

COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR THE TREATMENT OF WOUNDS,
DISORDERS, AND DISEASES OF THE SKIN

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application claims the priority benefit of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 62/320,316, filed April 08, 2016, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

SUBMISSION OF SEQUENCE LISTING ON ASCII TEXT FILE

[0002] The content of the following submission on ASCII text file is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety: a computer readable form (CRF) of the Sequence Listing (file name: 761342000140SEQLIST.txt, date recorded: December 28, 2016, size: 394 KB).

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0003] The present disclosure relates, in part, to pharmaceutical compositions and methods of use for providing prophylactic, palliative, or therapeutic relief of a wound, disorder, or disease of the skin in a subject, including a subject having, or at risk of developing, one or more symptoms of epidermolysis bullosa.

BACKGROUND

[0004] A number of serious disease-related skin conditions are associated with one or more genetic disorders in patients suffering from these diseases. One such disease, epidermolysis bullosa (EB), is a group of genetic disorders that cause the skin and mucous membranes of an affected individual to blister and erode in response to minor injury or friction, such as scraping, rubbing, or scratching. Dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa (DEB) is one of the major forms of EB. The signs and symptoms of this condition vary widely among affected individuals, ranging from mild (blistering may only affect the hands, feet, knees, and elbows) to severe (widespread blistering and scarring, possibly leading to vision loss, disfigurement, and other serious, and sometimes fatal, medical conditions).

[0005] Dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa is classified into three major types. Autosomal dominant dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa (referred to as dominant dystrophic epidermolysis

bullosa or DDEB) is typically the mildest form, with blistering often restricted to the hands, feet knees and elbows. The other two types of dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa, Hallopeau-Siemens type recessive dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa, and non-Hallopeau-Siemens type recessive epidermolysis bullosa (collectively referred to as recessive dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa or RDEB) are more severe. RDEB is most often characterized by extensive blistering and scarring of the skin and mucosal membranes. Blisters are routinely present over the whole body, including on mucous membranes (such as the lining of the mouth and digestive tract), and healing of these blisters results in extensive scarring. Damage to the mouth and esophagus can make it difficult to chew and swallow food, leading to chronic malnutrition and slow growth. Complications from extensive scarring can include fusion of the fingers and toes, joint deformities, and eye inflammation leading to vision loss. Additionally, patients suffering from RDEB have a high risk of developing squamous cell carcinoma, which can be unusually aggressive in this patient population, often becoming life-threatening. Although the three types of dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa differ in severity, they have many shared features, and are caused by the same genetic mutations.

[0006] Dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa is caused by mutations to the Col7a1 gene, which encodes the Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain protein (Collagen 7). More than 240 distinct mutations to this gene have been identified in DEB patients. Additionally, a significant decrease in expression of the PLOD3 gene, which encodes the collagen modifying Lysyl hydroxylase 3 enzyme (LH3), has also been observed in dystrophic epidermolysis patients. Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain protein functions to strengthen and stabilize the skin, while Lysyl hydroxylase 3 plays a critical role in the synthesis and secretion of functional Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain protein. Briefly, Col7a1 transcripts are translated, and the resulting peptides are post-translationally modified by hydroxylating their proline residues (by prolyl hydroxylases) and their lysine residues (by lysyl hydroxylases, such as LH3). Hydroxylysine residues can then be glycosylated, and subsequently, three glycosylated peptides form a triple helix known as pro-collagen, and are secreted from the cell. The secreted pro-collagen can then associate in to higher-order structures, forming anchoring fibrils. The anchoring fibrils are then available to help organize, stabilize, and aid in adherence of the epithelial basement membrane. The epithelial basement membrane is responsible for anchoring the epithelium to the underlying loose connective tissue, and is essential for dermal-epidermal stability

(dermoepidermal junction integrity). Mutations in the Col7a1 gene, and diminished levels of PLOD3 expression, impair the ability of Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain protein to properly connect the epidermis to the dermis in dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa patients, leading to fragile skin.

[0007] Treatment options for epidermolysis bullosa patients are limited, and current care focuses on managing the symptoms of the disease, including providing medication to control pain and itching, administering oral antibiotics to stave off infections resulting from open wounds on the skin and mucosa, and surgical strategies to address scarring and deformities. Investigational methods for treating the underlying causes of epidermolysis bullosa include administering purified Collagen 7, fibroblasts containing Collagen 7, or viral vectors encoding Collagen 7, by intradermal injection. Because many DEB patients have multiple wounds spanning large areas of trauma-prone sites (such as the sacrum, hips, feet, lower back, and hands), any treatment involving intradermal injection would be extremely invasive, as these large wound areas would all need to be injected, likely repeatedly, although injection time intervals are unclear.

[0008] Thus there exists a clear need for less invasive/minimally invasive/non-invasive treatment options for epidermolysis bullosa patients that can address the deficiencies in the Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain protein, as well as deficiencies in the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 protein, observed in this patient population.

[0009] All references cited herein, including patent applications, patent publications, non-patent literature, and UniProtKB/Swiss-Prot Accession numbers are herein incorporated by reference in their entirety, as if each individual reference were specifically and individually indicated to be incorporated by reference.

BRIEF SUMMARY

[0010] In order to meet these needs, the present disclosure relates, in part, to pharmaceutical compositions and methods of use for providing prophylactic, palliative, or therapeutic relief of a wound, disorder, or disease of the skin in a subject, especially in a subject having, or at risk of developing, one or more symptoms of epidermolysis bullosa. In particular, the present disclosure relates, in part, to a method of treating an individual by administering (*e.g.*, topically or transdermally administering) a pharmaceutical composition

comprising one or more polynucleotides encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide and/or a chimeric polypeptide thereof.

[0011] Accordingly, certain aspects of the present disclosure relate to a pharmaceutical composition comprising a virus comprising a vector, wherein the vector comprises one or more transgenes encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, or a chimeric polypeptide thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. In some embodiments, the virus is an adenovirus, adeno-associated virus, retrovirus, lentivirus, sendai virus, herpes simplex virus, vaccinia virus, or any hybrid virus thereof. In some embodiments, the virus is replication-defective. In some embodiments, the virus is a herpes simplex virus (HSV). In some embodiments, the herpes simplex virus is a herpes simplex type 1 virus, a herpes simplex type 2 virus, or any derivatives thereof. In some embodiments, the herpes simplex virus comprises a modified envelope. In some embodiments, the modified envelope alters the herpes simplex virus tissue tropism relative to a wild-type herpes simplex virus. In some embodiments, the modified envelope comprises a mutant herpes simplex virus glycoprotein. In some embodiments, the vector is an HSV-1 amplicon or an HSV-1 hybrid amplicon. In some embodiments, the HSV-1 hybrid amplicon is an HSV/AAV hybrid amplicon, an HSV/EBV hybrid amplicon, and HSV/EBV/RV hybrid amplicon, or an HSV/*Sleeping Beauty* hybrid amplicon. In some embodiments, the vector is a recombinant herpes simplex virus genome. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome is a recombinant HSV-1 genome, a recombinant HSV-2 genome, or any derivatives thereof. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in an immediate early herpes simplex virus gene. In some embodiments, the herpes simplex virus gene is ICP0, ICP4, ICP22, ICP27, ICP47, tk, UL41, or UL55. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP4, ICP27, and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP4, ICP22, ICP27, ICP47, and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the inactivating mutation in the ICP4, ICP27, and UL55 genes is a deletion of the coding sequence of the ICP4, ICP27, and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the inactivating mutation in the ICP22 and ICP47 genes is a deletion in the promoter region of the ICP22 and ICP47 genes. In some

embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP4 and ICP22 genes. In some embodiment, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0 and ICP4 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0, ICP4, and ICP22 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0, ICP4, ICP22, and ICP27 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0, ICP4, ICP22, ICP27, and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the inactivating mutation is a deletion of the coding sequence of the genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome further comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP47 gene, an inactivating mutation in the UL41 gene, or an inactivation mutation in the ICP47 and UL41 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises the one or more transgenes within one or more viral gene loci. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises the one or more transgenes within one or more of the ICP4 viral gene loci. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises the one or more transgenes within the UL41 viral gene locus. In some embodiments, the vector is capable of replicating within a target cell when delivered into said target cell. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is suitable for topical or transdermal administration. In some embodiments, the one or more transgenes comprises an miRNA binding site. In some embodiments, the one or more transgenes are operably linked to one or more heterologous promoters. In some embodiments, the one or more heterologous promoters are one or more of the human cytomegalovirus (HCMV) immediate early promoter, the elongation factor-1 (EF1) promoter, and/or any combinations thereof. In some embodiment, the vector comprises a transgene encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide. In some embodiments, the vector comprises two transgenes, wherein each transgene encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide. In some embodiments, the Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide has at least 80% sequence identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2. In some embodiments, the collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide is a fragment, wherein the fragment has at least 100 consecutive amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 2. In some embodiments, the Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements anchoring fibril

formation of a subject when the polypeptide is expressed in one or more target cells of the subject. In some embodiments, the Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements epithelial basement membrane organization and/or epithelial basement adherence of a subject when the polypeptide is expressed in one or more target cells of the subject. In some embodiments, the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide has at least 80% sequence identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4. In some embodiments, the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide is a fragment, wherein the fragment has at least 100 consecutive amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 4. In some embodiments, the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements the formation of hydroxylysine residues on one or more collagen polypeptides of a subject when the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide is expressed in one or more target cells of the subject. In some embodiments, the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements anchoring fibril formation, epithelial basement membrane organization, and/or epithelial basement adherence of a subject when the polypeptide is expressed in one or more target cells of the subject. In some embodiments, the vector comprises at least a first transgene and a second transgene. In some embodiments, the first transgene encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and the second transgene encodes a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the vector comprises a transgene that is polycistronic. In some embodiments, the polycistronic transgene encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF) and a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF). In some embodiments, the first and second ORFs are separated by an internal ribosomal entry site (IRES). In some embodiments, the Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide are at about an equimolar ratio when the polypeptides are expressed in one or more target cells of a subject. In some embodiments, the Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide enhance, increase, augment, and/or supplement anchoring fibril formation, epithelial basement membrane organization, and/or epithelial basement adherence of a subject when the polypeptides are expressed in one or more target cells of the subject. In some embodiments, the chimeric polypeptide comprises a linker polypeptide between the Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the linker polypeptide is a T2A, P2A, E2A, or F2A linker polypeptide. In some

embodiments, the linker polypeptide has at least 80% sequence identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 10 or SEQ ID NO: 12. In some embodiments, the chimeric polypeptide has at least 80% sequence identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 24, SEQ ID NO: 26 or SEQ ID NO: 28. In some embodiments, the chimeric polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements anchoring fibril formation, epithelial basement membrane organization, and/or epithelial basement adherence of a subject when the polypeptide is expressed in one or more target cells of the subject.

[0012] Other aspects of the present disclosure relate to a method of providing prophylactic, palliative, or therapeutic relief of a wound, disorder, or disease of the skin in a subject, the method comprising topically or transdermally administering a pharmaceutical composition capable of enhancing, increasing, augmenting, and/or supplementing the levels of a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and/or a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide in one or more cells of the subject. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition comprises a virus comprising a vector, wherein the vector comprises one or more transgenes encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, or a chimeric polypeptide thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. In some embodiments, the virus is an adenovirus, adeno-associated virus, retrovirus, lentivirus, sendai virus, herpes simplex virus, vaccinia virus, or any hybrid virus thereof. In some embodiments, the virus is replication-defective. In some embodiments, the virus is a herpes simplex virus (HSV). In some embodiments, the herpes simplex virus is a herpes simplex type 1 virus, a herpes simplex type 2 virus, or any derivatives thereof. In some embodiments, the herpes simplex virus comprises a modified envelope. In some embodiments, the modified envelope alters the herpes simplex virus tissue tropism relative to a wild-type herpes simplex virus. In some embodiments, the modified envelope comprises a mutant herpes simplex virus glycoprotein. In some embodiments, the vector is an HSV-1 amplicon or an HSV-1 hybrid amplicon. In some embodiments, the HSV-1 hybrid amplicon is an HSV/AAV hybrid amplicon, an HSV/EBV hybrid amplicon, and HSV/EBV/RV hybrid amplicon, or an HSV/*Sleeping Beauty* hybrid amplicon. In some embodiments, the vector is a recombinant herpes simplex virus genome. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome is a recombinant HSV-1 genome, a recombinant HSV-2 genome, or any derivatives thereof. In

some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in an immediate early herpes simplex virus gene. In some embodiments, the herpes simplex virus gene is ICP0, ICP4, ICP22, ICP27, ICP47, tk, UL41, or UL55. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP4, ICP27, and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP4, ICP22, ICP27, ICP47, and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the inactivating mutation in the ICP4, ICP27, and UL55 genes is a deletion of the coding sequence of the ICP4, ICP27, and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the inactivating mutation in the ICP22 and ICP47 genes is a deletion in the promoter region of the ICP22 and ICP47 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP4 and ICP22 genes. In some embodiment, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0 and ICP4 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0, ICP4, and ICP22 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0, ICP4, ICP22, and ICP27 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0, ICP4, ICP22, ICP27, and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the inactivating mutation is a deletion of the coding sequence of the genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome further comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP47 gene, an inactivating mutation in the UL41 gene, or an inactivation mutation in the ICP47 and UL41 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises the one or more transgenes within one or more viral gene loci. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises the one or more transgenes within one or more of the ICP4 viral gene loci. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises the one or more transgenes within the UL41 viral gene locus. In some embodiments, the vector is capable of replicating within a target cell when delivered into said target cell. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is suitable for topical or transdermal administration. In some embodiments, the one or more transgenes comprises an miRNA binding site. In some embodiments, the one or more transgenes are operably linked to one or more heterologous promoters. In some embodiments, the one or

more heterologous promoters are one or more of the human cytomegalovirus (HCMV) immediate early promoter, the elongation factor-1 (EF1) promoter, and/or any combinations thereof. In some embodiments, the vector comprises a transgene encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide. In some embodiments, the vector comprises two transgenes, wherein each transgene encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide. In some embodiments, the Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide has at least 80% sequence identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2. In some embodiments, the collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide is a fragment, wherein the fragment has at least 100 consecutive amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 2. In some embodiments, the Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements anchoring fibril formation of a subject when the polypeptide is expressed in one or more target cells of the subject. In some embodiments, the Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements epithelial basement membrane organization and/or epithelial basement adherence of a subject when the polypeptide is expressed in one or more target cells of the subject. In some embodiments, the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide has at least 80% sequence identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4. In some embodiments, the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide is a fragment, wherein the fragment has at least 100 consecutive amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 4. In some embodiments, the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements the formation of hydroxylysine residues on one or more collagen polypeptides of a subject when the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide is expressed in one or more target cells of the subject. In some embodiments, the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements anchoring fibril formation, epithelial basement membrane organization, and/or epithelial basement adherence of a subject when the polypeptide is expressed in one or more target cells of the subject. In some embodiments, the vector comprises at least a first transgene and a second transgene. In some embodiments, the first transgene encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and the second transgene encodes a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the vector comprises a transgene that is polycistronic. In some embodiments, the polycistronic transgene encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF) and a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF). In some embodiments, the first and second ORFs are separated by an internal

ribosomal entry site (IRES). In some embodiments, the Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide are at about an equimolar ratio when the polypeptides are expressed in one or more target cells of a subject. In some embodiments, the Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide enhance, increase, augment, and/or supplement anchoring fibril formation, epithelial basement membrane organization, and/or epithelial basement adherence of a subject when the polypeptides are expressed in one or more target cells of the subject. In some embodiments, the chimeric polypeptide comprises a linker polypeptide between the Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the linker polypeptide is a T2A, P2A, E2A, or F2A linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the linker polypeptide has at least 80% sequence identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 10 or SEQ ID NO: 12. In some embodiments, the chimeric polypeptide has at least 80% sequence identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 24, SEQ ID NO: 26 or SEQ ID NO: 28. In some embodiments, the chimeric polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements anchoring fibril formation, epithelial basement membrane organization, and/or epithelial basement adherence of a subject when the polypeptide is expressed in one or more target cells of the subject. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition is administered one, two three, four, five or more times per day. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition is administered to one or more affected and/or unaffected areas of the subject. In some embodiments, the disease or disorder of the skin is one or more of epidermolysis bullosa, skin cancer, psoriasis, lichen planus, lupus, rosacea, eczema, cutaneous candidiasis, cellulitis, impetigo, decubitus ulcers, erysipelas, ichthyosis vulgaris, dermatomyositis, acrodermatitis, stasis dermatitis, nethertons syndrome, epidermolysis bullosa simplex (LAMB3 gene), autosomal recessive congenital ichthyosis, xeroderma pigmentosa, and pemphigoid.

[0013] Other aspects of the present disclosure relate to an isolated chimeric polypeptide, wherein the isolated chimeric polypeptide comprises a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, and a linker polypeptide, wherein the Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide are separated by the linker polypeptide, to polynucleotides encoding the same, to vectors

comprising the polynucleotides, and to host cells comprising the vectors. In some embodiments, the vector is an HSV-1 amplicon or an HSV-1 hybrid amplicon. In some embodiments, the HSV-1 hybrid amplicon is an HSV/AAV hybrid amplicon, an HSV/EBV hybrid amplicon, and HSV/EBV/RV hybrid amplicon, or an HSV/*Sleeping Beauty* hybrid amplicon. In some embodiments, the vector is a recombinant herpes simplex virus genome. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome is a recombinant HSV-1 genome, a recombinant HSV-2 genome, or any derivatives thereof. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in an immediate early herpes simplex virus gene. In some embodiments, the herpes simplex virus gene is ICP0, ICP4, ICP22, ICP27, ICP47, tk, UL41, or UL55. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP4, ICP27, and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP4, ICP22, ICP27, ICP47, and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the inactivating mutation in the ICP4, ICP27, and UL55 genes is a deletion of the coding sequence of the ICP4, ICP27, and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the inactivating mutation in the ICP22 and ICP47 genes is a deletion in the promoter region of the ICP22 and ICP47 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP4 and ICP22 genes. In some embodiment, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0 and ICP4 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0, ICP4, and ICP22 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0, ICP4, ICP22, and ICP27 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0, ICP4, ICP22, ICP27, and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the inactivating mutation is a deletion of the coding sequence of the genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome further comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP47 gene, an inactivating mutation in the UL41 gene, or an inactivation mutation in the ICP47 and UL41 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises the polynucleotide within one or more viral gene loci. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises the polynucleotide within one or more of the ICP4

viral gene loci. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises the polynucleotide within the UL41 viral gene locus.

