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(54) Title: THIOESTER-TERMINATED WATER SOLUBLE POLYMERS AND METHOD OF MODIFYING THE N-TERMINUS OF A POLYPEPTIDE THEREWITH

(57) Abstract: The invention provides reagents and methods for conjugating a polymer specifically to the α -amine of a polypeptide. The invention provides monofunctional, bifunctional, and multifunctional PEGs and related polymers having a terminal thioester moiety capable of specifically conjugating to the α -amine of a polypeptide having a cysteine or histidine residue at the N-terminus. The invention provides reactive thioester-terminated PEG polymers that have suitable reactivity with an N-terminal cysteine or histidine residue of a polypeptide to produce an amide bond between the PEG molecule and the polypeptide.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A61K 31/74
 US CL : 424/78.17

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
 U.S. : 424/78.17, 486; 514/2

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
 CAS Online, WEST

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 6,251,382 A (GREENWALD et al) 26 June 2001 (26.06.2001), see entire document	1-28
A	US 5,766,897 A (BRAXTON et al) 16 June 1998 (16.06.1998), see entire document.	1-28
A	US 5,614,549 A (GREENWALD et al) 25 March 1997 (25.03.1997), see entire document.	

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	
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