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(54) Title: INSULIN DERIVATIVE

(57) **Abrégé/Abstract:**

The present invention relates to novel human insulin derivatives which are soluble at physiological pH values and have a prolonged profile of action. The invention also relates to methods of providing such derivatives, to pharmaceutical compositions containing them, to methods of treating diabetes and hyperglycaemia using the insulin derivatives of the invention and to the use of such insulin derivatives in the treatment of diabetes and hyperglycaemia.



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(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to novel human insulin derivatives which are soluble at physiological pH values and have a prolonged profile of action. The invention also relates to methods of providing such derivatives, to pharmaceutical compositions containing them, to methods of treating diabetes and hyperglycaemia using the insulin derivatives of the invention and to the use of such insulin derivatives in the treatment of diabetes and hyperglycaemia.



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INSULIN DERIVATIVE

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to novel human insulin derivatives which are soluble at physiological pH values and have a prolonged profile of action. The invention also relates to methods of providing such derivatives, to pharmaceutical compositions containing them, to methods of treating diabetes and hyperglycaemia using the insulin derivatives of the invention and to the use of such insulin derivatives in the treatment of diabetes and hyperglycaemia.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Currently, the treatment of diabetes, both type 1 diabetes and type 2 diabetes, relies to an increasing extent on the so-called intensive insulin treatment. According to this regimen, the patients are treated with multiple daily insulin injections comprising one or two daily injections of a long acting insulin to cover the basal insulin requirement supplemented by bolus injections of a rapid acting insulin to cover the insulin requirement related to meals.

Long acting insulin compositions are well known in the art. Thus, one main type of long acting insulin compositions comprises injectable aqueous suspensions of insulin crystals or amorphous insulin. In these compositions, the insulin compounds utilized typically are protamine insulin, zinc insulin or protamine zinc insulin.

Certain drawbacks are associated with the use of insulin suspensions. Thus, in order to secure an accurate dosing, the insulin particles must be suspended homogeneously by gentle shaking before a defined volume of the suspension is withdrawn from a vial or expelled from a cartridge. Also, for the storage of insulin suspensions, the temperature must be kept within more narrow limits than for insulin solutions in order to avoid lump formation or coagulation.

While it was earlier believed that protamines were non-immunogenic, it has now turned out that protamines can be immunogenic in man and that their use for medical purposes may lead to formation of antibodies. Also, evidence has been found that the protamine-insulin complex is itself immunogenic. Therefore, with some patients the use of long acting insulin compositions containing protamines must be avoided.

Another type of long acting insulin compositions are solutions having a pH value below physiological pH from which the insulin will precipitate because of the rise in the pH value when the solution is injected. A drawback with these solutions is that the particle size distribution of the precipitate formed in the tissue on injection, and thus the release profile of the medication,

depends on the blood flow at the injection site and other parameters in a somewhat unpredictable manner. A further drawback is that the solid particles of the insulin may act as a local irritant causing inflammation of the tissue at the site of injection.

International patent application published under number WO 2005/012347 (Novo Nordisk A/S) concerns insulin derivatives which have a sidechain attached to either the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B-chain or the ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the B chain.

International patent application No. EP2006/050593 (Novo Nordisk A/S) discloses insulin derivatives having an aromatic group in the side chain.

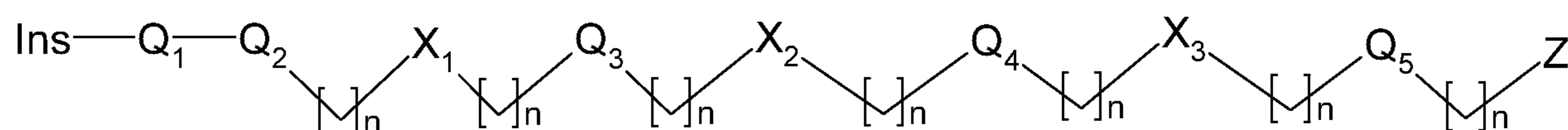
Patent application no. EP2006/050594 (Novo Nordisk A/S), disclose insulin derivatives having a PEG in the side chain.

Other insulin derivatives are disclosed in JP laid-open patent application No. 1-254699 (Kodama Co., Ltd.) and WO 95/07931 (Novo Nordisk A/S).

However, there is still a need for insulin having a more prolonged profile of action than the insulin derivatives known up till now.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In one aspect of the invention an insulin derivative is having a formula



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wherein Ins is a parent insulin moiety and $\text{Q}_1 - \text{Q}_2 - [\text{CH}_2]_n - \text{X}_1 - [\text{CH}_2]_n - \text{Q}_3 - [\text{CH}_2]_n - \text{X}_2 - [\text{CH}_2]_n - \text{Q}_4 - [\text{CH}_2]_n - \text{X}_3 - [\text{CH}_2]_n - \text{Q}_5 - [\text{CH}_2]_n - \text{Z}$ is a substituent and where the Ins is attached to the substituent via an amide bond between the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain of Ins or an ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of Ins and a CO group in Q_1 or Q_2 of the substituent;

25

each n is independently 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6;

Q_1 is:

30

- an amino acid amide of an amino acid with a carboxylic acid in the side chain, or an amino acid with an uncharged side chain, which residue forms, with its carboxylic acid group, an amide group together with the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid

residue of the B chain of Ins or together with the ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of Ins, or

- a chain composed of two, three or four α -amino acid amide or amino acid residues as specified above linked together via amide bonds, which chain – via an amide bond – is linked to the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain of Ins or to the ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of Ins, or

- a bond

Q_2 is:

- $-\text{COCH}(\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CONH}-$
- $-\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{NH}-\text{CO})_{1-4}-$;
- $-\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{CO}-\text{NH})_{1-4}-$, where R^5 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$ or $-\text{CONH}_2$ and R^6 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$; or

- a bond

provided that

- at least one of Q_1 or Q_2 is not a bond, and
- that Q_2 is not $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{CO}-\text{NH}-$ when n is 0 or 1, X_1 is a bond and Q_3 is $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_2-$, $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_3-$ or $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})-$ and
- that if an amine in Q_1 or Q_2 forms a bond with the rest of the substituent, the amine must be bound to the rest of the substituent via a carbonyl group;

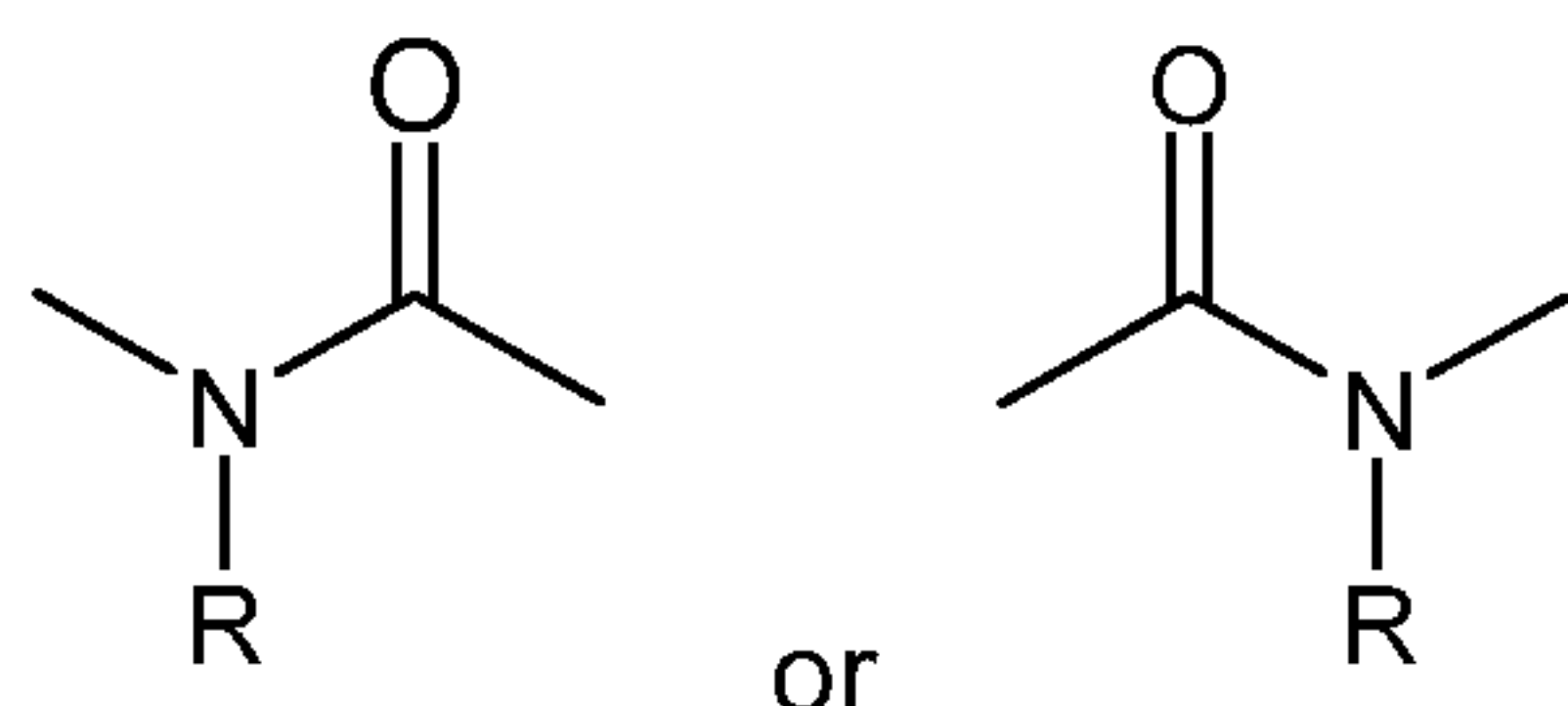
Q_3 , Q_4 , and Q_5 independently of each other can be

- $-(\text{CH}_2)_m-$ where m is an integer in the range of 6 to 32;
- a divalent hydrocarbon chain comprising 1, 2 or 3 $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$ groups and a number of $-\text{CH}_2-$ groups sufficient to give a total number of carbon atoms in the chain in the range of 4 to 32;
- $-\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{NH}-\text{CO})-$;

- $-(\text{CO}-(\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{CO}-\text{NH})_{1-4}-$, where R^5 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$ or $-\text{CONH}_2$ and R^6 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$;
 - $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_{0-3}-\text{Ar}-(\text{CH}_2)_{0-3}-$ where Ar can be arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected from the group consisting of $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CONR}^1\text{R}^2$ or $-\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^1\text{R}^2$, where R^1 and R^2 , independently of each other can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$ or $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$;
 - $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$ or $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $-(\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2)_y-$ where y is 1-20;
 - arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected from the group consisting of $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CONR}^1\text{R}^2$ or $-\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^1\text{R}^2$, where R^1 and R^2 , independently of each other can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$ or $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$;
 - a chain of the formula
 $-(\text{CH}_2)_s-\text{Y}_1-(\text{Ar})_{v_1}-\text{Y}_2-(\text{CH}_2)_w-\text{Y}_3-(\text{Ar})_{v_2}-\text{Y}_4-(\text{CH}_2)_t-\text{Y}_5-(\text{Ar})_{v_3}-\text{Y}_6-(\text{CH}_2)_z-$
 wherein Ar is defined as above, $\text{Y}_1 - \text{Y}_6$ independently of each other can be O, S, S=O, SO_2 or a bond; where s, w, t and z independently of each other are zero or an integer from 1 to 10 so that the sum of s, w, t and z is in the range from 4 to 30, and v_1 , v_2 , and v_3 independently of each other can be zero or 1 with the proviso that $\text{Y}_1 - \text{Y}_6$ do not link to each other and that the structure $-\text{O}-(\text{CH}_2)_1-\text{O}-$ does not occur; or
 - a bond;
- with the proviso that at least one of $\text{Q}_3 - \text{Q}_5$ is not a bond;

X_1 , X_2 and X_3 are independently of each other

- O;
- $-\text{C}=\text{O}$
- a bond;
- NCOR^1 , where R^1 can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$ or $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$; or
-



where R is hydrogen, C_{1-3} -alkyl, C_{2-3} -alkenyl or C_{2-3} -alkynyl;
 with the proviso that X_1 , X_2 and X_3 cannot bind to Z and when X_1 , X_2 and X_3 are O, then X_1 , X_2 and X_3 do not bind directly to O in Q_3 , Q_4 , and Q_5

and

Z is:

- 5 -COOH;
 -CO-Asp;
 -CO-Glu;
 -CO-Gly;
 -CO-Sar;
 10 -CH(COOH)₂;
 -N(CH₂COOH)₂;
 -SO₃H
 -OSO₃H
 -OPO₃H₂
 15 -PO₃H₂ or
 -tetrazol-5-yl or
 -O-W₁,

where W₁ is arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected from the group consisting of tetrazo-5-yl, -COOH, -SO₃H, -(CH₂)₁₋₆-SO₃H, -(CH₂)₁₋₆-O-PO₃H₂, -CONR³R⁴ or -SO₂NR³R⁴, where R³ and R⁴, independently of each other can
 20 be H, -(CH₂)₁₋₆-SO₃H, or -(CH₂)₁₋₆-O-PO₃H₂; provided that when Z is -O-W₁ then Q₁ must be present

and any Zn²⁺ complex thereof

25

In one aspect of the invention Q₂ of the insulin derivative is selected from the group consisting of

- -COCH(CONH₂)-
- -COCH₂N(CH₂CONH₂)-
- 30 • -COCH₂N(CH₂CONH₂)COCH₂N(CH₂CONH₂)
- -COCH₂CH₂N(CH₂CH₂CONH₂)-
- -COCH₂CH₂N(CH₂CH₂CONH₂)-COCH₂CH₂N(CH₂CH₂CONH₂)-
- -COCH₂N(CH₂CH₂CONH₂)-
- -COCH₂CH₂N(CH₂CONH₂)-
- 35 • -COCH₂OCH₂CONH-;

- $-\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{NH}-\text{CO})_{1-4}-$; or
- $-\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{CO}-\text{NH})_{1-4}-$, where R^5 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$ or $-\text{CONH}_2$ and R^6 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$

5 In one aspect of the invention Q_3 is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m-$ where m is an integer in the range of 6 to 32 or from 8 to 20 or m is 12, 13, 14, 15 or 16.

In one aspect of the invention Q_1 , Q_4 , Q_5 , X_1 , X_2 and X_3 is bonds and n is zero.

10 In one aspect of the invention Q_3 is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m-$ where m is an integer in the range of 6 to 32 or from 8 to 20 or m is 12, 13, 14, 15 or 16, Q_1 , Q_4 , Q_5 , X_1 , X_2 and X_3 is bonds, n is zero and Z is $-\text{COOH}$.

In one aspect of the invention one of Q_3 , Q_4 , or Q_5 is $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$ or $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $-(\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2)_y-$ where y is 1-20.

In one aspect of the invention Q_3 is

- 15
- $-\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{NH}-\text{CO})-$;
 - $-(\text{CO}-(\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{CO}-\text{NH})_{1-4}-$, where R^5 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$ or $-\text{CONH}_2$ and R^6 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$;
 - $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_{0-3}-\text{Ar}-(\text{CH}_2)_{0-3}-$ where Ar can be arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected from the group consisting of $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CONR}^1\text{R}^2$ or $-\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^1\text{R}^2$, where R^1 and R^2 , independently of each other can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$ or $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$; or
 - a bond
- 20

Q_4 is

- 25
- $-(\text{CH}_2)_m-$ where m is an integer from 4 to 22;
 - a divalent hydrocarbon chain comprising 1, 2 or 3 $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$ groups and a number of $-\text{CH}_2-$ groups sufficient to give a total number of carbon atoms in the chain in the range of 4 to 22;
 - arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected
- 30 from the group consisting of $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CONR}^1\text{R}^2$ or $-\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^1\text{R}^2$, where R^1 and R^2 , independently of each other can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$ or $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$; or
- a chain of the formula



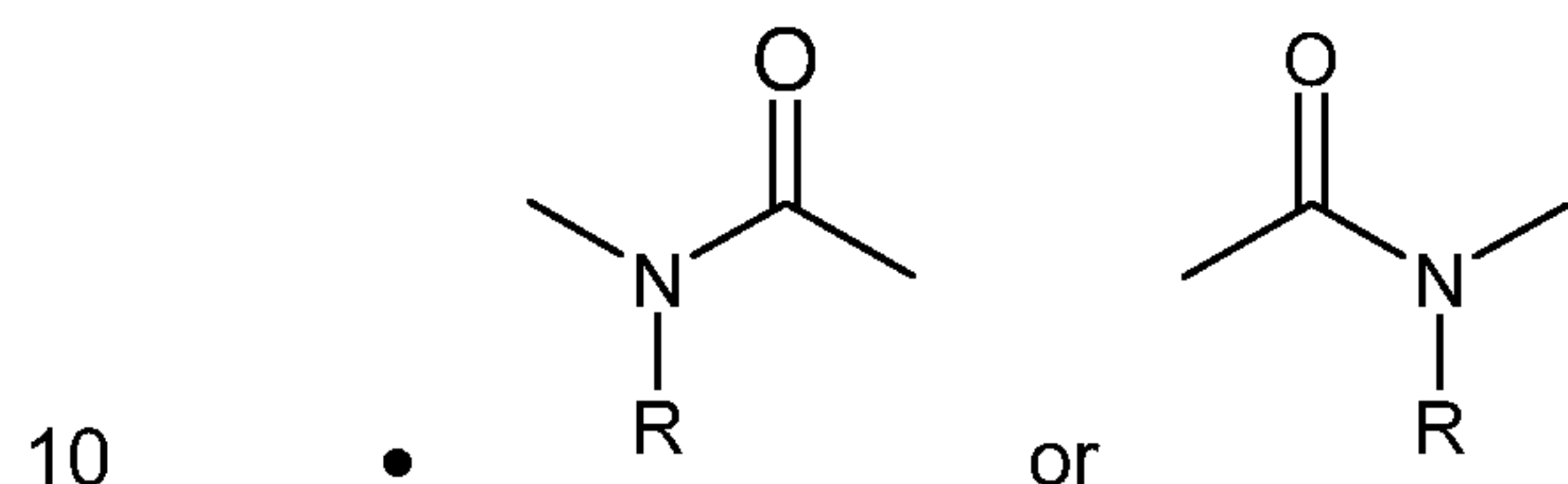
wherein Ar is defined as above, $\text{Y}_1 - \text{Y}_6$ independently of each other can be O, S, S=O, SO_2

35 or a bond; where s, w, t and z independently of each other are zero or an integer from 1 to 10

so that the sum of s, w, t and z is in the range from 4 to 30, and v_1 , v_2 , and v_3 independently of each other can be zero or 1 with the proviso that $Y_1 - Y_6$ do not link to each other and that the structure $-O-(CH_2)_1-O-$ does not occur;

5 X_1 is

- O;
- $-C=O$
- $NCOR^1$, where R^1 can be H, $-CH_3$ or $-(CH)_{1-6}-CH_3$; or



where R is hydrogen, C_{1-3} -alkyl, C_{2-3} -alkenyl or C_{2-3} -alkynyl;

with the proviso that when X_1 is O, then X_1 does not bind directly to O in Q_4 ;

15 X_2 , X_3 and Q_5 are bonds;

All values of n are zero; and

Z is:

- 20 $-COOH$;
- $-CO-Asp$;
- $-CO-Glu$;
- $-CO-Gly$;
- $-CO-Sar$;
- $-CH(COOH)_2$;
- 25 $-N(CH_2COOH)_2$;
- $-SO_3H$
- $-OSO_3H$
- $-OPO_3H_2$
- $-PO_3H_2$ or
- 30 $-tetrazol-5-yl$ or
- $-O-W_1$,

where W_1 is arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected from the group consisting of tetrazo-5-yl, $-\text{COOH}$, $-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}-\text{O}-\text{PO}_3\text{H}_2$, $-\text{CONR}^3\text{R}^4$ or $-\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^3\text{R}^4$, where R^3 and R^4 , independently of each other can be H , $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$, or $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}-\text{O}-\text{PO}_3\text{H}_2$;

5 and any Zn^{2+} complex thereof.

In one aspect of the invention Z is $-\text{COOH}$.

In one aspect of the invention the parent insulin of the insulin derivative is an insulin analogue.

10 In one aspect of the invention the parent insulin is selected from the group consisting of: desB30 human insulin, GlyA21 human insulin, GlyA21desB30 human insulin, GlyA21ArgB31ArgB32 human insulin, LysB3GluB29 human insulin, LysB28ProB29 human insulin and ThrB29LysB30 human insulin.

15 In one aspect of the invention there is provided a pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of diabetes in a patient in need of such treatment, comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an insulin derivative according to the invention.

In one aspect of the invention there is provided a method for producing a pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an insulin derivative according to the invention, wherein up to about 10 zinc atoms per 6 molecules of insulin derivative are added to the pharmaceutical composition.

20 In one aspect of the invention there is provided a method of treating diabetes in a patient in need of such a treatment, comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of an insulin derivative according to the invention.

In one aspect of the invention the insulin derivative is administered pulmonary.

25 In one aspect of the invention there is provided a mixture of an insulin derivative according to the invention and a rapid acting insulin analogue selected from the group consisting of AspB28 human insulin; LysB28ProB29 human insulin and LysB3GluB29 human insulin.

In one aspect of the invention the insulin derivative is selected from the group consisting of:

30 $\text{N}^{\epsilon\text{B}29}-\omega$ -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- γ -L-glutamylamide desB30 human insulin,
 $\text{N}^{\epsilon\text{B}29}-\omega$ -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- γ -amino-butanoyl desB30 human insulin,
 $\text{N}^{\epsilon\text{B}29}-\omega$ -carboxy-tetradecanoyl- γ -L-glutamylamide desB30 human insulin,
 $\text{N}^{\epsilon\text{B}29}-\omega$ -carboxy-tridecanoyl- γ -L-glutamylamide desB30 human insulin,
 $\text{N}^{\epsilon\text{B}29}-\omega$ -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- β -alanyl desB30 human insulin,
 35 $\text{N}^{\epsilon\text{B}29}-\omega$ -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- γ -L-aspartylamide desB30 human insulin,

$N^{\epsilon B29}$ - ω -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- ϵ -aminohexanoyl desB30 human insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ - ω -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- δ -aminopentanoyl desB30 human insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -10-(4-carboxyphenoxy)-decanoyl- γ -L-glutamylamide desB30 human insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -4-[11-(4-Carboxyphenyl) undecanoylamino] butyryl desB30 human insulin,
5 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -(3-(3-{4-[3-(7-carboxyheptanoylamino)propoxy]butoxy}propylcarbamoyl)-propionyl- γ -
glutamylamide) desB30 human Insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ - ω - carboxy-tridecanoyl- γ -amino-butanoyl desB30 human insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ - ω -carboxy-undecanoyl- γ - amino-butanoyl desB30 human insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ - ω -carboxy-tetradecanoyl- γ -amino-butanoyl desB30 human insulin,
10 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -{4-[10-(4-Carboxy-phenoxy)-decanoylamino]-butyryl} desB30 insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -{4-[(14-Carboxy-tetradecanoylamino)-methyl]-benzoyl} desB30 insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -[16-(4-Carboxy-phenoxy)-hexadecanoyl] desB30 insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -{4-[(15-carboxypentadecanoylamino)benzoyl]- desB30 human insulin and
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -{4-[(15-Carboxy-pentadecanoylamino)-methyl]-benzoyl}-desB30 insulin

15

DEFINITIONS

By "**insulin analogue**" as used herein is meant a polypeptide which has a molecular structure which formally can be derived from the structure of a naturally occurring insulin, for example that of human insulin, by deleting and/or exchanging at least one amino acid residue occurring in the

20

naturally occurring insulin and/or adding at least one amino acid residue. The added and/or exchanged amino acid residues can either be codable amino acid residues or other naturally occurring residues or purely synthetic amino acid residues.

In aspects of the invention a maximum of 17 amino acids have been modified. In aspects of the invention a maximum of 15 amino acids have been modified. In aspects of the invention a maximum of 10 amino acids have been modified. In aspects of the invention a maximum of 8 amino acids have been modified. In aspects of the invention a maximum of 7 amino acids have been modified. In aspects of the invention a maximum of 6 amino acids have been modified. In aspects of the invention a maximum of 5 amino acids have been modified. In aspects of the invention a maximum of 4 amino acids have been modified. In aspects of the

25

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invention a maximum of 3 amino acids have been modified. In aspects of the invention a maximum of 2 amino acids have been modified. In aspects of the invention 1 amino acid has been modified.

With “**desB30 insulin**”, “**desB30 human insulin**” is meant a natural insulin or an analogue thereof lacking the B30 amino acid residue. Similarly, “**desB29desB30 insulin**” or “**desB29desB30 human insulin**” means a natural insulin or an analogue thereof lacking the B29 and B30 amino acid residues.

5 With “**B1**”, “**A1**” etc. is meant the amino acid residue at position 1 in the B-chain of insulin (counted from the N-terminal end) and the amino acid residue at position 1 in the A-chain of insulin (counted from the N-terminal end), respectively. The amino acid residue in a specific position may also be denoted as e.g. PheB1 which means that the amino acid residue at position B1 is a phenylalanine residue.

10 With “**insulin**” as used herein is meant human insulin, porcine insulin or bovine insulin with disulfide bridges between CysA7 and CysB7 and between CysA20 and CysB19 and an internal disulfide bridge between CysA6 and CysA11.

By “**parent insulin**” is meant a naturally occurring insulin such as human insulin or porcine insulin. Alternatively, the parent insulin can be an insulin analogue.

15 The expression “**uncharged**” means that no group or groups that would assume a charge at pH interval 4 to 9 are present. For example no free carboxylic acids are present.

With “**fatty difunctionalized moiety**” is meant a carbon chain of 6 to 32 carbon atoms comprising two functional groups selected from carboxy, amino or hydroxyl.

20 The term “**non-linking amide**” is meant to describe an amide function present in a side chain or side group of a residue present in the substituent, such that said amide bond is not used to connect the residues of the substituent together. It should be understood that a residue of the substituent in addition to the non-linking amide can comprise further amide groups, eg. amides that bind to other residues of the substituent.

25 “**Amino acid amide residue**” means the alpha-carboxy amide of an amino acid, or if the amino acid contains a carboxylic acid in the side-chain, “amino acid amide” means amide of either the alpha-carboxy group, or amide of the side-chain carboxy group, as specified.

30 When an insulin derivative according to the invention is stated to be “**soluble at physiological pH values**” it means that the insulin derivative can be used for preparing insulin compositions that are fully dissolved at physiological pH values. Such favourable solubility may either be due to the inherent properties of the insulin derivative alone or a result of a favourable interaction between the insulin derivative and one or more ingredients contained in the vehicle.

35 The term “**no blunting**” as used herein means that when formulated in one formulation both the rapid acting insulin and the acylated insulin has profile of action which is identical or substantially identical with the profile of action, when administering the rapid acting insulin and the acylated insulin in separate formulations.

The expression “**high molecular weight insulin**” or “**hmw**” means that the molecular weight of a complex of human insulin, of an insulin analogue or of an insulin derivative is above human serum albumin, above a dodecameric complex of an insulin analogue or of an insulin derivative or more than about 72 kDalton.

5 The expression “**medium molecular weight insulin**” or “**mmw**” means that the molecular weight of a complex of human insulin, of an insulin analogue or of an insulin derivative is from about an insulin hexamer to about an insulin dodecamer between 24 and 80 kDalton.

10 The expression “**low molecular weight insulin**” or “**lmw**” means that the molecular weight of a human insulin, an insulin analogue or an insulin derivative is below 24 kDalton.

The following abbreviations have been used in the specification and examples:

	CV	column volume
	HPLC	High Performance Liquid Chromatography
	HSA	human serum albumin
15	LC	liquid chromatography
	MALDI	Matrix Assisted Laser Desorption Ionization
	MS	mass spectrometry
	RT	room temperature
	SEC	size exclusion chromatography
20	SPA	Scitillation Proximity Assay
	Tris	tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane
	O.D.	optical density = absorbance
	X2 monomer	AspB9 GluB27 human insulin
	DIEA:	N,N-diisopropylethylamine
25	DMF:	N,N-dimethylformamide
	Sar:	Sarcosine (N-methyl-glycine)
	tBu:	tert-butyl
	TSTU:	O-(N-succinimidyl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate
	THF:	Tetrahydrofuran
30	EtOAc:	Ethyl acetate
	DIPEA:	Diisopropylethylamine TEA: triethyl amine
	TFA:	trifluoroacetic acid
	DCM:	dichloromethane
	RT:	room temperature
35	PEG:	polyethyleneglycol

GIR: Glucose infusion rate

All references, including publications, patent applications, and patents, cited herein are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety and to the same extent as if each
5 reference were individually and specifically indicated to be incorporated by reference and were set forth in its entirety herein (to the maximum extent permitted by law).

All headings and sub-headings are used herein for convenience only and should not be construed as limiting the invention in any way.

The use of any and all examples, or exemplary language (e.g., "such as") provided
10 herein, is intended merely to better illuminate the invention and does not pose a limitation on the scope of the invention unless otherwise claimed. No language in the specification should be construed as indicating any non-claimed element as essential to the practice of the invention.

The citation and incorporation of patent documents herein is done for convenience
15 only and does not reflect any view of the validity, patentability, and/or enforceability of such patent documents.

This invention includes all modifications and equivalents of the subject matter recited in the claims appended hereto as permitted by applicable law.

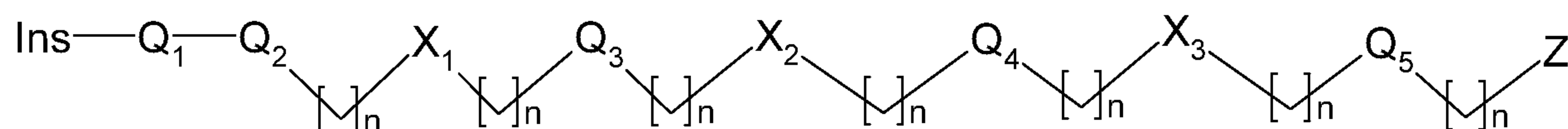
DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

20 The present invention is based on the recognition that having a substituent in an insulin derivative molecule where only the terminal group is charged, plays an important role for the in vivo duration of action of prolonged-acting insulins, and for the mixability of prolonged-acting insulin with fast-acting insulin with no blunting.

Advantageously, insulin derivatives according to the invention are soluble at
25 physiological pH values, have a potency which is comparable to that of human insulin, and are mixable with fast-acting insulins with no blunting. The individual profiles of action of mixed basal and bolus insulins are retained in formulations containing Zn(II) concentrations of up to or less than approximately 3 Zn(II) per insulin hexamer which limits the risk of precipitations in the formulation, compared to formulations containing more than 3 Zn (II) per insulin hexamer.

The invention is summarized in the following paragraphs:

An insulin derivative having a formula



5

wherein Ins is a parent insulin moiety and $\text{Q}_1 - \text{Q}_2 - [\text{CH}_2]_n - \text{X}_1 - [\text{CH}_2]_n - \text{Q}_3 - [\text{CH}_2]_n - \text{X}_2 - [\text{CH}_2]_n - \text{Q}_4 - [\text{CH}_2]_n - \text{X}_3 - [\text{CH}_2]_n - \text{Q}_5 - [\text{CH}_2]_n - \text{Z}$ is a substituent and where the Ins is attached to the substituent via an amide bond between the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain of Ins or an ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of Ins and a CO group in Q_1 or Q_2 of the substituent;

10

each n is independently 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6;

Q_1 is:

- 15
- an amino acid amide of an amino acid with a carboxylic acid in the side chain, or an amino acid with an uncharged side chain, which residue forms, with its carboxylic acid group, an amide group together with the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain of Ins or together with the ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of Ins, or
- 20
- a chain composed of two, three or four α -amino acid amide or amino acid residues as specified above linked together via amide bonds, which chain – via an amide bond – is linked to the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain of Ins or to the ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of Ins, or
 - a bond

25 Q_2 is:

- $-\text{COCH}(\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- 30 • $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CONH}-$

- $-\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{NH}-\text{CO})_{1-4}-$;
- $-\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{CO}-\text{NH})_{1-4}-$, where R^5 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$ or $-\text{CONH}_2$ and R^6 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$; or
- a bond

5 provided that

- at least one of Q_1 or Q_2 is not a bond, and
- that Q_2 is not $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{CO}-\text{NH}-$ when n is 0 or 1, X_1 is a bond and Q_3 is $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_2-$, $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_3-$ or $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})-$ and
- 10 - that if an amine in Q_1 or Q_2 forms a bond with the rest of the substituent, the amine must be bound to the rest of the substituent via a carbonyl group;

Q_3 , Q_4 , and Q_5 independently of each other can be

- 15 • $-(\text{CH}_2)_m-$ where m is an integer in the range of 6 to 32;
- a divalent hydrocarbon chain comprising 1, 2 or 3 $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$ groups and a number of $-\text{CH}_2-$ groups sufficient to give a total number of carbon atoms in the chain in the range of 4 to 32;
- $-\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{NH}-\text{CO})-$;
- 20 • $-(\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{CO}-\text{NH}))_{1-4}-$, where R^5 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$ or $-\text{CONH}_2$ and R^6 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$;
- $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_{0-3}-\text{Ar}-(\text{CH}_2)_{0-3}-$ where Ar can be arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected from the group consisting of $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CONR}^1\text{R}^2$ or $-\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^1\text{R}^2$, where R^1 and R^2 , independently of each other can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$ or
- 25 $(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$;
- $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$ or $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $-(\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2)_y-$ where y is 1-20;
- arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected from the group consisting of $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CONR}^1\text{R}^2$ or $-\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^1\text{R}^2$, where R^1 and R^2 , independently of each other can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$ or $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$; or
- 30 • a chain of the formula
 $-(\text{CH}_2)_s-\text{Y}_1-(\text{Ar})_{v1}-\text{Y}_2-(\text{CH}_2)_w-\text{Y}_3-(\text{Ar})_{v2}-\text{Y}_4-(\text{CH}_2)_t-\text{Y}_5-(\text{Ar})_{v3}-\text{Y}_6-(\text{CH}_2)_z-$
 wherein Ar is defined as above, $\text{Y}_1 - \text{Y}_6$ independently of each other can be O, S, S=O, SO_2 or a bond; where s , w , t and z independently of each other are zero or an integer from 1 to 10
 35 so that the sum of s , w , t and z is in the range from 4 to 30, and v_1 , v_2 , and v_3 independently

15

of each other can be zero or 1 with the proviso that $Y_1 - Y_6$ do not link to each other and that the structure $-O-(CH_2)_1-O-$ does not occur; or

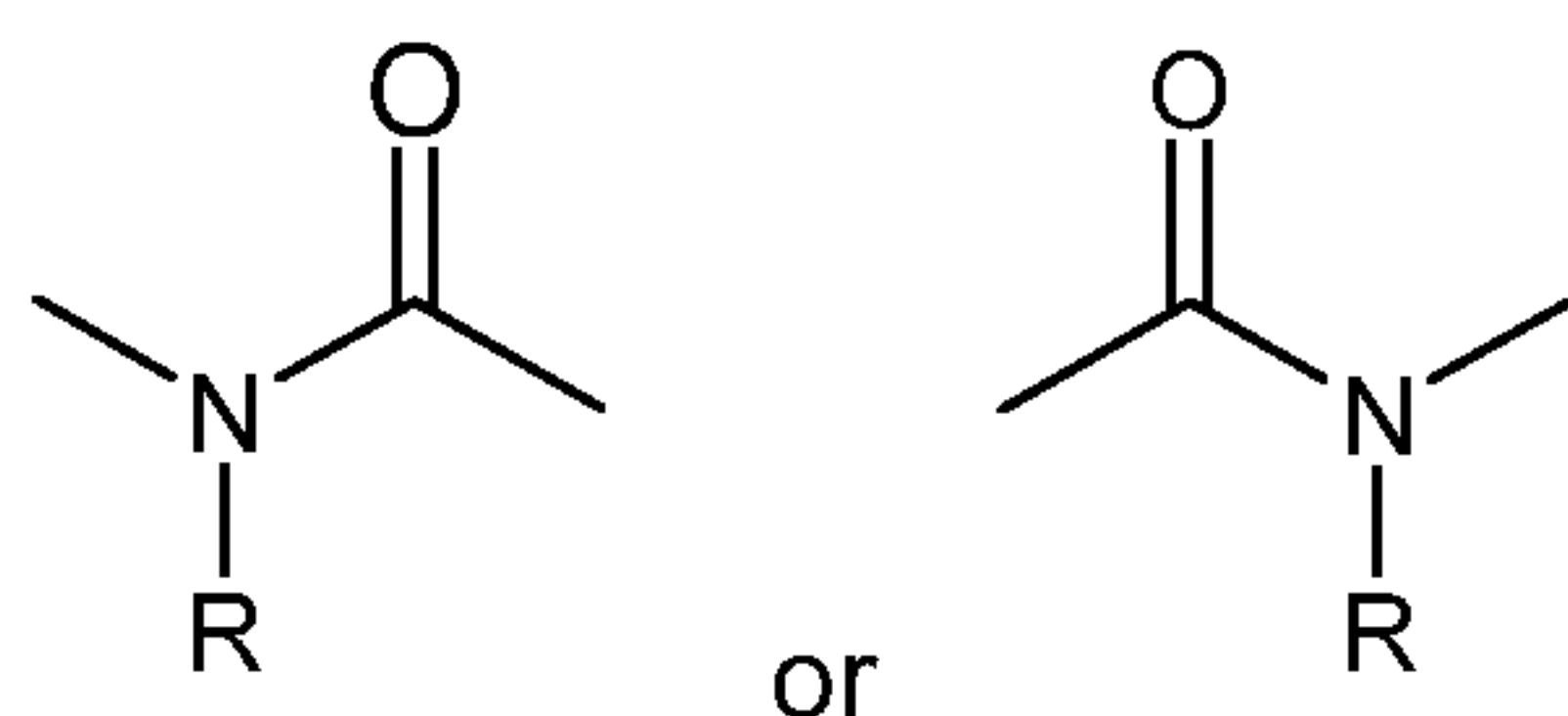
- a bond;

with the proviso that at least one of $Q_3 - Q_5$ is not a bond;

5

X_1 , X_2 and X_3 are independently of each other

- O;
- $-C=O$
- a bond;
- 10 • $NCOR^1$, where R^1 can be H, $-CH_3$ or $-(CH)_{1-6}-CH_3$; or
-



-

where R is hydrogen, C_{1-3} -alkyl, C_{2-3} -alkenyl or C_{2-3} -alkynyl;

15

with the proviso that

- X_1 , X_2 and X_3 cannot bind to Z and
- when X_1 , X_2 and X_3 are O, then X_1 , X_2 and X_3 do not bind directly to O in Q_3 , Q_4 , and Q_5

20 and

Z is:

- COOH;
- CO-Asp;
- 25 -CO-Glu;
- CO-Gly;
- CO-Sar;
- CH(COOH)₂;
- N(CH₂COOH)₂;
- 30 -SO₃H
- OSO₃H
- OPO₃H₂

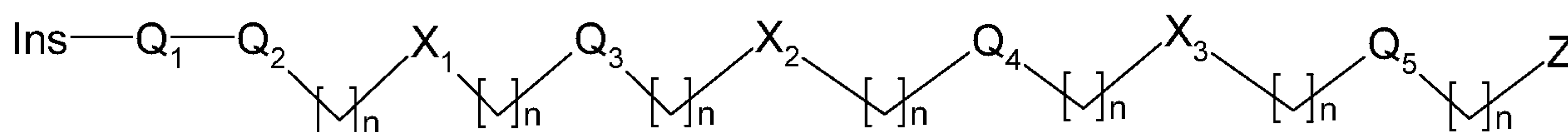
$-\text{PO}_3\text{H}_2$ or
 $-\text{tetrazol-5-yl}$ or
 $-\text{O-W}_1$,

where W_1 is arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups

5 selected from the group consisting of tetrazo-5-yl, $-\text{COOH}$, $-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}-\text{O}-\text{PO}_3\text{H}_2$, $-\text{CONR}^3\text{R}^4$ or $-\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^3\text{R}^4$, where R^3 and R^4 , independently of each other can be H , $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$, or $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}-\text{O}-\text{PO}_3\text{H}_2$; provided that when Z is $-\text{O-W}_1$ then Q_1 must be present;

10 and any Zn^{2+} complex thereof.