[0014] Other aspects of the present disclosure relate to a vector comprising one or more polynucleotides encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide, or any combinations thereof, wherein the vector is a recombinant herpes simplex virus genome, and to host cells comprising the vector. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome is a recombinant HSV-1 genome, a recombinant HSV-2 genome, or any derivatives thereof. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in an immediate early herpes simplex virus gene. In some embodiments, the herpes simplex virus gene is ICP0, ICP4, ICP22, ICP27, ICP47, tk, UL41, or UL55. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP4, ICP27, and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP4, ICP22, ICP27, ICP47, and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the inactivating mutation in the ICP4, ICP27, and UL55 genes is a deletion of the coding sequence of the ICP4, ICP27, and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the inactivating mutation in the ICP22 and ICP47 genes is a deletion in the promoter region of the ICP22 and ICP47 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP4 and ICP22 genes. In some embodiment, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0 and ICP4 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0, ICP4, and ICP22 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0, ICP4, ICP22, and ICP27 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0, ICP4, ICP22, ICP27, and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the inactivating mutation is a deletion of the coding sequence of the genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome further comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP47 gene, an inactivating mutation in the UL41 gene, or an inactivation mutation in the ICP47 and UL41 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises the one or more polynucleotides within one or more

viral gene loci. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises the one or more polynucleotides within one or more of the ICP4 viral gene loci. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises the one or more polynucleotides within the UL41 viral gene locus. In some embodiments, the vector comprises one polynucleotide encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide. In some embodiments, the vector comprises two polynucleotides encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide.

[0015] Other aspects of the present disclosure relate to methods of collecting a herpes simplex virus, wherein a vector of interest is packaged within said herpes simplex virus. In some embodiments the method comprises the steps of contacting a host cell with a vector encoding a helper virus, contacting said host cell with a HSV-1 amplicon or HSV-1 hybrid amplicon comprising one or more polynucleotides described herein, and collecting the Herpes simplex virus generated by said host cell. In some embodiments, the method comprises the steps of contacting a complementing host cell with a recombinant herpes simplex virus genome vector comprising one or more polynucleotides described herein, and collecting the herpes simplex virus generated by said complementing host cell. In some embodiments, the collected herpes simplex virus is a herpes simplex type 1 virus, a herpes simplex type 2 virus, or any derivatives thereof.

[0016] Other aspects of the present disclosure relate to a kit comprising a pharmaceutical composition described herein and instructions for administering the pharmaceutical composition.

[0017] Other aspects of the present disclosure relate to relate to a pharmaceutical composition comprising a virus comprising a vector, wherein the vector comprises one or more transgenes encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide, or a chimeric polypeptide thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. In some embodiments, the virus is an adenovirus, adeno-associated virus, retrovirus, lentivirus, sendai virus, herpes simplex virus, vaccinia virus, or any hybrid virus thereof. In some embodiments, the virus is replication-defective. In some embodiments, the virus is a herpes simplex virus (HSV). In some embodiments, the herpes simplex virus is a herpes simplex type 1 virus, a herpes simplex type 2 virus, or any derivatives thereof. In some embodiments, the vector is an HSV-1 amplicon or an HSV-1

hybrid amplicon. In some embodiments, the HSV-1 hybrid amplicon is an HSV/AAV hybrid amplicon, an HSV/EBV hybrid amplicon, and HSV/EBV/RV hybrid amplicon, or an HSV/*Sleeping Beauty* hybrid amplicon. In some embodiments, the vector is a recombinant herpes simplex virus genome. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome is a recombinant HSV-1 genome, a recombinant HSV-2 genome, or any derivatives thereof. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in an immediate early herpes simplex virus gene. In some embodiments, the herpes simplex virus gene is ICP0, ICP4, ICP22, ICP27, ICP47, tk, UL41, or UL55. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP4, ICP27, and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP4, ICP22, ICP27, ICP47, and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the inactivating mutation in the ICP4, ICP27, and UL55 genes is a deletion of the coding sequence of the ICP4, ICP27, and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the inactivating mutation in the ICP22 and ICP47 genes is a deletion in the promoter region of the ICP22 and ICP47 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP4 and ICP22 genes. In some embodiment, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0 and ICP4 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0, ICP4, and ICP22 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0, ICP4, ICP22, and ICP27 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0, ICP4, ICP22, ICP27, and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the inactivating mutation is a deletion of the coding sequence of the genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome further comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP47 gene, an inactivating mutation in the UL41 gene, or an inactivation mutation in the ICP47 and UL41 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises the one or more transgenes within one or more viral gene loci. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises the one or more transgenes within one or more of the ICP4 viral gene loci. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises the one or more transgenes within

the UL41 viral gene locus. In some embodiments, the vector is capable of replicating within a target cell when delivered into said target cell. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is suitable for topical or transdermal administration. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is suitable for subcutaneous or intradermal administration. In some embodiments, the one or more transgenes comprises an miRNA binding site. In some embodiment, the vector comprises a transgene encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide. In some embodiment, the vector comprises a transgene encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide. In some embodiment, the vector comprises a transgene encoding a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the vector comprises two transgenes, wherein each transgene encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide. In some embodiments, the Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide has at least 80% sequence identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2. In some embodiments, the collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide is a fragment, wherein the fragment has at least 100 consecutive amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 2. In some embodiments, the Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements anchoring fibril formation of a subject when the polypeptide is expressed in one or more target cells of the subject. In some embodiments, the Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements epithelial basement membrane organization and/or epithelial basement adherence of a subject when the polypeptide is expressed in one or more target cells of the subject. In some embodiments, the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide has at least 80% sequence identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4. In some embodiments, the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide is a fragment, wherein the fragment has at least 100 consecutive amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 4. In some embodiments, the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements the formation of hydroxylysine residues on one or more collagen polypeptides of a subject when the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide is expressed in one or more target cells of the subject. In some embodiments, the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements anchoring fibril formation, epithelial basement membrane organization, and/or epithelial basement adherence of a subject when the polypeptide is expressed in one or more target cells of the subject. In some embodiments, the Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide has at least 80% sequence identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 30. In some

embodiments, the Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide is a fragment, wherein the fragment has at least 100 consecutive amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 30. In some embodiments, the Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements wound healing in a subject. In some embodiments, the vector comprises at least a first transgene and a second transgene. In some embodiments, the first transgene and the second transgene each encode a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide. In some embodiments, the first transgene encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and the second transgene encodes a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the first transgene encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and the second transgene encodes a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the first transgene encodes a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide and the second transgene encodes a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the vector comprises at least a first transgene, a second transgene, and a third transgene. In some embodiments, the first transgene encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, the second transgene encodes a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, and the third transgene encodes a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide.

[0018] Other aspects of the present disclosure relate to a method of providing prophylactic, palliative, or therapeutic relief of a wound, disorder, or disease of the skin in a subject, the method comprising administering to the subject a pharmaceutical composition comprising a vector, wherein the vector is a recombinant herpes simplex virus genome, and wherein the pharmaceutical composition is capable of enhancing, increasing, augmenting, and/or supplementing the levels of a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and/or a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide and/or a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide in one or more cells of the subject. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition comprises a virus comprising the vector, wherein the vector comprises one or more transgenes encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide, or a chimeric polypeptide thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. In some embodiments, the virus is an adenovirus, adeno-associated virus, retrovirus, lentivirus, sendai virus, herpes simplex virus, vaccinia virus, or any hybrid virus thereof. In some embodiments, the virus is replication-defective. In some embodiments, the virus is a herpes simplex virus (HSV). In some embodiments, the herpes simplex virus is a

herpes simplex type 1 virus, a herpes simplex type 2 virus, or any derivatives thereof. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome is a recombinant HSV-1 genome, a recombinant HSV-2 genome, or any derivatives thereof. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in an immediate early herpes simplex virus gene. In some embodiments, the herpes simplex virus gene is ICP0, ICP4, ICP22, ICP27, ICP47, tk, UL41, or UL55. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP4, ICP27, and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP4, ICP22, ICP27, ICP47, and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the inactivating mutation in the ICP4, ICP27, and UL55 genes is a deletion of the coding sequence of the ICP4, ICP27, and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the inactivating mutation in the ICP22 and ICP47 genes is a deletion in the promoter region of the ICP22 and ICP47 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP4 and ICP22 genes. In some embodiment, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0 and ICP4 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0, ICP4, and ICP22 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0, ICP4, ICP22, and ICP27 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0, ICP4, ICP22, ICP27, and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the inactivating mutation is a deletion of the coding sequence of the genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome further comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP47 gene, an inactivating mutation in the UL41 gene, or an inactivation mutation in the ICP47 and UL41 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises the one or more transgenes within one or more viral gene loci. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises the one or more transgenes within one or more of the ICP4 viral gene loci. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises the one or more transgenes within the UL41 viral gene locus. In some embodiments, the vector is capable of replicating within a target cell when delivered into said target cell. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is suitable

for topical or transdermal administration. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is suitable for subcutaneous or intradermal administration. In some embodiments, the one or more transgenes comprises an miRNA binding site. In some embodiments, the vector comprises a transgene encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide. In some embodiments, the vector comprises a transgene encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the vector comprises a transgene encoding a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide has at least 80% sequence identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2. In some embodiments, the collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide is a fragment, wherein the fragment has at least 100 consecutive amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 2. In some embodiments, the Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements anchoring fibril formation of a subject when the polypeptide is expressed in one or more target cells of the subject. In some embodiments, the Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements epithelial basement membrane organization and/or epithelial basement adherence of a subject when the polypeptide is expressed in one or more target cells of the subject. In some embodiments, the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide has at least 80% sequence identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4. In some embodiments, the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide is a fragment, wherein the fragment has at least 100 consecutive amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 4. In some embodiments, the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements the formation of hydroxylysine residues on one or more collagen polypeptides of a subject when the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide is expressed in one or more target cells of the subject. In some embodiments, the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements anchoring fibril formation, epithelial basement membrane organization, and/or epithelial basement adherence of a subject when the polypeptide is expressed in one or more target cells of the subject. In some embodiments, the Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide has at least 80% sequence identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 30. In some embodiments, the Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide is a fragment, wherein the fragment has at least 100 consecutive amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 30. In some embodiments, the Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements wound healing in a subject. In some embodiments, the vector comprises

at least a first transgene and a second transgene. In some embodiments, the first transgene and the second transgene each encode a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide. In some embodiments, the first transgene encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and the second transgene encodes a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the first transgene encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and the second transgene encodes a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the first transgene encodes a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide and the second transgene encodes a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the vector comprises at least a first transgene, a second transgene, and a third transgene. In some embodiments, the first transgene encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, the second transgene encodes a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, and the third transgene encodes a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition is administered topically or transdermally to the subject. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition is administered subcutaneously or intradermally to the subject. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition is administered one, two three, four, five or more times per day. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition is administered to one or more affected and/or unaffected areas of the subject. In some embodiments, the disease or disorder of the skin is one or more of epidermolysis bullosa, skin cancer, psoriasis, lichen planus, lupus, rosacea, eczema, cutaneous candidiasis, cellulitis, impetigo, decubitus ulcers, erysipelas, ichthyosis vulgaris, dermatomyositis, acrodermatitis, stasis dermatitis, nethertons syndrome, epidermolysis bullosa simplex (LAMB3 gene), autosomal recessive congenital ichthyosis, xeroderma pigmentosa, and pemphigoid.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0019] FIGS. 1A-F show schematics of wild-type and modified herpes simplex virus genomes. **FIG. 1A** shows a wild-type herpes simplex virus genome. **FIG. 1B** shows a modified herpes simplex virus genome comprising a transgene encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide. **FIG. 1C** shows a modified herpes simplex virus genome comprising two transgenes, one encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and the other encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, with the transgenes encoded on the same strand of DNA. **FIG. 1D** shows a modified herpes simplex virus genome comprising two transgenes, one encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and the other encoding a

Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, with the transgenes encoded on opposite strands of DNA in an antisense orientation. **FIG. 1E** shows a modified herpes simplex virus genome comprising a transgene that is polycistronic, encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide separated by an internal ribosomal entry site (IRES). **FIG. 1F** shows a modified herpes simplex virus genome comprising a transgene encoding a chimeric polypeptide comprising a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a linker polypeptide, and a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide.

[0020] **FIGS. 2A-G** show additional schematics of wild-type and modified herpes simplex virus genomes. **FIG. 2A** shows a wild-type herpes simplex virus genome. **FIG. 2B** shows a modified herpes simplex virus genome comprising deletions of the coding sequences of ICP4 (both copies), ICP27, and UL55 and deletions of the promoter sequences of ICP22 and ICP47, with two transgenes encoding Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptides integrated at the ICP4 loci. **FIG. 2C** shows a modified herpes simplex virus genome comprising deletions of the coding sequences of ICP4 (both copies) and ICP22, with two transgenes encoding Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptides integrated at the ICP4 loci. **FIG. 2D** shows a modified herpes simplex virus genome comprising deletions of the coding sequences of ICP0 and ICP4 (both copies), with two transgenes encoding Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptides integrated at the ICP4 loci. **FIG. 2E** shows a modified herpes simplex virus genome comprising deletions of the coding sequences of ICP0, ICP4 (both copies), and ICP22, with two transgenes encoding Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptides integrated at the ICP4 loci. **FIG. 2F** shows a modified herpes simplex virus genome comprising deletions of the coding sequences of ICP0, ICP4 (both copies), ICP22, and ICP27, with two transgenes encoding Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptides integrated at the ICP4 loci. **FIG. 2G** shows a modified herpes simplex virus genome comprising deletions of the coding sequences of ICP0, ICP4 (both copies), ICP22, ICP27, and UL55, with two transgenes encoding Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptides integrated at the ICP4 loci.

[0021] **FIG. 3** shows a schematic of “KB103”, a replication-defective herpes simplex type-1 virus (HSV-1) carrying a human collagen 7 (COL7A1) expression cassette.

[0022] **FIGS. 4A-4B** show dose-dependent increases in COL7 transcript levels from KB103-infected RDEB human dermal keratinocytes (**FIG. 4A**) and RDEB human dermal

fibroblasts (**FIG. 4B**). Transcripts were quantified relative to β -actin levels and normalized to expression in uninfected cells.

[0023] FIGS. 5A-5B show human Col7 protein expression detected in KB103-infected cells. **FIG. 5A** shows human Col7 protein expression in uninfected normal and RDEB fibroblasts, as well as fibroblasts infected with KB103 at the indicated multiplicity of infection (MOI). **FIG. 5B** shows human Col7 protein expression in uninfected normal and RDEB keratinocytes, as well as keratinocytes infected with KB103 at the indicated multiplicity of infection (MOI). Human GAPDH protein expression is shown as a loading control.

[0024] FIG. 6 shows human COL7A1 protein expression in uninfected (control) or KB103 infected (C7, MOI 3) RDEB human dermal fibroblasts (EB HDF), normal human dermal keratinocytes (Normal HDK), and RDEB human dermal keratinocytes (RDEB HDK), as assessed by immunofluorescence.

[0025] FIG. 7 shows human Col7 and LH3 protein expression in uninfected normal and RDEB human dermal keratinocytes, as well as keratinocytes infected with KB103 at the indicated MOI. Human GAPDH protein expression is shown as a loading control.

[0026] FIG. 8 shows human TSP-1 protein expression in uninfected normal and RDEB human dermal fibroblasts, as well as fibroblasts infected with KB103 at the indicated MOI. Human GAPDH protein expression is shown as a loading control.

[0027] FIGS. 9A-9B show cellular adhesion of uninfected (control) RDEB human dermal keratinocytes, and keratinocytes infected with KB103 at the indicated MOIs, to wells treated with increasing concentration of rat tail Collagen 1 (**FIG. 9A**) and human Fibronectin (**FIG. 9B**)

[0028] FIG. 10 shows Col7 deposition at the basement membrane zone (BMZ) in KB103 infected skin-equivalent organotypic cultures by immunofluorescence.

[0029] FIG. 11 shows the quantification of viral genome copy number and human Col7 transcript levels in tissue isolated from KB103-infected mice.

[0030] FIG. 12 shows human Col7 protein expression in dermal tissue from KB103-infected mice by immunofluorescence, including the initiation of human Col7 deposition at the basement membrane zone (BMZ).

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0031] The present disclosure relates, in part, to pharmaceutical compositions comprising one or more polynucleotides encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide, and/or a chimeric polypeptide thereof. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition comprises a vector, wherein the vector comprises one or more transgenes encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide, and/or a chimeric polypeptide thereof. In some embodiments, the vector comprises one or more transgenes suitable for enhancing, increasing, augmenting, and/or supplementing the levels of Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and/or Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide and/or Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide in one or more cells of a subject. The present disclosure also relates, in part, to methods of providing prophylactic, palliative, or therapeutic relief of a wound, disorder, or disease of the skin (*e.g.* dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa) in a subject by administering (*e.g.*, topically or transdermally administering) a pharmaceutical composition described herein.

[0032] The following description sets forth exemplary methods, parameters, and the like. It should be recognized, however, that such description is not intended as a limitation on the scope of the present disclosure but is instead provided as a description of exemplary embodiments.

