



Influenza Variant Grows Well in CHO Cells

WARF: P100246US02

Inventors: Yoshihiro Kawaoka, Makoto Ozawa

The Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation (WARF) is seeking commercial partners interested in developing a modified PR8 influenza virus that efficiently replicates in Chinese Hamster Ovary cells.

Overview

Vaccines against influenza and other viruses can be grown in Chinese Hamster Ovary (CHO) cells. Problematically, an influenza virus that is made by combining H1N1 and PR8 strains, and that is recommended by the World Health Organization as a donor strain to produce yearly vaccines, does not replicate well in CHO cells.

The Invention

UW-Madison researchers have developed a modified version of the PR8 virus to grow in high yields in CHO cells. The modified strain could be used as the donor 'backbone' in the annual influenza vaccine. The backbone combines six gene segments encoding 'internal' viral products with gene variants for the two cell surface proteins (NA and HA) that characterize a given year's influenza threat.

Applications

- Producing CHO cell-adapted PR8 influenza virus

Key Benefits

- Replicates in CHO cells 10 times more efficiently

Additional Information

Related Technologies

- [WARF reference number P01273US describes mutant host cells that can be used to propagate influenza A virus mutants with reduced sialidase activity.](#)

Tech Fields

- [Therapeutics & Vaccines : Vaccines](#)

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