ABSTRACT

RECOMBINANT MOLECULES AND USES THEREFOR

The present invention provides a recombinant polypeptide encoding a hyaluronidase from the venom gland of an aquatic animal, preferably stonefish, or a biologically active fragment of said polypeptide, or a variant or derivative of these, said recombinant polypeptide comprising the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 6, with the proviso that said biologically active fragment does not consist of the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 9. The invention also provides a polynucleotide encoding the recombinant polypeptide, biologically active fragment, variant or derivative, expression vectors and host cells containing such polynucleotide. The invention is further directed to expression of such polynucleotide to produce the recombinant polypeptide of the invention, or a recombinant biologiclaly active fragment thereof, or variant or derivatives of these. Such recombinant products are useful in the preparation of compositions for enhancing fertilisation of mammalian eggs and other possible therapeutic uses.

(Figure 2 is to be published)