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54 Titre: BMP-12, BMP-13 and tendon-inducing compositions thereof.

57 Abrégé:

Compositions of proteins with tendon/ligament-like tissue inducing activity are disclosed. The compositions are useful in the treatment of tendinitis and tendon or ligament defects and in related tissue repair.

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TITLE OF THE INVENTION

BMP-12, BMP-13 and tendon-inducing compositions thereof.

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RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present invention is a continuation-in-part of application serial number 08/217,780, filed March 25, 1994, 08/164,103, filed on December 7, 1993 and 08/333,576, filed on November 2, 1994.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

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The present invention relates to a novel family of purified proteins, and compositions containing such proteins, which compositions are useful for the induction of tendon/ligament-like tissue formation, wound healing and ligament and other tissue repair. These proteins may also be used in compositions for augmenting the activity of bone morphogenetic proteins.

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

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The search for the molecule or molecules responsible for formation of bone, cartilage, tendon and other tissues present in bone and other tissue extracts has led to the discovery of a novel set of molecules called the Bone Morphogenetic Proteins (BMPs). The structures of several proteins, designated BMP-1 through BMP-11, have previously been elucidated. The unique inductive activities of these proteins, along with their presence in bone, suggests that they are important regulators of bone repair processes, and may be involved in the normal maintenance of bone tissue. There is a need to identify additional proteins which play a role in forming other vital tissues. The present invention relates to the identification of a family of proteins, which have tendon/ligament-like tissue inducing activity, and which are useful in compositions for the induction of tendon/ligament-like tissue formation and repair.

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SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

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In one embodiment, the present invention comprises DNA molecules encoding a tendon/ligament-like inducing protein which the inventors have named V1-1. This novel protein is now called BMP-12. The present invention also includes DNA molecules encoding BMP-12 related proteins.

BMP-12 related proteins are a subset of the BMP/TGF- β /Vg-1 family of proteins, including BMP-12 and VL-1, which are defined as tendon/ligament-like tissue inducing proteins encoded by DNA sequences which are cloned and identified, e.g., using PCR, using BMP-12 specific primers, such as primers #6 and #7 described below, with reduced stringency conditions. It is preferred that the DNA sequences encoding BMP-12 related proteins share at least about 80% homology at the amino acid level from amino acids with amino acids #3 to #103 of SEQ ID NO:1.

The DNA molecules preferably have a DNA sequence encoding the BMP-12 protein, the sequence of which is provided in SEQ ID NO:1, or a BMP-12 related protein as further described herein. Both the BMP-12 protein and BMP-12 related proteins are characterized by the ability to induce the formation of tendon/ligament-like tissue in the assay described in the examples.

The DNA molecules of the invention preferably comprise a DNA sequence, as described in SEQUENCE ID NO:1; more preferably nucleotides #496 to #882, #571 to #882 or #577 to #882 of SEQ ID NO:1; or DNA sequences which hybridize to the above under stringent hybridization conditions and encode a protein which exhibits the ability to form tendon/ligament-like tissue. The DNA molecules of the invention may also comprise a DNA sequence as described in SEQ ID NO:25; more preferably nucleotides #604 or #658 to #964 of SEQ ID NO:25.

The DNA molecules of the invention also include DNA molecules comprising a DNA sequence encoding a BMP-12 related protein with the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:26, as well as naturally occurring allelic sequences and equivalent degenerative codon sequences of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:26. Preferably, the DNA sequence of the present invention encodes amino acids #-25 to #104, #1 to #104 or #3 to #103 of SEQ ID NO:2; or amino acids #1 to #120 or #19 to #120 of SEQ ID NO:26. The DNA sequence may comprise, in a 5' to 3' direction, nucleotides encoding a propeptide, and nucleotides encoding for amino acids #-25 to #104, #1 to #104 or #3 to #103 of SEQ ID NO:2; or amino acids #1 to #120 or #19 to #120 of SEQ ID NO:26. The propeptide useful in the above embodiment is preferably selected from the group consisting of native BMP-12 propeptide and a protein propeptide from a different member of the TGF-B

superfamily or BMP family. The invention further comprises DNA sequences which hybridize to the above DNA sequences under stringent hybridization conditions and encode a BMP-12 related protein which exhibits the ability to induce formation of tendon/ligament-like tissue.

5 In other embodiments, the present invention comprises host cells and vectors which comprise a DNA molecule encoding the BMP-12 protein, or a BMP-12 related protein. The host cells and vectors may further comprise the coding sequence in operative association with an expression control sequence therefor.

10 In another embodiment, the present invention comprises a method for producing a purified BMP-12 related protein, said method comprising the steps of culturing a host cell transformed with the above DNA molecule or vector comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a BMP-12 related protein; and (b) recovering and purifying said BMP-12 related protein from the culture medium. In a preferred embodiment, the method comprises (a) culturing a cell transformed with a DNA
15 molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence from nucleotide #496, #571 or #577 to #879 or #882 as shown in SEQ ID NO:1; or the nucleotide sequence from #604 or #658 to #963 of SEQ ID NO:25; and

(b) recovering and purifying from said culture medium a protein comprising the amino acid sequence from amino acid #-25, #1 or #3 to amino acid #103 or #104
20 as shown in SEQ ID NO:2; or from amino acid #1 or #19 to amino acid #120 as shown in SEQ ID NO:26. The present invention also includes a purified protein produced by the above methods.

The present invention further comprises purified BMP-12 related protein characterized by the ability to induce the formation of tendon/ligament-like tissue.
25 The BMP-12 related polypeptides preferably comprise an amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO:2. The polypeptide more preferably comprise amino acids #-25, #1 or #3 to #103 or #104 as set forth in SEQ ID NO:2; or amino acids #1 or #19 to #120 as set forth in SEQ ID NO:26. In a preferred embodiment, the purified polypeptide may be in the form of a dimer comprised of two subunits, each with the
30 amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

In another embodiment, the present invention comprises compositions comprising an effective amount of the above-described BMP-12 related proteins.

In the compositions, the protein may be admixed with a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle.

The invention also includes methods for tendon/ligament-like tissue healing and tissue repair, for treating tendinitis, or other tendon or ligament defects, and for inducing tendon/ligament-like tissue formation in a patient in need of same, comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of the above composition.

Other embodiments include chimeric DNA molecules comprising a DNA sequence encoding a propeptide from a member of the TGF- β superfamily of proteins linked in correct reading frame to a DNA sequence encoding a BMP-12 related polypeptide. One suitable propeptide is the propeptide from BMP-2. The invention also includes heterodimeric protein molecules comprising one monomer having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2, and one monomer having the amino acid sequence of another protein of the TGF- β subfamily.

Finally, the present invention comprises methods for inducing tendon/ligament-like tissue formation in a patient in need of same comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of a composition comprising a protein which exhibits the ability to induce formation of tendon/ligament-like tissue, said protein having an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:4 or SEQ ID NO:26. The amino acid sequences are more preferably one of the following: (a) amino acids #-25, #1 or #3 to #103 or #104 of SEQ ID NO:2; (b) amino acids #1 or #19 to #119 or #120 of SEQ ID NO:4; (c) amino acids #1 or #19 to #119 or #120 of SEQ ID NO:26; (d) mutants and/or variants of (a), (b) or (c) which exhibit the ability to form tendon and/or ligament. In other embodiments of the above method, the protein is encoded by a DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:3 or SEQ ID NO:25, more preferably one of the following: (a) nucleotides #496, #571 or #577 to #879 or #882 of SEQ ID NO:1; (b) nucleotides #845 or #899 to #1201 or #1204 of SEQ ID NO:3; (c) nucleotides #605 or #659 to #961 or #964 of SEQ ID NO:25; and (d) sequences which hybridize to (a) or (b) under stringent hybridization conditions and encode a protein which exhibits the ability to form tendon/ligament-like tissue.

Description of the Sequences

SEQ ID NO:1 is the nucleotide sequence encoding the human BMP-12.

SEQ ID NO:2 is the amino acid sequence comprising the mature human BMP-12 polypeptide.

SEQ ID NO:3 is the nucleotide sequence encoding the protein MP52.

5 SEQ ID NO:4 is the amino acid sequence comprising the mature MP52 polypeptide.

SEQ ID NO:5 is the nucleotide sequence of a specifically amplified portion of the human BMP-12 encoding sequence.

10 SEQ ID NO:6 is the amino acid sequence encoded by the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:5.

SEQ ID NO:7 is the nucleotide sequence of a specifically amplified portion of the human VL-1 encoding sequence.

SEQ ID NO:8 is the amino acid sequence encoded by the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:7.

15 SEQ ID NO:9 is the nucleotide sequence of the plasmid pALV1-781, used for expression of BMP-12 in *E. coli*.

SEQ ID NO:10 is the nucleotide sequence of a fragment of the murine clone, mV1.

20 SEQ ID NO:11 is the amino acid sequence of a fragment of the murine protein encoded by mV1.

SEQ ID NO:12 is the nucleotide sequence of a fragment of the murine clone, mV2.

SEQ ID NO:13 is the amino acid sequence of a fragment of the murine protein encoded by mV2.

25 SEQ ID NO:14 is the nucleotide sequence of a fragment of the murine clone, mV9.

SEQ ID NO:15 is the amino acid sequence of a fragment of the murine protein encoded by mV9.

30 SEQ ID NO:16 is the amino acid sequence of a BMP/TGF- β /Vg-1 protein consensus sequence. The first Xaa represents either Gln or Asn; the second Xaa represents either Val or Ile.

SEQ ID NO:17 is the nucleotide sequence of oligonucleotide #1.

SEQ ID NO:18 is the amino acid sequence of a BMP/TGF- β /Vg-1 protein consensus sequence. The Xaa represents either Val or Leu.

SEQ ID NO:19 is the nucleotide sequence of oligonucleotide #2.

SEQ ID NO:20 is the nucleotide sequence of oligonucleotide #3.

5 SEQ ID NO:21 is the nucleotide sequence of oligonucleotide #4.

SEQ ID NO:22 is the nucleotide sequence of oligonucleotide #5

SEQ ID NO:23 is the nucleotide sequence of oligonucleotide #6.

SEQ ID NO:24 is the nucleotide sequence of oligonucleotide #7.

10 SEQ ID NO:25 is the nucleotide sequence of the human VL-1 (BMP-13) encoding sequence.

SEQ ID NO:26 is the amino acid sequence encoded by the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:25.

SEQ ID NO:27 is the nucleotide sequence encoding a fusion of BMP-2 propeptide and the mature coding sequence of BMP-12.

15 SEQ ID NO:28 is the amino acid sequence encoded by the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:27.

SEQ ID NO:29 is the nucleotide sequence encoding the murine mV1 protein. X01 is Val, Ala, Glu or Gly; X02 is Ser, Pro Thr or Ala; X03 is Ser or Arg; X04 is Leu, Pro, Gln or Arg; X05 is Cys or Trp; X06 is Val, Ala, Asp or Gly; X07 is
20 Val, Ala, Glu or Gly; X08 is Gln, Lys or Glu.

SEQ ID NO:30 is the amino acid sequence encoded by the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:29. X01 through X08 are the same as in SEQ ID NO: 29.

SEQ ID NO:31 is the nucleotide sequence encoding the murine mV2 protein. X01 is Pro or Thr; X02 is Val.

25 SEQ ID NO:32 is the amino acid sequence encoded by the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:31. X01 and X02 are the same as in SEQ ID NO:31.

SEQ ID NO:33 is the nucleotide sequence encoding human BMP-12 protein.

SEQ ID NO:34 is the amino acid sequence encoded by the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:33.

30 SEQ ID NO:35 is the nucleotide sequence of oligonucleotide #8.

Brief Description of the Figures

Figure 1 is a comparison of the human BMP-12 and human MP52 sequences.

Detailed Description of the Invention

The DNA sequences of the present invention are useful for producing proteins which induce the formation of tendon/ ligament-like tissue, as described further below. The DNA sequences of the present invention are further useful for isolating and cloning further DNA sequences encoding BMP-12 related proteins with similar activity. These BMP-12 related proteins may be homologues from other species, or may be related proteins within the same species.

Still, a further aspect of the invention are DNA sequences coding for expression of a tendon/ligament-like tissue inducing protein. Such sequences include the sequence of nucleotides in a 5' to 3' direction illustrated in SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:25, DNA sequences which, but for the degeneracy of the genetic code, are identical to the DNA sequence SEQ ID NO:1 or 25, and encode the protein of SEQ ID NO:2 or 26. Further included in the present invention are DNA sequences which hybridize under stringent conditions with the DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 or 25 and encode a protein having the ability to induce the formation of tendon or ligament. Preferred DNA sequences include those which hybridize under stringent conditions as described in Maniatis et al, Molecular Cloning (A Laboratory Manual), Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory (1982), pages 387 to 389. Finally, allelic or other variations of the sequences of SEQ ID NO:1 or 25, whether such nucleotide changes result in changes in the peptide sequence or not, but where the peptide sequence still has tendon/ligament-like tissue inducing activity, are also included in the present invention.

The human BMP-12 DNA sequence (SEQ ID NO:1) and amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:2) are set forth in the Sequence Listings. Another protein that is useful for the compositions and methods of the present invention is VL-1. VL-1 is a BMP-12 related protein which was cloned using sequences from BMP-12. The inventors have now designated VL-1 as BMP-13. A partial DNA sequence of VL-1 (SEQ ID NO:7) and the encoded amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:8); as well as a DNA sequence encoding the mature VL-1 (SEQ ID NO:25) and the encoded amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:26) are set forth in the Sequence Listings. Although further descriptions are made with reference to the BMP-12 sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 and 2, it will be recognized that the invention includes similar modifications and

improvements which may be made to other BMP-12 related sequences, such as the VL-1 sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:25 and 26.

The sequence of BMP-12 shown in SEQ ID NO. 1 includes the entire mature sequence and approximately 190 amino acids of the propeptide. The coding sequence of the mature human BMP-12 protein appears to begin at nucleotide #496 or #571 and continues through nucleotide #882 of SEQ ID NO:1. The first cysteine in the seven cysteine structure characteristic of TGF- β proteins begins at nucleotide #577. The last cysteine ends at #879. Thus, it is expected that DNA sequences encoding active BMP-12 species will comprise nucleotides #577 to #879 of SEQ ID NO:1.

It is expected that BMP-12, as expressed by mammalian cells such as CHO cells, exists as a heterogeneous population of active species of BMP-12 protein with varying N-termini. It is expected that all active species will contain the amino acid sequence beginning with the cysteine residue at amino acid #3 of SEQ ID NO:2 and continue through at least the cysteine residue at amino acid 103 or until the stop codon after amino acid 104. Other active species contain additional amino acid sequence in the N-terminal direction. As described further herein, the N-termini of active species produced by mammalian cells are expected to begin after the occurrence of a consensus cleavage site, encoding a peptide sequence Arg-X-X-Arg. Thus, it is expected that DNA sequences encoding active BMP-12 proteins will have a nucleotide sequence comprising the nucleotide sequence beginning at any of nucleotides #196, 199, 208, 217, 361, 388, 493, 496 or 571 to nucleotide #879 or 882 of SEQ ID NO:1.

The N-terminus of one active species of human BMP-12 has been experimentally determined by expression in *E. coli* to be as follows: [M]SRXSRKPLHVDF, wherein X designates an amino acid residue with no clear signal, which is consistent with a cysteine residue at that location. Thus, it appears that the N-terminus of this species of BMP-12 is at amino acid #1 of SEQ ID NO:1, and a DNA sequence encoding said species of BMP-12 would start at nucleotide #571 of SEQ ID NO:1. The apparent molecular weight of this species of human BMP-12 dimer was determined by SDS-PAGE to be approximately 20-22 kd on a Novex 16% tricine gel. The pI of this molecule is approximately 4.9. The human

BMP-12 protein exists as a clear, colorless solution in 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid. The N-terminus of another active species of human BMP-12 has been experimentally determined by expression in *E. coli* to be [M]TALA. The pI of this molecule is approximately 7.0. The apparent molecular weight of this species of human BMP-12 dimer was determined by SDS-PAGE to be approximately 25-27 kd on a Novex 5 16% tricine gel. The human BMP-12 protein exists as a clear, colorless solution in 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid.

As described earlier, BMP-12 related proteins are a subset of the BMP/TGF- β /Vg-1 family of proteins, including BMP-12 and VL-1, which can be defined as tendon/ligament-like tissue inducing proteins encoded by DNA sequences which can be cloned and identified, e.g., using PCR, using BMP-12 specific primers, such as primers #6 and #7 described below, with reduced stringency conditions. It is preferred that DNA sequences of the present invention share at least about 80% homology at the amino acid level from amino acids with the DNA encoding amino acids #3 to #103 of SEQ ID NO:1. For the purposes of the present invention, the term BMP-12 related proteins does not include the human MP52 protein. Using the sequence information of SEQ ID NO:1 and SEQ ID NO:3, and the comparison provided in Figure 1, it is within the skill of the art to design primers to the BMP-12 sequence which will allow for the cloning of genes encoding BMP-12 related proteins. 10 15 20

One example of the BMP-12-related proteins of the present invention is VL-1, presently referred to as BMP-13. The sequence of the full mature BMP-13 sequence and at least a part of the propeptide of BMP-13 is given in SEQ ID NO:25. Like BMP-12, it is expected that BMP-13, as expressed by mammalian cells such as CHO cells, exists as a heterogeneous population of active species of BMP-13 protein with varying N-termini. It is expected that all active species will contain the amino acid sequence beginning with the cysteine residue at amino acid #19 of SEQ ID NO:26 and continue through at least the cysteine residue at amino acid 119 or until the stop codon after amino acid 120. Other active species contain additional amino acid sequence in the N-terminal direction. As described further herein, the N-termini of active species produced by mammalian cells are expected to begin after the occurrence of a consensus cleavage site, encoding a peptide sequence Arg-X-X-Arg. 25 30

Thus, it is expected that DNA sequences encoding active BMP-13 proteins will have a nucleotide sequence comprising the nucleotide sequence beginning at any of nucleotides #410, 458, 602, 605 or 659, to nucleotide #961 or 964 of SEQ ID NO:25.

5 In order to produce the purified tendon/ligament-like tissue inducing proteins useful for the present invention, a method is employed comprising culturing a host cell transformed with a DNA sequence comprising a suitable coding sequence, particularly the DNA coding sequence from nucleotide #496, #571 or # 577 to #879 or #882 of SEQ ID NO:1; and recovering and purifying from the culture medium
10 a protein which contains the amino acid sequence or a substantially homologous sequence as represented by amino acids #-25, #1 or #3 to #103 or #104 of SEQ ID NO:2. In another embodiment, the method employed comprises culturing a host cell transformed with a DNA sequence comprising a suitable coding sequence, particularly the DNA coding sequence from nucleotide #605 or # 659 to #961 or
15 #964 of SEQ ID NO:25; and recovering and purifying from the culture medium a protein which contains the amino acid sequence or a substantially homologous sequence as represented by amino acids #1 or #19 to #119 or #120 of SEQ ID NO:26.

 The human MP52 DNA is described in WO93/16099, the disclosure of which
20 is incorporated herein by reference. However, this document does not disclose the ability of the protein to form tendon/ligament-like tissue, or its use in compositions for induction of tendon/ligament-like tissue. Human MP52 was originally isolated using RNA from human embryo tissue. The human MP52 nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO:3) and the encoded amino acid sequences (SEQ ID NO:4) are set forth in
25 the Sequence Listings herein. The MP52 protein appears to begin at nucleotide #845 of SEQ ID NO:3 and continues through nucleotide #1204 of SEQ ID NO:3. The first cysteine of the seven cysteine structure characteristic of TGF- β proteins begins at nucleotide #899. The last cysteine ends at #1201. Other active species of MP52 protein may have additional nucleotides at the N-terminal direction from nucleotide
30 #845 of SEQ ID NO:3.

Purified human MP52 proteins of the present invention may be produced by culturing a host cell transformed with a DNA sequence comprising the DNA coding

sequence of SEQ ID NO:3 from nucleotide #845 to #1204, and recovering and purifying from the culture medium a protein which contains the amino acid sequence or a substantially homologous sequence as represented by amino acids #1 to #120 of SEQ ID NO:4. It is also expected that the amino acid sequence from amino acids
5 #17 or #19 to #119 or #120 of SEQ ID NO:4 will retain activity. Thus, the DNA sequence from nucleotides #845, #893 or #899 to #1201 or #1204 are expected to encode active proteins.

For expression of the protein in mammalian host cells, the host cell is transformed with a coding sequence encoding a propeptide suitable for the secretion
10 of proteins by the host cell is linked in proper reading frame to the coding sequence for the mature protein. For example, see United States Patent 5,168,050, the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference, in which a DNA encoding a precursor portion of a mammalian protein other than BMP-2 is fused to the DNA encoding a mature BMP-2 protein. Thus, the present invention includes chimeric
15 DNA molecules comprising a DNA sequence encoding a propeptide from a member of the TGF- β superfamily of proteins, is linked in correct reading frame to a DNA sequence encoding a tendon/ligament-like tissue inducing polypeptide. The term "chimeric" is used to signify that the propeptide originates from a different polypeptide than the encoded mature polypeptide. Of course, the host cell may be
20 transformed with a DNA sequence coding sequence encoding the native propeptide linked in correct reading frame to a coding sequence encoding the mature protein shown in SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, or SEQ ID NO:26. The full sequence of the native propeptide may be determined through methods known in the art using the sequences disclosed in SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:3, or SEQ ID NO:25
25 design a suitable probe for identifying and isolating the entire clone.

