



(51) International Patent Classification:

A61K 48/00 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2018/067087

(22) International Filing Date:

21 December 2018 (21.12.2018)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

62/609,056 21 December 2017 (21.12.2017) US

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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every

kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,

AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY, BZ,

CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DJ, DK, DM, DO,

DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN,

HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IR, IS, JO, JP, KE, KG, KH, KN, KP,

KR, KW, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME,

MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ,

OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SA,

SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN,

TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every

kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,

GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, ST, SZ, TZ,

UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ,

TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK,

EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV,

MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM,

TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW,

KM, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report (Rule 48.2(g))
- with sequence listing part of description (Rule 5.2(a))

(54) Title: MODULATION OF FRATAXIN EXPRESSION

(57) Abstract: Certain embodiments are directed to methods and compounds for increasing FXN. Such methods and compounds are useful for increasing expression of FXN in cells and animals.



MODULATION OF FRATAXIN EXPRESSION

Statement of Government Support

5 This invention was made with government support under Grant No. GM R35118103 awarded by the National Institutes of Health. The Government has certain rights in the invention.

Sequence Listing

10 The present application is being filed along with a Sequence Listing in electronic format. The Sequence Listing is provided as a file entitled BIOL0325WOSEQ_ST25.txt created on December 14, 2018 which is approximately 96 KB in size. The information in the electronic format of the sequence listing is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

Field

15 Certain embodiments are directed to methods and compounds for upregulating FXN protein. Such methods and compounds are useful for inducing expression of FXN in cells and animals.

Background

20 Friedreich's Ataxia (FA) is an incurable disease caused by an expansion of a trinucleotide GAA repeat within intron 1 of the frataxin gene (FXN). This expansion does not change the coding region of FXN and does not result in expression of a mutant protein. Instead, the gene mutation reduces expression of FXN protein. Agents that increase expression of FXN protein to restore it to normal levels would have the potential to be a therapy for FA.

25 While the mechanism linking expansion of the trinucleotide repeat to reduced expression of FXN is not known with certainty, evidence suggests that the expanded intronic RNA forms an RNA loop (R-loop) with chromosomal DNA that induces histone and possibly DNA modification to act as a break on transcription. Compounds that bind the expanded repeat would be expected to block the expanded RNA, inhibit recognition of DNA, prevent R-loop formation, and allow increased expression of FXN.

30 Antisense technology is an effective means for modulating the expression of one or more specific gene products, including alternative splice products, and is uniquely useful in a number of therapeutic, diagnostic, and research applications. The principle behind antisense technology is that an antisense compound, which hybridizes to a target nucleic acid, modulates gene expression activities such as transcription, splicing or translation through one of a number of antisense mechanisms. The sequence specificity of antisense

compounds makes them extremely attractive as tools for target validation and gene functionalization, as well as therapeutics to selectively modulate the expression of genes involved in disease.

Summary

5 Several embodiments provided herein relate to the discovery that modified oligonucleotides targeting the GAA trinucleotide repeat expansion in FA increase expression of FXN. Several embodiments are drawn to methods and compounds for inducing expression of FXN using modified oligonucleotides targeting the GAA trinucleotide repeat. Certain embodiments disclosed herein are drawn to a method of inducing expression of FXN in a cell comprising contacting the cell with a modified oligonucleotide targeted to the
10 GAA trinucleotide repeat. In certain embodiments, modified oligonucleotides described herein increase expression of FXN protein in a cell. In certain embodiments, modified oligonucleotides described herein increase expression of FXN protein in a cell, but do not substantially alter the amount of FXN pre-mRNA in a cell. In certain embodiments, FXN comprises a nucleic acid sequence at least 85% identical to SEQ ID NO:1.

15 The present disclosure provides the following non-limiting numbered embodiments:

Embodiment 1: A compound comprising a modified oligonucleotide 8 to 80 linked nucleosides in length having a nucleobase sequence comprising at least 16 contiguous nucleobases of any of the nucleobase sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13.

20 Embodiment 2: A compound comprising a modified oligonucleotide 8 to 80 linked nucleosides in length having a nucleobase sequence comprising the nucleobase sequence of any one of SEQ ID NOs: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13.

Embodiment 3: A compound comprising a modified oligonucleotide having a nucleobase sequence consisting of any one of SEQ ID NOs: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13.

25 Embodiment 4: The compound of any one of embodiments 1-3, wherein the modified oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified internucleoside linkage, at least one modified sugar, or at least one modified nucleobase.

Embodiment 5: The compound of embodiment 4, wherein the modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate internucleoside linkage.

Embodiment 6: The compound of embodiment 3 or 4, wherein the modified sugar is a bicyclic sugar.

30 Embodiment 7: The compound of embodiment 6, wherein the bicyclic sugar is selected from the group consisting of: 4'-(CH₂)₂-O-2' (ENA); and 4'-CH(CH₃)-O-2' (cEt).

Embodiment 8: The compound of embodiment 4 or 5, wherein the modified sugar is 2'-O-methoxyethyl.

Embodiment 9: The compound of any one of embodiments 4-8, wherein the modified nucleobase is a 5-methylcytosine.

- Embodiment 10: The compound of any one of embodiments 1-9, wherein the compound is single-stranded.
- Embodiment 11: The compound of any one of embodiments 1-9, wherein the compound is double-stranded.
- 5 Embodiment 12: The compound of any one of embodiments 1-9, wherein the modified oligonucleotide consists of 16 to 30 linked nucleosides.
- Embodiment 13: The compound of any one of embodiments 1-9, wherein the modified oligonucleotide consists of 16 to 22 linked nucleosides.
- Embodiment 14: The compound of any one of embodiments 1-9, wherein the modified
10 oligonucleotide consists of 16 to 20 linked nucleosides.
- Embodiment 15: The compound of any one of embodiments 1-9, wherein the modified oligonucleotide consists of 16 to 18 linked nucleosides.
- Embodiment 16: The compound of any one of embodiments 1-9, wherein the modified oligonucleotide consists of 16 linked nucleosides.
- 15 Embodiment 17: The compound of embodiment 16, wherein the modified oligonucleotide has a nucleobase sequence consisting of any one of SEQ ID NOs: 2, 3, or 4.
- Embodiment 18: The compound of embodiment 17, wherein each sugar is a modified sugar.
- Embodiment 19: The compound of embodiment 18, wherein each modified sugar is a 2'-methoxyethyl sugar.
- 20 Embodiment 20: The compound of embodiment 17, wherein the sugar motif is (edd)5-e, where e represents a 2'-methoxyethyl modified nucleoside and d represents a 2'-deoxy nucleoside.
- Embodiment 21: The compound of embodiment 17, wherein the sugar motif is (kdd)5-k, where k represents a 2'-cEt modified nucleoside and d represents a 2'-deoxy nucleoside.
- Embodiment 22: The compound of embodiment 17 or 18, wherein the sugar motif is (kee)5-k, where k
25 represents a 2'-cEt modified nucleoside and e represents a 2'-methoxyethyl modified nucleoside.
- Embodiment 23: The compound of any of embodiments 17-22, wherein each internucleoside linkage is selected from phosphorothioate and phosphodiester.
- Embodiment 24: The compound of any of embodiments 17-23, wherein each internucleoside linkage is phosphorothioate.
- 30 Embodiment 25: The compound of any one of embodiments 1-9, wherein the modified oligonucleotide consists of 18 linked nucleosides.
- Embodiment 26: The compound of embodiment 25, comprising a modified oligonucleotide having a nucleobase sequence consisting of any one of SEQ ID NOs: 5, 6, or 7.
- Embodiment 27: The compound of embodiment 25 or 26, wherein each sugar is a modified sugar.

Embodiment 28: The compound of embodiment 27, wherein each modified sugar is a 2'-methoxyethyl sugar.

Embodiment 29: The compound of embodiment 25 or 26, wherein the sugar motif is e-(edd)5-ee, where e represents a 2'-methoxyethyl modified nucleoside and d represents a 2'-deoxy nucleoside.

5 Embodiment 30: The compound of embodiment 25 or 26, wherein the sugar motif is k-(kdd)5-kk, where k represents a 2'-cEt modified nucleoside and d represents a 2'-deoxy nucleoside.

Embodiment 31: The compound of embodiment 25 or 26, wherein the sugar motif is k-(kee)5-kk, where k represents a 2'-cEt modified nucleoside and e represents a 2'-methoxyethyl modified nucleoside.

10 Embodiment 32: The compound of any of embodiments 25-31, wherein each internucleoside linkage is selected from phosphorothioate and phosphodiester.

Embodiment 33: The compound of any of embodiments 25-31, wherein each internucleoside linkage is phosphorothioate.

Embodiment 34: A compound comprising a modified oligonucleotide having a nucleobase sequence consisting of any one of SEQ ID NOs: 8, 9, or 10.

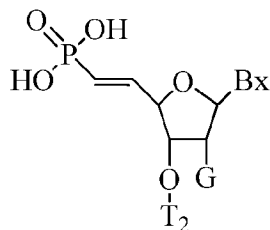
15 Embodiment 35: The compound of embodiment 34, wherein the modified oligonucleotide is a phosphorodiamidate morpholino oligomer (PMO).

20 Embodiment 36: A compound comprising a single-stranded oligonucleotide consisting of 13 to 30 linked nucleosides and having a nucleobase sequence complementary to a repeat region of an expanded repeat-containing target RNA, wherein the 5'-terminal nucleoside of the single-stranded oligonucleotide comprises a stabilized phosphate moiety and an internucleoside linking group linking the 5'-terminal nucleoside to the remainder of the oligonucleotide.

Embodiment 37: The compound of embodiment 36, wherein the single-stranded oligonucleotide has a nucleobase sequence comprising at least 16 contiguous nucleobases of any of the nucleobase sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 14, 15, or 16.

25 Embodiment 38: The compound of embodiment 36, wherein the single-stranded oligonucleotide has a nucleobase sequence consisting of any one of SEQ ID NOs: 14, 15, or 16.

Embodiment 39: The compound of any of embodiments 36-38, wherein the 5'-terminal nucleoside has Formula I:



30

I

wherein:

B_x is selected from among: uracil, thymine, cytosine, 5-methyl cytosine, adenine, and guanine;

T₂ is a phosphorothioate internucleoside linking group linking the compound of Formula I to the
5 remainder of the oligonucleotide; and

G is selected from among: a halogen, OCH₃, OCF₃, OCH₂CH₃, OCH₂CF₃, OCH₂-CH=CH₂, O(CH₂)₂-OCH₃, O(CH₂)₂-O(CH₂)₂-N(CH₃)₂, OCH₂C(=O)-N(H)CH₃, OCH₂C(=O)-N(H)-(CH₂)₂-N(CH₃)₂, OCH₂-N(H)-C(=NH)NH₂, and a conjugate group.

Embodiment 40: The compound of any of embodiments 36-37, comprising the motif:

10 (Nucleoside of Formula I)-s-A-s-B-o-A-s-B-o-A-s-B-o-A-s-B-o-A-s-B-o-A-s-B-s-A-s-B-s-A-s-B-s-D-s-D

wherein:

s is a phosphorothioate linkage;

A is a nucleoside of a first type;

15 B is a nucleoside of a second type; and

D is a nucleoside of a third type.

Embodiment 41: The compound of any of embodiments 36-37, consisting of the motif:

20 (Nucleoside of Formula I)-s-A-s-B-o-A-s-B-o-A-s-B-o-A-s-B-o-A-s-B-o-A-s-B-o-A-s-B-s-A-s-B-s-A-s-B-s-D-s-D

wherein:

s is a phosphorothioate linkage;

A is a nucleoside of a first type;

B is a nucleoside of a second type; and

D is a nucleoside of a third type.

25 Embodiment 42: The compound of embodiment 40 or 41, wherein A is a 2'-F nucleoside.

Embodiment 43: The compound of any of embodiments 40-42, wherein B is a 2'-OMe nucleoside.

Embodiment 44: The compound of any of embodiments 40-43, wherein D is a 2'-MOE nucleoside.

Embodiment 45: A compound consisting of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the compounds of embodiments 1-44.

- Embodiment 46: The compound of embodiment 45, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable salt is a sodium salt.
- Embodiment 47: The compound of embodiment 45, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable salt is a potassium salt.
- 5 Embodiment 48: A composition comprising the compound of any one of embodiments 1-47 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- Embodiment 49: A composition comprising a compound or modified oligonucleotide of any preceding embodiment, for use in therapy.
- Embodiment 50: A method of treating, preventing, or ameliorating a disease associated with frataxin
10 in an individual comprising administering to the individual a compound targeted to the repeat of frataxin thereby treating, preventing, or ameliorating the disease.
- Embodiment 51: The method of embodiment 50, wherein the disease is Friedreich's Ataxia.
- Embodiment 52: The method of any of embodiments 50-51, wherein administering the compound inhibits, reduces, or improves the symptoms of Friedreich's Ataxia.
- 15 Embodiment 53: A method of increasing expression of frataxin in a cell comprising contacting the cell with a compound targeted to the GAA repeat of frataxin, thereby increasing expression of frataxin in the cell.
- Embodiment 54: The method of embodiment 53, wherein the cell is in the CNS of an individual.
- Embodiment 55: The method of embodiment 54, wherein the individual has, or is at risk of having,
20 Friedreich's ataxia.
- Embodiment 56: The method of any one of embodiments 50-55, wherein the compound is the compound of any one of embodiments 1-47 or composition of any of embodiments 48 and 49.
- Embodiment 57: The method of embodiment 55 or 56, wherein the compound is administered to the CNS.
- 25 Embodiment 58: Use of a compound targeted to frataxin in the manufacture of a medicament for treating, preventing, or ameliorating a disease associated with frataxin.
- Embodiment 59: The use of embodiment 58, wherein the compound is the compound of any one of embodiments 1-47 or composition of embodiment 48 or 49.
- Embodiment 60: Use of a compound targeted to frataxin in the preparation of a medicament for
30 treating, preventing, or ameliorating a disease associated with frataxin.
- Embodiment 61: The use of embodiment 60, wherein the disease is Friedreich's ataxia.
- Embodiment 62: The use of embodiment 58 or 60, wherein the compound is an antisense compound targeted to frataxin.
- Embodiment 63: The use of any one of embodiments 58-62, wherein the compound is the compound
35 of any one of embodiments 1-47 or composition of any of embodiments 48 and 49.

Detailed Description

It is to be understood that both the foregoing general description and the following detailed description are exemplary and explanatory only and are not restrictive of the invention, as claimed. Herein, the use of the singular includes the plural unless specifically stated otherwise. As used herein, the use of “or” means “and/or” unless stated otherwise. Furthermore, the use of the term “including” as well as other forms, such as “includes” and “included”, is not limiting. Also, terms such as “element” or “component” encompass both elements and components comprising one unit and elements and components that comprise more than one subunit, unless specifically stated otherwise.

The section headings used herein are for organizational purposes only and are not to be construed as limiting the subject matter described. All documents, or portions of documents, cited in this application, including, but not limited to, patents, patent applications, articles, books, and treatises, are hereby expressly incorporated by reference for the portions of the document discussed herein, as well as in their entirety.

It is understood that the sequence set forth in each SEQ ID NO described herein is independent of any modification to a sugar moiety, an internucleoside linkage, or a nucleobase. As such, antisense compounds defined by a SEQ ID NO may comprise, independently, one or more modifications to a sugar moiety, an internucleoside linkage, or a nucleobase. Antisense compounds described by Compound Number (Compound No) indicate a combination of nucleobase sequence and motif.

