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(54) **Methods for treating psoriasis**

(57) The invention provides a method of treating psoriasis in a subject by administering to a subject an antibody capable of binding to the p40 subunit of IL- 12 and/or IL-23.

**EP 2 810 954 A2**

**Description****RELATED APPLICATIONS**

5 **[0001]** This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 61/069,840, filed on March 18, 2008; U.S. Provisional Application No. 61/095,275, filed on September 8, 2008; and U.S. Provisional Application No. 61/207,904, filed on February 18, 2009, the entire contents of each of which are incorporated herein by reference.

**SUBMISSION ON COMPACT DISC**

10 **[0002]** This application incorporates by reference the ASCII text file identified by the name SequenceListing.txt, containing 785KB of data, created on March 10, 2009 and filed in computer-readable format (CRF).

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

15 **[0003]** Psoriasis is a T cell-mediated inflammatory disease that is considered to be one of the most common autoimmune diseases, affecting approximately 2% to 3% of adults, though the global prevalence varies widely (Stem R.S., et al., J Investig Dermatol Symp Proc 2004, 9: 136-39; Davidson A and Diamond B. N Engl J Med 2001, 345: 340-50; Langley R.G.B., et al., Ann Rheum Dis 2005, 64(Suppl II): ii18-23). Psoriasis has a major impact on quality of life (de Korte J, et al., J Investing Dermatol Symp Proc 2004, 9: 140-7; Krueger G, et al., Arch Dermatol 2001, 137: 280-4; Finlay AY and Coles EC, Br J Dermatol 1995, 132: 236-44) and is associated with a number of psychological and psychosocial problems (Kimball AB, et al., Am J Clin Dermatol 2005, 6: 383-92; Russo PA, et al., Australas J Dermatol 2004, 45: 155-9). Many traditional psoriasis therapies have toxic adverse effects; therefore, their long-term use is limited (Lebwohl M. and Ali S., J Am Acad Dermatol 2001, 45: 487-98; Lebwohl M. and Ali S., J Am Acad Dermatol 2001, 45: 649-61).  
 20 In addition, many patients with psoriasis are dissatisfied with traditional therapies (Stem RS, et al., J Investig Dermatol Symp Proc 2004, 9: 136-39; Finlay AY and Ortonne JP, J Cutan Med Surg 2004, 8: 310-20); thus, there is a clear need for therapies that are safer and easier to use and that can be prescribed on a long-term basis.

25 **[0004]** Interleukin-12 (IL-12) and the related cytokine IL-23 are members of the IL-12 superfamily of cytokines that share a common p40 subunit (Anderson EJ, et al., Springer Semin Immunopathol 2006, 27: 425-42). Both cytokines contribute to the development of the type 1T helper cell (Th1) immune response in psoriasis, but each has a unique role (Rosmarin D and Strober BE, J Drugs Dermatol 2005, 4: 318-25; Hong K, et al., J Immunol 1999, 162: 7480-91; Yawalkar N, et al., J Invest Dermatol 1998, 111: 1053-57). IL-12 primarily stimulates differentiation of Th1 cells and subsequent secretion of interferon-gamma, whereas IL-23 preferentially stimulates differentiation of naïve T cells into effector T helper cells (Th17) that secrete IL-17, a proinflammatory mediator (Rosmarin D and Strober BE, J Drugs Dermatol 2005, 4: 318-25; Harrington Le, et al., Nature Immunol 2005, 6: 1123-32; Park H, et al. Nature Immunol 2005, 6: 1132-41).  
 30 The overexpression of IL-12 p40 and IL-23 p40 messenger RNA in psoriatic skin lesions suggests that the inhibition of IL-12 and IL-23 with a neutralizing antibody to the IL-12/23 p40 subunit protein may offer an effective therapeutic approach for the treatment of psoriasis (Yawalkar N, et al., J Invest Dermatol 1998, 111: 1053-57; Lee E, et al., J Exp Med 2004, 199: 125-30; Shaker OG, et al., Clin Biochem 2006, 39: 119-25; Piskin G, et al., J Immunol 2006, 176: 1908-15). Such therapeutic approaches for the treatment of psoriasis are clearly needed in the art.  
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**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

45 **[0005]** The present invention provides methods and compositions for treating psoriasis, e.g., chronic psoriasis, using an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, that binds human IL-12 and/or human IL-23.

**[0006]** In one aspect, the invention provides a method of treating psoriasis in a subject comprising administering to the subject an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, which is capable of binding to an epitope of the p40 subunit of IL-12 and/or IL-23, wherein the subject maintains at least a PASI 75 response for a first extended period following initial administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, wherein the subject exhibits a loss of response following discontinuation of administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, and wherein the subject maintains at least a PASI 75 response for a second extended period following re-administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, thereby treating psoriasis in the subject.

**[0007]** In one embodiment, the first extended period is at least about 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 or 14 weeks, and preferably 12 weeks.

55 **[0008]** In one embodiment, administration of the antibody is discontinued for at least about 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 or 14 weeks, and preferably 12 weeks.

**[0009]** In one embodiment, the second extended period is at least about 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 or 14 weeks, and preferably 12 weeks.

[0010] In one embodiment the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered biweekly. In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered weekly. In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered in a single dose.

[0011] In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered in a dose of about 100 mg, 110 mg, 120 mg, 130 mg, 140 mg, 150 mg, 160 mg, 170 mg, 180 mg, 190 mg, 200 mg, 210 or 220 mg.

[0012] In one embodiment, the psoriasis is chronic psoriasis. In one embodiment, the psoriasis is plaque psoriasis, *e.g.*, chronic plaque psoriasis. In another embodiment, the psoriasis is chronic psoriasis, *e.g.*, chronic plaque psoriasis. In yet another embodiment, the psoriasis is moderate to severe psoriasis, *e.g.*, moderate to severe plaque psoriasis, moderate to severe chronic psoriasis or moderate to severe chronic plaque psoriasis. In one embodiment, the subject has had a clinical diagnosis of psoriasis for at least 6 months. In another embodiment, the subject has had stable plaque psoriasis for at least 2 months.

[0013] In another aspect, the invention provides a method of treating psoriasis in a subject comprising administering to the subject a single dose of an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, which is capable of binding to an epitope of the p40 subunit of IL-12 and/or IL-23, wherein at least one pharmacokinetic characteristic selected from the group consisting of a half-life of at least about 3 days, a  $T_{max}$  of less than or equal to about 4 days, and a bioavailability of at least about 40% is achieved following administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof.

[0014] In various embodiments, a half life of at least about 2 days, 3 days, 4 days, 5 days, 6 days, 7 days, 8 days, 9 days or 10 days is achieved.

[0015] In various embodiments, a  $T_{max}$  of less than or equal to about 1 day, 2 days, 3 days, 4 days, 5 days, 6 days or more is achieved.

[0016] In various embodiments, a bioavailability of at least about 0.1%, 1%, 5%, 10%, 20%, 30%, 40%, 50%, 60%, 70%, 80% or more is achieved.

[0017] In one embodiment, the antibody is administered via intravenous injection.

[0018] In one embodiment, the antibody is administered via subcutaneous injection.

[0019] In one embodiment, the single dose is between about 0.1 and about 5.0 mg/kg (*e.g.*, about 0.1 to about 1.0 mg/kg, about 0.1 to about 2.0 mg/kg, about 0.1 to about 3.0 mg/kg, about 0.1 to about 4.0 mg/kg, about 1.0 to about 2.0 mg/kg, about 1.0 to about 3.0 mg/kg, about 1.0 to about 4.0 mg/kg or about 1.0 to about 5.0 mg/kg) of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof.

[0020] In another aspect, the invention provides a method of treating psoriasis in a subject comprising administering to the subject an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, which is capable of binding to an epitope of the p40 subunit of IL-12 and/or IL-23, wherein the subject maintains at least a PASI 75 response for a first extended period following initial administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, wherein the subject exhibits a loss of response following discontinuation of administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, and wherein the subject maintains at least a PASI 50 response for a second extended period following re-administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, thereby treating psoriasis in the subject.

[0021] In one embodiment, the first extended period is at least about 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 or 14 weeks, and preferably 12 weeks.

[0022] In one embodiment, administration of the antibody is discontinued for at least about 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 or 14 weeks, and preferably 12 weeks.

[0023] In one embodiment, the second extended period is at least about 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 or 14 weeks, and preferably 12 weeks.

[0024] In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered biweekly. In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered weekly.

[0025] In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered in a single dose. In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered in a dose of about 100 mg, 110 mg, 120 mg, 130 mg, 140 mg, 150 mg, 160 mg, 170 mg, 180 mg, 190 mg or 200 mg.

[0026] In one embodiment, the psoriasis is chronic psoriasis.

[0027] In another aspect, the invention provides a method of treating psoriasis in a subject comprising administering to the subject an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, which is capable of binding to an epitope of the p40 subunit of IL-12 and/or IL-23, wherein the subject maintains at least a PASI 75 response for a first extended period following initial administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, wherein the subject exhibits a loss of response following discontinuation of administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, and wherein the subject maintains a clear or minimal PGA score for a second extended period following re-administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, thereby treating psoriasis in the subject.

[0028] In one embodiment, the first extended period is at least about 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 or 14 weeks, and preferably 12 weeks.

[0029] In one embodiment, administration of the antibody is discontinued for at least about 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 or 14 weeks, and preferably 12 weeks.

[0030] In one embodiment, the second extended period is at least about 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 or 14 weeks, and preferably 12 weeks.

[0031] In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered biweekly. In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered weekly.

[0032] In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered in a single dose. In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered in a dose of about 100 mg, 110 mg, 120 mg, 130 mg, 140 mg, 150 mg, 160 mg, 170 mg, 180 mg, 190 mg or 200 mg.

[0033] In one embodiment, the psoriasis is chronic psoriasis.

[0034] In yet another aspect, the invention provides a method of treating psoriasis in a subject comprising administering to the subject a single dose of an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, which is capable of binding to an epitope of the p40 subunit of IL-12 and/or IL-23, wherein at least one pharmacokinetic characteristic selected from the group consisting of a maximum serum concentration ( $C_{max}$ ) of between about 0.15 and about 150  $\mu\text{g/mL}$  (e.g., between about 0.2 and about 140  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ , between about 0.5 and about 125  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ , between about 1.0 and about 100  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ , between about 10 and about 90  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ , between about 25 and about 75  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ , between about 35 and about 60  $\mu\text{g/mL}$  and between about 40 and about 50  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ ) and an area under the serum concentration-time curve (AUC) of between about 80 and about 13,000  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$  (e.g., between about 100 and about 12,000  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ , between about 150 and about 10,000  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ , between about 200 and about 8,000  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ , between about 400 and about 6,000  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ , between about 800 and about 4,000  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ , between about 1000 and about 2,000  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ , between about 145 and about 13,000  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ , and between about 80 and about 5,000  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ ) is achieved following administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof.

[0035] In one embodiment, the antibody is administered via intravenous injection.

[0036] In a preferred embodiment, the  $C_{max}$  is between about 1 and about 150  $\mu\text{g/mL}$  (e.g., between about 2 and about 125  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ , about 5 and about 100  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ , about 10 and about 80  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ , about 20 and about 60  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ , about 30 and about 50  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ , about 1 and about 20  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ , about 20 and about 300  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ , and about 140 and about 150  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ ).

[0037] In a preferred embodiment, the AUC is between about 145 and about 13,000  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$  (e.g., between about 200 and about 11,000  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ , about 500 and about 10,000  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ , about 1000 and about 5,000  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ , about 2000 and about 4000  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ , about 145 and about 165  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ , about 500 and about 600  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ , about 2000 and about 3000  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$  and about 12000 and about 13000  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ ).

[0038] In one embodiment, the antibody is administered via subcutaneous injection.

[0039] In a preferred embodiment, the  $C_{max}$  is between about 0.15 and about 20  $\mu\text{g/mL}$  (e.g., between about 0.25 and about 15  $\mu\text{g/mL}$  about 0.5 and about 13  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ , about 1 and about 10  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ , about 2 and about 8  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ , about 0.15 and about 0.3  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ , about 0.5 and about 2  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ , about 2 and about 4  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ , and about 10 and about 15  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ ).

[0040] In a preferred embodiment, the AUC is between about 80 and about 5000  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$  (e.g., between about 200 and 3000  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ , between about 400 and 2000  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ , between about 500 and 1500  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ , between about 4000 and 5000  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ , between about 80 and 90  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ , and between about 200 and 300  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ ).

[0041] In one embodiment, the single dose is between about 0.1 and about 5.0 mg/kg (e.g., about 0.1 to about 1.0 mg/kg, about 0.1 to about 2.0 mg/kg, about 0.1 to about 3.0 mg/kg, about 0.1 to about 4.0 mg/kg, about 1.0 to about 2.0 mg/kg, about 1.0 to about 3.0 mg/kg, about 1.0 to about 4.0 mg/kg or about 1.0 to about 5.0 mg/kg) of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof.

[0042] In another aspect, the invention provides a method of treating psoriasis in a subject comprising administering to the subject a single dose of an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, which is capable of binding to an epitope of the p40 subunit of IL-12 and/or IL-23, wherein at least one pharmacokinetic characteristic selected from the group consisting of a clearance (CL) of between about 30 and about 600 mL/hr (e.g., between about 50 and about 500 mL/hr, between about 75 and about 400 mL/hr, between about 100 and about 300 mL/hr, between about 150 and about 250 mL/hr, between about 30 and about 40 mL/hr, between about 40 and about 60 mL/hr and between about 500 and about 600 mL/hr), and a volume of distribution ( $V_z$ ) of between about 8 and about 11 L (e.g., between about 8 and about 10 L, between about 8 and about 9 L, between about 9 and about 10 L, between about 10 and about 11 L and between about 8.5 and 9.5 L) is achieved following intravenous administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof.

[0043] In a related aspect, the invention provides a method of treating psoriasis in a subject comprising administering to the subject a single dose of an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, which is capable of binding to an epitope of the p40 subunit of IL-12 and/or IL-23, wherein at least one pharmacokinetic characteristic selected from the group consisting of an apparent clearance (CL/F) of between about 90 and about 250 mL/hr (e.g., between about 100 and about 225 mL/hr, between about 125 and about 200 mL/hr, between about 140 and about 180 mL/hr, between about 90 and about 100 mL/hr, between about 150 and about 200 mL/hr, and between about 200 and about 250 mL/hr) and an apparent volume of distribution (V/F) of between about 23 and about 67 L (e.g., between about 25 and about 60 L, between about 30 and about 55 L, between about 35 and about 50 L, between about 40 and about 45 L, between about 23 and about 35 L and between about 60 and about 70 L) is achieved following subcutaneous administration of the

antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof.

**[0044]** In one embodiment, the single dose is between about 0.1 and about 5.0 mg/kg (e.g., about 0.1 to about 1.0 mg/kg, about 0.1 to about 2.0 mg/kg, about 0.1 to about 3.0 mg/kg, about 0.1 to about 4.0 mg/kg, about 1.0 to about 2.0 mg/kg, about 1.0 to about 3.0 mg/kg, about 1.0 to about 4.0 mg/kg or about 1.0 to about 5.0 mg/kg) of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof.

**[0045]** In another aspect, the invention provides a method of treating psoriasis in a subject comprising administering to the subject an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, which is capable of binding to an epitope of the p40 subunit of IL-12 and/or IL-23, wherein the subject exhibits a PASI 75 response following initial administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, wherein the subject exhibits a loss of response following discontinuation of administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, and wherein the subject exhibits at least a PASI 75 response by about 25 days following re-administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, thereby treating psoriasis in the subject.

**[0046]** In one embodiment, the subject exhibits at least a PASI 75 response by about 50 days following re-administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof. In one embodiment, the subject exhibits at least a PASI 75 response by about 60 days following re-administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof. In one embodiment, the subject exhibits at least a PASI 75 response by about 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90 or more days following re-administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof.

**[0047]** In one embodiment, initial administration of the antibody is for at least about 12 weeks.

**[0048]** In one embodiment, administration of the antibody is discontinued for at least about 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 or 12 weeks.

**[0049]** In one embodiment the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered biweekly. In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered weekly. In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered in a single dose.

**[0050]** In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered in a dose of about 100 mg, 110 mg, 120 mg, 130 mg, 140 mg, 150 mg, 160 mg, 170 mg, 180 mg, 190 mg or 200 mg.

**[0051]** In one embodiment, the psoriasis is chronic psoriasis.

**[0052]** In yet another aspect, the invention provides a method of treating psoriasis in a subject comprising administering to the subject an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, which is capable of binding to an epitope of the p40 subunit of IL-12 and/or IL-23, wherein the subject exhibits a PASI 75 response following initial administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, wherein the subject exhibits a loss of response by about 60 days following discontinuation of administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, and wherein the subject achieves a PASI 75 response following re-administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, thereby treating psoriasis in the subject.

**[0053]** In one embodiment, the subject exhibits a loss of response by about 120 days following discontinuation of administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof. In one embodiment, the subject exhibits a loss of response by about 180 days following discontinuation of administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof. In one embodiment, the subject exhibits a loss of response by about 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, 100, 110, 120, 130, 140, 150, 160, 170, 180, 190, 200 or more days following discontinuation of administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof.

**[0054]** In one embodiment, initial administration of the antibody is for at least about 12 weeks.

**[0055]** In one embodiment the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered biweekly. In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered weekly. In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered in a single dose.

**[0056]** In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered in a dose of about 100 mg, 110 mg, 120 mg, 130 mg, 140 mg, 150 mg, 160 mg, 170 mg, 180 mg, 190 mg or 200 mg.

**[0057]** In one embodiment, the psoriasis is chronic psoriasis.

**[0058]** In another aspect, the invention provides a method of treating psoriasis in a subject comprising administering to a subject a biweekly, weekly or single dose of an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, directed against human IL-12 and/or human IL-23. In a related aspect, the invention provides a method of treating psoriasis in a subject comprising the steps of: (i) selecting a subject who is suffering from chronic psoriasis; and (ii) administering to the subject an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, which is capable of binding to an epitope of the p40 subunit of IL-12 and/or IL-23; thereby treating chronic psoriasis in the subject.

**[0059]** In another related aspect, the invention provides a method of treating psoriasis in a subject comprising administering to the subject an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, which is capable of binding to an epitope of the p40 subunit of IL-12 and/or IL-23, wherein the subject maintains at least a PASI 50 response, at least a PASI 75 response or at least a PASI 90 response for an extended period following discontinuation of administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, thereby treating psoriasis in the subject.

**[0060]** In yet another aspect, the invention provides a method of treating psoriasis in a subject comprising administering to the subject an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, which is capable of binding to an epitope of the p40 subunit

of IL-12 and/or IL-23 to the subject, wherein the subject maintains a clear or minimal PGA rating for an extended period following initial administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, thereby treating psoriasis in the subject.

**[0061]** In a still further aspect, the invention provides a method of treating psoriasis in a subject comprising administering to the subject an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, which is capable of binding to an epitope of the p40 subunit of IL-12 and/or IL-23 to the subject, wherein the subject exhibits an improved PASI score by about 8 weeks following initial administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, thereby treating psoriasis in the subject. In one embodiment, the subject exhibits an improved PASI score by about 7 weeks, about 6 weeks, about 5 weeks, about 4 weeks, about 3 weeks, about 2 weeks or about 1 week following initial administration of the antibody, or antigen binding portion thereof.

**[0062]** In one embodiment, the extended period following discontinuation of administration of the antibody is at least about 12 weeks. In one embodiment, the extended period is at least about 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 or 24 weeks. In one embodiment, the antibody is administered for at least about 12 weeks.

**[0063]** In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, used in the methods of the invention is capable of binding to an epitope of the p40 subunit of IL-12.

**[0064]** In another embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is capable of binding to the epitope of the p40 subunit when the p40 subunit is bound to the p35 subunit of IL-12. In yet another embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is capable of binding to the epitope of the p40 subunit when the p40 subunit is bound to a p19 subunit. In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is capable of binding to the epitope of the p40 subunit when the p40 subunit is bound to the p35 subunit of IL-12 and when the p40 subunit is bound to a p19 subunit.

**[0065]** In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen binding portion thereof, binds to an epitope of the p40 subunit of IL-12 to which an antibody selected from the group consisting of Y61 and J695 binds.

**[0066]** In another embodiment, the antibody is further capable of binding to a first heterodimer and is also capable of binding to a second heterodimer, wherein the first heterodimer comprises the p40 subunit of IL-12 and the p35 subunit of IL-12, and wherein the second heterodimer comprises the p40 subunit of IL-12 and a p19 subunit.

**[0067]** In a further embodiment, the antibody neutralizes the activity of the first heterodimer. In another embodiment, the antibody neutralizes the activity of the second heterodimer. In yet another embodiment, the antibody neutralizes the activity of the first heterodimer and the second heterodimer.

**[0068]** In a further embodiment, the antibody, or antigen binding portion thereof, used in the methods of the invention inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* PHA assay with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-9}$  M or less, or which inhibits human  $IFN\gamma$  production with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-10}$  M or less.

**[0069]** In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen binding portion thereof, used in the methods of the invention dissociates from the p40 subunit of IL-12 with a  $K_d$  of  $1 \times 10^{-10}$  M or less or a  $k_{off}$  rate constant of  $1 \times 10^{-3}$  s<sup>-1</sup> or less, as determined by surface plasmon resonance.

**[0070]** In one embodiment, the isolated antibody, or antigen binding portion thereof, used in the methods of the invention is a chimeric antibody, a humanized antibody or a human antibody.

**[0071]** In another embodiment, the antibody, or antigen binding portion thereof, used in the methods of the invention has a heavy chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 25 and a light chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 26;

**[0072]** In a further embodiment, the antibody, or antigen binding portion thereof, used in the methods of the invention has a heavy chain CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 27 and a light chain CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 28.

**[0073]** In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen binding portion thereof, used in the methods of the invention has a heavy chain CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 29 and a light chain CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 30.

**[0074]** In another embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, used in the methods of the invention is capable of binding to an interleukin comprising a p40 subunit. In one embodiment, the interleukin comprises a p40 subunit and a p35 subunit, *e.g.*, the interleukin is IL-12. In another embodiment, the interleukin comprises a p40 subunit and a p19 subunit. In yet another embodiment, the antibody, or antigen binding portion thereof, neutralizes the activity of the interleukin.

**[0075]** In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen binding portion thereof, binds to an epitope of the p40 subunit.

**[0076]** In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered to a subject in a pharmaceutical composition comprising the antibody, or antigen binding portion thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. The pharmaceutical composition may also comprise an additional agent, such as a therapeutic agent, *e.g.*, budenoside, epidermal growth factor, corticosteroids, cyclosporin, sulfasalazine, aminosaliclates, 6-mercaptopurine, azathioprine, metronidazole, lipoxxygenase inhibitors, mesalamine, olsalazine, balsalazide, antioxidants, thromboxane inhibitors, IL-1 receptor antagonists, anti-IL-1 $\beta$  monoclonal antibodies, anti-IL-6 monoclonal antibodies, growth factors, elastase inhibitors, pyridinyl-imidazole compounds, antibodies or agonists of TNF, LT, IL-1, IL-2, IL-6, IL-7, IL-8, IL-15,

IL-16, IL-18, EMAP-II, GM-CSF, FGF, and PDGF, antibodies of CD2, CD3, CD4, CD8, CD25, CD28, CD30, CD40, CD45, CD69, CD90 or their ligands, methotrexate, cyclosporin, FK506, rapamycin, mycophenolate mofetil, leflunomide, NSAIDs, ibuprofen, corticosteroids, prednisolone, phosphodiesterase inhibitors, adenosine agonists, antithrombotic agents, complement inhibitors, adrenergic agents, IRAK, NIK, IKK, p38, MAP kinase inhibitors, IL-1 $\beta$  converting enzyme inhibitors, TNF $\alpha$  converting enzyme inhibitors, T-cell signalling inhibitors, metalloproteinase inhibitors, sulfasalazine, azathioprine, 6-mercaptopurines, angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors, soluble cytokine receptors, soluble p55 TNF receptor, soluble p75 TNF receptor, sIL-1RI, sIL-1RII, sIL-6R, antiinflammatory cytokines, IL-4, IL-10, IL-11, IL-13 and TGF $\beta$ .

**[0077]** In another embodiment, the therapeutic agent in the pharmaceutical composition administered to the subject may be selected from the group consisting of anti-TNF antibodies and antibody fragments thereof, TNFR-Ig constructs, TACE inhibitors, PDE4 inhibitors, corticosteroids, budenoside, dexamethasone, sulfasalazine, 5-aminosalicylic acid, olsalazine, IL-1 $\beta$  converting enzyme inhibitors, IL-1ra, tyrosine kinase inhibitors, 6-mercaptopurines and IL-11.

**[0078]** In another embodiment, the therapeutic agent may be selected from the group consisting of corticosteroids, prednisolone, methylprednisolone, azathioprine, cyclophosphamide, cyclosporine, methotrexate, 4-aminopyridine, tizanidine, interferon- $\beta$ 1a, interferon- $\beta$ 1b, Copolymer 1, hyperbaric oxygen, intravenous immunoglobulin, clabribine, antibodies or agonists of TNF, LT, IL-1, IL-2, IL-6, IL-7, IL-8, IL-15, IL-16, IL-18, EMAP-II, GM-CSF, FGF, PDGF, antibodies to CD2, CD3, CD4, CD8, CD25, CD28, CD30, CD40, CD45, CD69, CD80, CD86, CD90 or their ligands, methotrexate, cyclosporine, FK506, rapamycin, mycophenolate mofetil, leflunomide, NSAIDs, ibuprofen, corticosteroids, prednisolone, phosphodiesterase inhibitors, adenosine agonists, antithrombotic agents, complement inhibitors, adrenergic agents, IRAK, NIK, IKK, p38 or MAP kinase inhibitors, IL-1 $\beta$  converting enzyme inhibitors, TACE inhibitors, T-cell signalling inhibitors, kinase inhibitors, metalloproteinase inhibitors, sulfasalazine, azathioprine, 6-mercaptopurines, angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors, soluble cytokine receptors, soluble p55 TNF receptor, soluble p75 TNF receptor, sIL-1RI, sIL-1RII, sIL-6R, sIL-13R, anti-P7s, p-selectin glycoprotein ligand (PSGL), antiinflammatory cytokines, IL-4, IL-10, IL-13 and TGF $\beta$ .

**[0079]** In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, used in the methods of the invention binds to human IL-12 and/or human IL-23 and dissociates from human IL-12 and/or human IL-23, respectively, with a  $K_d$  of  $1 \times 10^{-10}$  M or less and a  $k_{off}$  rate constant of  $1 \times 10^{-3}$  s $^{-1}$  or less, as determined by surface plasmon resonance. In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, dissociates from human IL-12 and/or human IL-23 with a  $k_{off}$  rate constant of  $1 \times 10^{-4}$  s $^{-1}$  or less. In another embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, dissociates from human IL-12 and/or human IL-23 with a  $k_{off}$  rate constant of  $1 \times 10^{-5}$  s $^{-1}$  or less.

**[0080]** In another embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, binds to human IL-12 and/or human IL-23 and dissociates from human IL-12 and/or human IL-23, respectively, with a  $k_{off}$  rate constant of  $1 \times 10^{-2}$  s $^{-1}$  or less, as determined by surface plasmon resonance. In yet another embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, dissociates from human IL-12 and/or human IL-23 with a  $k_{off}$  rate constant of  $1 \times 10^{-3}$  s $^{-1}$  or less. In a still further another embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, dissociates from human IL-12 and/or human IL-23 with a  $k_{off}$  rate constant of  $1 \times 10^{-4}$  s $^{-1}$  or less. In another embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, dissociates from human IL-12 and/or human IL-23 with a  $k_{off}$  rate constant of  $1 \times 10^{-5}$  s $^{-1}$  or less.

**[0081]** In still another embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, binds to human IL-12 and/or human IL-23 and dissociates from human IL-12 and/or human IL-23, respectively, with a  $K_d$  of  $1.34 \times 10^{-10}$  M or less. In yet another embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, binds to human IL-12 and/or human IL-23 and dissociates from human IL-12 and/or human IL-23, respectively, with a  $K_d$  of  $9.74 \times 10^{-11}$  M or less. In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is a recombinant antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof.

**[0082]** In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, used in the methods of the invention is a neutralizing antibody, e.g., neutralizes the activity of human IL-12 and/or human IL-23. In one embodiment, the neutralizing antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* PHA assay with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-9}$  M or less. In another embodiment, the neutralizing antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* PHA assay with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-10}$  M or less. In still another embodiment, the neutralizing antibody of, or antigen-binding portion thereof, inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* PHA assay with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-11}$  M or less. In yet another embodiment, the neutralizing antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation assay (PHA assay) with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-7}$  M or less. In still another embodiment, the neutralizing antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* PHA assay with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-8}$  M or less. In one embodiment, the neutralizing antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, inhibits human IFN $\gamma$  production with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-10}$  M or less. In still another embodiment, the neutralizing antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, inhibits human IFN $\gamma$  production with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-11}$  M or less. In yet a further embodiment, the neutralizing antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, inhibits human IFN $\gamma$  production with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $5 \times 10^{-12}$  M or less.

**[0083]** In one embodiment, the antibody, or an antigen-binding portion thereof, used in the methods of the invention

a) inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* PHA assay with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-9}M$  or less;  
 b) has a heavy chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ NO: 25; and  
 c) has a light chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 26. In one embodiment, the antibody further has a heavy chain CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 27; and a light chain CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 28. In still another embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, further has a heavy chain CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 29; and a light chain CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 30. In still another embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, further inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* PHA assay with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-10} M$  or less. In still another embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, further inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* PHA assay with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-11} M$  or less.

**[0084]** In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, used in the methods of the invention has a heavy chain variable region comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 31, and a light chain variable region comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 32.

**[0085]** In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, used in the methods of the invention comprises a heavy chain constant region selected from the group consisting of IgG1, IgG2, IgG3, IgG4, IgM, IgA and IgE constant regions. In one embodiment, the antibody heavy chain constant region is IgG1. In another embodiment, the antibody is a Fab fragment,  $F(ab')_2$  fragment, or a single chain Fv fragment.

**[0086]** In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, used in the methods of the invention dissociates from human IL-12 and/or human IL-23 with a  $K_d$  of  $1 \times 10^{-10} M$  or less and binds to an epitope on the p40 subunit of human IL-12 and/or human IL-23.

**[0087]** In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, used in the methods of the invention is a human antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, which

a) dissociates from human IL-12 with a  $k_{off}$  rate constant of  $1 \times 10^{-3} s^{-1}$  or less, as determined by surface plasmon resonance;  
 b) has a heavy chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 25; and  
 c) has a light chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 26.

**[0088]** In another embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, used in the methods of the invention dissociates from human IL-12 with a  $k_{off}$  rate constant of  $1 \times 10^{-4} s^{-1}$  or less. In a further embodiment, the human antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, dissociates from human IL-12 with a  $k_{off}$  rate constant of  $1 \times 10^{-5} s^{-1}$  or less.

**[0089]** In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, used in the methods of the invention is a human antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, that binds to human IL-12 and comprises:

a light chain CDR3 domain comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 26; and  
 a heavy chain CDR3 domain comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 25.

**[0090]** In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, has a light chain variable region (LCVR) having a CDR3 domain comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 26, and has a heavy chain variable region (HCVR) having a CDR3 domain comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 25. In another embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, comprises an LCVR further having a CDR2 domain comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 28 and an HCVR further comprising a CDR2 domain comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 27. In yet another embodiment, the LCVR further has CDR1 domain comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 30 and the HCVR has a CDR1 domain comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 29.

**[0091]** In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, binds human IL-12 and/or human IL-23 and is the antibody J695 (also referred to as ABT-874), or an antigen binding portion thereof.

**[0092]** In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, binds to human IL-12 and/or human IL-23 and dissociates from human IL-12 with a  $K_d$  of  $1.34 \times 10^{-10}M$  or less, and neutralizes human IL-12 and/or human IL-23. In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, dissociates from human IL-12 and/or human IL-23 with a  $K_d$  of  $9.74 \times 10^{-11} M$  or less. In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* PHA assay with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-7} M$  or less. In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* PHA assay with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-8} M$  or less. In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* PHA assay with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-9} M$  or less. In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* PHA assay with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-10}M$  or less. In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* PHA assay with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-11}M$  or less. In one embodiment, the antibody,

or antigen-binding portion thereof, inhibits human IFN $\gamma$  production with an IC<sub>50</sub> of 1 x 10<sup>-10</sup> M or less. In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, inhibits human IFN $\gamma$  production with an IC<sub>50</sub> of 1 x 10<sup>-11</sup> M or less. In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, inhibits human IFN $\gamma$  production with an IC<sub>50</sub> of 5 x 10<sup>-12</sup> M or less.

5 [0093] In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, used in the methods of the invention inhibits IL-12 and/or IL-23 binding to its receptor in an IL-12 or IL-23 receptor binding assay (RBA), respectively, with an IC<sub>50</sub> of 1 x 10<sup>-9</sup> M or less. In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, inhibits IL-12 and/or IL-23 binding to its receptor in an IL-12 or IL-23 receptor binding assay (RBA), respectively, with an IC<sub>50</sub> of 1 x 10<sup>-10</sup> M or less. In one embodiment, the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, inhibits IL-12 and/or IL-23 binding to its receptor in an IL-12 or IL-23 receptor binding assay (RBA), respectively, with an IC<sub>50</sub> of 1 x 10<sup>-11</sup> M or less.

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

### [0094]

15 Figure 1 shows the patient disposition of the trial. (The term "eow" refers to every other week dosing.)

Figure 2 shows the percentage of patients with at least a 75% improvement in the psoriasis area and severity index (PASI 75) during the 12-week portion of the trial. By week 8, with the exception of the 200 mg x 1 group, the percentage of patients who had a PASI 75 response was statistically significantly greater (p<0.001) in each ABT-874 treatment group for each comparison with placebo based on an analysis of variance of observed data for the intention-to-treat population. (The term "eow" refers to every other week dosing.)

20 Figure 3 shows the mean percentage improvement in psoriasis area and severity index (PASI) scores from baseline. The data show that \*p<0.001 for each ABT-874 treatment group compared with placebo at all time points (except 100 mg eow at week 1, p=0.023) based on an analysis of variance of observed data for the intention-to-treat population. (The term "eow" refers to every other week dosing.)

25 Figures 4A-C show the percentage of patients who maintained a PASI 50, PASI 75 and PASI 90 response, respectively, at week 24 of the trial, *i.e.*, at 12 weeks following discontinuation of administration of the antibody.

Figure 4D shows the percentage of patients maintaining a PASI 75 response over time during the 24 week period of the trial.

30 Figure 5A displays the mean percentage improvement from baseline in PASI scores from Week 4 to Week 12.

Figure 5B displays the mean percentage improvement from baseline in PASI scores from Week 4 to Week 12 post retreatment.

Figure 6A displays the serum concentration-time curve for IV dosing of ABT-874.

Figure 6B displays the serum concentration-time curve for SC dosing of ABT-874.

35 Figure 7A displays the percentage of patients re-achieving a PASI 75 response following retreatment.

Figure 7B displays the median time to achieve a PASI 75 response across all ABT-874 dosage groups during retreatment.

Figure 7C displays the median time to loss of a PASI 75 response following the initial 12 weeks of treatment.

Figure 7D displays the percentage of patients achieving a PGA score of 0 or 1 following retreatment.

40 Figures 8A-8B show the heavy chain variable region amino acid sequence alignments of a series of human antibodies that bind human IL-12 compared to germline sequences Cos-3/JH3 and Dp118 Lv1042. Kabat numbering is used to identify amino acid positions. For the Joe 9 wild type, the full sequence is shown. For the other antibodies, only those amino acids positions that differ from Joe 9 wild type are shown.

45 Figures 8C-8D show the light chain variable region amino acid sequence alignments of a series of human antibodies that bind human IL-12. Kabat numbering is used to identify amino acid positions. For the Joe 9 wild type, the full sequence is shown. For the other antibodies, only those amino acids positions that differ from Joe 9 wild type are shown.

50 Figures 9A-9E show the CDR positions in the heavy chain of the Y61 antibody that were mutated by site-directed mutagenesis and the respective amino acid substitutions at each position. The graphs at the right of the figures show the off-rates for the substituted antibodies (black bars) as compared to unmutated Y61 (open bar).

Figures 9F-9H show the CDR positions in the light chain of the Y61 antibody that were mutated by site-directed mutagenesis and the respective amino acid substitutions at each position. The graphs at the right of the figures show the off-rates for the substituted antibodies (black bars) as compared to unmutated Y61 (open bar).

## 55 DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0095] In order that the present invention may be more readily understood, certain terms are first defined.

[0096] The term "activity enhancing amino acid residue" includes an amino acid residue which improves the activity

of the antibody. It should be understood that the activity enhancing amino acid residue may replace an amino acid residue at a contact, hypermutation or preferred selective mutagenesis position and, further, more than one activity enhancing amino acid residue can be present within one or more CDRs. An activity enhancing amino acid residue include, an amino acid residue that improves the binding specificity/affinity of an antibody, for example anti-human IL-12 antibody binding to human IL-12. The activity enhancing amino acid residue is also intended to include an amino acid residue that improves the neutralization potency of an antibody, for example, the human IL-12 antibody which inhibits human IL-12.

**[0097]** The term "antibody" includes an immunoglobulin molecule comprised of four polypeptide chains, two heavy (H) chains and two light (L) chains inter-connected by disulfide bonds. Each heavy chain is comprised of a heavy chain variable region (abbreviated herein as HCVR or VH) and a heavy chain constant region. The heavy chain constant region is comprised of three domains, CH1, CH2 and CH3. Each light chain is comprised of a light chain variable region (abbreviated herein as LCVR or VL) and a light chain constant region. The light chain constant region is comprised of one domain, CL. The VH and VL regions can be further subdivided into regions of hypervariability, termed complementarity determining regions (CDRs), interspersed with regions that are more conserved, termed framework regions (FR). Each VH and VL is composed of three CDRs and four FRs, arranged from amino-terminus to carboxy-terminus in the following order: FR1, CDR1, FR2, CDR2, FR3, CDR3, FR4. In one embodiment, the antibody used in the compositions and methods of the invention is the antibody described in U.S. Patent No. 6,914,128, incorporated by reference herein. In another embodiment, the antibody used in the compositions and methods of the invention is the antibody ABT-874 (also referred to as J695; Abbott Laboratories).

**[0098]** The term "antigen-binding portion" of an antibody (or "antibody portion") includes fragments of an antibody that retain the ability to specifically bind to an antigen (e.g., hIL-12). It has been shown that the antigen-binding function of an antibody can be performed by fragments of a full-length antibody. Examples of binding fragments encompassed within the term "antigen-binding portion" of an antibody include (i) a Fab fragment, a monovalent fragment consisting of the VL, VH, CL and CH1 domains; (ii) a F(ab')<sub>2</sub> fragment, a bivalent fragment comprising two Fab fragments linked by a disulfide bridge at the hinge region; (iii) a Fd fragment consisting of the VH and CH1 domains; (iv) a Fv fragment consisting of the VL and VH domains of a single arm of an antibody, (v) a dAb fragment (Ward et al., (1989) Nature 341:544-546), which consists of a VH domain; and (vi) an isolated complementarity determining region (CDR). Furthermore, although the two domains of the Fv fragment, VL and VH, are coded for by separate genes, they can be joined, using recombinant methods, by a synthetic linker that enables them to be made as a single protein chain in which the VL and VH regions pair to form monovalent molecules (known as single chain Fv (scFv); see e.g., Bird et al. (1988) Science 242:423-426; and Huston et al. (1988) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 85:5879-5883). Such single chain antibodies are also intended to be encompassed within the term "antigen-binding portion" of an antibody. Other forms of single chain antibodies, such as diabodies are also encompassed. Diabodies are bivalent, bispecific antibodies in which VH and VL domains are expressed on a single polypeptide chain, but using a linker that is too short to allow for pairing between the two domains on the same chain, thereby forcing the domains to pair with complementary domains of another chain and creating two antigen binding sites (see e.g., Holliger, P., et al. (1993) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 90:6444-6448; Poljak, R.J., et al. (1994) Structure 2:1121-1123). Still further, an antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof may be part of a larger immunoadhesion molecules, formed by covalent or non-covalent association of the antibody or antibody portion with one or more other proteins or peptides. Examples of such immunoadhesion molecules include use of the streptavidin core region to make a tetrameric scFv molecule (Kipriyanov, S.M., et al. (1995) Human Antibodies and Hybridomas 6:93-101) and use of a cysteine residue, a marker peptide and a C-terminal polyhistidine tag to make bivalent and biotinylated scFv molecules (Kipriyanov, S.M., et al. (1994) Mol. Immunol. 31:1047-1058). Antibody portions, such as Fab and F(ab')<sub>2</sub> fragments, can be prepared from whole antibodies using conventional techniques, such as papain or pepsin digestion, respectively, of whole antibodies. Moreover, antibodies, antibody portions and immunoadhesion molecules can be obtained using standard recombinant DNA techniques, as described herein. Preferred antigen binding portions are complete domains or pairs of complete domains.

**[0099]** The term "backmutation " refers to a process in which some or all of the somatically mutated amino acids of a human antibody are replaced with the corresponding germline residues from a homologous germline antibody sequence. The heavy and light chain sequences of the human antibody of the invention are aligned separately with the germline sequences in the VBASE database to identify the sequences with the highest homology. Differences in the human antibody of the invention are returned to the germline sequence by mutating defined nucleotide positions encoding such different amino acid. The role of each amino acid thus identified as candidate for backmutation should be investigated for a direct or indirect role in antigen binding and any amino acid found after mutation to affect any desirable characteristic of the human antibody should not be included in the final human antibody; as an example, activity enhancing amino acids identified by the selective mutagenesis approach will not be subject to backmutation. To minimize the number of amino acids subject to backmutation those amino acid positions found to be different from the closest germline sequence but identical to the corresponding amino acid in a second germline sequence can remain, provided that the second germline sequence is identical and colinear to the sequence of the human antibody of the invention for at least 10,

preferably 12 amino acids, on both sides of the amino acid in question. Backmutation may occur at any stage of antibody optimization; preferably, backmutation occurs directly before or after the selective mutagenesis approach. More preferably, backmutation occurs directly before the selective mutagenesis approach.

5 [0100] The phrase "human interleukin 12" (abbreviated herein as hIL-12, or IL-12), as used herein, includes a human cytokine that is secreted primarily by macrophages and dendritic cells. The term includes a heterodimeric protein comprising a 35 kD subunit (p35) and a 40 kD subunit (p40) which are both linked together with a disulfide bridge. The heterodimeric protein is referred to as a "p70 subunit". The structure of human IL-12 is described further in, for example, Kobayashi, et al. (1989) J. Exp Med. 170:827-845; Seder, et al. (1993) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 90:10188-10192; Ling, et al. (1995) J. Exp Med. 154:116-127; Podlaski, et al. (1992) Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 294:230-237. The term human IL-12 is intended to include recombinant human IL-12 (rh IL-12), which can be prepared by standard recombinant expression methods.

10 [0101] The terms "Kabat numbering", "Kabat definitions and "Kabat labeling" are used interchangeably herein. These terms, which are recognized in the art, refer to a system of numbering amino acid residues which are more variable (i.e. hypervariable) than other amino acid residues in the heavy and light chain variable regions of an antibody, or an antigen binding portion thereof (Kabat et al. (1971) Ann. NY Acad. Sci. 190:382-391 and , Kabat, E.A., et al. (1991) Sequences of Proteins of Immunological Interest, Fifth Edition, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, NIH Publication No. 91-3242). For the heavy chain variable region, the hypervariable region ranges from amino acid positions 31 to 35 for CDR1, amino acid positions 50 to 65 for CDR2, and amino acid positions 95 to 102 for CDR3. For the light chain variable region, the hypervariable region ranges from amino acid positions 24 to 34 for CDR1, amino acid positions 50 to 56 for CDR2, and amino acid positions 89 to 97 for CDR3.

20 [0102] The Kabat numbering is used herein to indicate the positions of amino acid modifications made in antibodies of the invention. For example, the Y61 anti-IL-12 antibody can be mutated from serine (S) to glutamic acid (E) at position 31 of the heavy chain CDR1 (H31S → E), or glycine (G) can be mutated to tyrosine (Y) at position 94 of the light chain CDR3 (L94G → Y).

25 [0103] The term "human antibody" includes antibodies having variable and constant regions corresponding to human germline immunoglobulin sequences as described by Kabat *et al.* (See Kabat, et al. (1991) Sequences of Proteins of Immunological Interest, Fifth Edition, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, NIH Publication No. 91-3242). The human antibodies of the invention may include amino acid residues not encoded by human germline immunoglobulin sequences (e.g., mutations introduced by random or site-specific mutagenesis *in vitro* or by somatic mutation *in vivo*), for example in the CDRs and in particular CDR3. The mutations preferably are introduced using the "selective mutagenesis approach" described herein. The human antibody can have at least one position replaced with an amino acid residue, e.g., an activity enhancing amino acid residue which is not encoded by the human germline immunoglobulin sequence. The human antibody can have up to twenty positions replaced with amino acid residues which are not part of the human germline immunoglobulin sequence. In other embodiments, up to ten, up to five, up to three or up to two positions are replaced. In a preferred embodiment, these replacements are within the CDR regions as described in detail below. However, the term "human antibody", as used herein, is not intended to include antibodies in which CDR sequences derived from the germline of another mammalian species, such as a mouse, have been grafted onto human framework sequences.

30 [0104] The phrase "recombinant human antibody" includes human antibodies that are prepared, expressed, created or isolated by recombinant means, such as antibodies expressed using a recombinant expression vector transfected into a host cell (described further in Section II, below), antibodies isolated from a recombinant, combinatorial human antibody library (described further in Section III, below), antibodies isolated from an animal (e.g., a mouse) that is transgenic for human immunoglobulin genes (see e.g., Taylor, L.D., et al. (1992) Nucl. Acids Res. 20:6287-6295) or antibodies prepared, expressed, created or isolated by any other means that involves splicing of human immunoglobulin gene sequences to other DNA sequences. Such recombinant human antibodies have variable and constant regions derived from human germline immunoglobulin sequences (See Kabat, E.A., et al. (1991) Sequences of Proteins of Immunological Interest, Fifth Edition, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, NIH Publication No. 91-3242). In certain embodiments, however, such recombinant human antibodies are subjected to *in vitro* mutagenesis (or, when an animal transgenic for human Ig sequences is used, *in vivo* somatic mutagenesis) and thus the amino acid sequences of the VH and VL regions of the recombinant antibodies are sequences that, while derived from and related to human germline VH and VL sequences, may not naturally exist within the human antibody germline repertoire *in vivo*. In certain embodiments, however, such recombinant antibodies are the result of selective mutagenesis approach or backmutation or both.

35 [0105] An "isolated antibody" includes an antibody that is substantially free of other antibodies having different antigenic specificities (e.g., an isolated antibody that specifically binds hIL-12 is substantially free of antibodies that specifically bind antigens other than hIL-12). An isolated antibody that specifically binds hIL-12 may bind IL-12 molecules from other species (discussed in further detail below). Moreover, an isolated antibody may be substantially free of other cellular material and/or chemicals.

**[0106]** A "neutralizing antibody" (or an "antibody that neutralized hIL-12 activity") includes an antibody whose binding to hIL-12 results in inhibition of the biological activity of hIL-12. This inhibition of the biological activity of hIL-12 can be assessed by measuring one or more indicators of hIL-12 biological activity, such as inhibition of human phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in a phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation assay (PHA), or inhibition of receptor binding in a human IL-12 receptor binding assay (see Example 3-Interferon-gamma Induction Assay of US Patent No. 6,914,128). These indicators of hIL-12 biological activity can be assessed by one or more of several standard *in vitro* or *in vivo* assays known in the art (see Example 3 of US Patent No. 6,914,128).

**[0107]** The term "activity" includes activities such as the binding specificity/affinity of an antibody for an antigen, for example, an anti-hIL-12 antibody that binds to an IL-12 antigen and/or the neutralizing potency of an antibody, for example, an anti-hIL-12 antibody whose binding to hIL-12 inhibits the biological activity of hIL-12, e.g. inhibition of PHA blast proliferation or inhibition of receptor binding in a human IL-12 receptor binding assay (see Example 3 of US Patent No. 6,914,128).

**[0108]** The phrase "surface plasmon resonance" includes an optical phenomenon that allows for the analysis of real-time biospecific interactions by detection of alterations in protein concentrations within a biosensor matrix, for example using the BIAcore system (Pharmacia Biosensor AB, Uppsala, Sweden and Piscataway, NJ). For further descriptions, see Example 5 of US Patent No. 6,914,128 and Jönsson, U., et al. (1993) *Ann. Biol. Clin.* 51:19-26; Jönsson, U., et al. (1991) *Biotechniques* 11:620-627; Johnson, B., et al. (1995) *J. Mol. Recognit.* 8:125-131; and Johnson, B., et al. (1991) *Anal. Biochem.* 198:268-277.

**[0109]** The term " $K_{off}$ ", as used herein, is intended to refer to the off rate constant for dissociation of an antibody from the antibody/antigen complex.

**[0110]** The term " $K_d$ ", as used herein, is intended to refer to the dissociation constant of a particular antibody-antigen interaction.

**[0111]** The phrase "nucleic acid molecule" includes DNA molecules and RNA molecules. A nucleic acid molecule may be single-stranded or double-stranded, but preferably is double-stranded DNA.

**[0112]** The phrase "isolated nucleic acid molecule", as used herein in reference to nucleic acids encoding antibodies or antibody portions (e.g., VH, VL, CDR3) that bind hIL-12 including "isolated antibodies"), includes a nucleic acid molecule in which the nucleotide sequences encoding the antibody or antibody portion are free of other nucleotide sequences encoding antibodies or antibody portions that bind antigens other than hIL-12, which other sequences may naturally flank the nucleic acid in human genomic DNA. Thus, for example, an isolated nucleic acid of the invention encoding a VH region of an anti-IL-12 antibody contains no other sequences encoding other VH regions that bind antigens other than IL-12. The phrase "isolated nucleic acid molecule" is also intended to include sequences encoding bivalent, bispecific antibodies, such as diabodies in which VH and VL regions contain no other sequences other than the sequences of the diabody.

**[0113]** The term "vector" includes a nucleic acid molecule capable of transporting another nucleic acid to which it has been linked. One type of vector is a "plasmid", which refers to a circular double stranded DNA loop into which additional DNA segments may be ligated. Another type of vector is a viral vector, wherein additional DNA segments may be ligated into the viral genome. Certain vectors are capable of autonomous replication in a host cell into which they are introduced (e.g., bacterial vectors having a bacterial origin of replication and episomal mammalian vectors). Other vectors (e.g., non-episomal mammalian vectors) can be integrated into the genome of a host cell upon introduction into the host cell, and thereby are replicated along with the host genome. Moreover, certain vectors are capable of directing the expression of genes to which they are operatively linked. Such vectors are referred to herein as "recombinant expression vectors" (or simply, "expression vectors"). In general, expression vectors of utility in recombinant DNA techniques are often in the form of plasmids. In the present specification, "plasmid" and "vector" may be used interchangeably as the plasmid is the most commonly used form of vector. However, the invention is intended to include such other forms of expression vectors, such as viral vectors (e.g., replication defective retroviruses, adenoviruses and adeno-associated viruses), which serve equivalent functions.

**[0114]** The phrase "recombinant host cell" (or simply "host cell") includes a cell into which a recombinant expression vector has been introduced. It should be understood that such terms are intended to refer not only to the particular subject cell but to the progeny of such a cell. Because certain modifications may occur in succeeding generations due to either mutation or environmental influences, such progeny may not, in fact, be identical to the parent cell, but are still included within the scope of the term "host cell" as used herein.

**[0115]** The term "modifying", as used herein, is intended to refer to changing one or more amino acids in the antibodies or antigen-binding portions thereof. The change can be produced by adding, substituting or deleting an amino acid at one or more positions. The change can be produced using known techniques, such as PCR mutagenesis.

**[0116]** The phrase "contact position" includes an amino acid position of in the CDR1, CDR2 or CDR3 of the heavy chain variable region or the light chain variable region of an antibody which is occupied by an amino acid that contacts antigen in one of the twenty-six known antibody-antigen structures. If a CDR amino acid in any of the 26 known solved structures of antibody-antigen complexes contacts the antigen, then that amino acid can be considered to occupy a

contact position. Contact positions have a higher probability of being occupied by an amino acid which contact antigen than noncontact positions. Preferably a contact position is a CDR position which contains an amino acid that contacts antigen in greater than 3 of the 26 structures (>11.5 %). Most preferably a contact position is a CDR position which contains an amino acid that contacts antigen in greater than 8 of the 25 structures (>32%).

5 **[0117]** The term "hypermutation position" includes an amino acid residue that occupies position in the CDR1, CDR2 or CDR3 region of the heavy chain variable region or the light chain variable region of an antibody that is considered to have a high frequency or probability for somatic hypermutation during *in vivo* affinity maturation of the antibody. "High frequency or probability for somatic hypermutation" includes frequencies or probabilities of a 5 to about 40% chance that the residue will undergo somatic hypermutation during *in vivo* affinity maturation of the antibody. It should be understood that all ranges within this stated range are also intended to be part of this invention, e.g., 5 to about 30%, e.g., 5 to about 15%, e.g., 15 to about 30%.

10 **[0118]** The term "preferred selective mutagenesis position" includes an amino acid residue that occupies a position in the CDR1, CDR2 or CDR3 region of the heavy chain variable region or the light chain variable region which can be considered to be both a contact and a hypermutation position.

15 **[0119]** The phrase "selective mutagenesis approach" includes a method of improving the activity of an antibody by selecting and individually mutating CDR amino acids at at least one preferred selective mutagenesis position, hypermutation, and/or contact position. A "selectively mutated" human antibody is an antibody which contains a mutation at a position selected using a selective mutagenesis approach. In another embodiment, the selective mutagenesis approach is intended to provide a method of preferentially mutating selected individual amino acid residues in the CDR1, CDR2 or CDR3 of the heavy chain variable region (hereinafter H1, H2, and H3, respectively), or the CDR1, CDR2 or CDR3 of the light chain variable region (hereinafter referred to as L1, L2, and L3, respectively) of an antibody. Amino acid residues may be selected from preferred selective mutagenesis positions, contact positions, or hypermutation positions. Individual amino acids are selected based on their position in the light or heavy chain variable region. It should be understood that a hypermutation position can also be a contact position. In an embodiment, the selective mutagenesis approach is a "targeted approach". The language "targeted approach" is intended to include a method of preferentially mutating selected individual amino acid residues in the CDR1, CDR2 or CDR3 of the heavy chain variable region or the CDR1, CDR2 or CDR3 of the light chain variable region of an antibody in a targeted manner, e.g., a "Group-wise targeted approach" or "CDR-wise targeted approach". In the "Group-wise targeted approach", individual amino acid residues in particular groups are targeted for selective mutations including groups I (including L3 and H3), II (including H2 and L1) and III (including L2 and H1), the groups being listed in order of preference for targeting. In the "CDR-wise targeted approach", individual amino acid residues in particular CDRs are targeted for selective mutations with the order of preference for targeting as follows: H3, L3, H2, L1, H1 and L2. The selected amino acid residue is mutated, e.g., to at least two other amino acid residues, and the effect of the mutation on the activity of the antibody is determined. Activity is measured as a change in the binding specificity/affinity of the antibody, and/or neutralization potency of the antibody. It should be understood that the selective mutagenesis approach can be used for the optimization of any antibody derived from any source including phage display, transgenic animals with human IgG germline genes, human antibodies isolated from human B-cells. Preferably, the selective mutagenesis approach is used on antibodies which can not be optimized further using phage display technology. It should be understood that antibodies from any source including phage display, transgenic animals with human IgG germline genes, human antibodies isolated from human B-cells can be subject to backmutation prior to or after the selective mutagenesis approach.

25 **[0120]** The term "activity enhancing amino acid residue" includes an amino acid residue which improves the activity of the antibody. It should be understood that the activity enhancing amino acid residue may replace an amino acid residue at a preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact position, or a hypermutation position and, further, more than one activity enhancing amino acid residue can be present within one or more CDRs. An activity enhancing amino acid residue include, an amino acid residue that improves the binding specificity/affinity of an antibody, for example anti-human IL-12 antibody binding to human IL-12. The activity enhancing amino acid residue is also intended to include an amino acid residue that improves the neutralization potency of an antibody, for example, the human IL-12 antibody which inhibits human IL-12.

30 **[0121]** The term " $C_{max}$ " refers to the maximum or peak serum or plasma concentration of an agent observed in a subject after its administration.

35 **[0122]** The term " $T_{max}$ " refers to the time at which  $C_{max}$  occurred.

40 **[0123]** The term "bioavailability" or "F%" refers to a fraction or percent of a dose which is absorbed and enters the systemic circulation after administration of a given dosage form. The dose of the agent may be administered through any route, and, preferably, via intravenous or subcutaneous injection.

