

**(12) STANDARD PATENT**  
**(19) AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE**

(11) Application No. **AU 2021204400 B2**

(54) Title  
**Cystine knot scaffold platform**

(51) International Patent Classification(s)  
**C07K 14/81** (2006.01)                      **C07K 14/415** (2006.01)  
**A61K 38/00** (2006.01)                      **C07K 14/47** (2006.01)

(21) Application No: **2021204400**                      (22) Date of Filing: **2021.06.28**

(43) Publication Date: **2021.07.22**

(43) Publication Journal Date: **2021.07.22**

(44) Accepted Journal Date: **2023.02.02**

(62) Divisional of:  
**2016323445**

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(56) Related Art  
**WO 2012/064658 A1**

2021204400 28 Jun 2021

## ABSTRACT

Provided are non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptides (CKPs) that bind to VEGF-A. Additionally, provided are methods of using non-naturally occurring CKPs that bind to VEGF-A, including diagnostic and therapeutic compositions and methods. Non-naturally CKPs that bind low density lipoprotein receptor-related protein 6 (LRP6) are also provided.

# CYSTINE KNOT SCAFFOLD PLATFORM

## CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

**[0001]** This application claims the priority benefit of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 62/219,063, filed September 15, 2015, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

**[0001a]** The entire disclosure in the complete specification of our Australian Patent Application No. 2016323445 is by this cross-reference incorporated into the present specification.

## SUBMISSION OF SEQUENCE LISTING ON ASCII TEXT FILE

**[0002]** The Sequence Listing is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

## BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

**[0003]** The design and engineering of novel proteins from alternative protein scaffolds has been an emerging field in the last decade with a broad spectrum of applications ranging from structure biology and imaging tools to therapeutic reagents that are currently being tested in the clinic (HK Binz *et al.*, *Nat Biotechnol* 23, 1257-1268, 2005; HK Binz and A Pluckthun, *Curr Opin Biotechnol* 16, 459-469, 2005; SS Sidhu and S Koide, *Curr Opin Struct Biol* 17, 481-487, 2007; A Skerra, *Curr Opin Biotechnol* 18, 295-304, 2007; C Gronwall and S Stahl, *J Biotechnol* 140, 254-269, 2009; T Wurch *et al.*, *Trends Biotechnol* 30, 575-582, 2012; S Banta *et al.*, *Annu Rev Biomed Eng* 15, 93-113, 2013).

**[0004]** Desirable physical properties of potential alternative scaffold molecules include high thermal stability and reversibility of thermal folding and unfolding. Several methods have been applied to increase the apparent thermal stability of proteins and enzymes, including rational design based on comparison to highly similar thermostable sequences, design of stabilizing disulfide bridges, mutations to increase  $\alpha$ -helix propensity, engineering of salt bridges, alteration of the surface charge of the protein, directed evolution, and composition of consensus sequences (Lehmann and Wyss, *Cur Open Biotechnology* 12, 371-375, 2001).

**[0005]** Cystine-knot peptides come from a wide range of sources and exhibit diverse pharmacological activities. They are roughly 30-50 amino acids in length and contain six conserved cysteine residues which form three disulfide bonds. One of the disulfides penetrates the macrocycle which is formed by the two other disulfides and their

interconnecting backbones, thereby yielding a characteristic knotted topology with multiple loops exposed on the surface. The loops are defined as the amino acid regions which flank the six conserved cysteine residues and are highly variable in nature. Furthermore, the unique arrangement of the disulfide bonds renders cystine-knot peptides highly stable to thermal, proteolytic and chemical degradation.

**[0006]** Thus, there is a need to develop small, stable, artificial antibody-like molecules for a variety of therapeutic and diagnostic applications, such as ocular diseases and disorders. The present invention meets this and other needs.

**[0006a]** It is to be understood that if any prior art publication is referred to herein, such reference does not constitute an admission that the publication forms a part of the common general knowledge in the art in Australia or any other country.

#### BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

**[0006b]** A first aspect provides a peptide comprising the scaffold structure:

Z1C1L1C2L2C3L3C4L4C5L5C6Z2;

wherein:

Z1 corresponds to the N-terminus of the peptide and is G;

Z2 corresponds to the C-terminus of the peptide and is G;

C1-C6 are cysteine residues; and

L1 is loop 1, L2 is loop 2, L3 is loop 3, L4 is loop 4, and L5 is loop 5;

wherein

L1 is selected from the group consisting of: SEQ ID NOs: 147-168 and 367;

L2 is selected from the group consisting of: SEQ ID NO: 93 or amino acids 10-14 of SEQ ID NO: 194;

L3 is LAG;

L4 is V; and

L5 is selected from the group consisting of: SEQ ID NO: 19 and 169-184.

**[0006c]** A second aspect provides an isolated nucleic acid encoding the peptide of the first aspect.

**[0006d]** A third aspect provides an expression vector encoding the nucleic acid of the second aspect.

**[0006e]** A fourth aspect provides an isolated or non-human cell comprising the expression vector of the third aspect.

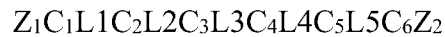
**[0006f]** A fifth aspect provides a method of producing a peptide, comprising culturing the cell of the fourth aspect under conditions where the peptide is expressed, and recovering the peptide expressed by the cell.

**[0006g]** A sixth aspect provides a method of producing the peptide of the first aspect, comprising chemically synthesizing the peptide.

**[0006h]** A seventh aspect provides a peptide when produced by the method of the fifth or sixth aspect.

**[0006i]** An eighth aspect provides a composition comprising the peptide of the first or seventh aspect and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

**[0007]** In certain embodiments, provided herein is a non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to vascular endothelial growth factor A (VEGF-A), wherein the CKP comprises the cystine scaffold structure:



wherein:

$Z_1$  and  $Z_2$  are any amino acid;

$L_1$  is Loop 1 and has a structure selected from the group consisting of:

$X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5X_6$  (SEQ ID NO: 2),  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5X_6X_7$  (SEQ ID NO: 3),  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5X_6X_7X_8$  (SEQ ID NO: 4),  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5X_6X_7X_8X_9$  (SEQ ID NO: 5), and  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5X_6X_7X_8X_9X_{10}$  (SEQ ID NO: 6), wherein each of  $X_1 - X_{10}$  is any amino acid;

$L_2$  is Loop 2 and has the structure:  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5$  (SEQ ID NO: 7), wherein each of  $X_1 - X_5$  is any amino acid or an unnatural amino acid;

$L_3$  is Loop 3 and has the structure:  $X_1X_2X_3$ , wherein each of  $X_1 - X_3$  is any amino acid or an unnatural amino acid;

$L_4$  is Loop 4 and has the structure:  $X_1$ , wherein  $X_1$  is any amino acid or an unnatural amino acid;

$L_5$  is Loop 5 and has the structure:  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5$  (SEQ ID NO: 7), wherein each of  $X_1 - X_5$  is any amino acid or an unnatural amino acid;

wherein the unnatural amino acid is selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, and L-4-fluorophenylalanine; and

wherein the CKP binds to VEGF-A with an affinity of 500 pM or better.

**[0008]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the non-naturally occurring (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A has an altered disulfide bond connectivity-with reference to a wild-type *Ecballium elaterium* trypsin inhibitor EETI-II protein having the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1; wherein the altered disulfide bond connectivity is C1-C4, C2-C3 and C5-C6.

**[0009]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the unnatural amino acid is selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, L-4-fluorophenylalanine, gamma-benzyl-L-proline, gamma-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-L-proline, 4-OH-L-proline, 4-fluoro-L-proline, 4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl]-L-proline, 3,4-difluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-dichloro-L-phenylalanine, 4-chloro-L-phenylalanine, 3-F,4-Cl-L-phenylalanine, 2-pyridone(NH para)-L-alanine, pyridone(NH meta)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-methyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-ethyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-isopropyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(5-aza-indole)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-L-phenylalanine, 2-naphthyl-L-alanine, L-4,4'-biphenylalanine, 3-(3-quinolinyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinolinyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoxalanyl)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-2-pyridyl-alanine, 4-ethyl-2-pyridyl-L-alanine, benzothiazole-L-alanine, benzothiophene-L-alanine, 3-isoquinolinyl-L-alanine, t-butyl-L-alanine (also known as L-Nepentyl glycine), 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, cyclopentyl-L-alanine, 5,5,5-Trifluoro-L-leucine, t-butyl-L-glycine (also known as L-tert-Leucine), L-cyclopentylglycine, L-cyclobutylglycine, 3,4-hydroxy-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-fluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3-fluoro,4-OH-L-phenylalanine, 2-chloro-L-tyrosine, 2-methyl-L-tyrosine, 2-ethyl-L-tyrosine, 4-(naphthalen-1-ol)-L-alanine, D-serine, L-beta-homoserine, L-beta-alanine, N-alpha-methyl glycine, glycine amide, glycine ester of glycerol, glycine ester of glycol, glycine ester of oxetane-3-yl, and glycine morpholine amide.

**[0010]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, Z<sub>1</sub> and/or Z<sub>2</sub> is more than one amino acid, or an unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments, Z<sub>2</sub> is two amino acids. In certain embodiments, Z<sub>2</sub> is three amino acids.

**[0011]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, Z<sub>1</sub> and/or Z<sub>2</sub> is G.

**[0012]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L1, X<sub>3</sub> is not I; X<sub>5</sub> is not M; and/or X<sub>6</sub> is not R. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L1: X<sub>1</sub> is an amino acid selected from P, Q, R, T, V, D, N, K, L, and X; X<sub>2</sub> is an amino acid selected from T, D, L, V, I, R, P, N and X; X<sub>3</sub> is an amino acid selected from T, P, M, L, S, F, R, and X; X<sub>4</sub> is an amino acid selected from R, T, Q, D, W, L, E, S, K, and X; X<sub>5</sub> is an amino acid selected from F, P, V, E, K, L, I, and X; X<sub>6</sub> is an amino acid selected from K, N, F, P, L, Y, T, D, M, and X; X<sub>7</sub> is an amino acid selected from Q, W, H and X; and/or X<sub>8</sub> is an amino acid selected from Y, A, G, D, E, W, S, and X, wherein X is and unnatural amino acid is selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, and L-4-fluorophenylalanine. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L1: X<sub>9</sub> is an amino acid selected from L, I, V, D, E and X, wherein X is and unnatural amino acid is selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, and L-4-fluorophenylalanine. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L1: X<sub>10</sub> is an amino acid selected from Y, T, M, N, F, and X, wherein X is and unnatural amino acid is selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, and L-4-fluorophenylalanine.

**[0013]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, X is and unnatural amino acid is selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, L-4-fluorophenylalanine, gamma-benzyl-L-proline, gamma-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-L-proline, 4-OH-L-proline, 4-fluoro-L-proline, 4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl]-L-proline, 3,4-difluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-dichloro-L-phenylalanine, 4-chloro-L-phenylalanine, 3-F,4-Cl-L-phenylalanine, 2-pyridone(NH para)-L-alanine, pyridone(NH meta)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-methyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-ethyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-isopropyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(5-aza-indole)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-L-phenylalanine, 2-naphthyl-L-alanine, L-4,4'-biphenylalanine, 3-(3-quinolinyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinolinyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoxaliny)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-2-pyridyl-alanine, 4-ethyl-2-pyridyl-L-alanine, benzothiazole-L-alanine, benzothiophene-L-alanine, 3-isoquinolinyl-L-alanine, t-butyl-L-alanine (also known as L-Nepentyl glycine), 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, cyclopentyl-L-alanine, 5,5,5-Trifluoro-L-leucine, t-butyl-L-glycine (also known as

L-tert-Leucine), L-cyclopentylglycine, L-cyclobutylglycine, 3,4-hydroxy-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-fluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3-fluoro,4-OH-L-phenylalanine, 2-chloro-L-tyrosine, 2-methyl-L-tyrosine, 2-ethyl-L-tyrosine, 4-(naphthalen-1-yl)-L-alanine, D-serine, L-beta-homoserine, L-beta-alanine, N-alpha-methyl glycine, glycine amide, glycine ester of glycerol, glycine ester of glycol, glycine ester of oxetane-3-yl, and glycine morpholine amide.

**[0014]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L5, each of  $X_1 - X_5$  is any amino acid with the exception that  $X_2$  is not proline (P). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L5, each of  $X_1 - X_5$  is any amino acid with the exception that  $X_4$  is not glycine (G). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L5:  $X_1$  is an amino acid selected from G, Q, H, R, L, and Q;  $X_2$  is an amino acid selected from P, M, W, Y, F, L, and H;  $X_3$  is an amino acid selected from N, F, H, and Y;  $X_4$  is an amino acid selected from G, Q, D, N, K, H, E, and S; and/or  $X_5$  is an amino acid selected from F, S, and T.

**[0015]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, L1 has the structure  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5X_6X_7X_8$  (SEQ ID NO: 4), wherein:  $X_1$  is an amino acid selected from P, Q, and R;  $X_2$  is an amino acid selected from T, L, and D;  $X_3$  is an amino acid selected from T, M and L;  $X_4$  is an amino acid selected from R, Q, and D;  $X_5$  is an amino acid selected from F, P, and V;  $X_6$  is an amino acid selected from K and F;  $X_7$  is an amino acid selected from Q and W; and  $X_8$  is an amino acid selected from Y, G, and D. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, L1 has the structure  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5X_6X_7X_8 X_9 X_{10}$  (SEQ ID NO: 6), wherein:  $X_1$  is an amino acid selected from Q, R, T and V;  $X_2$  is an amino acid selected from T and D;  $X_3$  is P;  $X_4$  is an amino acid selected from T and W;  $X_5$  is an amino acid selected from F, E, P, and K;  $X_6$  is an amino acid selected from N and P;  $X_7$  is an amino acid selected from W and H;  $X_8$  is an amino acid selected from A, D, E, and W;  $X_9$  is an amino acid selected from L and I; and  $X_{10}$  is an amino acid selected from Y, T, M and N.

**[0016]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L5:  $X_1$  is an amino acid selected from G, H, and Q;  $X_2$  is an amino acid selected from P, M, W, and Y;  $X_3$  is an amino acid selected from N and Y;  $X_4$  is an amino acid selected from G, Q, and S; and  $X_5$  is an amino acid selected from F and S.

**[0017]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, L1 has the structure  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5X_6X_7X_8$  (SEQ ID NO: 4), wherein:  $X_1$  is an amino acid selected from D, Q, N, and K;  $X_2$  is an amino acid selected from V, I, R, L, and P;  $X_3$  is

an amino acid selected from L, S, M, T, and F; X<sub>4</sub> is an amino acid selected from Q, L, and E; X<sub>5</sub> is P; X<sub>6</sub> is an amino acid selected from F, L, and Y; X<sub>7</sub> is W; and X<sub>8</sub> is G.

**[0018]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L5: X<sub>3</sub> is Y; X<sub>5</sub> is S; and X<sub>1</sub>, X<sub>2</sub> and X<sub>4</sub> are each any amino acid, with the exception that X<sub>1</sub> is not G, X<sub>2</sub> is not P, X<sub>4</sub> is not G, and/or X<sub>5</sub> is not F. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L5: X<sub>1</sub> is an amino acid selected from H, L, R, and Q; X<sub>2</sub> is an amino acid selected from W, F, and Y; X<sub>3</sub> is Y; X<sub>4</sub> is an amino acid selected from Q, N, K, H, and E; and X<sub>5</sub> is S.

**[0019]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, L1 has the structure X<sub>1</sub>X<sub>2</sub>X<sub>3</sub>X<sub>4</sub>X<sub>5</sub>X<sub>6</sub>X<sub>7</sub>X<sub>8</sub> X<sub>9</sub> X<sub>10</sub> (SEQ ID NO: 6), wherein: X<sub>1</sub> is an amino acid selected from K, Q, L, and R; X<sub>2</sub> is an amino acid selected from N and D; X<sub>3</sub> is an amino acid selected from P and L; X<sub>4</sub> is an amino acid selected from L, T, S and K; X<sub>5</sub> is an amino acid selected from F, V, I, and L; X<sub>6</sub> is an amino acid selected from N and D; X<sub>7</sub> is W; X<sub>8</sub> is an amino acid selected from A and S; X<sub>9</sub> is an amino acid selected from L, V, E and D; and X<sub>10</sub> is an amino acid selected from Y and F.

**[0020]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L5: X<sub>1</sub> is Q; X<sub>2</sub> is an amino acid selected from L, F, M, and H; X<sub>3</sub> is an amino acid selected from F, Y, and H; X<sub>4</sub> is an amino acid selected from D, Q, N, and K; and X<sub>5</sub> is an amino acid selected from S and T.

**[0021]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L2, X<sub>1</sub> is K, X<sub>2</sub> is Q, X<sub>3</sub> is D, X<sub>4</sub> is S, and X<sub>5</sub> is D.

**[0022]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, L1 has the structure X<sub>1</sub>X<sub>2</sub>X<sub>3</sub>X<sub>4</sub>X<sub>5</sub>X<sub>6</sub>X<sub>7</sub>X<sub>8</sub> (SEQ ID NO: 4), wherein: X<sub>5</sub> is P; X<sub>7</sub> is W; X<sub>8</sub> is G; and wherein X<sub>1</sub>, X<sub>2</sub>, X<sub>3</sub>, X<sub>4</sub> and X<sub>6</sub> are each any amino acid, with the exception that X<sub>1</sub> is not P, X<sub>2</sub> is not R, X<sub>3</sub> is not I, and/or X<sub>6</sub> is not R. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, L1 has the structure X<sub>1</sub>X<sub>2</sub>X<sub>3</sub>X<sub>4</sub>X<sub>5</sub>X<sub>6</sub>X<sub>7</sub>X<sub>8</sub> (SEQ ID NO: 4), wherein: X<sub>1</sub> is an amino acid selected from N and D; X<sub>2</sub> is an amino acid selected from I and V; X<sub>3</sub> is an amino acid selected from M and L; X<sub>4</sub> is an amino acid selected from L, Q, D and K; X<sub>5</sub> is P; X<sub>6</sub> is an amino acid selected from F, Y, T, L, and M; X<sub>7</sub> is W; and X<sub>8</sub> is G.

**[0023]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L5: X<sub>1</sub> is an amino acid selected from Q, H, L, and R; X<sub>2</sub> is an amino acid selected from Y and W; X<sub>3</sub> is Y; X<sub>4</sub> is an amino acid selected from Q and N; and X<sub>5</sub> is S. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L5: X<sub>3</sub> is Y;

X<sub>5</sub> is S; and X<sub>1</sub>, X<sub>2</sub>, and X<sub>4</sub> are each any amino acid, with the exception that: X<sub>1</sub> is not G, X<sub>2</sub> is not P, and/or X<sub>4</sub> is not G.

**[0024]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L2: X<sub>1</sub> is an amino acid selected from G or E; X<sub>2</sub> is an amino acid selected from Q, L, P, R, E, and M; X<sub>3</sub> is an amino acid selected from S, D, and N; X<sub>4</sub> is an amino acid selected from F, Y, L, M, and I; and/or X<sub>5</sub> is an amino acid selected from E, D, Q, L, and S,

**[0025]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L3, X<sub>1</sub> is L, X<sub>2</sub> is A, and X<sub>3</sub> is G.

**[0026]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L4, X<sub>1</sub> is V or F.

**[0027]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L5, each of X<sub>1</sub> – X<sub>5</sub> is any amino acid with the exception that X<sub>2</sub> is not proline (P).

**[0028]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L5, each of X<sub>1</sub> – X<sub>5</sub> is any amino acid with the exception that X<sub>4</sub> is not glycine (G).

**[0029]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L5: X<sub>1</sub> is any amino acid except G; X<sub>2</sub> is any amino acid except P; X<sub>3</sub> is any amino acid except N; X<sub>4</sub> is any amino acid except G; and/or X<sub>5</sub> is any amino acid except F.

**[0030]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, L1 has the structure X<sub>1</sub>X<sub>2</sub>X<sub>3</sub>X<sub>4</sub>X<sub>5</sub>X<sub>6</sub>X<sub>7</sub>X<sub>8</sub> (SEQ ID NO: 4), wherein X<sub>1</sub> is an amino acid selected from N, D, and X; X<sub>2</sub> is an amino acid selected from I, V, and X; X<sub>3</sub> is M or X; X<sub>4</sub> is an amino acid selected from L, Q, and X; X<sub>5</sub> is P or X; X<sub>6</sub> is F, Y, or X; X<sub>7</sub> is W or X; and X<sub>8</sub> is G or X, wherein X is an unnatural amino acid selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, and L-4-fluorophenylalanine.

**[0031]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, X is and unnatural amino acid is selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, L-4-fluorophenylalanine, gamma-benzyl-L-proline, gamma-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-L-proline, 4-OH-L-proline, 4-fluoro-L-proline, 4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl]-L-proline, 3,4-difluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-dichloro-L-phenylalanine, 4-chloro-L-phenylalanine, 3-F,4-Cl-L-phenylalanine, 2-pyridone(NH para)-L-alanine, pyridone(NH meta)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-methyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-ethyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-isopropyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(5-aza-indole)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-L-phenylalanine, 2-naphthyl-L-alanine, L-4,4'-biphenylalanine, 3-(3-quinolinyl)-L-alanine,

3-(2-quinolinyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoxalanyl)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-2-pyridyl-alanine, 4-ethyl-2-pyridyl-L-alanine, benzothiazole-L-alanine, benzothiophene-L-alanine, 3-isoquinolinyl-L-alanine, t-butyl-L-alanine (also known as L-Nepentyl glycine), 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, cyclopentyl-L-alanine, 5,5,5-Trifluoro-L-leucine, t-butyl-L-glycine (also known as L-tert-Leucine), L-cyclopentylglycine, L-cyclobutylglycine, 3,4-hydroxy-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-fluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3-fluoro,4-OH-L-phenylalanine, 2-chloro-L-tyrosine, 2-methyl-L-tyrosine, 2-ethyl-L-tyrosine, 4-(naphthalen-1-yl)-L-alanine, D-serine, L-beta-homoserine, L-beta-alanine, N-alpha-methyl glycine, glycine amide, glycine ester of glycerol, glycine ester of glycol, glycine ester of oxetane-3-yl, and glycine morpholine amide.

**[0032]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L3, each of X<sub>1</sub> – X<sub>3</sub> is any amino acid or unnatural amino acid with the exception that X<sub>1</sub> is not Leucine (L), X<sub>2</sub> is not Alanine (A), and X<sub>3</sub> is not glycine (G), wherein the unnatural amino acid selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, and L-4-fluorophenylalanine. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L3: X<sub>1</sub> is an amino acid selected from M, F, L V, and X; X<sub>2</sub> is an amino acid selected from S, N, Q, I, Y, E, V, T, and X; X<sub>3</sub> is an amino acid selected from D, Q, T, N, E, R, and X, wherein X is an unnatural amino acid selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, and L-4-fluorophenylalanine.

**[0033]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L4, X<sub>1</sub> is any amino acid except V or an unnatural amino acid selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, and L-4-fluorophenylalanine. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L4, X<sub>1</sub> is I, L, or X, wherein X is an unnatural amino acid selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, and L-4-fluorophenylalanine.

**[0034]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L5: X<sub>3</sub> is Y or X; X<sub>5</sub> is S or X; and X<sub>1</sub>, X<sub>2</sub>, and X<sub>4</sub> are each any amino acid or X, with the exception that X<sub>1</sub> is not G, X<sub>2</sub> is not P, and/or X<sub>4</sub> is not G, wherein X is an unnatural amino acid selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine,

L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, and L-4-fluorophenylalanine. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L5, each of X<sub>1</sub> – X<sub>5</sub> is any amino acid with the exception that X<sub>2</sub> is not proline (P). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L5, each of X<sub>1</sub> – X<sub>5</sub> is any amino acid with the exception that X<sub>4</sub> is not glycine (G). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L5: X<sub>1</sub> is an amino acid selected from Q, H, and X; X<sub>2</sub> is an amino acid selected from Y, W, and X; X<sub>3</sub> is Y or X; X<sub>4</sub> is an amino acid selected from Q, N, or X; X<sub>5</sub> is S or X, wherein X is an unnatural amino acid selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, and L-4-fluorophenylalanine.

**[0035]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, X is and unnatural amino acid is selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, L-4-fluorophenylalanine, gamma-benzyl-L-proline, gamma-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-L-proline, 4-OH-L-proline, 4-fluoro-L-proline, 4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl]-L-proline, 3,4-difluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-dichloro-L-phenylalanine, 4-chloro-L-phenylalanine, 3-F,4-Cl-L-phenylalanine, 2-pyridone(NH para)-L-alanine, pyridone(NH meta)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-methyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-ethyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-isopropyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(5-aza-indole)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-L-phenylalanine, 2-naphthyl-L-alanine, L-4,4'-biphenylalanine, 3-(3-quinolinyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinolinyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoxaliny)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-2-pyridyl-alanine, 4-ethyl-2-pyridyl-L-alanine, benzothiazole-L-alanine, benzothiophene-L-alanine, 3-isoquinolinyl-L-alanine, t-butyl-L-alanine (also known as L-Nepentyl glycine), 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, cyclopentyl-L-alanine, 5,5,5-Trifluoro-L-leucine, t-butyl-L-glycine (also known as L-tert-Leucine), L-cyclopentylglycine, L-cyclobutylglycine, 3,4-hydroxy-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-fluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3-fluoro,4-OH-L-phenylalanine, 2-chloro-L-tyrosine, 2-methyl-L-tyrosine, 2-ethyl-L-tyrosine, 4-(naphthalen-1-ol)-L-alanine, D-serine, L-beta-homoserine, L-beta-alanine, N-alpha-methyl glycine, glycine amide, glycine ester of glycerol, glycine ester of glycol, glycine ester of oxetane-3-yl, and glycine morpholine amide.

**[0036]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L2: X<sub>1</sub> is G or X; X<sub>2</sub> is R, P, or X; X<sub>3</sub> is D or X; X<sub>4</sub> is F, I, or X; and X<sub>5</sub> is E, D, or X, wherein X is an unnatural amino acid selected from the group consisting of L-

propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, and L-4-fluorophenylalanine.

**[0037]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to vascular endothelial growth factor A (VEGF-A) comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLQQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 103). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to vascular endothelial growth factor A (VEGF-A) comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECVERCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 104). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to vascular endothelial growth factor A (VEGF-A) comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECMSDCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 105). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to vascular endothelial growth factor A (VEGF-A) comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECMNQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 106). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to vascular endothelial growth factor A (VEGF-A) comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECMQTCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 107). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to vascular endothelial growth factor A (VEGF-A) comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECVYQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 108). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to vascular endothelial growth factor A (VEGF-A) comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECFINCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 109). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to vascular endothelial growth factor A (VEGF-A) comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECVSQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 110). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to vascular

endothelial growth factor A (VEGF-A) comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECVTECICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 111). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to vascular endothelial growth factor A (VEGF-A) comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECFYECICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 112). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to vascular endothelial growth factor A (VEGF-A) comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECMEQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 113). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to vascular endothelial growth factor A (VEGF-A) comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECVYRCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 114). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to vascular endothelial growth factor A (VEGF-A) comprises the amino acid sequence GCDVMQPYWGCGPDIDCFVRCLCHWYNCSG (SEQ ID NO: 139). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to vascular endothelial growth factor A (VEGF-A) comprises the amino acid sequence GCDVMQPYWGCGPDIDCLSNCICHWYNCSG (SEQ ID NO: 140). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to vascular endothelial growth factor A (VEGF-A) comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECMEQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 142). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to vascular endothelial growth factor A (VEGF-A) comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIXLPFWGCGRDFECMSDCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 144), wherein X is norleucine (Nle). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to vascular endothelial growth factor A (VEGF-A) comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIXLPFWGCGRDFECVSQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 145), wherein X is norleucine (Nle). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above,

the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to vascular endothelial growth factor A (VEGF-A) comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIXLPYWGCGRDFECMEQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 146), wherein X is norleucine (Nle).

**[0038]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to vascular endothelial growth factor A (VEGF-A) comprises the amino acid sequence GCDVXQPYWGCGPDIDCLSNICICHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 224), wherein X is norleucine.

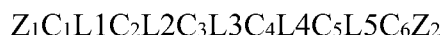
**[0039]** In certain embodiments, provided is a non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) comprising the amino acid selected from the group consisting of: GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECMEQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 113), GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECVYRCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 114), GCDVMQPYWGCGPDIDCFVRCLCHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 139), GCDVMQPYWGCGPDIDCLSNICICHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 140), GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECMEQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 142), GCNIXLPFWGCGRDFECMSDCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 144), wherein X is norleucine (Nle), GCNIXLPFWGCGRDFECVSQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 145), wherein X is norleucine (Nle), GCNIXLPYWGCGRDFECMEQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 146), wherein X is norleucine (Nle), and GCDVXQPYWGCGPDIDCLSNICICHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 224), wherein X is norleucine. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the CKP comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECMEQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 113). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the CKP comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECVYRCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 114). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the CKP comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in GCDVMQPYWGCGPDIDCFVRCLCHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 139). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the CKP comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in GCDVMQPYWGCGPDIDCLSNICICHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 140). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the CKP

comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECMEQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 142). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the CKP comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in GCNIXLPFWGCGRDFECMSDCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 144), wherein X is norleucine (Nle). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the CKP comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in GCNIXLPFWGCGRDFECVQICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 145), wherein X is norleucine (Nle). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the CKP comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in GCNIXLPYWGCGRDFECMEQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 146), wherein X is norleucine (Nle). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the CKP comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in GCDVXQPYWGCGPDIDCLSNICICHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 224), wherein X is norleucine. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the CKP binds VEGF-A.

**[0040]** In certain embodiments, provided is a non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) comprising the amino acid selected from the group consisting of: GCDVX<sub>1</sub>QPYWGCGPDI-D/E-CLS-N/K/X<sub>2</sub>-CICHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 534), GCDVX<sub>1</sub>QPYWGCGPDI-N/K/X<sub>2</sub>-CLS-D/E-CICHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 535), GCNIX<sub>1</sub>LPYWGCGRDF-D/E-CME-N/K/X<sub>2</sub>-CICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 538), GCNIX<sub>1</sub>LPYWGCGRDF-N/K/X<sub>2</sub>-CME-D/E-CICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 539), GCNIX<sub>1</sub>LPFWGCGRDF-D/E-CVS-N/K/X<sub>2</sub>-CICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 540), and GCNIX<sub>1</sub>LPFWGCGRDF-N/K/X<sub>2</sub>-CVS-D/E-CICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 541), wherein X<sub>1</sub> is norleucine and X<sub>2</sub> is ornithine. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the CKP comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in GCDVX<sub>1</sub>QPYWGCGPDI-D/E-CLS-N/K/X<sub>2</sub>-CICHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 534), wherein X<sub>1</sub> is norleucine and X<sub>2</sub> is ornithine. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the CKP comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in GCDVXQPYWGCGPDIDCLSKCICHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 536), wherein X is norleucine. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the CKP comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in GCDVX<sub>1</sub>QPYWGCGPDIDCLSX<sub>2</sub>CICHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 537), wherein X<sub>1</sub> is norleucine and X<sub>2</sub> is ornithine. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of

the embodiments above, the CKP comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in GCDVX<sub>1</sub>QPYWGCGPDI-N/K/X<sub>2</sub>-CLS-D/E-CICHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 535), wherein X<sub>1</sub> is norleucine and X<sub>2</sub> is ornithine. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the CKP comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in GCNIX<sub>1</sub>LPYWGCGRDF-D/E-CME-N/K/X<sub>2</sub>-CICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 538), wherein X<sub>1</sub> is norleucine and X<sub>2</sub> is ornithine. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the CKP comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in GCNIXLPYWGCGRDFECMEKCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 543), wherein X is norleucine. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the CKP comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in GCNIX<sub>1</sub>LPYWGCGRDFECMEX<sub>2</sub>CICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 544), wherein X<sub>1</sub> is norleucine and X<sub>2</sub> is ornithine. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the CKP comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in GCNIX<sub>1</sub>LPYWGCGRDF-N/K/X<sub>2</sub>-CME-D/E-CICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 539), wherein X<sub>1</sub> is norleucine and X<sub>2</sub> is ornithine. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the CKP comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in GCNIX<sub>1</sub>LPFWGCGRDF-D/E-CVS-N/K/X<sub>2</sub>-CICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 540), wherein X<sub>1</sub> is norleucine and X<sub>2</sub> is ornithine. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the CKP comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in GCNIXLPFWGCGRDFECVSKCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 545), wherein X is norleucine. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the CKP comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in GCNIX<sub>1</sub>LPFWGCGRDFECVXS<sub>2</sub>CICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 546), wherein X<sub>1</sub> is norleucine and X<sub>2</sub> is ornithine. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the CKP comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in GCNIX<sub>1</sub>LPFWGCGRDF-N/K/X<sub>2</sub>-CVS-D/E-CICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 541), wherein X<sub>1</sub> is norleucine and X<sub>2</sub> is ornithine. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the CKP binds VEGF-A.

**[0041]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, provided is a non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A, wherein the CKP comprises the cystine scaffold structure:



wherein:

Z<sub>1</sub> and Z<sub>2</sub> are any amino acid;

L1 is Loop 1 and has a structure selected from the group consisting of:  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5X_6X_7X_8$ ,  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5X_6X_7X_8X_9$ , and  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5X_6X_7X_8X_9X_{10}$ , wherein each of  $X_1 - X_{10}$  is any amino acid;

L2 is Loop 2 and has the structure:  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5$ , wherein each of  $X_1 - X_5$  is any amino acid;

L3 is Loop 3 and has the structure:  $X_1X_2X_3$  wherein each of  $X_1 - X_3$  is any amino acid;

L4 is Loop 4 and has the structure:  $X_1$ , wherein  $X_1$  is any amino acid;

L5 is Loop 5 and has the structure:  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5$ , wherein each of  $X_1 - X_5$  is any amino acid;

wherein the CKP has an altered disulfide bond connectivity with reference to a wild-type Ecballium elaterium trypsin inhibitor EETI-II protein having the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1; wherein the altered disulfide bond connectivity is C1-C4, C2-C3 and C5-C6; and wherein the CKP has a percent alpha helix content of at least 20%.

**[0042]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above,  $Z_1$  and  $Z_2$  are any amino acid, more than one amino acid, or an unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, each of  $X_1 - X_{10}$  in L1 is any amino acid or an unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, each of  $X_1 - X_5$  in L2 is any amino acid or an unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, each of  $X_1 - X_3$  in L3 is any amino acid or an unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above,  $X_1$  in L4 is any amino acid or an unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, each of  $X_1 - X_5$  in L5 is any amino acid or an unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments, the unnatural amino acid is selected from the group consisting of: L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, L-4-fluorophenylalanine, gamma-benzyl-L-proline, gamma-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-L-proline, 4-OH-L-proline, 4-fluoro-L-proline, 4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl]-L-proline, 3,4-difluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-dichloro-L-phenylalanine, 4-chloro-L-phenylalanine, 3-F,4-Cl-L-phenylalanine, 2-pyridone(NH para)-L-alanine, pyridone(NH meta)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-methyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-ethyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-isopropyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(5-aza-indole)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-L-phenylalanine, 2-naphthyl-L-alanine, L-4,4'-biphenylalanine, 3-(3-quinolinyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinolinyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoxaliny)-

L-alanine, 4-methyl-2-pyridyl-alanine, 4-ethyl-2-pyridyl-L-alanine, benzothiazole-L-alanine, benzothiophene-L-alanine, 3-isoquinolinyl-L-alanine, t-butyl-L-alanine (also known as L-Nepentyl glycine), 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, cyclopentyl-L-alanine, 5,5,5-Trifluoro-L-leucine, t-butyl-L-glycine (also known as L-tert-Leucine), L-cyclopentylglycine, L-cyclobutylglycine, 3,4-hydroxy-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-fluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3-fluoro,4-OH-L-phenylalanine, 2-chloro-L-tyrosine, 2-methyl-L-tyrosine, 2-ethyl-L-tyrosine, 4-(naphthalen-1-ol)-L-alanine, D-serine, L-beta-homoserine, L-beta-alanine, N-alpha-methyl glycine, glycine amide, glycine ester of glycerol, glycine ester of glycol, glycine ester of oxetane-3-yl, and glycine morpholine amide.

**[0043]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the non-naturally occurring (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A binds to VEGF-A with an affinity of 500 pM or less. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the binding affinity is determined via surface plasmon resonance.

**[0044]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above,  $Z_1$  and/or  $Z_2$  is more than one amino acid, or an unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments,  $Z_2$  is two amino acids. In certain embodiments,  $Z_2$  is three amino acids. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L5, each of  $X_1 - X_5$  is any amino acid with the exception that  $X_2$  is not proline (P). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L5, each of  $X_1 - X_5$  is any amino acid with the exception that  $X_4$  is not glycine (G).

**[0045]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the C-terminal carboxyl group of the non-naturally occurring (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is modified (such as capped). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the N-terminal amine group of the non-naturally occurring (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is modified (such as capped). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the C-terminal carboxyl group of the non-naturally occurring (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is capped and the N-terminal amine group of the non-naturally occurring (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is modified (such as capped).

**[0046]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the C-terminal carboxyl group of the non-naturally occurring (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is amidated. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the N-terminal amine group of the non-naturally occurring (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is acetylated. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of

the embodiments above, the C-terminal carboxyl group of the non-naturally occurring (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is amidated and the N-terminal amine group of the non-naturally occurring (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is acetylated.

**[0047]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the non-naturally occurring (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A inhibits VEGF-A activity. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, CKP inhibits VEGF-A activity with an  $IC_{50}$  between about 0.5 nM and about 1.0 nM. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the non-naturally occurring EETI-II scaffold protein binds human VEGF-A, mouse VEGF-A, and rat VEGF-A.

**[0048]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the non-naturally occurring CKP competes with the antibody G6.31 for binding to VEGF-A. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, provided is a non-naturally occurring CKP that competes with the non-naturally occurring (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A of any one of the embodiments above for binding to VEGF-A.

**[0049]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, non-naturally occurring CKP that binds to an epitope on VEGF-A comprising at least one of the amino acid residues selected from the group consisting of: V14, V15, F17, D19, Y21, Q22, Y25, I46, K48, N62, D63, L66, M81, I83, K84, P85, H86, G88, Q89, I91, C104, R105, and P106.

**[0050]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the residues are selected from the group consisting of: K48, N62, and D63. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the residues are selected from the group consisting of: Y21, Y25, and P106. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the residues are selected from the group consisting of: H86 and Q89. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the residues are selected from the group consisting of: M81, D19, and Q22. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the residues are selected from the group consisting of: F17, M81, and I91. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the residues are selected from the group consisting of: V14, F17, D19, Q22, M81, and I91. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the residues are selected from the group consisting of: Y25.

**[0051]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the non-naturally occurring CKP that binds to VEGF-A is conjugated to a therapeutic agent. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the non-naturally occurring CKP that binds to VEGF-A is conjugated to a label. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the label is selected from the group consisting of a radioisotope, a fluorescent dye, and an enzyme.

**[0052]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, provided is an isolated nucleic acid encoding the non-naturally occurring (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A of any one of embodiments above. Also disclosed is an expression vector encoding the nucleic acid molecule of any one of the embodiments above. Also disclosed is a cell comprising the expression vector of any one of the embodiments above. Also disclosed is a method of producing the non-naturally occurring (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A of any one of embodiments above, comprising culturing the cell of any one of the embodiments above, and recovering the non-naturally occurring (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A from the cell culture.

**[0053]** Also disclosed is a method of producing the non-naturally occurring (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A of any one of embodiments above, comprising chemically synthesizing the non-naturally occurring (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A.

**[0054]** Also disclosed herein is a composition comprising the non-naturally occurring (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A of any one of the embodiments above and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the composition comprises one or more additional compounds. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the additional compound binds to a second biological molecule selected from the group consisting of interleukin-6 (IL-6); interleukin-6 receptor (IL-6R); PDGF; angiopoietin; angiopoietin 2; Tie2; S1P; integrins  $\alpha v\beta 3$ ,  $\alpha v\beta 5$ , and  $\alpha 5\beta 1$ ; betacellulin; apelin/APJ; erythropoietin; complement factor D; TNF $\alpha$ ; HtrA1; a VEGF receptor; ST-2 receptor; and proteins genetically linked to age-related macular degeneration (AMD) risk such as complement pathway components C2, factor B, factor H, CFHR3, C3b, C5, C5a, C3a, HtrA1, ARMS2, TIMP3, HLA, interleukin-8 (IL-8), CX3CR1, TLR3, TLR4, CETP, LIPC, COL10A1, and TNFRSF10A. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the additional compound is a non-naturally occurring CKP. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the additional compound is an antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof.

**[0055]** Also disclosed herein is a method of treating an ocular disease characterized by angiogenesis and/or vascular permeability or leakage in a subject, comprising administering an effective amount of the non-naturally occurring (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A of any one of embodiments above to the subject. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the method further comprises administering one or more additional compounds. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the non-naturally occurring CKP that binds to VEGF-A is administered simultaneously with the additional compound(s). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the non-naturally occurring CKP that binds to VEGF-A is administered before or after the additional compound(s). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the additional compound binds to a second biological molecule selected from the group consisting of interleukin-6 (IL-6); interleukin-6 receptor (IL-6R); PDGF; angiopoietin; angiopoietin 2; Tie2; S1P; integrins  $\alpha v \beta 3$ ,  $\alpha v \beta 5$ , and  $\alpha 5 \beta 1$ ; betacellulin; apelin/APJ; erythropoietin; complement factor D; TNF $\alpha$ ; HtrA1; a VEGF receptor; ST-2 receptor; and proteins genetically linked to age-related macular degeneration (AMD) risk such as complement pathway components C2, factor B, factor H, CFHR3, C3b, C5, C5a, C3a, HtrA1, ARMS2, TIMP3, HLA, interleukin-8 (IL-8), CX3CR1, TLR3, TLR4, CETP, LIPC, COL10A1, and TNFRSF10A. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the additional compound is a non-naturally occurring CKP. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the additional compound is an antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the ocular disease is an intraocular neovascular disease selected from the group consisting of proliferative retinopathies, choroidal neovascularization (CNV), age-related macular degeneration (AMD), diabetic and other ischemia-related retinopathies, diabetic macular edema, pathological myopia, von Hippel-Lindau disease, histoplasmosis of the eye, retinal vein occlusion (RVO), including Central Retinal Vein Occlusion (CRVO) and branched retinal vein occlusion (BRVO), corneal neovascularization, retinal neovascularization, and retinopathy of prematurity (ROP).

**[0056]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the non-naturally occurring (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A or the composition is administered to the subject via an implantable device. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the implantable device selected from the

group consisting of: an ocular insert, a slow-release depot, an ocular plug/reservoir, an non-biodegradable ocular implant or a biodegradable ocular implant.

**[0057]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, provided is a composition comprising the non-naturally occurring (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A of any one of embodiments above for use in treating an ocular disease characterized by angiogenesis and/or vascular permeability or leakage in a subject. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the ocular disease is an intraocular neovascular disease selected from the group consisting of proliferative retinopathies, choroidal neovascularization (CNV), age-related macular degeneration (AMD), diabetic and other ischemia-related retinopathies, diabetic macular edema, pathological myopia, von Hippel-Lindau disease, histoplasmosis of the eye, retinal vein occlusion (RVO), including Central Retinal Vein Occlusion (CRVO) and branched retinal vein occlusion (BRVO), corneal neovascularization, retinal neovascularization, and retinopathy of prematurity (ROP). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the composition is administered to the subject via an implantable device. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the implantable device selected from the group consisting of: an ocular insert, a slow-release depot, an ocular plug/reservoir, an non-biodegradable ocular implant or a biodegradable ocular implant.

**[0058]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, provided is a composition comprising the non-naturally occurring (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A of any one of embodiments above for use in treating an ocular disease characterized by angiogenesis and/or vascular permeability or leakage in a subject. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the ocular disease is an intraocular neovascular disease selected from the group consisting of proliferative retinopathies, choroidal neovascularization (CNV), age-related macular degeneration (AMD), diabetic and other ischemia-related retinopathies, diabetic macular edema, pathological myopia, von Hippel-Lindau disease, histoplasmosis of the eye, retinal vein occlusion (RVO), including Central Retinal Vein Occlusion (CRVO) and branched retinal vein occlusion (BRVO), corneal neovascularization, retinal neovascularization, and retinopathy of prematurity (ROP). In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the medicament is administered to the subject via an implantable device. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the implantable device selected from the group consisting of: an ocular insert, a slow-release

depot, an ocular plug/reservoir, an non-biodegradable ocular implant or a biodegradable ocular implant.

**[0059]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the non-naturally occurring (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is formulated for long acting delivery.

**[0060]** Also disclosed herein is a formulation comprising the non-naturally occurring (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A of any of embodiments above and PLGA. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, the PLGA is a PLGA rod.

**[0061]** Also disclosed herein is a non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to human low density lipoprotein receptor-related protein 6 (LRP6), wherein the CKP comprises the cystine scaffold structure:



wherein:

$Z_1$  and  $Z_2$  are any amino acid;

$L_1$  is Loop 1 and has a structure selected from the group consisting of:

$X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5X_6$ ,  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5X_6X_7$ ,  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5X_6X_7X_8$ ,  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5X_6X_7X_8X_9$ , and  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5X_6X_7X_8X_9X_{10}$ , wherein each of  $X_1 - X_{10}$  is any amino acid;

$L_2$  is Loop 2 and has the structure:  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5$ , wherein each of  $X_1 - X_5$  is any amino acid;

$L_3$  is Loop 3 and has the structure:  $X_1X_2X_3$  wherein each of  $X_1 - X_3$  is any amino acid;

$L_4$  is Loop 4 and has the structure:  $X_1$ , wherein  $X_1$  is any amino acid; and

$L_5$  is Loop 5 and has the structure:  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5$ , wherein each of  $X_1 - X_5$  is any amino acid.

**[0062]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above,  $Z_1$  and/or  $Z_2$  is more than one amino acid, or an unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments,  $Z_2$  is two amino acids. In certain embodiments,  $Z_2$  is three amino acids.

**[0063]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above,  $Z_1$  and/or  $Z_2$  is G.

**[0064]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in  $L_1$ :  $X_1$  is an amino acid selected from R, V, M, A, G, N, S, and E;  $X_2$  is an amino acid selected from T, N, S, G, R, and A;  $X_3$  is an amino acid selected from N, R, H, V, K, S, G, I, and Y;  $X_4$  is an amino acid selected from R, V, N, I, K, S, and T;  $X_5$  is an amino acid

selected from V, R, K, I, T, S, L, and N; and X<sub>6</sub> is an amino acid selected from K, G, A, I, R, N, S, and V. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L1: X<sub>7</sub> is an amino acid selected from G, R, K, E, P, and T. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L1: X<sub>8</sub> is an amino acid selected from G, R, K, Q, A, and S. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L1: X<sub>9</sub> is an amino acid selected from R or G. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L1: X<sub>10</sub> is an amino acid selected from E, W, and G.

**[0065]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L5: X<sub>1</sub> is an amino acid selected from G, S, N, Y, A, and R; X<sub>2</sub> is an amino acid selected from P, G, S, V, E, R, F, and D; X<sub>3</sub> is an amino acid selected from N, G, S, E, P, K, H, and R; X<sub>4</sub> is an amino acid selected from G, R, H, S, Q, V, and D; and X<sub>5</sub> is an amino acid selected from F, D, N, R, G, Y, S, and T.

**[0066]** In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L2, X<sub>1</sub> is K, X<sub>2</sub> is Q, X<sub>3</sub> is D, X<sub>4</sub> is S, and X<sub>5</sub> is D. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L3, X<sub>1</sub> is L, X<sub>2</sub> is A, and X<sub>3</sub> is G. In certain embodiments according to (or as applied to) any of the embodiments above, in L4, X<sub>1</sub> is V.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

**[0067]** **FIG. 1** depicts the structure of the EETI-II cystine knot protein.

**[0068]** **FIG. 2A** shows the results of experiments that were performed to determine whether EGF\_CKP9.54.90 disrupts the interaction between VEGF-A(8-109) and KDR; VEGF-A(8-109) and Flt-1; VEGF-A 165 and KDR; VEGF-B and Flt-1; VEGF-C and Flt-4; VEGF-D and Flt-4; and PIGF-2 and FLT-1.

**[0069]** **FIG. 2B** shows the results of experiments that were performed to determine whether EGF\_CKP9.54.90 disrupts the interaction between VEGF-A(8-109) and KDR; VEGF-A(8-109) and Flt-1; VEGF-A 165 and KDR; EGF and EGFR; PDGF and PDGFR; NGF and NGFR; and IGF and IGFR.

**[0070]** **FIG. 3** shows the results of experiments performed to determine whether VEGF\_CKP9.54.90, VEGF\_CKP9.54, and VEGF\_CKP9.63.12 inhibit trypsin protease activity.

**[0071]** **FIG. 4** shows the results of experiments performed to determine whether VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 and VEGF\_CKP9.63.12 are resistant to trypsin digestion.

[0072] **FIG. 5** depicts the structure of VEGF\_CKP9.54.90, the structure of wild type EETI-II, and provides schematics that compare the VEGF-binding CKP variant's disulfide bond connectivity pattern to that of wild type EETI-II.

[0073] **FIG. 6** depicts the co-crystal structure of VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 in complex with VEGF-A.

[0074] **FIG. 7** depicts space filling models that show binding interfaces of VEGF\_CKP9.54.90, antibody G6.31, and domain 2 of Flt-2 on VEGF-A.

[0075] **FIG 8** depicts ribbon diagram models that show binding interfaces of VEGF\_CKP9.54.90, antibody G6.31, and domain 2 of Flt-2 on VEGF-A.

[0076] **FIG. 9** shows contact residues on VEGF-A at the interacting surface between VEGF-A and VEGF\_CKP9.54.90.

[0077] **FIG. 10** shows the binding interfaces of bevacizumab Fab, Z-domain, and receptor-blocking peptide v108 on VEGF-A.

[0078] **FIG. 11** provides the results of an experiment that was performed to determine the effects of amino acid substitution mutations in VEGF-A on binding of VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 to VEGF-A and on the binding of VEGF\_CKP9.63.12 to VEGFA. The results of the experiment are shown against two different y axes.

[0079] **FIG. 12** provides the results of experiments that were performed to determine the effects of VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 on CNV in rat eyes.

[0080] **FIG. 13** provides the results of experiments that were performed to determine the IC<sub>50</sub> values of VEGF-binding CKP variants.

[0081] **FIG. 14** depicts the structures of VEGF\_CKP9.54 and VEGF\_CKP9.63. Also shown in FIG. 14 is portion of the co-crystal structure of VEGF\_CKP9.63 in complex with VEGF-A that shows that residue at position 8 within loop1 of VEGF\_CKP9.63 could form a hydrogen bond with the side chain of Gln22 of VEGF-A.

[0082] **FIG. 15** shows the results of phage competition ELISA experiments that were performed to assess the binding affinity of clones 9.54-28, 9.54, 9.54.1-2, 9.54.1-36, 9.54.1-42, 9.54.1-63, 9.54.1-90, and 9.54.1 for hVEGF(8-109).

[0083] **FIG. 16A** shows the results of phage competition ELISA experiments that were performed to assess the binding affinity of clones 9.63.44-1 to 9.63.44-7.

[0084] **FIG. 16B** shows the results of phage competition ELISA experiments that were performed to assess the binding affinity of clones 9.63.44-8 to 9.63.44-14.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

**[0085]** Provided are non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptides (CKPs) that specifically bind human VEGF-A. Such non-naturally occurring CKPs demonstrate one or more of the following characteristics: inhibition of VEGF-A activity with an  $IC_{50}$  between less than about 0.5 nM and less than about 1.0 nM; binding to human VEGF-A, mouse VEGF-A, and rat VEGF-A; resistance to trypsin digestion; a disulfide bond connectivity of C1-C4, C2-C3, and C5-C6; an alpha helix content of at least about 15% to at least about 50%; binding to an epitope on VEGF-A that is different from the epitope bound by antibody G6.31, binding to an epitope on VEGF-A that is different from the epitope bound by bevacizumab, and/or binding to an epitope on VEGF-A that is different from the epitope bound by Flt-1.

**[0086]** Also provided are chimeric molecules and conjugates comprising non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptides that bind VEGF-A, nucleic acids encoding non-naturally occurring CKPs that bind VEGF-A, and compositions (such as pharmaceutical compositions). Also provided are methods of using non-naturally occurring CKPs that bind VEGF-A for treating ocular diseases and/or disorders (such as ocular vascular proliferative diseases and/or disorders) resulting from abnormal (such as excessive) angiogenesis and/or abnormal vascular permeability. Also provided are uses of non-naturally occurring CKPs that bind VEGF-A in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of ocular disease or disorders.

**[0087]** In a related aspect, non-naturally occurring CKPs that bind human low density lipoprotein receptor-related protein 6 (LRP6) are also provided.

**[0088]** Practice of the present disclosure employs, unless otherwise indicated, standard methods and conventional techniques in the fields of cell biology, toxicology, molecular biology, biochemistry, cell culture, immunology, oncology, recombinant DNA and related fields as are within the skill of the art. Such techniques are described in the literature and thereby available to those of skill in the art. See, for example, Alberts, B. *et al.*, "Molecular Biology of the Cell," 5<sup>th</sup> edition, Garland Science, New York, NY, 2008; Voet, D. *et al.* "Fundamentals of Biochemistry: Life at the Molecular Level," 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, John Wiley & Sons, Hoboken, NJ, 2008; Sambrook, J. *et al.*, "Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual," 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, 2001; Ausubel, F. *et al.*, "Current Protocols in Molecular Biology," John Wiley & Sons, New York, 1987 and periodic updates; Freshney, R.I., "Culture of Animal Cells: A Manual of Basic Technique," 4<sup>th</sup> edition, John

Wiley & Sons, Somerset, NJ, 2000; and the series “Methods in Enzymology,” Academic Press, San Diego, CA.

### *Definitions*

**[0088a]** In the claims which follow and in the description of the invention, except where the context requires otherwise due to express language or necessary implication, the word “comprise” or variations such as “comprises” or “comprising” is used in an inclusive sense, i.e. to specify the presence of the stated features but not to preclude the presence or addition of further features in various embodiments of the invention.

**[0089]** As used herein “non-naturally occurring” means, e.g., a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence that is not found in nature, or, e.g., a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence that is not found in nature. A “non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide” or “non-naturally occurring CKP” (or a nucleic acid encoding the same) provided herein does not have the amino acid sequence of a wild type EETI-II protein, i.e., GCPRILMRCKQDSDCLAGCVCGPNGFCG (SEQ ID NO: 1), wherein Loop 1 (L1) is the amino acid sequence PRILMR (SEQ ID NO: 92), Loop 2 (L2) is the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93), Loop 3 (L3) is the amino acid sequence LAG, Loop 4 (L4) is the amino acid V, and Loop 5 (L5) is the amino acid sequence GPNGF (SEQ ID NO: 15). A non-naturally occurring CKP provided herein can be produced by genetic engineering methods or by chemical synthesis methods. Thus, a non-naturally occurring CKP described herein may be recombinant, i.e., produced by a cell, or nucleic acid, or vector, that has been modified by the introduction of a heterologous nucleic acid or the alteration of a native nucleic acid to a form not native to that cell, or that the cell is derived from a cell so modified. Alternatively, a non-naturally occurring CKP described herein can be produced via chemical peptide synthesis.

**[0090]** As used herein, the term “cystine-knot peptide” or “CKP” refers to a peptide between 26-50 amino acids in length, which contain six conserved cysteine residues that form three disulfide bonds. One of the disulfides penetrates the macrocycle which is formed by the two other disulfides and their interconnecting backbones, thereby yielding a characteristic knotted topology with multiple loops exposed on the surface. The loops are defined as the amino acid regions which flank the six conserved cysteine residues and are highly variable in nature.

**[0091]** As used herein, an “amino acid alteration” refers to the addition, deletion, or substitution of at least one amino acid in, e.g., a peptide sequence (such as in the WT EETI-II peptide sequence to generate a non-naturally occurring CKP, or in a non-naturally occurring CKP to generate another non-naturally occurring CKP).

**[0092]** An “isolated” non-naturally occurring CKP or composition is one which has been identified and separated and/or recovered from a component of its natural environment. Contaminant components of its natural environment are materials which would interfere with diagnostic or therapeutic uses for the non-naturally occurring CKP, and can include enzymes, hormones, and other proteinaceous or nonproteinaceous solutes. In preferred embodiments, the non-naturally occurring CKP or composition will be purified (1) to greater than 95% by weight of non-naturally occurring CKP as determined by the Lowry method, and most preferably more than 99% by weight, (2) to a degree sufficient to obtain at least 15 residues of N-terminal or internal amino acid sequence by use of a spinning cup sequenator, or (3) to homogeneity by SDS-PAGE under reducing or nonreducing conditions using Coomassie blue or, preferably, silver stain. Isolated non-naturally occurring CKP includes the CKP in situ within recombinant cells since at least one component of the CKP’s natural environment will not be present. An isolated non-naturally occurring CKP will be prepared by at least one purification step.

**[0093]** “Percent (%) amino acid sequence identity” or “homology” with respect to the polypeptide sequences identified herein is defined as the percentage of amino acid residues in a candidate sequence that are identical with the amino acid residues in the polypeptide being compared, after aligning the sequences considering any conservative substitutions as part of the sequence identity. Alignment for purposes of determining percent amino acid sequence identity can be achieved in various ways that are within the skill in the art, for instance, using publicly available computer software such as BLAST, BLAST-2, ALIGN or Megalign (DNASTAR) software. Those skilled in the art can determine appropriate parameters for measuring alignment, including any algorithms needed to achieve maximal alignment over the full length of the sequences being compared. For purposes herein, however, % amino acid sequence identity values are generated using the sequence comparison computer program ALIGN-2. The ALIGN-2 sequence comparison computer program was authored by Genentech, Inc. and the source code has been filed with user documentation in the U.S. Copyright Office, Washington D.C., 20559, where it is registered under U.S. Copyright Registration No. TXU510087. The ALIGN-2 program is publicly available through Genentech, Inc., South San Francisco, California. The ALIGN-2 program should be

compiled for use on a UNIX operating system, preferably digital UNIX V4.0D. All sequence comparison parameters are set by the ALIGN-2 program and do not vary.

**[0094]** As used herein the term “epitope” refers to a protein determinant capable of being specifically bound by a non-naturally occurring CKP provided herein. An epitope can comprise between about 3-10 amino acids in a spatial conformation, which is unique to the epitope. These amino acids can be linear within the protein (i.e., consecutive in the amino acid sequence) or they can be positioned in different parts of the protein (i.e., non-consecutive in the amino acid sequence). Methods of determining the spatial conformation of amino acids within a protein, or at the interface of two proteins, are known in the art, and include, for example, x-ray crystallography and 2- dimensional nuclear magnetic resonance.