Unless specific definitions are provided, the nomenclature used in connection with, and the procedures and techniques of, analytical chemistry, synthetic organic chemistry, and medicinal and pharmaceutical chemistry described herein are those well known and commonly used in the art. Standard techniques may be used for chemical synthesis and chemical analysis. Certain such techniques and procedures may be found for example in “Carbohydrate Modifications in Antisense Research” Edited by Sangvi and Cook, American Chemical Society, Washington D.C., 1994; “Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences,” Mack Publishing Co., Easton, Pa., 21st edition, 2005; and “Antisense Drug Technology, Principles, Strategies, and Applications” Edited by Stanley T. Crooke, CRC Press, Boca Raton, Florida; and Sambrook et al., “Molecular Cloning, A laboratory Manual,” 2nd Edition, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, 1989, which are hereby incorporated by reference for any purpose. Where permitted, all patents, applications, published applications and other publications and other data referred to throughout in the disclosure are incorporated by reference herein in their entirety.

Unless otherwise indicated, the following terms have the following meanings:

As used herein, FXN means frataxin-1. In certain embodiments, FXN transcript comprises GenBank accession NC_000009.12 truncated from 69033001 to 69103000.

As used herein, “Frataxin-1 (FXN)” means any FXN nucleic acid or protein. “FXN nucleic acid”

means any nucleic acid encoding FXN. For example, in certain embodiments, a FXN nucleic acid includes a DNA sequence encoding FXN, an RNA sequence transcribed from DNA encoding FXN, including a non-protein encoding (*i.e.* non-coding) RNA sequence, and an mRNA sequence encoding FXN. "FXN mRNA" means an mRNA encoding a FXN protein.

5 As used herein, "nucleoside" means a compound comprising a nucleobase moiety and a sugar moiety. Nucleosides include, but are not limited to, naturally occurring nucleosides (as found in DNA and RNA) and modified nucleosides. Nucleosides may be linked to a phosphate moiety.

As used herein, "chemical modification" means a chemical difference in a compound when compared to a naturally occurring counterpart. In reference to an oligonucleotide, chemical modification does not
10 include differences only in nucleobase sequence. Chemical modifications of oligonucleotides include nucleoside modifications (including sugar moiety modifications and nucleobase modifications) and internucleoside linkage modifications.

As used herein, "furanosyl" means a structure comprising a 5-membered ring comprising four carbon atoms and one oxygen atom.

15 As used herein, "naturally occurring sugar moiety" means a ribofuranosyl as found in naturally occurring RNA or a deoxyribofuranosyl as found in naturally occurring DNA.

As used herein, "sugar moiety" means a naturally occurring sugar moiety or a modified sugar moiety of a nucleoside.

As used herein, "modified sugar moiety" means a substituted sugar moiety, a bicyclic or tricyclic
20 sugar moiety, or a sugar surrogate.

As used herein, "substituted sugar moiety" means a furanosyl comprising at least one substituent group that differs from that of a naturally occurring sugar moiety. Substituted sugar moieties include, but are not limited to furanosyls comprising substituents at the 2'-position, the 3'-position, the 5'-position and/or the 4'-position.

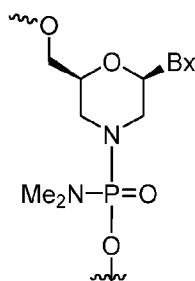
25 As used herein, "2'-substituted sugar moiety" means a furanosyl comprising a substituent at the 2'-position other than H or OH. Unless otherwise indicated, a 2'-substituted sugar moiety is not a bicyclic sugar moiety (*i.e.*, the 2'-substituent of a 2'-substituted sugar moiety does not form a bridge to another atom of the furanosyl ring).

As used herein, "MOE" means $\text{-OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_3$.

30 As used herein, "bicyclic sugar moiety" means a modified sugar moiety comprising a 4 to 7 membered ring (including but not limited to a furanosyl) comprising a bridge connecting two atoms of the 4 to 7 membered ring to form a second ring, resulting in a bicyclic structure. In certain embodiments, the 4 to 7 membered ring is a sugar ring. In certain embodiments the 4 to 7 membered ring is a furanosyl. In certain such embodiments, the bridge connects the 2'-carbon and the 4'-carbon of the furanosyl.

As used herein the term "sugar surrogate" means a structure that does not comprise a furanosyl and that is capable of replacing the naturally occurring sugar moiety of a nucleoside, such that the resulting nucleoside is capable of (1) incorporation into an oligonucleotide and (2) hybridization to a complementary nucleoside. Such structures include rings comprising a different number of atoms than furanosyl (e.g., 4, 6, or 7-membered rings); replacement of the oxygen of a furanosyl with a non-oxygen atom (e.g., carbon, sulfur, or nitrogen); or both a change in the number of atoms and a replacement of the oxygen. Such structures may also comprise substitutions corresponding to those described for substituted sugar moieties (e.g., 6-membered carbocyclic bicyclic sugar surrogates optionally comprising additional substituents). Sugar surrogates also include more complex sugar replacements (e.g., the non-ring systems of peptide nucleic acid). Sugar surrogates include without limitation morpholino, modified morpholinos, cyclohexenyls and cyclohexitols.

As used herein, "phosphordiamidite morpholino oligomer" or "PMO" means an oligomer comprising subunits having the following structure:



As used herein, "nucleotide" means a nucleoside further comprising a phosphate linking group. As used herein, "linked nucleosides" may or may not be linked by phosphate linkages and thus includes, but is not limited to "linked nucleotides." As used herein, "linked nucleosides" are nucleosides that are connected in a continuous sequence (i.e. no additional nucleosides are present between those that are linked).

As used herein, "nucleobase" means a group of atoms that can be linked to a sugar moiety to create a nucleoside that is capable of incorporation into an oligonucleotide, and wherein the group of atoms is capable of bonding with a complementary naturally occurring nucleobase of another oligonucleotide or nucleic acid. Nucleobases may be naturally occurring or may be modified.

As used herein, "heterocyclic base" or "heterocyclic nucleobase" means a nucleobase comprising a heterocyclic structure.

As used herein the terms, "unmodified nucleobase" or "naturally occurring nucleobase" means the naturally occurring heterocyclic nucleobases of RNA or DNA: the purine bases adenine (A) and guanine (G), and the pyrimidine bases thymine (T), cytosine (C) (including 5-methyl C), and uracil (U).

As used herein, "modified nucleobase" means any nucleobase that is not a naturally occurring nucleobase.

As used herein, "modified nucleoside" means a nucleoside comprising at least one chemical modification compared to naturally occurring RNA or DNA nucleosides. Modified nucleosides comprise a

modified sugar moiety and/or a modified nucleobase.

As used herein, "bicyclic nucleoside" or "BNA" means a nucleoside comprising a bicyclic sugar moiety.

As used herein, "constrained ethyl nucleoside" or "cEt" means a nucleoside comprising a bicyclic sugar moiety comprising a 4'-CH(CH₃)-O-2' bridge.

As used herein, "locked nucleic acid nucleoside" or "LNA" means a nucleoside comprising a bicyclic sugar moiety comprising a 4'-CH₂-O-2' bridge.

As used herein, "2'-substituted nucleoside" means a nucleoside comprising a substituent at the 2'-position other than H or OH. Unless otherwise indicated, a 2'-substituted nucleoside is not a bicyclic nucleoside.

As used herein, "2'-deoxynucleoside" means a nucleoside comprising 2'-H furanosyl sugar moiety, as found in naturally occurring deoxyribonucleosides (DNA). In certain embodiments, a 2'-deoxynucleoside may comprise a modified nucleobase or may comprise an RNA nucleobase (e.g., uracil).

As used herein, "oligonucleotide" means a compound comprising a plurality of linked nucleosides.

In certain embodiments, an oligonucleotide comprises one or more unmodified ribonucleosides (RNA) and/or unmodified deoxyribonucleosides (DNA) and/or one or more modified nucleosides.

As used herein "oligonucleoside" means an oligonucleotide in which none of the internucleoside linkages contains a phosphorus atom. As used herein, oligonucleotides include oligonucleosides.

As used herein, "modified oligonucleotide" means an oligonucleotide comprising at least one modified nucleoside and/or at least one modified internucleoside linkage.

As used herein "internucleoside linkage" means a covalent linkage between adjacent nucleosides in an oligonucleotide.

As used herein "naturally occurring internucleoside linkage" means a 3' to 5' phosphodiester linkage.

As used herein, "modified internucleoside linkage" means any internucleoside linkage other than a naturally occurring internucleoside linkage.

As used herein, "oligomeric compound" means a polymeric structure comprising two or more sub-structures. In certain embodiments, an oligomeric compound comprises an oligonucleotide. In certain embodiments, an oligomeric compound comprises one or more conjugate groups and/or terminal groups. In certain embodiments, an oligomeric compound consists of an oligonucleotide.

As used herein, "terminal group" means one or more atom attached to either, or both, the 3' end or the 5' end of an oligonucleotide. In certain embodiments a terminal group is a conjugate group. In certain embodiments, a terminal group comprises one or more terminal group nucleosides.

As used herein, "conjugate" means an atom or group of atoms bound to an oligonucleotide or oligomeric compound. In general, conjugate groups modify one or more properties of the compound to which they are attached, including, but not limited to pharmacodynamic, pharmacokinetic, binding,

absorption, cellular distribution, cellular uptake, charge and/or clearance properties.

As used herein, “conjugate linking group” means any atom or group of atoms used to attach a conjugate to an oligonucleotide or oligomeric compound.

As used herein, “antisense compound” means a compound comprising or consisting of an oligonucleotide at least a portion of which is complementary to a target nucleic acid to which it is capable of hybridizing, resulting in at least one antisense activity.

As used herein, “antisense activity” means any detectable and/or measurable change attributable to the hybridization of an antisense compound to its target nucleic acid.

As used herein, “detecting” or “measuring” means that a test or assay for detecting or measuring is performed. Such detection and/or measuring may result in a value of zero. Thus, if a test for detection or measuring results in a finding of no activity (activity of zero), the step of detecting or measuring the activity has nevertheless been performed.

As used herein, “detectable and/or measurable activity” means a statistically significant activity that is not zero.

As used herein, “essentially unchanged” means little or no change in a particular parameter, particularly relative to another parameter which changes much more. In certain embodiments, a parameter is essentially unchanged when it changes less than 5%. In certain embodiments, a parameter is essentially unchanged if it changes less than two-fold while another parameter changes at least ten-fold. For example, in certain embodiments, an antisense activity is a change in the amount of a target nucleic acid. In certain such embodiments, the amount of a non-target nucleic acid is essentially unchanged if it changes much less than the target nucleic acid does, but the change need not be zero.

As used herein, “expression” means the process by which a gene ultimately results in a protein. Expression includes, but is not limited to, transcription, post-transcriptional modification (e.g., splicing, polyadenylation, addition of 5’-cap), and translation.

As used herein, “target nucleic acid” means a nucleic acid molecule to which an antisense compound hybridizes.

As used herein, “mRNA” means an RNA molecule that encodes a protein.

As used herein, “pre-mRNA” means an RNA transcript that has not been fully processed into mRNA. Pre-mRNA includes one or more intron.

As used herein, “transcript” means an RNA molecule transcribed from DNA. Transcripts include, but are not limited to mRNA, pre-mRNA, and partially processed RNA.

As used herein, “targeting” or “targeted to” means the association of an antisense compound to a particular target nucleic acid molecule or a particular region of a target nucleic acid molecule. An antisense compound targets a target nucleic acid if it is sufficiently complementary to the target nucleic acid to allow hybridization under physiological conditions.

As used herein, “nucleobase complementarity” or “complementarity” when in reference to nucleobases means a nucleobase that is capable of base pairing with another nucleobase. For example, in DNA, adenine (A) is complementary to thymine (T). For example, in RNA, adenine (A) is complementary to uracil (U). In certain embodiments, complementary nucleobase means a nucleobase of an antisense compound that is capable of base pairing with a nucleobase of its target nucleic acid. For example, if a nucleobase at a certain position of an antisense compound is capable of hydrogen bonding with a nucleobase at a certain position of a target nucleic acid, then the position of hydrogen bonding between the oligonucleotide and the target nucleic acid is considered to be complementary at that nucleobase pair. Nucleobases comprising certain modifications may maintain the ability to pair with a counterpart nucleobase and thus, are still capable of nucleobase complementarity.

As used herein, “non-complementary” in reference to nucleobases means a pair of nucleobases that do not form hydrogen bonds with one another.

As used herein, “complementary” in reference to oligomeric compounds (e.g., linked nucleosides, oligonucleotides, or nucleic acids) means the capacity of such oligomeric compounds or regions thereof to hybridize to another oligomeric compound or region thereof through nucleobase complementarity under stringent conditions. Complementary oligomeric compounds need not have nucleobase complementarity at each nucleoside. Rather, some mismatches are tolerated. In certain embodiments, complementary oligomeric compounds or regions are complementary at 70% of the nucleobases (70% complementary). In certain embodiments, complementary oligomeric compounds or regions are 80% complementary. In certain embodiments, complementary oligomeric compounds or regions are 90% complementary. In certain embodiments, complementary oligomeric compounds or regions are 95% complementary. In certain embodiments, complementary oligomeric compounds or regions are 100% complementary.

As used herein, “hybridization” means the pairing of complementary oligomeric compounds (e.g., an antisense compound and its target nucleic acid). While not limited to a particular mechanism, the most common mechanism of pairing involves hydrogen bonding, which may be Watson-Crick, Hoogsteen or reversed Hoogsteen hydrogen bonding, between complementary nucleobases.

As used herein, “specifically hybridizes” means the ability of an oligomeric compound to hybridize to one nucleic acid site with greater affinity than it hybridizes to another nucleic acid site. In certain embodiments, an antisense oligonucleotide specifically hybridizes to more than one target site.

As used herein, “percent complementarity” means the percentage of nucleobases of an oligomeric compound that are complementary to an equal-length portion of a target nucleic acid. Percent complementarity is calculated by dividing the number of nucleobases of the oligomeric compound that are complementary to nucleobases at corresponding positions in the target nucleic acid by the total length of the oligomeric compound.

As used herein, “percent identity” means the number of nucleobases in a first nucleic acid that are the same type (independent of chemical modification) as nucleobases at corresponding positions in a second nucleic acid, divided by the total number of nucleobases in the first nucleic acid.

As used herein, “modulation” means a change of amount or quality of a molecule, function, or activity when compared to the amount or quality of a molecule, function, or activity prior to modulation. For example, modulation includes the change, either an increase (stimulation or induction) or a decrease (inhibition or reduction) in gene expression. As a further example, modulation of expression can include a change in splice site selection of pre-mRNA processing, resulting in a change in the absolute or relative amount of a particular splice-variant compared to the amount in the absence of modulation.

As used herein, “motif” means a pattern of chemical modifications in an oligomeric compound or a region thereof. Motifs may be defined by modifications at certain nucleosides and/or at certain linking groups of an oligomeric compound.

As used herein, “nucleoside motif” means a pattern of nucleoside modifications in an oligomeric compound or a region thereof. The linkages of such an oligomeric compound may be modified or unmodified. Unless otherwise indicated, motifs herein describing only nucleosides are intended to be nucleoside motifs. Thus, in such instances, the linkages are not limited.

As used herein, “sugar motif” means a pattern of sugar modifications in an oligomeric compound or a region thereof.

As used herein, “linkage motif” means a pattern of linkage modifications in an oligomeric compound or region thereof. The nucleosides of such an oligomeric compound may be modified or unmodified. Unless otherwise indicated, motifs herein describing only linkages are intended to be linkage motifs. Thus, in such instances, the nucleosides are not limited.

As used herein, “nucleobase modification motif” means a pattern of modifications to nucleobases along an oligonucleotide. Unless otherwise indicated, a nucleobase modification motif is independent of the nucleobase sequence.

As used herein, “sequence motif” means a pattern of nucleobases arranged along an oligonucleotide or portion thereof. Unless otherwise indicated, a sequence motif is independent of chemical modifications and thus may have any combination of chemical modifications, including no chemical modifications.

As used herein, “type of modification” in reference to a nucleoside or a nucleoside of a “type” means the chemical modification of a nucleoside and includes modified and unmodified nucleosides. Accordingly, unless otherwise indicated, a “nucleoside having a modification of a first type” may be an unmodified nucleoside.

