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- (71) **Applicant:** **VERSAMEB AG** [CH/CH]; Hochbergerstrasse 60C, 4057 Basel (CH).
- (72) **Inventors:** **SELVARAJ, Justin, Antony**; Hochbergerstrasse 60C, 4057 Basel (CH). **ZUIDEVELD, Klaas, Pieter**; Hochbergerstrasse 60C, 4057 Basel (CH). **HILL-MANN-WÜLLNER, Petra**; Hochbergerstrasse 60C, 4057 Basel (CH). **METZGER, Friedrich**; Hochbergerstrasse 60C, 4057 Basel (CH).
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(54) **Title:** COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR MODULATING EXPRESSION OF GENES

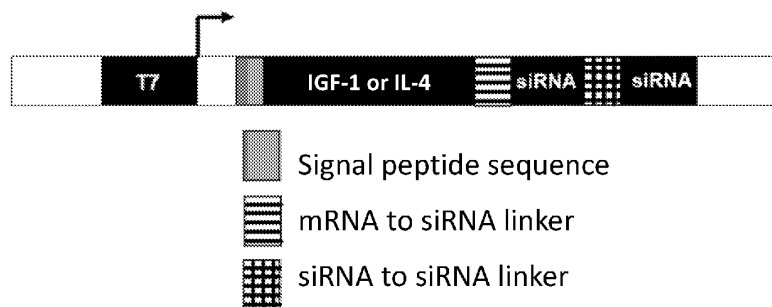


Fig. 1

(57) **Abstract:** The present invention relates to compositions of recombinant polynucleic acid or RNA constructs comprising a first RNA sequence, a second RNA sequence, and a linker RNA sequence, wherein the linker RNA links the first RNA sequence and the second RNA sequence. In addition, linkers that enhance the cleavage of recombinant RNA constructs are described. Also disclosed herein is the use of the compositions in treating diseases and in modulating expression of two or more genes.

[Continued on next page]

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