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<p>(54) Title: INSULIN DERIVATIVES AND THEIR USE</p> <p>(57) Abstract</p> <p>Derivatives of insulin and insulin analogues wherein the N-terminal amino group of the B-chain and/or the ε-amino group of Lys in position B28, B29 or B30 has a substituent of the formula -CO-W-COOH wherein W is a divalent long chain hydrocarbon group having from 12 to 22 carbon atoms and zinc complexes thereof are soluble at physiological pH values and exhibit a long disappearance half-life from the injection site after subcutaneous injection.</p>		

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## INSULIN DERIVATIVES AND THEIR USE

### FIELD OF THE INVENTION

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The present invention relates to novel derivatives of naturally occurring insulins and analogues thereof which derivatives are soluble and have a protracted profile of action, to methods of providing such derivatives, to pharmaceutical compositions containing them and to the use of such derivatives in the treatment of diabetes.

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### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Many diabetic patients are treated with multiple daily insulin injections in a regimen comprising one or two daily injections of a protracted insulin to cover the basal requirement supplemented by bolus injections of a rapid acting insulin to cover the requirement related to meals.

Protracted insulin compositions are well known in the art. Thus, one main type of protracted insulin compositions comprises injectable aqueous suspensions of insulin crystals or amorphous insulin. In these compositions, the insulin compounds utilized typically are protamine insulin, zinc insulin or protamine zinc insulin.

Certain drawbacks are associated with the use of insulin suspensions. Thus, in order to secure an accurate dosing, the insulin particles must be suspended homogeneously by gentle shaking before a defined volume of the suspension is withdrawn from a vial or expelled from a cartridge. Also, for the storage of insulin suspensions, the temperature must be kept within more narrow limits than for insulin solutions in order to avoid lump formation or coagulation.

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While it was earlier believed that protamines were non-immunogenic, it has now turned out that protamines can be immunogenic in man and that their use for medical purposes may lead to formation of antibodies (Samuel et al., Studies on the

immunogenicity of protamines in humans and experimental animals by means of a micro-complement fixation test, Clin. Exp. Immunol. 33, pp. 252-260 (1978)).

Also, evidence has been found that the protamine-insulin complex is itself immunogenic (Kurtz et al., Circulating IgG antibody to protamine in patients treated with protamine-insulins. Diabetologica 25, pp. 322-324 (1983)). Therefore, with some patients the use of protracted insulin compositions containing protamines must be avoided.

Another type of protracted insulin compositions are solutions having a pH value below physiological pH from which the insulin will precipitate because of the rise in the pH value when the solution is injected. A drawback is that the solid particles of the insulin act as a local irritant causing inflammation of the tissue at the site of injection.

WO 91/12817 (Novo Nordisk A/S) discloses protracted, soluble insulin compositions comprising insulin complexes of cobalt(III). The protraction of these complexes is only intermediate and the bioavailability is reduced.

Human insulin has three primary amino groups: the N-terminal group of the A-chain and of the B-chain and the  $\epsilon$ -amino group of Lys<sup>B29</sup>. Several insulin derivatives which are substituted in one or more of these groups are known in the prior art. Thus, US Patent No. 3,528,960 (Eli Lilly) relates to N-carboxyaroyl insulins in which one, two or three primary amino groups of the insulin molecule has a carboxyaroyl group. No specifically N <sup>$\epsilon$ B29</sup>-substituted insulins are disclosed.

According to GB Patent No. 1.492.997 (Nat. Res. Dev. Corp.), it has been found that insulin with a carbamyl substitution at N <sup>$\epsilon$ B29</sup> has an improved profile of hypoglycaemic effect.

JP laid-open patent application No. 1-254699 (Kodama Co., Ltd.) discloses insulin wherein an alkanoyl group is bound to the amino group of Phe<sup>B1</sup> or to the  $\epsilon$ -amino group of Lys<sup>B29</sup> or to both of these. The stated purpose of the derivatisation is to obtain a pharmacologically acceptable, stable insulin preparation.

Insulin analogues, which in the B30 position have an amino acid having at least five carbon atoms which cannot necessarily be coded for by a triplet of nucleotides, are described in JP laid-open patent application No. 57-067548 (Shionogi). The insulin analogues are claimed to be useful in the treatment of diabetes mellitus, particularly in patients who are insulin resistant due to generation of bovine or swine insulin antibodies.

US 5,359,030 (Ekwuribe, Protein Delivery, Inc.) describes conjugation-stabilized polypeptide compositions for oral or parenteral administration comprising a polypeptide covalently coupled with a polymer including a linear polyalkylene moiety and a lipophilic moiety, said moieties being arranged so relative to each other that the polypeptide has an enhanced in vivo resistance to enzymatic degradation.

EP 511600 A2 relates i.a. to protein derivatives of the formula [protein][Z]<sub>n</sub>, wherein [protein] represents a protein having n amino residues each derivable from an amino group by removal of one of its hydrogen atoms, instead of amino groups, [Z] is a residue represented by the formula -CO-W-COOH wherein W is a divalent long chain hydrocarbon group which may also contain certain hetero atoms and n represents an average of the number of amide bonds between [Z] and [protein]. It is mentioned that the protein derivatives of the invention have an extremely prolonged serum half-life as compared with the proteins from which they are derived and that they exhibit no antigenicity. It is also mentioned, that insulin is one of the proteins from which derivatives according to the invention can be made, but no specific insulin derivatives are disclosed in EP 511600 nor is there any indication of a preferred [Z] or (a) preferred position(s) in which [Z] should be introduced in order to obtain useful insulin derivatives.