General techniques

[0033] The techniques and procedures described or referenced herein are generally well understood and commonly employed using conventional methodology by those skilled in the art, such as, for example, the widely utilized methodologies described in Sambrook et al., *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual* 3d edition (2001) Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y.; *Current Protocols in Molecular Biology* (F.M. Ausubel, et al. eds., (2003)); the series *Methods in Enzymology* (Academic Press, Inc.); *PCR 2: A Practical Approach* (M.J. MacPherson, B.D. Hames and G.R. Taylor eds. (1995)), Harlow and Lane, eds. (1988); *Oligonucleotide Synthesis* (M.J. Gait, ed., 1984); *Methods in Molecular Biology*, Humana Press; *Cell Biology: A Laboratory Notebook* (J.E. Cellis, ed., 1998) Academic Press; *Animal Cell Culture* (R.I. Freshney), ed., 1987); *Introduction to Cell*

and Tissue Culture (J.P. Mather and P.E. Roberts, 1998) Plenum Press; *Cell and Tissue Culture: Laboratory Procedures* (A. Doyle, J.B. Griffiths, and D.G. Newell, eds., 1993-8) J. Wiley and Sons; *Gene Transfer Vectors for Mammalian Cells* (J.M. Miller and M.P. Calos, eds., 1987); *PCR: The Polymerase Chain Reaction*, (Mullis et al., eds., 1994); *Short Protocols in Molecular Biology* (Wiley and Sons, 1999).

Definitions

[0034] Before describing the invention in detail, it is to be understood that this invention is not limited to particular compositions or biological systems, which can, of course, vary. It is also to be understood that the terminology used herein is for the purpose of describing particular embodiments only, and is not intended to be limiting.

[0035] As used herein, the singular forms “a”, “an” and “the” include plural referents unless the content clearly dictates otherwise. Thus, for example, reference to “a molecule” optionally includes a combination of two or more such molecules, and the like.

[0036] As used herein, the term “about” refers to the usual error range for the respective value readily known to the skilled person in this technical field. Reference to “about” a value or parameter herein includes (and describes) embodiments that are directed to that value or parameter per se.

[0037] As used herein, the terms “polynucleotide”, “nucleic acid sequence”, “nucleic acid”, and variations thereof shall be generic to polydeoxyribonucleotides (containing 2-deoxy-D-ribose), to polyribonucleotides (containing D-ribose), to any other type of polynucleotide that is an N-glycoside of a purine or pyrimidine base, and to other polymers containing non-nucleotidic backbones, provided that the polymers contain nucleobases in a configuration that allows for base pairing and base stacking, as found in DNA and RNA. Thus, these terms include known types of nucleic acid sequence modifications, for example, substitution of one or more of the naturally occurring nucleotides with an analog, and inter-nucleotide modifications.

[0038] As used herein, a nucleic acid is “operatively linked” or “operably linked” when it is placed into a functional relationship with another nucleic acid sequence. For example, a promoter or enhancer is operably linked to a coding sequence if it affects the transcription of the sequence; or a ribosome binding site is operably linked to a coding sequence if it is

positioned so as to facilitate translation. Generally, “operably linked” means that the DNA sequences being linked are contiguous.

[0039] As used herein, the term “vector” refers to discrete elements that are used to introduce heterologous nucleic acids into cells for either expression or replication thereof. An expression vector includes vectors capable of expressing nucleic acids that are operatively linked with regulatory sequences, such as promoter regions, that are capable of effecting expression of such nucleic acids. Thus, an expression vector may refer to a DNA or RNA construct, such as a plasmid, a phage, recombinant virus or other vector that, upon introduction into an appropriate host cell, results in expression of the nucleic acids. Appropriate expression vectors are well known to those of skill in the art and include those that are replicable in eukaryotic cells and those that remain episomal or those which integrate into the host cell genome.

[0040] As used herein, an “open reading frame” or “ORF” refers to a continuous stretch of nucleic acids, either DNA or RNA, that encode a protein or polypeptide. Typically, the nucleic acids comprise a translation start signal or initiation codon, such as ATG or AUG, and a termination codon.

[0041] As used herein, an “internal ribosome entry site” or “IRES” refers to a nucleotide sequence that allows for translation initiation in the middle, e.g. after the first start codon, of an mRNA sequence.

[0042] As used herein, an “untranslated region” or “UTR” refers to untranslated nucleic acids at the 5’ and/or 3’ ends of an open reading frame. The inclusion of one or more UTRs in a polynucleotide may affect post-transcriptional regulation, mRNA stability, and/or translation of the polynucleotide.

[0043] As used herein, the term “transgene” refers to a polynucleotide that is capable of being transcribed into RNA and translated and/or expressed under appropriate conditions, after being introduced into a cell. In some aspects, it confers a desired property to a cell into which it was introduced, or otherwise leads to a desired therapeutic or diagnostic outcome.

[0044] As used herein, the terms “polypeptide,” “protein,” and “peptide” are used interchangeably and may refer to a polymer of two or more amino acids.

[0045] As used herein, a “subject”, “host”, or an “individual” refers to any animal classified as a mammal, including humans, domestic and farm animals, and zoo, sports, or pet

animals, such as dogs, horses, cats, cows, as well as animals used in research, such as mice and rats, etc. In some embodiments, the mammal is human.

[0046] As used herein, “topical administration” or “topically administering” refers to the delivery of a composition to a subject by contacting, directly or otherwise, a formulation comprising the composition to all or a portion of the skin of a subject. The term encompasses several routes of administration including, but not limited to, topical and transdermal. Topical administration is used as a means to deliver a composition to the epidermis or dermis of a subject, or to specific strata thereof.

[0047] As used herein, an “effective amount” is at least the minimum amount required to effect a measurable improvement or prevention of one or more symptoms of a particular disorder. An effective amount is also one in which any toxic or detrimental effects of the treatment are outweighed by the therapeutically beneficial effects. For prophylactic use, beneficial or desired results include results such as eliminating or reducing the risk, lessening the severity, or delaying the onset of the disease, its complications and intermediate pathological phenotypes presenting during development of the disease. For therapeutic use, beneficial or desired results include clinical results such as decreasing one or more symptoms resulting from the disease, increasing the quality of life of those suffering from the disease, delaying the progression of the disease, and/or prolonging survival. An effective amount can be administered in one or more administrations.

Pharmaceutical Compositions

Polynucleotides

[0048] In one aspect, provided herein is a pharmaceutical composition comprising one or more polynucleotides encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain (Col7) polypeptide, a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 (LH3) polypeptide, a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 (KRT17) polypeptide, and/or a chimeric polypeptide thereof. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition comprises one or more polynucleotides encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition comprises one or more polynucleotides encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition comprises one or more polynucleotides encoding a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition

comprises one or more polynucleotides encoding a chimeric polypeptide. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition comprises one or more polynucleotides encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition comprises one or more polynucleotides encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition comprises one or more polynucleotides encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide and a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition comprises one or more polynucleotides encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, and a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide.

[0049] In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition comprises a vector, wherein the vector encodes one or more transgenes comprising a polynucleotide described herein. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition comprises a vector, wherein the vector comprises one or more transgenes encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide, and/or a chimeric polypeptide thereof. In some embodiments, the vector comprises one or more transgenes encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide. In some embodiments, the vector comprises one or more transgenes encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the vector comprises one or more transgenes encoding a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the vector comprises one or more transgenes encoding a chimeric polypeptide. In some embodiments, the vector comprises one or more transgenes encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and one or more transgenes encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the vector comprises one or more transgenes encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and one or more transgenes encoding a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the vector comprises one or more transgenes encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide and one or more transgenes encoding a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the vector comprises one or more transgenes encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, one or more transgenes encoding a Lysyl

hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, and one or more transgenes encoding a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide.

[0050] In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition comprises a synthetic RNA, wherein the synthetic RNA encodes one or more transgenes comprising a polynucleotide described herein. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition comprises a synthetic RNA, wherein the synthetic RNA comprises one or more transgenes encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide, and/or a chimeric polypeptide thereof. In some embodiments, the synthetic RNA comprises one or more transgenes encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide. In some embodiments, the synthetic RNA comprises one or more transgenes encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the synthetic RNA comprises one or more transgenes encoding a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the synthetic RNA comprises one or more transgenes encoding a chimeric polypeptide. In some embodiments, the synthetic RNA comprises one or more transgenes encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and one or more transgenes encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the synthetic RNA comprises one or more transgenes encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and one or more transgenes encoding a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the synthetic RNA comprises one or more transgenes encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide and one or more transgenes encoding a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the synthetic RNA comprises one or more transgenes encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, one or more transgenes encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, and one or more transgenes encoding a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide.

Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain

[0051] In some aspects, a polynucleotide of the present disclosure encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide. An example of a polynucleotide that encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide is SEQ ID NO: 1. Polynucleotides of the present disclosure also include polynucleotides having at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%,

at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or 100% identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

[0052] In some embodiments, a polynucleotide encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide is a polynucleotide that encodes an N-terminal truncation, a C-terminal truncation, or a fragment of a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide. Polynucleotides encoding an N-terminal truncation, a C-terminal truncation, or a fragment of a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide include polynucleotides that have at least 25, at least 50, at least 75, at least 100, at least 125, at least 150, at least 175, at least 200, at least 250, at least 300, or at least 350, at least 500, at least 1000, at least 2500, at least 5000, at least 7500, but fewer than 8835, consecutive nucleotides of SEQ ID NO: 1.

[0053] In some embodiments, a polynucleotide encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide is a polynucleotide that encodes a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2. In some embodiments, a polynucleotide encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide is a polynucleotide that encodes a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence having at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or 100% identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2. In some embodiments, the present disclosure relates to polynucleotides that encode polypeptides that are homologs of the *H. sapiens* Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide. Methods of identifying polypeptides that are homologs of a polypeptide of interest are well known to one of skill in the art.

[0054] In some embodiments, a polynucleotide encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide is a polynucleotide that encodes N-terminal truncations, C-terminal truncations, or fragments of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2. N-terminal truncations, C-terminal truncations, or fragments may comprise at least 10, at least 12, at least 14, at least 16, at least 18, at least 20, at least 30, at least 40, at least 50, at least 75, at least 100, at least 250, at least 500, at least 750, at least 1000, at least 1500, at least 2000, or at least 2500, but fewer than 2944, consecutive amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 2.

[0055] In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide expresses the Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide when the polynucleotide is delivered into one or more target cells of a subject. In some embodiments, expression of the

Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements the levels of a Collagen alpha-1 chain polypeptide in one or more target cells. In some embodiments, expression of the Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements the function of a Collagen alpha-1 chain polypeptide in one or more target cells. In some embodiments, expression of the Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements the activity of a Collagen alpha-1 chain polypeptide in one or more target cells. In some embodiments, expression of the Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements anchoring fibril formation of the subject. In some embodiments, expression of the Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements epithelial basement membrane organization and/or epithelial basement adherence of the subject. In some embodiments, expression of the Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements dermoepidermal junction integrity of the subject.

Lysyl hydroxylase 3

[0056] In some aspects, a polynucleotide of the present disclosure encodes a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide. An example of a polynucleotide that encodes a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide is SEQ ID NO: 3. Polynucleotides of the present disclosure also include polynucleotides having at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or 100% identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3.

[0057] In some embodiments, a polynucleotide encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide is a polynucleotide that encodes an N-terminal truncation, a C-terminal truncation, or a fragment of a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide. Polynucleotides encoding an N-terminal truncation, a C-terminal truncation, or a fragment of a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide include polynucleotides that have at least 25, at least 50, at least 75, at least 100, at least 125, at least 150, at least 175, at least 200, at least 250, at least 300, at least 350, at least 500, at least 750, at least 1000, at least 1500, or at least 2000, but fewer than 2217, consecutive nucleotides of SEQ ID NO: 3.

[0058] In some embodiments, a polynucleotide encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide is a polynucleotide that encodes a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4. In some embodiments, a polynucleotide encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide is a polynucleotide that encodes a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence having at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or 100% identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4. In some embodiments, the present disclosure relates to polynucleotides encoding polypeptides that are homologs of the *H. sapiens* Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide. Methods of identifying polypeptides that are homologs of a polypeptide of interest are well known to one of skill in the art.

[0059] In some embodiments, a polynucleotide encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide is a polynucleotide that encodes N-terminal truncations, C-terminal truncations, or fragments of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4. N-terminal truncations, C-terminal truncations, or fragments may comprise at least 10, at least 12, at least 14, at least 16, at least 18, at least 20, at least 30, at least 40, at least 50, at least 75, at least 100, at least 200, at least 300, at least 400, at least 500, at least 600, or at least 700, but fewer than 738, consecutive amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 4.

[0060] In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide expresses the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide when the polynucleotide is delivered into one or more target cells of a subject. In some embodiments, expression of the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements the levels of a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide in one or more target cells. In some embodiments, expression of the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements the function of a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide in one or more target cells. In some embodiments, expression of the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements the activity of a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide in one or more target cells. In some embodiments, expression of the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements the formation of hydroxylysine residues on one or more collagen polypeptides of the subject. In some embodiments, expression of the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements

anchoring fibril formation of the subject. In some embodiments, expression of the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements epithelial basement membrane organization and/or epithelial basement adherence of the subject. In some embodiments, expression of the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements dermoepidermal junction integrity of the subject.

[0061] In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and the polynucleotide encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide are delivered to the same cell of a subject. In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encoding a Collagen alpha-1 chain (VII) polypeptide and the polynucleotide encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide express the Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide when the polynucleotides are delivered into the same cell of a subject. In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and the polynucleotide encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide express the Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide at equimolar ratios.

Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17

[0062] In some aspects, a polynucleotide of the present disclosure encodes a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide. An example of a polynucleotide that encodes a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide is SEQ ID NO: 29. Polynucleotides of the present disclosure also include polynucleotides having at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or 100% identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 29.

[0063] In some embodiments, a polynucleotide encoding a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide is a polynucleotide that encodes an N-terminal truncation, a C-terminal truncation, or a fragment of a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide. Polynucleotides encoding an N-terminal truncation, a C-terminal truncation, or a fragment of a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide include polynucleotides that have at least 25, at least 50, at least 75, at least 100, at least 125, at least 150, at least 175, at least 200, at least 250, at least 300, or at least 350, at least 500, at least 1000, at least 1250, but fewer than 1299, consecutive nucleotides of SEQ ID NO: 29.

[0064] In some embodiments, a polynucleotide encoding a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide is a polynucleotide that encodes a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 30. In some embodiments, a polynucleotide encoding a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide is a polynucleotide that encodes a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence having at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or 100% identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 30. In some embodiments, the present disclosure relates to polynucleotides that encode polypeptides that are homologs of the *H. sapiens* Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide. Methods of identifying polypeptides that are homologs of a polypeptide of interest are well known to one of skill in the art.

[0065] In some embodiments, a polynucleotide encoding a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide is a polynucleotide that encodes N-terminal truncations, C-terminal truncations, or fragments of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 30. N-terminal truncations, C-terminal truncations, or fragments may comprise at least 10, at least 12, at least 14, at least 16, at least 18, at least 20, at least 30, at least 40, at least 50, at least 75, at least 100, at least 150, at least 200, at least 250, at least 300, at least 350, at least 400, at least 425, but fewer than 432, consecutive amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 30.

[0066] In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encoding a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide expresses the Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide when the polynucleotide is delivered into one or more target cells of a subject. In some embodiments, expression of the Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements the levels of a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide in one or more target cells. In some embodiments, expression of the Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements the function of a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide in one or more target cells. In some embodiments, expression of the Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements the activity of a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide in one or more target cells. In some embodiments, expression of the Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements wound healing in the subject.

Chimeric polypeptide comprising linker

[0067] In some embodiments, a polynucleotide of the present disclosure encodes a chimeric polypeptide comprising a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encoding a chimeric polypeptide further comprises a polynucleotide encoding a linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encoding a linker polypeptide is a polynucleotide encoding a cleavable linker polypeptide. Examples of polynucleotides encoding cleavable linker polypeptides may include, but are not limited to, polynucleotides encoding a T2A, P2A, E2A, or F2A linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encoding a linker polypeptide is a polynucleotide encoding a T2A linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encoding a linker polypeptide is a polynucleotide encoding a P2A linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encoding a linker polypeptide is a polynucleotide encoding an E2A linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encoding a linker polypeptide is a polynucleotide encoding an F2A linker polypeptide.

[0068] In some aspects, a polynucleotide of the present disclosure encodes a linker polypeptide. Examples of polynucleotides that encode linker polypeptides are SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, and SEQ ID NO: 11. Polynucleotides of the present disclosure also include polynucleotides having at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or 100% identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, or SEQ ID NO: 11.

[0069] In some embodiments, a polynucleotide encoding a linker polypeptide is a polynucleotide that encodes an N-terminal truncation, a C-terminal truncation, or a fragment of a linker polypeptide. Polynucleotides encoding an N-terminal truncation, a C-terminal truncation, or a fragment of a linker polypeptide include polynucleotides that have at least 5, at least 10, at least 15, at least 20, at least 25, at least 30, at least 35, at least 40, at least 45, at least 50, at least 55, or at least 60, but fewer than 66, consecutive nucleotides of SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, or SEQ ID NO: 11.

[0070] In some embodiments, a polynucleotide encoding a linker polypeptide is a polynucleotide that encodes a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 10 or SEQ ID NO: 12. In some embodiments, a polynucleotide encoding a linker polypeptide is a polynucleotide that encodes a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence having at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or 100% identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 10, or SEQ ID NO: 12.

[0071] In some embodiments, a polynucleotide encoding a linker polypeptide is a polynucleotide that encodes N-terminal truncations, C-terminal truncations, or fragments of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 10, or SEQ ID NO: 12. N-terminal truncations, C-terminal truncations, or fragments may comprise at least 4, at least 6, at least 8, at least 10, at least 12, at least 14, at least 16, at least 18, or at least 20, but fewer than 22, consecutive amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 10, or SEQ ID NO: 12.

[0072] In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encoding a linker polypeptide further comprises a polynucleotide encoding one or more furin cleavage sites. In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encoding one or more furin cleavage sites encode an amino acid sequence that is the same or substantially similar to the sequence of the canonical furin cleavage site (Arg-X-(Arg/Lys)-Arg). In some embodiments, the one or more furin cleavage sites are encoded upstream of the linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the one or more furin cleavage sites are encoded downstream of the linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the one or more furin cleavage sites are encoded upstream of a T2A linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the one or more furin cleavage sites are encoded downstream of a T2A linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the one or more furin cleavage sites are encoded upstream of a P2A linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the one or more furin cleavage sites are encoded downstream of a P2A linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the one or more furin cleavage sites are encoded upstream of an E2A linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the one or more furin cleavage sites are encoded downstream of an E2A linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the one or more furin cleavage sites are encoded

upstream of an F2A linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the one or more furin cleavage sites are encoded downstream of an F2A linker polypeptide.

