Claims:

1. A p75NTR neurotrophin binding protein (NBP)-Fc fusion protein, comprising:

(a) a p75NTR(NBP) portion; and

(b) an immunoglobulin Fc portion.

2. The p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to claim 1, wherein the p75NTR(NBP) and Fc portions are connected via a linker.

3. The p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to claim 2, wherein the linker comprises a peptide of formula G_x, where x is 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6.

4. The p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the p75NTR(NBP) is a human p75NTR(NBP).

5. The p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the Fc is a human Fc.

6. The p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to any preceding claim, comprising or consisting of the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO. 3.

7. The p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to any one of claims 1 to 5, comprising or consisting of the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO. 15.

8. The p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to any preceding claim wherein the p75NTR(NBP) binds to any of NGF, BDNF, NT3 or NT4/5 with a binding affinity (K_d) of between about 0.01 nM to about 50 nM as measured by surface plasmon resonance at 20 °C.

9. The p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to any preceding claim for use in the treatment of pain or a symptom of pain.

10. A nucleic acid molecule encoding the p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to any one of claims 1 to 8, optionally further comprising encoding a signal sequence.

11. A replicable expression vector for transfecting a cell, optionally a mammalian cell, the vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 10.

12. The replicable expression vector of claim 11 wherein the vector is a viral vector.

13. A host cell harbouring the nucleic acid molecule of claim 10.

14. The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 10 or the vector according to either of claims 11 or 12 for use in the treatment of pain or a symptom of pain.

15. The p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to any one of claims 1 to 8 or claim 9 or the nucleic acid or vector according to any one of claims 10 to 14, wherein the p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein or nucleic acid molecule or vector is for separate, sequential or simultaneous use in a combination combined with a second pharmacologically active compound.

16. A pharmaceutical composition, comprising the p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to any one of claims 1 to 8 or claim 9 or the nucleic acid molecule or vector according to claims 11 to 14, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and/or an excipient.

17. A kit comprising:

(a) the p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to any one of claims 1 to 8 or claim 9 or the nucleic acid molecule or vector according to claims 10 to 14,; and

(b) instructions for the administration of an effective amount of said the p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein, nucleic acid molecule, vector or pharmaceutical composition to an individual for any one or more of the prevention or treatment of pain and/or a symptom of pain or for ameliorating, controlling, reducing incidence of, or delaying the development or progression of pain and/or a symptom of pain.

18. A method of treating and or preventing pain and or a symptom of pain in an individual comprising administering to said individual a therapeutically effective amount of the p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to any one of claims 1 to 8 or claim 9 or the nucleic acid molecule or vector according to claims 10 to 14, optionally further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claims:

1. A p75NTR neurotrophin binding protein (NBP)-Fc fusion protein, comprising:

(a) a p75NTR(NBP) portion; and

(b) an immunoglobulin Fc portion

wherein the p75NTR(NBP) and Fc portions are connected via a linker

comprising a peptide of formula G_x, where x is 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6.

2. The p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to claim 1, wherein the p75NTR(NBP) is a human p75NTR(NBP).

3. The p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to any one of claims 1 to 2, wherein the Fc is a human Fc.

4. The p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to any preceding claim, comprising or consisting of the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO. 3.

5. The p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to any one of claims 1 to 4, comprising or consisting of the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO. 15.

6. The p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to any preceding claim wherein the p75NTR(NBP) binds to any of NGF, BDNF, NT3 or NT4/5 with a binding affinity (K_d) of between about 0.01 nM to about 50 nM as measured by surface plasmon resonance at 20 °C.

7. The p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to any preceding claim for use in the treatment of pain.

8. A nucleic acid molecule encoding the p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to any one of claims 1 to 7, optionally further comprising encoding a signal sequence.

9. A replicable expression vector for transfecting a cell, optionally a mammalian cell, the vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 8.

10. The replicable expression vector of claim 9 wherein the vector is a viral vector.

11. A host cell harbouring the nucleic acid molecule of claim 8.

12. The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 8 or the vector according to either of claims 9 or 10 for use in the treatment of pain.

13. The p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to any one of claims 1 to 6 or claim 7 or the nucleic acid or vector according to any one of claims 8 to 10, wherein the p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein or nucleic acid molecule or vector is for separate, sequential or simultaneous use in a combination combined with a second pharmacologically active compound.

14. A pharmaceutical composition, comprising the p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to any one of claims 1 to 6 or claim 7 or the nucleic acid molecule or vector according to claims 9 to 12, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and/or an excipient.

15. A kit comprising:

(a) the p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to any one of claims 1 to 6 or claim 7 or the nucleic acid molecule or vector according to claims 8 to 12,; and

(b) instructions for the administration of an effective amount of said the p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein, nucleic acid molecule, vector or pharmaceutical composition to an individual for any one or more of the prevention or treatment of pain or for ameliorating, controlling, reducing incidence of, or delaying the development or progression of pain.

16. A method of treating and or preventing pain in an individual comprising administering to said individual a therapeutically effective amount of the p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to any one of claims 1 to 6 or claim 7 or the nucleic acid molecule or vector according to claims 8 to 12, optionally further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claims:

1. A p75NTR neurotrophin binding protein (NBP)-Fc fusion protein, comprising:

(a) a p75NTR(NBP) portion; and

(b) an immunoglobulin Fc portion

wherein the p75NTR(NBP) and Fc portions are connected via a linker

comprising a peptide of formula G_x, where x is 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 wherein the linker does not comprise or consist of the sequence GGGGS.

2. The p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to claim 1, wherein the p75NTR(NBP) is a human p75NTR(NBP).

3. The p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to any one of claims 1 to 2, wherein the Fc is a human Fc.

4. The p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to any preceding claim, comprising or consisting of the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO. 3.

5. The p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to any one of claims 1 to 4, comprising or consisting of the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO. 15.

6. The p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to any preceding claim wherein the p75NTR(NBP) binds to any of NGF, BDNF, NT3 or NT4/5 with a binding affinity (K_d) of between about 0.01 nM to about 50 nM as measured by surface plasmon resonance at 20 °C.

7. A nucleic acid molecule encoding the p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to any one of claims 1 to 6, optionally further comprising encoding a signal sequence.

8. A replicable expression vector for transfecting a cell, optionally a mammalian cell, the vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 7.

9. The replicable expression vector of claim 8 wherein the vector is a viral vector.

10. A host cell harbouring the nucleic acid molecule of claim 7.

11. A pharmaceutical composition, comprising the p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to any one of claims 1 to 6 or the nucleic acid molecule or vector according to claims 8 to 10, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and/or an excipient.

12. A kit comprising:

(a) the p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein according to any one of claims 1 to 6 or the nucleic acid molecule or vector according to claims 7 to 10,; and

(b) instructions for the administration of an effective amount of said the p75NTR(NBP)-Fc fusion protein, nucleic acid molecule, vector or pharmaceutical composition to an individual for any one or more of the prevention or treatment of pain or for ameliorating, controlling, reducing incidence of, or delaying the development or progression of pain.