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(54) **EXTRANEIOUS DNA SEQUENCE THAT FACILITATES HANTAVIRUS GENE EXPRESSION**

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(58) **Field of Classification Search** **536/24.1, 536/23.72**

See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

In this application is described a protective DNA vaccines against infection with HFRS- and HPS-associated hantaviruses. The vaccines were constructed by subcloning cDNA representing the medium (M) (encoding the G1 and G2 glycoproteins) into the DNA expression vector pWRG7077. Animals vaccinated with the M construct developed a neutralizing antibody response. Passive transfer experiments show that serum from vaccinated animals, when injected on days 4 or 5 after challenge, protected animals from lethal disease.