WHO names new alleles identified by Chinese scientists

Hangzhou, 18 Oct — The World Health Organization has named two newly identified alleles that will hopefully enhance the success rates of bone marrow transplants for leukemia patients.

The alleles, HLA-B*5614 and HLA-B*5136, were identified recently by transfusion experts with the Zhejiang provincial blood centre, said Professor Yan Lixing, head of the research team based in the provincial capital Hangzhou.

HLA-B encodes a protein for human leukocyte antigen (HLA) located on the surface of white blood cells and other tissues. Professor Yan and his colleagues have found the new alleles while examining blood samples from more than 2,000 people, using high-resolution molecular biological technologies.

The finding will be reported in the upcoming issues of Tissue Antigen, Human Immunology and European Journal of Immunogenetics, says Steven Marsh, an expert with WHO’s HLA naming committee, in a letter addressed to Professor Yan.

The new alleles will match more adequate types of bone marrow for leukemia and other fatal blood diseases, for whom the best therapy available so far is bone marrow transplant.

In China, leukemia patients increase by 40,000 each year, and currently, there are more than 4 million patients waiting for bone marrow transplants.

A successful transplant depends on how well the donor’s human leukocyte antigen matches that of the receptor. The results of the Chinese scientist’s research may also help organ transplant patients find ideal donors. It may also enable doctors to explain why some women often have miscarriages for no obvious reason, according to Yan.

These are not the only new alleles identified by Chinese scientists. A group of researchers in southern China’s city of Shenzhen discovered one new allele in 2001 and another two in 2002.

Last year, Chinese scientists identified a new allele named HLA-B*5516 in a girl in southwest China’s Sichuan Province. About 80 per cent of the 1,013 known alleles of HLA-A, B, DRB1 were discovered by American scientists. Identification of unknown alleles is a hotspot for worldwide scientists and the competition is extremely high, said Wu Guoguang, director of Shenzhen’s Institute of Transfusion Medicine.

Norway earns less tourism income last year

Stockholm, 18 Oct — The total income from tourism in Norway last year amounted to 76 billion Norwegian kroner (about 11.48 billion US dollars), according to figures from Statistics Norway issued on Saturday.

Foreign tourists spent 22 billion NOK, while Norwegian tourists spent 37 billion NOK. In addition, 17 billion NOK came from Norwegian business travelers.

The total of 76 billion NOK is slightly lower than for the two preceding years, but foreign tourists spent around 600 million NOK more in 2003 than in 2002.

The tourism industry’s share of total employment has dropped slightly over the past few years, and was last year 6.4 per cent of the total.

China marks 40th anniversary of first atomic bomb

Urumqi, 18 Oct — Chinese scientists, Army veterans and students Saturday commemorated the 40th anniversary of the explosion of the country’s first atomic bomb.

At a commemorative forum in Malan of northwest China’s Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, a place that served as the country’s nuclear exploding site 40 years ago, General Xu Ruichen, a retired Army officer of national defense science who once worked at the base, said that China’s decision to develop atomic bomb was of great historical significance at a time when the country was put under an adverse international environment.

In Beijing-based Qinghua University, students were urged to learn from scientists who devoted themselves to the country’s nuclear programs. Many of the Qinghua graduates participated in the country’s first atomic bomb experiments. Chen Xi, the university’s secretary, urged students in Qinghua to learn the spirit of cooperation and perseverance the older generation of scientists had shown in their work.

China’s first atomic bomb was exploded at 3:00 pm, on 16 October, 1964 in the desert of Xinjiang.

The night after the explosion, the Chinese Government published a declaration, announcing that the bomb was made for defense use and in order to break the “nuclear mono-poly”. The Chinese Government suspended its nuclear weapons programs on 30 July, 1996.

“Soyuz” delivers three astronauts to “ISS”

Korolyov (Russia), 16 Oct — A Russian spacecraft delivered three astronauts to the International Space Station on Saturday, smoothly overcoming docking system problems which had delayed its launch.

The Soyuz blasted off from Russia’s Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan on Thursday after two postponements while technicians fixed a mechanical glitch that affected the craft’s ability to attach itself to the orbital platform.

“The Soyuz has docked well with the International Space Station,” an official announced at mission control in Korolyov, just outside Moscow. But in a rare occurrence, the astronauts had to dock manually instead of automatically as the Soyuz was approaching the ISS too quickly.

