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(54) Title: COMPOUNDS AND PEPTIDES THAT BIND TO THE ERYTHROPOIETIN RECEPTOR

(57) Abstract

Peptides of 10 to 40 or more amino acid residues in length and having the sequence $X_3X_4X_5GPX_6TWX_7X_8$ (SEQ ID NO:) where each amino acid is indicated by standard one letter abbreviation; X_3 is C; X_4 is R, H, L, or W; X_5 is M, F, or I; X_6 is independently selected from any one of the 20 genetically coded L-amino acids; X_7 is D, E, I, L, or V; and X_8 is C, which bind and activate the erythropoietin receptor (EPO-R) or otherwise act as an EPO agonist, and methods for their use.