

NIH awards for vaccine development

The US National Institutes of Health (NIH) has recently awarded two grants for vaccine research and development. Iomai Corporation has received \$US1.4 million for the development of its immunostimulant needle-free patch, under the government's biodefense initiative.¹ The patch is intended to be applied to the injection site after administration of the influenza virus vaccine, and is designed to increase the immune response thereby allowing the use of lower doses of vaccine.

The second grant was awarded to Juvaris BioTherapeutics from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) component of the NIH, for the testing of a novel vaccine directed against HIV infections.² Initial testing will be in non-human primates to determine immune response.

1. Iomai Corp. Iomai Corporation Receives Award From NIH for Pandemic Flu Vaccine Research. Media Release : 9 Mar 2006. Available from: URL: <http://www.iomai.com>.

2. Juvaris BioTherapeutics Inc. Juvaris Announces Receiving NIH Grant Award for HIV Vaccine Development. Media Release : 7 Mar 2006. Available from: URL: <http://www.juvaris.com>.