“The docking today ... looked excellent. I was observing the transition from automatic to manual and it appeared seamless,” said Fred Gregory, deputy head of the US space agency NASA. The crew was extremely well-trained — there was no excitement, it appeared extremely routine. “Three hours later, Russian cosmonaut Salizhan Sharipov and American Leroy Chiao floated through from the Soyuz into the ISS.

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MNA/Xinhua
**SPORTS**

**Ronaldo to scrape 1-1 draw for Real Madrid**

**Madrid, 17 Oct** — Ronaldo scored only his second league goal of the season to snatch a 1-1 draw for Real Madrid away to Real Betis on Saturday.

Real, beaten in their two previous league games, fell behind in Seville to a brilliant Ricardo Oliveira goal in the 31st minute and might easily have conceded further goals in a one-sided first half.

Ronaldo broke the deadlock in the second half with a fine volley from close range, but Betis equalized through a fine header.

**Juventus ends Messina’s unbeaten start**

**Milan, 17 Oct** — Serie A leaders Juventus ended Messina’s unbeaten start to the season with a 2-1 win over the Sicilian club on Saturday.

Goals from Uruguay’s Marcelo Zalayeta and European Footballer of the Year Pavel Nedved helped unbeaten Juve to their fifth win in six matches, opening up a five-point lead ahead of Sunday’s matches.

In Tuscany, Vincenzo Montella confirmed his return to form as AS Roma won 2-0 away to Livorno to claim their first away win of the Serie A season.

Messina, playing their first season in the top flight since 1965, brought a huge travelling support with them to Turin but after their triumphs over AC Milan and Roma, Bortolo Mutti’s side were unable to produce another upset.

Juve took the lead in the 26th minute when Zalayeta, in for the injured David Trezeguet, headed home a Mauro Camoranesi cross.

Ten minutes after the break, Czech Nedved met 2-0 with a confident finish after excellent work from Zlatan Ibrahimovic on Juve’s right flank. Messina’s Riccardo Zampagna reduced the deficit in the 69th minute with a smart shot on the turn after being picked out by Salvatore Sullo.

But despite some late pressure the Sicilians were unable to extend their unbeaten run although they remain in second place on 11 points while Juve lead on 16. — MNA/Reuters

**Pires scores twice for Arsenal deserved victory**

**London, 17 Oct** — Robert Pires and Thierry Henry combined to give champions Arsenal a classy 3-1 victory over Aston Villa at Highbury on Saturday.

Arsenal’s 48-match unbeaten league record was briefly under threat when Lee Hendrie gave Villa an early lead but two goals by Pires either side of a Henry strike gave Arsene Wenger’s team three deserved points.

After nine games Arsenal lead the table on 25 points, five clear of Chelsea, whose match at Manchester City was postponed following the death of a supporter on Thursday.

A 11th-minute Nicolas Anelka penalty caused the upset at the City of Manchester Stadium on 16 Oct,2004. Barcelona won the Catalan derby with 1-0 — INTERNET

**Chelsea tumbling to first defeat under Mourinho**

**London, 17 Oct** — Chelsea suffered their first defeat under coach Jose Mourinho on Saturday when the Premier League title contenders went down 1-0 at lowly Manchester City.

An 11th-minute Nicolas Anelka penalty caused the upset at the City of Manchester Stadium and left champions Arsenal 11 points clear of Manchester United who were held 0-0 at Birmingham City.

Eveton stayed third on 19 points after a 1-0 home win over Southampton. Tene man Liverpool fought back from 2-0 down to win 4-2 at Fulham. Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink hit a hat-trick in Middlesbrough’s 4-0 win at 10-man Blackburn and Bolton beat Crystal Palace 1-0. — MNA/Reuters

**Man Utd holds 0-0 at Birmingham**

**London, 17 Oct** — Manchester United dropped two more valuable points in their pursuit of leaders Arsenal when they were held 0-0 at Birmingham City on Saturday.

Despite fielding four quality strikers — Ruud van Nistelrooy, Alan Smith, Wayne Rooney and Louis Saha — for much of the game, Alex Ferguson’s team rarely looked like breaking down a stubborn City defence.

**Roma beat Livorno 2-0, claims first away win of Serie A**

**Milan, 17 Oct** — Vincenzo Montella confirmed his return to form as AS Roma won 2-0 at Livorno on Saturday to claim their first away win of the Serie A season.

