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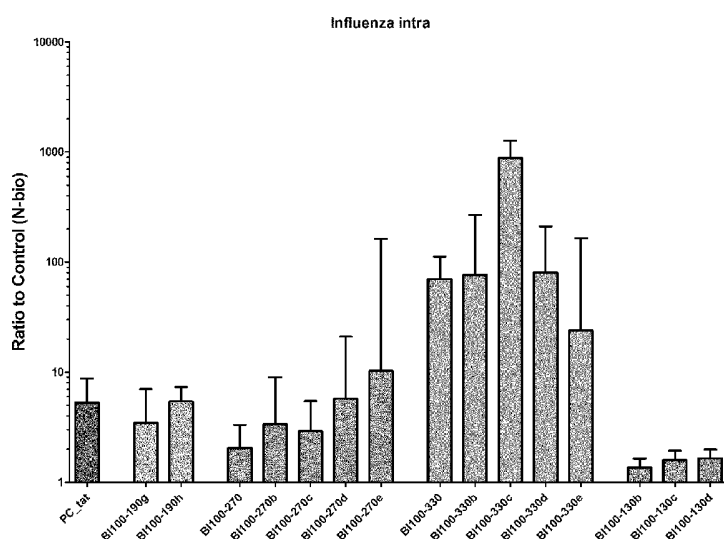
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(54) Title: PEPTIDES DERIVED FROM VIRAL PROTEINS FOR USE AS IMMUNOGENS AND DOSAGE REACTANTS

Figure 1



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to novel peptides and methods for treatment, diagnosis and prognosis of virus infections including infections with HCV, HIV, HPV, CMV and Influenza. The invention further relates to methods for identifying and providing peptides useful for the treatment and diagnosis.

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PEPTIDES DERIVED FROM VIRAL PROTEINS FOR USE AS IMMUNOGENS AND DOSAGE REACTANTS

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to novel peptides and methods for treatment, diagnosis and prognosis of virus infections and various cancer and inflammatory diseases including infections with HCV, HIV, HPV, CMV and Influenza. The invention further relates to methods for identifying and providing peptides useful for the treatment and diagnosis.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Conventional approaches to vaccine development have implemented either whole replication competent virus which has been attenuated (e.g. Sabin polio vaccine, measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)) or inactivated virions that are not replication competent. On occasions, the inactivated virus vaccines may include split vaccines where the virus particles have been disrupted. Molecular techniques have also been used to develop the subunit vaccine (e.g. hepatitis B vaccine) that consists only of the surface glycoproteins of hepatitis B virus. The inactivated virus vaccines tend to induce primarily antibody responses to the viruses in question, whereas the live attenuated vaccines induce both cell-mediated immunity as well as an antibody response since the vaccine induces a transient infection.

The only disease which has been eliminated by virtue of a successful vaccination campaign is smallpox. A campaign is currently in progress to eradicate polio. Features of virus infections that can be eliminated by vaccination are infections caused by viruses with stable virus antigens (i.e. very low mutation frequency, few subtypes), that lack a reservoir in other animal species, viruses that do not persist in the body once the infection is over and where vaccination leads to long lasting immunity. Viruses such as polio and measles fulfill these criteria whereas viruses such as influenza virus (Flu), HCV, and HIV that vary their protein sequences do not. It is for this reason that new and alternate approaches are required to develop vaccines for these diseases.

Vaccination aims to stimulate the immune response to a specific pathogen in advance of infection. When an individual is exposed to that pathogen, a memory response is triggered which prevents the establishment of infection. Vaccines therefore stimulate the adaptive immune response which unlike innate immunity, is long lived and has memory. There are two major arms to the adaptive immune system. Humoral immunity which involves the development of antibodies that can bind virus particles and certain antibodies that can

neutralize infection. Cell mediated immunity that leads to the development of cytotoxic T-cells that kill infected cells exposing viral epitopes in the context of human leukocyte antigen (HLA) class I, in this way eliminating infected cells.

5 The challenge of providing vaccines suitable for stimulation of the adaptive immune system is that peptide epitopes need to be taken up by the antigen presenting cells.

Several peptides have been demonstrated to translocate across the plasma membrane of eukaryotic cells by a seemingly energy-independent pathway. These peptides are defined as cell-penetrating peptides (CPPs). Cellular delivery using these cell-penetrating peptides offers several advantages over conventional techniques. It is non-invasive, energy-independent, is
10 efficient for a broad range of cell types and can be applied to cells en masse.

For humoral responses and development of antibodies it may not be needed to obtain cell-penetrating properties since stimulation of B-cells are also done by extracellular peptide antigens. Hepatitis means inflammation of the liver which can be caused by a variety of factors including toxins, certain drugs, some diseases, heavy alcohol use, and bacterial and
15 viral infections. Hepatitis is also the name of a family of viral infections that affect the liver; the most common types in the developed world are hepatitis A, hepatitis B, and hepatitis C.

Hepatitis C is a liver disease that results from infection with the hepatitis C virus (HCV). It can range in severity from a mild illness lasting a few weeks to a serious, lifelong illness. Hepatitis C is spread via blood; the most common form of transmission is through sharing
20 needles or other equipment used to inject drugs. The infection can be either "acute" or "chronic". Acute HCV infection is an asymptomatic, short-term illness that occurs within the first 6 months after someone is exposed to the hepatitis C virus. For most people, acute infection leads to chronic infection, which can result in long-term complications and even death.

25 HCV is an enveloped positive stranded ribonucleic acid (RNA) virus with a diameter of about 50nm, belonging to the genus Hepacivirus in the family Flaviviridae that replicate in the cytoplasm of infected cells. The only known reservoir for HCV is humans, although the virus has experimentally been transmitted to chimpanzees. The natural targets of HCV are hepatocytes and possibly B-lymphocytes. As of 2008, six different genotypes and more than
30 100 subtypes of the virus are known. Replication occurs through an RNA-dependent RNA polymerase that lacks a proofreading function, which results in a very high rate of mutations. Rapid mutations in a hypervariable region of the HCV genome coding for the envelope proteins enable the virus to escape immune surveillance by the host. As a consequence, most HCV-infected people proceed to chronic infection.

It is estimated that 170 million people are infected with HCV worldwide, equating to approximately 3% of the global population. There are also approximately 3-4 million people who are infected every year; with an estimated 80% of these newly infected patients progressing to chronic infection.

- 5 The 6 genotypes of HCV have different geographical spread. The disease in the early stages is generally asymptomatic; the majority of patients with chronic infection eventually progress to complications such as liver fibrosis and cirrhosis, and, in 1-5% of cases, hepatocellular carcinoma.

- 10 HCV is the major cause of non-A, non-B hepatitis worldwide. Acute infection with HCV frequently leads to chronic hepatitis and end-stage cirrhosis. It is estimated that up to 20% of HCV chronic carriers may develop cirrhosis over a time period of about 20 years and that of those with cirrhosis between 1 to 4% is at risk to develop liver carcinoma.

- 15 The about 9.6 kb single-stranded RNA genome of the HCV virus comprises a 5'- and 3'-noncoding region (NCRs) and, in between these NCRs a single long open reading frame of about 9 kb encoding an HCV polyprotein of about 3000 amino acids.

- HCV polypeptides are produced by translation from the open reading frame and cotranslational proteolytic processing. Structural proteins are derived from the amino-terminal one-fourth of the coding region and include the capsid or Core protein (about 21 kDa), the E1 envelope glycoprotein (about 35 kDa) and the E2 envelope glycoprotein (about 20 70 kDa, previously called NS1), and p7 (about 7kDa). The E2 protein can occur with or without a C-terminal fusion of the p7 protein (Shimotohno et al. 1995). An alternative open reading frame in the Core-region has been found which is encoding and expressing a protein of about 17 kDa called F (Frameshift) protein (Xu et al. 2001; Ou & Xu in US Patent Application Publication No. US2002/0076415). In the same region, ORFs for other 14-17 kDa 25 ARFPs (Alternative Reading Frame Proteins), A1 to A4, were discovered and antibodies to at least A1, A2 and A3 were detected in sera of chronically infected patients (Walewski et al. 2001). From the remainder of the HCV coding region, the non-structural HCV proteins are derived which include NS2 (about 23 kDa), NS3 (about 70 kDa), NS4A (about 8 kDa), NS4B (about 27 kDa), NS5A (about 58 kDa) and NS5B (about 68 kDa) (Grakoui et al. 1993).

- 30 Influenza remains a significant cause of mortality and morbidity worldwide. The World Health Organisation (WHO) estimates that seasonal epidemics affect 3-5 million people with severe illness annually and result in 250,000 – 500,000 mortalities. Influenza is caused by viruses in the family Orthomyxoviridae which are negative stranded RNA viruses. The influenza virus exists as three types, A, B and C of which only A is associated with pandemics. Types A

viruses are found in both humans and animals, particularly birds but also other mammals such as pigs. Type A viruses are further typed into subtypes according to different kinds and combinations of virus surface proteins. Among many subtypes in 2009 influenza A (H1N1) and A (H3N2) subtypes were circulating among humans. Influenza A and B are included in the seasonal vaccine, whereas influenza C occurs only rarely, and so it is not included in the seasonal vaccine. Type B viruses are human specific and Type C viruses cause a very mild disease. The genomes of Orthomyxoviruses are segmented. Influenza viruses Types A and B have 8 segments whereas type C has seven. Pandemics may arise as a result of re-assortment of gene segments when two different type A viruses infect the same cell. There is no immunity in the population to this novel re-assorted virus. Three pandemics occurred in the twentieth century: "Spanish influenza" in 1918, "Asian influenza" in 1957, and "Hong Kong influenza" in 1968. The 1918 pandemic killed an estimated 40–50 million people worldwide. Subsequent pandemics were much milder, with an estimated 2 million deaths in 1957 and 1 million deaths in 1968. In June 2009 the WHO declared a pandemic from influenza virus H1N1 (swine Influenza) which was declared over in August 2010.

Human papillomaviruses are made up of a group of DNA viruses in the family Papillomaviridae which infect the skin and mucous membranes. Two groups which are derived from more than 100 different identified subtypes are the main cause for clinical concern: those causing warts (both benign and genital warts), and a group of 12 "high risk" subtypes that can result in cervical cancer. This latter group has been attributed as a contributory factor in the development of nearly all types of cervical cancer. Worldwide, cervical cancer remains the second most common malignancy in women, and is a leading cause of cancer-related death for females in developing countries. HPV 16 and 18 have been mainly associated with cervical cancer, however, the virus is also a cause of throat cancer in both men and women. HPV is transmitted through contact and enters the skin through abrasions. An abortive infection, where only the early proteins are expressed is associated with cancer development.

OBJECT OF THE INVENTION

It is an object of embodiments of the invention to provide peptides that may be used as immunogens to stimulate an adaptive immune response in a subject.

It is a further object of embodiments of the invention to provide peptides, including multimeric, such as dimeric peptides, that may be used as immunogens to stimulate the humoral immunity in a subject.

In particular, it is an object of embodiments of the invention to provide peptides that may be taken up by antigen presenting cells (macrophages and dendritic cells) such that epitopes within the peptides are correctly processed and presented to T-lymphocytes in order to stimulate an effective immune response.

- 5 It is a further object of object of embodiments of the invention to provide peptides including multimeric, such as dimeric peptides comprising epitopes of an antigen that stimulates cells of the B lymphocyte lineage (B-cells) to secrete antibodies against this antigen.

The B-cell activation provided by the peptides according to the present invention may be both T cell-independent and T cell-dependent. Accordingly, the peptides according to the present
10 invention or parts thereof may interact with B-cell receptors to activate the B-cells either through a T helper cell dependent or independent manner leading to the production of specific antibodies. Furthermore, the peptides may be taken up by antigen presenting cells (macrophages and/or dendritic cells) such that epitopes within the peptides are correctly processed and presented to T-lymphocytes, such as a helper T cell, which in turn helps to
15 activate the B cells in order to stimulate an effective immune response. The peptides may also be taken up by activated B-cells which can also act as antigen presenting cells. Peptides interact with the B-cells through the B-cell receptor and are then internalised into the cell. The epitopes within the peptides will be processed and presented to T-lymphocytes such as helper cells.

- 20 However, in some important aspects of the present invention, the peptides according to the present invention are designed to not effectively penetrate and be taken up by antigen presenting cells. Accordingly, in these aspects of the invention, the peptides according to the present invention may provide B-cell activation through interaction at the cell surface via the B-cell receptor. It is to be understood that in order to provide sustained B-cell stimulation, it
25 is preferred that the peptides according to the present invention are designed to comprise a helper epitope that may be taken up by antigen presenting cells in order to stimulate CD4+ T-helper cells that can sustain effective humoral immunity in a subject.

Further, it is an object of embodiments of the invention to provide peptides that may be used as antigens, to provide immunogenic compositions and methods for inducing an immune
30 response in a subject against an antigen.

Further, it is an object of embodiments of the invention to provide peptides that may be used as antigens that can serve as targets in diagnostic assays.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention pertains to a peptide design promoting efficient activation of a humoral immune response against antigens contained within this peptide design as well as to a peptide design promoting uptake of peptide epitopes by antigen presenting cells

5 (macrophages and dendritic cells) such that the epitopes can be correctly processed and presented in the context of HLA class I and II to stimulate both CD4+ and CD8+ T-lymphocytes. CD8+ T-lymphocytes with cytotoxic capacity will kill infected cells bearing the epitope of interest. CD4+ T-lymphocyte provide 'help' to sustain effective CD8+ T-lymphocyte responses.

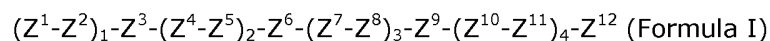
10 It has been found by the present inventor(s) that peptide constructs - amino acid sequences with a particular pattern or scaffold design, and in particular multimeric, such as dimeric peptides of this design - have the ability to effectively elicit a humoral immune response in a subject in response to the administration of these peptides.

15 The peptide constructs according to the present invention may be designed to be able to attach or bind to the cell surface. The peptide constructs or parts thereof may then be taken up by the antigen presenting cells (such as macrophages and dendritic cells) and stimulate helper T-cells in order to elicit efficient and long lasting T-cell dependent B-cell activation. Alternatively the B-cells themselves may provide for the induction of help to activate the B-cells.

20 Accordingly the peptides according to the present invention may penetrate the cells and may be used to load cells with an immunogenically effective amount of a peptide or fragments of this peptide that can be presented by macrophages and dendritic cells. Accordingly these peptide constructs may elicit both a Cytotoxic T-lymphocyte immune (CTL) response and/or a humoral immune response.

25 It has been found by the present inventor(s) that peptide constructs - amino acid sequences with a particular pattern or scaffold design - have the ability to effectively penetrate the cell membrane. Accordingly, the peptide constructs according to the present invention may be used to load cells with an immunogenically effective amount of a peptide or fragments of this peptide that can be presented by macrophages and dendritic cells. Accordingly these peptide
30 constructs may elicit a Cytotoxic T-lymphocyte immune (CTL) response and/or a Humoral Immune Response.

So, in a first aspect the present invention relates to an isolated monomeric peptide comprising the following structure



- 5 wherein Z^1 , Z^4 , and optional Z^7 and Z^{10} defines a linear sequence of one, two, or three arginine residues or derivatives thereof optionally followed by a glycine (G) or an alanine (A); Z^2 , Z^5 , Z^8 and Z^{11} defines an optional amino acid selected from cysteine (C), lysine (K), aspartic acid (D), asparagine (N), glutamic acid (E), glutamine (Q), 2,3-Diaminopropionic acid (Dpr), tryptophan (W), or tyrosine (Y) or a derivative thereof; Z^3 , and optional Z^6 , Z^9
 10 and Z^{12} defines any chemical moiety, such as a linear amino acid sequence.

It is to be understood that the amino acid sequence of formula I unless otherwise indicated refers to a peptide sequence in a standard N- to C-terminal direction, wherein the first amino acid mentioned is the N-terminal amino acid that may have an amino ($-\text{NH}_2$) group or alternatively an $-\text{NH}_3^+$ group. The last amino acid mentioned is the C-terminal that may have
 15 a free carboxyl group ($-\text{COOH}$) or a carboxylate group. In some embodiments the N- and/or C-terminal amino acid is modified, such as by N-terminal acetylation or C-terminal amidation. The symbol "-" used in formula I refers to a standard peptide bond, such as a standard peptide bond between Z^1 and Z^2 in " Z^1-Z^2 ".

It is further to be understood that the peptides according to the invention primarily are
 20 intended for synthetic peptide synthesis, which is preferred for peptides shorter than 60 amino acids. However, the peptides may be longer than 60 amino acids, if the peptides are produced by recombinant means.

In a further aspect the peptides of the present invention is not an isolated peptide consisting of $X^1 - X^5$ of formula II as defined in any one of table 1 or table 2.

25 In a further aspect the peptides of the present invention is not an isolated peptide consisting of $X^1 - X^6$ of formula III as defined in table 8.

In a further aspect the peptides of the present invention is not an isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide as defined in table 8.

30 In a further aspect the present invention relates to a dimer peptide comprising two peptide monomers, wherein each peptide monomer is according to the invention.

In a further aspect the present invention relates to a composition comprising two or more compounds selected from a monomeric peptide according to the present invention, and an isolated multimeric peptide according to the present invention.

5 In a further aspect the present invention relates to an isolated nucleic acid or polynucleotide encoding a peptide according to the invention.

In a further aspect the present invention relates to a vector comprising the nucleic acid or polynucleotide encoding a peptide according to the invention.

In a further aspect the present invention relates to a host cell comprising the vector comprising the nucleic acid or polynucleotide encoding a peptide according to the invention.

10 In a further aspect the present invention relates to an immunogenic composition comprising at least one monomeric peptide, an isolated multimeric peptide according to the invention, a peptide composition, the nucleic acid or polynucleotide, or the vector according the invention; in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or vehicle and optionally an immunological adjuvant. In some embodiments this immunogenic composition is in the form
15 of a vaccine composition.

In a further aspect the present invention relates to a method for inducing an immune response in a subject against an antigen which comprises administration of at least one monomeric peptide, an isolated multimeric peptide, a peptide composition, the nucleic acid or polynucleotide, or the vector, or the composition of the invention.

20 In a further aspect the present invention relates to a method for reducing and/or delaying the pathological effects of a disease antigen, such as an infectious agent in a subject infected with said agent or having said disease caused by said antigen, the method comprising administering an effective amount of at least one monomeric peptide, an isolated multimeric peptide, a peptide composition, the nucleic acid or polynucleotide, or the vector, or the
25 composition according to the invention.

In a further aspect the present invention relates to a peptide according to the invention for use as a medicament.

In a further aspect the present invention relates to a peptide according to the invention for treating the pathological effects of a virus in a subject infected with said virus.

In a further aspect the present invention relates to the use of a peptide selected from a monomeric peptide according to the present invention, and an isolated multimeric peptide according to the present invention for inducing a humoral immune response in a subject.

5 In a further aspect the present invention relates to a peptide according to the invention for use as a medicament, or for treating the pathological effects of a disease antigen, such as an infectious agent in a subject infected with said agent or having said disease caused by said antigen.

10 In a further aspect the present invention relates to a peptide according to the invention for use in a diagnostic assay. In a further aspect the present invention relates to a peptide according to the invention for use in an in vitro assay.

LEGENDS TO THE FIGURES

Figure 1. Intracellular uptake of influenza scaffold peptides. Median and interquartile range of readouts from buffy coats from ten donors and three concentrations of peptide each, normalized by value for N-biotin for each donor.

15 Figure 2. Extracellular uptake of influenza scaffold peptides. Median and interquartile range of readouts from buffy coats from ten donors and three concentrations of peptide each, normalized by value for N-biotin for each donor.

20 Figure 3. Intracellular uptake of HCV scaffold peptides. Median and interquartile range of readouts from buffy coats from five donors at four different concentrations of peptide each, normalized by value for N-biotin for each donor.

Figure 4. Extracellular uptake of HCV scaffold peptides. Median and interquartile range of readouts from buffy coats from five donors at four different concentrations of peptide each, normalized by value for N-biotin for each donor.

25 Figure 5. Median loss of weight by treatment group after challenge. The median weight by treatment groups; ISA5: peptides and ISA51, Provax: peptides and Provax, PR8: inactivated influenza A/PR8 (H1N1) virus, Naïve: no treatment before challenge. For animals lost to humane endpoints a last observation carried forward method was employed for the weights

DETAILED DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION

Definitions

When terms such as "one", "a" or "an" are used in this disclosure they mean "at least one", or "one or more" unless otherwise indicated. Further, the term "comprising" is intended to mean "including" and thus allows for the presence of other constituents, features, conditions, or steps than those explicitly recited.

As used herein a "multimeric peptide" or "oligomeric peptide" refers to an assembly of two or more different or identical linear peptide sequences or subunits, preferably interconnected or assembled by one or more chemical bond of a linker. Preferably the peptide sequences are interconnected by one or more, such as one covalent bond, such as an intermolecular disulfide (S-S) bond between two Cys residues, a methylated peptide bond between a N- ϵ -methylated Lys side-chain and the side-chain of an Asp or Glu residue, an oxime bond, a thioether bond, or a non-covalent bond, such as in a π -stacking of rings wherein a W residue in Z² of the first Z¹-Z² peptide repeat is linked to an Y residue in Z² of the second Z¹-Z² peptide repeat. The term includes a dimeric (or dimer) peptide suitably formed by a chemical linking of two linear peptide sequences. The term "multimeric peptide" further includes an assembly of 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 or 10 different or identical peptide sequences. In some embodiments, the multimeric peptide is a dimeric peptide.

As used herein a "linker" refers to any compound suitable for assembly of the two or more different or identical linear peptide sequences or subunits into a multimeric peptide, or to any other therapeutically active compound, such as an immunomodulating compound. The term includes any linker found useful in peptide chemistry. Since the multimeric peptide may be assembled or connected by standard peptide bonds in a linear way, the term linker also includes a "peptide spacer", also referred to as a "spacer".

In some embodiments, the linker is not a peptide sequence. In some embodiments, the linker is not a branched peptide sequence.

In some embodiments, the linker does not itself contain a peptide sequence derived from or identical to a natural antigen.

In some embodiments, the linker has a molecular weight of less than 10 kDa, such as less than 9 kDa, such as less than 8 kDa, such as less than 7 kDa, such as less than 6 kDa, such as less than 5 kDa, such as less than 4 kDa, such as less than 3 kDa, such as less than 2

kDa, such as less than 1.5 kDa, such as less than 1 kDa, such as less than 0.5 kDa, such as less than 0.2 kDa. In some embodiments, wherein the multimeric peptide is a dimeric peptide, the linker is not linking the two peptide sequences from one terminal cysteine in the first peptide to a second terminal cysteine in the second peptide.

- 5 In some embodiments, the linker is not linking the two or more peptide sequences through a terminal cysteine in any one of the peptides.

In some embodiments, the linker is not linking from a cysteine residue.

"HIV" generally denotes human immunodeficiency virus I.

- 10 "HIV disease" is composed of several stages including the acute HIV infection which often manifests itself as an influenza-like infection and the early and medium stage symptomatic disease, which has several non-characteristic symptoms such as skin rashes, fatigue, night sweats, slight weight loss, mouth ulcers, and fungal skin and nail infections. Most HIV infected will experience mild symptoms such as these before developing more serious illnesses. It is generally believed that it takes five to seven years for the first mild symptoms
- 15 to appear. As HIV disease progresses, some individuals may become quite ill even if they have not yet been diagnosed with AIDS (see below), the late stage of HIV disease. Typical problems include chronic oral or vaginal thrush (a fungal rash or spots), recurrent herpes blisters on the mouth (cold sores) or genitals, ongoing fevers, persistent diarrhea, and significant weight loss. "AIDS" is the late stage HIV disease and is a condition which
- 20 progressively reduces the effectiveness of the immune system and leaves individuals susceptible to opportunistic infections and tumors.

- The term "cell-penetrating peptide" as used herein refers to any peptide with the capability to translocate across the plasma membrane into either cytoplasmic and/or nuclear compartments of eukaryotic and/or prokaryotic cells, such as into cytoplasm, nucleus,
- 25 lysosome, endoplasmic reticulum, golgi apparatus, mitochondria and/or chloroplast, seemingly energy-independently. This capability to translocate across the plasma membrane of a "cell-penetrating peptide" according to the invention may be non-invasive, energy-independent, non-saturable, and/or receptor independent. In one embodiment the term "cell-penetrating peptide" refers to a peptide, which is demonstrated to translocate across a
- 30 plasma membrane as determined by the assay in example 5. It is to be understood that a cell-penetrating peptide according to the present invention may be translocated across the membrane with the sequence complete and intact, or alternatively partly degraded, but in a form where the antigens contained within this peptide is able to be presented within the cell to stimulate an immune response. Accordingly, a cell-penetrating peptide according to the

present invention is a peptide that may be demonstrated to translocate across a plasma membrane as determined by the assay in example 5 and be demonstrated to stimulate an effective immune response.

5 The monomeric peptide according to the present invention may be provided in any pharmaceutically acceptable salt, such as in a salt of acetat or HCl.

The term "derived from an antigen" when in reference to a peptide derived from a source (such as a virus etc.) as used herein is intended to refer to a peptide which has been obtained (e.g., isolated, purified, etc.) from the source. Preferably, the peptide may be genetically engineered and/or chemically synthesized to be essentially identical to the native
10 peptide of the source. The term includes the use of variants of known native peptide sequences, such as peptide sequences, where 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, or 10 amino acids of the native peptide sequence have been substituted with any other amino acid, such as conservative substitutions. Alternatively, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, or 10 amino acids have been removed or added to the native peptide sequence. Accordingly, in some embodiments,
15 the peptides according to the present invention comprises an amino acid sequence Z^3 , and optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} , that is defined as a sequence of 8-30 amino acids, such as 8-20 amino acids derived from an antigen, wherein the peptide sequence of the antigen comprises 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, or 10 substitutions, additions or deletions relative to the antigen, such as the addition of an arginine in the N- or C-terminal of the amino acid sequence of Z^3 ,
20 and optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} . In some embodiments, the peptides according to the present invention comprises an amino acid sequence Z^3 , and optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} , that is defined as a sequence of 8-30 amino acids, such as 8-20 amino acids identical in sequence to a native antigen. In some embodiments, the peptides according to the present invention comprises an amino acid sequence Z^3 , and optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} , that is defined as a
25 sequence of 8-30 amino acids, such as 8-20 amino acids that is not identical in sequence to a native antigen.

It is to be understood that "derived from an antigen" does not exclude that an amino acid sequence defined by Z^3 , and optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} may be derived from more than one antigenic peptide sequence, such as from two or three different proteins or peptide sources
30 or different sequences within the same proteins or peptide of the same virus, any different virus, or any disease antigen. However, in one embodiment Z^3 , and optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} are derived from one specific continuous peptide sequence. In one embodiment Z^3 , and optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} are derived from two different specific continuous peptide sequences of the same or different protein derived from the same virus, any different virus, or any
35 disease antigen.

The amino acids used in the amino acid sequences according to the invention may be in both L- and/or D-form. It is to be understood that both L- and D-forms may be used for different amino acids within the same peptide sequence. In some embodiments the amino acids within the peptide sequence are in L-form, such as natural amino acids. It is to be understood that any known antigen may be used in the constructs according to the present invention.

In some specific embodiments, the first 1, 2, or 3 amino acids in the N-terminal of the amino acid sequences according to the invention are in the D-form. It is assumed that the N-terminal trimming and thereby degradation of the peptides are somewhat delayed by having amino acids of the D-form in the N-terminal of these peptides according to the present invention. Alternatively and in some embodiments, the first 1, 2, or 3 amino acids in the N-terminal of the amino acid sequences according to the invention are amino acids in beta or gamma forms. Beta amino acids have their amino group bonded to the beta carbon rather than the alpha carbon as in the 20 standard natural amino acids.

Alternatively the first 1, 2, or 3 amino acids in the N-terminal of the amino acid sequences according to the invention may be modified by incorporation of fluorine, or alternatively cyclic amino acids or other suitable non-natural amino acids are used.

A "variant" or "analogue" of a peptide refers to a peptide having an amino acid sequence that is substantially identical to a reference peptide, typically a native or "parent" polypeptide. The peptide variant may possess one or more amino acid substitutions, deletions, and/or insertions at certain positions within the native amino acid sequence.

"Conservative" amino acid substitutions are those in which an amino acid residue is replaced with an amino acid residue having a side chain with similar physicochemical properties.

Families of amino acid residues having similar side chains are known in the art, and include amino acids with basic side chains (e.g., lysine, arginine, histidine), acidic side chains (e.g., aspartic acid, glutamic acid), uncharged polar side chains (e.g., glycine, asparagine, glutamine, serine, threonine, tyrosine, cysteine, tryptophan), nonpolar side chains (e.g., alanine, valine, leucine, isoleucine, proline, phenylalanine, methionine), beta-branched side chains (e.g., threonine, valine, isoleucine) and aromatic side chains (e.g., tyrosine, phenylalanine, tryptophan, histidine). A particular form of conservative amino acid substitutions include those with amino acids, which are not among the normal 20 amino acids encoded by the genetic code. Since preferred embodiments of the present invention entail use of synthetic peptides, it is unproblematic to provide such "non-naturally occurring" amino acid residues in the peptides disclosed herein, and thereby it is possible to exchange the natural saturated carbon chains in the side chains of amino acid residues with shorter or longer saturated carbon chains – for instance, lysine may be substituted with an amino acid

having an the side chain $-(CH_2)_nNH_3$, where n is different from 4, and arginine may be substituted with an amino acid having the side chain $-(CH_2)_nNHC(=NH_2)NH_2$, where n is different from 3, etc. Similarly, the acidic amino acids aspartic acid and glutamic acid may be substituted with amino acid residues having the side chains $-(CH_2)_nCOOH$, where $n > 2$.

5 The term "substantially identical" in the context of two amino acid sequences means that the sequences, when optimally aligned, such as by the programs GAP or BESTFIT using default gap weights, share at least about 50, at least about 60, at least about 70, at least about 80, at least about 90, at least about 95, at least about 98, or at least about 99 percent sequence identity. In one embodiment, residue positions that are not identical differ by conservative
10 amino acid substitutions. Sequence identity is typically measured using sequence analysis software. Protein analysis software matches similar sequences using measures of similarity assigned to various substitutions, deletions and other modifications, including conservative amino acid substitutions. For instance, the publicly available GCG software contains programs such as "Gap" and "BestFit" which can be used with default parameters to determine
15 sequence homology or sequence identity between closely related polypeptides, such as homologous polypeptides from different species of organisms or between a wild-type protein and a mutein thereof. See, e.g., GCG Version 6.1. Polypeptide sequences can also be compared using FASTA or ClustalW, applying default or recommended parameters. A program in GCG Version 6.1., FASTA (e.g., FASTA2 and FASTA3) provides alignments and
20 percent sequence identity of the regions of the best overlap between the query and search sequences (Pearson, Methods Enzymol. 1990;183:63-98; Pearson, Methods Mol. Biol. 2000;132:185-219). Another preferred algorithm when comparing a sequence to a database containing a large number of sequences from various organisms, or when deducing the is the computer program BLAST, especially blastp, using default parameters. See, e.g., Altschul et al., J. Mol. Biol. 1990;215:403-410; Altschul et al., Nucleic Acids Res. 1997;25:3389-402
25 (1997); each herein incorporated by reference. "Corresponding" amino acid positions in two substantially identical amino acid sequences are those aligned by any of the protein analysis software mentioned herein, typically using default parameters.

An "isolated" molecule is a molecule that is the predominant species in the composition
30 wherein it is found with respect to the class of molecules to which it belongs (i.e., it makes up at least about 50% of the type of molecule in the composition and typically will make up at least about 70%, at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 90%, at least about 95%, or more of the species of molecule, e.g., peptide, in the composition). Commonly, a composition of a peptide molecule will exhibit 98% - 99% homogeneity for
35 peptide molecules in the context of all present peptide species in the composition or at least with respect to substantially active peptide species in the context of proposed use.

The term "linear sequence" as used herein refers to the specific sequence of amino acids connected by standard peptide bonds in standard N- to C-terminal direction. The peptide may contain only peptide bonds. However the term does not exclude that an amino acid within a sequence, such as within Z³, may be connected, such as through the side chains, with another amino acid at a distant location within the peptide sequence, such as a distant location within Z³.

In the context of the present invention, "treatment" or "treating" refers to preventing, alleviating, managing, curing or reducing one or more symptoms or clinically relevant manifestations of a disease or disorder, unless contradicted by context. For example, "treatment" of a patient in whom no symptoms or clinically relevant manifestations of a disease or disorder have been identified is preventive or prophylactic therapy, whereas "treatment" of a patient in whom symptoms or clinically relevant manifestations of a disease or disorder have been identified generally does not constitute preventive or prophylactic therapy.

The term "antigen" denotes a substance of matter which is recognized by the immune system's specifically recognizing components (antibodies, T-cells).

The term "immunogen" is in the present context intended to denote a substance of matter, which is capable of inducing an adaptive immune response in an individual, where said adaptive immune response targets the immunogen. In relation to the present invention, an immunogen will induce a humoral and/or cell-mediated immune response. In other words, an immunogen is an antigen, which is capable of inducing immunity.

The terms "epitope", "antigenic determinant" and "antigenic site" are used interchangeably herein and denotes the region in an antigen or immunogen which is recognized by antibodies (in the case of antibody binding epitopes, also known as "B-cell epitopes") or by T-cell receptors when the epitope is complexed to a Major histocompatibility complex (MHC) molecule (in the case of T-cell receptor binding epitopes, i.e. "T-cell epitopes").

"B cell antigen" means any antigen that naturally is or could be engineered to be recognized by a B cell, and that triggers an immune response in a B cell (e.g., an antigen that is specifically recognized by a B cell receptor on a B cell).

The term "immunogenically effective amount" has its usual meaning in the art, i.e. an amount of an immunogen, which is capable of inducing an immune response, which significantly engages pathogenic agents, which share immunological features with the immunogen.

The term "vaccine" is used for a composition comprising an immunogen and which is capable of inducing an immune response which is either capable of reducing the risk of developing a pathological condition or capable of inducing a therapeutically effective immune response which may aid in the cure of (or at least alleviate the symptoms of) a pathological condition.

- 5 The term "pharmaceutically acceptable" has its usual meaning in the art, *i.e.* it is used for a substance that can be accepted as part of a medicament for human use when treating the disease in question and thus the term effectively excludes the use of highly toxic substances that would worsen rather than improve the treated subject's condition.

- 10 A "T helper lymphocyte epitope" (a T_H epitope) is peptide, which binds an MHC Class II molecule and can be presented on the surface of an antigen presenting cell (APC) bound to the MHC Class II molecule. An "immunological carrier" is generally a substance of matter which includes one or many T_H epitopes, and which increase the immune response against an antigen to which it is coupled by ensuring that T-helper lymphocytes are activated and proliferate. Examples of known immunological carriers are the tetanus and diphtheria toxoids and keyhole limpet hemocyanin (KLH).

In the scaffold design according to the present invention, Z^3 , and optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} may define a sequence of amino acids, such as 8-30 amino acids, such as 8-20 amino acids derived from the antigen. This sequence of amino acids derived from an antigen may herein be referred to as an epitope.

- 20 The peptides according to the present invention may be a helper T lymphocyte (HTL) inducing peptide comprising HTL epitopes. A "HTL inducing peptide" is a HLA Class II binding peptide that is capable of inducing a HTL response. Also the peptides according to the present invention may in other embodiments be CTL inducing peptides comprising CTL epitopes in addition to or as an alternative to being a HTL inducing peptide. A "CTL inducing peptide" is a HLA Class I binding peptide that is capable of inducing a CTL response.

- 30 In some embodiments the epitopes used in the scaffold according to the present invention are CTL epitopes. A "CTL inducing peptide" is a HLA Class I binding peptide that is capable of inducing a CTL response. In other embodiments the epitopes used in the scaffold design according to the present invention are HTL inducing peptides. A "HTL inducing peptide" is a HLA Class II binding peptide that is capable of inducing a HTL response.

In other alternative embodiments, tryptophan or tryptophan derivatives are used in the sequence defined by Z^2 , Z^5 , Z^8 and Z^{11} . Any suitable tryptophan derivatives may be used. As used herein "tryptophan derivatives" means an unnatural modified tryptophan amino acid

residue including those disclosed in US 7,232,803, such as tri tert.-butyltryptophan, di-tert-butyl tryptophan, 7-benzyloxytryptophan, homotryptophan, 5'-aminoethyltryptophan (available as side chain Boc and N-alpha Fmoc derivative from RSP Amino Acids Analogues Inc, Boston, Mass., USA), N-Acetylhomotryptophan (Toronto Research), 7-

5 Benzyloxytryptophan (Toronto Research), Homotryptophan (Toronto Research), and tryptophan residues which have been substituted at the 1-, 2-, 5- and/or 7-position of the indole ring, positions 1- or 2- being preferred e.g. 5' hydroxy tryptophan.

The term "amino acid derivative", sometimes used in the context of a "derivative thereof" referring to a specific amino acid, means an amino acid compound, wherein one or more
10 chemical groups has been modified, added or removed as compared to the amino acid to which the amino acid compound is a derivative of, while still having an amine group and a carboxylic acid group, as well as a side chain of an amino acid and still being able to form peptide bonds. In some embodiments an amino acid derivative is a standard amino acid that has only been modified in the side chain of the amino acid. In some embodiments an amino
15 acid derivative is a non-natural amino acid such as Dpr. In some embodiments an amino acid is a modified moiety which is incorporated into the chemically synthesized peptide or polypeptide and that comprises an activatable group that is linkable, after activation, to another peptide, such as Dpr(Ser), Lys(Ser), or Ornithine(Ser).

The term "basic amino acid" as used herein refers to any amino acid including both natural
20 and non-natural amino acids that has an isoelectric point above 6.3 (such as above 7.4) as measured according to Kice & Marvell "Modern Principles of organic Chemistry" (Macmillan, 1974) or Matthews and van Holde "Biochemistry" Cummings Publishing Company, 1996. Included within this definition are Arginine, Lysine, Homoarginine (Har), and Histidine as well as derivatives thereof. Suitable non-natural basic amino acids are e.g. as described in US
25 6,858,396. Suitable positively charged amino acids includes non-natural alpha amino acids available from Bachem AG and includes alpha-amino-glycine, alpha,gamma-diaminobutyric acid, ornithine, alpha, beta-diaminopropionic acid, alpha-difluoromethyl-ornithine, 4-amino-piperidine-4-carboxylic acid, 2,6-diamino-4-hexynoic acid, beta-(1-piperazinyl)-alanine, 4,5-dehydro-lysine, delta-hydroxy-lysine, omega-hydroxy-norarginine, homoarginine, omega-
30 amino-arginine, omega-methyl-arginine, alpha-methyl-histidine, 2,5-diiodo-histidine, 1-methyl-histidine, 3-methyl-histidine, beta-(2-pyridyl)-alanine, beta-(3-pyridyl)-alanine, beta-(2-quinolyl)-alanine, 3-amino-tyrosine, 4-amino-phenylalanine, and spinacine. Furthermore, any mono or dicarboxylic amino acid is a suitable positively charged amino acid.

The term "neutral amino acid" as used herein refers to an amino acid that has an isoelectric
35 point above between 4.8 and 6.3 as measured according to Kice & Marvell "Modern Principles of organic Chemistry" (Macmillan, 1974). The term "acidic amino acid" as used herein refers

to an amino acid that has an isoelectric point below 4.8 as measured according to Kice & Marvell "Modern Principles of organic Chemsitry" (Macmillan, 1974).

5 Unless otherwise indicated amino acids are abbreviated and mentioned by their standard nomenclature known to the person skilled in the art, such as with reference to "nomenclature and symbolism for amino acids and peptides" by the international union of pure and applied chemistry (IUPAC) (www.iupac.org).

The term "antibody response" refers to the production of antibodies (e.g., IgM, IgA, IgG) which bind to an antigen of interest, this response is measured for instance by assaying sera by antigen ELISA.

10 The term "adjuvant" as used herein refers to any compound which, when delivered together or simultaneously with an antigen, non-specifically enhances the immune response to that antigen. Exemplary adjuvants include but are not limited to oil in water and water in oil adjuvants, aluminum-based adjuvants (e.g., AIOH, AIPO₄, etc), and Montanide ISA 720.

15 The terms "patient" and "subject" refer to a mammal that may be treated using the methods of the present invention.

As used herein, the term "immune response" refers to the reactivity of an organism's immune system in response to an antigen. In vertebrates, this may involve antibody production, induction of cell-mediated immunity, and/or complement activation (e.g.,
20 phenomena associated with the vertebrate immune system's prevention and resolution of infection by microorganisms). In preferred embodiments, the term immune response encompasses but is not limited to one or more of a "lymphocyte proliferative response," a "cytokine response," and an "antibody response."

The term "net charge" as used herein with reference to a peptide sequence refers to the total
25 electric charge of the peptide sequence represented by the sum of charges of each individual amino acid in the peptide sequence, wherein each basic amino acid are given a charge of +1, each acidic amino acid a charge of -1, and each neutral amino acid a charge of 0. Accordingly, the net charge will depend on the number and identities of charged amino acids.

Table 1 – Specific peptides not part of the present invention

30 Table 1 and 2 represent peptides not part of the present invention comprising the structure

$$X^1 - X^2 - X^3 - X^4 - X^5 \text{ (formula II),}$$

- wherein X^1 and X^3 independently defines a linear sequence of any 1, 2, 3 or 4 amino acid independently selected from any basic amino acid, citrulline, tryptophan, or a derivative thereof; X^2 defines a linear sequence of 8-30 amino acids derived from an antigen; X^4 defines a linear sequence of 8-30 amino acids derived from said antigen, said sequence X^4 being different from X^2 ; and wherein X^5 is any one optional amino acid selected from a basic amino acid, citrulline, tryptophan, or a derivative thereof. Citrulline is in this document referred to with the one-letter symbol "B".

Table 1

	Reference ID	x1	x2	x3	x4	x5		Placement with reference to positions in SEQ ID NO:3; SEQ ID NO:6; SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:46, and SEQ ID NO:126.	
	P-biotin	R	QIKIWFQN	RR	MKWKK				
	N-Biotin		PVVHLTL	R	QAGDDFSR				
Antigen									
							Modified (m)		
								X2-seq	x4-seq
HCV	SP_2	RR	GYIPLVGAPLG	BGR	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP_3	R	GYIPLVGAPLG	RR	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP_4	R	GYIPLVGAPLG	RRR	VARALAHGVRV	R		135-145	147-157
HCV	SP_5	RR	GYIPLVGAPLG	RR	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP_6	RR	GYIPLVGAPLG	RRR	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP_7	BR	GYIPLVGAPLG	RR	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP_8	RRR	GYIPLVGAPLG	BR	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP_9	R	GYIPLVGAPLG	KKK	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP_10	R	GYIPLVGAPLG	RRR	VARALAHGVRV			135-	147-

								145	157
HCV	SP_11	KK	GYIPLVGAPLG	KK	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP_12	W	GYIPLVGAPLG	RR	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP_13	WW	GYIPLVGAPLG	RR	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP_14	EE	GYIPLVGAPLG	EE	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP_15	GG	GYIPLVGAPLG	GG	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP_16	EE	GYIPLVGAPLG	RR	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP_17	RR	GYIPLVGAPLG	LRR	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP21:	WW	GYIPLVGAPLG	RR	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP22:	WW	GYIPLVGAPLG	RRR	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP23:	WW	GYIPLVGAPLG	R	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP24:	R	GYIPLVGAPLG	RR	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	51_BIo tin	RR	GYLPAVGAPIG	BR	VIRVIAHGLRL		m	135-144	147-157
HCV	51b_BI otin	RR	GYIPLVGAPLG	BR	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	51_n		GYIPLVGAPLG	G	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP51_1 :	WW	GYLPAVGAPI	RR	VIRVIAHGLRL		m	135-144	147-157
HCV	SP1_C *		GYIPLVGAPLG	G	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP2_c	RR	GYIPLVGAPLG	BGR	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP3_c	R	GYIPLVGAPLG	RR	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP4_c	R	GYIPLVGAPLG	RRR	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP5_c	RR	GYIPLVGAPLG	RR	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP6_c	RR	GYIPLVGAPLG	RRR	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP7_c	BR	GYIPLVGAPLG	RR	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP8_c	RRR	GYIPLVGAPLG	BR	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP9_c	R	GYIPLVGAPLG	KKK	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP10_c	R	GYIPLVGAPLG	RRR	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP11_c	KK	GYIPLVGAPLG	KK	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP12_c	W	GYIPLVGAPLG	RR	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP13_c	WW	GYIPLVGAPLG	RR	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157
HCV	SP17_c	RR	GYIPLVGAPLG	LRR	VARALAHGVRV			135-145	147-157

HCV	SP61_2	RR	NYVTGNIPG	BR	GITFSIFLIVS			163-171	171-181
HCV	SP61b_2	WW	NYATGNLPG	RR	CSFSIFLLAL		m	163-171	171-181
HCV	SP61_3	WW	NYVTGNIPG	BR	GITFSIFLIVS			163-171	171-181
HCV	SP61_4	WW	NYVTGNIPG	RR	GITFSIFLIVS			163-171	171-181
HCV	61b_Biotin	RR	NYATGNLPG	RR	GCSFSIFLLAL			163-171	171-181
HCV	SP25	RR	VTGNIPGSTYS	GBR	GITFSIYLIVS		m	165-175	171-181
HCV	42_Biotin	RR	IRNLGRVIETLTG	BR	LNleGYIPLIGA		m	116-128	133-142
HCV	42b_Biotin	RR	SRNLGKVIDTLT C	BR	LMGYIPLVGA			116-128	133-142
HCV	42n-BIOTIN		SRNLGKVIDTLT C	GFAD	LMGYIPLVGA			116-129	133-142
HCV	SP42_1	WW	IRNLGRVIETLT	RR	LNleGYIPLIGA		m	116-128	133-142
HCV	SP42b_1	WW	SRNLGKVIDTLT C	RR	LMGYIPLVGA			116-129	133-142
HCV	BI310-11_Biotin	RR	GGGQIIGGNYLI P	RB	PBIGVRATB			26-38	42-50
HCV	BI310-11n_Biotin		GGGQIVGGVYLL P	RR	GPRLGVRATR			26-38	42-50
HCV	BI310-11n_sc_Biotin	RR	GGGQIVGGVYLL P	RR	GPRLGVRATR			26-38	42-50
HCV	SP11b-1-	WW	GGGQIVGGVYLL P	RR	GPRLGVRAT			26-38	42-50
FLU	BI100-12	BR	LIFLARSALIV		RGSVAHKS			256-266	267-274
FLU	BI100-22b	ED	LIFLARSALIL		RGSVAHKS			255-266	267-274
FLU	120b_Biotin	BR	LIFLARSALIL	BGR	SALILRGSVAHK			255-266	267-274
FLU	BI100-18b		SAYERMCNIL	KGK	FQTAAQRAMM			217-226	230-239
FLU	BI100-19		SAYERNleVNIL	KGK	FQTAAQRAVNle			217-226	230-239
FLU	190_Biotin	BR	TAYERNleCNIL	BRGR	FQTVVQBA			217-226	230-237
FLU	190b_Biotin	BR	IAYERMCNIL	LBRGK	FQTAAQRA			217-226	230-237
FLU	190n-BIOTIN		IAYERMCNIL	KGK	FQTAAQRA			217-226	230-237
FLU	BI100-24b		LFFKCIYRLFKHG L	KR	GPSTEGVPESM			46-59	62-72
FLU	BI100-26	BRR	LFFKTITRLFBHG L	RR	LLSTEGVPNSNle			46-59	62-72
FLU	260_Biotin	BR	GLEPLVIAGILA	RR	GSLVGLLHIVL			23-33	30-40
FLU	260b_Biotin	BR	GSDPLVVAASIV	RR	ASIVGILHLIL			23-33	30-40

CMV	BI 050-sc1	R	NLVPMVATV	RR	NLVPMVATV	B		485-493	485-493
CMV	BI 050-sc2	R	NLVPMVATV	BRR	NLVPMVATV	B		485-493	485-493
CMV	BI 050-sc5	R	NIVPNieVVTA	RR	NIVPNieVVTA	B	m	485-493	485-493
HIV	N10		PEVIPMFSALS	EGA	TPQDLNTMLN				
HIV	V10	R	FIIPXFTALSG	GRR	ALLYGATPYAIG				
HIV	N13	K	ALGPAATL	EE	MMTACQGVG				
Neg c mod	SP_18	RR	GPVVHLTL	RRR	GQAGDDFS				
Neg c mod	SP_19	RR	GPVVHLTL	RRR	GQAGDDFS				
Neg c mod	SP_20	RR	GPVVHLTL	RGR	GQAGDDFS				
HPV		RR	LECVYCKQQL	RR	EVYDFAFRDLC			35-45	48-58
HPV		RR	GVYDFAFRDLC	RR	GFAYRDLCIVY	R		49-58	52-61
HPV		RR	GVFDYAFRDIN	RR	GFAYRDINLAY	R		49-58	52-61
CMV		RR	GATPVDLLGA	RR	GALNLCLPM	R		498-506	505-514
CMV		RR	GVTPAGLIGV	RR	GALQIBLPL	R		498-506	505-514
HPV		RR	VDIRTLEDLL	RR	GTLGIVCPIG	R		74-83	84-93

As used herein the one-letter-code 'Nle' refers to the non-natural amino acid norleucine.