**[0095]** The terms “disulfide bonding pattern (DBP),” “disulfide bond connectivity,” and “disulfide linkage pattern” refers to the linking pattern of the cysteines relative to the WT EETI-II protein. The WT EETI-II protein comprises six conserved cysteine residues (numbered 1-6) that form three disulfide bonds with connectivities C1-C4, C2-C5, and C3-C6. The disulfide bonding pattern is topologically constant, meaning the disulfide bonds can only be changed by unlinking one or more disulfides such as using redox conditions.

**[0096]** A “subject,” “patient,” or an “individual” for purposes of treatment refers to any animal classified as a mammal, including humans, domestic and farm animals, and zoo, sports, or pet animals, such as dogs, horses, cats, cows, etc. Preferably, the mammal is human.

**[0097]** An “effective amount” of a non-naturally occurring CKP (or a composition comprising such a non-naturally occurring CKP) as disclosed herein is an amount sufficient to carry out a specifically stated purpose. An “effective amount” can be determined empirically and by known methods relating to the stated purpose.

**[0098]** The term “therapeutically effective amount” refers to an amount of a non-naturally occurring CKP or composition as disclosed herein, effective to “treat” a disease or disorder in a mammal (such as a human patient). In the case of ocular disease or ocular disorder (such as an ocular vascular proliferative disease or ocular disorder characterized by excessive angiogenesis ), the therapeutically effective amount of a non-naturally occurring CKP that binds VEGF-A described herein (or a composition comprising such a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP) refers to the amount to reduce, stop or prevent at least one symptom of the ocular disease, such as a symptom or disorder of an ocular disease described in further detail elsewhere herein. For example, an effective amount would be considered as the amount sufficient to reduce or prevent a symptom of the ocular disease or ocular disorder

(such as an ocular vascular proliferative disease or ocular disorder characterized by excessive angiogenesis), for example a complete or partial resolution and/or maintenance of the ocular disease as measured by optical coherence tomography (OCT) or an increase and/or maintenance in best corrected visual acuity (such as greater than 5 letters as assessed by EDTRS eye chart), or a reduction in the size of the neovascularization or neovascular permeability as assessed by fundus fluorescence angiography. An effective amount as used herein would also include an amount sufficient to prevent or delay the development of, e.g., macular edema, enhanced permeability (such as retinal vascular permeability), size of CNV lesion, and vision loss. An effective amount as used herein would also include an amount sufficient to prevent or delay the development of a symptom of the ocular disease, alter the course of a symptom disease (for example but not limited to, slow the progression of a symptom of the ocular disease), or reverse a symptom of the disease.

**[0099]** As used herein, “treatment” or “treating” is an approach for obtaining beneficial or desired results including clinical results. For purposes of this invention, beneficial or desired clinical results include, but are not limited to, one or more of the following: alleviating one or more symptoms resulting from the ocular disease, diminishing the extent of the ocular disease, stabilizing the ocular disease (e.g., preventing or delaying the worsening of the disease), preventing or delaying the spread of the disease (such as to surrounding ocular tissues), preventing or delaying the recurrence of the ocular disease, delay or slowing the progression of the ocular disease, ameliorating the disease state, providing a remission or resolution (partial or total) of the ocular disease, decreasing the dose of one or more other medications required to treat the ocular disease, delaying the progression of the ocular disease, increasing or improving the quality of life, and/or preventing or delaying vision loss. Also encompassed by “treatment” is a reduction of pathological consequence of an ocular disease (such as, for example, vision loss). The methods provided herein contemplate any one or more of these aspects of treatment.

**[0100]** A “disorder” is any condition that would benefit from treatment with a non-naturally occurring CKP that binds VEGF-A described herein. Non-limiting examples of VEGF-A-related disorders to be treated herein include ocular diseases and disorders (such as ocular vascular proliferative diseases or ocular disorders characterized by excessive angiogenesis), as described elsewhere herein.

**[0101]** As used herein, by “pharmaceutically acceptable” or “pharmacologically compatible” is meant a material that is not biologically or otherwise undesirable, e.g., the material may be incorporated into a pharmaceutical composition administered to a patient

without causing any significant undesirable biological effects or interacting in a deleterious manner with any of the other components of the composition in which it is contained. Pharmaceutically acceptable carriers or excipients have preferably met the required standards of toxicological and manufacturing testing and/or are included on the Inactive Ingredient Guide prepared by the U.S. Food and Drug administration.

**[0102]** The term “detecting” is intended to include determining the presence or absence of a substance or quantifying the amount of a substance (such as a target ligand). The term thus refers to the use of the materials, compositions, and methods provided herein for qualitative and quantitative determinations. In general, the particular technique used for detection is not critical for practice of the invention.

**[0103]** For example, “detecting” according to the invention may include: observing the presence or absence of a target ligand (including, but not limited to, a human low density lipoprotein receptor-related protein 6 (LRP6) polypeptide or a human vascular endothelial growth factor A (VEGF-A) polypeptide); a change in the levels of a target ligand; and/or a change in biological function/activity of a target ligand. In certain embodiments, “detecting” may include detecting levels of a target ligand (e.g., polypeptide levels of a human LRP6 or a human VEGF-A). Detecting may include quantifying a change (increase or decrease) of any value between 10% and 90%, or of any value between 30% and 60%, or over 100%, when compared to a control. Detecting may include quantifying a change of any value between 2-fold to 10-fold, inclusive, or more e.g., 100-fold.

**[0104]** The word “label” when used herein refers to a detectable compound or composition which is conjugated directly or indirectly to the non-naturally occurring CKP. The label may itself be detectable by itself (e.g., radioisotope labels or fluorescent labels) or, in the case of an enzymatic label, may catalyze chemical alteration of a substrate compound or composition which is detectable.

**[0105]** With regard to the binding of a non-naturally occurring CKP to a target ligand, the term “specific binding” or “specifically binds to” or is “specific for” a particular target ligand means that binding that is measurably different from a non-specific interaction. Specific binding can be measured, for example, by determining binding of a molecule compared to binding of a control molecule, which generally is a molecule of similar structure that does not have binding activity. For example, specific binding can be determined by competition with a control molecule that is similar to the target, for example, an excess of non-labeled target. In this case, specific binding is indicated if the binding of the labeled target to a probe is competitively inhibited by excess unlabeled target. In certain

embodiments, the extent of binding of the non-naturally occurring CKP to a “non-target” ligand will be less than about 10% of the binding of the non-naturally occurring CKP to its target ligand (such as LRP6 or VEGF-A) as determined by, e.g., fluorescence activated cell sorting (FACS) analysis or radioimmunoprecipitation (RIA). In certain embodiments, a non-naturally occurring CKP of the present disclosure specifically binds to a target ligand (such as human low density lipoprotein receptor-related protein 6 (LRP6) or human vascular endothelial growth factor A (VEGF-A)) with a dissociation constant (Kd) equal to or lower than 100 nM, optionally lower than 10 nM, optionally lower than 1 nM, optionally lower than 0.5 nM, optionally lower than 0.1 nM, optionally lower than 0.01 nM, or optionally lower than 0.005 nM; measured at a temperature of about 4 °C, 25 °C, 37 °C, or 45 °C.

**[0106]** Reference to “about” a value or parameter herein refers to the usual error range for the respective value readily known to the skilled person in this technical field. Reference to “about” a value or parameter herein includes (and describes) aspects that are directed to that value or parameter *per se*. For example, description referring to “about X” includes description of “X.”

**[0107]** It is understood that aspects and embodiments of the invention described herein include “comprising,” “consisting,” and “consisting essentially of” aspects and embodiments.

**[0108]** All references cited herein, including patent applications and publications, are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety.

### **Non-Naturally Occurring Cystine Knot Peptides (CKPs) That Bind Human Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor A (VEGF-A)**

**[0109]** In certain embodiments, provided herein is a non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to vascular endothelial growth factor A (VEGF-A), wherein the CKP comprises the following cystine scaffold structure (i.e., scaffold structure I):



wherein:

Z<sub>1</sub> and Z<sub>2</sub> are any amino acid;

L<sub>1</sub> is Loop 1 and has a structure selected from the group consisting of:

X<sub>1</sub>X<sub>2</sub>X<sub>3</sub>X<sub>4</sub>X<sub>5</sub>X<sub>6</sub>X<sub>7</sub>X<sub>8</sub>, X<sub>1</sub>X<sub>2</sub>X<sub>3</sub>X<sub>4</sub>X<sub>5</sub>X<sub>6</sub>X<sub>7</sub>X<sub>8</sub>X<sub>9</sub>, and X<sub>1</sub>X<sub>2</sub>X<sub>3</sub>X<sub>4</sub>X<sub>5</sub>X<sub>6</sub>X<sub>7</sub>X<sub>8</sub>X<sub>9</sub>X<sub>10</sub>, wherein each of X<sub>1</sub> - X<sub>10</sub> is any amino acid;

L<sub>2</sub> is Loop 2 and has the structure: X<sub>1</sub>X<sub>2</sub>X<sub>3</sub>X<sub>4</sub>X<sub>5</sub>, wherein each of X<sub>1</sub> - X<sub>5</sub> is any amino acid or an unnatural amino acid selected from the group consisting of L-

propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, L-4-fluorophenylalanine, gamma-benzyl-L-proline, gamma-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-L-proline, 4-OH-L-proline, 4-fluoro-L-proline, 4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl]-L-proline, 3,4-difluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-dichloro-L-phenylalanine, 4-chloro-L-phenylalanine, 3-F,4-Cl-L-phenylalanine, 2-pyridone(NH para)-L-alanine, pyridone(NH meta)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-methyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-ethyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-isopropyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(5-aza-indole)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-L-phenylalanine, 2-naphthyl-L-alanine, L-4,4'-biphenylalanine, 3-(3-quinoliny)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoliny)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoxaliny)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-2-pyridyl-alanine, 4-ethyl-2-pyridyl-L-alanine, benzothiazole-L-alanine, benzothiophene-L-alanine, 3-isoquinoliny-L-alanine, t-butyl-L-alanine (also known as L-Nepentyl glycine), 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, cyclopentyl-L-alanine, 5,5,5-Trifluoro-L-leucine, , t-butyl-L-glycine (also known as L-tert-Leucine), L-cyclopentylglycine, L-cyclobutylglycine, 3,4-hydroxy-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-fluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3-fluoro,4-OH-L-phenylalanine, 2-chloro-L-tyrosine, 2-methyl-L-tyrosine, 2-ethyl-L-tyrosine, 4-(naphthalen-1-ol)-L-alanine, D-serine, L-beta-homoserine, L-beta-alanine, N-alpha-methyl glycine, glycine amide, glycine ester of glycerol, glycine ester of glycol, glycine ester of oxetane-3-yl, and glycine morpholine amide.

L3 is Loop 3 and has the structure: X<sub>1</sub>X<sub>2</sub>X<sub>3</sub> wherein each of X<sub>1</sub> – X<sub>3</sub> is any amino acid or an unnatural amino acid selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, L-4-fluorophenylalanine, gamma-benzyl-L-proline, gamma-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-L-proline, 4-OH-L-proline, 4-fluoro-L-proline, 4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl]-L-proline, 3,4-difluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-dichloro-L-phenylalanine, 4-chloro-L-phenylalanine, 3-F,4-Cl-L-phenylalanine, 2-pyridone(NH para)-L-alanine, pyridone(NH meta)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-methyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-ethyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-isopropyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(5-aza-indole)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-L-phenylalanine, 2-naphthyl-L-alanine, L-4,4'-biphenylalanine, 3-(3-quinoliny)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoliny)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoxaliny)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-2-pyridyl-alanine, 4-ethyl-2-pyridyl-L-alanine, benzothiazole-L-alanine, benzothiophene-L-alanine, 3-isoquinoliny-L-alanine, t-butyl-L-alanine (also known as L-Nepentyl glycine), 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, cyclopentyl-L-alanine, 5,5,5-Trifluoro-L-leucine, , t-butyl-L-glycine (also known as L-tert-Leucine), L-cyclopentylglycine, L-cyclobutylglycine, 3,4-hydroxy-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-fluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3-fluoro,4-OH-L-phenylalanine, 2-chloro-L-tyrosine, 2-methyl-L-tyrosine, 2-ethyl-L-tyrosine, 4-(naphthalen-1-ol)-L-alanine, D-serine, L-beta-homoserine,

L-beta-alanine, N-alpha-methyl glycine, glycine amide, glycine ester of glycerol, glycine ester of glycol, glycine ester of oxetane-3-yl, and glycine morpholine amide;

L4 is Loop 4 and has the structure:  $X_1$ , wherein  $X_1$  is any amino acid or an unnatural amino acid selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, L-4-fluorophenylalanine, gamma-benzyl-L-proline, gamma-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-L-proline, 4-OH-L-proline, 4-fluoro-L-proline, 4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl]-L-proline, 3,4-difluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-dichloro-L-phenylalanine, 4-chloro-L-phenylalanine, 3-F,4-Cl-L-phenylalanine, 2-pyridone(NH para)-L-alanine, pyridone(NH meta)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-methyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-ethyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-isopropyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(5-aza-indole)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-L-phenylalanine, 2-naphthyl-L-alanine, L-4,4'-biphenylalanine, 3-(3-quinoliny)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoliny)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoxaliny)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-2-pyridyl-alanine, 4-ethyl-2-pyridyl-L-alanine, benzothiazole-L-alanine, benzothiophene-L-alanine, 3-isoquinoliny-L-alanine, t-butyl-L-alanine (also known as L-Nepentyl glycine), 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, cyclopentyl-L-alanine, 5,5,5-Trifluoro-L-leucine, , t-butyl-L-glycine (also known as L-tert-Leucine), L-cyclopentylglycine, L-cyclobutylglycine, 3,4-hydroxy-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-fluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3-fluoro,4-OH-L-phenylalanine, 2-chloro-L-tyrosine, 2-methyl-L-tyrosine, 2-ethyl-L-tyrosine, 4-(naphthalen-1-ol)-L-alanine, D-serine, L-beta-homoserine, L-beta-alanine, N-alpha-methyl glycine, glycine amide, glycine ester of glycerol, glycine ester of glycol, glycine ester of oxetane-3-yl, and glycine morpholine amide;

L5 is Loop 5 and has the structure:  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5$ , wherein each of  $X_1 - X_5$  is any amino acid or an unnatural amino acid selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, L-4-fluorophenylalanine, gamma-benzyl-L-proline, gamma-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-L-proline, 4-OH-L-proline, 4-fluoro-L-proline, 4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl]-L-proline, 3,4-difluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-dichloro-L-phenylalanine, 4-chloro-L-phenylalanine, 3-F,4-Cl-L-phenylalanine, 2-pyridone(NH para)-L-alanine, pyridone(NH meta)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-methyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-ethyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-isopropyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(5-aza-indole)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-L-phenylalanine, 2-naphthyl-L-alanine, L-4,4'-biphenylalanine, 3-(3-quinoliny)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoliny)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoxaliny)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-2-pyridyl-alanine, 4-ethyl-2-pyridyl-L-alanine, benzothiazole-L-alanine, benzothiophene-L-alanine, 3-isoquinoliny-L-alanine, t-butyl-L-alanine (also known as L-Nepentyl glycine), 3-cyclobutyl-

L-alanine, cyclopentyl-L-alanine, 5,5,5-Trifluoro-L-leucine, t-butyl-L-glycine (also known as L-tert-Leucine), L-cyclopentylglycine, L-cyclobutylglycine, 3,4-hydroxy-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-fluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3-fluoro,4-OH-L-phenylalanine, 2-chloro-L-tyrosine, 2-methyl-L-tyrosine, 2-ethyl-L-tyrosine, 4-(naphthalen-1-yl)-L-alanine, D-serine, L-beta-homoserine, L-beta-alanine, N-alpha-methyl glycine, glycine amide, glycine ester of glycerol, glycine ester of glycol, glycine ester of oxetane-3-yl, and glycine morpholine amide; and

wherein the CKP binds to VEGF-A with an affinity of 500 pM or less.

**[0110]** In certain embodiments, the C-terminus of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is modified (such as capped). In certain embodiments, the N-terminus of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is modified (such as capped). In certain embodiments, both the C- and N-termini of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A are modified (such as capped). In certain embodiments, the C-terminal carboxyl group of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is amidated. In certain embodiments, the N-terminal amine of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is acetylated. In certain embodiments, the C-terminal carboxyl group of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is amidated and the N-terminal amine of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is acetylated.

**[0111]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A has an altered disulfide bond connectivity-with reference to a wild-type *Ecballium elaterium* trypsin inhibitor EETI-II protein having the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1; wherein the altered disulfide bond connectivity is C1-C4, C2-C3 and C5-C6.

**[0112]** In certain embodiments, Z<sub>1</sub> and/or Z<sub>2</sub> of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is G. In certain embodiments, Z<sub>1</sub> and/or Z<sub>2</sub> comprise more than one amino acid. In certain embodiments, Z<sub>1</sub> and/or Z<sub>2</sub> comprise 4 amino acids. In certain embodiments, Z<sub>1</sub> and/or Z<sub>2</sub> comprise 5 amino acids. In certain embodiments, Z<sub>1</sub> and/or Z<sub>2</sub> is an unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments, the unnatural amino acid is N-acetylglycine or glycine amide. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L1 wherein X<sub>3</sub> is not I; wherein X<sub>5</sub> is not M; and/or wherein X<sub>6</sub> is not R. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L1 wherein X<sub>1</sub> is an amino acid selected from P, Q, R, T, V, D, N, K, L, and X; wherein X<sub>2</sub> is an amino acid selected

from T, D, L, V, I, R, P, N and X; wherein X<sub>3</sub> is an amino acid selected from T, P, M, L, S, F, R, and X; wherein X<sub>4</sub> is an amino acid selected from R, T, Q, D, W, L, E, S, K, and X; wherein X<sub>5</sub> is an amino acid selected from F, P, V, E, K, L, I, and X; wherein X<sub>6</sub> is an amino acid selected from K, N, F, P, L, Y, T, D, M, and X; wherein X<sub>7</sub> is an amino acid selected from Q, W, H and X; and/or wherein X<sub>8</sub> is an amino acid selected from Y, A, G, D, E, W, S, and X, wherein X is and unnatural amino acid is selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, L-4-fluorophenylalanine, gamma-benzyl-L-proline, gamma-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-L-proline, 4-OH-L-proline, 4-fluoro-L-proline, 4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl]-L-proline, 3,4-difluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-dichloro-L-phenylalanine, 4-chloro-L-phenylalanine, 3-F,4-Cl-L-phenylalanine, 2-pyridone(NH para)-L-alanine, pyridone(NH meta)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-methyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-ethyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-isopropyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(5-aza-indole)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-L-phenylalanine, 2-naphthyl-L-alanine, L-4,4'-biphenylalanine, 3-(3-quinolinyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinolinyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoxaliny)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-2-pyridyl-alanine, 4-ethyl-2-pyridyl-L-alanine, benzothiazole-L-alanine, benzothiophene-L-alanine, 3-isoquinolinyl-L-alanine, t-butyl-L-alanine (also known as L-Nepentyl glycine), 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, cyclopentyl-L-alanine, 5,5,5-Trifluoro-L-leucine, t-butyl-L-glycine (also known as L-tert-Leucine), L-cyclopentylglycine, L-cyclobutylglycine, 3,4-hydroxy-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-fluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3-fluoro,4-OH-L-phenylalanine, 2-chloro-L-tyrosine, 2-methyl-L-tyrosine, 2-ethyl-L-tyrosine, 4-(naphthalen-1-ol)-L-alanine, D-serine, L-beta-homoserine, L-beta-alanine, N-alpha-methyl glycine, glycine amide, glycine ester of glycerol, glycine ester of glycol, glycine ester of oxetane-3-yl, and glycine morpholine amide. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L1 wherein X<sub>9</sub> is an amino acid selected from L, I, V, D, E and X, wherein X is and unnatural amino acid is selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, L-4-fluorophenylalanine, gamma-benzyl-L-proline, gamma-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-L-proline, 4-OH-L-proline, 4-fluoro-L-proline, 4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl]-L-proline, 3,4-difluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-dichloro-L-phenylalanine, 4-chloro-L-phenylalanine, 3-F,4-Cl-L-phenylalanine, 2-pyridone(NH para)-L-alanine, pyridone(NH meta)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-methyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-ethyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-isopropyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(5-aza-indole)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-L-phenylalanine, 2-naphthyl-L-alanine, L-4,4'-biphenylalanine, 3-(3-quinolinyl)-L-alanine,

3-(2-quinolinyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoxalanyl)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-2-pyridyl-alanine, 4-ethyl-2-pyridyl-L-alanine, benzothiazole-L-alanine, benzothiophene-L-alanine, 3-isoquinolinyl-L-alanine, t-butyl-L-alanine (also known as L-Nepentyl glycine), 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, cyclopentyl-L-alanine, 5,5,5-Trifluoro-L-leucine, t-butyl-L-glycine (also known as L-tert-Leucine), L-cyclopentylglycine, L-cyclobutylglycine, 3,4-hydroxy-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-fluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3-fluoro,4-OH-L-phenylalanine, 2-chloro-L-tyrosine, 2-methyl-L-tyrosine, 2-ethyl-L-tyrosine, 4-(naphthalen-1-ol)-L-alanine, D-serine, L-beta-homoserine, L-beta-alanine, N-alpha-methyl glycine, glycine amide, glycine ester of glycerol, glycine ester of glycol, glycine ester of oxetane-3-yl, and glycine morpholine amide. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L1 wherein  $X_{10}$  is an amino acid selected from Y, T, M, N, F, and X, wherein X is and unnatural amino acid is selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, L-4-fluorophenylalanine, gamma-benzyl-L-proline, gamma-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-L-proline, 4-OH-L-proline, 4-fluoro-L-proline, 4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl]-L-proline, 3,4-difluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-dichloro-L-phenylalanine, 4-chloro-L-phenylalanine, 3-F,4-Cl-L-phenylalanine, 2-pyridone(NH para)-L-alanine, pyridone(NH meta)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-methyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-ethyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-isopropyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(5-aza-indole)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-L-phenylalanine, 2-naphthyl-L-alanine, L-4,4'-biphenylalanine, 3-(3-quinolinyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinolinyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoxalanyl)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-2-pyridyl-alanine, 4-ethyl-2-pyridyl-L-alanine, benzothiazole-L-alanine, benzothiophene-L-alanine, 3-isoquinolinyl-L-alanine, t-butyl-L-alanine (also known as L-Nepentyl glycine), 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, cyclopentyl-L-alanine, 5,5,5-Trifluoro-L-leucine, t-butyl-L-glycine (also known as L-tert-Leucine), L-cyclopentylglycine, L-cyclobutylglycine, 3,4-hydroxy-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-fluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3-fluoro,4-OH-L-phenylalanine, 2-chloro-L-tyrosine, 2-methyl-L-tyrosine, 2-ethyl-L-tyrosine, 4-(naphthalen-1-ol)-L-alanine, D-serine, L-beta-homoserine, L-beta-alanine, N-alpha-methyl glycine, glycine amide, glycine ester of glycerol, glycine ester of glycol, glycine ester of oxetane-3-yl, and glycine morpholine amide.

**[0113]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L5 wherein each of  $X_1 - X_5$  is any amino acid or an unnatural amino acid selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, L-4-fluorophenylalanine, gamma-benzyl-L-proline,

gamma-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-L-proline, 4-OH-L-proline, 4-fluoro-L-proline, 4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl]-L-proline, 3,4-difluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-dichloro-L-phenylalanine, 4-chloro-L-phenylalanine, 3-F,4-Cl-L-phenylalanine, 2-pyridone(NH para)-L-alanine, pyridone(NH meta)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-methyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-ethyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-isopropyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(5-aza-indole)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-L-phenylalanine, 2-naphthyl-L-alanine, L-4,4'-biphenylalanine, 3-(3-quinoliny)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoliny)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoxaliny)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-2-pyridyl-alanine, 4-ethyl-2-pyridyl-L-alanine, benzothiazole-L-alanine, benzothiophene-L-alanine, 3-isoquinoliny-L-alanine, t-butyl-L-alanine (also known as L-Nepentyl glycine), 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, cyclopentyl-L-alanine, 5,5,5-Trifluoro-L-leucine, t-butyl-L-glycine (also known as L-tert-Leucine), L-cyclopentylglycine, L-cyclobutylglycine, 3,4-hydroxy-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-fluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3-fluoro,4-OH-L-phenylalanine, 2-chloro-L-tyrosine, 2-methyl-L-tyrosine, 2-ethyl-L-tyrosine, 4-(naphthalen-1-ol)-L-alanine, D-serine, L-beta-homoserine, L-beta-alanine, N-alpha-methyl glycine, glycine amide, glycine ester of glycerol, glycine ester of glycol, glycine ester of oxetane-3-yl, and glycine morpholine amide; with the exception that X<sub>2</sub> is not proline (P).

**[0114]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L5 wherein each of X<sub>1</sub> – X<sub>5</sub> is any amino acid or an unnatural amino acid selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, L-4-fluorophenylalanine, gamma-benzyl-L-proline, gamma-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-L-proline, 4-OH-L-proline, 4-fluoro-L-proline, 4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl]-L-proline, 3,4-difluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-dichloro-L-phenylalanine, 4-chloro-L-phenylalanine, 3-F,4-Cl-L-phenylalanine, 2-pyridone(NH para)-L-alanine, pyridone(NH meta)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-methyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-ethyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-isopropyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(5-aza-indole)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-L-phenylalanine, 2-naphthyl-L-alanine, L-4,4'-biphenylalanine, 3-(3-quinoliny)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoliny)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoxaliny)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-2-pyridyl-alanine, 4-ethyl-2-pyridyl-L-alanine, benzothiazole-L-alanine, benzothiophene-L-alanine, 3-isoquinoliny-L-alanine, t-butyl-L-alanine (also known as L-Nepentyl glycine), 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, cyclopentyl-L-alanine, 5,5,5-Trifluoro-L-leucine, t-butyl-L-glycine (also known as L-tert-Leucine), L-cyclopentylglycine, L-cyclobutylglycine, 3,4-hydroxy-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-fluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3-fluoro,4-OH-L-phenylalanine, 2-chloro-L-tyrosine, 2-methyl-L-tyrosine, 2-ethyl-L-tyrosine, 4-(naphthalen-1-ol)-L-alanine, D-serine, L-beta-homoserine,

L-beta-alanine, N-alpha-methyl glycine, glycine amide, glycine ester of glycerol, glycine ester of glycol, glycine ester of oxetane-3-yl, and glycine morpholine amide, with the exception that X<sub>4</sub> is not glycine (G). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L5 wherein X<sub>1</sub> is an amino acid selected from G, Q, H, R, L, and Q; wherein X<sub>2</sub> is an amino acid selected from P, M, W, Y, F, L, and H; wherein X<sub>3</sub> is an amino acid selected from N, F, H, and Y; wherein X<sub>4</sub> is an amino acid selected from G, Q, D, N, K, H, E, and S; and/or wherein X<sub>5</sub> is an amino acid selected from F, S, and T. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L2 wherein X<sub>1</sub> is K, X<sub>2</sub> is Q, X<sub>3</sub> is D, X<sub>4</sub> is S, and X<sub>5</sub> is D. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L3 wherein X<sub>1</sub> is L, X<sub>2</sub> is A, and X<sub>3</sub> is G. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L4 wherein X<sub>1</sub> is V or F.

**[0115]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L1 comprising the structure X<sub>1</sub>X<sub>2</sub>X<sub>3</sub>X<sub>4</sub>X<sub>5</sub>X<sub>6</sub>X<sub>7</sub>X<sub>8</sub>, wherein: X<sub>1</sub> is an amino acid selected from P, Q, and R; X<sub>2</sub> is an amino acid selected from T, L, and D; X<sub>3</sub> is an amino acid selected from T, M and L; X<sub>4</sub> is an amino acid selected from R, Q, and D; X<sub>5</sub> is an amino acid selected from F, P, and V; X<sub>6</sub> is an amino acid selected from K and F; X<sub>7</sub> is an amino acid selected from Q and W; and X<sub>8</sub> is an amino acid selected from Y, G, and D. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L1 comprising the structure X<sub>1</sub>X<sub>2</sub>X<sub>3</sub>X<sub>4</sub>X<sub>5</sub>X<sub>6</sub>X<sub>7</sub>X<sub>8</sub> X<sub>9</sub> X<sub>10</sub>, wherein X<sub>1</sub> is an amino acid selected from Q, R, T and V; X<sub>2</sub> is an amino acid selected from T and D; X<sub>3</sub> is P; X<sub>4</sub> is an amino acid selected from T and W; X<sub>5</sub> is an amino acid selected from F, E, P, and K; X<sub>6</sub> is an amino acid selected from N and P; X<sub>7</sub> is an amino acid selected from W and H; X<sub>8</sub> is an amino acid selected from A, D, E, and W; X<sub>9</sub> is an amino acid selected from L and I; and X<sub>10</sub> is an amino acid selected from Y, T, M and N. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L5 wherein X<sub>1</sub> is an amino acid selected from G, H, and Q; X<sub>2</sub> is an amino acid selected from P, M, W, and Y; X<sub>3</sub> is an amino acid selected from N and Y; X<sub>4</sub> is an amino acid selected from G, Q, and S; and X<sub>5</sub> is an amino acid selected from F and S. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L2 wherein X<sub>1</sub> is K, X<sub>2</sub> is Q, X<sub>3</sub> is D, X<sub>4</sub> is S, and X<sub>5</sub> is D. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L3 wherein X<sub>1</sub> is L, X<sub>2</sub> is A, and X<sub>3</sub> is G. In certain embodiments, the non-

naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L4 wherein X<sub>1</sub> is V or F.

**[0116]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L1 having the structure X<sub>1</sub>X<sub>2</sub>X<sub>3</sub>X<sub>4</sub>X<sub>5</sub>X<sub>6</sub>X<sub>7</sub>X<sub>8</sub>, wherein: X<sub>1</sub> is an amino acid selected from D, Q, N, and K; X<sub>2</sub> is an amino acid selected from V, I, R, L, and P; X<sub>3</sub> is an amino acid selected from L, S, M, T, and F; X<sub>4</sub> is an amino acid selected from Q, L, and E; X<sub>5</sub> is P; X<sub>6</sub> is an amino acid selected from F, L, and Y; X<sub>7</sub> is W; and X<sub>8</sub> is G. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L5 wherein X<sub>3</sub> is Y; X<sub>5</sub> is S; and wherein X<sub>1</sub>, X<sub>2</sub> and X<sub>4</sub> are each any amino acid, with the exception that X<sub>1</sub> is not G, X<sub>2</sub> is not P, X<sub>4</sub> is not G, and/or X<sub>5</sub> is not F. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L5 wherein X<sub>1</sub> is an amino acid selected from H, L, R, and Q; X<sub>2</sub> is an amino acid selected from W, F, and Y; X<sub>3</sub> is Y; X<sub>4</sub> is an amino acid selected from Q, N, K, H, and E; and X<sub>5</sub> is S. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L2 wherein X<sub>1</sub> is K, X<sub>2</sub> is Q, X<sub>3</sub> is D, X<sub>4</sub> is S, and X<sub>5</sub> is D. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L3 wherein X<sub>1</sub> is L, X<sub>2</sub> is A, and X<sub>3</sub> is G. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L4 wherein X<sub>1</sub> is V or F.

**[0117]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L1 comprising the structure X<sub>1</sub>X<sub>2</sub>X<sub>3</sub>X<sub>4</sub>X<sub>5</sub>X<sub>6</sub>X<sub>7</sub>X<sub>8</sub> X<sub>9</sub> X<sub>10</sub>, wherein X<sub>1</sub> is an amino acid selected from K, Q, L, and R; X<sub>2</sub> is an amino acid selected from N and D; X<sub>3</sub> is an amino acid selected from P and L; X<sub>4</sub> is an amino acid selected from L, T, S and K; X<sub>5</sub> is an amino acid selected from F, V, I, and L; X<sub>6</sub> is an amino acid selected from N and D; X<sub>7</sub> is W; X<sub>8</sub> is an amino acid selected from A and S; X<sub>9</sub> is an amino acid selected from L, V, E and D; and X<sub>10</sub> is an amino acid selected from Y and F. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L5 wherein X<sub>1</sub> is Q; X<sub>2</sub> is an amino acid selected from L, F, M, and H; X<sub>3</sub> is an amino acid selected from F, Y, and H; X<sub>4</sub> is an amino acid selected from D, Q, N, and K; and X<sub>5</sub> is an amino acid selected from S and T. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L2 wherein X<sub>1</sub> is K, X<sub>2</sub> is Q, X<sub>3</sub> is D, X<sub>4</sub> is S, and X<sub>5</sub> is D. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L3 wherein X<sub>1</sub> is

L, X<sub>2</sub> is A, and X<sub>3</sub> is G. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L4 wherein X<sub>1</sub> is V or F.

**[0118]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L1 comprising the structure X<sub>1</sub>X<sub>2</sub>X<sub>3</sub>X<sub>4</sub>X<sub>5</sub>X<sub>6</sub>X<sub>7</sub>X<sub>8</sub>, wherein: X<sub>5</sub> is P; X<sub>7</sub> is W; X<sub>8</sub> is G; and wherein X<sub>1</sub>, X<sub>2</sub>, X<sub>3</sub>, X<sub>4</sub> and X<sub>6</sub> are each any amino acid, with the exception that X<sub>1</sub> is not P, X<sub>2</sub> is not R, X<sub>3</sub> is not I, and/or X<sub>6</sub> is not R. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L1 comprising the structure X<sub>1</sub>X<sub>2</sub>X<sub>3</sub>X<sub>4</sub>X<sub>5</sub>X<sub>6</sub>X<sub>7</sub>X<sub>8</sub>, wherein X<sub>1</sub> is an amino acid selected from N and D; X<sub>2</sub> is an amino acid selected from I and V; X<sub>3</sub> is an amino acid selected from M and L; X<sub>4</sub> is an amino acid selected from L, Q, D and K; X<sub>5</sub> is P; X<sub>6</sub> is an amino acid selected from F, Y, T, L, and M; X<sub>7</sub> is W; and X<sub>8</sub> is G. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L5 wherein X<sub>1</sub> is an amino acid selected from Q, H, L, and R; X<sub>2</sub> is an amino acid selected from Y and W; X<sub>3</sub> is Y; X<sub>4</sub> is an amino acid selected from Q and N; and X<sub>5</sub> is S. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L5 wherein X<sub>3</sub> is Y; X<sub>5</sub> is S; and wherein X<sub>1</sub>, X<sub>2</sub>, and X<sub>4</sub> are each any amino acid, with the exception that X<sub>1</sub> is not G, X<sub>2</sub> is not P, and/or X<sub>4</sub> is not G. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L2 wherein X<sub>1</sub> is an amino acid selected from G or E; X<sub>2</sub> is an amino acid selected from Q, L, P, R, E, and M; X<sub>3</sub> is an amino acid selected from S, D, and N; X<sub>4</sub> is an amino acid selected from F, Y, L, M, and I; and/or X<sub>5</sub> is an amino acid selected from E, D, Q, L, and S. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L3 wherein X<sub>1</sub> is L, X<sub>2</sub> is A, and X<sub>3</sub> is G. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L4 wherein X<sub>1</sub> is V or F.

**[0119]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L5, wherein each of X<sub>1</sub> – X<sub>5</sub> is any amino acid with the exception that X<sub>2</sub> is not proline (P). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L5, wherein each of X<sub>1</sub> – X<sub>5</sub> is any amino acid with the exception that X<sub>4</sub> is not glycine (G). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L5, wherein X<sub>1</sub> is any amino acid except G; X<sub>2</sub> is any amino acid except P; X<sub>3</sub> is any amino acid except N; X<sub>4</sub> is any amino acid except G; and/or X<sub>5</sub> is any amino acid except F.

**[0120]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L1 comprising the structure  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5X_6X_7X_8$ , wherein  $X_1$  is an amino acid selected from N, D, and X;  $X_2$  is an amino acid selected from I, V, and X;  $X_3$  is M or X;  $X_4$  is an amino acid selected from L, Q, and X;  $X_5$  is P or X;  $X_6$  is F, Y, or X;  $X_7$  is W or X; and  $X_8$  is G or X, wherein X is an unnatural amino acid selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, L-4-fluorophenylalanine, gamma-benzyl-L-proline, gamma-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-L-proline, 4-OH-L-proline, 4-fluoro-L-proline, 4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl]-L-proline, 3,4-difluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-dichloro-L-phenylalanine, 4-chloro-L-phenylalanine, 3-F,4-Cl-L-phenylalanine, 2-pyridone(NH para)-L-alanine, pyridone(NH meta)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-methyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-ethyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-isopropyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(5-aza-indole)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-L-phenylalanine, 2-naphthyl-L-alanine, L-4,4'-biphenylalanine, 3-(3-quinolinyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinolinyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoxaliny)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-2-pyridyl-alanine, 4-ethyl-2-pyridyl-L-alanine, benzothiazole-L-alanine, benzothiophene-L-alanine, 3-isoquinolinyl-L-alanine, t-butyl-L-alanine (also known as L-Nepentyl glycine), 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, cyclopentyl-L-alanine, 5,5,5-Trifluoro-L-leucine, t-butyl-L-glycine (also known as L-tert-Leucine), L-cyclopentylglycine, L-cyclobutylglycine, 3,4-hydroxy-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-fluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3-fluoro,4-OH-L-phenylalanine, 2-chloro-L-tyrosine, 2-methyl-L-tyrosine, 2-ethyl-L-tyrosine, 4-(naphthalen-1-ol)-L-alanine, D-serine, L-beta-homoserine, L-beta-alanine, N-alpha-methyl glycine, glycine amide, glycine ester of glycerol, glycine ester of glycol, glycine ester of oxetane-3-yl, and glycine morpholine amide. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L3 wherein each of  $X_1 - X_3$  is any amino acid or an unnatural amino acid selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, L-4-fluorophenylalanine, gamma-benzyl-L-proline, gamma-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-L-proline, 4-OH-L-proline, 4-fluoro-L-proline, 4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl]-L-proline, 3,4-difluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-dichloro-L-phenylalanine, 4-chloro-L-phenylalanine, 3-F,4-Cl-L-phenylalanine, 2-pyridone(NH para)-L-alanine, pyridone(NH meta)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-methyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-ethyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-isopropyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(5-aza-indole)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-L-phenylalanine, 2-naphthyl-L-alanine, L-4,4'-biphenylalanine, 3-(3-quinolinyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinolinyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoxaliny)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-2-pyridyl-alanine, 4-

ethyl-2-pyridyl-L-alanine, benzothiazole-L-alanine, benzothiophene-L-alanine, 3-isoquinolinyll-L-alanine, t-butyl-L-alanine (also known as L-Nepentyl glycine), 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, cyclopentyl-L-alanine, 5,5,5-Trifluoro-L-leucine, t-butyl-L-glycine (also known as L-tert-Leucine), L-cyclopentylglycine, L-cyclobutylglycine, 3,4-hydroxy-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-fluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3-fluoro,4-OH-L-phenylalanine, 2-chloro-L-tyrosine, 2-methyl-L-tyrosine, 2-ethyl-L-tyrosine, 4-(naphthalen-1-ol)-L-alanine, D-serine, L-beta-homoserine, L-beta-alanine, N-alpha-methyl glycine, glycine amide, glycine ester of glycerol, glycine ester of glycol, glycine ester of oxetane-3-yl, and glycine morpholine amide, with the exception that X<sub>1</sub> is not Leucine (L), X<sub>2</sub> is not Alanine (A), and X<sub>3</sub> is not glycine (G), wherein the unnatural amino acid selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, L-4-fluorophenylalanine, gamma-benzyl-L-proline, gamma-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-L-proline, 4-OH-L-proline, 4-fluoro-L-proline, 4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl]-L-proline, 3,4-difluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-dichloro-L-phenylalanine, 4-chloro-L-phenylalanine, 3-F,4-Cl-L-phenylalanine, 2-pyridone(NH para)-L-alanine, pyridone(NH meta)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-methyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-ethyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-isopropyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(5-aza-indole)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-L-phenylalanine, 2-naphthyl-L-alanine, L-4,4'-biphenylalanine, 3-(3-quinolinyll)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinolinyll)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoxalinyll)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-2-pyridyl-alanine, 4-ethyl-2-pyridyl-L-alanine, benzothiazole-L-alanine, benzothiophene-L-alanine, 3-isoquinolinyll-L-alanine, t-butyl-L-alanine (also known as L-Nepentyl glycine), 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, cyclopentyl-L-alanine, 5,5,5-Trifluoro-L-leucine, t-butyl-L-glycine (also known as L-tert-Leucine), L-cyclopentylglycine, L-cyclobutylglycine, 3,4-hydroxy-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-fluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3-fluoro,4-OH-L-phenylalanine, 2-chloro-L-tyrosine, 2-methyl-L-tyrosine, 2-ethyl-L-tyrosine, 4-(naphthalen-1-ol)-L-alanine, D-serine, L-beta-homoserine, L-beta-alanine, N-alpha-methyl glycine, glycine amide, glycine ester of glycerol, glycine ester of glycol, glycine ester of oxetane-3-yl, and glycine morpholine amide. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L3 wherein X<sub>1</sub> is an amino acid selected from M, F, L V, and X; X<sub>2</sub> is an amino acid selected from S, N, Q, I, Y, E, V, T, and X; and X<sub>3</sub> is an amino acid selected from D, Q, T, N, E, R, and X, wherein X is an unnatural amino acid selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, L-4-fluorophenylalanine, gamma-benzyl-L-proline, gamma-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-L-proline, 4-OH-L-proline, 4-fluoro-L-proline,

4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl]-L-proline, 3,4-difluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-dichloro-L-phenylalanine, 4-chloro-L-phenylalanine, 3-F,4-Cl-L-phenylalanine, 2-pyridone(NH para)-L-alanine, pyridone(NH meta)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-methyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-ethyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-isopropyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(5-aza-indole)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-L-phenylalanine, 2-naphthyl-L-alanine, L-4,4'-biphenylalanine, 3-(3-quinolinyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinolinyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoxaliny)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-2-pyridyl-alanine, 4-ethyl-2-pyridyl-L-alanine, benzothiazole-L-alanine, benzothiophene-L-alanine, 3-isoquinolinyl-L-alanine, t-butyl-L-alanine (also known as L-Nepentyl glycine), 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, cyclopentyl-L-alanine, 5,5,5-Trifluoro-L-leucine, t-butyl-L-glycine (also known as L-tert-Leucine), L-cyclopentylglycine, L-cyclobutylglycine, 3,4-hydroxy-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-fluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3-fluoro,4-OH-L-phenylalanine, 2-chloro-L-tyrosine, 2-methyl-L-tyrosine, 2-ethyl-L-tyrosine, 4-(naphthalen-1-ol)-L-alanine, D-serine, L-beta-homoserine, L-beta-alanine, N-alpha-methyl glycine, glycine amide, glycine ester of glycerol, glycine ester of glycol, glycine ester of oxetane-3-yl, and glycine morpholine amide. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L4 wherein X<sub>1</sub> is any amino acid except V, or an unnatural amino acid selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, L-4-fluorophenylalanine, gamma-benzyl-L-proline, gamma-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-L-proline, 4-OH-L-proline, 4-fluoro-L-proline, 4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl]-L-proline, 3,4-difluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-dichloro-L-phenylalanine, 4-chloro-L-phenylalanine, 3-F,4-Cl-L-phenylalanine, 2-pyridone(NH para)-L-alanine, pyridone(NH meta)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-methyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-ethyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-isopropyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(5-aza-indole)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-L-phenylalanine, 2-naphthyl-L-alanine, L-4,4'-biphenylalanine, 3-(3-quinolinyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinolinyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoxaliny)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-2-pyridyl-alanine, 4-ethyl-2-pyridyl-L-alanine, benzothiazole-L-alanine, benzothiophene-L-alanine, 3-isoquinolinyl-L-alanine, t-butyl-L-alanine (also known as L-Nepentyl glycine), 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, cyclopentyl-L-alanine, 5,5,5-Trifluoro-L-leucine, t-butyl-L-glycine (also known as L-tert-Leucine), L-cyclopentylglycine, L-cyclobutylglycine, 3,4-hydroxy-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-fluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3-fluoro,4-OH-L-phenylalanine, 2-chloro-L-tyrosine, 2-methyl-L-tyrosine, 2-ethyl-L-tyrosine, 4-(naphthalen-1-ol)-L-alanine, D-serine, L-beta-homoserine, L-beta-alanine, N-alpha-methyl glycine, glycine amide, glycine ester of glycerol, glycine ester of glycol, glycine ester of oxetane-3-yl, and glycine morpholine amide. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide

(CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L4 wherein X<sub>1</sub> is I, L, or X, wherein X is an unnatural amino acid selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, L-4-fluorophenylalanine gamma-benzyl-L-proline, gamma-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-L-proline, 4-OH-L-proline, 4-fluoro-L-proline, 4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl]-L-proline, 3,4-difluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-dichloro-L-phenylalanine, 4-chloro-L-phenylalanine, 3-F,4-Cl-L-phenylalanine, 2-pyridone(NH para)-L-alanine, pyridone(NH meta)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-methyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-ethyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-isopropyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(5-aza-indole)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-L-phenylalanine, 2-naphthyl-L-alanine, L-4,4'-biphenylalanine, 3-(3-quinolinyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinolinyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoxaliny)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-2-pyridyl-alanine, 4-ethyl-2-pyridyl-L-alanine, benzothiazole-L-alanine, benzothiophene-L-alanine, 3-isoquinolinyl-L-alanine, t-butyl-L-alanine (also known as L-Nepentyl glycine), 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, cyclopentyl-L-alanine, 5,5,5-Trifluoro-L-leucine, t-butyl-L-glycine (also known as L-tert-Leucine), L-cyclopentylglycine, L-cyclobutylglycine, 3,4-hydroxy-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-fluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3-fluoro,4-OH-L-phenylalanine, 2-chloro-L-tyrosine, 2-methyl-L-tyrosine, 2-ethyl-L-tyrosine, 4-(naphthalen-1-ol)-L-alanine, D-serine, L-beta-homoserine, L-beta-alanine, N-alpha-methyl glycine, glycine amide, glycine ester of glycerol, glycine ester of glycol, glycine ester of oxetane-3-yl, and glycine morpholine amide. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L5 wherein X<sub>3</sub> is Y or an unnatural amino acid selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, L-4-fluorophenylalanine, gamma-benzyl-L-proline, gamma-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-L-proline, 4-OH-L-proline, 4-fluoro-L-proline, 4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl]-L-proline, 3,4-difluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-dichloro-L-phenylalanine, 4-chloro-L-phenylalanine, 3-F,4-Cl-L-phenylalanine, 2-pyridone(NH para)-L-alanine, pyridone(NH meta)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-methyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-ethyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-isopropyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(5-aza-indole)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-L-phenylalanine, 2-naphthyl-L-alanine, L-4,4'-biphenylalanine, 3-(3-quinolinyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinolinyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoxaliny)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-2-pyridyl-alanine, 4-ethyl-2-pyridyl-L-alanine, benzothiazole-L-alanine, benzothiophene-L-alanine, 3-isoquinolinyl-L-alanine, t-butyl-L-alanine (also known as L-Nepentyl glycine), 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, cyclopentyl-L-alanine, 5,5,5-Trifluoro-L-leucine, t-butyl-L-glycine (also known as L-tert-Leucine), L-cyclopentylglycine, L-cyclobutylglycine, 3,4-hydroxy-L-phenylalanine,

3,4-fluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3-fluoro,4-OH-L-phenylalanine, 2-chloro-L-tyrosine, 2-methyl-L-tyrosine, 2-ethyl-L-tyrosine, 4-(naphthalen-1-ol)-L-alanine, D-serine, L-beta-homoserine, L-beta-alanine, N-alpha-methyl glycine, glycine amide, glycine ester of glycerol, glycine ester of glycol, glycine ester of oxetane-3-yl, and glycine morpholine amide; X<sub>5</sub> is S or an unnatural amino acid selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, L-4-fluorophenylalanine, gamma-benzyl-L-proline, gamma-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-L-proline, 4-OH-L-proline, 4-fluoro-L-proline, 4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl]-L-proline, 3,4-difluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-dichloro-L-phenylalanine, 4-chloro-L-phenylalanine, 3-F,4-Cl-L-phenylalanine, 2-pyridone(NH para)-L-alanine, pyridone(NH meta)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-methyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-ethyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-isopropyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(5-aza-indole)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-L-phenylalanine, 2-naphthyl-L-alanine, L-4,4'-biphenylalanine, 3-(3-quinoliny)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoliny)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoxaliny)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-2-pyridyl-alanine, 4-ethyl-2-pyridyl-L-alanine, benzothiazole-L-alanine, benzothiophene-L-alanine, 3-isoquinoliny-L-alanine, t-butyl-L-alanine (also known as L-Nepentyl glycine), 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, cyclopentyl-L-alanine, 5,5,5-Trifluoro-L-leucine, t-butyl-L-glycine (also known as L-tert-Leucine), L-cyclopentylglycine, L-cyclobutylglycine, 3,4-hydroxy-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-fluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3-fluoro,4-OH-L-phenylalanine, 2-chloro-L-tyrosine, 2-methyl-L-tyrosine, 2-ethyl-L-tyrosine, 4-(naphthalen-1-ol)-L-alanine, D-serine, L-beta-homoserine, L-beta-alanine, N-alpha-methyl glycine, glycine amide, glycine ester of glycerol, glycine ester of glycol, glycine ester of oxetane-3-yl, and glycine morpholine amide; and wherein X<sub>1</sub>, X<sub>2</sub>, and X<sub>4</sub> are each any amino acid or an unnatural amino acid selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, L-4-fluorophenylalanine, gamma-benzyl-L-proline, gamma-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-L-proline, 4-OH-L-proline, 4-fluoro-L-proline, 4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl]-L-proline, 3,4-difluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-dichloro-L-phenylalanine, 4-chloro-L-phenylalanine, 3-F,4-Cl-L-phenylalanine, 2-pyridone(NH para)-L-alanine, pyridone(NH meta)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-methyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-ethyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-isopropyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(5-aza-indole)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-L-phenylalanine, 2-naphthyl-L-alanine, L-4,4'-biphenylalanine, 3-(3-quinoliny)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoliny)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoxaliny)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-2-pyridyl-alanine, 4-ethyl-2-pyridyl-L-alanine, benzothiazole-L-alanine, benzothiophene-L-alanine, 3-isoquinoliny-L-alanine, t-butyl-L-alanine (also known as L-Nepentyl glycine), 3-cyclobutyl-

L-alanine, cyclopentyl-L-alanine, 5,5,5-Trifluoro-L-leucine, t-butyl-L-glycine (also known as L-tert-Leucine), L-cyclopentylglycine, L-cyclobutylglycine, 3,4-hydroxy-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-fluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3-fluoro,4-OH-L-phenylalanine, 2-chloro-L-tyrosine, 2-methyl-L-tyrosine, 2-ethyl-L-tyrosine, 4-(naphthalen-1-ol)-L-alanine, D-serine, L-beta-homoserine, L-beta-alanine, N-alpha-methyl glycine, glycine amide, glycine ester of glycerol, glycine ester of glycol, glycine ester of oxetane-3-yl, and glycine morpholine amide, with the exception that X<sub>1</sub> is not G, X<sub>2</sub> is not P, and/or X<sub>4</sub> is not G. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L5, wherein each of X<sub>1</sub> – X<sub>5</sub> is any amino acid with the exception that X<sub>2</sub> is not proline (P). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L5 wherein each of X<sub>1</sub> – X<sub>5</sub> is any amino acid with the exception that X<sub>4</sub> is not glycine (G). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L5 wherein X<sub>1</sub> is an amino acid selected from Q, H, and X; X<sub>2</sub> is an amino acid selected from Y, W, and X; X<sub>3</sub> is Y or X; X<sub>4</sub> is an amino acid selected from Q, N, or X; X<sub>5</sub> is S or X, wherein X is an unnatural amino acid selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>-, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, L-4-fluorophenylalanine, gamma-benzyl-L-proline, gamma-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-L-proline, 4-OH-L-proline, 4-fluoro-L-proline, 4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl]-L-proline, 3,4-difluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-dichloro-L-phenylalanine, 4-chloro-L-phenylalanine, 3-F,4-Cl-L-phenylalanine, 2-pyridone(NH para)-L-alanine, pyridone(NH meta)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-methyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-ethyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-isopropyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(5-aza-indole)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-L-phenylalanine, 2-naphthyl-L-alanine, L-4,4'-biphenylalanine, 3-(3-quinolinyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinolinyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoxaliny)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-2-pyridyl-alanine, 4-ethyl-2-pyridyl-L-alanine, benzothiazole-L-alanine, benzothiophene-L-alanine, 3-isoquinolinyl-L-alanine, t-butyl-L-alanine (also known as L-Nepentyl glycine), 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, cyclopentyl-L-alanine, 5,5,5-Trifluoro-L-leucine, t-butyl-L-glycine (also known as L-tert-Leucine), L-cyclopentylglycine, L-cyclobutylglycine, 3,4-hydroxy-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-fluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3-fluoro,4-OH-L-phenylalanine, 2-chloro-L-tyrosine, 2-methyl-L-tyrosine, 2-ethyl-L-tyrosine, 4-(naphthalen-1-ol)-L-alanine, D-serine, L-beta-homoserine, L-beta-alanine, N-alpha-methyl glycine, glycine amide, glycine ester of glycerol, glycine ester of glycol, glycine ester of oxetane-3-yl, and glycine morpholine amide. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A comprises an L2 wherein X<sub>1</sub> is G or X; X<sub>2</sub> is R, P, or X; X<sub>3</sub> is D

or X; X<sub>4</sub> is F, I, or X; and X<sub>5</sub> is E, D, or X, wherein X is an unnatural amino acid selected from the group consisting of L-propargylglycine-PEG<sub>6</sub>, L-sulfotyrosine, L-norleucine, L-1-naphthylalanine, L-2-naphthylalanine, L-2-chlorotryptophan, L-3-fluorotyrosine, L-4-fluorophenylalanine, gamma-benzyl-L-proline, gamma-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-L-proline, 4-OH-L-proline, 4-fluoro-L-proline, 4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl]-L-proline, 3,4-difluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-dichloro-L-phenylalanine, 4-chloro-L-phenylalanine, 3-F,4-Cl-L-phenylalanine, 2-pyridone(NH para)-L-alanine, pyridone(NH meta)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-methyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-ethyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(1-N-isopropyl indole)-L-alanine, 3-(5-aza-indole)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-L-phenylalanine, 2-naphthyl-L-alanine, L-4,4'-biphenylalanine, 3-(3-quinolinyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinolinyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinoxaliny)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-2-pyridyl-alanine, 4-ethyl-2-pyridyl-L-alanine, benzothiazole-L-alanine, benzothiophene-L-alanine, 3-isoquinolinyl-L-alanine, t-butyl-L-alanine (also known as L-Nepentyl glycine), 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, cyclopentyl-L-alanine, 5,5,5-Trifluoro-L-leucine, t-butyl-L-glycine (also known as L-tert-Leucine), L-cyclopentylglycine, L-cyclobutylglycine, 3,4-hydroxy-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-fluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3-fluoro,4-OH-L-phenylalanine, 2-chloro-L-tyrosine, 2-methyl-L-tyrosine, 2-ethyl-L-tyrosine, 4-(naphthalen-1-ol)-L-alanine, D-serine, L-beta-homoserine, L-beta-alanine, N-alpha-methyl glycine, glycine amide, glycine ester of glycerol, glycine ester of glycol, glycine ester of oxetane-3-yl, and glycine morpholine amide.

**[0121]** In certain embodiments, the C-terminus of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is modified (such as capped). In certain embodiments, the N-terminus of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is modified (such as capped). In certain embodiments, both the C- and N-termini of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A are modified (such as capped). In certain embodiments, the C-terminal carboxyl group of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is amidated. In certain embodiments, the N-terminal amine of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is acetylated. In certain embodiments, the C-terminal carboxyl group of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is amidated and the N-terminal amine of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is acetylated.

**[0122]** Also provided herein is a non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A, wherein the CKP comprises the cystine scaffold structure provided below (i.e., scaffold structure I):

$$Z_1C_1L_1C_2L_2C_3L_3C_4L_4C_5L_5C_6Z_2 \text{ (I)}$$

wherein:

$Z_1$  and  $Z_2$  are any amino acid;

$L_1$  is Loop 1 and has a structure selected from the group consisting of:

$X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5X_6X_7X_8$ ,  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5X_6X_7X_8X_9$ , and  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5X_6X_7X_8X_9X_{10}$ , wherein each of  $X_1 - X_{10}$  is any amino acid;

$L_2$  is Loop 2 and has the structure:  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5$ , wherein each of  $X_1 - X_5$  is any amino acid;

$L_3$  is Loop 3 and has the structure:  $X_1X_2X_3$  wherein each of  $X_1 - X_3$  is any amino acid;

$L_4$  is Loop 4 and has the structure:  $X_1$ , wherein  $X_1$  is any amino acid;

$L_5$  is Loop 5 and has the structure:  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5$ , wherein each of  $X_1 - X_5$  is any amino acid; wherein,

the CKP has an altered disulfide bond connectivity with reference to a wild-type *Ecballium elaterium* trypsin inhibitor EETI-II protein having the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1; wherein the altered disulfide bond connectivity is C1-C4, C2-C3 and C5-C6; and wherein the CKP has a percent alpha helix content of at least about 15%, at least about 20%, at least about 25%, at least about 30%, at least about 35%, at least about 40%, at least about 45%, or at least about 50%, including any range in between these values.

**[0123]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring CKP binds to VEGF-A with an affinity of about 500 pM or less.

**[0124]** In certain embodiments, the binding affinity of the non-naturally occurring CKP to VEGF-A is determined via, e.g., surface plasmon resonance or other assays detailed in the Examples below.

**[0125]** In certain embodiments,  $Z_1$  and/or  $Z_2$  of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is G. In certain embodiments,  $Z_1$  and/or  $Z_2$  comprise more than one amino acid. In certain embodiments,  $Z_1$  and/or  $Z_2$  comprise 4 amino acids. In certain embodiments,  $Z_1$  and/or  $Z_2$  comprise 5 amino acids. In certain embodiments,  $Z_1$  and/or  $Z_2$  is an unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments, the unnatural amino acid is N-acetylglycine or glycine amide.

**[0126]** In certain embodiments, the C-terminus of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is modified (such as capped). In certain embodiments, the N-terminus of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that

binds to VEGF-A is modified (such as capped). In certain embodiments, both the C- and N-termini of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A are modified (such as capped). In certain embodiments, the C-terminal carboxyl group of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is amidated. In certain embodiments, the N-terminal amine of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is acetylated. In certain embodiments, the C-terminal carboxyl group of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is amidated and the N-terminal amine of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is acetylated.

