2002048833

14 AUG 2002

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
18 July 2002 (18.07.2002)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2002/055548 A3

(51) International Patent Classification[7]: C07K 14/18, A61K 39/29, G01N 33/576, C12Q 1/70, C12N 15/40

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/EP2002/000219

(22) International Filing Date: 11 January 2002 (11.01.2002)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/260,669 11 January 2001 (11.01.2001) US
60/315,768 30 August 2001 (30.08.2001) US

(71) Applicant *(for all designated States except US)*: INNOGENETICS N.V. [BE/BE]; Industriepark Zwijnaarde 7, Box 4, B-9052 ghent (BE).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants *(for US only)*: MAERTENS, Geert [BE/BE]; Zilversparrenstraat 64, B-8310 Brugge (BE). BOSMAN, Fons [BE/BE]; Hulst 165, B-1745 Opwijk (BE). BUYSE, Marie-Ange [BE/BE]; E. Ronsestraat 23, B-9820 Merelbeke (BE).

(74) Common Representative: INNOGENETICS N.V.; Industriepark Zwijnaarde 7, Box 4, B-9052 ghent (BE).

(81) Designated States *(national)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States *(regional)*: ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:
— *with international search report*
— *with (an) indication(s) in relation to deposited biological material furnished under Rule 13bis separately from the description*

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
5 August 2004

(15) Information about Correction:
Previous Correction:
see PCT Gazette No. 44/2002 of 31 October 2002, Section II

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

162162

ACTION

WO 2002/055548 A3

(54) Title: PURIFIED HEPATITIS C VIRUS ENVELOPE PROTEINS FOR DIAGNOSTIC AND THERAPEUTIC USE

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a method for purifying recombinant HCV single or specific oligomeric envelope proteins selected from the group consisting of E1 and/or E2 and/or E1/E2, characterized in that upon lysing the transformed host cells to isolate the recombinantly expressed protein a disulphide bond cleavage or reduction step is carried out with a disulphide bond cleavage agent. The present invention also relates to a composition isolated by such a method. The present invention also relates to the diagnostic ad therapeutic application of these compositions. Furthermore, the invention relates to the use of HCV E1 protein and peptides for prognosing and monitoring the clinical effectiveness and/or clinical outcome if HCV treatment.