

(DHHS Reference No. E-016-2000/0-PCT-02), U.S. Patent Application No. 10/129,424 filed 03 May 2002 (DHHS Reference No. E-016-2000/0-US-03)
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The process of apoptosis, or programmed cell death, can be utilized to eliminate unwanted cells, and it can occur during embryogenesis, turnover of senescent cells or metamorphosis. It can also be part of a defense mechanism against pathogens, *e.g.*, viruses, by allowing the host organism to eliminate infected cells. In an attempt to circumvent this defense mechanism, pathogens can produce gene products that block these apoptotic pathways. For example, *O. pseudotsugata* expresses a family of inhibitors of apoptosis proteins (IAP), and experimental data suggests that these IAPs can play a role in the protection from cellular apoptosis. This application claims nucleic acid and amino acid sequences corresponding to a viral IAP-associated factor, or VIAF. The gene and its product may enhance the anti-apoptotic properties of IAPs although the exact mechanism of this interaction is not clear. This technology could be used to treat disease states where VIAF is under-expressed, *e.g.*, breast adenocarcinomas, where there is an over-expression of VIAF, *e.g.*, neurodegenerative diseases and where apoptosis is undesired, *e.g.*, AIDS and autoimmune diseases. Additional

information may be found in Duckett, CS, "Novel modulators of the apoptotic cell death pathway," *Mol. Biol. Cell* 12: 732 Suppl. S Nov 2001.

Dated: September 16, 2003.

Steven M. Ferguson,

Director, Division of Technology Development and Transfer, Office of Technology Transfer, National Institutes of Health.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Government-Owned Inventions; Availability for Licensing

AGENCY: National Institutes of Health, Public Health Service, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The inventions listed below are owned by agencies of the U.S. Government and are available for licensing in the U.S. in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 207 to achieve expeditious commercialization of results of federally-funded research and development. Foreign patent applications are filed on selected inventions to extend market coverage for companies and may also be available for licensing.

ADDRESSES: Licensing information and copies of the U.S. patent applications listed below may be obtained by writing

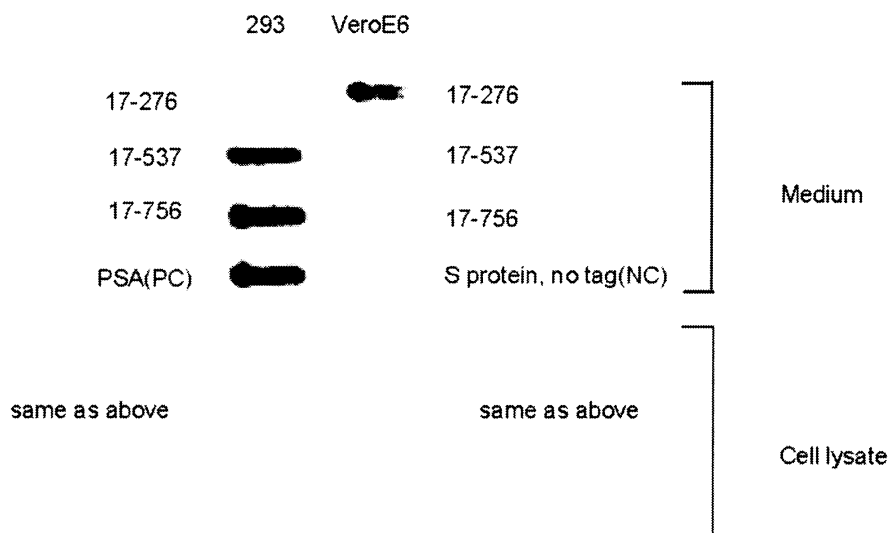
to the indicated licensing contact at the Office of Technology Transfer, National Institutes of Health, 6011 Executive Boulevard, Suite 325, Rockville, Maryland 20852-3804; telephone: (301) 496-7057; fax: (301) 402-0220. A signed Confidential Disclosure Agreement will be required to receive copies of the patent applications.

Soluble SARS Coronavirus Spike Protein (S Protein)

Dimitar Dimitrov, Xiadong Xiao (NCI)
 DHHS Reference No. E-228-2003/0-US-01 filed 22 Jul 2003

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The SARS coronavirus is etiologically linked to severe acute respiratory syndrome. Soluble forms of the SARS coronavirus spike protein have been isolated and are available for licensing for use in generating vaccines, antibodies, and kits containing antibodies that bind to the spike protein for treating disease. The filed patent application additionally claims the associated spike protein polypeptides, peptide fragments, and conservative variants thereof; nucleic acid segments and constructs that encode the spike protein, polypeptides and peptide fragments of the spike protein, and conservative variants thereof and coupled proteins that include the spike protein or a portion thereof and peptidomimetics.



Internal Control Nucleic Acid Molecule for Real-Time Polymerase Chain Reaction

Michael Vickery, Angelo DePaola, George Blackstone (FDA)

U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/471,121 filed 16 May 2003 (DHHS Reference No. E-213-2003/0-US-01)

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The invention provides a PCR internal control system for use in both real-time