[0073] In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encoding a chimeric polypeptide encodes a chimeric polypeptide comprising a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a linker polypeptide, and a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encoding a chimeric polypeptide comprises, from 5' to 3', a polynucleotide encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a polynucleotide encoding a linker polypeptide, and a polynucleotide encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encoding a chimeric polypeptide comprises, from 5' to 3', a polynucleotide encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, a polynucleotide encoding a linker polypeptide, and a polynucleotide encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide.

[0074] Examples of polynucleotides encoding chimeric polypeptides comprising a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a linker polypeptide, and a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide are SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 23, SEQ ID NO: 25, and SEQ ID NO: 27. Polynucleotides of the present disclosure also include polynucleotides having at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or 100% identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 23, SEQ ID NO: 25, or SEQ ID NO: 27.

[0075] In some embodiments, a polynucleotide encoding a chimeric polypeptide is a polynucleotide that encodes an N-terminal truncation, a C-terminal truncation, or a fragment of a chimeric polypeptide. Polynucleotides encoding an N-terminal truncation, a C-terminal truncation, or a fragment of a chimeric polypeptide include polynucleotides that have at least 25, at least 50, at least 75, at least 100, at least 125, at least 150, at least 175, at least 200, at least 250, at least 300, at least 350, at least 400, at least 450, at least 500, at least 550, at least 600, at least 650, at least 700, at least 750, at least 800, at least 850, at least 900, at least 950, at least 1000, at least 2000, at least 3000, at least 4000, at least 5000, at least 6000, at least 7000, at least 8000, at least 9000, or at least 10000, but fewer than 11121, consecutive

nucleotides of SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 23, SEQ ID NO: 25, or SEQ ID NO: 27.

[0076] In some embodiments, a polynucleotide encoding a chimeric polypeptide comprising a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a linker polypeptide, and a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide is a polynucleotide that encodes a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 24, SEQ ID NO: 26 or SEQ ID NO: 28. In some embodiments, a polynucleotide encoding a chimeric polypeptide comprising a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a linker polypeptide, and a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide is a polynucleotide that encodes a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence having at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or 100% identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 24, SEQ ID NO: 26 or SEQ ID NO: 28.

[0077] In some embodiments, a polynucleotide encoding a chimeric polypeptide comprising a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a linker polypeptide, and a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide is a polynucleotide that encodes N-terminal truncations, C-terminal truncations, or fragments of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 24, SEQ ID NO: 26 or SEQ ID NO: 28. N-terminal truncations, C-terminal truncations, or fragments may comprise at least 25, at least 50, at least 75, at least 100, at least 125, at least 150, at least 175, at least 200, at least 250, at least 300, at least 350, at least 400, at least 450, at least 500, at least 550, at least 600, at least 650, at least 700, at least 750, at least 800, at least 850, at least 900, at least 950, at least 1000, at least 1250, at least 1500, at least 1750, at least 2000, at least 2250, at least 2500, at least 2750, at least 3000, at least 3250, or at least 3500, but fewer than 3706, consecutive amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 24, SEQ ID NO: 26 or SEQ ID NO: 28.

[0078] In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encoding a chimeric polypeptide expresses the chimeric polypeptide when the polynucleotide is delivered into one or more target cells of a subject. In some embodiments, the chimeric polypeptide is cleaved after

being expressed in one or more target cells. In some embodiments, the chimeric polypeptide is cleaved within the linker polypeptide when expressed in one or more target cells. In some embodiments, the chimeric polypeptide is cleaved into two polypeptides, one comprising the Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and the other comprising the Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide. In some embodiments, expression of the chimeric polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements the levels of a Collagen alpha-1 chain polypeptide and/or a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide in one or more target cells. In some embodiments, expression of the chimeric polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements the function of a Collagen alpha-1 chain polypeptide and/or a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide in one or more target cells. In some embodiments, expression of the chimeric polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements the activity of a Collagen alpha-1 chain polypeptide and/or a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide in one or more target cells. In some embodiments, expression of the chimeric polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements the formation of hydroxylysine residues on one or more collagen polypeptides of the subject. In some embodiments, expression of the chimeric polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements anchoring fibril formation of the subject. In some embodiments, expression of the chimeric polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements epithelial basement membrane organization and/or epithelial basement adherence of the subject. In some embodiments, expression of the chimeric polypeptide enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements dermoepidermal junction integrity of the subject.

[0079] Polynucleotides of the present disclosure may be codon-optimized. In some embodiments, polynucleotides of the present disclosure are codon-optimized for human cells. In some embodiments, polynucleotides of the present disclosure are codon-optimized for mouse cells. In some embodiments, polynucleotides of the present disclosure are codon-optimized for rat cells. In some embodiments, polynucleotides of the present disclosure are codon-optimized for hamster cells. In some embodiments, polynucleotides of the present disclosure are codon-optimized for canine cells. In some embodiments, polynucleotides of the present disclosure are codon-optimized for yeast cells. In some embodiments, polynucleotides of the present disclosure are codon-optimized for bacterial cells. Polynucleotides of the

present disclosure may be DNA polynucleotides, RNA polynucleotides, or a combination of one or more DNA polynucleotides and one or more RNA polynucleotides.

Vectors

[0080] In some aspects, the present disclosure relates to vectors, preferably expression vectors, containing one or more polynucleotides described herein. In some embodiments, the vectors are DNA vectors. Generally, vectors suitable to maintain, propagate, or express polynucleotides to produce one or more polypeptides in a subject may be used. Examples of suitable vectors include, but are not limited to, plasmids, cosmids, episomes, transposons, and viral vectors (e.g., adenoviral, vaccinia viral, Sindbis-viral, measles, herpes viral, lentiviral, retroviral, adeno-associated viral vectors, etc.). In some embodiments, the vector is capable of autonomous replication in a host cell. In some embodiments, the vector is incapable of autonomous replication in a host cell. In some embodiments, the vector is capable of integrating into a host DNA. Methods for making vectors containing one or more polynucleotides of interest are well known to one of skill in the art.

[0081] In some embodiments, the vector is a herpes simplex virus vector. In some embodiments, the herpes simplex virus vector is a herpes virus amplicon vector. Herpes virus amplicon vectors, including structural features and methods of making the vectors, are generally known in the art (de Silva S. and Bowers W. “Herpes Virus Amplicon Vectors”. *Viruses* 2009, 1, 594-629). In some embodiments, the vector is an HSV-1 amplicon. In some embodiments, the vector is an HSV-1 hybrid amplicon. Examples of HSV-1 hybrid amplicons may include, but are not limited to, HSV/AAV hybrid amplicons, HSV/EBV hybrid amplicons, HSV/EBV/RV hybrid amplicons, and HSV/*Sleeping Beauty* hybrid amplicons. In some embodiments, the vector is an HSV/AAV hybrid amplicon. In some embodiments, the vector is an HSV/EBV hybrid amplicon. In some embodiments, the vector is an HSV/EBV/RV hybrid amplicon. In some embodiments, the vector is an HSV/*Sleeping Beauty* hybrid amplicons.

[0082] In some embodiments, the herpes simplex virus vector is a recombinant herpes simplex virus genome. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome has been engineered to decrease or eliminate expression of one or more toxic herpes simplex virus genes. Methods of engineering recombinant herpes simplex virus genomes are generally described in WO2015/009952. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus

genome comprises an inactivating mutation. Examples of inactivating mutations may include, but are not limited to, deletions, insertions, point mutations, and rearrangements. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in at least one, at least two, at least three, at least four, at least five, at least six, at least seven, or all eight of the ICP0, ICP4, ICP22, ICP27, ICP47, tk, UL41 and UL55 herpes simplex virus genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0 gene. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP4 (one or both copies) gene. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP22 gene. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP27 gene. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP47 gene. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the UL41 gene. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the UL55 gene. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome is a recombinant HSV-1 genome, a recombinant HSV-2 genome, or any derivatives thereof. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome is a recombinant HSV-1 genome. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome is a recombinant HSV-2 genome.

[0083] In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP4 (one or both copies), ICP27, and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP4 (one or both copies), ICP22, ICP27, ICP47, and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the inactivating mutation in the ICP4 (one or both copies), ICP27, and/or UL55 genes is a deletion of the coding sequence of the ICP4 (one or both copies), ICP27, and/or UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the inactivating mutation in the ICP22 and ICP47 genes is a deletion in the promoter region of the ICP22 and ICP47 genes (*e.g.*, the ICP22 and ICP47 coding sequences are intact but are not transcriptionally active). In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises a deletion in the coding sequence of the ICP4 (one or both copies), ICP27, and UL55 genes and a deletion in the promoter region of

the ICP22 and ICP47 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome further comprises an inactivating mutation in the UL41 gene. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome is a recombinant HSV-1 genome, a recombinant HSV-2 genome, or any derivatives thereof. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome is a recombinant HSV-1 genome. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome is a recombinant HSV-2 genome.

[0084] In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP4 (one or both copies) and ICP22 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0 and ICP4 (one or both copies) genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0, ICP4 (one or both copies), and ICP22 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0, ICP4 (one or both copies), ICP22, and ICP27 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0, ICP4 (one or both copies), ICP22, ICP27 and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the inactivating mutation in the ICP0, ICP4 (one or both copies), ICP22, ICP27 and/or UL55 genes comprises a deletion of the coding sequence of the ICP0, ICP4 (one or both copies), ICP22, ICP27 and/or UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises a deletion in the coding sequence of the ICP0, ICP4 (one or both copies), ICP22, ICP27, and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome further comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP47 gene. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome further comprises an inactivating mutation in the UL41 gene. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome further comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP47 gene and the UL41 gene. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome is a recombinant HSV-1 genome, a recombinant HSV-2 genome, or any derivatives thereof. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome is a recombinant HSV-1 genome. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome is a recombinant HSV-2 genome.

[0085] In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP4 (one or both copies), ICP22, and ICP27 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP4 (one or both copies), ICP22, ICP27, ICP47, and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0, ICP4 (one or both copies), ICP22, and ICP27 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome is a recombinant HSV-1 genome, a recombinant HSV-2 genome, or any derivatives thereof. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome is a recombinant HSV-1 genome. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome is a recombinant HSV-2 genome.

[0086] In some embodiments, a recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises one or more polynucleotides of the present disclosure within one, two, three, four, five, six, seven or more viral gene loci. Examples of suitable viral loci may include, without limitation, the ICP0, ICP4, ICP22, ICP27, ICP47, tk, UL41 and UL55 herpes simplex viral gene loci. In some embodiments, a recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises one or more polynucleotide of the present disclosure within one or more of the viral ICP4 gene loci (*e.g.*, a recombinant virus carrying a polynucleotide encoding Col7 in one or both of the ICP4 loci, a recombinant virus carrying a polynucleotide encoding LH3 in one or both of the ICP4 loci, a recombinant virus carrying a polynucleotide encoding KRT17 in one or both of the ICP4 loci, a recombinant virus carrying a polynucleotide encoding Col7 in one of the ICP4 loci and a polynucleotide encoding KRT17 in the other ICP4 loci, a recombinant virus carrying a polynucleotide encoding Col7 in one of the ICP4 loci and a polynucleotide encoding LH3 in the other ICP4 loci, a recombinant virus carrying a polynucleotide encoding LH3 in one of the ICP4 loci and a polynucleotide encoding KRT17 in the other ICP4 loci, *etc.*). In some embodiments, a recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises one or more polynucleotide of the present disclosure within the viral UL41 gene locus. In some embodiments, a recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises one or more polynucleotide of the present disclosure within the viral ICP47 gene locus. In some embodiments, a recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises one or more polynucleotides of the present disclosure within one or more of the viral ICP4 gene loci, and

one or more polynucleotide of the present disclosure within the viral UL41 gene locus (*e.g.*, a recombinant virus carrying a polynucleotide encoding Col7 in one or both of the ICP4 loci and a polynucleotide encoding LH3 in the UL41 locus, a recombinant virus carrying a polynucleotide encoding Col7 in one or both of the ICP4 loci and a polynucleotide encoding Col7 in the UL41 locus, a recombinant virus carrying a polynucleotide encoding Col7 in one or both of the ICP4 loci and a polynucleotide encoding KRT17 in the UL41 locus, a recombinant virus carrying a polynucleotide encoding LH3 in one or both of the ICP4 loci and a polynucleotide encoding LH3 in the UL41 locus, a recombinant virus carrying a polynucleotide encoding LH3 in one or both of the ICP4 loci and a polynucleotide encoding Col7 in the UL41 locus, a recombinant virus carrying a polynucleotide encoding LH3 in one or both of the ICP4 loci and a polynucleotide encoding KRT17 in the UL41 locus, a recombinant virus carrying a polynucleotide encoding KRT17 in one or both of the ICP4 loci and a polynucleotide encoding LH3 in the UL41 locus, a recombinant virus carrying a polynucleotide encoding KRT17 in one or both of the ICP4 loci and a polynucleotide encoding Col7 in the UL41 locus, a recombinant virus carrying a polynucleotide encoding KRT17 in one or both of the ICP4 loci and a polynucleotide encoding KRT17 in the UL41 locus, *etc.*).

[0087] A vector may include a polynucleotide of the present disclosure in a form suitable for expression of the polynucleotide in a host cell. Expression vectors may include one or more regulatory sequences operatively linked to the polynucleotide to be expressed. The term "regulatory sequence" includes promoters, enhancers and other expression control elements (*e.g.*, polyadenylation signals). Examples of suitable enhancers may include, but are not limited to, enhancer sequences from mammalian genes (such as globin, elastase, albumin, α -fetoprotein, insulin and the like), and enhancer sequences from a eukaryotic cell virus (such as SV40 enhancer on the late side of the replication origin (bp 100-270), the cytomegalovirus early promoter enhancer, the polyoma enhancer on the late side of the replication origin, adenovirus enhancers, and the like). Examples of promoters suitable for transcription in mammalian host cells may include, but are not limited to, promoters obtained from the genomes of viruses (such as polyoma virus, fowlpox virus, adenovirus (such as Adenovirus 2), bovine papilloma virus, avian sarcoma virus, cytomegalovirus, a retrovirus, hepatitis-B virus, Simian Virus 40 (SV40), and the like), or from heterologous mammalian promoters

(such as the actin promoter, an immunoglobulin promoter, from heat-shock promoters, and the like), provided such promoters are compatible with the host cells. In some embodiments, polynucleotides of the present disclosure are operably linked to one or more heterologous promoters. In some embodiments, the one or more heterologous promoters are one or more of the human cytomegalovirus (HCMV) immediate early promoter, the elongation factor-1 (EF1) promoter, and/or any combinations thereof. In some embodiments, the one or more heterologous promoters are one or more of constitutive promoters, tissue-specific promoters, temporal promoters, spatial promoters, inducible promoters and repressible promoters. Regulatory sequences may include those which direct constitutive expression of a nucleotide sequence, as well as tissue-specific regulatory and/or inducible sequences. The design of the expression vector can depend on such factors as the host cell to be contacted with a polynucleotide of the present disclosure, the level of expression of protein desired, and the like. The expression vectors of the present disclosure can be introduced into host cells to thereby produce proteins or polypeptides (e.g., Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptides, Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptides, Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptides, chimeric polypeptides, and the like) encoded by polynucleotides as described herein.

[0088] In some embodiments, a vector of the present disclosure comprises one or more transgenes comprising one or more polynucleotide described herein. The one or more transgenes may be inserted in any orientation in the vector. If the vector comprises two or more transgenes (*e.g.*, two or more, three or more, etc.), the transgenes may be inserted in the same orientation or opposite orientations to one another. Without wishing to be bound by theory, incorporating two transgenes into a vector in an antisense orientation may help to avoid read-through and ensure proper expression of each transgene. In some embodiments, the vector comprises one or more transgenes encoding a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide, and/or chimeric polypeptides thereof. In some embodiments, the vector comprises a single transgene encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide. In some embodiments, the vector comprises two transgenes each encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide. In some embodiments, the vector comprises three transgenes each encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide. In some embodiments, the vector comprises a single transgene encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide. In some

embodiments, the vector comprises two transgenes each encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the vector comprises three transgenes each encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the vector comprises a single transgene encoding a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the vector comprises two transgenes each encoding a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the vector comprises three transgenes each encoding a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the vector comprises a single transgene encoding a chimeric polypeptide comprising a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, and/or a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide.

[0089] In some embodiments, the vector comprises at least two transgenes (*e.g.* two, three, four, five, six, seven or more transgenes). In some embodiments, the at least first transgene encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and the at least second transgene encodes a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the at least first transgene encodes a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide and the at least second transgene encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide. In some embodiments, the at least first transgene encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and the at least second transgene encodes a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the at least first transgene encodes a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide and the at least second transgene encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide. In some embodiments, the at least first transgene encodes a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide and the at least second transgene encodes a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the at least first transgene encodes a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide and the at least second transgene encodes a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the at least first transgene encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and the at least second transgene encodes a chimeric polypeptide comprising a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, and/or a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the at least first transgene encodes a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide and the at least second transgene encodes a chimeric polypeptide comprising a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, and/or a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the at least first transgene encodes a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide and the at least second transgene encodes a chimeric polypeptide

comprising a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, and/or a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide.

[0090] In some embodiments, the vector comprises at least three transgenes (*e.g.* three, four, five, six, seven or more transgenes). In some embodiments, the at least first transgene encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, the at least second transgene encodes a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, and the at least third transgene encodes a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide.