**[0127]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring CKP that binds VEGF-A comprises an L5 wherein each of  $X_1 - X_5$  is any amino acid with the exception that  $X_2$  is not proline (P). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring CKP that binds VEGF-A comprises an L5, each of  $X_1 - X_5$  is any amino acid with the exception that  $X_4$  is not glycine (G). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring CKP that binds VEGF-A inhibits VEGF-A activity with an  $IC_{50}$  of about 0.5 nM to about 1.0 nM. In certain embodiments, the degree of inhibition is determined via a cellular  $IC_{50}$  assay, as described in further detail in the Examples below.

**[0128]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring CKP that binds VEGF-A comprises an L1 comprising the amino acid sequence HMMYDY (SEQ ID NO: 231) or K/P/Q/R-K/T/L/D-W/T/M/L-Q/R/D-W/F/P/V-W/K/F-Y/Q/W-M/Y/G/D (SEQ ID NO: 115) or E/G/P/Q/R/T/V-T/E/A/D-D/T/I/P-W/V/Q/T/W-Y/F/N/E/P/K-P/E/W/N/P-H/Q/K/W/H-Q/F/E/A/D/W-I/L/H-D/W/P/Y/T/M/N (SEQ ID NO: 232), with reference to scaffold structure I above. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring CKP that binds VEGF-A further comprises an L2 comprising the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring CKP that binds VEGF-A further comprises an L3 comprising the amino acid sequence LAG. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring CKP that binds VEGF-A comprises an L4 comprising V or F. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring CKP that binds VEGF-A comprises an L5 comprising the amino acid sequence G/E/Y/Q/H-P/M/W/Y-N/Y/W-G/D/T/Q/R/S-F/A/E/S (SEQ ID NO: 20) or SWWPSL (SEQ ID NO: 237).

**[0129]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring CKP that binds VEGF-A comprises an L1 comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 8-14 and 225-230, with reference to scaffold structure I above. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring CKP that binds VEGF-A further comprises an L2

comprising the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring CKP that binds VEGF-A further comprises an L3 comprising the amino acid sequence LAG. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring CKP that binds VEGF-A comprises an L4 comprising V or F. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring CKP that binds VEGF-A further comprises an L5 comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs 15-18 and 233-238). The amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs 8-18, 225-230, and 233-238 are provided in **Table 1** below.

**Table 1**

ETDWYPHQID (SEQ ID NO: 225)	GPNGF (SEQ ID NO: 233)
GETVFEQFLW (SEQ ID NO: 226)	GPNGF (SEQ ID NO: 234)
HMMYDY (SEQ ID NO: 227)	EMYDA (SEQ ID NO: 235)
KKWQWWYM (SEQ ID NO: 228)	YPWTE (SEQ ID NO: 236)
PAIQNWKEHP (SEQ ID NO: 229)	SWWPSL (SEQ ID NO: 237)
PTTRFKQY (SEQ ID NO: 8)	GPNGF (SEQ ID NO: 15)
QDPTFNWALY (SEQ ID NO: 9)	QMYQS (SEQ ID NO: 16)
QLMHPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 230)	HWYRS (SEQ ID NO: 238)
QLMQPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 10)	HWYQS (SEQ ID NO: 17)
RDL DVKWD (SEQ ID NO: 11)	QYYSS (SEQ ID NO: 18)
RTPWEPHDIT (SEQ ID NO: 12)	GPNGF (SEQ ID NO: 19)
TTPWPPHEIM (SEQ ID NO: 13)	
VTPWKPHWIN (SEQ ID NO: 14)	

**[0130]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence on any one of SEQ ID NOs: 21-17 and 239-244. The amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 21-17 and 239-244 are provided in **Table 2** below.

**Table 2**

GCETDWYPHQIDCKQDSDCLAGCVCGPNGFCG (SEQ ID NO: 239)
GGETVFEQFLWCKQDSDCLAGCVCGPNGFCG (SEQ ID NO: 240)
GCHMMYDYCKQDSDCLAGCVCEMYDACG (SEQ ID NO: 241)
GCKKWQWWYMKQDSDCLAGCVCYPWTECG (SEQ ID NO: 242)
GCPAIQNWKEHPCKQDSDCLAGCVCSSWWPSLCG (SEQ ID NO: 243)
GCPTTRFKQYCKQDSDCLAGCVCGPNGFCG (SEQ ID NO: 21)

GCQDPTFNWALYCKQDSDCLAGCVQCQMYQSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 22)
GCQLMHPFWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCHWYRSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 244)
GCQLMQPFWGCCKQDSDCLAGCVCHWYQSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 23)
GCRDLDVKWDCKQDSDCLAGCFQYYSSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 24)
GCRTPWEPHDITCKQDSDCLAGCVCGPNGFCG	(SEQ ID NO: 25)
GCTTPWPPHEIMCKQDSDCLAGCVCGPNGFCG	(SEQ ID NO: 26)
GCVTPWKPHWINCKQDSDCLAGCVCGPNGFCG	(SEQ ID NO: 27)

**[0131]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an L1 comprising the amino acid sequence Q/H/E/N/D-L/V/R/P/I-M/F/L-Q/E/R/L-P-F/A/L/S-W-G (SEQ ID NO: 358), with reference to scaffold structure I above. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L2 comprising the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93). In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L3 comprising the amino acid sequence LAG. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L4 comprising the amino acid V. IN certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L5 comprising the amino acid sequence HWYQS (SEQ ID NO: 17).

**[0132]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an L1 comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs 33, 36, and 245-253, with reference to scaffold structure I. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L2 comprising the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93). In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L3 comprising the amino acid sequence LAG. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L4 comprising the amino acid V. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L5 comprising the amino acid sequence HWYQS (SEQ ID NO: 17). The amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs 33, 36, and 245-253 are provided in Table 3 below:

**Table 3**

HLFEPLWG (SEQ ID NO: 245)
QVMRPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 246)
QVMQPAWG (SEQ ID NO: 247)

HRLQPLWG (SEQ ID NO: 248)
ELLQPSWG (SEQ ID NO: 249)
NPMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 368)
NVLLPLWG (SEQ ID NO: 250)
DIMQPLWG (SEQ ID NO: 36)
DLMQPLWG (SEQ ID NO: 251)
NPMLPLWG (SEQ ID NO: 252)
QVLQPSWG (SEQ ID NO: 253)

[0133] In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence on any one of SEQ ID NOs: 265-275. The amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 265-275 are provided in **Table 4** below.

**Table 4**

GCHLFEPLWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCHWYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 265)
GCQVMRPFWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCHWYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 266)
GCQVMQPAWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCHWYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 267)
GCHRLQPLWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCHWYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 268)
GCELLQPSWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCHWYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 269)
GCNPMLPFWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCHWYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 270)
GCNVLLPLWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCHWYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 271)
GCDIMQPLWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCHWYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 272)
GCDLMQPLWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCHWYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 273)
GCNPMLPLWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCHWYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 58)
GCQVLQPSWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCHWYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 275)

[0134] In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L1 comprising the amino acid sequence QLMQPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 10), with reference to scaffold structure I. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L2 comprising the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93). In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L3 comprising the amino acid sequence LAG. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L4 comprising the amino acid V. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an L5 comprising the amino acid sequence R/H-W-Y-N/Q/H-S (SEQ ID NO: 359).

**[0135]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L1 comprising the amino acid sequence QLMQPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 10), with reference to scaffold structure I above. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L2 comprising the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93). In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L3 comprising the amino acid sequence LAG. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L4 comprising the amino acid V. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an L5 comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of HWYQS (SEQ ID NO: 17), RWYHS (SEQ ID NO: 43), and RWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 133).

**[0136]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 23, 276, and 278. SEQ ID NOs 23, 276, and 278 are provided in Table 5 below.

**Table 5**

GCQLMQPFWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCRWYNSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 276)
GCQLMQPFWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCHWYQSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 23)
GCQLMQPFWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCRWYHSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 278)

**[0137]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an L1 comprising the amino acid sequence Q/D/K/N/A/R/H-L/V/I/R/P/V/-M/L/S/T/F-Q/E/L/H-P-F/L/M/Y/S-W-G (SEQ ID NO: 40), with reference to scaffold structure I. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L2 comprising the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93). In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L3 comprising the amino acid sequence LAG. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L4 comprising the amino acid V. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L5 comprising the amino acid sequence H/L/R/Q/-W/F/Y-Y-Q/N/K/H/D/E-S (SEQ ID NO: 360).

**[0138]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an L1 comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 28-39 and 254-261, with reference to scaffold structure I. In certain

embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L2 comprising the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93). In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L3 comprising the amino acid sequence LAG. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L4 comprising the amino acid V. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L5 comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 17, 41-46, 133, 262-264, and 567. The amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 17, 28-39, 41-46, 133, 254-264, and 567 are provided in **Table 6** below:

**Table 6**

DVLQPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 28)	HWYQS (SEQ ID NO: 17)
QISQPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 29)	HFYNS (SEQ ID NO: 41)
DRMQPLWG (SEQ ID NO: 30)	LWYKS (SEQ ID NO: 42)
QLLEPMWG (SEQ ID NO: 254)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)
KLLQPMWG (SEQ ID NO: 255)	QWYKS (SEQ ID NO: 262)
DRMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 256)	RWYHS (SEQ ID NO: 43)
NLMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 31)	RWYQS (SEQ ID NO: 44)
QRTQPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 32)	LWYDS (SEQ ID NO: 263)
KIMQPLWG (SEQ ID NO: 257)	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)
NLMHPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 258)	RWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 133)
NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	QWYQS (SEQ ID NO: 264)
DPMQPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 34)	NPMLPLWG (SEQ ID NO: 38)
DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	KLFEPLWG (SEQ ID NO: 39)
DIMQPLWG (SEQ ID NO: 36)	RWYES (SEQ ID NO: 567)
ALLQPLWG (SEQ ID NO: 259)	
QLLQPLWG (SEQ ID NO: 37)	
RLLEPSWG (SEQ ID NO: 260)	
HLLLPLWG (SEQ ID NO: 261)	

**[0139]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 47-59 and 279-286. The amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 47-59 and 279-286 are provided in **Table 7** below.

**Table 7**

GCDVLQPFWGCKQSDSCLAGCVCHWYQSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 47)
GCQISQPFWGCKQSDSCLAGCVCHFYNNSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 48)
GCDRMQPLWGCKQSDSCLAGCVCLWYKSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 49)
GCQLEPMWGCKQSDSCLAGCVCHWYNNSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 279)
GCKLLQPMWGCKQSDSCLAGCVCRWYQSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 280)
GCDRMQPYWGCKQSDSCLAGCVCQWYKSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 281)
GCNMLPFWGCKQSDSCLAGCVCRWYHNSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 50)
GCQRTQPFWGCKQSDSCLAGCVCRWYQSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 51)
GCKIMQPLWGCKQSDSCLAGCVCLWYDSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 282)
GCNLMHPFWGCKQSDSCLAGCVCHWYQSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 283)
GCNIMLPFWGCKQSDSCLAGCVCQYYQSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 52)
GCNPMLPFWGCKQSDSCLAGCVCHWYQSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 53)
GCDPMQPFWGCKQSDSCLAGCVCRWYQSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 54)
GCDVMQPYWGCKQSDSCLAGCVCHWYNNSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 55)
GCDIMQPLWGCKQSDSCLAGCVCHWYQSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 56)
GCALLQPLWGCKQSDSCLAGCVCRWYNNSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 284)
GCQLLQPLWGCKQSDSCLAGCVCRWYQSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 57)
GCRLLEPSWGCKQSDSCLAGCVCQWYQSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 285)
GCHLLLPLWGCKQSDSCLAGCVCRWYHNSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 286)
GCNPMLPLWGCKQSDSCLAGCVCHWYQSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 58)
GCKLFEPLWGCKQSDSCLAGCVCRWYESC	(SEQ ID NO: 59)

**[0140]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an L1 comprising the amino acid sequence Q/D/K/W/E/L/R-D/N-P/R/L/T-T/S/L/K-F/V/L/I-N/D-W-A/S/G-L/V/E/T/Q/D-F/Y (SEQ ID NO: 70), with reference to scaffold structure I. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L2 comprising the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93). In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L3 comprising the amino acid sequence LAG. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L4 comprising the amino acid V. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L5 comprising the amino acid sequence Q/R-M/L/F/H-Y/F/H-D/Q/N/K-S/T (SEQ ID NO: 80).

**[0141]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an L1 comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of

SEQ ID NOs: 60-69 and 287-291. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L2 comprising the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93). In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L3 comprising the amino acid sequence LAG. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L4 comprising the amino acid V. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L5 comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 16, 71-79, 274, and 292. The amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 16, 60-69, 71-79, 274, and 287-292 are provided in Table 8 below.

**Table 8**

DDPSFDWSVY (SEQ ID NO: 287)	RMYS (SEQ ID NO: 292)
KNPLENWALY (SEQ ID NO: 60)	QLFDS (SEQ ID NO: 71)
QDPTVNWAVY (SEQ ID NO: 61)	QFYQS (SEQ ID NO: 72)
QDPTFNWAEY (SEQ ID NO: 62)	QLYQS (SEQ ID NO: 73)
WDPTFNWALY (SEQ ID NO: 288)	QMYDS (SEQ ID NO: 76)
QDPTLNWATY (SEQ ID NO: 289)	QMYQS (SEQ ID NO: 16)
EDPTVDWAQY (SEQ ID NO: 290)	QMHQS (SEQ ID NO: 74)
QDPSLNWADY (SEQ ID NO: 63)	QMYNS (SEQ ID NO: 75)
LDRTLWALY (SEQ ID NO: 64)	QLYQS (SEQ ID NO: 73)
LDPSFNWSLY (SEQ ID NO: 65)	QHYKT (SEQ ID NO: 77)
RDLTINWALF (SEQ ID NO: 66)	QLFNS (SEQ ID NO: 78)
KDPTFNWGLF (SEQ ID NO: 291)	QLYNS (SEQ ID NO: 79)
LDPTVNWALF (SEQ ID NO: 67)	QMFNS (SEQ ID NO: 274)
QDPKLNWAVY (SEQ ID NO: 68)	
LDPSFDWALY (SEQ ID NO: 69)	

**[0142]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 81-91 and 293-297. The amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 81-91 and 293-297 are provided in **Table 9** below.

**Table 9**

GCDDPSFDWSVYCKQSDCLAGCVC RMYDSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 293)
GCKNPLFNWALYCKQSDCLAGCVCQLFDSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 81)
GCQDPTVNWAVYCKQSDCLAGCVCQFYQSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 82)
GCQDPTFNWAEYCKQSDCLAGCVCQLYQSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 83)
GCWDPTFNWALYCKQSDCLAGCVCQMYDSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 294)
GCQDPTFNWAEYCKQSDCLAGCVCQMYQSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 84)
GCQDPSLNWADYCKQSDCLAGCVCQMHQSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 85)
GCQDPTLNWATYCKQSDCLAGCVCQMYQSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 295)
GCEDPTVDWAQYCKQSDCLAGCVCQMYQSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 296)
GCLDRTLNWALYCKQSDCLAGCVCQMYNSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 86)
GCLDPSFNWSLYCKQSDCLAGCVCQMYDSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 87)
GCRDLTINWALFCKQSDCLAGCVCQMFNSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 88)
GCKDPTFNWGLFCKQSDCLAGCVCQLYQSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 297)
GCLDPTVNWALFCKQSDCLAGCVCQHYKTCG	(SEQ ID NO: 89)
GCQDPKLNWAVYCKQSDCLAGCVCQLFNNSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 90)
GCLDPSFDWALYCKQSDCLAGCVCQLYNNSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 91)

**[0143]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an L1 comprising the amino acid sequence NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33), with reference to scaffold structure I. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L2 comprising the amino acid sequence K/G/Q/S/N-Q/L/P/A/V/T/R/W/K/G/Y-D/S/E/N-S/F/Y/L/F/Q/M-D/E/N/A/L/F/H/Q (SEQ ID NO: 98). In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L3 comprising the amino acid sequence LAG. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L4 comprising the amino acid V. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L5 comprising the amino acid sequence QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45).

**[0144]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an L1 comprising the amino acid sequence NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33), with reference to scaffold structure I. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L2 comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 94-97 and 298-309. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L3 comprising the amino

acid sequence LAG. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L4 comprising the amino acid V. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L5 comprising the amino acid sequence QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45). The amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 94-97 and 298-309 are provided in **Table 10** below.

**Table 10**

GQSFE (SEQ ID NO: 94)	GWDQF (SEQ ID NO: 304)
GLDYD (SEQ ID NO: 95)	GKDFH (SEQ ID NO: 305)
GPELN (SEQ ID NO: 298)	GPDLQ (SEQ ID NO: 96)
QADYA (SEQ ID NO: 299)	SGDFA (SEQ ID NO: 306)
GVDYL (SEQ ID NO: 300)	GKELN (SEQ ID NO: 307)
GTNFL (SEQ ID NO: 301)	GWSMD (SEQ ID NO: 308)
SRDFD (SEQ ID NO: 302)	GYDLQ (SEQ ID NO: 309)
NRDFL (SEQ ID NO: 303)	GRDFE (SEQ ID NO: 97)

**[0145]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 99-102 and 310-321. The amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 99-102 and 310-321 are provided in **Table 11** below.

**Table 11**

GCNIMLPFWGCGQSFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 99)
GCNIMLPFWGCGLDYDCLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 100)
GCNIMLPFWGCGPELNCLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 310)
GCNIMLPFWGCGQADYACLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 311)
GCNIMLPFWGCGVDYLCCLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 312)
GCNIMLPFWGCGTNFLCLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 313)
GCNIMLPFWGCSRDFDCLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 314)
GCNIMLPFWGCNRDFLCLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 315)

GCNIMLPFWGCGWDQFCLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 316)
GCNIMLPFWGCGKDFHCLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 317)
GCNIMLPFWGCGPDLQCLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 101)
GCNIMLPFWGCSGDFACLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 318)
GCNIMLPFWGCGKELNCLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 319)
GCNIMLPFWGCGWSMDCLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 320)
GCNIMLPFWGCGYDLQCLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 321)
GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 102)

**[0146]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an L1 comprising the amino acid sequence N-I-M/L-L/S/T/Q/N/E/D-P-F/Y/S-WG (SEQ ID NO: 454), with reference to scaffold structure I. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an L1 comprising the amino acid sequence NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33), with reference to scaffold structure I. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L2 comprising the amino acid sequence GRDFE (SEQ ID NO: 97). In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L3 comprising the amino acid sequence L/V/M/F-A/Q/E/S/N/Y/I/T-G/Q/R/D/T/N/E. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L4 comprising the amino acid V or I. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L5 comprising the amino acid sequence QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45).

**[0147]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an L1 comprising the amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33), NILLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 396), NILLPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 397), NIMSPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 398), NIMTPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 399), NIMQPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 400), NIMNPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 401), NIMEPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 402), NIMDPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 403), NIMLPSWG (SEQ ID NO: 414), and NIMLPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 141) with reference to scaffold structure I. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an L1 comprising the amino acid sequence NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33), with reference to scaffold structure V or I. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L2 comprising the amino acid sequence GRDFE (SEQ ID NO: 97). In certain embodiments the

non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L3 comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of: LQQ, VER, MSD, MNQ, MQT, VYQ, FIN, VSQ, VTE, FYE, MEQ, and VYR. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L4 comprising the amino acid I. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L5 comprising the amino acid sequence QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45).

**[0148]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 103-114. The amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 103-114 are provided in **Table 12** below.

**Table 12**

GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLQQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 103)
GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECVERCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 104)
GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECMSDCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 105)
GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECMNQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 106)
GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECMQTCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 107)
GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECVYQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 108)
GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECFINCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 109)
GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECVSQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 110)
GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECVTECICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 111)
GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECFYECICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 112)
GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECMEQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 113)
GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECVYRCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 114)
<b>GC</b> DVLPYWG <b>CG</b> PDID <b>CLSNCIC</b> HWYNS <b>CG</b> (SEQ ID NO: 386)
GCNILLPFWG <b>CG</b> RDFE <b>CLAGCVC</b> QYYQ <b>SCG</b> (SEQ ID NO: 405)
GCNILLPYWG <b>CG</b> RDFE <b>CLAGCVC</b> QYYQ <b>SCG</b> (SEQ ID NO: 406)
GCNIMSPFWG <b>CG</b> RDFE <b>CLAGCVC</b> QYYQ <b>SCG</b> (SEQ ID NO: 407)
GCNIMTPFWG <b>CG</b> RDFE <b>CLAGCVC</b> QYYQ <b>SCG</b> (SEQ ID NO: 408)
GCNIMQPFWG <b>CG</b> RDFE <b>CLAGCVC</b> QYYQ <b>SCG</b> (SEQ ID NO: 409)
GCNIMNPFWG <b>CG</b> RDFE <b>CLAGCVC</b> QYYQ <b>SCG</b> (SEQ ID NO: 410)

GCNIMEPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 411)
GCNIMDPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 412)
GCNIMLPSWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 415)
GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLSGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 421)
GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLTGVCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 422)
GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLLEGVCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 423)
GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECLAGCLCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 424)
GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECLAGCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 425)
GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCS (SEQ ID NO: 431)
GCNILLPYWGCGRDFECMEQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 435)

**[0149]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an L1 comprising the amino acid sequence DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35), with reference to scaffold structure I. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L2 comprising the amino acid sequence K/G/D/A/E-Q/E/R/V/P/D/M/G/N/L/A/F-D/N/Y/S-S/F/L/I/M/Y/V/N/E-D/L/Q/S/E/T/L/A/N (SEQ ID NO: 121). In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L3 comprising the amino acid sequence LAG. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L4 comprising the amino acid V. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L5 comprising the amino acid sequence HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46).

**[0150]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an L1 comprising the amino acid sequence DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35), with reference to scaffold structure I. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L2 comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 117-120, 211, and 322-339. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L3 comprising the amino acid sequence LAG. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L4 comprising the amino acid V. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L5 comprising the amino acid sequence HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46). The amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 117-120, 211, and 322-339 are provided in **Table 13** below.

**Table 13**

GENFL (SEQ ID NO: 117)	DGDFD (SEQ ID NO: 331)
GRDLQ (SEQ ID NO: 322)	AGDFE (SEQ ID NO: 332)
GVDLS (SEQ ID NO: 323)	EMDFD (SEQ ID NO: 120)
GPDID (SEQ ID NO: 118)	GNSFE (SEQ ID NO: 333)
GDDLE (SEQ ID NO: 324)	GQDLT (SEQ ID NO: 334)
GVDMT (SEQ ID NO: 325)	GENLA (SEQ ID NO: 335)
GMDIE (SEQ ID NO: 326)	GQDYN (SEQ ID NO: 336)
DGDYQ (SEQ ID NO: 327)	GADLS (SEQ ID NO: 337)
GNDVS (SEQ ID NO: 328)	GFDMD (SEQ ID NO: 338)
GRDMD (SEQ ID NO: 119)	GESLS (SEQ ID NO: 211)
AGDEL (SEQ ID NO: 329)	DLNYE (SEQ ID NO: 339)
GLDEE (SEQ ID NO: 330)	

**[0151]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 122-126 and 340-357. The amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: SEQ ID NOs: 122-126 and 340-357 are provided in **Table 14** below.

**Table 14**

GCDVMQPYWGCGENFLCLAGCVCHWYNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 122)
GCDVMQPYWGCGRDLQCLAGCVCHWYNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 340)
GCDVMQPYWGCGVDLSCLAGCVCHWYNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 341)
GCDVMQPYWGCGPDIDCLAGCVCHWYNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 123)
GCDVMQPYWGCGDDLECLAGCVCHWYNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 342)
GCDVMQPYWGCGVDMTCLAGCVCHWYNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 343)
GCDVMQPYWGCGMDIECLAGCVCHWYNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 344)
GCDVMQPYWGCDGDYQCLAGCVCHWYNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 345)
GCDVMQPYWGCGNDVSLAGCVCHWYNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 346)
GCDVMQPYWGCGRDMDCLAGCVCHWYNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 124)

GCDVMQPYWGCAGDELCLAGCVCHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 347)
GCDVMQPYWGCGLDEECLAGCVCHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 348)
GCDVMQPYWGCDFDCLAGCVCHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 349)
GCDVMQPYWGCAGDFECLAGCVCHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 350)
GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCVCHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 125)
GCDVMQPYWGCNSFECLAGCVCHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 351)
GCDVMQPYWGCQDLTCLAGCVCHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 352)
GCDVMQPYWGCENLACLAGCVCHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 353)
GCDVMQPYWGCQDYNCLAGCVCHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 354)
GCDVMQPYWGCADLSCLAGCVCHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 355)
GCDVMQPYWGCDFMDCLAGCVCHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 356)
GCDVMQPYWGCESLSCLAGCVCHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 126)
GCDVMQPYWGCDLNYECLAGCVCHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 357)

**[0152]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an L1 comprising the amino acid sequence D-V-M/L-Q/K/D-P-Y/M/T/L-W-G (SEQ ID NO: 130), with reference to scaffold structure I. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L2 comprising the amino acid sequence

**[0153]** KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93). In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L3 comprising the amino acid sequence LAG. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L4 comprising the amino acid V. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L5 comprising the amino acid sequence H/L/Q/R-W-Y-N-S (SEQ ID NO: 134).

**[0154]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an L1 comprising an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs: 127-129, with reference to scaffold structure I. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L2 comprising the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93). In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L3 comprising the amino acid sequence LAG. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L4

comprising the amino acid V. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L5 comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 131-133. The amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 127-129 and 131-133 are provided in **Table 15** below:

**Table 15**

DVMKPMWG (SEQ ID NO: 127)	QWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 131)
DVLDPTWG (SEQ ID NO: 128)	LWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 132)
DVLQPLWG (SEQ ID NO: 129)	RWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 133)

**[0155]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 135-137. The amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 135-127 are provided in **Table 16** below:

**Table 16**

GCDVMKPMWGCKQSDCLAGCVCQWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 135)
GCDVLDPTWGCKQSDCLAGCVCLWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 136)
GCDVLQPLWGCKQSDCLAGCVCRWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 137)

**[0156]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an L1 comprising the amino acid sequence DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35), with reference to scaffold structure I. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L2 comprising the amino acid sequence GPDID (SEQ ID NO: 118). In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L3 comprising the amino acid sequence L/F-A/V/S-G/R/N. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L4 comprising an amino acid selected from V, I, and L. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L5 comprising the amino acid sequence HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46).

**[0157]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an L1 comprising the amino acid sequence DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35), with reference to scaffold structure I. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-

A binding CKP further comprises an L2 comprising the amino acid sequence GPDID (SEQ ID NO: 118). In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L3 comprising an amino acid sequence FVR and LSN. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L4 comprising an amino acid selected from V, I, and L. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L5 comprising the amino acid sequence HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46).

**[0158]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCDVMQPYWGCGPDIDCFVRCLCHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 139). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCDVMQPYWGCGPDIDCLSNICICHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 140).

**[0159]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an L1, L2, L3, L4 and/or L5 of any one of the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKPs disclosed herein. Thus, in certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an L1 comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 8-14, 28-39, 60-69, 127-129, 141, 225-230, 245-261, 287-291, 396-403, and 414 with reference to scaffold structure I. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L2 comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 93-97, 117-120, 211, 298-309, and 322-339. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L3 comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of LAG, LQQ, VER, MSD, MNQ, MQT, VYQ, FIN, VSQ, VTE, FYE, MEQ, and VYR, FVR and LSN. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L4 comprising the amino acid V, F, I, or L. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP further comprises an L5 comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 15-18, 41-46, 71-79, 131-133, 233-238, 262-264, and 292. In certain embodiments, the C-terminus of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is modified (such as capped). In certain embodiments, the N-terminus of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is modified (such as capped). In certain embodiments, both the C- and N- termini of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A are modified (such as capped). In certain embodiments, the C-terminal carboxyl group of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that

binds to VEGF-A is amidated. In certain embodiments, the N-terminal amine of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is acetylated. In certain embodiments, the C-terminal carboxyl group of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is amidated and the N-terminal amine of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is acetylated.

**[0160]** In certain embodiments, at least one amino acid is deleted from a VEGF-A binding CKP provided herein. In certain embodiments, at least one amino acid is deleted from the N-terminus. In certain embodiments, at least one amino acid is deleted from the C-terminus. In certain embodiments, at least one amino acid is deleted from the N-terminus and the C-terminus. In certain embodiments, at least one internal amino acid is deleted. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence CNIMLPYWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSC (SEQ ID NO: 217). In certain embodiments, the C-terminus of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is modified (such as capped). In certain embodiments, the N-terminus of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is modified (such as capped). In certain embodiments, both the C- and N- termini of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A are modified (such as capped). In certain embodiments, the C-terminal carboxyl group of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is amidated. In certain embodiments, the N-terminal amine of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is acetylated. In certain embodiments, the C-terminal carboxyl group of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is amidated and the N-terminal amine of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is acetylated.

**[0161]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises at least one amino acid addition. In certain embodiments, at least one amino acid is added to the N-terminus. In certain embodiments, at least one amino acid is added to the C-terminus. In certain embodiments, at least one amino acid is added to the N-terminus and the C-terminus.

**[0162]** In certain embodiments, two amino acids are added to the N-terminus of a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP provided herein. In certain embodiments, two amino acids are added to the N-terminus of the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP set forth in GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 102). In certain embodiments, the two amino acids added to the N-terminus of SEQ ID NO: 102 are

F/I/G/T/V/L-H/A/S/R. In certain embodiments, the two amino acids added to the N-terminus of SEQ ID NO: 102 are selected from the group consisting of: FH, IA, GS, TR, VH, and LS. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGFH (SEQ ID NO: 379). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGIA (SEQ ID NO: 380). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGGS (SEQ ID NO: 381). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGTR (SEQ ID NO: 382). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGVH (SEQ ID NO: 383). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGLS (SEQ ID NO: 384).

**[0163]** In certain embodiments, two amino acids are added to the N-terminus of the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP set forth in GCDVLQPYWGCGPDIDCLSNICICHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 386). In certain embodiments, the two amino acids added to the N-terminus of SEQ ID NO: 102 are R/W/P/D/Q/E/S-T/K/E/F/Q/L/S. In certain embodiments, the two amino acids added to the N-terminus of SEQ ID NO: 102 are selected from the group consisting of: RT, WK, PL, DE, QF, EQ, PT, RL, and SL. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in GCDVLQPYWGCGPDIDCLSNICICHWYNNSCGRT (SEQ ID NO: 387). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in GCDVLQPYWGCGPDIDCLSNICICHWYNNSCGWK (SEQ ID NO: 388). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in GCDVLQPYWGCGPDIDCLSNICICHWYNNSCGPL (SEQ ID NO: 389). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in GCDVLQPYWGCGPDIDCLSNICICHWYNNSCGDE (SEQ ID NO: 390). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid

sequence set forth in GCDVLQPYWGCGPDIDCLSNICICHWYNNSCGQF (SEQ ID NO: 391). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in GCDVLQPYWGCGPDIDCLSNICICHWYNNSCGEQ (SEQ ID NO: 392). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in GCDVLQPYWGCGPDIDCLSNICICHWYNNSCGPT (SEQ ID NO: 393). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in GCDVLQPYWGCGPDIDCLSNICICHWYNNSCGRL (SEQ ID NO: 394). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in GCDVLQPYWGCGPDIDCLSNICICHWYNNSCGSL (SEQ ID NO: 395).

**[0164]** In certain embodiments, three amino acids are added to the N-terminus of a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP provided herein. In certain embodiments, two amino acids are added to the N-terminus of the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP set forth in GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 102). In certain embodiments, the three amino acids added to the N-terminus of SEQ ID NO: 102 are P/N/T/D/E/Y/W-L/Y/F/H/D/P-I/Q/V/K/S/Y/H. In certain embodiments, the three amino acids added to the N-terminus of SEQ ID NO: 102 are selected from the group consisting of: PLI, NYQ, PLQ, TFQ, DLV, EHK, YLS, WDY, WPH, and PHQ. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGPLI (SEQ ID NO: 369). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGNYQ (SEQ ID NO: 370). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGPLQ (SEQ ID NO: 371). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGTFQ (SEQ ID NO: 372). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGDLV (SEQ ID NO: 373). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGEHK (SEQ ID NO: 374). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in

GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGYLS (SEQ ID NO: 375). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGWDY (SEQ ID NO: 376). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGWPH (SEQ ID NO: 377). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGPHQ (SEQ ID NO: 378).

**[0165]** In certain embodiments, the C-terminus of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is modified (such as capped). In certain embodiments, the N-terminus of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is modified (such as capped). In certain embodiments, both the C- and N-termini of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A are modified (such as capped). In certain embodiments, the C-terminal carboxyl group of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is amidated. In certain embodiments, the N-terminal amine of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is acetylated. In certain embodiments, the C-terminal carboxyl group of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is amidated and the N-terminal amine of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is acetylated.

**[0166]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP is a variant of a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP described herein. In certain embodiments, such a variant comprises at least 1, at least 2, at least 3, at least 4, at least 5, at least 6, at least 7, at least 8, at least 9, or at least 10 amino acid substitutions in one or more of the sequences set forth in SEQ ID NOs: 8-14, 28-39, 60-69, 127-129, 141, 225-230, 245-261, 287-291, 396-403, and 414; SEQ ID NOs: 93-97, 117-120, 211, 298-309, and 322-339; amino acid sequences LAG, LQQ, VER, MSD, MNQ, MQT, VYQ, FIN, VSQ, VTE, FYE, MEQ, and VYR, FVR and LSN; and/or 15-18, 41-46, 71-79, 131-133, 233-238, 262-264, and 292. In certain embodiments, the amino acid substitution(s) are conservative amino acid substitution(s). In certain embodiments, the amino acid substitutions do not substantially reduce the ability of the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP to bind human VEGF-A. For example, conservative alterations (e.g., conservative substitutions as provided herein) that do not substantially reduce VEGF-A binding affinity may be made. The binding

affinity of a variant of a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A -binding CKP can be assessed using a method described in the Examples below.

**[0167]** Conservative substitutions are shown in **Table 17** below under the heading of “conservative substitutions.” More substantial changes are provided in **Table 17** under the heading of “exemplary substitutions,” and as further described below in reference to amino acid side chain classes. Amino acid substitutions may be introduced into a variant of a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP and the products screened for a desired activity, e.g., retained/improved VEGF-A binding.

**Table 17: Conservative Substitutions**

Original Residue	Exemplary Substitutions	Preferred Substitutions
Ala (A)	Val; Leu; Ile	Val
Arg (R)	Lys; Gln; Asn	Lys
Asn (N)	Gln; His; Asp, Lys; Arg	Gln
Asp (D)	Glu; Asn	Glu
Cys (C)	Ser; Ala	Ser
Gln (Q)	Asn; Glu	Asn
Glu (E)	Asp; Gln	Asp
Gly (G)	Ala	Ala
His (H)	Asn; Gln; Lys; Arg	Arg
Ile (I)	Leu; Val; Met; Ala; Phe; Norleucine	Leu
Leu (L)	Norleucine; Ile; Val; Met; Ala; Phe	Ile
Lys (K)	Arg; Gln; Asn	Arg
Met (M)	Leu; Phe; Ile	Leu
Phe (F)	Trp; Leu; Val; Ile; Ala; Tyr	Tyr
Pro (P)	Ala	Ala
Ser (S)	Thr	Thr
Thr (T)	Val; Ser	Ser
Trp (W)	Tyr; Phe	Tyr
Tyr (Y)	Trp; Phe; Thr; Ser	Phe
Val (V)	Ile; Leu; Met; Phe; Ala; Norleucine	Leu

**[0168]** Non-conservative substitutions will entail exchanging a member of one of these classes for another class.

**[0169]** An exemplary substitutional variant is an affinity matured non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP, which may be conveniently generated, e.g., using phage display based affinity maturation techniques such as those described herein. Briefly, one or more residues in L1, L2, L3, L4, and/or L5 is altered (i.e., added, deleted, or substituted) and the variant VEGF-A-binding CKP is displayed on phage and screened for VEGF-A binding affinity. In certain embodiments of affinity maturation, diversity is introduced into the variable genes chosen for maturation by any of a variety of methods (e.g., error-prone PCR, loop shuffling, or oligonucleotide-directed mutagenesis). A secondary library is then created. The library is then screened to identify any non-naturally occurring CKP variants with the desired affinity for VEGF-A. In certain embodiments, introducing diversity involves loop-directed approaches, in which several residues in L1, L2, L3, L4, and/or L5 (e.g., about 5, about 4-6, or about 6-10 residues at a time) are randomized. L1, L2, L3, L4, and/or L5 residues involved in binding a target ligand may be identified, e.g., using alanine scanning mutagenesis or modeling.

**[0170]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCQSFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 215).

**[0171]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 216).

**[0172]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECLAKCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 542).

**[0173]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECMSDCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 363).

**[0174]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECMSDCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 364).

**[0175]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECMNQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 222).

- [0176]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECFYECICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 223).
- [0177]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECMEQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 142).
- [0178]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNILLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 405).
- [0179]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNILLPYWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 406).
- [0180]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMSPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 407).
- [0181]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMTPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 408).
- [0182]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMQPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 409).
- [0183]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMNPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 410).
- [0184]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMEPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 411).
- [0185]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMDPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 412).
- [0186]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPSWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 415).

**[0187]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLSGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 421).

**[0188]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLTGCVVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 422).

**[0189]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLEGVCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 423).

**[0190]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECLAGCLCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 424).

**[0191]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECLAGCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 425).

**[0192]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCS (SEQ ID NO: 431).

**[0193]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNILLPYWGCGRDFECMEQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 435).

**[0194]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCDVLQPYWGCGPDIDCLSNICICHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 386).

**[0195]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNILLPFWGCGRDFECVSQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 547).

**[0196]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNILQPFWGCGRDFECVSQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 548).

**[0197]** In certain embodiments, one or more amino acids in the sequence of a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP provided herein are substituted with unnatural amino acids. In certain embodiments, the one or more amino acids are substituted with the same unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments, the one or more amino acids are each

substituted with a different unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an unnatural amino acid at any amino acid position in L1, L2, L3, L4, and/or L5, with respect to scaffold structure I.

**[0198]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 216), wherein the N-terminal glycine is capped with C(=O)-oxetane-3yl.

**[0199]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECLAXCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 568, wherein X is ornithine.

**[0200]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence XCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 361), wherein X is N-acetylglycine.

**[0201]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPXWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 362), wherein X is sulfotyrosine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPXWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 362), wherein X is 3,4-difluoro-L-phenylalanine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPXWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 362), wherein X is 3,4-dichloro-L-phenylalanine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPXWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 362), wherein X is 4-chloro-L-phenylalanine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPXWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 362), wherein X is 3-F,4-Cl-L-phenylalanine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPXWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 362), wherein X is 2-pyridone (NH para)-L-alanine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPXWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 362), wherein X is pyridone (NH meta)-L-alanine.

**[0202]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIXLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 218), wherein X is norleucine.

**[0203]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPFXGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 219), wherein X is 1-naphthylalanine.

**[0204]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPFXGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 219), wherein X is 2-naphthylalanine.

**[0205]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence XCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 221), wherein X is PEG6-propargylglycine.

**[0206]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIXLPYWGCGRDFECMSDCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 365), wherein X is norleucine.

**[0207]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIXLPFWGCGRDFECMSDCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 144), wherein X is norleucine.

**[0208]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIXLPFWGCGRDFECVSKCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 145), wherein X is norleucine.

**[0209]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIX<sub>1</sub>LPFWGCGRDF-D/E-CVS-N/K/X<sub>2</sub>-CICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 540) wherein X<sub>1</sub> is norleucine and X<sub>2</sub> is ornithine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIXLPFWGCGRDFECVSKCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 545) wherein X is norleucine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIX<sub>1</sub>LPFWGCGRDFECVSX<sub>2</sub>CICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 546) wherein X<sub>1</sub> is norleucine and X<sub>2</sub> is ornithine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIX<sub>1</sub>LPFWGCGRDF-N/K/X<sub>2</sub>-CVS-D/E-CICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 541), wherein X<sub>1</sub> is norleucine and X<sub>2</sub> is ornithine.

**[0210]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIXLPFWGCGRDFKCVS-D/E-CICQYYQSCG

(SEQ ID NO: 561, herein X is norleucine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence CNIXLPFWGCGRDFKCVSDCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 562, herein X is norleucine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence CNIXLPFWGCGRDFKCVSECICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 563, herein X is norleucine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIX1LPFWGCGRDFX2CVS-D/E-CICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 564, herein X1 is norleucine and X2 is ornithine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIX1LPFWGCGRDFX2CVSDCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 565, herein X1 is norleucine and X2 is ornithine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIX1LPFWGCGRDFX2CVSECICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 566, herein X1 is norleucine and X2 is ornithine.

**[0211]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIXLPYWGCGRDFECMEQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 146), wherein X is norleucine.

**[0212]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIX1LPYWGCGRDF-D/E-CME-N/K/X2-CICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 538) wherein X1 is norleucine and X2 is ornithine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIXLPYWGCGRDFECMEKCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 543), wherein X is norleucine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIX1LPYWGCGRDFECMEX2CICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 544), wherein X1 is norleucine and X2 is ornithine.

**[0213]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIX1LPYWGCGRDF-N/K/X2-CME-D/E-CICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 539) wherein X1 is norleucine and X2 is ornithine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIXLPYWGCGRDFKCMEDCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 555) wherein X is norleucine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIXLPYWGCGRDFKCMEDCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 556) wherein X is norleucine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence

GCNIXLPYWGCGRDFKCMEECICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 557) wherein X is norleucine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIX1LPYWGCGRDFX2CME-D/E-CICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 558) wherein X1 is norleucine and X2 is ornithine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIX1LPYWGCGRDFX2CMEDCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 559) wherein X1 is norleucine and X2 is ornithine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIX1LPYWGCGRDFX2CMEECICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 560) wherein X1 is norleucine and X2 is ornithine.

**[0214]** In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCDVX1QPYWGCGPDI-D/E-CLS-N/K/X2-CICHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 534), wherein X1 is norleucine and X2 is ornithine. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCDVXQPYWGCGPDIDCLSKCICHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 536), wherein X is norleucine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCDVX1QPYWGCGPDIDCLX2CICHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 537), wherein X1 is norleucine and X2 is ornithine. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCDVX1QPYWGCGPDI-N/K/X2-CLS-D/E-CICHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 535), wherein X1 is norleucine and X2 is ornithine. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCDVXQPYWGCGPDIDCLSNICICHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 224), wherein X is norleucine. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCDVXQPYWGCGPDIKCLS-D/E-CICHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 549), wherein X is norleucine. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCDVXQPYWGCGPDIKCLSDCICHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 550), wherein X is norleucine. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCDVXQPYWGCGPDIKCLSECICHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 551), wherein X is norleucine. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCDVX1QPYWGCGPDIX2CLS-D/E-CICHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 552), wherein X1 is norleucine and X2 is ornithine. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A

binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence

GCDVX1QPYWGCGPDIX2CLSDCICHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 553), wherein X1 is norleucine and X2 is ornithine. In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence

GCDVX1QPYWGCGPDIX2CLSECICHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 554), wherein X1 is norleucine and X2 is ornithine.

**[0215]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLXFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 413), wherein X is gamma-benzyl-L-proline. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence

GCNIMLXFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 413), wherein X is gamma-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-L-proline. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence

GCNIMLXFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 413), wherein X is 4-OH-L-proline. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLXFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 413), wherein X is 4-fluoro-L-proline. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence

GCNIMLXFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 413), wherein X is 4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl]-L-proline.

**[0216]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYXGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 417), wherein X is N-methyl indole. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence

GCNIMLPYXGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 417), wherein X is N-ethyl indole. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYXGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 417), wherein X is N-isopropyl indole. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence

GCNIMLPYXGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 417), wherein X is 5-aza-indole.

**[0217]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWCGRDXECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 419), wherein X is 4-methyl-L-phenylalanine. In certain embodiments, the non-

naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDXECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SED ID NO: 419), wherein X is 2-naphthyl-L-alanine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDXECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SED ID NO: 419), wherein X is 2-quinolyl-Alanine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDXECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SED ID NO: 419), wherein X is 4,4'-biphenyl-L-alanine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDXECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SED ID NO: 419), wherein X is 3-(3-quinolinyl)-L-alanine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDXECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SED ID NO: 419), wherein X is 3-(2-quinolinyl)-L-alanine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDXECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SED ID NO: 419), wherein X is 3-(2-quinoxaliny)-L-alanine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDXECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SED ID NO: 419), wherein X is 4-methyl-2-pyridyl-alanine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDXECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SED ID NO: 419), wherein X is 4-ethyl-2-pyridyl-L-alanine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDXECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SED ID NO: 419), wherein X is benzothiazole-L-alanine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDXECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SED ID NO: 419), wherein X is benzothiophene-L-alanine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDXECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SED ID NO: 419), wherein X is 3-(3-isoquinolinyl)-L-alanine.

**[0218]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECXAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 420), wherein X is t-butyl-L-alanine (also known as L-Nepentylglycine). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECXAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 420), wherein X

is 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence

GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECXAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 420), wherein X is 3-cyclopentyl-L-alanine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A

binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence

GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECXAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 420), wherein X is 5,5,5-Trifluoro-L-leucine.

**[0219]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECLAGCXCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 426), wherein X is L-tert-Leucine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence

GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECLAGCXCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 426), wherein X is t-butyl-L-alanine (also known as L-Nepentylglycine). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence

GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECLAGCXCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 426), wherein X is L-cyclopentylglycine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECLAGCXCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 426), wherein X is 3-cyclopentyl-L-alanine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence

GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECLAGCXCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 426), wherein X is L-cyclobutyl-L-glycine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECLAGCXCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 426), wherein X is 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence

GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECLAGCXCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 426), wherein X is 5,5,5-Trifluoro-L-leucine.

**[0220]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQXYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 428), wherein X is 2-pyridone. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence

GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQXYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 428), wherein X is 3,4-hydroxy-L-phenylalanine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence

GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQXYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 428), wherein X is 3,4-

fluoro phenylalanine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQXYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 428), wherein X is 3-fluoro,4-OH-L-phenylalanine.

**[0221]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYXQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 430), wherein X is 2-Chloro-L-Tyrosine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYXQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 430), wherein X is 2-methyl-L- tyrosine. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYXQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 430), wherein X is 2-ethyl-L-tyrosine, or 4-(naphthalen-1-ol-)-L-alanine.

**[0222]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPYWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCX (SEQ ID NO: 432), wherein X is D-serine, L-beta-homoserine, L-beta-alanine, N-alpha-methylglycine, glycine with its carboxy terminus converted to an ester of glycerol, glycine with its carboxy terminus converted to an ester of glycol, glycine with its carboxy terminus converted to an ester of oxetanyl alcohol, or glycine morpholine amide.

**[0223]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIXQPYWGGRDFECMEQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 436), wherein X is norleucine.

**[0224]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIX<sub>1</sub>LPYWGCGRDFECX<sub>2</sub>EQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 437). In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub> and X<sub>2</sub> are the same unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub> and X<sub>2</sub> are different unnatural amino acids. In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub> and X<sub>2</sub> are norleucine. In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub> is norleucine and X<sub>2</sub> is 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine.

**[0225]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIXLPYWGCGRDFECLEQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 438), wherein X is norleucine.

**[0226]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIX<sub>1</sub>LPYWGCGRDFECX<sub>2</sub>EQCX<sub>3</sub>CQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 439). In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub>, X<sub>2</sub>, and/or X<sub>3</sub> are the same unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub>, X<sub>2</sub>, and/or X<sub>3</sub> are not the same unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub> is norleucine, X<sub>2</sub> is 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, and X<sub>3</sub> is cyclobutyl-L-

glycine. In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub> is norleucine, X<sub>2</sub> is 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, and X<sub>3</sub> is 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine. In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub> is norleucine, X<sub>2</sub> is 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, and X<sub>3</sub> is norleucine.

**[0227]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence CNIX<sub>1</sub>QPYWGCGRDFECX<sub>2</sub>EQCX<sub>3</sub>CQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 440). In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub>, X<sub>2</sub>, and/or X<sub>3</sub> are the same unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub>, X<sub>2</sub>, and/or X<sub>3</sub> are not the same unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub> is norleucine, X<sub>2</sub> is 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, and X<sub>3</sub> is cyclobutyl-L-glycine. In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub> is norleucine, X<sub>2</sub> is 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, and X<sub>3</sub> is 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine.

**[0228]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNILLPYWGCGRDFECXEQCICQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 441), wherein X is 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine or t-butyl-L-alanine (also known as L-Nepentylglycine).

**[0229]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNILLPYWGCGRDFECMEQCXCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 442), wherein X is cyclobutyl-L-glycine or 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine.

**[0230]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence X<sub>1</sub>CNIX<sub>2</sub>LPYWGCGRDFECMEQCICQYYQSCX<sub>3</sub> (SEQ ID NO: 443). In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub>, X<sub>2</sub>, and/or X<sub>3</sub> are the same unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub>, X<sub>2</sub>, and/or X<sub>3</sub> are not the same unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub> is N-acetylglycine, X<sub>2</sub> is norleucine, and X<sub>3</sub> is glycine amide.

**[0231]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence X<sub>1</sub>CNILLPYWGCGRDFECMEQCICQYYQSCX<sub>2</sub> (SEQ ID NO: 444). In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub> and X<sub>2</sub> are the same unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub> and X<sub>2</sub> are different unnatural amino acids. In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub> is N-acetylglycine and X<sub>2</sub> is glycine amide.

**[0232]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence X<sub>1</sub>CNILQPYWGCGRDFECMEQCICQYYQSCX<sub>2</sub> (SEQ ID NO: 445). In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub> and X<sub>2</sub> are the same unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub> and X<sub>2</sub> are different unnatural amino acids. In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub> is N-acetylglycine and X<sub>2</sub> is glycine amide.

**[0233]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence X<sub>1</sub>CNILQPYWGCGRDFECLEQCICQYYQSCX<sub>2</sub> (SEQ

ID NO: 446). In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub> and X<sub>2</sub> are the same unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub> and X<sub>2</sub> are different unnatural amino acids. In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub> is N-acetylglycine and X<sub>2</sub> is glycine amide.

**[0234]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCDVLQPYWGCGPDIDCX<sub>1</sub>SNCICHWYN<sub>1</sub>SCG (SEQ ID NO: 447), wherein X is 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine or t-butyl-L-alanine (L-Nepentylglycine).

**[0235]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCDVLQPYWGCGPDIDCLSNCX<sub>1</sub>CHWYN<sub>1</sub>SCG (SEQ ID NO: 448), wherein X is cyclobutyl-L-glycine.

**[0236]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCDVX<sub>1</sub>QPYWGCGPDIDCX<sub>2</sub>SNC<sub>2</sub>X<sub>3</sub>CHWYN<sub>1</sub>SCG (SEQ ID NO: 449). In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub>, X<sub>2</sub>, and/or X<sub>3</sub> are the same unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub>, X<sub>2</sub>, and/or X<sub>3</sub> are not the same unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub> is norleucine, X<sub>2</sub> is 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, and X<sub>3</sub> is cyclobutyl-L-glycine. In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub> is norleucine, X<sub>2</sub> is 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, and X<sub>3</sub> is 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine.

**[0237]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCDVLQPYWGCGPDIDCX<sub>1</sub>SNC<sub>2</sub>X<sub>2</sub>CHWYN<sub>1</sub>SCG (SEQ ID NO: 450). In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub> and X<sub>2</sub> are the same unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub> and X<sub>2</sub> are different unnatural amino acids. In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub> is 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, and X<sub>2</sub> is cyclobutyl-L-glycine. In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub> is 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, and X<sub>2</sub> is 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine.

**[0238]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence X<sub>1</sub>CDVLQPYWGCGPDIDCX<sub>2</sub>SNC<sub>2</sub>X<sub>3</sub>CHWYN<sub>1</sub>SCX<sub>4</sub> (SEQ ID NO: 451). In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub>, X<sub>2</sub>, X<sub>3</sub>, and/or X<sub>4</sub> are the same unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub>, X<sub>2</sub>, X<sub>3</sub>, and/or X<sub>4</sub> are not the same unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub> is N-acetylglycine, X<sub>2</sub> is 3-cyclobutyl-L-alanine, X<sub>3</sub> is cyclobutyl-L-glycine, and X<sub>4</sub> is glycine amide. In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub> is acetylglycine, X<sub>2</sub> is cyclobutyl-L-alanine, X<sub>3</sub> is cyclobutyl-L-alanine, and X<sub>4</sub> is glycine amide.

**[0239]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence X<sub>1</sub>CDVX<sub>2</sub>QPYWGCGPDIDCLSNCICHWYN<sub>1</sub>SCX<sub>3</sub> (SEQ ID NO: 452). In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub>, X<sub>2</sub>, and/or X<sub>3</sub> are the same unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub>, X<sub>2</sub>, and/or X<sub>3</sub> are not the same unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments, X<sub>1</sub> is N-acetylglycine, X<sub>2</sub> is norleucine, and X<sub>3</sub> is glycine amide.

**[0240]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence  $X_1CDVLQPYWGCGPDIDCLSNICICHWYNXCX_2$  (SEQ ID NO: 453). In certain embodiments,  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are the same unnatural amino acid. In certain embodiments,  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are different unnatural amino acids. In certain embodiments,  $X_1$  is N-acetylglycine and  $X_2$  is glycine amide

**[0241]** In certain embodiments, the C-terminus of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is modified (such as capped). In certain embodiments, the N-terminus of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is modified (such as capped). In certain embodiments, both the C- and N-termini of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A are modified (such as capped). In certain embodiments, the C-terminal carboxyl group of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is amidated. In certain embodiments, the N-terminal amine of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is acetylated. In certain embodiments, the C-terminal carboxyl group of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is amidated and the N-terminal amine of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to VEGF-A is acetylated.

### ***Structural Characteristics***

**[0242]** In certain embodiments, the structure of a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP provided herein has a disulfide bond connectivity that is different from the WT EETI-II protein, *i.e.*, different from the C1-C4, C2-C5, and C3-C6 disulfide bond pattern characteristic of WT EETI-II. In certain embodiments, a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP provided herein has a disulfide bond connectivity of C1-C4, C2-C3, and C5-C6. Methods of determining the disulfide bond connectivity of, e.g., a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP, include, e.g., by solving and analyzing the co-crystal structure of a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP in complex with VEGF-A, via mass spectrometry following partial reduction alkylation, or via mass spectrometry following proteolytic digestion, performing structure calculations as described in Sampoli et al. (2000) *Proteins Struct Funct Gen.* 40, 168-174, etc.

**[0243]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP and has an alpha helix content of at least about 10%, at least about 15%, at least about 20%, at least about 25%, at least about 30%, at least about 35%, at least about 40%, at least about

45%, or at least about 50%, including any range in between these values. In certain embodiments, at least 7, at least 8, at least 9, at least 10, at least 11, at least 12, at least 13, at least 14, at least 15, at least 16, at least 17, or at least 18 amino acids of the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP form the alpha helix. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP has a disulfide bond connectivity of C1-C4, C2-C3, and C5-C6 and an alpha helix content of at least about 10%, at least about 15%, at least about 20%, at least about 25%, at least about 30%, at least about 35%, at least about 40%, at least about 45%, or at least about 50%, including any range in between these values. In certain embodiments, the alpha helix content of a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP is determined by, e.g., circular dichroism (CD), optical rotary dispersion (ORD), nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR), by solving and analyzing the co-crystal structure of a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP in complex with VEGF-A, via mass spectrometry following partial reduction alkylation, or via mass spectrometry following proteolytic digestion.

**[0244]** In certain embodiments, a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP provided herein competes for binding to VEGF-A with a second non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP, wherein the second non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an L1 comprising the amino acid sequence NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33); an L2 comprising the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93); an L3 comprising the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 comprising the amino acid V, and an L5 comprising the amino acid sequence QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45), with reference to scaffold structure I. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP provided herein competes for binding to VEGF-A with a second non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP, wherein the second non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPFWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 52).

**[0245]** In certain embodiments, a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP provided herein binds the same epitope on VEGF-A bound by a second non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP, wherein the second non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an L1 comprising the amino acid sequence NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33); an L2 comprising the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93); an L3 comprising the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 comprising the amino acid V, and an L5 comprising the amino acid sequence QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45), with reference to scaffold structure I. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP provided herein binds the same epitope on VEGF-A bound by a second non-naturally

occurring VEGF-A binding CKP, wherein the second non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence

GCNIMLPFWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 52).

**[0246]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally VEGF-A binding CKP provided herein competes for binding to VEGF-A with a second non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP, wherein the second VEGF-A binding CKP comprises an L1 comprising the amino acid sequence NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33); an L2 comprising the amino acid sequence GRDFE (SEQ ID NO: 97); an L3 comprising the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 comprising the amino acid V, and an L5 comprising the amino acid sequence QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45), with reference to scaffold structure I. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP provided herein competes for binding to VEGF-A with a second non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP, wherein the second non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 102).

**[0247]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP provided herein binds the same epitope on VEGF-A bound by a second non-naturally occurring VEGF-A binding CKP, wherein the second non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP comprises an L1 comprising the amino acid sequence NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33); an L2 comprising the amino acid sequence GRDFE (SEQ ID NO: 97); an L3 comprising the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 comprising the amino acid V, and an L5 comprising the amino acid sequence QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45), with reference to scaffold structure I. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP provided herein binds the same epitope on VEGF-A bound by a second non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP, wherein the second non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 102).

**[0248]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP provided herein competes for binding to VEGF-A with a second non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP, wherein the second non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP comprises an L1 comprising the amino acid sequence DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35); an L2 comprising the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93); an L3 comprising the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 comprising the amino acid V, and an L5 comprising the amino acid sequence HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46), with reference to scaffold structure I. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP provided herein

competes for binding to VEGF-A with a second non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP, wherein the second non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCDVMQPYWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 55).

**[0249]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP provided herein binds the same epitope on VEGF-A bound by a second non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP, wherein the second non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP comprises an L1 comprising the amino acid sequence DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35); an L2 comprising the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93); an L3 comprising the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 comprising the amino acid V, and an L5 comprising the amino acid sequence HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46), with reference to scaffold structure I. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP provided herein binds the same epitope on VEGF-A bound by a second non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP, wherein the second non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCDVMQPYWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 55).

