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(71) Applicant: TRIMERIS, INC. [US/US]; 4727 University Drive, Durham, NC 27707 (US).

(72) Inventors: BARNEY, Shawn; 106 Branchway Road, Apex, NC 27502 (US). GUTHRIE, Kelly, I.; 1102 Bibury Court, Graham, NC 27278 (US). MERUTKA, Gene; 404 West Hill Avenue South, Hillsborough, NC 27278 (US). ANWER, Mohmed, K.; 801 Foster City Boulevard #112, Foster City, CA 94404 (US). LAMBERT, Dennis, M.; 101 Centerville Court, Cary, NC 27513 (US).

(74) Agents: CORUZZI, Laura, A. et al.; Pennie & Edmonds LLP, 1155 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036 (US).

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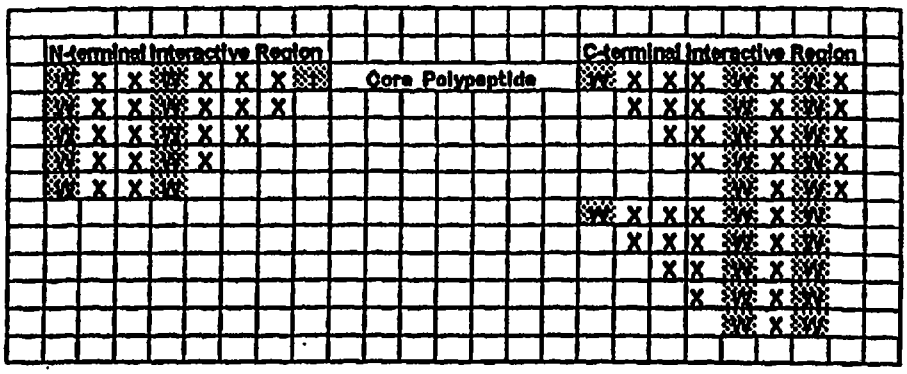


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(54) Title: HYBRID POLYPEPTIDES WITH ENHANCED PHARMACOKINETIC PROPERTIES



(57) Abstract

The present invention relates to enhancer peptide sequences originally derived from various retroviral envelope (gp41) protein sequences that enhance the pharmacokinetic properties of any core polypeptide to which they are linked. The invention is based on the discovery that hybrid polypeptides comprising the enhancer peptide sequences linked to a core polypeptide possess enhanced pharmacokinetic properties such as increased half life. The invention further relates to methods for enhancing the pharmacokinetic properties of any core polypeptide through linkage of the enhancer peptide sequences to the core polypeptide. The core polypeptides to be used in the practice of the invention can include any pharmacologically useful peptide that can be used, for example, as a therapeutic or prophylactic reagent.