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(54) Title: METHOD OF PREVENTING RECURRENT MISCARRIAGES

(57) Abstract: Described are methods for treating, preventing, or reducing the risk of, miscarriages, especially recurrent miscarriages. The methods comprise administering to a female subject a therapeutic agent that modulates the activity or binding of components of the complement system, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. For example, the therapeutic agent can be a C3-convertase inhibitor, an antibody against C5, an antagonist of the C5a receptor, or an antibody against factor B or factor D. Screening methods for agents that can prevent or reduce the risk of miscarriages, especially recurrent miscarriages, are also described.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/15040

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(7) : C07K 16/18; A61K 39/395 US CL : 424/158.1; 530/388.25 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) U.S. : 424/158.1; 530/388.25 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) Please See Continuation Sheet		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	KOVACS, L. et al. Antineutrophil cytoplasmic antibodies and other immunologic abnormalities in patients with habitual abortion. American journal of reproductive immunology. April 1999, Vol. 41, No. 4, pages 264-270, see entire document.	1-24.
☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☐ See patent family annex.		
* Special categories of cited documents:		
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"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)	"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
"O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	
Date of the actual completion of the international search 21 March 2005 (21.03.2005)		Date of mailing of the international search report 22 APR 2005
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230		Authorized officer <i>Marc J. Vegt</i> F. Pierre VanderVegt Telephone No. 571-272-1600

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

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Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:

WEST; STN Medline, Embase, Scisearch

TERMS: miscarriage, complement, anti-phospholipid, C%, C#, C2, C4, MAC