45 **[0124]** The term "dosing", as used herein, refers to the administration of a substance (e.g., an anti-IL-12, anti-IL-23 antibody) to achieve a therapeutic objective (e.g., the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis).

50 **[0125]** The terms "biweekly dosing regimen", "biweekly dosing", and "biweekly administration", as used herein, refer to the time course of administering a substance (e.g., an anti-IL-12, anti-IL-23 antibody) to a subject to achieve a

therapeutic objective, wherein the time course is every other week (eow). The biweekly dosing regimen is not intended to include a weekly dosing regimen. Preferably, the substance is administered every 9-19 days, more preferably, every 11-17 days, even more preferably, every 13-15 days, and most preferably, every 14 days.

**[0126]** The term "combination" as in the phrase "a first agent in combination with a second agent" includes co-administration of a first agent and a second agent, which for example may be dissolved or intermixed in the same pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, or administration of a first agent, followed by the second agent, or administration of the second agent, followed by the first agent. The present invention, therefore, includes methods of combination therapeutic treatment and combination pharmaceutical compositions.

**[0127]** The term "concomitant" as in the phrase "concomitant therapeutic treatment" includes administering an agent in the presence of a second agent. A concomitant therapeutic treatment method includes methods in which the first, second, third, or additional agents are co-administered. A concomitant therapeutic treatment method also includes methods in which the first or additional agents are administered in the presence of a second or additional agents, wherein the second or additional agents, for example, may have been previously administered. A concomitant therapeutic treatment method may be executed step-wise by different actors. For example, one actor may administer to a subject a first agent and a second actor may administer to the subject a second agent, and the administering steps may be executed at the same time, or nearly the same time, or at distant times, so long as the first agent (and additional agents) are administered in the presence of the second agent (and additional agents). The actor and the subject may be the same entity (e.g., human).

**[0128]** The term "combination therapy", as used herein, refers to the administration of two or more therapeutic substances, e.g., an anti-IL-12, anti-IL-23 antibody and another drug. The other drug(s) may be administered concomitant with, prior to, or following the administration of an anti-IL-12, anti-IL-23 antibody.

**[0129]** The term "kit" as used herein refers to a packaged product comprising components with which to administer the anti-IL-12, anti-IL-23 antibody of the invention for treatment of a IL-12 related disorder. The kit preferably comprises a box or container that holds the components of the kit. The box or container is affixed with a label or a Food and Drug Administration approved protocol. The box or container holds components of the invention which are preferably contained within plastic, polyethylene, polypropylene, ethylene, or propylene vessels. The vessels can be capped-tubes or bottles. The kit can also include instructions for administering an anti-IL-12, anti-IL-23 antibody.

**[0130]** Various aspects of the invention are described in further detail in the following subsections.

#### I. Human Antibodies that Bind Human IL-12

**[0131]** This invention provides methods and compositions for using human antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, that bind to human IL-12 for the treatment of psoriasis. The invention also includes methods and compositions for using an antibody which binds both IL-12 and IL-23. Preferably, the human antibodies used in the invention are recombinant, neutralizing human anti-hIL-12 antibodies.

**[0132]** In one embodiment, the antibody used in the invention is the antibody ABT-874 (see US Patent No. 6,914,128). ABT-874 is a fully human antibody against interleukin 12 (IL-12) and IL-23. It binds with great affinity to the p40 subunit common to both IL-12 and IL-23, validated targets in the treatment of psoriasis (Ps).

**[0133]** Antibodies that bind to human IL-12 can be selected, for example, by screening one or more human  $V_L$  and  $V_H$  cDNA libraries with hIL-12, such as by phage display techniques as described in Example 1 of US Patent No. 6,914,128. Screening of human  $V_L$  and  $V_H$  cDNA libraries initially identified a series of anti-IL-12 antibodies of which one antibody, referred to herein as "Joe 9" (or "Joe 9 wild type"), was selected for further development. Joe 9 is a relatively low affinity human IL-12 antibody (e.g., a  $K_{off}$  of about  $0.1 \text{ sec}^{-1}$ ), yet is useful for specifically binding and detecting hIL-12. The affinity of the Joe 9 antibody was improved by conducting mutagenesis of the heavy and light chain CDRs, producing a panel of light and heavy chain variable regions that were "mixed and matched" and further mutated, leading to numerous additional anti-hIL-12 antibodies with increased affinity for hIL-12 (see Example 1, table 2 of US Patent No. 6,914,128 (see table 2 of Appendix A attached hereto)) and the sequence alignments of Figures 1A-D of US Patent No. 6,914,128 (see Figure 8A-D herein).

**[0134]** Of these antibodies, the human anti-hIL-12 antibody referred to herein as Y61 demonstrated a significant improvement in binding affinity (e.g., a  $K_{off}$  of about  $2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ sec}^{-1}$ ). The Y61 anti-hIL-12 antibody was selected for further affinity maturation by individually mutating specific amino acids residues within the heavy and light chain CDRs. Amino acids residues of Y61 were selected for site-specific mutation (selective mutagenesis approach) based on the amino acid residue occupying a preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact and/or a hypermutation position. A summary of the substitutions at selected positions in the heavy and light chain CDRs is shown in Figures 2A-2H of US Patent No. 6,914,128 (Figures 9A-H herein). A preferred recombinant neutralizing antibody of the invention, referred to herein as J695 (also referred to as ABT-874 (Abbott Laboratories)), resulted from a Gly to Tyr substitution at position 50 of the light chain CDR2 of Y61, and a Gly to Tyr substitution at position 94 of the light chain CDR3 of Y61.

**[0135]** Amino acid sequence alignments of the heavy and light chain variable regions of a panel of anti-IL-12 antibodies

## EP 2 810 954 A2

used in the invention, on the lineage from Joe 9 wild type to J695, are shown in Figures 1A-1D of US Patent No. 6,914,128 (Figures 8A-D herein). These sequence alignments allowed for the identification of consensus sequences for preferred heavy and light chain variable regions of antibodies of the invention that bind hIL-12, as well as consensus sequences for the CDR3, CDR2, and CDR1, on the lineage from Joe 9 to J695. Moreover, the Y61 mutagenesis analysis summarized in Figures 2A-2H of US 6,914,128 (Figures 9A-H herein) allowed for the identification of consensus sequences for heavy and light chain variable regions that bind hIL-12, as well as consensus sequences for the CDR3, CDR2, and CDR1 that bind hIL-12 on the lineage from Y61 to J695 that encompasses sequences with modifications from Y61 yet that retain good hIL-12 binding characteristics. Preferred CDR, VH and VL sequences of the invention (including consensus sequences) as identified by sequence identifiers in the attached Sequence Listing, are summarized below.

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SEQID NO:	ANTIBODY CHAIN	REGION	SEQUENCE
1	Consensus Joe 9 to J695	CDR H3	(H/S)-G-S-(HY)-D-(N/T/Y)
2	Consensus Joe 9 to J695	CDR L3	Q-(S/T)-Y-(D/E)-(S/R/K)-(S/G/Y)-(L/F/T/S)-(R/S/T/W/H)-(G/P)-(S/T/A/L)-(R/S/M/T/L)-(V/I/I/T/M/L)
3	Consensus Joe 9 to J695	CDR H2	F-I-R-Y-D-G-S-N-K-Y-A-D-S-V-K-G
4	Consensus Joe 9 to J695	CDR L2	(G/Y)-N-(D/S)-(Q/N)-R-P-S
5	Consensus Joe 9 to J695	CDR H1	F-T-F-S-(S/E)-Y-G-M-H
6	Consensus Joe 9 to J695	CDR L1	(S/T)-G-(G/S)-(R/S)-S-N-I-(G/N)-(S/A)-(N/G/Y)-(T-/D)-V-(K/H)
7	Consensus Joe 9 to J695	VH	(full VH sequence; see sequence listing)
8	Consensus Joe 9 to J695	VL	(full VL sequence; see sequence listing)
9	Consensus Y61 to J695	CDR H3	H-(G/M/C/H)-(S/T)-(H/T/V/R/I)-(D/S)-(N/K/A/T/S/F/W/H)
10	Consensus Y61 to J695	CDR L3	Q-S-Y-(D/S)-(Xaa)-(G/D/Q/L/F/R/H/N/Y)-T-H-P-A-L-L
11	Consensus Y61 to J695	CDR H2	(F/T/Y)-I-(R/A)-Y-(D/S/E/A)-(G/R)-S-(Xaa)-K-(Y/E)-Y-A-D-S-V-K-G
12	Consensus Y61 to J695	CDR L2	(G/Y/S/T/N/Q)-N-D-Q-R-P-S
13	Consensus Y61 to J695	CDR H1	F-T-F-(Xaa)-(Xaa)-(Y/H)-(G/M/A/N/S)-M-H
14	Consensus Y61 to J695	CDR L1	S-G-G-R-S-N-I-G-(S/C/R/N/D/T)-(N/M/I)-(T/Y/D/H/K/P)-V-K
15	Consensus Y61 to J695	VH	(full VH sequence; see sequence listing)
16	Consensus Y61 to J695	VL	(full VL sequence; see sequence listing)
17	Y61	CDR H3	H-G-S-H-D-N
18	Y61	CDR L3	Q-S-Y-D-R-G-T-H-P-A-L-L
19	Y61	CDR H2	F-I-R-Y-D-G-S-N-K-Y-A-D-S-V-K-G
20	Y61	CDR L2	G-N-D-Q-R-P-S
21	Y61	CDR H1	F-T-F-S-S-Y-G-M-H
22	Y61	CDR L1	S-G-G-R-S-N-I-G-S-N-T-V-K
23	Y61	VH	(full VH sequence; see sequence listing)
24	Y61	VL	(full VL sequence; see sequence listing)
25	J695	CDR H3	H-G-S-H-D-N
26	J695	CDR L3	Q-S-Y-D-R-Y-T-H-P-A-L-L

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SEQID NO:	ANTIBODY CHAIN	REGION	SEQUENCE
27	J695	CDR H2	F-I-R-Y-D-G-S-N-K-Y-Y-A-D-S-V-K-G
28	J695	CDR L2	Y-N-D-Q-R-P-S
29	J695	CDR H1	F-T-F-S-Y-G-M-H
30	J695	CDR L1	S-G-S-R-S-N-I-G-S-N-T-V-K
31	J695	VH	(full VH sequence; see sequence listing)
32	J695	VL	(full VL sequence; see sequence listing)

**[0136]** Antibodies produced from affinity maturation of Joe 9 wild type were functionally characterized by surface plasmon resonance analysis to determine the  $K_d$  and  $K_{off}$  rate. A series of antibodies were produced having a  $K_{off}$  rate within the range of about  $0.1 \text{ s}^{-1}$  to about  $1 \times 10^{-5} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , and more preferably a  $K_{off}$  of about  $1 \times 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$  to  $1 \times 10^{-5} \text{ s}^{-1}$  or less. Antibodies were also characterized *in vitro* for their ability to inhibit phytohemagglutinin (PHA) blast proliferation, as described in Example 3 of US Patent No. 6,914,128. A series of antibodies were produced having an  $IC_{50}$  value in the range of about  $1 \times 10^{-6} \text{ M}$  to about  $1 \times 10^{-11} \text{ M}$ , more preferably about  $1 \times 10^{-10} \text{ M}$  to  $1 \times 10^{-11} \text{ M}$  or less.

**[0137]** Accordingly, in one aspect, the invention provides methods and compositions for using an isolated human antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, that binds to human IL-12 and dissociates from human IL-12 with a  $K_{off}$  rate constant of  $0.1 \text{ s}^{-1}$  or less, as determined by surface plasmon resonance, or which inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation assay (PHA assay) with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-6} \text{ M}$  or less. In preferred embodiments, the isolated human IL-12 antibody, or an antigen-binding portion thereof, dissociates from human IL-12 with a  $K_{off}$  rate constant of  $1 \times 10^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$  or less, or inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* PHA assay with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-7} \text{ M}$  or less. In more preferred embodiments, the isolated human IL-12 antibody, or an antigen-binding portion thereof, dissociates from human IL-12 with a  $K_{off}$  rate constant of  $1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$  or less, or inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* PHA assay with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-8} \text{ M}$  or less. In more preferred embodiments, the isolated human IL-12 antibody, or an antigen-binding portion thereof, dissociates from human IL-12 with a  $K_{off}$  rate constant of  $1 \times 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$  or less, or inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* PHA assay with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-9} \text{ M}$  or less. In more preferred embodiments, the isolated human IL-12 antibody, or an antigen-binding portion thereof, dissociates from human IL-12 with a  $K_{off}$  rate constant of  $1 \times 10^{-5} \text{ s}^{-1}$  or less, or inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* PHA assay with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-10} \text{ M}$  or less. In even more preferred embodiments, the isolated human IL-12 antibody, or an antigen-binding portion thereof, dissociates from human IL-12 with a  $K_{off}$  rate constant of  $1 \times 10^{-5} \text{ s}^{-1}$  or less, or inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* PHA assay with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-11} \text{ M}$  or less.

**[0138]** The dissociation rate constant ( $K_{off}$ ) of an IL-12 antibody can be determined by surface plasmon resonance (see Example 5 of US Patent No. 6,914,128). Generally, surface plasmon resonance analysis measures real-time binding interactions between ligand (recombinant human IL-12 immobilized on a biosensor matrix) and analyte (antibodies in solution) by surface plasmon resonance (SPR) using the BIAcore system (Pharmacia Biosensor, Piscataway, NJ). Surface plasmon analysis can also be performed by immobilizing the analyte (antibodies on a biosensor matrix) and presenting the ligand (recombinant IL-12 in solution). Neutralization activity of IL-12 antibodies, or antigen binding portions thereof, can be assessed using one or more of several *suitable in vitro* assays (see Example 3 of US Patent No. 6,914,128).

**[0139]** It is well known in the art that antibody heavy and light chain CDRs play an important role in the binding specificity/affinity of an antibody for an antigen. Accordingly, the invention encompasses human antibodies having light and heavy chain CDRs of Joe 9, as well as other antibodies having CDRs that have been modified to improve the binding specificity/affinity of the antibody. As demonstrated in Example 1 of US Patent No. 6,914,128, a series of modifications to the light and heavy chain CDRs results in affinity maturation of human anti-hIL-12 antibodies. The heavy and light chain variable region amino acid sequence alignments of a series of human antibodies ranging from Joe 9 wild type to J695 that bind human IL-12 is shown in Figures 1A-1D of US Patent No. 6,914,128 (Figures 8A-D herein). Consensus sequence motifs for the CDRs of antibodies can be determined from the sequence alignment. For example, a consensus motif for the VH CDR3 of the lineage from Joe 9 to J695 comprises the amino acid sequence: (H/S)-G-S-(H/Y)-D-(N/T/Y) (SEQ ID NO: 1), which encompasses amino acids from position 95 to 102 of the consensus HCVR shown in SEQ ID NO: 7. A consensus motif for the VL CDR3 comprises the amino acid sequence: Q-(S/T)-Y-(D/E)-(S/R/K)-(S/G/Y)-(L/F/T/S)-(R/S/T/W/H)-(G/P)-(S/T/A/L)-(R/S/M/T/L-V/I/T/M/L) (SEQ ID NO: 2), which encompasses amino acids from position 89 to 97 of the consensus LCVR shown in SEQ ID NO: 8.

**[0140]** Accordingly, in another aspect, the invention provides methods and compositions comprising an isolated human antibody, or an antigen-binding portion thereof, which has the following characteristics:

- a) inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* PHA assay with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-6} \text{ M}$  or less;
- b) has a heavy chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1; and
- c) has a light chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

**[0141]** In a preferred embodiment, the antibody further comprises a VH CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence: F-I-R-Y-D-G-S-N-K-Y-Y-A-D-S-V-K-G (SEQ ID NO: 3) (which encompasses amino acids from position 50 to 65 of the consensus HCVR comprising the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO: 7) and further comprises a VL CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence: (G/Y)-N-(D/S)-(Q/N)-R-P-S (SEQ ID NO: 4) (which encompasses amino acids from position 50 to 56 of the consensus LCVR comprising the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO: 8).

**[0142]** In another preferred embodiment, the antibody further comprises a VH CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence: F-T-F-S-(S/E)-Y-G-M-H (SEQ ID NO: 5) (which encompasses amino acids from position 27 to 35 of the consensus HCVR comprising the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO: 7) and further comprises a VL CDR1 comprising the

amino acid sequence: (S/T)-G-(G/S)-(R/S)-S-N-I-(G/V)-(S/A)-(N/G/Y)-(T/D)-V-(K/H) (SEQ ID NO: 6) (which encompasses amino acids from position 24 to 34 of the consensus LCVR comprising the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO: 8).

**[0143]** In yet another preferred embodiment, the antibody used in the invention comprises a HCVR comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 7 and a LCVR comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8.

**[0144]** Additional consensus motifs can be determined based on the mutational analysis performed on Y61 that led to the J695 antibody (summarized in Figures 2A-2H of US Patent No. 6,914,128; Figures 9A-H herein). As demonstrated by the graphs shown in Figures 2A-2H of US Patent No. 6,914,128 (Figures 9A-H herein), certain residues of the heavy and light chain CDRs of Y61 were amenable to substitution without significantly impairing the hIL-12 binding properties of the antibody. For example, individual substitutions at position 30 in CDR H1 with twelve different amino acid residues did not significantly reduce the  $K_{off}$  rate of the antibody, indicating that this position is amenable to substitution with a variety of different amino acid residues. Thus, based on the mutational analysis (i.e., positions within Y61 that were amenable to substitution by other amino acid residues) consensus motifs were determined. The consensus motifs for the heavy and light chain CDR3s are shown in SEQ ID NOs: 9 and 10, respectively, consensus motifs for the heavy and light chain CDR2s are shown in SEQ ID NOs: 11 and 12, respectively, and consensus motifs for the heavy and light chain CDR1s are shown in SEQ ID NOs: 13 and 14, respectively. Consensus motifs for the VH and VL regions are shown in SEQ ID NOs: 15 and 16, respectively.

**[0145]** Accordingly, in one aspect, the invention includes an isolated human antibody, or an antigen-binding portion thereof, which has the following characteristics:

- a) inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* PHA assay with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-9}$  M or less;
- b) has a heavy chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 9; and
- c) has a light chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 10.

**[0146]** In a preferred embodiment, the antibody further comprises a VH CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 11 and further comprises a VL CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 12.

**[0147]** In another preferred embodiment, the antibody further comprises a VH CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 13 and further comprises a VL CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 14.

**[0148]** In yet another preferred embodiment, the antibody used in the invention comprises a HCVR comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 15 and a LCVR comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 16.

**[0149]** A preferred antibody used in the invention, the human anti-hIL-12 antibody Y61, can be produced by affinity maturation of Joe 9 wild type by PCR mutagenesis of the CDR3 (as described in Example 1 of US Patent No. 6,914,128). Y61 had an improved specificity/binding affinity determined by surface plasmon resonance and by *in vitro* neutralization assays. The heavy and light chain CDR3s of Y61 are shown in SEQ ID NOs: 17 and 18, respectively, the heavy and light chain CDR2s of Y61 are shown in SEQ ID NOs: 19 and 20, respectively, and the heavy and light chain CDR1s of Y61 are shown in SEQ ID NOs: 21 and 22, respectively. The VH of Y61 has the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 23 and the VL of Y61 has the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 24 (these sequences are also shown in Figures 1A-1D of US Patent No. 6,914,128 (Figures 8A-D herein) aligned with Joe9).

**[0150]** Accordingly, in another aspect, the invention features use of an isolated human antibody, or an antigen-binding portion thereof, which

- a) inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* PHA assay with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-9}$  M or less;
- b) has a heavy chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 17; and
- c) has a light chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 18.

**[0151]** In a preferred embodiment, the isolated human antibody, or an antigen-binding portion thereof, used in the methods and compositions of the invention has a heavy chain CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 19 and a light chain CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 20.

**[0152]** In another preferred embodiment, the isolated human antibody, or an antigen-binding portion thereof, used in the methods and compositions of the invention, has a heavy chain CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 21 and a light chain CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 22.

**[0153]** In yet another preferred embodiment, the isolated human antibody, or an antigen-binding portion thereof, used in the methods and compositions of the invention comprising a the heavy chain variable region comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 23, and a light chain variable region comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 24.

**[0154]** In certain embodiments, the full length antibody comprises a heavy chain constant region, such as IgG1, IgG2, IgG3, IgG4, IgM, IgA and IgE constant regions, and any allotypic variant therein as described in Kabat (Kabat, E.A., et al. (1991) Sequences of Proteins of Immunological Interest, Fifth Edition, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, NIH Publication No. 91-3242). Preferably, the antibody heavy chain constant region is an IgG1 heavy chain constant region. Alternatively, the antibody portion can be an Fab fragment, an  $F(ab')_2$  fragment or a single chain Fv fragment.

[0155] Modifications of individual residues of Y61 led to the production of a panel of antibodies shown in Figures 2A-2H of US Patent No. 6,914,128 (Figures 9A-H herein). The specificity/binding affinity of each antibody was determined by surface plasmon resonance and/or by *in vitro* neutralization assays.

[0156] Accordingly, in another aspect, the invention features an isolated human antibody, or an antigen-binding portion thereof, which

- a) inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* PHA assay with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-9}$  M or less;
- b) has a heavy chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 404-SEQ ID NO: 469; and
- c) has a light chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 534-SEQ ID NO: 579.

[0157] In preferred embodiment, the isolated human antibody, or an antigen-binding portion thereof, used in the methods and compositions of the invention has a heavy chain CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:335-SEQ ID NO: 403; and a light chain CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 506-SEQ ID NO: 533.

[0158] In another preferred embodiment, the isolated human antibody, or an antigen-binding portion thereof, has a heavy chain CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 288-SEQ ID NO: 334; and a light chain CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 470-SEQ ID NO: 505.

[0159] In yet another preferred embodiment, the isolated human antibody, or an antigen-binding portion thereof, comprising a the heavy chain variable region comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 23, and a light chain variable region comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 24.

[0160] In certain embodiments, the full length antibody comprising a heavy chain constant region such as IgG1, IgG2, IgG3, IgG4, IgM, IgA and IgE constant regions and any allotypic variant therein as described in Kabat (, Kabat, E.A., et al. (1991) Sequences of Proteins of Immunological Interest, Fifth Edition, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, NIH Publication No. 91-3242). Preferably, the antibody heavy chain constant region is an IgG1 heavy chain constant region. Alternatively, the antibody portion can be a Fab fragment, an F(ab'<sub>2</sub>) fragment or a single chain Fv fragment.

[0161] A particularly preferred recombinant, neutralizing antibody, J695, which may be used in the invention was produced by site-directed mutagenesis of contact and hypermutation amino acids residues of antibody Y61 (see Example 2 of US Patent No. 6,914,128 and section III below). J695 differs from Y61 by a Gly to Tyr substitution in Y61 at position 50 of the light chain CDR2 and by a Gly to Tyr substitution at position 94 of the light chain CDR3. The heavy and light chain CDR3s of J695 are shown in SEQ ID NOs: 25 and 26, respectively, the heavy and light chain CDR2s of J695 are shown in SEQ ID NOs: 27 and 28, respectively, and the heavy and light chain CDR1s of J695 are shown in SEQ ID NOs: 29 and 30, respectively. The VH of J695 has the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 31 and the VL of J695 has the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 32 (these sequences are also shown in Figures 1A-1D of US Patent No. 6,914,128 (Figures 8A-D herein), aligned with Joe9).

[0162] Accordingly, in another aspect, the invention features an isolated human antibody, or an antigen-binding portion thereof, which a) inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* PHA assay with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-9}$  M or less; b) has a heavy chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 25; and c) has a light chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 26.

[0163] In preferred embodiment, the isolated human antibody, or an antigen-binding portion thereof, used in the invention has a heavy chain CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 27, and a light chain CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 28.

[0164] In another preferred embodiment, the isolated human antibody, or an antigen-binding portion thereof, used in the invention has a heavy chain CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 29, and a light chain CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 30.

[0165] In yet another preferred embodiment, the isolated human antibody, or an antigen-binding portion thereof, used in the invention has a heavy chain variable region comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ NO: 31, and a light chain variable region comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 32.

[0166] In certain embodiments, the full length antibody comprises a heavy chain constant region, such as IgG1, IgG2, IgG3, IgG4, IgM, IgA and IgE constant regions and any allotypic variant therein as described in Kabat (, Kabat, E.A., et al. (1991) Sequences of Proteins of Immunological Interest, Fifth Edition, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, NIH Publication No. 91-3242). Preferably, the antibody heavy chain constant region is an IgG1 heavy chain constant region. Alternatively, the antibody portion can be an Fab fragment, an F(ab'<sub>2</sub>) fragment or a single chain Fv fragment.

[0167] Additional mutations in the preferred consensus sequences for CDR3, CDR2, and CDR1 of antibodies on the lineage from Joe 9 to J695, or from the lineage Y61 to J695, can be made to provide additional anti-IL-12 antibodies of the invention. Such methods of modification can be performed using standard molecular biology techniques, such as

by PCR mutagenesis, targeting individual contact or hypermutation amino acid residues in the light chain and/or heavy chain CDRs-, followed by kinetic and functional analysis of the modified antibodies as described herein (e.g., neutralization assays described in Example 3 of US Patent No. 6,914,128, and by BIAcore analysis, as described in Example 5 of US Patent No. 6,914,128).

5 **[0168]** Accordingly, in another aspect the invention features use of an isolated human antibody, or an antigen-binding portion thereof, which

- a) inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* PHA assay with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-6}$  M or less;
- 10 b) comprises a heavy chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, a heavy chain CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 and a heavy chain CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5, or a mutant thereof having one or more amino acid substitutions at a preferred selective mutagenesis position or a hypermutation position, wherein said mutant has a  $k_{off}$  rate no more than 10-fold higher than the antibody comprising a heavy chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, a heavy chain CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3, and a heavy chain CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5; and
- 15 c) comprises a light chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, a light chain CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4, and a light chain CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 6, or a mutant thereof having one or more amino acid substitutions at a preferred selective mutagenesis position or a hypermutation position, wherein said mutant has a  $k_{off}$  rate no more than 10-fold higher than the antibody comprising a light chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, a light chain CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4, and a light chain CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 6.

25 **[0169]** In another aspect the invention features use of an isolated human antibody, or an antigen-binding portion thereof, which

- a) inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* PHA assay with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-9}$  M or less;
- 30 b) comprises a heavy chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 9, a heavy chain CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 11 and a heavy chain CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 13, or a mutant thereof having one or more amino acid substitutions at a preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact position or a hypermutation position, wherein said mutant has a  $k_{off}$  rate no more than 10-fold higher than the antibody comprising a heavy chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 9, a heavy chain CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 11, and a heavy chain CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 13; and
- 35 c) comprises a light chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 10, a light chain CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 12, and a light chain CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 14, or a mutant thereof having one or more amino acid substitutions at a preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact position or a hypermutation position, wherein said mutant has a  $k_{off}$  rate no more than 10-fold higher than the antibody comprising a light chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 10, a light chain CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 12, and a light chain CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 14.

45 **[0170]** An ordinarily skilled artisan will also appreciate that additional mutations to the CDR regions of an antibody, for example in Y61 or in J695, can be made to provide additional anti-IL-12 antibodies of the invention. Such methods of modification can be performed using standard molecular biology techniques, as described above. The functional and kinetic analysis of the modified antibodies can be performed as described in Example 3 of US Patent No. 6,914,128 and Example 5 of US Patent No. 6,914,128, respectively. Modifications of individual residues of Y61 that led to the identification of J695 are shown in Figures 2A-2H of US Patent No. 6,914,128 (Figures 9A-H herein) and are described in Example 2 of US Patent No. 6,914,128.

50 **[0171]** Accordingly, in another aspect the invention features use of an isolated human antibody, or an antigen-binding portion thereof, which

- a) inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* PHA assay with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-9}$  M or less;
- 55 b) comprises a heavy chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 17, a heavy chain CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 19 and a heavy chain CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 21, or a mutant thereof having one or more amino acid substitutions at a preferred selective mutagenesis position or a hypermutation position, wherein said mutant has a  $k_{off}$  rate no more than 10-fold higher than the antibody comprising a heavy chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 17, a heavy chain

CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 19, and a heavy chain CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 21; and

c) comprises a light chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 18, a light chain CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 20, and a light chain CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 22, or a mutant thereof having one or more amino acid substitutions at a preferred selective mutagenesis position or a hypermutation position, wherein said mutant has a  $k_{off}$  rate no more than 10-fold higher than the antibody comprising a light chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 18, a light chain CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 20, and a light chain CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 22.

**[0172]** In another aspect the invention features use of an isolated human antibody, or an antigen-binding portion thereof, which

a) inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* PHA assay with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-9}$  M or less;

b) comprises a heavy chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 25, a heavy chain CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 27 and a heavy chain CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ NO: 29, or a mutant thereof having one or more amino acid substitutions at a preferred selective mutagenesis position or a hypermutation position, wherein said mutant has a  $k_{off}$  rate no more than 10-fold higher than the antibody comprising a heavy chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 25, a heavy chain CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 27, and a heavy chain CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 29; and

c) comprises a light chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 26, a light chain CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 28, and a light chain CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 30, or a mutant thereof having one or more amino acid substitutions at a preferred selective mutagenesis position or a hypermutation position, wherein said mutant has a  $k_{off}$  rate no more than 10-fold higher than the antibody comprising a light chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 26, a light chain CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 28, and a light chain CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 30.

**[0173]** In yet another embodiment, the invention provides use of an isolated human antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, that neutralize the activity of human IL-12, and at least one additional primate IL-12 selected from the group consisting of baboon IL-12, marmoset IL-12, chimpanzee IL-12, cynomolgus IL-12 and rhesus IL-12, but which do not neutralize the activity of the mouse IL-12.

## II Selection of Recombinant Human Antibodies

**[0174]** Recombinant human antibodies which may be used in the invention can be isolated by screening of a recombinant combinatorial antibody library, preferably a scFv phage display library, prepared using human VL and VH cDNAs prepared from mRNA derived from human lymphocytes. Methods for identifying antibodies which may be used in the methods and compositions of the invention are described in US Patent No. 6,914,128, incorporated by reference herein. Methodologies for preparing and screening such libraries are known in the art. In addition to commercially available kits for generating phage display libraries (*e.g.*, the Pharmacia *Recombinant Phage Antibody System*, catalog no. 27-9400-01; and the Stratagene *SurfZAP*<sup>TM</sup> phage display kit, catalog no. 240612), examples of methods and reagents particularly amenable for use in generating and screening antibody display libraries can be found in, for example, Kang et al. PCT Publication No. WO 92/18619; Winter et al. PCT Publication No. WO 92/20791; Breitling et al. PCT Publication No. WO 93/01288; McCafferty et al. PCT Publication No. WO 92/01047; Garrard et al. PCT Publication No. WO 92/09690; Fuchs et al. (1991) *Bio/Technology* 9:1370-1372; Hay et al. (1992) *Hum Antibod Hybridomas* 3:81-85; Huse et al. (1989) *Science* 246:1275-1281; McCafferty et al., *Nature* (1990) 348:552-554; Griffiths et al. (1993) *EMBO J* 12:725-734; Hawkins et al. (1992) *J Mol Biol* 226:889-896; Clackson et al. (1991) *Nature* 352:624-628; Gram et al. (1992) *PNAS* 89:3576-3580; Garrard et al. (1991) *Bio/Technology* 9:1373-1377; Hoogenboom et al. (1991) *Nuc Acid Res* 19:4133-4137; and Barbas et al. (1991) *PNAS* 88:7978-7982.

**[0175]** The antibody libraries used in this method are preferably scFv libraries prepared from human VL and VH cDNAs. The scFv antibody libraries are preferably screened using recombinant human IL-12 as the antigen to select human heavy and light chain sequences having a binding activity toward IL-12. To select for antibodies specific for the p35 subunit of IL-12 or the p70 heterodimer, screening assays were performed in the presence of excess free p40 subunit. Subunit preferences can be determined, for example by, micro-Friguet titration, as described in Example 1 of US Patent No. 6,914,128.

**[0176]** Once initial human VL and VH segments are selected, "mix and match" experiments, in which different pairs

of the selected VL and VH segments are screened for IL-12 binding, are performed to select preferred VL/VH pair combinations (see Example 1 of US Patent No. 6,914,128). Additionally, to further improve the affinity and/or lower the off rate constant for hIL-12 binding, the VL and VH segments of the preferred VL/VH pair(s) can be randomly mutated, preferably within the CDR3 region of VH and/or VL, in a process analogous to the *in vivo* somatic mutation process responsible for affinity maturation of antibodies during a natural immune response. This *in vitro* affinity maturation can be accomplished by amplifying VH and VL regions using PCR primers complimentary to the VH CDR3 or VL CDR3, respectively, which primers have been "spiked" with a random mixture of the four nucleotide bases at certain positions such that the resultant PCR products encode VH and VL segments into which random mutations have been introduced into the VH and/or VL CDR3 regions. These randomly mutated VH and VL segments can be reselected and rescreened for binding to hIL-12 and sequences that exhibit high affinity and a low off rate for IL-12 binding can be selected. Table 2 of Appendix A of US Patent No. 6,914,128 (see table 2 of Appendix A attached hereto) shows antibodies that displayed altered binding specificity/affinity produced as a result of *in vitro* affinity maturation.

**[0177]** Following selection, isolation and screening of an anti-hIL-12 antibody of the invention from a recombinant immunoglobulin display library, nucleic acid encoding the selected antibody can be recovered from the phage particle(s) (e.g., from the phage genome) and subcloned into other expression vectors by standard recombinant DNA techniques. If desired, the nucleic acid can be further manipulated to create other antibody forms of the invention (e.g., linked to nucleic acid encoding additional immunoglobulin domains, such as additional constant regions). To express a recombinant human antibody isolated by screening of a combinatorial library, the DNA encoding the antibody is cloned into a recombinant expression vector and introduced into a mammalian host cells, as described in further detail in Section IV below.

**[0178]** Methods for selecting human IL-12 binding antibodies by phage display technology, and affinity maturation of selected antibodies by random or site-directed mutagenesis of CDR regions are described in further detail in Example 1 of US Patent No. 6,914,128.

**[0179]** As described in Example 1 of US Patent No. 6,914,128, screening of human VL and VH cDNA libraries identified a series of anti-IL-12 antibodies, of which the Joe 9 antibody was selected for further development. A comparison of the heavy chain variable region of Joe 9 with the heavy chain germline sequences selected from the VBASE database, revealed that Joe 9 was similar to the COS-3 germline sequence. COS-3 belongs to the  $V_H3$  family of germline sequences.

**[0180]** The  $V_H3$  family is part of the human VH germline repertoire which is grouped into seven families,  $V_H1$ - $V_H7$ , based on nucleotide sequence homology (Tomlinson et al. (1992) J. Mol. Biol., 227, 776-798 and Cook et al. (1995) Immunology Today, 16, 237-242). The  $V_H3$  family contains the highest number of members and makes the largest contribution to the germline repertoire. For any given human  $V_H3$ - germline antibody sequence, the amino acid sequence identity within the entire  $V_H3$  family is high (See e.g., Tomlinson et al. (1992) J. Mol. Biol., 227, 776-798 and Cook et al. (1995) Immunology Today, 16, 237-242). The range of amino acid sequence identity between any two germline VH sequences of the  $V_H3$  family varies from 69-98 residues out of approximately 100 VH residues, (i.e., 69-98% amino acid sequence homology between any two germline VH sequences). For most pairs of germline sequences there is at least 80 or more identical amino acid residues, (i.e., at least 80% amino acid sequence homology). The high degree of amino acid sequence homology between the  $V_H3$  family members results in certain amino acid residues being present at key sites in the CDR and framework regions of the VH chain. These amino acid residues confer structural features upon the CDRs.

**[0181]** Studies of antibody structures have shown that CDR conformations can be grouped into families of canonical CDR structures based on the key amino acid residues that occupy certain positions in the CDR and framework regions. Consequently, there are similar local CDR conformations in different antibodies that have canonical structures with identical key amino acid residues (Chothia et al. (1987) J. Mol. Biol., 196, 901-917 and Chothia et al. (1989) Nature, 342, 877-883). Within the  $V_H3$  family there is a conservation of amino acid residue identity at the key sites for the CDR1 and CDR2 canonical structures (Chothia et al. (1992) J. Mol. Biol., 227, 799-817).

**[0182]** The COS-3 germline VH gene, is a member of the  $V_H3$  family and is a variant of the 3-30 (DP-49) germline VH allele. COS-3, differs from Joe9 VH amino acid sequences at only 5 positions. The high degree of amino acid sequence homology between Joe9 VH and COS-3, and between Joe9 VH and the other  $V_H3$  family members also confers a high degree of CDR structural homology (Chothia et al. (1992) J. Mol. Biol., 227, 799-817; Chothia et al. (1987) J. Mol. Biol., 196, 901-917 and Chothia et al. (1989) Nature, 342, 877-883).

**[0183]** The skilled artisan will appreciate that based on the high amino acid sequence and canonical structural similarity to Joe 9, other  $V_H3$  family members could also be used to generate antibodies that bind to human IL-12. This can be performed, for example, by selecting an appropriate VL by chain-shuffling techniques (Winter et al. (1994) Annual Rev. Immunol., 12, 433-55), or by the grafting of CDRs from a rodent or other human antibody including CDRs from antibodies of this invention onto a  $V_H3$  family framework.

**[0184]** The human V lambda germline repertoire is grouped into 10 families based on nucleotide sequence homology (Williams et al. (1996) J. Mol. Biol., 264, 220-232). A comparison of the light chain variable region of Joe 9 with the light chain germline sequences selected from the VBASE database, revealed that Joe 9 was similar to the DPL8 lambda

germline. The Joe9 VL differs from DPL8 sequence at only four framework positions, and is highly homologous to the framework sequences of the other  $V_{\lambda}1$  family members. Based on the high amino acid sequence homology and canonical structural similarity to Joe 9, other  $V_{\lambda}1$  family members may also be used to generate antibodies that bind to human IL-12. This can be performed, for example, by selecting an appropriate VH by chain-shuffling techniques (Winter *et al. Supra*, or by the grafting of CDRs from a rodent or other human antibody including CDRs from antibodies of this invention onto a  $V_{\lambda}1$  family framework.

**[0185]** The methods of the invention are intended to include recombinant antibodies that bind to hIL-12, comprising a heavy chain variable region derived from a member of the  $V_{H3}$  family of germline sequences, and a light chain variable region derived from a member of the  $V_{\lambda}1$  family of germline sequences. Moreover, the skilled artisan will appreciate that any member of the  $V_{H3}$  family heavy chain sequence can be combined with any member of the  $V_{\lambda}1$  family light chain sequence.

**[0186]** Those skilled in the art will also appreciate that DNA sequence polymorphisms that lead to changes in the amino acid sequences of the germline may exist within a population (e.g., the human population). Such genetic polymorphism in the germline sequences may exist among individuals within a population due to natural allelic variation. Such natural allelic variations can typically result in 1-5 % variance in the nucleotide sequence of the a gene. Any and all such nucleotide variations and resulting amino acid polymorphisms in germline sequences that are the result of natural allelic variation are intended to be within the scope of the invention.

**[0187]** Accordingly, in one aspect, the invention features an isolated human antibody, or an antigen-binding portion thereof, which has the following characteristics:

a) that binds to human IL-12 and dissociates from human IL-12 with a  $k_{off}$  rate constant of  $0.1 \text{ s}^{-1}$  or less, as determined by surface plasmon resonance, or which inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation assay (PHA assay) with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-6} \text{ M}$  or less.

b) has a heavy chain variable region comprising an amino acid sequence selected from a member of the  $V_{H3}$  germline family, wherein the heavy chain variable region has a mutation at a contact or hypermutation position with an activity enhancing amino acid residue.

c) has a light chain variable region comprising an amino acid sequence selected from a member of the  $V_{\lambda}1$  germline family, wherein the light chain variable region has a mutation at a preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation position with an activity enhancing amino acid residue.

**[0188]** In a preferred embodiment, the isolated human antibody, or antigen binding has mutation in the heavy chain CDR3. In another preferred embodiment, the isolated human antibody, or antigen binding has mutation in the light chain CDR3. In another preferred embodiment, the isolated human antibody, or antigen binding has mutation in the heavy chain CDR2. In another preferred embodiment, the isolated human antibody, or antigen binding has mutation in the light chain CDR2. In another preferred embodiment, the isolated human antibody, or antigen binding has mutation in the heavy chain CDR1. In another preferred embodiment, the isolated human antibody, or antigen binding has mutation in the light chain CDR1.

**[0189]** An ordinarily skilled artisan will appreciate that based on the high amino acid sequence similarity between members of the  $V_{H3}$  germline family, or between members of the light chain  $V_{\lambda}1$  germline family, that mutations to the germlines sequences can provide additional antibodies that bind to human IL-12. Table 1 of US Patent No. 6,914,128 (see Table 1 of Appendix A attached hereto) shows the germline sequences of the  $V_{H3}$  family members and demonstrates the significant sequence homology within the family members. Also shown in table 1 of US Patent No. 6,914,128 (see table 1 of Appendix A, attached hereto) are the germlines sequences for  $V_{\lambda}1$  family members. The heavy and light chain sequences of Joe 9 are provided as a comparison. Mutations to the germline sequences of  $V_{H3}$  or  $V_{\lambda}1$  family members may be made, for example, at the same amino acid positions as those made in the antibodies of the invention (e.g. mutations in Joe 9). The modifications can be performed using standard molecular biology techniques, such as by PCR mutagenesis, targeting individual amino acid residues in the germline sequences, followed by kinetic and functional analysis of the modified antibodies as described herein (e.g., neutralization assays described in Example 3 of US Patent No. 6,914,128, and by BIAcore analysis, as described in Example 5 of US Patent No. 6,914,128).

**[0190]** Accordingly, in one aspect, the invention features use of an isolated human antibody, or an antigen-binding portion thereof, which has the following characteristics:

a) has a heavy chain variable region comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 595-667, wherein the heavy chain variable region has a mutation at a preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation position with an activity enhancing amino acid residue.

b) has a light chain variable region comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 669-675, wherein the light chain variable region has a mutation at a preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation position with an activity enhancing amino acid residue.

[0191] An ordinarily skilled artisan will appreciate that based on the high amino acid sequence similarity between Joe 9 and COS-3 heavy chain germline sequence, and between Joe 9 and DPL8 lambda germlines sequence, that other mutations to the CDR regions of these germlines sequences can provide additional antibodies that bind to human IL-12. Such methods of modification can be performed using standard molecular biology techniques as described above.

[0192] Accordingly, in one aspect, the invention features use of an isolated human antibody, or an antigen-binding portion thereof, which has the following characteristics:

a) that binds to human IL-12 and dissociates from human IL-12 with a  $k_{\text{off}}$  rate constant of  $0.1\text{s}^{-1}$  or less, as determined by surface plasmon resonance, or which inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation assay (PHA assay) with an  $\text{IC}_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-6}\text{M}$  or less.

b) has a heavy chain variable region comprising the COS-3 germline amino acid sequence, wherein the heavy chain variable region has a mutation at a preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation position with an activity enhancing amino acid residue.

c) has a light chain variable region comprising the DPL8 germline amino acid sequence, wherein the light chain variable region has a mutation at a preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation position with an activity enhancing amino acid residue.

[0193] Due to certain amino acid residues occupying key sites in the CDR and framework regions in the light and heavy chain variable region, structural features are conferred at these regions. In particular, the CDR2 and CDR1 regions are subject to canonical structural classifications. Since there is a high degree of amino acids sequence homology between family members, these canonical features are present between family members. The skilled artisan will appreciate that modifications at the amino acid residues that confer these canonical structures would produce additional antibodies that bind to IL-12. The modifications can be performed using standard molecular biology techniques as described above.

[0194] Accordingly, in another aspect, the invention features use of an isolated human antibody, or an antigen-binding portion thereof, which has the following characteristics:

a) that binds to human IL-12 and dissociates from human IL-12 with a  $k_{\text{off}}$  rate constant of  $0.1 \text{ s}^{-1}$  or less, as determined by surface plasmon resonance, or which inhibits phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation in an *in vitro* phytohemagglutinin blast proliferation assay (PHA assay) with an  $\text{IC}_{50}$  of  $1 \times 10^{-6}\text{M}$  or less.

b) has a heavy chain variable region comprising an amino acid sequence selected from a member of the  $V_{\text{H}3}$  germline family, wherein the heavy chain variable region comprises a CDR2 that is structurally similar to CDR2s from other  $V_{\text{H}3}$  germline family members, and a CDR1 that is structurally similar to CDR1s from other  $V_{\text{H}3}$  germline family members, and wherein the heavy chain variable region has a mutation at a preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation position with an activity enhancing amino acid residue;

c) has a light chain variable region comprising an amino acid sequence selected from a member of the  $V_{\lambda 1}$  germline family, wherein the light chain variable region comprises a CDR2 that is structurally similar to CDR2s from other  $V_{\lambda 1}$  germline family members, and a CDR1 that is structurally similar to CDR1s from other  $V_{\lambda 1}$  germline family members, and wherein the light chain variable region has a mutation at a preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation position with an activity enhancing amino acid residue.

[0195] Recombinant human antibodies used in the invention have variable and constant regions which are homologous to human germline immunoglobulin sequences selected from the VBASE database. Mutations to the recombinant human antibodies (e.g., by random mutagenesis or PCR mutagenesis) result in amino acids that are not encoded by human germline immunoglobulin sequences. Also, libraries of recombinant antibodies which were derived from human donors will contain antibody sequences that differ from their corresponding germline sequences due to the normal process of somatic mutation that occurs during B-cell development. It should be noted that if the "germline" sequences obtained by PCR amplification encode amino acid differences in the framework regions from the true germline configuration (*i.e.*, differences in the amplified sequence as compared to the true germline sequence), it may be desirable to change these amino acid differences back to the true germline sequences (*i.e.*, "backmutation" of framework residues to the germline configuration). Thus, the present invention can optionally include a backmutation step. To do this, the amino acid sequences of heavy and light chain encoded by the germline (as found as example in VBASE database) are first compared to the mutated immunoglobulin heavy and light chain framework amino acid sequences to identify amino acid residues in the mutated immunoglobulin framework sequence that differ from the closest germline sequences. Then, the appropriate nucleotides of the mutated immunoglobulin sequence are mutated back to correspond to the germline sequence, using the genetic code to determine which nucleotide changes should be made. Mutagenesis of the mutated immunoglobulin framework sequence is carried out by standard methods, such as PCR-mediated mutagenesis (in which the mutated nucleotides are incorporated into the PCR primers such that the PCR product contains the mutations) or site-

directed mutagenesis. The role of each amino acid identified as candidate for backmutation should be investigated for a direct or indirect role in antigen binding and any amino acid found after mutation to affect any desirable characteristic of the human antibody should not be included in the final human antibody; as an example, activity enhancing amino acids identified by the selective mutagenesis approach will not be subject to backmutation. Assays to determine the characteristics of the antibody resulting from mutagenesis can include ELISA, competitive ELISA, *in vitro* and *in vivo* neutralization assays and/or (see e.g. Example 3 of US Patent No. 6,914,128) immunohistochemistry with tissue sections from various sources (including human, primate and/or other species).

**[0196]** To minimize the number of amino acids subject to backmutation those amino acid positions found to be different from the closest germline sequence but identical to the corresponding amino acid in a second germline sequence can remain, provided that the second germline sequence is identical and colinear to the sequence of the human antibody of the invention for at least 10, preferably 12 amino acids, on both sides of the amino acid in question. This would assure that any peptide epitope presented to the immune system by professional antigen presenting cells in a subject treated with the human antibody of the invention would not be foreign but identical to a self-antigen, i.e. the immunoglobulin encoded by that second germline sequence. Backmutation may occur at any stage of antibody optimization; preferably, backmutation occurs directly before or after the selective mutagenesis approach. More preferably, backmutation occurs directly before the selective mutagenesis approach.

### III. Modifications to Preferred Selective Mutagenesis Positions, Contact and/or Hypermutation Positions

**[0197]** Typically, selection of antibodies with improved affinities can be carried out using phage display methods, as described in section II above and in US Patent No. 6,914,128, incorporated by reference herein. This can be accomplished by randomly mutating combinations of CDR residues and generating large libraries containing antibodies of different sequences. However, for these selection methods to work, the antibody-antigen reaction must tend to equilibrium to allow, over time, preferential binding of higher affinity antibodies to the antigen. Selection conditions that would allow equilibrium to be established could not be determined (presumably due to additional non-specific interactions between the antigen and phage particle) when phage display methods were used to improve the affinity of selected anti-IL-12 antibodies, upon attaining a certain level of affinity achieved (*i.e.*, that of antibody Y61). Accordingly, antibodies with even higher affinities could not be selected by phage display methods. Thus, for at least certain antibodies or antigens, phage display methods are limiting in their ability to select antibodies with a highly improved binding specificity/affinity. Accordingly, a method termed Selective Mutagenesis Approach which does not require phage display affinity maturation of antibodies, was established to overcome this limitation and is provided by the invention. Although this Selective Mutagenesis Approach was developed to overcome limitations using the phage display system, it should be noted that this method can also be used with the phage display system. Moreover, the selective mutagenesis approach can be used to improve the activity of any antibody.

**[0198]** To improve the activity (e.g., affinity or neutralizing activity) of an antibody, ideally one would like to mutate every CDR position in both the heavy and light chains to every other possible amino acid residue. However, since there are, on average, 70 CDR positions within an antibody, such an approach would be very time consuming and labor intensive. Accordingly, the method of the invention allows one to improve the activity of the antibody by mutating only certain selected residues within the heavy and/or light chain CDRs. Furthermore, the method of the invention allows improvement in activity of the antibody without affecting other desirable properties of the antibody.

**[0199]** Determining which amino acid residues of an antibody variable region are in contact with an antigen cannot be accurately predicted based on primary sequence or their positions within the variable region. Nevertheless, alignments of sequences from antibodies with different specificities conducted by Kabat *et al.* have identified the CDRs as local regions within the variable regions which differ significantly among antibodies (Kabat *et al.* (1971) *Ann. NY Acad. Sci.* 190:382-393, Kabat, E.A., *et al.* (1991) *Sequences of Proteins of Immunological Interest*, Fifth Edition, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, NIH Publication No. 91-3242). Structural studies have shown that the antigen binding surface is formed by amino acid residues present in the CDRs. Other amino acid residues outside the CDR are also known to play structural roles or be directly involved in antigen binding. Therefore, for each antigen-antibody pair, amino acid residues within and outside of the CDRs may be important.

**[0200]** The sequence alignment studies by Tomlison *et al* identified a number of positions in the heavy and light chain CDR1 and CDR2, and in a portion of the kappa chain CDR3 which are frequent sites of somatic mutation. (Tomlison *et al* (1996) *J. Mol. Biol.* 256: 813-817). In particular, positions H31, H31B, H33, H33B, H52B, H56, H58, L30, L31, L31A, L50, L53, L91, L92, L93 and L94 were identified as frequent sites for somatic mutation. However, this analysis excludes the important heavy chain CDR3 regions, and sections of the light chain CDR3 which are known to lie in the center of an antibody binding site, and potentially provide important interactions with an antigen. Furthermore, Tomlison *et al.* propose that somatic diversity alone does not necessarily predict a role of a specific amino acid in antigen binding, and suggest conserved amino acid residues that contact the antigen, and diverse amino acid residues which do not contact the antigen. This conclusion is further supported by mutational studies on the role of somatic mutations to antibody

affinity (Sharon, (1990), PNAS, 87:4814-7). Nineteen somatic mutations in a high-affinity anti-p-azophenylarsonate (Ars) antibody were simultaneously replaced with their corresponding germline residues, generating a germline version of the anti-Ars antibody which had a two-hundred fold loss in activity. The full affinity of the anti-Ars antibody could be recovered by restoring only three of the nineteen somatic mutations, demonstrating that many somatic mutations may be permitted that do not contribute to antigen binding activity.

**[0201]** The result can be explained in part by the nature of antibody diversity itself. Immature B-cells may produce initially low affinity antibodies that recognize a number of self or non-self antigens. Moreover, antibodies may undergo in the course of affinity maturation sequence variations that may cause self-reactivity. Hypermutation of such low affinity antibodies may serve to abolish self-reactivity ("negative selection") and increase affinity for the foreign antigen. Therefore, the analysis of primary and structural data of a large number of antibodies does not provide a method of predicting either (1) the role of somatic hyper-mutation sites in the affinity maturation process versus the process of decreasing affinity towards unwanted antigens, or (2) how a given amino acid contributes to the properties of a specific antigen-antibody pair.

**[0202]** Other attempts to address the role of specific amino acid residues in antigen recognition were made by analyzing a number of crystal structures of antigen-antibody complexes (MacCallum et al. (1996) J. Mol. Biol. 262: 732-745). The potential role of positions located within and outside the CDRs was indicated. Positions in CDRs involved in antigen binding in more than 10 of 26 analyzed structures included H31, H33, H50, H52, H53, H54, H56, H58, H95, H96, H97, H98 and H100 in the heavy chain and L30A, L32, L91, L92, L93, L94, L96 in the light chain. However, the authors noted that prediction of antigen contacts using these and other structural data may over and under predict contact positions, leading to the speculation that a different strategy may have to be applied to different antigens.

**[0203]** Pini et al. describe randomizing multiple residues in antibody CDR sequences in a large phage display library to rapidly increase antibody affinity (Pini et al. (1998) J. Biol Chem. 273: 21769-21776). However, the high affinity antibodies discussed by Pini et al. had mutations in a total of eight positions, and a reductionary analysis of which changes are absolutely required to improve affinity of the antibody becomes impractical because of the large number of possible combinations to be tested for the smallest number of amino acids required.

**[0204]** Furthermore, randomizing multiple residues may not necessarily preserve other desired properties of the antibody. Desirable properties or characteristics of an antibody are art-recognized and include for example, preservation of non-cross reactivity, e.g., with other proteins or human tissues and preservation of antibody sequences that are close to human germline immunoglobulin sequences improvement of neutralization potency. Other desirable properties or characteristics include ability to preserve species cross reactivity, ability to preserve epitope specificity and ability to preserve high expression levels of protein in mammalian cells. The desirable properties or characteristics can be observed or measured using art-recognized techniques including but not limited to ELISA, competitive ELISA, *in vitro* and *in vivo* neutralization assays (see e.g. Example 3 of US Patent No. 6,914,128), immunohistochemistry with tissue sections from different sources including human, primate or other sources as the need may be, and studies to expression in mammalian cells using transient expression or stable expression.

**[0205]** In addition, the method of Pini et al may introduce more changes than the minimal number actually required to improve affinity and may lead to the antibodies triggering anti-human-antibody (HAMA) formation in human subjects. Further, as discussed elsewhere, the phage display as demonstrated here, or other related method including ribosome display may not work appropriately upon reaching certain affinities between antibody and antigen and the conditions required to reach equilibrium may not be established in a reasonable time frame because of additional interactions including interactions with other phage or ribosome components and the antigen.

**[0206]** The ordinarily skilled artisan may glean interesting scientific information on the origin of antibody diversity from the teachings of the references discussed above. The present invention, however, provides a method for increasing antibody affinity of a specific antigen-antibody pair while preserving other relevant features or desirable characteristics of the antibody. This is especially important when considering the desirability of imparting a multitude of different characteristics on a specific antibody including antigen binding.

**[0207]** If the starting antibody has desirable properties or characteristics which need to be retained, a selective mutagenesis approach can be the best strategy for preserving these desirable properties while improving the activity of the antibody. For example, in the mutagenesis of Y61, the aim was to increase affinity for hIL-12, and to improve the neutralization potency of the antibody while preserving desired properties. Desired properties of Y61 included (1) preservation of non-cross reactivity with other proteins or human tissues, (2) preservation of fine epitope specificity, i.e. recognizing a p40 epitope preferably in the context of the p70 (p40/p35) heterodimer, thereby preventing binding interference from free soluble p40; and (3) generation of an antibody with heavy and light chain amino acid sequences that were as close as possible to their respective germline immunoglobulin sequences.

**[0208]** In one embodiment, the method of the invention provides a selective mutagenesis approach as a strategy for preserving the desirable properties or characteristics of the antibody while improving the affinity and/or neutralization potency. The term "selective mutagenesis approach" is as defined above and includes a method of individually mutating selected amino acid residues. The amino acid residues to be mutated may first be selected from preferred selective mutagenesis positions, then from contact positions, and then from hypermutation positions. The individual selected

position can be mutated to at least two other amino acid residue and the effect of the mutation both on the desired properties of the antibody, and improvement in antibody activity is determined.