2. An insulin derivative having a formula



15

wherein Ins is a parent insulin moiety and $\text{Q}_1-\text{Q}_2-\text{[CH}_2\text{]}_n-\text{X}_1-\text{[CH}_2\text{]}_n-\text{Q}_3-\text{[CH}_2\text{]}_n-\text{X}_2-\text{[CH}_2\text{]}_n-\text{Q}_4-\text{[CH}_2\text{]}_n-\text{X}_3-\text{[CH}_2\text{]}_n-\text{Q}_5-\text{[CH}_2\text{]}_n-\text{Z}$ is a substituent and where the Ins is attached to the substituent via an amide bond between the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain of Ins or an ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present

20 in the A or B chain of Ins and a CO group in Q_1 or Q_2 of the substituent;

each n is independently 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6;

Q_1 is:

- 25
- an amino acid amide of an amino acid with a carboxylic acid in the side chain, or an amino acid with an uncharged side chain, which residue forms, with its carboxylic acid group, an amide group together with the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain of Ins or together with the ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of Ins, or
- 30
- a chain composed of two, three or four α -amino acid amide or amino acid residues as specified above linked together via amide bonds, which chain – via an amide bond – is linked to the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain of Ins or to the ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of Ins, or

- a bond

Q₂ is:

- -COCH(CONH₂)-
 - -COCH₂N(CH₂CONH₂)-
 - 5 • -COCH₂N(CH₂CONH₂)COCH₂N(CH₂CONH₂)
 - -COCH₂CH₂N(CH₂CH₂CONH₂)-
 - -COCH₂CH₂N(CH₂CH₂CONH₂)-COCH₂CH₂N(CH₂CH₂CONH₂)-
 - -COCH₂N(CH₂CH₂CONH₂)-
 - -COCH₂CH₂N(CH₂CONH₂)-
 - 10 • -COCH₂OCH₂CONH-
 - -CO-((CR⁵R⁶)₁₋₆ -NH-CO)₁₋₄-;
 - -CO-((CR⁵R⁶)₁₋₆ -CO-NH)₁₋₄-, where R⁵ independently can be H, -CH₃, -(CH₂)₁₋₆CH₃ or -CONH₂ and R⁶ independently can be H, -CH₃, -(CH₂)₁₋₆CH₃; or
 - a bond
- 15 provided that
- at least one of Q₁ or Q₂ is not a bond, and
 - that Q₂ is not -CO-(CH₂)₂ -CO-NH- when n is 0 or 1, X₁ is a bond and Q₃ is (CH₂CH₂O)₂-, (CH₂CH₂O)₃- or (CH₂CH₂OCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂O)- and
 - 20 - that if an amine in Q₁ or Q₂ forms a bond with the rest of the substituent, the amine must be bound to the rest of the substituent via a carbonyl group;

Q₃, Q₄, and Q₅ independently of each other can be

- 25 • -(CH₂)_m- where m is an integer in the range of 6 to 32;
- a divalent hydrocarbon chain comprising 1, 2 or 3 -CH=CH- groups and a number of -CH₂- groups sufficient to give a total number of carbon atoms in the chain in the range of 4 to 32;
- -CO-((CR⁵R⁶)₁₋₆ -NH-CO)-;
- 30 • -(CO-(CR⁵R⁶)₁₋₆ -CO-NH)₁₋₄-, where R⁵ independently can be H, -CH₃, -(CH₂)₁₋₆CH₃ or -CONH₂ and R⁶ independently can be H, -CH₃, -(CH₂)₁₋₆CH₃;
- -CO-(CH₂)₀₋₃-Ar-(CH₂)₀₋₃- where Ar can be arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected from the group consisting of -CH₃, -(CH)₁₋₆-CH₃,

$-\text{CONR}^1\text{R}^2$ or $-\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^1\text{R}^2$, where R^1 and R^2 , independently of each other can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$ or $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$;

- $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$ or $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $-(\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2)_y-$ where y is 1-20;

5

- arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected from the group consisting of $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CONR}^1\text{R}^2$ or $-\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^1\text{R}^2$, where R^1 and R^2 , independently of each other can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$ or $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$; or

- a chain of the formula

$$-(\text{CH}_2)_s-\text{Y}_1-(\text{Ar})_{v1}-\text{Y}_2-(\text{CH}_2)_w-\text{Y}_3-(\text{Ar})_{v2}-\text{Y}_4-(\text{CH}_2)_t-\text{Y}_5-(\text{Ar})_{v3}-\text{Y}_6-(\text{CH}_2)_z-$$

10 wherein Ar is defined as above, $\text{Y}_1 - \text{Y}_6$ independently of each other can be O, S, S=O, SO_2 or a bond; where s, w, t and z independently of each other are zero or an integer from 1 to 10 so that the sum of s, w, t and z is in the range from 4 to 30, and v_1 , v_2 , and v_3 independently of each other can be zero or 1 with the proviso that $\text{Y}_1 - \text{Y}_6$ do not link to each other and that the structure $-\text{O}-(\text{CH}_2)_1-\text{O}-$ does not occur; or

15

- a bond;

with the proviso that

- at least one of $\text{Q}_3 - \text{Q}_5$ is not a bond and

- Q_2 is not $-\text{CO}-((\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}-\text{NH}-\text{CO})_{1-4}-$ when one of $\text{Q}_3 - \text{Q}_5$ is arylene or heteroarylene or a chain of the formula $-(\text{CH}_2)_s-\text{Y}_1-(\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)_{v1}-\text{Y}_2-(\text{CH}_2)_w-\text{Y}_3-(\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)_{v2}-\text{Y}_4-(\text{CH}_2)_t-\text{Y}_5-(\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)_{v3}-\text{Y}_6-(\text{CH}_2)_z-$;

X_1 , X_2 and X_3 are independently of each other

- O;

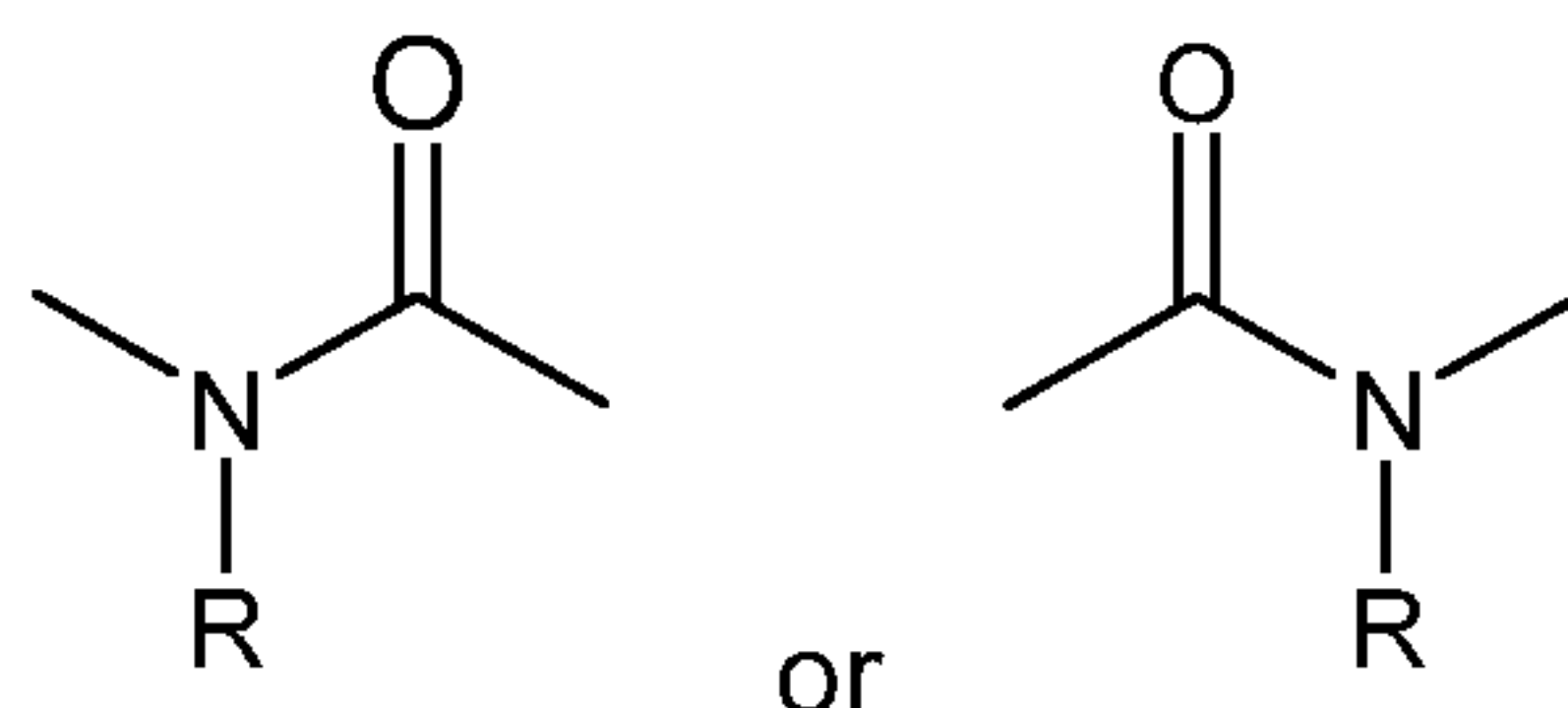
- $-\text{C}=\text{O}$

25

- a bond;

- NCOR^1 , where R^1 can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$ or $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$; or

-



-

30 where R is hydrogen, C_{1-3} -alkyl, C_{2-3} -alkenyl or C_{2-3} -alkynyl;

with the proviso that

- X_1 , X_2 and X_3 cannot bind to Z and

- when X_1 , X_2 and X_3 are O, then X_1 , X_2 and X_3 do not bind directly to O in Q_3 , Q_4 , and Q_5

and

5

Z is:

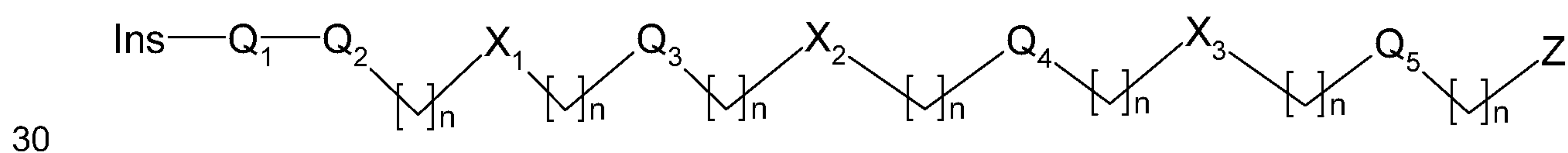
- COOH;
 -CO-Asp;
 -CO-Glu;
 10 -CO-Gly;
 -CO-Sar;
 -CH(COOH)₂;
 -N(CH₂COOH)₂;
 -SO₃H
 15 -OSO₃H
 -OPO₃H₂
 -PO₃H₂ or
 -tetrazol-5-yl or
 -O-W₁,

20 where W₁ is arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected from the group consisting of tetrazo-5-yl, -COOH, -SO₃H, -(CH₂)₁₋₆-SO₃H, -(CH₂)₁₋₆-O-PO₃H₂, -CONR³R⁴ or -SO₂NR³R⁴, where R³ and R⁴, independently of each other can be H, -(CH₂)₁₋₆-SO₃H, or -(CH₂)₁₋₆-O-PO₃H₂; provided that when Z is -O-W₁ then Q₁ must be present;

25

and any Zn²⁺ complex thereof.

3. An insulin derivative having a formula



wherein Ins is a parent insulin moiety and $\text{Q}_1 - \text{Q}_2 - [\text{CH}_2]_n - \text{X}_1 - [\text{CH}_2]_n - \text{Q}_3 - [\text{CH}_2]_n - \text{X}_2 - [\text{CH}_2]_n - \text{Q}_4 - [\text{CH}_2]_n - \text{X}_3 - [\text{CH}_2]_n - \text{Q}_5 - [\text{CH}_2]_n - \text{Z}$ is a substituent and where the Ins

is attached to the substituent via an amide bond between the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain of Ins or an ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of Ins and a CO group in Q_1 or Q_2 of the substituent;

5 each n is independently 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6;

Q_1 is:

- an amino acid amide of an amino acid with a carboxylic acid in the side chain, or an amino acid with an uncharged side chain, which residue forms, with its carboxylic acid group, an amide group together with the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain of Ins or together with the ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of Ins, or
- a chain composed of two, three or four α -amino acid amide or amino acid residues as specified above linked together via amide bonds, which chain – via an amide bond – is linked to the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain of Ins or to the ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of Ins, or
- a bond

Q_2 is:

- $-\text{COCH}(\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CONH}-$
- $-\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{NH}-\text{CO})_{1-4}-$;
- $-\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{CO}-\text{NH})_{1-4}-$, where R^5 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$ or $-\text{CONH}_2$ and R^6 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$; or
- a bond

provided that

- at least one of Q_1 or Q_2 is not a bond, and

- that Q_2 is not $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{CO}-\text{NH}-$ when n is 0 or 1, X_1 is a bond and Q_3 is $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_2-$, $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_3-$ or $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})-$ and
 - that if an amine in Q_1 or Q_2 forms a bond with the rest of the
- 5 substituent, the amine must be bound to the rest of the substituent via a carbonyl group;

Q_3 , Q_4 , and Q_5 independently of each other can be

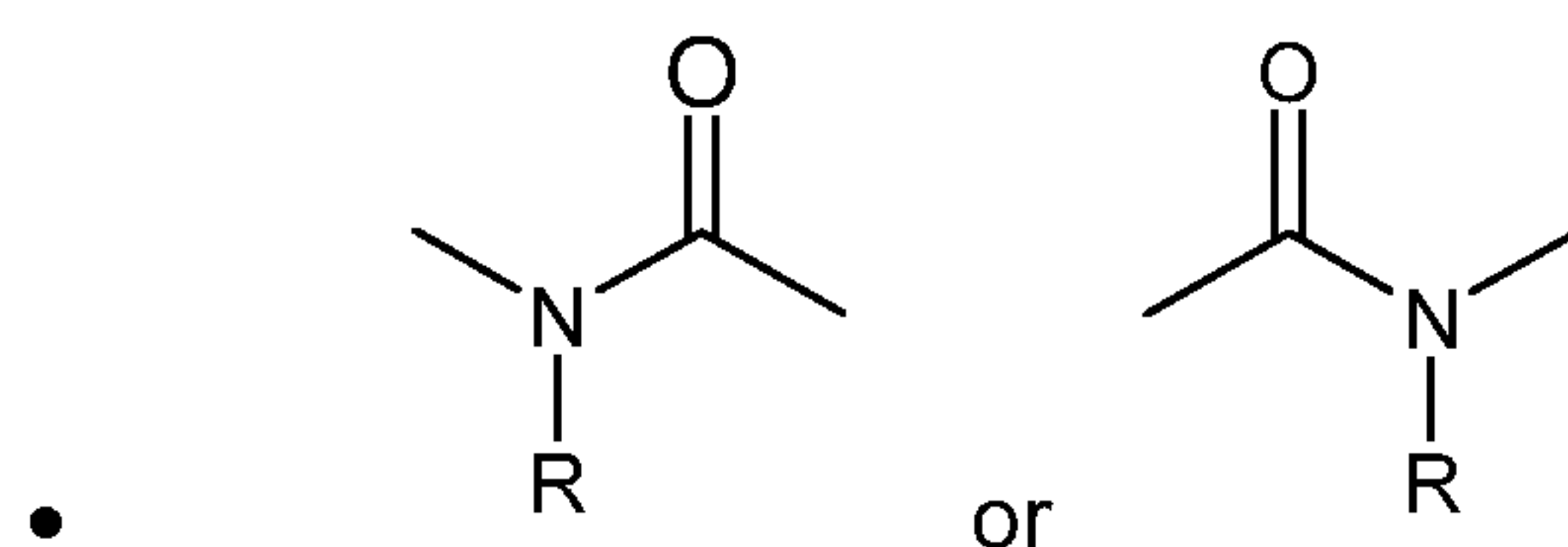
- $-(\text{CH}_2)_m-$ where m is an integer in the range of 6 to 32;
 - 10 • a divalent hydrocarbon chain comprising 1, 2 or 3 $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$ groups and a number of $-\text{CH}_2-$ groups sufficient to give a total number of carbon atoms in the chain in the range of 4 to 32;
 - $-\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{NH}-\text{CO})-$;
 - $-(\text{CO}-(\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{CO}-\text{NH})_{1-4}-$, where R^5 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$ or $-\text{CONH}_2$ and R^6 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$;
 - 15 • $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_{0-3}-\text{Ar}-(\text{CH}_2)_{0-3}-$ where Ar can be arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected from the group consisting of $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CONR}^1\text{R}^2$ or $-\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^1\text{R}^2$, where R^1 and R^2 , independently of each other can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$ or $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$;
 - 20 • $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$ or $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $-(\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2)_y-$ where y is 1-20;
 - arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected from the group consisting of $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CONR}^1\text{R}^2$ or $-\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^1\text{R}^2$, where R^1 and R^2 , independently of each other can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$ or $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$; or
 - 25 • a chain of the formula
 $-(\text{CH}_2)_s-\text{Y}_1-(\text{Ar})_{v_1}-\text{Y}_2-(\text{CH}_2)_w-\text{Y}_3-(\text{Ar})_{v_2}-\text{Y}_4-(\text{CH}_2)_t-\text{Y}_5-(\text{Ar})_{v_3}-\text{Y}_6-(\text{CH}_2)_z-$
 wherein Ar is defined as above, $\text{Y}_1 - \text{Y}_6$ independently of each other can be O, S, S=O, SO_2 or a bond; where s , w , t and z independently of each other are zero or an integer from 1 to 10 so that the sum of s , w , t and z is in the range from 4 to 30, and v_1 , v_2 , and v_3 independently of each other can be zero or 1 with the proviso that $\text{Y}_1 - \text{Y}_6$ do not link to each other and that the structure $-\text{O}-(\text{CH}_2)_1-\text{O}-$ does not occur; or
 - 30 • a bond;
- with the proviso that
- at least one of $Q_3 - Q_5$ is not a bond and

- that Q_1 or Q_2 comprises a non-linking amide when one of $Q_3 - Q_5$ is arylene, heteroarylene or a chain of the formula $-(CH_2)_s-Y_1-(C_6H_4)_{v1}-Y_2-(CH_2)_w-Y_3-(C_6H_4)_{v2}-Y_4-(CH_2)_t-Y_5-(C_6H_4)_{v3}-Y_6-(CH_2)_z-$.

5 X_1 , X_2 and X_3 are independently of each other

- O;
- $-C=O$
- a bond;
- $NCOR^1$, where R^1 can be H, $-CH_3$ or $-(CH)_{1-6}-CH_3$; or

10



where R is hydrogen, C_{1-3} -alkyl, C_{2-3} -alkenyl or C_{2-3} -alkynyl;

with the proviso that

15

- X_1 , X_2 and X_3 cannot bind to Z and
- when X_1 , X_2 and X_3 are O, then X_1 , X_2 and X_3 do not bind directly to O in Q_3 , Q_4 , and Q_5

and

20

Z is:

25

$-COOH$;
 $-CO-Asp$;
 $-CO-Glu$;
 $-CO-Gly$;
 $-CO-Sar$;
 $-CH(COOH)_2$;
 $-N(CH_2COOH)_2$;
 $-SO_3H$
 $-OSO_3H$
 $-OPO_3H_2$
 $-PO_3H_2$ or

30

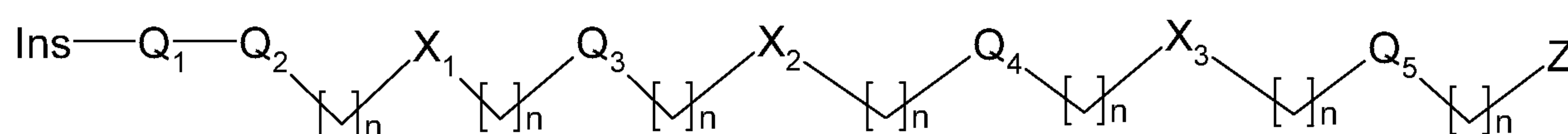
–tetrazol-5-yl or

–O-W₁,

where W₁ is arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected from the group consisting of tetrazo-5-yl, –COOH, –SO₃H, –(CH₂)₁₋₆–SO₃H, –(CH₂)₁₋₆–O–PO₃H₂, –CONR³R⁴ or –SO₂NR³R⁴, where R³ and R⁴, independently of each other can be H, –(CH₂)₁₋₆–SO₃H, or –(CH₂)₁₋₆–O–PO₃H₂; provided that when Z is –O-W₁ then Q₁ must be present

and any Zn²⁺ complex thereof.

4. An insulin derivative having a formula



wherein Ins is a parent insulin moiety and Q₁–Q₂–[CH₂]_n–X₁–[CH₂]_n–Q₃–[CH₂]_n–X₂–[CH₂]_n–Q₄–[CH₂]_n–X₃–[CH₂]_n–Q₅–[CH₂]_n–Z is a substituent and where the Ins is attached to the substituent via an amide bond between the α-amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain of Ins or an ε-amino group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of Ins and a CO group in Q₁ or Q₂ of the substituent;

each n is independently 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6;

Q₁ is:

- an amino acid amide of an amino acid with a carboxylic acid in the side chain, or an amino acid with an uncharged side chain, which residue forms, with its carboxylic acid group, an amide group together with the α-amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain of Ins or together with the ε-amino group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of Ins, or
- a chain composed of two, three or four α-amino acid amide or amino acid residues as specified above linked together via amide bonds, which chain – via an amide bond – is linked to the α-amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain of Ins or to the ε-amino group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of Ins, or
- a bond

Q₂ is:

- -COCH(CONH₂)-
 - -COCH₂N(CH₂CONH₂)-
 - -COCH₂N(CH₂CONH₂)COCH₂N(CH₂CONH₂)
 - 5 • -COCH₂CH₂N(CH₂CH₂CONH₂)-
 - -COCH₂CH₂N(CH₂CH₂CONH₂)-COCH₂CH₂N(CH₂CH₂CONH₂)-
 - -COCH₂N(CH₂CH₂CONH₂)-
 - -COCH₂CH₂N(CH₂CONH₂)-
 - -COCH₂OCH₂CONH-
 - 10 • -CO-((CR⁵R⁶)₁₋₆ -CO-NH)₁₋₄-, where R⁵ independently can be H, -CH₃, -(CH₂)₁₋₆CH₃ or -CONH₂ and R⁶ independently can be H, -CH₃, -(CH₂)₁₋₆CH₃; or
 - a bond
- provided that
- at least one of Q₁ or Q₂ is not a bond, and
 - 15 - that Q₂ is not -CO-(CH₂)₂ -CO-NH- when n is 0 or 1, X₁ is a bond and Q₃ is (CH₂CH₂O)₂-, (CH₂CH₂O)₃- or (CH₂CH₂OCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂O)- and
 - that if an amine in Q₁ or Q₂ forms a bond with the rest of the substituent, the amine must be bound to the rest of the substituent via
 - 20 a carbonyl group;

Q₃, Q₄, and Q₅ independently of each other can be

- -(CH₂)_m- where m is an integer in the range of 6 to 32;
- a divalent hydrocarbon chain comprising 1, 2 or 3 -CH=CH- groups and a number of
- 25 -CH₂- groups sufficient to give a total number of carbon atoms in the chain in the range of 4 to 32;
- -CO-((CR⁵R⁶)₁₋₆ -NH-CO)-;
- -(CO-(CR⁵R⁶)₁₋₆ -CO-NH)₁₋₄-, where R⁵ independently can be H, -CH₃, -(CH₂)₁₋₆CH₃ or -CONH₂ and R⁶ independently can be H, -CH₃, -(CH₂)₁₋₆CH₃;
- 30 • -CO-(CH₂)₀₋₃-Ar-(CH₂)₀₋₃- where Ar can be arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected from the group consisting of -CH₃, -(CH)₁₋₆-CH₃, -CONR¹R² or -SO₂NR¹R², where R¹ and R², independently of each other can be H, -CH₃ or -(CH)₁₋₆-CH₃;

25

• $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$ or $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $-(\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2)_y-$ where y is 1-20;

• arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected from the group consisting of $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CONR}^1\text{R}^2$ or $-\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^1\text{R}^2$, where R^1 and R^2 ,
5 independently of each other can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$ or $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$; or

• a chain of the formula



wherein Ar is defined as above, $\text{Y}_1 - \text{Y}_6$ independently of each other can be O, S, S=O, SO_2 or a bond; where s , w , t and z independently of each other are zero or an integer from 1 to 10
10 so that the sum of s , w , t and z is in the range from 4 to 30, and v_1 , v_2 , and v_3 independently of each other can be zero or 1 with the proviso that $\text{Y}_1 - \text{Y}_6$ do not link to each other and that the structure $-\text{O}-(\text{CH}_2)_1-\text{O}-$ does not occur; or

• a bond;

with the proviso that at least one of $\text{Q}_3 - \text{Q}_5$ is not a bond;

15

X_1 , X_2 and X_3 are independently of each other

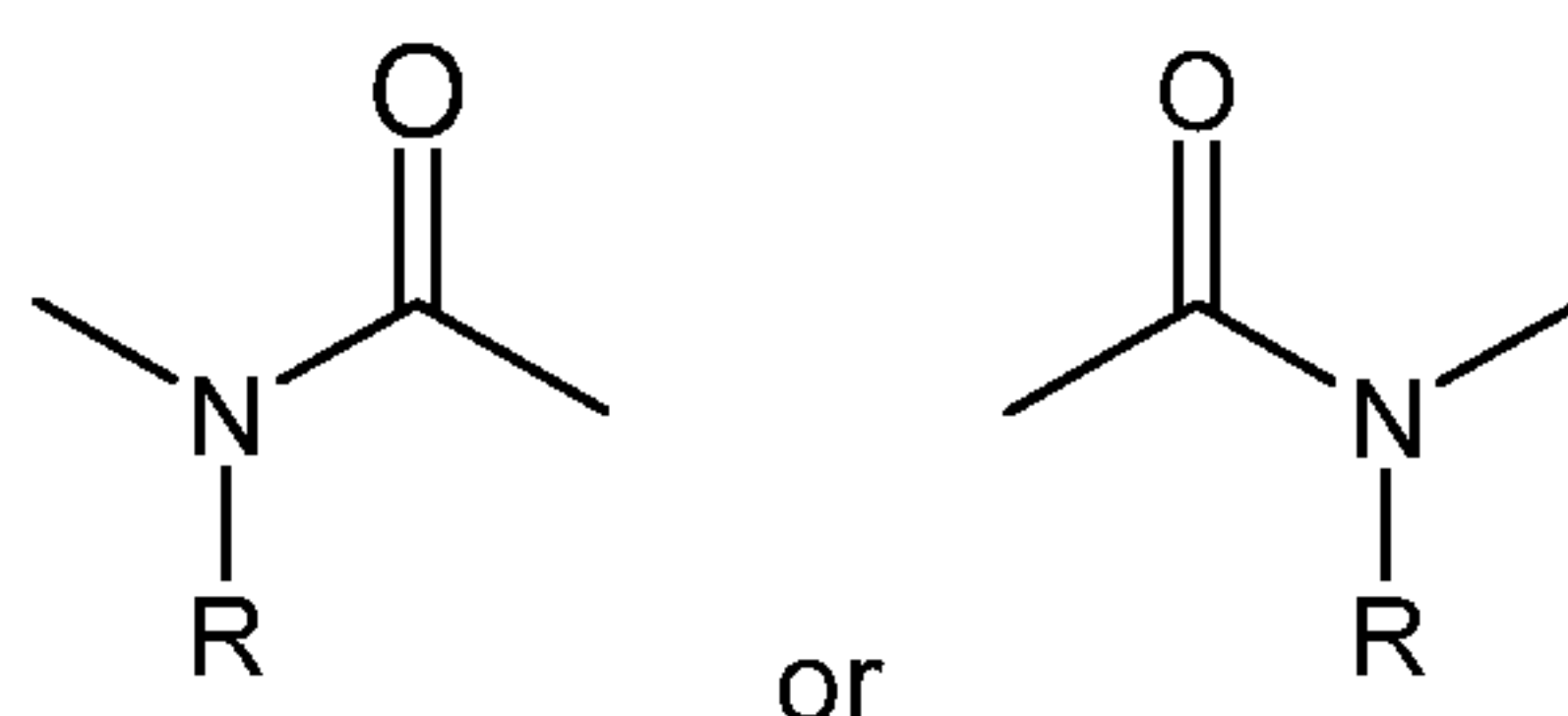
• O;

• $-\text{C}=\text{O}$

• a bond;

20 • NCOR^1 , where R^1 can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$ or $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$; or

•



•

where R is hydrogen, C_{1-3} -alkyl, C_{2-3} -alkenyl or C_{2-3} -alkynyl;

25

with the proviso that

- X_1 , X_2 and X_3 cannot bind to Z and
- when X_1 , X_2 and X_3 are O, then X_1 , X_2 and X_3 do not bind directly to O in Q_3 , Q_4 , and Q_5

30 and

Z is:

5 -COOH;
 -CO-Asp;
 -CO-Glu;
 -CO-Gly;
 -CO-Sar;
 -CH(COOH)₂;
 -N(CH₂COOH)₂;
 -SO₃H
 -OSO₃H
 10 -OPO₃H₂
 -PO₃H₂ or
 -tetrazol-5-yl or
 -O-W₁,

15 where W₁ is arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups
 selected from the group consisting of tetrazo-5-yl, -COOH, -SO₃H, -(CH₂)₁₋₆-SO₃H, -(CH₂)₁₋₆-O-PO₃H₂, -CONR³R⁴ or -SO₂NR³R⁴, where R³ and R⁴, independently of each other can
 be H, -(CH₂)₁₋₆-SO₃H, or -(CH₂)₁₋₆-O-PO₃H₂; provided that when Z is -O-W₁ then Q₁ must
 be present
 20 and any Zn²⁺ complex thereof.

25 5. Insulin derivative according to paragraph 1-4, wherein Q₁ is an amino acid amide
 of an amino acid with a carboxylic acid in the side chain, or an amino acid with an uncharged
 side chain, the amino acid amide residue or amino acid residue having from 2 to 10 carbon
 atoms.

6. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 1-5, wherein Q₁ is selected from
 the group consisting of β-D-Asp-amide, β-L-Asp-amide, γ-L-Glu-amide and γ-D-Glu-amide.

30 7. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 1-4, wherein Q₁ is a chain composed of
 two, three or four α-amino acid amide residues or amino acid residues with an uncharged
 side chain.

35 8. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 1-4 or 7, wherein Q₁ is a chain of two
 amino acid amide residues selected from the group consisting of β-L-Asp-amide-β-L-Asp-
 amide, β-L-Asp-amide-γ-L-Glu-amide, γ-L-Glu-amide-γ-L-Glu-amide, γ-L-Glu-amide-β-L-Asp-

amide, β -L-Asp-amide- β -D-Asp-amide, β -L-Asp-amide- γ -D-Glu-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide- γ -D-Glu-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide- β -D-Asp-amide, β -D-Asp-amide- β -L-Asp-amide, β -D-Asp-amide- γ -L-Glu-amide, γ -D-Glu-amide- γ -L-Glu-amide, γ -D-Glu-amide- β -L-Asp-amide, β -D-Asp-amide- β -D-Asp-amide, β -D-Asp-amide- γ -D-Glu-amide, γ -D-Glu-amide- γ -D-Glu-amide, γ -D-Glu-
 5 amide- β -D-Asp-amide.

9. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 1-8, wherein Q_2 is a bond

10 10. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 1-3 or 5-8, wherein Q_2 is $-\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{NH}-\text{CO})_{1-4}-$.

11. Insulin derivative according to paragraph 10, where Q_2 is selected from the group consisting of $-\text{CO}-((\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{NH}-\text{CO})_1-$, $-\text{CO}-((\text{CH}_2)_3-\text{NH}-\text{CO})_1-$ and $-\text{CO}-((\text{CH}_2)_4-\text{NH}-\text{CO})_1-$, $-\text{CO}-((\text{CH}_2)_5-\text{NH}-\text{CO})_1-$.

12. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 1, 3 or 10-11, wherein Q_1 is a bond.

13. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 1-3 wherein

Q_1 is:

- 20 • an amino acid amide of an amino acid with a carboxylic acid in the side chain, or an amino acid with an uncharged side chain, which residue forms, with its carboxylic acid group, an amide group together with the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain of Ins or together with the ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of Ins, or
- 25 • a chain composed of two, three or four α -amino acid amide or amino acid residues as specified above linked together via amide bonds, in which the chain – via an amide bond – is linked to the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain of Ins or to the ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of Ins, or
- a bond

Q_2 is:

- $-\text{COCH}(\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)$

- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
 - $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
 - $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
 - $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
 - 5 • $-\text{COCH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CONH}-$
 - $-\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{NH}-\text{CO})_{1-4}-$;
 - $-(\text{CO}-(\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{CO}-\text{NH})_{1-4}-$, where R^5 can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$ or $-\text{CONH}_2$ and R^6 can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$; or
 - a bond
- 10 provided that at least one of Q_1 or Q_2 is not a bond and that if an amine in Q_1 or Q_2 forms a bond with the rest of the substituent, the amine must be bound to the rest of the substituent via a carbonyl group;

Q_3 is

- 15
- $-(\text{CH}_2)_m-$ where m is an integer in the range of 6 to 32;
 - a divalent hydrocarbon chain comprising 1, 2 or 3 $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$ groups and a number of $-\text{CH}_2-$ groups sufficient to give a total number of carbon atoms in the chain in the range of 4 to 32; or
 - a divalent hydrocarbon chain of the formula $-(\text{CH}_2)_s\text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{CH}_2)_w-$ wherein v and w are
- 20 integers or one of them is zero so that the sum of s and w is in the range of 6 to 30;

X_1 , can be $-\text{C}=\text{O}$ or a bond;

Q_4 , Q_5 , X_2 and X_3 are bonds;

25

All values of n are zero; and

Z is:

- 30
- $-\text{COOH};$
 - $-\text{CO}-\text{Asp};$
 - $-\text{CO}-\text{Glu};$
 - $-\text{CO}-\text{Gly};$
 - $-\text{CO}-\text{Sar};$
 - $-\text{CH}(\text{COOH})_2;$
 - 35 $-\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{COOH})_2;$

–SO₃H

–OSO₃H

–OPO₃H₂

–PO₃H₂ or

5 –tetrazol-5-yl

and any Zn²⁺ complex thereof

14. Insulin derivative according to paragraph 13, wherein Q₁ is an amino acid amide of an amino acid with a carboxylic acid in the side chain, or an amino acid with an uncharged side chain, the amino acid amide residue or amino acid residue having from 2 to 10 carbon atoms.

15. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 13-14, wherein Q₁ is selected from the group consisting of β-D-Asp-amide, β-L-Asp-amide, γ-L-Glu-amide and γ-D-Glu-amide.

16. Insulin derivative according to paragraph 13, wherein Q₁ is a chain composed of two, three or four α-amino acid amide residues and/or amino acid residues with an uncharged side chain.

20

17. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 13 or 16, wherein Q₁ is a chain of two amino acid amide residues selected from the group consisting of β-L-Asp-amide-β-L-Asp-amide, β-L-Asp-amide-γ-L-Glu-amide, γ-L-Glu-amide-γ-L-Glu-amide, γ-L-Glu-amide-β-L-Asp-amide, β-L-Asp-amide-β-D-Asp-amide, β-L-Asp-amide-γ-D-Glu-amide, γ-L-Glu-amide-γ-D-Glu-amide, γ-L-Glu-amide-β-D-Asp-amide, β-D-Asp-amide-β-L-Asp-amide, β-D-Asp-amide-γ-L-Glu-amide, γ-D-Glu-amide-γ-L-Glu-amide, γ-D-Glu-amide-β-L-Asp-amide, β-D-Asp-amide-β-D-Asp-amide, β-D-Asp-amide-γ-D-Glu-amide, γ-D-Glu-amide-γ-D-Glu-amide, γ-D-Glu-amide-β-D-Asp-amide.

18. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 13-17, wherein Q₂ is a bond.

30

19. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 13-17, wherein Q₂ is selected from the group consisting of

- –COCH(CONH₂)–

- –COCH₂N(CH₂CONH₂)–

35

- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- 5 • $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CONH}-;$
- $-\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{NH}-\text{CO})_{1-4}-;$ or
- $-\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{CO}-\text{NH})_{1-4}-$, where R^5 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$ or $-\text{CONH}_2$ and R^6 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$

10

20. Insulin derivative according to paragraph 19, wherein Q_2 is selected from the group consisting of $-\text{COCH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CONH}-$, $-\text{CO}-((\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{NH}-\text{CO})_{1-}$, $-\text{CO}-((\text{CH}_2)_3-\text{NH}-\text{CO})_{1-}$, $-\text{CO}-((\text{CH}_2)_4-\text{NH}-\text{CO})_{1-}$ and $-\text{CO}-((\text{CH}_2)_5-\text{NH}-\text{CO})_{1-}$.

15

21. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 13 or 19-21, wherein Q_1 is a bond.

22. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 13-21, wherein X_1 is $-\text{C}=\text{O}$.

23. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 13-22, wherein Q_3 is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m-$

20

where m is an integer in the range of 6 to 32 or from 8 to 20.

24. Insulin derivative according to paragraph 23, where m is 12, 13, 14, 15 or 16.

25. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 13-22, wherein Q_3 is a divalent hydrocarbon chain comprising 1, 2 or 3 $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$ groups and a number of $-\text{CH}_2-$ groups sufficient to give a total number of carbon atoms in the chain in the range of 4 to 32.

25

26. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 13-25, wherein Z is $-\text{COOH}$.

30

27. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 13-25, wherein Z is $-\text{CH}(\text{COOH})_2$.

28. An insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 13-25, wherein Z is $-\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{COOH})_2$.

35

29. An insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 13-25, wherein Z is $-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$.

30. An insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 13-25, wherein Z is $-\text{PO}_3\text{H}$.

5 31. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 13-30 wherein the insulin derivative is selected from the group consisting of

$\text{N}^{\epsilon\text{B}29}$ - ω -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- γ -L-glutamylamide desB30 human insulin,

$\text{N}^{\epsilon\text{B}29}$ - ω -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- γ -amino-butanoyl desB30 human insulin,

$\text{N}^{\epsilon\text{B}29}$ - ω -carboxy-tetradecanoyl- γ -L-glutamylamide desB30 human insulin,

10 $\text{N}^{\epsilon\text{B}29}$ - ω -carboxy-tridecanoyl- γ -L-glutamylamide desB30 human insulin,

$\text{N}^{\epsilon\text{B}29}$ - ω -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- β -alanyl desB30 human insulin,

$\text{N}^{\epsilon\text{B}29}$ - ω -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- γ -L-aspartylamide desB30 human insulin,

$\text{N}^{\epsilon\text{B}29}$ - ω -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- ϵ -aminohexanoyl desB30 human insulin,

$\text{N}^{\epsilon\text{B}29}$ - ω -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- δ -aminopentanoyl desB30 human insulin,

15 $\text{N}^{\epsilon\text{B}29}$ - ω -carboxy-tridecanoyl- γ -amino-butanoyl desB30 human insulin

$\text{N}^{\epsilon\text{B}29}$ - ω -carboxy-undecanoyl- δ -amino-butanoyl desB30 human insulin and

$\text{N}^{\epsilon\text{B}29}$ - ω -carboxy-tetradecanoyl- γ -amino-butanoyl desB30 human insulin

32. Insulin derivative according to paragraph 2 or 4, wherein

20 Q_3 is:

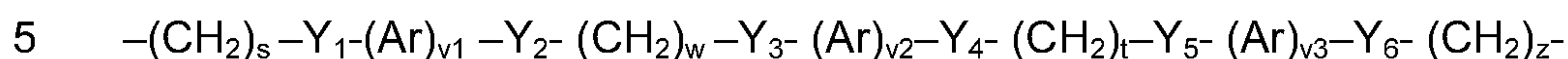
- $-\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{NH}-\text{CO})-$;
- $-(\text{CO}-(\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{CO}-\text{NH})_{1-4}-$, where R^5 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$ or $-\text{CONH}_2$ and R^6 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$;
- $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_{0-3}-\text{Ar}-(\text{CH}_2)_{0-3}-$ where Ar can be arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected from the group consisting of $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CONR}^1\text{R}^2$ or $-\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^1\text{R}^2$, where R^1 and R^2 , independently of each other can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$ or $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$; or
- a bond

30 Q_4 is:

- $-(\text{CH}_2)_m-$ where m is an integer from 4 to 22;
- a divalent hydrocarbon chain comprising 1, 2 or 3 $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$ groups and a number of $-\text{CH}_2-$ groups sufficient to give a total number of carbon atoms in the chain in the range of 4 to 22;

• aryene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected from the group consisting of $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CONR}^1\text{R}^2$ or $-\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^1\text{R}^2$, where R^1 and R^2 , independently of each other can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$ or $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$; or

• a chain of the formula

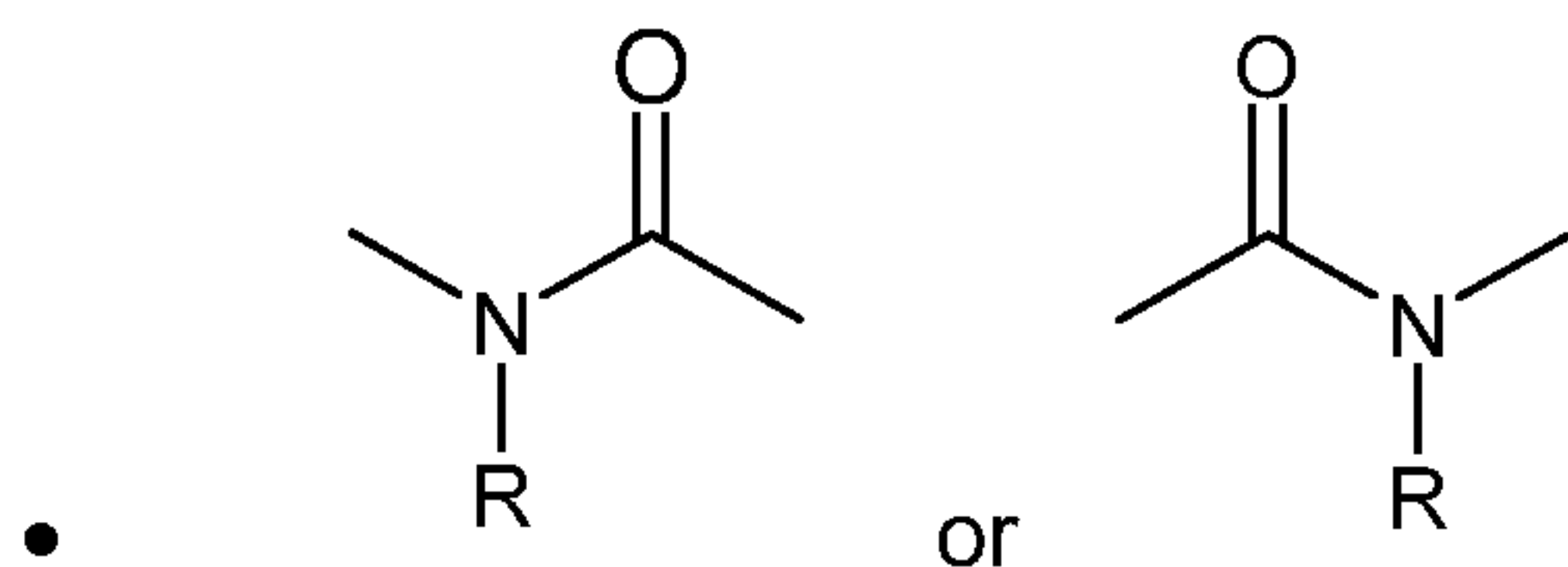


wherein Ar is defined as above, $\text{Y}_1 - \text{Y}_6$ independently of each other can be O, S, S=O, SO_2 or a bond; where s, w, t and z independently of each other are zero or an integer from 1 to 10 so that the sum of s, w, t and z is in the range from 4 to 30, and v_1 , v_2 , and v_3 independently of each other can be zero or 1 with the proviso that $\text{Y}_1 - \text{Y}_6$ do not link to each other and that

10 the structure $-\text{O}-(\text{CH}_2)_1-\text{O}-$ does not occur;

X_1 is:

- O;
- $-\text{C}=\text{O}$
- 15 • NCOR^1 , where R^1 can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$ or $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$; or



where R is hydrogen, C_{1-3} -alkyl, C_{2-3} -alkenyl or C_{2-3} -alkynyl;

20 with the proviso that when X_1 is O, then X_1 does not bind directly to O in Q_4 ;

X_2 , X_3 and Q_5 are bonds;

All values of n are zero; and

25 Z is:

$-\text{COOH}$;
 $-\text{CO-Asp}$;
 $-\text{CO-Glu}$;
 $-\text{CO-Gly}$;
 30 $-\text{CO-Sar}$;
 $-\text{CH}(\text{COOH})_2$;
 $-\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{COOH})_2$;

5 $-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$
 $-\text{OSO}_3\text{H}$
 $-\text{OPO}_3\text{H}_2$
 $-\text{PO}_3\text{H}_2$ or
 $-\text{tetrazol-5-yl}$ or
 $-\text{O-W}_1$,

10 where W_1 is arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups
 selected from the group consisting of tetrazo-5-yl, $-\text{COOH}$, $-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}-\text{O}-\text{PO}_3\text{H}_2$, $-\text{CONR}^3\text{R}^4$ or $-\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^3\text{R}^4$, where R^3 and R^4 , independently of each other can
 be H , $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$, or $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}-\text{O}-\text{PO}_3\text{H}_2$;
 and any Zn^{2+} complex thereof.

15 33. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 2, 4 or 32, wherein Q_1 is an amino
 acid amide of an amino acid with a carboxylic acid in the side chain, or an amino acid with an
 uncharged side chain, the amino acid amide residue or amino acid residue having from 2 to
 10 carbon atoms.

20 34. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 2, 4 or 33, wherein Q_1 is selected
 from the group consisting of β -D-Asp-amide, β -L-Asp-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide and γ -D-Glu-
 amide.

25 35. Insulin derivative according to paragraph 2, 4 or 34, wherein Q_1 is a chain
 composed of two, three or four α -amino acid amide residues or amino acid residues with an
 uncharged side chain.

30 36. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 2, 4 or 35, wherein Q_1 is a chain of
 two amino acid amide residues selected from the group consisting of β -L-Asp-amide- β -L-
 Asp-amide, β -L-Asp-amide- γ -L-Glu-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide- γ -L-Glu-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide- β -L-
 Asp-amide, β -L-Asp-amide- β -D-Asp-amide, β -L-Asp-amide- γ -D-Glu-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide- γ -
 D-Glu-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide- β -D-Asp-amide, β -D-Asp-amide- β -L-Asp-amide, β -D-Asp-
 amide- γ -L-Glu-amide, γ -D-Glu-amide- γ -L-Glu-amide, γ -D-Glu-amide- β -L-Asp-amide, β -D-
 Asp-amide- β -D-Asp-amide, β -D-Asp-amide- γ -D-Glu-amide, γ -D-Glu-amide- γ -D-Glu-amide, γ -
 D-Glu-amide- β -D-Asp-amide.

37. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 2, 4 or 32-36, wherein Q_2 is a bond.

38. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 2, 4 or 32-36, where Q_2 is
 5 —CO—CH₂—(CHCONH₂)—NH—CO; —CO—(CH₂)₂—(CHCONH₂)—NH—CO— or
 —CO—(CH₂)₃—(CHCONH₂)—NH—CO—.

39. Insulin derivative according to paragraph 2, 4 or 38, wherein Q_1 is a bond.

10 40. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 32-39, wherein Q_3 is
 —(CH₂)_s—Y₁—(Ar)_{v₁}—Y₂—(CH₂)_w—Y₃—(Ar)_{v₂}—Y₄—(CH₂)_t—Y₅—(Ar)_{v₃}—Y₆—(CH₂)_z—
 wherein Ar is defined as above, Y₁ - Y₆ independently of each other can be O, S, S=O, SO₂
 or a bond; where s, w, t and z independently of each other are zero or an integer from 1 to 10
 so that the sum of s, w, t and z is in the range from 4 to 30, and v₁, v₂, and v₃ independently
 15 of each other can be zero or 1 with the proviso that Y₁ - Y₆ do not link to each other and that
 the structure —O—(CH₂)₁—O— does not occur.

41. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraph 40, wherein at least two of v₁,
 v₂, or v₃ are zero.

20

42. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 40-41, wherein Y₁ - Y₆ are
 bonds.

43. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 40-41, wherein at least one of
 25 Y₁ - Y₆ are O or S.

44. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 40-41 or 43, wherein Y₁ is O or
 S and v₁ is one.

30 45. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 40-44, wherein s is 6, 7, 8, 9 or
 10.

46. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 40-45, wherein X₁, X₂, X₃, Q₄,
 and Q₅ are bonds and Ar is C₆H₄.

35

47. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 32-46, wherein n is zero.

48. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 32-47, wherein Z is $-\text{COOH}$.

5 49. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 32-47, wherein Z is $-\text{CH}(\text{COOH})_2$.

50. An insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 32-47, wherein Z is $-\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{COOH})_2$.

10 51. An insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 32-47, wherein Z is $-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$.

52. An insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 32-47, wherein Z is $-\text{PO}_3\text{H}$.

15 53. An insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 32-47, wherein Z is $-\text{O}-\text{W}_1$, where W_1 is arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected from the group consisting of tetrazo-5-yl, $-\text{COOH}$, $-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}-\text{O}-\text{PO}_3\text{H}_2$, $-\text{CONR}^{13}\text{R}^{14}$ or $-\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^{13}\text{R}^{14}$, where R^{13} and R^{14} , independently of each other can be H , $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$, or $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}-\text{O}-\text{PO}_3\text{H}_2$.

20 54. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 32-53 wherein the insulin derivative is $\text{N}^{\epsilon\text{B}29}\text{-10-(4-carboxyphenoxy)-decanoyl-}\gamma\text{-L-glutamylamide desB30 human insulin}$.

25 55. Insulin derivative according to paragraph 1, wherein Q_1 is an amino acid amide of an amino acid with a carboxylic acid in the side chain, or an amino acid with an uncharged side chain, the amino acid amide residue or amino acid residue having from 2 to 10 carbon atoms.

30 56. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 1 or 55, wherein Q_1 is selected from the group consisting of $\beta\text{-D-Asp-amide}$, $\beta\text{-L-Asp-amide}$, $\gamma\text{-L-Glu-amide}$ and $\gamma\text{-D-Glu-amide}$.

57. Insulin derivative according to paragraph 1, wherein Q_1 is a chain composed of two, three or four α -amino acid amide residues or amino acid residues with an uncharged side chain.

58. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 1 or 57, wherein Q_1 is a chain of two amino acid amide residues selected from the group consisting of β -L-Asp-amide- β -L-Asp-amide, β -L-Asp-amide- γ -L-Glu-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide- γ -L-Glu-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide- β -L-Asp-amide, β -L-Asp-amide- β -D-Asp-amide, β -L-Asp-amide- γ -D-Glu-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide- γ -D-Glu-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide- β -D-Asp-amide, β -D-Asp-amide- β -L-Asp-amide, β -D-Asp-amide- γ -L-Glu-amide, γ -D-Glu-amide- γ -L-Glu-amide, γ -D-Glu-amide- β -L-Asp-amide, β -D-Asp-amide- β -D-Asp-amide, β -D-Asp-amide- γ -D-Glu-amide, γ -D-Glu-amide- γ -D-Glu-amide, γ -D-Glu-amide- β -D-Asp-amide.

59. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 1 or 55-58, wherein Q_2 is a bond.

60. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 1 or 55-58, wherein Q_2 is selected from the group consisting of $-\text{CO}-(\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{NH}-\text{CO}-$ and $-(\text{CO}-(\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{CO}-\text{NH})_{1-4}-$, where R^5 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$ or $-\text{CONH}_2$ and R^6 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$;

61. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 1 or 60, where Q_2 is $-\text{CO}-((\text{CH}_2)_3-\text{NH}-\text{CO})-$, $-\text{CO}-\text{CH}_2-(\text{CHCONH}_2)-\text{NH}-\text{CO}$; $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_2-(\text{CHCONH}_2)-\text{NH}-\text{CO})-$ or $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_3-(\text{CHCONH}_2)-\text{NH}-\text{CO})-$

62. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 1 or 60-61, wherein Q_1 is a bond.

63. Insulin derivative according to paragraph 55-62, wherein Q_3 is $-(\text{CH}_2)_s-\text{Y}_1-(\text{Ar})_{v_1}-\text{Y}_2-(\text{CH}_2)_w-\text{Y}_3-(\text{Ar})_{v_2}-\text{Y}_4-(\text{CH}_2)_t-\text{Y}_5-(\text{Ar})_{v_3}-\text{Y}_6-(\text{CH}_2)_z-$ wherein Ar is defined as above, $\text{Y}_1 - \text{Y}_6$ independently of each other can be O, S, S=O, SO_2 or a bond; where s, w, t and z independently of each other are zero or an integer from 1 to 10 so that the sum of s, w, t and z is in the range from 4 to 30, and v_1 , v_2 , and v_3 independently of each other can be zero or 1 with the proviso that $\text{Y}_1 - \text{Y}_6$ do not link to each other and that the structure $-\text{O}-(\text{CH}_2)_1-\text{O}-$ does not occur.

64. Insulin derivative according to paragraph 63, wherein at least two of v_1 , v_2 , or v_3 are zero.

5 65. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 63-64, wherein $Y_1 - Y_6$ are bonds.

66. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 63-64, wherein at least one of $Y_1 - Y_6$ are O or S.

10 67. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 63-64 or 66, wherein Y_1 is O or S and v_1 is one.

68. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 63-67, wherein s is 6, 7, 8, 9 or 10.

15 69. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 55-68, wherein X_1 , X_2 , X_3 , Q_4 , and Q_5 are bonds and Ar is C_6H_4 .

70. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 55-69, wherein n is zero.

20 71. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 55-70, wherein Z is $-COOH$.

72. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 55-70, wherein Z is $-CH(COOH)_2$.

25 73. An insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 55-70, wherein Z is $-N(CH_2COOH)_2$.

74. An insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 55-70, wherein Z is $-SO_3H$.

30 75. An insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 55-70, wherein Z is $-PO_3H$.

76. An insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 55-70, wherein Z is $-O-W_1$, where W_1 is arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups
35 selected from the group consisting of tetrazo-5-yl, $-COOH$, $-SO_3H$, $-(CH_2)_{1-6}-SO_3H$, $-(CH_2)_1-$

$_6\text{—O—PO}_3\text{H}_2\text{,—CONR}^{13}\text{R}^{14}$ or $\text{—SO}_2\text{NR}^{13}\text{R}^{14}$, where R^{13} and R^{14} , independently of each other can be $\text{H, —(CH}_2\text{)}_{1-6}\text{—SO}_3\text{H}$, or $\text{—(CH}_2\text{)}_{1-6}\text{—O—PO}_3\text{H}_2$.

77. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 1 or 55-70 wherein the insulin derivative are selected from the group consisting of $\text{N}^{\epsilon\text{B}29}\text{—10-(4-carboxyphenoxy)-decanoyl-}\gamma\text{-L-glutamylamide desB30 human insulin}$, $\text{N}^{\epsilon\text{B}29}\text{—4-[11-(4-Carboxyphenyl) undecanoylamino] butyryl desB30 human insulin}$.

10 78. Insulin derivative according to paragraph 3, wherein Q_1 is an amino acid amide of an amino acid with a carboxylic acid in the side chain having from 2 to 10 carbon atoms.

15 79. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 3 or 77, wherein Q_1 is selected from the group consisting of $\beta\text{-D-Asp-amide}$, $\beta\text{-L-Asp-amide}$, $\gamma\text{-L-Glu-amide}$ and $\gamma\text{-D-Glu-amide}$.

20 80. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 3, wherein Q_1 is a chain of two amino acid amide residues selected from the group consisting of $\beta\text{-L-Asp-amide-}\beta\text{-L-Asp-amide}$, $\beta\text{-L-Asp-amide-}\gamma\text{-L-Glu-amide}$, $\gamma\text{-L-Glu-amide-}\gamma\text{-L-Glu-amide}$, $\gamma\text{-L-Glu-amide-}\beta\text{-L-Asp-amide}$, $\beta\text{-L-Asp-amide-}\beta\text{-D-Asp-amide}$, $\beta\text{-L-Asp-amide-}\gamma\text{-D-Glu-amide}$, $\gamma\text{-L-Glu-amide-}\gamma\text{-D-Glu-amide}$, $\gamma\text{-L-Glu-amide-}\beta\text{-D-Asp-amide}$, $\beta\text{-D-Asp-amide-}\beta\text{-L-Asp-amide}$, $\beta\text{-D-Asp-amide-}\gamma\text{-L-Glu-amide}$, $\gamma\text{-D-Glu-amide-}\gamma\text{-L-Glu-amide}$, $\gamma\text{-D-Glu-amide-}\beta\text{-L-Asp-amide}$, $\beta\text{-D-Asp-amide-}\beta\text{-D-Asp-amide}$, $\beta\text{-D-Asp-amide-}\gamma\text{-D-Glu-amide}$, $\gamma\text{-D-Glu-amide-}\gamma\text{-D-Glu-amide}$, $\gamma\text{-D-Glu-amide-}\beta\text{-D-Asp-amide}$.

25 81. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 3 or 77-79, wherein Q_2 is a bond.

30 82. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 3 or 77-80, wherein Q_2 is selected from the group consisting of

- $\text{—COCH(CONH}_2\text{)—}$
- $\text{—COCH}_2\text{N(CH}_2\text{CONH}_2\text{)—}$
- $\text{—COCH}_2\text{N(CH}_2\text{CONH}_2\text{)COCH}_2\text{N(CH}_2\text{CONH}_2\text{)—}$
- $\text{—COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N(CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2\text{)—}$

- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
 - $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
 - $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
 - $-\text{COCH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CONH}-$;
- 5 • $-\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{NH}-\text{CO})_{1-4}-$; or
- $-\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{CO}-\text{NH})_{1-4}-$, where R^5 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$ or $-\text{CONH}_2$ and R^6 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$ provided that Q_2 comprises a non-linking amide if Q_1 is a bond.

10 83. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 3 or 82, wherein Q_1 is a bond.

 84. Insulin derivative according to paragraph 78-83, wherein Q_3 is
 $-(\text{CH}_2)_s-\text{Y}_1-(\text{Ar})_{v_1}-\text{Y}_2-(\text{CH}_2)_w-\text{Y}_3-(\text{Ar})_{v_2}-\text{Y}_4-(\text{CH}_2)_t-\text{Y}_5-(\text{Ar})_{v_3}-\text{Y}_6-(\text{CH}_2)_z-$
 wherein Ar is defined as above, $\text{Y}_1 - \text{Y}_6$ independently of each other can be O, S, S=O, SO_2
 15 or a bond; where s, w, t and z independently of each other are zero or an integer from 1 to 10
 so that the sum of s, w, t and z is in the range from 4 to 30, and v_1 , v_2 , and v_3 independently
 of each other can be zero or 1 with the proviso that $\text{Y}_1 - \text{Y}_6$ do not link to each other and that
 the structure $-\text{O}-(\text{CH}_2)_1-\text{O}-$ does not occur.

20 85. Insulin derivative according to paragraph 84, wherein at least two of v_1 , v_2 , or v_3
 are zero.

 86. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 84-85, wherein $\text{Y}_1 - \text{Y}_6$ are
 bonds.

25 87. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 84-85, wherein at least one of
 $\text{Y}_1 - \text{Y}_6$ are O or S.

 88. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 84-85 or 87, wherein Y_1 is O or
 30 S and v_1 is one.

 89. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 84-88, wherein s is 6, 7, 8, 9 or
 10.

90. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 78-89, wherein X_1 , X_2 , X_3 , Q_4 , and Q_5 are bonds and Ar is C_6H_4 .

91. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 78-90, wherein n is zero.

92. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 78-91, wherein Z is $-COOH$.

93. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 78-91, wherein Z is $-CH(COOH)_2$.

94. An insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 78-91, wherein Z is $-N(CH_2COOH)_2$.

95. An insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 78-91, wherein Z is $-SO_3H$.

96. An insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 78-91, wherein Z is $-PO_3H$.

97. An insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 78-91, wherein Z is $-O-W_1$, where W_1 is arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected from the group consisting of tetrazo-5-yl, $-COOH$, $-SO_3H$, $-(CH_2)_{1-6}-SO_3H$, $-(CH_2)_{1-6}-O-PO_3H_2$, $-CONR^{13}R^{14}$ or $-SO_2NR^{13}R^{14}$, where R^{13} and R^{14} , independently of each other can be H, $-(CH_2)_{1-6}-SO_3H$, or $-(CH_2)_{1-6}-O-PO_3H_2$.

98. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 3 or 78-97, wherein the insulin derivative are selected from the group consisting of:

$N^{\epsilon B29}$ -10-(4-carboxyphenoxy)-decanoyl- γ -L-glutamylamide desB30 human insulin,

$N^{\epsilon B29}$ -4-[11-(4-Carboxyphenyl) undecanoylamino] butyryl desB30 human insulin and

$N^{\epsilon B29}$ -{4-[10-(4-Carboxy-phenoxy)-decanoylamino]-butyryl} desB30 insulin

99. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 1 or 2, wherein Q_1 is an amino acid amide of an amino acid with a carboxylic acid in the side chain, or an amino acid with an uncharged side chain, the amino acid amide residue or amino acid residue having from 2 to 10 carbon atoms.

100. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 1, 2 or 99, wherein Q_1 is selected from the group consisting of β -D-Asp-amide, β -L-Asp-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide and γ -D-Glu-amide.

5 101. Insulin derivative according to paragraph 1 or 2, wherein Q_1 is a chain composed of two, three or four α -amino acid amide or amino acid residues with uncharged side chains.

102. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 1, 2 or 101, wherein Q_1 is a chain of two amino acid amide residues selected from the group consisting of β -L-Asp-amide- β -L-Asp-amide, β -L-Asp-amide- γ -L-Glu-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide- γ -L-Glu-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide- β -L-Asp-amide, β -L-Asp-amide- β -D-Asp-amide, β -L-Asp-amide- γ -D-Glu-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide- γ -D-Glu-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide- β -D-Asp-amide, β -D-Asp-amide- β -L-Asp-amide, β -D-Asp-amide- γ -L-Glu-amide, γ -D-Glu-amide- γ -L-Glu-amide, γ -D-Glu-amide- β -L-Asp-amide, β -D-Asp-amide- β -D-Asp-amide, β -D-Asp-amide- γ -D-Glu-amide, γ -D-Glu-amide- γ -D-Glu-amide, γ -D-Glu-amide- β -D-Asp-amide.

10 15

103. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 99-102, wherein Q_2 is a bond

104. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 1, 2 or 99-102, wherein Q_2 is selected from the group consisting of $-\text{CO}-((\text{C R}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{NH}-\text{CO})-$ and $-(\text{CO}-(\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{CO}-\text{NH})_{1-4}-$, where R^5 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$ or $-\text{CONH}_2$ and R^6 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$;

20

105. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 1, 2 or 99-104, wherein Q_2 is $-\text{CO}-\text{CH}_2-(\text{CHCONH}_2)-\text{NH}-\text{CO}-$; $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_2-(\text{CHCONH}_2)-\text{NH}-\text{CO}-$ or $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_3-(\text{CHCONH}_2)-\text{NH}-\text{CO}-$

25

106. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 1, 2 or 104-105, wherein Q_1 is a bond.

30

107. Insulin derivative according any of paragraphs 99-106, wherein one of Q_3 , Q_4 , or Q_5 is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m-$ where m is an integer in the range of 1 to 32 or 1-12.

108. Insulin derivative according to paragraph 107, wherein m is 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10 or 11.

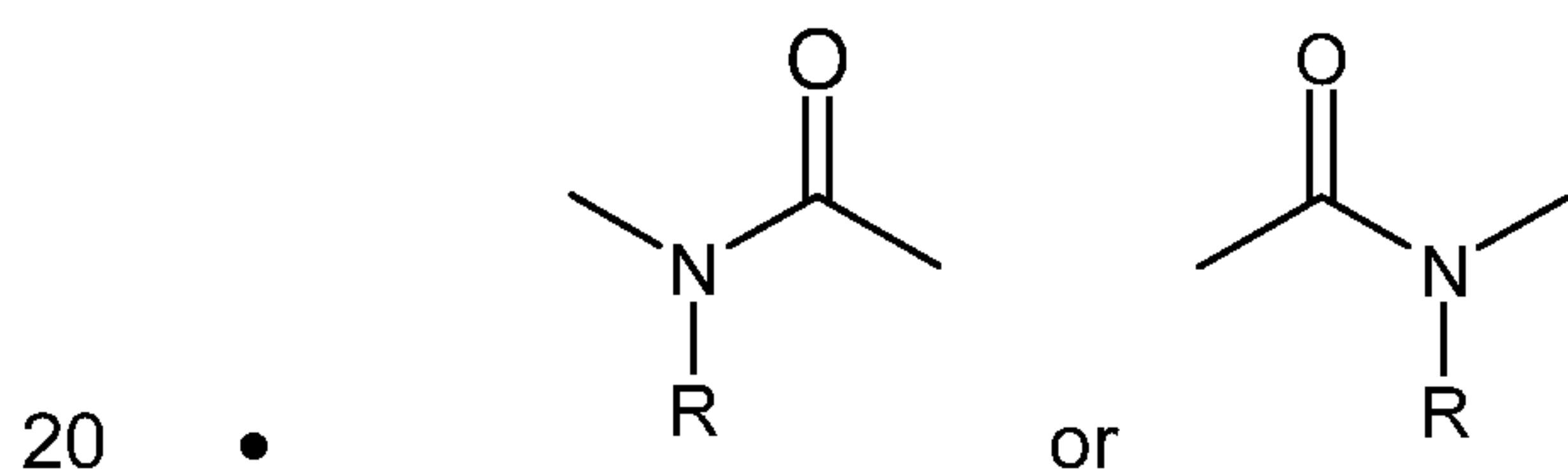
109. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 99-108, wherein one of Q₃, Q₄, or Q₅ is (CH₂CH₂O)_y-; (CH₂CH₂CH₂O)_y-; (CH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂O)_y-; (CH₂CH₂OCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂O)_y- or (CH₂CH₂CH₂OCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂O)_y-; -(CH₂OCH₂)_y- where y is 1-20.

110. Insulin derivative according to paragraph 109, wherein one of Q₃, Q₄, or Q₅ is (CH₂CH₂O)_y- or (CH₂CH₂OCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂O)_y wherein y is in the range of 1-12, 2-4 or 2-3

111. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 109-110, wherein y is 1.

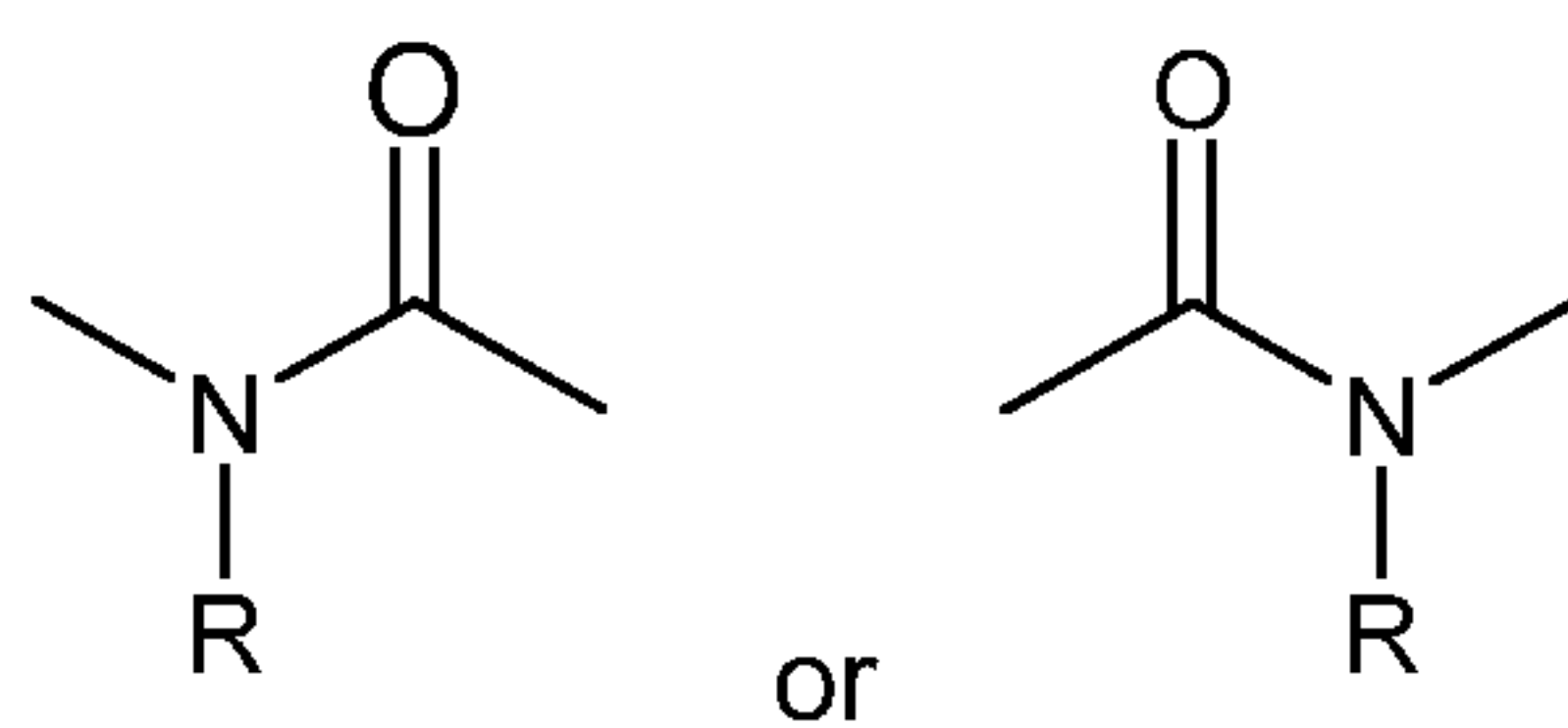
112. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 99-111, wherein X₁, X₂ and X₃ are independently of each other

- O;
- -C=O
- a bond;
- NCOR¹, where R¹ can be H, -CH₃ or -(CH)₁₋₆-CH₃; or



where R is hydrogen, C₁₋₃-alkyl, C₂₋₃-alkenyl or C₂₋₃-alkynyl;

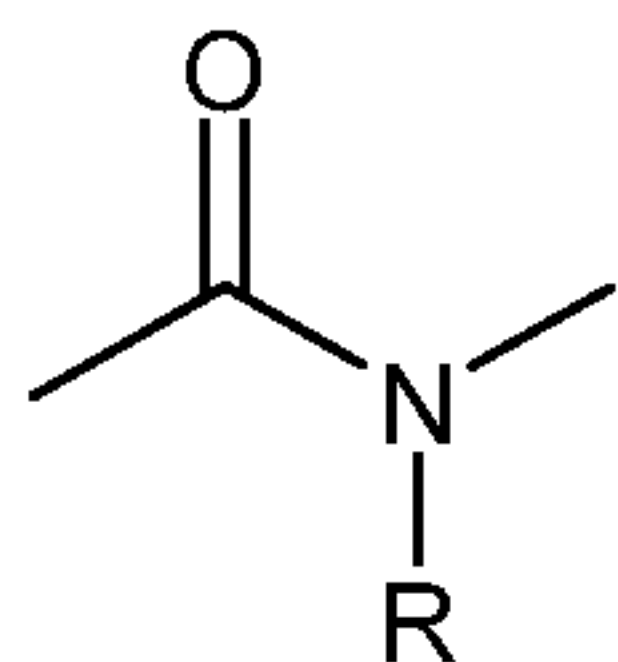
113. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 99-112, wherein X₁, X₂ and X₃ are:



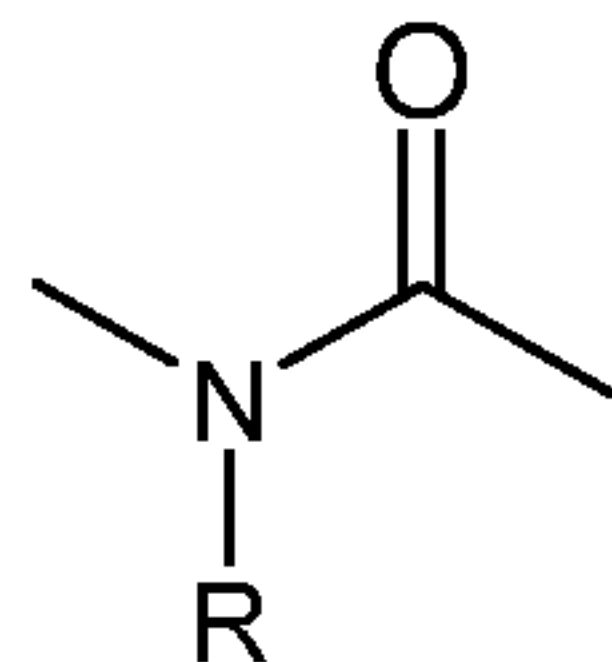
where R is hydrogen, C₁₋₃-alkyl, C₂₋₃-alkenyl or C₂₋₃-alkynyl;

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114. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 99-113, wherein X_1 is



where R is H and wherein X_2 is



where R is H.

115. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 99-114, wherein n is 0, 1, 2 or

5 3.

116. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 99-115, wherein Z is $-\text{COOH}$.

117. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 99-115, wherein Z is

$-\text{CH}(\text{COOH})_2$.

10

118. An insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 99-115, wherein Z is

$-\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{COOH})_2$.

119. An insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 99-115, wherein Z is –

15 SO_3H .

120. An insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 99-115, wherein Z is –

PO_3H .

121. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 1-2 or 99-120 wherein the insulin derivative is

$\text{N}^{\text{B29}}-(3-(3-\{4-[3-(7\text{-carboxyheptanoylamino})\text{propoxy}]\text{butoxy}\}\text{propylcarbamoyl})\text{-propionyl-}\gamma\text{-glutamylamide})\text{ desB30 human Insulin}$.

In one aspect of the invention Q_1 is an amino acid amide of an amino acid with a carboxylic acid in the side chain, or an amino acid with an uncharged side chain, the amino acid amide residue or amino acid residue having from 2 to 10 carbon atoms.

Q_1 can also be a chain composed of two, three or four amino acid amide of an amino acid with a carboxylic acid in the side chain and/or an amino acid with an uncharged side chain. The chain of amino acids may comprise at least one amino acid containing an amide. Thus, Q_1 can, for example, be selected from the group comprising β -L-Asp-amide, β -D-Asp-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide and γ -D-Glu-amide.

30

In one aspect Q_1 is a chain composed of two uncharged amino acid residues, which has from 4 to 10 carbon atoms. The amino acids can comprise an amide. Examples of such amino acid residues are β -L-Asp-amide- β -L-Asp-amide, β -L-Asp-amide- γ -L-Glu-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide- γ -L-Glu-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide- β -L-Asp-amide, β -L-Asp-amide- β -D-Asp-amide, β -L-Asp-amide- γ -D-Glu-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide- γ -D-Glu-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide- β -D-Asp-amide, β -D-Asp-amide- β -L-Asp-amide, β -D-Asp-amide- γ -L-Glu-amide, γ -D-Glu-amide- γ -L-Glu-amide, γ -D-Glu-amide- β -L-Asp-amide, β -D-Asp-amide- β -D-Asp-amide, β -D-Asp-amide- γ -D-Glu-amide, γ -D-Glu-amide- γ -D-Glu-amide, γ -D-Glu-amide- β -D-Asp-amide,

In one aspect of the invention Q_1 is a chain composed of three amino acid residues, independently having from 4 to 10 carbon atoms, where at least one of the amino acid residues of the chain being selected from the group of residues having an amide. The combination of the three amino acid amides can be any combination of β -L-Asp-amide, β -D-Asp-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide and γ -D-Glu-amide, which means that 64 different combinations are possible.

In a further aspect, Q_1 is a chain composed of four amino acid residues, independently having from 4 to 10 carbon atoms, where at least one of the amino acid residues of the chain being selected from the group of residues having an amide. The combination of the four amino acid amides can be any combination of β -L-Asp-amide, β -D-Asp-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide and γ -D-Glu-amide, which means that 256 different combinations are possible.

122. An insulin derivative having a substituent attached to desB30 human insulin at either the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain or at an ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of desB30 human insulin, which substituent comprises at least one fatty difunctionalized moiety with about 6 to about 32 carbon atoms and an uncharged linker of the formula $-\text{CO}-((\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}-\text{NH}-\text{CO})_{1-4}$ which links the fatty difunctionalized moiety to desB30 human insulin, wherein the fatty difunctionalized moiety comprises an aromatic group.

123. Insulin derivative according to paragraph 122, wherein the uncharged linker is selected from the group consisting of: $-\text{CO}-\text{CH}_2-\text{NH}-\text{CO}$, $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{NH}-\text{CO}$, $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_3-\text{NH}-\text{CO}$ and $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_1-\text{NH}-\text{CO}$.

124. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 122 or 123, wherein the fatty difunctionalized moiety is



wherein

- 5 • Ar can be arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected from the group consisting of $-CH_3$, $-(CH)_{1-6}-CH_3$, $-CONR^1R^2$ or $-SO_2NR^1R^2$, where R^1 and R^2 , independently of each other can be H, $-CH_3$ or $-(CH)_{1-6}-CH_3$;
- $Y_1 - Y_6$ independently of each other can be O, S, S=O, SO_2 or a bond;
- s, w, t and z independently of each other are zero or an integer from 1 to 10 so that the
10 sum of s, w, t and z is in the range from 4 to 30,
- v_1 , v_2 , and v_3 independently of each other can be zero or 1 with the proviso that $Y_1 - Y_6$ do not link to each other and that the structure $-O-(CH_2)_1-O-$ does not occur; and
- T is a functional group selected from carboxy, amino or hydroxyl groups.

15 125. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 122-124, wherein the insulin derivative is $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -4-[11-(4-Carboxyphenyl) undecanoylamino] butyryl desB30 human insulin.

126. An insulin derivative having a substituent attached to a parent insulin moiety at either the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain or at an ϵ -amino
20 group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of the parent insulin moiety, which substituent comprises at least one fatty difunctionalized moiety with about 6 to about 32 carbon atoms and an uncharged linker which links the fatty difunctionalized moiety to the parent insulin, provided that the uncharged linker does not comprise $-(CO-(CH_2)_{1-6}-NH-CO)_{1-4}-$ if the insulin substituent comprises an aromatic group and that the substituent does
25 not comprise one or more residues selected from the group of $-CO-(CH_2)_2-CO-NH-(CH_2CH_2O)_2-$, $-CO-(CH_2)_2-CO-NH-CH_2-(CH_2CH_2O)_2-$, $-CO-(CH_2)_2-CO-NH-(CH_2CH_2O)_3-$ and $-CO-(CH_2)_2-CO-NH-CH_2-(CH_2CH_2OCH_2CH_2CH_2CH_2O)-$.

127. An insulin derivative having a substituent attached to a parent insulin moiety at
30 either the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain or at an ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of the parent insulin moiety, which substituent comprises at least one fatty difunctionalized moiety with about 6 to about 32 carbon atoms and an uncharged linker which links the fatty difunctionalized moiety to the parent insulin, provided that the substituent does not comprise one or more residues
35 selected from the group of $-CO-(CH_2)_2-CO-NH-(CH_2CH_2O)_2-$, $-CO-(CH_2)_2-CO-NH-$

$\text{CH}_2 - (\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_2-$, $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_2 - \text{CO}-\text{NH}-(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_3-$ and $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_2 - \text{CO}-\text{NH}-$
 $\text{CH}_2 - (\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O}) -$.

128. An insulin derivative having a substituent attached to a parent insulin moiety at
 5 either the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain or at an ϵ -amino
 group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of the parent insulin moiety, which
 substituent comprises at least one fatty difunctionalized moiety with about 6 to about 32
 carbon atoms and an uncharged linker which links the fatty difunctionalized moiety to the
 parent insulin, provided that the substituent does not comprise one or more residues
 10 selected from the group of $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_2 - \text{CO}-\text{NH}-(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_2-$, $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_2 - \text{CO}-\text{NH}-$
 $\text{CH}_2 - (\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_2-$, $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_2 - \text{CO}-\text{NH}-(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_3-$ and $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_2 - \text{CO}-\text{NH}-$
 $\text{CH}_2 - (\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O}) -$ characterized by the uncharged linker being selected
 from the group consisting of

- an amino acid amide of an amino acid with a carboxylic acid in the side chain, or an
 15 amino acid with an uncharged side chain, which residue forms, with its carboxylic acid
 group, an amide group together with the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid
 residue of the B chain of Ins or together with the ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue
 present in the A or B chain of Ins, or
- a chain composed of two, three or four α -amino acid amide or amino acid residues as
 20 specified above linked together via amide bonds, which chain – via an amide bond – is linked
 to the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain of Ins or to the ϵ -
 amino group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of Ins
- $-\text{COCH}(\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- 25 • $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- 30 • $-\text{COCH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CONH}-$; or
- $-\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6} - \text{CO}-\text{NH})_{1-4}-$, where R^5 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$ or $-\text{CONH}_2$ and R^6 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$
 provided that if an amine in the uncharged linker forms a bond with the rest of the
 substituent, the amine must be bound to the rest of the substituent via a carbonyl group.

129. An insulin derivative having a substituent attached to a parent insulin moiety at either the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain or at an ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of the parent insulin moiety, which substituent comprises at least one fatty difunctionalized moiety with about 6 to about 32 carbon atoms and an uncharged linker which links the fatty difunctionalized moiety to the parent insulin, provided that the uncharged linker does not comprise $-(\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}-\text{NH}-\text{CO})_{1-4}-$ if the insulin substituent comprises an aromatic group and that the substituent does not comprise one or more residues selected from the group of $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{CO}-\text{NH}-(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_2-$, $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{CO}-\text{NH}-\text{CH}_2-(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_2-$, $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{CO}-\text{NH}-(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_3-$ and $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{CO}-\text{NH}-\text{CH}_2-(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})-$ characterized by the uncharged linker being selected from the group consisting of

- an amino acid amide of an amino acid with a carboxylic acid in the side chain, or an amino acid with an uncharged side chain, which residue forms, with its carboxylic acid group, an amide group together with the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain of Ins or together with the ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of Ins, or
- a chain composed of two, three or four α -amino acid amide or amino acid residues as specified above linked together via amide bonds, which chain – via an amide bond – is linked to the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain of Ins or to the ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of Ins,
- $-\text{COCH}(\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CONH}-$
- $-\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{NH}-\text{CO})_{1-4}-$; or
- $-\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{CO}-\text{NH})_{1-4}-$, where R^5 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$ or $-\text{CONH}_2$ and R^6 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$, provided that if an amine in the uncharged linker forms a bond with the rest of the substituent, the amine must be bound to the rest of the substituent via a carbonyl group.

130. An insulin derivative having a substituent attached to a parent insulin moiety at either the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain or at an ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of the parent insulin moiety, which substituent comprises at least one fatty difunctionalized moiety with about 6 to about 32 carbon atoms and an uncharged linker which links the fatty difunctionalized moiety to the parent insulin, provided that the substituent does not comprise one or more residues selected from the group of $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{CO}-\text{NH}-(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_2-$, $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{CO}-\text{NH}-\text{CH}_2-(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_2-$, $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{CO}-\text{NH}-(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_3-$ and $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{CO}-\text{NH}-\text{CH}_2-(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})-$ characterized by the uncharged linker being selected from the group consisting of

- an amino acid amide of an amino acid with a carboxylic acid in the side chain, or an amino acid with an uncharged side chain, which residue forms, with its carboxylic acid group, an amide group together with the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain of Ins or together with the ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of Ins, or
- a chain composed of two, three or four α -amino acid amide or amino acid residues as specified above linked together via amide bonds, which chain – via an amide bond – is linked to the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain of Ins or to the ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of Ins,
- $-\text{COCH}(\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CONH}-$
- $-\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{NH}-\text{CO})_{1-4}-$; or
- $-\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{CO}-\text{NH})_{1-4}-$, where R^5 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$ or $-\text{CONH}_2$ and R^6 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$

provided that if an amine in the uncharged linker forms a bond with the rest of the substituent, the amine must be bound to the rest of the substituent via a carbonyl group.

131. An insulin derivative having a substituent attached to a parent insulin moiety at either the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain or at an ϵ -amino

group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of the parent insulin moiety, which substituent comprises at least one fatty difunctionalized moiety with about 6 to about 32 carbon atoms and an uncharged linker which links the fatty difunctionalized moiety to the parent insulin, provided that a non-linking amide is present in the linker if the substituent

5 comprises an aromatic group and that the substituent does not comprise one or more residues selected from the group of $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{CO}-\text{NH}-(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_2-$, $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{CO}-\text{NH}-\text{CH}_2-(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_2-$, $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{CO}-\text{NH}-(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_3-$ and $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{CO}-\text{NH}-\text{CH}_2-(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})-$.

10 132. An insulin derivative having a substituent attached to a parent insulin moiety at either the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain or at an ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of the parent insulin moiety, which substituent comprises at least one fatty difunctionalized moiety with about 6 to about 32 carbon atoms and an uncharged linker which links the fatty difunctionalized moiety to the

15 parent insulin, provided that the fatty difunctionalized moiety is an aliphatic chain, a non-linking amide is present in the linker.

133. Insulin derivative according to paragraph 121-129, wherein the substituent is attached to the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain of the

20 parent insulin.

134. Insulin derivative according to paragraph 121-129, wherein the substituent is attached to the ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of the parent insulin.

25 135. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 121-129 or 131 wherein the substituent is attached to the ϵ -amino group of the Lys residue in position B29 present in the B chain of the parent insulin.

30 136. Insulin derivative according to paragraph 132, wherein the substituent is attached to the ϵ -amino group of the Lys residue in position B29 in desB30 human insulin

137. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 121-129, wherein the linker comprises an amide or an N-substituted amide of the formula $-\text{CONR}^7\text{R}^8$, where R^7 and R^8 ,

35 independently of each other can be hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl or isopropyl.

138. Insulin derivative according to paragraph 134, where R^7 and R^8 are hydrogen.

139. Insulin derivative according to paragraph 121-129, wherein the linker
5 comprises a non-linking amide.

140. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 121-129, wherein the
substituent comprises one or more residues of ethyleneglycol, propyleneglycol and/or
butyleneglycol containing independently at each termini a group selected from $-NH_2$ and $-$
10 $COOH$, which is used to connect the individual components of the substituent.

141. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 121-129, wherein the substituent
comprises at least one aromatic group.

15 142. Insulin derivative according to any of the paragraphs 1-141, wherein the parent
insulin is human insulin or porcine insulin.

143 Insulin derivative according to any of the paragraphs 1-141, wherein the parent
insulin is an insulin analogue.
20

144. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 143, wherein the amino acid
residue at position B30 of the parent insulin is Lys or has been deleted.

145. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 143-44, wherein the parent insulin is
25 desB30 human insulin.

146. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 143-145, wherein the amino
acid residue at position B1 of the parent insulin has been deleted.

30 147. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 143-146, wherein the amino
acid residue in position A21 of the parent insulin is Gly or Asn.

148. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 143-147, wherein the amino
acid residue at position B3 of the parent insulin is Lys.
35

149. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 143-148, wherein the amino acid residue at position B28 of the parent insulin is Asp or Lys.

150. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 143-149, wherein the amino acid residue at position B29 of the parent insulin is Pro or Thr.

151. Insulin derivative according to paragraph 149, wherein the parent insulin is AspB28 human insulin.

152. Insulin derivative according to paragraph 147, wherein the parent insulin is GlyA21 human insulin or GlyA21desB30 human insulin or GlyA21ArgB31ArgB32 human insulin.

153. Insulin derivative according to paragraph 148, wherein the parent insulin is LysB3GluB29 human insulin.

154. Insulin derivative according to paragraph 149-150, wherein the parent insulin is LysB28ProB29 human insulin.

155. Insulin derivative according to paragraph 144 and 150, wherein the parent insulin is ThrB29LysB30 human insulin.

156. A zinc complex of an insulin derivative according to any one of the preceding paragraphs wherein two zinc ions, three zinc ions, four zinc ions, five zinc ions, six zinc ions, seven zinc ions, eight zinc ions, nine zinc ions or ten six zinc ions are bound per six molecules of insulin derivative.

157. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of diabetes in a patient in need of such treatment, comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an insulin derivative according to paragraphs 1-155 or a zinc complex according to paragraph 156 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

158. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of diabetes in a patient in need of such treatment, comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an insulin derivative according to paragraphs 1-155 or a zinc complex according to paragraph 156 in mixture with an insulin

or an insulin analogue which has a rapid onset of action, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

159. A method of treating diabetes in a patient in need of such a treatment, comprising
5 administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of an insulin derivative according to paragraphs 1-155 or a zinc complex according to paragraph 156 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

160. A method of treating diabetes in a patient in need of such a treatment, comprising
10 administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of an insulin derivative according to paragraphs 1-155 or a zinc complex according to paragraph 156 in mixture with an insulin or an insulin analogue which has a rapid onset of action, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

161. A method according to paragraphs 138 or 139 for pulmonary treatment of
15 diabetes.

162. Use of an an insulin derivative according to paragraphs 1-155 or a zinc complex
according to paragraph 156 for the manufacture of a pharmaceutical composition for the use
20 in the treatment of type 1 diabetes, type 2 diabetes and other states that cause hyperglycaemia.

163. Use of an insulin derivative according to paragraphs 1-155 or a zinc complex
according to paragraph 156 in mixture with an insulin or an insulin analogue which has a rapid
25 onset of action for the manufacture of a pharmaceutical composition for the use in the treatment of type 1 diabetes, type 2 diabetes and other states that cause hyperglycaemia.

164. A mixture of an insulin derivative according to paragraphs 1-155 or a zinc
complex according to paragraph 156 and a rapid acting insulin analogue selected group
30 consisting of AspB28 human insulin; LysB28ProB29 human insulin and LysB3GluB29 human insulin.

165. An insulin derivative, wherein the insulin derivative is selected from the group
consisting of:
35 N^εB²⁹-ω-carboxy-pentadecanoyl-γ-L-glutamylamide desB30 human insulin,

- $N^{\epsilon B29}$ - ω -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- γ -amino-butanoyl desB30 human insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ - ω -carboxy-tetradecanoyl- γ -L-glutamylamide desB30 human insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ - ω -carboxy-tridecanoyl- γ -L-glutamylamide desB30 human insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ - ω -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- β -alanyl desB30 human insulin,
5 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ - ω -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- γ -L-aspartylamide desB30 human insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ - ω -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- ϵ -aminohexanoyl desB30 human insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ - ω -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- δ -aminopentanoyl desB30 human insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -10-(4-carboxyphenoxy)-decanoyl- γ -L-glutamylamide desB30 human insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -4-[11-(4-Carboxyphenyl) undecanoylamino] butyryl desB30 human insulin,
10 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -(3-(3-{4-[3-(7-carboxyheptanoylamino)propoxy]butoxy}propylcarbamoyl)-propionyl- γ -
glutamylamide) desB30 human Insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ - ω - carboxy-tridecanoyl- γ -amino-butanoyl desB30 human insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ - ω -carboxy-undecanoyl- γ - amino-butanoyl desB30 human insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ - ω -carboxy-tetradecanoyl- γ -amino-butanoyl desB30 human insulin,
15 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -{4-[10-(4-Carboxy-phenoxy)-decanoylamino]-butyryl} desB30 insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -{4-[(14-Carboxy-tetradecanoylamino)-methyl]-benzoyl} desB30 insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -[16-(4-Carboxy-phenoxy)-hexadecanoyl] desB30 insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -{4-[(15-carboxypentadecanoylamino)benzoyl]- desB30 human insulin and
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -{4-[(15-Carboxy-pentadecanoylamino)-methyl]-benzoyl}-desB30 insulin
20 166. Insulin derivative as described in the examples.

