CLAIMS

1. Use of an interleukin 1 (IL-1) antagonist in the manufacture of a medicament for treating, inhibiting or ameliorating a metabolic rheumatic disorder associated with hyperuricemia, wherein the IL-1 antagonist is a fusion protein comprising an IL-1 binding portion of the extracellular domain of human IL-1RAcP, an IL-1 binding portion of the extraceullar domain of human IL-1R1, and a multimerizing component, and the metabolic rheumatic disorder is gout.

2. Use according to claim 1, wherein the metabolic rheumatic disorder is chronic acute (refractory) gout.

3. Use according to claim 1, wherein the IL-1 antagonist is a fusion protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:10.

4. Use according to any one of claim 1 to 3, wherein administration is by subcutaneous or intravenous administration.

5. Use according to claim 4, wherein administration is by single or multiple subcutaneous injections or intravenous infusions.

6. Use according to claim 5, wherein administration comprises an initial dose of between about 250-500 mg of the IL-1 antagonist administered subcutaneously, followed by one or more doses of 125-250 mg administered subcutaneously.

7. Use of an IL-1 antagonist as defined in claim 1 or 3 as a first therapeutic agent,

and of one or more further therapeutic agents selected from another IL-1 antagonist, a corticosteroid, a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) and colchicine

in the manufacture of a medicament for treating, inhibiting, or ameliorating a metabolic rheumatic disorder associated with hyperuricemia, where the metabolic rheumatic disorder is gout.

8. An interleukin 1 (IL-1) antagonist for use in a method of treating, inhibiting, or ameliorating pseudogout, the method comprising administering to a subject in need a therapeutic amount of the antagonist, wherein the disorder is treated, inhibited, or ameliorated and wherein the IL-1 antagonist is a fusion protein as defined in claim 1.

9. An interleukin 1 (IL-1) antagonist for use in a method of treating, inhibiting or ameliorating a metabolic rheumatic disorder associated with hyperuricemia, wherein the IL-1 antagonist is a fusion protein as defined in claim 1 or 3 and the metabolic rheumatic disorder is gout.

10. Use of an IL-1 antagonist as defined in claim 1 or 3 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment, in combination with one or more further therapeutic agents selected from another IL-1 antagonist, a corticosteroid, a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) and colchicine, of a

metabolic rheumatic disorder associated with hyperuricemia, where the metabolic rheumatic disorder is gout.

11. Use of one of more therapeutic agents selected from an IL-1 antagonist other than that defined in claim 1, a corticosteroid, a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) and colchicine in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment, in combination with an IL-1 antagonist as defined in claim 1 or 3, of a metabolic rheumatic disorder associated with hyperuricemia, where the metabolic rheumatic disorder is gout.

12. A product containing an IL-1 antagonist as defined in claim 1 or 3 and one or more further therapeutic agents selected from another IL-1 antagonist, a corticosteroid, a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) and colchicine for simultaneous, separate or sequential use in the treatment of a metabolic rheumatic disorder associated with hyperuricemia, where the metabolic rheumatic disorder is gout.

CLAIMS

1. Use of an interleukin 1 (IL-1) antagonist in the manufacture of a medicament for treating, inhibiting or ameliorating a metabolic rheumatic disorder associated with hyperuricemia, wherein the IL-1 antagonist is a fusion protein comprising an IL-1 binding portion of the extracellular domain of human IL-1RAcP, an IL-1 binding portion of the extraceullar domain of human IL-1R1, and a multimerizing component, and the metabolic rheumatic disorder is gout.

2. Use according to claim 1, wherein the metabolic rheumatic disorder is chronic active (refractory) gout.

3. Use according to claim 1, wherein the IL-1 antagonist is a fusion protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:10.

4. Use according to any one of claim 1 to 3, wherein administration is by subcutaneous or intravenous administration.

5. Use according to claim 4, wherein administration is by single or multiple subcutaneous injections or intravenous infusions.

6. Use according to claim 5, wherein administration comprises an initial dose of between about 250-500 mg of the IL-1 antagonist administered subcutaneously, followed by one or more doses of 125-250 mg administered subcutaneously.

7. Use of an IL-1 antagonist as defined in claim 1 or 3 as a first therapeutic agent,

and of one or more further therapeutic agents selected from another IL-1 antagonist, a corticosteroid, a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) and colchicine in the manufacture of a medicament for treating, inhibiting, or ameliorating a metabolic rheumatic disorder associated with hyperuricemia where the metabolic rheumatic disorder is gout.

8. An interleukin 1 (IL-1) antagonist for use in a method of treating, inhibiting, or ameliorating pseudogout, the method comprising administering to a subject in need a therapeutic amount of the antagonist, wherein the disorder is treated, inhibited, or ameliorated and wherein the IL-1 antagonist is a fusion protein as defined in claim 1 or 3.

9. An interleukin 1 (IL-1) antagonist for use in a method of treating, inhibiting or ameliorating a metabolic rheumatic disorder associated with hyperuricemia, wherein the IL-1 antagonist is a fusion protein as defined in claim 1 or 3 and the metabolic rheumatic disorder is gout.

10. Use of an IL-1 antagonist as defined in claim 1 or 3 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment, in combination with one or more further therapeutic agents selected from another IL-1 antagonist, a corticosteroid, a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) and colchicine, of a metabolic rheumatic disorder associated with hyperuricemia, where the metabolic rheumatic disorder is gout.

11. Use of one of more therapeutic agents selected from an IL-1 antagonist other than that defined in claim 1, a corticosteroid, a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) and colchicine in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment, in combination with an IL-1 antagonist as defined in claim 1 or 3, of a metabolic rheumatic disorder associated with hyperuricemia, where the metabolic rheumatic disorder is gout.

12. A product containing an IL-1 antagonist as defined in claim 1 or 3 and one or more further therapeutic agents selected from another IL-1 antagonist, a corticosteroid, a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) and colchicine for simultaneous, separate or sequential use in the treatment of a metabolic rheumatic disorder associated with hyperuricemia, where the metabolic rheumatic disorder is gout.