CLAIMS

1. A pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin for use in a method for treating acute decompensated heart failure in a human subject, wherein the subject has acute decompensated heart failure, and wherein the method comprises administering the H2 relaxin to the subject at an intravenous infusion rate in the range of 10 μg/kg/day to 100 μg/kg/day to reduce diuretic use during a hospital stay.

2. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in claim 1, wherein loop diuretic use during the hospital stay is reduced.

3. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in claim 2, wherein loop diuretic use is reduced by at least 10% over a 14-day period.

4. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in claim 2, wherein loop diuretic use is reduced by at least 20% over a 14-day period.

5. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in claim 2, wherein loop diuretic use is reduced by at least 30% over a 14-day period.

6. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the subject has a left ventricular ejection fraction of at least 40%.

7. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the subject is normotensive or hypertensive.

8. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in claim 7, wherein the subject has a systolic blood pressure of at least 125 mm Hg.

9. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the subject is renally impaired.

10. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in claim 9, wherein the subject has a creatinine clearance in the range of 35 to 75 mL/min.

11. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the subject has dyspnea requiring hospitalization.

12. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the H2 relaxin is administered to the subject for at least 24 hours

13. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the H2 relaxin is administered to the subject for at least 48 hours.

14. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in claim 1, wherein the H2 relaxin is administered at an intravenous infusion rate in the range of 30 μg/kg/day to 100 μg/kg/day.

15. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in claim 1, wherein the H2 relaxin is administered at an intravenous infusion rate of 10 μg/kg/day, of 30 μg/kg/day, or of 100 μg/kg/day.

16. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in claim 15, wherein the H2 relaxin is administered at an intravenous infusion rate of 30 μg/kg/day.

17. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in claim 11, wherein reduction in dyspnea is statistically significant at 6 hours after the onset of treatment.

18. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in claim 11, wherein reduction in dyspnea is statistically significant at 12 hours after the onset of treatment.

19. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in claim 11, wherein reduction in dyspnea is statistically significant at 6, 12 and 24 hours after the onset of treatment.

20. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in any one of claims 11 and 17-19, wherein reduction in dyspnea lasts for at least twice the duration of treatment.

21. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in claim 20, wherein reduction in dyspnea lasts for at least 4 times the duration of treatment.

22. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in claim 21, wherein reduction in dyspnea lasts for at least 7 times the duration of treatment.

23. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the method also reduces the body weight of the subject by at least 0.5 kg over a 14-day period.

24. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the method reduces the 60-day risk of death or rehospitalization of the subject by at least 50%.

25. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in claim 24, wherein the method reduces the 60-day risk of rehospitalization due to heart failure or renal insufficiency.

26. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the method reduces the 180-day risk of cardiovascular death of the subject by at least 50%.

27. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the method reduces the 180-day risk of all-cause mortality of the by at least 25%.

28. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the method reduces the subject's hospitalization length of stay by at least one day.

29. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in claim 7, wherein the subject is hypertensive.

30. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in claim 29, wherein the method also comprises administering to the subject an antihypertensive drug.

31. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in claim 30, wherein the antihypertensive drug is selected from the group consisting of vasodilators, adrenergic blockers, centrally acting alpha-agonists, angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors, angiotensin II receptor blockers, calcium channel blockers and diuretics.

32. The pharmaceutically active H2 relaxin as claimed in claim 31, wherein the diuretic is furosemide.

Claims

1. A pharmaceutically active human H2 relaxin for use as a medicament for treating dyspnea associated with acute heart failure in a human subject, wherein the subject has congestion on chest X-ray, elevated BNP, a systolic blood pressure of greater than 125 mm Hg at the onset of treatment, has an estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) of 30-75 ml/min/1.73 m^2, and wherein the human H2 relaxin is administered at an intravenous infusion rate of 30 µg/kg/day for 48 hours.