The present invention also encompasses the novel DNA sequences, free of association with DNA sequences encoding other proteinaceous materials, and coding for expression of tendon/ligament-like tissue inducing proteins. These DNA sequences include those depicted in SEQ ID NO:1 in a 5' to 3' direction and those
30 sequences which hybridize thereto under stringent hybridization conditions [for example, 0.1X SSC, 0.1% SDS at 65°C; see, T. Maniatis et al, Molecular Cloning

(A Laboratory Manual), Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory (1982), pages 387 to 389] and encode a protein having tendon/ligament-like tissue inducing activity.

Similarly, DNA sequences which code for proteins coded for by the sequences of SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:25, or proteins which comprise the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:26, but which differ in codon
5 sequence due to the degeneracies of the genetic code or allelic variations (naturally-occurring base changes in the species population which may or may not result in an amino acid change) also encode the tendon/ligament-like tissue inducing proteins described herein. Variations in the DNA sequences of SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID
10 NO:25 which are caused by point mutations or by induced modifications (including insertion, deletion, and substitution) to enhance the activity, half-life or production of the polypeptides encoded are also encompassed in the invention.

Another aspect of the present invention provides a novel method for producing tendon/ligament-like tissue inducing proteins. The method of the present
15 invention involves culturing a suitable cell line, which has been transformed with a DNA sequence encoding a protein of the invention, under the control of known regulatory sequences. The transformed host cells are cultured and the proteins recovered and purified from the culture medium. The purified proteins are substantially free from other proteins with which they are co-produced as well as
20 from other contaminants.

Suitable cells or cell lines may be mammalian cells, such as Chinese hamster ovary cells (CHO). As described above, expression of protein in mammalian cells requires an appropriate propeptide to assure secretion of the protein. The selection of suitable mammalian host cells and methods for transformation, culture,
25 amplification, screening, product production and purification are known in the art. See, e.g., Gething and Sambrook, Nature, 293:620-625 (1981), or alternatively, Kaufman et al, Mol. Cell. Biol., 5(7):1750-1759 (1985) or Howley et al, U.S. Patent 4,419,446. Another suitable mammalian cell line, which is described in the accompanying examples, is the monkey COS-1 cell line. The mammalian cell CV-1
30 may also be suitable.

Bacterial cells may also be suitable hosts. For example, the various strains of E. coli (e.g., HB101, MC1061) are well-known as host cells in the field of

biotechnology. Various strains of B. subtilis, Pseudomonas, other bacilli and the like may also be employed in this method. For expression of the protein in bacterial cells, DNA encoding a propeptide is not necessary.

5 Bacterial expression of mammalian proteins, including members of the TGF- β family is known to produce the proteins in a non-glycosylated form, and in the form of insoluble pellets, known as inclusion bodies. Techniques have been described in the art for solubilizing these inclusion bodies, denaturing the protein using a chaotropic agent, and refolding the protein sufficiently correctly to allow for their production in a soluble form. For example, see EP 0433225, the disclosure of
10 which is hereby incorporated by reference.

Alternatively, methods have been devised which circumvent inclusion body formation, such as expression of gene fusion proteins, wherein the desired protein is expressed as a fusion protein with a fusion partner. The fusion protein is later subjected to cleavage to produce the desired protein. One example of such a gene
15 fusion expression system for E. coli is based on use of the E. coli thioredoxin gene as a fusion partner, LaVallie et al., Bio/Technology, 11:187-193 (1993), the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference.

Many strains of yeast cells known to those skilled in the art may also be available as host cells for expression of the polypeptides of the present invention.
20 Additionally, where desired, insect cells may be utilized as host cells in the method of the present invention. See, e.g. Miller et al, Genetic Engineering, 8:277-298 (Plenum Press 1986) and references cited therein.

Another aspect of the present invention provides vectors for use in the method of expression of these tendon/ligament-like tissue inducing proteins. Preferably the
25 vectors contain the full novel DNA sequences described above which encode the novel factors of the invention. Additionally, the vectors contain appropriate expression control sequences permitting expression of the protein sequences. Alternatively, vectors incorporating modified sequences as described above are also embodiments of the present invention. Additionally, the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1
30 or SEQ ID NO:3 or SEQ ID NO:25 could be manipulated to express a mature protein by deleting propeptide sequences and replacing them with sequences encoding the complete propeptides of BMP proteins or members of the TGF- β superfamily.

Thus, the present invention includes chimeric DNA molecules encoding a propeptide from a member of the TGF- β superfamily linked in correct reading frame to a DNA sequence encoding a protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:4 or SEQ ID NO:26. The vectors may be employed in the method of transforming cell lines and contain selected regulatory sequences in operative association with the DNA coding sequences of the invention which are capable of directing the replication and expression thereof in selected host cells. Regulatory sequences for such vectors are known to those skilled in the art and may be selected depending upon the host cells. Such selection is routine and does not form part of the present invention.

A protein of the present invention, which induces tendon/ligament-like tissue or other tissue formation in circumstances where such tissue is not normally formed, has application in the healing of tendon or ligament tears, deformities and other tendon or ligament defects in humans and other animals. Such a preparation employing a tendon/ligament-like tissue inducing protein may have prophylactic use in preventing damage to tendon or ligament tissue, as well as use in the improved fixation of tendon or ligament to bone or other tissues, and in repairing defects to tendon or ligament tissue. De novo tendon/ligament-like tissue formation induced by a composition of the present invention contributes to the repair of congenital, trauma induced, or other tendon or ligament defects of other origin, and is also useful in cosmetic plastic surgery for attachment or repair of tendons or ligaments. The compositions of the invention may also be useful in the treatment of tendinitis, carpal tunnel syndrome and other tendon or ligament defects. The compositions of the present invention can also be used in other indications wherein it is desirable to heal or regenerate tendon and/or ligament tissue. Such indications include, without limitation, regeneration or repair of injuries to the periodontal ligament, such as occurs in tendonitis, and regeneration or repair of the tendon-to-bone attachment. The compositions of the present invention may provide an environment to attract tendon- or ligament-forming cells, stimulate growth of tendon- or ligament-forming cells or induce differentiation of progenitors of tendon- or ligament-forming cells.

The BMP-12 related proteins may be recovered from the culture medium and purified by isolating them from other proteinaceous materials from which they are

co-produced and from other contaminants present. The proteins of the present invention are capable of inducing the formation of tendon/ligament-like tissue. These proteins may be further characterized by the ability to demonstrate tendon/ligament-like tissue formation activity in the rat ectopic implant assay described below. It is contemplated that these proteins may have ability to induce the formation of other types of tissue, such as ligaments, as well.

The tendon/ligament-like tissue inducing proteins provided herein also include factors encoded by the sequences similar to those of SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:25, but into which modifications are naturally provided (e.g. allelic variations in the nucleotide sequence which may result in amino acid changes in the polypeptide) or deliberately engineered. For example, synthetic polypeptides may wholly or partially duplicate continuous sequences of the amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO:2. These sequences, by virtue of sharing primary, secondary, or tertiary structural and conformational characteristics with tendon/ligament-like tissue growth factor polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:2 may possess tendon/ligament-like or other tissue growth factor biological properties in common therewith. Thus, they may be employed as biologically active substitutes for naturally-occurring tendon/ligament-like tissue inducing polypeptides in therapeutic compositions and processes.

Other specific mutations of the sequences of tendon/ligament-like tissue inducing proteins described herein involve modifications of glycosylation sites. These modifications may involve O-linked or N-linked glycosylation sites. For instance, the absence of glycosylation or only partial glycosylation results from amino acid substitution or deletion at asparagine-linked glycosylation recognition sites. The asparagine-linked glycosylation recognition sites comprise tripeptide sequences which are specifically recognized by appropriate cellular glycosylation enzymes. These tripeptide sequences may be asparagine-X-threonine, asparagine-X-serine or asparagine-X-cysteine, where X is usually any amino acid except proline. A variety of amino acid substitutions or deletions at one or both of the first or third amino acid positions of a glycosylation recognition site (and/or amino acid deletion at the second position) results in non-glycosylation at the modified tripeptide sequence. Additionally, bacterial expression of protein will also result in production of a non-glycosylated protein, even if the glycosylation sites are left unmodified.

The compositions of the present invention comprise a purified BMP-12 related protein which may be produced by culturing a cell transformed with the DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:25 and recovering and purifying protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:26 from the culture medium. The purified expressed protein is substantially free from other proteinaceous materials with which it is co-produced, as well as from other contaminants. The recovered purified protein is contemplated to exhibit tendon/ligament-like tissue formation activity, and other tissue growth activity, such as ligament regeneration. The proteins of the invention may be further characterized by the ability to demonstrate tendon/ligament-like tissue formation activity in the rat assay described below.

The compositions for inducing tendon/ligament-like tissue formation of the present invention may comprise an effective amount of a tendon/ligament-like tissue inducing protein, wherein said protein comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, preferably amino acids #-25, #1 or #3 to #103 or #104 of SEQ ID NO:2; or amino acids #1 or #19 to #120 of SEQ ID NO:26; as well as mutants and/or variants of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:26, which exhibit the ability to form tendon and/or ligament like tissue.

Compositions of the present invention may further comprise additional proteins, such as additional members of the TGF- β superfamily of proteins, such as activins. Another aspect of the invention provides pharmaceutical compositions containing a therapeutically effective amount of a tendon/ligament-inducing protein, such as BMP-12 or VL-1, in a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle or carrier. These compositions may be used to induce the formation of tendon/ligament-like tissue or other tissue. It is contemplated that such compositions may also be used for tendon and ligament repair, wound healing and other tissue repair, such as skin repair. It is further contemplated that proteins of the invention may increase neuronal survival and therefore be useful in transplantation and treatment of conditions exhibiting a decrease in neuronal survival. Compositions of the invention may further include at least one other therapeutically useful agent, such as the BMP proteins BMP-1, BMP-2, BMP-3, BMP-4, BMP-5, BMP-6 and BMP-7, disclosed for instance in United States Patents 5,108,922; 5,013,649; 5,116,738; 5,106,748; 5,187,076; and

5,141,905; BMP-8, disclosed in PCT publication WO91/18098; BMP-9, disclosed in PCT publication WO93/00432; and BMP-10 or BMP-11, disclosed in co-pending patent applications, serial number 08/061,695 and 08/061,464, filed on May 12, 1993. The disclosure of the above documents are hereby incorporated by reference
5 herein.

The compositions of the invention may comprise, in addition to a tendon/ligament-inducing protein such as BMP-12 or VL-1 (BMP-13), other therapeutically useful agents including MP52, epidermal growth factor (EGF), fibroblast growth factor (FGF), platelet derived growth factor (PDGF), transforming
10 growth factors (TGF- α and TGF- β), and fibroblast growth factor-4 (FGF-4), parathyroid hormone (PTH), leukemia inhibitory factor (LIF/HILDA/DIA), insulin-like growth factors (IGF-I and IGF-II). Portions of these agents may also be used in compositions of the present invention. For example, a composition comprising both BMP-2 and BMP-12 implanted together gives rise to both bone and
15 tendon/ligament-like tissue. Such a composition may be useful for treating defects of the embryonic joint where tendon, ligaments, and bone form simultaneously at contiguous anatomical locations, and may be useful for regenerating tissue at the site of tendon attachment to bone. It is contemplated that the compositions of the invention may also be used in wound healing, such as skin healing and related tissue
20 repair. The types of wounds include, but are not limited to burns, incisions and ulcers. (See, e.g. PCT Publication WO84/01106 for discussion of wound healing and related tissue repair).

It is expected that the proteins of the invention may act in concert with or perhaps synergistically with other related proteins and growth factors. Further
25 therapeutic methods and compositions of the invention therefore comprise a therapeutic amount of at least one protein of the invention with a therapeutic amount of at least one of the BMP proteins described above. Such compositions may comprise separate molecules of the BMP proteins or heteromolecules comprised of different BMP moieties. For example, a method and composition of the invention
30 may comprise a disulfide linked dimer comprising a BMP-12 related protein subunit and a subunit from one of the "BMP" proteins described above. Thus, the present invention includes compositions comprising a purified BMP-12 related polypeptide

which is a heterodimer wherein one subunit comprises the amino acid sequence from amino acid #1 to amino acid #104 of SEQ ID NO:2, and one subunit comprises an amino acid sequence for a bone morphogenetic protein selected from the group consisting of BMP-1, BMP-2, BMP-3, BMP-4, BMP-5, BMP-6, BMP-7, BMP-8, BMP-9, BMP-10 and BMP-11. A further embodiment may comprise a heterodimer of disulfide bonded tendon/ligament-like tissue inducing moieties such as BMP-12, VL-1 (BMP-13) or MP52. For example the heterodimer may comprise one subunit comprising an amino acid sequence from #1 to # 104 of SEQ ID NO:2 and the other subunit may comprise an amino acid sequence from #1 to #120 of SEQ ID NO:4 or #1 to #120 of SEQ ID NO:26. Further, compositions of the present invention may be combined with other agents beneficial to the treatment of the defect, wound, or tissue in question.

The preparation and formulation of such physiologically acceptable protein compositions, having due regard to pH, isotonicity, stability and the like, is within the skill of the art. The therapeutic compositions are also presently valuable for veterinary applications due to the lack of species specificity in TGF- β proteins. Particularly domestic animals and thoroughbred horses in addition to humans are desired patients for such treatment with the compositions of the present invention.

The therapeutic method includes administering the composition topically, systemically, or locally as an injectable and/or implant or device. When administered, the therapeutic composition for use in this invention is, of course, in a pyrogen-free, physiologically acceptable form. Further, the composition may desirably be encapsulated or injected in a viscous form for delivery to the site of tissue damage. Topical administration may be suitable for wound healing and tissue repair. Therapeutically useful agents other than the proteins which may also optionally be included in the composition as described above, may alternatively or additionally, be administered simultaneously or sequentially with the composition in the methods of the invention. In addition, the compositions of the present invention may be used in conjunction with presently available treatments for tendon/ligament injuries, such as suture (e.g., vicryl sutures or surgical gut sutures, Ethicon Inc., Somerville, NJ) or tendon/ligament allograft or autograft, in order to enhance or accelerate the healing potential of the suture or graft. For example, the

suture, allograft or autograft may be soaked in the compositions of the present invention prior to implantation. It may also be possible to incorporate the protein or composition of the invention onto suture materials, for example, by freeze-drying.

The compositions may include an appropriate matrix and/or sequestering agent as a carrier. For instance, the matrix may support the composition or provide a surface for tendon/ligament-like tissue formation and/or other tissue formation. The matrix may provide slow release of the protein and/or the appropriate environment for presentation thereof. The sequestering agent may be a substance which aids in ease of administration through injection or other means, or may slow the migration of protein from the site of application.

The choice of a carrier material is based on biocompatibility, biodegradability, mechanical properties, cosmetic appearance and interface properties. The particular application of the compositions will define the appropriate formulation. Potential matrices for the compositions may be biodegradable and chemically defined. Further matrices are comprised of pure proteins or extracellular matrix components. Other potential matrices are nonbiodegradable and chemically defined. Preferred matrices include collagen-based materials, including sponges, such as Helistat[®] (Integra LifeSciences, Plainsboro, N.J.), or collagen in an injectable form, as well as sequestering agents, which may be biodegradable, for example hyalouronic acid derived. Biodegradable materials, such as cellulose films, or surgical meshes, may also serve as matrices. Such materials could be sutured into an injury site, or wrapped around the tendon/ligament.

Another preferred class of carrier are polymeric matrices, including polymers of poly(lactic acid), poly(glycolic acid) and copolymers of lactic acid and glycolic acid. These matrices may be in the form of a sponge, or in the form of porous particles, and may also include a sequestering agent. Suitable polymer matrices are described, for example, in WO93/00050, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

Preferred families of sequestering agents include blood, fibrin clot and/or cellulosic materials such as alkylcelluloses (including hydroxyalkylcelluloses), including methylcellulose, ethylcellulose, hydroxyethylcellulose, hydroxypropylcellulose, hydroxypropyl-methylcellulose, and carboxymethylcellulose,

the most preferred being cationic salts of carboxymethylcellulose (CMC). Other preferred sequestering agents include hyaluronic acid, sodium alginate, poly(ethylene glycol), polyoxyethylene oxide, carboxyvinyl polymer and poly(vinyl alcohol). The amount of sequestering agent useful herein is 0.5-20 wt%, preferably 1-10 wt% based on total formulation weight, which represents the amount necessary to prevent desorption of the protein from the polymer matrix and to provide appropriate handling of the composition, yet not so much that the progenitor cells are prevented from infiltrating the matrix, thereby providing the protein the opportunity to assist the activity of the progenitor cells.

Additional optional components useful in the practice of the subject application include, e.g. cryogenic protectors such as mannitol, sucrose, lactose, glucose, or glycine (to protect the protein from degradation during lyophilization), antimicrobial preservatives such as methyl and propyl parabens and benzyl alcohol; antioxidants such as EDTA, citrate and BHT (butylated hydroxytoluene); and surfactants such as poly(sorbates) and poly(oxyethylenes); etc.

As described above, the compositions of the invention may be employed in methods for treating a number of tendon defects, such as the regeneration of tendon/ligament-like tissue in areas of tendon or ligament damage, to assist in repair of tears of tendon tissue, ligaments, and various other types of tissue defects or wounds. These methods, according to the invention, entail administering to a patient needing such tendon/ligament-like tissue or other tissue repair, a composition comprising an effective amount of a tendon/ligament-like tissue inducing protein, such as described in SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4 and/or SEQ ID NO:26. These methods may also entail the administration of a tendon/ligament-like tissue inducing protein in conjunction with at least one of the BMP proteins described above.

In another embodiment, the methods may entail administration of a heterodimeric protein in which one of the monomers is a tendon/ligament-like tissue inducing polypeptide, such as BMP-12, VL-1 (BMP-13) or MP52, and the second monomer is a member of the TGF- β superfamily of growth factors. In addition, these methods may also include the administration of a tendon/ligament-like tissue inducing protein with other growth factors including EGF, FGF, TGF- α , TGF- β , and IGF.

Thus, a further aspect of the invention is a therapeutic method and composition for repairing tendon/ligament-like tissue, for repairing tendon or ligament as well as treating tendinitis and other conditions related to tendon or ligament defects. Such compositions comprise a therapeutically effective amount of one or more tendon/ligament-like tissue inducing proteins, such as BMP-12, a
5 BMP-12 related protein, or MP52, in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle, carrier or matrix.

The dosage regimen will be determined by the attending physician considering various factors which modify the action of the composition, e.g., amount of tendon or ligament tissue desired to be formed, the site of tendon or ligament damage, the
10 condition of the damaged tendon or ligament, the size of a wound, type of damaged tissue, the patient's age, sex, and diet, the severity of any infection, time of administration and other clinical factors. The dosage may vary with the type of matrix used in the reconstitution and the types of additional proteins in the
15 composition. The addition of other known growth factors, such as IGF-I (insulin like growth factor I), to the final composition, may also affect the dosage.

Progress can be monitored by periodic assessment of tendon/ligament-like tissue formation, or tendon or ligament growth and/or repair. The progress can be monitored by methods known in the art, for example, X-rays, arthroscopy,
20 histomorphometric determinations and tetracycline labeling.

The following examples illustrate practice of the present invention in recovering and characterizing human tendon/ligament-like tissue inducing protein and employing them to recover the other tendon/ligament-like tissue inducing proteins, obtaining the human proteins, expressing the proteins via recombinant techniques, and demonstration of the ability of the compositions of the present
25 invention to form tendon/ligament-like tissue in an *in vivo* model. Although the examples demonstrate the invention with respect to BMP-12, with minor modifications within the skill of the art, the same results are believed to be attainable with MP52 and VL-1.

30 **EXAMPLE 1**

Isolation of DNA

DNA sequences encoding BMP-12 and BMP-12 related proteins may be isolated by various techniques known to those skilled in the art. As described below, oligonucleotide primers may be designed on the basis of amino acid sequences present in other BMP proteins, Vg-1 related proteins and other proteins of the TGF- β superfamily. Regions containing amino acid sequences which are highly conserved within the BMP family of proteins and within other members of the TGF- β superfamily of proteins can be identified and consensus amino acid sequences of these highly conserved regions can be constructed based on the similarity of the corresponding regions of individual BMP/TGF- β /Vg-1 proteins. An example of such a consensus amino acid sequence is indicated below.

Consensus amino acid sequence (1):

Trp-Gln/Asn-Asp-Trp-Ile-Val/Ile-Ala (SEQ ID NO:16)

Where X/Y indicates that either amino acid residue may appear at that position.

The following oligonucleotide is designed on the basis of the above identified consensus amino acid sequence (1):

#1: CGGATCCTGGVANGAYTGGATHRTNGC (SEQ ID NO:17)

This oligonucleotide sequence is synthesized on an automated DNA synthesizer. The standard nucleotide symbols in the above identified oligonucleotide primer are as follows: A,adenosine; C,cytosine; G,guanine; T,thymine; N,adenosine or cytosine or guanine or thymine; R,adenosine or cytosine; Y,cytosine or thymine; H,adenosine or cytosine or thymine; V,adenosine or cytosine or guanine; D,adenosine or guanine or thymine.

