

CLAIMS

1. A protected peptide fragment of Foxy-5 (**For-Met-Asp-Gly-Cys-Glu-Leu-OH**) selected from
 - a. **Fmoc-Gly-Cys(Trt)-Glu(OtBu)-Leu-OtBu** (SEQ_ID NO 6),
 - b. **Fmoc-Asp(OtBu)-Gly-Cys(Trt)-Glu(OtBu)-Leu-OtBu** (SEQ_ID NO 3)
 - c. **Fmoc-Met-Asp(OtBu)-Gly-Cys(Trt)-Glu(OtBu)-Leu-OtBu**(SEQ_ID NO 4)
 - d. **For-Met-Asp(OtBu)-Gly-Cys(Trt)-Glu(OtBu)-Leu-OtBu** (SEQ_ID NO 15).
2. A protected tetrapeptide fragment of Foxy-5, **Fmoc-Gly-Cys(Trt)-Glu(OtBu)-Leu-OtBu** (SEQ_ID NO 6) according to claim 1 in solid form.
3. A protected tetrapeptide fragment of Foxy-5, **Fmoc-Gly-Cys(Trt)-Glu(OtBu)-Leu-OtBu** (SEQ_ID NO 6) according to any one of claim 1-2 in crystalline form.
4. A solution phase method for preparing a protected derivative of Foxy-5, **PG₁-Met-Asp(OtBu)-Gly-Cys(Trt)-Glu(OtBu)-Leu-OtBu**, the method comprising:
 - a. Sequentially coupling tripeptide **Fmoc-Cys(Trt)Glu(OtBu)-Leu-OtBu** with **Fmoc-Gly-OH**, **Fmoc-Asp-OtBu** and **PG₁-Met**, or
 - b. Sequentially coupling tetrapeptide **Fmoc-Gly-Cys(Trt)-Glu(OtBu)-Leu-OtBu** (SEQ_ID NO 6) with **Fmoc-Asp-OtBu** and **PG₁-Met**,
wherein
 - i. Fmoc deprotection is achieved with DBU, and wherein
 - ii. DBU is removed from the reaction mass before coupling with Fmoc-Asp-OtBu, and wherein
 - iii. **PG₁** is Fmoc.
5. A solution phase method for converting **PG₁-Met-Asp(OtBu)-Gly-Cys(Trt)-Glu(OtBu)-Leu-OtBu** to Foxy-5 (**For-Met-Asp-Gly-Cys-Glu-Leu-OH**), the method comprising:
 - i. Removal of **PG₁** from hexapeptide **PG₁-Met-Asp(OtBu)-Gly-Cys(Trt)-Glu(OtBu)-Leu-OtBu** followed by coupling with formic acid to yield **For-Met-Asp(OtBu)-Gly-Cys(Trt)-Glu(OtBu)-Leu-OtBu** (SEQ_NO 15),
 - ii. Deprotection of **For-Met-Asp(OtBu)-Gly-Cys(Trt)-Glu(OtBu)-Leu-OtBu** (SEQ_NO 15) to afford Foxy-5 in crude form, and wherein
 - iii. **PG₁** is Fmoc,
 followed by:
 - a. Optional purification of the crude product by column chromatography, optionally followed by precipitation as a solid from an organic solvent,
 - b. Optional precipitation of the formed Foxy-5 hexapeptide as an alkaline or acidic salt in solid form, such as in crystalline form.