Table 2 – Specific peptides not part of the present invention

Antigen	X ¹	X ²	X ³	X ⁴	X ⁵
HCV	R	GYIPLVGAPLG	RRR	VARALAHGVRV	R
HCV	R	GYLPAVGAPIG	RRR	VIRVIAHGLRL	R
HCV	RR	GYIPLVGAPLG	RR	VARALAHGVRV	
HCV	RR	GYIPLVGAPLG	RRR	VARALAHGVRV	
HCV	RR	SRNLGKVIDTLTC	RR	LMGYIPLVGA	
HCV	RR	GGGQIVGGVYLLP	RR	GPRLGVRATR	
HCV	W	GYIPLVGAPLG	RR	VARALAHGVRV	
HCV	RR	IRNLGRVIETLTLeGYIPLIGA	RR	IRNLGRVIETLTLeGYIPLIGA	R
Flu	BR	TAYERNieCNIL	BRGR	FQTVVQBA	
cmv	R	NLVPMVATV	BRR	NLVPMVATV	B

As used herein the one-letter-code Z or 'Nle' refers to the non-natural amino acid norleucine.

Antigens

The specific natural antigen used in the peptide constructs according to the present invention may be a protein or peptide sequence derived from any B cell antigen, such as from any disease antigen, such as an infectious agent. Suitable antigens to be used according to the present invention include antigens derived from a bacteria, a mycobacterium, a virus, a parasite such as protozoa, a fungus, a cancer antigen, such as an oncogene, such as a telomerase, a prion, an atopic disease antigen, an addictive or abused substance or a toxin or an antigen of an autoimmune disease, such as rheumatoid arthritis, insulin dependent diabetes, multiple sclerosis and the like.

- 10 As used herein a "disease antigen" refers to any antigen confirmed or suspected to be involved in a specific disease.

In some embodiments, the antigen is an abused or addictive substance or a portion thereof, including, but are not limited to, nicotine, a narcotic, a cough suppressant, a tranquilizer, and a sedative. In some embodiments, the antigen is a toxin, such as a toxin from a chemical weapon or natural sources, or a pollutant.

Examples of bacteria for which antigens may be provided include, but are not limited to, M. tuberculosis, Mycobacterium, mycoplasma, neisseria and legionella. Examples of parasites include, but are not limited to, rickettsia and chlamydia.

- 20 Examples of an infectious disease antigen is TbH9 (also known as Mtb 39A), a tuberculosis antigen. Other tuberculosis antigens include, but are not limited to DPV (also known as Mtb8.4), 381, Mtb41, Mtb40, Mtb32A, MA9.9A, Mtb9.8, Mtb10, Mtb72f, Mtb59f, Mtb88f, Mtb71f, Mtb46f and Mtb31f ("f" indicates that it is a fusion or two or more proteins).

- 25 Examples of cancer antigens may be a tumor associated antigen such as HER2, HER3 or HER4 receptor or one or more tumor-associated antigens or cell-surface receptors disclosed in US Publication No. 20080171040 or US Publication No. 20080305044 and are incorporated in their entirety by reference.

- 30 Other suitable cancer antigens that may be used by the present invention include CD proteins such as CD2, CD3, CD4, CD5, CD6, CD8, CD11, CD14, CD18, CD19, CD20, CD21, CD22, CD25, CD26, CD27, CD28, CD30, CD33, CD36, CD37, CD38, CD40, CD44, CD52, CD55, CD56, CD70, CD79, CD80, CD81, CD103, CD105, CD134, CD137, CD138, and CD152; members of the ErbB receptor family such as the EGF receptor, HER2, HER3 or HER4

receptor; cell adhesion molecules such as LFA-I, Mac1, pi 50.95, VLA-4, ICAM-I, VCAM, EpCAM, alpha4/beta7 integrin, and alpha v/beta3 integrin including either alpha or beta subunits thereof (e.g. anti-CD11a, anti-CD18 or anti-CD11b antibodies); growth factors such as VEGF; tissue factor (TF); TGF- β .; alpha interferon (alpha-IFN); an interleukin, such as IL-8; IgE; blood group antigens Apo2, death receptor; flk2/flt3 receptor; obesity (OB) receptor; mpl receptor; CTLA-4; protein C etc. In some embodiment the antigen is selected from IGF-IR, CanAg, EphA2, MUC1, MUC16, VEGF, TF, CD19, CD20, CD22, CD27, CD33, CD37, CD38, CD40, CD44, CD56, CD138, CA6, Her2/neu, EpCAM, CRIPTO (a protein produced at elevated levels in a majority of human breast cancer cells), darpins, alpha_v/beta₃ integrin, alpha_v/beta₅ integrin, alpha γ /beta integrin, TGF- β , CD11a, CD18, Apo2 and C242. In some embodiment the antigen is selected from a CD proteins such as CD3, CD4, CD8, CD19, CD20, CD27, CD34, CD37, CD38, CD46, CD56, CD70 and CD138; members of the ErbB receptor family such as the EGF receptor, HER2, HER3 or HER4 receptor; cell adhesion molecules such as LFA-I, Mac1, pi50.95, VLA-4, ICAM-I, VCAM, EpCAM, alpha4/beta7 integrin, and alpha v/beta3 integrin including either alpha or beta subunits thereof (e.g. anti-CD11a, anti-CD18 or anti-CD11b antibodies); growth factors such as VEGF; tissue factor (TF); TGF- β .; alpha interferon (alpha-IFN); an interleukin, such as IL-8; IgE; blood group antigens Apo2, death receptor; flk2/flt3 receptor; obesity (OB) receptor; mpl receptor; CTLA-4; protein C, etc. The most preferred targets herein are IGF-IR, CanAg, EGF-R, EGF-RvIII, EphA2, MUC1, MUC16, VEGF, TF, CD19, CD20, CD22, CD27, CD33, CD37, CD38, CD40, CD44, CD56, CD70, CD138, CA6, Her2/neu, CRIPTO (a protein produced at elevated levels in a majority of human breast cancer cells), alpha_v/beta₃ integrin, alpha_v/beta₅ integrin, TGF- β , CD11a, CD18, Apo2, EpCAM and C242. In some embodiment the antigen is selected from a cellular oncogene, such as ras or myc.

Examples of viral antigens for use with the present invention include, but are not limited to, e.g., HIV, HCV, CMV, HPV, Influenza, adenoviruses, retroviruses, picornaviruses, etc. Non-limiting example of retroviral antigens such as retroviral antigens from the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) antigens such as gene products of the gag, pol, and env genes, the Nef protein, reverse transcriptase, and other HIV components; hepatitis viral antigens such as the S, M, and L proteins of hepatitis B virus, the pre-S antigen of hepatitis B virus, and other hepatitis, e.g., hepatitis A, B, and C, viral components such as hepatitis C viral RNA; influenza viral antigens such as hemagglutinin and neuraminidase and other influenza viral components; measles viral antigens such as the measles virus fusion protein and other measles virus components; rubella viral antigens such as proteins E1 and E2 and other rubella virus components; rotaviral antigens such as VP7sc and other rotaviral components; cytomegaloviral antigens such as envelope glycoprotein B and other cytomegaloviral antigen components; respiratory syncytial viral antigens such as the RSV fusion protein, the M2 protein and other respiratory syncytial viral antigen components; herpes simplex viral

antigens such as immediate early proteins, glycoprotein D, and other herpes simplex viral antigen components; varicella zoster viral antigens such as gpl, gpII, and other varicella zoster viral antigen components; Japanese encephalitis viral antigens such as proteins E, M-E, M-E-NSI, NSI, NS1-NS2A, 80% E, and other Japanese encephalitis viral antigen components; rabies viral antigens such as rabies glycoprotein, rabies nucleoprotein and other rabies viral antigen components. See Fundamental Virology, Second Edition, eds. Fields, B. N. and Knipe, D. M. (Raven Press, New York, 1991) for additional examples of viral antigens.

The epitopes to be incorporated into the scaffold design according to the present invention may be derived from an adenovirus, retrovirus, picornavirus, herpesvirus, rotavirus, hantavirus, coronavirus, togavirus, flavivirus, rhabdovirus, paramyxovirus, orthomyxovirus, bunyavirus, arenavirus, reovirus, papillomavirus, parvovirus, poxvirus, hepadnavirus, dengue virus, or spongiform virus. In certain specific, non-limiting examples, the viral antigen are peptides obtained from at least one of HIV, CMV, hepatitis A, B, and C, influenza, measles, polio, smallpox, rubella; respiratory syncytial, herpes simplex, varicella zoster, Epstein-Barr, Japanese encephalitis, rabies, Influenza, and/or cold viruses.

HCV:

Peptides according to the present invention may comprise a known antigen. For antigens derived from HCV these antigens may be derived from the Core, E1, E2, P7, NS2, NS3, NS4 (NS4A and NS4B) and NS5 (NS5A and NS5B) protein of the Hepatitis C Virus (HCV). The epitopes are those which elicit a HLA class I and/or class II restricted T lymphocyte response in an immunized host. More specific, the HLA class I restricted peptides of the present invention may bind to at least one HLA molecule of the following HLA class I groups: HLA-A*01, HLA-A*02, HLA-A*03, HLA-A*11, HLA-A*24, HLA-B*07, HLA-B*08, HLA-B*35, HLA-B*40, HLA-B*44, HLA-Cw3, HLA-Cw4, HLA-Cw6 or HLA-Cw7. The HLA class II restricted peptides of the present invention may bind to at least one HLA molecule of the following HLA class II groups: HLA-DRB1, -DRB2, -DRB3, -DRB4, -DRB5, -DRB6, -DRB7, -DRB8 or -DRB9.

MHC binding HCV peptides that may be used according to the present invention as epitopes are disclosed in e.g. WO02/34770 (Imperial College Innovations Ltd), WO01/21189 and WO02/20035 (Epimmune), WO04/024182 (Intercell), WO95/25122 (The Scripps Research Institute), WO95/27733 (Government of the USA, Department of Health and Human Services), EP 0935662 (Chiron), WO02/26785 (Immusystems GmbH), WO95/12677 (Innogenetics N.V.), WO97/34621 (Cytel Corp), and EP 1652858 (Innogenetics N.V.).

In other embodiments, the scaffold design according to the present invention comprises a PADRE peptide, such as the universal T cell epitope called PADRE as disclosed in

WO95/07707 (Epimmune) the content of which are enclosed herein by reference. A "PanDR binding peptide or PADRE peptide" is a member of a family of molecules that binds more than one HLA class II DR molecule. PADRE binds to most HLA-DR molecules and stimulates in vitro and in vivo human helper T lymphocyte (HTL) responses. Alternatively T-help epitopes can be used from universally used vaccines such as tetanus toxoid.

In a further embodiment, the peptides in the composition or polyepitopic peptide are characterized in that they are derived from a HCV protein, or more specifically from at least one of the following HCV regions selected from the group consisting of Core, E1, E2/NS1, NS2, NS3, NS4A, NS4B, NS5A and NS5B. Even more preferred is that peptides are characterized in that they are present in the HCV consensus sequence of genotype 1a, 1b and/or 3a.

Other HLA class I and II binding peptides that may be used according to the invention may be identified by the method as described in WO03/105058 -Algonomics, by the method as described by Epimmune in WO01/21189 and/or by three public database prediction servers, respectively Syfpeithi, BIMAS and nHLAPred. It is also an aspect of this present invention that each peptide may be used within the scaffold design of the invention in combination with the same peptide as multiple repeats, or with any other peptide(s) or epitope(s).

Table 3. Specific HCV peptides in their complete length according to the invention:

Series	Ep.nr	Ver.	Scaf.	Z1	Z2	Z3	Z4	Z5	Z6	Z7	Z8	Z9
BI330	72			RR	-	GGQLIGGIYLIPG	RR	-	VITFSIYLIVS	-	-	-
BI330	72		b	RRR	-	GGQLIGGIYLIPG	RR	-	VITFSIYLIVS	-	-	-
BI330	72		c	RR	-	GGQLIGGIYLIPG	RRR	-	VITFSIYLIVS	-	-	-
BI330	72		d	RR	-	GGQLIGGIYLIPG	RR	-	VITFSIYLIVS	R	-	-
BI330	72		e	RR	-	GGQLIGGIYLIPG	RR	-	VITFSIYLIVS	RR	-	-
BI330	72	2		RR	-	VITYSIFLIVS	RR	-	GGNVIGGIYZIPR	-	-	-
BI330	72	2	b	RRR	-	VITYSIFLIVS	RR	-	GGNVIGGIYZIPR	-	-	-
BI330	72	2	c	RR	-	VITYSIFLIVS	RRR	-	GGNVIGGIYZIPR	-	-	-
BI330	72	2	d	RRR	-	VITYSIFLIVS	RRR	-	GGNVIGGIYZIPR	-	-	-
									Z=Nle			
BI330	83			RRG	-	TANWARVIS	R	-	ANWAKVIL	R	-	NWAKVI
BI330	83		b	RG	-	TANWARVIS	RR	-	ANWAKVIL	R	-	NWAKVI

BI330	83		c	RG	-	TANWARVIS	R	-	ANWAKVIL	R	-	NWAKVI
BI330	83		d	RG	-	TANWARVIS	RG	-	ANWAKVIL	R	-	NWAKVI
BI330	83	2		<i>RRG</i>	-	TANWARVIS	<i>R</i>	-	ANWARVIL	R	-	NWAKVI
BI330	83	2	b	<i>RG</i>	-	TANWARVIS	<i>RR</i>	-	ANWARVIL	R	-	NWAKVI
BI330	83	2	c	<i>RG</i>	-	TANWARVIS	<i>R</i>	-	ANWARVIL	R	-	NWAKVI
BI330	83	2	d	<i>RG</i>	-	TANWARVIS	<i>RG</i>	-	ANWARVIL	R	-	NWAKVI
BI310	511			<i>R</i>	-	<i>GYLPAVGAPI</i>	<i>RRR</i>	-	<i>VIRVIAHGLRL</i>	<i>R</i>	-	-
BI310	511		b	RR	-	<i>GYLPAVGAPI</i>	RR	-	<i>VIRVIAHGLRL</i>	R	-	-
BI310	511		c	RR	-	<i>GYLPAVGAPI</i>	RRR	-	<i>VIRVIAHGLRL</i>	-	-	-
BI310	511		d	RR	-	<i>GYLPAVGAPI</i>	RR	-	<i>VIRVIAHGLRL</i>	-	-	-
BI310	511		e	R	-	<i>GYLPAVGAPI</i>	RR	-	<i>VIRVIAHGLRL</i>	R	-	-
BI310	511		f	R	-	<i>GYLPAVGAPI</i>	R	-	<i>VIRVIAHGLRL</i>	R	-	-
BI310	511		g	R	-	<i>GYLPAVGAPI</i>	RR	-	<i>VIRVIAHGLRL</i>	-	-	-

"-" = no amino acid; B=Cit; Z=Nle; X=Har

CMV:

The epitopes to be incorporated into the scaffold design according to the present invention may be derived from cytomegalovirus (CMV) including CMV glycoproteins gB and gH.

5 Table 4. Specific CMV peptides in their complete length according to the invention:

[illegible]

BI050	6			RRG	-	PRPEGYTLLFF	R	-	GYTLFFTS	R	-
BI050	6		b	RG	-	PRPEGYTLLFF	RR	-	GYTLFFTS	R	-
BI050	6		c	RRG	-	PRPEGYTLLFF	RR	-	GYTLFFTS	R	-
BI050	6		d	RRG	-	PRPEGYTLLFF	RRR	-	GYTLFFTS	R	-
BI050	6		e	RRRG	-	PRPEGYTLLFF	RR	-	GYTLFFTS	R	-
BI050	7			RG	-	LPYPRGYTLFV	RR	-	GYTLFVSD	R	-
BI050	7		b	RRG	-	LPYPRGYTLFV	RR	-	GYTLFVSD	R	-
BI050	7		c	RRG	-	LPYPRGYTLFV	RRR	-	GYTLFVSD	R	-
BI050	7		d	RRRG	-	LPYPRGYTLFV	RR	-	GYTLFVSD	R	-
BI050	7		e	RRG	-	LPYPRGYTLFV	RR	-	GYTLFVSD	R	-
BI050	8			RRG	-	ETILTPRDV	R	-	NTLZTPRDV	R	-
BI050	8		b	RG	-	ETILTPRDV	RR	-	NTLZTPRDV	R	-
BI050	8		c	RG	-	ETILTPRDV	R	-	NTLZTPRDV	R	-
BI050	8		d	RG	-	ETILTPRDV	RG	-	NTLZTPRDV	R	-
BI050	9			RR	-	SSTSPVYDL	RR	-	SSTSPVYNL	R	-
BI050	9		b	RR	-	SSTSPVYDL	RRR	-	SSTSPVYNL	R	-
BI050	9		c	RRR	-	SSTSPVYDL	RR	-	SSTSPVYNL	R	-
BI050	9		d	RRR	-	SSTSPVYDL	RRR	-	SSTSPVYNL	R	-

"-" = no amino acid; B=Cit; Z=Nle; X=Har

Influenza:

The epitopes to be incorporated into the scaffold design according to the present invention may be derived from fragments or portions of Influenza hemagglutinin (HA) or Influenza neuraminidase (NA), nucleoprotein (NP), M1, M2, NS1, NEP, PA, PB1, PB1-F2, PB2 for each of the subgroups, such as H1N1, H2N2 og H3N2.

Suitable epitopes may be derived from an HA protein of one, or more than one subtype, including H1, H2, H3, H4, H5, H6, H7, H8, H9, H10, H11, H12, H13, H14, H15 or H16 or fragment or portion thereof. Examples of subtypes comprising such HA proteins include

10 A/New Caledonia/20/99 (H1N1) A/Indonesia/5/2006 (H5N1), A/chicken/New York/1995, A/herring gull/DE/677/88 (H2N8), A/Texas/32/2003, A/mallard/MN/33/00, A/duck/Shanghai/1/2000, A/northern pintail/TX/828189/02, A/Turkey/Ontario/6118/68 (H8N4), A/shoveler/Iran/G54/03, A/chicken/Germany/N/1949 (H10N7), A/duck/England/56 (H11N6), A/duck/Alberta/60/76 (H12N5), A/Gull/Maryland/704/77 (H13N6),

15 A/Mallard/Gurjev/263/82, A/duck/Australia/341/83 (H15N8), A/black-headed gull/Sweden/5/99 (H16N3), B/Lee/40, C/Johannesburg/66, A/PuertoRico/8/34 (H1N1), A/Brisbane/59/2007 (H1N1), A/Solomon Islands 3/2006 (H1N1), A/Brisbane 10/2007

(H3N2), A/Wisconsin/67/2005 (H3N2), B/Malaysia/2506/2004, B/Florida/4/2006, A/Singapore/1/57 (H2N2), A/Anhui/1/2005 (H5N1), A/Vietnam/1194/2004 (H5N1), A/Teal/HongKong/W312/97 (H6N1), A/Equine/Prague/56 (H7N7), A/HongKong/1073/99 (H9N2)).

5

In some embodiments of the invention, the HA protein may be an H1, H2, H3, H5, H6, H7 or H9 subtype. In other embodiments, the H1 protein may be from the A/New Caledonia/20/99 (H1N1), A/PuertoRico/8/34 (H1N1), A/Brisbane/59/2007 (H1N1), or A/Solomon Islands 3/2006 (H1N1) strain. The H3 protein may also be from the A/Brisbane 10/2007 (H3N2) or
 10 A/Wisconsin/67/2005 (H3N2) strain. In other embodiments, the H2 protein may be from the A/Singapore/1/57 (H2N2) strain. The H5 protein may be from the A/Anhui/1/2005 (H5N1), A/Vietnam/1194/2004 (H5N1), or A/Indonesia/5/2005 strain. In other embodiments, the H6 protein may be from the A/Teal/HongKong/W312/97 (H6N1) strain. The H7 protein may be from the A/Equine/Prague/56 (H7N7) strain. In other embodiments, the H9 protein is from
 15 the A/HongKong/1073/99 (H9N2) strain. In other embodiments, the HA protein may be from an influenza virus may be a type B virus, including B/Malaysia/2506/2004 or B/Florida/4/2006. The influenza virus HA protein may be H5 Indonesia.

Table 5. Specific Influenza peptides according to the invention in their complete length (Z or Nle denotes Norleucine, X or Har denotes homoarginine):

Series	Ep.nr	version	scaffold	Z1	Z2	Z3	Z4	Z5	Z6	Z7
BI100	330			RR	-	TAYERZCNIL	RR	-	GLEPLVIAGILA	-
BI100	330		b	RRR	-	TAYERZCNIL	RR	-	GLEPLVIAGILA	-
BI100	330		c	RR	-	TAYERZCNIL	RRR	-	GLEPLVIAGILA	-
BI100	330		d	RR	-	TAYERZCNIL	RR	-	GLEPLVIAGILA	R
BI100	330		e	RR	-	TAYERZCNIL	RR	-	GLEPLVIAGILA	RR
						Z=Nle				
BI100	270			RR	-	TVIGASZIPLL	RG	-	TPIXQDWENRAN	-
BI100	270		b	RRR	-	TVIGASZIPLL	RG	-	TPIXQDWENRAN	-
BI100	270		c	RR	-	TVIGASZIPLL	RRG	-	TPIXQDWENRAN	-
BI100	270		d	RRR	-	TVIGASZIPLL	RRG	-	TPIXQDWENRAN	-
BI100	270		e	RRR	-	TVIGASZIPLL	RRG	-	TPIXQDWENRAN	R
						Z=Nle			X=Har	
BI100	130			RR	-	AAFEEZXITS	RR	-	VAFEDLXZZSFI	-
BI100	130		b	RRR	-	AAFEEZXITS	RR	-	VAFEDLXZZSFI	-
BI100	130		c	RRR	-	AAFEEZXITS	RRG	-	VAFEDLXZZSFI	-
BI100	130		d	RRR	-	AAFEEZXITS	RRR	-	VAFEDLXZZSFI	-
BI100	130		e	RRR	-	AAFEEZXITS	RRR	-	VAFEDLXZZSFI	GR
Series	Ep.nr	version	scaffold	Z1	Z2	Z3	Z4	Z5	Z6	Z7
BI100	190		e	RR	-	TAYERZCNIL	RRG	-	RFQTVVQBA	-
BI100	190		f	RR	-	TAYERZCNIL	RRG	-	RFQTVVQBA	R
BI100	190		g	R	-	TAYERZCNIL	RG	-	RFQTVVQBA	R
BI100	190		h	RR	-	TAYERZCNIL	RG	-	RFQTVVQBA	
BI100	260		b	BR	-	GLEPLVIAGILA	RR	-	GSLVGLLHIVL	-
BI100	260		c	RR	-	GLEPLVIAGILA	RR	-	GSLVGLLHIVL	-
BI100	260		d	RR	-	GLEPLVIAGILA	RR	-	GSLVGLLHIVL	R
BI100	260		e	RR	-	GLEPLVIAGILA	RRR	-	GSLVGLLHIVL	-
BI100	260		f	RR	-	GLEPLVIAGILA	RRR	-	GSLVGLLHIVL	R
BI100	120	-3	a	R	-	TAFLVRNVA	R	-	SIARSVTIZXASVVH	-
BI100	120	-3	b	R	-	TAFLVRNVA	RR	-	SIARSVTIZXASVVH	-
BI100	120	-3	c	RR	-	TAFLVRNVA	R	-	SIARSVTIZXASVVH	-
BI100	120	-3	d	RR	-	TAFLVRNVA	RR	-	SIARSVTIZXASVVH	-

[illegible]

BI100	240	-4		RG	K	TPT(Har)NGWDV KLS	RG	-	TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEWS	-
BI100	240	-5		RG	C	TPT(Har)NGWDV KLS	RG	-	TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEWS	-
BI100	240	-6		RG	Lys(Me)	TPT(Har)NGWDV KLS	RG	-	TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEWS	-
BI100	240	-7		RG	D	TPT(Har)NGWDV KLS	RG	-	TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEWS	-
BI100	240	-8		RG	E	TPT(Har)NGWDV KLS	RG	-	TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEWS	-

"-" = no amino acid; B=Cit; Z=Nle; X=Har

Table 6 Specific dimeric Influenza peptides according to the invention in their complete length (Z or Nle denotes Norleucine, X or Har denotes homoarginine, residues linking A and B monomer peptides to dimers are underlined):

Dimeric Peptide	Dimeric peptides, composed of peptides A and B. Linked residues underlined	Constituent monomers
BI-155		
A	RG(<u>Dpr(Aoa)</u>)-TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN-RG-TPTRQEWD <u>CRIS</u> -NH ₂	BI-100-220
B	RG(<u>Dpr(Ser)</u>)-TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS-RG-TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEWS-NH ₂	BI-100-240
BI-155-2		
A	RG(<u>Dpr(Aoa)</u>)-TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN-RG-TPTRQEWD <u>ARIS</u> -NH ₂	BI-100-220-2
B	RG(<u>Dpr(Ser)</u>)-TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS-RG-TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEWS-NH ₂	BI-100-240
BI-155-3		
A	RG <u>C</u> -TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN-RG-TPTRQEWD <u>CRIS</u> -NH ₂	BI-100-220-5
B	RG <u>K</u> -TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS-RG-TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEWS-NH ₂	BI-100-240-4
BI-155-4		
A	RG <u>C</u> -TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN-RG-TPTRQEWD <u>ARIS</u> -NH ₂	BI-100-220-6

B	RGK-TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS-RG-TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEWNH ₂	BI-100-240-4
BI-155-5		
A	RGK-TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN-RG-TPTRQEWD CRIS -NH ₂	BI-100-220-7
B	RGC-TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS-RG-TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEWNH ₂	BI-100-240-5
BI-155-6		
A	RGK-TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN-RG-TPTRQEWD ARIS -NH ₂	BI-100-220-8
B	RGC-TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS-RG-TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEWNH ₂	BI-100-240-5
BI-155-7		
A	RG(Lys(Me))-TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN-RG-TPTRQEWD CRIS -NH ₂	BI-100-220-9
B	RGD-TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS-RG-TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEWNH ₂	BI-100-240-7
BI-155-8		
A	RG(Lys(Me))-TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN-RG-TPTRQEWD CRIS -NH ₂	BI-100-220-9
B	RGE-TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS-RG-TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEWNH ₂	BI-100-240-8
BI-155-9		
A	RG(Lys(Me))-TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN-RG-TPTRQEWD ARIS -NH ₂	BI-100-220-10
B	RGD-TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS-RG-TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEWNH ₂	BI-100-240-7
BI-155-10		
A	RG(Lys(Me))-TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN-RG-TPTRQEWD ARIS -NH ₂	BI-100-220-10
B	RGE-TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS-RG-TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEWNH ₂	BI-100-240-8
BI-155-11		
A	RGD-TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN-RG-TPTRQEWD CRIS -NH ₂	BI-100-220-11
B	RG(Lys(Me))-TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS-RG-TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEWNH ₂	BI-100-240-6
BI-155-12		
A	RGD-TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN-RG-TPTRQEWD ARIS -NH ₂	BI-100-220-12

B	RG(Lys(Me))-TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS-RG-TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQE-W-NH ₂	BI-100-240-6
BI-155-13		
A	RGE-TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN-RG-TPTRQEWD CRIS -NH ₂	BI-100-220-13
B	RG(Lys(Me))-TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS-RG-TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQE-W-NH ₂	BI-100-240-6
BI-155-14		
A	RGE-TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN-RG-TPTRQEWD ARIS -NH ₂	BI-100-220-14
B	RG(Lys(Me))-TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS-RG-TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQE-W-NH ₂	BI-100-240-6
BI-155-15		
A	RGC-TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN-RG-TPTRQEWD CRIS -NH ₂	BI-100-220-5
B	RGC-TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS-RG-TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQE-W-NH ₂	BI-100-240-5
BI-155-16		
A	RGC-TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN-RG-TPTRQEWD ARIS -NH ₂	BI-100-220-6
B	RGC-TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS-RG-TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQE-W-NH ₂	BI-100-240-5
	A-monomer peptide variants:	
	RG(Dpr(Aoa))-TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN-RG-TPTRQEWD CRIS -NH ₂	BI-100-220
	RG(Dpr(Aoa))-TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN-RG-TPTRQEWD ARIS -NH ₂	BI-100-220-2
	RG-TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN-RG-TPTRQEWD CRIS -NH ₂	BI-100-220-3
	RG-TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN-RG-TPTRQEWD ARIS -NH ₂	BI-100-220-4
	RGC-TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN-RG-TPTRQEWD CRIS -NH ₂	BI-100-220-5
	RGC-TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN-RG-TPTRQEWD ARIS -NH ₂	BI-100-220-6
	RGK-TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN-RG-TPTRQEWD CRIS -NH ₂	BI-100-220-7
	RGK-TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN-RG-TPTRQEWD ARIS -NH ₂	BI-100-220-8
	RG(Lys(Me))-TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN-RG-TPTRQEWD CRIS -NH ₂	BI-100-220-9

	RG(Lys(Me))-TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN-RG-TPTRQEWDA ARIS -NH2	BI-100-220-10
	RGD-TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN-RG-TPTRQEWDC CRIS -NH2	BI-100-220-11
	RGD-TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN-RG-TPTRQEWDA ARIS -NH2	BI-100-220-12
	RGE-TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN-RG-TPTRQEWDC CRIS -NH2	BI-100-220-13
	RGE-TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN-RG-TPTRQEWDA ARIS -NH2	BI-100-220-14
	B-monomer peptide variants:	
	RG(Dpr(Ser))-TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS-RG-TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQE-W-NH2	BI-100-240
	RG-TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS-RG-TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQE-W-NH2	BI-100-240-3
	RGK-TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS-RG-TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQE-W-NH2	BI-100-240-4
	RGC-TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS-RG-TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQE-W-NH2	BI-100-240-5
	RG(Lys(Me))-TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS-RG-TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQE-W-NH2	BI-100-240-6
	RGD-TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS-RG-TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQE-W-NH2	BI-100-240-7
	RGE-TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS-RG-TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQE-W-NH2	BI-100-240-8

Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV):

For HIV, the epitopes to be incorporated into the scaffold design according to the present invention may be derived from the group consisting of gp120, gp160, gp41, p24gag or
5 p55gag derived from HIV, including members of the various genetic subtypes.

Human papillomavirus (HPV):

For HPV, the epitopes to be incorporated into the scaffold design according to the present invention may be derived from the group consisting E1, E2, E3, E4, E6 and E7, L1 and L2

proteins. The epitopes may be derived from any type including types 8, 11, 16, 18, 31, 33, 35, 39, 45, 51, 52, 56, 58, and 59.

Table 7. Specific HPV peptides in their complete length according to the invention:

Series	Nr	Version	Scaffold	Z1	Z2	Z3	Z4	Z5	Z6	Z7	Z8
			Native :			35-45			48-58		
BI500	1			RR	-	LECVYCKQQLL	RR	-	EVYDFAFRDLC	-	-
BI500	1		b	RR	-	LECVYCKQQLL	RRRG	-	EVYDFAFRDLC	-	-
BI500	1		c	RRR	-	LECVYCKQQLL	RRG	-	EVYDFAFRDLC	-	-
BI500	1		d	RRR	-	LECVYCKQQLL	RRRG	-	EVYDFAFRDLC	-	-
BI500	1		e	RRRG	-	LECVYCKQQLL	RRRG	-	EVYDFAFRDLC	-	-
			Native :			49-58			52-61		
BI500	2			RR	-	GVYDFAFRDLC	RR	-	GFAFRDLCIVY	R	-
BI500	2		b	RR	-	GVYDFAFRDLC	RRRG	-	GFAFRDLCIVY	-	-
BI500	2		c	RRR	-	GVYDFAFRDLC	RRG	-	GFAFRDLCIVY	R	
BI500	2		d	RRR	-	GVYDFAFRDLC	RRRG	-	GFAFRDLCIVY	-	
BI500	2		e	RRRG	-	GVYDFAFRDLC	RRRG	-	GFAFRDLCIVY	R	-
			Native :			49-58			52-61		
BI500	3			RR	-	GVFDYAFRDIN	RR	-	GFAYRDINLAY	R	-
BI500	3		b	RR	-	GVYDFAFRDLC	RRRG	-	GFAFRDLCIVY	-	-
BI500	3		c	RRR	-	GVYDFAFRDLC	RRG	-	GFAFRDLCIVY	R	-
BI500	3		d	RRR	-	GVYDFAFRDLC	RRRG	-	GFAFRDLCIVY	-	-
BI500	3		e	RRRG	-	GVYDFAFRDLC	RRRG	-	GFAFRDLCIVY	R	-
			Native :			74-83			84-93		

BI500	4			RR	-	VDIRTLEDLL	RR	-	GTLGIVCPIG	R	-
BI500	4		b	RR	-	VDIRTLEDLL	RRR G	-	GTLGIVCPIG	-	-
BI500	4		c	RRR	-	VDIRTLEDLL	RRG	-	GTLGIVCPIG	R	-
BI500	4		d	RRR	-	VDIRTLEDLL	RRR G	-	GTLGIVCPIG	-	-
BI500	4		e	RRRG	-	VDIRTLEDLL	RRR G	-	GTLGIVCPIG	R	-

The present invention further relates to compositions comprising two or three peptides of the invention.

Table 8: The table represent 10 different suitable combinations of three monomeric peptides each peptide comprising a specific natural antigen of a protein or peptide sequence derived from HCV.

1	BI3 30- 72	BI3 30- 83	BI3 10- 511 d	RRGGQLIGGI YLIPGRRVITF SIYLIVS	RRGTANWARV ISRANWAKVIL RNWAKVI	RRGYLPAVG APIRRVIRVI AHGLRL	(SEQ ID NO:3 57)	(SEQ ID NO:3 66)	(SEQ ID NO:3 77)
2	BI3 30- 72b	BI3 30- 83b	BI3 10- 511 f	RRRGGQLIGG IYLIPGRRVITF SIYLIVS	RGTANWARVI SRRANWAKVI LRNWAKVI	RGYLPVGA PIRVIRVIAH GLRLR	(SEQ ID NO:3 58)	(SEQ ID NO:3 67)	(SEQ ID NO:3 79)
3	BI3 30- 72c	BI3 30- 83c	BI3 10- 511 g	RRGGQLIGGI YLIPGRRRVIT FSIYLIVS	RGTANWARVI SRANWAKVIL RNWAKVI	RGYLPVGA PIRRVIRVIA HGLRL	(SEQ ID NO:3 59)	(SEQ ID NO:3 68)	(SEQ ID NO:3 80)
4	BI3 30- 72d	BI3 30- 83d	BI3 10- 511	RRGGQLIGGI YLIPGRRVITF SIYLIVSR	RGTANWARVI SRGANWAKVI LRNWAKVI	RGYLPVGA PIRRRVIRVI AHGLRLR	(SEQ ID NO:3 60)	(SEQ ID NO:3 69)	(SEQ ID NO:3 74)
5	BI3 30- 72	BI3 30- 83	BI3 10- 511	RRGGQLIGGI YLIPGRRVITF	RRGTANWARV ISRANWARVIL	RRGYLPAVG APIRRVIRVI	(SEQ ID	(SEQ ID	(SEQ ID

	72e	83-2	511b	SIYLIVSRR	RNWAKVI	AHGLRLR	NO:3 61)	NO:3 70)	NO:3 75)
6	BI3 30- 72- 2	BI3 30- 83- 2b	BI3 10- 511 c	RRVITYSIFLIV SRRGGNVIGG IYZIPR	RGTANWARVI SRRANWARVI LRNWAKVI	RRGYLPAVG APIRRRVIRV IAHGLRL	(SEQ ID NO:3 62)	(SEQ ID NO:3 71)	(SEQ ID NO:3 76)
7	BI3 30- 72- 2	BI3 30- 83	BI3 10- 511 d	RRVITYSIFLIV SRRGGNVIGG IYZIPR	RRGTANWARV ISRRANWAKVIL RNWAKVI	RRGYLPAVG APIRRRVIRVI AHGLRL	(SEQ ID NO:3 62)	(SEQ ID NO:3 66)	(SEQ ID NO:3 77)
8	BI3 30- 72- 2b	BI3 30- 83b	BI3 10- 511 e	RRRVITYSIFLI VSRRGGNVIG GIYZIPR	RGTANWARVI SRRANWAKVI LRNWAKVI	RGYLPVGA PIRRVIRVIA HGLRLR	(SEQ ID NO:3 63)	(SEQ ID NO:3 67)	(SEQ ID NO:3 78)
9	BI3 30- 72- 2c	BI3 30- 83- 2c	BI3 10- 511 f	RRVITYSIFLIV SRRRGGNVIG GIYZIPR	RGTANWARVI SRANWARVIL RNWAKVI	RGYLPVGA PIRVIRVIAH GLRLR	(SEQ ID NO:3 64)	(SEQ ID NO:3 72)	(SEQ ID NO:3 79)
10	BI3 30- 72- 2d	BI3 30- 83- 2d	BI3 10- 511 g	RRRVITYSIFLI VSRRRGGNVI GGIYZIPR	RGTANWARVI SRGANWARVI LRNWAKVI	RGYLPVGA PIRRVIRVIA HGLRL	(SEQ ID NO:3 65)	(SEQ ID NO:3 73)	(SEQ ID NO:3 80)

Table 9: The table represent 10 different suitable combinations of three monomeric peptides and one dimeric peptide each peptide comprising specific natural antigen of a protein or peptide sequence derived from influenza.

1	BI- 155- 5	BI100-330; RRTAYERZCNILRRGLEP LVIAGILA (SEQ ID	BI100-270 RRTVIGASZIPLLRGTPIXQD WENRAN (SEQ ID NO:412)	BI100-130 RRAAFEEZXITSRRVAFEDL XZZSFI (SEQ ID NO:417)
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		NO:407)		
2	BI- 155- 4	BI100-330b RRRTAYERZCNILRRGLE PLVIAGILA (SEQ ID NO:408)	BI100-270b RRRTVIGASZIPLLRRGTPIXQ DWENRAN (SEQ ID NO:413)	BI100-130b RRRAAFEEZXITSRRVAFED LXZZSFI (SEQ ID NO:418)
3	BI- 155- 3	BI100-330c RRTAYERZCNILRRRGLE PLVIAGILA (SEQ ID NO:409)	BI100-270c RRTVIGASZIPLLRRGTPIXQ DWENRAN (SEQ ID NO:414)	BI100-130c RRRAAFEEZXITSRRGVAFE DLXZZSFI (SEQ ID NO:419)
4	BI- 155- 2	BI100-330d RRTAYERZCNILRRGLEP LVIAGILAR (SEQ ID NO:410)	BI100-270d RRRTVIGASZIPLLRRGTPIX QDWENRAN (SEQ ID NO:415)	BI100-130d RRRAAFEEZXITSRRRVAFE DLXZZSFI (SEQ ID NO:420)
5	BI- 155	BI100-330e RRTAYERZCNILRRGLEP LVIAGILARR (SEQ ID NO:411)	BI100-270e RRRTVIGASZIPLLRRGTPIX QDWENRANR (SEQ ID NO:416)	BI100-130e RRRAAFEEZXITSRRRVAFE DLXZZSFIGR (SEQ ID NO:421)
6	BI- 155- 2	BI100-330e RRTAYERZCNILRRGLEP LVIAGILARR (SEQ ID NO:411)	BI100-270e RRRTVIGASZIPLLRRGTPIX QDWENRANR (SEQ ID NO:416)	BI100-130e RRRAAFEEZXITSRRRVAFE DLXZZSFIGR (SEQ ID NO:421)
7	BI- 155- 3	BI100-330d RRTAYERZCNILRRGLEP LVIAGILAR (SEQ ID NO:410)	BI100-270c RRTVIGASZIPLLRRGTPIXQ DWENRAN (SEQ ID NO:414)	BI100-130c RRRAAFEEZXITSRRGVAFE DLXZZSFI (SEQ ID NO:419)
1 0	BI- 155	BI100-330 RRTAYERZCNILRRGLEP LVIAGILA (SEQ ID NO:407)	BI100-270d RRRTVIGASZIPLLRRGTPIX QDWENRAN (SEQ ID NO:415)	BI100-130b RRRAAFEEZXITSRRVAFED LXZZSFI (SEQ ID NO:418)

Carriers, adjuvants and vehicles - delivery

- 5 The isolated peptides according to the invention may be delivered by various means and within various compositions, herein referred to as "compositions", "vaccine compositions" or "pharmaceutical compositions". The peptides of the present invention and pharmaceutical and vaccine compositions of the invention are usefull for administration to mammals, particularly humans, to treat and/or prevent virus infection. Vaccine compositions containing
10 the peptides of the invention are administered to a patient infected with the virus in question or to an individual susceptible to, or otherwise at risk for, virus infection to elicit an immune response against the specific antigens and thus enhance the patient's own immune response capabilities.

- Various art-recognized delivery systems may be used to deliver the peptides, into appropriate
15 cells. The peptides can be delivered in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or as colloidal suspensions, or as powders, with or without diluents. They can be "naked" or associated with delivery vehicles and delivered using delivery systems known in the art.

- A "pharmaceutically acceptable carrier" or "pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant" is any suitable excipient, diluent, carrier and/or adjuvant which, by themselves, do not induce the
20 production of antibodies harmful to the individual receiving the composition nor do they elicit protection. Preferably, a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or adjuvant enhances the immune response elicited by an antigen. Suitable carriers or adjuvant typically comprise one or more of the compounds included in the following non-exhaustive list: large slowly metabolized macromolecules such as proteins, polysaccharides, polylactic acids, polyglycolic
25 acids, polymeric amino acids, amino acid copolymers and inactive virus particles; aluminium hydroxide, aluminium phosphate (see International Patent Application Publication No. WO93/24148), alum ($KAl(SO_4)_2 \cdot 12H_2O$), or one of these in combination with 3-O-deacylated monophosphoryl lipid A (see International Patent Application Publication No. WO93/19780); N-acetyl-muramyl-L-threonyl-D-isoglutamine (see U.S. Patent No. 4,606,918), N-acetyl-
30 normuramyl-L-alanyl-D-isoglutamine, N-acetylmuramyl-L-alanyl-D-isoglutamyl-L-alanine2-(1',2'-dipalmitoyl-sn-glycero-3-hydroxyphosphoryloxy) ethylamine; RIBI (ImmunoChem Research Inc., Hamilton, MT, USA) which contains monophosphoryl lipid A (i.e., a detoxified endotoxin), trehalose-6,6-dimycolate, and cell wall skeleton (MPL + TDM + CWS) in a 2%

squalene/Tween 80 emulsion. Any of the three components MPL, TDM or CWS may also be used alone or combined 2 by 2; adjuvants such as Stimulon (Cambridge Bioscience, Worcester, MA, USA), SAF-1 (Syntex); adjuvants such as combinations between QS21 and 3-de-O-acetylated monophosphoryl lipid A (see International Application No. WO94/00153) which may be further supplemented with an oil-in-water emulsion (see, e.g., International Application Nos. WO95/17210, WO97/01640 and WO9856414) in which the oil-in-water emulsion comprises a metabolisable oil and a saponin, or a metabolisable oil, a saponin, and a sterol, or which may be further supplemented with a cytokine (see International Application No. WO98/57659); adjuvants such as MF-59 (Chiron), or poly[di(carboxylatophenoxy) phosphazene] based adjuvants (Virus Research Institute); blockcopolymer based adjuvants such as Optivax (Vaxcel, Cytrx) or inulin-based adjuvants, such as Algammulin and Gammalnulin (Anutech); Complete or Incomplete Freund's Adjuvant (CFA or IFA, respectively) or Gerbu preparations (Gerbu Biotechnik); a saponin such as QuilA, a purified saponin such as QS21, QS7 or QS17, -escin or digitonin; immunostimulatory oligonucleotides comprising unmethylated CpG dinucleotides such as [purine-purine-CG-pyrimidine-pyrimidine] oligonucleotides. These immunostimulatory oligonucleotides include CpG class A, B, and C molecules (Coley Pharmaceuticals), ISS (Dynavax), Immunomers (Hybridon). Immunostimulatory oligonucleotides may also be combined with cationic peptides as described, e.g., by Riedl et al. (2002); Immune Stimulating Complexes comprising saponins, for example Quil A (ISCOMS); excipients and diluents, which are inherently non-toxic and non-therapeutic, such as water, saline, glycerol, ethanol, isopropyl alcohol, DMSO, wetting or emulsifying agents, pH buffering substances, preservatives, and the like; a biodegradable and/or biocompatible oil such as squalane, squalene, eicosane, tetratetracontane, glycerol, peanut oil, vegetable oil, in a concentration of, e.g., 1 to 10% or 2,5 to 5%; vitamins such as vitamin C (ascorbic acid or its salts or esters), vitamin E (tocopherol), or vitamin A; carotenoids, or natural or synthetic flavanoids; trace elements, such as selenium; any Toll-like receptor ligand as reviewed in Barton and Medzhitov (2002).

For a further enhancement of the vaccine antigenic properties, could be to combine a well known adjuvant with an oral immune modulant, such as IMID or adjuvant such as a Cox-2 inhibitor or a immunomodulating compound.

A further aspect of the invention is the use of the vaccine combined with adjuvant, with an (oral) immunomodulating agent and a reservoir purging agent.

Other suitable adjuvants includes response-selective C5a agonists, such as EP54 and EP67 described in Hung CY et al. An agonist of human complement fragment C5a enhances vaccine immunity against *Coccidioides* infection. Vaccine (2012) and Kollessery G et al. Tumor-specific peptide based vaccines containing the conformationally biased, response-

selective C5a agonists EP54 and EP67 protect against aggressive large B cell lymphoma in a syngeneic murine model. Vaccine (2011) 29: 5904-10.

Other suitable adjuvants include an oil-in-water emulsion containing a stabilizing detergent, a micelle-forming agent and a biodegradable oil, such as Provax described in
5 e.g. US 5,585,103.

Any of the afore-mentioned adjuvants comprising 3-de-O-acetylated monophosphoryl lipid A, said 3-de-O-acetylated monophosphoryl lipid A may be forming a small particle (see International Application No. WO94/21292).

10 In any of the aforementioned adjuvants MPL or 3-de-O-acetylated monophosphoryl lipid A can be replaced by a synthetic analogue referred to as RC-529 or by any other amino-alkyl glucosaminide 4-phosphate (Johnson et al. 1999, Persing et al. 2002). Alternatively it can be replaced by other lipid A analogues such as OM-197 (Byl et al. 2003).

15 A "pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle" includes vehicles such as water, saline, physiological salt solutions, glycerol, ethanol, etc. Auxiliary substances such as wetting or emulsifying agents, pH buffering substances, preservatives may be included in such vehicles. Delivery systems known in the art are e.g. lipopeptides, peptide compositions encapsulated in poly-DL-lactide-co-glycolide ("PLG"), microspheres, peptide compositions contained in immune stimulating complexes (ISCOMS), multiple antigen peptide systems (MAPs), viral delivery
20 vectors, particles of viral or synthetic origin, adjuvants, liposomes, lipids, microparticles or microcapsules, gold particles, nanoparticles, polymers, condensing agents, polysaccharides, polyamino acids, dendrimers, saponins, QS21, adsorption enhancing materials, fatty acids or, naked or particle absorbed cDNA.