WO 95/07931 (Novo Nordisk A/S) discloses insulin derivatives in which the amino acid at position B30 is (a) a non-codable lipophilic amino acid having from 10 to 24 carbon atoms in which case the ε-amino group of Lys<sup>B29</sup> has a lower acyl substituent or (b) any codable amino acid, in which case the ε-amino group of Lys<sup>B29</sup> has a lipophilic substituent or (c) deleted, in which case the ε-amino group of Lys<sup>B29</sup> has a lipophilic substituent. The insulin derivatives are soluble at physiological pH values and have a protracted profile of action.

By "insulin derivative" as used herein is meant a peptide having a molecular structure similar to that of human insulin including the disulphide bridges between Cys<sup>A7</sup> and Cys<sup>B7</sup> and between Cys<sup>A20</sup> and Cys<sup>B19</sup> and an internal disulphide bridge between Cys<sup>A6</sup> and Cys<sup>A11</sup>, and which has insulin activity. When the amino acid at position B1 is deleted, the position of the remaining amino acids of the B-chain are not renumbered.

Despite the many improvements already made in the field there still is a need for novel protracted injectable insulin compositions which are solutions and contain insulins which stay in solution after injection and possess minimal inflammatory and immunogenic properties.

One object of the present invention is to provide insulin derivatives soluble at physiological pH values and having a protracted profile of action.

Another object of the present invention is to provide insulin derivatives which have a long disappearance half-life from the injection site after subcutaneous injection.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a pharmaceutical composition comprising the insulin derivatives according to the invention.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a non-immunogenic insulin derivative.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a method of making the insulin derivatives of the invention.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a method of treating diabetes.

#### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Surprisingly, it has turned out that certain derivatives of naturally occurring insulins and insulin analogues wherein the amino group of the N-terminal amino acid of the B-chain and/or the  $\epsilon$ -amino group of Lys<sup>B29</sup> has a lipophilic substituent of the formula -CO-W-



case the amino group of Val at position B2 is either free or has a substituent of the formula -CO-W-COOH as defined above;

5 Xaa at position B28 is (a) Pro, in which case Xaa at position B29 is Lys which optionally, in its  $\epsilon$ -amino group, has a substituent of the formula -CO-W-COOH as defined above; (b) Ser, in which case Xaa at position B29 is Lys which optionally, in its  $\epsilon$ -amino group, has a substituent of the formula -CO-W-COOH as defined above; or (c) Lys which optionally, in its  $\epsilon$ -amino group, has a substituent of the formula -CO-W-COOH as defined above, in which case, whether the  $\epsilon$ -amino group of the Lys has the optional substituent or not, Xaa at position B29 is Pro;

10 Xaa at position B30 is (a) Thr; (b) Ala; or (c) deleted; and any zinc complexes thereof, with the proviso that the insulin derivative of formula I has at least one lipophilic substituent of the formula -CO-W-COOH as defined above.

15 In another aspect, the invention relates to an insulin derivative of the general formula I above wherein Xaa at position A21, B1 and B3 are as defined above, while Xaa at position B28 is Asp, Xaa at position B29 is Lys which, in its  $\epsilon$ -amino group, has a substituent of the formula -CO-W-COOH as defined above and Xaa at position B30 is Thr.

20 In another aspect, the invention relates to an insulin derivative of the general formula I above wherein Xaa at position A21, B1 and B3 are as defined above, while Xaa at position B28 is Pro, Xaa at position B29 is Thr and Xaa at position B30 is Lys which, in its  $\epsilon$ -amino group, has a substituent of the formula -CO-W-COOH as defined above and.

25 In one preferred embodiment of the invention, the divalent long chain hydrocarbon group, W, is  $-(\text{CH}_2)_{12}$ .

30 In another preferred embodiment of the invention, the divalent long chain hydrocarbon group, W, is  $-(\text{CH}_2)_{13}$ .

In another preferred embodiment of the invention, the divalent long chain hydrocarbon group, W, is  $-(CH_2)_{14}-$ .

5 In another preferred embodiment of the invention, the divalent long chain hydrocarbon group, W, is  $-(CH_2)_{15}-$ .

In another preferred embodiment of the invention, the divalent long chain hydrocarbon group, W, is  $-(CH_2)_{16}-$ .

10 In another preferred embodiment of the invention, the divalent long chain hydrocarbon group, W, is  $-(CH_2)_{17}-$ .

In another preferred embodiment of the invention, the divalent long chain hydrocarbon group, W, is  $-(CH_2)_{18}-$ .

15 In another preferred embodiment of the invention, the divalent long chain hydrocarbon group, W, is  $-(CH_2)_{19}-$ .

20 In another preferred embodiment of the invention, the divalent long chain hydrocarbon group, W, is  $-(CH_2)_{20}-$ .

In another preferred embodiment of the invention, the divalent long chain hydrocarbon group, W, is  $-(CH_2)_{21}-$ .

