OBA News

News from the NIH Office of Biotechnology Activities

December 5, 2011

NIH Recombinant DNA Advisory Committee to Meet December 13-14 - The quarterly public meeting of the NIH Recombinant DNA Advisory Committee (RAC) will take place December 13-14; the agenda for the meeting is available on the OBA Web site.

The RAC will review and discuss human gene transfer protocols that have been selected for in-depth review including:

- A clinical trial that will test the safety of autologous T cells modified to express a chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) that targets cMet, a tumor antigen. The T cells will be administered intratumorally and then intravenously to patients with newly diagnosed hormone negative breast cancer.

There will be presentations on research using gene modified T cells from:

- Dr. Carl June, Director of the Translational Research Program at the Abramson Family Cancer Research Institute, University of Pennsylvania, who will discuss his recently published results from a study using autologous T cells engineered to express an anti-CD19 CAR in patients with chemotherapy resistant or refractory CD19+ Leukemia and Lymphoma, and

- Dr. Steven Rosenberg, Chief of the Surgery Branch, National Cancer Institute, NIH, who will provide an update on his T cell immunotherapy program for cancer.

Finally, the RAC will discuss a serious adverse event that occurred on a trial that administers a tumor vaccine consisting of irradiated autologous tumor cells admixed with granulocyte macrophage-colony stimulating factor secreting K562 cells to subjects with advanced myelodysplastic syndrome or acute myelogenous leukemia following hematopoietic stem cell transplantation.

The meeting will be held at the Hilton Rockville Hotel and Executive Center, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852. All portions of the meeting are open to the public and will be webcast. Please visit the meetings page of the OBA Web site to access the link to the webcast and to obtain a copy of the complete agenda.

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