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(71) Applicant *(for all designated States except US)*: **PHARMEXA A/S** [DK/DK]; Kogle Allé 6, DK-2970 Hørsholm (DK).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants *(for US only)*: **NIELSEN, Klaus, Gregorius** [DK/DK]; c/o M & E Biotech A/S, Kogle Allé 6, DK-2970 Hørsholm (DK). **KOEFOED, Peter** [DK/DK]; c/o Pharmexa A/S, Kogle Allé 6, DK-2970 Hørsholm (DK).

(74) Agent: **KOEFOED, Peter**; c/o Inspicos A/S, Bøge Allé 3, P.O. Box 45, DK-2970 Hørsholm (DK).

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(54) Title: SYNTHETIC VACCINES COMPRISING POLYHYDROXYPOLYMER CARRIERS

(57) Abstract: The present invention provides for novel immungens that are comprised of an activated polyhydroxypolymer backbone to which is attached 2 separate antigenic determinants. The 1st antigenic determinant includes a B-cell or CTL epitope and the 2nd antigenic determinant includes a T-helper epitope. In preferred embodiments, the antigenic determinants are derived from different molecules and species. Exemplary immunogens of the invention are constituted of a linear tresyl-activated dextran backbone to which is coupled B-cell or CTL epitopes of an antigen and to which is also coupled universal T-helper epitopes. Also disclosed are immunogenic compositions comprising the immunogens, methods of immunisation and a mehtod for identification of suitable immunogens of the invention.

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