLIALVLSYLLEIPINFLNQYLKCPRMLATILIFGSFIGLAAVFFLVLVP 91

Query: 85  MLVGQFNNLASRLPQLIGFMQNTLLPWLKNTIGGYVE-IDQASIIAWFQAHTGELSNALK 143
           ML  Q  +L S LP +     N    WL N    Y E ID + + + F +   ++    +
Sbjct: 92  MLWNQTISLLSDLPAMF-----NKSNEWLLNLPKNYPELIDYSMVDSIFNSVREKILGFGE 147
Query: 144 AWFPVLMKQGGNIVSSIGNXXXXXXXXXXXXXDWQRWSCGIAKLVPRRFAGAYTRITGNL 203

           +   + +    N+VS                 D      G+++ +P+    A+ R    +
Sbjct: 148 SAVKLSLASIMNLVSLGIYAFLVPLMMFFMLKDKSELLQGVSRFLPKNRNLAFXRWK-EM 206

Query: 204 NEVLGEFLRGQXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXDSGFAIGMVAGILVFVPYXXXXXXXXXXXX 263
            + +  ++ G+                   +    +    G+ V VPY
Sbjct: 207 QQQISNYIHGKLLEILIVTLITYIIFLIFGLNYPLLLAFAVGLSVLVPYIGAVIVTIPVA 266
```

```
Query: 264 XXXXXQFGSWNGILAVWAVFAVGQFLESFFITPKIVGDRIGLSPFWVIFSLMAFGELMGF 323
           QFG      +   FAV Q L+   + P +  + + L P  +I S++ FG L GF
Sbjct: 267 LVALFQFGISPTFWYIIIAFAVSQLLDGNLLVPYLFSEAVNLHPLIIIISVLIFGGLWGF 326

Query: 324 VGMLAGLPLAAVTLVLL 340
            G+   +PLA +   ++
Sbjct: 327 WGVFFAIPLATLVKAVI 343
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of a putative leader sequence and transmembrane domains in the two proteins, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 94

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 791>:

```
   1  ..ACTGCTTTTT CGGCGGCGCT GCGCTTGAGT CCATCATGAC TCGTCATATT
  51    TTTGTCCTTT GGGAAACCGT ATCAACAAAC AGCCGCCATC TTAACATTTT
 101    TTTGCACGTC CTGCCCGCCG CGTTCAAATG CGTACCAGCA ATACCGCCGC
 151    CTGCGCCTCT ATGCCTTCCA TCCGCCCGAG ATAGCCGAGT TTTTCGTTGG
 201    TTTTGCCTTT GATGTTGACG CACGAAATGT CTATGCCCAA ATCGGCGGCG
 251    ATGTTGGCAC GCATTTGCGG AATGTGCGGC GCGAGTGTGG GTTTCTGTGC
 301    AATCACGGTC GTATCGACAT TGACCGCCTG CCAACCCTGC GCCTGAACGC
 351    TTTGATACGC CGCACGCAAA AGGACGCGGC TGTCCGCATC TTTGAACTCT
 401    GCGGCGGTGT CGGGGAAATG GCTGCCGATA TCGCCCAAAC CTGCCGCACC
 451    GAGCAGCGCG TCGGTAACGG CGTGCAGCAG CGCATCGGCA TCGGAGTGTC
 501    CGAGCAGCCC TTTTTCAAAT GGGATTTCAA CTCCGCCAAG TATCAG..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 792; ORF122>:

```
   1  ..TAFSAALRLS PSXLVIFLSF GKPYQQTAAI LTFFCTSCPP RSNAYQQYRR
  51    LRLYAFHPPE IAEFFVGFAF DVDARNVYAQ IGGDVGTHLR NVRRECGFLC
 101    NHGRIDIDRL PTLRLNALIR RTQKDAAVRI FELCGGVGEM AADIAQTCRT
 151    EQRVGNGVQQ RIGIGVSEQP FFKWDFNSAK YQ..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 793>:

```
   1  ATATCGTACT GGGCAAGCAG TTCGCCGGAT TTTTTGGAAG TAGATACCGC
  51  GCCTTTGATT TTTTTGCCGC TCTTACCCAA GGCTTCGATG AAAAAGTTGA
 101  TGGTCGAGCC GGTACCGATG CCGATATATT CATTTTCGGG TACGAATTCG
 151  ACTGCTTTTT CGGCGGCGAT GCGCTTGAGT TCGTCTTGTG TCGTCATATT
 201  TTTGTCCTTT GGGAAACCGT ATCAACAAAC AGCCGCCATC TTAACATTTT
 251  TTTGCACGTC CTGCCCGCCG CGTTCAAATG CGTACCAGCA ATACCGCCGC
 301  CTGCGCCTCT ATGCCTTCCA TCCGCCCGAG ATAGCCGAGT TTTTCGTTGG
 351  TTTTGCCTTT GATGTTGACG CACGAAATGT CTATGCCCAA ATCGGCGGCG
 401  ATGTTGGCAC GCATTTGCGG AATGTGCGGC GCGAGTTTGG GTTTCTGTGC
 451  AATCACGGTC GTATCGACAT TGACCGCCTG CCAACCCTGC GCCTGAACGC
 501  TTTGATACGC CGCACGCAAA AGGACGCGGC TGTCCGCATC TTTGAACTCT
 551  GCGGCGGTGT CGGGGAAATG GCTGCCGATA TCGCCCAAAC CTGCCGCACC
 601  GAGCAGCGCG TCGGTAACGG CGTGCAGCAG CGCATCGGCA TCGGAGTGTC
 651  CGAGCAGCCC TTTTTCAAAT GGGATTTCAA CTCCGCCAAG TATCAGCTTT
 701  CTGCCTTCGG TCAGTTGGTG GACATCGTAG CCCTGTCCGA TACGGATGTT
 751  CGTCATCGTT TGTGTTCCTG A
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 794; ORF122-1>:

```
   1  ISYWASSSPD FLEVDTAPLI FLPLLPKASM KKLMVEPVPM PIYSFSGTNS
  51  TAFSAAMRLS SSCVVIFLSF GKPYQQTAAI LTFFCTSCPP RSNAYQQYRR
 101  LRLYAFHPPE IAEFFVGFAF DVDARNVYAQ IGGDVGTHLR NVRREFGFLC
 151  NHGRIDIDRL PTLRLNALIR RTQKDAAVRI FELCGGVGEM AADIAQTCRT
 201  EQRVGNGVQQ RIGIGVSEQP FFKWDFNSAK YQLSAFGQLV DIVALSDTDV
 251  RHRLCS*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF122 shows 94.0% identity over a 182aa overlap with an ORF (ORF122a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                                    10        20        30
orf122.pep                                       TAFSAALRLSPSXLVIFLSFGKPYQQTAAI
                                                 ||||||:||| | :||||||||||||||||
orf122a      FLPLLPKASMKKLMVEPVPMPMYSFSGTNSTAFSAAMRLSSSCVVIFLSFGKPYQQTAAI
                    30        40        50        60        70        80

                    40        50        60        70        80        90
orf122.pep   LTFFCTSCPPRSNAYQQYRRLRLYAFHPPEIAEFFVGFAFDVDARNVYAQIGGDVGTHLR
             |||| |||||||| |||||||||||| |||:|||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||
orf122a      LTFFXTSCPPRSNPYQQYRRLRLYAFHAPEITEFFVGFAFXVDARNVYAQIGGDVGTHLR
                    90        100       110       120       130       140

                   100       110       120       130       140       150
orf122.pep   NVRRECGFLCNHGRIDIDRLPTLRLNALIRRTQKDAAVRIFELCGGVGEMAADIAQTCRT
             |:||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf122a      NMRREFGFLCNHGRIDIDRLPTLRLNALIRRTQKDAAVRIFELCGGVGEMAADIAQTCRT
                   150       160       170       180       190       200

                   160       170       180
orf122.pep   EQRVGNGVQQRIGIGVSEQPFFKWDFNSAKYQ
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf122a      EQRVGNGVQQRIGIGVSEQPFFKWDFNSAKYQLSAFGQLVDIVALSDTDVRHRLCSX
                   210       220       230       240       250
```

The complete length ORF122a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 795> is:

```
   1  ATATCATATT GGGCAAGCAG TTCACTGGAT TTTTTGGAAG TAGATACCGC
  51  GCCTTTGATT TTTTTGCCGC TCTTACCCAA GGCTTCGATG AAAAAGTTGA
 101  TGGTCGAACC GGTACCGATG CCGATGTATT CGTTTTCGGG TACGAATTCG
 151  ACTGCNTTTT CGGCGGCGAT GCGCTTGAGT TCGTCTTGTG TCGTCATATT
 201  TTTGTCCTTT GGGAAACCGT ATCAACAAAC AGCCGCCATC TTAACATTTT
 251  TTNNNACGTC CTGCCCGCCG CGTTCAAATC CTTACCAGCA ATACCGCCGC
 301  CTGCGACTCT ATGCCTTCCA TGCGCCCGAG ATAACCGAGT TTTTCGTTGG
 351  TTTTGCCTTT GANGTTGACG CACGAAATGT CTATGCCCAA ATCGGCGGCG
 401  ATGTTGGCAC GCATTTGCGG AATATGCGGC GCGAGTTTGG GTTTCTGTGC
 451  AATCACGGTC GTATCGACAT TGACCGCCTG CCAACCCTGC GCCTGAACGC
 501  TTTGATACGC CGCACGCAAA AGGACGCGGC TGTCCGCATC TTTGAACTCT
 551  GCGGCGGTGT CGGGGAAATG GCTGCCGATA TCGCCCAAAC CTGCCGCACC
 601  GAGCAGCGCG TCGGTAACGG CGTGCAGCAG CGCATCGGCA TCGGAGTGTC
 651  CGAGCAGCCC TTTTTCAAAT GGGATTTCAA CTCCGCCAAG TATCAGCTTT
 701  CTGCCTTCGG TCAGTTGGTG GACATCGTAG CCCTGTCCGA TACGGATGTT
 751  CGTCATCGTT TGTGTTCCTG A
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 796>:

```
   1  ISYWASSSLD FLEVDTAPLI FLPLLPKASM KKLMVEPVPM PMYSFSGTNS
  51  TAFSAAMRLS SSCVVIFLSF GKPYQQTAAI LTFFXTSCPP RSNPYQQYRR
 101  LRLYAFHAPE ITEFFVGFAF XVDARNVYAQ IGGDVGTHLR NMRREFGFLC
 151  NHGRIDIDRL PTLRLNALIR RTQKDAAVRI FELCGGVGEM AADIAQTCRT
 201  EQRVGNGVQQ RIGIGVSEQP FFKWDFNSAK YQLSAFGQLV DIVALSDTDV
 251  RHRLCS*
```

ORF122a and ORF122-1 show 96.9% identity in 256 aa overlap:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf122a.pep  ISYWASSSLDFLEVDTAPLIFLPLLPKASMKKLMVEPVPMPMYSFSGTNSTAFSAAMRLS
             |||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||
orf122-1     ISYWASSSPDFLEVDTAPLIFLPLLPKASMKKLMVEPVPMPIYSFSGTNSTAFSAAMRLS
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf122a.pep  SSCVVIFLSFGKPYQQTAAILTFFXTSCPPRSNPYQQYRRLRLYAFHAPEITEFFVGFAF
             |||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||| |||||||||||| |||:||||||||
orf122-1     SSCVVIFLSFGKPYQQTAAILTFFCTSCPPRSNAYQQYRRLRLYAFHPPEIAEFFVGFAF
```

```
                    70        80        90       100       110       120
                   130       140       150       160       170       180
orf122a.pep    XVDARNVYAQIGGDVGTHLRNMRREFGFLCNHGRIDIDRLPTLRLNALIRRTQKDAAVRI
               ||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf122-1       DVDARNVYAQIGGDVGTHLRNVRREFGFLCNHGRIDIDRLPTLRLNALIRRTQKDAAVRI
                   130       140       150       160       170       180

                   190       200       210       220       230       240
orf122a.pep    FELCGGVGEMAADIAQTCRTEQRVGNGVQQRIGIGVSEQPFFKWDFNSAKYQLSAFGQLV
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf122-1       FELCGGVGEMAADIAQTCRTEQRVGNGVQQRIGIGVSEQPFFKWDFNSAKYQLSAFGQLV
                   190       200       210       220       230       240

                   250
orf122a.pep    DIVALSDTDVRHRLCSX
               ||||||||||||||||
orf122-1       DIVALSDTDVRHRLCSX
                   250
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF122 shows 89.6% identity over a 182 aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF122ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf122.pep                                    TAFSAALRLSPSXLVIFLSFGKPYQQTAAI   30
                                              ||||||:||| | :||||||||||||||||
orf122ng       FLPLLPKASMKKLMVEPVPMPMYSFSGTNSTAFSAAMRLSSSCVVIFLSFGKPYQQTAAI   80

orf122.pep     LTFFCTSCPPRSNAYQQYRRLRLYAFHPPEIAEFFVGFAFDVDARNVYAQIGGDVGTHLR   90
               ||||||| ||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||: :||||||||||||
orf122ng       LTFFCTSWPPRSNPYQQYRRLRLYAFHPPEIAEFFVGFAFDIDARNIDTQIGGDVGTHLR  140

orf122.pep     NVRRECGFLCNHGRIDIDRLPTLRLNALIRRTQKDAAVRIFELCGGVGEMAADIAQTCRT  150
               ||| | ||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||:||||||
orf122ng       NVRCEFGFLCNHGRIDIDHLPTLRLNALIRRTQKDAAVRIFELCGGVGKMAADVAQTCRT  200

orf122.pep     EQRVGNGVQQRIGIGVSEQPFFKWDFNSAKYQ                              182
               ||||||||||:|| : ||||||||||||||
orf122ng       EQRVGNGVQQRVGIRMPEQPFFKWDFNSAKYQLSAFGQLVDIVALSDTDIRHRLCS     256
```

The complete length ORF122ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 797> is:

```
   1  ATGTCGTACC GGGCAAGCAG TTCGCCGGAT TTTTTGGAGG TTGAAACCGC
  51  GCCTTTGATT TTTTTACCGC TTTTGCCCAA GGCTTCGATG AAGAAATTGa
 101  tgGTCGAACC GgtaCCGATG CCGATGTATT CGTTTTCGGG TACGAATTCG
 151  ACTGCTTTTT CGGCGGCGAT GCGCttgAgt TCgtcttgcg TcgTCATATT
 201  TTTAtccttt gGGAAaccct atcaAcaAAc agccgccatC TTAACATTTT
 251  TTTGCACGtc ctggccgccg cgttcaAATc cgtaccaGca ataccgccgc
 301  ctgcgcctCT AtgcCTTCCA TCCGCCCGAG ATAGCCGAGT TTTTCGTTGG
 351  TTTTGCCTTT GATatTGACG CACGAAATAT CGatacCCAa atcggcgGCG
 401  ATGTTGGCAC GCATTTGCGG AATGTGCGGT GCGAGTTTGG GTTTCTGTGC
 451  AATCACGGTC GTATCGACAT TGACCACCTG CCAACCCTGC GCCTGAACGC
 501  TTTGATACGC CGCACGCAAA AGGACGCGGC TGTCCGCATC TTTGAACTCT
 551  GCGGCGGTGT CGGGAAAATG GCTGCCGATG TCGCCCAAAC CTGCCGCACC
 601  GAGCAGCgcg tcggtaaCGG CGTGCAGCAG cgcgTcgGCA TCCGAATGCC
 651  CGAGCAGCCC TTTTTCAAAT GGGATTTCAA CTCCGCCAAG TATCAGCTTT
 701  CTGCCTTCGG TCAATTGGTG GACATCGTAG CCCTGTCCGA TACGGATATT
 751  CGTCATCGTT TGTGTTCCTG A
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 798>:

```
   1  MSYRASSSPD FLEVETAPLI FLPLLPKASM KKLMVEPVPM PMYSFSGTNS
  51  TAFSAAMRLS SSCVVIFLSF GKPYQQTAAI LTFFCTSWPP RSNPYQQYRR
 101  LRLYAFHPPE IAEFFVGFAF DIDARNIDTQ IGGDVGTHLR NVRCEFGFLC
 151  NHGRIDIDHL PTLRLNALIR RTQKDAAVRI FELCGGVGKM AADVAQTCRT
 201  EQRVGNGVQQ RVGIRMPEQP FFKWDFNSAK YQLSAFGQLV DIVALSDTDI
 251  RHRLCS*
```

ORF122ng and ORF122-1 show 92.6% identity in 256 aa overlap:

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf122-1.pep        ISYWASSSPDFLEVDTAPLIFLPLLPKASMKKLMVEPVPMPIYSFSGTNSTAFSAAMRLS
                    :|| |||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||
orf122ng            MSYRASSSPDFLEVETAPLIFLPLLPKASMKKLMVEPVPMPMYSFSGTNSTAFSAAMRLS
                            10        20        30        40        50        60

                            70        80        90       100       110       120
orf122-1.pep        SSCVVIFLSFGKPYQQTAAILTFFCTSCPPRSNAYQQYRRLRLYAFHPPEIAEFFVGFAF
                    |||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf122ng            SSCVVIFLSFGKPYQQTAAILTFFCTSWPPRSNPYQQYRRLRLYAFHPPEIAEFFVGFAF
                            70        80        90       100       110       120

                           130       140       150       160       170       180
orf122-1.pep        DVDARNVYAQIGGDVGTHLRNVRREFGFLCNHGRIDIDRLPTLRLNALIRRTQKDAAVRI
                    |:|||||: :|||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||
orf122ng            DIDARNIDTQIGGDVGTHLRNVRCEFGFLCNHGRIDIDHLPTLRLNALIRRTQKDAAVRI
                           130       140       150       160       170       180

                           190       200       210       220       230       240
orf122-1.pep        FELCGGVGEMAADIAQTCRTEQRVGNGVQQRIGIGVSEQPFFKWDFNSAKYQLSAFGQLV
                    ||||||||:||||:|||||||||||||||||:|| : ||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf122ng            FELCGGVGKMAADVAQTCRTEQRVGNGVQQRVGIRMPEQPFFKWDFNSAKYQLSAFGQLV
                           190       200       210       220       230       240

                           250
orf122-1.pep        DIVALSDTDVRHRLCSX
                    |||||||||:|||||||
orf122ng            DIVALSDTDIRHRLCSX
                           250
```

Based on this analysis, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 95

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 799>:

```
   1  ..GCCGGCGCGA GTGCGAACAA CATTTCCGCG CGTTTTGCGG AAACACCCGT
  51    CGCTGTCAGC GTTACCCTGA TCGGCACGGT ACTTGCCGTC ATGCTGCCCG
 101    TTACCGAATA TGAAAACTTC CTGCTGCTTA TCGGCTCGGT ATTTGCGCCG
 151    ATGGGGCGGA TTTTGATTGC CGACTTTTTC GTCTTGAAAC GGCGTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 800; ORF125>:

```
   1  ..AGASANNISA RFAETPVAVS VTLIGTVLAV MLPVTEYENF LLLIGSVFAP
  51    MGGFDCRLFR LETA*
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 801>:

```
   1  ATGTCGGGCA ATGCCTCCTC TCCTTCATCT TCCTCCGCCA TCGGGCTGAT
  51  TTGGTTCGGC GCGGCGGTAT CGATTGCCGA AATCAGCACG GGTACGCTGC
 101  TTGCGCCTTT GGGCTGGCAG CGCGGTCTGG CGGCTCTACT TTTGGGTCAT
 151  GCCGTCGGCG GCGCGCTGTT TTTTGCGGCG GCGTATATCG GCGCACTGAC
 201  CGGACGCAGC TCGATGGAAA GCGTGCGCCT GTCGTTCGGC AAACGCGGTT
 251  CAGTGCTGTT TTCCGTGGCG AATATGCTGC AACTGGCCGG CTGGACGGCG
 301  GTGATGATTT ACGCCGGCGC AACGGTCAGC TCCGCTTTGG GCAAAGTGTT
 351  GTGGGACGGC GAATCTTTTG TCTGGTGGGC ATTGGCAAAC GGCGCGCTGA
 401  TTGTGCTGTG GCTGGTTTTC GGCGCACGCA AAACAGGCGG GCTGAAAACC
 451  GTTTCGATGC TGCTGATGCT GTTGGCGGTT CTGTGGCTGA GTGCCGAAGT
 501  CTTTTCCACG GCAGGCAGCA CCGCCGCACA GGTTTCAGAC GGCATGAGTT
 551  TCGGAACGGC AGTCGAGCTG TCCGCCGTGA TGCCGCTTTC CTGGCTGCCG
 601  CTTGCCGCCG ACTACACGCG CCACGCGCGC CGCCCGTTTG CGGCAACCCT
 651  GACGGCAACG CTCGCCTACA CGCTGACCGG CTGCTGGATG TATGCCTTGG
 701  GTTTGGCAGC GGCGTTGTTC ACCGGAGAAA CCGACGTGGC AAAAATCCTG
 751  CTGGGCGCAG GTTTGGGTGC GGCAGGCATT TTGGCGGTCG TCCTCTCCAC
```

```
 801  CGTTACCACA ACGTTTCTCG ATGCCTATTC CGCCGGCGCG AGTGCGAACA
 851  ACATTTCCGC GCGTTTTGCG GAAACACCCG TCGCTGTCGG CGTTACCCTG
 901  ATCGGCACGG TACTTGCCGT CATGCTGCCC GTTACCGAAT ATGAAAACTT
 951  CCTGCTGCTT ATCGGCTCGG TATTTGCGCC GATGGCGGCG GTTTTGATTG
1001  CCGACTTTTT CGTCTTGAAA CGGCGTGAGG AGATTGAAGG CTTTGACTTT
1051  GCCGGACTGG TTCTGTGGCT TGCGGGCTTC ATCCTCTACC GCTTCCTGCT
1101  CTCGTCCGGC TGGGAAAGCA GCATCGGTCT GACCGCCCCC GTAATGTCTG
1151  CCGTTGCCAT TGCCACCGTA TCGGTACGCC TTTTCTTTAA AAAAACCCAA
1201  TCTTTACAAA GGAACCCGTC ATGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 802; ORF125-1>:

```
   1  MSGNASSPSS SSAIGLIWFG AAVSIAEIST GTLLAPLGWQ RGLAALLLGH
  51  AVGGALFFAA AYIGALTGRS SMESVRLSFG KRGSVLFSVA NMLQLAGWTA
 101  VMIYAGATVS SALGKVLWDG ESFVWWALAN GALIVLWLVF GARKTGGLKT
 151  VSMLLMLLAV LWLSAEVFST AGSTAAQVSD GMSFGTAVEL SAVMPLSWLP
 201  LAADYTRHAR RPFAATLTAT LAYTLTGCWM YALGLAAALF TGETDVAKIL
 251  LGAGLGAAGI LAVVLSTVTT TFLDAYSAGA SANNISARFA ETPVAVGVTL
 301  IGTVLAVMLP VTEYENFLLL IGSVFAPMAA VLIADFFVLK RREEIEGFDF
 351  AGLVLWLAGF ILYRFLLSSG WESSIGLTAP VMSAVAIATV SVRLFFKKTQ
 401  SLQRNPS*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF125 shows 76.5% identity over a 51aa overlap with an ORF (ORF125a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                                    10        20        30
orf125.pep                                         AGASANNISARFAETPVAVSVTLIGTVLAV
                                                   ||:|||||||::: |:|||:|:::||:|||
orf125a       KILLGAGLGAAGILAVVLSTVTTTFLDAYSAGVSANNISAKLSEIPIAVAVAVVGTLLAV
              250       260       270       280       290       300

                      40        50        60
orf125.pep    MLPVTEYENFLLLIGSVFAPMGGFDCRLFRLETAX
              :||||||||||||||||||||:
orf125a       LLPVTEYENFLLLIGSVFAPMAAVLIADFFVLKRREEIEG
              310       320       330       340
```

The ORF125a partial nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 803> is:

```
   1  ATGTCGGGCA ATGCCTCCTC TCNTTCATCT TCCGCCGCCA TCGGGCTGAT
  51  TTGGTTCGGC GCGGCGGTAT CGATTGCCGA AATCAGCACG GGTACACTGC
 101  TTGCGCCTTT GGGCTGGCAG CGCGGTCTGG CNGCTCTGCT TTTGGGTCAT
 151  GCCGTCGGCG GCGCGCTGTT TTTTGCGGCG GCGTATATCG GCGCACTGAC
 201  CGGACNCANC TCGATGGAAA GCGTGCGCCT GTCGTTCGGC AAACGCGGTT
 251  CAGTGCTGTT TTCCGTGGCG AATATGCTGC AACTGGCCGG CTGGACGGCG
 301  GTGATGATTT ACGCCGGCGC AACGGTCAGC TCCGCTTTGG GCAAAGTGTT
 351  GTGGGACGGC GAATCTTTTG TCTGGTGGGC ATTGGCAAAC GGCGCGCTGA
 401  TTGTGCTGTG GCTGGTTTTC GGCGCACGCA AAACAGGCGG GCTGAAAACC
 451  GTTTCGATGC TGCTGATGCT GTTGGCGGTT CTGTGGCTGA GTGCCGAANT
 501  NTTTTCCACG GCAGGCAGCA CCGCCGCANN GGTNNCAGAC GGCATGAGTT
 551  TCGGAACGGC AGTCGAGCTG TCCGCCGTNA TGCCGCTTTC TTGGCTGCCG
 601  CTGGCCGCCG ACTACACGCG CCACGCGCGC CGCCCGTTTG CGGCAACCCT
 651  GACGGCAACG CTCGCCTACA CGCTGACCGG CTGCTGGATG TATGCCTTGG
 701  GTTTGGCAGC GGCGTTGTTC ACCGGAGAAA CCGACGTGGC AAAAATCCTG
 751  CTGGGCGCAG GTTTGGGTGC GGCAGGCATT TTGGCGGTCG TCCTGTCGAC
 801  CGTTACCACC ACTTTTCTCG ATGCNTACTC CGCCGGCGTA AGTGCCAACA
 851  ATATTTCCGC CAAACTTTCG GAAATACCNA TCGCCGTTGC CGTCGCCGTT
 901  GTCGGCACAC TGCTTGCCGT CCTCCTGCCC GTTACCGAAT ATGAAAACTT
 951  CCTGCTGCTT ATCGGCTCGG TATTTGCGCC GATGGCGGCG GTTTTGATTG
1001  CCGACTTTTT CGTCTTGAAA CGGCGTGAGG AGATTGAAGG C..
```

This encodes a protein having the partial amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 804>:

```
   1  MSGNASSXSS SAAIGLIWFG AAVSIAEIST GTLLAPLGWQ RGLAALLLGH
  51  AVGGALFFAA AYIGALTGXX SMESVRLSFG KRGSVLFSVA NMLQLAGWTA
```

```
101  VMIYAGATVS SALGKVLWDG ESFVWWALAN GALIVLWLVF GARKTGGLKT
151  VSMLLMLLAV LWLSAEXFST AGSTAAXVXD GMSFGTAVEL SAVMPLSWLP
201  LAADYTRHAR RPFAATLTAT LAYTLTGCWM YALGLAAALF TGETDVAKIL
251  LGAGLGAAGI LAVVLSTVTT TFLDAYSAGV SANNISAKLS EIPIAVAVAV
301  VGTLLAVLLP VTEYENFLLL IGSVFAPMAA VLIADFFVLK RREEIEG..
```

ORF125a and ORF125-1 show 94.5% identity in 347 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf125a.pep     MSGNASSXSSSAAIGLIWFGAAVSIAEISTGTLLAPLGWQRGLAALLLGHAVGGALFFAA
                ||||||| |||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf125-1        MSGNASSPSSSSAIGLIWFGAAVSIAEISTGTLLAPLGWQRGLAALLLGHAVGGALFFAA
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf125a.pep     AYIGALTGXXSMESVRLSFGKRGSVLFSVANMLQLAGWTAVMIYAGATVSSALGKVLWDG
                |||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf125-1        AYIGALTGRSSMESVRLSFGKRGSVLFSVANMLQLAGWTAVMIYAGATVSSALGKVLWDG
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf125a.pep     ESFVWWALANGALIVLWLVFGARKTGGLKTVSMLLMLLAVLWLSAEXFSTAGSTAAXVXD
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||| | |
orf125-1        ESFVWWALANGALIVLWLVFGARKTGGLKTVSMLLMLLAVLWLSAEVFSTAGSTAAQVSD
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf125a.pep     GMSFGTAVELSAVMPLSWLPLAADYTRHARRPFAATLTATLAYTLTGCWMYALGLAAALF
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf125-1        GMSFGTAVELSAVMPLSWLPLAADYTRHARRPFAATLTATLAYTLTGCWMYALGLAAALF
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260       270       280       290       300
orf125a.pep     TGETDVAKILLGAGLGAAGILAVVLSTVTTTFLDAYSAGVSANNISAKLSEIPIAVAVAV
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||:::| |:||:|::
orf125-1        TGETDVAKILLGAGLGAAGILAVVLSTVTTTFLDAYSAGASANNISARFAETPVAVGVTL
                250       260       270       280       290       300

                310       320       330       340
orf125a.pep     VGTLLAVLLPVTEYENFLLLIGSVFAPMAAVLIADFFVLKRREEIEG
                :||:|||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf125-1        IGTVLAVMLPVTEYENFLLLIGSVFAPMAAVLIADFFVLKRREEIEGFDFAGLVLWLAGF
                310       320       330       340       350       360
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF125 shows 86.2% identity over a 65aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF125ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf125.pep                                AGASANNISARFAETPVAVSVTLIGTVLAV   30
                                          |||||||||||||| |||||:|||| |||||
orf125ng    KILLGAGLGITGILAVVLSTVTTTFLDTYSAGASANNISARFAEIPVAVGVTLIRTVLAV  308

orf125.pep  MLPVTEYENFLLLIGSVFAPM-GGFDCRLFRLETA   64
            |||||||:|||||| |||:|| |||||||| |:||
orf125ng    MLPVTEYKNFLLLIRSVFGPMAGGFDCRLFCLKTA  343
```

An ORF125ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 805> was predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 806>:

```
  1  MSGNASSPSS SAAIGLVWFG AAVSIAEIST GTLLAPLGWQ RGLAALLLGH
 51  AVGGALFFAA AYIGALTGRS SMESVRLSFG KCGSVLFSVA NMLQLAGWTA
101  VMIYVGATVS SALGKVLWDG ESFVWWALAN GALIVLWLVF GARRTGGLKT
151  VSMLLMLLAV LWLSVEVFAS SGTNAAPAVS DGMTFGTAVE LSAVMPLSWL
201  PLAADYTRQA RRPFAATLTA TLAYTLTGCW MYALGLAAAL FTGETDVAKI
251  LLGAGLGITG ILAVVLSTVT TTFLDTYSAG ASANNISARF AEIPVAVGVT
301  LIRTVLAVML PVTEYKNFLL LIRSVFGPMA GGFDCRLFCL KTA*
```

Further work revealed the following gonococcal DNA sequence <SEQ ID 807>:

```
   1  ATGTCGGGCA ATGCCTCCTC TCCTTCATCT TCCGCCGCCA TCGGGCTGGT
  51  TTGGTTCGGC GCGGCGGTAT CGATTGCCGA AATCAGCACG GGTACGCTGC
 101  TCGCCCCCTT GGGCTGGCAG CGCGGTCTGG CGGCCCTGCT TTTGGGTCAT
 151  GCCGTCGGCG GCGCGCTGTT TTTTGCGGCG GCGTATATCG GCGCACTGAC
 201  CGGACGCAGC TCGATGGAAA GTGTGCGCCT GTCGTTCGGC AAATGCGGTT
 251  CAGTGCTGTT TTCCGTGGCG AATATGCTGC AACTGGCCGG CTGGACGGCG
 301  GTGATGATTT ACGTCGGCGC AACGGTCAGC TCCGCTTTGG GCAAAGTGTT
 351  GTGGGACGGC GAATCCTTTG TCTGGTGGGC ATTGGCAAAC GGCGCACTGA
 401  TCGTGCTGTG GCTGGTTTTC GGCGCACGCA GAACGGGCGG GCTGAAAACC
 451  GTTTCGATGC TGCTGATGCT GCTTGCCGTG TTGTGGTTGA GCGTCGAAGT
 501  GTTCGCTTCG TCCGGCACAA ACGCCGCGCC CGCCGTTTCA GACGGCATGA
 551  CCTTCGGAAC GGCAGTCGAA CTGTCCGCCG TCATGCCGCT TTCCTGGCTG
 601  CCGCTGGCCG CCGACTACAC GCGCCAAGCA CGCCGCCCGT TTGCGGCAAC
 651  CCTGACGGCA ACGCTCGCCT ATACGCTGAC GGGCTGCTGG ATGTATGCCT
 701  TGGGTTTGGC GGCGGCTCTG TTTACCGGAG AAACCGACGT GGCGAAAATC
 751  CTGTTGGGCG CGGGCTTGGG CATAACGGGC ATTCTGGCAG TCGTCCTCTC
 801  CACCGTTACC ACAACGTTTC TCGATACCTA TTCCGCCGGC GCGAGTGCGA
 851  ACAACATTTC CGCGCGTTTT GCGGAAATAC CCGTCGCTGT CGGCGTTACC
 901  CTGATCGGCA CGGTGCTTGC CGTCATGCTG CCCGTTACCG AATATAAAAA
 951  CTTCCTGCTG CTTATCGGCT CGGTATTTGC GCCGATGGCG GCGGTTTTGA
1001  TTGCCGACTT TTTCGTCTTA AAACGGCGTG AGGAGATTGA AGGCTTTGAC
1051  TTTGCCGGAC TGGTTCTGTG GCTGGCAGGC TTCATCCTCT ACCGCTTCCT
1101  GCTCTCGTCC GGTTGGGAAA GCAGCATCGG TCTGACCGCC CCCGTAATGT
1151  CTGCCGTTGC CATTGCCACC GTATCGGTAC GCCTTTTCTT TAAAAAAACC
1201  CAATCTTTAC AAAGGAACCC GTCATGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 808; ORF125ng-1>:

```
   1  MSGNASSPSS SAAIGLVWFG AAVSIAEIST GTLLAPLGWQ RGLAALLLGH
  51  AVGGALFFAA AYIGALTGRS SMESVRLSFG KCGSVLFSVA NMLQLAGWTA
 101  VMIYVGATVS SALGKVLWDG ESFVWWALAN GALIVLWLVF GARRTGGLKT
 151  VSMLLMLLAV LWLSVEVFAS SGTNAAPAVS DGMTFGTAVE LSAVMPLSWL
 201  PLAADYTRQA RRPFAATLTA TLAYTLTGCW MYALGLAAAL FTGETDVAKI
 251  LLGAGLGITG ILAVVLSTVT TTFLDTYSAG ASANNISARF AEIPVAVGVT
 301  LIGTVLAVML PVTEYKNFLL LIGSVFAPMA AVLIADFFVL KRREEIEGFD
 351  FAGLVLWLAG FILYRFLLSS GWESSIGLTA PVMSAVAIAT VSVRLFFKKT
 401  QSLQRNPS*
```

ORF125ng-1 and ORF125-1 show 95.1% identity in 408 aa overlap:

```
                    10         20         30         40         50         60
orf125-1.pep        MSGNASSPSSSSAIGLIWFGAAVSIAEISTGTLLAPLGWQRGLAALLLGHAVGGALFFAA
                    ||||||||||:||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf125ng-1          MSGNASSPSSSAAIGLVWFGAAVSIAEISTGTLLAPLGWQRGLAALLLGHAVGGALFFAA
                            10         20         30         40         50         60

                            70         80         90        100        110        120
orf125-1.pep        AYIGALTGRSSMESVRLSFGKRGSVLFSVANMLQLAGWTAVMIYAGATVSSALGKVLWDG
                    |||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||
orf125ng-1          AYIGALTGRSSMESVRLSFGKCGSVLFSVANMLQLAGWTAVMIYVGATVSSALGKVLWDG
                            70         80         90        100        110        120

                           130        140        150        160        170        179
orf125-1.pep        ESFVWWALANGALIVLWLVFGARKTGGLKTVSMLLMLLAVLWLSAEVFSTAGSTAAQ-VS
                    ||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||:|||:::|::||  ||
orf125ng-1          ESFVWWALANGALIVLWLVFGARRTGGLKTVSMLLMLLAVLWLSVEVFASSGTNAAPAVS
                           130        140        150        160        170        180

                    180        190        200        210        220        230        239
orf125-1.pep        DGMSFGTAVELSAVMPLSWLPLAADYTRHARRPFAATLTATLAYTLTGCWMYALGLAAAL
                    |||:||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf125ng-1          DGMTFGTAVELSAVMPLSWLPLAADYTRQARRPFAATLTATLAYTLTGCWMYALGLAAAL
                           190        200        210        220        230        240

                    240        250        260        270        280        290        299
orf125-1.pep        FTGETDVAKILLGAGLGAAGILAVVLSTVTTTFLDAYSAGASANNISARFAETPVAVGVT
                    |||||||||||||||| :||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||| |||||||
orf125ng-1          FTGETDVAKILLGAGLGITGILAVVLSTVTTTFLDTYSAGASANNISARFAEIPVAVGVT
                           250        260        270        280        290        300
```

```
                300       310       320       330       340       350       359
orf125-1.pep    LIGTVLAVMLPVTEYENFLLLIGSVFAPMAAVLIADFFVLKRREEIEGFDFAGLVLWLAG
                |||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf125ng-1      LIGTVLAVMLPVTEYKNFLLLIGSVFAPMAAVLIADFFVLKRREEIEGFDFAGLVLWLAG
                        310       320       330       340       350       360

                360       370       380       390       400
orf125-1.pep    FILYRFLLSSGWESSIGLTAPVMSAVAIATVSVRLFFKKTQSLQRNPSX
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf125ng-1      FILYRFLLSSGWESSIGLTAPVMSAVAIATVSVRLFFKKTQSLQRNPSX
                        370       380       390       400
```

