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- (54) RENILLA RENIFORMIS FLUORESCENT PROTEINS, NUCLEIC ACIDS ENCODING THE FLUORESCENT PROTEINS AND THE USE THEREOF IN DIAGNOSTICS, HIGH THROUGHPUT SCREENING AND NOVELTY **ITEMS**
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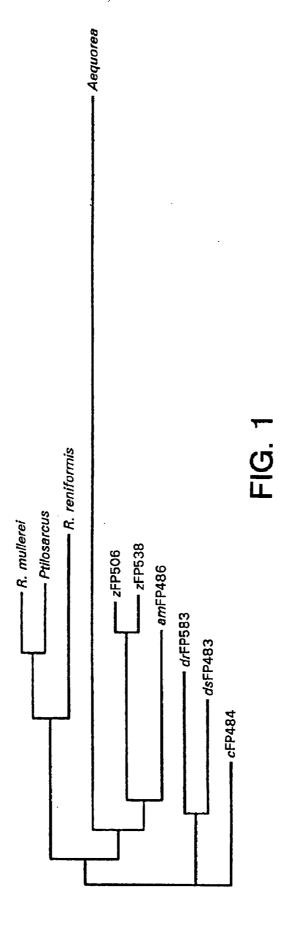
- (62) Division of application No. 09/808,898, filed on Mar. 15, 2001.
- (60) Provisional application No. 60/189,691, filed on Mar. 15, 2000.

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(57)**ABSTRACT**

Isolated and purified nucleic acids encoding green fluorescent proteins from Renilla reniformis and the green fluorescent protein encoded thereby are also provided. Mutants of the nucleic acid molecules and the modified encoded proteins are also provided. Compositions and combinations comprising the green fluorescent proteins and/or the luciferase are further provided.



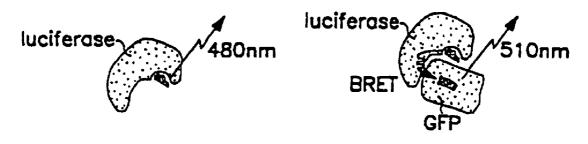
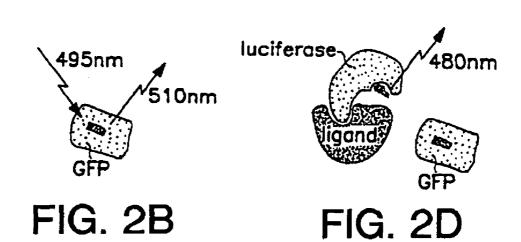


FIG. 2A

FIG. 2C



BRET Sensor Architectures

15° 37°







optimized energy transfer module

simple conformational change







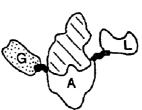
complex conformational change

association/dissociation









small molecule interference

large molecule interference

luciferase

protein domain





antibody fragment



small molecule

BRET sensors are depicted for permissive and non-permissive binding states of the target molecules. Binding may be modulated by varying temperature or ionic strength.

FIG. 3

Utilization of advantageous GFP surfaces with substituted fluorophores

		60	*	80			
RM-GFP	:	GAPLPFAFD	IVSPAFQYG	NRTFTKYPN	DIS	:	83
Pt-GFP	:	GGPLPFAFD	IVSIAFQYG:	NRTFTKYPDI	DIA	:	83
RR-GFP	:	GAPLPFAFD	IVSVAFŠYG	NRAYTGYPE	EIS	;	80
cFP484	:	GAPLPFSYD	ILSNAFQYG	NRALTKYPDI	DIA	:	83
drFP583	:	GGPLPFAWD	ILSPQFQYG:	SKVYVKHPAI	DIP	:	80
asFP595	:	GGPLPFAFH	ILSTSCMYG	SKTFIKYVS(GIP	:	77
dsFP483	:	GGPLPFGWH				:	80
amFP486	:	GGPLAFSFD	ILSTVFKYG	NRCFTAYPT	SMP	:	82
zFP506	:	GGPLPFAED	ILSAAFNYG	NRVFTEYPQI	DIV	:	80
zFP538	:	GGPLPFSED	ILSAGFKYG	ORIFTEYPQI	DIV	:	80
		====		======			

FIG. 4

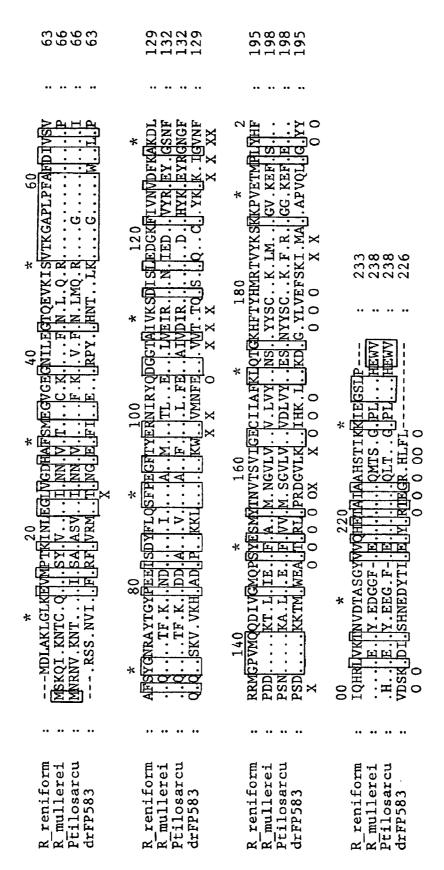


FIG. 5

788 738 738 738 738 738	162 161 161 158 158 158 161 161 162		
		231 232 233 233 233 233 233 233 233 233	hydrophilic hydrophobic
* 20 * 80 MSKGEELFTGVVPILVELDGDVNGHKFSVSGEGEBATYGKLTLKFICTTGKLPVPWPTLVTTFSYGVQCFSRYPDHMK MSKQILKNTCLQEVMSYKVNLEGHVNNHVFTMEGCGKGNILFGNQLVQIRVTKGAPLPFAFDIVSPAFQYGNRTFTKYPDDI- MDLAKLGLKEVMSTKINLEGHVNNHVFSMEGFGKGNVLFGNQLMQIRVTKGAPLPFAFDIVSIAFQYGNRTFTKYPDDIMDLAKLGLKEVMPTKINLEGHVNHHVFSMEGFGKGNVLFGNQLMQIRVTKGGPLPFAFDIVSJAFGYGNRTTTKYPDDI	* 120 * 160	180 * 240 * 240 * 200	ed polar uncharged non-polar hydrophobic small not grouped surfaces
Aequorea R mullerei Ptilosarcu R reniform drFP593 dsFP483 cFP484 asFP595 amFP486 zFP596	Aequorea R mullerei Ptilosarcu R reniform dīFP583 dsFP583 csFP484 asFP595 amFP486 zsFP538	Aequorea R mullerei Ptilosarcu R reniform dTFP583 dSFP484 asFP595 amFP486 zFP538	D,E,H,K,R polar charged

RENILLA RENIFORMIS FLUORESCENT PROTEINS, NUCLEIC ACIDS ENCODING THE FLUORESCENT PROTEINS AND THE USE THEREOF IN DIAGNOSTICS, HIGH THROUGHPUT SCREENING AND NOVELTY ITEMS

RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application is a divisional of allowed U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/808,898 filed Mar. 15, 2001. Benefit of priority is also claimed under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) to U.S. Provisional Application Ser. No. 60/189,691, filed Mar. 15, 2000, to Bryan et al., entitled "RENILLA RENIFORMIS FLUORESCENT PROTEINS, NUCLEIC ACIDS ENCODING THE FLUORESCENT PROTEINS AND THE USE THEREOF IN DIAGNOSTICS, HIGH THROUGHPUT SCREENING AND NOVELTY ITEMS".

[0002] This application is related to U.S. patent application No. 09/277,716, filed Mar. 26, 1999, to Bruce Bryan and Christopher Szent-Gyorgyi, entitled "LUCIFERASES, FLUORESCENT PROTEINS, NUCLEIC ACIDS ENCOD-ING THE LUCIFERASES AND FLUORESCENT PRO-TEINS AND THE USE THEREOF IN DIAGNOSTICS, HIGH THROUGHPUT SCREENING AND NOVELTY ITEMS", now U.S. Pat. No. 6,232,107. This application is related to International PCT Application No. WO 99/49019 Bruce Bryan and Prolume, LTD., entitled "LUCIFERASES, FLUORESCENT PROTEINS. NUCLEIC ACIDS ENCODING THE LUCIFERASES AND FLUORESCENT PROTEINS AND THE USE THEREOF IN DIAGNOSTICS, HIGH THROUGHPUT SCREENING AND NOVELTY ITEMS.'

[0003] This application is also related to subject matter in U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/757,046, filed Nov. 25, 1996, to Bruce Bryan entitled "BIOLUMINESCENT NOV-ELTY ITEMS", now U.S. Pat. No. 5,876,995, issued Mar. 2, 1999, and in U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/597,274, filed Feb. 6, 1996, to Bruce Bryan, entitled "BIOLUMI-NESCENT NOVELTY ITEMS", now U.S. Pat. No. 6,247, 995. This application is also related to U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/908,909, filed Aug. 8, 1997, to Bruce Bryan entitled "DETECTION AND VISUALIZATION OF NEO-PLASTIC TISSUE AND OTHER TISSUES", now U.S. Pat. No. 6,416,960. The application is also related to U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/990,103, filed Dec. 12, 1997, to Bruce Bryan entitled "APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR DETECTING AND IDENTIFYING INFECTIOUS AGENTS", now U.S. Pat. No. 6,458,547.

[0004] Where permitted, the subject matter of each of the above noted applications and patents is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety.

FIELD OF INVENTION

[0005] Provided herein are isolated and purified nucleic acids and encoded fluorescent proteins from *Renilla reniformis* and uses thereof.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0006] Luminescence is a phenomenon in which energy is specifically channeled to a molecule to produce an excited state. Return to a lower energy state is accompanied release

of a photon (hy). Luminescence includes fluorescence, phosphorescence, chemiluminescence and bioluminescence. Bioluminescence is the process by which living organisms emit light that is visible to other organisms. Luminescence may be represented as follows:

 $A+B\rightarrow X^*+Y$ $X^*\rightarrow X+hv$,

[0007] where X* is an electronically excited molecule and hy represents light emission upon return of X* to a lower energy state. Where the luminescence is bioluminescence, creation of the excited state is derived from an enzyme catalyzed reaction. The color of the emitted light in a bioluminescent (or chemiluminescent or other luminescent) reaction is characteristic of the excited molecule, and is independent from its source of excitation and temperature.

[0008] An essential condition for bioluminescence is the use of molecular oxygen, either bound or free in the presence of a *luciferase*. *Luciferases*, are oxygenases, that act on a substrate, *luciferin*, in the presence of molecular oxygen and transform the substrate to an excited state. Upon return to a lower energy level, energy is released in the form of light (for reviews see, e.g., McElroy et al. (1966) in *Molecular Architecture in Cell Physiology*, Hayashi et al., eds., Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, N.J., pp. 63-80; Ward et al., Chapter 7 in Chemi- and Bioluminescence, Burr, ed., Marcel Dekker, Inc. NY, pp.321-358; Hastings, J. W. in (1995) *Cell Physiology Source Book*, N. Sperelakis (ed.), Academic Press, pp 665-681; Luminescence, Narcosis and Life in the Deep Sea, Johnson, Vantage Press, NY, see, esp. pp. 50-56).

[0009] Though rare overall, bioluminescence is more common in marine organisms than in terrestrial organisms. Bioluminescence has developed from as many as thirty evolutionarily distinct origins and, thus, is manifested in a variety of ways so that the biochemical and physiological mechanisms responsible for bioluminescence in different organisms are distinct. Bioluminescent species span many genera and include microscopic organisms, such as bacteria (primarily marine bacteria including *Vibrio* species), fungi, algae and *dinoftagellates*, to marine organisms, including *arthropods*, *mollusks*, *echinoderms*, and *chordates*, and *terrestrial* organisms including annelid worms and insects.

[0010] Assays Employing Bioluminescence

[0011] During the past twenty years, high-sensitivity biochemical assays used in research and in medicine have increasingly employed luminescence and fluorescence rather than radioisotopes. This change has been driven partly by the increasing expense of radioisotope disposal and partly by the need to find more rapid and convenient assay methods. More recently, the need to perform biochemical assays in situ in living cells and whole animals has driven researchers toward protein-based luminescence and fluorescence. The uses of firefly *luciferase* for ATP assays, *aequorin* and *obelin* as calcium reporters, *Vargula luciferase* as a neurophysiological indicator, and the *Aequorea* green fluorescent protein as a protein tracer and pH indicator show the potential of bioluminescence-based methods in research laboratories.

[0012] Bioluminescence is also beginning to directly impact medicine and biotechnology; for example, *Aequorea* green fluorescent protein (GFP) is employed to mark cells in

murine model systems and as a reporter in high throughput drug screening. *Renilla luciferase* is under development for use in diagnostic platforms.

[0013] Bioluminescence Generating Systems

[0014] Bioluminescence, as well as other types of chemiluminescence, is used for quantitative determinations of specific substances in biology and medicine. For example, luciferase genes have been cloned and exploited as reporter genes in numerous assays, for many purposes. Since the different luciferase systems have different specific requirements, they may be used to detect and quantify a variety of substances. The majority of commercial bioluminescence applications are based on firefly (Photinus pyralis) luciferase. One of the first and still widely used assays involves the use of firefly luciferase to detect the presence of ATP. It is also used to detect and quantify other substrates or co-factors in the reaction. Any reaction that produces or utilizes NAD(H), NADP(H) or long chain aldehyde, either directly or indirectly, can be coupled to the light-emitting reaction of bacterial luciferase.

[0015] Another *luciferase* system that has been used commercially for analytical purposes is the *Aequorin* system. The purified jellyfish photoprotein, *aequorin*, is used to detect and quantify intracellular Ca^{2+} and its changes under various experimental conditions. The *Aequorin* photoprotein is relatively small (~20 kDa), nontoxic, and can be injected into cells in quantities adequate to detect calcium over a large concentration range $(3\times10^{-7} \text{ to } 10^{-4} \text{ M})$.

[0016] Because of their analytical utility, *luciferases* and substrates have been studied and well-characterized and are commercially available (e.g., firefly *luciferase* is available from Sigma, St. Louis, Mo., and Boehringer Mannheim Biochemicals, Indianapolis, Ind.; recombinantly produced firefly *luciferase* and other reagents based on this gene or for use with this protein are available from Promega Corporation, Madison, Wis.; the *aequorin* photoprotein *luciferase* from jellyfish and *luciferase* from *Renilla* are commercially available from Sealite Sciences, Bogart, Ga.; coelenterazine, the naturally-occurring substrate for these *luciferases*, is available from Molecular Probes, Eugene, Oreg.). These *luciferases* and related reagents are used as reagents for diagnostics, quality control, environmental testing and other such analyses.

[0017] Because of the utility of *luciferases* as reagents in analytical systems and the potential for use in high throughput screening systems, there is a need to identify and isolate a variety of *luciferases* that have improved or different spectral properties compared to those presently available. For all these reasons, it would be advantageous to have *luciferases* from a variety of species, such as *Gaussia* and various *Renilla* species available.

