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

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
16 January 2003 (16.01.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 03/004607 A2

(51) International Patent Classification[7]: C12N

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US02/21056

(22) International Filing Date: 5 July 2002 (05.07.2002)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/303,051 5 July 2001 (05.07.2001) US
60/349,133 16 January 2002 (16.01.2002) US

(71) Applicant *(for all designated States except US)*: **WYETH** [US/US]; 5 Giralda Farms, Madison, NJ 07940 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants *(for US only)*: **AGOSTINO, Michael, J.** [US/US]; 26 Wolcott Avenue, Andover, MA 01810 (US). **DI BLASIO, Elizabeth** [US/US]; 17 Chestnut Road, Tyngsboro, MA 01879 (US). **LAVALLIE, Edward, R.** [US/US]; 113 Ann Lee Road, Harvard, MA 01452 (US). **RACIE, Lisa, A.** [US/US]; 124 School Street, Acton, MA 01720 (US).

(74) Agent: **GARRETT, Arthur, S.**; Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow Garrett & Dunner, L. L.P., 1300 I Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005-3315 (US).

(81) Designated States *(national)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States *(regional)*: ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:
— *without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report*

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

WO 03/004607 A2

(54) Title: AGGRECANASE MOLECULES

(57) Abstract: Novel aggrecanase proteins and the nucleotide sequences encoding them as well as processes for producing them are disclosed. Methods for developing inhibitors of the aggrecanase enzymes and antibodies to the enzymes for treatment of conditions characterized bythe degradation of aggrecan are also disclosed.