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

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
14 February 2008 (14.02.2008)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2008/019061 A3

(51) International Patent Classification:
C07K 16/24 (2006.01) *A61P 35/00* (2006.01)
A61K 39/395 (2006.01) *A61P 19/02* (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2007/017337

(22) International Filing Date: 3 August 2007 (03.08.2007)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/835,107 3 August 2006 (03.08.2006) US

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(81) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, 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, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SV, SY, 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, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declarations under Rule 4.17:
— *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))*
— *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))*

Published:
— *with international search report*
— *with sequence listing part of description published separately in electronic form and available upon request from the International Bureau*

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
9 October 2008

(54) Title: ANTI-IL-6 MONOCLONAL ANTIBODIES AND USES THEREOF

(57) Abstract: The present invention provides novel monoclonal antibodies that bind specifically to IL- 6. The antibodies of the invention comprise a variable heavy chain (VH) region selected from any of the VH regions disclosed herein as well as amino acid variants thereof, and/or a variable light chain (VL) region selected from any of the VL regions disclosed herein as well as amino acid variants thereof. The invention also provides methods of treating diseases and disorders associated with IL-6 expression and/or activity.

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