[0091] In some embodiments, the vector comprises a transgene that is polycistronic. In some embodiments, the polycistronic transgene encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF) and a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF). In some embodiments, the polycistronic transgene encodes a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF) and a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF). In some embodiments, the polycistronic transgene encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF) and a keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF). In some embodiments, the polycistronic transgene encodes a Keratin type I cytoskeletal polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF) and a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF). In some embodiments, the polycistronic transgene encodes a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF) and a keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF). In some embodiments, the polycistronic transgene encodes a Keratin type I cytoskeletal polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF) and a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF).

[0092] In some embodiments, the polycistronic transgene encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF) and a chimeric polypeptide comprising a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, and/or a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF). In some embodiments, the polycistronic transgene encodes a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF) and a chimeric polypeptide comprising a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, and/or a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF). In some embodiments,

the polycistronic transgene encodes a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF) and a chimeric polypeptide comprising a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, and/or a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF). In some embodiments, the first and second ORFs are separated by an internal ribosomal entry site (IRES).

[0093] In some embodiments, the polycistronic transgene encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF), a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF), and a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide on a third open reading frame (ORF). In some embodiments, the polycistronic transgene encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF), a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF), and a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide on a third open reading frame (ORF). In some embodiments, the polycistronic transgene encodes a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF), a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF), and a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide on a third open reading frame (ORF). In some embodiments, the polycistronic transgene encodes a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF), a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF), and a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide on a third open reading frame (ORF). In some embodiments, the polycistronic transgene encodes a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF), a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF), and a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide on a third open reading frame (ORF). In some embodiments, the polycistronic transgene encodes a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF), a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF), and a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide on a third open reading frame (ORF). In some embodiments, the first, second, and third ORFs are separated by an internal ribosomal entry site (IRES).

[0094] Examples of suitable IRES's may include, but are not limited to, a virally-derived IRES (e.g. an IRES derived from a poliovirus, rhinovirus, encephalomyocarditis virus, foot-and-mouth disease virus, hepatitis C virus, classic swine fever virus, rous sarcoma virus, human immunodeficiency virus, cricket paralysis virus, Kaposi's sarcoma-associated

herpesvirus, etc.) and a cellular mRNA-derived IRES (e.g. an IRES derived from growth factor mRNAs, such as fibroblast growth factor 2, platelet-derived growth factor B, and vascular endothelial growth factor, an IRES derived from transcription factor mRNAs, such as antennapedia, ultrapithoraxm, and NF- κ B repressing factor, an IRES derived from oncogene mRNAs, such as c-myc, pim-1, and protein kinase p58^{PITSLRE}, etc.).

[0095] Vectors of the present disclosure may further encode additional coding and non-coding sequences. Examples of additional coding and non-coding sequences may include, but are not limited to, sequences encoding additional polypeptide tags, introns, 5' and 3' UTRs, and the like. Examples of suitable polypeptide tags may include, but are not limited, to any combination of purification tags, such as his-tags, flag-tags, maltose binding protein and glutathione-S-transferase tags, detection tags, such as tags that may be detected photometrically (e.g., red fluorescent protein, etc.) and tags that have a detectable enzymatic activity (e.g., alkaline phosphatase, etc.), tags containing secretory sequences, leader sequences, and/or stabilizing sequences, protease cleavage sites (e.g., furin cleavage sites, TEV cleavage sites, Thrombin cleavage sites), and the like. In some embodiments, the 5' and/or 3'UTRs increase the stability, localization, and/or translational efficiency of the polynucleotides. In some embodiments, the 5' and/or 3'UTRs are modified to increase the stability, localization, and/or translational efficiency of the one or more polynucleotides. In some embodiments, the 5' and/or 3'UTRs improve the level and/or duration of protein expression. In some embodiments, the 5' and/or 3'UTRs include elements (e.g., one or more miRNA binding sites, etc.) that may block or reduce off-target transgene expression (e.g., inhibiting expression in specific cell types (e.g., neuronal cells), at specific times in the cell cycle, at specific developmental stages, etc.). In some embodiments, the 5' and/or 3'UTRs include elements (e.g., one or more miRNA binding sites, etc.) that may enhance transgene expression in specific cell types.

Synthetic RNA polynucleotides

[0096] In some aspects, the present disclosure relates to synthetic RNAs, in particular synthetic mRNAs, containing one or more polynucleotides described herein. In some embodiments, the synthetic mRNA polynucleotides comprise a 5'-cap structure. Examples of 5'-cap structures may include, but are not limited to, cap-0, cap-1, cap-2, and cap-3 structures, and derivatives thereof. In some embodiments, the synthetic mRNA polynucleotides

comprise a 3'-poly(A) tail. In some embodiments, the synthetic mRNA polynucleotides comprise one or more 5' and/or 3' UTRs flanking the one or more coding sequences contained within the synthetic mRNA polynucleotides. In some embodiments, the 5' and/or 3' UTRs increase the stability, localization, and/or translational efficiency of the synthetic mRNA polynucleotides. In some embodiments, the 5' and/or 3' UTRs are modified to increase the stability, localization, and/or translational efficiency of the synthetic mRNA polynucleotides. In some embodiments, the 5' and/or 3' UTRs improve the level and/or duration of protein expression. In some embodiments, the 5' and/or 3' UTRs are modified to improve the level and/or duration of protein expression. In some embodiments, the 5' and/or 3' UTRs include elements (*e.g.*, miRNA binding sites, etc.) that may limit off-target expression (*e.g.*, inhibiting expression in specific cell types (*e.g.*, neuronal cells), at specific times in the cell cycle, at specific developmental stages, etc.). In some embodiments, the 5' UTRs comprise a Kozak sequence. In some embodiments, the Kozak sequence is the same or substantially similar to the Kozak consensus sequence. Methods for making synthetic mRNA polynucleotides containing one or more polynucleotides of interest are well known to one of skill in the art.

[0097] In some aspects, the synthetic mRNA polynucleotides of the present disclosure comprise one or more modified ribonucleotides. Examples of modified ribonucleotides may include, but are not limited to, 2-thiouridine, 5-azauridine, pseudouridine, 4-thiouridine, 5-methyluridine, 5-aminouridine, 5-hydroxyuridine, 5-methyl-5-azauridine, 5-amino-5-azauridine, 5-hydroxy-5-azauridine, 5-methylpseudouridine, 5-aminopseudouridine, 5-hydroxypseudouridine, 4-thio-5-azauridine, 4-thiopseudouridine, 4-thio-5-methyluridine, 4-thio-5-aminouridine, 4-thio-5-hydroxyuridine, 4-thio-5-methyl-5-azauridine, 4-thio-5-amino-5-azauridine, 4-thio-5-hydroxy-5-azauridine, 4-thio-5-methylpseudouridine, 4-thio-5-aminopseudouridine, 4-thio-5-hydroxypseudouridine, 2-thiocytidine, 5-azacytidine, pseudoisocytidine, N4-methylcytidine, N4-aminocytidine, N4-hydroxycytidine, 5-methylcytidine, 5-aminocytidine, 5-hydroxycytidine, 5-methyl-5-azacytidine, 5-amino-5-azacytidine, 5-hydroxy-5-azacytidine, 5-methylpseudoisocytidine, 5-aminopseudoisocytidine, 5-hydroxypseudoisocytidine, N4-methyl-5-azacytidine, N4-methylpseudoisocytidine, 2-thio-5-azacytidine, 2-thiopseudoisocytidine, 2-thio-N4-methylcytidine, 2-thio-N4-aminocytidine, 2-thio-N4-hydroxycytidine, 2-thio-5-methylcytidine, 2-thio-5-aminocytidine, 2-thio-5-

hydroxycytidine, 2-thio-5-methyl-5-azacytidine, 2-thio-5-amino-5-azacytidine, 2-thio-5-hydroxy-5-azacytidine, 2-thio-5-methylpseudoisocytidine, 2-thio-5-aminopseudoisocytidine, 2-thio-5-hydroxypseudoisocytidine, 2-thio-N4-methyl-5-azacytidine, 2-thio-N4-methylpseudoisocytidine, N4-methyl-5-methylcytidine, N4-methyl-5-aminocytidine, N4-methyl-5-hydroxycytidine, N4-methyl-5-methyl-5-azacytidine, N4-methyl-5-amino-5-azacytidine, N4-methyl-5-hydroxy-5-azacytidine, N4-methyl-5-methylpseudoisocytidine, N4-methyl-5-aminopseudoisocytidine, N4-methyl-5-hydroxypseudoisocytidine, N4-amino-5-azacytidine, N4-aminopseudoisocytidine, N4-amino-5-methylcytidine, N4-amino-5-aminocytidine, N4-amino-5-hydroxycytidine, N4-amino-5-methyl-5-azacytidine, N4-amino-5-amino-5-azacytidine, N4-amino-5-hydroxy-5-azacytidine, N4-amino-5-methylpseudoisocytidine, N4-amino-5-aminopseudoisocytidine, N4-amino-5-hydroxypseudoisocytidine, N4-hydroxy-5-azacytidine, N4-hydroxypseudoisocytidine, N4-hydroxy-5-methylcytidine, N4-hydroxy-5-aminocytidine, N4-hydroxy-5-hydroxycytidine, N4-hydroxy-5-methyl-5-azacytidine, N4-hydroxy-5-amino-5-azacytidine, N4-hydroxy-5-hydroxy-5-azacytidine, N4-hydroxy-5-methylpseudoisocytidine, N4-hydroxy-5-aminopseudoisocytidine, N4-hydroxy-5-hydroxypseudoisocytidine, 2-thio-N4-methyl-5-methylcytidine, 2-thio-N4-methyl-5-aminocytidine, 2-thio-N4-methyl-5-hydroxycytidine, 2-thio-N4-methyl-5-methyl-5-azacytidine, 2-thio-N4-methyl-5-amino-5-azacytidine, 2-thio-N4-methyl-5-hydroxy-5-azacytidine, 2-thio-N4-methyl-5-methylpseudoisocytidine, 2-thio-N4-methyl-5-aminopseudoisocytidine, 2-thio-N4-methyl-5-hydroxypseudoisocytidine, 2-thio-N4-amino-5-azacytidine, 2-thio-N4-aminopseudoisocytidine, 2-thio-N4-amino-5-methylcytidine, 2-thio-N4-amino-5-aminocytidine, 2-thio-N4-amino-5-hydroxycytidine, 2-thio-N4-amino-5-methyl-5-azacytidine, 2-thio-N4-amino-5-amino-5-azacytidine, 2-thio-N4-amino-5-hydroxy-5-azacytidine, 2-thio-N4-amino-5-methylpseudoisocytidine, 2-thio-N4-amino-5-aminopseudoisocytidine, 2-thio-N4-amino-5-hydroxypseudoisocytidine, 2-thio-N4-hydroxy-5-azacytidine, 2-thio-N4-hydroxypseudoisocytidine, 2-thio-N4-hydroxy-5-methylcytidine, N4-hydroxy-5-aminocytidine, 2-thio-N4-hydroxy-5-hydroxycytidine, 2-thio-N4-hydroxy-5-methyl-5-azacytidine, 2-thio-N4-hydroxy-5-amino-5-azacytidine, 2-thio-N4-hydroxy-5-hydroxy-5-azacytidine, 2-thio-N4-hydroxy-5-methylpseudoisocytidine, 2-thio-N4-hydroxy-5-aminopseudoisocytidine, 2-thio-N4-hydroxy-5-hydroxypseudoisocytidine, N6-methyladenosine, N6-aminoadenosine, N6-hydroxyadenosine, 7-deazaadenosine, 8-

azaadenosine, N6-methyl-7-deazaadenosine, N6-methyl-8-azaadenosine, 7-deaza-8-azaadenosine, N6-methyl-7-deaza-8-azaadenosine, N6-amino-7-deazaadenosine, N6-amino-8-azaadenosine, N6-amino-7-deaza-8-azaadenosine, N6-hydroxyadenosine, N6-hydroxy-7-deazaadenosine, N6-hydroxy-8-azaadenosine, N6-hydroxy-7-deaza-8-azaadenosine, 6-thioguanosine, 7-deazaguanosine, 8-azaguanosine, 6-thio-7-deazaguanosine, 6-thio-8-azaguanosine, 7-deaza-8-azaguanosine, and 6-thio-7-deaza-8-azaguanosine.

[0098] In some embodiments, a polynucleotide encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and a polynucleotide encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide are contained within two separate synthetic mRNA polynucleotides. In some embodiments, a polynucleotide encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and a polynucleotide encoding a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide are contained within two separate synthetic mRNA polynucleotides. In some embodiments, a polynucleotide encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide and a polynucleotide encoding a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide are contained within two separate synthetic mRNA polynucleotides. In some embodiments, a polynucleotide encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a polynucleotide encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, and a polynucleotide encoding a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide are contained within three separate synthetic mRNA polynucleotides.

[0099] In some embodiments, a polynucleotide encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a polynucleotide encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, and/or a polynucleotide encoding a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide is a single contiguous polynucleotide contained within a single synthetic mRNA polynucleotide. In some embodiments, the single contiguous polynucleotide encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF) and a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF) in a single synthetic mRNA. In some embodiments, the single contiguous polynucleotide encodes a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF) and a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF) in a single synthetic mRNA. In some embodiments, the single contiguous polynucleotide encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF) and a keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF) in a single synthetic mRNA. In some embodiments, the single

contiguous polynucleotide encodes a Keratin type I cytoskeletal polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF) and a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF) in a single synthetic mRNA. In some embodiments, the single contiguous polynucleotide encodes a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF) and a keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF) in a single synthetic mRNA. In some embodiments, the single contiguous polynucleotide encodes a Keratin type I cytoskeletal polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF) and a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF) in a single synthetic mRNA. In some embodiments, the single contiguous polynucleotide encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF) and a chimeric polypeptide comprising a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, and/or a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF) in a single synthetic mRNA. In some embodiments, the single contiguous polynucleotide encodes a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF) and a chimeric polypeptide comprising a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, and/or a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF) in a single synthetic mRNA. In some embodiments, the single contiguous polynucleotide encodes a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF) and a chimeric polypeptide comprising a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, and/or a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF) in a single synthetic mRNA. In some embodiments, the two ORFs are separated by an IRES.

[0100] In some embodiments, the single contiguous polynucleotide encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF), a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF), and a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide on a third open reading frame (ORF) in a single synthetic mRNA. In some embodiments, the single contiguous polynucleotide encodes a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF), a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF), and a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide on a third open reading frame (ORF) in a single synthetic mRNA. In some embodiments, the single contiguous polynucleotide encodes a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide on a first open reading

frame (ORF), a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF), and a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide on a third open reading frame (ORF) in a single synthetic mRNA. In some embodiments, the single contiguous polynucleotide encodes a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF), a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF), and a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide on a third open reading frame (ORF) in a single synthetic mRNA. In some embodiments, the single contiguous polynucleotide encodes a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF), a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF), and a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide on a third open reading frame (ORF) in a single synthetic mRNA. In some embodiments, the single contiguous polynucleotide encodes a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide on a first open reading frame (ORF), a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide on a second open reading frame (ORF), and a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide on a third open reading frame (ORF) in a single synthetic mRNA. In some embodiments, the first, second, and third ORFs are separated by an internal ribosomal entry site (IRES).

[0101] Examples of suitable IRES's may include, but are not limited to, a virally-derived IRES (e.g. an IRES derived from a poliovirus, rhinovirus, encephalomyocarditis virus, foot-and-mouth disease virus, hepatitis C virus, classic swine fever virus, rous sarcoma virus, human immunodeficiency virus, cricket paralysis virus, Kaposi's sarcoma-associated herpesvirus, etc.) and a cellular mRNA-derived IRES (e.g. an IRES derived from growth factor mRNAs, such as fibroblast growth factor 2, platelet-derived growth factor B, and vascular endothelial growth factor, an IRES derived from transcription factor mRNAs, such as antennapedia, ultrathorax, and NF- κ B repressing factor, an IRES derived from oncogene mRNAs, such as c-myc, pim-1, and protein kinase p58^{PITSLRE}, etc.).

[0102] In some embodiments, a polynucleotide encoding any of the chimeric polypeptides comprising a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide, and/or a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide described herein is encoded on a single ORF within a synthetic mRNA polynucleotide.

[0103] Synthetic mRNA polynucleotides of the present disclosure may further encode additional coding sequences. Examples of additional coding sequences may include, but are not limited to, sequences encoding additional polypeptide tags. Examples of suitable

polypeptide tags may include, but are not limited to, any combination of purification tags, such as his-tags, flag-tags, maltose binding protein and glutathione-S-transferase tags, detection tags, such as tags that may be detected photometrically (e.g., red fluorescent protein, etc.) and tags that have a detectable enzymatic activity (e.g., alkaline phosphatase, etc.), tags containing secretory sequences, leader sequences, and/or stabilizing sequences, protease cleavage sites (such as furin cleavage sites), and the like.

Delivery Vehicle

[0104] Certain aspects of the present disclosure relate to a pharmaceutical composition comprising a delivery vehicle comprising one or more polynucleotides described herein. In some embodiments, the delivery vehicle is suitable for delivering one or more polynucleotides into one or more target cells.

[0105] In some embodiments, the delivery vehicle is a virus. Examples of viral delivery vehicles may include, but are not limited to, adenovirus, adeno-associated virus, retrovirus, lentivirus, sendai virus, herpes simplex virus, vaccinia virus, or any hybrid virus thereof. In some embodiments, the virus is replication-defective. In some embodiments, the virus is replication-competent. In some embodiments, the virus has been modified to alter its tissue tropism relative to the tissue tropism of an unmodified, wild-type virus. Methods for producing a virus comprising one or more polynucleotides are well known to one of skill in the art.

[0106] In some embodiments, the viral delivery vehicle is a herpes simplex virus. Herpes simplex virus delivery vehicles may be produced by a process disclosed, for example, in WO2015/009952. In some embodiments, the herpes simplex virus comprises a modified envelope. In some embodiments, the modified envelope comprises one or more (*e.g.*, one, two, three, four or more) mutant herpes simplex virus glycoproteins. Examples of herpes simplex virus glycoproteins may include, but are not limited to, the glycoproteins gB, gD, gH, and gL. In some embodiments, the modified envelope alters the herpes simplex virus tissue tropism relative to a wild-type herpes simplex virus. In some embodiments, the herpes simplex virus is a herpes simplex type 1 virus, a herpes simplex type 2 virus, or any derivatives thereof. In some embodiments, the virus is a herpes simplex type 1 virus. In some embodiments, the virus is a herpes simplex type 2 virus.