25 In another preferred embodiment of the invention, the divalent long chain hydrocarbon group, W, is  $-(CH_2)_{22}-$ .

Further preferred features of the present invention will appear from the appended claims.

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Examples of preferred insulin derivatives according to the present invention are the following:

- $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>14</sub>-COOH) human insulin and any zinc complexes thereof;
- $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>16</sub>-COOH) human insulin and any zinc complexes thereof;
- $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>18</sub>-COOH) human insulin and any zinc complexes thereof;
- $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>20</sub>-COOH) human insulin and any zinc complexes thereof;
- 5  $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>22</sub>-COOH) human insulin and any zinc complexes thereof;
- $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>14</sub>-COOH) Asp<sup>B28</sup>-human insulin and any zinc complexes thereof;
- $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>16</sub>-COOH) Asp<sup>B28</sup>-human insulin and any zinc complexes thereof;
- $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>18</sub>-COOH) Asp<sup>B28</sup>-human insulin and any zinc complexes thereof;
- $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>20</sub>-COOH) Asp<sup>B28</sup>-human insulin and any zinc complexes thereof;
- 10  $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>22</sub>-COOH) Asp<sup>B28</sup>-human insulin and any zinc complexes thereof;
- $N^{\epsilon B30}$ -(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>14</sub>-COOH) Thr<sup>B29</sup>Lys<sup>B30</sup>-human insulin and any zinc complexes thereof;
- $N^{\epsilon B30}$ -(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>16</sub>-COOH) Thr<sup>B29</sup>Lys<sup>B30</sup>-human insulin and any zinc complexes thereof;
- 15  $N^{\epsilon B30}$ -(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>18</sub>-COOH) Thr<sup>B29</sup>Lys<sup>B30</sup>-human insulin and any zinc complexes thereof;
- $N^{\epsilon B30}$ -(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>20</sub>-COOH) Thr<sup>B29</sup>Lys<sup>B30</sup>-human insulin and any zinc complexes thereof;
- $N^{\epsilon B30}$ -(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>22</sub>-COOH) Thr<sup>B29</sup>Lys<sup>B30</sup>-human insulin and any zinc complexes thereof;
- 20  $N^{\epsilon B28}$ -(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>14</sub>-COOH) Lys<sup>B28</sup>Pro<sup>B29</sup>-human insulin and any zinc complexes thereof;
- $N^{\epsilon B28}$ -(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>16</sub>-COOH) Lys<sup>B28</sup>Pro<sup>B29</sup>-human insulin and any zinc complexes thereof;
- 25  $N^{\epsilon B28}$ -(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>18</sub>-COOH) Lys<sup>B28</sup>Pro<sup>B29</sup>-human insulin and any zinc complexes thereof;
- $N^{\epsilon B28}$ -(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>20</sub>-COOH) Lys<sup>B28</sup>Pro<sup>B29</sup>-human insulin and any zinc complexes thereof;
- $N^{\epsilon B28}$ -(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>22</sub>-COOH) Lys<sup>B28</sup>Pro<sup>B29</sup>-human insulin and any zinc complexes thereof;
- 30  $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>14</sub>-COOH) desB30 human insulin and any zinc complexes thereof;
- $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>16</sub>-COOH) desB30 human insulin and any zinc complexes thereof;

$N^{\epsilon B29}$ -(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>18</sub>-COOH) desB30 human insulin and any zinc complexes thereof.  
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>20</sub>-COOH) desB30 human insulin and any zinc complexes thereof;  
and  
 $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>22</sub>COOH) desB30 human insulin and any zinc complexes thereof.

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## DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

### Terminology

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The three letter codes for the amino acid residues used herein are those stated in J. Biol. Chem. 243, p. 3558 (1968).

The expression "a codable amino acid" is intended to indicate an amino acid which can be coded for by the genetic code, i.e. a triplet ("codon") of nucleotides.

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### Preparation of the compounds of the invention

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The compounds of the invention can be prepared by methods known *per se*. Thus, the group -CO-W-COOH of formula I can be introduced into an insulin moiety via an activated ester or an activated amide, e.g. an azolide, of the diacid HOOC-W-COOH. The preparation of activated esters is described *i.a.* in EP 0 511 600 A2 (Kuraray Co., Ltd.) and in WO 95/07931 (Novo Nordisk A/S). The preparation of azolides is described *i.a.* in W. Foerst, ed. Neure Methoden Der Präparativen Organischen Chemie, Band V, p 53-93 (Verlag Chemie, Weinheim (1967)).

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The group -CO-W-COOH can be introduced into an insulin moiety in which the amino group of the N-terminal amino groups of the A-chain and the B-chain is protected. This is in analogy with the methods described in in WO 95/07931. In this case a deprotection step follows the introduction of the group -CO-W-COOH as illustrated in the appended examples 1 and 2.

Alternatively, by selecting suitable reaction conditions as described e.g. in EP 0 712 862 A2, it is possible to introduce the group -CO-W-COOH selectively into the  $\epsilon$ -amino group of a Lys residue without resorting to protection of the N-terminal amino groups of the A-chain and the B-chain. This is illustrated in the appended examples 3 and 4.

#### Experimental results achieved with the compounds of the invention.

Certain experimental data on the compounds of the invention are given in Table 1.