As used herein, “differently modified” mean chemical modifications or chemical substituents that are different from one another, including absence of modifications. Thus, for example, a MOE nucleoside and an unmodified DNA nucleoside are “differently modified,” even though the DNA nucleoside is unmodified.

Likewise, DNA and RNA are “differently modified,” even though both are naturally-occurring unmodified nucleosides. Nucleosides that are the same but for comprising different nucleobases are not differently modified. For example, a nucleoside comprising a 2'-OMe modified sugar and an unmodified adenine nucleobase and a nucleoside comprising a 2'-OMe modified sugar and an unmodified thymine nucleobase are not differently modified.

As used herein, “the same type of modifications” refers to modifications that are the same as one another, including absence of modifications. Thus, for example, two unmodified DNA nucleoside have “the same type of modification,” even though the DNA nucleoside is unmodified. Such nucleosides having the same type modification may comprise different nucleobases.

As used herein, “pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent” means any substance suitable for use in administering to an animal. In certain embodiments, a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent is sterile saline. In certain embodiments, such sterile saline is pharmaceutical grade saline.

As used herein, “substituent” and “substituent group,” means an atom or group that replaces the atom or group of a named parent compound. For example a substituent of a modified nucleoside is any atom or group that differs from the atom or group found in a naturally occurring nucleoside (e.g., a modified 2'-substituent is any atom or group at the 2'-position of a nucleoside other than H or OH). Substituent groups can be protected or unprotected. In certain embodiments, compounds of the present invention have substituents at one or at more than one position of the parent compound. Substituents may also be further substituted with other substituent groups and may be attached directly or via a linking group such as an alkyl or hydrocarbyl group to a parent compound.

Likewise, as used herein, “substituent” in reference to a chemical functional group means an atom or group of atoms differs from the atom or a group of atoms normally present in the named functional group. In certain embodiments, a substituent replaces a hydrogen atom of the functional group (e.g., in certain embodiments, the substituent of a substituted methyl group is an atom or group other than hydrogen which replaces one of the hydrogen atoms of an unsubstituted methyl group). Unless otherwise indicated, groups amenable for use as substituents include without limitation, halogen, hydroxyl, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, acyl (-C(O)R_{aa}), carboxyl (-C(O)O-R_{aa}), aliphatic groups, alicyclic groups, alkoxy, substituted oxy (-O-R_{aa}), aryl, aralkyl, heterocyclic radical, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, amino (-N(R_{bb})(R_{cc})), imino(=NR_{bb}), amido (-C(O)N(R_{bb})(R_{cc}) or -N(R_{bb})C(O)R_{aa}), azido (-N₃), nitro (-NO₂), cyano (-CN), carbamido (-OC(O)N(R_{bb})(R_{cc}) or -N(R_{bb})C(O)OR_{aa}), ureido (-N(R_{bb})C(O)N(R_{bb})(R_{cc})), thioureido (-N(R_{bb})C(S)N(R_{bb})(R_{cc})), guanidinyl (-N(R_{bb})C(=NR_{bb})N(R_{bb})(R_{cc})), amidinyl (-C(=NR_{bb})N(R_{bb})(R_{cc}) or -N(R_{bb})C(=NR_{bb})(R_{aa})), thiol (-SR_{bb}), sulfinyl (-S(O)R_{bb}), sulfonyl (-S(O)₂R_{bb}) and sulfonamidyl (-S(O)₂N(R_{bb})(R_{cc}) or -N(R_{bb})S(O)₂R_{bb}). Wherein each R_{aa}, R_{bb} and R_{cc} is, independently, H, an optionally linked chemical functional group or a further substituent group with a preferred list including without limitation, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl,

aliphatic, alkoxy, acyl, aryl, aralkyl, heteroaryl, alicyclic, heterocyclic and heteroarylalkyl. Selected substituents within the compounds described herein are present to a recursive degree.

As used herein, "alkyl," as used herein, means a saturated straight or branched hydrocarbon radical containing up to twenty four carbon atoms. Examples of alkyl groups include without limitation, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, isopropyl, n-hexyl, octyl, decyl, dodecyl and the like. Alkyl groups typically include from 1 to about 24 carbon atoms, more typically from 1 to about 12 carbon atoms (C_1 - C_{12} alkyl) with from 1 to about 6 carbon atoms being more preferred.

As used herein, "alkenyl," means a straight or branched hydrocarbon chain radical containing up to twenty four carbon atoms and having at least one carbon-carbon double bond. Examples of alkenyl groups include without limitation, ethenyl, propenyl, butenyl, 1-methyl-2-buten-1-yl, dienes such as 1,3-butadiene and the like. Alkenyl groups typically include from 2 to about 24 carbon atoms, more typically from 2 to about 12 carbon atoms with from 2 to about 6 carbon atoms being more preferred. Alkenyl groups as used herein may optionally include one or more further substituent groups.

As used herein, "alkynyl," means a straight or branched hydrocarbon radical containing up to twenty four carbon atoms and having at least one carbon-carbon triple bond. Examples of alkynyl groups include, without limitation, ethynyl, 1-propynyl, 1-butyne, and the like. Alkynyl groups typically include from 2 to about 24 carbon atoms, more typically from 2 to about 12 carbon atoms with from 2 to about 6 carbon atoms being more preferred. Alkynyl groups as used herein may optionally include one or more further substituent groups.

As used herein, "acyl," means a radical formed by removal of a hydroxyl group from an organic acid and has the general Formula $-C(O)-X$ where X is typically aliphatic, alicyclic or aromatic. Examples include aliphatic carbonyls, aromatic carbonyls, aliphatic sulfonyls, aromatic sulfonyls, aliphatic sulfinyls, aromatic phosphates, aliphatic phosphates and the like. Acyl groups as used herein may optionally include further substituent groups.

As used herein, "alicyclic" means a cyclic ring system wherein the ring is aliphatic. The ring system can comprise one or more rings wherein at least one ring is aliphatic. Preferred alicyclics include rings having from about 5 to about 9 carbon atoms in the ring. Alicyclic as used herein may optionally include further substituent groups.

As used herein, "aliphatic" means a straight or branched hydrocarbon radical containing up to twenty four carbon atoms wherein the saturation between any two carbon atoms is a single, double or triple bond. An aliphatic group preferably contains from 1 to about 24 carbon atoms, more typically from 1 to about 12 carbon atoms with from 1 to about 6 carbon atoms being more preferred. The straight or branched chain of an aliphatic group may be interrupted with one or more heteroatoms that include nitrogen, oxygen, sulfur and phosphorus. Such aliphatic groups interrupted by heteroatoms include without limitation, polyalkoxys, such

as polyalkylene glycols, polyamines, and polyimines. Aliphatic groups as used herein may optionally include further substituent groups.

As used herein, "alkoxy" means a radical formed between an alkyl group and an oxygen atom wherein the oxygen atom is used to attach the alkoxy group to a parent molecule. Examples of alkoxy groups include without limitation, methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, isopropoxy, *n*-butoxy, *sec*-butoxy, *tert*-butoxy, *n*-pentoxy, neopentoxy, *n*-hexoxy and the like. Alkoxy groups as used herein may optionally include further substituent groups.

As used herein, "aminoalkyl" means an amino substituted C₁-C₁₂ alkyl radical. The alkyl portion of the radical forms a covalent bond with a parent molecule. The amino group can be located at any position and the aminoalkyl group can be substituted with a further substituent group at the alkyl and/or amino portions.

As used herein, "aralkyl" and "arylalkyl" mean an aromatic group that is covalently linked to a C₁-C₁₂ alkyl radical. The alkyl radical portion of the resulting aralkyl (or arylalkyl) group forms a covalent bond with a parent molecule. Examples include without limitation, benzyl, phenethyl and the like. Aralkyl groups as used herein may optionally include further substituent groups attached to the alkyl, the aryl or both groups that form the radical group.

As used herein, "aryl" and "aromatic" mean a mono- or polycyclic carbocyclic ring system radicals having one or more aromatic rings. Examples of aryl groups include without limitation, phenyl, naphthyl, tetrahydronaphthyl, indanyl, indenyl and the like. Preferred aryl ring systems have from about 5 to about 20 carbon atoms in one or more rings. Aryl groups as used herein may optionally include further substituent groups.

As used herein, "halo" and "halogen," mean an atom selected from fluorine, chlorine, bromine and iodine.

As used herein, "heteroaryl," and "heteroaromatic," mean a radical comprising a mono- or polycyclic aromatic ring, ring system or fused ring system wherein at least one of the rings is aromatic and includes one or more heteroatoms. Heteroaryl is also meant to include fused ring systems including systems where one or more of the fused rings contain no heteroatoms. Heteroaryl groups typically include one ring atom selected from sulfur, nitrogen or oxygen. Examples of heteroaryl groups include without limitation, pyridinyl, pyrazinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrrolyl, pyrazolyl, imidazolyl, thiazolyl, oxazolyl, isooxazolyl, thiadiazolyl, oxadiazolyl, thiophenyl, furanyl, quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, benzimidazolyl, benzooxazolyl, quinoxalinyl and the like. Heteroaryl radicals can be attached to a parent molecule directly or through a linking moiety such as an aliphatic group or hetero atom. Heteroaryl groups as used herein may optionally include further substituent groups.

Oligomeric Compounds

In certain embodiments, the present invention provides oligomeric compounds. In certain embodiments, such oligomeric compounds comprise oligonucleotides optionally comprising one or more conjugate and/or terminal groups. In certain embodiments, an oligomeric compound consists of an oligonucleotide. In certain embodiments, oligonucleotides comprise one or more chemical modifications. Such chemical modifications include modifications one or more nucleoside (including modifications to the sugar moiety and/or the nucleobase) and/or modifications to one or more internucleoside linkage. In certain embodiments, an oligomeric compound consists of a phosphorodiamidite morpholino oligomer.

Certain Sugar Moieties

In certain embodiments, oligomeric compounds of the invention comprise one or more modified nucleosides comprising a modified sugar moiety. Such oligomeric compounds comprising one or more sugar-modified nucleosides may have desirable properties, such as enhanced nuclease stability or increased binding affinity with a target nucleic acid relative to oligomeric compounds comprising only nucleosides comprising naturally occurring sugar moieties. In certain embodiments, modified sugar moieties are substituted sugar moieties. In certain embodiments, modified sugar moieties are bicyclic or tricyclic sugar moieties. In certain embodiments, modified sugar moieties are sugar surrogates. Such sugar surrogates may comprise one or more substitutions corresponding to those of substituted sugar moieties.

In certain embodiments, modified sugar moieties are substituted sugar moieties comprising one or more substituent, including but not limited to substituents at the 2' and/or 5' positions. Examples of sugar substituents suitable for the 2'-position, include, but are not limited to: 2'-F, 2'-OCH₃ ("OMe" or "O-methyl"), and 2'-O(CH₂)₂OCH₃ ("MOE"). In certain embodiments, sugar substituents at the 2' position is selected from allyl, amino, azido, thio, O-allyl, O-C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, O-C₁-C₁₀ substituted alkyl; O-C₁-C₁₀ alkoxy; O-C₁-C₁₀ substituted alkoxy, OCF₃, O(CH₂)₂SCH₃, O(CH₂)₂-O-N(R_m)(R_n), and O-CH₂-C(=O)-N(R_m)(R_n), where each R_m and R_n is, independently, H or substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₁₀ alkyl. Examples of sugar substituents at the 5'-position, include, but are not limited to: 5'-methyl (R or S); 5'-vinyl, and 5'-methoxy. In certain embodiments, substituted sugars comprise more than one non-bridging sugar substituent, for example, 2'-F-5'-methyl sugar moieties (*see, e.g.*, PCT International Application WO 2008/101157, for additional 5', 2'-bis substituted sugar moieties and nucleosides).

Nucleosides comprising 2'-substituted sugar moieties are referred to as 2'-substituted nucleosides. In certain embodiments, a 2'-substituted nucleoside comprises a 2'-substituent group selected from halo, allyl, amino, azido, O-C₁-C₁₀ alkoxy; O-C₁-C₁₀ substituted alkoxy, SH, CN, OCN, CF₃, OCF₃, O-alkyl, S-alkyl, N(R_m)-alkyl; O-alkenyl, S-alkenyl, or N(R_m)-alkenyl; O-alkynyl, S-alkynyl, N(R_m)-alkynyl; O-alkylenyl-O-alkyl, alkynyl, alkaryl, aralkyl, O-alkaryl, O-aralkyl, O(CH₂)₂SCH₃, O-(CH₂)₂-O-N(R_m)(R_n) or O-CH₂-C(=O)-N(R_m)(R_n), where each R_m and R_n is, independently, H, an amino protecting group or substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₁₀ alkyl. These 2'-substituent groups can be further substituted with one or more

substituent groups independently selected from hydroxyl, amino, alkoxy, carboxy, benzyl, phenyl, nitro (NO₂), thiol, thioalkoxy (S-alkyl), halogen, alkyl, aryl, alkenyl and alkynyl.

In certain embodiments, a 2'-substituted nucleoside comprises a 2'-substituent group selected from F, NH₂, N₃, OCF₃, O-CH₃, O(CH₂)₃NH₂, CH₂-CH=CH₂, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂, OCH₂CH₂OCH₃, O(CH₂)₂SCH₃,
 5 O-(CH₂)₂-O-N(R_m)(R_n), O(CH₂)₂O(CH₂)₂N(CH₃)₂, and N-substituted acetamide (O-CH₂-C(=O)-N(R_m)(R_n) where each R_m and R_n is, independently, H, an amino protecting group or substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₁₀ alkyl.

In certain embodiments, a 2'-substituted nucleoside comprises a sugar moiety comprising a 2'-substituent group selected from F, OCF₃, O-CH₃, OCH₂CH₂OCH₃, O(CH₂)₂SCH₃, O-(CH₂)₂-O-N(CH₃)₂, -O(CH₂)₂O(CH₂)₂N(CH₃)₂, and O-CH₂-C(=O)-N(H)CH₃.
 10

In certain embodiments, a 2'-substituted nucleoside comprises a sugar moiety comprising a 2'-substituent group selected from F, O-CH₃, and OCH₂CH₂OCH₃.

Certain modified sugar moieties comprise a bridging sugar substituent that forms a second ring resulting in a bicyclic sugar moiety. In certain such embodiments, the bicyclic sugar moiety comprises a
 15 bridge between the 4' and the 2' furanose ring atoms. Examples of such 4' to 2' sugar substituents, include, but are not limited to: -[C(R_a)(R_b)]_n-, -[C(R_a)(R_b)]_n-O-, -C(R_aR_b)-N(R)-O- or, -C(R_aR_b)-O-N(R)-; 4'-CH₂-2', 4'-(CH₂)₂-2', 4'-(CH₂)₃-2', 4'-(CH₂)-O-2' (LNA); 4'-(CH₂)-S-2'; 4'-(CH₂)₂-O-2' (ENA); 4'-CH(CH₃)-O-2' (cEt) and 4'-CH(CH₂OCH₃)-O-2', and analogs thereof (*see, e.g.*, U.S. Patent 7,399,845, issued on July 15, 2008); 4'-C(CH₃)(CH₃)-O-2' and analogs thereof, (*see, e.g.*, WO2009/006478, published January 8, 2009); 4'-CH₂-N(OCH₃)-2' and analogs thereof (*see, e.g.*, WO2008/150729, published December 11, 2008); 4'-CH₂-O-N(CH₃)-2' (*see, e.g.*, US2004/0171570, published September 2, 2004); 4'-CH₂-O-N(R)-2', and 4'-CH₂-N(R)-O-2', wherein each R is, independently, H, a protecting group, or C₁-C₁₂ alkyl; 4'-CH₂-N(R)-O-2', wherein R is H, C₁-C₁₂ alkyl, or a protecting group (*see, U.S. Patent 7,427,672*, issued on September 23, 2008); 4'-CH₂-C(H)(CH₃)-2' (*see, e.g.*, Chattopadhyaya, *et al.*, *J. Org. Chem.*, 2009, 74, 118-134); and 4'-CH₂-C(=CH₂)-2' and analogs thereof (*see, published PCT International Application WO 2008/154401*, published on December
 25 8, 2008).