**[0209]** The Selective Mutagenesis approach comprises the steps of:

5 selecting candidate positions in the order 1) preferred selective mutagenesis positions; 2) contact positions; 3) hypermutation positions and ranking the positions based on the location of the position within the heavy and light chain variable regions of an antibody (CDR3 preferred over CDR2 preferred over CDR1);  
 individually mutating candidate preferred selective mutagenesis positions, hypermutation and/or contact positions  
 10 in the order of ranking, to all possible other amino acid residues and analyzing the effect of the individual mutations on the activity of the antibody in order to determine activity enhancing amino acid residues;  
 if necessary, making stepwise combinations of the individual activity enhancing amino acid residues and analyzing  
 the effect of the various combinations on the activity of the antibodies; selecting mutant antibodies with activity  
 enhancing amino acid residues and ranking the mutant antibodies based on the location and identity of the amino  
 acid substitutions with regard to their immunogenic potential. Highest ranking is given to mutant antibodies that  
 15 comprise an amino acid sequence which nearly identical to a variable region sequence that is described in a germlines database, or has an amino acid sequence that is comparable to other human antibodies. Lower ranking is given to mutant antibodies containing an amino acid substitution that is rarely encountered in either germline sequences or the sequences of other human antibodies. The lowest ranking is given to mutant antibodies with an amino acid substitution that has not been encountered in a germline sequence or the sequence of another human antibody. As  
 20 set forth above, mutant antibodies comprising at least one activity enhancing amino acid residue located in CDR3 is preferred over CDR2 which is preferred over CDR1. The CDRs of the heavy chain variable regions are preferred over those of the light chain variable region.

**[0210]** The mutant antibodies can also be studied for improvement in activity, e.g. when compared to their corresponding  
 25 parental antibody. The improvement in activity of the mutant antibody can be determined for example, by neutralization assays, or binding specificity/affinity by surface plasmon resonance analysis (see Example 3 of US Patent No. 6,914,128). Preferably, the improvement in activity can be at least 2-20 fold higher than the parental antibody. The improvement in activity can be at least " $x_1$ " to " $x_2$ " fold higher than the parental antibody wherein " $x_1$ " and " $x_2$ " are integers between and including 2 to 20, including ranges within the state range, e.g. 2-15, e.g. 5-10.

**[0211]** The mutant antibodies with the activity enhancing amino acid residue also can be studied to determine whether  
 30 at least one other desirable property has been retained after mutation. For example, with anti-hIL-12 antibodies testing for, (1) preservation of non-cross reactivity with other proteins or human tissues, (2) preservation of epitope recognition, i.e. recognizing a p40 epitope preferably in the context of the p70 (p40/p35) heterodimer, thereby preventing binding interference from free soluble p40; and (3) generation of antibodies with heavy and light chain amino acid sequences  
 35 that were as close as possible to their respective germline immunoglobulin sequences, and determining which would be least likely to elicit a human immune response based on the number of differences from the germline sequence. The same observations can be made on an antibody having more than one activity enhancing amino acid residues, e.g. at least two or at least three activity enhancing amino acid residues, to determine whether retention of the desirable property or characteristic has occurred.

**[0212]** An example of the use of a "selective mutagenesis approach", in the mutagenesis of Y61 is described below.  
 The individual mutations H31S→E, L50→Y, or L94G→Y each improved neutralization activity of the antibody. However,  
 when combination clones were tested, the activity of the combined clone H31S→E + L50→Y + L94G→Y was no better  
 than L50→Y + L94G→Y (J695). Therefore, changing the germline amino acid residue Ser to Glu at position 31 of CDR1  
 45 was unnecessary for the improved activity of J695 over Y61. The selective mutagenesis approach therefore, identified the minimal number of changes that contributed to the final activity, thereby reducing the immunogenic potential of the final antibody and preserving other desired properties of the antibody.

**[0213]** Isolated DNA encoding the VH and VL produced by the selected mutagenesis approach can be converted into  
 full length antibody chain genes, to Fab fragment genes as to a scFV gene, as described in section IV. For expression  
 of VH and VL regions produced by the selected mutagenesis approach, expression vectors encoding the heavy and  
 50 light chain can be transfected into variety host cells as described in detail in section IV. Preferred host cells include either prokaryotic host cells, for example, *E. coli*, or eukaryotic host cells, for example, yeast cells, e.g., *S. cerevisiae*. Most preferred eukaryotic host cells are mammalian host cells, described in detail in section IV.

**[0214]** The selective mutagenesis approach provides a method of producing antibodies with improved activities without  
 prior affinity maturation of the antibody by other means. The selective mutagenesis approach provides a method of  
 producing antibodies with improved affinities which have been subject to back mutations. The selective mutagenesis  
 55 approach also provides a method of improving the activity of affinity matured antibodies.

**[0215]** The skilled artisan will recognize that the selective mutagenesis approach can be used in standard antibody  
 manipulation techniques known in the art. Examples include, but are not limited to, CDR grafted antibodies, chimeric

antibodies, scFV fragments, Fab fragments of a full length antibodies and human antibodies from other sources, e.g., transgenic mice.

**[0216]** Rapid large scale mutational analysis of antibodies include *in vitro* transcription and translation using ribosome display technology (see e.g., Hanes et al., (1997) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 94: 4937-4942; Dall Acqua et al., (1998) Curr. Opin. Struc. Biol. 8: 443-450; He et al., (1997) Nucleic Acid Res. 25: 5132-5134), and U.S. Patent Nos. 5,643,768 and 5,658,754 issued to Kawasaki. The selective mutagenesis approach also provides a method of producing antibodies with improved activities that can be selected using ribosomal display techniques.

**[0217]** In the methods of the invention, antibodies or antigen binding portions thereof are further modified by altering individual positions in the CDRs of the HCVR and/or LCVR. Although these modifications can be made in phage-displayed antibodies, the method is advantageous in that it can be performed with antibodies that are expressed in other types of host systems, such as bacterial, yeast or mammalian cell expression systems. The individual positions within the CDRs selected for modification are based on the positions being a contact and/or hypermutation position.

**[0218]** Preferred contact positions and hypermutation positions as defined herein are shown in Table 3 of US Patent No. 6,914,128 (see Appendix A of US Patent No. 6,914,128 and Table 3 of Appendix A attached hereto) and their modification in accordance with the method of the invention is described in detail in Example 2 of US Patent No. 6,914,128. Preferred contact positions are selected from the group consisting of H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H35, H50, H52, H52A, H53, H54, H56, H58, H95, H96, H97, H98, H101, L30, L31, L32, L34, L50, L52, L53, L55, L91, L92, L93, L94 and L96. Preferred hypermutation positions are selected from the group consisting of H30, H31, H31B, H32, H52, H56, H58, L30, L31, L32, L53 and L93. More preferred amino acid residues (referred to as "preferred selective mutagenesis positions") are both contact and hypermutation positions and are selected from the group consisting of H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H52, H56, H58, L30, L31, L32, L50, L91, L92, L93, L94. Particularly preferred contact positions are selected from the group consisting of L50 and L94. Preferred activity enhancing amino acid residues replace amino acid residues located at positions selected from the group consisting of H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H35, H50, H52, H52A, H53, H54, H56, H58, H95, H96, H97, H98, H101, L30, L31, L32, L34, L50, L52, L53, L55, L91, L92, L93, L94, and L96. More preferred activity enhancing amino acid residues replace amino acid residues located at positions H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H52, H56, H58, L30, L31, L32, L50, L91, L92, L93, L94. Particularly, preferred activity enhancing amino acid residues replace amino acid residues located at positions selected from the group consisting of L50 and L94.

**[0219]** In general, the method of the invention involves selecting a particular preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact and/or hypermutation position within a CDR of the heavy or light chain of a parent antibody of interest, or antigen binding portion thereof, randomly mutagenizing that individual position (e.g., by genetic means using a mutagenic oligonucleotide to generate a "mini-library" of modified antibodies), or mutating a position to specific desired amino acids, to identify activity enhancing amino acid residues expressing, and purifying the modified antibodies (e.g., in a non-phage display host system), measuring the activity of the modified antibodies for antigen (e.g., by measuring  $k_{off}$  rates by BIAcore analysis), repeating these steps for other CDR positions, as necessary, and combining individual mutations shown to have improved activity and testing whether the combination(s) generate an antibody with even greater activity (e.g., affinity or neutralizing potency) than the parent antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof.

**[0220]** Accordingly, in one embodiment, the invention provides a method for improving the activity of an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, comprising:

- a) providing a parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof;
- b) selecting in order a 1) preferred selective mutagenesis position, 2) contact position, or 3) hypermutation position within a complementarity determining region (CDR) for mutation, thereby identifying a selected preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation position;
- c) individually mutating said selected preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation position to at least two other amino acid residues to thereby create a panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof;
- d) evaluating the activity of the panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof;
- e) optionally, repeating steps a) through d) for at least one other preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation position;
- f) combining, in the parent antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, individual mutations shown to have improved activity, to form combination antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof; and
- g) evaluating the activity of the combination antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof; until an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, with an improved activity, relative to the parent antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is obtained. Preferably, the selected antibody or antibodies have an improved activity without loss or with retention of at least one desirable characteristic or property of the parental antibody as described above. The desirable characteristic or property can be measured or observed by the ordinarily skilled artisan using art-recognized techniques.

**[0221]** Preferred contact positions are selected from the group consisting of H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H35, H50, H52, H52A, H53, H54, H56, H58, H95, H96, H97, H98, H101, L30, L31, L32, L34, L50, L52, L53, L55, L91, L92, L93, L94 and L96. Preferred hypermutation positions are selected from the group consisting of H30, H31, H31B, H32, H52, H56, H58, L30, L31, L32, L53 and L93. More preferred preferred selective mutagenesis positions are selected from the group consisting of H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H52, H56, H58, L30, L31, L32, L50, L91, L92, L93 and L94. Particularly preferred contact positions are selected from the group consisting of L50 and L94.

**[0222]** In another embodiment, the invention provides a method for improving the activity of an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, comprising:

- a) providing a parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof;
- b) selecting a preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation position within a complementarity determining region (CDR) for mutation;
- c) individually mutating said selected preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation position to at least two other amino acid residues to thereby create a panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof;
- d) evaluating the activity of the panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof, thereby identifying an activity enhancing amino acid residue;
- e) optionally, repeating steps a) through d) for at least one other preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation position;
- f) combining, in the parent antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, two individual activity enhancing amino acid residues shown to have improved activity, to form combination antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof; and
- g) evaluating the activity of the combination antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof with two activity enhancing amino acid residues, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof; until an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, with an improved activity, relative to the parent antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is obtained.

**[0223]** Preferred contact positions are selected from the group consisting of H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H35, H50, H52, H52A, H53, H54, H56, H58, H95, H96, H97, H98, H101, L30, L31, L32, L34, L50, L52, L53, L55, L91, L92, L93, L94 and L96. Preferred hypermutation positions are selected from the group consisting of H3Q, H31, H31B, H32, H52, H56, H58, L30, L31, L32, L53 and L93. More preferred preferred selective mutagenesis positions are selected from the group consisting of H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H52, H56, H58, L30, L31, L32, L50, L91, L92, L93 and L94. Particularly preferred contact positions are selected from the group consisting of L50 and L94.

**[0224]** In another embodiment, the invention provides a method for improving the activity of an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, comprising:

- a) providing a parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof;
- b) selecting a preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation position within a complementarity determining region (CDR) for mutation;
- c) individually mutating said selected preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation position to at least two other amino acid residues to thereby create a panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof;
- d) evaluating the activity of the panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof, thereby identifying an activity enhancing amino acid residue;
- e) optionally, repeating steps a) through d) for at least one other preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation position;
- f) combining, in the parent antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, three individual activity enhancing amino acid residues shown to have improved activity, to form combination antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof; and
- g) evaluating the activity of the combination antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof with two activity enhancing amino acid residues, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof; until an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, with an improved activity, relative to the parent antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is obtained.

**[0225]** Preferably, the activity enhancing amino acid residue replaces amino acid residues located at positions selected from the group consisting of H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H35, H50, H52, H52A, H53, H54, H56, H58, H95, H96, H97, H98, H101, L30, L31, L32, L34, L50, L52, L53, L55, L91, L92, L93, L94 and L96.

**[0226]** Following mutagenesis of individual selected positions, mutated clones can be sequenced to identify which amino acid residues have been introduced into the selected position in each clone. A small number of clones (e.g., about

24) can be selected for sequencing, which statistically should yield 10-15 unique antibodies, whereas larger numbers of clones (e.g., greater than 60) can be sequenced to ensure that antibodies with every possible substitution at the selected position are identified.

5 [0227] In one embodiment, contact and/or hypermutation positions within the CDR3 regions of the heavy and/or light chains are first selected for mutagenesis. However, for antibodies that have already been affinity matured *in vitro* by random mutagenesis of the CDR3 regions via phage display selection, it may be preferably to first select contact and/or hypermutation positions within CDR1 or CDR2 of the heavy and/or light chain.

10 [0228] In a more preferred embodiment, preferred selective mutagenesis positions within the CDR3 regions of the heavy and/or light chains are first selected for mutagenesis. However, for antibodies that have already been affinity matured *in vitro* by random mutagenesis of the CDR3 regions via phage display selection, it may be preferably to first select preferred selective mutagenesis positions within CDR1 or CDR2 of the heavy and/or light chain.

15 [0229] In another preferred embodiment, the optimization of a selected antibody by the selective mutagenesis approach is done sequentially as follows: preferred selective mutagenesis positions selected from the group consisting of H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H52, H56, H58, L30, L31, L32, L50, L91, L92, L93, L94 are mutated first to at least 2 other amino acids each (preferably 5-14 other amino acids) and the resulting antibodies are characterized for increased affinity, neutralization potency (and possibly also for at least one other retained characteristic or property discussed elsewhere). If a mutation of a single preferred selective mutagenesis position does not increase the affinity or neutralization potency at all or sufficiently and if even the combination of multiple activity enhancing amino acids replacing amino acids in preferred selective mutagenesis positions does not result in an combination antibody which meets the target activity (including affinity and/or neutralization potency), additional amino acid residues will be selected for selective mutagenesis from the group consisting of H35, H50, H53, H54, H95, H96, H97, H98, L30A and L96 are mutated to at least 2 other amino acids each (preferably 5-14 other amino acids) and the resulting antibodies are characterized for increased affinity, neutralization potency (and possibly also for at least one other retained characteristic or property discussed elsewhere).

20 [0230] If a mutation of a single amino acid residue selected from the group consisting of H35, H50, H53, H54, H95, H96, H97, H98, L30A and L96 does not increase the activity (including affinity and/or neutralization potency) at all or not sufficiently and if even the combination of multiple activity enhancing amino acids replacing amino acids in those positions does not result in an combination antibody which meets the targeted activity (including affinity and/or target neutralization potency), additional amino acid residues will be selected for selective mutagenesis from the group consisting of H33B, H52B, L31A and are mutated to at least 2 other amino acids each (preferably 5-14 other amino acids) and the resulting antibodies are characterized for increased affinity, neutralization potency (and possibly also for at least one other retained characteristic or property discussed elsewhere).

25 [0231] It should be understood that the sequential selective mutagenesis approach may end at any of the steps outline above as soon as an antibody with the desired activity (including affinity and neutralization potency) has been identified. If mutagenesis of the preselected positions has identified activity enhancing amino acids residues but the combination antibody still do not meet the targets set for activity (including affinity and neutralization potency) and/or if the identified activity enhancing amino acids also affect other desired characteristics and are therefore not acceptable, the remaining CDR residues may be subjected to mutagenesis (see section IV).

30 [0232] The method of the invention can be used to improve activity of an antibody, or antigen binding portion thereof, to reach a predetermined target activity (e.g. a predetermined affinity and/or neutralization potency, and/or a desired property or characteristic).

35 [0233] Accordingly, the invention provides a method of improving the activity of an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, to attain a predetermined target activity, comprising:

- 40 a) providing a parent antibody a antigen-binding portion thereof;
- 45 b) selecting a preferred selective mutagenesis position selected from group consisting of H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H52, H56, H58, L30, L31, L32, L50, L91, L92, L93, L94.
- c) individually mutating the selected preferred selective mutagenesis position to at least two other amino acid residues to hereby create a first panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen binding portions thereof;
- d) evaluating the activity of the first panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen binding portions thereof to determined if mutation of a single selective mutagenesis position produces an antibody or antigen binding portion thereof with the predetermined target activity or a partial target activity;
- 50 e) combining in a stepwise fashion, in the parent antibody, or antigen binding portion thereof, individual mutations shown to have an improved activity, to form combination antibodies, or antigen binding portions thereof.
- f) evaluating the activity of the combination antibodies, or antigen binding portions thereof to determined if the combination antibodies, or antigen binding portions thereof have the predetermined target activity or a partial target activity.
- 55 g) if steps d) or f) do not result in an antibody or antigen binding portion thereof having the predetermined target activity, or result an antibody with only a partial activity, additional amino acid residues selected from the group

consisting of H35, H50, H53, H54, H95, H96, H97, H98, L30A and L96 are mutated to at least two other amino acid residues to thereby create a second panel of mutated antibodies or antigen-binding portions thereof;

h) evaluating the activity of the second panel of mutated antibodies or antigen binding portions thereof, to determined if mutation of a single amino acid residue selected from the group consisting of H35, H50, H53, H54, H95, H96, H97, H98, L30A and L96 results an antibody or antigen binding portion thereof, having the predetermined target activity or a partial activity;

i) combining in stepwise fashion in the parent antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, individual mutations of step g) shown to have an improved activity, to form combination antibodies, or antigen binding portions thereof;

j) evaluating the activity of the combination antibodies or antigen binding portions thereof, to determined if the combination antibodies, or antigen binding portions thereof have the predetermined target activity or a partial target activity;

k) if steps h) or j) do not result in an antibody or antigen binding portion thereof having the predetermined target activity, or result in an antibody with only a partial activity, additional amino acid residues selected from the group consisting of H33B, H52B and L31A are mutated to at least two other amino acid residues to thereby create a third panel of mutated antibodies or antigen binding portions thereof;

l) evaluating the activity of the third panel of mutated antibodies or antigen binding portions thereof, to determine if a mutation of a single amino acid residue selected from the group consisting of H33B, H52B and L31A resulted in an antibody or antigen binding portion thereof, having the predetermined target activity or a partial activity;

m) combining in a stepwise fashion in the parent antibody, or antigen binding portion thereof, individual mutation of step k) shown to have an improved activity, to form combination antibodies, or antigen binding portions, thereof;

n) evaluating the activity of the combination antibodies or antigen-binding portions thereof, to determine if the combination antibodies, or antigen binding portions thereof have the predetermined target activity to thereby produce an antibody or antigen binding portion thereof with a predetermined target activity.

**[0234]** A number of mutagenesis methods can be used, including PCR assembly, Kunkel (dut-ung-) and thiophosphate (Amersham Sculptor kit) oligonucleotide-directed mutagenesis.

**[0235]** A wide variety of host expression systems can be used to express the mutated antibodies, including bacterial, yeast, baculoviral and mammalian expression systems (as well as phage display expression systems). An example of a suitable bacterial expression vector is pUC119(Sfi). Other antibody expression systems are known in the art and/or are described below in section IV.

**[0236]** The modified antibodies, or antigen binding portions thereof, produced by the method of the invention can be identified without the reliance on phage display methods for selection. Accordingly, the method of the invention is particularly advantageous for improving the activity of a recombinant parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof, that was obtained by selection in a phage-display system but whose activity cannot be further improved by mutagenesis in the phage-display system.

**[0237]** Accordingly, in another embodiment, the invention provides a method for improving the affinity of an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, comprising:

a) providing a recombinant parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof; that was obtained by selection in a phage-display system but whose activity cannot be further improved by mutagenesis in said phage-display system;

b) selecting a preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation position within a complementarity determining region (CDR) for mutation, thereby identifying a selected contact or hypermutation position;

c) individually mutating said selected preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation position to at least two other amino acid residues to thereby create a panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, and expressing said panel in a non-phage display system;

d) evaluating the activity of the panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof;

e) optionally repeating steps b) through d) for at least one other preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation position;

f) combining, in the parent antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, individual mutations shown to have improved activity, to form combination antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof; and

g) evaluating the activity of the combination antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof; until an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, with an improved activity, relative to the parent antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is obtained.

**[0238]** Preferred contact positions are selected from the group consisting of H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H35, H50, H52, H52A, H53, H54, H56, H58, H95, H96, H97, H98, H101, L30, L31, L32, L34, L50, L52, L53, L55, L91, L92, L93, L94 and L96. Preferred hypermutation positions are selected from the group consisting of H30, H31, H31B, H32, H52,

H56, H58, L30, L31, L32, L53 and L93. More preferred preferred selective mutagenesis positions are selected from the group consisting of H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H52, H56, H58, L30, L31, L32, L50, L91, L92, L93 and L94. Particularly preferred contact positions are selected from the group consisting of L50 and L94.

**[0239]** With available methods it is not possible or it is extremely laborious to derive an antibody with increased binding affinity and neutralization potency while retaining other properties or characteristics of the antibodies as discussed above. The method of this invention, however, can readily identify such antibodies. The antibodies subjected to the method of this invention can come from any source.

**[0240]** Therefore, in another embodiment, the invention provides a method for improving the activity of an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, comprising:

- a) providing a recombinant parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof ;
  - b) selecting a preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation position within a complementarity determining region (CDR) for mutation, thereby identifying a selected preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation position;
  - c) individually mutating said selected preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation position to at least two other amino acid residues to thereby create a panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof and expressing said panel in an appropriate expression system;
  - d) evaluating the activity of the panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof, thereby identifying an activity enhancing amino acid residue;
  - e) evaluating the panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof for at least one other property or characteristics, wherein the property or characteristic is one that needs to be retained in the antibody;
- until an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, with an improved activity and at least one retained property or characteristic, relative to the parent antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is obtained.

**[0241]** In a preferred embodiment, the contact positions are selected from the group consisting of H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H35, H50, H52, H52A, H53, H54, H56, H58, H95, H96, H97, H98, H101, L30, L31, L32, L34, L50, L52, L53, L55, L91, L92, L93, L94 and L96 and the other characteristic is selected from 1) preservation of non-crossreactivity with other proteins or human tissues, 2) preservation of epitope recognition, i.e. recognizing p40 epitope preferably in the context of the p70 p40/p35 heterodimer preventing binding interference from free, soluble p40 and/or 3) to produce an antibody with a close to germline immunoglobulin sequence.

**[0242]** In another preferred embodiment, the hypermutation positions are selected from the group consisting of H30, H31, H31B, H32, H52, H56, H58, L30, L31, L32, L53 and L93 and the other characteristic is selected from 1) preservation of non-crossreactivity with other proteins or human tissues, 2) preservation of epitope recognition, i.e. recognizing p40 epitope preferably in the context of the p70 p40/p35 heterodimer preventing binding interference from free, soluble p40 and/or 3) to produce an antibody with a close to germline immunoglobulin sequence.

**[0243]** In a more preferred embodiment the residues for selective mutagenesis are selected from the preferred selective mutagenesis positions from the group consisting of H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H52, H56, H58, L30, L31, L32, L50, L91, L92, L93, L94 and the other characteristic is selected from 1) preservation of non-crossreactivity with other proteins or human tissues, 2) preservation of epitope recognition, i.e. recognizing p40 epitope preferably in the context of the p70 p40/p35 heterodimer preventing binding interference from free, soluble p40 and/or 3) to produce an antibody with a close to germline immunoglobulin sequence.

**[0244]** In a more preferred embodiment, the contact positions are selected from the group consisting of L50 and L94 and the other characteristic is selected from 1) preservation of non-crossreactivity with other proteins or human tissues, 2) preservation of epitope recognition, i.e. recognizing p40 epitope preferably in the context of the p70 p40/p35 heterodimer preventing binding interference from free, soluble p40 and/or 3) to produce an antibody with a close to germline immunoglobulin sequence.

**[0245]** If therefore, the affinity of an antibody for a specific antigen should be improved, but where the phage display (or related system including ribosome display) method is no longer applicable, and other desirable properties or characteristics should be retained, the method of the invention can be used. Accordingly, in another embodiment, the invention provides a method for improving the activity of an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, comprising:

- a) providing a recombinant parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof; that was obtained by selection in a phage-display system but whose activity cannot be further improved by mutagenesis in said phage-display system;
- b) selecting a preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation position within a complementarity determining region (CDR) for mutation, thereby identifying a selected preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation position;
- c) individually mutating said selected preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation position

to at least two other amino acid residues to thereby create a panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, and expressing said panel in a non-phage display system;

d) evaluating the activity of the panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof thereby identifying an activity enhancing amino acid residue;

e) evaluating the panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof for at least one other property or characteristic, wherein the property or characteristic is one that needs to be retained, until an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, with an improved activity and at least one retained property or characteristic, relative to the parent antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is obtained.

f) optionally, repeating steps a) through e) for at least one other preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation position;

g) combining, in the parent antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, at least two individual activity enhancing amino acid residues shown to have improved activity and at least one retained property or characteristic, to form combination antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof; and

h) evaluating the activity of the combination antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof; until an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, with an improved activity and at least one retained other property or characteristic, relative to the parent antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is obtained.

**[0246]** In a preferred embodiment, the contact positions are selected from the group consisting of H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H35, H50, H52, H52A, H53, H54, H56, H58, H95, H96, H97, H98, H101, L30, L31, L32, L34, L50, L52, L53, L55, L91, L92, L93, L94 and L96 and the other characteristic is selected from 1) preservation of non-crossreactivity with other proteins or human tissues, 2) preservation of epitope recognition, i.e. recognizing p40 epitope preferably in the context of the p70 p40/p35 heterodimer preventing binding interference from free, soluble p40 and/or 3) to produce an antibody with a close to germlines immunoglobulin sequence.

**[0247]** In another preferred embodiment, the hypermutation positions are selected from the group consisting of H30, H31, H31B, H32, H52, H56, H58, L30, L31, L32, L53 and L93 and the other characteristic is selected from 1) preservation of non-crossreactivity with other proteins or human tissues, 2) preservation of epitope recognition, i.e. recognizing p40 epitope preferably in the context of the p70 p40/p35 heterodimer preventing binding interference from free, soluble p40 and/or 3) to produce an antibody with a close to germline immunoglobulin sequence.

**[0248]** In a more preferred embodiment the residues for selective mutagenesis are selected from the preferred selective mutagenesis positions from the group consisting of H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H52, H56, H58, L30, L31, L32, L50, L91, L92, L93, L94 and the other characteristic is selected from 1) preservation of non-crossreactivity with other proteins or human tissues, 2) preservation of epitope recognition, i.e. recognizing p40 epitope preferably in the context of the p70 p40/p35 heterodimer preventing binding interference from free, soluble p40 and/or 3) to produce an antibody with a close to germline immunoglobulin sequence.

**[0249]** In a more preferred embodiment, the contact positions are selected from the group consisting of L50 and L94 and the other characteristic is selected from 1) preservation of non-crossreactivity with other proteins or human tissues, 2) preservation of epitope recognition, i.e. recognizing p40 epitope preferably in the context of the p70 p40/p35 heterodimer preventing binding interference from free, soluble p40 and/or 3) to produce an antibody with a close to germline immunoglobulin sequence.

**[0250]** In another embodiment, the invention provides a method for improving the activity of an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, comprising:

a) providing a recombinant parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof; that was obtained by selection in a phage-display system but whose activity cannot be further improved by mutagenesis in said phage-display system;

b) selecting a preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation position within a complementarity determining region (CDR) for mutation, thereby identifying a selected contact or hypermutation position;

c) individually mutating said selected preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation position to at least two other amino acid residues to thereby create a panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, and expressing said panel in a non-phage display system;

d) evaluating the activity of the panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof thereby identifying an activity enhancing amino acid residue;

e) evaluating the panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof for at least one other property or characteristic, wherein the property or characteristic is one that needs to be retained, until an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, with an improved activity and at least one retained property or characteristic, relative to the parent antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is obtained.

**[0251]** In a preferred embodiment, the contact positions are selected from the group consisting of H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H35, H50, H52, H52A, H53, H54, H56, H58, H95, H96, H97, H98, H101, L30, L31, L32, L34, L50, L52, L53, L55, L91, L92, L93, L94 and L96 and the other characteristic is selected from 1) preservation of non-crossreactivity with other proteins or human tissues, 2) preservation of epitope recognition, i.e. recognizing p40 epitope preferably in the context of the p70 p40/p35 heterodimer preventing binding interference from free, soluble p40 and/or 3) to produce an antibody with a close to germline immunoglobulin sequence.

**[0252]** In another preferred embodiment, the hypermutation positions are selected from the group consisting of H30, H31, H31B, H32, H52, H56, H58, L30, L31, L32, L53 and L93 and the other characteristic is selected from 1) preservation of non-crossreactivity with other proteins or human tissues, 2) preservation of epitope recognition, i.e. recognizing p40 epitope preferably in the context of the p70 p40/p35 heterodimer preventing binding interference from free, soluble p40 and/or 3) to produce an antibody with a close to germline immunoglobulin sequence.

**[0253]** In a more preferred embodiment the residues for selective mutagenesis are selected from the preferred selective mutagenesis positions from the group consisting of H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H52, H56, H58, L30, L31, L32, L50, L91, L92, L93, L94 and the other characteristic is selected from 1) preservation of non-crossreactivity with other proteins or human tissues, 2) preservation of epitope recognition, i.e. recognizing p40 epitope preferably in the context of the p70 p40/p35 heterodimer preventing binding interference from free, soluble p40 and/or 3) to produce an antibody with a close to germlines immunoglobulin sequence.

**[0254]** In a more preferred embodiment, the contact positions are selected from the group consisting of L50 and L94 and the other characteristic is selected from 1) preservation of non-crossreactivity with other proteins or human tissues, 2) preservation of epitope recognition, i.e. recognizing p40 epitope preferably in the context of the p70 p40/p35 heterodimer preventing binding interference from free, soluble p40 and/or 3) to produce an antibody with a close to germline immunoglobulin sequence.

**[0255]** In another embodiment, the invention provides a method for improving the activity of an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, comprising:

- a) providing a recombinant parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof; that was obtained by selection in a phage-display system but whose activity cannot be further improved by mutagenesis in said phage-display system;
- b) selecting a preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation position within a complementarity determining region (CDR) for mutation, thereby identifying a selected contact or hypermutation position;
- c) individually mutating said selected preferred selective mutagenesis positions, contact or hypermutation position to at least two other amino acid residues to thereby create a panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, and expressing said panel in a non-phage display system;
- d) evaluating the activity of the panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof thereby identifying an activity enhancing amino acid residue;
- e) evaluating the panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof for at least one other property or characteristic, wherein the property or characteristic is one that needs to be retained, until an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, with an improved activity and at least one retained characteristic, relative to the parent antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is obtained.
- f) optionally, repeating steps a) through e) for at least one other preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation position;
- g) combining, in the parent antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, at least two individual activity enhancing amino acid residues shown to have improved activity and at least on retained other characteristic, to form combination antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof; and
- h) evaluating the activity of the combination antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof; until an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, with an improved activity and at least one retained property or characteristic, relative to the parent antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is obtained.

**[0256]** In a preferred embodiment, the contact positions are selected from the group consisting of H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H35, H50, H52, H52A, H53, H54, H56, H58, H95, H96, H97, H98, H101, L30, L31, L32, L34, L50, L52, L53, L55, L91, L92, L93, L94 and L96 and the other characteristic is selected from 1) preservation of non-crossreactivity with other proteins or human tissues, 2) preservation of epitope recognition, i.e. recognizing p40 epitope preferably in the context of the p70 p40/p35 heterodimer preventing binding interference from free, soluble p40 and/or 3) to produce an antibody with a close to germline immunoglobulin sequence.

**[0257]** In another preferred embodiment, the hypermutation positions are selected from the group consisting of H30, H31, H31B, H32, H52, H56, H58, L30, L31, L32, L53 and L93 and the other characteristic is selected from 1) preservation of non-crossreactivity with other proteins or human tissues, 2) preservation of epitope recognition, i.e. recognizing p40 epitope preferably in the context of the p70 p40/p35 heterodimer preventing binding interference from free, soluble p40

and/or 3) to produce an antibody with a close to germline immunoglobulin sequence.

**[0258]** In a more preferred embodiment the residues for selective mutagenesis are selected from the preferred selective mutagenesis positions from the group consisting of H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H52, H56, H58, L30, L31, L32, L50, L91, L92, L93, L94 and the other characteristic is selected from 1) preservation of non-crossreactivity with other proteins or human tissues, 2) preservation of epitope recognition, i.e. recognizing p40 epitope preferably in the context of the p70 p40/p35 heterodimer preventing binding interference from free, soluble p40 and/or 3) to produce an antibody with a close to germline immunoglobulin sequence.

**[0259]** In a more preferred embodiment, the contact positions are selected from the group consisting of L50 and L94 and the other characteristic is selected from 1) preservation of non-crossreactivity with other proteins or human tissues, 2) preservation of epitope recognition, i.e. recognizing p40 epitope preferably in the context of the p70 p40/p35 heterodimer preventing binding interference from free, soluble p40 and/or 3) to produce an antibody with a close to germline immunoglobulin sequence.

#### IV. Modifications of other CDR residues

**[0260]** Ultimately, all CDR residues in a given antibody-antigen pair identified by any means to be required as activity enhancing amino acid residues and/or required directly or indirectly for binding to the antigen and/or for retaining other desirable properties or characteristics of the antibody. Such CDR residues are referred to as "preferred selective mutagenesis positions". It should be noted that in specific circumstances that preferred selective mutagenesis residues can be identified also by other means including co-crystallization of antibody and antigen and molecular modeling.

**[0261]** If the preferred attempts to identify activity enhancing amino acids focussing on the preferred selective mutagenesis positions, contact or hypermutation positions described above are exhausted, or if additional improvements are required, the remaining CDR residues may be modified as described below. It should be understood that the antibody could already be modified in any one or more contact or hypermutation positions according to the embodiments discussed above but may require further improvements. Therefore, in another embodiment, the invention provides a method for improving the activity of an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, comprising:

- a) providing a parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof;
- b) selecting an amino acid residue within a complementarity determining region (CDR) for mutation other than H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H35, H50, H52, H52A, H53, H54, H56, H58, H95, H96, H97, H98, H101, L30, L31, L32, L34, L50, L52, L53, L55, L91, L92, L93, L94 and L96;
- c) individually mutating said selected position e.g., to at least two other amino acid residues to thereby create a mutated antibody or a panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof;
- d) evaluating the activity of the mutated antibody or the panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof thereby identifying an activity enhancing amino acid residue;
- e) evaluating the mutated antibody or the panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof, for changes in at least one other property or characteristic until an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, with an improved activity, relative to the parent antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is obtained.

**[0262]** Preferably, the other characteristic or property is selected from 1) preservation of non-crossreactivity with other proteins or human tissues, 2) preservation of epitope recognition, i.e. recognizing p40 epitope preferably in the context of the p70 p40/p35 heterodimer preventing binding interference from free, soluble p40 and/or 3) to produce an antibody with a close to germline immunoglobulin sequence

**[0263]** If mutagenesis of a single residue is not sufficient other residues can be included; therefore, in another embodiment, the invention provides a method for improving the activity of an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, comprising:

- a) providing a parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof;
- b) selecting an amino acid residue within a complementarity determining region (CDR) for mutation other than H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H35, H50, H52, H52A, H53, H54, H56, H58, H95, H96, H97, H98, H101, L30, L31, L32, L34, L50, L52, L53, L55, L91, L92, L93, L94 and L96;
- c) individually mutating said selected position to at least two other amino acid residues to thereby create a panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof;
- d) evaluating the activity of the panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof, thereby identifying an activity enhancing amino acid residue;
- e) repeating steps b) through d) for at least one other CDR position which is neither the position selected under b)

nor a position at H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H35, H50, H52, H52A, H53, H54, H56, H58, H95, H96, H97, H98, H101, L30, L31, L32, L34, L50, L52, L53, L55, L91, L92, L93, L94 and L96;

f) combining, in the parent antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, at least two individual activity enhancing amino acid residues shown to have improved activity, to form combination antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof; and

g) evaluating the activity of the combination antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof with two activity enhancing amino acid residues, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof until an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, with an improved activity, relative to the parent antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is obtained.

**[0264]** If the preferred attempts to identify activity enhancing amino acids focussing on the contact or hypermutation positions described above are exhausted, or if additional improvements are required, and the antibody in question can not further be optimized by mutagenesis and phage display (or related ribosome display) methods the remaining CDR residues may be modified as described below. It should be understood that the antibody could already be modified in any one or more preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact or hypermutation positions according to the embodiments discussed above but may require further improvements.

**[0265]** Therefore, in another embodiment, the invention provides a method for improving the activity of an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, comprising:

a) providing a recombinant parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof; that was obtained by selection in a phage-display system but whose activity cannot be further improved by mutagenesis in said phage-display system;

b) selecting a selecting an amino acid residue within a complementarity determining region (CDR) for mutation other than H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H35, H50, H52, H52A, H53, H54, H56, H58, H95, H96, H97, H98, H101, L30, L31, L32, L34, L50, L52, L53, L55, L91, L92, L93, L94 and;

c) individually mutating said selected contact or hypermutation position to at least two other amino acid residues to thereby create a panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, and expressing said panel in a non-phage display system;

d) evaluating the activity of the panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof thereby identifying an activity enhancing amino acid residue;

e) evaluating the panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof, for changes in at least one other property or characteristic, until an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, with an improved activity, relative to the parent antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is obtained.

**[0266]** Preferably, the other characteristic or property is selected from 1) preservation of non-crossreactivity with other proteins or human tissues, 2) preservation of epitope recognition, i.e. recognizing p40 epitope preferably in the context of the p70 p40/p35 heterodimer preventing binding interference from free, soluble p40 and/or 3) to produce an antibody with a close to germline immunoglobulin sequence.

**[0267]** If a single mutagenesis is not sufficient to increase the affinity of the antibody other residues may be included in the mutagenesis. Therefore, in another embodiment, the invention provides a method for improving the activity of an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, comprising:

a) providing a parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof that was obtained by selection in a phage-display system but whose activity cannot be further improved by mutagenesis in said phage-display system;

b) selecting an amino acid residue within a complementarity determining region (CDR) for mutation other than H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H35, H50, H52, H52A, H53, H54, H56, H58, H95, H96, H97, H98, H101, L30, L31, L32, L34, L50, L52, L53, L55, L91, L92, L93, L94 and L96;

c) individually mutating said selected position to at least two other amino acid residues to thereby create a panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof and expression in a non-phage display system;

d) evaluating the activity of the panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof thereby identifying an activity enhancing amino acid residue;

e) repeating steps b) through d) for at least one other position which is neither the position selected under b) nor a position at H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H35, H50, H52, H52A, H53, H54, H56, H58, H95, H96, H97, H98, H101, L30, L31, L32, L34, L50, L52, L53, L55, L91, L92, L93, L94;

g) combining, in the parent antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, at least two individual activity enhancing amino acid residues shown to have improved activity, to form combination antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof; and

h) evaluating the activity and other property or characteristic of the combination antibodies, or antigen-binding

portions thereof with two activity enhancing amino acid residues, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof; until an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, with an improved activity, relative to the parent antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is obtained.

5 **[0268]** Preferably, the other characteristic or property is selected from 1) preservation of non-crossreactivity with other proteins or human tissues, 2) preservation of epitope recognition, i.e. recognizing p40 epitope preferably in the context of the p70 p40/p35 heterodimer preventing binding interference from free, soluble p40 and/or 3) to produce an antibody with a close to germline immunoglobulin sequence

10 **[0269]** The preferred attempts to identify activity enhancing amino acids focussing on the preferred selective mutagenesis positions, contact or hypermutation positions described may be exhausted, or additional improvements may be required, and it is important to retain other properties or characteristics of the antibody.

**[0270]** Therefore, in another embodiment, the invention provides a method for improving the activity of an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, without affecting other characteristics, comprising:

- 15 a) providing a parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof;
- b) selecting an amino acid residue within a complementarity determining region (CDR) for mutation other than H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H35, H50, H52, H52A, H53, H54, H56, H58, H95, H96, H97, H98, H101, L30, L31, L32, L34, L50, L52, L53, L55, L91, L92, L93, L94 and L96;
- 20 c) individually mutating said selected position to at least two other amino acid residues to thereby create a panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof;
- d) evaluating the activity of the panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof thereby identifying an activity enhancing amino acid residue;
- e) evaluating the panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof, for changes in at least one other property or characteristic until an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, with an improved activity and retained other property or characteristic, relative to the parent antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is obtained.
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30 **[0271]** Preferably, the other characteristic or property is selected from 1) preservation of non-crossreactivity with other proteins or human tissues, 2) preservation of epitope recognition, i.e. recognizing p40 epitope preferably in the context of the p70 p40/p35 heterodimer preventing binding interference from free, soluble p40 and/or 3) to produce an antibody with a close to germline immunoglobulin sequence

**[0272]** If mutagenesis of a single residue is not sufficient other residues can be included; therefore, in another embodiment, the invention provides a method for improving the activity of an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, comprising:

- 35 a) providing a parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof;
- b) selecting an amino acid residue within a complementarity determining region (CDR) for mutation other than H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H35, H50, H52, H52A, H53, H54, H56, H58, H95, H96, H97, H98, H101, L30, L31, L32, L34, L50, L52, L53, L55, L91, L92, L93, L94 and L96;
- 40 c) individually mutating said selected position to at least two other amino acid residues to thereby create a panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof;
- d) evaluating the activity of the panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof, thereby identifying an activity enhancing amino acid residue;
- e.) evaluating the panel of mutated antibodies or antigen-binding portions thereof, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-portion thereof, for changes in at least one other characteristic or property;
- 45 e) repeating steps b) through e) for at least one other CDR position which is neither the position selected under b) nor a position at H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H35, H50, H52, H52A, H53, H54, H56, H58, H95, H96, H97, H98, H101, L30, L31, L32, L34, L50, L52, L53, L55, L91, L92, L93, L94 and L96;
- f) combining, in the parent antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, at least two individual activity enhancing amino acid residues shown to have improved activity and not affecting at least one other property or characteristic, to form combination antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof; and
- 50 g) evaluating the activity and the retention of at least one other property or characteristic of the combination antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof with two activity enhancing amino acid residues, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof until an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, with an improved activity and at least one retained other property or characteristic, relative to the parent antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is obtained.
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**[0273]** Mutagenesis of the preferred selective mutagenesis position, contact and hypermutation residues may not

have increased the affinity of the antibody sufficiently, and mutagenesis and the phage display method (or related ribosome display method) may no longer be useful and at least one other characteristic or property of the antibody should be retained.

**[0274]** Therefore, in another embodiment the invention provides a method to improve the affinity of an antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof, comprising:

- a) providing a parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof that was obtained by selection in a phage-display system but whose activity cannot be further improved by mutagenesis in said phage-display system;
- b) selecting an amino acid residue within a complementarity determining region (CDR) for mutation other than H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H35, H50, H52, H52A, H53, H54, H56, H58, H95, H96, H97, H98, H101, L30, L31, L32, L34, L50, L52, L53, L55, L91, L92, L93, L94 and L96;
- c) individually mutating said selected position to at least two other amino acid residues to thereby create a panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof and expression in a non-phage display system;
- d) evaluating the activity of the panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof thereby identifying an activity enhancing amino acid residue;
- e) evaluating the panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof, for changes in at least one other property or characteristic until an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, with an improved activity, relative to the parent antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is obtained.

**[0275]** Preferably, the other characteristic or property is selected from 1) preservation of non-crossreactivity with other proteins or human tissues, 2) preservation of epitope recognition, i.e. recognizing p40 epitope preferably in the context of the p70 p40/p35 heterodimer preventing binding interference from free, soluble p40 and/or 3) to produce an antibody with a close to germline immunoglobulin sequence

**[0276]** If mutagenesis of a single residue is not sufficient other residues can be included; therefore, in another embodiment, the invention provides a method for improving the activity of an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, comprising:

- a) providing a parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof that was obtained by selection in a phage-display system but whose activity cannot be further improved by mutagenesis in said phage-display system;
- b) selecting an amino acid residue within a complementarity determining region (CDR) for mutation other than H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H35, H50, H52, H52A, H53, H54, H56, H58, H95, H96, H97, H98, H101, L30, L31, L32, L34, L50, L52, L53, L55, L91, L92, L93, L94 and L96;
- c) individually mutating said selected position to at least two other amino acid residues to thereby create a panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof and expression in a non-phage display system;
- d) evaluating the activity and retention of at least one other property or characteristic of the panel of mutated antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof, thereby identifying an activity enhancing amino acid residue;
- e) repeating steps b) through d) for at least one other CDR position which is neither the position selected under b) nor a position at H30, H31, H31B, H32, H33, H35, H50, H52, H52A, H53, H54, H56, H58, H95, H96, H97, H98, H101, L30, L31, L32, L34, L50, L52, L53, L55, L91, L92, L93, L94 and L96;
- f) combining, in the parent antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, at least two individual activity enhancing amino acid residues shown to have improved activity and not to affect at least one other property or characteristic, to form combination antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof; and
- g) evaluating the activity and retention of at least one property or characteristic of the combination antibodies, or antigen-binding portions thereof with two activity enhancing amino acid residues, relative to the parent antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof until an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, with an improved activity and at least one other retained characteristic or property, relative to the parent antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is obtained.

#### V. Expression of Antibodies

**[0277]** An antibody, or antibody portion, of the invention can be prepared by recombinant expression of immunoglobulin light and heavy chain genes in a host cell. To express an antibody recombinantly, a host cell is transfected with one or more recombinant expression vectors carrying DNA fragments encoding the immunoglobulin light and heavy chains of the antibody such that the light and heavy chains are expressed in the host cell and, preferably, secreted into the medium in which the host cells are cultured, from which medium the antibodies can be recovered. Standard recombinant DNA methodologies are used to obtain antibody heavy and light chain genes, incorporate these genes into recombinant

expression vectors and introduce the vectors into host cells, such as those described in Sambrook, Fritsch and Maniatis (eds), *Molecular Cloning; A Laboratory Manual*, Second Edition, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y., (1989), Ausubel, F.M. et al. (eds.) *Current Protocols in Molecular Biology*, Greene Publishing Associates, (1989) and in U.S. Patent No. 4,816,397 by Boss et al.

5 **[0278]** To obtain a DNA fragment encoding the heavy chain variable region of Joe 9 wt or a Joe 9 wt-related antibody, antibodies specific for human IL-12 were screened from human libraries and mutated, as described in section II. Once DNA fragments encoding Joe 9 wt or Joe 9 wt-related VH and VL segments are obtained, mutagenesis of these sequences is carried out by standard methods, such as PCR site directed mutagenesis (PCR-mediated mutagenesis in which the mutated nucleotides are incorporated into the PCR primers such that the PCR product contains the mutations) or other site-directed mutagenesis methods. Human IL-12 antibodies that displayed a level of activity and binding specificity/affinity that was desirable, for example J695, were further manipulated by standard recombinant DNA techniques, for example to convert the variable region genes to full-length antibody chain genes, to Fab fragment genes or to a scFv gene. In these manipulations, a VL- or VH-encoding DNA fragment is operatively linked to another DNA fragment encoding another protein, such as an antibody constant region or a flexible linker. The term "operatively linked", as used in this context, is intended to mean that the two DNA fragments are joined such that the amino acid sequences encoded by the two DNA fragments remain in-frame.

10 **[0279]** The isolated DNA encoding the VH region can be converted to a full-length heavy chain gene by operatively linking the VH-encoding DNA to another DNA molecule encoding heavy chain constant regions (CH1, CH2 and CH3). The sequences of human heavy chain constant region genes are known in the art (see e.g., Kabat, E.A., et al. (1991) Sequences of Proteins of Immunological Interest, Fifth Edition, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, NIH Publication No. 91-3242) and DNA fragments encompassing these regions can be obtained by standard PCR amplification. The heavy chain constant region can be an IgG1, IgG2, IgG3, IgG4, IgA, IgE, IgM or IgD constant region and any allotypic variant therein as described in Kabat (, Kabat, E.A., et al. (1991) Sequences of Proteins of Immunological Interest, Fifth Edition, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, NIH Publication No. 91-3242), but most preferably is an IgG1 or IgG4 constant region. For a Fab fragment heavy chain gene, the VH-encoding DNA can be operatively linked to another DNA molecule encoding only the heavy chain CH1 constant region.

15 **[0280]** The isolated DNA encoding the VL region can be converted to a full-length light chain gene (as well as a Fab light chain gene) by operatively linking the VL-encoding DNA to another DNA molecule encoding the light chain constant region, CL. The sequences of human light chain constant region genes are known in the art (see e.g., Kabat, E.A., et al. (1991) Sequences of Proteins of Immunological Interest, Fifth Edition, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, NIH Publication No. 91-3242) and DNA fragments encompassing these regions can be obtained by standard PCR amplification. The light chain constant region can be a kappa or lambda constant region, but most preferably is a lambda constant region.

20 **[0281]** To create a scFv gene, the VH- and VL-encoding DNA fragments are operatively linked to another fragment encoding a flexible linker, e.g., encoding the amino acid sequence (Gly<sub>4</sub>-Ser)<sub>3</sub>, such that the VH and VL sequences can be expressed as a contiguous single-chain protein, with the VL and VH regions joined by the flexible linker (see e.g., Bird et al. (1988) *Science* 242:423-426; Huston et al. (1988) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 85:5879-5883; McCafferty et al., *Nature* (1990) 348:552-554).

25 **[0282]** To express the antibodies, or antibody portions of the invention, DNAs encoding partial or full-length light and heavy chains, obtained as described above, are inserted into expression vectors such that the genes are operatively linked to transcriptional and translational control sequences. In this context, the term "operatively linked" is intended to mean that an antibody gene is ligated into a vector such that transcriptional and translational control sequences within the vector serve their intended function of regulating the transcription and translation of the antibody gene. The expression vector and expression control sequences are chosen to be compatible with the expression host cell used. The antibody light chain gene and the antibody heavy chain gene can be inserted into separate vector or, more typically, both genes are inserted into the same expression vector. The antibody genes are inserted into the expression vector by standard methods (e.g., ligation of complementary restriction sites on the antibody gene fragment and vector, or blunt end ligation if no restriction sites are present). Prior to insertion of the J695 or J695-related light or heavy chain sequences, the expression vector may already carry antibody constant region sequences. For example, one approach to converting the J695 or J695-related VH and VL sequences to full-length antibody genes is to insert them into expression vectors already encoding heavy chain constant and light chain constant regions, respectively, such that the VH segment is operatively linked to the CH segment(s) within the vector and the VL segment is operatively linked to the CL segment within the vector. Additionally or alternatively, the recombinant expression vector can encode a signal peptide that facilitates secretion of the antibody chain from a host cell. The antibody chain gene can be cloned into the vector such that the signal peptide is linked in-frame to the amino terminus of the antibody chain gene. The signal peptide can be an immunoglobulin signal peptide or a heterologous signal peptide (i.e., a signal peptide from a non-immunoglobulin protein).

30 **[0283]** In addition to the antibody chain genes, the recombinant expression vectors of the invention carry regulatory sequences that control the expression of the antibody chain genes in a host cell. The term "regulatory sequence" is

intended to include promoters, enhancers and other expression control elements (e.g., polyadenylation signals) that control the transcription or translation of the antibody chain genes. Such regulatory sequences are described, for example, in Goeddel; *Gene Expression Technology: Methods in Enzymology* 185, Academic Press, San Diego, CA (1990). It will be appreciated by those skilled in the art that the design of the expression vector, including the selection of regulatory sequences may depend on such factors as the choice of the host cell to be transformed, the level of expression of protein desired, etc. Preferred regulatory sequences for mammalian host cell expression include viral elements that direct high levels of protein expression in mammalian cells, such as promoters and/or enhancers derived from cytomegalovirus (CMV) (such as the CMV promoter/enhancer), Simian Virus 40 (SV40) (such as the SV40 promoter/enhancer), adenovirus, (e.g., the adenovirus major late promoter (AdMLP)) and polyoma. For further description of viral regulatory elements, and sequences thereof, see e.g., U.S. Patent No. 5,168,062 by Stinski, U.S. Patent No. 4,510,245 by Bell et al. and U.S. Patent No. 4,968,615 by Schaffner et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,464,758 by Bujard et al. and U.S. Patent No. 5,654,168 by Bujard et al.

**[0284]** In addition to the antibody chain genes and regulatory sequences, the recombinant expression vectors of the invention may carry additional sequences, such as sequences that regulate replication of the vector in host cells (e.g., origins of replication) and selectable marker genes. The selectable marker gene facilitates selection of host cells into which the vector has been introduced (see e.g., U.S. Patents Nos. 4,399,216, 4,634,665 and 5,179,017, all by Axel *et al.*). For example, typically the selectable marker gene confers resistance to drugs, such as G418, hygromycin or methotrexate, on a host cell into which the vector has been introduced. Preferred selectable marker genes include the dihydrofolate reductase (DHFR) gene (for use in dhfr- host cells with methotrexate selection/amplification) and the *neo* gene (for G418 selection).

**[0285]** For expression of the light and heavy chains, the expression vector(s) encoding the heavy and light chains is transfected into a host cell by standard techniques. The various forms of the term "transfection" are intended to encompass a wide variety of techniques commonly used for the introduction of exogenous DNA into a prokaryotic or eukaryotic host cell, e.g., electroporation, calcium-phosphate precipitation, DEAE-dextran transfection and the like. Although it is theoretically possible to express the antibodies of the invention in either prokaryotic or eukaryotic host cells, expression of antibodies in eukaryotic cells, and most preferably mammalian host cells, is the most preferred because such eukaryotic cells, and in particular mammalian cells, are more likely than prokaryotic cells to assemble and secrete a properly folded and immunologically active antibody. Preferred mammalian host cells for expressing the recombinant antibodies of the invention include Chinese Hamster Ovary (CHO cells) (including dhfr- CHO cells, described in Urlaub and Chasin, (1980) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 77:4216-4220, used with a DHFR selectable marker, e.g., as described in R.J. Kaufman and P.A. Sharp (1982) *Mol. Biol.* 159:601-621), NS0 myeloma cells, COS cells and SP2 cells. When recombinant expression vectors encoding antibody genes are introduced into mammalian host cells, the antibodies are produced by culturing the host cells for a period of time sufficient to allow for expression of the antibody in the host cells or, more preferably, secretion of the antibody into the culture medium in which the host cells are grown. Antibodies can be recovered from the culture medium using standard protein purification methods.

**[0286]** Host cells can also be used to produce portions of intact antibodies, such as Fab fragments or scFv molecules. It will be understood that variations on the above procedure are within the scope of the present invention. For example, it may be desirable to transfect a host cell with DNA encoding either the light chain or the heavy chain (but not both) of an antibody of this invention. Recombinant DNA technology may also be used to remove some or all of the DNA encoding either or both of the light and heavy chains that is not necessary for binding to hIL-12. The molecules expressed from such truncated DNA molecules are also encompassed by the antibodies of the invention. In addition, bifunctional antibodies may be produced in which one heavy and one light chain are an antibody of the invention and the other heavy and light chain are specific for an antigen other than hIL-12 by crosslinking an antibody of the invention to a second antibody by standard chemical crosslinking methods.

**[0287]** In a preferred system for recombinant expression of an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, of the invention, a recombinant expression vector encoding both the antibody heavy chain and the antibody light chain is introduced into dhfr- CHO cells by calcium phosphate-mediated transfection. Within the recombinant expression vector, the antibody heavy and light chain genes are each operatively linked to enhancer/promoter regulatory elements (e.g., derived from SV40, CMV, adenovirus and the like, such as a CMV enhancer/AdMLP promoter regulatory element or an SV40 enhancer/AdMLP promoter regulatory element) to drive high levels of transcription of the genes. The recombinant expression vector also carries a DHFR gene, which allows for selection of CHO cells that have been transfected with the vector using methotrexate selection/amplification. The selected transformant host cells are culture to allow for expression of the antibody heavy and light chains and intact antibody is recovered from the culture medium. Standard molecular biology techniques are used to prepare the recombinant expression vector, transfect the host cells, select for transformants, culture the host cells and recover the antibody from the culture medium. Antibodies or antigen-binding portions thereof of the invention can be expressed in an animal (e.g., a mouse) that is transgenic for human immunoglobulin genes (see e.g., Taylor, L.D. et al. (1992) *Nucl. Acids Res.* 20: 6287-6295). Plant cells can also be modified to create transgenic plants that express the antibody or antigen binding portion thereof, of the invention.

**[0288]** In view of the foregoing, another aspect of the invention pertains to nucleic acid, vector and host cell compositions that can be used for recombinant expression of the antibodies and antibody portions of the invention. Preferably, the invention features isolated nucleic acids that encode CDRs of J695, or the full heavy and/or light chain variable region of J695. Accordingly, in one embodiment, the invention features an isolated nucleic acid encoding an antibody heavy chain variable region that encodes the J695 heavy chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 25. Preferably, the nucleic acid encoding the antibody heavy chain variable region further encodes a J695 heavy chain CDR2 which comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 27. More preferably, the nucleic acid encoding the antibody heavy chain variable region further encodes a J695 heavy chain CDR1 which comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 29. Even more preferably, the isolated nucleic acid encodes an antibody heavy chain variable region comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 31 (the full VH region of J695).