The peptides may be delivered in oils such as EndocineTM and MontanideTM (Eurocine) – MontanideTM ISA 51 VG or MontanideTM ISA 720 VG (Seppic).

25 The adjuvant may be stimulators of the innate immune system that can be given separately from the peptide such as Leukotriene B4 (LTB4) and granulocyte macrophage colony stimulating factor (GM-CSF), such as Sargramostim/Leukine (glycosylated GM-CSF) and Molgramostim (nonglycosylated GM-CSF).

30 Typically, a vaccine or vaccine composition is prepared as an injectable, either as a liquid solution or suspension. Injection may be subcutaneous, intramuscular, intravenous, intraperitoneal, intrathecal, intradermal, or intraepidermal. Other types of administration

comprise electroporation, implantation, suppositories, oral ingestion, enteric application, inhalation, aerosolization or nasal spray or drops. Solid forms, suitable for dissolving in, or suspension in, liquid vehicles prior to injection may also be prepared. The preparation may also be emulsified or encapsulated in liposomes for enhancing adjuvant effect.

- 5 A liquid formulation may include oils, polymers, vitamins, carbohydrates, amino acids, salts, buffers, albumin, surfactants, or bulking agents. Preferably carbohydrates include sugar or sugar alcohols such as mono-, di-, tri-, oligo- or polysaccharides, or water-soluble glucans. The saccharides or glucans can include fructose, dextrose, lactose, glucose, mannose, sorbose, xylose, maltose, sucrose, dextran, pullulan, dextrin, alpha and beta cyclodextrin, soluble starch, hydroxethyl starch and carboxymethylcellulose, or mixtures thereof. Sucrose is most preferred. "Sugar alcohol" is defined as a C4 to C8 hydrocarbon having an -OH group and includes galactitol, inositol, mannitol, xylitol, sorbitol, glycerol, and arabitol. Mannitol is most preferred. These sugars or sugar alcohols mentioned above may be used individually or in combination. There is no fixed limit to the amount used as long as the sugar or sugar alcohol is soluble in the aqueous preparation. Preferably, the sugar or sugar alcohol concentration is between 1,0 % (w/v) and 7,0 % (w/v), more preferable between 2,0 and 6,0 % (w/v). Preferably amino acids include levorotary (L) forms of carnitine, arginine, and betaine; however, other amino acids may be added. Preferred polymers include polyvinylpyrrolidone (PVP) with an average molecular weight between 2,000 and 3,000, or polyethylene glycol (PEG) with an average molecular weight between 3,000 and 5,000. It is also preferred to use a buffer in the composition to minimize pH changes in the solution before lyophilization or after reconstitution. Any physiological buffer may be used, but citrate, phosphate, succinate, and glutamate buffers or mixtures thereof are preferred. Most preferred is a citrate buffer. Preferably, the concentration is from 0,01 to 0,3 molar. Surfactants that can be added to the formulation are shown in EP patent applications No. EP 0 270 799 and EP 0 268 110.

Additionally, the peptides according to the present invention may be chemically modified by covalent conjugation to a polymer to increase their circulating half-life, for example.

- Preferred polymers, and methods to attach them to peptides, are shown in U.S. Patent Nos. 4,766,106; 4,179,337; 4,495,285; and 4,609,546. Preferred polymers are polyoxyethylated polyols and polyethylene glycol (PEG). PEG is soluble in water at room temperature and has the general formula:

- $R(O-CH_2-CH_2)_nO-R$ where R can be hydrogen, or a protective group such as an alkyl or alkanol group. Preferably, the protective group has between 1 and 8 carbons, more preferably it is methyl. The symbol n is a positive integer, preferably between 1 and 1.000, more preferably between 2 and 500. The PEG has a preferred average molecular weight

between 1000 and 40.000, more preferably between 2000 and 20.000, most preferably between 3.000 and 12.000. Preferably, PEG has at least one hydroxy group, more preferably it is a terminal hydroxy group. It is this hydroxy group which is preferably activated.

However, it will be understood that the type and amount of the reactive groups may be varied to achieve a covalently conjugated PEG/polypeptide of the present invention.

Water soluble polyoxyethylated polyols are also useful in the present invention. They include polyoxyethylated sorbitol, polyoxyethylated glucose, polyoxyethylated glycerol (POG), etc. POG is preferred. One reason is because the glycerol backbone of polyoxyethylated glycerol is the same backbone occurring naturally in, for example, animals and humans in mono-, di-, triglycerides. Therefore, this branching would not necessarily be seen as a foreign agent in the body. The POG has a preferred molecular weight in the same range as PEG. The structure for POG is shown in Knauf et al., 1988, and a discussion of POG/IL-2 conjugates is found in U.S. Patent No. 4,766,106.

Another drug delivery system for increasing circulatory half-life is the liposome. The peptides and nucleic acids of the invention may also be administered via liposomes, which serve to target a particular tissue, such as lymphoid tissue, or to target selectively infected cells, as well as to increase the half-life of the peptide and nucleic acids composition. Liposomes include emulsions, foams, micelles, insoluble monolayers, liquid crystals, phospholipid dispersions, lamellar layers and the like. In these preparations, the peptide or nucleic acids to be delivered is incorporated as part of a liposome or embedded, alone or in conjunction with a molecule which binds to a receptor prevalent among lymphoid cells, such as monoclonal antibodies which bind to the CD45 antigen, or with other therapeutic or immunogenic compositions. Thus, liposomes either filled or decorated with a desired peptide or nucleic acids of the invention can be directed to the site of lymphoid cells, where the liposomes then deliver the peptide and nucleic acids compositions. Liposomes for use in accordance with the invention are formed from standard vesicle-forming lipids, which generally include neutral and negatively charged phospholipids and a sterol, such as cholesterol. The selection of lipids is generally guided by consideration of, e.g., liposome size, acid lability and stability of the liposomes in the blood stream. A variety of methods are available for preparing liposomes, as described in, e.g., Szoka et al, 1980, and U.S. Patent Nos. 4,235,871, 4,501,728, 4,837,028, and 5,019,369.

For targeting cells of the immune system, a ligand to be incorporated into the liposome can include, e.g., antibodies or fragments thereof specific for cell surface determinants of the desired immune system cells. A liposome suspension containing a peptide may be administered intravenously, locally, topically, etc. in a dose which varies according to, inter alia, the manner of administration, the peptide being delivered, and the stage of the disease

being treated. For example, liposomes carrying either immunogenic polypeptides are known to elicit CTL responses in vivo (Reddy et al., 1992; Collins et al., 1992; Fries et al., 1992; Nabel et al., 1992).

5 After the liquid pharmaceutical composition is prepared, it is preferably lyophilized to prevent degradation and to preserve sterility. Methods for lyophilizing liquid compositions are known to those of ordinary skill in the art. Just prior to use, the composition may be reconstituted with a sterile diluent (Ringer's solution, distilled water, or sterile saline, for example) which may include additional ingredients. Upon reconstitution, the composition is preferably administered to subjects using those methods that are known to those skilled in the art.

10 Another aspect of the present invention relates to conjugates of the isolated peptides or isolated multimeric peptides according to the present invention. Accordingly, the isolated peptides or isolated multimeric peptides according to the present invention may be an amino acid sequence conjugated at any amino acid sidechain or within the amino acid sequence with any chemical moiety, such as any therapeutic agent, such as any immunomodulating
15 compound.

The terms "therapeutic agent", such as "immunomodulating agent" or virus reservoir purging agent as used herein, includes but is not limited to cytokines, such as interferons, monoclonal antibodies, such as anti-PD1 antibodies, cyclophosphamide, Thalidomide, Levamisole, and Lenalidomide.

20 "A virus reservoir purging agent", includes but is not limited to auranofin, IL-7, prostratin, bryostatins, HDAC inhibitors, such as vorinostat, and Disulfiram.

Use of the peptides for evaluating immune responses:

25 The peptides according to the present invention may be used as diagnostic reagents. For example, a peptide of the invention may be used to determine the susceptibility of a particular individual to a treatment regimen which employs the peptide or related peptides, and thus may be helpful in modifying an existing treatment protocol or in determining a prognosis for an affected individual. In addition, the peptides may also be used to predict
30 which individuals will be at substantial risk for developing a chronic virus infection.

Accordingly, the present invention relates to a method of determining the outcome for a subject exposed to a virus, comprising the steps of determining whether the subject has an immune response to one or more peptides according to the present invention.

In a preferred embodiment of the invention, the peptides as described herein can be used as reagents to evaluate an immune response. The immune response to be evaluated can be induced by using as an immunogen any agent that may result in the production of antigen-specific CTLs or HTLs that recognize and bind to the peptide(s) to be employed as the reagent. The peptide reagent need not be used as the immunogen. Assay systems that can be used for such an analysis include relatively recent technical developments such as tetramers, staining for intracellular lymphokines and interferon release assays, or ELISPOT assays.

For example, a peptide of the invention may be used in a tetramer staining assay to assess peripheral blood mononuclear cells for the presence of antigen-specific CTLs following exposure to an antigen or an immunogen. The HLA- tetrameric complex is used to directly visualize antigen-specific CTLs (see, e.g., Ogg et al., 1998; and Altman et al., 1996) and determine the frequency of the antigen-specific CTL population in a sample of peripheral blood mononuclear cells. A tetramer reagent using a peptide of the invention may be generated as follows: a peptide that binds to an HLA molecule is refolded in the presence of the corresponding HLA heavy chain and beta2-microglobulin to generate a trimolecular complex. The complex is biotinylated at the carboxyl terminal end of the heavy chain at a site that was previously engineered into the protein. Tetramer formation is then induced by the addition of streptavidin. By means of fluorescently labeled streptavidin, the tetramer can be used to stain antigen-specific cells. The cells may then be identified, for example, by flow cytometry. Such an analysis may be used for diagnostic or prognostic purposes. Cells identified by the procedure can also be used for therapeutic purposes. As an alternative to tetramers also pentamers or dimers can be used (Current Protocols in Immunology (2000) unit 17.2 supplement 35)

Peptides of the invention may also be used as reagents to evaluate immune recall responses. (see, e.g., Bertoni et al., 1997 and Perma et al., 1991.). For example, patient PBMC samples from individuals with HCV infection may be analyzed for the presence of antigen-specific CTLs or HTLs using specific peptides. A blood sample containing mononuclear cells may be evaluated by cultivating the PBMCs and stimulating the cells with a peptide of the invention. After an appropriate cultivation period, the expanded cell population may be analyzed, for example, for cytotoxic activity (CTL) or for HTL activity.

The peptides may also be used as reagents to evaluate the efficacy of a vaccine.

PBMCs obtained from a patient vaccinated with an immunogen may be analyzed using, for example, either of the methods described above. The patient is HLA typed, and peptide epitope reagents that recognize the allele-specific molecules present in that patient are

selected for the analysis. The immunogenicity of the vaccine is indicated by the presence of epitope-specific CTLs and/or HTLs in the PBMC sample.

The peptides of the invention may also be used to make antibodies, using techniques well known in the art (see, e.g. CURRENT PROTOCOLS IN IMMUNOLOGY, Wiley/Greene, NY; and
5 Antibodies A Laboratory Manual, Harlow and Lane, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, 1989). Such antibodies include those that recognize a peptide in the context of an HLA molecule, i.e., antibodies that bind to a peptide-MHC complex.

In certain embodiments a first monomeric peptide and the at least one second monomeric peptide are associated via a linker; the linker may comprise any peptide linker, or peptide
10 spacer, such as a glycine, a lysine or an arginine linker/spacer, a polyhistidiny tag, Protein G, and Protein A but it is also possible to use a bis-maleimide linker/spacer, a disulfide linker, or a polyethylene glycol (PEG) linker. In practice, any linker found useful in peptide chemistry is also useful as a linker according to the present invention. Thus, the invention contemplates the use of "simple" linear peptides which are conjugated or fused to each other, but also
15 peptide combinations where the individual peptides derived from a natural antigen are linked via non-peptide linkers. Use of multiple linker types are also within the scope of the present invention, and it is e.g. also a part of the invention to utilise linear peptides which include intrachain disulphide linkers.

Particularly interesting peptide combinations of the invention are set forth in the preamble to
20 the examples.

In certain embodiments, at least one of the first and at least one second peptides in the peptide combination comprises an N- or C-terminal modification, such as an amidation, acylation, or acetylation.

Since the peptide combinations are contemplated as vaccine agents or diagnostic agents,
25 they are in certain embodiments coupled to a carrier molecule, such as an immunogenic carrier. The peptides of the peptide combinations may thus be linked to other molecules either as recombinant fusions (e.g. via CLIP technology) or through chemical linkages in an oriented (e.g. using heterobifunctional cross-linkers) or nonoriented fashion. Linking to carrier molecules such as for example diphtheria toxin, latex beads (convenient in diagnostic
30 and prognostic embodiments), and magnetic beads (also convenient in diagnostic and prognostic embodiments), polylysine constructs etc, are all possible according to the invention.

The immunogenic carrier is conveniently selected from carrier proteins such as those conventionally used in the art (e.g. diphtheria or tetanus toxoid, KLH etc.), but it is also possible to use shorter peptides (T-helper epitopes) which can induce T-cell immunity in larger proportions of a population. Details about such T-helper epitopes can e.g. be found in
5 WO 00/20027, which is hereby incorporated by reference herein – all immunologic carriers and “promiscuous” (i.e. universal) T-helper epitopes discussed therein are useful as immunogenic carriers in the present invention.

In certain embodiments, the carrier is a virus like particle, i.e. a particle sharing properties with virions without being infectious. Such virus-like particles may be provided chemically
10 (e.g. Jennings and Bachmann Ann Rev Pharmacol. Toxicol. 2009. 49:303-26 Immunodrugs: Therapeutic VLP-based vaccines for chronic diseases) or using cloning techniques to generate fusion proteins (e.g. Peabody et al. J. Mol. Biol. 2008; 380: 252-63. Immunogenic display of diverse peptides on virus-like particles of RNA phage MS2). Another example is “Remune”, an HIV vaccine originally made by Immune Response Corporation, which consists
15 of formalin inactivated HIV that has been irradiated to destroy the viral genome.

In an embodiment, a nucleic acid is encoding one or more monomeric peptide of the multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to the invention, where the encoded first peptide and the encoded at least one second peptide of a multimeric peptide are associated via a peptide linker, including a peptide spacer, and/or a disulphide bridge. The peptide
20 linker/spacer is typically selected from the group consisting of a glycine, an arginine, a lysine linker/spacer, or a glycine-lysine linker/spacer, but any peptide linker known in the art may be useful. The term peptide linker thus also is intended to denote coupling between the first and second peptide via a peptide bond. A peptide linker that links a first and second peptide by standard peptide bonds may also be referred to as a peptide spacer. Also, the first and
25 second peptides may be linked via a peptide linker and a disulphide bond, as is the case when an intrachain disulphide bond is established.

In one embodiment, the nucleic acid according to the invention encodes the peptide combination, which is coupled (by fusion) to a carrier molecule, such as an immunogenic carrier; useful carriers are discussed above.

30 In some embodiments the linker is selected from the group consisting of a bis-maleimide linker, a disulfide linker, a polyethylene glycol (PEG) linker, a glycine linker/spacer, a lysine linker/spacer, and an arginine linker/spacer.

In some embodiments the multimeric peptide, such as a dimeric peptide contain a linker in the free amino group of the N-terminal of a monomeric peptide linking said monomeric peptide to
35 another monomeric peptide.

In some embodiments the multimeric peptide, such as a dimeric peptide contain a linker in the free carboxyl group of the C-terminal of a monomeric peptide linking said monomeric peptide to another monomeric peptide.

At least two options for such linkers are described in A.R Jacobson et al, J. Med. Chem. 1989, 32, 1708-1717 and in D Giannotti et al, Journal of Medicinal Chemistry, 2000, Vol. 43, No. 22, the disclosures of which is hereby incorporated by reference.

Alternatively a link between the N-termini of peptides may be established by reacting with Br-(CH₂)_n-Br.

The length of the linker may be varied by the addition of glycine residues, for example Fmoc-NH-CH₂CH₂-NH-Gly-NH₂ may be used.

An example of such a synthesis, wherein a dimeric peptide is prepared by conjugation through succinic acid, may be as follows:

(H-Arg-Gly-Thr-Pro-Ile-Har-Gln-Asp-Trp-Gly-Asn-Arg-Ala-Asn-Arg-Gly-Thr-Pro-Thr-Arg-Gln-Glu-Trp-Asp-Cys-Arg-Ile-Ser-NH₂Arg-Gly-Thr-Pro-Ile-Har-Gln-Asp-Trp-Gly-Asn-Arg-Ala-Asn-Arg-Gly-Thr-Pro-Thr-Arg-Gln-Glu-Trp-Asp-Cys-Arg-Ile-Ser-NH₂)E(H- Arg-Gly-Thr-Pro-Thr-Har-Asn-Gly-Trp-Asp-Val-Lys-Leu-Ser-Arg-Gly-Thr-Pro-Ile-Har-Gln-Glu-Trp-Har-Ser-Leu-Nle-Asn-Gln-Glu-Trp-NH₂)F (Succinic acid linker between Arg¹E and Arg¹F)

This dimer was produced from the reaction of the following 2 monomers:

Monomer E

H-Arg-Gly-Thr-Pro-Ile-Har-Gln-Asp-Trp-Gly-Asn-Arg-Ala-Asn-Arg-Gly-Thr-Pro-Thr-Arg-Gln-Glu-Trp-Asp-Cys-Arg-Ile-Ser-NH₂Arg-Gly-Thr-Pro-Ile-Har-Gln-Asp-Trp-Gly-Asn-Arg-Ala-Asn-Arg-Gly-Thr-Pro-Thr-Arg-Gln-Glu-Trp-Asp-Cys-Arg-Ile-Ser-NH₂

Monomer F

H-Arg-Gly-Thr-Pro-Thr-Har-Asn-Gly-Trp-Asp-Val-Lys-Leu-Ser-Arg-Gly-Thr-Pro-Ile-Har-Gln-Glu-Trp-Har-Ser-Leu-Nle-Asn-Gln-Glu-Trp-NH₂

The two monomers are reacted to give a heterodimer according to the reaction scheme outlined below; where the link is between N-terminal on Arg¹ of on chain E and the N-terminal on Arg¹ in chain F.

Monomers E and F are synthesized separately on a Sieber Amid resin. The Fmoc-groups on N-terminal Gly are removed while the peptides are still on resin. The peptides are cleaved from resin. The resulting protected peptide E is reacted with succinic acid anhydride and thereafter

reacted with the protected peptide F. Protective groups are subsequently removed with 95% TFA. The formed heterodimer may be purified from un-reacted monomers by conventional purification methods known to the person skilled in the art.

An example of a synthesis, wherein a dimeric peptide is prepared by conjugation through di-amino propane, may be as follows:

(H-Gly-Gly-Ala-Lys-Arg-Arg-Val-Val-Gln-Arg-Glu-Lys-Arg-Ala-Gly-Glu-Arg-Glu-Lys-Arg-Ala-Gly-Gly)G(H-Gly-Gly-Ile-Glu-Glu-Glu-Gly-Gly-Arg-Asp-Arg-Asp-Arg-Gly-Gly-Glu-Gln-Asp-Arg-Asp-Arg-Gly-Gly)H trifluoroacetate salt (Diamino propane linker between Gly²³ and Gly²³)

This dimer was produced from the reaction of the following 2 protected monomers

10 Monomer G

H-Arg-Gly-Thr-Pro-Ile-Har-Gln-Asp-Trp-Gly-Asn-Arg-Ala-Asn-Arg-Gly-Thr-Pro-Thr-Arg-Gln-Glu-Trp-Asp-Cys-Arg-Ile-Ser-COOH

Monomer H

15 H-Arg-Gly-Thr-Pro-Thr-Har-Asn-Gly-Trp-Asp-Val-Lys-Leu-Ser-Arg-Gly-Thr-Pro-Ile-Har-Gln-Glu-Trp-Har-Ser-Leu-Nle-Asn-Gln-Glu-Trp-COOH

The two monomers G and H are reacted to give a heterodimer according to the reaction scheme outlined below; where the link is between C-terminal on Ser²⁸ of on chain G and the C-terminal on Trp³¹ in chain H.

20 Monomers G and H are synthesized separately on a 2-chlorotrityl resin. Boc-Gly-OH is coupled to the peptides on the resin before cleaving them of the resin. The resulting peptides are then Boc-protected, alternatively they may be acetylated before being cleaved of the resin. The resulting protected peptide G is reacted with Fmoc-diaminopropane, Fmoc is deprotected and G is coupled to the C-terminal of the protected peptide H via a peptide bond. Protective groups are subsequently removed with 95% TFA. The formed heterodimer may be purified from un-
25 reacted monomers by conventional purification methods known to the person skilled in the art.

Method for synthesis of Cys-Lys bridge:

Exemplified with the preparation of BI-155-3 trifluoroacetate salt

30 (H-Arg-Gly-Cys(2-oxo-ethyl)-Thr-Pro-Ile-Har-Gln-Asp-Trp-Gly-Asn-Arg-Ala-Asn-Arg-Gly-Thr-Pro-Thr-Arg-Gln-Glu-Trp-Asp-Cys-Arg-Ile-Ser-NH₂)A(H-Arg-Gly-Lys-Thr-Pro-Thr-Har-Asn-Gly-Trp-Asp-Val-Lys-Leu-Ser-Arg-Gly-Thr-Pro-Ile-Har-Gln-Glu-Trp-Har-Ser-Leu-Nle-Asn-Gln-Glu-Trp-NH₂)B trifluoroacetate salt (Thioether bond between Cys(2-oxo-ethyl) ³A and Lys³B)

This dimer was produced from the reaction of the following 2 protected monomers

Monomer A

H-Arg-Gly-Cys-Thr-Pro-Ile-Har-Gln-Asp-Trp-Gly-Asn-Arg-Ala-Asn-Arg-Gly-Thr-Pro-Thr-Arg-Gln-Glu-Trp-Asp-Cys-Arg-Ile-Ser-NH₂

5 Monomer B

H-Arg-Gly-Lys(bromoacetyl)-Thr-Pro-Thr-Har-Asn-Gly-Trp-Asp-Val-Lys-Leu-Ser-Arg-Gly-Thr-Pro-Ile-Har-Gln-Glu-Trp-Har-Ser-Leu-Nle-Asn-Gln-Glu-Trp-NH₂

Or with the preparation of BI-155-4 trifluoroacetate salt

(H-Gly-Ala-Lys-Arg-Arg-Val-Val-Gly-Gly-Cys(2-oxo-ethyl)-Gly-Gly-Ala-Lys-Arg-Arg-Val-Val-Gln-Arg-Glu-Lys-Arg-Ala-Gly-Glu-Arg-Glu-Lys-Arg-Ala-NH₂)A(H-Gly-Lys-Gly-Gly-Ile-Glu-Glu-Glu-Gly-Gly-Arg-Asp-Arg-Asp-Arg-Gly-Gly-Gln-Asp-Arg-Asp-Arg-NH₂)B trifluoroacetate salt (Thioether bond between Cys(2-oxo-ethyl)⁹A and Lys²B)

This dimer was produced from the reaction of the following 2 protected monomers:

Monomer A

15 H-Arg-Gly-Cys-Thr-Pro-Ile-Har-Gln-Asp-Trp-Gly-Asn-Arg-Ala-Asn-Arg-Gly-Thr-Pro-Thr-Arg-Gln-Glu-Trp-Asp-Ala-Arg-Ile-Ser-NH₂

Monomer B

H-Arg-Gly-Lys(bromoacetyl)-Thr-Pro-Thr-Har-Asn-Gly-Trp-Asp-Val-Lys-Leu-Ser-Arg-Gly-Thr-Pro-Ile-Har-Gln-Glu-Trp-Har-Ser-Leu-Nle-Asn-Gln-Glu-Trp-NH₂

20 The 2 monomers are reacted to give a heterodimer according to the reaction scheme outlined below; where the link is created between Lys³ (bromoacetyl) side chain on chain B and Cys in chain A.

At neutral pH and room temperature, bromoacetyl moieties in buffered aqueous solutions are very reactive towards SH-containing moieties, such as the thiol group in cysteine. Thus, if a cysteine is present on the other peptide sequence, the SH will attack the bromoacetyl to form a intermolecular thioether bridge. When the reaction is buffered with a sodium-containing buffer, such as NaHCO₃, the only byproduct of the reaction is NaBr, an innocuous salt.

The formed heterodimer may be purified from un-reacted monomers by conventional purification methods known to the person skilled in the art.

Method for synthesis of oxime bond between two peptide sequences, an intermolecular bond:

Exemplified with the preparation of BI-155 trifluoroacetate salt

(H-Arg-Gly-Dpr(Ser)-Thr-Pro-Thr-Har-Asn-Gly-Trp-Asp-Val-Lys-Leu-Ser-Arg-Gly-Thr-Pro-Ile-Har-Gln-Glu-Trp-Har-Ser-Leu-Nle-Asn-Gln-Glu-Trp-NH₂)D(H-Arg-Gly-Dpr(Aoa)-Thr-Pro-Ile-Har-Gln-Asp-Trp-Gly-Asn-Arg-Ala-Asn-Arg-Gly-Thr-Pro-Thr-Arg-Gln-Glu-Trp-Asp-Cys-Arg-Ile-Ser-NH₂)C trifluoroacetate salt (oxime is created between Dpr(Ser)³D and Dpr(Aoa)³C)

This dimer is produced from the reaction of the following two monomers:

Monomer C

H-Arg-Gly-Dpr(Aoa)-Thr-Pro-Ile-Har-Gln-Asp-Trp-Gly-Asn-Arg-Ala-Asn-Arg-Gly-Thr-Pro-Thr-Arg-Gln-Glu-Trp-Asp-Cys-Arg-Ile-Ser-NH₂

Monomer D

H-Arg-Gly-Dpr(Ser)-Thr-Pro-Thr-Har-Asn-Gly-Trp-Asp-Val-Lys-Leu-Ser-Arg-Gly-Thr-Pro-Ile-Har-Gln-Glu-Trp-Har-Ser-Leu-Nle-Asn-Gln-Glu-Trp-NH₂

The two monomers are reacted to give a heterodimer according to the reaction scheme outlined below; where the link is created between Dpr(Aoa)³ side chain on chain C and oxidized Dpr(Ser) in chain D.

After removal of the Mtt group from Lys and while the peptide was still attached to the resin aminooxyacetylated (AoA) monomer C was synthesized by coupling aminooxyacetic acid to Lys. The peptide was then cleaved from the solid phase support and purified by conventional purification methods. The monomer D was, after cleavage from resin and purification, created by oxidation of the serinyl diaminopropionic acid residue (Dpr(Ser)) with periodate to the aldehyde function. Equimolar amounts of monomer A and B were dissolved in acetonitrile and acetate buffer (pH 4). After reaction for 16h at room temperature, the product C-oxime-D was isolated by conventional purification methods known to the person skilled in the art.

Dpr=diaminopropionic acid

Fmoc-Dpr (Boc-Ser(tBu))-OH Merck 04-12-1186

Method for synthesis of dimers with PEG-linker:

A multimeric, such as dimeric peptide, such as a heterodimeric peptide may be synthesized by, but are not restricted to the following protocol:

To the peptidyl resin containing deblocked Asp or Glu residue (monomer 1) is added HBTU, DIPEA and Trt-amino PEG amine in DMF. The mixture is allowed to couple over night. The resin is filtered from the solution and washed by standard protocol. The Trt group is removed from the Trt- PEGylated peptide. The monomer 2 containing deblocked Asp or Glu residue is then coupled to the exposed amino group using HBTU and DIPEA. After cleavage the desired product is purified using any suitable technique to give the desired multimeric peptide.

In some embodiments the isolated monomeric peptide contain intramolecular bonds, such as in the form of intramolecular Cys-Cys bonds. It is to be understood that the "intramolecular bond", used interchangeably with "intrachain bond", is a bond between two different amino acids within the same peptide chain, which however is not necessarily adjacent to each other in the peptide sequence. Accordingly, in some embodiments, the isolated multimeric peptide according to the invention may contain both intramolecular bonds within one or more of the monomers, as well as an intermolecular bond between two chains of the multimeric peptide, such as a dimer. This intramolecular bond may be in the form of Cys-Cys bonds formed with cysteine residues within the same peptide sequence. In some embodiments the monomer contains an intramolecular bond derived from a Lys residue or other amino acid residue, such as a Ser, Cys, Asp or Glu that make the bond, such as a thioether bond or an oxime bond or through a PEG linker, to an amino acid residue on the other monomer peptide sequence.

Method for synthesis of multimeric peptides with PolyLys or MAPS:

PolyLys or MAPS (multiple antigen peptides) – has been extensively used over the last 20 years as a carrier protein to produce strong immunogenic response. The MAP system utilizes a peptidyl core of three or more radially branched lysine core to form a backbone for which the epitope sequences of interest can be built parallel using standard solid-phase chemistry.

The MAP system is a commercial product available from several companies such as AnaSpec, Bio-synthesis Inc. and others. The product, as offered in the catalogue only allows attachment of two (identical) peptide sequence to the polyLys core. It is however possible also to link two different peptide sequences by using different protecting groups for alpha- and epsilon-amino functional groups of lysine on the two different peptide sequences.

Use of the MAP system has been described in references including: Wang, C. Y et al. "Long-term high-titer neutralizing activity induced by octameric synthetic HIV antigen" Science 254, 285-288 (1991). Posnett, D. et al. "A novel method for producing anti-peptide antibodies" J. Biol. Chem. 263, 1719-1725 (1988), and in Tam, J. P. "Synthetic peptide vaccine design: synthesis and properties of a high-density multiple antigenic peptide system" PNAS USA 85, 5409-5413 (1988).

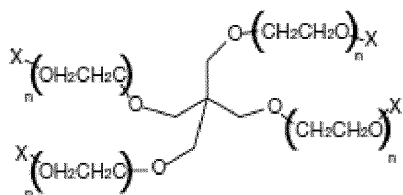
The MAP system could also be prepared by chemical (thioether, oxime, hydrazone) ligation of appropriately functionalized tetra- or octavalent polylysine constructs with the peptide antigen. By the use of this chemical ligation, the two peptide sequences being linked together would not have to be identical as they are synthesized separately.

- 5 Additionally a novel application of the MAP-based system is to synthesize on solid support a "probe" containing a poly(ethylene glycol) (PEG) chain in the dendritic arms of MAP.

Use of the MAP system will increase the size of a multimeric complex and may increase the immunogenic response.

Methods for the synthesis of multimeric peptides using PEG:

- 10 Suitable Multi-Arm Activated PEG to be used for a PEG linker are commercially available, e.g. a compound with the following structure:



- 15 Wherein X may be ethanethiol - CH₂CH₂SH (could be used to form S-S bridge with the epitope or a thioether link) or propylamine -CH₂CH₂CH₂NH₂, among others. These handles preferably allows for the linking of two identical peptide sequences and may be seen as a poly-monomeric epitope presenting construct. One could, however, anchor a dimer (two epitopes linked together) to the PEG above.
- 20 Method for synthesis of peptide- poly-L-Lys (PLL)-polyethylene glycol (PEG) construct:

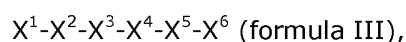
Peptide- PLL-PEG constructs, may be synthesized by, but are not restricted to the following protocol:

Fmoc-Poly-L-Lys-resin (a commercial product) is de-protected with 20% piperidine-DMF. Fmoc-NH-PEG₄-COOH, in a mixed solvent of CH₂Cl₂-NMP is added followed by HBTU and

DIPEA and the reaction is allowed to proceed for 24h. The resultant pegylated poly-L-Lys-resin is washed and the pegylation step is repeated. The reaction is monitored by Kaiser's ninhydrin test until a negative reading is obtained. After de-protection of Fmoc group, four identical peptide chains are synthesized directly on the branched poly-L-Lys-polyethylene glycol core by a stepwise solid-phase procedure. All residues activated with HBTU and DIPEA are allowed to couple for 2h. The coupling is monitored by Kaiser's ninhydrin test and is repeated if needed. After cleavage the desired product is purified using any suitable technique to give the desired peptide-construct.

- 10 Table 8 Specific peptides not part of the present invention. (Amino acids underlined refers to place of linker in dimeric molecules; Letter C in a large font refers to a cysteine residue optionally involved in an intramolecular bond with another cysteine residue in the same peptide sequence. Homoarginine is abbreviated Har, Norleucine is abbreviated as Nle or alternatively with the single letter "Z", N-ε-methylated Lys is abbreviated Lys(Me), Citrulline is
- 15 abbreviated with the single letter "B", diaminopropionic acid is abbreviated with Dpr and serinyl diaminopropionic acid is abbreviated Dpr(Ser). Flu; abbreviation for Influenza).

- Table 8 represent peptides not part of the present invention. These peptides relates to monomeric peptides as well as multimeric peptides comprising two or more of these monomeric peptides, each monomeric peptide independently consisting of not more than 60 amino acids with the following structure
- 20



- wherein X^1 , X^3 and optional moiety X^5 independently defines a linear sequence of any 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acid independently selected from glycine, arginine, norleucine, glutamine, serine, lysine, tryptophan, cysteine, or a derivative thereof; X^2 , X^4 , and optional moiety X^6 each independently defines a linear sequence of 5-17 amino acids, each having more than 50% sequence identity to a specific natural antigen, said monomeric peptides being covalently joined by one or more intermolecular bond.
- 25

Chain	Antigen	Reference ID	X1	X2	X3	X4	X5	X6	Position with reference to positions in SEQ ID NO:200, SEQ ID NO:202, and SEQ ID NO:203.			Protein
									X2-SEQ	X4-SEQ	X6-SEQ	
	Flu	BI100_CGn at	RR	SLLTEVETP	GCG	VETPIR	G	TPIRNEWG	2-10	7-12	9-16	M2
	Flu	BI100_CG	RR	SLZTDIETP	GCG	IDTPIR	G	TPIBQDWG	2-10	7-12	9-16	M2
	Flu	BI100-CGcyc	WWGC	TDIET	CG	IDTPIR	G	TPIBQDWG	5-9	7-12	9-16	M2
	Flu	BI100-Cyc_2	RRG	CsLLT	C	SLLTEVQTPIRN	GRR	SEWGSRSN	2-5	2-13	13-20	M2
A	Flu	BI150-Dimer	RRZC	SLLTEVQTPIRN	GRR	VETPIRN			2-13	7-13	-	M2
B	Flu	BI150-Dimer	WWQC	TPIRSEWGCRSN	GRR	SNDSS	G		9-20	19-23	-	M2
A	Flu	BI150-new	WW	SLZTDIETP	GCG	IDTPIR	G	TPIBQDWG	2-10	7-12	9-16	M2
B	Flu	BI150-new	RR(Har)	IDTPIR	G	TPIBQDWG	KG	SLZTDIETPG	7-12	9-16	2-11	M2
A	Flu	BI150-2mod	R	SLZTDIETP	Dpr	IDTPIR	G	TPIBQDWG	2-10	7-12	9-16	M2
B	Flu	BI150-2mod	RR	IDTPIR	GG	TPI(Har)QEW	Dpr(Ser)	SLZTDIETPG	7-12	9-15	2-11	M2

A	Flu	BI 150- dim_2	RR		SLZTDIETP	GCG		IDTPIR	G	TPIBQDWG	2-10	7-12	9-16	
B	Flu	BI 150- dim_2	Har		IDTPIR	G		TPIBQDWG	KG	SLZTDIETPG	7-12	9-16	2-11	M2
	HIV	BI450- AdjBT1	W₀WGC		AKRRV	CGG		AKRRVVQREKRA			501-505	501-512	-	gp120
	HIV	BI450- AdjBT2	W₀WGC		IEEEG	CGG		IEEEGGERDR			222-226	222-231	-	gp41
	HIV		CGG		AKRRVV	GG		AKRRVV	G	QREKRAV	501-506	501-506	507-513	
	HIV		CGGG		DQQLL	GG		AEEEEIV	GG	IEEEGGERDRDR	257-261	266-271	221-232	
	HIV		CGG		AKRRVV	GG		AKRRVV	GG	QREKR	501-506	501-506	507-511	
	HIV		CGGG		DQQLL	GG		AEEEEIV	GG	IEEEGG	257-261	266-271	222-227	
	HIV		CGG		AEEEEV	GG		DQQLL			266-271	257-261	-	
	HIV		GCGG		AKRRVV	GG		AKRRVV			501-506	501-506	-	
A	HIV	BI400-B (a-chain)	G		AKRRVV	GGCGG		AKRRVVQREKRA	G	EREKRA	501-506	501-512	507-512	gp120
B	HIV	BI400-B (b-chain)	GKG		GIEEE	GG		RDRDR	GG	EQDRDR	221-225	229-233	228-233	gp41

[illegible]

B	HIV	BI400-Bu3 (b-chain)	GKG	GIEEE	GG	EQDRDR	GG	ERDRD	221-225	228-233	228-232	gp41
A	HIV	SEQ400_B (Cyc)	GC	AKRRVW	CGGKG	AKRRVVQREKRA	G	EKEKRA	501-506	501-512	507-512	gp120
B	HIV	SEQ400_B (Cyc)	GKG	GIEEE	GG	RDRDR	GG	EQDRDR	221-225	228-233	228-233	gp41
A	HIV	SEQ400_B (Cyc)	GC	AKRRVW	CGGKG	GAKRRVVQREKRA	G	EKEKRA	501-506	506-512	506-512	gp120
B	HIV	SEQ400_B (Cyc)	GCGG	IEEEGGERDRDR	GG	QDRDR			222-233			gp41
A	HIV	BI400-bu1 (Cyc)	G	CAKRRVVC	GGKG	AKRRVVQREKRA	G	EKEKRA	501-506	507-512	507-512	gp120
B	HIV	BI400-bu1 (Cyc)	CGG	IEEEGGERDRDR	GG	QDRDR			222-233			gp41
A	HIV	BI400-bu2 (Cyc)	G	CAKRRVVC	GGKG	AKRRVVVEREKRA	G	QREKRA	501-506	507-512	507-512	gp120
B	HIV	BI400-bu2 (Cyc)	CGG	IEEEGGQDRDR	GG	RDRDR			222-233			gp41
A	HIV	BI400-bu3 (Cyc)	G	CAKRRVVC	GGKG	AKRRVVVEREKRA	G	QREKRA	501-506	507-512	507-512	gp120
B	HIV	BI400-bu3 (Cyc)	CGG	IEEEGGEQDRDR	GG	RDRDR			222-233			gp41
A	HIV	BI400-rev (Cyc)	G	CAKRRVVC	GGKG	AKRRVVQREKRA	G	EKEKRA	501-506	507-512	507-512	gp120
B	HIV	BI400-rev (Cyc)	CGG	EEEIGGERDRD	GG	RDRDQ			222-233			gp41

A	HIV	BI450-1 (a-chain)	GG	RLEPWKH	GC	GSQPKTA	G	HPGSQ	7-13	15-21	13-17	Tat
B	HIV	BI450-1 (b-chain)	GG	FHSQV	C	FITKGLGISYGRK			32-36	38-50	-	Tat
A	HIV	BI450-1_2 (a-chain)		RLEPWKH	GC	GSQPKTA	GWK	HPGSQ	7-13	15-21	13-17	Tat
B	HIV	BI450-1_2 (b-chain)	C	FITKGLGISY	G	FITKGLGISYGRK			38-47	38-50		Tat
A	HCV	BI 350-1 (a-chain)	RR	LLADARVCS	GG	LLADARVSA			342-350	342-350		E2
B	HCV	BI350-1 (b-chain)	R	GV(Nle)AGIAYFS	C	GVLAGIAYYS			163-172	163-172		E1
A	HCV	BI 350-1 mod1	RR	GNWAKVL	K	NWAKVI			366-372	367-372	-	E1
B	HCV	BI350-1 mod1	RRG	LLADARV	GCG	SGADRV	CS		342-348	342-348	-	E2
A	HCV	BI 350-1 mod2	RR	GNWAKVL	Dpr	NWAKVI			366-372	367-372	-	E1
B	HCV	BI350-1 mod2	RRG	LLADARV	G(Dpr(Ser))G	SGADRV	CS		342-348	342-348	-	E2
A	HCV		RR	GNWAKVL	Lys(Me)	NWAKVI			366-372	367-372	-	E1
B	HCV		RRG	LLADARV	GEG	SGADRV	CS		342-348	342-348	-	E2
A	HCV		RR	GNWAKVL	Lys(Me)	NWAKVI			366-372	367-372	-	E1
B	HCV		RRG	LLADARV	GEG	SGADRV	CS		342-348	342-348	-	E2
A	HCV		RR	GNWAKVL	Lys(Me)	NWAKVI			366-372	367-372	-	E1
B	HCV		RRG	LLADARV	GEG	SGADRV	CS		342-348	342-348	-	E2

[illegible]

Specific embodiments of the invention

In some embodiments the isolated peptide according to the present invention has a total of not more than 60 amino acids.

5 In some embodiments the sequence of amino acids defined by $(Z^1-Z^2)_1-Z^3-(Z^4-Z^5)_2-Z^6-(Z^7-Z^8)_3-Z^9-(Z^{10}-Z^{11})_4-Z^{12}$ is not found in any native sequence of a protein.

In some embodiments the peptide according to the present invention is demonstrated to translocate across a plasma membrane in the assay based on biotinylation of peptides as described in example 5.

10 In some embodiments Z^3 , and optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} defines an amino acid sequence identical to the native sequence of a known antigen.

In some embodiments Z^3 , and optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} defines an amino acid sequence not identical to the native sequence of any known antigen.

15 In some embodiments Z^3 , and optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} defines any chemical moiety, which is any therapeutical compound, such as an immunomodulating compound, such as a Cox-2 inhibitor.

In some embodiments the peptide according to the present invention is capable of inducing a T-lymphocyte response.

In some embodiments the peptide according to the present invention is capable of inducing a CD4+ and/or a CD8+ T-lymphocyte response.

20 In some embodiments the antigen is a viral protein, such as a capsid protein.

In some embodiments the viral protein is selected from a protein of the Hepatitis C virus, such as a core protein; protein of influenza virus, such as an M2 protein.

25 In some embodiments the viral protein of Hepatitis C virus is selected from HCV consensus sequence of genotype 1, such as subtypes 1a and 1b, genotype 2 such as 2a and 2b and genotype 3, such as 3a.

In some embodiments, in the peptide according to the present invention, the specific natural antigen is a protein or peptide sequence derived from a disease antigen, such as an infectious agent, such as bacteria, virus, parasite, fungus, or cancer antigens such as oncogene (lung, stomach, breast cancer) or an antigen causing an autoimmune disease such as diabetes, multiple sclerosis (MS), celiac disease, Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME), psoriasis, and/or Crohn's Disease.

Accordingly confirmed and suspected autoimmune diseases, where relevant antigens may be derived include Achlorhydra Autoimmune Active Chronic Hepatitis, Acute Disseminated Encephalomyelitis, Acute hemorrhagic leukoencephalitis, Addison's Disease, Agammaglobulinemia, Alopecia areata, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, Ankylosing Spondylitis, Anti-GBM/TBM Nephritis, Antiphospholipid syndrome, Antisynthetase syndrome, Arthritis, Atopic allergy, Atopic Dermatitis, Autoimmune Aplastic Anemia, Autoimmune cardiomyopathy, Autoimmune hemolytic anemia, Autoimmune hepatitis, Autoimmune inner ear disease, Autoimmune lymphoproliferative syndrome, Autoimmune peripheral neuropathy, Autoimmune pancreatitis, Autoimmune polyendocrine syndrome Types I, II, & III, Autoimmune progesterone dermatitis, Autoimmune thrombocytopenic purpura, Autoimmune uveitis, Balo disease/Balo concentric sclerosis, Bechets Syndrome, Berger's disease, Bickerstaff's encephalitis, Blau syndrome, Bullous Pemphigoid, Castleman's disease, Chagas disease, Chronic Fatigue Immune Dysfunction Syndrome, Chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy, Chronic recurrent multifocal osteomyelitis, Chronic Lyme disease, Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, Churg-Strauss syndrome, Cicatricial Pemphigoid, Coeliac Disease, Cogan syndrome, Cold agglutinin disease, Complement component 2 deficiency, Cranial arteritis, CREST syndrome, Crohn's Disease (one of two types of idiopathic inflammatory bowel disease "IBD"), Cushing's Syndrome, Cutaneous leukocytoclastic angiitis, Dego's disease, Dercum's disease, Dermatitis herpetiformis, Dermatomyositis, Diabetes mellitus type 1, Diffuse cutaneous systemic sclerosis, Dressler's syndrome, Discoid lupus erythematosus, Eczema, Endometriosis, Entesitis-related arthritis, Eosinophilic fasciitis, Epidermolysis bullosa acquisita, Erythema nodosum, Essential mixed cryoglobulinemia, Evan's syndrome, Fibrodysplasia ossificans progressiva, Fibromyalgia, Fibromyositis, Fibrosing alveolitis, Gastritis, Gastrointestinal pemphigoid, Giant cell arteritis, Glomerulonephritis, Goodpasture's syndrome, Graves' disease, Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS), Hashimoto's encephalitis, Hashimoto's thyroiditis, Haemolytic anaemia, Henoch-Schönlein purpura, Herpes gestationis, Hidradenitis suppurativa, Hughes syndrome (See Antiphospholipid syndrome), Hypogammaglobulinemia, Idiopathic Inflammatory Demyelinating Diseases, Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, Idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura (See Autoimmune thrombocytopenic purpura), IgA nephropathy (Also Berger's disease), Inclusion body myositis, Inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy, Interstitial cystitis, Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS), Juvenile idiopathic arthritis, Juvenile rheumatoid arthritis,

- Kawasaki's Disease, Lambert-Eaton myasthenic syndrome, Leukocytoclastic vasculitis, Lichen planus, Lichen sclerosus, Linear IgA disease (LAD), Lou Gehrig's Disease (Also Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis), Lupoid hepatitis, Lupus erythematosus, Majeed syndrome, Ménière's disease, Microscopic polyangiitis, Miller-Fisher syndrome, Mixed Connective Tissue Disease,
- 5 Morphea, Mucha-Habermann disease, Muckle-Wells syndrome, Multiple Myeloma, Multiple Sclerosis, Myasthenia gravis, Myositis, Narcolepsy, Neuromyelitis optica (Also Devic's Disease), Neuromyotonia, Occular cicatricial pemphigoid, Opsoclonus myoclonus syndrome, Ord thyroiditis, Palindromic rheumatism, PANDAS (Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcus), Paraneoplastic cerebellar degeneration,
- 10 Paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria (PNH), Parry Romberg syndrome, Parsonnage-Turner syndrome, Pars planitis, Pemphigus, Pemphigus vulgaris, Pernicious anaemia, Perivenous encephalomyelitis, POEMS syndrome, Polyarteritis nodosa, Polymyalgia rheumatica, Polymyositis, Primary biliary cirrhosis, Primary sclerosing cholangitis, Progressive inflammatory neuropathy, Psoriasis, Psoriatic Arthritis, Pyoderma gangrenosum, Pure red cell
- 15 aplasia, Rasmussen's encephalitis, Raynaud phenomenon, Relapsing polychondritis, Reiter's syndrome, Restless leg syndrome, Retroperitoneal fibrosis, Rheumatoid arthritis, Rheumatoid fever, Sarcoidosis, Schizophrenia, Schmidt syndrome, Schnitzler syndrome, Scleritis, Scleroderma, Sjögren's syndrome, Spondyloarthropathy, Sticky blood syndrome, Still's Disease, Stiff person syndrome, Subacute bacterial endocarditis (SBE), Susac's syndrome,
- 20 Sweet syndrome, Sydenham Chorea, Sympathetic ophthalmia, Takayasu's arteritis, Temporal arteritis (also known as "giant cell arteritis"), Tolosa-Hunt syndrome, Transverse Myelitis, Ulcerative Colitis (one of two types of idiopathic inflammatory bowel disease "IBD"), Undifferentiated connective tissue disease, Undifferentiated spondyloarthropathy, Vasculitis, Vitiligo, Wegener's granulomatosis, Wilson's syndrome, and Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome.
- 25 In some embodiments, in the peptide according to the present invention, the specific natural antigen is a viral protein, such as a structural protein, such as a capsid protein, a regulatory protein, an enzymatic protein, and a proteolytic protein.