In certain embodiments, such 4' to 2' bridges independently comprise from 1 to 4 linked groups independently selected from -[C(R_a)(R_b)]_n-, -C(R_a)=C(R_b)-, -C(R_a)=N-, -C(=NR_a)-, -C(=O)-, -C(=S)-, -O-, -Si(R_a)₂-, -S(=O)_x-, and -N(R_a)-;

30 wherein:

x is 0, 1, or 2;

n is 1, 2, 3, or 4;

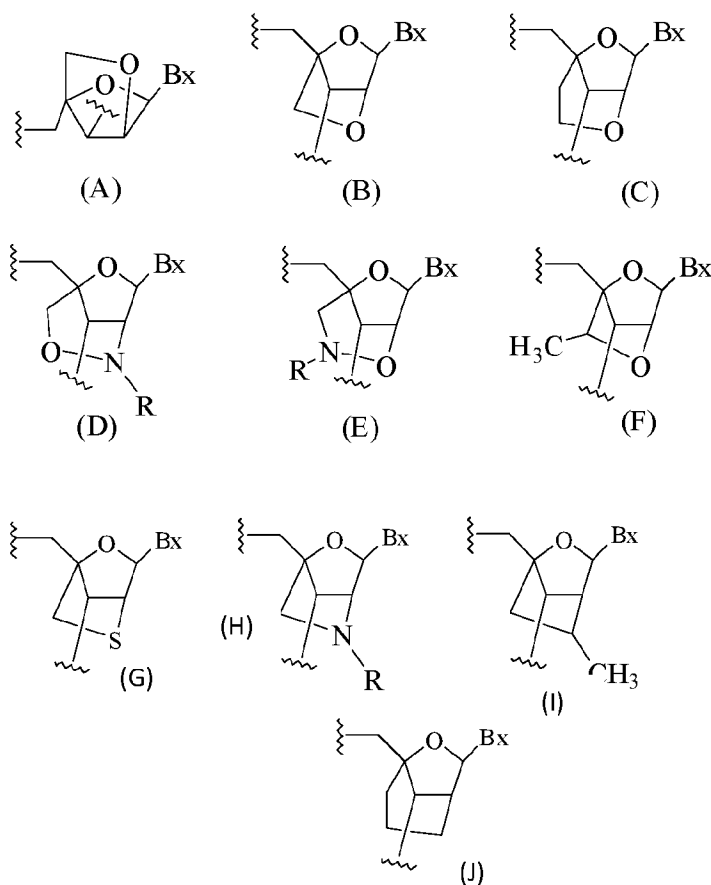
each R_a and R_b is, independently, H, a protecting group, hydroxyl, C₁-C₁₂ alkyl, substituted C₁-C₁₂ alkyl, C₂-C₁₂ alkenyl, substituted C₂-C₁₂ alkenyl, C₂-C₁₂ alkynyl, substituted C₂-C₁₂ alkynyl, C₅-C₂₀ aryl, substituted C₅-C₂₀ aryl, heterocycle radical, substituted heterocycle radical, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl,
 35

C₅-C₇ alicyclic radical, substituted C₅-C₇ alicyclic radical, halogen, OJ₁, NJ₁J₂, SJ₁, N₃, COOJ₁, acyl (C(=O)-H), substituted acyl, CN, sulfonyl (S(=O)₂-J₁), or sulfoxyl (S(=O)-J₁); and

each J₁ and J₂ is, independently, H, C₁-C₁₂ alkyl, substituted C₁-C₁₂ alkyl, C₂-C₁₂ alkenyl, substituted C₂-C₁₂ alkenyl, C₂-C₁₂ alkynyl, substituted C₂-C₁₂ alkynyl, C₅-C₂₀ aryl, substituted C₅-C₂₀ aryl, acyl (C(=O)-H), substituted acyl, a heterocycle radical, a substituted heterocycle radical, C₁-C₁₂ aminoalkyl, substituted C₁-C₁₂ aminoalkyl, or a protecting group.

Nucleosides comprising bicyclic sugar moieties are referred to as bicyclic nucleosides or BNAs.

Bicyclic nucleosides include, but are not limited to, (A) α-L-Methyleneoxy (4'-CH₂-O-2') BNA, (B) β-D-Methyleneoxy (4'-CH₂-O-2') BNA (also referred to as locked nucleic acid or LNA), (C) Ethyleneoxy (4'-(CH₂)₂-O-2') BNA, (D) Aminooxy (4'-CH₂-O-N(R)-2') BNA, (E) Oxyamino (4'-CH₂-N(R)-O-2') BNA, (F) Methyl(methyleneoxy) (4'-CH(CH₃)-O-2') BNA (also referred to as constrained ethyl or cEt), (G) methylene-thio (4'-CH₂-S-2') BNA, (H) methylene-amino (4'-CH₂-N(R)-2') BNA, (I) methyl carbocyclic (4'-CH₂-CH(CH₃)-2') BNA, and (J) propylene carbocyclic (4'-(CH₂)₃-2') BNA as depicted below.



wherein Bx is a nucleobase moiety and R is, independently, H, a protecting group, or C₁-C₁₂ alkyl.

Additional bicyclic sugar moieties are known in the art, for example: Singh et al., *Chem. Commun.*,

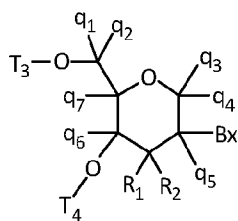
1998, 4, 455-456; Koshkin et al., *Tetrahedron*, 1998, 54, 3607-3630; Wahlestedt et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U. S. A.*, 2000, 97, 5633-5638; Kumar et al., *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.*, 1998, 8, 2219-2222; Singh et al., *J. Org. Chem.*, 1998, 63, 10035-10039; Srivastava et al., *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 129(26) 8362-8379 (Jul. 4, 2007); Elayadi et al., *Curr. Opinion Invens. Drugs*, 2001, 2, 558-561; Braasch et al., *Chem. Biol.*, 2001, 8, 1-7; Orum
5 et al., *Curr. Opinion Mol. Ther.*, 2001, 3, 239-243; U.S. Patent Nos. 7,053,207, 6,268,490, 6,770,748, 6,794,499, 7,034,133, 6,525,191, 6,670,461, and 7,399,845; WO 2004/106356, WO 1994/14226, WO 2005/021570, and WO 2007/134181; U.S. Patent Publication Nos. US2004/0171570, US2007/0287831, and US2008/0039618; U.S. Patent Serial Nos. 12/129,154, 60/989,574, 61/026,995, 61/026,998, 61/056,564, 61/086,231, 61/097,787, and 61/099,844; and PCT International Applications Nos. PCT/US2008/064591,
10 PCT/US2008/066154, and PCT/US2008/068922.

In certain embodiments, bicyclic sugar moieties and nucleosides incorporating such bicyclic sugar moieties are further defined by isomeric configuration. For example, a nucleoside comprising a 4'-2' methylene-oxy bridge, may be in the α -L configuration or in the β -D configuration. Previously, α -L-methyleneoxy (4'-CH₂-O-2') bicyclic nucleosides have been incorporated into antisense oligonucleotides that
15 showed antisense activity (Frieden et al., *Nucleic Acids Research*, 2003, 31, 6365-6372).

In certain embodiments, substituted sugar moieties comprise one or more non-bridging sugar substituent and one or more bridging sugar substituent (e.g., 5'-substituted and 4'-2' bridged sugars). (see, PCT International Application WO 2007/134181, published on 11/22/07, wherein LNA is substituted with, for example, a 5'-methyl or a 5'-vinyl group).

20 In certain embodiments, modified sugar moieties are sugar surrogates. In certain such embodiments, the oxygen atom of the naturally occurring sugar is substituted, e.g., with a sulfur, carbon or nitrogen atom. In certain such embodiments, such modified sugar moiety also comprises bridging and/or non-bridging substituents as described above. For example, certain sugar surrogates comprise a 4'-sulfur atom and a substitution at the 2'-position (see, e.g., published U.S. Patent Application US2005/0130923, published on June
25 16, 2005) and/or the 5' position. By way of additional example, carbocyclic bicyclic nucleosides having a 4'-2' bridge have been described (see, e.g., Freier et al., *Nucleic Acids Research*, 1997, 25(22), 4429-4443 and Albaek et al., *J. Org. Chem.*, 2006, 71, 7731-7740).

In certain embodiments, sugar surrogates comprise rings having other than 5-atoms. For example, in certain embodiments, a sugar surrogate comprises a six-membered tetrahydropyran. Such tetrahydropyrans
30 may be further modified or substituted. Nucleosides comprising such modified tetrahydropyrans include, but are not limited to, hexitol nucleic acid (HNA), anitol nucleic acid (ANA), manitol nucleic acid (MNA) (see Leumann, C.J. *Bioorg. & Med. Chem.* (2002) 10:841-854), fluoro HNA (F-HNA), and those compounds having Formula VII:



VII

wherein independently for each of said at least one tetrahydropyran nucleoside analog of Formula VII:

Bx is a nucleobase moiety;

T₃ and T₄ are each, independently, an internucleoside linking group linking the tetrahydropyran nucleoside analog to the antisense compound or one of T₃ and T₄ is an internucleoside linking group linking the tetrahydropyran nucleoside analog to the antisense compound and the other of T₃ and T₄ is H, a hydroxyl protecting group, a linked conjugate group, or a 5' or 3'-terminal group;

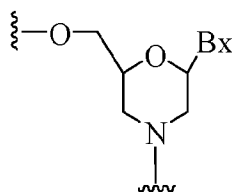
q₁, q₂, q₃, q₄, q₅, q₆ and q₇ are each, independently, H, C₁-C₆ alkyl, substituted C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₂-C₆ alkenyl, substituted C₂-C₆ alkenyl, C₂-C₆ alkynyl, or substituted C₂-C₆ alkynyl; and

each of R₁ and R₂ is independently selected from among: hydrogen, halogen, substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy, NJ₁J₂, SJ₁, N₃, OC(=X)J₁, OC(=X)NJ₁J₂, NJ₃C(=X)NJ₁J₂, and CN, wherein X is O, S or N, and each J₁, J₂, and J₃ is, independently, H or C₁-C₆ alkyl.

In certain embodiments, the modified THP nucleosides of Formula VII are provided wherein q₁, q₂, q₃, q₄, q₅, q₆ and q₇ are each H. In certain embodiments, at least one of q₁, q₂, q₃, q₄, q₅, q₆ and q₇ is other than H. In certain embodiments, at least one of q₁, q₂, q₃, q₄, q₅, q₆ and q₇ is methyl. In certain embodiments, THP nucleosides of Formula VII are provided wherein one of R₁ and R₂ is F. In certain embodiments, R₁ is fluoro and R₂ is H, R₁ is methoxy and R₂ is H, and R₁ is methoxyethoxy and R₂ is H.

Many other bicyclic and tricyclic sugar and sugar surrogate ring systems are known in the art that can be used to modify nucleosides (*see, e.g.*, review article: Leumann, J. C, *Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry*, **2002**, *10*, 841-854).

In certain embodiments, sugar surrogates comprise rings having more than 5 atoms and more than one heteroatom. For example nucleosides comprising morpholino sugar moieties and their use in oligomeric compounds has been reported (see for example: Braasch et al., *Biochemistry*, 2002, *41*, 4503-4510; and U.S. Patents 5,698,685; 5,166,315; 5,185,444; and 5,034,506). As used here, the term "morpholino" means a sugar surrogate having the following structure:



In certain embodiments, morpholinos may be modified, for example by adding or altering various substituent groups from the above morpholino structure. Such sugar surrogates are referred to herein as “modified morpholinos.”

Combinations of modifications are also provided without limitation, such as 2'-F-5'-methyl substituted nucleosides (see PCT International Application WO 2008/101157 Published on 8/21/08 for other disclosed 5', 2'-bis substituted nucleosides) and replacement of the ribosyl ring oxygen atom with S and further substitution at the 2'-position (see published U.S. Patent Application US2005-0130923, published on June 16, 2005) or alternatively 5'-substitution of a bicyclic nucleic acid (see PCT International Application WO 2007/134181, published on 11/22/07 wherein a 4'-CH₂-O-2' bicyclic nucleoside is further substituted at the 5' position with a 5'-methyl or a 5'-vinyl group). The synthesis and preparation of carbocyclic bicyclic nucleosides along with their oligomerization and biochemical studies have also been described (*see, e.g., Srivastava et al., J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2007, 129(26), 8362-8379).

Certain Nucleobases

In certain embodiments, nucleosides of the present invention comprise one or more unmodified nucleobases. In certain embodiments, nucleosides of the present invention comprise one or more modified nucleobases.

In certain embodiments, modified nucleobases are selected from: universal bases, hydrophobic bases, promiscuous bases, size-expanded bases, and fluorinated bases as defined herein. 5-substituted pyrimidines, 6-azapyrimidines and N-2, N-6 and O-6 substituted purines, including 2-aminopropyladenine, 5-propynyluracil; 5-propynylcytosine; 5-hydroxymethyl cytosine, xanthine, hypoxanthine, 2-aminoadenine, 6-methyl and other alkyl derivatives of adenine and guanine, 2-propyl and other alkyl derivatives of adenine and guanine, 2-thiouracil, 2-thiothymine and 2-thiocytosine, 5-halouracil and cytosine, 5-propynyl (-C≡CH₃) uracil and cytosine and other alkynyl derivatives of pyrimidine bases, 6-azo uracil, cytosine and thymine, 5-uracil (pseudouracil), 4-thiouracil, 8-halo, 8-amino, 8-thiol, 8-thioalkyl, 8-hydroxyl and other 8-substituted adenines and guanines, 5-halo particularly 5-bromo, 5-trifluoromethyl and other 5-substituted uracils and cytosines, 7-methylguanine and 7-methyladenine, 2-F-adenine, 2-amino-adenine, 8-azaguanine and 8-azaadenine, 7-deazaguanine and 7-deazaadenine, 3-deazaguanine and 3-deazaadenine, universal bases, hydrophobic bases, promiscuous bases, size-expanded bases, and fluorinated bases as defined herein. Further modified nucleobases include tricyclic pyrimidines such as phenoxazine cytidine([5,4-b][1,4]benzoxazin-2(3H)-one), phenothiazine cytidine (1H-pyrimido[5,4-b][1,4]benzothiazin-2(3H)-one), G-clamps such as a substituted phenoxazine cytidine (e.g. 9-(2-aminoethoxy)-H-pyrimido[5,4-b][1,4]benzoxazin-2(3H)-one), carbazole cytidine (2H-pyrimido[4,5-b]indol-2-one), pyridindole cytidine (H-pyrido[3',2':4,5]pyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidin-2-one). Modified nucleobases may also include those in which the purine or pyrimidine base is replaced with other heterocycles, for example 7-deaza-adenine, 7-deazaguanosine, 2-aminopyridine and 2-

pyridone. Further nucleobases include those disclosed in United States Patent No. 3,687,808, those disclosed in *The Concise Encyclopedia Of Polymer Science And Engineering*, Kroschwitz, J.I., Ed., John Wiley & Sons, 1990, 858-859; those disclosed by Englisch *et al.*, *Angewandte Chemie*, International Edition, 1991, 30, 613; and those disclosed by Sanghvi, Y.S., Chapter 15, *Antisense Research and Applications*, Crooke, S.T. and Lebleu, B., Eds., CRC Press, 1993, 273-288.

