Advancing USF Innovation



Life Science Technologies



Technology Transfer Office



The University of South Florida (USF) Technology Transfer Office (TTO) was ranked in the Top 20 of American Universities for technology transfer by the prestigious Milken Institute. TTO endeavors to educate and promote innovation, the result of which is products, jobs and technologies utilized in the public interest. TTO's work allows for a sustained focus on transferring cutting-edge research and innovation to the commercial marketplace, generating revenue and diversifying the economy. USF is the nation's seventh leading public university in generating new United States utility patents and ranks 16th among universities worldwide in this key measure of innovation, according to the National Academy of Inventors (NAI) and the Intellectual Property Owners Association (IPO). With 96 new utility patents issued in CY 2018, USF continues to stand with some of the world's most prestigious institutions in the highly competitive arena. USF has ranked in the top 10 among public universities for U.S. patents granted for the past eight years.

The TTO negotiated 98 license and option agreements in FY 2019, and these agreements represent companies that have contracted with USF to further develop research into commercial products and to help bring USF's innovation into the marketplace.

USF facilitated the formation of seven new startup companies in FY 2019, and has facilitated the formation of 47 startup companies in the last five years. USF also had 173 disclosures in FY 2019.

http://www.usf.edu/research-innovation/pl/

Page Area of Interest

- 3 Animal Models
- 5 Laboratory Methods
- 12 Laboratory Devices
- 15 Laboratory Materials

TgFKBP5



The successful detection of FKBP51 overexpression by staining and Western blot.



Conditional FKBP51 Over-Expression Transgenic Mouse

- Human FKBP51 is overexpressed in mice to exhibit depressive behavior
- Provides a new screening tool for therapeutic agents
- Can be used to screen for additional psychiatric disorders, including post-traumatic stress disorder and bipolar disorder
- Live Specimens Available

USF Tech ID# 13A006 Patent Pending

Technology Description:

Researchers at USF have developed a transgenic mouse model that causes the mouse to express depressive behavior. This was accomplished by the addition of a nucleotide sequence encoding human FKBP51 which was integrated into the mouse genome. This model is capable of over-expressing human FKBP51 in the forebrain, which causes the transgenic animal to exhibit depressive behavior.

The mouse model provides a method for studying the effect of a possible therapeutic agent on one or more phenotypes of the depressive–like behavior by comparing the effect to an untreated control animal. This technique offers the potential to improve drug development efforts in the pharmaceutical industry for psychiatric disorders.

Ube3a Rat Model for Angelman Syndrome

- A rat model that lacks the entire Ube3a gene, which is known to cause Angelman Syndrome
- All isoforms and alternative promoters of the Ube3a gene are also removed
- The model may be used for research as well pre-clinical testing of potential therapeutics
- Live Specimens Available

USF Tech ID# 16A060 Patent Pending

Technology Description:

Nearly all cases of Angelman Syndrome result from the disruption of a single gene: UBE3A. USF scientists have developed a rat model of Angelman Syndrome that closely mimics the complete deletion of the UBE3A gene containing region of chromosome 15 found in approximately 70% of Angelman cases. The rat model is completely UBE3A deficient with a genome lacking the entire UBE3A gene (including all isoforms and alternative promoters). This rat model may be used for basic research in regards to the disease as well as applied research for pre-clinical testing of potential therapeutics.

University of South Florida Animal Models



Transgenic Foxc2-tdTomato Overexpressing Mice

- Mouse model to overexpress the Foxc2-td gene via Cre recombinase
- Potential application to resolve genetic defects in lymphatic valve development
- Live Specimens Available

USF Tech ID# 17A097 Patent Pending

Technology Description:

USF researchers have designed a mouse model which has a transgenic construct inserted into the genome to overexpress the gene Foxc2. The construct is designed so that a strong ubiquitous promoter drives the cDNA for Foxc2 and is connected by a P2A linker.

