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(54) TARGETING OF HERPES SIMPLEX VIRUS TO SPECIFIC RECEPTORS

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- (60) Provisional application No. 60/416,716, filed on Oct. 7, 2002.
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- (52) **U.S. Cl.** **424/199.1**; 424/93.2; 424/231.1; 435/235.1; 435/320.1

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(57) ABSTRACT

The invention relates to engineered Herpes simplex virus (HSV) particles that are targeted to one or more specific binding pair members, such as receptors. Also, recombinant vectors for producing such HSV particles are provided. By reducing the affinity of HSV for its natural receptor(s) and increasing the affinity for a selected receptor, the HSV particles of the invention are useful for targeting cells that express the selected receptor, which itself may be a product of genetic engineering. The ability to selectively target cells renders the HSV particles particularly useful in selectively diagnosing, treating, and imaging cells bearing the selected binding pair member, such as a receptor. The invention also provides for polynucleotide-based therapy to cells bearing the selected binding pair member such as a receptor.

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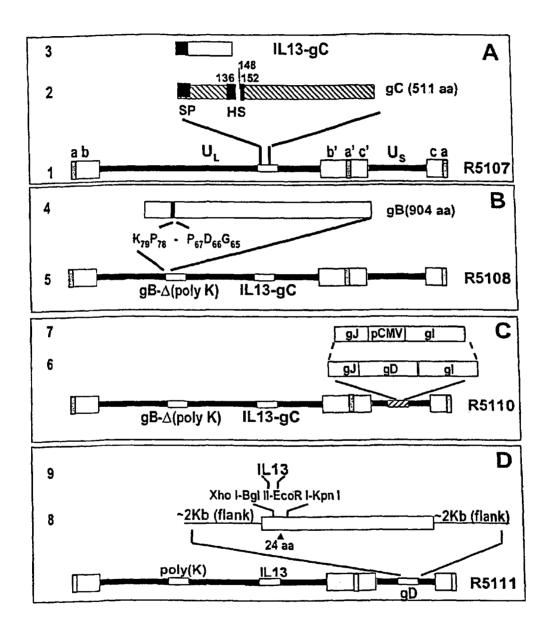


FIGURE 1

A. The amino terminal sequence of IL13-gC

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B. The sequence of the $gB_{\Delta poly(K)}$ domain

C. The amino terminal sequence of IL13-gD

CGCTTTCGCCGCAAAGACCTTCCGGTCctcgag*ATGGCGCTTTTGTTGACCACGGTCATT
24AA XhoI IL13→

TACCACATCCAGGCGGGCCTACCGGACCCGTTCCAGCCCCCCAGCCTCCCGATC

FIGURE 2

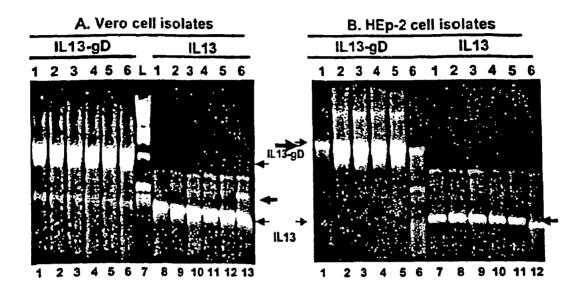


FIGURE 3

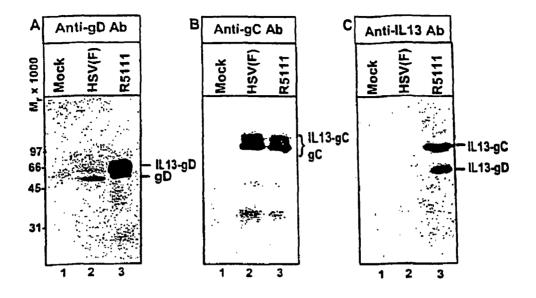
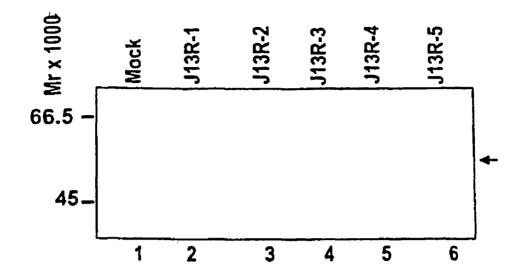
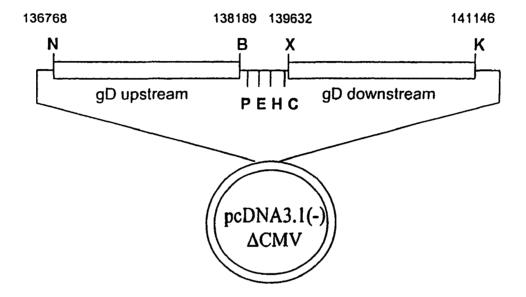


FIGURE 4

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FIGURE

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pgD- in pcDNA3.1(-) with CMV promoter collapsed by NruI/NheI digestion. The fragment containing gD upstream at NotI/BamHI, and gD downstream at XhoI/KpnI in pBluescript II SK was excised by NotI/KpnIand ligated into pcDNA3.1(-) in which the CMV promoter had been collapsed. N, NotI, B, BamHI, P, PstI, E, EcoRI, H, HindIII, C, ClaI, X, XhoI, and K, KpnI.

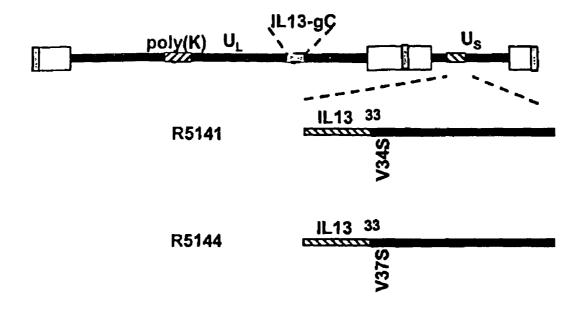


FIGURE 7

TARGETING OF HERPES SIMPLEX VIRUS TO SPECIFIC RECEPTORS

This application is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Ser. No. 10/530,774, which is the U.S. national phase of 5 PCT/US03/31598 filed Oct. 6, 2003, which claims the priority benefit of U.S. Ser. No. 60/416,716, filed Oct. 7, 2002.

GOVERNMENT INTERESTS

The U.S. Government owns rights in the invention pursuant to National Cancer Institute grant number 1PO1 CA71933.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

A steady rate of healthcare advances has led to continuing improvement in the health and quality of life for humans and animals. Nevertheless, a variety of diseases, disorders, and conditions have largely eluded the best efforts at prevention 20 or treatment. Chief among these maladies is the loss of cellcycle control that frequently results in the undesirable cell proliferation characteristic of cancer in its many forms, such as malignant glioma. Malignant gliomas are devastating brain tumors that afflict animals such as humans. The average life 25 span after diagnosis is less than one year and few patients have been reported to survive five years. Furthermore, none of the conventional anti-cancer therapies has been successful in significantly prolonging the lifespan of patients with this disease. In recent years there have been numerous attempts to 30 use genetically engineered herpes simplex viruses (HSV) as oncolytic agents to treat malignant gliomas. Because wildtype viruses are highly virulent, the viruses used in preclinical evaluations and in phase-1 clinical studies have been thoroughly attenuated. While several deletion mutants have been 35 tested, the mutants that reached clinical trials lacked the γ_1 34.5 gene encoding infected cell protein 34.5 (ICP34.5) and optionally, the U_L39 gene encoding the large subunit of ribonucleotide reductase.

These attenuated HSV viruses; however, have been imper- 40 fectly engineered as oncolytic agents. One advantage of these mutant viruses is that they have a significantly reduced capacity to replicate in normal, non-dividing cells in vivo. Viral ribonucleotide reductase is an essential gene for viral replication in resting cells and, hence, the U_L39 mutant virus is 45 dysfunctional in the normal environment of the central nervous system (Simard et al. 1995). The major function of ICP34.5 is to preclude the shutoff of protein synthesis caused by activation of protein kinase R in infected cells. Once activated, this enzyme phosphorylates the α subunit of trans- 50 lation initiation factor 2 (eIF2a), resulting in complete cessation of translation. Mutants lacking the $\gamma_1 34.5$ genes are highly attenuated because the lytic life cycle is completely blocked in an interferon+ cellular background. In contrast, y_1 34.5 mutants are nearly as virulent as wild-type virus in 55 mice lacking interferon receptor. Although mutants deleted in both $\gamma_1 34.5$ and $U_L 39$ are not significantly more attenuated than those lacking the γ_1 34.5 genes, such mutants do provide added insurance in the form of a reduced risk of reversion.

A significant disadvantage of these mutant HSV viruses is 60 their poor replication, even in dividing cells. In experimental animal systems, the mutant viruses do not exhibit sustained lytic life cycles, with the loss of a potentially amplified response to a given therapeutic dose of the virus that would be expected upon re-infection of tumor cells by the multiplied 65 viral progeny. Consequently, maximum killing of tumors cells requires high doses of virus. Given the poor growth of

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these mutant HSV viruses, even in dividing cells, production of virus pools large enough to yield efficacious inocula of >10° plaque forming units (PFU) has remained a major obstacle. Moreover, indiscriminate binding of virus to nontumor cells further diminishes the effectiveness of HSV virus dosages because mis-targeted viral particles do not contribute to the desired beneficial therapeutic effect of tumor cell destruction. One approach to overcoming these obstacles is to achieve a more thorough understanding of the HSV lytic life cycle and thereby facilitate the development of HSV mutants tailored for use as targeted therapeutic agents, such as targeted oncolytic agents.

HSV enters host cells using a two-step mechanism. The first step of entry is HSV attachment to the cell surface. This 15 step is initiated by glycoproteins B and C (gB and gC), which project from the viral envelope, attaching to heparan sulfate proteoglycans on host cell surfaces. The gB and gC domains interacting with heparan sulfate have been mapped at the sequence level (Laquerre et al. 1998). Following this initial attachment, viral glycoprotein D (gD) interacts with one of several receptors. Of these gD receptors, two are particularly important for entry (Spear et al, 2000). One receptor, designated HveA, is a member of the family of receptors for tumor necrosis proteins. A second receptor, designated HveC, is a member of the nectin family of proteins, structurally related to the immunoglobulin superfamily, which serve as intercellular connectors (Campadelli-Fiume et al. 2000). The second step of HSV entry into a cell is fusion of the viral envelope with the plasma membrane of the cell. To effect fusion, gD, when bound to its receptor, recruits glycoproteins B, H and L, which results in fusion of the envelope with the plasma mem-

Additional understanding of HSV infection has come from recent studies that have lent significance to an old observation that gD interacts with the cation-independent mannose 6 phosphate receptor, contributing to the accumulation of HSV in endosomes. Endocytosis of viral particles results in particle degradation by lysosomal enzymes, but the cells succumb as a consequence of the degradation of cellular DNA by lysosomal DNase. HSV gD blocks this apoptotic pathway to cell death through its interaction with the mannose 6 phosphate receptor. Thus, gD interacts with HveA, nectins, the mannose 6 phosphate receptor, and at least one of the complex of viral glycoproteins involved in the fusion of HSV with the plasma membrane.

In an attempt to target HSV-1 infection to specific cells, a recombinant HSV having a chimeric protein comprising gC and erythropoietin (EPO) on its surface was constructed. Although the recombinant virus bound to cells expressing EPO receptor and endocytosis of the virus occurred, successful infection of these EPO-receptor expressing cells did not occur.

Accordingly, a need continues to exist in the art for viral therapeutic agents exhibiting improved targeting capacities while retaining sufficient capacity to infect to be therapeutically useful. Ideally, suitable viruses would be therapeutic agents, such as oncolytic agents, themselves as well as providing a targeting vehicle or vector for the controlled delivery of polynucleotide coding regions useful as therapeutic agents. Another need in the art is for targeted agents useful in diagnostic applications as, e.g., imaging agents or targeted vehicles for imaging agents.

SUMMARY

The invention satisfies the aforementioned need in the art by providing viral forms suitable for use as therapeutic and

diagnostic agents themselves, as well as providing a ready vehicle for the delivery of therapeutic or diagnostic polynucleotide coding regions to cells. These viral forms are modified viruses of the Herpesviridae family of viruses, and are preferably derived from herpes simplex virus type 1 or 5 type 2. The invention provides a method of making virus particles with a novel ligand (or binding pair member), and making said particles totally dependent on a receptor of the ligand (or binding pair member) for entry into targeted cells.

Disclosed herein are methods to modify the surface of, e.g., 10 an HSV virus particle in a manner that targets the virus to a specific receptor present on the surface of a cell of choice, typically a cell in need of therapy or a cell whose presence provides information of diagnostic value. The invention provides viral particles, e.g., HSV particles, having a reduced 15 affinity for their natural cell-surface receptor(s), and methods for producing and using such particles, which minimizes or eliminates the problem of reduced efficiency associated with the mis-targeting of therapeutic and diagnostic viruses. Additionally, the invention provides viral particles, e.g., HSV par- 20 ticles, that exhibit specific affinity for a cell surface component that is not a natural viral receptor and that is present solely or predominantly on a given target cell, as well as methods for producing and using such viruses. Modified viral particles (e.g., HSV) having increased affinity for a cell sur- 25 face component associated with one or more target cells exhibit improved targeting capabilities relative to known viral particles. The modified HSV particles have reduced indiscriminate binding, thereby minimizing sequestration of viral dosages away from the target cells. The invention further 30 provides modified viral particles, such as modified HSV particles, that have both a reduced affinity for natural viral receptors and an increased affinity for a cell surface component associated with a particular target cell(s), with the modified viral particle effectively recruiting that cell surface compo- 35 nent for use as a viral receptor. Other benefits of the modified viruses are described herein and will be apparent to those of skill in the art upon review of this disclosure.