Representative United States patents that teach the preparation of certain of the above noted modified nucleobases as well as other modified nucleobases include without limitation, U.S. 3,687,808; 4,845,205; 5,130,302; 5,134,066; 5,175,273; 5,367,066; 5,432,272; 5,457,187; 5,459,255; 5,484,908; 5,502,177; 5,525,711; 5,552,540; 5,587,469; 5,594,121; 5,596,091; 5,614,617; 5,645,985; 5,681,941; 5,750,692; 5,763,588; 5,830,653 and 6,005,096, certain of which are commonly owned with the instant application, and each of which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety.

Certain Internucleoside Linkages

In certain embodiments, the present invention provides oligomeric compounds comprising linked nucleosides. In such embodiments, nucleosides may be linked together using any internucleoside linkage. The two main classes of internucleoside linking groups are defined by the presence or absence of a phosphorus atom. Representative phosphorus containing internucleoside linkages include, but are not limited to, phosphodiester (P=O), phosphotriesters, methylphosphonates, phosphoramidate, and phosphorothioates (P=S). Representative non-phosphorus containing internucleoside linking groups include, but are not limited to, methylenemethylimino (-CH₂-N(CH₃)-O-CH₂-), thiodiester (-O-C(O)-S-), thionocarbamate (-O-C(O)(NH)-S-); siloxane (-O-Si(H)₂-O-); and N,N'-dimethylhydrazine (-CH₂-N(CH₃)-N(CH₃)-). Modified linkages, compared to natural phosphodiester linkages, can be used to alter, typically increase, nuclease resistance of the oligomeric compound. In certain embodiments, internucleoside linkages having a chiral atom can be prepared as a racemic mixture, or as separate enantiomers. Representative chiral linkages include, but are not limited to, alkylphosphonates and phosphorothioates. Methods of preparation of phosphorous-containing and non-phosphorous-containing internucleoside linkages are well known to those skilled in the art.

The oligonucleotides described herein contain one or more asymmetric centers and thus give rise to enantiomers, diastereomers, and other stereoisomeric configurations that may be defined, in terms of absolute stereochemistry, as (R) or (S), α or β such as for sugar anomers, or as (D) or (L) such as for amino acids etc. Included in the antisense compounds provided herein are all such possible isomers, as well as their racemic and optically pure forms.

Neutral internucleoside linkages include without limitation, phosphotriesters, methylphosphonates, MMI (3'-CH₂-N(CH₃)-O-5'), amide-3 (3'-CH₂-C(=O)-N(H)-5'), amide-4 (3'-CH₂-N(H)-C(=O)-5'), formacetal (3'-O-CH₂-O-5'), and thioformacetal (3'-S-CH₂-O-5'). Further neutral internucleoside linkages include

nonionic linkages comprising siloxane (dialkylsiloxane), carboxylate ester, carboxamide, sulfide, sulfonate ester and amides (See for example: *Carbohydrate Modifications in Antisense Research*; Y.S. Sanghvi and P.D. Cook, Eds., ACS Symposium Series 580; Chapters 3 and 4, 40-65). Further neutral internucleoside linkages include nonionic linkages comprising mixed N, O, S and CH₂ component parts.

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Certain Motifs

In certain embodiments, the present invention provides oligomeric compounds comprising oligonucleotides. In certain embodiments, such oligonucleotides comprise one or more chemical modification. In certain embodiments, chemically modified oligonucleotides comprise one or more modified nucleosides. In certain embodiments, chemically modified oligonucleotides comprise one or more modified nucleosides comprising modified sugars. In certain embodiments, chemically modified oligonucleotides comprise one or more modified nucleosides comprising one or more modified nucleobases. In certain embodiments, chemically modified oligonucleotides comprise one or more modified internucleoside linkages. In certain embodiments, the chemical modifications (sugar modifications, nucleobase modifications, and/or linkage modifications) define a pattern or motif. In certain embodiments, the patterns of chemical modifications of sugar moieties, internucleoside linkages, and nucleobases are each independent of one another. Thus, an oligonucleotide may be described by its sugar modification motif, internucleoside linkage motif and/or nucleobase modification motif (as used herein, nucleobase modification motif describes the chemical modifications to the nucleobases independent of the sequence of nucleobases).

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Certain sugar motifs

In certain embodiments, oligonucleotides comprise one or more type of modified sugar moieties and/or naturally occurring sugar moieties arranged along an oligonucleotide or region thereof in a defined pattern or sugar modification motif. Such motifs may include any of the sugar modifications discussed herein and/or other known sugar modifications.

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In certain embodiments, the oligonucleotides comprise or consist of a region having a gapmer sugar modification motif, which comprises two external regions or “wings” and an internal region or “gap.” The three regions of a gapmer motif (the 5'-wing, the gap, and the 3'-wing) form a contiguous sequence of nucleosides wherein at least some of the sugar moieties of the nucleosides of each of the wings differ from at least some of the sugar moieties of the nucleosides of the gap. Specifically, at least the sugar moieties of the nucleosides of each wing that are closest to the gap (the 3'-most nucleoside of the 5'-wing and the 5'-most nucleoside of the 3'-wing) differ from the sugar moiety of the neighboring gap nucleosides, thus defining the boundary between the wings and the gap. In certain embodiments, the sugar moieties within the gap are the same as one another. In certain embodiments, the gap includes one or more nucleoside having a sugar moiety that differs from the sugar moiety of one or more other nucleosides of the gap. In certain embodiments, the

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sugar modification motifs of the two wings are the same as one another (symmetric gapmer). In certain embodiments, the sugar modification motifs of the 5'-wing differs from the sugar modification motif of the 3'-wing (asymmetric gapmer). In certain embodiments, oligonucleotides comprise 2'-MOE modified nucleosides in the wings and 2'-F modified nucleosides in the gap.

5 In certain embodiments, oligonucleotides are fully modified. In certain such embodiments, oligonucleotides are uniformly modified. In certain embodiments, oligonucleotides are uniform 2'-MOE. In certain embodiments, oligonucleotides are uniform 2'-F. In certain embodiments, oligonucleotides are uniform morpholino. In certain embodiments, oligonucleotides are uniform BNA. In certain embodiments, oligonucleotides are uniform LNA. In certain embodiments, oligonucleotides are uniform cEt.

10 In certain embodiments, oligonucleotides comprise a uniformly modified region and additional nucleosides that are unmodified or differently modified. In certain embodiments, the uniformly modified region is at least 5, 10, 15, or 20 nucleosides in length. In certain embodiments, the uniform region is a 2'-MOE region. In certain embodiments, the uniform region is a 2'-F region. In certain embodiments, the uniform region is a morpholino region. In certain embodiments, the uniform region is a BNA region. In
15 certain embodiments, the uniform region is a LNA region. In certain embodiments, the uniform region is a cEt region.

In certain embodiments, the oligonucleotide does not comprise more than 4 contiguous unmodified 2'-deoxynucleosides. In certain circumstances, antisense oligonucleotides comprising more than 4 contiguous 2'-deoxynucleosides activate RNase H, resulting in cleavage of the target RNA. In certain
20 embodiments, such cleavage is avoided by not having more than 4 contiguous 2'-deoxynucleosides, for example, where alteration of splicing and not cleavage of a target RNA is desired.

Certain Internucleoside Linkage Motifs

In certain embodiments, oligonucleotides comprise modified internucleoside linkages arranged along
25 the oligonucleotide or region thereof in a defined pattern or modified internucleoside linkage motif. In certain embodiments, internucleoside linkages are arranged in a gapped motif, as described above for sugar modification motif. In such embodiments, the internucleoside linkages in each of two wing regions are different from the internucleoside linkages in the gap region. In certain embodiments the internucleoside linkages in the wings are phosphodiester and the internucleoside linkages in the gap are phosphorothioate.
30 The sugar modification motif is independently selected, so such oligonucleotides having a gapped internucleoside linkage motif may or may not have a gapped sugar modification motif and if it does have a gapped sugar motif, the wing and gap lengths may or may not be the same.

In certain embodiments, oligonucleotides comprise a region having an alternating internucleoside linkage motif. In certain embodiments, oligonucleotides of the present invention comprise a region of
35 uniformly modified internucleoside linkages. In certain such embodiments, the oligonucleotide comprises a

region that is uniformly linked by phosphorothioate internucleoside linkages. In certain embodiments, the oligonucleotide is uniformly linked by phosphorothioate. In certain embodiments, each internucleoside linkage of the oligonucleotide is selected from phosphodiester and phosphorothioate. In certain
5 phosphorothioate and at least one internucleoside linkage is phosphorothioate.

In certain embodiments, the oligonucleotide comprises at least 6 phosphorothioate internucleoside linkages. In certain embodiments, the oligonucleotide comprises at least 8 phosphorothioate internucleoside linkages. In certain embodiments, the oligonucleotide comprises at least 10 phosphorothioate internucleoside linkages. In certain embodiments, the oligonucleotide comprises at least one block of at least 6 consecutive
10 phosphorothioate internucleoside linkages. In certain embodiments, the oligonucleotide comprises at least one block of at least 8 consecutive phosphorothioate internucleoside linkages. In certain embodiments, the oligonucleotide comprises at least one block of at least 10 consecutive phosphorothioate internucleoside linkages. In certain embodiments, the oligonucleotide comprises at least one block of at least one 12 consecutive phosphorothioate internucleoside linkages. In certain such embodiments, at least one such block is located at
15 the 3' end of the oligonucleotide. In certain such embodiments, at least one such block is located within 3 nucleosides of the 3' end of the oligonucleotide.

Certain Nucleobase Modification Motifs

In certain embodiments, oligonucleotides comprise chemical modifications to nucleobases arranged
20 along the oligonucleotide or region thereof in a defined pattern or nucleobases modification motif. In certain such embodiments, nucleobase modifications are arranged in a gapped motif. In certain embodiments, nucleobase modifications are arranged in an alternating motif. In certain embodiments, each nucleobase is modified. In certain embodiments, none of the nucleobases is chemically modified.

In certain embodiments, oligonucleotides comprise a block of modified nucleobases. In certain such
25 embodiments, the block is at the 3'-end of the oligonucleotide. In certain embodiments the block is within 3 nucleotides of the 3'-end of the oligonucleotide. In certain such embodiments, the block is at the 5'-end of the oligonucleotide. In certain embodiments the block is within 3 nucleotides of the 5'-end of the oligonucleotide.

In certain embodiments, nucleobase modifications are a function of the natural base at a particular
30 position of an oligonucleotide. For example, in certain embodiments each purine or each pyrimidine in an oligonucleotide is modified. In certain embodiments, each adenine is modified. In certain embodiments, each guanine is modified. In certain embodiments, each thymine is modified. In certain embodiments, each cytosine is modified. In certain embodiments, each uracil is modified.

In certain embodiments, some, all, or none of the cytosine moieties in an oligonucleotide are 5-
35 methyl cytosine moieties. Herein, 5-methyl cytosine is not a "modified nucleobase." Accordingly, unless

otherwise indicated, unmodified nucleobases include both cytosine residues having a 5-methyl and those lacking a 5 methyl. In certain embodiments, the methylation state of all or some cytosine nucleobases is specified.

5 Certain Overall Lengths

In certain embodiments, the present invention provides oligomeric compounds including oligonucleotides of any of a variety of ranges of lengths. In certain embodiments, the invention provides oligomeric compounds or oligonucleotides consisting of X to Y linked nucleosides, where X represents the fewest number of nucleosides in the range and Y represents the largest number of nucleosides in the range.

10 In certain such embodiments, X and Y are each independently selected from 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, and 50; provided that $X \leq Y$. For example, in certain embodiments, the invention provides oligomeric compounds which comprise oligonucleotides consisting of 8 to 9, 8 to 10, 8 to 11, 8 to 12, 8 to 13, 8 to 14, 8 to 15, 8 to 16, 8 to 17, 8 to 18, 8 to 19, 8 to 20, 8 to 21, 8 to 22, 8 to 23, 8 to 24, 8 to 25, 8 to 26, 8 to 27, 8 to 28, 8 to 29, 8 to 30, 9 to 10, 9 to 11, 9 to 12, 9 to 13, 9 to 14, 9 to 15, 9 to 16, 9 to 17, 9 to 18, 9 to 19, 9 to 20, 9 to 21, 9 to 22, 9 to 23, 9 to 24, 9 to 25, 9 to 26, 9 to 27, 9 to 28, 9 to 29, 9 to 30, 10 to 11, 10 to 12, 10 to 13, 10 to 14, 10 to 15, 10 to 16, 10 to 17, 10 to 18, 10 to 19, 10 to 20, 10 to 21, 10 to 22, 10 to 23, 10 to 24, 10 to 25, 10 to 26, 10 to 27, 10 to 28, 10 to 29, 10 to 30, 11 to 12, 11 to 13, 11 to 14, 11 to 15, 11 to 16, 11 to 17, 11 to 18, 11 to 19, 11 to 20, 11 to 21, 11 to 22, 11 to 23, 11 to 24, 11 to 25, 11 to 26, 11 to 27, 11 to 28, 11 to 29, 11 to 30, 12 to 13, 12 to 14, 12 to 15, 12 to 16, 12 to 17, 12 to 18, 12 to 19, 12 to 20, 12 to 21, 12 to 22, 12 to 23, 12 to 24, 12 to 25, 12 to 26, 12 to 27, 12 to 28, 12 to 29, 12 to 30, 13 to 14, 13 to 15, 13 to 16, 13 to 17, 13 to 18, 13 to 19, 13 to 20, 13 to 21, 13 to 22, 13 to 23, 13 to 24, 13 to 25, 13 to 26, 13 to 27, 13 to 28, 13 to 29, 13 to 30, 14 to 15, 14 to 16, 14 to 17, 14 to 18, 14 to 19, 14 to 20, 14 to 21, 14 to 22, 14 to 23, 14 to 24, 14 to 25, 14 to 26, 14 to 27, 14 to 28, 14 to 29, 14 to 30, 15 to 16, 15 to 17, 15 to 18, 15 to 19, 15 to 20, 15 to 21, 15 to 22, 15 to 23, 15 to 24, 15 to 25, 15 to 26, 15 to 27, 15 to 28, 15 to 29, 15 to 30, 16 to 17, 16 to 18, 16 to 19, 16 to 20, 16 to 21, 16 to 22, 16 to 23, 16 to 24, 16 to 25, 16 to 26, 16 to 27, 16 to 28, 16 to 29, 16 to 30, 17 to 18, 17 to 19, 17 to 20, 17 to 21, 17 to 22, 17 to 23, 17 to 24, 17 to 25, 17 to 26, 17 to 27, 17 to 28, 17 to 29, 17 to 30, 18 to 19, 18 to 20, 18 to 21, 18 to 22, 18 to 23, 18 to 24, 18 to 25, 18 to 26, 18 to 27, 18 to 28, 18 to 29, 18 to 30, 19 to 20, 19 to 21, 19 to 22, 19 to 23, 19 to 24, 19 to 25, 19 to 26, 19 to 27, 19 to 28, 19 to 29, 19 to 30, 20 to 21, 20 to 22, 20 to 23, 20 to 24, 20 to 25, 20 to 26, 20 to 27, 20 to 28, 20 to 29, 20 to 30, 21 to 22, 21 to 23, 21 to 24, 21 to 25, 21 to 26, 21 to 27, 21 to 28, 21 to 29, 21 to 30, 22 to 23, 22 to 24, 22 to 25, 22 to 26, 22 to 27, 22 to 28, 22 to 29, 22 to 30, 23 to 24, 23 to 25, 23 to 26, 23 to 27, 23 to 28, 23 to 29, 23 to 30, 24 to 25, 24 to 26, 24 to 27, 24 to 28, 24 to 29, 24 to 30, 25 to 26, 25 to 27, 25 to 28, 25 to 29, 25 to 30, 26 to 27, 26 to 28, 26 to 29, 26 to 30, 27 to 28, 27 to 29, 27 to 30, 28 to 29, 28 to 30, or 29 to 30 linked nucleosides. In embodiments where the number of nucleosides of an oligomeric

compound or oligonucleotide is limited, whether to a range or to a specific number, the oligomeric compound or oligonucleotide may, nonetheless further comprise additional other substituents. For example, an oligonucleotide comprising 8-30 nucleosides excludes oligonucleotides having 31 nucleosides, but, unless otherwise indicated, such an oligonucleotide may further comprise, for example one or more conjugates, terminal groups, or other substituents. In certain embodiments, a gapmer oligonucleotide has any of the above lengths.