Currently, no widely available mouse models exist to overexpress the gene Foxc2 in a Cre-dependent manner. Foxc2 is a necessary transcription factor for the embryonic development of lymphatic valves as well as for lifelong maintenance of the valve structures. This mouse model may help researchers gain insight into genetic defects of the lymphatic valves.



Sensitively Studying Gene-Gene Interactions Over a Wide Genetic Background

- Uses the CRISPR method to generate novel mouse models
- Allows first-generation mice to be used, which greatly expedites modeling of gene-gene interaction over a wide genetic background
- Eliminates genetic, epigenetic and environmental variations
- Product in Development

USF Tech ID# 14B153 US Patent# 9,974,290



Preclinical Model of Neonatal Necrotizing Enterocolitis

- An animal model to investigate red blood cell transfusions and NEC-like bowel injuries in mouse pups with severe anemia
- Is consistent with the typical course of transfusion-associated NEC in human infants
- Supports the idea that the incidence of NEC in premature infants peaks at a postmenstrual age

USF Tech ID# 17A053 Patent Pending



The above graphs show that Plasmodium sporozoites retain viability in insect based media but not in human based media after four hours.



- Retains significantly high viability of cryopreserved infective malaria cells
- Applicable towards a whole-parasite vaccine
- Plays a key role in liver stage research
- Is effective for plasmodium research

USF Tech ID# 18A008 Patent Pending

Technology Description:

Researchers at the University of South Florida have developed a novel method to allow harvested sporozoites to be cryopreserved and thawed effectively. This method will allow the sporozoites to retain a significantly high viability and infectivity at 70% or greater, which is a substantial improvement when compared to the current standard. Retaining such a high viability and sporozoite functionality overcomes the limitations presented previously in Plasmodium sporozoite and liver stage research. Sporozoites and other parasitic cells prepared aseptically in this manner are suitable for clinical use as a whole-parasite vaccine and pre-clinical discovery research studies.



After 8-10 days, when cells started showing neuron-like morphology, they were fixed with 4% PFA and first stained with the primary antibody, neuron-specific β -Tubulin (A) and vesicular GABA transporter (B). The secondary antibody used was Alexa-488 for immunofluorescence. The nuclei were counterstained with DAPI.

Direct Conversion of Human Skin Fibroblast into Neurons Using a Faster and Cheaper Alternative

- A modified protocol to convert human skin fibroblasts into neurons using a readily available medium
- Neurons are directly converted without transition into iPSCs and without the use of neurotrophic factors
- Lower cost and faster conversion method

USF Tech ID# 15A014 US Patent# 9,481,864

Technology Description:

Researchers at the University of South Florida have developed a novel method to obtain neurons from human skin fibroblasts in half the time previously reported. This method uses readily available medium to convert the cells without the complicated and lengthy generation of induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs). This method lowers costs and increases time efficiency.

This newly discovered method will be a crucial component in the advancements of ex-vivo assays. It will also expedite personalized medicine approaches for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease and other neurodegenerative diseases.





Inhibition of STAT3 DNA-Binding Activity and STAT3-Mediated Transcription by JSI-124



Column based collection, enrichment, and detection of microsporidia from 100µL of blood

Molecule that Inhibits STAT3 Activation: Development of a Phospho STAT3 Cytoblot High Throughput Assay

- A method for the treatment of tumors and cancerous tissues
- Prevents tumorigenesis and malignant transformation through the modulation of STAT3 intracellular signaling
- Anti-tumor activity demonstrated in-vitro and in-vivo

USF Tech ID# 01A026 US Patent# 7,998,947 & 8,691,799

Technology Description:

Researchers at the University of South Florida have developed a method for the prevention of tumor formation and malignant transformation through the modulation of signal transducer and activator of transcription 3 (STAT3) and Janus kinase (JAK) intracellular signaling.