[0018] Fluorescent Proteins

[0019] Reporter genes, when co-transfected into recipient cells with a gene of interest, provide a means to detect transfection and other events. Among reporter genes are those that encode fluorescent proteins. The bioluminescence generating systems described herein are among those used as reporter genes. To increase the sensitivity bioluminescence generating systems have been combined with fluorescent compounds and proteins, such as naturally fluorescent phycobiliproteins. Also of interest are the fluorescent

proteins that are present in a variety of marine invertebrates, such as the green and blue fluorescent proteins, particularly the green fluorescent protein (GFP) of *Aequorea victoria*.

[0020] The green fluorescent proteins (GFP) constitute a class of chromoproteins found only among certain bioluminescent coelenterates. These accessory proteins are fluorescent and function as the ultimate bioluminescence emitter in these organisms by accepting energy from enzyme-bound, excited-state oxyluciferin (e.g., see Ward et al. (1979) J. Biol. Chem. 254:781-788; Ward et al. (1978) Photochem. Photobiol. 27:389-396; Ward et al. (1982) Biochemistry 21:4535-4540).

[0021] The best characterized GFPs are those isolated from the jellyfish species Aequorea, particularly Aequorea victoria (A. victoria) and Aequorea forsk & lea (Ward et al. (1982) Biochemistry 21:4535-4540; Prendergast et al. (1978) Biochemistry 17:3448-3453). Purified A. victoria GFP is a monomeric protein of about 27 kDa that absorbs blue light with excitation wavelength maximum of 395 nm, with a minor peak at 470 nm, and emits green fluorescence with an emission wavelength of about 510 nm and a minor peak near 540 nm (Ward et al. (1979) Photochem. Photobiol. Rev 4:1-57). This GFP has certain limitations. The excitation maximum of the wildtype GFP is not within the range of wavelengths of standard fluorescein detection optics.

[0022] The detection of green fluorescence does not require any exogenous substrates or co-factors. Instead, the high level of fluorescence results from the intrinsic chromophore of the protein. The chromophore includes modified amino acid residues within the polypeptide chain. For example, fluorescent chromophore of A. victoria GFP is encoded by the hexapeptide sequence, FSYGVQ, encompassing amino acid residues 64-69. The chromophore is formed by the intramolecular cyclization of the polypeptide backbone at residues Ser65 and Gly67 and the oxidation of α-B bond of residue Tyr66 (e.g., see Cody et al. (1993) Biochemistry 32:1212-1218; Shimomura (1978) FEBS Letters 104:220-222; Ward et al. (1989) Photochem. Photobiol. 49:62S). The emission spectrum of the isolated chromophore and the denatured protein at neutral pH do not match the spectrum of the native protein, suggesting that chromophore formation occurs post-translationally (e.g., see Cody et al. (1993) Biochemistry 32:1212-1218).

[0023] In addition, the crystal structure of purified A. victoria GFP has been determined (e.g., see Ormö (1996) Science 273:1392-1395). The predominant structural features of the protein are an 11-stranded B barrel that forms a nearly perfect cylinder wrapping around a single central α -helix, which contains the modified p-hydroxybenzylideneimadaxolidinone chromophore. The chromophore is centrally located within the barrel structure and is completely shielded from exposure to bulk solvent.

[0024] DNA encoding an isotype of *A. victoria* GFP has been isolated and its nucleotide sequence has been determined (e.g., see Prasher (1992) *Gene* 111:229-233). The *A. victoria* cDNA contains a 714 nucleotide open reading frame that encodes a 238 amino acid polypeptide of a calculated M of 26,888 Da. Recombinantly expressed *A. victoria* GFPs retain their ability to fluoresce in vivo in a wide variety organisms, including bacteria (e.g., see Chalfie et al. (1994) *Science* 263:802-805; Miller et al. (1997) *Gene* 191:149-153), yeast and fungi (Fey et al. (1995) *Gene* 165:127-130;

Straight et al. (1996) Curr. Biol. 6:1599-1608; Cormack et al. (1997) Microbiology 143:303-311), Drosophila (e.g., see Wang et al. (1994) Nature 369:400-403; Plautz (1996) Gene 173:83-87), plants (Heinlein et al. (1995); Casper et al. (1996) Gene 173:69-73), fish (Amsterdam et al. (1995)), and mammals (Ikawa et al. (1995). Aequorea GFP vectors and isolated Aequorea GFP proteins have been used as markers for measuring gene expression, cell migration and localization, microtubule formation and assembly of functional ion channels (e.g., see Terry et al. (1995) Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun. 217:21-27; Kain et al. (1995) Biotechniques 19:650-655). The A. victoria GFP, however, is not ideal for use in analytical and diagnostic processes. Consequently GFP mutants have been selected with the hope of identifying mutants that have single excitation spectral peaks shifted to the red.

[0025] In fact a stated purpose in constructing such mutants has been to attempt to make the *A. victoria* GFP more like the GFP from *Renilla*, but which has properties that make it far more ideal for use as an analytical tool. For many practical applications, the spectrum of *Renilla* GFP is preferable to that of the *Aequorea* GFP, because wavelength discrimination between different fluorophores and detection of resonance energy transfer are easier if the component spectra are tall and narrow rather than low and broad (see, U.S. Pat. No. 5,625,048). Furthermore, the longer wavelength excitation peak (475 nm) of *Renilla* GFP is almost ideal for fluorescein filter sets and is resistant to photobleaching, but has lower amplitude than the shorter wavelength peak at 395 nm, which is more susceptible to photobleaching (Chalfie et al. (1994) *Science* 263:802-805).

[0026] There exists a phylogenetically diverse and largely unexplored repertoire of bioluminescent proteins that are a reservoir for future development. For these reasons, it would be desirable to have a variety of new luciferases and fluorescent proteins, particularly, Renilla reniformis GFP available rather than use muteins of A. victoria GFP. Published International PCT application No. WO 99/49019 (see, also, allowed U.S. application Ser. No. 09/277,716) provides a variety of GFPs including those from Renilla species. It remains desirable to have a variety of GFPs and luciferases available in order to optimize systems for particular applications and to improve upon existing methods. Therefore, it is an object herein to provide isolated nucleic acid molecules encoding Renilla reniformis GFP and the protein encoded thereby. It is also an object herein to provide bioluminescence generating systems that include the luciferases, luciferins, and also include Renilla reniformis GFP.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0027] Isolated nucleic acid molecules that encode *Renilla reniformis* fluorescent proteins are provided. Nucleic acid probes and primers derived therefrom are also provided. Functionally equivalent nucleic acids, such as those that hybridize under conditions of high stringency to the disclosed molecules and those that have high sequence identity, are also contemplated. Nucleic acid molecules and the encoded proteins are set forth in SEQ ID NOs. 23-27, an exemplary mutein is set forth in SEQ ID NO. 33. Also contemplated are nucleic acid molecules that encode the protein set forth in SEQ ID NO. 27.

[0028] Host cells, including bacterial, yeast and mammalian host cells, and plasmids for expression of the nucleic acids encoding the *Renilla reniformis* green fluorescent protein (GFP), are also provided. Combinations of *luciferases* and the *Renilla reniformis* GFP are also provided.

[0029] The genes can be modified by substitution of codons optimized for expression in selected host cells or hosts, such as humans and other mammals, or can be mutagenized to alter the emission properties. Mutations that alter spectral properties are also contemplated.

[0030] Such mutations may be identified by substituting each codon with one encoding another amino acid, such as alanine, and determining the effect on the spectral properties of the resulting protein. Particular regions of interest are those in which corresponding the sites mutated in other GFPs, such *Aequora* to produce proteins with altered spectral properties are altered.

[0031] The *Renilla reniformis* GFP may be used in combination with nucleic acids encoding *luciferases*, such as those known to those of skill in the art and those that are described in copending allowed U.S. application Ser. No. 09/277,716 (see, also, Published International PCT application No. WO 99/49019).

[0032] Compositions containing the *Renilla reniformis* GFP or the *Renilla reniformis* GFP and *luciferase* combination are provided. The compositions can take any of a number of forms, depending on the intended method of use therefor. In certain embodiments, for example, the compositions contain a *Gaussia luciferase*, *Gaussia luciferase* peptide or *Gaussia luciferase* fusion protein, formulated for use in luminescent novelty items, immunoassays, donors in FET (fluorescent energy transfer) assays, FRET (fluorescent resonance energy transfer) assays, HTRF (homogeneous time-resolved fluorescence) assays or used in conjunction with multi-well assay devices containing integrated photodetectors, such as those described herein.

[0033] The bioluminescence-generating system includes, in addition to the *luciferase*, a *Renilla reniformis* GFP or mutated form thereof. These compositions can be used in a variety of methods and systems, such as those included in conjunction with diagnostic systems for the in vivo detection of neoplastic tissues and other tissues, such as those methods described herein.

[0034] Combinations of the Renilla reniformis GFP with articles of manufacture to produce novelty items are provided. These novelty items are designed for entertainment, recreation and amusement, and include, but are not limited to: toys, particularly squirt guns, toy cigarettes, toy "Halloween" eggs, footbags and board/card games; finger paints and other paints, slimy play material; textiles, particularly clothing, such as shirts, hats and sports gear suits, threads and yarns; bubbles in bubble making toys and other toys that produce bubbles; balloons; figurines; personal items, such as cosmetics, bath powders, body lotions, gels, powders and creams, nail polishes, make-up, toothpastes and other dentifrices, soaps, body paints, and bubble bath; items such as inks, paper; foods, such as gelatins, icings and frostings; fish food containing luciferins and transgenic fish, particularly transgenic fish that express a luciferase plant food containing a luciferin or luciferase preferably a luciferin for use with transgenic plants that express luciferase and beverages, such as beer, wine, champagne, soft drinks, and ice cubes

and ice in other configurations; fountains, including liquid "fireworks" and other such jets or sprays or aerosols of compositions that are solutions, mixtures, suspensions, powders, pastes, particles or other suitable form. The combinations optionally include a bioluminescence generating system. The bioluminescence generating systems can be provided as two compositions: a first composition containing a *luciferase* and a second composition containing one or more additional components of a bioluminescence generating system.

[0035] Any article of manufacture that can be combined with a bioluminescence-generating system as provided herein and thereby provide entertainment, recreation and/or amusement, including use of the items for recreation or to attract attention, such as for advertising goods and/or services that are associated with a logo or trademark is contemplated herein. Such uses may be in addition to or in conjunction with or in place of the ordinary or normal use of such items. As a result of the combination, the items glow or produce, such as in the case of squirt guns and fountains, a glowing fluid or spray of liquid or particles. The novelty in the novelty item derives from its bioluminescence.

[0036] GFPS

[0037] Isolated nucleic acids that encode GFP from *Renilla reniformis* are provided herein. Also provided are isolated and purified nucleic acids that encode a component of the bioluminescence generating system and the green fluorescent protein (GFP) (see SEQ ID NOs. 23-27). In particular, nucleic acid molecules that encode *Renilla reniformis* green fluorescent protein (GFPs) and nucleic acid probes and primers derived therefrom are provided. Nucleic acid molecules encoding *Renilla reniformis* GFP are provided (see SEQ ID NOs. 23-26).

[0038] Nucleic acid probes and primers containing 14, 16, 30, 100 or more contiguous nucleotides from any of SEQ ID NOs. 23-26 are provided. Nucleic acid probes can be labeled, if needed, for detection, containing at least about 14, preferably at least about 16, or, if desired, 20 or 30 or more, contiguous nucleotides of sequence of nucleotides encoding the *Renilla reniformis* GFP.

[0039] Methods using the probes for the isolation and cloning of GFP-encoding DNA in *Renilla reniformis* are also provided. Vectors containing DNA encoding the *Renilla reniformis* GFP are provided. In particular, expression vectors that contain DNA encoding a *Renilla reniformis* or in operational association with a promoter element that allows for the constitutive or inducible expression of *Renilla reniformis* are provided.

[0040] The vectors are capable of expressing the *Renilla reniformis* GFP in a wide variety of host cells. Vectors for producing chimeric *Renilla reniformis* GFP/*luciferase* fusion proteins and/or polycistronic mRNA containing a promoter element and a multiple cloning site located upstream or downstream of DNA encoding *Renilla reniformis* GFP are also provided.

[0041] Recombinant cells containing heterologous nucleic acid encoding a *Renilla reniformis* GFP are also provided. Purified *Renilla reniformis* GFP peptides and compositions containing the *Renilla* GFPs and GFP peptides alone or in combination with at least one component of a bioluminescence-generating system, such as a *Renilla luciferase*, are

provided. The Renilla GFP and GFP peptide compositions can be used, for example, to provide fluorescent illumination of novelty items or used in methods of detecting and visualizing neoplastic tissue and other tissues, detecting infectious agents using immunoassays, such homogenous immunoassays and in vitro fluorescent-based screening assays using multi-well assay devices, or provided in kits for carrying out any of the above-described methods. In particular, these proteins may be used in FP (fluorescence polarization) assays, FET (fluorescent energy transfer) assays and HTRF (homogeneous time-resolved fluorescence) assays and also in the BRET assays and sensors provided herein.

[0042] Non-radioactive energy transfer reactions, such as FET or FRET, FP and HTRF assays, are homogeneous luminescence assays based on energy transfer and are carried out between a donor luminescent label and an acceptor label (see, e.g., Cardullo et al. (1988) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 85:8790-8794; Peerce et al. (1986) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 83:8092-8096; U.S. Pat. No. 4,777,128; U.S. Pat. No. 5,162,508; U.S. Pat. No. 4,927,923; U.S. Pat. No. 5,279,943; and International PCT Application No. WO 92/01225). Non-radioactive energy transfer reactions using GFPs have been developed (see, International PCT application Nos. WO 98/02571 and WO 97/28261). Non-radioactive energy transfer reactions using GFPs and luciferases, such as a luciferase and its cognate GFP (or multimers thereof), such as in a fusion protein, are contemplated herein.

[0043] Nucleic acids that exhibit substantial sequence identity with the nucleic acids provided herein are also contemplated. These are nucleic acids that can be produced by substituting codons that encode conservative amino acids and also nucleic acids that exhibit at least about 80%, preferably 90 or 95% sequence identity. Sequence identity refers to identity as determined using standard programs with default gap penalties and other defaults as provided by the manufacturer thereof.

[0044] The nucleic acids provide an opportunity to produce luciferases and GFPs, which have advantageous application in all areas in which luciferase/luciferins and GFPs have application. The nucleic acids can be used to obtain and produce GFPs and GFPs from other, particularly Renilla, species using the probes described herein that correspond to conserved regions. These GFPs have advantageous application in all areas in which GFPs and/or luciferase/luciferins have application. For example, the GFPs provide a means to amplify the output signal of bioluminescence generating systems. Renilla GFP has a single excitation absorbance peak in blue light (and around 498 nm) and a predominantly single emission peak around 510 nm (with a small shoulder near 540). This spectrum provides a means for it to absorb blue light and efficiently convert it to green light. This results in an amplification of the output. When used in conjunction with a bioluminescence generating system that yields blue light, such as Aequorea or Renilla or Vargula (Cypridina), the output signal for any application, including diagnostic applications, is amplified. In addition, this green light can serve as an energy donor in fluorescence-based assays, such as fluorescence polarization assays, FET (fluorescent energy transfer) assays, FRET (fluorescent resonance energy transfer) assays and HTRF (homogeneous time-resolved fluorescence) assays. Particular assays, herein referred to as BRET (bioluminescence resonance energy transfer assays in which energy is transferred from a bioluminescence reaction of a *luciferase* to a fluorescent protein), are provided.