Based on this analysis, including the presence of putative leader sequence and transmembrane domains in the gonococcal protein, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 96

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 809>:

```
   1  ATGACCCGTA TCGCCATCCT CGGCGGCGGC CTCTCGGGAA GGCTGACCGC
  51  GTTGCAGCTT GCAGAACAAG GTTATCAGAT TGCACTTTTC GATAAAAGCT
 101  GCCGCCGGGG CGAACACGCC GCCGCCTATG TAGCCGCCGC CATGCTCGCG
 151  CCTGCAGCGG A.ACGGTCGA AGCCACGCCC GAAGTGGTCA GGCTGGGCAG
 201  GCAGAGCATC CCGCTTTGGC GCGGCATCCG ATGCCGTCTG AACACGCACA
 251  CGATGATGCA GGAAAACGGC AGCCTGATTG TATGGCACGG GCAGGACAAG
 301  CCATTATCCA GCGAGTTCGT CCGCCATCTC AAACGCGGCG GCGT.ACGGA
 351  TGACGAAATC GTCCGTTGGC GCGCCGACGA CATCGCCGAA CGCGAACCGC
 401  AACTCGGCGG ACGTTTTTAA GACGGCATCT ACCTGCCGAC CGAAGC.CAG
 451  CTCGACGGGC GGCAATTATA GTCTGCACTT GCCGACGCTT TGGACGAACT
 501  GAACGTCCCC TGCCATTGGG AACACGAATG CGTCCCCGAA GCCTGCAAG..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 810; ORF126>:

```
   1  MTRIAILGGG LSGRLTALQL AEQGYQIALF DKSCRRGEHA AAYVAAAMLA
  51  PAAXTVEATP EVVRLGRQSI PLWRGIRCRL NTHTMMQENG SLIVWHGQDK
 101  PLSSEFVRHL KRGGXTDDEI VRWRADDIAE REPQLGGRFX DGIYLPTEXQ
 151  LDGRQLXSAL ADALDELNVP CHWEHECVPE ACK...
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 811>:

```
   1  ATGACCCGTA TCGCCATCCT CGGCGGCGGC CTCTCGGGAA GGCTGACCGC
  51  GTTGCAGCTT GCAGAACAAG GTTATCAGAT TGCACTTTTC GATAAAGGCT
 101  GCCGCCGGGG CGAACACGCC GCCGCCTATG TTGCCGCCGC CATGCTCGCG
 151  CCTGCGGCGG AAGCGGTCGA AGCCACGCCC GAAGTGGTCA GGCTGGGCAG
 201  GCAGAGCATC CCGCTTTGGC GCGGCATCCG ATGCCGTCTG AACACGCACA
 251  CGATGATGCA GGAAAACGGC AGCCTGATTG TGTGGCACGG GCAGGACAAG
 301  CCATTATCCA GCGAGTTCGT CCGCCATCTC AAACGCGGCG GCGTAGCGGA
 351  TGACGAAATC GTCCGTTGGC GCGCCGACGA CATCGCCGAA CGCGAACCGC
 401  AACTCGGCGG ACGTTTTTCA GACGGCATCT ACCTGCCGAC CGAAGGCCAG
 451  CTCGACGGGC GGCAAATATT GTCTGCACTT GCCGACGCTT TGGACGAACT
 501  GAACGTCCCC TGCCATTGGG AACACGAATG CGTCCCCGAA GGCCTGCAAG
 551  CCCAATACGA CTGGCTGATC GACTGCCGCG GCTACGGCGC AAAAACCGCG
 601  TGGAACCAAT CCCCCGAGCA CACCAGCACC CTGCGCGGCA TACGCGGCGA
 651  AGTGGCGCGG GTTTACACAC CCGAAATCAC GCTCAACCGC CCCGTGCGTC
 701  TGCTCCATCC GCGTTATCCG CTCTACATCG CCCCGAAAGA AAACCACGTC
 751  TTCGTCATCG GCGCGACCCA AATCGAAAGC GAAAGCCAAG CCCCCGCCAG
 801  CGTGCGTTCA GGGTTGGAAC TCTTGTCCGC ACTCTATGCC ATCCACCCCG
 851  CCTTCGGCGA AGCCGACATC CTCGAAATCG CCACCGGCCT GCGCCCCACG
 901  CTCAACCACC ACAACCCCGA AATCCGTTAC AACCGCGCCC GACGCCTGAT
 951  TGAAATCAAC GGCCTTTTCC GCCACGGTTT CATGATCTCC CCCGCCGTAA
1001  CCGCCGCCGC CGCCAGATTG GCAGTGGCAC TGTTTGACGG AAAAGACGCG
1051  CCCGAACGCG ATAAAGAAAG CGGTTTGGCG TATATCCGAA GACAAGATTA
1101  A
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 812; ORF126-1>:

```
   1  MTRIAILGGG LSGRLTALQL AEQGYQIALF DKGCRRGEHA AAYVAAAMLA
  51  PAAEAVEATP EVVRLGRQSI PLWRGIRCRL NTHTMMQENG SLIVWHGQDK
 101  PLSSEFVRHL KRGGVADDEI VRWRADDIAE REPQLGGRFS DGIYLPTEGQ
 151  LDGRQILSAL ADALDELNVP CHWEHECVPE GLQAQYDWLI DCRGYGAKTA
 201  WNQSPEHTST LRGIRGEVAR VYTPEITLNR PVRLLHPRYP LYIAPKENHV
 251  FVIGATQIES ESQAPASVRS GLELLSALYA IHPAFGEADI LEIATGLRPT
 301  LNHHNPEIRY NRARRLIEIN GLFRHGFMIS PAVTAAAARL AVALFDGKDA
 351  PERDKESGLA YIRRQD*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF126 shows 90.0% identity over a 180aa overlap with an ORF (ORF126a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf126.pep      MTRIAILGGGLSGRLTALQLAEQGYQIALFDKSCRRGEHAAAYVAAAMLAPAAXTVEATP
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||| :|||||
orf126a         MTRIAILGGGLSGRLTALQLAEQGYQIALFDKGCRRGEHAAAYVAAAMLAPAAEAVEATP
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90       100       110       120
orf126.pep      EVVRLGRQSIPLWRGIRCRLNTHTMMQENGSLIVWHGQDKPLSSEFVRHLKRGGXTDDEI
                |||||||| |||||||||:|:| :|| ||||||||||||||||:|||||||||| :|| |
orf126a         EVVRLGRQXIPLWRGIRCHLKTPAMMXENGSLIVWHGQDKPLSNEFVRHLKRGGVADDXI
                70        80        90       100       110       120

               130       140       150       160       170       180
orf126.pep      VRWRADDIAEREPQLGGRFXDGIYLPTEXQLDGRQLXSALADALDELNVPCHWEHECVPE
                |||||||||||||||||| |||||||| |||||||: ||||||||||||||||||||:||
orf126a         VRWRADDIAEREPQLGGRFSDGIYLPTEGQLDGRQILSALADALDELNVPCHWEHECAPE
                130       140       150       160       170       180
```

The complete length ORF126a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 813> is:

```
   1  ATGACCCGTA TCGCCATCCT CGGCGGCGGC CTCTCNGGAA GGCTGACCGC
  51  ACTGCAGCTT GCAGAACAAG GTTATCAGAT TGCACTTTTC GATAAAGGCT
 101  GCCGCCGGGG CGAACACGCC GCCGCCTATG TTGCCGCCGC CATGCTCGCG
 151  CCTGCGGCGG AAGCGGTCGA AGCCACGCCT GAAGTGGTCA GGCTGGGCAG
 201  GCAGANCATC CCGCTTTGGC GCGGCATCCG ATGCCATCTG AAAACGCCTG
 251  CCATGATGCA NGAAAACGGC AGCCTGATTG TGTGGCACGG GCAGGACAAA
 301  CCTTTATCCA ACGAGTTCGT CCGCCATCTC AAACGCGGCG GCGTAGCGGA
 351  TGACNAAATC GTCCGTTGGC GCGCCGACGA CATCGCCGAA CGCGAACCGC
 401  AACTCGGCGG ACGTTTTTCA GACGGCATCT ACCTGCCGAC CGAAGGCCAG
 451  CTCGACGGGC GGCAAATATT GTCTGCACTT GCCGACGCTT TGGACGAACT
 501  GAACGTCCCC TGCCATTGGG AACACGAATG TGCCCCCGAA GACTTGCAAG
 551  CCCAATACGA CTGGCTGATC GACTGCCGCG GCTACGGCGC AAAAACCGCG
 601  TGGAACCAAT CCCCCGANNA NACCAGCACC CTGCGCGGCA TACGCGGCGA
 651  AGTGGCGCGG GTTTACACAC CCGAAATCAC GCTCAACCGC CCCGTGCGCC
 701  TGCTACACCC GCGCTATCCG CTNTACATCG CCCCGAAAGA AAACCNCGTC
 751  TTCGTCATCG GCGCGACCCA AATCGAAAGC GAAAGCCAAG CACCTGCCAG
 801  CGTGCGTTCC GGGCTGGAAC TCTTATCCGC ACTCTATGCC GTCCACCCCG
 851  CCTTCGGCGA AGCCGACATC CTCGAAATCG CCACCGGCCT GCGCCCCACG
 901  CTCAATCACC ACAACCCCGA AATCCGTTAC AACCGCGCCC GACGCCTGAT
 951  TGAAATCAAC GGCCTTTTCC GCCACGGTTT CATGATCTCC CCCGCCGTAA
1001  CCGCCGCCGC CGTCAGATTG GCAGTGGCAC TGTTTGACGG AAAAGANGCG
1051  CCCGAACGCG ATGAAGAAAG CGGTTTGGCG TATATCCGAA GACAAGATTA
1101  A
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 814>:

```
   1  MTRIAILGGG LSGRLTALQL AEQGYQIALF DKGCRRGEHA AAYVAAAMLA
  51  PAAEAVEATP EVVRLGRQXI PLWRGIRCHL KTPAMMXENG SLIVWHGQDK
 101  PLSNEFVRHL KRGGVADDXI VRWRADDIAE REPQLGGRFS DGIYLPTEGQ
 151  LDGRQILSAL ADALDELNVP CHWEHECAPE DLQAQYDWLI DCRGYGAKTA
 201  WNQSPXXTST LRGIRGEVAR VYTPEITLNR PVRLLHPRYP LYIAPKENXV
```

```
251  FVIGATQIES ESQAPASVRS GLELLSALYA VHPAFGEADI LEIATGLRPT
301  LNHHNPEIRY NRARRLIEIN GLFRHGFMIS PAVTAAAVRL AVALFDGKXA
351  PERDEESGLA YIRRQD*
```

ORF126a and ORF126-1 show 95.4% identity in 366 aa overlap:

```
                        10        20        30        40        50        60
orf126a.pep     MTRIAILGGGLSGRLTALQLAEQGYQIALFDKGCRRGEHAAAYVAAAMLAPAAEAVEATP
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf126-1        MTRIAILGGGLSGRLTALQLAEQGYQIALFDKGCRRGEHAAAYVAAAMLAPAAEAVEATP
                        10        20        30        40        50        60

                        70        80        90       100       110       120
orf126a.pep     EVVRLGRQXIPLWRGIRCHLKTPAMMXENGSLIVWHGQDKPLSNEFVRHLKRGGVADDXI
                |||||||| |||||||||:|:| :|| ||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||| |
orf126-1        EVVRLGRQSIPLWRGIRCRLNTHTMMQENGSLIVWHGQDKPLSSEFVRHLKRGGVADDEI
                        70        80        90       100       110       120

                       130       140       150       160       170       180
orf126a.pep     VRWRADDIAEREPQLGGRFSDGIYLPTEGQLDGRQILSALADALDELNVPCHWEHECAPE
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||
orf126-1        VRWRADDIAEREPQLGGRFSDGIYLPTEGQLDGRQILSALADALDELNVPCHWEHECVPE
                       130       140       150       160       170       180

                       190       200       210       220       230       240
orf126a.pep     DLQAQYDWLIDCRGYGAKTAWNQSPXXTSTLRGIRGEVARVYTPEITLNRPVRLLHPRYP
                |||||||||||||||||||||||  ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf126-1        GLQAQYDWLIDCRGYGAKTAWNQSPEHTSTLRGIRGEVARVYTPEITLNRPVRLLHPRYP
                       190       200       210       220       230       240

                       250       260       270       280       290       300
orf126a.pep     LYIAPKENXVFVIGATQIESESQAPASVRSGLELLSALYAVHPAFGEADILEIATGLRPT
                |||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||
orf126-1        LYIAPKENHVFVIGATQIESESQAPASVRSGLELLSALYAIHPAFGEADILEIATGLRPT
                       250       260       270       280       290       300

                       310       320       330       340       350       360
orf126a.pep     LNHHNPEIRYNRARRLIEINGLFRHGFMISPAVTAAAVRLAVALFDGKXAPERDEESGLA
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||| ||||||:|||||
orf126-1        LNHHNPEIRYNRARRLIEINGLFRHGFMISPAVTAAAARLAVALFDGKDAPERDKESGLA
                       310       320       330       340       350       360

orf126a.pep     YIRRQDX
                |||||||
orf126-1        YIRRQDX
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF126 shows 90% identity over a 180 aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF126ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf126.pep   MTRIAILGGGLSGRLTALQLAEQGYQIALFDKSCRRGEHAAAYVAAAMLAPAAXTVEATP  60
             |||||:||||||||||||||||||||| |||||: |:|||||||||||||||| :|||||
orf126ng     MTRIAVLGGGLSGRLTALQLAEQGYQIELFDKGTRQGEHAAAYVAAAMLAPAAEAVEATP  60

orf126.pep   EVVRLGRQSIPLWRGIRCRLNTHTMMQENGSLIVWHGQDKPLSSEFVRHLKRGGXTDDEI 120
             ||:|||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||| :|||||
orf126ng     EVIRLGRQSIPLWRGIRCRLNTLTMMQENGSLIVWHGQDKPLSSEFVRHLKRGGVADDEI 120

orf126.pep   VRWRADDIAEREPQLGGRFXDGIYLPTEXQLDGRQLXSALADALDELNVPCHWEHECVPE 180
             ||||||:|||||||||||| |||||||| |||||||: |||||||||||||||||||:|:
orf126ng     VRWRADEIAEREPQLGGRFSDGIYLPTEGQLDGRQILSALADALDELNVPCHWEHECAPQ 180
```

An ORF126ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 815> was predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 816>:

```
1  MTRIAVLGGG LSGRLTALQL AEQGYQIELF DKGTRQGEHA AAYVAAAMLA
```

```
  51  PAAEAVEATP EVIRLGRQSI PLWRGIRCRL NTLTMMQENG SLIVWHGQDK
 101  PLSSEFVRHL KRGGVADDEI VRWRADEIAE REPQLGGRFS DGIYLPTEGQ
 151  LDGRQILSAL ADALDELNVP CHWEHECAPQ DLQAQYDWVI DCRGYGAKTA
 201  WNQSPEHTST LRGIRGEVRG FTRPKSRSTA PCACCTRAIR STSPRKKTTS
 251  SSSARPKSKA KAKPPPAYVP GWNSYPRSMP STPPSAKPTS SKWRPGLRPT
 301  LNHHNPEIRY SRERRLIEIN GLFRHGFMIS PAVTAAAVRL AVALFDGKDA
 351  PERDEESGLA YIGRQD*
```

Further work revealed the following gonococcal DNA sequence <SEQ ID 817>:

```
   1  ATGACCCGTA TCGCCGTCCT CGGAGGCGGC CTTTCCGGAA GGCTGACCGC
  51  ATTGCAGCTT GCAGAACAAG GTTATCAGAT TGAACTTTTC GACAAGGGCA
 101  CCCGCCAAGG CGAACACGCC GCCGCCTATG TTGCCGCCGC GATGCTCGCG
 151  CCTGCGGCGG AAGCGGTCGA GGCAACGCCC GAAGTCATCA GGCTGGGCAG
 201  GCAGAGCATT CCGCTTTGGC GCGGCATCCG ATGCCGTCTG AACACGCTCA
 251  CGATGATGCA GGAAAACGGC AGCCTGATTG TGTGGCACGG GCAGGACAAG
 301  CCATTATCCA GCGAGTTCGT CCGCCATCTC AAACGCGGCG GCGTAGCGGA
 351  TGACGAAATC GTCCGTTGGC GCGCCGATGA AATCGCCGAA CGCGAACCGC
 401  AACTCGGCGG ACGTTTTTCA GACGGCATCT ACCTGCCGAC CGAAGGCCAG
 451  CTCGACGGGC GGCAAATATT GTCTGCACTT GCCGACGCTT TGGACGAACT
 501  GAACGTCCCT TGCCATTGGG AACACGAATG CGCCCCCCAA GACCTGCAAG
 551  CCCAATACGA CTGGGTAATC GACTGCCGGG GCTACGGCGC GAAAACCGCG
 601  TGGAACCAAT CCCCCGAGCA CACCAGCACC TTGCGCGGCA TACGCGGCGA
 651  AGTGGCGCGG GTTTACACGC CCGAAATCAC GCTCAACCGC CCCGTGCGCC
 701  TGCTGCACCC GCGCTATCCG CTCTACATCG CCCCGAAAGA AAACCACGTC
 751  TTCGTCATCG GCGCGACCCA AATCGAAAGC GAAAGCCAAG CCCCCGCCAG
 801  CGTACGTTCC GGGCTGGAAC TCTTATCCGC GCTCTATGCC GTCCACCCCG
 851  CCTTCGGCGA AGCCGACATC CTCGAAATCG CCGCCGGCCT GCGCCCCACG
 901  CTCAACCACC ACAACCCCGA AATCCGCTAC AGCCGCGAAC GCCGCCTCAT
 951  CGAAATCAAC GGCCTTTTCC GGCACGGCTT TATGATTTCC CCCGCCGTAA
1001  CCGCCGCCGC CGTCAGATTG GCAGTGGCAC TGTTTGACGG AAAAGACGCG
1051  CCCGAACGTG ATGAAGAAAG CGGTTTGGCG TATATCGGAA GACAAGATTA
1101  A
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 818; ORF126ng-1>:

```
   1  MTRIAVLGGG LSGRLTALQL AEQGYQIELF DKGTRQGEHA AAYVAAAMLA
  51  PAAEAVEATP EVIRLGRQSI PLWRGIRCRL NTLTMMQENG SLIVWHGQDK
 101  PLSSEFVRHL KRGGVADDEI VRWRADEIAE REPQLGGRFS DGIYLPTEGQ
 151  LDGRQILSAL ADALDELNVP CHWEHECAPQ DLQAQYDWVI DCRGYGAKTA
 201  WNQSPEHTST LRGIRGEVAR VYTPEITLNR PVRLLHPRYP LYIAPKENHV
 251  FVIGATQIES ESQAPASVRS GLELLSALYA VHPAFGEADI LEIAAGLRPT
 301  LNHHNPEIRY SRERRLIEIN GLFRHGFMIS PAVTAAAVRL AVALFDGKDA
 351  PERDEESGLA YIGRQD*
```

ORF126ng-1 and ORF126-1 show 95.1% identity in 366 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf126-1.pep    MTRIAILGGGLSGRLTALQLAEQGYQIALFDKGCRRGEHAAAYVAAAMLAPAAEAVEATP
                |||||:||||||||||||||||||||| ||||| |:|||||||||||||||||||||||
orf126ng-1      MTRIAVLGGGLSGRLTALQLAEQGYQIELFDKGTRQGEHAAAYVAAAMLAPAAEAVEATP
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf126-1.pep    EVVRLGRQSIPLWRGIRCRLNTHTMMQENGSLIVWHGQDKPLSSEFVRHLKRGGVADDEI
                ||:|||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf126ng-1      EVIRLGRQSIPLWRGIRCRLNTLTMMQENGSLIVWHGQDKPLSSEFVRHLKRGGVADDEI
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf126-1.pep    VRWRADDIAEREPQLGGRFSDGIYLPTEGQLDGRQILSALADALDELNVPCHWEHECVPE
                ||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|:
orf126ng-1      VRWRADEIAEREPQLGGRFSDGIYLPTEGQLDGRQILSALADALDELNVPCHWEHECAPQ
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf126-1.pep    GLQAQYDWLIDCRGYGAKTAWNQSPEHTSTLRGIRGEVARVYTPEITLNRPVRLLHPRYP
                |||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf126ng-1      DLQAQYDWVIDCRGYGAKTAWNQSPEHTSTLRGIRGEVARVYTPEITLNRPVRLLHPRYP
                190       200       210       220       230       240
```

```
                      250       260       270       280       290       300
orf126-1.pep   LYIAPKENHVFVIGATQIESESQAPASVRSGLELLSALYAIHPAFGEADILEIATGLRPT
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||:|||||
orf126ng-1     LYIAPKENHVFVIGATQIESESQAPASVRSGLELLSALYAVHPAFGEADILEIAAGLRPT
                      250       260       270       280       290       300

                      310       320       330       340       350       360
orf126-1.pep   LNHHNPEIRYNRARRLIEINGLFRHGFMISPAVTAAAARLAVALFDGKDAPERDKESGLA
               ||||||||||:| ||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||:|||||
orf126ng-1     LNHHNPEIRYSRERRLIEINGLFRHGFMISPAVTAAAVRLAVALFDGKDAPERDEESGLA
                      310       320       330       340       350       360


orf126-1.pep   YIRRQDX
               || ||||
orf126ng-1     YIGRQDX
```

Furthermore, ORF126ng-1 shows homology to a putative *Rhizobium* oxidase flavoprotein:

```
gi|2627327 (AF004408) putative amino acid oxidase flavoprotein [Rhizobium etli]
Length = 327
 Score =  169 bits (423), Expect = 3e-41
 Identities = 112/329 (34%), Positives = 163/329 (49%), Gaps = 25/329 (7%)

Query: 3   RIAVLGGGLSGRLTALQLAEQGYQIELFDKGTRQGEHXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX 62
            RI V G G++G   A QL   G+++ L ++    G
Sbjct: 2   RILVNGAGVAGLTVAWQLYRHGFRVTLAERAGTVGA-GASGFAGGMLAPWCERESAEEPV 60

Query: 63  IRLGRQSIPLWRGIRCRLNTLTMMQENGSLIVWHGQDKPLSSEFVRHLKRGGVADDEIVR 122
            + LGR +   W            +   G+L+V  G+D      F R    G    DE+
Sbjct: 61  LTLGRLAADWWEAA-----LPGHVHRRGTLVVAGGRDTGELDRFSRRTS-GWEWLDEVA- 113

Query: 123 WRADEIAEREPQLGGRFSDGIYLPTEGQLDGRQILSALADALDELNVPCHWEHECAPQDL 182
                IA  EP L GRF   ++   E  LD RQ L+ALA  L++  +          +
Sbjct: 114 -----IAALEPDLAGRFRRALFFRQEAHLDPRQALAALAAGLEDARMRLTLG---VVGES 165

Query: 183 QAQYDWVIDCRGYGAKTAWNQSPEHTSTLRGIRGEVARVYTPEITLNRPVRLLHPRYPLY 242
               +D V+DC G                LRG+RGE+  V T E++L+RPVRLLHPR+P+Y
Sbjct: 166 DVDHDRVVDCTGAA--------QIGRLPGLRGVRGEMLCVETTEVSLSRPVRLLHPRHPIY 218

Query: 243 IAPKENHVFVIGATQIESESQAPASVRSGLELLSALYAVHPAFGEADILEIAAGLRPTLN 302
            I P++ + F++GAT IES+   P + RS +ELL+A YA+HPAFGEA + E  AG+RP
Sbjct: 219 IVPRDKNRFMVGATMIESDDGGPITARSLMELLNAAYAMHPAFGEARVTETGAGVRPAYP 278

Query: 303 HHNPEIRYSRERRLIEINGLFRHGFMISP 331
             + P  R ++E R + +NGL+RHGF+++P
Sbjct: 279 DNLP--RVTQEGRTLHVNGLYRHGFLLAP 305
```

This analysis suggests that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 97

The following DNA sequence, believed to be complete, was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 819>:

```
   1  ATGACTGATA ATCGGGGGTT TACGCTGGTT GAATTAATAT CAGTGGTCTT
  51  GATATTGTCT GTACTTGCTT TAATTGTTTA TCCGAGCTAT CGCAATTATG
 101  TTGAGAAAGC AAAGATAAAT GCAGTGCGGG CAGCCTTGTT AGAAAATGCA
 151  CATTTTATGG AAAAGTTTTA TCTGCAGAAT GGGAGGTTTA AACAAACATC
 201  TACCAAGTGG CCAAGTTTGC CGATTAAAGA GGCAGAAGGC TTTTGTATCC
 251  GTTTGAATGG AATCGtCGCG CGGG..GCTT TAGACAGTAA ATTCATGTTG
 301  AAGGCGGTAG CCATAGATAA AGATAAAAAT CCTTTTATTA TTAAGATGAA
 351  TGAAAATCTA GTAACCTTTA aTTTGCAAGA AGTCCGCCAG TTCGTGTAGT
 401  GACGGGCTGG ATTATTTTAA AGGAAATGAT AAGGACTGCA AGTTACTTAA
 451  GTAG
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 820; ORF127>:

```
  1  MTDNRGFTLV ELISVVLILS VLALIVYPSY RNYVEKAKIN AVRAALLENA
 51  HFMEKFYLQN GRFKQTSTKW PSLPIKEAEG FCIRLNGIVA RXALDSKFML
101  KAVAIDKDKN PFIIKMNENL VTFICKKSAS SCSDGLDYFK GNDKDCKLLK
151  *
```

Further work revealed the following DNA sequence <SEQ ID 821>:

```
  1  ATGACTGATA ATCGGGGGTT TACGCTGGTT GAATTAATAT CAGTGGTCTT
 51  GATATTGTCT GTACTTGCTT TAATTGTTTA TCCGAGCTAT CGCAATTATG
101  TTGAGAAAGC AAAGATAAAT GCAGTGCGGG CAGCCTTGTT AGAAAATGCA
151  CATTTTATGG AAAAGTTTTA TCTGCAGAAT GGGAGGTTTA AACAAACATC
201  TACCAAGTGG CCAAGTTTGC CGATTAAAGA GGCAGAAGGC TTTTGTATCC
251  GTTTGAATGG AATCGCGCGC GGGGCTTTAG ACAGTAAATT CATGTTGAAG
301  GCGGTAGCCA TAGATAAAGA TAAAAATCCT TTTATTATTA AGATGAATGA
351  AAATCTAGTA ACCTTTATTT GCAAGAAGTC CGCCAGTTCG TGTAGTGACG
401  GGCTGGATTA TTTTAAAGGA AATGATAAGG ACTGCAAGTT ACTTAAGTAG
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 822; ORF127-1>:

```
  1  MTDNRGFTLV ELISVVLILS VLALIVYPSY RNYVEKAKIN AVRAALLENA
 51  HFMEKFYLQN GRFKQTSTKW PSLPIKEAEG FCIRLNGIAR GALDSKFMLK
101  AVAIDKDKNP FIIKMNENLV TFICKKSASS CSDGLDYFKG NDKDCKLLK*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF127 shows 98.0% identity over a 150aa overlap with an ORF (ORF127a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                  10        20        30        40        50        60
orf127.pep   MTDNRGFTLVELISVVLILSVLALIVYPSYRNYVEKAKINAVRAALLENAHFMEKFYLQN
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||
orf127a      MTDNRGFTLVELISVVLILSVLALIVYPSYRNYVEKAKINTVRAALLENAHFMEKFYLQN
                  10        20        30        40        50        60

                  70        80        90       100       110       120
orf127.pep   GRFKQTSTKWPSLPIKEAEGFCIRLNGIVARXALDSKFMLKAVAIDKDKNPFIIKMNENL
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||| || ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf127a      GRFKQTSTKWPSLPIKEAEGFCIRLNGI-ARGALDSKFMLKAVAIDKDKNPFIIKMNENL
                  70        80        90       100       110

                 130       140       150
orf127.pep   VTFICKKSASSCSDGLDYFKGNDKDCKLLKX
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf127a      VTFICKKSASSCSDGLDYFKGNDKDCKLLKX
           120       130       140       150
```

The complete length ORF127a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 823> is:

```
  1  ATGACTGATA ATCGGGGGTT TACGCTGGTT GAATTAATAT CAGTGGTCTT
 51  GATATTGTCT GTACTTGCTT TAATTGTTTA TCCGAGCTAT CGCAATTATG
101  TTGAGAAAGC AAAGATAAAT ACAGTGCGGG CAGCCTTGTT AGAAAATGCA
151  CATTTTATGG AAAAGTTTTA TCTGCAGAAT GGGAGATTTA AACAAACATC
201  TACCAAATGG CCAAGTTTGC CGATTAAAGA GGCAGAAGGC TTTTGTATCC
251  GTTTGAATGG AATCGCGCGC GGGGCCTTAG ACAGTAAATT CATGTTGAAG
301  GCGGTAGCCA TAGATAAAGA TAAAAATCCT TTTATTATTA AGATGAATGA
351  AAATCTAGTA ACCTTTATTT GCAAGAAGTC CGCCAGTTCG TGTAGTGACG
401  GGCTGGATTA TTTTAAAGGA AATGATAAGG ACTGCAAGTT ACTTAAGTAG
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 824>:

```
  1  MTDNRGFTLV ELISVVLILS VLALIVYPSY RNYVEKAKIN TVRAALLENA
 51  HFMEKFYLQN GRFKQTSTKW PSLPIKEAEG FCIRLNGIAR GALDSKFMLK
101  AVAIDKDKNP FIIKMNENLV TFICKKSASS CSDGLDYFKG NDKDCKLLK*
```

ORF127a and ORF127-1 show 99.3% identity in 149 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf127a.pep     MTDNRGFTLVELISVVLILSVLALIVYPSYRNYVEKAKINTVRAALLENAHFMEKFYLQN
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||
orf127-1        MTDNRGFTLVELISVVLILSVLALIVYPSYRNYVEKAKINAVRAALLENAHFMEKFYLQN
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf127a.pep     GRFKQTSTKWPSLPIKEAEGFCIRLNGIARGALDSKFMLKAVAIDKDKNPFIIKMNENLV
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf127-1        GRFKQTSTKWPSLPIKEAEGFCIRLNGIARGALDSKFMLKAVAIDKDKNPFIIKMNENLV
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

                130       140       150
orf127a.pep     TFICKKSASSCSDGLDYFKGNDKDCKLLKX
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf127-1        TFICKKSASSCSDGLDYFKGNDKDCKLLKX
                130       140       150
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF127 shows 97.3% identity over a 150 aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF127ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf127.pep   MTDNRGFTLVELISVVLILSVLALIVYPSYRNYVEKAKINAVRAALLENAHFMEKFYLQN   60
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||
orf127ng     MTDNRGFTLVELISVVLILSVLALIVYPSYRNYVEKAKINAVRAAFLENAHFMEKFYLQN   60

orf127.pep   GRFKQTSTKWPSLPIKEAEGFCIRLNGIVARXALDSKFMLKAVAIDKDKNPFIIKMNENL  120
             |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| || ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf127ng     GRFKQTSTKWPSLPIKEAEGFCIRLNGI-ARGALDSKFMLKAVAIDKDKNPFIIKMNENL  119

orf127.pep   VTFICKKSASSCSDGLDYFKGNDKDCKLLK  150
             ||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||
orf127ng     VTFICKKSASSCSDRLDYFKGNDKDCKLLK  149
```

The complete length ORF127ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 825> is:

```
   1  ATGACTGATA ATCGGGGGTT TACACTGGTT GAATTAATAT CAGTGGTCTT
  51  GATATTGTCT GTACTTGCTT TAATTGTTTA TCCGAGCTAT CGCAATTATG
 101  TTGAGAAAGC AAAGATAAAT GCAGTGCGGG CAGCCTTGTT AGAAAATGCA
 151  CATTTTATGG AAAAGTTTTA TCTGCAGAAT GGGAGATTTA AACAAACATC
 201  TACCAAATGG CCAAGTTTGC CGATTAAAGA GGCAGAAGGC TTTTGTATCC
 251  GTTTGAATGG AATCGCGCGC GGGGCTTTAG ACAGTAAATT CATGTTGAAG
 301  GCGGTAGCCA TAGATAAAGA TAAAAATCCT TTTATTATTA AGATGAATGA
 351  AAATCTAGTA ACCTTTATTT GCAAGAAGTC CGCCAGTTCG TGTAGTGACG
 401  GGCTGGATTA TTTTAAAGGA AATGATAAGG ACTGCAAGTT ACTTAAGTAG
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 826>:

```
   1  MTDNRGFTLV ELISVVLILS VLALIVYPSY RNYVEKAKIN AVRAAFLENA
  51  HFMEKFYLQN GRFKQTSTKW PSLPIKEAEG FCIRLNGIAR GALDSKFMLK
 101  AVAIDKDKNP FIIKMNENLV TFICKKSASS CSDRLDYFKG NDKDCKLLK*
```

ORF127ng and ORF127-1 show 100.0% identity in 149 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf127-1.pep    MTDNRGFTLVELISVVLILSVLALIVYPSYRNYVEKAKINAVRAALLENAHFMEKFYLQN
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf127ng-1      MTDNRGFTLVELISVVLILSVLALIVYPSYRNYVEKAKINAVRAALLENAHFMEKFYLQN
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf127-1.pep    GRFKQTSTKWPSLPIKEAEGFCIRLNGIARGALDSKFMLKAVAIDKDKNPFIIKMNENLV
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf127ng-1      GRFKQTSTKWPSLPIKEAEGFCIRLNGIARGALDSKFMLKAVAIDKDKNPFIIKMNENLV
                    70        80        90       100       110       120
```

```
                    130       140       150
orf127-1.pep    TFICKKSASSCSDGLDYFKGNDKDCKLLKX
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf127ng-1      TFICKKSASSCSDGLDYFKGNDKDCKLLKX
                    130       140       150
```

This analysis, including the fact that the predicted transmembrane domain is shared by the meningococcal and gonococcal proteins, suggests that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 98

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 827>

```
   1  ..GTGTCGCTGG CTTCGGTGAT TGCCTCTCAA ATCTTCCTTT ACGAAGATTT
  51    CAACCAAATG CGGAAAACCC GTGGAGCTAT CTGCGGTTTT CTTGTCCAAT
 101    ATTTATCTGG GGTTTCAGCA GGGGTATTTC GATTTGAGTG CCGACGAGAA
 151    CCCCGTACTG CATATCTGGT CTTTGGCAGT AGAGGAACAG TATTACCTCC
 201    TGTATCCCCT TTTGCTGATA TTTTGCTGCA AAAAAACCAA ATCGCTACGG
 251    GTGCTGCGTA ACATCAGCAT CATCCTGTTT TTGATTTTGA CTGCCTCATC
 301    GTTTTTGCCA AGCGGGTTTT ATACCGACAT CCTCAACCAA CCCAATACTT
 351    ATTACCTTTC GACACTGAGG TTTCCCGAGC TGTTGGCAGG TTCGCTGCTG
 401    GCGGTTTACG GGCAAACGCA AAACGGCAGA CGGCAAACAG CAAATGGAAA
 451    ACGGCAGTTG CTTTCATCAC TCTGCTTCGG CGCATTGCTT GCCTGCCTGT
 501    TCGTGATTGA CAAACACAAT CCGTTTATCC CGGGAATGAC CCTGCTCCTT
 551    CCCTGCCTGC TGACGGCACT GCTTATCCGG AGTATGCAAT ACGGGACACT
 601    TCCGACCCGC ATCCTGTCGG CAAGCCCCAT CGTATTTGTC GGCAAAATCT
 651    CTTATTCCCT ATACCTGTAC CATTGGATTT TTATTGCTTT CGCTCCGCTC
 701    ATTAGAGGCG GGAAACAGCT CGGACTGCCT GCCG..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 828; ORF128>:

