

Novel proNGF mutants and uses thereof in the production of beta-NGF**ABSTRACT**

The present invention relates to a proNGF mutant and to uses thereof, in particular the use of a proNGF mutant for producing human beta-NGF. The present invention discloses a method of preparing a biologically active human beta-NGF from an inactive insoluble proNGF mutant. A proNGF mutant of the invention is substituted by any amino acid but not Arg or Lys at the native protease cleavage site $R^1SK^3R^4$ at least at positions R^1 and K^3 corresponding to positions 101 and 103 of the human wildtype proNGF sequence.

[Fig. 4]