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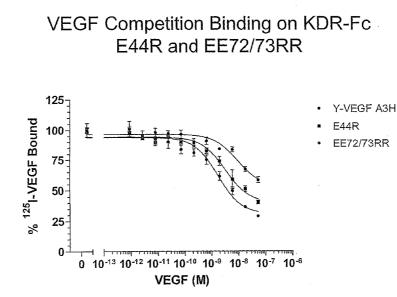


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(57) Abstract: Modified VEGF proteins that inhibit VEGF-mediated activation or proliferation of endothelial cells are disclosed. The analogs may be used to inhibit VEGF-mediated activation of endothelial cells in angiogenesis-associated diseases such as cancer, inflammatory diseases, eye diseases, and skin disorders.

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## **VEGF ANALOGS AND METHODS OF USE**

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# FIELD OF INVENTION

**[0001]** This application relates to the design and use of vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) analogs as VEGF receptor antagonists to inhibit or reduce angiogenesis for the treatment of conditions and diseases associated with angiogenesis. The application also discloses VEGF analogs that exhibit increased receptor binding affinity to native receptors such as KDR.

## **CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

[0002] This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No.
60/723,917, filed October 6, 2005, and U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/808,106, filed
May 25, 2006, which are herein incorporated by reference in their entireties.

# **BACKGROUND OF INVENTION**

**[0003]** Vascular endothelial growth factors (VEGFs) regulate blood and lymphatic vessel development. They are predominantly produced by endothelial, hematopoietic and stromal cells in response to hypoxia and stimulation with growth factors such as transforming growth factors, interleukins and platelet-derived growth factor.

[0004] In mammals, VEGFs are encoded by a family of genes and include VEGF-A, VEGF-B, VEGF-C, VEGF-D and Placenta like Growth Factor (PlGF). Highly related proteins include *orf* virus-encoded VEGF-like proteins referred to as VEGF-E and a series of snake venoms referred to as VEGF-F. VEGFs and VEGF-related proteins are members of

the Platelet Derived Growth Factor (PDGF) supergene family of cystine knot growth factors. All members of the PDGF supergene family share a high degree of structural homology with PDGF (see U.S. Patent Application 09/813,398 which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety).

**[0005]** VEGF-A, VEGF-B and PIGF are predominantly required for blood vessel formation, whereas VEGF-C and VEGF-D are essential for the formation of lymphatic vessels. Angiogenesis is the process by which new blood vessels or lymphatic vessels form by developing from pre-existing vessels. The process is initiated when VEGFs bind to receptors on endothelial cells, signaling activation of endothelial cells. Activated endothelial cells produce enzymes which dissolve tiny holes in the basement membrane surrounding existing vessels. Endothelial cells then begin to proliferate and migrate out through the dissolved holes of the existing vessel to form new vascular tubes (Alberts *et al.*, 1994, Molecular Biology of the Cell. Garland Publishing, Inc., New York, N.Y. 1294 pp.).

[0006] Three type III receptor tyrosine kinases are activated by VEGFs during angiogenesis: *fms*-like tyrosine kinase (Flt-1, also known as VEGFR1), kinase domain receptor or kinase insert domain-containing receptor (KDR, also known as VEGFR2 and Flk-1) and Flt-4 (also known as VEGFR3). KDR is the predominant receptor in angiogenic signaling, whereas Flt-1 is associated with the regulation of blood vessel morphogenesis and Flt-4 regulates lymphangiogenesis. These receptors are expressed almost exclusively on endothelial cells, with a few exceptions such as the expression of Flt-1 in monocytes where it mediates chemotaxis (Barleon *et al.*, 1996, Blood. 87: 3336-3343).

[0007] VEGF receptors are closely related to Fms, Kit and PDGF receptors. They consist of seven extracellular immunoglobulin (Ig)-like domains, a transmembrane (TM) domain, a regulatory juxtamembrane domain, an intracellular tyrosine kinase domain interrupted by a short peptide, the kinase insert domain, followed by a sequence carrying several tyrosine residues involved in recruiting downstream signaling molecules. Mutation analysis of the

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extracellular domains of Flt-1 and KDR show that the second and third Ig-like domains constitute the high-affinity ligand-binding domain for VEGF with the first and fourth Ig domains apparently regulating ligand binding and receptor dimerization, respectively (Davis-Smyth et al., 1998, J. Biol. Chem. 273: 3216-3222; Fuh et al., 1998, J. Biol. Chem. 273: 11197-11204; and Shinkai et al., 1998, J. Biol. Chem. 273: 31283-31288). Receptor tyrosine kinases are activated upon ligand-mediated receptor dimerization (Hubbard, 1991, Prog. Biophys. Mol. Biol. 71: 343-358; Jiang and Hunter, 1999, Curr. Biol. 9: R568-R571; and Lemmon and Schlessinger, 1998, Methods Mol. Biol. 84: 49-71). Signal specificity of VEGF receptors is further modulated upon recruitment of coreceptors, such as neuropilins, heparin sulfate, integrins or cadherins.

[0008] VEGF molecules interact with one or more tyrosine kinase receptors during angiogenesis. For instance, VEGF-A acts predominantly through KDR and Flt-1. VEGF-C and VEGF-D similarly are specific ligands for KDR and VEGFR3. PIGF and VEGF-B are believed to bind only to Flt-1. Viral VEGF-E variants activate KDR. VEGF-F variants interact with either VEGFR3 or KDR.

In addition to the two classical receptors, there are several membrane or soluble [0009] receptors modulating VEGF bioactivity and angiogenesis. For instance, neuropilin-1 and neuropilin-2 interact with both KDR and Flt-1, respectively, stimulating signaling of those receptors. Isoforms of VEGF-A, VEGF-B, PIGF-2 have been shown to bind to neuropilin-1 (Soker et al., 1998, Cell. 92: 735-745; Makinen et al., 1999, J. Biol. Chem. 274: 21217-21222; and Migdal et al., 1998, J. Biol. Chem. 273: 22272-22278). VEGF isoforms capable of interacting of interacting with neuropilin, *i.e.*, those isoforms with exon 7 or 6 and 7, are also capable of interacting with heparin sulfate.

Although VEGF-A is the best characterized of the VEGF proteins, the molecular [0010] basis of the interaction between VEGF-A and KDR and Flt-1 is not well understood. Although VEGFR1 binds VEGF-A with a 50-fold higher affinity than KDR, KDR is 42723 v1/DC

considered to be the major transducer of VEGF-A angiogenic effects, *i.e.*, mitogenicity, chemotaxis and induction of tube formation (Binetruy-Tourniere *et al.*, supra). There is, however, growing evidence that Flt-1 has a significant role in hematopoiesis and in the recruitment of monocytes and other bone-marrow derived cells that may home in on tumor vasculature and promote angiogenesis (Hattori *et al.*, 2002, Nature Med. 8: 841-849; Gerber *et al.*, 2002, Nature. 417: 954-958; and Luttun *et al.*, 2002, Nature Med. 8: 831-840). Further, in some cases Flt-1 is expressed by tumor cells and may mediate a chemotactic signal, thus potentially extending the role of this receptor in cancer growth (Wey *et al.*, 2005, Cancer. 104: 427-438).

[0011] A single VEGF-A homodimer induces dimerization of two KDR receptors and autophosphorylation of their cytoplasmatic portions. Previous studies suggested that by analogy to glycoprotein hormones, the charged amino acid residues in the peripheral loops of VEGF-A are also critical in providing high affinity electrostatic interactions with its respective receptors (Szkudlinski *et al.*, 1996, Nat. Biotechnol. 14(10): 1257-63; Fuh *et al.*, supra; Muller *et al.*, 1997, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 94(14): 7192-7; Keyt *et al.*, 1996, J. Biol. Chem. 271(10): 5638-46). However, it should be noted that many mutations in VEGF-A have no major effect on receptor binding affinity. Mutations in the peripheral loops of VEGF primarily have resulted in loss-of-function. Further, there appear to be no previous amino acid substitutions increasing binding affinity to KDR more than 2-fold.

[0012] Angiogenesis is responsible for beneficial biological events such as wound healing, myocardial infarction repair, and ovulation. On the other hand, angiogenesis is also responsible for causing or contributing to diseases such as growth and metastasis of solid tumors (Isayeva *et al.*, 2004, Int. J. Oncol. 25(2):335-43; Takeda *et al.*, 2002, Ann Surg. Oncol. 9(7):610-16); atherosclerosis; abnormal neovascularization of the eye as seen in diseases such as retinopathy of prematurity, diabetic retinopathy, retinal vein occlusion, and age-related macular degeneration (Yoshida *et al.*, 1999, Histol Histopathol. 14(4):1287-94;

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Aiello, 1997, Ophthalmic Res. 29(5):354-62); chronic inflammatory conditions such as rheumatoid arthritis osteoarthritis, and septic arthritis; neurodegenerative disease (Ferrara, N., 2004, Endocr. Rev. 25: 581-611); placental insufficiency, *i.e.*, preeclampsia (Ferrara, *supra*); and skin diseases such as dermititis, psoriasis, warts, cutaneous malignancy, decubitus ulcers, stasis ulcers, pyogenic granulomas, hemangiomas, Kaposi's sarcoma, hypertrophic scars, and keloids (Arbiser, 1996, J. Am. Acad. Dermatol. 34(3):486-97). During rheumatoid arthritis, for example, endothelial cells become activated and express adhesion molecules and chemokines, leading to leukocyte migration from the blood into the tissue. Endothelial cell permeability increases, leading to edema formation and swelling of the joints (Middleton *et al.*, 2004, Arthritis Res. Ther. 6(2):60-72).

[0013] VEGF, in particular VEGF-A, has been implicated in many of the diseases and conditions associated with increased, decreased, and/or dysregulated angiogenesis (Binetruy-Tourniere et al., 2000, EMBO J. 19(7): 1525-33). For instance, VEGF has been implicated in promoting solid tumor growth and metastasis by stimulating tumor-associated angiogenesis (Lu et al., 2003, J. Biol. Chem. 278(44): 43496-43507). VEGF is also a significant mediator of intraocular neovascularization and permeability. Overexpression of VEGF in transgenic mice results in clinical intraretinal and subretinal neovascularization, and the formation of leaky intraocular blood vessels detectable by angiography, as seen in human eye disease (Miller, 1997, Am. J. Pathol. 151(1): 13-23). Additionally, VEGF has been identified in the peritoneal fluid of women with unexplained infertility and endometriosis (Miedzybrodzki et al., 2001, Ginekol. Pol. 72(5): 427-430), and the overexpression of VEGF in testis and epididymis has been found to cause infertility in transgenic mice (Korpelainen et al., 1998, J. Cell Biol. 143(6): 1705-1712). Recently, VEGF-A has been identified in the synovial fluid and serum of patients with rheumatoid arthritis (RA), and its expression is correlated with disease severity (Clavel et al., 2003, Joint Bone Spine. 70(5): 321-6). Given the involvement of pathogenic angiogenesis in such a

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wide variety of disorders and diseases, inhibition of angiogenesis, and particularly of VEGF signaling, is a desirable therapeutic goal.

Inhibition of angiogenesis and tumor inhibition has been achieved by using agents [0014] that either interrupt VEGF-A and KDR interaction and/or block the KDR signal transduction pathway including: peptides that block binding of VEGF to KDR (Binetruy-Tourniere et al., 2000, EMBO J. 19(7): 1525-33); antibodies to VEGF (Kim et al., 1993, Nature 362, 841-844; Kanai et al., 1998, J. Cancer 77, 933-936; Margolin et al., 2001, J. Clin. Oncol. 19, 851-856); antibodies to KDR (Lu et al., 2003, supra; Zhu et al., 1998, Cancer Res. 58, 3209-3214; Zhu et al. 2003, Leukemia 17, 604-611; Prewett et al., 1999, Cancer Res. 59, 5209-5218); soluble receptors (Holash et al., 2002, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 99, 11393-11398; Clavel et al. supra); tyrosine kinase inhibitors (Fong et al., 1999, Cancer Res. 59, 99-106; Wood et al., 2000, Cancer Res. 60, 2178-2189; Grosios et al., 2004, Inflamm Res. 53(4):133-42); anti-VEGF immunotoxins (Olson et al., 1997, Int. J. Cancer 73, 865-870); ribozymes (Pavco et al., 2000, Clin. Cancer Res. 6, 2094-2103); antisense mediated VEGF suppression (Forster et al., 2004, Cancer Lett. 20;212(1):95-103); RNA interference (Takei et al., 2004, Cancer Res. 64(10):3365-70; Reich et al., 2003, Mol Vis. 9:210-6); and undersulfated, low molecular weight glycol-split heparin (Pisano et al., 2005, Glycobiology. 15(2) 1-6). Some of these treatments, however, have resulted in undesirable side effects. For instance, Genentech's Avastin, a monoclonal antibody that targets VEGF, has been reported to cause an increase in serious arterial thromboembolic events in some colon cancer patients and serious, and in some cases even fatal, hemoptysis in non-small cell lung cancer patients (Ratner, 2004, Nature Biotechnol. 22(10):1198). More recently, Genentech has reported that gastrointestinal perforations were observed in 11% of ovarian cancer patients (5 women out of 44 in trial) treated with Avastin (Genentech Press Release dated September 23, 2005). Similarly, the first VEGF-targeting drug, Pfizer's receptor tyrosine kinase inhibitor SU5416, exhibited severe toxicities that included thromboembolic events,

prompting Pfizer to discontinue development (Ratner, supra). Given the wide variety of patients that stand to benefit from the development of effective anti-angiogenic treatments and the drawbacks of some known anti-angiogenesis treatments, there remains a need for novel anti-angiogenic therapeutics.

## SUMMARY OF INVENTION

[0015] This invention encompasses VEGF analogs and nucleic acids encoding the same, which exhibit strong binding affinity for one or more native VEGF receptors compared to wild-type VEGF. The invention also encompasses VEGF analogs and nucleic acids encoding same, which exhibit a dissociation of receptor binding affinity and bioactivity. Specifically, the *in vivo* and *in vitro* bioactivities of the disclosed analogs are substantially decreased compared to wild-type VEGF, whereas the binding affinity to one or more native receptors is about the same or substantially increased compared to wild-type VEGF. The VEGF analogs may demonstrate at least about a three to four fold increase in receptor binding affinity to a native receptor such as KDR.

In one embodiment of the invention, the VEGF analogs are modified VEGF [0016] homodimers or heterodimers. These molecules contain at least one mutation which can be present in one or both subunits of the VEGF molecule. In one embodiment of the invention, the VEGF analog containing the one or more mutations is VEGF-A. The VEGF-A analog can be any VEGF-A isoform, for instance, an isoform of 121, 145, 148, 165, 183, 189, or 206 amino acids. In one embodiment, the VEGF-A analog of the invention is a  $VEGF_{165}b$ isoform. In another embodiment, the VEGF molecule containing one or more mutations is VEGF-B, VEGF-C, VEGF-D or PIGF.

The present invention includes a VEGF fusion protein containing one or more [0017] mutations in one or more subunits. The VEGF fusion protein of the invention includes at 42723 v1/DC

least one VEGF subunit, *i.e.*, subunit, fused to at least one subunit of a different protein, including, but not limited to, other cystine knot growth factors or glycoproteins. For instance, the invention includes a chimera VEGF analog in which the VEGF molecule contains a VEGF-A subunit fused to a VEGF-B, VEGF-C, VEGF-D, VEGF-E, VEGF-F, PDGF or PIGF subunit; a VEGF-B subunit fused to a VEGF-A, VEGF-C, VEGF-D, VEGF-E, VEGF-F, PDGF or PIGF subunit; a VEGF-C subunit fused to a VEGF-A, VEGF-B, VEGF-D, VEGF-E, VEGF-F, PDGF or PIGF subunit; a VEGF-D subunit fused to a VEGF-A, VEGF-B, VEGF-C, VEGF-E, VEGF-F, PDGF or PIGF subunit; or a PIGF subunit fused to a VEGF-A, VEGF-B, VEGF-C, VEGF-D, VEGF-E, VEGF-F, or PDGF subunit. The subunits may optionally be separated by a linker peptide. The invention also includes different isoforms of the same VEGF fused together, *e.g.*, VEGF<sub>165</sub> subunit fused to VEGF<sub>165</sub>b.

[0018] In one embodiment, the VEGF analog is a single chain molecule. For instance, the VEGF analog of the invention includes two VEGF subunits, *i.e.*, monomers, linked together via a linker peptide. One or both linked subunits can contain one or more basic amino acid substitutions. Further, the linked subunits can be different VEGF protein subunits and can be different isoforms of the same subunit. For instance, the present invention includes a wild-type VEGF<sub>165</sub> subunit linked via a GS linker to a VEGF<sub>165</sub> subunit with a I83K amino acid substitution.

**[0019]** In another embodiment of the invention, a VEGF-A, VEGF-B, VEGF-C, VEGF-D, or PIGF subunit or dimer comprising one or more mutations is fused to a toxin. The peptide of this embodiment can be useful for the targeting and destruction of tumor cells.

[0020] The VEGF analogs of the invention include one or more basic amino acid substitutions, such as lysine or arginine, from the group of positions 44, 67, 72, 73, 83, and 87. In one embodiment of the invention, the VEGF analog contains a basic amino acid substitution at position 83 and optionally one or more basic amino acid substitutions at

positions 44, 67, 72 and 73. For instance, the invention includes a VEGF analog with a I83K mutation. The invention also includes, for instance, a VEGF analog with basic amino acids at positions 72, 73 and 83.

[0021] VEGF analogs with the basic amino acid substitutions described herein may contain additional amino acid substitutions to further increase receptor binding affinity to KDR and/or decrease receptor binding affinity to neuropilin-1. For instance, the invention includes mutations at positions 146 and 160 in the which act to disrupt the neuropilin-1 binding site.

**[0022]** Analogs of the invention can also contain additional amino acid substitutions which confer enhanced stability and increased serum half-life. For instance, the invention includes amino acids substitutions which eliminate proteolytic cleavage sites such substitutions at positions 111 and 148.

**[0023]** The VEGF receptor antagonists of the present invention can exhibit increased plasma half-life as compared to wild-type VEGF. This may be accomplished by further modifying a VEGF analog by methods known in the art to increase half-life or, alternatively, increased plasma half-life may be an inherent characteristic of a VEGF analog. The VEGF receptor antagonists of the invention can also exhibit an increase in rate of absorption and/or decreased duration of action compared to wild-type VEGF.

**[0024]** The modified analogs of the invention act as VEGF receptor antagonists and thus provide a long awaited solution for patients suffering from a wide spectrum of diseases and conditions associated with angiogenesis. The VEGF receptor antagonists can be administered to a patient alone or in conjunction with another VEGF receptor antagonist, an anti-cancer drug, or an anti-angiogenesis drug for the treatment of disease associated with angiogenesis, including but not limited to, solid tumor cancers, hemangiomas, rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, septic arthritis, asthma, atherosclerosis, idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, vascular restenosis, arteriovenous malformations, meningiomas, neovascular

glaucoma, psoriasis, Kaposi's Syndrome, angiofibroma, hemophilic joints, hypertrophic scars, Osler-Weber syndrome, pyogenic granuloma, retrolental fibroplasias, scleroderma, trachoma, von Hippel-Lindau disease, vascular adhesion pathologies, synovitis, dermatitis, neurological degenerative diseases, preeclampsia, unexplained female infertility, endometriosis, unexplained male infertility, pterygium, wounds, sores, skin ulcers, gastric ulcers, and duodenal ulcers.

# **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

[0025] Figure 1A is a graph comparing binding of the I83K mutant and wild-type VEGF-A to KDR. Figure 1B is a graph showing a decrease in proliferation of HUVEC-2 endothelial cells in the presence of the I83K VEGF-A mutant compared to wild-type VEGF-A.

[**0026**] Figure 2A is a graph comparing binding of the E44R analog and wild-type VEGF-A to KDR. Figure 2B is a graph comparing HUVEC-2 cell proliferation in the presence of the E44R VEGF-A analog versus wild-type VEGF-A.

**[0027]** Figure 3A is a graph comparing binding of the E72R+E73R VEGF mutant and wild-type VEGF-A to KDR. Figure 3B is a graph comparing HUVEC-2 cell proliferation in the presence of the E72R+E73R VEGF mutant versus wild-type VEGF-A.

**[0028]** Figure 4 is a graph comparing binding of E44R and EE72/73RR mutants to wild-type VEGF-A.

[0029] Figure 5 is a graph comparing binding of Q87K mutant to wild-type VEGF-A.

[0030] Figure 6 is a graph comparing binding of E67K mutant to wild-type VEGF-A.

## **DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION**

[0031] The present invention provides modified angiogenic growth factors of the vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) family which exhibit surprising activity as VEGF receptor antagonists. As VEGF receptor antagonists, the compounds of the invention have "antiangiogenic" properties. Being "modified" means that, while the protein contains an amino acid sequence which differs from a wild-type VEGF of interest, *i.e.*, human VEGF or animal VEGF, the sequence has not been changed such that it is identical to the known VEGF sequence of other species. The terms "mutated" and "substituted" are used interchangeably herein to refer to modified amino acid residues. The terms "modified VEGF molecules", "modified VEGF proteins", "VEGF analogs", "VEGF receptor antagonists", "VEGF chimeras", "VEGF fusion proteins" and "VEGF single chain molecules" are used interchangeably herein to refer to modified VEGF-A, VEGF-B, VEGF-C, VEGF-D, and PIGF analog molecules.

**[0032]** "Antagonists" are used interchangeably herein to refer to molecules which act to block, inhibit or reduce the natural, biological activities of VEGF, such as the induction of angiogenesis. The term "anti-angiogenic" as used herein means that the modified VEGF molecules of the invention block, inhibit or reduce the process of angiogenesis, or the process by which new blood or lymphatic vessels form from pre-existing vessels. The activities of the VEGF analogs of the invention disrupt normal VEGF/receptor signaling which usually occurs when VEGF binds to a receptor. Accordingly, the analogs of the invention are VEGF receptor antagonists. Without wishing to be bound by a theory, it is believed that the VEGF analogs of the invention disrupt the dimerization of KDR necessary for signaling.

[0033] Inhibition of angiogenesis may be complete or partial. The VEGF receptor antagonist may inhibit angiogenesis at least about 5%, at least about 10%, at least about

20%, at least about 25%, at least about 30%, at least about 40%, at least about 50%, at least about 60%, at least about 70%, at least about 80%, at least about 90%, and at least about 100% *in vitro* and *in vivo*. Inhibition of angiogenesis can be measured by a skilled artisan by methods known in the art. The determination of inhibition of angiogenesis can include the use of negative and/or positive controls. For instance, a skilled artisan can conclude that a VEGF analog of the invention inhibits VEGF-induced angiogenesis by comparing angiogenesis in a subject treated with a VEGF analog of the invention to a similar subject not treated with a VEGF analog.

The modified VEGF molecules of the invention display increased receptor binding [0034] affinity or similar receptor binding affinity to one or more native VEGF receptors compared to that of wild-type VEGF. As used herein, a native VEGF receptor is an unmodified receptor that specifically interacts with VEGF. For instance, an endogenous VEGF receptor is a native VEGF receptor. In one embodiment of the invention, the native receptor is KDR. KDR is a receptor of VEGF-A, VEGF-C, VEGF-D, VEGF-E and VEGF-F. In another embodiment, the native receptor is Flt-1. Flt-1 is a receptor of VEGF-A, VEGF-B and PlGF. "Receptor binding affinity" refers to the ability of a ligand to bind to a receptor in [0035] vivo or in vitro and can be assessed by methods readily available in the art including, but not limited to, competitive binding assays and direct binding assays. As used herein, receptor binding affinity refers to the ability of VEGF molecules to bind to native VEGF receptors, including, but not limited to, Flt-1 (also known as VEGF-R1), KDR (also known as VEGF-R2) and Flt-4 (also known as VEGF-R3). For instance, the modified VEGF-A molecules of the invention display increased binding receptor affinity or similar binding affinity to KDR compared to wild-type VEGF-A. In one embodiment, the increase in receptor binding affinity of the modified VEGF molecules of the invention is at least about 1.25 fold, at least about a 1.5 fold, at least about a 1.75 fold, at least about 2 fold, at least about 3 fold, at least

about 4 fold, at least about 5 fold, at least about 6 fold, at least about 7 fold, at least about 8 fold, at least about 9 fold or at least about 10 fold greater than that of wild-type VEGF. In another embodiment, the modified VEGF exhibits a receptor binding affinity to [0036] KDR and/or other receptor that is involved in angiogenesis that is similar or comparable to that of wild-type VEGF. Similar or comparable receptor binding affinity is at least about 75%, at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 90%, at least about 95%, or at least about 97% or more of that of wild-type VEGF. For instance, the invention includes VEGF-A analogs exhibiting about 75% to 85%, about 85% to 95% and about 95% to 100% the receptor binding affinity exhibited by wild-type VEGF.

The present invention also includes VEGF analogs which display increased or [0037] similar receptor binding affinity to at least one native receptor but display decreased receptor binding affinity to another native receptor. For instance, VEGF-A analogs of the invention may display increased or similar receptor binding affinity to KDR compared to wild-type VEGF-A, but may display decreased receptor binding affinity to Flt-1, neuropilin-1 or neuropilin-2 compared to wild-type VEGF-A.

The VEGF analogs of the invention also display a decrease in bioactivity [0038] compared to wild-type VEGF. "Bioactivity" refers to the natural, biological activities of VEGF in vivo and in vitro, including, but not limited to, the ability of VEGF to induce cell proliferation in endothelial cells. A decrease in bioactivity results in a decrease in angiogenesis. In one embodiment of the invention, the VEGF analogs of the invention display a decrease in bioactivity compared to wild-type VEGF of the same isoform. For instance, a VEGF165 analog of the invention can display a decrease in bioactivity compared to wild-type VEGF<sub>165</sub>, and a VEGF<sub>165</sub>b analog can display a decrease in bioactivity compared to wild-type VEGF<sub>165</sub>b.

Bioactivity can be assessed by several methods known in the art, including, but not [0039] limited to, in vitro cell viability assays which assay the viability of endothelial cells such as 42723 v1/DC

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human umbilical vein endothelial cells (HUVEC) upon exposure to VEGF. A decrease in endothelial cell viability of at least about 5%, at least about 10%, at least about 15%, at least about 20%, at least about 25%, at least about 30%, at least about 35%, at least about 40%, at least about 45%, at least about 50%, at least about 60%, at least about 70%, at least about 80%, at least about 90%, or at least about 95% or more compared to resulting from exposure to wild-type VEGF is indicative of a decrease in bioactivity.

**[0040]** Bioactivity can be assessed *in vivo* as well. For instance, bioactivity can be assessed *in vivo* in a subject with a tumor by detecting a lack of increase in angiogenesis around a tumor. The detection of a lack of increase in angiogenesis can be accomplished by several methods known in the art including, but not limited to, an *in vivo* matrigel migration assay, a disc angiogenesis assay, an assay comprising a dorsal skinfold chamber in mice, a corneal transplant and a sponge implant model of angiogenesis. In one embodiment, angiogenesis is assessed by comparing angiogenesis of and around the tumor to that of a tumor of similar type, size and location in an untreated subject. Biopsy methods as known in the art can be used to extract tissue and analyze for vessel formation.

**[0041]** "Dissociation" of receptor binding affinity and bioactivity refers to the concept that receptor binding affinity and bioactivity are not correlated. In comparison, receptor binding affinity and bioactivity are correlated for wild-type VEGF proteins such as wild-type VEGF-A. An increase in receptor binding ability, for example, would be expected to result in an increase in bioactivity for wild-type VEGF-A. On the other hand, the modified VEGF molecules of the invention demonstrate a similar receptor binding affinity or an increase in receptor binding affinity as compared to wild-type VEGF but a decrease in bioactivity as compared to wild-type VEGF.