**[0289]** In other embodiments, the invention features an isolated nucleic acid encoding an antibody light chain variable region that encodes the J695 light chain CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 26. Preferably, the nucleic acid encoding the antibody light chain variable region further encodes a J695 light chain CDR2 which comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 28. More preferably, the nucleic acid encoding the antibody light chain variable region further encodes a J695 light chain CDR1 which comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 30. Even more preferably, the isolated nucleic acid encodes an antibody light chain variable region comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ NO: 32 (the full VL region of J695).

**[0290]** The invention also provides recombinant expression vectors encoding both an antibody heavy chain and an antibody light chain. For example, in one embodiment, the invention provides a recombinant expression vector encoding:

- a) an antibody heavy chain having a variable region comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 31; and
- b) an antibody light chain having a variable region comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 32.

**[0291]** The invention also provides host cells into which one or more of the recombinant expression vectors of the invention have been introduced. Preferably, the host cell is a mammalian host cell, more preferably the host cell is a CHO cell, an NS0 cell or a COS cell. Still further the invention provides a method of synthesizing a recombinant human antibody of the invention by culturing a host cell of the invention in a suitable culture medium until a recombinant human antibody of the invention is synthesized. The method can further comprise isolating the recombinant human antibody from the culture medium.

## VI. Pharmaceutical Compositions and Pharmaceutical Administration

**[0292]** The antibodies and antibody-portions of the invention can be incorporated into pharmaceutical compositions suitable for administration to a subject. Typically, the pharmaceutical composition comprises an antibody or antibody portion of the invention and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. As used herein, "pharmaceutically acceptable carrier" includes any and all solvents, dispersion media, coatings, antibacterial and antifungal agents, isotonic and absorption delaying agents, and the like that are physiologically compatible. Examples of pharmaceutically acceptable carriers include one or more of water, saline, phosphate buffered saline, dextrose, glycerol, ethanol and the like, as well as combinations thereof. In many cases, it will be preferable to include isotonic agents, for example, sugars, polyalcohols such as mannitol, sorbitol, or sodium chloride in the composition. Pharmaceutically acceptable carriers may further comprise minor amounts of auxiliary substances such as wetting or emulsifying agents, preservatives or buffers, which enhance the shelf life or effectiveness of the antibody or antibody portion.

**[0293]** The antibodies and antibody-portions of the invention can be incorporated into a pharmaceutical composition suitable for parenteral administration. Preferably, the antibody or antibody-portions will be prepared as an injectable solution containing 0.1-250 mg/ml antibody. The injectable solution can be composed of either a liquid or lyophilized dosage form in a flint or amber vial, ampule or pre-filled syringe. The buffer can be L-histidine (1-50 mM), optimally 5-10mM, at pH 5.0 to 7.0 (optimally pH 6.0). Other suitable buffers include but are not limited to, sodium succinate, sodium citrate, sodium phosphate or potassium phosphate. Sodium chloride can be used to modify the toxicity of the solution at a concentration of 0-300 mM (optimally 150 mM for a liquid dosage form). Cryoprotectants can be included for a lyophilized dosage form, principally 0-10% sucrose (optimally 0.5-1.0%). Other suitable cryoprotectants include trehalose and lactose. Bulking agents can be included for a lyophilized dosage form, principally 1-10% mannitol (optimally 2-4%). Stabilizers can be used in both liquid and lyophilized dosage forms, principally 1-50 mM L-Methionine (optimally 5-10 mM). Other suitable bulking agents include glycine, arginine, can be included as 0-0.05% polysorbate-80 (optimally 0.005-0.01%). Additional surfactants include but are not limited to polysorbate 20 and BRIJ surfactants.

**[0294]** In a preferred embodiment, the pharmaceutical composition includes the antibody at a dosage of about 100 mg - 200 mg dose.

**[0295]** The compositions of this invention may be in a variety of forms. These include, for example, liquid, semi-solid and solid dosage forms, such as liquid solutions (e.g., injectable and infusible solutions), dispersions or suspensions,

tablets, pills, powders, liposomes and suppositories. The preferred form depends on the intended mode of administration and therapeutic application. Typical preferred compositions are in the form of injectable or infusible solutions, such as compositions similar to those used for passive immunization of humans with other antibodies. The preferred mode of administration is parenteral (e.g., intravenous, subcutaneous, intraperitoneal, intramuscular). In a preferred embodiment, the antibody is administered by subcutaneous injection.

**[0296]** Therapeutic compositions typically must be sterile and stable under the conditions of manufacture and storage. The composition can be formulated as a solution, microemulsion, dispersion, liposome, or other ordered structure suitable to high drug concentration. Sterile injectable solutions can be prepared by incorporating the active compound (*i.e.*, antibody or antibody portion) in the required amount in an appropriate solvent with one or a combination of ingredients enumerated above, as required, followed by filtered sterilization. Generally, dispersions are prepared by incorporating the active compound into a sterile vehicle that contains a basic dispersion medium and the required other ingredients from those enumerated above. In the case of sterile, lyophilized powders for the preparation of sterile injectable solutions, the preferred methods of preparation are vacuum drying and spray-drying that yields a powder of the active ingredient plus any additional desired ingredient from a previously sterile-filtered solution thereof. The proper fluidity of a solution can be maintained, for example, by the use of a coating such as lecithin, by the maintenance of the required particle size in the case of dispersion and by the use of surfactants. Prolonged absorption of injectable compositions can be brought about by including in the composition an agent that delays absorption, for example, monostearate salts and gelatin.

**[0297]** The antibodies and antibody-portions of the present invention can be administered by a variety of methods known in the art, although for many therapeutic applications, the preferred route/mode of administration is subcutaneous injection, intravenous injection or infusion. As will be appreciated by the skilled artisan, the route and/or mode of administration will vary depending upon the desired results. In certain embodiments, the active compound may be prepared with a carrier that will protect the compound against rapid release, such as a controlled release formulation, including implants, transdermal patches, and microencapsulated delivery systems. Biodegradable, biocompatible polymers can be used, such as ethylene vinyl acetate, polyanhydrides, polyglycolic acid, collagen, polyorthoesters, and polylactic acid. Many methods for the preparation of such formulations are patented or generally known to those skilled in the art. See, *e.g.*, Sustained and Controlled Release Drug Delivery Systems, J.R. Robinson, ed., Marcel Dekker, Inc., New York, 1978.

**[0298]** In certain embodiments, an antibody or antibody portion of the invention may be orally administered, for example, with an inert diluent or an assimilable edible carrier. The compound (and other ingredients, if desired) may also be enclosed in a hard or soft shell gelatin capsule, compressed into tablets, or incorporated directly into the subject's diet. For oral therapeutic administration, the compounds may be incorporated with excipients and used in the form of ingestible tablets, buccal tablets, troches, capsules, elixirs, suspensions, syrups, wafers, and the like. To administer a compound of the invention by other than parenteral administration, it may be necessary to coat the compound with, or co-administer the compound with, a material to prevent its inactivation.

**[0299]** Supplementary active compounds can also be incorporated into the compositions. In certain embodiments, an antibody or antibody portion of the invention is coformulated with and/or coadministered with one or more additional therapeutic agents that are useful for treating disorders in which IL-12 activity is detrimental. For example, an anti-hIL-12 antibody or antibody portion of the invention may be coformulated and/or coadministered with one or more additional antibodies that bind other targets (e.g., antibodies that bind other cytokines or that bind cell surface molecules). Furthermore, one or more antibodies of the invention may be used in combination with two or more of the foregoing therapeutic agents. Such combination therapies may advantageously utilize lower dosages of the administered therapeutic agents, thus avoiding possible toxicities or complications associated with the various monotherapies. It will be appreciated by the skilled practitioner that when the antibodies of the invention are used as part of a combination therapy, a lower dosage of antibody may be desirable than when the antibody alone is administered to a subject (e.g., a synergistic therapeutic effect may be achieved through the use of combination therapy which, in turn, permits use of a lower dose of the antibody to achieve the desired therapeutic effect).

**[0300]** Interleukin 12 plays a critical role in the pathology associated with a variety of diseases involving immune and inflammatory elements. These diseases include, but are not limited to, rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, juvenile chronic arthritis, Lyme arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, reactive arthritis, spondyloarthropathy, systemic lupus erythematosus, Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, inflammatory bowel disease, insulin dependent diabetes mellitus, thyroiditis, asthma, allergic diseases, psoriasis, dermatitis scleroderma, atopic dermatitis, graft versus host disease, organ transplant rejection, acute or chronic immune disease associated with organ transplantation, sarcoidosis, atherosclerosis, disseminated intravascular coagulation, Kawasaki's disease, Grave's disease, nephrotic syndrome, chronic fatigue syndrome, Wegener's granulomatosis, Henoch-Schoenlein purpura, microscopic vasculitis of the kidneys, chronic active hepatitis, uveitis, septic shock, toxic shock syndrome, sepsis syndrome, cachexia, infectious diseases, parasitic diseases, acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, acute transverse myelitis, Huntington's chorea, Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease, stroke, primary biliary cirrhosis, hemolytic anemia, malignancies, heart failure, myocardial infarction, Addison's disease, sporadic, polyglandular deficiency type I and polyglandular deficiency type II, Schmidt's syndrome, adult (acute) respi-

ratory distress syndrome, alopecia, alopecia areata, seronegative arthropathy, arthropathy, Reiter's disease, psoriatic arthropathy, ulcerative colitic arthropathy, enteropathic synovitis, chlamydia, yersinia and salmonella associated arthropathy, spondyloarthropathy, atheromatous disease/arteriosclerosis, atopic allergy, autoimmune bullous disease, pemphigus vulgaris, pemphigus foliaceus, pemphigoid, linear IgA disease, autoimmune haemolytic anaemia, Coombs positive haemolytic anaemia, acquired pernicious anaemia, juvenile pernicious anaemia, myalgic encephalitis/Royal Free Disease, chronic mucocutaneous candidiasis, giant cell arteritis, primary sclerosing hepatitis, cryptogenic autoimmune hepatitis, Acquired Immunodeficiency Disease Syndrome, Acquired Immunodeficiency Related Diseases, Hepatitis C, common varied immunodeficiency (common variable hypogammaglobulinaemia), dilated cardiomyopathy, female infertility, ovarian failure, premature ovarian failure, fibrotic lung disease, cryptogenic fibrosing alveolitis, post-inflammatory interstitial lung disease, interstitial pneumonitis, connective tissue disease associated interstitial lung disease, mixed connective tissue disease associated lung disease, systemic sclerosis associated interstitial lung disease, rheumatoid arthritis associated interstitial lung disease, systemic lupus erythematosus associated lung disease, dermatomyositis/polymyositis associated lung disease, Sjögren's disease associated lung disease, ankylosing spondylitis associated lung disease, vasculitic diffuse lung disease, haemosiderosis associated lung disease, drug-induced interstitial lung disease, radiation fibrosis, bronchiolitis obliterans, chronic eosinophilic pneumonia, lymphocytic infiltrative lung disease, postinfectious interstitial lung disease, gouty arthritis, autoimmune hepatitis, type-1 autoimmune hepatitis (classical autoimmune or lupoid hepatitis), type-2 autoimmune hepatitis (anti-LKM antibody hepatitis), autoimmune mediated hypoglycemia, type B insulin resistance with acanthosis nigricans, hypoparathyroidism, acute immune disease associated with organ transplantation, chronic immune disease associated with organ transplantation, osteoarthritis, primary sclerosing cholangitis, idiopathic leucopenia, autoimmune neutropenia, renal disease NOS, glomerulonephritides, microscopic vasculitis of the kidneys, lyme disease, discoid lupus erythematosus, male infertility idiopathic or NOS, sperm autoimmunity, multiple sclerosis (all subtypes), insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus, sympathetic ophthalmia, pulmonary hypertension secondary to connective tissue disease, Goodpasture's syndrome, pulmonary manifestation of polyarteritis nodosa, acute rheumatic fever, rheumatoid spondylitis, Still's disease, systemic sclerosis, Takayasu's disease/arteritis, autoimmune thrombocytopenia, idiopathic thrombocytopenia, autoimmune thyroid disease, hyperthyroidism, goitrous autoimmune hypothyroidism (Hashimoto's disease), atrophic autoimmune hypothyroidism, primary myxoedema, phacogenic uveitis, primary vasculitis and vitiligo. The human antibodies, and antibody portions of the invention can be used to treat autoimmune diseases, in particular those associated with inflammation, including, rheumatoid spondylitis, allergy, autoimmune diabetes, autoimmune uveitis.

**[0301]** Preferably, the antibodies of the invention or antigen-binding portions thereof, are used to treat rheumatoid arthritis, Crohn's disease, multiple sclerosis, insulin dependent diabetes mellitus and psoriasis, as described in more detail in section VII.

**[0302]** A human antibody, or antibody portion, of the invention also can be administered with one or more additional therapeutic agents useful in the treatment of autoimmune and inflammatory diseases.

**[0303]** Antibodies of the invention, or antigen binding portions thereof can be used alone or in combination to treat such diseases. It should be understood that the IL-12 antibodies of the invention or antigen binding portion thereof can be used alone or in combination with an additional agent, e.g., a therapeutic agent, said additional agent being selected by the skilled artisan for its intended purpose. For example, the additional agent can be a therapeutic agent art-recognized as being useful to treat the disease or condition being treated by the antibody of the present invention. The additional agent also can be an agent which imparts a beneficial attribute to the therapeutic composition e.g., an agent which effects the viscosity of the composition.

**[0304]** It should further be understood that the combinations which are to be included within this invention are those combinations useful for their intended purpose. The agents set forth below are illustrative for purposes and not intended to be limited. The combinations which are part of this invention can be the antibodies of the present invention and at least one additional agent selected from the lists below. The combination can also include more than one additional agent, e.g., two or three additional agents if the combination is such that the formed composition can perform its intended function. Furthermore, additional agents described herein used in combination with an IL-12 antibody, are not limited to the disorder to which they are attributed for treatment.

**[0305]** Preferred combinations are non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug(s) also referred to as NSAIDS which include drugs like ibuprofen. Other preferred combinations are corticosteroids including prednisolone; the well known side-effects of steroid use can be reduced or even eliminated by tapering the steroid dose required when treating patients in combination with the anti-IL-12 antibodies of this invention. Non-limiting examples of therapeutic agents for rheumatoid arthritis with which an antibody, or antibody portion, of the invention can be combined include the following: cytokine suppressive anti-inflammatory drug(s) (CSAIDs); antibodies to or antagonists of other human cytokines or growth factors, for example, TNF (including adalimumab / HUMIRA), LT, IL-1, IL-2, IL-6, IL-7, IL-8, IL-15, IL-16, IL-18, EMAP-II, GM-CSF, FGF, and PDGF. Antibodies of the invention, or antigen binding portions thereof, can be combined with antibodies to cell surface molecules such as CD2, CD3, CD4, CD8, CD25, CD28, CD30, CD40, CD45, CD69, CD80 (B7.1), CD86 (B7.2), CD90, or their ligands including CD154 (gp39 or CD40L).

**[0306]** Preferred combinations of therapeutic agents may interfere at different points in the autoimmune and subsequent inflammatory cascade; preferred examples include TNF antagonists like chimeric, humanized or human TNF antibodies, D2E7, (U.S. application serial number 08/599,226 filed February 9, 1996), cA2 (Remicade™), CDP 571, anti-TNF antibody fragments (e.g., CDP870), and soluble p55 or p75 TNF receptors, derivatives thereof, (p75TNFR1gG (Enbrel™) or p55TNFR1gG (Lenercept), soluble IL-13 receptor (sIL-13), and also TNF $\alpha$  converting enzyme (TACE) inhibitors; similarly IL-1 inhibitors (e.g., Interleukin-1-converting enzyme inhibitors, such as Vx740, or IL-1RA etc.) may be effective for the same reason. Other preferred combinations include Interleukin 11, anti-P7s and p-selectin glycoprotein ligand (PSGL). Yet another preferred combination are other key players of the autoimmune response which may act parallel to, dependent on or in concert with IL-12 function; especially preferred are IL-18 antagonists including IL-18 antibodies or soluble IL-18 receptors, or IL-18 binding proteins. It has been shown that IL-12 and IL-18 have overlapping but distinct functions and a combination of antagonists to both may be most effective. Yet another preferred combination are non-depleting anti-CD4 inhibitors. Yet other preferred combinations include antagonists of the co-stimulatory pathway CD80 (B7.1) or CD86 (B7.2) including antibodies, soluble receptors or antagonistic ligands.

**[0307]** Anti-IL12 antibodies, or antigen binding portions thereof, may also be combined with agents, such as methotrexate, 6-MP, azathioprine sulphasalazine, mesalazine, olsalazine chloroquinine/hydroxychloroquine, pencillamine, aurothiomalate (intramuscular and oral), azathioprine, cochicine, corticosteroids (oral, inhaled and local injection), beta-2 adrenoreceptor agonists (salbutamol, terbutaline, salmeteral), xanthines (theophylline, aminophylline), cromoglycate, nedocromil, ketotifen, ipratropium and oxitropium, cyclosporin, FK506, rapamycin, mycophenolate mofetil, leflunomide, NSAIDs, for example, ibuprofen, corticosteroids such as prednisolone, phosphodiesterase inhibitors, adenosine agonists, antithrombotic agents, complement inhibitors, adrenergic agents, agents which interfere with signalling by proinflammatory cytokines such as TNF $\alpha$  or IL-1 (e.g. IRAK, NIK, IKK, p38 or MAP kinase inhibitors), IL-1 $\beta$  converting enzyme inhibitors (e.g., Vx740), anti-P7s, p-selectin glycoprotein ligand (PSGL), TNF $\alpha$  converting enzyme (TACE) inhibitors, T-cell signalling inhibitors such as kinase inhibitors, metalloproteinase inhibitors, sulfasalazine, azathioprine, 6-mercaptapurines, angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors, soluble cytokine receptors and derivatives thereof (e.g. soluble p55 or p75 TNF receptors and the derivatives p75TNFR1gG (Enbrel™) and p55TNFR1gG (Lenercept), sIL-1RI, sIL-1RII, sIL-6R, soluble IL-13 receptor (sIL-13)) and antiinflammatory cytokines (e.g. IL-4, IL-10, IL-11, TL-13 and TNF $\beta$ ). Preferred combinations include methotrexate or leflunomide and in moderate or severe rheumatoid arthritis cases, cyclosporine.

**[0308]** Non-limiting examples of therapeutic agents for inflammatory bowel disease with which an anti-IL-12 antibody, or antibody portion, can be combined include the following: budenoside; epidermal growth factor; corticosteroids; cyclosporin, sulfasalazine; aminosalicylates; 6-mercaptapurine; azathioprine; metronidazole; lipoxygenase inhibitors; mesalamine; olsalazine; balsalazide; antioxidants; thromboxane inhibitors; IL-1 receptor antagonists; anti-IL-1 $\beta$  monoclonal antibodies; anti-IL-6 monoclonal antibodies; growth factors; elastase inhibitors; pyridinyl-imidazole compounds; antibodies to or antagonists of other human cytokines or growth factors, for example, TNF (including adalimumab / HUMIRA), LT, IL-1, IL-2, IL-6, IL-7, IL-8, IL-15, IL-16, IL-18, EMAP-II, GM-CSF, FGF, and PDGF. Antibodies of the invention, or antigen binding portions thereof, can be combined with antibodies to cell surface molecules such as CD2, CD3, CD4, CD8, CD25, CD28, CD30, CD40, CD45, CD69, CD90 or their ligands. The antibodies of the invention, or antigen binding portions thereof, may also be combined with agents, such as methotrexate, cyclosporin, FK506, rapamycin, mycophenolate mofetil, leflunomide, NSAIDs, for example, ibuprofen, corticosteroids such as prednisolone, phosphodiesterase inhibitors, adenosine agonists, antithrombotic agents, complement inhibitors, adrenergic agents, agents which interfere with signalling by proinflammatory cytokines such as TNF $\alpha$  or IL-1 (e.g. IRAK, NIK, IKK, p38 or MAP kinase inhibitors), IL-1 $\beta$  converting enzyme inhibitors (e.g., Vx740), anti-P7s, p-selectin glycoprotein ligand (PSGL), TNF $\alpha$  converting enzyme inhibitors, T-cell signalling inhibitors such as kinase inhibitors, metalloproteinase inhibitors, sulfasalazine, azathioprine, 6-mercaptapurines, angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors, soluble cytokine receptors and derivatives thereof (e.g. soluble p55 or p75 TNF receptors, sIL-1RI, sIL-1RII, sIL-6R, soluble IL-13 receptor (sIL-13)) and antiinflammatory cytokines (e.g. IL-4, IL-10, IL-11, IL-13 and TGF $\beta$ ).

**[0309]** Preferred examples of therapeutic agents for Crohn's disease in which an antibody or an antigen binding portion can be combined include the following: TNF antagonists, for example, anti-TNF antibodies, D2E7 (adalimumab / HUMIRA), cA2 (Remicade™), CDP 571, anti-TNF antibody fragments (e.g., CDP870), TNFR-Ig constructs (p75TNFR1gG (Enbrel™) and p55TNFR1gG (Lenercept)), anti-P7s, p-selectin glycoprotein ligand (PSGL), soluble IL-13 receptor (sIL-13), and PDE4 inhibitors. Antibodies of the invention or antigen binding portions thereof, can be combined with corticosteroids, for example, budenoside and dexamethasone. Antibodies may also be combined with agents such as sulfasalazine, 5-aminosalicylic acid and olsalazine, and agents which interfere with synthesis or action of proinflammatory cytokines such as IL-1, for example, IL-1 $\beta$  converting enzyme inhibitors (e.g., Vx740) and IL-1ra. Antibodies or antigen binding portion thereof may also be used with T cell signaling inhibitors, for example, tyrosine kinase inhibitors 6-mercaptapurines. Antibodies or antigen binding portions thereof, can be combined with IL-11.

**[0310]** Non-limiting examples of therapeutic agents for multiple sclerosis with which an antibody, or antibody portion, can be combined include the following: corticosteroids; prednisolone; methylprednisolone; azathioprine; cyclophosphamide; cyclosporine; methotrexate; 4-aminopyridine; tizanidine; interferon- $\beta$ 1a (Avonex; Biogen); interferon- $\beta$ 1b (Betase-

ron; Chiron/Berlex); Copolymer 1 (Cop-1; Copaxone; Teva Pharmaceutical Industries, Inc.); hyperbaric oxygen; intravenous immunoglobulin; clabribine; antibodies to or antagonists of other human cytokines or growth factors, for example, TNF, LT, IL-1, IL-2, IL-6, IL-7, IL-8, IL-15, IL-16, IL-18, EMAP-II, GM-CSF, FGF, and PDGF. Antibodies of the invention, or antigen binding portions thereof, can be combined with antibodies to cell surface molecules such as CD2, CD3, CD4, CD8, CD25, CD28, CD30, CD40, CD45, CD69, CD80, CD86, CD90 or their ligands. The antibodies of the invention, or antigen binding portions thereof, may also be combined with agents, such as methotrexate, cyclosporine, FK506, rapamycin, mycophenolate mofetil, leflunomide, NSAIDs, for example, ibuprofen, corticosteroids such as prednisolone, phosphodiesterase inhibitors, adenosine agonists, antithrombotic agents, complement inhibitors, adrenergic agents, agents which interfere with signalling by proinflammatory cytokines such as TNF $\alpha$  or IL-1 (e.g. IRAK, NIK, IKK, p38 or MAP kinase inhibitors), IL-1 converting enzyme inhibitors (e.g., Vx740), anti-P7s, p-selectin glycoprotein ligand (PSGL), TACE inhibitors, T-cell signalling inhibitors such as kinase inhibitors, metalloproteinase inhibitors, sulfasalazine, azathioprine, 6-mercaptopurines, angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors, soluble cytokine receptors and derivatives thereof (e.g. soluble p55 or p75 TNF receptors, sIL-1RI, sIL-1RII, sIL-6R, soluble IL-13 receptor (sIL-13)) and antiinflammatory cytokines (e.g. IL-4, IL-10, IL-13 and TGF $\beta$ ).

**[0311]** Preferred examples of therapeutic agents for multiple sclerosis in which the antibody or antigen binding portion thereof can be combined to include interferon- $\beta$ , for example, IFN $\beta$ 1a and IFN $\beta$ 1b; copaxone, corticosteroids, IL-1 inhibitors, TNF inhibitors, and antibodies to CD40 ligand and CD80.

**[0312]** An antibody, antibody portion, may be used in combination with other agents to treat skin conditions. For example, an antibody, antibody portion, or other IL-12 inhibitor of the invention is combined with PUVA therapy. PUVA is a combination of psoralen (P) and long-wave ultraviolet radiation (UVA) that is used to treat many different skin conditions. The antibodies, antibody portions, or other IL-12 inhibitors of the invention can also be combined with pimecrolimus. In another embodiment, the antibodies of the invention are used to treat psoriasis, wherein the antibodies are administered in combination with tacrolimus. In a further embodiment, tacrolimus and IL-12 inhibitors are administered in combination with methotrexate and/or cyclosporine. In still another embodiment, the IL-12 inhibitor of the invention is administered with excimer laser treatment for treating psoriasis.

**[0313]** The pharmaceutical compositions of the invention may include a "therapeutically effective amount" or a "prophylactically effective amount" of an antibody or antibody portion of the invention. A "therapeutically effective amount" refers to an amount effective, at dosages and for periods of time necessary, to achieve the desired therapeutic result. A therapeutically effective amount of the antibody or antibody portion may vary according to factors such as the disease state, age, sex, and weight of the individual, and the ability of the antibody or antibody portion to elicit a desired response in the individual. A therapeutically effective amount is also one in which any toxic or detrimental effects of the antibody or antibody portion are outweighed by the therapeutically beneficial effects. A "prophylactically effective amount" refers to an amount effective, at dosages and for periods of time necessary, to achieve the desired prophylactic result. Typically, since a prophylactic dose is used in subjects prior to or at an earlier stage of disease, the prophylactically effective amount will be less than the therapeutically effective amount.

**[0314]** Dosage regimens may be adjusted to provide the optimum desired response (e.g., a therapeutic or prophylactic response). For example, a single bolus may be administered, several divided doses may be administered over time or the dose may be proportionally reduced or increased as indicated by the exigencies of the therapeutic situation. It is especially advantageous to formulate parenteral compositions in dosage unit form for ease of administration and uniformity of dosage. Dosage unit form as used herein refers to physically discrete units suited as unitary dosages for the mammalian subjects to be treated; each unit containing a predetermined quantity of active compound calculated to produce the desired therapeutic effect in association with the required pharmaceutical carrier. The specification for the dosage unit forms of the invention are dictated by and directly dependent on (a) the unique characteristics of the active compound and the particular therapeutic or prophylactic effect to be achieved, and (b) the limitations inherent in the art of compounding such an active compound for the treatment of sensitivity in individuals.

**[0315]** In one embodiment, the IL-12 antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered on a biweekly dosing regimen, including, for example, a biweekly dosage ranging from about 50 to 300 mg, a dosage ranging from about 100 mg to about 200 mg, and a dosage from about 125 to about 175 mg. Alternatively, the IL-12 antibody may be administered as a one time dose, including, for example, a dose of about 200 mg dose, a dose of about 100 mg. In another embodiment, the IL-12 antibody is administered on a weekly dosing regimen, including, for example, a dose ranging from about 50 to 300 mg, a dosage ranging from about 100 mg to about 200 mg, and a dosage from about 125 to about 175 mg. It should be noted that doses within the specified ranges are also included herein, e.g., 85 mg, 97 mg, etc.

**[0316]** In another embodiment, a human IL-12 antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered as a single dose to a subject having a disorder in which IL-12 activity is detrimental, e.g., psoriasis, which results in treatment. A response to the IL-12 antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, may be maintained for an extended period in a subject. Maintenance of a response may be monitored in accordance with the disorder being treated. For example, maintenance of a response with an IL-12 antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, for treating psoriasis may be determined by the subject's PASI 75 response over time. Maintenance of a response for treating psoriasis may also be determined by the

subject's PASI 50 response or PASI 90 response over time. Maintenance of a response for treating psoriasis may alternatively be determined by the subject's achieving a PGA score of "clear" or "minimal", e.g., a PGA score of 0 or 1, over time.

**[0317]** It is to be noted that dosage values may vary with the type and severity of the condition to be alleviated. It is to be further understood that for any particular subject, specific dosage regimens should be adjusted over time according to the individual need and the professional judgment of the person administering or supervising the administration of the compositions, and that dosage ranges set forth herein are exemplary only and are not intended to limit the scope or practice of the claimed composition.

## VII. Uses of the Invention

**[0318]** The invention provides a method for inhibiting IL-12 activity in a subject suffering from a disorder in which IL-12 activity is detrimental. In one embodiment, the invention provides a method treating psoriasis comprising administering a single dose of an IL-12 antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof.

**[0319]** IL-12 has been implicated in the pathophysiology of a wide variety of disorders (Windhagen et al., (1995) J. Exp. Med. 182: 1985-1996; Morita et al. (1998) Arthritis and Rheumatism, 41: 306-314; Bucht et al., (1996) Clin. Exp. Immunol. 103: 347-367; Fais et al. (1994) J. Interferon Res. 14:235-238; Parronchi et al., (1997) Am. J. Path. 150:823-832; Monteleone et al., (1997) Gastroenterology. 112:1169-1178, and Berrebi et al., (1998) Am. J. Path 152:667-672; Parronchi et al (1997) Am. J. Path. 150:823-832). The invention provides methods for inhibiting IL-12 activity in a subject suffering from such a disorder, which method comprises administering to the subject an antibody or antibody portion of the invention such that IL-12 activity in the subject is inhibited. Preferably, the IL-12 is human IL-12 and the subject is a human subject. Alternatively, the subject can be a mammal expressing a IL-12 with which an antibody of the invention cross-reacts. Still further the subject can be a mammal into which has been introduced hIL-12 (e.g., by administration of hIL-12 or by expression of an hIL-12 transgene). An antibody of the invention can be administered to a human subject for therapeutic purposes (discussed further below). Moreover, an antibody of the invention can be administered to a non-human mammal expressing a IL-12 with which the antibody cross-reacts for veterinary purposes or as an animal model of human disease. Regarding the latter, such animal models may be useful for evaluating the therapeutic efficacy of antibodies of the invention (e.g., testing of dosages and time courses of administration).

**[0320]** As used herein, the phrase "a disorder in which IL-12 activity is detrimental" is intended to include diseases and other disorders in which the presence of IL-12 in a subject suffering from the disorder has been shown to be or is suspected of being either responsible for the pathophysiology of the disorder or a factor that contributes to a worsening of the disorder. Accordingly, a disorder in which IL-12 activity is detrimental is a disorder in which inhibition of IL-12 activity is expected to alleviate the symptoms and/or progression of the disorder. Such disorders may be evidenced, for example, by an increase in the concentration of IL-12 in a biological fluid of a subject suffering from the disorder (e.g., an increase in the concentration of IL-12 in serum, plasma, synovial fluid, etc. of the subject), which can be detected, for example, using an anti-IL-12 antibody as described above. There are numerous examples of disorders in which IL-12 activity is detrimental. In one embodiment, the antibodies or antigen binding portions thereof, can be used in therapy to treat the diseases or disorders described herein. In another embodiment, the antibodies or antigen binding portions thereof, can be used for the manufacture of a medicine for treating the diseases or disorders described herein. The use of the antibodies and antibody portions of the invention in the treatment of a few non-limiting specific disorders is discussed further below:

### A. *Rheumatoid Arthritis:*

**[0321]** Interleukin-12 has been implicated in playing a role in inflammatory diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis. Inducible IL-12p40 message has been detected in synovia from rheumatoid arthritis patients and IL-12 has been shown to be present in the synovial fluids from patients with rheumatoid arthritis (see e.g., Morita et al., (1998) Arthritis and Rheumatism 41: 306-314). IL-12 positive cells have been found to be present in the sublining layer of the rheumatoid arthritis synovium. The human antibodies, and antibody portions of the invention can be used to treat, for example, rheumatoid arthritis, juvenile rheumatoid arthritis, Lyme arthritis, rheumatoid spondylitis, osteoarthritis and gouty arthritis. Typically, the antibody, or antibody portion, is administered systemically, although for certain disorders, local administration of the antibody or antibody portion may be beneficial. An antibody, or antibody portion, of the invention also can be administered with one or more additional therapeutic agents useful in the treatment of autoimmune diseases.

**[0322]** In the collagen induced arthritis (CIA) murine model for rheumatoid arthritis, treatment of mice with an anti-IL-12 mAb (rat anti-mouse IL-12 monoclonal antibody, C17.15) prior to arthritis profoundly suppressed the onset, and reduced the incidence and severity of disease. Treatment with the anti-IL-12 mAb early after onset of arthritis reduced severity, but later treatment of the mice with the anti-IL-12 mAb after the onset of disease had minimal effect on disease severity.

*B. Crohn's Disease*

**[0323]** Interleukin-12 also plays a role in the inflammatory bowel disease, Crohn's disease. Increased expression of IFN- $\gamma$  and IL-12 occurs in the intestinal mucosa of patients with Crohn's disease (see *e.g.*, Fais et al., (1994) *J. Interferon Res.* 14: 235-238; Parronchi et al., (1997) *Amer. J. Pathol.* 150: 823-832; Monteleone et al., (1997) *Gastroenterology* 112: 1169-1178; Berrebi et al., (1998) *Amer. J. Pathol.* 152: 667-672). Anti-IL-12 antibodies have been shown to suppress disease in mouse models of colitis, *e.g.*, TNBS induced colitis IL-2 knockout mice, and recently in IL-10 knock-out mice. Accordingly, the antibodies, and antibody portions, of the invention, can be used in the treatment of inflammatory bowel diseases.

*C. Multiple Sclerosis*

**[0324]** Interleukin-12 has been implicated as a key mediator of multiple sclerosis. Expression of the inducible IL-12 p40 message or IL-12 itself can be demonstrated in lesions of patients with multiple sclerosis (Windhagen et al., (1995) *J. Exp. Med.* 182: 1985-1996, Drulovic et al., (1997) *J. Neurol. Sci.* 147: 145-150). Chronic progressive patients with multiple sclerosis have elevated circulating levels of IL-12. Investigations with T-cells and antigen presenting cells (APCs) from patients with multiple sclerosis revealed a self-perpetuating series of immune interactions as the basis of progressive multiple sclerosis leading to a Th1-type immune response. Increased secretion of IFN- $\gamma$  from the T cells led to increased IL-12 production by APCs, which perpetuated the cycle leading to a chronic state of a Th1-type immune activation and disease (Balashov et al., (1997) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.* 94: 599-603). The role of IL-12 in multiple sclerosis has been investigated using mouse and rat experimental allergic encephalomyelitis (EAE) models of multiple sclerosis. In a relapsing-remitting EAE model of multiple sclerosis in mice, pretreatment with anti-IL-12 mAb delayed paralysis and reduced clinical scores. Treatment with anti-IL-12 mAb at the peak of paralysis or during the subsequent remission period reduced clinical scores. Accordingly, the antibodies or antigen binding portions thereof of the invention may serve to alleviate symptoms associated with multiple sclerosis in humans.

*D. Insulin-Dependent Diabetes Mellitus*

**[0325]** Interleukin-12 has been implicated as an important mediator of insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus (IDDM). IDDM was induced in NOD mice by administration of IL-12, and anti-IL-12 antibodies were protective in an adoptive transfer model of IDDM. Early onset IDDM patients often experience a so-called "honeymoon period" during which some residual islet cell function is maintained. These residual islet cells produce insulin and regulate blood glucose levels better than administered insulin. Treatment of these early onset patients with an anti-IL-12 antibody may prevent further destruction of islet cells, thereby maintaining an endogenous source of insulin.

*E. Psoriasis*

**[0326]** Interleukin-12 (IL-12) and the related cytokine IL-23 have been implicated as key mediators in psoriasis. Psoriasis involves acute and chronic skin lesions that are associated with a TH1-type cytokine expression profile (Hamid et al. (1996) *J. Allergy Clin. Immunol.* 1:225-231; Turka et al. (1995) *Mol. Med.* 1:690-699). Both IL-12 and IL-23 contribute to the development of the type 1T helper cell (Th1) immune response in psoriasis. Moreover, the IL-12 p40 and IL-23 p40 messenger RNA is overexpressed in psoriatic skin lesions. Accordingly, the antibodies or antigen binding portions thereof of the invention may serve to alleviate chronic skin disorders such psoriasis.

**[0327]** In one embodiment, the invention provides a method for treating psoriasis. Treatment for psoriasis often includes a topical corticosteroids, vitamin D analogs, and topical or oral retinoids, or combinations thereof. In one embodiment, an IL-12 and/or IL-23 antibody is administered in combination with or the presence of one of these common treatments. Additional therapeutic agents which can be combined with the IL-12 and/or IL-23 antibody for treatment of psoriasis are described in more detail below.

**[0328]** The diagnosis of psoriasis is usually based on the appearance of the skin. Additionally a skin biopsy, or scraping and culture of skin patches may be needed to rule out other skin disorders. An x-ray may be used to check for psoriatic arthritis if joint pain is present and persistent.

**[0329]** Improvements in psoriasis in a subject can be monitored by the subject's Psoriasis Area and Severity Index Score (PASI). The method for determining the PASI has been described in Fredriksson and Pettersson (1978) *Dermatologica* 157:238 and Marks et al. (1989) *Arch Dermatol* 125:235. Briefly, the index is based on evaluation of four anatomic sites, including the head, upper extremities, trunk, and lower extremities, for erythema, induration, and desquamation using a 5 point scale (0= no symptoms; 1=slight; 2= moderate; 3=marked; 4=very marked). Based on the extent of lesions in a given anatomic site, the area affected is assigned a numerical value (0=0; 1 = < 10%; 2 = 10-29%; 3 = 30-49%; 4 = 50-69%; 5 = 70=89%; 6 = 90-100%). The PASI score is then calculated, wherein the possible range of

PASI score is 0.0 to 72.0 with the highest score representing complete erythroderma of the severest degree.

**[0330]** In one embodiment of the invention, an IL-12 and/or IL-23 antibody is used for the treatment of psoriasis, including chronic plaque psoriasis, guttate psoriasis, inverse psoriasis, pustular psoriasis, pemphigus vulgaris, erythrodermic psoriasis, psoriasis associated with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), and psoriasis associated with rheumatoid arthritis (RA). In another embodiment, an IL-12 and/or IL-23 antibody, such as J695 / ABT-874, is used to treat subjects who have psoriasis in combination with PsA. Specific types of psoriasis included in the treatment methods of the invention are described in detail below:

a. *Chronic plaque psoriasis*

**[0331]** Chronic plaque psoriasis (also referred to as psoriasis vulgaris) is the most common form of psoriasis. Chronic plaque psoriasis is characterized by raised reddened patches of skin, ranging from coin-sized to much larger. In chronic plaque psoriasis, the plaques may be single or multiple, they may vary in size from a few millimeters to several centimeters. The plaques are usually red with a scaly surface, and reflect light when gently scratched, creating a "silvery" effect. Lesions (which are often symmetrical) from chronic plaque psoriasis occur all over body, but with predilection for extensor surfaces, including the knees, elbows, lumbosacral regions, scalp, and nails. Occasionally chronic plaque psoriasis can occur on the penis, vulva and flexures, but scaling is usually absent. Diagnosis of patients with chronic plaque psoriasis is usually based on the clinical features described above. In particular, the distribution, color and typical silvery scaling of the lesion in chronic plaque psoriasis are characteristic of chronic plaque psoriasis.

b. *Guttate psoriasis*

**[0332]** Guttate psoriasis refers to a form of psoriasis with characteristic water drop shaped scaly plaques. Flares of guttate psoriasis generally follow an infection, most notably a streptococcal throat infection. Diagnosis of guttate psoriasis is usually based on the appearance of the skin, and the fact that there is often a history of recent sore throat.

c. *Inverse psoriasis*

**[0333]** Inverse psoriasis is a form of psoriasis in which the patient has smooth, usually moist areas of skin that are red and inflamed, which is unlike the scaling associated with plaque psoriasis. Inverse psoriasis is also referred to as intertriginous psoriasis or flexural psoriasis. Inverse psoriasis occurs mostly in the armpits, groin, under the breasts and in other skin folds around the genitals and buttocks, and, as a result of the locations of presentation, rubbing and sweating can irritate the affected areas.

d. *Pustular psoriasis*

**[0334]** Pustular psoriasis, also referred to as palmar plantar psoriasis, is a form of psoriasis that causes pus-filled blisters that vary in size and location, but often occur on the hands and feet. The blisters may be localized, or spread over large areas of the body. Pustular psoriasis can be both tender and painful, can cause fevers.

e. *Other psoriasis disorders*

**[0335]** Other examples of psoriatic disorders which can be treated with the IL-12 and/or IL-23 antibody include erythrodermic psoriasis, vulgaris, psoriasis associated with IBD, and psoriasis associated with arthritis, including rheumatoid arthritis.

**[0336]** The present invention is further illustrated by the following examples which should not be construed as limiting in any way. The contents of all cited references, including literature references, issued patents, and published patent applications, as cited throughout this application are hereby expressly incorporated herein by reference. It should further be understood that the contents of all the tables attached hereto (see Appendix A attached hereto and Appendix A of US Patent No. 6,914,128) as well as the entire contents of U.S. Patent No. 6,914,128 are incorporated herein by reference.

Table 1 VH3 Family Germline Amino Acid Sequences  
Numbering according to Kabat  
(J09 VH included for comparison)

SEQ ID	germline	CDR H1	CDR H2
594	DP-29	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
595	DP-30	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
596	H03E-7	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
597	VH03E	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
598	DP-31	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
599	DP-32	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
600	DP-33	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
601	DP-35	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
602	VH3-8	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
603	VH3-9	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
604	DP-38	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
605	LSG2	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
606	LSG3	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
607	LSG4	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
608	LSG5	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
609	V3-15	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
610	DP-40	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
611	DP-40	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
612	DP-59	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
613	V3-15B	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
614	V3-19P	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
615	V3-13	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
616	DP-42	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
617	DP-44	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
618	DP-45	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
619	DP-47	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
620	F18	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
621	F1	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
622	V3-44	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
623	V25	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
624	B25	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
625	B26	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
626	B37	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
627	B43	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
628	B48	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
629	B52	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
630	B55	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
631	COA-8	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
632	DP-46	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
633	F2H	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
634	F3	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
635	F7	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
636	HV3D05	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
637	R2	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
638	DP-48	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS
639	DP-5B	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS	EVQLVDSGGGLVQPGGSLRLISCAASGFTTS

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Table 1 VH3 Family Germ-line Amino Acid Sequences  
Numbering according to Kabat  
(J09 VH included for comparison)

SEQ ID#	germline	CDR H1	CDR H2
600	YH	YH	YH
601	YH	YH	YH
602	B1	B1	B1
603	B1	B1	B1
604	B1B	B1B	B1B
605	B1B	B1B	B1B
606	B2B	B2B	B2B
607	B2B	B2B	B2B
608	B2B	B2B	B2B
609	B2B	B2B	B2B
610	B2B	B2B	B2B
611	B2B	B2B	B2B
612	B2B	B2B	B2B
613	B2B	B2B	B2B
614	B2B	B2B	B2B
615	B2B	B2B	B2B
616	B2B	B2B	B2B
617	B2B	B2B	B2B
618	B2B	B2B	B2B
619	B2B	B2B	B2B
620	B2B	B2B	B2B
621	B2B	B2B	B2B
622	B2B	B2B	B2B
623	B2B	B2B	B2B
624	B2B	B2B	B2B
625	B2B	B2B	B2B
626	B2B	B2B	B2B
627	B2B	B2B	B2B
628	B2B	B2B	B2B
629	B2B	B2B	B2B
630	B2B	B2B	B2B
631	B2B	B2B	B2B
632	B2B	B2B	B2B
633	B2B	B2B	B2B
634	B2B	B2B	B2B
635	B2B	B2B	B2B
636	B2B	B2B	B2B
637	B2B	B2B	B2B
638	B2B	B2B	B2B
639	B2B	B2B	B2B
640	B2B	B2B	B2B
641	B2B	B2B	B2B
642	B2B	B2B	B2B
643	B2B	B2B	B2B
644	B2B	B2B	B2B
645	B2B	B2B	B2B
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654	B2B	B2B	B2B
655	B2B	B2B	B2B
656	B2B	B2B	B2B
657	B2B	B2B	B2B
658	B2B	B2B	B2B
659	B2B	B2B	B2B
660	B2B	B2B	B2B
661	B2B	B2B	B2B
662	B2B	B2B	B2B
663	B2B	B2B	B2B
664	B2B	B2B	B2B
665	B2B	B2B	B2B
666	B2B	B2B	B2B
667	B2B	B2B	B2B

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Table 1 V11 Family Germline Amino Acid Sequences

Numbering according to Kabat.  
(Joe9 VL included for comparison)

SEQ ID	gene*	VL	CDR L1	CDR L2	CDR L3
668	1b	DPL5	SSSSSNIGNNY VS	ENNRKPS	GIIDRSQSKSGTATLQITGLQDDEADYYC
669	1d	DPL4	SSSSDMGNVA VS	ENNRKPS	GIIDRSQSKSGTATLQITGLQDDEADYYC
670	1c	DPL2	SSSSNIGSNT VN	SNNQKPS	GIIDRSQSKSGTATLQITGLQDDEADYYC
671	1g	DPL3	SSSSNIGSNV VY	RNNQKPS	GIIDRSQSKSGTATLQITGLQDDEADYYC
672	1e	DPL1	SSSSNIGNN AVN	YDQLPS	GIIDRSQSKSGTATLQITGLQDDEADYYC
673	1f	DPL9	TSSSNIGAGYVH	GNSNPS	GIIDRSQSKSGTATLQITGLQDDEADYYC
674	1e	DPL8	TSSSNIGAGYDVH	GNSNPS	GIIDRSQSKSGTATLQITGLQDDEADYYC
675		Joe9 VL	SSSSNIGSNT VV	GNQKPS	GIIDRSQSKSGTATLQITGLQDDEADYYC

\*Williams, JMB, 1996, 264, 220-232

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Table 2

Clone	H3 SEQ ID NO:	H3	L3 SEQ ID NO:	L3	koff	RB assay IC50 (M)	PHA assay IC50 (M)	IFN gamma IC50 (M)
Joe9 wt	77	SGSYDY	110	QSYDSSLRGRV	1.00E-01	1.50E-06	1.00E-06	
Joe9 wt IgG1	77	SGSYDY	110	QSYDSSLRGRV			5.00E-07	
70-1	78	HGSHDN	110	Joe9 wt	1.34 e-2		2.00E-07	
70-1 IgG1	78	HGSHDN	110	Joe9 wt			2.00E-07	
70-2	79	HGSHDY	110	Joe9 wt	3.30E-02		3-5.0E-7	
70-7	80	RRRSNY	110	Joe9 wt	1.29E-01		3-5.0E-7	
70-13	81	SGSIDY	110	Joe9 wt	7.20E-02		3-5.0E-7	
78-34	77	wt	111	QSYDRGFTGSRV	1.64 e-2	2.00E-07	6.00E-07	
78-25	77	wt	112	QSYDSSLRGRV	5.00E-02			
78-28	77	wt	112	QSYDSSLRGRV	4.66E-02			
78-35	77	wt	113	QSYDSSLRGRV	4.99E-02	4.00E-07		
79-1	77	wt	114	QSYDSSLRGRV		2.00E-07	6.00E-07	
101-14	79	70-2	111	78-34	7.52E-03			
101-9	79	70-2	113	78-35	8.54E-03			
101-19	81	70-13	111	78-34	4.56E-02			
101-8	81	70-13	111	78-34	1.01E-02			
101-4	81	70-13	113	78-35	9.76E-03			
101-5	81	70-13	113	78-35	4.45E-02			
101-11 (12)	78	70-1	111	78-34	4.5 e-3		3.00E-08	
101-11 IgG1	78	70-1	111	78-34		1.60E-09		
26-1 (2,3)	78	70-1	114	79-1	7.4 e-3		6.00E-08	
136-9	82	HGSHDD	115	QSYDSSLRGRV	3.20E-03			
136-10	82	HGSHDD	116	QSYDRGFTGSRV	1.40E-03	2.00E-09		
136-14	83	HGSHDN	117	QSYDRGFTGSRV	1.10E-03	3.00E-10	1.00E-07	
136-15	83	HGSHDN	118	QSYDRGFTGSSV	7.4 e-4	1.00E-10	2.00E-09	
136-15 germline	83	HGSHDN	118	QSYDRGFTGSSV	4.60E-04		6.00E-09	
136-16	83	HGSHDN	119	QSYDRHFTGSRV	6.10E-04	3.00E-10	5.00E-09	
136-17	83	HGSHDN	120	QSYDMNFTGSRV	2.90E-05	2.00E-09	7.00E-09	
136-18	83	HGSHDN	121	QSYDRGFTGSRV	1.10E-03	8.00E-10		
136-21	83	HGSHDN	122	QSYDMNFTGSRV	4.20E-04	2.00E-09		
136-24	83	HGSHDN	123	QSYDNAVTASKV	8.90E-04	1.00E-09		

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Table 2

Clone	H3 SEQ ID NO:	H3	L3 SEQ ID NO:	L3	kdK	RB assay IC50 (M)	PHA assay IC50 (M)	ITN gamma IC50 (M)
101-11	84	FF HSHDN	124	OSTRGETSKV	4.5x10 <sup>-3</sup>	2x10 <sup>-9</sup>	2.00E-08	
136-15M1	85	AK	124	OSYDRGETSKV	1.37x10 <sup>-3</sup>	4.00E-10	3.00E-09	
149-4	86	.....S...	124	.....	8x10 <sup>-11</sup>			
149-5	87	.....T.....	125	OSTPSSLMTRV	1.02x10 <sup>-3</sup>	1.2x10 <sup>-10</sup>	3.00E-09	
149-6	84	.....	124	.....	2.73x10 <sup>-3</sup>	6x10 <sup>-10</sup>	2.00E-09	
149-7	84	.....	126	.....D.....	1.13x10 <sup>-3</sup>	5x10 <sup>-10</sup>	3.00E-09	
149-8	88	K.....			2.33x10 <sup>-3</sup>	3x10 <sup>-9</sup>		
149-9	89	R.....H.....	127	.....E.....M.....	3.54x10 <sup>-3</sup>	1.8x10 <sup>-10</sup>		
149-11	90	.....S.....	128	.....N.....A.....	1.43x10 <sup>-2</sup>	2x10 <sup>-10</sup>	4.00E-09	
149-12	84	.....			3.73x10 <sup>-3</sup>	neutralising		
149-13	84	.....			2.22x10 <sup>-3</sup>	5x10 <sup>-10</sup>		
149-14	91	.....R.....M.....				1.5x10 <sup>-10</sup>	6.00E-09	
	92	FF HSHDN	124	OSTRGETSKV				
156-1	93	.....T.....	126	.....D.....	5.00E-03			
156-2	93	.....T.....	129	.....R.....				
156-3	93	.....T.....	128	.....N.....A.....	9.00E-03			
156-4	93	.....T.....	127	.....E.....SM.....				
156-5	93	.....T.....	130	.....T.....K.....S.....	3.00E-03			
156-6	92	.....	126	.....D.....				
156-7	92	.....	129	.....R.....				
156-8	92	.....	128	.....N.....A.....				
156-9	92	.....	127	.....E.....SM.....				
156-10	92	.....	130	.....T.....K.....S.....				
156-11	94	K.....	126	.....D.....				
156-12	94	K.....	129	.....R.....				
156-13	94	K.....	128	.....N.....A.....				
156-14	94	K.....	127	.....E.....SM.....				
156-15	94	K.....	130	.....T.....K.....S.....				
156-16	93	.....T.....	124	.....				
156-17	92	.....T.....	125	.....SSLW.....T.....	6.00E-03			
156-18	93	.....T.....	125	.....SSLW.....T.....				