In some embodiments, in the peptide according to the present invention, the viral protein is a protein, such as a structural protein, such as a core or envelope protein, of a virus selected

30 from the Hepatitis C virus; influenza virus such as an M2 protein, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), cytomegalovirus (CMV), and Human papillomavirus (HPV).

In some embodiments, in the peptide according to the present invention, the viral protein is a viral protein of Hepatitis C virus selected from any one HCV consensus sequence of a specific genotype, such as 1, such as subtypes 1a and 1b, genotype 2, such as 2a and 2b, genotype

35 3, such as 3a, genotype 4, genotype 5, and genotype 6.

In some embodiments the peptide according to the present invention is of 19-60 amino acids, such as of 20-60 amino acids, such as of 21-60 amino acids, such as of 22-60 amino acids, such as of 23-60 amino acids, such as of 24-60 amino acids, such as of 25-60 amino acids, such as of 26-60 amino acids, such as of 27-60 amino acids, such as of 28-60 amino acids, such as of 29-60 amino acids, such as of 30-60 amino acids, such as of 31-60 amino acids, such as of 32-60 amino acids, such as of 33-60 amino acids, such as of 34-60 amino acids, such as of 35-60 amino acids.

In some embodiments the peptide according to the present invention is of 18-60 amino acids, such as 18-59 amino acids, such as 18-58 amino acids, such as 18-57 amino acids, such as 18-56 amino acids, such as 18-55 amino acids, such as 18-54 amino acids, such as 18-53 amino acids, such as 18-52 amino acids, such as 18-51 amino acids, such as 18-50 amino acids, such as 18-49 amino acids, such as 18-48 amino acids, such as 18-47 amino acids, such as 18-46 amino acids, such as 18-45 amino acids, such as 18-44 amino acids, such as 18-43 amino acids, such as 18-42 amino acids, such as 18-41 amino acids, such as 18-40 amino acids, such as 18-39 amino acids, such as 18-38 amino acids, such as 18-37 amino acids, such as 18-35 amino acids, such as of 18-34 amino acids, such as of 18-33 amino acids, such as of 18-32 amino acids, such as of 18-31 amino acids, such as of 18-30 amino acids, such as of 18-29 amino acids, such as of 18-28 amino acids, such as of 18-27 amino acids, such as of 18-26 amino acids, such as of 18-25 amino acids, such as of 18-24 amino acids, such as of 18-23 amino acids, such as of 18-22 amino acids, such as of 18-21 amino acids, such as of 18-20 amino acids, such as of 18-19 amino acids.

In some embodiments in the peptide according to the present invention, the monomeric peptide contain one or more intramolecular bond, such as one or more Cys-Cys bond.

In some embodiments in the peptide according to the present invention, the monomeric peptide has delayed proteolytic degradation in the N-terminal, such as by incorporation of the first 1, 2, or 3 amino acids in the N-terminal in the D-form, or by incorporation of the first 1, 2, or 3 amino acids in the N-terminal in beta or gamma form.

In some embodiments, in the multimeric, such as a dimeric peptide according to the present invention, the two or more monomeric peptides are identical in sequence.

In some embodiments, in the multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to the present invention, the two or more monomeric peptides are different in sequence.

In some embodiments, in the multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to the present invention, one, two or more of the peptide strands of the multimeric, such as dimeric peptide

has delayed proteolytic degradation in the N-terminal, such as by incorporation of the first 1, 2, or 3 amino acids in the N-terminal in the D-form, or by incorporation of the first 1, 2, or 3 amino acids in the N-terminal in beta or gamma form.

In some embodiments, in the multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to the present invention, the linker is placed within any sequence selected from $Z^1, Z^2, Z^3, Z^4, Z^5, Z^6, Z^7, Z^8, Z^9, Z^{10}, Z^{11}$, and Z^{12} , , such as in $Z^1, Z^2, Z^3, Z^4, Z^5, Z^6, Z^7, Z^8, Z^9, Z^{10}, Z^{11}$, and Z^{12} of the first monomeric peptide to anywhere on the at least one second monomeric peptide, such as within the sequence of $Z^1, Z^2, Z^3, Z^4, Z^5, Z^6, Z^7, Z^8, Z^9, Z^{10}, Z^{11}$, and Z^{12} .

In some embodiments, in the multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to the present invention, the linker is placed at an amino acid position selected from 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60 of the first monomeric peptide to a position selected from 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60 of the at least one second monomeric peptide.

In some embodiments, in the multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to the present invention, the multimeric, such as dimeric peptide contain a helper epitope of at least 12 amino acids, such as at least 13, 14, 15 or 17 amino acids, which helper epitope consist of a combined sequence of amino acids, which is a sequence of amino acids from a first specific continuous antigenic peptide sequences, and a sequence of amino acids from at least one second specific continuous antigenic peptide sequence of the same or different protein derived from the same virus, any different virus, or any disease antigen, such as between 2-12 amino acids from the first specific continuous antigenic peptide sequences and 2-12 amino acids from the at least one second specific continuous antigenic peptide sequence.

In some embodiments, in the isolated peptide according to the present invention, the peptide contain a helper epitope of at least 12 amino acids, such as at least 13, 14, 15 or 17 amino acids, which helper epitope consist of a combined sequence of amino acids, which is a sequence of amino acids from a first specific continuous antigenic peptide sequences, and a sequence of amino acids from at least one second specific continuous antigenic peptide sequence of the same or different protein derived from the same virus, any different virus, or any disease antigen, such as between 2-12 amino acids from the first specific continuous antigenic peptide sequences and 2-12 amino acids from the at least one second specific continuous antigenic peptide sequence.

It is to be understood that an epitope may not only be present within the sequence of the monomeric peptide. An epitope may also be present with a combination of amino acids of the first and the at least one second monomeric peptide in a multimeric, such as dimeric peptide sequence, wherein this combination of amino acids forms a sequence that span from the first
5 to the at least one second monomeric peptide sequence. This epitope may be a continuous sequence of amino acids or it may be a three-dimensional epitope with amino acids found in both monomeric peptides.

In some embodiments, in the multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to the present invention, the intermolecular bond is a disulfide (S-S) bond between two Cys residues.

- 10 In some embodiments, in the multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to the present invention, the intermolecular bond is a methylated peptide bond between a N- ϵ -methylated Lys side-chain and the side-chain of an Asp or Glu residue.

- In some embodiments, in the multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to the present invention, the intermolecular bond is a thioether bond between a Cys residue in the first
15 monomeric peptide and a modified Lys residue in the at least one second monomeric peptide.

In some embodiments, in the multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to the present invention, the intermolecular bond is an oxime bond.

- In some embodiments, in the multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to the present invention, the intermolecular bond is an oxime bond between a derivatized Lys residue in the
20 first monomeric peptide and a derivatized Ser residue in the at least one second monomeric peptide.

- In some embodiments, in the multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to the present invention, the intermolecular bond is an oxime bond between a derivatized lysine, ornithine or diaminopropionic acid residue in the first monomeric peptide and a derivatized serine moiety,
25 such as a serine residue, such as in a serinyl diaminopropionic acid residue, such as in a serinyl lysin residue or such as in a serinyl ornithine residue, in the at least one second monomeric peptide.

- In some embodiments, in the multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to the present invention, the monomeric peptides are linked by a polyethylene glycol (PEG) linker, such as
30 through an Asp or a Glu residue in the first monomeric peptide and an Asp or a Glu residue in the at least one second monomeric peptide.

In some embodiments, in the multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to the present invention, any one of the monomeric peptides is independently as defined herein.

In some embodiments, the peptide according to the present invention is essentially a non-cell-penetrating peptide. In other embodiments, the peptide according to the present invention is a cell-penetrating peptide. In some embodiments, the peptide according to the present invention is able to attach to the cell membrane of an antigen presenting cell.

It is to be understood that when referring to the peptides ability to attach to and enter a cell, such as an antigen presenting cell, it may be with reference to the complete sequence of the peptide as well as a fragment thereof, such as a fragment representing an epitope. Accordingly, it may be the case that the entire sequence is essentially a non-cell-penetrating peptide, whereas a fragment of the peptide is able to efficiently enter a cell, such as an antigen presenting cell.

In some embodiments, the peptide according to the present invention is not a peptide or a dimeric peptide as specifically disclosed in International Patent Application No: PCT/DK2011/050460.

In some embodiments, the peptide according to the present invention is not a peptide or a dimeric peptide as specifically disclosed in International Patent Application No: PCT/EP2010/059513, such as one selected from:

CGGAKRRVVGAKRRVVGQREKRAV (SEQ ID NO:267)

CGGGDQQLLGGAEEEEIVGGIEEEGGERDRDR (SEQ ID NO:268)

CGGAKRRVVGAKRRVVGQREKR (SEQ ID NO:269)

CGGGDQQLLGGAEEEEIVGGIEEEGG (SEQ ID NO:270)

CGGAEEEVVGGDQQLL (SEQ ID NO:271)

GCGGAKRRVVGAKRRVV (SEQ ID NO:272)

GAKRRVVGCGGAKRRVVQREKRAGEREKRA (SEQ ID NO:273)

GKGGIEEEGGRDRDRGGEQDRDR (SEQ ID NO:274)

GAKRRVVGCGGAKRRVVQREKRAGEREKRA (SEQ ID NO:275)

GKGGIEEEGGERDRDRGGQDRDR (SEQ ID NO:276)

5 GAKRRVVGCGGAKRRVVEREKRAGQREKRA (SEQ ID NO:277)

GKGGIEEEGGQDRDRGGRDRDR (SEQ ID NO:278)

GAKRRVVGCGGAKRRVVEREKRAGQREKRA (SEQ ID NO:279)

GKGGIEEEGGEQDRDRGGERDRD (SEQ ID NO:280)

10 In some embodiments, the peptide according to the present invention is not a dimeric peptide selected from (The peptides are linked via the underlined amino acid):

CGGAKRRVVGAKRRVVGQREKRAV
|
CGGGDQQLLGAAEEIVGGIEEEGGERDRDR;

15 CGGAKRRVVGAKRRVVGQREKR
|
CGGGDQQLLGAAEEIVGGIEEEGG;

CGGAAEEVVGGDQQLL
|
20 GCGGAKRRVVGAKRRVV;

GAKRRVVGCGGAKRRVVQREKRAGEREKRA
|
25 GKGGIEEEGGRDRDRGGEQDRDR;

GAKRRVVGCGGAKRRVVQREKRAGEREKRA
|
GKGGIEEEGGERDRDRGGQDRDR;

30 GAKRRVVGCGGAKRRVVEREKRAGQREKRA
|
GKGGIEEEGGQDRDRGGRDRDR;

GAKRRVVGCGGAKRRVVEREKRAGQREKRA
|
35 GKGGIEEEGGEQDRDRGGERDRD;

CGGAKRRVVGAKRRVVGQREKRAV

|
CGGGDQQLLGGAAAAIVGGIEEEGG;

CGGAKRRVVGAKRRVVGQREKRAV
 |

5 GCGGAKRRVVGAKRRVV;

CGGAKRRVVGAKRRVVGQREKR
 |
CGGGDQQLLGGAAAAIVGGIEEEGGGERDRDR;

10 CGGAKRRVVGAKRRVVGQREKR
 |
GCGGAKRRVVGAKRRVV;

CGGAAAAVGGDQQLL
 |
CGGGDQQLLGGAAAAIVGGIEEEGGGERDRDR;

15 CGGAAAAVGGDQQLL
 |
CGGGDQQLLGGAAAAIVGGIEEEGG;

20 GAKRRVVGGCGGAKRRVVQREKRAGEREKRA
 |
GKGGIEEEGGQDRDRGGRDRDR;

GAKRRVVGGCGGAKRRVVQREKRAGEREKRA
 |
GKGGIEEEGGEQDRDRGGERDRD;

25 GAKRRVVGGCGGAKRRVVEREKRAGQREKRA
 |
GKGGIEEEGGDRDRRGGEQDRDR; or

30 GAKRRVVGGCGGAKRRVVEREKRAGQREKRA
 |
GKGGIEEEGGDRDRRGQDRDR.

35 In some embodiments Z^3 , and optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} consist of a sequence selected from
 GYIPLVGAPLG, GYLPVGAFIG, GYLPVGAFIG, NYVTGNIPG, NYATGNLPG, NYATGNLPG,
 VTGNIPGSTYS, IRNLGRVIETLTG, SRNLGKVIDTLTC, IRNLGRVIETLT, GGGQIIIGGNYLIP,
 GGGQIVGGVYLLP, LIFLARSALIV, LIFLARSALIL, LIFLARSALIL, SAYERMENIL, SAYERNIEVNIL,

TAYERNIeCNIL, IAYERMCNIL, IAYERMCNIL, LFFKCIYRLFKHGL, LFFKTITRLFBHGL,
 GLEPLVIAGILA, GSDPLVVAASIV, NLVPMVATV, NLVPMVATV, NIVPNieVVTA, PEVIPMFALS,
 FIIPXFTALSG, ALGPAATL, GPVVHLTL, LECVYCKQQLL, GVDFAFRDLC, GVFDYAFRDIN,
 GATPVDLLGA, GVTPAGLIGV, VARALAHGVRV, VIRVIAHGLRL, GITFSIFLIVS, CSFSIFLLAL,
 5 GCSFSIFLLAL, GITFSIYLIVS, LNIeGYIPLIGA, LMGYIPLVGA, LNIeGYIPLIGA, PBIGVRATB,
 GPRLGVRATR, GPRLGVRAT, RGSVAHKS, SALILRGSAHAK, FQTAAQRAMM, FQTAAQRAVNie,
 FQTVVQBA, FQTAAQRA, GPSTEGVPESM, LLSTEGVPNSNie, GSLVGLLHIVL, ASIVGILHLIL,
 NLVPMVATV, NIVPNieVVTA, TPQDLNMTLN, ALLYGATPYAIG, MMTACQGVG, GQAGDDFS,
 EVDFAFRDLC, GFAFRDLCIVY, GFAYRDINLAY, GALNLCLPM, and GALQIBLPL,
 10 IRNLGRVIETLTNIeGYIPLIGA, or a fragment or variant thereof.

In some embodiments Z^3 , and optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} consist of a sequence derived from an
 amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4,
 SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ
 ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16,
 15 SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID
 NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, SEQ ID NO:24, SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:27, SEQ
 ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:29, SEQ ID NO:30, SEQ ID NO:31, SEQ ID NO:32, SEQ ID NO:33,
 SEQ ID NO:34, SEQ ID NO:35, SEQ ID NO:36, SEQ ID NO:37, SEQ ID NO:38, SEQ ID
 NO:39, SEQ ID NO:40, SEQ ID NO:41, SEQ ID NO:42, SEQ ID NO:43, SEQ ID NO:44, SEQ
 20 ID NO:45, SEQ ID NO:46, SEQ ID NO:126, SEQ ID NO:198, SEQ ID NO:198, SEQ ID
 NO:200, SEQ ID NO:201, SEQ ID NO:202, SEQ ID NO:203, SEQ ID NO:204, and SEQ ID
 NO:205, or a fragment or variant thereof.

In some embodiments the peptide according to the invention is not a peptide selected from
 RRGYIPLVGAPLGBGRVARALAHGVRV, RGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV,
 25 RGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV, RRGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV,
 RRGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV, BRGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV,
 RRRGYIPLVGAPLGBRVARALAHGVRV, RGYIPLVGAPLGKKKVARALAHGVRV,
 RGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV, KKGYIPLVGAPLGKKVARALAHGVRV,
 WGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV, WWGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV,
 30 EEGYIPLVGAPLGEEVARALAHGVRV, GGGYIPLVGAPLGGGVARALAHGVRV,
 EEGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV, RRGYIPLVGAPLGLRRVARALAHGVRV,
 WWGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV, WWGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV,
 WWGYIPLVGAPLGRVARALAHGVRV, RGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV,
 RRGYIPLVGAPLGBRVARALAHGVRV, RRGYIPLVGAPLGBRVARALAHGVRV,
 35 GYIPLVGAPLGGVARALAHGVRV, WWGYIPLVGAPLRRVIRVIAHGLRL,
 GYIPLVGAPLGGVARALAHGVRV, RRGYIPLVGAPLGBGRVARALAHGVRV,
 RGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV, RGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV,

RRGYIPLVGAPLGRRVARALAHGVRV, RRGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV,
 BRGYIPLVGAPLGRRVARALAHGVRV, RRRGYIPLVGAPLGBRVARALAHGVRV,
 RGYIPLVGAPLGKKKVARALAHGVRV, RGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV,
 KKGYIPLVGAPLGKKVARALAHGVRV, WGYIPLVGAPLGRRVARALAHGVRV,
 5 WWGYIPLVGAPLGRRVARALAHGVRV, RRGYIPLVGAPLGLRRVARALAHGVRV,
 RRNYVTGNIPGBRGITFSIFLIVS, WWNYATGNLPGRRCSFSIFLLAL,
 WWNYVTGNIPGBRGITFSIFLIVS, WWNYVTGNIPGRRGITFSIFLIVS,
 RRNYATGNLPGRRGCSFSIFLLAL, RRVGTGNIPGSTYSGBRGITFSIYLIVS,
 RRIRNLGRVIETLTGBRLNleGYIPLIGA, RRSRNLGKVIDTLTCBRLMGYIPLVGA,
 10 SRNLGKVIDTLTCGFADLMGYIPLVGA, WWIRNLGRVIETLTRRLNleGYIPLIGA,
 WWSRNLGKVIDTLTCRRLMGYIPLVGA, RRGGGQIIGGNYLIPRBPBIGVRATB,
 GGGQIVGGVYLLPRRGPRLGVRATR, RRGGGQIVGGVYLLPRRGPRLGVRATR,
 WWGGGQIVGGVYLLPRRGPRLGVRAT, , BRLIFLARSALIVRGsvahks,
 EDLIFLARSALILRGsvahks, BRLIFLARSALILBGRSALILRGsvahk,
 15 SAYERM CNILKGKFQTAAQRAMM, SAYERNleVNILKGKFQTAAQRAVNle,
 BRTAYERNleCNILBRGRFQTVVQBA, BRIAYERM CNILLBRGKFQTAAQRA,
 IAYERM CNILKGKFQTAAQRA, LFFKCIYRLFHGLKRGpSTEGVPESM,
 BRRLFFKTITRFBHGLRRLSTEGVPNSNle, BRGLEPLVIAGILARRGSLVGLLHIVL,
 BRGSDPLVVAASIVRRASIVGILHLIL, , RNLVPMVATVRRNLVPMVATVB,
 20 RNLVPMVATVBRRNLVPMVATVB, RNIVPNleVVTARRNIVPNleVVTAB, ,
 PEVIPMFSALEGATPQDLNTMLN, RFII PXFTALSGRRALLYGATPYAIG,
 KALGPAATLEEMMTACQGVG, , RRGPVVHLTLRRRGQAGDDFS, RRGPVVHLTLRRRGQAGDDFS,
 RRGPVVHLTLRGRRGQAGDDFS, RRLECVYCKQQLRREVYDFAFRDLC,
 RRGVYDFAFRDLCRRGFAFRDLCIVYR, RRGVFDYAFRDINRRGFAYRDINLAYR,
 25 RRGATPVDLLGARRGALNLCLPMR, RRGVTPAGLIGVRRGALQIBLPLR,
 RGYLPAVGAPIGRRRVIRVIAHGLRLR, RRSRNLGKVIDTLTCRRLMGYIPLVGA,
 RRIRNLGRVIETLTNleGYIPLIGARRIRNLGRVIETLTNleGYIPLIGAR, or a fragment or variant thereof.

In some embodiments the peptide according to the invention is not a peptide consisting of a
 30 sequence selected from X¹-NYVTGNIPG-X³-GITFSIYLIVS; X¹-IRNLGRVIETLT-X³-
 LNleGYIPLIGA; X¹-GYLPAVGAPI-X³-VIRVIAHGLRL; X¹-GGGQIIGGNYLIP-X³-PBIGVRATB; X¹-
 NYATGNLPG-X³-GCSFSIFLLAL; X¹-SRNLGKVIDTLTC-X³-LMGYIPLVGA; X¹-GYIPLVGAPL-X³-
 VARALAHGVRV; X¹-GGGQIVGGVYLLP-X³-PRLGVRATR; X¹-LTFLVRSVLLI-X³-GSVLIVRGSLVH;
 X¹-TAYERNleCNIL-X³-GRFQTVVQBA; X¹-SDPLVVAASIV-X³-ASIVGILHLIL; X¹-LIFLARSALIL-X³-
 35 SALILRGsvah; X¹-IAYERM CNIL-X³-GKFQTAAQRA; and X¹-LEPLVIAGILA-X³-GSLVGLLHIVL; X¹-
 NLVPMVATV-X³-NLVPMATV; X¹-GYLPAVGAPIG-X³-VIRVIAHGLRL; X¹-IRNLGRVIETLTG-X³-
 LNleGYIPLIGA; X¹-GVYDFAFRDLC-X³-GFAFRDLCIVYR, X¹-GVFDYAFRDIN-X³-GFAYRDINLAYR,
 X¹-GATPVDLLGA-X³-GALNLCLPMR, X¹-GVTPAGLIGV-X³-GALQIBLPLR, and X¹-

IRNLGRVIETLTNLieGYIPLIGA- X^3 - IRNLGRVIETLTNLieGYIPLIGA; optionally with an X^5 in the C-terminal of the peptide wherein X^1 , X^3 and X^5 refers to X^1 , X^3 , and X^5 of formula II.

In some embodiments the peptide according to the invention is not a peptide consisting of a sequence selected from RRGYIPLVGAPLGBGRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:47),

- 5 RGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:48), RGYIPLVGAPLRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:49), RRGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:50), RRGYIPLVGAPLRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:51), BRGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:52), RRRGYIPLVGAPLGBRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:53), RGYIPLVGAPLGKKKVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:54), RGYIPLVGAPLRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:55), KKGYIPLVGAPLGKKKVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:56), WGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:57), WWGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:58), EEGYIPLVGAPLGEEVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:59), GGGYIPLVGAPLGGGVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:60), EEGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:61), RRGYIPLVGAPLGLRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:62), 15 WWGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:63), WWGYIPLVGAPLRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:64), WWGYIPLVGAPLGRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:65), RGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:66), RRGYLPVAGAPIGBRVIRVIAHGLRL (SEQ ID NO:67), RRGYIPLVGAPLGBRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:68), GYIPLVGAPLGGVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:69), WWGYLPVAGAPIRRVIRVIAHGLRL (SEQ ID NO:70), 20 GYIPLVGAPLGGVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:71), RRGYIPLVGAPLGBGRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:72), RGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:73), RGYIPLVGAPLRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:74), RRGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:75), RRGYIPLVGAPLRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:76), BRGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:77), RRRGYIPLVGAPLGBRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:78), RGYIPLVGAPLGKKKVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:79), RGYIPLVGAPLRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:80), KKGYIPLVGAPLGKKKVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:81), WGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:82), WWGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:83), RRGYIPLVGAPLGLRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:84), RRNYVTGNIPGBRGITFSIFLIVS (SEQ ID NO:85), 30 WWNYATGNLPGRRCFSIFLLAL (SEQ ID NO:86), WWNYVTGNIPGBRGITFSIFLIVS (SEQ ID NO:87), WWNYVTGNIPGRRGITFSIFLIVS (SEQ ID NO:88), RRNYATGNLPGRRCFSIFLLAL (SEQ ID NO:89), RRVGTGNIPGSTYSGBRGITFSIYLIVS (SEQ ID NO:90), RRIRNLGRVIETLTGBRLNleGYIPLIGA (SEQ ID NO:91), RRSRNLGKVIDTLTCBRLMGYIPLVGA (SEQ ID NO:92), SRNLGKVIDTLTCGFADLMGYIPLVGA (SEQ ID NO:93), 35 WWIRNLGRVIETLTRRLNleGYIPLIGA (SEQ ID NO:94), WWSRNLGKVIDTLTCRRLMGYIPLVGA (SEQ ID NO:95), RRGGGQIIGGNYLIPRBPBIGVRATB (SEQ ID NO:96), GGGQIVGGVYLLPRRGPRLGVRATR (SEQ ID NO:97), RRGGGQIVGGVYLLPRRGPRLGVRATR (SEQ ID NO:98), WWGGGQIVGGVYLLPRRGPRLGVRAT (SEQ ID NO:99), BRLIFLARSALIVRGSVAHKS

(SEQ ID NO:100), EDLIFLARSALILRGSAHKS (SEQ ID NO:101),
 BRLIFLARSALILBGRSALILRGSAHK (SEQ ID NO:102), SAYERMCNILKGKFQTAAQRAMM (SEQ
 ID NO:103), SAYERNleVNILKGKFQTAAQRAVNle (SEQ ID NO:104),
 BRTAYERNleCNILBRGRFQTVVQBA (SEQ ID NO:105), BRIAYERMCNILLBRGKFQTAAQRA (SEQ
 5 ID NO:106), IAYERMCNILKGKFQTAAQRA (SEQ ID NO:107),
 LFFKCIYRLFKHGLKRGPESTEGVPESM (SEQ ID NO:108),
 BRRLFFKTITRLFBHGLRRLSTEGVPNSNle (SEQ ID NO:109), BRGLEPLVIAGILARRGSLVGLLHIVL
 (SEQ ID NO:110), BRGSDPLVVAASIVRRASIVGILHLIL (SEQ ID NO:111),
 RNLVPMVATVRRNLVPMVATVB (SEQ ID NO:112), RNLVPMVATVBRRNLVPMVATVB (SEQ ID
 10 NO:113), RNIVPNleVVTARRNIVPNleVVTAB (SEQ ID NO:114), PEVPMFSALSEGATPQDLNTMLN
 (SEQ ID NO:115), RFIPXFTALSGGRRALLYGATPYAIG (SEQ ID NO:116),
 KALGPAATLEEMMTACQGVG (SEQ ID NO:117), RRGPVVHLTLRRRGQAGDDFS (SEQ ID
 NO:118), RRGPVVHLTLRRRGQAGDDFS (SEQ ID NO:119), RRGPVVHLTLRGRRGQAGDDFS
 (SEQ ID NO:120), RRLECVCYCKQQLLRREVYDFAFRDLC (SEQ ID NO:121),
 15 RRGVYDFAFRDLCRRGFAFRDLCIVYR (SEQ ID NO:122), RRGVFDYAFRDINRRGFAYRDINLAYR
 (SEQ ID NO:123), RRGATPVDLLGARRGALNLCLPMR (SEQ ID NO:124),
 RRGVTPAGLIGVRRGALQIBLPLR (SEQ ID NO:125), RGYLPAVGAPIGRRRVIRVIAHGLRLR (SEQ
 ID NO:196), RRSRNLGKVIDTLTCRRLMGYIPLVGA (SEQ ID NO:197), and
 RRIRNLGRVIETLTNleGYIPLIGARRIRNLGRVIETLTNleGYIPLIGAR (SEQ ID NO:199), or a
 20 fragment or variant thereof.

In some embodiments the peptide according to the invention is not a peptide consisting of a
 sequence selected from X^1 -NYVTGNIPG- X^3 -GITFSIYLIVS; X^1 -IRNLGRVIETLT- X^3 -
 LNleGYIPLIGA; X^1 -GYLPAVGAPI- X^3 -VIRVIAHGLRL; X^1 -GGGQIIGGNYLIP- X^3 -PBIGVRATB; X^1 -
 NYATGNLPG- X^3 -GCSFSIFLLAL; X^1 -SRNLGKVIDTLTC- X^3 -LMGYIPLVGA; X^1 -GYIPLVGAPL- X^3 -
 25 VARALAHGVRV; X^1 -GGGQIVGGVYLLP- X^3 -PRLGVRATR; X^1 -LTFLVRSVLLI- X^3 -GSVLIVRGSLVH;
 X^1 -TAYERNleCNIL- X^3 -GRFQTVVQBA; X^1 -SDPLVVAASIV- X^3 -ASIVGILHLIL; X^1 -LIFLARSALIL- X^3 -
 SALILRGSAH; X^1 -IAYERM CNIL- X^3 -GKFQTAAQRA; and X^1 -LEPLVIAGILA- X^3 -GSLVGLLHIVL; X^1 -
 NLVPMVATV- X^3 -NLVPMATV; X^1 -GYLPAVGAPIG- X^3 -VIRVIAHGLRL; X^1 -IRNLGRVIETLTG- X^3 -
 LNleGYIPLIGA; X^1 -GVYDFAFRDLC- X^3 -GFAFRDLCIVYR, X^1 -GVFDYAFRDIN- X^3 -GFAYRDINLAYR,
 30 X^1 -GATPVDLLGA- X^3 -GALNLCLPMR, X^1 -GVTPAGLIGV- X^3 -GALQIBLPLR, and X^1 -
 IRNLGRVIETLTNleGYIPLIGA- X^3 -IRNLGRVIETLTNleGYIPLIGA; optionally with an X^5 in the C-
 terminal of the peptide, wherein X^1 and X^3 and X^5 refers to X^1 , X^3 , and X^5 of formula II.

In some embodiments the peptide comprises one or more cysteine.

In some embodiments the peptide contain intramolecular bonds, such as intramolecular
 35 disulfide (S-S) bonds between two cys residues.

In other embodiments the peptide contains intramolecular bonds, such as in the form of a acylal moiety (COO-CH₂-OOC, COO-CHR-OOC or COO-CR₂-OOC).

In some embodiments the peptide according to the present invention is not more than 58 amino acids, such as not more than 56, 54, 52, 50, 48, 46, 44, 42, 40, 38, 36, 34, 32, 30,
5 28, 26, 24, 22, 20, 18 amino acid residues.

In some embodiments an isolated peptide according to the present invention is not a peptide consisting of a sequence of X² or X⁴ as defined in table 1, table 2, or table 8.

In some embodiments an isolated peptide according to the present invention comprises a sequence of X² and/or X⁴ as defined in table 1, table 2, table 5, or a fragment thereof.

10 In some embodiments the dimer peptide according to the invention consist of two identical peptide monomers.

In some embodiments the immunogenic composition according to the invention is in the form of a vaccine composition.

In some embodiments, the peptide of the invention comprises at most 60, at most 59, at
15 most 58, at most 57, at most 56, at most 55, at most 54, at most 53, at most 52, at most 51, at most 50, at most 49, at most 48, at most 47, at most 46, at most 45, at most 44, at most 43, at most 42, at most 41, at most 40, at most 39, at most 38, at most 37, at most 36, at most 35, at most 34, at most 33, at most 32, at most 31, at most 30, at most 29, at most 28, at most 27, at most 26, at most 25, at most 24, at most 23, at most 22, at most
20 21, at most 20, at most 19, at most 18 amino acids.

In some embodiments, the peptide of the invention comprises at least 18, at least 19, at least 20, at least 21, at least 22, at least 23, at least 24, at least 25, at least 26, at least 27, at least 28, at least 29, at least 30, at least 31, at least 32, at least 33, at least 34, at least 35 at least 36, at least 37, at least 38, at least 39, at least 40, at least 41, at least 42, at
25 least 43, at least 44, at least 45, at least 46, at least 47, at least 48, at least 49, at least 50, at least 51, at least 52, at least 53, at least 54, at least 55, at least 56, at least 57, at least 58, at least 59, at least 60 amino acid residues.

In some embodiments, the peptide of the invention consists of 18 amino acid residues or 19 amino acid residues or 20 amino acid residues or 21 amino acid residues or 22 amino acid
30 residues or 23 amino acid residues or 24 amino acid residues or 25 amino acid residues or 26 amino acid residues or 27 amino acid residues or 28 amino acid residues or 29 amino acid

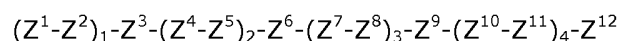
residues or 30 amino acid residues or 31 amino acid residues or 32 amino acid residues or 33 amino acid residues or 34 amino acid residues or 35 amino acid residues or 36 amino acid residues or 37 amino acid residues or 38 amino acid residues or 39 amino acid residues or 40 amino acid residues or 41 amino acid residues or 42 amino acid residues or 43 amino acid residues or 44 amino acid residues or 45 amino acid residues or 46 amino acid residues or 47 amino acid residues or 48 amino acid residues or 49 amino acid residues or 50 amino acid residues or 51 amino acid residues or 52 amino acid residues or 53 amino acid residues or 54 amino acid residues or 55 amino acid residues or 56 amino acid residues or 57 amino acid residues or 58 amino acid residues or 59 amino acid residues or 60 amino acid residues.

- 10 In some embodiments the peptide of the invention does not consist of the following sequence RFIIP[Nle]FTALSGGRRALLYGATPYAIG, where Nle denotes a nor-leucine.

In some embodiments Z^3 , and optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} is not derived from HIV.

Numbered embodiments according to the invention:

1. An isolated monomeric peptide comprising the following structure



wherein Z^1 , Z^4 , and optional Z^7 and Z^{10} defines a linear sequence of one, two, or three arginine residues or derivatives thereof optionally followed by a glycine (G) or an alanine (A); Z^2 , Z^5 , Z^8 and Z^{11} defines an optional amino acid selected from cysteine (C), lysine (K), aspartic acid (D), asparagine (N), glutamic acid (E), glutamine (Q), 2,3-Diaminopropionic acid (Dpr), tryptophan (W), or tyrosine (Y) or a derivative thereof; Z^3 , and optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} defines any chemical moiety, such as a linear amino acid sequence.

2. The isolated monomeric peptide according to embodiment 1, wherein said chemical moiety of Z^3 , and optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} is a linear amino acid sequence of 8-30 amino acids or a compound with or without immune modulating properties.

3. The isolated monomeric peptide according to embodiments 1 or 2, wherein Z^2 defines an amino acid selected from cysteine (C), lysine (K), aspartic acid (D), asparagine (N), glutamic acid (E), glutamine (Q), 2,3-Diaminopropionic acid (Dpr), tryptophan (W), or tyrosine (Y) or a derivative thereof.

4. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-3, wherein Z^5 defines an amino acid selected from cysteine (C), lysine (K), aspartic acid (D), asparagine (N), glutamic acid (E), glutamine (Q), 2,3-Diaminopropionic acid (Dpr), tryptophan (W), or tyrosine (Y) or a derivative thereof.
- 5 5. The isolated monomeric peptide according to embodiments 1-4, wherein Z^8 defines an amino acid selected from cysteine (C), lysine (K), aspartic acid (D), asparagine (N), glutamic acid (E), glutamine (Q), 2,3-Diaminopropionic acid (Dpr), tryptophan (W), or tyrosine (Y) or a derivative thereof.
- 10 6. The isolated monomeric peptide according to embodiments 1-5, wherein Z^{11} defines an amino acid selected from cysteine (C), lysine (K), aspartic acid (D), asparagine (N), glutamic acid (E), glutamine (Q), 2,3-Diaminopropionic acid (Dpr), tryptophan (W), or tyrosine (Y) or a derivative thereof.
- 15 7. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-6, wherein Z^7 defines a linear sequence of one, two, or three arginine residues or derivatives thereof optionally followed by a glycine (G) or an alanine (A).
8. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-7, wherein Z^{10} defines a linear sequence of one, two, or three arginine residues or derivatives thereof optionally followed by a glycine (G) or an alanine (A).
- 20 9. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-8, wherein Z^6 defines any chemical moiety, such as a linear amino acid sequence.
10. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-9, wherein Z^9 defines any chemical moiety, such as a linear amino acid sequence.
11. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-10, wherein Z^{12} defines any chemical moiety, such as a linear amino acid sequence.
- 25 12. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-11, wherein Z^1 , Z^4 , and optional Z^7 and Z^{10} is followed by a glycine (G) or an alanine (A).
13. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-12, wherein Z^3 , and optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} is a linear amino acid sequence of 8-30 amino acids derived from an antigen with more than 40%, such as more than 45%, such as more than 50%, such

as more than 55%, such as more than 60%, such as more than 65%, such as more than 70%, such as more than 75%, such as more than 80%, such as more than 85%, such as more than 90%, such as more than 95%, such as more than 96%, such as more than 97%, such as more than 98%, such as more than 99%, such as 100% sequence identity to a specific natural antigen.

14. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-13, wherein Z^3 , and optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} defines a specific natural antigen of a protein or peptide sequence derived from a disease antigen, such as an infectious agent, such as bacteria, virus, parasite, fungus, or cancer antigens such as oncogene (lung, stomach, breast cancer) or an antigen causing an autoimmune disease such as diabetes, multiple sclerosis (MS), celiac disease, Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME), psoriasis, and/or Crohn's Disease.

15. The isolated monomeric peptide according to embodiment 14, wherein said specific natural antigen is a viral protein, such as a structural protein, such as a capsid protein, a regulatory protein, an enzymatic protein, and a proteolytic protein.

16. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 14-15, wherein said viral protein is selected from a core protein or an envelope protein, of a virus selected from the Hepatitis C virus, influenza virus, such as an M2 protein, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), cytomegalovirus (CMV), and Human papillomavirus (HPV).

17. The isolated monomeric peptide according to embodiment 16, wherein said viral protein is a viral protein of Hepatitis C virus selected from any one HCV consensus sequence of a specific genotype, such as 1, such as subtypes 1a and 1b, genotype 2, such as 2a and 2b, genotype 3, such as 3a, genotype 4, genotype 5, and genotype 6.

18. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-17, wherein a sequence of amino acids defined by $(Z^1-Z^2)_1-Z^3-(Z^4-Z^5)_2-Z^6-(Z^7-Z^8)_3-Z^9-(Z^{10}-Z^{11})_4-Z^{12}$ is not found in the native sequence of a natural antigen.

19. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-18, which monomeric peptide is of 10-60 amino acids, such as of 11-60 amino acids, such as of 12-60 amino acids, such as of 13-60 amino acids, such as of 14-60 amino acids, such as of 15-60 amino acids, such as of 16-60 amino acids, such as of 17-60 amino acids, such as of 18-60 amino acids, such as of 19-60 amino acids, such as of 20-60 amino acids, such as of 21-60 amino acids, such as of 22-60 amino acids, such as of 23-60 amino acids, such as of 24-60 amino acids, such as of 25-60 amino acids, such as of 26-60 amino acids, such as of 27-60 amino acids, such as of 28-60 amino acids, such as of 29-60 amino acids, such as of 30-60

amino acids, such as of 31-60 amino acids, such as of 32-60 amino acids, such as of 33-60 amino acids, such as of 34-60 amino acids, such as of 35-60 amino acids, such as of 36-60 amino acids, such as of 37-60 amino acids, such as of 38-60 amino acids, such as of 39-60 amino acids, such as of 40-60 amino acids, such as of 42-60 amino acids, such as of 44-60 amino acids, such as of 46-60 amino acids, such as of 48-60 amino acids, such as of 50-60 amino acids, such as of 52-60 amino acids, such as of 54-60 amino acids, such as of 56-60 amino acids, such as of 58-60 amino acids.

20. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-19, which monomeric peptide is of 10-60 amino acids, such as 10-58 amino acids, such as 10-56 amino acids, such as 10-54 amino acids, such as 10-52 amino acids, such as 10-50 amino acids, such as 10-48 amino acids, such as 10-46 amino acids, such as 10-44 amino acids, such as 10-42 amino acids, such as 10-40 amino acids, such as 10-39 amino acids, such as 10-38 amino acids, such as 10-37 amino acids, such as 10-36 amino acids, such as 10-35 amino acids, such as 10-34 amino acids, such as 10-33 amino acids, such as 10-32 amino acids, such as 10-31 amino acids, such as 10-30 amino acids, such as 10-29 amino acids, such as 10-28 amino acids, such as 10-27 amino acids, such as 10-26 amino acids, such as 10-25 amino acids, such as 10-24 amino acids, such as 10-23 amino acids, such as 10-22 amino acids, such as 10-21 amino acids, such as 10-20 amino acids, such as 10-19 amino acids, such as 10-18 amino acids, such as 10-17 amino acids, such as 10-16 amino acids, such as 10-15 amino acids, such as 10-14 amino acids, such as 10-13 amino acids, such as 10-12 amino acids, such as 10-11 amino acids.

21. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-20, which monomeric peptide consist of not more than about 55 amino acids, such as not more than about 50 amino acids, such as not more than about 45 amino acids, such as not more than about 40 amino acids, such as not more than about 38 amino acids, such as not more than about 36 amino acids, such as not more than about 34 amino acids, such as not more than about 32 amino acids, such as not more than about 30 amino acids, such as not more than about 28 amino acids, such as not more than about 26 amino acids, such as not more than about 24 amino acids, such as not more than about 22 amino acids, such as not more than about 20 amino acids, such as not more than about 18 amino acids, such as not more than about 16 amino acids, such as not more than about 14 amino acids, such as not more than about 12 amino acids, such as not more than about 10 amino acids.

22. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-21, which monomeric peptide consist of at least about 10 amino acids, such as at least about 12 amino acids, such as at least about 14 amino acids, such as at least about 16 amino acids, such as at least about 18 amino acids, such as at least about 20 amino acids, such as at least about

22 amino acids, such as at least about 24 amino acids, such as at least about 26 amino acids, such as at least about 28 amino acids, such as at least about 30 amino acids, such as at least about 32 amino acids, such as at least about 34 amino acids, such as at least about 36 amino acids, such as at least about 38 amino acids, such as at least about 40 amino acids, such as at least about 45 amino acids, such as at least about 50 amino acids, such as at least about 55 amino acids, such as at least about 60.

23. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-22, wherein the overall net charge of $(Z^1-Z^2)_1-Z^3-(Z^4-Z^5)_2-Z^6-(Z^7-Z^8)_3-Z^9-(Z^{10}-Z^{11})_4-Z^{12}$ is equal to or above 0, such as above 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5.

24. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-23, wherein said monomeric peptide is capable of inducing a humoral immune response.

25. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-24, wherein said monomeric peptide comprises at least one amino acid selected from a Cys, a Lys, an Asp, and a Glu residue, or derivatives thereof.

26. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-25, which monomeric peptide contain one or more intramolecular bond, such as one or more Cys-Cys bond.

27. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-26, which monomeric peptide has delayed proteolytic degradation in the N-terminal, such as by incorporation of the first 1, 2, or 3 amino acids in the N-terminal in the D-form, or by incorporation of the first 1, 2, or 3 amino acids in the N-terminal in beta or gamma form.

28. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiment 1-27, wherein said peptide is demonstrated to translocate across a plasma membrane in the assay based on biotinylation of peptides as described in example 5.

29. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-28, wherein said peptide is capable of inducing a T lymphocyte response.

30. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-29, wherein the net charge of Z^3 , and/or optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} is below or equal to 0.

31. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-30, wherein the net charge of Z^3 is below or equal to 0; and wherein the net charge of Z^6 and/or optional Z^9 and Z^{12} is above or equal to 1.
32. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-31, wherein the net charge of Z^3 , and/or optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} are above or equal to 1.
33. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-32, wherein the net charge of Z^3 is above or equal to 1; and wherein the net charge of Z^6 and/or optional Z^9 and Z^{12} is below or equal to 0.
34. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-33, wherein the peptide comprises one or more cysteine.
35. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-34, wherein the N- and/or C-terminal amino acid in Z^3 , and/or optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} is a hydrophilic or polar amino acid.
36. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-35, wherein Z^3 , and/or optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} defines a sequence of 8-25 amino acids, such as 8-20 amino acids, such as 8-15 amino acids.
37. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-36, wherein Z^3 , and/or optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} defines a sequence of less than 25, such as less than 24, 23, 22, 21, 20, 19, 18, 17, 16, 15, 14, 13, 12, 11, 10, 9, 8, 7 or 6 amino acids.
38. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-37, wherein Z^3 , and/or optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} defines a sequence of more than 8, such as more than 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29 amino acids.
39. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-38, which does not consist of the following sequence RFIIP[Nle]FTALSGGRRALLYGATPYAIG, where Nle denotes a nor-leucine.
40. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-39, wherein Z^3 , and/or optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} is not derived from HIV.

41. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-40, wherein Z^3 , and/or optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} is a linear sequence of less than 12 amino acids.
42. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-41, wherein Z^3 , and/or optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} is a linear sequence of less than 12 amino acids.
- 5 43. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-42, wherein Z^3 , and/or optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} do not contain nor-leucine.
44. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-43, wherein Z^3 , and/or optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} do not contain nor-leucine.
45. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-44, wherein Z^3 , and/or optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} only contains natural amino acids.
- 10 46. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-45, wherein Z^3 , and/or optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} only contains natural amino acids.
47. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-46, wherein Z^3 , and/or optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} only contains natural amino acids if derived from HIV.
- 15 48. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-47, wherein Z^3 , and/or optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} is derived from HCV, CMV, HPV, Influenza, adenoviruses, herpesviruses, or picornaviruses.
49. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-48, wherein Z^1 is as defined in any one of table 3, table 4, table 5, or table 7, such as any one selected from R, RR, RRR, RG, RRG and RRRG.
- 20 50. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-49, wherein Z^2 is as defined in any one of table 3, table 4, table 5, or table 7, such as any one selected from Dpr(Aoa), C, K, Lys(Me), D, E, Dpr(Ser).
51. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-50, wherein Z^3 is as defined in any one of table 3, table 4, table 5, or table 7, such as any one selected from GGQLIGGIYLIPG (SEQ ID NO:313), VITYSIFLIVS (SEQ ID NO:314), TANWARVIS (SEQ ID NO:315), GYLPAVGAPI (SEQ ID NO:316), NIVPZVVT A (SEQ ID NO:317), VTPADLIGA (SEQ ID NO:318), PRPEGYTLFF (SEQ ID NO:319), LPYPRGYTLFV (SEQ ID NO:320), ETILT PRDV (SEQ
- 25

ID NO:321), SSTSPVYDL (SEQ ID NO:322), TAYERZCNIL (SEQ ID NO:323), TVIGASZIPLL (SEQ ID NO:324), AAFEEZXITS (SEQ ID NO:325), GLEPLVIAGILA (SEQ ID NO:326), TAFLVRNVA (SEQ ID NO:327), TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN (SEQ ID NO:328), TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS (SEQ ID NO:329), LECVYCKQQLL (SEQ ID NO:330), GVDYFAFRDLC (SEQ ID NO:331),
 5 GVDYAFRDIN (SEQ ID NO:332), and VDIRTLEDLL (SEQ ID NO:333).

52. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-51, wherein Z⁴ is as defined in any one of table 3, table 4, table 5, or table 7, such as any one selected from R, RR, RRR, RG, RRG and RRRG.

10 53. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-52, wherein Z⁵ is as defined in any one of table 3, table 4, table 5, or table 7, such as any one selected from Dpr(Aoa), C, K, Lys(Me), D, E, Dpr(Ser).

15 54. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-53, wherein Z⁶ is as defined in any one of table 3, table 4, table 5, or table 7, such as any one selected from EVDYFAFRDLC (SEQ ID NO:334), GFAFRDLCIVY (SEQ ID NO:335), GFAYRDINLAY (SEQ ID NO:336), GTLGIVCPIG (SEQ ID NO:337), GLEPLVIAGILA (SEQ ID NO:338), TPIXQDWENRAN (SEQ ID NO:339), VAFEDLXZZSFI (SEQ ID NO:340), RFQTVVQBA (SEQ ID NO:341), GSLVGLLHIVL (SEQ ID NO:342), SIARSVTIZXASVVH (SEQ ID NO:343), TPTRQEWDCRIS (SEQ ID NO:344), TPTRQEW DARIS (SEQ ID NO:345), TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEW (SEQ ID NO:346), IGD LIVAQV (SEQ ID NO:347), QYNPVAVZF (SEQ ID NO:348), GYTLFFTS (SEQ ID NO:349), GYTLFVSD (SEQ ID NO:350), NTLZTPRDV (SEQ ID NO:351), SSTSPVYNL (SEQ ID NO:352), VITFSIYLIVS (SEQ ID NO:353), GGNVIGGIYZIPR (SEQ ID NO:354), ANWAKVIL (SEQ ID NO:355), VIRVIAHGLRL (SEQ ID NO:356), and IGD LIVQAV (SEQ ID NO:478).