**[0042]** Mammalian VEGFs are produced in multiple isoforms due to alternative splicing of a family of related genes. The present invention describes VEGF analogs which

correspond to VEGF isoforms involved in angiogenesis. The VEGF analogs of the present invention can be created using any VEGF isoform unless otherwise indicated.

[0043] VEGF-A can exist in isoforms including, but not limited to, 121, 145, 148, 165, 183, 189, and 206 amino acids, respectively. The three main mRNA species are VEGF<sub>121</sub>, VEGF<sub>165</sub> and VEGF<sub>189</sub>. As used herein, VEGF<sub>121</sub> (SEQ ID NO.: 6), VEGF<sub>145</sub> (SEQ ID NO.: 8), VEGF<sub>148</sub> (SEQ ID NO.: 10), VEGF<sub>165</sub> (SEQ ID NO.: 4), VEGF<sub>165</sub>b (SEQ ID NO.: 13), VEGF<sub>183</sub> (SEQ ID NO.: 15), VEGF<sub>189</sub> (SEQ ID NO.: 17) and VEGF<sub>206</sub> (SEQ ID NO.: 19) are isoforms of VEGF-A capable of being modified to possess anti-angiogenic properties. The amino acid positions described herein are based on a VEGF molecule lacking a leader sequence such as the leader sequence of SEQ ID NO.: 3. The amino acid sequences of VEGF-A isoforms with leader sequence are the sequences of SEQ ID NOs.: 2, 5, 7, 9, 12, 14, 16 and 18.

**[0044]** The various isoforms of VEGF-A share a common amino-terminal domain consisting of 110 amino acids. VEGF-A isoforms have a receptor binding domain encoded by exons 2-5. The most notable difference between the isoforms are found in the neuropilin and heparin binding domains which are encoded by exons 6a, 6b, 7a and 7b.

[0045] The most common VEGF-A isoform is VEGF<sub>165</sub>. The nucleic acid encoding VEGF<sub>165</sub> is the sequence of SEQ ID NO.: 1. Recently, an endogenous splice variant referred to as VEGF<sub>165</sub>b was described which contains sequences encoded by exon 9, instead of exon 8, at the carboxy terminus. The nucleic acid molecule encoding this protein is the sequence of SEQ ID NO.: 11. VEGF<sub>165</sub>b (SEQ ID NO.: 12 with leader sequence; SEQ ID NO.: 13 without leader sequence) inhibited VEGF signaling in endothelial cells when added with VEGF<sub>165</sub> (see Woolard *et al.*, 2004, Cancer Research. 64: 7822-7835; see also U.S. 2005/0054036 which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety).

[0046] In one embodiment of the invention, the VEGF analogs are VEGF-A analogs. VEGF-A analogs include "modified VEGF-A proteins", "VEGF-A receptor antagonists",

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"VEGF-A chimeras", "VEGF-A fusion proteins" and "VEGF-A single chain molecules." A VEGF-A analog is a VEGF-A molecule containing at least one modified VEGF-A subunit. VEGF-B exists in two isoforms, VEGF-B<sub>167</sub> (SEQ ID NO.: 48) and VEGF-B<sub>186</sub> [0047] (SEQ ID NO.: 50) (Makinen et al., 1999, J. Biol. Chem. 274: 21217-21222). In one embodiment of the invention, the VEGF analog is a VEGF-B analog. VEGF-B analogs include "modified VEGF-B proteins", "VEGF-B analogs", "VEGF-B receptor antagonists", "VEGF-B chimeras", "VEGF-B fusion proteins" and "VEGF-B single chain molecules." A VEGF-B analog is a VEGF-B molecule containing at least one modified VEGF-B subunit. VEGF-C is produced as a propeptide (SEQ ID NO.: 51) that is proteolytically [0048] cleaved to form a 21-kd active protein (Nicosia, 1998, Am. J. Path. 153: 11-16). In one embodiment of the invention, the VEGF analog is a VEGF-C analog. VEGF-C analogs include "modified VEGF-C proteins", "VEGF-C analogs", "VEGF-C receptor antagonists", "VEGF-C chimeras", "VEGF-C fusion proteins" and "VEGF-C single chain molecules." A VEGF-C analog is a VEGF-C molecule containing at least one modified VEGF-C subunit. VEGF-D is also produced as a propeptide (SEQ ID NO.: 52) that is proteolytically [0049] cleaved to form an active protein. VEGF-D is 48% identical to VEGF-C (Nicosia, supra). In one embodiment of the invention, the VEGF analog is a VEGF-D analog. VEGF-D analogs include "modified VEGF-D proteins", "VEGF-D analogs", "VEGF-D receptor antagonists", "VEGF-D chimeras", "VEGF-D fusion proteins" and "VEGF-D single chain molecules." A VEGF-D analog is a VEGF-D molecule containing at least one modified VEGF-D subunit.

Placenta growth factor (PlGF) exists in three isoforms, PlGF-1 (SEQ ID NO.: 54), [0050] PIGF-2 (SEQ ID NO.: 56) and PIGF-3 (SEQ ID NO.: 58). PIGF-2 contains an exon 6 encoded peptide which bestows heparin and neuropilin-1 binding properties absent in the other two isoforms. Both PIGF-1 and PIGF-2 have been reported as being capable of inducing endothelial cell migration (Migdal et al., 1998, J. Biol. Chem. 273: 22272-22278). 42723 v1/DC

In one embodiment of the invention, the VEGF analog is a PIGF analog. In another embodiment, the VEGF analog is PIGF-1 or PIGF-2. PIGF analogs include "modified PIGF proteins", "PIGF analogs", "PIGF receptor antagonists", "PIGF chimeras", "PIGF fusion proteins" and " PIGF single chain molecules." PIGF analogs are PIGF molecules with at least one modified PIGF subunit.

[0051] The VEGF analogs of the invention are modified animal or human VEGF molecules. In one embodiment of the invention, the VEGF analogs are mammalian VEGF molecules. In another embodiment of the invention, the VEGF analogs are avian VEGF molecules. The VEGF analogs of the present invention include, but are not limited to, modified primate, canine, feline, bovine, equinine, porcine, ovine, murine, rat and rabbit VEGF molecules. In one embodiment, the animal VEGF analog is a VEGF-A analog. For instance, the animal VEGF-A analog of the invention can be an animal VEGF<sub>165</sub> or VEGF<sub>165</sub>b analog.

**[0052]** The modified VEGF molecules of species other than human have substitutions at positions corresponding to those in the modified human VEGF molecules disclosed herein and may be identified using any alignment program, including but not limited to DNASIS, ALIONment, SIM and GCG programs such as Gap, BestFit, FrameAlign, and Compare. As can be appreciated by one of skill in the art, the corresponding amino acid to be replaced with a basic amino acid may not be identical to the one in human VEGF-A. For instance, a skilled artisan would appreciate that a glutamate (E) may correspond to a different acidic amino acid in an animal such as aspartate (D).

**[0053]** In another embodiment, the corresponding amino acid is identified as being located in the same general position within a defined structure, for instance, on an outer loop structure. The structure of a protein can be predicted using software based on the amino acids of the protein. Accordingly, one of skill in the art can use software that predicts protein folding and loop structure to identify the corresponding position in a related protein.

## [0054] Design of VEGF Receptor Antagonists

**[0055]** The VEGF receptor antagonists encompassed by the present invention may be designed by comparing the amino acid sequences of the VEGF of interest to that of other species to identify basic residues in the proteins of VEGF of other species. For instance, a VEGF-A molecule of instance can be designed by comparing a human VEGF-A to that of another species. Such methods are disclosed in U.S. 6,361,992, which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety. Consideration may also be given to the relative biological activity of VEGF from various species as to which species to choose for comparison and amino acid substitution. Further homology modeling based on the structure of related glycoproteins is useful to identify surface-exposed amino acid residues. Homology modeling can be performed by methods generally know in the art, including, but not limited to, the use of protein modeling computer software.

[0056] The present invention also provides a modified VEGF protein, wherein the modified VEGF comprises an amino acid(s) substituted at a position(s) corresponding to the same amino acid position in a VEGF protein from another species having an increased binding affinity and/or decreased bioactivity over the wild-type VEGF. For example, snake venom VEGF-F binds to KDR with high affinity and strongly stimulates proliferation of vascular endothelial cells *in vitro*. One can compare human VEGF-A to snake venom VEGF, design human VEGF-A proteins with amino acid substitutions at one or more positions where the snake venom and human sequences differ, construct human VEGF-A proteins with the selected changes, and administer the modified human VEGF-A to humans. Although snake venom VEGF-F demonstrates an increase in KDR binding affinity and bioactivity, *i.e.*, binding affinity and bioactivity are correlated, compared to human VEGF, one of skill in the art would understand that amino acid substitutions could be empirically tested to identify amino acid substitutions which increase receptor binding affinity but decrease or have no effect on bioactivity. An amino acid substitution which increases

receptor binding affinity and/or decreases or has no effect on bioactivity may then be combined with one or more other amino acid substitutions known to increase receptor binding affinity and/or decrease bioactivity.

[0057] In another embodiment of the invention, the modified VEGF molecule can contain one or more amino acids substituted at a position(s) corresponding to the same amino acid position in a VEGF homolog that naturally exists in arthropods. In arthropods, a single growth factor performs the tasks performed by PDGF and VEGF in higher organisms. One of skill in the art would understand that amino acid substitutions could be empirically tested to identify amino acid substitutions which increase receptor binding affinity but decrease or have no effect on bioactivity, or, alternatively, have little effect on receptor binding affinity but decrease bioactivity.

Further, the present invention provides a modified VEGF, wherein the modified [0058] VEGF comprises a basic amino acid(s) substituted at a position(s) corresponding to the same amino acid in a different VEGF or VEGF isoform or closely related glycoprotein such as proteins in the PDGF family from the same species or different species. For example, VEGF<sub>165</sub> can be compared to PDGF from the same species and amino acid substitutions made to the VEGF protein based on any sequence divergence. A skilled artisan can compare two or more sequences of VEGF proteins or VEGF-related proteins using methods known in the art such as the use of alignment software, including but not limited to, DNASIS, ALIONment, SIM and GCG programs such as Gap, BestFit, FrameAlign, and Compare. In another aspect of the invention, the amino acid substitutions described herein [0059] can be incorporated into closely related proteins such as VEGF-E (SEQ ID NO.: 60), VEGF-F (SEQ ID NO.: 62) and PDGF (SEQ ID NO.: 63 and SEQ ID NO.: 64). For instance, one or more basic amino acid substitutions selected from the group consisting of E67, E72, E73, 183 and Q87 can be compared to a PDGF isoform from the same species and amino acid substitutions made to the PDGF isoform.

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[0060] The VEGF analogs of the invention may be designed to display a decreased
receptor binding affinity to Flt-1 receptors compared to wild-type VEGF-A. Although these
analogs display a decreased receptor binding affinity to Flt-1, they may have an increased or
comparable receptor binding affinity to KDR compared to wild-type VEGF-A.
[0061] The VEGF analogs of the invention may be designed to display a decreased
receptor binding affinity to co-receptors, including, but not limited to, neuropilin-1 or
neuropilin-2 compared to that of wild-type VEGF. Analogs with decreased receptor binding
affinity to neuropilin-1 or neuropilin-2 may have increased or similar receptor binding
affinity to KDR, Flt-1 or VEGR3 compared to that of wild-type VEGF. For instance,

VEGF-A analogs can be designed which exhibit decreased receptor binding affinity to neuropilin-1 and increased receptor binding affinity to KDR and/or Flt-1. In one embodiment of the invention, the VEGF-A displaying decreased receptor binding affinity to neuropilin-1 is an analog designed in the VEGF<sub>165</sub>b splice variant. In another embodiment, VEGF-B<sub>167</sub> and PIGF-2 analogs can be designed which exhibit decreased receptor binding affinity to Flt-1.

[0062] In one embodiment of the invention, VEGF analogs are designed to exhibit decreased receptor binding affinity to neuropilin-1 or neuropilin-2 compared to wild-type VEGF by disrupting the VEGF neuropilin binding site. This can be accomplished by reducing the number of cysteine amino acid residues in the neuropilin-1 receptor binding domain. For instance, VEGF<sub>165</sub> analogs can be designed to disrupt the neuropilin 1 binding site in VEGF<sub>165</sub> by substituting the cysteine residues at positions 146 and/or 160 of SEQ ID NO.: 4 with amino acids such as serine which cause a disruption of the disulfide bridge. The substitution of cysteine residues at positions 146 and 160 of SEQ ID NO.: 4 disrupts neuropilin-1 binding but does not disrupt heparin binding. Mutations at positions 146 and/or 160 can be coupled with one or more mutations to increase, maintain or restore receptor binding affinity to KDR, Flt-1 and/or VEGFR3 as described herein.

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**[0063]** Similarly, the present invention includes VEGF analogs which exhibit decreased receptor binding affinity to neuropilin-2 compared to wild-type VEGF. For instance, the invention includes VEGF-C and VEGF-D analogs which exhibit reduced binding affinity to neuropilin-2 but increased or similar binding affinity to KDR and/or VEGFR3 compared to wild-type VEGF-C or VEGF-D, respectively.

**[0064]** The invention also includes VEGF analogs which exhibit enhanced stability and resistance to proteases. In one embodiment, amino acids substitutions at positions A111 and A148 of SEQ ID NO.: 4 are incorporated in a VEGF-A analog to improve resistance to proteases. The invention also includes VEGF-C and VEGF-D analogs which contain mutations preventing the cleavage of the VEGF-C propeptide or VEGF-D propeptide, respectively. For instance, the present invention includes VEGF-C and VEGF-D analogs that contain one or more mutations which induce resistance to serine protease plasmin and/or other members of the plasminogen family.

[0065] In another embodiment of the invention, VEGF analogs which exhibit increased receptor binding affinity to one or more VEGF receptors, preferably KDR, can be created in a naturally occurring VEGF molecule which exhibits antagonistic properties. For instance, VEGF<sub>165</sub>b, an isoform isolated from kidney tissue, can be modified to incorporate the amino acid substitutions associated with an increase in receptor binding ability and decrease in bioactivity of the protein. Similarly, a skilled artisan could incorporate the amino acid substitutions of the present invention in synthetic or new isoforms of VEGF which contain the properties of VEGF<sub>165</sub>b. In particular, the mutations of the invention can be used with other VEGF proteins which contain the amino acids SLTRKD (SEQ ID NO.: 70), *i.e.*, the amino acids coded for by what has been termed exon 9, in addition to or in place of the amino acids coded for by exon 8 (CDKPRR; SEQ ID NO.: 71).

# [0066] Amino Acid Substitutions

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[0067] The VEGF analogs of the present invention contain one or more basic amino acid substitutions which confer enhanced receptor binding affinity and decreased bioactivity. In one embodiment of the invention, the VEGF analogs are VEGF receptor antagonists, including but not limited to VEGF-A antagonists.

**[0068]** A modified VEGF molecule of the invention may have a basic amino acid substitution in one or more subunits, *i.e.*, monomers, of VEGF. Basic amino acids comprise the amino acids lysine (K), arginine (R) and histidine (H), and any other basic amino acids which may be a modification of any of these three amino acids, synthetic basic amino acids not normally found in nature, or any other amino acids which are positively charged at a neutral pH. Preferred amino acids, among others, are selected from the group consisting of lysine and arginine.

[0069] In one embodiment, a modified VEGF molecule of the invention comprises at least one modified subunit, wherein the modified subunit comprises a basic amino acid substitution at position I83 of wild-type human VEGF<sub>165</sub> (SEQ ID NO.: 4), VEGF<sub>121</sub> (SEQ ID NO.: 6), VEGF<sub>145</sub> (SEQ ID NO.: 8), VEGF<sub>148</sub> (SEQ ID NO.: 10), VEGF<sub>165</sub>b (SEQ ID NO.: 13), VEGF<sub>183</sub> (SEQ ID NO.: 15), VEGF<sub>189</sub> (SEQ ID NO.: 17) or VEGF<sub>206</sub> (SEQ ID NO.: 19). For instance, the invention includes an I83K amino acid substitution in SEQ ID NOs.: 4, 6, 8, 10, 13, 15, 17 or 19 corresponding to the amino acid sequences of VEGF-A isoforms.

[0070] The invention also includes a basic amino acid substitution in the position
corresponding to position 83 in other VEGF molecules, *i.e.*, VEGF-B, VEGF-C, VEGF-D
and PIGF, such as position I83 of VEGF-B<sub>167</sub> (SEQ ID NO.: 48) or VEGF-B<sub>186</sub> (SEQ ID
NO.: 50) and position I91 of PIGF-1 (SEQ ID NO.: 54), PIGF-2 (SEQ ID NO.: 56) or PIGF-3 (SEQ ID NO.: 58).

[0071] The invention includes modified VEGF molecules in animals other than humans, wherein the VEGF molecule contains, in one or more subunits, a basic amino acid
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substitution in the position corresponding to position 83 in human VEGF-A. In one embodiment, the modified animal VEGF is a modified VEGF-A molecule. For instance, the present invention includes a basic amino acid substitution at position I83 in primate (SEQ ID NO.: 22), position I82 in bovine (SEQ ID NO.: 25), position I82 in canine (SEQ ID NO.: 28), position I83 in chicken (SEQ ID NO.: 31), position I82 in equine (SEQ ID NO.: 182), position I83 in chicken (SEQ ID NO.: 37), position I82 in porcine (SEQ ID NO.: 40), position I82 of rat (SEQ ID NO.: 43) and position I82 in ovine (SEQ ID NO.: 46). **[00721** The invention also envisions a modified VEGE-related protein including but not

[0072] The invention also envisions a modified VEGF-related protein, including, but not limited to VEGF-E, VEGF-F and PDGF, containing an amino acid substitution corresponding to position I83 of SEQ ID NO.: 4. For instance, VEGF-F (SEQ ID NO.: 62) can be modified to include an I83 amino acid substitution.

[0073] The modified VEGF molecule of the invention can contain basic amino acid substitutions which further increase the binding affinity or decrease bioactivity of VEGF compared to wild-type VEGF such as wild-type VEGF-A. VEGF molecules with basic amino acid substitutions at one or more of positions 44, 67, 72, 73 and/or 87 of VEGF<sub>165</sub> (SEQ ID NO.: 4), VEGF<sub>121</sub> (SEQ ID NO.: 6), VEGF<sub>145</sub> (SEQ ID NO.: 8), VEGF<sub>148</sub> (SEQ ID NO.: 10), VEGF<sub>165</sub>b (SEQ ID NO.: 13), VEGF<sub>183</sub> (SEQ ID NO.: 15), VEGF<sub>189</sub> (SEQ ID NO.: 17) and VEGF<sub>206</sub> (SEQ ID NO.: 19) can increase binding affinity for KDR compared to wild-type VEGF. For instance, the invention includes the basic amino acid modifications E44R, E44K, E72R, E72K, E73R, E73K, Q87R, Q87K and E67K.

[0074] In one embodiment of the invention, basic amino substitutions corresponding to positions 44, 67, 72, 73 and/or 87 of SEQ ID NO.: 4 are coupled with the basic amino acid substitution corresponding to position 83 of SEQ ID NO.: 4 to produce a VEGF receptor antagonists. For instance, the modified amino acids of the present invention include basic amino acid substitutions at positions 72+73+83, 44+83, 72+83, 73+83, 44+72+83,

44+73+83, 44+72+73+83, 44+83+87, 83+87, 67+72+73+83; 44+67+83, 67+72+83, 67+73+83, 44+67+72+83, 44+67+73+83, 44+67+72+73+83, 44+67+83+87 and 67+83+87. **[0075]** In another embodiment of the invention, the analog is a VEGF<sub>165</sub>b molecule containing one or more basic amino acids at positions E44, E67, E72, E73 and Q87 and optionally a basic amino acid substitution at position I83. When the VEGF-A isoform is VEGF165b, it is possible to generate a VEGF analog of the invention with increased binding affinity and decreased bioactivity compared to wild-type VEGF-A, including VEGF<sub>165</sub>, by incorporating a single amino acid modification that would otherwise only result in an increase in receptor binding affinity in other VEGF<sub>165</sub>.

[0076] As can be appreciated by a skilled artisan, the invention includes VEGF proteins and VEGF-related proteins other that VEGF-A that contain basic amino acid modifications corresponding to those of positions E44, E67, E72, E73 and/or Q87 of VEGF-A (SEQ ID NO.: 4). For instance, the invention includes a modified VEGF-B analog (SEQ ID NOs.: 48 and 50) containing one or more basic amino acid substitutions at positions A44, E67, G72, . Q73 and S87 and a modified VEGF-F analog (SEQ ID NO.: 62) containing one or more basic amino acid substitutions at positions E44, E67, E72, E73 and Q87.

E72, I82 and Q86 of canine VEGF-A (SEQ ID NO.: 28); one or more basic amino acid substitutions selected from the group of positions E44, E67, D72, V73, I83 and Q87 of avian (chicken) VEGF-A (SEQ ID NO.: 31); one or more basic amino acid substitutions selected from the group of positions E43, E66, A71, E72, I82 and Q86 of equine VEGF-A (SEQ ID NO.: 34); one or more basic amino acid substitutions selected from the group of positions E43, E66, S71, E72, I82 and Q86 of murine VEGF-A (SEQ ID NO.: 37); one or more basic amino acid substitutions selected from the group of positions selected from the group of positions selected from the group of positions etal (SEQ ID NO.: 37); one or more basic amino acid substitutions selected from the group of positions E43, E66, E71, E72, I82 and Q86 of porcine VEGF-A (SEQ ID NO.: 40); one or more basic amino acid substitutions selected from the group of positions etal, E66, S71, E72, I82 and Q86 of rat VEGF-A (SEQ ID NO.: 43); and one or more basic amino acid substitutions selected from the group of positions etal, E66, E71, E72, I82 and Q86 of ovine VEGF-A (SEQ ID NO.: 43); and one or more basic amino acid substitutions selected from the group of positions etal, E66, E71, E72, I82 and Q86 of ovine VEGF-A (SEQ ID NO.: 46).

[0078] VEGF analogs containing containing one or more basic amino acid substitutions can also be combined with amino acid substitutions designed to disrupt a co-receptor binding site. In one embodiment, the VEGF analogs of the invention contain a disrupted neuropilin-1 binding site. The neuropilin-1 binding site comprises amino acids 111 to 165 of VEGF<sub>165</sub> (SEQ ID NO.: 04). This domain overlaps the heparin binding domain encoded by exons 6 and 7. The invention includes any amino acid modifications in or near (*i.e.*, within about 5 amino acids) that disrupt the neuropilin-1 binding site domain but which do not disrupt the ability of the heparin binding domain to bind heparin sulfate. Such amino acid modifications can be determined empirically by a skilled artisan.

[0079] In one embodiment of the invention, the neuropilin-1 binding domain is disrupted by reducing the number of cysteine amino acid residues in the domain, *i.e.*, by reducing the number of cysteine amino acid residues between amino acids 111 to 165 of VEGF-A. For instance, VEGF<sub>165</sub> analogs can be designed to disrupt the neuropilin 1 binding site by substituting the cysteine residues at positions 146 and/or 160 of SEQ ID NO.: 4 with amino acids such as serine which cause a disruption of the disulfide bridge. The substitution of

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cysteine residues at positions 146 and 160 of SEQ ID NO.: 4 disrupts neuropilin-1 binding but does not disrupt heparin binding. The neuropilin-1 binding site can also be disrupted by ending the amino acid peptide at position 146 or 160.

[0080] The invention can also included modifications of amino acids surrounding amino acids at positions 146 and 160 of SEQ ID NO.: 4 such that the cysteine residues of positions 146 and 160 are unable to form a disulfide bridge. For instance, the invention includes, but is not limited to, one or more amino acid substitutions at positions 136 through 165 which are capable of disrupting the formation of a disulfide bridge.

A modified VEGF analog of the invention containing one or more of the basic [0081] amino acid substitutions corresponding to E44, E67, E72, E73, I83 and Q87 of SEQ ID NO .: 4 described herein. For instance, the invention includes VEGF analogs with amino acid substitutions at positions E44B+C146X, E44B+C160X, E44B+C146X+C160X, E67B+C146X, E67B+C160X, E67B+C146X+C160X, E44B+E67B+C146X, E44B+E67B+C160X, E44B+E67B+C146X+C160X, E72B+C146X, E72B+C160X, E72B+C146X+C160X, E73B+C146X, E73B+C160X, E73B+C146X+C160X, E72B+E73B+C146X, E72B+E73B+C160X, E72B+E73B+C146X+C160X, I83B+C146X, I83B+C160X, I83B+C146X+C160X, Q87B+C146X, Q87B+C160X, Q87B+C146X+C160X, E44B+E67B+E72B+C146X, E44B+E67B+E72B+C160X, E44B+E67B+E72+C146X+C160X, E44B+E67B+E73B+C146X, E44B+E67B+E73B+C160X, E44B+E67B+E73B+C146X+C160X, E44B+E67B+E72B+E73B+C146X, E44B+E67B+E72B+E73B+C160X, E44B+E67B+E72B+E73B+C146X+C160X, E67B+E72B+E73B+C146X, E67B+E72B+E73B+C160X, E67B+E72B+E73B+C146X+C160X, E44B+E72B+E73B+C146X, E44B+E72B+E73B+C160X, E44B+E72B+E73B+C146X+C160X, E44B+I83B+C146X, E44B+I83B+C160X, E44B+I83B+C146X+C160X, E67B+I83B+C146X, E67B+I83B+C160X,

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E67B+I83B+C146X+C160X, E44B+E67B+I83B+C146X, E44B+E67B+I83B+C160X, E44B+E67B+I83B+C146X+C160X, E72B+I83B+C146X, E72B+I83B+C160X, E72B+I83B+C146X+C160X, E73B+I83B+C146X, E72B+E73B+I83B+C160X, E73B+I83B+C146X+C160X, E72B+E73B+I83B+C146X, E72B+E73B+I83B+C160X, E72B+E73B+I83B+C146X+C160X, I83B+Q87B+C146X, I83B+Q87B+C160X, E72B+E73B+I83B+C146X+C160X, E44B+E67B+E72B+I83B+C146X, E44B+E67B+E72B+I83B+C160X, E44B+E67B+E72B+I83B+C146X+C160X, E44B+E67B+E73B+I83B+C146X, E44B+E67B+E72B+I83B+C160X, E44B+E67B+E73B+I83B+C146X, E44B+E67B+E73B+I83B+C160X, E44B+E67B+E73B+I83B+C146X+C160X, E44B+E67B+E72B+E73B+I83B+C146X, E44B+E67B+E73B+I83B+C146X+C160X, E44B+E67B+E72B+E73B+I83B+C146X, E44B+E67B+E73B+I83B+C146X+C160X, E44B+E67B+E72B+E73B+I83B+C146X, E44B+E67B+E73B+I83B+C146X+C160X, E44B+E67B+E72B+E73B+I83B+C146X, E44B+E67B+E72B+E73B+I83B+C146X+C160X, E44B+E67B+E72B+E73B+I83B+C146X, E44B+E67B+E72B+E73B+I83B+C146X+C160X, E67B+E72B+E73B+I83B+C146X,

E67B+E72B+E73B+I83B+C160X, E67B+E72B+E73B+I83B+C146X+C160X, E44B+E72B+E73B+I83B+C146X, E44B+E72B+E73B+I83B+C160X and E44B+E72B+E73B+I83B+C146X+C160X, wherein B is a basic amino acid and X is any amino acid other than cysteine. In one embodiment, X is serine.

**[0082]** The modified proteins of the invention may also contain further substitutions, particularly conservative substitutions that do not alter the enhanced properties of the protein. Typically, however, such modified proteins will contain less than five substitutions at positions other than those listed above, and may exhibit complete amino acid sequence identity with the corresponding wild-type VEGF subunits in positions other that the positions listed above.