```
   1  ..VSLASVIASQ IFLYEDFNQM RKTVELSAVF LSNIYLGFQQ GYFDLSADEN
  51    PVLHIWSLAV EEQYYLLYPL LLIFCCKKTK SLRVLRNISI ILFLILTASS
 101    FLPSGFYTDI LNQPNTYYLS TLRFPELLAG SLLAVYGQTQ NGRRQTANGK
 151    RQLLSSLCFG ALLACLFVID KHNPFIPGMT LLLPCLLTAL LIRSMQYGTL
 201    PTRILSASPI VFVGKISYSL YLYHWIFIAF APLIRGGKQL GLPA..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 829>:

```
   1  ATGCAAGCTG TCCGATACAG ACCGGAAATT GACGGATTGC GGGCCGTCGC
  51  CGTGCTATCC GTCATGATTT TCCACCTGAA TAACCGCTGG CTGCCCGGAG
 101  GATTCCTGGG GGTGGACATT TTCTTTGTCA TCTCAGGATT CCTCATTACC
 151  GGCATCATTC TTTCTGAAAT ACAGAACGGT TCTTTTTCTT TCCGGGATTT
 201  TTATACCCGC AGGATTAAGC GGATTTATCC TGCCTTTATT GCGGCCGTGT
 251  CGCTGGCTTC GGTGATTGCC TCTCAAATCT TCCTTTACGA AGATTTCAAC
 301  CAAATGCGGA AAACCGTGGA GCTTTCTGCG GTTTTCTTGT CCAATATTTA
 351  TCTGGGGTTT CAGCAGGGGT ATTTCGATTT GAGTGCCGAC GAGAACCCCG
 401  TACTGCATAT CTGGTCTTTG GCAGTAGAGG AACAGTATTA CCTCCTGTAT
 451  CCCCTTTTGC TGATATTTTG CTGCAAAAAA ACCAAATCGC TACGGGTGCT
 501  GCGTAACATC AGCATCATCC TGTTTTTGAT TTTGACTGCC TCATCGTTTT
 551  TGCCAAGCGG GTTTTATACC GACATCCTCA ACCAACCCAA TACTTATTAC
 601  CTTTCGACAC TGAGGTTTCC CGAGCTGTTG GCAGGTTCGC TGCTGGCGGT
 651  TTACGGGCAA ACGCAAAACG GCAGACGGCA AACAGCAAAT GGAAAACGGC
 701  AGTTGCTTTC ATCACTCTGC TTCGGCGCAT TGCTTGCCTG CCTGTTCGTG
 751  ATTGACAAAC ACAATCCGTT TATCCCGGGA ATGACCCTGC TCCTTCCCTG
 801  CCTGCTGACG GCACTGCTTA TCCGGAGTAT GCAATACGGG ACACTTCCGA
 851  CCCGCATCCT GTCGGCAAGC CCCATCGTAT TTGTCGGCAA AATCTCTTAT
 901  TCCCTATACC TGTACCATTG GATTTTTATT GCTTTCGCCC ATTACATTAC
 951  AGGCGACAAA CAGCTCGGAC TGCCTGCCGT ATCGGCGGTT GCCGCGTTGA
1001  CGGCCGGATT TTCCCTGTTG AGTTATTATT TGATTGAACA GCCGCTTAGA
1051  AAACGGAAGA TGACCTTCAA AAAGGCATTT TTCTGCCTCT ATCTCGCCCC
1101  GTCCCTGATA CTTGTCGGTT ACAACCTGTA CGCAAGGGGG ATATTGAAAC
1151  AGGAACACCT CCGCCCGTTG CCCGGCGCGC CCCTTGCTGC GGAAAATCAT
```

```
1201  TTTCCGGAAA CCGTCCTGAC CCTCGGCGAC TCGCACGCCG GACACCTGAG
1251  GGGGTTTCTG GATTATGTCG GCAGCCGGGA AGGGTGGAAA GCCAAAATCC
1301  TGTCCCTCGA TTCGGAGTGT TTGGTTTGGG TAGATGAGAA GCTGGCAGAC
1351  AACCCGTTAT GTCGAAAATA CCGGGATGAA GTTGAAAAAG CCGAAGCCGT
1401  TTTCATTGCC CAATTCTATG ATTTGAGGAT GGGCGGCCAG CCTGTGCCGA
1451  GATTTGAAGC GCAATCCTTC CTAATACCCG GGTTCCCAGC CCGATTCAGG
1501  GAAACCGTCA AAAGGATAGC CGCCGTCAAA CCCGTCTATG TTTTTGCAAA
1551  CAACACATCA ATCAGCCGTT CGCCCCTGAG GGAGGAAAAA TTGAAAAGAT
1601  TTGCCGCAAA CCAATATCTC CGCCCCATTC AGGCTATGGG CGACATCGGC
1651  AAGAGCAATC AGGCGGTCTT TGATTTGATT AAAGATATTC CCAATGTGCA
1701  TTGGGTGGAC GCACAAAAAT ACCTGCCCAA AAACACGGTC GAAATATACG
1751  GCCGCTATCT TTACGGCGAC CAAGACCACC TGACCTATTT CGGTTCTTAT
1801  TATATGGGGC GGGAATTCCA CAAACACGAA CGCCTGCTTA AATCTTCCCA
1851  CGGCGGCGCA TTGCAGTAG
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 830; ORF128-1>:

```
   1  MQAVRYRPEI DGLRAVAVLS VMIFHLNNRW LPGGFLGVDI FFVISGFLIT
  51  GIILSEIQNG SFSFRDFYTR RIKRIYPAFI AAVSLASVIA SQIFLYEDFN
 101  QMRKTVELSA VFLSNIYLGF QQGYFDLSAD ENPVLHIWSL AVEEQYYLLY
 151  PLLLIFCCKK TKSLRVLRNI SIILFLILTA SSFLPSGFYT DILNQPNTYY
 201  LSTLRFPELL AGSLLAVYGQ TQNGRRQTAN GKRQLLSSLC FGALLACLFV
 251  IDKHNPFIPG MTLLLPCLLT ALLIRSMQYG TLPTRILSAS PIVFVGKISY
 301  SLYLYHWIFI AFAHYITGDK QLGLPAVSAV AALTAGFSLL SYYLIEQPLR
 351  KRKMTFKKAF FCLYLAPSLI LVGYNLYARG ILKQEHLRPL PGAPLAAENH
 401  FPETVLTLGD SHAGHLRGFL DYVGSREGWK AKILSLDSEC LVWVDEKLAD
 451  NPLCRKYRDE VEKAEAVFIA QFYDLRMGGQ PVPRFEAQSF LIPGFPARFR
 501  ETVKRIAAVK PVYVFANNTS ISRSPLREEK LKRFAANQYL RPIQAMGDIG
 551  KSNQAVFDLI KDIPNVHWVD AQKYLPKNTV EIYGRYLYGD QDHLTYFGSY
 601  YMGREFHKHE RLLKSSHGGA LQ*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with hypothetical integral membrane protein HI0392 of *H.influenzae* (accession number U32723)

ORF128 and HI0392 show 52% aa identity in 180aa overlap:

```
Orf128: 1   VSLASVIASQIFLYEDFNQMRKTVELSAVFLSNIYLGFQQGYFDLSADENPVLHIWSLAV 60
            ++L S IAS IF+Y DFN++RKT+EL+  FLSN YLG  QGYFDLSA+ENPVLHIWSLAV
HI0392: 46  MALVSFIASAIFIYNDFNKLRKTIELAIAFLSNFYLGLTQGYFDLSANENPVLHIWSLAV 105

Orf128: 61  EEQXXXXXXXXXIFCCKKTKSLRVLRNISIILFLILTASSFLPSGFYTDILNQPNTYYLS 120
            E Q          I   KK + ++VL  I++ILF IL A+SF+ + FY ++L+QPN YYLS
HI0392: 106 EGQYYLIFPLILILAYKKFREVKVLFIITLILFFILLATSFVSANFYKEVLHQPNIYYLS 165

Orf128: 121 TLRFPELLAGSLLAVYGQTQNGRRQTANGKRQLLSSLCFGALLACLFVIDKHNPFIPGMT 180
             LRFPELL GSLLA+Y    N + Q +     +L+ L    L +CLF+++ +  FIPG+T
HI0392: 166 NLRFPELLVGSLLAIYHNLSN-KVQLSKQVNNILAILSTLLLFSCLFLMNNNIAFIPGIT 224
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF128 shows 98.0% identity over a 244aa overlap with an ORF (ORF128a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                                  10        20        30
orf128.pep                                       VSLASVIASQIFLYEDFNQMRKTVELSAVF
                                                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf128a      ILSEIQNGSFSFRDFYTRRIKRIYPAFIAAVSLASVIASQIFLYEDFNQMRKTVELSAVF
                   60        70        80        90        100       110

                      40        50        60        70        80        90
orf128.pep   LSNIYLGFQQGYFDLSADENPVLHIWSLAVEEQYYLLYPLLLIFCCKKTKSLRVLRNISI
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf128a      LSNIYLGFQQGYFDLSADENPVLHIWSLAVEEQYYLLYPLLLIFCCKKTKSLRVLRNISI
                  120       130       140       150       160       170

                    100       110       120       130       140       150
orf128.pep   ILFLILTASSFLPSGFYTDILNQPNTYYLSTLRFPELLAGSLLAVYGQTQNGRRQTANGK
             ||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
```

```
orf128a      ILFLILTATSFLPSGFYTDILNQPNTYYLSTLRFPELLAGSLLAVYGQTQNGRRQTANGK
                  180       190       200       210       220       230

                  160       170       180       190       200       210
orf128.pep   RQLLSSLCFGALLACLFVIDKHNPFIPGMTLLLPCLLTALLIRSMQYGTLPTRILSASPI
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf128a      RQLLSSLCFGALLACLFVIDKHNPFIPGMTLLLPCLLTALLIRSMQYGTLPTRILSASPI
                  240       250       260       270       280       290

                  220       230       240
orf128.pep   VFVGKISYSLYLYHWIFIAFAPLIRGGKQLGLPA
             ||||||||||||||||||||  | | |||||||
orf128a      VFVGKISYSLYLYHWIFIAFAHYITGDKQLGLPAVSAVAALTAGFSLLSYYLIEQPLRKR
                  300       310       320       330       340       350

orf128a      KMTFKKAFFCLYLAPSLILVGYNLYARGILKQEHLRPLPGAPLAAENHFPETVLTLGDSH
                  360       370       380       390       400       410
```

The complete length ORF128a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 831> is:

```
   1 ATGCAAGCTG TCCGATACAG ACCGGAAATT GACGGATTGC GGGCCGTCGC
  51 CGTGCTATCC GTCATGATTT TCCACCTGAA TAACCGCTGG CTGCCCGGAG
 101 GATTCCTGGG GGTGGACATT TTCTTTGTCA TCTCAGGATT CCTCATTACC
 151 GGCATCATTC TTTCTGAAAT ACAGAACGGT TCTTTTTCTT TCCGGGATTT
 201 TTATACCCGC AGGATTAAGC GGATTTATCC TGCTTTTATT GCGGCCGTGT
 251 CGCTGGCTTC GGTGATTGCC TCTCAAATCT TCCTTTACGA AGATTTCAAC
 301 CAAATGCGGA AAACCGTGGA GCTTTCTGCG GTTTTCTTGT CCAATATTTA
 351 TCTGGGGTTT CAGCAGGGGT ATTTCGATTT GAGTGCCGAC GAGAACCCCG
 401 TACTGCATAT CTGGTCTTTG GCAGTAGAGG AACAGTATTA CCTCCTGTAT
 451 CCTCTTTTGC TGATATTTTG CTGCAAAAAA ACAAAATCGC TACGGGTGCT
 501 GCGTAACATC AGCATCATCC TATTTCTGAT TTTGACTGCC ACATCGTTTT
 551 TGCCAAGCGG GTTTTATACC GATATTCTCA ACCAACCCAA TACTTATTAC
 601 CTTTCGACAC TGAGGTTTCC CGAGCTGTTG GCAGGTTCGC TGCTGGCGGT
 651 TTACGGGCAA ACGCAAAACG GCAGACGGCA AACAGCAAAT GGAAAACGGC
 701 AGTTGCTTTC ATCACTCTGC TTCGGCGCAT TGCTTGCCTG CCTGTTCGTG
 751 ATTGACAAAC ACAATCCGTT TATCCCGGGA ATGACCCTGC TCCTTCCCTG
 801 CCTGCTGACG GCACTGCTTA TCCGGAGTAT GCAATACGGG ACACTTCCGA
 851 CCCGCATCCT GTCGGCAAGC CCCATCGTAT TTGTCGGCAA AATCTCTTAT
 901 TCCCTATACC TGTACCATTG GATTTTTATT GCTTTCGCCC ATTACATTAC
 951 AGGCGACAAA CAGCTCGGAC TGCCTGCCGT ATCGGCGGTT GCCGCGTTGA
1001 CGGCCGGATT TTCCCTGTTG AGTTATTATT TGATTGAACA GCCGCTTAGA
1051 AAACGGAAGA TGACCTTCAA AAAGGCATTT TTCTGCCTCT ATCTCGCCCC
1101 GTCCCTGATA CTTGTCGGTT ACAACCTGTA CGCAAGGGGG ATATTGAAAC
1151 AGGAACACCT CCGCCCGTTG CCCGGCGCGC CCCTTGCTGC GGAAAATCAT
1201 TTTCCGGAAA CCGTCCTGAC CCTCGGCGAC TCGCACGCCG GACACCTGCG
1251 GGGGTTTCTG GATTATGTCG GCAGCCGGGA AGGGTGGAAA GCCAAAATCC
1301 TGTCCCTCGA TTCGGAGTGT TTGGTTTGGG TAGATGAGAA GCTGGCAGAC
1351 AACCCGTTAT GTCGAAAATA CCGGGATGAA GTTGAAAAAG CCGAAGCCGT
1401 TTTCATTGCC CAATTCTATG ATTTGAGGAT GGGCGGCCAG CCCGTGCCGA
1451 GATTTGAAGC GCAATCCTTC CTAATACCCG GGTTCCCAGC CCGATTCAGG
1501 GAAACCGTCA AAAGGATAGC CGCCGTCAAA CCCGTCTATG TTTTTGCAAA
1551 CAACACATCA ATCAGCCGTT CGCCCCTGAG GGAGGAAAAA TTGAAAAGAT
1601 TTGCCGCAAA CCAATATCTC CGCCCCATTC AGGCTATGGG CGACATCGGC
1651 AAGAGCAATC AGGCGGTCTT TGATTTGATT AAAGATATTC CCAATGTGCA
1701 TTGGGTGGAC GCACAAAAAT ACCTGCCCAA AAACACGGTC GAAATATACG
1751 GCCGCTATCT TTACGGCGAC CAAGACCACC TGACCTATTT CGGTTCTTAT
1801 TATATGGGGC GGGAATTTCA CAAACACGAA CGCCTGCTTA AATCTTCTCG
1851 CGACGGCGCA TTGCAGTAG
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 832>:

```
   1 MQAVRYRPEI DGLRAVAVLS VMIFHLNNRW LPGGFLGVDI FFVISGFLIT
  51 GIILSEIQNG SFSFRDFYTR RIKRIYPAFI AAVSLASVIA SQIFLYEDFN
 101 QMRKTVELSA VFLSNIYLGF QQGYFDLSAD ENPVLHIWSL AVEEQYYLLY
 151 PLLLIFCCKK TKSLRVLRNI SIILFLILTA TSFLPSGFYT DILNQPNTYY
 201 LSTLRFPELL AGSLLAVYGQ TQNGRRQTAN GKRQLLSSLC FGALLACLFV
 251 IDKHNPFIPG MTLLLPCLLT ALLIRSMQYG TLPTRILSAS PIVFVGKISY
 301 SLYLYHWIFI AFAHYITGDK QLGLPAVSAV AALTAGFSLL SYYLIEQPLR
 351 KRKMTFKKAF FCLYLAPSLI LVGYNLYARG ILKQEHLRPL PGAPLAAENH
 401 FPETVLTLGD SHAGHLRGFL DYVGSREGWK AKILSLDSEC LVWVDEKLAD
 451 NPLCRKYRDE VEKAEAVFIA QFYDLRMGGQ PVPRFEAQSF LIPGFPARFR
```

```
501  ETVKRIAAVK PVYVFANNTS ISRSPLREEK LKRFAANQYL RPIQAMGDIG
551  KSNQAVFDLI KDIPNVHWVD AQKYLPKNTV EIYGRYLYGD QDHLTYFGSY
601  YMGREFHKHE RLLKSSRDGA LQ*
```

ORF128a and ORF128-1 show 99.5% identity in 622 aa overlap:

```
orf128a.pep   MQAVRYRPEIDGLRAVAVLSVMIFHLNNRWLPGGFLGVDIFFVISGFLITGIILSEIQNG
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf128-1      MQAVRYRPEIDGLRAVAVLSVMIFHLNNRWLPGGFLGVDIFFVISGFLITGIILSEIQNG

orf128a.pep   SFSFRDFYTRRIKRIYPAFIAAVSLASVIASQIFLYEDFNQMRKTVELSAVFLSNIYLGF
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf128-1      SFSFRDFYTRRIKRIYPAFIAAVSLASVIASQIFLYEDFNQMRKTVELSAVFLSNIYLGF

orf128a.pep   QQGYFDLSADENPVLHIWSLAVEEQYYLLYPLLLIFCCKKTKSLRVLRNISIILFLILTA
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf128-1      QQGYFDLSADENPVLHIWSLAVEEQYYLLYPLLLIFCCKKTKSLRVLRNISIILFLILTA

orf128a.pep   TSFLPSGFYTDILNQPNTYYLSTLRFPELLAGSLLAVYGQTQNGRRQTANGKRQLLSSLC
              :|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf128-1      SSFLPSGFYTDILNQPNTYYLSTLRFPELLAGSLLAVYGQTQNGRRQTANGKRQLLSSLC

orf128a.pep   FGALLACLFVIDKHNPFIPGMTLLLPCLLTALLIRSMQYGTLPTRILSASPIVFVGKISY
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf128-1      FGALLACLFVIDKHNPFIPGMTLLLPCLLTALLIRSMQYGTLPTRILSASPIVFVGKISY

orf128a.pep   SLYLYHWIFIAFAHYITGDKQLGLPAVSAVAALTAGFSLLSYYLIEQPLRKRKMTFKKAF
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf128-1      SLYLYHWIFIAFAHYITGDKQLGLPAVSAVAALTAGFSLLSYYLIEQPLRKRKMTFKKAF

orf128a.pep   FCLYLAPSLILVGYNLYARGILKQEHLRPLPGAPLAAENHFPETVLTLGDSHAGHLRGFL
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf128-1      FCLYLAPSLILVGYNLYARGILKQEHLRPLPGAPLAAENHFPETVLTLGDSHAGHLRGFL

orf128a.pep   DYVGSREGWKAKILSLDSECLVWVDEKLADNPLCRKYRDEVEKAEAVFIAQFYDLRMGGQ
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf128-1      DYVGSREGWKAKILSLDSECLVWVDEKLADNPLCRKYRDEVEKAEAVFIAQFYDLRMGGQ

orf128a.pep   PVPRFEAQSFLIPGFPARFRETVKRIAAVKPVYVFANNTSISRSPLREEKLKRFAANQYL
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf128-1      PVPRFEAQSFLIPGFPARFRETVKRIAAVKPVYVFANNTSISRSPLREEKLKRFAANQYL

orf128a.pep   RPIQAMGDIGKSNQAVFDLIKDIPNVHWVDAQKYLPKNTVEIYGRYLYGDQDHLTYFGSY
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf128-1      RPIQAMGDIGKSNQAVFDLIKDIPNVHWVDAQKYLPKNTVEIYGRYLYGDQDHLTYFGSY

orf128a.pep   YMGREFHKHERLLKSSRDGALQX
              ||||||||||||||||: |||||
orf128-1      YMGREFHKHERLLKSSHGGALQX
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF128 shows 93.4% identity over 244 aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF128ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf128.pep                                    VSLASVIASQIFLYEDFNQMRKTVELSAVF   30
                                              |||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||:||
orf128ng      ILSEIQNGSFSFRDFYTRRIKRIYPAFIAAVSLASVIASQIFLYEDFNQMRKTIELSTVF  112

orf128.pep    LSNIYLGFQQGYFDLSADENPVLHIWSLAVEEQYYLLYPLLLIFCCKKTKSLRVLRNISI   90
              ||||||||: ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||
orf128ng      LSNIYLGFRLGYFDLSADENPVLHIWSLAVEEQYYLLYPLLLIFCYKKTKSLRVLRNISI  172

orf128.pep    ILFLILTASSFLPSGFYTDILNQPNTYYLSTLRFPELLAGSLLAVYGQTQNGRRQTANGK  150
              |||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||| |||
orf128ng      ILFLILTASSFLPAGFYTDILNQPNTYYLSTLRFPELLVGSLLAVYGQTQNGRRQTENGK  232

orf128.pep    RQLLSSLCFGALLACLFVIDKHNPFIPGMTLLLPCLLTALLIRSMQYGTLPTRILSASPI  210
              ||||| ||||||||:||||||||:||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf128ng      RQLLSLLCFGALLVCLFVIDKHDPFIPGITLLLPCLLTALLIRSMQYGTLPTRILSASPI  292
```

```
orf128.pep   VFVGKISYSLYLYHWIFIAFAPLIRGGKQLGLPA                          244
             ||||||||||||||||||||||  | | |||||||
orf128ng     VFVGKISYSLYLYHWIFIAFAHYITGDKQLGLPAVSAVAALTAGFSLLSYYLIEQPLRKR 352
```

The complete length ORF128ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 833> is:

```
   1 ATGCAAGCTG TCCGATACAG GCCTGAAATT GACGGATTGC GGGCCGTCGC
  51 CGTGCTATCC GTCATTATTT TCCACCTGAA TAACCGCTGG CTGCCCGGAG
 101 GATTCCTGGG GGTGGACATT TTCTTTGTCA TCTCGGGATT CCTCATTACC
 151 AACATCATTC TTTCTGAAAT ACAGAACGGT TCTTTTTCTT TCCGGGATTT
 201 TTATACCCGC AGGATTAAGC GGATTTATCC TGCTTTTATT GCGGCCGTGT
 251 CCCTGGCTTC GGTGATTGCT TCTCAAATCT TCCTTTACGA AGATTTCAAC
 301 CAAATGAGGA AAACCATAGA GCTTTCTACG GTTTTTTTGT CCAATATTTA
 351 TTTGGGGTTC CGATTGGGGT ATTTCGATTT GAGTGCCGAC GAGAACCCCG
 401 TACTGCATAT CTGGTCTTTG GCGGTAGAGG AACAGTATTA CCTCCTGTAT
 451 CCTCTTTTGC TGATATTCTG TTACAAAAAA ACCAAATCAC TACGGGTGCT
 501 GCGTAATATC AGCATCATCC TGTTTCTGAT TTTGACCGCA TCATCGTTTT
 551 TGCCGGCCGG GTTTTATACC GACATCCTCA ACCAACCcaa TACTTATTAC
 601 CTTTCGACAC TGAGGTTTCC CGAGCTGTTG GTGGGTTCGC TGTTGGCGGT
 651 TTACGGGCAA ACGCAAAACG GCAGACGGCA AACAGAAAAT GGAAAACGGC
 701 AGTTGCTTTC ATTACTCTGT TTCGGCGCat tgCTTGTCTG CCTGTTCGTG
 751 ATCGACAAAC ACGATCCGTT TATCCCGGGA ATAACCCTGC TCCTTCCCTG
 801 CCTGCTGACG GCGCTGCTTA TCCGGAGTAT GCAATACGGG ACACTTCCGA
 851 CCCGCATCCT GTCGGCAAGC CCCATCGTAT TTGTCGGCAA AATCTCTTAT
 901 TCCCTATACC TGTACCATTG GATTTTTATT GCCTTCGCCC ATTACATTAC
 951 AGGCGACAAA CAGCTCGGAC TGCCTGCCGT ATCGGCGGTT GCCGCGTTGA
1001 CGGCCGGATT TTCCCTGTTG AGCTATTATT TGATTGAACA GCCGCTTAGA
1051 AAACGGAAGA TGACCTTCAA AAAGGCATTT TTCTGCCTTT ATCTCGCCCC
1101 GTCCCTGATG CTTGTCGGTT ACAACCTGTA TTCAAGAGGG ATATTGAAAC
1151 AGGAACACCT CCGCCCGCTG CCCGGCACGC CCGTTGCTGC GGAAAATAAT
1201 TTTCCGGAAA CCGTCTTGAC CCTCGGCGAC TCGCACGCCG GACACCTGCG
1251 GGGGTTTCTG GATTATGTCG GCGGCAGGGA AGGGTGGAAA GCTAAAATCC
1301 TGTCCCTCGA TTCGGAGTGT TTGGTTTGGG TGGATGAGAA GCTGGCAGAC
1351 AACCCGTTGT GCCGAAAATA CCGGGATGAA GTTGAAAAAG CCGAAGCTGT
1401 TTTCATTGCC CAATTCTATG ATTTGAGGAT GGGCGGCCAG CCCGTGCCGA
1451 GATTTGAAGC GCAATCCTTC CTGATACCCG GGTTCAAAGC CCGATTCAGG
1501 GAAACCGTCA AGAGGATAGC CGCCGTCAAA CCTGTATATG TTTTTGCAAA
1551 CAATACATCA ATCAGCCGTT CTCCCTTGAG GGAGGAAAAA TTGAAAAGAT
1601 TTGCTATAAA CCAATACCTC CGGCCTATTC GGGCTATGGG CGACATCGGC
1651 AAGAGCAATC AGGCGGTCTT TGATTTGGTT AAAGATATTC CCAATGTGCA
1701 TTGGGTGGAC GCACAAAAAT ACCTGCCCAA AAACACGGTC GAAATACACG
1751 GACGCTATCT TTACGGCGAC CAAGACCACC TGACCTATTT CGGTTCTTAT
1801 TATATGGGGC GGGAATTTCA CAAACACGAA CGCCTGCTCA AGCATTCCCG
1851 AGGCGGCGCA TTGCAGTAG
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 834>:

```
   1 MQAVRYRPEI DGLRAVAVLS VIIFHLNNRW LPGGFLGVDI FFVISGFLIT
  51 NIILSEIQNG SFSFRDFYTR RIKRIYPAFI AAVSLASVIA SQIFLYEDFN
 101 QMRKTIELST VFLSNIYLGF RLGYFDLSAD ENPVLHIWSL AVEEQYYLLY
 151 PLLLIFCYKK TKSLRVLRNI SIILFLILTA SSFLPAGFYT DILNQPNTYY
 201 LSTLRFPELL VGSLLAVYGQ TQNGRRQTEN GKRQLLSLLC FGALLVCLFV
 251 IDKHDPFIPG ITLLLPCLLT ALLIRSMQYG TLPTRILSAS PIVFVGKISY
 301 SLYLYHWIFI AFAHYITGDK QLGLPAVSAV AALTAGFSLL SYYLIEQPLR
 351 KRKMTFKKAF FCLYLAPSLM LVGYNLYSRG ILKQEHLRPL PGTPVAAENN
 401 FPETVLTLGD SHAGHLRGFL DYVGGREGWK AKILSLDSEC LVWVDEKLAD
 451 NPLCRKYRDE VEKAEAVFIA QFYDLRMGGQ PVPRFEAQSF LIPGFKARFR
 501 ETVKRIAAVK PVYVFANNTS ISRSPLREEK LKRFAINQYL RPIRAMGDIG
 551 KSNQAVFDLV KDIPNVHWVD AQKYLPKNTV EIHGRYLYGD QDHLTYFGSY
 601 YMGREFHKHE RLLKHSRGGA LQ*
```

ORF128ng and ORF128-1 show 95.7% identity in 622 aa overlap:

```
orf128-1.pep   MQAVRYRPEIDGLRAVAVLSVMIFHLNNRWLPGGFLGVDIFFVISGFLITGIILSEIQNG
               ||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||
orf128ng       MQAVRYRPEIDGLRAVAVLSVIIFHLNNRWLPGGFLGVDIFFVISGFLITNIILSEIQNG

orf128-1.pep   SFSFRDFYTRRIKRIYPAFIAAVSLASVIASQIFLYEDFNQMRKTVELSAVFLSNIYLGF
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||:||||||||||
orf128ng       SFSFRDFYTRRIKRIYPAFIAAVSLASVIASQIFLYEDFNQMRKTIELSTVFLSNIYLGF
```

```
orf128-1.pep    QQGYFDLSADENPVLHIWSLAVEEQYYLLYPLLLIFCCKKTKSLRVLRNISIILFLILTA
                :  ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||
orf128ng        RLGYFDLSADENPVLHIWSLAVEEQYYLLYPLLLIFCYKKTKSLRVLRNISIILFLILTA

orf128-1.pep    SSFLPSGFYTDILNQPNTYYLSTLRFPELLAGSLLAVYGQTQNGRRQTANGKRQLLSSLC
                |||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||| |||||||| ||
orf128ng        SSFLPAGFYTDILNQPNTYYLSTLRFPELLVGSLLAVYGQTQNGRRQTENGKRQLLSLLC

orf128-1.pep    FGALLACLFVIDKHNPFIPGMTLLLPCLLTALLIRSMQYGTLPTRILSASPIVFVGKISY
                |||||:|||||||:|||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf128ng        FGALLVCLFVIDKHDPFIPGITLLLPCLLTALLIRSMQYGTLPTRILSASPIVFVGKISY

orf128-1.pep    SLYLYHWIFIAFAHYITGDKQLGLPAVSAVAALTAGFSLLSYYLIEQPLRKRKMTFKKAF
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf128ng        SLYLYHWIFIAFAHYITGDKQLGLPAVSAVAALTAGFSLLSYYLIEQPLRKRKMTFKKAF

orf128-1.pep    FCLYLAPSLILVGYNLYARGILKQEHLRPLPGAPLAAENHFPETVLTLGDSHAGHLRGFL
                |||||||||:|||||||:|||||||||||||:|:||||:|||||||||||||||||||||
orf128ng        FCLYLAPSLMLVGYNLYSRGILKQEHLRPLPGTPVAAENNFPETVLTLGDSHAGHLRGFL

orf128-1.pep    DYVGSREGWKAKILSLDSECLVWVDEKLADNPLCRKYRDEVEKAEAVFIAQFYDLRMGGQ
                ||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf128ng        DYVGGREGWKAKILSLDSECLVWVDEKLADNPLCRKYRDEVEKAEAVFIAQFYDLRMGGQ

orf128-1.pep    PVPRFEAQSFLIPGFPARFRETVKRIAAVKPVYVFANNTSISRSPLREEKLKRFAANQYL
                |||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||
orf128ng        PVPRFEAQSFLIPGFKARFRETVKRIAAVKPVYVFANNTSISRSPLREEKLKRFAINQYL

orf128-1.pep    RPIQAMGDIGKSNQAVFDLIKDIPNVHWVDAQKYLPKNTVEIYGRYLYGDQDHLTYFGSY
                |||:|||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||
orf128ng        RPIRAMGDIGKSNQAVFDLVKDIPNVHWVDAQKYLPKNTVEIHGRYLYGDQDHLTYFGSY

orf128-1.pep    YMGREFHKHERLLKSSHGGALQX
                |||||||||||||| |:||||||
orf128ng        YMGREFHKHERLLKHSRGGALQX
                       610       620
```

In addition, ORF218ng shows homology to a hypothetical *H.influenzae* protein:

```
sp|P43993|Y392_HAEIN   HYPOTHETICAL   PROTEIN   HI0392   >gi|1074385|pir||B64007
hypothetical protein HI0392 - Haemophilus influenzae (strain Rd KW20)
>gi|1573364 (U32723) H. influenzae predicted coding region HI0392 [Haemophilus
influenzae] Length = 245
 Score =  239 bits (604), Expect = 3e-62
 Identities = 124/225 (55%), Positives = 152/225 (67%), Gaps = 1/225 (0%)

Query: 38  VDIFFVISGFLITNIILSEIQNGSFSFRDFYTRRIKRIYPXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXFLYE 97
            +DIFFVISGFLIT II++EIQ  SFS + FYTRRIKRIYP                F+Y
Sbjct: 1   MDIFFVISGFLITGIIITEIQQNSFSLKQFYTRRIKRIYPAFITVMALVSFIASAIFIYN 60

Query: 98  DFNQMRKTIELSTVFLSNIYLGFRLGYFDLSADENPVLHIWSLAVEEQXXXXXXXXXIFC 157
            DFN++RKTIEL+  FLSN YLG   GYFDLSA+ENPVLHIWSLAVE Q         I
Sbjct: 61  DFNKLRKTIELAIAFLSNFYLGLTQGYFDLSANENPVLHIWSLAVEGQYYLIFPLILILA 120

Query: 158 YKKTKSLRVLRNISIILFLILTASSFLPAGFYTDILNQPNTYYLSTLRFPELLVGSLLAV 217
            YKK + ++VL  I++ILF IL A+SF+ A FY ++L+QPN YYLS LRFPELLVGSLLA+
Sbjct: 121 YKKFREVKVLFIITLILFFILLATSFVSANFYKEVLHQPNIYYLSNLRFPELLVGSLLAI 180

Query: 218 YGQTQNGRRQTENGKRQLLSLLCFGALLVCLFVIDKHDPFIPGIT 262
            Y    N + Q        +L++L    L  CLF+++ +  FIPGIT
Sbjct: 181 YHNLSN-KVQLSKQVNNILAILSTLLLFSCLFLMNNNIAFIPGIT 224
```

This analysis, including the identification of several putative transmembrane domains, suggests that these proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 99

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 835>:

```
   1  ..ATTATTTACG AATACCGCTG GATGTTTCTT TACGGCGCAC TGACGACCTT
  51    GGGGCTGACG GTCGTGGCAA C.GCGGGCGG TTCGGTATTG GGTCTGTTGT
 101    TGGCGTTGGC GCGCCTGATT CACTTGGAAA AAGCCGGTGC GCCGATGCGC
 151    GTGCTGGCGT GGGCGTTGCG TAAAGTTTCG CTGCTGTATG TTACGCTGTT
 201    CCGGGGTACG CCGCTGTTTG TGCAGATTGT GATTTGGGCG TATGTGTGGT
 251    TTCCGTTTTT CGTC..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 836; ORF129>:

```
   1  ..IIYEYRWMFL YGALTTLGLT VVAXAGGSVL GLLLALARLI HLEKAGAPMR
  51    VLAWALRKVS LLYVTLFRGT PLFVQIVIWA YVWFPFFV..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 837>:

```
   1  ATGGATTTTC GTTTTGACAT TATTTACGAA TACCGCTGGA TGTTTCTTTA
  51  CGGCGCACTG ACGACCTTGG GGCTGACGGT CGTGGCAACG GCGGGCGGTT
 101  CGGTATTGGG TCTGTTGTTG GCGTTGGCGC GCCTGATTCA CTTGGAAAAA
 151  GCCGGTGCGC CGATGCGCGT GCTGGCGTGG GCGTTGCGTA AAGTTTCGCT
 201  GCTGTATGTT ACGCTGTTCC GGGGTACGCC GCTGTTTGTG CAGATTGTGA
 251  TTTGGGCGTA TGTGTGGTTT CCGTTTTTCG TCCATCCTTC AGACGGCATT
 301  TTGGTCAGCG GCGAGGCGGC AATCGCGCTG CGTCGCGGAT ACGGGCCGCT
 351  GATTGCCGGT TCTTTGGCAC TGATCGCCAA CTCGGGGGCG TATATCTGTG
 401  AGATTTTCCG CGCGGGCATC CAGTCTATAG ACAAAGGACA GATGGAGGCG
 451  GCGCGTTCTT TGGGGCTGAC CTATCCGCAG GCGATGCGCT ATGTGATTCT
 501  GCCGCAGGCA TTGCGCCGCA TGCTGCCGCC TTTGGCGAGC GAGTTCATCA
 551  CGCTCTTGAA AGACAGCTCG CTGCTGTCGG TCATTGCTGT GGCGGAGTTG
 601  GCGTATGTTC AGAATACGAT TACGGGCCGG TATTCGGTTT ATGAAGAACC
 651  GCTTTACACC GTCGCCCTGA TTTATCTGTT GATGACGACT TTCTTAGGCT
 701  GGATATTCCT GCGTTTGGAA AAACGTTACA ATCCGCAACA CCGCTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 838; ORF129-1>:

```
   1  MDFRFDIIYE YRWMFLYGAL TTLGLTVVAT AGGSVLGLLL ALARLIHLEK
  51  AGAPMRVLAW ALRKVSLLYV TLFRGTPLFV QIVIWAYVWF PFFVHPSDGI
 101  LVSGEAAIAL RRGYGPLIAG SLALIANSGA YICEIFRAGI QSIDKGQMEA
 151  ARSLGLTYPQ AMRYVILPQA LRRMLPPLAS EFITLLKDSS LLSVIAVAEL
 201  AYVQNTITGR YSVYEEPLYT VALIYLLMTT FLGWIFLRLE KRYNPQHR*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF129 shows 98.9% identity over a 88aa overlap with an ORF (ORF129a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                          10        20        30        40        50
orf129.pep          IIYEYRWMFLYGALTTLGLTVVAXAGGSVLGLLLALARLIHLEKAGAPMRVLAW
                    ||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf129a       MDFRFDIIYEYRWMFLYGALTTLGLTVVATAGGSVLGLLLALARLIHLEKAGAPMRVLAW
                      10        20        30        40        50        60

                   60        70        80
orf129.pep    ALRKVSLLYVTLFRGTPLFVQIVIWAYVWFPFFV
              |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf129a       ALRKVSLLYVTLFRGTPLFVQIVIWAYVWFPFFVHPSDGILVSGEAAIALRRGYGPLIAG
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

orf129a       SLALIANSGAYICEIFRAGIQSIDKGQMEAARSLGLTYPQAMRYVILPQALRRMLPPLAS
                  130       140       150       160       170       180
```

The complete length ORF129a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 839> is:

```
   1  ATGGATTTTC GTTTTGACAT TATTTACGAA TACCGCTGGA TGTTTCTTTA
  51  CGGCGCACTG ACGACCTTGG GGCTGACGGT CGTGGCGACG GCGGGCGGTT
```

```
101  CGGTATTGGG TCTGTTGTTG GCGTTGGCGC GCCTGATTCA CTTGGAAAAA
151  GCCGGTGCGC CGATGCGCGT GCTGGCGTGG GCGTTGCGTA AGGTTTCGCT
201  GCTGTATGTT ACGCTGTTCC GGGGTACGCC GCTGTTTGTG CAGATTGTGA
251  TTTGGGCGTA TGTGTGGTTT CCGTTTTTCG TCCATCCTTC AGACGGCATT
301  TTGGTTAGCG GCGAGGCGGC AATCGCGCTG CGTCGCGGAT ACGGGCCGCT
351  GATTGCCGGT TCTTTGGCAC TGATCGCCAA CTCGGGGGCG TATATCTGTG
401  AGATTTTCCG CGCGGGCATC CAGTCTATAG ACAAAGGACA GATGGAGGCG
451  GCGCGTTCTT TGGGGCTGAC CTATCCGCAG GCGATGCGCT ATGTGATTCT
501  GCCGCAGGCA TTGCGCCGTA TGCTGCCGCC TTTGGCGAGC GAGTTCATCA
551  CGCTCTTGAA AGACAGCTCG CTGCTGTCGG TCATTGCTGT GGCGGAGTTG
601  GCGTATGTTC AGAATACGAT TACGGGCCGG TATTCGGTTT ATGAAGAACC
651  GCTTTACACC GTCGCCCTGA TTTATCTGTT GATGACGACT TTCTTAGGCT
701  GGATATTCCT GCGTTTGGAA AAACGTTACA ATCCGCAACA CCGCTGA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 840>:

```
1  MDFRFDIIYE YRWMFLYGAL TTLGLTVVAT AGGSVLGLLL ALARLIHLEK
51  AGAPMRVLAW ALRKVSLLYV TLFRGTPLFV QIVIWAYVWF PFFVHPSDGI
101  LVSGEAAIAL RRGYGPLIAG SLALIANSGA YICEIFRAGI QSIDKGQMEA
151  ARSLGLTYPQ AMRYVILPQA LRRMLPPLAS EFITLLKDSS LLSVIAVAEL
201  AYVQNTITGR YSVYEEPLYT VALIYLLMTT FLGWIFLRLE KRYNPQHR*
```

ORF129a and ORF129-1 show 100.0% identity in 248 aa overlap:

```
orf129a.pep  MDFRFDIIYEYRWMFLYGALTTLGLTVVATAGGSVLGLLLALARLIHLEKAGAPMRVLAW
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf129-1     MDFRFDIIYEYRWMFLYGALTTLGLTVVATAGGSVLGLLLALARLIHLEKAGAPMRVLAW

orf129a.pep  ALRKVSLLYVTLFRGTPLFVQIVIWAYVWFPFFVHPSDGILVSGEAAIALRRGYGPLIAG
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf129-1     ALRKVSLLYVTLFRGTPLFVQIVIWAYVWFPFFVHPSDGILVSGEAAIALRRGYGPLIAG

orf129a.pep  SLALIANSGAYICEIFRAGIQSIDKGQMEAARSLGLTYPQAMRYVILPQALRRMLPPLAS
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf129-1     SLALIANSGAYICEIFRAGIQSIDKGQMEAARSLGLTYPQAMRYVILPQALRRMLPPLAS

orf129a.pep  EFITLLKDSSLLSVIAVAELAYVQNTITGRYSVYEEPLYTVALIYLLMTTFLGWIFLRLE
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf129-1     EFITLLKDSSLLSVIAVAELAYVQNTITGRYSVYEEPLYTVALIYLLMTTFLGWIFLRLE

orf129a.pep  KRYNPQHRX
             |||||||||
orf129-1     KRYNPQHRX
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF129 shows 98.9% identity over a 88 aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF129ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf129.pep          IIYEYRWMFLYGALTTLGLTVVAXAGGSVLGLLLALARLIHLEKAGAPMRVLAW   54
                    ||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf129ng     MDFRFDIIYEYRWMFLYGALTTLGLTVVATAGGSVLGLLLALARLIHLEKAGAPMRVLAW   60

orf129.pep   ALRKVSLLYVTLFRGTPLFVQIVIWAYVWFPFFV                             88
             |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf129ng     ALRKVSLLYVTLFRGTPLFVQIVIWAYVWFPFFVILHTAFLGNAMRQSRRVPDKGRWIAG  120
```

An ORF129ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 841> was predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 842>:

```
1  MDFRFDIIYE YRWMFLYGAL TTLGLTVVAT AGGSVLGLLL ALARLIHLEK
51  AGAPMRVLAW ALRKVSLLYV TLFRGTPLFV QIVIWAYVWF PFFVILHTAF
101  LGNAMRQSRR VPDKGRWIAG SLELNCQPRG RKTRGEFPPG ESNLGTEPRN
151  PLSMGQRRFP GCENWYPPQN FIKK*
```

Further work revealed the following gonococcal sequence <SEQ ID 843>:

```
1  ATGGATTTTc gtTTTGACAT TATTTAcgaA TACCGCTGGA TGTTTCTTTA
```

```
  51  CGGCGCACTG Acgaccttgg ggctgacggt cgtggcgacg gCGGGCGGTT
 101  CGGtattggG TCTGTTGTTG GCGTTGGCGC GCCTGATTCA CTTGGAAAAA
 151  GCCGGTGCGC CGATGCGCGT GCTGGCGTGG GCGTTGCGTA AGGTTTCGCT
 201  GCTGTACGTT ACCCTGTTCC GGGGTACGCC GCTGTTTGTG CAGATTGTGA
 251  TTTGGGCGTA TGTGTGGTTT CCGTTTTTCG TCCATCCTTC AGACGGCATT
 301  TTGGTCAGCG GCGAGGCGGC AATCGCGCTG CGTCGCGGAT ACGGGCCGCT
 351  GATTGCCGGT TCTTTGGCAC TGATCGCCAA CTCGGGGGCG TATATCTGTG
 401  AGATTTTCCG CGCGGGCATC CAGTCTATAG ACAAAGGACA GATGGAGGCG
 451  GCGTGTTCTT TGGGACTGAC CTATCCGCAG GCGATGCGCT ATGTGATTCT
 501  GCCGCAGGCA TTGCGCCGTA TGCTGCCGCC TTTGGCGAGC GAGTTCATCA
 551  CGCTCTTGAA AGACAGCTCG CTGCTGTCGG TCATTGCTGT GGCGGAGTTG
 601  GCGTATGTTC AGAATACGAT TACGGGCCGG TATTCGGTTT ATGAAGAACC
 651  GCTTTACACC GCCGCCCTGA TTTATCTGTT GATGACGACT TTCTTAGGCT
 701  GGATATTCCT GCGTTTGGAA AAACGTTACA ATCCGCAACA CCGCTGA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 844; ORF129ng-1>:

```
   1  MDFRFDIIYE YRWMFLYGAL TTLGLTVVAT AGGSVLGLLL ALARLIHLEK
  51  AGAPMRVLAW ALRKVSLLYV TLFRGTPLFV QIVIWAYVWF PFFVHPSDGI
 101  LVSGEAAIAL RRGYGPLIAG SLALIANSGA YICEIFRAGI QSIDKGQMEA
 151  ARSLGLTYPQ AMRYVILPQA LRRMLPPLAS EFITLLKDSS LLSVIAVAEL
 201  AYVQNTITGR YSVYEEPLYT VALIYLLMTT FLGWIFLRLE KRYNPQHR*
```

ORF129ng-1 and ORF129-1 show 99.2% identity in 248 aa overlap:

```
orf129-1.pep MDFRFDIIYEYRWMFLYGALTTLGLTVVATAGGSVLGLLLALARLIHLEKAGAPMRVLAW
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf129ng-1   MDFRFDIIYEYRWMFLYGALTTLGLTVVATAGGSVLGLLLALARLIHLEKAGAPMRVLAW

orf129-1.pep ALRKVSLLYVTLFRGTPLFVQIVIWAYVWFPFFVHPSDGILVSGEAAIALRRGYGPLIAG
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf129ng-1   ALRKVSLLYVTLFRGTPLFVQIVIWAYVWFPFFVHPSDGILVSGEAAIALRRGYGPLIAG

orf129-1.pep SLALIANSGAYICEIFRAGIQSIDKGQMEAARSLGLTYPQAMRYVILPQALRRMLPPLAS
             |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf129ng-1   SLALIANSGAYICEIFRAGIQSIDKGQMEAACSLGLTYPQAMRYVILPQALRRMLPPLAS

orf129-1.pep EFITLLKDSSLLSVIAVAELAYVQNTITGRYSVYEEPLYTVALIYLLMTTFLGWIFLRLE
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||
orf129ng-1   EFITLLKDSSLLSVIAVAELAYVQNTITGRYSVYEEPLYTAALIYLLMTTFLGWIFLRLE

orf129-1.pep KRYNPQHRX
             |||||||||
orf129ng-1   KRYNPQHRX
```

In addition, ORF129ng-1 is homologous to an ABC transporter from *A.fulgidus*:

```
2650409(AE001090) glutamine ABC transporter, permease protein (glnP)
[Archaeoglobus fulgidus]Length = 224
 Score =  132 bits (329), Expect = 2e-30
 Identities = 86/178 (48%), Positives = 103/178 (57%), Gaps = 18/178 (10%)

Query: 65  VSLLYVTLFRGTPLFVQIVIWAYVWFPFFVHPSDGILVSGEAAIALRRGYGPLIAGSLAL 124
           +S  YV + RGTPL VQI+I       +F  P+ GI +  E A             G +AL
Sbjct: 58  ISTAYVEVIRGTPLLVQILI------VYFGLPAIGINLQPEPA------------GIIAL 99

Query: 125 IANSGAYICEIFRAGIQSIDKGQMEAACSLGLTYPQAMRYVILPQALRRMLPPLASEFIT 184
              SGAYI EI RAGI+SI  GQMEAA SLG+TY QAMRYVI PQA R +LP L +EFI
Sbjct: 100 SICSGAYIAEIVRAGIESIPIGQMEAARSLGMTYLQAMRYVIFPQAFRNILPALGNEFIA 159

Query: 185 LLKDSSLLSVIAVAELAYVQNTITGRYSVYEEPLYTAALIYLLMTTFLGWIFLRLEKR 242
           LLKDSSLLSVI++ EL  V   I          P    AL YL+MT  L  +    +K+
Sbjct: 160 LLKDSSLLSVISIVELTRVGRQIVNTTFNAWTPFLGVALFYLMMTIPLSRLVAYSQKK 217
```

This analysis, including the identification of transmembrane domains in the two proteins, suggests that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 100

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 845>:

```
   1  ..CTGAAAGAAT GCCGTCTGAA AGACCCTGTT TTTATTCCAA ATATCGTTTA
  51    TAAGAACATC GCCATTACTT TCCTGCTCTT GCACGCCGCC GCCGAACTTT
 101    GGCTGCCCGC GCAAACCGCC GGTTTTACCG CGCTCGCCGT CGGCTTCATC
 151    CTGCTCGCCA AGCTGCGTGA gCTTCACCAT CACGAACTCT TACGTAAACA
 201    cTACGTCCGC ACTTATTACy TGCTCCAACT CTTTGCCGCC GCAGgcTAgT
 251    TTGTGGACAG GCGCGGCGwA ATTACAAAAC CTGCCCGCyT CCGCGCCCCT
 301    GCACCTGATT ACCCTCGGCG GCATGATGGG CGGCGTGATG ATGGTGTGGc
 351    TGACCGCCGG ACTGTGGCAC AGCGGCTTTA CCAAACTCGA CTACCCCAAA
 401    CTCTGCCGCA TTGCCGTCCC CATCCTTTTC GCCGCCGCCG TCTCGCGCGC
 451    TTTCTTGrTG AACGTGAACC CGrTATTTTT CATTACCGTT CCTGCGATTC
 501    TGACCGCCGC CGTATTCGTA CTGTATCTTT TCrCGTTTAT ACCGATATTT
 551    CGGGCGAATG CGTTTACAGA CGATCCGGAr TAr
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 846; ORF130>:

```
   1  ..LKECRLKDPV FIPNIVYKNI AITFLLLHAA AELWLPAQTA GFTALAVGFI
  51    LLAKLRELHH HELLRKHYVR TYYLLQLFAA AGSLWTGAAX LQNLPASAPL
 101    HLITLGGMMG GVMMVWLTAG LWHSGFTKLD YPKLCRIAVP ILFAAAVSRA
 151    FLXNVNPXFF ITVPAILTAA VFVLYLFXFI PIFRANAFTD DPE*
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 847>:

```
   1  ATGCGGCCGT TTTTCGTCGG CGCGGCGGTG CTTGCCATAC TCGGTGCGCT
  51  GGTGTTTTTC ATCAACCCCG GTGCCATCGT CCTGCACCGC CAAATTTTCT
 101  TGGAACTTAT GCTGCCGGCG GCATACGGCG GTTTTTTGAC TGCGGCTTTG
 151  TTGGACTGGA CGGGTTTTTC GGGTAACCTG AAACCTGTCG CGACTTTGAT
 201  GGCGGCATTA TTGCTCGCCG CATCCGCTAT ACTGCCCTTT TCGCCGCAAA
 251  CTGCCTCGTT TTTCGTCGCC GCCTATTGGC TGGTGTTGCT GCTGTTCTGC
 301  GCCCGGCTGA TTTGGCTAGA CCGAAACACC GACAACTTCG CCCTGCTAAT
 351  GTTACTTGCC GCGTTCACTG TTTTTCAGAC GGCATATGCC GTCAGCGGCG
 401  ATTTGAACCT GTTGCGCGCG CAAGTGCATC TAAATATGGC GGCGGTGATG
 451  TTCGTATCCG TGCGCGTCAG TATTCTTTTG GGCGCGGAAG CCCTGAAAGA
 501  ATGCCGTCTG AAAGACCCTG TTTTTATTCC AAATATCGTT TATAAAAACA
 551  TCGCCATTAC TTTCCTGCTC TTGCACGCCG CCGCCGAACT TTGGCTGCCC
 601  GCGCAAACCG CCGGTTTTAC CGCGCTCGCC GTCGGCTTCA TCCTGCTCGC
 651  CAAGCTGCGT GAGCTTCACC ATCACGAACT CTTACGTAAA CACTACGTCC
 701  GCACTTATTA CCTGCTCCAA CTCTTTGCCG CCGCAGGCTA TTTGTGGACA
 751  GGCGCGGCGA AATTACAAAA CCTGCCCGCC TCCGCGCCCC TGCACCTGAT
 801  TACCCTCGGC GGCATGATGG GCGGCGTGAT GATGGTGTGG CTGACCGCCG
 851  GACTGTGGCA CAGCGGCTTT ACCAAACTCG ACTACCCCAA ACTCTGCCGC
 901  ATTGCCGTCC CCATCCTTTT CGCCGCCGCC GTCTCGCGCG CTTTCTTGAT
 951  GAACGTGAAC CCGATATTTT TCATTACCGT TCCTGCGATT CTGACCGCCG
1001  CCGTATTCGT ACTGTATCTT TTCACGTTTA TACCGATATT TCGGGCGAAT
1051  GCGTTTACAG ACGATCCGGA ATAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 848; ORF130-1>:

```
   1  MRPFFVGAAV LAILGALVFF INPGAIVLHR QIFLELMLPA AYGGFLTAAL
  51  LDWTGFSGNL KPVATLMAAL LLAASAILPF SPQTASFFVA AYWLVLLLFC
 101  ARLIWLDRNT DNFALLMLLA AFTVFQTAYA VSGDLNLLRA QVHLNMAAVM
 151  FVSVRVSILL GAEALKECRL KDPVFIPNIV YKNIAITFLL LHAAAELWLP
 201  AQTAGFTALA VGFILLAKLR ELHHHELLRK HYVRTYYLLQ LFAAAGYLWT
 251  GAAKLQNLPA SAPLHLITLG GMMGGVMMVW LTAGLWHSGF TKLDYPKLCR
 301  IAVPILFAAA VSRAFLMNVN PIFFITVPAI LTAAVFVLYL FTFIPIFRAN
 351  AFTDDPE*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF130 shows 94.3% identity over a 193aa overlap with an ORF (ORF130a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                                    10        20        30
orf130.pep                                          LKECRLKDPVFIPNIVYKNIAITFLLLHAA
                                                    ||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||
orf130a      LNLLRAQVHLNMAAVMFVSVRVSILLGAEALKECRLKDPVFIPNVVYKNIAITFLLLHAA
               140       150       160       170       180       190

                    40        50        60        70        80        90
orf130.pep   AELWLPAQTAGFTALAVGFILLAKLRELHHHELLRKHYVRTYYLLQLFAAAGSLWTGAAX
             ||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||
orf130a      AELWLPAQTAGFTSLAVGFILLAKLRELHHHELLRKHYVRTYYLLQLFAAAGYLWTGAAK
               200       210       220       230       240       250

                  100       110       120       130       140       150
orf130.pep   LQNLPASAPLHLITLGGMMGGVMMVWLTAGLWHSGFTKLDYPKLCRIAVPILFAAAVSRA
             ||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf130a      LQNLPASAPLHLITLGGMMGSVMMVWLTAGLWHSGFTKLDYPKLCRIAVPILFAAAVSRA
               260       270       280       290       300       310

                  160       170       180       190
orf130.pep   FLXNVNPXFFITVPAILTAAVFVLYLFXFIPIFRANAFTDDPEX
             | |||| ||||||||||||||||||::|:|||||||||||||||
orf130a      VLMNVNPIFFITVPAILTAAVFVLYLLTFVPIFRANAFTDDPEX
               320       330       340       350
```

The complete length ORF130a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 849> is:

```
   1  ATGCGGCCGT TTTTCGTCGG CGCGGCGGTG CTTGCCATAC TCGGTGCGCT
  51  GGTGTTTTTC ATCAACCCCG GTGCCATCGT CCTGCACCGC CAAATTTTCT
 101  TGGAACTTAT GCTGCCGGCG GCATACGGCG GTTTTTTGAC TGCGGCTTTG
 151  TTGGACTGGA CGGGTTTTTC GGGTAACCTG AAACCTGTCG CGACTTTGAT
 201  GGCGGCATTA TTGCTCGCCG CATCCGCTAT ACTGCCCTTT TCGCCGCAAA
 251  CTGCCTCGTT TTTCGTCGCC GCCTATTGGC TGGTGTTGCT GCTGTTCTGC
 301  GCCCGGCTGA TTTGGCTAGA CCGAAACACC GACAACTTCG CCCTGCTAAT
 351  GTTACTTGCC GCGTTCACTG TTTTTCAGAC GGCATATGCC GTCAGCGGCG
 401  ATTTGAACCT GTTGCGCGCG CAAGTGCATC TAAATATGGC GGCGGTGATG
 451  TTCGTATCCG TGCGCGTCAG TATTCTTTTG GGCGCGGAAG CCCTGAAAGA
 501  ATGCCGTCTG AAAGACCCAG TATTCATCCC CAATGTCGTC TATAAAAACA
 551  TCGCCATTAC CTTCCTGCTC CTGCACGCCG CCGCCGAACT TTGGCTGCCT
 601  GCGCAAACCG CCGGTTTTAC CTCGCTCGCC GTCGGCTTTA TCCTGCTTGC
 651  CAAGCTGCGT GAGCTTCACC ATCACGAACT CCTGCGCAAA CACTACGTCC
 701  GCACTTATTA CCTGCTCCAA CTCTTTGCCG CCGCAGGCTA TTTGTGGACA
 751  GGCGCGGCGA AATTACAAAA CCTGCCCGCC TCCGCGCCCC TGCACCTGAT
 801  TACCCTCGGT GGCATGATGG GCAGCGTGAT GATGGTGTGG CTGACTGCCG
 851  GACTGTGGCA CAGCGGCTTT ACCAAGCTCG ACTACCCGAA ACTCTGCCGC
 901  ATCGCCGTCC CCATCCTNTT CGCCGCCGCC GTTTCGCGCG CTGTTTTAAT
 951  GAACGTAAAC CCGATATTCT TCATCACCGT CCCCGCAATT CTGACCGCCG
1001  CCGTGTTCGT GCTTTACCTG CTGACATTCG TACCGATCTT TCGGGCGAAC
1051  GCGTTTACAG ACGATCCGGA ATAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 850>:

```
   1  MRPFFVGAAV LAILGALVFF INPGAIVLHR QIFLELMLPA AYGGFLTAAL
  51  LDWTGFSGNL KPVATLMAAL LLAASAILPF SPQTASFFVA AYWLVLLLFC
 101  ARLIWLDRNT DNFALLMLLA AFTVFQTAYA VSGDLNLLRA QVHLNMAAVM
 151  FVSVRVSILL GAEALKECRL KDPVFIPNVV YKNIAITFLL LHAAAELWLP
 201  AQTAGFTSLA VGFILLAKLR ELHHHELLRK HYVRTYYLLQ LFAAAGYLWT
 251  GAAKLQNLPA SAPLHLITLG GMMGSVMMVW LTAGLWHSGF TKLDYPKLCR
 301  IAVPILFAAA VSRAVLMNVN PIFFITVPAI LTAAVFVLYL LTFVPIFRAN
 351  AFTDDPE*
```

ORF130a and ORF130-1 show 98.3% identity in 357 aa overlap:

```
orf130a.pep   MRPFFVGAAVLAILGALVFFINPGAIVLHRQIFLELMLPAAYGGFLTAALLDWTGFSGNL
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf130-1      MRPFFVGAAVLAILGALVFFINPGAIVLHRQIFLELMLPAAYGGFLTAALLDWTGFSGNL

orf130a.pep   KPVATLMAALLLAASAILPFSPQTASFFVAAYWLVLLLFCARLIWLDRNTDNFALLMLLA
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf130-1      KPVATLMAALLLAASAILPFSPQTASFFVAAYWLVLLLFCARLIWLDRNTDNFALLMLLA

orf130a.pep   AFTVFQTAYAVSGDLNLLRAQVHLNMAAVMFVSVRVSILLGAEALKECRLKDPVFIPNVV
```

```
                 |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|
orf130-1         AFTVFQTAYAVSGDLNLLRAQVHLNMAAVMFVSVRVSILLGAEALKECRLKDPVFIPNIV

orf130a.pep      YKNIAITFLLLHAAAELWLPAQTAGFTSLAVGFILLAKLRELHHHELLRKHYVRTYYLLQ
                 |||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf130-1         YKNIAITFLLLHAAAELWLPAQTAGFTALAVGFILLAKLRELHHHELLRKHYVRTYYLLQ

orf130a.pep      LFAAAGYLWTGAAKLQNLPASAPLHLITLGGMMGSVMMVWLTAGLWHSGFTKLDYPKLCR
                 |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf130-1         LFAAAGYLWTGAAKLQNLPASAPLHLITLGGMMGGVMMVWLTAGLWHSGFTKLDYPKLCR

orf130a.pep      IAVPILFAAAVSRAVLMNVNPIFFITVPAILTAAVFVLYLLTFVPIFRANAFTDDPE
                 |||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||:||:||||||||||||||
orf130-1         IAVPILFAAAVSRAFLMNVNPIFFITVPAILTAAVFVLYLFTFIPIFRANAFTDDPE
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF130 shows 91.7% identity over a 193 aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF130ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf130.pep                                        LKECRLKDPVFIPNIVYKNIAITFLLLHAA   30
                                                  |||||||||||||||:|||||||| ||||||
orf130ng      LNLLRAQVHLNMAAVMFVSVRVSVLLGTETLKECRLKDPVFIPNVIYKNIAIT-LLLHAA  201

orf130.pep    AELWLPAQTAGFTALAVGFILLAKLRELHHHELLRKHYVRTYYLLQLFAAAGSLWTGAAX   90
              |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||
orf130ng      AELWLPAQTAGFTALAVGFILLAKLRELHHHELLRKHYVRTYYLLQLFAAAGYLWTGAAK  261

orf130.pep    LQNLPASAPLHLITLGGMMGGVMMVWLTAGLWHSGFTKLDYPKLCRIAVPILFAAAVSRA  150
              |||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||:|||||
orf130ng      LQNLPASAPLHLITLGGMTGGVMMVWLTAGLWHSGFTKLDYPKLCRIAVSILFASAVSRA  321

orf130.pep    FLXNVNPXFFITVPAILTAAVFVLYLFXFIPIFRANAFTDDPE  193
               | |||| |||||| |||||||:|||::|:|||||||||||||
orf130ng      VLMNVNPIFFITVPEILTAAVFMLYLLTFVPIFRANAFTDDPE  364
```

An ORF130ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 851> was predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 852>:

```
   1  MNKFFTHPMR PFFVGAAVLA ILGALVFFHQ PRRYHPAPPN FLGTYAAGCI
  51  RRFFDYRFVG PDGFFRQPET CRYFDGGVVA CCGCFIAVFT ATCRIFRRRL
 101  LAGVAAVLRL ADLARRQHRT LRSVDVTAAF TVFQTAYAVS GDLNLLRAQV
 151  HLNMAAVMFV SVRVSVLLGT ETLKECRLKD PVFIPNVIYK NIAITLLLHA
 201  AAELWLPAQT AGFTALAVGF ILLAKLRELH HHELLRKHYV RTYYLLQLFA
 251  AAGYLWTGAA KLQNLPASAP LHLITLGGMT GGVMMVWLTA GLWHSGFTKL
 301  DYPKLCRIAV SILFASAVSR AVLMNVNPIF FITVPEILTA AVFMLYLLTF
 351  VPIFRANAFT DDPE*
```

Further work revealed the following gonococcal DNA sequence <SEQ ID 853>:

```
   1  ATGCGCCCGT TTTTCGTCGG TGCGGCAGTA CTTGCCATAC TCGGTGCGTT
  51  GGTGTTTTTT ATCAACCCCG GCGCTATCAT CCTGCACCGC CAAATTTTCT
 101  TGGAACTTAT GCTGCCGGCT GCATACGGCG GTTTTTTGAC TACCGCTTTG
 151  TTGGACCGGA CGGGTTTTTC AGGCAACCTG AAACCTGCCG CTACTTTGAT
 201  GGCGGTGTTG TTGCTTGTTG CGGCTGTTTT ATTGCCGTTT TTACCGCAAC
 251  TTGCCGCATT TTTCGTCGCC GCCTATTGGC TGGTGTTGCT GCTGTTCTGC
 301  GCCTGGCTGA TTTGGCTCGA CCGCAACACC GACAACTTCG CTCTGTTGAT
 351  GTTACTTGCC GCATTTACCG TTTTTCAGAC GGCCTATGCC GTCAGCGGCG
 401  ATTTGAACTT ACTGCGCGCG CAAGTGCATT TGAATATGGC GGCGGTCATG
 451  TTCGTATCCG TCCGCGTCAG CGTCCTTTTG GGCACGGAAA CCCTGAAAGA
 501  ATGCCGTCTG AAAGACCCCG TATTCATCCC CAACGTTATC TATAAAAACA
 551  TCGCCATCAC CCTGCTGCTG CACGCCGCCG CCGAACTTTG GCTGCCCGCG
 601  CAAACCGCCG GTTTTACTGC GCTTGCCGTC GGCTTCATCC TGCTCGCCAA
 651  GCTGCGCGAA CTGCACCATC ACGAACTCTT ACGCAAACAC TACGTCCGCA
 701  CTTATTACCT GCTCCAGCTC TTTGCCGCCG CAGGTTATCT GTGGACAGGC
 751  GCGGCGAAAC TGCAAAACCT GCCCGCCTCC GCGCCCCTGC ACCTGATTAC
 801  CCTCGGCGGC ATGACGGGTG GCGTGATGAT GGTGTGGCTG ACTGCCGGAC
 851  TGTGGCACAG CGGCTTTACC AAACTCGACT ACCCGAAACT CTGCCGCATC
```

```
 901  GCCGTCTCCA TCCTTTTCGC CTCCGCCGTT TCGCGCGCTG TTTTAATGAA
 951  CGTGAATCCG ATATTCTTCA TCACCGTTCC CGAGATTCTG ACCGCCGCCG
1001  TGTTCATGCT TTACCTGCTG ACGTTCGTAC CGATTTTTCG AGCGAACGCG
1051  TTTACAGACG ATCCGGAATA A
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 854; ORF130ng-1>:

```
   1  MRPFFVGAAV LAILGALVFF INPGAIILHR QIFLELMLPA AYGGFLTTAL
  51  LDRTGFSGNL KPAATLMAVL LLVAAVLLPF LPQLAAFFVA AYWLVLLLFC
 101  AWLIWLDRNT DNFALLMLLA AFTVFQTAYA VSGDLNLLRA QVHLNMAAVM
 151  FVSVRVSVLL GTETLKECRL KDPVFIPNVI YKNIAITLLL HAAAELWLPA
 201  QTAGFTALAV GFILLAKLRE LHHHELLRKH YVRTYYLLQL FAAAGYLWTG
 251  AAKLQNLPAS APLHLITLGG MTGGVMMVWL TAGLWHSGFT KLDYPKLCRI
 301  AVSILFASAV SRAVLMNVNP IFFITVPEIL TAAVFMLYLL TFVPIFRANA
 351  FTDDPE*
```

ORF130ng-1 and ORF130-1 show 92.4% identity in 357 aa overlap:

```
orf130-1.pep    MRPFFVGAAVLAILGALVFFINPGAIVLHRQIFLELMLPAAYGGFLTAALLDWTGFSGNL
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||:|||| |||||||
orf130ng-1      MRPFFVGAAVLAILGALVFFINPGAIILHRQIFLELMLPAAYGGFLTTALLDRTGFSGNL

orf130-1.pep    KPVATLMAALLLAASAILPFSPQTASFFVAAYWLVLLLFCARLIWLDRNTDNFALLMLLA
                ||:||||||:|||:|:::||| || |:|||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||
orf130ng-1      KPAATLMAVLLLVAAVLLPFLPQLAAFFVAAYWLVLLLFCAWLIWLDRNTDNFALLMLLA

orf130-1.pep    AFTVFQTAYAVSGDLNLLRAQVHLNMAAVMFVSVRVSILLGAEALKECRLKDPVFIPNIV
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||:|:|||||||||||||::
orf130ng-1      AFTVFQTAYAVSGDLNLLRAQVHLNMAAVMFVSVRVSVLLGTETLKECRLKDPVFIPNVI

orf130-1.pep    YKNIAITFLLLHAAAELWLPAQTAGFTALAVGFILLAKLRELHHHELLRKHYVRTYYLLQ
                ||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf130ng-1      YKNIAIT-LLLHAAAELWLPAQTAGFTALAVGFILLAKLRELHHHELLRKHYVRTYYLLQ

orf130-1.pep    LFAAAGYLWTGAAKLQNLPASAPLHLITLGGMMGGVMMVWLTAGLWHSGFTKLDYPKLCR
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf130ng-1      LFAAAGYLWTGAAKLQNLPASAPLHLITLGGMTGGVMMVWLTAGLWHSGFTKLDYPKLCR

orf130-1.pep    IAVPILFAAAVSRAFLMNVNPIFFITVPAILTAAVFVLYLFTFIPIFRANAFTDDPEX
                ||| ||||:||||| |||||||||||| |||||||:|||:||:|||||||||||||||
orf130ng-1      IAVSILFASAVSRAVLMNVNPIFFITVPEILTAAVFMLYLLTFVPIFRANAFTDDPEX
```

Based on this analysis, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 101

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 855>:

```
   1  ATGGAAATTC GGGCAATAAA ATATACGGCA ATGGCTGCGT TGCTTGCATT
  51  TACGGTTGCA GGCTGCCGGC TGGCGGGGTG GTATGAGTGT TCGTCCCTCA
 101  CCGGCTGGTG TAAGCCGAGA AAACCGGCTG CCATCGATTT TTGGGATATT
 151  GGCGGCGAGA GTCCGCCGTC TTTAGGGGAC TACGAGATAC CGCTTTCAGA
 201  CGGCAATAGT TCCGTCAGGG CAAACGAATA TGAATCCGCA CAACAATCTT
 251  ACTTTTACAG GAAAATAGGG AAGTTTGAAG C.TGCGGGCT GGATTGGCGT
 301  ACGCGTGACG GCAAACCTTT GATTGAGACG TTCAAACAGG GAGGATTTGA
 351  CTGCTTGGAA AAG..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 856; ORF131>:

```
   1  MEIRAIKYTA MAALLAFTVA GCRLAGWYEC SSLTGWCKPR KPAAIDFWDI
  51  GGESPPSLGD YEIPLSDGNS SVRANEYESA QQSYFYRKIG KFEXCGLDWR
 101  TRDGKPLIET FKQGGFDCLE K..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 857>:

```
   1  ATGGAAATTC GGGCAATAAA ATATACGGCA ATGGCTGCGT TGCTTGCATT
  51  TACGGTTGCA GGCTGCCGGC TGGCGGGGTG GTATGAGTGT TCGTCCCTCA
```

```
101  CCGGCTGGTG TAAGCCGAGA AAACCGGCTG CCATCGATTT TTGGGATATT
151  GGCGGCGAGA GTCCGCCGTC TTTAGGGGAC TACGAGATAC CGCTTTCAGA
201  CGGCAATCGT TCCGTCAGGG CAAACGAATA TGAATCCGCA CAACAATCTT
251  ACTTTTACAG GAAAATAGGG AAGTTTGAAG CCTGCGGGCT GGATTGGCGT
301  ACGCGTGACG GCAAACCTTT GATTGAGACG TTCAAACAGG GAGGATTTGA
351  CTGCTTGGAA AAGCAGGGGT TGCGGCGCAA CGGTCTGTCC GAGCGCGTCC
401  GATGGTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 858; ORF131-1>:

```
  1  MEIRAIKYTA MAALLAFTVA GCRLAGWYEC SSLTGWCKPR KPAAIDFWDI
 51  GGESPPSLGD YEIPLSDGNR SVRANEYESA QQSYFYRKIG KFEACGLDWR
101  TRDGKPLIET FKQGGFDCLE KQGLRRNGLS ERVRW*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF131 shows 95.0% identity over a 121aa overlap with an ORF (ORF131a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                    10        20        30        40        50        60
orf131.pep   MEIRAIKYTAMAALLAFTVAGCRLAGWYECSSLTGWCKPRKPAAIDFWDIGGESPPSLGD
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||| |
orf131a      MEIRAIKYTAMAALLAFTVAGCRLAGWYECSSLSGWCKPRKPAAIDFWDIGGESPPSLED
                    10        20        30        40        50        60

