Claims:

1. The NEP inhibitor pro-drug N-(3-carboxy-1-oxopropyl)-(4S)-p-phenylphenylmethyl)-4-amino-(2R)-methylbutanoic acid ethyl ester, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; or the NEP inhibitor N-(3-carboxy-1-oxopropyl)-(4S)-p-phenylphenylmethyl)-4-amino-(2R)-methylbutanoic acid, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for use in the treatment, prevention or delay of progression of a disease characterized by atrial enlargement and/or remodeling.

2. The NEP inhibitor pro-drug N-(3-carboxy-1-oxopropyl)-(4S)-p-phenylphenylmethyl)-4-amino-(2R)-methylbutanoic acid ethyl ester, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; or the NEP inhibitor N-(3-carboxy-1-oxopropyl)-(4S)-p-phenylphenylmethyl)-4-amino-(2R)-methylbutanoic acid, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for use according to claim 1, wherein the treatment, prevention or delay of progression is characterized by the reduction of the left atrial volume, the left atrial volume index (LAVI) and/or the left atrial dimension in patients suffering from the disease characterized by atrial enlargement and/or remodeling.

3. The NEP inhibitor pro-drug or NEP inhibitor for use according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said disease characterized by atrial enlargement and/or remodeling is selected from the group consisting of heart failure with preserved ejection fraction (HF-PEF), heart failure with reduced ejection fraction (HF-REF), cardiac dysrhythmias comprising atrial fibrillation, new onset atrial fibrillation and recurrent atrial fibrillation; mitral stenosis and regurgitation, cardiomyopathies, hypertension or pulmonary heart diseases.

4. The NEP inhibitor pro-drug or NEP inhibitor for use according to claim 3, wherein said disease is heart failure with preserved ejection fraction (HF-PEF).

5. The NEP inhibitor pro-drug or NEP inhibitor pro-drug N-(3-carboxy-1-oxopropyl)-(4S)-p-phenylphenylmethyl)-4-amino-(2R)-methylbutanoic acid ethyl ester, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; or the NEP inhibitor N-(3-carboxy-1-oxopropyl)-(4S)-p-phenylphenylmethyl)-4-amino-(2R)-methylbutanoic acid, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for use in the improvement, stabilization or delayed worsening in NYHA classification of patients suffering from heart failure.

6. The NEP inhibitor pro-drug or NEP inhibitor for use according to claim 5 wherein said patients suffering from heart failure with preserved ejection fraction (HF-PEF) or heart failure with reduced ejection fraction (HF-REF).

7. The NEP inhibitor pro-drug or NEP inhibitor for use according to claim 5, wherein said patients suffering from heart failure with preserved ejection fraction (HF-PEF).

8. The NEP inhibitor pro-drug or NEP inhibitor for use according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the NEP inhibitor pro-drug or NEP inhibitor is for the treatment or prevention of atrial fibrillation or for the prevention of or for delaying the time until new onset of atrial fibrillation.

9. The NEP inhibitor pro-drug or NEP inhibitor for use according to claim 8, wherein the patients suffer from heart failure with preserved ejection fraction (HF-PEF).

10. The NEP inhibitor pro-drug or NEP inhibitor for use according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the NEP inhibitor pro-drug or NEP inhibitor is for the treatment of patients with no history of atrial fibrillation.

11. The NEP inhibitor pro-drug or NEP inhibitor for use according to claim 10, wherein the NEP inhibitor pro-drug or NEP inhibitor delays the time to the new onset of atrial fibrillation.

12. The NEP inhibitor pro-drug or NEP inhibitor for use according to any of the proceedings claims, wherein the NEP inhibitor pro-drug or NEP inhibitor is for the use of reducing the level of plasma NT-proBNP.

13. The NEP inhibitor pro-drug or NEP inhibitor for use according to any of the proceeding claims, wherein the administration of the NEP inhibitor pro-drug or NEP inhibitor leads to a sustained reduction in plasma NT-proBNP concentration.

14. The NEP inhibitor pro-drug or NEP inhibitor for use according to any of the proceeding claims wherein the use is for the improvement, stabilization or delayed worsening in NYHA classification of patients suffering from heart failure.

15. The NEP inhibitor pro-drug or NEP inhibitor for use according to claim 10, 11 or 15, wherein the patients suffer from heart failure, preferably heart failure with preserved ejection fraction (HF-PEF).

16. The NEP inhibitor pro-drug or NEP inhibitor for use according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the NEP inhibitor is used at a dose of about 10 mg to about 1000 mg.

17. The NEP inhibitor pro-drug or NEP inhibitor for use according to any of the proceedings claims wherein the NEP inhibitor or NEP inhibitor pro-drug is administered to patients already being treated with an Angiotensin Receptor Blocker.

18. The NEP inhibitor pro-drug or NEP inhibitor for use according to any of the proceedings claims wherein the Angiotensin Receptor Blocker is valsartan or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

19. The NEP inhibitor pro-drug or NEP inhibitor for use according to any of the proceedings claims wherein the NEP inhibitor or NEP inhibitor pro-drug is administered together, concomitantly or sequentially with the Angiotensin Receptor Blocker valsartan or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

20. The NEP inhibitor pro-drug or NEP inhibitor for use according to claim 19, wherein the angiotensin receptor blocker valsartan or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof is used at a dose of about 10 mg to about 1000 mg.

21. The NEP inhibitor pro-drug or NEP inhibitor pro-drug for use according to claim 20, wherein the NEP inhibitor or NEP inhibitor pro-drug and the Angiotensin Receptor Blocker are administered in a 1:1 molar ratio.