#### Lipophilicity

The lipophilicity of the insulin derivatives relative to human insulin,  $k'_{rel}$ , was measured on a LiChrosorb RP18 (5 $\mu$ m, 250x4 mm) HPLC column by isocratic elution at 40°C using mixtures of A) 0.1 M sodium phosphate buffer, pH 7.3, containing 10% acetonitrile, and B) 50% acetonitrile in water as eluents. The elution was monitored by following the UV absorption of the eluate at 214 nm. Void time,  $t_0$ , was found by injecting 0.1 mM sodium nitrate. Retention time for human insulin,  $t_{human}$ , was adjusted to at least  $2t_0$  by varying the ratio between the A and B solutions.  $k'_{rel} = (t_{derivative} - t_0) / (t_{human} - t_0)$ .

**Determination of disappearance half-life,  $T_{50\%}$ , from the injection site after subcutaneous injection of an insulin derivative in pigs.**

$T_{50\%}$  is the time when 50% of the A14 Tyr(<sup>125</sup>I)-labeled analogue has disappeared from the site of injection as measured with an external  $\gamma$ -counter (Ribel, U et al., The Pig as a Model for Subcutaneous Absorption in Man. In: M. Serrano-Rios and P.J. Lefebvre (Eds): Diabetes 1985; Proceedings of the 12th Congress of the International Diabetes Federation, Madrid, Spain, 1985 (Excerpta Medica, Amsterdam, (1986) 891-96).

For use in the determination of  $T_{50\%}$  as described above, samples of the products to be studied were iodinated with  $^{125}\text{I}$  using the standard lactoperoxidase method and the Tyr<sup>A14</sup>-labeled product was isolated by isocratic ethanol/tris HPLC.

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#### Binding to porcine albumin.

The binding to porcine albumin was determined in an in vitro assay. The values given in Table 1 under the heading "Albumin binding" are relative to the reference compound EXA.

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Table 1

Compound <sup>7)</sup>	Lipophilicity	$T_{50\%}$ , hours	Albumin binding
EX1	1.4	5	0.7
EX2	2.3	10	5
EX3	17	18	51
EX4	7.2	17.1	36
EXA	113	14	1
EXB	346	12	0.9

<sup>7)</sup> The compounds EX1, EX2, EX3 and EX4 are the title compounds of Examples 1, 2, 3 and 4, respectively. The reference compound EXA is N<sup>εB29</sup>-tetradecanoyl desB30 insulin and the reference compound EXB is N<sup>εB29</sup>-hexadecanoyl desB30 insulin.

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### Pharmaceutical compositions

Pharmaceutical compositions containing an insulin derivative according to the present invention may be administered parenterally to patients in need of such a treatment. Parenteral administration may be performed by subcutaneous, intramuscular or intravenous injection by means of a syringe, optionally a pen-like syringe. Alternatively, parenteral administration can be performed by means of an infusion pump. A further option is a composition which may be a powder or a liquid for the administration of the insulin derivative in the form of a nasal spray. As a still further option, it may also be possible to administer the insulin derivative transdermally.

Pharmaceutical compositions containing an insulin derivative of the present invention may be prepared by conventional techniques, e.g. as described in Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences, 1985.

Thus, the injectable compositions of the insulin derivatives of the invention can be prepared using the conventional techniques of the pharmaceutical industry which involves dissolving and mixing the ingredients as appropriate to give the desired end product.

Thus, according to one procedure, the insulin derivative is dissolved in an amount of water which is somewhat less than the final volume of the composition to be prepared. An isotonic agent, a preservative and a buffer is added as required and the pH value of the solution is adjusted - if necessary - using an acid, e.g. hydrochloric acid, or a base, e.g. aqueous sodium hydroxide as needed. Finally, the volume of the solution is adjusted with water to give the desired concentration of the ingredients.

Examples of isotonic agents are sodium chloride, mannitol and glycerol.

Examples of preservatives are phenol, m-cresol, methyl p-hydroxybenzoate and benzyl alcohol.

Examples of suitable buffers are sodium acetate and sodium phosphate.

Preferred pharmaceutical compositions of the particular insulin derivatives of the present invention are solutions of hexameric complexes. Typically, the hexameric  
5 complexes are stabilised by two or more zinc ions and three or more molecules of a phenolic compound like phenol or meta.cresol or mixtures thereof per hexamer.

In a particular embodiment, a composition is provided which contains two different insulins, one having a protracted profile of action and one having a rapid onset of  
10 action, in the form of soluble hexameric complexes. Typically the hexameric complexes are stabilized by two or more zinc ions and three or more molecules of a phenolic compound like phenol or meta-cresol or mixtures thereof per hexamer. The complexes are mixtures of hexamers of the particular insulins and mixed hexamers in which the ratio between the two different insulins is from 1:5 to 5:1.

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A composition for nasal administration of an insulin derivative may, for example, be prepared as described in European Patent No. 272097 (to Novo Nordisk A/S).

The insulin derivatives of this invention can be used in the treatment of diabetes.  
20 The particular insulin derivative to be used and the optimal dose level for any patient will depend on a variety of factors including the efficacy of the specific insulin derivative employed, the age, body weight, physical activity, and diet of the patient, on a possible combination with other drugs, and on the severity of the case. It is recommended that the dosage of the insulin derivative of this invention  
25 be determined for each individual patient by those skilled in the art in a similar way as for known insulins.