                    70        80        90       100       110       120
orf131.pep   YEIPLSDGNSSVRANEYESAQQSYFYRKIGKFEXCGLDWRTRDGKPLIETFKQGGFDCLE
             ||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||| |||||:
orf131a      YEIPLSDGNRSVRANEYESAQQSYFYRKIGKFEACGLDWRTRDGKPLIETFKQEGFDCLK
                    70        80        90       100       110       120

orf131.pep   K
             |
orf131a      KQGLRRNGLSERVRWX
                   130
```

The complete length ORF131a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 859> is:

```
  1  ATGGAAATTC GGGCAATAAA ATATACGGCA ATGGCTGCGT TGCTTGCATT
 51  TACGGTTGCA GGCTGCCGGT TGGCAGGTTG GTATGAGTGT TCGTCCCTGT
101  CCGGCTGGTG TAAGCCGAGA AAACCTGCCG CCATCGATTT TTGGGATATT
151  GGCGGCGAGA GTCCTCCGTC TTTAGAGGAC TACGAGATAC CGCTTTCAGA
201  CGGCAATCGT TCCGTCAGGG CAAACGAATA TGAATCCGCA CAACAATCTT
251  ACTTTTACAG GAAAATAGGG AAGTTTGAAG CCTGCGGGTT GGATTGGCGT
301  ACGCGTGACG GCAAACCTTT GATTGAGACG TTCAAACAGG AAGGTTTTGA
351  TTGTTTGAAA AAGCAGGGGT TGCGGCGCAA CGGTCTGTCC GAGCGCGTCC
401  GATGGTAA
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 860>:

```
  1  MEIRAIKYTA MAALLAFTVA GCRLAGWYEC SSLSGWCKPR KPAAIDFWDI
 51  GGESPPSLED YEIPLSDGNR SVRANEYESA QQSYFYRKIG KFEACGLDWR
101  TRDGKPLIET FKQEGFDCLK KQGLRRNGLS ERVRW*
```

ORF131a and ORF131-1 show 97.0% identity in 135 aa overlap:

```
orf131a.pep   MEIRAIKYTAMAALLAFTVAGCRLAGWYECSSLSGWCKPRKPAAIDFWDIGGESPPSLED
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||| |
orf131-1      MEIRAIKYTAMAALLAFTVAGCRLAGWYECSSLTGWCKPRKPAAIDFWDIGGESPPSLGD

orf131a.pep   YEIPLSDGNRSVRANEYESAQQSYFYRKIGKFEACGLDWRTRDGKPLIETFKQEGFDCLK
              |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||:
orf131-1      YEIPLSDGNRSVRANEYESAQQSYFYRKIGKFEACGLDWRTRDGKPLIETFKQGGFDCLE

orf131a.pep   KQGLRRNGLSERVRWX
              ||||||||||||||||
```

```
orf131-1        KQGLRRNGLSERVRWX
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF131 shows 89.3% identity over 121 aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF131ng) from *N.gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf131.pep   MEIRAIKYTAMAALLAFTVAGCRLAGWYECSSLTGWCKPRKPAAIDFWDIGGESPPSLGD   60
             ||||:|||||  |||:|||||||||||||||  ||:|||||||||||||||||||||  || |
orf131ng     MEIRVIKYTATAALFAFTVAGCRLAGWYECLSLSGWCKPRKPAAIDFWDIGGESPLSLED   60

orf131.pep   YEIPLSDGNSSVRANEYESAQQSYFYRKIGKFEXCGLDWRTRDGKPLIETFKQGGFDCLE  120
             |||||||||  ||||||||||:||||||||||  |||||||||||||:|  |||  ||||||
orf131ng     YEIPLSDGNRSVRANEYESAQKSYFYRKIGKFEACGLDWRTRDGKPLVERFKQEGFDCLE  120

orf131.pep   K                 121
             |
orf131ng     KQGLRRNGLSERVRW   134
```

A complete length ORF131ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 861> was predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 862>:

```
   1  MEIRVIKYTA TAALFAFTVA GCRLAGWYEC LSLSGWCKPR KPAAIDFWDI
  51  GGESPLSLED YEIPLSDGNR SVRANEYESA QKSYFYRKIG KFEACGLDWR
 101  TRDGKPLVER FKQEGFDCLE KQGLRRNGLS ERVRW*
```

Further work revealed the following gonococcal DNA sequence <SEQ ID 863>:

```
   1  ATGGAAATTC GGGTAATAAA ATATACGGCA ACGGCTGCGT TGTTTGCATT
  51  TACGGTTGCA GGCTGCCGGC TGGCGGGGTG GTATGAGTGT TCGTCCTTGT
 101  CCGGCTGGTG TAAGCCGAGA AAACCTGCCG CCATCGATTT TTGGGATATT
 151  GGCGGCGAGA GtccgctGTC TTTAGAGGAC TACGAGATAC CGCTTTCAGA
 201  CGGCAATCGT TCCGTCAGGG CAAACGAATA TGAATCCGCG CAAAAATCTT
 251  ACTTTTATAG GAAAATAGGG AAGTTTGAAG CCTGCGGGTT GGATTGGCGT
 301  ACGCGTGACG GCAAACCTTT GGTTGAGAGG TTCAAACAGG AAGGTTTCGA
 351  CTGTTTGGAA AAGCAGGGGT TGCGGCGCAA CGGCCTGTCC GAGCGCGTCC
 401  GATGGTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 864; ORF131ng-1>:

```
   1  MEIRVIKYTA TAALFAFTVA GCRLAGWYEC SSLSGWCKPR KPAAIDFWDI
  51  GGESPLSLED YEIPLSDGNR SVRANEYESA QKSYFYRKIG KFEACGLDWR
 101  TRDGKPLVER FKQEGFDCLE KQGLRRNGLS ERVRW*
```

ORF131ng-1 and ORF131-1 show 92.6% identity in 135 aa overlap:

```
orf131ng-1.pep MEIRVIKYTATAALFAFTVAGCRLAGWYECSSLSGWCKPRKPAAIDFWDIGGESPLSLED
               ||||:|||||  |||:||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||  || |
orf131-1       MEIRAIKYTAMAALLAFTVAGCRLAGWYECSSLTGWCKPRKPAAIDFWDIGGESPPSLGD

orf131ng-1.pep YEIPLSDGNRSVRANEYESAQKSYFYRKIGKFEACGLDWRTRDGKPLVERFKQEGFDCLE
               ||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||:|  |||  ||||||
orf131-1       YEIPLSDGNRSVRANEYESAQQSYFYRKIGKFEACGLDWRTRDGKPLIETFKQGGFDCLE

orf131ng-1.pep KQGLRRNGLSERVRWX
               ||||||||||||||||
orf131-1       KQGLRRNGLSERVRWX
```

Based on the presence of a predicted prokaryotic membrane lipoprotein lipid attachment site, it is predicted that the proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 102

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 865>

```
   1  ATGAAACACA TCCATATTAT CGGTATCGGC GGCACGTTTA TGGGCGGGCT
  51  TGCCGCCATT GCCAAAGAAG CGGGGTTTGA AGTCAGCGGT TGCGACGCGA
 101  AGATGTATCC GCCGATGAGC ACCCAGCTCG AAGCCTTGGG TATAGACGTG
 151  TATGAAGGCT TCGATGCCGC TCAGTTGGAC GAATTTAAAG CCGACGTTTA
 201  CGTTATCGGC AATGTCGCCA AGCGCGGGAT GGATGTGGTT GAAGCGATTT
 251  TGAACCTCGG CCTGCCTtTAT ATtTcCGGCC CGCAATGGCT GTCGGAAAAC
 301  GTGCTGCACC ATCATTGGGT ACTCGGTGTG GCGGGGACgC ACGGCAAAAC
 351  GACCACCGCC TCCATGCTCG CATGGGTCTT GGAATATgCC GGCCTCGCGC
 401  CGGGCTTCCT TATtGGCGGC GTACC.GGAA AATttCGGCG TTTCCGCCCG
 451  CCTGCCGCAA ACGCCGCGCC AAGACCCGAA CAGCCAATCG CCGTTTTTcG
 501  TCATCGAAGC CGACGAATAC GACACCGCCT TTtTCGACAA ACGTTCTAAA
 551  TtCGTGCATT ACCGTCCGCG TACCGCCGTG TTGAACAATC TGGAATTCGA
 601  CCACGCCGAC ATCTTTGCCG ACTTGGGCGC GATACAGACc CAGTTCCACT
 651  ACCTCGTGCG TACCGTGCCG TCTGAAGGCT TAATCGTCTG CAACGGACGG
 701  CAGCAAAGCC TGCAAGATAC TTTGGACAAA GGCTGCTGGA CGCCGGTGGA
 751  AAAATTCGGC ACGGAACACG GCTGGCA..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 866; ORF132>:

```
   1  MKHIHIIGIG GTFMGGLAAI AKEAGFEVSG CDAKMYPPMS TQLEALGIDV
  51  YEGFDAAQLD EFKADVYVIG NVAKRGMDVV EAILNLGLPY ISGPQWLSEN
 101  VLHHHWVLGV AGTHGKTTTA SMLAWVLEYA GLAPGFLIGG VXGKFRRFRP
 151  PAANAAPRPE QPIAVFRHRS RRIRHRLFRQ TFXIRALPSA YRRVEQSGIR
 201  PRRHLCRLGR DTDPVPLPRA YRAVXRLNRL QRTAAKPARY FGQRLLDAGG
 251  KIRHGTRLA..
```

Further work revealed the complete nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 867>:

```
   1  ATGAAACACA TCCATATTAT CGGTATCGGC GGCACGTTTA TGGGCGGGCT
  51  TGCCGCCATT GCCAAAGAAG CGGGGTTTGA AGTCAGCGGT TGCGACGCGA
 101  AGATGTATCC GCCGATGAGC ACCCAGCTCG AAGCCTTGGG TATAGACGTG
 151  TATGAAGGCT TCGATGCCGC TCAGTTGGAC GAATTTAAAG CCGACGTTTA
 201  CGTTATCGGC AATGTCGCCA AGCGCGGGAT GGATGTGGTT GAAGCGATTT
 251  TGAACCTCGG CCTGCCTTAT ATTTCCGGCC CGCAATGGCT GTCGGAAAAC
 301  GTGCTGCACC ATCATTGGGT ACTCGGTGTG GCGGGGACGC ACGGCAAAAC
 351  GACCACCGCC TCCATGCTCG CATGGGTCTT GGAATATGCC GGCCTCGCGC
 401  CGGGCTTCCT TATTGGCGGC GTACCGGAAA ATTTCGGCGT TTCCGCCCGC
 451  CTGCCGCAAA CGCCGCGCCA AGACCCGAAC AGCCAATCGC CGTTTTTCGT
 501  CATCGAAGCC GACGAATACG ACACCGCCTT TTTCGACAAA CGTTCTAAAT
 551  TCGTGCATTA CCGTCCGCGT ACCGCCGTGT TGAACAATCT GGAATTCGAC
 601  CACGCCGACA TCTTTGCCGA CTTGGGCGCG ATACAGACCC AGTTCCACTA
 651  CCTCGTGCGT ACCGTGCCGT CTGAAGGCTT AATCGTCTGC AACGGACGGC
 701  AGCAAAGCCT GCAAGATACT TTGGACAAAG GCTGCTGGAC GCCGGTGGAA
 751  AAATTCGGCA CGGAACACGG CTGGCAGGCC GGCGAAGCCA ATGCCGACGG
 801  CTCGTTCGAC GTGTTGCTCG ACGGCAAAAC CGCCGGACGC GTCAAATGGG
 851  ATTTGATGGG CAGGCACAAC CGCATGAACG CGCTCGCCGT CATTGCCGCC
 901  GCGCGTCATG TCGGTGTCGA TATTCAGACC GCCTGCGAAG CCTTGGGCGC
 951  GTTTAAAAAC GTCAAACGCC GGATGGAAAT CAAAGGCACG GCAAACGGCA
1001  TCACCGTTTA CGACGACTTC GCCCACCACC CGACCGCCAT CGAAACCACG
1051  ATTCAAGGTT TGCGCCAACG CGTCGGCGGC GCGCGCATCC TCGCCGTCCT
1101  CGAACCGCGT TCCAACACGA TGAAGCTGGG CACGATGAAG TCCGCCCTGC
1151  CTGTAAGCCT CAAAGAAGCC GACCAAGTGT TCTGCTACGC CGGCGGCGTG
1201  GACTGGGACG TCGCCGAAGC CCTCGCGCCT TTGGGCGGCA GGCTGAACGT
1251  CGGCAAAGAC TTCGATGCCT TCGTTGCCGA AATCGTGAAA AACGCCGAAG
1301  TAGGCGACCA TATTTTGGTG ATGAGCAACG GCGGTTTCGG CGGAATACAC
1351  GGAAAGCTGC TGGAAGCTTT GAGATAG
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 868; ORF132-1>:

```
   1  MKHIHIIGIG GTFMGGLAAI AKEAGFEVSG CDAKMYPPMS TQLEALGIDV
  51  YEGFDAAQLD EFKADVYVIG NVAKRGMDVV EAILNLGLPY ISGPQWLSEN
 101  VLHHHWVLGV AGTHGKTTTA SMLAWVLEYA GLAPGFLIGG VPENFGVSAR
 151  LPQTPRQDPN SQSPFFVIEA DEYDTAFFDK RSKFVHYRPR TAVLNNLEFD
 201  HADIFADLGA IQTQFHYLVR TVPSEGLIVC NGRQQSLQDT LDKGCWTPVE
 251  KFGTEHGWQA GEANADGSFD VLLDGKTAGR VKWDLMGRHN RMNALAVIAA
 301  ARHVGVDIQT ACEALGAFKN VKRRMEIKGT ANGITVYDDF AHHPTAIETT
```

```
351  IQGLRQRVGG ARILAVLEPR SNTMKLGTMK SALPVSLKEA DQVFCYAGGV
401  DWDVAEALAP LGGRLNVGKD FDAFVAEIVK NAEVGDHILV MSNGGFGGIH
451  GKLLEALRT
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with the hypothetical o457 protein of *E.coli* (accession number U14003)

ORF132 and o457 show 58% aa identity in 140 aa overlap:

```
Orf132:  4   IHIIGIGGTFMGGLAAIAKEAGFEVSGCDAKMYPPMSTQLEALGIDVYEGFDAAQLDEFK  63
             IHI+GI GTFMGGLA +A++ G EV+G DA +YPPMST LE  GI++ +G+DA+QL+  +
o457:    3   IHILGICGTFMGGLAMLARQLGHEVTGSDANVYPPMSTLLEKQGIELIQGYDASQLEP-Q  61

Orf132: 64   ADVYVIGNVAKRGMDVVEAILNLGLPYISGPQWLSENVLHHHWVLGVAGTHGKTTTASML 123
              D+ +IGN   RG   VEA+L   +PY+SGPQWL + VL   WVL VAGTHGKTTTA M
o457:   62   PDLVIIGNAMTRGNPCVEAVLEKNIPYMSGPQWLHDFVLRDRWVLAVAGTHGKTTTAGMA 121

Orf132: 124  AWVLEYAGLAPGFLIGGVXG 143
              W+LE  G  PGF+IGGV G
o457:   122  TWILEQCGYKPGFVIGGVPG 141
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF132 shows 74.6% identity over a 189aa overlap with an ORF (ORF132a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf132.pep      MKHIHIIGIGGTFMGGLAAIAKEAGFEVSGCDAKMYPPMSTQLEALGIDVYEGFDAAQLD
                |||||||||||||||:|||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||| ||||||:||||
orf132a         MKHIHIIGIGGTFMGGIAAIAKEAGFEXSGCDAKMYPPMSTQLEALGIGVYEGFDTAQLD
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf132.pep      EFKADVYVIGNVAKRGMDVVEAILNLGLPYISGPQWLSENVLHHHWVLGVAGTHGKTTTA
                |||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||:|| ||||| |||| ||||||||
orf132a         EFKADVYVIGNVAKRGMDVVEAILNRGLPYISGPQWLAENXLHHHWXLGVAXTHGKTTTA
                70        80        90        100       110       120

               130       140       150       160
orf132.pep      SMLAWVLEYAGLAPGFLIGGVXGKFR---RFRPPAANAAPRPEQPI----------AVFR
                |||||||||||||||| |||| :|    |: | :    |  ::|:          | |
orf132a         SMLAWVLEYAGLAPGFXIGGVPENFSVSARL-PQTPRQDPNSQSPFFVIEADEYDTAFFD
                130       140       150       160       170

                170       180       190       200       210       220
orf132.pep      HRSRRIRHRLFRQTFXIRALPSAYRRVEQSGIRPRRHLCRLGRDTDPVPLPRAYRAVXRL
                :||: :::|
orf132a         KRSKFVHYRPRTAVLNNLEFDHADIFADLGAIQTQFHHLVRTVPSEGLIVCNGRQQSLQD
              180       190       200       210       220       230
```

The complete length ORF132a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 869> is:

```
   1  ATGAAACACA TCCACATTAT CGGTATCGGC GGCACGTTTA TGGGTGGGAT
  51  TGCCGCCATT GCCAAAGAAG CAGGGTTTGA ANTCAGCGGT TGCGATGCGA
 101  AGATGTATCC GCCGATGAGC ACCCAGCTCG AAGCCTTGGG CATAGGCGTG
 151  TATGAAGGCT TCGACACCGC GCAGTTGGAC GAATTTAAAG CCGACGTTTA
 201  CGTTATCGGC AATGTCGCCA AGCGCGGGAT GGATGTGGTT GAAGCGATTT
 251  TGAACCGTGG GCTGCCTTAT ATTTCCGGCC CGCAATGGCT GGCTGAAAAC
 301  NTGCTGCACC ATCATTGGNN ACTCGGCGTG GCGGNGACGC ACGGCAAAAC
 351  GACCACCGCG TCTATGCTCG CGTGGGTTTT GGAATATGCC GGACTCGCAC
 401  CGGGCTTCNT TATCGGCGGC GTACCGGAAA ACTTCAGCGT TTCCGCCCGC
 451  CTGCCGCAAA CGCCGCGCCA AGACCCGAAC AGCCAATCGC CGTTTTTCGT
 501  CATTGAAGCC GACGAATACG ACACCGCGTT TTTCGACAAA CGCTCCAAAT
 551  TCGTGCATTA CCGTCCGCGT ACCGCCGTGT TGAACAATCT GGAATTCGAC
 601  CACGCCGACA TCTTCGCCGA TTTGGGCGCG ATACAGACCC AGTTCCACCA
 651  CCTCGTGCGT ACCGTGCCGT CTGAAGGCCT CATCGTCTGC AACGGACGGC
 701  AGCAAAGCCT GCAAGACACT TTGGACAAAG GCTGCTGGAC GCCGGTGGAA
 751  AAATTCGGCA CGGAACACGG CTGGCAGGCC GGCGAAGCCA ATGCCGATGG
```

```
 801  CTCGTTCGAC GTGTTGCTTG ACGGCAAAAA AGCCGGACAC GTCGCTTGGA
 851  GTTTGATGGG CGGACACAAC CGCATGAACG CGCTCGCNGT CATCGCCGCC
 901  GCGCGTCATG CCGGAGTNGA CATTCAGACG GCCTGCGAAG CCTTGAGCAC
 951  GTTTAAAAAC GTCAAACGCC GCATGGAAAT CAAAGGCACG GCAAACGGTA
1001  TCACCGTTTA CGACGACTTC GCCCACCATC CGACCGCTAT CGAAACCACG
1051  ATTCAAGGTT TGCGCCAGCG CGTCGGCGGC GCGCGCATCC TCGCCGTCCT
1101  CGAACCGCGT TCCAATACGA TGAAGCTGGG TACGATGAAA GCCGCCCTGC
1151  CCGCAAGCCT CAAAGAAGCC GACCAAGTGT TCTGNTACGC CGGCGGCGCG
1201  GACTGGGACG TTGCCGAAGC CCTCGCGCCT TTGGGCGGCA GGCTGCACGT
1251  CGGCAAAGAC TTCGATGCCT TCGTTGCCGA AATCGTGAAA AACGCCGAAG
1301  CAGGCGACCA TATTTTGGTG ATGAGCAACG GCGGTTTCGG CGGAATACAC
1351  ACCAAACTGC TGGACGCTTT GAGATAG
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 870>:

```
   1  MKHIHIIGIG GTFMGGIAAI AKEAGFEXSG CDAKMYPPMS TQLEALGIGV
  51  YEGFDTAQLD EFKADVYVIG NVAKRGMDVV EAILNRGLPY ISGPQWLAEN
 101  XLHHHWXLGV AXTHGKTTTA SMLAWVLEYA GLAPGFXIGG VPENFSVSAR
 151  LPQTPRQDPN SQSPFFVIEA DEYDTAFFDK RSKFVHYRPR TAVLNNLEFD
 201  HADIFADLGA IQTQFHHLVR TVPSEGLIVC NGRQQSLQDT LDKGCWTPVE
 251  KFGTEHGWQA GEANADGSFD VLLDGKKAGH VAWSLMGGHN RMNALAVIAA
 301  ARHAGVDIQT ACEALSTFKN VKRRMEIKGT ANGITVYDDF AHHPTAIETT
 351  IQGLRQRVGG ARILAVLEPR SNTMKLGTMK AALPASLKEA DQVFXYAGGA
 401  DWDVAEALAP LGGRLHVGKD FDAFVAEIVK NAEAGDHILV MSNGGFGGIH
 451  TKLLDALR*
```

ORF132a and ORF132-1 show 93.9% identity in 458 aa overlap:

```
orf132a.pep   MKHIHIIGIGGTFMGGIAAIAKEAGFEXSGCDAKMYPPMSTQLEALGIGVYEGFDTAQLD
              ||||||||||||||||:|||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||| ||||||:||||
orf132-1      MKHIHIIGIGGTFMGGLAAIAKEAGFEVSGCDAKMYPPMSTQLEALGIDVYEGFDAAQLD

orf132a.pep   EFKADVYVIGNVAKRGMDVVEAILNRGLPYISGPQWLAENXLHHHWXLGVAXTHGKTTTA
              |||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||:|| ||||| |||| ||||||||
orf132-1      EFKADVYVIGNVAKRGMDVVEAILNLGLPYISGPQWLSENVLHHHWVLGVAGTHGKTTTA

orf132a.pep   SMLAWVLEYAGLAPGFXIGGVPENFSVSARLPQTPRQDPNSQSPFFVIEADEYDTAFFDK
              |||||||||||||||| ||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf132-1      SMLAWVLEYAGLAPGFLIGGVPENFGVSARLPQTPRQDPNSQSPFFVIEADEYDTAFFDK

orf132a.pep   RSKFVHYRPRTAVLNNLEFDHADIFADLGAIQTQFHHLVRTVPSEGLIVCNGRQQSLQDT
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||
orf132-1      RSKFVHYRPRTAVLNNLEFDHADIFADLGAIQTQFHYLVRTVPSEGLIVCNGRQQSLQDT

orf132a.pep   LDKGCWTPVEKFGTEHGWQAGEANADGSFDVLLDGKKAGHVAWSLMGGHNRMNALAVIAA
              |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||:| |:||| ||||||||||||
orf132-1      LDKGCWTPVEKFGTEHGWQAGEANADGSFDVLLDGKTAGRVKWDLMGRHNRMNALAVIAA

orf132a.pep   ARHAGVDIQTACEALSTFKNVKRRMEIKGTANGITVYDDFAHHPTAIETTIQGLRQRVGG
              |||:||||||||||::||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf132-1      ARHVGVDIQTACEALGAFKNVKRRMEIKGTANGITVYDDFAHHPTAIETTIQGLRQRVGG

orf132a.pep   ARILAVLEPRSNTMKLGTMKAALPASLKEADQVFXYAGGADWDVAEALAPLGGRLHVGKD
              ||||||||||||||||||||:|||:||||||||| ||||:||||||||||||:||||
orf132-1      ARILAVLEPRSNTMKLGTMKSALPVSLKEADQVFCYAGGVDWDVAEALAPLGGRLNVGKD

orf132a.pep   FDAFVAEIVKNAEAGDHILVMSNGGFGGIHTKLLDALRX
              |||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||| |||:||||
orf132-1      FDAFVAEIVKNAEVGDHILVMSNGGFGGIHGKLLEALRX
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF132 shows 89.6% identity over 259 aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF132ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf132.pep   MKHIHIIGIGGTFMGGLAAIAKEAGFEVSGCDAKMYPPMSTQLEALGIDVYEGFDAAQLD  60
             ||||||||||||||||:||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||| |:||||||||:
orf132ng     MKHIHIIGIGGTFMGGIAAIAKEAGFKVSGCDAKMYPPMSTQLEALGIGVHEGFDAAQLE  60
```

```
orf132.pep   EFKADVYVIGNVAKRGMDVVEAILNLGLPYISGPQWLSENVLHHHWVLGVAGTHGKTTTA  120
             ||:||:|||||||:|||||||||||| ||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||
orf132ng     EFQADIYVIGNVARRGMDVVEAILNRGLPYISGPQWLAENVLHHHWVLGVAGTHGKTTTA  120

orf132.pep   SMLAWVLEYAGLAPGFLIGGVXGKFRRFRPPAANAAPRPEQPIAVFRHRSRRIRHRLFRQ  180
             |||||||||||||||||||| |||||||||:|||| |||| ||||||||||||||||||
orf132ng     SMLAWVLEYAGLAPGFLIGGVPGKFRRFRPPTANAASRPEQQIAVFRHRSRRIRHRLFRQ  180

orf132.pep   TFXIRALPSAYRRVEQSGIRPRRHLCRLGRDTDPVPLPRAYRAVXRLNRLQRTAAKPARY  240
             |: |||| |||||||||||||| |||||||||| |||:|:: | :||||||||||||
orf132ng     TLQIRALSPAYRRVEQSGIRPRRHLRRLGRDTDPVPPPRAHRTIRRPHRLQRTAAKPARY  240

orf132.pep   FGQRLLDAGGKIRHGTRLA     259
             ||||||||||||| ||||
orf132ng     FGQRLLDAGGKIRHRTRLADW   261
```

An ORF132ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 871> was predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 872>:

```
   1  MKHIHIIGIG GTFMGGIAAI AKEAGFKVSG CDAKMYPPMS TQLEALGIGV
  51  HEGFDAAQLE EFQADIYVIG NVARRGMDVV EAILNRGLPY ISGPQWLAEN
 101  VLHHHWVLGV AGTHGKTTTA SMLAWVLEYA GLAPGFLIGG VPGKFRRFRP
 151  PTANAASRPE QQIAVFRHRS RRIRHRLFRQ TLQIRALSPA YRRVEQSGIR
 201  PRRHLRRLGR DTDPVPPPRA HRTIRRPHRL QRTAAKPARY FGQRLLDAGG
 251  KIRHRTRLAD W*
```

Further work revealed the following gonococcal DNA sequence <SEQ ID 873>:

```
   1  ATGAAACACA TCCACATTAT CGGTATCGGC GGCACGTTTA TGGGCGGGAT
  51  TGCCGCCATT GCCAAAGAAG CCGGGTTCAA AGTCAGCGGT TGCGACGCGA
 101  AGATGTATCC GCCGATGAGC ACCCAGCTCG AAGCCTTGGG CATAGGCGTA
 151  CACGAAGGCT TCGATGCCGC GCAGTTGGAA GAATTTCAAG CCGATATTTA
 201  CGTCATCGGC AATGTCGCCA GGCGCGGGAT GGATGTGGTC GAGGCGATTT
 251  TGAACCGTGG GCTGCCTTAT ATTTCCGGCC CGCAATGGCT GGCTGAAAac
 301  GTGCtgcacc atcaTTGGgt ACTCGGCGTG GcagggaCGC ACGGcaaAac
 351  gaccaCcGcg tCCATGCTCG CCTGGGTCTT GGAATATGCC GGACTCGCGC
 401  CGGGCTTCCT CATCGGCGGt gtaccggaAA ATTTCGGCGT TTCCGCCCGC
 451  CTACCGCAAA CGCCGCGTCA AGACCCGAAC AGCAAATCGC CGTTTTTCGT
 501  CATCGAAGCC GACGAATACG ACACCGCCTT TTTCGACAAA CGCTCCAAAT
 551  TCGTGCATTA TCGCCCGCGT ACCGCCGTGT TGAACAATCT GGAATTCGAC
 601  CACGCCGACA TCTTCGCCGA CTTGGGCGCG ATACAGACCC AGTTCCACCA
 651  CCTCGTGCGC ACCGTACCAT CCGAAGGCCT CATCGTCTGC AACGGACAGC
 701  AGCAAAGCCT GCAAGATACT TTGGACAAAG GCTGCTGGAC GCCGGTGGAA
 751  AAATTCGGCA CCGGACACGG CTGGCAGATT GGTGAAGTCA ATGCCGACGG
 801  CTCGTTCGAC GTATTGCTTG ACGGCAAAAA AGCCGGACAC GTCGCATGGG
 851  ATTTGATGGG CGGACACAAC CGCATGAACG CGCTCGCCGT CATCGCTGCC
 901  GCACGCCATG CCGGAGTCGA TGTTCAGACG GCCTGCGAAG CCTTGGGTGC
 951  GTTTAAAAAC GTCAAACGCC GCATGGAAAT CAAAGGCACG GCAAACGGCA
1001  TCACCGTTTA CGACGATTTC GCCCACCACC CGACCGCCAT CGAAACCACG
1051  ATTCAAGGTT TGCGCCAACG TGTCGGCGGC GCGCGCATCC TCGCCGTCCT
1101  CGAGCCGCGT TCCAACACCA TGAAACTCGG CACGATGAAG TCCGCCCTGC
1151  CCGCAAGCCT CAAAGAAGCC GACCAAGTGT TCTGCTACGC CGGCGGCGCG
1201  GACTGGGACG TTGCCGAAGC CCTCGCGCCT TTGGGCTGCA GGCTGCGCGT
1251  CGGTAAAGAT TTCGATACCT TCGTTGCCGA AATTGTGAAA AACGCCCGAA
1301  CCGGCGACCA TATTTTGGTG ATGAGCAACG GCGGTTTCGG CGGAATACAC
1351  ACCAAACTGC TGGACGCTTT GAGATAG
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 874; ORF132ng-1>:

```
   1  MKHIHIIGIG GTFMGGIAAI AKEAGFKVSG CDAKMYPPMS TQLEALGIGV
  51  HEGFDAAQLE EFQADIYVIG NVARRGMDVV EAILNRGLPY ISGPQWLAEN
 101  VLHHHWVLGV AGTHGKTTTA SMLAWVLEYA GLAPGFLIGG VPENFGVSAR
 151  LPQTPRQDPN SKSPFFVIEA DEYDTAFFDK RSKFVHYRPR TAVLNNLEFD
 201  HADIFADLGA IQTQFHHLVR TVPSEGLIVC NGQQQSLQDT LDKGCWTPVE
 251  KFGTGHGWQI GEVNADGSFD VLLDGKKAGH VAWDLMGGHN RMNALAVIAA
 301  ARHAGVDVQT ACEALGAFKN VKRRMEIKGT ANGITVYDDF AHHPTAIETT
 351  IQGLRQRVGG ARILAVLEPR SNTMKLGTMK SALPASLKEA DQVFCYAGGA
 401  DWDVAEALAP LGCRLRVGKD FDTFVAEIVK NARTGDHILV MSNGGFGGIH
 451  TKLLDALR*
```

ORF132ng-1 and ORF132-1 show 93.2% identity in 458 aa overlap:

```
orf132ng-1.pep MKHIHIIGIGGTFMGGIAAIAKEAGFKVSGCDAKMYPPMSTQLEALGIGVHEGFDAAQLE
               ||||||||||||||||:|||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||| |:||||||||:
orf132-1       MKHIHIIGIGGTFMGGLAAIAKEAGFEVSGCDAKMYPPMSTQLEALGIDVYEGFDAAQLD

orf132ng-1.pep EFQADIYVIGNVARRGMDVVEAILNRGLPYISGPQWLAENVLHHHWVLGVAGTHGKTTTA
               ||:||:|||||||:|||||||||| |||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||
orf132-1       EFKADVYVIGNVAKRGMDVVEAILNLGLPYISGPQWLSENVLHHHWVLGVAGTHGKTTTA

orf132ng-1.pep SMLAWVLEYAGLAPGFLIGGVPENFGVSARLPQTPRQDPNSKSPFFVIEADEYDTAFFDK
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||
orf132-1       SMLAWVLEYAGLAPGFLIGGVPENFGVSARLPQTPRQDPNSQSPFFVIEADEYDTAFFDK

orf132ng-1.pep RSKFVHYRPRTAVLNNLEFDHADIFADLGAIQTQFHHLVRTVPSEGLIVCNGQQQSLQDT
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||:|||||||
orf132-1       RSKFVHYRPRTAVLNNLEFDHADIFADLGAIQTQFHYLVRTVPSEGLIVCNGRQQSLQDT

orf132ng-1.pep LDKGCWTPVEKFGTGHGWQIGEVNADGSFDVLLDGKKAGHVAWDLMGGHNRMNALAVIAA
               |||||||||||||| |||| ||:|||||||||||||| ||:| ||||| ||||||||||||
orf132-1       LDKGCWTPVEKFGTEHGWQAGEANADGSFDVLLDGKTAGRVKWDLMGRHNRMNALAVIAA

orf132ng-1.pep ARHAGVDVQTACEALGAFKNVKRRMEIKGTANGITVYDDFAHHPTAIETTIQGLRQRVGG
               |||:|||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf132-1       ARHVGVDIQTACEALGAFKNVKRRMEIKGTANGITVYDDFAHHPTAIETTIQGLRQRVGG

orf132ng-1.pep ARILAVLEPRSNTMKLGTMKSALPASLKEADQVFCYAGGADWDVAEALAPLGCRLRVGKD
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||:|||||||||||| || ||||
orf132-1       ARILAVLEPRSNTMKLGTMKSALPVSLKEADQVFCYAGGVDWDVAEALAPLGGRLNVGKD

orf132ng-1.pep FDTFVAEIVKNARTGDHILVMSNGGFGGIHTKLLDALRX
               ||:|||||||||::|||||||||||||||| |||:||||
orf132-1       FDAFVAEIVKNAEVGDHILVMSNGGFGGIHGKLLEALRX
```

In addition, ORF132ng-1 is homologous to a hypothetical *E.coli* protein:

```
pir||S56459 hypothetical protein o457 - Escherichia coli >gi|537075 (U14003)
ORF_o457 [Escherichia coli] >gi|1790680 (AE000494) hypothetical 48.5 kD protein
in fbp-pmba intergenic region [Escherichia coli] Length = 457
 Score =  474 bits (1207), Expect = e-133
 Identities = 249/439 (56%), Positives = 294/439 (66%), Gaps = 13/439 (2%)

Query: 22  KEAGFKVSGCDAKMYPPMSTQLEALGIGVHEGFDAAQLEEFQADIYVIGNVARRGMDVVE 81
           ++ G +V+G DA +YPPMST LE  GI + +G+DA+QLE  Q D+ +IGN   RG   VE
Sbjct: 21  RQLGHEVTGSDANVYPPMSTLLEKQGIELIQGYDASQLEP-QPDLVIIGNAMTRGNPCVE 79

Query: 82  AILNRGLPYISGPQWLAENVLHHHWVLGVAGTHGKTTTASMLAWVLEYAGLAPGFLIGGV 141
           A+L + +PY+SGPQWL + VL   WVL VAGTHGKTTTA M  W+LE  G  PGF+IGGV
Sbjct: 80  AVLEKNIPYMSGPQWLHDFVLRDRWVLAVAGTHGKTTTAGMATWILEQCGYKPGFVIGGV 139

Query: 142 PENFGVSARLPQTPRQDPNSKSPFFVIEADEYDTAFFDKRSKFVHYRPRTAVLNNLEFDH 201
           P NF VSA L          +S FFVIEADEYD AFFDKRSKFVHY PRT +LNNLEFDH
Sbjct: 140 PGNFEVSAHL---------GESDFFVIEADEYDCAFFDKRSKFVHYCPRTLILNNLEFDH 190

Query: 202 ADIFADLGAIQTQFHHLVRTVPSEGLIVCNGQQQSLQDTLDKGCWTPVEKFGTGHGWQIG 261
           ADIF DL AIQ QFHHLVR VP +G I+      +L+ T+  GCW+  E  G    WQ
Sbjct: 191 ADIFDDLKAIQKQFHHLVRIVPGQGRIIWPENDINLKQTMAMGCWSEQELVGEQGHWQAK 250

Query: 262 EVNADGS-FDVLLDGKKAGHVAWDLMGGHNRMNALAVIAAARHAGVDVQTACEALGAFKN 320
           ++  D S ++VLLDG+K G V W L+G HN  N L  IAAARH GV    A  ALG+F N
Sbjct: 251 KLTTDASEWEVLLDGEKVGEVKWSLVGEHNMHNGLMAIAAARHVGVAPADAANALGSFIN 310

Query: 321 VKRRMEIKGTANGITVYDDFAHHPTAIETTIQGLRQRVGG-ARILAVLEPRSNTMKLGTM 379
            +RR+E++G ANG+TVYDDFAHHPTAI  T+  LR +VGG ARI+AVLEPRSNTMK+G
Sbjct: 311 ARRRLELRGEANGVTVYDDFAHHPTAILATLAALRGKVGGTARIIAVLEPRSNTMKMGIC 370

Query: 380 KSALPASLKEADQVF-CYAGGADWDVAEALAPLGCRLRVGKDFDTFVAEIVKNARTGDHI 438
           K  L  SL  AD+VF        W VAE              D DT    +VK A+ GDHI
Sbjct: 371 KDDLAPSLGRADEVFLLQPAHIPWQVAEVAEACVQPAHWSGDVDTLADMVVKTAQPGDHI 430

Query: 439 LVMSNGGFGGIHTKLLDAL 457
```

```
          LVMSNGGFGGIH KLLD L
Sbjct: 431 LVMSNGGFGGIHQKLLDGL 449
```

Based on this analysis, it was predicted that these proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

ORF132-1 (26.4kDa) was cloned in pET and pGex vectors and expressed in *E.coli*, as described above. The products of protein expression and purification were analyzed by SDS-PAGE. Figure 20A shows the results of affinity purification of the His-fusion protein, and Figure 20B shows the results of expression of the GST-fusion in *E.coli*. Purified His-fusion protein was used to immunise mice, whose sera were used for FACS analysis (Figure 20C) and ELISA (positive result). These experiments confirm that ORF132 is a surface-exposed protein, and that it is a useful immunogen.

