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(54) Title: PROTEIN D - AN IgD-BINDING PROTEIN OF HAEMOPHILUS INFLUENZAE

[illegible]

(57) Abstract

A novel surface exposed protein of *Haemophilus influenzae* or related *Haemophilus* species is described. The protein named protein D is an Ig receptor for human IgD and has an apparent molecular weight of 42,000. Protein D can be detected in all of 116 encapsulated and non-encapsulated isolates of *H. influenzae* studied. The protein from all strains shows in addition to the same apparent molecular weight immunogenic similarities since protein D from all strains interacts with three different mouse monoclonal antibodies and monoclonal human IgD. A method for purification of protein D is described. Cloning of the protein D gene from *H. influenzae* in *E. coli* is described as well as the nucleotide sequence and the deduced amino acid sequence.