[0107] In some embodiments, the delivery vehicle is a non-viral delivery vehicle. In some embodiments, the non-viral delivery vehicle is a chemical-based delivery vehicle (a chemical-based delivery reagent). Examples of chemical-based delivery vehicles may include, but are not limited to, calcium phosphate, dendrimers, liposomes (cationic liposomes, non-cationic liposome, and mixtures), exosomes, charged lipids, and cationic polymers (such as DEAE-dextran, polyethylenimine, and the like). In some embodiments, the non-viral delivery vehicle is a non-chemical delivery vehicle. Examples of non-chemical delivery vehicles may include, but are not limited to, electroporation, nucleofection, sonoporation, optical transfection, and particle-based vehicles (such as a gene gun, magnet-assisted transfection, impalefection, particle bombardment, and the like). In some embodiments, the non-viral delivery vehicle is a dendrimer, liposome, exosome, charged lipid or cationic polymer. In some embodiments, the non-viral delivery vehicle is a dendrimer. In some embodiments, the non-viral delivery vehicle is a liposome. In some embodiments, the non-viral delivery vehicle is an exosome. In some embodiments, the non-viral delivery vehicle is a charged lipid. In some embodiments, the non-viral delivery vehicle is a cationic polymer. Methods for producing one or more polynucleotides of interest in a complex with a non-viral delivery vehicle are well known to one of skill in the art.

Pharmaceutically acceptable carrier

[0108] Certain aspects of the present disclosure relates to a pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is a carrier sufficient for topical and/or transdermal administration/application. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is a carrier sufficient for subcutaneous and/or intradermal administration/application. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is minimally invasive or non-invasive. Pharmaceutically acceptable carriers are generally nontoxic to recipients at the dosages and concentrations employed, and may include, but are not limited to: buffers such as phosphate, citrate, and other organic acids; antioxidants including ascorbic acid and methionine; preservatives (such as octadecyldimethylbenzyl ammonium chloride; hexamethonium chloride; benzalkonium chloride; benzethonium chloride; phenol, butyl or benzyl alcohol; alkyl parabens such as methyl or propyl paraben; catechol; resorcinol; cyclohexanol; 3-pentanol; and m-cresol); low molecular weight (less than about 10 residues) polypeptides;

proteins, such as serum albumin, gelatin, or immunoglobulins; hydrophilic polymers such as polyvinylpyrrolidone; amino acids such as glycine, glutamine, asparagine, histidine, arginine, or lysine; monosaccharides, disaccharides, and other carbohydrates including glucose, mannose, or dextrans; chelating agents such as EDTA; sugars such as sucrose, mannitol, trehalose or sorbitol; polyols such as glycerol (*e.g.*, formulations including 10% glycerol); salt-forming counter-ions such as sodium; metal complexes (*e.g.* Zn-protein complexes); and/or non-ionic surfactants such as polyethylene glycol (PEG). A thorough discussion of pharmaceutically acceptable carriers is available in REMINGTON'S PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES (Mack Pub. Co., N.J. 1991).

[0109] In some embodiments, the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is suitable for topical or transdermal applications/administrations. Examples of carriers suitable for use in a topical or transdermal application/administration may include, but are not limited to, ointments, pastes, creams, suspensions, emulsions, fatty ointments, gels, powders, lotions, solutions, sprays, patches, microneedle arrays, and inhalants. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier comprises one or more of an ointment, paste, cream, suspension, emulsion, fatty ointment, gel, powder, lotion, solution, spray, and an inhalant. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier comprises an ointment. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier comprises a paste. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier comprises a cream. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier comprises a suspension. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier comprises an emulsion. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier comprises a gel. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier comprises a powder. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier comprises a lotion. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier comprises a solution. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier comprises a spray. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier comprises an inhalant. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical carrier comprises a patch (*e.g.* a patch that adheres to the skin). In some embodiments, the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier comprises a microneedle array. Methods for making and using microneedle arrays suitable for pharmaceutical composition

delivery are generally known in the art (Kim Y. *et al.* “Microneedles for drug and vaccine delivery”. *Advanced Drug Delivery Reviews* 2012, 64 (14): 1547-68).

[0110] In some embodiments, the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier comprises a combination of two, three, four, five or more different pharmaceutically acceptable carriers suitable for topical or transdermal applications/administrations.

[0111] In some embodiments, the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier further comprises one or more additional components. Examples of additional components may include, but are not limited to, binding agents (e.g., pregelatinised maize starch, polyvinylpyrrolidone or hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, etc.); fillers (e.g., lactose and other sugars, microcrystalline cellulose, pectin, gelatin, calcium sulfate, ethyl cellulose, polyacrylates or calcium hydrogen phosphate, etc.); lubricants (e.g., magnesium stearate, talc, silica, colloidal silicon dioxide, stearic acid, metallic stearates, hydrogenated vegetable oils, corn starch, polyethylene glycols, sodium benzoate, sodium acetate, etc.); disintegrants (e.g., starch, sodium starch glycolate, etc.); wetting agents (e.g., sodium lauryl sulphate, etc.); salt solutions; alcohols; polyethylene glycols; gelatin; lactose; amylase; magnesium stearate; talc; silicic acid; viscous paraffin; hydroxymethylcellulose; polyvinylpyrrolidone; sweetenings; flavorings; perfuming agents; colorants; moisturizers; sunscreens; antibacterial agents; agents able to stabilize polynucleotides or prevent their degradation, and the like.

[0112] Pharmaceutical compositions and formulations as described herein may be prepared by mixing the delivery vehicle comprising one or more polynucleotides described herein with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers. The formulations to be used for *in vivo* administration are generally sterile. Sterility may be readily accomplished, e.g., by filtration through sterile filtration membranes.

Methods of Treatment

[0113] The present disclosure relates, in part, to pharmaceutical compositions and methods of use for providing prophylactic, palliative, or therapeutic relief of a wound, disorder, or disease of the skin in a subject. Examples of diseases or disorders of the skin may include, but are not limited to, epidermolysis bullosa, skin cancer, psoriasis, lichen planus, lupus, rosacea, eczema, cutaneous candidiasis, cellulitis, impetigo, decubitus ulcers, erysipelas, ichthyosis vulgaris, dermatomyositis, acrodermatitis, stasis dermatitis, nethertons syndrome,

epidermolysis bullosa simplex (LAMB3 gene), autosomal recessive congenital ichthyosis, xeroderma pigmentosa, and pemphigoid. In some embodiments, the disease or disorder of the skin is epidermolysis bullosa. In some embodiments, a subject has, or at risk of developing, one or more symptoms of epidermolysis bullosa.

[0114] The polynucleotides and pharmaceutical compositions described herein are useful for providing prophylactic, palliative, or therapeutic relief of a wound, disorder, or disease of the skin in a subject, including the treatment of one or more symptoms of epidermolysis bullosa (*e.g.*, recessive dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa, dominant dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa, etc.). Pharmaceutical compositions of the present disclosure may be administered by any suitable method known in the art, including, without limitation, by oral administration, sublingual administration, buccal administration, topical administration, rectal administration, via inhalation, transdermal administration, subcutaneous injection, intradermal injection, intravenous (IV) injection, intra-arterial injection, intramuscular injection, intracardiac injection, intraosseous injection, intraperitoneal injection, transmucosal administration, vaginal administration, intravitreal administration, intra-articular administration, peri-articular administration, local administration, epicutaneous administration, or any combinations thereof. The pharmaceutical compositions may be delivered to an individual via a variety of routes, including, but not limited to, subcutaneous, intradermal, topical, transdermal, and transmucosal administrations. The present disclosure thus also encompasses methods of delivering any of the polynucleotides or pharmaceutical compositions described herein to an individual (such as an individual having, or at risk of developing, epidermolysis bullosa).

[0115] In some embodiments, there is provided prophylactic, palliative, or therapeutic relief of a wound, disorder, or disease of the skin in a subject comprising administering an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition capable of enhancing, increasing, augmenting, and/or supplementing the levels of a Collagen alpha-1 chain polypeptide and/or a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide and/or Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide in one or more cells of the subject. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition is administered intradermally and/or subcutaneously. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition is administered topically and/or transdermally. In some embodiments, there is provided prophylactic, palliative, or therapeutic relief of a wound, disorder, or disease of the skin in a

subject comprising topically administering an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition capable of enhancing, increasing, augmenting, and/or supplementing the levels of a Collagen alpha-1 chain polypeptide and/or a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide and/or a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide in one or more cells of the subject. The pharmaceutical composition may be any pharmaceutical composition described herein. In some embodiments, the individual is suffering from epidermolysis bullosa. In some embodiments, the individual is suffering from dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa. In some embodiments, the individual is suffering from dominant dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa. In some embodiments, the individual is suffering from recessive dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition is administered one, two, three, four, five or more times per day. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition is administered to one or more affected areas of an individual. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition is administered to one or more unaffected areas of the individual.

[0116] In some embodiments, a pharmaceutical composition described herein may be used to treat or alleviate one or more symptoms of epidermolysis bullosa. Symptoms of epidermolysis bullosa (e.g., recessive dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa, dominant dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa, etc.) may include, but are not limited to blisters on the skin (especially blisters on the hands, feet, knees, and elbows), blisters on the mucosa, scarring of the skin, scarring of the mucosa, skin erosion, deformity of fingernails and/or toenails, loss of fingernails and/or toenails, internal blistering (including on the vocal chords, esophagus, and upper airway), thickening of the skin (especially thickening of the skin on the palms and the soles of the feet), blistering of the scalp, scarring of the scalp, hair loss (scarring alopecia), thin-appearing skin, atrophic scarring, milia, dental conditions (such as tooth decay and poorly formed enamel), joint deformities, fusion of the fingers and toes, and dysphagia.

[0117] In some embodiments, there is provided a method of therapeutically treating an individual suffering from epidermolysis bullosa comprising administering an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition capable of enhancing, increasing, augmenting, and/or supplementing the levels of a Collagen alpha-1 chain polypeptide and/or a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide and/or a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide in one or more cells of the individual. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition is administered

intradermally and/or subcutaneously. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition is administered topically and/or transdermally. In some embodiments, there is provided a method of therapeutically treating an individual suffering from epidermolysis bullosa comprising topically administering an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition capable of enhancing, increasing, augmenting, and/or supplementing the levels of a Collagen alpha-1 chain polypeptide and/or a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide and/or Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide in one or more cells of the individual. The pharmaceutical composition may be any pharmaceutical composition described herein. In some embodiments, the individual is suffering from dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa. In some embodiments, the individual is suffering from dominant dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa. In some embodiments, the individual is suffering from recessive dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition is administered one, two, three, four, five or more times per day. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition is administered to one or more affected areas of an individual. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition is administered to one or more unaffected areas of the individual.

[0118] In some embodiments, there is provided a method of prophylactically treating an individual suffering from epidermolysis bullosa comprising administering an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition capable of enhancing, increasing, augmenting, and/or supplementing the levels of a Collagen alpha-1 chain polypeptide and/or a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide and/or Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide in one or more cells of the individual. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition is administered intradermally and/or subcutaneously. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition is administered topically and/or transdermally. In some embodiments, there is provided a method of prophylactically treating an individual suffering from epidermolysis bullosa comprising topically administering an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition capable of enhancing, increasing, augmenting, and/or supplementing the levels of a Collagen alpha-1 chain polypeptide and/or a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide and/or Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide in one or more cells of the individual. The pharmaceutical composition may be any pharmaceutical composition described herein. In some embodiments, the individual is suffering from dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa. In some

embodiments, the individual is suffering from dominant dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa. In some embodiments, the individual is suffering from recessive dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition is administered one, two, three, four, five or more times per day. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition is administered to one or more affected areas of an individual. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition is administered to one or more unaffected areas of the individual.

[0119] In some embodiments, there is provided a method of prophylactically treating an individual at risk of developing epidermolysis bullosa comprising administering an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition capable of enhancing, increasing, augmenting, and/or supplementing the levels of a Collagen alpha-1 chain polypeptide and/or a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide and/or Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide in one or more cells of the individual. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition is administered intradermally and/or subcutaneously. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition is administered topically and/or transdermally. In some embodiments, there is provided a method of prophylactically treating an individual at risk of developing epidermolysis bullosa comprising topically administering an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition capable of enhancing, increasing, augmenting, and/or supplementing the levels of a Collagen alpha-1 chain polypeptide and/or a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide and/or Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide in one or more cells of the individual. The pharmaceutical composition may be any pharmaceutical composition described herein. In some embodiments, the individual is at risk of developing dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa. In some embodiments, the individual is at risk of developing dominant dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa. In some embodiments, the individual is at risk of developing recessive dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition is administered one, two, three, four, five or more times per day. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition is administered to one or more affected areas of an individual. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition is administered to one or more unaffected areas of the individual.

[0120] In some embodiments, administering to an individual an effective amount of any of the pharmaceutical compositions described herein enhances, increases, augments, and/or

supplements the levels of a Collagen alpha-1 chain polypeptide and/or a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide and/or Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide in one or more cells of the individual. In some embodiments, administering to an individual an effective amount of any of the pharmaceutical compositions described herein enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements the function of a Collagen alpha-1 chain polypeptide and/or a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide and/or a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide in one or more cells of the individual. In some embodiments, administering to an individual an effective amount of any of the pharmaceutical compositions described herein enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements the activity of a Collagen alpha-1 chain polypeptide and/or a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide and/or Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide in one or more cells of the individual.

[0121] In some embodiments, administering to an individual an effective amount of any of the pharmaceutical compositions described herein enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements anchoring fibril formation of the individual. In some embodiments, administering to an individual an effective amount of any of the pharmaceutical compositions described herein enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements epithelial basement membrane organization of the individual. In some embodiments, administering to an individual an effective amount of any of the pharmaceutical compositions described herein enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements epithelial basement adherence of the individual. In some embodiments, administering to an individual an effective amount of any of the pharmaceutical compositions described herein enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements dermoepidermal junction integrity of the individual. In some embodiments, administering to an individual an effective amount of any of the pharmaceutical compositions described herein enhances, increases, augments, and/or supplements wound healing in the individual. Without wishing to be bound by theory, it is believed that increasing, augmenting, and/or supplementing the levels of a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide in one or more cells of an individual, by administering one or more of the pharmaceutical compositions described herein, will allow for increased production and secretion of functional Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain protein in the individual. Without wishing to be bound by theory, it is believed that increasing, augmenting, and/or supplementing the levels of a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide in one or more cells of an individual, by administering one or more of the

pharmaceutical compositions described herein, will increase the post-translation modification of Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptides, enhancing production and/or secretion of functional Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain protein in the individual. Without wishing to be bound by theory, it is further believed that increasing, augmenting, and/or supplementing the levels of a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide in the same cell of an individual, by administering one or more of the pharmaceutical compositions described herein (be it by contacting a cell with two separate polynucleotides expressing the polypeptides, by contacting a cell with a single contiguous polynucleotide separately expressing the two polypeptides, or by contacting a cell with a single contiguous polynucleotide expressing a chimeric polypeptide), will have an additive effect on enhancing the production and secretion of functional Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain protein. Without wishing to be bound by theory, it is believed that increased production and secretion of functional Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain protein will allow for improved anchoring fibril formation, helping organize, stabilize, and aid in the adherence of the epithelial basement membrane in the individual. Without wishing to be bound by theory, it is believed that ultimately, this will lead to increased dermal-epidermal stability for those suffering from epidermolysis bullosa, treating existing wounds, and preventing or delaying reformation of wounds in the treated areas.

Isolated Polynucleotides and Polypeptides

[0122] Certain aspects of the present disclosure relate to isolated polynucleotides comprising a polynucleotide encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide. Other aspects of the present disclosure relate to isolated polynucleotides comprising a polynucleotide encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide. Other aspects of the present disclosure relate to isolated polynucleotides comprising a polynucleotide encoding a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide.

[0123] Other aspects of the present disclosure relate to isolated polynucleotides comprising a polynucleotide encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and a polynucleotide encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide separated by a polynucleotide encoding a linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the isolated polynucleotide encodes a chimeric

polypeptide comprising a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a linker polypeptide, and a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide.

[0124] In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encoding a linker polypeptide further comprises a polynucleotide encoding one or more furin cleavage sites. In some embodiments, the one or more furin cleavage sites are encoded upstream of the linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the one or more furin cleavage sites are encoded downstream of the linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the one or more furin cleavage sites are encoded upstream of a T2A linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the one or more furin cleavage sites are encoded downstream of a T2A linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the one or more furin cleavage sites are encoded upstream of a P2A linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the one or more furin cleavage sites are encoded downstream of a P2A linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the one or more furin cleavage sites are encoded upstream of an E2A linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the one or more furin cleavage sites are encoded downstream of an E2A linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the one or more furin cleavage sites are encoded upstream of an F2A linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the one or more furin cleavage sites are encoded downstream of an F2A linker polypeptide.

[0125] An example of a polynucleotide encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide is SEQ ID NO: 1. Polynucleotides encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide also include polynucleotides having at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or 100% identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

[0126] An example of a polynucleotide encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide is SEQ ID NO: 3. Polynucleotides encoding a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide also include polynucleotides having at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or 100% identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3.

[0127] An example of a polynucleotide encoding a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide is SEQ ID NO: 29. Polynucleotides encoding a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17

polypeptide also include polynucleotides having at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or 100% identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 29.

[0128] Examples of polynucleotides encoding linker polypeptides are SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, and SEQ ID NO: 11. Polynucleotides encoding linker polypeptides also include polynucleotides having at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or 100% identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, or SEQ ID NO: 11.

[0129] Examples of polynucleotides that encode chimeric polypeptides comprising a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a linker polypeptide, and a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide are SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 23, SEQ ID NO: 25, and SEQ ID NO: 27. Polynucleotides that encode chimeric polypeptides also include polynucleotides having at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or 100% identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 23, SEQ ID NO: 25, or SEQ ID NO: 27.