[0045] Non-radioactive energy transfer reactions, such as FET or FRET, FP and HTRF assays, are homogeneous luminescence assays based on energy transfer that are carried out between a donor luminescent label and an acceptor label (see, e.g., Cardullo et al. (1988) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* 85:8790-8794; Peerce et al. (1986) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* 83:8092-8096; U.S. Pat. No. 4,777,128; U.S. Pat. No. 5,162,508; U.S. Pat. No. 4,927,923; U.S. Pat. No. 5,279,943; and International PCT Application No. WO 92/01225). Non-radioactive energy transfer reactions using GFPs have been developed (see, International PCT application Nos. WO 98/02571 and WO 97/28261).

[0046] Mutagenesis of the GFPs is contemplated herein, particularly mutagenesis that results in modified GFPs that have red-shifted excitation and emission spectra. The resulting systems have higher output compared to the unmutagenized forms. These GFPs may be selected by random mutagenesis and selection for GFPs with altered spectra or by selected mutagenesis of the chromophore region of the GFP

[0047] The DNA may be introduced as a linear DNA molecule (fragment) or may be included in an expression vector for stable or transient expression of the encoding DNA. In certain embodiments, the cells that contain DNA or RNA encoding a Renilla GFP also express the recombinant Renilla GFP or polypeptide. It is preferred that the cells are selected to express functional GFPs that retain the ability to fluorescence and that are not toxic to the host cell. In some embodiments, cells may also include heterologous nucleic acid encoding a component of a bioluminescence-generating system, preferably a photoprotein or luciferase. In preferred embodiments, the nucleic acid encoding the bioluminescence-generating system component is isolated from the species Aequorea, Vargula, Pleuromamma, Ptilosarcus or Renilla. In more preferred embodiments, the bioluminescence-generating system component is a Renilla reniformis luciferase or mulleri including the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO. 18 or the Pleuromamma luciferase set forth in SEQ ID NO. 28, or the Gaussia luciferase set forth in SEQ ID NO. 19.

[0048] The GFPs provided herein may be used in combination with any suitable bioluminescence generating system, but is preferably used in combination with a *Renilla* or *Aequorea*, *Pleuromamma* or *Gaussia luciferase*.

[0049] Purified Renilla GFPs, particularly purified Renilla reniformis GFP peptides are provided. Presently preferred Renilla GFP for use in the compositions herein is Renilla reniformis GFP including the sequence of amino acids set forth above and in the Sequence Listing.

[0050] Fusions of the nucleic acid, particularly DNA, encoding *Renilla* GFP with DNA encoding a *luciferase* are also provided herein.

[0051] The cells that express functional *luciferase* and/or GFP, which may be used alone or in conjunction with a bioluminescence-generating system, in cell-based assays and screening methods, such as those described herein.

[0052] Presently preferred host cells for expressing GFP and *luciferase* are bacteria, yeasts, fungi, plant cells, insect cells and animal cells.

[0053] The *luciferases* and GFPs or cells that express them also may be used in methods of screening for bacterial contamination and methods of screening for metal contaminants. To screen for bacterial contamination, bacterial cells that express the *luciferase* and/or GFP are put in autoclaves or in other areas in which testing is contemplated. After treatment or use of the area, the area is tested for the presence of glowing bacteria. Presence of such bacteria is indicative of a failure to eradicate other bacteria. Screening for heavy metals and other environmental contaminants can also be performed with cells that contain the nucleic dependent upon the particular heavy metal or contaminant.

[0054] The systems and cells provided herein can be used for high throughout screening protocols, intracellular assays, medical diagnostic assays, environmental testing, such as tracing bacteria in water supplies, in conjunction with enzymes for detecting heavy metals, in spores for testing autoclaves in hospital, foods and industrial autoclaves. Non-pathogenic bacteria containing the systems can be included in feed to animals to detect bacterial contamination in animal products and in meats.

[0055] Compositions containing a *Renilla* GFP are provided. The compositions can take any of a number of forms, depending on the intended method of use therefor. In certain embodiments, for example, the compositions contain a *Renilla* GFP or GFP peptide, preferably *Renilla mulleri* GFP or *Renilla reniformis* GFP peptide, formulated for use in luminescent novelty items, immunoassays, FET (fluorescent energy transfer) assays, FRET (fluorescent resonance energy transfer) assays or used in conjunction with multi-well assay devices containing integrated photodetectors, such as those described herein. In other instances, the GFPs are used in beverages, foods or cosmetics.

[0056] Compositions that contain a *Renilla reniformis* GFP or GFP peptide and at least one component of a bioluminescence-generating system, preferably a *luciferase*, *luciferin* or a *luciferase* and a *luciferin*, are provided. In preferred embodiments, the *luciferase/luciferin* bioluminescence-generating system is selected from those isolated from: an insect system, a *coelenterate* system, a *crustacea* system, a fish system, an annelid system, and an earthworm system. Bioluminescence-generating systems include those isolated from *Renilla*, *Aequorea*, and *Vargula*, *Gaussia* and *Pleuromamma*.

[0057] Combinations containing a first composition containing a *Renilla reniformis* GFP or *Ptilosarcus* GFP or mixtures thereof and a second composition containing a bioluminescence-generating system for use with inanimate articles of manufacture to produce novelty items are provided. These novelty items, which are articles of manufacture, are designed for entertainment, recreation and amusement, and include, but are not limited to: toys, particularly squirt guns, toy cigarettes, toy "Halloween" eggs, footbags and board/card games; finger paints and other paints, slimy play material; textiles, particularly clothing, such as shirts, hats and sports gear suits, threads and yarns; bubbles in bubble making toys and other toys that produce bubbles;

balloons; figurines; personal items, such as bath powders, body lotions, gels, powders and creams, nail polishes, cosmetic including make-up, toothpastes and other dentifrices, soaps, cosmetics, body paints, and bubble bath, bubbles made from non-detergent sources, particularly proteins such as albumin and other non-toxic proteins; in fishing lures and glowing transgenic worms, particularly crosslinked polyacrylamide containing a fluorescent protein and/or components of a bioluminescence generating system, which glow upon contact with water; items such as inks, paper; foods, such as gelatins, icings and frostings; fish food containing luciferins and transgenic animals, such as transgenic fish, worms, monkeys, rodents, ungulates, ovine, ruminants and others, that express a luciferase and/or Renilla reniformis GFP; transgenic worms that express Renilla reniformis GFP and are used as lures; plant food containing a luciferin or luciferase, preferably a luciferin for use with transgenic plants that express luciferase and Renilla reniformis GFP, transgenic plants that express Renilla reniformis GFP, particularly ornamental plants, such as orchids, roses, and other plants with decorative flowers; transgenic plants and animals in which the Renilla reniformis GFP is a marker for tracking introduction of other genes; and beverages, such as beer, wine, champagne, soft drinks, milk and ice cubes and ice in other configurations containing Renilla reniformis GFP; fountains, including liquid "fireworks" and other such jets or sprays or aerosols of compositions that are solutions, mixtures, suspensions, powders, pastes, particles or other suitable forms.

[0058] Any article of manufacture that can be combined with a bioluminescence-generating system and *Renilla reniformis* GFP or with just a *Renilla reniformis* GFP, as provided herein, that thereby provides entertainment, recreation and/or amusement, including use of the items for recreation or to attract attention, such as for advertising goods and/or services that are associated with a logo or trademark is contemplated herein. Such uses may be in addition to or in conjunction with or in place of the ordinary or normal use of such items. As a result of the combination, the items glow or produce, such as in the case of squirt guns and fountains, a glowing fluid or spray of liquid or particles.

[0059] Methods for diagnosis and visualization of tissues in vivo or in situ using compositions containing a Renilla reniformis GFP and/or a Renilla reniformis or mulleri luciferase or others of the luciferases and/or GFPs provided herein are provided. For example, the Renilla reniformis GFP protein can be used in conjunction with diagnostic systems that rely on bioluminescence for visualizing tissues in situ. The systems are particularly useful for visualizing and detecting neoplastic tissue and specialty tissue, such as during non-invasive and invasive procedures. The systems include compositions containing conjugates that include a tissue specific, particularly a tumor-specific, targeting agent linked to a targeted agent, a Renilla reniformis GFP, a luciferase or luciferin. The systems also include a second composition that contains the remaining components of a bioluminescence generating reaction and/or the Renilla reniformis GFP. In some embodiments, all components, except for activators, which are provided in situ or are present in the body or tissue, are included in a single composition.

[0060] Methods for diagnosis and visualization of tissues in vivo or in situ using compositions containing a *Gaussia luciferase* are provided. For example, the *Gaussia luciferase*

or Gaussia luciferase peptide can be used in conjunction with diagnostic systems that rely on bioluminescence for visualizing tissues in situ. The systems are particularly useful for visualizing and detecting neoplastic tissue and specialty tissue, such as during non-invasive and invasive procedures. The systems include compositions containing conjugates that include a tissue specific, particularly a tumor-specific, targeting agent linked to a targeted agent, a Gaussia luciferase, a GFP or luciferin. The systems also include a second composition that contains the remaining components of a bioluminescence generating reaction and/or the Gaussia luciferase. In some embodiments, all components, except for activators, which are provided in situ or are present in the body or tissue, are included in a single composition.

[0061] In particular, the diagnostic systems include two compositions. A first composition that contains conjugates that, in preferred embodiments, include antibodies directed against tumor antigens conjugated to a component of the bioluminescence generating reaction, a *luciferase* or *luciferin*, preferably a *luciferase* are provided. In certain embodiments, conjugates containing tumor-specific targeting agents are linked to *luciferases* or *luciferins*. In other embodiments, tumor-specific targeting agents are linked to microcarriers that are coupled with, preferably more than one of the bioluminescence generating components, preferably more than one *luciferase* molecule.

[0062] The second composition contains the remaining components of a bioluminescence generating system, typically the *luciferin* or *luciferase* substrate. In some embodiments, these components, particularly the *luciferin* are linked to a protein, such as a serum albumin, or other protein carrier. The carrier and time release formulations permit systemically administered components to travel to the targeted tissue without interaction with blood cell components, such as hemoglobin that deactivates the *luciferin* or *luciferase*.

[0063] Methods for diagnosing diseases, particularly infectious diseases, using chip methodology (see, e.g., copending U.S. application Ser. No. 08/990,103) a luciferase/luciferin bioluminescence-generating system and a Renilla reniformis GFP are provided. In particular, the chip includes an integrated photodetector that detects the photons emitted by the bioluminescence-generating system, particularly using luciferase encoded by the nucleic acids provided herein and/or Renilla reniformis GFP.

[0064] In one embodiment, the chip is made using an integrated circuit with an array, such as an X-Y array, of photodetectors. The surface of circuit is treated to render it inert to conditions of the diagnostic assays for which the chip is intended, and is adapted, such as by derivatization for linking molecules, such as antibodies. A selected antibody or panel of antibodies, such as an antibody specific for a bacterial antigen, is affixed to the surface of the chip above each photodetector. After contacting the chip with a test sample, the chip is contacted with a second antibody linked to a Renilla GFP, a chimeric antibody-Renilla GFP fusion protein or an antibody linked to a component of a bioluminescence generating system, such as a luciferase or luciferin, that are specific for the antigen. The remaining components of the bioluminescence generating reaction are added, and, if any of the antibodies linked to a component of a bioluminescence generating system are present on the chip, light will be generated and detected by the adjacent photodetector. The photodetector is operatively linked to a computer, which is programmed with information identifying the linked antibodies, records the event, and thereby identifies antigens present in the test sample.

[0065] Methods for generating chimeric GFP fusion proteins are provided. The methods include linking DNA encoding a gene of interest, or portion thereof, to DNA encoding a GFP coding region in the same translational reading frame. The encoded-protein of interest may be linked in-frame to the amino- or carboxyl-terminus of the GFP. The DNA encoding the chimeric protein is then linked in operable association with a promoter element of a suitable expression vector. Alternatively, the promoter element can be obtained directly from the targeted gene of interest and the promoter-containing fragment linked upstream of the GFP coding sequence to produce chimeric GFP proteins or to produce polycistronic mRNAs that encode the *Renilla reniformis* GFP and a *luciferase*, preferably a *Renilla luciferase*, more preferably *Renilla reniformis luciferase*.

[0066] Methods for identifying compounds using recombinant cells that express heterologous DNA encoding a *Renilla reniformis* GFP under the control of a promoter element of a gene of interest are provided. The recombinant cells can be used to identify compounds or ligands that modulate the level of transcription from the promoter of interest by measuring *Renilla reniformis* GFP-mediated fluorescence. Recombinant cells expressing the chimeric *Renilla reniformis* GFP or polycistronic mRNA encoding *Renilla reniformis* and a *lucifierase*, may also be used for monitoring gene expression or protein trafficking, or determining the cellular localization of the target protein by identifying localized regions of GFP-mediated fluorescence within the recombinant cell.

[0067] Other assays using the GFPs and/or *luciferases* are contemplated herein. Any assay or diagnostic method known used by those of skill in the art that employ *Aequora* GFPs and/or other *luciferases* are contemplated herein.

[0068] Kits containing the GFPs for use in the methods, including those described herein, are provided. In one embodiment, the kits containing an article of manufacture and appropriate reagents for generating bioluminescence are provided. The kits containing such soap compositions, with preferably a moderate pH (between 5 and 8) and bioluminescence generating reagents, including *luciferase* and *luciferin* and the GFP are provided herein. These kits, for example, can be used with a bubble-blowing or producing toy. These kits can also include a reloading or charging cartridge or can be used in connection with a food.

[0069] In another embodiment, the kits are used for detecting and visualizing neoplastic tissue and other tissues and include a first composition that contains the GFP and at least one component of a bioluminescence generating system, and a second that contains the activating composition, which contains the remaining components of the bioluminescence generating system and any necessary activating agents.

[0070] Thus, these kits will typically include two compositions, a first composition containing the GFP formulated for systemic administration (or in some embodiments local or topical application), and a second composition containing

the components or remaining components of a bioluminescence generating system, formulated for systemic, topical or local administration depending upon the application. Instructions for administration will be included.

[0071] In other embodiments, the kits are used for detecting and identifying diseases, particularly infectious diseases, using multi-well assay devices and include a multi-well assay device containing a plurality of wells, each having an integrated photodetector, to which an antibody or panel of antibodies specific for one or more infectious agents are attached, and composition containing a secondary antibody, such as an antibody specific for the infectious agent that is linked to a Renilla reniformis GFP protein, a chimeric antibody-Renilla reniformis GFP fusion protein or F(Ab), antibody fragment-Renilla reniformis GFP fusion protein. A second composition contains a bioluminescence generating system that emits a wavelength of light within the excitation range of the Renilla mulleri GFP, such as species of Renilla or Aeguorea, for exciting the Renilla reniformis, which produces light that is detected by the photodetector of the device to indicate the presence of the agent.