The invention will further be summarized in the following paragraphs:

1a. Insulin derivative having a substituent attached to a parent insulin moiety at
 either the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain or at an ϵ -amino
 25 group of a Lys residue present in the B chain of the parent insulin moiety, which substituent
 comprises at least one fatty difunctionalized moiety with about 6 to about 32 carbon atoms
 and an uncharged linker which link the fatty difunctionalized moiety to the parent insulin,
 provided that the uncharged linker does not comprise $-(CO-(CH_2)_{2-6}-NH-CO)_{1-4}-$ if the
 insulin substituent comprises an aromatic group.

30 2a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 1a, wherein the substituent is
 attached to the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B-chain of the
 parent insulin.

3a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 1a, wherein the substituent is
 attached to the ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the B-chain of the parent insulin.

4a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphss 1a or 3a wherein the substituent is attached to the ϵ -amino group of the Lys residue in position B29 present in the B-chain of the parent insulin.

5a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 4a, wherein the substituent is attached to the ϵ -amino group of the Lys residue in position B29 in LysB29desB30 human insulin

6a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 1a-5a, wherein the linker comprises an amide or a N-substituted amide of the formula $-\text{CONR}_7\text{R}_8$, where R_7 and R_8 , independently of each other can be hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl or isopropyl.

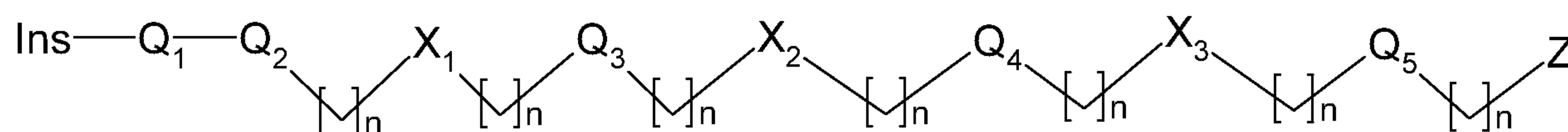
7a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 6a, where R_7 and R_8 are hydrogen.

8a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 1, wherein the linker comprises an amide.

9a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 1a-7a, wherein the substituent comprises one or more residues of ethyleneglycol, propyleneglycol and/or butyleneglycol containing independently at each termini a group selected from $-\text{NH}_2$ and $-\text{COOH}$.

10a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphss 1a-7a, wherein the substituent comprises at least one aromatic group.

11a. Insulin derivatives according to paragraphss 1a having the formula



wherein Ins is the parent insulin moiety which via the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain or an ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the B chain of the insulin moiety is bound to is bound to Q_1 or Q_2 in the substituent;

each n is independently 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6;

Q_1 is:

- an α -amino acid amide residue having a carboxylic acid group in the substituent which residue forms, with one of its carboxylic acid groups, an amide group together with the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain or together with the ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the B chain of the parent insulin;
- a chain composed of two, three or four α -amino acid amide residues linked together via amide bonds, which chain – via an amide bond – is linked to the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain or to the ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue

present in the B chain of the parent insulin, the amino acid residues of W being selected from the group of amino acid residues having a neutral substituent and amino acid residues having a carboxylic acid group in the substituent so that W has at least one amino acid residue which has a carboxylic acid group in the substituent; or

- 5 • a bond

Q₂ is:

- 10 • -COCH(CONH₂)-
 • -COCH₂N(CH₂CONH₂)-
 • -COCH₂N(CH₂CONH₂)COCH₂N(CH₂CONH₂)
 • -COCH₂CH₂N(CH₂CH₂CONH₂)-
 • -COCH₂CH₂N(CH₂CH₂CONH₂)-COCH₂CH₂N(CH₂CH₂CONH₂)-
 • -COCH₂N(CH₂CH₂CONH₂)-
 • -COCH₂CH₂N(CH₂CONH₂)-
 • -(CO-(CH₂)₂₋₆-NH-CO)₁₋₄-;
 • -(CO-(CH₂)₂₋₆-CO-NH)₁₋₄-;
 • -(CO-(C R₉R₁₀)₁₋₆-CO-NH)₁₋₄-, where R₉ and R₁₀, independently of each other can be H, -CH₃, -(CH₂)₁₋₆CH₃ or -CONH₂.; or
 • a bond

provided that at least one of Q₁ or Q₂ is not a bond;

20

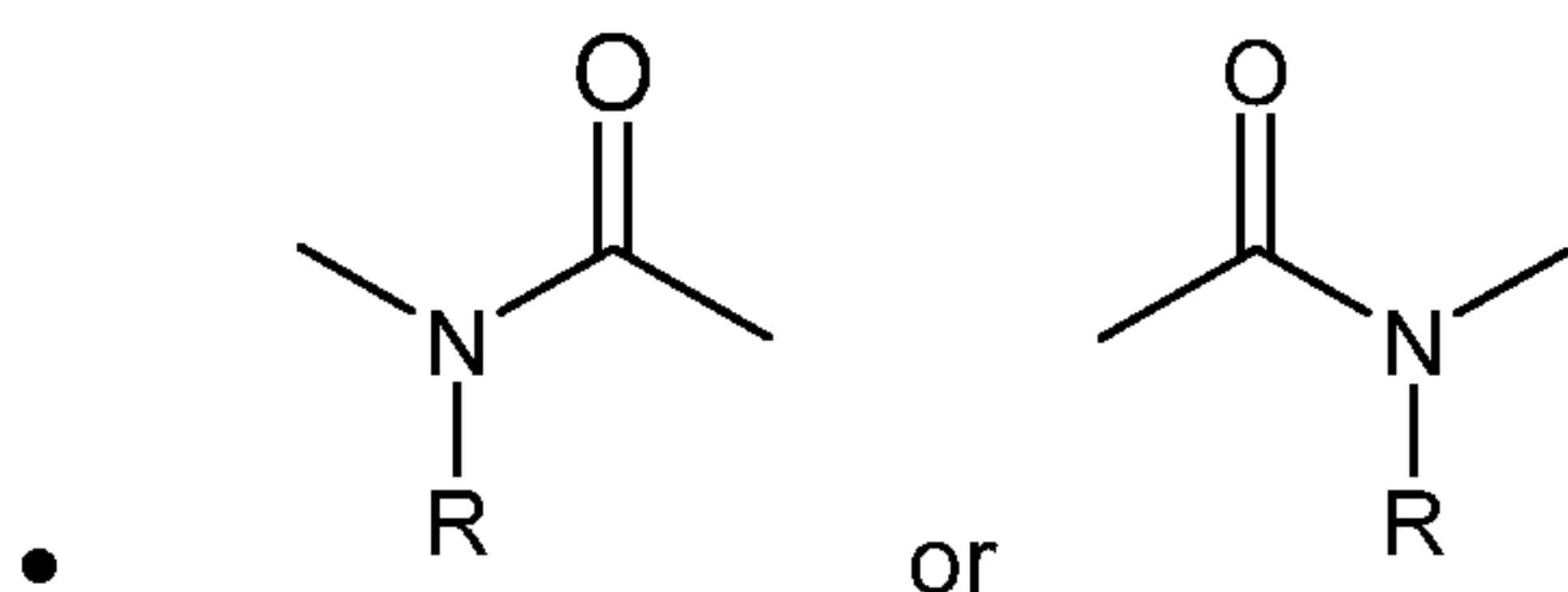
Q₃, Q₄, and Q₅ independently of each other can be

- 25 • -(CH₂)_m- where m is an integer in the range of 1 to 32;
 • a divalent hydrocarbon chain comprising 1, 2 or 3 -CH=CH- groups and a number of -CH₂- groups sufficient to give a total number of carbon atoms in the chain in the range of 4 to 32;
 • (CH₂CH₂O)_y-; (CH₂CH₂CH₂O)_y-; (CH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂O)_y-; (CH₂CH₂OCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂O)_y- or (CH₂CH₂CH₂OCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂O)_y-; -(CH₂OCH₂)_y- where y is 1-20;
 • -(CR₃R₄)₁₋₆-(NHCO-(CR₃R₄)₁₋₆-NHCO)₁₋₂-(CR₃R₄)₁₋₆ or -(CR₃R₄)₁₋₆-(CONH-(CR₃R₄)₁₋₆-CONH)₁₋₂-(CR₃R₄)₁₋₆-, -(CR₃R₄)₁₋₆-(NHCO-(CR₃R₄)₁₋₆-CONH)₁₋₂-(CR₃R₄)₁₋₆- or -
 30 (CR₃R₄)₁₋₆-(CONH-(CR₃R₄)₁₋₆-NHCO)₁₋₂-(CR₃R₄)₁₋₆ where R₃ and R₄ independently of each other and independently for each carbon can be H, -COOH or OH,
 • -(CR₅R₆)₁₋₆-, where R₅ and R₆ independently of each other and independently for each carbon can be H, -COOH, (CH₂)₁₋₆COOH ;

- $-((CR_1R_2)_{1-6}-NR_{15}-CO)_{1-4}-$, where R_1 , R_2 and R_{15} independently of each other can be H, $-CH_3$, $-CH_{1-6}CH_3$, $-SO_3H$, $-(CH_2)_{1-6}-SO_3H$, $-(CH_2)_{1-6}-O-PO_3H_2$ or $CONH_2$ and R_{15} can be arylene which may be substituted with one or two groups of R_1 , R_2 as defined above;
 - NR_{15} where R_{15} is defined as above;
- 5 • arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected from the group consisting of $-COOH$, $-CH_3$, $-CH_{1-6}CH_3$, $-SO_3H$, $-(CH_2)_p-SO_3H$, $-CONR_1R_2$ or $-SO_2NR_1R_2$, where R_1 and R_2 , independently of each other can be H, $-CH_3$, $-(CH)_{1-6}-CH_3$, $-SO_3H$, $-(CH_2)_{1-6}-SO_3H$, $-(CH_2)_{1-6}-O-PO_3H_2$ or $CONH_2$;
- a divalent hydrocarbon chain of the formula
- 10 $-(CH_2)_s-Y_1-(C_6H_4)_{v1}-Y_2-(CH_2)_w-Y_3-(C_6H_4)_{v2}-Y_4-(CH_2)_t-Y_5-(C_6H_4)_{v3}-Y_6-(CH_2)_z-$
 wherein $Y_1 - Y_6$ independently of each other can be O; S or a bond; where s, w, t and z independently of each other are zero or an integer from 1 to 10 so that the sum of s, w, t and z is in the range from 4 to 30, and v_1 , v_2 , and v_3 independently of each other can be zero or 1 with the proviso that $Y_1 - Y_6$ do not link to each other; or
- 15 • a bond;
- with the proviso that $Q_3 - Q_5$ are different;

X_1 , X_2 and X_3 are independently of each other:

- 20 • O;
- $-C=O$
- a bond; or



where R is hydrogen, C_{1-3} -alkyl, C_{2-3} -alkenyl or C_{2-3} -alkynyl;

25 and

Z is:

- 30 $-COOH$;
- $-CO-Asp$;
- $-CO-Glu$;
- $-CO-Gly$;
- $-CO-Sar$;

$-\text{CH}(\text{COOH})_2$;
 $-\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{COOH})_2$;
 $-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$
 $-\text{OSO}_3\text{H}$
5 $-\text{OPO}_3\text{H}_2$
 $-\text{PO}_3\text{H}_2$ or
 $-\text{tetrazol-5-yl}$ or
 $-\text{O-W}_1$,

10 where W_1 is arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected from the group consisting of $-\text{COOH}$, $-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$, $-\text{CONR}_{13}\text{R}_{14}$ or $-\text{SO}_2\text{NR}_{12}\text{R}_{14}$, where R_{13} and R_{14} , independently of each other can be H , $-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}-\text{O}-\text{PO}_3\text{H}_2$, $-\text{CONH}_2$ or tetrazo-5-yl; and any Zn^{2+} complex thereof.

15 12a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 11a, wherein Q_1 is an amino acid amide residue having from 4 to 10 carbon atoms.

13a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 11a-12a, wherein Q_1 is selected from the group consisting of β -D-Asp-amide, β -L-Asp-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide and γ -D-Glu-amide.

20 14a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 11a, wherein Q_1 is a chain of amino acid amide residues.

15a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphss 11a or 14a, wherein Q_1 is a chain of two amino acid amide residues selected from the group consisting of β -L-Asp-amide- β -L-Asp-amide, β -L-Asp-amide- γ -L-Glu-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide- γ -L-Glu-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide- β -L-Asp-amide, β -L-Asp-amide- β -D-Asp-amide, β -L-Asp-amide- γ -D-Glu-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide- γ -D-Glu-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide- β -D-Asp-amide, β -D-Asp-amide- β -L-Asp-amide, β -D-Asp-amide- γ -L-Glu-amide, γ -D-Glu-amide- γ -L-Glu-amide, γ -D-Glu-amide- β -L-Asp-amide, β -D-Asp-amide- β -D-Asp-amide, β -D-Asp-amide- γ -D-Glu-amide, γ -D-Glu-amide- γ -D-Glu-amide, γ -D-Glu-amide- β -D-Asp-amide, ,

30 16a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 11a-15a, wherein Q_2 is a bond

17a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 11a-15a, wherein Q_2 is selected from the group consisting of $-(\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_{2-6}-\text{NH}-\text{CO})_{1-4}-$; $-(\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_{2-6}-\text{CO}-\text{NH})_{1-4}-$;

18a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 17a, wherein Q_2 is selected from the group consisting of $-(CO-(CH_2)_2-NH-CO)_1-$ or $-(CO-(CH_2)_3-NH-CO)_{1-4}-$.

19a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphss 17a-18a, wherein Q_1 is a bond.

20a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 11a wherein

5 Q_1 is:

- an α -amino acid amide residue having a carboxylic acid group in the substituent which residue forms, with one of its carboxylic acid groups, an amide group together with the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain or together with the ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the B chain of the parent insulin;
- 10 • a chain composed of two, three or four α -amino acid amide residues linked together via amide bonds, which chain – via an amide bond – is linked to the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain or to the ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the B chain of the parent insulin, the amino acid residues of W being selected from the group of amino acid residues having a neutral substituent and amino acid residues having a carboxylic acid group in the substituent so that W has at least
- 15 one amino acid residue which has a carboxylic acid group in the substituent; or
- a bond

Q_2 is:

- $-COCH(CONH_2)-$
- 20 • $-COCH_2N(CH_2CONH_2)-$
- $-COCH_2N(CH_2CONH_2)COCH_2N(CH_2CONH_2)-$
- $-COCH_2CH_2N(CH_2CH_2CONH_2)-$
- $-COCH_2CH_2N(CH_2CH_2CONH_2)-COCH_2CH_2N(CH_2CH_2CONH_2)-$
- $-COCH_2N(CH_2CH_2CONH_2)-$
- 25 • $-COCH_2CH_2N(CH_2CONH_2)-$
- $-(CO-(CH_2)_{2-6}-NH-CO)_{1-4}-$;
- $-(CO-(CH_2)_{2-6}-CO-NH)_{1-4}-$;
- $-(CO-(C R_9 R_{10})_{1-6}-CO-NH)_{1-4}-$, where R_9 and R_{10} , independently of each other can be H, $-CH_3$, $-(CH_2)_{1-6}CH_3$ or $-CONH_2$; or
- 30 • a bond

provided that at least one of Q_1 or Q_2 is not a bond;

Q_3 is

- $-(CH_2)_m-$ where m is an integer in the range of 6 to 32;

- a divalent hydrocarbon chain comprising 1, 2 or 3 $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$ groups and a number of $-\text{CH}_2-$ groups sufficient to give a total number of carbon atoms in the chain in the range of 4 to 32; or
 - a divalent hydrocarbon chain of the formula $-(\text{CH}_2)_s\text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{CH}_2)_w-$ wherein v and w are integers or one of them is zero so that the sum of s and w is in the range of 6 to 30;
- X_1 , can be $-\text{C}=\text{O}$ or a bond;
- Q_4 , Q_5 , X_2 and X_3 are bonds;

All values of n are zero; and

10 Z is:

- $-\text{COOH}$;
- $-\text{CO}-\text{Asp}$;
- $-\text{CO}-\text{Glu}$;
- $-\text{CO}-\text{Gly}$;
- 15 $-\text{CO}-\text{Sar}$;
- $-\text{CH}(\text{COOH})_2$;
- $-\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{COOH})_2$;
- $-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$
- $-\text{OSO}_3\text{H}$
- 20 $-\text{OPO}_3\text{H}_2$
- $-\text{PO}_3\text{H}_2$ or
- $-\text{tetrazol-5-yl}$
- and any Zn^{2+} complex thereof

21a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 20a, wherein Q_1 is an amino acid amide residue having from 4 to 10 carbon atoms.

22a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 20a-21a, wherein Q_1 is selected from the group consisting of β -D-Asp-amide, β -L-Asp-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide and γ -D-Glu-amide.

23a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 20a, wherein Q_1 is a chain of amino acid amide residues.

24a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphss 20a or 23a, wherein Q_1 is a chain of two amino acid amide residues selected from the group consisting of β -L-Asp-amide- β -L-Asp-amide, β -L-Asp-amide- γ -L-Glu-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide- γ -L-Glu-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide- β -L-Asp-amide, β -L-Asp-amide- β -D-Asp-amide, β -L-Asp-amide- γ -D-Glu-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide- γ -D-Glu-amide, γ -L-Glu-amide- β -D-Asp-amide, β -D-Asp-amide- β -L-Asp-amide, β -D-Asp-

amide- γ -L-Glu-amide, γ -D-Glu-amide- γ -L-Glu-amide, γ -D-Glu-amide- β -L-Asp-amide, β -D-Asp-amide- β -D-Asp-amide, β -D-Asp-amide- γ -D-Glu-amide, γ -D-Glu-amide- γ -D-Glu-amide, γ -D-Glu-amide- β -D-Asp-amide,

25a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 20a-24a, wherein Q_2 is a
5 bond

26a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 21a-25a, wherein X_1 is –
C=O

27a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 20a-26a, wherein Q_2 is
selected from the group consisting of $CO(CONH_2)CH-$; $-(CO-(CH_2)_{2-6}-NH-CO)_{1-4}-$; $-(CO-$
10 $(CH_2)_{2-6}-CO-NH)_{1-4}-$;

28a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 20a or 27a, wherein Q_2 is
selected from the group consisting of $-(CO-(CH_2)_2-NH-CO)_{1-}$, $-(CO-(CH_2)_3-NH-CO)_{1-}$,
 $-(CO-(CH_2)_4-NH-CO)_{1-}$ or $-(CO-(CH_2)_5-NH-CO)_{1-}$.

29a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphss 27a or 28a, wherein Q_1 is a bond.

15 30a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 20a-29a, wherein Q_3 is –
 $(CH_2)_m-$ where m is an integer in the range of 6 to 32 or from 8 to 20.

31a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 30a, where m is 12, 13, 14, 15 or 16.

32a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 20a-31a, wherein Z is –
COOH.

20 33a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 20a-31a, wherein Z is
–CH(COOH)₂.

34a. An insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 20a-31a, wherein Z is
–N(CH₂COOH)₂.

25 35a. An insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 20a-31a, wherein Z is –
SO₃H.

36a. An insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 20a-31a, wherein Z is –
PO₃H.

37a. Insulin derivative according to any of the preceeding paragraphss selected
from the group consisting of N^{εB29}- ω -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- γ -L-glutamylamide desB30
30 human insulin, N^{εB29}- ω -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- γ -amino-butanoyl desB30 human insulin,
N^{εB29}- ω -carboxy-tetradecanoyl- γ -L-glutamylamide desB30 human insulin, N^{εB29}- ω -carboxy-
tridecanoyl- γ -L-glutamylamide desB30 human insulin, N^{εB29}- ω -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- β -
alanyl desB30 human insulin, N^{εB29}- ω -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- γ -L-aspartylamide desB30

human insulin, N^{εB29}-ω-carboxy-pentadecanoyl-ε-aminohexanoyl desB30 human insulin,
N^{εB29}-ω-carboxy-pentadecanoyl-δ-aminopentanoyl desB30 human insulin.

38a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 11a, wherein

5 Q₁ is:

- an α-amino acid amide residue having a carboxylic acid group in the substituent which residue forms, with one of its carboxylic acid groups, an amide group together with the α-amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain or together with the ε-amino group of a Lys residue present in the B chain of the parent insulin;
- 10 • a chain composed of two, three or four α-amino acid amide residues linked together via amide bonds, which chain – via an amide bond – is linked to the α-amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain or to the ε-amino group of a Lys residue present in the B chain of the parent insulin, the amino acid residues of W being selected from the group of amino acid residues having a neutral substituent and amino acid residues having a carboxylic acid group in the substituent so that W has at least
- 15 one amino acid residue which has a carboxylic acid group in the substituent; or
- a bond

Q₂ is:

- 20 • -COCH(CONH₂)-
- -COCH₂N(CH₂CONH₂)-
- -COCH₂N(CH₂CONH₂)COCH₂N(CH₂CONH₂)
- -COCH₂CH₂N(CH₂CH₂CONH₂)-
- -COCH₂CH₂N(CH₂CH₂CONH₂)-COCH₂CH₂N(CH₂CH₂CONH₂)-
- 25 • -COCH₂N(CH₂CH₂CONH₂)-
- -COCH₂CH₂N(CH₂CONH₂)-
- -(CO-(CH₂)₂₋₆-NH-CO)₁₋₄-;
- -(CO-(CH₂)₂₋₆-CO-NH)₁₋₄-;
- -(CO-(C R₉R₁₀)₁₋₆-CO-NH)₁₋₄-, where R₉ and R₁₀, independently of each other can
- 30 be H, -CH₃, -(CH₂)₁₋₆CH₃ or -CONH₂.; or
- a bond

provided that at least one of Q₁ or Q₂ is not a bond;

Q₃ is

- $-((CR_1R_2)_{1-6}-NR_{15}-CO)_{1-4}-$, where R_1 , R_2 and R_{15} independently of each other can be H, $-CH_3$, $-CH_{1-6}CH_3$, $-SO_3H$, $-(CH_2)_{1-6}-SO_3H$, $-(CH_2)_{1-6}-O-PO_3H_2$ or $CONH_2$ and R_{15} can be arylene which may be substituted with one or two groups of R_1 , R_2 as defined above;
- NR_{15} where R_{15} is defined as above,

5 • a bond

Q_4 is

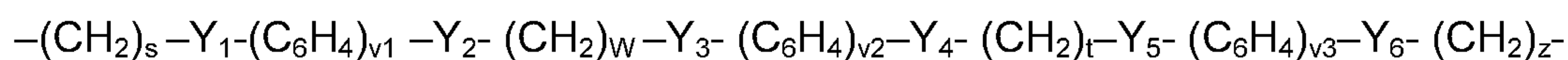
- $-(CH_2)_m-$ where m is an integer from 4 to 22;
- a divalent hydrocarbon chain comprising 1, 2 or 3 $-CH=CH-$ groups and a number of $-CH_2-$ groups sufficient to give a total number of carbon atoms in the chain in the

10

- arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected from the group consisting of $-COOH$, $-CH_3$, $-CH_pCH_3$, $-SO_3H$, $-(CH_2)_p-SO_3H$, $-CONR_1R_2$ or $-SO_2NR_1R_2$, where R_1 and R_2 , independently of each other can be H, $-CH_3$, $-(CH)_{1-6}-CH_3$, $-SO_3H$, $-(CH_2)_{1-6}-SO_3H$, $-(CH_2)_p-O-PO_3H_2$ or $CONH_2$; or

15

- a divalent hydrocarbon chain of the formula



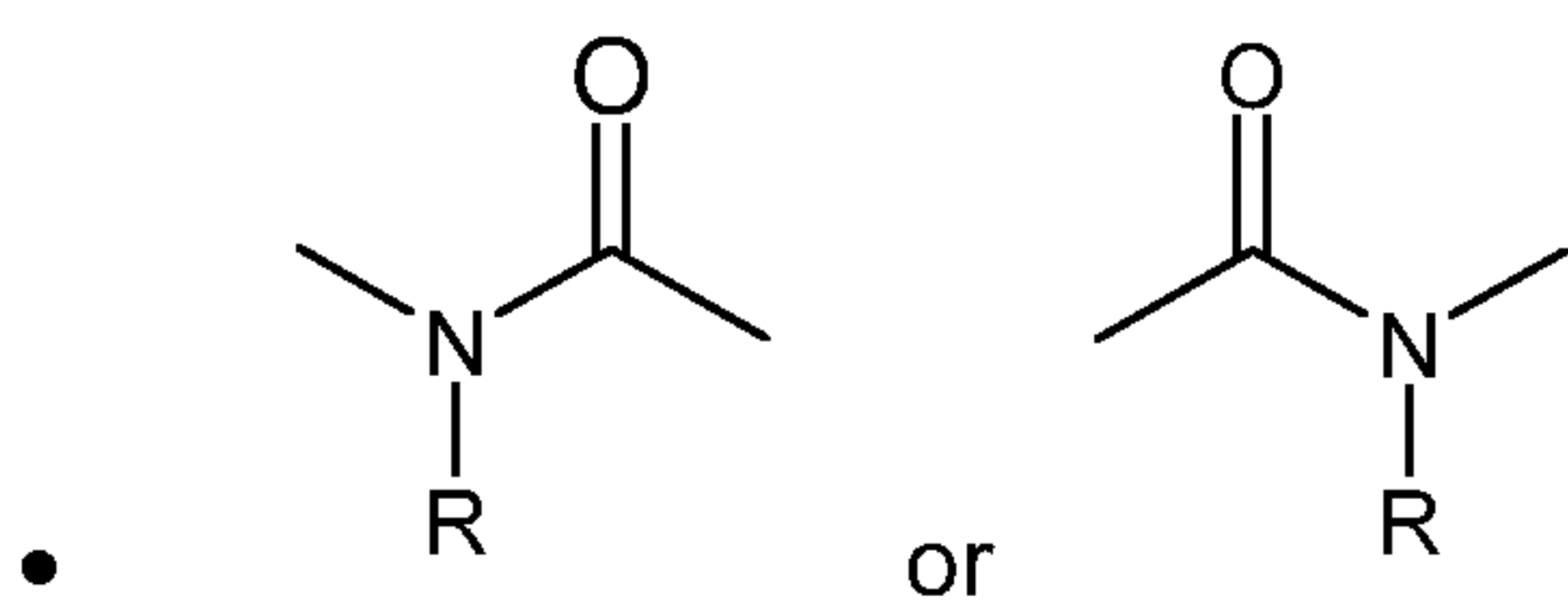
wherein $Y_1 - Y_6$ independently of each other can be O; S or a bond; where s , w , t and z independently of each other are zero or an integer from 1 to 10 so that the sum of s , w , t and z is in the range from 4 to 30, and v_1 , v_2 , and v_3 independently of each other can be zero or 1 with the proviso that $Y_1 - Y_6$ do not link to each other; or

20

X_1 is

- O;
- $-C=O$
- a bond; or

25



where R is hydrogen, C_{1-3} -alkyl, C_{2-3} -alkenyl or C_{2-3} -alkynyl; and

X_2 , X_3 and Q_5 are bonds;

30

All values of n are zero; and

- Z is:
 $-COOH$;

- 5 –CO–Asp;
 –CO–Glu;
 –CO–Gly;
 –CO–Sar;
 –CH(COOH)₂;
 –N(CH₂COOH)₂;
 –SO₃H
 –OSO₃H
 –OPO₃H₂
 10 –PO₃H₂ or
 –tetrazol-5-yl or
 –O-W₁,
 where W₁ is arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two
 groups selected from the group consisting of –COOH, –SO₃H, –(CH₂)₁₋₆–SO₃H, –
 15 CONR₁₃R₁₄ or –SO₂NR₁₂R₁₄, where R₁₃ and R₁₄, independently of each other can be
 H, –SO₃H, –(CH₂)₁₋₆–SO₃H, –(CH₂)₁₋₆–O–PO₃H₂, –CONH₂ or tetrazo-5-yl;
 and any Zn²⁺ complex thereof.

39a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 38a, wherein Q₁ is an amino acid amide residue having from 4 to 10 carbon atoms.

- 20 40a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 38a-39a, wherein Q₁ is selected from the group consisting of β-D-Asp-amide, β-L-Asp-amide, γ-L-Glu-amide and γ-D-Glu-amide.

41a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 38a, wherein Q₁ is a chain of amino acid amide residues.

- 25 42a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphss 38a or 41a, wherein Q₁ is a chain of two amino acid amide residues selected from the group consisting of β-L-Asp-amide-β-L-Asp-amide, β-L-Asp-amide-γ-L-Glu-amide, γ-L-Glu-amide-γ-L-Glu-amide, γ-L-Glu-amide-β-L-Asp-amide, β-L-Asp-amide-β-D-Asp-amide, β-L-Asp-amide-γ-D-Glu-amide, γ-L-Glu-amide-γ-D-Glu-amide, γ-L-Glu-amide-β-D-Asp-amide, β-D-Asp-amide-β-L-Asp-amide, β-D-Asp-
 30 amide-γ-L-Glu-amide, γ-D-Glu-amide-γ-L-Glu-amide, γ-D-Glu-amide-β-L-Asp-amide, β-D-Asp-amide-β-D-Asp-amide, β-D-Asp-amide-γ-D-Glu-amide, γ-D-Glu-amide-γ-D-Glu-amide, γ-D-Glu-amide-β-D-Asp-amide,

43a Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 38a-42a, wherein Q₂ is a bond

44a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 38a-42a, wherein Q_2 is selected from the group consisting of $\text{CO}(\text{CONH}_2)\text{CH}-$; $-(\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_{2-6}-\text{NH}-\text{CO})_{1-4}-$ and $-(\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_{2-6}-\text{CO}-\text{NH})_{1-4}-$.

45a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 44a, wherein Q_1 is a bond.

5 46a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 38a, 44a or 45a, wherein Q_2 is selected from the group consisting of $-(\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{NH}-\text{CO})_{1-}$ or $-(\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_3-\text{NH}-\text{CO})_{1-4}-$

10 47a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 37a, wherein Q_4 is $-(\text{CH}_2)_s-\text{Y}_1-(\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)_{v_1}-\text{Y}_2-(\text{CH}_2)_w-\text{Y}_3-(\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)_{v_2}-\text{Y}_4-(\text{CH}_2)_t-\text{Y}_5-(\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)_{v_3}-\text{Y}_6-(\text{CH}_2)_z-$ wherein $\text{Y}_1 - \text{Y}_6$ independently of each other can be O; S or a bond; where s, w, t and z independently of each other are zero or an integer from 1 to 10 so that the sum of s, w, t and z is in the range from 4 to 30, and v_1 , v_2 , and v_3 independently of each other can be zero or 1 with the proviso that $\text{Y}_1 - \text{Y}_6$ do not link to each other.

15 48a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 37a or 46a, wherein at least two of v_1 , v_2 , or v_3 are zero.

49a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 38a, 47a or 48a, wherein at $\text{Y}_1 - \text{Y}_6$ are bonds.

20 50a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 38a, 47a or 48a, wherein at least one of $\text{Y}_1 - \text{Y}_6$ are O or S.

51a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 38a or 47a-48a, wherein Y_1 is O or S and v_1 is one.

52a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 38a-51a, wherein Z is $-\text{COOH}$.

25 53a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 38a-51a, wherein Z is $-\text{CH}(\text{COOH})_2$.

54a. An insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 38a-51a, wherein Z is $-\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{COOH})_2$.

30 55a. An insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 38a-51a, wherein Z is $-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$.

56a. An insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 38a-51a, wherein Z is $-\text{PO}_3\text{H}$.

57a. An insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 38a-51a, wherein Z is $-\text{O}-\text{W}_1$,

where W_1 is arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected from the group consisting of $-\text{COOH}$, $-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$, $-\text{CONR}_{13}\text{R}_{14}$ or $-\text{SO}_2\text{NR}_{12}\text{R}_{14}$, where R_{13} and R_{14} , independently of each other can be H , $-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}-\text{O}-\text{PO}_3\text{H}_2$, $-\text{CONH}_2$ or tetrazo-5-yl.

5 58a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 1a-19a or 38a-57a wherein the insulin derivative are selected from the group consisting of $\text{N}^{\text{B29}}\text{-10-(4-carboxyphenoxy)-decanoyl-}\gamma\text{-L-glutamylamide desB30 human insulin}$, $\text{N}^{\text{B29}}\text{-4-[11-(4-Carboxyphenyl)undecanoylamino] butyryl desB30 human insulin}$.

59a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 11a, wherein

10 Q_1 is:

- an α -amino acid amide residue having a carboxylic acid group in the substituent which residue forms, with one of its carboxylic acid groups, an amide group together with the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain or together with the ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the B chain of the parent insulin;
- 15 • a chain composed of two, three or four α -amino acid amide residues linked together via amide bonds, which chain – via an amide bond – is linked to the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain or to the ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the B chain of the parent insulin, the amino acid residues of W being selected from the group of amino acid residues having a neutral substituent and amino acid residues having a carboxylic acid group in the substituent so that W has at least
- 20 one amino acid residue which has a carboxylic acid group in the substituent; or
- a bond

Q_2 is:

- $-\text{COCH}(\text{CONH}_2)-$
- 25 • $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- 30 • $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-(\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_{2-6}-\text{NH}-\text{CO})_{1-4}-$;
- $-(\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_{2-6}-\text{CO}-\text{NH})_{1-4}-$;
- $-(\text{CO}-(\text{C R}_9\text{R}_{10})_{1-6}-\text{CO}-\text{NH})_{1-4}-$, where R_9 and R_{10} , independently of each other can be H , $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$ or $-\text{CONH}_2$; or

- a bond
provided that at least one of Q_1 or Q_2 is not a bond;

n is independently 2 or 3;

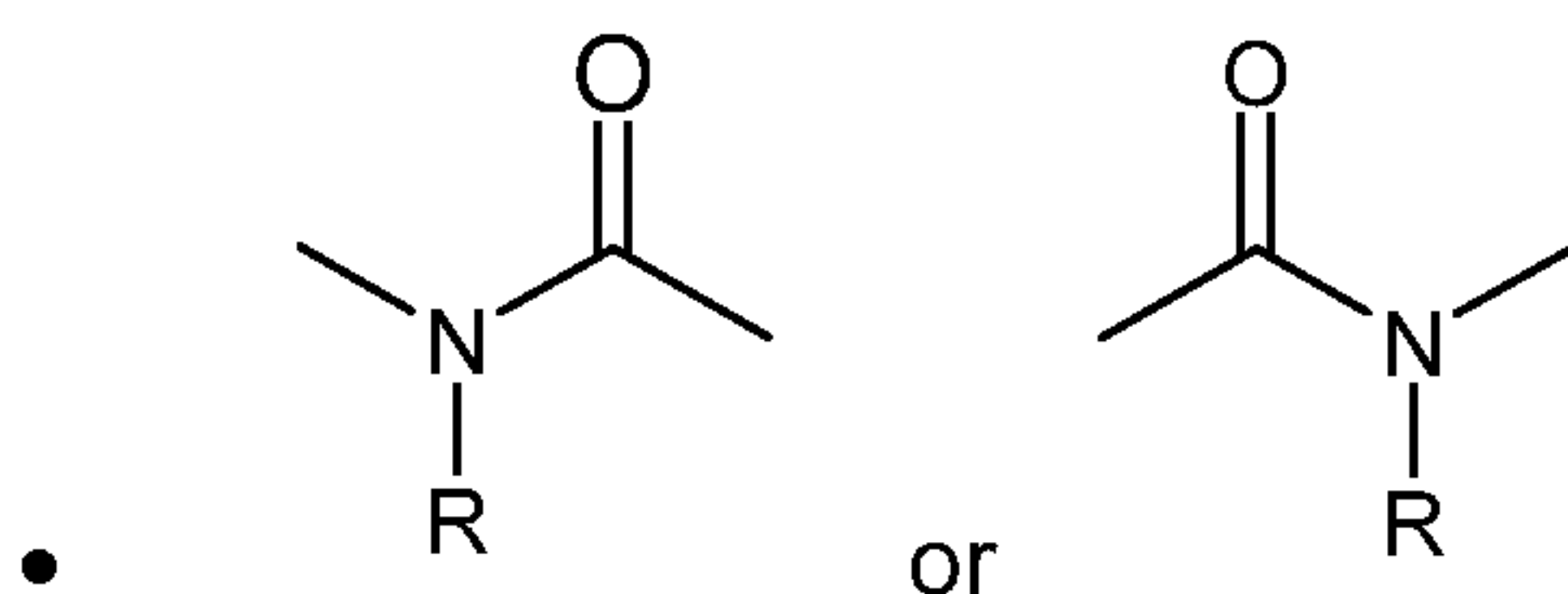
5

Q_3 , Q_4 , and Q_5 independently of each other can be

- $(CH_2CH_2O)_y-$; $(CH_2CH_2CH_2O)_y-$; $(CH_2CH_2CH_2CH_2O)_y-$; $(CH_2CH_2OCH_2CH_2CH_2CH_2O)_y-$ or $(CH_2CH_2CH_2OCH_2CH_2CH_2CH_2O)_y-$; $-(CH_2OCH_2)_y-$ where y is 1-20;
- $-(CH_2)_m-$ where m is an integer in the range of 1 to 32;
- 10 • a divalent hydrocarbon chain comprising 1, 2 or 3 $-CH=CH-$ groups and a number of $-CH_2-$ groups sufficient to give a total number of carbon atoms in the chain in the range of 4 to 32;
- $-(CR_3R_4)_{1-6}-(NHCO-(CR_3R_4)_{1-6}-NHCO)_{1-2}-(CR_3R_4)_{1-6}$ or $-(CR_3R_4)_{1-6}-(CONH-(CR_3R_4)_{1-6}-CONH)_{1-2}-(CR_3R_4)_{1-6}$, $-(CR_3R_4)_{1-6}-(NHCO-(CR_3R_4)_{1-6}-CONH)_{1-2}-(CR_3R_4)_{1-6}$ or $-(CR_3R_4)_{1-6}-(CONH-(CR_3R_4)_{1-6}-NHCO)_{1-2}-(CR_3R_4)_{1-6}$ where R_3 and R_4 independently of each other and independently for each carbon can be H, $-COOH$ or OH,
- 15 • $-(CR_5R_6)_{1-6}$, where R_5 and R_6 independently of each other and independently for each carbon can be H, $-COOH$, $(CH_2)_{1-6}COOH$; or
- a bond;
- 20 with the proviso that $Q_3 - Q_5$ are different;

X_1 , X_2 and X_3 are independently

- O;
- $-C=O$;
- 25 • a bond; or



where R is hydrogen, C_{1-3} -alkyl, C_{2-3} -alkenyl or C_{2-3} -alkynyl; and

30

Z is:

- $-COOH$;
- $-CO-Asp$;

5 –CO–Glu;
 –CO–Gly;
 –CO–Sar;
 –CH(COOH)₂;
 –N(CH₂COOH)₂;
 –SO₃H
 –OSO₃H
 –OPO₃H₂
 –PO₃H₂ or
 10 –tetrazol-5-yl

and any Zn²⁺ complex thereof.

60a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 59a, wherein Q₁ is an amino acid amide residue having from 4 to 10 carbon atoms.

15 61a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 59a-60a, wherein Q₁ is selected from the group consisting of β-D-Asp-amide, β-L-Asp-amide, γ-L-Glu-amide and γ-D-Glu-amide.

62a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 59a, wherein Q₁ is a chain of amino acid amide residues.

20 63a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphss 59a or 62a, wherein Q₁ is a chain of two amino acid amide residues selected from the group consisting of β-L-Asp-amide-β-L-Asp-amide, β-L-Asp-amide-γ-L-Glu-amide, γ-L-Glu-amide-γ-L-Glu-amide, γ-L-Glu-amide-β-L-Asp-amide, β-L-Asp-amide-β-D-Asp-amide, β-L-Asp-amide-γ-D-Glu-amide, γ-L-Glu-amide-γ-D-Glu-amide, γ-L-Glu-amide-β-D-Asp-amide, β-D-Asp-amide-β-L-Asp-amide, β-D-Asp-amide-γ-L-Glu-amide, γ-D-Glu-amide-γ-L-Glu-amide, γ-D-Glu-amide-β-L-Asp-amide, β-D-Asp-amide-β-D-Asp-amide, β-D-Asp-amide-γ-D-Glu-amide, γ-D-Glu-amide-γ-D-Glu-amide, γ-D-Glu-amide-β-D-Asp-amide,

64a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 59a-63a, wherein Q₂ is a bond

30 65a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 59a-63a, wherein Q₂ is selected from the group consisting of CO(CONH₂)CH–; –(CO–(CH₂)₂₋₆–NH–CO)₁₋₄–; –(CO–(CH₂)₂₋₆–CO–NH)₁₋₄–;

66a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 59a or 65a, wherein Q₂ is selected from the group consisting of –(CO–(CH₂)₂–NH–CO)₁– or –(CO–(CH₂)₃–NH–CO)₁–

4–

67a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphss 65a or 66a, wherein Q_1 is a bond.

68a. Insulin derivative according any of paragraphss 59a-67a, wherein one of Q_3 , Q_4 , or Q_5 is $-(CH_2)_m-$ where m is an integer in the range of 1 to 32 or 1-12.

69a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 59a-67a, wherein one of Q_3 , Q_4 , or Q_5 is $(CH_2CH_2O)_y-$; $(CH_2CH_2CH_2O)_y-$; $(CH_2CH_2CH_2CH_2O)_y-$; $(CH_2CH_2OCH_2CH_2CH_2CH_2O)_y-$ or $(CH_2CH_2CH_2OCH_2CH_2CH_2CH_2O)_y-$; $-(CH_2OCH_2)_y-$ where y is 1-20;

70a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 69a, wherein one of Q_3 , Q_4 , or Q_5 is $(CH_2CH_2O)_y-$ or $(CH_2CH_2OCH_2CH_2CH_2CH_2O)$ wherein y is in the range of 2-12, 2-4 or 2-3

71a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 59a, 69a or 70a, wherein y is 1.

72a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 59a-71a, wherein Z is $-COOH$.

73a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 59a-71a, wherein Z is $-CH(COOH)_2$.

74a. An insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 59a-71a, wherein Z is $-N(CH_2COOH)_2$.

75a. An insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 59a-71a, wherein Z is $-SO_3H$.

76a. An insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 59a-71a, wherein Z is $-PO_3H$.

77a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 1a-19a or 59a-76a selected from the group consisting of

$N^{\epsilon B29}$ -(3-(3-{4-[3-(7-carboxyheptanoylamino)propoxy]butoxy}propylcarbamoyl)-propionyl- γ -glutamylamide) desB30 human Insulin

78a. Insulin derivative according to any of the paragraphss 1a-77a, wherein the parent insulin is human insulin or porcine insulin

79a Insulin derivative according to any of the paragraphss 1a-77a, wherein the parent insulin is an insulin analogue.

80a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 78a-79a, wherein the amino acid residue at position B30 of the parent insulin is Lys or has been deleted.

81a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 80a, wherein the parent insulin is desB30 human insulin.

82a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 78a-81a, wherein the amino acid residue at position B1 of the parent insulin has been deleted.

83a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 78a-82a, wherein the amino acid residue in position A21 of the parent insulin is Gly or Asn.

84a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 78a-83a, wherein the amino acid residue at position B3 of the parent insulin is Lys

5 85a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 78a-84a, wherein the amino acid residue at position B28 of the parent insulin is Asp or Lys.

86a. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphss 78a-85a, wherein the amino acid residue at position B29 of the parent insulin is Pro or Thr.

10 87a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 85a, wherein the parent insulin is AspB28 human insulin

88a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 83a, wherein the parent insulin is GlyA21 human insulin or GlyA21desB30 human insulin or GlyA21ArgB31ArgB32 human insulin.

15 89a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 84a, wherein the parent insulin is LysB3GluB29 human insulin.

90a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 85a-86a, wherein the parent insulin is LysB28ProB29 human insulin

91a. Insulin derivative according to paragraphs 80a and 86a, wherein the parent insulin is ThrB29LysB30 human insulin

20 92a. A zinc complex of an insulin derivative according to any of the preceding paragraphss wherein each insulin hexamer binds two zinc ions, three zinc ions or four zinc ions.