**[0250]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP protein provided herein competes for binding to VEGF-A with a second non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP, wherein the second VEGF-A-binding CKP comprises an L1 comprising the amino acid sequence DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35); an L2 comprising the amino acid sequence GPDID (SEQ ID NO: 118); an L3 comprising the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 comprising the amino acid V, and an L5 comprising the amino acid sequence HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46), with reference to scaffold structure I. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP provided herein competes for binding to VEGF-A with a second non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP, wherein the second non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence GCDVMQPYWGCGPDIDCLAGCVCHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 123).

**[0251]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP provided herein binds the same epitope on VEGF-A bound by a second non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP, wherein the second non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP comprises an L1 comprising the amino acid sequence DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35); an L2 comprising the amino acid sequence GPDID (SEQ ID NO: 118); an L3 comprising the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 comprising the amino acid V, and an L5 comprising the amino acid sequence HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46), with reference to scaffold structure I. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP

provided herein binds the same epitope on VEGF-A bound by a second non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP, wherein the second non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP comprises the amino acid sequence

GCDVMQPYWGCGPDIDCLAGCVCHWYNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 123).

**[0252]** In certain embodiments, a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP provided herein binds an epitope of VEGF-A comprising at least one, at least two, at least three, at least four, at least five, at least six, at least seven, at least eight, at least nine, at least ten, or more than ten amino acids selected from the group consisting of V14, V15, F17, D19, Y21, Q22, Y25, I46, K48, N62, D63, L66, M81, I83, K84, P85, H86, Q87, G88, Q89, I91, C104, R105, and P106. In certain embodiments, a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP provided herein binds an epitope of VEGF-A comprising K48, N62, and D63. In certain embodiments, a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP provided herein binds an epitope of VEGF-A comprising H86. In certain embodiments, non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP provided herein binds an epitope of VEGF-A comprising Y21, Y25, and P106. In certain embodiments, a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP provided herein binds an epitope of VEGF-A comprising M81, D19, and Q22. In certain embodiments, a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP provided herein binds an epitope of VEGF-A comprising F17, M81, and I91. In certain embodiments, non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP provided herein binds an epitope of VEGF-A comprising V14, F17, D19, Q22, M81, and I91. In certain embodiments, a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP provided herein binds an epitope of VEGF-A comprising Q22 and Y25.

**[0253]** In certain embodiments, a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP provided herein binds an epitope on VEGF-A that overlaps the epitope of VEGF-A bound by the anti-VEGF-A antibody G6.31 (Fuh et al. (2006) *J. Biol. Chem.* 281, 6625-6631). In certain embodiments, a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP provided herein binds an epitope on VEGF-A that overlaps with the epitope of VEGF-A bound by Flt-1. In certain embodiments, a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP provided herein binds an epitope on VEGF-A that overlaps with the epitope of VEGF-A bound by bevacizumab.

### ***Functional Characteristics***

**[0254]** In certain embodiments, a non-naturally occurring CKP that “specifically binds” VEGF-A (such as a human VEGF-A, a mouse VEGF-A, and/or a rat VEGF-A) has a binding

affinity (Kd) value of no more than about  $1 \times 10^{-7}$  M, preferably no more than about  $1 \times 10^{-8}$  and most preferably no more than about  $1 \times 10^{-9}$  M) but has a binding affinity for a homologue of VEGF-A or other growth factor which is at least about 50-fold, or at least about 500-fold, or at least about 1000-fold, weaker than its binding affinity for VEGF-A.

**[0255]** In certain embodiments, the extent of binding of a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP provided herein to, e.g., a non-target protein (e.g., a homolog of VEGFA such as VEGF-B, VEGF-C and VEGF-D) or other growth factors (such as PlGF, EGF, NGF, IGF and PDGF) is less than about 10% of the binding of the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP to VEGF-A as determined by methods known in the art, such as ELISA, fluorescence activated cell sorting (FACS) analysis, or radioimmunoprecipitation (RIA). Specific binding can be measured, for example, by determining binding of a molecule compared to binding of a control molecule, which generally is a molecule of similar structure that does not have binding activity. For example, specific binding can be determined by competition with a control molecule that is similar to the target, for example, an excess of non-labeled target. In this case, specific binding is indicated if the binding of the labeled target to a probe is competitively inhibited by excess unlabeled target. Other methods of assessing the binding of a non-naturally occurring CKP that “specifically binds” VEGF-A are described in the Examples.

**[0256]** The term “specific binding” or “specifically binds to” or is “specific for” a particular polypeptide or an epitope on a particular polypeptide target as used herein can be exhibited, for example, by a molecule having a Kd for the target of at least about  $10^{-4}$  M, alternatively at least about  $10^{-5}$  M, alternatively at least about  $10^{-6}$  M, alternatively at least about  $10^{-7}$  M, alternatively at least about  $10^{-8}$  M, alternatively at least about  $10^{-9}$  M, alternatively at least about  $10^{-10}$  M, alternatively at least about  $10^{-11}$  M, alternatively at least about  $10^{-12}$  M, or greater. In one embodiment, the term “specific binding” refers to binding where a molecule binds to a particular polypeptide or epitope on a particular polypeptide without substantially binding to any other polypeptide or polypeptide epitope.

**[0257]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP binds VEGF-A with a Kd between about 1 pM to about 500 nM. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP binds VEGF-A with a Kd between about 1 pM to about 50 pM, between about 50 pM to about 250 pM, between about 250 pM to about 500 pM, between about 500 pM to 750 pM, between about 750 pM to about 1 nM, between about 1 nM to about 25 nM, between about 25 nM to about 50 nM, between 50 nM to about

100 nM, between about 100 nM to about 250 nM, or between about 250 nM to about 500 nM.

**[0258]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP binds human VEGF-A, a mouse VEGF-A, and/or a rat VEGF-A. In certain embodiments, non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP that binds human VEGF-A, a mouse VEGF-A, and a rat VEGF-A comprises an L1 comprising the amino acid sequence NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33); an L2 comprising the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93); an L3 comprising the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 comprising the amino acid V, and an L5 comprising the amino acid sequence QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45), with reference to scaffold structure I. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP that binds human VEGF-A, a mouse VEGF-A, and a rat VEGF-A comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPFWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 52).

**[0259]** In certain embodiments, non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP binds human VEGF-A, a mouse VEGF-A, and a rat VEGF-A comprises an L1 comprising the amino acid sequence NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33); an L2 comprising the amino acid sequence GRDFE (SEQ ID NO: 97); an L3 comprising the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 comprising the amino acid V, and an L5 comprising the amino acid sequence QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45), with reference to scaffold structure I. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP that binds human VEGF-A, a mouse VEGF-A, and a rat VEGF-A comprises the amino acid sequence GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 102).

**[0260]** In certain embodiments, non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP that binds human VEGF-A, a mouse VEGF-A, and a rat VEGF-A comprises an L1 comprising the amino acid sequence DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35); an L2 comprising the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93); an L3 comprising the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 comprising the amino acid V, and an L5 comprising the amino acid sequence HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46), with reference to scaffold structure I. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP that binds human VEGF-A, a mouse VEGF-A, and a rat VEGF-A comprises the amino acid sequence GCDVMQPYWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 55).

**[0261]** In certain embodiments, non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP that binds human VEGF-A, a mouse VEGF-A, and a rat VEGF-A comprises an L1 comprising the amino acid sequence DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35); an L2 comprising the amino acid sequence GPDID (SEQ ID NO: 118); an L3 comprising the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4

comprising the amino acid V, and an L5 comprising the amino acid sequence HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46), with reference to scaffold structure I. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP that binds human VEGF-A, a mouse VEGF-A, and a rat VEGF-A comprises the amino acid sequence GCDVMQPYWGCGPDIDCLAGCVCHWYNNSCG (SEQ ID NO: 123).

**[0262]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP described herein has an IC<sub>50</sub> value of less than about 0.5 nM, less than about 0.6 nM, less than about 0.7 nM, less than about 0.8 nM, less than about 0.9 nM, or less than about 1.0nM, including any range in between these values.

**[0263]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP does not inhibit trypsin protease activity as measured in a peptide substrate cleavage assay (e.g., the peptide substrate cleavage assay described in the Examples).

**[0264]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP is resistant to trypsin digestion. In certain embodiments, about 30% or less, about 25% or less, or about 20% or less of the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP is cleaved at Arg13 within loop 2 after 24 h incubation with trypsin at 37°C.

**[0265]** Nucleic acid molecules encoding non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKPs described herein, expression vectors comprising nucleic acid molecules encoding the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP, and cells comprising the nucleic acid molecules are also contemplated. Also provided herein are methods of producing a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP described herein by culturing such cells, expressing the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP, and recovering the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP from the cell culture.

**[0266]** In certain embodiments, a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP is produced via *in vitro* translation, as described elsewhere herein.

**[0267]** In certain embodiments, a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP is generated via chemical peptide synthesis, e.g., by grafting chemically synthesized L1, L2, L3, L4, and/or L5 peptides onto an scaffold framework (such as scaffold structure I), or by chemically synthesizing the entire non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP.

***Non-Naturally Occurring Cystine Knot Peptides (CKPs) That Bind Human Low Density Lipoprotein Receptor (LDL)-Related Protein 6 (LRP6)***

**[0268]** LDL receptors are transmembrane cell surface proteins involved in receptor-mediated endocytosis of lipoprotein and protein ligands. Human LDL receptor-related protein 6 (LRP6) (Accession Nos: NM\_002336 (mRNA) and NP\_002327 (protein); UniProtKB: O75581) functions as a receptor or, with Frizzled, a co-receptor for Wnt and thereby transmits the canonical Wnt/beta-catenin signaling cascade (Katoh *et al.* (2007) *Clin Cancer Res* 13:4042-4045). Through its interaction with the Wnt/beta-catenin signaling cascade, LRP6 plays a role in the regulation of cell differentiation, proliferation, and migration, and in the development of many cancer types (Li *et al.* (2004) *Oncogene* 23:9129-9135; Tung *et al.* (2012) *PLoS ONE* 7(5): e36565. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0036565; Liu *et al.* (2010) *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 107:5136-5141).

**[0269]** Wnt signaling is involved in many biological pathways. With respect to diseases it is involved with cancer and metastatic disease, osteoporosis and other bone metabolism and disease, neuronal and neurodegenerative disease, rheumatoid arthritis and other inflammatory disease. This inhibition of Wnt signaling by blockade of LRP6 may have a wide range of therapeutic utility. Bone loss is a serious medical problem, not only during postmenopausal osteoporosis, but also in rheumatoid arthritis. Bone is degraded in multiple myeloma and in bone metastases. Therapeutic strategies aimed at strengthening bone, fracture prevention, or restoration of damaged bone are therefore of very high interest (Kawai *et al.* (2011) *Nat. Rev. Drug Discov.* 10, 141–156; Mason and Williams (2010) *J. Osteoporosis*, vol. 2010, Article ID 460120, 9 pages; doi:10.4061/2010/460120). The Wnt pathway inhibitors DKK1 and SOST, because of their roles in suppressing new bone formation, are considered highly promising therapeutic targets; antibodies with neutralizing the function of SOST show significant preclinical activity (Ominsky *et al.* (2010) *J. Bone Miner. Res.* 25, 948–959) and are now in human clinical trials (Padhi *et al.* (2011) *J. Bone Miner. Res.* 26, 19–26).

**[0270]** Misregulated Wnt signaling is implicated in diseases ranging from osteoporosis to cancer (Clevers (2006) *Cell* 127: 469-80; MacDonald *et al.* 2009. *Dev Cell* 17: 9-26; Nusse (2008) *Cell Res* 18: 523-7; Polakis (2007) *Curr Opin Genet Dev* 17: 45-51). This list has expanded to include metabolic disorders (Mani *et al.* (2007) *Science* 315: 1278-82 and neurodegeneration (Caricasole *et al.* (2004) *J Neurosci* 24: 6021-7; De Ferrari *et al.* (2007) *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 104: 9434-9). An especially clear link exists between mutations of the protein adenomatous polyposis coli (APC), which prevent effective regulation of  $\beta$ -

catenin levels, and colorectal cancers (Polakis (2007) *Curr Opin Genet Dev* 17: 45-51). Also of particular note is the strong genetic relationship between LRP5 and bone homeostasis. Loss-of-function mutations in LRP5 cause the autosomal recessive disorder osteoporosis pseudoglioma syndrome (OPPG), characterized by low bone mass, ocular defects and a predisposition to fractures (Gong *et al.* (2001) *Cell* 107: 513-23).

**[0271]** Provided herein is a non-naturally occurring CKP that binds to human low density lipoprotein receptor-related protein 6 (LRP6), wherein the non-naturally CKP comprises the following cystine scaffold structure (i.e., scaffold structure I):



wherein:

$Z_1$  and  $Z_2$  are any amino acid;

L1 is Loop 1 and has a structure selected from the group consisting of:

$X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5X_6$ ,  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5X_6X_7$ ,  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5X_6X_7X_8$ ,  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5X_6X_7X_8X_9$ , and  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5X_6X_7X_8X_9X_{10}$ , wherein each of  $X_1 - X_{10}$  is any amino acid;

L2 is Loop 2 and has the structure:  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5$ , wherein each of  $X_1 - X_5$  is any amino acid;

L3 is Loop 3 and has the structure:  $X_1X_2X_3$  wherein each of  $X_1 - X_3$  is any amino acid;

L4 is Loop 4 and has the structure:  $X_1$ , wherein  $X_1$  is any amino acid; and

L5 is Loop 5 and has the structure:  $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5$ , wherein each of  $X_1 - X_5$  is any amino acid.

**[0272]** In certain embodiments,  $Z_1$  and/or  $Z_2$  of the non-naturally occurring cystine knot peptide (CKP) that binds to LRP6 is G. In certain embodiments,  $Z_1$  and/or  $Z_2$  comprise more than one amino acid. In certain embodiments,  $Z_1$  and/or  $Z_2$  comprise 4 amino acids. In certain embodiments,  $Z_1$  and/or  $Z_2$  comprise 5 amino acids.

**[0273]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L1 wherein  $X_1$  is an amino acid selected from R, V, M, A, G, N, S, and E; wherein  $X_2$  is an amino acid selected from T, N, S, G, R, and A; wherein  $X_3$  is an amino acid selected from N, R, H, V, K, S, G, I, and Y; wherein  $X_4$  is an amino acid selected from R, V, N, I, K, S, and T; wherein  $X_5$  is an amino acid selected from V, R, K, I, T, S, L, and N; and wherein  $X_6$  is an amino acid selected from K, G, A, I, R, N, S, and V. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L1 wherein  $X_7$  is an amino acid selected from G, R, K, E, P, and T. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally

occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L1 wherein X<sub>8</sub> is an amino acid selected from G, R, K, Q, A, and S. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L1 wherein X<sub>9</sub> is an amino acid selected from R or G. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L1 wherein X<sub>10</sub> is an amino acid selected from E, W, and G. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L5 wherein X<sub>1</sub> is an amino acid selected from G, S, N, Y, A, and R; wherein X<sub>2</sub> is an amino acid selected from P, G, S, V, E, R, F, and D; wherein X<sub>3</sub> is an amino acid selected from N, G, S, E, P, K, H, and R; wherein X<sub>4</sub> is an amino acid selected from G, R, H, S, Q, V, and D; and wherein X<sub>5</sub> is an amino acid selected from F, D, N, R, G, Y, S, and T. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L2 wherein X<sub>1</sub> is K, X<sub>2</sub> is Q, X<sub>3</sub> is D, X<sub>4</sub> is S, and X<sub>5</sub> is D. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L3 wherein X<sub>1</sub> is L, X<sub>2</sub> is A, and X<sub>3</sub> is G. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L4 wherein X<sub>1</sub> is V.

**[0274]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP competitively inhibits the binding of a competing molecule to human LRP6. In certain embodiments, the competing molecule is an anti-LRP6 antibody. In certain embodiments, the competing molecule is a second non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP.

**[0275]** Non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKPs that bind to overlapping or similar areas on a target can be identified by competitive inhibition/binding assays. Such assays are well known in the art and are described in, e.g., S. J. Mather (ed.) 1996. *Current Directions in Radiopharmaceutical Research and Development*, 169- 179, Kluwer Academic Publishers; Zettner (1973) *Clin. Chem.* 19, 699-705; Gao (2012) *Analytical Methods* 4, 3718-3723.

**[0276]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP binds the same epitope of human LRP6 bound by a second non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprising an L1 that comprises the amino acid sequence V/R/N/S/E/G-N/S/G/R-R/V/K/S/N/I/Y-V/N/I/R/S/T-R/K/I/N-G/I/R/K/S/A (SEQ ID NO: 185) or A/R/M/V/G/S-N/T/S/A-R/N/H-V/R/K-K/V/I-R/K/A/N/S/V-T/G/R/K/P-S/G/R/A (SEQ ID NO: 186) or R/A/Q-S/A-G/S/N/I-N/K-T/S/L/R-I/R/V-R/E/K-K/Q/A/R-R/G/Q-E/W/G/R (SEQ ID NO: 187); an L2 that comprises the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93); an L3 that comprises the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 that comprises the amino acid V; and an L5 that comprises the amino acid sequence G/S/N/Y/A/R-P/G/S/V/E/R/F/D-N/G/S/E/P/K/H/R-G/R/H/S/Q/V/D-F/D/N/R/G/Y/S/T (SEQ ID NO: 188), with reference to scaffold structure I.

**[0277]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L1 that comprises the amino acid sequence V/R/N/S/E/G-N/S/G/R-R/V/K/S/N/I/Y-V/N/I/R/S/T-R/K/I/N-G/I/R/K/S/A (SEQ ID NO: 185) or A/R/M/V/G/S-N/T/S/A-R/N/H-V/R/K-K/V/I-R/K/A/N/S/V-T/G/R/K/P-S/G/R/A (SEQ ID NO: 186) or R/A-S-G/S/N-N/K-T/S/L-I/R-R/E-K/Q/A-R/G-E/W/G (SEQ ID NO: 187) ), with reference to scaffold structure I. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP further comprises an L2 that comprises the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP further comprises an L3 that comprises the amino acid sequence LAG. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP further comprises an L4 that comprises the amino acid V. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP further comprises an L5 that comprises the amino acid sequence G/S/N/Y/A/R-P/G/S/V/E/R/F/D-N/G/S/E/P/K/H/R-G/R/H/S/Q/V/D-F/D/N/R/G/Y/S/T (SEQ ID NO: 188

**[0278]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L1 and/or L5 of any one of the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKPs disclosed herein. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L1 that comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in any one of SEQ ID NOs: 147-168 and 367, with respect to scaffold structure I. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP further comprises an L2 that comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 93. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP further comprises an L3 that comprises the amino acid sequence LAG. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP further comprises an L4 comprising the amino acid V. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP further comprises an L5 that comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in any one of SEQ ID NOs: 19 and 169-184.

**[0279]** The L1 and L5 amino acid sequences described above are provided in **Table 18** below:

**Table 18**

RTNRVKGG (SEQ ID NO: 147)	GPNGF (SEQ ID NO: 19)
VNRVRG (SEQ ID NO: 148)	SGGRD (SEQ ID NO: 169)
MNHVKARR (SEQ ID NO: 149)	GPNGF (SEQ ID NO: 19)
RSVNKI (SEQ ID NO: 150)	GSSRN (SEQ ID NO: 170)

VNKKIG (SEQ ID NO: 151)	GVEGR (SEQ ID NO: 171)
RNSIKR (SEQ ID NO: 152)	SVGHG (SEQ ID NO: 172)
VSNRVNKG (SEQ ID NO: 153)	GPNGF (SEQ ID NO: 19)
RGNIK (SEQ ID NO: 154)	NESRG (SEQ ID NO: 173)
RSGNTIRKRE (SEQ ID NO: 155)	GGPGG (SEQ ID NO: 174)
ASSNSIRQGW (SEQ ID NO: 156)	GPKSN (SEQ ID NO: 175)
RSNRIR (SEQ ID NO: 157)	YGHGD (SEQ ID NO: 176)
RSNKLREARG (SEQ ID NO: 158)	GSRQD (SEQ ID NO: 177)
VNSVKR (SEQ ID NO: 159)	SRGVN (SEQ ID NO: 178)
GSNKIRPR (SEQ ID NO: 160)	GPNDF (SEQ ID NO: 179)
NRIRNS (SEQ ID NO: 161)	GRGDY (SEQ ID NO: 180)
SRNSIK (SEQ ID NO: 162)	ASGSS (SEQ ID NO: 181)
SNYVKR (SEQ ID NO: 163)	SPGGR (SEQ ID NO: 182)
RANRVSGR (SEQ ID NO: 164)	GPNGF (SEQ ID NO: 19)
SNRVKVRA (SEQ ID NO: 165)	GPNGF (SEQ ID NO: 19)
ENRTKG (SEQ ID NO: 166)	GFRGT (SEQ ID NO: 183)
GNKIRA (SEQ ID NO: 167)	RDRVG (SEQ ID NO: 184)
ANRVKRTS (SEQ ID NO: 168)	GPNGF (SEQ ID NO: 19)
QAINRVKRQR (SEQ ID NO: 367)	
V/R/N/S/E/G-N/S/G/R- R/V/K/S/N/I/Y-V/N/I/R/S/T- R/K/I/N-G/I/R/K/S/A (SEQ ID NO: 185)	A/R/M/V/G/S-N/T/S/A-R/N/H- V/R/K-K/V/I-R/K/A/N/S/V- T/G/R/K/P-S/G/R/A (SEQ ID NO: 186)
R/A-S-G/S/N-N/K-T/S/L-I/R- R/E-K/Q/A-R/G-E/W/G (SEQ ID NO: 187)	G/S/N/Y/A/R-P/G/S/V/E/R/F/D- N/G/S/E/P/K/H/R- G/R/H/S/Q/V/D-F/D/N/R/G/Y/S/T (SEQ ID NO: 188)

**[0280]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L1 that comprises the amino acid sequence RTNRVKGG (SEQ ID NO: 147); an L2 that comprises the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93); an L3 that comprises the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 that comprises the amino acid V; and an L5 that comprises the amino acid sequence GPNGF (SEQ ID NO: 19), with reference to with reference to scaffold structure I.

**[0281]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L1 that comprises the amino acid sequence VNRVRG (SEQ ID NO: 148); an L2 that comprises the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93); an L3 that comprises the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 that comprises the amino acid V; and an L5 that

comprises the amino acid sequence SGRD (SEQ ID NO: 169), with reference to with reference to scaffold structure I.

**[0282]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L1 that comprises the amino acid sequence MNHVKARR (SEQ ID NO: 149); an L2 that comprises the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93); an L3 that comprises the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 that comprises the amino acid V; and an L5 that comprises the amino acid sequence GPNGF (SEQ ID NO: 19), with reference to scaffold structure I.

**[0283]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L1 that comprises the amino acid sequence RSVNKI (SEQ ID NO: 150); an L2 that comprises the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93); an L3 that comprises the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 that comprises the amino acid V; and an L5 that comprises the amino acid sequence GSSRN (SEQ ID NO: 170), with reference to scaffold structure I.

**[0284]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L1 that comprises the amino acid sequence VNKIKG (SEQ ID NO: 151); an L2 that comprises the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93); an L3 that comprises the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 that comprises the amino acid V; and an L5 that comprises the amino acid sequence GVEGR (SEQ ID NO: 29), with reference to scaffold structure I.

**[0285]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L1 that comprises the amino acid sequence RNSIKR (SEQ ID NO: 152); an L2 that comprises the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93); an L3 that comprises the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 that comprises the amino acid V; and an L5 that comprises the amino acid sequence SVGHG (SEQ ID NO: 172), with reference to scaffold structure I.

**[0286]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L1 that comprises the amino acid sequence VSNRVNKG (SEQ ID NO: 153); an L2 that comprises the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93); an L3 that comprises the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 that comprises the amino acid V; and an L5 that comprises the amino acid sequence GPNGF (SEQ ID NO: 19), with reference to scaffold structure I.

**[0287]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L1 that comprises the amino acid sequence RGNIK (SEQ ID NO: 154); an L2 that comprises the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93); an L3 that comprises the

amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 that comprises the amino acid V; and an L5 that comprises the amino acid sequence NESRG (SEQ ID NO: 173), with reference to scaffold structure I.

**[0288]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L1 that comprises the amino acid sequence RSGNTIRKRE (SEQ ID NO: 155); an L2 that comprises the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93); an L3 that comprises the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 that comprises the amino acid V; and an L5 that comprises the amino acid sequence GPGG (SEQ ID NO: 174), with reference to scaffold structure I.

**[0289]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L1 that comprises the amino acid sequence ASSNSIRQGW (SEQ ID NO: 156); an L2 that comprises the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93); an L3 that comprises the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 that comprises the amino acid V; and an L5 that comprises the amino acid sequence GPKSN (SEQ ID NO: 175), with reference to scaffold structure I.

**[0290]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L1 that comprises the amino acid sequence RSNRIR (SEQ ID NO: 157); an L2 that comprises the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93); an L3 that comprises the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 that comprises the amino acid V; and an L5 that comprises the amino acid sequence YGHGD (SEQ ID NO: 176), with reference to scaffold structure I.

**[0291]** In certain embodiments, non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP an L1 that comprises the amino acid sequence RSNKLREARG (SEQ ID NO: 158); an L2 that comprises the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93); an L3 that comprises the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 that comprises the amino acid V; and an L5 that comprises the amino acid sequence GSRQD (SEQ ID NO: 177), with reference to scaffold structure I.

**[0292]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L1 that comprises the amino acid sequence VNSVKR (SEQ ID NO: 159); an L2 that comprises the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93); an L3 that comprises the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 that comprises the amino acid V; and an L5 that comprises the amino acid sequence SRGVN (SEQ ID NO: 178), with reference to scaffold structure I.

**[0293]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L1 that comprises the amino acid sequence GSNKIRPR (SEQ ID NO: 160); an L2 that comprises the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93); an L3 that comprises the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 that comprises the amino acid V; and an L5 that

comprises the amino acid sequence GPNDF (SEQ ID NO: 179), with reference to scaffold structure I.

**[0294]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L1 that comprises the amino acid sequence NRIRNS (SEQ ID NO: 161); an L2 that comprises the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93); an L3 that comprises the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 that comprises the amino acid V; and an L5 that comprises the amino acid sequence GRGDY (SEQ ID NO: 180), with reference to scaffold structure I.

**[0295]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L1 that comprises the amino acid sequence SRNSIK (SEQ ID NO: 162); an L2 that comprises the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93); an L3 that comprises the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 that comprises the amino acid V; and an L5 that comprises the amino acid sequence ASGSS (SEQ ID NO: 181), with reference to scaffold structure I.

**[0296]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L1 that comprises the amino acid sequence SNYVKR (SEQ ID NO: 163); an L2 that comprises the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93); an L3 that comprises the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 that comprises the amino acid V; and an L5 that comprises the amino acid sequence SPGGR (SEQ ID NO: 182), with reference to scaffold structure I.

**[0297]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L1 that comprises the amino acid sequence RANRVSGR (SEQ ID NO: 164); an L2 that comprises the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93); an L3 that comprises the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 that comprises the amino acid V; and an L5 that comprises the amino acid sequence GPNGF (SEQ ID NO: 19), with reference to scaffold structure I.

**[0298]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L1 that comprises the amino acid sequence SNRVKVRA (SEQ ID NO: 165); an L2 that comprises the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93); an L3 that comprises the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 that comprises the amino acid V; and an L5 that comprises the amino acid sequence GPNGF (SEQ ID NO: 19), with reference to scaffold structure I.

**[0299]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L1 that comprises the amino acid sequence ENRTKG (SEQ ID NO: 166); an L2 that comprises the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93); an L3 that comprises the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 that comprises the amino acid V; and an L5 that

comprises the amino acid sequence GFRGT (SEQ ID NO: 183), with reference to with reference to scaffold structure I.

**[0300]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L1 that comprises the amino acid sequence GNKIRA (SEQ ID NO: 167); an L2 that comprises the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93); an L3 that comprises the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 that comprises the amino acid V; and an L5 that comprises the amino acid sequence RDRVG (SEQ ID NO: 184), with reference to scaffold structure I.

**[0301]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L1 that comprises the amino acid sequence ANRVKRTS (SEQ ID NO: 168); an L2 that comprises the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93); an L3 that comprises the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 that comprises the amino acid V; and an L5 that comprises the amino acid sequence GPNGF (SEQ ID NO: 19), with reference to scaffold structure I.

**[0302]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an L1 that comprises the amino acid sequence QAINRVKRQR (SEQ ID NO: 367); an L2 that comprises the amino acid sequence KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93); an L3 that comprises the amino acid sequence LAG; an L4 that comprises the amino acid V; and an L5 that comprises the amino acid sequence GPNGF (SEQ ID NO: 19), with reference to scaffold structure I.

**[0303]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in any one of SEQ ID NOs: 189-210 and 366. SEQ ID NOs: 189-210 and 366 are provided below.

GCR TNRVKGGCKQDSDCLAGCVCGPNGFCG	(SEQ ID NO: 189)
GCVNVRVGCKQDSDCLAGCVCSGGRDCG	(SEQ ID NO: 190)
GCMNHVKARRCKQDSDCLAGCVCGPNGFCG	(SEQ ID NO: 191)
GCRSVNKICKQDSDCLAGCVCGSSRNCG	(SEQ ID NO: 192)
GCVNLIKGCKQDSDCLAGCVCGVEGRCG	(SEQ ID NO: 193)
GCRNSIKRCKQNSDCLAGCVCSVGHGCG	(SEQ ID NO: 194)
GCVSNRVNKGCKQDSDCLAGCVCGPNGFCG	(SEQ ID NO: 195)
GCRGNI IKCKQDSDCLAGVCNESRGCG	(SEQ ID NO: 196)
GCRSGNTIRKRECKQDSDCLAGCVCGGPGGCG	(SEQ ID NO: 197)
GCASSNSIRQGWCKQDSDCLAGCVCGPKSNCG	(SEQ ID NO: 198)
GCRSNRIRCKQDSDCLAGVCYGHGDCG	(SEQ ID NO: 199)
GCRSNKLREARGCKQDSDCLAGCVCGSRQDCG	(SEQ ID NO: 200)
GCVNSVKRCKQDSDCLAGCVCSRGVNCG	(SEQ ID NO: 201)
GCGSNKIRPRCKQDSDCLAGCVCGPNDFCG	(SEQ ID NO: 202)
GCNRIRNSCKQDSDCLAGCVCGRGDYCG	(SEQ ID NO: 203)
GCSRNSIKCKQDSDCLAGVCASGSSCG	(SEQ ID NO: 204)

GCSNYVKRCKQSDCLAGCVCSPGGRCG (SEQ ID NO: 205)  
 GCRANRVSGRCKQSDCLAGCVCGPNGFCG (SEQ ID NO: 206)  
 GCSNRVKVRACKQSDCLAGCVCGPNGFCG (SEQ ID NO: 207)  
 GCENRTKGCKQSDCLAGCVCGFRGTCG (SEQ ID NO: 208)  
 GCGNKIRACKQSDCLAGCVCRCRDRVCGG (SEQ ID NO: 209)  
 GCANRVKRTSCKQSDCLAGCVCGPNGFCG (SEQ ID NO: 210)  
 GCQAINRVKRQRCKQSDCLAGCVCGPNGFCG (SEQ ID NO: 366)

**[0304]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP is a variant of a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP described herein. In certain embodiments, such a variant comprises at least 1, at least 2, at least 3, at least 4, at least 5, at least 6, at least 7, at least 8, at least 9, or at least 10 amino acid substitutions in one or more of the sequences set forth in SEQ ID NOs: 19, 93, 147-168, 169-184, and 189-210 and/or in the amino acid sequence LAG. In certain embodiments, the amino acid substitution(s) are conservative amino acid substitution(s). In certain embodiments, the amino acid substitutions do not substantially reduce the ability of the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP to bind human LRP6. For example, conservative alterations (e.g., conservative substitutions as provided herein) that do not substantially reduce LRP6 binding affinity may be made. The binding affinity of a variant of a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP can be assessed using a method described in the Examples below.

**[0305]** Conservative substitutions are shown in **Table 17** above under the heading of “conservative substitutions.” More substantial changes are provided in **Table 17** under the heading of “exemplary substitutions,” and as further described below in reference to amino acid side chain classes. Amino acid substitutions may be introduced into a variant of a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP and the products screened for a desired activity, e.g., retained/improved LRP6 binding.

**[0306]** Non-conservative substitutions will entail exchanging a member of one of these classes for another class. An exemplary substitutional variant is an affinity matured non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP, which may be conveniently generated, e.g., using phage display based affinity maturation techniques such as those described herein. Briefly, one or more residues in L1, L2, L3, L4, and/or L5 is altered (i.e., added, deleted, or substituted) and the variant LRP6-binding CKP is displayed on phage and screened for LRP6 binding affinity. In certain embodiments of affinity maturation, diversity is introduced into the variable genes chosen for maturation by any of a variety of methods (e.g., error-prone PCR, loop shuffling, or oligonucleotide-directed mutagenesis). A secondary library is then created. The library is then screened to identify any non-naturally occurring CKP variants

with the desired affinity for LRP6. In certain embodiments, introducing diversity involves loop-directed approaches, in which several residues in L1, L2, L3, L4, and/or L5 (e.g., about 5, about 4-6, or about 6-10 residues at a time) are randomized. L1, L2, L3, L4, and/or L5 residues involved in binding a target ligand may be identified, e.g., using alanine scanning mutagenesis or modeling.

**[0307]** In certain embodiments, a non-naturally occurring CKP that “specifically binds” human LRP6 (i.e., has a binding affinity ( $K_d$ ) value of no more than about  $1 \times 10^{-7}$  M, preferably no more than about  $1 \times 10^{-8}$  and most preferably no more than about  $1 \times 10^{-9}$  M) but has a binding affinity for another LRP protein which is at least about 50-fold, or at least about 500-fold, or at least about 1000-fold, weaker than its binding affinity for LRP6.

**[0308]** In certain embodiments, the extent of binding of the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP to a non-target protein (e.g., a LRP6 homolog such as LRP1, LRP1B, LRP2, LRP3, LRP4, LRP5, LRP8, LRP10, LRP11, and LRP12) is less than about 10% of the binding of the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP to human LRP6 as determined by methods known in the art, such as ELISA, fluorescence activated cell sorting (FACS) analysis, or radioimmunoprecipitation (RIA). Specific binding can be measured, for example, by determining binding of a molecule compared to binding of a control molecule, which generally is a molecule of similar structure that does not have binding activity. For example, specific binding can be determined by competition with a control molecule that is similar to the target, for example, an excess of non-labeled target. In this case, specific binding is indicated if the binding of the labeled target to a probe is competitively inhibited by excess unlabeled target. The term “specific binding” or “specifically binds to” or is “specific for” a particular polypeptide or an epitope on a particular polypeptide target as used herein can be exhibited, for example, by a molecule having a  $K_d$  for the target of at least about  $10^{-4}$  M, alternatively at least about  $10^{-5}$  M, alternatively at least about  $10^{-6}$  M, alternatively at least about  $10^{-7}$  M, alternatively at least about  $10^{-8}$  M, alternatively at least about  $10^{-9}$  M, alternatively at least about  $10^{-10}$  M, alternatively at least about  $10^{-11}$  M, alternatively at least about  $10^{-12}$  M, or greater. In one embodiment, the term “specific binding” refers to binding where a molecule binds to a particular polypeptide or epitope on a particular polypeptide without substantially binding to any other polypeptide or polypeptide epitope.

**[0309]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP binds a human LRP6 with a  $K_d$  between about 1 pM to about 500 nM. In certain embodiments, the

non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP protein that specifically binds LRP6 binds a human LRP6 with a  $K_d$  between about 1 pM to about 50 pM, between about 50 pM to about 250 pM, between about 250 pM to about 500 pM, between about 500 pM to 750 pM, between about 750 pM to about 1 nM, between about 1 nM to about 25 nM, between about 25 nM to about 50 nM, between 50 nM to about 100 nM, between about 100 nM to about 250 nM, or between about 250 nM to about 500 nM, including any range in between these values.

[0310] In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP inhibits Wnt1 signaling, e.g., as determined using methods described in the Examples below.

[0311] Nucleic acid molecules encoding the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKPs described, expression vectors comprising nucleic acid molecules encoding the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKPs, and cells comprising the nucleic acid molecules are also contemplated. Also provided herein are methods of producing a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP by culturing such cells, expressing the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP, and recovering the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP from the cell culture.

[0312] In certain embodiments, a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP is produced via *in vitro* translation, as described elsewhere herein.

[0313] As described elsewhere herein, a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP is generated via chemical peptide synthesis, e.g., by grafting chemically synthesized L1, L2, L3, L4, and/or L5 peptides onto an EETI-II framework, or by chemically synthesizing the entire non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP.

[0314] In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP is as a therapeutic agent in the treatment of diseases or conditions wherein excessive LRP6 activity is involved.

### ***Methods of Production***

[0315] In certain embodiments, a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP is generated via genetic engineering. A variety of methods for mutagenesis have been previously described (along with appropriate methods for screening or selection). Such mutagenesis methods include, but are not limited to, e.g., error-prone PCR, loop shuffling, or oligonucleotide-directed mutagenesis, random nucleotide insertion or other methods prior to recombination. Further details regarding these methods

are described in, e.g., Abou-Nadler *et al.* (2010) *Bioengineered Bugs* 1, 337-340; Firth *et al.* (2005) *Bioinformatics* 21, 3314-3315; Cirino *et al.* (2003) *Methods Mol Biol* 231, 3-9; Pirakitikulr (2010) *Protein Sci* 19, 2336-2346; Steffens *et al.* (2007) *J. Biomol Tech* 18, 147-149; and others. Accordingly, in certain embodiments, provided is a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP generated via genetic engineering techniques.

**[0316]** In certain embodiments, a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP is generated via *in vitro* translation. Briefly, *in vitro* translation entails cloning the protein-coding sequence(s) into a vector containing a promoter, producing mRNA by transcribing the cloned sequence(s) with an RNA polymerase, and synthesizing the protein by translation of this mRNA *in vitro*, e.g., using a cell-free extract. A desired variant protein can be generated simply by altering the cloned protein-coding sequence. Many mRNAs can be translated efficiently in wheat germ extracts or in rabbit reticulocyte lysates. Further details regarding *in vitro* translation are described in, e.g., Hope *et al.* (1985) *Cell* 43, 177-188; Hope *et al.* (1986) *Cell* 46, 885-894; Hope *et al.* (1987) *EMBO J.* 6, 2781-2784; Hope *et al.* (1988) *Nature* 333, 635-640; and Melton *et al.* (1984) *Nucl. Acids Res.* 12, 7057-7070.

**[0317]** Accordingly, provided are nucleic acid molecules encoding a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP described herein. An expression vector operably linked to a nucleic acid molecule encoding a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP is also provided. Host cells (including, e.g., prokaryotic host cells such as *E. coli*, eukaryotic host cells such as yeast cells, mammalian cells, CHO cells, etc.) comprising a nucleic acid encoding a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP are also provided.

**[0318]** In certain embodiments, non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP is generated via *in vitro* translation. Briefly, *in vitro* translation entails cloning the protein-coding sequence(s) into a vector containing a promoter, producing mRNA by transcribing the cloned sequence(s) with an RNA polymerase, and synthesizing the protein by translation of this mRNA *in vitro*, e.g., using a cell-free extract. A desired mutant protein can be generated simply by altering the cloned protein-coding sequence. Many mRNAs can be translated efficiently in wheat germ extracts or in rabbit reticulocyte lysates. Further details regarding *in vitro* translation are described in, e.g., Hope *et al.* (1985) *Cell* 43, 177-188; Hope *et al.* (1986) *Cell* 46, 885-894; Hope *et al.* (1987) *EMBO*

*J.* 6, 2781-2784; Hope et al. (1988) *Nature* 333, 635-640; and Melton et al. (1984) *Nucl. Acids Res.* 12, 7057-7070.

**[0319]** In certain embodiments, a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP is generated via chemical synthesis. In certain embodiments, chemically synthesized L1, L2, L3, L4, and/or L5 peptides are grafted onto an EETI-II-based framework (such as scaffold structure I) to generate non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP. In certain embodiments the entire non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or the entire non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP is chemically synthesized. Methods of solid phase and liquid phase peptide synthesis are well known in the art and described in detail in, e.g., *Methods of Molecular Biology*, 35, Peptide Synthesis Protocols, (M. W. Pennington and B. M. Dunn Eds), Springer, 1994; Welsch *et al.* (2010) *Curr Opin Chem Biol* 14, 1-15; *Methods of Enzymology*, 289, Solid Phase Peptide Synthesis, (G. B. Fields Ed.), Academic Press, 1997; *Chemical Approaches to the Synthesis of Peptides and Proteins*, (P. Lloyd-Williams, F. Albericio, and E. Giralt Eds), CRC Press, 1997; *Fmoc Solid Phase Peptide Synthesis, A Practical Approach*, (W. C. Chan, P. D. White Eds), Oxford University Press, 2000; *Solid Phase Synthesis, A Practical Guide*, (S. F. Kates, F Albericio Eds), Marcel Dekker, 2000; P. Seneci, *Solid-Phase Synthesis and Combinatorial Technologies*, John Wiley & Sons, 2000; *Synthesis of Peptides and Peptidomimetics* (M. Goodman, Editor-in-chief, A. Felix, L. Moroder, C. Tmiolo Eds), Thieme, 2002; N. L. Benoiton, *Chemistry of Peptide Synthesis*, CRC Press, 2005; *Methods in Molecular Biology*, 298, Peptide Synthesis and Applications, (J. Howl Ed) Humana Press, 2005; and *Amino Acids, Peptides and Proteins in Organic Chemistry, Volume 3, Building Blocks, Catalysts and Coupling Chemistry*, (A. B. Hughs, Ed.) Wiley-VCH, 2011.

### ***Chimeric Molecules Comprising a Non-Naturally Occurring EETI-II Protein***

**[0320]** A non-naturally occurring CKP described herein (such as a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP) can also be modified if advantageous in a way to form a chimeric molecule comprising the non-naturally occurring CKP fused (e.g., recombinantly fused) to another, heterologous polypeptide or amino acid sequence. In certain embodiments, such a chimeric molecule comprises a fusion of a non-naturally occurring CKP described herein (such as a non-

naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP) with an antibody to form, e.g., a divalent molecule or a bispecific molecule.

**[0321]** In certain embodiments, a chimeric molecule comprises a fusion of a non-naturally occurring CKP described herein (such as a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP) with a second moiety (such as a protein transduction domain) which targets the chimeric molecule for delivery to various tissues, or, e.g., across brain blood barrier, using, for example, the protein transduction domain of human immunodeficiency virus TAT protein (Schwarze *et al.*, 1999, *Science* 285: 1569-72).

**[0322]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring CKP provided herein can be used as bi- or multi-specific (for different target ligands or different epitopes on the same target ligand) in multimer form. For example, a dimeric bispecific non-naturally occurring CKP has one subunit with specificity for a first target protein or epitope and a second subunit with specificity for a second target protein or epitope. Non-naturally occurring CKP protein subunits can be joined in a variety of conformations that can increase the valency and thus the avidity of binding to a target ligand.

**[0323]** In certain embodiments a chimeric molecule provided herein comprises two or more (such as three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, or more than ten) non-naturally occurring CKP proteins. In certain embodiments, a nucleic acid can be engineered to encode two or more copies of a single non-naturally occurring CKP, which copies are transcribed and translated in tandem to produce a covalently linked multimer of identical subunits. In certain embodiments, the nucleic acid can be engineered to encode two or more different non-naturally occurring CKPs, which copies are transcribed and translated in tandem to produce a covalently linked multimer of different subunits that bind, e.g., different epitopes of a single target ligand, or, e.g., different target ligands.

**[0324]** In another embodiment, such a chimeric molecule comprises a fusion of a non-naturally occurring CKP described herein (such as a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP) with a tag polypeptide which provides an epitope to which an anti-tag antibody can selectively bind. The epitope tag is generally placed at the amino- or carboxyl- terminus of the non-naturally occurring CKP. The presence of such epitope-tagged forms of the non-naturally occurring CKP protein can be detected using an antibody against the tag polypeptide. Also, provision of the epitope tag enables the non-naturally occurring CKP to be readily purified by affinity purification using an anti-tag antibody or another type of affinity matrix that binds to the epitope tag. Various

tag polypeptides and their respective antibodies are known in the art. Examples include poly-histidine (poly-His) or poly-histidine-glycine (poly-His-Gly) tags; the flu HA tag polypeptide and its antibody 12CA5 (Field *et al.* (1988) *Mol. Cell. Biol.* 8, 2159-2165); the c-myc tag and the 8F9, 3C7, 6E10, G4, B7 and 9E10 antibodies thereto (Evan *et al.* (1985) *Mol. Cell. Biol.* 5, 3610-3616]; and the Herpes Simplex virus glycoprotein D (gD) tag and its antibody (Paborsky *et al.* (1990) *Protein Eng.*, 3, 547-553). Other tag polypeptides include the Flag-peptide (Hopp *et al.* (1988) *BioTechnology*, 6,1204-1210); the KT3 epitope peptide (Martin *et al.* (1992) *Science*, 255, 192-194]; an  $\alpha$ -tubulin epitope peptide (Skinner *et al.* (1991) *J. Biol. Chem.* 266, 15163-15166); and the T7 gene 10 protein peptide tag (Lutz-Freyermuth *et al.* (1990) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 87, 6393-6397].

**[0325]** In certain embodiments, the chimeric molecule can comprise a fusion of a non-naturally occurring CKP protein described herein (such as a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP) with an immunoglobulin or a particular region of an immunoglobulin. For a bivalent form of the chimeric molecule (e.g., an “immunoadhesin”), such a fusion could be to the Fc region of an IgG molecule. Ig fusions provided herein include polypeptides that comprise approximately or only residues 94-243, residues 33-53 or residues 33-52 of human in place of at least one variable region within an Ig molecule. In a particularly preferred embodiment, the immunoglobulin fusion includes the hinge, CH2 and CH3, or the hinge, CH1, CH2 and CH3 regions of an IgG1 molecule. For the production of immunoglobulin fusions *see also*, U.S. Patent No. 5,428,130 issued June 27, 1995. In certain embodiments, a non-naturally occurring CKP described herein (such as a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP) is fused, e.g., at the N or C terminus, to the constant region of an IgG (Fc). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring CKP/Fc fusion molecule activates the complement component of the immune response. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring CKP/Fc fusion protein increases the therapeutic value of the non-naturally occurring CKP. In certain embodiments, a non-naturally occurring CKP protein described herein (such as a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP) is fused (such as recombinantly fused), e.g., at the N or C terminus, to a complement protein, such as C1q. Various publications describe methods for obtaining non-naturally occurring proteins whose half-lives are modified either by introducing an FcRn-binding polypeptide into the molecules (WO 1997/43316, US 5869046, US 5747035, WO 1996/32478, WO 1991/14438) or by fusing the proteins with antibodies whose FcRn-binding affinities are preserved but affinities for other Fc receptors have been greatly reduced (WO 1999/43713) or

fusing with FcRn binding domains of antibodies (WO 2000/09560, US 4703039). Specific techniques and methods of increasing half-life of physiologically active molecules (e.g., non-naturally occurring CKP) can also be found in US 7083784. In certain embodiments, a non-naturally occurring CKP protein described herein (such as a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP) is fused to an Fc region from an IgG that comprises amino acid residue mutations (as numbered by the EU index in Kabat): M252Y/S254T/T256E or H433K/N434F/Y436H.

**[0326]** In certain embodiments, non-naturally occurring CKP proteins described herein (such as a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP) are fused with molecules that increase or extend *in vivo* or serum half-life. In certain embodiments, a non-naturally occurring CKP described herein (such as a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP) is fused with albumin, such as human serum albumin (HSA), polyethylene glycol (PEG), polysaccharides, immunoglobulin molecules (IgG), complement, hemoglobin, a binding peptide, lipoproteins or other factors to increase its half-life in the bloodstream and/or its tissue penetration.

**[0327]** Additional chimeric molecules comprising non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKPs or non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKPs may be generated through the techniques of gene-shuffling, motif-shuffling, exon-shuffling, and/or codon-shuffling (collectively referred to as "DNA shuffling"). DNA shuffling may be employed to alter the activities of the non-naturally occurring CKPs (e.g., non-naturally occurring CKPs with higher affinities and lower dissociation rates). See, generally, US 5605793, US5811238, US 5830721, US 5834252, US 5837458, Patten *et al.* (1997) *Curr. Opinion Biotechnol.* 8, 724-33; Harayama (1998) *Trends Biotechnol.* 16, 76-82; Hansson, *et al.*, (1999) *J. Mol. Biol.* 287, 265-76; and Lorenzo and Blasco, (1998) *Biotechniques* 24, 308-313

**[0328]** In certain embodiments, a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP provided herein is altered by being subjected to random mutagenesis by error-prone PCR, random nucleotide insertion or other methods prior to recombination. One or more portions of a polynucleotide encoding a scaffold that binds to a specific target may be recombined with one or more components, motifs, sections, parts, domains, fragments, etc. of one or more heterologous molecules.

**[0329]** Any of these fusions can generated by standard techniques, for example, by expression of the fusion protein from a recombinant fusion gene constructed using publicly available gene sequences, or by chemical peptide synthesis.

***Conjugates Comprising a Non-Naturally Occurring VEGF-A-Binding CKP or a Non-Naturally Occurring LRP6-binding CKP***

**[0330]** Provided herein are immunoconjugates comprising a non-naturally occurring CKP described herein (such as a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP) conjugated to a cytotoxic agent such as a chemotherapeutic agent, toxin (e.g., an enzymatically active toxin of bacterial, fungal, plant, or animal origin, or fragments thereof), or a radioactive isotope (i.e., a radioconjugate).

**[0331]** Enzymatically active toxins and fragments thereof that can be used include diphtheria A chain, nonbinding active fragments of diphtheria toxin, exotoxin A chain (from *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*), ricin A chain, abrin A chain, modeccin A chain, alpha-sarcin, *Aleurites fordii* proteins, dianthin proteins, *Phytolaca americana* proteins (PAPI, PAPII, and PAP-S), *Momordica charantia* inhibitor, curcin, crotin, *Saponaria officinalis* inhibitor, gelonin, mitogellin, restrictocin, phenomycin, enomycin, and the tricothecenes. Other toxins include maytansine and maytansinoids, calicheamicin and other cytotoxic agents. A variety of radionuclides are available for the production of radioconjugated non-naturally occurring CKPs. Examples include  $^{212}\text{Bi}$ ,  $^{131}\text{I}$ ,  $^{131}\text{In}$ ,  $^{90}\text{Y}$ , and  $^{186}\text{Re}$ .

**[0332]** Conjugates of a non-naturally occurring CKP described herein (such as a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP) and, e.g., cytotoxic agent, are made using a variety of bifunctional protein-coupling agents such as N-succinimidyl-3-(2-pyridyldithiol) propionate (SPDP), iminothiolane (IT), bifunctional derivatives of imidoesters (such as dimethyl adipimidate HCl), active esters (such as disuccinimidyl suberate), aldehydes (such as glutaraldehyde), bis-azido compounds (such as bis (*p*-azidobenzoyl) hexanediamine), bisdiazonium derivatives (such as bis(*p*-diazoniumbenzoyl)-ethylenediamine), diisocyanates (such as tolyene 2,6-diisocyanate), and bis-active fluorine compounds (such as 1,5-difluoro-2,4-dinitrobenzene). For example, a ricin immunotoxin can be prepared as described in Vitetta *et al.*, *Science*, 238: 1098 (1987). Carbon-14-labeled 1-isothiocyanatobenzyl-3-methyldiethylene triaminepentaacetic acid (MX-DTPA) is an exemplary chelating agent for conjugation of radionuclide to a non-naturally occurring CKP provided herein. *See*, WO94/11026.

**[0333]** In another embodiment, the non-naturally occurring CKP described herein (such as a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP) can be conjugated to a “receptor” (such as streptavidin) for utilization in ocular “pre-targeting” wherein the non-naturally occurring EETI-II scaffold protein-receptor

conjugate is administered to the eye patient, followed by removal of unbound conjugate from the circulation using a clearing agent and then administration of a “ligand” (e.g., avidin) that is conjugated to a cytotoxic agent (e.g., a radionuclide) or a therapeutic agent.

**[0334]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring CKPs provided herein (such as a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP) can be used as bi- or multi-specific (for different target ligands or different epitopes on the same target ligand) in multimer form. The attachments may be covalent or non-covalent. For example, a dimeric bispecific non-naturally occurring CKP has one subunit with specificity for a first target protein or epitope and a second subunit with specificity for a second target protein or epitope. Non-naturally occurring CKP subunits can be joined, e.g., via conjugation, in a variety of conformations that can increase the valency and thus the avidity of binding to a target ligand or to bind multiple target ligands.

**[0335]** In certain embodiments, non-naturally occurring CKPs provided herein are engineered to provide reactive groups for conjugation. In certain embodiments, the N-terminus and/or C-terminus may also serve to provide reactive groups for conjugation. In certain embodiments, the N-terminus is conjugated to one moiety (such as, but not limited to PEG) while the C-terminus is conjugated to another moiety (such as, but not limited to biotin), or vice versa.

**[0336]** Provided is a non-naturally occurring CKP described herein (such as a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP) conjugated to one or more moieties, including but not limited to, peptides, polypeptides, proteins, fusion proteins, nucleic acid molecules, small molecules, mimetic agents, synthetic drugs, inorganic molecules, and organic molecules. Also provided is the use of a non-naturally occurring CKP described herein (such as a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP) chemically conjugated (including both covalent and non-covalent conjugations) to a heterologous protein or polypeptide (or fragment thereof, to a polypeptide of at least 10, at least 20, at least 30, at least 40, at least 50, at least 60, at least 70, at least 80, at least 90 or at least 100 amino acids). The fusion does not necessarily need to be direct, but may occur through linker sequences described herein.

**[0337]** In certain embodiments, a non-naturally occurring CKP described herein (such as a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP), or analogs or derivatives thereof may be conjugated to a diagnostic or detectable agent. Such non-naturally occurring CKP conjugates can be useful for monitoring or

prognosing the development or progression of a disease as part of a clinical testing procedure, such as determining the efficacy of a particular therapy. Such diagnosis and detection can be accomplished by coupling the non-naturally occurring CKP to detectable substances including, but not limited to various enzymes, such as but not limited to horseradish peroxidase, alkaline phosphatase, beta-galactosidase, or acetylcholinesterase; prosthetic groups, such as but not limited to streptavidin/biotin and avidin/biotin; fluorescent materials, such as but not limited to, umbelliferone, fluorescein, fluorescein isothiocyanate, rhodamine, dichlorotriazinylamine fluorescein, dansyl chloride or phycoerythrin; luminescent materials, such as, but not limited to, luminol; bioluminescent materials, such as but not limited to, luciferase, luciferin, and aequorin; radioactive materials, such as but not limited to iodine ( $^{131}\text{I}$ ,  $^{125}\text{I}$ ,  $^{123}\text{I}$ ,  $^{121}\text{I}$ ), carbon ( $^{14}\text{C}$ ), sulfur ( $^{35}\text{S}$ ), tritium ( $^3\text{H}$ ), indium ( $^{115}\text{In}$ ,  $^{113}\text{In}$ ,  $^{112}\text{In}$ ,  $^{111}\text{In}$ ), and technetium ( $^{99}\text{Tc}$ ), thallium ( $^{201}\text{Tl}$ ), gallium ( $^{68}\text{Ga}$ ,  $^{67}\text{Ga}$ ), palladium ( $^{103}\text{Pd}$ ), molybdenum ( $^{99}\text{Mo}$ ), xenon ( $^{133}\text{Xe}$ ), fluorine ( $^{18}\text{F}$ ),  $^{153}\text{Sm}$ ,  $^{177}\text{Lu}$ ,  $^{159}\text{Gd}$ ,  $^{149}\text{Pm}$ ,  $^{140}\text{La}$ ,  $^{175}\text{Yb}$ ,  $^{166}\text{Ho}$ ,  $^{90}\text{Y}$ ,  $^{47}\text{Sc}$ ,  $^{186}\text{Re}$ ,  $^{188}\text{Re}$ ,  $^{142}\text{Pr}$ ,  $^{105}\text{Rh}$ ,  $^{97}\text{Ru}$ ,  $^{68}\text{Ge}$ ,  $^{57}\text{Co}$ ,  $^{65}\text{Zn}$ ,  $^{85}\text{Sr}$ ,  $^{32}\text{P}$ ,  $^{153}\text{Gd}$ ,  $^{169}\text{Yb}$ ,  $^{51}\text{Cr}$ ,  $^{54}\text{Mn}$ ,  $^{75}\text{Se}$ ,  $^{113}\text{Sn}$ , and  $^{117}\text{Tm}$ ; positron emitting metals using various positron emission tomographies, nonradioactive paramagnetic metal ions, and molecules that are radiolabeled or conjugated to specific radioisotopes.

**[0338]** Also provided is a non-naturally occurring CKPs (such as a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP) conjugated to a therapeutic moiety. In certain embodiments, a non-naturally occurring CKP may be conjugated to a therapeutic moiety such as a cytotoxin, e.g., a cytostatic or cytotoxic agent, a therapeutic agent or a radioactive metal ion, e.g., alpha-emitters. A cytotoxin or cytotoxic agent includes any agent that is detrimental to cells.

**[0339]** In certain embodiments, a non-naturally occurring CKP described herein (such as a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP) is conjugated to therapeutic moieties such as a radioactive metal ion, such as alpha-emitters such as  $^{213}\text{Bi}$  or macrocyclic chelators useful for conjugating radiometal ions, including but not limited to,  $^{131}\text{In}$ ,  $^{131}\text{Lu}$ ,  $^{131}\text{Y}$ ,  $^{131}\text{Ho}$ ,  $^{131}\text{Sm}$ , to polypeptides. In certain embodiments, the macrocyclic chelator is 1, 4, 7, 10-tetraazacyclododecane- $\text{N},\text{N}',\text{N}'',\text{N}'''$ -tetra-acetic acid (DOTA) which can be attached to the non-naturally occurring CKP via a linker molecule. Such linker molecules are commonly known in the art and described in, e.g., Denardo *et al.* (1998) *Clin Cancer Res.* 4, 2483-90; Peterson *et al.* (1999) *Bioconjug. Chem.* 10, 553-557; and Zimmerman *et al.* (1999) *Nucl. Med. Biol.* 26, 943-50.

**[0340]** Techniques for conjugating therapeutic moieties to antibodies are well known and can be applied to the non-naturally CKPs disclosed herein, see, e.g., Amon *et al.*, "Monoclonal Antibodies For Immunotargeting Of Drugs In Cancer Therapy," in *Monoclonal Antibodies And Cancer Therapy*, Reisfeld *et al.* (eds.), pp. 243-56. (Alan R. Liss, Inc. 1985); Hellstrom *et al.*, "Antibodies For Drug Delivery", in *Controlled Drug Delivery (2nd Ed.)*, Robinson *et al.* (eds.), pp. 623-53 (Marcel Dekker, Inc. 1987); Thorpe, "Antibody Carriers Of Cytotoxic Agents In Cancer Therapy: A Review", in *Monoclonal Antibodies 84: Biological And Clinical Applications*, Pinchera *et al.* (eds.), pp. 475-506 (1985); "Analysis, Results, And Future Prospective Of The Therapeutic Use Of Radio labeled Antibody In Cancer Therapy", in *Monoclonal Antibodies For Cancer Detection And Therapy*, Baldwin *et al.* (eds.), pp. 303-16 (Academic Press 1985), and Thorpe *et al.*, 1982, *Immunol. Rev.* 62:119-58. Similar approaches may be adapted for use with the non-naturally occurring CKPs provided herein.