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Table 2

Clone	H3 SEQ ID NO:	H3	L3 SEQ ID NO:	L3	Koef	RB assay IC50 (M)	PHA assay IC50 (M)	IFN gamma IC50 (M)
103-1	92	TT HGSND	124	QSYDRGFTGSSRV	2.9x10 <sup>-3</sup>			
103-2	95	.. Q.R...	124	.....				
103-2	96	K. R.R...	130	.T.K.....S.	7.3x10 <sup>-4</sup>	7.00E-11	1.00E-09	
103-3	97	.....K	124	.....	2.5x10 <sup>-3</sup>			
103-6		.....	131	.....D...T..	4.5x10 <sup>-4</sup>			
103-7	98	.....D	131	.....D...T..	3.7x10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.40E-10	1.00E-09	
103-8	99	K. ....	130	.T.K.....S.	3.3x10 <sup>-4</sup>	6.00E-11	1.50E-09	
103-14 & 9	100	KT HGSND	132	QSYDRGFTGSSRV	6.7 e-4	4.00E-11	1.20E-09	
103-8 & 2	100	KT HGSND	133	QPYDKGFTGSSV	5.3 e-4		1.50E-09	
103-4	101	TT HGSND	134	QSYDRGFTGSSRV	1.6 e-4	8.60E-11	9.00E-10	
103-152	101	TT HGSND	135	QSYDRGFTGSSRV		8.60E-11		
170-1	102	TT SCSXX	136	QSYDRGFTGSSRV	2.35E-03			
170-2	102	.....	137	.....FK..	8.80E-04			
170-3	102	.....	138	.....VSAY..	1.1E-03			
170-4	102	.....	139	.....L.VTK..	8.1E-04			
170-7	102	.....	140	.....Y.A....	5.30E-04			
170-11	102	.....	141	.....K..	4.40E-04			
170-13	102	.....	142	.....L.F...	1.59E-03			
170-15	102	.....	143	.....YK..	4.43E-03			
170-19	103	.. H.H.N	144	.....L.Y.L.	1.00E-03			
170-21	104	.. H.H.N	145	.....DYK..	3.89E-03			
170-22	104	.. H.Q.N	146	.....P.L.	5.60E-04			
170-23	103	.. H.H.N	147	.....L.....	2.00E-10			
170-24	104	.. H.Q.N	148	.....A.W	2.80E-04	5.00E-10		
170-35	105	A. H.Q.N	149	.....Y...	2.10E-04			
170-38			150	.....2....				
170-39			151	.....N.S....	2.79E-03			
170-36	83	HGSND	152	QSYDRGFTGSSRV	4.00E-04	2.00E-10		
170-25	106	HGSND	153	QSYDRGFTGSSRV	5.00E-04	5.00E-11		

Table 2

Clone	H3 SEQ ID NO:	H3	L3 SEQ ID NO:	L3	Koff	RB assay IC50 (M)	PHA assay IC50 (M)	IFN gamma IC50 (M)
73-B1	106	SGSYDY	136	QSYDRGFTGSRYE	3.25E-03	>1E-8		
73-B2	107	SGSYDY	154	H...SD.....	2.07E-03			
73-B6	107	SGSYDY	155	H.SES.....	2.51E-03	>1E-8		
73-C1	107	SGSYDY	156	H..NR.....	2.71E-03	>1E-8		
73-C2	107	SGSYDY	157	H..SR.....	3.79E-03			
73-C6	107	SGSYDY	158	...SE.....	3.96E-03			
73-D1	107	SGSYDY	159	...T.....	3.99E-03			
73-D2	107	SGSYDY	160	H..S.....	3.56E-03			
73-D4	107	SGSYDY	161	...T.....	5.36E-03			
73-D5	107	SGSYDY	162	H..TK.....	3.57E-03			
73-E3	107	SGSYDY	163	H.S.S.....	4.98E-03			
73-E6	107	SGSYDY	164	...SD.....	4.17E-03			
73-F3	107	SGSYDY	165	H..ES.....	7.08E-03			
73-F5	107	SGSYDY	166	...APWS.....	3.74E-03			
73-G2	107	SGSYDY	167	...DSD...K..	3.50E-03			
73-G3	107	SGSYDY	168	HTN.S.....	6.58E-03			
73-G4	107	SGSYDY	169	H..TR.....	6.01E-03			
73-G5	107	SGSYDY	170	...MR.....	5.93E-03			
73-G6	107	SGSYDY	171	H.S.SDS.....	6.85E-03			
73-H2	107	SGSYDY	172	...NTD.....	7.00E-09			
73-F6	107	SGSYDY	173	...S.....				
73-H3	107	SGSYDY	174	H..M.....				
73-C5	107	SGSYDY	175	H..N.....				
73-B7	108	HGSQDN	176	H.H.D.....				
			177	QSYDSIRGSRV				

Table 2

Clone	H3 SEQ ID NO:	H3	L3 SEQ ID NO:	L3	Koef	RB assay IC50 (M)	PHA assay IC50 (M)	IFN gamma IC50 (M)
M2 A2	83	HGSHDN	136	OSYDRGETGSRVF	4.00E-02			
M2 A4	83	HGSHDN	178	.....I.H.....	8.49E-03			
M2 A5	83	HGSHDN	179	.....S..P.....	4.01E-02			
M2 B1	83	HGSHDN	180	.....I.S.....	7.97E-03			
M2 B3	83	HGSHDN	181	.....S.L.....	4.60E-02			
M2 B4	83	HGSHDN	182	.....I.M.....	4.42E-02			
M2 B5	83	HGSHDN	183	.....I.L.....	8.38E-03			
M2 B6	83	HGSHDN	184	.....S.V.....	2.81E-02			
M2 C2	83	HGSHDN	185	.....L.A.....	4.85E-02			
M2 C3	83	HGSHDN	186	.....S.L.....	4.62E-02			
M2 C4	83	HGSHDN	187	....T.L.....	8.16E-03			
M2 C5	83	HGSHDN	188	.....S.L.....	4.71E-02			
M2 D1	83	HGSHDN	189	.....T.A.L.....	3.71E-02			
M2 D2	83	HGSHDN	189	.....I.R.....	3.85E-02			
M2 D3	83	HGSHDN	190	.....I.R.S.....	3.33E-02			
M2 D4	83	HGSHDN	191	.....N.P.L.....	5.81E-02			
M2 D5	83	HGSHDN	192	.....E.T.S.....	5.18E-02			
M2 D6	83	HGSHDN	193	.....S.S.S.....	5.01E-02			
M2 E1	83	HGSHDN	194	.....S...A.....	5.32E-02			
M2 E2	83	HGSHDN	195	.....T...K.....	4.77E-02			
M2 E6	83	HGSHDN	196	.....N.....	9.77E-03			
M2 F1	83	HGSHDN	197	.....S.D.V.....	6.16E-02			
M2 H5	83	HGSHDN	198	.....A.....	9.90E-03			

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Table 2

Clone	H3 SEQ ID NO:	H3	L3 SEQ ID NO:	L3	K <sub>off</sub>	RB assay IC50 (M)	BHA assay IC50 (M)	IFN gamma IC50 (M)
A5	83	HGSHDN	124	QSYDRLTGSRY	1.12E-03			
A12	83	HGSHDN	199	.....TRSRM	1.43E-03			
A4	83	HGSHDN	201	.....RNPALT	1.47E-03			
A6	83	HGSHDN	202	.....TRPMIL	1.07E-03			
A10	83	HGSHDN	203	.....NSRATV	1.87E-03			
A11	83	HGSHDN	204	.....TFSRQ	3.07E-03			
C2	83	HGSHDN	205	.....LNSRAT	2.23E-03			
A8	83	HGSHDN	206	.....KSNRML	2.37E-03			
B8	83	HGSHDN	207	.....HTRHLV	2.40E-03			
C6	83	HGSHDN	208	.....QPSIT	2.42E-03			
A3	83	HGSHDN	209	.....YPRNIT	2.51E-03			
B11	83	HGSHDN	210	.....TRPGLA	2.95E-03			
B5	83	HGSHDN	211	.....OPRNLV	3.04E-03			
C10	83	HGSHDN	212	.....NSRTPF	3.10E-03			
C4	83	HGSHDN	213	.....TRNMSF	3.23E-03			
C3	83	HGSHDN	214	.....S.VDRGKY	3.34E-03			
B2	83	HGSHDN	215	.....RPRRLL	3.61E-03			
A2	83	HGSHDN	216	.....PYRPIR	1.80E-03			
C5	83	HGSHDN	217	.....PRRQPT	3.91E-03			
A7	83	HGSHDN	218	.....HNRNSP	3.95E-03			
C9	83	HGSHDN	219	.....PRLPLH	3.97E-03			
B3	83	HGSHDN	220	.....TPSYPT	4.12E-03			
C8	83	HGSHDN	221	.....S.TSRILP	5.36E-03			
B7	83	HGSHDN	222	.....DSRHDL	5.45E-03			
A1	83	HGSHDN	223	.....LPRLTH	5.66E-03			
C7	83	HGSHDN	224	.....LPSYLL	5.83E-03			
C12	83	HGSHDN	225	.....LRVQRY	5.85E-03			
B10	83	HGSHDN	226	.....LRSRPL	6.04E-03			
B6	83	HGSHDN	227	.....S.SRRLD	7.58E-03			
A9	83	HGSHDN	228	.....PARNSP	7.98E-03			
B9	83	HGSHDN	229	.....RAAHQ	8.66E-03			

Table 2

Clone	R3 SEQ ID NO:	H3	L3 SEQ ID NO:	L3	Koff	RB assay IC50 (M)	PHA assay IC50 (M)	IFN gamma IC50 (M)
177-D7	83	HGSHDN	124	OSYDRGEGSRV	4.07E-04			
177-G6	83	HGSHDN	230	.....TRPABI	5.50E-04			
177-D9	83	HGSHDN	231	.....TRPAMI	6.32E-04			
177-C6	83	HGSHDN	232	.....TRPABT	7.94E-04			
177-H5	83	HGSHDN	233	.....TRPVPA	1.32E-03			
177-H9	83	HGSHDN	234	.....SRRIPA	1.58E-03			
177-H10	83	HGSHDN	235	.....TRPVPA	3.44E-03			
144-F1	83	HGSHDN	236	.....TRPTMY	5.80E-04			
43-E3	83	HGSHDN	237	.....HRYTTE	8.00E-04			
43-E9	83	HGSHDN	238	.....SHRAAE	8.00E-04			
43-G2	83	HGSHDN	239	.....TRFSIE	7.00E-04			
43-G3	83	HGSHDN	240	.....SSPAIM	9.00E-04			
31-A6	83	HGSHDN	241	.....TRPMLN	5.00E-04			
31-B5	83	HGSHDN	242	.....TRBNLN	5.00E-04			
			243	.....TRPSIS	5.00E-04			
			124	OSYDRGEGSRV				
Y17	83	HGSHDN	244	OSYDRGSAEMIN	8.90E-05	4.50E-10	>1E-8	
Y19	83	HGSHDN	245	OSYDRGHDPMS	2.26E-04	3.00E-11	>1E-6	
Y38	83	HGSHDN	246	.....TRPSIT	5.08E-04	5.50E-11	2.60E-09	
Y45	83	HGSHDN	247	.....TRPAIV	6.17E-04	4.00E-11	4.30E-09	
Y61	83	HGSHDN	248	.....TRPALL	2.75 e-4	4E-11	1.40E-10	
Y61 IgG	83	HGSHDN	248	.....TRPALL	1.58E-04	1.60E-11	1.30E-10	
Y61 IgG germ-line	83	HGSHDN	248	.....TRPALL	1.50E-04	1.60E-11	1.30E-10	1.60E-10
Y139	83	HGSHDN	249	.....SHPAIT	5.92E-04	3E-11	4.50E-10	
Y139 IgG1	83	HGSHDN	249	.....SHPAIT			1.00E-09	
Y174	83	HGSHDN	250	.....TRPAPE	7.55E-04	6E-11	2.00E-09	
Y177	83	HGSHDN	251	.....SHPTLI	6.61E-04	5E-11	1.00E-09	
A5	83	HGSHDN	252	.....TRPSMT	4.56E-04	6.60E-11		
A12	83	HGSHDN	253	.....TRPRFM	5.57E-04	2.50E-10		
D9	83	HGSHDN	254	.....RPAQOT	8.21E-04	3.5E-09	>>	
G6	83	HGSHDN	255	.....TRPLTI	5.08E-04	1E-10	1.00E-09	
G6 IgG1	83	HGSHDN	255	.....TRPLTI			1.00E-09	
G6	83	HGSHDN	256	OSYDRGQTRPST	1.07E-03	3.5E-10	1.00E-08	
Y55	83	HGSHDN	257	OSYDRGTRPOMY	1.06E-03	1.40E-10	>1E-8	

Table 2

Clone	H3 SEQ ID NO:	H3	L3 SEQ ID NO:	L3	Koff	RE assay IC50 (M)	PVA assay IC50 (M)	IFN gamma IC50 (M)
A4	83	HGSHDN	258	QSYDRGRNPALT	6.30E-04	2.50E-10		
A03	83	HGSHDN	259	QSYDRGTHPLTM	3.04E-04	3.00E-11	4.00E-10	
A03 IgG1	83	HGSHDN	260	QSYDRGTHPLTM	3.04 e-4	2.90E-11	3.80E-10	
A03 IgG germline	83	HGSHDN	260	QSYDRGTHPLTM	2.50E-04	3.50E-11	1.75E-10	
99-B11	83	HGSHDN	261	QSYDSGYTGSRV	5.40E-03			
99-C11	83	HGSHDN	262	QSYDSGFTGSRV	5.70E-03			
99-H4	83	HGSHDN	263	QSYDSRFTGSRV	4.80E-03			
99-E9	83	HGSHDN	262	QSYDSGFTGSRV	5.40E-03			
99-H7	83	HGSHDN	264	QSYEDGTPAASHV	3.30E-03			
99-H11	83	HGSHDN	265	QSYSTHNPISRV	4.90E-03			
99-F6	83	HGSHDN	266	QSYDSGSTGSRV	4.90E-03			
99-F7	83	HGSHDN	267	QSYENSYPTSRV	4.80E-03			
99-F8	83	HGSHDN	268	QSYIRAPQVV	3.70E-03			
99-F11	83	HGSHDN	262	QSYDSGFTGSRV	5.40E-03			
99-G7	83	HGSHDN	269	QSYLXSRAPASRV	4.80E-03			
99-G11	83	HGSHDN	270	QSYDSRFTGSRV	4.30E-03			
			124	QSYDRGFTGSRV				
I3.3R3M-B1	83	HGSHDN	271	.....FTGSNV	5.46E+00			
I3.3R3M-B3	83	HGSHDN	272	.....FTGSNV	5.51E+00			
I3.3R3M-C6	83	HGSHDN	273	.....FTGEDG	6.17E+00			
I3.3R3M-F9	83	HGSHDN	274	.....TAPALS	4.99E+00			
I3.3R3M-G8	83	HGSHDN	275	.....SYPAIR	5.55E+00			
I3.3R3M-H6	83	HGSHDN	276	.....NWPNIN	5.69E+00			
I3.3R3M-H10	83	HGSHDN	277	.....TAPSLI	5.35E+00			
I3.3R3M-A3	83	HGSHDN	278	.....FTGSNV	5.37E+00			
I3.3R3M-F8	83	HGSHDN	279	.....TTPRIR	4.99E+00			
I3.3R3M-G1	83	HGSHDN	280	.....FTGSNV	4.21E+00			
I3.3R3M-G7	83	HGSHDN	281	.....FTGSNV	4.24E+00			
I3.3R3M-H11	83	HGSHDN	282	.....MIPALT	3.95E+00			

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Table 2

Clone	H3 SEQ ID NO:	H3	L3 SEQ ID NO:	L3	koff	RB assay IC50 (M)	PHA assay IC50 (M)	IFN gamma IC50 (M)
Y61-L94N	109	CKT HGSHDN	283	QSYDRNTHPALL			8.00E-11	
Y61-L94F	109	CKT HGSHDN	284	QSYDRFTHPALL			6.00E-11	
Y61-L94Y	109	CKT HGSHDN	285	QSYDRYTHPALL		2.00E-11	2.00E-11	
Y61-L94Y IgG	109	CKT HGSHDN	285	QSYDRYTHPALL	1.27E-04	6.00E-11	5.00E-11	4.00E-11
Y61-L50Y	109	CKT HGSHDN	286	QSYDRGTHPALL		2.00E-11		2.00E-11
Y61-L50Y* IgG	109	CKT HGSHDN	286	QSYDRGTHPALL	6.98E-05		2.00E-11	3.00E-11
Y61-L50Y-H31E** IgG	109	CKT HGSHDN	286	QSYDRGTHPALL	2.99E-05		6.00E-11	2.00E-11
Y61-L50Y-H31E-L94Y** IgG	109	CKT HGSHDN	287	QSYDRYTHPALL	4.64E-05		1.00E-11	1.00E-11
J695 (Y61-L94Y-L50Y IgG*)	109	CKT HGSHDN	287	QSYDRYTHPALL	5.14E-05	5.00E-11	1.00E-11	5.00E-12

\*CDR L2: L50G to Y  
 \*\*CDR L2: L50G to Y; CDR H1: H31S to E

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(continued)

Table 4. Neutralitation Activity in the Presence of Excess Free IL-12 p40

SEQ ID NO:	Clone	PHA assay IC50 (M) p70:p40 1:0	PHA assay IC50 (M) p70:p40 1:20	PHA assay IC50 (M) p70:p40 1:50
VH: 53 VL: 54	149-5	9.00E-10	1.00E-09	1.00E-09
VH: 84 VL: 126	149-7	3.50E-09	2.50E-09	4.00E-09
VH: 23 VL: 24	Y61 IgG	1.80E-10		1.80E-10
VH: 65 VL: 66	AO3 IgG1	2.50E-10		2.20E-10
VH: 31 VL: 32	J699	2.00E-11		3.50E-11

**EXAMPLES****Example 1: Efficacy of the Fully Human IL-12/IL-23 Monoclonal Antibody, ABT-874, In the Treatment of Moderate to Severe Plaque Psoriasis**

**[0337]** ABT-874 is a fully human antibody against interleukin-12 (IL-12) and IL-23. It binds with great affinity to the p40 subunit common to both IL-12 and IL-23, both validated targets in the treatment of psoriasis (Ps).

**[0338]** The objective of the following study was to evaluate the efficacy of subcutaneous injections of ABT-874 in the treatment of patients with moderate to severe plaque Ps.

**[0339]** Adult patients with Ps affecting  $\geq 10\%$  body surface area (BSA) and a Psoriasis Area and Severity Index (PASI) score  $\geq 12$  at baseline were eligible for this 12-week, double-blind, placebo-controlled study. Patients were randomized to 1 of 6 arms: 1) 100-mg ABT-874 every other week (eow) for 12 weeks; 2) one 200-mg ABT-874 dose at Week 0; 3) 200-mg ABT-874 every week for 4 weeks; 4) 200-mg ABT-874 eow for 12 weeks; 5) 200-mg ABT-874 every week for 12 weeks; or 6) placebo. Primary endpoint was a  $\geq$ PASI75 response at Week 12. Other efficacy assessments included the PASI50 and Physician's Global Assessment (PGA). Patients who met the primary endpoint entered a 36-week blinded/retreatment phase and were monitored for time to loss of response.

**[0340]** A total of 180 patients enrolled in the study, 30 in each arm. Baseline characteristics were similar between arms and indicative of moderate to severe Ps (all mean values except % male): age, 46 yrs, 74% male; 21 yrs duration of Ps; PASI 19; and 25% BSA affected. At Week 12, the percentages of patients achieving  $\geq$ PASI75 were statistically significantly greater for patients in each of the 5 ABT-874 arms vs. placebo (93%, 63%, 90%, 93%, 90%, vs. 3%, respectively,  $p < 0.001$ , ITT). In addition, the percentages of patients achieving  $\geq$ PASI50 were statistically significantly greater for patients in each of the 5 ABT-874 arms vs. placebo (100%, 77%, 97%, 97%, and 100%, vs. 17%,  $p < 0.001$ ). The mean percentage decreases (improvements) in PASI at Week 12 were 90%, 70%, 92%, 92%, and 90%, respectively, in the ABT-874 arms, and 26% for placebo. Similarly, the percentages of patients with a PGA of Clear/Minimal were 83%, 50%, 73%, 87% and 87%, respectively, in the ABT-874 arms, and 3% for placebo.

**[0341]** In conclusion, ABT-874 was significantly more efficacious than placebo in the treatment of moderate to severe plaque psoriasis.

**Example 2: Safety and Efficacy of the Fully Human IL-12/IL-23 Monoclonal Antibody, ABT-874, in the Treatment of Moderate to Severe Plaque Psoriasis**

**[0342]** ABT-874 is a fully human antibody against interleukin 12 (IL-12) and IL-23. It binds with great affinity to the p40 subunit common to both IL-12 and IL-23, validated targets in the treatment of psoriasis (Ps). The objective of this Phase II study was to investigate the efficacy and safety of subcutaneous injections of ABT-874 in the treatment of moderate to severe plaque Ps.

**[0343]** Adults with Ps affecting  $\geq 10\%$  body surface area (BSA) and a PASI score  $\geq 12$  were eligible for this 12-wk, double-blind, placebo-controlled study. Patients were randomized to 1 of 6 arms: 1) 100-mg ABT-874 every other week (eow) for 12 wks; 2) one 200-mg ABT-874 dose at Wk 0; 3) 200-mg ABT-874 every wk for 4 wks; 4) 200-mg ABT-874 eow for 12 wks; 5) 200-mg ABT-874 every wk for 12 wks; or 6) placebo. The primary endpoint was a  $\geq$ PASI75 response at Wk 12. Patients who met the primary endpoint entered a 36-wk blinded/retreatment phase and were monitored for time to loss of response. All patients were evaluated for safety through Wk 54.

**[0344]** 180 patients enrolled, 30 in each arm. Baseline characteristics were similar between arms (mean values presented except % male): age, 46 yrs, 74% male; 21 yrs duration of Ps; PASI=19; and 25% BSA affected. At Wk 12, the %s of patients with  $\geq$ PASI75 were statistically significantly greater in each of the 5 ABT-874 arms vs. placebo (93%, 63%, 90%, 93%, 90%, vs. 3%, respectively,  $p < 0.001$ , ITT). During the 12-wk, DB phase, infectious AEs for the ABT-874 groups ranged from 23-43% and for the placebo group was 23%, with the most common being nasopharyngitis (7-17% for ABT-874; 3% for placebo). There were no statistically significant differences between arms. No serious infectious AEs were reported, and no deaths occurred.

**[0345]** In conclusion, ABT-874 was significantly more efficacious than placebo in the treatment of moderate to severe plaque Ps, and appears to have a favorable safety profile.

**Example 3: Maintenance of Response with the Fully Human IL-12/-23 Monoclonal Antibody, ABT-874, in the Treatment of Moderate to Severe Plaque Psoriasis**

**[0346]** The efficacy and safety of ABT-874 was evaluated in a 12-week, Phase II, randomized controlled trial and 36-week follow-up phase. The objective of the following example was to analyze maintenance of response following discontinuation of therapy during the second 12 weeks of this Phase II study of subcutaneous injections of ABT-874 in the treatment of moderate to severe plaque Ps.

**[0347]** Adults with Ps affecting  $\geq 10\%$  body surface area (BSA) and a PASI score  $\geq 12$  were eligible for this 12-week, double-blind, placebo-controlled study. Patients were randomized to 1 of 6 arms:

- 1) 100-mg ABT-874 every other week (eow) for 12 wks;
- 2) one 200-mg ABT-874 dose at Wk 0;
- 3) 200-mg ABT-874 every wk for 4 wks;
- 4) 200-mg ABT-874 eow for 12 wks;
- 5) 200-mg ABT-874 every wk for 12 wks; or
- 6) placebo.

**[0348]** The primary endpoint was a  $\geq$ PASI75 response at Week 12. Patients who met the primary endpoint entered a 36-week blinded/retreatment phase. Treatment with study drug was discontinued, and patients were monitored for time to loss of response (a decrease in PASI score, any time during the 36-week follow-up period, to  $<$ PASI 50). Maintenance of PASI response was evaluated through Week 24.

**[0349]** A total of 180 patients enrolled, 30 in each arm. Baseline characteristics were similar between arms (mean values presented except % male): age, 46 years, 74% male; 21 years duration of Ps; PASI=19; and 25% BSA affected.

**[0350]** At Week 12, the percentages of patients with  $\geq$ PASI75 were statistically significantly greater in each of the 5 ABT-874 arms vs. placebo (Table 1). At Week 24, substantial percentages of PASI 75 responders in the active treatments arms had maintained at least a PASI 50 response.

Table 1: 24-Week Efficacy of ABT-874

	$\geq$ PASI75 at Wk 12	Maintenance of PASI Response: Wk 24 vs. Wk 12
100 mg eow for 12 wks	28/30 (93%)*	24/28 (86%)
200 mg, one dose	19/30 (63%)*	15/19 (79%)
200-mg every wk for 4 wks	27/30 (90%)*	23/27 (85%)
200-mg eow for 12 wks	28/30 (93%)*	26/28 (93%)
200-mg every wk for 12 wks	27/30 (90%)*	26/27 (96%)
Placebo	1/30 (3%)	-
* $p < 0.001$ vs. placebo, NRI.		

**[0351]** In conclusion, ABT-874 was significantly more efficacious than placebo in the treatment of moderate to severe

plaque Ps. Substantial percentages of PASI 75 responders maintained these responses at Week 24, following discontinuation of active therapy.

#### Example 4: Safety and Efficacy of ABT-874, a Fully Human IL-12/23 Monoclonal Antibody, in the Treatment of Moderate to Severe Chronic Plaque Psoriasis

**[0352]** The objective of the following example was to demonstrate the efficacy and safety of a range of doses of a human IL-12/23 monoclonal antibody (ABT-874) compared with placebo in the treatment of patients with clinically stable moderate to severe chronic plaque psoriasis.

#### I. Materials and Methods

**[0353] A. Study design:** The following study was a 12-week, multicentre, randomised, double-blind, phase II, placebo-controlled trial that was conducted at 24 centres in the United States (16 sites) and Canada (8 sites). ABT-874 (Abbott Laboratories, Abbott Park, IL) is a human monoclonal antibody with genetically engineered complementarity-determining regions that have high affinity for the IL-12/23 p40 subunit protein. Patients were randomised in a 1:1:1:1:1:1 ratio to receive 1 of 6 treatments: 200 mg of ABT-874, 1 dose at week 0 (200 mg  $\times$  1); 100 mg of ABT-874 every other week (eow) for 12 weeks (100 mg eow); 200 mg of ABT-874 weekly for the first 4 weeks (200 mg  $\times$  4); 200 mg of ABT-874 eow for 12 weeks (200 mg eow); 200 mg of ABT-874 weekly for 12 weeks (200 mg weekly); or placebo. After week 12, all patients who achieved at least a 75% reduction in psoriasis area and severity index (PASI 75) response continued into a 36-week blinded observation/retreatment phase.

**[0354] B. Patients:** Patients were  $\geq 18$  years of age and had a clinical diagnosis of psoriasis for at least 6 months (determined by patient interview and confirmation of diagnosis through physical examination by the investigator), stable plaque psoriasis for at least 2 months before screening and at baseline visits as determined by subject interview, moderate to severe plaque psoriasis defined by  $\geq 10\%$  body surface area (BSA) involvement at the baseline visit, a PASI score of  $\geq 12$  at the baseline visit, and a physician's global assessment (PGA) of at least moderate disease at the baseline visit.

**[0355]** Patients were ineligible if they had previous exposure to systemic or biologic anti-IL-12 therapy; nonplaque psoriasis; inability to discontinue the following therapies before the baseline visit: topical psoriasis therapies at least 2 weeks before, ultraviolet B light phototherapy at least 2 weeks before, psoralen-ultraviolet-light phototherapy at least 4 weeks before, systemic therapies at least 4 weeks before, and biologic therapies at least 12 weeks before; required intake of oral or injectable corticosteroids during the study (inhaled corticosteroids for stable medical conditions were allowed); an exacerbation of asthma requiring hospitalization in the 10 years prior to screening; an infection or risk factors for severe infection; a history of malignancies other than successfully treated basal cell carcinoma (patients with a history of squamous cell carcinoma were excluded) or cervical carcinoma *in situ*; or a history of major immunologic reaction (eg, serum sickness or anaphylactoid reaction) to an immunoglobulin G-containing agent (eg, intravenous gamma globulin, a fusion protein, or monoclonal antibody).

**[0356]** Patients were allowed to continue treatment with medicated shampoos that did not contain corticosteroids, bland (without beta- or alpha-hydroxy acids) emollients, or Class VI or VII low-potency topical corticosteroids on their palms, soles, face, inframammary area, and groin area during the course of the study. Application of these topical psoriasis therapies was not to occur within 24 hours of a study visit. Vaccination with a live viral agent was not allowed within 1 month prior to dosing with ABT-874, during the study, or for 1 month after the last dose of study drug was administered.

**[0357]** Occurrence of any of the following clinically significant abnormal laboratory results led to immediate withdrawal of a patient from the study: aspartate transaminase or alanine transaminase  $>5$  times the upper limit of normal; serum total bilirubin  $>3$  times the upper limit of normal; serum creatinine  $>3$  times the upper limit of normal; creatine phosphokinase  $>5$  times the upper limit of normal; hemoglobin  $<8$  g/dL; white blood cell count  $<2 \times 10^9/L$ ; or platelet count  $<75 \times 10^9/L$ .

**[0358] C. Efficacy assessments:** The primary efficacy assessment was the percentage of patients achieving a PASI 75 response at week 12, defined as at least a 75% reduction in PASI score relative to the baseline score. PASI is a measure of the severity of psoriatic lesions (in terms of erythema, induration, and desquamation) and the extent of BSA involvement. The PASI score ranges from 0 (no psoriasis) to 72 (severe disease) (Fredriksson T, Pettersson U. *Dermatologica* 1978; 157: 238-44). Other efficacy measures included the percentage of patients who achieved at least PASI 75 at weeks 1, 2, 4, and 8; the percentage of patients who achieved at least PASI 50 or PASI 90 at weeks 1, 2, 4, 8, and 12; and the percentage of patients who attained a PGA of clear or minimal at week 12 and at weeks 1, 2, 4, and 8. The PGA measures the severity of disease on a 6-point scale, which ranges from 0 (no disease, or clear) to 5 (very severe) (Ko H-S. Clinical trial design in psoriasis. Presented at: 49th Meeting of the Dermatologic and Ophthalmologic Advisory Committee; March 20, 1998; Bethesda, MD).

**[0359] D. Safety assessments:** Adverse events, laboratory data, and vital signs were assessed throughout the study.

Patients were closely monitored for signs of infection, malignancy, and immunologic reaction. Treatment-emergent AEs were defined as those events that occurred between week 0 and the earlier of 45 days after the last nonmissing study drug dose or 1 day prior to the first retreatment dose (for those patients continuing on to the 36-week trial).

**[0360] E. Statistical analysis:** The sample size was calculated using nQuery Advisor® 4.0 (Statistical Solutions, Saugus, MA). With the assumption that 15% of the patients in the placebo group would achieve a PASI 75 response at week 12, the study designers determined that a sample size of 26 in each dosage group would be adequate to detect at least a 45% difference from a treated group using the Fisher exact test with 90% power at a 0.05 2-sided significance level. The study was designed to enroll approximately 180 patients, with 30 patients in each group.

**[0361]** The intention-to-treat population included all patients who were randomised at week 0 and received at least 1 injection of study drug; this population was used for the efficacy analyses. All tests were performed at  $\alpha=0.05$ . Nonresponder imputation was used for all efficacy analyses; any patient with a missing PASI or PGA score at any visit was considered a nonresponder at that visit. To assess the impact of the missing data, sensitivity analyses of week-12 data were completed using the last-observation-carried-forward method. The primary analysis of PASI 75 response at week 12 was performed using the following sequential order to adjust for multiplicity: 200 mg weekly versus placebo, 200 mg eow versus placebo, 100 mg eow versus placebo, 200 mg  $\times$  4 versus placebo, and 200 mg  $\times$  1 versus placebo. The treatment difference between each ABT-874 treatment group and the placebo group for mean percentage change in PASI score was assessed using analysis of variance, with baseline PASI score and treatment group as factors. The safety analyses were conducted using the safety population, which included all patients who received at least 1 injection of study drug.

## II. Results

**[0362] A. Patients:** A total of 180 patients were enrolled and randomised to 1 of the 6 treatment groups (Figure 1). The majority of patients (76.7% of placebo-treated patients and 98% of all ABT-874 treatment group patients) completed the 12-week portion of the study.

**[0363]** Patients were well balanced across treatment groups with respect to demographic characteristics and disease activity (table 1). Patients were predominantly male (74.4%) and white (92.2%). Mean BSA involvement was 25% and mean PASI score was 18.8.

**[0364] B. Efficacy:** The percentage of patients achieving the primary endpoint of PASI 75 response at week 12 was statistically significantly greater ( $p<0.001$ ) in all of the ABT-874 treatment groups (200 mg  $\times$  1: 63.3%, 19 of 30; 100 mg eow: 93.3%, 28 of 30; 200 mg  $\times$  4: 90.0%, 27 of 30; 200 mg eow: 93.3%, 28 of 30; 200 mg weekly: 90.0%, 27 of 30) compared with placebo (3.3%, 1 of 30). For the relatively short duration of this trial, PASI 75 responses in all ABT-874 treatment groups were similar with the exception of the 200 mg  $\times$  1 treatment group (Figure 2).

**[0365]** A subgroup analysis by demographics (gender, age, race, and weight), baseline disease characteristics (history of psoriatic arthritis, BSA, and PASI score), and baseline therapy for psoriasis within 12 months of receiving study treatment (systemic biologic and nonbiologic, topical, and phototherapy) demonstrated that ABT-874-treated patients within the various subgroups consistently achieved high levels of PASI 75 response at week 12.

**[0366]** Nearly 100% of the higher ABT-874 dosage groups attained at least a PASI 50 response by week 12 (200 mg  $\times$  1: 76.7%, 23 of 30; 100 mg eow: 100.0%, 30 of 30; 200 mg  $\times$  4: 96.7%, 29 of 30; 200 mg eow: 96.7%, 29 of 30; 200 mg weekly: 100.0%, 30 of 30; placebo: 16.7%, 5 of 30;  $p<0.001$  for each comparison with placebo). The percentage of patients achieving at least a PASI 90 response at week 12 was statistically significantly greater ( $p<0.001$ ) in all but 1 (200 mg  $\times$  1) of the ABT-874 treatment groups when compared with placebo, as follows: 200 mg  $\times$  1: 16.7%, 5 of 30; 100 mg eow: 53.3%, 16 of 30; 200 mg  $\times$  4: 63.3%, 19 of 30; 200 mg eow: 76.6%, 23 of 30; 200 mg weekly: 53.3%, 16 of 30; and placebo: 0%, 0 of 30. In addition, by week 12, significantly more ( $p<0.001$ ) patients in all ABT-874 treatment groups had attained a clear or minimal PGA rating compared with patients in the placebo group, as follows: 200 mg  $\times$  1: 50.0%, 15 of 30; 100 mg eow: 83.3%, 25 of 30; 200 mg  $\times$  4: 73.3%, 22 of 30; 200 mg eow: 86.7%, 26 of 30; 200 mg weekly: 86.7%, 26 of 30; versus placebo: 3.3%, 1 of 30.

**[0367]** The percentage of patients achieving the primary endpoint of PASI 100 response at week 12 was statistically significantly greater ( $p<0.001$ ) in the following ABT-874 treatment groups (200 mg eow: 46.7%, 14 of 30; 200 mg weekly: 36.7%, 11 of 30) compared with placebo (0%, 0 of 30).

**[0368]** Response to ABT-874 was rapid. The mean percentage improvement in PASI scores from baseline increased over time for all ABT-874 treatment groups (Figure 3) and were statistically significantly greater for each ABT-874 treatment group compared with placebo at each time point ( $p<0.001$ , except for the 100 mg eow group at week 1,  $p=0.023$ ).

**[0369] C. Safety:** ABT-874 therapy was generally well tolerated (table 2). One (0.7%) patient treated with ABT-874 discontinued the study owing to a localised skin discoloration; 2 (6.7%) patients treated with placebo discontinued the study, 1 for psoriatic arthropathy and 1 for ovarian cancer. Two (1.1%) patients experienced serious adverse effects (AEs); 1 placebo-treated patient was diagnosed with ovarian cancer on day 37, and 1 ABT-874-treated patient (200 mg  $\times$  1) was diagnosed with costochondritis on day 10. No patients experienced myocardial or cerebral infarctions, and

there were no deaths.

**[0370]** Patients receiving any dose of ABT-874 were significantly ( $p=0.033$ ) more likely than patients receiving placebo to experience an AE at least possibly related to study drug (ABT-874: 36.0%, 54 of 150; placebo: 10.0%, 3 of 30; table 2); most of these AEs were related to the injection site (injection-site reaction, erythema, pruritus, or irritation).

**[0371]** Most AEs were mild (mild AEs occurred in 46.0% [69 of 150] of ABT-874-treated patients and 30.0% [9 of 30] placebo-treated patients). The most common AE was injection-site reaction, occurring in 16.7% (25 of 150) of patients treated with any dose of ABT-874 (no reported injection-site reactions for placebo-treated patients;  $p=0.028$ ; table 3). There were no statistically significant differences between the incidences of other AEs in the ABT-874-treated patients compared with placebo-treated patients. The next most frequently reported AEs were nasopharyngitis and upper respiratory tract infection.

**[0372]** Infectious AEs were reported by 32.8% (59 of 180) of all patients (placebo: 23.3%, 7 of 30; all ABT-874-treated patients: 34.7%, 52 of 150). The most common infectious AEs reported for any ABT-874 treatment group were nasopharyngitis (12.0%, 18 of 150), upper respiratory tract infection (10.7%, 16 of 150), and bronchitis and viral infection (both 2.7%, 4 of 150). No serious infectious AEs were reported.

**[0373]** Two patients reported malignancies during the study. One placebo-treated patient was diagnosed with ovarian cancer, which was ongoing as of day 129. One ABT-874-treated patient (200 mg  $\times$  4) was diagnosed with a non-melanoma skin cancer (squamous cell carcinoma) that was removed on day 133. The medical history for this patient included removal of a benign skin growth in March 2005.

**[0374]** There were no clinically significant hematology, chemistry (including blood glucose concentrations), or vital sign changes compared with placebo.

**Table 1: Baseline demographics and clinical characteristics**

Characteristic	Treatment Group						
	Placebo N=30	200mg $\times$ 1 N=30	100 mg cow N=30	200mg $\times$ 4 N=30	200 mg cow N=30	200 mg weekly N=30	All ABT- 874 N=150
Age, y	49 $\pm$ 14.4	52 $\pm$ 12.0	45 $\pm$ 13.8	43 $\pm$ 13.8	44 $\pm$ 16.0	46 $\pm$ 14.0	46 $\pm$ 14.1
Malc. No. (%)	22 (73.3)	23 (76.7)	22 (73.3)	21 (70.0)	23 (76.7)	23 (76.7)	112 (74.7)
White. No. (%)	28 (93.3)	25 (83.3)	28 (93.3)	27 (90.0)	30 (100.0)	28 (93.3)	138 (92.0)
Weight, kg	89 $\pm$ 17.6	94 $\pm$ 21.2	94 $\pm$ 17.9	92 $\pm$ 27.8	93 $\pm$ 24.1	95 $\pm$ 18.0	94 $\pm$ 21.9
Duration of psoriasis, y	21 $\pm$ 12.4	20 $\pm$ 13.2	24 $\pm$ 14.6	22 $\pm$ 14.2	18 $\pm$ 11.5	18 $\pm$ 10.9	21 $\pm$ 13.0
PASI score	16 $\pm$ 2.9	18 $\pm$ 6.7	20 $\pm$ 6.3	20 $\pm$ 7.6	20 $\pm$ 6.2	19 $\pm$ 6.3	19 $\pm$ 6.6
BSA affected, %	21 $\pm$ 9.2	24 $\pm$ 13.6	28 $\pm$ 15.7	24 $\pm$ 13.0	29 $\pm$ 16.8	23 $\pm$ 12.6	26 $\pm$ 14.5
PGA. No. (%)							
Mild	1 (3.3)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Moderate	20 (66.7)	19 (63.3)	17 (56.7)	13 (43.3)	15 (50.0)	17 (56.7)	81 (54.0)
Severe	9 (30.0)	11 (36.7)	12 (40.0)	14 (46.7)	13 (43.3)	11 (36.7)	61 (40.7)
History of PsA, No. (%)	9 (30.0)	7 (23.3)	12 (40.0)	9 (30.0)	6 (20.0)	9 (30.0)	43 (28.7)
Previous psoriasis treatment,* No. (%)							
Topical therapy	19 (63.3)	21 (70.0)	26 (86.7)	15 (50.0)	21 (70.0)	23 (76.7)	106 (70.7)
Phototherapy	1 (3.3)	6 (20.0)	4 (13.3)	4 (13.3)	3 (10.0)	5 (16.7)	22 (14.7)
Systemic nonbiologic	6 (20.0)	4 (13.3)	7 (23.3)	5 (16.7)	6 (20.0)	8 (26.7)	30 (20.0)
Systemic biologic	3 (10.0)	3 (10.0)	7 (23.3)	6 (20.0)	4 (13.3)	7 (23.3)	27 (18.0)

Values are mean $\pm$ SD unless otherwise noted. \*Within past 12 months prior to study treatment. BSA=body surface area; eow=every other week; PASI=psoriasis area and severity index; PGA=physician's global assessment; PsA=psoriatic arthritis

**Table 2: Clinical treatment-emergent adverse events summary**

Event	Treatment Group						All ABT-874 N=150
	Placebo N=30	200 mg × 1 N=30	100 mg eow N=30	200 mg × 4 N=30	200 mg eow N=30	200 mg weekly N=30	
	No. (%)						
Any AE	18 (60.0)	18 (60.0)	22(73.3)	21 (70.0)	21 (70.0)	19 (63.3)	101 (67.3)
Any AE at least possibly drug-related*	3 (10.0)	9 (30.0)	12 (40.0)	14 (46.7)	11 (36.7)	8 (26.7)	54 (36.0)
Any severe AE	3 (10.0)	1 (3.3)	0	0	0	1 (3.3)	2 (1.3)
Any serious AE1†	1 (3.3)	1 (3.3)	0	0	0	0	1 (0.7)
Any AE leading to discontinuation of study drug	2 (6.7)	1 (3.3)	0	0	0	0	1 (0.7)
Any AE at least possibly drug-related* and serious	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Any infectious AE	7 (23.3)	7 (23.3)	9 (30.0)	13 (43.3)	13 (43.3)	10(33.3)	52 (34.7)
Any serious infectious AE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Any malignant neoplasms	1 (3.3)	0	0	1 (3.3)	0	0	1 (0.7)
Deaths	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

\*As assessed by the investigator. †Serious adverse events included the following: any event that resulted in death; any event that was life-threatening; any event that resulted in admission to the hospital for any length of time; any event that occurred while the patient was hospitalised and resulted in prolongation of hospital stay; any event that resulted in persistent or significant disability/incapacity; or any important medical event that required medical or surgical intervention to prevent serious outcome. AE=adverse event; eow=every other week.

**Table 3: Treatment-emergent adverse events with an incidence ≥5% in any treatment group by descending frequency of patients treated with any dosage of ABT-874**

Event	Treatment Group						All ABT-874 N=150
	Placebo N=30	200 mg × 1 N=30	100 mg eow N=30	200 mg × 4 N=30	200 mg eow N=30	200 mg weekly N=30	
	No. (%)						
Injection-site reaction	0	2 (6.7)	7 (23.3)	5 (16.7)	7 (23.3)	4 (13.3)	25 (16.7)
Nasopharyngitis	1 (3.3)	4 (13.3)	4 (13.3)	3 (10.0)	2 (6.7)	5 (16.7)	18 (12.0)
Upper respiratory tract infection	2 (6.7)	2 (6.7)	4 (13.3)	3 (10.0)	5 (16.7)	2 (6.7)	16 (10.7)
Headache	2 (6.7)	5 (16.7)	0	1 (3.3)	3 (10.0)	2 (6.7)	11 (7.3)
Injection site pruritus	0	0	1 (3.3)	2 (6.7)	2 (6.7)	2 (6.7)	7 (4.7)
Injection site erythema	0	0	0	4 (13.3)	2 (6.7)	1 (3.3)	7 (4.7)
Injection site irritation	0	1 (3.3)	3 (10.0)	2 (6.7)	0	0	6 (4.0)
Fatigue	0	2 (6.7)	2 (6.7)	0	0	1 (3.3)	5 (3.3)
Pain in extremity	0	1 (3.3)	0	0	1 (3.3)	2 (6.7)	4 (2.7)
Arthralgia	0	2 (6.7)	0	0	0	2 (6.7)	4 (2.7)
Viral infection	0	0	0	2 (6.7)	1 (3.3)	1 (3.3)	4 (2.7)

(continued)

Event	Treatment Group						
	Placebo N=30	200 mg × 1 N=30	100 mg eow N=30	200 mg × 4 N=30	200 mg eow N=30	200 mg weekly N=30	All ABT- 874 N=150
	No. (%)						
Bronchitis	0	1 (3.3)	0	1 (3.3)	2 (6.7)	0	4 (2.7)
Nausea	1 (3.3)	0	3 (10.0)	0	0	0	3 (2.0)
Otitis externa	0	0	0	0	2 (6.7)	0	2 (1.3)
Vomiting	1 (3.3)	0	0	2 (6.7)	0	0	2 (1.3)
Urinary tract infection	2 (6.7)	1 (3.3)	0	1 (3.3)	0	0	2 (1.3)
Herpes simplex	0	0	2 (6.7)	0	0	0	2 (1.3)
Limb injury	0	2 (6.7)	0	0	0	0	2 (1.3)
Pruritus	2 (6.7)	0	0	0	0	0	0

\*As assessed by the investigator.

### III. Conclusion

**[0375]** The phase II, multicentre, randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial described in this Example demonstrated statistically and clinically significant efficacy of ABT-874 in the treatment of moderate to severe chronic plaque psoriasis. With the exception of the ABT-874 200 mg × 1 treatment group, 90% or more of patients in all ABT-874 treatment groups achieved PASI 75 or greater by week 12, compared with 3.3% of placebo-treated patients. Even in the group that received only 1 dose of study drug (200 mg × 1), a majority (63.3%) of patients had achieved at least PASI 75 by week 12. In addition, almost 100% of patients treated with ABT-874 reached PASI 50 or greater, which is considered to be a clinically significant improvement (Carlin CS, Feldman SR, Krueger JG, Menter A, Krueger GG. *J. Am Acad Dermatol* 2004; 50: 859-66) by week 12. The results for other secondary endpoints, such as PASI 90 and PGA of clear or minimal, were consistent with and supported the primary efficacy analysis.

**[0376]** Response to ABT-874 was rapid. Statistically significant separation between placebo- and ABT-874-treated patients occurred as early as week 1 for the mean percentage improvement in PASI scores. Improvement was sustained for the 12-week duration of the trial, even for patients in the ABT-874 200 mg × 1 and 200 mg × 4 dosage groups.

**[0377]** ABT-874 was well tolerated, and most AEs were mild. Although ABT-874-treated patients were significantly more likely to experience an AE at least possibly related to study drug, most of these were injection site-related AEs (injection-site reaction, erythema, pruritus, or irritation). There was no apparent association between an increased dose of ABT-874 and an increased incidence of AEs. Of note, there were no myocardial or cerebral infarctions.

**[0378]** Immunologic-related events are of particular interest for patients receiving anti-IL-12/23 antibodies. The most frequently reported infectious AEs were nasopharyngitis, upper respiratory tract infection, bronchitis, and viral infection. There were no serious infectious AEs reported for the duration of this trial. Of the 2 malignancies diagnosed during the study, ovarian cancer was diagnosed in a placebo-treated patient, and non-melanoma skin cancer was diagnosed in an ABT-874-treated patient who had a history of a benign skin growth.

**[0379]** In summary, ABT-874 demonstrated statistically and clinically significant benefit for the treatment of patients with moderate to severe chronic plaque psoriasis, and was well tolerated.

#### Example 5: Maintenance of Response with the Fully Human IL-12/23 Monoclonal Antibody, ABT-874, in the Treatment of Moderate to Severe Plaque Psoriasis

**[0380]** The efficacy and safety of ABT-874 was evaluated in a 12-week, Phase II, randomized controlled trial and 36-week follow-up phase. The objective of the following example was to analyze maintenance of response following discontinuation of therapy during the second 12 weeks of this Phase II study of subcutaneous injections of ABT-874 in the treatment of moderate to severe plaque Ps.

**[0381]** Adults with Ps affecting ≥10% body surface area (BSA) and a PASI score ≥12 were eligible for this 12-week, double-blind, placebo-controlled study. Patients were randomized to 1 of 6 arms:

- 1) 100-mg ABT-874 every other week (eow) for 12 wks;

- 2) one 200-mg ABT-874 dose at Wk 0;
- 3) 200-mg ABT-874 every wk for 4 wks;
- 4) 200-mg ABT-874 eow for 12 wks;
- 5) 200-mg ABT-874 every wk for 12 wks; or
- 6) placebo.

**[0382]** The primary endpoint was a  $\geq$ PASI 75 response at Week 12. Patients who met the primary endpoint entered a 36-week blinded/retreatment phase. Treatment with study drug was discontinued, and patients were monitored for PASI score at various times during the 36-week follow-up period, including PASI 50, PASI 75 and PASI 90 responses. Maintenance of PASI response was evaluated through Week 24.

**[0383]** A total of 180 patients enrolled, 30 in each arm. Baseline characteristics were similar between arms (mean values presented except % male): age, 46 years, 74% male; 21 years duration of Ps; PASI=19; and 25% BSA affected.

**[0384]** At Week 12, the percentages of patients with  $\geq$ PASI 75 were statistically significantly greater in each of the 5 ABT-874 arms vs. placebo (Table 4). At Week 24, substantial percentages of PASI 75 responders in the active treatments arms had maintained at least a PASI score of  $\geq$ PASI 50. Further, substantial percentages of PASI 75 responders in the active treatments arms had also maintained at least a PASI score of  $\geq$ PASI 75, as well as a PASI score of  $\geq$ PASI 90 (Table 4 and Figures 4A-C). The percentage of patients maintaining a PASI 75 response over time during the 24 week period is depicted in Figure 4D.

Table 4: 24-Week Efficacy of ABT-874

	$\geq$ PASI 75 at Wk 12	Maintenance of $\geq$ PASI 50 Response: Wk 24 vs. Wk 12	Maintenance of $\geq$ PASI 75 Response: Wk 24 vs. Wk 12	Maintenance of $\geq$ PASI 90 Response: Wk 24 vs. Wk 12
100 mg eow for 12 wks	93%*	71%	60%	33%
200 mg, one dose	63%*	68%	23%	7%
200-mg every wk for 4 wks	90%*	82%	60%	23%
200-mg eow for 12 wks	93%*	89%	73%	53%
200-mg every wk for 12 wks	90%*	85%	83%	57%
Placebo	3%	-	7%	7%

\* $p < 0.001$  vs. placebo, NRI.

**[0385]** In conclusion, ABT-874 was significantly more efficacious than placebo in the treatment of moderate to severe plaque Ps. Substantial percentages of PASI 75 responders maintained a response of  $\geq$  PASI 50,  $\geq$  PASI 75, and  $\geq$  PASI 90 at Week 24, following discontinuation of active therapy.

**Example 6: Maintenance of Re-treatment Response with the Fully Human IL-12/- 23 Monoclonal Antibody, ABT-874, in the Treatment of Moderate to Severe Plaque Psoriasis**

**[0386]** The efficacy and safety of ABT-874 was evaluated in a 48-week, Phase II, randomized controlled trial that included a 12-week initial treatment phase and a 36-week re-treatment phase of patients responding to initial treatment. The initial 12-week efficacy results and maintenance of response results are described in the above examples. The objective of the following example was to examine the re-treatment response during the 36-week re-treatment/follow-up phase in patients who lost their initial responses of this Phase II study of subcutaneous injections of ABT-874 in the treatment of moderate to severe plaque Ps. The further objective of the following example was to examine safety of subcutaneous injections of ABT-874 in the treatment of moderate to severe plaque Ps through 48 weeks.

**[0387]** At baseline, demographics and clinical characteristics were similar across treatment groups (summarized in

Table 5 below).

Table 5: Baseline Demographics and Clinical Characteristics

Characteristic	Treatment Group*						All (N=150)
	Placebo (n=30)	200 mg x 1 (n=30)	100 mg eow (n=30)	200 mg x 4 (n=30)	200 mg eow (n=30)	200 mg Weekly (n=30)	
Age, yrs	49 (14.4)	52 (12.0)	45 (13.8)	43 (13.8)	44 (16.0)	46 (14.0)	46 (14.1)
Sex, n (%) male	22 (73)	23 (77)	22 (73)	21 (70)	23 (77)	23 (77)	112 (75)
Race, n (%) white	28 (93)	25 (83)	26 (83)	27 (90)	30 (100)	28 (93)	138 (92)
Weight, kg	89 (17.6)	94 (21.2)	94 (17.9)	92 (27.8)	93 (24.1)	95 (18.0)	94 (21.9)
Duration of psoriasis, yrs	21 (12.4)	20 (13.2)	24 (14.6)	22 (14.2)	18 (11.5)	18 (10.9)	21 (13.0)
PASI score							
Mean (SD)	16 (2.9)	18 (6.7)	20 (6.3)	20 (7.6)	20 (6.2)	19 (6.3)	19 (6.6)
Median, IQ	16.1, 3.8	15.0, 7.5	18.7, 7.4	17.0, 10.2	18.0, 10.0	16.8, 6.8	17.3, 8.0
BSA affected, %							
Mean (SD)	21 (9.2)	24 (13.6)	28 (15.7)	24 (13.0)	29 (16.8)	23 (12.6)	26 (14.5)
Median, IQ	17.5, 13.0	17.5, 16.0	22.5, 19.5	20.3, 17.0	22.0, 24.5	19.5, 17.0	20.0, 21.0
PGA, n (%) <sup>†</sup>							
Mild	1 (3)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Moderate	20 (67)	19 (63)	17 (57)	13 (43)	15 (50)	17 (57)	81 (54)
Severe	9 (30)	11 (37)	12 (40)	14 (47)	13 (43)	11 (37)	61 (41)
History of PsA, n (%)	9 (30)	7 (23)	12 (40)	9 (30)	6 (20)	9 (30)	43 (29)
Previous psoriasis treatment, <sup>‡</sup> n (%)							
Topical therapy	19 (63)	21 (70)	26 (87)	15 (50)	21 (70)	23 (77)	106 (71)
Phototherapy	1 (3)	6 (20)	4 (13)	4 (13)	3 (10)	5 (17)	22 (15)
Systemic nonbiologic	6 (20)	4 (13)	7 (23)	5 (17)	6 (20)	8 (27)	30 (20)
Systemic biologic	3 (10)	3 (10)	7 (23)	6 (20)	4 (13)	7 (23)	27 (18)

**[0388]** Adults with psoriasis affecting  $\geq 10\%$  body surface area and a Psoriasis Area and Severity Index (PASI) score  $\geq 12$  were randomized to 1 of 6 arms: 1) one 200-mg dose ABT-874 at Week 0; 2) 100 mg of ABT-874 every other wk (eow) for 12 weeks; 3) 200 mg of ABT-874 weekly for 4 weeks; 4) 200 mg of ABT-874 eow for 12 weeks; 5) 200 mg of ABT-874 weekly for 12 weeks; or 6) placebo. The primary endpoint was a  $\geq$ PASI 75 response at Week 12. Patients who met the primary endpoint entered a 36-week re-treatment phase. Treatment with study drug was discontinued, and patients who lost response ( $\leq$ PASI 50) during weeks 12-36 received re-treatment with the same dosing regimen assigned during the initial 12-week period. Re-treatment lasted for 12 weeks. Regardless of disposition, all patients were monitored for the entire duration of the study, or until discontinuation.

**[0389]** Of the 180 patients initially enrolled, 130 (1 placebo) entered the retreatment phase and 58 (all ABT-874) were re-treated. The percentages of patients who achieved  $\geq$ PASI 75 at week 12 and then again at 12 weeks after re-treatment were as follows for each group: one 200-mg dose, 63% vs. 55%; 100 mg eow, 93% vs 94%; 200 mg weekly 4 wks, 90% vs. 69%; 200 mg eow, 93% vs. 75%; and 200 mg weekly, 90% vs. 83%, respectively. Of the total 58 patients who were retreated, 76% achieved  $\geq$ PASI 75 at 12 weeks after re-treatment.

**[0390]** The improvement in PASI scores over time for the re-treated patients is depicted in Figures 5A-B. Specifically, Figure 5A displays the mean percentage improvement from baseline in PASI scores from weeks 4 to week 12 in PASI responders, and Figure 5B displays the mean percentage improvement from baseline in PASI scores from weeks 4 to week 12 post retreatment in PASI 75 responders.

**[0391]** The percentages of patients who achieved  $\geq$ PASI 50 at 12 weeks after re-treatment were as follows for each group: one 200-mg dose, 82%; 100 mg eow, 100%; 200 mg weekly 4 wks, 77%; 200 mg eow, 83%; and 200 mg weekly, 100%. Of the total 58 patients who were retreated, 88% achieved  $\geq$ PASI 50 at 12 weeks after re-treatment.

**[0392]** The percentages of patients who achieved a PGA of "clear" or "minimal" at 12 weeks after re-treatment were as follows for each group: one 200-mg dose, 36%; 100 mg eow, 75%; 200 mg weekly 4 wks, 62%; 200 mg eow, 67%; and 200 mg weekly, 83%. Of the total 58 patients who were retreated, 64% achieved a PGA of "clear" or "minimal" at 12 weeks after re-treatment.

**[0393]** Adverse events (AEs) occurring  $\geq 5\%$  in at least 1 treatment group in descending order through week 48 were: nasopharyngitis, injection-site reaction, upper respiratory tract infection, headache, hypertension, and arthralgia. An overview of treatment-emergent adverse events through Week 48 is displayed in Table 6 below. An overview of treatment-emergent adverse events with an incidence  $\geq 5\%$  in any treatment group is displayed in Table 7 below.

Table 6: Overview of Treatment-Emergent Adverse Events Through Week 48\*

Event	Placebo* n=30 n (%)	200 mg x 1 n=30 n (%)	100 mg eow n=30 n (%)	200 mg x 4 n=30 n (%)	200 mg eow n=30 n (%)	200 mg Weekly n=30 n (%)	All ABT N=150 n (%)
Any AE	18 (60.0)	20 (66.7)	25 (83.3)	25 (83.3)	25 (83.3)	21 (70.0)	116 (77.3)
Any AE at least possibly drug-related†	4 (13.3)	9 (30.0)	16 (53.3)	16 (53.3)	13 (43.3)	10 (33.3)	64 (42.7)
Any severe AE	4 (13.3)	1 (3.3)	0	2 (6.7)	1 (3.3)	1 (3.3)	5 (3.3)
Any serious AE	1 (3.3)	1 (3.3)	0	1 (3.3)	2 (6.7)	0	4 (2.7)
Any AE leading to discontinuation of study drug	2 (6.7)	1 (3.3)	0	0	0	0	1 (0.7)
Any AE at least possibly drug-related and serious†	0	0	0	0	1 (3.3)	0	1 (0.7)
Any infectious AE	7 (23.3)	10 (33.3)	12 (40.0)	14 (46.7)	16 (53.3)	10 (33.3)	62 (41.3)
Any serious infectious AE	0	0	0	0	1 (3.3)	0	1 (0.7)
Any malignant AE	1 (3.3)	0	0	1 (3.3)	0	0	1 (0.7)
Any lymphomas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Any nonmelanoma skin cancer	0	0	0	1 (3.3)	0	0	1 (0.7)
Any injection-site reaction-related AE	0	4 (13.3)	11 (36.7)	12 (40.0)	11 (36.7)	6 (20.0)	44 (29.3)
Deaths	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 7: Treatment-Emergent Adverse Events With an Incidence of 5% or More in any Treatment Group Through Week 48\*

Event	Placebo* n=30 n (%)	200 mg x 1 n=30 n (%)	100 mg eow n=30 n (%)	200 mg x 4 n=30 n (%)	200 mg eow n=30 n (%)	200 mg Weekly n=30 n (%)	All ABT N=150 n (%)
Injection-site reaction	0	2 (6.7)	7 (23.3)	8 (26.7)	8 (26.7)	4 (13.3)	29 (19.3)
Nasopharyngitis	1 (3.3)	5 (16.7)	6 (20.0)	3 (10.0)	4 (13.3)	5 (16.7)	23 (15.3)
Upper respiratory tract infection	2 (6.7)	2 (6.7)	5 (16.7)	3 (10.0)	5 (16.7)	2 (6.7)	17 (11.3)
Headache	2 (6.7)	5 (16.7)	1 (3.3)	1 (3.3)	3 (10.0)	2 (6.7)	12 (8.0)
Injection-site erythema	0	0	1 (3.3)	14 (46.7)	2 (6.7)	1 (3.3)	8 (5.3)
Injection-site pruritus	0	0	1 (3.3)	2 (6.7)	2 (6.7)	2 (6.7)	7 (4.7)
Injection-site irritation	0	1 (3.3)	3 (10.0)	2 (6.7)	0	0	6 (4.0)
Arthralgia	1 (3.3)	2 (6.7)	1 (3.3)	0	0	2 (6.7)	5 (3.3)
Viral infection	0	0	0	2 (6.7)	2 (6.7)	1 (3.3)	5 (3.3)
Gastroenteritis viral	0	1 (3.3)	0	2 (6.7)	1 (3.3)	1 (3.3)	5 (3.3)
Fatigue	0	2 (6.7)	2 (6.7)	0	0	1 (3.3)	5 (3.3)
Hypertriglyceridemia	0	1 (3.3)	2 (6.7)	2 (6.7)	0	0	5 (3.3)
Pain in extremity	0	1 (3.3)	0	0	1 (3.3)	2 (6.7)	4 (2.7)
Bronchitis	0	1 (3.3)	0	1 (3.3)	2 (6.7)	0	4 (2.7)
Pharyngolaryngeal pain	0	2 (6.7)	0	0	0	1 (3.3)	3 (2.0)
Influenza	1 (3.3)	0	1 (3.3)	0	2 (6.7)	0	3 (2.0)
Back pain	0	0	1 (3.3)	0	2 (6.7)	0	3 (2.0)
Blood triglycerides increased	1 (3.3)	0	0	2 (6.7)	1 (3.3)	0	3 (2.0)
Urinary tract infection	2 (6.7)	1 (3.3)	0	1 (3.3)	1 (3.3)	0	3 (2.0)
Insomnia	1 (3.3)	2 (6.7)	0	1 (3.3)	1 (3.3)	0	3 (2.0)
Nausea	2 (6.7)	0	3 (10.0)	0	0	0	3 (2.0)
Cyst	0	1 (3.3)	2 (6.7)	0	0	0	3 (2.0)
Gastroenteritis	0	0	0	0	0	2 (6.7)	2 (1.3)
Rhinorrhoea	0	0	0	0	0	2 (6.7)	2 (1.3)
Otitis externa	0	0	0	0	2 (6.7)	0	2 (1.3)
Vomiting	1 (3.3)	0	0	2 (6.7)	0	0	2 (1.3)
Hypercholesterolemia	0	0	0	2 (6.7)	0	0	2 (1.3)
Blood pressure increased	0	0	2 (6.7)	0	0	0	2 (1.3)
Procedural pain	0	0	2 (6.7)	0	0	0	2 (1.3)
Limb injury	0	2 (6.7)	0	0	0	0	2 (1.3)
Pruritis	2 (6.7)	0	0	0	0	1 (3.3)	1 (0.7)
Psoriatic arthropathy	2 (6.7)	1 (3.3)	0	0	0	0	1 (0.7)

[0394] The foregoing data demonstrate that ABT-874 was highly efficacious in the treatment of moderate to severe psoriasis. Upon loss of response and re-treatment, a majority of patients were able to re-achieve a PASI 75 response. Moreover, ABT-874 appears to have a favorable safety profile in the long term.