USF inventors have discovered a novel method using the pharmaceutical cucurbitacin I, or JSI-124, to suppress the JAK/STAT3 tumor survival pathway, therefore exhibiting potent antitumor activity. Further, research has showed that growth of cancer cells in a patient can be inhibited by local and systemic administration of JSI-124 compounds. Cucurbitacin I can modulate JAK/STAT3 activity both in vitro and in vivo. This method can treat multiple cancer types including pancreatic cancer, prostate cancer, lung cancer and breast cancer and can be administered intravenously, intramuscularly, orally, and intranasally.

Novel Methods for the Staining of Fungi and Protozoa: Development of Staining Kit

- Methods are applicable to fungal and protozoan detection in both environmental and biological samples
- Techniques are rapid, specific and sensitive methods
- Applicable as a routine detection test

USF Tech ID# 02A034 US Patent# 7,745,168; 7,157,242 & 8,609,365

Technology Description:

Researchers at the University of South Florida have developed improved methods for the detection and diagnosis of various fungi and protozoa.

Our researchers have developed a set of methods that are applicable to fungal and protozoan detection in both environmental and biological samples. The first protocol involves a staining procedure that is sensitive to fungi and protozoa due to the presence of chitin in the composition of these organisms. The second method entails affinity column chromatography using chitin binding beads or fibers for the isolation and detection of fungi or protozoa. Both techniques are rapid, specific, and sensitive methods that could be used as routine tests for the detection of chitin-containing microorganisms in media and tissue.



| Fransmission electron micrograph of keratocytes grown in an authentic scaffold. | Enhanced Formation of Extracellular Matrix by Overlayering Cultured Cells with a Volume Exclusion Agent Increases the formation of collagen fibrils and extracellular matrix Allows for higher tensile strength and better structural integrity of the cells in culture Yields a more normal cell topography in the bioengineered tissue USF Tech ID# 08A052 US Patent# 8,623,646 |
|--|---|
| 10 ⁴ 10 | ATP Bioluminescence Immunoassay Can determine viability of specific bacterial contaminants in food products, beverages, and public water sources A reliable procedure that can be completed in one hour Minimal or no sample pre-treatment involved Plate or dipstick formats USF Tech ID# 09A010 US Patent# 8,518,658 & 9,116,151 |
| 10 μm Fluorescent Image of E. coli O157:H7 Treated with CAT-FISH. | Capture Antibody Targeted Fluorescent In-Situ Hybridization (CAT-FISH) Accommodates various fluorescence requirements Allows multiple combinations of probes and antibodies Is an inexpensive kit that utilizes inexpensive and commercially available reagents <u>USF Tech ID# 10B092</u> US Patent# 9,714,943 |
| miRNA Name (Family) miRNA Sequence (Family) Homology Scores hss-miR-376b MIMAT0002172 ATCATAGAGGAAAATCCATGTT 7000 hss-miR-376b MIMAT0000729 ATCATAGAGGAAAATCCACGT 3268 muu-miR-376a MIMAT0000740 ATCGTAGAGGAAAATCCACGT 3268 muu-miR-376a MIMAT0000720 ATCATAGAGGAAAATCCACGT 1460 muu-miR-376b MIMAT0000192 ATCATAGAGGAAAATTCCACGT 524 hsa-miR-376b MIMAT00003123 AACATAGAGGAAATTCCACGT 696 muu-miR-376b MIMAT0002852 ATCGTGCATCCCTTTAGAGTGT 7000 hsa-miR-517b MIMAT0002852 ATCGTGCATCCCTTTAGAGTGT 5324 hsa-miR-520g MIMAT0002854 ACAAAGTGCTTCCCTTTAGAGTGT 1472 hsa-miR-5212 MIMAT0002854 ACAAGCCACTCCCTTTAGAGTGT 1460 hsa-miR-512c MIMAT0002866 ATCGTGCATCCCTTTAGAGTGT 1460 hsa-miR-512c MIMAT0002866 ATCGTGCATCCCTTTAGAGTGT 1460 hsa-miR-512c MIMAT0002867 CAAAGTGCCTCCCTTTAGAGTGT 1460 hsa-miR-519d MIMAT0002867 ACAAGTGCATCCTTTAGAGTGT 1460 hsa-miR-519d MIMAT0002867 ACAAGTGCTCCCTTTAGAGTGT 1460 hsa-miR-5198 MIMAT0002867 | QmiR, A Computer Program for Designing PCR Primers for UQmiR miRNA RT-qPCR Assay Primers can be designed for specific miRNAs and for miRNA amplification Can handle thousands of miRNA sequences at once Ensures specificity when using miRNAs in a research setting |