**[0341]** The therapeutic moiety or drug conjugated to a non-naturally CKP described herein (such as a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP) should be chosen to achieve the desired prophylactic or therapeutic effect(s) for a particular disorder in a subject. A clinician or other medical personnel should consider the following when deciding on which therapeutic moiety or drug to conjugate to a scaffold: the nature of the disease, the severity of the disease, and the condition of the subject.

**[0342]** In certain embodiments, non-naturally occurring CKPs described herein (such as a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP) can also be attached to solid supports, which are particularly useful for immunoassays or purification of the target antigen. Such solid supports include, but are not limited to, glass, cellulose, polyacrylamide, nylon, polystyrene, polyvinyl chloride or polypropylene.

### ***Covalent Modifications***

**[0343]** Covalent modifications of non-naturally occurring CKPs described herein (such as a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP) are also contemplated. One type of covalent modification includes reacting targeted amino acid residues of a non-naturally occurring CKP with an organic derivatizing agent that is capable of reacting with selected side chains or the N- or C- terminal residues of the non-naturally occurring CKP. Derivatization with bifunctional agents is useful, for instance, for crosslinking the non-naturally occurring CKP to a water-insoluble support matrix or surface for use in the method for purifying a target ligand, and vice-versa.

Commonly used crosslinking agents include, e.g., 1,1-bis(diazoacetyl)-2-phenylethane, glutaraldehyde, N-hydroxysuccinimide esters, for example, esters with 4-azidosalicylic acid, homobifunctional imidoesters, including disuccinimidyl esters such as 3,3'-dithiobis(succinimidyl-propionate), bifunctional maleimides such as bis-N-maleimido-1,8-octane and agents such as methyl-3-[(*p*-azidophenyl)-dithio]propioimidate.

**[0344]** Other modifications include deamidation of glutaminy and asparaginy residues to the corresponding glutamyl and aspartyl residues, respectively, hydroxylation of proline and lysine, phosphorylation of hydroxyl groups of seryl or threonyl residues, methylation of the  $\alpha$ -amino groups of lysine, arginine, and histidine side chains (T.E. Creighton, *Proteins: Structure and Molecular Properties*, W.H. Freeman & Co., San Francisco, pp. 79-86 (1983)), acetylation of the N-terminal amine, and amidation of any C-terminal carboxyl group.

**[0345]** Another type of covalent modification of a non-naturally occurring CKP comprises linking the non-naturally occurring CKP to one of a variety of nonproteinaceous polymers, e.g., polyethylene glycol (PEG), polypropylene glycol, or polyoxyalkylenes, in the manner set forth in US 4640835, US 4496689, US 4301144, US 4670417, US 4791192 or US 4179337

**[0346]** The term "polyethylene glycol" or "PEG" means a polyethylene glycol compound or a derivative thereof, with or without coupling agents, coupling or activating moieties (e.g., with thiol, triflate, tresylate, azirdine, oxirane, N-hydroxysuccinimide or a maleimide moiety). The term "PEG" is intended to indicate polyethylene glycol of a molecular weight between 500 and 150,000 Da, including analogues thereof, wherein for instance the terminal OR-group has been replaced by a methoxy group (referred to as mPEG).

**[0347]** In certain embodiments, non-naturally occurring CKPs described herein (such as a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP) are derivatized with polyethylene glycol (PEG). PEG is a linear, water-soluble polymer of ethylene oxide repeating units with two terminal hydroxyl groups. PEGs are classified by their molecular weights which typically range from about 500 daltons to about 40,000 daltons. In a presently preferred embodiment, the PEGs employed have molecular weights ranging from 5,000 daltons to about 20,000 daltons. PEGs coupled to the non-naturally occurring CKPs described herein can be either branched or unbranched (for example, Monfardini, C. *et al.* 1995 *Bioconjugate Chem* 6:62-69). PEGs are commercially available from Nektar Inc., Sigma Chemical Co. and other companies. Such PEGs include, but are not limited to, monomethoxypolyethylene glycol (MePEG-OH), monomethoxypolyethylene glycol-succinate (MePEG-S), monomethoxypolyethylene glycol-

succinimidyl succinate (MePEG-S-NHS), monomethoxypolyethylene glycol-amine (MePEG-NH<sub>2</sub>), monomethoxypolyethylene glycol-tresylate (MePEG-TRES), and monomethoxypolyethylene glycol-imidazolyl-carbonyl (MePEG-IM).

**[0348]** In certain embodiments, the hydrophilic polymer which is employed, for example, PEG, is capped at one end by an unreactive group such as a methoxy or ethoxy group. Thereafter, the polymer is activated at the other end by reaction with a suitable activating agent, such as cyanuric halides (for example, cyanuric chloride, bromide or fluoride), diimadozle, an anhydride reagent (for example, a dihalosuccinic anhydride, such as dibromosuccinic anhydride), acyl azide, *p*-diazoniumbenzyl ether, 3-(*p*-diazoniumphenoxy)-2-hydroxypropylether) and the like. The activated polymer is then reacted with a non-naturally occurring CKP herein (such as a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP) to produce a non-naturally occurring CKP derivatized with a polymer. Alternatively, a functional group in the non-naturally occurring CKP provided herein can be activated for reaction with the polymer, or the two groups can be joined in a concerted coupling reaction using known coupling methods. It will be readily appreciated that the non-naturally occurring CKPs provided herein can be derivatized with PEG using a myriad of other reaction schemes known to and used by those of skill in the art.

### ***Liposomes***

**[0349]** Non-naturally occurring CKPs disclosed herein (such as a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP or a non-naturally occurring LRP6-binding CKP) can also be formulated as liposomes. Liposomes containing a non-naturally occurring EETI-II scaffold protein described herein can be prepared by methods known in the art, such as described in Epstein *et al.*, *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA*, 82: 3688 (1985); Hwang *et al.*, *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA*, 77: 4030 (1980); and U.S. Pat. Nos. 4,485,045 and 4,544,545. Liposomes with enhanced circulation time are disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 5,013,556.

**[0350]** Particularly useful liposomes can be generated by the reverse-phase evaporation method with a lipid composition comprising phosphatidylcholine, cholesterol, and PEG-derivatized phosphatidylethanolamine (PEG-PE). Liposomes are extruded through filters of defined pore size to yield liposomes with the desired diameter. A second therapeutic agent is optionally also contained within the liposome. *See*, Gabizon *et al.*, *J. National Cancer Inst.*, 81(19): 1484 (1989). Pharmaceutical Compositions and Formulations Comprising Non-

## Naturally Cystine Knot Peptides (CKPs) That Bind Human Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor A(VEGF-A)

**[0351]** In certain embodiments, provided herein is a pharmaceutical composition comprising a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient. In certain embodiments the composition may also contain, buffers, carriers, stabilizers, preservatives and/or bulking agents, to render the composition suitable for ocular administration to a patient to achieve a desired effect or result. In certain embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition comprises one or more permeability enhancers that permit a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP to penetrate the cornea. Examples of such permeability enhancers include, e.g., surfactants, bile acids, chelating agents, preservatives, cyclodextrins (i.e., cylindrical oligonucleotides with a hydrophilic outer surface and a lipophilic inner surface that form complexes with lipophilic drugs), etc. Such permeability enhancers increase chemical stability and bioavailability and decrease local irritation. In certain embodiments, a pharmaceutical composition provided herein additionally comprises agents that increase the absorption and distribution of non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP in various ocular compartments. In certain embodiments, a pharmaceutical composition provided herein comprises a cross-linked polyacrylic acid, which can enhance ocular bioavailability by virtue of its mucoadhesive properties. In certain embodiments, a pharmaceutical composition provided herein comprises a bioadhesive polymer.

**[0352]** In certain embodiments, a pharmaceutical composition provided herein is formulated as an in-situ gelling system, e.g., a viscous polymer-based liquid that exhibits sol-to-gel phase transition on the ocular surface due to change in a specific physicochemical parameter (ionic strength, temperature, pH, or solvent exchange) when the composition comes into contact with tear fluid. In certain embodiments, a pharmaceutical composition provided herein is formulated as an eye spray. In certain embodiments, a pharmaceutical composition provided is formulated as liposomes. In certain embodiments, a pharmaceutical composition provided herein is formulated as niosomes (i.e., non-ionic surfactant-based vesicles containing, e.g., cholesterol as an excipient). In certain embodiments, a pharmaceutical composition provided herein is formulated as pharmacosomes (i.e., vesicles formed by amphiphilic drugs). In certain embodiments, a pharmaceutical composition provided herein is formulated as a microemulsion. Further details regarding various ophthalmic pharmaceutical formulations are provided in, e.g., Gaikwad et al. (2013) *Indo Amer J Pharm Res.* 3, 3216-3232; Achouri et al. (2012) *Drug Dev Indust Pharm.* 39, 1599-

1617; Lu (2010) *Recent Pat Drug Deliv Formul.* 4, 49-57; Baranowski et al. (2014) *Sci World J.* doi.org/10.1155/2014/861904; Lang (1995) *Adv Drug Deliv Rev.* 16, 39-43; Short (2008) *Toxicologic Path.* 36, 49-62; and others.

**[0353]** In certain embodiments, a pharmaceutical composition comprising non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP described herein is stable at room temperature (such as at about 20-25°C) for about 0.5 weeks, about 1.0 weeks, about 1.5 weeks, about 2.0 weeks, about 2.5 weeks, 3.5 weeks, about 4.0 weeks, about 1 month, about 2 months about 3 months, about 4 months about 5 months, about 6 months, or greater than 6 months, including any range in between these values. In certain embodiments, a pharmaceutical composition comprising non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP described herein is stable under accelerated conditions (such as storage at about 37°C) for about 0.5 weeks, about 1.0 weeks, about 1.5 weeks, about 2.0 weeks, about 2.5 weeks, 3.5 weeks, about 4.0 weeks, about 1 month, about 2 months about 3 months, about 4 months about 5 months, about 6 months, or greater than 6 months, including any range in between these values.

***Methods of Treatment Using Non-Naturally Occurring Cystine Knot Peptides (CKPs) That Bind Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor A (VEGF-A)***

**[0354]** Vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF-A), a dimeric glycoprotein of approximately 40 kDa, is a potent, endothelial cell mitogen that stimulates proliferation, migration and tube formation leading to angiogenic growth of new blood vessels and increased vascular permeability. Low oxygen conditions in the retina or cornea induce the expression of vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF-A), and the abnormal (such as excessive or otherwise inappropriate) growth of leaky blood vessels contributes to the pathology of several debilitating ocular diseases including, e.g., diabetic blindness, retinopathies, primarily diabetic retinopathy, age-related macular degeneration (AMD), proliferative diabetic retinopathy (PDR), retinopathy of prematurity (ROP), choroidal neovascularization (CNV), diabetic macular edema, pathological myopia, von Rippel-Lindau disease, histoplasmosis of the eye, retinal vein occlusion (both branched retinal vein occlusion (BRVO) and central retinal vein occlusion (CRVO), corneal neovascularization, retinal neovascularization and rubeosis. The VEGF-A-induced formation of new blood vessels is detrimental, and retinal, intertrabecular or corneal neovascularization can ultimately lead to vision loss.

**[0355]** In certain embodiments, provided herein is a method of treating an ocular disease or disorder in a subject comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP described herein or a composition (such as a pharmaceutical composition) comprising a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP described herein. In certain embodiment, provided are compositions (such as pharmaceutical compositions) comprising a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP described herein for use in treating an ocular disease or disorder in a subject. In certain embodiments, provided is the use of a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP described herein (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of an ocular disease or disorder in a subject.

**[0356]** In certain embodiments, the subject to be treated is a mammal (e.g., human, non-human primate, rat, mouse, cow, horse, pig, sheep, goat, dog, cat, etc.). In certain embodiments, the subject is a human. In certain embodiments, the subject is a clinical patient, a clinical trial volunteer, an experimental animal, etc. In certain embodiments, the subject is suspected of having or at risk for having an ocular disease or disorder characterized by abnormal angiogenesis and/or abnormal vascular permeability (such as those described herein). In certain embodiments, the subject has been diagnosed with an ocular disease or disorder characterized by abnormal angiogenesis and/or abnormal vascular permeability (such as those described herein).

**[0357]** In certain embodiments, the ocular disease or disorder is an ocular vascular proliferative disease, such as an ocular vascular proliferative disease selected from the group consisting of diabetic blindness, retinopathies, primarily diabetic retinopathy, age-related macular degeneration (AMD), proliferative diabetic retinopathy (PDR), retinopathy of prematurity (ROP), choroidal neovascularization (CNV), diabetic macular edema, pathological myopia, von Rippel-Lindau disease, histoplasmosis of the eye, retinal vein occlusion (both branched retinal vein occlusion (BRVO) and central retinal vein occlusion (CRVO), corneal neovascularization, retinal neovascularization, and rubeosis. In certain embodiments, the corneal neovascularization results infection of the eye, inflammation in the eye, trauma to the eye (including chemical burns), or loss of the limbal stem cell barrier. In certain embodiments, the corneal neovascularization results from herpetic keratitis, trachoma, or onchocerciasis.

**[0358]** In certain embodiments, the effective amount of the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP described herein (or composition comprising such non-naturally

occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP described herein) is administered directly to the eye of the subject (such as intravitreally or topically), as described in further detail elsewhere herein.

**[0359]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP described herein (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) is administered in combination with a second agent. For patients in whom the ocular disease or disorder is triggered by an inflammatory response, combination therapy with an anti-inflammatory agent can be considered. For example, the combined use of steroids and a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP described herein (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) to reduce inflammation and prevent formation of new blood vessels, respectively, may be particularly advantageous in patients with, e.g., corneal neovascularization. Patients who suffer from an ocular disease or disorder secondary to bacterial, viral, fungal or acanthamoebal infection may benefit from administration of a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP described herein (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) in combination with an antimicrobial agent and optionally an anti-inflammatory agent. Patients with corneal stromal blood vessels as a result of an ocular disease or disorder are at a significant risk for immune rejection after corneal transplantation. Administration of a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP described herein (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) prior to (and optionally also subsequent to) corneal transplantation therefore may be particularly beneficial to patients with corneal stromal blood vessels as successful reduction of corneal vascularization will reduce the risk of graft rejection. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP described herein (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) is administered in combination with a second anti-angiogenic agent. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP described herein (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) is administered in combination with a matrix metalloprotease (MMP) inhibitor.

**[0360]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP described herein (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) is administered in combination with a second therapy. In certain embodiments, the second therapy is laser photocoagulation therapy (LPT). LPT uses laser light to cause controlled damage of the retina to produce a beneficial therapeutic effect. Small bursts of laser light can seal leaky blood vessels, destroy abnormal blood vessels, seal retinal tears, or destroy abnormal tissue in the back of the eye. It is quick, non-invasive, and usually requires no anesthesia other than an anesthetic eye drop. LPT techniques and apparatuses are readily

available to ophthalmologists (see Lock *et al.* (2010) *Med J Malaysia* 65:88-94). Additional details regarding LPT can be found in, e.g., WO 2014/033184.

**[0361]** In certain embodiments, the second therapy is photodynamic therapy (PDT). PDT uses a light-activated molecule to cause localized damage to neovascular endothelium, resulting in vessel occlusion. Light is delivered to the retina as a single circular spot via a fiber optic cable and a slit lamp, using a suitable ophthalmic magnification lens (laser treatment). The light-activated compound is injected into the circulation prior to the laser treatment, and damage is inflicted by photoactivation of the compound in the area afflicted by neovascularization. One commonly used light-activated compound is verteporfin (Visudyne®). Verteporfin is transported in the plasma primarily by lipoproteins. Once verteporfin is activated by light in the presence of oxygen, highly reactive, short-lived singlet oxygen and reactive oxygen radicals are generated which damages the endothelium surrounding blood vessels. Damaged endothelium is known to release procoagulant and vasoactive factors through the lipo-oxygenase (leukotriene) and cyclooxygenase (eicosanoids such as thromboxane) pathways, resulting in platelet aggregation, fibrin clot formation and vasoconstriction. Verteporfin appears to somewhat preferentially accumulate in neovasculature. The wavelength of the laser used for photoactivation of the light-activated compound may vary depending on the specific light-activated compound used. Additional details regarding PDT can be found in, e.g., WO 2014/033184.

**[0362]** In certain embodiments, the second therapy is diathermy and cautery, wherein vessels are occluded either by application of a coagulating current through a unipolar diathermy unit or by thermal cautery using an electrolysis needle inserted into feeder vessels at the limbus.

### ***Administration***

**[0363]** In certain embodiments the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) is administered, e.g., via injection, e.g., subconjunctival injection, intracorneal injection, or intravitreal injection. Administration in aqueous form is usual, with a typical volume of 20-150µl e.g. 40-60µl, or 50µl. Injection can be via a 30-gauge x 1/2-inch (12.7 mm) needle. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) is provided in a pre-filled sterile syringe ready for administration. In certain embodiments, the syringe has low silicone content or is silicone free. The syringe

may be made of glass. Using a pre-filled syringe for delivery has the advantage that any contamination of the sterile antagonist solution prior to administration can be avoided. Pre-filled syringes also provide easier handling for the administering ophthalmologist. See, e.g., WO 2014/033184, Fagan et al. (2013) *Clin Exp Ophthalmol.* 41, 500-507; Avery et al. (2014) *Retina.* 34 Suppl 12, S1-S18; and Doshi et al. (2015) *Seminar Ophthalmol.* 26, 104-113 for further details regarding intravitreal administration.

**[0364]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) is administered topically, e.g. in form of eye drops. Additional details regarding topical drug delivery to the eye are found in, e.g., Loftsson et al. (2012) *Acta Ophthalmologica.* 90, 603-608; Patel et al. (2013) *World J. Pharmacol.* 2, 47-64; Freeman et al. (2009) *Exp Rev Ophthalmol.* 4, 59-64; and Boddu et al. (2014) *Recent Patents on Drug Delivery and Formulation.* 8, 27-36.

**[0365]** In certain embodiments, an intravitreal device is used to continuously deliver the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) into the eye. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) is administered via ocular insert (including, but not limited to, e.g., Ocuserts, Lactisers, Soluble Ocular Drug Inserts (SODIs), Minidiscs, contact lenses, films, filter paper strips, artificial tear inserts, and collagen shields). See, e.g., Gaikwad et al. (2013) *Indo Amer J Pharm Res.* 3, 3216-3232). In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) is administered as a slow-release depot, an ocular plug/reservoir, an ocular implant (such as a scleral or vitreal implant). Various scleral and intravitreal delivery systems are known in the art. These delivery systems are typically non-biodegradable, and may be active or passive. For example, WO 2010/088548 describes a delivery system having a rigid body using passive diffusion to deliver a therapeutic agent. WO 2002/100318 discloses a delivery system having a flexible body that allows active administration via a pressure differential. Alternatively, active delivery can be achieved by implantable miniature pumps. An example for an intravitreal delivery system using a miniature pump to deliver a therapeutic agent is the Ophthalmic MicroPump System™ marketed by Replenish, Inc. which can be programmed to deliver a set amount of a therapeutic agent for a pre-determined number of times. In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) is encased in a small capsule-like container (e.g., a silicone elastomer cup). The container is usually implanted in the eye above the iris. The container

comprises a release opening. Release of the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) may be controlled by a membrane positioned between the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) and the opening, or by means of a miniature pump connected to the container. Alternatively, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) may be deposited in a slow-release matrix that prevents rapid diffusion of the antagonist out of the container. Preferably, the intravitreal device is designed to release the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) at an initial rate that is higher in the first month. The release rate slowly decreases, e.g., over the course of the first month after implantation, to a rate that is about 50% less than the initial rate. The container may have a size that is sufficient to hold a supply of the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) that lasts for about four to six months. Since a reduced dose of the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) may be sufficient for effective treatment when administration is continuous, the supply in the container may last for one year or longer, preferably about two years, more preferably about three years. Because only a small surgery is required to implant a delivery system and intravitreal injections are avoided, patient compliance issues with repeated intravitreal injections can be avoided. Intravitreal concentrations of the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) are reduced, and therefore the potential risk of side-effects from the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) entering the circulation is decreased.

**[0366]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) is administered via iontophoresis. Iontophoresis is a noninvasive technique in which a small electric current is applied to enhance ionized drug penetration into tissue (*see, e.g., Myles et al. (2005) Adv Drug Deliv Rev 57, 2063-79 and Eljarrat-Binstock et al. (2006) J Controlled Release 110, 479-89*). The drug is applied with an electrode carrying the same charge as the drug, and the ground electrode, which is of the opposite charge, is placed elsewhere on the body to complete the circuit. The drug serves as the conductor of the current through the tissue.

**[0367]** Additional details regarding administration of drug to the eye are provided in, e.g., Kuno et al. (2011) *Polymers* 3, 193-221; Short (2008) *Toxicologic Path.* 36, 49-62;

Ghateet al. (2006) *Expert Opin Drug Deliv* 3, 275-87; Davis et al. (2004) *Curr Opin Mol Therap* 6, 195-205; Gaudana et al. (2010) *AAPS J.* 12, 348-360; and others.

### ***Slow Release / Long Acting Delivery Formulations***

**[0368]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) is provided as slow-release formulations. Slow-release formulations are typically obtained by mixing a therapeutic agent with a biodegradable polymer or encapsulating it into microparticles.

**[0369]** A slow-release formulation in accordance with the invention typically comprises the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP), a polymeric carrier, and a release modifier for modifying a release rate of the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) from the polymeric carrier. By varying the manufacture conditions of polymer-based delivery compositions, the release kinetic properties of the resulting compositions can be modulated. The polymeric carrier usually comprises one or more biodegradable polymers or co-polymers or combinations thereof. For example, the polymeric carrier may be selected from poly-lactic acid (PLA), poly-glycolic acid (PGA), polylactide-co-glycolide (PLGA), polyesters, poly (orthoester), poly(phosphazine), poly (phosphate ester), polycaprolactones, or a combination thereof.

**[0370]** In certain embodiments the polymeric carrier is PLGA. The release modifier is typically a long chain fatty alcohol, preferably comprising from 10 to 40 carbon atoms. Commonly used release modifiers include capryl alcohol, pelargonic alcohol, capric alcohol, lauryl alcohol, myristyl alcohol, cetyl alcohol, palmitoleyl alcohol, stearyl alcohol, isostearyl alcohol, elaidyl alcohol, oleyl alcohol, linoleyl alcohol, polyunsaturated elaidolinoleyl alcohol, polyunsaturated linolenyl alcohol, elaidolinolenyl alcohol, polyunsaturated ricinoleyl alcohol, arachidyl alcohol, behenyl alcohol, erucyl alcohol, lignoceryl alcohol, ceryl alcohol, montanyl alcohol, cluytyl alcohol, myricyl alcohol, melissyl alcohol, and geddyl alcohol.

**[0371]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) is incorporated into a microsphere-based sustained release composition. In certain embodiments, the microspheres are prepared from PLGA. The amount of the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) incorporated in the microspheres and the release rate of the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP (or

composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) can be controlled by varying the conditions used for preparing the microspheres. Processes for producing such slow-release formulations are described in US 2005/0281861 and US 2008/0107694.

**[0372]** In certain embodiments, the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) is incorporated into a biodegradable implant (such as a microneedle). Matrix implants (such as microneedles) are typically used to treat ocular diseases that require a loading dose followed by tapering doses of the drug during a 1-day to 6-month time period (Davis et al. (2004) *Curr Opin Mol Therap* 6, 195–205). They are most commonly made from the copolymers poly-lactic-acid (PLA) and/or poly-lactic-glycolic acid (PLGA), which degrade to water and carbon dioxide. The rate and extent of drug release from the implant can be decreased by altering the relative concentrations of lactide (slow) and glycolide (fast), altering the polymer weight ratios, adding additional coats of polymer, or using hydrophobic, insoluble drugs. The release of drug generally follows first-order kinetics with an initial burst of drug release followed by a rapid decline in drug levels. Biodegradable implants do not require removal, as they dissolve over time (Hsu (2007) *Curr Opin Ophthalmol* 18, 235–9). Biodegradable implants also allow flexibility in dose and treatment from short duration (weeks) to longer duration (months to a year), depending on the polymer PLA/PLGA ratio, which is another benefit in tailoring drug delivery to disease progression, because dose and treatment requirements may change over time. Additional details regarding the manufacture and implantation of biodegradable implants (such as PLGA or PLA implants) for the ocular administration are provided in, e.g., WO 2006/093758, US 2006/0182783, WO 2009/026461, US 2008/0181929, US 2009/0263460, US 2010/0015158, US 2011/0207653, and US 2014/0154321. Additional details regarding microneedles for ocular drug delivery are provided in, e.g., Donnelly et al. (2010) *Drug Deliv* 14, 187-207; USP7918814, Yavux et al. (2013) *Sci World J.* doi.org/10.1155/2013/732340, and elsewhere.

### ***Articles of Manufacture and Kits***

**[0373]** In certain embodiments, provided is an article of manufacture containing a non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP described herein and materials useful for the treatment of an ocular disease or disorder (such as an ocular vascular proliferative disease or ocular disorder characterized by excessive angiogenesis). The article of manufacture can comprise a container and a label or package insert on or associated with the container.

Suitable containers include, for example, bottles, vials, syringes, etc. The containers may be formed from a variety of materials such as glass or plastic. In certain embodiments, the container holds a composition which is effective for treating the ocular disease or disorder (such as an ocular vascular proliferative disease or ocular disorder characterized by excessive angiogenesis) and may have a complete set of items needed to implant a slow release ocular or intraocular drug delivery system, including, but not limited to, injection devices, topical and injectable medications, surgical instruments, sutures and suturing needles, and eye covers. In certain embodiments, the container fold sterile unit-dose packages. At least one active agent in the composition is non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP described herein. The label or package insert indicates that the composition is used for treating an ocular disease or disorder (such as an ocular vascular proliferative disease or ocular disorder characterized by excessive angiogenesis). The label or package insert will further comprise instructions for administering the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP (or composition comprising such non-naturally occurring CKP) to the patient. Articles of manufacture and kits comprising combinatorial therapies described herein are also contemplated.

**[0374]** Package insert refers to instructions customarily included in commercial packages of therapeutic products that contain information about the indications, usage, dosage, administration, contraindications and/or warnings concerning the use of such therapeutic products. In certain embodiments, the package insert indicates that the composition comprising the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP is used for treating an ocular disease or disorder (such as an ocular vascular proliferative disease or ocular disorder characterized by excessive angiogenesis described herein).

**[0375]** Kits are also provided that are useful for various purposes, e.g., for isolation or detection VEGF-A, optionally in combination with the articles of manufacture. For isolation and purification of VEGF-A, the kit can contain non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP described herein coupled to beads (e.g., sepharose beads). Kits can be provided which contain the non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP described herein for detection and quantitation of VEGF-A *in vitro*, e.g. in an ELISA or blot. As with the article of manufacture, the kit comprises a container and a label or package insert on or associated with the container. For example, the container holds a composition comprising at least one non-naturally occurring VEGF-A-binding CKP described herein. Additional containers may be included that contain, e.g., diluents and buffers, control antibodies, etc. The label or package

insert may provide a description of the composition as well as instructions for the intended *in vitro* or diagnostic use.

## EXAMPLES

### *Example 1: Materials and Methods for Examples 2-3*

#### *Display of EETI-II on M13 phage.*

**[0376]** EETI-II was displayed on the surface of M13 bacteriophage by modifying a previously described phagemid pS2202b (Skelton, N. J., Koehler, M. F., Zobel, K., Wong, W. L., Yeh, S., Pisabarro, M. T., Yin, J. P., Lasky, L. A., and Sidhu, S. S. (2003) Origins of PDZ domain ligand specificity. Structure determination and mutagenesis of the Erbin PDZ domain. *J Biol Chem* **278**, 7645-7654). Standard molecular biology techniques were used to replace the fragment of pS2202d encoding Erbin PDZ domain with a DNA fragment encoding for EETI-II. The resulting phagemid (p8EETI-II) contained an open reading frame that encoded for the maltose binding protein secretion signal, followed by a gD tag and EETI-II and ending with M13 major coat protein p8. *E. Coli* harboring p8EETI-II were co-infected with M13-KO7 helper phage and cultures were grown in 30 ml 2YT medium supplemented with 50 µg/ml Carbenecillin and 25 µg/ml Kanamycin at 30 °C overnight. The propagated phage was purified according to the standard protocol (Tonikian, R., Zhang, Y., Boone, C., and Sidhu, S. S. (2007) Identifying specificity profiles for peptide recognition modules from phage-displayed peptide libraries. *Nat Protoc* **2**, 1368-1386) and re-suspended in 1 ml PBT buffer (PBS, 0.5% BSA and 0.1% TWEEN®20), resulting in the production of phage particles that encapsulated p8EETI-II DNA and displayed EETI-II. The display level was analyzed using a phage ELISA.

#### *Library Construction and Sorting.*

**[0377]** The EETI-II libraries were constructed following Kunkel mutagenesis method (Kunkel, T. A., Roberts, J. D., and Zakour, R. A. (1987) Rapid and efficient site-specific mutagenesis without phenotypic selection. *Methods Enzymol* **154**, 367-382). Three libraries were constructed: Library 1, in which loop 1 (3-8) was randomized with the degenerated codon encoding all natural amino acids except Cys at 6, 8 or 10 amino acids in length; or Library 2, in which loop 5 (22-26) was randomized with the same set of degenerated codon with fixed length of 5 amino acids; or Library 3, in which both loop 1 were randomized with 6, 8, and 10 amino acids and loop 5 with 5 amino acids simultaneously with degenerated codon encoding for 19 amino acids. Oligonucleotides for mutagenesis were synthesized using

custom mixes of trimer phosphoramidites encoding for 19 amino acids at equimolar concentration. (Glen Research, Sterling, VA). The stop template is the single strand DNA of p8EETI-II containing three stop codons in region of 3-26 and was used to construct all three libraries. The pool of three libraries contained  $\sim 3 \times 10^{10}$  unique members and was cycled through rounds of binding selection against hVEGF (8-109) captured on plate for four rounds following the standard protocol (Tonikian, R., Zhang, Y., Boone, C., and Sidhu, S. S. (2007) Identifying specificity profiles for peptide recognition modules from phage-displayed peptide libraries. *Nat Protoc* **2**, 1368-1386) with the variation that, 25ug/ml of hVEGF(8-109) was used to coat the plate and eluted phage were propagated by growing the overnight culture at 30°C.

#### *Spot Phage ELISA.*

**[0378]** After four rounds of binding selection, individual phage clones were picked and inoculated into 450µl 2YT media containing 50µg/ml Carbenecillin and M13-KO7 helper phage in 96-well blocks, which were grown at 37°C overnight. The supernatant was analyzed with spot phage ELISA as follows: hVEGF(8-109) or BSA were coated on 384-well MAXISORP™ immunoplates and phage supernatant diluted (1:3) with PBT buffer was added to the wells. The plates were washed and bound phage was detected with anti-M13-HRP followed by TMB substrate. In these assays, phage binding to BSA alone was tested in parallel to assess background binding. Clones whose binding signals for hVEGF-A (8-109) were more than 3 times higher than to BSA (background) were considered positive. Positive clones were subjected to DNA sequence analysis.

#### *Crystallography.*

**[0379]** To form a stable complex, VEGF-A was concentrated to 7 mg/ml and incubated with a 6-fold molar excess of VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 variant. VEGFA/ VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 crystals of the primitive monoclinic space group  $P12_11$  were grown at 19°C by the hanging-drop vapor diffusion method using a drop ratio of 2:1 protein: reservoir solution. Reservoir solution contained 100 mM HEPES pH 7.4 and 26% PEG 3350. Crystals were cryoprotected in reservoir solution supplemented with 25% PEG 200 and flash-frozen in liquid nitrogen prior to data collection.

*Data Collection and Structure Determination.*

**[0380]** X-ray diffraction data were collected to 1.64 Å at beamline 21IDF at the Advanced Photon Source. Data were processed using iMosflm. The structure was solved by molecular replacement using Phaser in Phenix with the previously published apo VEGF-A structure (PDB: 1VPF) as a search model and one VEGF-A dimer in the asymmetric unit. Clear  $F_o - F_c$  density was present for the VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 variant, so the structure of this variant was built into the density manually using Coot and then subjected to iterative rounds of refinement and rebuilding using Phenix and Coot.

*KDR-CHO VEGF Assay to Determine Cellular IC<sub>50</sub>*

**[0381]** KDR-CHO cells (CHO cells stably transfected with gD tagged-KDR) were grown in cell growth medium (DMEM/Ham's F-12, 10% diafiltered FBS (GIBCO catalog no. 26400), 25 mM HEPES, 2 mM L-GLUTAMAX™). For VEGF stimulation assay,  $5 \times 10^4$  cells/well were plated in 100 µl of cell plating medium (DMEM/Ham's F-12, 0.2% BSA, 0.25% diafiltered FBS, 25 mM HEPES, 2 mM L-GLUTAMAX™) in 96-well tissue culture plate and incubated at 37°C overnight. The medium was replaced with 100 µl of serum-free cell stimulation medium (DMEM/Ham's F-12, 0.5% BSA, 25 mM HEPES) and cells were incubated at 37°C for 2 hr. One hour before stimulation, the medium was replaced with 50 µl of serum-free cell stimulation medium. Concurrently, VEGF (50 ng/ml for hVEGF, 100 ng/ml for mVEGF and rVEGF) was pre-incubated with titrated amount of CKP or anti-VEGF in 50 µl of serum-free cell stimulation medium at 37°C for 1 hour and added to the cells. The cells were stimulated for 15 min at 37°C and the medium is removed. The cells were lysed with 130 µl of ice-cold cell lysis buffer (150 mM NaCl, 50 mM HEPES, 0.5% Triton-X 100, HALT protease and phosphatase inhibitor cocktail (ThermoFisher Scientific, Inc. catalog no. 78444), 5 mM EDTA). VEGF mediated Tyr phosphorylation of KDR was determined by ELISA-based assay. Briefly, MAXISORP™ 96 well plates (ThermoFisher Scientific, Inc. catalog no. 439454) were coated with 100 µl of anti-gD antibody diluted in PBS (1 µg/ml) at 4°C overnight and washed three times with washing buffer (PBS, 0.05% TWEEN®20, pH 7.4). The plates were blocked with 300 µl of blocking buffer (PBS, 0.5% BSA) at room temperature for 1 hour followed by washing three times with washing buffer. The above KDR-CHO cell lysate (100 µl) was added to each well and incubated at room temperature for 2 hours. The plates were washed four times with washing buffer followed by incubation with 100 µl of 0.5 µg/ml biotin-conjugated anti-phosphotyrosine (clone 4G10, Millipore catalog

no. 16-103) in blocking buffer at room temperature for 2 hours. After washing four times, the plates were incubated with 100  $\mu$ l of HRP-conjugated streptavidin in blocking buffer at room temperature for 30 min. After washing four times, the plates were developed with 100  $\mu$ l of TMB substrate (BD Biosciences) at room temperature for 20~30 min and stopped by addition of 50  $\mu$ l of H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution. The optical density of each well was determined using a microplate reader set to 450 nm.

#### *Competition ELISAs*

**[0382]** Binding specificity of each peptide was established by competition ELISA. First, binding of each growth factor to their corresponding receptor in a plate-ELISA format was confirmed by coating VEGF-A, VEGF-B, VEGF-C, VEGF-D, PlGF-2, NGF, EGF, PDGF- $\beta$ , or IGF-1 at 2 or 5  $\mu$ g/mL in MAXISORP™ plates overnight at 4° C in PBS. After blocking with block buffer (PBS with 0.5% BSA and 0.05% TWEEN®20) for 2 hours at room temperature, the receptor-Fc fusions or biotinylated receptors were serially diluted using assay buffer (PBS with 0.5% BSA and 0.05% TWEEN®20) and incubated for 1 hour at room temperature. Amount of bound receptor-Fc or biotinylated receptor was detected by incubating with anti-human-Fc-HRP (Life Technologies) or high affinity streptavidin-HRP (ThermoFisher Scientific, Inc.) respectively for 30 min. Competition ELISA was conducted in an identical fashion as described above except after blocking, a mixture of serially diluted peptide containing a constant concentration of receptor-Fc fusion or biotinylated receptor (concentration of receptor was set to EC<sub>60</sub>) was added and incubated for 1 hour. All recombinant human proteins and antibodies were purchased from R & D Systems (Minneapolis, MN).

#### *SPR Binding Assays.*

**[0383]** Binding kinetics and affinities of inhibitors of VEGF-A were assessed using surface plasmon resonance technology on a BIACORE™ 3000 instrument (GE Healthcare) at 37°C using HBS-EP buffer (10 mM HEPES pH 7.4, 150 mM NaCl, 3 mM EDTA and 0.005% v/v surfactant P20) containing 0.1% DMSO (v/v). Depending on the format of the assay either a streptavidin sensor (SA) or a dextran-coated (CM5) sensor was utilized as described below.

**[0384]** For use with the SA sensor, VEGF-A was first biotinylated (no more than 2 biotin/ VEGF-A) by incubating the protein with EZ-link NHS-PEG4-Biotin (Pierce) in a 1:1.5 molar ratio respectively, in PBS for 2 hours on ice. Reaction was then quenched by

addition of 10 molar excess of Glycine pH 8.0 and the sample was buffer exchanged into PBS using an Amicon 0.5 mL 3000 MWCO ultra-centrifugal filters (EMD Millipore). The biotinylation state of the protein was verified by LC-MS analysis. Biotinylated VEGF-A was then captured on the surface until a resonance unit (RU) signal of about ~400. For immobilization of VEGF-A on CM5 sensor, the surface was first activated with a mixture of N-ethyl-N'-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)carbodiimide hydrochloride and N-hydroxysuccinimide (EDC/NHS) according to the supplier instructions. VEGF-A was then diluted into coupling buffer (0.1 M Acetate Buffer, pH 5.0) and injected until the signal reached about ~400 RU followed by a wash with 1 M ethanolamine pH 8.0 to quench remaining activated sites.

**[0385]** Following the capture step, a series of the peptide concentrations were prepared in HBS-EP buffer with matching DMSO concentrations to 0.1% and injected at a flow rate of 80  $\mu$ L/min. The resulting sensorgrams were then analyzed using a 1:1 binding model to obtain kinetic data and affinities using Scrubber 2.0 (BioLogic Software).

#### *CKP synthesis and folding.*

**[0386]** Linear precursor LRP6 peptides were dissolved into DMSO (0.5mg/mL) into 0.1M ammonium bicarbonate (pH 9), 1mM reduced glutathione in 50% DMSO and incubated while shaking at room temperature for 24h. Folded CKPs were purified by RP-HPLC on a C18 column and then collected fractions were analyzed by mass spectrometry, pooled and lyophilized prior to use.

#### *Cell culture and transfection.*

**[0387]** HEK293 cells stably transfected with a firefly luciferase Wnt reporter (Gong et al. (2010) *PLoS ONE* 5,9: e12682). and pRL-SV40 Renilla luciferase (Promega) were grown to 90% confluence in DMEM:F12 (50:50) supplemented with 10% FBS, 2 mM GLUTAMAX™ and 40  $\mu$ g/ml hygromycin. Cells were incubated in a 5% CO<sub>2</sub> humidified incubator at 37 °C for 24 h. Following the incubation, the cells were trypsinized (0.05% Gibco 15400-54 in PBS) then diluted to 4x10<sup>5</sup> cells/ml in DMEM:F12 (50:50) supplemented with 10% FBS, 2 mM GLUTAMAX™. 20,000 cells were loaded into individual wells of white microtest 96-well optilux plates (catalog no. 353947) and incubated for ~24h. Each well was transfected using FUGENE® HD with Wnt1-pCDNA3.2 (5ng/well) or Wnt3a-pCDNA3.2 (25ng/well) then grown for 24h. All LRP6-binding variants were diluted in DMSO and added to cells at a final DMSO concentration of 1% at peptide concentrations of 0, 0.1, 0.1, 1.0, 10, and 100  $\mu$ M for 6 hours. For stimulation with recombinant Wnt3a (5036-

WN-010/CF, R&D Systems) was diluted in PBS to 50ng/mL and added to the incubation media with the indicated CKP.

**[0388]** Luciferase response in all assays was then measured with Promega's DUAL-GLO® kit according to the manufacturer's instructions, except using half the volume of each reagent. Firefly luminescence and Renilla luminescence were measured on a Perkin Elmer ENVISION™ Multilabel Reader. The ratios of firefly luminescence: Renilla luminescence were calculated and normalized to the ratio in control cells expressing or treated with the indicated Wnt protein. Inhibitory constants were calculated using normalized data in Prism Graphpad using the using the  $\log(\text{inhibitor})$  vs. normalized response – variable slope  $Y=100/(1+10^{((\text{LogIC}_{50}-X)*\text{HillSlope}))}$ . Statistical significance was determined using the Holm-Sidak method, with  $\alpha=5.000\%$ . Computations assume that all rows are sample from populations with the same scatter (SD) and  $\text{IC}_{50}$  were identified as significantly different using the Extra sum-of-squares F test where  $P<0.05$  when significant.

*Example 2A: Generation of non-naturally occurring EETI-II variants that bind VEGF-A*

**[0389]** EETI-II (**FIG. 1**) was chosen as a scaffold for display on the surface of M13 bacteriophage. EETI-II was fused to the N terminus of M13 major coat protein p8. Furthermore, a gD-tag was engineered N terminal of EETI-II sequence in order to verify display levels. Three peptide phage libraries were generated based on the EETI-II framework as follows: library I in which loop 1 amino acid residues were randomized and the loop length was varied (6, 8, 10 residues); library II in which loop 5 amino acid residues were randomized and the native loop length was fixed; and library III in which both loops 1 and 5 were randomized in amino acid content simultaneously and loop 1 length was varied from 6 to 10 amino acid residues while loop 5 length was fixed. Altogether, the three libraries contained  $3 \times 10^{10}$  unique members and were cycled through rounds of selection against VEGF-A.

**[0390]** Panning against VEGF-A generated thirteen unique variants that bound to hVEGF<sub>8-109</sub> (*see Table 19*). These variants contained variations in amino acid composition in loop 1 or both loops 1 and 5 simultaneously. Also, a number of variants had a longer loop compared to the native loop present in EETI-II. A conserved **YXS** motif was also apparent in loop 5. We generated soluble folded cystine-knot peptides that correspond to seven of these unique variants, and they all demonstrated binding to hVEGF-A in a phage competition ELISA (**Table 19**). Moreover, we assessed some of the variants in a cellular assay and they

demonstrated cross-species inhibition of human, mouse and rat VEGF-A activity with IC<sub>50</sub> in low  $\mu$ M.

**Table 19: EETI-II-based binders against hVEGF-A**

VARIANT	LOOP 1	LOOP 5	n	ELISA	S/N*
EETI-II	PRILMR (SEQ ID NO: 92)	GPNGF (SEQ ID NO: 15)		0.01	1.11
VEGF_CKP1	ETDWPYHQID (SEQ ID NO: 225)	GPNGF (SEQ ID NO: 15)	2	0.9	16.9
VEGF_CKP2	GETVFEQFLW (SEQ ID NO: 226)	GPNGF (SEQ ID NO: 15)	2	3.2	48.1
VEGF_CKP3	HMMYDY (SEQ ID NO: 227)	EMYDA (SEQ ID NO: 235)	2	3.1	42.9
VEGF_CKP4	KKWQWWYM (SEQ ID NO: 228)	YPWTE (SEQ ID NO: 236)	5	2.6	35.3
VEGF_CKP5	PAIQNWKEHP (SEQ ID NO: 229)	SWWPSL (SEQ ID NO: 237)	2	1.9	28.4
VEGF_CKP6	PTTRFKQY (SEQ ID NO: 8)	GPNGF (SEQ ID NO: 15)	28	3.5	51.9
VEGF_CKP7	QDPTFNWALY (SEQ ID NO: 9)	QMYQS (SEQ ID NO: 16)	2	3.4	54.5
VEGF_CKP8	QLMHPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 230)	HWYRS (SEQ ID NO: 238)	2	3.9	59.4
VEGF_CKP9	QLMQPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 10)	HWYQS (SEQ ID NO: 17)	11	3.3	36.0
VEGF_CKP10	RDLVKWD (SEQ ID NO: 11)	QYSS (SEQ ID NO: 18)	3	3.2	43.7
VEGF_CKP11	RTPWEPHDIT (SEQ ID NO: 12)	GPNGF (SEQ ID NO: 15)	16	4.1	57.5
VEGF_CKP12	TTPWPPHEIM (SEQ ID NO: 13)	GPNGF (SEQ ID NO: 15)	75	3.5	55.2
VEGF_CKP13	VTPWKPHWIN (SEQ ID NO: 14)	GPNGF (SEQ ID NO: 15)	2	3.5	56.3

\*S/N = signal to noise ratio as compared to BSA control

**Table 20: Phage Competition ELISA and cellular inhibitory activities of soluble EETI-II-based binders against hVEGF-A**

VARIANT	In vitro IC <sub>50</sub> (μM)	Cellular Assay		
		hVEGF-A (25 ng/ml)	mVEGF (50 ng/ml)	rVEGF (50 ng/ml)
VEGF_CKP6	3	47	169	711.2 (partial)
VEGF_CKP7	12	18	39	7
VEGF_CKP9	0.6	12	10	1
VEGF_CKP10	1	45	ND*	18
VEGF_CKP11	80	ND*	ND*	ND*
VEGF_CKP12	60	102	243	1220 (partial)
VEGF_CKP13	80	ND*	ND*	ND*

\*ND= not determined

**[0391]** To further improve the potency of these variants, we followed up on VEGF\_CKP7 and VEGF\_CKP9. Soft randomization was done on loops 1 and 5 within the VEGF-CKP7 framework, resulting in 16 unique variants that bound to human VEGF-A (*see Table 21 below*).

**Table 21: CKP\_7 Affinity-matured binders against hVEGF-A**

VARIANT	LOOP 1	LOOP 5	n	ELISA	S/N*
VEGF_CKP7	QDPTFNWALY (SEQ ID NO: 9)	QMYQS (SEQ ID NO: 16)	1	0.1	1.3
VEGF_CKP7.2	DDPSFDWSVY (SEQ ID NO: 287)	RMYDS (SEQ ID NO: 292)	1	1.2	21.5
VEGF_CKP7.8	KNPLFNWALY (SEQ ID NO: 60)	QLFDS SEQ ID NO: 71)	2	0.5	7.5
VEGF_CKP7.17	QDPTVNWAVY (SEQ ID NO: 61)	QFYQS (SEQ ID NO: 72)	1	0.8	13.4
VEGF_CKP7.19	QDPTFNWAEY (SEQ ID NO: 62)	QLYQS (SEQ ID NO: 73)	2	0.6	11.1
VEGF_CKP7.24	WDPTFNWALY (SEQ ID NO: 288)	QMYDS (SEQ ID NO: 76)	2	0.8	13.4
VEGF_CKP7.35	QDPTFNWAEY (SEQ ID NO: 62)	QMYQS (SEQ ID NO: 16)	3	0.6	10.6

	62)				
VEGF_CKP7.43	QDPTLNWATY (SEQ ID NO: 289)	QMYQS (SEQ ID NO: 16)	1	0.5	6.3
VEGF_CKP7.46	EDPTVDWAQY (SEQ ID NO: 290)	QMYQS (SEQ ID NO: 16)	1	0.3	4.9
VEGF_CKP7.50	QDPSLNWADY (SEQ ID NO: 63)	QMHQS (SEQ ID NO: 74)	1	0.8	14.3
VEGF_CKP7.54	LDRTLNWALY (SEQ ID NO: 64)	QMYNS (SEQ ID NO: 75)	1	0.5	9.3
VEGF_CKP7.57	LDPSFNWSLY (SEQ ID NO: 65)	QMYDS (SEQ ID NO: 76)	2	1.0	17.4
VEGF_CKP7.73	RDLTINWALF (SEQ ID NO: 66)	QMFNS (SEQ ID NO: 274)	1	1.2	19.2
VEGF_CKP7.78	KDTTFNWGLF (SEQ ID NO: 291)	QLYQS (SEQ ID NO: 73)	1	0.7	11.8
VEGF_CKP7.81	LDPTVNWALF (SEQ ID NO: 67)	QHYKT (SEQ ID NO: 77)	1	1.1	18.6
VEGF_CKP7.88	QDPKLNWAVY (SEQ ID NO: 68)	QLFNS (SEQ ID NO: 78)	2	0.5	7.7
LRP6_CKP7.89	LDPSFDWALY (SEQ ID NO: 69)	QLYNS (SEQ ID NO: 79)	1	0.5	8.1

\*S/N = signal to noise ratio as compared to BSA control

**[0392]** Soft randomization was done on loops 1 and 5 within the VEGF-CKP9 framework, resulting in 16 unique variants that bound to human VEGF-A (*see Tables 22-24 below*).

**Table 22: VEGF\_CKP9 Loop1 Affinity-Matured Variants Against VEGF-A**

VARIANT	L1 SEQUENCE	n	ELISA	S/N*
VEGF_CKP9	QLMQPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 10)		0.4	7.4
VEGF_CKP9.L1.2	HLFEPLWG (SEQ ID NO: 245)	17	1.6	12.5

VEGF_CKP9.L1.7	QVMRPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 246)	3	1.5	8.9
VEGF_CKP9.L1.8	QVMQPAWG (SEQ ID NO: 247)	1	1.2	12.8
VEGF_CKP9.L1.19	HRLQPLWG (SEQ ID NO: 248)	3	1.4	11.6
VEGF_CKP9.L1.26	ELLQPSWG (SEQ ID NO: 249)	4	1.7	11.9
VEGF_CKP9.L1.57	NPMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 368)	3	3.7	31.8
VEGF_CKP9.L1.64	NVLLPLWG (SEQ ID NO: 250)	1	2.3	19.9
VEGF_CKP9.L1.68	DIMQPLWG (SEQ ID NO: 36)	1	2.0	23.2
VEGF_CKP9.L1.76	DLMQPLWG (SEQ ID NO: 251)	2	2.5	17.4
VEGF_CKP9.L1.78	NPMLPLWG (SEQ ID NO: 252)	1	3.0	25.1
VEGF_CKP9.L1.79	QVLQPSWG (SEQ ID NO: 253)	1	1.2	10.0

\*S/N = signal to noise ratio as compared to BSA control

**Table 23: VEGF\_CKP9 Loop5 Affinity-Matured Variants Against VEGF-A**

VARIANT	L5 SEQUENCE	n	ELISA	S/N*
VEGF_CKP9	HWYQS (SEQ ID NO:17)		0.9	11.6
VEGF_CKP9.L5.7	RWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 133)	11	1.4	18.9
VEGF_CKP9.L5.18	HWYQS (SEQ ID NO: 17)	1	1.6	20.4
VEGF_CKP9.L5.43	RWYHS (SEQ ID NO: 43)	2	0.9	13.6

\*S/N = signal to noise ratio as compared to BSA control

**Table 24: VEGF\_CKP9 Loop1/Loop5 Affinity-Matured Variants Against VEGF-A**

VARIANT	LOOP 1	LOOP 5	n	ELISA	S/N*
VEGF_CKP9	QLMQPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 10)	HWYQS (SEQ ID NO:17)		0.4	7.4

VEGF_CKP9.2	DVLQPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 28)	HWYQS (SEQ ID NO: 17)	20	2.4	31.1
VEGF_CKP9.3	QISQPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 29)	HFYNS (SEQ ID NO: 41)	1	1.6	24.5
VEGF_CKP9.4	DRMQPLWG (SEQ ID NO: 30)	LWYKS (SEQ ID NO: 42)		N/D	N/D
VEGF_CKP9.9	QLLEPMWG (SEQ ID NO: 254)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	1	1.1	19.7
VEGF_CKP9.14	KLLQPMWG (SEQ ID NO: 255)	RWYQS (SEQ ID NO: 44)	1	2.0	30.1
VEGF_CKP9.11	DRMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 256)	QWYKS (SEQ ID NO: 262)	1	1.1	14.1
VEGF_CKP9.20	NLMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 31)	RWYHS (SEQ ID NO: 43)	1	1.7	13.3
VEGF_CKP9.22	QRTQPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 32)	RWYQS (SEQ ID NO: 44)	1	1.2	17.2
VEGF_CKP9.47	KIMQPLWG (SEQ ID NO: 257)	LWYDS (SEQ ID NO: 263)	1	1.0	14.6
VEGF_CKP9.51	NLMHPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 258)	HWYQS (SEQ ID NO: 17)	1	1.0	11.0
VEGF_CKP9.54	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)	1	2.1	28.4
VEGF_CKP9.59	DPMQPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 34)	RWYQS (SEQ ID NO: 44)		N/D	N/D
VEGF_CKP9.63	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	1	2.0	29.7
VEGF_CKP9.69	ALLQPLWG (SEQ ID NO: 259)	RWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 133)	1	1.0	14.3
VEGF_CKP9.71	QLLQPLWG (SEQ ID NO: 37)	RWYQS (SEQ ID NO: 44)	1	1.0	16.5
VEGF_CKP9.72	RLLEPSWG (SEQ ID NO: 260)	QWYQS (SEQ ID NO: 264)	1	0.6	10.0
VEGF_CKP9.76	HLLLPLWG (SEQ ID NO: 261)	RWYHS (SEQ ID NO: 43)	1	1.3	15.5
VEGF_CKP9.96	KLFEPLWG (SEQ ID NO: 39)	RWYES (SEQ ID NO: 567)	1	1.2	18.4

\*S/N = signal to noise ratio as compared to BSA control

**[0393]** These clones were selected for further validation in a phage titration assay, and soluble folded forms corresponding to ten of these sequences were generated for further in vitro assessment (see **Table 25** below). From this set of variants, VEGF\_CKP9.2,

VEGF\_CKP9.54 and VEGF\_CKP9.63 exhibited improved potency against VEGF-A compared to parent VEGF-CKP9 in in vitro and cellular assays, with IC<sub>50</sub> in 100 – 200 nM range (see **Table 25**).

**Table 25: Inhibitory activity in phage competition ELISA and VEGF-A-KDR interaction ELISA**

VARIANT	phage ELISA IC <sub>50</sub> (μM)	Cellular IC <sub>50</sub> (nM)
VEGF_CKP9	1.36	11700
VEGF_CKP9.2	0.168	270
VEGF_CKP9.3	1.50	N/D
VEGF_CKP9.4	1.95	N/D
VEGF_CKP9.20	1.34	N/D
VEGF_CKP9.22	>100	N/D
VEGF_CKP9.54	0.45	188
VEGF_CKP9.59	5.82	N/D
VEGF_CKP9.63	0.146	140
VEGF_CKP9.96	49.00	N/D

**[0394]** To enhance potency, we selected the lead 9.54 and 9.63 molecules and generated new phage libraries based on these frameworks in which loop 2 was randomized. The new libraries were panned against hVEGF-A and yielded a number of loop 2 variants which demonstrated significantly improved potency against VEGF-A compared to parent 9.54 and 9.63 molecules (see **Tables 26** and **27** below, respectively), with the most potent molecules exhibiting IC<sub>50</sub> in 0.5 – 2 nM range (see **Table 28** below).