[0083] As can be appreciated by a skilled artisan, all amino acid substitutions and peptide modifications disclosed in the present invention can be incorporated in any VEGF protein or related protein, regardless of species, because of the high degree of homology between VEGF proteins and related proteins. A skilled artisan can correlate the amino acid

substitutions described herein using methods known in the art, including, but not limited to, the use of amino acid sequence alignment software.

# [0084] VEGF Analogs with Increased Serum Half-Life

[0085] The VEGF analogs of the invention may have an increased plasma half-life as compared to wild-type VEGF. In one embodiment, the modification(s) which increases or maintains receptor binding affinity and decreases bioactivity as compared to wild-type VEGF also increases the plasma half-life of the VEGF as compared to wild-type VEGF. In another embodiment, the modified VEGF proteins of the invention are further modified such that the plasma half-life is increased as compared to wild type VEGF.

[0086] There are many modifications known in the art that can be used to increase the half-life of proteins, in particular glycoproteins. For instance, the modified VEGF proteins of the invention may further comprise at least one sequence with a potential glycosylation site including sequences comprising N-glycosylation and/or O-glycosylation sites on either the alpha or beta chain. Sequences providing potential glycosylation recognition sites may be either an N-terminal or C-terminal extension on either subunit. Exemplary modified proteins contain an N-terminal extension on a subunit that is selected from the group consisting of ANITV (SEQ ID NO.: 72) and ANITVNITV (SEQ ID NO.: 73). [0087] Increased half-life may also be provided by the use of a peptide extensions such as a carboxyl terminal extension peptide of hCG. See US 09/519,728 which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety. A subunit of a VEGF analog may be covalently bound by any method known in the art to a CTEP, *e.g.*, by a peptide bond or by a heterobifunctional reagent able to form a covalent bond between the amino terminus and carboxyl terminus of a protein, including but not limited to a peptide linker.

[0088] In another embodiment of the invention, the basic amino acid substitutions of the invention are coupled with one or more amino acid substitutions that enhance stability and

increase serum half-life by eliminating one or more proteolytic cleavage sites. In one embodiment, the additional amino acid substitutions reduce proteolytic cleavage. In another embodiment, the additional amino acid substitutions prevent proteolytic cleavage. The invention includes VEGF analogs that contain one or more mutations which induce resistance to plasmin and other members of the plasminogen family. In one embodiment of the invention, at least one subunit of a VEGF molecule contains an amino acid substitution corresponding to amino acid positions A111 and/or A148 such as A111P and/or A148Pof VEGF<sub>165</sub> (SEQ ID NO.: 4) or VEGF165b (SEQ ID NO.: 13). For instance, the invention includes VEGF<sub>121</sub>, VEGF<sub>145</sub>, VEGF<sub>148</sub>, VEGF<sub>183</sub>, VEGF<sub>189</sub> and VEGF<sub>206</sub> containing an amino acid substitution at position A111. The invention includes one or more mutations in VEGF-B, VEGF-C, VEGF-D and PIGF which inhibit or reduce protease cleavage. For instance, the invention includes amino acid substitutions which prevent the cleavage of VEGF-C and VEGF-D necessary for bioactivity.

**[0089]** In another embodiment, half-life can be increased by linking VEGF monomers and by constructing fusion proteins. Increasing the size of a VEGF analog without interfering with binding sites can increase the half-life of the molecule.

[0090] Increased half-life may be provided by crosslinking, including but not limited to pegylation or conjugation of other appropriate chemical groups. Such methods are known in the art, for instance as described in U.S. Patent 5,612,034, U.S. Patent 6,225,449, and U.S. Patent 6,555,660, each of which is incorporated by reference in its entirety. Half-life may also be increased by increasing the number of negatively charged residues within the molecule, for instance, the number of glutamate and/or aspartate residues. Such alteration may be accomplished by site directed mutagenesis or by an insertion of an amino acid sequence containing one or more negatively charged residues into said modified VEGF, including insertions selected from the group consisting of GEFT and GEFTT, among others.

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**[0091]** The half-life of a protein is a measurement of protein stability and indicates the time necessary for a one-half reduction in the concentration of the protein. The serum half-life of the modified VEGF molecules described herein may be determined by any method suitable for measuring VEGF levels in samples from a subject over time, for example, but not limited to, immunoassays using anti-VEGF antibodies to measure VEGF levels in serum samples taken over a period of time after administration of the modified VEGF, or by detection of labeled VEGF molecules, *i.e.*, radiolabeled molecules, in samples taken from a subject after administration of the labeled VEGF.

[0092] The rate of absorption of a VEGF analog of the present invention may result in increased or decreased duration of action. A VEGF analog with an increased rate of absorption and decreased duration of action may be beneficial for patients receiving a VEGF analog pharmaceutical composition by way of subcutaneous administration or other route of administration generally associated with a slow rate of absorption and/or increased duration of action by counteracting the absorption qualities associated with the route of administration.

## [0093] Linker

[0094] The VEGF analog of the invention can contain two or more monomers separated by a linker peptide. A linker peptide can be used to form a VEGF analog in a single chain conformation. A skilled artisan can appreciate that various types of linkers can be used in the present invention to form a VEGF single chain molecule that is capable of binding a VEGF receptor and which acts as a VEGF receptor antagonist. A linker peptide should not hinder the ability of the single chain molecule to bind a VEGF receptor.

[0095] The linker peptide can range from about 2 to about 50 or more amino acids in length. For instance, the linker can consist of about 2 amino acids, about 3 amino acids, about 4 amino acids, about 5 amino acids, about 6 amino acids, about 7 amino acids, about 8

amino acids, about 9 amino acids, about 10 amino acids, about 10-15 amino acids, or about 15-20 amino acids. In one embodiment of the invention, the linker is Gly-Ser or contains Gly-Ser. In another embodiment, the linker is a glycine-rich polypeptide chain. **[0096]** VEGF molecules containing a linker can be constructed using the methods described herein. A skilled artisan would be able to appreciate that VEGF analog molecules of the invention containing linker peptides can include any of the mutations described herein, in one or more monomers. Further, a VEGF analog containing one or more linker peptides can link more than one type of VEGF protein or isoform. For instance, the present invention includes, but is not limited to, a modified VEGF single chain molecule with a wild-type VEGF<sub>165</sub> monomer linked to a modified VEGF<sub>165</sub> b containing an I83B substitution; and a modified VEGF<sub>165</sub> monomer fused to a modified VEGF-F monomer.

## [0097] VEGF Fusion Proteins

**[0098]** The present invention also includes fusion proteins, *i.e.*, chimeras, containing one or more modified VEGF proteins or fragments. "Fusion protein" and "chimera" are used interchangeably herein. As used herein, a VEGF moiety is a VEGF protein or protein fragment containing one or more of the basic amino acid substitutions of the invention. A VEGF fusion protein can have one or more VEGF moieties.

[0099] Such a fusion protein may be made by ligating the appropriate nucleic acid sequences encoding the desired amino acid sequences to each other by methods known in the art, in the proper coding frame, and expressing the fusion protein by any of the means described herein. Alternatively, such a fusion protein may be made by protein synthesis techniques, for example, using a peptide synthesizer.

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[00100] The fusion protein of the invention contains at least one VEGF protein or protein fragment containing one or more basic amino acid substitutions described herein. In one embodiment the fusion protein contains a basic amino acid substitution at position 183 of VEGF<sub>165</sub> (SEQ ID NO. 4), VEGF<sub>165</sub>b (SEQ ID NO. 13), VEGF<sub>121</sub> (SEQ ID NO.: 6), VEGF145 (SEQ ID NO.: 8), VEGF148 (SEQ ID NO.: 10), VEGF183 (SEQ ID NO.: 15), VEGF<sub>189</sub> (SEQ ID NO.: 17) or VEGF<sub>206</sub> (SEQ ID NO.: 19). In another embodiment, the fusion protein contains at least one basic amino acid substitution at a position corresponding to I83K of SEQ ID NO.: 4 in another VEGF protein, for instance, an isoform of VEGF-B, VEGF-C, VEGF-D or PIGF. As can be appreciated by a skilled artisan, human or animal VEGF proteins or fragments thereof may be used for the fusion proteins of the invention. [00101] In one embodiment of the invention, two different VEGF protein subunits or fragments thereof are fused. For instance, the invention includes a VEGF-A subunit or fragment thereof fused to a VEGF-B subunit or fragment thereof, a VEGF-C subunit or fragment thereof, a VEGF-D subunit or fragment thereof, or a PIGF subunit or fragment thereof; a VEGF-B subunit or fragment thereof fused to a VEGF-A subunit or fragment thereof, a VEGF-C subunit or fragment thereof, a VEGF-D subunit or fragment thereof, or a PlGF subunit or fragment thereof; a VEGF-C subunit or fragment thereof fused to a VEGF-A subunit or fragment thereof, a VEGF-B subunit or fragment thereof, a VEGF-D subunit or fragment thereof, or a PIGF subunit or fragment thereof; a VEGF-D subunit or fragment thereof fused to a VEGF-A subunit or fragment thereof, a VEGF-B subunit or fragment thereof, a VEGF-C subunit or fragment thereof, or a PIGF subunit or fragment thereof; and a PIGF subunit or fragment thereof fused to a VEGF-A subunit or fragment thereof, a VEGF-B subunit or fragment thereof, a VEGF-C subunit or fragment thereof, or a VEGF-D subunit or fragment thereof.

[00102] The invention includes fusion proteins comprised of two or more different isoforms of the same VEGF protein or fragments thereof. For instance, the invention 42723 v1/DC

includes a fusion protein comprised of a VEGF<sub>165</sub> subunit or fragment thereof fused to a VEGF<sub>121</sub> subunit or fragment thereof, a VEGF<sub>145</sub> subunit or fragment thereof, a VEGF<sub>183</sub> subunit or fragment or subunit thereof, a VEGF<sub>165</sub>b subunit or fragment thereof, a VEGF<sub>183</sub> subunit or fragment thereof, a VEGF<sub>189</sub> subunit or fragment thereof, or a VEGF<sub>206</sub> subunit or fragment thereof. The invention also includes a a VEGF<sub>165</sub>b subunit or fragment thereof, a VEGF<sub>121</sub> subunit or fragment thereof, a VEGF<sub>145</sub> subunit or fragment thereof, a VEGF<sub>121</sub> subunit or fragment thereof, a VEGF<sub>145</sub> subunit or fragment thereof, a VEGF<sub>148</sub> subunit or fragment thereof, a VEGF<sub>148</sub> subunit or fragment or subunit thereof, a VEGF<sub>165</sub> subunit or fragment thereof, a VEGF<sub>148</sub> subunit or fragment thereof, a VEGF<sub>189</sub> subunit or fragment thereof, a VEGF<sub>165</sub> subunit or fragment thereof, a VEGF<sub>148</sub> subunit or fragment thereof.

[00103] The basic amino acid substitutions of the invention may be present in one or more subunits of the protein. For example, a fusion protein containing a VEGF<sub>165</sub> subunit and VEGF<sub>165</sub> b subunit may only contain an amino acid substitution in the VEGF<sub>165</sub> subunit. The invention includes a wild-type VEGF<sub>165</sub> subunit fused by way of a GS linker to a VEGF<sub>165</sub> containing an I83K amino acid substitution. As can be appreciated by one of skill in the art, the fusion proteins of the present invention containing one mutated subunit can be created in both orientations, *i.e.*, the subunit containing the mutation can be at either the N- or C-terminus of the fusion protein.

**[00104]** In another embodiment of the invention, a VEGF subunit or fragment thereof is fused to a related protein subunit or fragment thereof. For instance, a VEGF subunit or fragment thereof can be fused to a PDGF subunit or other glycoprotein subunit or fragment thereof.

**[00105]** As can be appreciated by one of ordinary skill in the art, the fusion proteins described herein can be constructed using human or animal VEGF sequences. Further, a fusion protein can be constructed using a human VEGF subunit fused to an animal VEGF subunit.

**[00106]** A VEGF fusion protein should be understood to be a VEGF analog. All modifications disclosed herein, for instance, modifications to further increase receptor binding affinity, modifications to increase half-life and stability, modifications to reduce or inhibit protease cleavage, and modifications to disrupt a co-receptor binding site such as a neuropilin-1 binding site can be incorporated in one or more subunits of the VEGF fusion protein.

[00107] The fusion proteins of the invention can also contain a linker separating the two or more VEGF subunits or VEGF-related protein subunits. The linker can be covalently linked to and between the peptides of the fusion protein.

# [00108] VEGF and Toxin Fusion Proteins

**[00109]** The present invention provides fusion proteins comprising a toxin and one or more modified VEGF subunits, *i.e.*, monomers, containing one or more of the basic amino acid substitutions described herein. For instance, the VEGF monomer, *i.e.*, subunit, of a VEGF-toxin fusion protein can contain a basic amino acid at one or more amino acid positions corresponding to the amino acid positions from the group consisting of 44, 67, 72, 73, 83 and 87 (SEQ ID NO.: 4 or SEQ ID NO.: 13). The VEGF and toxin fusion proteins of the invention may optionally contain a linker sequence separating the toxin and one or more VEGF subunits.

**[00110]** As used herein, the term "toxin" refers to a poisonous substance of biological origin. The toxin of the invention may be a soluble toxin as known in the art. The fusion proteins comprising a soluble toxin may be used to target tumors. Such fusion proteins may also be used for diagnostic purposes.

[00111] Examples of toxins include, but are not limited to, Pseudomonas exotoxins (PE), Diphtheria toxins (DT), ricin toxin, abrin toxin, anthrax toxins, shiga toxin, botulism toxin, tetanus toxin, cholera toxin, maitotoxin, palytoxin, ciguatoxin, textilotoxin, batrachotoxin,

alpha conotoxin, taipoxin, tetrodotoxin, alpha tityustoxin, saxitoxin, anatoxin, microcystin, aconitine, exfoliatin toxins A and B, enterotoxins, toxic shock syndrome toxin (TSST-1), *Y*. *pestis* toxin, gas gangrene toxin, and others.

**[00112]** In one embodiment, the present invention provides a pharmaceutical composition comprising a soluble toxin fused to a modified VEGF and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. In another embodiment, the present invention provides the use of a modified VEGF fusion protein comprising a soluble toxin for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of diseases or conditions associated with angiogenesis.

**[00113]** Without wishing to be bound by a theory, it is believed that the VEGF-toxin fusion protein of the invention prevents or reduces angiogenesis, the growth of tumors and/or the spread of cancer by targeting and killing the VEGF receptor and surrounding endothelial and tumor cells.

# [00114] Expression and/or Synthesis of VEGF Receptor Antagonists

[00115] The present invention includes nucleic acids encoding the modified VEGF proteins of the invention, as well as vectors and host cells for expressing the nucleic acids.
[00116] As used herein, the terms "nucleic acid" or "polynucleotide" refer to deoxyribonucleotides or ribonucleotides and polymers thereof in either single or double stranded form. The invention includes a nucleic acid molecule which codes for a modified VEGF molecule of the invention. For instance, the invention includes a nucleic acid molecule of SEQ ID NO.: 1 which codes for wild-type VEGF<sub>165</sub> can be mutated by methods known in the art such that the mutated VEGF<sub>165</sub> nucleic acid molecule codes for the modified protein.

VEGF<sub>165</sub>b can be mutated by methods known in the art such that it codes for a VEGF<sub>165</sub>b molecule of the invention.

[00117] Once a nucleic acid encoding a particular modified VEGF of interest, or a region of that nucleic acid encoding a portion of the protein containing a basic amino acid substitution, is constructed, modified, or isolated, that nucleic acid can then be cloned into an appropriate vector, which can direct the in vivo or in vitro synthesis of the modified VEGF protein. Alternatively, the nucleic acid encoding a VEGF analog of the invention may be cloned or modified directly in the expression vector of interest. The vector is contemplated to have the necessary functional elements that direct and regulate transcription of the inserted gene, or hybrid gene. These functional elements include, but are not limited to, a promoter, regions upstream or downstream of the promoter, such as enhancers that may regulate the transcriptional activity of the promoter, an origin of replication, appropriate restriction sites to facilitate cloning of inserts adjacent to the promoter, antibiotic resistance genes or other markers which can serve to select for cells containing the vector or the vector containing the insert, RNA splice junctions, a transcription termination region, or any other region which may serve to facilitate the expression of the inserted gene or hybrid gene. (See generally, Sambrook et al., Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual, 2nd ed. (1989)). Appropriate promoters for the expression of nucleic acids in different host cells are well known in the art, and are readily interchanged depending on the vector-host system used for expression. Exemplary vectors and host cells are described in U.S. 6,361,992, which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety.

[00118] There are numerous *E. coli* (*Escherichia coli*) expression vectors known to one of ordinary skill in the art which are useful for the expression of the nucleic acid insert. Other vectors suitable for use include expression vectors from bacilli, such as *Bacillus subtilis*, and other enterobacteriaceae, such as *Salmonella, Serratia*, and various *Pseudomonas* species. These expression vectors will typically contain expression control sequences compatible with the host cell (*e.g.*, an origin of replication). In addition, any number of a variety of well-known promoters will be present, such as the lactose promoter system, a tryptophan

(Trp) promoter system, a beta-lactamase promoter system, or a promoter system from phage lambda. The promoters will typically control expression, optionally with an operator sequence, and have ribosome binding site sequences for example, for initiating and completing transcription and translation. If necessary, an amino terminal methionine can be provided by insertion of a Met codon 5' and in-frame with the downstream nucleic acid insert. Also, the carboxy-terminal extension of the nucleic acid insert can be removed using standard oligonucleotide mutagenesis procedures.

[00119] Additionally, yeast expression systems can be used. There are several advantages to yeast expression systems. First, evidence exists that proteins produced in a yeast secretion systems exhibit correct disulfide pairing. Second, post-translational glycosylation is efficiently carried out by yeast secretory systems. The Saccharomyces cerevisiae pre-proalpha-factor leader region (encoded by the MF"-1 gene) is routinely used to direct protein secretion from yeast. (Brake, et al., " varies-Factor-Directed Synthesis and Secretion of Mature Foreign Proteins in Saccharomyces cerevisiae." Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci., 81:4642-4646 (1984)). The leader region of pre-pro-alpha-factor contains a signal peptide and a prosegment which includes a recognition sequence for a yeast protease encoded by the KEX2 gene. This enzyme cleaves the precursor protein on the carboxyl side of a Lys-Arg dipeptide cleavage signal sequence. The VEGF coding sequence can be fused in-frame to the pre-proalpha-factor leader region. This construct is then put under the control of a strong transcription promoter, such as the alcohol dehydrogenase I promoter or a glycolytic promoter. The nucleic acid coding sequence is followed by a translation termination codon which is followed by transcription termination signals. Alternatively, the nucleic acid coding sequences can be fused to a second protein coding sequence, such as Sj26 or betagalactosidase, which may be used to facilitate purification of the fusion protein by affinity chromatography. The insertion of protease cleavage sites to separate the components of the fusion protein is applicable to constructs used for expression in yeast. Efficient post-

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translational glycosolation and expression of recombinant proteins can also be achieved in Baculovirus systems.

[00120] Mammalian cells permit the expression of proteins in an environment that favors important post-translational modifications such as folding and cysteine pairing, addition of complex carbohydrate structures, and secretion of active protein. Vectors useful for the expression of active proteins in mammalian cells are characterized by insertion of the protein coding sequence between a strong viral or other promoter and a polyadenylation signal. The vectors can contain genes conferring hygromycin resistance, gentamicin resistance, or other genes or phenotypes suitable for use as selectable markers, or methotrexate resistance for gene amplification. The chimeric protein coding sequence can be introduced into a Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) cell line using a methotrexate resistance-encoding vector, or other cell lines using suitable selection markers. Presence of the vector DNA in transformed cells can be confirmed by Southern blot analysis. Production of RNA corresponding to the insert coding sequence can be confirmed by Northern blot analysis. A number of other suitable host cell lines capable of secreting intact human proteins have been developed in the art, and include the CHO cell lines, HeLa cells, myeloma cell lines, Jurkat cells, etc. Expression vectors for these cells can include expression control sequences, such as an origin of replication, a promoter, an enhancer, and necessary information processing sites, such as ribosome binding sites, RNA splice sites, polyadenylation sites, and transcriptional terminator sequences. Exemplary expression control sequences are promoters derived from immunoglobulin genes, SV40, Adenovirus, Bovine Papilloma Virus, etc. The vectors containing the nucleic acid segments of interest can be transferred into the host cell by wellknown methods, which vary depending on the type of cellular host. For example, calcium chloride transformation is commonly utilized for prokaryotic cells, whereas calcium phosphate, DEAE dextran, or lipofectin mediated transfection or electroporation may be used for other cellular hosts.

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[00121] Expression of the gene or hybrid gene can be either *in vivo* or *in vitro*. *In vivo* synthesis comprises transforming prokaryotic or eukaryotic cells that can serve as host cells for the vector. For instance, techniques for transforming fungi are well known in the literature, and have been described, for instance, by Beggs (ibid.), Hinnen *et al.* (Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 75: 1929-1933, 1978), Yelton *et al.*, (Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 81: 1740-1747, 1984), and Russell (Nature 301: 167-169, 1983). Other techniques for introducing cloned DNA sequences into fungal cells, such as electroporation (Becker and Guarente, Methods in Enzymol. 194: 182-187, 1991) may be used. The genotype of the host cell will generally contain a genetic defect that is complemented by the selectable marker present on the expression vector. Choice of a particular host and selectable marker is well within the level of ordinary skill in the art.

**[00122]** Cloned DNA sequences comprising modified VEGF and VEGF fusion proteins of the invention may be introduced into cultured mammalian cells by, for example, calcium phosphate-mediated transfection (Wigler *et al.*, Cell 14: 725, 1978; Corsaro and Pearson, Somatic Cell Genetics 7: 603, 1981; Graham and Van der Eb, Virology 52: 456, 1973.) Other techniques for introducing cloned DNA sequences into mammalian cells, such as electroporation (Neumann *et al.*, EMBO J. 1: 841-845, 1982), or lipofection may also be used. In order to identify cells that have integrated the cloned DNA, a selectable marker is generally introduced into the cells along with the gene or cDNA of interest. Preferred selectable markers for use in cultured mammalian cells include genes that confer resistance to drugs, such as neomycin, hygromycin, and methotrexate. The selectable marker may be an amplifiable selectable marker. A preferred amplifiable selectable marker is the DHFR gene. A particularly preferred amplifiable marker is the DHFR<sup>r</sup> (see U.S. Patent 6,291,212) cDNA (Simonsen and Levinson, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 80: 2495-2499, 1983). Selectable markers are reviewed by Thilly (Mammalian Cell Technology, Butterworth

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Publishers, Stoneham, Mass.) and the choice of selectable markers is well within the level of ordinary skill in the art.

[00123] Alternatively, expression of the gene can occur in an *in vitro* expression system. For example, *in vitro* transcription systems are commercially available which are routinely used to synthesize relatively large amounts of mRNA. In such *in vitro* transcription systems, the nucleic acid encoding the modified VEGF would be cloned into an expression vector adjacent to a transcription promoter. For example, the Bluescript II cloning and expression vectors contain multiple cloning sites which are flanked by strong prokaryotic transcription promoters. (Stratagene Cloning Systems, La Jolla, Cailf.). Kits are available which contain all the necessary reagents for *in vitro* synthesis of an RNA from a DNA template such as the Bluescript vectors. (Stratagene Cloning Systems, La Jolla, Cailf.). RNA produced *in vitro* by a system such as this can then be translated *in vitro* to produce the desired VEGF analog (Stratagene Cloning Systems, La Jolla, Cailf.).

[00124] Another method of producing a VEGF receptor antagonist is to link two peptides or polypeptides together by protein chemistry techniques. Peptides or polypeptides can be chemically synthesized using currently available laboratory equipment using either Fmoc (9fluorenylmethyloxycarbonyl) or Boc (tert-butyloxycarbonoyl) chemistry. (Applied Biosystems, Inc., Foster City, Cailf.). One skilled in the art can readily appreciate that a peptide or polypeptide corresponding to a hybrid VEGF protein can be synthesized by standard chemical reactions. For example, a peptide or polypeptide can be synthesized and not cleaved from its synthesis resin whereas the other fragment of a hybrid peptide can be synthesized and subsequently cleaved from the resin, thereby exposing a terminal group which is functionally blocked on the other fragment. By peptide condensation reactions, these two fragments can be covalently joined via a peptide bond at their carboxyl and amino termini, respectively, to form a hybrid peptide. (Grant, G. A., "Synthetic Peptides: A User Guide," W. H. Freeman and Co., N.Y. (1992) and Bodansky, M and Trost, B., Ed.,

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"Principles of Peptide Synthesis," Springer-Verlag Inc., N.Y. (1993)). Alternatively, the peptide or polypeptide can by independently synthesized *in vivo* as described above. Once isolated, these independent peptides or polypeptides may be linked to form a VEGF via similar peptide condensation reactions. For example, enzymatic or chemical ligation of cloned or synthetic peptide segments can allow relatively short peptide fragments to be joined to produce larger peptide fragments, polypeptides or whole protein domains (Abrahmsen, L., *et al.*, Biochemistry, 30:4151 (1991); Dawson, *et al.*, "Synthesis of Proteins by Native Chemical Ligation," Science, 266:776-779 (1994)).

[00125] The invention also provides fragments of modified VEGF which have antagonist activity. The polypeptide fragments of the present invention can be recombinant proteins obtained by cloning nucleic acids encoding the peptides in an expression system capable of producing the peptides. For example, amino or carboxy-terminal amino acids can be sequentially removed from either the native or the VEGF protein and the respective activity tested in one of many available assays described above. In another example, the modified proteins of the invention may have a portion of either amino terminal or carboxy terminal amino acids, or even an internal region of the protein, replaced with a polypeptide fragment or other moiety, such as biotin, which can facilitate in the purification of the modified VEGF. For example, a modified VEGF can be fused to a maltose binding protein, through either peptide chemistry of cloning the respective nucleic acids encoding the two polypeptide fragments into an expression vector such that the expression of the coding region results in a hybrid polypeptide. The hybrid polypeptide can be affinity purified by passing it over an amylose affinity column, and the modified VEGF can then be separated from the maltose binding region by cleaving the hybrid polypeptide with the specific protease factor Xa. (See, for example, New England Biolabs Product Catalog, 1996, pg. 164).

[00126] The VEGF analog of the invention can be a heterodimer or a homodimer. In one embodiment, the VEGF analog is a fusion protein containing one or more VEGF subunits.

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The VEGF fusion protein of the invention can be a single chain protein containing two or more VEGF subunits separated by linking peptides. In another embodiment, the VEGF analog of the invention is a fusion protein containing one or more VEGF subunits fused to a toxin. The VEGF analog and VEGF analog fusion protein of the invention can be isolated and purified by means known in the art.

**[00127]** All of the VEGF analogs of the invention contain at least one basic amino acid substitution in at least one VEGF subunit. In one embodiment of the invention, the VEGF analogs of the invention contain at least two basic amino acid substitutions, at least 3 basic amino acid substitutions, at least 4 basic amino acid substitutions or at least 5 basic amino acid substitutions in at least one or at least two VEGF subunits.