In one aspect, the invention provides a recombinant herpes simplex virus (HSV) particle comprising a virus surface pro- 40 tein altered to reduce the wild-type level of binding of that protein to a sulfated proteoglycan on the surface of a cell and an altered gD. The altered gD exhibits a reduced binding to one or more of the natural cellular receptors for gD; the altered gD is also fused to a heterologous peptide ligand (or 45 binding pair member) having a binding partner, e.g., a peptide ligand receptor, found on the surface of a cell. Stated in the alternative, this aspect of the invention provides a recombinant herpes simplex virus (HSV) particle having at least one protein on its surface, comprising: (a) an altered viral surface 50 protein, wherein the alteration reduces binding of the viral surface protein to a sulfated proteoglycan; and (b) an altered gD, wherein the alteration reduces binding of gD to one or more of its cellular receptors, the alteration comprising (i) a heterologous peptide ligand (or binding pair member) on the 55 surface of the recombinant HSV particle forming a fusion protein with the altered gD; and (ii) an amino acid alteration; wherein said recombinant HSV particle preferentially binds to cells expressing a binding partner to said heterologous peptide ligand (or binding pair member).

The invention comprehends a recombinant HSV particle wherein the alteration is a conservative amino acid substitution, such as an amino acid substitution of V34S in gD. The altered gD, moreover, reduces binding of the recombinant HSV particle to at least one cell-surface protein selected from 65 the group consisting of HveA and HveC. Further, the recombinant HSV particles of the invention include particles

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wherein the altered viral surface protein is selected from the group consisting of gB and gC. In some embodiments, the altered viral surface protein, preferably selected from the group of gB and gC, forms a fusion protein with a heterologous peptide ligand. In some embodiments, the binding partner is a cell surface receptor for said heterologous peptide ligand.

The preferential binding of the recombinant HSV particles of the invention results in a detectable variation in effective binding of the particle to the cells being compared. By "effective binding" is meant either sufficiently stable binding to permit detection of binding or binding sufficient to result in productive infection of the cell. In preferred embodiments, the preferential binding is such that the recombinant HSV particles bind only to one of the cell types being compared (e.g., cancer cells compared to healthy cells of the same type). Suitable cells include any hyperproliferative cell type, such as a cancer cell. A cancer cell, in turn, includes a tumor cell, e.g., a malignant gliomal cell.

The invention comprehends recombinant HSV particles wherein the heterologous peptide ligand (or binding pair member) is any ligand (or binding pair member) for which a cell surface binding partner exists. Preferably, heterologous peptide ligands have specific cell surface binding partners, e.g., ligand receptors, that are preferentially exhibited on the surface of a target cell. More preferably, the cell surface binding partner is only exhibited on the surface of a target cell, when compared to the cells in an organism containing the target cell. Exemplary heterologous peptide ligands that include cytokines, such as IL13, and fragments, variants and derivatives thereof, provided that the ligand retains the capacity of binding to a cell-surface binding partner. An exemplary binding pair member contemplated as suitable for each aspect of the invention is a single-chain antibody, for which a binding partner would include an antigen thereof, or a fragment, derivative or variant thereof that retains the capacity to bind to the single-chain antibody.

Another aspect of the invention provides a pharmaceutical composition comprising a recombinant HSV particle described above and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent, or excipient. Any pharmaceutical carrier, diluent or excipient known in the art is contemplated. A related aspect of the invention provides a kit comprising the pharmaceutical composition and a set of instructions for administering the composition to a subject in need. In each of these aspects of the invention, i.e., the pharmaceutical compositions and the kits, the heterologous peptide ligands (or binding pair members) and cell-surface binding partners described in the context of describing the recombinant HSV particles are contemplated.

Yet another aspect of the invention provides a method of targeting a recombinant HSV particle to a cell comprising (a) identifying a binding pair member, such as a ligand for a ligand binding partner, exhibited on the surface of a target cell; and (b) creating an HSV particle as described herein, wherein the ligand or, more generally, the binding pair member, binds to the binding partner exhibited on the surface of said target cell. In some preferred embodiments of this aspect of the invention, the altered viral surface protein is selected 60 from the group consisting of gB and gC. In some embodiments, the alteration to gD reduces binding of gD to at least one cellular receptor for gD selected from the group consisting of HveA and HveC. In preferred embodiments, the altered gD has a conservative substitution at position 34 of gD, such as a V34S substitution. A second fusion protein, joining the ligand (or binding pair member) and either of gB or gC, is also contemplated in some embodiments. Suitable cells for target-

ing include any hyperproliferative cell, such as a cancer cell, including tumor cells (e.g., malignant gliomal cells). Any of the heterologous peptide ligands (or binding pair members) and cell-surface binding partners described above in the context of describing the recombinant HSV particles is suitable for use in the method.

Another aspect of the invention is drawn to a method of imaging a cell comprising: (a) contacting the cell with a recombinant HSV particle as described above, said recombinant HSV particle further comprising a coding region for a marker protein; and (b) detecting the presence of the marker protein. Any type of cell exhibiting a cell-surface binding partner for a ligand (or binding pair member) fusible to HSV gD is suitable for use in this aspect of the invention, such as a cancer cell. Using cancer cells as an example, the method is useful provided that the binding partner is present at a higher number on the cancer cell as compared to a non-cancerous cell of the same type. Any known marker protein is useful in this aspect of the invention, e.g., a marker protein selected from the group consisting of thymidine kinase, green fluorescent protein, and luciferase. In preferred embodiments, the altered gD exhibits an amino acid substitution of V34S. Any of the heterologous peptide ligands (or binding pair members) and cell-surface binding partners described above in the context of describing the recombinant HSV particles is suitable for use in the method.

Another aspect of the invention provides a method of treating a cell-based disease comprising delivering a therapeutically effective amount of a recombinant HSV particle as described herein to a subject in need. A therapeutically effective amount of a recombinant HSV particle is that amount that produces the desired therapeutic effect, as would be understood and readily determinable by those of skill in the art. Any cell-based disease known or reasonably suspected to be amenable to treatment with a specifically targeted HSV is contemplated, e.g., a cell hyperproliferation disease such as cancer. Any of the heterologous peptide ligands (or binding pair members) and cell-surface binding partners described above in the context of describing the recombinant HSV particles is suitable for use in the method.

In a related aspect, the invention provides a method of ameliorating a symptom associated with a disease comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a recombinant HSV particle described above to a subject in need. Again, any disease known or reasonably suspected to have a symptom amenable to application of a specifically targeted HSV is contemplated, including any disease characterized by hyperproliferative cells, such as cancer. Any of the heterologous peptide ligands (or binding pair members) and cellsurface binding partners described above in the context of describing the recombinant HSV particles is suitable for use in the method.

Another aspect of the invention is directed to a method of delivering a therapeutically useful peptide to a cell comprising: (a) inserting a therapeutically useful polynucleotide, such as an expression control element, an rDNA, or a coding region for a therapeutically useful peptide, into the DNA of a recombinant HSV particle as described above, thereby producing a recombinant HSV clone; and (b) delivering a therapeutically effective amount of said recombinant HSV clone to said cell. The method comprehends delivery of the recombinant HSV clone in vivo, ex vivo, or in vitro. Any of the heterologous peptide ligands (or binding pair members) and cell-surface binding partners described above in the context of describing the recombinant HSV particles is suitable for use in the method.

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Another aspect of the invention provides a method of killing a target cell, comprising contacting the target cell with a recombinant HSV particle as described above. In preferred embodiments, the recombinant HSV particle has an altered gD in which the V34S substitution is found. Any of the heterologous peptide ligands (or binding pair members) and cell-surface binding partners described above in the context of describing the recombinant HSV particles is suitable for use in the method.

In each of the above-described aspects of the invention, it is preferred that gD, or a portion thereof, maintains its membrane fusion properties, but has reduced capacity to bind HveA and/or HveC.

Other features and advantages of the invention will be better understood by reference to the brief description of the drawing and the description of the illustrative embodiments that follow.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

FIG. 1. Schematic representation of the HSV-1 (F) genome and gene manipulations in glycoprotein C (gC) (FIG. 1A), glycoprotein B (gB) (FIG. 1B), and glycoprotein D (gD) (FIG. 1C). Line 1, sequence arrangement of the HSV-1 genome. The rectangular boxes represent the inverted repeat sequences ab and b'a' flanking the unique long (U_L) sequence, and inverted repeat c'a' and ca flanking the unique short (U_s) sequence. Line 2, sequence arrangement of domains of the glycoprotein C; the signal peptide (SP) domain and heparan sulfate (HS)-binding domain of gC are highlighted. Line 3, human IL13 with signal peptide that replaced the N-terminal segment of 148 amino acids of gC. Line 4, sequence arrangement of the poly-lysine domain of gB. Line 5, schematic representation of a recombinant HSV-1(F) genome, in which the N-terminal domain of gC was replaced with IL13 and the polylysine domain (from codon 68 to codon 77) of gB was deleted. Line 6, sequence arrangement of glycoprotein J (gJ), glycoprotein D (gD), and glycoprotein I (gI) in U_S. Line 7, replacement of gD with the immediate early promoter of CMV in order to enable the expression of gI. Line 8, schematic representation of recombinant HSV-1(F) genome, in which the N-terminal domain of gC was replaced with IL13, the poly-lysine domain of gB was deleted, and IL13 was inserted after amino acid 24 of gD (FIG. 1D). Line 9, a polylinker XhoI-BgIII-EcoRI-KpnI was inserted after amino acid 24 of gD, with IL13 inserted into the XhoI and KpnI sites

FIG. 2. Amino acid sequence alignment of IL13-gC, IL13-gD junction sequence, and the HS binding domain of gB. FIG. 2A. The amino-terminal sequence of IL13-gC chimeric protein (SEQ ID NO:22). The sequences upstream and downstream of the HS binding site portion are shown. IL13 was inserted between the two restriction enzyme sites that are underlined. FIG. 2B. The domain of the gB open reading frame (i.e., ORF) from which the poly lysine [poly(K)] sequence was deleted (SEQ ID NO:23). The underlined sequences (codons 68-77) were not present in gB amplified from R5107. FIG. 2C. The amino-terminal sequence of IL13-gD (SEQ ID NO:24). The first underlined sequence identifies the gD signal peptide. IL13 (bracketed by arrows) was inserted between residues 24 and 25 (underlined) of gD, between the XhoI and KpnI restriction enzyme sites.

FIG. 3. Verification of R5111 viral DNA by PCR. Photographs of electrophoretically separated PCR products amplified directly from the plaques picked from Vero (FIG. 3A) and HEp-2 (FIG. 3B) cells. Viral DNAs were extracted as described in Example 1 and subjected to PCR with "IL13"

primers from the IL13 ORF and IL13-gD primers, which bracketed IL13 and the gD ectodomain.

FIG. 4. Photograph of electrophoretically separated proteins from lysates of cells infected with R5111 reacted with antibody to gC, gD or IL13. HEp-2 cells grown in 25 cm² flasks were exposed to 10 PFU of HSV-1 or R5111 per cell. The cells were harvested 24 hours after infection, solubilized, subjected to electrophoresis in 10% denaturing polyacrylamide gels, electrically transferred onto a nitrocellulose sheet, and exposed to a monoclonal antibody against gD (FIG. 4A), gC (FIG. 4B) or IL13 (FIG. 4C), respectively. The protein bands corresponding to the gC, IL13-gC fusion protein, gD and the IL13-gD fusion protein are indicated. IL13-gC was the same size as native gC, as expected.

FIG. 5. HA-tagged IL13R α 2 expression from individual 15 clones of stable transfectants of the J1.1 cell line. The individual clones were amplified as described in Example 1. Cells were harvested from 25 cm² flasks, solubilized, and subjected to electrophoresis in 12% denaturing polyacrylamide gels, electrically transferred onto a nitrocellulose sheet, and 20 exposed to a polyclonal antibody to HA tag.

FIG. 6. Diagram of the pgD-vector.

FIG. 7. Schematic representation of the HSV-1 (F) genome and genetic structure of R5141 and R5144.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

The invention provides benefits that will improve the health and well-being of animals such as man by providing a targeted approach to the treatment of a variety of conditions 30 and diseases that currently impair health, resulting in significant economic burdens using conventional treatments. In providing modified viral particles having controllable targeting capacities, the diagnostic and therapeutic benefit of the viruses themselves can be delivered with greater precision to 35 particular cells. Additionally, these viral particles can be used as targeting vehicles for the delivery of a wide variety of therapeutic and diagnostic biomolecules, such as polynucleotides encoding therapeutic or diagnostic peptides.

Beyond the modified viral particles, the invention provides 40 methods for making such therapeutic and diagnostic agents as well as methods for using the agents to diagnose or treat a variety of diseases and conditions, such as tumorigenic disease (e.g., gliomas). To facilitate an understanding of the invention and all of its aspects, illustrative embodiments are 45 described below. The descriptions of these illustrative embodiments are not meant to limit the invention to the embodiments disclosed herein. In light of the description, one of skill in the art will understand that many changes and modifications can be made to the illustrative embodiments and still remain within the invention. The illustrative embodiments are disclosed using as an exemplary virus a member of the Herpesviridae family of viruses, herpes simplex virus (HSV).

As noted above, HSV-1 and HSV-2 are members of the 55 family of viruses known as the Herpesviridae, whose structures are well known in the art. The targeting methods of the invention are applicable to any member of the Herpesviridae and are not limited to the exemplary embodiments described in the examples. Furthermore, a large number of recombinant 66 HSV viruses are known in the art. Such viruses may contain one or more heterologous genes. Also, such viruses may contain one or more mutated HSV genes, for example, mutations that render the virus, replication-deficient or affect the virulence of the virus in one or more cell types.

Examples of recombinant HSV containing a heterologous gene and methods of making and using such viruses are

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described in U.S. Pat. No. 5,599,691 (incorporated herein by reference in its entirety). Preferred heterologous genes include genes encoding marker proteins. Marker proteins, such as green fluorescent protein, luciferase, and beta-galactosidase, allow detection of cells expressing the protein. In other embodiments, the heterologous gene encodes an enzyme that activates a prodrug thereby killing adjacent uninfected cells. In yet other embodiments, the heterologous gene encodes a protein that affects the immune response, such as interleukin 12 (IL-12). Such proteins that activate the immune response against a tumor are particularly useful.

In one aspect, the invention relates to altering the surface of an HSV particle to target the virus to a specific receptor. By creating a fusion protein comprising a portion of gD and a ligand (or binding pair member), the virus is targeted to a cell having a cell surface receptor that binds the ligand (or binding pair member). In preferred embodiments, one or more HSV surface proteins, such as gB (SEQ ID NOs.:27 and 28), gC (SEQ ID NOs.:29 and 30), or gD (SEQ ID NOs.:25 and 26), are altered to reduce binding to natural HSV receptors.