20

25 55. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-54, wherein Z⁷ is as defined in any one of table 3, table 4, table 5, or table 7, such as any one selected from R, RR, RRR, RG, RRG and RRRG.

56. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-55, wherein Z⁸ is as defined in any one of table 3, table 4, table 5, or table 7, such as any one selected from Dpr(Aoa), C, K, Lys(Me), D, E, Dpr(Ser).

30 57. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-56, wherein Z⁹ is as defined in any one of table 3, table 4, table 5, or table 7, such as NWAKVI.

58. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-57, which peptide consist of $(Z^1-Z^2)_1-Z^3-(Z^4-Z^5)_2-Z^6-(Z^7-Z^8)_3-Z^9$ as defined in any one of table 3, table 4, table 5, or table 7, such as any one selected from RRGGLIGGIYLIPGRRVITFSIYLIVS (SEQ ID NO:357), RRRGGLIGGIYLIPGRRVITFSIYLIVS (SEQ ID NO:358), RRGGLIGGIYLIPGRRRVTFSIYLIVS (SEQ ID NO:359), RRGGLIGGIYLIPGRRVITFSIYLIVSR (SEQ ID NO:360), RRGGLIGGIYLIPGRRVITFSIYLIVSRR (SEQ ID NO:361), RRVITYSIFLIVSRRGGNVIGGIYZIPR (SEQ ID NO:362), RRRVITYSIFLIVSRRGGNVIGGIYZIPR (SEQ ID NO:363), RRVITYSIFLIVSRRRGGNVIGGIYZIPR (SEQ ID NO:364), RRRVITYSIFLIVSRRRGGNVIGGIYZIPR (SEQ ID NO:365), RRG TANWARVISRANWAKVILRNWAKVI (SEQ ID NO:366),
- 10 RGTANWARVISRRANWAKVILRNWAKVI (SEQ ID NO:367), RGTANWARVISRANWAKVILRNWAKVI (SEQ ID NO:368), RGTANWARVISRGANWAKVILRNWAKVI (SEQ ID NO:369), RRG TANWARVISRANWARVILRNWAKVI (SEQ ID NO:370), RGTANWARVISRRANWARVILRNWAKVI (SEQ ID NO:371),
- 15 RGTANWARVISRANWARVILRNWAKVI (SEQ ID NO:372), RGTANWARVISRGANWARVILRNWAKVI (SEQ ID NO:373), RGYLPAVGAPIRRRVIRVIAHGLRLR (SEQ ID NO:374), RGYLPAVGAPIRRRVIRVIAHGLRLR (SEQ ID NO:375), RRGYLPVAVGAPIRRRVIRVIAHGLRLR (SEQ ID NO:376), RRGYLPVAVGAPIRRRVIRVIAHGLRLR (SEQ ID NO:377), RGYLPAVGAPIRRRVIRVIAHGLRLR (SEQ ID NO:378), RGYLPAVGAPIRRRVIRVIAHGLRLR (SEQ ID NO:379), RGYLPAVGAPIRRRVIRVIAHGLRLR (SEQ ID NO:380),
- 20 RGNIVPZVVTARRIGDLIVAQV (SEQ ID NO:381), RRNIVPZVVTARRIGDLIVAQV (SEQ ID NO:382), RRRNIVPZVVTARRIGDLIVAQV (SEQ ID NO:383), RRNIVPZVVTARRIGDLIVAQV (SEQ ID NO:384), RGVTPADLIGARRQYNPVAVZF (SEQ ID NO:385), RRVTPADLIGARRQYNPVAVZF (SEQ ID NO:386), RRRVTPADLIGARRQYNPVAVZF (SEQ ID NO:387), RRVTPADLIGARRRQYNPVAVZF (SEQ ID NO:388), RRGPRPEGYTLFFRGYTLFFTSR (SEQ ID NO:389), RGP RPEGYTLFFRRGYTLFFTSR (SEQ ID NO:390), RRGPRPEGYTLFFRRGYTLFFTSR (SEQ ID NO:391), RRGPRPEGYTLFFRRRGYTLFFTSR (SEQ ID NO:392), RRRGPRPEGYTLFFRRGYTLFFTSR (SEQ ID NO:393), RGLPYPRGYTLFVRRGYTLFVSDR (SEQ ID NO:394), RRGLPYPRGYTLFVRRGYTLFVSDR (SEQ ID NO:395),
- 30 RRGLPYPRGYTLFVRRRGYTLFVSDR (SEQ ID NO:396), RRRGLPYPRGYTLFVRRGYTLFVSDR (SEQ ID NO:397), RRGLPYPRGYTLFVRRRGYTLFVSDR (SEQ ID NO:398), RRGETILTPRDVRNTLZTPRDVR (SEQ ID NO:399), RGETILTPRDVRRNTLZTPRDVR (SEQ ID NO:400), RGETILTPRDVRNTLZTPRDVR (SEQ ID NO:401), RGETILTPRDVRGNTLZTPRDVR (SEQ ID NO:402), RRSSTSPVYDLRRSSTSPVYNLR (SEQ ID NO:403),
- 35 RRSSTSPVYDLRRSSTSPVYNLR (SEQ ID NO:404), RRRSSTSPVYDLRRSSTSPVYNLR (SEQ ID NO:405), RRRSSTSPVYDLRRSSTSPVYNLR (SEQ ID NO:406), RRTAYERZCNILRRGLEPLVIAGILA (SEQ ID NO:407), RRTAYERZCNILRRGLEPLVIAGILA (SEQ ID NO:408), RRTAYERZCNILRRRGLEPLVIAGILA (SEQ ID NO:409), RRTAYERZCNILRRRGLEPLVIAGILARR (SEQ ID NO:410), RRTAYERZCNILRRRGLEPLVIAGILARR

(SEQ ID NO:411), RRTVIGASZIPLLRGTPIXQDWENRAN (SEQ ID NO:412),
RRRTVIGASZIPLLRGTPIXQDWENRAN (SEQ ID NO:413), RRTVIGASZIPLLRRGTPIXQDWENRAN
(SEQ ID NO:414), RRRTVIGASZIPLLRRGTPIXQDWENRAN (SEQ ID NO:415),
RRRTVIGASZIPLLRRGTPIXQDWENRANR (SEQ ID NO:416), RRAAFEEZXITSRRVAFEDLXZZSFI
5 (SEQ ID NO:417), RRRAAFEEZXITSRRVAFEDLXZZSFI (SEQ ID NO:418),
RRRAAFEEZXITSRRGVAFEDLXZZSFI (SEQ ID NO:419), RRRAAFEEZXITSRRRVAFEDLXZZSFI
(SEQ ID NO:420), RRRAAFEEZXITSRRRVAFEDLXZZSFIGR (SEQ ID NO:421),
RRTAYERZCNILRRGRFQTVVQBA (SEQ ID NO:422), RRTAYERZCNILRRGRFQTVVQBAR (SEQ ID
NO:423), RTAYERZCNILRRGRFQTVVQBAR (SEQ ID NO:424), RRTAYERZCNILRRGRFQTVVQBA
10 (SEQ ID NO:425), BRGLEPLVIAGILARRGSLVGLLHIVL (SEQ ID NO:426),
RRGLEPLVIAGILARRGSLVGLLHIVL (SEQ ID NO:427), RRGLEPLVIAGILARRGSLVGLLHIVLR
(SEQ ID NO:428), RRGLEPLVIAGILARRRGSLVGLLHIVL (SEQ ID NO:429),
RRGLEPLVIAGILARRRGSLVGLLHIVLR (SEQ ID NO:430), RTAFLVRNVARSIARSVTIZXASVVH
(SEQ ID NO:431), RTAFLVRNVARRSIARSVTIZXASVVH (SEQ ID NO:432),
15 RRTAFLVRNVARSIARSVTIZXASVVH (SEQ ID NO:433), RRTAFLVRNVARRSIARSVTIZXASVVH
(SEQ ID NO:434), RRTAFLVRNVARRSIARSVTIZXASVVHR (SEQ ID NO:435),
RRTAFLVRNVARRSIARSVTIZXASVVHRR (SEQ ID NO:436),
RGDpr(Aoa)TPI(Har)QDWGNRANRGTPTRQEWD CRIS (SEQ ID NO:437),
RGDpr(Aoa)TPI(Har)QDWGNRANRGTPTRQEWDARIS (SEQ ID NO:438),
20 RGTPPI(Har)QDWGNRANRGTPTRQEWD CRIS (SEQ ID NO:439),
RGTPPI(Har)QDWGNRANRGTPTRQEWDARIS (SEQ ID NO:440),
RGCTPI(Har)QDWGNRANRGTPTRQEWD CRIS (SEQ ID NO:441),
RGCTPI(Har)QDWGNRANRGTPTRQEWDARIS (SEQ ID NO:442),
RGKTPI(Har)QDWGNRANRGTPTRQEWD CRIS (SEQ ID NO:443),
25 RGKTPI(Har)QDWGNRANRGTPTRQEWDARIS (SEQ ID NO:444),
RGLys(Me)TPI(Har)QDWGNRANRGTPTRQEWD CRIS (SEQ ID NO:445),
RGLys(Me)TPI(Har)QDWGNRANRGTPTRQEWDARIS (SEQ ID NO:446),
RGDTPI(Har)QDWGNRANRGTPTRQEWD CRIS (SEQ ID NO:447),
RGDTPI(Har)QDWGNRANRGTPTRQEWDARIS (SEQ ID NO:448),
30 RGETPI(Har)QDWGNRANRGTPTRQEWD CRIS (SEQ ID NO:449),
RGETPI(Har)QDWGNRANRGTPTRQEWDARIS (SEQ ID NO:450),
RGDpr(Ser)TPT(Har)NGWDVKLSRGTPPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQE W (SEQ ID NO:451),
RGTPPT(Har)NGWDVKLSRGTPPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQE W (SEQ ID NO:452),
RGKTPT(Har)NGWDVKLSRGTPPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQE W (SEQ ID NO:453),
35 RGCTPT(Har)NGWDVKLSRGTPPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQE W (SEQ ID NO:454),
RGLys(Me)TPT(Har)NGWDVKLSRGTPPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQE W (SEQ ID NO:455),
RGDTPT(Har)NGWDVKLSRGTPPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQE W (SEQ ID NO:456),
RGETPT(Har)NGWDVKLSRGTPPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQE W (SEQ ID NO:457),
RRLECVYCKQQLLRREVYDFAFRDLC (SEQ ID NO:458), RRLECVYCKQQLRRRGEVYDFAFRDLC

(SEQ ID NO:459), RRRLECVYCKQQLRRRGEVYDFAFRDLC (SEQ ID NO:460),
 RRRLECVYCKQQLRRRGEVYDFAFRDLC (SEQ ID NO:461),
 RRRGLECVYCKQQLRRRGEVYDFAFRDLC (SEQ ID NO:462),
 RRGVYDFAFRDLCRRGFAFRDLCIVYR (SEQ ID NO:463), RRGVYDFAFRDLCRRRGGFAFRDLCIVY
 5 (SEQ ID NO:464), RRRGVYDFAFRDLCRRGGFAFRDLCIVYR (SEQ ID NO:465),
 RRRGVYDFAFRDLCRRRGGFAFRDLCIVY (SEQ ID NO:466),
 RRRGGVYDFAFRDLCRRRGGFAFRDLCIVYR (SEQ ID NO:467),
 RRGVFDYAFRDINRRGFAYRDINLAYR (SEQ ID NO:468), RRGVYDFAFRDLCRRRGGFAFRDLCIVY
 (SEQ ID NO:469), RRRGVYDFAFRDLCRRGGFAFRDLCIVYR (SEQ ID NO:470),
 10 RRRGVYDFAFRDLCRRRGGFAFRDLCIVY (SEQ ID NO:471),
 RRRGGVYDFAFRDLCRRRGGFAFRDLCIVYR (SEQ ID NO:472), RRVDIRTLEDLLRRGTLGIVCPIGR
 (SEQ ID NO:473), RRVDIRTLEDLLRRRGGTLGIVCPIG (SEQ ID NO:474),
 RRRVDIRTLEDLLRRGGTLGIVCPIGR (SEQ ID NO:475), RRRVDIRTLEDLLRRRGGTLGIVCPIG
 (SEQ ID NO:476), RRRGVDIRTLEDLLRRRGGTLGIVCPIGR (SEQ ID NO:477),
 15 RGNIVPZVVTARRIGDLIVQAV (SEQ ID NO:479), RRNIVPZVVTARRIGDLIVQAV (SEQ ID
 NO:480), RRRNIVPZVVTARRIGDLIVQAV (SEQ ID NO:481), and RRNIVPZVVTARRRIGDLIVQAV
 (SEQ ID NO:482).

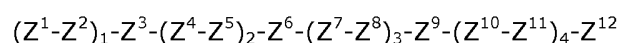
59. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-58, which peptide is not
 specifically disclosed in any one PCT application with application numbers WO2000NO00075,
 20 WO2011DK050460, or WO2012DK050010.

60. The isolated peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-59, which peptide is not
 a peptide selected from RRGYIPLVGAPLGBRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:47),
 RGYIPLVGAPLGRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:48), RGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ
 ID NO:49), RRGYIPLVGAPLGRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:50),
 25 RRGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:51), BRGYIPLVGAPLGRRVARALAHGVRV
 (SEQ ID NO:52), RRRGYIPLVGAPLGBRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:53),
 RGYIPLVGAPLGKKKVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:54), RGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ
 ID NO:55), KKGYIPLVGAPLGKKVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:56),
 WGYIPLVGAPLGRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:57), WWGYIPLVGAPLGRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ
 30 ID NO:58), EEGYIPLVGAPLGEEVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:59),
 GGGYIPLVGAPLGGGVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:60), EEGYIPLVGAPLGRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ
 ID NO:61), RRGYIPLVGAPLGLRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:62),
 WWGYIPLVGAPLGRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:63), WWGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV
 (SEQ ID NO:64), WWGYIPLVGAPLGRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:65),
 35 RGYIPLVGAPLGRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:66), RRGYLPVAGAPIGBRVIRVIAHGLRL (SEQ ID
 NO:67), RRGYIPLVGAPLGBRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:68), GYIPLVGAPLGGVARALAHGVRV
 (SEQ ID NO:69), WWGYLPVAGAPIRRVIRVIAHGLRL (SEQ ID NO:70),

GYIPLVGAPLGGVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:71), RRGYIPLVGAPLGBGRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:72), RGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:73), RGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:74), RRGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:75), RRGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:76),
5 BRGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:77), RRRGYIPLVGAPLGBRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:78), RGYIPLVGAPLGKKKVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:79), RGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:80), KKGYIPLVGAPLGKKVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:81), WGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:82), WWGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:83), RRGYIPLVGAPLGLRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:84), RRNYVTGNIPGBRGITFSIFLIVS (SEQ ID NO:85), WWNYATGNLPGRRCSFSIFLLAL (SEQ ID NO:86), WWNYVTGNIPGBRGITFSIFLIVS (SEQ ID NO:87), WWNYVTGNIPGRRGITFSIFLIVS (SEQ ID NO:88), RRNYATGNLPGRRGCSFSIFLLAL (SEQ ID NO:89), RRVGTGNIPGSTYSGBRGITFSIYLIVS (SEQ ID NO:90), RRIRNLGRVIETLTGBRLNleGYIPLIGA (SEQ ID NO:91), RRSRNLGKVIDTLTCBRLMGYIPLVGA (SEQ ID NO:92), SRNLGKVIDTLTCGFADLMGYIPLVGA (SEQ ID NO:93), WWIRNLGRVIETLTRLNleGYIPLIGA (SEQ ID NO:94), WWSRNLGKVIDTLTCRRLMGYIPLVGA (SEQ ID NO:95), RRGGGQIIGGNYLIPRBPBIGVRATB (SEQ ID NO:96), GGGQIVGGVYLLPRRGPRLGVRATR (SEQ ID NO:97), RRGGGQIVGGVYLLPRRGPRLGVRATR (SEQ ID NO:98), WWGGGQIVGGVYLLPRRGPRLGVRAT (SEQ ID NO:99), BRLIFLARSALIVRGSAVHKS (SEQ ID NO:100), EDLIFLARSALILRGSAVHKS (SEQ ID NO:101), BRLIFLARSALILBGRSALILRGSAVHK (SEQ ID NO:102), SAYERMCNILKGKFQTAAQRAMM (SEQ ID NO:103), SAYERNleVNILKGKFQTAAQRAVNle (SEQ ID NO:104), BRTAYERNleCNILBRGRFQTVVQBA (SEQ ID NO:105), BRIAYERMCNILLBRGKFQTAAQRA (SEQ ID NO:106), IAYERMCNILKGKFQTAAQRA (SEQ ID NO:107),
25 LFFKCIYRLFHGLKRGPESTEGVPESM (SEQ ID NO:108), BRRLFFKTITRLFBHGLRRLSTEGVPNSNle (SEQ ID NO:109), BRGLEPLVIAGILARRGSLVGLLHIVL (SEQ ID NO:110), BRGSDPLVVAASIVRRASIVGILHLIL (SEQ ID NO:111), RNLVPMVATVRRNLVPMVATVB (SEQ ID NO:112), RNLVPMVATVBRRNLVPMVATVB (SEQ ID NO:113), RNIVPNleVVTARRNIVPNleVV TAB (SEQ ID NO:114), PEVIPMFSALEGATPQDLNTMLN (SEQ ID NO:115), RFIIPXFTALSGGRRALLYGATPYAIG (SEQ ID NO:116), KALGPAATLEEMMTACQGVG (SEQ ID NO:117), RRGPVVHLTLRRRGQAGDDFS (SEQ ID NO:118), RRGPVVHLTLRRRGQAGDDFS (SEQ ID NO:119), RRGPVVHLTLRGRRGQAGDDFS (SEQ ID NO:120), RRLECVCYCKQQLLRREVYDFAFRDLC (SEQ ID NO:121), RRGVYDFAFRDLCRRGFAFRDLCIVYR (SEQ ID NO:122), RRGVFDYAFRDINRRGFAYRDINLAYR (SEQ ID NO:123), RRGATPVDLLGARRGALNLCLPMR (SEQ ID NO:124), RRGVTPAGLIGVRRGALQIBLPLR (SEQ ID NO:125), RGYLPAVGAPIGRRRVIRVIAHGLRLR (SEQ ID NO:196), RRSRNLGKVIDTLTCRRLMGYIPLVGA (SEQ ID NO:197), RRIRNLGRVIETLTNleGYIPLIGARRIRNLGRVIETLTNleGYIPLIGAR (SEQ ID NO:199), X¹-NYVTGNIPG-X³-GITFSIYLIVS; X¹-IRNLGRVIETLT-X³-LNleGYIPLIGA; X¹-GYLPAVGAPI-X³-

VIRVIAHGLRL; X¹-GGGQIIGGNYLIP-X³-PBIGVRATB; X¹-NYATGNLPG-X³-GCSFSIFLLAL; X¹-SRNLGKVIDTLTC-X³-LMGYIPLVGA; X¹-GYIPLVGAPL-X³-VARALAHGVRV; X¹-GGGQIVGGVYLLP-X³-PRLGVRATR; X¹-LTFLVRSVLLI-X³-GSVLIVRGSLVH; X¹-TAYERNIeCNIL-X³-GRFQTVVQBA; X¹-SDPLVVAASIV-X³-ASIVGILHLIL; X¹-LIFLARSALIL-X³-SALILRGSAH; X¹-IAYERMCNIL-X³-GKFQTAAQRA; and X¹-LEPLVIAGILA-X³-GSLVGLLHIVL; X¹-NLVPMVATV-X³-NLVPMATV; X¹-GYLPAVGAPIG-X³-VIRVIAHGLRL; X¹-IRNLGRVIETLTG-X³-LNleGYIPLIGA; X¹-GVYDFAFRDLC-X³-GFAFRDLCIVYR, X¹-GVFDYAFRDIN-X³-GFAYRDINLAYR, X¹-GATPVDLLGA-X³-GALNLCLPMR, X¹-GVTPAGLIGV-X³-GALQIBLPLR, and X¹-IRNLGRVIETLTNleGYIPLIGA-X³-IRNLGRVIETLTNleGYIPLIGA; optionally with an X⁵ in the C-terminal of the peptide; wherein X¹ and X³ and X⁵ refers to X¹, X³, and X⁵ of formula II.

61. An isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide comprising two or more monomeric peptides, each monomeric peptide independently comprising the following structure



wherein Z¹, Z⁴, and optional Z⁷ and Z¹⁰ defines a linear sequence of one, two, or three arginine residues or derivatives thereof optionally followed by a glycine (G) or an alanine (A); Z², Z⁵, Z⁸ and Z¹¹ defines an optional amino acid selected from cysteine (C), lysine (K), aspartic acid (D), asparagine (N), glutamic acid (E), glutamine (Q), 2,3-Diaminopropionic acid (Dpr), tryptophan (W), or tyrosine (Y) or a derivative thereof; Z³, and optional Z⁶, Z⁹ and Z¹² defines any chemical moiety, such as a linear amino acid sequence, said monomeric peptides being covalently joined by one or more intermolecular bond.

62. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to embodiment 61, wherein two or more monomeric peptides are identical in sequence.

63. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to embodiment 61, wherein two or more monomeric peptides are different in sequence.

64. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any of embodiments 61-63, comprising at least two peptides monomers, each peptide monomer independently being as defined in any one of embodiments 1-58.

65. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 61-64, wherein one or more peptide strands of the multimeric, such as dimeric peptide has delayed proteolytic degradation in the N-terminal, such as by incorporation of the first 1, 2,

or 3 amino acids in the N-terminal in the D-form, or by incorporation of the first 1, 2, or 3 amino acids in the N-terminal in beta or gamma form.

66. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 61-65, which multimeric, such as dimeric peptide contain a helper epitope of at least 12 amino acids, such as at least 13, 14, 15 or 17 amino acids, which helper epitope consist of a combined sequence of amino acids, which is a sequence of amino acids from a first specific continuous antigenic peptide sequences, and a sequence of amino acids from at least one second specific continuous antigenic peptide sequence of the same or different protein derived from the same virus, any different virus, or any disease antigen, such as between 2-12 amino acids from the first specific continuous antigenic peptide sequences and 2-12 amino acids from the at least one second specific continuous antigenic peptide sequence.

67. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 61-66, wherein said intermolecular bond is a disulfide (S-S) bond between two Cys residues.

68. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 61-67, wherein said intermolecular bond is a thioether bond between a Cys residue in the first monomeric peptide and a modified Lys residue in the at least one second monomeric peptide.

69. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 61-68, wherein said intermolecular bond is an oxime bond between a derivatized Lys residue in the first monomeric peptide and a derivatized Ser residue in the at least one second monomeric peptide.

70. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 61-69, wherein said intermolecular bond is a peptide bond between a N-methylated Lys side-chain in the first monomeric peptide and the side-chain of an Asp or Glu residue in the at least one second monomeric peptide.

71. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 61-70, wherein said intermolecular bond is an oxime bond between an aldehyde moiety, produced by oxidation of a serine residue in the first monomeric peptide and a free aminooxy group of a modified amino acid (aminooxy acid), such as derivatized diaminopropionic acid, Lysine or Ornithine in the second monomeric peptide

72. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 61-71, wherein said monomeric peptides are linked by a polyethylene glycol (PEG) linker,

such as through an Asp or a Glu residue in the first monomeric peptide and an Asp or a Glu residue in the at least one second monomeric peptide, or by a polyLys core.

73. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 61-72, wherein a C residue in Z^2 of the first peptide monomer is linked to an amino acid
5 selected from a K or a C residue in Z^2 of the second monomer.
74. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 61-73, wherein a K residue in Z^2 of the first peptide monomer is linked to an amino acid selected from a C, D or E residue in Z^2 of the second monomer.
75. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of embodiments
10 61-74, wherein a D residue in Z^2 of the first peptide monomer is linked to an amino acid selected from a N or Q residue in Z^2 of the second monomer.
76. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 61-75, wherein a E residue in Z^2 of the first peptide monomer is linked to an amino acid selected from a N or Q residue in Z^2 of the second monomer.
- 15 77. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 61-76, wherein a N residue in Z^2 of the first peptide monomer is linked to a D or E residue in Z^2 of the second monomer.
78. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 61-77, wherein a Q residue in Z^2 of the first peptide monomer is linked to a D or E residue in
20 Z^2 of the second monomer.
79. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 61-78, wherein a Dpr(Aao) residue in Z^2 of the first peptide monomer is linked to an Dpr(Ser) residue in Z^2 of the second monomer.
80. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of embodiments
25 61-79, wherein a W residue in Z^2 of the first Z^1 - Z^2 peptide repeat is linked to an Y residue in Z^2 of the second Z^1 - Z^2 peptide repeat.
81. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 61-80, wherein a Y residue in Z^2 of the first Z^1 - Z^2 peptide repeat is linked to an W residue in Z^2 of the second Z^1 - Z^2 peptide repeat.

82. Composition comprising two or more compounds selected from a monomeric peptide is as defined in any one of embodiments 1-60, and an isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide as defined in any one of embodiments 61-81.

5 83. Use of a peptide selected from a monomeric peptide is as defined in any one of embodiments 1-60, and an isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide as defined in any one of embodiments 61-81 for inducing an immune response in a subject, such as a humoral or Cell Mediated Immune (CMI) response.

84. An isolated nucleic acid or polynucleotide encoding a peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-61.

10 85. A vector comprising the nucleic acid or polynucleotide according to embodiment 84.

86. A host cell comprising the vector according to embodiment 85.

15 87. An immunogenic composition comprising at least one monomeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-61, an isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 61-81, a peptide composition according to embodiment 82, the nucleic acid or polynucleotide according to embodiment 84, or the vector according to embodiment 85; in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or vehicle and optionally an immunological adjuvant.

88. The immunogenic composition according to embodiment 87 in the form of a vaccine composition.

20 89. A method for inducing an immune response in a subject against an antigen which comprises administration of at least one monomeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-60, an isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 61-79, a peptide composition according to embodiment 82, the nucleic acid or polynucleotide according to embodiment 84, or the vector according to embodiment 85; or
25 the composition according to any one of embodiments 87-88.

90. A method for reducing and/or delaying the pathological effects of a disease antigen, such as an infectious agent in a subject infected with said agent or having said disease caused by said antigen, the method comprising administering an effective amount of at least one monomeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-60, an isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of embodiments 61-81, a peptide composition
30 according to embodiment 82, the nucleic acid or polynucleotide according to embodiment 84,

or the vector according to embodiment 85; or the composition according to any one of embodiments 87-88.

91. A peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-81 for use as a medicament.

92. A peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-81 for treating the pathological effects of a disease antigen, such as an infectious agent in a subject infected with said agent or having said disease caused by said antigen.

93. A peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-81 for use in an in vitro assay, such as an ELISA assay, such as for diagnostic purposes.

94. Use of a peptide according to any one of embodiments 1-81 for in vitro assay, such as an ELISA assay, such as for diagnostic purposes.

Sequence list (amino acids in bold represents suitable antigenic sequences that may be used as any of Z³, and optional Z⁶, Z⁹ and Z¹² as defined in formula I of the present invention)

SEQ ID NO:1: Accession no AF009606; Hepatitis C virus subtype 1a polyprotein gene, complete cds.

MSTNPKPQRKTKRNTNRRPQDVKFPGGGQIVGGVYLLPRRGPRL
 GVRATRKTSERSQPRGRRQPIPKARRPEGRWTAQPGYPWPLYGNEGCGWAGWLLSPRG
 SRPSWGPTDPRRRSRNLGKVIDTLTCGFADLM**GYIPLVGAPLGGAARALAHGVRVLED**
 20 GVNATGNLPGCSFSIFLLALLSCLTVPASAYQVRNSSGLYHVTNDCPNSSIVYEAD
 AILHTPGCVPCVREGNASRCWVAVTPTVATRDGKLPTTQLRRHIDLLVGSATLCSALY
 VGDLCGSVFLVGQLFTFSPPRRHWTQDCNCSIYPGHITGHRMAWDMMNWSPTAALVV
 AQLLRIPQAIMDMIAGAHWGVLAGIAYFSMVGNWAKVLVLLLFAGVDAETHVTGGSA
 GRRTAGLVGLLTPGAKQNIQLINTNGSWHINSTALNCNESLNTGWLGLFYQHKNSS
 25 GCPERLASCRRLTDFAQGWGPISYANGSGLDERPYCWHYPPRPGIVPAKSVCGPVYC
 FTSPVVVGTTDRSGAPTYSWGANDTDVFLNNTTRPPLGNWFGCTWMNSTGFTKVCGA
 PPCVIGGVGNNTLLCPTDCFRKHPEATYSRCGSGPWITPRCMVDYPYRLWHYPCTINY
 TIFKVRMYVGGVEHRLEAACNWTGRERCDLEDRSELSPLLLSTQWQVLPCSFTTL
 PALSTGLIHLHQNIQIVDVQYLYGVGSSIASWAIKWEYVLLFLLADARVCSCWMMMLL
 30 ISQAEAALENLILNAASLAGTHGLVSFLVFFCFAWYLGKRWVPGAVYAFYGMWPLLL
 LLLALPQRAYALDTEVAASCGGVVLVGLMALTLSPYYKRYISWCMWWLQYFLTRVEAQ
 LHVWVPPLNVRGGRDAVILLMCVVHPTLVFDITKLLLAIFGPLWILQASLLKVPYFVR
 VQGLLRICALARKIAGGHYVQMAI IKLGALTGTIVYNHPLPRDWAHNGLRDLAVAVE
 PVVFSRMETKLI TWGADTAACGDI INGLPVSARRGQEILLGPADGMVSKGWRLAPIT
 35 AYAQQTRGLLGCIITSLTGRDKNQVEGEVQIVSTATQTFLATCINGVCWTVYHGAGTR
 TIASPKGPVIQMYTNVDQDLVGWPAPQGSRLTPCTCGSSDLYLVTRHADVIPVRRRG
 DSRGSLSPRPISYLGSSGGPLLPAGHAVGLFRAAVCTRGVAKAVDFIPVENLETT
 MRSPVFTDNSSPPAVPQSFQVAHLHAPTGS GKSTKVPAAAYAAQGYKVLVLNPSVAATL
 GFGAYMSKAHVDPNIRTGVRTITTGSPITYSTYKFLADGGCSCGGAYDIIICDECHS
 40 TDATSILGIGTVLDQAETAGARLVVLATATPPGSVTVSHPNIEEVALSTTGEIPFYGK
 AIPLEVIKGGRHLIFCHSKKKCDELA AKLVALGINAVAYYRGLDVSVIPTSGDVVVVS
 TDALMTGFTGDFDSVIDCNTCVTQTVDFSLDPTFTIETTTLPQDAVSRTQRRGRTRG

KPGIYRFVAPGERPSGMFDSSVLCECYDAGCAWYELTPAETTVRLRAYMNTPGLPVCQ
 DHLEFWEGVFTGLTHIDAHFLSQTKQSGENFPYLVAQATVCARAQAPPSWDQMWK
 LIRLKPTLHGPTPLLYRLGAVQNEVTLTHPITKYIMTCMSADLEVVTSTWVLVGGVLA
 ALAAYCLSTGCVVIVGRIVLSGKPAIIPDREVLVYQEFDEMEECSSQHLPHYEQGMMLAE
 5 QFKQKALGLLQTASRQAEVITPAVQTNWQKLEVFwakHMWNFISGIQYLAGLSTLPGN
 PAIASLMAFTAAVTSPLTTGQTLLENILGGWVAAQLAAPGAATAFVGAGLAGAAIGSV
 GLGKVLVDILAGYGAGVAGALVAFKIMSGEVPSTEDLVNLLPAILSPGALVVGVVCAA
 ILRRHVGPGEAGVQWMNRLIAFASRGNHVSPTHYVPESDAAARVAILSSSLTVTQLLR
 RLHQWISSECTTPCSGSWLRDIWDWICEVLSDFKTWLKAKLMPQLPGIPFVSCQRGYR
 10 GVVRGDGIMHTRCHCGAEITGHVKNGTMRIVGPRTCRNMWSGTFPINAYTTGPCTPLP
 APNYKFALWRVSAEEYVEIRRVGDFHYVSGMTTDNLKPCQIPSPPEFFTELDGVRLLHR
 FAPPCKPLLRREEVSFRVGLHEYVPGSQLPCEPEPDVAVLTSMLTDPSSHITAEAAGRRL
 ARGSPPSMASSASQLSAPSLKATCTANHDSFDAELIEANLLWRQEMGGNITRVESEN
 KVVILDSFDPLVAEEDEREVSVPAILRKSRRFARALPVWARPDYNPPLVETWKKPDY
 15 EPPVHGCPLPPRSPVPVPPRKKRTVVLTESTLSTALAEATKSFGSSSTSGITGDN
 TTTSSPEPAPSGCPDSDVESYSSMPLEGEPGDPLSDGSWSVSSGADTEDVCCSM
 SYSWTGALVTPCAAEQKLPINALSNSLLRHHNLVYSTTSRSACQRQKKVTFDRLQVL
 DSHYQDVLKEVKAAASKVKANLLSVEEACSLTPPHSAKSKFGYGAKDVRCARKAVAH
 INSVWKDLLEDVTPIDTTIMAKNEVFCVQPEKGGKPARLIVFPDLGVRVCEKMALY
 20 DVVSKLPLAVMGSSYGFGQYSPGQRFVFLVQAWKSKKTPMGFSYDTRCFDSTVTESDIR
 TEEAIYQCDDLDPQARVAIKSLTERLYVGGPLTNSRGENCYRRCRASGVLTTCGNT
 LTCYIKARAACRAAGLQDCTMLVCGDDLVIICESAGVQEDAAASLRAFTEAMTRYSAPP
 GDPPQPEYDLELITSCSSNVSAHDGAGKRVYYLTRDPTTPLARAAWETARHTPVNSW
 LGNIIMFAPTLWARMILMTHFFSVLIARDQLEQALNCEIYGACYSIEPLDLPIIQRL
 25 HGLSAFSLHSYSPGEINRVAACLRKLGVPPLRAWHRHARSVRARLLSRGGRAAICGKY
 LFNWAVRTKLKLTPIAAAGRLDLSGWFTAGYSGGDIYHSVSHARPRWFWFCLLLAAG
 VGIYLLPNR

SEQ ID NO:2: HCV core protein, H77, Accession AF009606

Genbank number: 2316097

>gi|2316098|gb|AAB66324.1| polyprotein [Hepatitis C virus subtype 1a]
 MSTNPKPQRKTKRNTNRRPQDVKFPGGGQIVGGVYLLPRRGPRLGVRATRKTSERSQPRGRRQPIPKARR
 PEGRTWAQPGYPWPLYGNEGCGWAGWLLSPRGSRPSWGPTDPRRRSRNLGKVIDTLTCGFADLMGYIPLVGAPLGGAAR
 35 ALAHGVRVLEDGVNYATGNLPGCSFSIFLLALLSCLTVPASA

SEQ ID NO:3: Hepatitis C virus mRNA, complete cds; ACCESSION M96362 M72423;
 Hepatitis C virus subtype 1b

MSTNPKPQRKTKRNTNRRPQDIKFPGGGQIVGGVYLLPRRGPRL
 40 GVRATRKTSERSQPRGRRQPIPKARRPEGRAWAQPYPWPLYGNEGLGWAGWLLSPRG
 SRPSWGPTDPRRKSRNLGKVIDTLTCGFADLMGYIPLVGAPLGVARALAHGVRVLED
 GVNYATGNLPGCSFSIFLLALLSCLTTPVSAYEVRNASGMYHVTNDCSNSSIVYEAD
 MIMHTPGCVPCVREDNSSRCWVALTPTLAARNASVPTTTLRRHVDLLVGVAAFCSAMY
 VGDLCGSVFLVSQLFTFSPRRHETVQDCNCSIYPGRVSGHRMAWDMMNWSPTTALVV
 45 SOLLRIQAVVDMVTGSHWILAGLAYYSMVGNWAKVLIAMLLFAGVDGTTHVTGGAQ
 GRAASLTSLFSPGVQHLQLINTNGSWHINRTALSCNDSLNTGFVAALFYKYRFNAS
 GCPPERLATCRPIDTFAQGWGPITYTEPHDLQRPYCWYAPQPCGIVPTLQVCGPVYC
 FTPSPVAVGTTDRFGAPTYRWGANETDVLLLNAGPPQGNWFGCTWMNGTGFTKTCGG
 PPCNIGGVGNNTLTCPTDCFRKHGATYTKCGSGPWLTPRCLVDYPYRLWHYPCTVNF
 50 TIFKVRMYVGAEHRLDAACNWTGERCDLEDRDRSELSPLLLSTTEWQVLPCSF TTL
 PALSTGLIHLHQNIVDIQYLYGIGSAVVSFAIKWEYIVLLFLLADARVCACLWMMMLL
 VAQAEAALENLVVNAASVAGAHGILSFIVFFCAAWYIKGRLVPGAAYALYGVWPLLL
 LLLALPPRAYAMDREMAASCGGAVFVGLVLLTLSPHYKVFLARFIWWLQYLI TRTEAH
 LQVWVPLNVRGRDAIILLTCVHPELIFDITKYLLAIFGPLMVLAGITRVPYFVR
 55 AQGLIRACMLARKVVGGHYVQVMFKLAALAGTYVYDHLTPLRDWAHTGLRDLAVAVE
 PVVFSDMETKVITWGADTAACGDIILALPASARRGKEILLGPADSLEGQGWRLAPIT
 AYSQQTRGLLCIITSLTGRDKNQVEGEVQVVSTATQSFLATCINGVCWTVFHGAGSK
 TLAGPKGPITQMTNVDQDLVGWPAPPGARSLTPCTCGSSDLYLVTRHADVIPVRRRG
 DGRGSLLP RPVSYLKGS SGGPLLCPSGHAVGILPAAVCTRGVAMAVEFIPVESMETT
 60 MRSPVFTDNPSPPAVPQTQVAHLHAPTGS GKSTRVPAAYAAQGYKVLVNLNPSVAATL
 GFGAYMSKAHGIDPNLRTGVRTITTGAPITYSTYKFLADGGGSGGAYDIIMCDECHS
 TDSTTIYGIGTVLDQAETAGARLVVLSTATPPGSVTVPHLNIEEVALSNTGEIPFYGK

AIPIEAIKGRHLIFCHSKKKCDELAALKSLGLGLNAVAYYRGLDVSVIPTSGDVVVVA
 TDALMTGFTGDFDSVIDCNTCVTQTVDFSLDPTFTIETTTVPQDAVSRSQRRGRTRGR
 RAGIYRFVTPGERPSGMFDSVLCECYDAGCAWYELTPAETSVRLRAYLNTPLPVCQ
 5 DHLEFSEGVTGLTHIDAHFLSQTKQAGENFPYLVAQATVCARAQAPPPSWDEMWRC
 LIRLKPTLHGPTPLLYRLGAVQNEVTLTHPITKFIMTCMSADLEVVTSTWVLVGGVLA
 ALAAYCLTTGSSVIVGRIILSGKPAIIPDREVLVQEFDEMEECASHLPYFEQGMQLAE
 QFKQKALGLLQTATKQAEAAAPVVESKWRALETFwakHmWnfISGIQYLAGLSTLPGN
 PAIRSPMAFTASITSPLTQTHTLLFNILGGWVAAQLAPPSAASAFVGAGIAGAAVGTI
 10 GLGKVLVDILAGYGAGVAGALVAFKIMSGEMPSAEDMVNLLPAILSPGALVVGIVCAA
 ILRRHVGPGEAVQWMNRLIAFASRGNHVS PRHYVPESEPAARVTQILSSLTITQLLK
 RLHQWINECDSTPCSSSWLREIWDWICTVLTDFTKTLQSKLLPRLPGVPFFSCQRGYK
 GVWRGDGIMHTTCPCGAQITGHVKNMSMRIVGPKTCSNTWYGTFFINAYTTGPCTPSP
 APNYSKALWRVAAEEYVEVTRVGFHYVTGMTTDNVKPCQVPAPEFFTEVDGVRHLHR
 YAPACRPLLRREVVVFQVGLHQYLVGSQLPCEPEPDVAVLTSMLTDP SHITAETAKRRL
 15 ARGSPPSLASSSASQLSAPSLKATCTTHHDS PADLIEANLLWRQEMGGNITRVESEN
 KVVILDSFDPLRAEDDEGEISVPAEILRKS RKFPPALPIWAPPDYNPPLLESWKDPDY
 VPPVHGCPLPPTKAPPIPPRRKRRTVVLTESTVSSALAEATKTFGSSGSSAIDSGT
 ATAPPDQASGDGREDVESFSSMPLEGE PGDPDLSDGSWSTVSEEASEDVCCSMS
 YTTWTGALITPCAAEESKLPINPLSNSLLRHNMVYATTSRSAGLRQKKVTFDRLQVLD
 20 DHYRDVLKEMKAKASTVKAKLLSVEEACKLTPPHSAKSKFGYGAkdVRSLSRAVTHI
 RSVWKDLLEDTEPTISTTIMAKNEVFCVQPEKGRKPARLIVFDLGVVRVCEKMALYD
 VVSTLPQAVMGSSYGFQYSPKQRV EFLVNTWKS KKC PMGFSYDTRCFDSTVTENDIRV
 EESIYQCCDLAPEAKLAIKSLTERLYIGGPLTNSKGQNCGYRRCRASGVLTTSCGNTL
 TCYLKATAACRAAKLRDCTMLVNGDDL VVICESAGTQEDAASLRVFTEAMTRYSAAPP
 25 DPPQPEYDLELITSCSSNVSVAH DASGKR VYYLTRDPTT PLARAAWETARHTPVNSWL
 GNIIMYAPTLWARMILMTHFFSILLAQEQLEKTLDCQIYGACYSIEPLDLPQIIERLH
 GLSAFSLHSYSPGEINRVASCLRKLGV PPLRAWRHRARSVRAKLLSQGGRAATCGKYL
 FNWAVRTKLKLTPIPAASRLDL SGWVFAGYSGGDIYHSLSRARPRWFMLCLLLLSVGV
 GIYLLPNR

SEQ ID NO:4, nucleocapsid protein of influenza A virus

1 MASQGTKRSY EQMETS GERQ NATEIRASVG RMVGGIGRFY IQMCTELKLS DHEGRLIQNS
 61 ITIERMVLSA FDERRNKYLE EHPSAGKDPK KTGGPIYRRR DGKWMRELIL YDKEEIRRIW
 35 121 RQANNGEDAT AGLTHMMIWH SNLNDATYQR TRALVRTGMD PRMC SLMQGS TLPRRSGAAG
 181 AAVKGVGTMV MELIRMIKRG INDRNFWRGE NGRRTRIAYE RMCN ILKGKF QTAAQRAMMD
 241 QVRESRNP GN AEIEDLIFLA RSALILRGSV AHKSCLPACV YGLAVASGYD FEREGYSLVG
 301 IDPFRLLQNS QVFS LIRPNE NPAHKS QLVW MACHSAAFED LRVSSFIRGT RVVPRGQLST
 361 RGVQIASNEN METMDSSTLE LRSRYWAIRT RSGGNTNQOR ASAGQISVQP TFSVQRNL PF
 40 421 ERATIMAAFT GNTEGR TSDM RTEIIRMMEN ARPEDVSFQG RGVFELSDEK ATNP IVPSFD
 481 MSNEGS

SEQ ID NO:5

>gi|73919153|ref|YP_308840.1| matrix protein 2 [Influenza A virus (A/New
 45 York/392/2004 (**H3N2**))]]
 MSLLTEVETPIRNEWGCRCNDSSDPLVVAASIIGILHLILWILDRLFFKCVYRLFKHGLKRG PSTEGVPE 70
 SMREEYRKEQQNAVDADDSHFVSIELE

SEQ ID NO:6

>gi|73919147|ref|YP_308843.1| nucleocapsid protein [Influenza A virus (A/New
 50 York/392/2004 (**H3N2**))]]
 MASQGTKRSYEQMETDGDRQNATEIRASVGK MIDGIGRFYIQMCTELKLS DHEGRLIQNSLTIEKMVLSA 70
 FDERRNKYLEEHPSAGKDPKKTGGPIYRRVDGKWMRELVL YDKEEIRRIWRQANNGEDATAGLTHIMIWH 140
 SNLNDATYQRTRALVRTGMDPRMC SLMQGSTLP RRSGAAGAAVKGIGTMVME LIRMV KRGINDRNFWRGE 210
 55 NGRKTRSA YERM CNILKGKFQTAAQRAMVDQVRESRNP GN AEIEDLIFLARSALILRGSVAHKSCLPACA 280
 YGPAVSSGYDFEKEGYSLVGIDPFKLLQNSQIYSLIRPNENPAHKS QLVWMACHSAAFEDLRLLSFIRGT 350
 KVS PRGKLSTRGVQIASNENMDNMGSSTLELRSGYWAIRTRSGGNTNQORASAGQTSVQPTFSVQRNL PF 420
 EKSTIMAAFTGNTEGR TSDMRAE IIRMEGAKPEEV SFRGRGVFELSDEKATNP IVPSFDMSNEGSYFFG 490
 DNAEEYDN

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SEQ ID NO:7

>gi|56583270|ref|NP_040979.2| matrix protein 2 [Influenza A virus (A/Puerto Rico/8/34 (H1N1))]

5 MSLLTEVETPIRNEWGCRCNGSSDPLAIAANIIGILHLILWILDR**LFFKCIYRRFKYGLKGGPSTEGVPK**
SMREEYRKEQQSAVDADDGHFVSIELE

SEQ ID NO:8

>gi|8486130|ref|NP_040982.1| nucleocapsid protein [Influenza A virus (A/Puerto Rico/8/34 (H1N1))]

10 MASQGTKRSYEQMETDGERQNATEIRASVGKMIGGIGRFYIQMCTELKLSDYEGRLIQNSLTIERMVL
FDERRNKYLEEHPSAGKDPKKTGGPIYRRVNGKWMRELILYDKEEIRRIWRQANNGDDATAGLTHMMIWH
SNLNDATYQTRALVRTGMDPRMCSLMQGSTLPRRSGAAGAAVKGVGTMVMEIVRMIRKGINDRNFWRGE
NGRKTR**IAYERMCN**ILKGK**FQTAAQKAMMDQVRES**RDPGNAEFED**LTFLARSALILRGSVAHKS**CLPACV
YGPASVSGYDFEREGYSLVGIDPFRLQNSQVYSLIRPNENPAHKSQLVWMACHSAAFEDLRVLSFIKGT
15 KVVPRGKLSTRGVQIASNENMETMESSTLELRSRYWAIRTRSGGNTNQQRASAGQISIQPTFSVQRNL
DRTTVMAAFTGNTEGRTSDMRTEIIRMMESARPEDVSFQGRGVFELSDEKAASPIVPSFDMSNEGSYFFG
DNAEEYDN
--

SEQ ID NO:9

>gi|73912687|ref|YP_308853.1| membrane protein M2 [Influenza A virus (A/Korea/426/68 (H2N2))]

25 MSLLTEVETPIRNEWGCRCNDSSDPLVVAASIIGILHFILWILDR**LFFKCIYRFFKHGLKRG**PSTEGVPE
SMREEYRKEQQSAVDADDSHFVSIELE

SEQ ID NO:10

>gi|73921307|ref|YP_308871.1| nucleoprotein [Influenza A virus (A/Korea/426/68 (H2N2))]

30 MASQGTKRSYEQMETDGERQNATEIRASVGKMIDGIGRFYIQMCTELKLSDYEGRLIQNSLTIERMVL
FDERRNKYLEEHPSAGKDPKKTGGPIYKRVDGKWMRELVLVDKEEIRRIWRQANNGDDATAGLTHMMIWH
SNLNDTTYQTRALVRTGMDPRMCSLMQGSTLPRRSGAAGAAVKGVGTMVMEIVRMIRKGINDRNFWRGE
NGRKTR**SAYERMCN**ILKGK**FQTAAQRAMMDQVRES**RNPNGNAEIED**LIFLARSALILRGSVAHKS**CLPACV
YGPASVSGYDFEREGYSLVGIDPFKLLQNSQVYSLIRPNENPAHKSQLVWMAACNSAAFEDLRVLSFIRGT
KVSPRGKLSTRGVQIASNENMDTMESSTLELRSRYWAIRTRSGGNTNQQRASAGQISVQPAFSVQRNL
35 DKPTIMAAFTGNTEGRTSDMRAEIIIRMEGAKPEEMSFQGRGVFELSDEKATNPVPSFDMSNEGSYFFG
DNAEEYDN