[00128] The invention includes VEGF analogs containing VEGF active fragments, *i.e.*, peptides that are not full length proteins. Active fragments of the modified VEGF of the invention can also be synthesized directly or obtained by chemical or mechanical disruption of larger modified VEGF protein. An active fragment is defined as an amino acid sequence of at least about 5 consecutive amino acids, at least 10 consecutive amino acids, at least 20 consecutive amino acids, at least 30 consecutive amino acids, at least 40 consecutive amino acids, at least 50 consecutive amino acids, at least 60 consecutive amino acids, at least 70 consecutive amino acids, at least 80 consecutive amino acids, at least 90 consecutive amino acids, at least 100 consecutive amino acids, at least 110 consecutive amino acids, at least 120 consecutive amino acids, at least 130 consecutive amino acids, at least 140 consecutive amino acids, at least 150 consecutive amino acids, or at least 160 consecutive amino acids derived from the natural amino acid sequence, which has the relevant activity, e.g., binding or regulatory activity. The fragments, whether attached to other sequences or not, can also include insertions, deletions, substitutions, or other selected modifications of particular regions or specific amino acids residues, provided the activity of the peptide is not significantly altered or impaired compared to the modified VEGF. These modifications can

provide for some additional property, such as to remove/add amino acids capable of disulfide bonding, to increase its biolongevity and/or bioactivity, etcetera. In any case, the peptide must possess a bioactive property, such as binding activity, regulation of binding at the binding domain, etcetera. Functional or active regions of the VEGF may be identified by mutagenesis of a specific region of the hormone, followed by expression and testing of the expressed polypeptide. Such methods are readily apparent to a skilled practitioner in the art and can include site-specific mutagenesis of the nucleic acid encoding the receptor (Zoller, M. J. et al.).

### [00129] Methods of Use

[00130] The invention encompasses methods for reducing VEGF-mediated angiogenesis, comprising contacting a cell expressing kinase domain receptor (KDR) with the VEGF analogs, including VEGF-A<sub>165</sub> and VEGF-A<sub>165</sub>b analogs, described herein such that VEGF-mediated angiogenesis is reduced. KDR-expressing cells to be targeted by the methods of the invention can include either or both prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells. Such cells may be maintained *in vitro*, or they may be present *in vivo*, for instance in a patient or subject diagnosed with cancer or another angiogenesis-related disease.

[00131] The present invention includes methods of treating a patient diagnosed with an angiogenesis-related disease or condition with a therapeutically effective amount of any of the VEGF receptor antagonists described herein, comprising administering said VEGF analog or fusion protein to said patient such that said angiogenesis-related disease or condition is reduced or inhibited. In order to measure the reduction of angiogenesis, the patient's results may be compared to that of a patient administered a placebo. Exemplary angiogenesis-related diseases are described throughout this application, and include but are not limited to diseases selected from the group consisting of tumors and neoplasias, hemangiomas, rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, septic arthritis, asthma, atherosclerosis,

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idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, vascular restenosis, arteriovenous malformations, meningioma, neovascular glaucoma, psoriasis, Kaposi's Syndrome, angiofibroma, hemophilic joints, hypertrophic scars, Osler-Weber syndrome, pyogenic granuloma, retrolental fibroplasias, scleroderma, trachoma, von Hippel-Lindau disease, vascular adhesion pathologies, synovitis, dermatitis, endometriosis, pterygium, diabetic retinopathy, neovascularization associated with corneal injury or grafts, wounds, sores, and ulcers (skin, gastric and duodenal).

[00132] A patient suffering from a disease caused by or exacerbated by an increase in angiogenesis, a decrease in angiogenesis, or otherwise dysregulated angiogenesis can be treated with a VEGF analog alone or in combination with a known VEGF receptor antagonist, an anti-angiogenesis therapy, an anti-cancer therapy, or other therapy known to treat the disease or condition. As used herein, "therapy" includes but is not limited to a known drug. Known VEGF receptor antagonists or anti-angiogenesis therapies include but are not limited to agents that either interrupt VEGF/KDR interaction and/or block the KDR signal transduction pathway such as peptides that block binding of VEGF to KDR, antibodies to VEGF, antibodies to KDR, soluble receptors, tyrosine kinase inhibitors, anti-VEGF immunotoxins, ribozymes, antisense mediated VEGF suppression, and undersulfated, low molecular weight glycol-split heparin.

**[00133]** If a VEGF analog of the invention is used in combination with another therapy, the coupling of the therapies results in a synergistic effect. In addition, a VEGF analog of the present invention can be combined with a drug associated with an undesirable side effect. By coupling a VEGF analog with such a drug, the effective dosage of the drug with the side effect can be lowered to reduce the probability of the side effect from occurring.

**[00134]** The invention includes methods of treating a patient diagnosed with cancer with a therapeutically effective amount of any of the VEGF receptor antagonists described herein, comprising administering said antagonist to said patient such that the spread of said cancer is

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reduced or inhibited, *i.e.*, metastasis is reduced or inhibited. The invention includes methods of treating a patient diagnosed with cancer with a therapeutically effective amount of any of the VEGF receptor antagonists described herein, comprising administering said antagonist to said patient such that the growth of a tumor is reduced or inhibited. In one embodiment, the VEGF analog functions by inhibiting angiogenesis by reducing or preventing VEGF-induced angiogenesis. In another embodiment, the VEGF analog is a VEGF-toxin fusion protein that prevents or reduces angiogenesis by targeting or killing tumor cells, vascular cells such as endothelial cells and/or VEGF receptors.

[00135] Cancers treatable by the methods of the present invention include all solid tumor and metastatic cancers, including but not limited to those selected from the group consisting of bladder, breast, liver, bone, kidney, colon, ovarian, prostate, pancreatic, lung, brain and skin cancers. The invention includes but is not limited to treatment of cancer with a VEGF analog of the present invention, alone, in combination with chemotherapy, or in combination with radiation therapy by methods known in the art (see U.S. Patent 6,596,712). For instance, a VEGF analog may be used with cesium, iridium, iodine, or cobalt radiation. [00136] The present invention includes methods of treating a patient diagnosed with infertility with a therapeutically effective amount of any of the VEGF receptor antagonists described herein, comprising administering said antagonist to said patient such that infertility is deemed treated by one of skill in the art. Infertility can be measured by quantitative and qualitative parameters known in the art such as quantity of oocytes, fertilization rate, blastocyst formation rate, and embryo formation rate. Such infertility diseases include any disease associated with the expression of VEGF that compromises a patient's fertility including but not limited to unexplained female infertility, endometriosis, and unexplained male infertility. The invention includes but is not limited to treatment of infertility by administration of a VEGF analog alone or in combination with other anti-VEGF treatments, anti-angiogenesis treatments, and/or infertility treatments.

[00137] The present invention also includes methods of treating a patient diagnosed with an angiogenesis-associated eye disease with a therapeutically effective amount of any of the VEGF receptor antagonists described herein, comprising administering said antagonist to said patient such that said eye disease is reduced or inhibited. Such eye diseases include any eye disease associated with abnormal intraocular neovascularization, including but not limited to retinopathy of prematurity, diabetic retinopathy, retinal vein occlusion, and age-related macular degeneration. The invention includes but is not limited to treatment of angiogenesis-related eye diseases by administration of a VEGF analog alone or in combination with other anti-VEGF treatments, anti-angiogenesis treatments, and/or other eye disease treatments. For example, a VEGF analog of the present invention could be administered to a patient in conjunction with Pfizer's Macugen (pegaptanib) which is a pegylated anti-VEGF aptamer which acts by binding to and inhibiting the activity of VEGF for the treatment of diabetic macular edema, retinal vein occlusion, and age-related macular degeneration.

[00138] The present invention also includes methods of treating a patient diagnosed with an angiogenesis-associated inflammatory condition or autoimmune disease with a therapeutically effective amount of any of the VEGF receptor antagonists described herein, comprising administering said antagonist to said patient such that said inflammatory condition is reduced or inhibited. Such inflammatory conditions or diseases include any inflammatory disorder associated with expression of VEGF and activation of cells by VEGF, including but not limited to all types of arthritis and particularly rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis, asthma, pulmonary fibrosis and dermatitis. The invention includes but is not limited to treatment of angiogenesis-related inflammatory conditions or autoimmune disease by administration of a VEGF analog alone or in combination with other anti-VEGF treatments, anti-angiogenesis treatments, inflammation therapeutics, and/or autoimmune disease therapeutics.

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**[00139]** In another embodiment of the present invention, the modified VEGF protein of the invention is used as a diagnostic. The VEGF analogs of the invention or VEGF receptors can displayed on a synthetic surface, such as in a protein or peptide array. Such an array is well known in the art and can be used to screen for VEGF analogs which bind to KDR and other receptors known to be involved in angiogenesis. The VEGF analogs disclosed herein can be used as positive controls to assess the ability of putative VEGF analogs to bind to KDR and other receptors known to be involved in angiogenesis. The invention also includes an array comprising the VEGF analogs of the present invention to screen for putative VEGF receptors which may be involved in angiogenesis.

**[00140]** Assays suitable for characterizing the analogs described herein are described in PCT/US/99/05908, which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety. For instance, various immunoassays may be used including but not limited to competitive binding assays and non-competitive assay systems using techniques such as radioimmunoassays, ELISA, sandwich immunoassays, immunoradiometric assays, gel diffusion precipitin reactions, immunodiffusion assays, *in situ* immunoassays, western blots, precipitation reactions, agglutination assays, complement fixation assays, immunofluorescence assays, Protein A assays, and immunoelectrophoresis assays, etcetera.

# [00141] Pharmaceutical Formulations

**[00142]** The invention provides methods of diagnosis and treatment by administration to a subject of an effective amount of a therapeutic of the invention. The subject may be an animal, including but not limited to animals such as cows, pigs, horses, chickens, cats, dogs, etc., and is preferably a mammal, and most preferably human. In a specific embodiment, a non-human mammal is the subject.

[00143] The pharmaceutical compositions of the invention comprise an effective amount of one or more modified VEGF proteins of the present invention in combination with the

pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. The compositions may further comprise other known drugs suitable for the treatment of the particular disease being targeted. An effective amount of the VEGF receptor antagonist of the present invention is that amount that blocks, inhibits or reduces VEGF stimulation of endothelial cells compared to that which would occur in the absence of the compound; in other words, an amount that decreases the angiogenic activity of the endothelium, compared to that which would occur in the absence of the compound. The effective amount (and the manner of administration) will be determined on an individual basis and will be based on the specific therapeutic VEGF receptor antagonist being used and a consideration of the subject (size, age, general health), the condition being treated (cancer, arthritis, eye disease, etc.), the severity of the symptoms to be treated, the result sought, the specific carrier or pharmaceutical formulation being used, the route of administration, and other factors as would be apparent to those skilled in the art. The effective amount can be determined by one of ordinary skill in the art using techniques as are known in the art. Therapeutically effective amounts of the compounds described herein can be determined using in vitro tests, animal models or other dose-response studies, as are known in the art. The VEGF proteins of the present invention can be used alone or in conjunction with other therapies. The therapeutically effective amount may be reduced when a VEGF analog is used in conjunction with another therapy.

**[00144]** The pharmaceutical compositions of the invention may be prepared, packaged, or sold in formulations suitable for intradermal, intravenous, subcutaneous, oral, rectal, vaginal, parenteral, intraperitoneal, topical, pulmonary, intranasal, buccal, ophthalmic, intrathecal, epidural or another route of administration. The compounds may be administered by any convenient route, for example by infusion or bolus injection, by absorption through epithelial or mucocutaneous linings (*e.g.*, oral mucosa, rectal and intestinal mucosa, etc.) and may be administered together with other biologically active agents. Administration can be systemic or local. For example, the pharmaceutical compositions of the invention can be

administered locally to a tumor via microinfusion. Further, administration may be by a single dose or a series of doses.

[00145] For pharmaceutical uses, the VEGF analogs of the present invention may be used in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, and can optionally include a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or excipient. Further, the VEGF analogs of the present invention may be used in combination with other known therapies, including but not limited to anti-VEGF therapies, anti-angiogenesis therapies, anti-cancer therapies, infertility therapies, autoimmune disease therapies, inflammation therapies, ocular disease therapies, and skin disease therapies.

[00146] The present invention thus also provides pharmaceutical compositions suitable for administration to a subject. The carrier can be a liquid, so that the composition is adapted for parenteral administration, or can be solid, *i.e.*, a tablet or pill formulated for oral administration. Further, the carrier can be in the form of a nebulizable liquid or solid so that the composition is adapted for inhalation. When administered parenterally, the composition should be pyrogen free and in an acceptable parenteral carrier. Active compounds can alternatively be formulated or encapsulated in liposomes, using known methods. Other contemplated formulations include projected nanoparticles and immunologically based formulations.

[00147] Liposomes are completely closed lipid bilayer membranes which contain entrapped aqueous volume. Liposomes are vesicles which may be unilamellar (single membrane) or multilamellar (onion-like structures characterized by multiple membrane bilayers, each separated from the next by an aqueous layer). The bilayer is composed of two lipid monolayers having a hydrophobic "tail" region and a hydrophilic "head" region. In the membrane bilayer, the hydrophobic (nonpolar) "tails" of the lipid monolayers orient toward the center of the bilayer, whereas the hydrophilic (polar) "heads" orient toward the aqueous phase.

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[00148] The liposomes of the present invention may be formed by any of the methods known in the art. Several methods may be used to form the liposomes of the present invention. For example, multilamellar vesicles (MLVs), stable plurilamellar vesicles (SPLVs), small unilamellar vesicles (SUV), or reverse phase evaporation vesicles (REVs) may be used. Preferably, however, MLVs are extruded through filters forming large unilamellar vesicles (LUVs) of sizes dependent upon the filter size utilized. In general, polycarbonate filters of 30, 50, 60, 100, 200 or 800 nm pores may be used. In this method, disclosed in Cullis et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,008,050, relevant portions of which are incorporated by reference herein, the liposome suspension may be repeatedly passed through the extrusion device resulting in a population of liposomes of homogeneous size distribution. [00149] For example, the filtering may be performed through a straight-through membrane filter (a Nuclepore polycarbonate filter) or a tortuous path filter (e.g. a Nuclepore Membrafil filter (mixed cellulose esters) of 0.1 µm size), or by alternative size reduction techniques such as homogenization. The size of the liposomes may vary from about 0.03 to above about 2 microns in diameter; preferably about 0.05 to 0.3 microns and most preferably about 0.1 to about 0.2 microns. The size range includes liposomes that are MLVs, SPLVs, or LUVs.

[00150] Lipids which can be used in the liposome formulations of the present invention include synthetic or natural phospholipids and may include phosphatidylcholine (PC), phosphatidylethanolamine (PE), phosphatidylserine (PS), phosphatidylglycerol (PG), phosphatidic acid (PA), phosphatidylinositol (PI), sphingomyelin (SPM) and cardiolipin, among others, either alone or in combination, and also in combination with cholesterol. The phospholipids useful in the present invention may also include dimyristoylphosphatidylcholine (DMPC) and dimyristoylphosphatidylglycerol (DMPG). In other embodiments, distearoylphosphatidylcholine (DSPC), dipalmitoylphosphatidylcholine (DPPC), or hydrogenated soy phosphatidylcholine (HSPC) may also be used.

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Dimyristoylphosphatidylcholine (DMPC) and diarachidonoylphosphatidylcholine (DAPC) may similarly be used.

[00151] During preparation of the liposomes, organic solvents may also be used to suspend the lipids. Suitable organic solvents for use in the present invention include those with a variety of polarities and dielectric properties, which solubilize the lipids, for example, chloroform, methanol, ethanol, dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO), methylene chloride, and solvent mixtures such as benzene:methanol (70:30), among others. As a result, solutions (mixtures in which the lipids and other components are uniformly distributed throughout) containing the lipids are formed. Solvents are generally chosen on the basis of their biocompatability, low toxicity, and solubilization abilities.

[00152] To encapsulate the VEGF receptor antagonist(s) of the inventions into the liposomes, the methods described in U.S. Patent No. 5,380,531, relevant portions of which are incorporated by reference herein, may be used with the analog(s) of the present invention.

**[00153]** Liposomes containing the VEGF analog(s) of the present invention may be used therapeutically in mammals, especially humans, in the treatment of a number of disease states or pharmacological conditions which require sustained release formulations as well as repeated administration. The mode of administration of the liposomes containing the agents of the present invention may determine the sites and cells in the organism to which the VEGF analog may be delivered.

**[00154]** The liposomes of the present invention may be administered alone but will generally be administered in admixture with a pharmaceutical carrier selected with regard to the intended route of administration and standard pharmaceutical practice. The preparations may be injected parenterally, for example, intravenously. For parenteral administration, they can be used, for example, in the form of a sterile aqueous solution which may contain other solutes, for example, enough salts or glucose to make the solution isotonic, should

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isotonicity be necessary or desired. The liposomes of the present invention may also be employed subcutaneously or intramuscularly. Other uses, depending upon the particular properties of the preparation, may be envisioned by those skilled in the art.

**[00155]** For the oral mode of administration, the liposomal formulations of the present invention can be used in the form of tablets, capsules, lozenges, troches, powders, syrups, elixirs, aqueous solutions and suspensions, and the like. In the case of tablets, carriers which can be used include lactose, sodium citrate and salts of phosphoric acid. Various disintegrants such as starch, lubricating agents, and talc are commonly used in tablets. For oral administration in capsule form, useful diluents are lactose and high molecular weight polyethylene glycols. When aqueous suspensions are required for oral use, the active ingredient is combined with emulsifying and suspending agents. If desired, certain sweetening and/or flavoring agents can be added.

[00156] For the topical mode of administration, the pharmaceutical formulations of the present invention may be incorporated into dosage forms such as a solution, suspension, gel, oil, ointment or salve, and the like. Preparation of such topical formulations are described in the art of pharmaceutical formulations as exemplified, for example, by Gennaro *et al.* (1995) Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences, Mack Publishing. For topical application, the compositions could also be administered as a powder or spray, particularly in aerosol form. For administration to humans in the treatment of disease states or pharmacological conditions, the prescribing physician will ultimately determine the appropriate dosage of the agent for a given human subject, and this can be expected to vary according to the age, weight and response of the individual as well as the pharmacokinetics of the agent used. [00157] The pharmaceutical compositions of the invention further comprise a depot formulation of biopolymers such as biodegradable microspheres. Biodegradable microspheres are used to control drug release rates and to target drugs to specific sites in the body, thereby optimizing their therapeutic response, decreasing toxic side effects, and

eliminating the inconvenience of repeated injections. Biodegradable microspheres have the advantage over large polymer implants in that they do not require surgical procedures for implantation and removal.

[00158] The biodegradable microspheres used in the context of the invention are formed with a polymer which delays the release of the proteins and maintains, at the site of action, a therapeutically effective concentration for a prolonged period of time. The polymer can be chosen from ethylcellulose, polystyrene, poly(ɛ-caprolactone), poly(lactic acid) and poly(lactic acid-co-glycolic acid) (PLGA). PLGA copolymer is one of the synthetic biodegradable and biocompatible polymers that has reproducible and slow-release characteristics. An advantage of PLGA copolymer is that their degradation rate ranges from months to years and is a function of the polymer molecular weight and the ratio of polylactic acid to polyglycolic acid residues. Several products using PLGA for parenteral applications are currently on the market, including Lupron Depot and Zoladex in the United States and Enantone Depot, Decapeptil, and Pariodel\_LA in Europe (see Yonsei, Med J. 2000 Dec;41(6):720-34 for review).

**[00159]** The pharmaceutical compositions of the invention may further be prepared, packaged, or sold in a formulation suitable for nasal administration as increased permeability has been shown through the tight junction of the nasal epithelium (Pietro and Woolley, The Science behind Nastech's intranasal drug delivery technology. Manufacturing Chemist, August, 2003). Such formulations may comprise dry particles which comprise the active ingredient and which have a diameter in the range from about 0.5 to about 7 nanometers, and preferably from about 1 to about 6 nanometers. Such compositions are conveniently in the form of dry powders for administration using a device comprising a dry powder reservoir to which a stream of propellant may be directed to disperse the powder or using a selfpropelling solvent/powder-dispensing container such as a device comprising the active ingredient dissolved or suspended in a low-boiling propellant in a sealed container.

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Preferably, such powders comprise particles wherein at least 98% of the particles by weight have a diameter greater than 0.5 nanometers and at least 95% of the particles by number have a diameter less than 7 nanometers. More preferably, at least 95% of the particles by weight have a diameter greater than 1 nanometer and at least 90% of the particles by number have a diameter less than 6 nanometers. Dry powder compositions preferably include a solid fine powder diluent such as sugar and are conveniently provided in a unit dose form.

**[00160]** Pharmaceutical compositions of the invention formulated for nasal delivery may also provide the active ingredient in the form of droplets of a solution or suspension. Such formulations may be prepared, packaged, or sold as aqueous or dilute alcoholic solutions or suspensions, optionally sterile, comprising the active ingredient, and may conveniently be administered using any nebulization or atomization device. Such formulations may further comprise one or more additional ingredients including, but not limited to, a flavoring agent such as saccharin sodium, a volatile oil, a buffering agent, a surface active agent, or a preservative such as methylhydroxybenzoate. The droplets provided by this route of administration preferably have an average diameter in the range from about 0.1 to about 200 nanometers.

**[00161]** Another formulation suitable for intranasal administration is a coarse powder comprising the active ingredient and having an average particle from about 0.2 to 500 micrometers. Such a formulation is administered in the manner in which snuff is taken *i.e.* by rapid inhalation through the nasal passage from a container of the powder held close to the nose.

[00162] Formulations suitable for nasal administration may, for example, comprise from about as little as 0.1% (w/w) and as much as 100% (w/w) of the active ingredient, and may further comprise one or more of the additional ingredients described herein.

[00163] In some embodiments, the compositions of the invention may be administered by inhalation. For inhalation therapy, the active ingredients may be in a solution useful for

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administration by metered dose inhalers or in a form suitable for a dry powder inhaler. In another embodiment, the compositions are suitable for administration by bronchial lavage. [00164] Suitable formulations for oral administration include hard or soft gelatin capsules, pills, tablets, including coated tablets, elixirs, suspensions, syrups or inhalations and controlled release forms thereof.

**[00165]** The VEGF receptor antagonists of the present invention can be administered acutely (*i.e.*, during the onset or shortly after events leading to inflammation), or can be administered during the course of a degenerative disease to reduce or ameliorate the progression of symptoms that would otherwise occur. The timing and interval of administration is varied according to the subject's symptoms, and can be administered at an interval of several hours to several days, over a time course of hours, days, weeks or longer, as would be determined by one skilled in the art. A typical daily regime can be from about  $0.01\mu g/kg$  body weight per day, from about 1 mg/kg body weight per day, from about 100 mg/kg body weight per day.

**[00166]** The VEGF receptor antagonists of the invention may be administered intravenously, orally, intranasally, intraocularly, intramuscularly, intrathecally, or by any suitable route in view of the VEGF protein, the protein formulation and the disease to be treated. Modified VEGF for the treatment of inflammatory arthritis can be injected directly into the synovial fluid. Modified VEGF for the treatment of solid tumors may be injected directly into the tumor. Modified VEGF for the treatment of skin diseases may be applied topically, for instance in the form of a lotion or spray. Intrathecal administration, *i.e.* for the treatment of brain tumors, can comprise injection directly into the brain. Alternatively, modified VEGF may be coupled or conjugated to a second molecule (a "carrier"), which is a peptide or non-proteinaceous moiety selected for its ability to penetrate the blood-brain barrier and transport the active agent across the blood-brain barrier. Examples of suitable

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carriers are disclosed in U.S. Patent Nos. 4,902,505; 5,604,198; and 5,017,566, which are herein incorporated by reference in their entirety.

[00167] An alternative method of administering the VEGF receptor antagonists of the present invention is carried out by administering to the subject a vector carrying a nucleic acid sequence encoding the modified VEGF protein, where the vector is capable of directing expression and secretion of the protein. Suitable vectors are typically viral vectors, including DNA viruses, RNA viruses, and retroviruses. Techniques for utilizing vector delivery systems and carrying out gene therapy are known in the art (see Lundstrom, 2003, Trends Biotechnol. 21(3):117-22, for a recent review).

### [00168] Transgenic Animals

**[00169]** The production of transgenic non-human animals that contain a modified VEGF construct with increased receptor binding affinity and optionally antagonistic properties is contemplated in one embodiment of the present invention.

[00170] The successful production of transgenic, non-human animals has been described in a number of patents and publications, such as, for example U.S. Patent 6,291,740 (issued September 18, 2001); U.S. Patent 6,281,408 (issued August 28, 2001); and U.S. Patent 6,271,436 (issued August 7, 2001) the contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference in their entireties.

[00171] The ability to alter the genetic make-up of animals, such as domesticated mammals including cows, pigs, goats, horses, cattle, and sheep, allows a number of commercial applications. These applications include the production of animals which express large quantities of exogenous proteins in an easily harvested form (*e.g.*, expression into the milk or blood), the production of animals with increased weight gain, feed efficiency, carcass composition, milk production or content, disease resistance and resistance to infection by specific microorganisms and the production of animals having enhanced growth rates or

reproductive performance. Animals which contain exogenous DNA sequences in their genome are referred to as transgenic animals.

[00172] The most widely used method for the production of transgenic animals is the microinjection of DNA into the pronuclei of fertilized embryos (Wall *et al.*, J. Cell. Biochem. 49:113 [1992]). Other methods for the production of transgenic animals include the infection of embryos with retroviruses or with retroviral vectors. Infection of both preand post-implantation mouse embryos with either wild-type or recombinant retroviruses has been reported (Janenich, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 73:1260 [1976]; Janenich *et al.*, Cell 24:519 [1981]; Stuhlmann *et al.*, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 81:7151 [1984]; Jahner *et al.*, Proc. Natl. Acad Sci. USA 82:6927 [1985]; Van der Putten *et al.*, Proc. Natl. Acad Sci. USA 82:6148-6152 [1985]; Stewart *et al.*, EMBO J. 6:383-388 [1987]).

[00173] An alternative means for infecting embryos with retroviruses is the injection of virus or virus-producing cells into the blastocoele of mouse embryos (Jahner, D. *et al.*, Nature 298:623 [1982]). The introduction of transgenes into the germline of mice has been reported using intrauterine retroviral infection of the midgestation mouse embryo (Jahner *et al.*, supra [1982]). Infection of bovine and ovine embryos with retroviruses or retroviral vectors to create transgenic animals has been reported. These protocols involve the micro-injection of retroviral particles or growth arrested (*i.e.*, mitomycin C-treated) cells which shed retroviral particles into the perivitelline space of fertilized eggs or early embryos (PCT International Application WO 90/08832 [1990]; and Haskell and Bowen, Mol. Reprod. Dev., 40:386 [1995]. PCT International Application WO 90/08832 describes the injection of wild-type feline leukemia virus B into the perivitelline space of sheep embryos at the 2 to 8 cell stage. Fetuses derived from injected embryos were shown to contain multiple sites of integration.

**[00174]** U.S. Patent 6,291,740 (issued September 18, 2001) describes the production of transgenic animals by the introduction of exogenous DNA into pre-maturation oocytes and

mature, unfertilized oocytes (i.e., pre-fertilization oocytes) using retroviral vectors which transduce dividing cells (e.g., vectors derived from murine leukemia virus [MLV]). This patent also describes methods and compositions for cytomegalovirus promoter-driven, as well as mouse mammary tumor LTR expression of various recombinant proteins. [00175] U.S. Patent 6,281,408 (issued August 28, 2001) describes methods for producing transgenic animals using embryonic stem cells. Briefly, the embryonic stem cells are used in a mixed cell co-culture with a morula to generate transgenic animals. Foreign genetic material is introduced into the embryonic stem cells prior to co-culturing by, for example, electroporation, microinjection or retroviral delivery. ES cells transfected in this manner are selected for integrations of the gene via a selection marker such as neomycin. [00176] U.S. Patent 6,271,436 (issued August 7, 2001) describes the production of transgenic animals using methods including isolation of primordial germ cells, culturing these cells to produce primordial germ cell-derived cell lines, transforming both the primordial germ cells and the cultured cell lines, and using these transformed cells and cell lines to generate transgenic animals. The efficiency at which transgenic animals are generated is greatly increased, thereby allowing the use of homologous recombination in producing transgenic non-rodent animal species.