One of skill in the art will appreciate that certain lengths may not be possible for certain motifs. For example: a gapmer having a 5'-wing region consisting of four nucleotides, a gap consisting of at least six nucleotides, and a 3'-wing region consisting of three nucleotides cannot have an overall length less than 13 nucleotides. Thus, one would understand that the lower length limit is 13 and that the limit of 10 in "10-20" has no effect in that embodiment.

Further, where an oligonucleotide is described by an overall length range and by regions having specified lengths, and where the sum of specified lengths of the regions is less than the upper limit of the overall length range, the oligonucleotide may have additional nucleosides, beyond those of the specified regions, provided that the total number of nucleosides does not exceed the upper limit of the overall length range. For example, an oligonucleotide consisting of 20-25 linked nucleosides comprising a 5'-wing consisting of 5 linked nucleosides; a 3'-wing consisting of 5 linked nucleosides and a central gap consisting of 10 linked nucleosides ($5+5+10=20$) may have up to 5 nucleosides that are not part of the 5'-wing, the 3'-wing, or the gap (before reaching the overall length limitation of 25). Such additional nucleosides may be 5' of the 5'-wing and/or 3' of the 3' wing.

Certain Oligonucleotides

In certain embodiments, oligonucleotides of the present invention are characterized by their sugar motif, internucleoside linkage motif, nucleobase modification motif and overall length. In certain embodiments, such parameters are each independent of one another. Thus, each internucleoside linkage of an oligonucleotide having a gapmer sugar motif may be modified or unmodified and may or may not follow the gapmer modification pattern of the sugar modifications. Thus, the internucleoside linkages within the wing regions of a sugar-gapmer may be the same or different from one another and may be the same or different from the internucleoside linkages of the gap region. Likewise, such sugar-gapmer oligonucleotides may comprise one or more modified nucleobase independent of the gapmer pattern of the sugar modifications. Herein if a description of an oligonucleotide or oligomeric compound is silent with respect to one or more parameter, such parameter is not limited. Thus, an oligomeric compound described only as having a gapmer sugar motif without further description may have any length, internucleoside linkage motif, and nucleobase modification motif. Unless otherwise indicated, all chemical modifications are independent of nucleobase sequence.

In certain embodiments, the oligonucleotides of the present invention comprise sugar modification and backbone motifs selected from the table below. In certain embodiments, oligonucleotides comprising sugar modifications and backbone motifs selected from the table below are particularly effective at increasing expression of FXN in a cell.

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Sugar Motif	Length	Backbone Motif	Chemical Notation	SEQ ID NO
e16	16	full PS	$N_{es}N_{es}N_{es}N_{es}N_{es}N_{es}N_{es}N_{es}N_{es}N_{es}N_{es}N_{es}N_{es}N_{es}N_e$	20
(edd)5-e	16	full PS	$N_{es}N_{ds}N_{ds}N_{es}N_{ds}N_{ds}N_{es}N_{ds}N_{ds}N_{es}N_{ds}N_{ds}N_{es}N_{ds}N_e$	20
(kdd)5-k	16	full PS	$N_{ks}N_{ds}N_{ds}N_{ks}N_{ds}N_{ds}N_{ks}N_{ds}N_{ds}N_{ks}N_{ds}N_{ds}N_{ks}N_{ds}N_k$	20
(kee)5-k	16	full PS	$N_{ks}N_{es}^mN_{ks}N_{es}^mN_{ks}N_{es}^mN_{ks}N_{es}^mN_{ks}N_{es}^mN_{ks}N_{es}^mN_{ks}N_{es}^mN_{es}$ N_k	20
e18	18	full PS	$N_{es}N_{es}N_{es}N_{es}N_{es}N_{es}N_{es}N_{es}N_{es}N_{es}N_{es}N_{es}N_{es}N_{es}N_{es}N_{es}N_e$	21
e-(edd)5-ee	18	full PS	$N_{es}N_{es}N_{ds}N_{ds}^mN_{es}N_{ds}N_{ds}^mN_{es}N_{ds}N_{ds}^mN_{es}N_{ds}N_{ds}N_{es}N_{ds}N_{ds}$ $N_{es}N_e$	21
k-(kdd)5-kk	18	full PS	$N_{ks}N_{ks}N_{ds}N_{ds}N_{ks}N_{ds}N_{ds}N_{ks}N_{ds}N_{ds}N_{ks}N_{ds}N_{ds}N_{ks}N_{ds}N_{ks}$ N_k	21
k-(kee)5-kk	18	full PS	$N_{ks}N_{ks}N_{es}N_{es}N_{ks}N_{es}N_{es}N_{ks}N_{es}N_{es}^mN_{ks}N_{es}N_{es}^mN_{ks}N_{es}N_{es}N_{es}$ ksN_k	21
e-(fm)9-ee	21	s-(so)6-s7	$N_{es}N_{fs}N_{mo}N_{fs}N_{mo}N_{fs}N_{mo}N_{fs}N_{mo}N_{fs}N_{mo}N_{fs}N_{mo}N_{fs}N_{mo}N_{fs}N_{ms}N_{fs}$ $N_{ms}N_{fs}N_{ms}N_{es}N_e$	22

A subscript “d” indicates an unmodified, 2'-deoxy sugar moiety. A subscript “e” indicates a 2'-methoxyethyl modification. A subscript “k” indicates a cEt modification. A subscript “s” indicates a phosphorothioate internucleoside linkage, while a subscript “o” indicates a phosphate linkage. A subscript “f” indicates a 2'-F modification. A subscript “m” indicates a 2'-OMe sugar modification. N represents any nucleobase.

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Certain Conjugate Groups

In certain embodiments, oligomeric compounds are modified by attachment of one or more conjugate groups. In general, conjugate groups modify one or more properties of the attached oligomeric compound including but not limited to pharmacodynamics, pharmacokinetics, stability, binding, absorption, cellular distribution, cellular uptake, charge and clearance. Conjugate groups are routinely used in the chemical arts and are linked directly or via an optional conjugate linking moiety or conjugate linking group to a parent compound such as an oligomeric compound, such as an oligonucleotide. Conjugate groups includes without limitation, intercalators, reporter molecules, polyamines, polyamides, polyethylene glycols, thioethers, polyethers, cholesterol, thiocholesterol, cholic acid moieties, folate, lipids, phospholipids, biotin, phenazine, phenanthridine, anthraquinone, adamantane, acridine, fluoresceins, rhodamines, coumarins and dyes. Certain conjugate groups have been described previously, for example: cholesterol moiety (Letsinger et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 1989, 86, 6553-6556), cholic acid (Manoharan et al., Bioorg. Med. Chem. Let., 1994, 4, 1053-1060), a thioether, e.g., hexyl-S-tritylthiol (Manoharan et al., Ann. N.Y. Acad. Sci., 1992,

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660, 306-309; Manoharan et al., *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.*, 1993, 3, 2765-2770), a thiocholesterol (Oberhauser et al., *Nucl. Acids Res.*, 1992, 20, 533-538), an aliphatic chain, e.g., do-decan-diol or undecyl residues (Saison-Behmoaras et al., *EMBO J.*, 1991, 10, 1111-1118; Kabanov et al., *FEBS Lett.*, 1990, 259, 327-330; Svinarchuk et al., *Biochimie*, 1993, 75, 49-54), a phospholipid, e.g., di-hexadecyl-rac-glycerol or triethyl-ammonium 1,2-di-O-hexadecyl-rac-glycero-3-H-phosphonate (Manoharan et al., *Tetrahedron Lett.*, 1995, 36, 3651-3654; Shea et al., *Nucl. Acids Res.*, 1990, 18, 3777-3783), a polyamine or a polyethylene glycol chain (Manoharan et al., *Nucleosides & Nucleotides*, 1995, 14, 969-973), or adamantane acetic acid (Manoharan et al., *Tetrahedron Lett.*, 1995, 36, 3651-3654), a palmityl moiety (Mishra et al., *Biochim. Biophys. Acta*, 1995, 1264, 229-237), or an octadecylamine or hexylamino-carbonyl-oxycholesterol moiety (Crooke et al., *J. Pharmacol. Exp. Ther.*, 1996, 277, 923-937).

In certain embodiments, a conjugate group comprises an active drug substance, for example, aspirin, warfarin, phenylbutazone, ibuprofen, suprofen, fen-bufen, ketoprofen, (S)-(+)-pranoprofen, carprofen, dansylsarcosine, 2,3,5-triodobenzoic acid, flufenamic acid, folinic acid, a benzothiadiazide, chlorothiazide, a diazepine, indo-methicin, a barbiturate, a cephalosporin, a sulfa drug, an antidiabetic, an antibacterial or an antibiotic.

In certain embodiments, conjugate groups are directly attached to oligonucleotides in oligomeric compounds. In certain embodiments, conjugate groups are attached to oligonucleotides by a conjugate linking group. In certain such embodiments, conjugate linking groups, including, but not limited to, bifunctional linking moieties such as those known in the art are amenable to the compounds provided herein. Conjugate linking groups are useful for attachment of conjugate groups, such as chemical stabilizing groups, functional groups, reporter groups and other groups to selective sites in a parent compound such as for example an oligomeric compound. In general a bifunctional linking moiety comprises a hydrocarbonyl moiety having two functional groups. One of the functional groups is selected to bind to a parent molecule or compound of interest and the other is selected to bind essentially any selected group such as chemical functional group or a conjugate group. In some embodiments, the conjugate linker comprises a chain structure or an oligomer of repeating units such as ethylene glycol or amino acid units. Examples of functional groups that are routinely used in a bifunctional linking moiety include, but are not limited to, electrophiles for reacting with nucleophilic groups and nucleophiles for reacting with electrophilic groups. In some embodiments, bifunctional linking moieties include amino, hydroxyl, carboxylic acid, thiol, unsaturations (e.g., double or triple bonds), and the like.

Some nonlimiting examples of conjugate linking moieties include pyrrolidine, 8-amino-3,6-dioxaoctanoic acid (ADO), succinimidyl 4-(N-maleimidomethyl) cyclohexane-1-carboxylate (SMCC) and 6-aminohexanoic acid (AHEx or AHA). Other linking groups include, but are not limited to, substituted C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C₂-C₁₀ alkenyl or substituted or unsubstituted C₂-C₁₀ alkynyl, wherein a nonlimiting list of preferred substituent groups includes hydroxyl, amino, alkoxy, carboxy, benzyl, phenyl,

nitro, thiol, thioalkoxy, halogen, alkyl, aryl, alkenyl and alkynyl.

Conjugate groups may be attached to either or both ends of an oligonucleotide (terminal conjugate groups) and/or at any internal position.

In certain embodiments, conjugate groups are at the 3'-end of an oligonucleotide of an oligomeric compound. In certain embodiments, conjugate groups are near the 3'-end. In certain embodiments, conjugates are attached at the 3' end of an oligomeric compound, but before one or more terminal group nucleosides. In certain embodiments, conjugate groups are placed within a terminal group.

In certain embodiments, the present invention provides oligomeric compounds. In certain embodiments, oligomeric compounds comprise an oligonucleotide. In certain embodiments, an oligomeric compound comprises an oligonucleotide and one or more conjugate and/or terminal groups. Such conjugate and/or terminal groups may be added to oligonucleotides having any of the chemical motifs discussed above. Thus, for example, an oligomeric compound comprising an oligonucleotide having region of alternating nucleosides may comprise a terminal group.

Antisense Compounds

In certain embodiments, oligomeric compounds of the present invention are antisense compounds. Such antisense compounds are capable of hybridizing to a target nucleic acid, resulting in at least one antisense activity. In certain embodiments, antisense compounds specifically hybridize to one or more target nucleic acid. In certain embodiments, a specifically hybridizing antisense compound has a nucleobase sequence comprising a region having sufficient complementarity to a target nucleic acid to allow hybridization and result in antisense activity and insufficient complementarity to any non-target so as to avoid non-specific hybridization to any non-target nucleic acid sequences under conditions in which specific hybridization is desired (e.g., under physiological conditions for *in vivo* or therapeutic uses, and under conditions in which assays are performed in the case of *in vitro* assays).

In certain embodiments, the present invention provides antisense compounds comprising oligonucleotides that are fully complementary to the target nucleic acid over the entire length of the oligonucleotide. In certain embodiments, oligonucleotides are 99% complementary to the target nucleic acid. In certain embodiments, oligonucleotides are 95% complementary to the target nucleic acid. In certain embodiments, such oligonucleotides are 90% complementary to the target nucleic acid.

In certain embodiments, such oligonucleotides are 85% complementary to the target nucleic acid. In certain embodiments, such oligonucleotides are 80% complementary to the target nucleic acid. In certain embodiments, an antisense compound comprises a region that is fully complementary to a target nucleic acid and is at least 80% complementary to the target nucleic acid over the entire length of the oligonucleotide. In certain such embodiments, the region of full complementarity is from 6 to 14 nucleobases in length.

In certain embodiments antisense compounds and antisense oligonucleotides comprise single-strand compounds. In certain embodiments antisense compounds and antisense oligonucleotides comprise double-strand compounds.

Certain Target Nucleic Acids and Mechanisms

In certain embodiments, antisense compounds comprise or consist of an oligonucleotide comprising a region that is complementary to a target nucleic acid. In certain embodiments, the target nucleic acid is an endogenous RNA molecule. In certain embodiments, the target nucleic acid is a long non-coding RNA. In certain embodiments, the target nucleic acid is a FXN transcript. In certain embodiments, the target RNA has the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO. 1.

Friedreich's ataxia is caused by an expanded GAA repeat within intron 1 of the frataxin (FXN) gene that reduces expression of the FXN protein. Agents that increase expression of FXN protein have the potential to alleviate the disease.

Certain embodiments disclosed herein are drawn to a method of increasing expression of FXN in a cell comprising contacting the cell with an antisense compound targeted to the GAA repeat of FXN. In several aspects, FXN comprises a nucleic acid sequence at least 85% identical to SEQ ID NO:1.

Certain Pharmaceutical Compositions

In certain embodiments, the present invention provides pharmaceutical compositions comprising one or more antisense compound. In certain embodiments, such pharmaceutical composition comprises a suitable pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier. In certain embodiments, a pharmaceutical composition comprises a sterile saline solution and one or more antisense compound. In certain embodiments, such pharmaceutical composition consists of a sterile saline solution and one or more antisense compound. In certain embodiments, the sterile saline is pharmaceutical grade saline. In certain embodiments, a pharmaceutical composition comprises one or more antisense compound and sterile water. In certain embodiments, a pharmaceutical composition consists of one or more antisense compound and sterile water. In certain embodiments, the sterile saline is pharmaceutical grade water. In certain embodiments, a pharmaceutical composition comprises one or more antisense compound and phosphate-buffered saline (PBS). In certain embodiments, a pharmaceutical composition consists of one or more antisense compound and sterile phosphate-buffered saline (PBS). In certain embodiments, the sterile saline is pharmaceutical grade PBS.

In certain embodiments, antisense compounds may be admixed with pharmaceutically acceptable active and/or inert substances for the preparation of pharmaceutical compositions or formulations. Compositions and methods for the formulation of pharmaceutical compositions depend on a number of criteria, including, but not limited to, route of administration, extent of disease, or dose to be administered.

Pharmaceutical compositions comprising antisense compounds encompass any pharmaceutically acceptable salts, esters, or salts of such esters. In certain embodiments, pharmaceutical compositions comprising antisense compounds comprise one or more oligonucleotide which, upon administration to an animal, including a human, is capable of providing (directly or indirectly) the biologically active metabolite or residue thereof. Accordingly, for example, the disclosure is also drawn to pharmaceutically acceptable salts of antisense compounds, prodrugs, pharmaceutically acceptable salts of such prodrugs, and other bioequivalents. Suitable pharmaceutically acceptable salts include, but are not limited to, sodium and potassium salts.