[0072] As noted above, fusions of nucleic acid encoding the *luciferases* and or GFPs provided herein with other *luciferases* and GFPs are provided. Of particular interest are fusions that encode pairs of *luciferases* and GFPs, such as a *Renilla luciferase* and a *Renilla* GFP (or a homodimer or other multiple of a *Renilla* GFP). The *luciferase* and GFP bind and in the presence of a *luciferin* will produced fluorescence that is red shifted compared to the *luciferase* in the absence of the GFP. This fusion or fusions in which the GFP and *luciferase* are linked via a target, such as a peptide, can be used as a tool to assess anything that interacts with the linker.

[0073] Muteins of the GFPs and *luciferases* are provided. Of particular interest are muteins, such as temperature sensitive muteins, of the GFP and *luciferases* that alter their interaction, such as mutations in the *Renilla luciferase* and *Renilla* GFP that alters their interaction at a critical temperature.

[0074] Antibodies, polyclonal and monoclonal antibodies that specifically bind to any of the proteins encoded by the nucleic acids provided herein are also provided. These antibodies, monoclonal or polyclonal, can be prepared employing standard techniques, known to those of skill in the art. In particular, immunoglobulins or antibodies obtained from the serum of an animal immunized with a substantially pure preparation of a luciferase or GFP provided herein or an or epitope-containing fragment thereof are provided. Monoclonal antibodies are also provided. The immunoglobulins that are produced have, among other properties, the ability to specifically and preferentially bind to and/or cause the immunoprecipitation of a GFP or luciferase, particularly a Renilla or Ptilosarcus GFP or a Pleuromamma, Gaussia or Renilla mulleri luciferase, that may be present in a biological sample or a solution derived from such a biological sample.

DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

[0075] FIG. 1 depicts phylogenetic relationships among the anthozoan GFPs.

[0076] FIGS. 2A-D illustrate the underlying principle of Bioluminescent Resonance Energy Transfer (BRET) and its

use as sensor: A) in isolation, a luciferase, preferably an anthozoan luciferase, emits blue light from the coelenterazine-derived chromophore; B) in isolation, a GFP, preferably an anthozoan GFP that binds to the luciferase, that is excited with blue-green light emits green light from its integral peptide based fluorophore; C) when the luciferase and GFP associate as a complex in vivo or in vitro, the luciferase non-radiatively transfers its reaction energy to the GFP flurophore, which then emits the green light; D) any molecular interaction that disrupts the *luciferase*-GFP complex can be quantitatively monitored by observing the spectral shift from green to blue light.

[0077] FIG. 3 illustrates exemplary BRET sensor architecture.

[0078] FIG. 4 depicts the substitution of altered fluorophores into the background of Ptilosarcus, Renilla mulleri and Renilla reniformis GFPs (the underlined regions correspond to amino acids 56-75 of SEQ ID NO. 27 Renilla reniformis GFP; amino acids 59-78 of SEQ ID NO. 16 Renilla mulleri GFP; and amino acids 9-78 of SEQ ID NO. 32 for Ptilosarcus GFP).

[0079] FIG. 5 depicts the three anthozoan fluorescent proteins for which a crystal structure exists; another available commercially from Clontech as dsRed (from Discosoma striata; also known as drFP583, as in this alignment); a dark gray background depicts amino acid conservation, and a light gray background depicts shared physicochemical properties.

[0080] FIG. 6 compares the sequences of a variety of GFPs, identifying sites for mutation to reduce multimerization; abbreviations are as follows: Amemonia majona is amFP486; Zoanthus sp. zFP506 and zFP538; Discosoma sp. "red" is drFP583; Clavularia sp. is cFP484; and the GFP from the anthozoal A. sulcata is designated FP595.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

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 - a. Vargula luciferase (1) Purification from Cypridina
 - (2) Preparation by Recombinant Methods
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 - a. Luciferase
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-continued

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

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 - 1. Isolation of specimens of the genus Renilla
 - 2. Preparation of Renilla cDNA expression libraries
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 - 4. Methods for recombinant production of Renilla proteins
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- F. Compositions and Conjugates
 - 1. Renilla GFP compositions
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 - 3. Conjugates
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 - 4. Cell-based assays for identifying compounds
- I. Kits
- J. Muteins
 - 1. Mutation of GFP surfaces to disrupt multimerization
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- K. Transgenic Plants and Animals
- L. Bioluminescence Resonance Energy Transfer (BRET) System
 - 1. Design of sensors based on BRET
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A. DEFINITIONS

[0081] Unless defined otherwise, all technical and scientific terms used herein have the same meaning as is commonly understood by one of skill in the art to which this invention belongs. All patents, applications and publications of referred to throughout the disclosure are incorporated by reference in their entirety.

[0082] As used herein, chemiluminescence refers to a chemical reaction in which energy is specifically channeled to a molecule causing it to become electronically excited and subsequently to release a photon thereby emitting visible light. Temperature does not contribute to this channeled energy. Thus, chemiluminescence involves the direct conversion of chemical energy to light energy.

[0083] As used herein, luminescence refers to the detectable electromagnetic (EM) radiation, generally, ultraviolet (UV), infrared (IR) or visible EM radiation that is produced when the excited product of an exergic chemical process reverts to its ground state with the emission of light. Chemiluminescence is luminescence that results from a chemical reaction. Bioluminescence is chemiluminescence that results from a chemical reaction using biological molecules (or synthetic versions or analogs thereof) as substrates and/or enzymes.

[0084] As used herein, bioluminescence, which is a type of chemiluminescence, refers to the emission of light by biological molecules, particularly proteins. The essential condition for bioluminescence is molecular oxygen, either bound or free in the presence of an oxygenase, a *luciferase*, which acts on a substrate, a *luciferin*. Bioluminescence is generated by an enzyme or other protein (*luciferase*) that is an oxygenase that acts on a substrate *luciferin* (a bioluminescence substrate) in the presence of molecular oxygen and transforms the substrate to an excited state, which upon return to a lower energy level releases the energy in the form of light.

[0085] As used herein, the substrates and enzymes for producing bioluminescence are generically referred to as *luciferin* and *luciferase*, respectively. When reference is made to a particular species thereof, for clarity, each generic term is used with the name of the organism from which it derives, for example, bacterial *luciferin* or firefly *luciferase*.

[0086] As used herein, *luciferase* refers to oxygenases that catalyze a light emitting reaction. For instance, bacterial *luciferases* catalyze the oxidation of flavin mononucleotide (FMN) and aliphatic aldehydes, which reaction produces light. Another class of *luciferases*, found among marine arthropods, catalyzes the oxidation of Cypridina (Vargula) *luciferin*, and another class of *luciferases* catalyzes the oxidation of Coleoptera *luciferin*.

[0087] Thus, luciferase refers to an enzyme or photoprotein that catalyzes a bioluminescent reaction (a reaction that produces bioluminescence). The *luciferases*, such as firefly and Gaussia and Renilla luciferase, that are enzymes which act catalytically and are unchanged during the bioluminescence generating reaction. The luciferase photoproteins, such as the aequorin photoprotein to which luciferin is non-covalently bound, are changed, such as by release of the luciferin, during bioluminescence generating reaction. The luciferase is a protein that occurs naturally in an organism or a variant or mutant thereof, such as a variant produced by mutagenesis that has one or more properties, such as thermal stability, that differ from the naturally-occurring protein. Luciferases and modified mutant or variant forms thereof are well known. For purposes herein, reference to luciferase refers to either the photoproteins or luciferase.

[0088] Thus, reference, for example, to "Gaussia luciferase" means an enzyme isolated from member of the genus Gaussia or an equivalent molecule obtained from any other source, such as from another related copepod, or that has been prepared synthetically. It is intended to encompass Gaussia luciferases with conservative amino acid substitutions that do not substantially alter activity. Suitable con-

servative substitutions of amino acids are known to those of skill in this art and may be made generally without altering the biological activity of the resulting molecule. Those of skill in this art recognize that, in general, single amino acid substitutions in non-essential regions of a polypeptide do not substantially alter biological activity (see, e.g., Watson et al. *Molecular Biology of the Gene*, 4th Edition, 1987, The Bejacmin/Cummings Pub. co., p.224).

[0089] "Renilla GFP" refers to GFPs from the genus Renilla and to mutants or variants thereof. It is intended to encompass Renilla GFPs with conservative amino acid substitutions that do not substantially alter activity and physical properties, such as the emission spectra and ability to shift the spectral output of bioluminescence generating systems.

[0090] Such substitutions are preferably made in accordance with those set forth in TABLE 1 as follows:

TABLE 1

Original Residue	Conservative Substitution
Ala (A)	Gly; Ser
Arg (R)	Lys
Asn (N)	Gln; His
Cys (C)	Ser
Gln (Q)	Asn
Glu (E)	Asp
Gly (G)	Ala; Pro
His (H)	Asn; Gln
Ile (I)	Leu; Val
Leu (L)	Ile; Val
Lys (K)	Arg; Gln; Glu
Met (M)	Leu; Tyr; Ile
Phe (F)	Met; Leu; Tyr
Ser (S)	Thr
Thr (T)	Ser
Trp (W)	Tyr
Tyr (Y)	Trp; Phe
Val (V)	Ile; Leu

[0091] Other substitutions are also permissible and may be determined empirically or in accord with known conservative substitutions.

[0092] The *luciferases* and *luciferin* and activators thereof are referred to as bioluminescence generating reagents or components. Typically, a subset of these reagents will be provided or combined with an article of manufacture. Bioluminescence will be produced upon contacting the combination with the remaining reagents. Thus, as used herein, the component *luciferases*, *luciferins*, and other factors, such as O₂, Mg²⁺, Ca²⁺ are also referred to as bioluminescence generating reagents (or agents or components).

[0093] As used herein, a *Renilla reniformis* green fluorescent protein (GFP) refers to a fluorescent protein that is encoded by a sequence of nucleotides that encodes the protein of SEQ ID NO. 27 or to a green fluorescent protein from *Renilla reniformis* having at least 80%, 90% or 95% or greater sequence identity thereto; or that is encoded by a sequence of nucleotides that hybridizes under high stringency along its full length to the coding portion of the sequence of nucleotides set forth in any of SEQ ID NOs. 23-25. A *Renilla reniformis* GFP is protein that is fluorescent and is produced in a *Renilla reniformis*.

[0094] As used herein, bioluminescence substrate refers to the compound that is oxidized in the presence of a luciferase, and any necessary activators, and generates light. These substrates are referred to as luciferins herein, are substrates that undergo oxidation in a bioluminescence reaction. These bioluminescence substrates include any luciferin or analog thereof or any synthetic compound with which a luciferase interacts to generate light. Preferred substrates are those that are oxidized in the presence of a luciferase or protein in a light-generating reaction. Bioluminescence substrates, thus, include those compounds that those of skill in the art recognize as luciferins. Luciferins, for example, include firefly luciferin, Cypridina (also known as Vargula) luciferin (coelenterazine), bacterial luciferin, as well as synthetic analogs of these substrates or other compounds that are oxidized in the presence of a luciferase in a reaction the produces bioluminescence.

[0095] As used herein, capable of conversion into a bioluminescence substrate means susceptible to chemical reaction, such as oxidation or reduction, that yields a bioluminescence substrate. For example, the luminescence producing reaction of bioluminescent bacteria involves the reduction of a flavin mononucleotide group (FMN) to reduced flavin mononucleotide (FMNH₂) by a flavin reductase enzyme. The reduced flavin mononucleotide (substrate) then reacts with oxygen (an activator) and bacterial *luciferase* to form an intermediate peroxy flavin that undergoes further reaction, in the presence of a long-chain aldehyde, to generate light. With respect to this reaction, the reduced flavin and the long chain aldehyde are substrates.

[0096] As used herein, a bioluminescence generating system refers to the set of reagents required to conduct a bioluminescent reaction. Thus, the specific luciferase, luciferin and other substrates, solvents and other reagents that may be required to complete a bioluminescent reaction form a bioluminescence system. Thus a bioluminescence generating system refers to any set of reagents that, under appropriate reaction conditions, yield bioluminescence. Appropriate reaction conditions refers to the conditions necessary for a bioluminescence reaction to occur, such as pH, salt concentrations and temperature. In general, bioluminescence systems include a bioluminescence substrate, luciferin, a luciferase, which includes enzymes luciferases and photoproteins, and one or more activators. A specific bioluminescence system may be identified by reference to the specific organism from which the luciferase derives; for example, the Vargula (also called Cypridina) bioluminescence system (or Vargula system) includes a Vargula luciferase, such as a luciferase isolated from the ostracod, Vargula or produced using recombinant means or modifications of these luciferases. This system would also include the particular activators necessary to complete the bioluminescence reaction, such as oxygen and a substrate with which the luciferase reacts in the presence of the oxygen to produce light.

[0097] The *luciferases* provided herein may be incorporated into bioluminescence generating systems and used, as appropriate, with the GFPs provided herein or with other GFPs. Similarly, the GFPs provided herein may be used with known bioluminescence generating systems.

[0098] As used herein, the amino acids, which occur in the various amino acid sequences appearing herein, are identified according to their well-known, three-letter or one-letter abbreviations. The nucleotides, which occur in the various

DNA molecules, are designated with the standard singleletter designations used routinely in the art.

[0099] As used herein, a fluorescent protein refers to a protein that possesses the ability to fluoresce (i.e., to absorb energy at one wavelength and emit it at another wavelength). These proteins can be used as a fluorescent label or marker and in any applications in which such labels would be used, such as immunoassays, CRET, FRET, and FET assays, and in the assays designated herein as BRET assays. For example, a green fluorescent protein refers to a polypeptide that has a peak in the emission spectrum at about 510 mn.

[0100] As used herein, the term BRET (Bioluminescence Resonance Energy Transfer) refers to non-radiative *luciferase*-to-FP energy transfer. It differs from (Fluorescence Resonance Energy Transfer), which refers to energy transfer between chemical fluors.

[0101] As used herein, a BRET system refers the combination of a FP, in this case Renilla reniformis GFP and a luciferase for resonance energy transfer. BRET refers to any method in which the luciferase is used to generate the light upon reaction with a *luciferin* which is then non-radiatively transferred to a FP. The energy is transferred to a FP, particularly a GFP, which focuses and shifts the energy and emits it at a different wavelength. In preferred embodiments, the BRET system includes a bioluminescence generating system and a Renilla reniformis GFP. The bioluminescence generating system is preferably a Renilla system. Hence, the preferred pair is a Renilla luciferase and a Renilla GFP, which specifically interact. Alterations in the binding will be reflected in changes in the emission spectra of light produced by the *luciferase*. As a result the pair can function as a sensor of external events.

[0102] As used herein, a biosensor (or sensor) refers to a BRET system for use to detect alterations in the environment in vitro or in vivo in which the BRET system is used.

[0103] As used herein, modulator with reference to a BRET system refers to a molecule or molecules that undergo a conformation change in response to interaction with another molecule thereby affecting the proximity and/or orientation of the GFP and luciferase in the BRET system. Modulators include, but are not limited to, a protease site, a second messenger binding site, an ion binding molecule, a receptor, an oligomer, an enzyme substrate, a ligand, or other such binding molecule. If the GFP and luciferase are each linked to the modulator, changes in conformation alter the spacial relationship between the GFP and luciferase. The modulator can be a single entity covalently attached to one or both of the luciferase and GFP; it can be two separate entities each linked to either the luciferase or GFP. The modulator(s), GFP and luciferase can be a single fusion protein, or a fusion protein of at least two of the entities. The components can be chemically linked, such as through thiol or disulfide linkages, using linkers as provided herein. The GFP and luciferase can be linked directly or via linker, which can be a chemical linkage.