### [00177] Kits Containing Modified VEGF Proteins

**[00178]** In a further embodiment, the present invention provides kits containing a VEGF analog and/or VEGF analog fusion proteins, which can be used, for instance, for therapeutic or non-therapeutic applications. The kit comprises a container with a label. Suitable containers include, for example, bottles, vials, and test tubes. The containers may be formed from a variety of materials such as glass or plastic. The container holds a composition which includes a VEGF analog or VEGF fusion protein that is effective for therapeutic or non-therapeutic applications, such as described above. The label on the container indicates that

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the composition is used for a specific therapy or non-therapeutic application, and may also indicate directions for either *in vivo* or *in vitro* use, such as those described above. [00179] The kit of the invention will typically comprise the container described above and one or more other containers comprising materials desirable from a commercial and user standpoint, including buffers, diluents, filters, needles, syringes, and package inserts with instructions for use. The kit of the invention may also include a control consisting of wild-type VEGF such as wild-type VEGF<sub>165</sub> or VEGF<sub>165</sub>b.

**[00180]** The following examples are provided to describe and illustrate the present invention. As such, they should not be construed to limit the scope of the invention. Those in the art will appreciate that many other embodiments also fall within the scope of the invention, as it is described herein above and in the claims.

#### [00181] *Examples*

### [00182] Example 1: Design of VEGF Receptor Antagonists

**[00183]** VEGF-A antagonists of the present invention were designed to increase receptor binding affinity and decrease bioactivity as compared to wild-type VEGF-A. One method by which this was done was by adding a positive charge to the loops of VEGF-A. This approach to design super-antagonists involves a combination of different methods known in the art including but not limited to homology modeling, sequence comparisons, charge scanning mutagenesis, and linking monomers and introduction of mutations in the context of linked monomers.

**[00184]** Vammin, or snake venom VEGF, has been shown to bind to KDR-IgG with high affinity and strongly stimulate proliferation of vascular endothelial cells *in vitro* (see Yamazaki *et al.*, 2003, J. Biol. Chem. 278, 51985-51988, which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety). VEGF-A receptor antagonists were designed based on VEGF<sub>165</sub>

homology to vammin. VEGF<sub>165</sub> has glutamate residues at positions 72 and 73, whereas vammin contains a glycine and lysine residue at these positions, respectively. By modifying VEGF-A to contain two basic amino acid residues at positions 72 and 73, the modified VEGF-A demonstrated a significant increase in receptor binding affinity compared to wild-type VEGF-A (Figure 3A).

# [00185] Example 2: Characterization of VEGF receptor antagonists

**[00186]** VEGF analogs I83K, E44R, E72RE73R, E67K andQ87K were created and assayed for their ability to bind to KDR and to decrease cell proliferation compared to wild-type VEGF.

### [00187] Methods

**[00188]** VEGF analogs expressed by yeast cells were incubated with immobilized KDR-Fc and the ability of the analogs to bind to KDR-Fc was assayed. The binding assay was performed as follows:

[00189] 1. Nunc MaxiSorp<sup>™</sup> 96 microwell plates were coated with 150 ng/well KDR-Fc (R & D System, Inc.) and 100 µl 50 mM sodium bicarbonate buffer (15 mM Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> + 35 mM NaHCO<sub>3</sub>) at pH 9.6. A separate plate was used for each VEGF analog and wild-type VEGF tested.

[00190] 2. The plates were incubated at 4°C overnight.

[00191] 3. The next day, the wells were washed three times in washing buffer (0.05% tween in PBS).

[00192] 4. The wells were blocked with PBS with 3% BSA, 0.03% tween for 1 hour at room temperature.

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[00193] 5. After blocking, the wells were washed three times in washing buffer (0.05% tween in PBS).

[00194] 6. VEGF-A (wild-type or mutant) were added at different concentrations to the wells in 50 µl binding buffer (1% BSA and 0.03% tween in PBS).

[00195] 7. <sup>125</sup>I- labeled VEGF-A (wild-type or mutant) at 70,000 cpm/well
(PerkinElmer) was added to each well in 50 μl binding buffer (1% BSA and 0.03% tween in PBS).

[00196] 8. The contents of the wells were mixed and incubated for 2 hours at room temperature with slow shaking.

[00197] 9. The wells were washed three times with washing buffer (0.05% tween in PBS).

[00198] 10. To each well, 120  $\mu$ l of lysis buffer (0.2 M NaOH + 0.5% SDS) was added. Plate was shaken vigorously for 20 minutes at room temperature.

**[00199]** 11. The lysis buffer from each well was transferred to an individual tube. The wells were washed with lysis buffer two times additional times and combined with the lysis solution buffer in the corresponding tube.

**[00200]** 12. The measure of binding for wild-type VEGF-A and various VEGF-A mutants was determined by counting with a gamma counter.

**[00201]** The ability of HUVEC endothelial cells to proliferate in the presence of the VEGF analogs was assayed as follows:

**[00202]** 1. HUVEC endothelial cells (passage 6) were seeded into 96 well plates at 3,000 cells/well using Media-200 with growth factors and incubated overnight.

[00203] 2. After overnight incubation, the media was removed and Media 199 (Invitrogen) with 2% dialysis FBS (Invitrogen) was added.

[00204] 3. Cells were incubated for 20 hours.

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[00205] 4. Wild-type VEGF-A and VEGF-A analogs were serial diluted in Media 199 with 2% dialysis FBS in the 96-well plates, starting at 200 ng/well.

[00206] 5. The media was removed from each well and replaced with 200  $\mu$ l/well diluted VEGF media.

[00207] 6. Cells were incubated at 37° C for 72 hours.

**[00208]** 7. Cell proliferation was analyzed using Promega's CellTiter-Glo® Luminescent Cell Viability Assay. Briefly, CellTiter buffer was thawed, transferred into CellTiter-Glo substrate, and mixed well to make substrate mixture. 100 µl growth media was removed from each well into a new 96 well plate and mixed well with 100 µl substrate mixture. The plates were shaken for 2 minutes and incubated at room temperature for an additional ten minutes.

[00209] 8. Plates were read for luminescent signal using a plate reader with integration time set at 250mS (Tecan).

[00210] Analysis

[00211] The receptor binding affinity of the I83K analog to KDR-Fc was slightly less than that of wild-type VEGF-A (Figure 1A). However, the I83K analog demonstrated a significant decrease in endothelial cell proliferation compared to wild-type VEGF-A (Figure 1B). VEGF-A analogs E44R, EE72/73RR, E67K and Q87K all demonstrated an increase in receptor cell binding affinity compared to wild-type VEGF-A (Figures 2A, 3A, 4, 5 and 6). However, analogs E44R and EE72/73RR demonstrated little to no change in endothelial cell proliferation (Figures 2B and 3B). These results show that VEGF<sub>165</sub> analogs comprising I83K can effectively function as a VEGF-A receptor antagonist. Further, although VEGF-A analogs E44R and EE72/73RR were unable to decrease endothelial cell proliferation alone, when added to I83K, these modifications have the potential of further increasing receptor binding affinity.

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**[00212]** All publications, patents and patent applications discussed in this application are incorporated herein by reference. While in the foregoing specification this invention has been described in relation to certain preferred embodiments, thereof, and may details have been set forth for purposes of illustration, it will be apparent to those skilled in the art that the invention is susceptible to additional embodiments and that certain of the details described herein may be varied considerably without departing from the basic principles of the invention.

What is claimed:

1 A modified vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) comprising at least one mutation causing the modified VEGF to act as a receptor antagonist, wherein the mutation results in a dissociation of receptor binding affinity and bioactivity.

2. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 1, wherein the receptor binding affinity of the antagonist to a native VEGF receptor is greater than the receptor binding affinity of wild-type VEGF to the native VEGF receptor.

3. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 2, wherein the native VEGF receptor is Flt-1 or KDR.

4. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 2, wherein there is at least about a 3 to 4 fold increase in receptor binding affinity.

5. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 2, wherein there is at least about a 2 fold increase in receptor binding affinity.

6. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 1, wherein the bioactivity for the antagonist is decreased compared to the bioactivity for a wild-type VEGF.

7. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 1, wherein the antagonist is expressed as a homodimer or heterodimer.

8. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 7, wherein each subunit of the homodimer or heterodimer contains the at least one mutation.

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9. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 8, wherein one subunit of the homodimer or heterodimer contains the at least one mutation.

10. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 1, wherein the antagonist is expressed as a fusion protein comprising one or more VEGF subunits.

11. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 10, wherein the one or more VEGF subunits each contain the at least one mutation.

12. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 10, wherein at least one VEGF subunit contains the at least one mutation.

13. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 10 further comprising a linker peptide.

14. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 10 further comprising a toxin.

15. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 1, wherein the mutation is a basic amino acid substitution at a position corresponding to position 83 of SEQ ID NO.: 4.

16. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 15, wherein said basic amino acid is I83K.

17. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 15, wherein said basic amino acid is I83R.

18. The VEGF of claim 15, wherein the antagonist contains one or more additional basic amino acid substitutions corresponding to the group consisting of positions 44, 67, 72, 73 and 87 of SEQ ID NO.: 4.

19. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 18, wherein the additional substitutions are selected from the group consisting of E72R and E73R.

20. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 18, wherein the additional substitutions are selected from the group consisting of E72K and E73K.

21. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 18, wherein the additional substitution is E44R or E44K.

22. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 18, wherein the additional substitution is Q87K or Q87L.

23. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 18, wherein the additional substitution is E67K.

24. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 1, wherein interaction of the VEGF-A receptor antagonist and a native VEGF receptor results in inhibition of angiogenesis.

25. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 24, wherein the native VEGF receptor is KDR.

26. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 18, wherein the antagonist contains the amino acids E72R+E73R+I83K.

27. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 18, wherein the antagonist contains the amino acids E44R+E72R+E73R+I83K.

28. The VEGF antagonist of claims 15 and 18, wherein the antagonist contains one or more additional amino acid substitutions in amino acids corresponding to positions 111-165 of SEQ ID NO.: 4 which disrupt neuropilin-1 binding.

29. The VEGF antagonist of claim 28, wherein the additional amino acid substitutions do not disrupt heparin sulfate binding.

30. The VEGF antagonist of claim 28, wherein the antagonist contains an amino acid substitution at the position corresponding to C146 or C160 of SEQ ID NO.: 4.

31. The VEGF antagonist of claim 30, wherein the amino acid substitution is C146S or C160S.

32. The VEGF antagonist of claim 28, wherein the antagonist contains amino acid substitutions at the positions corresponding to C146 and C160 of SEQ ID NO.: 4.

33. The VEGF antagonist of claim 32, wherein the amino acid substitution is C146S and C160S.

34. The VEGF antagonist of claims 15 and 18, wherein the antagonist contains one or more additional amino acid substitutions which reduce or prevent protease cleavage of the antagonist.

35. The VEGF antagonist of claim 34, wherein the protease is plasmin.

36. The VEGF antagonist of claim 34, wherein the one or more additional amino acid substitutions are selected from the group of positions corresponding to positions A111 and A148 of SEQ ID NO.: 4.

37. The VEGF antagonist of claim 36, wherein the amino acid substitution is A111P or A148P.

38. The VEGF antagonist of claim 36, wherein the amino acid substitutions are A111P and A148P.

39. The VEGF antagonist of claim 14, wherein the toxin is selected from the group consisting of a *Pseudomonas* exotoxin (PE), a *Diphtheria* toxin (DT), ricin toxin, abrin toxin, anthrax toxins, shiga toxin, botulism toxin, tetanus toxin, cholera toxin, maitotoxin, palytoxin, ciguatoxin, textilotoxin, batrachotoxin, alpha conotoxin, taipoxin, tetrodotoxin, alpha tityustoxin, saxitoxin, anatoxin, microcystin, aconitine, exfoliatin toxins A, exfoliatin B, an enterotoxin, toxic shock syndrome toxin (TSST-1), *Y. pestis* toxin and a gas gangrene toxin.

40. The VEGF antagonist of claims 8-12, wherein at least one of said subunits is a VEGF-A subunit.

41. The VEGF antagonist of claim 40, wherein the said VEGF-A subunit is a VEGF<sub>165</sub> subunit.

42. The VEGF antagonist of claim 40, wherein the said VEGF-A subunit is  $VEGF_{165}b$ .

43. The VEGF antagonist of claim 40, wherein the said VEGF-A subunit is a VEGF $_{121}$ . subunit.

44. The VEGF antagonist of claim 40, wherein the said VEGF-A subunit is VEGF<sub>145</sub>.

45. The VEGF antagonist of claim 40, wherein the said VEGF-A subunit is a VEGF<sub>148</sub>. subunit.

46. The VEGF antagonist of claim 40, wherein the said VEGF-A subunit is VEGF<sub>183</sub>.

47. The VEGF antagonist of claim 40, wherein the said VEGF-A subunit is a VEGF<sub>189</sub>. subunit.

48. The VEGF antagonist of claim 40, wherein the said VEGF-A subunit is VEGF<sub>206</sub>.

49. The VEGF antagonist of claims 8-12, wherein at least one of said subunits is a VEGF-B subunit.

50. The VEGF antagonist of claim 49, wherein the said VEGF-B subunit is a VEGF- $B_{167}$ . subunit.

51. The VEGF antagonist of claim 49, wherein the said VEGF-B subunit is VEGF-B<sub>186</sub>.

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52. The VEGF antagonist of claims 8-12, wherein at least one of said subunits is a VEGF-C subunit.

53. The VEGF antagonist of claims 8-12, wherein at least one of said subunits is a VEGF-D subunit.

54. The VEGF antagonist of claims 8-12, wherein at least one of said subunits is a PIGF subunit.

55. The VEGF antagonist of claim 54, wherein the said PIGF subunit is PIGF-1.

56. The VEGF antagonist of claim 54, wherein the said PIGF subunit is PIGF-2.

57. The VEGF antagonist of claims 1-56, wherein angiogenesis is partially inhibited.

58. The VEGF antagonist of claims 1-56, wherein angiogenesis is about almost completely inhibited.

59. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the VEGF receptor antagonist of any of claims 1-58.

60. The composition of claim 59 further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

61. The composition of claim 60, wherein said composition is formulated for aerosol deliver.

62. The composition of claim 61, wherein said composition is formulated as a nasal spray.

63. The composition of claim 60, wherein the composition is formulated for oral administration.

64. The composition of claim 63, wherein the composition is formulated as a tablet, pill, or capsule.

65. The composition of claim 60, wherein the composition is formulated as a depot or suppository.

66. The composition of claim 60 further comprising one or more additional drugs from the group consisting of anti-VEGF drug, anti-angiogenic drug, anti-cancer drug, infertility drug, autoimmune drug, inflammation drug, ocular disease drug, and skin disease drug.

67. A method of treating a patient diagnosed with cancer with a therapeutically effective amount of the VEGF receptor antagonist of any of claims 1-58, comprising administering said antagonist to said patient such that spread of said cancer is reduced or inhibited.

68. The method of claim 67 wherein said cancer is a solid tumor cancer selected from the group consisting of bladder, breast, liver, bone, kidney, colon, ovarian, prostate, pancreatic, lung, brain, breast, and skin.

69. A method of treating a patient diagnosed with an angiogenesis-associated eye disease with a therapeutically effective amount of the VEGF receptor antagonist of any claims 1-58,

comprising administering said antagonist to said patient such that said eye disease is reduced or inhibited.

70. The method of claim 69, wherein said eye disease is selected from the group consisting of retinopathy of prematurity, diabetic retinopathy, retinal vein occlusion, macular degeneration, and neovascularization associated with corneal injury or grafts.

71. A method of treating a patient diagnosed with an angiogenesis-related disease or condition with a therapeutically effective amount of the VEGF receptor antagonist of any claims 1-58, comprising administering said antagonist to said patient such that said angiogenesis-related disease is reduced or inhibited.

72. The method of claim 71, wherein said disease or condition is selected from the group consisting of hemangiomas, rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, septic arthritis, asthma, atherosclerosis, idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, vascular restenosis, arteriovenous malformations, meningiomas, neovascular glaucoma, psoriasis, Kaposi's Syndrome, angiofibroma, hemophilic joints, hypertrophic scars, Osler-Weber syndrome, pyogenic granuloma, retrolental fibroplasias, scleroderma, trachoma, von Hippel-Lindau disease, vascular adhesion pathologies, synovitis, dermatitis, unexplained female infertility, endometriosis, unexplained male infertility, pterygium, wounds, sores, skin ulcers, gastric ulcers, and duodenal ulcers.

73. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 1, wherein one or both subunits of the VEGF comprise a modification to prolong half-life.

74. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 73, wherein the modification to prolong half-life is a N terminal or C terminal extension.

75. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 73, wherein the modification to prolong half-life is pegylation.

76. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 10, wherein the fusion protein contains two VEGF or VEGF-related protein subunits fused together.

77. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 76, wherein the two VEGF or VEGF-related protein subunits are selected from the group consisting of a VEGF-A subunit fused to a VEGF-B, VEGF-C, VEGF-D, VEGF-E, VEGF-F, PDGF or PIGF subunit; a VEGF-B subunit fused to a VEGF-A, VEGF-C, VEGF-D, VEGF-E, VEGF-F, PDGF or PIGF subunit; a VEGF-C subunit fused to a VEGF-A, VEGF-B, VEGF-D, VEGF-E, VEGF-F, PDGF or PIGF subunit; a VEGF-D subunit fused to a VEGF-A, VEGF-B, VEGF-B, VEGF-C, VEGF-F, VEGF-F, PDGF or PIGF subunit; a VEGF-D subunit fused to a VEGF-A, VEGF-B, VEGF-B, VEGF-C, VEGF-F, VEGF-F, VEGF-F, VEGF-F, VEGF-F, PDGF or PIGF subunit; a VEGF-D subunit fused to a VEGF-A, VEGF-B, VEGF-B, VEGF-C, VEGF-F, VEGF-F, VEGF-F, VEGF-F, PDGF or PIGF subunit; and a PIGF subunit fused to a VEGF-A, VEGF-B, VEGF-C, VEGF-C, VEGF-F, or PDGF subunit.

78. A VEGF<sub>165</sub>b receptor antagonist comprising one or more mutations selected from the group consisting of E44B, E67B, E72B, E73B, I83B and Q87B of SEQ ID NO.: 13, wherein B is a basic amino acid.

79. The VEGF<sub>165</sub>b receptor antagonist of claim 78, wherein the antagonist exhibits an increased receptor binding affinity compared to wild-type VEGF<sub>165</sub> or wild-type VEGF<sub>165</sub>b.

80. A VEGF receptor antagonist comprising one or more mutations disrupting neuropilin-1 binding and comprising one or more basic amino acid substitutions from the group consisting of E44, E67, E72, E73, I83 and Q87 of SEQ ID NO.:4.

81. The VEGF receptor antagonist of claim 80, wherein said one or more mutationsdisrupting neuropilin-1 binding are selected from the group consisting of C146S and C160S.

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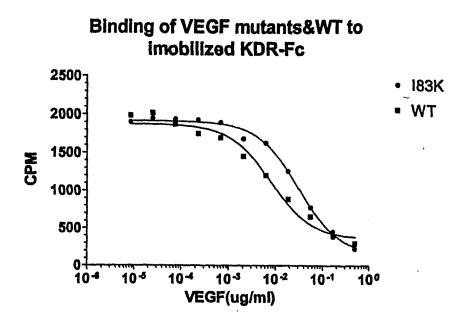


Figure 1B



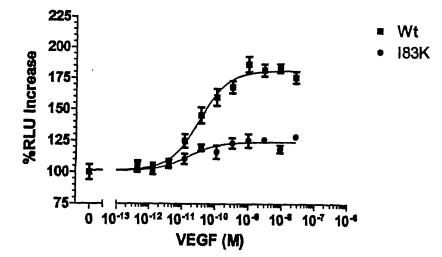
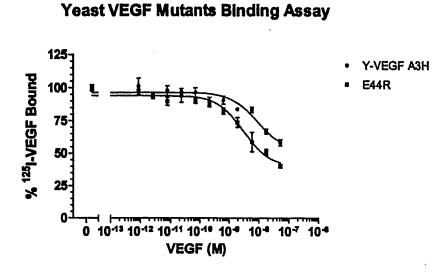
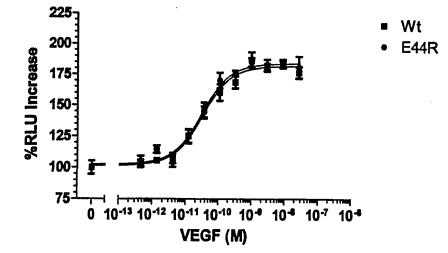


Figure 2A





**HUVEC-2** Cell Proliferation Assay-Glo





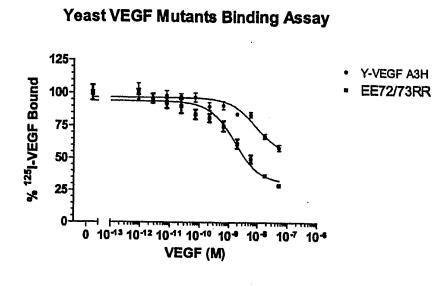
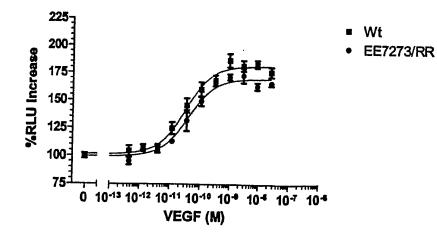


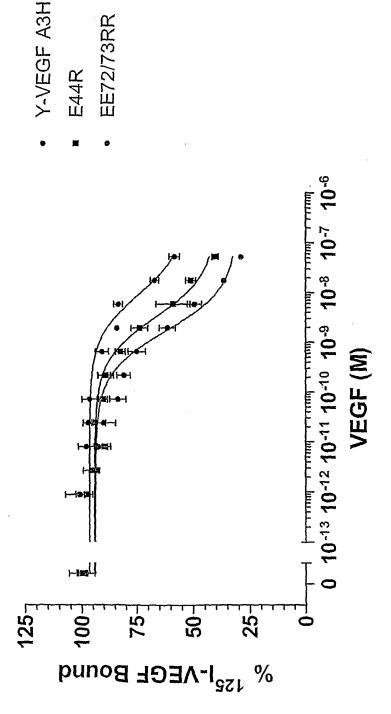
Figure 3B

HUVEC-2 Cell Proliferation Assay-Glo



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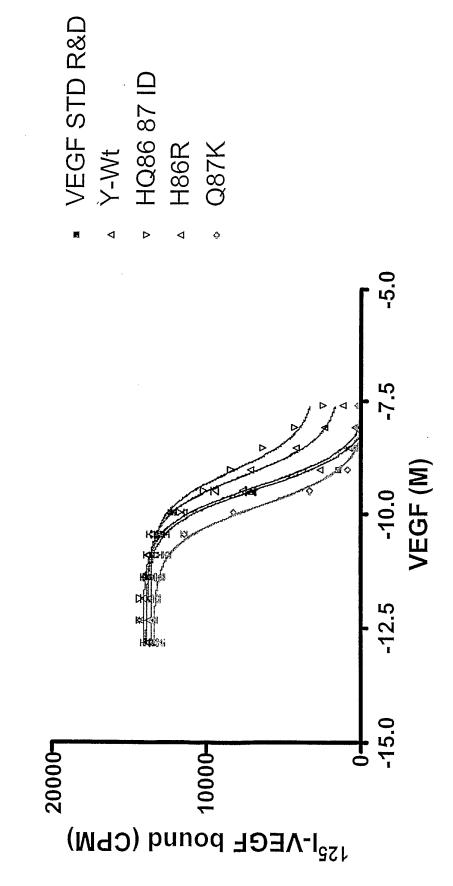
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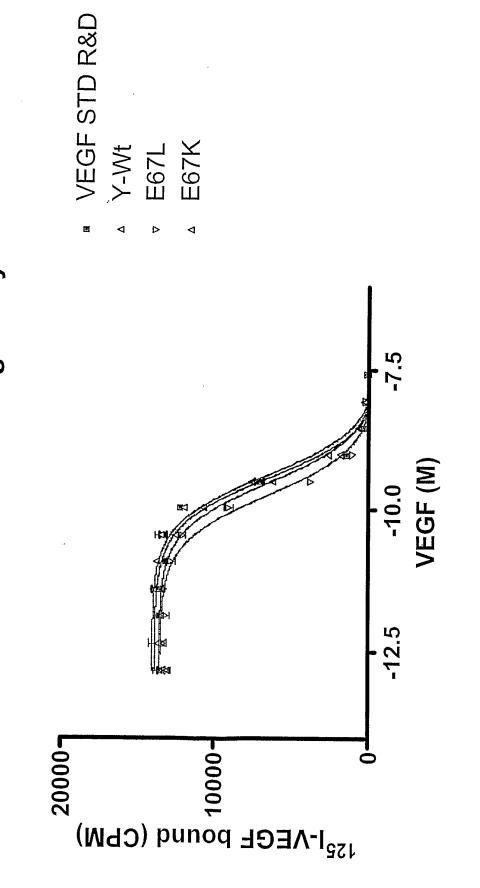
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# Yeast construct KDR Binding Assay





# Yeast construct KDR Binding Assay



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180

240

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576

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Arg	Ser 50	Tyr	Cys	His	Pro	Ile 55	Glu	Thr	Leu	Val	Asp 60	Ile	Phe	Gln	Glu
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Gly 65	τ	Glu	Cuc	<u>v</u> -1	Dro	The	C1	<u></u>	C	70	<b>7</b> 1.			<b>~</b> 1	- 1

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Gln	Gly	Gln 115	His	Ile	Gly	Glu	Met 120	Ser	Phe	Leu	Gln	His 125	Asn	Lys	Су
Glu	Cys 130	Arg	Pro	Lys	Lys	Asp 135	Arg	Ala	Arg	Gln	Glu 140	Asn	Pro	- Cys -	Gl
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Lys Lys Ser Arg Tyr Lys Pro Trp Ser Val Pro Cys Gly Pro Cys Ser 130 135 140 Glu Arg Arg Lys His Leu Phe Val Gln Asp Pro Gln Thr Cys Lys Cys 145 150 155 160 Ser Cys Lys Asn Thr Asp Ser Arg Cys Lys Ala Arg Gln Leu Glu Leu 165 170 175 Asn Glu Arg Thr Cys Arg Cys Asp Lys Pro Arg Arg 180 185 <210> 29 <211> 651 <212> DNA <213> Gallus gallus <400> 29 atgaactttc tgctcacttg gatccactgg gggctggcgg cgctgctcta tctgcagagc gcggagttgt cgaaggctgc tccggccctg ggggatgggg agcggaagcc caacgaagtt 120 atcaaattcc tggaagtcta cgaacgcagc ttctgcagga caattgagac cctggtggac 180 attttccagg agtaccctga tgaggtggag tacatattca ggccatcctg tgtgcctctg 240 atgagatgtg cgggttgctg cggcgatgag ggcctagaat gtgtccctgt ggatgtgtac 300 aacgtcacga tggagatcgc aagaattaaa ccccatcaga gtcagcacat agcgcacatg 360 - agcttcttac agcacagtaa atgtgactgc agaccaaaga aagatgtcaa aaataaacaa 420 gaaaaaaat caaagcgagg aaaggggaag ggtcaaaaga gaaagcgcaa gaaaggccgg 480 tacaaaccac ccagctttca ctgtgagcct tgctcagaga ggagaaagca cttgtttgta 540 caagateecc agacetgtaa atgtteetge aaatteacag acteacgttg caagtegagg 600 cagettgagt taaacgageg caettgeaga tgtgaaaaac eggaeggtg a 651 <210> 30 <211> 216 <212> PRT <213> Gallus gallus <400> 30 Met Asn Phe Leu Leu Thr Trp Ile His Trp Gly Leu Ala Ala Leu Leu 1 5 10 15 Tyr Leu Gln Ser Ala Glu Leu Ser Lys Ala Ala Pro Ala Leu Gly Asp 20 25 30