The first seven nucleotides of oligonucleotide #1 (underlined) contain the recognition sequence for the restriction endonuclease BamHI in order to facilitate the manipulation of a specifically amplified DNA sequence encoding the BMP-12 protein and are thus not derived from the consensus amino acid sequence (1) presented above.

A second consensus amino acid sequence is derived from another highly conserved region of BMP/TGF- β /Vg-1 proteins as described below:

His-Ala-Ile-Val/Leu-Gln-Thr (SEQ ID NO:18)

The following oligonucleotide is designed on the basis of the above identified consensus amino acid sequence (2):

#2: TTTCTAGAAARNGTYTGNACDATNGCRTG (SEQ ID NO:19)

This oligonucleotide sequence is synthesized on an automated DNA synthesizer. The same nucleotide symbols are used as described above.

5 The first seven nucleotides of oligonucleotide #1 (underlined) contain the recognition sequence for the restriction endonuclease XbaI in order to facilitate the manipulation of a specifically amplified DNA sequence encoding the BMP-12 protein and are thus not derived from the consensus amino acid sequence (2) presented above.

10 It is contemplated that the BMP-12 protein of the invention and other BMP/TGF- β /Vg-1 related proteins may contain amino acid sequences similar to the consensus amino acid sequences described above and that the location of those sequences within a BMP-12 protein or other novel related proteins would correspond to the relative locations in the proteins from which they were derived. It is further contemplated that this positional information derived from the structure of other
15 BMP/TGF- β /Vg-1 proteins and the oligonucleotide sequences #1 and #2 which have been derived from consensus amino acid sequences (1) and (2), respectively, could be utilized to specifically amplify DNA sequences encoding the corresponding amino acids of a BMP-12 protein or other BMP/TGF- β /Vg-1 related proteins.

20 Based on the knowledge of the gene structures of BMP/TGF- β /Vg-1 proteins it is further contemplated that human genomic DNA can be used as a template to perform specific amplification reactions which would result in the identification of BMP-12 BMP/TGF- β /Vg-1 (BMP-12 related protein) encoding sequences. Such specific amplification reactions of a human genomic DNA template could be initiated with the use of oligonucleotide primers #1 and #2 described earlier.
25 Oligonucleotides #1 and #2 identified above are utilized as primers to allow the specific amplification of a specific nucleotide sequence from human genomic DNA. The amplification reaction is performed as follows:

30 Human genomic DNA (source: peripheral blood lymphocytes), provided by Ken Jacobs of Genetics Institute, is sheared by repeated passage through a 25 gauge needle, denatured at 100°C for 5 minutes and then chilled on ice before adding to a reaction mixture containing 200 μ M each deoxynucleotide triphosphates (dATP, dGTP, dCTP and dTTP), 10 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.3, 50 mM KCl, 1.5 mM MgCl₂,

0.001% gelatin, 1.25 units Taq DNA polymerase, 100 pM oligonucleotide #1 and 100 pM oligonucleotide #2. This reaction mixture is incubated at 94°C for two minutes and then subjected to thermal cycling in the following manner: 1 minute at 94°C, 1 minute at 40°C, 1 minute at 72°C for three cycles; then 1 minute at 94°C,
5 1 minute at 55°C, 1 minute at 72°C for thirty-seven cycles, followed by a 10 minute incubation at 72°C.

The DNA which is specifically amplified by this reaction is ethanol precipitated, digested with the restriction endonucleases BamHI and XbaI and subjected to agarose gel electrophoresis. A region of the gel, corresponding to the
10 predicted size of the BMP-12 or other BMP/TGF- β /Vg-1 encoding DNA fragment, is excised and the specifically amplified DNA fragments contained therein are electroeluted and subcloned into the plasmid vector pGEM-3 between the XbaI and BamHI sites of the polylinker. DNA sequence analysis of one of the resulting BMP-12 related subclones indicates the specifically amplified DNA sequence product
15 contained therein encodes a portion of the BMP-12 protein of the invention.

The DNA sequence (SEQ ID NO:5) and derived amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:6) of this specifically amplified DNA fragment of BMP-12 are shown in the SEQUENCE Listings.

Nucleotides #1-#26 of SEQ ID NO:5 comprise a portion of oligonucleotide
20 #1 and nucleotides #103 - #128 comprise a portion of the reverse compliment of oligonucleotide #2 utilized to perform the specific amplification reaction. Due to the function of oligonucleotides #1 and #2 in initiating the amplification reaction, they may not correspond exactly to the actual sequence encoding a BMP-12 protein and are therefore not translated in the corresponding amino acid derivation (SEQ ID
25 NO:6).

DNA sequence analysis of another subclone indicates that the specifically amplified DNA product contained therein encodes a portion of another BMP/TGF- β /Vg-1 (BMP-12 related) protein of the invention named VL-1.

The DNA sequence (SEQ ID NO:7) and derived amino acid sequence (SEQ
30 ID NO:8) of this specifically amplified DNA fragment are shown in the Sequence Listings.

Nucleotides #1 - #26 of SEQ ID NO:7 comprise a portion of oligonucleotide #1 and nucleotides #103 - #128 comprise a portion of the reverse compliment of oligonucleotide #2 utilized to perform the specific amplification reaction. Due to the function of oligonucleotides #1 and #2 in initiating the amplification reaction, they may not correspond exactly to the actual sequence encoding a VL-1 protein of the invention and are therefore not translated in the corresponding amino acid derivation (SEQ ID NO:8).

The following oligonucleotide probe is designed on the basis of the specifically amplified BMP-12 human DNA sequence set forth above (SEQ ID NO:5) and synthesized on an automated DNA synthesizer:

#3: CCACTGCGAGGGCCTTTGCGACTTCCCTTTGCGTTCGCAC (SEQ ID NO:20)

This oligonucleotide probe is radioactively labeled with ^{32}P and employed to screen a human genomic library constructed in the vector λFIX (Stratagene catalog #944201). 500,000 recombinants of the human genomic library are plated at a density of approximately 10,000 recombinants per plate on 50 plates. Duplicate nitrocellulose replicas of the recombinant bacteriophage plaques and hybridized to oligonucleotide probe #3 in standard hybridization buffer (SHB = 5X SSC, 0.1% SDS, 5X Denhardt's, 100 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ salmon sperm DNA) at 65°C overnight. The following day the radioactively labelled oligonucleotide containing hybridization solution is removed and the filters are washed with 0.2X SSC, 0.1% SDS at 65°C. A single positively hybridizing recombinant is identified and plaque purified. This plaque purified recombinant bacteriophage clone which hybridizes to the BMP-12 oligonucleotide probe #3 is designated $\lambda\text{HuG-48}$. A bacteriophage plate stock is made and bacteriophage DNA is isolated from the $\lambda\text{HuG-48}$ human genomic clone. The bacteriophage $\lambda\text{HuG-48}$ has been deposited with the American Type Culture Collection, 12301 Parklawn Drive, Rockville, MD "ATCC" under the accession #75625 on December 7, 1993. This deposit meets the requirements of the Budapest Treaty of the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purpose of Patent Procedure and Regulations thereunder. The oligonucleotide hybridizing region of this recombinant, $\lambda\text{HuG-48}$, is localized to a 3.2 kb BamHI fragment. This fragment is subcloned into a plasmid vector (pGEM-3) and DNA

sequence analysis is performed. This plasmid subclone is designated PCR1-1#2 and has been deposited with the American Type Culture Collection, 12301 Parklawn Drive, Rockville, MD "ATCC" under the accession #69517 on December 7, 1993. This deposit meets the requirements of the Budapest Treaty of the International
5 Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purpose of Patent Procedure and Regulations thereunder. The partial DNA sequence (SEQ ID NO:1) and derived amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:2) of the 3.2 kb DNA insert of the plasmid subclone PCR1-1#2, derived from clone λ HuG-48, are shown in the Sequence Listings.

10 It should be noted that nucleotides #639 - #714 of SEQ ID NO:1 correspond to nucleotides #27 - #102 of the specifically amplified BMP-12 encoding DNA fragment set forth in SEQ ID NO:5 thus confirming that the human genomic bacteriophage clone λ HuG-48 and derivative subclone PCR1-1#2 encode at least a portion of the BMP-12 protein of the invention. The nucleotide sequence of a
15 portion of the 3.2 kb BamHI insert of the plasmid PCR1-1#2 contains an open reading frame of at least 882 base pairs, as defined by nucleotides #1-#882 of SEQ ID NO:1. This open reading frame encodes at least 294 amino acids of the human BMP-12 protein of the invention. The encoded 294 amino acid human BMP-12 protein includes the full mature human BMP-12 protein (amino acids #1-#104 of
20 SEQ ID NO:2), as well as the C-terminal portion of the propeptide region of the primary translation product (amino acid #-190 to #-1 of SEQ ID NO:2).

Additional DNA sequence of the 3.2 kb BamHI insert of the plasmid PCR1-1#2 set forth in SEQ ID NO:33 demonstrates the presence of an 1164 bp open reading frame, as defined by nucleotides #138 through #1301 of SEQ ID NO:33.
25 [NOTE that all the sequence disclosed in SEQ ID NO:1 is contained within SEQ ID NO:33]. As this sequence is derived from a genomic clone it is difficult to determine the boundary between the 5' extent of coding sequence and the 3' limit of intervening sequence (intron/non-coding sequence).

30 Based on the knowledge of other BMP proteins and other proteins within the TGF- β family, it is predicted that the precursor polypeptide would be cleaved at the multibasic sequence Arg-Arg-Gly-Arg in agreement with a proposed consensus proteolytic processing sequence of Arg-X-X-Arg. Cleavage of the BMP-12

precursor polypeptide is expected to generate a 104 amino acid mature peptide beginning with the amino acid Ser at position #1 of SEQ ID NO:2. The processing of BMP-12 into the mature form is expected to involve dimerization and removal of the N-terminal region in a manner analogous to the processing of the related protein TGF- β [Gentry et al., Molec & Cell. Biol., 8:4162 (1988); Derynck et al. Nature, 316:701 (1985)].

It is contemplated therefore that the mature active species of BMP-12 comprises a homodimer of two polypeptide subunits, each subunit comprising amino acids #1 to #104 of SEQ ID NO:2 with a predicted molecular weight of approximately 12,000 daltons. Further active species are contemplated comprising at least amino acids #3 to #103 of SEQ ID NO:2, thereby including the first and last conserved cysteine residue. As with other members of the TGF- β /BMP family of proteins, the carboxy-terminal portion of the BMP-12 protein exhibits greater sequence conservation than the more amino-terminal portion. The percent amino acid identity of the human BMP-12 protein in the cysteine-rich C-terminal domain (amino acids #3 - #104) to the corresponding region of human BMP proteins and other proteins within the TGF- β family is as follows: BMP-2, 55%; BMP-3, 43%; BMP-4, 53%; BMP-5, 49%; BMP-6, 49%; BMP-7, 50%; BMP-8, 57%; BMP-9, 48%; BMP-10, 57%; activin WC (BMP-11), 38%; Vg1, 46%; GDF-1, 47%; TGF- β 1, 36%; TGF- β 2, 36%; TGF- β 3, 39%; inhibin β (B), 36%; inhibin β (A), 41%.

The human BMP-12 DNA sequence (SEQ ID NO:1), or a portion thereof, can be used as a probe to identify a human cell line or tissue which synthesizes BMP-12 mRNA. Briefly described, RNA is extracted from a selected cell or tissue source and either electrophoresed on a formaldehyde agarose gel and transferred to nitrocellulose, or reacted with formaldehyde and spotted on nitrocellulose directly. The nitrocellulose is then hybridized to a probe derived from the coding sequence of human BMP-12.

Alternatively, the human BMP-12 sequence is used to design oligonucleotide primers which will specifically amplify a portion of the BMP-12 encoding sequence located in the region between the primers utilized to perform the specific amplification reaction. It is contemplated that these human BMP-12 derived primers would allow one to specifically amplify corresponding BMP-12 encoding sequences

from mRNA, cDNA or genomic DNA templates. Once a positive source has been identified by one of the above described methods, mRNA is selected by oligo (dT) cellulose chromatography and cDNA is synthesized and cloned in λ gt10 or other λ bacteriophage vectors known to those skilled in the art, for example, λ ZAP by established techniques (Toole et al., *supra*). It is also possible to perform the oligonucleotide primer directed amplification reaction, described above, directly on a pre-established human cDNA or genomic library which has been cloned into a λ bacteriophage vector. In such cases, a library which yields a specifically amplified DNA product encoding a portion of the human BMP-12 protein could be screened directly, utilizing the fragment of amplified BMP-12 encoding DNA as a probe.

Oligonucleotide primers designed on the basis of the DNA sequence of the human BMP-12 genomic clone λ HuG-48 are predicted to allow the specific amplification of human BMP-12 encoding DNA sequences from pre-established human cDNA libraries which are commercially available (ie. Stratagene, La Jolla, CA or Clontech Laboratories, Inc., Palo Alto, CA). The following oligonucleotide primer is designed on the basis of nucleotides #571 to #590 of the DNA sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 and synthesized on an automated DNA synthesizer:

#4: TGCGGATCCAGCCGCTGCAGCCGCAAGCC (SEQ ID NO:21)

The first nine nucleotides of primer #4 (underlined) comprise the recognition sequence for the restriction endonuclease BamHI which can be used to facilitate the manipulation of a specifically amplified DNA sequence encoding the human BMP-12 protein of the invention and are thus not derived from the DNA sequence presented in SEQ ID NO:1.

The following oligonucleotide primer is designed on the basis of nucleotides #866 - #885 of the DNA sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 and synthesized on an automated DNA synthesizer:

#5 GACTCTAGACTACCTGCAGCCGCAGGCCT (SEQ ID NO:22)

The first nine nucleotides of primer #5 (underlined) comprise the recognition sequence for the restriction endonuclease XbaI which can be used to facilitate the manipulation of a specifically amplified DNA sequence encoding the human BMP-12 protein of the invention and are thus not derived from the DNA sequence presented in SEQ ID NO:1.

The standard nucleotide symbols in the above identified primers are as follows: A, adenine; C, cytosine; G, guanine; T, thymine.

Primers #4 and #5 identified above are utilized as primers to allow the amplification of a specific BMP-12 encoding nucleotide sequence from pre-established cDNA libraries which may include the following: human fetal brain
5 cDNA/ λ ZAPII (Stratagene catalog #936206), human liver/ λ UNI-ZAP XR (Stratagene Catalog #937200), human lung/ λ UNI-ZAP XR (Stratagene catalog #937206), and human fetal spleen/UNI-ZAP XR (Stratagene catalog #937205).

Approximately 1×10^8 pfu (plaque forming units) of λ bacteriophage libraries
10 containing human cDNA inserts such as those detailed above are denatured at 95°C for five minutes prior to addition to a reaction mixture containing 200 μ M each deoxynucleotide triphosphates (dATP, dGTP, dCTP and dTTP) 10 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.3, 50 mM KCl, 1.5 mM MgCl₂, 0.001% gelatin, 1.25 units Taq DNA polymerase, 100 pM oligonucleotide primer #4 and 100 pM oligonucleotide primer
15 #5. The reaction mixture is then subjected to thermal cycling in the following manner: 1 minute at 94°C, 1 minute at 50°C, 1 minute at 72°C for thirty-nine cycles followed by 10 minutes at 72°C.

The DNA which is specifically amplified by this reaction would be expected to generate a BMP-12 encoding product of approximately 333 base pairs, the internal
20 315 bp of which correspond to nucleotides #571 to #885 of SEQ ID NO:1 and also including 9 bp at each end of the BMP-12 specific fragment which correspond to the restriction sites defined by nucleotides #1 - #9 of primers #4 and #5. The resulting 333 bp DNA product is digested with the restriction endonucleases BamHI and XbaI, phenol extracted, chloroform extracted and ethanol precipitated.

25 Alternatively, to ethanol precipitation, buffer exchange and removal of small fragments of DNA resulting from the BamHI/XbaI restriction digest is accomplished by dilution of the digested DNA product in 10 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.0, 1 mM EDTA followed by centrifugation through a Centricon™ 30 microconcentrator (W.R. Grace & Co., Beverly, MA; Product #4209). The resulting BamHI/XbaI digested
30 amplified DNA product is subcloned into a plasmid vector (ie. pBluescript, pGEM-3 etc.) between the BamHI and XbaI sites of the polylinker region. DNA sequence analysis of the resulting subclones would be required to confirm the integrity of the

BMP-12 encoding insert. Once a positive cDNA source has been identified in this manner, the corresponding cDNA library from which a 333 bp BMP-12 specific sequence was amplified could be screened directly with the 333 bp insert or other BMP-12 specific probes in order to identify and isolate cDNA clones encoding the full-length BMP-12 protein of the invention.

Additional methods known to those skilled in the art may be used to isolate other full-length cDNAs encoding human BMP-12 related proteins, or full length cDNA clones encoding BMP-12 related proteins of the invention from species other than humans, particularly other mammalian species.

The following examples demonstrate the use of the human BMP-12 sequence to isolate homologues from BMP-12 related proteins in a murine genomic DNA library.

The DNA sequence which encodes the human BMP-12 protein of the invention is predicted to be significantly homologous to BMP-12 and BMP-12 related sequences from species other than humans that it could be utilized to specifically amplify DNA sequences from those other species which would encode the corresponding BMP-12 related proteins. Specifically, the following oligonucleotides are designed on the basis of the human BMP-12 sequence (SEQ ID NO:1) and are synthesized on an automated DNA synthesizer:

#6: GCGGATCCAAAGGAGCTCGGCTGGGACGA (SEQ ID NO:23)

#7: GGAATTCCCCACCACCATGTCCTCGTAT (SEQ ID NO:24)

The first eight nucleotides of oligonucleotide primers #6 and #7 (underlined) comprise the recognition sequence for the restriction endonucleases BamHI and EcoRI, respectively. These sequences are utilized to facilitate the manipulation of a specifically amplified DNA sequence encoding a BMP-12 or BMP-12 related protein from a species other than human and are thus not derived from the DNA sequence presented in SEQ ID NO:1. Oligonucleotide primer #6 is designed on the basis of nucleotides #607-#626 of SEQ ID NO:1. Oligonucleotide primer #7 is designed on the basis of the reverse compliment of nucleotides #846-#865 of the DNA sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1.

Oligonucleotide primers #6 and #7 identified above are utilized as primers to allow the amplification of specific BMP-12 related sequences from genomic DNA

derived from species other than humans. The amplification reaction is performed as follows:

Murine genomic DNA (source: strain Balb c) is sheared by repeated passage through a 25 gauge needle, denatured at 100° C for five minutes and then chilled on ice before adding to a reaction mixture containing 200 μM each deoxynucleotide triphosphates (dATP, DGTP, dCTP and dTTP) 10 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.3, 50 mM KCl, 1.5 mM MgCl₂, 0.001% gelatin, 1.25 units Taq DNA polymerase, 100 pM oligonucleotide primer #6 and 100 pM oligonucleotide primer #7. The reaction mixture is then subjected to thermal cycling in the following manner: 1 minute at 95°C, 1 minute at 55°C, 1 minute at 72°C for forty cycles followed by 10 minutes at 72°C.

The DNA which is specifically amplified by this reaction is ethanol precipitated, digested with the restriction endonucleases BamHI and EcoRI and subjected to agarose gel electrophoresis. A region of the gel, corresponding to the predicted size of the murine BMP-12 or BMP-12 related encoding DNA fragment, is excised and the specifically amplified DNA fragments contained therein are extracted (by electroelution or by other methods known to those skilled in the art) and subcloned in to a plasmid vector, such as pGEM-3 or pBluescript between the BamHI and EcoRI sites of the polylinker. DNA sequence analysis of one of the resulting subclones named mV1, indicates that the specifically amplified DNA sequence contained therein encodes a portion of a protein which appears to be the murine homolog to either the BMP-12 or VL-1 sequence of the invention. The DNA sequence (SEQ ID NO:10) and derived amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:11) of this specifically amplified murine DNA fragment are shown in the sequence listings.

Nucleotides #1-#26 of SEQ ID NO:10 comprise a portion of oligonucleotide #6 and nucleotides #246-#272 comprise a portion of the reverse compliment of oligonucleotide #7 utilized to perform the specific amplification reaction. Nucleotide #27 of SEQ ID NO:10 appears to be the last nucleotide of a codon triplet, and nucleotides #244-#245 of SEQ ID NO:10 appear to be the first two nucleotides of a codon triplet. Therefore, nucleotides #28 to #243 of SEQ ID NO:10 correspond to a partial coding sequence of mV1. Due to the function of oligonucleotides #6 and #7 in initiating the amplification reaction, they may not correspond exactly to the

actual sequence encoding the murine homolog to the human BMP-12 or VL-1 protein of the invention and are therefore not translated in the corresponding amino acid sequence derivation (SEQ ID NO:11).

