CLAIMS

1. Metal for use in the treatment or prophylaxis of a condition in a patient associated with elevated concentrations of a non-amidated gastrin, wherein the metal is selected from indium and ruthenium.

2. A method of *in vitro* modulating the activity of a non-amidated gastrin including the step of binding a metal selected from indium and ruthenium to the non-amidated gastrin.

3. The metal of claim 1 wherein the metal is administered to the patient such that the metal binds to the ferric binding site of the non-amidated gastrin.

4. The metal of claim 1 or 3 wherein the indium and ruthenium are in the In^{3+} and Ru^{3+} form respectively.

5. The metal of any one of claim 1 or claim 3 to claim 4 wherein the indium and ruthenium are radioisotopes of indium and ruthenium.

6. The metal of any one of claim 1 or claim 3 to claim 5 wherein the metal may be part of a solution containing the free ions or the metals may be a component of a compound or salt.

7. The metal of any one of claim 1 or claim 3 to claim 6 wherein the metal is not bound to a chelate group when it is brought into contact with the non-amidated gastrin.

8. The metal of any one of claim 1 or claim 3 to claim 7 wherein the condition is selected from the group consisting of colorectal carcinomas, gastrinomas, islet cell carcinomas, ovarian tumours, pituitary tumours, medullary thyroid carcinomas, astrocytomas, small cell lung cancers, meningiomas, endometrial and ovarian adenocarcinomas, breast carcinomas, gastrointestinal stromal tumours, gastro enteropancreatic tumours, atrophic gastritis, G cell hyperplasia, pernicious anaemia, renal failure, ulcerative colitis, gastrointestinal ulcers, gastro-oesophageal reflux, gastric carcinoid, and Zollinger-Ellison syndrome.

9. The metal of any one of claim 1 or claim 3 to claim 8 wherein the patient is a mammal, including a human or a domestic or companion animal.

10. The method of claim 2 wherein modulation of the non-amidated gastrin is a reduction in its normal biological activity.

11. Metal for use in the treatment or prophylaxis of a condition in a patient associated with over-expression of a CCK receptor, wherein the metal is selected from indium and ruthenium.

12. The metal of claim 11 wherein the metal is administered to the patient such that the metal binds to the ferric binding site of an amidated gastrin and, upon binding of the amidated gastrin to the CCK receptor, is internalised within a cell presenting the receptor.

13. The metal of claim 11 or claim 12 wherein the CCK receptor is a CCK-2 receptor.

14. The metal of any one of claim 11 to claim 13 wherein the indium and ruthenium are radioisotopes.

15. The metal of any one of claim 11 to claim 14 wherein the condition being treated or prevented or the purpose of delivering the metal internally to the cell is to treat or prevent a condition selected from the group consisting of colorectal carcinomas, gastrinomas, islet cell carcinomas, ovarian tumours, pituitary tumours, medullary thyroid carcinomas, astrocytomas, small cell lung cancers, meningiomas, endometrial and ovarian adenocarcinomas, breast carcinomas, gastrointestinal stromal tumours, gastro enteropancreatic tumours, atrophic gastritis, G cell hyperplasia, pernicious anaemia, renal failure, ulcerative colitis, gastrointestinal ulcers, gastro-oesophageal reflux, gastric carcinoid, and Zollinger-Ellison syndrome.

16. A method of forming a gastrin-metal complex including the step of contacting a gastrin with a metal selected from indium and ruthenium.

17. A complex comprising a gastrin and a metal selected from indium and ruthenium bound or complexed to the ferric binding site of the gastrin.

18. The method of claim 16 or the complex of claim 17 wherein the gastrin is an amidated gastrin or a non-amidated gastrin.

19. The metal of any one of claim 11 to claim 15 or the method of claim 16 or the complex of claim 17 or claim 18, wherein the metal is not bound to a chelate group when it is brought into contact with the gastrin.

20. An amidated gastrin-metal radioisotope complex comprising an amidated gastrin complexed with a metal radioisotope selected from indium and ruthenium, wherein the amidated gastrin to which the metal is bound is not conjugated, complexed or otherwise associated with a chelate group, to thereby diagnose the CCK receptor positive cancer.

21. A method of detecting a receptor for a non-amidated gastrin including the steps of:

(i) administering a non-amidated gastrin-metal radioisotope complex comprising a non-amidated gastrin complexed with a metal radioisotope selected from indium and ruthenium, to a subject;

(ii) allowing the non-amidated gastrin-metal radioisotope complex to become bound to the receptor; and

(iii) detecting the presence of the metal radioisotope in the non-amidated gastrin-metal radioisotope complex,

wherein the non-amidated gastrin to which the metal is bound is not conjugated, complexed or otherwise associated with a chelate group, to thereby detect the non-amidated gastrin receptor.

22. The amidated gastrin-metal radioisotope complex of claim 20 or the method of claim 21 wherein the complex is detected by PET or SPECT.

23. The amidated gastrin-metal radioisotope complex of claim 20 or the method of claim 21 wherein the radioisotope is selected from the group consisting of ^{109}In, ^{110}In, ^{111}In, ^{95}Ru, ^{97}Ru, ^{103}Ru, ^{105}Ru and ^{106}Ru.

24. The method of any one of the preceding claims wherein the gastrin, amidated or non-amidated, is one which comprises at least three of the five glutamate residues of the characteristic gastrin pentaglutamate sequence.

25. The method of any one of the preceding claims wherein the gastrin to which the metal is bound, amidated or non-amidated, is not conjugated, complexed or otherwise associated with a chelate group.

26. The method of any one of the preceding claims wherein the gastrin peptide to which the metal is bound, does not comprise a DOTA, DTPA, HYNIC or tetraamine chelate group.

27. The method of any one of the preceding claims wherein the gastrin is not a gastrin selected from the group consisting of a minigastrin11 or minigastrin11 analogue, a demogastrin or demogastrin analogue, and a DTPA, DOTA or HYNIC conjugated minigastrin or demogastrin.

28. Use of metal indium or ruthenium in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of a condition in a patient associated with elevated concentrations of a non-amidated gastrin.

29. Use of metal in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of a condition in a patient associated with over-expression of a CCK receptor, wherein the metal is selected from indium and ruthenium.

30. Use of an amidated gastrin-metal radioisotope complex in the manufacture of a diagnostic reagent to diagnose the CCK receptor positive cancer,

wherein the amidated gastrin-metal radioisotope complex comprises an amidated gastrin complexed with a metal radioisotope selected from indium and ruthenium, and

wherein the amidated gastrin to which the metal is bound is not conjugated, complexed or otherwise associated with a chelate group.