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Ser	Cys 50	Val	Pro	Leu	Met	Arg 55	Cys	Ala	Gly	Cys	Cys 60	Asn	Asp	Glu	Ala	
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Ser Cys Val Pro 50	o Leu Met Arg 55	Cys Gly Gly	Cys Cys Asn 60	Asp Glu Gly
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Arg Ile Lys Pro His Gln Gly Gln His Ile Gly Glu Met Ser Phe Leu 85 90 95 Gln'His Asn Lys Cys Glu Cys Arg Pro Lys Lys Asp Arg Ala Arg Gln 100 105 110 Glu Asn Pro Cys Gly Pro Cys Ser Glu Arg Arg Lys His Leu Phe Val 115 120 125 Gln Asp Pro Gln Thr Cys Lys Cys Ser Cys Lys Asn Thr Asp Ser Arg 130 135 140 Cys Lys Ala Arg Gln Leu Glu Leu Asn Glu Arg Thr Cys Arg Cys Asp 145 150 155 160 Lys Pro Arg Arg <210> 41 <211> 573 <212> DNA <213> Rattus norvegicus <400> 41 atgaacttte tgetetettg ggtgeactgg accetggett taetgetgta eeteeaceat 60 gccaagtggt cccaggctgc acccacgaca gaaggggagc agaaagccca tgaagtggtg 120 aagttcatgg acgtctacca gcgcagctat tgccgtccga ttgagaccct ggtggacatc 180 ttccaggagt accccgatga gatagagtat atcttcaagc cgtcctgtgt gcccctaatg 240 cggtgtgcgg gctgctgcaa tgatgaagcc ctggagtgcg tgcccacgtc ggagagcaac 300 gtcactatgc agatcatgcg gatcaaacct caccaaagcc agcacatagg agagatgagc 360 ttcctgcagc atagcagatg tgaatgcaga ccaaagaaag atagaacaaa gccagaaaat 420 cactgtgagc cttgttcaga gcggagaaag catttgtttg tccaagatcc gcagacgtgt 480 aaatgtteet geaaaaacae agaetegegt tgeaaggega ggeagettga gttaaaegaa 540 cgtacttgca gatgtgacaa gccaaggcgg tga 573 <210> 42 <211> 214 <212> PRT <213> Rattus norvegicus <400> 42 Met Asn Phe Leu Leu Ser Trp Val His Trp Thr Leu Ala Leu Leu Leu 1 5 10 15

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ttcc	agga	gt a	ccca	gatg	a ga	ttga	gttc	att	ttca	agc	cgtc	ctgt	gt g	cccc	tgatg

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cggt	gcg	ggg	gctg	ctgt	aa t	gacga	aaag	t ct	ggag	tgtg	tgc	ccac	tga	ggag	ttcaac	30	0	
atcad	ccat	:gc	agat	tatg	cg g	atca	aacc	t ca	ссаа	agcc	agc	acat	agg	agag	atgagt	36	0	
ttcci	taca	agc	ataa	caaa	tg t	gaat	gcag	a cc	aaag	aaag	ata	aagc	aag	gcaa	gaaaaa	42	0	
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Met A 1	Asn	Phe	Leu	Leu 5	Ser	Trp	Val	His	Trp 10	Ser	Leu	Ala	Leu	Leu 15	Leu			
Tyr I	Leu	His	His 20	Ala	Lys	Trp	Ser	Gln 25	Ala	Ala	Pro	Met	Ala 30	Glu	Gly			
Gly G	Gln	Lys 35	Pro	His	Glu	Val	Met 40	Lys	Phe	Met	Asp	Val 45	Tyr	Gln	Arg			
Ser E	Phe 50	Cys	Arg	Pro	Ile	Glu 55	Thr	Leu	Val	Asp	Ile 60	Phe	Gln	Glu	Tyr		<b>-</b>	
Pro A 65 -	lsp	Glu	Ile	Glu	Phe 70	Ile	Phe	Lys	Pro	Ser 75	Cys	Val	Pro	Leu	Met 80			
Arg <u>(</u>	Cys	Gly	Gly	Cys 85	Cys	Asn	Asp	Glu	Ser 90	Leu	Glu	Cys	Val	Pro 95	Thr			
Glu G	Ju	Phe	Asn 100	Ile	Thr	Met	Gln	Ile 105	Met	Arg	Ile	Lys	Pro 110	His	Gln			
Ser G	ln	His 115	Ile	Gly	Glu	Met	Ser 120	Phe	Leu	Gln	His	Asn 125	Lys	Cys	Glu			
Cys A 1	1rg .30	Pro	Lys	Lys	Asp	Lys 135	Ala	Arg	Gln	Glu	Lys 140	Cys	Asp	Lys	Pro			
Arg A 145	rg																	
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Ser Cys Val Pro Leu Met Arg Cys Gly Gly Cys Cys Asn Asp Glu Ser 50 55 60	
Leu Glu Cys Val Pro Thr Glu Glu Phe Asn Ile Thr Met Gln Ile Met 65	
Arg Ile Lys Pro His Gln Ser Gln His Ile Gly Glu Met Ser Phe Leu 85 90 95	
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Glu Lys Cys Asp Lys Pro Arg Arg 115 120	
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Arg Lys Val Val Ser Trp Ile Asp Val Tyr Thr Arg Ala Thr Cys Gln 35 40 45	
Pro Arg Glu Val Val Val Pro Leu Thr Val Glu Leu Met Gly Thr Val 50 55 60	
Ala Lys Gln Leu Val Pro Ser Cys Val Thr Val Gln Arg Cys Gly Gly 65 70 75 80	

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010	Cys	Prc	) Asp	Asp 85	Gly	Leu	Glu	Суз	Val 90	Pro	Thr	Gly	Gln	His 95	Gln	
Val	Arg	Met	Gln 100	Ile	Leu	Met	Ile	Arg 105	Tyr	Pro	Ser	Ser	Gln 110	Leu	Gly	
Glu	Met	Ser 115	Leu	Glu	Glu	His	Ser 120	Gln	Cys	Glu	Cys	Arg 125	Pro	Lys	Lys	
Lys	Asp 130		Ala	Val	Lys	Pro 135	Asp	Ser	Pro	Arg	Pro 140	Leu	Cys	Pro	Arg	
Cys 145	Thr	Gln	His	His	Gln 150	Arg	Pro	Asp	Pro	Arg 155	Thr	Cys	Arg	Cys	Arg 160	
Cys	Arg	Arg	Arg	Ser 165	Phe	Leu	Arg	Cys	Gln 170	Gly	Arg	Gly	Leu	Glu 175	Leu	
Asn	Pro	Asp	Thr 180	Cys	Arg	Cys	Arg	Lys 185	Leu	Arg	Arg					
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	100		105	110	
Lys Pro Asp 115	Ser Pro Ar	g Pro Leu 120	Cys Pro Arg	Cys Thr Gln His Hi 125	S
Gln Arg Pro 130	Asp Pro Ar	g Thr Cys 135	Arg Cys Arg	Cys Arg Arg Arg Se 140	r
Phe Leu Arg 145	Cys Gln Gl 15		Leu Glu Leu 155	Asn Pro Asp Thr Cy 16	
Arg Cys Arg	Lys Leu Ar 165	g Arg			
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Ala Pro Ala	Gln Ala Pro 20	) Val Ser	Gln Pro Asp 2 25	Ala Pro Gly His Glr 30	n
Arg Lys Val 35	Val Ser Trp	o Ile Asp 40	Val-Tyr Thr 2	Arg Ala Thr Cys Glr 45	n
Pro Arg Glu 50	Val Val Val	Pro Leu 55		Seu Met Gly Thr Val 60	L
Ala Lys Gln 65	Leu Val Pro 70	) Ser Cys	Val Thr Val ( 75	Gln Arg Cys Gly Gly 80	ł
Cys Cys Pro	Asp Asp Gly 85	Leu Glu	Cys Val Pro 5 90	hr Gly Gln His Glr 95	1
Val Arg Met	Gln Ile Leu 100	Met Ile	Arg Tyr Pro S 105	Ger Ser Gln Leu Gly 110	7
Glu Met Ser 115	Leu Glu Glu	His Ser 120	Gln Cys Glu (	ys Arg Pro Lys Lys 125	5
Lys Asp Ser 130	Ala Val Lys	Pro Asp 135		'hr Pro His His Arg 40	I

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Pro Gln 145	Pro A:	g Ser	Val 150	Pro	Gly	Trp	Asp	Ser 155	Ala	Pro	Gly	Ala	Pro 160
Ser Pro	Ala As	p Ile 165	Thr	His	Pro	Thr	Pro 170	Ala	Pro	Gly	Pro	Ser 175	Ala
His Ala	Ala Pr 18		Thr	Thr	Ser	Ala 185	Leu	Thr	Pro	Gly	Pro 190	Ala	Ala
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Pro Val 1		n Pro 5	Asp	Ala	Pro	Gly	His 10	Gln	Arg	Lys	Val	Val 15	Ser
Trp Ile	Asp Va 20		Thr	Arg	Ala	Thr 25	Cys	Gln	Pro	Arg	Glu 30	Val	Val
Val Pro -	Leu Th 35	r Val	Glu	Leu	Met 40	Gly	Thr	Val	Ala	Lys 45	Gln	Leu	Val
Pro Ser 50_	Cys Va	l Thr		Gln 55	Arg	Cys	Gly	Gly	Cys 60	Cys	Pro	Asp	Asp
Gly Leu 65	Glu Cy	s Val	Pro 70	Thr	Gly	Gln	His	Gln 75	Val	Arg	Met	Gln	Ile 80
Leu Met	Ile Ar	g Tyr 85	Pro	Ser	Ser	Gln	Leu 90	Gly	Glu	Met	Ser	Leu 95	Glu
Glu His	Ser Gl 10	n Cys 0	Glu	Cys	Arg	Pro 105	Lys	Lys	Lys	Asp	Ser 110	Ala	Val
Lys Pro	Asp Ar 115	g Ala	Ala '		Pro 120	His	His	Arg	Pro	Gln 125	Pro	Arg	Ser
Val Pro 130	Gly Tr	o Asp		Ala 135	Pro	Gly	Ala	Pro	Ser 140	Pro	Ala	Asp	Ile
Thr His	Pro Th	r Pro	Ala 1	Pro	Gly	Pro	Ser	Ala	His	Ala	Ala	Pro	Ser

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Ser	Thr	Ser	Tyr 180		Ser	Lys	Thr	Leu 185		e Glu	Ile	Thr	Val 190		Leu	
Ser	Gln	Gly 195	Pro	Lys	Pro	Val	Thr 200		Ser	Phe	Ala	Asn 205	His	Thr	Ser	
Cys	Arg 210		Met	Ser	Lys	Leu 215	Asp	Val	Tyr	Arg	Gln 220	Val	His	Ser	Ile	
Ile 225	Arg	Arg	Ser	Leu	Pro 230	Ala	Thr	Leu	Pro	Gln 235	Cys	Gln	Ala	Ala	Asn 240	
Lys	Thr	Cys	Pro	Thr 245	Asn	Tyr	Met	Trp	Asn 250	Asn	His	Ile	Cys	Arg 255	Cys	
Leu	Ala	Gln	Glu 260	Asp	Phe	Met	Phe	Ser 265	Ser	Asp	Ala	Gly	Asp 270	Asp	Ser	
Thr	Asp	Gly 275	Phe	His	Asp	Ile	Cys 280	Gly	Pro	Asn	Lys	Glu 285	Leu	Asp	Glu	
Glu	Thr 290	Cys	Gln	Суз	Val	Cys 295	Arg	Ala	Gly	Leu	Arg 300	Pro	Ala	Ser	Cys	
Gly 305	Pro	His	Lys	Glu	Leu 310	Asp	Arg	Asn	Ser	Cys 315	Gln	Cys	Val	Cys	Lys 320	-
Asn	Lys	Leu	Phe	Pro 325	Ser	Gln	Cys	Gly	Ala 330	Asn	Arg	Glu	Phe	Asp 335	Glu	-
Asn	Thr	Cys	Gln 340							Cys		Arg			Pro	
Leu	Asn	Pro 355	Gly	Lys	Cys	Ala	Cys 360	Glu	Cys	Thr	Glu	Ser 365	Pro	Gln	Lys	
Cys	Leu 370	Leu	Lys	Gly	Lys	Lys 375	Phe	His	His	Gln	Thr 380	Cys	Ser	Cys	Tyr	
Arg 385	Arg	Pro	Cys	Thr	Asn 390	Arg	Gln	Lys	Ala	Cys 395	Glu	Pro	Gly	Phe	Ser 400	
Tyr	Ser	Glu	Glu	Val 405	Cys	Arg	Cys	Val	Pro 410	Ser	Tyr	Trp	Lys	Arg 415	Pro	

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Gln Met Ser <210> 52 <211> 354 <212> PRT <213> Homo sapiens <400> 52 Met Tyr Arg Glu Trp Val Val Val Asn Val Phe Met Met Leu Tyr Val Gln Leu Val Gln Gly Ser Ser Asn Glu His Gly Pro Val Lys Arg Ser - 30 Ser Gln Ser Thr Leu Glu Arg Ser Glu Gln Gln Ile Arg Ala Ala Ser Ser Leu Glu Glu Leu Leu Arg Ile Thr His Ser Glu Asp Trp Lys Leu Trp Arg Cys Arg Leu Arg Leu Lys Ser Phe Thr Ser Met Asp Ser Arg Ser Ala Ser His Arg Ser Thr Arg Phe Ala Ala Thr Phe Tyr Asp Ile Glu Thr Leu Lys Val Ile Asp Glu Glu Trp Gln Arg Thr Gln Cys Ser Pro Arg Glu Thr Cys Val Glu Val Ala Ser Glu Leu Gly Lys Ser Thr Asn Thr Phe Phe Lys Pro Pro Cys Val Asn Val Phe Arg Cys Gly Gly Cys Cys Asn Glu Glu Ser Leu Ile Cys Met Asn Thr Ser Thr Ser Tyr Ile Ser Lys Gln Leu Phe Glu Ile Ser Val Pro Leu Thr Ser Val Pro Glu Leu Val Pro Val Lys Val Ala Asn His Thr Gly Cys Lys Cys Leu Pro Thr Ala Pro Arg His Pro Tyr Ser Ile Ile Arg Arg Ser Ile Gln 

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Ile Pro 210	o Glu )	Glu	Asp	Arg	Cys 215	Ser	His	Ser	Lys	Lys 220	Leu	Cys	Pro	Ile
Asp Met 225	: Leu	Trp	Asp	Ser 230	Asn	Lys	Cys	Lys	Cys 235	Val	Leu	Gln	Glu	Glu 240
Asn Pro	) Leu	Ala	Gly 245	Thr	Glu	Asp	His	Ser 250	His	Leu	Gln	Glu	Pro 255	Ala
Leu Cys	3 Gly	Pro 260	His	Met	Met	Phe	Asp 265	Glu	Asp	Arg	Суз	Glu 270	Cys	Val
Cys Lys	Thr 275	Pro	Cys	Pro	Lys	Asp 280	Leu	Ile	Gln	His	Pro 285	Lys	Asn	Cys
Ser Cys 290		Glu	Cys	Lys	Glu 295	Ser	Leù	Glu	Thr	Cys 300	Cys	Gln	Lys	His
Lys Leu 305	Phe	His	Pro	Asp 310	Thr	Cys	Ser	Cys	Glu 315	Asp	Arg	Cys	Pro	Phe 320
His Thr	· Arg	Pro	Cys 325	Ala	Ser	Gly	Lys	Thr 330	Ala	Cys	Ala	Lys	His 335	Cys
Arg Phe	₽ro	Lys 340	Glu	Lys	Arg	Ala	Ala 345	Gln	Gly	Pro	His	Ser 350	Arg	Lys
Asn Prc	-													
<212>	53 149 PRT Homo	sapi	.ens											
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Met Pro 1	Val	Met	Arg 5	Leu	Phe	Pro	Cys	Phe 10	Leu	Gln	Leu	Leu	Ala 15	Gly
Leu Ala	Leu	Pro 20	Ala	Val	Pro	Pro	Gln 25	Gln	Trp	Ala	Leu	Ser 30	Ala	Gly
Asn Gly	Ser 35	Ser	Glu	Val	Glu	Val 40	Val	Pro	Phe	Gln	Glu 45	Val	Trp	Gly

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Arg Ser Tyr Cys Arg Ala Leu Glu Arg Leu Val Asp Val Val Ser Glu Tyr Pro Ser Glu Val Glu His Met Phe Ser Pro Ser Cys Val Ser Leu Leu Arg Cys Thr Gly Cys Cys Gly Asp Glu Asn Leu His Cys Val Pro Val Glu Thr Ala Asn Val Thr Met Gln Leu Leu Lys Ile Arg Ser Gly Asp Arg Pro Ser Tyr Val Glu Leu Thr Phe Ser Gln His Val Arg Cys 115 120 Glu Cys Arg Pro Leu Arg Glu Lys Met Lys Pro Glu Arg Cys Gly Asp 135 140 Ala Val Pro Arg Arg <210> 54 <211> 131 <212> PRT <213> Homo sapiens <400> 54 Leu Pro Ala Val Pro Pro Gln Gln Trp Ala Leu Ser Ala Gly Asn Gly Ser Ser Glu Val Glu Val Val Pro Phe Gln Glu Val Trp Gly Arg Ser Tyr Cys Arg Ala Leu Glu Arg Leu Val Asp Val Val Ser Glu Tyr Pro Ser Glu Val Glu His Met Phe Ser Pro Ser Cys Val Ser Leu Leu Arg Cys Thr Gly Cys Cys Gly Asp Glu Asn Leu His Cys Val Pro Val Glu Thr Ala Asn Val Thr Met Gln Leu Leu Lys Ile Arg Ser Gly Asp Arg Pro Ser Tyr Val Glu Leu Thr Phe Ser Gln His Val Arg Cys Glu Cys 

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Arg Pro Leu Arg Glu Lys Met Lys Pro Glu Arg Cys Gly Asp Ala Val Pro Arg Arg <210> 55 <211> 170 <212> PRT <213> Homo sapiens <400> 55 Met Pro Val Met Arg Leu Phe Pro Cys Phe Leu Gln Leu Leu Ala Gly Leu Ala Leu Pro Ala Val Pro Pro Gln Gln Trp Ala Leu Ser Ala Gly Asn Gly Ser Ser Glu Val Glu Val Val Pro Phe Gln Glu Val Trp Gly Arg Ser Tyr Cys Arg Ala Leu Glu Arg Leu Val Asp Val Val Ser Glu Tyr Pro Ser Glu Val Glu His Met Phe Ser Pro Ser Cys Val Ser Leu - · Leu Arg Cys Thr Gly Cys Cys Gly Asp Glu Asn Leu His Cys Val Pro Val Glu Thr Ala Asn Val Thr Met Gln Leu Leu Lys Ile Arg Ser Gly Asp Arg Pro Ser Tyr Val Glu Leu Thr Phe Ser Gln His Val Arg Cys Glu Cys Arg Pro Leu Arg Glu Lys Met Lys Pro Glu Arg Arg Arg Pro Lys Gly Arg Gly Lys Arg Arg Arg Glu Lys Gln Arg Pro Thr Asp Cys His Leu Cys Gly Asp Ala Val Pro Arg Arg 

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Ser	Ser	Glu	Val 20	Glu	Val	Val	Pro	Phe 25	Gln	Glu	Val	Trp	Gly 30	Arg	Ser
Tyr	Cys	Arg 35	Ala	Leu	Glu	Arg	Leu 40	Val	Asp	Val	Val	Ser 45	Glu	Tyr	Pro
Ser	Glu 50	Val	Glu	His	Met	Phe 55	Ser	Pro	Ser	Cys	Val 60	Ser	Leu	Leu	Arg
Cys 65	Thr	Gly	Cys	Cys	Gly 70	Asp	Glu	Asn	Leu	His 75	Cys	Val	Pro	Val	Glu 80
Thr	Ala	Asn	Val	Thr 85	Met	Gln	Leu	Leu	Lys 90	Ile	Arg	Ser	Gly	Asp 95	Arg
Pro	Ser	Tyr	Val 100	Glu	Leu	Thr	Phe	Ser 105	Gln	His	Val	Arg	Cys 110	Glu	Cys
Arg	Pro	Leu 115	Arg	Glu	Lys	Met	Lys 120	Pro	- Glu	Arg	Arg	Arg 125	Pro	Lys	Gly
Arg	Gly 130	Lys	Arg	Arg	Arg	Glu 135	Lys	Gln	Arg	Pro	Thr 140	Asp	Cys	His	Leu
Cys 145	Gly	Asp	Ala	Val	Pro 150	Arg	Arg								
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Met 1	Pro	Val	Met	Arg 5	Leu	Phe	Pro	Cys	Phe 10	Leu	Gln	Leu	Leu	Ala 15	Gly
Leu	Ala	Leu	Pro 20	Ala	Val	Pro	Pro	Gln 25	Gln	Trp	Ala	Leu	Ser 30	Ala	Gly

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Asn Gly Ser Ser Glu Val Glu Val Val Pro Phe Gln Glu Val 5 35 40 45	Trp Gly
Arg Ser Tyr Cys Arg Ala Leu Glu Arg Leu Val Asp Val Val S 50 55 60	Ser Glu
Tyr Pro Ser Glu Val Glu His Met Phe Ser Pro Ser Cys Val S 65 70 75	Ser Leu 80
Leu Arg Cys Thr Gly Cys Cys Gly Asp Glu Asn Leu His Cys V 85 90 9	Val Pro 95
Val Glu Thr Ala Asn Val Thr Met Gln Leu Leu Lys Ile Arg S 100 105 110	Ser Gly
Asp Arg Pro Ser Tyr Val Glu Leu Thr Phe Ser Gln His Val A 115 120 125	∖rg Cys
Glu Cys Arg His Ser Pro Gly Arg Gln Ser Pro Asp Met Pro G · 130 135 140	Gly Asp
Phe Arg Ala Asp Ala Pro Ser Phe Leu Pro Pro Arg Arg Ser I 145 150 155	leu Pro 160
Met Leu Phe Arg Met Glu Trp Gly Cys Ala Leu Thr Gly Ser G - 165 170 1	Sln Ser .75
Ala Val Trp Pro Ser Ser Pro Val Pro Glu Glu Ile Pro Arg M 180 185 190	let His
Pro Gly Arg Asn Gly Lys Lys Gln Gln Arg Lys Pro Leu Arg G 195 200 205	lu Lys
Met Lys Pro Glu Arg Cys Gly Asp Ala Val Pro Arg Arg 210 215 220	
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Ser Ser Glu Val Glu Val Val Pro Phe Gln Glu Val Trp Gly A	rg Ser

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	20	25		30
Tyr Cys Arc 35	g Ala Leu Glu	Arg Leu Val 40	l Asp Val Val Ser 45	Glu Tyr Pro
Ser Glu Val 50	. Glu His Met	Phe Ser Pro 55	o Ser Cys Val Ser 60	Leu Leu Arg
Cys Thr Gly 65	7 Cys Cys Gly 70	Asp Glu Asr	n Leu His Cys Val 75	Pro Val Glu 80
Thr Ala Asr	Val Thr Met 85	Gln Leu Leu	1 Lys Ile Arg Ser 90	Gly Asp Arg 95
Pro Ser Tyr	Val Glu Leu 100	Thr Phe Ser 105	r Gln His Val Arg	Cys Glu Cys 110
Arg His Ser 115	Pro Gly Arg	Gln Ser Pro 120	Asp Met Pro Gly 125	Asp Phe Arg
Ala Asp Ala 130	Pro Ser Phe	Leu Pro Pro 135	Arg Arg Ser Leu 140 -	Pro Met Leu
Phe Arg Met 145	Glu Trp Gly 150	Cys Ala Leu	Thr Gly Ser Gln 155	Ser Ala Val 160
Trp Pro Ser	Ser Pro Val 165	Pro Glu Glu	Ile Pro Arg Met 170	His Pro Gly 175
Arg Asn Gly	Lys Lys Gln 180	Gln Arg Lys 185	Pro Leu Arg Glu	Lys Met Lys 190
Pro Glu Arg 195	Cys Gly Asp	Ala Val Pro 200	Arg Arg	
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Arg Gln Gly	Thr Gln Ala 20	Glu Ser Asn 25	Leu Ser Ser Lys	Phe Gln Phe 30

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Ser	Ser	Asn 35	Lys	Glu	Gln	Asn	Gly 40	Val	Gln	Asp	Pro	Gln 45	His	Glu	Arg		
Ile	Ile 50	Thr	Val	Ser	Thr	Asn 55	Gly	Ser	Ile	His	Ser 60	Pro	Arg	Phe	Pro		
His 65	Thr	Tyr	Pro	Arg	Asn 70	Thr	Val	Leu	Val	Trp 75	Arg	Leu	Val	Ala	Val 80		
Glu	Glu	Asn	Val	Trp 85	Ile	Gln	Leu	Thr	Phe 90	Asp	Glu	Arg	Phe	Gly 95	Leu		
Glu	Asp	Pro	Glu 100	Asp	Asp	Ile	Cys	Lys 105	Tyr	Asp	Phe	Val	Glu 110	Val	Glu		
Glu	Pro	Ser 115	Asp	Gly	Thr	Ile	Leu 120	Gly	Arg	Trp	Cys	Gly 125	Ser	Gly	Thr		
Val	Pro 130	Gly	Lys	Gln	Ile	Ser 135	Lys	Gly	Asn	Gln	Ile 140	Arg	Ile	Arg	Phe		
Val 145	Ser	Asp	Glu	Tyr.	Phe 150	Pro	Ser	Glu	Pro	Gly 155	Phe	Cys	Ile	His	Tyr 160		
Asn	Ile	Val	Met	Pro 165	Gln	Phe	Thr	Glu	Ala 170	Val	Ser	Pro	Ser	Val 175	Leu	-	
Pro	Pro	Ser	Ala 180	Leu	Pro	Leu	Asp	Leu 185	Leu	Asn	Asn	Ala	Ile 190	Thr	Ala	-	
Phe	Ser	Thr 195	Leu	Glu	Asp	Leu	Ile 200			Leu		Pro 205	Glu	Arg	Trp		
Gln	Leu 210	Asp	Leu	Glu	Asp	Leu 215	Tyr	Arg	Pro	Thr	Trp 220	Gln	Leu	Leu	Gly		
Lys 225	Ala	Phe	Val	Phe	Gly 230	Arg	Lys	Ser	Arg	Val 235	Val	Asp	Leu	Asn	Leu 240		
Leu	Thr	Glu	Glu	Val 245	Arg	Leu	Tyr	Ser	Cys 250	Thr	Pro	Arg	Asn	Phe 255	Ser		
Val	Ser	Ile	Arg 260	Glu	Glu	Leu		Arg 265	Thr	Asp	Thr	Ile	Phe 270	Trp	Pro		