[0130] Further aspects of the present disclosure relate to one or more (*e.g.*, one or more, two or more, three or more, etc.) isolated polynucleotides described herein contained within a vector. In some embodiments, the vector is an adenoviral vector, an adeno-associated viral vector, a retroviral vector, a lentiviral vector, a herpes simplex viral vector, a vaccinia viral vector, or any hybrid viral vector thereof. In some embodiments, the vector is a herpes simplex viral vector. In some embodiments, the vector comprises one or more (*e.g.*, one or more, two or more, three or more, four or more, five or more, etc.) transgenes.

[0131] In some embodiments, the herpes simplex virus vector is a herpes virus amplicon vector. In some embodiments, the vector is an HSV-1 amplicon. In some embodiments, the vector is an HSV-1 hybrid amplicon. Examples of HSV-1 hybrid amplicons may include, but

are not limited to, HSV/AAV hybrid amplicons, HSV/EBV hybrid amplicons, HSV/EBV/RV hybrid amplicons, and HSV/*Sleeping Beauty* hybrid amplicons. In some embodiments, the vector is an HSV/AAV hybrid amplicon. In some embodiments, the vector is an HSV/EBV hybrid amplicon. In some embodiments, the vector is an HSV/EBV/RV hybrid amplicon. In some embodiments, the vector is an HSV/*Sleeping Beauty* hybrid amplicons. Further aspects of the present disclosure relate to a method of producing a viral delivery vehicle containing one or more polynucleotides described herein. In some embodiments, the method comprises contacting a host cell with one or more viral vectors containing one or more isolated polynucleotides described herein, and collecting the viral delivery vehicle generated by the host cell. Methods of culturing cells and contacting cells with one or more viral vectors of interest (e.g. by transduction or transfection) are well known to one of skill in the art.

[0132] In some embodiments, the herpes simplex virus vector is a recombinant herpes simplex virus genome. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome has been engineered to decrease or eliminate expression of one or more toxic herpes simplex virus genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation. Examples of inactivating mutations may include, but are not limited to, deletions (e.g., deletion of the coding sequence of a gene or deletion of one or more of the gene's transcriptional regulatory elements), insertions, point mutations, and rearrangements. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in one or more immediate early genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in at least one, at least two, at least three, at least four, at least five, at least six, at least seven, or all eight of the ICP0, ICP4, ICP22, ICP27, ICP47, tk, UL41 and UL55 herpes simplex virus genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation is in the ICP0 gene. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation is in the ICP4 gene. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation is in the ICP22 gene. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation is in the ICP27 gene. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation is in the ICP4, ICP22, and ICP27 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an

inactivating mutation in the ICP4, ICP27, and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP4, ICP22, ICP27, ICP47, and UL55 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises an inactivating mutation in the ICP0, ICP4, ICP22, and ICP27 genes. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome is a recombinant HSV-1 genome, a recombinant HSV-2 genome, or any derivatives thereof. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome is a recombinant HSV-1 genome. In some embodiments, the recombinant herpes simplex virus genome is a recombinant HSV-2 genome.

[0133] In some embodiments, an isolated recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises one or more (*e.g.*, one or more, two or more, three or more, four or more, five or more, etc.) polynucleotides (*e.g.*, transgenes) of the present disclosure within one, two, three, four, five, six, seven or more viral gene loci. Examples of suitable viral loci may include, without limitation, the ICP0, ICP4, ICP22, ICP27, ICP47, tk, UL41 and UL55 herpes simplex viral gene loci. In some embodiments, an isolated recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises one or more polynucleotide of the present disclosure within one or more of the viral ICP4 gene loci (*e.g.*, a recombinant virus carrying a polynucleotide encoding Col7 in one or both of the ICP4 loci, a recombinant virus carrying a polynucleotide encoding LH3 in one or both of the ICP4 loci, a recombinant virus carrying a polynucleotide encoding KRT17 in one or both of the ICP4 loci, a recombinant virus carrying a polynucleotide encoding Col7 in one of the ICP4 loci and a polynucleotide encoding KRT17 in the other ICP4 loci, a recombinant virus carrying a polynucleotide encoding Col7 in one of the ICP4 loci and a polynucleotide encoding LH3 in the other ICP4 loci, a recombinant virus carrying a polynucleotide encoding LH3 in one of the ICP4 loci and a polynucleotide encoding KRT17 in the other ICP4 loci, *etc.*). In some embodiments, an isolated recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises one or more polynucleotide of the present disclosure within the viral UL41 gene locus. In some embodiments, an isolated recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises one or more polynucleotide of the present disclosure within the viral ICP47 gene locus. In some embodiments, an isolated recombinant herpes simplex virus genome comprises one or more polynucleotides of the present disclosure within one or more of the viral ICP4 gene loci, and one or more polynucleotide of the present disclosure within

the viral UL41 gene locus (*e.g.*, a recombinant virus carrying a polynucleotide encoding Col7 in one or both of the ICP4 loci and a polynucleotide encoding LH3 in the UL41 locus, a recombinant virus carrying a polynucleotide encoding Col7 in one or both of the ICP4 loci and a polynucleotide encoding Col7 in the UL41 locus, a recombinant virus carrying a polynucleotide encoding Col7 in one or both of the ICP4 loci and a polynucleotide encoding KRT17 in the UL41 locus, a recombinant virus carrying a polynucleotide encoding LH3 in one or both of the ICP4 loci and a polynucleotide encoding LH3 in the UL41 locus, a recombinant virus carrying a polynucleotide encoding LH3 in one or both of the ICP4 loci and a polynucleotide encoding Col7 in the UL41 locus, a recombinant virus carrying a polynucleotide encoding LH3 in one or both of the ICP4 loci and a polynucleotide encoding KRT17 in the UL41 locus, a recombinant virus carrying a polynucleotide encoding KRT17 in one or both of the ICP4 loci and a polynucleotide encoding LH3 in the UL41 locus, a recombinant virus carrying a polynucleotide encoding KRT17 in one or both of the ICP4 loci and a polynucleotide encoding Col7 in the UL41 locus, a recombinant virus carrying a polynucleotide encoding KRT17 in one or both of the ICP4 loci and a polynucleotide encoding KRT17 in the UL41 locus, *etc.*).

[0134] In some aspects, the isolated polynucleotides described herein are contained within a synthetic mRNA. In some embodiments, the synthetic mRNA comprises one or more modified ribonucleotides.

[0135] Certain aspects of the present disclosure relate to isolated polypeptides comprising a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide. Other aspects of the present disclosure relate to isolated polypeptides comprising a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide. Other aspects of the present disclosure relate to isolated polypeptides comprising a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide.

[0136] Other aspects of the present disclosure relate to isolated chimeric polypeptides comprising a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide separated by a linker polypeptide.

[0137] In some embodiments, the linker polypeptide further comprises one or more furin cleavage sites. In some embodiments, the amino acid sequence of the furin cleavage site is the same or substantially similar to the sequence of the canonical furin cleavage site (Arg-X-(Arg/Lys)-Arg). In some embodiments, the one or more furin cleavage sites are at the N-

terminus of the linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the one or more furin cleavage sites are at the C-terminus of the linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the linker polypeptide comprises, from N-terminus to C-terminus, one or more furin cleavage sites and a T2A linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the linker polypeptide comprises, from N-terminus to C-terminus, a T2A linker polypeptide and one or more furin cleavage sites. In some embodiments, the linker polypeptide comprises, from N-terminus to C-terminus, one or more furin cleavage sites and a P2A linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the linker polypeptide comprises, from N-terminus to C-terminus, a P2A linker polypeptide and one or more furin cleavage sites. In some embodiments, the linker polypeptide comprises, from N-terminus to C-terminus, one or more furin cleavage sites and an E2A linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the linker polypeptide comprises, from N-terminus to C-terminus, an E2A linker polypeptide and one or more furin cleavage sites. In some embodiments, the linker polypeptide comprises, from N-terminus to C-terminus, one or more furin cleavage sites and an F2A linker polypeptide. In some embodiments, the linker polypeptide comprises, from N-terminus to C-terminus, an F2A linker polypeptide and one or more furin cleavage sites.

[0138] In some aspects, the isolated polypeptide comprising a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2. Isolated polypeptides may also comprise a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide containing an amino acid sequence having at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or 100% identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

[0139] In some aspects, the isolated polypeptide comprising a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4. Isolated polypeptides may also comprise a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide containing an amino acid sequence having at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or 100% identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4.

[0140] In some aspects, the isolated polypeptide comprising a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 30. Isolated polypeptides may also comprise a Keratin type I cytoskeletal 17 polypeptide containing an amino acid sequence having at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or 100% identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 30.

[0141] In some aspects, the chimeric polypeptide comprises a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide containing the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2. Chimeric polypeptides may also comprise a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide containing an amino acid sequence having at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or 100% identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

[0142] In some aspects, the chimeric polypeptide comprises a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide containing the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4. Chimeric polypeptides may also comprise a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide containing an amino acid sequence having at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or 100% identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4.

[0143] In some aspects, the chimeric polypeptide comprises a linker polypeptide containing the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 10 or SEQ ID NO: 12. Chimeric polypeptides may also comprise a linker polypeptide containing an amino acid sequence having at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or 100% identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 10 or SEQ ID NO: 12.

[0144] In some aspects, the chimeric polypeptide is the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO:

24, SEQ ID NO: 26 or SEQ ID NO: 28. Chimeric polypeptides may also be an amino acid sequence having at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or 100% identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 24, SEQ ID NO: 26 or SEQ ID NO: 28.

Host cells

[0145] Certain aspects of the present disclosure relate to one or more host cells comprising a vector comprising a polynucleotide described herein. In some embodiments, the vector is any of the isolated recombinant herpes simplex virus vectors described herein. In some embodiments, the host cells are bacterial cells (*e.g.*, *E. coli* cells, etc.). In some embodiments, the host cells are fungal cells (*e.g.*, *S. cerevisiae* cells, etc.). In some embodiments, the host cells are insect cells (*e.g.*, S2 cells, etc.). In some embodiments, the host cells are mammalian cells. In some embodiments, the host cells are cells from a cell line. Examples of suitable host cells or cell lines may include, but are not limited to, 293, HeLa, SH-Sy5y, Hep G2, CACO-2, A549, L929, 3T3, K562, CHO-K1, MDCK, HUVEC, Vero, N20, COS-7, PSN1, VCaP, CHO cells, and the like. In some embodiments, the vector is an adenoviral vector, an adeno-associated viral vector, a retroviral vector, a lentiviral vector, a herpes simplex viral vector, a vaccinia viral vector, or any hybrid viral vectors thereof. In some embodiments, the vector is a herpes simplex viral vector. In some embodiments, the vector is an HSV-1 amplicon or HSV-1 hybrid amplicon. In some embodiments, the host cells comprise a helper virus. In some embodiments, the host cells comprising a helper virus are contacted with a vector described herein. In some embodiments, contacting a host cell comprising a helper virus with an HSV-1 amplicon or HSV-1 hybrid amplicon described herein results in the production of a virus comprising one or more vectors described herein. In some embodiments, the virus is collected from the supernatant of the contacted host cell. Methods of generating virus by contacting host cells comprising a helper virus with an HSV-1 amplicon or HSV-1/hybrid amplicon are known in the art. In some embodiments, the host cell is a complementing host cell. In some embodiments, the complementing host cell expresses one or more genes that are inactivated in any of the viral vectors described herein. In some embodiments, the complementing host

cell is contacted with a recombinant herpes simplex virus genome described herein. In some embodiments, contacting a complementing host cell with a recombinant herpes simplex virus genome described herein results in the production of a virus comprising one or more vectors described herein. In some embodiments, the virus is collected from the supernatant of the contacted host cell. Methods of generating virus by contacting complementing host cells with a recombinant herpes simplex virus are generally described in WO2015/009952.

Articles of Manufacture or Kits

[0146] Certain aspects of the present disclosure relate to an article of manufacture or a kit comprising a pharmaceutical composition described herein. In some embodiments, the article of manufacture or kit comprises a package insert comprising instructions for administering the pharmaceutical composition to provide prophylactic, palliative, or therapeutic relief of a wound, disorder, or disease of the skin in a subject.

[0147] In some embodiments, the delivery vehicle comprising one or more polynucleotides described herein and pharmaceutically acceptable carrier are in the same container or separate containers. Suitable containers include, for example, bottles, vials, bags and syringes. The container may be formed from a variety of materials such as glass, plastic (such as polyvinyl chloride or polyolefin), or metal alloy (such as stainless steel or hastelloy). In some embodiments, the container comprises a label on, or associated with the container, wherein the label indicates directions for use. The article of manufacture or kit may further include other materials desirable from a commercial and user standpoint, including other buffers, diluents, filters, and the like.

[0148] The specification is considered to be sufficient to enable one skilled in the art to practice the invention. Various modifications of the invention in addition to those shown and described herein will become apparent to those skilled in the art from the foregoing description and fall within the scope of the appended claims.

EXAMPLES

[0149] The present disclosure will be more fully understood by reference to the following example. It should not, however, be construed as limiting the scope of the present disclosure. It is understood that the examples and embodiments described herein are for illustrative purposes only and that various modifications or changes in light thereof will be suggested to

persons skilled in the art and are to be included within the spirit and purview of this application and scope of the appended claims.

Example 1: Generating modified herpes simplex virus vectors, and producing/isolating virus containing the vectors

[0150] To make modified herpes simplex virus genome vectors capable of expressing one or more transgenes in a target mammalian cell, a herpes simplex virus genome (**FIG. 1A**) is modified to inactivate the immediate early genes ICP0, ICP4, and ICP27, while the immediate early gene ICP22 is modified to include a heterologous, inducible promoter. This decreases the toxicity of the genome in mammalian cells. Next, a cassette is inserted into the modified herpes virus genome by restriction cloning. The cassette contains a heterologous promoter capable of expressing a transgene in a target mammalian cell. The promoter is operably linked to the nucleic acid sequence encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, as well as downstream regulatory elements (**FIG. 1B**) ensuring proper production of the mRNA. Alternatively, the cassette includes two transgenes, each of which has its own heterologous promoter operably linked to the nucleic acid encoding either a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide or a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide. The transgenes are encoded either on the same strand of DNA (**FIG. 1C**), or on opposite strands of DNA in an antisense orientation (**FIG. 1D**). Linking each transgene with its own promoter and regulatory elements allows for independent expression of each coding sequence on separate mRNA transcripts. Expressing the transgenes from distinct promoters allows for the ability to operably link the coding sequences to different promoter types, which can drive expression of the transgenes at different levels, at different times in the cell cycle, in different cell types, or under the control of different inducers or repressors.

[0151] A modified herpes virus genome is also constructed that includes a cassette expressing a single mRNA encoding a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide and a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide separated by an internal ribosomal entry site (**FIG. 1E**). This allows for approximately equimolar production of each polypeptide when expressed in a target cell. Finally, a modified herpes virus genome is constructed that includes a cassette expressing a chimeric polypeptide. This chimeric polypeptide includes, from N-terminus to

C-terminus, a Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptide, a cleavable peptide linker, and a Lysyl hydroxylase 3 polypeptide (**FIG. 1F**).

[0152] Additional modified herpes virus genomes are constructed that include two cassettes, each expressing Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptides, where each cassette is inserted into a copy of the ICP4 gene locus (**FIGS. 2B-2G**) of the wild-type herpes simplex virus genome (**FIG. 2A**). These additional recombinant herpes virus genomes are constructed with various combinations of herpes virus gene deletions/modifications.

[0153] A recombinant herpes virus genome is constructed which contains deletions of the coding sequences of both copies of the ICP4 gene, as well as deletions of the coding sequences of the ICP27 and UL55 genes. These recombinant viruses are further modified to contain inactivating mutations in the promoter regions of the ICP22 and ICP47 genes such that the ICP22 and ICP47 genes are not expressed with normal kinetics (**FIG. 2B**).

[0154] Further recombinant herpes simplex viruses are constructed which incorporate expression cassettes for Collagen alpha-1 (VII) chain polypeptides into both loci of the herpes ICP4 genes. These recombinant viruses include: viruses containing deletions of the coding sequences of the ICP22 gene and both copies of the ICP4 gene (**FIG. 2C**); deletions of the coding sequences of the ICP0 gene and both copies of the ICP4 gene (**FIG. 2D**); deletions of the coding sequences of the ICP0 and ICP22 genes, and both copies of the ICP4 gene (**FIG. 2E**); deletions of the coding sequences of the ICP0, ICP22, and ICP27 genes, and both copies of the ICP4 gene (**FIG. 2F**); and deletions of the coding sequences of the ICP0, ICP22, ICP27, and UL55 genes, and both copies of the ICP4 gene (**FIG. 2G**). Additional vectors are constructed based upon the vectors shown in **FIGS. 2C-2G** which further comprise one or more transgenes encoding one or more additional effectors (*e.g.*, LH3, KRT17) in the ICP0 and/or UL41 loci.

[0155] These modified herpes simplex virus genome vectors are transfected into engineered Vero cells that are modified to express herpes virus genes. These engineered Vero cells secrete replication-defective herpes simplex virus with the modified genomes packaged within into the supernatant. The supernatant is then collected, concentrated, and sterile filtered through a 5 μ m filter.

Example 2: Rescuing Col7 expression with replication defective HSV-1

[0156] The following example describes the construction of a replication defective herpes simplex type-1 virus modified to express the human COL7A1 gene, and use of such a viral vector to rescue several defects observed in cells isolated from RDEB patients.

Methods*Cells and cell culture*

[0157] Normal and RDEB human dermal fibroblasts and keratinocytes were isolated as described previously (NG, Y. Z. *et al.* (2012) *Cancer Res.* 72: 3522-3534; Rheinwald, J. G. and Green, H. (1975) *Cell* 6: 331-42). Cells were cultured according to standard techniques.