"Alterations" of the surface of an HSV particle or HSV surface protein include insertions, deletions, and/or substitutions of one or more amino acid residues. One type of alteration is an insertion, which involves the incorporation of one or more amino acids into a known peptide, polypeptide or protein structure. For ease of exposition, alterations will be further described using a protein exemplar. Insertions may be located at either or both termini of the protein, or may be positioned within internal regions of known proteins, which yield proteins such as fusion proteins and proteins having amino acid tags or labels.

Another type of alteration is a deletion, wherein one or more amino acid residues in a protein are removed. Deletions can be effected at one or both termini of the protein, or with removal of one or more residues within the amino acid sequence. Deletion alterations, therefore, include all fragments of a protein described herein.

Yet another type of alteration is a substitution, which includes proteins wherein one or more amino acid residues are removed and replaced with alternative residues. In one aspect, the substitutions are conservative in nature; however, the invention embraces substitutions that are also non-conservative. Conservative substitutions for this purpose may be defined as set out in Tables A or B, below.

Amino acids can be classified according to physical properties and contribution to secondary and tertiary protein structure. A conservative substitution is recognized in the art as a substitution of one amino acid for another amino acid that has similar properties. Exemplary conservative substitutions are set out in Table A as described in Lehninger, [Biochemistry, 2nd Edition; Worth Publishers, Inc. New York (1975), pp. 71-77] and set out immediately below.

TABLE A

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	Conservative Substitut	tions I
	SIDE CHAIN CHARACTERISTIC	AMINO ACID
	Non-polar (hydropho	blic):
	A. Aliphatic B. Aromatic	ALIVP FW
	C. Sulfur-containing	M
	D. Borderline	G
	Uncharged-polar	<u>: </u>
	A. Hydroxyl	STY
	B. Amides	NQ

Conservative Substitutions I								
SIDE CHAIN CHARACTERISTIC	AMINO ACID							
C. Sulfhydryl D. Borderline Positively charged (basic) Negatively charged (acidic)	C G K R H D E							

Alternative, exemplary conservative substitutions are set out in Table B, immediately below.

TABLE B

Conservative Substitutions II									
ORIGINAL RESIDUE	EXEMPLARY SUBSTITUTION								
Ala (A) Arg (R) Asn (N) Asp (D) Cys (C) Gln (Q) Glu (E) His (H) Ile (I) Leu (L) Lys (K) Met (M) Phe (F) Pro (P) Ser (S) Thr (T) Trp (W)	Val, Leu, Ile Lys, Gln, Asn Gln, His, Lys, Arg Glu Ser Asn Asp Asn, Gln, Lys, Arg Leu, Val, Met, Ala, Phe, Ile, Val, Met, Ala, Phe Arg, Gln, Asn Leu, Phe, Ile Leu, Val, Ile, Ala Gly Thr Ser Tyr								
Tyr (Y) Val (V)	Trp, Phe, Thr, Ser Ile, Leu, Met, Phe, Ala								

The binding site of HveA has been reported to be at the amino terminal domain of gD (Carfi A., et al., 2001) The precise binding sites of gD for Nectin 1 are not known, although it has previously been reported to involve gD amino 40 acids 38 and 221 (Manoj S., et al., 2004; Zago A., et al., 2004; Connolly S A., 2005). Accordingly, in one aspect the invention relates to amino acid alterations in the N-terminal region of gD such that the ability of gD to bind HveA or Nectin1 is reduced or eliminated A "natural receptor" as used herein is a cell surface molecule that interacts with wild-type HSV in the absence of human intervention. For example, gB and gC of HSV-1 interact with heparan sulfate proteoglycans in a natural infection. In preferred embodiments, gB and/or gC are altered to reduce or eliminate binding to heparan sulfate proteoglycans. As another example, gD is known to bind to several receptors, including HveA and HveC, in a natural infection. In preferred embodiments, gD is altered to reduce or eliminate binding to HveA and/or HveC.

Receptor-Ligands

As used herein, "receptor" and "ligand" refer to two members of a specific binding pair and, hence, are binding partners. A receptor is that member of the pair that is found localized on the surface of the cell; the ligand is the member of the pair that is found on the surface of HSV. Thus, in certain 60 embodiments, the "ligand" may actually be what the art recognizes as a receptor outside the context of the invention and the "receptor" may be its respective ligand. More generally, the invention comprehends an HSV exhibiting a member of a binding pair, or a fragment thereof that retains the capacity to 65 specifically bind the other member of the binding pair, or a frag-

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ment thereof that retains the capacity to specifically bind its partner, is present on the surface of a target cell.

One advantage of the invention is the ability to tailor HSV to target a specific receptor while maintaining infectivity of the virus. In an exemplary embodiment, an HSV particle contains a fusion protein comprising a portion of gD and the cytokine IL-13. Such a virus is able to infect cells expressing the receptor IL-13Rα2. Because IL-13Rα2 is expressed on the surface of cells of malignant gliomas, HSV containing the gD/IL-13 fusion protein are effectively targeted to such cells. Ligands that bind to receptors which are overexpressed or differentially expressed on either tumor cells or cells associated with tumor growth (e.g., neovasculature) are particularly preferred. Examples include the $\alpha_{\nu}\beta_{3}$ - $\alpha_{\nu}\beta_{5}$ integrins, which 15 are overexpressed in tumor neovasculature; epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR), which is overexpressed in head, neck, lung, colon, breast, and brain cancer cells; HER-2/Neu, which is overexpressed in breast cancer cells; MUC-1, which is overexpressed in breast, lung, and pancreas cancer cells; 20 and prostate-specific membrane antigen, which is overexpressed in prostate cancer cells. In certain embodiments, the ligand is a single-chain antibody that binds to its cognate specific binding pair member, herein referred to as a receptor. Single-chain antibodies have been shown to be effective in 25 targeting applications, as evidenced by their ability to target retroviruses to specific receptors.

Essentially any two binding pair members or partners may be used as receptor-ligands in the invention. However, it is contemplated that certain factors, such as the distance from the binding site on the receptor to the membrane, or the conformation of the ligand when fused to gD, may affect the efficiency of recombinant HSV fusion to the cell membrane. Therefore, screens for effective receptor-ligand pairs are contemplated, using no more than routine procedures known in the art. Additional screens, conventional in nature, may be used to optimize constructs. One routine method of screening is to follow the protocol provided in the example for candidate receptor/ligand pairs, using IL-13R/IL-13 as a control receptor/ligand pair.

Alternatively, one may use a membrane fusion assay as described in Turner et al., 1998, incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. In the Turner assay, cells transfected with construct(s) encoding gB, gH, gL, and the gD/ligand fusion protein, and cells expressing the receptor, are co-cultured and the cells are examined for membrane fusion. Membrane fusion between gD/ligand-expressing cells and receptor-expressing cells indicates that the candidate receptor-ligand pair (the ligand being a gD/ligand fusion protein) is functional. Constructs encoding functional gD/ligand proteins can then be used to create recombinant HSV that are targeted to cells expressing the receptor.

Cell Targeting

Evident from the preceding discussion, another aspect of the invention is the targeting of a recombinant HSV to a cell having a specific receptor on its surface. In preferred embodiments, a recombinant HSV is designed to comprise a ligand that interacts with a receptor known to be expressed on a cell of interest. The cell of interest is then infected with recombinant HSV. Such targeting methods may be used for a variety of purposes.

In one aspect, a recombinant HSV is used to introduce a heterologous gene into a cell that expresses the receptor. In preferred embodiments, the cell is not infected by, or is poorly infected by, wild-type HSV. Thus, in certain embodiments, the invention provides a vector for transforming a cell of interest with a heterologous gene.

Further, a cell can be rendered a target of a recombinant HSV of the invention. The cell can be rendered a target by transforming the cell to express one member of a binding pair, e.g., a receptor capable of specifically binding a ligand expressed on a recombinant HSV. For example, as described 5 in Example 2, the J1.1 cell line, which was resistant to infection by a recombinant HSV expressing an IL-13 ligand, was rendered susceptible to infection by transforming the cell line with a vector encoding IL12Rα2 to produce the cell line J13R.

Generally, the targeted HSV according to the invention exhibit one member of a binding pair, with the other member of that pair found on the surface of a target cell. In some embodiments of the invention, targeting is achieved with a ligand-receptor binding pair, with the ligand exhibited on the targeted HSV and the cognate receptor found on the surface of the target cell, as described above. Although the invention comprehends embodiments involving binding pairs that do not exhibit a ligand-receptor relationship (e.g., biotin-avidin) and embodiments in which the receptor is exhibited by the 20 targeted HSV (the "receptor" defined above as a "ligand" using an alternative definition of "ligand") while the cognate ligand is found on the target cell (the "ligand" defined above as a "receptor" using an alternative definition of "receptor"), embodiments in which the targeted HSV exhibits a ligand and 25 the target cell presents the cognate receptor on its surface is used as an illustrative embodiment to reveal the versatility of the invention and to disclose the full scope thereof. For example, several ligands have been used for receptor-mediated polynucleotide transfer. Some ligands that have been 30 characterized are asialoorosomucoid (ASOR) and transferrin (Wagner et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 87(9):3410-3414, 1990). A synthetic neoglycoprotein, which recognizes the same receptor as ASOR, has also been used in a polynucleotide delivery vehicle (Ferkol et al., FASEB J., 7:1081-1091, 35 1993; Perales et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., USA 91:4086-4090, 1994) and epidermal growth factor (EGF) has further been used to deliver polynucleotides to squamous carcinoma cells (Myers, EPO 0273085). Each of these specific approaches, and other approaches known in the art to achieve 40 some selectivity in DNA delivery, or targeting, are amenable to use in the compositions and methods of the invention and are contemplated as embodiments of the invention.

For embodiments in which a targeted HSV harboring a coding region, e.g., a therapeutic coding region or gene, is 45 delivered to a target cell, the nucleic acid encoding the therapeutic gene product may ultimately be positioned and expressed at different sites. In certain embodiments, the nucleic acid encoding the therapeutic polynucleotide may be stably integrated into the genome of the cell. This integration 50 may place the gene in its native location and orientation via homologous recombination (gene replacement) or it may be integrated in a random, non-specific location (gene augmentation). In yet further embodiments, the nucleic acid may be stably maintained in the cell as a separate, episomal segment 55 of DNA. Such nucleic acid segments or episomes encode functions sufficient to permit maintenance and replication independent of or in synchronization with the host cell cycle. How the expression construct is delivered to a cell and where in the cell the nucleic acid remains is dependent on the type of 60 expression construct employed, as would be understood in the art.

It is envisioned that promoters subject to cell cycle regulation will be useful in the present invention. For example, in a bicistronic HSV vector designed to treat a disease, disorder or 65 condition by killing a target cell, use of a strong CMV promoter to drive expression of a first gene, such as p16, that 12

arrests a cell in the G1 phase is accompanied by expression of a second gene, such as p53, under the control of a promoter that is active in the G1 phase of the cell cycle, thus providing a dual-gene approach to ensure that the target cell undergoes apoptosis. Other promoters, such as those of various cyclins, PCNA, galectin-3, E2F1, p53, BRCA1, and, indeed, any suitable promoter or expression element known in the art, could be used.

In embodiments of the invention designed to treat diseases, disorders, or conditions associated with unwanted or excessive cell proliferation, such as cancer or restenosis, HSV is targeted to proliferating cells thereby killing the cells. Because HSV is lethal to infected cells, expression of a heterologous gene is not required. However, in embodiments wherein the lethality of HSV is attenuated, an HSV harboring a gene that is lethal to the infected cell or that prevents proliferation of the infected cell may be used to target a cell.

Alternatively, HSV targeted to specific surface markers can be used to visualize the distribution of tumor cells in tissues. This diagnostic tool had been unavailable because of the indiscriminate binding of HSV to cells. Modification of HSV by eliminating (ablating) or reducing the indiscriminate binding of HSV to heparan sulfate proteoglycans without deleteriously affecting the capacity of such HSV to replicate in both dividing and non-dividing cells makes possible the use of these modified viral forms to visualize the distribution of tumor cells.

In one preferred method for visualizing the distribution of tumor cells, radioactive visualization is achieved by viral thymidine kinase (TK)-dependent incorporation of a radioactive precursor. Methods of molecular imaging of gene expression are well known in the art. Methods often use highly sensitive detection techniques such as positron emission tomography (PET) or single-photon emission-computed tomography (SPECT). In one embodiment, TK expression is measured using a gancyclovir analog, such as 9-(3-[¹⁸F] fluoro-1-hydroxy-2-propoxy)methylguanine, as the tracer or marker (Vries et al., 2002). For a review of imaging TK gene expression using PET or SPECT, see Sharma et al., 2002 or Vries et al., 2002.

A second preferred imaging method is to fuse a non-critical tegument protein (e.g. U_S11 , which is present in nearly 2000 copies per virus particle) to a marker protein, such as green fluorescent protein, which is capable of being visualized in vivo. Alternatively, a non-critical protein can be fused to a luciferase and the presence of the luciferase visualized with a luminescent or chromatic luciferase substrate. Although a marker protein can be fused to essentially any viral structural protein, preferred viral proteins include gC, gE, gI, gG, gJ, gK, gN, U_L11 , U_L13 , U_L14 , U_L21 , U_L41 , U_L35 , U_L45 , U_L46 , U_L47 , U_L51 , U_L55 , U_L56 , U_S10 , and U_S11 . The marker protein also may be fused to thymidine kinase (Soling et al., 2002).

Library Screening

As noted above, HSV comprising a gD/ligand fusion protein can bind and infect cells expressing a receptor to the ligand. In one embodiment, a cell line expressing a receptor is used in screening for ligands of the receptor. cDNA from a cDNA library is cloned into a vector encoding a portion of gD to produce a gD/cDNA-encoded fusion protein. The resulting vectors are then screened for membrane fusion using the assay of Turner et al. described above or by creating recombinant HSV expressing the gD/cDNA-encoded fusion protein and screening the viruses for the ability to infect receptor-expressing cells. Such methods may be used, e.g., to identify a ligand to an orphan receptor.