5 Oligonucleotide probes designed on the basis of the specifically amplified murine BMP-12 or VL-1 DNA sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:10 can be utilized by those skilled in the art to identify full-length murine BMP-12 or VL-1 encoding clones (either cDNA or genomic).

10 DNA sequence analysis of another of the resulting subclones named mV2, indicates that the specifically amplified DNA sequence contained therein encodes a portion of a murine BMP-12 related sequence of the invention. The DNA sequence (SEQ ID NO:12) and derived amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:13) of this specifically amplified murine DNA fragment are shown in the sequence listings.

15 Nucleotides #1-#26 of SEQ ID NO:12 comprise a portion of oligonucleotide #6 and nucleotides #246-#272 comprise a portion of the reverse compliment of oligonucleotide #7 utilized to perform the specific amplification reaction. Nucleotide #27 of SEQ ID NO:12 appears to be the last nucleotide of a codon triplet, and nucleotides #244-#245 of SEQ ID NO:12 appear to be the first two nucleotides of a codon triplet. Therefore, nucleotides #28 to #243 of SEQ ID NO:12 correspond to a partial coding sequence of mV2. Due to the function of oligonucleotides #6 and 20 #7 in initiating the amplification reaction, they may not correspond exactly to the actual sequence encoding the murine BMP-12 related protein of the invention and are therefore not translated in the corresponding amino acid sequence derivation (SEQ ID NO:13).

25 Oligonucleotide probes designed on the basis of the specifically amplified murine BMP-12 related DNA sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:12 can be utilized by those skilled in the art to identify full-length murine BMP-12 related encoding clones (either cDNA or genomic).

30 DNA sequence analysis of another of the resulting subclones named mV9, indicates that the specifically amplified DNA sequence contained therein encodes a portion of a murine BMP-12 related sequence of the invention. This sequence appears to be the murine homolog to the human MP52 DNA sequence described at SEQ ID NO:3. The DNA sequence (SEQ ID NO:14) and derived amino acid

sequence (SEQ ID NO:15) of this specifically amplified murine DNA fragment are shown in the sequence listings.

Nucleotides #1-#26 of SEQ ID NO:14 comprise a portion of oligonucleotide #6 and nucleotides #246-#272 comprise a portion of the reverse compliment of oligonucleotide #7 utilized to perform the specific amplification reaction. Nucleotide #27 of SEQ ID NO:14 appears to be the last nucleotide of a codon triplet, and nucleotides #244-#245 of SEQ ID NO:14 appear to be the first two nucleotides of a codon triplet. Therefore, nucleotides #28 to #243 of SEQ ID NO:14 correspond to a partial coding sequence of mV9. Due to the function of oligonucleotides #6 and #7 in initiating the amplification reaction, they may not correspond exactly to the actual sequence encoding the murine BMP-12 related protein of the invention and are therefore not translated in the corresponding amino acid sequence derivation (SEQ ID NO:15).

Oligonucleotide probes designed on the basis of the specifically amplified murine BMP-12 related DNA sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:14 can be utilized by those skilled in the art to identify full-length murine BMP-12 related encoding clones (either cDNA or genomic).

Alternatively, oligonucleotide primers #6 and #7 identified above are utilized as primers to allow the specific amplification of a 275 base pair DNA probe, the internal 259 bp of which correspond to nucleotides #607 to #865 of SEQ ID NO:1, from the BMP-12 encoding plasmid subclone PCR1-1#2. This 275bp DNA probe was radioactively labelled with ³²P and employed to screen a murine genomic library constructed in the vector λ FIX II (Stratagene catalog #946306). 1 million recombinants of the murine genomic library are plated at a density of approximately 20,000 recombinants per plate on 50 plates. Duplicate nitrocellulose replicas of the recombinant bacteriophage plaques are hybridized, under reduced stringency conditions, to the specifically amplified 333 bp probe in standard hybridization buffer (SHB = 5X SSC, 0.1% SDS, 5X Denhardt's, 100 μg/ml salmon sperm DNA) at 60°C overnight. The following day the radioactively labelled oligonucleotide containing hybridization solution is removed and the filters are washed, under reduced stringency conditions, with 2X SSC, 0.1% SDS at 60°C. Multiple positively hybridizing recombinants are identified and plaque purified. Fragments of the

positively hybridizing murine genomic recombinant clones are subcloned into standard plasmid vectors (i.e. pGEM-3) and subjected to DNA sequence analysis.

DNA sequence analysis of one of these subclones named MVR3 indicates that it encodes a portion of the mouse gene corresponding to the PCR product mV1
5 (murine homolog of the human BMP-12 sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1) described above. The partial DNA sequence of this subclone and corresponding amino acid translation are set forth in SEQ ID NO: 29 and SEQ ID NO:30 respectively.

DNA sequence analysis of another one of these subclones named MVR32
10 indicates that it encodes a portion of the mouse gene corresponding to the PCR product mV2 (murine homolog of the human VL-1 sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:7) described above. The partial DNA sequence of this subclone and corresponding amino acid translation are set forth in SEQ ID NO: 31 and SEQ ID NO:32 respectively.

DNA sequence analysis of another of these subclones named MVR23
15 indicates that it encodes a portion of the mouse gene corresponding to the PCR product mV9 (murine homolog of the MP-52 sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:3) described above.

In a similar manner to that which is described above for identifying and
20 isolating human genomic clones encoding the BMP-12 protein of the invention, oligonucleotide probe(s) corresponding to the VL-1 encoding sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:7 can be designed and utilized to identify human genomic or cDNA sequences encoding the VL-1 (BMP-13) protein. These oligonucleotides would be designed to regions specific for VL-1 encoding sequences and would therefore be
25 likely to be derived from regions of the lowest degree of nucleotide sequence identity between the specifically amplified VL-1 encoding sequence (SEQ ID NO:7) and the specifically amplified BMP-12 encoding sequence (SEQ ID NO:5).

Alternatively, oligonucleotide primers #4 and #5 identified above are utilized as primers to allow the specific amplification of a 333 base pair DNA probe, the
30 internal 315 bp of which correspond to nucleotides #571 to #885 of SEQ ID NO:1, from the BMP-12 encoding plasmid subclone PCR1-1#2. This 333 bp DNA probe was radioactively labelled with ³²P and employed to screen a human genomic library

constructed in the vector λ DASH II (Stratagene catalog #945203). 1 million recombinants of the human genomic library are plated at a density of approximately 20,000 recombinants per plate on 50 plates. Duplicate nitrocellulose replicas of the recombinant bacteriophage plaques are hybridized, under reduced stringency conditions, to the specifically amplified 333 bp probe in standard hybridization buffer (SHB = 5X SSC, 0.1% SDS, 5X Denhardt's, 100 μ g/ml salmon sperm DNA) at 60°C overnight. The following day the radioactively labelled oligonucleotide containing hybridization solution is removed and the filters are washed, under reduced stringency conditions, with 2X SSC, 0.1% SDS at 60°C. Multiple (approximately 15) positively hybridizing recombinants are identified and plaque purified.

In order to distinguish positively hybridizing recombinants encoding the VL-1 protein of the invention from BMP-12 and other BMP-12-related encoding recombinants which would be predicted to hybridize positively to the 333 bp DNA probe generated from the BMP-12 encoding plasmid PCR1-1#2 utilized in this screening procedure, the following oligonucleotide probe, based on the VL-1 sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:7, is designed and synthesized on an automated DNA synthesizer:

#8: TGTATGCGACTTCCCGC [SEQUENCE ID NO: 35]

An oligonucleotide corresponding to nucleotides #60 to #76 of SEQ ID NO:7 which contains 5 nucleotide differences to the corresponding region of the BMP-12 encoding sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 (nucleotides #672 to #689). One of the recombinant bacteriophage clones which hybridizes to the VL-1 oligonucleotide probe #8 is designated λ JLDc31. This recombinant bacteriophage clone is plaque purified, a bacteriophage plate stock is made and bacteriophage DNA is isolated from the λ JLDc31 human genomic clone. The bacteriophage λ JLDc31 has been deposited with the American Type Culture Collection, 12301 Parklawn Drive, Rockville, MD "ATCC" under the accession #75922 on October 20, 1994. This deposit meets the requirements of the Budapest Treaty of the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purpose of Patent Procedure and Regulations thereunder. The oligonucleotide hybridizing region of this recombinant, λ JLDc31, is localized to a 2.5 kb Eco RI fragment. This fragment is subcloned into a plasmid vector (pGEM-3) and DNA sequence analysis is performed.

This plasmid subclone is designated pGEMJLDc31/2.5 and has been deposited with the American Type Culture Collection, 12301 Parklawn Drive, Rockville, MD "ATCC" under the accession # 69710 on October 20, 1994. This deposit meets the requirements of the Budapest Treaty of the International Recognition of the Deposit
5 of Microorganisms for the Purpose of Patent Procedure and Regulations thereunder.

The partial DNA sequence (SEQ ID NO:25) and derived amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:26) of a portion of the 2.5 kb DNA insert of the plasmid subclone pGEMJLDc31/2.5, derived from clone λ JLDc31, are shown in the Sequence Listings
10

The DNA sequence of a portion of the 2.5 kb EcoRI insert of the plasmid pGEMJLDc31/2.5 set forth in SEQ ID NO:25 contains an 912 bp open reading frame, as defined by nucleotides #52 through #963 of SEQ ID NO:25. As this sequence is derived from a genomic clone it is difficult to determine the boundary between the 5' extent of coding sequence and the 3' limit
15 of intervening sequence (intron/non-coding sequence). The entire open reading frame (nucleotides #52 through #963 of SEQ ID NO:25) encodes a portion of the VL-1 protein of the invention of up to 304 amino acids.

Based on the knowledge of other BMP proteins and other proteins within the TGF- β family, it is predicted that the precursor polypeptide would be cleaved at the
20 multibasic sequence Arg-Arg-Arg-Arg in agreement with a proposed consensus proteolytic processing sequence of Arg-X-X-Arg. Cleavage of the VL-1 precursor polypeptide is expected to generate a 120 amino acid mature peptide beginning with the amino acid Thr at position #1 of SEQ ID NO:26. The processing of VL-1 into the mature form is expected to involve dimerization and removal of the N-terminal
25 region in a manner analogous to the processing of the related protein TGF- β [Gentry et al., *Molec & Cell. Biol.*, 8:4162 (1988); Derynck et al. *Nature*, 316:701 (1985)].

It is contemplated therefore that the mature active species of VL-1 comprises a homodimer of two polypeptide subunits, each subunit comprising amino acids #1 to #120 of SEQ ID NO:26 with a predicted molecular weight of approximately
30 12,000 daltons. Further active species are contemplated comprising at least amino acids #19 to # 119 or #120 of SEQ ID NO:26, thereby including the first and last conserved cysteine residue.

Using such a method, a clone encoding the mature human VL-1 (BMP-13) was obtained. The nucleotide sequence and corresponding amino acid sequence encoded by this clone are listed in the Sequence Listings at SEQ ID NO: 25 and 26, respectively.

5 **EXAMPLE 2**

Expression of BMP-12

In order to produce human BMP-12 proteins, the DNA encoding it is transferred into an appropriate expression vector and introduced into mammalian cells or other preferred eukaryotic or prokaryotic hosts by conventional genetic engineering techniques.

In order to produce the human BMP-12 protein in bacterial cells, the following procedure is employed.

Expression of BMP-12 in *E. coli*

An expression plasmid pALV1-781, for production of BMP-12 in *E. coli* was constructed which contains the following principal features. Nucleotides 1-2060 contain DNA sequences originating from the plasmid pUC-18 [Norrander et al., Gene 26:101-106 (1983)] including sequences containing the gene for β -lactamase which confers resistance to the antibiotic ampicillin in host *E. coli* strains, and a colE1-derived origin of replication. Nucleotides 2061-2221 contain DNA sequences for the major leftward promotor (pL) of bacteriophage λ [Sanger et al., J. Mol. Biol. 162:729-773 (1982)], including three operator sequences O_L1 , O_L2 and O_L3 . The operators are the binding sites for λ cI repressor protein, intracellular levels of which control the amount of transcription initiation from pL. Nucleotides 2222-2723 contain a strong ribosome binding sequence included on a sequence derived from nucleotides 35566 to 35472 and 38137 to 38361 from bacteriophage lambda as described in Sanger et al., J. Mol. Biol. 162:729-773 (1982). Nucleotides 2724-3041 contain a DNA sequence encoding mature BMP-12 protein with all 3' untranslated sequence removed. The BMP-12 DNA sequences introduced into the pALV1-781 expression vector were modified at the 5' end to raise the A+T content without altering the coding capacity. These changes were made to increase the efficiency of translation initiated on the BMP-12 mRNA in *E. coli*. Nucleotides 3042-3058 provide a "Linker" DNA sequence containing restriction endonuclease

sites. Nucleotides 3059-3127 provide a transcription termination sequence based on that of the *E. coli* *asp* A gene [Takagi et al., Nucl. Acids Res. 13:2063-2074 (1985)]. Nucleotides 3128-3532 are DNA sequences derived from pUC-18.

Plasmid pALV1-781 was transformed into the *E. coli* host strain GI724 (F, *lacI*^q, *lacp*^{L8}, *ampC*::*λCI*⁺) by the procedure of Dagert and Ehrlich, Gene 6:23 (1979). GI724 (ATCC accession No. 55151) contains a copy of the wild-type *λCI* repressor gene stably integrated into the chromosome at the *ampC* locus, where it has been placed under the transcriptional control of *Salmonella typhimurium* *trp* promoter/operator sequences. In GI724, *λCI* protein is made only during growth in tryptophan-free media, such as minimal media or a minimal medium supplemented with casamino acids such as IMC, described above. Addition of tryptophan to a culture of GI724 will repress the *trp* promoter and turn off synthesis of *λCI*, gradually causing the induction of transcription from pL promoters if they are present in the cell.

Transformants were selected on 1.5% w/v agar plates containing IMC medium, which is composed of M9 medium [Miller, "Experiments in Molecular Genetics," Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, New York (1972)] containing 1 mM MgSO₄ and supplemented with 0.5% w/v glucose, 0.2% w/v casamino acids and 100 μg/ml ampicillin. GI724 transformed with pALV1-781 was grown at 37°C to an A₅₅₀ of 0.5 in IMC medium containing 100 μg/ml ampicillin. Tryptophan was then added to a final concentration of 100 μg/ml and the culture incubated for a further 4 hours. During this time BMP-12 protein accumulates within the "inclusion body" fraction.

Preparation of Protein Monomer

18 g of frozen cells were weighed out and resuspended in 60ml of 100 mM Tris, 10 mM EDTA, 1 mM phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride [PMSF], pH 8.3. Cells were lysed by 3 passes through a Microfluidizer™ [model #MCF 100 T]. The inclusion body pellet was obtained by centrifugation at 15,000g at 4°C for 20 minutes. The supernatant was decanted, and the pellet was washed with 100 ml of 100 mM Tris, 1.0 M NaCl, 10 mM EDTA, 1 mM PMSF, pH 8.3. The suspension was centrifuged again at 15,000g at 4°C for 10 minutes, and the supernatant decanted. The pellet was then washed with 100 ml of 100 mM Tris, 10 mM EDTA,

1% Triton X-100, 1 mM PMSF, pH 8.3. The suspension was centrifuged again at 15,000g at 4°C for 10 minutes, and the supernatant decanted. The pellet was resuspended with 50 ml of 20 mM Tris, 1 mM EDTA, 1 mM PMSF, pH 8.3, containing 1% DTT in a glass tissue homogenizer. Monomeric BMP-12 was then
5 solubilized by acidification to pH 2.5 with glacial acetic acid. The soluble fraction was isolated by centrifugation at 15,000g for 20 minutes at 4°C.

The supernatant from this centrifugation was collected and chromatographed over a Sephacryl S-100™ size exclusion column (83 cm x 2.6 cm; ≈440 ml bed) in 20 ml increments. The Sephacryl S-100™ column was run with a mobile phase
10 of 1% acetic acid at a flow rate of 1.4 ml/min. Fractions corresponding to BMP-12 monomer were detected by absorbance at 280 nm, and using a computer calculated extinction coefficient of 18200M⁻¹cm⁻¹ and molecular weight (11667 daltons). This size exclusion column pooled material was used as starting material for refolding reactions.

15 As an alternative to the above, 1.0 g of cells stored at -80°C are measured. Solution (3.4 ml 100 mM TRIS, 10 mM EDTA, pH 8.5) is added. The solution is vortexed until cells are well suspended. 40 μl 100 mM PMSF in isopropanol is added. The cells are lysed at 1000 psi in a French pressure cell. The inclusion bodies are centrifuged at 4°C for 20 minutes in an Eppendorf
20 microfuge to form pellets. The supernatants are decanted. To one pellet (out of 4 total) 1.0 ml degassed 8.0 M guanidine hydrochloride, 0.5 M TRIS, 5 mM EDTA, pH 8.5, containing 250 mM DTT is added. The pellet is dissolved and argon is blown over the liquid for 30 seconds. Next the solution is incubated at 37°C for one hour. Insoluble material is pelleted for 2-3 minutes in an Eppendorf microfuge
25 at 23°C. 0.5-1.0 ml of supernatant is injected onto a Supelco 2 cm guard cartridge (LC-304), and eluted with an acetonitrile gradient in 0.1% TFA from 1-70% over 35 minutes. BMP-12 elutes between 29 and 31 minutes. Fractions are pooled and the protein concentration determined by adsorbance at 280 nanometers versus 0.1% TFA, using the theoretical extinction coefficient based upon the amino acid content.

30

As a second alternate method to the above, frozen cell pellets obtained from the *E. coli* transformants as described above are thawed in 30 ml of TE8.3(100:10)

buffer (100 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.3, 10 mM Na₂EDTA, 1 mM PMSF). Cells are lysed by three passes through a Microfluidizer™ [model #MCF 100 T]. The initial inclusion body material pellet is dissolved in 8 M guanidine-HCl, TE8.5(100:10) buffer (100 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.5, 10 mM Na₂EDTA which contained 100 mM DTT, and incubated at 37°C for 1 hour. This material is centrifuged at 12,000 x g for 15 minutes at room temperature.

Refolding of BMP-12 protein using CHAPS system

A sufficient volume of the BMP-12 pool is lyophilized to give 10 µg of protein. 5 µl of glass distilled water is added to redissolve the residue, then 100 µl of refold mix (50 mM Tris, 1.0 M NaCl, 2% 3-(3-chlorolamido-propyl)dimethylammonio-1-propane-sulfate (CHAPS), 5 mM EDTA, 2 mM glutathione (reduced) 1 mM glutathione (oxidized); at pH of approximately 8.5). The solution is gently mixed and stored at 23°C for 1-4 days. Dimer formation is assessed by running an aliquot on a Novex 16% tricine gel at 125 volts for 2.5 hours, followed by Coomassie Blue staining and destaining.

BMP-12 dimer was purified using a C4 analytical RP-HPLC (reversed phase-high performance liquid chromatography) column (Vydac 214TP54) which was equilibrated to 1% B buffer (diluted into A buffer) and was run over 35 minutes, during which the protein elutes, using the following gradient (A buffer = 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid, B buffer = 95% acetonitrile, 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid [TFA]), with a flow rate of 1 ml/min:

1-5 minutes	20% B buffer
5-10 minutes	20-30% B buffer
10-30 minutes	30-50% B buffer
30-35 minutes	50-100% B buffer

Protein was monitored by absorbance at 280nm. Peak BMP-12 fractions (eluting between 29 and 31 minutes) were pooled. Purity was assessed by SDS-PAGE. The concentration was determined by absorbance at 280nm, and using the computer calculated extinction coefficient and molecular weight as indicated above.

Expression of BMP-12 in mammalian cells:

Another contemplated preferred expression system for biologically active recombinant human BMP-12 is stably transformed mammalian cells.

One skilled in the art can construct mammalian expression vectors by employing the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, or other DNA sequences encoding BMP-12 proteins or other modified sequences and known vectors, such as pCD [Okayama et al., Mol. Cell Biol., 2:161-170 (1982)], pJL3, pJL4 [Gough et al., EMBO J., 4:645-653 (1985)] and pMT2 CXM.

The mammalian expression vector pMT2 CXM is a derivative of p91023(b) (Wong et al., Science 228:810-815, 1985) differing from the latter in that it contains the ampicillin resistance gene in place of the tetracycline resistance gene and further contains a XhoI site for insertion of cDNA clones. The functional elements of pMT2 CXM have been described (Kaufman, R.J., 1985, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 82:689-693) and include the adenovirus VA genes, the SV40 origin of replication including the 72 bp enhancer, the adenovirus major late promoter including a 5' splice site and the majority of the adenovirus tripartite leader sequence present on adenovirus late mRNAs, a 3' splice acceptor site, a DHFR insert, the SV40 early polyadenylation site (SV40), and pBR322 sequences needed for propagation in E. coli.