**Example 7: Pharmacokinetics of a Fully Human IL-12/23 Monoclonal Antibody, ABT-874, in Normal Healthy Volunteers**

[0395] The tolerability, safety, and pharmacokinetics (PK) of a range of doses of ABT-874 were evaluated in a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled dose-ranging study. The objective of the following example was to investigate the pharmacokinetics of intravenous (IV) and subcutaneous (SC) injections of ABT-874 in healthy volunteers.

[0396] The main inclusion criteria were: (i) healthy male volunteers between 18 and 45 years of age; (ii) no clinically relevant abnormalities in any of the investigations of the screening examination (physical exam, vital signs, electrocardiogram, biochemistry, hematology, urinalysis, serology); and (iii) chest x-rays normal within 12 months prior to entering the study. The main exclusion criteria were: (i) smoking more than 10 cigarettes per day; (ii) drinking more than 30 g of alcohol per day; (iii) positive urine drug screen; (iv) chronic infections, especially by intracellular bacterial pathogens

EP 2 810 954 A2

such as Mycobacterium tuberculosis; and (v) major infections requiring hospitalization or IV antibiotics within the previous 2 years.

[0397] Young (18-45 years of age), healthy male volunteers received 2 equal doses (1 IV and 1 SC administered 8 weeks apart) of 0.1, 0.3, 1.0, or 5.0 mg/kg ABT-874 in a 2-period crossover (2 x 2 Latin square) design. Blood samples for the determination of ABT-874 concentrations were collected before the first dose (0) and at 0.5, 1, 1.5, 2, 4, 8, 12, 24, 48, 72, 120, 168, 336, 504 and 672 hours after dosing. Serum concentrations of ABT-874 were measured by an enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay.

[0398] ABT-874 serum concentrations were tabulated individually, described by statistical characteristics (including geometric mean and geometric standard deviation) and displayed as individual as well as mean, median, and geometric mean concentration vs. time curves for IV and SC treatment and each treatment group. The following PK parameters were estimated using noncompartmental methods:

- **C<sub>max</sub>** maximum serum concentration (μg/mL)
- **T<sub>max</sub>** time to reach C<sub>max</sub> (hr)
- **AUC** area under the serum concentration-time curve (μg×hr/mL)
- **t<sub>1/2</sub>** half-life (hr)
- **CL** clearance (mL/hr) (for IV administration)
- **V<sub>z</sub>** volume of distribution (mL) (for IV administration)
- **CL/F** apparent CL (mL/hr) (for SC administration)
- **V/F** apparent V<sub>z</sub> (mL) (for SC administration)

[0399] A total of 64 patients were randomized; 12 received ABT-874 and 4 received placebo for each dose group. ABT-874 appeared to follow bi-exponential kinetics following IV administration, entering the terminal phase approximately 7 days after administration. The mean ± SD terminal half-lives for the 0.1-, 0.3-, 1.0-, and 3.0-mg IV doses were 81.2±55.6, 147 ± 73.2, 208 ± 79.2, and 196 ± 55.4 hours, respectively. The mean ± SD terminal half-lives for the 0.1-, 0.3-, 1.0-, and 3.0-mg SC doses were 221 ± 103, 161 ± 92.6, 210 ± 90.9, and 208 ± 79.2 hours, respectively. The mean terminal half-life for IV administration ranged from 81.2 ± 55.6 hours to 208 ± 79.2 hours. The mean terminal half-life for SC administration ranged from 161 ± 92.6 hours to 221 ± 103 hours. The overall mean terminal half-life was 8-9 days.

[0400] The pharmacokinetics of ABT-874 (maximum concentration of drug [C<sub>max</sub>] or area under the curve [AUC]) increased proportionally to dose after both IV and SC administrations. The serum concentration-time curve for IV and SC dosing is displayed in Figures 6A and 6B, respectively. The volume of distribution ranged from approximately 8-10 L after IV administration to 24-67 L after SC administration. After SC administration, the time to reach C<sub>max</sub> was approximately 3-4 days. Bioavailability after SC administration ranged between 42% and 62% for the doses evaluated. The pharmacokinetic parameters following IV or SC administration at each dose, including C<sub>max</sub> (the maximum serum concentration in μg/mL), AUC (area under the serum concentration-time curve in μg×hr/mL), t<sub>max</sub> (time to reach C<sub>max</sub> in hrs), t<sub>1/2</sub> (half-life in hrs), CL (clearance in mL/hr) and V<sub>z</sub> (volume of distribution (mL)), are displayed in Table 8 below.

Table 8: PK Parameters (Mean ± SD) in Healthy Human Volunteers  
Following IV or SC Administration of ABT-874

Cohort	Route	C <sub>max</sub> (μg/mL)	t <sub>max</sub> (hr)	AUC <sub>0-∞</sub> (μg×hr/mL)	t <sub>1/2</sub> (hr)	CL* (mL/hr)	V <sub>z</sub> <sup>†</sup> (mL)
0.1 mg/kg	IV	1.99±0.931	—	146±78.8	81.2±55.6	596±1,850	8,010±7,600
	SC	0.245±0.100	66.7±10.6	84.4±40.6	221±103	183±248	66,500±135,000
0.3 mg/kg	IV	7.99±3.08	—	562±202	147±73.2	50.4±32.7	8,512±3,746
	SC	1.09±1.12	90.0±43.6	244±150	161±92.6	183±196	24,800±7,430
1.0 mg/kg	IV	27.7±8.33	—	2,410±717	208±79.2	36.2±9.80	10,400±3,840
	SC	2.83±0.633	82.0±23.9	1,000±318	210±90.9	91.1±41.2	23,900±8,590
5.0 mg/kg	IV	150±50.6	—	12,700±3,390	196±55.4	33.6±9.26	9,360±3,360
	SC	13.4±5.34	82.0±36.1	4,840±2,420	208±79.2	229±480	31,800±19,500

[0401] The foregoing data demonstrate that ABT-874 administered IV and SC in single doses between 0.1 and 5.0

mg/kg was well-tolerated by young healthy male individuals. The pharmacokinetic properties of ABT-874, with its half-life of 8-9 days, are as would be expected for an IgG<sub>1</sub> antibody.

**Example 8: Maintenance of Re-treatment Response with the Fully Human IL-12/23 Monoclonal Antibody, ABT-874, in the Treatment of Moderate to Severe Plaque Psoriasis**

**[0402]** The efficacy and safety of ABT-874 was evaluated in a 48-week, Phase II, randomized controlled trial that included a 12-week initial treatment phase and a 36-week re-treatment phase of patients responding to initial treatment. The initial 12-week efficacy results and maintenance of response results are described in examples 1-5 above. The objective of the following example was to examine the re-treatment response during the 36-week re-treatment/follow-up phase in patients who lost their initial responses of this Phase II study of subcutaneous injections of ABT-874 in the treatment of moderate to severe plaque Ps. The further objective of the following example was to examine safety of subcutaneous injections of ABT-874 in the treatment of moderate to severe plaque Ps through 48 weeks.

**[0403]** The main inclusion criteria for the trial were: (i) adults with clinical diagnosis of psoriasis for at least 6 months and stable plaque psoriasis for at least 2 months prior to screening; and (ii) moderate to severe plaque psoriasis ( $\geq 10\%$  body surface area involvement, Psoriasis Area and Severity Index [PASI] score  $\geq 12$  and a Physician's Global Assessment [PGA] of at least moderate disease) at the baseline visit.

**[0404]** A first exclusion criteria for the trial was previous exposure to systemic or biologic anti-IL-12 therapy. A second exclusion criteria was inability to discontinue the following therapies before the baseline visit: topical psoriasis therapies  $\geq 2$  weeks prior; ultraviolet (UV)-B light phototherapy  $\geq 2$  weeks prior; psoralen-UV light phototherapy  $\geq 4$  weeks prior; systemic therapies  $\geq 4$  weeks prior; and biologic therapies  $\geq 12$  weeks prior.

**[0405]** At baseline, demographics and clinical characteristics were similar across treatment groups (summarized in Table 5 of Example 6, above).

**[0406]** Adults with psoriasis affecting  $\geq 10\%$  body surface area and a Psoriasis Area and Severity Index (PASI) score  $\geq 12$  were randomized to 1 of 6 arms: 1) one 200-mg dose ABT-874 at Week 0; 2) 100 mg of ABT-874 every other wk (eow) for 12 weeks; 3) 200 mg of ABT-874 weekly for 4 weeks; 4) 200 mg of ABT-874 eow for 12 weeks; 5) 200 mg of ABT-874 weekly for 12 weeks; or 6) placebo. The primary endpoint was a  $\geq$ PASI 75 response at Week 12. Patients who met the primary endpoint entered a 36-week re-treatment phase. Treatment with study drug was discontinued, and patients who lost response ( $\leq$ PASI 50) during weeks 12-36 received re-treatment with the same dosing regimen assigned during the initial 12-week period. Re-treatment lasted for 12 weeks. Regardless of disposition, all patients were monitored for the entire duration of the study, or until discontinuation.

**[0407]** Outcome measurements included the following: (i) percentage of patients achieving PASI 75; (ii) median time to achieve PASI 75 response after retreatment; (iii) median time to lose PASI 75 response (iii) percentage of patients with a PGA score of "Clear" or "Minimal" after retreatment.

**[0408]** Statistical analysis was carried out as follows. Intention-to-treat (ITT) analyses were performed by randomized treatment group. For PASI assessments obtained after retreatment with ABT-874, the assessments were assigned to study visits according to the number of days after the first dose of the retreatment. The proportion of patients achieving PASI response (yes/no) are presented according to the derived study visit. All statistical tests were 2-tailed with a significance value of 0.05

**[0409]** Of the 180 patients initially enrolled (30 patients per treatment group), 130 (1 placebo) entered the retreatment phase and 58 (all ABT-874) were re-treated. The percentages of patients who achieved  $\geq$ PASI 75 at week 12 and then again at 12 weeks after re-treatment were as follows for each group: one 200-mg dose, 63% vs. 55%; 100 mg eow, 93% vs 94%; 200 mg weekly 4 wks, 90% vs. 69%; 200 mg eow, 93% vs. 75%; and 200 mg weekly, 90% vs. 83%, respectively. Of the total 58 patients who were retreated, 76% achieved  $\geq$ PASI 75 at 12 weeks after re-treatment. A majority of patients were able to re-achieve a PASI 75 response (Figure 7A).

**[0410]** The median time (in days) to achieve PASI 75 during the retreatment phase across all ABT-874 dosage groups is depicted in Figure 7B. The median time to achieve  $\geq$ PASI 75 during retreatment were as follows for each group: one 200-mg dose, between 60 and 65 days; 100 mg eow, between 55 and 60 days; 200 mg weekly 4 wks, between 55 and 60 days; 200 mg eow, between 25 and 35 days; and 200 mg weekly, between 55 and 60 days, respectively.

**[0411]** The median time (in days) to lose PASI 75 following the initial 12 weeks of treatment is depicted in figure 7C. The median time to lose PASI 75 following the initial 12 weeks of treatment were as follows for each group: one 200-mg dose, between 55 and 60 days; 100 mg eow, between 110 and 120 days; 200 mg weekly 4 wks, between 110 and 120 days; 200 mg eow, between 160 and 180 days; and 200 mg weekly, between 180 and 190 days, respectively.

**[0412]** The percentages of patients who achieved a PGA of "clear" or "minimal" (e.g., PGA of 0 or 1) at 12 weeks after re-treatment are depicted in Figure 7D. The percentages of patients who achieved a PGA of 0 or 1 during re-treatment were as follows for each group: one 200-mg dose, between 35% and 40%; 100 mg eow, between 70% and 80%; 200 mg weekly 4 wks, between 60% and 65%; 200 mg eow, between 60% and 70%; and 200 mg weekly, between 80% and 90%, respectively. Of the total patients who were retreated, between 60 and 65% achieved a PGA of 0 or 1 after re-

treatment.

**[0413]** Adverse events (AEs) occurring  $\geq 5\%$  in at least 1 treatment group in descending order through week 48 were: nasopharyngitis, injection-site reaction, upper respiratory tract infection, headache, hypertension, and arthralgia. An overview of treatment-emergent adverse events through Week 48 is displayed in Table 6 of Example 6, above. An overview of treatment-emergent adverse events with an incidence  $\geq 5\%$  in any treatment group is displayed in Table 7 of Example 6, above.

**[0414]** The foregoing data demonstrate that ABT-874 was highly efficacious in the treatment of moderate to severe psoriasis. Upon loss of response and re-treatment, a majority of patients were able to re-achieve a PASI 75 response. Moreover, ABT-874 appears to have a favorable safety profile in the long term.

### **EQUIVALENTS**

**[0415]** Those skilled in the art will recognize, or be able to ascertain using no more than routine experimentation, many equivalents to the specific embodiments of the invention described herein. Such equivalents are intended to be encompassed by the following claims.

**[0416]** The present invention further encompasses the following embodiments:

1. A method of treating psoriasis in a subject comprising administering to the subject an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, which is capable of binding to an epitope of the p40 subunit of IL-12 and/or IL-23, wherein the subject maintains at least a PASI 75 response for a first extended period following initial administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, wherein the subject exhibits a loss of response following discontinuation of administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, and wherein the subject maintains at least a PASI 75 response for a second extended period following re-administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, thereby treating psoriasis in the subject.

2. The method of item 1, wherein the first extended period is at least about 12 weeks.

3. The method of item 1, wherein administration of the antibody is discontinued for at least about 12 weeks.

4. The method of item 1, wherein the second extended period is at least about 12 weeks.

5. The method of item 1, wherein the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered biweekly.

6. The method of item 1, wherein the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered weekly.

7. The method of item 1, wherein the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered in a single dose.

8. The method of item 1, wherein the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered in a dose of about 200 mg.

9. The method of item 1, wherein the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered in a dose of about 100 mg.

10. The method of item 1, wherein the psoriasis is chronic psoriasis.

11. A method of treating psoriasis in a subject comprising administering to the subject a single dose of an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, which is capable of binding to an epitope of the p40 subunit of IL-12 and/or IL-23, wherein at least one pharmacokinetic characteristic selected from the group consisting of a half-life of at least about 3 days, a  $T_{max}$  of less than or equal to about 4 days, and a bioavailability of at least about 40% is achieved following administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof.

12. The method of item 11, wherein a half life of at least about 8 days is achieved.

13. The method of item 11, wherein a  $T_{max}$  of less than or equal to about 3 days is achieved.

14. The method of item 11, wherein a bioavailability of at least about 60% is achieved.

15. The method of item 11, wherein the antibody is administered via intravenous injection.

16. The method of item 11, wherein the antibody is administered via subcutaneous injection.

17. The method of item 11, wherein the single dose is between about 0.1 and about 5.0 mg/kg of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof.

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18. A method of treating psoriasis in a subject comprising administering to the subject an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, which is capable of binding to an epitope of the p40 subunit of IL-12 and/or IL-23, wherein the subject maintains at least a PASI 75 response for a first extended period following initial administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, wherein the subject exhibits a loss of response following discontinuation of administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, and wherein the subject maintains at least a PASI 50 response for a second extended period following re-administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, thereby treating psoriasis in the subject.

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19. The method of item 18, wherein the first extended period is at least about 12 weeks.

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20. The method of item 18, wherein administration of the antibody is discontinued for at least about 12 weeks.

21. The method of item 18, wherein the second extended period is at least about 12 weeks.

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22. The method of item 18, wherein the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered biweekly.

23. The method of item 18, wherein the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered weekly.

24. The method of item 18, wherein the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered in a single dose.

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25. The method of item 18, wherein the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered in a dose of about 200 mg.

26. The method of item 18, wherein the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered in a dose of about 100 mg.

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27. The method of item 18, wherein the psoriasis is chronic psoriasis.

28. A method of treating psoriasis in a subject comprising administering to the subject an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, which is capable of binding to an epitope of the p40 subunit of IL-12 and/or IL-23, wherein the subject maintains at least a PAST 75 response for a first extended period following initial administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, wherein the subject exhibits a loss of response following discontinuation of administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, and wherein the subject maintains a clear or minimal PGA score for a second extended period following re-administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, thereby treating psoriasis in the subject.

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29. The method of item 28, wherein the first extended period is at least about 12 weeks.

30. The method of item 28, wherein administration of the antibody is discontinued for at least about 12 weeks.

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31. The method of item 28, wherein the second extended period is at least about 12 weeks.

32. The method of item 28, wherein the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered biweekly.

33. The method of item 28, wherein the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered weekly.

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34. The method of item 28, wherein the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered in a single dose.

35. The method of item 28, wherein the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered in a dose of about 200 mg.

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36. The method of item 28, wherein the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered in a dose of about 100 mg.

## EP 2 810 954 A2

37. The method of item 28, wherein the psoriasis is chronic psoriasis.

38. A method of treating psoriasis in a subject comprising administering to the subject a single dose of an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, which is capable of binding to an epitope of the p40 subunit of IL-12 and/or IL-23, wherein at least one pharmacokinetic characteristic selected from the group consisting of a maximum serum concentration ( $C_{max}$ ) of between about 0.15 and about 150  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ , and an area under the serum concentration-time curve (AUC) of between about 80 and about 13,000  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ , is achieved following administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof.

39. The method of item 38, wherein the antibody is administered via intravenous injection.

40. The method of item 39, wherein the  $C_{max}$  is between about 1 and about 150  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ .

41. The method of item 39, wherein the AUC is between about 145 and about 13,000  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ .

42. The method of item 38, wherein the antibody is administered via subcutaneous injection.

43. The method of item 42, wherein the  $C_{max}$  is between about 0.15 and about 20  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ .

44. The method of item 42, wherein the AUC is between about 80 and about 5,000  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr/mL}$ .

45. The method of item 38, wherein the single dose is between about 0.1 and about 5.0 mg/kg of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof.

46. A method of treating psoriasis in a subject comprising administering to the subject a single dose of an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, which is capable of binding to an epitope of the p40 subunit of IL-12 and/or IL-23, wherein at least one pharmacokinetic characteristic selected from the group consisting of a clearance (CL) of between about 30 and about 600 mL/hr, and a volume of distribution ( $V_z$ ) of between about 8 and about 11 L is achieved following intravenous administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof.

47. A method of treating psoriasis in a subject comprising administering to the subject a single dose of an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, which is capable of binding to an epitope of the p40 subunit of IL-12 and/or IL-23, wherein at least one pharmacokinetic characteristic selected from the group consisting of an apparent clearance (CL/F) of between about 90 and about 250 mL/hr, and an apparent volume of distribution (V/F) of between about 23 and about 67 L is achieved following subcutaneous administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof.

48. The method of items 46 or 47, wherein the single dose is between about 0.1 and about 5.0 mg/kg of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof.

49. A method of treating psoriasis in a subject comprising administering to the subject an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, which is capable of binding to an epitope of the p40 subunit of IL-12 and/or IL-23, wherein the subject exhibits a PASI 75 response following initial administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, wherein the subject exhibits a loss of response following discontinuation of administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, and wherein the subject exhibits at least a PASI 75 response by about 25 days following re-administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, thereby treating psoriasis in the subject.

50. The method of item 49, wherein the subject exhibits at least a PASI 75 response by about 50 days following re-administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof.

51. The method of item 49, wherein the subject exhibits at least a PASI 75 response by about 60 days following re-administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof.

52. The method of item 49, wherein initial administration of the antibody is for at least about 12 weeks.

53. The method of item 49, wherein administration of the antibody is discontinued for at least about 8 weeks.

54. The method of item 49, wherein the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered biweekly.

## EP 2 810 954 A2

55. The method of item 49, wherein the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered weekly.

56. The method of item 49, wherein the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered in a single dose.

5 57. The method of item 49, wherein the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered in a dose of about 200 mg.

58. The method of item 49, wherein the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered in a dose of about 100 mg.

10 59. The method of item 49, wherein the psoriasis is chronic psoriasis.

60. A method of treating psoriasis in a subject comprising administering to the subject an antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, which is capable of binding to an epitope of the p40 subunit of IL-12 and/or IL-23, wherein the subject exhibits a PASI 75 response following initial administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, wherein the subject exhibits a loss of response by about 60 days following discontinuation of administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, and wherein the subject achieves a PASI 75 response following re-administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, thereby treating psoriasis in the subject.

20 61. The method of item 60, wherein the subject exhibits a loss of response by about 120 days following discontinuation of administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof.

62. The method of item 60, wherein the subject exhibits a loss of response by about 180 days following discontinuation of administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof.

25 63. The method of item 60, wherein initial administration of the antibody is for at least about 12 weeks.

64. The method of item 60, wherein the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered biweekly.

30 65. The method of item 60, wherein the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered weekly.

66. The method of item 60, wherein the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered in a single dose.

35 67. The method of item 60, wherein the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered in a dose of about 200 mg.

68. The method of item 60, wherein the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered in a dose of about 100 mg.

40 69. The method of item 60, wherein the psoriasis is chronic psoriasis.

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EP 2 810 954 A2

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EP 2 810 954 A2

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EP 2 810 954 A2

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EP 2 810 954 A2

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EP 2 810 954 A2

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EP 2 810 954 A2

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EP 2 810 954 A2

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EP 2 810 954 A2

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EP 2 810 954 A2

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EP 2 810 954 A2

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5 Thr Thr Ser Gly Ser Tyr Asp Tyr Trp Gly Gln Gly Thr Met Val Thr

100

105

110

10 Val Ser Ser

115

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<210> 34

<211> 112

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<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

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<400> 34

Ser Tyr Val Leu Thr Gln Pro Pro Ser Val Ser Gly Thr Pro Gly Gln

30

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15

Arg Val Thr Ile Ser Cys Ser Gly Gly Arg Ser Asn Ile Gly Ser Asn

35

20

25

30

Thr Val Lys Trp Tyr Gln Gln Leu Pro Gly Thr Ala Pro Lys Leu Leu

40

35

40

45

Ile Tyr Gly Asn Asp Gln Arg Pro Ser Gly Val Pro Asp Arg Phe Ser

45

50

55

60

Gly Ser Lys Ser Gly Thr Ser Ala Ser Leu Ala Ile Thr Gly Val Gln

50

65

70

75

80

Ala Glu Asp Glu Ala Asp Tyr Tyr Cys Gln Ser Tyr Asp Ser Ser Leu

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85

90

95

EP 2 810 954 A2

Arg Gly Ser Arg Val Phe Gly Thr Gly Thr Lys Val Thr Val Leu Gly

100

105

110

5

<210> 35

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<211> 115

<212> PRT

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<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 35

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Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Gly

1

5

10

15

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Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr

20

25

30

30

Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

35

40

45

35

Ala Phe Ile Arg Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val

50

55

60

40

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr

65

70

75

80

45

Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys

85

90

95

50

Ala Lys Ser Gly Ser Tyr Asp Tyr Trp Gly Gln Gly Thr Met Val Thr

100

105

110

55

EP 2 810 954 A2

Val Ser Ser

115

5

<210> 36

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<211> 112

<212> PRT

15

<213> Homo sapiens

<220>

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<223> Xaa at position 32 represents either Gly or Tyr

<400> 36

25

Gln Ser Val Leu Thr Gln Pro Pro Ser Val Ser Gly Ala Pro Gly Gln

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15

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Arg Val Thr Ile Ser Cys Thr Gly Ser Ser Ser Asn Ile Gly Ala Xaa

20

25

30

35

Asp Val His Trp Tyr Gln Gln Leu Pro Gly Thr Ala Pro Lys Leu Leu

35

40

45

40

Ile Tyr Gly Asn Ser Asn Arg Pro Ser Gly Val Pro Asp Arg Phe Ser

50

55

60

45

Gly Ser Lys Ser Gly Thr Ser Ala Ser Leu Ala Ile Thr Gly Leu Gln

65

70

75

80

50

Ala Glu Asp Glu Ala Asp Tyr Tyr Cys Gln Ser Tyr Asp Ser Ser Leu

85

90

95

55

EP 2 810 954 A2

Ser Gly Ser Arg Val Phe Gly Thr Gly Thr Lys Val Thr Val Leu Gly

100

105

110

5

<210> 37

10

<211> 115

<212> PRT

15

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 37

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Gln Val Gln Leu Val Gln Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg

1

5

10

15

25

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr

20

25

30

30

Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

35

40

45

35

Ala Phe Ile Arg Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val

50

55

60

40

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr

65

70

75

80

45

Leu Gln Met Lys Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys

50

85

90

95

Thr Thr His Gly Ser His Asp Asn Trp Gly Gln Gly Thr Met Val Thr

55

100

105

110

EP 2 810 954 A2

Val Ser Ser

115

5

<210> 38

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<211> 112

<212> PRT

15

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 38

20

Ser Tyr Val Leu Thr Gln Pro Pro Ser Val Ser Gly Thr Pro Gly Gln

1 5 10 15

25

Arg Val Thr Ile Ser Cys Ser Gly Gly Arg Ser Asn Ile Gly Ser Asn

20 25 30

30

Thr Val Lys Trp Tyr Gln Gln Leu Pro Gly Thr Ala Pro Lys Leu Leu

35 40 45

35

Ile Tyr Gly Asn Asp Gln Arg Pro Ser Gly Val Pro Asp Arg Phe Ser

50 55 60

40

Gly Ser Lys Ser Gly Thr Ser Ala Ser Leu Ala Ile Thr Gly Val Gln

65 70 75 80

45

Ala Glu Asp Glu Ala Asp Tyr Tyr Cys Gln Ser Tyr Asp Ser Ser Leu

85 90 95

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Arg Gly Ser Arg Val Phe Gly Thr Gly Thr Lys Val Thr Val Leu Gly

100 105 110

55

EP 2 810 954 A2

<210> 39

<211> 115

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<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

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<400> 39

Gln Val Gln Leu Val Gln Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg

15

1 5 10 15

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr

20

20 25 30

Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

25

35 40 45

Ala Phe Ile Arg Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val

30

50 55 60

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr

35

65 70 75 80

Leu Gln Met Lys Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys

40

85 90 95

Thr Thr Ser Gly Ser Tyr Asp Tyr Trp Gly Gln Gly Thr Met Val Thr

45

100 105 110

Val Ser Ser

50

115

55

EP 2 810 954 A2

<210> 40

<211> 112

5

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

10

<400> 40

Ser Tyr Val Leu Thr Gln Pro Pro Ser Val Ser Gly Thr Pro Gly Gln

1 5 10 15

15

Arg Val Thr Ile Ser Cys Ser Gly Gly Arg Ser Asn Ile Gly Ser Asn

20 25 30

20

Thr Val Lys Trp Tyr Gln Gln Leu Pro Gly Thr Ala Pro Lys Leu Leu

35 40 45

25

Ile Tyr Gly Asn Asp Gln Arg Pro Ser Gly Val Pro Asp Arg Phe Ser

50 55 60

30

Gly Ser Lys Ser Gly Thr Ser Ala Ser Leu Ala Ile Thr Gly Val Gln

65 70 75 80

35

Ala Glu Asp Glu Ala Asp Tyr Tyr Cys Gln Ser Tyr Asp Arg Gly Phe

85 90 95

40

Thr Gly Ser Arg Val Phe Gly Thr Gly Thr Lys Val Thr Val Leu Gly

100 105 110

45

50

<210> 41

<211> 115

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<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

EP 2 810 954 A2

<400> 41

Gln Val Gln Leu Val Gln Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg  
 5           1                   5                           10                               15

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
 10                           20                               25                               30

Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
 15                           35                               40                               45

Ala Phe Ile Arg Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
 20                           50                               55                               60

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr  
 25                           65                               70                               75                               80

Leu Gln Met Lys Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
 30   85                               90                               95

Thr Thr Ser Gly Ser Tyr Asp Tyr Trp Gly Gln Gly Thr Met Val Thr  
 35   100                               105                               110

Val Ser Ser  
 40   115

<210> 42

<211> 112

<212> PRT

55   <213> Homo sapiens

EP 2 810 954 A2

<400> 42

5 Ser Tyr Val Leu Thr Gln Pro Pro Ser Val Ser Gly Thr Pro Gly Gln  
 1 5 10 15

10 Arg Val Thr Ile Ser Cys Ser Gly Gly Arg Ser Asn Ile Gly Ser Asn  
 20 25 30

15 Thr Val Lys Trp Tyr Gln Gln Leu Pro Gly Thr Ala Pro Lys Leu Leu  
 35 40 45

20 Ile Tyr Gly Asn Asp Gln Arg Pro Ser Gly Val Pro Asp Arg Phe Ser  
 50 55 60

25 Gly Ser Lys Ser Gly Thr Ser Ala Ser Leu Ala Ile Thr Gly Val Gln  
 65 70 75 80

30 Ala Glu Asp Glu Ala Asp Tyr Tyr Cys Gln Ser Tyr Asp Ser Ser Leu  
 85 90 95

35 Trp Gly Ser Arg Val Phe Gly Thr Gly Thr Lys Val Thr Val Leu Gly  
 100 105 110

45

50 <210> 43

<211> 115

<212> PRT

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<213> Homo sapiens

EP 2 810 954 A2

<400> 43

Gln Val Gln Leu Val Gln Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg  
 5           1                   5                           10                               15

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
 10                           20                               25                               30

Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
 15                           35                               40                               45

Ala Phe Ile Arg Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
 20                           50                               55                               60

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr  
 25                           65                               70                               75                               80

Leu Gln Met Lys Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
 30   85                               90                               95

Thr Thr His Gly Ser His Asp Asn Trp Gly Gln Gly Thr Met Val Thr  
 35   100                               105                               110

Val Ser Ser  
 40   115

<210> 44

<211> 112

<212> PRT

55   <213> Homo sapiens

EP 2 810 954 A2

<400> 44

5 Ser Tyr Val Leu Thr Gln Pro Pro Ser Val Ser Gly Thr Pro Gly Gln  
 1 5 10 15

10 Arg Val Thr Ile Ser Cys Ser Gly Gly Arg Ser Asn Ile Gly Ser Asn  
 20 25 30

15 Thr Val Lys Trp Tyr Gln Gln Leu Pro Gly Thr Ala Pro Lys Leu Leu  
 35 40 45

20 Ile Tyr Gly Asn Asp Gln Arg Pro Ser Gly Val Pro Asp Arg Phe Ser  
 50 55 60

25 Gly Ser Lys Ser Gly Thr Ser Ala Ser Leu Ala Ile Thr Gly Val Gln  
 65 70 75 80

30 Ala Glu Asp Glu Ala Asp Tyr Tyr Cys Gln Ser Tyr Asp Arg Gly Phe  
 85 90 95

35 Thr Gly Ser Arg Val Phe Gly Thr Gly Thr Lys Val Thr Val Leu Gly  
 100 105 110

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<210> 45

50 <211> 115

<212> PRT

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<400> 45

EP 2 810 954 A2

Gln Val Gln Leu Val Gln Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg  
 1 5 10 15

5

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
 20 25 30

10

Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
 35 40 45

15

Ala Phe Ile Arg Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
 50 55 60

20

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr  
 65 70 75 80

25

Leu Gln Met Lys Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
 85 90 95

30

Thr Thr His Gly Ser His Asp Asn Trp Gly Gln Gly Thr Met Val Thr  
 100 105 110

35

Val Ser Ser  
 115

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<210> 46

<211> 112

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<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

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<400> 46

EP 2 810 954 A2

Ser Tyr Val Leu Thr Gln Pro Pro Ser Val Ser Gly Thr Pro Gly Gln  
 1 5 10 15

5

Arg Val Thr Ile Ser Cys Ser Gly Gly Arg Ser Asn Ile Gly Ser Asn  
 20 25 30

10

Thr Val Lys Trp Tyr Gln Gln Leu Pro Gly Thr Ala Pro Lys Leu Leu  
 35 40 45

15

Ile Tyr Gly Asn Asp Gln Arg Pro Ser Gly Val Pro Asp Arg Phe Ser  
 50 55 60

20

Gly Ser Lys Ser Gly Thr Ser Ala Ser Leu Ala Ile Thr Gly Val Gln  
 65 70 75 80

25

Ala Glu Asp Glu Ala Asp Tyr Tyr Cys Gln Ser Tyr Asp Ser Ser Leu  
 85 90 95

30

Trp Gly Ser Arg Val Phe Gly Thr Gly Thr Lys Val Thr Val Leu Gly  
 100 105 110

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<210> 47

<211> 115

<212> PRT

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<213> Homo sapiens

55

<400> 47

Gln Val Gln Leu Val Gln Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg

EP 2 810 954 A2

1 5 10 15

5 Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
20 25 30

10 Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
35 40 45

15 Ala Phe Ile Arg Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
50 55 60

20 Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr  
65 70 75 80

25 Leu Gln Met Lys Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
85 90 95

30 Lys Thr His Gly Ser His Asp Asn Trp Gly Gln Gly Thr Met Val Thr  
100 105 110

35 Val Ser Ser  
40 115

45 <210> 48

<211> 112

<212> PRT

50 <213> Homo sapiens

55 <400> 48

Ser Tyr Val Leu Thr Gln Pro Pro Ser Val Ser Gly Thr Pro Gly Gln

EP 2 810 954 A2

1 5 10 15

5 Arg Val Thr Ile Ser Cys Ser Gly Ser Arg Ser Asn Ile Gly Ser Asn  
20 25 30

10 Thr Val Lys Trp Tyr Gln Gln Leu Pro Gly Thr Ala Pro Lys Leu Leu  
35 40 45

15 Ile Tyr Gly Asn Asp Gln Arg Pro Ser Gly Val Pro Asp Arg Phe Ser  
50 55 60

20 Gly Ser Lys Ser Gly Thr Ser Ala Ser Leu Ala Ile Thr Gly Val Gln  
65 70 75 80

25 Ala Glu Asp Glu Ala Asp Tyr Tyr Cys Gln Thr Tyr Asp Lys Gly Phe  
85 90 95

30 Thr Gly Ser Ser Val Phe Gly Thr Gly Thr Lys Val Thr Val Leu Gly  
100 105 110

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<210> 49

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<211> 115

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

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<400> 49

55 Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg  
1 5 10 15

EP 2 810 954 A2

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
 20 25 30  
 5  
 Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
 35 40 45  
 10  
 Ala Phe Ile Arg Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
 50 55 60  
 15  
 Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr  
 65 70 75 80  
 20  
 Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
 85 90 95  
 25  
 Lys Thr His Gly Ser His Asp Asn Trp Gly Gln Gly Thr Met Val Thr  
 100 105 110  
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 Val Ser Ser  
 115  
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 <213> Homo sapiens  
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 Gln Ser Val Leu Thr Gln Pro Pro Ser Val Ser Gly Ala Pro Gly Gln  
 1 5 10 15  
 55

EP 2 810 954 A2

Arg Val Thr Ile Ser Cys Ser Gly Ser Arg Ser Asn Ile Gly Ser Asn  
 20 25 30

5

Thr Val Lys Trp Tyr Gln Gln Leu Pro Gly Thr Ala Pro Lys Leu Leu  
 35 40 45

10

Ile Tyr Gly Asn Asp Gln Arg Pro Ser Gly Val Pro Asp Arg Phe Ser  
 50 55 60

15

Gly Ser Lys Ser Gly Thr Ser Ala Ser Leu Ala Ile Thr Gly Leu Gln  
 65 70 75 80

20

Ala Glu Asp Glu Ala Asp Tyr Tyr Cys Gln Thr Tyr Asp Lys Gly Phe  
 85 90 95

25

Thr Gly Ser Ser Val Phe Gly Thr Gly Thr Lys Val Thr Val Leu Gly  
 100 105 110

30

35

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<210> 51

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<211> 115

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

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<400> 51

Gln Val Gln Leu Val Gln Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg  
 1 5 10 15

55

EP 2 810 954 A2

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr

20 25 30

5

Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

35 40 45

10

Ala Phe Ile Arg Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val

50 55 60

15

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr

65 70 75 80

20

Leu Gln Met Lys Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys

85 90 95

25

Thr Thr His Gly Ser His Asp Thr Trp Gly Gln Gly Thr Met Val Thr

100 105 110

30

Val Ser Ser

115

35

40

<210> 52

<211> 112

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<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

50

<400> 52

Ser Tyr Val Leu Thr Gln Pro Pro Ser Val Ser Gly Thr Pro Gly Gln

1 5 10 15

55

EP 2 810 954 A2

Arg Val Thr Ile Ser Cys Ser Gly Gly Arg Ser Asn Ile Gly Ser Asn  
 20 25 30

5

Thr Val Lys Trp Tyr Gln Gln Leu Pro Gly Thr Ala Pro Lys Leu Leu  
 35 40 45

10

Ile Tyr Gly Asn Asp Gln Arg Pro Ser Gly Val Pro Asp Arg Phe Ser  
 50 55 60

15

Gly Ser Lys Ser Gly Thr Ser Ala Ser Leu Ala Ile Thr Gly Val Gln  
 65 70 75 80

20

Ala Glu Asp Glu Ala Asp Tyr Tyr Cys Gln Ser Tyr Asp Ser Ser Leu  
 85 90 95

25

Trp Gly Thr Arg Val Phe Gly Thr Gly Thr Lys Val Thr Val Leu Gly  
 100 105 110

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<210> 53

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<213> Homo sapiens

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<400> 53

Gln Val Gln Leu Val Gln Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg  
 1 5 10 15

55

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr



EP 2 810 954 A2

20

25

30

5 Thr Val Lys Trp Tyr Gln Gln Leu Pro Gly Thr Ala Pro Lys Leu Leu

35

40

45

10 Ile Tyr Gly Asn Asp Gln Arg Pro Ser Gly Val Pro Asp Arg Phe Ser

50

55

60

15 Gly Ser Lys Ser Gly Thr Ser Ala Ser Leu Ala Ile Thr Gly Val Gln

65

70

75

80

20 Ala Glu Asp Glu Ala Asp Tyr Tyr Cys Gln Ser Tyr Asp Arg Gly Phe

85

90

95

25 Thr Gly Ser Arg Val Phe Gly Thr Gly Thr Lys Val Thr Val Leu Gly

100

105

110

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<211> 115

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

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<400> 55

50 Gln Val Gln Leu Val Gln Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg

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5

10

15

55 Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr

20

25

30

EP 2 810 954 A2

Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
 35 40 45  
 5  
 Ala Phe Ile Arg Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
 50 55 60  
 10  
 Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr  
 65 70 75 80  
 15  
 Leu Gln Met Lys Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
 85 90 95  
 20  
 Thr Thr His Gly Ser His Asp Asn Trp Gly Gln Gly Thr Met Val Thr  
 100 105 110  
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 Val Ser Ser  
 115  
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 <400> 56  
 Ser Tyr Val Leu Thr Gln Pro Pro Ser Val Ser Gly Thr Pro Gly Gln  
 1 5 10 15  
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 Arg Val Thr Ile Ser Cys Ser Gly Gly Arg Ser Asn Ile Val Ser Asn  
 20 25 30  
 55

EP 2 810 954 A2

Thr Val Lys Trp Tyr Gln Gln Leu Pro Gly Thr Ala Pro Lys Leu Leu  
 35 40 45

5

Ile Tyr Gly Asn Asp Gln Arg Pro Ser Gly Val Pro Asp Arg Phe Ser  
 50 55 60

10

Gly Ser Lys Ser Gly Thr Ser Ala Ser Leu Ala Ile Thr Gly Val Gln  
 65 70 75 80

15

Ala Glu Asp Glu Ala Asp Tyr Tyr Cys Gln Ser Tyr Asp Arg Gly Phe  
 85 90 95

20

Thr Gly Ala Arg Val Phe Gly Thr Gly Thr Lys Val Thr Val Leu Gly  
 100 105 110

25

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<210> 57

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<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

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<400> 57

Gln Val Gln Leu Val Gln Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg  
 1 5 10 15

50

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
 20 25 30

55

EP 2 810 954 A2

Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
 35 40 45  
 5  
 Ala Phe Ile Arg Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
 50 55 60  
 10  
 Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr  
 65 70 75 80  
 15  
 Leu Gln Met Lys Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
 85 90 95  
 20  
 Lys Thr His Gly Ser His Asp Asn Trp Gly Gln Gly Thr Met Val Thr  
 100 105 110  
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 Val Ser Ser  
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 45  
 <400> 58  
 Ser Tyr Val Leu Thr Gln Pro Pro Ser Val Ser Gly Thr Pro Gly Gln  
 1 5 10 15  
 50  
 Arg Val Thr Ile Ser Cys Ser Gly Gly Arg Ser Asn Ile Gly Ser Asn  
 20 25 30  
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EP 2 810 954 A2

Thr Val Lys Trp Tyr Gln Gln Leu Pro Gly Thr Ala Pro Lys Leu Leu  
 35 40 45

5

Ile Tyr Gly Asn Asp Gln Arg Pro Ser Gly Val Pro Asp Arg Phe Ser  
 50 55 60

10

Gly Ser Lys Ser Gly Thr Ser Ala Ser Leu Ala Ile Thr Gly Val Gln  
 65 70 75 80

15

Ala Glu Asp Glu Ala Asp Tyr Tyr Cys Gln Thr Tyr Asp Lys Gly Phe  
 85 90 95

20

Thr Gly Ser Ser Val Phe Gly Thr Gly Thr Lys Val Thr Val Leu Gly  
 100 105 110

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<210> 59

<211> 115

<212> PRT

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<213> Homo sapiens

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<400> 59

Gln Val Gln Leu Val Gln Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg  
 1 5 10 15

50

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
 20 25 30

55

Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

EP 2 810 954 A2

35 40 45

5 Ala Phe Ile Arg Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
50 55 60

10 Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr  
65 70 75 80

15 Leu Gln Met Lys Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
85 90 95

20 Lys Thr His Gly Ser His Asp Asn Trp Gly Gln Gly Thr Met Val Thr  
100 105 110

25 Val Ser Ser  
115

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35 <210> 60  
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<212> PRT

40 <213> Homo sapiens

45 <400> 60

45 Ser Tyr Val Leu Thr Gln Pro Pro Ser Val Ser Gly Thr Pro Gly Gln  
1 5 10 15

50 Arg Val Thr Ile Ser Cys Ser Gly Gly Arg Ser Asn Ile Gly Ser Asn  
20 25 30

55 Thr Val Lys Trp Tyr Gln Gln Leu Pro Gly Thr Ala Pro Lys Leu Leu

EP 2 810 954 A2

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					85					90					95				
20	Thr	Gly	Ser	Met	Val	Phe	Gly	Thr	Gly	Thr	Lys	Val	Thr	Val	Leu	Gly			
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25																			
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	<210>	61																	
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40																			
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				20					25					30					
55	Gly	Met	His	Trp	Val	Arg	Gln	Ala	Pro	Gly	Lys	Gly	Leu	Glu	Trp	Val			
		35						40						45					

EP 2 810 954 A2

Ala Phe Ile Arg Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val

50 55 60

5

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr

65 70 75 80

10

Leu Gln Met Lys Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys

85 90 95

15

Lys Thr His Gly Ser His Asp Asn Trp Gly Gln Gly Thr Met Val Thr

100 105 110

20

Val Ser Ser

115

25

30

<210> 62

<211> 112

35

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

40

<400> 62

Ser Tyr Val Leu Thr Gln Pro Pro Ser Val Ser Gly Thr Pro Gly Gln

1 5 10 15

45

Arg Val Thr Ile Ser Cys Ser Gly Gly Arg Ser Asn Ile Gly Ser Asn

20 25 30

50

Thr Val Lys Trp Tyr Gln Gln Leu Pro Gly Thr Ala Pro Lys Leu Leu

35 40 45

55

EP 2 810 954 A2

Ile Tyr Gly Asn Asp Gln Arg Pro Ser Gly Val Pro Asp Arg Phe Ser

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Gly Ser Lys Ser Gly Thr Ser Ala Ser Leu Ala Ile Thr Gly Val Gln

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Ala Glu Asp Glu Ala Asp Tyr Tyr Cys Gln Ser Tyr Asp Arg Gly Thr

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Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

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EP 2 810 954 A2

Ala Phe Ile Arg Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val

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Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr

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Leu Gln Met Lys Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys

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Lys Thr His Gly Ser His Asp Asn Trp Gly Gln Gly Thr Met Val Thr

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Val Ser Ser

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Thr Val Lys Trp Tyr Gln Gln Leu Pro Gly Thr Ala Pro Lys Leu Leu

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EP 2 810 954 A2

Ile Tyr Gly Asn Asp Gln Arg Pro Ser Gly Val Pro Asp Arg Phe Ser  
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Gly Ser Lys Ser Gly Thr Ser Ala Ser Leu Ala Ile Thr Gly Val Gln  
 65 70 75 80

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Ala Glu Asp Glu Ala Asp Tyr Tyr Cys Gln Ser Tyr Asp Arg Gly Ser  
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Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
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Ala Phe Ile Arg Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val

EP 2 810 954 A2

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5 Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr  
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10 Leu Gln Met Lys Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
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Ile Tyr Gly Asn Asp Gln Arg Pro Ser Gly Val Pro Asp Arg Phe Ser

EP 2 810 954 A2

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EP 2 810 954 A2

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Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
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Ala Phe Ile Arg Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
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Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr



EP 2 810 954 A2

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EP 2 810 954 A2

Leu Gln Met Lys Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys

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Ile Tyr Tyr Asn Asp Gln Arg Pro Ser Gly Val Pro Asp Arg Phe Ser

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Gly Ser Lys Ser Gly Thr Ser Ala Ser Leu Ala Ile Thr Gly Leu Gln

65 70 75 80

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EP 2 810 954 A2

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Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

35 40 45

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Ala Phe Ile Arg Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val

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Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr

65 70 75 80

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EP 2 810 954 A2

Leu Gln Met Lys Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys

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Ile Tyr Gly Asn Asp Gln Arg Pro Ser Gly Val Pro Asp Arg Phe Ser

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Gly Ser Lys Ser Gly Thr Ser Ala Ser Leu Ala Ile Thr Gly Leu Gln

65 70 75 80

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EP 2 810 954 A2

Ala Glu Asp Glu Ala Asp Tyr Tyr Cys Gln Ser Tyr Asp Arg Tyr Thr

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EP 2 810 954 A2

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Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Phe Thr Gly Ser Met Val

5                   1                           5                                   10

<210> 592

<211> 12

<212> PRT

15                   <213> Homo sapiens

<220>

20                   <223> Xaa is encoded by a randomized codon of sequence  
                                  NNS with N being any nucleotide and S being either  
25                                   deoxycytosine or deoxyguanidine

<400> 592

Gln Ser Tyr Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Ser Met Val

30                   1                           5                                   10

<210> 593

<211> 12

<212> PRT

40                   <213> Homo sapiens

<220>

45                   <223> Xaa is encoded by a randomized codon of sequence  
                                  NNS with N being any nucleotide and S being either  
50                                   deoxycytosine or deoxyguanidine

<400> 593

Gln Ser Tyr Asp Arg Gly Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa

55                   1                           5                                   10

EP 2 810 954 A2

<210> 594

<211> 100

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<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

10

<400> 594

Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Gln Pro Gly Gly

15

1 5 10 15

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Asp His

20

20 25 30

Tyr Met Asp Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

25

35 40 45

Gly Arg Thr Arg Asn Lys Ala Asn Ser Tyr Thr Thr Glu Tyr Ala Ala

30

50 55 60

Ser Val Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asp Ser Lys Asn Ser

35

65 70 75 80

Leu Tyr Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Lys Thr Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr

40

85 90 95

Tyr Cys Ala Arg

45

100

50

<210> 595

55

EP 2 810 954 A2

<211> 100

<212> PRT

5 <213> Homo sapiens

<400> 595

10 Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Gln Pro Gly Gly

1 5 10 15

15 Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Asp His

20 25 30

20 Tyr Met Ser Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Gln Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Leu Val

35 40 45

25 Gly Leu Ile Arg Asn Lys Ala Asn Ser Tyr Thr Thr Glu Tyr Ala Ala

50 55 60

30 Ser Val Lys Gly Arg Leu Thr Ile Ser Arg Glu Asp Ser Lys Asn Thr

65 70 75 80

35 Leu Tyr Leu Gln Met Ser Ser Leu Lys Thr Glu Asp Leu Ala Val Tyr

85 90 95

45 Tyr Cys Ala Arg

100

50 <210> 596

<211> 100

55 <212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens



EP 2 810 954 A2

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Asp His

20 25 30

5

Tyr Met Ser Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Gln Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Leu Val

35 40 45

10

Gly Leu Ile Arg Asn Lys Ala Asn Ser Tyr Thr Thr Glu Tyr Ala Ala

50 55 60

15

Ser Val Lys Gly Arg Leu Thr Ile Ser Arg Glu Asp Ser Lys Asn Thr

65 70 75 80

20

Leu Tyr Leu Gln Met Ser Ser Leu Lys Thr Glu Asp Leu Ala Val Tyr

85 90 95

25

Tyr Cys Ala Arg

100

30

35

<210> 598

<211> 98

40

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

45

<400> 598

Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Gln Pro Gly Arg

1 5 10 15

50

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Asp Asp Tyr

20 25 30

55

EP 2 810 954 A2

Ala Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

35 40 45

5

Ser Gly Ile Ser Trp Asn Ser Gly Ser Ile Gly Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val

50 55 60

10

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ala Lys Asn Ser Leu Tyr

65 70 75 80

15

Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Leu Tyr Tyr Cys

85 90 95

20

Ala Lys

25

<210> 599

<211> 98

35

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

40

<400> 599

Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Arg Pro Gly Gly

1 5 10 15

45

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Asp Asp Tyr

20 25 30

50

Gly Met Ser Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

35 40 45

55

EP 2 810 954 A2

Ser Gly Ile Asn Trp Asn Gly Gly Ser Thr Gly Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
 50 55 60

5

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ala Lys Asn Ser Leu Tyr  
 65 70 75 80

10

Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Leu Tyr His Cys  
 85 90 95

15

Ala Arg

20

<210> 600

25

<211> 98

<212> PRT

30

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 600

35

Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Val Val Val Gln Pro Gly Gly  
 1 5 10 15

40

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Asp Asp Tyr  
 20 25 30

45

Thr Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
 35 40 45

50

Ser Leu Ile Ser Trp Asp Gly Gly Ser Thr Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
 50 55 60

55

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Ser Leu Tyr



EP 2 810 954 A2

85

90

95

5 Ala Arg

10

<210> 602

<211> 98

15

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

20

<400> 602

Gln Val Gln Leu Leu Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Lys Pro Gly Gly

25

1

5

10

15

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Asp Tyr

30

20

25

30

Tyr Met Ser Trp Ile Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

35

35

40

45

Ser Tyr Ile Ser Ser Ser Ser Ser Tyr Thr Asn Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val

40

50

55

60

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ala Lys Asn Ser Leu Tyr

45

65

70

75

80

Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys

50

85

90

95

55

Ala Arg

EP 2 810 954 A2

<210> 603

<211> 100

5

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

10

<400> 603

Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Gln Pro Gly Gly

15

1 5 10 15

Ser Leu Lys Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Gly Ser

20

20 25 30

Ala Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Ser Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

25

35 40 45

Gly Arg Ile Arg Ser Lys Ala Asn Ser Tyr Ala Thr Ala Tyr Ala Ala

30

50 55 60

Ser Val Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asp Ser Lys Asn Thr

35

65 70 75 80

Ala Tyr Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Lys Thr Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr

40

85 90 95

Tyr Cys Thr Arg

45

100

50

<210> 604

55

EP 2 810 954 A2

<211> 100

<212> PRT

5 <213> Homo sapiens

<400> 604

10 Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Lys Pro Gly Gly  
1 5 10 15

15 Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Asn Ala  
20 25 30

20 Trp Met Ser Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
35 40 45

25 Gly Arg Ile Lys Ser Lys Thr Asp Gly Gly Thr Thr Asp Tyr Ala Ala  
50 55 60

30 Pro Val Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asp Ser Lys Asn Thr  
35 65 70 75 80

40 Leu Tyr Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Lys Thr Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr  
85 90 95

45 Tyr Cys Thr Thr  
100

50 <210> 605

<211> 100

55 <212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

EP 2 810 954 A2

<400> 605

5           Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Lys Pro Gly Gly  
            1                   5                   10                   15

10           Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Asn Ala  
                          20                   25                   30

15           Trp Met Ser Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
                  35                   40                   45

20           Gly Arg Ile Glu Ser Lys Thr Asp Gly Gly Thr Thr Asp Tyr Ala Ala  
                  50                   55                   60

25           Pro Val Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asp Ser Lys Asn Thr  
                  65                   70                   75                   80

30           Leu Tyr Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Lys Thr Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr  
                          85                   90                   95

35           Tyr Cys Thr Thr  
                          100

40

<210> 606

45           <211> 100

<212> PRT

50           <213> Homo sapiens

<400> 606

55           Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Lys Pro Gly Gly  
            1                   5                   10                   15

EP 2 810 954 A2

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Asn Ala

20 25 30

5

Trp Met Ser Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

35 40 45

10

Gly Arg Ile Lys Ser Lys Thr Asp Gly Gly Thr Thr Asp Tyr Ala Ala

50 55 60

15

Pro Val Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asp Ser Lys Asn Thr

65 70 75 80

20

Leu Tyr Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Lys Thr Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr

85 90 95

25

Tyr Cys Thr Thr

100

30

35

<210> 607

<211> 100

40

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

45

<400> 607

Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Lys Pro Gly Gly

1 5 10 15

50

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Asn Ala

20 25 30

55

EP 2 810 954 A2

Trp Met Ser Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

35 40 45

5

Gly Arg Ile Lys Ser Lys Thr Asp Gly Gly Thr Thr Asn Tyr Ala Ala

50 55 60

10

Pro Val Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asp Ser Lys Asn Thr

65 70 75 80

15

Leu Tyr Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Lys Thr Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr

85 90 95

20

Tyr Cys Thr Thr

100

25

30

<210> 608

<211> 100

35

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

40

<400> 608

Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Lys Pro Gly Gly

1 5 10 15

45

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Asn Ala

20 25 30

50

Trp Met Asn Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

35 40 45

55

EP 2 810 954 A2

Gly Arg Ile Lys Ser Lys Thr Asp Gly Gly Thr Thr Asp Tyr Ala Ala  
 50 55 60

5

Pro Val Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asp Ser Lys Asn Thr  
 65 70 75 80

10

Leu Tyr Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Lys Thr Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr  
 85 90 95

15

Tyr Cys Thr Thr  
 100

20

<210> 609

25

<211> 100

<212> PRT

30

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 609

35

Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Ala Leu Val Lys Pro Gly Gly  
 1 5 10 15

40

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Asn Ala  
 20 25 30

45

Trp Met Ser Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
 35 40 45

50

Gly Arg Ile Lys Ser Lys Thr Asp Gly Gly Thr Thr Asp Tyr Ala Ala  
 50 55 60

55

Pro Val Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asp Ser Lys Asn Thr



EP 2 810 954 A2

85

90

95

5 Val Lys

10 <210> 611

<211> 98

15 <212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

20 <400> 611

Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Gln Pro Gly Gly

1 5 10 15

25

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Asn His

20 25 30

30

Tyr Thr Ser Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

35 40 45

35

Ser Tyr Ser Ser Gly Asn Ser Gly Tyr Thr Asn Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val

50 55 60

40

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ala Lys Asn Ser Leu Tyr

65 70 75 80

45

Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys

85 90 95

50

55 Val Lys

EP 2 810 954 A2

<210> 612

<211> 98

5

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

10

<400> 612

Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Gln Pro Gly Gly

1 5 10 15

15

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Asn Ser

20 25 30

20

Asp Met Asn Trp Val His Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

25 35 40 45

25

Ser Gly Val Ser Trp Asn Gly Ser Arg Thr His Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val