A prodrug can include the incorporation of additional nucleosides at one or both ends of an oligomeric compound which are cleaved by endogenous nucleases within the body, to form the active antisense oligomeric compound.

Lipid moieties have been used in nucleic acid therapies in a variety of methods. In certain such methods, the nucleic acid is introduced into preformed liposomes or lipoplexes made of mixtures of cationic lipids and neutral lipids. In certain methods, DNA complexes with mono- or poly-cationic lipids are formed without the presence of a neutral lipid. In certain embodiments, a lipid moiety is selected to increase distribution of a pharmaceutical agent to a particular cell or tissue. In certain embodiments, a lipid moiety is selected to increase distribution of a pharmaceutical agent to fat tissue. In certain embodiments, a lipid moiety is selected to increase distribution of a pharmaceutical agent to muscle tissue.

In certain embodiments, pharmaceutical compositions provided herein comprise one or more modified oligonucleotides and one or more excipients. In certain such embodiments, excipients are selected from water, salt solutions, alcohol, polyethylene glycols, gelatin, lactose, amylase, magnesium stearate, talc, silicic acid, viscous paraffin, hydroxymethylcellulose and polyvinylpyrrolidone.

In certain embodiments, a pharmaceutical composition provided herein comprises a delivery system. Examples of delivery systems include, but are not limited to, liposomes and emulsions. Certain delivery systems are useful for preparing certain pharmaceutical compositions including those comprising hydrophobic compounds. In certain embodiments, certain organic solvents such as dimethylsulfoxide are used.

In certain embodiments, a pharmaceutical composition provided herein comprises one or more tissue-specific delivery molecules designed to deliver the one or more pharmaceutical agents of the present invention to specific tissues or cell types. For example, in certain embodiments, pharmaceutical compositions include liposomes coated with a tissue-specific antibody.

In certain embodiments, a pharmaceutical composition provided herein comprises a co-solvent system. Certain of such co-solvent systems comprise, for example, benzyl alcohol, a nonpolar surfactant, a water-miscible organic polymer, and an aqueous phase. In certain embodiments, such co-solvent systems are used for hydrophobic compounds. A non-limiting example of such a co-solvent system is the VPD co-solvent

system, which is a solution of absolute ethanol comprising 3% w/v benzyl alcohol, 8% w/v of the nonpolar surfactant Polysorbate 80™ and 65% w/v polyethylene glycol 300. The proportions of such co-solvent systems may be varied considerably without significantly altering their solubility and toxicity characteristics. Furthermore, the identity of co-solvent components may be varied: for example, other surfactants may be used instead of Polysorbate 80™; the fraction size of polyethylene glycol may be varied; other biocompatible polymers may replace polyethylene glycol, e.g., polyvinyl pyrrolidone; and other sugars or polysaccharides may substitute for dextrose.

In certain embodiments, a pharmaceutical composition provided herein is prepared for oral administration. In certain embodiments, pharmaceutical compositions are prepared for buccal administration.

In certain embodiments, a pharmaceutical composition is prepared for administration by injection (e.g., intravenous, subcutaneous, intramuscular, etc.). In certain of such embodiments, a pharmaceutical composition comprises a carrier and is formulated in aqueous solution, such as water or physiologically compatible buffers such as Hanks's solution, Ringer's solution, or physiological saline buffer. In certain embodiments, other ingredients are included (e.g., ingredients that aid in solubility or serve as preservatives). In certain embodiments, injectable suspensions are prepared using appropriate liquid carriers, suspending agents and the like. Certain pharmaceutical compositions for injection are presented in unit dosage form, e.g., in ampoules or in multi-dose containers. Certain pharmaceutical compositions for injection are suspensions, solutions or emulsions in oily or aqueous vehicles, and may contain formulatory agents such as suspending, stabilizing and/or dispersing agents. Certain solvents suitable for use in pharmaceutical compositions for injection include, but are not limited to, lipophilic solvents and fatty oils, such as sesame oil, synthetic fatty acid esters, such as ethyl oleate or triglycerides, and liposomes. Aqueous injection suspensions may contain substances that increase the viscosity of the suspension, such as sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, sorbitol, or dextran. Optionally, such suspensions may also contain suitable stabilizers or agents that increase the solubility of the pharmaceutical agents to allow for the preparation of highly concentrated solutions.

In certain embodiments, a pharmaceutical composition is prepared for transmucosal administration. In certain of such embodiments penetrants appropriate to the barrier to be permeated are used in the formulation. Such penetrants are generally known in the art.

In certain embodiments, a pharmaceutical composition provided herein comprises an oligonucleotide in a therapeutically effective amount. In certain embodiments, the therapeutically effective amount is sufficient to prevent, alleviate or ameliorate symptoms of a disease or to prolong the survival of the subject being treated. Determination of a therapeutically effective amount is well within the capability of those skilled in the art.

In certain embodiments, one or more modified oligonucleotide provided herein is formulated as a prodrug. In certain embodiments, upon *in vivo* administration, a prodrug is chemically converted to the biologically, pharmaceutically or therapeutically more active form of an oligonucleotide. In certain

embodiments, prodrugs are useful because they are easier to administer than the corresponding active form. For example, in certain instances, a prodrug may be more bioavailable (e.g., through oral administration) than is the corresponding active form. In certain instances, a prodrug may have improved solubility compared to the corresponding active form. In certain embodiments, prodrugs are less water soluble than the
5 corresponding active form. In certain instances, such prodrugs possess superior transmittal across cell membranes, where water solubility is detrimental to mobility. In certain embodiments, a prodrug is an ester. In certain such embodiments, the ester is metabolically hydrolyzed to carboxylic acid upon administration. In certain instances the carboxylic acid containing compound is the corresponding active form. In certain
10 embodiments, a prodrug comprises a short peptide (polyaminoacid) bound to an acid group. In certain of such embodiments, the peptide is cleaved upon administration to form the corresponding active form.

In certain embodiments, the present invention provides compositions and methods for reducing the amount or activity of a target nucleic acid in a cell. In certain embodiments, the cell is in an animal. In certain embodiments, the animal is a mammal. In certain embodiments, the animal is a rodent. In certain
15 embodiments, the animal is a primate. In certain embodiments, the animal is a non-human primate. In certain embodiments, the animal is a human.

In certain embodiments, the present invention provides methods of administering a pharmaceutical composition comprising an oligomeric compound of the present invention to an animal. Suitable
administration routes include, but are not limited to, oral, rectal, transmucosal, intestinal, enteral, topical, suppository, through inhalation, intrathecal, intracerebroventricular, intraperitoneal, intranasal, intraocular,
20 intratumoral, and parenteral (e.g., intravenous, intramuscular, intramedullary, and subcutaneous). In certain embodiments, pharmaceutical intrathecal are administered to achieve local rather than systemic exposures. For example, pharmaceutical compositions may be injected directly in the area of desired effect (e.g., into the eyes, ears).

25 Nonlimiting disclosure and incorporation by reference

While certain compounds, compositions and methods described herein have been described with specificity in accordance with certain embodiments, the following examples serve only to illustrate the compounds described herein and are not intended to limit the same. Each of the references, GenBank
accession numbers, and the like recited herein is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.

Although the sequence listing accompanying this filing identifies each sequence as either “RNA” or
30 “DNA” as required, in reality, those sequences may be modified with any combination of chemical modifications. One of skill in the art will readily appreciate that such designation as “RNA” or “DNA” to describe modified oligonucleotides is, in certain instances, arbitrary. For example, an oligonucleotide comprising a nucleoside comprising a 2’-OH sugar moiety and a thymine base could be described as a DNA
35 having a modified sugar (2’-OH for the natural 2’-H of DNA) or as an RNA having a modified base (thymine

(methylated uracil) for natural uracil of RNA).

Accordingly, nucleic acid sequences provided herein, including, but not limited to those in the sequence listing, are intended to encompass nucleic acids containing any combination of natural or modified RNA and/or DNA, including, but not limited to such nucleic acids having modified nucleobases. By way of further example and without limitation, an oligomeric compound having the nucleobase sequence “ATCGATCG” encompasses any oligomeric compounds having such nucleobase sequence, whether modified or unmodified, including, but not limited to, such compounds comprising RNA bases, such as those having sequence “AUCGAUCG” and those having some DNA bases and some RNA bases such as “AUCGATCG” and oligomeric compounds having other unmodified bases, such as “AT^{me}CGAUCG,” wherein ^{me}C indicates a cytosine base comprising a methyl group at the 5-position.

EXAMPLES

The following examples illustrate certain embodiments of the present disclosure and are not limiting. Moreover, where specific embodiments are provided, the inventors have contemplated generic application of those specific embodiments. For example, disclosure of an oligonucleotide having a particular motif provides reasonable support for additional oligonucleotides having the same or similar motif. And, for example, where a particular high-affinity modification appears at a particular position, other high-affinity modifications at the same position are considered suitable, unless otherwise indicated.

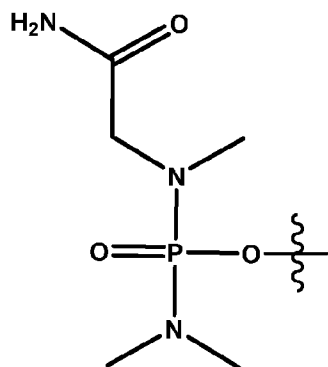
The following examples illustrate certain embodiments of the present invention and are not limiting. Moreover, where specific embodiments are provided, the inventors have contemplated generic application of those specific embodiments. For example, disclosure of an oligonucleotide having a particular motif provides reasonable support for additional oligonucleotides having the same or similar motif. And, for example, where a particular high-affinity modification appears at a particular position, other high-affinity modifications at the same position are considered suitable, unless otherwise indicated.

Example 1 Effect on frataxin mRNA expression of compounds targeting the GAA repeat in patient cells by electroporation

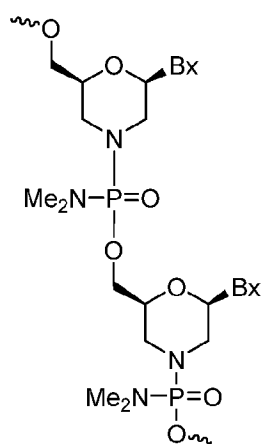
Modified oligonucleotides and morpholinos

The compounds in the following table were synthesized using standard methods well known in the art. The compounds target the GAA repeat region of the frataxin (FXN) gene.

Compounds 894618-894641 are modified oligonucleotides with full phosphorothioate backbones and 2' sugar chemistry as indicated in the table below. Compounds 894642-982644 are phosphoramidite morpholinos with a 5'-terminal conjugate as shown below:



- 5 The phosphoramidite morpholinos have the structure shown below (where Bx represents a modified or unmodified nucleobase). The structure below depicts two phosphoramidite morpholinos linked via a phosphoramidite linkage.



10

Table 1 Modified Oligonucleotides and Morpholinos

Compound ID	5' end	Chemistry Notation	SEQ ID No.
894618	H	^m C _{es} T _{es} T _{es} ^m C _{es} T _{es} T _{es} ^m C _{es} T _{es} T _{es} ^m C _{es} T _{es} T _{es} ^m C _{es} T _{es} T _{es} ^m C _e	2
894619	H	T _{es} ^m C _{es} T _{es} T _{es} ^m C _{es} T _{es} T _{es} ^m C _{es} T _{es} T _{es} ^m C _{es} T _{es} T _{es} ^m C _{es} T _{es} T _e	3
894620	H	T _{es} T _{es} ^m C _{es} T _{es} T _{es} ^m C _{es} T _{es} T _{es} ^m C _{es} T _{es} T _{es} ^m C _{es} T _{es} T _{es} ^m C _{es} T _e	4
894621	H	^m C _{es} T _{ds} T _{ds} ^m C _{es} T _{ds} T _{ds} ^m C _{es} T _{ds} T _{ds} ^m C _{es} T _{ds} T _{ds} ^m C _{es} T _{ds} T _{ds} ^m C _e	2
894622	H	T _{es} ^m C _{ds} T _{ds} T _{es} ^m C _{ds} T _{ds} T _{es} ^m C _{ds} T _{ds} T _{es} ^m C _{ds} T _{ds} T _{es} ^m C _{ds} T _{ds} T _e	3
894623	H	T _{es} T _{ds} ^m C _{ds} T _{es} T _{ds} ^m C _{ds} T _{es} T _{ds} ^m C _{ds} T _{es} T _{ds} ^m C _{ds} T _{es} T _{ds} ^m C _{ds} T _e	4

[illegible]

A subscript “d” indicates an unmodified, 2'-deoxy sugar moiety. A subscript “e” indicates a 2'-methoxyethyl modification. A subscript “k” indicates a cEt modification. A subscript “s” indicates a phosphorothioate internucleoside linkage, while a subscript “o” indicates a phosphate linkage. A subscript “f” indicates a 2'-F modification. A subscript “m” indicates a 2'-OMe sugar modification.

5 A superscript “m” indicates 5'-methyl Cytosine.

Experimental Protocol and Results

Frataxin patient fibroblasts (GM03816, 330/380 repeats) were cultured at 20,000 cells per well and transfected by electroporation at 140V with various concentrations of modified oligonucleotide as indicated in the table below. After approximately 24 hours, RNA was isolated from the cells and FXN mRNA levels were measured by quantitative real-time PCR. Human Sybr green PCR kit (forward sequence AAGCCATACACGTTTGAGGACTA, designated herein as SEQ ID NO: 17; reverse sequence TTGGCGTCTGCTTGTTGATCA, designated herein as SEQ ID NO: 18; was used to measure mRNA levels. FXN mRNA levels were normalized to total RNA content,

as measured by RIBOGREEN®. Results are presented in the tables below as normalized FXN mRNA level, relative to untreated control cells (these conditions describe a “Standard Cell Assay”).

Compound 582468 is a 5-10-5 MOE/DNA gapmer with the sequence

GCCAATATCATAACCCAAGC (SEQ ID NO: 19), complementary to alpha 1 actin, and was

5 included as a control.

Table 2 Effect of modified oligonucleotides and morpholinos on frataxin expression in patient fibroblasts

Compound ID	sugar motif	Fold-increase Frataxin Expression						
		0 μ M	0.625 μ M	1.25 μ M	2.5 μ M	5 μ M	10 μ M	20 μ M
894618	e16	1.0	0.9	1.1	1.2	1.5	5.5	11.8
894619	e16	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.2	1.1	2.6	5.7
894620	e16	1.0	0.8	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.6	8.1
894621	(edd)5-e	1.0	0.8	1.1	0.9	1.0	0.8	0.9
894622	(edd)5-e	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8	1.1	0.9	0.9
894623	(edd)5-e	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.8	0.9
894624	(kdd)5-k	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.8	1.0	2.4
894625	(kdd)5-k	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.9	1.5	8.9
894626	(kdd)5-k	1.0	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.8	1.1	4.1
894627	(kee)5-k	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.1	1.5	3.0
894628	(kee)5-k	1.0	0.9	1.2	1.0	1.1	1.5	2.2
582468	e5-d10-e5	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.1
894629	(kee)5-k	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.7	1.2	2.0
894630	e18	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.6	9.5
894631	e18	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.2	1.3	2.9	16.9
894632	e18	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	0.9	1.5	6.3
894633	e-(edd)5-ee	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.0	0.8	0.6
894634	e-(edd)5-ee	1.0	1.1	0.8	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.7
894635	e-(edd)5-ee	1.0	0.8	1.1	1.0	0.7	0.9	0.8
894636	k-(kdd)5-kk	1.0	0.8	1.0	1.1	0.8	2.6	9.9
894637	k-(kdd)5-kk	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.8	1.1	4.6
894638	k-(kdd)5-kk	1.0	0.9	0.8	1.0	0.9	1.5	8.4
894639	k-(kee)5-kk	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.4
582468	e5-d10-e5	1.0	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.9	0.8
894640	k-(kee)5-kk	1.0	0.9	1.1	1.1	1.3	1.0	1.7
894641	k-(kee)5-kk	1.0	1.0	0.8	1.4	1.1	1.4	1.1
894642	PMO	1.0	1.2	1.0	1.3	1.3	1.0	0.6
894643	PMO	1.0	1.6	1.2	1.3	0.9	1.1	0.7
894644	PMO	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.4	0.7	1.0	0.6
894645	e-(fm)9-ee	1.0	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.3
894646	e-(fm)9-ee	1.0	1.4	1.0	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.1

894647	e-(fm)9-ee	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.0
582468	e5-d10-e5	1.0	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.4	1.2	0.8

Example 2 Effect on frataxin mRNA and protein expression of compounds targeting the GAA repeat in patient cells by lipid transfection

Selected modified oligonucleotides described in Example 1 above were further tested for their ability to increase frataxin protein expression in patient fibroblasts.

