(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
20 February 2003 (20.02.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 03/014359 A2

(51) International Patent Classification[7]: C12N 15/62, 15/12, C07K 14/715, C12N 15/24, C07K 14/54, G01N 33/68, A61K 38/20, 48/00, A61P 31/18, 37/00, 19/02

(21) International Application Number: PCT/GB02/03581

(22) International Filing Date: 2 August 2002 (02.08.2002)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
0119015.6 3 August 2001 (03.08.2001) GB

(71) Applicants *(for all designated States except US)*: **UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CARDIFF** [GB/GB]; Consultants Limited, 55 Park Place, P.O. Box 923, Cardiff CF10 3AT (GB). **UNIVERSITY OF WALES COLLEGE OF MEDICINE** [GB/GB]; Research & Commerical Office, Heath Park, Cardiff CF14 4XN (GB).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants *(for US only)*: **JONES, Simon, Arnett** [GB/GB]; Cardiff School of Biosciences, Molecular Cell Biology Research Group, Cardiff University, Museum Avenue (P O Box 911), Cardiff CF10 3US (GB). **TOPLEY, Nicholas** [GB/GB]; Institute for Nephrology, University of Wales College of Medicine, Heath Park, Cardiff CF14 4XN (GB).

(74) Agents: **TOMBLING, Adrian, George** et al.; Withers & Rogers, Goldings House, 2 Hays Lane, London SE1 2HW (GB).

(81) Designated States *(national)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States *(regional)*: ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:
— *without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report*

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

WO 03/014359 A2

(54) Title: A FUSION PROTEIN

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a fusion protein comprising a functional IL-6 molecule and a functional DS-sIL-6R molecule. The present invention also relates to a nucleic acid encoding the fusion protein, methods for producing the fusion protein and the use of the fusion protein in the treatment of infectious diseases and inflammatory and immunological disorders.