Claims

1. An antibody capable of binding selectively a VDCC BARP polypeptide which comprises the sequence set out in SEQ ID No. 6 or fragment thereof.

2. A method for detecting a VDCC BARP polypeptide which comprises the sequence set out in SEQ ID No. 6 or fragment thereof present in a biological sample which comprises:

(a) providing an antibody according to claim ~~7~~1;

(b) incubating a biological sample with said antibody under conditions which allow for the formation of an antibody-antigen complex; and

(c) determining whether an antibody-antigen complex comprising said antibody is formed.

3. An antibody according to claim ~~7~~ 1 for use in therapy.

4. The antibody of claim 3 used to identify a substance capable of affecting calcium channel function or calcium channel activity.

5. A composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of ~~a VDCC BARP polypeptide capable of forming~~ an antibody as defined in claim 1, capable of varying the concentration or subcellular location of the VDCC BARP polypeptide.

6. The composition of claim 5 further comprising an adjuvant capable of inducing an immune response.

7. The composition of claim 5 or 6 for use as a medicament for treating a condition characterised by calcium imbalance.

8. A use of the composition of claim 5 or 6 in the manufacture of a medicament for treating a condition linked to VGCC function or activity.

9. A use of the composition of claim 5 or 6 in the manufacture of a medicament for treating a disorder selected from the group consisting of ataxia, migraine, epilepsy, neurodegeneration, hypertension and cardiac disorders.

10. A use of the composition of claim 5 or 6 in the manufacture of a medicament for treating diabetes.

Claims

1. An antibody capable of binding selectively a VDCC BARP polypeptide which comprises the sequence set out in SEQ ID No. 6 or fragment thereof.

2. A method for detecting a VDCC BARP polypeptide which comprises the sequence set out in SEQ ID No. 6 or fragment thereof present in a biological sample which comprises:

(a) providing an antibody according to claim 1;

(b) incubating a biological sample with said antibody under conditions which allow for the formation of an antibody-antigen complex; and

(c) determining whether an antibody-antigen complex comprising said antibody is formed.

3. An antibody according to claim 1 for use in therapy.

4. The antibody of claim 3 used to identify a substance capable of affecting calcium channel function or calcium channel activity.

5. A composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an antibody as defined in claim 1, capable of varying the concentration or subcellular location of the VDCC BARP polypeptide.

6. The composition of claim 5 further comprising an adjuvant capable of inducing an immune response.

7. The composition of claim 5 or 6 for use as a medicament for treating a condition characterised by calcium imbalance.

8. A use of the composition of claim 5 or 6 in the manufacture of a medicament for treating a condition linked to VGCC function or activity.

9. A use of the composition of claim 5 or 6 in the manufacture of a medicament for treating a disorder selected from the group consisting of ataxia, migraine, epilepsy, neurodegeneration, hypertension and cardiac disorders.

10. A use of the composition of claim 5 or 6 in the manufacture of a medicament for treating diabetes.