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(71) Applicant *(for all designated States except US)*: **THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA** [US/US]; Univerty Hall 116, Missoula, MT 59812-4104 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

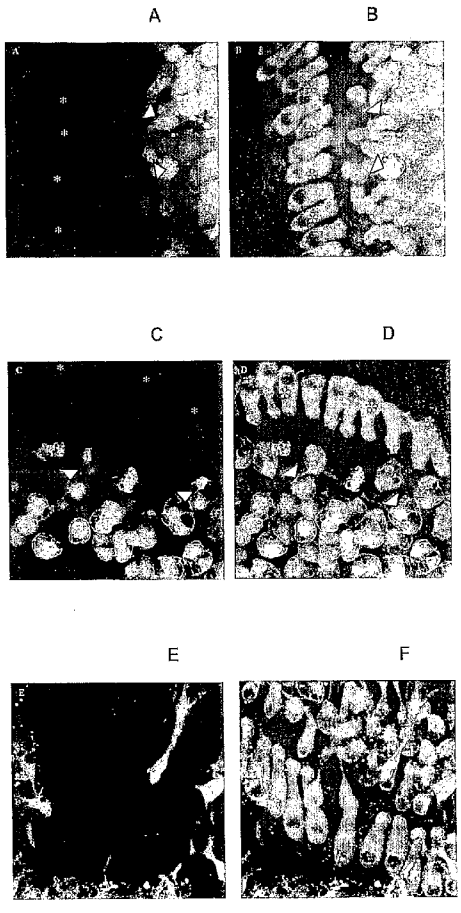
(75) Inventors/Applicants *(for US only)*: **POULSEN, David** [US/US]; 3711 Brandon Way, Missoula, MT 59803 (US). **VONDOERSTEN, Peter** [US/US]; 6158 Grant Creek Road, Missoula, MT 59808 (US). **LURIE, Diana** [US/US]; 116 Michelle Court, Missoula, MT 59803 (US). **STONE, Ida** [US/US]; 2405 55th Street, Missoula, MT 59803 (US).

(74) Agent: **FULLER, Rodney, J.**; Fennemore Craig, P.C., 3003 North Central Avenue, Suite 2600, Phoenix, AZ 85012 (US).

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(54) Title: AAV MEDIATED GENE DELIVERY TO COCHLEAR CELLS



(57) Abstract: The present invention is directed to a method of transducing mammalian cochlear cells, more preferably, cochlear hair cells and support cells. The method involves the delivery of adeno-associated virus (AAV) to a target mammalian cochlear cell. The AAV comprises DNA which is exogenous to the AAV and a promoter operatively linked to the DNA. Preferably, the promoter is a cell specific promoter, e.g., hair cell or support cell specific promoter, and the AAV is serotype 1, 2, 6, or a mixture of two or more serotypes. The present invention also relates to compositions comprising modified AAV useful in transducing specific cochlear cells.

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