

CLAIMS

1. Use of an aldose reductase inhibitor in the preparation of a medicament for treating inherited neuropathy associated with a mutation in sorbitol dehydrogenase (SORD) in a mammalian subject.
2. The use of claim 1, wherein the aldose reductase inhibitor is selected from Alrestatin, Epalrestat, Diepalrestat, Fidarestat, Imirestat, Lidorestat, Minalrestat, Ponalrestat, Ranirestat, Salfredin B11, Sorbinil, Tolrestat, Zenarestat, or Zopolrestat.
3. The use of claim 1, wherein the aldose reductase inhibitor is Epalrestat.
4. The use of claim 1, wherein the aldose reductase inhibitor is Zopolrestat.
5. The use of claim 1, wherein the aldose reductase inhibitor is Ranirestat.
6. The use of any one of claims 1-5, wherein the mutation in sorbitol dehydrogenase (SORD) is a mutation in the sorbitol dehydrogenase gene and comprises c.753delG, c.329G>C, c.298C>T, or c.458C>A, wherein the mutations are defined with reference to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 45.
7. The use of any one of claims 1-5, wherein the mutation in sorbitol dehydrogenase (SORD) comprises p.Ala253GlnfsTer27, p.Arg110Pro, p.Arg100Ter, or p.Ala153Asp, wherein the mutations are defined with reference to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 46.
8. The use of any one of claims 1-5, wherein the mutation in the sorbitol dehydrogenase (SORD) is a mutation in the sorbitol dehydrogenase gene and comprises c.28C>T, c.316_425+165del, c.895C>T, or c.964G>A, wherein the mutations are defined with reference to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 45.

9. The use of any one of claims 1-5, wherein the mutation in sorbitol dehydrogenase (SORD) comprises p.Ala253GlnfsTer27, p.Leu10Phe, p.Cys106Ter, p.Arg299Ter, or p.Val322Ile, wherein the mutations are defined with reference to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 46.
10. The use of any one of claims 1-5, wherein the mutation comprises a deletion of individual or multiple coding exons that encode the amino acid of SEQ ID NO:46 or a deletion of the entire SORD gene that encodes the amino acid of SEQ ID NO:46.
11. The use of any one of claims 1-10, wherein the mutation in sorbitol dehydrogenase leads to hypomorphic function of sorbitol dehydrogenase (SORD).
12. The use of any one of claims 1-10, wherein the mutation in sorbitol dehydrogenase leads to loss of function of sorbitol dehydrogenase (SORD).
13. The use of claim 1, wherein a sorbitol level greater than 10 mg/L indicates that the subject has inherited neuropathy associated with the mutation in sorbitol dehydrogenase (SORD).
14. The use of any one of claims 1-13, wherein the mutation in sorbitol dehydrogenase (SORD) is a biallelic mutation in the SORD gene.
15. A method of evaluating the efficacy of a treatment for an inherited neuropathy associated with a mutation in sorbitol dehydrogenase (SORD) in a subject, the method comprising providing an aldose reductase inhibitor to be administered to the subject; and measuring a level of sorbitol in a sample from the subject, wherein the sample is a tissue, cell, blood, plasma, serum, saliva, urine, or skin sample, and wherein a reduction of the level of sorbitol below 10 mg/L indicates the treatment for the inherited neuropathy associated with the mutation in sorbitol dehydrogenase (SORD) is efficacious.