22. The NEP inhibitor pro-drug for use according to any of the proceedings claims wherein the NEP inhibitor pro-drug delivered by administration of LCZ696 as trisodium [3-((1S,3R)-1-biphenyl-4-ylmethyl-3-ethoxycarbonyl-1-butylcarbamoyl) propionate-(S)-3'-methyl-2'-(pentanoyl{2"-(tetrazol-5-ylate)biphenyl-4'-ylmethyl}amino)butyrate]hemipentahydrate.

23. The NEP inhibitor pro-drug for use according to claim 22 wherein LCZ696 is administered at a daily overall dose from 50 mg to 400 mg.

24. The NEP inhibitor pro-drug for use according to claim 22 wherein LCZ696 is administered twice daily with a dose of 50 mg, 100 mg, or 200 mg.

25. A pharmaceutical composition, comprising the NEP inhibitor pro-drug N-(3-carboxy-1-oxopropyl)-(4S)-p-phenylphenylmethyl)-4-amino-(2R)-methylbutanoic acid ethyl ester, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; or the NEP inhibitor N-(3-carboxy-1-oxopropyl)-(4S)-p-phenylphenylmethyl)-4-amino-(2R)-methylbutanoic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for use in the treatment, prevention or delay of progression of a disease characterized by atrial enlargement and/or remodeling.

26. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the NEP inhibitor pro-drug N-(3-carboxy-1-oxopropyl)-(4S)-p-phenylphenylmethyl)-4-amino-(2R)-methylbutanoic acid ethyl ester, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; or the NEP inhibitor N-(3-carboxy-1-oxopropyl)-(4S)-p-phenylphenylmethyl)-4-amino-(2R)-methylbutanoic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for use in the improvement, stabilization or delayed worsening in NYHA classification of patients suffering from heart failure.

27. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 25 or 26, wherein the NEP inhibitor or NEP inhibitor pro-drug is administered together, concomitantly or

sequentially with the Angiotensin Receptor Blocker valsartan or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

28. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 25 or 26, wherein the NEP inhibitor or NEP inhibitor pro-drug and the Angiotensin Receptor Blocker are administered in a 1:1 molar ratio.

29. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 25 or 26, wherein the NEP inhibitor pro-drug is comprised in the form of LCZ696 as trisodium [3-((1S,3R)-1-biphenyl-4-ylmethyl-3-ethoxycarbonyl-1-butylcarbamoyl) propionate-(S)-3'-methyl-2'-(pentanoyl{2"-(tetrazol-5-ylate)biphenyl-4'-ylmethyl}amino)butyrate] hemipentahydrate.

30. A method for the treatment, prevention or delay of progression of a disease characterized by atrial enlargement and/or remodeling comprising administration of a therapeutically effective amount of the NEP inhibitor pro-drug N-(3-carboxy-1-oxopropyl)-(4S)-p-phenylphenylmethyl)-4-amino-(2R)-methylbutanoic acid ethyl ester, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; or the NEP inhibitor N-(3-carboxy-1-oxopropyl)-(4S)-p-phenylphenylmethyl)-4-amino-(2R)-methylbutanoic acid, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, to a subject in need of such treatment.

31. A method for the improvement in NYHA classification of patients suffering from heart failure comprising administration of a therapeutically effective amount of the NEP inhibitor pro-drug N-(3-carboxy-1-oxopropyl)-(4S)-p-phenylphenylmethyl)-4-amino-(2R)-methylbutanoic acid ethyl ester or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; or the NEP inhibitor N-(3-carboxy-1-oxopropyl)-(4S)-p-phenylphenylmethyl)-4-amino-(2R)-methylbutanoic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, to a subject in need of such treatment.

32. The method according to claim 29, wherein the subject is a human.

Claims:

1. Use of the NEP inhibitor pro-drug N-(3-carboxy-1-oxopropyl)-(4S)-p-phenylphenylmethyl)-4-amino-(2R)-methylbutanoic acid ethyl ester, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; or the NEP inhibitor N-(3-carboxy-1-oxopropyl)-(4S)-p-phenylphenylmethyl)-4-amino-(2R)-methylbutanoic acid, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment, prevention or delay of progression of a disease characterized by atrial enlargement and/or remodeling in a human patient, wherein the disease is heart failure with preserved ejection fraction (HF-PEF).

2. The use according to claim 1, wherein the use is for the treatment of patients suffering from heart failure with preserved ejection fraction (HF-PEF) with no history of atrial fibrillation.

3. The use according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the use is for improvement, stabilization or delayed worsening in NYHA classification of patients suffering from heart failure with preserved ejection fraction (HF-PEF).

4. The use according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the NEP inhibitor or NEP inhibitor pro-drug is administered together, concomitantly or sequentially with the Angiotensin Receptor Blocker valsartan or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

5. The use according to claim 4, wherein the NEP inhibitor or NEP inhibitor pro-drug and the Angiotensin Receptor Blocker are administered in a 1:1 molar ratio.

6. The use according to claim 5, wherein the NEP inhibitor pro-drug is delivered by administration of LCZ696 as trisodium [3-((1S,3R)-1-biphenyl-4-ylmethyl-3-ethoxycarbonyl-1-butylcarbamoyl) propionate-(S)-3'-methyl-2'-(pentanoyl{2"-(tetrazol-5-ylate)biphenyl-4'-ylmethyl}amino)butyrate]hemipentahydrate.

7. The use according to claim 6, wherein LCZ696 is administered twice daily at a dose of 50 mg, 100 mg, 200 mg or 400 mg.