SEQ ID NO:11

>gi|330647|gb|AAA45994.1| pp65 [Human herpesvirus 5]

40 MASVLGPISGHVLKAVFSRGDTPVLPHETRLQLTGIVHVRVSQPSLILVSQYTPDSTPCHRGDNQLQVQHT 70
YFTGSEVENVSVNVHNPTGRSICPSQEPMSIYVYALPLKMLNIPSVNHVHPSAAERKHRHLPVADAVIH 140
ASGKQMWQARLTVSGLAWTRQQNQWKEPDVYYTSAFVFPTKDVALRHVVCAHELVCSEMENTRATKMQVIG 210
DQYVKVYLESFCEDVPSGKLFMHVTLGSDVEEDLTMTNRPQPFMRPHERNGFTVLCPKNMIIKPGKISHI 280
MLDVAFTSHEHFGLLCPKSIPLGISGNLLMNGQQIFLEVQAIRETVELRQYDPVAALFFFDIDLLLQRG 350
PQYSEHPTFTSQYRIQKLEYRHTWDRHDEGAAGQDDVWTSGSDSDEELVTERKTPTVTTGGGAMAGAS 420
45 TSAGRKRKSASSATACTAGVMTRGRLKAESTVAPEEDTDESDNEIHNPVFTWPPWQAGILARN**LVPMV** 490
ATVQGQNLKYQEFFWDANDIYRIFAELEGVWQPAAQPKRRRHRQDALPGPCIASTPKKHRG 541

SEQ ID NO:12

>gi|33330937|gb|AAQ10712.1| putative transforming protein E6 [Human papillomavirus type 16]

50 MHQKRTAMFQDPQERPGKLPQLCTELQTTIHDIILECVYCKQQLLRRE**VYDFAFRDL**CIYVYRDGNPYAVC 70
DKCLKFYISKISEYRHYCYSVYGTTLQYQYNKPLCDLLIRCINCQKPLCPPEEKQRHLDDKKQRFHNIIRGWT 140
GRCMSCCRSSRTRRETQL

SEQ ID NO:13

>gi|56583270|ref|NP_040979.2| matrix protein 2 [Influenza A virus (A/Puerto Rico/8/34 (H1N1))]

MSLLTEVETPIRNEWGCRCNGSSDPLAIAANIIGILHLILWILDRLFFKCIYRRFKYGLKGGPSTEGVPK
SMREEYRKEQQSAVDADDGHFVSIELE

SEQ ID NO:14

5 >gi|8486139|ref|NP_040987.1| PB2 protein [Influenza A virus (A/Puerto
Rico/8/34 (H1N1))]
MERIKELRNLSQSRTEILTCTVDHMAIIKKYTSGRQEKNPALRMKWMAMKYPITADKRITEMIPER
NEQGQTLWSKMNDAGSDRVMVSPLAVTWNNRNGPMTNTVHYPKIYKTYFERVERLKHGTFGPVHFRNQVK
10 IRRRVDINPGHADLSAKEAQDVIMEVVPNEVGARILTSQSLTITKEKKEELQDCKISPLMVAYMLERE
LVRKTRFLPVAGGTSSVYIEVLHLTQGTCEQMYTPGGEVKNDDVDQSLIIAARNIVRRAAVSADPLASL
LEMCHSTQIGGIRMVDILKQNPTEEQAVGICKAAMGLRISSSFSGGFTFKRTSGSSVKREEEVLGTNLQ
TLKIRVHEGYEFTMVGRRAAILRKATRRLIQLIVSGRDEQSIAEAIIVAMVFSQEDCMIAVRGDLNF
VNRANQRLNPMHQLLRHFQKDAKVLVFQNWGVEPIDNVMGMIGILPDMTPSIEMSMRGVRISKMGVDEYSS
15 TERVVVSIDRFLVRDQGRNVLLSPEEVSETQGTETLTITYSSMMWEINGPESVLVNTYQWIIIRNWETV
KIQWSQNPTMLYNKMEFEPFQSLVPKAIHQYSGFVRTLFQQMRDVLGTFDTAQIIKLLPFAAAPPKQSR
MQFSSFTVNVRGSGMRILVRGNSPVFNYNKATKRLTVLGKDAGTLTEDPDEGTAGVESAVLRGFLILGKE
DRRYGPALSINELSNLAKGEKANVLIGQGDVVLVMMKRKRDSILTDSQTATKRIRMAIN

SEQ ID NO:15

20 >gi|8486137|ref|NP_040986.1| polymerase PA [Influenza A virus (A/Puerto
Rico/8/34 (H1N1))]
MEDFVRQCFNPMIVELAEKTMKEYGEDLKIETNKFAAICTHLEVCFMYSDHFHINEQGESIIVELGDPNA
LLKHRFEIIEGRDRTMAWTVVNSICNTTGAEKPKFLPDLYDYKENRFIEIGVTRREVHIYYLEKANKIKS
EKTHIHIFSFTGEEMATKADYTLDEESRARIKTRLTIRQEMASRGLWDSFRQSERGEETIEERFEITGT
25 MRKLADQSLPPNFSSLENFRAYVDGFEPNGYIEGKLSQMSKEVNARIEPFLKTTPRPLRLPNGPPCSQRS
KFLMLDALKLSIEDPSHEGEGIPLYDAIKCMRTFFGWKEPNVVKPHEKGINPNYLLSWKQVLAELQDIEN
EEKIPKTKNMKKTSQLKWALGENMAPEKVDFFDCKDVGDLKQYDSDEPELRSLSAWIQNEFNKACELTDS
SWIELDEIGEDVAPIEHIASMRNYFTSEVSHCRATEYIMKGVYINTALLNASCAAMDDFQLIPMISKCR
TKEGRRKTNLGYFIIKGRSHLRNDTDVNVFVSMEFSLTDPRLEPHKWEKYCVLEIGDMLLRSAIGQVSRP
30 MFLYVRTNGTSKIKMKWGMEMRRCLLQSLQQIESMIEAESSVKEKDMTKEFFENKSETWPIGESPKGVVEE
SSIGKVCRTLLAKSVFNLSLYASPQLEGFSAESRKLILLVQALRDNLPGTFDLGGLYEAEIEECLINDPWV
LLNASWFNSFLTHALS

SEQ ID NO:16

35 >gi|8486133|ref|NP_040984.1| nonstructural protein NS1 [Influenza A virus
(A/Puerto Rico/8/34 (H1N1))]
MDPNTVSSFFQVDCFLWHVRKRVADQELGDAPFLDRLRRDQKSLRGRGSTLGLDIETATRAGKQIVERILK
EESDEALKMTMASVPASRYLTDMTLEMSREWSMLIPKQKVAGPLCIRMDQAIMDKNIILKANFSVIFDR
LETLILLRAFTEEGAIVGEISPLPSLPGHTAEDVKNAVGVLLIGGLEWNDNTVRVSETLQRFARSSNENG
40 RPPLTPKQKREMAGTIRSEV

SEQ ID NO:17

>gi|8486132|ref|NP_040983.1| nonstructural protein NS2 [Influenza A virus
(A/Puerto Rico/8/34 (H1N1))]
45 MDPNTVSSFFQDILLRMSKMQLLESSSEDNLNGMITQFESLKLYRDSLGEAVMRMGDLHSLQNRNEKWREQLG
QKFEEIRWLIIEVVRHKLKVTENSFEQITFMQALHLLLEVEQEIRTFSFQLI

SEQ ID NO:18

50 >gi|8486128|ref|NP_040981.1| neuraminidase [Influenza A virus (A/Puerto
Rico/8/34 (H1N1))]
MNPNQKIITIGSICLVGLISLILQIGNIISIWIHSHSIQTGSQNHTGICNQNIITYKNSTWVKDTTSVIL
TGNSSLCPIRGWAIYSKDNSIRIGSGKGVFVIREPFISCSHLECRFTFLTQGALLNDRHSNGTVKDRSPY
RALMSPVGEAPSPYNSRFESVAWSASACHDGMGWLITIGISGPDNGAVAVLKYNGIITETIKSWRKKILR
TQESACACVNGSCFTIMTDGSPDGLASYKIFKIEKGKVTKSIELNAPNSHYEECSYPTDGKVMCVCARDN
55 WHGSNRPWVSFDQNLDYQIGYICSGVFGDNPRPKDGTGSCGPVYVDGANGVKGFYSRYGNGVWIGRTKSH
SSRHGFEMIWDPNWGTETDSKFSVRQDVVAMTDWSGYSGSFVQHPCLTGLDCIRPCFWVELIRGRPKERT
IWTASSISFCGVNSDITVDWSWPDGAELPFTIDK

SEQ ID NO:19

>gi|8486126|ref|NP_040980.1| haemagglutinin [Influenza A virus (A/Puerto Rico/8/34 (H1N1))]

MKANLLVLLCALAAADADTICIGYHANNSTDVTDVLEKNVTVTHSVNLLLED SHNGKLCRLKGIAPLQLG
KCNIAGWLLGNPECDPLLPVRSWSYIVETPNSENGICYPGDFIDYEELREQLSSVSSFERFEIFPKESSW
PNHNTTKGVTAACSHAGKSSFYRNLLWLTEKEGSYPKLKNSYVNKKGKEVLVLWGIHHPNSKDDQNNIYQ
NENAYVSVVTSNYNRRFTPEIAERP KVRDQAGRMNYYWTLKPGDTIIFEANGNLIAPRYAFALSRGFGS
GIITSNASMHECNTKCTPLGAINSSLPFQNIHPVTIGEC PKYVRS AKLRMVTGLRNIPSIQSRGLFGAI
AGFIEGGWTGMIDGWYGYHHQNEQGSYAADQKSTQNAINGITNKVNSVIEKMNIQFTAVGKEFNKLEKR
MENLNKKVDDGFLDIWTYNAELLVLENER TLD FHD SNVKNLYEKVKS QLKNNAKEIGNGC FE FYHKCDN
ECMESVRNGTYDYPKYSEESKL NREKVDGVKLESMGIYQILAIYSTVASSLVLLVSLGAISFWMC SNGSL
QCRICI

SEQ ID NO:20

>gi|8486123|ref|NP_040978.1| matrix protein 1 [Influenza A virus (A/Puerto Rico/8/34 (H1N1))]

MSLLTEVETYVLSIIPSGPLKAEIAQRLEDVFAGKNTDLEVLMEWLKTRPILSPLTKGILGFVFTLTVP
ERGLQRRRFVQNALNGNDPNMMDKAVKLYRKLKREITFHGAKEISLSYSAGALASCMGLIYNRMGAVTT
EVAFGLV CATCEQIADSQHRSHRQMVTTTNPLIRHENRMVLASTTAKAMEQMAGSSEQA AEAMEVASQAR
QMVMQAMRTIGTHPSSSAGLKNDDLLENLQAYQKRMGVQMQRFK

SEQ ID NO:21

>gi|83031685|ref|YP_418248.1| PB1-F2 protein [Influenza A virus (A/Puerto Rico/8/34 (H1N1))]

MGQEQDTPWILSTGHISTQKRQDGGQTPKLEHRNSTRLMGHCQKTMNQVMPKQIVYWKQWLSLRNPILV
FLKTRVLKRWRLFSKHE

SEQ ID NO:22

>gi|8486135|ref|NP_040985.1| polymerase 1 PB1 [Influenza A virus (A/Puerto Rico/8/34 (H1N1))]

MDVNPTLLFLKVPQAIAISTTFPYTGDPYPYSHGTGTGYTMDTVNRTHQYSEKARWTTNTETGAPQLNPID
GPLPEDNEPSGYAQTDCVLEAMAFLEESHPIFENSCIETMEVVQQTRVDKLTQGRQTYDWT LN RNQ PAA
TALANTIEVFRSNGLTANESGR LIDFLKDVMESMKKEEMGITTHFQKRKRVRDNMTKKMITQRTIGKRKQ
RLNKR SYLIRALT LNTMTKDAERGKLRRAIATPGMQIRGFVYFVETLARSICEKLEQSGLPVGGNEKKA
KLANVVRKMMTNSQDTELSLTITGDNTKWNENQNPRMFLAMIT YMTRNQPEWFRNVLSIAPIMFSNKMAR
LGKGYMFESKSMKLRTQIPAEMLASIDLKYFNDSTRKKIEKIRPLLIEGTASLSPGMMMGMFNMLSTVLG
VSILNLGQKRYTKTTYWWDGLQSSDDFALIVNAPNHEGIQAGVDRFYRTCKLHGINMSKKKSYINRTGTF
EFTSFFRYRGFVANFSMELPSFGVSGSNESADMSIGTVIKNNMINNDLGPATAQMALQLFIKDYRYTYR
CHRGDTQIQTRRSFEIKKLWEQTRSKAGLLVSDGGPNLYNIRNLHIPEVCLKWELMEDDYQGRLCNPLNP
FVSHKEIESMNNAVMMPAHGPAKNMEYDAVATTHSWIPKRNRSILNTSQRGVLEDEQMYQRCCNLFEKFF
PSSSYRRPVGISSMVEAMVSRARIDARIDFESGR IKKEEFTEIMKICSTIEELRRQK

SEQ ID NO:23

>gi|8486130|ref|NP_040982.1| nucleocapsid protein [Influenza A virus (A/Puerto Rico/8/34 (H1N1))]

MASQGTKR SYEQMETDGERQNA TEIRASVGKMIGGIGRFYIQMCTELKLSDYEGRLIQNSLTIERMVL
SAFDERRNKYLEEHPSAGKDPKKTGGPIYRRVNGKWMRELILYDKEEIRRIWRQANNGDDATAGLTHMMIWH
SNLNDATYQRTALVRTGMDPRMCSLMQGSTLPRRSGAAGAAVKGVGTMMELVRMIKRGINDRNFWRGE
NGRKTRIAYERMCN ILKGKFQTAAQKAMMDQVRESRDPGNAEFEDLTFLARSALILRGVSAHKSCLPACV
YGPASVSGYDFEREGYSLVGIDPFRLQNSQVYSLIRPNENPAHKSQLVWMACHSAAFEDLRVLSFIKGT
KVVPRGKLSTRGVQIASNENMETMESSTLELRSRYWAIRTRSGGNTNQQRASAGQISIQPTFSVQRNLFP
DRTTVMAAFTGNTEGR TSDMRTEIIRMMESARPEDVSFQGRGVFELSDEKAASPIVPSFDM SNEG SYFFG
DNAEEYDN

SEQ ID NO:24

>gi|73918826|ref|YP_308855.1| polymerase 2 [Influenza A virus (A/Korea/426/1968 (H2N2))]

MERIKELRNLMSQSRTREILTKTTVDHMAIIKKYTSGRQEKNP SLRMKWMAMKYPITADKRITEMVPER
NEQGQTLWSKMSDAGSDRMVVSPLAVTWNRNGPMTSTVHYPKIYKTYFEKVERLKHGTFGPVHFRNQVK

IRRRVDINPGHADLSAKEAQDVIMEVVPNEVGARILTSESQLTITKEKKEELQDCKISPLMVAYMLERE
LVRKTRFLPVAGGTSSVYIEVLHLTQGTCEWQMYTPGGEVRNDDVDQSLIIAARNIVRRAAVSADPLASL
LEMCHSTQIGGTRMVDILRQNPTEEQAVDICKAAMGLRISSSFSGGFTFKRTSGSSIKREEEVLGTGNLQ
5 TLKIRVHEGYEEFTMVGKRATAILRKATRRLVQLIVSGRDEQSI AEAIIVAMVFSQEDCMIAVRGDLNF
VNANQRLNPMHQLLRHFQKDAKVLFPQNWGIEHIDNVMGMIGVLPDMTPSTEMSMRGIRVSKMGVDEYSS
TERVVVSIDRFLVRDQGRNVLLSPPEVSETQGTTEKLITYSSMMWEINGPESVLVNTYQWIIRNWETV
KIQWSQNPTMLYNKMEFEPFQSLVPKAIKRGQYSGFVRTLFQQMRDVLGTFDFTQIIKLLPFAAAPKQSR
MQFSSSLTVNVRGSGMRILVRGNSPVFNYNKTKRLTILGKDAGTLTEDPDEGTSGVESAVLRGFLILGKE
10 DRRYGPALSINELSTLAKGEKANVLIGQGDVVLVMMKRKRDSIILTDSQTATKRIRMAIN

SEQ ID NO:25

>gi|73919145|ref|YP_308850.1| hemagglutinin [Influenza A virus
(A/Korea/426/68 (H2N2))]

MAIIYLILLFTAVRGDQICIGYHANNSTEKVDITLERNVTVTTHAKDILEKTHNGKLCKLNGIPPLELGDC
SIAGWLLGNPECDRLLSVPEWSYIMEKENPRYSLCYPGSFNDYEEELKHLSSVKHFEKVILPKDRWTQH
TTTGGSWACAVSGKPSFFRNMVWLTRKGSNYPVAKGSYNNTSGEQMLIIWGVHHPNDEAEQRALYQNVGT
YVSVATSTLYKRISPEIAARPKVNLGRMEFSWTLLDMWDITINFESTGNLVAPEYGFKISKRGSSGIMK
20 TEGTLENCETKCTPLGAINTTLPFHNHPLTIGECPKYVKSEKLVLATGLRNVLPQIESRGLFGAIAFGFI
EGGWQGMVDGWYGYHHSNDQSGSYAADKESTQKAFNGITNKVNSVIEKMNTQFEAVGKEFSNLEKRLLENL
NKKMEDGFLDVWTYNAELLVLMENERTLDFHDSNVKNLYDKVRMQLRDNVKELGNGCFEFYHKCDNECMD
SVKNGTYDYPKYEEESKLNREIKGVKLSSMGVYQILAIYATVAGSLSLAIMMAGISFWMCSNGSLQCRI
CI

SEQ ID NO:26

>gi|73912688|ref|YP_308854.1| membrane protein M1 [Influenza A virus
(A/Korea/426/68 (H2N2))]

MSLLTEVETVYVLSIVPSGPKAEIAQRLEDVFAGKNTDLEALMEWLKTRPILSPLTKGILGFVFTLTVP
30 ERGLQRRRFVQNALNGNDPNNMDRAVKLYRKLKREITFHGAKEVALSYSAGALASCMGLIYNRMGAVT
EVAFAVVCATCEQIADSQHRSHRQMVTTTNPLIRHENRMVLASTTAKAMEQMAGSSEQAAEAMEVASQAR
QMVMQAMRAIGTPPSSSAGLKDDLLLENLQAYQKRMGVQMQRFK

SEQ ID NO:27

>gi|73912687|ref|YP_308853.1| membrane protein M2 [Influenza A virus
(A/Korea/426/68 (H2N2))]

MSLLTEVETPIRNEWGCRCNDSSDPLVVAASIIGILHFILWILDRLEFFKCIYRFFKHGLKRGPESTEGVPE
SMREEYRKEQQSAVDADDSHFVSIELE

SEQ ID NO:28

>gi|73912685|ref|YP_308852.1| polymerase PA [Influenza A virus
(A/Korea/426/68 (H2N2))]

MEDFVRQCFNPMIVELAEKAMKEYGEDLKIETNKFAAICTHLEVCFMYSDFHFINEQGESIMVELDDPNA
LLKHRFEIIEGRDRTMAWTVVNSICNTTGAEKPKFLPDLYDYKENRFIEIGVTRREVHIYYLEKANKIKS
45 ENTHIHIFSFTGEEMATKADYTLDEESRARIKTRLTIRQEMANRGLWDSFRQSERGEETIEERFEITGT
MRLADQSLPPNFSCLENFRAYVDGFEPNGYIEGKLSQMSKEVNAKIEPFLKTTTPRIRLPDGPCCFQRS
KFLMLDALKLSIEDPSHEGEGIPLYDAIKCMRTFFGWKEPYIVKPHEKGINPNYLLSWQVLAELQDIEN
EEKIPRTKNMKKTSQKWLALGENMAPEKVDFDNCRDISDLKQYDSDEPELRLSLSSWIQNEFNKACELTDS
IWIELDEIGEDVAPIEHASMRNYFTAESHCRATEYIMKGVYINTALLNASCAAMDDFQLIPMISKCR
50 TKEGRKTNLYGFIKGRSHLRNDTDVNVFVSMFSLTDPRLEPHKWEKYCVLEIGDMLLRSAIGQMSRP
MFLYVRTNGTSKIKMKWGMEMRPCLLQSLQQIESMVEAESSVKEKDMTKEFFENKSETWPIGESPKGVVEE
GSIGKVCRTLLAKSVFNSLYASPQLEGFSAESRKLILLVQALRDNLEPGTFDLGGLYEAIIEECLINDPWV
LLNASWFNSFLTHALR

SEQ ID NO:29

>gi|73921833|ref|YP_308877.1| PB1-F2 protein [Influenza A virus
(A/Korea/426/68 (H2N2))]

MGQEQDTPWTQSTEHINIQKRGSGQTRKLERPNLTQLMDHYLRMTNQVDMHKQTASWKQWLSLRNHTQE
SLKIRVLKRWKLFLNKQEWTN

SEQ ID NO:30

>gi|73912683|ref|YP_308851.1| PB1 polymerase subunit [Influenza A virus (A/Korea/426/68 (H2N2))]

5 MDVNPTLLFLKVPQAISTTFPYTGDPYPYSHGTGTGYTMDTVNRTHQYSEKKGWTTNTETGAPQLNPID
 GPLPEDNEPSGYAQTDCVLEAMAFLEESHPIGIFENSCLETMEVIQQTRVDKLTQGRQTYDWTNLNRNPAA
 TALANTIEVFRSNGLTANESGRLLIDFLKDVIESMDKEEMEITTHFQRKRRVRDNMTKKMVTQRTIGKKKQ
 RLNKRSYLIRALTTLNTMTKDAERGKLRRAIATPGMQIRGFVHFVETLARNICEKLEQSGLPVGGNEKKA
 10 KLANVVRKMMTNSQDTELSFTITGDNTKWNENQNPRVFLAMITYITRNQPEWFRNVLSIAPIMFSNKMAR
 LGKGYMFESKSMKLRTQIPAEMLASIDLKYNENSTRKKIEKIRPLLDGTVSLSPGMMGMFNMSTVLG
 VSILNLGQKKYTKTTYWWDGLQSSDDFALIVNAPNHEGIQAGVNRFYRTCKLVGINMSKKKSYINRTGTF
 EFTSFFYRYGFVANFSMELPSFGVSGINESADMSIGVTVIKNNMINNDLGPATAQMALQLFIKDYRYTYR
 CHRGDTQIQTRRSFELKKLWEQTRSKAGLLVSDGGSNLYNIRNLHIPEVCLKWELMDEYDQGRLCNPLNP
 FVSHKEIESVNNNAVMPAHGPAKSMEYDAVATTHSWTPKRNRSILNTSQRGILEDEQMYQKCCNLFEKFF
 15 PSSSYRRPVGISSMVEAMVSRARIDARIDFESGRIKKEEFAEIMKICSTIEELRRQK

SEQ ID NO:31

>gi|73921567|ref|YP_308869.1| non-structural protein NS2 [Influenza A virus (A/Korea/426/68 (H2N2))]

20 MDSNTVSSFDILLRMSKMLGSSSEDLNGMITQFESLKYRDSLGEAVMRMGDLHSLQNRNGKWREQLG
 QKFEEIRWLIEEVRHRLKITENSFEQITFMQALQLLFEVEQEIRTFSFQLI

SEQ ID NO:32

>gi|73921566|ref|YP_308870.1| non-structural protein NS1 [Influenza A virus (A/Korea/426/68 (H2N2))]

25 MDSNTVSSFDVDCFLWHVRKQVVDQELGDAPFLDRLRRDQKSLRGRGSTLDLDIEAATRVGKQIVERILK
 EESDEALKMTMASAPASRYLTDMTIEELSRDWFMLMPKQKVEGPLCIRIDQAIMDKNIMLKANFSVIFDR
 LETLILLRAFTEEGAIVGEISPLPSLPGHTIEDVKNAIGVLIGGLEWNDNTVRVSKTLQRFARWSSNENG
 RPPLTPKQKRKMARTIRSKVRRDKMAD

30

SEQ ID NO:33

>gi|73921307|ref|YP_308871.1| nucleoprotein [Influenza A virus (A/Korea/426/68 (H2N2))]

35 MASQGTKRSEYQMETDGERQNAIEIRASVGKIDGIGRFYIQMCTELKLSYDEGRLIQNSLTIERMVLISA
 FDERRNKYLEEHPSAGKDPKKTGGPIYKRVGDKWMRELVLVDKKEIRRIWRQANNGDDATAGLTHMMIWH
 SNLNDTTYQRTALVRTGMDPRMCSLMQGSTLPRRSGAAGAAVKGVGTVMELIRMIKRGINDRNFWRGE
 NGRKTRSAYERMCNILKGKFQTAAQRAMMDQVRESRNPNGAEIEDLIFLARSALILRGSAVHKSLCPACV
 YGPAIASGYNFEKEGYSLVGIDPFKLLQNSQVYSLIRPNENPAHKSQIVWMACNSAAFEDLRVLSFIRGT
 KVSPRGLKSTRGVQIASNENMDTMESSTLELRSRYWAIRTRSGGNTNQQRASAGQISVQPAFSVQRNLFP
 40 DKPTIMAAFTGNTEGRTSDMRAEIIIRMEGAKPEEMSFQGRGVFELSDEKATNPVPSFDMSEGSYFFG
 DNAEEYDN

SEQ ID NO:34

>gi|73921304|ref|YP_308872.1| neuraminidase [Influenza A virus (A/Korea/426/68 (H2N2))]

45 MNPNQKIITIGSVSLTIATVCFMLQIAILVTTVTLHFKQHECDSPASNQVMPCEPIIIERNITEIVYLN
 TTIEKEICPEVVEYRNWSKPQCQITGFAPFSKDNSIRLSAGGDIWVTREPYVSCDPGKCYQFALGQGTTL
 DNKHSNDTIHDIRPHRTLLMNELGVPFHLGTRQVCVAWSSSSCHDGKAWLHVCVTGDDKNATASFIYDGR
 LMSIGSWSQNILRTQESSECVCINGTCTVMTDGSASGRADTRILFIEEGKIVHISPLSGSAQHVEECSC
 50 YPRYPDVRCICRDNWKGSRNPVIDINMEDYSIDSSYVCSGLVGDTPRNDRSSNSNCRPNPNERGNPGVK
 GWAFDNGDDVWVGRTISKDLRSGYETFKVIGGWSTPNSKSQINRQVIVDSNNWSGYSGIFSVGEKRCINR
 CFYVELIRGRQQETRVWWTSSNSIVVFCGTSPTYGTGSWPDGANINFMPI

55

SEQ ID NO:35

>gi|73919213|ref|YP_308844.1| nonstructural protein 2 [Influenza A virus (A/New York/392/2004 (H3N2))]

MDSNTVSSFDILLRMSKMLGSSSEDLNGMITQFESLKIYRDSLGEAVMRMGDLHLLQNRNGKWREQLG
 QKFEEIRWLIEEVRHRLKTTENSFEQITFMQALQLLFEVEQEIRTFSFQLI

SEQ ID NO:36

>gi|73919212|ref|YP_308845.1| nonstructural protein 1 [Influenza A virus (A/New York/392/2004 (H3N2))]

5 MDSNTVSSVFQVDCFLWHIRKQVVDQELSDAPFLDRLRRDQSLRGRGNTLGLDIKAATHVGKQIVEKILK
EESDEALKMTMVSTPASRYITDMTIEELSRNWFMLMPKQKVEGPLCIRMDQAIMKNIMLKANFSVIFDR
LETIVLLRAFTEEGAIVGEISPLSPFPGHTIEDVKNAIGVLIGGLEWNDNTVRVSKNLQRFARWRSSNENG
GPPLTPKQKRKMARTARSKV

10 SEQ ID NO:37

>gi|73919207|ref|YP_308839.1| hemagglutinin [Influenza A virus (A/New York/392/2004 (H3N2))]

15 MKTIIALSILCLVFAQKLPGNDNSTATLCLGHHAVPNGTIVKTIITNDQIEVTNATELVQSSSTGGICDS
PHQILDGENCTLIDALLGDPQCDGFQNKWDLFVERSKAYSNCYPYDVPDYASLRSLVASSGTLEFNES
FNWTVGTQNGTSSACKRRSNNSSFFSRLNWLTHLKFYKYPALNVTMPNNEKFDKLYIWGVHHPGTNDNDQISL
YAQASGRITVSTKRSQQTVIPSIGSRPRIRDVPSRISYWTIVKPGDILLINSTGNLIAPRGYFKIRSGK
SSIMRSDAPIGKCNSECITPNGSIPNDKPFQNVNRTYACPRYVKQNTLKLATGMRNVPEKQTRGIFGA
IAGFIENGWEGMVDGWYGRHQNSEGTGQAADLKSTQAAINQINGKLNRLIGKTNEKFHQIEKEFSEVEG
RIQDLEKYVEDTKIDLWSYNAELLVALENQHTIDLTSEMKNLFERTKKQLRENAEDMGNGCFKIYHKCD
20 NACIGSIRNGTYDHDVYRDEALNNRFQIKGVELKSGYKDWWILWISFAISCFLLCVALLGFIMWACQKGNI
RCNICI

SEQ ID NO:38

25 >gi|73919153|ref|YP_308840.1| matrix protein 2 [Influenza A virus (A/New York/392/2004 (H3N2))]

MSLLTEVETPIRNEWGCRCNDSSDPLVVAASIIGILHLILWILDRLFFKCVYRLFKHGLKRGPESTEGVPE
SMREEYRKEQQNAVDADDSHFVSIELE

SEQ ID NO:39

30 >gi|73919152|ref|YP_308841.1| matrix protein 1 [Influenza A virus (A/New York/392/2004 (H3N2))]

MSLLTEVETYVLSIVPSGPLKAEIAQRLEDVFAGKNTDLEALMEWLKTRPILSPLTKGILGFVFTLTVP
ERGLQRRRFVQNALNGNDPNNMDKAVKLYRKLKREITFHGAKEIALSYSAGALASCMGLIYNRMGAVTT
EVAFLVLCATCEQIADSQHRSHRQMVATTNPLIKHENRMVLASTTAKAMEQMAGSSEQAEEAMEIASQAR
35 QMVQAMRAVGTHPSSTGLRDDLENLQTYQKRMGVQMQRFK

SEQ ID NO:40

40 >gi|73919150|ref|YP_308848.1| PB1-F2 protein [Influenza A virus (A/New York/392/2004 (H3N2))]

MEQEODTPWTQSTEHTNIQRRGSGRQIQKLGHPNSTQLMDHYLRIMSQVDMHKQTVSWRLWPSLKNPTQV
SLRTHALKQWKSFNKQGWTN

SEQ ID NO:41

45 >gi|73919149|ref|YP_308847.1| polymerase PB1 [Influenza A virus (A/New York/392/2004 (H3N2))]

MDVNPTLLFLKVPAQNAISTTFPYTGDPPYSHGTGTGYTMDTVNRTHQYSEKQKWTNTTETGAPQLNPID
GPLPEDNEPSGYAQTDCVLEAMAFLEESHPIFENSCLTMEVVQQTRVDKLTQGRQTYDWTLNRNQPA
TALANTIEVFRSNGLTANESGRLIDFLKDVMESEMDKEEMEITTHFQRRVRDNMTKKMVTQRTIGKKKQ
RVNKRGLIRALTNTMTKDAERGKLRRAIATPGMQIRGFVYFVETLARSICEKLEQSGLPVGGNEKKA
50 KLANVVRKMMTNSQDTELSFTITGDNTKWNENQNPRMFLAMITYITKNQPEWFRNLSIAPIMFSNKMAR
LGKGYMFESKRMKLRTQIPAEMLASIDLKYFNSTRKKIEKIRPLLDGTASLSPGMMMGFMNMLSTVLG
VSVLNLGQKKYTKTTYWWDGLQSSDDFALIVNAPNHEGIQAGVDRFYRTCKLVGINMSKKKSYINKTGTF
EFTSFFYRYGFVANFSMELPSFGVSGINESADMSIGVTVIKNNMINNDLGPATAQMALQLFIKDYRYTYR
CHRGDTQIQTRRSFELKKLWDQTQSRAGLLVSDGGPNLYNIRNLHIPEVCLKWELMDENYRGRRLCNPLNP
55 FVSHKEIESVNNAVVMPAHGPAKSMEYDAVATTHSWNPKRNRSLNLSQRGILEDEQMYQKCCNLFEKFF
PSSSYRRPIGISSMVEAMVSRRARIDARIDFESGRIKKEEFSEIMKICSTIEELRRQK

SEQ ID NO:42

>gi|73919147|ref|YP_308843.1| nucleocapsid protein [Influenza A virus (A/New York/392/2004 (H3N2))]
MASQGTKRSYEQMETDGDQRNATEIRASVGKMGIDGIGRFYIQMCTELKLSDEHGRLIQNSLTIEKMVLSA
FDERRNKYLEEHPSAGKDPKKTGGPIYRRVDGKWMRELVLVDKEEIRRIWRQANNGEDATAGLTHIMIWH
5 SNLNDATYQRTRALVRTGMDPRMCSLMQGSTLPRRSGAAGAAVKGIGTMVMELIRMVKRGINDRNFWRGE
NGRKTRSAYERM CNILKGKFQTAAQRAMVDQVRESRNPNGNAEIEDLIFLARSALILRGSVAHKSCLPACA
YGPAVSSSGYDFEKEGYSLVGIDPFKLLQNSQIYSLIRPNENPAHKSQIVWMACHSAAFEDLRLLSFIRGT
KVSPRGKLSTRGVQIASNENMDNMGSSTLELRSGYWAIRTRSGGNTNQQRASAGQTSVQPTFSVQRNLPF
10 EKSTIMAAFTGNTTEGRSTDMRAEIIIRMMEGAKPEEVSFGRGVFELSDEKATNPPIVPSFDMSEGSYFFG
DNAEEYDN

SEQ ID NO:43

>gi|73919136|ref|YP_308842.1| neuraminidase [Influenza A virus (A/New York/392/2004 (H3N2))]
15 MNPNQKIITIGSVSLTISTICFFMQIAILITTVTLHFKQYEFNSPPNNQVLMCEPTIIERNITEIVYLTN
TTIEKEMCPKLAERYNWSKPQC DITGFAPFSKDNSIRLSAGGDIWVTREPYVSCDPDKCYQFALGQGTTL
NNVHSNDTVHDRTPYRTLMLNELGVPFHLGKQVCIAWSSSSSCHDGKAWLHVCTGDDKNATASFIYNGR
LVDSIVSWSKILRTQESECVCINGTCTVMTDGSASGKADTKILFIEEGKIIHTSTLSGSAQHVEECSC
YPRYPGVRCVCRDNWKGSNRPVIDINIKDYSIVSSYVCSGLVGDTPRKNDSSSSSSHCLDPNNEEGGHGVK
20 GWAFDDGNDVWMGRTISEKLRSYETFKVIEGWSKPN SKLQINRQVIVDRGNRSGYSGIFSVEGKSCINR
CFYVELIRGRKEETEVLWTSNSIVVFCGTS GTYGTGSWPDGADINL MPI

SEQ ID NO:44

>gi|73919134|ref|YP_308846.1| polymerase PA [Influenza A virus (A/New York/392/2004 (H3N2))]
25 MEDFVRQCFNPMIVELAEKAMKEYGEDLKIETNKFAAICTHLEVCFMYSDFHFINEQGESIVVELDDPNA
LLKHRFEIIEGRDRTMAWTVVNSICNTTGAEKPKFLPDLYDYKENRFIEIGVTRREVHIYYLEKANKIKS
ENTHIIHIFSFTGEEIATKADYTLDEESRARIKTRLTIRQEMANRGLWDSFRQSERGEETIEEKFEISGT
MRRLADQSLPPKFSCLENFRAYVDGFEPNGCIEGKLSQMSKEVNAKIEPFLKTTTPRIKLPNGPPCYQRS
30 KFLMLDALKLSIEDPSHEGEGIPLYDAIKCIKTFFGWKPEYIVKPHEKGINSNYLLSWKQVLSELQDIEN
EEKIPRTKNMKKTSQ LKWALGENMAPEKVD FDNCRDISDLKQYDSDEPELRLSLSSWIQNEFNKACELTDS
IWIELDEIGEDVAPIEYIASMRNYFTA EVSHCRATEYIMKGVYINTALLNASCAAMDDFQ LIPMISKCR
TKEGRKTNLYGFI IKGRSHLRNDTDVNVFVSMEFSLTDPRLEPHKWEKYCVLEIGDMLLRSAIGQISR
MFLYVRTNGTSKVKMKWGMEMRRCLLQSLQ QIESMIEAESSIKEKDMTKEFFENKSEAWPIGESPKGVVEE
35 GSIGKVCRTLLAKSVFNSLYASPQLEGFSAESRKL LLLVVQALRDNLEPGTFDLGGLYEAEIECLINDPWV
LLNASWFNSFLTHALK

SEQ ID NO:45

>gi|73919060|ref|YP_308849.1| polymerase PB2 [Influenza A virus (A/New York/392/2004 (H3N2))]
40 MERIKELRNLMSQSRTREILT KTTVDHMAI IKKYTSGRQEKNP SLRMKWMAMKYPITADKRITEMVPER
NEQGQTLWSKMSDAGSDRVMVSPLAVTWNNRNGPVASTVHYPKVYKTYFDKVERLKHGTFGPVHFRNQVK
IRRRVDINPGHADLSAKEAQDVIMEVVF PNEVGARILTS ESQ LTTKEKKEELRDCKISPLMVAYMLERE
LVRKTRFLPVAGGTSSIIYIEVLHLTQGT CWEQMYTPGGEVRNDDVDQSLIIAARNIVRAAVSADPLASL
45 LEMCHSTQIGGTRMVDILRQNPTEEQA VDICKAAMGLRISSSFSGGFTFKRTSGSSVKKEEEVLTGNLQ
TLKIRVHEGYEEFTMVGKRATAILRKATRRLVQLIVSGRDEQSIAEAIIVAMVFSQEDCMIAVRGDLNF
VNARNQRLNPMHQLLRHFQKDAKVL FQNWGIEHIDSVMGMVGVL PDMTPSTEMSMRGIRVSKMGVDEYSS
TERVVVSIDRFLVRDQRGNVLLSPEEVSETQGT ERLTITYSSMMWEINGPESVLVNTYQWII RNWEAV
KIQWSQNPAMLYNKMEFEPFQSLVPKAIRS QYSGFVRTL FQQMRDVLGTFDTTQIIKLLPFAAAPPKQSR
50 MQFSSSLTVNVRGSGMRILVRGNSPVFNYNKT KR LTI LKG DAGTLIEDPDESTSGVESAVLRGFLIIGKE
DRRYGPALSINELSNLAKGEKANVLIGQGDVVLVMKRKR DSSI L TDSQTATKRIRMAIN

SEQ ID NO:46: CMV Protein IE122:

>gi|39841910|gb|AAR31478.1| UL122 [Human herpesvirus 5]
MESSAKRKMDPNDEGPSSKVPRPETPVTKATTFLQTMLRKEVNSQLSLGDPLFP ELAEESLKTFEQVT
EDCNENPEKDVLAELGDILAQAVNHAGIDSSSTGHTLTTHSCSVSSAPLNKPTPTSVAVTNTPLPGASAT
PELSPRKKPRKTRPFKVI IKPPVPPAPIMLPLIKQEDIKPEPDFTIQYRNKIIDTAGCIVISDSEEEQG

EEVETR GATASS PSTGSGT PRVTS PTHPLSQMNHPLPDPLARPDEDSSSSSSSSSCSSASDSESESEEMK
CSSGGGASVTSSHHRGGFGSAASSLLSCGHQSSGGASTGPRKKKSKRISELDNEKVRNIMKDKNTPFCTPNVQTRRG
RVKIDEVSRMFRNTNRSLEYKNLPFTIPSMHQVLDEAIKACKTMQVNNKGIQIIYTRNHEVKSEVDVAVRCRLGTMCNLA
LSTPFLMEHTMPVTHPPEVAQRTADACNEGKAAWSLKEHLTHQLCPRSSDYRNMI IHA**ATPVDLLGALNLCPLMQKF**
5 PKQVMVRIFSTNQGGFMLPIYETAAKAYAVGQFEQPTETPPEDLDTLSLAIEAAIQDLRNKSQ

SEQ ID NO:126:

10 >gi|4927721|gb|AAD33253.1|AF125673_2 E7 [Human papillomavirus type 16]
MHGDTPTLHEYMLDLQPETTDLYCYEQLNDSSEEEDEIDGPAGQAEPRAHYNIVTFCKCDSTLRLCVQ
STHVD**IRTLEDLLMGTLGIVCPICSQKP**

SEQ ID NO:200: Influenza M2

15 >gi|21693176|gb|AAM75162| /Human/M2/H1N1/Puerto Rico/1934/// matrix protein
M2 [Influenza A virus (A/Puerto Rico/8/34/Mount Sinai(H1N1))]
MSLLTEVETPIRNEWGCRCNGSSDPLAIAANIIGILHLTLWILDRLFFKCIYRRFKYGLKGGPSTEGVPK
SMREEYRKEQQSAVDADDGHFVSIELE

20 SEQ ID NO:201: >gi|1906383|gb|AAB50256.1| tat protein [Human
immunodeficiency virus
1]MEPVDPRLPEPKHPSQPKTACTNCYCKKCCFHCQVCFITKALGISYGRKKRRQRRRAHQNSQTHQASLS
KQPTSQPRGDPTGPKE

25 SEQ ID NO:202: >B.FR.1983.HXB2-LAI-IIIB-BRU (gp120)
MRVKEKYQHLWRWGWRWGTMLLGLMICSATEKLWVTVYYGVVWKEATTTLCASDAKAYDTEVHNWATHACV
PTDPNPQEVVLNVNVTENFNMWKNMVEQMHEDIISLWDQSLKPCVKLTPLCVSLKCTDLKNDTNTNSSSGRMIME
KGEIKNCSFNISTSIRGKVQKEYAFFYKLDIIPIDNDTTSYKLTSCNTSVITQACPKVSFEPIPIHYCAPAGFAI
LKCNNKTFNGTGPTNVSTVQCTHGIRPVVST**QLLNGSLAEFVVIRSVNFTDNAKTIIVQLNTSVEINCTRPN**
30 NNTRKRIRIQRGPGRAFVTIGKIGNMRQAHCNISRAKWNNTLKQIASKLREQFGNNKTIIFKQSSGGDPEIVTHS
FNCGGEFFYCNSTQLFNSTWFNSTWSTEGSNNTGSDTITLPCRKQIINMWQKVGKAMYAPPISGQIRCSSNIT
GLLLTRDGGNSNNESEIFRPGGDMRDNRSELYKYKVVKIEPLGV**APTAKARRVVQREKR**

SEQ ID NO:203: HIV gp41

35 >B.FR.1983.HXB2-LAI-IIIB-BRU (ACC No. K03455)
AVGIGALFLGFLGAAGSTMGAASMTLTVQARQLLSGIVQQNNLLRAIEAQQHLLQLTVWGIKQLQARILAVERY
LKDQQLGIWGCSGKLICTTAVPWNASWSNKSLEQIWNHTTWMEWDREINNYTSLIHSLEEESQSQEKNEQELL
ELDKWASLWNWFNITNWLWYIKLFIMIVGGLVGLRIVFAVLSIVNRVRQGYSPLSFQTHLPTPRGP**DRPEGIEEEE**
GGERDRDRSIRLVNGSLALIWDRLSLCLFSYHRLRDLILLIVTRIVELLGRRGWEALKYWWNLLQYWSQELKNSA
40 VSLLNATAIAVAEGTDRVIEVVQACRAIRHIPRRIRQGLERILL

SEQ ID NO:204: >1b._._.AB016785._ (HCV-E1)

45 YEVRNVSGVYHVTNDCSNSSIVYGAADMIMHTPGCVPCVRENNSSRCWVALTPTLAARNRSIPTTTIRRHVDDL
GAAAFCSAMYVGDLCGSVFLVSQLFSTFSPRRYETVQDCNCSLYPGHVS GHRMAWDMMNWSPTAALVVSQLLRIP
QAVVDMVTGAHW**GVLAGLAYYS**MGVGNWAKVLIVMLLFAGVDG

SEQ ID NO:205: >1b._._.AB016785.AB016785

50 TTHVTGGQTGRITTLGITAMFAFGPHQKLQLINTNGSWHINRTALNCNDSLNTGFLAALFYARKFNSSGCPERMAS
CRPIDKFVQGWGPITHAVPDNLDQRPYCWYAPQPCGIIIPASQVCGPVYCFTPSPVVVGTTDRFGAPTYTWGENE
TDVLLLNTRPPQGNWFGCTWMNGTGFAKTCGGPPCNIGGVGNNTLTCPTDCFRKHPEATYTKCGSGPWLTPRCM
VDYPYRLWHYPCTVNFTIFKVRMYVGGVEHRLTAACNWTRGERCDLED RDRSELSPLLLSTTEWQVLPCSFTTLP
ALSTGLIHLHQINVDVQYLYGVGS AVVSIVIKWEYILLFL**LLADARVCA**CLWMMLLIAQAEA

55

SEQ ID NO: 309: >gi|52139259|ref|YP_081534.1| major capsid protein [Human
herpesvirus 5]
MENWSALELLPKVGIPDTDFLTHVKTSAGEEMFEALRIYYGDDPERYNIHF EAFIGTFCNRLEWVYFLTSG
LAAAAHAIKFHDLNKLTTGKMLFHVQVPRVASGAGLPTS RQT TIMVTKYSEKSPITIPFELSAACLT YLR

ETFEGETILDKILNVEAMHTVLRALKNTADAMERGLIHSFLQTLLRKAPPYFVVQTLVENATLARQALNRI
QRSNILQSFKAKMLATLFLNLRTRDRDYVLKFLTRLAEAAATDSILDNPITYTTSSGAKISGVMVSTANVM
QIIMSLSSSHITKETVSAPATYGNFVLSPENAVTAISYHSILADFNSYKAHLTSGQPHLPNDLSLQAGAH
5 SLTPLSMDVIRLGEKTVIMENLRRVYKNTDTKDLERNVDLTFPPVGLYLPEDRGYTTVESKVKLNNDTV
RNALPTTAYLLNRDRAVQKIDFVDALKTLCHPVLHEPAPCLQTFTERGPPSEPAMQRLLECRFQQEPMGG
AARRIPHFYRVRREVPRTVNEMKQDFVVDYFYKVGNIITLYTELHPFFDFTHCQENSETVALCTPRIVIGN
LPDGLAPGPFHELRTWEIMEHMLRPPPDYEETLRLFKTTVTSNYPELCYLVVDLVHGNVDAFLIIRTF
VARCIVNMFHTRQLLVFAHSYALVTLIAEHLADGALPPQLLFHYRNLVAVLRVLRVTRISALPGLNNGQLAE
EPLSAYVNALHDHRLWPPFVTHLPRNMEGVQVVADRQPLNPANIEARHHGVSDVPRLGAMDADEPLFVDD
10 YRATDDEWTLQKVLYLCLMPAMTNNRACGLGLNLKTLVLDLYRPAFLMLPAATAVSTSGTTSKESTSGV
TPEDSIAAQRAVGEMLTELVEDVATDAHTPLLQACRELFVAVQFVGEHVKVLEVRAPLDHAQRQGLPDF
ISRQHVLYNGCCVVTAPKTLIEYSLPVPFHRFYSNPTICAALSDDIKRYVTEFPHYHRHDGGFPLPTAFA
HEYHNWLRSPFSRYSATCPNVLHSMVTLAAMLYKISPVSLVLQTKAHIHGPFALTAVRTDTEVDMLLYS
GKSCTSVIINNPIVTKERDISTTYHVTQNINTVDMGLGYTSNTCVAYVNRVRTDMGVRVQDLFRVFPNM
15 VYRHDEVDWRIRHAAGVERPQLLDTETISMLTFGSMSERNAAAATVHGQKAACELILTPVTMDVNYFKIPN
NPRGRASCMLAVDPYDTEAATKAIYDHEADAQTFATHNPWASQAGCLSDVLYNTRHRERLGYSKFYS
PCAQYFNTEEIIAANKTLFKTIDEYLLRAKDCIRGDTDTQYVCVEGTEQLIENPCRLTQEALPILSTTTL
ALMETKLKGGAGAFATSETHFGNYVVGEEIIPLQQSMLFNS

20 SEQ ID NO: 310: >gi|52139266|ref|YP_081541.1| tegument protein UL16 [Human
herpesvirus 5]

MAWRSGLCETDSRTLKQFLQEECMWKLVGKSRKHREYRAVACRSTIFSPEDDGSCILCQLLLFYRDGEWI
LCLCCNGRYQGHYGVGHVHRRRRRICHLPITYQLSFGGGLGPASIDFLPSFSQVTSSMTCDGITPDVIYE
25 VCMLVPQDEAKRILVKGHGAMDLCQKAVTLGGAGAWLLPRPEGYTLFFYILCYDLFTSCGNRCDIPSMT
RLMAAATACGQAGCSFCTDHEGHVDPTGNYVGCTPDMGRCLCYVPCGPMQSLIHNEEPATFFCESDDAK
YLCVAGSKTAAQVTLGDGLDYHIGVKDSEGRWLPVKTDVVDLVKVEEPVSRMIVCSCPVLKNLVH

30 SEQ ID NO: 311: >gi|52139212|ref|YP_081485.1| tegument protein UL26 [Human
herpesvirus 5]

MTSRRAPDGGNLDDFMRRQRGRHLDLPYPRGYTLFVCDVEETILTTPRDVEYWKLLVVTQGGQLRVIGTIG
LANLFSWDRSVAGVAADGSVLCYEISRENFVRAADSLPQLLERGLLHSYFEDVERAAQGRLRHGNRSG
35 RRADAGQVIREASACYVSRALLRHRVTPGKQEITDAMFEAGNVPSALLP

SEQ ID NO: 312: >gi|52139244|ref|YP_081517.1| multifunctional expression
regulator [Human herpesvirus 5]

MELHSRGRHDAPSLSSLSERERRARRARRFCLDYEPVPRKFRFRERSPTSPSTRNGAAASEYHLAEDTVGA
40 ASHHHRPCVPARRPRYSKDDDEGDPDHYPPLPPSSRHALGGTGGHIIMGTAGFRGGHRASSSFKRVA
ASASVPLNPHYGKSYDNDGEPHHGGDSTHLRRRVPSCPTTFGSSHPSSANNHHGSSAGPQQQMLALI
DDELAMDEDELQQLSRLIEKKRARLQGAASSGTSPTSSTSPVYDLQRYTAESLRLAPYPADLKVPPTAF
PQDHQPRGRILLSHDELMHTDYLLHIRQQFDWLEEPLLRKLVEKIFAVYNAPNLHTLLAIIDETLSYMK
YHHLHGLPVNPHDPYLETVGMRQLLFNKLNNLDLGCILDHGDGWDHHCSTLKRVLVKKPGQMSAWLRDDV
45 CDLQKRPPETFSQPMHRAMAYVCSFSRVAVSLRRRALQVTGTPQFFDQFDTNAMGTYRCGAVSDILGA
LQCHECQNEMCELRIQRALAPYRFMIAYCPCFDEQSLDLTVFAGTTTTASNHATAGGQQRGGDIHPTD
EQCASMESRTDPATLTAYDKKDREGSHRHPSPMIAAAAPPAQPPSQPQQHYSEGELEDESDASSQDL
VRATDRHGDTVVYKTTAVPPSPAPLAGVRSHRGELNLMTPSPSHGGSPPQVPHKQPIIPVQSANGNHST
TATQQQQPPPPPPVQEDDSVVMRCQTPDYEDMLCYSDMDMD

EXAMPLE 1

Preparation of dimeric peptides according to the invention.

