

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

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
07 July 2022 (07.07.2022)



(10) International Publication Number
WO 2022/144384 A1

(51) International Patent Classification:
C07K 16/28 (2006.01) *G01N 33/68* (2006.01)
A61P 3/06 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/EP2021/087779

(22) International Filing Date:
29 December 2021 (29.12.2021)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
20217536,0 29 December 2020 (29.12.2020) EP

(71) Applicants: **CeMM - FORSCHUNGSZENTRUM FÜR MOLEKULARE MEDIZIN GMBH** [AT/AT]; Lazarettgasse 14 / AKH BT 25.03, 1090 Wien (AT). **MEDIZINISCHE UNIVERSITÄT WIEN** [AT/AT]; Spitalgasse 23, 1090 Wien (AT). **UNIVERSITÉ DE LAUSANNE** [CH/CH]; Rue de Bugnon 21, 1011 Lausanne (CH).

(72) Inventors: **TSIANTOULAS, Dimitris**; Innstrasse 25/2/4, 1200 Wien (AT). **BINDER, Christoph**; c/o Medizinische Universität Wien, Lazarettgasse 14, AKH BT 25.2, 1090 Wien (AT). **SCHNEIDER, Pascal**; c/o Université de Lausanne, Rue de Bugnon 21, 1011 Lausanne (CH). **ESLAMI, Mahya**; c/o Université de Lausanne, Rue de Bugnon 21, 1011 Lausanne (CH).

(74) Agent: **VOSSIUS & PARTNER PATENTANWÄLTE RECHTSANWÄLTE MBB**; Siebertstraße 3, 81675 München (DE).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DJ, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IR, IS, IT, JO, JP, KE, KG, KH, KN, KP, KR, KW, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW,

SA, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, WS, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, ST, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, KM, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report (Art. 21(3))
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))
- with sequence listing part of description (Rule 5.2(a))

(54) Title: ANTI-APRIL ANTIBODIES AND USES THEREOF

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to an antibody, or an antigen-binding fragment thereof, specifically binding to APRIL for use in the prevention and/or treatment of hypertriglyceridemia, metabolic syndrome, non-alcoholic steatohepatitis, diabetes mellitus type 2, abdominal aortic aneurysm, atherogenic dyslipidemia, cardiovascular events (e.g., myocardial infarction and stroke) and/or atherosclerosis. The invention further relates to a polynucleotide that encodes and/or a pharmaceutical composition that comprises the antibody or an antigen-binding fragment of the invention. The invention also relates to a kit and/or method for quantifying the concentration of nc-APRIL, canonical APRIL or total APRIL in a sample. Further, the invention relates to a nephelometric assay for quantifying nc-APRIL. Further, the invention relates to a method for predicting mortality risk in subjects suffering from, and/or for determining whether a subject is susceptible to the treatment of hypertriglyceridemia, metabolic syndrome, abdominal aortic aneurysm, non-alcoholic steatohepatitis, diabetes mellitus type 2, atherogenic dyslipidemia, cardiovascular events and/or atherosclerosis.



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