[0104] As used herein, "not strictly catalytically" means that the photoprotein acts as a catalyst to promote the oxidation of the substrate, but it is changed in the reaction, since the bound substrate is oxidized and bound molecular oxygen is used in the reaction. Such photoproteins are regenerated by addition of the substrate and molecular oxygen under appropriate conditions known to those of skill in this art.

[0105] As used herein, "nucleic acid" refers to a polynucleotide containing at least two covalently linked nucleotide or nucleotide analog subunits. A nucleic acid can be a deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA), a ribonucleic acid (RNA), or an analog of DNA or RNA. Nucleotide analogs are commercially available and methods of preparing polynucleotides containing such nucleotide analogs are known (Lin et al. (1994) Nucl. Acids Res. 22:5220-5234; Jellinek et al. (1995) Biochemistry 34:11363-11372; Pagratis et al. (1997) Nature Biotechnol. 15:68-73). The nucleic acid can be single-stranded, double-stranded, or a mixture thereof. For purposes herein, unless specified otherwise, the nucleic acid is double-stranded, or it is apparent from the context.

[0106] As used herein, a second messenger includes, but are not limited to, cAMP, cGMP, inositol phosphates, such as IP2 and IP3, NO (nitric oxide), Ca²⁺, ceramide; DAG and arachidonic acid.

[0107] Hence, the term "nucleic acid" refers to single-stranded and/or double-stranded polynucleotides, such as deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) and ribonucleic acid (RNA), as well as analogs or derivatives of either RNA or DNA. Also included in the term "nucleic acid" are analogs of nucleic acids such as peptide nucleic acid (PNA), phosphorothioate DNA, and other such analogs and derivatives.

[0108] As used herein, the term "nucleic acid molecule" and "nucleic acid fragment" are used interchangeably.

[0109] As used herein, DNA is meant to include all types and sizes of DNA molecules including cDNA, plasmids and DNA including modified nucleotides and nucleotide analogs.

[0110] As used herein, nucleotides include nucleoside mono-, di-, and triphosphates. Nucleotides also include modified nucleotides, such as, but are not limited to, phosphorothioate nucleotides and deazapurine nucleotides and other nucleotide analogs.

[0111] As used herein, a nucleic acid probe is single-stranded DNA or RNA that has a sequence of nucleotides that includes at least 14 contiguous bases, preferably at least 16 contiguous bases, typically about 30, that are the same as (or the complement of) any 14 or more contiguous bases set forth in any of SEQ ID NOs. 23-25 and herein. Among the preferred regions from which to construct probes include 5' and/or 3' coding sequences, sequences predicted to encode regions that are conserved among *Renilla* species. Probes from regions conserved among *Renilla* species GFPs are for isolating GFP-encoding nucleic acid from *Renilla* libraries.

[0112] In preferred embodiments, the nucleic acid probes are degenerate probes of at least 14 nucleotides, preferably 16 to 30 nucleotides, are provided.

[0113] In preferred embodiments, the nucleic acid probes are degenerate probes of at least 14 nucleotides, preferably 16 to 30 nucleotides, that are based on amino acids of *Renilla reniformis* set forth in above.

[0114] As used herein, vector (or plasmid) refers to discrete elements that are used to introduce heterologous DNA into cells for either expression or replication thereof. Selection and use of such vehicles are well within the skill of the artisan. An expression vector includes vectors capable of expressing DNA operatively linked with regulatory sequences, such as promoter regions, that are capable of

effecting expression of such DNA molecules. Thus, an expression vector refers to a recombinant DNA or RNA construct, such as a plasmid, a phage, recombinant virus or other vector that, upon introduction into an appropriate host cell, results in expression of the cloned DNA. Appropriate expression vectors are well known to those of skill in the art and include those that are replicable in eukaryotic cells and/or prokaryotic cells and those that remain episomal or those which integrate into the host cell genome. Presently preferred plasmids for expression of *Gaussia luciferase*, *Renilla* GFP and *luciferase* are those that are expressed in bacteria and yeast, such as those described herein.

[0115] As used herein, a promoter region or promoter element refers to a segment of DNA or RNA that controls transcription of the DNA or RNA to which it is operatively linked. The promoter region includes specific sequences that are sufficient for RNA polymerase recognition, binding and transcription initiation. This portion of the promoter region is referred to as the promoter. In addition, the promoter region includes sequences that modulate this recognition, binding and transcription initiation activity of RNA polymerase. These sequences may be cis acting or may be responsive to trans acting factors. Promoters, depending upon the nature of the regulation, may be constitutive or regulated. Exemplary promoters contemplated for use in prokaryotes include the bacteriophage T7 and T3 promoters, and the like.

[0116] As used herein, operatively linked or operationally associated refers to the functional relationship of DNA with regulatory and effector sequences of nucleotides, such as promoters, enhancers, transcriptional and translational stop sites, and other signal sequences. For example, operative linkage of DNA to a promoter refers to the physical and functional relationship between the DNA and the promoter such that the transcription of such DNA is initiated from the promoter by an RNA polymerase that specifically recognizes, binds to and transcribes the DNA. In order to optimize expression and/or in vitro transcription, it may be necessary to remove, add or alter 5' untranslated portions of the clones to eliminate extra, potentially inappropriate alternative translation initiation (i.e., start) codons or other sequences that may interfere with or reduce expression, either at the level of transcription or translation. Alternatively, consensus ribosome binding sites (see, e.g., Kozak (1991) J. Biol. Chem. 266:19867-19870) can be inserted immediately 5' of the start codon and may enhance expression. The desirability of (or need for) such modification may be empirically determined.

[0117] As used herein, to target a targeted agent, such as a *luciferase*, means to direct it to a cell that expresses a selected receptor or other cell surface protein by linking the agent to a such agent. Upon binding to or interaction with the receptor or cell surface protein, the targeted agent can be reacted with an appropriate substrate and activating agents, whereby bioluminescent light is produced and the tumorous tissue or cells distinguished from non-tumorous tissue.

[0118] As used herein, an effective amount of a compound for treating a particular disease is an amount that is sufficient to ameliorate, or in some manner reduce the symptoms associated with the disease. Such amount may be administered as a single dosage or may be administered according to a regimen, whereby it is effective. The amount may cure

the disease but, typically, is administered in order to ameliorate the symptoms of the disease. Repeated administration may be required to achieve the desired amelioration of symptoms.

[0119] As used herein, an effective amount of a conjugate for diagnosing a disease is an amount that will result in a detectable tissue. The tissues are detected by visualization either without aid from a detector more sensitive than the human eye, or with the use of a light source to excite any fluorescent products.

[0120] As used herein, visualizable means detectable by eye, particularly during surgery under normal surgical conditions, or, if necessary, slightly dimmed light.

[0121] As used herein, pharmaceutically acceptable salts, esters or other derivatives of the conjugates include any salts, esters or derivatives that may be readily prepared by those of skill in this art using known methods for such derivatization and that produce compounds that may be administered to animals or humans without substantial toxic effects and that either are pharmaceutically active or are prodrugs.

[0122] As used herein, treatment means any manner in which the symptoms of a conditions, disorder or disease are ameliorated or otherwise beneficially altered. Treatment also encompasses any pharmaceutical use of the compositions herein.

[0123] As used herein, amelioration of the symptoms of a particular disorder by administration of a particular pharmaceutical composition refers to any lessening, whether permanent or temporary, lasting or transient that can be attributed to or associated with administration of the composition.

[0124] As used herein, substantially pure means sufficiently homogeneous to appear free of readily detectable impurities as determined by standard methods of analysis, such as thin layer chromatography (TLC), gel electrophoresis and high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC), used by those of skill in the art to assess such purity, or sufficiently pure such that further purification would not detectably alter the physical and chemical properties, such as enzymatic and biological activities, of the substance. Methods for purification of the compounds to produce substantially chemically pure compound are known to those of skill in the art. A substantially chemically pure compound may, however, be a mixture of stereoisomers or isomers. In such instances, further purification might increase the specific activity of the compound.

[0125] As used herein, a prodrug is a compound that, upon in vivo administration, is metabolized or otherwise converted to the biologically, pharmaceutically or therapeutically active form of the compound. To produce a prodrug, the pharmaceutically active compound is modified such that the active compound will be regenerated by metabolic processes. The prodrug may be designed to alter the metabolic stability or the transport characteristics of a drug, to mask side effects or toxicity, to improve the flavor of a drug or to alter other characteristics or properties of a drug. By virtue of knowledge of pharmacodynamic processes and drug metabolism in vivo, those of skill in this art, once a pharmaceutically active compound is known, can design prodrugs of the compound (see, e.g., Nogrady (1985)

Medicinal Chemistry A Biochemical Approach, Oxford University Press, New York, pages 388-392).

[0126] As used herein, biological activity refers to the in vivo activities of a compound or physiological responses that result upon in vivo administration of a compound, composition or other mixture. Biological activity, thus, encompasses therapeutic effects and pharmaceutical activity of such compounds, compositions and mixtures. Biological activities may be observed in in vitro systems designed to test or use such activities. Thus, for purposes herein the biological activity of a *luciferase* is its oxygenase activity whereby, upon oxidation of a substrate, light is produced.

[0127] As used herein, targeting agent (TA) refers to an agent that specifically or preferentially targets a linked targeted agent, a *luciferin* or *luciferase*, to a neoplastic cell or tissue.

[0128] As used herein, tumor antigen refers to a cell surface protein expressed or located on the surface of tumor cells

[0129] As used herein, neoplastic cells include any type of transformed or altered cell that exhibits characteristics typical of transformed cells, such as a lack of contact inhibition and the acquisition of tumor-specific antigens. Such cells include, but are not limited to leukemic cells and cells derived from a tumor.

[0130] As used herein, neoplastic disease is any disease in which neoplastic cells are present in the individual afflicted with the disease. Such diseases include, any disease characterized as cancer.

[0131] As used herein, metastatic tumors refers to tumors that are not localized in one site.

[0132] As used herein, specialty tissue refers to nontumorous tissue for which information regarding location is desired. Such tissues include, for example, endometriotic tissue, ectopic pregnancies, tissues associated with certain disorders and myopathies or pathologies.

[0133] As used herein, a receptor refers to a molecule that has an affinity for a given ligand. Receptors may be naturally-occurring or synthetic molecules. Receptors may also be referred to in the art as anti-ligands. As used herein, the receptor and anti-ligand are interchangeable. Receptors can be used in their unaltered state or as aggregates with other species. Receptors may be attached, covalently or noncovalently, or in physical contact with, to a binding member, either directly or indirectly via a specific binding substance or linker. Examples of receptors, include, but are not limited to: antibodies, cell membrane receptors surface receptors and internalizing receptors, monoclonal antibodies and antisera reactive with specific antigenic determinants (such as on viruses, cells, or other materials), drugs, polynucleotides, nucleic acids, peptides, cofactors, lectins, sugars, polysaccharides, cells, cellular membranes, and organelles.

[0134] Examples of receptors and applications using such receptors, include but are not restricted to:

[0135] a) enzymes: specific transport proteins or enzymes essential to survival of microorganisms, which could serve as targets for antibiotic (ligand) selection;

[0136] b) antibodies: identification of a ligand-binding site on the antibody molecule that combines with the epitope of

an antigen of interest may be investigated; determination of a sequence that mimics an antigenic epitope may lead to the development of vaccines of which the immunogen is based on one or more of such sequences or lead to the development of related diagnostic agents or compounds useful in therapeutic treatments such as for auto-immune diseases

[0137] c) nucleic acids: identification of ligand, such as protein or RNA, binding sites;

[0138] d) catalytic polypeptides: polymers, preferably polypeptides, that are capable of promoting a chemical reaction involving the conversion of one or more reactants to one or more products; such polypeptides generally include a binding site specific for at least one reactant or reaction intermediate and an active functionality proximate to the binding site, in which the functionality is capable of chemically modifying the bound reactant (see, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 5,215,899);

[0139] e) hormone receptors: determination of the ligands that bind with high affinity to a receptor is useful in the development of hormone replacement therapies; for example, identification of ligands that bind to such receptors may lead to the development of drugs to control blood pressure; and

[0140] f) opiate receptors: determination of ligands that bind to the opiate receptors in the brain is useful in the development of less-addictive replacements for morphine and related drugs.

[0141] As used herein, antibody includes antibody fragments, such as Fab fragments, which are composed of a light chain and the variable region of a heavy chain.

[0142] As used herein, an antibody conjugate refers to a conjugate in which the targeting agent is an antibody.

[0143] As used herein, antibody activation refers to the process whereby activated antibodies are produced. Antibodies are activated upon reaction with a linker, such as heterobifunctional reagent.

[0144] As used herein, a surgical viewing refers to any procedure in which an opening is made in the body of an animal. Such procedures include traditional surgeries and diagnostic procedures, such as laparoscopies and arthroscopic procedures.

[0145] As used herein, humanized antibodies refer to antibodies that are modified to include "human" sequences of amino acids so that administration to a human will not provoke an immune response. Methods for preparation of such antibodies are known. For example, the hybridoma that expresses the monoclonal antibody is altered by recombinant DNA techniques to express an antibody in which the amino acid composition of the non-variable regions is based on human antibodies. Computer programs have been designed to identify such regions.

[0146] As used herein, ATP, AMP, NAD+ and NADH refer to adenosine triphosphate, adenosine monophosphate, nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (oxidized form) and nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (reduced form), respectively.

[0147] As used herein, production by recombinant means by using recombinant DNA methods means the use of the well known methods of molecular biology for expressing proteins encoded by cloned DNA.

[0148] As used herein, substantially identical to a product means sufficiently similar so that the property of interest is sufficiently unchanged so that the substantially identical product can be used in place of the product.

[0149] As used herein equivalent, when referring to two sequences of nucleic acids means that the two sequences in question encode the same sequence of amino acids or equivalent proteins. When "equivalent" is used in referring to two proteins or peptides, it means that the two proteins or peptides have substantially the same amino acid sequence with only conservative amino acid substitutions (see, e.g., Table 1, above) that do not substantially alter the activity or function of the protein or peptide. When "equivalent" refers to a property, the property does not need to be present to the same extent (e.g., two peptides can exhibit different rates of the same type of enzymatic activity), but the activities are preferably substantially the same. "Complementary," when referring to two nucleotide sequences, means that the two sequences of nucleotides are capable of hybridizing, preferably with less than 25%, more preferably with less than 15%, even more preferably with less than 5%, most preferably with no mismatches between opposed nucleotides. Preferably the two molecules will hybridize under conditions of high stringency.

[0150] As used herein: stringency of hybridization in determining percentage mismatch is as follows:

[0151] 1) high stringency: 0.1×SSPE, 0.1% SDS, 65° C.

[**0152**] 2) medium stringency: 0.2×SSPE, 0.1% SDS, 50°

[0153] 3) low stringency: 1.0×SSPE, 0.1% SDS, 50° C.