| | Blue Collagenase Assay Measures both soluble and insoluble cell or tissue-associated collagenase activity Stains lyophilized collagen in its native state without solubilization by acid and/or gelling by heat Allows for qualitative observation of collagenase activity and quantitative activity via a spectrophotometer Can also be used to analyze metallo-proteinases in humans and other animals <u>USF Tech ID# 13A062</u> Patent Pending |
|---|---|
| Formation of bidentate ligand | Fragment Evolution via Kinetic Target-Guided Synthesis for the Identification of Potent Bcl-2 Modulators Rapid identification of modulators of protein-protein interactions Applicable to any undruggable targets such as protein-protein interaction targets or protein-DNA/RNA interactions Applicable to the pharmaceutical, biotechnology, and drug design industries |
| A schematic representation of Kinetic Target-Guided Synthesis. | <u>USF Tech ID# 13B140</u> Patent Pending |
| Probe-1 Probe-2 Probe-3 Probe-3 | Universal qPCR Duplex Detection of mRNAs and miRNAs A multiplexed RNA Quantitative PCR Assay Simultaneous detection of one or more microRNA species and/or one or more messenger RNA species from one or more samples Four PCR reactions can be performed in one well Reduction in cost, time and experimental errors |
| Probe-4 Probe-4 A (1 (2 (5 (4 (5 (6 (7 (8 (9 (10 (11 (12 (13 (14 (15 (16 (17 (16 (19 (20 (21 (22 (23 (24 (14 (14 (14 (14 (14 (14 (14 (14 (14 (1 | <u>USF Tech ID# 13B164</u> US Patent# 10,030,263 |
| Acles aggpt Acles lafirmatus Acles aggpt Acles lafirmatus Acles acquire Acles tarensorbusca Appheles encies Cogulicitials perturbas | An Automatic System of Tagging and Uploading of Mosquito Species from Smartphone Images A cloud-based sytem Real-time identification and reporting Minimal to zero human intervention required Time and cost savings Improved accuracy |
| | <u>USF Tech ID# 18B171</u> Patent Pending |



University of South Florida

Laboratory Devices



University of South Florida

Laboratory Devices



University of South Florida Laboratory Devices

| | Continuous Wireless Powering of Moving Biological Sensors Can deliver a constant power supply Eliminates power related drifts and their corresponding recalibration procedures Increased data resolution and decreased size USF Tech ID# 15A052 US Patent# 10,027,179 |
|---|---|
| String (or Wire) Bank Bank Base Clip | A Mouse Dissection Device Expediting Sample Collection The simplified multilayer structure accommodates a wide range of animal sizes Durable structure and easy clean-up design Allows for expedited sample collection from small animals <u>USF Tech ID# 15B170</u> US Patent# 9,622,842 |
| | Polymer Gradient Creation System Allows the creation of complex gradients of multiple polymer or liquid components Components such as nanoparticles or cells can also be imbedded into the polymer matrix Allows for high accuracy and control USF Tech ID# 17A019 Patent Pending |
| Complete View of the PDMS Incubator Design | Mobile Phone Based ELISA with Incubator and Automatic Fluid Dispensing User friendly Simple imaging is possible with the transparent incubator Non-flammable organic composite Prototype available USF Tech ID# 18B163 Patent Pending |



Supramolecular Assemblies and Building Blocks

- Simple and highly modifiable materials
- Greater potential for the prediction, design, and synthesis of the network topology of a framework based on a singular network topology
- Potential application in areas focused on carbon dioxide capture, methane storage, gas separations and drug delivery

USF Tech ID# 07B130 US Patent# 8,034,952

Technology Description:

Researchers at USF have invented a novel approach to unequivocally design functional porous materials based on hierarchical bottom-up assembly utilizing targeted supermolecular building blocks (SBBs). These building blocks provide a greater potential for the prediction, design, and synthesis of the resultant network topology of the constructed metal-organic, or covalentorganic frameworks.