Plasmid pMT2 CXM is obtained by EcoRI digestion of pMT2-VWF, which has been deposited with the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC), Rockville, MD (USA) under accession number ATCC 67122. EcoRI digestion excises the cDNA insert present in pMT2-VWF, yielding pMT2 in linear form which can be ligated and used to transform E. coli HB 101 or DH-5 to ampicillin resistance. Plasmid pMT2 DNA can be prepared by conventional methods. pMT2 CXM is then constructed using loopout/in mutagenesis [Morinaga, et al., Biotechnology 84: 636 (1984). This removes bases 1075 to 1145 relative to the Hind III site near the SV40 origin of replication and enhancer sequences of pMT2. In addition it inserts a sequence containing the recognition site for the restriction endonuclease Xho I. A derivative of pMT2CXM, termed pMT23, contains recognition sites for the restriction endonucleases PstI, Eco RI, Sall and XhoI. Plasmid pMT2 CXM and pMT23 DNA may be prepared by conventional methods.

pEMC2 β 1 derived from pMT21 may also be suitable in practice of the invention. pMT21 is derived from pMT2 which is derived from pMT2-VWF. As described above EcoRI digestion excises the cDNA insert present in pMT-VWF,

yielding pMT2 in linear form which can be ligated and used to transform *E. Coli* HB 101 or DH-5 to ampicillin resistance. Plasmid pMT2 DNA can be prepared by conventional methods.

pMT21 is derived from pMT2 through the following two modifications.
5 First, 76 bp of the 5' untranslated region of the DHFR cDNA including a stretch of 19 G residues from G/C tailing for cDNA cloning is deleted. In this process, a XhoI site is inserted to obtain the following sequence immediately upstream from DHFR. Second, a unique ClaI site is introduced by digestion with EcoRV and XbaI, treatment with Klenow fragment of DNA polymerase I, and ligation to a ClaI linker
10 (CATCGATG). This deletes a 250 bp segment from the adenovirus associated RNA (VAI) region but does not interfere with VAI RNA gene expression or function. pMT21 is digested with EcoRI and XhoI, and used to derive the vector pEMC2B1.

A portion of the EMCV leader is obtained from pMT2-ECAT1 [S.K. Jung, et al, *J. Virol* 63:1651-1660 (1989)] by digestion with Eco RI and PstI, resulting in
15 a 2752 bp fragment. This fragment is digested with TaqI yielding an Eco RI-TaqI fragment of 508 bp which is purified by electrophoresis on low melting agarose gel. A 68 bp adapter and its complementary strand are synthesized with a 5' TaqI protruding end and a 3' XhoI protruding end which has a sequence which matches the EMC virus leader sequence from nucleotide 763 to 827. It also changes the
20 ATG at position 10 within the EMC virus leader to an ATT and is followed by a XhoI site. A three way ligation of the pMT21 Eco RI-XhoI fragment, the EMC virus EcoRI-TaqI fragment, and the 68 bp oligonucleotide adapter TaqI-XhoI adapter resulting in the vector pEMC2 β 1.

This vector contains the SV40 origin of replication and enhancer, the
25 adenovirus major late promoter, a cDNA copy of the majority of the adenovirus tripartite leader sequence, a small hybrid intervening sequence, an SV40 polyadenylation signal and the adenovirus VA I gene, DHFR and β -lactamase markers and an EMC sequence, in appropriate relationships to direct the high level expression of the desired cDNA in mammalian cells.

30 The construction of vectors may involve modification of the BMP-12 DNA sequences. For instance, BMP-12 cDNA can be modified by removing the non-coding nucleotides on the 5' and 3' ends of the coding region. The deleted non-

coding nucleotides may or may not be replaced by other sequences known to be beneficial for expression. These vectors are transformed into appropriate host cells for expression of BMP-12 proteins. Additionally, the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 or other sequences encoding BMP-12 proteins can be manipulated to express BMP-12 protein by isolating the mature coding sequence of nucleotides 571 to 882 of SEQ ID NO:1 and adding at the 5' end sequences encoding the complete propeptides of other BMP proteins.

For example, one skilled in the art can make a fusion protein in which the propeptide of BMP-2 is linked in operable fashion to the mature BMP-12 peptide by preparing a DNA vector in which the DNA sequence encoding the BMP-2 propeptide is linked in proper reading frame to the DNA sequence encoding the mature BMP-12 peptide. The DNA sequence of such a fusion protein is shown in SEQUENCE ID NO:27.

One skilled in the art can manipulate the sequences of SEQ ID NO:1 by eliminating or replacing the mammalian regulatory sequences flanking the coding sequence with bacterial sequences to create bacterial vectors for intracellular or extracellular expression by bacterial cells, as described above. As another example, the coding sequences could be further manipulated (e.g. ligated to other known linkers or modified by deleting non-coding sequences therefrom or altering nucleotides therein by other known techniques). The modified BMP-12 coding sequence could then be inserted into a known bacterial vector using procedures such as described in T. Taniguchi et al., Proc. Natl Acad. Sci. USA, 77:5230-5233 (1980). This exemplary bacterial vector could then be transformed into bacterial host cells and a BMP-12 protein expressed thereby. For a strategy for producing extracellular expression of BMP-12 proteins in bacterial cells, see, e.g. European patent application EPA 177,343.

Similar manipulations can be performed for the construction of an insect vector [See, e.g. procedures described in published European patent application 155,476] for expression in insect cells. A yeast vector could also be constructed employing yeast regulatory sequences for intracellular or extracellular expression of the factors of the present invention by yeast cells. [See, e.g., procedures described

in published PCT application WO86/00639 and European patent application EPA 123,289].

5 A method for producing high levels of a BMP-12 protein of the invention in mammalian cells may involve the construction of cells containing multiple copies of the heterologous BMP-12 gene. The heterologous gene is linked to an amplifiable marker, e.g. the dihydrofolate reductase (DHFR) gene for which cells containing increased gene copies can be selected for propagation in increasing concentrations of methotrexate (MTX) according to the procedures of Kaufman and Sharp, J. Mol. Biol., 159:601-629 (1982). This approach can be employed with a number of
10 different cell types.

For example, a plasmid containing a DNA sequence for a BMP-12 of the invention in operative association with other plasmid sequences enabling expression thereof and the DHFR expression plasmid pAdA26SV(A)3 [Kaufman and Sharp, Mol. Cell. Biol., 2:1304 (1982)] can be co-introduced into DHFR-deficient CHO
15 cells, DUKX-BII, by various methods including calcium phosphate coprecipitation and transfection, electroporation or protoplast fusion. DHFR expressing transformants are selected for growth in alpha media with dialyzed fetal calf serum, and subsequently selected for amplification by growth in increasing concentrations of MTX (e.g. sequential steps in 0.02, 0.2, 1.0 and 5uM MTX) as described in
20 Kaufman et al., Mol Cell Biol., 5:1750 (1983). Transformants are cloned, and biologically active BMP-12 expression is monitored by the Rosen-modified Sampath-Reddi rat assay described below in Example 5. BMP-12 expression should increase with increasing levels of MTX resistance. BMP-12 polypeptides are characterized using standard techniques known in the art such as pulse labeling with [35S]
25 methionine or cysteine and polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis. Similar procedures can be followed to produce other related BMP-12 proteins.

EXAMPLE 3

Preparation of BMP-2 propeptide/BMP-12 mature peptide fusion

30 In order to construct a vector encoding the BMP-2 propeptide/BMP-12 mature peptide fusion, the following cloning procedure was used to fuse the two sequences together.

First, a DNA restriction enzyme fragment comprising the propeptide of human BMP-2 protein, comprising nucleotides 1 through 843 of SEQ ID NO:27 is cut from pBMP2 Δ EMC. pBMP2 Δ EMC is a plasmid derived from lambda U20S-39 (ATCC #40345) comprising the entire coding sequence for human BMP-2 protein with the non-translated 5' and 3' sequences of BMP-2 deleted from the vector. The 5' restriction enzyme used was Bgl II and it cuts pBMP2 Δ EMC in the vector at nucleotide 979. The 3' restriction enzyme used was Mae II and it cuts pBMP2 Δ EMC in the BMP-2 propeptide at nucleotide 1925, just short of the carboxy terminus. The resulting 954 base pair product was then gel isolated and gene cleaned. Second, a DNA restriction enzyme fragment comprising the 5' portion of the human BMP-12 mature peptide DNA sequence, is cut from pPCR1-1#2 V1-1 (ATCC #69517). The 5' restriction enzyme used was Eae I and it cuts pPCR1-1#2 V1-1 just 3' of N-terminus of the human BMP-12 mature peptide sequence. The resulting 259 base pair product was gel isolated and gene cleaned. Third, two DNA oligos were designed and synthesized, so that when annealed would form a tiny DNA fragment comprising fusion sequence of the extreme 3' end of the human BMP-2 propeptide and the 5' end of BMP-12 mature peptide. The DNA fragment has a 5' Mae II complimentary sticky end which anneals to the 3' restriction enzyme fragment comprising the human BMP-2 propeptide. The annealed oligo DNA fragment has a 3' Eae I complimentary sticky end which anneals to the 5' of the restriction enzyme fragment comprising the mature peptide of human BMP-12. The coding strand oligo is named B2/12 and is 13 base pairs long. Next, a DNA fragment encoding the 123 base pairs at the 3' end of the BMP-12 mature peptide fragment was obtained as follows. First, a DNA fragment comprising the propeptide of human BMP-2 protein, comprising nucleotides 1 through 846 is PCR amplified from pBMP2 Δ EMC. The 5' primer (oligo 655a) anneals just 5' of the polylinker. The 3' primer (BMPpro3) anneals to the BMP-2 propeptide 3' end and introduces a Bgl II restriction enzyme site by silent sequence mutations. The resulting PCR product was cut with Sal I, which cleaves in the polylinker, and Bgl II. The 850 base pair restriction enzyme fragment (ending in amino acid sequence REKR) was gel isolated and gene cleaned. The BMP-12 mature peptide was PCR amplified using a 5' primer (oligo 5-1) encoding the Bgl II restriction enzyme site by silent

sequence mutations, and annealing to the 5' end of a possible mature cleavage product, beginning with amino acid sequence SRCS. The 3' primer (V1-1 3) anneals to the BMP-12 mature peptide 3' end and introduces a Xba I restriction enzyme site after the stop codon. The resulting PCR product was cut with Bgl II and Xba I.
5 The 321 base pair restriction enzyme fragment was gel isolated and gene cleaned.

The two restriction fragments were three-way ligated into a previously SalI and XbaI cut vector. The resultant construct was sequenced to check for PCR induced errors and a silent C to T mutation was observed at base pair 185 in the propeptide. This plasmid was designated pREKRSRC. Then pREKRSRC was cut
10 with BglII and NgoMI, and the vector fragment encompassing the last 123 base pairs of the BMP12 mature sequence was thereby isolated. The three restriction fragments and the annealed oligolinker were four-way ligated to yield pREKR-TAL with the BMP-2 propeptide with the mature cleavage site at the 3' end fused to the (TAL) 5' end of the BMP-12 mature peptide. The coding sequence of the resulting ligated
15 vector is shown in SEQ ID NO:27.

EXAMPLE 4

Biological Activity of Expressed BMP-12

To measure the biological activity of the expressed BMP-12 proteins obtained in Example 2 above, the proteins are recovered from the cell culture and purified
20 by isolating the BMP-12 proteins from other proteinaceous materials with which they are co-produced as well as from other contaminants. The purified protein may be assayed in accordance with the rat assay described below in Example 5.

Purification is carried out using standard techniques known to those skilled in the art.

25 Protein analysis is conducted using standard techniques such as SDS-PAGE acrylamide [Laemmli, Nature 227:680 (1970)] stained with Coomassie Blue or silver [Oakley, et al. Anal. Biochem. 105:361 (1980)] and by immunoblot [Towbin, et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 76:4350 (1979)]

Example 5

ROSEN MODIFIED SAMPATH-REDDI ASSAY

30 A modified version of the rat ectopic implant assay described in Sampath and Reddi, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 80:6591-6595 (1983) is used to evaluate the

activity of the BMP-12 proteins. This modified assay is herein called the Rosen-modified Sampath-Reddi assay. The assay has been widely used to evaluate the bone and cartilage-inducing activity of BMPs. The ethanol precipitation step of the Sampath-Reddi procedure is replaced by dialyzing (if the composition is a solution) or diafiltering (if the composition is a suspension) the fraction to be assayed against water. The solution or suspension is then equilibrated to 0.1% TFA. The resulting solution is added to 20 mg of rat matrix. A mock rat matrix sample not treated with the protein serves as a control. This material is frozen and lyophilized and the resulting powder enclosed in #5 gelatin capsules. The capsules are implanted subcutaneously in the abdominal thoracic area of 21-49 day old male Long Evans rats. The implants are removed after 10 days. A section of each implant is fixed and processed for histological analysis. 1 μ m glycolmethacrylate sections are stained with Von Kossa and acid fuchsin to score the amount of induced tendon/ligament-like tissue formation present in each implant.

BMP-12 was implanted in the rats in doses of 1, 5, 25 and 50 μ g per implant for 10 days. BMP-2 at a dose of 5 μ g was included as a positive control. For all doses of BMP-12 tested, no bone or cartilage formation was observed in the implants after ten days. Instead, the implants were filled with tissue resembling embryonic tendon, which is easily recognized by the presence of dense bundles of fibroblasts oriented in the same plane and packed tightly together. [Tendon/ligament-like tissue is described, for example, in Ham and Cormack, Histology (JB Lippincott Co. (1979), pp. 367-369, the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference]. These findings were reproduced in a second set of assays in which tendon/ligament-like tissues was present in all BMP-12 containing implants. In contrast, the BMP-2 implants, as expected, showed cartilage and bone formation, but contained no tendon/ligament-like tissue.

The BMP-12 proteins and related proteins of this invention may be assessed for activity on this assay.

Example 6

Using methods in accordance with the above examples, with minor modifications within the skill of the art, human MP52 protein and the murine homologue of BMP-13 protein were expressed and assayed for tendon/ligament-like

tissue inducing activity. All proteins showed comparable results, similar to those described above for human BMP-12.

The foregoing descriptions detail presently preferred embodiments of the present invention. Numerous modifications and variations in practice thereof are
5 expected to occur to those skilled in the art upon consideration of these descriptions. Those modifications and variations are believed to be encompassed within the claims appended hereto. The disclosure of all references discussed herein are hereby incorporated by reference.

SEQUENCE LISTING

(1) GENERAL INFORMATION:

- (i) APPLICANT: Celeste, Anthony J.
Wozney, John
Rosen, Vicki A.
Wolfman, Neil
Thomsen, Gerald H.
Melton, Douglas A.
- (ii) TITLE OF INVENTION: TENDON-INDUCING COMPOSITIONS
- (iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 35
- (iv) CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:
 - (A) ADDRESSEE: GENETICS INSTITUTE, INC.
 - (B) STREET: 87 CambridgePark Drive
 - (C) CITY: Cambridge
 - (D) STATE: Massachusetts
 - (E) COUNTRY: USA
 - (F) ZIP: 02140
- (v) COMPUTER READABLE FORM:
 - (A) MEDIUM TYPE: Floppy disk
 - (B) COMPUTER: IBM PC compatible
 - (C) OPERATING SYSTEM: PC-DOS/MS-DOS
 - (D) SOFTWARE: PatentIn Release #1.0, Version #1.25
- (vi) CURRENT APPLICATION DATA:
 - (A) APPLICATION NUMBER: US
 - (B) FILING DATE: Herewith
 - (C) CLASSIFICATION:
- (viii) ATTORNEY/AGENT INFORMATION:
 - (A) NAME: Lazar, Steven R.
 - (B) REGISTRATION NUMBER: 32,618
 - (C) REFERENCE/DOCKET NUMBER: 5202-D
- (ix) TELECOMMUNICATION INFORMATION:
 - (A) TELEPHONE: 617 498-8260
 - (B) TELEFAX: 617 876-5851

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:1:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 926 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)
- (vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:
 - (A) ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
- (vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:
 - (B) CLONE: v1-1
- (ix) FEATURE:
 - (A) NAME/KEY: mat_peptide
 - (B) LOCATION: 571..882
- (ix) FEATURE:
 - (A) NAME/KEY: CDS
 - (B) LOCATION: 1..882

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:1:

GCG CGT AAT ACG ACT CAC TAT AGG GCG AAT TGG GTA CGG GGC CCA GGC	48
Ala Arg Asn Thr Thr His Tyr Arg Ala Asn Trp Val Arg Gly Pro Gly	
-190 -185 -180 -175	
AGC TGG ACT TCT CCG CCG TTG CTG CTG CTG TCC ACG TGC CCG GGC GCC	96
Ser Trp Thr Ser Pro Pro Leu Leu Leu Leu Ser Thr Cys Pro Gly Ala	
-170 -165 -160	
GCC CGA GCG CCA CGC CTG CTG TAC TCG CGG GCA GCT GAG CCC CTA GTC	144
Ala Arg Ala Pro Arg Leu Leu Tyr Ser Arg Ala Ala Glu Pro Leu Val	
-155 -150 -145	
GGT CAG CGC TGG GAG GCG TTC GAC GTG GCG GAC GCC ATG AGG CGC CAC	192
Gly Gln Arg Trp Glu Ala Phe Asp Val Ala Asp Ala Met Arg Arg His	
-140 -135 -130	
CGT CGT GAA CCG CGC CCC CCC CGC GCG TTC TGC CTC TTG CTG CGC GCA	240
Arg Arg Glu Pro Arg Pro Pro Arg Ala Phe Cys Leu Leu Leu Arg Ala	
-125 -120 -115	
GTG GCA GGC CCG GTG CCG AGC CCG TTG GCA CTG CGG CGA CTG GGC TTC	288
Val Ala Gly Pro Val Pro Ser Pro Leu Ala Leu Arg Arg Leu Gly Phe	
-110 -105 -100 -95	
GGC TGG CCG GGC GGA GGG GGC TCT GCG GCA GAG GAG CGC GCG GTG CTA	336
Gly Trp Pro Gly Gly Gly Ser Ala Ala Glu Glu Arg Ala Val Leu	
-90 -85 -80	
GTC GTC TCC TCC CGC ACG CAG AGG AAA GAG AGC TTA TTC CGG GAG ATC	384
Val Val Ser Ser Arg Thr Gln Arg Lys Glu Ser Leu Phe Arg Glu Ile	
-75 -70 -65	
CGC GCC CAG GCC CGC GCG CTC GGG GCC GCT CTG GCC TCA GAG CCG CTG	432
Arg Ala Gln Ala Arg Ala Leu Gly Ala Ala Leu Ala Ser Glu Pro Leu	
-60 -55 -50	
CCC GAC CCA GGA ACC GGC ACC GCG TCG CCA AGG GCA GTC ATT GGC GGC	480
Pro Asp Pro Gly Thr Gly Thr Ala Ser Pro Arg Ala Val Ile Gly Gly	
-45 -40 -35	
CGC AGA CGG AGG AGG ACG GCG TTG GCC GGG ACG CGG ACA GCG CAG GGC	528
Arg Arg Arg Arg Arg Thr Ala Leu Ala Gly Thr Arg Thr Ala Gln Gly	
-30 -25 -20 -15	
AGC GGC GGG GGC GCG GGC CGG GGC CAC GGG CGC AGG GGC CGG AGC CGC	576
Ser Gly Gly Gly Ala Gly Arg Gly His Gly Arg Arg Gly Arg Ser Arg	
-10 -5 1	
TGC AGC CGC AAG CCG TTG CAC GTG GAC TTC AAG GAG CTC GGC TGG GAC	624
Cys Ser Arg Lys Pro Leu His Val Asp Phe Lys Glu Leu Gly Trp Asp	
5 10 15	
GAC TGG ATC ATC GCG CCG CTG GAC TAC GAG GCG TAC CAC TGC GAG GGC	672
Asp Trp Ile Ile Ala Pro Leu Asp Tyr Glu Ala Tyr His Cys Glu Gly	
20 25 30	
CTT TGC GAC TTC CCT TTG CGT TCG CAC CTC GAG CCC ACC AAC CAT GCC	720
Leu Cys Asp Phe Pro Leu Arg Ser His Leu Glu Pro Thr Asn His Ala	
35 40 45 50	
ATC ATT CAG ACG CTG CTC AAC TCC ATG GCA CCA GAC GCG GCG CCG GCC	768
Ile Ile Gln Thr Leu Leu Asn Ser Met Ala Pro Asp Ala Ala Pro Ala	
55 60 65	

Leu Cys Asp Phe Pro Leu Arg Ser His Leu Glu Pro Thr Asn His Ala
 35 40 45 50
 Ile Ile Gln Thr Leu Leu Asn Ser Met Ala Pro Asp Ala Ala Pro Ala
 55 60 65
 Ser Cys Cys Val Pro Ala Arg Leu Ser Pro Ile Ser Ile Leu Tyr Ile
 70 75 80
 Asp Ala Ala Asn Asn Val Val Tyr Lys Gln Tyr Glu Asp Met Val Val
 85 90 95
 Glu Ala Cys Gly Cys Arg
 100

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:3:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 1207 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)
- (vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:
 - (A) ORGANISM: Homo sapiens
- (vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:
 - (B) CLONE: MP52
- (ix) FEATURE:
 - (A) NAME/KEY: CDS
 - (B) LOCATION: 845..1204
- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:3:

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ACCGGGCGGC CCTGAACCCA AGCCAGGACA CCCTCCCCAA ACAAGGCAGG CTACAGCCCG      60
GACTGTGACC CCAAAGGAC AGCTTCCCGG AGGCAAGGCA CCCCCAAAAG CAGGATCTGT      120
CCCCAGCTCC TTCCTGCTGA AGAAGGCCAG GGAGCCCGGG CCCCACGAG AGCCCAAGGA      180
GCCGTTTCGC CCACCCCCCA TCACACCCCA CGAGTACATG CTCTCGCTGT ACAGGACGCT      240
GTCCGATGCT GACAGAAAGG GAGGCAACAG CAGCGTGAAG TTGGAGGCTG GCCTGGCCAA      300
CACCATCACC AGCTTTATTG ACAAAGGGCA AGATGACCGA GGTCCCGTGG TCAGGAAGCA      360
GAGGTACGTG TTTGACATTA GTGCCCTGGA GAAGGATGGG CTGCTGGGGG CCGAGCTCCG      420
GATCTTGCGG AAGAAGCCCT CGGACACGGC CAAGCCAGCG GCCCCCGGAG GCGGGCGGGC      480
TGCCCAGCTG AAGCTGTCCA GCTGCCCCAG CGGCCGGCAG CCGGCCTCCT TGCTGGATGT      540
GCGCTCCGTG CCAGGCCTGG ACGGATCTGG CTGGGAGGTG TTCGACATCT GGAAGCTCTT      600
CCGAAACTTT AAGAACTCGG CCCAGCTGTG CCTGGAGCTG GAGGCCTGGG AACGGGGCAG      660
GGCCGTGGAC CTCCGTGGCC TGGGCTTCGA CCGCGCCGCC CGGCAGGTCC ACGAGAAGGC      720
CCTGTTCTCTG GTGTTTGGCC GCACCAAGAA ACGGGACCTG TTCTTTAATG AGATTAAGGC      780
CCGCTCTGGC CAGGACGATA AGACCGTGTA TGAGTACCTG TTCAGCCAGC GCGGAAAACG      840
GCGG GCC CCA CTG GCC ACT CGC CAG GGC AAG CGA CCC AGC AAG AAC CTT      889
  
```


(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:5:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 128 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)
- (vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:
 - (A) ORGANISM: Homo Sapiens
- (vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:
 - (B) CLONE: V1-1 fragment
- (ix) FEATURE:
 - (A) NAME/KEY: CDS
 - (B) LOCATION: 28..102

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:5:

```

GGATCCTGGA AGGATTGGAT CATTGCG CCG CTG GAC TAC GAG GCG TAC CAC      51
                               Pro Leu Asp Tyr Glu Ala Tyr His
                               1                               5

TGC GAG GGC CTT TGC GAC TTC CCT TTG CGT TCG CAC CTC GAG CCC ACC      99
Cys Glu Gly Leu Cys Asp Phe Pro Leu Arg Ser His Leu Glu Pro Thr
   10                               15                               20

AAC CACGCTATAG TCCAAACCTT TCTAGA      128
Asn
  25

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(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:6:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 25 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:6:

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Pro Leu Asp Tyr Glu Ala Tyr His Cys Glu Gly Leu Cys Asp Phe Pro
  1                               5                               10                               15

Leu Arg Ser His Leu Glu Pro Thr Asn
   20                               25

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(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:7:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 128 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)
- (vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:
 - (A) ORGANISM: Homo Sapiens
- (vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:

(B) CLONE: VL-1

(ix) FEATURE:

(A) NAME/KEY: CDS
(B) LOCATION: 28..102

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:7:

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GGATCCTGGG ATGACTGGAT TATGGCG CCG CTG GAC TAC GAG GCG TAC CAC      51
                               Pro Leu Asp Tyr Glu Ala Tyr His
                               1                               5

TGC GAG GGT GTA TGC GAC TTC CCG CTG CGC TCG CAC CTG GAG CCC ACC      99
Cys Glu Gly Val Cys Asp Phe Pro Leu Arg Ser His Leu Glu Pro Thr
   10                               15                               20

AAC CACGCCATGC TACAAACGCT TCTAGA      128
Asn
  25

```

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:8:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 25 amino acids
(B) TYPE: amino acid
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:8:

```

Pro Leu Asp Tyr Glu Ala Tyr His Cys Glu Gly Val Cys Asp Phe Pro
  1                               5                               10                               15

