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(54) Title: SMALL PEPTIDES AND METHODS FOR TREATMENT OF ASTHMA AND INFLAMMATION

(57) Abstract

A pharmaceutical composition is described as an admixture of a pharmacological carrier and a peptide having the formula: f–Met–Leu–X. X is selected from the group consisting of Tyr, Tyr–Phe, Phe–Phe and Phe–Tyr. Also described are methods for inhibiting the degranulation of mast cells and for treating inflammation in a patient, for example, where the inflammation is a result of a disease selected from the group consisting of asthma, rheumatoid arthritis and anaphylaxis. In addition, methods are described for inhibiting the release of cytokines in a patient, for inhibiting the release of histamines in a patient, for inhibiting the release leukotrienes in a patient, for reducing adhesion, migration and aggregation of lymphocytes, eosinophils and neutrophils to a site of inflammation in a patient, for reducing the production of IgE antibodies at site of inflammation in a patient, and for inhibiting increased vascular permeability at site of inflammation in a patient. The methods use the described pharmaceutical composition.