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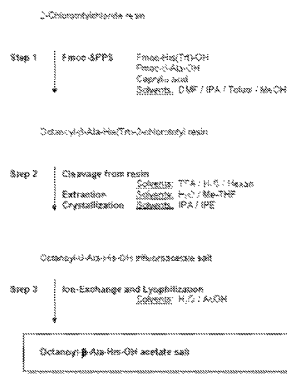
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FIG. 1

Synthesis of
Octanoyl-β-Ala-His-OH acetate salt (48/8292)

Reagents and solvents:

AcN	= Acetonitrile	PE	= Isopropyl ether
AcOH	= Acetic acid	MeOH	= Methanol
Boz	= tert-Butyloxy carbonyl	Me-THF	= 2-Methoxy-Tetrahydrofuran
DMP	= 4-Dimethylaminopyrimidine	SPPS	= Solid Phase Peptide Synthesis
Fmoc	= 9-Fluorenylmethyloxycarbonyl	TFA	= Trifluoroacetic acid
H ₂ O	= water	Ttt	= Trypt
IPA	= isopropylalcohol		

(57) Abstract: The invention provides compositions for stimulating the formation of one or more extracellular matrix components that contain a lipopeptide derivative of the tripeptide carnosine such as N-Octanoyl Carnosine. Also provided are compositions containing N-Octanoyl Carnosine in combination with selected tripeptide and/or tetrapeptides as well as pharmaceutical and/or cosmetic compositions containing such compositions. The invention further provides methods of using the compositions and compositions of the invention to treat, alleviate, and/or ameliorate a symptom, condition, disorder, or disease of the skin or mucosa, wherein the symptom, condition, disorder, or disease is associated with changes in extracellular matrix components.