

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
08 February 2024 (08.02.2024)



(10) International Publication Number
WO 2024/031046 A2

- (51) **International Patent Classification:**
C07K 14/54 (2006.01) *A61K 38/20* (2006.01)
- (21) **International Application Number:**
PCT/US2023/071663
- (22) **International Filing Date:**
04 August 2023 (04.08.2023)
- (25) **Filing Language:** English
- (26) **Publication Language:** English
- (30) **Priority Data:**
63/395,476 05 August 2022 (05.08.2022) US
63/463,505 02 May 2023 (02.05.2023) US
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- (81) **Designated States** (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CV, CZ, DE, DJ, DK, DM,

DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IQ, IR, IS, IT, JM, JO, JP, KE, KG, KH, KN, KP, KR, KW, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LU, LY, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MU, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SA, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, WS, ZA, ZM, ZW.

- (84) **Designated States** (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, CV, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SC, SD, SL, ST, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, ME, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, KM, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- *without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report (Rule 48.2(g))*
- *with sequence listing part of description (Rule 5.2(a))*

(54) **Title:** IL-18 FUSION PROTEINS AND METHODS OF PRODUCING IL-18



FUSE 486: KiH_MMP2/9pp-IL18-AV

FUSE 487: KiH_MMP9/2pp-IL18-AV

FIG. 9A

(57) **Abstract:** Fusion proteins are provided, which are composed of elements such as one or more proteins/polypeptides capable of translocating into an endoplasmic reticulum (ER) and an interleukin 18 (IL-18) or a fragment or variant of IL-18. The proteins/polypeptides capable of translocating into the ER include but are not limited to an immunoglobulin protein such as Fc region, VHH antibody, and scFv, and a globular protein such as serum albumin. The IL-18 may be a precursor IL-18 that resembles the natural pro-cytokine in which IL-18 is fused to the C-terminus of its propeptide or a propeptide variant. In some embodiments, the fusion proteins may also include a cleavable peptide linker.



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