30 50 55 60

30

Lys Gly Arg Phe Ile Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Arg Asn Thr Leu Tyr

35 65 70 75 80

35

Leu Gln Thr Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys

40 85 90 95

40

45 Val Arg

45

50 <210> 613

<211> 98

<212> PRT

55

<213> Homo sapiens



EP 2 810 954 A2

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Asn Ser  
 20 25 30

Asp Met Asn Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
 35 40 45

Ser Gly Val Ser Trp Asn Gly Ser Arg Thr His Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
 50 55 60

Lys Gly Arg Phe Ile Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Arg Asn Phe Leu Tyr  
 65 70 75 80

Gln Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Pro Glu Asp Met Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
 85 90 95

Val Arg

<210> 615

<211> 97

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 615

Glu Val His Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Gln Pro Gly Gly  
 1 5 10 15

Ala Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Asn Tyr  
 20 25 30

EP 2 810 954 A2

Asp Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Thr Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
 35 40 45  
 5  
 Ser Ala Asn Gly Thr Ala Gly Asp Thr Tyr Tyr Pro Gly Ser Val Lys  
 50 55 60  
 10  
 Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Glu Asn Ala Lys Asn Ser Leu Tyr Leu  
 65 70 75 80  
 15  
 Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Gly Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys Ala  
 85 90 95  
 20  
 Arg  
 25  
 <210> 616  
 30  
 <211> 97  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Homo sapiens  
 35  
 <400> 616  
 40  
 Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Thr Gly Gly Gly Leu Ile Gln Pro Gly Gly  
 1 5 10 15  
 45  
 Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Val Ser Ser Asn  
 20 25 30  
 50  
 Tyr Met Ser Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
 35 40 45  
 55  
 Ser Val Ile Tyr Ser Gly Gly Ser Thr Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val Lys  
 50 55 60



EP 2 810 954 A2

Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Met Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys Ala  
 85 90 95

5

Arg

10

<210> 618

<211> 97

15

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

20

<400> 618

Glu Val Gln Leu Val Gln Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Gln Pro Gly Gly  
 1 5 10 15

25

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Gly Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
 20 25 30

30

Ala Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
 35 40 45

35

Ser Ala Ile Gly Thr Gly Gly Gly Thr Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val Lys  
 50 55 60

40

Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ala Lys Asn Ser Leu Tyr Leu  
 65 70 75 80

45

Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Met Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys Ala  
 85 90 95

50

55

Arg

EP 2 810 954 A2

<210> 619

<211> 98

5

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

10

<400> 619

Glu Val Gln Leu Leu Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Gln Pro Gly Gly

15

1 5 10 15

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr

20

20 25 30

Ala Met Ser Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

25

35 40 45

Ser Ala Ile Ser Gly Ser Gly Gly Ser Thr Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val

30

50 55 60

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr

35

65 70 75 80

Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys

40

85 90 95

45

Ala Lys

50

<210> 620

<211> 98

55

<212> PRT

EP 2 810 954 A2

<213> Homo sapiens

5

<400> 620

Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Gln Pro Gly Gly  
1 5 10 15

10

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ser Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
20 25 30

15

Ala Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Tyr Val  
35 40 45

20

Ser Ala Ile Ser Ser Asn Gly Gly Ser Thr Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
50 55 60

25

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr  
65 70 75 80

30

Val Gln Met Ser Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
85 90 95

35

Val Lys

40

45

<210> 621

<211> 98

<212> PRT

50

<213> Homo sapiens

55

<400> 621

Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Gln Pro Gly Gly

EP 2 810 954 A2

1 5 10 15

5 Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ser Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
20 25 30

10 Ala Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Tyr Val  
35 40 45

15 Ser Ala Ile Ser Ser Asn Gly Gly Ser Thr Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
50 55 60

20 Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr  
65 70 75 80

25 Val Gln Met Ser Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
85 90 95

30 Val Lys

35 <210> 622

40 <211> 98

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

45 <400> 622

50 Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Gln Pro Gly Gly  
1 5 10 15

55 Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
20 25 30

EP 2 810 954 A2

Ala Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Tyr Val

35 40 45

5

Ser Ala Ile Ser Ser Asn Gly Gly Ser Thr Tyr Tyr Ala Asn Ser Val

50 55 60

10

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr

65 70 75 80

15

Leu Gln Met Gly Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Met Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys

85 90 95

20

Ala Arg

25

30

<210> 623

<211> 98

35

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

40

<400> 623

Glu Val Gln Leu Leu Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Gln Pro Gly Gly

1 5 10 15

45

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr

20 25 30

50

Ala Met Ser Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

35 40 45

55

EP 2 810 954 A2

Ser Ala Ile Ser Gly Ser Gly Gly Ser Thr Tyr Tyr Gly Asp Ser Val  
50 55 60

5

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr  
65 70 75 80

10

Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
85 90 95

15

Ala Lys

20

<210> 624

25

<211> 98

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

30

<400> 624

Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg  
1 5 10 15

35

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
20 25 30

40

Ala Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
35 40 45

45

Ala Val Ile Ser Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Thr Asp Ser Val  
50 55 60

50

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr

55



EP 2 810 954 A2

Ala Arg

5

<210> 626

<211> 98

10

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

15

<400> 626

Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg

20

1 5 10 15

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr

25

20 25 30

Ala Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

30

35 40 45

Ala Val Ile Ser Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val

35

50 55 60

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr

40

65 70 75 80

Leu Gln Met Ser Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys

45

85 90 95

50

Ala Arg

55

EP 2 810 954 A2

<210> 627

<211> 98

5

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

10

<400> 627

Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg

1 5 10 15

15

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr

20 25 30

20

Ala Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

25 35 40 45

25

Ala Val Ile Ser Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val

30 50 55 60

30

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr

35 65 70 75 80

35

Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys

40 85 90 95

40

45 Ala Arg

45

50

<210> 628

<211> 98

<212> PRT

55

<213> Homo sapiens

EP 2 810 954 A2

<400> 628

5 Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg  
1 5 10 15

10 Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
20 25 30

15 Ala Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
35 40 45

20 Ala Val Ile Ser Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
50 55 60

25 Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr  
65 70 75 80

30 Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
85 90 95

35  
Ala Arg

40  
<210> 629

45 <211> 98

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

50  
<400> 629

55 Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg  
1 5 10 15

EP 2 810 954 A2

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
 20 25 30

5

Ala Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
 35 40 45

10

Ala Val Ile Ser Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
 50 55 60

15

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr  
 65 70 75 80

20

Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
 85 90 95

25

Ala Arg

30

<210> 630

35

<211> 98

<212> PRT

40

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 630

45

Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg  
 1 5 10 15

50

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
 20 25 30

55

Ala Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

EP 2 810 954 A2

35

40

45

5 Ala Val Ile Ser Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val

50

55

60

10 Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr

65

70

75

80

15 Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys

85

90

95

20

Ala Arg

25

<210> 631

<211> 98

30

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

35

<400> 631

Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg

40

1

5

10

15

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr

45

20

25

30

Ala Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

50

35

40

45

55 Ala Val Ile Ser Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val

50

55

60



EP 2 810 954 A2

Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
 85 90 95

5

Ala Arg

10

<210> 633

<211> 98

15

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

20

<400> 633

Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Gln Pro Gly Gly  
 1 5 10 15

25

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ser Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
 20 25 30

30

Ala Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Tyr Val  
 35 40 45

35

Ser Ala Ile Ser Ser Asn Gly Gly Ser Thr Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
 50 55 60

40

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr  
 65 70 75 80

45

Val Gln Met Ser Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
 85 90 95

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55

Val Lys

EP 2 810 954 A2

<210> 634

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<212> PRT

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<400> 634

Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Gln Pro Gly Gly

1 5 10 15

15

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ser Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr

20 25 30

20

Ala Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Tyr Val

25 35 40 45

25

Ser Ala Ile Ser Ser Asn Gly Gly Ser Thr Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val

30 50 55 60

30

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr

35 65 70 75 80

35

Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys

40 85 90 95

40

45 Ala Arg

45

50 <210> 635

<211> 98

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<213> Homo sapiens

EP 2 810 954 A2

<400> 635

5 Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg  
1 5 10 15

10 Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
20 25 30

15 Ala Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
35 40 45

20 Ala Val Ile Ser Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
50 55 60

25 Lys Gly Arg Phe Ala Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr  
65 70 75 80

30 Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
85 90 95

35  
Ala Arg

40  
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45 <211> 98

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

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<400> 636

55 Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg  
1 5 10 15

EP 2 810 954 A2

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
 20 25 30

5

Ala Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
 35 40 45

10

Ala Val Ile Ser Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
 50 55 60

15

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr  
 65 70 75 80

20

Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
 85 90 95

25

Ala Arg

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<210> 637

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<211> 98

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<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 637

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Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg  
 1 5 10 15

50

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
 20 25 30

55

Ala Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

EP 2 810 954 A2

35

40

45

5 Ala Val Ile Ser Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val

50

55

60

10 Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr

65

70

75

80

15 Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys

85

90

95

20

Ala Lys

25

<210> 638

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<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

35

<400> 638

Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Gln Pro Gly Gly

40

1

5

10

15

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr

45

20

25

30

Asp Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Thr Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

50

35

40

45

55 Ser Ala Ile Gly Thr Ala Gly Asp Thr Tyr Tyr Pro Gly Ser Val Lys

50

55

60

EP 2 810 954 A2

Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Glu Asn Ala Lys Asn Ser Leu Tyr Leu  
 65 70 75 80

5

Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Gly Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys Ala  
 85 90 95

10

Arg

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<210> 639

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<211> 98

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<213> Homo sapiens

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<400> 639

Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Gln Pro Gly Gly  
 1 5 10 15

30

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
 20 25 30

35

Glu Met Asn Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
 35 40 45

40

Ser Tyr Ile Ser Ser Ser Gly Ser Thr Ile Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
 50 55 60

45

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ala Lys Asn Ser Leu Tyr  
 65 70 75 80

50

Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys

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EP 2 810 954 A2

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95

5

Ala Arg

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Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg

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5

10

15

25

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr

20

25

30

30

Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

35

40

45

35

Ala Val Ile Ser Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val

50

55

60

40

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr

65

70

75

80

45

Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Leu Arg Ala Arg Leu Cys Ile Thr Val

85

90

95

50

55

Arg Glu

EP 2 810 954 A2

<210> 641

<211> 98

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<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

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<400> 641

Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg

1 5 10 15

15

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr

20 25 30

20

Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

25 35 40 45

25

Ala Val Ile Ser Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val

30 50 55 60

30

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr

35 65 70 75 80

35

Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys

40 85 90 95

40

45 Ala Arg

45

50 <210> 642

<211> 98

<212> PRT

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<213> Homo sapiens

EP 2 810 954 A2

<400> 642

5 Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg  
1 5 10 15

10 Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
20 25 30

15 Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
35 40 45

20 Ala Val Ile Ser Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
50 55 60

25 Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr  
65 70 75 80

30 Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
85 90 95

35  
Ala Arg

40  
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45 <211> 98

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

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<400> 643

55 Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg  
1 5 10 15

EP 2 810 954 A2

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
 20 25 30

5

Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
 35 40 45

10

Ala Val Ile Ser Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
 50 55 60

15

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr  
 65 70 75 80

20

Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
 85 90 95

25

Ala Arg

30

<210> 644

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<211> 98

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<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 644

45

Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg  
 1 5 10 15

50

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
 20 25 30

55

Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

EP 2 810 954 A2

35

40

45

5 Ala Val Ile Ser Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val

50

55

60

10 Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr

65

70

75

80

15 Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys

85

90

95

20

Ala Arg

25

<210> 645

30

<211> 98

<212> PRT

35

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 645

40 Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg

1

5

10

15

45 Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr

20

25

30

50 Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

35

40

45

55

Ala Val Ile Ser Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val

EP 2 810 954 A2

50

55

60

5 Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Arg Leu Tyr  
65 70 75 80

10 Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
85 90 95

15 Ala Arg

20 <210> 646

<211> 98

25 <212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

30 <400> 646

Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg  
1 5 10 15

35 Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
40 20 25 30

45 Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
35 40 45

50 Ala Val Ile Ser Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
50 55 60

55 Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr  
65 70 75 80

EP 2 810 954 A2

Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
 85 90 95

5

Ala Arg

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<210> 647

<211> 98

15

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

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<400> 647

Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg  
 1 5 10 15

25

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
 20 25 30

30

Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
 35 40 45

35

Ala Val Ile Trp Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
 50 55 60

40

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr  
 65 70 75 80

45

Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
 85 90 95

50

55

Ala Arg

EP 2 810 954 A2

<210> 648

<211> 98

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<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

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<400> 648

Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg

15

1 5 10 15

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr

20

20 25 30

Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

25

35 40 45

Ala Val Ile Ser Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val

30

50 55 60

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr

35

65 70 75 80

Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Gly Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys

40

85 90 95

45

Ala Arg

50

<210> 649

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EP 2 810 954 A2

<211> 98

<212> PRT

5 <213> Homo sapiens

<400> 649

10 Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Gly  
1 5 10 15

15 Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
20 25 30

20 Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
35 40 45

25 Ala Phe Ile Arg Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
30 50 55 60

35 Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr  
65 70 75 80

40 Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
85 90 95

45 Ala Lys

50

<210> 650

<211> 98

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55 <213> Homo sapiens

EP 2 810 954 A2

<400> 650

5 Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg  
1 5 10 15

10 Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
20 25 30

15 Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
35 40 45

20 Ala Val Ile Ser Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
50 55 60

25 Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr  
65 70 75 80

30 Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
85 90 95

35 Ala Lys

40

<210> 651

45 <211> 98

<212> PRT

50 <213> Homo sapiens

<400> 651

55 Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg  
1 5 10 15

EP 2 810 954 A2

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
 20 25 30  
 5  
 Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
 35 40 45  
 10  
 Ala Val Ile Trp Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
 50 55 60  
 15  
 Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr  
 65 70 75 80  
 20  
 Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
 85 90 95  
 25  
 30 Ala Arg  
 35  
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 <212> PRT  
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 45  
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 Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg  
 1 5 10 15  
 50  
 Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
 20 25 30  
 55

EP 2 810 954 A2

Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
 35 40 45

5

Ala Val Ile Trp Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
 50 55 60

10

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr  
 65 70 75 80

15

Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
 85 90 95

20

Ala Lys

25

<210> 653

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<211> 95

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<213> Homo sapiens

35

<400> 653

40

Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg  
 1 5 10 15

45

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
 20 25 30

50

Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
 35 40 45

55

Ala Val Ile Ser Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val

EP 2 810 954 A2

50 55 60

5 Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr  
65 70 75 80

10 Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Arg Lys  
85 90 95

15

<210> 654

20 <211> 98  
<212> PRT  
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25

<400> 654

30 Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg  
1 5 10 15

35 Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
20 25 30

40 Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
35 40 45

45 Ala Val Ile Ser Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
50 55 60

50 Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr  
65 70 75 80

55 Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys

EP 2 810 954 A2

85

90

95

5

Ala Arg

10

<210> 655

<211> 98

15

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

20

<400> 655

Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Val Gln Pro Gly Arg

1 5 10 15

25

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr

20 25 30

30

Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

35 40 45

35

Ala Val Ile Trp Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Ala

50 55 60

40

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Thr Asn Thr Leu Phe

65 70 75 80

45

Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys

85 90 95

50

55

Ala Arg

EP 2 810 954 A2

<210> 656

<211> 98

5

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

10

<400> 656

Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Gln Pro Gly Gly

1 5 10 15

15

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr

20 25 30

20

Ser Met Asn Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

25 35 40 45

25

Ser Tyr Ile Ser Ser Ser Ser Ser Thr Ile Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val

30 50 55 60

30

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ala Lys Asn Ser Leu Tyr

35 65 70 75 80

35

Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Asp Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys

40 85 90 95

40

45

Ala Arg

50

<210> 657

<211> 98

55

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

EP 2 810 954 A2

<400> 657

5           Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Lys Pro Gly Gly  
               1                       5                       10                       15

10           Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
                           20                       25                       30

15           Ser Met Asn Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
                           35                       40                       45

20           Ser Ser Ile Ser Ser Ser Ser Ser Tyr Ile Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
                   50                       55                       60

25           Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ala Lys Asn Ser Leu Tyr  
               65                       70                       75                       80

30           Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
                           85                       90                       95

35           Ala Arg

<210> 658

45           <211> 97

<212> PRT

50           <213> Homo sapiens

<400> 658

55           Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Lys Pro Gly Gly  
               1                       5                       10                       15

EP 2 810 954 A2

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
 20 25 30

5

Ser Met Asn Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
 35 40 45

10

Ser Ser Ile Ser Ser Ser Ser Tyr Ile Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val Lys  
 50 55 60

15

Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ala Lys Asn Ser Leu Tyr Leu  
 65 70 75 80

20

Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys Ala  
 85 90 95

25

Arg

30

<210> 659

35

<211> 98

<212> PRT

40

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 659

45

Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Lys Pro Gly Gly  
 1 5 10 15

50

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
 20 25 30

55

EP 2 810 954 A2

Ser Met Asn Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
35 40 45

5

Ser Ser Ile Ser Ser Ser Ser Ser Tyr Ile Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val  
50 55 60

10

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ala Lys Asn Ser Leu Tyr  
65 70 75 80

15

Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
85 90 95

20

Ala Arg

25

30

<210> 660

<211> 98

<212> PRT

35

<213> Homo sapiens

40

<400> 660

Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Gln Pro Gly Gly  
1 5 10 15

45

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
20 25 30

50

Ser Met Asn Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
35 40 45

55

Ser Tyr Ile Ser Ser Ser Ser Ser Thr Ile Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val

EP 2 810 954 A2

50

55

60

5 Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ala Lys Asn Ser Leu Tyr

65 70 75 80

10 Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys

85 90 95

15 Ala Arg

20 <210> 661

<211> 97

25 <212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

30 <400> 661

Glu Asp Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Gln Pro Gly Gly

1 5 10 15

35 Ser Leu Arg Pro Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Ala Phe Ser Ser Tyr

40 20 25 30

45 Val Leu His Trp Val Arg Arg Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Pro Glu Trp Val

35 40 45

50 Ser Ala Ile Gly Thr Gly Gly Asp Thr Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val Met

50 55 60

55 Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ala Lys Lys Ser Leu Tyr Leu

65 70 75 80

EP 2 810 954 A2

Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Ile Ala Glu Asp Met Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys Ala

85 90 95

5

Arg

10

<210> 662

15

<211> 98

<212> PRT

20

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 662

25

Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Gln Pro Gly Gly

1 5 10 15

30

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr

20 25 30

35

Trp Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Val Trp Val

35 40 45

40

Ser Arg Ile Asn Ser Asp Gly Ser Ser Thr Ser Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val

50 55 60

45

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ala Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr

65 70 75 80

50

Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys

85 90 95

55

EP 2 810 954 A2

Ala Arg

5

<210> 663

10

<211> 98

<212> PRT

15

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 663

20

Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Gln Pro Gly Gly

1 5 10 15

25

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr

20 25 30

30

Trp Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Val Trp Val

35 40 45

35

Ser Arg Ile Asn Ser Asp Gly Ser Ser Thr Ser Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val

50 55 60

40

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ala Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr

65 70 75 80

45

Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys

85 90 95

50

Ala Arg

55

EP 2 810 954 A2

<210> 664

<211> 98

5

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

10

<400> 664

Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Gln Pro Gly Gly

1 5 10 15

15

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr

20 25 30

20

Trp Met Ser Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

35 40 45

25

Ala Asn Ile Lys Gln Asp Gly Ser Glu Lys Tyr Tyr Val Asp Ser Val

50 55 60

30

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ala Lys Asn Ser Leu Tyr

65 70 75 80

35

Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys

85 90 95

40

Ala Arg

45

50

<210> 665

<211> 98

55

<212> PRT

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EP 2 810 954 A2

<400> 665

5           Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Gln Pro Gly Gly  
            1                   5                   10                   15

10           Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Thr Phe Ser Ser Tyr  
                          20                   25                   30

15           Trp Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Val Trp Val  
                          35                   40                   45

20           Ser Arg Ile Asn Ser Asp Gly Ser Ser Thr Ser Tyr Ala Asp Ser Met  
                          50                   55                   60

25           Lys Gly Gln Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ala Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr  
                          65                   70                   75                   80

30           Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Met Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
                                  85                   90                   95

35  
            Thr Arg

40

45           <210> 666

            <211> 98

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EP 2 810 954 A2

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20 25 30

10 Trp Met Ser Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val  
35 40 45

15 Ala Asn Ile Lys Gln Asp Gly Ser Glu Lys Tyr Tyr Val Asp Ser Val  
50 55 60

20 Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ala Lys Asn Ser Leu Tyr  
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25 Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys  
85 90 95

30 Ala Arg

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EP 2 810 954 A2

Gly Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

35 40 45

5

Ala Phe Ile Arg Tyr Asp Gly Ser Asn Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Asp Ser Val

50 55 60

10

Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu Tyr

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Thr Thr

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45

Lys Val Thr Ile Ser Cys Ser Gly Ser Ser Ser Asn Ile Gly Asn Asn

20 25 30

50

Tyr Val Ser Trp Tyr Gln Gln Leu Pro Gly Thr Ala Pro Lys Leu Leu

35 40 45

55

EP 2 810 954 A2

Ile Tyr Asp Asn Asn Lys Arg Pro Ser Gly Ile Pro Asp Arg Phe Ser  
 50 55 60

5

Gly Ser Lys Ser Gly Thr Ser Ala Thr Leu Gly Ile Thr Gly Leu Gln  
 65 70 75 80

10

Thr Gly Asp Glu Ala Asp Tyr Tyr Cys Gly Thr Trp Asp Ser Ser Leu  
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Ser Ala

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Lys Val Thr Ile Ser Cys Ser Gly Ser Ser Ser Asp Met Gly Asn Tyr  
 20 25 30

40

Ala Val Ser Trp Tyr Gln Gln Leu Pro Gly Thr Ala Pro Lys Leu Leu  
 35 40 45

45

Ile Tyr Glu Asn Asn Lys Arg Pro Ser Gly Ile Pro Asp Arg Phe Ser  
 50 55 60

50

Gly Ser Lys Ser Gly Thr Ser Ala Thr Leu Gly Ile Thr Gly Leu Trp  
 65 70 75 80

55

EP 2 810 954 A2

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Arg Ala

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30

Arg Val Thr Ile Ser Cys Ser Gly Ser Ser Ser Asn Ile Gly Ser Asn  
 20 25 30

35

Thr Val Asn Trp Tyr Gln Gln Leu Pro Gly Thr Ala Pro Lys Leu Leu  
 35 40 45

40

Ile Tyr Ser Asn Asn Gln Arg Pro Ser Gly Val Pro Asp Arg Phe Ser  
 50 55 60

45

Gly Ser Lys Ser Gly Thr Ser Ala Ser Leu Ala Ile Ser Gly Leu Gln  
 65 70 75 80

50

Ser Glu Asp Glu Ala Asp Tyr Tyr Cys Ala Ala Trp Asp Asp Ser Leu  
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55

EP 2 810 954 A2

Asn Gly

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<211> 98

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15

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1 5 10 15

25

Arg Val Thr Ile Ser Cys Ser Gly Ser Ser Ser Asn Ile Gly Ser Asn

20 25 30

30

Tyr Val Tyr Trp Tyr Gln Gln Leu Pro Gly Thr Ala Pro Lys Leu Leu

35 40 45

35

Ile Tyr Arg Asn Asn Gln Arg Pro Ser Gly Val Pro Asp Arg Phe Ser

50 55 60

40

Gly Ser Lys Ser Gly Thr Ser Ala Ser Leu Ala Ile Ser Gly Leu Arg

65 70 75 80

45

Ser Glu Asp Glu Ala Asp Tyr Tyr Cys Ala Ala Trp Asp Asp Ser Leu

85 90 95

50

Ser Gly

55

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<400> 672

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1 5 10 15

15

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20 25 30

20

Ala Val Asn Trp Tyr Gln Gln Leu Pro Gly Lys Ala Pro Lys Leu Leu

25 35 40 45

25

Ile Tyr Tyr Asp Asp Leu Leu Pro Ser Gly Val Ser Asp Arg Phe Ser

30 50 55 60

30

Gly Ser Lys Ser Gly Thr Ser Ala Ser Leu Ala Ile Ser Gly Leu Gln

35 65 70 75 80

35

Ser Glu Asp Glu Ala Asp Tyr Tyr Cys Ala Ala Trp Asp Asp Ser Leu

40 85 90 95

40

45 Asn Gly

45

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<211> 99

55

<212> PRT

EP 2 810 954 A2

<213> Homo sapiens

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<400> 673

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10

Arg Val Thr Ile Ser Cys Thr Gly Ser Ser Ser Asn Ile Gly Ala Gly  
20 25 30

15

Tyr Val Val His Trp Tyr Gln Gln Leu Pro Gly Thr Ala Pro Lys Leu  
35 40 45

20

Leu Ile Tyr Gly Asn Ser Asn Arg Pro Ser Gly Val Pro Asp Gln Phe  
50 55 60

25

Ser Gly Ser Lys Ser Gly Thr Ser Ala Ser Leu Ala Ile Thr Gly Leu  
65 70 75 80

30

Gln Ser Glu Asp Glu Ala Asp Tyr Tyr Cys Lys Ala Trp Asp Asn Ser  
85 90 95

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Leu Asn Ala

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<210> 674

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<213> Homo sapiens

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<400> 674

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1 5 10 15

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20 25 30

10 Tyr Asp Val His Trp Tyr Gln Gln Leu Pro Gly Thr Ala Pro Lys Leu  
35 40 45

15 Leu Ile Tyr Gly Asn Ser Asn Arg Pro Ser Gly Val Pro Asp Arg Phe  
50 55 60

20 Ser Gly Ser Lys Ser Gly Thr Ser Ala Ser Leu Ala Ile Thr Gly Leu  
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Leu Ser Gly

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20

25

30

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35

40

45

10 Ile Tyr Gly Asn Asp Gln Arg Pro Ser Gly Val Pro Asp Arg Phe Ser

50

55

60

15 Gly Ser Lys Ser Gly Thr Ser Ala Ser Leu Ala Ile Thr Gly Val Gln

65

70

75

80

20 Ala Glu Asp Glu Ala Asp Tyr Tyr Cys Gln Ser Tyr Asp Ser Ser Leu

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Arg Gly

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**Claims**

1. An antibody, or antigen binding portion thereof, which is capable of binding to an epitope of the p40 subunit of IL-12 and/or IL-23 for use in treating psoriasis in a subject by administering to the subject the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, which is capable of binding to an epitope of the p40 subunit of IL-12 and/or IL-23, wherein the subject maintains at least a PASI 75 response for a first extended period following initial administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, wherein the subject exhibits a loss of response following discontinuation of administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, and wherein the subject maintains a response selected from the group consisting of (a) at least a PASI 75 response; (b) at least a PASI 50 response, and (c) a clear or minimal PGA score, for a second extended period following re-administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, thereby treating psoriasis in the subject.
2. An antibody, or antigen binding portion thereof, which is capable of binding to an epitope of the p40 subunit of IL-12 and/or IL-23 for use in treating psoriasis in a subject by administering to the subject the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, which is capable of binding to an epitope of the p40 subunit of IL-12 and/or IL-23, wherein the subject exhibits a PASI 75 response following initial administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, wherein the subject exhibits a loss of response following discontinuation of administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, and wherein the subject exhibits at least a PASI 75 response by about 25 days following re-administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, thereby treating psoriasis in the subject.
3. The antibody or antigen binding portion thereof of claim 2, wherein the subject exhibits at least a PASI 75 response by about 50 days following re-administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, or by about 60-days following re-administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof.
4. An antibody, or antigen binding portion thereof, which is capable of binding to an epitope of the p40 subunit of IL-12 and/or IL-23 for use in treating psoriasis in a subject by administering to the subject the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, which is capable of binding to an epitope of the p40 subunit of IL-12 and/or IL-23, wherein the subject exhibits a PASI 75 response following initial administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion

thereof, wherein the subject exhibits a loss of response by about 60 days following discontinuation of administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, and wherein the subject achieves a PASI 75 response following re-administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, thereby treating psoriasis in the subject.

- 5     **5.** The antibody, or antigen binding portion thereof, of claim 4, wherein the subject exhibits a loss of response by about 120 days following discontinuation of administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, or by about 180 days following discontinuation of administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof.
- 10     **6.** The antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, of claim 1, wherein the first extended period is at least about 12 weeks.
- 7.** The antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, of any one of claims .2 or 4, wherein the initial administration of the antibody, or antigen binding portion thereof, is for at least about 12 weeks.
- 15     **8.** The antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, of claim 1, wherein administration of the antibody is discontinued for at least about 12 weeks.
- 9.** The antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof of claim 1, wherein the second extended period is at least about 12 weeks.
- 20     **10.** The antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, of any of claims 1, 2 or 4 wherein the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered (a) biweekly; (b) weekly; or (c) in a single dose.
- 25     **11.** The antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, of any of claims 1, 2 or 4, wherein the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is administered (a) in a dose of about 200 mg; or (b) in a dose of about 100 mg.
- 12.** The antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, of any of claims 1, 2 or 4, wherein the psoriasis is chronic psoriasis.
- 30     **13.** An antibody, or antigen binding portion thereof, which is capable of binding to an epitope of the p40 subunit of IL-12 and/or IL-23 for use in treating psoriasis in a subject by administering to the subject a single dose of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, wherein at least one pharmacokinetic characteristic selected from the group consisting of a half-life of at least about 3 days following administration, a  $T_{max}$  of less than or equal to about 4 days following administration, a bioavailability of at least about 40% following administration, a maximum serum concentration ( $C_{max}$ ) of between about 0.15 and about 150  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$  following administration, an area under the serum concentration-time curve (AUC) of between about 80 and about 13,000  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr}/\text{mL}$  following administration, a clearance (CL) of between about 30 and about 600 mL/hr following intravenous administration, a volume of distribution ( $V_z$ ) of between about 8 and about 11 L following intravenous administration, an apparent clearance (CL/F) of between about 90 and about 250 mL/hr following subcutaneous administration, and an apparent volume of distribution (V/F) of between about 23 and about 67 L following subcutaneous administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, is achieved.
- 35     **14.** The antibody, or antigen binding portion thereof, of claim 13, wherein the pharmacokinetic characteristic is selected from the group consisting of a half-life of at least about 8 days, a  $T_{max}$  of less than or equal to about 3 days, and a bioavailability of at least about 60% following administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof.
- 40     **15.** The antibody, or antigen binding portion thereof, of claim 13, wherein the pharmacokinetic characteristic is selected from the group consisting of a maximum serum concentration ( $C_{max}$ ) of between about 1 and about 150  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$  following intravenous administration, an area under the serum concentration-time curve (AUC) of between about 145 and about 13,000  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr}/\text{mL}$  following intravenous administration, a maximum serum concentration ( $C_{max}$ ) of between about 0.15 and about 20  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$  following subcutaneous administration, and an area under the serum concentration-time curve (AUC) of between about 80 and about 5,000  $\mu\text{g} \times \text{hr}/\text{mL}$  following subcutaneous administration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof.
- 45     **16.** The antibody, or antigen binding portion thereof, of claim 13, wherein the pharmacokinetic characteristic is selected from the group consisting of a clearance (CL) of between about 30 and about 600 mL/hr following intravenous administration, a volume of distribution ( $V_z$ ) of between about 8 and about 11 L following intravenous administration, an apparent clearance (CL/F) of between about 90 and about 250 mL/hr following subcutaneous administration, and an apparent volume of distribution (V/F) of between about 23 and about 67 L following subcutaneous admin-
- 50
- 55

istration of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof.

17. The antibody, or antigen binding portion thereof, of claim 13 or 16, wherein the single dose is between about 0.1 and about 5.0 mg/kg of the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof.

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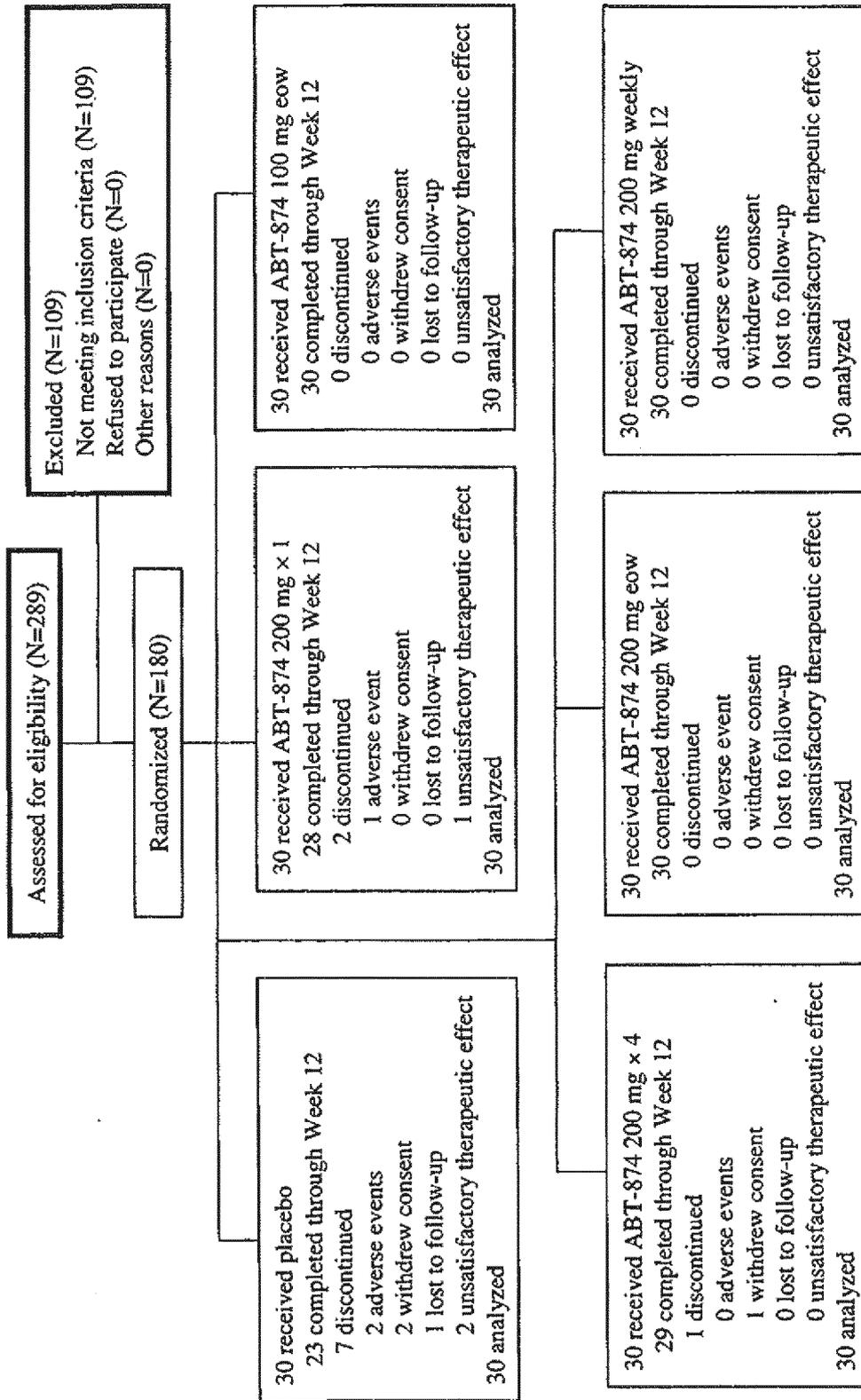


Fig. 1

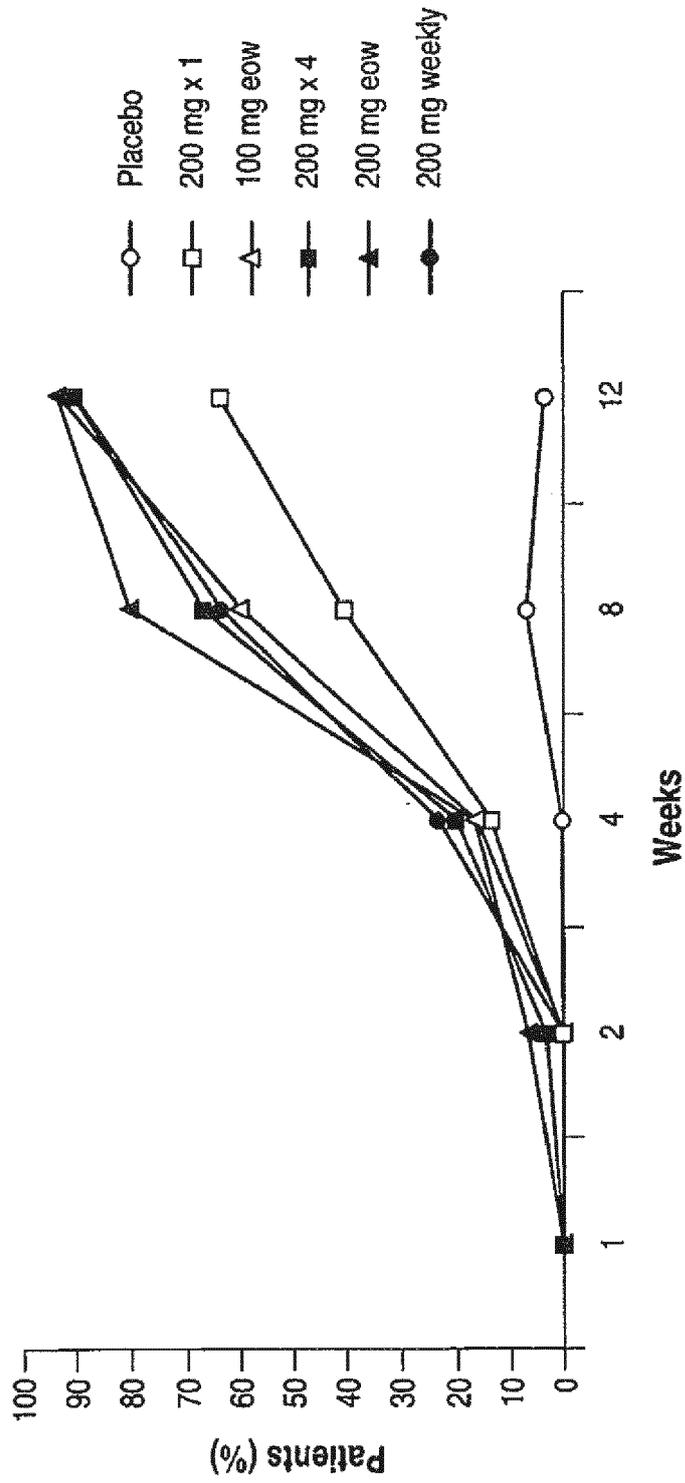


Fig. 2

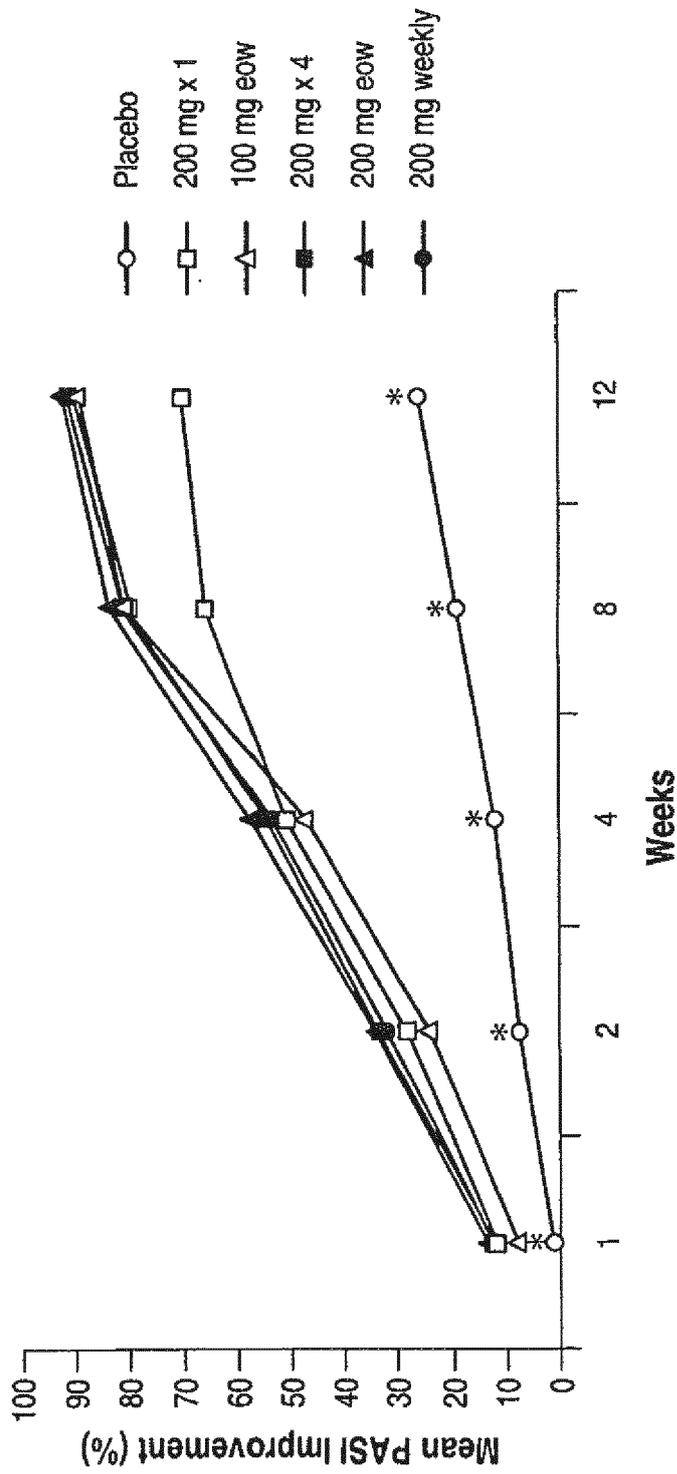
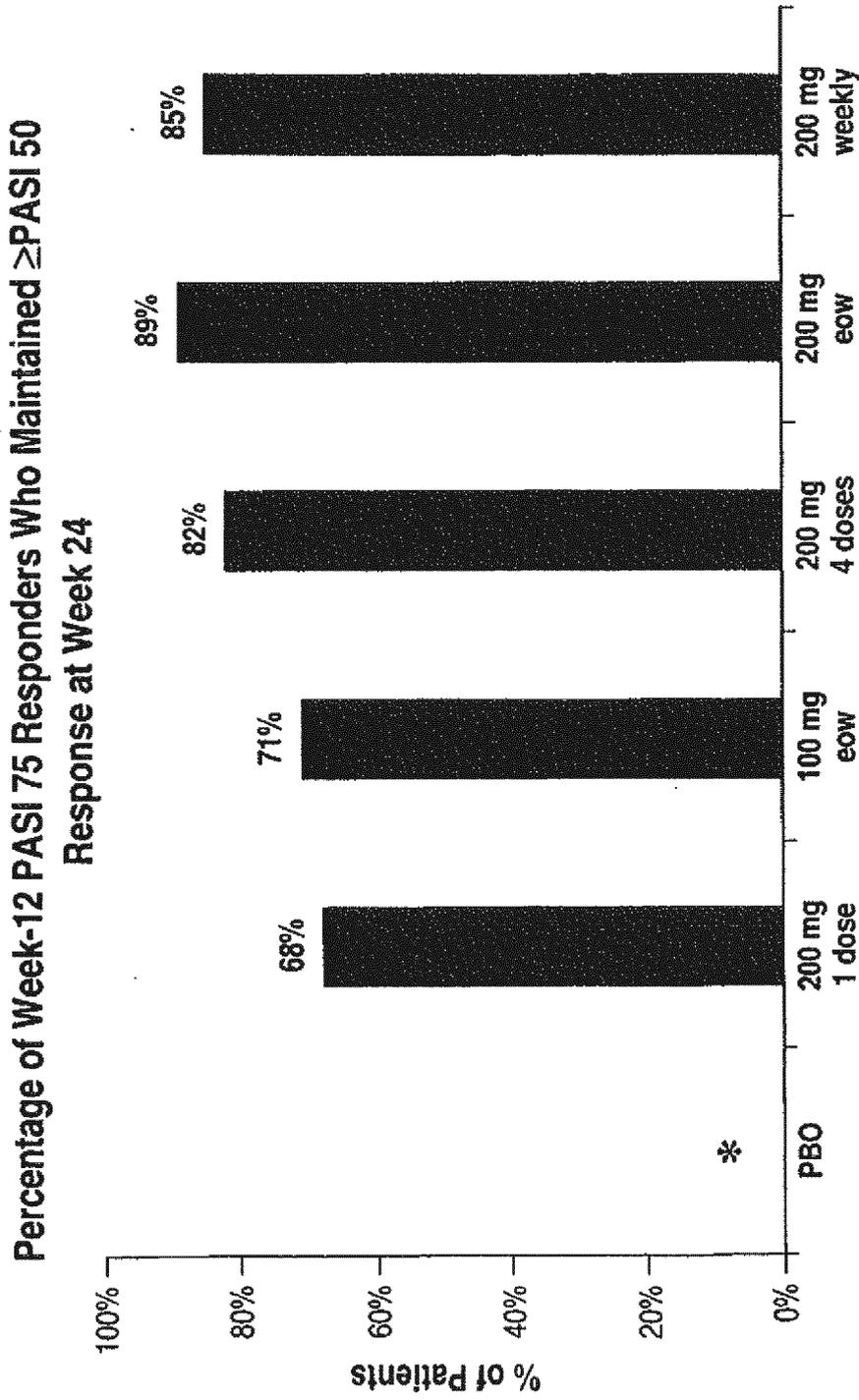


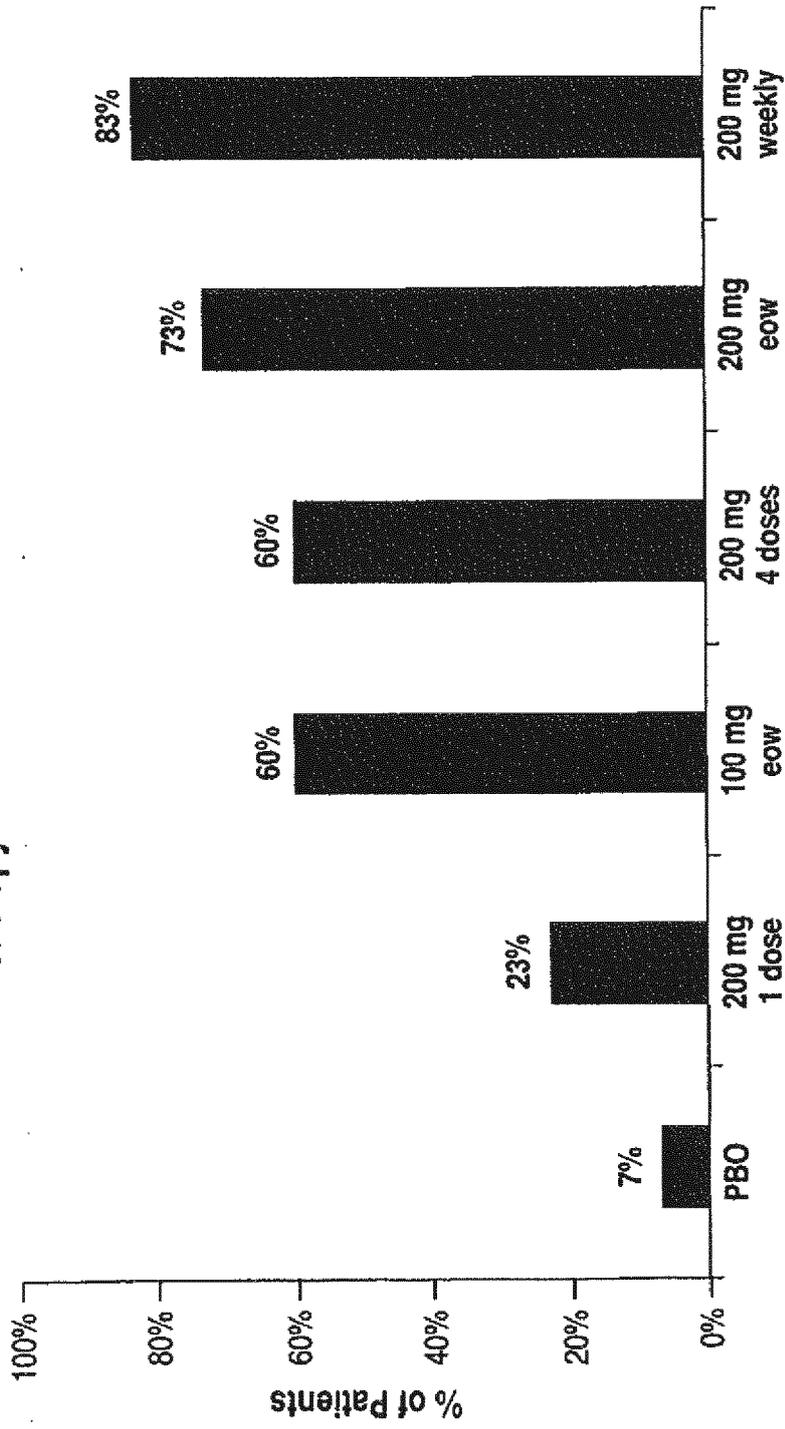
Fig. 3



\* 1 of 1 patients in the placebo group who was a PASI 75 responder at Week 12 maintained a PASI 50 response at Week 24 following discontinuation of placebo at Week 12.

**Fig. 4A**

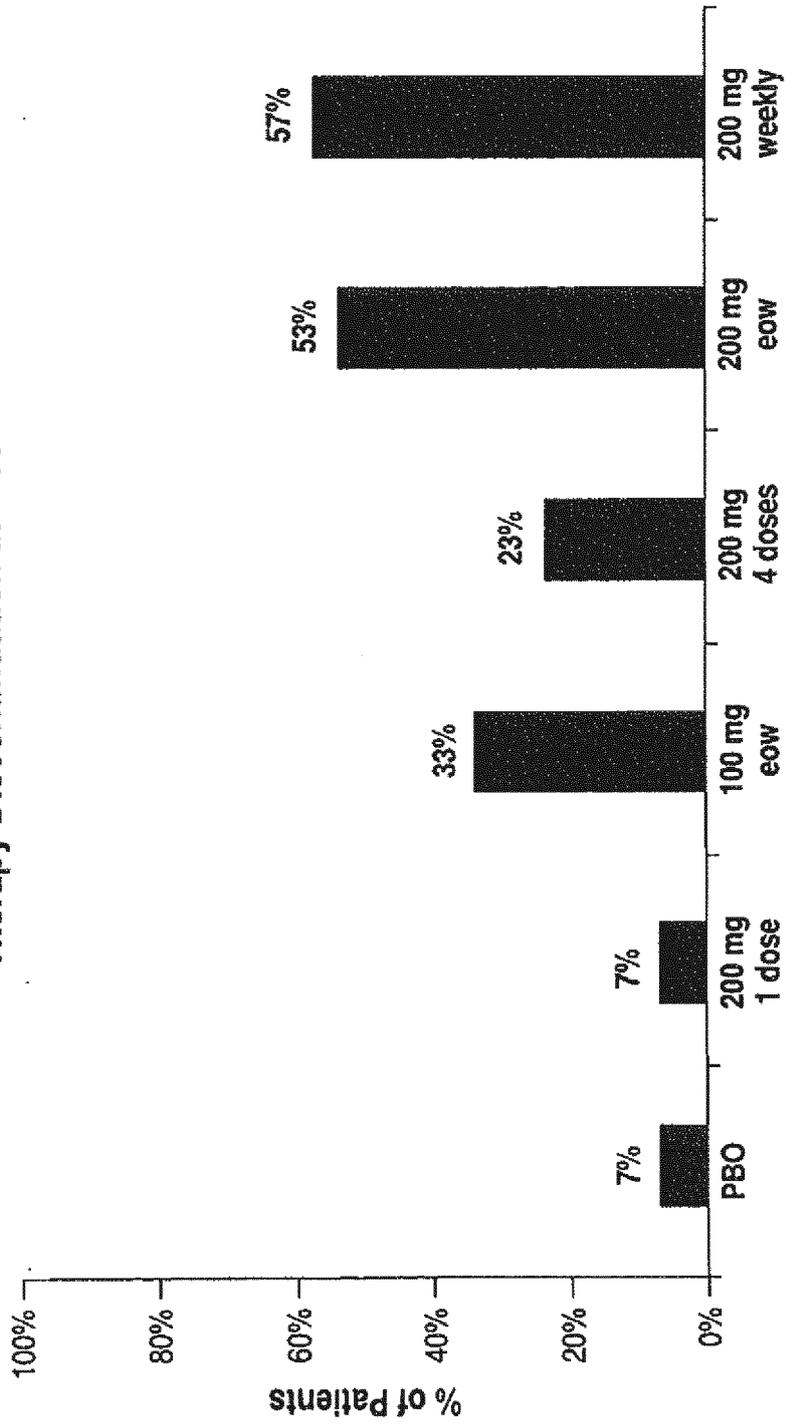
**PASI 75 at Week 24 Following  
Therapy Discontinuation at Week 12**



ITT-NRI.

**Fig. 4B**

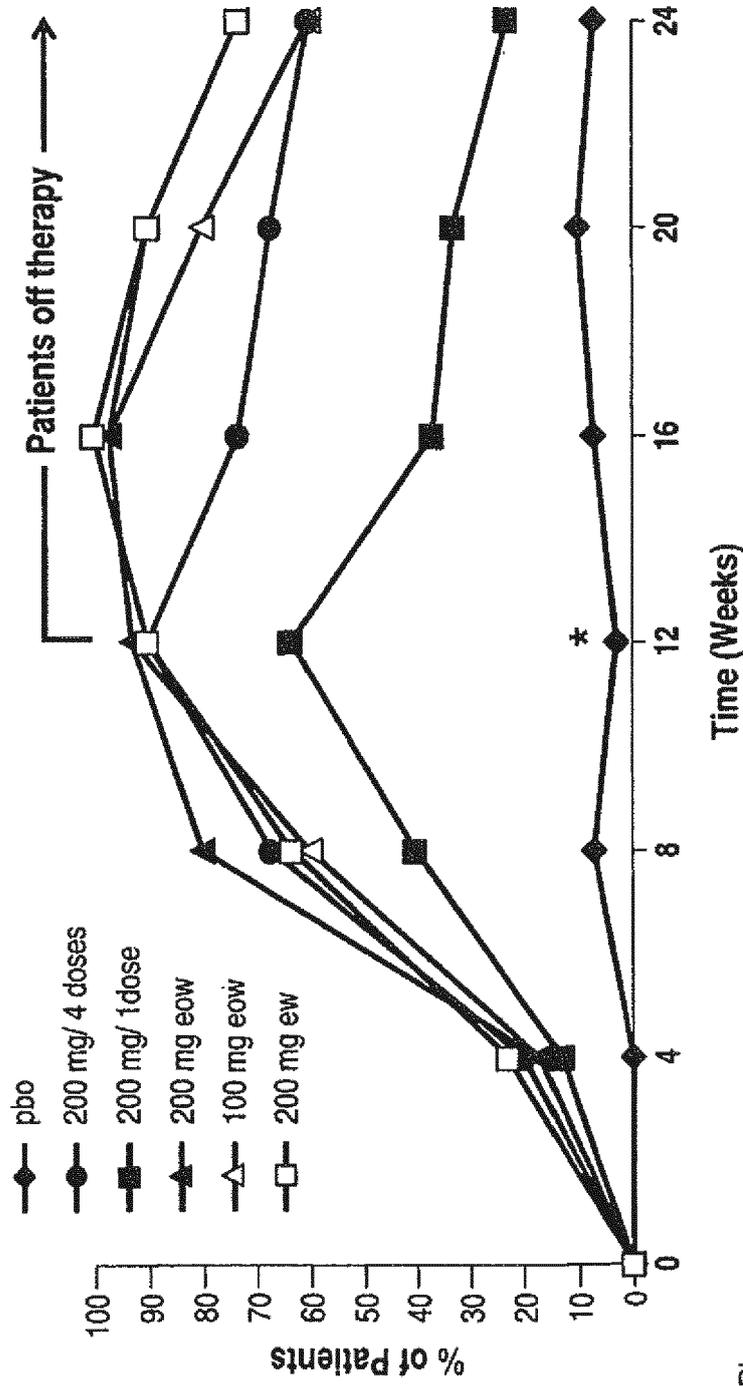
**PASI 90 at Week 24 Following  
Therapy Discontinuation at Week 12**



ITT-NRI.

**Fig. 4C**

Time Course of PASI 75 Improvement



NRI.  
\*p<0.001 for all active treatment arms vs. placebo.