Leu Arg Ser His Leu Glu Pro Thr Asn
   20                               25

```

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:9:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 3585 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:

(B) CLONE: pALV1-781

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:9:

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CTAACTACCC AACTCAAAAA AAAAAAAAAA AAAAACCCCC TCTAACCCCC ATTGACGAAA      60
GGGCCTCGTG ATACGCCTAT TTTTATAGGT TAATGTCATG ATAATAATGG TTTCTTAGAC      120
GTCAGGTGGC ACTTTTCGGG GAAATGTGCG CGGAACCCCT ATTTGTTTAT TTTTCTAAAT      180
ACATTCAAAT ATGTATCCGC TCATGAGACA ATAACCCTGA TAAATGCTTC AATAATATTG      240
AAAAAGGAAG AGTATGAGTA TTCAACATTT CCGTGTGCGC CTTATCCCT TTTTTCGGC      300
ATTTTGCCTT CCTGTTTTTG CTCACCCAGA AACGCTGGTG AAAGTAAAAG ATGCTGAAGA      360

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TCAGTTGGGT	GCACGAGTGG	GTTACATCGA	ACTGGATCTC	AACAGCGGTA	AGATCCTTGA	420
GAGTTTTTCGC	CCCGAAGAAC	GTTTTCCAAT	GATGAGCACT	TTTAAAAGTTC	TGCTATGTGG	480
CGCGGTATTA	TCCCGTATTG	ACGCCGGGCA	AGAGCAACTC	GGTCGCCGCA	TACACTATTC	540
TCAGAATGAC	TTGGTTGAGT	ACTCACCAGT	CACAGAAAAG	CATCTTACGG	ATGGCATGAC	600
AGTAAGAGAA	TTATGCAGTG	CTGCCATAAC	CATGAGTGAT	AACACTGCGG	CCAACTTACT	660
TCTGACAACG	ATCGGAGGAC	CGAAGGAGCT	AACCGCTTTT	TTGCACAACA	TGGGGGATCA	720
TGTAACTCGC	CTTGATCGTT	GGGAACCGGA	GCTGAATGAA	GCCATACCAA	ACGACGAGCG	780
TGACACCACG	ATGCCTGTAG	CAATGGCAAC	AACGTTGCGC	AAACTATTAA	CTGGCGAACT	840
ACTTACTCTA	GCTTCCCGGC	AACAATTAAT	AGACTGGATG	GAGGCGGATA	AAGTTGCAGG	900
ACCACTTCTG	CGCTCGGCC	TTCCGGCTGG	CTGGTTTATT	GCTGATAAAT	CTGGAGCCGG	960
TGAGCGTGGG	TCTCGCGGTA	TCATTGCAGC	ACTGGGGCCA	GATGGTAAGC	CCTCCCGTAT	1020
CGTAGTTATC	TACACGACGG	GGAGTCAGGC	AACTATGGAT	GAACGAAATA	GACAGATCGC	1080
TGAGATAGGT	GCCTCACTGA	TTAAGCATTG	GTAAGTGTCA	GACCAAGTTT	ACTCATATAT	1140
ACTTTAGATT	GATTTAAAAC	TTCAATTTTA	ATTTAAAAGG	ATCTAGGTGA	AGATCCTTTT	1200
TGATAATCTC	ATGACCAAAA	TCCCTTAACG	TGAGTTTTTCG	TTCCACTGAG	CGTCAGACCC	1260
CGTAGAAAAG	ATCAAAGGAT	CTTCTTGAGA	TCCTTTTTTTT	CTGCGCGTAA	TCTGCTGCTT	1320
GCAAACAAAA	AAACCACCGC	TACCAGCGGT	GGTTTGTTTG	CCGGATCAAG	AGCTACCAAC	1380
TCTTTTTCCG	AAGGTAAGT	GCTTCAGCAG	AGCGCAGATA	CCAAATACTG	TCCTTCTAGT	1440
GTAGCCGTAG	TTAGGCCACC	ACTTCAAGAA	CTCTGTAGCA	CCGCCTACAT	ACCTCGCTCT	1500
GCTAATCCTG	TTACCAGTGG	CTGCTGCCAG	TGGCGATAAG	TCGTGTCTTA	CCGGGTTGGA	1560
CTCAAGACGA	TAGTTACCGG	ATAAGGCGCA	GCGGTCGGGC	TGAACGGGGG	GTTTCGTGCAC	1620
ACAGCCCAGC	TTGGAGCGAA	CGACCTACAC	CGAACTGAGA	TACCTACAGC	GTGAGCATTG	1680
AGAAAGCGCC	ACGCTTCCCG	AAGGGAGAAA	GGCGGACAGG	TATCCGGTAA	GCGGCAGGGT	1740
CGGAACAGGA	GAGCGCACGA	GGGAGCTTCC	AGGGGGAAAC	GCCTGGTATC	TTTATAGTCC	1800
TGTCGGGTTT	CGCCACCTCT	GACTTGAGCG	TCGATTTTTG	TGATGCTCGT	CAGGGGGGCG	1860
GAGCCTATGG	AAAAACGCCA	GCAACGCGGC	CTTTTTACGG	TTCCTGGCCT	TTTGCTGGCC	1920
TTTTGCTCAC	ATGTTCTTTC	CTGCGTTATC	CCCTGATTCT	GTGGATAACC	GTATTACCGC	1980
CTTTGAGTGA	GCTGATACCG	CTCGCCGAG	CCGAACGACC	GAGCGCAGCG	AGTCAGTGAG	2040
CGAGGAAGCG	GAAGAGCGCC	CAATACGCAA	ACCGCCTCTC	CCCGCGCGTT	GGCCGATTCA	2100
TTAATGCAGA	ATTGATCTCT	CACCTACCAA	ACAATGCCCC	CCTGCAAAAA	ATAAATTCAT	2160
ATAAAAAACA	TACAGATAAC	CATCTGCGGT	GATAAATTAT	CTCTGGCGGT	GTTGACATAA	2220
ATACCACTGG	CGGTGATACT	GAGCACATCA	GCAGGACGCA	CTGACCACCA	TGAAGGTGAC	2280
GCTCTTAAAA	ATTAAGCCCT	GAAGAAGGGC	AGCATTCAAA	GCAGAAGGCT	TTGGGGTGTG	2340
TGATACGAAA	CGAAGCATTG	GCCGTAAGTG	CGATTCCGGA	TTAGCTGCCA	ATGTGCCAAT	2400

CGCGGGGGGT TTTCGTTTCAG GACTACAACCT GCCACACACC ACCAAAGCTA ACTGACAGGA	2460
GAATCCAGAT GGATGCACAA ACACGCCGCC GCGAACGTCG CGCAGAGAAA CAGGCTCAAT	2520
GGAAAGCAGC AAATCCCCTG TTGGTTGGGG TAAGCGCAA ACCAGTTCCG AAAGATTTTT	2580
TTAACTATAA ACGCTGATGG AAGCGTTTAT GCGGAAGAGG TAAAGCCCTT CCCGAGTAAC	2640
AAAAAAACAA CAGCATAAAT AACCCCGCTC TTACACATTC CAGCCCTGAA AAAGGGCATC	2700
AAATTAAACC ACACCTATGG TGTATGCATT TATTTGCATA CATTCAATCA ATTGTTATCT	2760
AAGGAAATAC TTACATATGT CTCGTTGTTC TCGTAAACCA CTGCATGTAG ATTTTAAAGA	2820
GCTCGGCTGG GACGACTGGA TCATCGCGCC GCTGGACTAC GAGGCGTACC ACTGCGAGGG	2880
CCTTTGCGAC TTCCCTTTGC GTTCGCACCT CGAGCCCACC AACCATGCCA TCATTTCAGAC	2940
GCTGCTCAAC TCCATGGCAC CAGACGCGGC GCCGGCCTCC TGCTGTGTGC CAGCGCGCCT	3000
CAGCCCCATC AGCATCCTCT ACATCGACGC CGCCAACAAC GTTGTCTACA AGCAATACGA	3060
GGACATGGTG GTGGAGGCCT GCGGCTGCAG GTAGTCTAGA GTCGACCTGC AGTAATCGTA	3120
CAGGGTAGTA CAAATAAAAA AGGCACGTCA GATGACGTGC CTTTTTTCTT GTGAGCAGTA	3180
AGCTTGGCAC TGGCCGTCGT TTTACAACGT CGTGACTGGG AAAACCCTGG CGTTACCCAA	3240
CTTAATCGCC TTGCAGCACA TCCCCCTTTC GCCAGCTGGC GTAATAGCGA AGAGGCCCGC	3300
ACCGATCGCC CTTCCCAACA GTTGCGCAGC CTGAATGGCG AATGGCGCCT GATGCGGTAT	3360
TTTCTCCTTA CGCATCTGTG CCGTATTTCA CACCGCATAT ATGGTGCCT CTCAGTACAA	3420
TCTGCTCTGA TGCCGCATAG TTAAGCCAGC CCCGACACCC GCCAACACCC GCTGACGCGC	3480
CCTGACGGGC TTGTCTGCTC CCGGCATCCG CTTACAGACA AGCTGTGACC GTCTCCGGGA	3540
GCTGCATGTG TCAGAGGTTT TCACCGTCAT CACCGAAACG CGCGA	3585

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:10:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 272 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)
- (vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:
 - (A) ORGANISM: mouse
- (vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:
 - (B) CLONE: mV1
- (ix) FEATURE:
 - (A) NAME/KEY: CDS
 - (B) LOCATION: 28..243
- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:10:

GGATCCAAGG AGCTCGGCTG GGACGAC TGG ATC ATC GCG CCA TTA GAC TAC
 Trp Ile Ile Ala Pro Leu Asp Tyr

GAG GCA TAC CAC TGC GAG GGC GTT TGC GAC TTT CCT CTG CGC TCG CAC	99
Glu Ala Tyr His Cys Glu Gly Val Cys Asp Phe Pro Leu Arg Ser His	
10 15 20	
CTG GAG CCT ACC AAC CAC GCC ATC ATT CAG ACG CTG CTC AAC TCC ATG	147
Leu Glu Pro Thr Asn His Ala Ile Ile Gln Thr Leu Leu Asn Ser Met	
25 30 35 40	
GCG CCC GAC GCT GCG CCA GCC TCC TGC TGC GTG CCC GCA AGG CTC AGT	195
Ala Pro Asp Ala Ala Pro Ala Ser Cys Cys Val Pro Ala Arg Leu Ser	
45 50 55	
CCC ATC AGC ATT CTC TAC ATC GAT GCC GCC AAC AAC GTG GTC TAC AAG	243
Pro Ile Ser Ile Leu Tyr Ile Asp Ala Ala Asn Asn Val Val Tyr Lys	
60 65 70	
CAATACGAGG ACATGGTGGT GGGGAATTC	272

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:11:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 72 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:11:

Trp Ile Ile Ala Pro Leu Asp Tyr Glu Ala Tyr His Cys Glu Gly Val	
1 5 10 15	
Cys Asp Phe Pro Leu Arg Ser His Leu Glu Pro Thr Asn His Ala Ile	
20 25 30	
Ile Gln Thr Leu Leu Asn Ser Met Ala Pro Asp Ala Ala Pro Ala Ser	
35 40 45	
Cys Cys Val Pro Ala Arg Leu Ser Pro Ile Ser Ile Leu Tyr Ile Asp	
50 55 60	
Ala Ala Asn Asn Val Val Tyr Lys	
65 70	

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:12:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 272 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:

- (A) ORGANISM: mouse

(vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:

- (B) CLONE: mV2

(ix) FEATURE:

- (A) NAME/KEY: CDS
- (B) LOCATION: 28..243

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:12:

GGATCCAAGG AGCTCGGCTG GGACGAC TGG ATT ATC GCG CCC CTA GAG TAC 51
 Trp Ile Ile Ala Pro Leu Glu Tyr
 1 5

GAG GCC TAT CAC TGC GAG GGC GTG TGC GAC TTT CCG CTG CGC TCG CAC 99
 Glu Ala Tyr His Cys Glu Gly Val Cys Asp Phe Pro Leu Arg Ser His
 10 15 20

CTT GAG CCC ACT AAC CAT GCC ATC ATT CAG ACG CTG ATG AAC TCC ATG 147
 Leu Glu Pro Thr Asn His Ala Ile Ile Gln Thr Leu Met Asn Ser Met
 25 30 35 40

GAC CCG GGC TCC ACC CCG CCT AGC TGC TGC GTT CCC ACC AAA CTG ACT 195
 Asp Pro Gly Ser Thr Pro Pro Ser Cys Cys Val Pro Thr Lys Leu Thr
 45 50 55

CCC ATT AGC ATC CTG TAC ATC GAC GCG GGC AAT AAT GTA GTC TAC AAG 243
 Pro Ile Ser Ile Leu Tyr Ile Asp Ala Gly Asn Asn Val Val Tyr Lys
 60 65 70

CAATACGAGG ACATGGTGGT GGGGAATTC 272

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:13:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) LENGTH: 72 amino acids
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:13:

Trp Ile Ile Ala Pro Leu Glu Tyr Glu Ala Tyr His Cys Glu Gly Val
 1 5 10 15

Cys Asp Phe Pro Leu Arg Ser His Leu Glu Pro Thr Asn His Ala Ile
 20 25 30

Ile Gln Thr Leu Met Asn Ser Met Asp Pro Gly Ser Thr Pro Pro Ser
 35 40 45

Cys Cys Val Pro Thr Lys Leu Thr Pro Ile Ser Ile Leu Tyr Ile Asp
 50 55 60

Ala Gly Asn Asn Val Val Tyr Lys
 65 70

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:14:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) LENGTH: 272 base pairs
 (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:
 (A) ORGANISM: mouse

(vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:
 (B) CLONE: mV9

(ix) FEATURE:
 (A) NAME/KEY: CDS

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:16:

Trp Xaa Asp Trp Ile Xaa Ala
1 5

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:17:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 27 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:
(B) CLONE: oligonucleotide #1

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:17:

CGGATCCTGG VANGAYTGGA THRTNGC

27

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:18:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 6 amino acids
(B) TYPE: amino acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:
(B) CLONE: BMP/TGF-beta consensus sequence

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:18:

His Ala Ile Xaa Gln Thr
1 5

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:19:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 28 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:
(B) CLONE: oligonucleotide #2

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:19:

TTTCTAGAAR NGTYTGNACD ATNGCRTG

28

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:20:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 40 base pairs

- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:

- (B) CLONE: oligonucleotide #3

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:20:

CCACTGCGAG GGCCTTTGCG ACTTCCCTTT GCGTTCGCAC

40

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:21:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 29 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:

- (A) LIBRARY: oligonucleotide #4

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:21:

TGCGGATCCA GCCGCTGCAG CCGCAAGCC

29

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:22:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 29 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:

- (B) CLONE: oligonucleotide #5

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:22:

GACTCTAGAC TACCTGCAGC CGCAGGCCT

29

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:23:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 28 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:

- (A) LIBRARY: oligonucleotide #6

~~(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:23:~~

GCGGATCCAA GGAGCTCGGC TGGGACGA

28

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:24:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) LENGTH: 28 base pairs
 (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:

(B) CLONE: oligonucleotide #7

~~(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:24:~~

GGAATTCCCC ACCACCATGT CCTCGTAT

28

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:25:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) LENGTH: 1171 base pairs
 (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:

(B) CLONE: Human VL-1 protein

(ix) FEATURE:

(A) NAME/KEY: CDS
 (B) LOCATION: 2..964

(ix) FEATURE:

(A) NAME/KEY: mat_peptide
 (B) LOCATION: 605..964

~~(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:25:~~

G AAT TCG GAT CTC TCG CAC ACT CCT CTC CGG AGA CAG AAG TAT TTG
 Asn Ser Asp Leu Ser His Thr Pro Leu Arg Arg Gln Lys Tyr Leu
 -201-200 -195 -190

46

TTT GAT GTG TCC ATG CTC TCA GAC AAA GAA GAG CTG GTG GGC GCG GAG
 Phe Asp Val Ser Met Leu Ser Asp Lys Glu Glu Leu Val Gly Ala Glu
 -185 -180 -175

94

CTG CGG CTC TTT CGC CAG GCG CCC TCA GCG CCC TGG GGG CCA CCA GCC
 Leu Arg Leu Phe Arg Gln Ala Pro Ser Ala Pro Trp Gly Pro Pro Ala
 -170 -165 -160 -155

142

GGG CCG CTC CAC GTC CAG CTC TTC CCT TGC CTT TCG CCC CTA CTG CTG
 Gly Pro Leu His Val Gln Leu Phe Pro Cys Leu Ser Pro Leu Leu Leu
 -150 -145 -140

190

GAC GCG CGG ACC CTG GAC CCG CAG GGG GCG CCG CCG GCC GGC TGG GAA
 Asp Ala Arg Thr Leu Asp Pro Gln Gly Ala Pro Pro Ala Gly Trp Glu

238

GTC TTC GAC GTG TGG CAG GGC CTG CGC CAC CAG CCC TGG AAG CAG CTG	286
Val Phe Asp Val Trp Gln Gly Leu Arg His Gln Pro Trp Lys Gln Leu	
-120 -115 -110	
TGC TTG GAG CTG CGG GCC GCA TGG GGC GAG CTG GAC GCC GGG GAG GCC	334
Cys Leu Glu Leu Arg Ala Ala Trp Gly Glu Leu Asp Ala Gly Glu Ala	
-105 -100 -95	
GAG GCG CGC GCG CGG GGA CCC CAG CAA CCG CCG CCC CCG GAC CTG CGG	382
Glu Ala Arg Ala Arg Gly Pro Gln Gln Pro Pro Pro Pro Asp Leu Arg	
-90 -85 -80 -75	
AGT CTG GGC TTC GGC CGG AGG GTG CGG CCT CCC CAG GAG CGG GCC CTG	430
Ser Leu Gly Phe Gly Arg Arg Val Arg Pro Pro Gln Glu Arg Ala Leu	
-70 -65 -60	
CTG GTG GTA TTC ACC AGA TCC CAG CGC AAG AAC CTG TTC GCA GAG ATG	478
Leu Val Val Phe Thr Arg Ser Gln Arg Lys Asn Leu Phe Ala Glu Met	
-55 -50 -45	
CGC GAG CAG CTG GGC TCG GCC GAG GCT GCG GGC CCG GGC GCG GGC GCC	526
Arg Glu Gln Leu Gly Ser Ala Glu Ala Ala Gly Pro Gly Ala Gly Ala	
-40 -35 -30	
GAG GGG TCG TGG CCG CCG CCG TCG GGC GCC CCG GAT GCC AGG CCT TGG	574
Glu Gly Ser Trp Pro Pro Pro Ser Gly Ala Pro Asp Ala Arg Pro Trp	
-25 -20 -15	
CTG CCC TCG CCC GGC CGC CGG CGG CGG CGC ACG GCC TTC GCC AGT CGC	622
Leu Pro Ser Pro Gly Arg Arg Arg Arg Arg Thr Ala Phe Ala Ser Arg	
-10 -5 1 5	
CAT GGC AAG CGG CAC GGC AAG AAG TCC AGG CTA CGC TGC AGC AAG AAG	670
His Gly Lys Arg His Gly Lys Lys Ser Arg Leu Arg Cys Ser Lys Lys	
10 15 20	
CCC CTG CAC GTG AAC TTC AAG GAG CTG GGC TGG GAC GAC TGG ATT ATC	718
Pro Leu His Val Asn Phe Lys Glu Leu Gly Trp Asp Asp Trp Ile Ile	
25 30 35	
GCG CCC CTG GAG TAC GAG GCC TAT CAC TGC GAG GGT GTA TGC GAC TTC	766
Ala Pro Leu Glu Tyr Glu Ala Tyr His Cys Glu Gly Val Cys Asp Phe	
40 45 50	
CCG CTG CGC TCG CAC CTG GAG CCC ACC AAC CAC GCC ATC ATC CAG ACG	814
Pro Leu Arg Ser His Leu Glu Pro Thr Asn His Ala Ile Ile Gln Thr	
55 60 65 70	
CTG ATG AAC TCC ATG GAC CCC GGC TCC ACC CCG CCC AGC TGC TGC GTG	862
Leu Met Asn Ser Met Asp Pro Gly Ser Thr Pro Pro Ser Cys Cys Val	
75 80 85	
CCC ACC AAA TTG ACT CCC ATC AGC ATT CTA TAC ATC GAC GCG GGC AAT	910
Pro Thr Lys Leu Thr Pro Ile Ser Ile Leu Tyr Ile Asp Ala Gly Asn	
90 95 100	
AAT GTG GTC TAC AAG CAG TAC GAG GAC ATG GTG GTG GAG TCG TGC GGC	958
Asn Val Val Tyr Lys Gln Tyr Glu Asp Met Val Val Glu Ser Cys Gly	
105 110 115	
TGC AGG TAGCGGTGCC TTTCGCGCCG CCTTGGCCCG GAACCAAGGT GGGCCAAGGT	1014
Cys Arg	
120	
CCGCCTTGCA GGGGAGGCCT GSCTGCAGAG AGGCGGAGGA GGAAGCTGGC GCTGGGGGAG	1074

GCTGAGGGTG AGGGAACAGC CTGGATGTGA GAGCCGGTGG GAGAGAAGGG AGCGCACCTT 1134
 CCCAGTAACT TCTACCTGCC AGCCCAGAGG GAAATAT 1171

~~(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:26:~~

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 321 amino acids
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:26:

Asn Ser Asp Leu Ser His Thr Pro Leu Arg Arg Gln Lys Tyr Leu Phe
 -201 -200 -195 -190
 Asp Val Ser Met Leu Ser Asp Lys Glu Glu Leu Val Gly Ala Glu Leu -170
 -185 -180 -175
 Arg Leu Phe Arg Gln Ala Pro Ser Ala Pro Trp Gly Pro Pro Ala Gly
 -165 -160 -155
 Pro Leu His Val Gln Leu Phe Pro Cys Leu Ser Pro Leu Leu Leu Asp
 -150 -145 -140
 Ala Arg Thr Leu Asp Pro Gln Gly Ala Pro Pro Ala Gly Trp Glu Val
 -135 -130 -125
 Phe Asp Val Trp Gln Gly Leu Arg His Gln Pro Trp Lys Gln Leu Cys
 -120 -115 -110
 Leu Glu Leu Arg Ala Ala Trp Gly Glu Leu Asp Ala Gly Glu Ala Glu
 -105 -100 -95 -90
 Ala Arg Ala Arg Gly Pro Gln Gln Pro Pro Pro Pro Asp Leu Arg Ser
 -85 -80 -75
 Leu Gly Phe Gly Arg Arg Val Arg Pro Pro Gln Glu Arg Ala Leu Leu
 -70 -65 -60
 Val Val Phe Thr Arg Ser Gln Arg Lys Asn Leu Phe Ala Glu Met Arg
 -55 -50 -45
 Glu Gln Leu Gly Ser Ala Glu Ala Ala Gly Pro Gly Ala Gly Ala Glu
 -40 -35 -30
 Gly Ser Trp Pro Pro Pro Ser Gly Ala Pro Asp Ala Arg Pro Trp Leu
 -25 -20 -15 -10
 Pro Ser Pro Gly Arg Arg Arg Arg Arg Thr Ala Phe Ala Ser Arg His
 -5 1 5
 Gly Lys Arg His Gly Lys Lys Ser Arg Leu Arg Cys Ser Lys Lys Pro
 10 15 20
 Leu His Val Asn Phe Lys Glu Leu Gly Trp Asp Asp Trp Ile Ile Ala
 25 30 35
 Pro Leu Glu Tyr Glu Ala Tyr His Cys Glu Gly Val Cys Asp Phe Pro
 40 45 50 55
~~Leu Arg Ser His Leu Glu Pro Thr Asn His Ala Ile Ile Gln Thr Leu~~
 60 65 70

His	His	Glu	Glu	Ser	Leu	Glu	Glu	Leu	Pro	Glu	Thr	Ser	Gly	Lys	Thr	
-170					-165					-160					-155	
ACC	CGG	AGA	TTC	TTC	TTT	AAT	TTA	AGT	TCT	ATC	CCC	ACG	GAG	GAG	TTT	432
Thr	Arg	Arg	Phe	Phe	Phe	Asn	Leu	Ser	Ser	Ile	Pro	Thr	Glu	Glu	Phe	
				-150					-145					-140		
ATC	ACC	TCA	GCA	GAG	CTT	CAG	GTT	TTC	CGA	GAA	CAG	ATG	CAA	GAT	GCT	480
Ile	Thr	Ser	Ala	Glu	Leu	Gln	Val	Phe	Arg	Glu	Gln	Met	Gln	Asp	Ala	
			-135					-130					-125			
TTA	GGA	AAC	AAT	AGC	AGT	TTC	CAT	CAC	CGA	ATT	AAT	ATT	TAT	GAA	ATC	528
Leu	Gly	Asn	Asn	Ser	Ser	Phe	His	His	Arg	Ile	Asn	Ile	Tyr	Glu	Ile	
		-120					-115					-110				
ATA	AAA	CCT	GCA	ACA	GCC	AAC	TCG	AAA	TTC	CCC	GTG	ACC	AGA	CTT	TTG	576
Ile	Lys	Pro	Ala	Thr	Ala	Asn	Ser	Lys	Phe	Pro	Val	Thr	Arg	Leu	Leu	
	-105					-100					-95					
GAC	ACC	AGG	TTG	GTG	AAT	CAG	AAT	GCA	AGC	AGG	TGG	GAA	AGT	TTT	GAT	624
Asp	Thr	Arg	Leu	Val	Asn	Gln	Asn	Ala	Ser	Arg	Trp	Glu	Ser	Phe	Asp	
-90					-85					-80					-75	
GTC	ACC	CCC	GCT	GTG	ATG	CGG	TGG	ACT	GCA	CAG	GGA	CAC	GCC	AAC	CAT	672
Val	Thr	Pro	Ala	Val	Met	Arg	Trp	Thr	Ala	Gln	Gly	His	Ala	Asn	His	
				-70					-65					-60		
GGA	TTC	GTG	GTG	GAA	GTG	GCC	CAC	TTG	GAG	GAG	AAA	CAA	GGT	GTC	TCC	720
Gly	Phe	Val	Val	Glu	Val	Ala	His	Leu	Glu	Glu	Lys	Gln	Gly	Val	Ser	
			-55					-50					-45			
AAG	AGA	CAT	GTT	AGG	ATA	AGC	AGG	TCT	TTG	CAC	CAA	GAT	GAA	CAC	AGC	768
Lys	Arg	His	Val	Arg	Ile	Ser	Arg	Ser	Leu	His	Gln	Asp	Glu	His	Ser	
		-40					-35					-30				
TGG	TCA	CAG	ATA	AGG	CCA	TTG	CTA	GTA	ACT	TTT	GGC	CAT	GAT	GGA	AAA	816
Trp	Ser	Gln	Ile	Arg	Pro	Leu	Leu	Val	Thr	Phe	Gly	His	Asp	Gly	Lys	
	-25					-20					-15					
GGG	CAT	CCT	CTC	CAC	AAA	AGA	GAA	AAA	CGT	ACG	GCG	TTG	GCC	GGG	ACG	864
Gly	His	Pro	Leu	His	Lys	Arg	Glu	Lys	Arg	Thr	Ala	Leu	Ala	Gly	Thr	
-10					-5					1				5		
CGG	ACA	GCG	CAG	GGC	AGC	GGC	GGG	GGC	GCG	GGC	CGG	GGC	CAC	GGG	CGC	912
Arg	Thr	Ala	Gln	Gly	Ser	Gly	Gly	Gly	Ala	Gly	Arg	Gly	His	Gly	Arg	
			10					15					20			
AGG	GGC	CGG	AGC	CGC	TGC	AGC	CGC	AAG	CCG	TTG	CAC	GTG	GAC	TTC	AAG	960
Arg	Gly	Arg	Ser	Arg	Cys	Ser	Arg	Lys	Pro	Leu	His	Val	Asp	Phe	Lys	
		25					30					35				
GAG	CTC	GGC	TGG	GAC	GAC	TGG	ATC	ATC	GCG	CCG	CTG	GAC	TAC	GAG	GCG	1008
Glu	Leu	Gly	Trp	Asp	Asp	Trp	Ile	Ile	Ala	Pro	Leu	Asp	Tyr	Glu	Ala	
	40					45					50					
TAC	CAC	TGC	GAG	GGC	CTT	TGC	GAC	TTC	CCT	TTG	CGT	TCG	CAC	CTC	GAG	1056
Tyr	His	Cys	Glu	Gly	Leu	Cys	Asp	Phe	Pro	Leu	Arg	Ser	His	Leu	Glu	
	55				60					65					70	
CCC	ACC	AAC	CAT	GCC	ATC	ATT	CAG	ACG	CTG	CTC	AAC	TCC	ATG	GCA	CCA	1104
Pro	Thr	Asn	His	Ala	Ile	Ile	Gln	Thr	Leu	Leu	Asn	Ser	Met	Ala	Pro	
				75					80					85		
GAC	GCG	GCG	CCG	GCC	TCC	TGC	TGT	GTG	CCA	GCG	CGC	CTC	AGC	CCC	ATC	1152
Asp	Ala	Ala	Pro	Ala	Ser	Cys	Cys	Val	Pro	Ala	Arg	Leu	Ser	Pro	Ile	
			90					95					100			

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

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:29:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 1203 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:

- (B) CLONE: murine MV1

(ix) FEATURE:

- (A) NAME/KEY: CDS
- (B) LOCATION: 2..721

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:29:

A AAG TTC TGC CTG GTG CTG GNG NCG GTG ACG GCC TCG GAG AGC AGN . 46
 Lys Phe Cys Leu Val Leu Xaa Xaa Val Thr Ala Ser Glu Ser Xaa
 1 5 10 15
 CNG CTG GCC CTG AGA CGA CTG GGC TTC GGC TGN CCG GGC GGT GGC GAC . 94
 Xaa Leu Ala Leu Arg Arg Leu Gly Phe Gly Xaa Pro Gly Gly Gly Asp
 20 25 30
 GGC GGC GGC ACT GCG GNC GAG GAG CGC GCG CTG TTG GTG ATC TCC TCC . 142
 Gly Gly Gly Thr Ala Xaa Glu Glu Arg Ala Leu Leu Val Ile Ser Ser
 35 40 45
 CGT ACG CAA AGG AAA GAG AGT CTG TTC CGG GAG ATC CGA GCC CAG GCC . 190
 Arg Thr Gln Arg Lys Glu Ser Leu Phe Arg Glu Ile Arg Ala Gln Ala
 50 55 60

010582

70

CGT GCT CTC CGG GCC GCT GCA GAG CCG CCA CCG GAT CCA GGA CCA GGC	238
Arg Ala Leu Arg Ala Ala Ala Glu Pro Pro Pro Asp Pro Gly Pro Gly	
65 70 75	
