Claims

1. A double-stranded nucleic acid for inhibiting expression of complement component C3, wherein the nucleic acid comprises a first strand and a second strand, wherein the first strand sequence comprises a sequence differing by no more than 3 nucleotides from SEQ ID NO: 370.

2. The nucleic acid of claim 1, wherein the second strand sequence comprises a sequence differing by no more than 3 nucleotides from SEQ ID NO. 379.

3. The nucleic acid of any of the preceding claims, wherein the first strand and the second strand form a duplex region of from 17-25 nucleotides in length.

4. The nucleic acid of any of the preceding claims, wherein the nucleic acid mediates RNA interference.

5. The nucleic acid of any of the preceding claims, wherein the first strand sequence comprises SEQ ID NO: 370.

6. The nucleic acid of any of the preceding claims, wherein the second strand comprises SEQ ID NO: 379.

7. The nucleic acid of any of the preceding claims, wherein the first strand sequence consists of SEQ ID NO: 370.

8. The nucleic acid of any of the preceding claims, wherein the second strand consists of SEQ ID NO: 379.

9. The nucleic acid of any of the preceding claims, wherein at least one nucleotide of the first and/or second strand is a modified nucleotide.

10. The nucleic acid of claim 9, wherein at least one nucleotide of the first and/or second strand is a 2´-F modified nucleotide.

11. The nucleic acid of any of the previous claims, wherein the first strand has a terminal 5’ (E)-vinylphosphonate nucleotide at its 5’ end.

12. The nucleic acid of any of the preceding claims, comprising a phosphorodithioate linkage between each of the two, three or four terminal nucleotides at the 3’ end of the first strand and/or comprising a phosphorodithioate linkage between each of the two, three or four terminal nucleotides at the 3’ end of the second strand and/or a phosphorodithioate linkage between each of the two, three or four terminal nucleotides at the 5’ end of the second strand and comprising a linkage other than a phosphorodithioate linkage between the two, three or four terminal nucleotides at the 5’ end of the first strand.

13. The nucleic acid of claim 12 comprising a phosphorodithioate linkage between each of the two terminal nucleotides at the 3’ end of the first strand and comprising a phosphorodithioate linkage between each of the two terminal nucleotides at the 3’ end of the second strand and a phosphorodithioate linkage between each of the two terminal nucleotides at the 5’ end of the second strand and comprising a linkage other than a phosphorodithioate linkage between the two, three or four terminal nucleotides at the 5’ end of the first strand.

14. The nucleic acid of claim 12, wherein the first strand comprises (vp)-mU fU mG fU mA fG mU fA mG fC mG fG mA fU mC fU mU fG (ps2) mG (SEQ ID NO: 409).

15. The nucleic acid of claim 14 wherein the second strand comprises mC (ps2) mC mA mA mG mA fU fC fC mG mC mU mA mC mU mA mC mA (ps2) mA (SEQ ID NO: 423).

16. The nucleic acid of claim 14, wherein the first strand consists of SEQ ID NO: 409.

17. The nucleic acid of claim 16 wherein the second strand consists of SEQ ID NO: 423.

18. The nucleic acid of any of the preceding claims, wherein the nucleic acid is conjugated to a ligand.

19. The nucleic acid of claim 18, wherein the ligand comprises (i) one or more N-acetyl galactosamine (GalNAc) moieties or derivatives thereof, and (ii) a linker, wherein the linker conjugates the at least one GalNAc moiety or derivative thereof to the nucleic acid.

20. The nucleic acid of claim 18, wherein the nucleic acid is conjugated to a ligand comprising a compound of formula (II):

$[S\text{-}X^1\text{-}P\text{-}X^2]_3\text{-}A\text{-}X^3\text{-}$ (II)

wherein:

S represents a saccharide, preferably wherein the saccharide is N-acetyl galactosamine;

X^1 represents C_3-C_6 alkylene or $(\text{-}CH_2\text{-}CH_2\text{-}O)_m(\text{-}CH_2)_2\text{-}$ wherein m is 1, 2, or 3;

P is a phosphate or modified phosphate, preferably a thiophosphate;

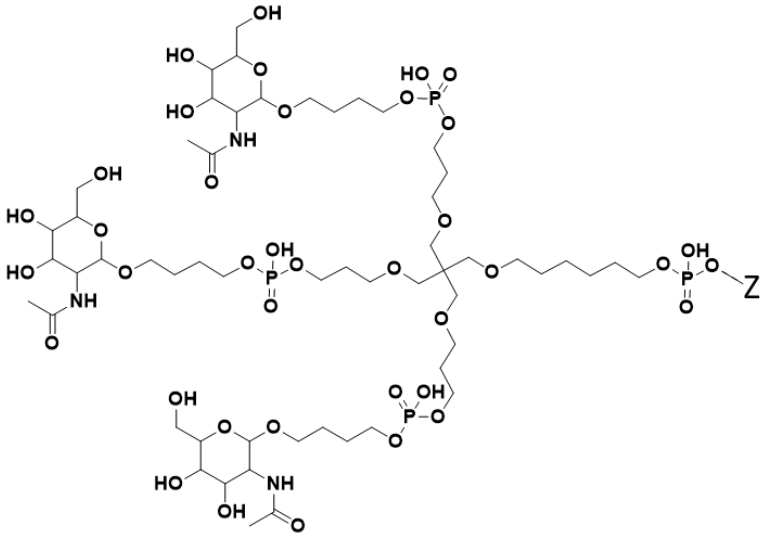
X^2 is alkylene or an alkylene ether of the formula $(\text{-}CH_2)_n\text{-}O\text{-}CH_2\text{-}$ where n = 1- 6;

A is a branching unit;

X_3 represents a bridging unit;

wherein the nucleic acid is conjugated to X^3 via a phosphate or modified phosphate.

21. The nucleic acid of claim 18, wherein the nucleic acid is conjugated to a triantennary ligand with the structure:



22. A composition comprising a nucleic acid of any of the previous claims and a solvent and/or a delivery vehicle and/or a physiologically acceptable excipient and/or a carrier and/or a salt and/or a diluent and/or a buffer and/or a preservative.

23. A composition comprising a nucleic acid of any of claims 1 to 21 and a further therapeutic agent selected from the group comprising an oligonucleotide, a small molecule, a monoclonal antibody, a polyclonal antibody and a peptide.

24. Use of a nucleic acid of any of claims 1 to 21in the manufacture of a medicament for prevention, decrease of the risk of suffering from, or treatment of a disease, disorder or syndrome, wherein the disease, disorder or syndrome is preferably selected from the

group comprising C3 Glomerulopathy (C3G), Cold Agglutinin Disease (CAD) and IgA nephropathy (IgA N).