	1001							101/052000/0
Gly Cys Leu 275	Leu Val	Lys Arg	Cys ( 280	Gly Gly	Asn C	Cys Ala 285	Cys (	Cys Leu
His Asn Cys 290	Asn Glu	Cys Gln 295		Val Pro	-	ys Val	Thr I	Lys Lys
Tyr His Glu 305	Val Leu	Gln Leu 310	Arg 1	Pro Lys	Thr G 315	ly Val	Arg (	Gly Leu 320
His Lys Ser	Leu Thr 325	Asp Val	Ala 1	Leu Glu 330	His H	is Glu		Cys Asp 335
Cys Val Cys	Arg Gly 340	Ser Thr		Gly 345				
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Lys Glu Gln	Asn Gly 20	Val Gln		Pro Gln 25	His G	lu Arg	Ile I 30	le Thr
Val Ser Thr 35	Asn Gly	Ser Ile	His S 40	Ser Pro	- Arg Pl	he Pro 45	His T	hr Tyr
Pro Arg Asn 50	Thr Val	Leu Val 55	Trp A	Arg Leu	Val A	~	Glu G	lu Asn
Val Trp Ile 65	Gln Leu	Thr Phe 70	Asp G	Glu Arg	Phe G. 75	ly Leu	Glu A	sp Pro 80
Glu Asp Asp	Ile Cys 85	Lys Tyr	Asp F	he Val 90	Glu Va	al Glu	Glu P 9	
Asp Gly Thr	Ile Leu 100	Gly Arg		Cys Gly 105	Ser GI		Val P 110	ro Gly
Lys Gln Ile 115	Ser Lys	Gly Asn	Gln I 120	le Arg	Ile A	rg Phe 125	Val S	er Asp
Glu Tyr Phe 130	Pro Ser	Glu Pro 135	Gly P	he Cys		is Tyr . 40	Asn I.	le Val

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Met Pr 145	o Gln	Phe	Thr	Glu 150	Ala	Val	Ser	Pro	Ser 155	Val	Leu	Pro	Pro	Ser 160
Ala Le	u Pro	Leu	Asp 165	Leu	Leu	Asn	Asn	Ala 170	Ile	Thr	Ala	Phe	Ser 175	Thr
Leu Gl	u Asp	Leu 180	Ile	Arg	Tyr	Leu	Glu 185	Pro	Glu	Arg	Trp	Gln 190	Leu	Asp
Leu Gl	u Asp 195	Leu	Tyr	Arg	Pro	Thr 200	Trp	Gln	Leu	Leu	Gly 205	Lys	Ala	Phe
Val Ph 21		Arg	Lys	Ser	Arg 215	Val	Val	Asp	Leu	Asn 220	Leu	Leu	Thr	Glu
Glu Va 225	l Arg	Leu	Tyr	Ser 230	Cys	Thr	Pro	Arg	Asn 235	Phe	Ser	Val	Ser	Ile 240
Arg Gl	u Glu	Leu	Lys 245	Arg	Thr	Asp	Thr	Ile 250	Phe	Trp	Pro	Gly	Cys 255	Leu
Leu Va	l Lys	Arg 260	Cys	Gly	Gly	Asn	Cys 265	Ala	Cys	Cys	Leu	His 270	Asn	Cys
Asn Gl	u Cys 275	-Gln	Cys	Val	Pro	Ser 280	Lys	Val	Thr	Lys	Lys 285	Tyr	His	Glu
Val Le 29		Leu	Arg	Pro	Lys 295	Thr	Gly	Val	Arg	Gly 300	Leu	His	Lys	Ser
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Tyr	Leu	His	His 20	Ala	Lys	Trp	Ser	Gln 25	Ala	Ala	Pro	Met	Ala 30	Glu	Gly
Gly	Gly	Gln 35	Asn	His	Hìs	Glu	Val 40	Val	Lys	Phe	Met	Asp 45	Val	Tyr	Gln
Arg	Ser 50	Tyr	Cys	His	Pro	Ile 55	Glu	Thr	Leu	Val	Asp 60	Ile	Phe	Gln	Glu
Tyr 65	Pro	Asp	Glu	Ile	Glu 70	Tyr	Ile	Phe	Lys	Pro 75	Ser	Cys	Val	Pro	Leu 80
Met	Arg	Cys	Gly	Gly 85	Cys	Cys	Asn	Asp	Glu 90	Gly	Leu	Glu	Cys	Val 95	Pro
Thr	Glu	Glu	Ser 100	Asn	Ile	Thr	Met	Gln 105	Ile	Met	Arg	Ile	Lys 110	Pro	His
Gln	Gly	Gln 115	His	Ile	Gly	Glu	Met 120	Ser	Phe	Leu	Gln	His 125	Asn	Lys	Cys
Glu	Cys 130	Arg	Pro	Lys	Lys	Asp 135	Arg	Ala	Arg	Gln	Glu 140	Lys -	Cys	Asp	Lys
Pro 145	Arg	Arg													
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Thr	Ser	Pro	Asn	Ile 165		Val	Thr	Leu	Lys 170		Phe	Pro	Leu	Asp 175	
Leu	Ile	Pro	Asp 180	Gly	Lys	Arg	Ile	Ile 185	Trp	Asp	Ser	Arg	Lys 190	Gly	Phe
Ile	Ile	Ser 195	Asn	Ala	Thr	Tyr	Lys 200	Glu	Ile	Gly	Leu	Leu 205		Cys	Glu
Ala	Thr 210		Asn	Gly	His	Leu 215	Tyr	Lys	Thr	Asn	Tyr 220	Leu	Thr	His	Arg
Gln 225	Thr	Asn	Thr	Ile	Ile 230	Asp	Val	Gln	Ile	Ser 235	Thr	Pro	Arg	Pro	Val 240
Lys	Leu	Leu	Arg	Gly 245	His	Thr	Leu	Val	Leu 250	Asn	Cys	Thr	Ala	Thr 255	Thr
Pro	Leu	Asn	Thr 260	Arg	Val	Gln	Met	Thr 265	Trp	Ser	Tyr	Pro	Asp 270	Glu	Lys
		275					Arg 280					285	-		
	290					295	Leu				- 300				
305					310		Arg			315					320
				325			Ile		330					335	
			340				Leu	345					350		
		355					Lys 360					365			
	370					375	Ala				380				
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Gly	Asn	Tyr	Thr	Ile	Leu	Leu	Ser	Ile	Lys	Gln	Ser	Asn	Val	Phe	Lys

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Lys	Ala	Val 435	. Ser	Ser	Phe	Pro	Asp 440		Ala	Leu	Tyr	Pro 445		Gly	Ser
Arg	Gln 450	. Ile	e Leu	Thr	Cys	Thr 455	Ala	Tyr	Gly	Ile	Pro 460	Gln	Pro	Thr	Ile
Lys 465	Trp	Phe	Trp	His	Pro 470	Cys	Asn	His	Asn	His 475	Ser	Glu	Ala	Arg	Cys 480
Asp	Phe	Cys	Ser	Asn 485	Asn	Glu	Glu	Ser	Phe 490	Ile	Leu	Asp	Ala	Asp 495	Ser
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Glu	Gly	Lys 515	Asn	Lys	Met -	Ala	Ser 520	Thr	Leu	Val	"Val	Ala 525	Asp	Ser	Arg
Ile	Ser 530	Gly	Ile	Tyr	Ile	Cys 535	Ile	Ala	Ser	Asn	Lys 540	Val	Gly	Thr	Val
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Val	Asn	Leu	Glu	Lys 565	Met	Pro	Thr	Glu	Gly 570	Glu	Asp	Leu	Lys	Leu 575	Ser
Cys	Thr	Val	Asn 580	Lys	Phe	Leu	Tyr	Arg 585	Asp	Val	Thr	Trp	Ile 590	Leu	Leu
Arg	Thr	Val 595	Asn	Asn	Arg	Thr	Met 600	His	Tyr	Ser	Ile	Ser 605	Lys	Gln	Lys
Met	Ala 610	Ile	Thr	Lys	Glu	His 615	Ser	Ile	Thr	Leu	Asn 620	Leu	Thr	Ile	Met
Asn 625	Val	Ser	Leu	Gln	Asp 630	Ser	Gly	Thr	Tyr	Ala 635	Cys	Arg	Ala	Arg	Asn 640
Val	Tyr	Thr	Gly	Glu 645	Glu	Ile	Leu	Gln	Lys 650	Lys	Glu	Ile	Thr	Ile 655	Arg

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Asp	Gln	Glu	Ala 660	Pro	Tyr	Leu	Leu	Arg 665		Leu	Ser	Asp	His 670		Val
Ala	Ile	Ser 675	Ser	Ser	Thr	Thr	Leu 680	Asp	Cys	His	Ala	Asn 685	Gly	Val	Pro
Glu	Pro 690	Gln	Ile	Thr	Trp	Phe 695	Lys	Asn	Asn	His	Lys 700	Ile	Gln	Gln	Glu
Pro 705	Gly	Ile	Ile	Leu	Gly 710	Pro	Gly	Ser	Ser	Thr 715	Leu	Phe	Ile	Glu	Arg 720
Val	Thr	Glu	Glu	Asp 725	Glu	Gly	Val	Tyr	His 730	Cys	Lys	Ala	Thr	Asn 735	Gln
Lys	Gly	Ser	Val 740	Glu	Ser	Ser	Ala	Tyr 745	Leu	Thr	Val	Gln	Gly 750	Thr	Ser
Asp	Lys	Ser 755	Asn	Leu	Glu	Leu	Ile 760	Thr	Leu	Thr	Cys	Thr 765	Cys	Val	Ala
Ala	Thr 770	Leu	Phe	Trp	Leu	Leu 775	Leu	Thr	Leu	Leu	Ile 780	Arg	Lys	Met	Lys
Arg 785	Ser	Ser	Ser	Glu	Ile 790	Lys	Thr	Asp	Tyr	Leu 795	Ser	Ile	Ile	Met	Asp 800
Pro	Asp	Glu	Val	Pro 805	Leu	Asp	Glu	Gln	Cys 810	Glu	- Arg	Leu	Pro	Tyr 815	Asp
Ala	Ser	Lys	Trp 820	Glu			Arg	~ ~ ~	Arg						Ser
Leu	Gly	Arg 835	Gly	Ala	Phe	Gly	Lys 840	Val	Val	Gln	Ala	Ser 845	Ala	Phe	Gly
Ile	Lys 850	Lys	Ser	Pro	Thr	Cys 855	Arg	Thr	Val	Ala	Val 860	Lys	Met	Leu	Lys
Glu 865	Gly	Ala	Thr	Ala	Ser 870	Glu	Tyr	Lys	Ala	Leu 875	Met	Thr	Glu	Leu	Lys 880
Ile	Leu	Thr	His	Ile 885	Gly	His	His	Leu	Asn 890	Val	Val	Asn	Leu	Leu 895	Gly

Ala	Cys	Thr	Lys 900	Gln	Gly	Gly	Pro	Leu 905	Met	Val	Ile Y	Val	Glu 910	Tyr	Cys
Lys	Tyr	Gly 915	Asn	Leu	Ser	Asn	Tyr 920	Leu	Lys	Ser	Lys A	Arg 925	Asp	Leu	Phe
Phe	Leu 930	Asn	Lys	Asp	Ala	Ala 935	Leu	His	Met	Glu	Pro 1 940	jàr	Lys	Glu	Lys
Met 945	Glu	Pro	Gly	Leu	Glu 950	Gln	Gly	Lys	Lys	Pro 955	Arg I	Leu	Asp	Ser	Val 960
Thr	Ser	Ser	Glu	Ser 965	Phe	Ala	Ser	Ser	Gly 970	Phe	Gln (	Glu .	Asp	Lys 975	Ser
Leu	Ser	Asp	Val 980	Glu	Glu	Glu	Glu	Asp 985	Ser	Asp	Gly B		Tyr 990	Lys	Glu
Pro	Ile	Thr 995	Met	Glu	Asp		Ile 1000		Tyr	Ser	Phe	Gln 100		il A	la Arg
Gly	Met 1010		ı Phe	e Leu	Ser	Ser 101		g Ly	's Cy	s Il	e His 102		rg A	sp :	Leu
Ala	Ala 1025	Arg	Asn -	. Ile	Leu	Leu 103		er Gl	u As	n As	n Val 103		al I	ys :	Ile
Cys	Asp 1040		Gly	Leu	Ala	Arg 104		p Il	е Ту	r Ly	s Asn 105		ro A	.sp !	ſyr
Val	Arg 1055		Gly	Asp	Thr	Arg 106		u Pr	o Le	u Ly	s Trp 106		et A	la 1	Pro
Glu	Ser 1070	Ile	Phe	Asp	Lys	Ile 107		r Se	r Th	r Ly:	s Ser 108		sp V	al :	ſrp
Ser	Tyr 1085	Gly	Val	Leu	Leu	Trp 109		u Il	e Ph	e Se:	r Leu 109		ly G	ly S	Ser
Pro	Tyr 1100		Gly	Val	Gln	Met 110		p Gl	u Asj	p Phe	e Cys 111		er A	rg I	Jeu
Arg	Glu 1115	Gly	Met	Arg	Met	Arg 112		a Pr	o Glı	u Tyi	r Ser 112		ır P	ro G	Glu

Ile	Tyr 1130		Ile	Met	Leu	Asp 1135		Trp	His	Arg	Asp 1140		Lys	Glu
Arg	Pro 1145	Arg	Phe	Ala	Glu	Leu 1150		Glu	Lys	Leu	Gly 1155		Leu	Leu
Gln	Ala 1160	Asn	Val	Gln	Gln	Asp 1165		Lys	Asp	Tyr	Ile 1170	Pro	Ile	Asn
Ala	Ile 1175		Thr	Gly	Asn	Ser 1180		Phe	Thr	Tyr	Ser 1185	Thr	Pro	Ala
Phe	Ser 1190	Glu	Asp	Phe	Phe	Lys 1195	Glu	Ser	Ile	Ser	Ala 1200	Pro	Lys	Phe
Asn	Ser 1205	Gly	Ser	Ser	Asp	Asp 1210	Val	Arg	Tyr	Val	Asn 1215	Ala	Phe	Lys
Phe	Met 1220	Ser	Leu	Glu	Arg	Ile 1225	Lys	Thr	Phe	Glu	Glu 1230	Leu	Leu	Pro
Asn	Ala 1235	Thr	Ser	Met	Phe	Asp 1240	Asp	Tyr	Gln	Gly	Asp 1245		Ser	Thr
Leu	Leu 1250	Ala	Ser	Pro	Met	Leu 1255	Lys	Arg	Phe	Thr	Trp 1260	Thr	Asp	Ser
Lys	Pro 1265	Lys	Ala	Ser	Leu	Lys 1270	Ile	Asp	Leu	Arg	Val 1275	Thr	Ser	Lys
	Lys 1280	Glu	Ser	Gly	Leu	Ser 1285	Asp				Pro 1290		Phe	Cys
His	Ser 1295	Ser	Cys	Gly	His	Val 1300	Ser	Glu	Gly	Lys	Arg 1305	Arg	Phe	Thr
Tyr	Asp 1310	His	Ala	Glu	Leu	Glu 1315	Arg	Lys	Ile	Ala	Cys 1320	Cys	Ser	Pro
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Arg	Leu	Ser 35	Ile	Gln	Lys	Asp	Ile 40	Leu	Thr	Ile	Lys	Ala 45	Asn	Thr	Thr
Leu	Gln 50	Ile	Thr	Cys	Arg	Gly 55	Gln	Arg	Asp	Leu	Asp 60	Trp	Leu	Trp	Pro
Asn 65	Asn	Gln	Ser	Gly	Ser 70	Glu	Gln	Arg	Val	Glu 75	Val	Thr	Glu	Cys	Ser 80
Asp	Gly	Leu	Phe	Cys 85	Lys	Thr	Leu	Thr	Ile 90	Pro	Lys	Val	Ile	Gly 95	Asn
Asp	Thr	Gly	Ala 100	Tyr	Lys	Cys	Phe	Tyr 105	Arg	Glu	Thr	Asp	Leu 110	Ala	Ser
Val	Ile	Tyr 115	Val	Tyr	Val	- Gln	Asp 120	Tyr	Arg	Ser	Pro	Phe 125	Ile	Ala	Ser
Val	Ser 130	Asp	Gln	His	Gly	Val 135	Val	Tyr	Ile	Thr	Glu 140	Asn	Lys	Asn	Lys
Thr 145	Val	Val	Ile	Pro	Cys 150	Leu	Gly	Ser	Ile	Ser 155	Asn	Leu	Asn	Val	Ser 160
Leu	Cys	Ala	Arg	Tyr 165	Pro	Glu	Lys	Arg	Phe 170	Val	Pro	Asp	Gly	Asn 175	Arg
Ile	Ser	Trp	Asp 180	Ser	Lys	Lys	Gly	Phe 185	Thr	Ile	Pro	Ser	Tyr 190	Met	Ile
Ser	Tyr	Ala 195	Gly	Met	Val	Phe	Cys 200	Glu	Ala	Lys	Ile	Asn 205	Asp	Glu	Ser
Tyr	Gln 210	Ser	Ile	Met		Ile 215	Val	Val	Val		Gly 220	Tyr	Arg	Ile	Tyr
Asp 225	Val	Val	Leu	Ser	Pro 230	Ser	His	Gly	Ile	Glu 235	Leu	Ser	Val	Gly	Glu 240

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	Lys	Leu	Val	Leu	Asn 245		Thr	Ala	Arg	Thr 250		Leu	Asn	Val	Gly 255	
	Asp	Phe	Asn	Trp 260	Glu	Tyr	Pro	Ser	Ser 265		His	Gln	His	Lys 270	Lys	Leu
	Val	Asn	Arg 275	Asp	Leu	Lys	Thr	Gln 280	Ser	Gly	Ser	Glu	Met 285	Lys	Lys	Phe
	Leu	Ser 290	Thr	Leu	Thr	Ile	Asp 295	Gly	Val	Thr	Arg	Ser 300	Asp	Gln	Gly	Leu
	Tyr 305	Thr	Cys	Ala	Ala	Ser 310	Ser	Gly	Leu	Met	Thr 315	Lys	Lys	Asn	Ser	Thr 320
	Phe	Val	Arg	Val	His 325	Glu	Lys	Pro	Phe	Val 330	Ala	Phe	Gly	Ser	Gly 335	Met
	Glu	Ser	Leu	Val 340	Glu	Ala	Thr	Val	Gly 345	Glu	Arg	Val	Arg	Ile 350	Pro	Ala
-	Lys	Tyr	Leu 355	Gly	Tyr	Pro	Pro	Pro 360	Glu	Ile	Lys	Trp	Tyr 365	Lys	Asn	Gly
	Ile	Pro 370	Leu	Glu	Ser	Asn	His 375	Thr	Ile	Lys	Ala	Gly 380	His	Val	Leu	Thr
	Ile 385	Met	Glu	Val	Ser	Glu 390	Arg	Asp	Thr	Gly	Asn 395	Tyŗ	Thr	Val	Ile	Leu 400
	Thr	Asn	Pro	Ile	Ser 405		Glu	Lys		Ser 410		Val	Val	Ser	Leu 415	Val
	Val	Tyr	Val	Pro 420	Pro	Gln	Ile	Gly	Glu 425	Lys	Ser	Leu	Ile	Ser 430	Pro	Val
	Asp	Ser	Tyr 435	Gln	Tyr	Gly	Thr	Thr 440	Gln	Thr	Leu	Thŗ	Cys 445	Thr	Val	Tyr
	Ala	Ile 450	Pro	Pro	Pro	His	His 455	Ile	His	Trp	Tyr	Trp 460	Gln	Leu	Glu	Glu
	Glu 465	Cys	Ala	Asn	Glu	Pro 470	Ser	Gln	Ala	Val	Ser 475	Val	Thr	Asn	Pro	Tyr 480

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Pro	Cys	Glu	Glu	Trp 485	Arg	Ser	Val	Glu	Asp 490	Phe	Gln	Gly	Gly	Asn 495	-
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Thr	Val	Ser 515	Thr	Leu	Val	Ile	Gln 520	Ala	Ala	Asn	Val	Ser 525	Ala	Leu	Туг
Lys	Cys 530	Glu	Ala	Val	Asn	Lys 535	Val	Gly	Arg	Gly	Glu 540	Arg	Val	Ile	Ser
Phe 545	His	Val	Thr	Arg	Gly 550	Pro	Glu	Ile	Thr	Leu 555	Gln	Pro	Asp	Met	Gln 560
Pro	Thr	Glu	Gln	Glu 565	Ser	Val	Ser	Leu	Trp 570	Cys	Thr	Ala	Asp	Arg 575	Ser
Thr	Phe	Glu	Asn 580	Leu	Thr	Trp	Tyr	Lys 585	Leu	Gly	Pro	Gln	Pro 590	Leu	Pro
Ile	His	Val 595	Gly	Glu	Leu	Pro	Thr 600	Pro	Val	Cys	Lys	Asn 605	Leu	Asp	Thr
Leu	Trp 610	Lys	Leu	Asn -	Ala	Thr 615	Met	Phe	Ser	Asn	Ser 620	Thr	Asn	Asp	Ile
Leu 625	Ile	Met	Glu	Leu -	Lys 630	Asn	Ala	Ser	Leu	Gln 635	Asp	Gln	Gly	Asp	Tyr 640
Val	Cys	Leu		Gln 645		Arg		Thr		Lys	Arg	His	Cys	Val 655	Val
Arg	Gln	Leu	Thr 660	Val	Leu	Glu	Arg	Val 665	Ala	Pro	Thr	Ile	Thr 670	Gly	Asn
Leu	Glu	Asn 675	Gln	Thr	Thr	Ser	Ile 680	Gly	Glu	Ser	Ile	Glu 685	Val	Ser	Cys
Thr	Ala 690	Ser	Gly	Asn	Pro	Pro 695	Pro	Gln	Ile	Met	Trp 700	Phe	Lys	Asp	Asn
Glu 705	Thr	Leu	Val	Glu	Asp 710	Ser	Gly	Ile	Val	Leu 715	Lys	Asp	Gly	Asn	Arg 720
Asn	Leu	Thr	Ile	Arg	Arg	Val	Arg	Lys	Glu	Asp	Glu	Gly	Leu	Tyr	Thr

				725					730					735	
Cys	Gln	Ala	Cys 740	Ser	Val	Leu	Gly	Cys 745	Ala	Lys	Val	Glu	Ala 750	Phe	Phe
Ile	Ile	Glu 755	Gly	Ala	Gln	Glu	Lys 760	Thr	Asn	Leu	Glu	Ile 765	Ile	Ile	Leu
Val	Gly 770	Thr	Ala	Val	Ile	Ala 775	Met	Phe	Phe	Trp	Leu 780	Leu	Leu	Val	Ile
Ile 785	Leu	Arg	Thr	Val	Lys 790	Arg	Ala	Asn	Gly	Gly 795	Glu	Leu	Lys	Thr	Gly 800
Tyr	Leu	Ser	Ile	Val 805	Met	Asp	Pro	Asp	Glu 810	Leu	Pro	Leu	Asp	Glu 815	His
Cys	Glu	Arg	Leu 820	Pro	Tyr	Asp	Ala	Ser 825	Lys	Trp	Glu	Phe	Pro 830	Arg	Asp
Arg	Leu	Lys 835	Leu	Gly	Lys	Pro	Leu 840	Gly	Arg	Gly	Ala	Phe 845	Gly.	Gln	Val
Ile	Glu 850	Ala	Asp	Ala	Phe	Gly 855	Ile	Asp	Lys	Thr	Ala 860	Thr	Cys	Arg	Thr
Val 865	Ala	Val	Lys	Met	Leu 870	Lys	Glu	Gly	Ala	Thr 875	His	Ser	Glu	His	Arg 880
Ala	Leu	Met	Ser	Glu 885	Leu	Lys	Ile	Leu	Ile 890	His	Ile	Gly	His	His 895	Leu
Asn	Val	Val	Asn 900	Leu	Leu	Gly	Ala	Cys 905	Thr	Lys	Pro	Gly	Gly 910	Pro	Leu
Met	Val	Ile 915	Val	Glu	Phe	Cys	Lys 920	Phe	Gly	Asn	Leu	Ser 925	Thr	Tyr	Leu
Arg	Ser 930	Lys	Arg	Asn	Glu	Phe 935	Val	Pro	Tyr	Lys	Thr 940	Lys	Gly	Ala	Arg
Phe 945	Arg	Gln	Gly	Lys	Asp 950	Tyr	Val	Gly	Ala	Ile 955	Pro	Val	Asp	Leu	Lys 960
Arg	Arg	Leu	Asp	Ser 965	Ile	Thr	Ser	Ser	Gln 970	Ser	Ser	Ala	Ser	Ser 975	Gly

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Phe	Val	Glu	Glu 980	Lys	Ser	Leu S		sp V 85	al G	lu G	lu Gl	u Gl 99		a Pro
Glu	-	Leu 995	Tyr	Lys	Asp	Phe L 1	eu 000	Thr	Leu	Glu		eu 005	Ile (	Cys Tyr
Ser	Phe 1010		. Val	Ala	Lys	Gly 1015		Glu	Phe	Leu	Ala 1020		Arg	Lys
Cys	Ile 1025		Arg	Asp	Leu	Ala 1030		Arg	Asn	Ile	Leu 1035	Leu	Ser	Glu
Lys	Asn 1040		Val	Lys	Ile	Cys 1045		Phe	Gly	Leu	Ala 1050	-	Asp	Ile
Tyr	Lys 1055		Pro	Asp	Tyr	Val 1060	Arg	Lys	Gly	Asp	Ala 1065	Arg	Leu	Pro
Leu	Lys 1070		Met	Ala	Pro	Glu 1075	Thr	Ile	Phe	Asp	Arg 1080	Val	Tyr	Thr
Ile	Gln 1085	Ser	Asp	Val	Trp	- Ser 1090	Phe	Gly	Val	Leu	Leu 1095	Trp	Glu	Ile
Phe.	Ser 1100	Leu	Gly	Ala	Ser	Pro 1105	Tyr	Pro	Gly	Val	Lys 1110	Ile	Asp	Glu
Glu	Phe 1115	Cys	Arg	Arg	Leu	Lys 1120	Glu	Gly	Thr	Arg	Met 1125	Arg	Ala	Pro
Asp	Tyr 1130	Thr	Thr	Pro	Glu	Met 1135	Tyr	Gln	Thr	Met	Leu 1140	Asp	Cys	Trp
His	Gly 1145	Glu	Pro	Ser	Gln	Arg 1150	Pro	Thr	Phe	Ser	Glu 1155	Leu	Val	Glu
His	Leu 1160	Gly	Asn	Leu	Leu	Gln 1165	Ala	Asn	Ala	Gln	Gln 1170	Asp	Gly	Lys
Asp	Tyr 1175	lle	Val	Leu	Pro	Ile 1180	Ser	Glu	Thr	Leu	Ser 1185	Met	Glu	Glu
Asp	Ser 1190	Gly	Leu	Ser	Leu	Pro 1195	Thr	Ser	Pro	Val	Ser 1200	Cys	Met	Glu

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Glu Glu Glu Val Cys Asp Pro Lys Phe His Tyr Asp Asp 1205 1210 1215	n Thr Ala
Gly Ile Ser Gln Tyr Leu Gln Asn Ser Lys Arg Lys Se: 1220 1225 1230	r Arg Pro
Val Ser Val Lys Thr Phe Glu Asp Ile Pro Leu Glu Glu 1235 1240 1245	u Pro Glu
Val Lys Val Ile Pro Asp Asp Asn Gln Thr Asp Ser Gly 1250 1255 1260	y Met Val
Leu Ala Ser Glu Glu Leu Lys Thr Leu Glu Asp Arg Th 1265 1270 1275	r Lys Leu
Ser Pro Ser Phe Gly Gly Met Val Pro Ser Lys Ser Arg 1280 1285 1290	g Glu Ser
Val Ala Ser Glu Gly Ser Asn Gln Thr Ser Gly Tyr Glr 1295 1300 1305	n Ser Gly
Tyr His Ser Asp Asp Thr Asp Thr Thr Val Tyr Ser Ser 1310 1315 1320	r Glu Glu
Ala Glu Leu Leu Lys Leu Ile Glu Ile Gly Val Gln Thr 1325 1330 1335	r Gly Ser
Thr Ala Gln Ile Leu Gln Pro Asp Ser Gly Thr Thr Leu 1340 1345 1350	ı Ser Ser
Pro Pro Val 1355	
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Leu Leu Asp Gly Leu Val Ser Gly Tyr Ser Met Thr Pro Pr 20 25 30	-
Asn Ile Thr Glu Glu Ser His Val Ile Asp Thr Gly Asp Se	er Leu Ser

