

CLAIMS

1. A composition for preventing or alleviating skin aging, comprising: at least one selected from the group consisting of a HAPLN1 protein, a gene coding for the HAPLN1 protein, and an effective agent that increases the expression or activates the functions of the HAPLN1 protein or a HAPLN1 gene, as an active ingredient.

2. The composition of claim 1, wherein the skin aging is wrinkle.

3. The composition of claim 1, wherein the skin aging is wrinkle formation caused by a decrease in dermal extracellular matrix.

4. The composition of claim 1, wherein the HAPLN1 protein, the gene coding for the HAPLN1 protein, or the effective agent is administered to a subject by oral or parenteral administration.

5. The composition of claim 1, wherein the HAPLN1 protein, the gene coding for the HAPLN1 protein, or the effective agent is administered with hyaluronic acid.

6. Use of a HAPLN1 protein, a gene coding for the HAPLN1 protein, or an effective agent that increases the expression or activates the functions of the HAPLN1 protein or a HAPLN1 gene in the manufacture of a medicament for preventing or alleviating skin aging.

7. A cosmetic composition for preventing or alleviating skin aging, comprising:

a HAPLN1 protein or an effective agent that increases the expression or activates the functions of the HAPLN1 protein, as an active ingredient.

8. The cosmetic composition of claim 7, further comprising hyaluronic acid.

9. A cosmetic composition for alleviating wrinkles, comprising:
a HAPLN1 protein or an effective agent that increases the expression or activates the functions of the HAPLN1 protein, as an active ingredient.

10. A health functional food for preventing or alleviating skin aging, comprising:
a HAPLN1 protein or an effective agent that increases the expression or activates the functions of the HAPLN1 protein, as an active ingredient.

11. The health functional food of claim 10, further comprising hyaluronic acid.

12. A health functional food for alleviating wrinkles, comprising:
a HAPLN1 protein or an effective agent that increases the expression or activates the functions of the HAPLN1 protein, as an active ingredient.

13. A method of screening for a skin aging alleviating agent, the method comprising:
incubating a biological sample with a compound;
detecting an expression level of an HAPLN1 protein or gene from the biological sample;
comparing the expression level with an expression level of the same protein or gene in a normal control not treated with the compound; and
selecting the compound that increases the expression or activates the functions of the HAPLN1 protein or gene over the normal control.