

CLAIMS

1. A method for producing active hepatocyte growth factor activator (HGFA), comprising:
 - a first step of obtaining a culture supernatant comprising inactive hepatocyte growth factor activator (pro-HGFA) by culturing mammalian cells expressing pro-HGFA in a cell culture medium without serum and then removing cells and cell residue from the cell culture medium, wherein said pro-HGFA comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, and
 - a second step of adding an acidic solution to the culture supernatant comprising pro-HGFA obtained in the first step to adjust the culture supernatant to pH 4.0 - 6.0 and convert pro-HGFA into active HGFA.
2. The production method according to claim 1, wherein said second step further comprises adding sulfated polysaccharides to said culture supernatant.
3. The production method according to claim 1, wherein said second step is performed at a temperature of 15 - 40°C.
4. The production method according to claim 1, wherein said culture supernatant is obtained after a decline in the survival rate of the mammalian cells cultured in the cell culture medium.
5. The production method according to claim 1, wherein said mammalian cells are Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) cells.
6. The production method according to claim 1, wherein said method further comprises diluting or concentrating the culture supernatant obtained in the second step.

7. A method for production of active hepatocyte growth factor (HGF), comprising adding active hepatocyte growth factor activator (HGFA) to a culture supernatant comprising inactive hepatocyte growth factor (pro-HGF) to convert said pro-HGF into active HGF, wherein said pro-HGF comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, wherein said culture supernatant comprising pro-HGF is a culture supernatant obtained by culturing cells expressing pro-HGF in a cell culture medium without serum and then removing cells and cell residue from the cell culture medium, and wherein said active HGFA is produced by the method according to claim 1.

8. The production method according to claim 10, wherein said cell culture medium for culturing cells expressing pro-HGF is a medium without any animal-derived components.