Frataxin patient fibroblasts (GM03816, 330/380 repeats) were cultured and transfected using lipofectamine with various concentrations of modified oligonucleotide. After approximately 96 hours, protein expression was measured by western blot. For the western blot, the primary antibody was anti-frataxin 4F9 (Dr. Helene Puccio at IGBMC, France) or was anti-frataxin ab110328 (Abcam) and the secondary antibody was HRP-anti-mouse (715-035-150, Jackson Laboratories). Protein bands were visualized using SuperSignal West Pico Chemiluminescent Substrate (Thermo Scientific), and bands were quantified using ImageJ. EC50 values were determined using GraphPad Prism 7.03.

Table 3 Effect of modified oligonucleotides on frataxin protein expression in patient fibroblasts

Compound ID	0 nM	1.56 nM	3.13 nM	6.25 nM	12.5 nM	25 nM	EC50 (nM)
	Relative Frataxin Protein Levels						
894618	1.0	1.7	1.8	1.9	3.1	2.6	4.4
894631	1.0	2	2.5	2.5	3.0	3.0	2.0
894622	1.0	1.4	2.2	2.7	3.4	3.2	3.2
894626	1.0	1.8	2.4	3.6	6.0	5.9	6.0
894627	1.0	n.d.	3.0	5.1	5.0	3.9	3.1
894639	1.0	n.d.	3.1	4.8	6.4	6.8	4.6
894640	1.0	2.3	2.9	4.0	3.3	3.3	1.6

Example 3 Effect on frataxin mRNA and protein expression of ss-siRNA

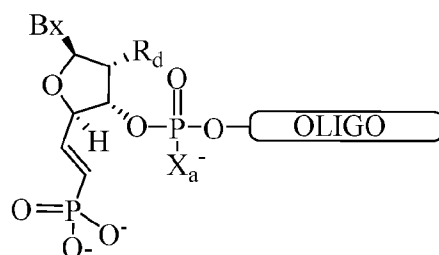
Design and Synthesis of ss-siRNAs for Activation of Frataxin Expression

The compounds in the following table were synthesized using standard methods well known in the art. Examples of synthesis can be found, for example, in WO 2011/139702, which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety. The compounds in the table below are designed target the GAA repeat region of the frataxin (FXN) gene.

Table 4 Modified Oligonucleotides

Compound ID	5' end	Chemistry Notation (5'-3')	SEQ ID No.
1188749	P	P-T _{es} U _{fs} U _m C _{fs} U _m U _{fs} C _m U _{fs} U _m C _{fs} U _m U _{fs} C _m U _{fs} U _{ms} C _{fs} U _{ms} U _{fs} C _{ms} A _{es} A _e	14
1188751	P	P-T _{es} C _{fs} U _m U _{fs} C _m U _{fs} U _m C _{fs} U _m U _{fs} C _m U _{fs} U _m C _{fs} U _{ms} U _{fs} C _{ms} U _{fs} U _{ms} A _{es} A _e	15
1188754	P	P-T _{es} U _{fs} C _m U _{fs} U _m C _{fs} U _m U _{fs} C _m U _{fs} U _m C _{fs} U _m U _{fs} C _{ms} U _{fs} U _{ms} C _{fs} U _{ms} A _{es} A _e	16
1204706	Pv	Pv-T _{es} U _{fs} U _m C _{fs} U _m U _{fs} C _m U _{fs} U _m C _{fs} U _m U _{fs} C _m U _{fs} U _{ms} C _{fs} U _{ms} U _{fs} C _{ms} A _{es} A _e	14
1204707	Pv	Pv-T _{es} C _{fs} U _m U _{fs} C _m U _{fs} U _m C _{fs} U _m U _{fs} C _m U _{fs} U _m C _{fs} U _{ms} U _{fs} C _{ms} U _{fs} U _{ms} A _{es} A _e	15
1204710	Pv	Pv-T _{es} U _{fs} C _m U _{fs} U _m C _{fs} U _m U _{fs} C _m U _{fs} U _m C _{fs} U _m U _{fs} C _{ms} U _{fs} U _{ms} C _{fs} U _{ms} A _{es} A _e	16

“P” at the 5'-end indicated a phosphate. “Pv” at the 5'-end indicates a 5'-(*E*)-vinylphosphonate group. The structure below represents an oligonucleotide with a 5'-(*E*)-vinylphosphonate group at the 5'-terminus. Bx represents a heterocyclic base moiety, X_a represents a O or S, and R_d represents a 2'-substituent (e.g. 2'-MOE or 2'-OMe).



10 Activation of Expression of Frataxin mRNA and Protein in Patient-derived Cells

Compounds described above were tested for their ability to activate frataxin expression in patient-derived GM03816 cells as described in Example 2 above. Table 5 represents data upon the treatment of GM03816 cells with 12.5nM of modified oligonucleotide, while Table 6 represents a dose response.

15 Table 5 Effect of modified oligonucleotides on frataxin mRNA and protein expression in patient fibroblasts

Compound ID	Relative Levels of FXN mRNA	Relative Levels of FXN Protein
1188749	1.67	2.44
1188751	1.59	2.79
1188754	2.07	2.85

Table 6 Dose response effect of modified oligonucleotides on frataxin protein expression in patient fibroblasts

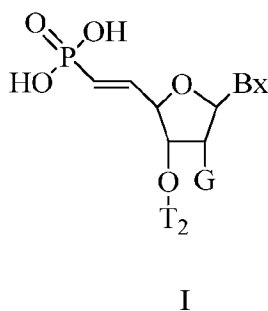
Compound ID	0 nM	1.56 nM	3.13 nM	6.25 nM	12.5 nM	25 nM	EC50 (nM)
	Relative Frataxin Protein Levels						
1188749	1.0	1.5	1.6	3.2	3.6	4.4	5.0
1188751	1.0	1.9	1.9	2.1	2.2	3.1	6.2
1188754	1.0	1.7	2.0	1.5	2.6	2.9	3.2

CLAIMS

1. A compound comprising a modified oligonucleotide 8 to 80 linked nucleosides in length having a nucleobase sequence comprising at least 16 contiguous nucleobases of any of the nucleobase sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13.
2. A compound comprising a modified oligonucleotide 8 to 80 linked nucleosides in length having a nucleobase sequence comprising the nucleobase sequence of any one of SEQ ID NOs: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13.
3. A compound comprising a modified oligonucleotide having a nucleobase sequence consisting of any one of SEQ ID NOs: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13.
4. The compound of any one of claims 1-3, wherein the modified oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified internucleoside linkage, at least one modified sugar, or at least one modified nucleobase.
5. The compound of claim 4, wherein the modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate internucleoside linkage.
6. The compound of claim 3 or 4, wherein the modified sugar is a bicyclic sugar.
7. The compound of claim 6, wherein the bicyclic sugar is selected from the group consisting of: 4'-(CH₂)₂-O-2' (ENA); and 4'-CH(CH₃)-O-2' (cEt).
8. The compound of claim 4 or 5, wherein the modified sugar is 2'-O-methoxyethyl.
9. The compound of any one of claims 4-8, wherein the modified nucleobase is a 5-methylcytosine.
10. The compound of any one of claims 1-9, wherein the compound is single-stranded.
11. The compound of any one of claims 1-9, wherein the compound is double-stranded.
12. The compound of any one of claims 1-9, wherein the modified oligonucleotide consists of 16 to 30 linked nucleosides.
13. The compound of any one of claims 1-9, wherein the modified oligonucleotide consists of 16 to 22 linked nucleosides.

14. The compound of any one of claims 1-9, wherein the modified oligonucleotide consists of 16 to 20 linked nucleosides.
15. The compound of any one of claims 1-9, wherein the modified oligonucleotide consists of 16 to 18 linked nucleosides.
16. The compound of any one of claims 1-9, wherein the modified oligonucleotide consists of 16 linked nucleosides.
17. The compound of claim 16, wherein the modified oligonucleotide has a nucleobase sequence consisting of any one of SEQ ID NOs: 2, 3, or 4.
18. The compound of claim 17, wherein each sugar is a modified sugar.
19. The compound of claim 18, wherein each modified sugar is a 2'-methoxyethyl sugar.
20. The compound of claim 17, wherein the sugar motif is (edd)5-e, where e represents a 2'-methoxyethyl modified nucleoside and d represents a 2'-deoxy nucleoside.
21. The compound of claim 17, wherein the sugar motif is (kdd)5-k, where k represents a 2'-cEt modified nucleoside and d represents a 2'-deoxy nucleoside.
22. The compound of claim 17 or 18, wherein the sugar motif is (kee)5-k, where k represents a 2'-cEt modified nucleoside and e represents a 2'-methoxyethyl modified nucleoside.
23. The compound of any of claims 17-22, wherein each internucleoside linkage is selected from phosphorothioate and phosphodiester.
24. The compound of any of claims 17-23, wherein each internucleoside linkage is phosphorothioate.
25. The compound of any one of claims 1-9, wherein the modified oligonucleotide consists of 18 linked nucleosides.
26. The compound of claim 25, comprising a modified oligonucleotide having a nucleobase sequence consisting of any one of SEQ ID NOs: 5, 6, or 7.
27. The compound of claim 25 or 26, wherein each sugar is a modified sugar.
28. The compound of claim 27, wherein each modified sugar is a 2'-methoxyethyl sugar.

29. The compound of claim 25 or 26, wherein the sugar motif is e-(edd)5-ee, where e represents a 2'-methoxyethyl modified nucleoside and d represents a 2'-deoxy nucleoside.
30. The compound of claim 25 or 26, wherein the sugar motif is k-(kdd)5-kk, where k represents a 2'-cEt modified nucleoside and d represents a 2'-deoxy nucleoside.
31. The compound of claim 25 or 26, wherein the sugar motif is k-(kee)5-kk, where k represents a 2'-cEt modified nucleoside and e represents a 2'-methoxyethyl modified nucleoside.
32. The compound of any of claims 25-31, wherein each internucleoside linkage is selected from phosphorothioate and phosphodiester.
33. The compound of any of claims 25-31, wherein each internucleoside linkage is phosphorothioate.
34. A compound comprising a modified oligonucleotide having a nucleobase sequence consisting of any one of SEQ ID NOs: 8, 9, or 10.
35. The compound of claim 34, wherein the modified oligonucleotide is a phosphorodiamidate morpholino oligomer (PMO).
36. A compound comprising a single-stranded oligonucleotide consisting of 13 to 30 linked nucleosides and having a nucleobase sequence complementary to a repeat region of an expanded repeat-containing target RNA, wherein the 5'-terminal nucleoside of the single-stranded oligonucleotide comprises a stabilized phosphate moiety and an internucleoside linking group linking the 5'-terminal nucleoside to the remainder of the oligonucleotide.
37. The compound of claim 36, wherein the single-stranded oligonucleotide has a nucleobase sequence comprising at least 16 contiguous nucleobases of any of the nucleobase sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 14, 15, or 16.
38. The compound of claim 36, wherein the single-stranded oligonucleotide has a nucleobase sequence consisting of any one of SEQ ID NOs: 14, 15, or 16.
39. The compound of any of claims 36-38, wherein the 5'-terminal nucleoside has Formula I:



wherein:

Bx is selected from among: uracil, thymine, cytosine, 5-methyl cytosine, adenine, and guanine;

T2 is a phosphorothioate internucleoside linking group linking the compound of Formula I to the remainder of the oligonucleotide; and

G is selected from among: a halogen, OCH₃, OCF₃, OCH₂CH₃, OCH₂CF₃, OCH₂-CH=CH₂, O(CH₂)₂-OCH₃, O(CH₂)₂-O(CH₂)₂-N(CH₃)₂, OCH₂C(=O)-N(H)CH₃, OCH₂C(=O)-N(H)-(CH₂)₂-N(CH₃)₂, OCH₂-N(H)-C(=NH)NH₂, and a conjugate group.

40. The compound of any of claims 36-39, comprising the motif:

(Nucleoside of Formula I)-s-A-s-B-o-A-s-B-o-A-s-B-o-A-s-B-o-A-s-B-o-A-s-B-s-A-s-B-s-A-s-B-s-D-s-D

wherein:

s is a phosphorothioate linkage;

A is a nucleoside of a first type;

B is a nucleoside of a second type; and

D is a nucleoside of a third type.

41. The compound of any of claims 36-39, consisting of the motif:

(Nucleoside of Formula I)-s-A-s-B-o-A-s-B-o-A-s-B-o-A-s-B-o-A-s-B-o-A-s-B-s-A-s-B-s-A-s-B-s-D-s-D

wherein:

s is a phosphorothioate linkage;

A is a nucleoside of a first type;

B is a nucleoside of a second type; and

D is a nucleoside of a third type.

42. The compound of claim 40 or 41, wherein A is a 2'-F nucleoside.
43. The compound of any of claims 40-42, wherein B is a 2'-OMe nucleoside.
44. The compound of any of claims 40-43, wherein D is a 2'-MOE nucleoside.
45. A compound consisting of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the compounds of claims 1-44.
46. The compound of claim 45, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable salt is a sodium salt.
47. The compound of claim 45, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable salt is a potassium salt.
48. A composition comprising the compound of any one of claims 1-47 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
49. A composition comprising a compound or modified oligonucleotide of any preceding claim, for use in therapy.
50. A method of treating, preventing, or ameliorating a disease associated with frataxin in an individual comprising administering to the individual a compound targeted to the repeat of frataxin thereby treating, preventing, or ameliorating the disease.
51. The method of claim 50, wherein the disease is Friedreich's Ataxia.
52. The method of any of claims 50-51, wherein administering the compound inhibits, reduces, or improves the symptoms of Friedreich's Ataxia.

53. A method of increasing expression of frataxin in a cell comprising contacting the cell with a compound targeted to the GAA repeat of frataxin, thereby increasing expression of frataxin in the cell.
54. The method of claim 53, wherein the cell is in the CNS of an individual.
55. The method of claim 54, wherein the individual has, or is at risk of having, Friedreich's ataxia.
56. The method of any one of claims 50-55, wherein the compound is the compound of any one of claims 1-47 or composition of any of claims 48 and 49.
57. The method of claim 55 or 56, wherein the compound is administered to the CNS.
58. Use of a compound targeted to frataxin in the manufacture of a medicament for treating, preventing, or ameliorating a disease associated with frataxin.
59. The use of claim 58, wherein the compound is the compound of any one of claims 1-47 or composition of claim 48 or 49.
60. Use of a compound targeted to frataxin in the preparation of a medicament for treating, preventing, or ameliorating a disease associated with frataxin.
61. The use of claim 60, wherein the disease is Friedreich's ataxia.
62. The use of claim 58 or 60, wherein the compound is an antisense compound targeted to frataxin.
63. The use of any one of claims 58-62, wherein the compound is the compound of any one of claims 1-47 or composition of any of claims 48 and 49.