In other embodiments, mutations in, or variants of, the receptor or ligand are screened to determine whether the mutants or variants maintain the ability to interact with the respective partner. Such methods may be useful in determining the specific residues important in receptor-ligand interaction.

Therapeutic Methods

Another aspect of the invention is the use of the targeted HSV in therapeutic methods. By altering the cell-binding and infectivity properties of the virus, many routes and methods of administration become viable. For example, non-targeted HSV will bind indiscriminately to a variety of cells. Because of this property, large virus numbers are used and intravenous administration is generally not effective. However, by targeting the virus, one may lower the viral load (i.e., quantity of virus), yet maintain or increase efficacy. Furthermore, the targeted HSV can be administered intravenously and produce therapeutic effects.

Therapeutic methods of the invention include those methods wherein an HSV is targeted to a receptor of a cell that 20 contributes to, or is the basis of, a disease or disorder. These targeted HSV can either exploit the therapeutic properties of HSV itself (e.g., the lethality of HSV to infected cells) or the targeted HSV can serve as a vector for the targeted delivery of at least one therapeutic polynucleotide, such as an expressible 25 polynucleotide comprising a coding region. For example, in methods wherein the targeted HSV contains one or more gene products that render the virus toxic to the cell or that prevent or inhibit cell proliferation, a preferred receptor is overexpressed or selectively expressed on harmful or undesirable 30 cells, such as cancer cells. In other embodiments, the targeted HSV encodes a gene product that provides a desired function or activity in the targeted cell, e.g., when a cell has one or more genetic defects preventing the cell from functioning properly.

Additionally, it is contemplated that a therapeutic polynucleotide (e.g., gene or coding region) of a targeted HSV may be engineered to be under the expression control of a cell- or tissue-specific expression control element, e.g., a promoter. In such embodiments, the targeted HSV provide a 40 further enhancement to the selective treatment of a suitable disorder, disease or condition. The targeted HSV is specific for a binding partner located on the surface of those cells for which treatment is intended, and expression of the therapeutic coding region or gene borne by the targeted HSV is limited to 45 particular cells or tissues.

As HSV has been engineered to overcome the barriers to vector-based therapies, the choice of recombinant polynucleotide to be inserted into the vector has widened to the point where a wide variety of diseases, disorders and conditions are 50 amenable to treatment with targeted HSV. A number of diseases are amenable to polynucleotide-based therapy using HSV (see, e.g., Kennedy, et al., Brain. 120, 1245-1259, 1997, incorporated by reference herein in its entirety). Though most attention has focused on cancers, there has been success in 55 treating Parkinson's disease by expressing tyrosine hydroxylase in striatal cells, thus restoring L-dopa-induced nerve repair following axotomy of the superior cervical ganglion. Injection of a vector expressing nerve growth factor resulted in restored levels of tyrosine hydroxylase. More generally, 60 HSV can now be used in polynucleotide-based therapy to replace missing or defective coding regions in the target cells. In the event of an inherited single-gene disorder (such as Lesch-Nyhan syndrome) where the complete DNA sequence, cause, and effect of the disorder are known, a single poly- 65 nucleotide replacement mediated by targeted HSV is appropriate and contemplated. Another strategy amenable to the

use of targeted HSV is the enhancement of endogenous expression levels of a gene product, e.g., a growth factor or enzyme. Yet another strategy for using targeted HSV is HSV-directed enzyme pro-drug therapy. The delivery of a drugsensitivity gene would be beneficial in the treatment of, e.g.,

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sensitivity gene would be beneficial in the treatment of, e.g., a malignant brain tumor, making the tumor more susceptible to conventional anti-cancer agents.

In other embodiments, the targeted HSV of the invention provide for vector-mediated delivery of anti-sense oligode-oxyribonucleotides (oligonucleotides). The oligonucleotides, short segments of DNA (e.g., 2-100 nucleotides in length), are delivered to target cells and therein bind to complementary mRNA, thus blocking the expression of specific genes within the target cells. The encoded protein fail to be synthesized, as the mRNA is not be recognized by the translational components of the cell. In preferred embodiments, a deleterious gene is targeted.

In yet other embodiments, targeted HSV are used to deliver polynucleotides, e.g., DNAs encoding gene products, that can recruit or enhance an immune system response, thereby bringing a subject's or patient's own immune system to bear in the treatment of a disease, disorder or condition known in the art to be amenable to immune system activity. For example, an increase in cellular antigen expression of tumor cells, mediated by delivery of an expressible coding region for the antigen by a targeted HSV, would enhance the immune response and increase the susceptibility of such tumor cells to host cytotoxic immunity.

In some embodiments, a targeted HSV composition of the invention is delivered to a patient at or around the site of a tumor, which is a very efficient method for counteracting clinical disease. Alternatively, systemic delivery of targeted HSV compositions may be appropriate in other circumstances, for example, where extensive metastasis has occurred, or where inaccessible tumors are encountered.

It is contemplated that in certain embodiments of the invention a protein that acts as an angiogenesis inhibitor is targeted to a tumor. Also, an angiogenesis inhibitor agent may be administered in combination with a targeted HSV of the invention. These agents include, for example, Marimastat (British Biotech, Annapolis Md.; indicated for non-small cell lung, small cell lung and breast cancers); AG3340 (Agouron, LaJolla, Calif.; for glioblastoma multiforme); COL-3 (Collagenex, Newtown Pa.; for brain tumors); Neovastat (Aeterna, Quebec, Canada; for kidney and non-small cell lung cancer) BMS-275291 (Bristol-Myers Squibb, Wallingford Conn.; for metastatic non-small cell lung cancer); Thalidomide (Celgen; for melanoma, head and neck cancer, ovarian, and metastatic prostate cancers; Kaposi's sarcoma; recurrent or metastatic colorectal cancer (with adjuvants); gynecologic sarcomas, liver cancer; multiple myeloma; CLL, recurrent or progressive brain cancer, multiple myeloma, and non-small cell lung, nonmetastatic prostate, refractory multiple myeloma, and renal cancer); Squalamine (Magainin Pharmaceuticals Plymouth Meeting, Pa.; non-small cell lung cancer and ovarian cancer); Endostatin (EntreMEd, Rockville, Md.; for solid tumors); SU5416 (Sugen, San Francisco, Calif.; recurrent head and neck, advanced solid tumors, stage IIIB or IV breast cancer; recurrent or progressive brain (pediatric) cancer; ovarian cancer, AML (acute myeloid leukemia); glioma, advanced malignancies, advanced colorectal cancer, von-Hippel Lindau disease, advanced soft tissue cancer; prostate cancer, colorectal cancer, metastatic melanoma, multiple myeloma, malignant mesothelioma: metastatic renal, advanced or recurrent head and neck cancer, metastatic colorectal cancer); SU6668 (Sugen San Francisco, Calif.; advanced tumors); interferon-α; Anti-VEGF antibody (Na-

tional Cancer Institute, Bethesda Md.; Genentech San Franscisco, Calif., for refractory solid tumors; metastatic renal cell cancer, in untreated advanced colorectal cancer; EMD121974 (Merck KCgaA, Darmstadt, Germany, for HIV-related Kaposi's sarcoma, and progressive or recurrent Anaplastic Glioma); Interleukin 12 (Genetics Institute, Cambridge, Mass., for Kaposi's sarcoma) and IM862 (Cytran, Kirkland, Wash., for ovarian cancer, untreated metastatic cancers of colon and rectal origin, and Kaposi's sarcoma). The parenthetical information following the agents indicates the 10 cancers against which the agents are being used in these trials. It is contemplated that any of these disorders may be treated with the targeted HSV compositions of the invention, either alone or in combination with the agents listed.

In order to prepare a therapeutic composition for clinical use, it will be necessary to prepare the therapeutic composition as a pharmaceutical composition, i.e., in a form appropriate for in vivo applications. Generally, this will entail preparing compositions that are essentially free of pyrogens, as well as other impurities that could be harmful to humans or other vertebrates.

Generally, appropriate salts and buffers are included to render delivery vectors stable and to allow for uptake by target cells. Aqueous compositions of the invention comprise an effective amount of the targeted HSV, dissolved or dispersed 25 in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or aqueous medium. Such compositions also are referred to as inocula. The phrase "pharmaceutically acceptable" or "pharmacologically acceptable" refer to molecular entities and compositions that do not produce adverse, allergic, or other untoward reactions when administered to an animal or a human. As used herein, "pharmaceutically acceptable carriers" includes any and all solvents, dispersion media, coatings, antibacterial and antifungal agents, isotonic and absorption delaying agents, and the like. The use of such media and agents for pharmaceutically active substances is well known in the art. Unless a conventional medium or agent is incompatible with either the vectors of the invention or the intended subject receiving treatment, its use in therapeutic compositions is contemplated. Supplementary active or inert ingredients also can be incorporated into the compositions.

The active compositions of the invention include standard pharmaceutical preparations. Administration of these compositions according to the invention is by any known route, provided that the target tissue is accessible via that route. The pharmaceutical compositions may be introduced into the subject by any conventional method, e.g., by intravenous, intradermal, intramusclar, intramammary, intraperitoneal, intrathecal, retrobulbar, intravesicular, intrapulmonary (e.g., term release); sublingual, nasal, anal, vaginal, or transdermal delivery, or by surgical implantation at a particular site. The treatment may consist of a single dose or a plurality of doses over a period of time.

Upon formulation, solutions are administered in a manner compatible with the dosage formulation and in such amount as is therapeutically effective. Appropriate dosages may be ascertained through the use of established routine assays. As studies are conducted, further information will emerge regarding optimal dosage levels and duration of treatment for specific diseases, disorders, and conditions.

In preferred embodiments, the unit dose may be calculated in terms of the dose of viral particles being administered. Viral doses are defined as a particular number of virus particles or plaque forming units (pfu). Particular unit doses 65 include 10^3 , 10^4 , 10^5 , 10^6 , 10^7 , 10^8 , 10^9 , 10^{10} , 10^{11} , 10^{12} , 10^{13} or 10^{14} pfu. Particle doses may be somewhat higher (10- to

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100-fold) due to the presence of infection-defective particles, which is determinable by routine assays known in the art.

The pharmaceutical compositions and treatment methods of the invention are useful in the fields of human medicine and veterinary medicine. Thus, the subject to be treated may be a vertebrate, e.g., a mammal, preferably human. For veterinary purposes, subjects include, for example, farm animals such as cows, sheep, pigs, horses and goats, companion animals such as dogs and cats, exotic and/or zoo animals, laboratory animals including mice, rats, rabbits, guinea pigs and hamsters; and poultry such as chickens, turkey, ducks and geese.

In some embodiments of the invention, it is contemplated that the targeted HSV is administered in conjunction with chemo- or radiotherapeutic intervention, immunotherapy, or with any other therapy conventionally employed in the treatment of cancer.

To kill cells, inhibit cell growth, inhibit metastasis, inhibit angiogenesis or otherwise reverse or reduce malignant phenotypes using the methods and compositions of the invention, one contacts a "target" cell, a tumor, or its vasculature with a targeted HSV composition and at least one other agent. The components of these compositions are provided in a combined amount effective to kill or inhibit proliferation of cancer cells. This process may involve contacting the cells with the targeted HSV composition and the agent(s) or factor(s) at the same time. This may be achieved by contacting the subject organism, or cell of interest, with a single composition or pharmacological formulation that includes both agents, or by contacting the cell with two distinct compositions or formulations, at the same or different times, wherein one composition includes a targeted HSV composition of the invention and the other composition includes the second agent.

Another aspect of the invention provides diagnostic methods that involve imaging a tumor or diseased tissue using a targeted HSV. Such methods are useful in diagnosing a patient with a disease, disorder, or condition that is indicated by the presence of a receptor on the surface of a cell. Diagnostic imaging methods are discussed above.

Kits

Kits according to the invention may include recombinant viruses of the invention or may include vectors for producing such recombinant viruses. A vector for producing a recombinant virus of the invention may encode the gD/ligand fusion protein or may be designed to facilitate cloning of a ligand to produce a gD/ligand fusion protein (e.g., a vector containing a multiple cloning site within the gD coding region that facilitates in-frame insertions).

Other components that can be included in a kit of the invention include a receptor-expressing cell line (useful as a control), a nucleic acid molecule for expressing the receptor in a particular cell type, and instructions for using the kit to effect diagnostic analyses or therapeutic treatments. In certain embodiments, a therapeutic kit will further contain a component for bringing about a therapeutic effect, such as a prodrug or a toxic compound. In other embodiments, a diagnostic kit will contain a compound useful in imaging methods, such as a chromophore or fluorophore, or an antibody for detecting infected cells.

Having provided a general description of the various aspects of the invention, the following disclosure provides examples illustrative of the invention, wherein Example 1 describes construction of a targeted HSV, Example 2 illustrates the construction of a cell line expressing a targeted

HSV, and Example 3 describes the controlled infection of a desired cell by a targeted HSV.

EXAMPLE 1

Construction of HSV Targeting Vector R5111

A targeted HSV was constructed to target the recombinant virus to cells of malignant gliomas. The target for entry of the virus into such cells is the IL13R α 2 receptor known to be present in malignant gliomas. Unlike the more prevalent IL13 α R1 receptor, the IL13R α 2 receptor has a shorter cytoplasmic domain and does not interact with IL4, of which IL13 is a close relative. In general, the construction of the targeted HSV involved mutagenizing gB and gC to preclude their interaction with heparan sulfate. Also, IL13 was inserted into gD at amino acid 24 thereby disrupting the gD binding site for HveA. The resulting IL13-gD chimeric virus can use IL13R α 2 for entry into cells carrying that receptor.

More specifically, the targeted HSV R5111 was constructed in several steps depicted in the four panels of FIG. 1 and detailed below.

(i) Substitution of amino terminal domain of gC with IL13 fused to the signal sequence of gC.

FIG. 1A, lines 1-3 schematically depicts a cDNA consisting of the IL13 coding sequence fused at its amino terminus to its signal sequence. The complete cDNA of IL 13, with the N-terminal signal peptide coding region, was amplified using the PCR primer elongation method. The primers were as follows:

pIL13F1, (SEQ ID NO:1)
CATTGCTCTCACTTGCCTTGGCGGCTTTGCCTCCCAGGCCCTGTGCCTC
CCTCTACAGC;
pIL13F2, (SEQ ID NO:2)
GCAGCTAGCCTCATGGCGCTTTTGTTGACCACGGTCATTGCTCTCACTTG
CCTTGGCGGC;
and
pIL13REcoRI, (SEQ ID NO:3)
GAGCTCGGATCCTGAATTCAACCGTCCTC.