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	35					40					45			
Ile Ser 50	Cys	Arg	Gly	Gln	His 55	Pro	Leu	Glu	Trp	Ala 60	Trp	Pro	Gly	Ala
Gln Glu 65	Ala	Pro	Ala	Thr 70	Gly	Asp	Lys	Asp	Ser 75	Glu	Asp	Thr	Gly	Val 80
Val Arg	Asp	Cys	Glu 85	Gly	Thr	Asp	Ala	Arg 90	Pro	Tyr	Cys	Lys	Val 95	Leu
Leu Leu	His	Glu 100	Val	His	Ala	Asn	Asp 105	Thr	Gly	Ser	Tyr	Val 110	Cys	Tyr
Tyr Lys	Tyr 115	Ile	Lys	Ala	Arg	Ile 120	Glu	Gly	Thr	Thr	Ala 125	Ala	Ser	Ser
Tyr Val 130	Phe	Val	Arg	Asp	Phe 135	Glu	Gln	Pro	Phe	Ile 140	Asn	Lys	Pro	Asp
Thr Leu 145	Leu	Val	Asn	Arg 150	Lys	Asp	Ala	Met	Trp 155	Val	Pro	Cys	Leu	Val 160
Ser Ile	Pro	Gly	Leu 165 -	Asn	Val	Thr	Leu	Arg 170	Ser	Gln	Ser	Ser	Val 175	Leu
Trp Pro	Asp	Gly 180	Gln -	Glu	Val	Val	Trp 185	Asp	Asp	Arg	Arg	Gly 190	Met	Leu
Val Ser	Thr 195	Pro	Leu	Leu	His	Asp 200	Ala	Leu	Tyr	Leu	Gln 205	Cys	Glu	Thr
Thr Trp 210	Gly	Asp	Gln	Asp	Phe 215	Leu	Ser	Asn	Pro	Phe 220	Leu	Val	His	Ile
Thr Gly 225	Asn	Glu	Leu	Tyr 230	Asp	Ile	Gln	Leu	Leu 235	Pro	Arg	Lys	Ser	Leu 240
Glu Leu	Leu	Val	Gly 245	Glu	Lys	Leu	Val	Leu 250	Asn	Cys	Thr	Val	Trp 255	Ala
Glu Phe	Asn	Ser 260	Gly	Val	Thr	Phe	Asp 265	Trp	Asp	Tyr	Pro	Gly 270	Lys	Gln
Ala Glu	Arg 275	Gly	Lys	Trp	Val	Pro 280	Glu	Arg	Arg	Ser	Gln 285	Gln	Thr	His

Thr	Glu 290		Ser	Ser	Ile	Leu 295		Ile	His	Asn	Val 300	Ser	Gln	His	Asp
Leu 305	Gly	Ser	Tyr	Val	Cys 310	Lys	Ala	Asn	Asn	Gly 315	Ile	Gln	Arg	Phe	Arg 320
Glu	Ser	Thr	Glu	Val 325	Ile	Val	His	Glu	Asn 330	Pro	Phe	Ile	Ser	Val 335	Glu
Trp	Leu	Lys	Gly 340	Pro	Ile	Leu	Glu	Ala 345	Thr	Ala	Gly	Asp	Glu 350	Leu	Val
Lys	Leu	Pro 355	Val	Lys	Leu	Ala	Ala 360	Tyr	Pro	Pro	Pro	Glu 365	Phe	Gln	Trp
Tyr	Lys 370	Asp	Gly	Lys	Ala	Leu 375	Ser	Gly	Arg	His	Ser 380	Pro	His	Ala	Leu
Val 385	Leu	Lys	Glu	Val	Thr 390	Glu	Ala	Ser	Thr	Gly 395	Thr	Tyr	Thr	Leu	Ala 400
Leu	Trp	Asn	Ser	Ala 405	Ala	Gly	Leu	Arg	Arg 410	Asn	Ile	Ser	Leu	Glu 415	Leu
Val	Val	Asn	Val 420	Pro	Pro	Gln	Ile	His 425	Glu	Lys	Glu	Ala	Ser 430	Ser	Pro
Ser	Ile	Tyr 435	Ser	Arg	His	Ser	Arg 440	Gln	Ala	Leu	Thr	Cys 445	Thr	Ala	Tyr
Gly	Val 450	Pro			Leu			Gln		His			Pro	Trp	Thr
Pro 465	Cys	Lys	Met	Phe	Ala 470	Gln	Arg	Ser	Leu	Arg 475	Arg	Arg	Gln	Gln	Gln 480
Asp	Leu	Met	Pro	Gln 485	Cys	Arg	Asp	Trp	Arg 490	Ala	Val	Thr	Thr	Gln 495	Asp
Ala	Val	Asn	Pro 500	Ile	Glu	Ser	Leu	Asp 505	Thr	Trp	Thr	Glu	Phe 510	Val	Glu
Gly	Lys	Asn 515	Lys	Thr	Val	Ser	Lys 520	Leu	Val	Ile	Gln	Asn 525	Ala	Asn	Val

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Ser	Ala 530	Met	Tyr	Lys	Cys	Val 535		Ser	Asn	Lys	Val 540		Gln	Asp	Glu
Arg 545	Leu	Ile	Tyr	Phe	Туr 550	Val	Thr	Thr	Ile	Pro 555	Asp	Gly	Phe	Thr	Ile 560
Glu	Ser	Lys	Pro	Ser 565	Glu	Glu	Leu	Leu	Glu 570	Gly	Gln	Pro	Val	Leu 575	Leu
Ser	Cys	Gln	Ala 580	Asp	Ser	Tyr	Lys	Tyr 585	Glu	His	Leu	Arg	Trp 590	Tyr	Arg
Leu	Asn	Leu 595	Ser	Thr	Leu	His	Asp 600	Ala	His	Gly	Asn	Pro 605	Leu	Leu	Leu
Asp	Cys 610	Lys	Asn	Val	His	Leu 615	Phe	Ala	Thr	Pro	Leu 620	Ala	Ala	Ser	Leu
Glu 625	Glu	Val	Ala	Pro	Gly 630	Ala	Arg	His	Ala	Thr 635	Leu	Ser	Leu	Ser	Ile 640
Pro	Arg	Val	Ala	Pro 645	Glu	His	-Glu	Gly	His 650	Tyr	Val	Cys	Glu	Val 655	Gln
Asp	Arg	Arg	Ser 660	His	Asp	Lys	His	Cys 665	His	Lys	Lys	Tyr	Leu 670	Ser	Val
Gln	Ala	Leu 675	Glu	Ala	Pro	Arg	Leu 680	Thr	Gln	Asn	Leu	Thr 685	Asp	Leu	Leu
Val	Asn 690	Val			Ser			Met		Cys			Ala	Gly	Ala
His 705	Ala	Pro	Ser	Ile	Val 710	Trp	Tyr	Lys	Asp	Glu 715	Arg	Leu	Leu	Glu	Glu 720
Lys	Ser	Gly	Val	Asp 725	Leu	Ala	Asp	Ser	Asn 730	Gln	Lys	Leu	Ser	Ile 735	Gln
Arg	Val	Arg	Glu 740	Glu	Asp	Ala	Gly	Arg 745	Tyr	Leu	Cys	Ser	Val 750	Cys	Asn
Ala	Lys	Gly 755	Cys	Val	Asn	Ser	Ser 760	Ala	Ser	Val	Ala	Val 765	Glu	Gly	Ser

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	Glu	Asp 770	Lys	Gly	Ser	Met	Glu 775	Ile	Val	Ile	Leu	Val 780	Gly	Thr	Gly	Val
	Ile 785	Ala	Val	Phe	Phe	Trp 790	Val	Leu	Leu	Leu	Leu 795	Ile	Phe	Cys	Asn	Met 800
	Arg	Arg	Pro	Ala	His 805	Ala	Asp	Ile	Lys	Thr 810	Gly	Tyr	Leu	Ser	Ile 815	Ile
	Met	Asp	Pro	Gly 820	Glu	Val	Pro	Leu	Glu 825	Glu	Gln	Cys	Glu	Tyr 830	Leu	Ser
	Tyr	Asp	Ala 835	Ser	Gln	Trp	Glu	Phe 840	Pro	Arg	Glu	Arg	Leu 845	His	Leu	Gly
	Arg	Val 850	Leu	Gly	Tyr	Gly	Ala 855	Phe	Gly	Lys	Val	Val 860	Glu	Ala	Ser	Ala
	Phe 865	Gly	Ile	His	Lys	Gly 870	Ser	Ser	Cys	Asp	Thr 875	Val	Ala	Val	Lys	Met 880
-	Leu	Lys	Glu	Gly	Ala 885	Thr	Ala	Ser	Glu	His 890	Arg	Ala	Leu	Met	Ser 895	Glu
	Leu	Lys	Ile	Leu 900	Ile	His	Ile	Gly	Asn 905	His	Leu	Asn	Val -	Val 910	Asn	Leu
	Leu	Gly	Ala 915	Cys	Thr	Lys	Pro	Gln 920	Gly	Pro	Leu	Met	Val 9 <u>2</u> 5	lle ,	Val	Glu
	Phe	Cys 930	Lys	Tyr	Gly	Asn	Leu 935	Ser	Asn	Phe	Leu	Arg 940	Ala	Lys	Arg	Asp
	Ala 945	Phe	Ser	Pro	Cys	Ala 950	Glu	Lys	Ser	Pro	Glu 955	Gln	Arg	Gly	Arg	Phe 960
	Arg	Ala	Met	Val	Glu 965	Leu	Ala	Arg	Leu	Asp 970	Arg	Arg	Arg	Pro	Gly 975	Ser
	Ser	Asp	Arg	Val 980	Leu	Phe	Ala	Arg	Phe 985	Ser	Lys	Thr	Glu	Gly 990	Gly	Ala
	Arg	Arg	Ala 995	Ser	Pro	Asp	Gln	Glu 1000		a Glu	ı Asp	) Lev	100 Trp		eu Se	er Pro
	Leu	Thr	Met	Glu	ı Asp	) Leu	Val	. Cy	vs Ty	yr Se	er Ph	e Gl	.n V	'al A	la A	rg

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	1010					1015					1020			
	Met 1025	Glu	Phe	Leu	Ala	Ser 1030	Arg	Lys	Cys	Ile	His 1035	Arg	Asp	Leu
	Ala 1040	Arg	Asn	Ile	Leu	Leu 1045	Ser	Glu	Ser	Asp	Val 1050	Val	Lys	Ile
	Asp 1055	Phe	Gly	Leu	Ala	Arg 1060		Ile	Tyr	Lys	Asp 1065	Pro	Asp	Tyr
	Arg 1070	Lys	Gly	Ser	Ala	Arg 1075	Leu	Pro	Leu	Lys	Trp 1080	Met	Ala	Pro
	Ser 1085	Ile	Phe	Asp	Lys	Val 1090	Tyr	Thr	Thr	Gln	Ser 1095	Asp	Val	Trp
	Phe 1100	Gly	Val	Leu	Leu	Trp 1105	Glu	Ile	Phe	Ser	Leu 1110	Gly	Ala	Ser
	Tyr 1115	Pro	Gly	Val	Gln	Ile 1120	Asn	Glu	Glu	Phe	Cys 1125	Gln	Arg	Leu
	Asp 1130	Gly	Thr	Arg	Met	Arg 1135	Ala	Pro	Glu	Leu	Ala 1140	Thr	Pro	Ala
	Arg 1145	Arg	Ile	Met -	Leu	Asn 1150	Cys	Trp	Ser	Gly	Asp 1155	Pro	Lys	Ala
	Pro 1160	Ala	Phe	Ser	Glu	Leu 1165	Val	Glu	Ile	Leu	Gly 1170	Asp	Leu	Leu
	Gly 1175	Arg	Gly	Leu	Gln	Glu 1180	Glu	Glu	Glu	Val	Cys 1185	Met	Ala	Pro
Arg S	Ser 1190	Ser	Gln	Ser	Ser	Glu 1195	Glu	Gly	Ser	Phe	Ser 1200	Gln	Val	Ser
Thr 1	Met 1205	Ala	Leu	His	Ile	Ala 1210	Gln	Ala	Asp	Ala	Glu 1215	Asp	Ser	Pro
Pro S	Ser 1220	Leu	Gln	Arg	His	Ser 1225	Leu	Ala	Ala	Arg	Tyr 1230	Tyr	Asn	Trp
Val S	Ser 1235	Phe	Pro	Gly	Cys	Leu 1240	Ala	Arg	Gly	Ala	Glu 1245	Thr	Arg	Gly

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Ser Ser Arg Met Lys Thr Phe Glu Glu Phe Pro Met Thr Pro Thr Thr Tyr Lys Gly Ser Val Asp Asn Gln Thr Asp Ser Gly Met Val Leu Ala Ser Glu Glu Phe Glu Gln Ile Glu Ser Arg His Arg Gln Glu Ser Gly Phe Arg <210> 68 <211> 923 <212> PRT <213> Homo sapiens <400> 68 Met Glu Arg Gly Leu Pro Leu Leu Cys Ala Val Leu Ala Leu Val Leu Ala Pro Ala Gly Ala Phe Arg Asn Asp Lys Cys Gly Asp Thr Ile Lys Ile Glu Ser Pro Gly Tyr Leu Thr Ser Pro Gly Tyr Pro His Ser Tyr 4.5 His Pro Ser Glu Lys Cys Glu Trp Leu Ile Gln Ala Pro Asp Pro Tyr Gln Arg Ile Met Ile Asn Phe Asn Pro His Phe Asp Leu Glu Asp Arg Asp Cys Lys Tyr Asp Tyr Val Glu Val Phe Asp Gly Glu Asn Glu Asn Gly His Phe Arg Gly Lys Phe Cys Gly Lys Ile Ala Pro Pro Val Val Ser Ser Gly Pro Phe Leu Phe Ile Lys Phe Val Ser Asp Tyr Glu Thr His Gly Ala Gly Phe Ser Ile Arg Tyr Glu Ile Phe Lys Arg Gly 

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Pro 145	Glu	Cys	Ser	Gln	Asn 150		Thr	Thr	Pro	Ser 155		Val	Ile	Lys	Ser 160
Pro	Gly	Phe	Pro	Glu 165	Lys	Tyr	Pro	Asn	Ser 170	Leu	Glu	Cys	Thr	Tyr 175	Ile
Val	Phe	Ala	Pro 180	Lys	Met	Ser	Glu	Ile 185	Ile	Leu	Glu	Phe	Glu 190	Ser	Phe
Asp	Leu	Glu 195	Pro	Asp	Ser	Asn	Pro 200	Pro	Gly	Gly	Met	Phe 205	Cys	Arg	Tyr
Asp	Arg 210	Leu	Glu	Ile	Trp	Asp 215	Gly	Phe	Pro	Asp	Val 220	Gly	Pro	His	Ile
Gly 225	Arg	Tyr	Cys	Gly	Gln 230	Lys	Thr	Pro	Gly	Arg 235	Ile	Arg	Ser	Ser	Ser 240
Gly	Ile	Leu	Ser	Met 245	Val	Phe	Tyr	Thr	Asp 250	Ser	Ala	Ile	Ala	Lys 255	Glu
Gly	Phe	Ser	Ala 260	Asn	Tyr	Ser	Val -	Leu 265	Gln	Ser	Ser	Val	Ser 270	Glu	Asp
Phe	Lys	Cys 275	Met	Glu	Ala	Leu	Gly 280	Met	Glu	Ser	Gly	Glu 285	Ile	His	Ser
Asp	Gln 290	Ile	Thr	Ala	Ser	Ser 295	Gln	Tyr	Ser	Thr	Asn 300	Trp	Ser	Ala	Glu
Arg 305	Ser	Arg	Leu		Tyr 310	Pro	Glu	Asn	Gly	Trp 315	Thr	Pro	Gly	Glu	Asp 320
Ser	Tyr	Arg	Glu	Trp 325	Ile	Gln	Val	Asp	Leu 330	Gly	Leu	Leu	Arg	Phe 335	Val
Thr	Ala	Val	Gly 340	Thr	Gln	Gly	Ala	Ile 345	Ser	Lys	Glu	Thr	Lys 350	Lys	Lys
Tyr	Tyr	Val 355	Lys	Thr	Tyr	Lys	Ile 360	Asp	Val	Ser	Ser	Asn 365	Gly	Glu	Asp
Trp	Ile 370	Thr	Ile	Lys	Glu	Gly 375	Asn	Lys	Pro	Val	Leu 380	Phe	Gln	Gly	Asn
Thr	Asn	Pro	Thr	Asp	Val	Val	Val	Ala	Val	Phe	Pro	Lys	Pro	Leu	Ile

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385					390					395					400
Thr	Arg	Phe	Val	Arg 405	Ile	Lys	Pro	Ala	Thr 410		Glu	Thr	Gly	Ile 415	Ser
Met	Arg	Phe	Glu 420	Val	Tyr	Gly	Cys	Lys 425	Ile	Thr	Asp	Tyr	Pro 430	Cys	Ser
Gly	Met	Leu 435	Gly	Met	Val	Ser	Gly 440	Leu	Ile	Ser	Asp	Ser 445	Gln	Ile	Thr
Ser	Ser 450	Asn	Gln	Gly	Asp	Arg 455	Asn	Trp	Met	Pro	Glu 460	Asn	Ile	Arg	Leu
Val 465	Thr	Ser	Arg	Ser	Gly 470	Trp	Ala	Leu	Pro	Pro 475	Ala	Pro	His	Ser	Tyr 480
Ile	Asn	Glu	Trp	Leu 485	Gln	Ile	Asp	Leu	Gly 490	Glu	Glu	Lys	Ile	Val 495	Arg
Gly -	Ile	Ile	Ile 500	Gln	Gly	Gly	Lys	His 505	Arg	Glu	Asn	Lys	Val 510	Phe	Met
Arg	Lys	Phe 515	Lys	Ile	Gly	Tyr	Ser 520	Asn	Asn	Gly	Ser	Asp 525	Trp	Lys	Met
Ile	Met 530	Asp	Asp	Ser	Lys	Arg 535	Lys	Ala	Lys	Ser	Phe 540		Gly	Asn	Asn
Asn 545	Tyr	Asp	Thr	Pro	Glu 550	Leu	Arg	Thr	Phe	Pro 555	Ala	Leu	Ser	Thr	Arg 560
Phe	Ile	Arg	Ile	Tyr 565	Pro	Glu	Arg	Ala	Thr 570	His	Gly	Gly	Leu	Gly 575	Leu
Arg	Met	Glu	Leu 580	Leu	Gly	Cys	Glu	Val 585	Glu	Ala	Pro	Thr	Ala 590	Gly	Pro
Thr	Thr	Pro 595	Asn	Gly	Asn	Leu	Val 600	Asp	Glu	Cys	Asp	Asp 605	Asp	Gln	Ala
Asn	Cys 610	His	Ser	Gly	Thr	Gly 615	Asp	Asp	Phe	Gln	Leu 620	Thr	Gly	Gly	Thr
Thr 625	Val	Leu	Ala	Thr	Glu 630	Lys	Pro	Thr	Val	Ile 635	Asp	Ser	Thr	Ile	Gln 640

Ser	Glu	Phe	Pro	Thr 645	Tyr	Gly	Phe	Asn	Cys 650		Phe	Gly	Trp	Gly 655	Ser
His	Lys	Thr	Phe 660	Суз	His	Trp	Glu	His 665	Asp	Asn	His	Val	Gln 670	Leu	Lys
Trp	Ser	Val 675	Leu	Thr	Ser	Lys	Thr 680	Gly	Pro	Ile	Gln	Asp 685	His	Thr	Gly
Asp	Gly 690	Asn	Phe	Ile	Tyr	Ser 695	Gln	Ala	Asp	Glu	Asn 700	Gln	Lys	Gly	Lys
Val 705	Ala	Arg	Leu	Val	Ser 710	Pro	Val	Val	Tyr	Ser 715	Gln	Asn	Ser	Ala	His 720
Cys	Met	Thr	Phe	Trp 725	Tyr	His	Met	Ser	Gly 730	Ser	His	Val	Gly	Thr 735	Leu
Arg	Val	Lys	Leu 740	Arg	Tyr	Gln	Lys	Pro 745	Glu	Glu	Tyr	Asp	Gln 750	Leu	Val
Trp	Met	Ala 755	Ile	Gly	His	Gln	Gly 760	Asp	His	Trp	Lys	Glu 765	Gly	Arg	Val
Leu	Leu 770	His	Lys	Ser	Leu	Lys 775	Leu	Tyr	Gln	Val	Ile 780	Phe	Glu	Gly	Glu
Ile 785	Gly	Lys	Gly	Asn	Leu 790	Gly	Gly	Ile	Ala	Val 795	Asp	Asp	Ile	Ser	Ile 800
Asn	Asn	His		Ser 805			_	-		Lys			-		-
Lys	Lys	Asn	Pro 820	Glu	Ile	Lys	Ile	Asp 825	Glu	Thr	Gly	Ser	Thr 830	Pro	Gly
Tyr	Glu	Gly 835	Glu	Gly	Glu	Gly	Asp 840	Lys	Asn	Ile	Ser	Arg 845	Lys	Pro	Gly
Asn	Val 850	Leu	Lys	Thr	Leu	Glu 855	Pro	Ile	Leu	Ile	Thr 860	Ile	Ile	Ala	Met
Ser 865	Ala	Leu	Gly	Val	Leu 870	Leu	Gly	Ala	Val	Cys 875	Gly	Val	Val	Leu	Tyr 880

Cys Ala Cys Trp His Asn Gly Met Ser Glu Arg Asn Leu Ser Ala Leu 885 890 895 Glu Asn Tyr Asn Phe Glu Leu Val Asp Gly Val Lys Leu Lys Lys Asp 905 910 900 Lys Leu Asn Thr Gln Ser Thr Tyr Ser Glu Ala 915 920 <210> 69 <211> 931 <212> PRT <213> Homo sapiens <400> 69 Met Asp Met Phe Pro Leu Thr Trp Val Phe Leu Ala Leu Tyr Phe Ser 1 5 10 15 Arg His Gln Val Arg Gly Gln Pro Asp Pro Pro Cys Gly Gly Arg Leu 20 25 30 Asn Ser Lys Asp Ala Gly Tyr Ile Thr Ser Pro Gly Tyr Pro Gln Asp 35 40 45 **-**Tyr Pro Ser His Gln Asn Cys Glu Trp Ile Val Tyr Ala Pro Glu Pro 50 55 60 Asn Gln Lys Ile Val Leu Asn Phe Asn Pro His Phe Glu Ile Glu Lys 65 70 75 80 His Asp Cys Lys Tyr Asp Phe Ile Glu Ile Arg Asp Gly Asp Ser Glu 85 90 95 Ser Ala Asp Leu Leu Gly Lys His Cys Gly Asn Ile Ala Pro Pro Thr 100 105 110 Ile Ile Ser Ser Gly Ser Met Leu Tyr Ile Lys Phe Thr Ser Asp Tyr 115 120 125 Ala Arg Gln Gly Ala Gly Phe Ser Leu Arg Tyr Glu Ile Phe Lys Thr 130 135 140 Gly Ser Glu Asp Cys Ser Lys Asn Phe Thr Ser Pro Asn Gly Thr Ile 145 150 155 160 Glu Ser Pro Gly Phe Pro Glu Lys Tyr Pro His Asn Leu Asp Cys Thr

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				165					170	)				175	
Phe	Thr	Ile	Leu 180	Ala	Lys	Pro	Lys	Met 185		Ile	Ile	Leu	Gln 190	Phe	Leu
Ile	Phe	Asp 195		Glu	His	Asp	Pro 200	Leu	Gln	Val	Gly	Glu 205	Gly	Asp	Cys
Lys	Tyr 210	Asp	Trp	Leu	Asp	Ile 215	Trp	Asp	Gly	Ile	Pro 220	His	Val	Gly	Pro
Leu 225	Ile	Gly	Lys	Tyr	Cys 230	Gly	Thr	Lys	Thr	Pro 235	Ser	Glu	Leu	Arg	Ser 240
Ser	Thr	Gly	Ile	Leu 245	Ser	Leu	Thr	Phe	His 250	Thr	Asp	Met	Ala	Val 255	Ala
Lys	Asp	Gly	Phe 260	Ser	Ala	Arg	Tyr	Tyr 265	Leu	Val	His	Gln	Glu 270	Pro	Leu
Glu	Asn	Phe 275	Gln	Cys	Asn	Val	Pro 280	Leu	Gly	Met	Glu	Ser 285	Gly	Arg	Ile
Ala	Asn 290	Glu	Gln	Ile	Ser	Ala 295	Ser	Ser	Thr	Tyr	Ser 300	Asp	Gly	Arg	Trp
Thr 305	Pro	Gln	Gln	Ser	Arg 310	Leu	His	Gly	Asp	Asp 315	Asn	Gly	Trp	Thr	Pro 320
Asn	Leu	Asp	Ser	Asn 325	Lys	Glu	Tyr	Leu	Gln 330	Val	Asp	Leu	Arg	Phe 335	Leu
Thr	Met	Leu	Thr 340	Ala	Ile	Ala	Thr	Gln 345	Gly	Ala	Ile	Ser	Arg 350	Glu	Thr
Gln	Asn	Gly 355	Tyr	Tyr	Val	Lys	Ser 360	Tyr	Lys	Leu	Glu	Val 365	Ser	Thr	Asn
Gly	Glu 370	Asp	Trp	Met	Val	Tyr 375	Arg	His	Gly	Lys	Asn 380	His	Lys	Val	Phe
Gln 385	Ala	Asn	Asn	Asp	Ala 390	Thr	Glu	Val	Val	Leu 395	Asn	Lys	Leu	His	Ala 400
Pro	Leu	Leu	Thr	Arg 405	Phe	Val	Arg	Ile	Arg 410	Pro	Gln	Thr	Trp	His 415	Ser

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Gly	Ile	Ala	Leu 420	Arg	Leu	Glu	Leu	Phe 425		Cys	Arg	Val	Thr 430	-	Ala
Pro	Cys	Ser 435	Asn	Met	Leu	Gly	Met 440	Leu	Ser	Gly	Leu	Ile 445	Ala	Asp	Ser
Gln	Ile 450	Ser	Ala	Ser	Ser	Thr 455	Gln	Glu	Tyr	Leu	Trp 460	Ser	Pro	Ser	Ala
Ala 465	Arg	Leu	Val	Ser	Ser 470	Arg	Ser	Gly	Trp	Phe 475	Pro	Arg	Ile	Pro	Gln 480
Ala	Gln	Pro	Gly	Glu 485	Glu	Trp	Leu	Gln	Val 490	Asp	Leu	Gly	Thr	Pro 495	Lys
Thr	Val	Lys	Gly 500	Val	Ile	Ile	Gln	Gly 505	Ala	Arg	Gly	Gly	Asp 510	Ser	Ile
Thr	Ala	Val 515	Glu	Ala	Arg	Ala	Phe 520	Val	Arg	Lys	Phe	Lys 525	Val	Ser	Tyr
Ser	Leu 530	Asn	Gly	Lys	Asp	Trp 535	Glu	Tyr	Ile	Gln	Asp 540	Pro	Arg	Thr	Gln
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Glu 625	Cys	Gly	Glu	Asn	Cys 630	Ser	Phe	Glu	Asp	Asp 635	Lys	Asp	Leu	Gln	Leu 640
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