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**WO 02/00708 A3**

(54) Title: MUTANTS OF PROSTASE

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to novel proteins and to their production, from the prostase family. In particular, the invention relates to a genetically modified prostase wherein the protein is mutated in its active site. Such antigens may be formulated to provide vaccines for the treatment of prostate tumours. Methods for purifying prostase protein and homologues are also provided.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 01/07079

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
 IPC 7 C12N9/64 C12N15/12

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)

IPC 7 C12N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

BIOSIS, EPO-Internal, WPI Data, SEQUENCE SEARCH

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 01 04143 A (SMITHKLINE BEECHAM BIOLOG ;CABEZON SILVA TERESA (BE); DILLON DAVIN) 18 January 2001 (2001-01-18) see SEQ ID NO: 1 and page 5, lines 6 to 12 claims 1-18	1-22
Y	US 5 786 148 A (BANDMAN OLGA ET AL) 28 July 1998 (1998-07-28) column 3-4	1-22
Y	EP 0 936 270 A (BASF AG) 18 August 1999 (1999-08-18) page 2, line 34-38	1-22
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in 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

8 January 2002

Date of mailing of the international search report

18/01/2002

Name and mailing address of the ISA  
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International Application No  
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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	NELSON PETER S ET AL: "Molecular cloning and characterization of prostase, an androgen-regulated serine protease with prostate-restricted expression." PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF THE UNITED STATES, vol. 96, no. 6, 16 March 1999 (1999-03-16), pages 3114-3119, XP001038320 March 16, 1999 ISSN: 0027-8424 see whole document	1-22
Y	WO 00 04149 A (CORIXA CORP) 27 January 2000 (2000-01-27) page 24-29	1-22
A	US 5 955 306 A (GIMENO CARLOS J ET AL) 21 September 1999 (1999-09-21) see SEQ ID NO: 31	

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.2

Due to the vague characterisation of both the "prostase antigen derivative" and the "active site" the search had to be limited to mutants of structurally precisely characterised proteins i.e. to mutants of the prostase antigen as defined in the SEQ ID.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP 01/07079

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