GCT GGG TCA CGC AAA GCC AAC CTG GGC GGT CGC AGG CGG CAG CGG ACT	286
Ala Gly Ser Arg Lys Ala Asn Leu Gly Gly Arg Arg Arg Gln Arg Thr	
80 85 90 95	
GCG CTG GCT GGG ACT CGG GGA GNG NAG GGA AGC GGT GGT GGC GGC GGT	334
Ala Leu Ala Gly Thr Arg Gly Xaa Xaa Gly Ser Gly Gly Gly Gly Gly	
100 105 110	
GGC GGT GGC GGC GGC GGC GGC GGC GGC GGC GGC GGC GGC GGC GCA	382
Gly Gly Gly Gly Gly Gly Gly Gly Gly Gly Gly Gly Gly Gly Gly Ala	
115 120 125	
GGC AGG GGC CAC GGG CGC AGA GGC CGG AGC CGC TGC GGT CGC AAG TCA	430
Gly Arg Gly His Gly Arg Arg Gly Arg Ser Arg Cys Gly Arg Lys Ser	
130 135 140	
CTG CAC GTG GAC TTT AAG GAG CTG GGC TGG GAC GAC TGG ATC ATC GCG	478
Leu His Val Asp Phe Lys Glu Leu Gly Trp Asp Asp Trp Ile Ile Ala	
145 150 155	
CCA TTA GAC TAC GAG GCA TAC CAC TGC GAG GGC GTT TGC GAC TTT CCT	526
Pro Leu Asp Tyr Glu Ala Tyr His Cys Glu Gly Val Cys Asp Phe Pro	
160 165 170 175	
CTG CGC TCG CAC CTG GAG CCT ACC AAC CAC GCC ATC ATT CAG ACG CTG	574
Leu Arg Ser His Leu Glu Pro Thr Asn His Ala Ile Ile Gln Thr Leu	
180 185 190	
CTC AAC TCC ATG GCG CCC GAC GCT GCG CCA GCC TCC TGC TGC GTG CCC	622
Leu Asn Ser Met Ala Pro Asp Ala Ala Pro Ala Ser Cys Cys Val Pro	
195 200 205	
GCA AGG CTC AGT CCC ATC AGC ATT CTC TAC ATC GAT GCC GCC AAC AAC	670
Ala Arg Leu Ser Pro Ile Ser Ile Leu Tyr Ile Asp Ala Ala Asn Asn	
210 215 220	
GTG GTC TAC AAG CAG TAC GAA GAC ATG GTG GTG GAG GCC TGC GGC TGC	718
Val Val Tyr Lys Gln Tyr Glu Asp Met Val Val Glu Ala Cys Gly Cys	
225 230 235	
AGG TAGCATGCGG TCTGGGGAGG GTCTGGCCGC CCAGGACCCT AGCTCAAGAG	771
Arg	
240	
CAGGTGTCAT CAGGCCCGAG GGACGGCGGA CTATGGCCTC TGCCAGCACA GAGGAGAGCA	831
CACAGTTAAC ACTCACATTT ACACACTCCT TCACTCACGC ACATGTTTAC CGTGGACGGC	891
AGGCGCTAAA AGCCTTGCTT ATTTGCTACC ATTGATACAA ACCTCTGTCC TTTTCGGGAG	951
AGGGAAGGGC ATCTGTGTTT ATGTTGCAGT AATTGGCACT AAATCCAAGT AGAAATGGGT	1011
TAGCATTGGA TTCTCCTTTT AGTTGGAGGC GGTGTGGCTG GATTCCTGAC GTTGATATG	1071
GAGTGCCTG CAGGGCTGGG ATACCCAGAT TCTCTGGAGT GGGCATTGGG AACCTTCAAA	1131
AGTAAGGAGC CACTGGGGCT TGGGAGGGAG CACCCGGTTC CTAACAAGT CTGATGTGTA	1191
CTGCTCAGTT TG	1203

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:30:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) LENGTH: 240 amino acids
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:30:

Lys Phe Cys Leu Val Leu Xaa Xaa Val Thr Ala Ser Glu Ser Xaa Xaa
 1 5 10 15
 Leu Ala Leu Arg Arg Leu Gly Phe Gly Xaa Pro Gly Gly Gly Asp Gly
 20 25 30
 Gly Gly Thr Ala Xaa Glu Glu Arg Ala Leu Leu Val Ile Ser Ser Arg
 35 40 45
 Thr Gln Arg Lys Glu Ser Leu Phe Arg Glu Ile Arg Ala Gln Ala Arg
 50 55 60
 Ala Leu Arg Ala Ala Ala Glu Pro Pro Pro Asp Pro Gly Pro Gly Ala
 65 70 75 80
 Gly Ser Arg Lys Ala Asn Leu Gly Gly Arg Arg Arg Gln Arg Thr Ala
 85 90 95
 Leu Ala Gly Thr Arg Gly Xaa Xaa Gly Ser Gly Gly Gly Gly Gly Gly
 100 105 110
 Gly Gly Gly Gly Gly Gly Gly Gly Gly Gly Gly Gly Gly Gly Ala Gly
 115 120 125
 Arg Gly His Gly Arg Arg Gly Arg Ser Arg Cys Gly Arg Lys Ser Leu
 130 135 140
 His Val Asp Phe Lys Glu Leu Gly Trp Asp Asp Trp Ile Ile Ala Pro
 145 150 155 160
 Leu Asp Tyr Glu Ala Tyr His Cys Glu Gly Val Cys Asp Phe Pro Leu
 165 170 175
 Arg Ser His Leu Glu Pro Thr Asn His Ala Ile Ile Gln Thr Leu Leu
 180 185 190
 Asn Ser Met Ala Pro Asp Ala Ala Pro Ala Ser Cys Cys Val Pro Ala
 195 200 205
 Arg Leu Ser Pro Ile Ser Ile Leu Tyr Ile Asp Ala Ala Asn Asn Val
 210 215 220
 Val Tyr Lys Gln Tyr Glu Asp Met Val Val Glu Ala Cys Gly Cys Arg
 225 230 235 240

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:31:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) LENGTH: 1046 base pairs
 (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO

(iv) ANTI-SENSE: NO

(vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:
(B) CLONE: MURINE MV2

(ix) FEATURE:
(A) NAME/KEY: CDS
(B) LOCATION: 2..790

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:31:

A AGA AAA CAA GCT TGC ATT CCT GCA GGT CCG ACT CTA AGA GGA TCC	46
Arg Lys Gln Ala Cys Ile Pro Ala Gly Pro Thr Leu Arg Gly Ser	
1 5 10 15	
TCA GGG ACC CAA CCC AGG CCG GCT GGG AAG TCT TTC GAC GTG TGG CAG	94
Ser Gly Thr Gln Pro Arg Pro Ala Gly Lys Ser Phe Asp Val Trp Gln	
20 25 30	
GGC CTG CGC CCT CAG CCT TGG AAG CAG CTG TGC CTG GAG TTG CGG GCA	142
Gly Leu Arg Pro Gln Pro Trp Lys Gln Leu Cys Leu Glu Leu Arg Ala	
35 40 45	
GCC TGG GGT GAG CTG GAC RCC GGG GAT ACG GGG GCG CGC GCG AGG GGT	190
Ala Trp Gly Glu Leu Asp Xaa Gly Asp Thr Gly Ala Arg Ala Arg Gly	
50 55 60	
CCC CAG CAG CCA CCG CCT CTG GAC CTG CGG AGT CTG GGC TTC GGT CGG	238
Pro Gln Gln Pro Pro Pro Leu Asp Leu Arg Ser Leu Gly Phe Gly Arg	
65 70 75	
AGG GTG AGA CCG CCC CAG GAG CGC GCC CTG CTT GTA GTG TTC ACC AGA	286
Arg Val Arg Pro Pro Gln Glu Arg Ala Leu Val Val Phe Thr Arg	
80 85 90 95	
TCG CAG CGC AAG AAC CTG TTC ACT GAG ATG CAT GAG CAG CTG GGC TCT	334
Ser Gln Arg Lys Asn Leu Phe Thr Glu Met His Glu Gln Leu Gly Ser	
100 105 110	
GCA GAG GCT GCG GGA GCC GAG GGG TCA TGT CCA GCG CCG TCG GGC TCC	382
Ala Glu Ala Ala Gly Ala Glu Gly Ser Cys Pro Ala Pro Ser Gly Ser	
115 120 125	
CCA GAC ACC GGG TCT TGG CTG CCC TCG CCC GGC CGC CGG CGG CGA CGC	430
Pro Asp Thr Gly Ser Trp Leu Pro Ser Pro Gly Arg Arg Arg Arg	
130 135 140	
ACC GCC TTC GCC AGC CGT CAC GGC AAG CGA CAT GGC AAG AAG TCC AGG	478
Thr Ala Phe Ala Ser Arg His Gly Lys Arg His Gly Lys Lys Ser Arg	
145 150 155	
CTG CGC TGC AGC AGA AAG CCT CTG CAC GTG AAT TTT AAG GAG TTA GGC	526
Leu Arg Cys Ser Arg Lys Pro Leu His Val Asn Phe Lys Lys Glu Leu Gly	
160 165 170 175	
TGG GAC GAC TGG ATT ATC GCG CCC CTA GAG TAC GAG GCC TAT CAC TGC	574
Trp Asp Asp Trp Ile Ile Ala Pro Leu Glu Tyr Glu Ala Tyr His Cys	
180 185 190	
GAG GGC GTG TGC GAC TTT CCG CTG CGC TCG CAC CTT GAG CCC ACT AAC	622
Glu Gly Val Cys Asp Phe Pro Leu Arg Ser His Leu Glu Pro Thr Asn	
195 200 205	
CAT GCC ATC ATT CAG ACG CTG ATG AAC TCC ATG GAC CCG GGC TCC ACC	670
His Ala Ile Ile Gln Thr Leu Met Asn Ser Met Asp Pro Gly Ser Thr	

210	215	220	
CCG CCT AGC TGC TGC GTT CCC ACC AAA CTG ACT CCC ATT AGC ATC CTG			718
Pro Pro Ser Cys Cys Val Pro Thr Lys Leu Thr Pro Ile Ser Ile Leu			
225	230	235	
TAC ATC GAC GCG GGC AAT AAT GTN GTC TAC AAG CAG TAT GAG GAC ATG			766
Tyr Ile Asp Ala Gly Asn Asn Xaa Val Tyr Lys Gln Tyr Glu Asp Met			
240	245	250	255
GTG GTG GAG TCC TGC GGC TGT AGG TAGCGGTGCT GTCCCGCCAC CTGGGCCAGG			820
Val Val Glu Ser Cys Gly Cys Arg			
260			
GACCATGGAG GGAGGCCTGA CTGCCGAGAA AGGAGCAGGA GCTGGCCTTG GAAGAGGCCA			880
CAGGTGGGGG ACAGCCTGAA AGTAGGAGCA CAGTAAGAAG CAGCCCAGCC TTCCCAGAAC			940
CTTCCAATCC CCCAACCCAG AAGCAGCTAA GGGGTTTCAC AACTTTTGGC CTTGCCAGCC			1000
TGGAAAGACT AGACAAGAGG GATTCTTCTC TTTTATTAT GGCTTG			1046

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:32:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) LENGTH: 263 amino acids
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:32:

Arg	Lys	Gln	Ala	Cys	Ile	Pro	Ala	Gly	Pro	Thr	Leu	Arg	Gly	Ser	Ser
1				5					10					15	
Gly	Thr	Gln	Pro	Arg	Pro	Ala	Gly	Lys	Ser	Phe	Asp	Val	Trp	Gln	Gly
			20					25					30		
Leu	Arg	Pro	Gln	Pro	Trp	Lys	Gln	Leu	Cys	Leu	Glu	Leu	Arg	Ala	Ala
		35					40					45			
Trp	Gly	Glu	Leu	Asp	Xaa	Gly	Asp	Thr	Gly	Ala	Arg	Ala	Arg	Gly	Pro
	50					55					60				
Gln	Gln	Pro	Pro	Pro	Leu	Asp	Leu	Arg	Ser	Leu	Gly	Phe	Gly	Arg	Arg
	65				70					75				80	
Val	Arg	Pro	Pro	Gln	Glu	Arg	Ala	Leu	Leu	Val	Val	Phe	Thr	Arg	Ser
				85					90					95	
Gln	Arg	Lys	Asn	Leu	Phe	Thr	Glu	Met	His	Glu	Gln	Leu	Gly	Ser	Ala
			100					105					110		
Glu	Ala	Ala	Gly	Ala	Glu	Gly	Ser	Cys	Pro	Ala	Pro	Ser	Gly	Ser	Pro
		115					120					125			
Asp	Thr	Gly	Ser	Trp	Leu	Pro	Ser	Pro	Gly	Arg	Arg	Arg	Arg	Arg	Thr
	130					135					140				
Ala	Phe	Ala	Ser	Arg	His	Gly	Lys	Arg	His	Gly	Lys	Lys	Ser	Arg	Leu
	145				150					155					160
Arg	Cys	Ser	Arg	Lys	Pro	Leu	His	Val	Asn	Phe	Lys	Glu	Leu	Gly	Trp
				165					170					175	

TCT CTC TGT CCC TGC CGG TCC CCC GCA GAC GAA TCG GCA GCC GAA ACA	362
Ser Leu Cys Pro Cys Arg Ser Pro Ala Asp Glu Ser Ala Ala Glu Thr	
-225 -220 -215 -210	
GGC CAG AGC TTC CTG TTC GAC GTG TCC AGC CTT AAC GAC GCA GAC GAG	410
Gly Gln Ser Phe Leu Phe Asp Val Ser Ser Leu Asn Asp Ala Asp Glu	
-205 -200 -195	
GTG GTG GGT GCC GAG CTG CGC GTG CTG CGC CGG GGA TCT CCA GAG TCG	458
Val Val Gly Ala Glu Leu Arg Val Leu Arg Arg Gly Ser Pro Glu Ser	
-190 -185 -180	
GGC CCA GGC AGC TGG ACT TCT CCG CCG TTG CTG CTG CTG TCC ACG TGC	506
Gly Pro Gly Ser Trp Thr Ser Pro Pro Leu Leu Leu Leu Ser Thr Cys	
-175 -170 -165	
CCG GGC GCC GCC CGA GCG CCA CGC CTG CTG TAC TCG CGG GCA GCT GAG	554
Pro Gly Ala Ala Arg Ala Pro Arg Leu Leu Tyr Ser Arg Ala Ala Glu	
-160 -155 -150	
CCC CTA GTC GGT CAG CGC TGG GAG GCG TTC GAC GTG GCG GAC GCC ATG	602
Pro Leu Val Gly Gln Arg Trp Glu Ala Phe Asp Val Ala Asp Ala Met	
-145 -140 -135 -130	
AGG CGC CAC CGT CGT GAA CCG CGC CCC CCC CGC GCG TTC TGC CTC TTG	650
Arg Arg His Arg Arg Glu Pro Arg Pro Pro Arg Ala Phe Cys Leu Leu	
-125 -120 -115	
CTG CGC GCA GTG GCA GGC CCG GTG CCG AGC CCG TTG GCA CTG CGG CGA	698
Leu Arg Ala Val Ala Gly Pro Val Pro Ser Pro Leu Ala Leu Arg Arg	
-110 -105 -100	
CTG GGC TTC GGC TGG CCG GGC GGA GGG GGC TCT GCG GCA GAG GAG CGC	746
Leu Gly Phe Gly Trp Pro Gly Gly Gly Gly Ser Ala Ala Glu Glu Arg	
-95 -90 -85	
GCG GTG CTA GTC GTC TCC TCC CGC ACG CAG AGG AAA GAG AGC TTA TTC	794
Ala Val Leu Val Val Ser Ser Arg Thr Gln Arg Lys Glu Ser Leu Phe	
-80 -75 -70	
CGG GAG ATC CGC GCC CAG GCC CGC GCG CTC GGG GCC GCT CTG GCC TCA	842
Arg Glu Ile Arg Ala Gln Ala Arg Ala Leu Gly Ala Ala Leu Ala Ser	
-65 -60 -55 -50	
GAG CCG CTG CCC GAC CCA GGA ACC GGC ACC GCG TCG CCA AGG GCA GTC	890
Glu Pro Leu Pro Asp Pro Gly Thr Gly Thr Ala Ser Pro Arg Ala Val	
-45 -40 -35	
ATT GGC GGC CGC AGA CGG AGG AGG ACG GCG TTG GCC GGG ACG CGG ACA	938
Ile Gly Gly Arg Arg Arg Arg Arg Thr Ala Leu Ala Gly Thr Arg Thr	
-30 -25 -20	
GCG CAG GGC AGC GGC GGG GGC GCG GGC CGG GGC CAC GGG CGC AGG GGC	986
Ala Gln Gly Ser Gly Gly Gly Ala Gly Arg Gly His Gly Arg Arg Gly	
-15 -10 -5	
CGG AGC CGC TGC AGC CGC AAG CCG TTG CAC GTG GAC TTC AAG GAG CTC	1034
Arg Ser Arg Cys Ser Arg Lys Pro Leu His Val Asp Phe Lys Glu Leu	
1 5 10 15	
GGC TGG GAC GAC TGG ATC ATC GCG CCG CTG GAC TAC GAG GCG TAC CAC	1082
Gly Trp Asp Asp Trp Ile Ile Ala Pro Leu Asp Tyr Glu Ala Tyr His	
20 25 30	
TGC GAG GGC CTT TGC GAC TTC CCT TTG CGT TCG CAC CTC GAG CCC ACC	1130
Cys Glu Gly Leu Cys Asp Phe Pro Leu Arg Ser His Leu Glu Pro Thr	
35 40 45	

What is claimed is:

1. A DNA molecule comprising an isolated DNA sequence encoding a BMP-12 related protein.
- 5 2. A DNA molecule according to claim 1, wherein said DNA sequence is selected from the group consisting of:
 - (a) nucleotides #496, #571 or #577 to #882 of SEQ ID NO:1;
 - (b) nucleotides #605 or #659 to #964 of SEQ ID NO:25; and
 - (c) sequences which hybridize to (a) or (b) under stringent hybridization
 - 10 conditions and encode a BMP-12 related protein which exhibits the ability to form tendon/ligament-like tissue.
3. A DNA molecule comprising the DNA sequence of claim 1 wherein said DNA sequence is selected from the group consisting of:
 - (a) nucleotides encoding for amino acids #-25, #1 or #3 to #104 of SEQ
 - 15 ID NO:2;
 - (b) in a 5' to 3' direction, nucleotides encoding a propeptide selected from the group consisting of native BMP-12 propeptide and a BMP protein propeptide; and nucleotides encoding for amino acids #-25, #1 or #3 to #104 of SEQ ID NO:2; and
 - 20 (c) nucleotides encoding for amino acids #1 or #19 to #120 of SEQ ID NO:26;
 - (d) in a 5' to 3' direction, nucleotides encoding a propeptide selected from the group consisting of native BMP-12 propeptide and a BMP protein propeptide; and nucleotides encoding for amino acids #1 or #19 to #120 of SEQ
 - 25 ID NO:26;
 - (e) sequences which hybridize to any of (a) through (d) under stringent hybridization conditions and encode a BMP-12 related protein which exhibits the ability to form cartilage and/or bone.
4. A host cell transformed with a DNA molecule according to claim 1.
- 30 5. A host cell transformed with the DNA molecule of claim 2.
6. A host cell transformed with the DNA molecule of claim 3.
7. An isolated DNA molecule having a sequence encoding a BMP-12 protein which is characterized by the ability to induce the formation of

tendon/ligament-like tissue, said DNA molecule comprising a DNA sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) nucleotide #496, #571 or #577 to #882 of SEQ ID NO:1;
 - (b) nucleotide #605 or #659 to #964 of SEQ ID NO:25; and
 - 5 (c) naturally occurring allelic sequences and equivalent degenerative codon sequences of (a) or (b).
8. A host cell transformed with the DNA molecule of claim 7.
 9. A vector comprising a DNA molecule of claim 7 in operative association with an expression control sequence therefor.
 - 10 10. A host cell transformed with the vector of claim 9.
 11. A method for producing a purified BMP-12 protein, said method comprising the steps of:
 - (a) culturing a host cell transformed with a DNA molecule according to claim 2, comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a BMP-12 related protein;
 - 15 and
 - (b) recovering and purifying said BMP-12 related protein from the culture medium.
 12. A method for producing a purified BMP-12 related protein said method comprising the steps of:
 - 20 (a) culturing a host cell transformed with a DNA molecule according to claim 3, comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a BMP-12 related protein; and
 - (b) recovering and purifying said BMP-12 related protein from the culture medium.
 - 25 13. A method for producing a purified BMP-12 related protein said method comprising the steps of:
 - (a) culturing a host cell transformed with a DNA molecule according to claim 7, comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a BMP-12 related protein; and
 - 30 (b) recovering and purifying said BMP-12 related protein from the culture medium.

14. A purified polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the following group:

(a) from amino acid #-25 to amino acid #104 as set forth in SEQ ID NO:2;

5 (b) from amino acid #1 to amino acid #104 as set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.

(c) from amino acid #3 to amino acid #104 as set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.

(d) from amino acid #1 to amino acid #120 as set forth in SEQ ID

NO:26; and

(d) from amino acid #19 to amino acid #120 as set forth in SEQ ID

10 NO:26.

15. A purified polypeptide wherein said polypeptide is in the form of a dimer comprised of two subunits, each with the amino acid sequence of claim 14.

16. A purified protein produced by the steps of

15 (a) culturing a cell transformed with a DNA molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence from nucleotide #496, #571 or #577 to #882 as shown in SEQ ID NO:1; and

(b) recovering and purifying from said culture medium a protein comprising the amino acid sequence from amino acid #-25, amino acid #1 or
20 amino acid #3 to amino acid #104 as shown in SEQ ID NO:2.

17. A purified BMP-12 related protein characterized by the ability to induce the formation of tendon/ligament-like tissue.

18. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of the BMP-12 related protein of claim 17 in admixture with a pharmaceutically
25 acceptable vehicle.

19. A method for inducing tendon/ligament-like tissue formation in a patient in need of same comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of the composition of claim 18.

20. A pharmaceutical composition for tendon/ligament-like tissue healing
30 and tissue repair said composition comprising an effective amount of the protein of a BMP-12 related protein in a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle.

21. A method for treating tendinitis, or other tendon or ligament defect in a patient in need of same, said method comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of the composition of claim 20.

22. A chimeric DNA molecule comprising a DNA sequence encoding a propeptide from a member of the TGF- β superfamily of proteins linked in correct reading frame to a DNA sequence encoding a BMP-12 related polypeptide.

23. A chimeric DNA molecule according to claim 22, wherein the propeptide is the propeptide from BMP-2.

24. A heterodimeric protein molecule comprising one monomer having the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of claim 14, and one monomer having the amino acid sequence of a protein of the TGF- β superfamily.

25. A method for inducing tendon/ligament-like tissue formation in a patient in need of same comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of a composition comprising a protein encoded by a DNA sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) nucleotides #496, #571 or #577 to #882 of SEQ ID NO:1;

(b) nucleotides #845 or #899 to #1204 of SEQ ID NO:3;

(c) nucleotides #605 or #659 to #964 of SEQ ID NO:25; and

(d) sequences which hybridize to (a), (b) or (c) under stringent hybridization conditions and encode a protein which exhibits the ability to form tendon/ligament-like tissue.

26. A method for inducing tendon/ligament-like tissue formation in a patient in need of same comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of the composition comprising a tendon/ligament-like tissue inducing protein having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) amino acids #-25, #1 or #3 to #104 of SEQ ID NO:2;

(b) amino acids #1 or #19 to #120 of SEQ ID NO:4;

(c) amino acids #1 or #19 to #120 of SEQ ID NO:26; and

(d) mutants and/or variants of (a), (b) or (c) which exhibit the ability to form tendon and/or ligament.

27. A pharmaceutical composition for tendon/ligament-like tissue repair, said composition comprising an effective amount of a BMP-12 related protein in a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle.

5 28. A method for treating tendinitis, or other tendon or ligament defect in a patient in need of same, said method comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of the composition of claim 27.

Brevet n°

Planche unique

FIGURE 1

010582

COMPARISON OF HUMAN V1-1 VS. HUMAN MP-52

V1-1	Ser	Arg	Cys	Ser	Arg	Lys	Pro	Leu	His	Val	Asp	Phe	Lys	Glu	Leu
1	AGC	CGC	TGC	AGC	CGC	AAG	CCG	TTG	CAC	GTG	GAC	TTC	AAG	GAG	CTC
MP52	GCT	CGC	TGC	AGT	CGG	AAG	GCA	CTG	CAT	GTC	AAC	TTC	AAG	GAC	ATG
1	Ala	Arg	Cys	Ser	Arg	Lys	Ala	Leu	His	Val	Asn	Phe	Lys	Asp	Met
16	Gly	Trp	Asp	Asp	Trp	Ile	Ile	Ala	Pro	Leu	Asp	Tyr	Glu	Ala	Tyr
46	GGC	TGG	GAC	GAC	TGG	ATC	ATC	GCG	CCG	CTG	GAC	TAC	GAG	GCG	TAC
46	GGC	TGG	GAC	GAC	TGG	ATC	ATC	GCA	CCC	CTT	GAG	TAC	GAG	GCT	TTC
16	Gly	Trp	Asp	Asp	Trp	Ile	Ile	Ala	Pro	Leu	Glu	Tyr	Glu	Ala	Phe
31	His	Cys	Glu	Gly	Leu	Cys	Asp	Phe	Pro	Leu	Arg	Ser	His	Leu	Glu
91	CAC	TGC	GAG	GGC	CTT	TGC	GAC	TTC	CCT	TTG	CGT	TCG	CAC	CTC	GAG
91	CAC	TGC	GAG	GGG	CTG	TGC	GAG	TTC	CCA	TTG	CGC	TCC	CAC	CTG	GAG
31	His	Cys	Glu	Gly	Leu	Cys	Glu	Phe	Pro	Leu	Arg	Ser	His	Leu	Glu
46	Pro	Thr	Asn	His	Ala	Ile	Ile	Gln	Thr	Leu	Leu	Asn	Ser	Met	Ala
121	CCC	ACC	AAC	CAT	GCC	ATC	ATT	CAG	ACG	CTG	CTC	AAC	TCC	ATG	GCA
121	CCC	ACG	AAT	CAT	GCA	GTC	ATC	CAG	ACC	CTG	ATG	AAC	TCC	ATG	GAC
46	Pro	Thr	Asn	His	Ala	Val	Ile	Gln	Thr	Leu	Met	Asn	Ser	Met	Asp
61	Pro	Asp	Ala	Ala	Pro	Ala	Ser	Cys	Cys	Val	Pro	Ala	Arg	Leu	Ser
181	CCA	GAC	GCG	GCG	CCG	GCC	TCC	TGC	TGT	GTG	CCA	GCG	CGC	CTC	AGC
181	CCC	GAG	TCC	ACA	CCA	CCC	ACC	TGC	TGT	GTG	CCC	ACG	CGG	CTG	AGT
61	Pro	Glu	Ser	Thr	Pro	Pro	Thr	Cys	Cys	Val	Pro	Thr	Arg	Leu	Ser
76	Pro	Ile	Ser	Ile	Leu	Tyr	Ile	Asp	Ala	Ala	Asn	Asn	Val	Val	Tyr
226	CCC	ATC	AGC	ATC	CTC	TAC	ATC	GAC	GCC	GCC	AAC	AAC	GTT	GTC	TAC
226	CCC	ATC	AGC	ATC	CTC	TTC	ATT	GAC	TCT	GCC	AAC	AAC	GTG	GTG	TAT
76	Pro	Ile	Ser	Ile	Leu	Phe	Ile	Asp	Ser	Ala	Asn	Asn	Val	Val	Tyr
91	Lys	Gln	Tyr	Glu	Asp	Met	Val	Val	Glu	Ala	Cys	Gly	Cys	Arg	
271	AAG	CAA	TAC	GAG	GAC	ATG	GTG	GTG	GAG	GCC	TGC	GGC	TGC	AGG	
271	AAG	CAG	TAT	GAG	GAC	ATG	GTC	GTG	GAG	TCG	TGT	GGC	TGC	AGG	
91	Lys	Gln	Tyr	Glu	Asp	Met	Val	Val	Glu	Ser	Cys	Gly	Cys	Arg	

Homology at the nucleotide level: 249/312 = 79.8%

Homology at the amino acid level: 84/104 = 80.8%