25 93a. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of diabetes in a patient in need of such treatment, comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an insulin derivative according to any of the preceding paragraphss together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

94a. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of diabetes in a patient in need of such treatment, comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an insulin derivative according to any of the preceding paragraphss in mixture with an insulin or an insulin analogue which has a rapid onset of action, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

30 95a. A method of treating diabetes in a patient in need of such a treatment, comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of an insulin derivative according to paragraphs 1a-94a together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

94a. A method of treating diabetes in a patient in need of such a treatment, comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of an insulin derivative according

to paragraphs 1a-94a in mixture with an insulin or an insulin analogue which has a rapid onset of action, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

97a. A method according to paragraphss 95a or 96a for pulmonary treatment of diabetes

5 98a. A mixture of an insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 1a-92a and a rapid acting insulin analogue selected group consisting of AspB28 human insulin; LysB28ProB29 human insulin and LysB3GluB29 human insulin.

99a. Insulin derivative as described in the examples.

10 The starting product for the acylation, the parent insulin or insulin analogue or a precursor thereof can be produced by either well-know peptide synthesis or by well known recombinant production in suitable transformed microorganisms. Thus the insulin starting product can be produced by a method which comprises culturing a host cell containing a DNA sequence encoding the polypeptide and capable of expressing the polypeptide in a suitable
15 nutrient medium under conditions permitting the expression of the peptide, after which the resulting peptide is recovered from the culture.

The medium used to culture the cells may be any conventional medium suitable for growing the host cells, such as minimal or complex media containing appropriate supplements. Suitable media are available from commercial suppliers or may be prepared according to
20 published recipes (e.g. in catalogues of the American Type Culture Collection). The peptide produced by the cells may then be recovered from the culture medium by conventional procedures including separating the host cells from the medium by centrifugation or filtration, precipitating the proteinaceous components of the supernatant or filtrate by means of a salt, e.g. ammonium sulphate, purification by a variety of chromatographic procedures, e.g. ion exchange
25 chromatography, gel filtration chromatography, affinity chromatography, or the like, dependent on the type of peptide in question.

The DNA sequence encoding the parent insulin may suitably be of genomic or cDNA origin, for instance obtained by preparing a genomic or cDNA library and screening for DNA sequences coding for all or part of the polypeptide by hybridisation using synthetic
30 oligonucleotide probes in accordance with standard techniques (see, for example, Sambrook, J, Fritsch, EF and Maniatis, T, *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, New York, 1989). The DNA sequence encoding the parent insulin may also be prepared synthetically by established standard methods, e.g. the phosphoamidite method described by Beaucage and Caruthers, *Tetrahedron Letters* **22** (1981), 1859 - 1869, or the
35 method described by Matthes *et al.*, *EMBO Journal* **3** (1984), 801 - 805. The DNA sequence

may also be prepared by polymerase chain reaction using specific primers, for instance as described in US 4,683,202 or Saiki *et al.*, *Science* **239** (1988), 487 - 491.

The DNA sequence may be inserted into any vector which may conveniently be subjected to recombinant DNA procedures, and the choice of vector will often depend on the host cell into which it is to be introduced. Thus, the vector may be an autonomously replicating vector, *i.e.* a vector which exists as an extrachromosomal entity, the replication of which is independent of chromosomal replication, *e.g.* a plasmid. Alternatively, the vector may be one which, when introduced into a host cell, is integrated into the host cell genome and replicated together with the chromosome(s) into which it has been integrated.

The vector is for example an expression vector in which the DNA sequence encoding the parent insulin is operably linked to additional segments required for transcription of the DNA, such as a promoter. The promoter may be any DNA sequence which shows transcriptional activity in the host cell of choice and may be derived from genes encoding proteins either homologous or heterologous to the host cell. Examples of suitable promoters for directing the transcription of the DNA encoding the parent insulin in a variety of host cells are well known in the art, cf. for instance Sambrook *et al.*, *supra*.

The DNA sequence encoding the parent insulin may also, if necessary, be operably connected to a suitable terminator, polyadenylation signals, transcriptional enhancer sequences, and translational enhancer sequences. The recombinant vector of the invention may further comprise a DNA sequence enabling the vector to replicate in the host cell in question.

The vector may also comprise a selectable marker, *e.g.* a gene the product of which complements a defect in the host cell or one which confers resistance to a drug, *e.g.* ampicillin, kanamycin, tetracyclin, chloramphenicol, neomycin, hygromycin or methotrexate.

To direct a peptide of the present invention into the secretory pathway of the host cells, a secretory signal sequence (also known as a leader sequence, prepro sequence or pre sequence) may be provided in the recombinant vector. The secretory signal sequence is joined to the DNA sequence encoding the peptide in the correct reading frame. Secretory signal sequences are commonly positioned 5' to the DNA sequence encoding the peptide. The secretory signal sequence may be that normally associated with the peptide or may be from a gene encoding another secreted protein.

The procedures used to ligate the DNA sequences coding for the parent insulin, the promoter and optionally the terminator and/or secretory signal sequence, respectively, and to insert them into suitable vectors containing the information necessary for replication, are well known to persons skilled in the art (cf., for instance, Sambrook *et al.*, *supra*).

The host cell into which the DNA sequence or the recombinant vector is introduced may be any cell which is capable of producing the present peptide and includes bacteria, yeast, fungi and higher eukaryotic cells. Examples of suitable host cells well known and used in the art are, without limitation, *E. coli*, *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, or mammalian BHK or CHO cell lines.

5 The parent insulin molecule is then converted into the insulin derivatives of the invention by introducing of the relevant substituent in either the B1 position or in the chosen Lys position in the B-chain. The substituent can be introduced by any convenient method and many methods are disclosed in the prior art for acylation of an amino group. More details will appear from the following examples.

10 Insulin derivatives according to the invention may be provided in the form of essentially zinc free compounds or in the form of zinc complexes. When zinc complexes of an insulin derivative according to the invention are provided, two Zn^{2+} ions, three Zn^{2+} ions, four Zn^{2+} ions, five Zn^{2+} ions, six Zn^{2+} ions, seven Zn^{2+} ions, eight Zn^{2+} ions, nine Zn^{2+} ions or ten Zn^{2+} ions can be bound per six molecules of insulin derivative. Solutions of zinc
15 complexes of the insulin derivatives will contain mixtures of such species.

In one aspect the invention is related to a pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an insulin derivative or a zinc complex of the insulin derivative according to the invention optionally together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable additive, which composition can be provided for
20 the treatment of type 1 diabetes, type 2 diabetes and other states that cause hyperglycaemia in patients in need of such a treatment.

In one aspect of the invention, there is provided a method of treating type 1 diabetes, type 2 diabetes and other states that cause hyperglycaemia in a patient in need of such a treatment, comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount
25 of an pharmaceutical composition comprising the insulin derivative or a zinc complex of the insulin derivative according to the invention optionally together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and/or pharmaceutical acceptable additives.

In one aspect of the invention, there is provided a method for the manufacture of a pharmaceutical composition for the use in the treatment of type 1 diabetes, type 2 diabetes
30 and other states that cause hyperglycaemia, the composition comprising an insulin derivative or a zinc complex of the insulin derivative according to the invention optionally together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and/or pharmaceutical acceptable additives.

In one aspect of the invention, there is provided a pharmaceutical composition for treating type 1 diabetes, type 2 diabetes and other states that cause hyperglycaemia in a
35 patient in need of such a treatment, the composition comprising a therapeutically effective

amount of an insulin derivative or a zinc complex of the insulin derivative according to the invention in mixture with an insulin or an insulin analogue which has a rapid onset of action, optionally together with pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and/or additives.

In one aspect of the invention, there is provided a method of treating type 1
5 diabetes, type 2 diabetes and other states that cause hyperglycaemia in a patient in need of such a treatment, comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of an pharmaceutical composition comprising the insulin derivative or a zinc complex of the insulin derivative according to the invention in mixture with an insulin or an insulin analogue which has a rapid onset of action, optionally together with a pharmaceutically acceptable
10 carrier and/or pharmaceutical acceptable additives.

In one aspect of the invention, there is provided a method for the manufacture of a pharmaceutical composition for the use in the treatment of type 1 diabetes, type 2 diabetes and other states that cause hyperglycaemia, the composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an insulin derivative or a zinc complex of the insulin derivative according
15 to the invention in mixture with an insulin or an insulin analogue which has a rapid onset of action, optionally together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and/or pharmaceutical acceptable additives.

In one aspect the invention provides a pharmaceutical composition being a mixture of an insulin derivative or a zinc complex of the insulin derivative according to the invention
20 and a rapid acting insulin analogue selected group consisting of AspB28 human insulin; LysB28ProB29 human insulin and LysB3GluB29 human insulin.

One aspect of the invention is related to a pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an insulin derivative or a zinc complex of the insulin derivative according to the invention optionally together with a pharmaceutically acceptable
25 carrier and/ or a pharmaceutically acceptable additive, which can be provided for pulmonary treatment of type 1 diabetes, type 2 diabetes and other states that cause hyperglycaemia in patients in need of such a treatment.

In one aspect the invention is related to application of a pharmaceutical composition for pulmonary treatment of type 1 diabetes, type 2 diabetes and other states that cause
30 hyperglycaemia in a patient in need of such a treatment, the pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an insulin derivative or a zinc complex of the insulin derivative according to the invention optionally in mixture with an insulin or an insulin analogue which has a rapid onset of action, and optionally together with pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and/or additives.

In one aspect of the invention, there is provided a method for the manufacture of a pharmaceutical composition for the use in the treatment of type 1 diabetes, type 2 diabetes and other states that cause hyperglycaemia, the composition being used pulmonary and comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an insulin derivative or a zinc complex of the insulin derivative according to the invention optionally in mixture with an insulin or an insulin analogue which has a rapid onset of action, and optionally together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and/or pharmaceutical acceptable additives.

The insulin derivative according to the invention and the rapid acting insulin analogue can be mixed in a ratio from about 90 /10%; about 70/30% or about 50/50%.

In one aspect, the invention relates to a pharmaceutical composition comprising an insulin derivative according to the invention which is soluble at physiological pH values.

In one aspect, the invention relates to a pharmaceutical composition comprising an insulin derivative according to the invention which is soluble at pH values in the interval from about 6.5 to about 8.5.

In one aspect, the invention relates to a pharmaceutical composition with a prolonged profile of action which comprises an insulin derivative according to the invention.

In one aspect, the invention relates to a pharmaceutical composition which is a solution containing from about 120 nmol/ml to about 2400 nmol/ml, from about 400 nmol/ml to about 2400 nmol/ml, from about 400 nmol/ml to about 1200 nmol/ml, from about 600 nmol/ml to about 2400 nmol/ml, or from about 600 nmol/ml to about 1200 nmol/ml of an insulin derivative according to the invention or of a mixture of the insulin derivative according to the invention with a rapid acting insulin analogue.

PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITIONS

The insulin derivatives of this invention of the claimed formula can, for example, be administered subcutaneously, orally, or pulmonary.

For subcutaneous administration, the compounds of the formula are formulated analogously with the formulation of known insulins. Furthermore, for subcutaneous administration, the compounds of the formula are administered analogously with the administration of known insulins and, generally, the physicians are familiar with this procedure.

The insulin derivatives of this invention may be administered by inhalation in a dose effective manner to increase circulating insulin levels and/or to lower circulating glucose levels. Such administration can be effective for treating disorders such as diabetes or

hyperglycemia. Achieving effective doses of insulin requires administration of an inhaled dose of insulin derivative of this invention of more than about 0.5 µg/kg to about 50 µg/kg. A therapeutically effective amount can be determined by a knowledgeable practitioner, who will take into account factors including insulin level, blood glucose levels, the physical condition of the patient, the patient's pulmonary status, or the like.

Administration by inhalation can result in pharmacokinetics comparable to subcutaneous administration of insulins. Different inhalation devices typically provide similar pharmacokinetics when similar particle sizes and similar levels of lung deposition are compared.

According to the invention, insulin derivative of this invention may be delivered by any of a variety of inhalation devices known in the art for administration of a therapeutic agent by inhalation. These devices include metered dose inhalers, nebulizers, dry powder generators, sprayers, and the like. Insulin derivative of this invention is delivered by a dry powder inhaler or a sprayer. There are a several desirable features of an inhalation device for administering insulin derivative of this invention. For example, delivery by the inhalation device is advantageously reliable, reproducible, and accurate. The inhalation device should deliver small particles, for example, less than about 10 µm, for example about 1-5 µm, for good respirability. Some specific examples of commercially available inhalation devices suitable for the practice of this invention are TurbohalerTM (Astra), Rotahaler[®] (Glaxo), Diskus[®] (Glaxo), SpirosTM inhaler (Dura), devices marketed by Inhale Therapeutics, AERxTM (Aradigm), the Ultravent[®] nebulizer (Mallinckrodt), the Acorn II[®] nebulizer (Marquest Medical Products), the Ventolin[®] metered dose inhaler (Glaxo), the Spinhaler[®] powder inhaler (Fisons), or the like.

As those skilled in the art will recognize, the formulation of insulin derivative of this invention, the quantity of the formulation delivered, and the duration of administration of a single dose depend on the type of inhalation device employed. For some aerosol delivery systems, such as nebulizers, the frequency of administration and length of time for which the system is activated will depend mainly on the concentration of insulin conjugate in the aerosol. For example, shorter periods of administration can be used at higher concentrations of insulin conjugate in the nebulizer solution. Devices such as metered dose inhalers can produce higher aerosol concentrations, and can be operated for shorter periods to deliver the desired amount of insulin conjugate. Devices such as powder inhalers deliver active agent until a given charge of agent is expelled from the device. In this type of inhaler, the amount of insulin derivative of this invention in a given quantity of the powder determines the dose delivered in a single administration.

The particle size of insulin derivative of this invention in the formulation delivered by the inhalation device is critical with respect to the ability of insulin to make it into the lungs, and into the lower airways or alveoli. The insulin derivative of this invention can be formulated so that at least about 10% of the insulin conjugate delivered is deposited in the lung, for example about 10 to about 20%, or more. It is known that the maximum efficiency of pulmonary deposition for mouth breathing humans is obtained with particle sizes of about 2 μm to about 3 μm . When particle sizes are above about 5 μm pulmonary deposition decreases substantially. Particle sizes below about 1 μm cause pulmonary deposition to decrease, and it becomes difficult to deliver particles with sufficient mass to be therapeutically effective. Thus, particles of the insulin derivative delivered by inhalation have a particle size less than about 10 μm , for example in the range of about 1 μm to about 5 μm . The formulation of the insulin derivative is selected to yield the desired particle size in the chosen inhalation device.

Advantageously for administration as a dry powder, an insulin derivative of this invention is prepared in a particulate form with a particle size of less than about 10 μm , for example about 1 to about 5 μm . The particle size is effective for delivery to the alveoli of the patient's lung. The dry powder is largely composed of particles produced so that a majority of the particles have a size in the desired range. Advantageously, at least about 50% of the dry powder is made of particles having a diameter less than about 10 μm . Such formulations can be achieved by spray drying, milling, or critical point condensation of a solution containing insulin conjugate and other desired ingredients. Other methods also suitable for generating particles useful in the current invention are known in the art.

The particles are usually separated from a dry powder formulation in a container and then transported into the lung of a patient via a carrier air stream. Typically, in current dry powder inhalers, the force for breaking up the solid is provided solely by the patient's inhalation. In another type of inhaler, air flow generated by the patient's inhalation activates an impeller motor which deagglomerates the particles.

Formulations of insulin derivatives of this invention for administration from a dry powder inhaler typically include a finely divided dry powder containing the derivative, but the powder can also include a bulking agent, carrier, excipient, another additive, or the like. Additives can be included in a dry powder formulation of insulin conjugate, for example, to dilute the powder as required for delivery from the particular powder inhaler, to facilitate processing of the formulation, to provide advantageous powder properties to the formulation, to facilitate dispersion of the powder from the inhalation device, to stabilize the formulation (for example, antioxidants or buffers), to provide taste to the formulation, or the like.

Advantageously, the additive does not adversely affect the patient's airways. The insulin derivative can be mixed with an additive at a molecular level or the solid formulation can include particles of the insulin conjugate mixed with or coated on particles of the additive. Typical additives include mono-, di-, and polysaccharides; sugar alcohols and other polyols, such as, for example, lactose, glucose, raffinose, melezitose, lactitol, maltitol, trehalose, sucrose, mannitol, starch, or combinations thereof; surfactants, such as sorbitols, diphosphatidyl choline, or lecithin; or the like. Typically an additive, such as a bulking agent, is present in an amount effective for a purpose described above, often at about 50% to about 90% by weight of the formulation. Additional agents known in the art for formulation of a protein such as insulin analogue protein can also be included in the formulation.

A spray including the insulin derivatives of this invention can be produced by forcing a suspension or solution of insulin conjugate through a nozzle under pressure. The nozzle size and configuration, the applied pressure, and the liquid feed rate can be chosen to achieve the desired output and particle size. An electrospray can be produced, for example, by an electric field in connection with a capillary or nozzle feed. Advantageously, particles of insulin conjugate delivered by a sprayer have a particle size less than about 10 μm , for example in the range of about 1 μm to about 5 μm .

Formulations of insulin derivatives of this invention suitable for use with a sprayer will typically include the insulin derivative in an aqueous solution at a concentration of about 1 mg to about 20 mg of insulin conjugate per ml of solution. The formulation can include agents such as an excipient, a buffer, an isotonicity agent, a preservative, a surfactant, and, for example zinc. The formulation can also include an excipient or agent for stabilization of the insulin derivative, such as a buffer, a reducing agent, a bulk protein, or a carbohydrate. Bulk proteins useful in formulating insulin conjugates include albumin, protamine, or the like. Typical carbohydrates useful in formulating insulin conjugates include sucrose, mannitol, lactose, trehalose, glucose, or the like. The insulin derivative formulation can also include a surfactant, which can reduce or prevent surface-induced aggregation of the insulin conjugate caused by atomization of the solution in forming an aerosol. Various conventional surfactants can be employed, such as polyoxyethylene fatty acid esters and alcohols, and polyoxyethylene sorbitol fatty acid esters. Amounts will generally range between about 0.001 and about 4% by weight of the formulation.

Pharmaceutical compositions containing an insulin derivative according to the present invention may also be administered parenterally to patients in need of such a treatment. Parenteral administration may be performed by subcutaneous, intramuscular or intravenous injection by means of a syringe, optionally a pen-like syringe. Alternatively, parenteral

administration can be performed by means of an infusion pump. Further options are to administer the insulin nasally or pulmonally, for example in compositions, powders or liquids, specifically designed for the purpose.

Injectable compositions of the insulin derivatives of the invention can be prepared
5 using the conventional techniques of the pharmaceutical industry which involve dissolving and mixing the ingredients as appropriate to give the desired end product. Thus, according to one procedure, an insulin derivative according to the invention is dissolved in an amount of water which is somewhat less than the final volume of the composition to be prepared. An isotonic agent, a preservative and a buffer is added as required and the pH value of the solution is
10 adjusted - if necessary - using an acid, e.g. hydrochloric acid, or a base, e.g. aqueous sodium hydroxide as needed. Finally, the volume of the solution is adjusted with water to give the desired concentration of the ingredients.

In a further aspect of the invention the buffer is selected from the group consisting of sodium acetate, sodium carbonate, citrate, glycylglycine, histidine, glycine, lysine, arginine,
15 sodium dihydrogen phosphate, disodium hydrogen phosphate, sodium phosphate, and tris(hydroxymethyl)-aminomethan, bicine, tricine, malic acid, succinate, maleic acid, fumaric acid, tartaric acid, aspartic acid or mixtures thereof. Each one of these specific buffers constitutes an alternative aspect of the invention.

In a further aspect of the invention the formulation further comprises a
20 pharmaceutically acceptable preservative which may be selected from the group consisting of phenol, o-cresol, m-cresol, p-cresol, methyl p-hydroxybenzoate, propyl p-hydroxybenzoate, 2-phenoxyethanol, butyl p-hydroxybenzoate, 2-phenylethanol, benzyl alcohol, chlorobutanol, and thiomerosal, bronopol, benzoic acid, imidurea, chlorohexidine, sodium dehydroacetate, chlorocresol, ethyl p-hydroxybenzoate, benzethonium chloride,
25 chlorphenesine (3p-chlorphenoxypropane-1,2-diol) or mixtures thereof. In a further aspect of the invention the preservative is present in a concentration from 0.1 mg/ml to 20 mg/ml. In a further aspect of the invention the preservative is present in a concentration from 0.1 mg/ml to 5 mg/ml. In a further aspect of the invention the preservative is present in a concentration from 5 mg/ml to 10 mg/ml. In a further aspect of the invention the preservative is present in a
30 concentration from 10 mg/ml to 20 mg/ml. Each one of these specific preservatives constitutes an alternative aspect of the invention. The use of a preservative in pharmaceutical compositions is well-known to the skilled person. For convenience reference is made to Remington: *The Science and Practice of Pharmacy*, 19th edition, 1995.

In a further aspect of the invention the formulation further comprises an isotonic
35 agent which may be selected from the group consisting of a salt (e.g. sodium chloride), a

sugar or sugar alcohol, an amino acid (e.g. glycine, L-histidine, arginine, lysine, isoleucine, aspartic acid, tryptophan, threonine), an alditol (e.g. glycerol (glycerine), 1,2-propanediol (propyleneglycol), 1,3-propanediol, 1,3-butanediol) polyethyleneglycol (e.g. PEG400), or mixtures thereof. Any sugar such as mono-, di-, or polysaccharides, or water-soluble
5 glucans, including for example fructose, glucose, mannose, sorbose, xylose, maltose, lactose, sucrose, trehalose, dextran, pullulan, dextrin, cyclodextrin, soluble starch, hydroxyethyl starch and carboxymethylcellulose-Na may be used. In one aspect the sugar additive is sucrose. Sugar alcohol is defined as a C4-C8 hydrocarbon having at least one --OH group and includes, for example, mannitol, sorbitol, inositol, galactitol, dulcitol, xylitol,
10 and arabitol. In one aspect the sugar alcohol additive is mannitol. The sugars or sugar alcohols mentioned above may be used individually or in combination. There is no fixed limit to the amount used, as long as the sugar or sugar alcohol is soluble in the liquid preparation and does not adversely effect the stabilizing effects achieved using the methods of the invention. In one aspect, the sugar or sugar alcohol concentration is between about 1 mg/ml
15 and about 150 mg/ml. In a further aspect of the invention the isotonic agent is present in a concentration from 1 mg/ml to 50 mg/ml. In a further aspect of the invention the isotonic agent is present in a concentration from 1 mg/ml to 7 mg/ml. In a further aspect of the invention the isotonic agent is present in a concentration from 8 mg/ml to 24 mg/ml. In a further aspect of the invention the isotonic agent is present in a concentration from 25 mg/ml
20 to 50 mg/ml. Each one of these specific isotonic agents constitutes an alternative aspect of the invention. The use of an isotonic agent in pharmaceutical compositions is well-known to the skilled person. For convenience reference is made to Remington: *The Science and Practice of Pharmacy*, 19th edition, 1995.

Typical isotonic agents are sodium chloride, mannitol, dimethyl sulfone and glycerol
25 and typical preservatives are phenol, m-cresol, methyl p-hydroxybenzoate and benzyl alcohol.

Examples of suitable buffers are sodium acetate, glycylglycine, HEPES (4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1-piperazineethanesulfonic acid) and sodium phosphate.

A composition for nasal administration of an insulin derivative according to the present invention may, for example, be prepared as described in European Patent No. 272097 (to Novo
30 Nordisk A/S).

Compositions containing insulin derivatives of this invention can be used in the treatment of states which are sensitive to insulin. Thus, they can be used in the treatment of type 1 diabetes, type 2 diabetes and hyperglycaemia for example as sometimes seen in seriously injured persons and persons who have undergone major surgery. The optimal dose
35 level for any patient will depend on a variety of factors including the efficacy of the specific

insulin derivative employed, the age, body weight, physical activity, and diet of the patient, on a possible combination with other drugs, and on the severity of the state to be treated. It is recommended that the daily dosage of the insulin derivative of this invention be determined for each individual patient by those skilled in the art in a similar way as for known insulin compositions.

Where expedient, the insulin derivatives of this invention may be used in mixture with other types of insulin, e.g. insulin analogues with a more rapid onset of action. Examples of such insulin analogues are described e.g. in the European patent applications having the publication Nos. EP 214826 (Novo Nordisk A/S), EP 375437 (Novo Nordisk A/S) and EP 383472 (Eli Lilly & Co.).

The present invention is further illustrated by the following examples which, however, are not to be construed as limiting the scope of protection.

DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

Figure 1: Size-exclusion chromatography of the insulin derivative in example 2 in mixture with insulin aspart (B28Asp human insulin). Insulin content in each individual peak is quantified by HPLC. The insulin derivative and Aspart in formulations with either 2.1 Zn(II) per hexamer or 6 Zn(II) per hexamer elutes as two separate fractions (high-molecular weight insulin and medium molecular weight insulin, respectively). The SEC experiments are performed in accordance with example 20.

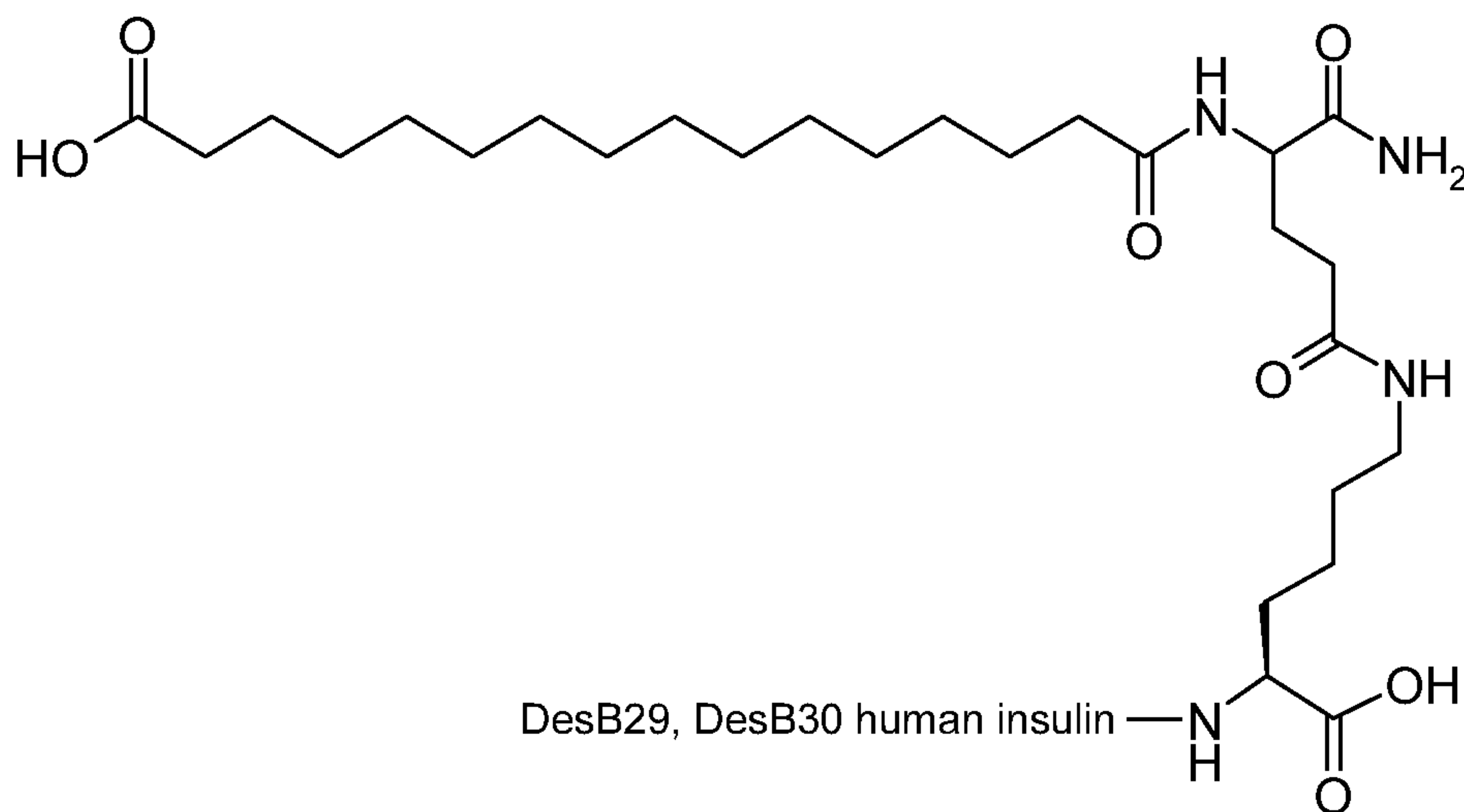
Figure 2: Clamp action profile after subcutaneous injection of of the insulin derivative described in example 2 in different concentrations and with different Zn(II) concentrations demonstrating that the action profile of the insulin derivative is similar whether the insulin derivative is administered with 2.3 or 6 Zn(II) per six insulin or as 600 μ M or 1200 μ M formulations. The clamp experiment is performed in accordance with example 21.

Figure 3: Clamp action profile after subcutaneous injection of the insulin derivative described in example 2 in mixture with insulin Aspart, or as individual injections, demonstrating that there is no significant blunting of the individual insulin action profiles. The clamp experiment is performed in accordance with example 21.

Figure 4: Clamp action profile after subcutaneous injection of the insulin derivative in example 2 in three doses demonstrating long effect of insulin action. The clamp experiment is performed in accordance with example 21.

EXAMPLES**Example 1**

Synthesis of N^εB²⁹-ω-carboxy-pentadecanoyl-γ-L-glutamylamide desB30 human insulin

Step 1: Mono-tert-butyl hexadecandioate

Hexadecadioic acid (40.0 g, 140 mmol) was suspended in toluene (250 ml) and the mixture was heated to reflux. *N,N*-dimethylformamide di-tert-butyl acetal (76.3 g, 375 mmol) was added drop-wise over 4 hours. The mixture was refluxed overnight. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* at 50 °C, and the crude material was suspended in DCM/AcOEt (500 ml, 1:1) and stirred for 15 mins. The solids were collected by filtration and triturated with DCM (200 ml). The filtrate was evaporated *in vacuo* to give crude mono-tert-butyl hexadecandioate, 30 grams. This material was suspended in DCM (50 ml), cooled with ice for 10 mins, and filtered. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* to leave 25 gram crude mono-tert-butyl hexadecandioate, which was recrystallized from heptane (200 ml) to give mono-tert-butyl hexadecandioate, 15.9 g (33 %).

¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ: 2.35 (t, 2H), 2.20 (t, 2H), 1.65-1.55 (m, 4H), 1.44 (s, 9H), 1.34-1.20 (m, 20 H).

Step 2: Succinimidyl tert-butyl hexadecandioate

The mono tert-butyl ester (2 g, 5.8 mmol) was dissolved in THF (20 ml) and treated with TSTU (2.1 g, 7.0 mmol) and DIEA (1.2 ml, 7.0 mmol) and stirred overnight. The mixture was filtered, and the filtrate was evaporated *in vacuo*. The residue was dissolved in AcOEt

and washed twice with cold 0.1 M HCl and water. Drying over MgSO_4 and evaporation *in vacuo* gave succinimidyl tert-butyl hexadecandioate, 2.02 g (79%).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3) δ : 2.84 (s, 4H), 2.60 (t, 2H), 2.20 (t, 2H), 1.74 (p, 2H), 1.56 (m, 2H), 1.44 (s, 9H), 1.40 (m, 2H), 1.30-1.20 (m, 18H).

5

Step 3: ω -tert-butyl-carboxy-pentadecanoyl-L-glutamylamide

Succinimidyl tert-butyl hexadecandioate (100 mg, 0.227 mmol) was dissolved in DMF (2 ml) and treated with L-glutamylamide (37 mg, 0.25 mmol) and DIEA (58 μl , 0.34 mmol) and the mixture was stirred overnight. The solvent was evaporated *in vacuo*, and the crude product was dissolved in AcOEt, and washed twice with 0.2M HCl, with water and brine. Drying over MgSO_4 and evaporation *in vacuo* gave ω -tert-butyl-carboxy-pentadecanoyl-L-glutamyl amide, 85 mg (80 %).

10

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3) δ : 6.98 (s, 1H), 6.60 (d, 1H), 5.88 (s, 1H), 4.69 (m, 1H), 2.55-2.41 (m, 2H), 2.25-2.18 (m, 2H), 2.14 (m, 1H), 1.93 (m, 1H), 1.65-1.54 (m, 4H) 1.44 (s, 9H), 1.27 (br, 20H).

15

Step 4: ω -tert-butyl-carboxy-pentadecanoyl-L-glutamylamide γ -succinimidyl ester

ω -tert-butyl-carboxy-pentadecanoyl-L-glutamylamide (85 g, 0.181 mmol) was dissolved in THF (1 ml) and treated with TSTU (65 g, 0.217 mmol) and DIEA (37 μl , 0.217 mmol) and stirred overnight. The mixture was filtered, and the filtrate was evaporated *in vacuo*. The residue was dissolved in AcOEt and washed twice with cold 0.1 M HCl and water. Drying over MgSO_4 and evaporation *in vacuo* gave ω -tert-butyl-carboxy-pentadecanoyl-L-glutamyl amide γ -succinimidyl ester, 91 mg (89%).

20

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3) δ : 6.59 (s, 1H), 6.41 (d, 1H), 5.56 (s, 1H), 4.62 (m, 1H), 3.02-2.94 (dd, 2H), 2.84 (s, 4H), 2.71-2.58 (m, 2H), 1.76 (m, 1H), 1.53-1.63 (m, 4H), 1.44 (s, 9H), 1.25 (br, 20H).

25

Step 5: N^{B29} - ω -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- γ -L-glutamylamide desB30 human insulin

DesB30 human insulin (500 mg, 0.088 mmol) was dissolved in 100 mM Na_2CO_3 (5 ml, pH 10.2) at room temperature. ω -Tert-butyl-carboxy-pentadecanoyl-L-glutamyl amide γ -succinimidyl ester (57 mg, 0.105 mmol), was dissolved in acetonitrile (5 ml) and subsequently added to the insulin solution. After 30 mins, 0.2 M methylamine (0.5 ml) was added. pH was adjusted by HCl to 5.5, and the isoelectric precipitate was collected by centrifugation and dried *in vacuo* to give 423 mg. The coupling yield was 42 % (RP-HPLC,

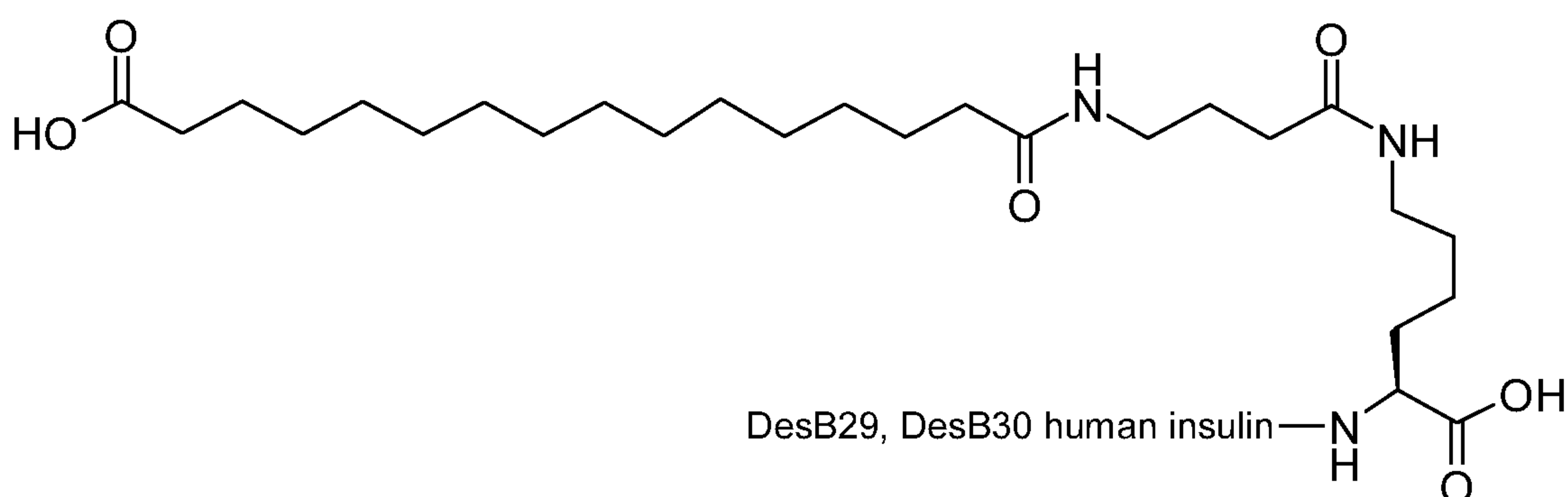
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C4 column; Buffer A: 10 % MeCN in 0.1 % TFA-water, Buffer B: 80 % MeCN in 0.1 % TFA-water; gradient 20% to 90 % B in 16 minutes). The protected product was dissolved in 95 % TFA (12 ml), left 30 mins, and evaporated *in vacuo*. The crude product was dissolved in water and lyophilized.

5 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ - ω -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- γ -L-glutamylamide desB30 human insulin was purified by RP-HPLC on C4-column, buffer A: 20 % EtOH + 0.1 % TFA, buffer B: 80 % EtOH + 0.1 % TFA; gradient 15-60 % B, followed by HPLC on C4-column, buffer A: 10 mM Tris + 15 mM ammonium sulphate in 20 % EtOH, pH 7.3, buffer B: 80 % EtOH, gradient 15-60 % B. The collected fractions were desalted on Sep-Pak with 70% acetonitrile + 0.1% TFA,
10 neutralized by addition of ammonia and freeze-dried. The unoptimized yield was 50 mg, 12 %. The purity as evaluated by HPLC was >98 %. LCMS 6102.8; $C_{274}H_{412}N_{66}O_{80}S_6$ requires 6103.1.

Example 2

15 Synthesis of $N^{\epsilon B29}$ - ω -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- γ -amino-butanoyl desB30 human insulin



20 This compound was prepared from hexadecandioic acid and γ -aminobutyric acid, in analogy with example 1.

ω -tert-butyl-carboxy-pentadecanoyl- γ -amino-butyric acid succinimidyl ester

^1H -NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ : 5.80 (m, 1H), 3.36 (dd, 2H), 2.84 (s, 4H), 2.65 (t, 2H), 2.21-2.13 (m, 4H), 1.99 (p, 2H), 1.44 (s, 9H), 1.66-1.51(m, 6H), 1.25 (br, 20H).

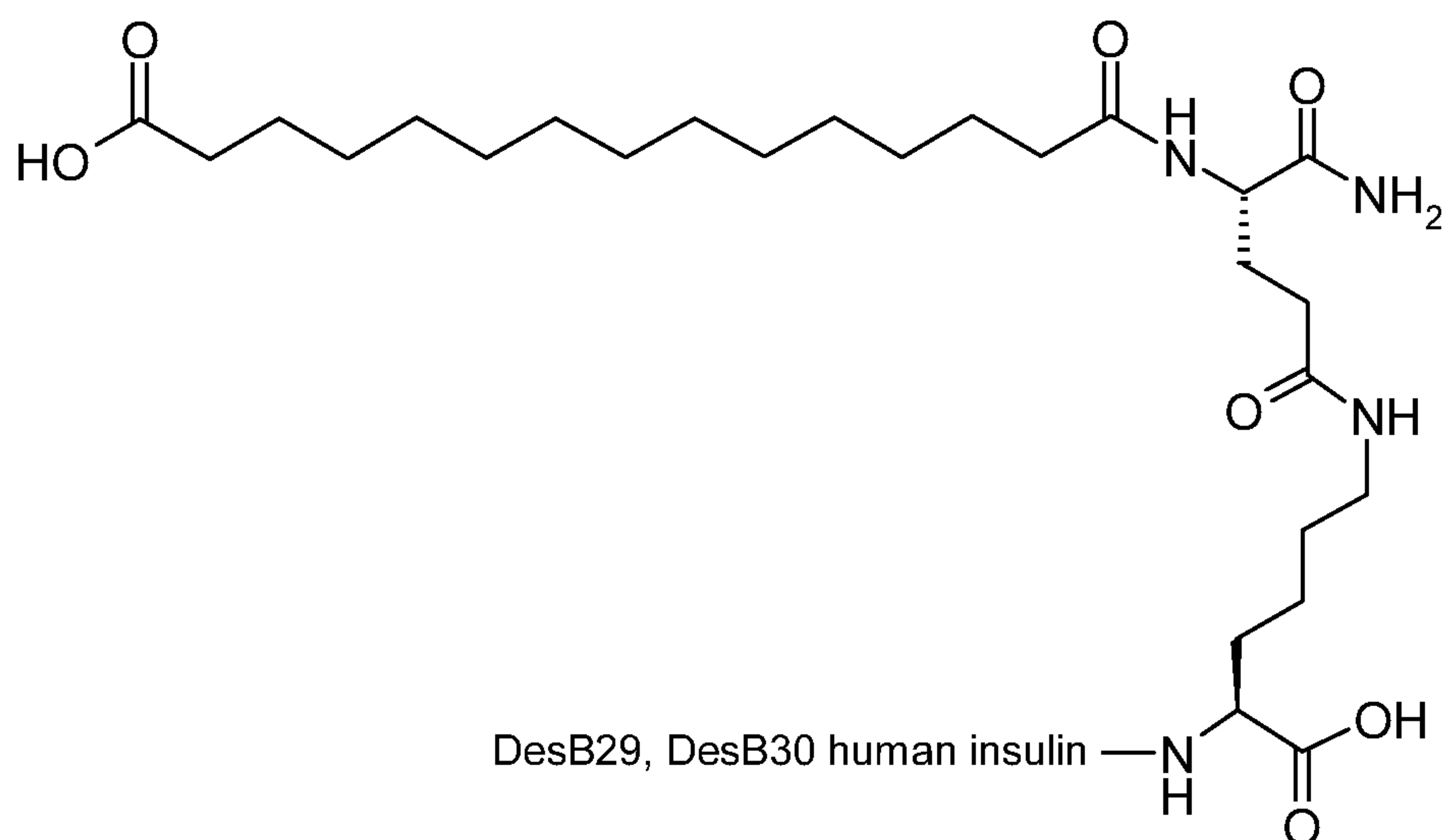
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$N^{\epsilon B29}$ - ω -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- γ -amino-butanoyl desB30 human insulin

LCMS 6059.9; $C_{273}H_{411}N_{65}O_{79}S_6$ requires 6060.1.

Example 3

Synthesis of N^εB²⁹-ω-carboxy-tetradecanoyl-γ-L-glutamylamide desB30 human insulin



5

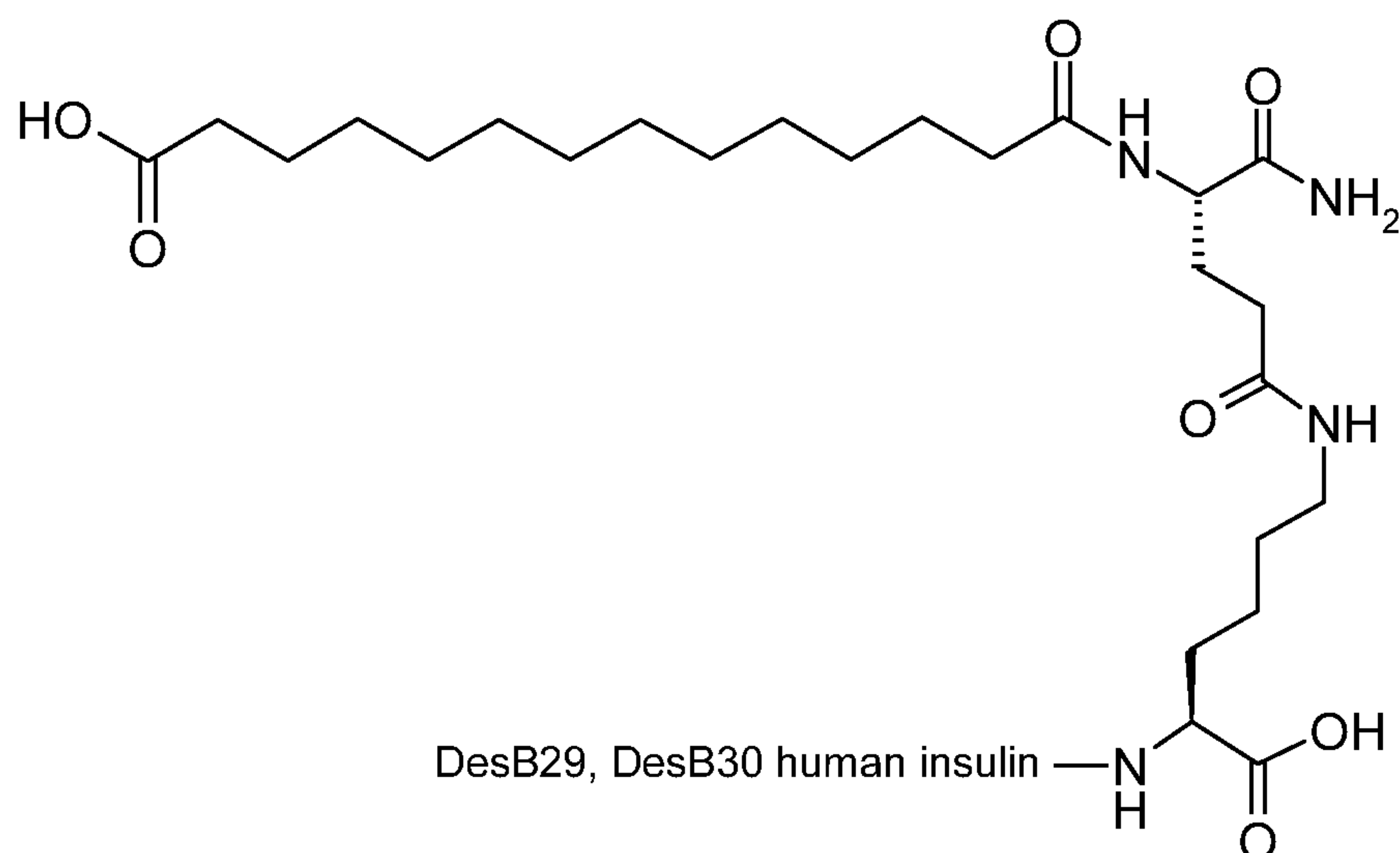
This compound was prepared from pentadecandioic acid and L-glutamylamide in analogy with example 1.

