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International Bureau

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 7 :
A61K 38/00, 38/05, 38/06, 38/07

A1

(11) International Publication Number: **WO 00/56349**

(43) International Publication Date: 28 September 2000 (28.09.00)

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US00/07411

(22) International Filing Date: 20 March 2000 (20.03.00)

(30) Priority Data:
60/125,514 22 March 1999 (22.03.99) US

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(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, 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, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published
With international search report.

(54) Title: TREATMENT WITH SMALL PEPTIDES TO EFFECT ANTIFIBROTIC ACTIVITY

(57) Abstract

Methods for treating fibrosis in a mammal are described. An antifibrotic effective amount of a peptide having the formula f–Met–Leu–X where X is selected from the group consisting of Tyr, Tyr–Phe, Phe–Phe and Phe–Tyr is administered to the mammal. The fibrosis may be due to pathological changes resulting, e.g., from pulmonary fibrosis, atherosclerosis, cirrhosis, glomerulosclerosis, chronic pancreatitus, coronary artery disease (such as caused by infection by bacterium *Chlamydia pneumoniae*, trauma or surgical procedures. Examples of surgical procedures that cause fibrosis are post–operative fibrosis peri–neurally in the dura or nerve roots following spinal surgery, tenolysis of injured or repaired tendons with adhesions, neurolysis of damaged or repaired peripheral nerves with adhesions, post–operative adhesions from gynecologic and abdominal surgeries, reparative surgery of the *vas deferens* or fallopian tubes for reversal of male or female sterilization, and surgical repair of other tubular structures such as urethra, intestine or esophagus.