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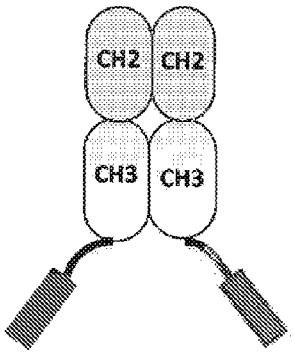
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: APELIN FUSION PROTEINS AND USES THEREOF

FIG. 1B



Secreted Fc-Apelin Dimer

N'-Fc-[linker]-Apelin-C'

(57) Abstract: The invention provides a fusion protein or polypeptide comprising an apelin peptide fused to a multimerizing component. The invention also provides a fusion protein or polypeptide comprising an apelin peptide fused to an Fc domain, a fragment of an Fc domain, or a variant of an Fc domain. Apelin Fc-fusion polypeptides are capable of binding to the apelin receptor (APLNR). Apelin Fc-fusion polypeptides are capable of activating the APLNR and have improved pharmacokinetic properties compared to apelin peptides that are not fused to an Fc or an Fc fragment. Apelin Fc-fusion polypeptides are useful in diseases and conditions related to cardiovascular function, diabetes, cancer, obesity and other apelin-related conditions.

WO 2014/152955 A1

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