LCMS 6088.2; C₂₇₃H₄₁₀N₆₆O₈₀S₆ requires 6089.1.

10

Example 4

Synthesis of N^εB²⁹-ω-carboxy-tridecanoyl-γ-L-glutamylamide desB30 human insulin



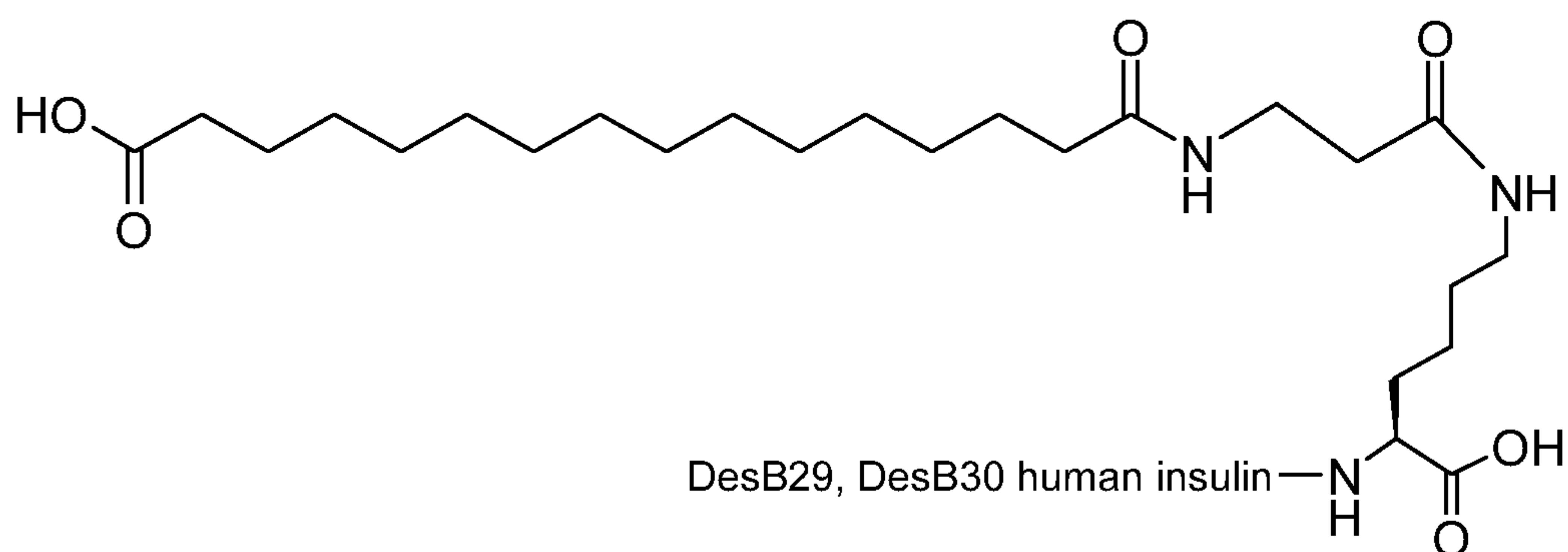
This compound was prepared from tetradecandioic acid and L-glutamylamide in analogy with example 1.

LCMS 6075.3; $C_{272}H_{408}N_{66}O_{80}S_6$ requires 6075.1.

5

Example 5

Synthesis of N^εB²⁹-ω-carboxy-pentadecanoyl-β-alanyl desB30 human insulin



10

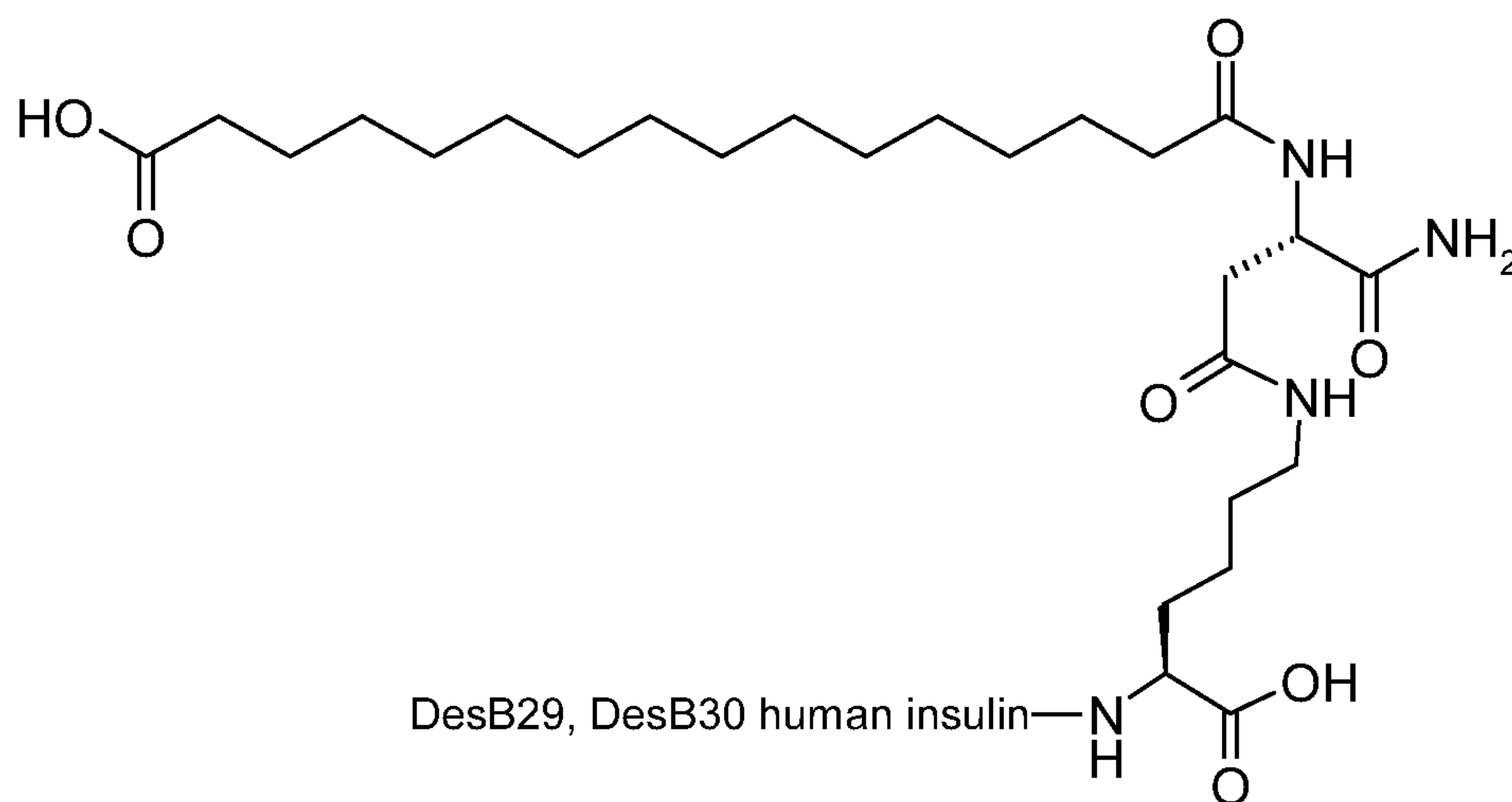
This compound was prepared from hexadecandioic acid and β-alanine in analogy with example 1.

LCMS 6044.8; $C_{272}H_{409}N_{65}O_{79}S_6$ requires 6046.1.

15

Example 6

Synthesis of N^εB²⁹-ω-carboxy-pentadecanoyl-γ-L-aspartylamide desB30 human insulin



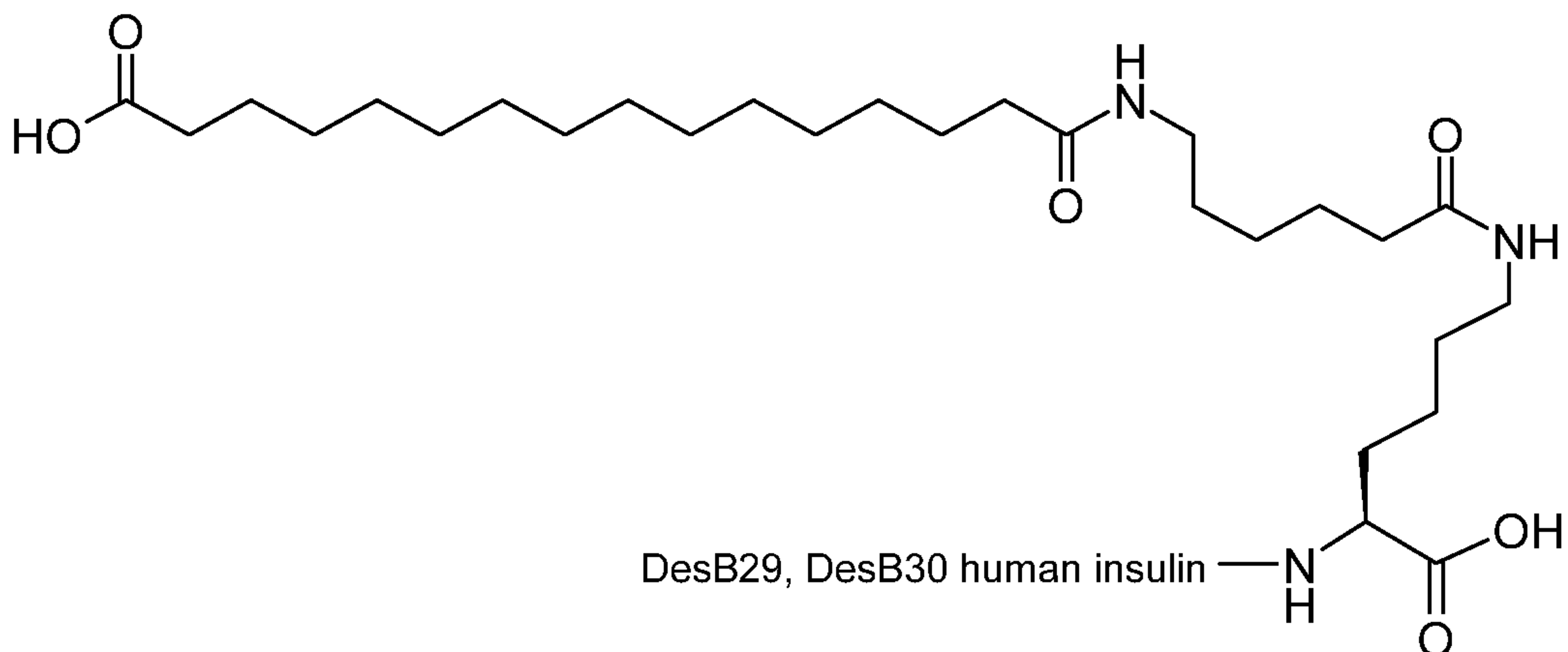
This compound was prepared from hexadecandioic acid and L-aspartylamide in analogy with example 1.

LCMS 6088.8; $C_{273}H_{410}N_{66}O_{80}S_6$ requires 6089.1.

5

Example 7

Synthesis of N^{εB29}-ω-carboxy-pentadecanoyl-ε-aminohexanoyl desB30 human insulin



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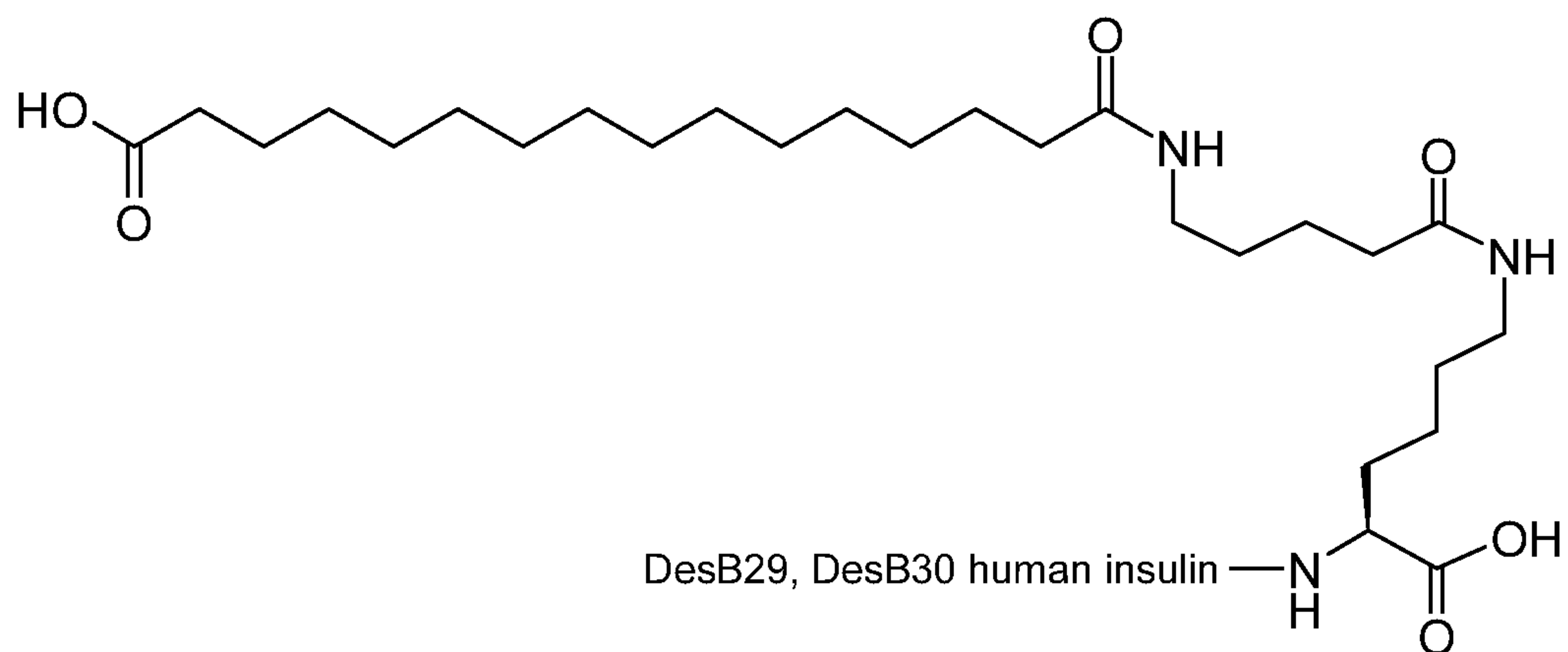
This compound was prepared from hexadecandioic acid and ε-amino-hexanoic acid in analogy with example 1.

LCMS 6086.1; $C_{275}H_{415}N_{65}O_{79}S_6$ requires 6088.1.

15

Example 8

Synthesis of N^{εB29}-ω-carboxy-pentadecanoyl-δ-aminopentanoyl desB30 human insulin



5

Synthesis of N^εB²⁹-10-(4-carboxyphenoxy)-decanoyl-γ-L-glutamylamide desB30
human insulin



4-Hydroxy-benzoic acid (3 g, 21.7 mmol) was stirred in toluene (35 ml, dried over mol. sieves). The solution was heated to 80 °C under N₂, and *N,N'*-dimethylformamide di-tert-butyl acetal (10.42 mL, 43.4 mmol) was added over ca. 5 min. The mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 1 h 10 min., and cooled to rt. The solution was washed with water, twice with sat. NaHCO₃ and sat. NaCl (15 mL each), dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated to yield a yellow oil (2.77 g). The product was purified by flash chromatography (380 g silica, eluant: 4:6 AcOEt/heptane (2 L) and 1:1 AcOEt/heptane 700 mL) to yield white crystals (2.07g, 49% yield).

¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) 7.90 (d, 2H), 6.85 (d, 2H), 6.10 (s, 1H), 1.59 (s, 9H).

Step 2: 4-(9-Methoxycarbonylnonyloxy) benzoic acid tert-butyl ester

4-Hydroxy-benzoic acid tert-butyl ester (500 mg, 2.57 mmol) and 10-bromodecanoic acid methyl ester (683 mg, 2.57 mmol) were dissolved in acetonitrile, and K₂CO₃ (712 mg, 5.15 mmol) was added. The mixture was refluxed under nitrogen for 16 h, and cooled to rt. The solids were filtered off, and the filtrate concentrated under vacuum. The resulting residue was dissolved in AcOEt (50 ml) and water (25 mL). The phases were separated and the organic phase was dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated to yield a colorless oil (874 mg, 90% yield).

HPLC-MS m/z: 402 (M+23).

¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) 7.92 (d, 2H), 6.87 (d, 2H), 3.99 (t, 2H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 2.31 (t, 2H), 1.72-1.83 (m, 2H), 1.59-1.69 (m, 2H), 1.58 (s, 9H), 1.40-1.50 (m, 2H), 1.23-1.40 (br, 8H).

Step 3: 4-(9-Carboxynonyloxy) benzoic acid tert-butyl ester

4-(9-Methoxycarbonylnonyloxy) benzoic acid tert-butyl ester (858 mg, 2.27 mmol) was dissolved in THF (5 ml), and 1N NaOH (2.27 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred for 16 h. AcOEt (40 mL) and 1N HCl (2.38 ml) in water (25 ml) were added. The phases were separated, and the organic phase was dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated under vacuum to yield a white solid (781 mg, 95% yield).

HPLC-MS m/z: 387 (M+23).

¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) 7.92 (d, 2H), 6.87 (d, 2H), 3.99 (t, 2H), 2.35 (t, 2H), 1.73-1.84 (m, 2H), 1.60-1.69 (m, 2H), 1.58 (s, 9H), 1.39-1.51 (m, 2H), 1.24-1.39 (br, 8H).

Step 4: 4-[9-(2,5-Dioxopyrrolidin-1-yloxycarbonyl) nonyloxy] benzoic acid tert-butyl ester

4-(9-Carboxynonyloxy) benzoic acid tert-butyl ester (779 mg, 2.14 mmol) was dissolved in THF (15 mL), and DIEA (366 µl, 2.14 mmol) was added. The mixture was cooled to 0 °C, and placed under nitrogen, and HSTU was added. The mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 30 min and at RT for 16 h. The sample was concentrated under vacuum and AcOEt (40 ml) was added. The mixture was washed with 0.2 N HCl (2 x 25 ml), dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated under vacuum to yield a slightly yellow solid. The solid was recrystallized from AcOEt to yield a white powder (276 mg, 28% yield). The mother liquor was concentrated to yield crystalline residue (430 mg, 43% yield). Data for the white powder:

HPLC-MS m/z: 484 (M+23).

¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) 7.93 (d, 2H), 6.88 (d, 2H), 3.99 (t, 2H), 2.83 (s, 4H), 2.61 (t, 2H), 1.67-1.88 (m, 4H), 1.58 (s, 11H, theoret. 9H + water), 1.27-1.52 (m, 10H).

Step 5: 4-[9-((S)-1-Carbamoyl-3-carboxypropylcarbamoyl) nonyloxy] benzoic acid
5 tert-butyl ester

4-[9-(2,5-Dioxopyrrolidin-1-yloxycarbonyl) nonyloxy] benzoic acid tert-butyl ester (200 mg, 0.433 mmol) was stirred in DMF (2 mL) and H-Glu-NH₂ (63 mg) was added. The non-homogeneous mixture was stirred at rt for 16h. LC/MS analysis indicated the reaction had not gone to completion. H-Glu-NH₂ (20 mg) and more DMF (2 mL) were added and the
10 mixture was stirred for 2 d at rt. The sample was concentrated under vacuum and AcOEt (50 mL) was added. The solution was washed with 0.2 N HCl (2 x 25 mL) and water (25 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated under vacuum to yield a white solid (180 mg, 86% yield).

HPLC-MS m/z: 493 (M+1).

Step 6: 4-{9-[(S)-1-Carbamoyl-3-(2,5-dioxopyrrolidin-1-yloxycarbonyl)
15 propylcarbamoyl] nonyloxy} benzoic acid tert-butyl ester

The HSTU activation was performed in manner similar to that described for 4-[9-(2,5-Dioxopyrrolidin-1-yloxycarbonyl) nonyloxy] benzoic acid tert-butyl ester. The product
20 was purified by flash chromatography (1:1 AcOEt:heptane and AcOEt) to yield 18 mg.

HPLC-MS m/z: 590 (M+1).

Step 7: N^εB²⁹-10-(4-carboxyphenoxy) decanoyl-γ-L-glutamylamide desB30 insulin

DesB30 insulin (126 mg, 0.022 mmol) was dissolved by adding 100 mM Na₂CO₃ (1.5 mL) and acetonitrile (1.5 mL) in a 10 ml round bottom-flask. 4-{9-[(S)-1-Carbamoyl-3-(2,5-dioxopyrrolidin-1-yloxycarbonyl) propylcarbamoyl] nonyloxy} benzoic acid tert-butyl ester (14 mg, 0.022 mmol) was added in acetonitrile (750 uL) and Na₂CO₃ (750 uL) was added so the final solution was 50:50 100 mM Na₂CO₃/acetonitrile. The solution was stirred at RT for 1 h. The solution was transferred to a 15 ml centrifuge tube, washing with Milli-Q water (6 ml).
25 The solution was cooled on ice, and the pH was adjusted to 5.1 by adding 1N HCl, which lead to precipitation. The tube was centrifuged at 5000 rpm for 10 min at 10 °C. The solvent was decanted from the solid. 95:5 TFA/water (2.5 ml) was added to the solid. The solution was poured into a round bottom flask, washing with more 95:5 TFA/water (2.5 ml). The solution was stirred for 30 min at RT, and concentrated under vacuum. DCM was added and
30 removed twice, and the flask was placed under vacuum at RT. The product was purified by

preparative HPLC (C18 column, acetonitrile/water/ 0.05%TFA). The relevant fractions were pooled (two batches) and diluted 1:1 with water. The solutions were cooled on ice, and the precipitation was induced by adjusting the pH to ca. 5 with 1 N NaOH. The samples were centrifuged (5000 rpm, 10 min, 5 °C). The liquid was decanted off and the pellets were lyophilized to yield a white solid (22 mg + 12 mg).

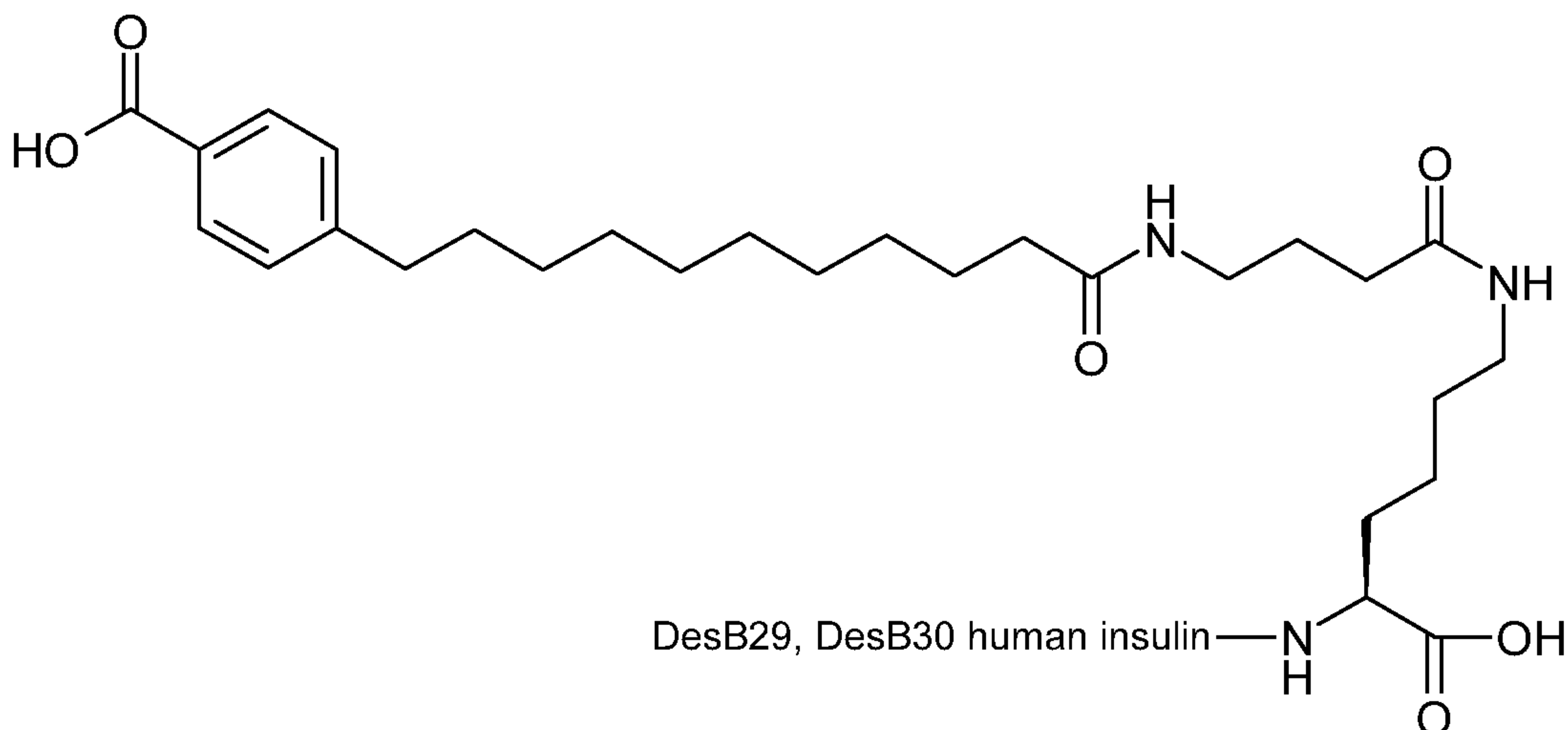
MALDI-MS (alpha-cyano-4-hydroxycinnamic acid) m/z: 6128.7 (M = 6125.1).

HPLC-MS m/z: 1532.8 ((M+4)/4 = 1532.2).

Example 10

Synthesis of N^{B29}-4-[11-(4-Carboxyphenyl) undecanoylamino] butyryl desB30

human insulin



Step 1: 4-Iodobenzoic acid tert-butyl ester

4-Iodobenzoic acid (10 g, 40.3 mmol) was dissolved in dry toluene (100 ml, dried over mol. sieves). The solution was heated to 70 °C under a flow of nitrogen. A solution of *N,N'*-dimethylformamide di-tert-butyl acetal (24.6 g, 121 mmol) in toluene (25 mL) was added over ca. 30 min. The reaction was mixed for 16 h. At some point the heating unit failed, so the reaction cooled from 70 °C to rt. The solution was heated to 70 °C for and mixed for 5 h. The sample was concentrated under vacuum, and AcOEt (400 ml) was added. The solution was then washed with 1:1 sat. NaHCO₃/water (150 ml), and sat. NaHCO₃, water and sat. NaCl (75 mL each). The organic phase was dried (MgSO₄) and concentrated under vacuum to yield light brown oil.

HPLC-MS m/z: 327 (M+23).

¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.77 (d, 2H), 7.69 (d, 2H), 1.58 (s, 9H).

Step 2: 11-Iodo undecanoic acid methyl ester

11-Bromo undecanoic acid methyl ester (20.2 g, 72.3 mmol) was dissolved in acetone (200 ml). Sodium iodide (54 g, 361 mmol) was added and reaction was refluxed under nitrogen for 16 h. After cooling to RT the salts were filtered off. The filtrate was concentrated under vacuum and water (200 ml) was added. The solution was extracted with AcOEt (2 x 100 ml) adding some sat. NaCl to aid phase separation. The organic extracts were pooled and washed with water (100 ml) plus a little sat. NaCl, and sat. NaCl (50 mL). Dry over MgSO₄. The solution was a red-orange color. Three teaspoons of activated charcoal were added. After mixing, the solution was filtered through a bed of celite. The filtrate was concentrated under vacuum to yield a light yellow oil (20.96 g, 89%).

HPLC-MS m/z: 327 (M+1).

¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 3.67 (s, 3H), 3.19 (t, 2H), 2.30 (t, 2H), 1.74-1.89 (m, 2H), 1.53-1.70 (m, 2H), 1.34-1.46 (m, 2H), 1.28 (br, 10H).

Step 3: 4-(10-Methoxycarbonyldecyl) benzoic acid tert-butyl ester

All glassware was dried prior to use. THF was dried over molecular sieves. LiCl was dried at 150 °C for 1 h, then stored in a closed bottle. All reaction solutions were made under nitrogen, and the solutions were transferred via syringe. 4-Iodobenzoic acid tert-butyl ester (1.2 g, 3.95 mmol) was dissolved in THF (3 ml) and cooled to -30 °C. Isopropyl magnesium chloride (4.34 mmol, 2M in THF) was added over 5 minutes, and the solution was stirred for 1 hr at a temperature between -18 °C to -25°C. The solution was cooled to -22 °C, and a mixture of CuCN (0.389 g, 4.34mmol) and LiCl (0.368 g, 8.68 mmol) in THF (4.2 ml) was then added. The reaction vessel was removed from cooling and allowed to warm to RT (ca. 10 min). Trimethylphosphite (0.95 mL) was added, and after stirring for 5 min at rt, a solution of 11-iodo-undecanoic acid methyl ester (1.0 g, 3.16 mmol) in THF (3 ml) was added. The solution was mixed at rt for 16 h. Sat. NH₄Cl (3 ml) was added, and the solution was poured into water (60 mL). The solution was extracted with AcOEt (3 x 35 ml). The organic extracts were pooled and washed with water (30 mL) using some Sat. NaCl to aid phase separation. The solvent was removed under vacuum to yield a biphasic residue. AcOEt (ca 2 ml) was added and the flask was swirled gently. Not all of the thick white residue dissolved. The portion which dissolved was added to a column of silica (50 g) and eluted with AcOEt: heptane 1:11. The appropriate fractions were concentration under vacuum to yield an oil (1.25 g). The oil was dissolved in acetone (30 mL), and piperidine (1 mL) was added. NaI (0.8 g) was added and the mixture was stirred and refluxed for 16 h. The mixture was

concentrated under vacuum and partitioned between AcOEt (50 mL) and 1 N HCl (25 mL). The organic phase was washed with 1 N HCl (2 x 25 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated under vacuum to yield a colorless oil (1.1 g). The product was purified by flash chromatography (eluant: AcOEt:heptane 1:11, 150 g silica) to yield a colorless oil (0.72 g, 61%).

HPLC-MS m/z: 399 (M+23).

¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 7.90 (d, 2H), 7.21 (d, 2H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 2.64 (t, 2H), 2.30 (t, 2H), 1.48-1.70 (m, 13H), 1.27 (br, 12H).

10 Step 4: 4-(10-Carboxydecyl) benzoic acid tert-butyl ester

The compound was prepared in analogous fashion to the procedure used in the preparation of 4-(9-Carboxynonyloxy) benzoic acid tert-butyl ester to yield a white solid (0.68 g).

HPLC-MS m/z: 385 (M+23).

15 ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 7.90 (d, 2H), 7.21 (d, 2H), 2.64 (t, 2H), 2.34 (t, 2H), 1.53-1.71 (m, 13H), 1.28 (br, 12H).

Step 5: 4-[10-(2,5-Dioxopyrrolidin-1-yloxycarbonyl)decyl] benzoic acid tert-butyl ester

20 The compound was prepared in analogous fashion to the procedure used in the preparation of 4-[9-(2,5-Dioxopyrrolidin-1-yloxycarbonyl) nonyloxy] benzoic acid tert-butyl ester.

HPLC-MS m/z: 482 (M+23).

25 ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.89 (d, 2H), 7.21 (d, 2H), 2.76-2.93 (m, 4H), 2.54-2.68 (m, 2H), 1.67-1.81 (m, 2H), 1.52-1.66 (m, 11H), 1.35-1.43 (m, 2H), 1.19-1.35 (br, 10H).

Step 6: 4-[10-(3-Carboxy-propylcarbamoyl)decyl] benzoic acid tert-butyl ester

4-[10-(2,5-Dioxopyrrolidin-1-yloxycarbonyl) decyl] benzoic acid tert-butyl ester (300 mg, 0.65 mmol) was dissolved in DMF (3 ml) and 4-amino butyric acid (67 mg, 0.65 mmol).

30 The mixture was stirred for 16 h under nitrogen. The solvent was removed under vacuum and AcOEt (35 ml) was added. The solution was washed with 0.2 N HCl and water (15 ml each). Sat. NaHCO₃ was added (not intended) to the organic phase. DCM (50 ml) was added. Some of the organic phase was removed and DCM (100 ml) was added to the aqueous phase and allowed to stand overnight. The mixture was cooled on ice and the pH

was adjusted to 1.9 with 4N HCl. The organic phase was isolated, dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated under vacuum to yield an oil (220 mg, 76% yield).

HPLC-MS m/z: 470 (M+23).

¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.89 (d, 2H), 7.21 (d, 2H), 5.79 (br, 1H), 3.27-3.40 (m, 2H), 2.64 (t, 2H), 2.40 (t, 2H), 2.18 (t, 2H), 1.78-1.91 (m, 2H), 1.51-1.61 (m, 13H), 1.35-1.43 (M, 2H), 1.17-1.36 (br, 12H).

Step 7: 4-{10-[3-(2,5-Dioxo-pyrrolidin-1-yloxycarbonyl) propylcarbamoyl] decyl} benzoic acid tert-butyl ester

10 The compound was prepared in analogous fashion to the procedure used in the preparation of 4-[9-(2,5-Dioxopyrrolidin-1-yloxycarbonyl)nonyloxy] benzoic acid tert-butyl ester, but TSTU was used instead of HSTU. Precipitation (DCM/Heptane) yielded white crystals (180 mg, 70% yield).

HPLC-MS m/z: 568 (M+23).

15 ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.89 (d, 2H), 7.21 (d, 2H), 5.83 (br, 1H), 3.30-3.43 (m, 2H), 2.85 (br, 4H), 2.57-2.73 (m, 4H), 2.15 (t, 2H), 1.92-2.07 (m, 2H), 1.56-1.64 (m, 13H), 1.18-1.36 (br, 12H).

20 Step 8: N^{εB29}-4-[11-(4-carboxyphenyl) undecanoylamino] butyryl desB30 human insulin

The compound was prepared in analogous fashion to the procedure used in the preparation of example 9 to yield 30 mg.

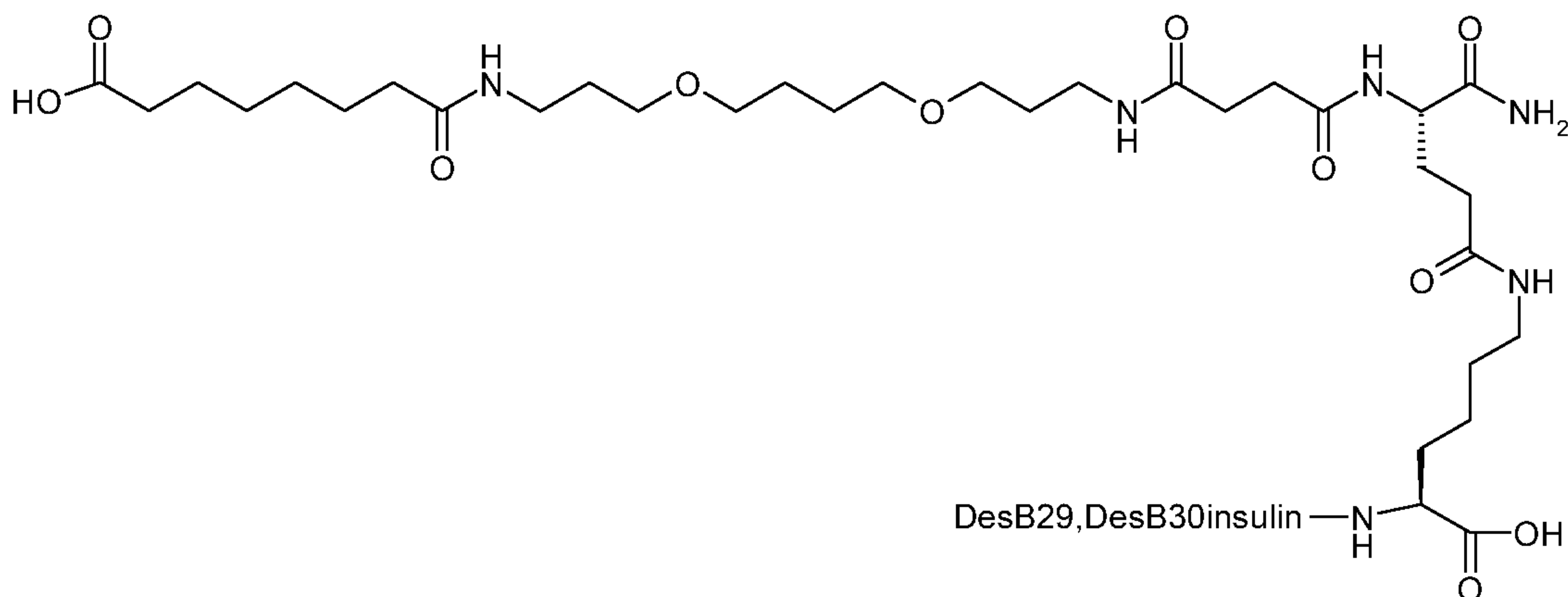
MALDI-MS (alpha-cyano-4-hydroxycinnamic acid) m/z: 6067 (M = 6080, reference standard (M=5706) showed M-13).

25 HPLC-MS m/z: 1520.9 ((M+4)/4 = 1521).

Example 11

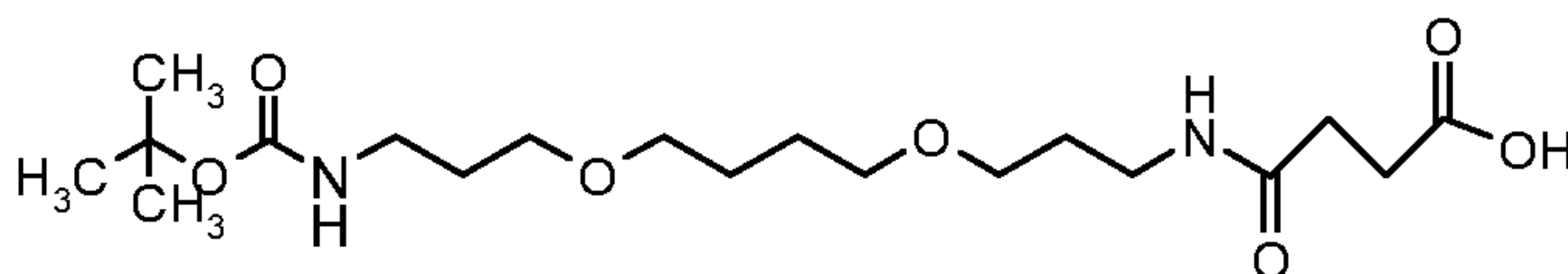
Synthesis of N^{B29}-(3-(3-{4-[3-(7-carboxyheptanoylamino)propoxy]butoxy}propylcarbamoyl)-propionyl- γ -glutamylamide) desB30 human Insulin

5



Step 1: N-{3-[4-(3-tert-Butoxycarbonylamino)propoxy]-butoxy]-propyl}succinamic acid
123-0000-3007

10



1-(tert-Butoxycarbonylamino)-4,9-dioxa-12-dodecanamine (5.0 g, 16.45 mmol) was dissolved in THF (30 mL), succinic anhydride (1.81 g, 18.1 mmol) in acetonitrile (10 mL) was added and the mixture was heated to 60 °C for 4 h, and subsequently stirred at RT overnight.

The mixture was evaporated to dryness and EtAc (50 mL) was added.

15

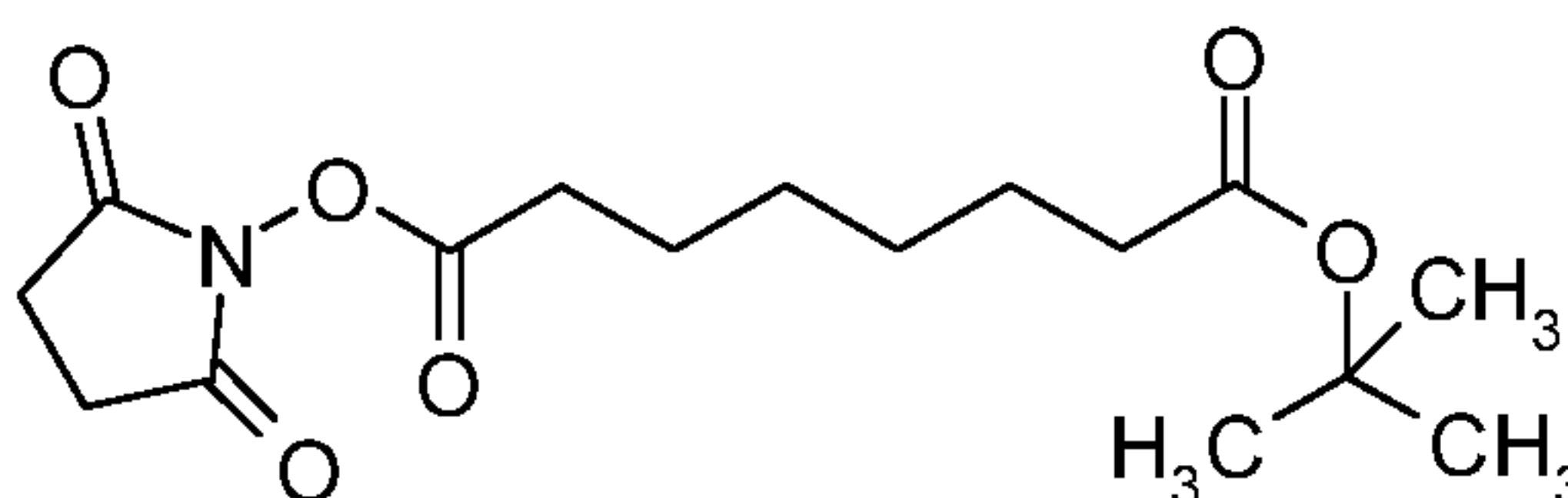
The EtAc phase was washed with HCl (0.1 M) 3 times, dried with MgSO₄ and subsequently the organic phase was evaporated to dryness which gave 5.86 g (88%) of thick oil.

LCMS: Rt 2.86 min; m/z (M+1) 405. Calcd: 405.

This product was used without further purification.