Example 103

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 875>

```
   1  ..CCGGGCTATT ACGGCTCGGA TGACGAATTT AAGCGGGCAT TCGGAGAAAA
  51    CTCGCCGACA TmCAAGAAAC ATTGCAACCG GAGCTGCGGG ATTTATGAAC
 101    CCGTATTGAA AAAATACGGC AAAAAGCGCG CCAACAACCA TTCGGTCAGC
 151    ATTAGTGCGG ACTTCGGCGA TTATTTCATG CCGTTCGCCA GCTATTCGCG
 201    CACACACCGT ATGCCCAACA TCCAAGAAAT GTATTTTTCC CAAATCGGCG
 251    ACTCCGGCGT TCACACCGCC TTAAAACCAG AGCGCGCAAA CACTTGGCAA
 301    TTTGGCTTCr ATACCTATAA AAAAGGATTG TTAAAACAAG ATGATACATT
 351    AGGATTAAAA CTGGTCGGCT ACCGCAGCCG CATCGACAAC TACATCCACA
 401    ACGTTTACGG GAAATGGTGG GATTTGAACG GGGATATTCC GAGCTGGGTC
 451    AGCAGCACCG GGCTTGCCTA CACCATCCAA CATCGCrATT TCAwAGACAA
 501    AGTGCATCAA nnnnnnnnnn nnnnnnnnnn nnnnTACGAT TATGGGCGTT
 551    TTTTCACCAA CCTTTCTTAC GCCTATCAAA AAAGCACGCA ACCGACCAAC
 601    TTCAGCGATG CGAGCGAATC GCCCAACAAT GCGTCCAAAG AAGACCAACT
 651    CAAACAAGGT TATGGGTTGA GCAGGGTTTC CGCCCTGCCG CGAGATTACG
 701    GACGTTTGGA AGTCGGTACG CGCTGGTTGG GCAACAAACT GACTTTGGGC
 751    GGCGCGATGC GCTATTTCGG CAAGAGCATC CGCGCGACGG CTGAAGAACG
 801    CTATATCGAC GGCACCAACG GGGGAAATAC CAGCAATTTC CGGCAACTGG
 851    GCAAGCGTTC CATCAAACAA ACCGAAACTC TTGCCCGCCA GCCTTTGATT
 901    TTwGATTTTa ACGCCGCTTA CGAGCCGAAG AAAAACCTTA TTTTCCGCGC
 951    CGAAGTCAAA AATCTGTTCG ACAGGCGTTA TATCGATCCG CTCGATGCGG
1001    GCAATGATGC GGCAAC.GAG CGTTATTACA GCTCGTTCGA CCCGAAAGAC
1051    AAGGACrrAG ACGTAACGTG TAATGCTGAT AAAACGTTGT GCaACGGCAA
1101    ATACGGCGGC ACAAGCAAAA GCGTATTGAC CAATTTTGCA CGCGGACGCA
1151    CCTTTTTgAT GACGATGAGC TACAAGTTTT AA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 876; ORF133>:

```
   1  ..PGYYGSDDEF KRAFGENSPT XKKHCNRSCG IYEPVLKKYG KKRANNHSVS
  51    ISADFGDYFM PFASYSRTHR MPNIQEMYFS QIGDSGVHTA LKPERANTWQ
 101    FGFXTYKKGL LKQDDTLGLK LVGYRSRIDN YIHNVYGKWW DLNGDIPSWV
 151    SSTGLAYTIQ HRXFXDKVHQ XXXXXXXXYD YGRFFTNLSY AYQKSTQPTN
 201    FSDASESPNN ASKEDQLKQG YGLSRVSALP RDYGRLEVGT RWLGNKLTLG
 251    GAMRYFGKSI RATAEERYID GTNGGNTSNF RQLGKRSIKQ TETLARQPLI
 301    XDFNAAYEPK KNLIFRAEVK NLFDRRYIDP LDAGNDAAXE RYYSSFDPKD
 351    KDXDVTCNAD KTLCNGKYGG TSKSVLTNFA RGRTFLMTMS YKF*
```

Further work revealed the further partial DNA sequence <SEQ ID 877>:

```
   1  GAGGCGCAGA TACAGGTTTT GGAAGATGTG CACGTCAAGG CGAAGCGCGT
  51  ACCGAAAGAC AAAAAAGTGT TTACCGATGC GCGTGCCGTA TCGACCCGTC
 101  AGGATATATT CAAATCCAGC GAAAACCTCG ACAACATCGT ACGCAGCATC
 151  CCCGGTGCGT TTACACAGCA AGATAAAAGC TCGGGCATTG TGTCTTTGAA
 201  TATTCGCGGC GACAGCGGGT TCGGGCGGGT CAATACGATG GTGGACGGCA
 251  TCACGCAGAC CTTTTATTCG ACTTCTACCG ATGCGGGCAG GGCAGGCGGT
```

```
 301  TCATCTCAAT TCGGTGCATC TGTCGACAGC AATTTTATTG CCGGACTGGA
 351  TGTCGTCAAA GGCAGCTTCA GCGGCTCGGC AGGCATCAAC AGCCTTGCCG
 401  GTTCGGCGAA TCTGCGGACT TTAGGCGTGG ATGACGTCGT TCAGGGCAAT
 451  AATACCTACG GCCTGCTGCT AAAAGGTCTG ACCGGCACCA ATTCAACCAA
 501  AGGTAATGCG ATGGCGGCGA TAGGTGCGCG CAAATGGCTG GAAAGCGGAG
 551  CATCTGTCGG TGTGCTTTAC GGGCACAGCA GGCGCAGCGT GGCGCAAAAT
 601  TACCGCGTGG GCGGCGGCGG GCAGCACATC GGAAATTTTG GCGCGGAATA
 651  TTTGGAACGG CGCAAGCAGC GATATTTTGT ACAAGAGGGT GCTTTGAAAT
 701  TCAATTCCGA CAGCGGAAAA TGGGAGCGGG ATTTACAAAG GCAACAGTGG
 751  AAATACAAGC CGTATAAAAA TTACAACAAC CAAGAACTAC AaAAATACAT
 801  CGAAGAGCAT GACAAAAGCT GGCGGGAAAA CCTg.CaCCG CAATACGACA
 851  TTACCCCCAT CGATCCGTCC AGCCTGAAGC AGCAGTCGGC AGGCAATCTG
 901  TTTAAATTGG AATACGACGG CGTATTCAAT AAATACACGG CGCAATTTCG
 951  CGATTTAAAC ACCAAAATCG GCAGCCGCAA AATCATCAAC CGCAATTATC
1001  AGTTCAATTA CGGTTTGTCT TTGAACCCGT ATACCAACCT CAATCTGACC
1051  GCAGCCTACA ATTCGGGCAG GCAGAAATAT CCGAAAGGGT CGAAGTTTAC
1101  AGGCTGGGGG CTTTTAAAGG ATTTTGAAAC CTACAACAAC GCGAAAATCC
1151  TCGACCTCAA CAACACCGCC ACCTTCCGGC TGCCCCGCGA AACCGAGTTG
1201  CAAACCACTT TGGGCTTCAA TTATTTCCAC AACGAATACG GCAAAAACCG
1251  CTTTCCTGAA GAATTGGGGC TGTTTTTCGA CGGTCCTGAT CAGGACAACG
1301  GGCTTTATTC CTATTTGGGG CGGTTTAAGG GCGATAAAGG GCTGCTGCCC
1351  CAAAAATCAA CCATTGTCCA ACCGGCCGGC AGCCAATATT TCAACACGTT
1401  CTACTTCGAT GCCGCGCTCA AAAAAGACAT TTACCGCTTA AACTACAGCA
1451  CCAATACCGT CGGCTACCGT TTCGGCGGCG AATATACGGG CTATTACGGC
1501  TCGGATGACG AATTTAAGCG GGCATTCGGA GAAAACTCGC CGACATACAA
1551  GAAACATTGC AACCGGAGCT GCGGGATTTA TGAACCCGTA TTGAAAAAAT
1601  ACGGCAAAAA GCGCGCCAAC AACCATTCGG TCAGCATTAG TGCGGACTTC
1651  GGCGATTATT TCATGCCGTT CGCCAGCTAT TCGCGCACAC ACCGTATGCC
1701  CAACATCCAA GAAATGTATT TTTCCCAAAT CGGCGACTCC GGCGTTCACA
1751  CCGCCTTAAA ACCAGAGCGC GCAAACACTT GGCAATTTGG CTTCAATACC
1801  TATAAAAAAG GATTGTTAAA ACAAGATGAT ACATTAGGAT TAAAACTGGT
1851  CGGCTACCGC AGCCGCATCG ACAACTACAT CCACAACGTT TACGGGAAAT
1901  GGTGGGATTT GAACGGGGAT ATTCCGAGCT GGGTCAGCAG CACCGGGCTT
1951  GCCTACACCA TCCAACATCG CAATTTCAAA GACAAAGTGC ACAAACACGG
2001  TTTTGAGTTG GAGCTGAATT ACGATTATGG GCGTTTTTTC ACCAACCTTT
2051  CTTACGCCTA TCAAAAAAGC ACGCAACCGA CCAACTTCAG CGATGCGAGC
2101  GAATCGCCCA ACAATGCGTC CAAAGAAGAC CAACTCAAAC AAGGTTATGG
2151  GTTGAGCAGG GTTTCCGCCC TGCCGCGAGA TTACGGACGT TTGGAAGTCG
2201  GTACGCGCTG GTTGGGCAAC AAACTGACTT TGGGCGGCGC GATGCGCTAT
2251  TTCGGCAAGA GCATCCGCGC GACGGCTGAA GAACGCTATA TCGACGGCAC
2301  CAACGGGGGA AATACCAGCA ATTTCCGGCA ACTGGGCAAG CGTTCCATCA
2351  AACAAACCGA AACTCTTGCC CGCCAGCCTT TGATTTTTGA TTTTTACGCC
2401  GCTTACGAGC CGAAGAAAAA CCTTATTTTC CGCGCCGAAG TCAAAAATCT
2451  GTTCGACAGG CGTTATATCG ATCCGCTCGA TGCGGGCAAT GATGCGGCAA
2501  CGCAGCGTTA TTACAGCTCG TTCGACCCGA AAGACAAGGA CGAAGACGTA
2551  ACGTGTAATG CTGATAAAAC GTTGTGCAAC GGCAAATACG GCGGCACAAG
2601  CAAAAGCGTA TTGACCAATT TTGCACGCGG ACGCACCTTT TTGATGACGA
2651  TGAGCTACAA GTTTTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 878; ORF133-1>:

```
   1  EAQIQVLEDV HVKAKRVPKD KKVFTDARAV STRQDIFKSS ENLDNIVRSI
  51  PGAFTQQDKS SGIVSLNIRG DSGFGRVNTM VDGITQTEYS TSTDAGRAGG
 101  SSQFGASVDS NFIAGLDVVK GSFSGSAGIN SLAGSANLRT LGVDDVVQGN
 151  NTYGLLLKGL TGTNSTKGNA MAAIGARKWL ESGASVGVLY GHSRRSVAQN
 201  YRVGGGGQHI GNFGAEYLER RKQRYFVQEG ALKFNSDSGK WERDLQRQQW
 251  KYKPYKNYNN QELQKYIEEH DKSWRENLXP QYDITPIDPS SLKQQSAGNL
 301  FKLEYDGVFN KYTAQFRDLN TKIGSRKIIN RNYQFNYGLS LNPYTNLNLT
 351  AAYNSGRQKY PKGSKFTGWG LLKDFETYNN AKILDLNNTA TFRLPRETEL
 401  QTTLGFNYFH NEYGKNRFPE ELGLFFDGPD QDNGLYSYLG RFKGDKGLLP
 451  QKSTIVQPAG SQYFNTFYFD AALKKDIYRL NYSTNTVGYR FGGEYTGYYG
 501  SDDEFKRAFG ENSPTYKKHC NRSCGIYEPV LKKYGKKRAN NHSVSISADF
 551  GDYFMPFASY SRTHRMPNIQ EMYFSQIGDS GVHTALKPER ANTWQFGFNT
 601  YKKGLLKQDD TLGLKLVGYR SRIDNYIHNV YGKWWDLNGD IPSWVSSTGL
 651  AYTIQHRNFK DKVHKHGFEL ELNYDYGRFF TNLSYAYQKS TQPTNFSDAS
 701  ESPNNASKED QLKQGYGLSR VSALPRDYGR LEVGTRWLGN KLTLGGAMRY
 751  FGKSIRATAE ERYIDGTNGG NTSNFRQLGK RSIKQTETLA RQPLIFDFYA
 801  AYEPKKNLIF RAEVKNLFDR RYIDPLDAGN DAATQRYYSS FDPKDKDEDV
 851  TCNADKTLCN GKYGGTSKSV LTNFARGRTF LMTMSYKF*
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence gave the following results:

Homology with with the probable TonB-dependent receptor HI121 of *H.influenzae* (accession number U32801)

ORF133 and HI121 show 57% aa identity in 363aa overlap:

```
Orf133: 31   IYEPVLKKYGKKRANNHSVSISADFGDYFMPFASYSRTHRMPNIQEMYFSQIGDSGVHTA 90
             I EP+L K G K+A NHS ++SA+  DYFMPF +YSRTHRMPNIQEM+FSQ+ ++GV+TA
HI121:  563 INEPILHKSGHKKAFNHSATLSAELSDYFMPFFTYSRTHRMPNIQEMFFSQVSNAGVNTA 622

Orf133: 91   LKPERANTWQFGFXTYKKGLLKQDDTLGLKLVGYRSRIDNYIHNVYGKWWDLNGDIPSWV 150
             LKPE+++T+Q GF TYKKGL  QDD LG+KLVGYRS I NYIHNVYG WW      +P+W
HI121:  623 LKPEQSDTYQLGFNTYKKGLFTQDDVLGVKLVGYRSFIKNYIHNVYGVWW--RDGMPTWA 680

Orf133: 151  SSTGLAYTIQHRXFXDKVHXXXXXXXXXYDYGRFFTNLSYAYQKSTQPTNFSDASESPNN 210
              S G  YTI H+ +   V           YD GRFF N+SYAYQ++ QPTN++DAS  PNN
HI121:  681 ESNGFKYTIAHQNYKPIVKKSGVELEINYDMGRFFANVSYAYQRTNQPTNYADASPRPNN 740

Orf133: 211  ASKEDQLKQGYGLSRVSALPRDYGRLEVGTRWLGNKLTLGGAMRYFGKSIRATAEERYID 270
             AS+ED LKQGYGLSRVS LP+DYGRLE+GTRW   KLTLG A RY+GKS RAT EE YI+
HI121:  741 ASQEDILKQGYGLSRVSMLPKDYGRLELGTRWFDQKLTLGLAARYYGKSKRATIEEEYIN 800

Orf133: 271  GTNGGNTSNFRQLGKRSIKQTETLARQPLIXDFNAAYEPKKNLIFRAEVKNLFDRRYIDP 330
             G+     +  R+    ++K+TE + +QP+I D + +YEP K+LI +AEV+NL D+RY+DP
HI121:  801 GSR-FKKNTLRRENYYAVKKTEDIKKQPIILDLHVSYEPIKDLIIKAEVQNLLDKRYVDP 859

Orf133: 331  LDAGNDAAXERYYSSFDPKDKDXDVTCNADKTLCNGKYGGTSKSVLTNFARGRTFLMTMS 390
             LDAGNDAA +RYYSS      +  + C  D + C    GG+ K+VL NFARGRT++++++
HI121:  860 LDAGNDAASQRYYSSL-----NNSIECAQDSSAC----GGSDKTVLYNFARGRTYILSLN 910

Orf133: 391  YKF 393
             YKF
HI121:  911  YKF 913
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF133 shows 90.8% identity over a 392aa overlap with an ORF (ORF133a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                                                    10        20        30
orf133.pep                                        PGYYGSDDEFKRAFGENSPTXKKHCNRSCGI
                                                  ||| |||||||||||||||  ||||:||||
orf133a       FYFDAALKKDIYRLNYSTNTVGYRFGGXYTGYYXSDDEFKRAFGENSPTYXKHCNQSCGI
            450       460       470       480       490       500

                    40        50        60        70        80        90
orf133.pep    YEPVLKKYGKKRANNHSVSISADFGDYFMPFASYSRTHRMPNIQEMYFSQIGDSGVHTAL
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf133a       YEPVLKKYGKKRANNHSVSISADFGDYFMPFASYSRTHRMPNIQEMYFSQIGDSGVHTAL
            510       520       530       540       550       560

                   100       110       120       130       140       150
orf133.pep    KPERANTWQFGFXTYKKGLLKQDDTLGLKLVGYRSRIDNYIHNVYGKWWDLNGDIPSWVS
              |||||||||||| |||||||||| |||||||||||| |||||||||||||:||||||
orf133a       KPERANTWQFGFNTYKKGLLKQDDILGLKLVGYRSRIDXYIHNVYGKWWDLNGNIPSWVS
            570       580       590       600       610       620

                   160       170       180       190       200       210
orf133.pep    STGLAYTIQHRXFXDKVHQXXXXXXXXYDYGRFFTNLSYAYQKSTQPTNFSDASESPNNA
              |||||||||||| | ||||:        ||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf133a       STGLAYTIQHRNFKDKVHKHGFELELNYDYXRFFTNLSYAYQKSTQPTNFSDASESPNNA
            630       640       650       660       670       680

                   220       230       240       250       260       270
orf133.pep    SKEDQLKQGYGLSRVSALPRDYGRLEVGTRWLGNKLTLGGAMRYFGKSIRATAEERYIDG
              ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf133a       SKEDQLKQGYGLSRVSALPRDYGRLEVGTRWLGNKLTLGGAMRYFGKSIRATAEERYIDX
            690       700       710       720       730       740

                   280       290       300       310       320       330
orf133.pep    TNGGNTSNFRQLGKRSIKQTETLARQPLIXDFNAAYEPKKNLIFRAEVKNLFDRRYIDPL
```

```
                 ||| |||||||||||| |||||||||||  | |||||||  ||||||||||||||||||
orf133a          TNGXXTSNFRQLGKRSIXQTETLARQPLIFDXYAAYEPKKXLIFRAEVKNLFDRRYIDPL
               750        760        770        780        790        800

                       340        350        360        370        380        390
orf133.pep       DAGNDAAXERYYSSFDPKDKDXDVTCNADKTLCNGKYGGTSKSVLTNFARGRTFLMTMSY
                 ||||||||::|||||||||||||| :|||| |:|||||||||||||||||||||| |||:||||
orf133a          DAGNDAATQRYYSSFDPKDKDEEVTCNDDNTLCNGKYGGTSKSVLTNFARGXTFLITMSY
               810        820        830        840        850        860

orf133.pep      KFX
                ||| 
orf133a         KFX
               870
```

A partial ORF133a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 879> is:

```
   1  AAAGACAAAA AAGTGTTTAC CGATGCGCGT GCCGTATCGA CCCGTCAGGA
  51  TATATTCAAA TCCANCGAAA ACCTCGACAA CATCGTACGC ANCATCCCCG
 101  GTGCGTTTAC ACANCAANAT AAAAGCTCGG GCNTTGTGTC TTTGAATATT
 151  CGCNGCGACA GCGGGTTCGG GCGGGTCAAT ACNATGGTNG ACGGCATCAC
 201  NCANACCTTT TATTCGACTT CTACCGATGC GGGCAGGGCA GGCGGTTCAT
 251  CTCAATTCGG TGCATCTGTC GACAGCAATT TTATNGCCGG ACTGGATGTC
 301  GTCAAAGGCA GCTTCAGCGG CTCGGCAGGC ATCAACAGCC TTGCCGGTTC
 351  GGCGAATCTG CGGACTTTAN GCGTGGATGA TGTCGTTCAG GGCAATANTA
 401  CNTACGGCCT GCTGCTAAAA GGTCTGACCG GCACCAATTC AACCAAAGGT
 451  AATGCGATGG CGGCGATAGG TGCGCGCAAA TGGCTGGAAA GCGGAGCATC
 501  TGTCGGTGTG CTTTACGGGC ACAGCAGGCG CAGCGTGGCG CAAAATTACC
 551  GCGTGGGCGG CGGCGGGCAG CACATCGGAA ATTTTGGCGC GGAATATCTG
 601  GAACGACGCA AGCAACGATA TTTTGAGCAA GAAGGCGGGT TGAAATTCAA
 651  TTCCAACAGC GGAAAATGGG AGCGGGATTT CCAAAAGTCG TACTGGAAAA
 701  CCAAGTGGTA TCAAAAATAC GATGCCCCCC AAGAACTGCA AAAATACATC
 751  GAAGGTCATG ATAAAAGCTG GCGGGAAAAC CTGGCGCCGC AATACGACAT
 801  CACCCCCATC GATCCGTCCA GCCTGAAGCN GCAGTCGGCA GGCAACCTGT
 851  TTAAATTGGA ATACGACGGC GTATTCAATA AATACACGGC GCAATTTCGC
 901  GATTTAAACA CCAAAATCGG CAGCCGCAAA ATCATCAACC GCAATTATCA
 951  ATTCAATTAC GGTTTGTCTT TGAACCCGTA TACCAACCTC AATCTGACCG
1001  CAGCCTACAA TTCGGGCAGG CAGAAATATC CGAAAGGGTC GAAGTTTACA
1051  GGCTGGGGGC TTTTNAAAGA TTTTGAAACC TACAACAACG CAAAAATCCT
1101  CGACCTCANC AACACCTCCA CCTTCCGGCT GCCCCGTGAA ACCGAGTTGC
1151  AAACCACTTT GGGCTTCAAT TATTTCCACA ACGAATACGG CAAAAACCGC
1201  TTTCCTGAAG AATTGGGGCT GTTTTTCGAC GGTCCGGATC ANGACAACGG
1251  GCTTTATTCC TATTTGGGGC GGTTTAAGGG CGATAAAGGG CTGCTGCCCC
1301  AAAAATCAAC CATTGTCCAA CCGGCCGGCA GCCAATATTT CAACACGTTC
1351  TACTTCGATG CCGCGCTCAA AAAAGACATT TACCGCTTAA ACTACAGCAC
1401  CAATACCGTC GGCTACCGTT TCGGCGGCNA ATATACGGGC TATTACNGCT
1451  CGGATGACGA ATTTAAGCGG GCATTCGGAG AAAACTCGCC GACATACANG
1501  AAACATTGCA ACCAGAGCTG CGGAATTTAT GAACCCGTAT TGAAAAAATA
1551  CGGCAAAAAG CGCGCCAACA ACCATTCGGT CAGCATTAGT GCGGACTTCG
1601  GCGATTATTT CATGCCGTTC GCCAGCTATT CGCGCACACA CCGTATGCCC
1651  AACATCCAAG AAATGTATTT TTCCCAAATC GGCGACTCCG GCGTTCACAC
1701  CGCCTTAAAA CCAGAGCGCG CAAACACTTG GCAATTTGGC TTCAATACCT
1751  ATAAAAAAGG ATTGTTAAAA CAAGATGATA TATTAGGATT AAAACTGGTC
1801  GGCTACCGCA GCCGCATCGA CNACTACATC CACAACGTTT ACGGGAAATG
1851  GTGGGATTTG AACGGGAATA TTCCGAGCTG GGTCAGCAGC ACCGGGCTTG
1901  CCTACACCAT CCAACACCGC AATTTCAAAG ACAAAGTGCA CAAACACGGT
1951  TTTGAGTTGG AGCTGAATTA CGATTATNGG CGTTTTTTCA CCAACCTTTC
2001  TTACGCCTAT CAAAAAAGCA CGCAACCGAC CAACTTCAGC GATGCGAGCG
2051  AATCGCCCAA CAATGCGTCC AAAGAAGACC AACTCAAACA AGGTTATGGG
2101  TTGAGCAGGG TTTCCGCCCT GCCGCGAGAT TACGGACGTT TGGAAGTCGG
2151  TACGCGCTGG TTGGGCAACA AACTGACTTT GGGCGGCGCG ATGCGCTATT
2201  TCGGCAAGAG CATCCGCGCG ACGGCTGAAG AACGCTATAT CGACGNCACC
2251  AATGGGGNAN NTACCAGCAA TTTCCGGCAA CTGGGCAAGC GTTCCATCAN
2301  ACAAACCGAA ACCCTTGCCC GCCAGCCTTT GATTTTTGAT TTNTACGCCG
2351  CTTACGAGCC GAAGAAAAAN CTTATTTTCC GCGCCGAAGT CAAAAATCTG
2401  TTCGACAGGC GTTATATCGA TCCGCTCGAT GCGGGCAATG ATGCGGCAAC
2451  GCAGCGTTAT TACAGTTCGT TCGACCCGAA AGACAAGGAC GAAGAAGTAA
2501  CGTGTAATGA TGATAACACG TTATGCAACG GCAAATACGG CGGCACAAGC
2551  AAAAGCGTAT TGACCAATTT TGCACGCGGA CNCACCTTTT TGATAACGAT
2601  GAGCTACAAG TTTTAA
```

This encodes a protein having (partial) amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 880>:

```
   1  KDKKVFTDAR AVSTRQDIFK SXENLDNIVR XIPGAFTXQX KSSGXVSLNI
  51  RXDSGFGRVN TMVDGITXTF YSTSTDAGRA GGSSQFGASV DSNFXAGLDV
 101  VKGSFSGSAG INSLAGSANL RTLXVDDVVQ GNXTYGLLLK GLTGTNSTKG
 151  NAMAAIGARK WLESGASVGV LYGHSRRSVA QNYRVGGGGQ HIGNFGAEYL
 201  ERRKQRYFEQ EGGLKFNSNS GKWERDFQKS YWKTKWYQKY DAPQELQKYI
 251  EGHDKSWREN LAPQYDITPI DPSSLKXQSA GNLFKLEYDG VFNKYTAQFR
 301  DLNTKIGSRK IINRNYQFNY GLSLNPYTNL NLTAAYNSGR QKYPKGSKFT
 351  GWGLXKDFET YNNAKILDLX NTSTFRLPRE TELQTTLGFN YFHNEYGKNR
 401  FPEELGLFFD GPDXDNGLYS YLGRFKGDKG LLPQKSTIVQ PAGSQYFNTF
 451  YFDAALKKDI YRLNYSTNTV GYRFGGXYTG YYXSDDEFKR AFGENSPTYX
 501  KHCNQSCGIY EPVLKKYGKK RANNHSVSIS ADFGDYFMPF ASYSRTHRMP
 551  NIQEMYFSQI GDSGVHTALK PERANTWQFG FNTYKKGLLK QDDILGLKLV
 601  GYRSRIDXYI HNVYGKWWDL NGNIPSWVSS TGLAYTIQHR NFKDKVHKHG
 651  FELELNYDYX RFFTNLSYAY QKSTQPTNFS DASESPNNAS KEDQLKQGYG
 701  LSRVSALPRD YGRLEVGTRW LGNKLTLGGA MRYFGKSIRA TAEERYIDXT
 751  NGXXTSNFRQ LGKRSIXQTE TLARQPLIFD XYAAYEPKKX LIFRAEVKNL
 801  FDRRYIDPLD AGNDAATQRY YSSFDPKDKD EEVTCNDDNT LCNGKYGGTS
 851  KSVLTNFARG XTFLITMSYK F*
```

ORF133a and ORF133-1 show 94.3% identity in 871 aa overlap:

```
                                          10        20        30        40
orf133a.pep                          KDKKVFTDARAVSTRQDIFKSXENLDNIVRXIPGAFTXQXKS
                                     ||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||| |||||| | ||
orf133-1          EAQIQVLEDVHVKAKRVPKDKKVFTDARAVSTRQDIFKSSENLDNIVRSIPGAFTQQDKS
                         10        20        30        40        50        60

                      50        60        70        80        90       100
orf133a.pep       SGXVSLNIRXDSGFGRVNTMVDGITXTFYSTSTDAGRAGGSSQFGASVDSNFXAGLDVVK
                  || |||||| ||||||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||||||
orf133-1          SGIVSLNIRGDSGFGRVNTMVDGITQTFYSTSTDAGRAGGSSQFGASVDSNFIAGLDVVK
                         70        80        90       100       110       120

                     110       120       130       140       150       160
orf133a.pep       GSFSGSAGINSLAGSANLRTLXVDDVVQGNXTYGLLLKGLTGTNSTKGNAMAAIGARKWL
                  |||||||||||||||||||| |||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf133-1          GSFSGSAGINSLAGSANLRTLGVDDVVQGNNTYGLLLKGLTGTNSTKGNAMAAIGARKWL
                         130       140       150       160       170       180

                     170       180       190       200       210       220
orf133a.pep       ESGASVGVLYGHSRRSVAQNYRVGGGGQHIGNFGAEYLERRKQRYFEQEGGLKFNSNSGK
                  ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| |||:|||||:|||
orf133-1          ESGASVGVLYGHSRRSVAQNYRVGGGGQHIGNFGAEYLERRKQRYFVQEGALKFNSDSGK
                         190       200       210       220       230       240

                     230       240       250       260       270       280
orf133a.pep       WERDFQKSYWKTKWYQKYDAPQELQKYIEGHDKSWRENLAPQYDITPIDPSSLKXQSAGN
                  ||||:|::  || |  |::|:  |||||||| |||||||| |||||||||||||| |||||
orf133-1          WERDLQRQQWKYKPYKNYNN-QELQKYIEEHDKSWRENLXPQYDITPIDPSSLKQQSAGN
                         250       260       270       280       290

                     290       300       310       320       330       340
orf133a.pep       LFKLEYDGVFNKYTAQFRDLNTKIGSRKIINRNYQFNYGLSLNPYTNLNLTAAYNSGRQK
                  ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf133-1          LFKLEYDGVFNKYTAQFRDLNTKIGSRKIINRNYQFNYGLSLNPYTNLNLTAAYNSGRQK
                  300       310       320       330       340       350

                     350       360       370       380       390       400
orf133a.pep       YPKGSKFTGWGLXKDFETYNNAKILDLXNTSTFRLPRETELQTTLGFNYFHNEYGKNRFP
                  |||||||||||| |||||||||||||| ||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf133-1          YPKGSKFTGWGLLKDFETYNNAKILDLNNTATFRLPRETELQTTLGFNYFHNEYGKNRFP
                  360       370       380       390       400       410

                     410       420       430       440       450       460
orf133a.pep       EELGLFFDGPDXDNGLYSYLGRFKGDKGLLPQKSTIVQPAGSQYFNTFYFDAALKKDIYR
                  |||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf133-1          EELGLFFDGPDQDNGLYSYLGRFKGDKGLLPQKSTIVQPAGSQYFNTFYFDAALKKDIYR
                  420       430       440       450       460       470
```

```
                    470       480       490       500       510       520
orf133a.pep    LNYSTNTVGYRFGGXYTGYYXSDDEFKRAFGENSPTYXKHCNQSCGIYEPVLKKYGKKRA
               ||||||||||||||| ||||| |||||||||||||||| ||||:||||||||||||||||
orf133-1       LNYSTNTVGYRFGGEYTGYYGSDDEFKRAFGENSPTYKKHCNRSCGIYEPVLKKYGKKRA
          480       490       500       510       520       530

                    530       540       550       560       570       580
orf133a.pep    NNHSVSISADFGDYFMPFASYSRTHRMPNIQEMYFSQIGDSGVHTALKPERANTWQFGFN
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf133-1       NNHSVSISADFGDYFMPFASYSRTHRMPNIQEMYFSQIGDSGVHTALKPERANTWQFGFN
          540       550       560       570       580       590

                    590       600       610       620       630       640
orf133a.pep    TYKKGLLKQDDILGLKLVGYRSRIDXYIHNVYGKWWDLNGNIPSWVSSTGLAYTIQHRNF
               |||||||||||| |||||||||||| |||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||
orf133-1       TYKKGLLKQDDTLGLKLVGYRSRIDNYIHNVYGKWWDLNGDIPSWVSSTGLAYTIQHRNF
          600       610       620       630       640       650

                    650       660       670       680       690       700
orf133a.pep    KDKVHKHGFELELNYDYXRFFTNLSYAYQKSTQPTNFSDASESPNNASKEDQLKQGYGLS
               |||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf133-1       KDKVHKHGFELELNYDYGRFFTNLSYAYQKSTQPTNFSDASESPNNASKEDQLKQGYGLS
          660       670       680       690       700       710

                    710       720       730       740       750       760
orf133a.pep    RVSALPRDYGRLEVGTRWLGNKLTLGGAMRYFGKSIRATAEERYIDXTNGXXTSNFRQLG
               |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||| ||||||||
orf133-1       RVSALPRDYGRLEVGTRWLGNKLTLGGAMRYFGKSIRATAEERYIDGTNGGNTSNFRQLG
          720       730       740       750       760       770

                    770       780       790       800       810       820
orf133a.pep    KRSIXQTETLARQPLIFDXYAAYEPKKXLIFRAEVKNLFDRRYIDPLDAGNDAATQRYYS
               ||||| |||||||||||||| |||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf133-1       KRSIKQTETLARQPLIFDFYAAYEPKKNLIFRAEVKNLFDRRYIDPLDAGNDAATQRYYS
          780       790       800       810       820       830

                    830       840       850       860       870
orf133a.pep    SFDPKDKDEEVTCNDDNTLCNGKYGGTSKSVLTNFARGXTFLITMSYKFX
               |||||||||:|||| |:||||||||||||||||||| |||:||||||||
orf133-1       SFDPKDKDEDVTCNADKTLCNGKYGGTSKSVLTNFARGRTFLMTMSYKFX
          840       850       860       870       880
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF133 shows 92.3% identity over 392 aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF133ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf133.pep                                    PGYYGSDDEFKRAFGENSPTXKKHCNRSCGI   31
                                              |||||::||||||||||||: |:||: |||:
orf133ng       FYFDAALKKDIYRLNYSTNAINYRFGGEYTGYYGSENEFKRAFGENSPAYKEHCDPSCGL  560

orf133.pep     YEPVLKKYGKKRANNHSVSISADFGDYFMPFASYSRTHRMPNIQEMYFSQIGDSGVHTAL   91
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf133ng       YEPVLKKYGKKRANNHSVSISADFGDYFMPFAGYSRTHRMPNIQEMYFSQIGDSGVHTAL  620

orf133.pep     KPERANTWQFGFXTYKKGLLKQDDTLGLKLVGYRSRIDNYIHNVYGKWWDLNGDIPSWVS  151
               |||||||||||| |||||||||||| |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:
orf133ng       KPERANTWQFGFNTYKKGLLKQDDILGLKLVGYRSRIDNYIHNVYGKWWDLNGDIPSWVG  680

orf133.pep     STGLAYTIQHRXFXDKVHQXXXXXXXXYDYGRFFTNLSYAYQKSTQPTNFSDASESPNNA  211
               ||||||||:|| | ||||:        ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf133ng       STGLAYTIRHRNFKDKVHKHGFELELNYDYGRFFTNLSYAYQKSTQPTNFSDASESPNNA  740

orf133.pep     SKEDQLKQGYGLSRVSALPRDYGRLEVGTRWLGNKLTLGGAMRYFGKSIRATAEERYIDG  271
               ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf133ng       SKEDQLKQGYGLSRVSALPRDYGRLEVGTRWLGNKLTLGGAMRYFGKSIRATAEERYIDG  800

orf133.pep     TNGGNTSNFRQLGKRSIKQTETLARQPLIXDFNAAYEPKKNLIFRAEVKNLFDRRYIDPL  331
               |||||||| |||||||||||||||||||| || ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf133ng       TNGGNTSNVRQLGKRSIKQTETLARQPLIFDFYAAYEPKKNLIFRAEVKNLFDRRYIDPL  860
```

