That Which Is Claimed:

~~1. A method~~ 1. Use of emricasan for ~~treating~~ preparation of a medicament for the treatment of a bacterial infection ~~in a patient comprises the step of administering to the patient an effective amount of a caspase inhibitor~~.

~~2. A method for treating a bacterial skin lesion in a patient comprises the step of administering to the patient an effective amount of a caspase inhibitor.~~

~~3. A method for enhancing regeneration and repair after skin or gut injury in a patient comprises the step of administering an effective amount of a caspase inhibitor.~~

~~4. A method for treating a viral infection in a patient comprises the step of administering to the patient an effective amount of a caspase inhibitor.~~

~~5.~~ 2. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~4~~1, wherein the ~~viral~~bacterial infection is ~~COVID19~~a skin infection.

~~The method of any of claims 1-5~~ 3. The use of claim 2, wherein the bacterial infection is a *Staphylococcus aureus* skin infection, a group A *Streptococcus* skin infection or a Pseudomonas aeruginosa skin infection.

4. The use of claim 3, wherein the bacterial infection is a *Staphylococcus aureus* skin infection.

5. The use of claim 4, wherein the bacterial infection is an antibiotic-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* infection.

6. The use of claim 5, wherein the bacterial infection is a methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* infection.

7. Use of emricasan for preparation of a medicament for the treatment of a skin and soft tissue bacterial infection.

8. The use of claim 7, wherein the skin and soft tissue bacterial infection is an antibiotic-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* infection.

9. The use of claim 8, wherein the skin and soft tissue bacterial infection is a methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* infection.

10. Use of a caspase inhibitor for preparation of a medicament for the treatment of a COVID-19 infection.

~~6.~~ 11. The use of claim 10, wherein the caspase inhibitor is a pan caspase inhibitor.

12. The ~~method~~use of ~~any of claims 1-6~~claim 11, wherein the caspase inhibitor is emricasan.

~~7.~~ 13. Use of Q-VD-OPh~~.~~

~~8. The method of claim 3, wherein the skin or gut injury is a scar or a burn.~~

~~9. The method of claim 3, further comprising the step of administering a TLR3 agonist.~~

~~10. The use of a caspase inhibitor for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of a bacterial infection.~~

~~11. The use of a caspase inhibitor for the~~ for preparation of a medicament for the treatment of a bacterial ~~skin lesion~~infection.

14. The use of claim 13, wherein the bacterial infection is a ~~caspase inhibitor~~*Staphylococcus aureus* skin infection, a group A *Streptococcus* skin infection or a Pseudomonas aeruginosa skin infection.

15. The use of claim 14, wherein the bacterial infection is a methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* infection.

~~12.~~ 16. Use of Q-VD-OPh for ~~the~~ preparation of a medicament for the treatment of ~~skin or gut injury~~a skin and soft tissue bacterial infection.

~~The use of a caspase inhibitor for the~~ 17. The use of claim 16, wherein the skin and soft tissue bacterial infection is a methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* infection.

~~13.~~ 18. Use of Q-VD-OPh for preparation of a medicament for the treatment of a ~~scar or a burn.~~

~~14. The use of a caspase inhibitor for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of a viral infection.~~

~~15. The use of a caspase inhibitor for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of COVID-19~~COVID-19 infection.