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FILING DATE: *February 08, 2007*
RELATED PCT APPLICATION NUMBER: *PCT/US08/01602*

THE COUNTRY CODE AND NUMBER OF YOUR PRIORITY APPLICATION, TO BE USED FOR FILING ABROAD UNDER THE PARIS CONVENTION, IS *US60/888,921*

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PROVISIONAL APPLICATION COVER SHEET

This is a request for filing a PROVISIONAL APPLICATION under 37 CFR 1.53(c).

Docket Number 08201.6042-00000		Type a plus sign (+) inside this box =	+

INVENTOR(s)/APPLICANT(s)

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE INITIAL	RESIDENCE (CITY AND EITHER STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY)
..	..	..	..

TITLE OF INVENTION (500 characters max)

Nrf2 SCREENING ASSAYS AND RELATED METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

BIOGEN IDEC / FINNEGAN HENDERSON, LLP **Customer Number 65,779**

ENCLOSED APPLICATION PARTS (check all that apply)

☒ Specification: 40 Pages ☒ Drawing(s): 2 Sheets/2 Figures

☐ Other: [Number] Pages; [Description]

METHOD OF PAYMENT

☐ A check or money order is enclosed to cover the Provisional Application filing fees ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in fees to Deposit Account Number 06-0916.	PROVISIONAL FILING FEE $200.00 Total Number of Pages of specification, drawings, sequence or computer listing, or other papers 42. If more than 100 pages, add $250 for each additional 50 pages or fraction thereof. TOTAL FILING FEE $200.00

The invention was made by an agency of the United States Government or under a contract with an agency of the United States Government.

☒ No.

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[Text]

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the patent practitioners associated with Customer Number 65,779.

SIGNATURE _____ Date February 8, 2007

TYPED OR PRINTED NAME Konstantin M. Linnik REGISTRATION NO. 56,309

☐ Additional inventors are being named on separately numbered sheets attached hereto.

PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FILING ONLY

Nrf2 SCREENING ASSAYS AND RELATED METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS

[0001] The invention relates to the field of cell and molecular biology and to the development and use of therapeutic compounds, more particularly, compounds for treating neurological diseases, including demyelinating neurological diseases, such as, e.g., multiple sclerosis.

[0002] Multiple sclerosis (MS) is an autoimmune disease with the autoimmune activity directed against central nervous system (CNS) antigens. The disease is characterized by inflammation in parts of the CNS, leading to the loss of the myelin sheathing around neuronal axons (demyelination), loss of axons, and the eventual death of neurons, oligodenrocytes and glial cells.

[0003] An estimated 2,500,000 people in the world suffer from MS. It is one of the most common diseases of the CNS in young adults. MS is a chronic, progressing, disabling disease, which generally strikes its victims some time after adolescence, with diagnosis generally made between 20 and 40 years of age, although onset may occur earlier. The disease is not directly hereditary, although genetic susceptibility plays a part in its development. Relapsing-remitting MS presents in the form of recurrent attacks of focal or multifocal neurologic dysfunction. Attacks may occur, remit, and recur, seemingly randomly over many years. Remission is often incomplete and as one attack follows another, a stepwise downward progression ensues with increasing permanent neurological deficit.

[0004] Although various immunotherapeutic drugs can provide relief in patients with MS, none is capable of reversing disease progression, and some can cause serious adverse effects. Most current therapies for MS are aimed at the reduction of inflammation and suppression or modulation of the immune system. As of 2006, the available treatments for MS reduce inflammation and the number of new episodes but not all have an effect on disease progression. A number of clinical trials have shown that the suppression of inflammation in chronic MS rarely significantly limits the accumulation of disability through

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