First-round PCR used pIL13F1 and pIL13REcoRI as primers, with pRB5830 (containing the IL13 coding region) as the template. The PCR reaction mixture was then diluted 10-fold and 1 µl of the diluted reaction mixture was used as template for the second round of PCR amplifications with pIL13F2 and 50 pIL13REcoRI as the primer set. The PCR product was gelpurified, digested with Nhel/EcoRI, and ligated into pBluescript II KS(+) at XbaI/EcoRI sites to generate pRB5832. To construct the transfer plasmid pRB5835, a 4.8-kbp HindIII/ SacI fragment containing the HSV-1 gC coding region was 55 released from cosmid pBC1007 and inserted into pBluescript II KS(+) to generate pRB5833. pRB5833 was cleaved with NheI and EcoRI and the N-terminal 148 residues of gC were replaced with the gC-signal/IL13 chimeric sequence (pRB5834). The insert in pRB5834 was released by XhoI/ 60 SacI digestion and ligated into pKO5Y at the same sites to generate pRB5835.

The recombinant virus R5107 (FIG. 1A, line 1) carrying the IL13-gC chimera was generated with the aid of the BAC-HSV system. RR1 competent cells that harbored bacterial 65 artificial chromosome (BAC)-HSV bacmids were transformed with the transfer plasmid pRB5835 by electropora-

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tion. After incubation for 1 hour at 30° C. in LB broth, the transformed bacteria were plated on pre-warmed Zeocine (Zeo) plus chloramphenicol (Cm) (20 µg/ml of each) plates and incubated overnight at 43° C. for integration. The next day, six colonies were picked and each was separately diluted in 1 ml LB. Five µl of the diluted bacteria were then plated on Cm/10% sucrose (Suc) plates, and incubated at 30° C. overnight. To further confirm the loss of the replacement vector, 24 Cm/Suc-resistant colonies (four colonies from each plate) were restreaked in duplicate on Cm LB and Zeo LB plates, respectively. The Suc*/Cm*/Zeo* colonies were further screened by PCR (95° C., 4 minutes for cycle 1; then 35 cycles of 94° C., 1 minute; 60° C., 1 minute; and 72° C., 1 minute). The primers were:

pgC-F,

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GACACGGGCTACCCTCACTATCGAGGGC (SEQ ID NO:4; from nt 96158 to 96185 in HSV-1 strain 17), and pgC-R,

GGTGATGTTCGTCAGGACCTCCTCTAGGTC (SEQ ID NO:5; from nt 96859 to 96830 in HSV-1 strain 17).

The DNA fragment amplified from PCR-positive clones (FIG. 2B) was sequenced to further confirm the integration of IL13 in the correct open reading frame (ORF) of gC. To verify the viability of the recombinant (R5607), the recombinant BAC-HSV DNA was prepared as described elsewhere (Ye et al., 2000) and transfected into rabbit skin cells by Lipofectamine reagent (Life Technologies, Grand Island, N.Y.). The resultant virus, R5607, was stored at -80° C.

(ii) Deletion of the polylysine track from gB, FIG. 1 Panel B. To make a transfer plasmid for the deletion of the gB heparan sulfate binding domain (polylysine), a 4.76 kbp BstEII fragment (from nt 53164 to 57923 of HSV-1) containing the $\rm U_L 27$ (gB) ORF released from cosmid BC1014 was blunt-ended and cloned into pBluescript II KS (+) at a SmaI site to generate pRB5846. To construct pRB5847, from which the 10-amino-acid polylysine domain of gB was deleted, two fragments flanking the polylysine domain were amplified by PCR from pRB5846. The primer sets were:

pgB1BamHI:

GTTCTTCTTCGGTTTCGGATCCCCCG;

pgB2BspEI:

CGGCATTTCCGGAATAACGCCCACTC;
and

pgB3BamHI:

CSEQ ID NO:7)

CAGAAAACCGGATCCCCCAAAGCCGCC;

pgB4BsiWI:

(SEQ ID NO:9)

GCCAACACAAAACTCGTCGTACGGGTAC.

PCR amplified fragments were then cut with BspEI/BamHI, or BsiWI/BamHI and ligated into pRB5846, which had the 1.2 kbp BsiWI/BspEI fragment already deleted. To generate the transfer plasmid pRB5848, the 4.76 kbp insert in pRB5847 was released by XbaI/EcoRV digestion and ligated into pKO5Y at the sites of XbaI and ScaI. Recombinant HSV-1 virus R5108 is based on R5107 with the additional deletion of the gB heparan sulfate binding domain. It was made by the same procedure as BAC-R5607, except that the transfer plasmid pRB5848 was used instead of BAC-HSV wild-type and pRB5835. The sequence of the mutant gB was verified by sequencing the entire ORF.

- (iii) Deletion of gD (FIG. 1 panel C, lines 6 and 7). The coding sequence of gD was replaced with the human cytomagolovirus immediate early promoter to enable the expression of glycoprotein I. A 0.65 kbp fragment containing the promoter was released from pRB5836 by ClaI digestion and inserted into pgD (FIG. 6), a plasmid obtained from G. Campadelli-Fiume. This plasmid, containing the flanking sequences of gD but lacking the gD ORF, had been cut with ClaI to generate pRB5849. pRB5849 was then cut with NotI and PmeI and ligated into pKO5Y at the NotI and ScaI sites to generate the transfer plasmid pRB5850. Recombinant HSV-1 virus R5110 is based on R5608 with the additional deletion of gD. It was made by the same procedure as BAC-R5607 except that transfer plasmid pRB5850 was used instead of BAC-HSV wild-type and pRB5835. The recombinant BAC-HSV DNA was prepared as described in (Ye et al., 2000). The mutant virus was designated R5110.
- (iv) Construction of the R5111 mutant carrying the IL-13- 20 gD chimeric gene (FIG. 1 panel D). Plasmid pRB123 carries a 6,584 bp BamHI J fragment containing the gD coding region and flanking sequences in the BamHI site of pBR322. To construct the IL 13-gD chimeric plasmid, pRB123 was digested with AfIII and HpaI to release two fragments of 7.6 kb and 3.2 kb. The 3.2 kb fragment was further digested with FspI to release 2.5 kb and 0.7 kb fragments that contain the amino-terminal 661 bp of the gD ORF. A polylinker sequence containing the restriction sites XhoI-BgIII-EcoRI-KpnI was inserted into the 0.7 kb fragment downstream of the 24th codon of gD by two PCR reactions using a first forward primer,

(SEQ ID NO:10) 35 5'-CAGTTATCCTTAAGGTCTCTTTTGTGTGGTG-3',

and a first reverse primer,

(SEQ ID NO:11) 5'-CCGGAATTCCGGAGATCTTCCCTCGAGGACCGGAAGGTCTTTGCCGC GAAAG-3',

and a second forward primer,

 $(\texttt{SEQ} \ \texttt{ID} \ \texttt{NO:} 12) \\ \texttt{5'CCGGAATTCCGGGGTACCCTGGACCAGCTGACCGACCCTCCGG-3'},$

and a second reverse primer,

respectively. After digestion of the two PCR products by EcoRI, they were ligated and amplified by PCR again to obtain the desired DNA fragment containing the polylinker insertion.

IL13 was amplified by PCR with the forward primer,

$$(SEQ\ ID\ NO:14) \\ \texttt{5'-CCGCTCGAGATGGCGCTTTTGTTGACCACGG-3'},$$

60

65

and the reverse primer,

20

 $(\texttt{SEQ ID NO:15}) \\ \texttt{5'-GGGGTACCGTTGAACCGTCCCTCGCGAAA-3'},$

and then inserted into the XhoI and KpnI sites of the 0.7 kb fragment described above. This new fragment with the IL13 insertion was then ligated with the 2.5 kb and 7.6 kb fragments (see above) to generate the IL13-gD chimeric transfer plasmid, pRB13-24.

R5111 was generated by co-transfection of transfer plasmid pRB13-24 and the R5110 viral DNA into U87 glioma cells. The progeny of the transfection was plated at a high dilution on Vero and HEp-2 cell cultures to yield individual, well-spaced plaques. From each of the infected cell cultures, six single plaques were picked, frozen-thawed, sonicated, and then replated on fresh cultures of Vero or HEp-2 cells (depending on the origin of the plaque) for preparation of virus stocks and to prepare viral DNA for sequencing.

Viral DNA extraction. Infected cells were removed from each of the 25 cm² flasks exposed to individual plague isolates, rinsed, and resuspended in 500 µl of Lyse-O-Lot (150 mM NaCl, 10 mM Tris, 1.5 mM MgCl₂ in the presence of 0.1% of NP40). Nuclei were removed by low-speed centrifugation. To the supernatant fluid were added sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS) to 0.2%, EDTA to 5 mM and β -ME to 50 mM. The solution was then extracted twice with phenol/chloroform. Viral DNA was finally precipitated by ethanol, resuspended, and the IL13 ORF and IL13-gD chimeric reading frame were amplified by PCR with two sets of primers. The first set, designed to amplify IL13, consisted of: a forward primer, 5'-CCGCTCGAGATGGCGCTTTTGTTGAC-CACGG-3' (SEQ ID NO:16), and a reverse primer, 5'-GGGGTACCGTTGAACCGTCCCTCGCGAAA-3' (SEQ ID NO:17), which will amplify the IL13 ORF. The second set, designed to amplify the IL 3-gD junction, consisted of a forward junction primer,

5'-CCGCTCGAGATGGCGCTTTTGTTGACCACGG-3' (SEQ ID NO: 18), and a reverse junction primer, 5'-AACT-GCAGGTTGTTCGGGGTGGCCGGGGG-3' (SEQ ID NO:19). All 12 IL13-gD PCR products were sequenced to determine whether the gD sequence contained deletions or substitutions.

Verification of the structure of R5111 The construction of the R5111 virus is depicted in FIG. 1. The design involved replacement of the HveA binding site with the IL13 ligand to enable the recombinant virus to bind the IL13 α 2 receptor on cell surfaces and to delete the sequences reported to bind to heparan sulfate. Verification of the structure of R5111 was done as follows:

- (i) The replacement of the amino-terminal domain of gC with IL13 and the disruption of the heparan sulfate binding site was initially verified by sequencing gC from recombinant R5107 (FIG. 2 A).
- (ii) The deletion of codons 68-77 of gB was verified by sequencing the gB ORF amplified by PCR from recombinant R5108 (FIG. 2B). The nucleotide and amino acid sequences of gB with the polylysine track deleted are set out in SEQ ID NOs.:35 and 36, respectively.
- (iii) The presence of chimeric IL13-gD in R5111 was verified by PCR, as illustrated in FIG. 3, and by sequencing the entire IL13-gD coding region, amplified by PCR, as shown in FIG. 2. The nucleotide and amino acid sequences of gD with the IL13 integration are set out in SEQ ID NOs.:39 and 40, respectively. The R5111 recombinant was initially isolated from transfected U87 cells and grown in parallel in Vero cells and HEp-2 cells.

To determine whether the virus grown in Vero cells or HEp-2 cells differed with respect to amino acid sequence, six plaques each from Vero or HEp-2 cultures containing well-separated plaques were picked. In this series of verification experiments, two sets of primers 5 were used to confirm the presence of the IL13 insert in gD and to verify the presence of a junction between IL13 and gD. In a second round of verifications, the 12 clones of gD were sequenced to determine whether the isolates obtained from the viruses passaged in Vero cells or in 10 HEp-2 cells differed in amino acid sequence. No differences were found. Furthermore, except for the inserted IL13 sequence, no differences were found between the sequence of HSV-1 (F) gD and those of the cloned IL-13-gD chimeric genes (FIG. 2C).

(iv) In denaturing polyacrylamide gels, IL13 migrated as a protein with an apparent Mr of 15-17,000. In the recombinant R5111, IL13 replaced 148 amino acids of gC. FIG. 4B shows an immunoblot of electrophoretically separated proteins from a lysate of R5111 mutant-in- 20 fected cells exposed to an antibody to gC. As illustrated in that figure, the anti-gC antibody reacted with proteins present in lysates of HSV-1(F) and with proteins from R5111 lysates, exhibiting similar electrophoretic mobilities. In contrast, an antibody to IL13 reacted with 25 a band of similar mobility in R5111 lysates (FIG. 4C, lane 3) but not in lysates of HSV-1(F) (FIG. 4C, lane 2). The IL13-gD fusion protein in the R5111 mutant virus was verified by reacting the cell lysates with gD and IL13 antibody. Comparison of wild-type gD and the 30 Infection by the HSV Targeting Vector R5111 chimeric IL13-gD chimeric protein (FIG. 4A, lane 3), showed that, as expected, IL13-gD migrated more slowly than the wild-type gD (FIG. 4A, lane 2). The faster migrating band of gD did not react with the antibody to IL13 (FIG. 4C, lane 2).

EXAMPLE 2

A rigorous test of the ability of R5111 to utilize the IL13Rα2 protein as a receptor for entry required construction of a cell line expressing IL13Rα2 (nucleotides 126-1265 of SEQ ID NO:33; SEQ ID NO:34) in the absence of other 45 HSV-1 entry receptors. The J1.1 cell line was selected for this construction. In essence, this cell line lacks the receptors necessary for the entry of virus into cells and the cell line is not susceptible to infection by wild-type virus. The construction of a plasmid encoding a IL13Rα2 protein fused at its carboxyl terminus to a HA tag, transfection of J1.1 cells with the plasmid encoding the tagged IL13Rα2 protein, and selection of the cell line expressing the protein is described below.

To test for the production of IL13Rα2 protein, five clones of the selected cells were harvested, solubilized, subjected to 55 electrophoresis in denaturing polyacrylamide gels and tested for expression of the protein.

