CLAIMS

1. An isolated peptide, wherein the sequence of the peptide consists of SEQ ID NO:4 (EKMG), SEQ ID NO: 5 (MGRN) or SEQ ID NO: 2 (KMGRN), wherein the peptide is in free acid form, amidated at the carboxy terminus or lipidated at the amine terminus.

2. The peptide of claim 1 which is SEQ ID NO:4 (EKMG) or SEQ ID NO:5 (MGRN) or SEQ ID NO 2 (KMGRN).

3. The peptide of claim 1 which comprises either or both L- and D-amino acid enantiomers.

4. A composition comprising at least one peptide according to any one of claims 1-3 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

5. The composition of claim 4, wherein the peptide is present in a concentration ranging from about 0.1 μg/mL to about 500 μg/mL, or about 0.1 μg/mL to about 20 mg/mL.

6. The composition of claim 4, wherein the composition is in the form of an aerosol, emulsion, liquid, lotion, solution, gel, micro-encapsulation, cream, paste, ointment, powder or foam or is incorporated in a device adapted for application to the surface of skin or mucosal tissue or under the skin tissue.

7. A composition for use in healing a wound in a mammal when applied in a therapeutically effective amount for an effective amount of time, wherein said composition comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and at least one peptide according to any one of claims 1-3.

8. The composition of claim 7, wherein the wound affects the skin or associated mucosal tissue of said mammal.

9. The composition of claim 8, wherein the wound is due to an abrasion, blister, burn, laceration, ulcer, bruise, rash, scar, stretch mark or the effects of aging or environmental exposure.

10. The composition of any one of claims 4 to 9 for use in skin care treatment.

11. The composition of any one of claims 4 to 9 for use in a cosmetic product.

12. Use of a peptide according to any one of claims 1 to 3 for the manufacture of a medicament for treating a skin or mucosal tissue wound of a mammal.

13. The use of the peptide according to claim 12 wherein the wound is due to an abrasion, blister, burn, laceration, ulcer, bruise, rash, scar, stretch mark or the effects of aging or environmental exposure.

14. A method of treating a wound of the skin or mucosal tissue of a mammal comprising applying to the wound site a composition comprising a peptide having a sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO:4 (EKMG), SEQ ID NO:5 (MGRN) or SEQ ID NO: 2 (KMGRN).

15. The method of claim 14 wherein the peptide is SEQ ID NO:4 (EKMG) or SEQ ID NO:5 (MGRN).

16. The method of claim 14 wherein the peptide comprises either or both L- and D-amino acid enantiomers or is conjugated to a carrier molecule, amidated or lipidated.

17. The method of claim 14 wherein the peptide is in free acid form.

18. The method of claim 14 wherein the wound is due to an abrasion, blister, burn, laceration, ulcer, bruise, rash, scar, stretch mark or the effects of aging or environmental exposure.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An isolated peptide, wherein the sequence of the peptide consists of SEQ ID NO:4 (EKMG), SEQ ID NO: 5 (MGRN) or SEQ ID NO: 2 (KMGRN), wherein the peptide is in free acid form, amidated at the carboxy terminus or lipidated at the amine terminus.

2. The peptide of claim 1 which is SEQ ID NO:4 (EKMG) or SEQ ID NO:5 (MGRN) or SEQ ID NO 2 (KMGRN).

3. The peptide of claim 1 or 2 which comprises either or both L- and D-amino acid enantiomers.

4. A composition comprising at least one peptide according to any one of claims 1-3 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

5. The composition of claim 4, wherein the peptide is present in a concentration ranging from 0.1 μg/mL to 500 mg/mL.

6. The composition of claim 4, wherein the peptide is present in a concentration ranging from 0.1 μg/mL to 20 mg/mL.

7. The composition of any one of claims 4 to 6, wherein the composition is in the form of an aerosol, emulsion, liquid, lotion, solution, gel, micro-encapsulation, cream, paste, ointment, powder or foam or is incorporated in a device adapted for application to the surface of skin or mucosal tissue or under the skin tissue.

8. A composition for use in healing a wound in a mammal when applied in a therapeutically effective amount for an effective amount of time, wherein said composition comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and at least one peptide according to any one of claims 1-3.

9. The composition of claim 8, wherein the wound affects the skin or associated mucosal tissue of said mammal.

10. The composition of claim 9, wherein the wound is due to an abrasion, blister, burn, laceration, ulcer, bruise, rash, scar, stretch mark or the effects of aging or environmental exposure.

11. The composition of any one of claims 4 to 10 for use in skin care treatment.

12. The composition of any one of claims 4 to 10 for use in a cosmetic product.

13. Use of a peptide according to any one of claims 1 to 3 for the manufacture of a medicament for treating a skin or mucosal tissue wound of a mammal.

14. The use of the peptide according to claim 13 wherein the wound is due to an abrasion, blister, burn, laceration, ulcer, bruise, rash, scar, stretch mark or the effects of aging or environmental exposure.

15. The use of a peptide having a sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO:4 (EKMG), SEQ ID NO:5 (MGRN) or SEQ ID NO: 2 (KMGRN) in the manufacture of a pharmaceutical composition for treatment of a wound of the skin or mucosal tissue of a mammal.

16. The use according to claim 15 wherein the peptide is SEQ ID NO:4 (EKMG) or SEQ ID NO:5 (MGRN) or SEQ ID NO: 2 (KMGRN).

17. The use according to claims 15 or 16 wherein the peptide comprises either or both L- and D-amino acid enantiomers or is conjugated to a carrier molecule, amidated or lipidated.

18. The use according to claims 15 or 16 wherein the peptide is in free acid form.

19. The use according to any one of claims 15 to 18 wherein the wound is due to an abrasion, blister, burn, laceration, ulcer, bruise, rash, scar, stretch mark or the effects of aging or environmental exposure.