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(54) Title: OPTIMIZED MINIZYMES AND MINIRIBOZYMES AND USES THEREOF

(57) Abstract

This invention is directed to improved catalytic compounds, minizymes and miniribozymes, capable of hybridizing with a target RNA to be cleaved. The minizymes and miniribozymes and compositions of the present invention may be used *in vitro* or *in vivo*. They may be used as diagnostic or therapeutic agents.