[0154] It is understood that equivalent stringencies may be achieved using alternative buffers, salts and temperatures.

[0155] The term "substantially" identical or homologous or similar varies with the context as understood by those skilled in the relevant art and generally means at least 70%, preferably means at least 80%, more preferably at least 90%, and most preferably at least 95% identity. The terms "homology" and "identity" are often used interchangeably. In general, sequences are aligned so that the highest order match is obtained (see, e.g.: Computational Molecular Biology, Lesk, A. M., ed., Oxford University Press, New York, 1988; Biocomputing: Informatics and Genome Projects, Smith, D. W., ed., Academic Press, New York, 1993; Computer Analysis of Sequence Data, Part I, Griffin, A. M., and Griffin, H. G., eds., Humana Press, New Jersey, 1994; Sequence Analysis in Molecular Biology, von Heinje, G., Academic Press, 1987; and Sequence Analysis Primer, Gribskov, M. and Devereux, J., eds., M Stockton Press, New York, 1991; Carillo et al. (1988) SIAM J Applied Math 48:1073).

[0156] By sequence identity, the number of conserved amino acids are determined by standard alignment algorithms programs, and are used with default gap penalties established by each supplier. Substantially homologous nucleic acid molecules would hybridize typically at moderate stringency or at high stringency all along the length of the nucleic acid of interest. Also contemplated are nucleic acid molecules that contain degenerate codons in place of codons in the hybridizing nucleic acid molecule.

[0157] Whether any two nucleic acid molecules have nucleotide sequences that are at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98% or 99% "identical" can be determined using known computer algorithms such as the "FASTA" program, using for example, the default parameters as in Pearson et al. (1988) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 85:2444 (other programs include the GCG program package (Devereux, J., et al., Nucleic Acids Research 12(I):387 (1984)), BLASTP, BLASTN, FASTA (Atschul, S. F., et al., J Molec Biol 215:403 (1990); Guide to Huge Computers, Martin J. Bishop, ed., Academic Press, San Diego, 1994, and Carillo et al. (1988) SIAM J Applied Math 48:1073). For example, the BLAST function of the National Center for Biotechnology Information database may be used to determine identity. Other commercially or publicly available programs include, DNAStar "MegAlign" program (Madison, Wis.) and the University of Wisconsin Genetics Computer Group (UWG) "Gap" program (Madison Wis.)). Percent homology or identity of proteins and/or nucleic acid moleucles may be determined, for example, by comparing sequence information using a GAP computer program (e.g., Needleman et al. (1970) J. Mol. Biol. 48:443, as revised by Smith and Waterman ((1981) Adv. Appl. Math. 2:482). Briefly, the GAP program defines similarity as the number of aligned symbols (i.e., nucleotides or amino acids) which are similar, divided by the total number of symbols in the shorter of the two sequences. Default parameters for the GAP program may include: (1) a unary comparison matrix (containing a value of 1 for identities and 0 for non-identities) and the weighted comparison matrix of Gribskov et al (1986) Nucl. Acids Res. 14:6745, as described by Schwartz and Dayhoff, eds., ATLAS OF PROTEIN SEQUENCE AND STRUCTURE, National Biomedical Research Foundation, pp.353-358 (1979); (2) a penalty of 3.0 for each gap and an additional 0.10 penalty for each symbol in each gap; and (3) no penalty for end gaps.

[0158] Therefore, as used herein, the term "identity" represents a comparison between a test and a reference polypeptide or polynucleotide. For example, a test polypeptide may be defined as any polypeptide that is 90% or more identical to a reference polypeptide. As used herein, the term at least "90% identical to" refers to percent identities from 90 to 99.99 relative to the reference polypeptides. Identity at a level of 90% or more is indicative of the fact that, assuming for exemplification purposes a test and reference polynucleotide length of 100 amino acids are compared. No more than 10% (i.e., 10 out of 100) amino acids in the test polypeptide differs from that of the reference polypeptides. Similar comparisons may be made between a test and reference polynucleotides. Such differences may be represented as point mutations randomly distributed over the entire length of an amino acid sequence or they may be clustered in one or more locations of varying length up to the maximum allowable, e.g. (10/100) amino acid difference (approximately 90% identity). Differences are defined as nucleic acid or amino acid substitutions, or deletions. At level of homologies or identities above about 85-90%, the result should be independent of the program and gap parameters set; such high levels of identity readily can be assess, often without relying on software.

[0159] As used herein, primer refers to an oligonucleotide containing two or more deoxyribonucleotides or ribonucleotides, preferably more than three, from which synthesis of a primer extension product can be initiated. Experimental

conditions conducive to synthesis include the presence of nucleoside triphosphates and an agent for polymerization and extension, such as DNA polymerase, and a suitable buffer, temperature and pH.

[0160] As used herein, a composition refers to any mixture. It may be a solution, a suspension, liquid, powder, a paste, aqueous, non-aqueous or any combination thereof.

[0161] As used herein, a combination refers to any association between two or among more items.

[0162] As used herein, fluid refers to any composition that can flow. Fluids thus encompass compositions that are in the form of semi-solids, pastes, solutions, aqueous mixtures, gels, lotions, creams and other such compositions.

[0163] Examples of receptors and applications using such receptors, include but are not restricted to:

[0164] a) enzymes: specific transport proteins or enzymes essential to survival of microorganisms, which could serve as targets for antibiotic (ligand) selection;

[0165] b) antibodies: identification of a ligand-binding site on the antibody molecule that combines with the epitope of an antigen of interest may be investigated; determination of a sequence that mimics an antigenic epitope may lead to the development of vaccines of which the immunogen is based on one or more of such sequences or lead to the development of related diagnostic agents or compounds useful in therapeutic treatments such as for auto-immune diseases

[0166] c) nucleic acids: identification of ligand, such as protein or RNA, binding sites;

[0167] d) catalytic polypeptides: polymers, preferably polypeptides, that are capable of promoting a chemical reaction involving the conversion of one or more reactants to one or more products; such polypeptides generally include a binding site specific for at least one reactant or reaction intermediate and an active functionality proximate to the binding site, in which the functionality is capable of chemically modifying the bound reactant (see, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 5,215,899);

[0168] e) hormone receptors: determination of the ligands that bind with high affinity to a receptor is useful in the development of hormone replacement therapies; for example, identification of ligands that bind to such receptors may lead to the development of drugs to control blood pressure; and

[0169] f) opiate receptors: determination of ligands that bind to the opiate receptors in the brain is useful in the development of less-addictive replacements for morphine and related drugs.

[0170] As used herein, complementary refers to the topological compatibility or matching together of interacting surfaces of a ligand molecule and its receptor. Thus, the receptor and its ligand can be described as complementary, and furthermore, the contact surface characteristics are complementary to each other.

[0171] As used herein, a ligand-receptor pair or complex formed when two macromolecules have combined through molecular recognition to form a complex.

[0172] As used herein, a substrate refers to any matrix that is used either directly or following suitable derivatization, as

a solid support for chemical synthesis, assays and other such processes. Preferred substrates herein, are silicon substrates or siliconized substrates that are derivitized on the surface intended for linkage of anti-ligands and ligands and other macromolecules, including the fluorescent proteins, phycobiliproteins and other emission shifters.

[0173] As used herein, a matrix refers to any solid or semisolid or insoluble support on which the molecule of interest, typically a biological molecule, macromolecule, organic molecule or biospecific ligand is linked or contacted. Typically a matrix is a substrate material having a rigid or semi-rigid surface. In many embodiments, at least one surface of the substrate will be substantially flat, although in some embodiments it may be desirable to physically separate synthesis regions for different polymers with, for example, wells, raised regions, etched trenches, or other such topology. Matrix materials include any materials that are used as affinity matrices or supports for chemical and biological molecule syntheses and analyses, such as, but are not limited to: polystyrene, polycarbonate, polypropylene, nylon, glass, dextran, chitin, sand, pumice, polytetrafluoroethylene, agarose, polysaccharides, dendrimers, buckyballs, polyacrylamide, Kieselguhr-polyacrylamide non-covalent composite, polystyrene-polyacrylamide covalent composite, polystyrene-PEG (polyethyleneglycol) composite, silicon, rubber, and other materials used as supports for solid phase syntheses, affinity separations and purifications, hybridization reactions, immunoassays and other such applications.

[0174] As used herein, the attachment layer refers the surface of the chip device to which molecules are linked. Typically, the chip is a semiconductor device, which is coated on a least a portion of the surface to render it suitable for linking molecules and inert to any reactions to which the device is exposed. Molecules are linked either directly or indirectly to the surface, linkage may be effected by absorption or adsorption, through covalent bonds, ionic interactions or any other interaction. Where necessary the attachment layer is adapted, such as by derivatization for linking the molecules.

[0175] B. Fluorescent Proteins

[0176] The GFP from Aequorea and that of the sea pansy Renilla reniformis share the same chromophore, yet Aequorea GFP has two absorbance peaks at 395 and 475 nm, whereas Renilla GFP has only a single absorbance peak at 498 nm, with about 5.5 fold greater monomer extinction coefficient the major 395 nm peak of the Aequorea protein (Ward, W. W. in Bioluminescence and Chemiluminescence (eds. DeLuca, M. A. & McElroy, W. D.) 235-242 (Academic Press, New York, 1981)). The spectra of the isolated chromophore and denatured protein at neutral pH do not match the spectra of either native protein (Cody, C. W. et al. (1993) Biochemistry 32:1212-1218).

[0177] 1. Green and Blue Fluorescent Proteins

[0178] As described herein, blue light is produced using the *Renilla luciferase* or the *Aequorea* photoprotein in the presence of Ca²⁺ and the coelenterazine *luciferin* or analog thereof. This light can be converted into a green light if a green fluorescent protein (GFP) is added to the reaction. Green fluorescent proteins, which have been purified (see, e.g., Prasher et al. (1992) *Gene* 111:229-233) and also cloned (see, e.g., International PCT Application No. WO

95/07463, which is based on U.S. application Ser. No. 08/119,678 and U.S. application Ser. No. 08/192,274, which are herein incorporated by reference), are used by cnidarians as energy-transfer acceptors. GFPs fluoresce in vivo upon receiving energy from a luciferase-oxyluciferein excitedstate complex or a Ca²⁺-activated photoprotein. The chromophore is modified amino acid residues within the polypeptide. The best characterized GFPs are those of Aequorea and Renilla (see, e.g., Prasher et al. (1992) Gene 111 :229-233; Hart, et al. (1979) Biochemistry 18:2204-2210). For example, a green fluorescent protein (GFP) from Aeguorea victoria contains 238 amino acids, absorbs blue light and emits green light. Thus, inclusion of this protein in a composition containing the aequorin photoprotein charged with coelenterazine and oxygen, can, in the presence of calcium, result in the production of green light. Thus, it is contemplated that GFPs may be included in the bioluminescence generating reactions that employ the aequorin or Renilla luciferases or other suitable luciferase in order to enhance or alter color of the resulting bioluminescence.

[0179] 2. Renilla reniformis GFP

[0180] Purified *Renilla reniformis* GFP and muteins thereof are provided. Presently preferred *Renilla* GFP for use in the compositions herein is *Renilla reniformis* GFP having the sequence of amino acids set forth in SEQ ID NO. 27. The *Renilla* GFP and GFP peptides can be isolated from natural sources or isolated from a prokaryotic or eukaryotic cell transfected with nucleic acid that encodes the *Renilla* GFP and/or GFP peptides, such as those encoded by the sequences of nucleotides set forth in SEQ ID NOs. 23-25.

[0181] The encoding nucleic acid molecules are provided. Preferred are those that encode the protein having the sequence of amino acids (SEQ ID NO. 27):

[0182] mdlaklglkevmptkinleglvgdhafsmegvgegnilegtqevkisvtkgapipfafdivsv afsygnraytgypeeisdyflqsfpegftyerniryqdggtaivksdisledgkfivnvdfkakdl rrmgpvmqqdivgmqpsyesmytnvtsvigeciiafklqtgkhftyhmrtvykskkpvet mplyhfiqhrlvktnvdtasgyvvqhetaiaahstikkiegsip,

[0183] and is preferably the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO. 26.

[0184] In particular, nucleic acid molecules encoding a *Renilla reniformis* GFP having any of the following sequences are provided (see SEQ ID NOs. 23-25):

Renilla renformis GFP Clone-2 ${\tt GGCACGAGGCTGACACAATAAAAAACCTTTCAAATTGTTTCTCTGTAGC}$ ${\tt AGGAAGTATGGATCTCGCAAAACTTGGTTTGAAGGAAGTGATGCCTACT}$ AAAATCAACTTAGAAGGACTGGTTGGCGACCACGCTTTCTCAATGGAAG GAGTTGGCGAAGGCAACATATTGGAAGGAACTCAAGAGGTGAAGATAT CGGTAACAAAAGGCGCACCACTCCCATTCGCATTTGATATCGTATCTGT TGCTTTCTCATATGGGAACAGAGCTTATACTGGTTACCCAGAAGAAATT ACATTCGTTATCAAGATGGAGGAACTGCAATTGTTAAATCTGATATAAG ${\tt CTTGGAAGATGGTAAATTCATAGTGAATGTAGACTTCAAAGCGAAGGAT}$ CTACGTCGCATGGGACCAGTCATGCAGCAAGACATCGTGGGTATGCAG CCATCGTATGAGTCAATGTACACCAATGTCACTTCAGTTATAGGGGA ATGTATAATAGCATTCAAACTTCAAACTGGCAAACATTTCACTTACCAC ATGAGGACAGTTTACAAATCAAAGAAGCCAGTGGAAACTATGCCATTG TATCATTTCATCCAGCATCGCCTCGTTAAGACCAATGTGGACACAGCCA GTGGTTACGTTGTGCAACACGAGACAGCAATTGCAGCGCATTCTACAAT CAAAAAATTGAAGGCTCTTTACCATAGATATCTATACACAATTA TTCTATGCACGTAGCATTTTTTTGGAAATATAAGTGGTATTGTTCAATAA AATATTAAATATAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA;

[0185] are provided.

[0186] An exemplary mutein is set forth in SEQ ID NO. 33, and humanized codon are set forth in SEQ ID NO. 26.

[0187] Also contemplated are the coding portion of the sequence of nucleotides that hybridize under moderate or high stringency to the sequence of nucleotides set forth above, particularly when using probes provided herein. Probes derived from this nucleic acid that can be used in methods provided herein to isolate GFPs from any *Renilla reniformis* species are provided. In an exemplary embodiment, nucleic acid encoding *Renilla reniformis* GFP is provided. This nucleic acid encodes the sequence of amino acids set forth above.

[0188] GFPs, including the *Renilla reniformis* protein provided herein, are activated by blue light to emit green light and thus may be used in the absence of *luciferase* and in conjunction with an external light source with novelty items (see U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,876,995, 6,152,358 and 6,113,886) and in conjunction with bioluminescence generating system for novelty items (see U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,876,995, 6,152,358 and 6,113,886), for tumor diagnosis (see, allowed co-pending U.S. application Ser. No. 08/908,909) and in biochips (see, U.S. application Ser. No. 08/909,103, which is published as International PCT application No. WO 98/26277).

