TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF TABLES

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

ABBREVIATIONS

Allele freq.	Allele frequency
Ag. freq.	Antigen frequency
β_2M	Beta-2 microglobulin
BSA	Bovine serum albumin
CIA	Collagen-induced arthritis
CLIP	Class II associated invariant chain peptide
cm	centimeter
°C	degree celcius
CSPD	Disodium3-(4-methoxyspiro{1,2-dioxetane-3,2'-(5'-chloro)tricyclo [3.3.1.1.]decan}-4-yl)phenyl phosphate
CTLA-4	Cytotoxic T lymphocyte antigen-4
DIG-ddUTP	Digoxygenin dideoxyuridine-triphosphate
dATP	Deoxyadenosine triphosphate
dCTP	Deoxycytosine triphosphate
dGTP	Deoxyguanosine triphosphate
TTP	Thymidine triphosphate
EDTA	Ethylene diaminetetraacetic acid
ELAM-1	Endothelial leukocyte adhesion molecule-1
EF	Etiologic fraction
HA	Hemagglutinin
HLA	Human leukocyte antigen
ICAM-1	Intracellular adhesion molecule-1
IDDM	Insulin dependent diabetes mellitus
IDR	Incidence density ratio
LFA-1	Lymphocyte function associated antigen-1

MHC	Major histocompatibility complex
μl	micrometer
nm	nanometer
ND	Not done
PBMC	Peripheral blood mononuclear cell
PCR	Polymerase chain reaction
PF	Preventive fraction
PVP	Polyvinylprolidone
RA	Rheumatoid arthritis
RFLP	Restriction-fragment length polymorphism
rpm	round per minute
RR	Relative risk
SSO	Sequence-specific oligonucleotide
SDS	Sodium dodecyl sulfate
TSAb	Thyroid stimulating antibody
TAE	Tris/acetate/EDTA
TMAC	Tetramethylammonium chloride
TSH	Thyroid stimulating hormone
TSHR	Thyroid stimulating hormone receptor
VCAM-1	Vascular cell adhesion molecule-1
VLA-1	Very late activation antigen-1