The present invention is further illustrated by the following examples which, however, are not to be construed as limiting the scope of protection. The features  
30 disclosed in the foregoing description and in the following examples may, both separately and in any combination thereof, be material for realizing the invention in diverse forms thereof.

## EXAMPLES

The following acronyms for chemicals are used:

- DMF: N,N-dimethylformamide.  
5 DIC: N,N'-diisopropylcarbodiimide.  
HOBT: 1-hydroxybenzotriazole.  
TFA: trifluoroacetic acid.

10 **Analytical**

Molecular masses of the products prepared were obtained by plasma desorption mass spectrometry (PDMS) using Bio-Ion 20 instrument (Bio-Ion Nordic AB, Uppsala, Sweden).

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**EXAMPLE 1**

Synthesis of N<sup>eB29</sup>-(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>12</sub>-COOH) des(B30) human insulin.

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20 Tetradecanedioic acid (Sigma, 10 mg), HOBT (10 mg) and ethyldiisopropylamine (10 μl) was dissolved in DMF (400 μl) and DIC (6 μl) was added. The mixture was left at 25°C for one hour and then DMF (600 μl) and A1,B1-(Boc)<sub>2</sub>-des(B30) human insulin was added. After one hour at 25°C water (200 μl) was added and after further 15 minutes precipitation of the intermediate was achieved by addition  
25 of methanol (1 ml) and ether (5 ml). The precipitate was isolated by centrifugation, washed (twice) with ether and dried. The dry intermediate was dissolved in TFA (1 ml) and after 15 minutes at 25°C the product was precipitated by addition of ether (5 ml). The precipitate was isolated by centrifugation, washed with ether (three times) and dried.

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Purification was carried out in a two-step reversed phase HPLC process on a C18 reversed phase HPLC column. First step was an isocratic run in ethanol/tris-buffer (40% ethanol). The desired material, which constituted the largest peak in the

chromatogram, was collected, desalted on a Sep-Pak<sup>®</sup> column, and re-chromatographed in an acetonitrile/TFA gradient (20-60% acetonitrile) with the product eluting at 45.8% acetonitrile. The purity was estimated to be >95%.

5 The identity of the product was confirmed by PDMS (native, reduced and digested with V8-protease) which gave MW's of 5947, 3571 and 1255 corresponding to native analogue, B-chain and the C-terminal fragment of the B-chain, respectively.

## 10 EXAMPLE 2

Synthesis of N<sup>εB29</sup>-(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>14</sub>-COOH) des(B30) human insulin.

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The title compound was synthesized by proceeding as described in Example 1, except that hexadecanedioic acid was used in stead of the tetradecanedioic acid.

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The purification was carried out essentially as described in Example 1. In the isocratic run ethanol/tris-buffer containing 42.4% ethanol was used. The desired material, which constituted the largest peak in the chromatogram, was collected, desalted on a Sep-Pak<sup>®</sup> column, and re-chromatographed in an acetonitrile/TFA  
20 gradient (20-60% acetonitrile) with the product eluting at 48.2% acetonitrile. The purity was estimated to be >95%.

The identity of the product was confirmed by PDMS (native, reduced and digested with V8-protease) which gave MW's of 5976, 3601 and 1285 corresponding to  
25 native analogue, B-chain and the C-terminal fragment of the B-chain, respectively.

## EXAMPLE 3

Synthesis of N<sup>εB29</sup>-(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>18</sub>-COOH) des(B30) human insulin.

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10 mg of eicosadioic acid, 10 mg of hydroxybenzotriazole and 2.5 μl of diisopropylcarbodiimide were dissolved in 300 μl of N-methylpyrrolidone and left at 25° C for one hour. Then, a solution of 150 mg of des(B30) human insulin in a

mixture of 2 ml of water, 2.6 ml of N-methyl pyrrolidone and 200  $\mu$ l of diisopropylethylamine was added and the reaction mixture was left at room temperature for one hour. The mixture was then diluted with water, applied to a C18 reversed phase HPLC column and eluted with tris buffer containing 48% of ethanol. Further purification was achieved by reversed phase HPLC on the same column by eluting with an acetonitrile/TFA gradient where the title compound eluted at 55% acetonitrile.

#### 10 EXAMPLE 4

Synthesis of N<sup>B29</sup>-(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>16</sub>-COOH) des(B30) human insulin.

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Des(B30) human insulin (99 mg ~ 17.34  $\mu$ mol) was dissolved in 6 ml N-methylpyrrolidone/water (30/70 v/v) and 84  $\mu$ l diisopropylethyl amine. 28.5 mg ~ 69.4  $\mu$ mol of N-(17-carboxyheptadecanoyloxy) succinimide (Mw 411) dissolved in 360  $\mu$ l N-methylpyrrolidone was added. After 1 h at room temperature the reaction mixture was diluted with 6.5 ml ethanol, the pH adjusted from 11.4 to 7.3 using 1 N HCl, and the dilution subjected to anion exchange chromatography using a 1 x 25 cm column packed with Source<sup>TM</sup> Q15 (Pharmacia Biotech). The column was eluted at a rate of 40 ml/h using a linear gradient of KCl, from 30 mM tris pH 7.3 buffer in 50% ethanol to 200 mM KCl, 30 mM tris pH 7.3 buffer in 50% ethanol, and using 300 ml of each solvent. The title compound emerged from the column after about 200 ml of eluent, and was collected in a volume of 15 ml. The pool was diluted with 22.5 ml of water and the pH was adjusted to 6.0 using 1 N HCl. After precipitation overnight at 4°C the product was isolated by centrifugation.