20

Step 2: Octanedioic acid tert-butyl ester 2,5-dioxo-pyrrolidin-1-yl ester

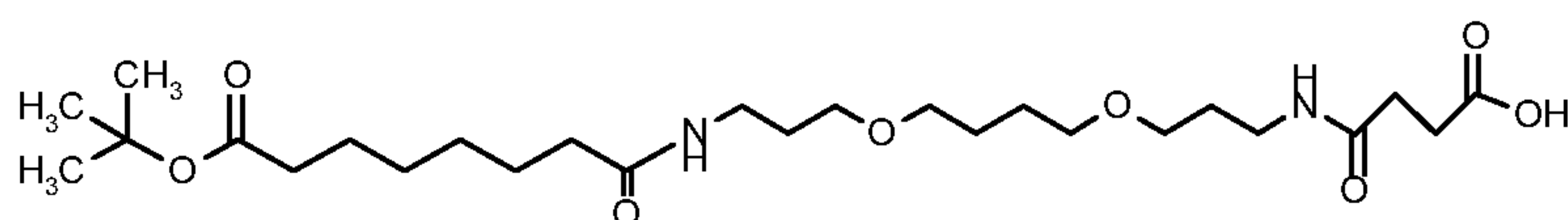


Octanedioic acid mono-tert-butyl ester (3.14 g, 13.63 mmol) was dissolved in THF (100 mL). TSTU (4.9 g, 16.3 mmol) was added and pH was adjusted to 8.5 with DIPEA (2.85 mL).

The mixture was stirred under nitrogen overnight, evaporated to dryness, dissolved in EtAc (50 mL) which subsequently was extracted 2 times with HCL (0.1 M). The organic phase was dried with MgSO₄, filtered and evaporated resulting in an slightly yellow oil (5 g, containing small amounts of solvent).

LCMS: Rt 6.56 min; m/z (M+1) 328. Calcd: 328.

10 Step 3: 7-(3-{4-[3-(3-carboxypropionylamino)propoxy]butoxy}propylcarbamoyl)heptanoic acid tert-butyl ester
123-0000-3012



15 N-{3-[4-(3-tert-Butoxycarbonylaminopropoxy)-butoxy]-propyl}succinamic acid (4.60 g, 11.37 mmol) was stirred with TFA (20 mL) at RT for 60 min, after evaporation the residue was stripped with DCM (30 mL x2) and evaporated to dryness.

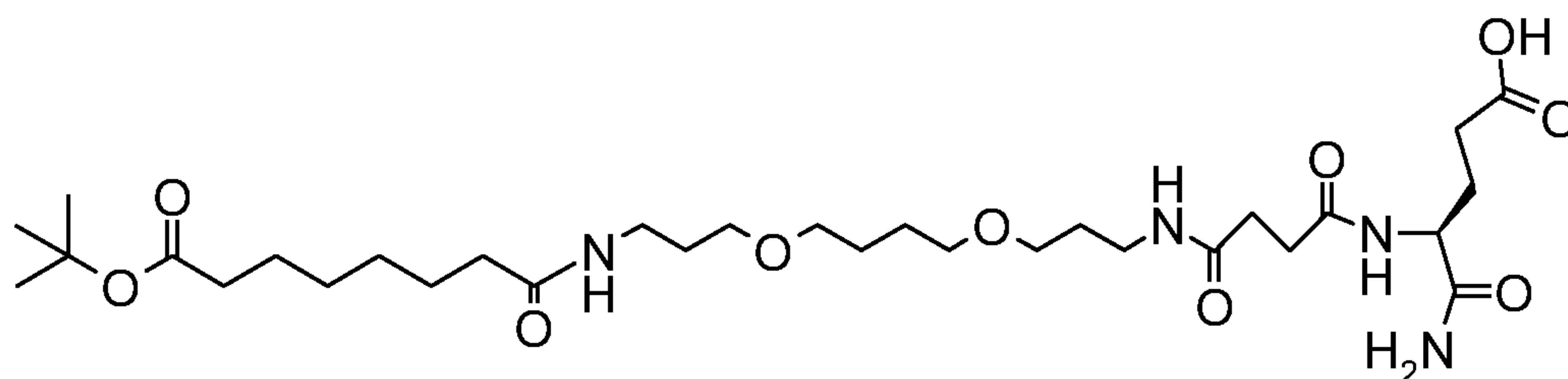
The resulting oil was dissolved in acetonitrile (30 mL) and octanedioic acid tert-butyl ester 2,5-dioxo-pyrrolidin-1-yl ester (4.46 g, 13.6 mmol) in DMF (20 mL) was added.

20 pH was adjusted to 8.5 with DIPEA and the mixture was stirred overnight under nitrogen. The mixture was subsequently evaporated to dryness and redissolved in EtOAc (50 mL). The EtOAc phase was extracted x3 with HCl (0.1 M), the organic layer dried over magnesium sulphate, filtered and evaporated resulting in a slightly yellow crystalline oil (6.5 g, content of solvent residues).

25 LCMS : Rt 4.31 min; m/z (M+1) 517. Calcd: 517.

The crude product was used for further reaction without further purification.

Step 4: 7-[3-(4-{3-[3-((S)-1-carbamoyl-3-carboxypropylcarbamoyl)propionylamino]propoxy}butoxy)propylcarbamoyl]heptanoic acid
30 tert-butyl ester
0123-0000-3078



7-(3-{4-[3-(3-Carboxypropionylamino)propoxy]butoxy}propylcarbamoyl)heptanoic acid tert-butyl ester (2.4 g), the crude product from step 3, was dissolved in THF (60 mL), TSTU (2.11g, 6.97 mmol) was added together with DMF (10 mL), pH was adjusted to 8.2 with DIPEA (0.8 mL). The mixture was stirred overnight under nitrogen.

The mixture was evaporated and the residue dissolved in EtOAc which was extracted with HCl (0.1 M) 3 times. The organic layer was dried with magnesium sulphate, filtered and the filtrate evaporated to give 3.2 g oil.

LCMS: Rt 4.57 min; m/z 614, corresponding to the activated acid.

This crude product was dissolved in acetonitrile (40 mL) and L-glutamic acid amide (0.6 g, 4.1 mmol) was added together with DMF (5 mL), pH was adjusted to 8.2 with DIPEA (1.4 mL).

The mixture was stirred at RT for overnight; filtration followed by evaporation afforded thick yellow oil.

This was extracted between EtOAc and HCl (0.1 M) as reported above, and the resulting dried EtOAc layer gave 1.66 g crude product on evaporation.

LCMS: Rt 3.62 min; m/z (M+1) 645. The crude product was purified by preparative HPLC using acetonitrile/water/0.1 % TFA as eluent on C18 column (Jones, Kromasil RP18 5µm 15x225 mm). Gradient: 0.0-10.0 min 35% acetonitrile A; 10.0 – 30.0 min 35-90 % A; The product was collected in fractions from 16-18 min. The combined fractions were evaporated yielding the wanted product (1.0 g). LCMS : Rt 3.59 min; m/z (M+1) 645, calcd. 645.

Step 5: N^εB²⁹-(3-(3-{4-[3-(7-carboxyheptanoylamino)propoxy]butoxy}propylcarbamoyl)propionyl-γ-L-glutamylamide)
desB30 human insulin

7-[3-(4-{3-[3-((S)-1-Carbamoyl-3-carboxypropylcarbamoyl)propionylamino]propoxy}butoxy)-propylcarbamoyl]heptanoic acid tert-butyl ester from step 4 (1.0 g, 1.55 mmol) was dissolved in THF (20 mL), TSTU (0.51 g, 1.7 mmol) was added and pH adjusted to >8 with DIPEA (0.27 mL).

The mixture was stirred overnight under nitrogen. Evaporation followed by extraction between EtOAc and HCl (0.1 M), drying of the organic phase (MgSO₄) followed by evaporation to dryness gave 21 mg oil, LCMS: Rt. 4.34 min, m/z 742.

This crude product was dissolved in acetonitrile (10 mL), pH was adjusted to 8 with Na₂CO₃ (0.1 M) and added to a solution of desB30 human insulin (1 g) dissolved in Na₂CO₃ solution (15 mL, pH 10.2).

The mixture was stirred under nitrogen at RT for 1 h. Then pH was adjusted to 5.4 by means of HCl (2M) resulting in precipitation. The mixture was filtered, the filtrate freeze dried, and the precipitate dried in vacuum overnight.

Both fractions were purified on Gilson using acetonitrile/water/0.1 % TFA as eluent on C18 column (Jones, Kromasil RP18 5µm 15x225 mm).

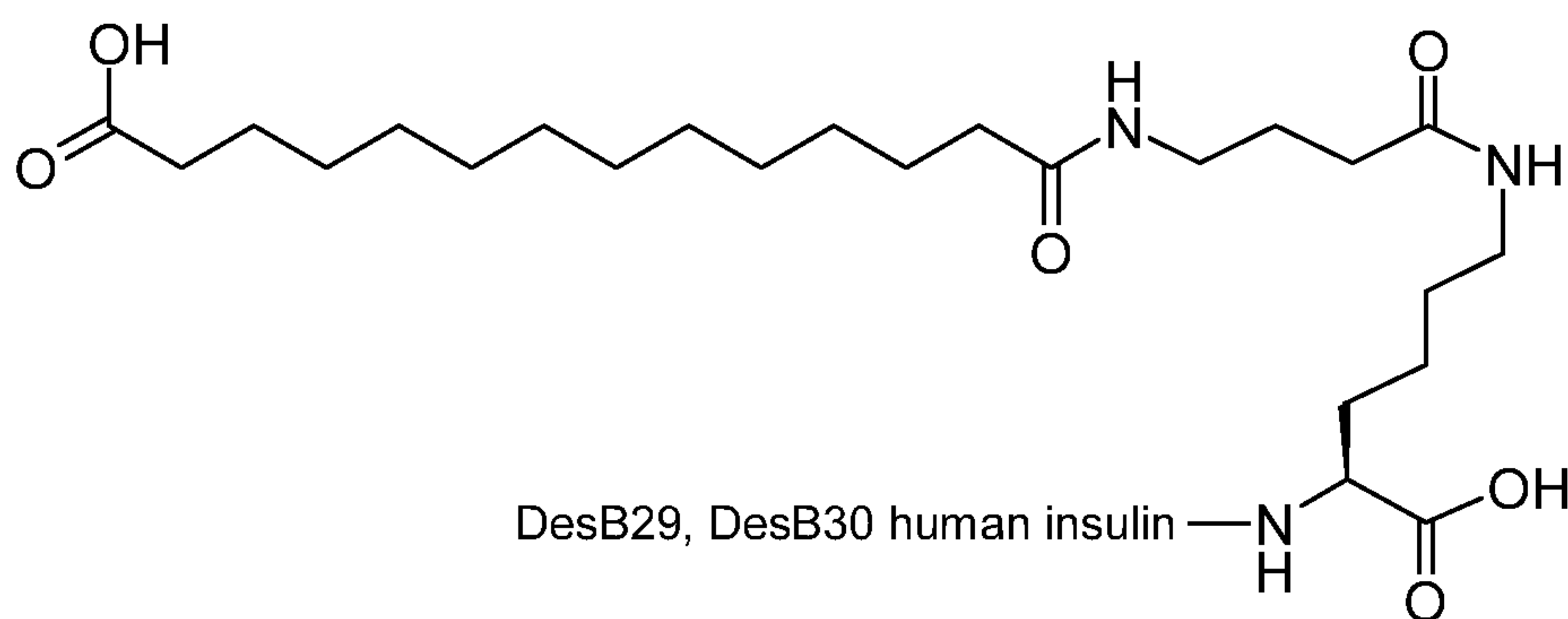
Gradient: 0.0-5.0 min 35% acetonitrile (A); 5.0 – 25.0 min 35-90 % A; The product was collected in fractions from 12-15 min. The combined fractions were evaporated, re-dissolved in water and freeze-dried yielding 27 mg of the wanted product.

LCMS: Rt. 7.76 min, m/z 1570

MALDI-MS (sinapinic acid): 6277; C₂₈₀H₄₂₂N₆₈O₈₄S₆ requires 6277.

Example 12

Synthesis of N^εB²⁹-ω- carboxy-tridecanoyl-γ-amino-butanoyl desB30 human insulin

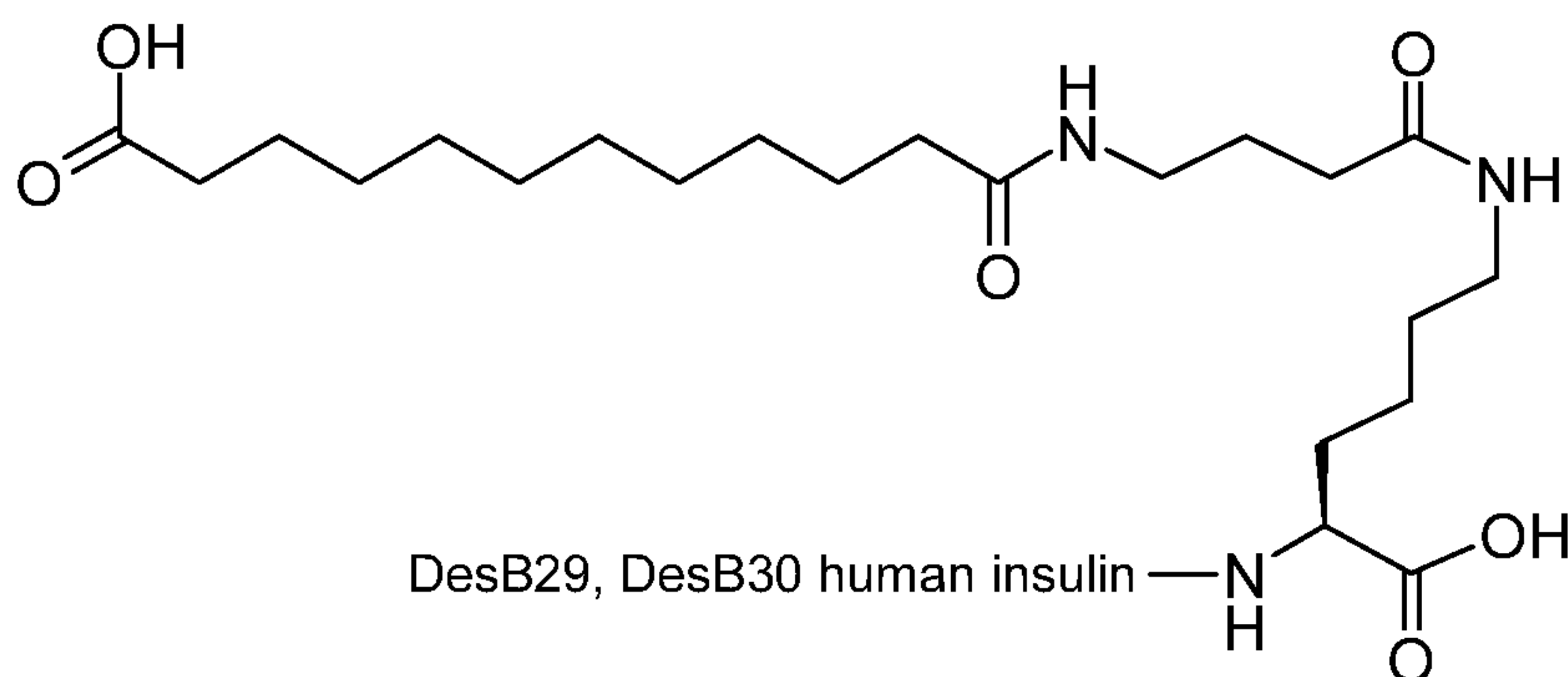


This compound was prepared from tetradecandioic acid and γ-amino-butyric acid in analogy with example 1.

LCMS 6032.1, C₂₇₁H₄₀₇N₆₅O₇₉S₆ requires 6032.0.

Example 13

Synthesis of N^εB²⁹-ω-carboxy-undecanoyl-δ- amino-butanoyl desB30 human insulin

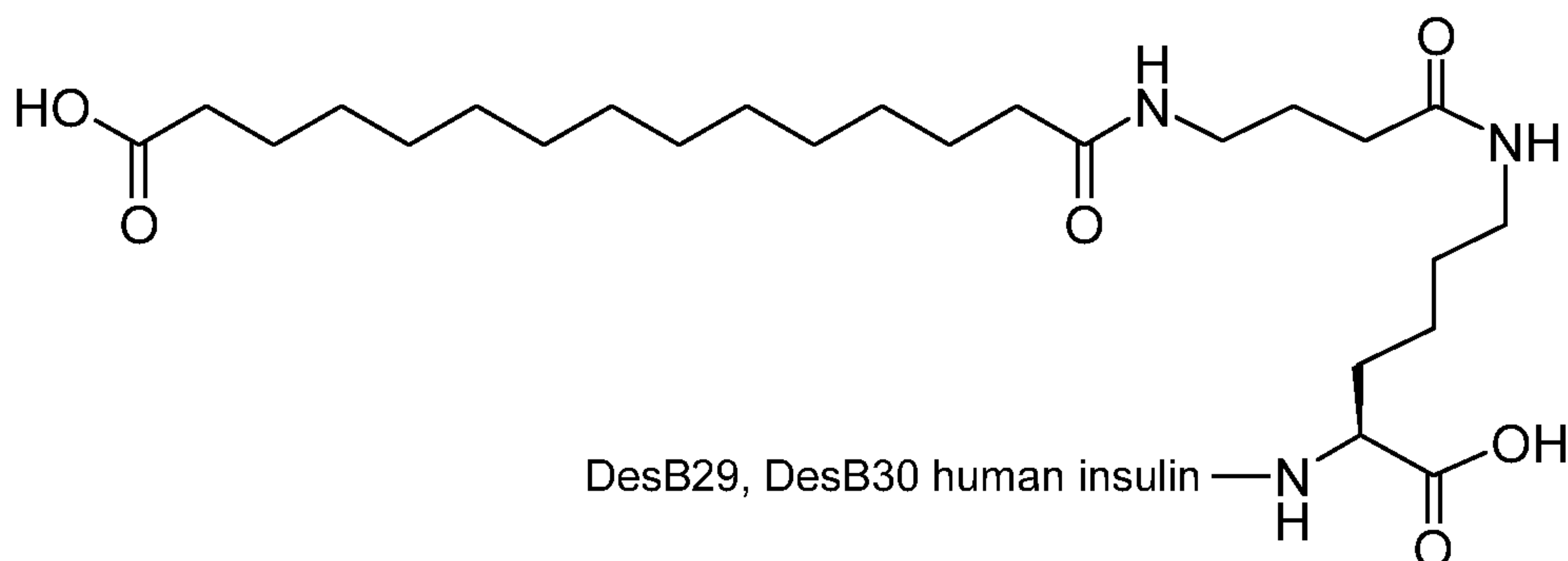


This compound was prepared from dodecandioic acid and γ-amino-butyric acid in analogy with example 1.

LCMS 6003.8, C₂₆₉H₄₀₃N₆₅O₇₉S₆ requires 6004.0.

Example 14

Synthesis of N^εB²⁹-ω-carboxy-tetradecanoyl-γ-amino-butanoyl desB30 human insulin



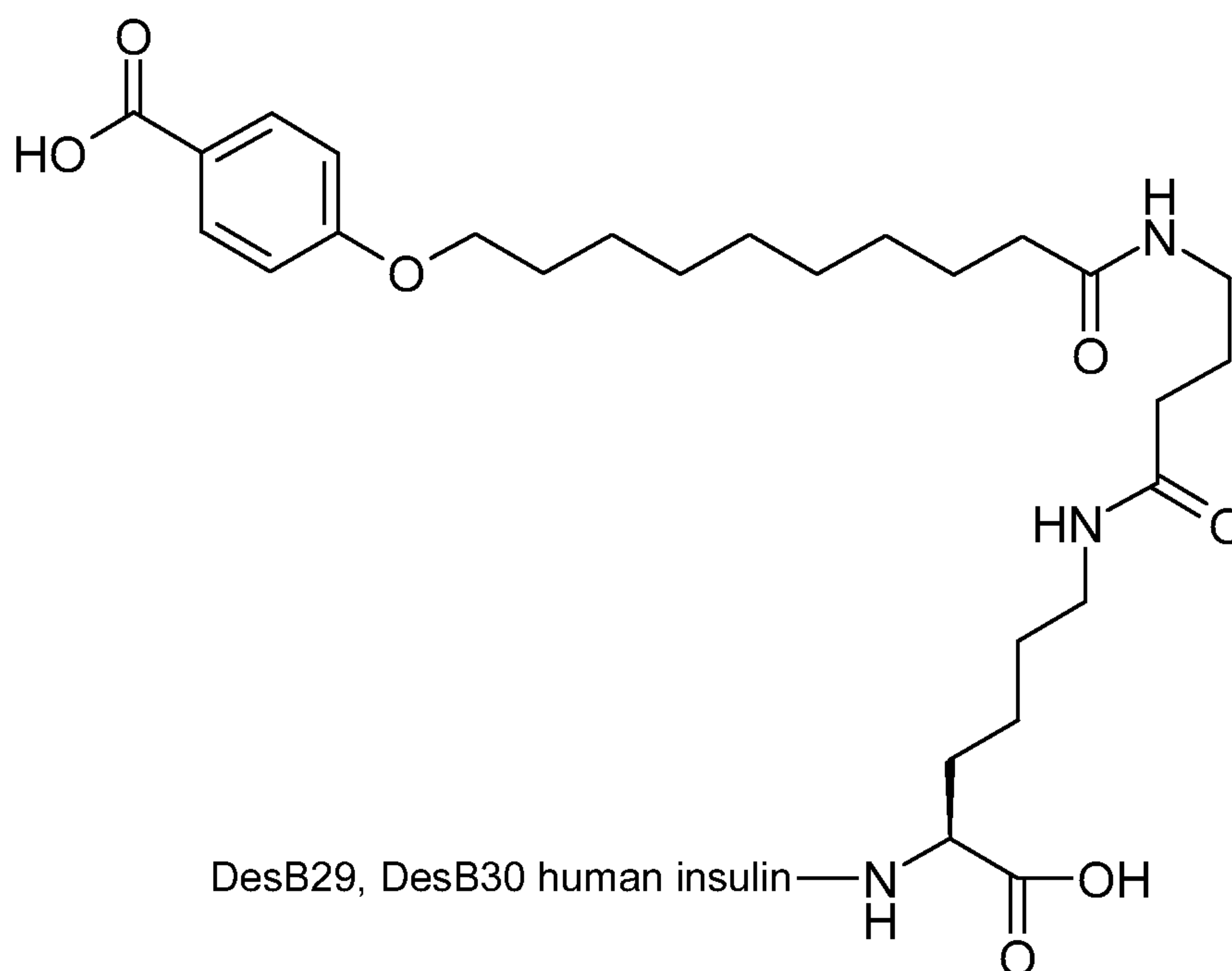
This compound was prepared from pentadecandioic acid and γ-aminobutyric acid in analogy with example 1.

LCMS 6045.6, C₂₇₂H₄₀₉N₆₅O₇₉S₆ requires 6046.1.

Example 15

Synthesis of N^εB²⁹-{4-[10-(4-Carboxy-phenoxy)-decanoylamino]-butyryl} desB30

insulin



5

This compound was prepared from 4-(9-methoxycarbonylnonyloxy) benzoic acid tert-butyl ester in analogy with examples 9 and 10.

LCMS: 6095.6, C₂₇₆H₄₀₉N₆₅O₇₉S₆ requires 6094.1.

10

Example 16

Synthesis of N^εB²⁹-{4-[(14-Carboxy-tetradecanoylamino)-methyl]-benzoyl} desB30

insulin

OC(=O)CCCCCCCCCCCCCCCC(=O)NCCc1ccc(cc1)C(=O)NCCCC[C@H](C(=O)O)N

5 LCMS: 6082.0, C₂₇₅H₄₀₆N₆₆O₈₁S₆ requires 6082.1.

Synthesis of N^εB²⁹-[16-(4-Carboxy-phenoxy)-hexadecanoyl] desB30 insulin

O=C(O)c1ccc(OCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCC(=O)NCC[C@H](NC(C(=O)O)C)CCC)cc1

DesB29, DesB30 human insulin

16-Bromohexadecanoic acid (6 g, 17.9 mmol) was dissolved in methanol (35 mL), toluene (100 mL) and trimethylorthoformate (20 mL). Amberlyst 15 was added and the mixture was stirred under nitrogen for 16 h at 55 °C. The mixture was concentrated, and

dissolved in methanol (ca. 50 mL) and DCM (30 mL). The resin was filtered off, and the filtrate was concentrated. The volume was increased to ca. 40 mL with methanol. Cooling produced crystals which were filtered off, washed with cold methanol and dried to yield white crystals (5.61 g, 90% yield).

5

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (DMSO, 300 MHz) 3.57 (s, 3H), 3.52 (t, 2H), 2.28 (t, 2H), 1.78 (m, 2H), 1.50 (m, 2H), 1.37 (m, 2H).

The remainder of the steps were performed in analogy with example 9.

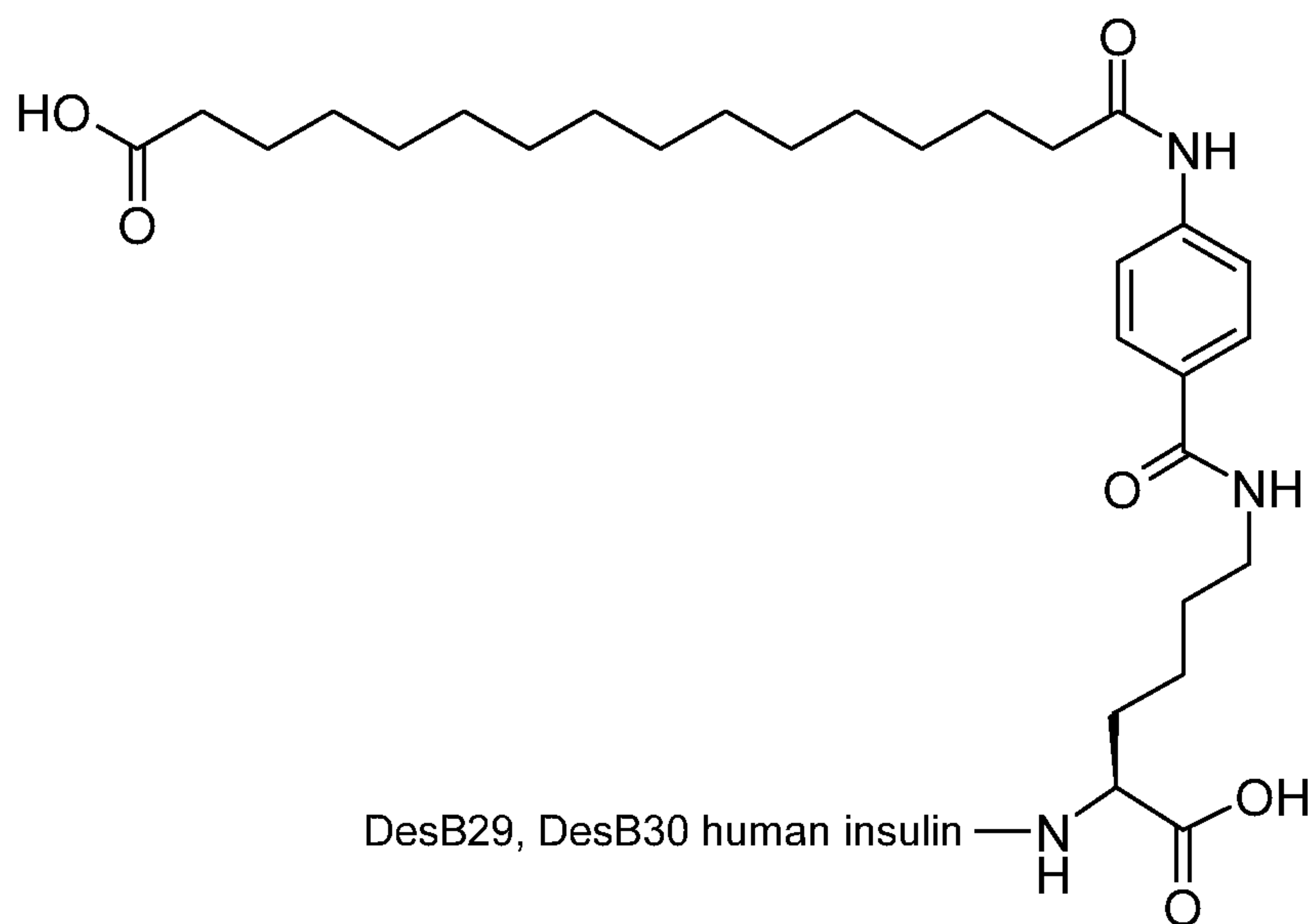
10

LCMS: 6081.2, $\text{C}_{276}\text{H}_{410}\text{N}_{64}\text{O}_{79}\text{S}_6$ requires 6081.1.

15

Example 18

Synthesis of N^{eB29}-{4-[(15-carboxypentadecanoylamino)benzoyl]- desB30 human insulin



20

Step 1: 4-(15-tert-Butoxycarbonylpentadecanoylamino)-benzoic acid

Mono-tert-butyl hexadecandioate hexadecadioic acid (400 mg, 1.17 mmol) was dissolved in NMP (6 ml). 1-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride (223 mg, 1.17 mmol) and 1-hydroxy-7-azabenzotriazole (156 mg, 1.17 mmol) was added and the

mixture was heated to 50 degrees celcius for 90 min. 4-aminobenzoic acid (320 mg, 2.34 mmol) and DIEA (0.6 mL, 3.51 mmol) was added and the mixture was stirred under nitrogenflow overnight. The mixture is transferred is separated between saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (50 mL) and diethyl ether (100 mL). NaHSO₄ (50 mL, 10 % in water) was added and the organic phase isolated, dried (MgSO₄) and solvent removed in vacuo. The crude product was recrystallized from ethanol to give 4-(15-tert-butoxycarbonylpentadecanoylamino)-benzoic acid.

¹H-NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ: 10.18 (s, 1H), 7.87 (d, 2H), 7.69 (d, 2H), 2.33 (t, 2H), 2.15 (t, 2H), 1.58 (t, 2H), 1.46 (t, 2H), 1.38 (s, 9H)m 1.31-1.20 (m, 20H).

Step 2: 4-(15-tert-Butoxycarbonyl-pentadecanoylamino)-benzoic acid 2,5-dioxo-pyrrolidin-1-yl ester

4-(15-tert-Butoxycarbonylpentadecanoylamino)-benzoic acid (29 mg, 0.063 mmol) was converted to the succinimidyl ester using TSTU similar to described above.

HPLC-MS, m/z = 559 (M+23, M+Na).

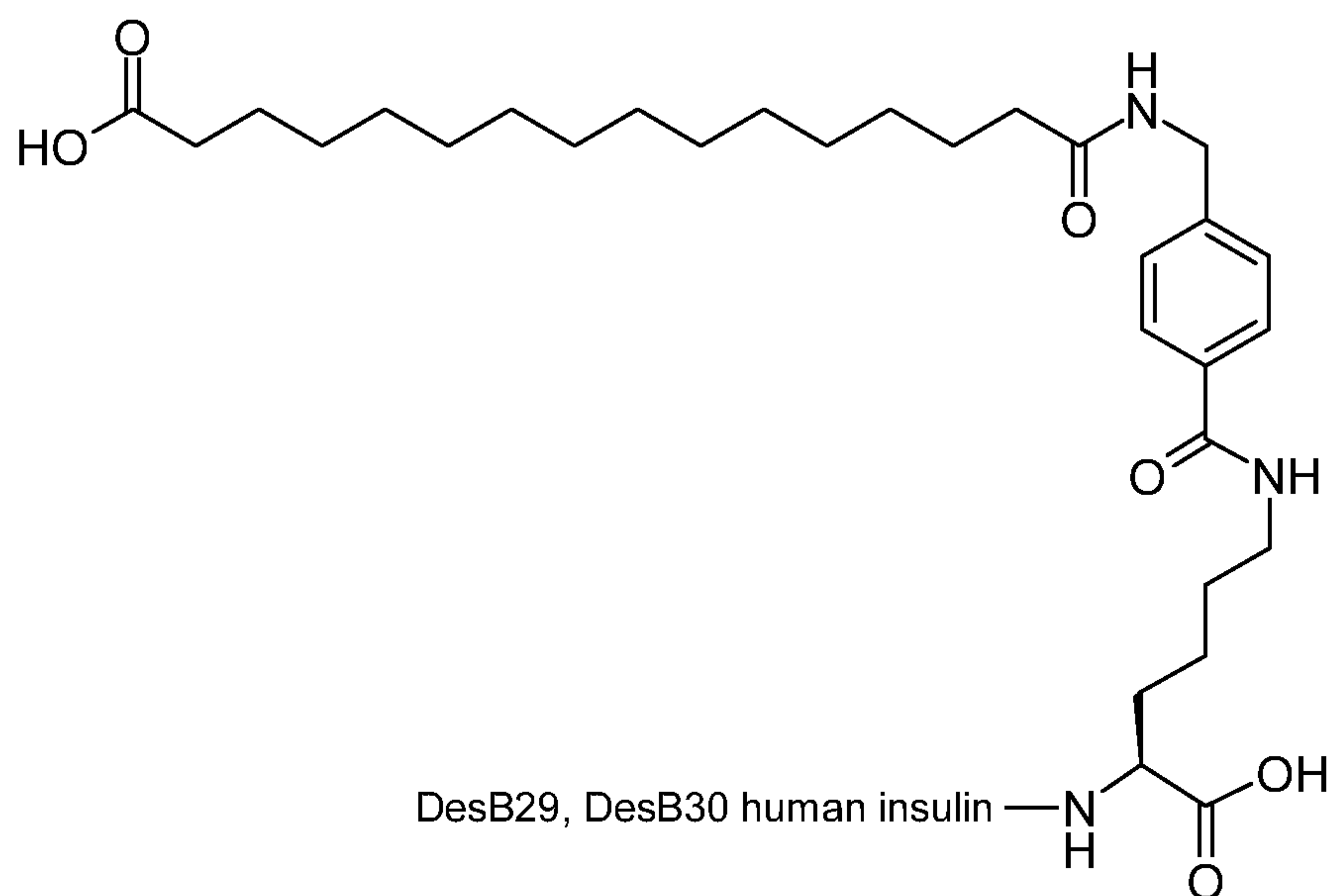
Step 3: N^εB²⁹-{4-[(15-carboxypentadecanoylamino)benzoyl]- desB30 human insulin

DesB30 human insulin (355 mg, 0.062 mmol) was dissolved in DMSO (3.5 mL), triethylamin (0.622 mmol, 0.087 mL) was added. 4-(15-tert-Butoxycarbonylpentadecanoylamino)-benzoic acid 2,5-dioxo-pyrrolidin-1-yl ester (28.3 mg, 0.051 mmol) was dissolved in DMSO (0.5 mL and added). The mixture was carefully stirred for 30 minutes at room temperature. The mixture was frozen by cooling with an icebath and water (7 mL) was added and the mixture left standing at room temperature until the frozen mixture had dissolved. pH was adjusted to pH = 5.3 using 1 N HCl and precipitate isolated by centrifuge, washed once with water followed by centrifuge. Trifluoroacetic acid (15 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred for 30 minutes, poured into diethyl ether (50 mL) while maintaining cooling on an icebath. The crude product was isolated by centrifuge and dissolved in 10 mM TRIS + 15 mM (NH₄)₂SO₄ in 20 % EtOH, pH 7.3 and subjected to purification on an ÄKTA purifier employing a reversed phase HPLC, Jupiter 5269, C4 250/20 mm, 15 μM, 300 Å. The buffer consisted of A-buffer 10 mM TRIS + 15 mM (NH₄)₂SO₄ in 20 % EtOH, pH 7.3 and a B-buffer 80 % EtOH. The product was eluted with a gradient 15-60 % B with 8 ml/min. Fractions containing product were collected an pH adjusted to pH = 5.2. N^εB²⁹-{4-[(15-carboxypentadecanoylamino)benzoyl]- desB30 human insulin was isolated by centrifuges and lyophilized.

LCMS: 6092.0, $C_{276}H_{409}N_{65}O_{79}S_6$ requires 6094.1.

Example 19

Synthesis of N^{εB29}-{4-[(15-Carboxy-pentadecanoylami
no)-methyl]-benzoyl}-desB30 insulin



Step 1: 4-[(15-tert-Butoxycarbonylpentadecanoylamino)methyl]benzoic acid

Hexadecanedioic acid tert-butyl ester 2,5-dioxo-pyrrolidin-1-yl ester (370 mg, 0.842 mmol) was dissolved in NMP (8 mL), 4 aminomethyl benzoic acid (127,2 mg, 0.842 mmol) was added, the mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight, followed by heating at for 2 hours at 50 degrees celcius. After cooling to room temperature the mixture was poured into water. Product isolated by filtration dried and used for the next step without any further purification.

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (DMSO- d_6) (selected signals) δ : 7.88 (d, 2H), 7.34 (d, 2H), 4.31 (d, 2H), 2.15 (m, 4H), 1.47 (m, 4H), 1.38 (s, 9H), 1.23 (br s, 2H), 1.38 (s, 9H).

HPLC-MS: m/z = 498 (M+Na)

Step 2: N^{εB29}-{4-[(15-Carboxy-pentadecanoylami no)-methyl]-benzoyl}-desB30 insulin

The 4-[(15-tert-Butoxycarbonylpentadecanoylamino)methyl]benzoic acid was converted to converted to the succinimidyl ester and reacted with DesB30 human insulin similar to described above. The product was purified on an ÄKTA purifier employing a

reversed phase HPLC, Jupiter 5269, C4 250/20 mm, 15 μ M, 300 Å. The buffer consisted of A-buffer 10 mM TRIS + 15 mM (NH₄)₂SO₄ in 20 % EtOH, pH 7.3 and a B-buffer 80 % EtOH. The product was eluted with a gradient 15-60 % B with 8 ml/min. Followed by purification with RP-HPLC on a Waters Prep LC2000, on C18, 5 cmx20 cm, flow 20 ml/min using

5 acetonitrile/water 36-42 % gradient containing 0.1 % TFA. Fractions containing product was collected and lyophilized. To the lyophilized material was added water (7.2 mL) and pH adjusted to 8.98 with 1 N+0.1 N NaOH. The pH was adjusted back to 5.2-5.5 with 0.1 N HCl. The product precipitated, isolated by centrifuge and lyophilized to give the title compound.

LCMS: 6108.0, C₂₇₇H₄₁₁N₆₅O₇₉S₆ 6108.1

10

Example 20:

Hydrophobicity, albumin affinity, self-association and mixability of long-acting and short-acting insulins

15

Analysis of self-associating properties of the insulin derivatives of the invention

20 The ability of the insulin derivatives of the invention to self-associate into large, but soluble complexes is analysed using SEC (size exclusion chromatography):

Column:	Superose TM 6 PC 3.2/30, CV = 2.4 ml (Amerham Biosciences)
Temperature:	37 °C
25 SEC buffer:	140 mM NaCl, 10 mM TrisHCl, 0.01% NaN ₃ , pH 7.5
Injection volume:	20 μ l
Flow:	0.05 ml/min
Runtime:	60 min and equilibration of additional 100 min

30 For this analysis the insulin derivatives of the invention are in a solution consisting of 0.6 mM derivative, 2.1 Zn²⁺/hexamer, 16 mM phenol, 7 mM phosphate pH 7.8. The retention time of the derivative is then compared to the retention times of the following standard molecules: Blue dextran (> 5 MDa, K_{AV} 0.0), Thyroglobulin (669 kDa, K_{AV} 0.28), Ferritin (440 kDa, K_{AV} 0.39), Ovalbumin (44.5 kDa, K_{AV} 0.56), Ribonuclease (13.7 kDa, K_{AV} 0.69) and a second reference of

35 Albumin (66 kDa, K_{AV} 0.53), Co(III)insulin-hexamer (35 kDa, K_{AV} 0.61), and monomeric insulin X2 (6 kDa, K_{AV} 0.73).

The following equation is used to determine the K_{av} for the derivative:

$$K_{av} = (t - t_0) / (V_t / (f + t_d - t_0))$$

5

Where t is the retention time for a given peak, t_0 is the retention time for Blue dextran, V_t is the total column volume (here 2.4 ml), f is the flow (here 0.04 ml/min), and t_d is the retention time for Blue dextran without the column in the system.

The K_{av} value indicates the degree of self-association of a derivative, i.e. a large K_{av} similar to the K_{av} for the Co(III)insulin hexamer and X2 insulin monomer shows low or no propensity of the derivative to form large, self-associated complexes, while very small K_{av} close to zero or even negative shows great propensity of the derivative for self-association into large, soluble complexes.

15 Hydrophobicity data on insulin derivatives according to the invention.

The hydrophobicity (hydrophobic index) of the insulin derivatives of the invention relative to human insulin, k'_{rel} , was measured on a LiChrosorb RP18 (5 μ m, 250x4 mm) HPLC column by isocratic elution at 40 °C using mixtures of A) 0.1 M sodium phosphate buffer, pH 7.3, containing 10% acetonitrile, and B) 50% acetonitrile in water as eluents. The elution was monitored by following the UV absorption of the eluate at 214 nm. Void time, t_0 , was found by injecting 0.1 mM sodium nitrate. Retention time for human insulin, t_{human} , was adjusted to at least $2t_0$ by varying the ratio between the A and B solutions. $k'_{rel} = (t_{derivative} - t_0) / (t_{human} - t_0)$. k'_{rel} found for a number of insulin derivatives according to the invention are given in Table 1.

25 Human Serum Albumin Affinity Assay

Relative binding constant of ¹²⁵I-TyrA14-analogue to human serum albumin immobilised on Minileak particles and measured at 23 °C (detemir =1 in saline buffer).

30 Mixability of long-acting and short-acting insulins as analyzed by size-exclusion chromatography of insulin mixtures

SEC: Mixability of Insulin Aspart (3 Zn/6 insulin, glycerol 1.6%, 16 mM phenol and 16 mM m-cresol, sodium chloride 10 mM, phosphate 7 mM, pH 7.4) and prolonged acting insulin (2.1 or 6 Zn/6 insulin) 30:70, as measured by collecting fractions from SEC (as described above) and quantifying by HPLC the presence of prolonged-acting and fast-acting insulins in the

high molecular weight fraction (fraction 2, MW > HSA) and in the low molecular weight fraction (fraction 3, MW = HSA), respectively.

Four fractions are collected at size of 16 min after delay, of which fraction 2 [16-32 min] (peak 1) contain associated form larger than albumin (32 min correspond to K_{AV} 0.46) and

5 fraction 3 (peak 2) contain dihexameric, hexameric, dimeric and monomeric forms of insulin.

HPLC: Reverse phase chromatography on a Zorbax Eclipse XDB-C18 2.1*15 mm (1.8 μ m) gradient eluted with buffer A: 0.2 M sodium sulphate, 0.04 M sodium phosphate, 10 % acetonitrile, pH 7.2 and buffer B: 70 % acetonitrile at 30 °C, 19-34 % B in 4.5 min. linear, sudden initial condition at 5 min., run time of 7 min., flow of 0.5 ml/min., injection volumen of 10 14 μ L and UV detection at 276 nm using Insulin Aspart reference of 609 μ M for both analogues.