**Table 26: Affinity-matured VEGF-A binding loop 2 variants based on 9.54 framework**

VARIANT	LOOP 1	LOOP 2	LOOP 5	n	ELISA	S/N*
VEGF_CKP9	QLMQPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 10)	KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93)	HWYQS (SEQ ID NO: 17)			
VEGF_CKP9.54	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93)	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)			
VEGF_CKP9.54.1	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	GQSFE (SEQ ID NO: 93)	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)	80	2.4	29.9

	33)	94)	45)			
VEGF_CKP9.54. 2	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	GLDYD (SEQ ID NO: 95)	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)	1	0.1	26
VEGF_CKP9.54. 12	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	GPELN (SEQ ID NO: 298)	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)	1	2.4	38.8
VEGF_CKP9.54. 14	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	QADYA (SEQ ID NO: 299)	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)	1	2.5	23.5
VEGF_CKP9.54. 16	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	GVDYL (SEQ ID NO: 300)	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)	1	2.4	30.8
VEGF_CKP9.54. 31	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	GTNFL (SEQ ID NO: 301)	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)	1	2.3	32.5
VEGF_CKP9.54. 44	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	SRDFD (SEQ ID NO: 302)	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)	1	2.4	34.4
VEGF_CKP9.54. 48	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	NRDFL (SEQ ID NO: 303)	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)	1	2.5	34.9
VEGF_CKP9.54. 51	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	GWDQF (SEQ ID NO: 304)	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)	1	2.5	44.5
VEGF_CKP9.54. 56	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	GKDFH (SEQ ID NO: 305)	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)	1	2.3	35.8
VEGF_CKP9.54. 59	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	GPLDQ (SEQ ID NO: 96)	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)	1	2.3	35.4
VEGF_CKP9.54. 64	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	SGDFA (SEQ ID NO: 306)	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)	1	2.2	22.4
VEGF_CKP9.54. 69	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	GKELN (SEQ ID NO: 307)	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)	1	2.5	21.7
VEGF_CKP9.54. 76	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	GWSMD (SEQ ID NO: 308)	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)	1	2.7	42.2
VEGF_CKP9.54. 87	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	GYDLQ (SEQ ID NO: 309)	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)	1	2.4	26.1
VEGF_CKP9.54. 90	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	GRDFE (SEQ ID NO: 97)	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)	1	2.3	29.5

\*S/N = signal to noise ratio as compared to BSA control

**Table 27: Affinity-matured VEGF-A binding loop 2 variants based on VEGF\_CKP9.63 framework**

**\*S/N = signal to noise ratio as compared to BSA control**

VARIANT	LOOP 1	LOOP 2	LOOP 5	ELISA	S/N*
VEGF_CKP9	QLMQPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 10)	GRDLQ (SEQ ID NO: 322)	HWYQS (SEQ ID NO: 17)		
VEGF_CKP9.6 3	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	GVDLS (SEQ ID NO: 323)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)		
VEGF_CKP9.6 3.1	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	GPDID (SEQ ID NO: 118)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	2.0	25.2
VEGF_CKP9.6 3.2	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	GDDLE (SEQ ID NO: 324)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	2.0	15.0
VEGF_CKP9.6 3.3	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	GVDMT (SEQ ID NO: 325)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	1.7	20.7
VEGF_CKP9.6 3.12	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	GMDIE (SEQ ID NO: 326)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	2.6	39.9
VEGF_CKP9.6 3.14	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	DGDYQ (SEQ ID NO: 327)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	1.5	21.3
VEGF_CKP9.6 3.15	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	GNDVS (SEQ ID NO: 328)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	1.5	21.4
VEGF_CKP9.6 3.16	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	GRDMD (SEQ ID NO: 119)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	2.2	10.3
VEGF_CKP9.6 3.18	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	AGDEL (SEQ ID NO: 329)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	2.3	17.3
VEGF_CKP9.6 3.24	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	GLDEE (SEQ ID NO: 330)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	1.6	20.4
VEGF_CKP9.6 3.27	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	DGDFD (SEQ ID NO: 331)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	2.1	26.0
VEGF_CKP9.6 3.30	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	AGDFE (SEQ ID NO: 332)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	2.0	26.0
VEGF_CKP9.6 3.37	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	EMDFD (SEQ ID NO: 333)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	0.6	8.6

	35)	120)	46)		
VEGF_CKP9.6 3.39	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	GNSFE (SEQ ID NO: 333)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	1.6	18.9
VEGF_CKP9.6 3.42	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	GQDLT (SEQ ID NO: 334)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	1.7	23.1
VEGF_CKP9.6 3.44	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	GENLA (SEQ IDNO: 335)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	1.7	19.5
VEGF_CKP9.6 3.47	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	GQDYN (SEQ ID NO: 336)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	1.7	20.7
VEGF_CKP9.6 3.50	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	GADLS (SEQ ID NO: 337)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	0.9	12.7
VEGF_CKP9.6 3.54	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	GFDMD (SEQ ID NO: 338)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	1.4	19.9
VEGF_CKP9.6 3.56	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	GESLS (SEQ ID NO: 211)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	1.8	8.4
VEGF_CKP9.6 3.62	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	DLNVE (SEQ ID NO: 339)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	1.8	25.4
VEGF_CKP9.6 3.65	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	GRDLQ (SEQ ID NO: 322)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	2.0	27.1
VEGF_CKP9.6 3.69	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	GVDLS (SEQ ID NO: 323)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	2.9	23.7
VEGF_CKP9.6 3.87	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	GPDID (SEQ ID NO: 118)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	0.9	8.6

**Table 28. Inhibitory activity of VEGF\_CKP9.54- and VEGF\_CKP9.63-derived loop 2 variants against VEGF-A**

VARIANT	LOOP 1	LOOP 2	LOOP 5	KDR-VEGF IC <sub>50</sub> (nM)	Cellular IC <sub>50</sub> (nM)
VEGF_CKP9	QLMQPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 10)	KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93)	HWYQS (SEQ ID NO: 17)	569	11700
VEGF_CKP9.5	NIMLPFWG	KQDSD	QYYQS	5.8	188

4	(SEQ ID NO: 33)	(SEQ ID NO: 93)	(SEQ ID NO: 45)		
VEGF_CKP9.5 4.1	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	GQSFE (SEQ ID NO: 94)	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)	0.2	1.47
VEGF_CKP9.5 4.2	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	GLDYD (SEQ ID NO: 95)	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)	0.2	4.3
VEGF_CKP9.5 4.59	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	GPDLQ (SEQ ID NO: 96)	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)	0.5	3.06
VEGF_CKP9.5 4.90	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	GRDFE (SEQ ID NO: 97)	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)	0.2	1.35
VEGF_CKP9.6 3	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	KQDSD (SEQ ID NO: 93)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	10.8	140
VEGF_CKP9.6 3.1	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	GENFL (SEQ ID NO: 117)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	0.4	0.49
VEGF_CKP9.6 3.27	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	GRDMD (SEQ ID NO: 119)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	0.3	5.28
VEGF_CKP9.6 3.44	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	EMDFD (SEQ ID NO: 120)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	0.2	2.05
VEGF_CKP9.6 3.69	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	GESLS (SEQ ID NO: 211)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	2.1	26.4
VEGF_CKP9.6 3.12	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	GPDID (SEQ ID NO: 118)	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)	0.7	1.83

**[0395]** The affinities / potencies of VEGF\_CKP9.63.1, VEGF\_CKP9.63.27, VEGF\_CKP9.63.44, VEGF\_CKP9.63.69, and VEGF\_CKP9.63.12 for hVEGF-A (8-109) are shown below in **Table 29**.

**Table 29**

VARIANT	$k_a$	$k_d$	$K_D$
EM63	0.16 ± 0.03	1.6 ± 0.5	100 ± 9 nM
L2.9.63.1	6 ± 1	0.37 ± 0.13	5.8 ± 1.2
L2.9.63.12	8 ± 1	0.10 ± 0.04	1.1 ± 0.2

L2.9.63.27	11 ± 4	0.15 ± 0.04	1.4 ± 0.2
L2.9.63.44	10 ± 2	0.11 ± 0.02	1.2 ± 0.2
L2.9.63.69	3 ± 1	0.20 ± 0.04	6.9 ± 0.7

**[0396]** Variants VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 (*see* row 2 of **Table 26**) and VEGF\_CKP9.63.12 (*see* row 6 of **Table 27**), as well as parental variants VEGF\_CKP9.54 (*see* row 12 of **Table 24**) and VEGF\_CKP9.63 (*see* row 15 of **Table 24**), bind with similar affinity to human, mouse, rat and rabbit VEGF-A, as determined by surface plasmon resonance. *See* **Table 30** below.

**Table 30: Binding kinetics and affinities of VEGF\_CKP9.54.90, VEGF\_CKP9.63.12, VEGF\_CKP9.54, and VEGF\_CKP9.63 for various VEGF isoforms.**

VARIANT	VEGF Isoform	ka	ka (error)	kd	kd (error)	KD (nM)	KD (error)
<b>9.54</b>	human 8-109	1.26x10 <sup>6</sup>	1.10x10 <sup>5</sup>	2.18x10 <sup>-1</sup>	1.19x10 <sup>-2</sup>	175.88	18.21
	human 165	8.23x10 <sup>5</sup>	1.11x10 <sup>5</sup>	1.49x10 <sup>-1</sup>	1.29x10 <sup>-2</sup>	189.67	34.57
	mouse 164	8.26x10 <sup>5</sup>	2.93x10 <sup>4</sup>	2.07x10 <sup>-1</sup>	2.44x10 <sup>-2</sup>	249.87	21.19
	rat	1.93x10 <sup>6</sup>	8.91x10 <sup>5</sup>	2.96x10 <sup>-1</sup>	9.36x10 <sup>-2</sup>	175.64	26.27
	rabbit	2.10x10 <sup>6</sup>	7.12x10 <sup>5</sup>	2.74x10 <sup>-1</sup>	9.14x10 <sup>-2</sup>	133.22	9.47
<b>9.54.90</b>	human 8-109	5.15x10 <sup>7</sup>	1.62x10 <sup>7</sup>	4.05x10 <sup>-2</sup>	8.77x10 <sup>-3</sup>	0.87	0.13
	human 165	1.58x10 <sup>7</sup>	3.87x10 <sup>6</sup>	1.33x10 <sup>-2</sup>	1.70x10 <sup>-3</sup>	0.89	0.10
	mouse 164	8.71x10 <sup>6</sup>	2.79x10 <sup>6</sup>	1.01x10 <sup>-2</sup>	2.12x10 <sup>-3</sup>	1.31	0.24
	rat	1.72x10 <sup>7</sup>	7.43x10 <sup>6</sup>	1.35x10 <sup>-2</sup>	3.33x10 <sup>-3</sup>	0.90	0.14
	rabbit	5.15x10 <sup>7</sup>	1.36x10 <sup>7</sup>	6.75x10 <sup>-2</sup>	8.99x10 <sup>-3</sup>	1.14	0.18
<b>9.63</b>	human 8-109	6.62x10 <sup>5</sup>	9.83x10 <sup>4</sup>	1.81x10 <sup>-1</sup>	2.56x10 <sup>-2</sup>	281.44	43.53
	human 165	3.40x10 <sup>5</sup>	2.79x10 <sup>4</sup>	1.30x10 <sup>-1</sup>	1.33x10 <sup>-2</sup>	381.89	19.15
	mouse 164	5.57x10 <sup>5</sup>	4.60x10 <sup>4</sup>	1.60x10 <sup>-1</sup>	1.35x10 <sup>-2</sup>	288.75	11.08
	rat	4.56x10 <sup>5</sup>	1.49 x10 <sup>5</sup>	2.46x10 <sup>-1</sup>	9.23x10 <sup>-2</sup>	523.93	25.06
	rabbit	4.24x10 <sup>5</sup>	3.22x10 <sup>4</sup>	1.30x10 <sup>-1</sup>	1.95x10 <sup>-2</sup>	311.43	52.25
<b>9.63.12</b>	human 8-109	6.54x10 <sup>6</sup>	7.25x10 <sup>5</sup>	2.50x10 <sup>-2</sup>	3.45x10 <sup>-3</sup>	3.20	0.22
	human 165	4.65x10 <sup>6</sup>	8.39x10 <sup>5</sup>	2.01x10 <sup>-2</sup>	3.95x10 <sup>-3</sup>	4.32	0.15

mouse 164	1.04x10 <sup>6</sup>	2.81x10 <sup>5</sup>	1.32x10 <sup>-2</sup>	3.04x10 <sup>-3</sup>	13.07	1.74
rat	6.44x10 <sup>6</sup>	3.87x10 <sup>6</sup>	2.59x10 <sup>-2</sup>	1.01x10 <sup>-2</sup>	5.74	1.54
rabbit	6.91x10 <sup>6</sup>	1.35x10 <sup>6</sup>	1.78x10 <sup>-2</sup>	4.46x10 <sup>-3</sup>	2.54	0.40

**[0397]** VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 is also highly selective to VEGF-A and does not bind to or inhibit the activity of other VEGF isoforms such as VEGF-B, VEGF-C and VEGF-D or other growth factors such as PIGF, EGF, NGF, IGF and PDGF. As shown in **FIGS. 2A** and **2B**, the variant VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 disrupts the interaction between VEGF-A and KDR as well as the interaction between VEGF-A and Flt-1, but not disrupt the interaction between VEGF-B and Flt-1, between VEGF-C and Flt-4, between VEGF-D and Flt-4, between PIGF-2 and Flt-1, between EGF and EGFR, between PDGF and PDGFR, between NGF and NGFR, or between IGF and IGFR.

**[0398]** Unlike EETI-II, VEGF\_CKP9.54.90, VEGF\_CKP9.54, and VEGF\_CKP9.63.12 do not inhibit trypsin protease activity as measured in a peptide substrate cleavage assay (Stanger et al. (2014) *FEBS Lett.* 588 (23), 4487-96). See **FIG. 3**. However, VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 and VEGF\_CKP9.63.12 maintain a degree of resistance to trypsin digestion (see **FIG. 4**). Approximately 20% of VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 was cleaved at Arg13 within loop 2 after 24 h incubation with trypsin at 37°C.

**[0399]** VEGF\_CKP9.54, VEGF\_CKP9.63, and VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 each contains roughly a 3-turn alpha-helix and each adopts a disulfide signature that is distinct from that of wild-type EETI-II (C1-C4, C2-C3, C5-C6 for VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 vs. C1-C4, C2-C5, C3-C6 for wild-type EETI-II). See **FIG. 5**. On one side of the helix, VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 forms a fused bicyclic structure that is bridged by two disulfide bonds (C1-C4 and C2-C3), encompassing loops 1, 2 and 3, and ~ 1.5 turn of the alpha-helix. Loop 5 forms on the opposite side of the helix and is constrained by C5-C6 disulfide bond.

**[0400]** The co-crystal structures of VEGF\_CKP9.54, VEGF\_CKP9.63, and VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 in complex with VEGF-A were obtained. co-crystal structures of VEGF\_CKP9.54, VEGF\_CKP9.63, and VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 in complex with VEGF-A are highly similar. See **FIGS. 5** and **6** for the co-crystal structure of VEGF\_CKP9.54 in complex with VEGF-A. Given that the structures of VEGF\_CKP9.54, VEGF\_CKP9.63, and VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 are highly similar, (see **FIGS. 5** and **6**) further studies were performed with VEGF\_CKP9.54.90. The helix defined by residues Phe15 – Tyr26 of VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 forms extensive hydrophobic and polar interactions with the VEGF-A surface (see **Table 31** below). Additionally, there is a network of backbone H-bonds which

forms within and stabilizes the ~3-turn alpha-helix. In general, VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 exhibits a compact and rigid structure, stabilized by intramolecular polar and hydrophobic contacts, including backbone-backbone, side chain-backbone and side chain-side chain interactions (Table 32). The surface of VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 that contacts VEGF-A is mainly hydrophobic in nature with few polar side chains (Table 31), whereas the opposite surface of the peptide that is not interacting with VEGF-A is solvent-exposed and primarily polar in nature.

**Table 31: VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 residues that are within 4 Å of the VEGF-A dimer**

VEGF_CKP9.54.90 residues within 4 Å of VEGFA	
VEGF_CKP9.54.90 (Chain 1)	VEGF_CKP9.54.90 (Chain 2)
I4	I4
M5	M5
L6	L6
P7	P7
F8	F8
W9	W9
R13	R13
D14	D14
F15	F15
L18	L18
A19	A19
V22	V22
C23	C23
Y25	Y25
Y26	Y26
Q27	Q27
S28	S28
G30	G30

**Table 32: Summary of VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 intra-molecular interactions**

Residue 1	Residue 2	Comments
Cys2	Cys21	Disulfide
Asn3	Trp9	Main chain H-bond
Asn3	Met5	Asp3 makes H-bond with M5 main chain nitrogen

Asn3	Leu6	Main chain H-bond
Leu6	Trp9	Main chain H-bond
Pro7	Gly10	Main chain H-bond
Phe8	Cys11	Main chain H-bond
Phe8	Leu18	Van der Waals interaction
Trp9	Ile4, Leu18, Val22, Tyr25, Tyr26	Core Trp makes a network of Van der Waals interactions
Cys11	Cys17	Disulfide
Gly12	Asp14	Main chain H-bond
Asp14	Glu16, C17	Asp14 makes stabilizing H-bond with N-terminus of helix
Phe15	Leu18, Ala19	Van der Waals interactions stabilizing helix
Leu18	Val22	Van der Waals interactions stabilizing helix
Val22	Tyr26	Van der Waals interactions stabilizing helix
Phe15 – Tyr26		Network of backbone H-bonds form stabilizing a ~3-turn helix
Cys23	Cys29	Disulfide
Tyr25	Tyr26	Van der Waals interactions stabilizing helix
Gln27	Cys23	Main chain H-bond
Ser28	Cys23	Main chain H-bond

**[0401]** The binding interface of VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 on VEGF-A overlaps with that of the natural receptors and G6.31 antibody (**FIGS. 7 and 8**). Contact residues on VEGF-A that are in the peptide interface are summarized in **Table 33** and shown in **FIG. 9**. The binding epitope of VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 on VEGF-A is distinct from that of ranibizumab and bevacizumab (**FIG. 10**), which do not bind to mouse or rat VEGF-A because their interaction with human VEGF-A is dependent on a key Gly88 residue that is substituted with Ser in rodents. The binding mode of VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 suggests that it is not substantially dependent on Gly88, and this notion is validated by the observation that the peptide bound efficiently to both human and rodent VEGF-A. Site-directed mutagenesis was utilized to validate a number of contacts in the protein – peptide interface observed from the crystal structure. As expected, Y21A, Q89A and F17A/M81A mutations on VEGF-A led to reduced binding of VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 on VEGF-A. See **FIG. 11**. However, K48A mutation enhanced the binding of VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 by ~ 2-3 fold, a behavior that is similar to that observed with the G6.31 antibody (Fuh et al. (2006) *J. Biol. Chem.* 281, 6625-6631). See **Table 34** below and **FIG. 11**.

Table 33. VEGF-A dimer residues that are within 4 Å of VEGF\_CKP9.54.90

VEGF-A residues within 4 Å of VEGF_CKP9.54.90	
VEGF-A (Dimer Chain A)	VEGF-A (Dimer Chain B)
	V14
	V15
F17	F17
M18	M18
	D19
Y21	Y21
Q22	Q22
Y25	Y25
I46	I46
K48	K48
N62	N62
D63	D63
L66	L66
M81	M81
I83	I83
K84	K84
P85	P85
H86	H86
Q87	Q87
G88	G88
Q89	Q89
I91	
	C104
	R105
P106	P106

Table 34: Binding kinetics and affinities of VEGF\_CKP9.54.90, VEGF\_CKP9.63.12, VEGF\_CKP9.54, and VEGF\_CKP9.63 for various hVEGF-A mutants.

VARIANT	VEGF MUTANT	ka	ka (error)	kd	kd (error)	KD (nM)	KD (error)
9.54.90	WT	7.81x10 <sup>7</sup>	1.86x10 <sup>7</sup>	0.0300	9.79x10 <sup>-3</sup>	0.37	0.09
	Y21A	3.72x10 <sup>7</sup>	1.30x10 <sup>7</sup>	0.1202	2.44x10 <sup>-2</sup>	3.50	0.30
	K48A	6.04x10 <sup>7</sup>	2.12x10 <sup>7</sup>	0.0116	3.77x10 <sup>-3</sup>	0.19	0.02
	Q89A	1.71x10 <sup>7</sup>	8.38x10 <sup>6</sup>	0.1458	5.99x10 <sup>-2</sup>	8.80	0.45

	F17A/M81A						
9.63.12	WT	8.43×10 <sup>6</sup>	1.47×10 <sup>6</sup>	0.0096	0.0035	1.07	0.20
	Y21A	1.99×10 <sup>7</sup>	6.84×10 <sup>6</sup>	1.48×10 <sup>-1</sup>	3.13×10 <sup>-2</sup>	9.84	4.41
	K48A	5.30×10 <sup>7</sup>	3.77×10 <sup>7</sup>	0.017	0.013	0.33	0.01
	Q89A	7.43×10 <sup>6</sup>	2.09×10 <sup>6</sup>	0.47	2.71×10 <sup>-1</sup>	36.49	1.62
	F17A/M81A						
9.54	WT	4.10×10 <sup>6</sup>	8.59×10 <sup>5</sup>	0.2349	0.0778	55	7
	Y21A	6.63×10 <sup>5</sup>	6.39×10 <sup>3</sup>	0.2101	0.0389	317	56
	K48A	2.64×10 <sup>6</sup>	2.24×10 <sup>5</sup>	0.0587	0.0010	22	3
	Q89A	3.37×10 <sup>5</sup>	1.41×10 <sup>5</sup>	0.7932	0.5101	1882	460
	F17A/M81A						
9.63	WT	1.57×10 <sup>6</sup>	3.14×10 <sup>5</sup>	0.1624	0.05	100.34	9.40
	Y21A	7.52×10 <sup>5</sup>	2.45×10 <sup>5</sup>	0.4814	2.13×10 <sup>-1</sup>	584.85	112.171
	K48A	5.72×10 <sup>5</sup>	1.75×10 <sup>5</sup>	0.02	5.24×10 <sup>-3</sup>	28.4	4.8
	Q89A	2.66×10 <sup>5</sup>	8.01×10 <sup>4</sup>	0.51	1.22×10 <sup>-1</sup>	1999.8	127.5
	F17A/M81A						

**[0402]** Next, VEGF-A binding variants VEGF\_CKP9.54.90, VEGF\_CKP9.63.12, and VEGF\_CKP9.63.44 were assessed for their *in vivo* efficacy in a VEGF-A driven model of choroidal neovascularization. Laser-burnt spots were created in rat eyes and the formation of new vessels was monitored after a 14-day period in the presence and absence of peptide that was administered intravitreally at different intervals. Peptide VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 demonstrated effective inhibition of laser-induced choroidal neovascularization in rat eyes, as measured by the significant reduction observed in neovascular area in peptide-treated eyes compared to control eyes. See **FIG. 12**.

**[0403]** The co-crystal structure of VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 in complex with VEGF-A revealed that the native amino acid residues in loops 3 and 4 are not necessarily in optimal orientations for binding to VEGF-A (see **FIG. 9**) and could be modified to enhance their interaction with the VEGF-A surface or to elicit intramolecular interactions within the peptide that could improve peptide folding and stability. Therefore, with the goal of further improving the potency and behavior of the lead molecules, new phage libraries were constructed based on the sequences of 9.54, 54.1 and 9.63, 63.12 in which only loops 3 and 4 were randomized. These specific frameworks, though slightly weaker than the lead molecules, were selected in order to allow for a sufficient dynamic range in the assay to detect improvement in affinity. Many new clones containing variations in loops 3 and 4 only were identified that showed improved binding to VEGF-A. Fourteen of the obtained sequences were selected and grafted onto loops 3 and 4 within the lead VEGF\_CKP9.54.90

or VEGF\_CKP9.63.12 molecules, and the corresponding soluble molecules were then generated in folded form. The amino acid sequences of the fourteen affinity-matured variants are provided in **Table 35** below.

**Table 35: Affinity-matured VEGF-A binding loop 3/loop 4 variants based on VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 or VEGF\_CKP9.63.12 frameworks**

VARIANT	LOOP 1	LOOP 2	LOOP 3	LOOP 4	LOOP 5
.54.90.7	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	GRDFE (SEQ ID NO: 97)	LQQ	I	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)
.54.90.10	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	GRDFE (SEQ ID NO: 97)	VER	I	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)
.54.90.12	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	GRDFE (SEQ ID NO: 97)	MSD	I	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)
.54.90.13	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	GRDFE (SEQ ID NO: 97)	MNQ	I	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)
.54.90.25	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	GRDFE (SEQ ID NO: 97)	MQT	I	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)
.54.90.31	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	GRDFE (SEQ ID NO: 97)	VYQ	I	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)
.54.90.44	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	GRDFE (SEQ ID NO: 97)	FIN	I	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)
.54.90.53	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	GRDFE (SEQ ID NO: 97)	VSQ	I	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)
.54.90.55	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	GRDFE (SEQ ID NO: 97)	VTE	I	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)
9.54.90.62	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	GRDFE (SEQ ID NO: 97)	FYE	I	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)
9.54.90.67	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	GRDFE (SEQ ID NO: 97)	MEQ	I	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)
9.54.90.71	NIMLPFWG (SEQ ID NO: 33)	GRDFE (SEQ ID NO: 97)	VYR	I	QYYQS (SEQ ID NO: 45)
9.63.12.8	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	GPDID (SEQ ID NO: 118)	FVR	L	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)
9.63.12.12	DVMQPYWG (SEQ ID NO: 35)	GPDID (SEQ ID NO: 118)	LSN	I	HWYNS (SEQ ID NO: 46)

**[0404]** All soluble molecules containing L3/L4 variations showed improved potency in the cellular assay relative to 54.90 or 63.12.12. Three lead molecules,

VEGF\_CKP9.54.90.67, VEGF\_CKP9.54.90.53 and VEGF\_CKP9.63.12.12 had cellular IC<sub>50</sub> values in the range of about 0.5 to about 1 nM. See **FIG. 13** and **Table 36** below.

**Table 36: IC<sub>50</sub> values for variants in Table 35**

VARIANT	Cellular IC <sub>50</sub> (nM)	FOLD IMPROVEMENT RELATIVE TO VARIANT 9.54.90
9.54.90	1.35	1
9.54.90.12	1.20	1.125
9.54.90.13	0.96	1.41
9.54.90.25	1.26	1.07
9.54.90.44	1.16	1.16
9.54.90.62	0.92	1.47
9.54.90.67	1.10	1.23
9.63.12	1.83	0.74
9.63.12.8	N/D	
9.63.12.12	0.56	2.41

**[0405]** The co-crystal structure of VEGF\_CKP9.63 in complex with VEGF-A revealed that Tyr residue at position 8 within loop1 could form a hydrogen bond with the side chain of Gln22 on VEGF-A. See **FIG. 14**. In variants derived from VEGF\_CKP9.54 (such as the variants in **Table 35**) the amino acid at position 8 is Phe. Therefore, we sought to mutate Phe8 to Tyr I in some of the variants in **Table 35**, with the goal of improving affinity and/or solubility of the resulting F8Y variant. The F8Y mutation showed a modest improvement on affinity / potency of some of the molecules (e.g., VEGF\_CKP9.54.1.F8Y, VEGF\_CKP9.54.90.F8Y, and VEGF\_CKP9.54.90.67.F8Y), whereas in few other cases it demonstrated minimal or a slightly negative effect (e.g., VEGF\_CKP9.54.90.13.F8Y and VEGF\_CKP9.54.90.62.F8Y). See **Table 37**, in which the binding affinities of certain variants (as determined by surface plasmon resonance) are compared, and **Table 38** in which the potencies of certain variants (as determined by cellular IC<sub>50</sub>) are compared. The F8Y substitution helped to improve the solubility of VEGF\_CKP9.54.90.67.F8Y by about 2 mg/ml. VEGF\_CKP9.54.90.67.F8Y was selected for further follow-up studies.

**Table 37: Binding kinetics and affinities of VEGF\_CKP9.54.1.F8Y, VEGF\_CKP9.54.90.F8Y, VEGF\_CKP9.54.90.67.F8Y, VEGF\_CKP9.54.90.13.F8Y and VEGF\_CKP9.54.90.62.F8Y for VEGF-A**

VARIANT	$k_a$	$k_d$	$K_D$
VEGF_CKP9	$1.2 \pm 0.3$	$40 \pm 20$	$5 \pm 1 \mu\text{M}$
VEGF_CKP9.54	$3.4 \pm 0.2$	$2.3 \pm 0.8$	$44 \pm 6 \text{ nM}$
VEGF_CKP9.54.1	$15 \pm 2$	$0.36 \pm 0.17$	$2.2 \pm 0.7 \text{ nM}$
VEGF_CKP9.54.1.F8Y	$53 \pm 12$	$0.38 \pm 0.06$	$0.78 \pm 0.11 \text{ nM}$
VEGF_CKP9.54.90	$63 \pm 16$	$0.17 \pm 0.05$	$0.40 \pm 0.08 \text{ nM}$
VEGF_CKP9.54.90.F8Y	$70 \pm 10$	$0.27 \pm 0.01$	$0.40 \pm 0.05 \text{ nM}$
VEGF_CKP9.54.90-Alkyn	$50 \pm 0.3$	$0.27 \pm 0.004$	$0.49 \pm 0.05 \text{ nM}$

**[0406]** The oxidative stability of various CKP variants was assayed as follows: 5 $\mu\text{L}$  of 11mM AAPH (Calbiochem catalog no. 100110) in water was added to 50 $\mu\text{L}$  of variant peptide sample (prepared as 1mg/mL peptide in 20mM histidine acetate pH 5.5) and the mix was incubated for 16 hours at 40°C. At the end of the incubation, the sample was quenched by addition of 27.5 $\mu\text{L}$  of 40mM methionine, followed by addition of 160 $\mu\text{L}$  of 20mM Histidine acetate, 100mM sucrose at pH 5.5 to dilute the samples. The reactions were analyzed by LC-MS.

**[0407]** It was observed that VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 underwent ~ 30% oxidation at Met5 within loop 1. Replacement of Met 5 with the unnatural amino acid norleucine rendered VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 completely resistant to oxidation. The replacement of Met5 with norleucine also had a favorable effect on binding efficiency (~ 2-fold improvement). Variants VEGF\_CKP9.54.90.67 F8Y M5Nle, VEGF\_CKP9.54.90.53 M5Nle and VEGF\_CKP9.63.12.12 M5Nle were produced. All three Met5Nle of the Met5Nle variants showed modest improvement in cellular potency by ~ 1.5 – 2 x compared to their parent molecules.

**[0408]** Next, the effect of naphthalene-based amino acid substitutions at Trp9 in loop 1 of VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 on VEGF-A binding affinity was assessed. The crystal structures of VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 complexed with VEGF indicate that the Trp9 residue of VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 (and variants derived therefrom) interacts with the VEGF-A surface, with residual space that might allow larger ring systems to fit in. To test this hypothesis, we generated soluble variants of VEGF\_CKP9.54.90 in which the indole ring of Trp9 was replaced with 1- or 2-naphthyl isomers. These molecules showed reduced cellular potency

relative to parent VEGF\_CKP9.54.90. Further data regarding the potency of VEGF\_CKP9.54.90-derived variants comprising the F8Y substitution and/or an unnatural amino acid substitution are provided in **Table 38**:

**Table 38: IC<sub>50</sub> values for VEGF\_CKP9.54.90-derived variants comprising the F8Y substitution and/or an unnatural amino acid substitution.**

VARIANT	Cellular IC <sub>50</sub> (nM)	FOLD IMPROVEMENT RELATIVE TO VARIANT 9.54.90
9.54.90	1.35	1
9.54.90.F8Y	1.58	0.85
9.54.90.F7Y.Δ2G	3.01	0.44
9.54.90.M5.N1e	1.95	0.69
9.54.90.Naph1	5.42	0.24
9.54.90.Naph2	17.1	0.08
9.54.90.13	0.96	1.41
9.54.90.13.F8Y	2.02	0.67
9.54.90.62	0.92	1.47
9.54.90.62.F8Y	1.14	1.18
9.54.90.67	1.1	1.23
9.54.90.67.F8Y	0.66	2.05

**[0409]** Shortening the lead VEGF\_CKP9.54.90.F8Y by trimming the two glycine residues at the N- and C-termini to generate variant VEGF\_CKP9.54.90.F7Y.Δ2G) resulted in a slight reduction of cellular potency relative to VEGF\_CKP9.54.90. See **Table 38** above.

*Example 2B: Generation of VEGF-A-binding non-naturally occurring EETI-II variants comprising C-terminal amino acid extensions*

**[0410]** To identify additional peptide variants with enhanced affinity for VEGF-A, we selected the 9.54 (SEQ ID NO: 52), 9.54.1 (SEQ ID NO: 99) molecules and generated new phage libraries based on these frameworks in which two additional amino acids were added to their C-termini.

**[0411]** From the 9.54 library, twenty-two clones whose binding signals for hVEGF-A (8-109) were more than 3 times higher than to BSA (background) were identified (**Table 39**).

These hits contained variations in amino acid composition within loop 2, within loops 2 and 4, or within loops 2, 4, and 5.

**Table 39: C-terminal Two-residue Extension Variants Based on 9.54**

CLONE ID	AMINO ACID SEQUENCE	SEQ ID NO
9.54	GCNIMLPFWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCQYYQSCG	52
9.54-28	GCNIMLPFWGCKQDFDCLAGCICQYYQSCGFH	455
9.54-39	GCNIMLPFWGCKQDFDCLAGCICQYYQSCGGE	457
9.54-10	GCNIMLPFWGCKQDSDCLVGCICQYYQSCGSI	458
9.54-32	GCNIMLPFWGCKQDFDCLAGCVCQYYQSCGGR	459
9.54-13	GCNIMLPFWGCKQDFDCLAGCVCQYYQSCGRP	460
9.54-6	GCNIMLPFWGCKQDFDCLAGCVCQYYQSCGQY	461
9.54-24	GCNIMLPFWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCQYYQSCGEN	462
9.54-34	GCNIMLPFWGCKQDFDCLAGCVCQYYQSCGDT	463
9.54-9	GCNIMLPFWGCKQDFDCLAGCVCQYYQSCGQH	464
9.54-12	GCNIMLPFWGCKQDSDCLAGCICQYYQSCGQN	465
9.54-17	GCNIMLPFWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCQYYQSCGEE	466
9.54-19	GCNIMLPFWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCQYYQSCGDD	467
9.54-43	GCNIMLPFWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCQYYQSCGDG	468
9.54-5	GCNIMLPFWGCKQDFDCLAGCVCQYYQSCGLE	469
9.54-1	GCNIMLPFWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCQYYQSCGTD	470
9.54-4	GCNIMLPFWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCQYYQSCGSE	471
9.54-15	GCNIMLPFWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCQYYQSCGPE	472
9.54-42	GCNIMLPFWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCQYYQSCGTN	473
9.54-27	GCNIMLPFWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCQYYQSCGPH	474
9.54-2	GCNIMLPFWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCQYYQSCGMD	475
9.54-21	GCNIMLPFWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCQYYQSCGSD	476

[0412] From the 9.54.1 library, clones whose binding signals for hVEGF-A (8-109) were more than 3 times higher than to BSA (background) were identified (**Table 40**).

[0413] Table 40: C-terminal Two-residue Extension Variants Based on 9.54.1

CLONE ID	AMINO ACID SEQUENCE	SEQ ID NO
9.54.1	GCNIMLPFWGCGQSFCELAGCVCQYYQSCG	99

9.54.1-2	GCNIMLPFWGCGQSFECFLAGCICQYYQSCGIA	477
9.54.1-63	GCNIMLPFWGCGQSFECFLAGCICQYYQSCGGS	478
9.54.1-36	GCNIMLPFWGCGQSFECFLAGCICQYYQSCGTR	479
9.54.1-42	GCNIMLPFWGCGQSFECFLAGCICQYYQSCGLS	533
9.54.1-90	GCNIMLPFWGCGQSFECFLAGCICQYYQSCGVH	480

**[0414]** Clone 9.54-28 (in **Table 39**) showed approximately 10-fold improved binding affinity for hVEGF-A (8-109) compared to 9.54, as determined by phage competition ELISA (described above). (See **FIG. 15**). Clones 9.54.1-2, 9.54.1-36, 9.54.1-42, 9.54.1-63, and 9.54.1-90 (in **Table 40**) also showed approximately 10-fold improved binding affinity for hVEGF-A (8-109) compared to 9.54.1, as determined by phage competition ELISA. (See **FIG. 15**).

**[0415]** Peptides 9.63 (SEQ ID NO: 55), and 9.63.44 (SEQ ID NO: 125) were selected for further modification as described above. New phage libraries based on these frameworks were generated in which two additional amino acids were added to their C-termini.

**[0416]** From the 9.63 library, 28 clones whose binding signals for hVEGF-A (8-109) were more than 3 times higher than to BSA (background) were identified (**Table 41**). These hits contained variations in amino acid composition within loops 2 and 4.

**Table 41: C-terminal Two-residue Extension Variants Based on 9.63**

CLONE ID	AMINO ACID SEQUENCE	SEQ ID NO
9.63	GCDVMQPYWGCKQDSDCLAGCVCHWYNSCG	55
9.63-1	GCDVMQPYWGCKQDFDCLAGCVCHWYNSCGPS	481
9.63-4	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCICHWYNSCGFS	482
9.63-7	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCVCHWYNSCGGK	483
9.63-10	GCDVMQPYWGCKQDFDCLAGCICHWYNSCGYL	484
9.63-16	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCVCHWYNSCGDL	485
9.63-17	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCVCHWYNSCGEK	486
9.63-19	GCDVMQPYWGCKQDSDCLAGCICHWYNSCGTD	487
9.63-20	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCICHWYNSCGQV	488
9.63-21	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCVCHWYNSCGRL	489
9.63-22	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCICHWYNSCGYA	490
9.63-23	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCICHWYNSCGAS	491
9.63-25	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCICHWYNSCGSR	492

9.63-30	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCICHWYNSCGPT	493
9.63-36	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCVCHWYNSCGSL	456
9.63-40	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCVCHWYNSCGWD	494
9.63-45	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCVCHWYNSCGSM	495
9.63-61	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCICHWYNSCGTR	496
9.63-62	GCDVMQPYWGCKQSDCLAGCVCHWYNSCGEN	497
9.63-65	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCVCHWYNSCGNN	498
9.63-66	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCICHWYNSCGPE	499
9.63-67	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCVCHWYNSCGGI	500
9.63-68	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCVCHWYNSCGVE	501
9.63-70	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCVCHWYNSCGPL	503
9.63-72	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCICHWYNSCGTS	527
9.63-74	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCICHWYNSCGRP	504
9.63-77	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCVCHWYNSCGND	505
9.63-79	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCICHWYNSCGLQ	506
9.63-93	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCICHWYNSCGDE	507

[0417] From the 9.63.44 library, 17 clones whose binding signals for hVEGF-A (8-109) were more than 3 times higher than to BSA (background) were identified (**Table 42**). These hits contained a variation in amino acid composition within loop 4. Clone 9.63.44-55 contained a variation in amino acid composition within loop 2, and clone 9.63.44-10 contained a variation in amino acid composition within loop 3. Interestingly clone 9.63.44-12 in **Table 42** and clone 9.63-70 in Table 41 have the same amino acid sequence.

**Table 42: C-terminal Two-residue Extension Variants Based on 9.63.44**

CLONE ID	AMINO ACID SEQUENCE	SEQ ID NO
9.63.44	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCVCHWYNSCG	125
9.63.44-2-A	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCICHWYNSCGRT	508
9.63.44-55	GCDVMQPYWGCEIDFDCLAGCVCHWYNSCGQV	509
9.63.44-10-A	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCVCHWYNSCGGI	510
9.63.44-54	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCVCHWYNSCGYM	511
9.63.44-19	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCVCHWYNSCGGQ	512
9.63.44-44	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCVCHWYNSCGTP	513
9.63.44-14	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCVCHWYNSCGVN	514
9.63.44-73	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCVCHWYNSCGFN	515

9.63.44-16	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCVCHWYNSCGEP	516
9.63.44-80	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCVCHWYNSCGNS	517
9.63.44-41	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCVCHWYNSCGST	518
9.63.44-82	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCVCHWYNSCGRY	519
9.63.44-1	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCICHWYNSCGFS	520
9.63.44-2	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCICHWYNSCGQV	521
9.63.44-3	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCICHWYNSCGYA	522
9.63.44-4	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCICHWYNSCGSR	523
9.63.44-5	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCICHWYNSCGPT	524
9.63.44-6	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCVCHWYNSCGSM	525
9.63.44-7	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCVCHWYNSCGGI	526
9.63.44-8	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCICHWYNSCGTS	527
9.63.44-9	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCICHWYNSCGLQ	528
9.63.44-10	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLVGCVCHWYNSCGDE	529
9.63.44-11	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCVCHWYNSCGDL	530
9.63.44-12	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCVCHWYNSCGPL	503
9.63.44-13	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCVCHWYNSCGQF	531
9.63.44-14	GCDVMQPYWGCEMDFDCLAGCICHWYNSCGWK	532

**[0418]** Clones 9.63.44-1 through 9.63.44-14 (in **Table 42**) showed improved binding affinity for hVEGF-A (8-109) compared to 9.63.44, as determined by phage competition ELISA. (See **FIGS. 16A** and **16B**).

**[0419]** Taken together, the results above indicate that extending lead peptides 9.54 (SEQ ID NO: 52), 9.54.1 (SEQ ID NO: 99), 9.63 (SEQ ID NO: 55), and 9.63.44 by adding two amino acids to their C-termini produced variants having ~10-fold greater binding affinity for hVEGF-A (8-109).

**[0420]** Next, peptides 9.54.90 (SEQ ID NO: 102) and 63.12.12.M5L (SEQ ID NO: 386) were selected for further modification as described above. Briefly new phage libraries were generated based on 9.54.90 in which two additional amino acids, three additional amino acids, or four additional amino acids were added at the C-terminus. A second set of libraries was generated based on 63.12.12.M5L in which two additional amino acids were added at the C-terminus.

**[0421]** From the 9.54.90 libraries comprising 2-amino acid C-terminal extensions, 6 clones whose binding signals for hVEGF-A (8-109) were more than 3 times higher than to BSA (background) were identified (**Table 43**).

**Table 43: C-terminal Two-residue Extension Variants Based on 9.54.90**

CLONE ID	AMINO ACID SEQUENCE	SEQ ID NO
9.54.90	GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG	102
9.54.90-2x28	GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGFH	379
9.54.90-2x2	GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGIA	380
9.54.90-2x63	GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGGS	381
9.54.90-2x36	GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGTR	382
9.54.90-2x90	GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGVH	383
9.54.90-2x42	GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGLS	384

[0422] From the 9.54.90 libraries comprising 3-amino acid C-terminal extensions, 10 clones whose binding signals for hVEGF-A (8-109) were more than 3 times higher than to BSA (background) were identified (Table 44).

**Table 44: C-terminal Three-residue Extension Variants Based on 9.54.90**

CLONE ID	AMINO ACID SEQUENCE	SEQ ID NO
9.54.90	GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCG	102
9.54.90-3x83	GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGPLI	369
9.54.90-3x50	GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGNYQ	370
9.54.90-3x49	GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGPLQ	371
9.54.90-3x10	GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGTFQ	372
9.54.90-3x91	GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGDLV	373
9.54.90-3x42	GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGEHK	374
9.54.90-3x88	GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGYLS	375
9.54.90-3x9	GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGWDY	376
9.54.90-3x13	GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGWPH	377
9.54.90-3x33	GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCQYYQSCGPHQ	378

[0423] All peptides from the 9.54.90 libraries comprising 4-amino acid C-terminal extensions, contained 3amino acid C-terminal extensions.

[0424] From the 63.12.12.M5L libraries comprising 2-amino acid C-terminal extensions, 9 clones whose binding signals for hVEGF-A (8-109) were more than 3 times higher than to BSA (background) were identified (**Table 45**).

**Table 45: C-terminal Two-residue Extension Variants Based on 63.12.12.M5L**

CLONE ID	AMINO ACID SEQUENCE	SEQ ID NO
63.12.12.M5L	GCDVLQPYWGC <del>GP</del> DID <del>CL</del> SNCICHWYNSCG	386
63.12.12.M5L.2x2	GCDVLQPYWGC <del>GP</del> DID <del>CL</del> SNCICHWYNSCGRT	387
63.12.12.M5L.2x77	GCDVLQPYWGC <del>GP</del> DID <del>CL</del> SNCICHWYNSCGWK	388
63.12.12.M5L.2x48	GCDVLQPYWGC <del>GP</del> DID <del>CL</del> SNCICHWYNSCGPL	389
63.12.12.M5L.2x25	GCDVLQPYWGC <del>GP</del> DID <del>CL</del> SNCICHWYNSCGDE	390
63.12.12.M5L.2x69	GCDVLQPYWGC <del>GP</del> DID <del>CL</del> SNCICHWYNSCGQF	391
63.12.12.M5L.2x12	GCDVLQPYWGC <del>GP</del> DID <del>CL</del> SNCICHWYNSCGEQ	392
63.12.12.M5L.2x30	GCDVLQPYWGC <del>GP</del> DID <del>CL</del> SNCICHWYNSCGPT	393
63.12.12.M5L.2x21	GCDVLQPYWGC <del>GP</del> DID <del>CL</del> SNCICHWYNSCGRL	394
63.12.12.M5L.2x29	GCDVLQPYWGC <del>GP</del> DID <del>CL</del> SNCICHWYNSCGSL	395

*Example 2C: Characterization of VEGF-A-binding non-naturally occurring EETI-II variants comprising C-terminal amino acid extensions*

[0425] The variants provided in **Tables 43-45** above are assayed via phage competition ELISA as described above to identify variants with greater binding affinity for hVEGF-A (8-109).

[0426] Clones (e.g., such as those provided in **Tables 39-45**) demonstrating greater affinity for hVEGF (8-109), including, e.g., 9.54.1-2, 9.54.1-36, 9.54.1-42, 9.54.1-63, and 9.54.1-90, and 9.63.44-1 – 9.63.44-14, are then selected for further in vitro assessments, such as inhibitory activity in phage competition ELISAs and VEGF-KDR interaction ELISAs, as described above.

[0427] Clones are then analyzed via surface plasmon resonance to determine their affinities for various VEGF isoforms, including hVEGF-A (8-109), hVEGF-A 165, mouse VEGF-A 164, rat VEGF-A, and rabbit VEGF-A.

**[0428]** Further analyses are performed to assess the clones specificity for VEGF-A. For example, competition ELISAs are performed as described above with VEGF-A, VEGF-B, VEGF-C, VEGF-D, PlGF-2, NGF, EGF, PDGF- $\beta$ , or IGF-1.

**[0429]** The clones are also assayed for their abilities to inhibit trypsin protease activity as measured in a peptide substrate cleavage assay (Stanger et al. (2014) *FEBS Lett.* 588 (23), 4487-96).

**[0430]** Binding kinetics and affinities of the clones for various hVEGF mutants, including, e.g., Y21A, K48A, Q89A, and F17A/M81A, are determined as described above.

**[0431]** Next, the clones are assessed for their *in vivo* efficacy in a VEGF-A driven model of choroidal neovascularization, as described above.

**[0432]** The oxidative stability of the variants is assayed as described above.

*Example 3: Generation of Non-naturally Occurring EETI-II variants that bind LRP6*

**[0433]** The naïve EETI-II libraries described in Example 2A were cycled through rounds of selection against LRP6 E1E2 protein. Twenty-two unique clones were identified which bound LRP6 E1E2 (**Table 46**). These initial hits contained variations in amino acid content within loops 1 and 5. In several variants, loop 1 exhibited a longer length compared to that of the native EETI-II framework. Notably, the newly evolved sequences that bound to LRP6 contained a consensus motif in loop 1 (**NXI**) that is similar to a motif (NAI) present within the native Dkk1 molecules which are endogenous LRP6 ligands. The newly evolved variants recapitulated a motif which occurs in natural ligands.

**Table 46: EETI-II-based binders against LRP6 E1E2**

VARIANT	LOOP 1	LOOP 5	ELISA	S/N*
LRP6_CKP1	RTNRVKGG (SEQ ID NO: 147)	GPNGF (SEQ ID NO: 19)	3.23	45.49
LRP6_CKP2	VNRVRG (SEQ ID NO: 148)	SGGRD (SEQ ID NO: 169)	3.41	41.62
LRP6_CKP3	MNHVKARR (SEQ ID NO: 149)	GPNGF (SEQ ID NO: 19)	2.93	40.18
LRP6_CKP4	RSVNKI (SEQ ID NO: 150)	GSSRN (SEQ ID NO: 170)	2.82	25.39
LRP6_CKP5	VNKIKG (SEQ ID NO: 151)	GVEGR (SEQ ID NO: 171)	3.04	35.71
LRP6_CKP6	RNSIKR (SEQ ID NO: 152)	SVGHG (SEQ ID NO: 172)	3.10	37.36
LRP6_CKP7	VSNRVNKG	GPNGF	3.30	28.96

	(SEQ ID NO: 153)	(SEQ ID NO: 19)		
LRP6_CKP8	RGNIK (SEQ ID NO: 154)	NESRG (SEQ ID NO: 173)	3.23	37.56
LRP6_CKP9	RSGNTIRKRE (SEQ ID NO: 155)	GGPGG (SEQ ID NO: 174)	2.97	37.62
LRP6_CKP10	ASSNSIRQGW (SEQ ID NO: 156)	GPKSN (SEQ ID NO: 175)	3.29	37.38
LRP6_CKP11	RSNRIR (SEQ ID NO: 157)	YGHGD (SEQ ID NO: 176)	2.65	36.76
LRP6_CKP12	RSNKLREARG (SEQ ID NO: 158)	GSRQD (SEQ ID NO: 177)	0.60	6.78
LRP6_CKP13	VNSVKR (SEQ ID NO: 159)	SRGVN (SEQ ID NO: 178)	3.28	37.75
LRP6_CKP14	GSNKIRPR (SEQ ID NO: 160)	GPNDF (SEQ ID NO: 179)	3.18	43.53
LRP6_CKP15	NRIRNS (SEQ ID NO: 161)	GRGDY (SEQ ID NO: 180)	2.03	26.31
LRP6_CKP16	SRNSIK (SEQ ID NO: 162)	ASGSS (SEQ ID NO: 181)	3.36	31.11
LRP6_CKP17	SNYVKR (SEQ ID NO: 163)	SPGGR (SEQ ID NO: 182)	3.09	35.88
LRP6_CKP18	RANRVSGR (SEQ ID NO: 164)	GPNGF (SEQ ID NO: 19)	1.67	18.32
LRP6_CKP19	SNRVKRA (SEQ ID NO: 165)	GPNGF (SEQ ID NO: 19)	3.27	41.96
LRP6_CKP20	ENRTKG (SEQ ID NO: 166)	GFRGT (SEQ ID NO: 183)	3.10	38.69
LRP6_CKP21	GNKIRA (SEQ ID NO: 167)	RDRVG (SEQ ID NO: 184)	2.80	33.69
LRP6_CKP22	ANRVKRTS (SEQ ID NO: 168)	GPNGF (SEQ ID NO: 19)	3.43	42.86

\*S/N = signal to noise ratio as compared to BSA control

**[0434]** The extracellular domain of the LRP6 consists of four propeller domains (E1-E4) that interact with Frizzled receptors and Wnt proteins to propagate Wnt signaling. Utilizing a modular approach, LRP6 distinguishes between Wnt1 or Wnt3a signaling through selective binding of either its E1-E2 or E3-E4 domains to specific Wnt isoforms, respectively (Hannoush et al. (2010) *J. Biol. Chem.* 285, 9172-9179). To pharmacologically delineate Wnt1 and Wnt3a signaling arms, we sought to identify ligands that bind selectively to LRP6 E1-E2.

**[0435]** Of the identified sequences, R1, LRP6\_CKP6 and LRP6\_CKP19 were generated in soluble folded form in order to test their pharmacological activity against either Wnt1 or Wnt3a signaling. As shown in **Tables 47** and **48** below, no significant selectivity was

observed by R77 towards Wnt1 or Wnt3a in a cell-based signaling reporter assay. On the other hand, R1 and R19 showed selective inhibition towards Wnt1 signaling relative to Wnt3a (160-fold and 11-fold for Wnt1 over Wnt3a, respectively) as measured in a luciferase reporter assay, supporting the notion that these variants do not target the LRP6 E3-E4 domains ( $IC_{50} > 44 \mu M$ ). Altogether, the data highlight the specificity of the newly evolved variants and their effects in mimicking a motif which occurs in natural ligands. More importantly, the identified variants provide a pharmacological means to interrogate Wnt1 and Wnt3 signaling.

**Table 47: Inhibitory activity of LRP6-binding CKP variants against Wnt1 signaling**

Lrp6-CKP (n=4)	Best Fit $IC_{50}$ (nM) for Wnt1 (5ng/well)	95% confidence interval (nM)
R1 F1	241.7	185.8 to 314.5
R1 F2	193.8	140.1 to 268.2
LRP6_CKP6 F1	22,866	13,593 to 38,463
LRP6_CKP6 F2	23,760	14,458 to 39,046
LRP6_CKP6 F3	4,625	3,037 to 7,044
LRP6_CKP19 F1	23,132	15,397 to 34,754
LRP6_CKP19 F2	49,330	31,391 to 77,520

**Table 48: Inhibitory activity of LRP6-binding CKP variants against Wnt3a signaling**

Lrp6-CKP (n=4)	Best Fit $IC_{50}$ (nM) for Wnt3a (25ng/well)	95% confidence interval (nM)
R1 F1	38,594	16,093 to 92,554
R1 F2	16,596	9,037 to 30,478
LRP6_CKP6 F1	350,240	11840 to $1.036 \times 10^7$
LRP6_CKP6 F2	275,584	24,695 to $3.075 \times 10^6$
LRP6_CKP6 F3	Not converge	Not converge
LRP6_CKP19 F1	59,287	32,600 to 107,823
LRP6_CKP19 F2	69,827	26,179 to 186,252

**[0436]** F1, F2, and F3 in **Tables 47** and **48** refer to peak fractions 1, 2, and 3, respectively that were obtained during the purification of R1, LRP6\_CKP6, and LRP6\_CKP19.

The preceding Examples are offered for illustrative purposes only, and are not intended to limit the scope of the present invention in any way. Various modifications of the invention in addition to those shown and described herein will become apparent to those skilled in the art from the foregoing description and fall within the scope of the appended claims.

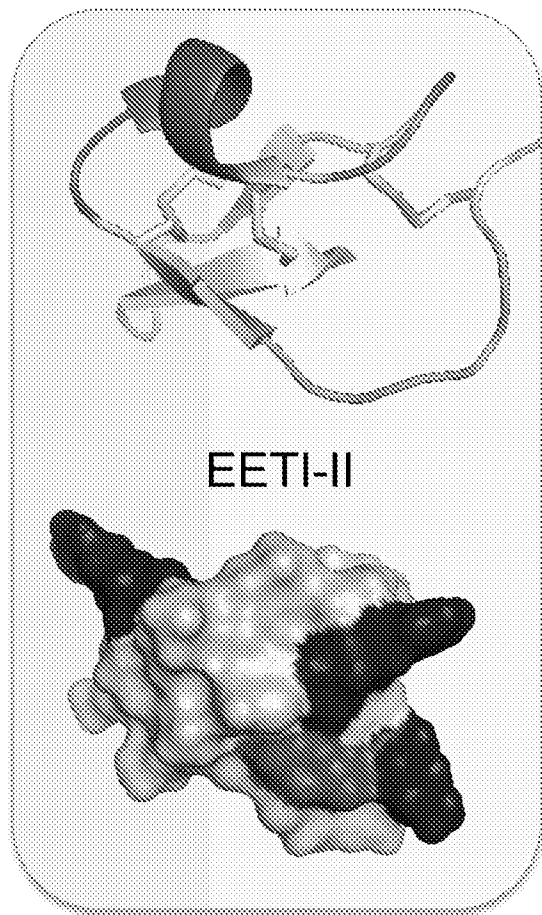
## CLAIMS

### WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A peptide comprising the scaffold structure:  
Z1C1L1C2L2C3L3C4L4C5L5C6Z2;  
wherein:  
Z1 corresponds to the N-terminus of the peptide and is G;  
Z2 corresponds to the C-terminus of the peptide and is G;  
C1-C6 are cysteine residues; and  
L1 is loop 1, L2 is loop 2, L3 is loop 3, L4 is loop 4, and L5 is loop 5;  
wherein  
L1 is selected from the group consisting of: SEQ ID NOs: 147-168 and 367;  
L2 is selected from the group consisting of: SEQ ID NO: 93 or amino acids 10-14 of  
SEQ ID NO: 194;  
L3 is LAG;  
L4 is V; and  
L5 is selected from the group consisting of: SEQ ID NO: 19 and 169-184.
2. The peptide of claim 1, wherein:  
L1 is selected from SEQ ID NOs: 147, 149, 153, 160, 164-165, and 168;  
L2 is SEQ ID NO: 93;  
L3 is LAG;  
L4 is V; and  
L5 is SEQ ID NO: 19 or 179.
3. The peptide of claim 1 or 2, comprising the amino acid sequence of any one of: SEQ ID  
NOs: 189, 191, 195, 202, 206, 207, and 210.
4. The peptide of claim 1, wherein:  
L1 is selected from SEQ ID NOs: 148, 150-152, 154, 157, 159, 161-163, and 166-167;  
L2 is SEQ ID NO: 93 or amino acids 10-14 of SEQ ID NO: 194;  
L3 is LAG;  
L4 is V; and  
L5 is selected from SEQ ID NOs: 169-173, 176, 178, and 180-184.