The precipitate was dissolved in 3.3 ml 20% acetonitrile (v/v) in water and the title compound was purified using 2 runs on a 1 x 25 cm column of dimethylbutyldimethyl substituted 5 $\mu$  silica spheres, having a pore size of 100 Ångström. Elution was performed over 40 min at a rate of 5 ml/min, using a linear gradient from 98/2 (v/v) of solvent A: 18.75 mM (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, 12.5 mM tris pH 7.0 in 20 % acetonitrile and solvent B: 80% acetonitrile, to a ratio of 40/60 (v/v) of the same

solvents. The title compound emerged from the column after 21-24 min. The acetonitrile was removed by evaporation *in vacuo*, and the product was de-salted by gel filtration using PD-10 Sephadex® G-25M in 10 mM ammoniumhydrogencarbonate/ammonia buffer pH 8.8. Finally, the product was isolated in the dry state by lyophilization. Yield 43 mg. Purity 99%.

Molecular mass of title compound found by MS:  $6000 \pm 6$ ; theory: 6003.

#### 10 EXAMPLE 5

Crystallization of  $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>16</sub>-COOH) des(B30) insulin in the presence of zinc.

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15 Zinc containing crystals of the title compound was obtained in a tris-citrate buffer using a variety of conditions:

Insulin analogue: 7.5 mg/ml, range 2.5 to 20 mg/ml.

Zinc acetate: 1 mM.

Tris: 0.5 M

20 Trisodium citrate: 0.1-0.4 M.

Phenol or m-cresol: 0.05 % (w/v), range 0.02-0.15%

pH: 8.2.

25 The crystals appear as birefringent, elongated rhombohedra.

#### EXAMPLE 6

Crystallization of  $N^{\epsilon B29}$ -(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>16</sub>-COOH) des(B30) insulin in the absence of zinc.

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Zinc free crystals of the title compound were obtained in sodium acetate using a variety of conditions:

Insulin analogue: 20 mg/ml, range 10 to 40 mg/ml.

Sodium acetate: 0.35-0.5 M.

Ethanol: 18%, range 15-25%.

5 Buffer: ammonium acetate/ammonia, 0.02 M, pH 9.0.

Phenol: optional, range 0-0.05%.

pH: 9.0

The crystals appear as non-birefringent, cubes or rhombododecahedrons.

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### EXAMPLE 7

Pharmaceutical preparations.

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15 A pharmaceutical solution suitable for *s.c.* or *i.m.* injection therapy may, for example, be composed as follows:

600 nmol/ml (~600  $\mu$ M) of insulin analogue, e.g. of N<sup>eB29</sup>-(CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>16</sub>-COOH) des(B30) human insulin.

20 5 mM sodium phosphate buffer, pH 7.5

10 mM sodium chloride

16 mM phenol

16 mM m-cresol

200-300  $\mu$ M zinc

25 1.6 % (w/v) glycerol

## SEQUENCE LISTING

- (1) GENERAL INFORMATION:
- 5
- (i) APPLICANT:
- (A) NAME: Novo Nordisk A/S  
(B) STREET: Novo Allé  
(C) CITY: DK-2880 Bagsvaerd  
10 (E) COUNTRY: Denmark  
(G) TELEPHONE: +45 44448888  
(H) TELEFAX: +45 44490555  
(I) TELEX: 37173
- 15 (ii) TITLE OF INVENTION: PEPTIDE DERIVATIVES
- (iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 2
- (iv) CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:
- 20 (A) ADDRESSEE: Novo Nordisk A/S  
Corporate Patents  
(B) STREET: Novo Alle  
(C) CITY: DK-2880 Bagsvaerd  
(E) COUNTRY: Denmark
- 25
- (v) COMPUTER READABLE FORM:
- (A) MEDIUM TYPE: Floppy disk  
(B) COMPUTER: IBM PC compatible  
30 (C) OPERATING SYSTEM: PC-DOS/MS-DOS  
(D) SOFTWARE: Microsoft Word
- (vi) CURRENT APPLICATION DATA:
- (A) APPLICATION NUMBER:  
35 (B) FILING DATE:  
(C) CLASSIFICATION:
- (vii) PRIOR APPLICATION DATA:
- (A) APPLICATION NUMBERS: DK 0188/96  
40 (B) FILING DATES: 21-FEB-1996
- (viii) ATTORNEY/AGENT INFORMATION:
- (A) NAME: Jørgensen, Dan et al.  
(C) REFERENCE/DOCKET NUMBER: 4662-WO,DJ  
45
- (ix) TELECOMMUNICATION INFORMATION:
- (A) TELEPHONE: +45 44448888  
(B) TELEFAX: +45 44493256
- 50



of Val at position B2 is either unsubstituted or has a substituent of the formula  $-\text{CO}-\text{W}-\text{COOH}$  as defined above.