```
orf133.pep    DAGNDAAXERYYSSFDPKDKDXDVTCNADKTLCNGKYGGTSKSVLTNFARGRTFLMTMSY  391
              ||||||||:|||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf133ng      DAGNDAATQRYYSSFDPKDKDEDVTCNADKTLCNGKYGGTSKSVLTNFARGRTFLMTMSY  920

orf133.pep    KF  393
              ||
orf133ng      KF  922
```

The complete length ORF133ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 881> is predicted to encode a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 882>:

```
   1  MRSSFRLKPI CFYLMGVMLY HHSYAEDAGR AGSEAQIQVL EDVHVKAKRV
  51  PKDKKVFTDA RAVSTRQDVF KSGENLDNIV RSIPGAFTQQ DKSSGIVSLN
 101  IRGDSGFGRV NTMVDGITQT FYSTSTDAGR AGGSSQFGAS VDSNFIAGLD
 151  VVKGSFSGSA GINSLAGSAN LRTLGVDDVV QGNNTYGLLL KGLTGTNSTK
 201  GNAMAAIGAR KWLESGASVG VLYGHSRRGV AQNYRVGGGG QHIGNFGEEY
 251  LERRKQQYFV QEGGLKFNAG SGKWERDLQR QYWKTKWYKK YEDPQELQKY
 301  IEEHDKSWRE NLAPQYDITP IDPSGLKQQS AGNLLNLEYD GVFNKYTAQF
 351  RDLNTRIGSR KIINRNYQFN YGLSLNPYTN LNLTAAYNSG RQKYPKGAKF
 401  TGWGLLKDFE TYNNAKILDL NNTATFRLPR ETELQTTLGF NYFHNEYGKN
 451  RFPEELGLFF DGPDQDNGLY SYLGRFKGDK GLLPQKSTIV QPAGSQYFNT
 501  FYFDAALKKD IYRLNYSTNA INYRFGGEYT GYYGSENEFK RAFGENSPAY
 551  KEHCDPSCGL YEPVLKKYGK KRANNHSVSI SADFGDYFMP FAGYSRTHRM
 601  PNIQEMYFSQ IGDSGVHTAL KPERANTWQF GFNTYKKGLL KQDDILGLKL
 651  VGYRSRIDNY IHNVYGKWWD LNGDIPSWVG STGLAYTIRH RNFKDKVHKH
 701  GFELELNYDY GRFFTNLSYA YQKSTQPTNF SDASESPNNA SKEDQLKQGY
 751  GLSRVSALPR DYGRLEVGTR WLGNKLTLGG AMRYFGKSIR ATAEERYIDG
 801  TNGGNTSNVR QLGKRSIKQT ETLARQPLIF DFYAAYEPKK NLIFRAEVKN
 851  LFDRRYIDPL DAGNDAATQR YYSSFDPKDK DEDVTCNADK TLCNGKYGGT
 901  SKSVLTNFAR GRTFLMTMSY KF*
```

A variant was also identified, being encoded by the gonococcal DNA sequence <SEQ ID 883>:

```
   1  ATGAGATCTT CTTTCCGGTT GAAGCCGATT TGTTTTTATC TTATGGGTGT
  51  TATGCTATAT CATCATAGTT ATGCCGAAGA TGCAGGGCGC GCGGGCAGCG
 101  AGGCGCAGAT ACAGGTTTTG GAAGATGTGC ACGTCAAGGC GAAGCGCGTA
 151  CCGAAAGACA AAAAAGTGTT TACCGATGCG CGTGCCGTAT CGACCCGTca
 201  gGATGTGTTC AAATCCGGCG AAAACCTCGA CAACATCGTA CGCAGCATAC
 251  CCGGTGCGTT TACACAGCAA GATAAAAGCT CGGGCATTGT GTCTTTGAAT
 301  ATTCGCGGCG ACAGCGGGTT CGGGCGGGTC AATACGATGG TGGACGGCAT
 351  CACGCAGACC TTTTATTCGA CTTCTACCGA TGCGGGCAGG GCAGGCGGTT
 401  CATCTCAATT CGGTGCATCT GTCGACAGCA ATTTTATTGC CGGACTGGAT
 451  GTCGTCAAAG GCAGCTTCAG CGGCTCGGCA GGCATCAACA GCCTTGCCGG
 501  TTCGGCGAAT CTGCGGACTT TAGGCGTGGA TGACGTCGTT CAGGGCAATA
 551  ATACCTACGG CCTGCTGCTA AAAGGTCTGA CCGGCACCAA TTCAACCAAA
 601  GGTAATGCGA TGGCGGCGAT AGGTGCGCGC AAATGGCTGG AAAGCGGAGC
 651  GTCTGTCGGT GTGCTTTACG GGCACAGCAG GCGCGGCGTG GCGCAAAATT
 701  ACCGCGTGGG CGGCGGCGGG CAGCACATCG GAAATTTTGG TGAAGAATAT
 751  CTGGAACGGC GCAAACAGCA ATATTTTGTA CAAGAGGGTG GTTTGAAATT
 801  CAATGCCGGC AGCGGAAAAT GGGAACGGGA TTTGCAAAGG CAATACTGGA
 851  AAACAAAGTG GTATAAAAAA TACGAAGACC CCCAAGAACT GCAAAAATAC
 901  ATCGAAGAGC ATGATAAAAG CTGGCGGGAA AACCTGGCGC CGCAATACGA
 951  CATCACCCCC ATCGATCCGT CCGGCCTGAA GCAGCAGTCG GCAGGCAATC
1001  TGTTTAAATT GGAATACGAC GGCGTATTCA ATAAATACAC GGCGCAATTT
1051  CGCGATTTAA ACACCAGAAT CGGCAGCCGC AAAATCATCA ACCGCAATTA
1101  TCAATTCAAT TACGGTTTGT CTTTGAACCC GTATACCAAC CTCAATCTGA
1151  CCGCAGCCTA CAATTCGGGC AGGCAGAAAT ATCCGAAAGG GGCGAAGTTT
1201  ACAGGCTGGG GGCTTTTAAA AGATTTTGAA ACCTACAACA ACGCGAAAAT
1251  CCTCGACCTC AACAACACCG CCACCTTCCG GCTGCCCCGC GAAACCGAGT
1301  TGCAAACCAC TTTGGGCTTC AATTATTTCC ACAACGAATA CGGCAAAAAC
1351  CGCTTTCCTG AAGAATTGGG GCTGTTTTTC GACGGTCCTG ATCAGGACAA
1401  CGGGCTTTAT TCCTATTTGG GGCGGTTTAA GGGCGATAAA GGGCTGTTGC
1451  CTCAAAAATC AACCATTGTC CAACCGGCCG GCAGCCAATA TTTCAACACG
1501  TTCTACTTCG ATGCCGCGCT CAAAAAAGAC ATTTACCGCT TAAACTACAG
1551  CACCAATGCA ATCAACTACC GTTTCGGCGG CGAATATACG GGCTATTACG
1601  GCTCGGAAAA CGAATTTAAG CGGGCATTCG GAGAAAACTC GCCGGCATAC
1651  AAGGAACATT GCGACCCGAG CTGCGGGCTT TATGAACCCG TATTGAAAAA
1701  ATACGGCAAA AAGCGCGCCA ACAACCATTC GGTCAGCATT AGTGCGGACT
1751  TCGGCGATTA TTTCATGCCG TTCGCCGGCT ATTCGCGCAC ACACCGTATG
```

```
1801  CCCAACATCC AAGAAATGTA TTTTTCCCAA ATCGGCGACT CCGGCGTTCA
1851  CACCGCCTTA AAACCAGAGC GCGCAAACAC TTGGCAATTT GGCTTCAATA
1901  CCTATAAAAA AGGATTGTTA AAACAAGATG ATATATTAGG ATTGAAACTG
1951  GTCGGCTACC GCAGCCGCAT TGACAACTAC ATCCACAACG TTTACGGGAA
2001  ATGGTGGGAT TTGAACGGGG ATATTCCGAG CTGGGTCGGC AGCACCGGGC
2051  TTGCCTACAC CATCCGACAC CGCAATTTCA AAGACAAAGT GCACAAACAC
2101  GGTTTTGAGC TGGAGCTGAA TTACGATTAT GGGCGTTTTT TCACCAACCT
2151  TTCTTACGCC TATCAAAAAA GCACGCAACC GACCAATTTC AGCGATGCGA
2201  GCGAATCGCC CAACAATGCC tccaaAGAAG ACCAACTCAA ACAAGGTTAT
2251  GGGCTGAGCA GGGTTTCCGC CCTGCCGCGA GATTACGGAC GTTTGGAAGT
2301  CGGTACGCGC TGGTTGGGCA ACAAACTGAC TTTGGGCGGC GCGAtgcGCT
2351  ATTTCGGCAA GAGCATCCGC GCGACGGCTG AAGAACGCTA TATCGACGGC
2401  ACCAACGGGG GAAATACCAG CAATGTCCGG CAACTGGGCA AGCGTTCCAT
2451  CAAACAAACC GAAACCCTTG CCCGACAGCC TTTGATTTTT GATTTTTACG
2501  CCGCTTACGA GCCGAAGAAA AACCTTATTT TCCGCGCCGA AGTCAAAAAC
2551  CTGTTCGACA GGCGTTATAT CGATCCGCTC GATGCGGGCA ATGATGCGGC
2601  AACGCAGCGT TATTACAGCT CGTTCGACCC GAAAGACAAG GACGAAGACG
2651  TAACGTGTAA TGCTGATAAA ACGTTGTGCA ACGGCAAATA CGGCGGCACA
2701  AGCAAAAGCG TATTGACCAA TTTCGCACGC GGACGCACCT TCTTGATGAC
2751  GATGAGCTAC AAGTTTTAA
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 884; ORF133ng-1>:

```
1   MRSSFRLKPI CFYLMGVMLY HHSYAEDAGR AGSEAQIQVL EDVHVKAKRV
51  PKDKKVFTDA RAVSTRQDVF KSGENLDNIV RSIPGAFTQQ DKSSGIVSLN
101 IRGDSGFGRV NTMVDGITQT FYSTSTDAGR AGGSSQFGAS VDSNFIAGLD
151 VVKGSFSGSA GINSLAGSAN LRTLGVDDVV QGNNTYGLLL KGLTGTNSTK
201 GNAMAAIGAR KWLESGASVG VLYGHSRRGV AQNYRVGGGG QHIGNFGEEY
251 LERRKQQYFV QEGGLKFNAG SGKWERDLQR QYWKTKWYKK YEDPQELQKY
301 IEEHDKSWRE NLAPQYDITP IDPSGLKQQS AGNLFKLEYD GVFNKYTAQF
351 RDLNTRIGSR KIINRNYQFN YGLSLNPYTN LNLTAAYNSG RQKYPKGAKF
401 TGWGLLKDFE TYNNAKILDL NNTATFRLPR ETELQTTLGF NYFHNEYGKN
451 RFPEELGLFF DGPDQDNGLY SYLGRFKGDK GLLPQKSTIV QPAGSQYFNT
501 FYFDAALKKD IYRLNYSTNA INYRFGGEYT GYYGSENEFK RAFGENSPAY
551 KEHCDPSCGL YEPVLKKYGK KRANNHSVSI SADFGDYFMP FAGYSRTHRM
601 PNIQEMYFSQ IGDSGVHTAL KPERANTWQF GFNTYKKGLL KQDDILGLKL
651 VGYRSRIDNY IHNVYGKWWD LNGDIPSWVG STGLAYTIRH RNFKDKVHKH
701 GFELELNYDY GRFFTNLSYA YQKSTQPTNF SDASESPNNA SKEDQLKQGY
751 GLSRVSALPR DYGRLEVGTR WLGNKLTLGG AMRYFGKSIR ATAEERYIDG
801 TNGGNTSNVR QLGKRSIKQT ETLARQPLIF DFYAAYEPKK NLIFRAEVKN
851 LFDRRYIDPL DAGNDAATQR YYSSFDPKDK DEDVTCNADK TLCNGKYGGT
901 SKSVLTNFAR GRTFLMTMSY KF*
```

ORF133ng-1 and ORF133-1 show 96.2% identity in 889 aa overlap:

```
                          10        20        30        40        50        60
orf133ng-1.pep SFRLKPICFYLMGVMLYHHSYAEDAGRAGSEAQIQVLEDVHVKAKRVPKDKKVFTDARAV
                                                  ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf133-1                                          EAQIQVLEDVHVKAKRVPKDKKVFTDARAV
                                                        10        20        30

                          70        80        90       100       110       120
orf133ng-1.pep STRQDVFKSGENLDNIVRSIPGAFTQQDKSSGIVSLNIRGDSGFGRVNTMVDGITQTFYS
                     |||||:|||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf133-1        STRQDIFKSSENLDNIVRSIPGAFTQQDKSSGIVSLNIRGDSGFGRVNTMVDGITQTFYS
                          40        50        60        70        80        90

                         130       140       150       160       170       180
orf133ng-1.pep TSTDAGRAGGSSQFGASVDSNFIAGLDVVKGSFSGSAGINSLAGSANLRTLGVDDVVQGN
                     ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf133-1        TSTDAGRAGGSSQFGASVDSNFIAGLDVVKGSFSGSAGINSLAGSANLRTLGVDDVVQGN
                         100       110       120       130       140       150

                         190       200       210       220       230       240
orf133ng-1.pep NTYGLLLKGLTGTNSTKGNAMAAIGARKWLESGASVGVLYGHSRRGVAQNYRVGGGGQHI
                     ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||
orf133-1        NTYGLLLKGLTGTNSTKGNAMAAIGARKWLESGASVGVLYGHSRRSVAQNYRVGGGGQHI
                         160       170       180       190       200       210

                         250       260       270       280       290       300
orf133ng-1.pep GNFGEEYLERRKQQYFVQEGGLKFNAGSGKWERDLQRQYWKTKWYKKYEDPQELQKYIEE
```

```
                 |||| |||||||:||||||:||||: |||||||||||  ||  |  ||:|:: |||||||||
orf133-1         GNFGAEYLERRKQRYFVQEGALKFNSDSGKWERDLQRQQWKYKPYKNYNN-QELQKYIEE
                      220       230       240       250       260

                        310       320       330       340       350       360
orf133ng-1.pep   HDKSWRENLAPQYDITPIDPSGLKQQSAGNLFKLEYDGVFNKYTAQFRDLNTRIGSRKII
                 |||||||||  ||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|||||||
orf133-1         HDKSWRENLXPQYDITPIDPSSLKQQSAGNLFKLEYDGVFNKYTAQFRDLNTKIGSRKII
                    270       280       290       300       310       320

                        370       380       390       400       410       420
orf133ng-1.pep   NRNYQFNYGLSLNPYTNLNLTAAYNSGRQKYPKGAKFTGWGLLKDFETYNNAKILDLNNT
                 |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf133-1         NRNYQFNYGLSLNPYTNLNLTAAYNSGRQKYPKGSKFTGWGLLKDFETYNNAKILDLNNT
                    330       340       350       360       370       380

                        430       440       450       460       470       480
orf133ng-1.pep   ATFRLPRETELQTTLGFNYFHNEYGKNRFPEELGLFFDGPDQDNGLYSYLGRFKGDKGLL
                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf133-1         ATFRLPRETELQTTLGFNYFHNEYGKNRFPEELGLFFDGPDQDNGLYSYLGRFKGDKGLL
                    390       400       410       420       430       440

                        490       500       510       520       530       540
orf133ng-1.pep   PQKSTIVQPAGSQYFNTFYFDAALKKDIYRLNYSTNAINYRFGGEYTGYYGSENEFKRAF
                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:::|||||||||||||::||||||
orf133-1         PQKSTIVQPAGSQYFNTFYFDAALKKDIYRLNYSTNTVGYRFGGEYTGYYGSDDEFKRAF
                    450       460       470       480       490       500

                        550       560       570       580       590       600
orf133ng-1.pep   GENSPAYKEHCDPSCGLYEPVLKKYGKKRANNHSVSISADFGDYFMPFAGYSRTHRMPNI
                 |||||:||:||: |||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||
orf133-1         GENSPTYKKHCNRSCGIYEPVLKKYGKKRANNHSVSISADFGDYFMPFASYSRTHRMPNI
                    510       520       530       540       550       560

                        610       620       630       640       650       660
orf133ng-1.pep   QEMYFSQIGDSGVHTALKPERANTWQFGFNTYKKGLLKQDDILGLKLVGYRSRIDNYIHN
                 |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||
orf133-1         QEMYFSQIGDSGVHTALKPERANTWQFGFNTYKKGLLKQDDTLGLKLVGYRSRIDNYIHN
                    570       580       590       600       610       620

                        670       680       690       700       710       720
orf133ng-1.pep   VYGKWWDLNGDIPSWVGSTGLAYTIRHRNFKDKVHKHGFELELNYDYGRFFTNLSYAYQK
                 ||||||||||||||:||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf133-1         VYGKWWDLNGDIPSWVSSTGLAYTIQHRNFKDKVHKHGFELELNYDYGRFFTNLSYAYQK
                    630       640       650       660       670       680

                        730       740       750       760       770       780
orf133ng-1.pep   STQPTNFSDASESPNNASKEDQLKQGYGLSRVSALPRDYGRLEVGTRWLGNKLTLGGAMR
                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf133-1         STQPTNFSDASESPNNASKEDQLKQGYGLSRVSALPRDYGRLEVGTRWLGNKLTLGGAMR
                    690       700       710       720       730       740

                        790       800       810       820       830       840
orf133ng-1.pep   YFGKSIRATAEERYIDGTNGGNTSNVRQLGKRSIKQTETLARQPLIFDFYAAYEPKKNLI
                 |||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf133-1         YFGKSIRATAEERYIDGTNGGNTSNFRQLGKRSIKQTETLARQPLIFDFYAAYEPKKNLI
                    750       760       770       780       790       800

                        850       860       870       880       890       900
orf133ng-1.pep   FRAEVKNLFDRRYIDPLDAGNDAATQRYYSSFDPKDKDEDVTCNADKTLCNGKYGGTSKS
                 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf133-1         FRAEVKNLFDRRYIDPLDAGNDAATQRYYSSFDPKDKDEDVTCNADKTLCNGKYGGTSKS
                    810       820       830       840       850       860

                        910       920
orf133ng-1.pep   VLTNFARGRTFLMTMSYKFX
                 ||||||||||||||||||||
orf133-1         VLTNFARGRTFLMTMSYKFX
                    870       880
```

In addition, ORF133ng-1 is homologous to a TonB-dependent receptor in *H.influenzae*:

```
sp|P45114|YC17_HAEIN PROBABLE TONB-DEPENDENT RECEPTOR HI1217 PRECURSOR
>gi|1075372|pir||G64110 transferrin binding protein 1 precursor (tbp1) homolog -
Haemophilus influenzae (strain Rd KW20) >gi|1574147 (U32801) transferrin binding
protein 1 precursor (tbp1) [Haemophilus influenzae] Length = 913
 Score =  930 bits (2377), Expect = 0.0
 Identities = 476/921 (51%), Positives = 619/921 (66%), Gaps = 72/921 (7%)

Query: 38  QVLEDVHVKAKRVPKDKKVFTDARAVSTRQDVFKSGENLDNIVRSIPGAFTQQDKSSGIV 97
           + L  + V  K +  DKK FT+A+A STR++VFK  + +D ++RSIPGAFTQQDK SG+V
Sbjct: 29  ETLGQIDVVEKVISNDKKPFTEAKAKSTRENVFKETQTIDQVIRSIPGAFTQQDKGSGVV 88

Query: 98  SLNIRGDSGFGRVNTMVDGITQTFYSTSTDAGRAGGSSQFGASVDSNFIAGLDVVKGSFS 157
           S+NIRG++G GRVNTMVDG+TQTFYST+ D+G++GGSSQFGA++D NFIAG+DV K +FS
Sbjct: 89  SVNIRGENGLGRVNTMVDGVTQTFYSTALDSGQSGGSSQFGAAIDPNFIAGVDVNKSNFS 148

Query: 158 GSAGINSLAGSANLRTLGVDDVVQXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXAMAAIGARKWLESGA 217
           G++GIN+LAGSAN RTLGV+DV+                       M     RKWL++G
Sbjct: 149 GASGINALAGSANFRTLGVNDVITDDKPFGIILKGMTGSNATKSNFMTMAAGRKWLDNGG 208

Query: 218 SVGVLYGHSRRGVAQNYRVGGGGQHIGNFGEEYLERRKQQYFVQEGGLKFNAGSGKWERD 277
            VGV+YG+S+R V+Q+YR+ GGG+ + + G++ L + K+ YF +  G   N   G+W  D
Sbjct: 209 YVGVVYGYSQREVSQDYRI-GGGERLASLGQDILAKEKEAYF-RNAGYILNP-EGQWTPD 265

Query: 278 LQRQYWK-----------TKWY--------------------KKYEDPQELQK---YIEE 303
           L +++W               +Y                    KK +D ++LQK     IEE
Sbjct: 266 LSKKHWSCNKPDYQKNGDCSYYRIGSAAKTRREILQELLTNGKKPKDIEKLQKGNDGIEE 325

Query: 304 HDKSWRENLAPQYDITPIDPSGLKQQSAGNLFKLEYDGVFNKYTAQFRDLNTRIGSRKII 363
            DKS+  N   QY + PI+P  L+ +S  +L K EY         AQ R L+ +IGSRKI
Sbjct: 326 TDKSFERN-KDQYSVAPIEPGSLQSRSRSHLLKFEYGDDHQNLGAQLRTLDNKIGSRKIE 384

Query: 364 NRNYQFNYGLSLNPYTNLNLTAAYNSGRQKYPKGAKFTGWGLLKDFETYNNAKILDLNNT 423
           NRNYQ NY  + N Y +LNL AA+N G+  YPKG  F GW +     T N A I+D+NN+
Sbjct: 385 NRNYQVNYNFNNNSYLDLNLMAAHNIGKTIYPKGGFFAGWQVADKLITKNVANIVDINNS 444

Query: 424 ATFRLPRETELQTTLGFNYFHNEYGKNRFPEELGLFFDGPDQDNGLYSY--LGRFKGDKG 481
            TF LP+E +L+TTLGFNYF NEY KNRFPEEL LF++    D GLYS+   GR+ G K
Sbjct: 445 HTFLLPKEIDLKTTLGFNYFTNEYSKNRFPEELSLFYNDASHDQGLYSHSKRGRYSGTKS 504

Query: 482 LLPQKSTIVQPAGSQYFNTFYFDAALKKDIYRLNYSTNAINYRFGGEYTGYYGSENEFKR 541
           LLPQ+S I+QP+G Q F T YFD AL K IY LNYS N  +Y F GEY GY
Sbjct: 505 LLPQRSVILQPSGKQKFKTVYFDTALSKGIYHLNYSVNFTHYAFNGEYVGY--------- 555

Query: 542 AFGENSPAYKEHCDPSCGLYEPVLKKYGKKRANNHSVSISADFGDYFMPFAGYSRTHRMP 601
              EN+   +         + EP+L K G K+A NHS ++SA+  DYFMPF  YSRTHRMP
Sbjct: 556 ---ENTAGQQ--------INEPILHKSGHKKAFNHSATLSAELSDYFMPFFTYSRTHRMP 604

Query: 602 NIQEMYFSQIGDSGVHTALKPERANTWQFGFNTYKKGLLKQDDILGLKLVGYRSRIDNYI 661
           NIQEM+FSQ+ ++GV+TALKPE+++T+Q GFNTYKKGL  QDD+LG+KLVGYRS I NYI
Sbjct: 605 NIQEMFFSQVSNAGVNTALKPEQSDTYQLGFNTYKKGLFTQDDVLGVKLVGYRSFIKNYI 664

Query: 662 HNVYGKWWDLNGDIPSWVGSTGLAYTIRHRNFKDKVHKHGFELELNYDYGRFFTNLSYAY 721
           HNVYG WW     +P+W  S G  YTI H+N+K  V K G ELE+NYD GRFF N+SYAY
Sbjct: 665 HNVYGVWW--RDGMPTWAESNGFKYTIAHQNYKPIVKKSGVELEINYDMGRFFANVSYAY 722

Query: 722 QKSTQPTNFSDASESPNNASKEDQLKQGYGLSRVSALPRDYGRLEVGTRWLGNKLTLGGA 781
           Q++ QPTN++DAS  PNNAS+ED LKQGYGLSRVS LP+DYGRLE+GTRW   KLTLG A
Sbjct: 723 QRTNQPTNYADASPRPNNASQEDILKQGYGLSRVSMLPKDYGRLELGTRWFDQKLTLGLA 782

Query: 782 MRYFGKSIRATAEERYIDGTNGGNTSNVRQLGKRSIKQTETLARQPLIFDFYAAYEPKKN 841
            RY+GKS RAT EE YI+G+     + +R+    ++K+TE + +QP+I D + +YEP K+
Sbjct: 783 RYYGKSKRATIEEEYINGSR-FKKNTLRRENYYAVKKTEDIKKQPIILDLHVSYEPIKD 841

Query: 842 LIFRAEVKNLFDRRYIDPLDAGNDAATQRYYSSFDPKDKDEDVTCNADKTLCNGKYGGTS 901
           LI +AEV+NL D+RY+DPLDAGNDAA+QRYYSS      +  + C  D + C    GG+
Sbjct: 842 LIIKAEVQNLLDKRYVDPLDAGNDAASQRYYSSL-----NNSIECAQDSSAC----GGSD 892

Query: 902 KSVLTNFARGRTFLMTMSYKF 922
           K+VL NFARGRT++++++YKF
Sbjct: 893 KTVLYNFARGRTYILSLNYKF 913
```

The underlined motif in the gonococcal protein (also present in the meningococcal protein) is predicted to be an ATP/GTP-binding site motif A (P-loop), and the analysis suggests that these proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

Example 104

The following partial DNA sequence was identified in *N.meningitidis* <SEQ ID 885>

```
   1  ATGAACCTGA TTTCACGTTA CATCATCCGT CAAATGGCGG TTATGGCGGT
  51  TTACGCGCTC CTTGCCTTCC TCGCTTTGTA CAGCTTTTTT GAAATCCTGT
 101  ACGAAACCGG CAACCTCGGC AAAGGCAGTT ACGGCATATG GGAAATGCTG
 151  GGCTACACCG CCCTCAAAAT GCCCGCCCGC GCCTACGAAC TGATTCCCCT
 201  CGCCGTCCTT ATCGGCGGAC TGGTCTCCCT CAGCCAGCTT GCCGCCGGCA
 251  GCGAACTGAC CGTCATCAAA GCCAGCGGCA TGAGCACCAA AAAGCTGCTG
 301  TTGATTCTGT CGCAGTTCGG TTTTATTTTT GCTATTGCCA CCGTCGCGCT
 351  CGGCGAATGG GTTGCGCCCA CACTGAGCCA AAAAGCCGAA AACATCAAAG
 401  CCGCCGCCAT CAACGGCAAA ATCAGCACCG GCAATACCGG CCTTTGGCTG
 451  AAAGAAAAAA ACAGCGTGAT CAATGTGCGC GAAATGTTGC CCGACCAT..
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 886; ORF112>:

```
   1  MNLISRYIIR QMAVMAVYAL LAFLALYSFF EILYETGNLG KGSYGIWEML
  51  GYTALKMPAR AYELIPLAVL IGGLVSLSQL AAGSELTVIK ASGMSTKKLL
 101  LILSQFGFIF AIATVALGEW VAPTLSQKAE NIKAAAINGK ISTGNTGLWL
 151  KEKNSVINVR EMLPDH...
```

Further work revealed further partal nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 887>:

```
   1  ATGAACCTGA TTTCACGTTA CATCATCCGT CAAATGGCGG TTATGGCGGT
  51  TTACGCGCTC CTTGCCTTCC TCGCTTTGTA CAGCTTTTTT GAAATCCTGT
 101  ACGAAACCGG CAACCTCGGC AAAGGCAGTT ACGGCATATG GGAAATGCTG
 151  gGCTACACCG CCCTCAAAAT GCCCGCCCGC GCCTACGAAC TGATTCCCCT
 201  CGCCGTCCTT ATCGGCGGAC TGGTCTCCCT CAGCCAGCTT GCCGCCGGCA
 251  GCGAACTGAC CGTCATCAAA GCCAGCGGCA TGAGCACCAA AAAGCTGCTG
 301  TTGATTCTGT CGCAGTTCGG TTTTATTTTT GCTATTGCCA CCGTCGCGCT
 351  CGGCGAATGG GTTGCGCCCA CACTGAGCCA AAAAGCCGAA AACATCAAAG
 401  CCGCCGCCAT CAACGGCAAA ATCAGCACCG GCAATACCGG CCTTTGGCTG
 451  AAAGAAAAAA ACAGCrTkAT CAATGTGCGC GAAATGTTGC CCGACCATAC
 501  GCTTTTGGGC ATCAAAATTT GGGCGCGCAA CGATAAAAAC GAATTGGCAG
 551  AGGCAGTGGA AGCCGATTCC GCCGTTTTGA ACAGCGACGG CAGTTGGCAG
 601  TTGAAAAACA TCCGCCGCAG CACGCTTGGC GAAGACAAAG TCGAGGTCTC
 651  TATTGCGGCT GAAGAAAACT GGCCGATTTC CGTCAAACGC AACCTGATGG
 701  ACGTATTGCT CGTCAAACCC GACCAAATGT CCGTCGGCGA ACTGACCACC
 751  TACATCCGCC ACCTCCAAAA CAACAGCCAA AACACCCGAA TCTACGCCAT
 801  CGCATGGTGG CGCAAATTGG TTTACCCCGC CGCAGCCTGG GTGATGGCGC
 851  TCGTCGCCTT TGCCTTTACC CCGCAAACCA CCCGCCACGG CAATATGGGC
 901  TTAAAACTCT TCGGCGGCAT CTGTsTCGGA TTGCTGTTCC ACCTTGCCGG
 951  ACGGCTCTTT GGGTTTACCA GCCAACTCGG...
```

This corresponds to the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 888; ORF112-1>:

```
   1  MNLISRYIIR QMAVMAVYAL LAFLALYSFF EILYETGNLG KGSYGIWEML
  51  GYTALKMPAR AYELIPLAVL IGGLVSLSQL AAGSELTVIK ASGMSTKKLL
 101  LILSQFGFIF AIATVALGEW VAPTLSQKAE NIKAAAINGK ISTGNTGLWL
 151  KEKNSXINVR EMLPDHTLLG IKIWARNDKN ELAEAVEADS AVLNSDGSWQ
 201  LKNIRRSTLG EDKVEVSIAA EENWPISVKR NLMDVLLVKP DQMSVGELTT
 251  YIRHLQNNSQ NTRIYAIAWW RKLVYPAAAW VMALVAFAFT PQTTRHGNMG
 301  LKLFGGICXG LLFHLAGRLF GFTSQL...
```

Computer analysis of this amino acid sequence predicts two transmembrane domains and gave the following results:

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.meningitidis* (strain A)

ORF112 shows 96.4% identity over a 166aa overlap with an ORF (ORF112a) from strain A of *N. meningitidis:*

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf112.pep      MNLISRYIIRQMAVMAVYALLAFLALYSFFEILYETGNLGKGSYGIWEMLGYTALKMPAR
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||| ||
orf112a         MNLISRYIIRQMAVMAVYALLAFLALYSFFEILYETGNLGKGSYGIWEMXGYTALKMXAR
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf112.pep      AYELIPLAVLIGGLVSLSQLAAGSELTVIKASGMSTKKLLLILSQFGFIFAIATVALGEW
                ||||:|||||||||||| |||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf112a         AYELMPLAVLIGGLVSXSQLAAGSELXVIKASGMSTKKLLLILSQFGFIFAIATVALGEW
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160
orf112.pep      VAPTLSQKAENIKAAAINGKISTGNTGLWLKEKNSVINVREMLPDH
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||
orf112a         VAPTLSQKAENIKAAAINGKISTGNTGLWLKEKNSIINVREMLPDHTLLGIKIWARNDKN
                130       140       150       160       170       180

orf112a         ELAEAVEADSAVLNSDGSWQLKNIRRSTLGEDKVEVSIAAEEXWPISVKRNLMDVLLVKP
                190       200       210       220       230       240
```

The ORF112a nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 889> is:

```
   1  ATGAACCTGA TTTCACGTTA CATCATCCGT CAAATGGCGG TTATGGCGGT
  51  TTACGCGCTC CTTGCCTTCC TCGCTTTGTA CAGCTTTTTT GAAATCCTGT
 101  ACGAAACCGG CAACCTCGGC AAAGGCAGTT ACGGCATATG GGAAATGNTG
 151  GGNTACACCG CCCTCAAAAT GNCCGCCCGC GCCTACGAAC TGATGCCCCT
 201  CGCCGTCCTT ATCGGCGGAC TGGTCTCTNT CAGCCAGCTT GCCGCCGGCA
 251  GCGAACTGAN CGTCATCAAA GCCAGCGGCA TGAGCACCAA AAAGCTGCTG
 301  TTGATTCTGT CGCAGTTCGG TTTTATTTTT GCTATTGCCA CCGTCGCGCT
 351  CGGCGAATGG GTTGCGCCCA CACTGAGCCA AAAAGCCGAA AACATCAAAG
 401  CCGCGGCCAT CAACGGCAAA ATCAGTACCG GCAATACCGG CCTTTGGCTG
 451  AAAGAAAAAA ACAGCATTAT CAATGTGCGC GAAATGTTGC CCGACCATAC
 501  CCTGCTGGGC ATTAAAATCT GGGCCCGCAA CGATAAAAAC GAACTGGCAG
 551  AGGCAGTGGA AGCCGATTCC GCCGTTTTGA ACAGCGACGG CAGTTGGCAG
 601  TTGAAAAACA TCCGCCGCAG CACGCTTGGC GAAGACAAAG TCGAGGTCTC
 651  TATTGCGGCT GAAGAAAANT GGCCGATTTC CGTCAAACGC AACCTGATGG
 701  ACGTATTGCT CGTCAAACCC GACCAAATGT CCGTCGGCGA ACTGACCACC
 751  TACATCCGCC ACCTCCAAAN NNACAGCCAA AACACCCGAA TCTACGCCAT
 801  CGCATGGTGG CGCAAATTGG TTTACCCCGC CGCAGCCTGG GTGATGGCGC
 851  TCGTCGCCTT TGCCTTTACC CCGCAAACCA CCCGCCACGG CAATATGGGC
 901  TTAAAANTCT TCGGCGGCAT CTGTCTCGGA TTGCTGTTCC ACCTTGCCGG
 951  NCGGCTCTTC NGGTTTACCA GCCAACTCTA CGGCATCCCG CCCTTCCTCG
1001  NCGGCGCACT ACCTACCATA GCCTTCGCCT TGCTCGCCGT TTGGCTGATA
1051  CGCAAACAGG AAAAACGCTA A
```

This encodes a protein having the amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 890>:

```
   1  MNLISRYIIR QMAVMAVYAL LAFLALYSFF EILYETGNLG KGSYGIWEMX
  51  GYTALKMXAR AYELMPLAVL IGGLVSXSQL AAGSELXVIK ASGMSTKKLL
 101  LILSQFGFIF AIATVALGEW VAPTLSQKAE NIKAAAINGK ISTGNTGLWL
 151  KEKNSIINVR EMLPDHTLLG IKIWARNDKN ELAEAVEADS AVLNSDGSWQ
 201  LKNIRRSTLG EDKVEVSIAA EEXWPISVKR NLMDVLLVKP DQMSVGELTT
 251  YIRHLQXXSQ NTRIYAIAWW RKLVYPAAAW VMALVAFAFT PQTTRHGNMG
 301  LKXFGGICLG LLFHLAGRLF XFTSQLYGIP PFLXGALPTI AFALLAVWLI
 351  RKQEKR*
```

