Claims

1. Use of DA-DKP in the manufacture of a pharmaceutical composition for treating a degenerative joint disease in an animal.

2. The use according to Claim 1, wherein the degenerative joint disease is osteoarthritis.

3. The use according to Claim 1, wherein the composition is to be administered no more frequently than once every six months, once every 5 months, once every 4 months, once every 3 months, or once every 2 months.

4. The use according to Claim 1, wherein the composition is to be administered by an administration route selected from the group consisting of local administration, topical administration, and injection.

5. The use according to Claim 4, wherein administration by injection is by intra-articular injection.

6. The use according to Claim 1, wherein the composition to be administered by intra-articular injection is a composition having a concentration of DA-DKP from 50 μM to 350 μM.

7. The use according to Claim 1, wherein the DA-DKP is in a composition prepared by removing albumin from a solution of a human serum albumin composition.

8. The use according to Claim 7, wherein the step of removing the albumin comprises treating the human serum albumin composition by a separation method selected from the group consisting of ultrafiltration, sucrose gradient centrifugation, chromatography, salt precipitation, and sonication.

9. The use according to Claim 8, wherein the step of removing comprises passing the human serum albumin composition over an ultrafiltration membrane with a molecular weight cut off that retains the albumin, and wherein the resulting filtrate comprises DA-DKP.

10. The use according to any one of Claims 1 to 9, wherein the composition further comprises N-acetyl-tryptophan (NAT), caprylic acid, caprylate or combinations thereof.

11. The use according to Claim 10, wherein the composition is a composition having a concentration of NAT, caprylic acid, caprylate or combinations thereof from 4 mM to 20 mM.

12. The use according to any preceding claim, wherein the pharmaceutical composition further comprises a second drug selected from the group consisting of an analgesic, an anti-inflammatory drug, and combinations thereof.

13. The use according to Claim 1, wherein the composition is to be administered by intra-articular injection, wherein the composition prepared by removing albumin from a solution of a human serum albumin composition.

14. The use according to Claim 13, wherein the step of removing comprises passing the human serum albumin composition over an ultrafiltration membrane with a molecular weight cut off that retains the albumin, and wherein the resulting filtrate comprises DA-DKP.

15. The use according to Claim 13 or 14, wherein the composition further comprises N-acetyl-tryptophan (NAT), caprylic acid, caprylate or combinations thereof.

16. The use according to Claim 15, wherein the composition is a composition having a concentration of NAT, caprylic acid, caprylate or combinations thereof from 4 mM to 20 mM.