Construction of KB103

[0158] The KB103 vector was generated from D3GFP, a replication-defective HSV-1 vector backbone harboring GFP in place of the viral ICP4. The sequence of the GFP in D3GFP was replaced with the coding sequence of human COL7A1 using a transfer plasmid by cloning COL7A1 into the EcoRI site of the ICP4 recombination plasmid pSASB3. A mixed transfection/infection of the COL7A1 containing transfer plasmid and D3GFP vector was performed on VeroD cells. Resulting plaques which did not express GFP were isolated and tested by western blot for Col7 protein expression.

Virus purification

[0159] KB103 virus was purified according to standard techniques (*See* Diefenbach, R. and Fraefel, C. *Herpes Simplex Virus*. New York: Humana Press, 2014).

Viral infections

[0160] Cells were seeded in duplicates or triplicates in six-well plates at approximately 50% confluency one day prior to viral infection. An additional well was seeded in parallel for cell counting and MOI determination. 24 hours after cell seeding, cells from one well were trypsinized and counted to calculate the MOI, and viral stocks were thawed and diluted in cell culture medium to achieve the desired MOI. Culture medium was aspirated from each well to be infected, and 500 μ L of KB103-containing medium (or control medium) was added to each well. Plates were incubated at 37°C with 5-7.5% CO₂ for 1.5-2 hours with intermittent rocking every 15-20 minutes, then 1.5-2 mL of complete cell culture medium was added to each well, and the plates were incubated for 24-72 hours at 37°C. After incubation, the cells and supernatants were harvested and processed for analysis.

mRNA quantification

[0161] Col7 transcripts were amplified from RNA isolated from primary RDEB keratinocytes after infection using a SYBR PCR assay (Sybr Select Master Mix, Life Technologies) according to the manufacturer's protocol. Col7 transcript levels were normalized to β -actin transcript levels.

Western blot analysis

[0162] Cell lysates were generated from cells 48 hours post-infection, and western blots were carried out according to standard techniques using the following antibodies: rabbit anti-human Col7 polyclonal antibody (Sigma, Cat. # HPA042420), mouse anti-human GAPDH antibody (Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Cat. # sc-365062), rabbit anti-LH3 antibody (Protein Tech, Cat. # 11027-1-AP), and mouse anti-TSP1 antibody (Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Cat. # sc-59887).

Immunofluorescence

[0163] Cells were plated on cover slips prior to infection, fixed 48 hours post-infection, and stained with a primary rabbit anti-human Col7 polyclonal antibody (Sigma, Cat. # HPA042420), washed, and further stained with a fluorescently labelled anti-rabbit secondary antibody (Invitrogen, Cat. 3 A11012). Cell nuclei were stained with DAPI using standard techniques.

Cellular adhesion

[0164] 96-well plates were coated with 10, 20, or 50 μ g/mL rat tail Collagen 1 (Marathon Laboratory Supply) or human fibronectin (Sigma-Aldrich) in 100 μ L reaction volume at 4°C overnight, then washed with PBS, and blocked with PBS + 0.1% BSA for 1 hour at 37°C. Mock (control) infected or KB103 infected RDEB keratinocytes (2.4×10^4 cells in 100 μ L of DMEM/HamF12 + 0.1% BSA) were added to the plates and incubated at 37°C for 40-90 minutes. Wells were washed three times with PBS to remove any unbound cells, and adherent cells were fixed with PFE for 20 minutes. The fixed cells were then treated with 70% ethanol, stained with crystal violet, resolved in 100% ethanol, and were quantified by measuring absorbance at 630 nm.

Skin equivalent (SE) organotypic cultures

[0165] A skin equivalent organotypic culture composed of RDEB fibroblasts and keratinocytes was used to evaluate the expression of Col7 at the basement membrane zone

(BMZ). Briefly, RDEB fibroblasts (2×10^5 cells per well) were embedded in fibrin gel matrix in six-well plates and incubated in DMEM + 10% serum containing ascorbic acid and aprotinin for 24 hours at 37°C and 5% CO₂. RDEB keratinocytes (1×10^6 cells per well) were then seeded on the matrix, grown to confluence in DMEM/F-12 keratinocyte medium containing 50 mg/mL of ascorbic acid, and raised at the air-liquid interface. Two days post raising, KB103 virus was added to the cultures (at an MOI of 3) and incubated for 1.5 hours. Following incubation, cultures were washed and incubated for 5-14 days to favor stratification and differentiation into an epithelium. Skin equivalents (SEs) were manually detached from the plates and embedded in optimal cutting temperature compound, frozen in liquid nitrogen, and cut into 6 mm sections for immunofluorescence staining with a monoclonal anti-Col7 antibody.

Results

KB103 pharmacology in normal and RDEB cells

[0166] A number of *ex vivo* approaches have been undertaken to deliver the human COL7A1 gene to primary cells isolated from RDEB patients in an attempt to correct Col7 deficiencies (Ortiz-Urda, S. *et al.* (2003) *J. Clin. Invest.* 111(2) 251-5; Woodley, D.T. *et al.* (2003) *J. Invest. Dermatol.* 121(5) 1021-8). Although successful in achieving durable correction of key disease features, an *ex vivo* gene delivery strategy for treating epidermolysis bullosa has a number of key disadvantages, including high cost, poor graft takes, surgical debridement, complex bandaging and wound care, and the high potential for post-surgical infection. An attractive alternate route for gene therapy is the use of viral or non-viral vectors to deliver gene products. However, non-viral vectors using plasmid DNA suffer from very low gene transfer efficiency when injected or topically administered, while the most widely used viral vectors in human gene therapy trials (retroviral vectors) do not infect non-dividing cells. This is problematic for gene delivery to the skin, as manipulation of the tissue (such as wounding) to create an adequate population of dividing cells would be required for retroviral gene therapy. Large-capacity adenoviral vectors can deliver genome-sized transcription units and survive in transduced cells for long periods of time, but the toxicity and immunogenicity of adenoviral particles, as well as the requirements for helper virus during vector production, remain as significant hurdles for their use in human gene therapy strategies. While replication-defective HSV vectors have been employed as delivery vehicles in a number of

pre-clinical studies, no pre-clinical evidence supporting the use of HSV-based viral vectors for epidermolysis bullosa or other dermatological applications has been reported.

[0167] To this end, a replication defective herpes simplex type-1 virus (HSV-1) encoding the human COL7A1 gene was developed as a novel vector useful for gene therapy treatment of DEB patients. An HSV-1 virus was modified to harbor complete deletions of the viral ICP4, ICP27, and UL55 genes, with the ICP4 deletion resulting in the removal of the upstream promoter sequences driving the transcription of the immediate early viral genes ICP22 and ICP47. The virus was further modified to include a human cytomegalovirus (HCMV) immediate early promoter-driven human COL7A1 expression cassette encoded within both copies of the deleted ICP4 loci, resulting in a replication-defective HSV-1 vector, termed KB103, suitable for delivering human COL7A1 to target cells (**FIG. 3**).

[0168] To test the ability of KB103 to deliver and express Col7 in human cells, and to rescue Col7 deficiencies in RDEB patients, patient-derived human dermal fibroblasts and keratinocytes were isolated from healthy individuals, as well as individuals suffering from RDEB, and these primary cells were infected with KB103 at various MOIs. 24-72 hours post infection, COL7A1 gene expression was measured by real-time PCR in transduced cells, while Col7 protein expression was analyzed in parallel by both western blot and immunofluorescence analysis.

[0169] Dose-dependent increases in COL7A1 gene expression were observed in RDEB keratinocytes (**FIG. 4A**) and fibroblasts (**FIG. 4B**) infected with KB103. KB103 infection increased COL7A1 gene expression by approximately 7.5 fold, 12.5 fold, and 25 fold in RDEB keratinocytes infected at an MOI of 0.3, 1, and 3, respectively (**FIG. 4A**). Surprisingly, even more drastic changes in COL7A1 gene expression was observed in infected RDEB fibroblasts. While infections at an MOI of 0.1 and 0.3 showed moderate increases in COL7A1 gene expression, an approximate 30 fold increase in COL7A1 gene expression was measured for RDEB fibroblasts infected at an MOI of 1, while a 60 fold increase was observed in this cell type infected at an MOI of 3. This data showed that COL7A1 gene expression was massively upregulated in RDEB primary cells after infection with KB103.

[0170] Consequently, robust Col7 protein expression was also observed in cells infected with KB103. Col7 protein expression was detected in both normal and RDEB keratinocytes (**FIG. 5A**) and fibroblasts (**FIG. 5B**) 48 hours after infection with KB103 at an MOI of 0.3, 1,

and 3, with an apparent dose-dependent increase in Col7 protein expression observed at higher viral titers. Expression of Col7 was observed in both the supernatants and cell lysates from infected cells. Surprisingly, RDEB fibroblasts infected at an MOI of 0.3 showed higher levels of Col7 than was observed in uninfected normal fibroblasts (**FIG. 5B**), suggesting complete rescue of Col7 expression in RDEB fibroblasts using KB103, even at low viral titers. No obvious effects on cell morphology using high viral doses (MOI of 3) were observed. Additionally, no negative impacts on fibroblast or keratinocyte cell proliferation using high doses of KB103 were indicated in these experiments, as determined by GAPDH expression.

[0171] In agreement with the above experiments, a robust and dose-dependent increase in Col7 protein expression was confirmed in normal and RDEB cells infected with KB103, as demonstrated by immunofluorescent detection of Col7 protein expression (**FIG. 6**). As expected, no Col7 protein was detected in uninfected RDEB human dermal fibroblasts or keratinocytes; limited Col7 protein was detected in uninfected normal keratinocytes and fibroblasts. However, infection with KB103 was capable of rescuing Col7 protein expression in RDEB fibroblasts and keratinocytes at or above the levels observed in uninfected normal cells. Furthermore, infection efficiency of KB103 (at an MOI of 3) was calculated to be $\geq 95\%$ based on an assessment of three or more independent panels for each infected replicate, showing that KB103 efficiently delivered and expressed the COL7A1 expression cassette. Taken together, this data suggested that KB103 was capable of delivering and expressing COL7A1 in normal and RDEB primary cells, and that KB103 was well tolerated by both human dermal fibroblasts and keratinocytes.

Functional assessment of KB103 in RDEB cells

[0172] The functionality of the human Col7 protein expressed from KB103 was next investigated in human dermal fibroblasts and keratinocytes. First, the effect of Col7 expression on the levels of lysyl hydroxylase 3 was tested in KB103-infected cells. LH3 is required for the deposition and organization of extracellular matrix, and it has been reported that LH3 levels are reduced in RDEB skin (Watt, S. A. *et al.* (2015) *PLoS One* 10(9): p. e0137639). Little to no LH3 was observed in uninfected RDEB keratinocytes relative to normal keratinocytes (**FIG. 7**, lanes 1 vs. 5), in agreement with previous studies. However, unexpectedly, a dose-dependent increase in LH3 levels, concomitant with increased Col7

protein expression, was observed in RDEB keratinocytes infected with KB103 (**FIG. 7**), suggesting that KB103 was capable of rescuing not only Col7 protein expression, but also LH3 expression in RDEB cells.

[0173] Next, the effect of Col7 expression on TSP-1 levels was tested. TSP-1 is a negative regulator of angiogenesis, and has been reported to be increased in RDEB fibroblasts (Ng, Y. Z. *et al.* (2012) *Cancer Res.* 72(14): p. 3522-34). In agreement with previous studies, higher levels of TSP-1 were observed in uninfected RDEB vs. normal human dermal fibroblasts (**FIG. 8**, lanes 1 and 4). Surprisingly, TSP-1 protein expression was robustly inhibited upon infection of either normal or RDEB fibroblasts infected with KB103 (**FIG. 8**). This data suggested that KB103 may not only increase Col7 and LH3 levels in infected cells, but may also promote angiogenesis by inhibiting the negative regulator TSP-1.

[0174] Finally, the ability of KB103 to increase cellular adherence of RDEB keratinocytes to either Collagen 1 or Fibronectin was tested. A dose-dependent increase in cellular adherence to both Collagen 1 and Fibronectin was observed in RDEB keratinocytes infected with KB103 at various MOIs (**FIGS. 9A** and **9B**). Infection of RDEB keratinocytes at all MOIs tested showed higher adhesion to wells treated with all concentrations of both substrates relative to uninfected (control) cells. Taken together, this data indicated that the human Col7 protein expressed from KB103 was functional in the transduced cells. Functionality of this protein was indicated by its ability to increase LH3 protein levels, decrease TSP-1 protein levels, and improve cellular adherence to both Collagen 1 and Fibronectin relative to mock-infected samples.

KB103 pharmacology and toxicity in RDEB organotypic cultures

[0175] A skin equivalent (SE) organotypic culture composed of RDEB fibroblasts and keratinocytes was used to evaluate the expression of Col7 protein expressed from KB103 at the Basement Membrane Zone (BMZ). RDEB fibroblasts and keratinocytes were mock infected or infected with KB103 at an MOI of 3, and incubated for 5 days to favor stratification and differentiation into epithelium. The resulting skin equivalents (SEs) were isolated, sectioned, and stained for immunofluorescence to detect Col7 protein expression. Col7 expression was detected in these organotypic cultures from cells infected with KB103, and the initiation of Col7 protein deposition at the BMZ was observed relative to mock-infected controls (**FIG. 10**). This data suggested that not only could KB103 deliver COL7A1

and express Col7 protein efficiently, but the Col7 protein began to organize in organotypic cultures similar to the pattern of organization expected for Col7 protein *in vivo*.

[0176] Taken as whole, these experiments revealed, for the first time, that a replication-defective HSV-1 vector may be employed as a vehicle for delivering a COL7A1 expression cassette into primary cells isolated from epidermolysis bullosa patients. Moreover, these data revealed that Col7 protein could be expressed at high levels from this expression cassette in two different human cell types from healthy individuals, as well as individuals suffering from a dermatological disorder. Finally, the Col7 protein was shown to be functional, as it was capable of increasing expression of LH3, decreasing expression of TSP-1, increasing cellular adherence to Collagen 1 and Fibronectin, and could organize in organotypic cultures in a pattern similar to the organization of Col7 *in vivo*. Without wishing to be bound by theory, the data presented herein suggests that KB103 and other HSV-1 vectors may be useful as novel *in vivo* treatment strategies for epidermolysis bullosa and/or other dermatological applications.

Example 3: *In vivo* Col7 expression using replication defective HSV-1

[0177] The following example describes the use of a replication defective herpes simplex type-1 virus (modified to contain a human COL7A1 transgene) as a delivery vehicle for expression of human Col7 protein *in vivo*.

Methods

Construction and purification of KB103

[0178] The KB103 virus was constructed and purified as described in Example 2 above.

Viral infections

[0179] KB103 virus was delivered to wild-type Balb/c or skh1-elite mice by intradermal injection as follows: each animal was injected once at 2-4 sites within the flank region of the animal with 1×10^8 plaque forming units (PFU) of virus /site in a volume of 50 μ L. Animals were sacrificed 48 hours post KB103 administration, and the inject sites were harvested and processed for either real time qPCR or immunofluorescence analysis.

[0180] For qPCR analysis, skin tissue was dissected down to the fascia using a 6mm punch biopsy tool. The biopsy was bisected into two pieces, and each piece was snap frozen using liquid nitrogen. Total RNA and DNA were isolated from one half of the biopsy using the Qiagen AllPrep DNA/RNA kit.

[0181] For immunofluorescence analysis, a circular area approximately one cm in diameter was excised from skin at the injection site, cut in half, and mounted in OCT so that the central portion of the circular area was facing upward. The prepared samples were freeze plunged into liquid nitrogen cooled isopentane, and stored at -80°C.

mRNA quantification

[0182] Col7 transcripts were amplified from RNA isolated from mouse dermal tissue after KB103 injection using a 2-step protocol: 1) cDNA synthesis was carried out using the superscript III First Strand Synthesis kit (Thermofisher, Cat. # 18-080-051), and 2) qPCR amplification was performed using the Quantitect Probe PCR kit (Qiagen, Cat. # 204345) according to the manufacturer's protocol. 100ng of cDNA was used in each reaction. Col7 transcript levels were normalized to GAPDH transcript levels.

Genome copy quantification

[0183] The copy number of KB103 viral genomes in the KB103 injected mice was quantified by qPCR amplification using the Quantitect Probe PCR kit (Qiagen Cat. # 204345). 100ng of mouse genomic DNA was used in each reaction, and mouse genomic GAPDH was used as a control.

Immunofluorescence

[0184] Tissue sections from mice injected with KB103 were fixed, and subsequently stained with a primary rabbit anti-human Col7 polyclonal antibody (Sigma, Cat. # HPA042420), washed, and further stained with a fluorescently labelled anti-rabbit secondary antibody (Invitrogen, Cat. 3 A11012). Cell nuclei were stained with DAPI using standard techniques.

Results

[0185] To test the ability of KB103 to successfully deliver and express human Col7 protein *in vivo*, mice were intradermally administered the KB103 virus. Viral genome copy number in infected mouse tissue was assessed, and delivery of high levels (>1,000,000 viral genome copies/100ng mouse DNA) of the KB103 viral genome was observed in the mice (**FIG. 11**). Next, the ability of the virus to express human Col7 *in vivo* was examined. Quantification of human Col7 transcripts in KB103-infected mice were measured and assessed compared to expression of a control mouse housekeeping gene. High levels of human Col7 transcript were observed in the infected mouse tissue (**FIG. 11**), suggesting that

the delivered viral genomes were capable of successfully expressing their human gene cargo. Finally, the ability of KB103 to express Col7 protein was tested in the infected mice. Mouse dermal tissue was excised from mice after infection, and Col7 protein expression was assessed by immunohistochemical staining of the mouse tissue. High levels of human Col7 protein were detected after tissue staining (**FIG. 12**). Surprisingly, not only was human Col7 protein expressed from the KB103 virus in mouse dermis, but the initiation of deposition of human Col7 at the Basement Membrane Zone in KB103-infected mice was observed (**FIG. 12**). Without wishing to be bound by theory, this data suggests that: 1) the KB103 virus can successfully infect relevant tissue *in vivo*, delivering high genome copy numbers to these tissues tissue, 2) delivery of the KB103 virus to relevant tissue results in significant expression of the encoded human genes on this virus, and 3) KB103 not only successfully expresses human Col7 protein *in vivo*, but this protein is capable of beginning to organize (*e.g.* at the Basement Membrane Zone) in a way suggesting its ability to rescue endogenous Col7 defects in affected individuals.