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(54) Title: AUTOTAXIN VARIANTS AND USES TO TREAT DISEASES OF METABOLISM		
(57) Abstract Alterations in insulin sensitivity are associated with diabetes, and conditions such as obesity and dyslipidemia. These diseases are complicated by elevated levels of circulating free fatty acid in the form of triglycerides, which is an important risk factor for the development of atherosclerosis. Diseases of metabolism such as obesity, dyslipidemia, and diabetes, can be treated by administration of pharmaceutical compositions that comprise either autotaxin polypeptides or their functional fragments, or nucleic acid molecules that encode autotaxin polypeptides or their functional fragments. Autotaxin polypeptides that are useful for such therapeutic methods are exemplified by new forms of human and rat autotaxin.		