(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
22 November 2012 (22.11.2012)

WIPO | PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2012/158555 A3

(51) International Patent Classification:
C07K 19/00 (2006.01) *G01N 33/68* (2006.01)
C07K 14/705 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2012/037622

(22) International Filing Date:
11 May 2012 (11.05.2012)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
61/485,872 13 May 2011 (13.05.2011) US
61/618,424 30 March 2012 (30.03.2012) US

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(81) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available)*: ARIPO (BW, GH,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: NOVEL FUSION PARTNERS FOR THE PURPOSE OF CRYSTALLIZING G-PROTEIN COUPLED RECEPTORS

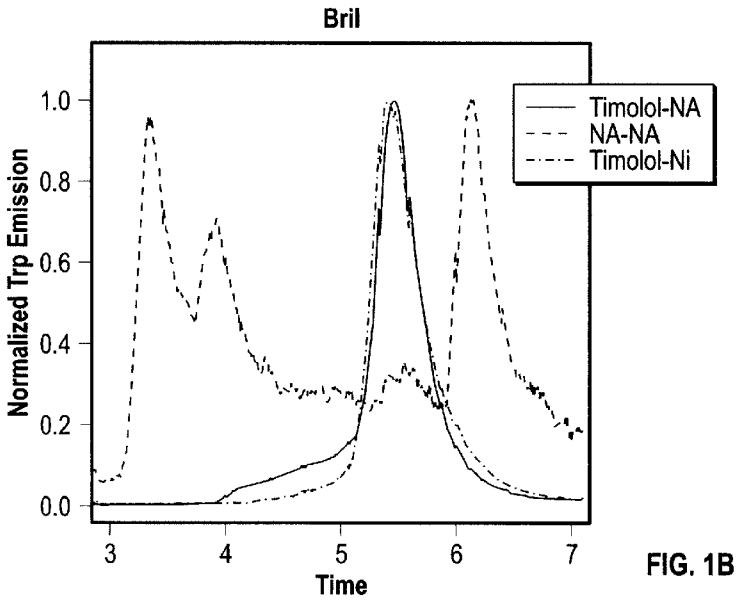


FIG. 1B

(57) Abstract: GPCR-fusion partner proteins comprising G protein coupled receptors (GPCRs) of GPCRs and fusion partners such as rubredoxin, cytochrome b562 RIL (Bril, bRIL, BRIL), T4 lysozyme C-terminal fragment (Cterm-T4L), flavodoxin, or xylanase either substituted for some or all of the third intracellular loop of the GPCR between the fifth and sixth helix of the GPCR are described or attached to an terminus or C terminus of the GPCR. GPCR-fusion partner proteins in crystalline form, optionally of a quality suitable for x-ray crystallographic structure determination of the GPCR, are described. Methods of using fusion partners in GPCR-fusion partner proteins to support crystallization of GPCR-fusion partner proteins for x-ray crystallographic structure determination of the GPCR, are described. Methods of identifying other suitable fusion partners through screening of protein data banks are also described.

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GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— *with international search report (Art. 21(3))*

— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))*

— *with sequence listing part of description (Rule 5.2(a))*

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
17 January 2013