(ix) FEATURE:

5

(A) NAME/KEY: Variable Site

(B) LOCATION: 3

10 (D) OTHER INFORMATION: Xaa at position 3 of SEQ ID NO:2 is any amino acid residue which can be coded for by the genetic code except Lys, Arg and Cys.

(ix) FEATURE:

15

(A) NAME/KEY: Variable Site

(B) LOCATION: 28

20 (D) OTHER INFORMATION: Xaa at position 28 of SEQ ID NO:2 is Pro, Asp or Ser, in which case Xaa at position 29 is Lys, optionally substituted in the  $\epsilon$ -amino group with a substituent of the formula  $-\text{CO}-\text{W}-\text{COOH}$  wherein W is a divalent long chain hydrocarbon group having from 12 to  
25 22 carbon atoms, and Xaa at position 30 is Thr; or when Xaa at position 28 is Pro, Xaa at position 29 can be Thr and Xaa at position 30 can be Lys, optionally substituted in the  $\epsilon$ -amino group with a substituent of the formula  $-\text{CO}-\text{W}-\text{COOH}$  wherein W is a divalent long chain hydrocarbon  
30 group having from 12 to 22 carbon atoms.

(ix) FEATURE:

35

(A) NAME/KEY: Variable Site

(B) LOCATION: 29

(D) OTHER INFORMATION: Xaa at position 29 of SEQ ID NO:2 is  
40 Lys, optionally substituted in the  $\epsilon$ -amino group with a substituent of the formula  $-\text{CO}-\text{W}-\text{COOH}$  wherein W is a divalent long chain hydrocarbon group having from 12 to 22 carbon atoms; or Pro; or Thr.

(ix) FEATURE:

45

(A) NAME/KEY: Variable Site

(B) LOCATION: 30





- Xaa at position B28 is (a) Pro, in which case Xaa at position B29 is Lys which optionally, in its  $\epsilon$ -amino group, has a substituent of the formula -CO-W-COOH as defined above; (b) Asp or Ser, in any of which cases Xaa at position B29 is Lys which optionally, in its  $\epsilon$ -amino group, has a substituent of the formula -CO-W-COOH as defined above; or (c) Lys which optionally, in its  $\epsilon$ -amino group, has a substituent of the formula -CO-W-COOH as defined above, in which case, whether the  $\epsilon$ -amino group of the Lys has the optional substituent or not, Xaa at position B29 is Pro;
- 10 Xaa at position B30 is (a) Thr; (b) Ala; or (c) deleted; and any zinc complexes thereof, with the proviso that the insulin derivative of formula I has at least one lipophilic substituent of the formula -CO-W-COOH as defined above.
2. The insulin derivative according to claim 1, wherein Xaa at position A21 is an amino acid residue selected from the group comprising Ala, Gln, Gly, Ser and Asn.
- 15 3. The insulin derivative according to claim 2, wherein Xaa at position A21 is Asn.
4. The insulin derivative according to anyone of the preceding claims, wherein Xaa at position B3 is an amino acid residue selected from the group comprising Asp, Gln, Thr and Asn.
- 20 5. The insulin derivative according to claim 4, wherein Xaa at position B3 is Asn.
6. The insulin derivative according to anyone of the preceding claims, wherein Xaa at position B1 is Phe.
- 25 7. The insulin derivative according to anyone of claims 1 to 5, wherein the amino acid at position B1 is deleted.
- 30 8. The insulin derivative according to anyone of the preceding claims, wherein Xaa at position B28 is Pro, while Xaa at position B29 is Lys.

9. The insulin derivative according to anyone of the claims 1 to 7, wherein Xaa at position B28 is Ser, while Xaa at position B29 is Lys.
10. The insulin derivative according to anyone of the claims 1 to 7, wherein Xaa at position B28 is Lys while Xaa at position B29 is Pro.
11. The insulin derivative according to anyone of the preceding claims, wherein Xaa at position B30 is Thr.
12. The insulin derivative according to anyone of the claims 1 to 10, wherein Xaa at position B30 is Ala.
13. The insulin derivative according to anyone of the claims 1 to 10, wherein Xaa at position B30 is deleted.
14. The insulin derivative according to anyone of the claims 1 to 6 and 8 to 13, wherein Xaa at position B1 is Phe and wherein solely the amino group of this Phe has a substituent of the general formula -CO-W-COOH, as defined in claim 1.
15. The insulin derivative according to anyone of the claims 1 to 5 and 7 to 13, wherein Xaa at position B1 is deleted and wherein solely the amino group of Val in position B2 has a substituent of the general formula -CO-W-COOH, as defined in claim 1.
16. The insulin derivative according to anyone of the claims 1 to 7 and 10 to 13, wherein solely the  $\epsilon$ -amino group of Lys at position B28 has a substituent of the general formula -CO-W-COOH, as defined in claim 1.
17. The insulin derivative according to anyone of the claims 1 to 9 and 11 to 13, wherein solely the  $\epsilon$ -amino group of Lys at position B29 has a substituent of the general formula -CO-W-COOH, as defined in claim 1.
18. The insulin derivative according to anyone of claims 1 to 6 and 10 to 13, wherein Xaa at position B1 is Phe having a substituent of the general formula -CO-W-COOH, as

defined in claim 1, in the amino group and Xaa at position B28 is Lys having a substituent of the general formula -CO-W-COOH, as defined in claim 1, in the  $\epsilon$ -amino group.