Compound	Hydrophobicity relative to human insulin	Insulin receptor affinity relative to human insulin	Human serum albumin affinity relative to insulin detemir	Self- association: K_{av} (% area of peak)
Example 1	++ 1.366	++ 37 %	++ 1.9	+++ 0.0 (87 %) 0.74 (13 %)
Example 2	++ 1.933	++ 35 %	++ 2.2	+++ 0.0 (94 %) 0.75 (6 %)
Example 3	++ 1.095	++ 30 %	+ 0.37	+++ 0.08 (76 %) 0.74 (24 %)
Example 4	+++ 0.716	+++ 52 %	+ 0.069	++ 0.15 (77 %) 0.74 (23 %)

Example 5	++ 1.75	++ 30 %	++ 1.93	+++ 0.02 (93%) 0.76 (7 %)
Example 6	++ 1.617	++ 33 %	++ 1.36	+++ 0.01 (90 %)
Example 7	++ 2.936	++ 37 %	+++ 2.62	+++ 0.01 (90 %).
Example 8	++ 2.461	++ 38 %	++ 1.95	n.a.
Example 9	+++ 0.738	++ 58 %	+ 0.06	+++ 0.05 (90 %) 0.75 (10 %)
Example 10	++ 1.803	++ 43 %	+ 0.33	++ 0.26 (48%)
Example 11	+++ 0.435	++ 43 %	n.a.	n.a.
Example 12	+++ 0.989	+++ 49 %	+ 0.25	++ 0.17 (44 %) 0.7 (56 %)
Example 13	+++ 0.552	+++ 59 %	+ 0.03	+ 0.69 (100 %)
Example 14	++ 1.61	++ 48 %	n.a.	n.a.
Example 15	++	++		++

108

	1.09	47 %	+ 0.14	0.28 (42 %) 0.72 (58 %)
Example 16	++ 2.21	+++ 88 %	++ 1.9	++ 0.3 (28 %) 0.52 (72 %)
Example 17	+ 15.9	++ 12 %	+++ 2.97	++ 0.12 (87 %) 0.79 (13 %)
Example 18	++ 4.16	++ 36 %	+++ 5.83	++ 0.33 (24 %) 0.5 (76 %)
Example 19	++ 3.73	++ 42 %	+++ 5.27	++ 0.33 (24 %) 0.51 (76 %)

Table legend:

Hydrophobicity relative to human insulin: $k'_{rel} < 1$: +++, 1-10: ++, > 10 : + (HI =1)Insulin receptor affinity relative to human insulin: $< 5\%$: +, 5-50%: ++, $> 50\%$: +++Human serum albumin affinity relative to insulin detemir: < 0.5 : +, 0.5-2: ++, > 2 : +++5 Self-association: $K_{av} < 0.1$: +++, $K_{av} < 0.55$: ++ and $K_{av} \geq 0.55$: + $K_{av} = 0.55$ for human serum albumin, $K_{av} = 0.63$ for human insulin Co(III)hexamer, $K_{av} = 0.72$ for the monomeric insulin analogue X2.

n.a. = not analyzed.

10

Example 21:Euglycaemic glucose clamp after s.c. administration of insulin preparations to pigs

Female pigs, 60-90 kg, fasted for 18 h. During the experiments the pigs are free to move in their pens. An insulin dose is administered s.c., depending of dose size often divided

in two depots. Each pig is kept euglycaemic at its individual fasting glucose levels for up to 24 h by a variable rate intravenous infusion of a 20 % glucose solution. The infusion is given through a catheter inserted in the jugular vein. Depending on changes in plasma glucose concentrations observed during frequent plasma glucose monitoring, the necessary
5 adjustments of the glucose infusion are made empirically. Blood samples are collected in EDTA glass tubes every 15-30 min, plasma separated for glucose and insulin measurements. Glucose is determined within 1.5 min of blood sampling with an YSI (Yellow Springs Instruments) glucose analyser (glucose oxidase method). Mean glucose infusion rate (GIR) profiles and mean plasma insulin profiles are made for each insulin preparation.
10 (Figures 2-4 show mean $\pm$ SEM).

PHARMACOLOGICAL METHODS

Assay (I)

Insulin receptor binding of the insulin derivatives of the invention

15 The affinity of the insulin analogues of the invention for the human insulin receptor was determined by a SPA assay (Scintillation Proximity Assay) microtiterplate antibody capture assay. SPA-PVT antibody-binding beads, anti-mouse reagent (Amersham Biosciences, Cat No. PRNQ0017) were mixed with 25 ml of binding buffer (100 mM HEPES pH 7.8; 100 mM sodium chloride, 10 mM MgSO₄, 0.025% Tween-20). Reagent mix for a
20 single Packard Optiplate (Packard No. 6005190) is composed of 2.4 μ l of a 1:5000 diluted purified recombinant human insulin receptor – exon 11, an amount of a stock solution of A14 Tyr[¹²⁵I]-human insulin corresponding to 5000 cpm per 100 μ l of reagent mix, 12 μ l of a 1:1000 dilution of F12 antibody, 3 ml of SPA-beads and binding buffer to a total of 12 ml. A total of 100 μ l was then added and a dilution series is made from appropriate samples. To
25 the dilution series was then added 100 μ l of reagent mix and the samples were incubated for 16 hours while gently shaken. The phases were then separated by centrifugation for 1 min and the plates counted in a Topcounter. The binding data were fitted using the nonlinear regression algorithm in the GraphPad Prism 2.01 (GraphPad Software, San Diego, CA).

30 Assay (II)

Potency of the insulin derivatives of the invention relative to human insulin

Sprague Dawley male rats weighing 238-383 g on the experimental day are used for the clamp experiment. The rats has free access to feed under controlled ambient conditions and fast overnight (from 3 pm) prior to the clamp experiment.

5 Experimental Protocol

The rats are acclimatized in the animal facilities for at least 1 week prior to the surgical procedure. Approximately 1 week prior to the clamp experiment Tygon catheters are inserted under halothane anaesthesia into the jugular vein (for infusion) and the carotid artery (for blood sampling) and exteriorised and fixed on the back of the neck. The rats are
10 given Streptocilin vet. (Boehringer Ingelheim; 0.15 ml/rat, i.m.) post-surgically and placed in an animal care unit (25 °C) during the recovery period. In order to obtain analgesia, Anorphin (0.06 mg/rat, s.c.) is administered during anaesthesia and Rimadyl (1.5 mg/kg, s.c.) is administered after full recovery from the anaesthesia (2-3 h) and again once daily for 2 days.

The clamp technique employed is adapted from (1). At 7 am on the experimental
15 day overnight fasted (from 3 pm the previous day) rats are weighed and connected to the sampling syringes and infusion system (Harvard 22 Basic pumps, Harvard, and Perfectum Hypodermic glass syringe, Aldrich) and then placed into individual clamp cages where they rest for ca. 45 min before start of experiment. The rats are able to move freely on their usual bedding during the entire experiment and had free access to drinking water. After a 30 min
20 basal period during which plasma glucose levels were measured at 10 min intervals, the insulin derivative to be tested and human insulin (one dose level per rat, n = 6-7 per dose level) were infused (i.v.) at a constant rate for 300 min. Plasma glucose levels are measured at 10 min intervals throughout and infusion of 20% aqueous glucose is adjusted accordingly in order to maintain euglycaemia. Samples of re-suspended erythrocytes were pooled from
25 each rat and returned in about ½ ml volumes via the carotid catheter.

On each experimental day, samples of the solutions of the individual insulin derivatives to be tested and the human insulin solution are taken before and at the end of the clamp experiments and the concentrations of the peptides were confirmed by HPLC. Plasma concentrations of rat insulin and C-peptide as well as of the insulin derivative to be tested
30 and human insulin are measured at relevant time points before and at the end of the studies. Rats are killed at the end of experiment using a pentobarbital overdose.

Test compounds and doses: Insulins to be tested are diluted from a stock solution containing 97 µM of the insulin derivative in 5mM phosphate pH 7.7. The final concentration
35 in the solution ready for use is 0.45 µM of the insulin derivative, 5 mM of phosphate, 100 mM

of sodium chloride, 0.007% of polysorbate 20. The pH was 7.7 and the i.v. infusion rate was 15 and 20 pmol·min⁻¹·kg⁻¹.

A stock solution of human insulin that is used as reference compound was formulated in a similar medium and infused i.v. at 6, 15 or 30 pmol·min⁻¹·kg⁻¹.

5 Both stock solutions are stored at -20 °C and thawed overnight at 4 °C before use. The solutions are gently turned upside down several times 15 min before they are transferred to the infusion syringes.

Assay (III)

Determination in pigs of T_{50%} of the insulin derivatives of the invention

10 T_{50%} is the time when 50% of an injected amount of the A14 Tyr[¹²⁵I] labelled derivative of an insulin to be tested has disappeared from the injection site as measured with an external γ-counter.

The principles of laboratory animal care are followed, Specific pathogen-free LYYD, non-diabetic female pigs, cross-breed of Danish Landrace, Yorkshire and Duroc, are used
15 (Holmenlund, Haarloev, Denmark) for pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic studies. The pigs are conscious, 4-5 months of age and weighing 70-95 kg. The animals fast overnight for 18 h before the experiment.

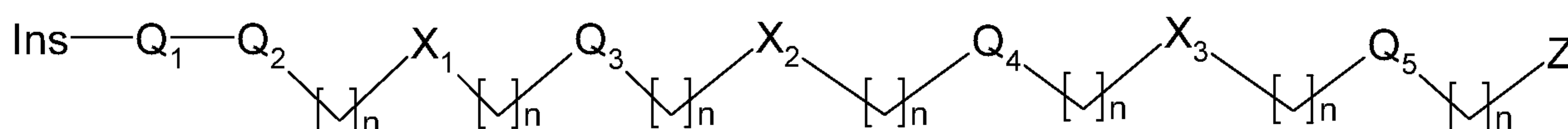
Formulated preparations of insulin derivatives labelled in Tyr^{A14} with ¹²⁵I are injected sc. in pigs as previously described (Ribel, U., Jørgensen, K, Brange, J, and Henriksen, U.
20 The pig as a model for subcutaneous insulin absorption in man. Serrano-Rios, M and Lefèbvre, P. J. 891-896. 1985. Amsterdam; New York; Oxford, Elsevier Science Publishers. 1985 (Conference Proceeding)).

At the beginning of the experiments a dose of 60 nmol of the insulin derivative according to the invention (test compound) and a dose of 60 nmol of insulin detemir (both ¹²⁵I
25 labelled in Tyr A14) are injected at two separate sites in the neck of each pig.

The disappearance of the radioactive label from the site of sc. injection is monitored using a modification of the traditional external gamma-counting method (Ribel, U. Subcutaneous absorption of insulin analogues. Berger, M. and Gries, F. A. 70-77 (1993). Stuttgart; New York, Georg Thime Verlag (Conference Proceeding)). With this modified method it is possible
30 to measure continuously the disappearance of radioactivity from a subcutaneous depot for several days using cordless portable device (Scancys Laboratorieteknik, Værløse, DK-3500, Denmark). The measurements are performed at 1-min intervals, and the counted values are corrected for background activity.

CLAIMS

1. An insulin derivative having a formula



wherein Ins is a parent insulin moiety and $\text{Q}_1 - \text{Q}_2 - [\text{CH}_2]_n - \text{X}_1 - [\text{CH}_2]_n - \text{Q}_3 - [\text{CH}_2]_n - \text{X}_2 - [\text{CH}_2]_n - \text{Q}_4 - [\text{CH}_2]_n - \text{X}_3 - [\text{CH}_2]_n - \text{Q}_5 - [\text{CH}_2]_n - \text{Z}$ is a substituent and where the Ins is attached to the substituent via an amide bond between the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain of Ins or an ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of Ins and a CO group in Q_1 or Q_2 of the substituent;

each n is independently 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6;

15 Q_1 is:

- an amino acid amide of an amino acid with a carboxylic acid in the side chain, or an amino acid with an uncharged side chain, which residue forms, with its carboxylic acid group, an amide group together with the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain of Ins or together with the ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of Ins, or
- a chain composed of two, three or four α -amino acid amide or amino acid residues as specified above linked together via amide bonds, which chain – via an amide bond – is linked to the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue of the B chain of Ins or to the ϵ -amino group of a Lys residue present in the A or B chain of Ins, or

- 25 • a bond

Q_2 is:

- $-\text{COCH}(\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- 30 • $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$

- $-\text{COCH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CONH}-$
- $-\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{NH}-\text{CO})_{1-4}-$;
- $-\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{CO}-\text{NH})_{1-4}-$, where R^5 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$ or $-\text{CONH}_2$ and R^6 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$; or

5 • a bond

provided that

- at least one of Q_1 or Q_2 is not a bond, and
- that Q_2 is not $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{CO}-\text{NH}-$ when n is 0 or 1, X_1 is a bond and Q_3 is $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_2-$, $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_3-$ or $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})-$ and
- that if an amine in Q_1 or Q_2 forms a bond with the rest of the substituent, the amine must be bound to the rest of the substituent via a carbonyl group;

15 Q_3 , Q_4 , and Q_5 independently of each other can be

- $-(\text{CH}_2)_m-$ where m is an integer in the range of 6 to 32;
- a divalent hydrocarbon chain comprising 1, 2 or 3 $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$ groups and a number of $-\text{CH}_2-$ groups sufficient to give a total number of carbon atoms in the chain in the range of 4 to 32;

20 • $-\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{NH}-\text{CO})-$;

- $-(\text{CO}-(\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{CO}-\text{NH})_{1-4}-$, where R^5 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$ or $-\text{CONH}_2$ and R^6 independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$;

- $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_{0-3}-\text{Ar}-(\text{CH}_2)_{0-3}-$ where Ar can be arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected from the group consisting of $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CONR}^1\text{R}^2$ or $-\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^1\text{R}^2$, where R^1 and R^2 , independently of each other can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$ or $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$;

- $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$ or $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $-(\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2)_y-$ where y is 1-20;

- arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected from the group consisting of $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CONR}^1\text{R}^2$ or $-\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^1\text{R}^2$, where R^1 and R^2 , independently of each other can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$ or $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$;

- a chain of the formula



wherein Ar is defined as above, $\text{Y}_1 - \text{Y}_6$ independently of each other can be O, S, S=O, SO_2

35 or a bond; where s , w , t and z independently of each other are zero or an integer from 1 to 10

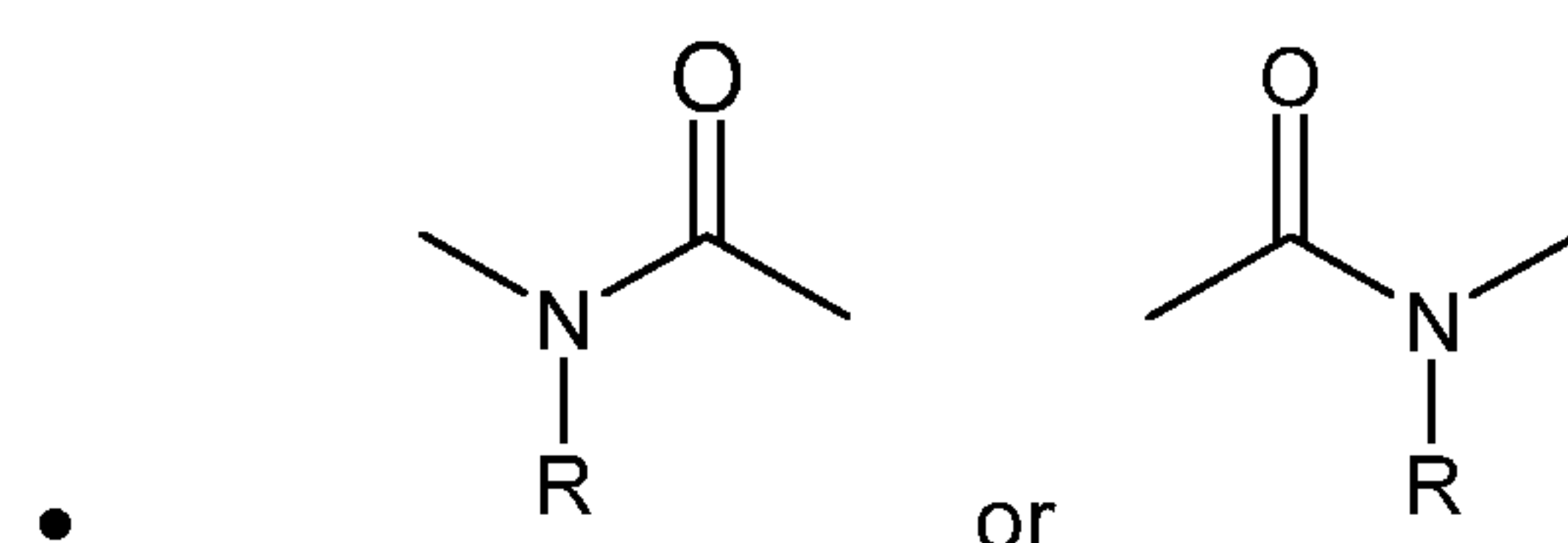
so that the sum of s, w, t and z is in the range from 4 to 30, and v_1 , v_2 , and v_3 independently of each other can be zero or 1 with the proviso that $Y_1 - Y_6$ do not link to each other and that the structure $-O-(CH_2)_1-O-$ does not occur; or

- a bond;

5 with the proviso that at least one of $Q_3 - Q_5$ is not a bond;

X_1 , X_2 and X_3 are independently of each other

- O;
- $-C=O$
- 10 • a bond;
- $NCOR^1$, where R^1 can be H, $-CH_3$ or $-(CH)_{1-6}-CH_3$; or
-



15 where R is hydrogen, C_{1-3} -alkyl, C_{2-3} -alkenyl or C_{2-3} -alkynyl;

with the proviso that

- X_1 , X_2 and X_3 cannot bind to Z and
- when X_1 , X_2 and X_3 are O, then X_1 , X_2 and X_3 do not bind directly to O in Q_3 , Q_4 , and Q_5

20

and

Z is:

- 25 • $-COOH$;
- $-CO-Asp$;
- $-CO-Glu$;
- $-CO-Gly$;
- $-CO-Sar$;
- $-CH(COOH)_2$;
- 30 • $-N(CH_2COOH)_2$;
- $-SO_3H$
- $-OSO_3H$

$-\text{OPO}_3\text{H}_2$
 $-\text{PO}_3\text{H}_2$ or
 $-\text{tetrazol-5-yl}$ or
 $-\text{O-W}_1$,

5 where W_1 is arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected from the group consisting of tetrazo-5-yl, $-\text{COOH}$, $-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}-\text{O}-\text{PO}_3\text{H}_2$, $-\text{CONR}^3\text{R}^4$ or $-\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^3\text{R}^4$, where R^3 and R^4 , independently of each other can be H , $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$, or $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}-\text{O}-\text{PO}_3\text{H}_2$; provided that when Z is $-\text{O-W}_1$ then Q_1 must be present

10

and any Zn^{2+} complex thereof.

2. Insulin derivative according to any of claim 1, wherein Q_2 is selected from the group consisting of

- 15
- $-\text{COCH}(\text{CONH}_2)-$
 - $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
 - $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
 - $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
 - $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$

20

 - $-\text{COCH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
 - $-\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CONH}_2)-$
 - $-\text{COCH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CONH}-$;
 - $-\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{NH}-\text{CO})_{1-4}-$; or
 - $-\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{CO}-\text{NH})_{1-4}-$, where R^5 independently can be H , $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}$

25

 - CH_3 or $-\text{CONH}_2$ and R^6 independently can be H , $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$

3. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 1-9, wherein Q_3 is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m-$ where m is an integer in the range of 6 to 32 or from 8 to 20 or m is 12, 13, 14, 15 or 16.

30

4. Insulin derivative according to claims 1-3 wherein Q_1 , Q_4 , Q_5 , X_1 , X_2 and X_3 is bonds and n is zero.

5. Insulin derivative according to claim 1, wherein one of Q_3 , Q_4 , or Q_5 is $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$ or

35 $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y-$; $-(\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2)_y-$ where y is 1-20.

6. Insulin derivative according to claim 1, wherein

Q₃ is

- $-\text{CO}-((\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{NH}-\text{CO})-$;
- 5 • $-(\text{CO}-(\text{CR}^5\text{R}^6)_{1-6}-\text{CO}-\text{NH})_{1-4}-$, where R⁵ independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$ or $-\text{CONH}_2$ and R⁶ independently can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}\text{CH}_3$;
- $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_{0-3}-\text{Ar}-(\text{CH}_2)_{0-3}-$ where Ar can be arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected from the group consisting of $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CONR}^1\text{R}^2$ or $-\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^1\text{R}^2$, where R¹ and R², independently of each other can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$ or $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$; or
- 10 • a bond

Q₄ is

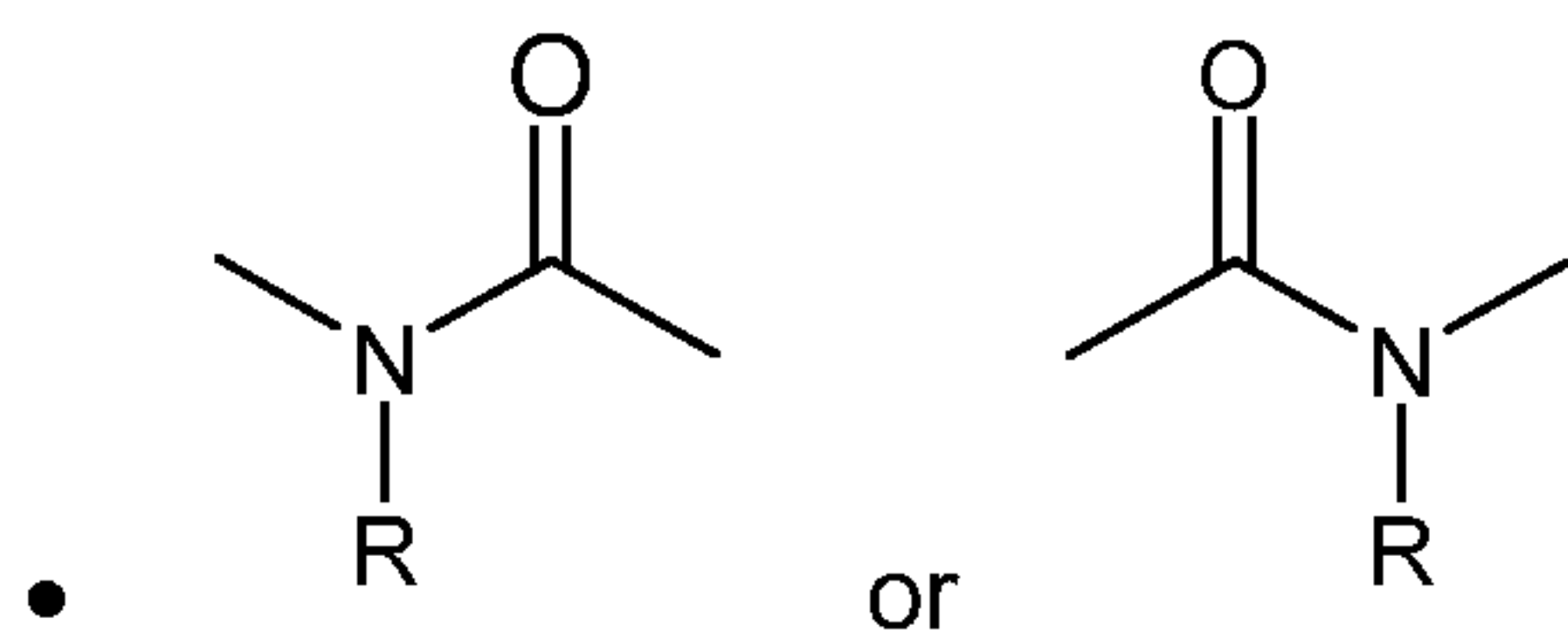
- $-(\text{CH}_2)_m-$ where m is an integer from 4 to 22;
- 15 • a divalent hydrocarbon chain comprising 1, 2 or 3 $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$ groups and a number of $-\text{CH}_2-$ groups sufficient to give a total number of carbon atoms in the chain in the range of 4 to 22;
- arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected from the group consisting of $-\text{CH}_3$, $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CONR}^1\text{R}^2$ or $-\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^1\text{R}^2$, where R¹ and R², independently of each other can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$ or $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$; or
- 20 • a chain of the formula



- wherein Ar is defined as above, Y₁ - Y₆ independently of each other can be O, S, S=O, SO₂ or a bond; where s, w, t and z independently of each other are zero or an integer from 1 to 10 so that the sum of s, w, t and z is in the range from 4 to 30, and v₁, v₂, and v₃ independently of each other can be zero or 1 with the proviso that Y₁ - Y₆ do not link to each other and that the structure $-\text{O}-(\text{CH}_2)_1-\text{O}-$ does not occur;

X₁ is

- 30 • O;
- $-\text{C}=\text{O}$
- NCOR^1 , where R¹ can be H, $-\text{CH}_3$ or $-(\text{CH})_{1-6}-\text{CH}_3$; or



where R is hydrogen, C₁₋₃-alkyl, C₂₋₃-alkenyl or C₂₋₃-alkynyl;

with the proviso that when X₁ is O, then X₁ does not bind directly to O in Q₄;

5

X₂, X₃ and Q₅ are bonds;

All values of n are zero; and

Z is:

10

–COOH;

–CO–Asp;

–CO–Glu;

–CO–Gly;

–CO–Sar;

15

–CH(COOH)₂;

–N(CH₂COOH)₂;

–SO₃H

–OSO₃H

–OPO₃H₂

20

–PO₃H₂ or

–tetrazol-5-yl or

–O–W₁,

where W₁ is arylene or heteroarylene, which may be substituted with one or two groups selected from the group consisting of tetrazo-5-yl, –COOH, –SO₃H, –(CH₂)₁₋₆–SO₃H, –(CH₂)₁₋₆–O–PO₃H₂, –CONR³R⁴ or –SO₂NR³R⁴, where R³ and R⁴, independently of each other can be H, –(CH₂)₁₋₆–SO₃H, or –(CH₂)₁₋₆–O–PO₃H₂; and any Zn²⁺ complex thereof.

25

7. Insulin derivative according to any of paragraphs 1-6 wherein Z is –COOH.

30

8. An insulin derivative according to any of the claims 1-7, wherein the parent insulin is an insulin analogue.

9. Insulin derivative according to claim 8, wherein the parent insulin is selected from the group consisting of: desB30 human insulin, GlyA21 human insulin, GlyA21desB30 human insulin, GlyA21ArgB31ArgB32 human insulin, LysB3GluB29 human insulin,
 5 LysB28ProB29 human insulin and ThrB29LysB30 human insulin.

10. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of diabetes in a patient in need of such treatment, comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an insulin derivative according to any of the preceding claims together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

10

11. A method for producing a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 10, wherein up to about 10 zinc atoms per 6 molecules of insulin derivative are added to the pharmaceutical composition.

15

12. A method of treating diabetes in a patient in need of such a treatment, comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of an insulin derivative according to any of claims 1-10.

20

13. A method according to claim 12 for pulmonary treatment of diabetes.

14. A mixture of an insulin derivative according to any of claims 1-9 and a rapid acting insulin analogue selected from the group consisting of AspB28 human insulin; LysB28ProB29 human insulin and LysB3GluB29 human insulin.

25

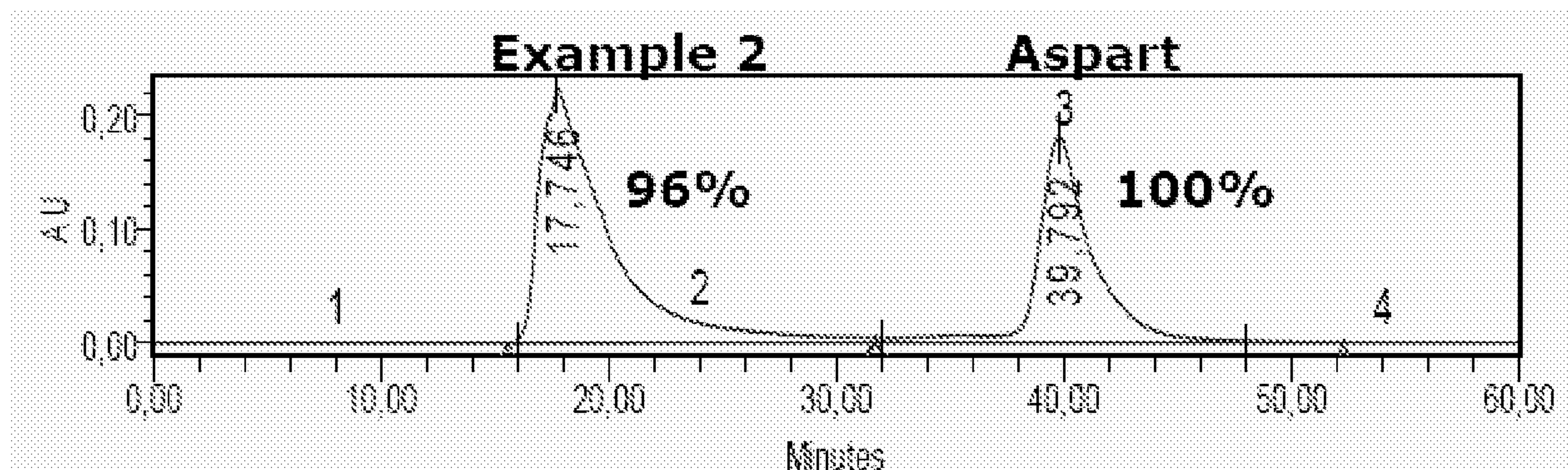
15. An insulin derivative, wherein the insulin derivative is selected from the group consisting of:

$N^{\epsilon B29}$ - ω -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- γ -L-glutamylamide desB30 human insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ - ω -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- γ -amino-butanoyl desB30 human insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ - ω -carboxy-tetradecanoyl- γ -L-glutamylamide desB30 human insulin,
 30 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ - ω -carboxy-tridecanoyl- γ -L-glutamylamide desB30 human insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ - ω -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- β -alanyl desB30 human insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ - ω -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- γ -L-aspartylamide desB30 human insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ - ω -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- ϵ -aminohexanoyl desB30 human insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ - ω -carboxy-pentadecanoyl- δ -aminopentanoyl desB30 human insulin,

- $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -10-(4-carboxyphenoxy)-decanoyl- γ -L-glutamylamide desB30 human insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -4-[11-(4-Carboxyphenyl) undecanoylamino] butyryl desB30 human insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -(3-(3-{4-[3-(7-carboxyheptanoylamino)propoxy]butoxy}propylcarbamoyl)-propionyl- γ -glutamylamide) desB30 human Insulin,
5 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ - ω - carboxy-tridecanoyl- γ -amino-butanoyl desB30 human insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ - ω -carboxy-undecanoyl- γ - amino-butanoyl desB30 human insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ - ω -carboxy-tetradecanoyl- γ -amino-butanoyl desB30 human insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -{4-[10-(4-Carboxy-phenoxy)-decanoylamino]-butyryl} desB30 insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -{4-[(14-Carboxy-tetradecanoylamino)-methyl]-benzoyl} desB30 insulin,
10 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -[16-(4-Carboxy-phenoxy)-hexadecanoyl] desB30 insulin,
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -{4-[(15-carboxypentadecanoylamino)benzoyl]- desB30 human insulin and
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -{4-[(15-Carboxy-pentadecanoylamino)-methyl]-benzoyl}-desB30 insulin

1/4

SEC analysis of a mixture of the insulin derivative of example 2 with insulin aspart in ratio 70/30 with 2.1 Zn(II) per 6 insulin derivatives



SEC analysis of a mixture of the insulin derivative of example 2 with insulin aspart in ratio 70/30 with 6 Zn(II) per 6 insulin derivatives

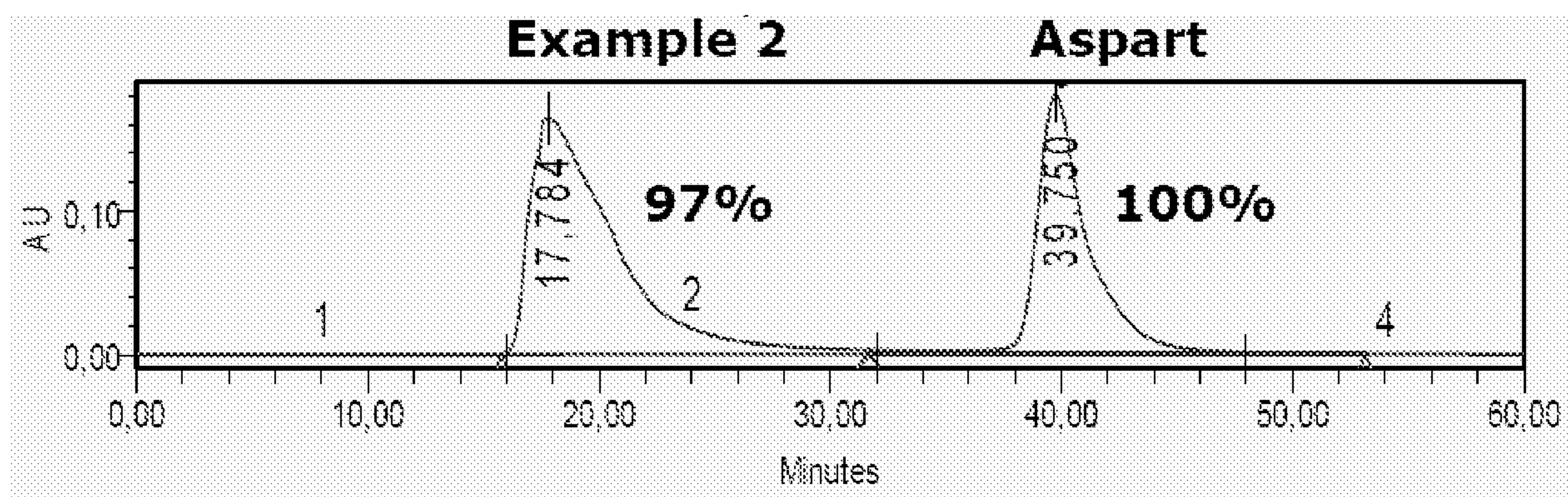
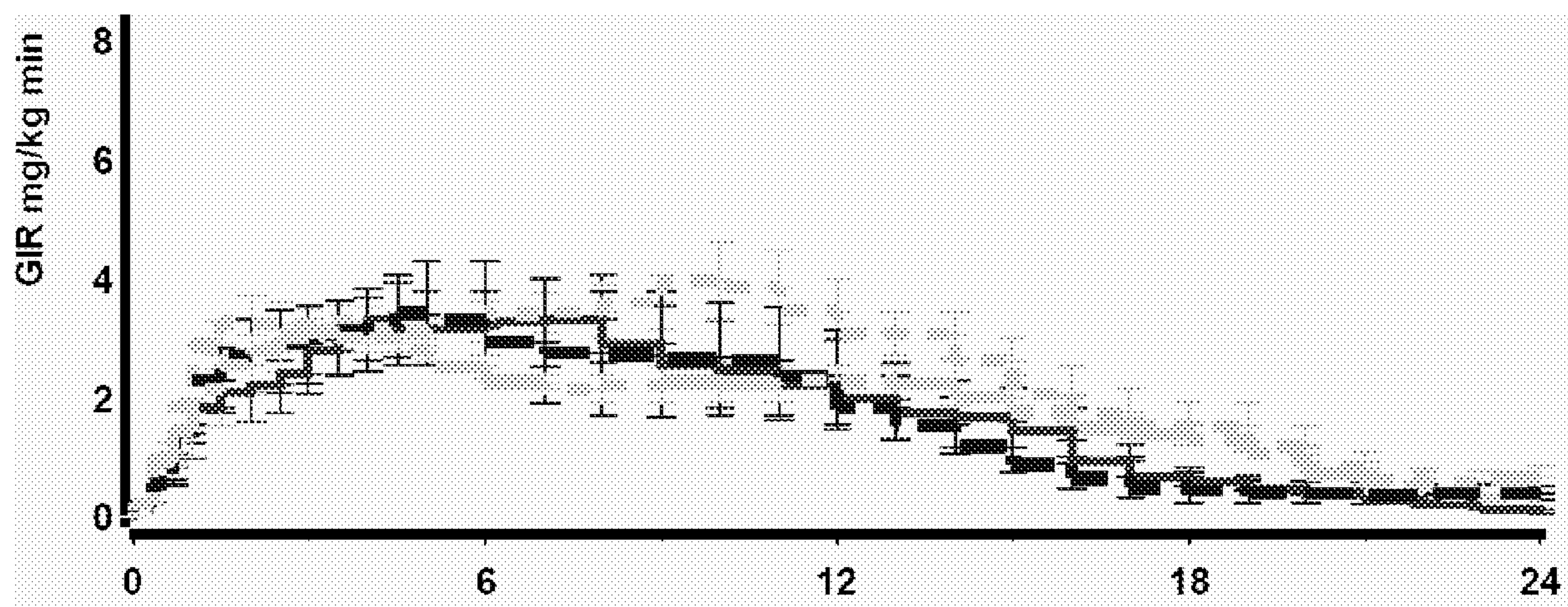


Fig. 1/4

2/4

Action profile of the insulin derivative of example 2 in different concentrations and Zn-formulations.



Insulin derivative of example 2: 216nmol, 360 μ l, 600 μ M, 2.3 Zn/6 insulin derivatives.

N=6

Insulin derivative of example 2: 216nmol, 360 μ l, 600 μ M, 6 Zn/6 insulin derivatives

N=5

Insulin derivative of example 2: 216nmol, 180 μ l, 1200 μ M, 2.3 Zn/6 insulin derivatives. N=6

Insulin derivative of example 2: 216nmol, 180 μ l, 1200 μ M, 6 Zn/6 insulin derivatives, n=5

Fig. 2/4

3/4

Clamp after subcutaneous injection in pigs of insulin aspart mixed with the insulin derivative of example 2, or insulin aspart and the insulin derivative of example 2 injected separately.

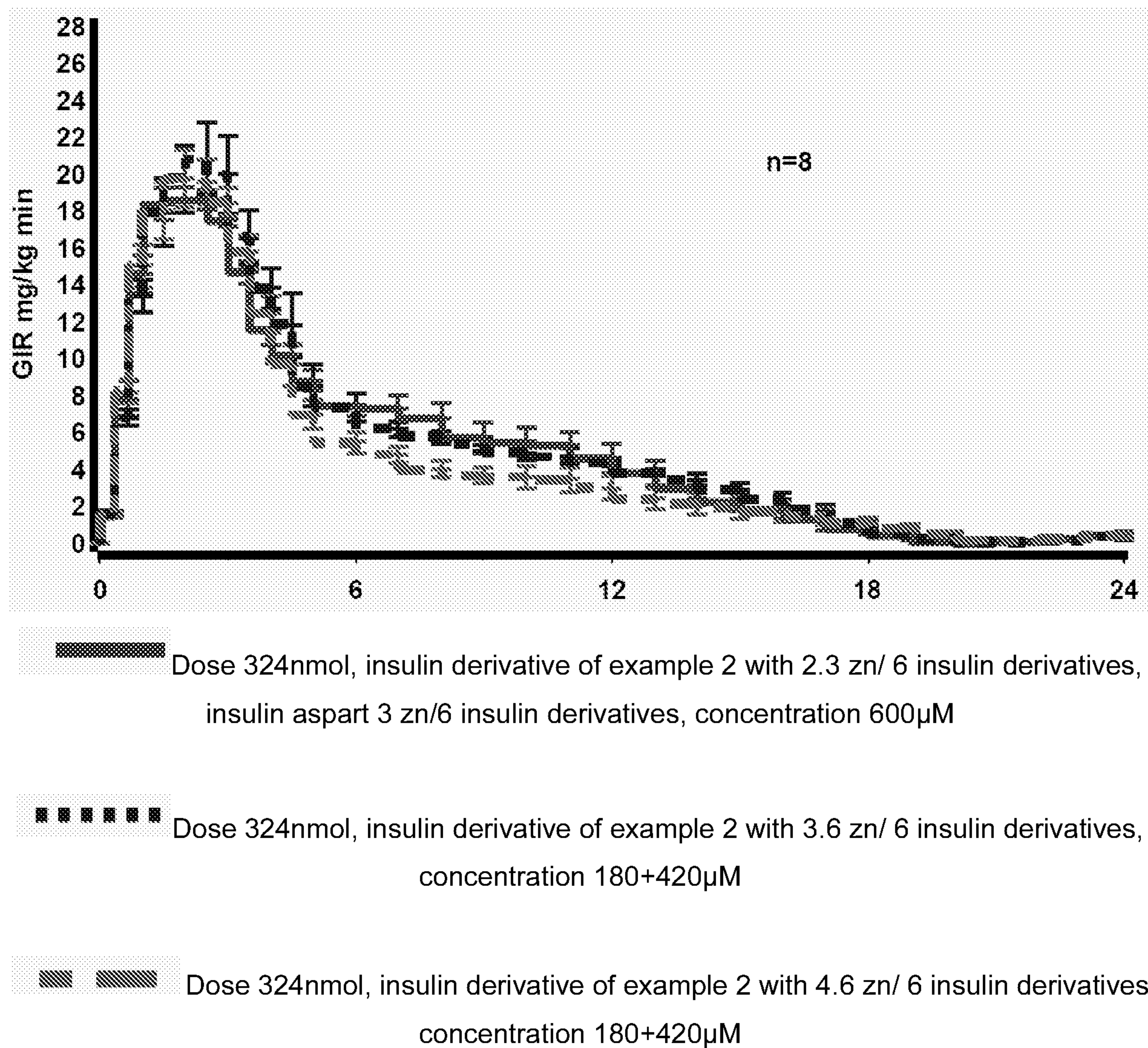


Fig. 3/4

4/4

Clamp after subcutaneous injection in pigs of example 2 in three different doses.

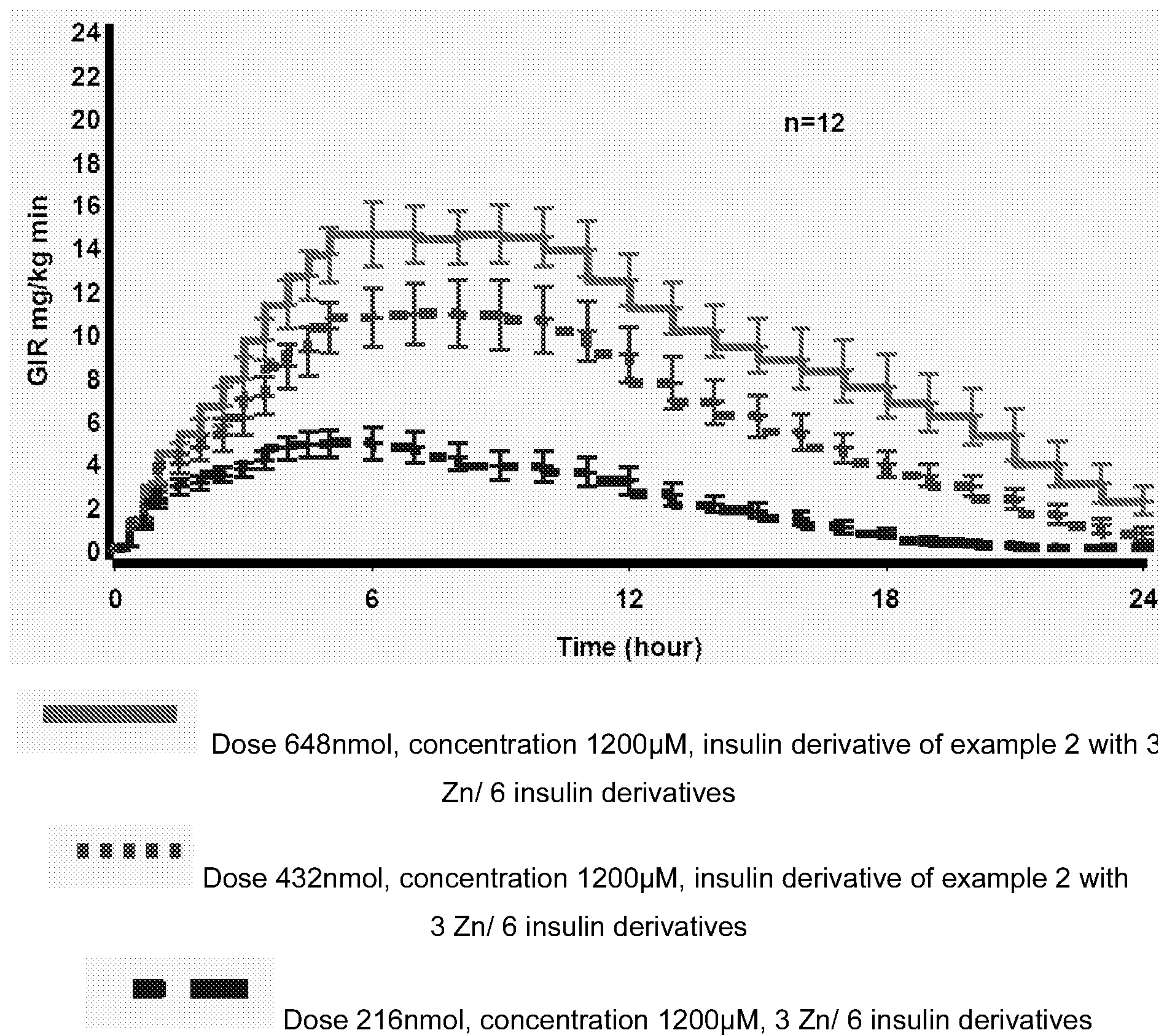


Fig. 4/4