Montella set up the opening goal for Francesco Totti on the half hour when he chipped a blocked shot into the path of Totti who fired in a volley from close range.

A heavy storm forced the match to be halted for 10 minutes just before the interval but Roma kept firm control of the game after the break.

Montella claimed Roma’s second, and his sixth goal of the season, with a superbly taken solo goal in the 69th minute to secure three points for new coach Luigi Del Neri who was taking charge for just the second time since German Rudi Voeller quit.

Roma have had a troubled start to the season and the victory was the first since their opening day win over Fiorentina. Livorno are bottom and remain without a win this season.

Roma are away to German club Bayer Leverkusen in the Champions League on Tuesday. — MNA/Reuters

**Manchester City’s French Nicolas Anelka (L) scores a penalty to make it 1-0 against Chelsea during their Premier League football match at The City of Manchester Stadium on 16 Oct, 2004. — MNA/Reuters**

**Brazilian Barcelona player Ronaldinho, back right, and Argentinean Espanyol player Hugo Ibarra, left, follow the ball going past Espanyol goalie Carlos Kameni from Cameroon during their Spanish League soccer match at the Lluis Companys Stadium in Barcelona, Spain, on Saturday, 16 Oct, 2004. Barcelona won the Catalan derby with 1-0 — INTERNET**

**Ferguson opted to leave Rooney on the bench after midweek exertions for England but van Nistelrooy did start and came desperately close to giving United the lead after 37 minutes of a poor first half.**

**Quinton Fortune crossed from the left and the Dutch striker, looking certain to score from pointblank range, sidefooted his shot into the feet of City keeper Maik Taylor.**

Taylor saved well from Cristiano Ronaldo and Saha soon after but United were lacking fluency overall and 14 minutes into the second half Ferguson sent on Rooney for midfielder Kleberson.

Immediately, though, City striker Emile Heskey tested United keeper Roy Carroll and Birmingham, with Robbie Savage a constant menace in midfield, more than held their own against their illustrious opponents in the remaining half-hour. — MNA/Reuters
19-10-2004 (Tuesday)
(Morning Transmission)
(9:00 - 10:00)
9:00 Signature Tune
9:25 Greeting
9:02 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic Sights
(“Mingalabar”)
9:06 Irie Phuang Daw Oo
Pagoda Festival
9:12 Thameehla Island,
Home to Fascinating Turtles
9:15 National News
9:20 Ramayana in Myanmar
(Part VI) (Scene I)
9:30 National News
9:35 Travel & Description
(Yangon to Thanlyin-Kyik Tan)
9:40 Myanmar Modern Song
“Blessed Myanmar”
9:45 National News
10:12 Floral Lovers Paradise
(National Kandawgyi Gardens)
10:15 National News
10:35 Extraordinary Evidences
of Myanmar Culture (Part-II)
10:40 Aungpung Oranges
11:05 Music: For Your Ears (A
Melodic Music Piece)
11:20 Myanmar Modern Song
“Blessed Myanmar”
11:45 National News
12:05 Traditional Weaving Art
12:10 Myanmar Modern Song
“The Beautiful Tanin-thaung”
12:20 The Pindaya Natural Cave
12:15 National News
12:20 A Short Introduction to
Myanma Saing Waing (or)
Myanmar Orchestra
12:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic Sights
“Myanmar Panorama &
Myanmar Sentiment”
12:35 Irie Phuang Daw Oo
Pagoda Festival
12:40 Headline News
12:45 National News
13:00 Ramayana in Myanmar
(Part VI) (Scene I)
13:15 National News
13:25 Myanmar Modern Song
“Blessed Myanmar”
14:05 National News
14:20 Flora Lore Savage
(National Kandawgyi Gardens)
14:25 National News
14:40 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic Sights
“Mingalabar”
14:36 Myanmar Cattle Market
14:40 Headline News
14:42 Easily Cooked Tasty
Dishes “Sour Soup pre-
pared with Fish and
Vegetables”
14:45 National News
14:50 Ancient City, Pakhan-
gyi
14:55 Kayin Dance (We Bu
or Paddy Winnowing Dance)
20:00 National News
20:05 The Most Breath-taking
Scene of Shwe Kyin Creek
20:10 Myanmar Modern Song
“Aristic Beauty”
20:12 The Art of Playing
Can-Ball
20:15 National News
20:20 Ramayana in Myanmar
(Part VI)
20:25 Myanmar Modern Song
“Love Slave”
20:30 National News
20:35 Tour in Myanmar
“Saguing, Mingung”
20:40 Extraordinary Evidences
of Myanmar Culture (Part-I)
20:45 National News
20:50 How to Cook “The
Ngapai Fish Curry”
20:55 Sein-Kyayang-Nilar
Royal Group Dance
21:05 National News
21:15 National News
21:30 Traditional Weaving Art
21:40 Myanmar Modern Song
“The Beautiful Tanin-
thay”
22:12 The Pindaya Natural
Cave
22:15 National News
22:20 A Short Introduction to
Myanma Saing Waing
(or) Myanmar Orchestra
22:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty
& Scenic Sights
“Myanmar Panorama &
Myanmar Sentiment”
23:15 Irie Phuang Daw Oo
Pagoda Festival
23:20 Headline News
23:45 National News
23:50 Music for Your Ears (A
Melodic Music Piece)
(Guitar Aung Shein,
Gold Medalist)
23:55 Macadamia (Perennial
Cash Crop)
23:00 National News
23:05 Marine Products in
Myek
23:10 Songs On Screen “Where
does love begin?”
23:12 Village of “EN”
23:15 National News
23:20 Unforgettable Tradi-
tions of Po National
23:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic Sights
“Come and See
Myanmar”