- 5 19. The insulin derivative according to anyone of claims 1 to 5, 7 to 9 and 11 to 13, wherein Xaa at position B1 is Phe having a substituent of the general formula -CO-W-COOH, as defined in claim 1, in the amino group and Xaa at position B29 is Lys having a substituent of the general formula -CO-W-COOH, as defined in claim 1, in the  $\epsilon$ -amino group.
- 10 20. The insulin derivative according to anyone of claims 1 to 5, 7 and 10 to 13, wherein the amino acid at position B1 is deleted and Val at position B2 has a substituent of the general formula -CO-W-COOH, as defined in claim 1, in the amino group and Xaa at position B28 is Lys having a substituent of the general formula -CO-W-COOH, as defined in claim 1, in the  $\epsilon$ -amino group.
- 15 21. The insulin derivative according to anyone of claims 1 to 5, 7 to 9 and 11 to 13, wherein the amino acid at position B1 is deleted and Val at position B2 has a substituent of the general formula -CO-W-COOH, as defined in claim 1, in the amino group and Xaa at position B29 is Lys having a substituent of the general formula -CO-W-COOH, as defined in claim 1, in the  $\epsilon$ -amino group.
- 20 22. The insulin derivative according to anyone of the preceding claims, wherein W, as defined in claim 1, is selected from the group comprising  $-(\text{CH}_2)_{12}$ ,  $-(\text{CH}_2)_{14}$ ,  $-(\text{CH}_2)_{16}$ ,  $-(\text{CH}_2)_{18}$ ,  $-(\text{CH}_2)_{20}$  and  $-(\text{CH}_2)_{22}$ .
- 25 23. The use of an insulin derivative according to the present invention in the manufacture of a medicament.
- 30 24. The use of an insulin derivative according to the present invention in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the treatment of diabetes.

25. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of diabetes in a patient in need of such treatment, comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an insulin derivative according to claim 1 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 5 26. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of diabetes in a patient in need of such treatment, comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an insulin derivative according to claim 1, in mixture with an insulin or an insulin analogue which has a rapid onset of action, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 10 27. A method of treating diabetes in a patient in need of such a treatment, comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of an insulin derivative according to claim 1 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 15 28. A method of treating diabetes in a patient in need of such a treatment, comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of an insulin derivative according to claim 1 in mixture with an insulin or an insulin analogue which has a rapid onset of action, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/DK 97/00080

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER		
IPC6: C07K 14/62, A61K 38/28 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
B. FIELDS SEARCHED		
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)		
IPC6: C07K, A61K		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched		
SE,DK,FI,NO classes as above		
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)		
REG, CAPLUS		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
P, X	WO 9629344 A1 (NOVO NORDISK A/S), 26 Sept 1996 (26.09.96)	1-26
	--	
X	WO 9507931 A1 (NOVO NORDISK A/S), 23 March 1995 (23.03.95)	1-26
	--	
A	Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol 14, No 7, C-673, abstract of JP, A, 63-83912 (Kodama k.k.), 11 October 1989 (11.10.89)	1-26
	--	
A	US 4608364 A (ULRICH GRAU), 26 August 1986 (26.08.86)	1-26
	--	
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<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.		
* Special categories of cited documents: "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art "&" document member of the same patent family		
Date of the actual completion of the international search		Date of mailing of the international search report
13 June 1997		17 -06- 1997
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Swedish Patent Office Box 5055, S-102 42 STOCKHOLM Facsimile No. +46 8 666 02 86		Authorized officer Carolina Gómez Lagerlöf Telephone No. +46 8 782 25 00

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/DK97/00080

**Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)**

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1.  Claims Nos.: 27-28  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:  
See PCT Rule 39.1(iv): Methods for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery or therapy, as well as diagnostic methods.
2.  Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3.  Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

**Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)**

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1.  As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2.  As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3.  As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4.  No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

- Remark on Protest  The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.  
 No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

03/06/97

International application No.

PCT/DK 97/00080

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 9629344 A1	26/09/96	AU 4939696 A	08/10/96
WO 9507931 A1	23/03/95	AU 7652094 A BG 100420 A BR 9407508 A CA 2171424 A CN 1133598 A CZ 9600789 A FI 961220 A HU 9600676 D IL 110977 D NO 961070 A PL 313444 A SK 32496 A ZA 9407187 A	03/04/95 31/12/96 07/01/97 23/03/95 16/10/96 16/10/96 14/05/96 00/00/00 00/00/00 15/05/96 08/07/96 06/11/96 17/03/95
US 4608364 A	26/08/86	AU 564648 B AU 3091784 A CA 1236012 A DE 3326473 A DE 3468323 A EP 0132769 A,B SE 0132769 T3 JP 1779197 C JP 4069128 B JP 60042334 A	20/08/87 24/01/85 03/05/88 31/01/85 11/02/88 13/02/85  13/08/93 05/11/92 06/03/85