[0189] Renilla reniformis GFP is intended for use in any of the novelty items and combinations, such as the foods, including beverages, greeting cards, and toys, including bubble making toys, particularly bubble-making compositions or mixtures. Also of particular interest are the use of these proteins in cosmetics, particularly face paints or makeup, hair colorants or hair conditioners, mousses or other such products and skin creams. Such systems are particularly of interest because no luciferase is needed to activate the photoprotein and because the proteins are non-toxic and safe to apply to the skin, hair, eyes and to ingest. These fluorescent proteins may also be used in addition to bioluminescence generating systems to enhance or create an array of different colors. Transgenic animals and plants that express the Renilla reniformis GFP-encoding nucleic acid are also provided. Such animals and plants, include transgenic fish, transgenic worms for use, for example, as lures for fishing; transgenic animals, such as monkeys and rodents for research in which a marker gene is used, and transgenic animals as novelty items and to produce glowing foods, such as ham, eggs, chicken, and other meats; transgenic plants in

which the *Renilla reniformis* is a marker, and also transgenic plants that are novelty items, particuarly ornamental plants, such as glowing orchids, roses and other flowering plants.

[0190] The Renilla reniformis GFP may be used alone or in combination with bioluminescence generating systems to produce an array of colors. They may be used in combinations such that the color of, for example, a beverage changes over time, or includes layers of different colors. The cloning and expression of Renilla reniformis GFP and uses thereof are described below.

[0191] C. Bioluminescence Generating Systems and Components

[0192] The following is a description of bioluminescence generating systems and the components thereof. The *Renilla reniformis* GFP provided herein can be used alone for a variety of applications, and with any compatible bioluminescence generating systems.

[0193] A bioluminescence-generating system refers to the components that are necessary and sufficient to generate bioluminescence. These include a luciferase, luciferin and any necessary co-factors or conditions. Virtually any bioluminescent system known to those of skill in the art will be amenable to use in the apparatus, systems, combinations and methods provided herein. Factors for consideration in selecting a bioluminescent-generating system, include, but are not limited to: the targeting agent used in combination with the bioluminescence; the medium in which the reaction is run; stability of the components, such as temperature or pH sensitivity; shelf life of the components; sustainability of the light emission, whether constant or intermittent; availability of components; desired light intensity; color of the light; and other such factors. Such bioluminescence generating systems are known (see those described in U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,876,995, 6,152,358 and 6,113,886).

[0194] 1. General Description

[0195] In general, bioluminescence refers to an energy-yielding chemical reaction in which a specific chemical substrate, a *luciferin*, undergoes oxidation, catalyzed by an enzyme, a *luciferase*. Bioluminescent reactions are easily maintained, requiring only replenishment of exhausted *luciferin* or other substrate or cofactor or other protein, in order to continue or revive the reaction. Bioluminescence generating reactions are well-known to those of skill in this art and any such reaction may be adapted for use in combination with articles of manufacture as described herein.

[0196] There are numerous organisms and sources of bioluminescence generating systems, and some representative genera and species that exhibit bioluminescence are set forth in the following table (reproduced in part from Hastings in (1995) *Cell Physiology: Source Book*, N. Sperelakis (ed.), Academic Press, pp 665-681):

TABLE 2

Representative	Representative Luminous Organism		
Type of Organism	Representative Genera		
Bacteria	Photobacterium Vibrio Xenorhabdus		

TABLE 2-continued

IABLE 2-continued			
Representative Luminous Organism			
Type of Organism	Representative Genera		
Mushrooms	Panus, Armillaria Pleurotus		
Dinoflagellates	Gonyaulax Pyrocystis		
Cnidaria (coelenterates)	Noctiluca		
Jellyfish	Acquorea		
Hydroid	Obelia		
Sea Pansy Ctenophores	Renilla Mnemiopsis		
Annelids	Beroe		
Earthworms	Diplocardia		
Marine polychaetes	Chaetopterus, Phyxotrix		
Syllid fireworm	Odontosyllis		
Molluscs			
Limpet	Latia		
Clam	Pholas		
Squid	Heteroteuthis		
Crustacea	Heterocarpus		
Ostracod	Vargula (Cypridina)		
Shrimp (euphausids)	Meganyctiphanes		
	Acanthophyra		
	Oplophorus		
Degenod	Gnathophausia Sergestes		
Decapod Copepods	Sergesies		
Insects			
Coleopterids (beetles)			
Firefly	Photinus, Photiuris		
Click beetles	Pyrophorus		
Railroad worm	Phengodes, Phrixothrix Arachnocampa		
Diptera (flies) Echinoderms	Агистоситри		
Brittle stars	Ophiopsila		
Sea cucumbers	Laetmogone		
Anthozoans	Renilla		
Chordates			
Tunicates	Pyrosoma		
Fish	,		
Cartilaginos	Squalus		
Bony	1		
Ponyfish	Leiognathus		
Flashlight fish	Photoblepharon		
Angler fish	Cryptopsaras		
Midshipman Latern fish	Porichthys Benia		
Shiny loosejaw	Aristostomias		
Hatchet fish	Agyropelecus		
And other fish	Pachystomias Malacostaus		
Midwater fish	Malacosteus Cyclothone		
	Neoscopelus		
	Tarletonbeania		

[0197] Other bioluminescent organisms contemplated for use herein are *Gonadostomias*, *Gaussia* (copepods), *Waten*-

sia, Halisturia, Vampire squid, Glyphus, Mycotophids (fish), Vinciguerria, Howella, Florenciella, Chaudiodus, Melanocostus and Sea Pens.

[0198] It is understood that a bioluminescence generating system may be isolated from natural sources, such as those in the above Table, or may be produced synthetically. In addition, for uses herein, the components need only be sufficiently pure so that mixture thereof, under appropriate reaction conditions, produces a glow so that cells and tissues can be visualized during a surgical procedure.

[0199] Thus, in some embodiments, a crude extract or merely grinding up the organism may be adequate. Generally, however, substantially pure components are used. Also, components may be synthetic components that are not isolated from natural sources. DNA encoding *luciferases* is available (see, e.g., SEQ ID NOs. 1-13) and has been modified (see, e.g., SEQ ID NOs. 3 and 10-13) and synthetic and alternative substrates have been devised. The DNA listed herein is only representative of the DNA encoding *luciferases* that is available.

[0200] Any bioluminescence generating system, whether synthetic or isolated form natural sources, such as those set forth in Table 2, elsewhere herein or known to those of skill in the art, is intended for use in the combinations, systems and methods provided herein. Chemiluminescence systems per se, which do not rely on oxygenases (*luciferases*) are not encompassed herein.

[0201] (a) Luciferases

[0202] Luciferases refer to any compound that, in the presence of any necessary activators, catalyze the oxidation of a bioluminescence substrate (luciferin) in the presence of molecular oxygen, whether free or bound, from a lower energy state to a higher energy state such that the substrate, upon return to the lower energy state, emits light. For purposes herein, luciferase is broadly used to encompass enzymes that act catalytically to generate light by oxidation of a substrate and also photoproteins, such as aequorin, that act, though not strictly catalytically (since such proteins are exhausted in the reaction), in conjunction with a substrate in the presence of oxygen to generate light. These luciferases, including photoproteins, such as aequorin, are herein also included among the luciferases. These reagents include the naturally-occurring luciferases (including photoproteins), proteins produced by recombinant DNA, and mutated or modified variants thereof that retain the ability to generate light in the presence of an appropriate substrate, co-factors and activators or any other such protein that acts as a catalyst to oxidize a substrate, whereby light is produced.

[0203] Generically, the protein that catalyzes or initiates the bioluminescent reaction is referred to as a *luciferase*, and the oxidizable substrate is referred to as a *luciferin*. The oxidized reaction product is termed *oxyluciferin*, and certain *luciferin* precursors are termed *etioluciferin*. Thus, for purposes herein bioluminescence encompasses light produced by reactions that are catalyzed by (in the case of *luciferases* that act enzymatically) or initiated by (in the case of the photoproteins, such as *aequorin*, that are not regenerated in the reaction) a biological protein or analog, derivative or mutant thereof.

[0204] For clarity herein, these catalytic proteins are referred to as *luciferases* and include enzymes such as the

luciferases that catalyze the oxidation of luciferin, emitting light and releasing oxyluciferin. Also included among luciferases are photoproteins, which catalyze the oxidation of luciferin to emit light but are changed in the reaction and must be reconstituted to be used again. The luciferases may be naturally occurring or may be modified, such as by genetic engineering to improve or alter certain properties. As long as the resulting molecule retains the ability to catalyze the bioluminescent reaction, it is encompassed herein.

[0205] Any protein that has *luciferase* activity (a protein that catalyzes oxidation of a substrate in the presence of molecular oxygen to produce light as defined herein) may be used herein. The preferred *luciferases* are those that are described herein or that have minor sequence variations. Such minor sequence variations include, but are not limited to, minor allelic or species variations and insertions or deletions of residues, particularly cysteine residues. Suitable conservative substitutions of amino acids are known to those of skill in this art and may be made generally without altering the biological activity of the resulting molecule. Such substitutions are preferably made in accordance with those set forth in TABLE 1 as described above.

[0206] The *luciferases* may be obtained commercially, isolated from natural sources, expressed in host cells using DNA encoding the *luciferase*, or obtained in any manner known to those of skill in the art. For purposes herein, crude extracts obtained by grinding up selected source organisms may suffice. Since large quantities of the *luciferase* may be desired, isolation of the *luciferase* from host cells is preferred. DNA for such purposes is widely available as are modified forms thereof.

[0207] Examples of luciferases include, but are not limited to, those isolated from the ctenophores Mnemiopsis (mnemiopsin) and Beroe ovata (berovin), those isolated from the coelenterates Aequorea (aequorin), Obelia (obelin), Pelagia, the Renilla luciferase, the luciferases isolated from the mollusca Pholas (pholasin), the luciferases isolated from fish, such as Aristostomias, Pachystomias and Poricthys and from the ostracods, such as Cypridina (also referred to as Vargula). Preferred luciferases for use herein are the Aequorin protein, Renilla luciferase and Cypridina (also called Vargula) luciferase (see, e.g., SEQ ID NOs. 1, 2, and 4-13). Also, preferred are luciferases which react to produce red and/or near infrared light. These include luciferases found in species of Aristostomias, such as A. scintillans, Pachystomias, Malacosteus, such as M niger.

[0208] (b) Luciferins

[0209] The substrates for the reaction or for inclusion in the conjugates include any molecule(s) with which the *luciferase* reacts to produce light. Such molecules include the naturally-occurring substrates, modified forms thereof, and synthetic substrates (see, e.g., U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,374,534 and 5,098,828). Exemplary *luciferins* include those described herein, as well as derivatives thereof, analogs thereof, synthetic substrates, such as dioxetanes (see, e.g., U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,004,565 and 5,455,357), and other compounds that are oxidized by a *luciferase* in a light-producing reaction (see, e.g., U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,374,534, 5,098,828 and 4,950,588). Such substrates also may be identified empirically by selecting compounds that are oxidized in bioluminescent reactions.

[0210] (c) Activators

[0211] The bioluminescent generating systems also require additional components discussed herein and known to those of skill in the art. All bioluminescent reactions require molecular oxygen in the form of dissolved or bound oxygen. Thus, molecular oxygen, dissolved in water or in air or bound to a photoprotein, is the activator for bioluminescence reactions. Depending upon the form of the components, other activators include, but are not limited to, ATP (for firefly *luciferase*), flavin reductase (bacterial systems) for regenerating FMNH₂ from FMN, and Ca²⁺ or other suitable metal ion (*aequorin*).

[0212] Most of the systems provided herein will generate light when the *luciferase* and *luciferin* are mixed and exposed to air or water. The systems that use photoproteins that have bound oxygen, such as *aequorin*, however, will require exposure to Ca²⁺ (or other suitable metal ion), which can be provided in the form of an aqueous composition of a calcium salt. In these instances, addition of a Ca²⁺ (or other suitable metal ion) to a mixture of *luciferase* (*aequorin*) and *luciferin* (such as *coelenterazine*) will result in generation of light. The *Renilla* system and other *Anthozoa* systems also require Ca²⁺ (or other suitable metal ion).

[0213] If crude preparations are used, such as ground up *Cypridina* (shrimp) or ground fireflies, it may be necessary to add only water. In instances in which fireflies (or a firefly or beetle *luciferase*) are used the reaction may only require addition ATP. The precise components will be apparent, in light of the disclosure herein, to those of skill in this art or may be readily determined empirically.

[0214] It is also understood that these mixtures will also contain any additional salts or buffers or ions that are necessary for each reaction to proceed. Since these reactions are well-characterized, those of skill in the art will be able to determine precise proportions and requisite components. Selection of components will depend upon the apparatus, article of manufacture and *luciferase*. Various embodiments are described and exemplified herein; in view of such description, other embodiments will be apparent.

[**0215**] (d) Reactions

[0216] In all embodiments, all but one component, either the *luciferase* or *luciferin*, of a bioluminescence generating system will be mixed or packaged with or otherwise combined. Since the result to be achieved is the production of light visible to the naked eye for qualitative, not quantitative, diagnostic purposes, the precise proportions and amounts of components of the bioluminescence reaction need not be stringently determined or met. They must be sufficient to produce light. Generally, an amount of *luciferin* and *luciferase* sufficient to generate a visible glow is used; this amount can be readily determined empirically and is dependent upon the selected system and selected application. Where quantitative measurements are required, more precision may be required.

[0217] For purposes herein, such amount is preferably at least the concentrations and proportions used for analytical purposes by those of skill in the such arts. Higher concentrations may be used if the glow is not sufficiently bright. Alternatively, a microcarrier coupled to more than one *luciferase* molecule linked to a targeting agent may be utilized to increase signal output. Also because the condi-

tions in which the reactions are used are not laboratory conditions and the components are subject to storage, higher concentration may be used to overcome any loss of activity. Typically, the amounts are 1 mg, preferably 10 mg and more preferably 100 mg, of a luciferase per liter of reaction mixture or 1 mg, preferably 10 mg, more preferably 100 mg. Compositions may contain at least about 0.01 mg/l, and typically 0.1 mg/l, 1 mg/l, 10 mg/l or more of each component on the item. The amount of luciferin is also between about 0.01 and 100 mg/l, preferably between 0.1 and 10 mg/l, additional luciferin can be added to many of the reactions to continue the reaction. In embodiments in which the luciferase acts catalytically and does not need to be regenerated, lower amounts of luciferase can be used. In those in which it is changed during the reaction, it also can be replenished; typically higher concentrations will be selected. Ranges of concentration per liter (or the amount of coating on substrate the results from contacting with such composition) of each component on the order of 0.1 to 20 mg, preferably 0.1 to 10 mg, more preferably between about 1 and 10 mg of each component will be sufficient. When preparing coated substrates, as described herein, greater amounts of coating compositions containing higher concentrations of the luciferase or luciferin may be used.

[0218] Thus, for example, in presence of calcium, 5 mg of *luciferin*, such as coelenterazine, in one liter of water will glow brightly for at least about 10 to 20 minutes, depending on the temperature of the water, when about 10 mg of *luciferase* such as *aequorin* photoprotein *luciferase* or *luciferase* from *Renilla*, is added thereto. Increasing the concentration of *lucifera*, for example, to 100 mg/l, provides a particularly brilliant display of light.