5. The peptide of claim 1 or 4, comprising the amino acid sequence of any one of: SEQ ID NOs: 190, 192-194, 196, 199, 201, 203-205, and 208-209.
6. The peptide of claim 1, wherein:
  - L1 is selected from SEQ ID NOs: 155-156, 158 and 367;
  - L2 is SEQ ID NO: 93;
  - L3 is LAG;
  - L4 is V; and
  - L5 is selected from SEQ ID NOs: 19, 174-175, and 177.
7. The peptide of claim 1 or 6, wherein the peptide comprises any one of SEQ ID NOs: 197-198, 200, and 366.
8. The peptide of any one of claims 1-7, wherein the peptide binds to human low density lipoprotein receptor-related protein 6 (LRP6).
9. The peptide of any one of claims 1-8 conjugated to a therapeutic agent.
10. The peptide of any one of claims 1-8 conjugated to a label.
11. The peptide of claim 10, wherein the label is a radioisotope, a fluorescent dye, or an enzyme.
12. An isolated nucleic acid encoding the peptide of any one of claims 1-8.
13. An expression vector encoding the nucleic acid of claim 12.
14. An isolated or non-human cell comprising the expression vector of claim 13.
15. A method of producing a peptide, comprising culturing the cell of claim 14 under conditions where the peptide is expressed, and recovering the peptide expressed by the cell.
16. A method of producing the peptide of any one of claims 1-8, comprising chemically synthesizing the peptide.
17. A peptide when produced by the method of claim 15 or 16.
18. A composition comprising the peptide of any one of claims 1-8 or 17 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

(SEQ ID NO: 1) GCPRIILMRCKQDSDCLAG-CVCGPNGFCG



EETI-II

**FIG. 1**

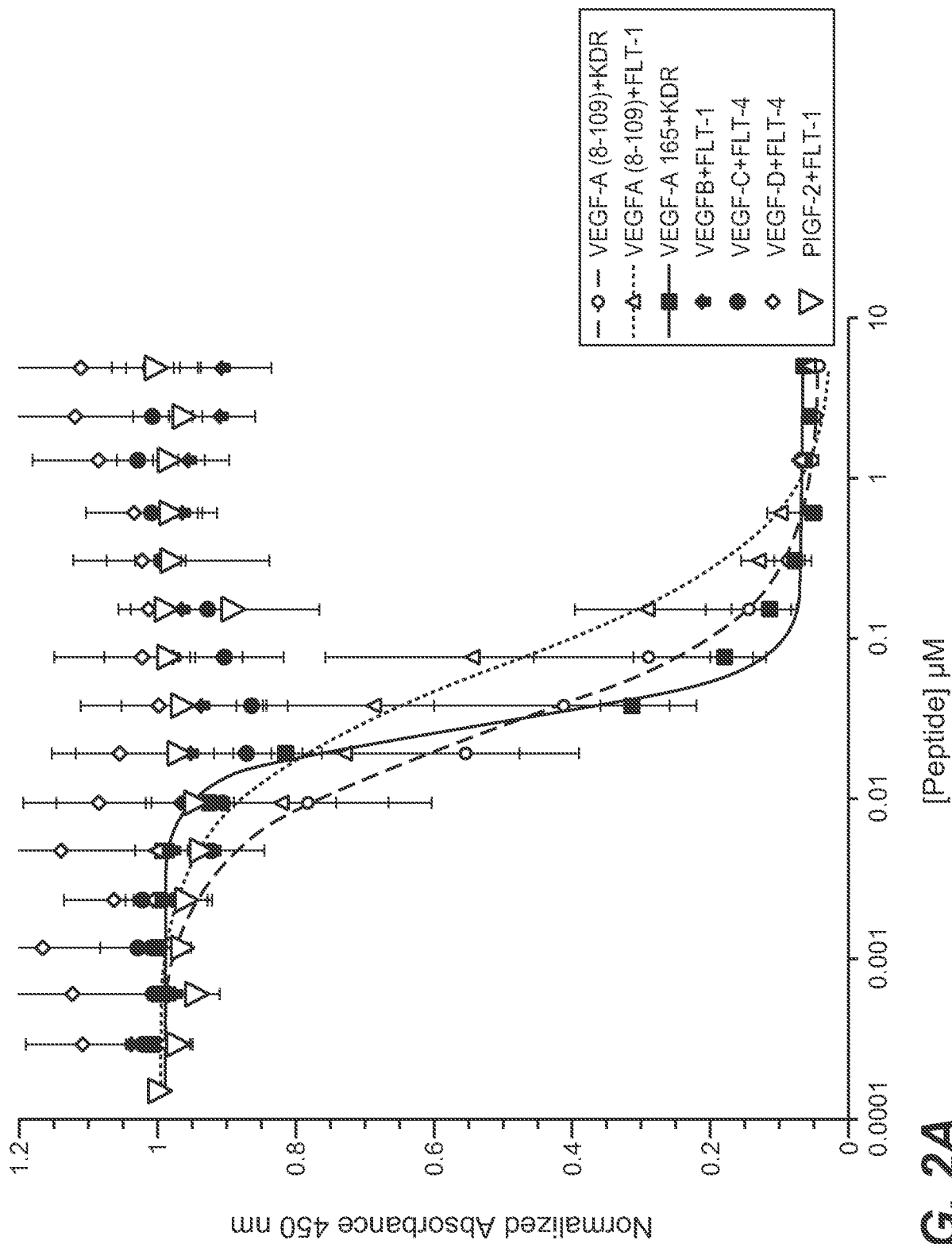
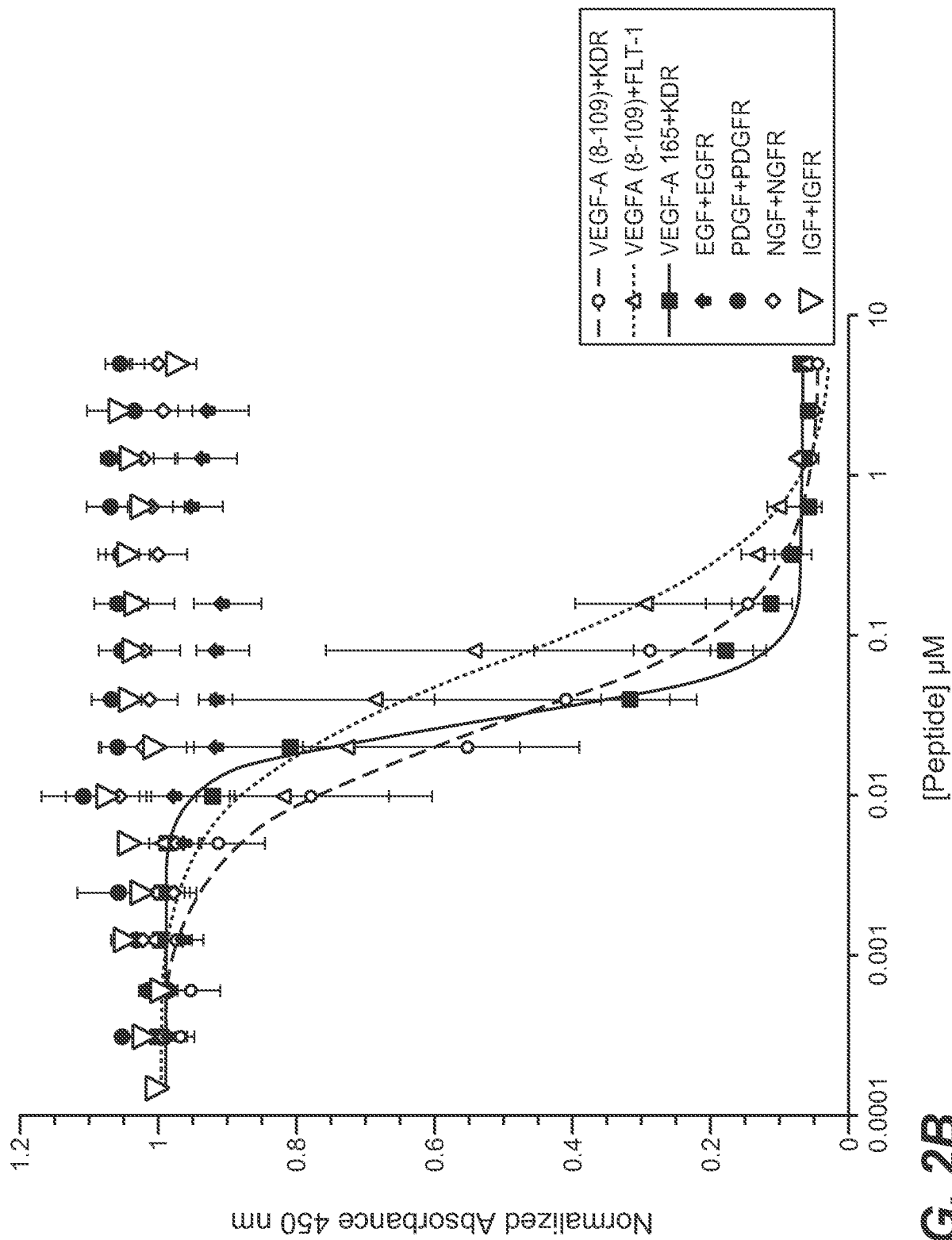
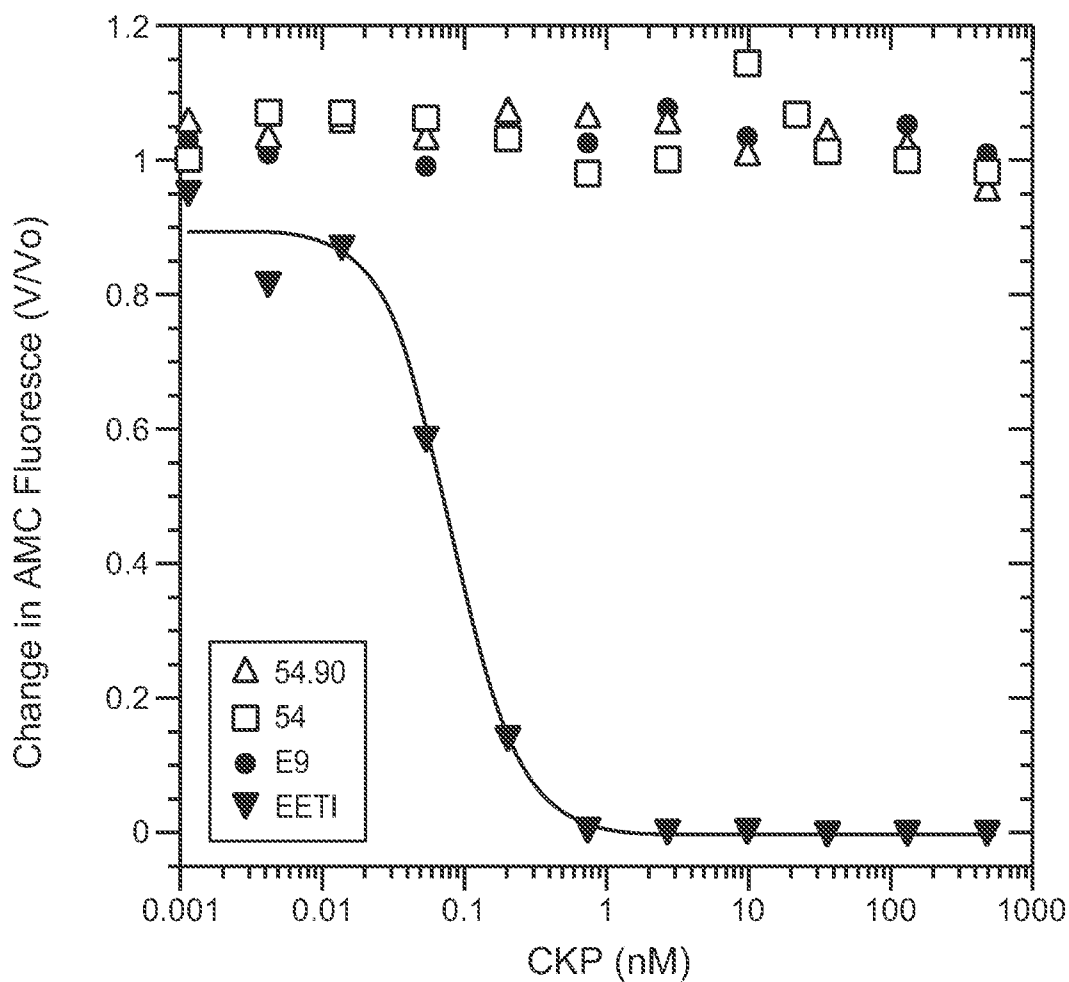


FIG. 2A

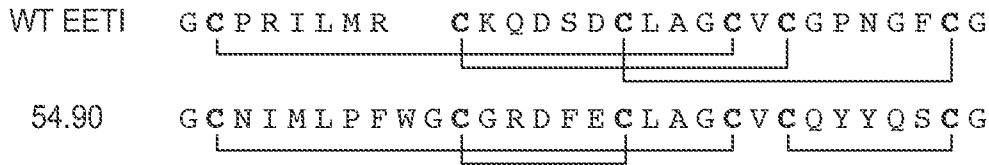


**FIG. 2B**

CKP	Loop1	Loop2	Loop5	
WT EETI	GCPRIILMR	CKQSDCLAGCVCGPNGFCG		SEQ ID NO: 1
E9	GCQLMQPFWGCKQSDCLAGCVCHWYQSCG			SEQ ID NO: 23
EM54	GCNIMLPFWGCKQSDCLAGCVCOYYQSCG			SEQ ID NO: 52
V_L2.9.54.90	GCNIMLPFWGCGRDFECLAGCVCOYYQSCG			SEQ ID NO: 102

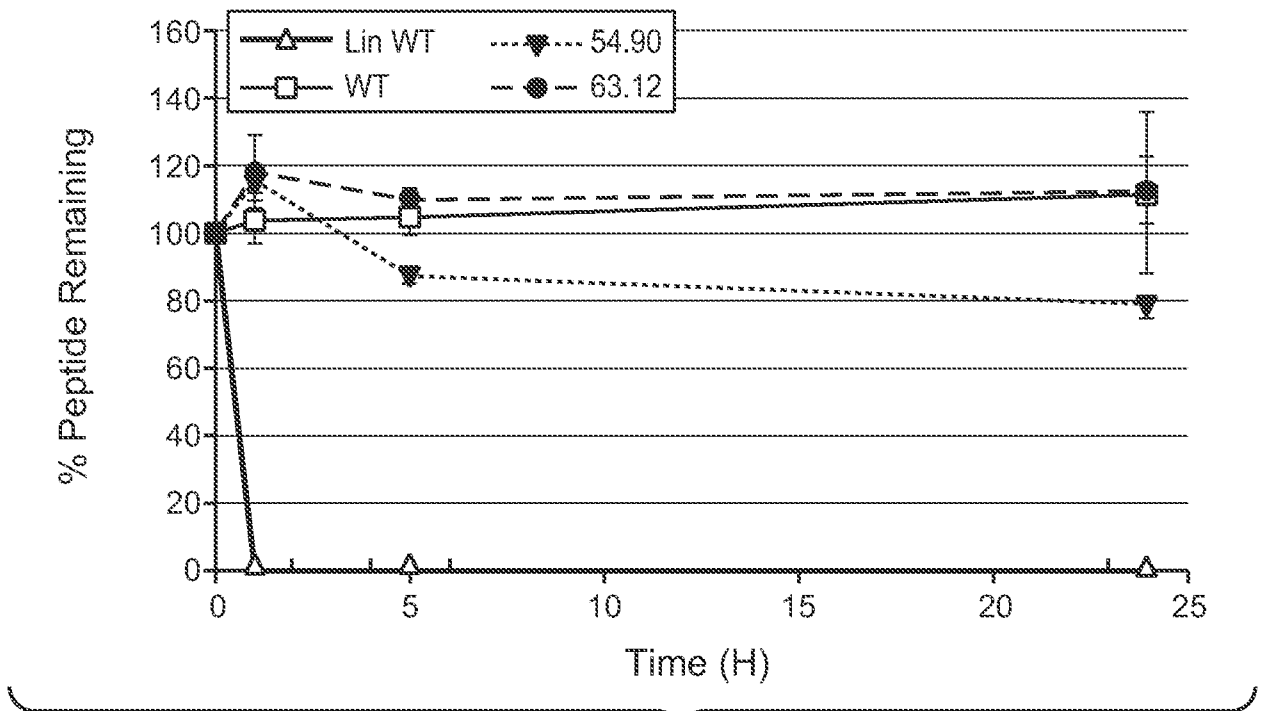


**FIG. 3**



	CKP	Loop1	Loop2	Loop5	
	E9	G C O L M Q P F W G	C K Q D S D C L A G C V	C H W Y Q S C G	SEQ ID NO: 23
	EM54	G C N I M L P F W G	C K Q D S D C L A G C V	C Q Y Y Q S C G	SEQ ID NO: 52
*	V_L2.9.54.1	G C N I M L P F W G	C G Q S F E C L A G C V	C Q Y Y Q S C G	SEQ ID NO: 99
	V_L2.9.54.90	G C N I M L P F W G	C G R D F E C L A G C V	C Q Y Y Q S C G	SEQ ID NO: 102
	EM63	G C D V M Q P Y W G	C K Q D S D C L A G C V	C H W Y N S C G	SEQ ID NO: 55
*	V_L2.9.63.1	G C D V M Q P Y W G	C G E N F L C L A G C V	C H W Y N S C G	SEQ ID NO: 122
*	V_L2.9.63.44	G C D V M Q P Y W G	C E M D F D C L A G C V	C H W Y N S C G	SEQ ID NO: 125
*	V_L2.9.63.12	G C D V M Q P Y W G	C G P D I D C L A G C V	C H W Y N S C G	SEQ ID NO: 123

\* : No trypsin cutting sites



**FIG. 4**

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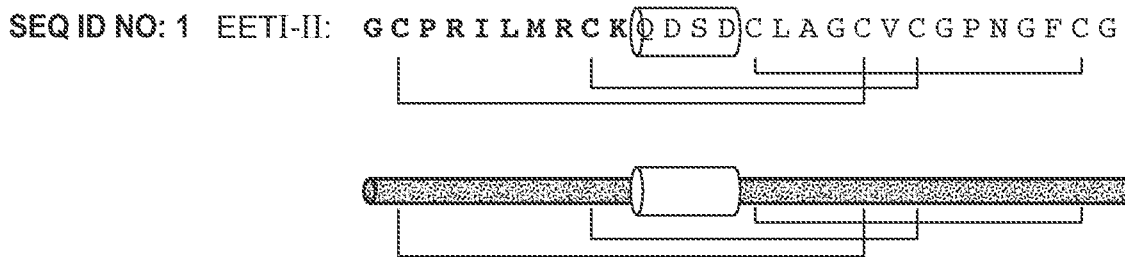
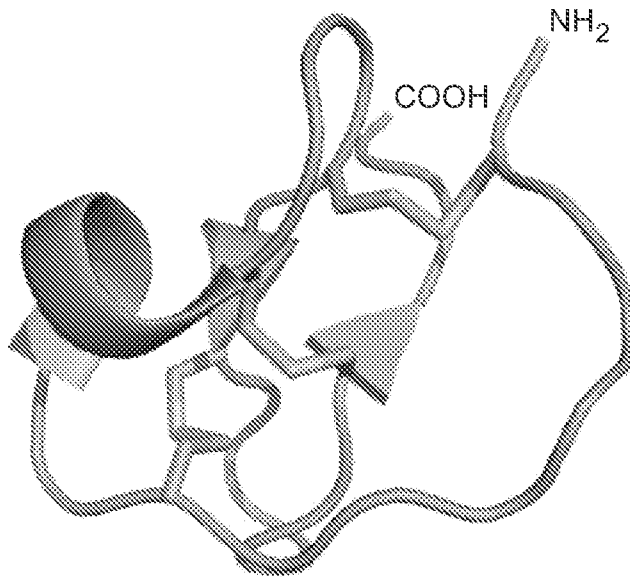
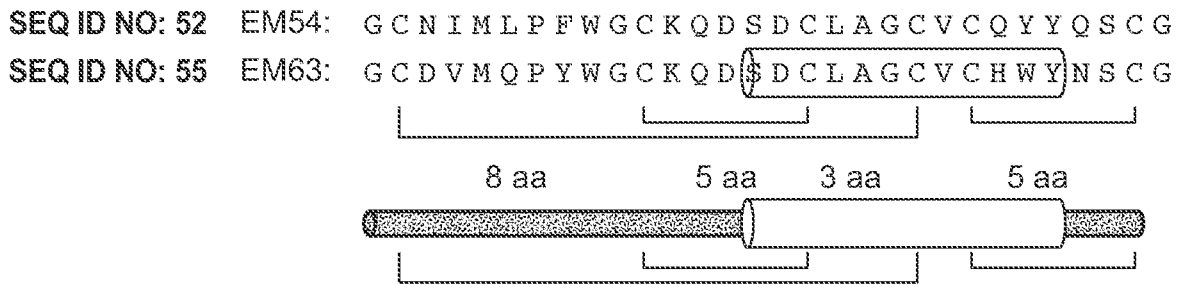
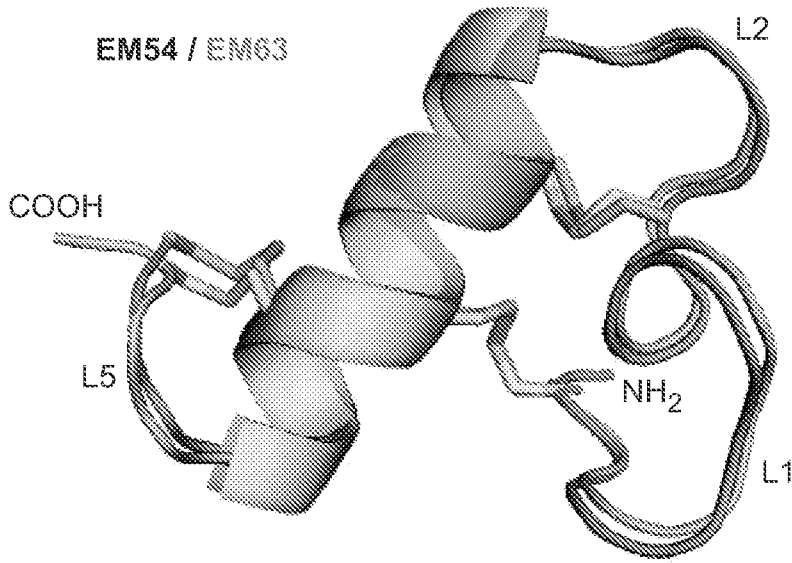
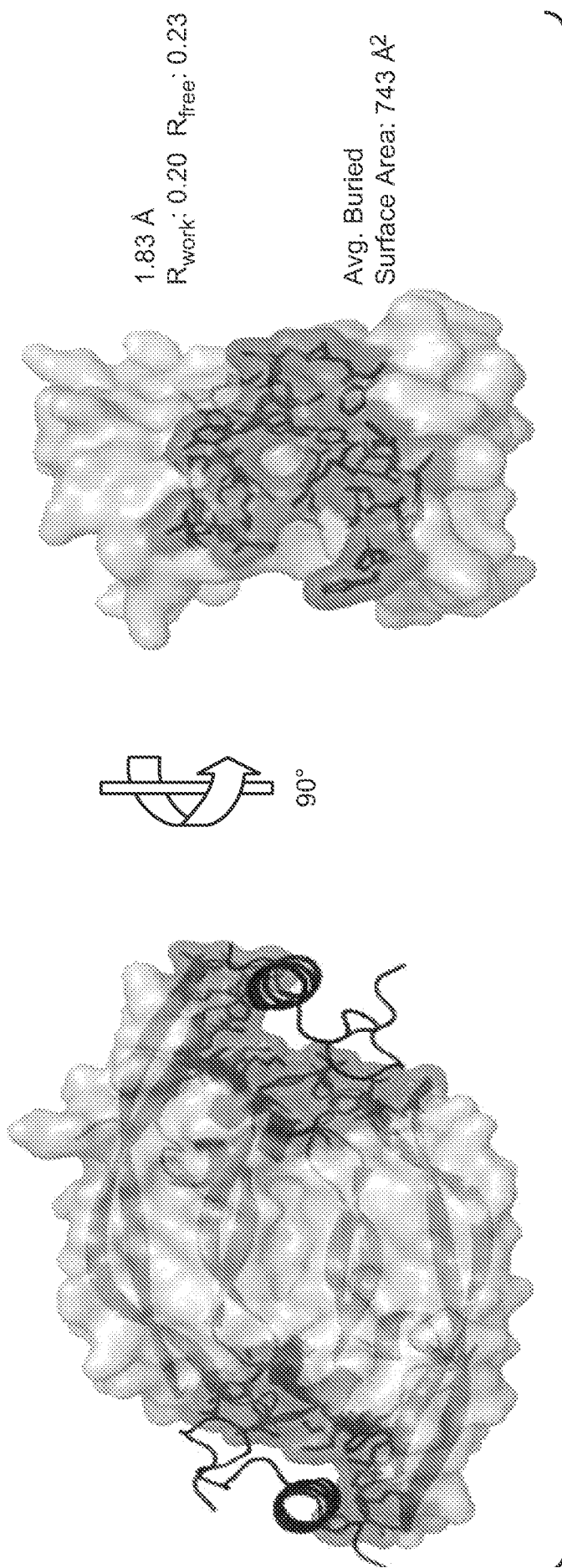
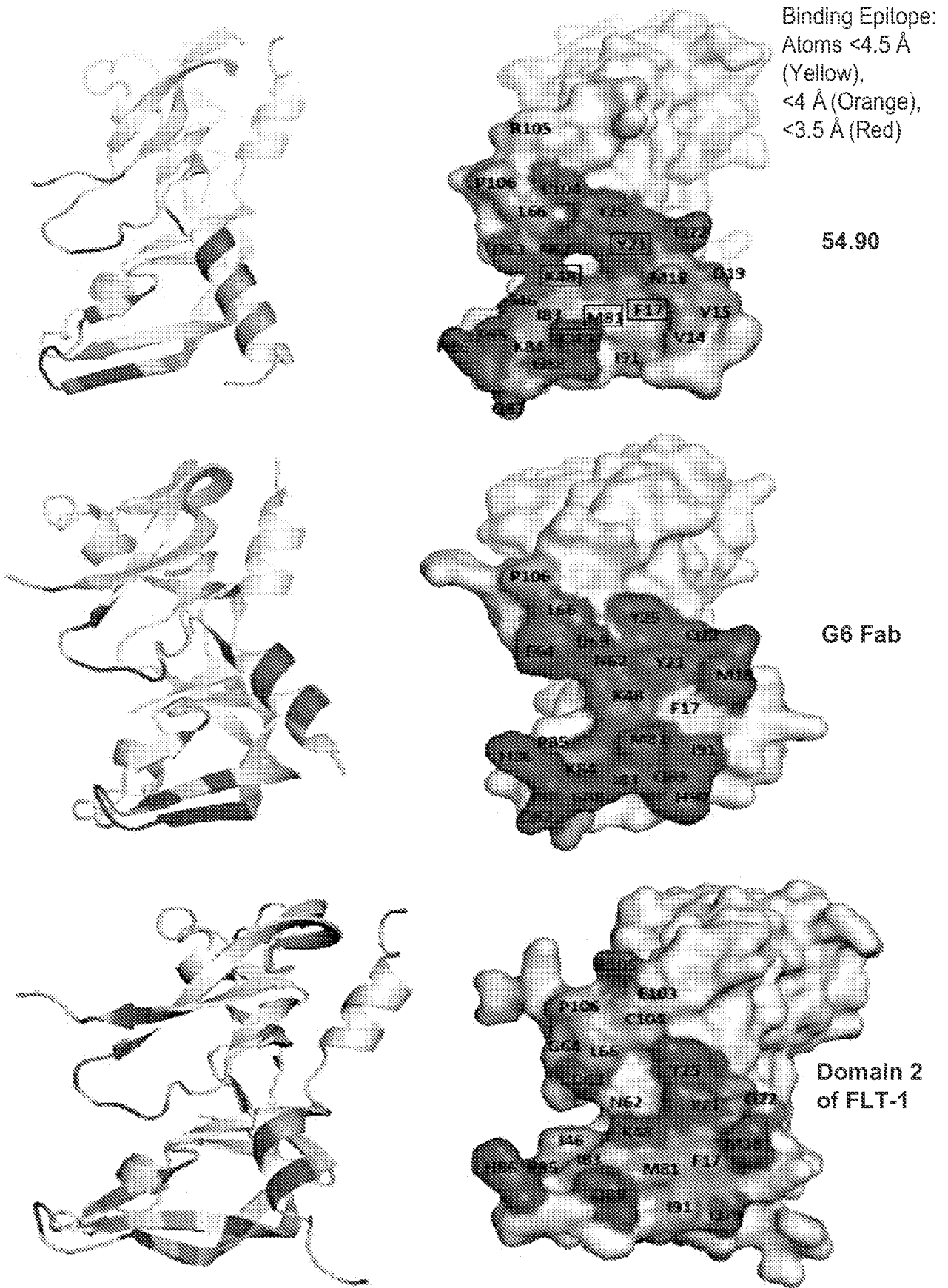


FIG. 5



**FIG. 6**



**FIG. 7**

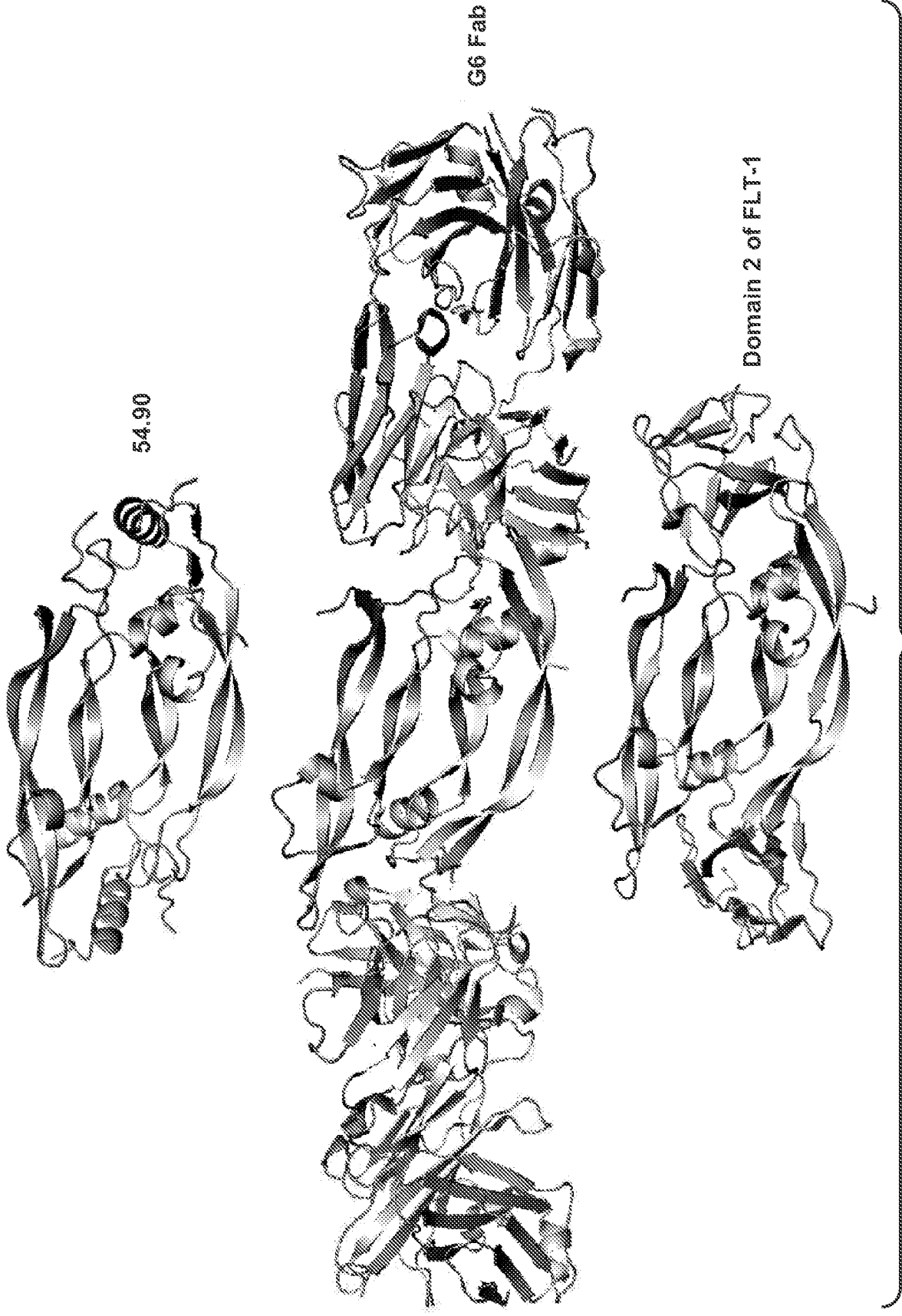


FIG. 8

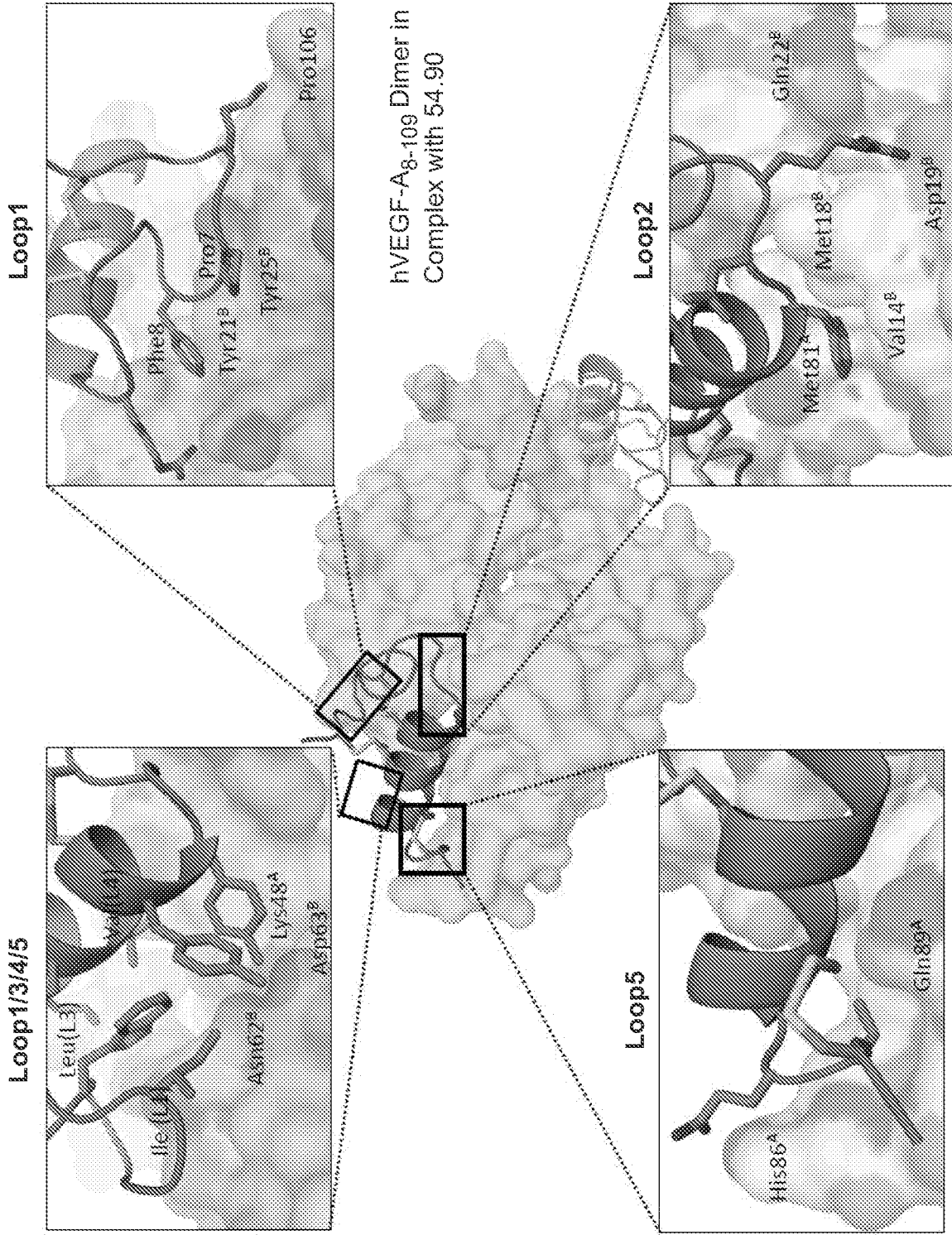
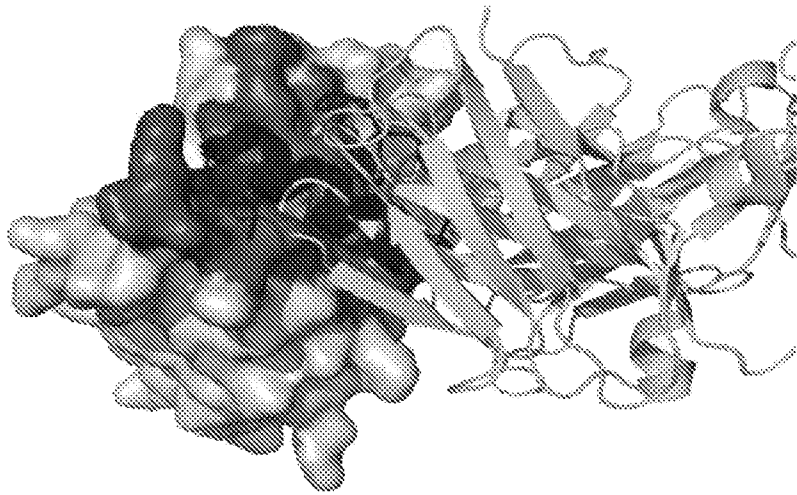
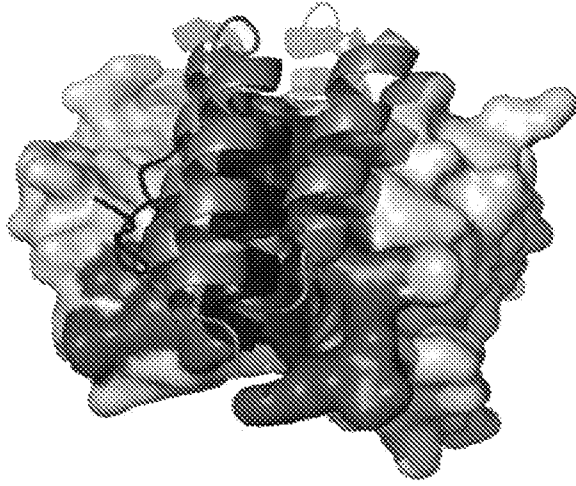


FIG. 9

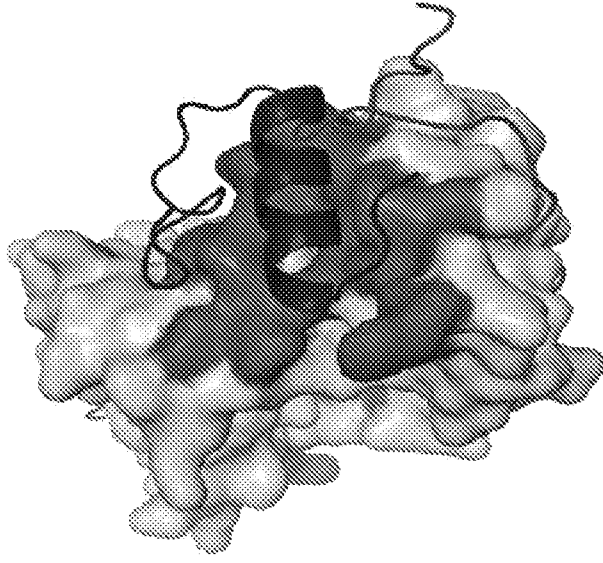
Gray: VEGFA / Blue: EM54



Green: Z-domain  
(PDB ID: 3S1K)



Purple: Receptor-blocking  
Peptide v108  
(PDB ID: 1VPP)



Cyan: Avastin Fab  
(PDB ID: 2FJH)



**FIG. 10**

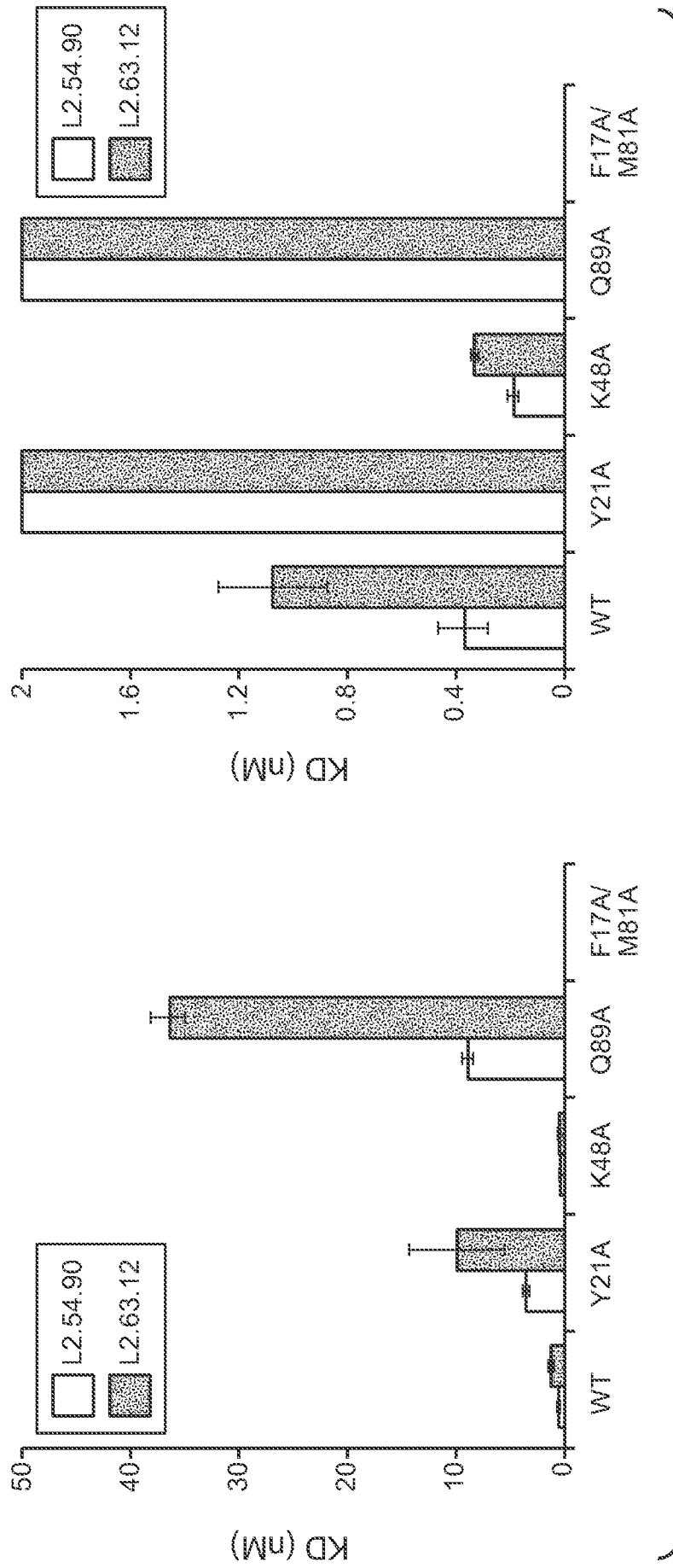
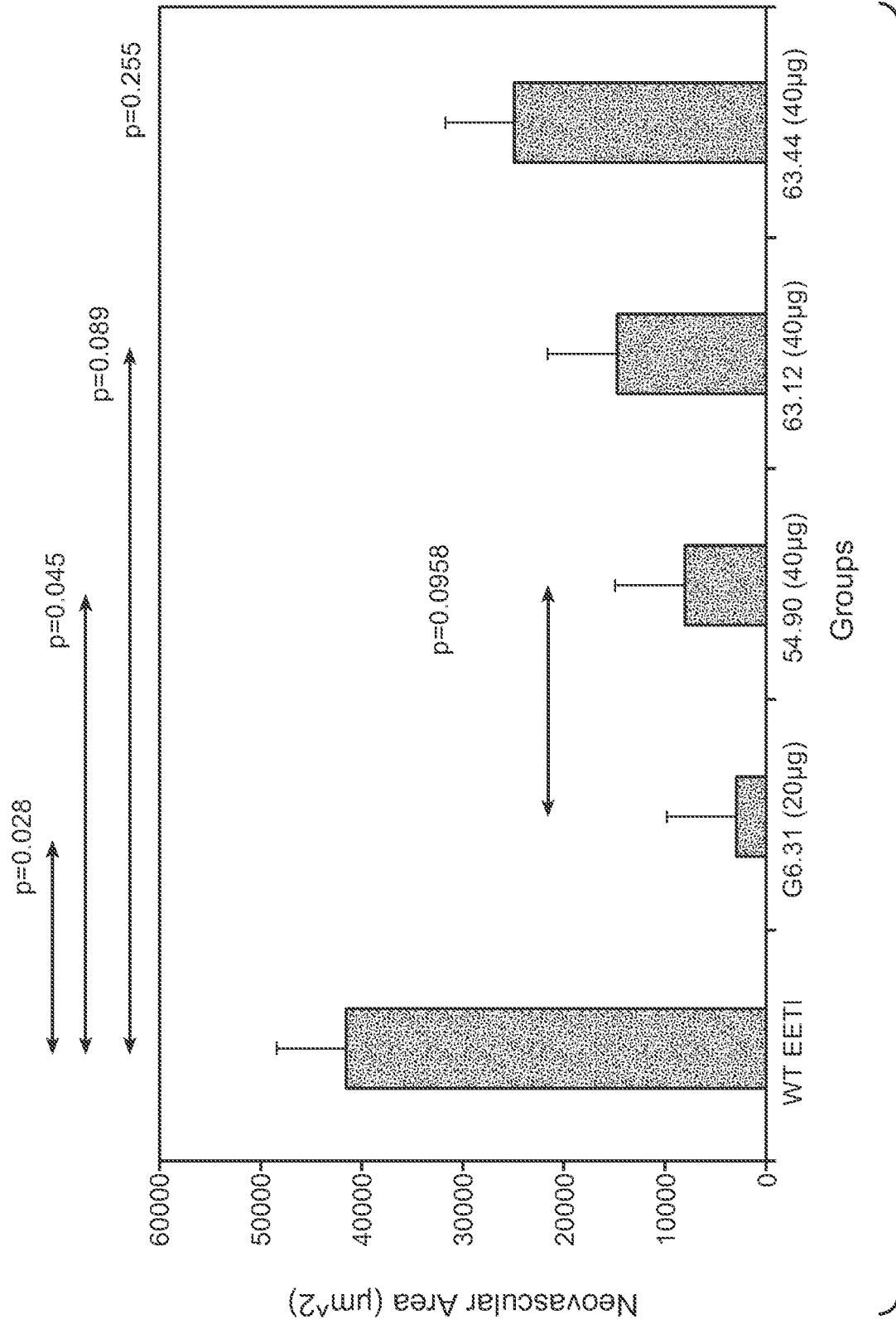
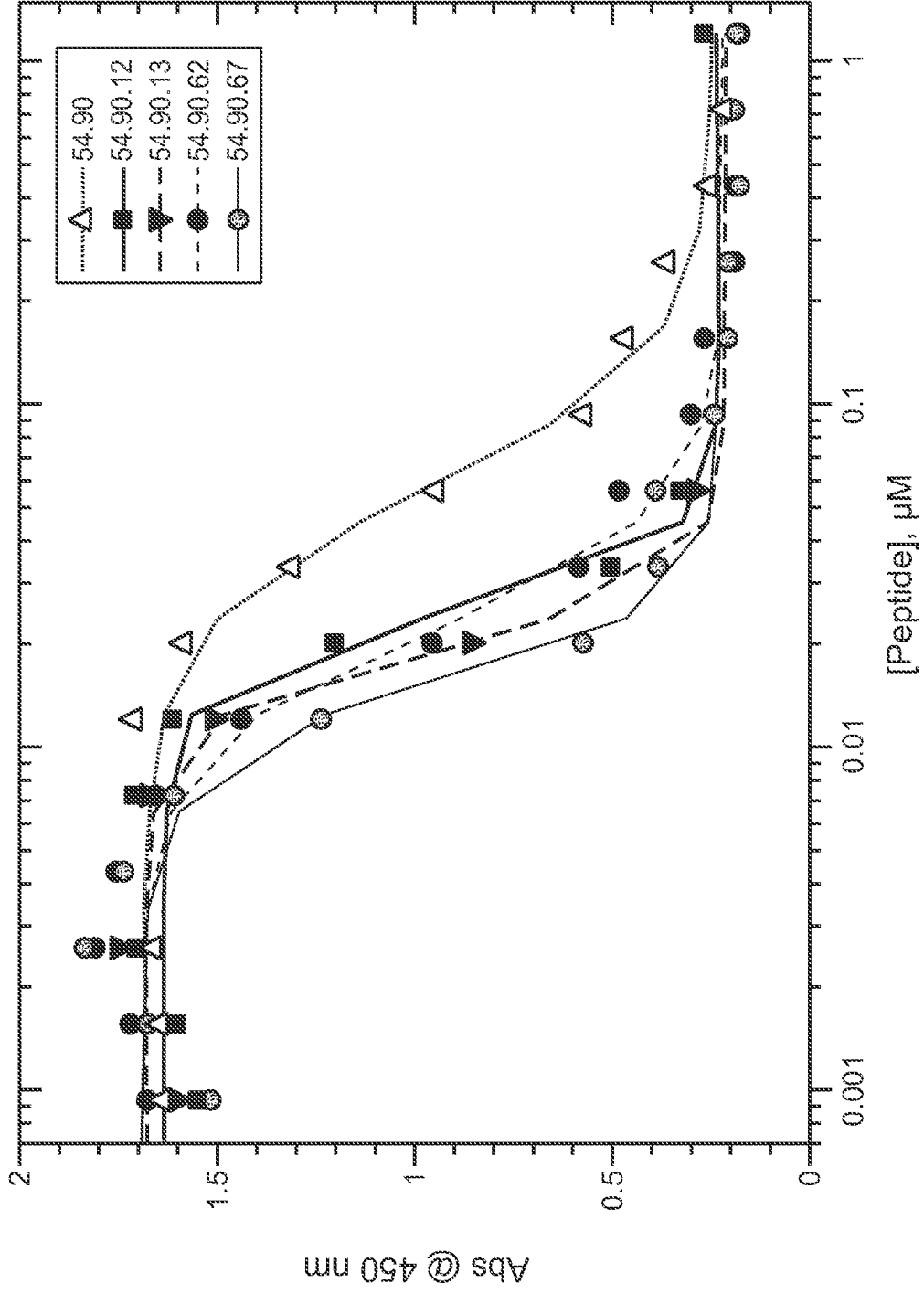


FIG. 11



**FIG. 12**



**FIG. 13**

Syn	Clone	N-term	Loop1	Loop2	Loop3	4	Loop5	SEQ ID NO: 1
	WT	G C P R I L M R	C K Q D S D C L A G C V C G P N G F	C	C	C	C H W Y Q S	SEQ ID NO: 23
E9	C9	G C Q L M Q P F W G	C	C	C	C	C H W Y Q S	SEQ ID NO: 52
EM54	C54	G C N I M L P F W G	C	C	C	C	C H W Y N S	SEQ ID NO: 55
EM63	C63	G C D V M Q P Y W G	C	C	C	C	C H W Y N S	

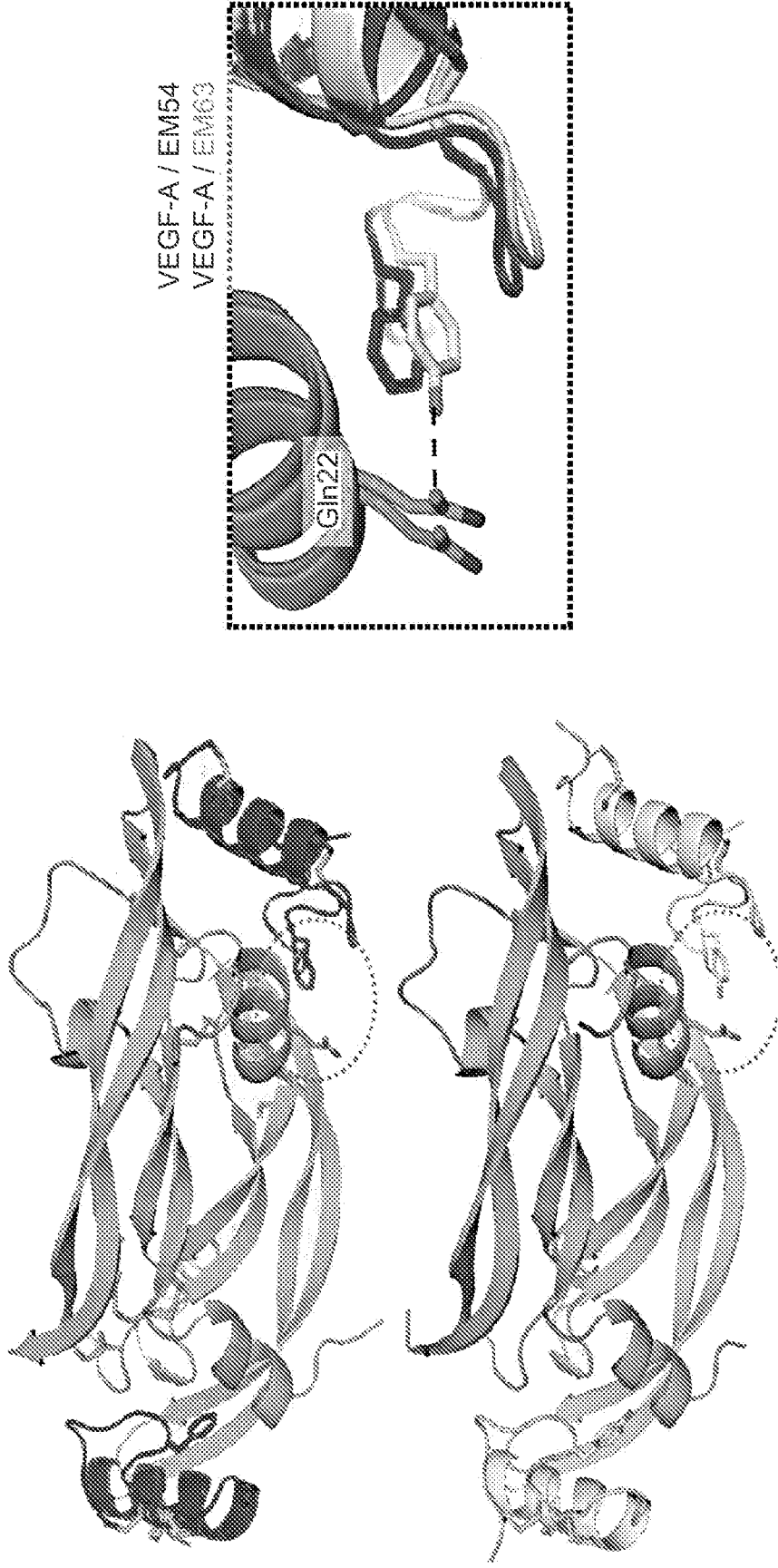
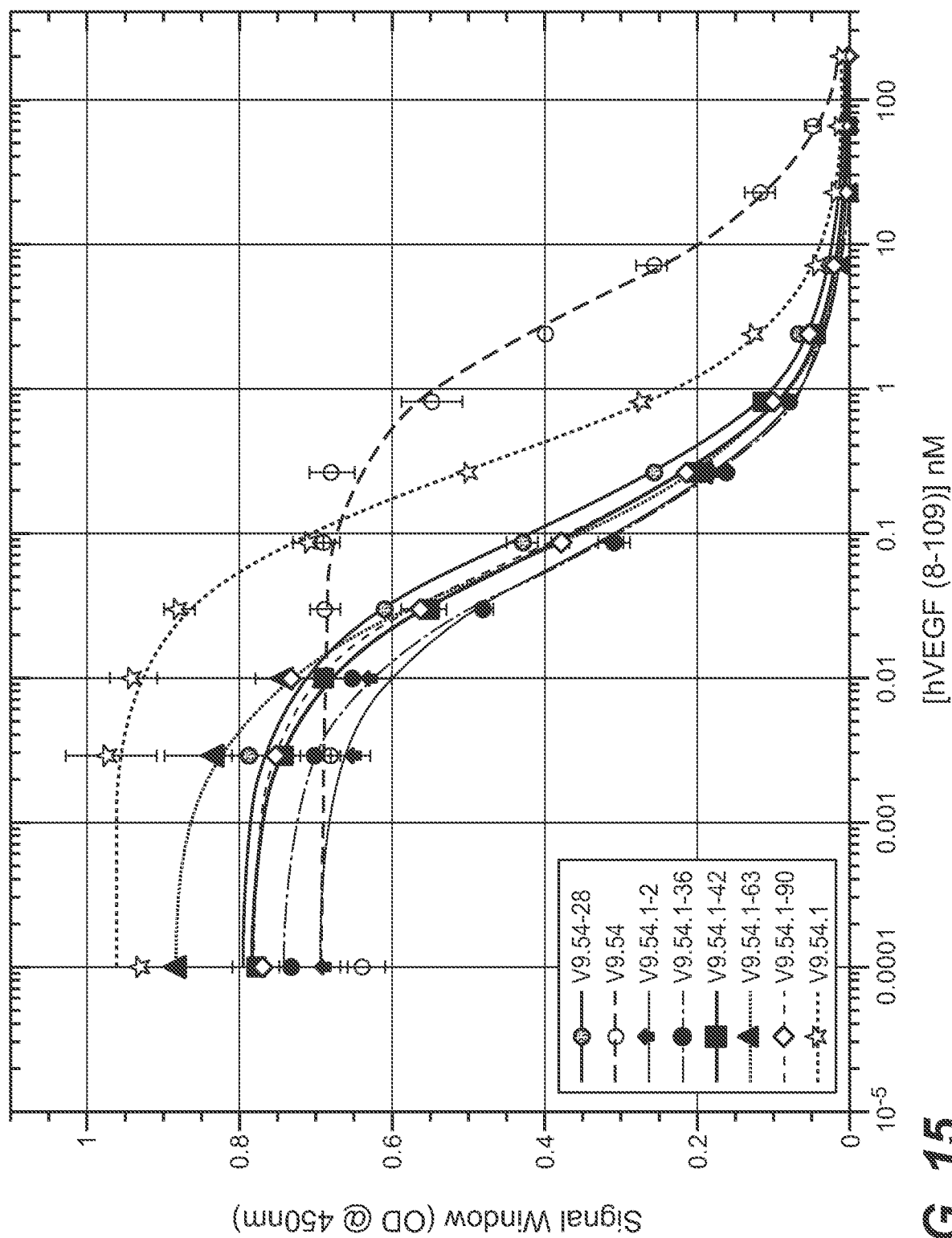
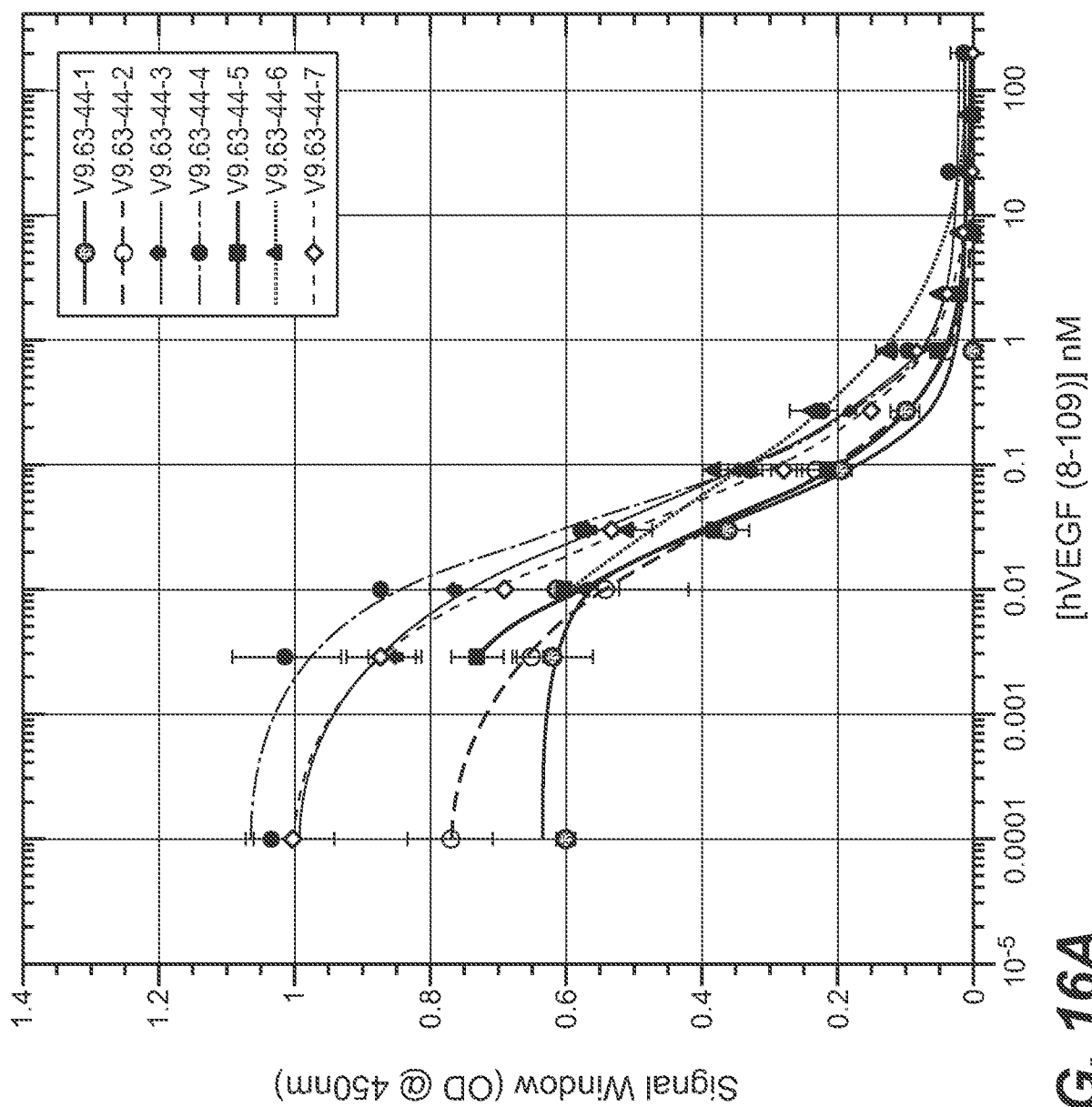