This invention also provides corresponding designed ligands that can be used as monomers in the preparation of SBBs and the triangular molecular building blocks (MBBs). The dual composition of these materials and their extra-large cavities offer great potential for their use in areas such as separation, controlled release and/or sequestration of gases, chemosensors and drug delivery.

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Electrospun fibrils

Polypeptide Electrospun Nanofibrils of Defined Composition

- Homogeneous nanofibers made of pure synthetic polypeptides
- Have increased stability through crosslinking
- Are biodegradable by enzymes over time
- Possible applications include surgical sutures, wound dressings, tissue engineering scaffolds, medical textile materials and drug delivery depots

USF Tech ID# 09B135 US Patent# 9,428,849

Technology Description:

University of South Florida researchers have developed homogeneous nanofibers made of pure synthetic polypeptides. These materials have physical, chemical and biological properties that make them advantageous for replacing traditional materials in medicine and tissue engineering. Biocompatible and bio-absorbable materials are needed to help minimize the foreign-body response that often occurs during surgical procedures. These biomaterials are also biodegradable by enzymes over time.

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A visual depiction of the native ligand mannose bound to Con A.



Coomassie stained gel of photolabeled Con A and controls.







3-Trifluoromethyl-3-Aryldiazirine Photolabels with Enhanced Ambient Light Stability

- A successfully synthesized ambient-light stable photolabel
- Enhanced ambient light stability and aqueous solubility
- Enhanced photo-affinity labeling could help to introduce chemical probes into drug discovery, identifying new drug targets and molecular interactions

USF Tech ID# 16A024 US Patent# 10,067,136

Technology Description:

Researchers at USF have successfully synthesized an ambient-light stable photolabel without compromising the photoactivated insertion reactivity. The photolabels, synthesized with 3-trifluromethyl-3aryldiazirine, have allowed reserachers to overcome the many obstacles of traditional photolabel techniques, including cumbersome synthesis, instability to ambient light conditions, and limited aqueous solubility.

This invention will enhance photoaffinity labeling thereby furthering its applications. Such applications may include drug discovery and the identification of new drug targets and molecular interactions.

Imparting Amphiphobicity on Single-Crystalline Porous Materials

- The amphiphobic porous materials resist all kinds of liquids but allow the adsorption/permeation of gases
- Exhibits superhydrophobicity, oleophobicity, high crystallinity and intact porosity
- Applications in a variety of fields such as microelectronics, medicine and military

USF Tech ID# 16B177 Patent Pending

Technology Description:

Researchers at the University of South Florida have developed a method to impart superhyrdrophobicity or amphiphobicity on porous materials while still maintaining gas permeability. This property is a pioneering invention to protect crystalline porous materials under various chemical environments. The treated porous materials resist all kinds of liquids, but allow the adsorption/permeation of gases. These materials may have many important applications in a variety of fields such as microelectronics, medicine and military.





Fibers in the prepared polymers with a ribbon-like appearance.



Peptide-Based Materials

- Novel bio-inspired polymeric materials made of random polypeptides of known amino acid composition
- Cost efficient and highly practical
- Potential application in the materials manufacturing niche
- Eliminates unnecessary consumption of non-renewable resources, therefore reducing non-biodegradable waste

USF Tech ID# 12B157 US Patent# 9,932,443

Oligomer-Selective Fluorescent Indicator Dye

- A selective indicator of gOs and CFs
- Potential to detect amyloids in vitro and in vivo
- An early stage neurodegenerative disease detection method
- Amyloid detection in tissues or bodily fluid samples

USF Tech ID# 18B174 Patent Pending



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