5 Amino acids that link two monomeric peptide sequences are underlined.

Influenza (M2e):

Constructs derived from the extracellular domain on influenza protein M2 (M2e-domain)

10 Native domain:

MSLLTEVETPIRNEWGCRCNDSSD

The following sequences was prepared or are under preparation. The different parts, Z¹-Z⁷, are divided by brackets.

15

BI155 dimer

[RG][(Dpr(Aoa))][TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN][RG][-][TPTRQEWDCRIS]

20

|
[RG][(Dpr(Ser))][TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS][RG][-][TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEWS]

This construct links the monomeric peptides via a Dpr(Aoa) in the first peptide to an oxidized by NaIO₄ Dpr(Ser) residue in the second.

25

Dpr(Aoa) = N- α -Fmoc-N- β -(N-t.-Boc-amino-oxyacetyl)-L-diaminopropionic acid

Explanation:

The brackets used in the sequences are meant to indicate the different parts/boxes. For the BI155 monomeric parts, the boxes will have the following amino-acid sequences (A/B monomer):

30

Part Z¹ RG

Part Z² Dpr(Aoa) / Dpr(Ser)

Part Z³ TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN / TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS

35

Part Z⁴ RG

Part Z⁵ -, means not present in these peptides

Part Z⁶ TPTRQEWDCRIS / TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEWS

Part Z⁷ not present (optional)

The boxes on part of the other sequences can be found in a similar manner

5

BI155-2

[RG][(Dpr(Aoa))][TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN][RG][-][TPTRQEWDARIS]

|

[RG][(Dpr(Ser))][TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS][RG][-][TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEWS]

10

Examples of disulfide linked constructs can be, but are not restricted to, the following linked peptide sequences:

BI-155-16

[RG][C][TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN][RG][-][TPTRQEWDARIS]

15

|

[RG][C][TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS][RG][-][TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEWS]

The above disulfide linked constructs may e.g. be synthesised by titration of 2-pyridinesulphenyl (SPyr)-protected cysteine-containing peptides with thiol-unprotected peptides. This has proven to be a superior procedure to selectively generate disulfide-linked peptide heterodimers preventing the formation of homodimers (Schutz A *et al.*, Tetrahedron, Volume 56, Issue 24, 9 June 2000, Pages 3889-3891). Similar dimeric constructs may be made with the other monomeric peptides according to the invention.

20

BI-155-15

[RG][C][TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN][RG][-][TPTRQEWDARIS]

|

[RG][C][TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS][RG][-][TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEWS]

25

Examples of thio-ester linked constructs can be, but are not restricted to, the following linked peptide sequences:

30

BI-155-3

[RG][C][TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN][RG][-][TPTRQEWDARIS]

|
[RG][K][TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS][RG][-][TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEW]

BI-155-4

[RG][C][TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN][RG][-][TPTRQEW DARIS]

5

|
[RG][K][TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS][RG][-][TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEW]

BI-155-5

[RG][K][TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN][RG][-][TPTRQEWDCRIS]

|
10 [RG][C][TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS][RG][-][TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEW]

BI-155-6

[RG][K][TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN][RG][-][TPTRQEW DARIS]

|
[RG][C][TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS][RG][-][TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEW]

15 The Cys-Lys linker is typically established in the form of a thioether bond between a cysteine in one peptide and a bromoacetyl derivatized lysine in the other peptide.

Examples of other linked constructs can be, but are not restricted to, the following linked peptide sequences, N-ε-methylated Lys may be linked to Asp or Glu by a side-chain to side-chain peptide bond, wherein the N methylation makes the bond more stable (Lys(Me) refers to an N-ε-methylated Lys residue).

20

BI-155-7

[RG][Lys(Me)][TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN][RG][-][TPTRQEWDCRIS]

|
[RG][D][TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS][RG][-][TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEW]

25 BI-155-8

[RG][Lys(Me)][TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN][RG][-][TPTRQEWDCRIS]

|
[RG][E][TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS][RG][-][TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEW]

BI-155-9

30 [RG][Lys(Me)][TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN][RG][-][TPTRQEW DARIS]

|
[RG][D][TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS][RG][-][TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEWS]

BI-155-10

[RG][(Lys(Me))][TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN][RG][-][TPTRQEWDARIS]

5 |
[RG][E][TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS][RG][-][TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEWS]

BI-155-11

[RG][D][TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN][RG][-][TPTRQEWDARIS]

10 |
[RG][(Lys(Me))][TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS][RG][-][TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEWS]

BI-155-12

[RG][D][TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN][RG][-][TPTRQEWDARIS]

|
[RG][(Lys(Me))][TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS][RG][-][TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEWS]

15 BI-155-13

[RG][E][TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN][RG][-][TPTRQEWDARIS]

|
[RG][(Lys(Me))][TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS][RG][-][TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEWS]

BI-155-14

20 [RG][E][TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN][RG][-][TPTRQEWDARIS]

|
[RG][(Lys(Me))][TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS][RG][-][TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEWS]

EXAMPLE 3

25 *Immunological studies*

Rabbit immunizations

New Zealand White female rabbits (n=3) is immunized intradermally at weeks 0, 2 & 6 with 1 ml of BI400-B vaccine consisting of 500 µg BI400-B in 50% V/V Freund's adjuvant (i.e.

Complete Freund's adjuvant used for priming, followed by boostings with Incomplete Freund's adjuvant). Individual blood serum is isolated for ELISA.

Direct ELISA for human or rabbit sera

50-100 µl of BI400-B (pre-incubated in Coating buffer - 0.05M Na₂CO₃ pH9.6; denoted CB -
 5 in cold at 16 µg/ml for each peptide 1-3 days prior to coating) or just CB (background control) is used for coating wells in microtiter plates at 4°C overnight. The microtiter plates are then washed 3x with washing buffer (PBS + 1% v/v Triton-X100; denoted WB), followed by 2h blocking at room temperature (RT) with 200 µl/well of blocking buffer (PBS + 1% w/v BSA). Plates are then washed 3x with WB, followed by 1h incubation at 37°C with 50-70
 10 ul/well of added human (or rabbit) sera (serial dilutions ranging from 1:1 – 1:250 in dilution buffer (PBS + 1% v/v Triton-X100 + 1% w/v BSA; denoted DB)). Plates are then washed 6x with WB, followed by 1h incubation at RT with 70 µl/well of Alkaline Phosphatase-conjugated Protein G (3µg/ml in DB; Calbiochem 539305). Plates are then washed 6x with WB, followed by 10-60 min incubation at room temperature with 100 µl/well of 0.3% w/v of Phenophthalein
 15 monophosphate (Sigma P-5758). Plates are finally quenched by adding 100 µl/well of Quench solution (0.1M TRIS + 0.1M EDTA + 0.5M NaOH + 0.01% w/v NaN₃; pH14), followed by ELISA reader (ASYS UVM 340) at 550 nm.

EXAMPLE 4

Virus specific response by ELISPOT assay

20 At day one, PBMC samples from blood donors are thawed, washed with warm medium and incubated in flasks (250000PBMCs/cm²) for 24 hours at 37°C, 5% CO₂ in covering amount of culture media (RPMI 1640 with ultra-glutamine, Lonza, BE12-702F701; 10% Foetal Bovine serum (FBS), Fisher Scientific Cat. No. A15-101; Penicillin/Streptomycin, Fisher Scientific Cat. No. P11-010) to allow the cells to recover after thawing. At day two, the cells are added
 25 to a Falcon Microtest Tissue Culture plate, 96well flat bottom, at 500 000 cells per well in a volume of 200µl total medium. Parallel wells are added the indicated stimuli in duplicate or left with medium as a control for 6 days at 37°C, 5% CO₂. After the six day of incubation, 100µl of the cell suspension are transferred to an ELISPOT (Millipore multiscreen HTS) plate coated with 1µg/ml native influenza M2e protein. After a 24 hour incubation, the plate is
 30 washed four times with PBS + 0,05% Tween20, and a fifth time with PBS, 200µl/well. A mouse Anti-human IgG or IgM biotin (Southern Biotech 9040-08 and 9020-08) is diluted in PBS with 0.5% FBS and incubated for 90 minutes at 37°C. The washing is repeated as described, before 80µl Streptavidin-Alkaline-Phosphatase (Sigma Aldrich, S289) is added each well and incubated at 60 minutes in the dark, at room temperature. The wells are then

washed 2 times with PBS + 0.05% Tween20 and 4 times with PBS, 200µl/well, before the substrate, Vector Blue Alkaline Phosphatase Substrate kit III (Vector Blue, SK-5300) is added and let to develop for 7 minutes at room temperature. The reaction is stopped with running water, the plates let dry and the sport enumerated by an ELISPOT reader (CTL-
5 ImmunoSpot® S5 UV Analyzer).

Virus specific response by ELISA

100µl of antigen as indicated (pre-incubated in Coating buffer - 0.05M Na₂CO₃ pH9.6; denoted CB - in cold at 8µg/ml 1-3 days) or just CB (background control) is used for coating wells in microtiter plates at 4°C. The microtiter plates are then washed 3x with washing
10 buffer (PBS + 1% v/v Triton-X100; denoted WB), followed by 2h blocking at room temperature (RT) with 200 µl/well of blocking buffer (PBS + 1% w/v BSA). Plates are then washed 3x with WB, followed by 1h incubation at 37°C with 50-70 ul/well of added human (or rabbit or sheep) sera (serial dilutions ranging from 1:5 – 1:250 in dilution buffer (PBS + 1% v/v Triton-X100 + 1% w/v BSA; denoted DB)). Plates are then washed 6x with WB,
15 followed by 1h incubation at RT with 70 µl/well of Alkaline Phosphatase-conjugated Protein G (3µg/ml in DB; Calbiochem 539305) or goat anti-mouse IgG biotin (1µg/ml, Southern Biotech, 1030-08. In case of the goat anti-mouse IgG biotin, the plates are washed one extra step as described, before addition of 100µl Streptavidin-Alkaline-Phosphatase (1µg/ml, Sigma Aldrich, S289) and incubated 1 hour at RT. Plates are then washed 6x with WB,
20 followed by 10-60 min incubation at room temperature with 100 µl/well of 0.3% w/v of Phenophthalein monophosphate (Sigma P-5758). Plates are finally quenched by adding 100 µl/well of Quench solution (0.1M TRIS + 0.1M EDTA + 0.5M NaOH + 0.01% w/v NaN₃; pH14), followed by a measurement with a ELISA reader (ASYS UVM 340) at 550 nm. The strength of the sera, i.e. the magnitude of the humoral immune response, is then reported as
25 the dilution of sera that result in the described Optical Density (OD) value, or the OD value at the indicated dilution of sera.

EXAMPLE 5

The peptides according to the invention used in the following examples are synthesized by Schafer-N as c-terminal amides using the Fmoc-strategy of Sheppard, (1978) J.Chem.Soc.,
30 Chem. Commun., 539.

BI100-190e, BI100-190f, BI100-260b, BI100-260c, BI100-260d, BI100-260e, and BI100-260f were synthesized by Schafer-N with and without Biotin in the C-terminal tested:

Cell penetration assay

A set of peptides were biotinylated on C-terminal, and different combinations of aminoacids, with respect to length and type, were added to the sequence boxZ¹, Z⁴ and Z⁷ in the peptides according to the present invention, formula I. The peptides were tested on cells grown from one individual blood donor.

Schematic diagram of amino acid sequence of the peptides according to the invention (Each Z here defines a sequence of amino acids):

Z ¹	Z ²	Z ³	Z ⁴	Z ⁵	Z ⁶	Z ⁷
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Intracellular staining for biotinylated peptides

96-well U-bottom polystyrene plates (NUNC, cat no: 163320) were used for staining of human PBMCs. Briefly, 8ul of N- or C-terminally biotinylated peptides according to table 1 or table 2 (i.e. 5mM, 2.5mM & 1.25mM tested for each peptide) were incubated at 37°C for 2h with 40ul of PBMC (12.5 x 10⁶ cells/ml) from blood donors. Cells were then washed 3x with 150ul of Cellwash (BD, cat no: 349524), followed by resuspension of each cell pellet with 100ul of Trypsin-EDTA (Sigma, cat no: T4424), then incubated at 37°C for 5 min. Trypsinated cells were then washed 3x with 150ul of Cellwash (BD, cat no: 349524), followed by resuspension with BD Cytofix/Cytoperm™ plus (BD, cat no: 554715), then incubated at 4°C for 20 min according to manufacturer. Cells were then washed 2x with 150ul PermWash (BD, cat no: 554715). Cells were then stained with Streptavidin-APC (BD, cat no: 554067) & Anti-hCD11c (eBioscience, cat no: 12-0116) according to manufacturer at 4°C for 30 min aiming to visualize biotinylated peptides & dendritic cells, respectively. Cells were then washed 3x with 150ul PermWash, followed by resuspension in staining buffer (BD, cat no: 554656) before flow cytometry. Dendritic cells were gated as CD11c+ events outside lymphocyte region (i.e. higher FSC & SSC signals than lymphocytes). 200 000 total cells were acquired on a FACSCanto II flow cytometer with HTS loader, and histograms for both total cells & dendritic cells with respect to peptide-fluorescence (i.e. GeoMean) were prepared.

Extracellular staining for biotinylated peptides

96-well U-bottom polystyrene plates (NUNC, cat no: 163320) were used for staining of human PBMCs. Briefly, 8ul of N- or C-terminally biotinylated peptides according to table 1 or table 2 (i.e. 5mM, 2.5mM & 1.25mM tested for each peptide; all peptides manufactured by

Schafer) were incubated at 37°C for 2h with 40ul of PBMC (12.5 x 10⁶ cells/ml) from blood donors. Cells were then washed 3x with 150ul of Cellwash (BD, cat no: 349524), then stained with Streptavidin-APC (BD, cat no: 554067) & Anti-hCD11c (eBioscience, cat no: 12-0116) according to manufacturer at 4°C for 30 min aiming to visualize biotinylated peptides & dendritic cells, respectively. Cells were then washed 3x with 150ul of Cellwash (BD, cat no: 349524), followed by resuspension in staining buffer (BD, cat no: 554656) before flow cytometry. Dendritic cells were gated as CD11c⁺ events outside lymphocyte region (i.e. higher FSC & SSC signals than lymphocytes). 200 000 total cells were acquired on a FACSCanto II flow cytometer with HTS loader, and histograms for both total cells & dendritic cells with respect to peptide-fluorescence (i.e. GeoMean) were prepared.

EXAMPLE 6

Positive CTL response may alternatively be assayed by ELISPOT assay.

Human IFN-gamma cytotoxic T-cell (CTL) response by ELISPOT assay

Briefly, at day 1, PBMC samples from HCV patients were incubated in flasks (430 000 PBMCs/cm²) for 2h at 37°C, 5% CO₂ in covering amount of culture media (RPMI 1640 Fisher Scientific; Cat No. PAAE15-039 supplemented with L- Glutamine, (MedProbe Cat. No. 13E17-605E, 10% Foetal Bovine serum (FBS), Fisher Scientific Cat. No. A15-101) and Penicillin/Streptomycin, (Fisher Scientific Cat. No. P11-010) in order to allow adherence of monocytes. Non-adherent cells were isolated, washed, and frozen in 10% V/V DMSO in FBS until further usage. Adherent cells were carefully washed with culture media, followed by incubation at 37°C until day 3 in culture media containing 2µg/ml final concentration of hrGM-CSF (Xiamen amoytop biotech co, cat no: 3004.9090.90) & 1µg/ml hrIL-4 (Invitrogen, Cat no: PHC0043), and this procedure is then repeated at day 6. At day 7, cultured dendritic cells (5 000-10 000 per well) were added to ELISPOT (Millipore multiscreen HTS) plates coated with 0.5µg/well anti-human γ Interferon together with thawed autologous non-adherent cells (200 000 per well), antigen samples (1-8ug/ml final concentration for peptide antigens; 5ug/ml final concentration for Concanavalin A (Sigma, Cat no: C7275) or PHA (Sigma, Cat no: L2769))and optionally, anti-Anergy antibodies (0.03-0.05ug/ml final concentration for both anti-PD-1 (eBioscience, cat no: 16-9989-82) & anti-PD-L1 (eBioscience, cat no: 16-5983-82)). Plates were incubated overnight and spots were developed according to manufacturer. Spots were read on ELISPOT reader (CTL-ImmunoSpot[®] S5 UV Analyzer).

EXAMPLE 7

The REVEAL & ProVE® Rapid Epitope Discovery System in Detail

Binding properties to HLA for the ninemers listed are tested for the following HLA-classes:

5 HLA-A1, HLA-A2, HLA-A3, HLA-A11, HLA-A24, HLA-A29, HLA-B7, HLA-B8, HLA-B14, HLA-B15, HLA-B27, HLA-B35, HLA-B40.

The peptides are synthesized as a Prospector PEPscreen®: Custom Peptide Library. Peptides 8-15 amino acids in length are synthesized in 0.5-2mg quantities with high average purity. Quality control by MALDI-TOF Mass Spectrometry is carried out on 100% of samples.

10

The REVEAL™ binding assay determined the ability of each candidate peptide to bind to one or more MHC class I alleles and stabilizing the MHC-peptide complex. By comparing the binding to that of high and intermediate affinity T cell epitopes, the most likely immunogenic peptides in a protein sequence can be identified. Detection is based on the presence or absence of the native conformation of the MHC-peptide complex.

15

Each peptide is given a score relative to the positive control peptide, which is a known T cell epitope. The score of the test peptide is reported quantitatively as a percentage of the signal generated by the positive control peptide, and the peptide is indicated as having a putative pass or fail result. Assay performance is confirmed by including an intermediate control peptide that is known to bind with weaker affinity to the allele under investigation.

20

EXAMPLE 8

Intracellular staining:

Peptides as described herein with Z³ and Z⁶ derived from HCV, Influenza, or CMV are prepared and tested for intracellular staining in an experiment as described above in the "Cell penetration assay".

25

Average over results from buffy coats from ten donors, normalized to N-biotin for each donor is illustrated in figures 3 and 4.

EXAMPLE 9

Table 10. Peptides used as controls and not part to the invention, but carrying the same epitopes (Z3, Z6, Z9) linked by glycines and serines, for comparison to peptides of the invention. (Z = Norleucine, X= Homoarginine, biotc indicates that a biotinylated lysine residue has been added to the C-terminal).

30

Peptide	-	Z3	-	Z6	-	Z9	C-ter tag
BI330-72-2-ns-biotc	GS	VITYSIFLIVS	GS	GGNVIGGIYZIPR			biotin-NH2
BI330-83-ns-biotc	GS	TANWARVIS	GS	ANWAKVIL	S	NWAKVI	biotin-NH2
BI310-511-ns-biotc	S	GYLPAVGAPI	GS	VIRVIAHGLRL			biotin-NH2
BI100-330-ns-biotc	GS	TAYERZCNIL	GS	GLEPLVIAGILA			biotin-NH2
BI100-270-ns-biotc	GS	TVIGASZIPLL	GS	TPIXQDWENRAN			biotin-NH2
BI100-130-ns-biotc	GS	AAFEEZXITS	GS	VAFEDLXZZSFI			biotin-NH2

Results

5 Biotinylated versions of scaffold peptides were tested for intracellular and extracellular uptake. All tested peptides had stronger intracellular and extracellular uptake compared to the control peptide N-biotin (N-bio), as seen from Figures 1-2. Also when comparing the uptake of peptides according to the invention to peptides carrying the same epitopes linked by Glycine and Serine residues instead (Table 11), tested peptides according to the invention generally had a higher uptake. Many of the peptides tested show very strong uptake and

 10 potentially we are seeing saturation of the cell assay system for these.

Values represent averages over readouts from buffy coats from ten (five) donors and three (four) concentrations of peptide each, normalized by value for N-biotin for each donor for scaffold (non-scaffold) peptides respectively.

Table 11. Intracellular and extracellular uptake of peptides of the invention (**Bold**) compared to peptides containing the same epitopes linked by Gly and Ser residues (**non-bold Italics**). Median readouts from buffy coats from ten (five) donors and three (four) concentrations of peptide each, normalized by value for N-biotin for each donor for scaffold (non-scaffold) peptides.

Peptide (biotinylated)	Intracellular Uptake	Extracellular Uptake
BI100-270	2.05	20.47
BI100-270b	3.35	16.54
BI100-270c	2.91	9.56
BI100-270d	5.73	4.77
BI100-270e	10.26	3.54
<i>BI100-270ns</i>	<i>1.30</i>	<i>1.29</i>
BI100-330	70.36	655.35
BI100-330b	76.42	744.11
BI100-330c	880.85	244.29
BI100-330d	80.82	592.82
BI100-330e	23.89	529.05
<i>BI100-330ns</i>	<i>1.82</i>	<i>416.04</i>
BI310-511	22.62	227.46
BI310-511b	67.29	466.71
BI310-511c	31.83	203.62
BI310-511d	70.64	267.15
BI310-511e	44.59	473.80
BI310-511f	26.85	178.61
BI310-511g	66.74	171.31
<i>BI310-511ns</i>	<i>3.85</i>	<i>4.56</i>
BI330-83	194.69	364.04
BI330-83b	120.10	518.60
BI330-83c	154.43	435.66
BI330-83d	52.14	267.38
<i>BI330-83ns</i>	<i>63.51</i>	<i>380.25</i>

EXAMPLE 10

Effect of peptide based influenza vaccine in protection of HLA A2 mice against influenza virus challenge

C57/B6/Tg HLA A2 mice (n=10 mice per group) were immunized week 0 and week 2 by subcutaneous administration (2x50µl; each side of base of tail), of a solution containing 50µg of each peptide, or 0.07µg HA of inactivated influenza A/PR8 (H1N1) virus given as vaccine control.

- 5 At week 4 the mice was infected with live influenza virus in order to measure the immune response to viral infection. The challenge was done with a mouse adapted strain of influenza A at a dose of 1×10^5 TCID₅₀/mouse which is enough to reliably infect the animals without mortality as determined by titration in the same mouse strain. The animals were then monitored for 7 days by weight loss at the start of challenge and daily from day three before
- 10 they were sacrificed and serum collected. Individual serum for mice in all groups were collected before start of experiment, and day of sacrifice.

Table 12.

Group	Treatment
1	Vaccinate with peptides+ adjuvant Provax (week 0, 2)
2	Vaccinate with peptides+ adjuvant ISA 51 (week 0, 2)
3	Vaccinate with inactivated conventional vaccine (week 0, 2)
4	Naïve mice.

Table 13.

Survival (n)				
Group	Day			
	1-4	5	6	7
1 Peptide, Provax	10	10	10	7
2 Peptide, ISA 51	10	10	10	9
3 PR8	10	9	9	6
4 Naïve	10	10	10	8

15

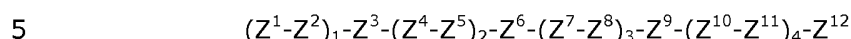
Results

Following the weight loss after challenge a clear protective effect is seen for both groups receiving the peptide vaccine with either ISA51 or Provax as adjuvant , as compared to the standard inactivated viral vaccine, PR8, or naïve mice (Figure 5).

20

Claims

1. An isolated monomeric peptide comprising the following structure



wherein Z^1 , Z^4 , and optional Z^7 and Z^{10} defines a linear sequence of one, two, or three arginine residues or derivatives thereof optionally followed by a glycine (G) or an alanine (A); Z^2 , Z^5 , Z^8 and Z^{11} defines an optional amino acid selected from cysteine (C), lysine (K), aspartic acid (D), asparagine (N), glutamic acid (E), glutamine (Q), 2,3-Diaminopropionic acid (Dpr), tryptophan (W), or tyrosine (Y) or a derivative thereof; Z^3 , and optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} defines any chemical moiety, such as a linear amino acid sequence.

10

2. The isolated monomeric peptide according to claim 1, wherein said chemical moiety of Z^3 , and optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} is a linear amino acid sequence of 8-30 amino acids.

3. The isolated monomeric peptide according to claims 1 or 2, wherein Z^2 defines an amino acid selected from cysteine (C), lysine (K), aspartic acid (D), asparagine (N), glutamic acid (E), glutamine (Q), 2,3-Diaminopropionic acid (Dpr), tryptophan (W), or tyrosine (Y) or a derivative thereof.
- 15

4. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of claims 1-3, wherein Z^5 defines an amino acid selected from cysteine (C), lysine (K), aspartic acid (D), asparagine (N), glutamic acid (E), glutamine (Q), 2,3-Diaminopropionic acid (Dpr), tryptophan (W), or tyrosine (Y) or a derivative thereof.
- 20

5. The isolated monomeric peptide according to claims 1-4, wherein Z^8 defines an amino acid selected from cysteine (C), lysine (K), aspartic acid (D), asparagine (N), glutamic acid (E), glutamine (Q), 2,3-Diaminopropionic acid (Dpr), tryptophan (W), or tyrosine (Y) or a derivative thereof.
- 25

6. The isolated monomeric peptide according to claims 1-5, wherein Z^{11} defines an amino acid selected from cysteine (C), lysine (K), aspartic acid (D), asparagine (N), glutamic acid (E), glutamine (Q), 2,3-Diaminopropionic acid (Dpr), tryptophan (W), or tyrosine (Y) or a derivative thereof.

7. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of claims 1-6, wherein Z^7 defines a linear sequence of one, two, or three arginine residues or derivatives thereof optionally followed by a glycine (G) or an alanine (A).
8. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of claims 1-7, wherein Z^{10} defines a linear sequence of one, two, or three arginine residues or derivatives thereof optionally followed by a glycine (G) or an alanine (A).
9. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of claims 1-8, wherein Z^6 defines any chemical moiety, such as a linear amino acid sequence.
10. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of claims 1-9, wherein Z^9 defines any chemical moiety, such as a linear amino acid sequence.
11. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of claims 1-10, wherein Z^{12} defines any chemical moiety, such as a linear amino acid sequence.
12. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of claims 1-11, wherein Z^1 , Z^4 , and optional Z^7 and Z^{10} is followed by a glycine (G) or an alanine (A).
13. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of claims 1-12, wherein Z^3 , and optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} is a linear amino acid sequence of 8-30 amino acids derived from an antigen with more than 40%, such as more than 45%, such as more than 50%, such as more than 55%, such as more than 60%, such as more than 65%, such as more than 70%, such as more than 75%, such as more than 80%, such as more than 85%, such as more than 90%, such as more than 95%, such as more than 96%, such as more than 97%, such as more than 98%, such as more than 99%, such as 100% sequence identity to a specific natural antigen.
14. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of claims 1-13, wherein Z^3 , and optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} defines a specific natural antigen of a protein or peptide sequence derived from a disease antigen, such as an infectious agent, such as bacteria, virus, parasite, fungus, or cancer antigens such as oncogene (lung, stomach, breast cancer) or an antigen causing an autoimmune disease such as diabetes, multiple sclerosis (MS), celiac disease, Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME), psoriasis, and/or Crohn's Disease.
15. The isolated monomeric peptide according to claim 14, wherein said specific natural antigen is a viral protein, such as a structural protein, such as a capsid protein, a regulatory protein, an enzymatic protein, and a proteolytic protein.

16. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of claims 14-15, wherein said viral protein is selected from a core protein or an envelope protein, of a virus selected from the Hepatitis C virus, influenza virus, such as an M2 protein, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), cytomegalovirus (CMV), and Human papillomavirus (HPV).

5 17. The isolated monomeric peptide according to claim 16, wherein said viral protein is a viral protein of Hepatitis C virus selected from any one HCV consensus sequence of a specific genotype, such as 1, such as subtypes 1a and 1b, genotype 2, such as 2a and 2b, genotype 3, such as 3a, genotype 4, genotype 5, and genotype 6.

10 18. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of claims 1-17, wherein a sequence of amino acids defined by $(Z^1-Z^2)_1-Z^3-(Z^4-Z^5)_2-Z^6-(Z^7-Z^8)_3-Z^9-(Z^{10}-Z^{11})_4-Z^{12}$ is not found in the native sequence of a natural antigen.

19. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of claims 1-18, which monomeric peptide is of 10-60 amino acids, such as of 11-60 amino acids, such as of 12-60 amino acids, such as of 13-60 amino acids, such as of 14-60 amino acids, such as of 15-60 amino acids, such as of 16-60 amino acids, such as of 17-60 amino acids, such as of 18-60 amino acids, such as of 19-60 amino acids, such as of 20-60 amino acids, such as of 21-60 amino acids, such as of 22-60 amino acids, such as of 23-60 amino acids, such as of 24-60 amino acids, such as of 25-60 amino acids, such as of 26-60 amino acids, such as of 27-60 amino acids, such as of 28-60 amino acids, such as of 29-60 amino acids, such as of 30-60 amino acids, such as of 31-60 amino acids, such as of 32-60 amino acids, such as of 33-60 amino acids, such as of 34-60 amino acids, such as of 35-60 amino acids, such as of 36-60 amino acids, such as of 37-60 amino acids, such as of 38-60 amino acids, such as of 39-60 amino acids, such as of 40-60 amino acids, such as of 42-60 amino acids, such as of 44-60 amino acids, such as of 46-60 amino acids, such as of 48-60 amino acids, such as of 50-60 amino acids, such as of 52-60 amino acids, such as of 54-60 amino acids, such as of 56-60 amino acids, such as of 58-60 amino acids.

20. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of claims 1-19, which monomeric peptide is of 10-60 amino acids, such as 10-58 amino acids, such as 10-56 amino acids, such as 10-54 amino acids, such as 10-52 amino acids, such as 10-50 amino acids, such as 10-48 amino acids, such as 10-46 amino acids, such as 10-44 amino acids, such as 10-42 amino acids, such as 10-40 amino acids, such as 10-39 amino acids, such as 10-38 amino acids, such as 10-37 amino acids, such as 10-36 amino acids, such as 10-35 amino acids, such as 10-34 amino acids, such as 10-33 amino acids, such as 10-32 amino acids, such as 10-31 amino acids, such as 10-30 amino acids, such as 10-29 amino acids, such as 10-28 amino acids, such as 10-27 amino acids, such as 10-26 amino acids, such as 10-25

amino acids, such as 10-24 amino acids, such as 10-23 amino acids, such as 10-22 amino acids, such as 10-21 amino acids, such as 10-20 amino acids, such as 10-19 amino acids, such as 10-18 amino acids, such as 10-17 amino acids, such as 10-16 amino acids, such as 10-15 amino acids, such as 10-14 amino acids, such as 10-13 amino acids, such as 10-12 amino acids, such as 10-11 amino acids.

21. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of claims 1-20, which monomeric peptide consist of not more than about 55 amino acids, such as not more than about 50 amino acids, such as not more than about 45 amino acids, such as not more than about 40 amino acids, such as not more than about 38 amino acids, such as not more than about 36 amino acids, such as not more than about 34 amino acids, such as not more than about 32 amino acids, such as not more than about 30 amino acids, such as not more than about 28 amino acids, such as not more than about 26 amino acids, such as not more than about 24 amino acids, such as not more than about 22 amino acids, such as not more than about 20 amino acids, such as not more than about 18 amino acids, such as not more than about 16 amino acids, such as not more than about 14 amino acids, such as not more than about 12 amino acids, such as not more than about 10 amino acids.

22. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of claims 1-21, which monomeric peptide consist of at least about 10 amino acids, such as at least about 12 amino acids, such as at least about 14 amino acids, such as at least about 16 amino acids, such as at least about 18 amino acids, such as at least about 20 amino acids, such as at least about 22 amino acids, such as at least about 24 amino acids, such as at least about 26 amino acids, such as at least about 28 amino acids, such as at least about 30 amino acids, such as at least about 32 amino acids, such as at least about 34 amino acids, such as at least about 36 amino acids, such as at least about 38 amino acids, such as at least about 40 amino acids, such as at least about 45 amino acids, such as at least about 50 amino acids, such as at least about 55 amino acids, such as at least about 60.

23. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of claims 1-22, wherein the overall net charge of $(Z^1-Z^2)_1-Z^3-(Z^4-Z^5)_2-Z^6-(Z^7-Z^8)_3-Z^9-(Z^{10}-Z^{11})_4-Z^{12}$ is equal to or above 0, such as above 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5.

24. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of claims 1-23, wherein said monomeric peptide is capable of inducing a humoral immune response.

25. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of claims 1-24, wherein said monomeric peptide comprises at least one amino acid selected from a Cys, a Lys, an Asp, and a Glu residue, or derivatives thereof.

26. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of claims 1-25, which monomeric peptide contain one or more intramolecular bond, such as one or more Cys-Cys bond.
27. The isolated monomeric peptide according to any one of claims 1-26, which
5 monomeric peptide has delayed proteolytic degradation in the N-terminal, such as by incorporation of the first 1, 2, or 3 amino acids in the N-terminal in the D-form, or by incorporation of the first 1, 2, or 3 amino acids in the N-terminal in beta or gamma form.
28. The isolated peptide according to any one of claim 1-27, wherein said peptide is
10 demonstrated to translocate across a plasma membrane in the assay based on biotinylation of peptides as described in example 5.
29. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-28, wherein said peptide is capable of inducing a T lymphocyte response.
30. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-29, wherein the net charge of Z^3 , and/or optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} is below or equal to 0.
- 15 31. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-30, wherein the net charge of Z^3 is below or equal to 0; and wherein the net charge of Z^6 and/or optional Z^9 and Z^{12} is above or equal to 1.
32. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-31, wherein the net charge of Z^3 , and/or optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} are above or equal to 1.
- 20 33. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-32, wherein the net charge of Z^3 is above or equal to 1; and wherein the net charge of Z^6 and/or optional Z^9 and Z^{12} is below or equal to 0.
34. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-33, wherein the peptide comprises one or more cysteine.
- 25 35. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-34, wherein the N- and/or C-terminal amino acid in Z^3 , and/or optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} is a hydrophilic or polar amino acid.

36. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-35, wherein Z^3 , and/or optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} defines a sequence of 8-25 amino acids, such as 8-20 amino acids, such as 8-15 amino acids.
37. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-36, wherein Z^3 , and/or optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} defines a sequence of less than 25, such as less than 24, 23, 22, 21, 20, 19, 18, 17, 16, 15, 14, 13, 12, 11, 10, 9, 8, 7 or 6 amino acids.
38. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-37, wherein Z^3 , and/or optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} defines a sequence of more than 8, such as more than 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29 amino acids.
39. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-38, which does not consist of the following sequence RFIIP[Nle]FTALSGGRRALLYGATPYAIG, where Nle denotes a nor-leucine.
40. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-39, wherein Z^3 , and/or optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} is not derived from HIV.
41. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-40, wherein Z^3 , and/or optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} is a linear sequence of less than 12 amino acids.
42. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-41, wherein Z^3 , and/or optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} is a linear sequence of less than 12 amino acids.
43. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-42, wherein Z^3 , and/or optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} do not contain nor-leucine.
44. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-43, wherein Z^3 , and/or optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} do not contain nor-leucine.
45. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-44, wherein Z^3 , and/or optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} only contains natural amino acids.
46. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-45, wherein Z^3 , and/or optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} only contains natural amino acids.

47. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-46, wherein Z^3 , and/or optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} only contains natural amino acids if derived from HIV.

48. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-47, wherein Z^3 , and/or optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} is derived from HCV, CMV, HPV, Influenza, adenoviruses, herpesviruses, or picornaviruses.

49. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-48, wherein Z^1 is as defined in any one of table 3, table 4, table 5, or table 7, such as any one selected from R, RR, RRR, RG, RRG and RRRG.

50. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-49, wherein Z^2 is as defined in any one of table 3, table 4, table 5, or table 7, such as any one selected from Dpr(Aoa), C, K, Lys(Me), D, E, Dpr(Ser).

51. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-50, wherein Z^3 is as defined in any one of table 3, table 4, table 5, or table 7, such as any one selected from GGQLIGGIYLIPG (SEQ ID NO:313), VITYSIFLIVS (SEQ ID NO:314), TANWARVIS (SEQ ID NO:315), GYLPAVGAPI (SEQ ID NO:316), NIVPZVVTA (SEQ ID NO:317), VTPADLIGA (SEQ ID NO:318), PRPEGYTLFF (SEQ ID NO:319), LPYPRGYTLFV (SEQ ID NO:320), ETILTPRDV (SEQ ID NO:321), SSTSPVYDL (SEQ ID NO:322), TAYERZCNIL (SEQ ID NO:323), TVIGASZIPLL (SEQ ID NO:324), AAFEEZXITS (SEQ ID NO:325), GLEPLVIAGILA (SEQ ID NO:326), TAFLVRNVA (SEQ ID NO:327), TPI(Har)QDWGNRAN (SEQ ID NO:328), TPT(Har)NGWDVKLS (SEQ ID NO:329), LECVYCKQQLL (SEQ ID NO:330), GVDYFAFRDLC (SEQ ID NO:331), GVFDYAFRDIN (SEQ ID NO:332), and VDIRTLEDLL (SEQ ID NO:333).

52. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-51, wherein Z^4 is as defined in any one of table 3, table 4, table 5, or table 7, such as any one selected from R, RR, RRR, RG, RRG and RRRG.

53. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-52, wherein Z^5 is as defined in any one of table 3, table 4, table 5, or table 7, such as any one selected from Dpr(Aoa), C, K, Lys(Me), D, E, Dpr(Ser).

54. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-53, wherein Z^6 is as defined in any one of table 3, table 4, table 5, or table 7, such as any one selected from EVYDFAFRDLC (SEQ ID NO:334), GFAFRDLCIVY (SEQ ID NO:335), GFAYRDINLAY (SEQ ID NO:336), GTLGIVCPIG (SEQ ID NO:337), GLEPLVIAGILA (SEQ ID NO:338), TPIXQDWENRAN (SEQ ID

NO:339), VAFEDLXZZSFI (SEQ ID NO:340), RFQTVVQBA (SEQ ID NO:341), GSLVGLLHIVL (SEQ ID NO:342), SIARSVTIZXASVVH (SEQ ID NO:343), TPTRQEWDCRIS (SEQ ID NO:344), TPTRQEW DARIS (SEQ ID NO:345), TPI(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEW (SEQ ID NO:346), IGD LIVAQV (SEQ ID NO:347), QYNPVAVZF (SEQ ID NO:348), GYTLFFTS (SEQ ID NO:349),
 5 GYTLFVSD (SEQ ID NO:350), NTLZTPRDV (SEQ ID NO:351), SSTSPVYNL (SEQ ID NO:352), VITFSIYLIVS (SEQ ID NO:353), GGNVIGGIYZIPR (SEQ ID NO:354), ANWAKVIL (SEQ ID NO:355), VIRVIAHGLRL (SEQ ID NO:356), and IGD LIVQAV (SEQ ID NO:478).

55. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-54, wherein Z^7 is as defined in any one of table 3, table 4, table 5, or table 7, such as any one selected from R, RR, RRR,
 10 RG, RRG and RRRG.

56. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-55, wherein Z^8 is as defined in any one of table 3, table 4, table 5, or table 7, such as any one selected from Dpr(Aoa), C, K, Lys(Me), D, E, Dpr(Ser).

57. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-56, wherein Z^9 is as defined in any one of table 3, table 4, table 5, or table 7, such as NWAKVI.
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58. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-57, which peptide consist of $(Z^1-Z^2)_1-Z^3-(Z^4-Z^5)_2-Z^6-(Z^7-Z^8)_3-Z^9$ as defined in any one of table 3, table 4, table 5, or table 7, such as any one selected from RRGGLIGGIYLIPGRRVITFSIYLIVS (SEQ ID NO:357), RRRGGQLIGGIYLIPGRRVITFSIYLIVS (SEQ ID NO:358), RRGGLIGGIYLIPGRRR VITFSIYLIVS (SEQ ID NO:359), RRGGLIGGIYLIPGRRVITFSIYLIVSR (SEQ ID NO:360), RRGGLIGGIYLIPGRRVITFSIYLIVSRR (SEQ ID NO:361), RRVITYSIFLIVSRRGGNVIGGIYZIPR (SEQ ID NO:362), RRRVITYSIFLIVSRRGGNVIGGIYZIPR (SEQ ID NO:363), RRVITYSIFLIVSRRGGNVIGGIYZIPR (SEQ ID NO:364), RRRVITYSIFLIVSRRRGGNVIGGIYZIPR (SEQ ID NO:365), RRG TANWARVISRANWAKVILRNWAKVI (SEQ ID NO:366),
 25 RGTANWARVISRRANWAKVILRNWAKVI (SEQ ID NO:367), RGTANWARVISRANWAKVILRNWAKVI (SEQ ID NO:368), RGTANWARVISRGANWAKVILRNWAKVI (SEQ ID NO:369), RRG TANWARVISRANWARVILRNWAKVI (SEQ ID NO:370), RGTANWARVISRRANWARVILRNWAKVI (SEQ ID NO:371),
 30 RGTANWARVISRANWARVILRNWAKVI (SEQ ID NO:372), RGTANWARVISRGANWARVILRNWAKVI (SEQ ID NO:373), RGYLPAVGAPIRRRVIRVIAHGLRLR (SEQ ID NO:374), RRG YLPAVGAPIRRRVIRVIAHGLRLR (SEQ ID NO:375), RRG YLPAVGAPIRRRVIRVIAHGLRL (SEQ ID NO:376), RRG YLPAVGAPIRRRVIRVIAHGLRL (SEQ ID NO:377), RGYLPAVGAPIRRRVIRVIAHGLRLR (SEQ ID NO:378), RGYLPAVGAPIRRRVIRVIAHGLRLR (SEQ ID NO:379), RGYLPAVGAPIRRRVIRVIAHGLRL (SEQ ID NO:380),
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RGNIVPZVVTARRIGDLIVAQV (SEQ ID NO:381), RRNIVPZVVTARRIGDLIVAQV (SEQ ID NO:382), RRRNIVPZVVTARRIGDLIVAQV (SEQ ID NO:383), RRNIVPZVVTARRRIGDLIVAQV (SEQ ID NO:384), RGVTPADLIGARRQYNPVAVZF (SEQ ID NO:385),
5 RRVTPADLIGARRQYNPVAVZF (SEQ ID NO:386), RRRVTPADLIGARRQYNPVAVZF (SEQ ID NO:387), RRVTPADLIGARRRQYNPVAVZF (SEQ ID NO:388), RRGPRPEGYTLLFFRGYTLFFTSR (SEQ ID NO:389), RGRPRPEGYTLLFFRGYTLFFTSR (SEQ ID NO:390),
RRGPRPEGYTLLFFRGYTLFFTSR (SEQ ID NO:391), RRGPRPEGYTLLFRRRGYTLFFTSR (SEQ ID NO:392), RRRGPRPEGYTLLFRRRGYTLFFTSR (SEQ ID NO:393), RGLPYPRGYTLFVRRGYTLFVSDR (SEQ ID NO:394), RRGLPYPRGYTLFVRRRGYTLFVSDR (SEQ ID NO:395),
10 RRGLPYPRGYTLFVRRRGYTLFVSDR (SEQ ID NO:396), RRRGLPYPRGYTLFVRRRGYTLFVSDR (SEQ ID NO:397), RRGLPYPRGYTLFVRRRGYTLFVSDR (SEQ ID NO:398),
RRGETILTPRDVRNTLZTPRDVR (SEQ ID NO:399), RGETILTPRDVRNTLZTPRDVR (SEQ ID NO:400), RGETILTPRDVRNTLZTPRDVR (SEQ ID NO:401), RGETILTPRDVRGNTLZTPRDVR (SEQ ID NO:402), RRSSTSPVYDLRRSSTSPVYNLR (SEQ ID NO:403),
15 RRSSTSPVYDLRRSSTSPVYNLR (SEQ ID NO:404), RRSSTSPVYDLRRSSTSPVYNLR (SEQ ID NO:405), RRSSTSPVYDLRRSSTSPVYNLR (SEQ ID NO:406),
RRTAYERZCNILRRGLEPLVIAGILA (SEQ ID NO:407), RRTAYERZCNILRRGLEPLVIAGILA (SEQ ID NO:408), RRTAYERZCNILRRRGLEPLVIAGILA (SEQ ID NO:409),
RRTAYERZCNILRRGLEPLVIAGILAR (SEQ ID NO:410), RRTAYERZCNILRRGLEPLVIAGILARR (SEQ ID NO:411), RRTVIGASZIPLLRGTPIXQDWENRAN (SEQ ID NO:412),
20 RRRTVIGASZIPLLRGTPIXQDWENRAN (SEQ ID NO:413), RRTVIGASZIPLLRRGTPIXQDWENRAN (SEQ ID NO:414), RRRTVIGASZIPLLRRGTPIXQDWENRAN (SEQ ID NO:415),
RRRTVIGASZIPLLRRGTPIXQDWENRANR (SEQ ID NO:416), RRAAFEEZXITSRRVAFEDLXZZSFI (SEQ ID NO:417), RRRAAFEEZXITSRRVAFEDLXZZSFI (SEQ ID NO:418),
25 RRRAAFEEZXITSRRGVAFEDLXZZSFI (SEQ ID NO:419), RRRAAFEEZXITSRRRVAFEDLXZZSFI (SEQ ID NO:420), RRRAAFEEZXITSRRRVAFEDLXZZSFIGR (SEQ ID NO:421),
RRTAYERZCNILRRGRFQTVVQBA (SEQ ID NO:422), RRTAYERZCNILRRGRFQTVVQBAR (SEQ ID NO:423), RTAYERZCNILRGRFQTVVQBAR (SEQ ID NO:424), RRTAYERZCNILRGRFQTVVQBA (SEQ ID NO:425), BRGLEPLVIAGILARRGSLVGLLHIVL (SEQ ID NO:426),
30 RRGLEPLVIAGILARRGSLVGLLHIVL (SEQ ID NO:427), RRGLEPLVIAGILARRGSLVGLLHIVLR (SEQ ID NO:428), RRGLEPLVIAGILARRRGSLVGLLHIVL (SEQ ID NO:429),
RRGLEPLVIAGILARRRGSLVGLLHIVLR (SEQ ID NO:430), RTAFLVRNVARRSIARSVTIZXASVVH (SEQ ID NO:431), RTAFLVRNVARRSIARSVTIZXASVVH (SEQ ID NO:432),
RRTAFLVRNVARRSIARSVTIZXASVVH (SEQ ID NO:433), RRTAFLVRNVARRSIARSVTIZXASVVH (SEQ ID NO:434), RRTAFLVRNVARRSIARSVTIZXASVVHR (SEQ ID NO:435),
RRTAFLVRNVARRSIARSVTIZXASVVHRR (SEQ ID NO:436),
RGDpr(Aoa)TPI(Har)QDWGNRANRGTPTRQEWDCRIS (SEQ ID NO:437),
RGDpr(Aoa)TPI(Har)QDWGNRANRGTPTRQEW DARIS (SEQ ID NO:438),
RGTPi(Har)QDWGNRANRGTPTRQEWDCRIS (SEQ ID NO:439),

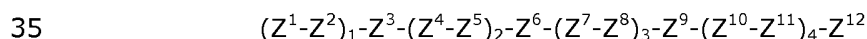
- RGTP(I)(Har)QDWGNRANRGTPTRQEWDAIS (SEQ ID NO:440),
RGCTPI(Har)QDWGNRANRGTPTRQEWDCRIS (SEQ ID NO:441),
RGCTPI(Har)QDWGNRANRGTPTRQEWDAIS (SEQ ID NO:442),
RGKTPI(Har)QDWGNRANRGTPTRQEWDCRIS (SEQ ID NO:443),
5 RGKTPI(Har)QDWGNRANRGTPTRQEWDAIS (SEQ ID NO:444),
RGLys(Me)TPI(Har)QDWGNRANRGTPTRQEWDCRIS (SEQ ID NO:445),
RGLys(Me)TPI(Har)QDWGNRANRGTPTRQEWDAIS (SEQ ID NO:446),
RGDTPI(Har)QDWGNRANRGTPTRQEWDCRIS (SEQ ID NO:447),
RGDTPI(Har)QDWGNRANRGTPTRQEWDAIS (SEQ ID NO:448),
10 RGETPI(Har)QDWGNRANRGTPTRQEWDCRIS (SEQ ID NO:449),
RGETPI(Har)QDWGNRANRGTPTRQEWDAIS (SEQ ID NO:450),
RGDpr(Ser)TPT(Har)NGWDVKLSRGTP(I)(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEW (SEQ ID NO:451),
RGTP(T)(Har)NGWDVKLSRGTP(I)(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEW (SEQ ID NO:452),
RGKTPT(Har)NGWDVKLSRGTP(I)(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEW (SEQ ID NO:453),
15 RGCTPT(Har)NGWDVKLSRGTP(I)(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEW (SEQ ID NO:454),
RGLys(Me)TPT(Har)NGWDVKLSRGTP(I)(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEW (SEQ ID NO:455),
RGDTPT(Har)NGWDVKLSRGTP(I)(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEW (SEQ ID NO:456),
RGETPT(Har)NGWDVKLSRGTP(I)(Har)QEW(Har)SL(Nle)NQEW (SEQ ID NO:457),
RRLECVYCKQQLLRREVYDFAFRDLC (SEQ ID NO:458), RRLECVYCKQQLRRRGEVYDFAFRDLC
20 (SEQ ID NO:459), RRRLECVYCKQQLRRRGEVYDFAFRDLC (SEQ ID NO:460),
RRRLECVYCKQQLRRRGEVYDFAFRDLC (SEQ ID NO:461),
RRRGLECVYCKQQLRRRGEVYDFAFRDLC (SEQ ID NO:462),
RRGVYDFAFRDLCRRGFAFRDLCIVYR (SEQ ID NO:463), RRGVYDFAFRDLCRRRGGFAFRDLCIVY
(SEQ ID NO:464), RRRGVYDFAFRDLCRRGFAFRDLCIVYR (SEQ ID NO:465),
25 RRRGVYDFAFRDLCRRRGGFAFRDLCIVY (SEQ ID NO:466),
RRRGGVYDFAFRDLCRRRGGFAFRDLCIVYR (SEQ ID NO:467),
RRGVFDYAFRDINRRGFAYRDINLAYR (SEQ ID NO:468), RRGVYDFAFRDLCRRRGGFAFRDLCIVY
(SEQ ID NO:469), RRRGVYDFAFRDLCRRGFAFRDLCIVYR (SEQ ID NO:470),
RRRGVYDFAFRDLCRRRGGFAFRDLCIVY (SEQ ID NO:471),
30 RRRGGVYDFAFRDLCRRRGGFAFRDLCIVYR (SEQ ID NO:472), RRVDIRTLEDLLRRGTLGIVCPIGR
(SEQ ID NO:473), RRVDIRTLEDLLRRRGGTLGIVCPIG (SEQ ID NO:474),
RRRVDIRTLEDLLRRGTLGIVCPIGR (SEQ ID NO:475), RRVDIRTLEDLLRRRGGTLGIVCPIG
(SEQ ID NO:476), RRGVDIRTLEDLLRRRGGTLGIVCPIGR (SEQ ID NO:477),
RGNIVPZVVTARRIGDLIVQAV (SEQ ID NO:479), RRNIVPZVVTARRIGDLIVQAV (SEQ ID
35 NO:480), RRRNIVPZVVTARRIGDLIVQAV (SEQ ID NO:481), and RRNIVPZVVTARRRIGDLIVQAV
(SEQ ID NO:482).

59. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-58, which peptide is not specifically disclosed in any one PCT application with application numbers WO2000NO00075, WO2011DK050460, or WO2012DK050010.

60. The isolated peptide according to any one of claims 1-59, which peptide is not a
 5 peptide selected from RRGYIPLVGAPLGBGRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:47),
 RGYIPLVGAPLGRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:48), RGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ
 ID NO:49), RRGYIPLVGAPLGRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:50),
 RRGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:51), BRGYIPLVGAPLGRRVARALAHGVRV
 (SEQ ID NO:52), RRRGYIPLVGAPLGBRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:53),
 10 RGYIPLVGAPLGKKKVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:54), RGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ
 ID NO:55), KKGYIPLVGAPLGKKVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:56),
 WGYIPLVGAPLGRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:57), WWGYIPLVGAPLGRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ
 ID NO:58), EEGYIPLVGAPLGEEVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:59),
 GGGYIPLVGAPLGGGVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:60), EEGYIPLVGAPLGRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ
 15 ID NO:61), RRGYIPLVGAPLGLRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:62),
 WWGYIPLVGAPLGRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:63), WWGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV
 (SEQ ID NO:64), WWGYIPLVGAPLGRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:65),
 RGYIPLVGAPLGRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:66), RRGYLPVGAFIGBRVIRVIAHGLRL (SEQ ID
 NO:67), RRGYIPLVGAPLGBRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:68), GYIPLVGAPLGGVARALAHGVRV
 20 (SEQ ID NO:69), WWGYLPVGAFIGRRVIRVIAHGLRL (SEQ ID NO:70),
 GYIPLVGAPLGGVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:71), RRGYIPLVGAPLGBGRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID
 NO:72), RGYIPLVGAPLGRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:73),
 RGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:74), RRGYIPLVGAPLGRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ
 ID NO:75), RRGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:76),
 25 BRGYIPLVGAPLGRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:77), RRRGYIPLVGAPLGBRVARALAHGVRV
 (SEQ ID NO:78), RGYIPLVGAPLGKKKVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:79),
 RGYIPLVGAPLGRRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:80), KKGYIPLVGAPLGKKVARALAHGVRV (SEQ
 ID NO:81), WGYIPLVGAPLGRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:82),
 WWGYIPLVGAPLGRRVARALAHGVRV (SEQ ID NO:83), RRGYIPLVGAPLGLRRVARALAHGVRV
 30 (SEQ ID NO:84), RRYVTGNIPGBRGITFSIFLIVS (SEQ ID NO:85),
 WWNYATGNLPGRRCFSIFLLAL (SEQ ID NO:86), WWNYVTGNIPGBRGITFSIFLIVS (SEQ ID
 NO:87), WWNYVTGNIPGRRGITFSIFLIVS (SEQ ID NO:88), RRYATGNLPGRRCFSIFLLAL
 (SEQ ID NO:89), RRVGTGNIPGSTYSGBRGITFSIYLIVS (SEQ ID NO:90),
 RRIRNLGRVIETLTGBRLNIGYIPLIGA (SEQ ID NO:91), RRSRNLGKVIDTLTCBRLMGYIPLVGA
 35 (SEQ ID NO:92), SRNLGKVIDTLTCGFADLMGYIPLVGA (SEQ ID NO:93),
 WWIRNLGRVIETLTRRLNIGYIPLIGA (SEQ ID NO:94), WWSRNLGKVIDTLTCRRLMGYIPLVGA
 (SEQ ID NO:95), RRGGGQIIGGNYLIPRBPBIGVRATB (SEQ ID NO:96),
 GGGQIVGGVYLLPRRGPRLGVRATR (SEQ ID NO:97), RRGGGQIVGGVYLLPRRGPRLGVRATR (SEQ

- ID NO:98), WWGGGQIVGGVYLLPRRGPRLGVRAT (SEQ ID NO:99), BRLIFLARSALIVRGSVAHKS (SEQ ID NO:100), EDLIFLARSALILRGSVAHKS (SEQ ID NO:101), BRLIFLARSALILBGRSALILRGSVAHK (SEQ ID NO:102), SAYERMCMNILKGKFQTAAQRAMM (SEQ ID NO:103), SAYERNleVNILKGKFQTAAQRAVNle (SEQ ID NO:104),
- 5 BRTAYERNleCNILBRGRFQTVVQBA (SEQ ID NO:105), BRIAYERMCMNILLBRGKFQTAAQRA (SEQ ID NO:106), IAYERMCMNILKGKFQTAAQRA (SEQ ID NO:107), LFFKCIYRLFHGLKRGPESTEGVPESM (SEQ ID NO:108), BRRLFFKTITRLFBHGLRRLSTEGVPNSNle (SEQ ID NO:109), BRGLEPLVIAGILARRGSLVGLLHIVL (SEQ ID NO:110), BRGSDPLVVAASIVRRASIVGILHLIL (SEQ ID NO:111),
- 10 RNLVPMVATVRRNLVPMVATVB (SEQ ID NO:112), RNLVPMVATVBRRNLVPMVATVB (SEQ ID NO:113), RNIVPNleVVTARRNIVPNleVVTAB (SEQ ID NO:114), PEVIPMFSALEGATPQDLNMLN (SEQ ID NO:115), RFIIPXFTALSGGRRALLYGATPYAIG (SEQ ID NO:116), KALGPAATLEEMMTACQGVG (SEQ ID NO:117), RRGPVVHLTLRRRGQAGDDFS (SEQ ID NO:118), RRGPVVHLTLRRRGQAGDDFS (SEQ ID NO:119), RRGPVVHLTLRGRRGQAGDDFS (SEQ ID NO:120), RRLECVYCKQQLLRREVDFAFRDLC (SEQ ID NO:121),
- 15 RRGVYDFAFRDLCRRGFAFRDLCIVYR (SEQ ID NO:122), RRGVFDYAFRDINRRGFAYRDINLAYR (SEQ ID NO:123), RRGATPVDLLGARRGALNLCLPMR (SEQ ID NO:124), RRGVTPAGLIGVRRGALQIBLPLR (SEQ ID NO:125), RGYLPAVGAPIGRRRVIRVIAHGLRLR (SEQ ID NO:196), RRSRNLGKVIDTLTCRRLMGYIPLVGA (SEQ ID NO:197),
- 20 RRIRNLGRVIETLTNLleGYIPLIGARRIRNLGRVIETLTNLleGYIPLIGAR (SEQ ID NO:199), X¹-NYVTGNIPG-X³-GITFSIYLIVS; X¹-IRNLGRVIETLT-X³-LNleGYIPLIGA; X¹-GYLPAVGAPI-X³-VIRVIAHGLRL; X¹-GGGQIIGGNYLIP-X³-PBIGVRATB; X¹-NYATGNLPG-X³-GCSFSIFLLAL; X¹-SRNLGKVIDTLTC-X³-LMGYIPLVGA; X¹-GYIPLVGAPL-X³-VARALAHGVRV; X¹-GGGQIVGGVYLLP-X³-PRLGVRATR; X¹-LTLVRSVLLI-X³-GSVLIVRGSLVH; X¹-TAYERNleCNIL-X³-GRFQTVVQBA; X¹-SDPLVVAASIV-X³-ASIVGILHLIL; X¹-LIFLARSALIL-X³-SALILRGSVAH; X¹-IAYERMCMNIL-X³-GKFQTAAQRA; and X¹-LEPLVIAGILA-X³-GSLVGLLHIVL; X¹-NLVPMVATV-X³-NLVPMATV; X¹-GYLPAVGAPIG-X³-VIRVIAHGLRL; X¹-IRNLGRVIETLTG-X³-LNleGYIPLIGA; X¹-GVYDFAFRDLC-X³-GFAFRDLCIVYR, X¹-GVFDYAFRDIN-X³-GFAYRDINLAYR, X¹-GATPVDLLGA-X³-GALNLCLPMR, X¹-GVTPAGLIGV-X³-GALQIBLPLR, and X¹-IRNLGRVIETLTNLleGYIPLIGA-X³-
- 30 IRNLGRVIETLTNLleGYIPLIGA; optionally with an X⁵ in the C-terminal of the peptide; wherein X¹ and X³ and X⁵ refers to X¹, X³, and X⁵ of formula II.

61. An isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide comprising two or more monomeric peptides, each monomeric peptide independently comprising the following structure



wherein Z^1 , Z^4 , and optional Z^7 and Z^{10} defines a linear sequence of one, two, or three arginine residues or derivatives thereof optionally followed by a glycine (G) or an alanine (A); Z^2 , Z^5 , Z^8 and Z^{11} defines an optional amino acid selected from cysteine (C), lysine (K), aspartic acid (D), asparagine (N), glutamic acid (E), glutamine (Q), 2,3-Diaminopropionic acid (Dpr), tryptophan (W), or tyrosine (Y) or a derivative thereof; Z^3 , and optional Z^6 , Z^9 and Z^{12} defines any chemical moiety, such as a linear amino acid sequence, said monomeric peptides being covalently joined by one or more intermolecular bond.

62. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to claim 61, wherein two or more monomeric peptides are identical in sequence.

63. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to claim 61, wherein two or more monomeric peptides are different in sequence.

64. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any of claims 61-63, comprising at least two peptides monomers, each peptide monomer independently being as defined in any one of claims 1-58.

65. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of claims 61-64, wherein one or more peptide strands of the multimeric, such as dimeric peptide has delayed proteolytic degradation in the N-terminal, such as by incorporation of the first 1, 2, or 3 amino acids in the N-terminal in the D-form, or by incorporation of the first 1, 2, or 3 amino acids in the N-terminal in beta or gamma form.

66. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of claims 61-65, which multimeric, such as dimeric peptide contain a helper epitope of at least 12 amino acids, such as at least 13, 14, 15 or 17 amino acids, which helper epitope consist of a combined sequence of amino acids, which is a sequence of amino acids from a first specific continuous antigenic peptide sequences, and a sequence of amino acids from at least one second specific continuous antigenic peptide sequence of the same or different protein derived from the same virus or a different virus, or any other disease antigen, such as an infectious agent, such as bacteria, virus, parasite, fungus, or cancer antigens such as oncogene (lung, stomach, breast cancer) or an antigen causing an autoimmune disease such as diabetes, multiple sclerosis (MS), celiac disease, Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME), psoriasis, and/or Crohn's Disease bacteria, or other disease causing agent, such as between 2-12 amino acids from the first specific continuous antigenic peptide sequences and 2-12 amino acids from the at least one second specific continuous antigenic peptide sequence.

67. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of claims 61-66, wherein said intermolecular bond is a disulfide (S-S) bond between two Cys residues.

68. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of claims 61-67, wherein said intermolecular bond is a thioether bond between a Cys residue in the first monomeric peptide and a modified Lys residue in the at least one second monomeric peptide.

69. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of claims 61-68, wherein said intermolecular bond is an oxime bond between a derivatized Lys residue in the first monomeric peptide and a derivatized Ser residue in the at least one second monomeric peptide.

70. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of claims 61-69, wherein said intermolecular bond is a peptide bond between a N-methylated Lys side-chain in the first monomeric peptide and the side-chain of an Asp or Glu residue in the at least one second monomeric peptide.

71. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of claims 61-70, wherein said intermolecular bond is an oxime bond between an aldehyde moiety, produced by oxidation of a serine residue in the first monomeric peptide and a free aminooxy group of a modified amino acid (aminooxy acid), such as derivatized diaminopropionic acid, Lysine or Ornithine in the second monomeric peptide

72. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of claims 61-71, wherein said monomeric peptides are linked by a polyethylene glycol (PEG) linker, such as through an Asp or a Glu residue in the first monomeric peptide and an Asp or a Glu residue in the at least one second monomeric peptide, or by a polyLys core.

73. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of claims 61-72, wherein a C residue in Z^2 of the first peptide monomer is linked to an amino acid selected from a K or a C residue in Z^2 of the second monomer.

74. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of claims 61-73, wherein a K residue in Z^2 of the first peptide monomer is linked to an amino acid selected from a C, D or E residue in Z^2 of the second monomer.

75. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of claims 61-74, wherein a D residue in Z^2 of the first peptide monomer is linked to an amino acid selected from a N or Q residue in Z^2 of the second monomer.

76. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of claims 61-75, wherein a E residue in Z^2 of the first peptide monomer is linked to an amino acid selected from a N or Q residue in Z^2 of the second monomer.

5 77. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of claims 61-76, wherein a N residue in Z^2 of the first peptide monomer is linked to a D or E residue in Z^2 of the second monomer.

78. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of claims 61-77, wherein a Q residue in Z^2 of the first peptide monomer is linked to a D or E residue in Z^2 of the second monomer.

10 79. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of claims 61-78, wherein a Dpr(Aao) residue in Z^2 of the first peptide monomer is linked to an Dpr(Ser) residue in Z^2 of the second monomer.

15 80. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of claims 61-79, wherein a W residue in Z^2 of the first Z^1 - Z^2 peptide repeat is linked to an Y residue in Z^2 of the second Z^1 - Z^2 peptide repeat.

81. The isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of claims 61-80, wherein a Y residue in Z^2 of the first Z^1 - Z^2 peptide repeat is linked to an W residue in Z^2 of the second Z^1 - Z^2 peptide repeat.

20 82. Composition comprising two or more compounds selected from a monomeric peptide is as defined in any one of claims 1-60, and an isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide as defined in any one of claims 61-81.

25 83. Composition according to claim 82, comprising one or more compound selected from SEQ ID NO:357, SEQ ID NO:366, SEQ ID NO:377, SEQ ID NO:358, SEQ ID NO:367, SEQ ID NO:379, SEQ ID NO:359, SEQ ID NO:368, SEQ ID NO:380, SEQ ID NO:360, SEQ ID NO:369, SEQ ID NO:374, SEQ ID NO:361, SEQ ID NO:370, SEQ ID NO:375, SEQ ID NO:362, SEQ ID NO:371, SEQ ID NO:376, SEQ ID NO:363, SEQ ID NO:378, SEQ ID NO:364, SEQ ID NO:372, SEQ ID NO:365, and SEQ ID NO:373.

30 84. Composition according to claim 82, comprising two or more compounds, wherein both compounds are selected in any one of the groups consisting of SEQ ID NO:357, SEQ ID NO:366, and SEQ ID NO:377; SEQ ID NO:358, SEQ ID NO:367, and SEQ ID NO:379;

SEQ ID NO:359, SEQ ID NO:368, and SEQ ID NO:380;
SEQ ID NO:360, SEQ ID NO:369, and SEQ ID NO:374;
SEQ ID NO:361, SEQ ID NO:370, and SEQ ID NO:375;
SEQ ID NO:362, SEQ ID NO:371, and SEQ ID NO:376;
5 SEQ ID NO:362, SEQ ID NO:366, and SEQ ID NO:377;
SEQ ID NO:363, SEQ ID NO:367, and SEQ ID NO:378;
SEQ ID NO:364, SEQ ID NO:372, and SEQ ID NO:379; and
SEQ ID NO:365, SEQ ID NO:373, and SEQ ID NO:380.

85. Compositon according to claim 82, comprising three compounds of any one of the
10 groups consisting of

SEQ ID NO:357, SEQ ID NO:366, and SEQ ID NO:377;
SEQ ID NO:358, SEQ ID NO:367, and SEQ ID NO:379;
SEQ ID NO:359, SEQ ID NO:368, and SEQ ID NO:380;
SEQ ID NO:360, SEQ ID NO:369, and SEQ ID NO:374;
15 SEQ ID NO:361, SEQ ID NO:370, and SEQ ID NO:375;
SEQ ID NO:362, SEQ ID NO:371, and SEQ ID NO:376;
SEQ ID NO:362, SEQ ID NO:366, and SEQ ID NO:377;
SEQ ID NO:363, SEQ ID NO:367, and SEQ ID NO:378;
SEQ ID NO:364, SEQ ID NO:372, and SEQ ID NO:379; and
20 SEQ ID NO:365, SEQ ID NO:373, and SEQ ID NO:380.

86. Compositon according to claim 82, comprising one or more compounds selected from
BI-155-5, SEQ ID NO:407, SEQ ID NO:412, SEQ ID NO:417, BI-155-4, SEQ ID NO:408, SEQ
ID NO:413, SEQ ID NO:418, BI-155-3, SEQ ID NO:409, SEQ ID NO:414, SEQ ID NO:419, BI-
155-2, SEQ ID NO:410, SEQ ID NO:415, SEQ ID NO:420, BI-155, SEQ ID NO:411, SEQ ID
25 NO:416, and SEQ ID NO:421.

87. Compositon according to claim 82, comprising two or more compounds, wherein both
compounds are selected in any one of the groups consisting of
BI-155-5, SEQ ID NO:407, SEQ ID NO:412, SEQ ID NO:417;
BI-155-4, SEQ ID NO:408, SEQ ID NO:413, SEQ ID NO:418;
30 BI-155-3, SEQ ID NO:409, SEQ ID NO:414, SEQ ID NO:419;
BI-155-2, SEQ ID NO:410, SEQ ID NO:415, SEQ ID NO:420;
BI-155, SEQ ID NO:411, SEQ ID NO:416, SEQ ID NO:421;
BI-155-2, SEQ ID NO:411, SEQ ID NO:416, SEQ ID NO:421;
BI-155-3, SEQ ID NO:410, SEQ ID NO:414, SEQ ID NO:419; and
35 BI-155, SEQ ID NO:407, SEQ ID NO:415, SEQ ID NO:418.

88. Composition according to claim 82, comprising three or more compounds, wherein each three compounds are selected in any one of the groups consisting of

BI-155-5, SEQ ID NO:407, SEQ ID NO:412SEQ ID NO:417;

BI-155-4, SEQ ID NO:408, SEQ ID NO:413, SEQ ID NO:418;

5 BI-155-3, SEQ ID NO:409, SEQ ID NO:414, SEQ ID NO:419;

BI-155-2, SEQ ID NO:410, SEQ ID NO:415, SEQ ID NO:420;

BI-155, SEQ ID NO:411, SEQ ID NO:416, SEQ ID NO:421;

BI-155-2, SEQ ID NO:411, SEQ ID NO:416, SEQ ID NO:421;

BI-155-3, SEQ ID NO:410, SEQ ID NO:414, SEQ ID NO:419; and

10 BI-155, SEQ ID NO:407, SEQ ID NO:415, SEQ ID NO:418.

89. Composition according to claim 82, comprising four compounds of any one of the groups consisting of

BI-155-5, SEQ ID NO:407, SEQ ID NO:412SEQ ID NO:417;

BI-155-4, SEQ ID NO:408, SEQ ID NO:413, SEQ ID NO:418;

15 BI-155-3, SEQ ID NO:409, SEQ ID NO:414, SEQ ID NO:419;

BI-155-2, SEQ ID NO:410, SEQ ID NO:415, SEQ ID NO:420;

BI-155, SEQ ID NO:411, SEQ ID NO:416, SEQ ID NO:421;

BI-155-2, SEQ ID NO:411, SEQ ID NO:416, SEQ ID NO:421;

BI-155-3, SEQ ID NO:410, SEQ ID NO:414, SEQ ID NO:419; and

20 BI-155, SEQ ID NO:407, SEQ ID NO:415, SEQ ID NO:418.

90. Use of a peptide selected from a monomeric peptide is as defined in any one of claims 1-60, and an isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide as defined in any one of claims 61-81 for inducing an immune response in a subject, such as a humoral or Cell Mediated Immune (CMI) response.

25 91. An isolated nucleic acid or polynucleotide encoding a peptide according to any one of claims 1-61.

92. A vector comprising the nucleic acid or polynucleotide according to claim 84.

93. A host cell comprising the vector according to claim 85.

94. An immunogenic composition comprising at least one monomeric peptide according to
30 any one of claims 1-61, an isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of claims 61-81, a peptide composition according to any one of claims 82-89, the nucleic acid or polynucleotide according to claim 91, or the vector according to claim 92; optionally in

combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or vehicle and optionally an immunological adjuvant.

95. The immunogenic composition according to claim 94 in the form of a vaccine composition.

5 96. A method for inducing an immune response in a subject against an antigen which comprises administration of at least one monomeric peptide according to any one of claims 1-60, an isolated multimeric, such as dimeric peptide according to any one of claims 61-79, a peptide composition according to any one of claims 82-89, the nucleic acid or polynucleotide according to claim 91, or the vector according to claim 92; or the composition according to
10 any one of claims 94-95.

97. A method for reducing and/or delaying the pathological effects of a disease antigen, such as an infectious agent in a subject infected with said agent or having said disease caused by said antigen, the method comprising administering an effective amount of at least one monomeric peptide according to any one of claims 1-60, an isolated multimeric, such as
15 dimeric peptide according to any one of claims 61-81, a peptide composition according to any one of claims 82-89, the nucleic acid or polynucleotide according to claim 91, or the vector according to claim 92; or the composition according to any one of claims 94-95.

98. A peptide according to any one of claims 1-81, a peptide composition according to any one of claims 82-89, the nucleic acid or polynucleotide according to claim 91, or the vector
20 according to claim 92; or the composition according to any one of claims 94-95, for use as a medicament.

99. A peptide according to any one of claims 1-81, a peptide composition according to any one of claims 82-89, the nucleic acid or polynucleotide according to claim 91, or the vector according to claim 92; or the composition according to any one of claims 94-95, for treating
25 the pathological effects of a disease antigen, such as an infectious agent in a subject infected with said agent or having said disease caused by said antigen.

100. A peptide according to any one of claims 1-81, a peptide composition according to any one of claims 82-89, the nucleic acid or polynucleotide according to claim 91, or the vector according to claim 92; or the composition according to any one of claims 94-95 for use in an
30 in vitro assay, such as an ELISA assay, such as for diagnostic purposes.

101. Use of a peptide according to any one of claims 1-81, a peptide composition according to any one of claims 82-89, the nucleic acid or polynucleotide according to claim 91, or the

vector according to claim 92; or the composition according to any one of claims 94-95, for in vitro assay, such as an ELISA assay, such as for diagnostic purposes.

Figure 1

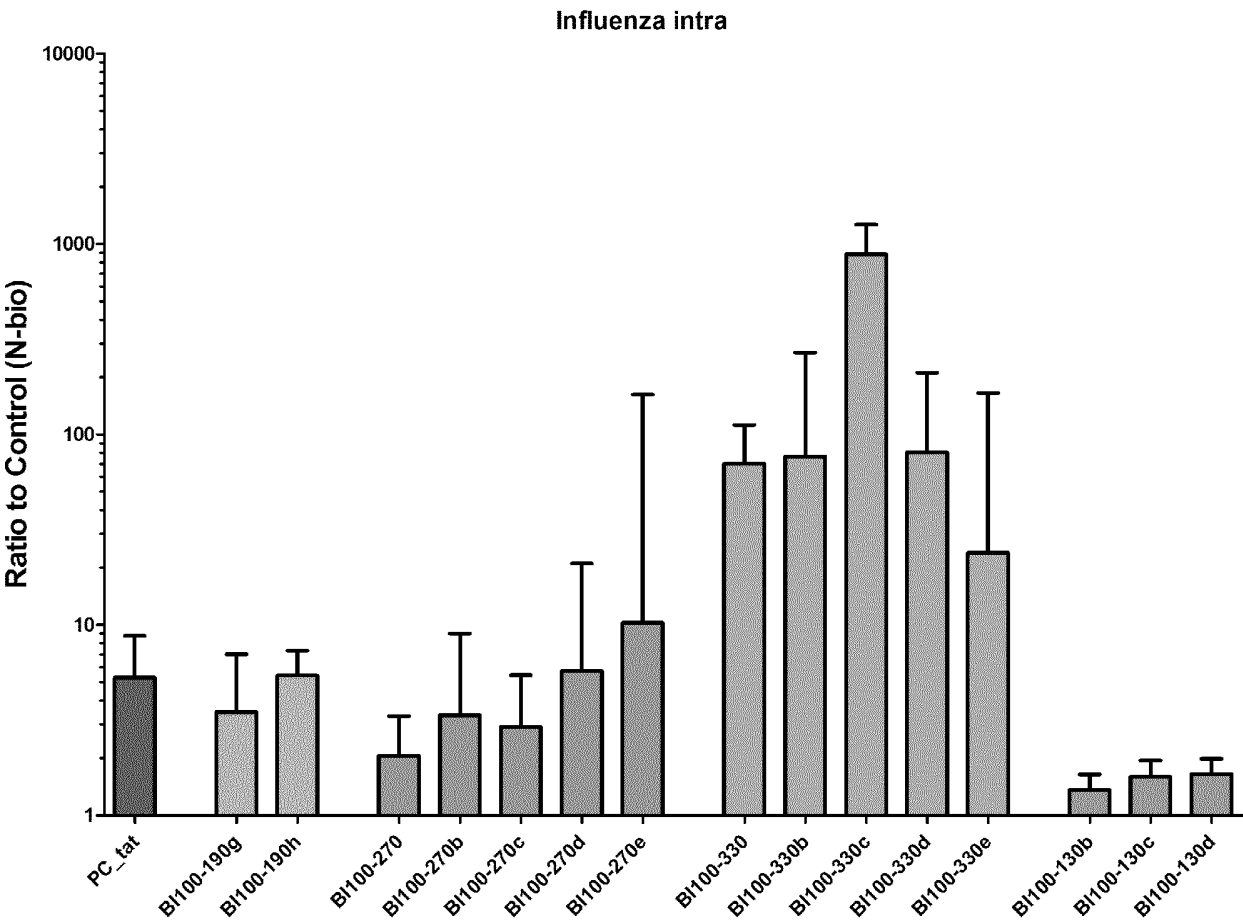


Figure 2

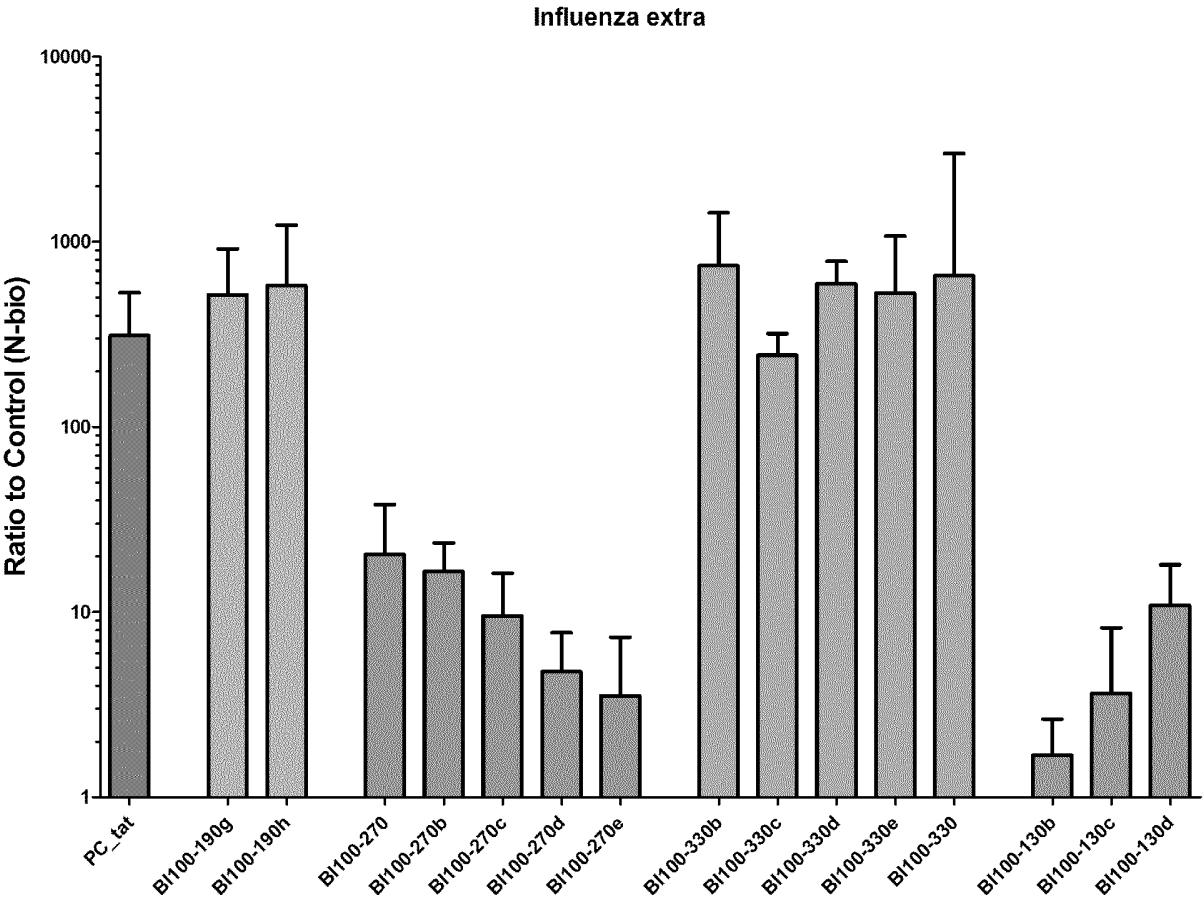
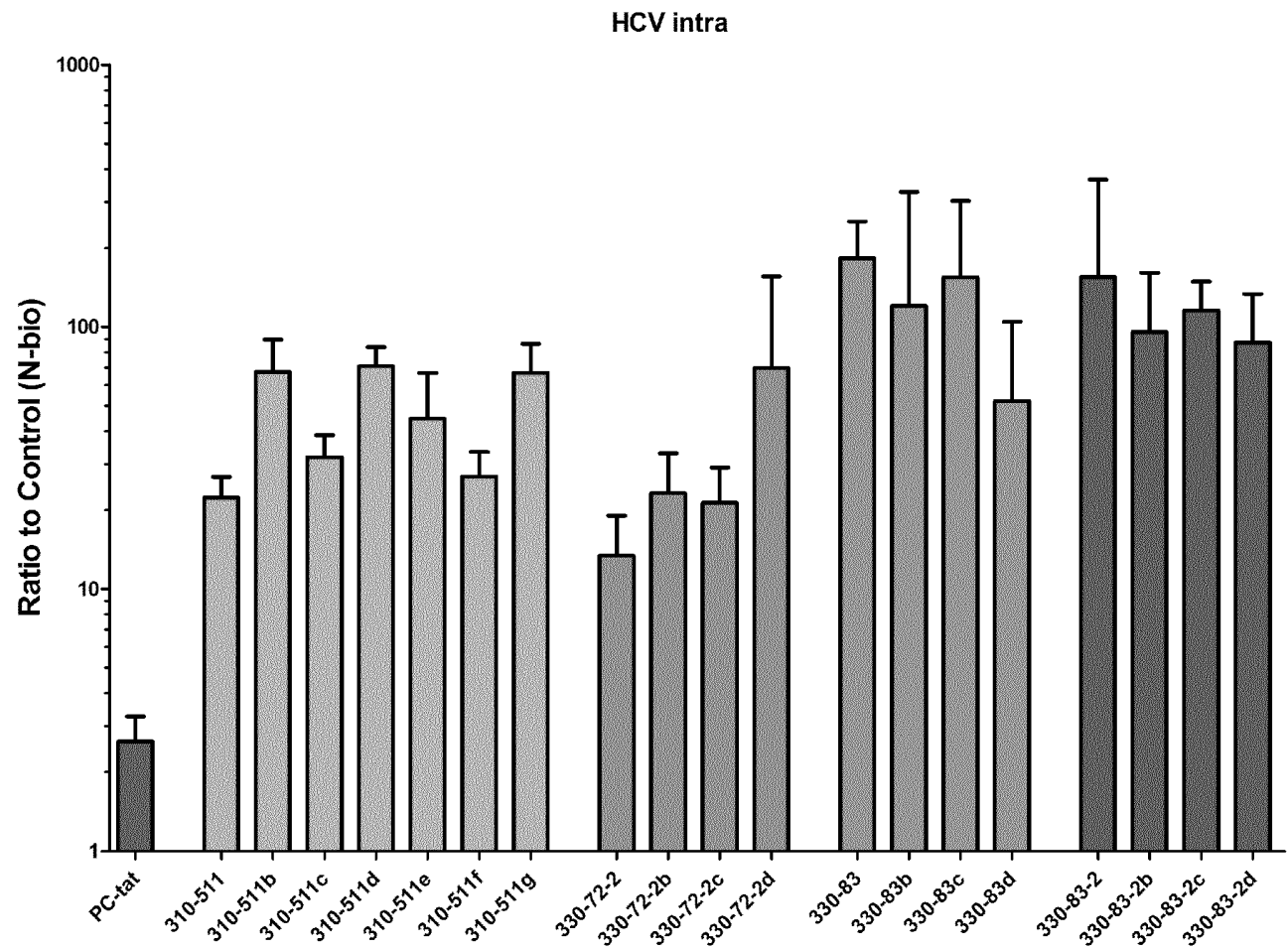
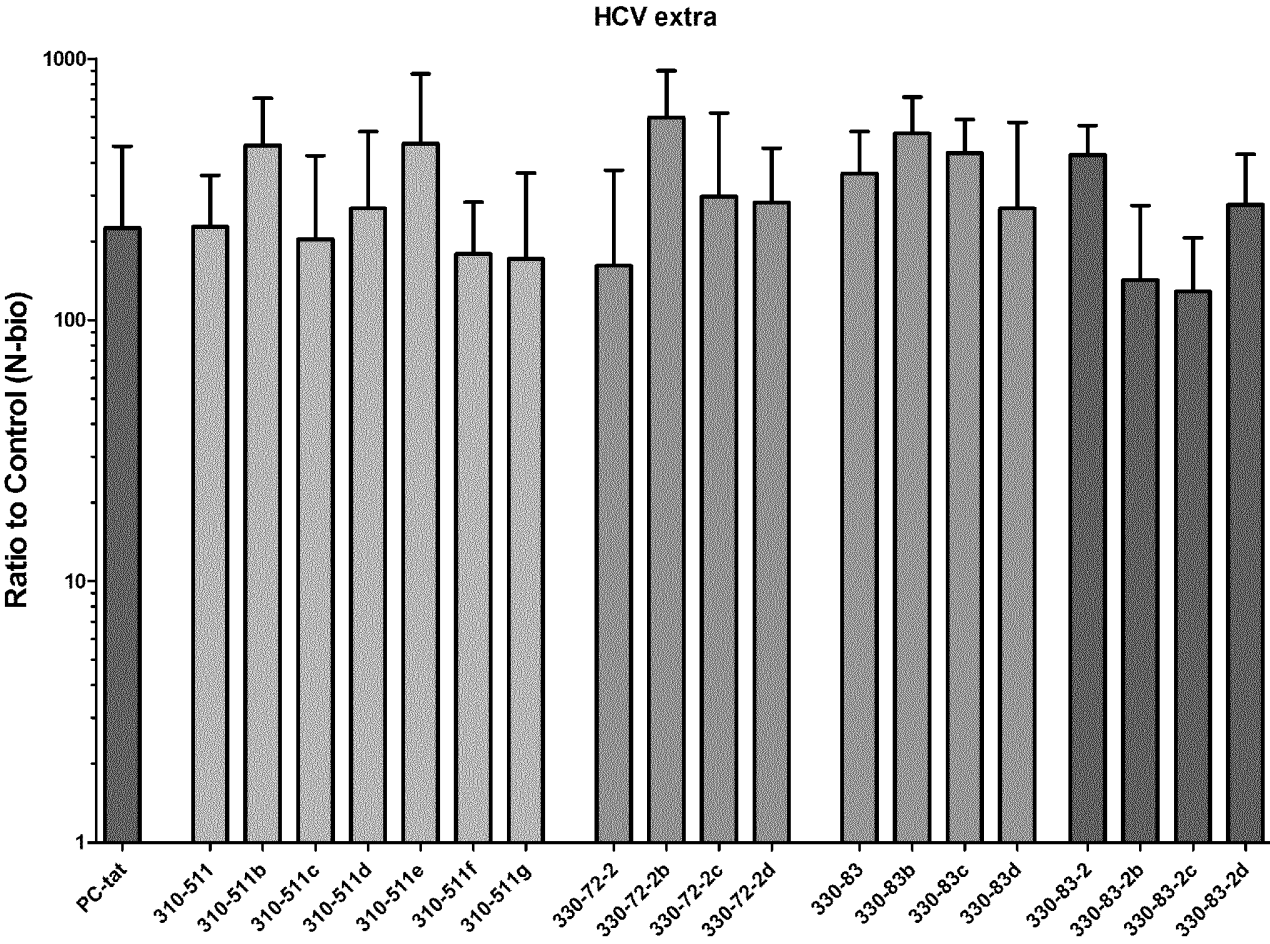


Figure 3



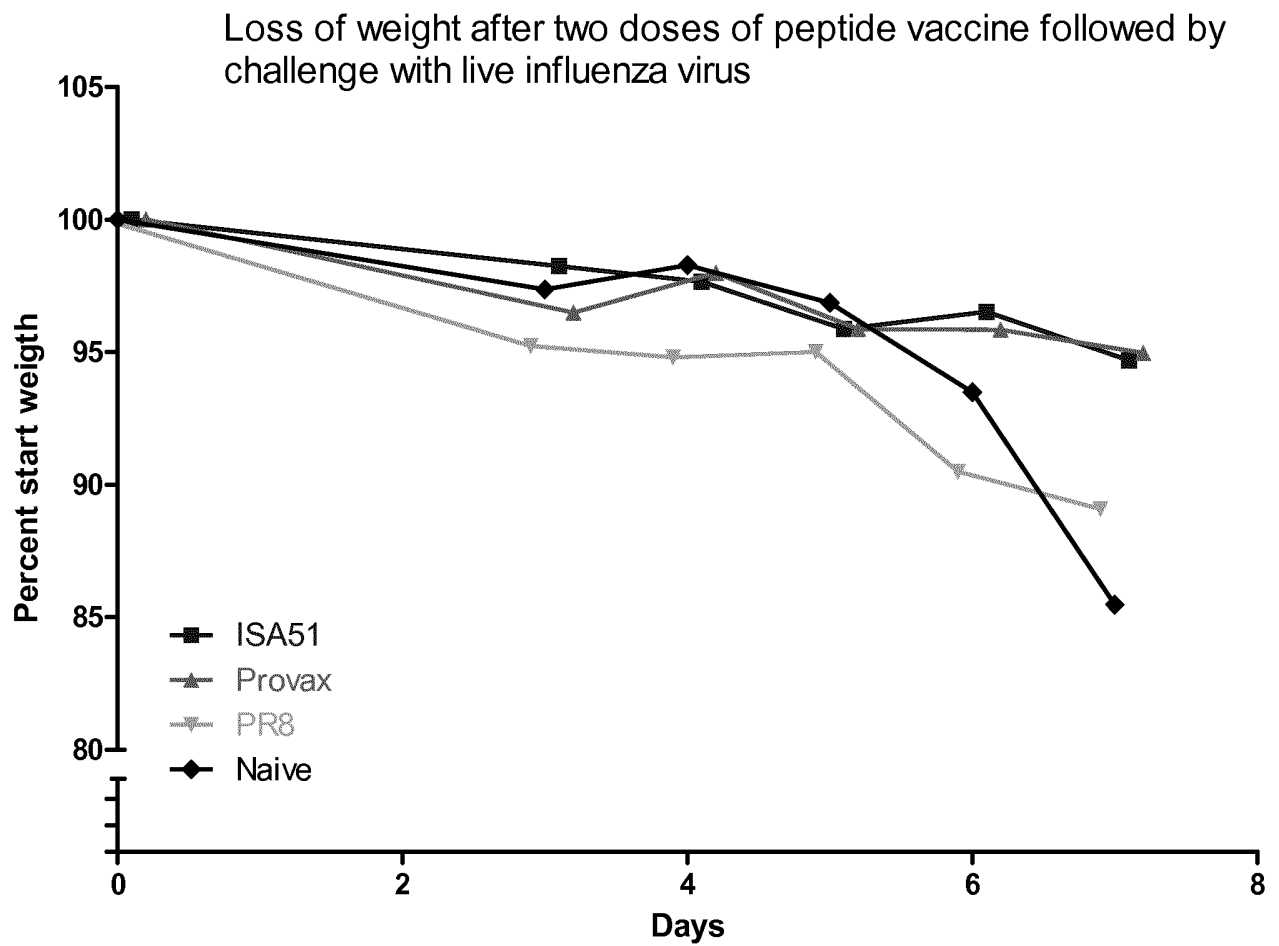
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Figure 4



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Figure 5



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/EP2013/061751

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER INV. C07K7/08 C07K14/00 G01N33/68 A61K39/395 C07K14/005 ADD.		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) C07K G01N A61K		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched		
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) EPO-Internal, CHEM ABS Data, BIOSIS		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 00/52040 A1 (BIONOR A/S) 8 September 2000 (2000-09-08) cited in the application the whole document -----	1-58, 61-101
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<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex. </div>		
* Special categories of cited documents :		
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</p> <p>"&" document member of the same patent family</p> </div> </div>		
Date of the actual completion of the international search <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.2em;">15 August 2013</div>		Date of mailing of the international search report <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.2em;">22/08/2013</div>
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016		Authorized officer <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.2em;">Masturzo, Pietro</div>

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C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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摘要

本发明涉及包括HCV，HIV，HPV，CMV和流感感染的病毒感染的治疗、诊断和预后的新肽和方法。本发明还涉及鉴定和提供用于治疗 and 诊断的肽的方法。