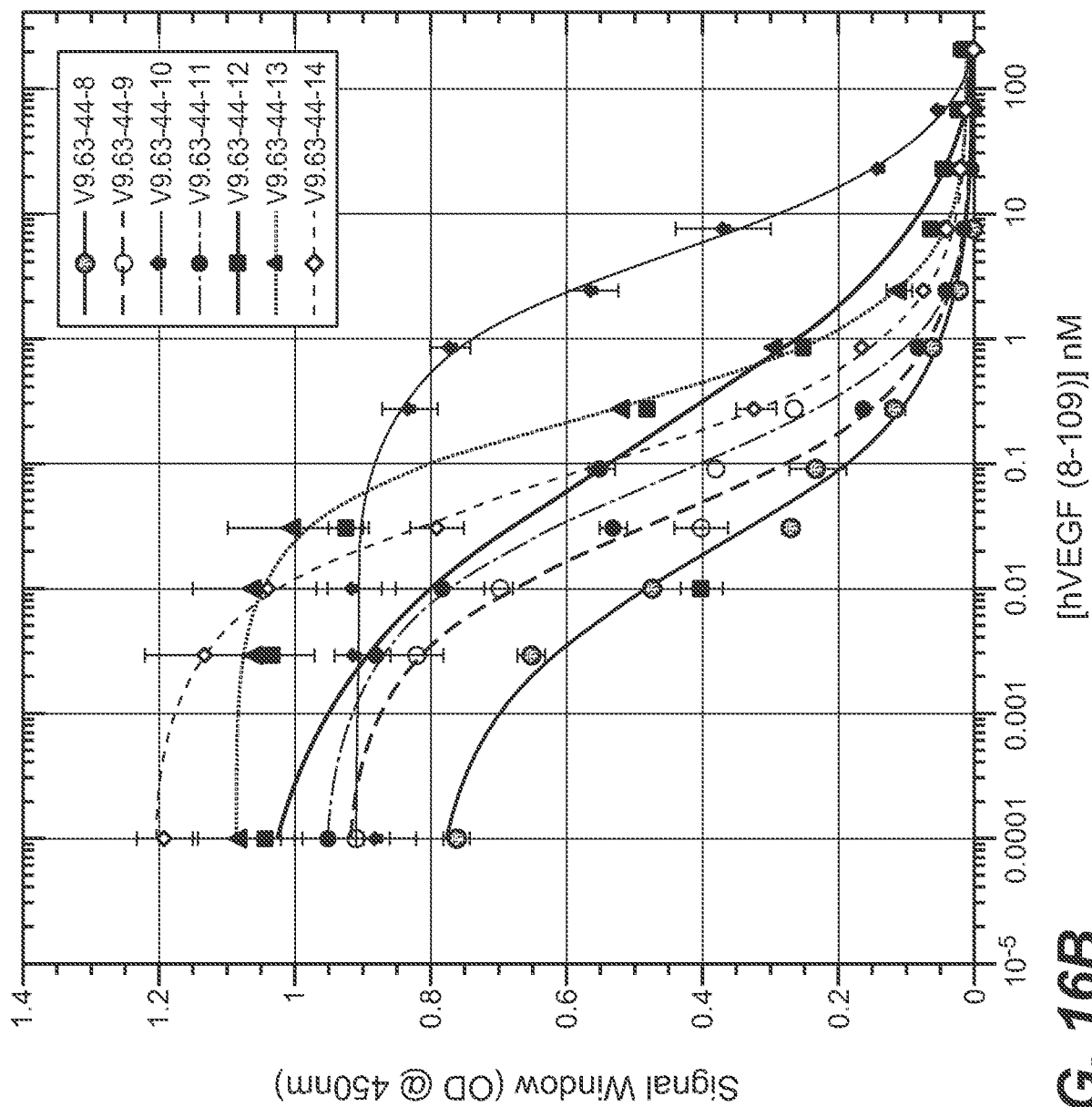
FIG. 14



**FIG. 15**



**FIG. 16A**



**FIG. 16B**

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28 Jun 2021

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2021204400

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<400> 21

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Gly Cys Pro Thr Thr Arg Phe Lys Gln Tyr Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp  
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Ser Asp Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Met Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
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Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Phe Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Ser Ser Cys Gly  
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<400> 48  
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 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Phe Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly  
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<400> 49  
 Gly Cys Asp Arg Met Gln Pro Leu Trp Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp  
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Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Leu Trp Tyr Lys Ser Cys Gly  
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&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 54

Gly Cys Asp Pro Met Gln Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp  
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 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Arg Trp Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
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&lt;210&gt; 55

&lt;211&gt; 30

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 55

Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp  
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 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

&lt;210&gt; 56

&lt;211&gt; 30

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 56

Gly Cys Asp Ile Met Gln Pro Leu Trp Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

&lt;210&gt; 57

&lt;211&gt; 30

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 57

Gly Cys Gln Leu Leu Gln Pro Leu Trp Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Arg Trp Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

&lt;210&gt; 58

&lt;211&gt; 30

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 58

Gly Cys Asn Pro Met Leu Pro Leu Trp Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp  
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Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
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Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Arg Trp Tyr Glu Ser Cys Gly  
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Leu Asp Pro Ser Phe Asn Trp Ser Leu Tyr
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Arg Asp Leu Thr Ile Asn Trp Ala Leu Phe
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Leu Asp Pro Thr Val Asn Trp Ala Leu Phe
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<400> 68
Gln Asp Pro Lys Leu Asn Trp Ala Val Tyr
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1				5					10					15	
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			20					25					30		

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Gly	Cys	Gln	Asp	Pro	Thr	Phe	Asn	Trp	Ala	Glu	Tyr	Cys	Lys	Gln	Asp
1				5					10					15	
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			20					25					30		

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Gly Cys Arg Asp Leu Thr Ile Asn Trp Ala Leu Phe Cys Lys Gln Asp  
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<400> 100  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Leu Asp Tyr Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 101  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

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<400> 101  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Pro Asp Leu Gln  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

<210> 102  
<211> 30  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 102  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

<210> 103  
<211> 30  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 103  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Gln Gln Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

<210> 104  
<211> 30  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 104  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Val Glu Arg Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

<210> 105  
<211> 30  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 105  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Met Ser Asp Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

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<210> 106  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 106  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Met Asn Gln Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 107  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 107  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Met Gln Thr Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 108  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 108  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Val Tyr Gln Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 109  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 109  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Phe Ile Asn Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 110  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 110  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Val Ser Gln Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 111  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 111  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Val Thr Glu Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 112  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 112  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Phe Tyr Glu Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 113  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 113  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Met Glu Gln Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 114  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 114  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Val Tyr Arg Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 115

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<211> 8  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence  
  
 <220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct  
  
 <220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 1  
 <223> Xaa = K or P or Q or R  
  
 <220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 2  
 <223> Xaa = K or T or L or D  
  
 <220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 3  
 <223> Xaa = W or T or M or L  
  
 <220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 4  
 <223> Xaa = Q or R or D  
  
 <220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 5  
 <223> Xaa = W or F or P or V  
  
 <220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 6  
 <223> Xaa = W or K or F  
  
 <220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 7  
 <223> Xaa = Y or Q or W  
  
 <220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 8  
 <223> Xaa = M or Y or G or D  
  
 <400> 115  
 Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa  
 1 5  
  
 <210> 116  
  
 <400> 116  
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 <210> 117  
 <211> 5  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence  
  
 <220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct  
  
 <400> 117  
 Gly Glu Asn Phe Leu

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1 5

<210> 118  
 <211> 5  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 118  
 Gly Pro Asp Ile Asp  
 1 5

<210> 119  
 <211> 5  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 119  
 Gly Arg Asp Met Asp  
 1 5

<210> 120  
 <211> 5  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 120  
 Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
 1 5

<210> 121  
 <211> 5  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 1  
 <223> Xaa = K or G or D or A or E

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 2  
 <223> Xaa = Q or E or R or V or P or D or M or G or N or  
 L or A or F

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 3  
 <223> Xaa = D or N or Y or S

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT

<222> 4  
 <223> Xaa = S or F or L or I or M or Y or V or N or E

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 5  
 <223> Xaa = D or L or Q or S or E or T or L or A or N

<400> 121  
 Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa  
 1 5

<210> 122  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 122  
 Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Glu Asn Phe Leu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 123  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 123  
 Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Pro Asp Ile Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 124  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 124  
 Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Met Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 125  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 125  
 Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp

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1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

<210> 126  
<211> 30  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 126  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Glu Ser Leu Ser  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

<210> 127  
<211> 8  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 127  
Asp Val Met Lys Pro Met Trp Gly  
1 5

<210> 128  
<211> 8  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 128  
Asp Val Leu Asp Pro Thr Trp Gly  
1 5

<210> 129  
<211> 8  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 129  
Asp Val Leu Gln Pro Leu Trp Gly  
1 5

<210> 130  
<211> 8  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<220>

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<221> VARIANT  
 <222> 3  
 <223> Xaa = M or L

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 4  
 <223> Xaa = Q or K or D

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 6  
 <223> Xaa = Y or M or T or L

<400> 130  
 Asp Val Xaa Xaa Pro Xaa Trp Gly  
 1 5

<210> 131  
 <211> 5  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 131  
 Gln Trp Tyr Asn Ser  
 1 5

<210> 132  
 <211> 5  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 132  
 Leu Trp Tyr Asn Ser  
 1 5

<210> 133  
 <211> 5  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 133  
 Arg Trp Tyr Asn Ser  
 1 5

<210> 134  
 <211> 5  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT

<222> 1  
 <223> Xaa = H or L or Q or R

<400> 134  
 Xaa Trp Tyr Asn Ser  
 1 5

<210> 135  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 135  
 Gly Cys Asp Val Met Lys Pro Met Trp Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 136  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 136  
 Gly Cys Asp Val Leu Asp Pro Thr Trp Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Leu Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 137  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 137  
 Gly Cys Asp Val Leu Gln Pro Leu Trp Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Arg Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 138

<400> 138  
 000

<210> 139  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 139

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Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Pro Asp Ile Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Phe Val Arg Cys Leu Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

<210> 140  
<211> 30  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 140  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Pro Asp Ile Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ser Asn Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

<210> 141  
<211> 8  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 141  
Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Tyr Trp Gly  
1 5

<210> 142  
<211> 30  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 142  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Met Glu Gln Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

<210> 143  
<211> 8  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 3  
<223> Xaa = norleucine

<400> 143  
Asn Ile Xaa Leu Pro Tyr Trp Gly  
1 5

<210> 144

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<211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 5  
 <223> Xaa = norleucine

<400> 144  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Xaa Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Met Ser Asp Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 145  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 5  
 <223> Xaa = norleucine

<400> 145  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Xaa Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Val Ser Gln Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 146  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 5  
 <223> Xaa = norleucine

<400> 146  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Xaa Leu Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Met Glu Gln Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 147  
 <211> 8  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 147

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Arg Thr Asn Arg Val Lys Gly Gly  
1 5

<210> 148  
<211> 6  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 148  
Val Asn Arg Val Arg Gly  
1 5

<210> 149  
<211> 8  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 149  
Met Asn His Val Lys Ala Arg Arg  
1 5

<210> 150  
<211> 6  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 150  
Arg Ser Val Asn Lys Ile  
1 5

<210> 151  
<211> 6  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 151  
Val Asn Lys Ile Lys Gly  
1 5

<210> 152  
<211> 6  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 152  
Arg Asn Ser Ile Lys Arg  
1 5

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<210> 153  
 <211> 8  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 153  
 Val Ser Asn Arg Val Asn Lys Gly  
 1 5

<210> 154  
 <211> 6  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 154  
 Arg Gly Asn Ile Ile Lys  
 1 5

<210> 155  
 <211> 10  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 155  
 Arg Ser Gly Asn Thr Ile Arg Lys Arg Glu  
 1 5 10

<210> 156  
 <211> 10  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 156  
 Ala Ser Ser Asn Ser Ile Arg Gln Gly Trp  
 1 5 10

<210> 157  
 <211> 6  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 157  
 Arg Ser Asn Arg Ile Arg  
 1 5

<210> 158  
 <211> 10

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<212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 158  
 Arg Ser Asn Lys Leu Arg Glu Ala Arg Gly  
 1 5 10

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<210> 159  
 <211> 6  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 159  
 Val Asn Ser Val Lys Arg  
 1 5

<210> 160  
 <211> 8  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 160  
 Gly Ser Asn Lys Ile Arg Pro Arg  
 1 5

<210> 161  
 <211> 6  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 161  
 Asn Arg Ile Arg Asn Ser  
 1 5

<210> 162  
 <211> 6  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 162  
 Ser Arg Asn Ser Ile Lys  
 1 5

<210> 163  
 <211> 6  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

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<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 163  
Ser Asn Tyr Val Lys Arg  
1 5

<210> 164  
<211> 8  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 164  
Arg Ala Asn Arg Val Ser Gly Arg  
1 5

<210> 165  
<211> 8  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 165  
Ser Asn Arg Val Lys Val Arg Ala  
1 5

<210> 166  
<211> 6  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 166  
Glu Asn Arg Thr Lys Gly  
1 5

<210> 167  
<211> 6  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 167  
Gly Asn Lys Ile Arg Ala  
1 5

<210> 168  
<211> 8  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

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<400> 168  
Ala Asn Arg Val Lys Arg Thr Ser  
1 5

<210> 169  
<211> 5  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 169  
Ser Gly Gly Arg Asp  
1 5

<210> 170  
<211> 5  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 170  
Gly Ser Ser Arg Asn  
1 5

<210> 171  
<211> 5  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 171  
Gly Val Glu Gly Arg  
1 5

<210> 172  
<211> 5  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 172  
Ser Val Gly His Gly  
1 5

<210> 173  
<211> 5  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 173  
Asn Glu Ser Arg Gly  
1 5

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<210> 174  
 <211> 5  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 174  
 Gly Gly Pro Gly Gly  
 1 5

<210> 175  
 <211> 5  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 175  
 Gly Pro Lys Ser Asn  
 1 5

<210> 176  
 <211> 5  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 176  
 Tyr Gly His Gly Asp  
 1 5

<210> 177  
 <211> 5  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 177  
 Gly Ser Arg Gln Asp  
 1 5

<210> 178  
 <211> 5  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 178  
 Ser Arg Gly Val Asn  
 1 5

<210> 179

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<211> 5  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 179  
 Gly Pro Asn Asp Phe  
 1 5

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<210> 180  
 <211> 5  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 180  
 Gly Arg Gly Asp Tyr  
 1 5

<210> 181  
 <211> 5  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 181  
 Ala Ser Gly Ser Ser  
 1 5

<210> 182  
 <211> 5  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 182  
 Ser Pro Gly Gly Arg  
 1 5

<210> 183  
 <211> 5  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 183  
 Gly Phe Arg Gly Thr  
 1 5

<210> 184  
 <211> 5  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

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<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 184  
Arg Asp Arg Val Gly  
1 5

<210> 185  
<211> 6  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 1  
<223> Xaa = V or R or N or S or E or G

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 2  
<223> Xaa = N or S or G or R

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 3  
<223> Xaa = R or V or K or S or N or I or Y

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 4  
<223> Xaa = V or N or I or R or S or T

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 5  
<223> Xaa = R or K or I or N

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 6  
<223> Xaa = G or I or R or K or S or A

<400> 185  
Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa  
1 5

<210> 186  
<211> 8  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 1  
<223> Xaa = A or R or M or V or G or S

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 2

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<223> Xaa = N or T or S or A

<220>

<221> VARIANT

<222> 3

<223> Xaa = R or N or H

<220>

<221> VARIANT

<222> 4

<223> Xaa = V or R or K

<220>

<221> VARIANT

<222> 5

<223> Xaa = K or V or I

<220>

<221> VARIANT

<222> 6

<223> Xaa = R or K or A or N or S or V

<220>

<221> VARIANT

<222> 7

<223> Xaa = T or G or R or K or P

<220>

<221> VARIANT

<222> 8

<223> Xaa = S or G or R or A

<400> 186

Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa  
1 5

<210> 187

<211> 10

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial sequence

<220>

<223> Synthetic Construct

<220>

<221> VARIANT

<222> 1

<223> Xaa = R or A or Q

<220>

<221> VARIANT

<222> 2

<223> Xaa = S or A

<220>

<221> VARIANT

<222> 3

<223> Xaa = G or S or N or I

<220>

<221> VARIANT

<222> 4

<223> Xaa = N or K

<220>

<221> VARIANT

<222> 5

<223> Xaa = T or S or L or R

<220>

<221> VARIANT

<222> 6

<223> Xaa = I or R or V

<220>

<221> VARIANT

<222> 7

<223> Xaa = R or E or K

<220>

<221> VARIANT

<222> 8

<223> Xaa = K or Q or A or R

<220>

<221> VARIANT

<222> 9

<223> Xaa = R or G or Q

<220>

<221> VARIANT

<222> 10

<223> Xaa = E or W or G or R

<400> 187

Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa  
1 5 10

<210> 188

<211> 5

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<223> Synthetic Construct

<220>

<221> VARIANT

<222> 1

<223> Xaa = G or S or N or Y or A or R

<220>

<221> VARIANT

<222> 2

<223> Xaa = P or G or S or V or E or R or F or D

<220>

<221> VARIANT

<222> 3

<223> Xaa = N or G or S or E or P or K or H or R

<220>

<221> VARIANT

<222> 4

<223> Xaa = G or R or H or S or Q or V or D

<220>

<221> VARIANT

<222> 5

<223> Xaa = F or D or N or R or G or Y or S or T

<400> 188

Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa  
1 5

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<210> 189  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 189  
 Gly Cys Arg Thr Asn Arg Val Lys Gly Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gly Pro Asn Gly Phe Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 190  
 <211> 28  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 190  
 Gly Cys Val Asn Arg Val Arg Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp Cys Leu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Ser Gly Gly Arg Asp Cys Gly  
 20 25

<210> 191  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 191  
 Gly Cys Met Asn His Val Lys Ala Arg Arg Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gly Pro Asn Gly Phe Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 192  
 <211> 28  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 192  
 Gly Cys Arg Ser Val Asn Lys Ile Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp Cys Leu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gly Ser Ser Arg Asn Cys Gly  
 20 25

<210> 193  
 <211> 28  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>

<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 193

Gly Cys Val Asn Lys Ile Lys Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp Cys Leu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gly Val Glu Gly Arg Cys Gly  
 20 25

<210> 194

<211> 28

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 194

Gly Cys Arg Asn Ser Ile Lys Arg Cys Lys Gln Asn Ser Asp Cys Leu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Ser Val Gly His Gly Cys Gly  
 20 25

<210> 195

<211> 30

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 195

Gly Cys Val Ser Asn Arg Val Asn Lys Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gly Pro Asn Gly Phe Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 196

<211> 28

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 196

Gly Cys Arg Gly Asn Ile Ile Lys Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp Cys Leu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Asn Glu Ser Arg Gly Cys Gly  
 20 25

<210> 197

<211> 32

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 197

Gly Cys Arg Ser Gly Asn Thr Ile Arg Lys Arg Glu Cys Lys Gln Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Ser Asp Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gly Gly Pro Gly Gly Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

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<210> 198  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 198  
 Gly Cys Ala Ser Ser Asn Ser Ile Arg Gln Gly Trp Cys Lys Gln Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Ser Asp Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gly Pro Lys Ser Asn Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 199  
 <211> 28  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 199  
 Gly Cys Arg Ser Asn Arg Ile Arg Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp Cys Leu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Tyr Gly His Gly Asp Cys Gly  
 20 25

<210> 200  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 200  
 Gly Cys Arg Ser Asn Lys Leu Arg Glu Ala Arg Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Ser Asp Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gly Ser Arg Gln Asp Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 201  
 <211> 28  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 201  
 Gly Cys Val Asn Ser Val Lys Arg Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp Cys Leu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Ser Arg Gly Val Asn Cys Gly  
 20 25

<210> 202  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

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<400> 202  
 Gly Cys Gly Ser Asn Lys Ile Arg Pro Arg Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gly Pro Asn Asp Phe Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 203  
 <211> 28  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 203  
 Gly Cys Asn Arg Ile Arg Asn Ser Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp Cys Leu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gly Arg Gly Asp Tyr Cys Gly  
 20 25

<210> 204  
 <211> 28  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 204  
 Gly Cys Ser Arg Asn Ser Ile Lys Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp Cys Leu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Ala Ser Gly Ser Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25

<210> 205  
 <211> 28  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 205  
 Gly Cys Ser Asn Tyr Val Lys Arg Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp Cys Leu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Ser Pro Gly Gly Arg Cys Gly  
 20 25

<210> 206  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 206  
 Gly Cys Arg Ala Asn Arg Val Ser Gly Arg Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gly Pro Asn Gly Phe Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

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<210> 207  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 207  
 Gly Cys Ser Asn Arg Val Lys Val Arg Ala Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gly Pro Asn Gly Phe Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 208  
 <211> 28  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 208  
 Gly Cys Glu Asn Arg Thr Lys Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp Cys Leu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gly Phe Arg Gly Thr Cys Gly  
 20 25

<210> 209  
 <211> 28  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 209  
 Gly Cys Gly Asn Lys Ile Arg Ala Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp Cys Leu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Arg Asp Arg Val Gly Cys Gly  
 20 25

<210> 210  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 210  
 Gly Cys Ala Asn Arg Val Lys Arg Thr Ser Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gly Pro Asn Gly Phe Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 211  
 <211> 5  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

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<400> 211  
Gly Glu Ser Leu Ser  
1 5

<210> 212  
<211> 8  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 6  
<223> Xaa = 3,4-difluoro-L-phenylalanine,  
3,4-dichloro-L-phenylalanine, 4-chloro-L-phenylalanine,  
3-F,4-Cl-L-phenylalanine, 2-pyridone(NH para)-L-alanine,  
pyridone(NH meta)-L-alanine, or sulfotyrosine

<400> 212  
Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Xaa Trp Gly  
1 5

<210> 213  
<211> 8  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 7  
<223> Xaa = 1-Naphthyl alanine, 2-Naphthyl alanine, or  
2-chloroindole

<400> 213  
Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Xaa Gly  
1 5

<210> 214  
<211> 8  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 3  
<223> Xaa = norleucine

<400> 214  
Asp Val Xaa Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly  
1 5

<210> 215  
<211> 30  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

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<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct  
 <400> 215  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Gln Ser Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 216  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 30  
 <223> glycine can be capped with C(=O)-oxetane-3yl

<400> 216  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 217  
 <211> 28  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 217  
 Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu Cys  
 1 5 10 15  
 Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys  
 20 25

<210> 218  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 5  
 <223> Xaa = norleucine

<400> 218  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Xaa Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 219  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT

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&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;221&gt; VARIANT

&lt;222&gt; 9

&lt;223&gt; Xaa = 1-naphthylalanine, or 2-naphthylalanine

&lt;400&gt; 219

Gly	Cys	Asn	Ile	Met	Leu	Pro	Phe	Xaa	Gly	Cys	Gly	Arg	Asp	Phe	Glu
1				5					10					15	
Cys	Leu	Ala	Gly	Cys	Val	Cys	Gln	Tyr	Tyr	Gln	Ser	Cys	Gly		
			20					25					30		

&lt;210&gt; 220

&lt;211&gt; 5

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;221&gt; VARIANT

&lt;222&gt; 3

&lt;223&gt; Xaa = 3-fluorotyrosine, or 4-fluorophenylalanine

&lt;400&gt; 220

Gln	Tyr	Xaa	Gln	Ser
1				5

&lt;210&gt; 221

&lt;211&gt; 30

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;221&gt; VARIANT

&lt;222&gt; 1

&lt;223&gt; Xaa = PEG6-propargylglycine

&lt;400&gt; 221

Xaa	Cys	Asn	Ile	Met	Leu	Pro	Phe	Trp	Gly	Cys	Gly	Arg	Asp	Phe	Glu
1				5					10					15	
Cys	Leu	Ala	Gly	Cys	Val	Cys	Gln	Tyr	Tyr	Gln	Ser	Cys	Gly		
			20					25					30		

&lt;210&gt; 222

&lt;211&gt; 30

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 222

Gly	Cys	Asn	Ile	Met	Leu	Pro	Tyr	Trp	Gly	Cys	Gly	Arg	Asp	Phe	Glu
1				5					10					15	
Cys	Met	Asn	Gln	Cys	Ile	Cys	Gln	Tyr	Tyr	Gln	Ser	Cys	Gly		
			20					25					30		

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<210> 223  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 223  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Phe Tyr Glu Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 224  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 5  
 <223> Xaa = norleucine

<400> 224  
 Gly Cys Asp Val Xaa Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Pro Asp Ile Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ser Asn Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 225  
 <211> 10  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 225  
 Glu Thr Asp Trp Tyr Pro His Gln Ile Asp  
 1 5 10

<210> 226  
 <211> 10  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 226  
 Gly Glu Thr Val Phe Glu Gln Phe Leu Trp  
 1 5 10

<210> 227  
 <211> 6  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

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<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 227  
 His Met Met Tyr Asp Tyr  
 1 5

<210> 228  
 <211> 8  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 228  
 Lys Lys Trp Gln Trp Trp Tyr Met  
 1 5

<210> 229  
 <211> 10  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 229  
 Pro Ala Ile Gln Asn Trp Lys Glu His Pro  
 1 5 10

<210> 230  
 <211> 8  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 230  
 Gln Leu Met His Pro Phe Trp Gly  
 1 5

<210> 231  
 <211> 6  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 231  
 His Met Met Tyr Asp Tyr  
 1 5

<210> 232  
 <211> 10  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

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<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 1  
 <223> Xaa = E or G or P or Q or R or T or V

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 2  
 <223> Xaa = T or E or A or D

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 3  
 <223> Xaa = D or T or I or P

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 4  
 <223> Xaa = W or V or Q or T or W

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 5  
 <223> Xaa = Y or F or N or E or P or K

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 6  
 <223> Xaa = P or E or W or N or P

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 7  
 <223> Xaa = H or Q or K or W or H

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 8  
 <223> Xaa = Q or F or E or A or D or W

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 9  
 <223> Xaa = I or L or H

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 10  
 <223> Xaa = D or W or P or Y or T or M or N

<400> 232  
 Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa  
 1 5 10

<210> 233  
 <211> 5  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 233  
 Gly Pro Asn Gly Phe  
 1 5

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<210> 234  
 <211> 5  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 234  
 Gly Pro Asn Gly Phe  
 1 5

<210> 235  
 <211> 5  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 235  
 Glu Met Tyr Asp Ala  
 1 5

<210> 236  
 <211> 5  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 236  
 Tyr Pro Trp Thr Glu  
 1 5

<210> 237  
 <211> 6  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 237  
 Ser Trp Trp Pro Ser Leu  
 1 5

<210> 238  
 <211> 5  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 238  
 His Trp Tyr Arg Ser  
 1 5

<210> 239  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT

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&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 239

Gly Cys Glu Thr Asp Trp Tyr Pro His Gln Ile Asp Cys Lys Gln Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Ser Asp Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gly Pro Asn Gly Phe Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

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&lt;210&gt; 240

&lt;211&gt; 32

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 240

Gly Cys Gly Glu Thr Val Phe Glu Gln Phe Leu Trp Cys Lys Gln Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Ser Asp Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gly Pro Asn Gly Phe Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

&lt;210&gt; 241

&lt;211&gt; 28

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 241

Gly Cys His Met Met Tyr Asp Tyr Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp Cys Leu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Glu Met Tyr Asp Ala Cys Gly  
 20 25

&lt;210&gt; 242

&lt;211&gt; 30

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 242

Gly Cys Lys Lys Trp Gln Trp Trp Tyr Met Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Tyr Pro Trp Thr Glu Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

&lt;210&gt; 243

&lt;211&gt; 33

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 243

Gly Cys Pro Ala Ile Gln Asn Trp Lys Glu His Pro Cys Lys Gln Asp  
 1 5 10 15

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Ser Asp Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Ser Trp Trp Pro Ser Leu Cys  
20 25 30  
Gly

<210> 244  
<211> 30  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 244  
Gly Cys Gln Leu Met His Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Arg Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

<210> 245  
<211> 8  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 245  
His Leu Phe Glu Pro Leu Trp Gly  
1 5

<210> 246  
<211> 8  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 246  
Gln Val Met Arg Pro Phe Trp Gly  
1 5

<210> 247  
<211> 8  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 247  
Gln Val Met Gln Pro Ala Trp Gly  
1 5

<210> 248  
<211> 8  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

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<400> 248  
His Arg Leu Gln Pro Leu Trp Gly  
1 5

<210> 249  
<211> 8  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 249  
Glu Leu Leu Gln Pro Ser Trp Gly  
1 5

<210> 250  
<211> 8  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 250  
Asn Val Leu Leu Pro Leu Trp Gly  
1 5

<210> 251  
<211> 8  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 251  
Asp Leu Met Gln Pro Leu Trp Gly  
1 5

<210> 252  
<211> 8  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 252  
Asn Pro Met Leu Pro Leu Trp Gly  
1 5

<210> 253  
<211> 8  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 253  
Gln Val Leu Gln Pro Ser Trp Gly  
1 5

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<210> 254  
<211> 8  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 254  
Gln Leu Leu Glu Pro Met Trp Gly  
1 5

<210> 255  
<211> 8  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 255  
Lys Leu Leu Gln Pro Met Trp Gly  
1 5

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&lt;400&gt; 292

Arg Met Tyr Asp Ser  
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&lt;210&gt; 293

&lt;211&gt; 32

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

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&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 293

Gly Cys Asp Asp Pro Ser Phe Asp Trp Ser Val Tyr Cys Lys Gln Asp  
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&lt;210&gt; 294

&lt;211&gt; 32

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 294

Gly Cys Trp Asp Pro Thr Phe Asn Trp Ala Leu Tyr Cys Lys Gln Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Ser Asp Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Met Tyr Asp Ser Cys Gly  
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&lt;210&gt; 295

&lt;211&gt; 32

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 295

Gly Cys Gln Asp Pro Thr Leu Asn Trp Ala Thr Tyr Cys Lys Gln Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Ser Asp Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Met Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

&lt;210&gt; 296

&lt;211&gt; 32

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 296

Gly Cys Glu Asp Pro Thr Val Asp Trp Ala Gln Tyr Cys Lys Gln Asp  
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Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
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Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
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Asp Gly Asp Tyr Gln  
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<400> 328

Gly Asn Asp Val Ser  
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Ala Gly Asp Glu Leu  
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Gly Leu Asp Glu Glu  
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Gly Gln Asp Tyr Asn  
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Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly  
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&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 346

Gly	Cys	Asp	Val	Met	Gln	Pro	Tyr	Trp	Gly	Cys	Gly	Asn	Asp	Val	Ser
1				5					10					15	
Cys	Leu	Ala	Gly	Cys	Val	Cys	His	Trp	Tyr	Asn	Ser	Cys	Gly		
			20					25					30		

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&lt;210&gt; 347

&lt;211&gt; 30

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 347

Gly	Cys	Asp	Val	Met	Gln	Pro	Tyr	Trp	Gly	Cys	Ala	Gly	Asp	Glu	Leu
1				5					10					15	
Cys	Leu	Ala	Gly	Cys	Val	Cys	His	Trp	Tyr	Asn	Ser	Cys	Gly		
			20					25					30		

&lt;210&gt; 348

&lt;211&gt; 30

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 348

Gly	Cys	Asp	Val	Met	Gln	Pro	Tyr	Trp	Gly	Cys	Gly	Leu	Asp	Glu	Glu
1				5					10					15	
Cys	Leu	Ala	Gly	Cys	Val	Cys	His	Trp	Tyr	Asn	Ser	Cys	Gly		
			20					25					30		

&lt;210&gt; 349

&lt;211&gt; 30

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 349

Gly	Cys	Asp	Val	Met	Gln	Pro	Tyr	Trp	Gly	Cys	Asp	Gly	Asp	Phe	Asp
1				5					10					15	
Cys	Leu	Ala	Gly	Cys	Val	Cys	His	Trp	Tyr	Asn	Ser	Cys	Gly		
			20					25					30		

&lt;210&gt; 350

&lt;211&gt; 30

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 350

Gly	Cys	Asp	Val	Met	Gln	Pro	Tyr	Trp	Gly	Cys	Ala	Gly	Asp	Phe	Glu
1				5					10					15	

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Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

<210> 351  
<211> 30  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 351  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Asn Ser Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

<210> 352  
<211> 30  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 352  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Gln Asp Leu Thr  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

<210> 353  
<211> 30  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 353  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Glu Asn Leu Ala  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

<210> 354  
<211> 30  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 354  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Gln Asp Tyr Asn  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

<210> 355  
<211> 30  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

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<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 355  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Ala Asp Leu Ser  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

<210> 356  
<211> 30  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 356  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Phe Asp Met Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

<210> 357  
<211> 30  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 357  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Asp Leu Asn Tyr Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

<210> 358  
<211> 8  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 1  
<223> Xaa = Q or H or E or N or D

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 2  
<223> Xaa = L or V or R or P or I

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 3  
<223> Xaa = M or F or L

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 4  
<223> Xaa = Q or E or R or L

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<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 6  
 <223> Xaa = F or A or L or S  
 <400> 358  
 Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Pro Xaa Trp Gly  
 1 5

<210> 359  
 <211> 5  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 1  
 <223> Xaa = R or H

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 4  
 <223> Xaa = N or Q or H

<400> 359  
 Xaa Trp Tyr Xaa Ser  
 1 5

<210> 360  
 <211> 5  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 1  
 <223> Xaa = H or L or R or Q

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 2  
 <223> Xaa = W or F or Y

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 4  
 <223> Xaa = Q or N or K or H or D or E

<400> 360  
 Xaa Xaa Tyr Xaa Ser  
 1 5

<210> 361  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

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&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;221&gt; VARIANT

&lt;222&gt; 1

&lt;223&gt; Xaa = acetylglycine

&lt;400&gt; 361

Xaa	Cys	Asn	Ile	Met	Leu	Pro	Tyr	Trp	Gly	Cys	Gly	Arg	Asp	Phe	Glu
1				5					10					15	
Cys	Leu	Ala	Gly	Cys	Val	Cys	Gln	Tyr	Tyr	Gln	Ser	Cys	Gly		
			20					25					30		

&lt;210&gt; 362

&lt;211&gt; 30

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;221&gt; VARIANT

&lt;222&gt; 8

&lt;223&gt; Xaa = sulfotyrosine, 3,4-difluoro-L-phenylalanine, 3,4-dichloro-L-phenylalanine, 4-chloro-L-phenylalanine, 3-F,4-Cl-L-phenylalanine, 2-pyridone(NH para)-L-alanine, or pyridone(NH meta)-L-alanine

&lt;400&gt; 362

Gly	Cys	Asn	Ile	Met	Leu	Pro	Xaa	Trp	Gly	Cys	Gly	Arg	Asp	Phe	Glu
1				5					10					15	
Cys	Leu	Ala	Gly	Cys	Val	Cys	Gln	Tyr	Tyr	Gln	Ser	Cys	Gly		
			20					25					30		

&lt;210&gt; 363

&lt;211&gt; 30

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 363

Gly	Cys	Asn	Ile	Met	Leu	Pro	Tyr	Trp	Gly	Cys	Gly	Arg	Asp	Phe	Glu
1				5					10					15	
Cys	Met	Ser	Asp	Cys	Ile	Cys	Gln	Tyr	Tyr	Gln	Ser	Cys	Gly		
			20					25					30		

&lt;210&gt; 364

&lt;211&gt; 30

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 364

Gly	Cys	Asn	Ile	Met	Leu	Pro	Tyr	Trp	Gly	Cys	Gly	Arg	Asp	Phe	Glu
1				5					10					15	
Cys	Met	Ser	Asp	Cys	Ile	Cys	Gln	Tyr	Tyr	Gln	Ser	Cys	Gly		
			20					25					30		

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<210> 365  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 5  
 <223> Xaa = norleucine

<400> 365  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Xaa Leu Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Met Ser Asp Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 366  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 366  
 Gly Cys Gln Ala Ile Asn Arg Val Lys Arg Gln Arg Cys Lys Gln Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Ser Asp Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gly Pro Asn Gly Phe Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 367  
 <211> 10  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 367  
 Gln Ala Ile Asn Arg Val Lys Arg Gln Arg  
 1 5 10

<210> 368  
 <211> 8  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 368  
 Asn Pro Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly  
 1 5

<210> 369  
 <211> 33  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

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<400> 369  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Pro Leu  
20 25 30  
Ile

<210> 370  
<211> 33  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 370  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Asn Tyr  
20 25 30  
Gln

<210> 371  
<211> 33  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 371  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Pro Leu  
20 25 30  
Gln

<210> 372  
<211> 33  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 372  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Thr Phe  
20 25 30  
Gln

<210> 373  
<211> 33  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

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<400> 373  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Asp Leu  
20 25 30  
val

<210> 374  
<211> 33  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 374  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Glu His  
20 25 30  
Lys

<210> 375  
<211> 33  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 375  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Tyr Leu  
20 25 30  
Ser

<210> 376  
<211> 33  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 376  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Trp Asp  
20 25 30  
Tyr

<210> 377  
<211> 33  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

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<400> 377  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Trp Pro  
 20 25 30  
 His

<210> 378  
 <211> 33  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 378  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Pro His  
 20 25 30  
 Gln

<210> 379  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 379  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Phe His  
 20 25 30

<210> 380  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 380  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Ile Ala  
 20 25 30

<210> 381  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 381  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15

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Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Gly Ser  
20 25 30

<210> 382  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 382  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Thr Arg  
20 25 30

<210> 383  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 383  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Val His  
20 25 30

<210> 384  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 384  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Leu Ser  
20 25 30

<210> 385  
<211> 8  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 385  
Asp Val Leu Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly  
1 5

<210> 386  
<211> 30  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 386

Gly Cys Asp Val Leu Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Pro Asp Ile Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ser Asn Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 387

<211> 32

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 387

Gly Cys Asp Val Leu Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Pro Asp Ile Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ser Asn Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Arg Thr  
 20 25 30

<210> 388

<211> 32

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 388

Gly Cys Asp Val Leu Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Pro Asp Ile Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ser Asn Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Trp Lys  
 20 25 30

<210> 389

<211> 32

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 389

Gly Cys Asp Val Leu Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Pro Asp Ile Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ser Asn Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Pro Leu  
 20 25 30

<210> 390

<211> 32

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 390

Gly Cys Asp Val Leu Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Pro Asp Ile Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ser Asn Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Asp Glu  
 20 25 30

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<210> 391  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 391  
Gly Cys Asp Val Leu Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Pro Asp Ile Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ser Asn Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Gln Phe  
20 25 30

<210> 392  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 392  
Gly Cys Asp Val Leu Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Pro Asp Ile Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ser Asn Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Glu Gln  
20 25 30

<210> 393  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 393  
Gly Cys Asp Val Leu Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Pro Asp Ile Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ser Asn Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Pro Thr  
20 25 30

<210> 394  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 394  
Gly Cys Asp Val Leu Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Pro Asp Ile Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ser Asn Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Arg Leu  
20 25 30

<210> 395  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

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<400> 395  
 Gly Cys Asp Val Leu Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Pro Asp Ile Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ser Asn Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Ser Leu  
 20 25 30

<210> 396  
 <211> 8  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 396  
 Asn Ile Leu Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly  
 1 5

<210> 397  
 <211> 8  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 397  
 Asn Ile Leu Leu Pro Tyr Trp Gly  
 1 5

<210> 398  
 <211> 8  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 398  
 Asn Ile Met Ser Pro Phe Trp Gly  
 1 5

<210> 399  
 <211> 8  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 399  
 Asn Ile Met Thr Pro Phe Trp Gly  
 1 5

<210> 400  
 <211> 8  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

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<400> 400  
 Asn Ile Met Gln Pro Phe Trp Gly  
 1 5

<210> 401  
 <211> 8  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 401  
 Asn Ile Met Asn Pro Phe Trp Gly  
 1 5

<210> 402  
 <211> 8  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 402  
 Asn Ile Met Glu Pro Phe Trp Gly  
 1 5

<210> 403  
 <211> 8  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 403  
 Asn Ile Met Asp Pro Phe Trp Gly  
 1 5

<210> 404  
 <211> 8  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 5  
 <223> Xaa = benzyl-L-proline, 4-fluoro-benzyl-L-proline,  
 3-OH-L-proline, 3-fluoro-L-proline, or  
 trifluoromethyl-benzyl-L-proline

<400> 404  
 Asn Ile Met Leu Xaa Phe Trp Gly  
 1 5

<210> 405  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

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<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 405  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Leu Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

<210> 406  
<211> 30  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 406  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Leu Leu Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

<210> 407  
<211> 30  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 407  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Ser Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

<210> 408  
<211> 30  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 408  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Thr Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

<210> 409  
<211> 30  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 409  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Gln Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly

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25 30

20

<210> 410  
<211> 30  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 410  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Asn Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

<210> 411  
<211> 30  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 411  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Glu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

<210> 412  
<211> 30  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 412  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Asp Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

<210> 413  
<211> 30  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 7  
<223> Xaa = benzyl-L-proline, 4-fluoro-benzyl-L-proline,  
3-OH-L-proline, 3-fluoro-L-proline, or trifluoromethyl-benzyl-L-proline

<400> 413  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Xaa Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

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<210> 414  
 <211> 8  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 414  
 Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Ser Trp Gly  
 1 5

<210> 415  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 415  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Ser Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 416  
 <211> 8  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 7  
 <223> Xaa = N-methyl indole, N-ethyl indole,  
 N-isopropyl indole, or 5-aza-indole

<400> 416  
 Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Tyr Xaa Gly  
 1 5

<210> 417  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 9  
 <223> Xaa = N-methyl indole, N-ethyl indole, N-isopropyl indole,  
 or 5-aza-indole

<400> 417  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Tyr Xaa Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

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<210> 418  
 <211> 5  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 4  
 <223> Xaa = 4-methyl-L-phenylalanine, 2-naphthyl-L-alanine,  
 2-quinolyl-Alanine, 4-biphenyl-L-alanine

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 4  
 <223> Xaa = 3-(3-quinolinylyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinolinylyl)-L-alanine,  
 3-(2-quinoxalinylyl)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-2-pyridyl-alanine

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 4  
 <223> Xaa = 4-ethyl-2-pyridyl-L-alanine, benzothiazole-L-alanine, or  
 benzothiophene-L-alanine, 3-isoquinolinylyl-L-alanine

<400> 418  
 Gly Arg Asp Xaa Glu  
 1 5

<210> 419  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 15  
 <223> Xaa = 4-methyl-L-phenylalanine, 2-naphthyl-L-alanine,  
 2-quinolyl-Alanine, 4-biphenyl-L-alanine

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 15  
 <223> Xaa = 3-(3-quinolinylyl)-L-alanine, 3-(2-quinolinylyl)-L-alanine,  
 3-(2-quinoxalinylyl)-L-alanine, 4-methyl-2-pyridyl-alanine

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 15  
 <223> Xaa = 4-ethyl-2-pyridyl-L-alanine, benzothiazole-L-alanine,  
 benzothiophene-L-alanine, or 3-isoquinolinylyl-L-alanine

<400> 419  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Xaa Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 420

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<211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 18  
 <223> Xaa = t-butyl-L-alanine, cyclobutyl-L-alanine,  
 cyclopentyl-L-alanine, or 5,5,5-Trifluoro-L-leucine

<400> 420  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Xaa Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 421  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 421  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ser Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 422  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 422  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Thr Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 423  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 423  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Glu Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 424  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT

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&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 424

Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Leu Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

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&lt;210&gt; 425

&lt;211&gt; 30

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 425

Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

&lt;210&gt; 426

&lt;211&gt; 30

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;221&gt; VARIANT

&lt;222&gt; 22

&lt;223&gt; Xaa = t-butyl-L-glycine (also known as L-tert-Leucine), t-butyl-L-alanine, L-cyclopentylglycine, cyclopentyl-L-alanine

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;221&gt; VARIANT

&lt;222&gt; 22

&lt;223&gt; Xaa = L-cyclobutyl-L-glycine, cyclobutyl-L-alanine, or 5,5,5-Trifluoro-L-leucine

&lt;400&gt; 426

Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Xaa Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

&lt;210&gt; 427

&lt;211&gt; 5

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;221&gt; VARIANT

&lt;222&gt; 2

&lt;223&gt; Xaa = 2-pyridone, 3,4-hydroxy phenylalanine, 3,4-fluoro phenylalanine, or 3-Fluoro,4-OH phenylalanine

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<400> 427  
Gln Xaa Tyr Gln Ser  
1 5

<210> 428  
<211> 30  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 25  
<223> Xaa = 2-pyridone, 3,4-hydroxy phenylalanine,  
3,4-fluoro phenylalanine, or 3-Fluoro,4-OH phenylalanine

<400> 428  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Xaa Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

<210> 429  
<211> 5  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 3  
<223> Xaa = 2-Chloro Tyrosine, 2-Methyl Tyrosine,  
2-Ethyl Tyrosine, or 1-naphthol alanine

<400> 429  
Gln Tyr Xaa Gln Ser  
1 5

<210> 430  
<211> 30  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 26  
<223> Xaa = 2-Chloro Tyrosine, 2-Methyl Tyrosine,  
2-Ethyl Tyrosine, or 1-naphthol alanine

<400> 430  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Xaa Gln Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

<210> 431  
<211> 30

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<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 431  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Ser  
20 25 30

<210> 432  
<211> 30  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 30  
<223> Xaa = D-serine, L-beta-homoserine, L-beta-alanine,  
N-alpha-methyl Glycine, glycine amide, glycine ester of glycerol

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 30  
<223> Xaa = glycine ester of glycol, glycine ester of  
oxetane-3-yl alcohol, glycine morpholine amide

<400> 432  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Xaa  
20 25 30

<210> 433  
<211> 8  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 3  
<223> Xaa = norleucine

<400> 433  
Asn Ile Xaa Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly  
1 5

<210> 434  
<211> 8  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 434  
Asn Ile Leu Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly

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1 5

<210> 435  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 435  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Leu Leu Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Met Glu Gln Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 436  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 5  
 <223> Xaa = norleucine

<400> 436  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Xaa Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Met Glu Gln Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 437  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 5  
 <223> Xaa = norleucine

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 18  
 <223> Xaa = norleucine or cyclobutyl-L-alanine

<400> 437  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Xaa Leu Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Xaa Glu Gln Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 438  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

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<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 5  
 <223> Xaa = norleucine

<400> 438  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Xaa Leu Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Glu Gln Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 439  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 5  
 <223> Xaa = norleucine

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 18  
 <223> Xaa = cyclobutyl-L-alanine

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 22  
 <223> Xaa = cyclobutyl-L-glycine, cyclobutyl-L-alanine  
 or norleucine

<400> 439  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Xaa Leu Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Xaa Glu Gln Cys Xaa Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 440  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 5  
 <223> Xaa = norleucine

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 18  
 <223> Xaa = cyclobutyl-L-alanine

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 22  
 <223> Xaa = cyclobutyl-L-glycine or cyclobutyl-L-alanine

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<400> 440  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Xaa Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Xaa Glu Gln Cys Xaa Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 441  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 18  
 <223> Xaa = cyclobutyl-L-alanine or t-butyl-L-alanine

<400> 441  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Leu Leu Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Xaa Glu Gln Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 442  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 22  
 <223> Xaa = cyclobutyl-L-glycine or cyclobutyl-L-alanine

<400> 442  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Leu Leu Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Met Glu Gln Cys Xaa Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 443  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 1  
 <223> Xaa = acetylglycine

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 5  
 <223> Xaa = norleucine

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT

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<222> 30  
 <223> Xaa = glycine amide

<400> 443  
 Xaa Cys Asn Ile Xaa Leu Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Met Glu Gln Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Xaa  
 20 25 30

<210> 444  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 1  
 <223> Xaa = acetylglycine

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 30  
 <223> Xaa = glycine amide

<400> 444  
 Xaa Cys Asn Ile Leu Leu Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Met Glu Gln Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Xaa  
 20 25 30

<210> 445  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 1  
 <223> Xaa = acetylglycine

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 30  
 <223> Xaa = glycine amide

<400> 445  
 Xaa Cys Asn Ile Leu Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Met Glu Gln Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Xaa  
 20 25 30

<210> 446  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

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<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 1  
 <223> Xaa = acetylglycine

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 30  
 <223> Xaa = glycine amide

<400> 446  
 Xaa Cys Asn Ile Leu Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Glu Gln Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Xaa  
 20 25 30

<210> 447  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 18  
 <223> Xaa = cyclobutyl-L-alanine or t-butyl-L-alanine

<400> 447  
 Gly Cys Asp Val Leu Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Pro Asp Ile Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Xaa Ser Asn Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 448  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 22  
 <223> Xaa = cyclobutyl-L-glycine

<400> 448  
 Gly Cys Asp Val Leu Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Pro Asp Ile Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ser Asn Cys Xaa Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 449  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 5

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<223> Xaa = norleucine

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 18  
<223> Xaa = cyclobutyl-L-alanine

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 22  
<223> Xaa = cyclobutyl-L-glycine or cyclobutyl-L-alanine

<400> 449  
Gly Cys Asp Val Xaa Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Pro Asp Ile Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Xaa Ser Asn Cys Xaa Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

<210> 450  
<211> 30  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 18  
<223> Xaa = cyclobutyl-L-alanine

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 22  
<223> Xaa = cyclobutyl-L-glycine or cyclobutyl-L-alanine

<400> 450  
Gly Cys Asp Val Leu Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Pro Asp Ile Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Xaa Ser Asn Cys Xaa Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly  
20 25 30

<210> 451  
<211> 30  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 1  
<223> Xaa = acetylglycine

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 18  
<223> Xaa = cyclobutyl-L-alanine

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 22  
<223> Xaa = cyclobutyl-L-glycine or cyclobutyl-L-alanine

<220>

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<221> VARIANT  
 <222> 30  
 <223> Xaa = glycine amide

<400> 451  
 Xaa Cys Asp Val Leu Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Pro Asp Ile Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Xaa Ser Asn Cys Xaa Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Xaa  
 20 25 30

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<210> 452  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 1  
 <223> Xaa = acetylglycine

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 5  
 <223> Xaa = norleucine

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 30  
 <223> Xaa = glycine amide

<400> 452  
 Xaa Cys Asp Val Xaa Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Pro Asp Ile Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ser Asn Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Xaa  
 20 25 30

<210> 453  
 <211> 30  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 1  
 <223> Xaa = acetylglycine

<220>  
 <221> VARIANT  
 <222> 30  
 <223> Xaa = glycine amide

<400> 453  
 Xaa Cys Asp Val Leu Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Gly Pro Asp Ile Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ser Asn Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Xaa  
 20 25 30

<210> 454  
 <211> 8

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<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 3  
<223> Xaa = M or L

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 4  
<223> Xaa = L or S or T or Q or N or E or D

<220>  
<221> VARIANT  
<222> 6  
<223> Xaa = F or Y or S

<400> 454  
Asn Ile Xaa Xaa Pro Xaa Trp Gly  
1 5

<210> 455  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 455  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Phe His  
20 25 30

<210> 456  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 456  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Ser Leu  
20 25 30

<210> 457  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 457  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Gly Glu  
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25 30

20

<210> 458  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 458  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Val Gly Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Ser Ile  
20 25 30

<210> 459  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 459  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Gly Arg  
20 25 30

<210> 460  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 460  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Arg Pro  
20 25 30

<210> 461  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 461  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Gln Tyr  
20 25 30

<210> 462  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct  
 <400> 462  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Glu Asn  
 20 25 30

<210> 463  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 463  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Phe Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Asp Thr  
 20 25 30

<210> 464  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 464  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Phe Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Gln His  
 20 25 30

<210> 465  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 465  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Gln Asn  
 20 25 30

<210> 466  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 466  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Glu Glu  
 20 25 30

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<210> 467  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 467  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Asp Asp  
 20 25 30

<210> 468  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 468  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Asp Gly  
 20 25 30

<210> 469  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 469  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Phe Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Leu Glu  
 20 25 30

<210> 470  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 470  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Thr Asp  
 20 25 30

<210> 471  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

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&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 471

Gly	Cys	Asn	Ile	Met	Leu	Pro	Phe	Trp	Gly	Cys	Lys	Gln	Asp	Ser	Asp
1				5					10					15	
Cys	Leu	Ala	Gly	Cys	Val	Cys	Gln	Tyr	Tyr	Gln	Ser	Cys	Gly	Ser	Glu
			20					25					30		

&lt;210&gt; 472

&lt;211&gt; 32

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 472

Gly	Cys	Asn	Ile	Met	Leu	Pro	Phe	Trp	Gly	Cys	Lys	Gln	Asp	Ser	Asp
1				5					10					15	
Cys	Leu	Ala	Gly	Cys	Val	Cys	Gln	Tyr	Tyr	Gln	Ser	Cys	Gly	Pro	Glu
			20					25					30		

&lt;210&gt; 473

&lt;211&gt; 32

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 473

Gly	Cys	Asn	Ile	Met	Leu	Pro	Phe	Trp	Gly	Cys	Lys	Gln	Asp	Ser	Asp
1				5					10					15	
Cys	Leu	Ala	Gly	Cys	Val	Cys	Gln	Tyr	Tyr	Gln	Ser	Cys	Gly	Thr	Asn
			20					25					30		

&lt;210&gt; 474

&lt;211&gt; 32

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 474

Gly	Cys	Asn	Ile	Met	Leu	Pro	Phe	Trp	Gly	Cys	Lys	Gln	Asp	Ser	Asp
1				5					10					15	
Cys	Leu	Ala	Gly	Cys	Val	Cys	Gln	Tyr	Tyr	Gln	Ser	Cys	Gly	Pro	His
			20					25					30		

&lt;210&gt; 475

&lt;211&gt; 32

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 475

Gly	Cys	Asn	Ile	Met	Leu	Pro	Phe	Trp	Gly	Cys	Lys	Gln	Asp	Ser	Asp
1				5					10					15	
Cys	Leu	Ala	Gly	Cys	Val	Cys	Gln	Tyr	Tyr	Gln	Ser	Cys	Gly	Met	Asp
			20					25					30		

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<210> 476  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 476  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Ser Asp  
 20 25 30

<210> 477  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 477  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Gln Ser Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Ile Ala  
 20 25 30

<210> 478  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 478  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Gln Ser Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Gly Ser  
 20 25 30

<210> 479  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 479  
 Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Gln Ser Phe Glu  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Thr Arg  
 20 25 30

<210> 480  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

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<400> 480  
Gly Cys Asn Ile Met Leu Pro Phe Trp Gly Cys Gly Gln Ser Phe Glu  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Ile Cys Gln Tyr Tyr Gln Ser Cys Gly Val His  
20 25 30

<210> 481  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 481  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Pro Ser  
20 25 30

<210> 482  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 482  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Phe Ser  
20 25 30

<210> 483  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 483  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Gly Lys  
20 25 30

<210> 484  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 484  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Tyr Leu  
20 25 30

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<210> 485  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 485  
 Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Asp Leu  
 20 25 30

<210> 486  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 486  
 Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Glu Lys  
 20 25 30

<210> 487  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 487  
 Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Thr Asp  
 20 25 30

<210> 488  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 488  
 Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Gln Val  
 20 25 30

<210> 489  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 489  
 Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Arg Leu  
 20 25 30

<210> 490  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 490  
 Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Tyr Ala  
 20 25 30

<210> 491  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 491  
 Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Ala Ser  
 20 25 30

<210> 492  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 492  
 Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Ser Arg  
 20 25 30

<210> 493  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 493  
 Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Pro Thr  
 20 25 30

<210> 494

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<211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 494  
 Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Trp Asp  
 20 25 30

<210> 495  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 495  
 Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Ser Met  
 20 25 30

<210> 496  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 496  
 Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Thr Arg  
 20 25 30

<210> 497  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 497  
 Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Lys Gln Asp Ser Asp  
 1 5 10 15  
 Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Glu Asn  
 20 25 30

<210> 498  
 <211> 32  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 498

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Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Asn Asn  
20 25 30

<210> 499  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 499  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Pro Glu  
20 25 30

<210> 500  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 500  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Gly Ile  
20 25 30

<210> 501  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 501  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Val Glu  
20 25 30

<210> 502  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 502  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Pro Leu  
20 25 30

<210> 503  
<211> 32

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<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 503  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Pro Leu  
20 25 30

<210> 504  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 504  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Arg Pro  
20 25 30

<210> 505  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 505  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Asn Asp  
20 25 30

<210> 506  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 506  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Leu Gln  
20 25 30

<210> 507  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 507  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp

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1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Asp Glu  
20 25 30

<210> 508  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 508  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Arg Thr  
20 25 30

<210> 509  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 509  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Ile Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Gln Val  
20 25 30

<210> 510  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 510  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Gly Ile  
20 25 30

<210> 511  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 511  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Tyr Met  
20 25 30

<210> 512  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT

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&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 512

Gly	Cys	Asp	Val	Met	Gln	Pro	Tyr	Trp	Gly	Cys	Glu	Met	Asp	Phe	Asp
1				5					10					15	
Cys	Leu	Ala	Gly	Cys	Val	Cys	His	Trp	Tyr	Asn	Ser	Cys	Gly	Gly	Gln
			20					25					30		

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&lt;210&gt; 513

&lt;211&gt; 32

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 513

Gly	Cys	Asp	Val	Met	Gln	Pro	Tyr	Trp	Gly	Cys	Glu	Met	Asp	Phe	Asp
1				5					10					15	
Cys	Leu	Ala	Gly	Cys	Val	Cys	His	Trp	Tyr	Asn	Ser	Cys	Gly	Thr	Pro
			20					25					30		

&lt;210&gt; 514

&lt;211&gt; 32

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 514

Gly	Cys	Asp	Val	Met	Gln	Pro	Tyr	Trp	Gly	Cys	Glu	Met	Asp	Phe	Asp
1				5					10					15	
Cys	Leu	Ala	Gly	Cys	Val	Cys	His	Trp	Tyr	Asn	Ser	Cys	Gly	Val	Asn
			20					25					30		

&lt;210&gt; 515

&lt;211&gt; 32

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 515

Gly	Cys	Asp	Val	Met	Gln	Pro	Tyr	Trp	Gly	Cys	Glu	Met	Asp	Phe	Asp
1				5					10					15	
Cys	Leu	Ala	Gly	Cys	Val	Cys	His	Trp	Tyr	Asn	Ser	Cys	Gly	Phe	Asn
			20					25					30		

&lt;210&gt; 516

&lt;211&gt; 32

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;223&gt; Synthetic Construct

&lt;400&gt; 516

Gly	Cys	Asp	Val	Met	Gln	Pro	Tyr	Trp	Gly	Cys	Glu	Met	Asp	Phe	Asp
1				5					10					15	

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Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Glu Pro  
20 25 30

<210> 517  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 517  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Asn Ser  
20 25 30

<210> 518  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 518  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Ser Thr  
20 25 30

<210> 519  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 519  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Arg Tyr  
20 25 30

<210> 520  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 520  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Phe Ser  
20 25 30

<210> 521  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

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<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 521  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Gln Val  
20 25 30

<210> 522  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 522  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Tyr Ala  
20 25 30

<210> 523  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 523  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Ser Arg  
20 25 30

<210> 524  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 524  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Pro Thr  
20 25 30

<210> 525  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 525  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Ser Met  
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25 30

20

<210> 526  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 526  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Val Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Gly Ile  
20 25 30

<210> 527  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 527  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Thr Ser  
20 25 30

<210> 528  
<211> 32  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<223> Synthetic Construct

<400> 528  
Gly Cys Asp Val Met Gln Pro Tyr Trp Gly Cys Glu Met Asp Phe Asp  
1 5 10 15  
Cys Leu Ala Gly Cys Ile Cys His Trp Tyr Asn Ser Cys Gly Leu Gln  
20 25 30

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