Construction of J13R, a cell line stably expressing IL13Rα2 receptor. The IL13α2 coding region was tagged with an HAtag at its 3' end (the carboxyl terminus of the 60 encoded polypeptide) by PCR with forward primer, 5'-AA-GATTTGGGC-TAGCATGGCTTTCGTTTGC-3' (SEQ ID NO:20), and reverse primer,

5'-TCCCTCGAAGCTTCAAGCATAATCTG-GCACATCATATGTATCACAGAA-AAA-3' NO:21). NheI and HindIII restriction digests were used to create compatible ends. The DNA fragment was then inserted 22

into pcDNA 3.1 (zeo) vector (Invitrogen; Carlsbad, Calif.) to generate transfer plasmid pRB 13-R2. All of the constructs were sequenced to insure fidelity.

J1.1, a derivative of BHK thymidine kinase cells which lack both HveA and nectin 1 receptors, was obtained from Dr. G. Campadelli-Fiume, University of Bologna, Italy. J1.1 cells, stably transfected with pRB 13-R2 using a Lipofectamine kit (Gibco-BRL), were selected on the basis of their resistance to zeocin (Invitrogen). Zeocinresistant clones were amplified and screened for IL13Rα2 expression by immunoblotting with anti-HA polyclonal antibody. Lysates of parental and transformed cells formed by solubilized in SDS were each electrophoretically separated in a denaturing gel (50 μg/lane), transferred to a nitrocellulose sheet, and probed with antibody against HA (Santa Cruz Biotechnology). The protein bands were visualized by an enhanced chemiluminescent detection (ECL) system (Pierce, Rockford, Ill.) according to the instructions of the manufacturer. One (J13R-2) was selected for testing the ability of R5111 to use the IL13R α 2 receptor.

As shown in FIG. 5, all clones expressed a protein band reactive with the anti-HA antibody. The apparent size of the protein was consistent with the reported size of IL13R α 2. Of 5 J13R-positive clones, J13R-2 (FIG. 5, lane 3) was selected and designated J13R.

EXAMPLE 3

SK—N—SH, HEp-2, Vero, and U87 cells were obtained from American Type Culture Collection (Rockville, Md.) and maintained in Dulbecco's modification of Eagle's Minimal Essential Medium (DMEM) supplemented with 10% fetal 35 bovine serum. Replicate cultures of SK-N-SH, HEp-2, Vero, U87, J1.1, and J13R were exposed to 0.01 PFU of R5111 virus per cell. After 24 hours of incubation, the cells were harvested and viral yields were titered on Vero cells.

Immunoblotting electrophoretically separated proteins. Construction of a Cell Line Expressing the IL13 Receptor 40 The indicated cells were mock-infected or exposed to 10 PFU of recombinant or wild-type HSV-1(F) per cell. The cells were harvested at 24 hours after infection, disrupted in SDS disruption buffer, boiled, cleared by centrifugation and electrophoretically separated on a 10% denaturing polyacrylamide gel. After transfer to a nitrocellulose membrane, the isolated proteins were reacted with antibodies as indicated using known and conventional techniques. Monoclonal antibodies against gD-(clone H170), gC- and HA-specific polyclonal antisera were purchased from the Goodwin Institute, Plantation, Fla. Polyclonal antibodies against IL13 were purchased from Santa Cruz Biotechnology.

The results shown in Table 1 were as follows: R5111 replicated to within a 10-fold range in HEp-2, Vero, U87, and J13R cells. The titer obtained from J1.1 cells was approximately 105-fold lower than that obtained from all other cell lines. To test whether the J13R cell line had acquired a receptor for wild-type HSV-1 (HSV-1(F)), J1.1 and J13R cells were also exposed to the wild-type virus. The results, also shown in Table 1, indicate that the cells remain resistant to the wildtype virus. It was known that HEp-2 cells express the nectin receptor but not the HveA receptor. The results show that the targeted HSV containing an IL13-gD fusion can target (i.e., bind and infect) cells expressing a particular receptor (IL13R α 2) approximately as well as wild-type HSV targets cells expressing the HveA receptor. The results indicate that R5111 can use IL13Rα2 as a receptor for entry in a cell line lacking all other HSV-1 receptors.

TABLE 1

Replicat	tion of R5111 in various	cell lines
Virus	Cell Line*	Yield**
R5111	Vero	11 × 10 ⁷
	HEp-2	1.2×10^{7}
	SK-N-SH	17×10^{7}
	U87	27×10^{7}
	J1.1	2×10^{2}
	J13R	11×10^{7}
HSV-1(F)	J1.1	6×10^{3}
	J13R	4×10^{3}

^{*}cell lines derived from human brain tumors.

This disclosure contains an exemplary description of the construction and properties of a recombinant HSV virus, R5111. In R5111, the heparan sulfate binding sites on the surface of the viral particle were ablated to preclude or at least 20reduce the attachment of virus to non-targeted cells. Attachment even in the absence of fusogenic activity may lead to endocytosis, degradation of the virus particle, and to potential, damage to the cell by lysosomal enzymes (Zhou et al. 2002; Zhou et al. 2000). At the same time, a copy of IL13 was $\,^{25}$ inserted into gC to enhance binding of virus particles to the IL13Rα2 receptor. The major restructuring of the viral genome consisted of insertion of IL13 at amino acid 24 of gD. Available data indicate that this modification ablates the gD binding site for the HveA receptor (Carfi et al. 2001). The data 30 obtained using R5111 indicate that the virus retains the capacity to interact with the Nectin receptor. Nonetheless, the R5111-targeted HSV was able to infect and replicate in J13R cells but not in the parental, J1.1, cells.

EXAMPLE 4

Construction of HSV Targeting Vector R5141 and R5144

A therapeutic herpes simplex virus 1 (HSV-1) capable of hinfecting and replicating solely in cells harboring the IL13R02 receptor was constructed using recombinant DNA techniques. As disclosed above, construction of R5111, which expresses IL13 on its surface and lacks the binding sites for heparin sulfate, allowed R5111 to infect J-13R cells as well as cells exhibiting the natural receptors for HSV-1. Thus, the involvement of fusogenic glycoproteins of R5111—a key step in viral entry—is independent of the receptor with which gD interacts.

The binding site of HveA has been reported to be at the amino terminal domain of gD (Carfi A., et al., 2001). The precise binding sites of gD for Nectin 1 are not known, although it has previously been reported to involve gD amino acids 38 and 221 (Manoj S., et al., 2004; Zago A., et al., 2004; Connolly S.A., 2005). The general assumption within the field is that the HveA and Nectin 1 sites do not overlap and that each independently promotes the same structural alteration of gD to enable entry of the virus into cells. However, it is possible that the surface structure of HveA and Nectin 1 at their binding sites may be similar even though the Hve1 and Nectin 1 amino acid sequences are not identical.

Based in part on the foregoing information, viruses capable of productive replication solely in targeted cells were designed as shown in FIG. 7. Using standard molecular biological cloning techniques known in the art, recombinant 65 virus R5141 was constructed by inserting IL13 in the place of gD residues 1-32. In addition, the valine residue at position 34

was substituted with serine ("V34S") (SEQ ID Nos.:41 and 42, respectively). Similarly, recombinant virus R5144 was constructed by inserting IL13 in the place of gD residues 1-32, and the valine at position 37 was substituted with serine 5 ("V37S) (SEQ ID Nos.:43 and 44, respectively).

One of skill would appreciate that a variety of re-targeted SHV, both HSV-1 and HSV-2, could be constructed and assessed using routine techniques in view of the disclosures herein. In particular, substituting a binding domain of a binding partner for the N-terminal region of gD, e.g., for amino acids 1-32 of gD, would be within the skill in the art. Further alteration of the gD fusion, e.g., by amino acid substitution, whether conservative substitution or not, would also be within the skill in the art. Of course, additions or deletions to gD fusions would also be within the skill in the art and assessing the targeting capacities of such constructs would involve routine experimentation in view of the teachings berein

EXAMPLE 5

Infection by the HSV Targeting Vectors R5141 and R5144

The capacities of the recombinant viruses described in Example 4 to productively replicate solely in targeted cells were assessed using the cell lines which express either HveA (J-HveA) alone (relative to the group of HveA, Nectin1, and IL13R α 2), Nectin1 (J-Nectin1) alone, or IL13R α 2 (J-13R) alone. For cell infection, the procedure set forth in Example 3 was repeated using recombinant virus R5141 and recombinant virus R5144.

The replication of R5141 and R5144 in J-Nectin-, J-HveA-, and J-13R-specific cells are summarized in Table 2. R5141 and R5144 do not productively interact with either native gD receptors, HveA or Nectin1. Significantly, however, R5141 interacts with and replicates in IL13Rα2 for productive entry into cells.

TABLE 2

		Replication of R5141 and R5144 in J-Nectin, J-HveA and J-13R cells.				
	HSV-1 (F)	R5141	R5144			
J-Nectin	4 × 10 ⁸	7 × 10 ¹	5 × 10 ¹			
J-HveA	3×10^{8}	4×10^{1}	3×10^{2}			
J-13R	3×10^{1}	5×10^{6}	7×10^2			

Thus, recombinant virus R5141 is capable of productive replication solely in targeted cells and this result opens the way for development of therapeutic viruses targeting cells exhibiting the IL13R α 2 receptor, such as malignant gliomas and other human tumors exhibiting IL13R α 2. It is expected that other mutations (i.e., those that abolish binding of Nectin and those that have a similar effect on HveA) will yield viruses that enter solely via non-natural HSV receptors.

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^{**}The cells were exposed to 0.01 PFU of R5111 or HSV-1(F) per cell and harvested 24 hours after infection. Progeny virus were titered on Vero cells.

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cgctttcgcg gcaaagacct tccggtcccg gaccggctga ccgaccctcc gggggtccgg
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accategett ggttteggat gggaggeaac tgtgetatec ccateaeggt catggagtae
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Ser Ser Pro Gly Thr Pro	Gly Val Ala Ala Ala	Thr Gln Ala Ala Asn									
35	40	45									
Gly Gly Pro Ala Thr Pro	Ala Pro Pro Ala Pro	Gly Ala Pro Pro Thr									
50	55	60									
Gly Asp Pro Lys Pro Lys	Lys Asn Arg Lys Pro	Lys Pro Pro Lys Pro									
65 70	75	80									
Pro Arg Pro Ala Gly Asp	Asn Ala Thr Val Ala	Ala Gly His Ala Thr									
85	90	95									
Leu Arg Glu His Leu Arg	Asp Ile Lys Ala Glu	Asn Thr Asp Ala Asn									
100	105	110									
Phe Tyr Val Cys Pro Pro	Pro Thr Gly Ala Thr	Val Val Gln Phe Glu									
115	120	125									
Gln Pro Arg Arg Cys Pro	Thr Arg Pro Glu Gly 135	Gln Asn Tyr Thr Glu 140									
Gly Ile Ala Val Val Phe 145	=	Pro Tyr Lys Phe Lys 160									
Ala Thr Met Tyr Tyr Lys	Asp Val Thr Val Ser	Gln Val Trp Phe Gly									
165	170	175									
His Arg Tyr Ser Gln Phe	e Met Gly Ile Phe Glu	Asp Arg Ala Pro Val									
180	185	190									
Pro Phe Glu Glu Val Ile	e Asp Lys Ile Asn Ala	Lys Gly Val Cys Arg									
195	200	205									
Ser Thr Ala Lys Tyr Val	. Arg Asn Asn Leu Glu	Thr Thr Ala Phe His									
210	215	220									
Arg Asp Asp His Glu Thr 225 230		Pro Ala Asn Ala Ala 240									
Thr Arg Thr Ser Arg Gly	Trp His Thr Thr Asp	Leu Lys Tyr Asn Pro									
245	250	255									
Ser Arg Val Glu Ala Phe	His Arg Tyr Gly Thr	Thr Val Asn Cys Ile									
260	265	270									
Val Glu Glu Val Asp Ala	Arg Ser Val Tyr Pro	Tyr Asp Glu Phe Val									
275	280	285									
Leu Ala Thr Gly Asp Phe	e Val Tyr Met Ser Pro	Phe Tyr Gly Tyr Arg									
290	295	300									