Fig. 4D

Mean Percentage Improvement from Baseline in PASI Scores from Week 4 to Week 12 in PASI 75 Responders

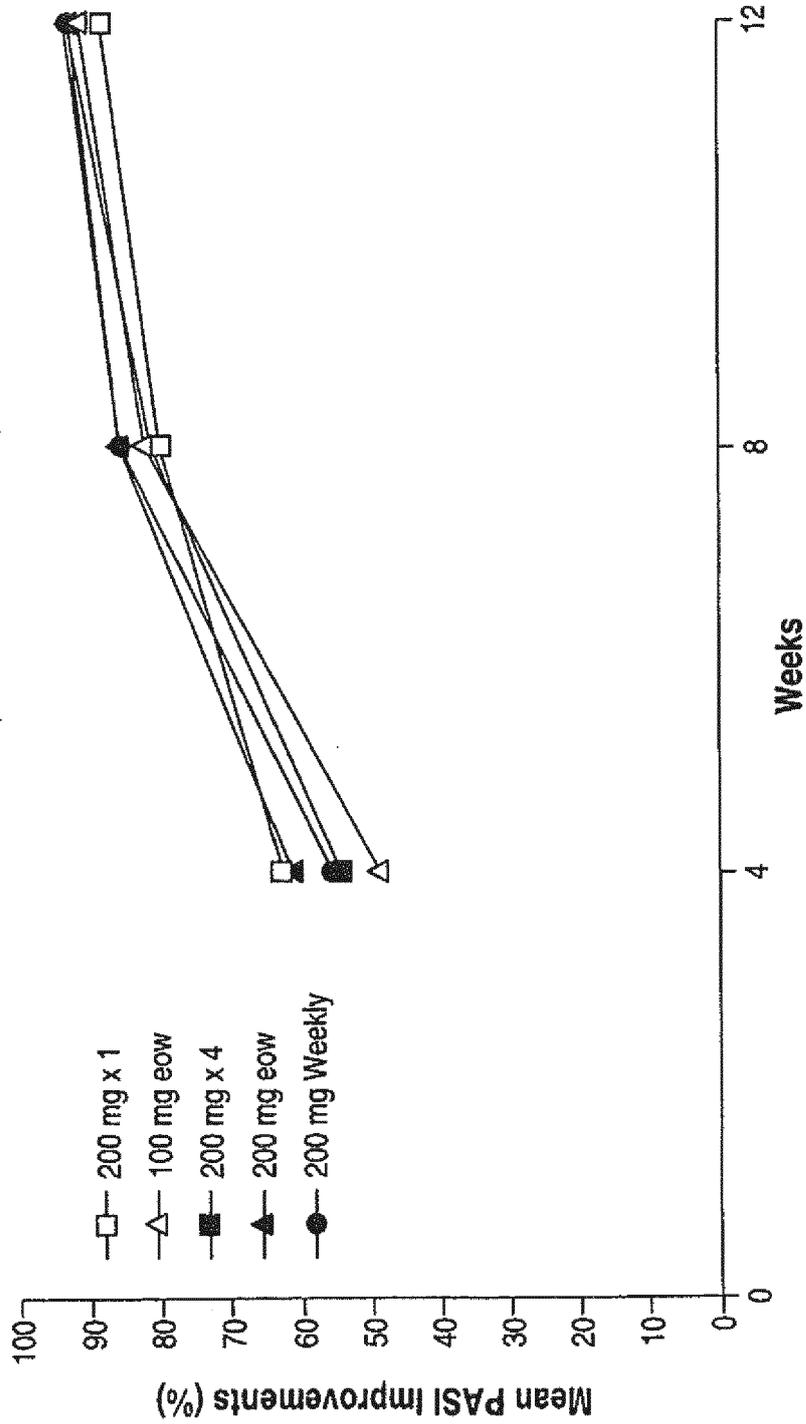


Fig. 5A

Mean Percentage Improvement from Baseline in PASI Scores from Week 4 to Week 12 in PASI 75 Responders

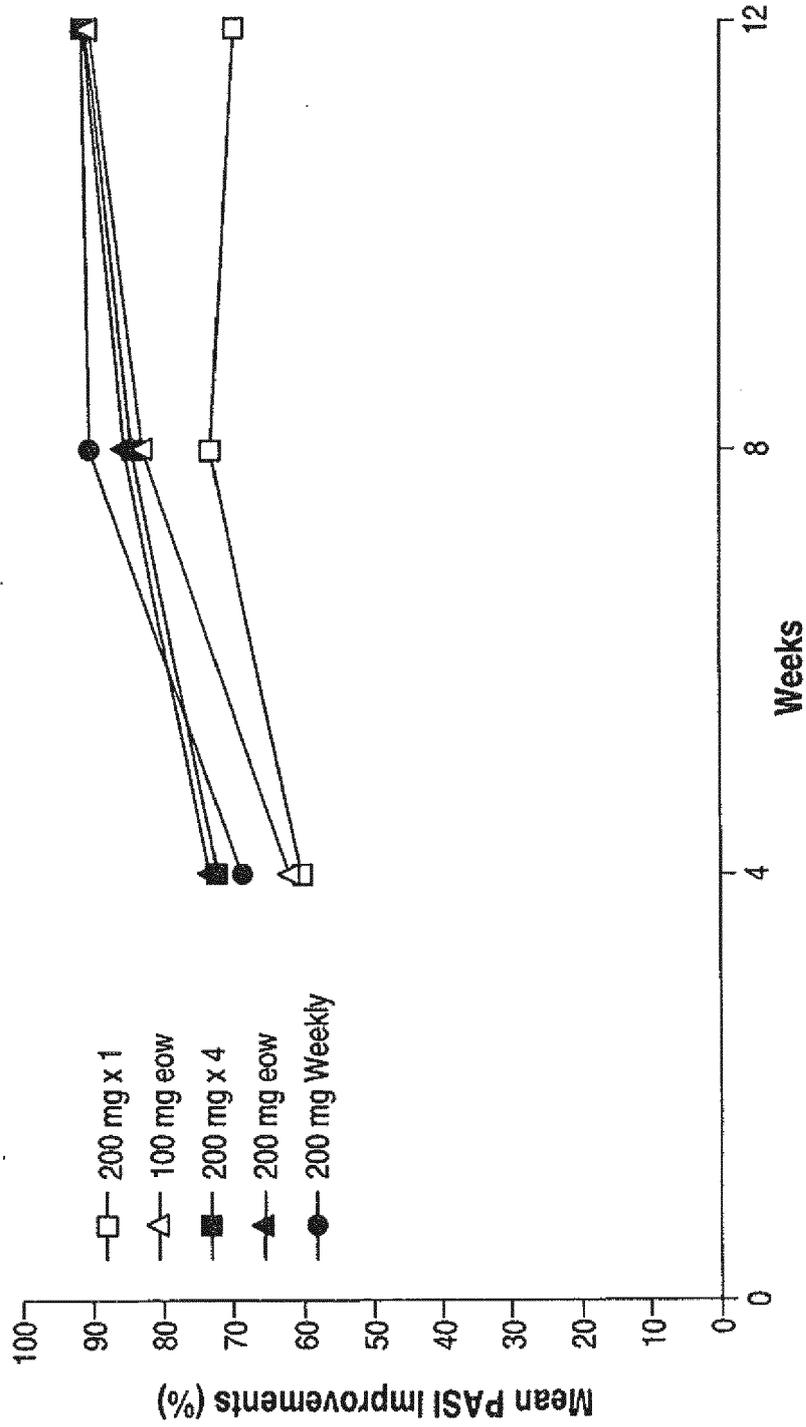
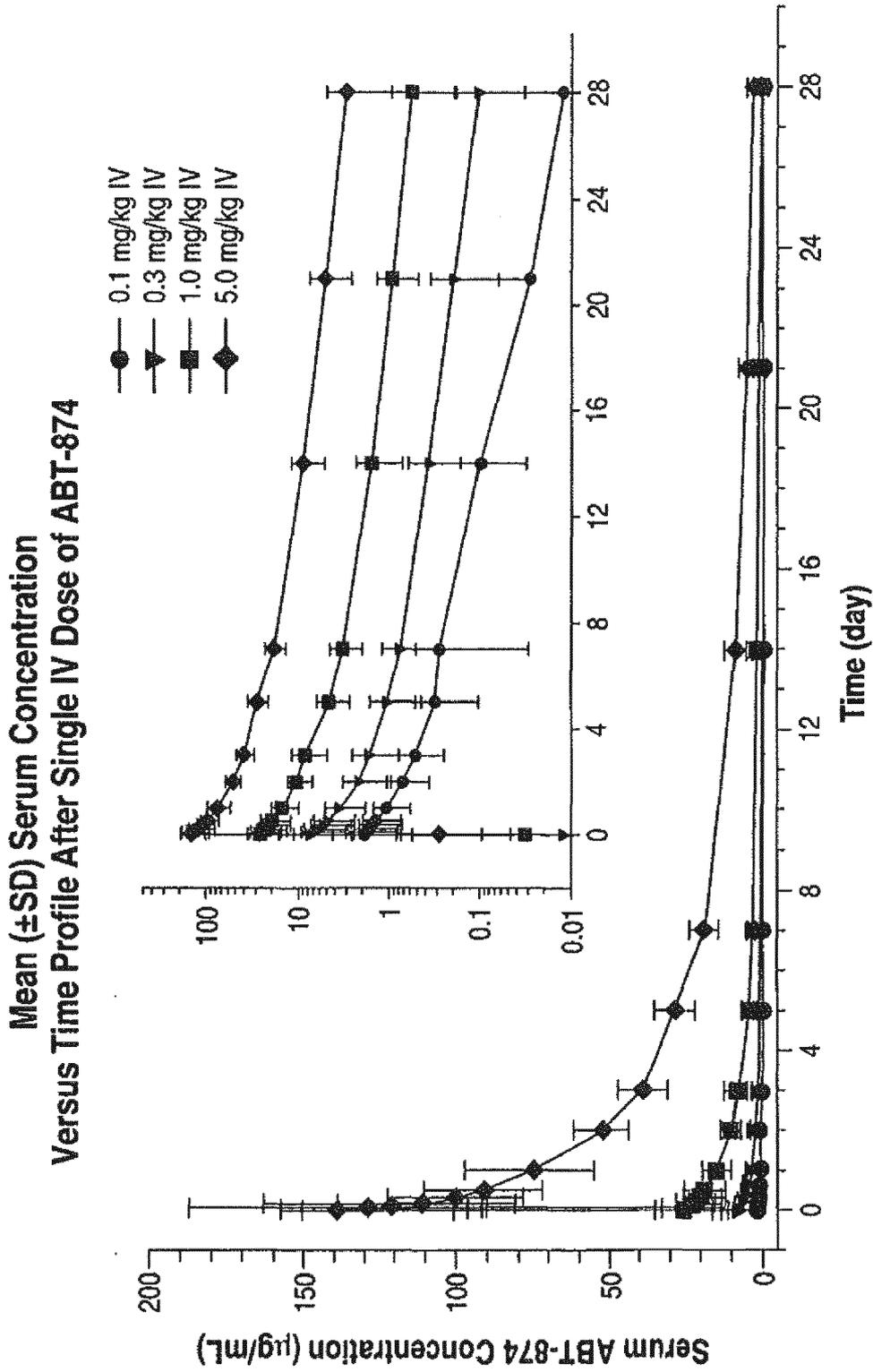


Fig. 5B



**Fig. 6A**

Mean ( $\pm$ SD) Serum Concentration  
Versus Time Profile After Single IV Dose of ABT-874

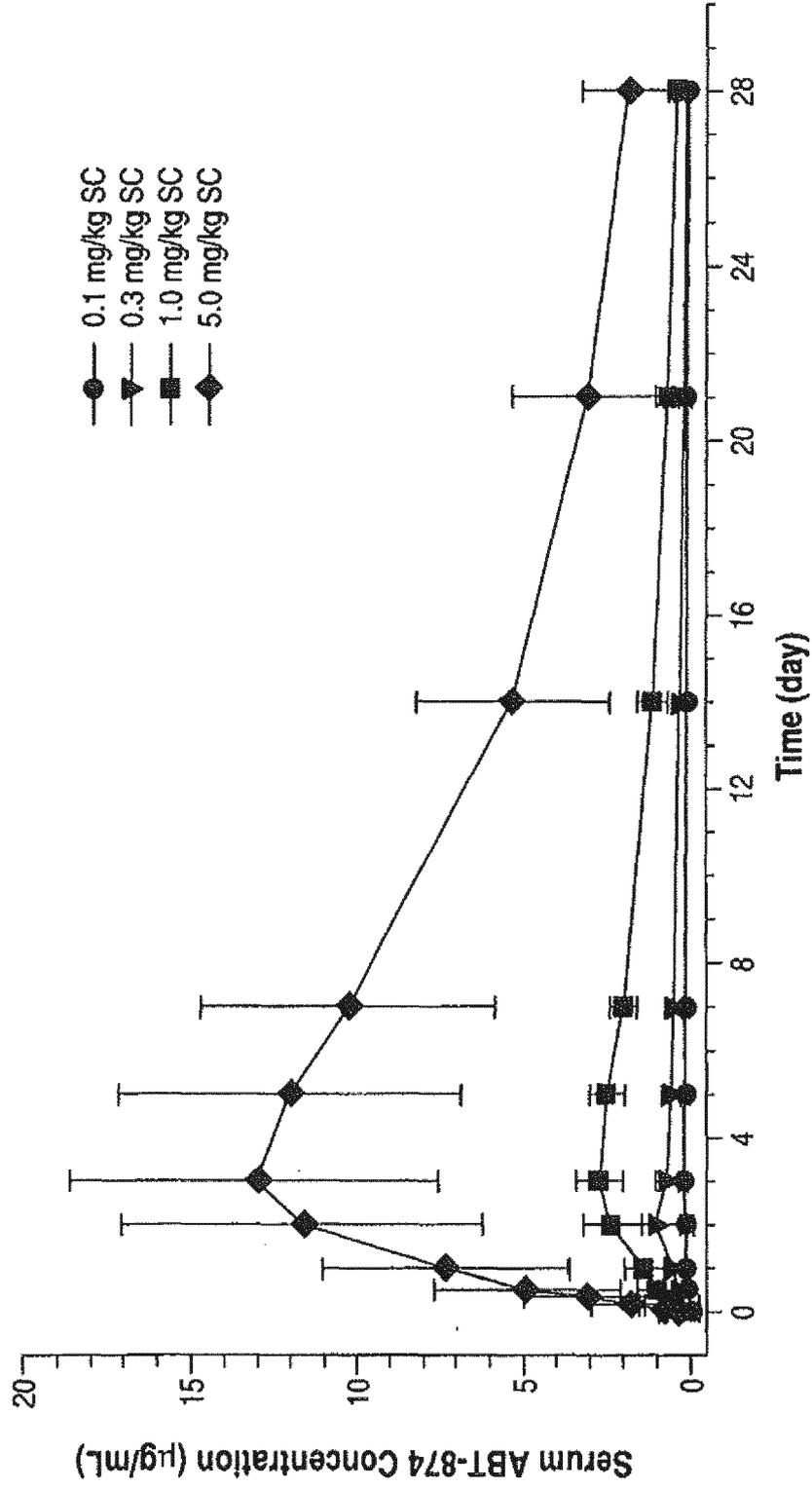
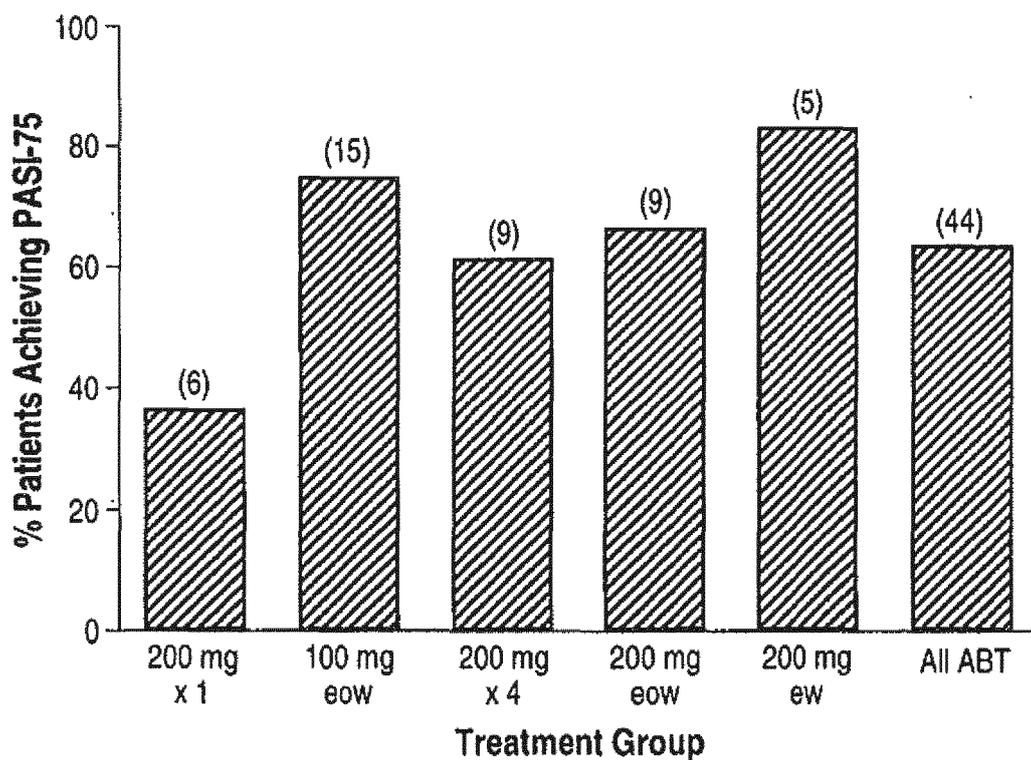


Fig. 6B

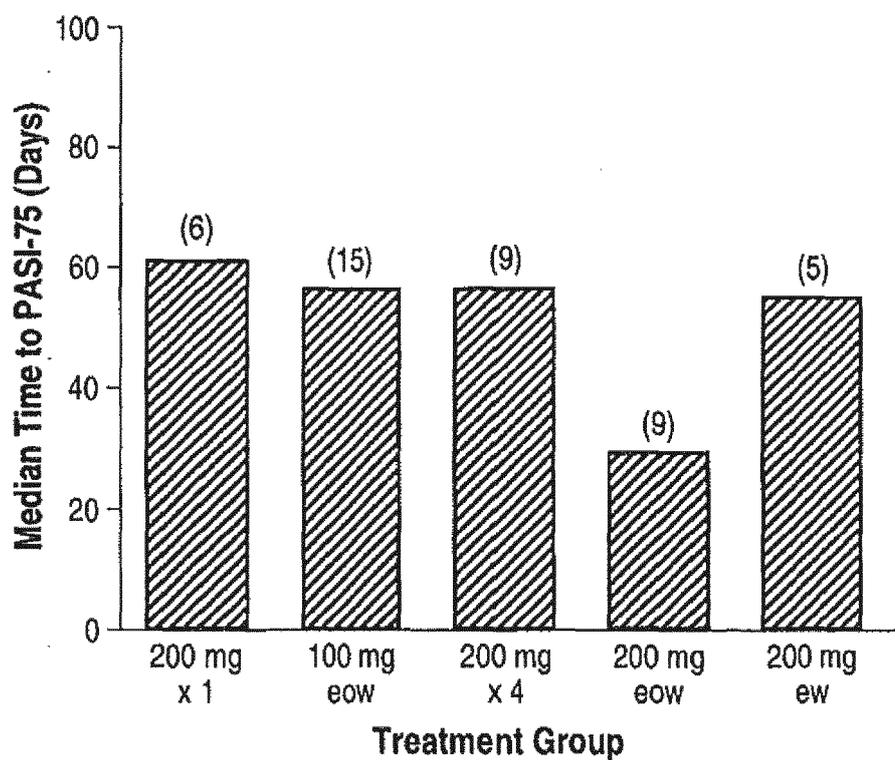
### A Majority of Patients Were Able to Re-achieve a PASI 75 Response



Patient numbers per group are denoted in parentheses above bars

## Fig. 7A

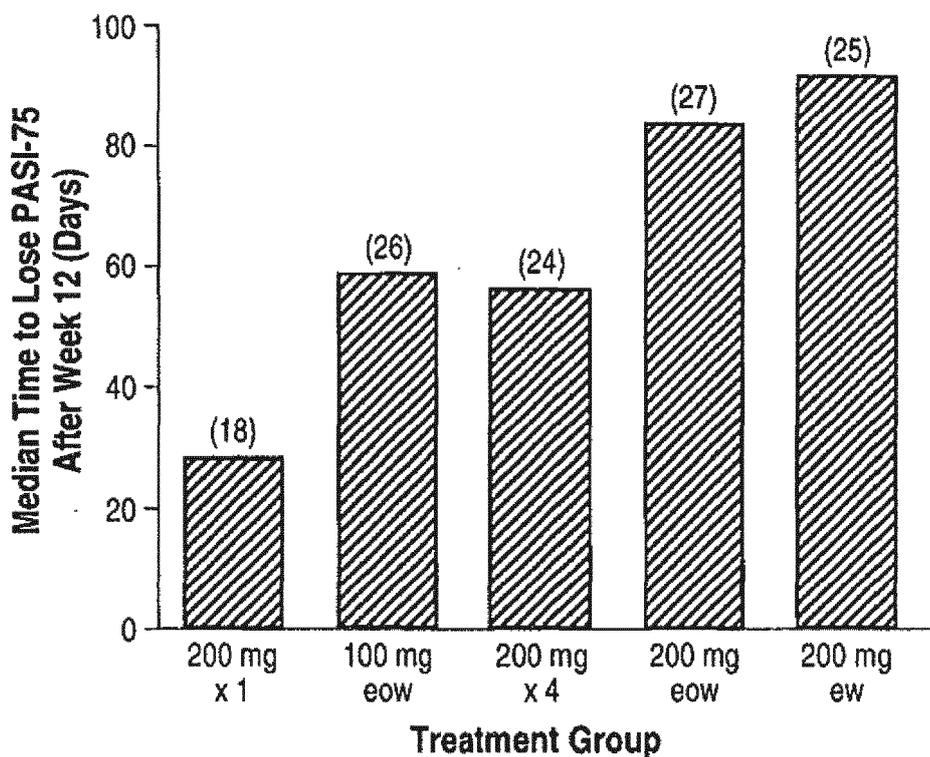
**Median Time to Achieve PASI-75 Across ABT-874 Dosage Groups During Retreatment Phase**



Patient numbers per group are denoted in parentheses above bars

**Fig. 7B**

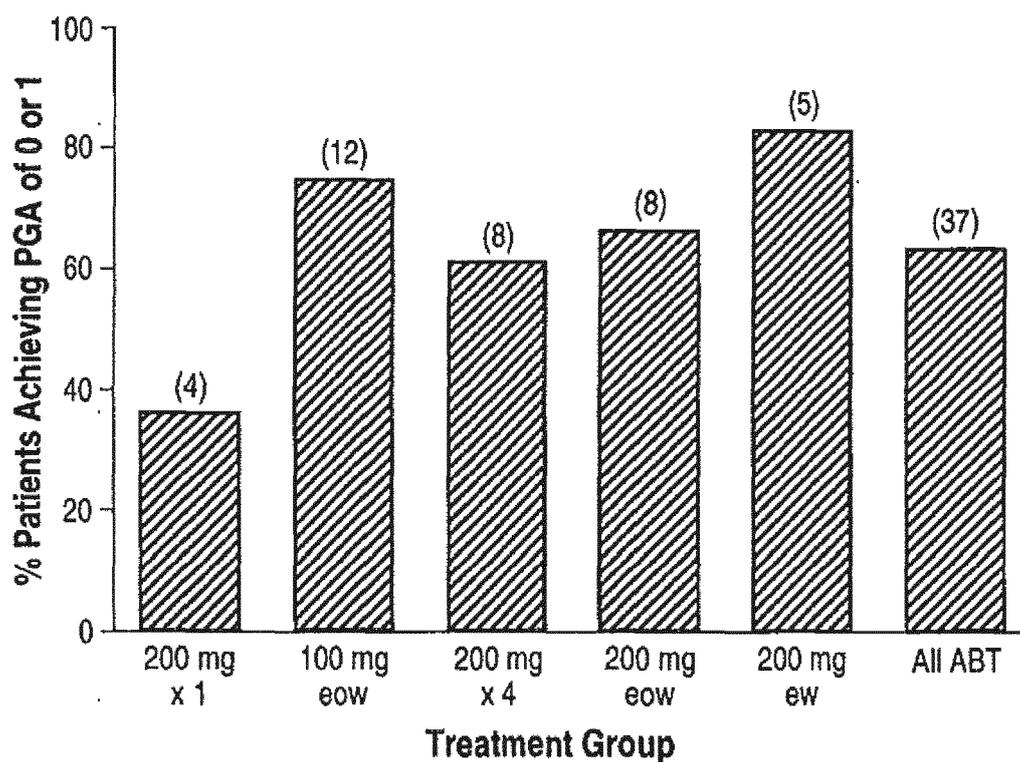
**Median Time to Lose PASI-75 Following  
Initial 12 Weeks of Treatment**



Patient numbers per group are denoted in parentheses above bars

**Fig. 7C**

### PGA Scores During Retreatment with ABT-874



Patient numbers per group are denoted in parentheses above bars

## Fig. 7D

**FIG. 8A**  
Heavy Chain Variable Region Sequences

SEQ ID NO.:	Kabat number	CDR H1	CDR H2
33	JOE9wt VH	.....G.....	.....
35	Cos-3/JH3 VH	.....	.....
37	70-1 VH	.....	.....
39	78-34 VH	.....	.....
41	79-1 VH	.....	.....
43	101-11 VH	.....	.....
45	26-1 VH	.....	.....
47	136-15 VH	.....	.....
49	136-15 VH germline	.....	.....
51	149-5 VH	.....	.....
53	149-6 VH	.....	.....
55	103-4 VH	.....	.....
57	103-8 VH	.....	.....
59	103-14 VH	.....	.....
61	G6 VH	.....	.....
63	Y139 VH	.....	.....
65	A03 VH	.....	.....
67	A03 VH germline	.....	.....
23	Y61 VH	.....	.....
69	Y61 VH germline	.....	.....
71	Y61-H31E VH	.....	.....
73	Y61 L50Y VH	.....	.....
75	Y61-L94Y VH	.....	.....
31	J695	.....	.....

**FIG. 8B**  
Heavy Chain Variable Region Sequences

SEQ ID NO.:	Kabat number	CDR H2	CDR H3
33	JOE9wt VH	KYYADSVKGRFTISRDNSKNTLYLQMKSLRAEDTAVYICTI	SGSYDYWGQGITMVTSS
35	Cos-3/JH3 VH	.....N.....AK	.....
37	70-1 VH	.....	H..H.N
39	78-34 VH	.....	.....
41	79-1 VH	.....	.....
43	101-11 VH	.....	.....
45	26-1 VH	.....	H..H.N
47	136-15 VH	.....	H..H.N
49	136-15 VH germline	.....N.....K	H..H.N
51	149-5 VH	.....	H..H.N
53	149-6 VH	.....	H..H.N
55	103-4 VH	.....	H..H.N
57	103-8 VH	.....	H..H.N
59	103-14 VH	.....	H..H.N
61	G6 VH	.....	H..H.N
63	Y139 VH	.....	H..H.N
65	A03 VH	.....	H..H.N
67	A03 VH germline	.....N.....	H..H.N
23	Y61 VH	.....	H..H.N
69	Y61 VH germline	.....N.....	H..H.N
71	Y61-H31E VH	.....	H..H.N
73	Y61 L50Y VH	.....	H..H.N
75	Y61-L94Y VH	.....	H..H.N
31	J695	.....N.....	H..H.N

# FIG. 8C

## Heavy Chain Variable Region Sequences

SEQ ID NO.:	Kabat number	CDR L1	CDR L2
34	JOE9 VL wt	.....A.....T.SS.....AYD.H	.....SN.....
36	Dp18 Lv1042/J1.1	.....A.....T.SS.....AYD.H	.....SN.....
38	70-1 VL	.....	.....
40	78-34 VL	.....	.....
42	79-1 VL	.....	.....
44	101-11 VL	.....	.....
46	26-1 VL	.....	.....
48	136-15 VL	.....S.....	.....
50	136-15 VL germline	.....S.....	.....
52	149-5 VL	.....	.....
54	149-6 VL	.....V.....	.....
56	103-4 VL	.....V.....	.....
58	103-8 VL	.....	.....
60	103-14 VL	.....	.....
62	G6 VL	.....	.....
64	Y139 VL	.....	.....
66	A03 VL	.....	.....
68	A03 VL germline	.....S.....	.....
24	Y61 VL	.....	.....
70	Y61 VL germline	.....S.....	.....
72	Y61-H31E VL	.....S.....	.....
74	Y61 L50Y VL	.....S.....	.....Y.....
76	Y61-L94Y VL	.....S.....	.....
32	J695 VL	.....S.....	.....Y.....

# FIG. 8D

## Heavy Chain Variable Region Sequences

SEQ ID NO.:	Kabat number	CDR L3
34	JOE9 VL wt	.....L.....S.....
36	Dp18 Lv1042/Jλ1	.....
38	70-1 VL	.....RGFT.....
40	78-34 VL	.....
42	79-1 VL	.....W.....
44	101-11 VL	.....RGFT.....
46	26-1 VL	.....W.....
48	136-15 VL	.....T..KGFT..S.....
50	136-15 VL germline	.....T..KGFT..S.....
52	149-5 VL	.....W.T.....
54	149-6 VL	.....RGFT.....
56	103-4 VL	.....RGFT.A.....
58	103-8 VL	.....T..KGFT..S.....
60	103-14 VL	.....EKGFT..M.....
62	G6 VL	.....RGTHPLTI.....
64	Y139 VL	.....RGTHPLTI.....
66	A03 VL	.....RGTHPLTM.....
68	A03 VL germline	.....RGTHPLTM.....
24	Y61 VL	.....L.....RGTHPALL.....
70	Y61 VL germline	.....L.....RGTHPALL.....
72	Y61-H31E VL	.....L.....RGTHPALL.....
74	Y61 L50Y VL	.....L.....RYTHPALL.....
76	Y61-L94Y VL	.....L.....RYTHPALL.....
32	J695 VL	.....L.....RYTHPALL.....

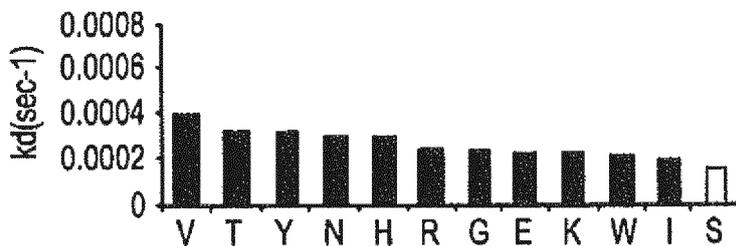
**Fig. 9A**

## Y61 Heavy Chain CDR H1 Mutagenesis

SEQ ID NO:	CDR H1									$k_{off}$ ( $\times 10^5$ )	
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288		.	.	.	E	.	.	.	.	.	22.8
289		.	.	.	S	.	.	.	.	.	16.8
290		.	.	.	Y	.	.	.	.	.	31.9
291		.	.	.	H	.	.	.	.	.	29.6
292		.	.	.	K	.	.	.	.	.	22.5
293		.	.	.	R	.	.	.	.	.	24.5
294		.	.	.	N	.	.	.	.	.	30.1
295		.	.	.	T	.	.	.	.	.	32.0
296		.	.	.	G	.	.	.	.	.	23.3
297		.	.	.	V	.	.	.	.	.	39.9
298		.	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	.	20.7
299		.	.	.	W	.	.	.	.	.	21.6
300		.	.	.	E	.	.	.	.	.	21.9
301		.	.	.	C	.	.	.	.	.	12.0
302		.	.	.	S	.	.	.	.	.	24.9
303		.	.	.	Y	.	.	.	.	.	39.8
304		.	.	.	H	.	.	.	.	.	30.9
305		.	.	.	R	.	.	.	.	.	66.4
306		.	.	.	N	.	.	.	.	.	19.1
307		.	.	.	Q	.	.	.	.	.	15.2
308		.	.	.	T	.	.	.	.	.	71.6
309		.	.	.	A	.	.	.	.	.	20.5
310		.	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	.	33.4
311		.	.	.	E	.	.	.	.	.	228.0
312		.	.	.	C	.	.	.	.	.	383.0
313		.	.	.	S	.	.	.	.	.	157.5
314		.	.	.	Y	.	.	.	.	.	33.7
315		.	.	.	H	.	.	.	.	.	46.1
316		.	.	.	R	.	.	.	.	.	448.5
317		.	.	.	N	.	.	.	.	.	297.0
318		.	.	.	T	.	.	.	.	.	148.0
319		.	.	.	A	.	.	.	.	.	165.5
320		.	.	.	V	.	.	.	.	.	133.5
321		.	.	.	L	.	.	.	.	.	226.0
322		.	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	.	160.5
323		.	.	.	.	.	D	.	.	.	152.0
324		.	.	.	.	.	E	.	.	.	189.0
325		.	.	.	.	.	C	.	.	.	286.5
326		.	.	.	.	.	S	.	.	.	39.9
327		.	.	.	.	.	Y	.	.	.	250.5
328		.	.	.	.	.	N	.	.	.	30.8
329		.	.	.	.	.	G	.	.	.	17.8
330		.	.	.	.	.	A	.	.	.	27.3
331		.	.	.	.	.	V	.	.	.	191.0
332		.	.	.	.	.	M	.	.	.	21.5
333		.	.	.	.	.	I	.	.	.	250.0
334		.	.	.	.	.	P	.	.	.	159.5

### Fig. 9A-1

Y61 Mutagenesis: H30



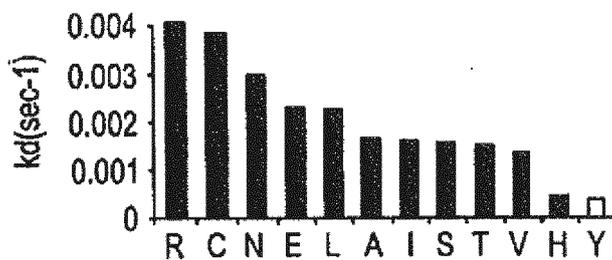
### Fig. 9A-2

Y61 Mutagenesis: H31



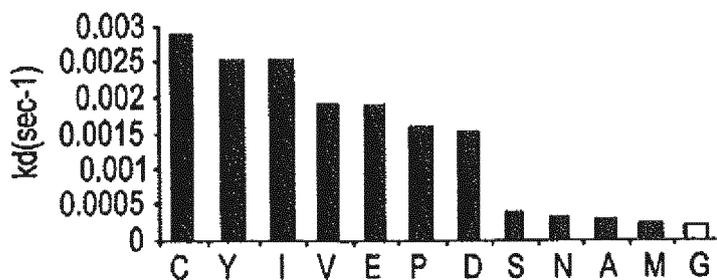
### Fig. 9A-3

Y61 Mutagenesis: H32



### Fig. 9A-4

Y61 Mutagenesis: H33



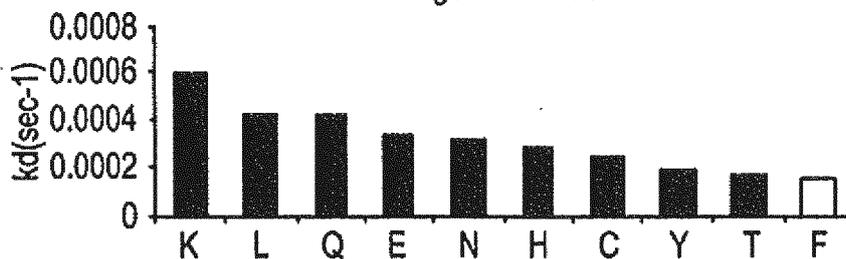
# Fig. 9B

## Y61 Heavy Chain CDR H2 Mutagenesis

SEQ ID NO:	CDR H2															k <sub>off</sub> (x 10 <sup>5</sup> )				
	50	51	52	52A	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63		64	65		
19	Y61	F	I	R	Y	D	G	S	N	K	Y	Y	A	D	S	V	K	G		
335		E	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	34.7
336		C	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	28.5
337		Y	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	23.0
338		H	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	30.9
339		K	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	61.2
340		N	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	34.4
341		Q	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	42.0
342		T	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	20.5
343		L	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	44.0
344		F	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	20.4
345		.	.	E	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	31.8
346		.	.	S	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	29.2
347		.	.	Y	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	29.8
348		.	.	H	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	40.7
349		.	.	K	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	26.2
350		.	.	R	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	20.6
351		.	.	Q	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	28.5
352		.	.	T	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	37.4
353		.	.	G	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	32.1
354		.	.	A	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	17.1
355		.	.	V	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	31.7
356		.	.	L	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	34.7
357		.	.	W	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	35.1
358		.	.	.	D	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	15.1
359		.	.	.	E	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	39.9
360		.	.	.	S	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	36.8
361		.	.	.	Y	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	61.1
362		.	.	.	K	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	158.0
363		.	.	.	R	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	166.5
364		.	.	.	N	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	72.7
365		.	.	.	Q	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	79.2
366		.	.	.	T	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	50.0
367		.	.	.	A	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	40.4
368		.	.	.	V	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	44.0
369		.	.	.	L	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	109.5
370		.	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	94.4
371		.	.	.	F	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	168.5
372		.	.	.	D	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	45.5
373		.	.	.	E	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	35.1
374		.	.	.	S	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	37.3
375		.	.	.	Y	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	64.6
376		.	.	.	K	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	40.7
377		.	.	.	R	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2.5
378		.	.	.	N	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	44.7
379		.	.	.	Q	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	31.6
380		.	.	.	T	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	64.4
381		.	.	.	G	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	17.8
382		.	.	.	V	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	43.5

**Fig. 9B-1**

Y61 Mutagenesis: H50



**Fig. 9B-2**

Y61 Mutagenesis: H52



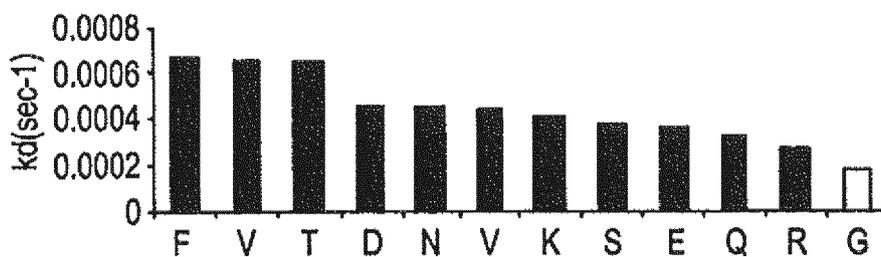
**Fig. 9B-3**

Y61 Mutagenesis: H53



**Fig. 9B-4**

Y61 Mutagenesis: H54



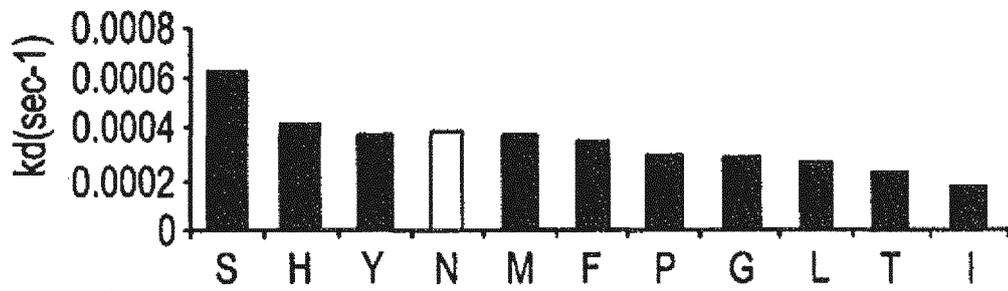
# Fig. 9C

## Y61 Heavy Chain CDR H2 Mutagenesis

SEQ ID NO:	CDR H2															$k_{off}$ ( $\times 10^5$ )			
	50	51	52	52A	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63		64	65	
19	Y61	F	I	R	Y	D	G	S	N	K	Y	Y	A	D	S	V	K	G	
383		.	.	.	.	.	F	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	66.3
384		.	.	.	.	.	.	S	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	62.4
385		.	.	.	.	.	.	Y	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	39.0
386		.	.	.	.	.	.	H	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	42.0
387		.	.	.	.	.	.	N	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	38.5
388		.	.	.	.	.	.	T	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	23.5
389		.	.	.	.	.	.	G	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	27.2
390		.	.	.	.	.	.	M	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	38.3
391		.	.	.	.	.	.	L	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	26.4
392		.	.	.	.	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	16.9
393		.	.	.	.	.	.	P	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	29.9
394		.	.	.	.	.	.	F	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	34.5
395		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	E	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	41.5
396		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	S	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	94.1
397		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	Y	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	31.0
398		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	N	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	83.1
399		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	V	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	52.4
400		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	L	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	73.0
401		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	65.7
402		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	P	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	62.8
403		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	F	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	79.4

**Fig. 9C-1**

Y61 Mutagenesis: H56



**Fig. 9C-1**

Y61 Mutagenesis: H58



**Fig. 9D**

## Y61 Heavy Chain CDR H3 Mutagenesis

SEQ ID NO:	CDR H3							$k_{off}$ ( $\times 10^5$ )
	95	96	97	98	101	102		
17	Y61	H	G	S	H	D	N	
404		E	.	.	.	.	.	231.5
405		S	.	.	.	.	.	193.0
406		H	.	.	.	.	.	28.7
407		K	.	.	.	.	.	227.5
408		Q	.	.	.	.	.	85.9
409		T	.	.	.	.	.	202.0
410		A	.	.	.	.	.	150.0
411		L	.	.	.	.	.	147.5
412		P	.	.	.	.	.	471.0
413		F	.	.	.	.	.	514.0
414		.	D	.	.	.	.	223.5
415		.	C	.	.	.	.	24.2
416		.	H	.	.	.	.	23.7
417		.	R	.	.	.	.	98.2
418		.	T	.	.	.	.	186.0
419		.	G	.	.	.	.	39.7
420		.	V	.	.	.	.	38.2
421		.	M	.	.	.	.	204.5
422		.	L	.	.	.	.	261.0
423		.	I	.	.	.	.	207.5
424		.	P	.	.	.	.	129.0
425		.	W	.	.	.	.	197.0
426		.	.	D	.	.	.	202.0
427		.	.	S	.	.	.	37.5
428		.	.	Y	.	.	.	273.0
429		.	.	H	.	.	.	190.5
430		.	.	R	.	.	.	224.0
431		.	.	N	.	.	.	221.5
432		.	.	T	.	.	.	58.8
433		.	.	G	.	.	.	229.0
434		.	.	A	.	.	.	143.0
435		.	.	I	.	.	.	208.0
436		.	.	P	.	.	.	300.0
437		.	.	W	.	.	.	239.0
438		.	.	F	.	.	.	180.5
439		.	.	.	H	.	.	25.5
440		.	.	.	R	.	.	34.0
441		.	.	.	T	.	.	22.7
442		.	.	.	A	.	.	67.3
443		.	.	.	V	.	.	29.3
444		.	.	.	L	.	.	59.8
445		.	.	.	I	.	.	34.3
446		.	.	.	F	.	.	68.8
447		.	.	.	.	D	.	14.4
448		.	.	.	.	S	.	44.9
449		.	.	.	.	Y	.	465.0
450		.	.	.	.	H	.	327.0
451		.	.	.	.	R	.	110.0

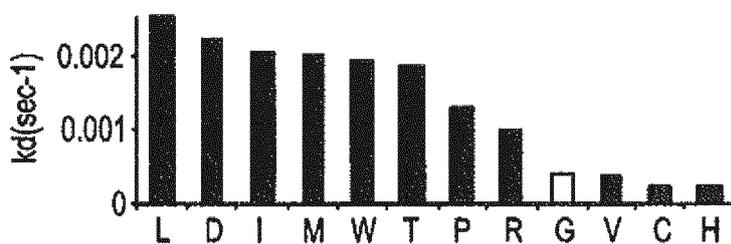
**Fig. 9D-1**

Y61 Mutagenesis: H95



**Fig. 9D-2**

Y61 Mutagenesis: H96



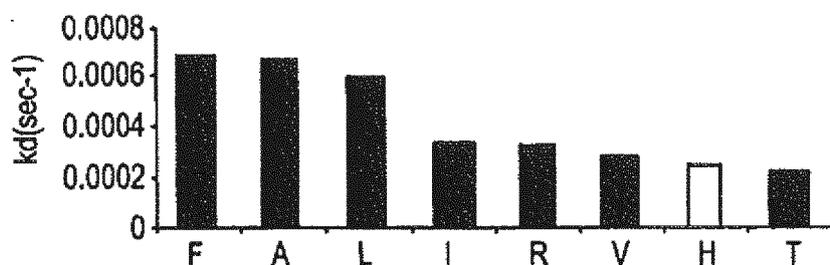
**Fig. 9D-3**

Y61 Mutagenesis: H97



**Fig. 9D-4**

Y61 Mutagenesis: H98

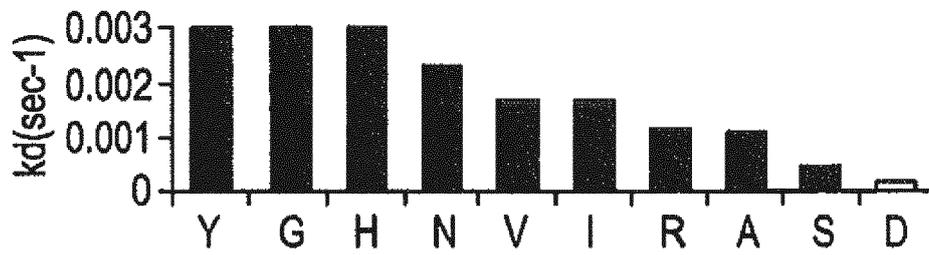


**Fig. 9E****Y61 Heavy Chain CDR H3 Mutagenesis**

SEQ ID NO:	Y61	CDR H3						K <sub>off</sub> (x 10 <sup>5</sup> )
		95	96	97	98	101	102	
17	Y61	H	G	S	H	D	N	
452		.	.	.	.	N	.	223.0
453		.	.	.	.	G	.	375.0
454		.	.	.	.	A	.	106.5
455		.	.	.	.	V	.	163.0
456		.	.	.	.	I	.	162.5
457		.	.	.	.	.	S	32.5
458		.	.	.	.	.	H	18.0
459		.	.	.	.	.	K	40.5
460		.	.	.	.	.	R	57.5
461		.	.	.	.	.	N	40.3
462		.	.	.	.	.	T	33.3
463		.	.	.	.	.	G	69.2
464		.	.	.	.	.	A	38.2
465		.	.	.	.	.	L	95.6
466		.	.	.	.	.	I	99.6
467		.	.	.	.	.	P	181.5
468		.	.	.	.	.	W	23.5
469		.	.	.	.	.	F	31.8

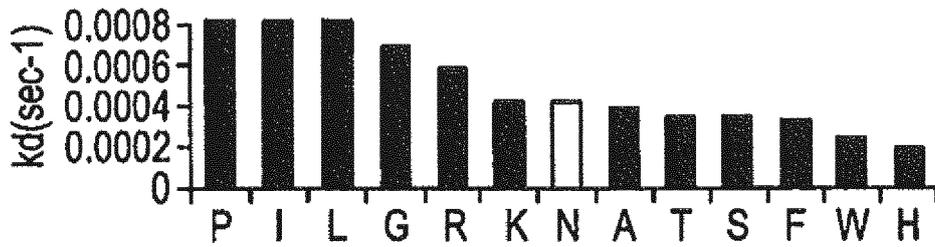
### Fig. 9E-1

Y61 Mutagenesis: H101



### Fig. 9E-2

Y61 Mutagenesis: H102



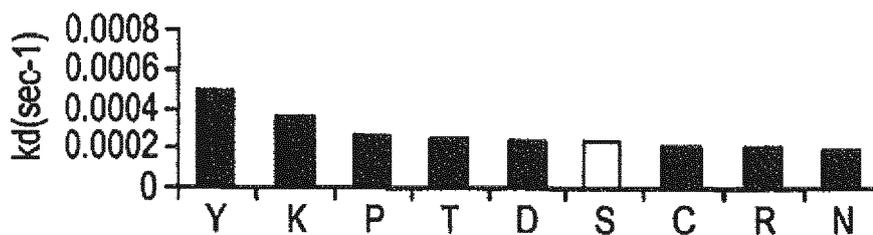
**Fig. 9F**

## Y61 Light Chain CDR L1 Mutagenesis

SEQ ID NO:	Y61	CDR L1												$-k_{off}$ ( $\times 10^5$ )	
		24	25	26	27	27A	27B	28	29	30	31	32	33		34
22	Y61	S	G	G	R	S	N	I	G	S	N	T	V	K	
470		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	D	.	.	.	.	22.0
471		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	C	.	.	.	.	18.6
472		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	S	.	.	.	.	21.1
473		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	Y	.	.	.	.	48.3
474		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	K	.	.	.	.	34.6
475		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	R	.	.	.	.	18.2
476		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	N	.	.	.	.	16.6
477		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	T	.	.	.	.	22.6
478		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	P	.	.	.	.	25.0
479		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	D	.	.	.	58.0
480		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	E	.	.	.	38.4
481		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	S	.	.	.	39.2
482		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	Y	.	.	.	35.7
483		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	H	.	.	.	31.5
484		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	K	.	.	.	33.1
485		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	N	.	.	.	22.9
486		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	Q	.	.	.	29.2
487		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	T	.	.	.	30.9
488		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	G	.	.	.	36.6
489		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	M	.	.	.	17.4
490		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	I	.	.	.	9.7
491		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	D	.	.	25.2
492		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	C	.	.	381.5
493		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	S	.	.	191.0
494		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	Y	.	.	21.3
495		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	H	.	.	26.0
496		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	K	.	.	31.8
497		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	R	.	.	690.0
498		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	N	.	.	196.5
499		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	Q	.	.	247.0
500		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	T	.	.	24.1
501		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	A	.	.	190.5
502		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	V	.	.	164.5
503		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	L	.	.	215.5
504		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	I	.	.	154.0
505		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	P	.	.	42.4

**Fig. 9F-1**

Y61 Mutagenesis: L30



**Fig. 9F-2**

Y61 Mutagenesis: L31



**Fig. 9F-3**

Y61 Mutagenesis: L32

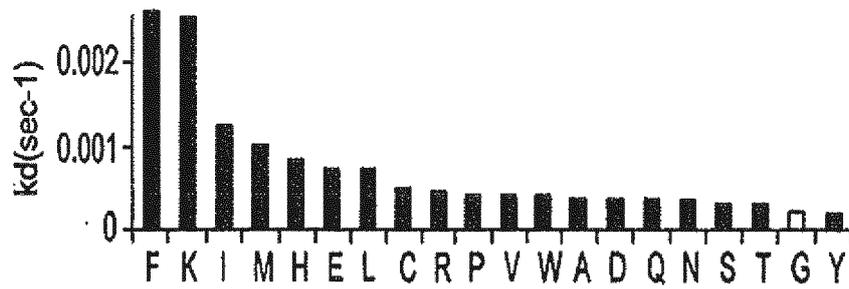


**Fig. 9G****Y61 Heavy Chain CDR L2 Mutagenesis**

SEQ ID NO:	Y61	CDR L2							$k_{off}$ ( $\times 10^5$ )
		50	51	52	53	54	55	56	
20	Y61	G	N	D	Q	R	P	S	
506		D	.	.	.	.	.	.	34.8
507		E	.	.	.	.	.	.	61.7
508		C	.	.	.	.	.	.	46.7
509		S	.	.	.	.	.	.	28.6
510		Y	.	.	.	.	.	.	17.4
511		H	.	.	.	.	.	.	76.1
512		K	.	.	.	.	.	.	242.5
513		R	.	.	.	.	.	.	44.4
514		N	.	.	.	.	.	.	30.5
515		Q	.	.	.	.	.	.	34.8
516		T	.	.	.	.	.	.	27.2
517		G	.	.	.	.	.	.	21.5
518		A	.	.	.	.	.	.	37.2
519		V	.	.	.	.	.	.	38.5
520		M	.	.	.	.	.	.	95.3
521		L	.	.	.	.	.	.	61.6
522		I	.	.	.	.	.	.	120.5
523		P	.	.	.	.	.	.	41.0
524		W	.	.	.	.	.	.	38.2
525		F	.	.	.	.	.	.	3,476.7
526		.	.	.	S	.	.	.	86.6
527		.	.	.	Y	.	.	.	73.3
528		.	.	.	R	.	.	.	61.4
529		.	.	.	Q	.	.	.	29.7
530		.	.	.	T	.	.	.	83.4
531		.	.	.	A	.	.	.	55.4
532		.	.	.	I	.	.	.	85.5
533		.	.	.	P	.	.	.	97.4

**Fig. 9G-1**

Y61 Mutagenesis: L50



**Fig. 9G-2**

Y61 Mutagenesis: L53



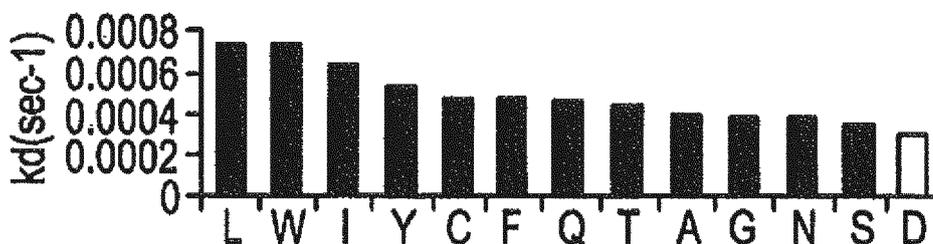
# Fig. 9H

## Y61 Light Chain CDR L3 Mutagenesis

SEQ ID NO:	CDRL3											k <sub>off</sub> (x 10 <sup>5</sup> )		
	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96A	96B	96C	96		97	
18	Y61	Q	S	Y	D	R	G	T	H	P	A	L	L	
534		.	.	.	D	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	25.9
535		.	.	.	C	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	45.3
536		.	.	.	S	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	30.7
537		.	.	.	Y	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	51.1
538		.	.	.	N	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	34.7
539		.	.	.	Q	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	42.7
540		.	.	.	T	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	40.8
541		.	.	.	G	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	34.9
542		.	.	.	A	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	35.7
543		.	.	.	L	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	72.8
544		.	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	61.8
545		.	.	.	W	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	72.0
546		.	.	.	F	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	44.9
547		.	.	.	D	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	34.3
548		.	.	.	C	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	32.0
549		.	.	.	S	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	34.1
550		.	.	.	Y	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	33.5
551		.	.	.	R	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	19.9
552		.	.	.	N	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	31.6
553		.	.	.	Q	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	30.0
554		.	.	.	T	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	31.6
555		.	.	.	G	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	39.2
556		.	.	.	A	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	31.0
557		.	.	.	V	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	26.9
558		.	.	.	M	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	27.5
559		.	.	.	L	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	30.0
560		.	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	29.5
561		.	.	.	P	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	34.9
562		.	.	.	W	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	34.9
563		.	.	.	D	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	25.3
564		.	.	.	C	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	52.0
565		.	.	.	S	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	28.7
566		.	.	.	Y	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	13.1
567		.	.	.	H	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	18.7
568		.	.	.	R	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	23.1
569		.	.	.	N	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	13.7
570		.	.	.	Q	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	25.0
571		.	.	.	T	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	30.5
572		.	.	.	G	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	25.6
573		.	.	.	A	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	52.6
574		.	.	.	V	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	35.1
575		.	.	.	L	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	24.4
576		.	.	.	I	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	27.6
577		.	.	.	P	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	33.2
578		.	.	.	W	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	29.3
579		.	.	.	F	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	23.6

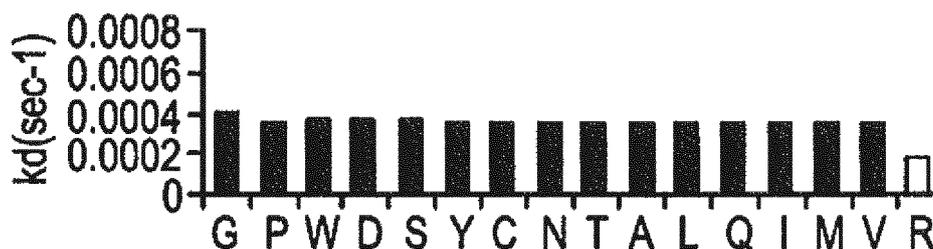
**Fig. 9H-1**

Y61 Mutagenesis: L92



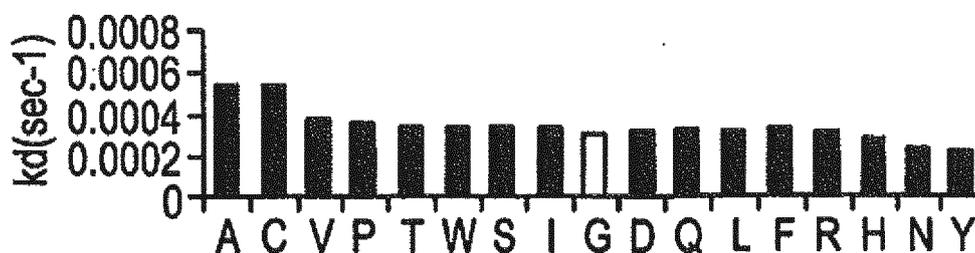
**Fig. 9H-2**

Y61 Mutagenesis: L93



**Fig. 9H-3**

Y61 Mutagenesis: L94



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## 摘要

本發明提供一種為對象治療乾癬的方法，其通過給對象服用一種能夠結合到IL-12及/或IL-23的p40次單位的抗生素。