ORF112a and ORF112-1 show 96.3% identity in 326 aa overlap:

```
orf112a.pep     MNLISRYIIRQMAVMAVYALLAFLALYSFFEILYETGNLGKGSYGIWEMXGYTALKMXAR
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||| ||
orf112-1        MNLISRYIIRQMAVMAVYALLAFLALYSFFEILYETGNLGKGSYGIWEMLGYTALKMPAR

orf112a.pep     AYELMPLAVLIGGLVSXSQLAAGSELXVIKASGMSTKKLLLILSQFGFIFAIATVALGEW
```

```
                 ||||:|||||||||||| |||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf112-1         AYELIPLAVLIGGLVSLSQLAAGSELTVIKASGMSTKKLLLILSQFGFIFAIATVALGEW

orf112a.pep      VAPTLSQKAENIKAAAAINGKISTGNTGLWLKEKNSIINVREMLPDHTLLGIKIWARNDKN
                 |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf112-1         VAPTLSQKAENIKAAAAINGKISTGNTGLWLKEKNSXINVREMLPDHTLLGIKIWARNDKN

orf112a.pep      ELAEAVEADSAVLNSDGSWQLKNIRRSTLGEDKVEVSIAAEEXWPISVKRNLMDVLLVKP
                 |||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| ||||||||||||||||
orf112-1         ELAEAVEADSAVLNSDGSWQLKNIRRSTLGEDKVEVSIAAEENWPISVKRNLMDVLLVKP

orf112a.pep      DQMSVGELTTYIRHLQXXSQNTRIYAIAWWRKLVYPAAAWVMALVAFAFTPQTTRHGNMG
                 |||||||||||||||  ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf112-1         DQMSVGELTTYIRHLQNNSQNTRIYAIAWWRKLVYPAAAWVMALVAFAFTPQTTRHGNMG

orf112a.pep      LKXFGGICLGLLFHLAGRLFXFTSQLYGIPPFLXGALPTIAFALLAVWLIRKQEKRX
                 || ||||| |||||||||||| |||||
orf112-1         LKLFGGICXGLLFHLAGRLFGFTSQL
```

Homology with a predicted ORF from *N.gonorrhoeae*

ORF112 shows 95.8% identity over 166aa overlap with a predicted ORF (ORF112ng) from *N. gonorrhoeae*:

```
orf112.pep   MNLISRYIIRQMAVMAVYALLAFLALYSFFEILYETGNLGKGSYGIWEMLGYTALKMPAR  60
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf112ng     MNLISRYIIRQMAVMAVYALLAFLALYSFFEILYETGNLGKGSYGIWEMLGYTALKMPAR  60

orf112.pep   AYELIPLAVLIGGLVSLSQLAAGSELTVIKASGMSTKKLLLILSQFGFIFAIATVALGEW 120
             ||||:|||||||||:||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||
orf112ng     AYELMPLAVLIGGLASLSQLAAGSELAVIKASGMSTKKLLLILSQFGFIFAIAAVALGEW 120

orf112.pep   VAPTLSQKAENIKAAAAINGKISTGNTGLWLKEKNSVINVREMLPDH               166
             ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:|:|||| |||||
orf112ng     VAPTLSQKAENIKAAAAINGKISTGNTGLWLKEKTSIINVRGMLPDHTLLGIKIWARNDKN 180
```

The complete length ORF112ng nucleotide sequence <SEQ ID 891> is:

```
   1  ATGAACCTGA TTTCACGTTA CATCATCCGC CAAATGGCGG TTATGGCGGT
  51  TTACGCGCTC CTTGCCTTCC TCGCTTTGTA CAGCTTTTTT GAAATCCTGT
 101  ACGAAACCGG CAACCTCGGC AAAGGCAGTT ACGGCATATG GGAAATGCTG
 151  GGCTACACCG CCCTCAAAAT GCCCGCCCGC GCCTACGAAC TCATGCCCCT
 201  CGCCGTCCTC ATCGGCGGAC TGGCCTCTCT CAGCCAGCTT GCCGCCGGCA
 251  GCGAACTGGC CGTCATCAAA GCCAGCGGCA TGAGCACCAA AAAGCTGCTG
 301  TTGATTCTGT CTCAGTTCGG TTTTATTTTT GCTATTGCCG CCGTCGCGCT
 351  CGGCGAATGG GTTGCGCCCA CGCTGAGCCA AAAAGCCGAA AACATCAAag
 401  cCGCCGCCAt taacggCAAA ATCAGCAccg gcAATACCGG CCTTTggcTG
 451  AAAGAAAAAa ccAGCATTAT CAATGTGcGc GGAATGTTGC CCGACCATAC
 501  GCTTTTGGGC ATCAAAATTT GGGCGCGCAA CGATAAAAAC GAATTGGCAG
 551  AGGCAGTGGA AGCCGATTCC GCCGTTTTGA ACAGCGACGG CAGCTGGCAG
 601  TTGAAAAACA TCCGCCGCAG CATCATGGGT ACAGACAAAA TCGAAACATC
 651  cgCCGCCGCC GAAGAAACTT gGCCGATTGC CGTCAGACGC AACCTGATGG
 701  ACGTATTGCT CGTCAAGCCC GACCAAATGT CCGTCGGCGA GCTGACCACC
 751  TACATCCGCC ACCTCCAAAA CAACAGCCAA AACACCCAAA TCTACGCCAT
 801  CGCATGGTGG CGTAAACTCG TTTACCCCGT CGCCGCATGG GTCATGGCGC
 851  TCGTTGCCTT CGCCTTTACG CCGCAAACCA CGCGCCACGG CAATATGGGC
 901  TTAAAACTCT TCGGCGGCAT CTGTCTCGGA TTGCTGTTCC ACCTTGCCGG
 951  CAGGCTCTTC GGGTTTACCA GCCAACTCTA CGGCACCCCA CCCTTCCTCG
1001  CCGGCGCACT GCCTACCATA GCCTTCGCCT TGCTCGCTGT TTGGCTGATA
1051  CGCAAACAGG AAAAACGTTG A
```

This encodes a protein having amino acid sequence <SEQ ID 892>:

```
   1  MNLISRYIIR QMAVMAVYAL LAFLALYSFF EILYETGNLG KGSYGIWEML
  51  GYTALKMPAR AYELMPLAVL IGGLASLSQL AAGSELAVIK ASGMSTKKLL
 101  LILSQFGFIF AIAAVALGEW VAPTLSQKAE NIKAAAINGK ISTGNTGLWL
 151  KEKTSIINVR GMLPDHTLLG IKIWARNDKN ELAEAVEADS AVLNSDGSWQ
 201  LKNIRRSIMG TDKIETSAAA EETWPIAVRR NLMDVLLVKP DQMSVGELTT
 251  YIRHLQNNSQ NTQIYAIAWW RKLVYPVAAW VMALVAFAFT PQTTRHGNMG
 301  LKLFGGICLG LLFHLAGRLF GFTSQLYGTP PFLAGALPTI AFALLAVWLI
```

```
351  RKQEKR*
```

ORF112ng and ORF112-1 show 94.2% identity in 326 aa overlap:

```
                10        20        30        40        50        60
orf112ng        MNLISRYIIRQMAVMAVYALLAFLALYSFFEILYETGNLGKGSYGIWEMLGYTALKMPAR
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||
orf112-1        MNLISRYIIRQMAVMAVYALLAFLALYSFFEILYETGNLGKGSYGIWEMLGYTALKMPAR
                10        20        30        40        50        60

                70        80        90        100       110       120
orf112ng        AYELMPLAVLIGGLASLSQLAAGSELAVIKASGMSTKKLLLILSQFGFIFAIAAVALGEW
                ||||:|||||||||:||||||||||:|||||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||
orf112-1        AYELIPLAVLIGGLVSLSQLAAGSELTVIKASGMSTKKLLLILSQFGFIFAIATVALGEW
                70        80        90        100       110       120

                130       140       150       160       170       180
orf112ng        VAPTLSQKAENIKAAAINGKISTGNTGLWLKEKTSIINVRGMLPDHTLLGIKIWARNDKN
                ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||:| |||| ||||||||||||||||||
orf112-1        VAPTLSQKAENIKAAAINGKISTGNTGLWLKEKNSXINVREMLPDHTLLGIKIWARNDKN
                130       140       150       160       170       180

                190       200       210       220       230       240
orf112ng        ELAEAVEADSAVLNSDGSWQLKNIRRSIMGTDKIETSAAAEETWPIAVRRNLMDVLLVKP
                |||||||||||||||||||||||||| :| ||:|:| ||||:|||:|:||||||||||
orf112-1        ELAEAVEADSAVLNSDGSWQLKNIRRSTLGEDKVEVSIAAEENWPISVKRNLMDVLLVKP
                190       200       210       220       230       240

                250       260       270       280       290       300
orf112ng        DQMSVGELTTYIRHLQNNSQNTQIYAIAWWRKLVYPVAAWVMALVAFAFTPQTTRHGNMG
                ||||||||||||||||||||||:||||||||||||:||||||||||||||||||||||
orf112-1        DQMSVGELTTYIRHLQNNSQNTRIYAIAWWRKLVYPAAAWVMALVAFAFTPQTTRHGNMG
                250       260       270       280       290       300

                310       320       330       340       350
orf112ng        LKLFGGICLGLLFHLAGRLFGFTSQLYGTPPFLAGALPTIAFALLAVWLIRKQEKRX
                |||||||| ||||||||||||||||
orf112-1        LKLFGGICXGLLFHLAGRLFGFTSQL
                310       320
```

This analysis suggests that these proteins from *N.meningitidis* and *N.gonorrhoeae*, and their epitopes, could be useful antigens for vaccines or diagnostics, or for raising antibodies.

It will be appreciated that the invention has been described by means of example only, and that modifications may be made whilst remaining within the spirit and scope of the invention.

TABLE I – PCR primers

ORF	Primer	Sequence	Restriction sites
ORF 1	Forward	CGCGGATCCGCTAGC-GGACACACTTATTTCGG	BamHI-NheI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-CCAGCGGTAGCCTAATT	XhoI
ORF 2	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG-TTTGATTTCGGTTTGGG	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-GACGGCATAACGGCG	XhoI
ORF 2-1	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG-TTTGATTTCGGTTTGGG	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-TGATTTACGGACGCGCA	XhoI
ORF 4	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG-TGCGGAGGTCAAAAAGAC	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-TTTGGCTGCGCCTTC	XhoI
ORF 5	Forward	GGAATTCCATATGGCCATGG-TGGAAGGCGCACAACC	NdeI-NcoI
	Forward	CGGGATCC-ATGGAAGGCGCACAAC	BamHI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-GACTGTGCAAAAACGG	XhoI
ORF 6	Forward	CGCGGATCCCATATG-ACCCGTCAATCTCTGCA	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-TGCGCCGAACACTTTC	XhoI
ORF 7	Forward	CGCGGATCCGCTAGC-GCGCTGCTTTTTGTTCC	BamHI-NheI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-TTTCAAAATATATTTGCGGA	XhoI
ORF 8	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG-GCTCAACTGCTTCGTAC	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-AGCAGGCTTTGGCGC	XhoI
ORF 9	Forward	CGCGGATCCCATATG-CCGAAGGAAGTCGGAAA	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-TTTCCGAGGTTTTCGGG	XhoI
ORF 10	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG-GACACAAAAGAAATCCTC	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG- TAATGGGAAACCTTGTTTT	XhoI
ORF 11	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG-GCGGTCAACCTCTACG	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-GGAAACGACTTCGCC	XhoI
ORF 13	Forward	CGCGGATCCCATATG-GCTCTGCTTTCCGCGC	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-AGGGTGTGTGATAATAAG	XhoI
ORF 15	Forward	GGAATTCCATATGGCCATGG-GCGGGACACTGACAG	NdeI-NcoI
	Forward	CGGGATCC-TGCGGGACACTGACAGG	BamHI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-AGGTTGGCCTTGTCTATG	XhoI
ORF 17	Forward	GGAATTCCATATGGCCATGG -TTGCCGGCCTGTTCG	NdeI-NcoI

	Forward	CGGGATCC-ATTGCCGGCCTGTTCG	BamHI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-AAGCAGGTTGTACAGC	XhoI
ORF 18	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG-ATTTTGCTGCATTTGGAT	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-TCTTCCAATTTCTGAAAGC	XhoI
ORF 19	Forward	GGAATTCCATATGGCCATGG -TCGCCAGTGTTTTTACC	NdeI-NcoI
	Forward	CGGGATCC-TTCGCCAGTGTTTTTACCG	BamHI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-GGTGTTTTTGAAGCTGCC	XhoI
ORF 20	Forward	GGAATTCCATATGGCCATGG -TCGGCGCGGGTATG	NdeI-NcoI
	Forward	CGGGATCC-TTCGGCGCGGGTATG	BamHI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-CGGCGAGCGAGAGCA	XhoI
ORF 22	Forward	GGAATTCCATATGGCCATGG-TGATTAAAATCAAAAAAGGTCT	NdeI-NcoI
	Forward	CGGGATCC-ATGATTAAAATCAAAAAAGGTCTAAACC	BamHI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-ATTATGATAGCGGCCC	XhoI
ORF 23	Forward	CGCGGATCCCATATG-GATGTTTCTGTTTCAGAC	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-TTTAAACCGATAGGTAAACG	XhoI
ORF 24	Forward	GGAATTCCATATGGCCATGG -TGATGCCGGAAATGGTG	NdeI-NcoI
	Forward	CGGGATCC-ATGATGCCGGAAATGGTG	BamHI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-TGTCAGCGTGGCGCA	XhoI
ORF 25	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG-TATCGCAAACTGATTGC	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-ATCGATGGAATAGCCG	XhoI
ORF 26	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG -CAGCTGATCGACTATTC	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-GACATCGGCGCGTTTT	XhoI
ORF 27	Forward	GGAATTCCATATGGCCATGG-AGACCTATTCTGTTTA	NdeI-NcoI
	Forward	CGGGATCC- CAGACCTATTCTGTTTATTTTAATC	BamHI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-GGGTTCGATTAAATAACCAT	XhoI
ORF 28	Forward	GGAATTCCATATGGCCATGG-ACGGCTGTACGTTGATGT	NdeI-NcoI
	Forward	CGGGATCC-AACGGCTGTACGTTGATG	BamHI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-TTTGTCAGAGGAATTCGCG	XhoI
ORF 29	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG -AACGGTTTGGATGCCCG	BamHI-NdeI
	Forward	CGCGGATCCGCTAGC-AACGGTTTGGATGCCCG	BamHI-NheI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-TTTGTCTAAGTTCCTGATATG	XhoI
ORF 32	Forward	CGCGGATCCCATATG-AATACTCCTCCTTTTG	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-GCGTATTTTTTGATGCTTTG	XhoI
ORF 33	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG -ATTGATAGGGATCGTATG	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-TTGATCTTTCAAACGGCC	XhoI

ORF 35	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG-TTCAGAGCTCAGCTT	BamHI-NdeI
	Forward	CGCGGATCCGCTAGC-TTCAGAGCTCAGCTT	BamHI-NheI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-AAACAGCCATTTGAGCGA	XhoI
ORF 37	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG-GATGACGTATCGGATTTT	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-ATAGCCCGCTTTCAGG	XhoI
ORF 58	Forward	CGCGGATCCGCTAGC-TCCGAACGCGAGTGGAT	BamHI-NheI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-AGCATTGTCCAAGGGGAC	XhoI
ORF 65	Forward	GGAATTCCATATGGCCATGG -TGCTGTATCTGAATCAAG	NdeI-NcoI
	Forward	CGGGATCC-TTGCTGTATCTGAATCAAGG	BamHI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-CCGCATCGGCAGACA	XhoI
ORF 66	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG-TACGCATTTACCGCCG	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-TGGATTTTGCAGAGATGG	XhoI
ORF 72	Forward	CGCGGATCCCATATG- AATGCAGTAAAAATATCTGA	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-GCCTGAGACCTTTGCAA	XhoI
ORF 73	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG-AGATTTTTCGGTATCGG	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-TTCATCTTTTTCATGTTCG	XhoI
ORF 75	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG- TCTGTCTTTCAAACGGC	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-TTTGTTTTTGCAAGACAG	XhoI
ORF 76	Forward	GATCAGCTAGCCATATG-AAACAGAAAAAAACCGC	NheI-NdeI
	Reverse	CGGGATCC-TTACGGTTTGACACCGTT	BamHI
ORF 79	Forward	CGCGGATCCCATATG-GTTTCCGCCGCCG	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-GTGCTGATGCGCTTCG	XhoI
ORF 83	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG-AAAACCCTGCTGCTGC	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-GCCGCCTTTGCGGC	XhoI
ORF 84	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG-GCAGAGATCTGTTTG	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-GTTTGCCGATCCGACCA	XhoI
ORF 85	Forward	CGCGGATCCCATATG- GCGGTTTGGGGCGGA	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-TCGGCGCGGCGGGC	XhoI
ORF 89	Forward	GGAATTCCATATGGCCATGG-CCATACCTTCTTATCA	NdeI-NcoI
	Forward	CGGGATCC-GCCATACCTTCTTATCAGAG	BamHI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-TTTTTTGCGATTAGAAAAAGC	XhoI
ORF 97	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG-CATCCTGCCAGCGAAC	BamHI-NdeI

	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-TTCGCCTACGGTTTTTTG	XhoI
ORF 98	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG-ACGGTAACTGCGG	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-TTGTTGTTCGGGCAAATC	XhoI
ORF 100	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG-TCGGGCATTTACACCG	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-ACGGGTTTCGGCGGAA	XhoI
ORF 101	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG-ATTTATCAAAGAAACCTC	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-TTTTCCGCCTTTCAATGT	XhoI
ORF 102	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG-GCAGGGCTGTTTTACC	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-AAACGGTTTGAACACGAC	XhoI
ORF 103	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG-AACCACGACATCAC	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-CAGCCACAGGACGGC	XhoI
ORF 104	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG-ACGTGGGGAACGC	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-GCGGCGTTTGAACGGC	XhoI
ORF 105	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG-ACCAAATTTCAAACCCCTC	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-TAAACGAATGCCGTCCAG	XhoI
ORF 106	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG-AGGATAACCGACGGCG	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-TTTGTTCCCGATGATGTT	XhoI
ORF 109	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG-GAAGATTTATATATAATACTCG	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-ATCAGCTTCGAACCGAAG	XhoI
ORF110	Forward	AAAGAATTC-ATGAGTAAATCCCGTAGATCTCCC	EcoRI
	Reverse	AAACTGCAG-GGAAAACCACATCCGCACTCTGCC	PstI
ORF111	Forward	AAAGAATTC-GCACCGCAAAAGGCAAAAACCGCA	EcoRI
	Reverse	AAACTGCAG-TCTGCGCGTTTTCGGGCAGGGTGG	PstI
ORF113	Forward	AAAGAATTC-ATGAACAAAACCCTCTATCGTGTGATTTTCAACCG	EcoRI
	Reverse	AAACTGCAG-TTACGAATGCCTGCTTGCTCGACCGTACTG	PstI
ORF115	Forward	AAAGAATTC-TTGCTTGTGCAAACAGAAAAAGACGG	EcoRI
	Reverse	AAAAAAGTCGAC-CTATTTTTTAGGGGCTTTTGCTTGTTTGAAAAGCCTGCC	SalI
ORF119	Forward	AAAGAATTC-TACAACATGTATCAGGAAAACCAATACCG	EcoRI
	Reverse	AAACTGCAG-TTATGAAAACAGGCGCAGGGCGGTTTTGCC	PstI
ORF120	Forward	AAAGAATTC-GCAAGGCTACCCCAATCCGCCGTG	EcoRI
	Reverse	AAACTGCAG-CGGTTTGGCTGCCTGGCCGTTGAT	PstI
ORF121	Forward	AAAGAATTC-GCCTTGGTCTGGCTGGTTTTCGC	EcoRI
	Reverse	AAACTGCAG-TCATCCGCCACCCCACCTCGGCCATCCATC	PstI

ORF122	Forward	AAAAAAGTCGAC-ATGTCTTACCGCGCAAGCAGTTCTCC	SalI
	Reverse	AAACTGCAG-TCAGGAACACAAACGATGACGAATATCCGTATC	PstI
ORF125	Forward	AAAGAATTC-GCGCTGTTTTTTGCGGCGGCGTAT	EcoRI
	Reverse	AAACTGCAG-CGCCGTTTCAAGACGAAAAAGTCG	PstI
ORF126	Forward	AAAGAATTC-GCGGAAACGGTCGAAG	EcoRI
	Reverse	AAACTGCAG-TTAATCTTGTCTTCCGATATAC	PstI
ORF127	Forward	AAAGAATTC-ATGACTGATAATCGGGGGTTTACG	EcoRI
	Reverse	AAAAAAGTCGAC-CTTAAGTAACTTGCAGTCCTTATC	SalI
ORF128	Forward	AAAGAATTC-ATGCAAGCTGTCCGCTACAGGCC	EcoRI
	Reverse	AAACTGCAG-CTATTGCAATGCGCCGCCGCGGGAATGTTTGAGCAGGCG	PstI
ORF129	Forward	AAAGAATTC-ATGGATTTTCGTTTTGACATTATTTACGAATACCG	EcoRI
	Reverse	AAACTGCAG-TTATTTTTTGATGAAATTTTGGGGCGG	PstI
ORF130	Forward	AAAGAATTC-GCAGTACTTGCCATTCTCGGTGCG	EcoRI
	Reverse	AAACTGCAG-CTCCGGATCGTCTGTAAACGCATT	PstI
ORF 131	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG-GAAATTCGGGCAATAAAAT	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-CCAGCGGACGCGTTC	XhoI
ORF 132	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG-AAAGAAGCGGGGTTTG	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-CCAATCTGCCAGCCGT	XhoI
ORF 133	Forward	CGCGGATCCCATATG-GAAGATGCAGGGCGCG	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-AAACTTGTAGCTCATCGT	XhoI
ORF 134	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG-TCTGTGCAAGCAGTATTG	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-ATCCTGTGCCAATGCG	XhoI
ORF 135	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG-CCGTCTGAAAAAGCTTT	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-AAATACCGCTGAGGATG	XhoI
ORF 136	Forward	CGCGGATCCGCTAGC-ATGAAGCGGCGTATAGCC	BamHI-NheI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-TTCCGAATATTTGGAACTTTT	XhoI
ORF 137	Forward	CGCGGATCCCATATG-GGCACGGCGGGAAATA	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-ATAACGGTATGCCGCC	XhoI
ORF 138	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG-TTTCGTTTACAATTCAGGC	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-CGGCGTTTTATAGCGG	XhoI
ORF 139	Forward	GCGGATCCCATATG-GCTTTTTTGGCGGTAATG	BamHI-NdeI
	Reverse	CCCGCTCGAG-TAACGTTTCCGTGCGTTT	XhoI

ORF 140	Forward Reverse	GCGGATCCCATATG-TTGCCCACAGGCAGC CCCGCTCGAG-GACGATGGCAAACAGC	BamHI-NdeI XhoI
ORF 141	Forward Reverse	GCGGATCCCATATG-CCGTCTGAAGCAGTCT CCCGCTCGAG-ATCTGTTGTTTTTAAAATATT	BamHI-NdeI XhoI
ORF 142	Forward Reverse	GCGGATCCCATATG-GATAATTCTGGTAGTGAAG CCCGCTCGAG-AAACGTATAGCCTACCT	BamHI-NdeI XhoI
ORF 143	Forward Reverse	GCGGATCCCATATG-GATACCGCTTTGAACCT CCCGCTCGAG-AATGGCTTCCGCAATATG	BamHI-NdeI XhoI
ORF 144	Forward Reverse	GCGGATCCCATATG-ACCTTTTTACAACGTTTGC CCCGCTCGAG-AGATTGTTGTTGTTTTTTCG	BamHI-NdeI XhoI
ORF 147	Forward Reverse	GCGGATCCCATATG-TCTGTCTTTCAAACGGC CCCGCTCGAG-TTTGTTTTTGCAAGACAG	BamHI-NdeI XhoI

NB:

- restriction sites are underlined
- for ORFs 110-130, where the ORF itself carries an *EcoR*I site (*eg.* ORF122), a *Sal*I site was used in the forward primer instead. Similarly, where the ORF carries a *Pst*I site (*eg.* ORFs 115 and 127), a *Sal*I site was used in the reverse primer.

TABLE II – Summary of cloning, expression and purification

ORF	PCR/cloning	His-fusion expression	GST-fusion expression	Purification
orf 1	+	+	+	His-fusion
orf 2	+	+	+	GST-fusion
orf 2.1	+	n.d.	+	GST-fusion
orf 4	+	+	+	His-fusion
orf 5	+	n.d.	+	GST-fusion
orf 6	+	+	+	GST-fusion
orf 7	+	+	+	GST-fusion
orf 8	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 9	+	+	+	GST-fusion
orf 10	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 11	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 13	+	n.d.	+	GST-fusion
orf 15	+	+	+	GST-fusion
orf 17	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 18	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 19	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 20	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 22	+	+	+	GST-fusion
orf 23	+	+	+	His-fusion
orf 24	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 25	+	+	+	His-fusion
orf 26	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 27	+	+	+	GST-fusion
orf 28	+	+	+	GST-fusion
orf 29	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 32	+	+	+	His-fusion
orf 33	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 35	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 37	+	+	+	GST-fusion
orf 58	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 65	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 66	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 72	+	+	n.d.	His-fusion
orf 73	+	n.d.	+	n.d.
orf 75	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 76	+	+	n.d.	His-fusion
orf 79	+	+	n.d.	His-fusion
orf 83	+	n.d.	+	n.d.
orf 84	+	n.d.	n.d.	

orf 85	+	n.d.	+	GST-fusion
orf 89	+	n.d.	+	GST-fusion
orf 97	+	+	+	GST-fusion
orf 98	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 100	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 101	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 102	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 103	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 104	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 105	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 106	+	+	+	His-fusion
orf 109	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 110	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 111	+	+	n.d.	His-fusion
orf 113	+	+	n.d.	His-fusion
orf 115	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 119	+	+	n.d.	His-fusion
orf 120	+	+	n.d.	His-fusion
orf 121	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 122	+	+	n.d.	His-fusion
orf 125	+	+	n.d.	His-fusion
orf 126	+	+	n.d.	His-fusion
orf 127	+	+	n.d.	His-fusion
orf 128	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 129	+	+	n.d.	His-fusion
orf 130	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 131	+	+	+	n.d.
orf 132	+	+	+	His-fusion
orf 133	+	n.d.	+	GST-fusion
orf 134	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 135	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 136	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 137	+	n.d.	+	GST-fusion
orf 138	+	n.d.	+	GST-fusion
orf 139	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 140	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 141	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 142	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 143	+	n.d.	n.d.	
orf 144	+	n.d.	+	n.d.
orf 147	+	n.d.	n.d.	

* C L M S *

CLAIMS

1. A protein comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ IDs 2, 4, 6, and 8.

2. A nucleic acid molecule which encodes a protein according to claim 1.

3. A nucleic acid molecule according to claim 2, comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ IDs 1, 3, 5, and 7.

4. A protein comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ IDs 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100, 102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 146, 148, 150, 152, 154, 156, 158, 160, 162, 164, 166, 168, 170, 172, 174, 176, 178, 180, 182, 184, 186, 188, 190, 192, 194, 196, 198, 200, 202, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 214, 216, 218, 220, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 262, 264, 266, 268, 270, 272, 274, 276, 278, 280, 282, 284, 286, 288, 290, 292, 294, 296, 298, 300, 302, 304, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 338, 340, 342, 344, 346, 348, 350, 352, 354, 356, 358, 360, 362, 364, 366, 368, 370, 372, 374, 376, 378, 380, 382, 384, 386, 388, 390, 392, 394, 396, 398, 400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416, 418, 420, 422, 424, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 438, 440, 442, 444, 446, 448, 450, 452, 454, 456, 458, 460, 462, 464, 466, 468, 470, 472, 474, 476, 478, 480, 482, 484, 486, 488, 490, 492, 494, 496, 498, 500, 502, 504, 506, 508, 510, 512, 514, 516, 518, 520, 522, 524, 526, 528, 530, 532, 534, 536, 538, 540, 542, 544, 546, 548, 550, 552, 554, 556, 558, 560, 562, 564, 566, 568, 570, 572, 574, 576, 578, 580, 582, 584, 586, 588, 590, 592, 594, 596, 598, 600, 602, 604, 606, 608, 610, 612, 614, 616, 618, 620, 622, 624, 626, 628, 630, 632, 634, 636, 638, 640, 642, 644, 646, 648, 650, 652, 654, 656, 658, 660, 662, 664, 666, 668, 670, 672, 674, 676, 678, 680, 682, 684, 686, 688, 690, 692, 694, 696, 698, 700, 702, 704, 706, 708, 710, 712, 714, 716, 718, 720, 722, 724, 726, 728, 730, 732, 734, 736, 738, 740, 742, 744, 746, 748, 750, 752, 754, 756, 758, 760, 762, 764, 766, 768, 770, 772, 774, 776, 778, 780, 782, 784, 786, 788, 790, 792, 794, 796, 798, 800, 802, 804, 806, 808, 810, 812, 814, 816, 818, 820, 822, 824, 826, 828, 830, 832, 834, 836, 838, 840, 842, 844, 846, 848, 850, 852, 854, 856, 858, 860, 862, 864, 866, 868, 870, 872, 874, 876, 878, 880, 882, 884, 886, 888, 890, & 892..

5. A protein having 50% or greater sequence identity to a protein according to claim 4.

This Sheet Has Been Replaced

6. A protein comprising a fragment of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ IDs 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100, 102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 146, 148, 150, 152, 154, 156, 158, 160, 162, 164, 166, 168, 170, 172, 174, 176, 178, 180, 182, 184, 186, 188, 190, 192, 194, 196, 198, 200, 202, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 214, 216, 218, 220, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 262, 264, 266, 268, 270, 272, 274, 276, 278, 280, 282, 284, 286, 288, 290, 292, 294, 296, 298, 300, 302, 304, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 338, 340, 342, 344, 346, 348, 350, 352, 354, 356, 358, 360, 362, 364, 366, 368, 370, 372, 374, 376, 378, 380, 382, 384, 386, 388, 390, 392, 394, 396, 398, 400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416, 418, 420, 422, 424, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 438, 440, 442, 444, 446, 448, 450, 452, 454, 456, 458, 460, 462, 464, 466, 468, 470, 472, 474, 476, 478, 480, 482, 484, 486, 488, 490, 492, 494, 496, 498, 500, 502, 504, 506, 508, 510, 512, 514, 516, 518, 520, 522, 524, 526, 528, 530, 532, 534, 536, 538, 540, 542, 544, 546, 548, 550, 552, 554, 556, 558, 560, 562, 564, 566, 568, 570, 572, 574, 576, 578, 580, 582, 584, 586, 588, 590, 592, 594, 596, 598, 600, 602, 604, 606, 608, 610, 612, 614, 616, 618, 620, 622, 624, 626, 628, 630, 632, 634, 636, 638, 640, 642, 644, 646, 648, 650, 652, 654, 656, 658, 660, 662, 664, 666, 668, 670, 672, 674, 676, 678, 680, 682, 684, 686, 688, 690, 692, 694, 696, 698, 700, 702, 704, 706, 708, 710, 712, 714, 716, 718, 720, 722, 724, 726, 728, 730, 732, 734, 736, 738, 740, 742, 744, 746, 748, 750, 752, 754, 756, 758, 760, 762, 764, 766, 768, 770, 772, 774, 776, 778, 780, 782, 784, 786, 788, 790, 792, 794, 796, 798, 800, 802, 804, 806, 808, 810, 812, 814, 816, 818, 820, 822, 824, 826, 828, 830, 832, 834, 836, 838, 840, 842, 844, 846, 848, 850, 852, 854, 856, 858, 860, 862, 864, 866, 868, 870, 872, 874, 876, 878, 880, 882, 884, 886, 888, 890, & 892..

7. An antibody which binds to a protein according to any one of claims 4 to 6.

8. A nucleic acid molecule which encodes a protein according to any one of claims 4 to 6.

9. A nucleic acid molecule according to claim 8, comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ IDs 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, 41, 43, 45, 47, 49, 51, 53, 55, 57, 59, 61, 63, 65, 67, 69, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, 83, 85, 87, 89, 91, 93, 95, 97, 99, 101, 103, 105, 107, 109, 111, 113, 115, 117, 119, 121, 123, 125, 127, 129, 131, 133, 135, 137, 139, 141, 143, 145, 147, 149, 151, 153, 155, 157, 159, 161, 163, 165, 167, 169, 171, 173, 175, 177, 179, 181, 183, 185, 187, 189, 191, 193, 195, 197, 199, 201, 203, 205, 207, 209, 211, 213, 215, 217, 219, 221, 223, 225, 227, 229, 231, 233, 235, 237, 239, 241, 243, 245, 247, 249, 251, 253, 255, 257, 259, 261, 263, 265, 267, 269, 271, 273, 275, 277, 279, 281, 283, 285, 287, 289,

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10. A nucleic acid molecule comprising a fragment of a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ IDs 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, 41, 43, 45, 47, 49, 51, 53, 55, 57, 59, 61, 63, 65, 67, 69, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, 83, 85, 87, 89, 91, 93, 95, 97, 99, 101, 103, 105, 107, 109, 111, 113, 115, 117, 119, 121, 123, 125, 127, 129, 131, 133, 135, 137, 139, 141, 143, 145, 147, 149, 151, 153, 155, 157, 159, 161, 163, 165, 167, 169, 171, 173, 175, 177, 179, 181, 183, 185, 187, 189, 191, 193, 195, 197, 199, 201, 203, 205, 207, 209, 211, 213, 215, 217, 219, 221, 223, 225, 227, 229, 231, 233, 235, 237, 239, 241, 243, 245, 247, 249, 251, 253, 255, 257, 259, 261, 263, 265, 267, 269, 271, 273, 275, 277, 279, 281, 283, 285, 287, 289, 291, 293, 295, 297, 299, 301, 303, 305, 307, 309, 311, 313, 315, 317, 319, 321, 323, 325, 327, 329, 331, 333, 335, 337, 339, 341, 343, 345, 347, 349, 351, 353, 355, 357, 359, 361, 363, 365, 367, 369, 371, 373, 375, 377, 379, 381, 383, 385, 387, 389, 391, 393, 395, 397, 399, 401, 403, 405, 407, 409, 411, 413, 415, 417, 419, 421, 423, 425, 427, 429, 431, 433, 435, 437, 439, 441, 443, 445, 447, 449, 451, 453, 455, 457, 459, 461, 463, 465, 467, 469, 471, 473, 475, 477, 479, 481, 483, 485, 487, 489, 491, 493, 495, 497, 499, 501, 503, 505, 507, 509, 511, 513, 515, 517, 519, 521, 523, 525, 527, 529, 531, 533, 535, 537, 539, 541, 543, 545, 547, 549, 551, 553, 555, 557, 559, 561, 563, 565, 567, 569, 571, 573, 575, 577, 579, 581, 583, 585, 587, 589, 591, 593, 595, 597, 599, 601, 603, 605, 607, 609, 611, 613, 615, 617, 619, 621, 623, 625, 627, 629, 631, 633, 635, 637, 639, 641, 643, 645, 647, 649, 651, 653, 655, 657, 659, 661, 663, 665, 667, 669, 671, 673, 675, 677, 679, 681, 683, 685, 687, 689, 691, 693, 695, 697, 699, 701, 703, 705, 707, 709, 711, 713, 715, 717, 719, 721, 723, 725, 727, 729, 731, 733,

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11. A nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence complementary to a nucleic acid molecule according to any one of claims 8 to 10.

12. A nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequences having 50% or greater sequence identity to a nucleic acid molecule according to any one of claims 8-11.

13. A nucleic acid molecule which can hybridise to a nucleic acid molecule according to any one of claims 8-12 under high stringency conditions.

14. A composition comprising a protein, a nucleic acid molecule, or an antibody according to any preceding claim.

15. A composition according to claim 14 being a vaccine composition or a diagnostic composition.

16. A composition according to claim 14 or claim 15 for use as a pharmaceutical.

17. The use of a composition according to claim 14 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of infection due to Neisserial bacteria.