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Glu 305	Gly	Ser	His	Thr	Glu 310	His	Thr	Ser	Tyr	Ala 315	Ala	Asp	Arg	Phe	Lys 320
Gln	Val	Asp	Gly	Phe 325	Tyr	Ala	Arg	Asp	Leu 330	Thr	Thr	Lys	Ala	Arg 335	Ala
Thr	Ala	Pro	Thr 340	Thr	Arg	Asn	Leu	Leu 345	Thr	Thr	Pro	Lys	Phe 350	Thr	Val
Ala	Trp	Asp 355	Trp	Val	Pro	Lys	Arg 360	Pro	Ser	Val	CAa	Thr 365	Met	Thr	Гув
Trp	Gln 370	Glu	Val	Asp	Glu	Met 375	Leu	Arg	Ser	Glu	Tyr 380	Gly	Gly	Ser	Phe
Arg 385	Phe	Ser	Ser	Asp	Ala 390	Ile	Ser	Thr	Thr	Phe 395	Thr	Thr	Asn	Leu	Thr 400
Glu	Tyr	Pro	Leu	Ser 405	Arg	Val	Asp	Leu	Gly 410	Asp	Сув	Ile	Gly	Lys 415	Asp
Ala	Arg	Asp	Ala 420	Met	Asp	Arg	Ile	Phe 425	Ala	Arg	Arg	Tyr	Asn 430	Ala	Thr
His	Ile	Lys 435	Val	Gly	Gln	Pro	Gln 440	Tyr	Tyr	Leu	Ala	Asn 445	Gly	Gly	Phe
Leu	Ile 450	Ala	Tyr	Gln	Pro	Leu 455	Leu	Ser	Asn	Thr	Leu 460	Ala	Glu	Leu	Tyr
Val 465	Arg	Glu	His	Leu	Arg 470	Glu	Gln	Ser	Arg	Lys 475	Pro	Pro	Asn	Pro	Thr 480
Pro	Pro	Pro	Pro	Gly 485	Ala	Ser	Ala	Asn	Ala 490	Ser	Val	Glu	Arg	Ile 495	ГЛа
Thr	Thr	Ser	Ser 500	Ile	Glu	Phe	Ala	Arg 505	Leu	Gln	Phe	Thr	Tyr 510	Asn	His
Ile	Gln	Arg 515	His	Val	Asn	Asp	Met 520	Leu	Gly	Arg	Val	Ala 525	Ile	Ala	Trp
Cys	Glu 530	Leu	Gln	Asn	His	Glu 535	Leu	Thr	Leu	Trp	Asn 540	Glu	Ala	Arg	ГÀа
Leu 545	Asn	Pro	Asn	Ala	Ile 550	Ala	Ser	Ala	Thr	Val 555	Gly	Arg	Arg	Val	Ser 560
Ala	Arg	Met	Leu	Gly 565	Asp	Val	Met	Ala	Val 570	Ser	Thr	CAa	Val	Pro 575	Val
Ala	Ala	Asp	Asn 580	Val	Ile	Val	Gln	Asn 585	Ser	Met	Arg	Ile	Ser 590	Ser	Arg
Pro	Gly	Ala 595	Cys	Tyr	Ser	Arg	Pro 600	Leu	Val	Ser	Phe	Arg 605	Tyr	Glu	Asp
Gln	Gly 610	Pro	Leu	Val	Glu	Gly 615	Gln	Leu	Gly	Glu	Asn 620	Asn	Glu	Leu	Arg
Leu 625	Thr	Arg	Asp	Ala	Ile 630	Glu	Pro	Сла	Thr	Val 635	Gly	His	Arg	Arg	Tyr 640
Phe	Thr	Phe	Gly	Gly 645	Gly	Tyr	Val	Tyr	Phe 650	Glu	Glu	Tyr	Ala	Tyr 655	Ser
His	Gln	Leu	Ser 660	Arg	Ala	Asp	Ile	Thr 665	Thr	Val	Ser	Thr	Phe 670	Ile	Asp
Leu	Asn	Ile 675	Thr	Met	Leu	Glu	Asp 680	His	Glu	Phe	Val	Pro 685	Leu	Glu	Val
Tyr	Thr 690	Arg	His	Glu	Ile	Lys 695	Asp	Ser	Gly	Leu	Leu 700	Asp	Tyr	Thr	Glu
Val 705	Gln	Arg	Arg	Asn	Gln 710	Leu	His	Asp	Leu	Arg 715	Phe	Ala	Asp	Ile	Asp 720
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Leu Ala Gly Leu Ala Ala Ala Phe Phe Ala Phe Arg Tyr Val Met Arg 785 790 795 800	
Leu Gln Ser Asn Pro Met Lys Ala Leu Tyr Pro Leu Thr Thr Lys Glu 805 810 815	
Leu Lys Asn Pro Thr Asn Pro Asp Ala Ser Gly Glu Gly Glu Gly 820 825 830	
Gly Asp Phe Asp Glu Ala Lys Leu Ala Glu Ala Arg Glu Met Ile Arg 835 840 845	
Tyr Met Ala Leu Val Ser Ala Met Glu Arg Thr Glu His Lys Ala Lys 850 855 860	
Lys Lys Gly Thr Ser Ala Leu Leu Ser Ala Lys Val Thr Asp Met Val 865 870 875 880	
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1080

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Pro Thr Ile Thr 35	Ala Gly Al	a Val Thr 40	Asn Ala	Ser Glu Al 45	a Pro Thr	
Ser Gly Ser Pro 50	Gly Ser Al		Pro Glu	Val Thr Pr 60	o Thr Ser	
Thr Pro Asn Pro	Asn Asn Va	l Thr Gln	Asn Lys 75	Thr Thr Pr	o Thr Glu 80	
Pro Ala Ser Pro	Pro Thr Th	r Pro Lys	Pro Thr 90	Ser Thr Pr	o Lys Ser 95	
Pro Pro Thr Ser	Thr Pro As	p Pro Lys 105	Pro Lys	Asn Asn Th		
Ala Lys Ser Gly 115	Arg Pro Th	r Lys Pro 120	Pro Gly	Pro Val Tr 125	p Cys Asp	
Arg Arg Asp Pro	Leu Ala Ar 13		Ser Arg	Val Gln Il 140	e Arg Cys	
Arg Phe Arg Asn 145	Ser Thr Ar	g Met Glu	Phe Arg 155	Leu Gln Il	e Trp Arg 160	
Tyr Ser Met Gly	Pro Ser Pr 165	o Pro Ile	Ala Pro 170	Ala Pro As	p Leu Glu 175	
Glu Val Leu Thr 180	Asn Ile Th	r Ala Pro 185	Pro Gly	Gly Leu Le	_	
Asp Ser Ala Pro 195	Asn Leu Th	r Asp Pro 200	His Val	Leu Trp Al 205	a Glu Gly	
Ala Gly Pro Gly 210	Ala Asp Pr 21		Tyr Ser	Val Thr Gl	y Pro Leu	
Pro Thr Gln Arg	Leu Ile Il 230	e Gly Glu	Val Thr 235	Pro Ala Th	r Gln Gly 240	
Met Tyr Tyr Leu	Ala Trp Gl 245	y Arg Met	Asp Ser 250	Pro His Gl	u Tyr Gly 255	

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Pro His Ala Val Met Glu Gly Gln Pro Phe Lys Ala Thr Cys Thr Ala 275 280 285
Ala Ala Tyr Tyr Pro Arg Asn Pro Val Glu Phe Asp Trp Phe Glu Asp 290 295 300
Asp Arg Gln Val Phe Asn Pro Gly Gln Ile Asp Thr Gln Thr His Glu 305 310 315 320
His Pro Asp Gly Phe Thr Thr Val Ser Thr Val Thr Ser Glu Ala Val 325 330 335
Gly Gly Gln Val Pro Pro Arg Thr Phe Thr Cys Gln Met Thr Trp His 340 345 350
Arg Asp Ser Val Thr Phe Ser Arg Arg Asn Ala Thr Gly Leu Ala Leu 355 360 365
Val Leu Pro Arg Pro Thr Ile Thr Met Glu Phe Gly Val Arg His Val 370 375 380
Val Cys Thr Ala Gly Cys Val Pro Glu Gly Val Thr Phe Ala Trp Phe 385 390 395 400
Leu Gly Asp Asp Pro Ser Pro Ala Ala Lys Ser Ala Val Thr Ala Gln 405 410 415
Glu Ser Cys Asp His Pro Gly Leu Ala Thr Val Arg Ser Thr Leu Pro 420 425 430
Ile Ser Tyr Asp Tyr Ser Glu Tyr Ile Cys Arg Leu Thr Gly Tyr Pro 435 440 445
Ala Gly Ile Pro Val Leu Glu His His Gly Ser His Gln Pro Pro Pro 450 455 460
Arg Asp Pro Thr Glu Arg Gln Val Ile Glu Ala Ile Glu Trp Val Gly 465 470 480
Ile Gly Ile Gly Val Leu Ala Ala Gly Val Leu Val Val Thr Ala Ile 485 490 495
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660

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Ser Pro Gly Pro Val Pro Pro Ser Thr Ala Leu Arg Glu Leu Ile Glu 35 40 45	
Glu Leu Val Asn Ile Thr Gln Asn Gln Lys Ala Pro Leu Cys Asn Gly 50 55 60	
Ser Met Val Trp Ser Ile Asn Leu Thr Ala Gly Met Tyr Cys Ala Ala 65 70 75 80	
Leu Glu Ser Leu Ile Asn Val Ser Gly Cys Ser Ala Ile Glu Lys Thr 85 90 95	
Gln Arg Met Leu Ser Gly Phe Cys Pro His Lys Val Ser Ala Gly Gln	
Phe Ser Ser Leu His Val Arg Asp Thr Lys Ile Glu Val Ala Gln Phe	
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Phe Asn 145	
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		_			10				15		
Ser Thr	Thr Phe 20	_	Thr Sei	Ser 25		Asp T	hr Glu	Ile 30	15		
Asn Pro l	20	Gly Cys		25	Ser A			30	15	Val	
Asn Pro l	20 Pro Gln 35	Gly Cys	e Glu Ile 40	25 Val	Ser A	Pro G ⊔eu A	ly Tyr 45	30 Leu	15 Lys Gly	Val Tyr	
Asn Pro 1	20 Pro Gln 35 Leu Gln	Gly Cys Asp Phe	e Glu Ile 40 1 Pro Pro 55	25 Val Leu	Ser A Asp P Ser L Arg A	Pro G Leu A 6	Hy Tyr 45 sp His	30 Leu Phe	Lys Gly Lys	Val Tyr Glu	
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Asn Pro 1 Leu Tyr 1 50 Cys Thr 7 65	20 Pro Gln 35 Leu Gln Val Glu Thr Ile	Gly Cys Asp Phe Trp Glr Tyr Glr 70 Ile Thr	Glu Ile 40 Pro Pro 55 Leu Lys	25 Val Leu Tyr	Ser A Asp P Ser L Arg A 7 His T	Pro G Leu A 6 Asn I 75	Tyr 45 sp His 0 le Gly	30 Leu Phe Ser Gly	Lys Gly Lys Glu Phe 95	Val Tyr Glu Thr 80 Asp	
Asn Pro 1 50 Cys Thr 1 Leu Asn 1 Cys Thr 2 Cys	20 Pro Gln 35 Leu Gln Val Glu Thr Ile Lys Gly 100	Gly Cys Asp Phe Trp Glr Tyr Glu 70 Ile Thu 85	Glu Ile 40 Pro Pro 55 Leu Lys Lys Asr	25 Val Leu Tyr Leu Ile 105	Ser A Asp P Ser L Arg A 7 His T 90 His T	eu A 6 Asn I '5 Tyr L	sp His 0 le Gly ys Asp	30 Leu Phe Ser Gly Pro 110	Lys Gly Lys Glu Phe 95 Trp	Val Tyr Glu Thr 80 Asp	
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Asn Pro 1 50 Cys Thr 1 Cys Thr 2 Trp Lys 1 Trp Lys 1 Trp Lys 1 Trp Ile 1	20 Pro Gln 35 Leu Gln Val Glu Thr Ile Lys Gly 100 Asn Gly 115 Ser Pro	Gly Cys Asp Phe Trp Glr Tyr Glr 70 Ile Thr 85 Ile Glr Ser Glr Gln Gly	e Glu Ile 40 n Pro Pro 55 n Leu Lys c Lys Asr n Ala Lys n Val Glr 120 r Ile Pro 135	25 Val Val Leu Tyr Leu 105 Ser	Ser A Asp P Ser L Arg A 7 His T 90 His T Thr L Leu C	eu A 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6	asp His o lee Gly ys Asp lee	30 Leu Phe Ser Gly Pro 110 Thr	15 Lys Gly Lys Glu Phe 95 Trp Thr	Val Tyr Glu Thr 80 Asp Gln Tyr	

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Asp Phe Tyr Ile Cys Val Asn Gly Ser Ser Glu Asn Lys Pro Ile Arg 210 215 220
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Pro Val Tyr Leu Thr Phe Thr Arg Glu Ser Ser Cys Glu Ile Lys Leu 245 250 255
Lys Trp Ser Ile Pro Leu Gly Pro Ile Pro Ala Arg Cys Phe Asp Tyr 260 265 270
Glu Ile Glu Ile Arg Glu Asp Asp Thr Thr Leu Val Thr Ala Thr Val 275 280 285
Glu Asn Glu Thr Tyr Thr Leu Lys Thr Thr Asn Glu Thr Arg Gln Leu 290 295 300
Cys Phe Val Val Arg Ser Lys Val Asn Ile Tyr Cys Ser Asp Asp Gly 305 310 315 320
Ile Trp Ser Glu Trp Ser Asp Lys Gln Cys Trp Glu Gly Glu Asp Leu 325 330 335
Ser Lys Lys Thr Leu Leu Arg Phe Trp Leu Pro Phe Gly Phe Ile Leu 340 345 350
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aaggtggtga	tgggcatcgt	gggeggegtg	gtateggeeg	tgtcgggcgt	gtcctccttc	2280
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ctgctcagcg	ccaaggtcac	cgacatggtc	atgcgcaagc	gccgcaacac	caactacacc	2640
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<400> SEQUENCE: 36

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Gly Asp Pro Pro Lys Pro Pro Arg Pro Ala Gly Asp Asn Ala Thr Val 65 70 75 80

