CLAIMS

1. ~~A method~~Use of a substance in the manufacture of a medicament for reducing the permeability of an endothelial layer of a blood vessel in a subject, ~~the method comprising: providing to the endothelial layer a~~wherein the substance is to be provided to the endothelial layer and ~~that~~ reduces the ratio of Angiopoietin-2 to Angiopoietin-1 at the site of increased permeability as a result of an infection.

2. The use~~method~~ according to claim 1, for reducing the gas diffusion distance between lung-alveoli and the vascular network surrounding alveoli in a human subject suffering from a respiratory infection.

3. The use~~method~~ according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the substance comprises an AQGV peptide, an LQGV peptide, or a functional analogue of either.

4. The use~~method~~ according to any one of claims 1-3, wherein the infection is a viral infection.

5. The use~~method~~ according to claim 4, wherein the viral infection is caused by a virus requiring a specific receptor and a more ubiquitous binding partner present on at least a percentage of lung alveolar cells.

6. The use~~method~~ according to claim 5, wherein the specific receptor is ACE-2.

7. The use~~method~~ according to claim 4 or 5, wherein the more ubiquitous binding partner is a glycoprotein comprising a sialic acid residue.

8. The use~~method~~ according to any one of the previous claims, wherein the virus is a coronavirus.

9. The use~~method~~ according to claim 8, wherein the coronavirus is COVID-19 or a mutant thereof.

10. The use~~method~~ according to any one of the previous claims, wherein the substance is to be administered intravenously, preferably at a rate of at least 75mg/kg/hr, or more preferably at least 90 mg/kg/hr.

11. The use~~method~~ according to any one of the previous claims, wherein the substance is to be administered intermittently.

12. The use~~method~~ according to any one of the previous claims, wherein the subject is to be monitored for haemodynamic stability.

13. The use~~method~~ according to any one of the previous claims, ~~further comprising administering~~ wherein an antiviral agent is to be further administered to the subject.

14. A pharmaceutical formulation for use ~~in the method~~ according to any one of the previous claims.

15. A pharmaceutical formulation for use according to claim 14, comprising an AQGV peptide, or a functional analogue thereof and an excipient suitable for parenteral administration.