WEATHER

Monday, 18 October, 2004
Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours
MST: During the past 24 hours, light rain or thundershow-
eries have been isolated in Shan State and upper Sagaing
Division and weather has been partly cloudy in the
remaining areas.

Maximum temperature on 17-10-2004 was 95°F.
Minimum temperature on 18-10-2004 was 70°F. Relative hu-
midity at 9:30 hrs MST on 18-10-2004 was 79%.
Total sunshine hours on 17-10-2004 was (6.2) hours approx.
Rainfall on 18-10-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-
Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was
(111.93 inches) at Yangon Airport, (106.77 inches) at Kaba-
Aye and (109.21 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind
speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 7 mph from West at
(15:35) hours MST on 17-10-2004.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in the South-
west Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of
Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 19-10-2004: Except for pos-
sibility of isolated rain or thundershowers in
Taninthayi Division, weather will be partly cloudy in the
remaining states and divisions. Degree of certainty is (40%).

State of the sea: Seas will be slight to moderate in
Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Generally fair in the
whole country.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for
Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for
The 12th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continue at Padonna Theatre and Kanbaua Theatre.

Among the audience were members of the panel of patrons part in the higher education level (women’s) classical song contest and 13 boys in the basic education level (aged 5-10) boys’ classical song contest. The higher education level (men’s) religious song contest and the basic education level (aged 5-10) girls’ religious song contest will be held at the National Museum tomorrow.

At the National Theatre, Chairperson of the Panel of Judges Chairman of the leading committee for organizing the competitions Daw Mu Khin and members of the Sangha recited the Five Precepts from Township Ovadacariya Sayadaw Kengyin Kyaung Sayadaw Agga Maha Saddamajotika Dhaja Bhaddanta Khemacara.

Afterwards, members of the Sangha recited parittas. Later, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presented provisions donated by Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) to Presiding Sayadaw of Dhamma Daya Kyaungtai Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Arjeya.

After that, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe of the Ministry of Defence, Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, Deputy ministers and senior military officers presented offerings to members of the Sangha.

Next, Bhaddanta Arjeya delivered a sermon and Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party and shared merits gained.

The ceremony ended with the three-times recitation of Buddha Sasanam Ciram Titthatu.

At the provision-presentation ceremony, altogether 54 bags of rice were offered to 18 Sarthintaiks in Kengtung.

Next, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein met departmental officials, social organizations and townswelders at the City Hall on Airport Road.

(See page 9)

Maung Kyaw Ko Lat competes in oboe contest.—MNA

Maing Kyaw Htun U Sein Aung Min, Secretary Daw Mu Khin and members of the Sangha recited the Five Precepts from Township Ovadacariya Sayadaw Kengyin Kyaung Sayadaw Agga Maha Saddamajotika Dhaja Bhaddanta Khemacara.

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