Ala Ala Gly His Ala Thr Leu Arg Glu His Leu Arg Asp Ile Lys Ala

				85					90					95	
Glu	Asn	Thr	Asp	Ala	Asn	Phe	Tyr	Val 105	Cya	Pro	Pro	Pro	Thr 110	Gly	Ala
Thr	Val	Val 115	Gln	Phe	Glu	Gln	Pro 120	Arg	Arg	CÀa	Pro	Thr 125	Arg	Pro	Glu
Gly	Gln 130	Asn	Tyr	Thr	Glu	Gly 135	Ile	Ala	Val	Val	Phe 140	Lys	Glu	Asn	Ile
Ala 145	Pro	Tyr	Lys	Phe	Lys 150	Ala	Thr	Met	Tyr	Tyr 155	Lys	Asp	Val	Thr	Val 160
Ser	Gln	Val	Trp	Phe 165	Gly	His	Arg	Tyr	Ser 170	Gln	Phe	Met	Gly	Ile 175	Phe
Glu	Asp	Arg	Ala 180	Pro	Val	Pro	Phe	Glu 185	Glu	Val	Ile	Asp	Lys 190	Ile	Asn
Ala	Lys	Gly 195	Val	Càa	Arg	Ser	Thr 200	Ala	Lys	Tyr	Val	Arg 205	Asn	Asn	Leu
Glu	Thr 210	Thr	Ala	Phe	His	Arg 215	Asp	Asp	His	Glu	Thr 220	Asp	Met	Glu	Leu
Lys 225	Pro	Ala	Asn	Ala	Ala 230	Thr	Arg	Thr	Ser	Arg 235	Gly	Trp	His	Thr	Thr 240
Asp	Leu	Lys	Tyr	Asn 245	Pro	Ser	Arg	Val	Glu 250	Ala	Phe	His	Arg	Tyr 255	Gly
Thr	Thr	Val	Asn 260	CAa	Ile	Val	Glu	Glu 265	Val	Asp	Ala	Arg	Ser 270	Val	Tyr
Pro	Tyr	Asp 275	Glu	Phe	Val	Leu	Ala 280	Thr	Gly	Asp	Phe	Val 285	Tyr	Met	Ser
Pro	Phe 290	Tyr	Gly	Tyr	Arg	Glu 295	Gly	Ser	His	Thr	Glu 300	His	Thr	Ser	Tyr
Ala 305	Ala	Asp	Arg	Phe	Lys 310	Gln	Val	Asp	Gly	Phe 315	Tyr	Ala	Arg	Asp	Leu 320
Thr	Thr	Lys	Ala	Arg 325	Ala	Thr	Ala	Pro	Thr 330	Thr	Arg	Asn	Leu	Leu 335	Thr
Thr	Pro	Lys	Phe 340	Thr	Val	Ala	Trp	Asp 345	Trp	Val	Pro	ГÀв	Arg 350	Pro	Ser
Val	Cha	Thr 355	Met	Thr	Lys	Trp	Gln 360	Glu	Val	Asp	Glu	Met 365	Leu	Arg	Ser
Glu	Tyr 370	Gly	Gly	Ser	Phe	Arg 375	Phe	Ser	Ser	Asp	Ala 380	Ile	Ser	Thr	Thr
Phe 385	Thr	Thr	Asn	Leu	Thr 390	Glu	Tyr	Pro	Leu	Ser 395	Arg	Val	Asp	Leu	Gly 400
Asp	Cys	Ile	Gly	Lys 405	Asp	Ala	Arg	Asp	Ala 410	Met	Asp	Arg	Ile	Phe 415	Ala
Arg	Arg	Tyr	Asn 420	Ala	Thr	His	Ile	Lys 425	Val	Gly	Gln	Pro	Gln 430	Tyr	Tyr
Leu	Ala	Asn 435	Gly	Gly	Phe	Leu	Ile 440	Ala	Tyr	Gln	Pro	Leu 445	Leu	Ser	Asn
Thr	Leu 450	Ala	Glu	Leu	Tyr	Val 455	Arg	Glu	His	Leu	Arg 460	Glu	Gln	Ser	Arg
Lys 465	Pro	Pro	Asn	Pro	Thr 470	Pro	Pro	Pro	Pro	Gly 475	Ala	Ser	Ala	Asn	Ala 480
Ser	Val	Glu	Arg	Ile 485	Lys	Thr	Thr	Ser	Ser 490	Ile	Glu	Phe	Ala	Arg 495	Leu
Gln	Phe	Thr	Tyr 500	Asn	His	Ile	Gln	Arg 505	His	Val	Asn	Asp	Met 510	Leu	Gly

Arg	Val	Ala 515	Ile	Ala	Trp	Cys	Glu 520	Leu	Gln	Asn	His	Glu 525	Leu	Thr	Leu
Trp	Asn 530	Glu	Ala	Arg	Lys	Leu 535	Asn	Pro	Asn	Ala	Ile 540	Ala	Ser	Ala	Thr
Val 545	Gly	Arg	Arg	Val	Ser 550	Ala	Arg	Met	Leu	Gly 555	Asp	Val	Met	Ala	Val 560
Ser	Thr	Cya	Val	Pro 565	Val	Ala	Ala	Asp	Asn 570	Val	Ile	Val	Gln	Asn 575	Ser
Met	Arg	Ile	Ser 580	Ser	Arg	Pro	Gly	Ala 585	Cys	Tyr	Ser	Arg	Pro 590	Leu	Val
Ser	Phe	Arg 595	Tyr	Glu	Asp	Gln	Gly 600	Pro	Leu	Val	Glu	Gly 605	Gln	Leu	Gly
Glu	Asn 610	Asn	Glu	Leu	Arg	Leu 615	Thr	Arg	Asp	Ala	Ile 620	Glu	Pro	Cys	Thr
Val 625	Gly	His	Arg	Arg	Tyr 630	Phe	Thr	Phe	Gly	Gly 635	Gly	Tyr	Val	Tyr	Phe 640
Glu	Glu	Tyr	Ala	Tyr 645	Ser	His	Gln	Leu	Ser 650	Arg	Ala	Asp	Ile	Thr 655	Thr
Val	Ser	Thr	Phe 660	Ile	Asp	Leu	Asn	Ile 665	Thr	Met	Leu	Glu	Asp 670	His	Glu
Phe	Val	Pro 675	Leu	Glu	Val	Tyr	Thr 680	Arg	His	Glu	Ile	Lys 685	Asp	Ser	Gly
Leu	Leu 690	Asp	Tyr	Thr	Glu	Val 695	Gln	Arg	Arg	Asn	Gln 700	Leu	His	Asp	Leu
Arg 705	Phe	Ala	Asp	Ile	Asp 710	Thr	Val	Ile	His	Ala 715	Asp	Ala	Asn	Ala	Ala 720
Met	Phe	Ala	Gly	Leu 725	Gly	Ala	Phe	Phe	Glu 730	Gly	Met	Gly	Asp	Leu 735	Gly
Arg	Ala	Val	Gly 740	Lys	Val	Val	Met	Gly 745	Ile	Val	Gly	Gly	Val 750	Val	Ser
Ala	Val	Ser 755	Gly	Val	Ser	Ser	Phe 760	Met	Ser	Asn	Pro	Phe 765	Gly	Ala	Leu
Ala	Val 770	Gly	Leu	Leu	Val	Leu 775	Ala	Gly	Leu	Ala	Ala 780	Ala	Phe	Phe	Ala
Phe 785	Arg	Tyr	Val	Met	Arg 790	Leu	Gln	Ser	Asn	Pro 795	Met	Lys	Ala	Leu	Tyr 800
Pro	Leu	Thr	Thr	Lys 805	Glu	Leu	Lys	Asn	Pro 810	Thr	Asn	Pro	Asp	Ala 815	Ser
Gly	Glu	Gly	Glu 820	Glu	Gly	Gly	Asp	Phe 825	Asp	Glu	Ala	Lys	Leu 830	Ala	Glu
Ala	Arg	Glu 835	Met	Ile	Arg	Tyr	Met 840	Ala	Leu	Val	Ser	Ala 845	Met	Glu	Arg
Thr	Glu 850	His	ГЛа	Ala	ГÀа	Lуа 855	ГЛа	Gly	Thr	Ser	Ala 860	Leu	Leu	Ser	Ala
Lys 865	Val	Thr	Asp	Met	Val 870	Met	Arg	ГЛа	Arg	Arg 875	Asn	Thr	Asn	Tyr	Thr 880
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<210> SEQ ID NO 37 <211> LENGTH: 1626 <212> TYPE: DNA <213> ORGANISM: Herpes Simplex Virus-1

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<210> SEQ ID NO 38
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Ile Glu Glu Leu Val Asn Ile Thr Gln Asn Gln Lys Ala Pro Leu Cys $_{\mbox{35}}$

Asn Gly Ser Met Val Trp Ser Ile Asn Leu Thr Ala Gly Met Tyr Cys 50 $\,$ 60 $\,$

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<211> LENGTH: 497

<212> TYPE: PRT

<213> ORGANISM: Herpes Simplex Virus-1

<400> SEQUENCE: 38

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Gln	Phe	Val 115	Lys	Asp	Leu	Leu	Leu 120	His	Leu	Lys	Lys	Leu 125	Phe	Arg	Glu
Gly	Gln 130	Phe	Asn	Glu	Phe	Ser 135	Thr	Arg	Met	Glu	Phe 140	Arg	Leu	Gln	Ile
Trp 145	Arg	Tyr	Ser	Met	Gly 150	Pro	Ser	Pro	Pro	Ile 155	Ala	Pro	Ala	Pro	Asp 160
Leu	Glu	Glu	Val	Leu 165	Thr	Asn	Ile	Thr	Ala 170	Pro	Pro	Gly	Gly	Leu 175	Leu
Val	Tyr	Asp	Ser 180	Ala	Pro	Asn	Leu	Thr 185	Asp	Pro	His	Val	Leu 190	Trp	Ala
Glu	Gly	Ala 195	Gly	Pro	Gly	Ala	Asp 200	Pro	Pro	Leu	Tyr	Ser 205	Val	Thr	Gly
Pro	Leu 210	Pro	Thr	Gln	Arg	Leu 215	Ile	Ile	Gly	Glu	Val 220	Thr	Pro	Ala	Thr
Gln 225	Gly	Met	Tyr	Tyr	Leu 230	Ala	Trp	Gly	Arg	Met 235	Asp	Ser	Pro	His	Glu 240
Tyr	Gly	Thr	Trp	Val 245	Arg	Val	Arg	Met	Phe 250	Arg	Pro	Pro	Ser	Leu 255	Thr
Leu	Gln	Pro	His 260	Ala	Val	Met	Glu	Gly 265	Gln	Pro	Phe	ГÀа	Ala 270	Thr	Сув
Thr	Ala	Ala 275	Ala	Tyr	Tyr	Pro	Arg 280	Asn	Pro	Val	Glu	Phe 285	Asp	Trp	Phe
Glu	Asp 290	Asp	Arg	Gln	Val	Phe 295	Asn	Pro	Gly	Gln	Ile 300	Asp	Thr	Gln	Thr
His 305	Glu	His	Pro	Asp	Gly 310	Phe	Thr	Thr	Val	Ser 315	Thr	Val	Thr	Ser	Glu 320
Ala	Val	Gly	Gly	Gln 325	Val	Pro	Pro	Arg	Thr 330	Phe	Thr	CAa	Gln	Met 335	Thr
Trp	His	Arg	Asp 340	Ser	Val	Thr	Phe	Ser 345	Arg	Arg	Asn	Ala	Thr 350	Gly	Leu
Ala	Leu	Val 355	Leu	Pro	Arg	Pro	Thr 360	Ile	Thr	Met	Glu	Phe 365	Gly	Val	Arg
His	Val 370	Val	Cys	Thr	Ala	Gly 375	СЛа	Val	Pro	Glu	Gly 380	Val	Thr	Phe	Ala
Trp 385	Phe	Leu	Gly	Asp	Asp 390	Pro	Ser	Pro	Ala	Ala 395	ГÀа	Ser	Ala	Val	Thr 400
Ala	Gln	Glu	Ser	Cys 405	Asp	His	Pro	Gly	Leu 410	Ala	Thr	Val	Arg	Ser 415	Thr
Leu	Pro	Ile	Ser 420	Tyr	Asp	Tyr	Ser	Glu 425	Tyr	Ile	CAa	Arg	Leu 430	Thr	Gly
Tyr	Pro	Ala 435	Gly	Ile	Pro	Val	Leu 440	Glu	His	His	Gly	Ser 445	His	Gln	Pro
Pro	Pro 450	Arg	Asp	Pro	Thr	Glu 455	Arg	Gln	Val	Ile	Glu 460	Ala	Ile	Glu	Trp
Val 465	Gly	Ile	Gly	Ile	Gly 470	Val	Leu	Ala	Ala	Gly 475	Val	Leu	Val	Val	Thr 480
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465

470

The invention claimed is:

- 1. A recombinant herpes simplex virus (HSV) particle having at least one protein on its surface, comprising:
 - (a) an altered viral surface protein, wherein the alteration reduces binding of the viral surface protein to a sulfated proteoglycan; and
 - (b) an altered gD, wherein the alteration reduces binding of gD to one or more of its cellular receptors, said alteration comprising
 - (i) a heterologous peptide ligand on the surface of the recombinant HSV particle forming a fusion protein with the altered gD; and
 - (ii) a V34S amino acid substitution;

wherein said recombinant HSV particle preferentially binds to cells expressing a binding partner to said heterologous peptide ligand.

- 2. The recombinant HSV particle of claim 1, wherein the viral surface protein is selected from the group consisting of gB and gC.
- 3. The recombinant HSV particle of claim 1, wherein the ligand forms a second fusion protein with a viral surface protein selected from the group consisting of gB and gC.
- 4. The recombinant HSV particle of claim 1, wherein the cell is a cancer cell.
- 5. The recombinant HSV particle of claim 4, wherein the cancer cell is a malignant gliomal cell.
- **6**. The recombinant HSV particle of claim **1**, wherein the ligand is selected from the group consisting of a cytokine and a single-chain antibody.
- 7. The recombinant HSV particle of claim 6, wherein the cytokine is IL13.
- **8**. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the recombinant HSV particle of claim **1** and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent, or excipient.
- **9.** A kit comprising the pharmaceutical composition according to claim **8** and a set of instructions for administering the composition to a subject in need.
- 10. A method of targeting a recombinant HSV particle to a cell comprising
 - (a) identifying a ligand for a ligand binding partner exhibited on the surface of a target cell; and
 - (b) creating an HSV particle according to claim 1, wherein the ligand binds to the binding partner exhibited on the surface of said target cell.

- 11. The method of claim 10, wherein said altered viral surface protein is selected from the group consisting of gB and gC.
- 12. The method of claim 10, wherein the ligand forms a second fusion protein with gC.
- 13. The method of claim 10, wherein the cell is a cancer cell.
- **14**. The method of claim **13**, wherein the cancer cell is a malignant gliomal cell.
- 15. The method of claim 12, wherein the ligand is selected from the group consisting of a cytokine and a single-chain antibody.
- **16**. The method of claim **15**, wherein the cytokine is IL13.
- 17. A method of imaging a cell comprising:
 - (a) contacting the cell with a recombinant HSV particle according to claim 1, said recombinant HSV particle further comprising a coding region for a marker protein;
 - (b) detecting the presence of the marker protein.
- 18. The method of claim 17, wherein the cell is a cancer cell.
- 19. The method of claim 17, wherein the binding partner is present at a higher number on the cancer cell as compared to a non-cancerous cell of the same type.
- **20**. A method of treating cancer comprising delivering a therapeutically effective amount of a recombinant HSV particle according to claim **1** to a subject in need.
- 21. A method of ameliorating a symptom associated with cancer comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a recombinant HSV particle according to claim 1 to a subject in need.
- 22. A method of delivering a therapeutically useful peptide to a cancer cell comprising:
 - (a) inserting a coding region for a therapeutically useful peptide into the DNA of a recombinant HSV particle according to claim 1, thereby producing a recombinant HSV clone; and
 - (b) delivering a therapeutically effective amount of said recombinant HSV clone to said cell.
- $23.\,\mathrm{A}$ method of killing a target cell, comprising contacting the target cell with a recombinant HSV particle according to claim 1.

* * * * *