[0219] It is understood, that concentrations and amounts to be used depend upon the selected bioluminescence generating system but these may be readily determined empirically. Proportions, particularly those used when commencing an empirical determination, are generally those used for analytical purposes, and amounts or concentrations are at least those used for analytical purposes, but the amounts can be increased, particularly if a sustained and brighter glow is desired.

[0220] For purposes herein, *Renilla reniformis* GFP is added to the reaction in order to shift the spectrum of the generated light.

[0221] 2. The Renilla System

[0222] Renilla, also known as soft coral sea pansies, are members of the class of coelenterates Anthozoa, which includes other bioluminescent genera, such as Cavarnularia, Ptilosarcus, Stylatula, Acanthoptilum, and Parazoanthus. Bioluminescent members of the Anthozoa genera contain luciferases and luciferins that are similar in structure (see, e.g., Cormier et al. (1973) J. Cell. Physiol. 81:291-298; see, also Ward et al. (1975) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 72:2530-2534). The luciferases and luciferins from each of these anthozoans crossreact with one another and produce a characteristic blue luminescence.

[0223] Renilla luciferase and the other coelenterate and ctenophore luciferases, such as the aequorin photoprotein, use imidazopyrazine substrates, particularly the substrates generically called coelenterazine (see, formulae (I) and (II) of Section C.4.b, below). Other genera that have luciferases

that use a coelenterazine include: squid, such as *Chiroteuthis, Eucleoteuthis, Onychoteuthis, Watasenia*, cuttlefish, *Sepiolina* shrimp, such as *Oplophorus, Acanthophyra, Sergestes*, and *Gnathophausia* deep-sea fish, such as *Argyropelecus, Yarella, Diaphus, Gonadostomias* and *Neoscopelus*.

[0224] Renilla luciferase does not, however, have bound oxygen, and thus requires dissolved oxygen in order to produce light in the presence of a suitable luciferin substrate. Since Renilla luciferase acts as a true enzyme (i.e., it does not have to be reconstituted for further use) the resulting luminescence can be long-lasting in the presence of saturating levels of luciferin. Also, Renilla luciferase is relatively stable to heat.

[0225] Renilla luciferases, DNA encoding Renilla reniformis luciferase, and use of the Renilla reniformis DNA to produce recombinant luciferase, as well as DNA encoding luciferase from other coelenterates, are well known and available (see, e.g., SEQ ID NO. 1, U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,418,155 and 5,292,658; see, also, Prasher et al. (1985) Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun. 126:1259-1268; Cormier (1981) "Renilla and Aequorea bioluminescence" in Bioluminescence and Chemiluminescence, pp. 225-233; Charbonneau et al. (1979) J. Biol. Chem. 254:769-780; Ward et al. (1979) J. Biol. Chem. 254:781-788; Lorenz et al. (1981) Proc. Natl. Acad, Sci. U.S.A. 88: 4438-4442; Hori et al. (1977) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 74:4285-4287; Hori et al. (1975) Biochemistry 14:2371-2376; Hori et al. (1977) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 74:4285-4287; Inouye et al. (1975) Jap. Soc. Chem. Lett. 141-144; and Matthews et al. (1979) Biochemistry 16:85-91). The DNA encoding Renilla reniformis luciferase and host cells containing such DNA provide a convenient means for producing large quantities of Renilla reniformis enzyme, such as in those known to those of skill in the art (see, e.g., U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,418,155 and 5,292,658, which describe recombinant production of Renilla reniformis luciferase).

[0226] When used herein, the *Renilla luciferase* can be packaged in lyophilized form, encapsulated in a vehicle, either by itself or in combination with the *luciferin* substrate. Prior to use the mixture is contacted with an aqueous composition, preferably a phosphate buffered saline pH 7-8; dissolved O₂ will activate the reaction. Final concentrations of *luciferase* in the glowing mixture will be on the order of 0.01 to 1 mg/l or more. Concentrations of *luciferin* will be at least about 10-8 M, but 1 to 100 or more orders of magnitude higher to produce a long lasting bioluminescence.

[0227] In certain embodiments herein, about 1 to 10 mg, or preferably 2-5 mg, more preferably about 3 mg of coelenterazine will be used with about 100 mg of *Renilla luciferase*. The precise amounts, of course can be determined empirically, and, also will depend to some extent on the ultimate concentration application. In particular, addition of about 0.25 ml of a crude extract from the bacteria that express *Renilla* to 100 ml of a suitable assay buffer and about 0.005 µg was sufficient to produce a visible and lasting glow (see, U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,418,155 and 5,292,658, which describe recombinant production of *Renilla reniformis luciferase*).

[0228] Lyophilized mixtures, and compositions containing the *Renilla luciferase* are also provided. The *luciferase* or mixtures of the *luciferase* and *luciferin* may also be encap-

sulated into a suitable delivery vehicle, such as a liposome, glass particle, capillary tube, drug delivery vehicle, gelatin, time release coating or other such vehicle. The *luciferase* may also be linked to a substrate, such as biocompatible materials.

[0229] 3. Ctenophore Systems

[0230] Ctenophores, such as Mnemiopsis (mnemiopsin) and Beroe ovata (berovin), and coelenterates, such as Aequorea (aequorin), Obelia (obelin) and Pelagia, produce bioluminescent light using similar chemistries (see, e.g., Stephenson et al. (1981) Biochimica et Biophysica Acta 678:65-75; Hart et al. (1979) Biochemistry 18:2204-2210; International PCT Application No. WO 94/18342, which is based on U.S. application Ser. No. 08/017,116, U.S. Pat. No. 5,486,455 and other references and patents cited herein). The Aequorin and Renilla systems are representative and are described in detail herein as exemplary and as among the presently preferred systems. The Aequorin and Renilla systems can use the same luciferin and produce light using the same chemistry, but each luciferase is different. The Aequorin luciferase aequorin, as well as, for example, the luciferases mnemiopsin and berovin, is a photoprotein that includes bound oxygen and bound luciferin, requires Ca²⁺ (or other suitable metal ion) to trigger the reaction, and must be regenerated for repeated use; whereas, the Renilla luciferase acts as a true enzyme because it is unchanged during the reaction and it requires dissolved molecular oxygen.

[0231] 4. The Aequorin System

[0232] The aequorin system is well known (see, e.g., Tsuji et al. (1986) "Site-specific mutagenesis of the calciumbinding photoprotein aequorin," Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 83:8107-8111; Prasher et al. (1985) "Cloning and Expression of the cDNA Coding for Aequorin, a Bioluminescent Calcium-Binding Protein," Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications 126:1259-1268; Prasher et al. (1986) Methods in Enzymology 133:288-297; Prasher, et al. (1987) "Sequence Comparisons of cDNAs Encoding for Aequorin Isotypes,"Biochemistry 26:1326-1332; Charbonneau et al. (1985) "Amino Acid Sequence of the Calcium-Dependent Photoprotein Aequorin," Biochemistry 24:6762-6771; Shimomura et al. (1981) "Resistivity to denaturation of the apoprotein of aequorin and reconstitution of the luminescent photoprotein from the partially denatured apoprotein," Biochem. J. 199:825-828; Inouye et al. (1989) J. Biochem. 105:473-477; Inouye et al. (1986) "Expression of Apoaequorin Complementary DNA in Escherichia coli," Biochemistry 25:8425-8429; Inouye et al. (1985) "Cloning and sequence analysis of cDNA for the luminescent protein aequorin, " Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 82:3154-3158; Prendergast, et al. (1978) "Chemical and Physical Properties of Aeguorin and the Green Fluorescent Protein Isolated from Aequorea forskalea" J Am. Chem. Soc. 17:3448-3453; European Patent Application 0 540 064 A1; European patent application 0 226 979 A2, European Patent Application 0 245 093 A1 and European patent application 0 245 093 B1; U.S. Pat. No. 5,093,240; U.S. Pat. No. 5,360,728; U.S. Pat. No. 5,139,937; U.S. Pat. No. 5,422,266; U.S. Pat. No. 5,023,181; U.S. Pat. No. 5,162,227; and SEQ ID Nos. 5-13, which set forth DNA encoding the apoprotein; and a form, described in U.S. Pat. No. 5,162,227, European patent application 0 540 064 A1 and Sealite Sciences Technical

Report No. 3 (1994), is commercially available from Sealite, Sciences, Bogart, Ga. as AQUALITE®).

[0233] This system is among the preferred systems for use herein. As will be evident, since the *aequorin* photoprotein includes noncovalently bound *luciferin* and molecular oxygen, it is suitable for storage in this form as a lyophilized powder or encapsulated into a selected delivery vehicle. The system can be encapsulated into pellets, such as liposomes or other delivery vehicles. When used, the vehicles are contacted with a composition, even tap water, that contains Ca²⁺ (or other suitable metal ion), to produce a mixture that glows.

[0234] a. Aequorin and Related Photoproteins

[0235] The photoprotein, aequorin, isolated from the jellyfish, Aequorea, emits light upon the addition of Ca²⁺ (or other suitable metal ion). The aequorin photoprotein, which includes bound luciferin and bound oxygen that is released by Ca²⁺, does not require dissolved oxygen. Luminescence is triggered by calcium, which releases oxygen and the luciferin substrate producing apoaqueorin.

[0236] The bioluminescence photoprotein aequorin is isolated from a number of species of the jellyfish Aequorea. It is a 22 kilodalton (kD) molecular weight peptide complex (see, e.g., Shimomura et al. (1962) J. Cellular and Comp. Physiol. 59:233-238; Shimomura et al. (1969) Biochemistry 8:3991-3997; Kohama et al. (1971) Biochemistry 10:4149-4152; and Shimomura et al. (1972) Biochemistry 11:1602-1608). The native protein contains oxygen and a heterocyclic compound coelenterazine, a luciferin, (see, below) noncovalently bound thereto. The protein contains three calcium binding sites. Upon addition of trace amounts Ca²⁺ (or other suitable metal ion, such as strontium) to the photoprotein, it undergoes a conformational change that catalyzes the oxidation of the bound coelenterazine using the protein-bound oxygen. Energy from this oxidation is released as a flash of blue light, centered at 469 nm. Concentrations of calcium ions as low as 10⁻⁶ M are sufficient to trigger the oxidation reaction.

[0237] Naturally-occurring apoaequorin is not a single compound but rather is a mixture of microheterogeneous molecular species. Aequoria jellyfish extracts contain as many as twelve distinct variants of the protein (see, e.g., Prasher et al. (187) Biochemistry 26:1326-1332; Blinks et al. (1975) Fed. Proc. 34:474). DNA encoding numerous forms has been isolated (see, e.g., SEQ ID NOs. 5-9 and 13).

[0238] The photoprotein can be reconstituted (see, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 5,023,181) by combining the apoprotein, such as a protein recombinantly produced in E. coli, with a coelenterazine, such as a synthetic coelenterazine, in the presence of oxygen and a reducing agent (see, e.g., Shimomura et al. (1975) Nature 256:236-238; Shimomura et al. (1981) Biochemistry J. 199:825-828), such as 2-mercaptoethanol, and also EDTA or EGTA (concentrations between about 5 to about 100 mM or higher for applications herein) tie up any Ca²⁺ to prevent triggering the oxidation reaction until desired. DNA encoding a modified form of the apoprotein that does not require 2-mercaptoethanol for reconstitution is also available (see, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. U.S. Pat. No. 5,093,240). The reconstituted photoprotein is also commercially available (sold, e.g., under the trademark AQUALITE®, which is described in U.S. Pat. No. 5,162, 227).

[0239] The light reaction is triggered by adding Ca²⁺ at a concentration sufficient to overcome the effects of the chelator and achieve the 10⁻⁶ M concentration. Because such low concentrations of Ca2+ can trigger the reaction, for use in the methods herein, higher concentrations of chelator may be included in the compositions of photoprotein. Accordingly, higher concentrations of added Ca²⁺ in the form of a calcium salt will be required. Precise amounts may be empirically determined. For use herein, it may be sufficient to merely add water to the photoprotein, which is provided in the form of a concentrated composition or in lyophilized or powdered form. Thus, for purposes herein, addition of small quantities of Ca²⁺, such as those present in phosphate buffered saline (PBS) or other suitable buffers or the moisture on the tissue to which the compositions are contacted, should trigger the bioluminescence reaction.

[0240] Numerous isoforms of the aequorin apoprotein been identified isolated. DNA encoding these proteins has been cloned, and the proteins and modified forms thereof have been produced using suitable host cells (see, e.g., U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,162,227, 5,360,728, 5,093,240; see, also, Prasher et al. (1985) Biophys. Biochem. Res. Commun. 126:1259-1268; Inouye et al. (1986) Biochemistry 25:8425-8429). U.S. Pat. No. 5,093,240; U.S. Pat. No. 5,360,728; U.S. Pat. No. 5,139,937; U.S. Pat. No. 5,288,623; U.S. Pat. No. 5,422,266, U.S. Pat. No. 5,162,227 and SEQ ID Nos. 5-13, which set forth DNA encoding the apoprotein; and a form is commercially available form Sealite, Sciences, Bogart, Ga. as AQUALITE®). DNA encoding apoaequorin or variants thereof is useful for recombinant production of high quantities of the apoprotein. The photoprotein is reconstituted upon addition of the *luciferin*, coelenterazine, preferably a sulfated derivative thereof, or an analog thereof, and molecular oxygen (see, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 5,023,181). The apoprotein and other constituents of the photoprotein and bioluminescence generating reaction can be mixed under appropriate conditions to regenerate the photoprotein and concomitantly have the photoprotein produce light. Reconstitution requires the presence of a reducing agent, such as mercaptoethanol, except for modified forms, discussed below, that are designed so that a reducing agent is not required (see, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 5,093,240).

[0241] For use herein, it is preferred *aequorin* is produced using DNA, such as that set forth in SEQ ID NOs. 5-13 and known to those of skill in the art or modified forms thereof. The DNA encoding *aequorin* is expressed in a host cell, such as *E. coli*, isolated and reconstituted to produce the photoprotein (see, e.g., U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,418,155, 5,292,658, 5,360,728, 5,422,266, 5,162,227).

[0242] Of interest herein, are forms of the apoprotein that have been modified so that the bioluminescent activity is greater than unmodified *apoaequorin* (see, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 5,360,728, SEQ ID NOs. 10-12). Modified forms that exhibit greater bioluminescent activity than unmodified *apoaequorin* include proteins including sequences set forth in SEQ ID NOs. 10-12, in which aspartate 124 is changed to serine, glutamate 135 is changed to serine, and glycine 129 is changed to alanine, respectively. Other modified forms with increased bioluminescence are also available.

[0243] For use in certain embodiments herein, the apoprotein and other components of the *aequorin* bioluminescence generating system are packaged or provided as a

mixture, which, when desired is subjected to conditions under which the photoprotein reconstitutes from the apoprotein, *luciferin* and oxygen (see, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 5,023, 181; and U.S. Pat. No. 5,093,240). Particularly preferred are forms of the apoprotein that do not require a reducing agent, such as 2-mercapto-ethanol, for reconstitution. These forms, described, for example in U.S. Pat. No. 5,093,240 (see, also Tsuji et al. (1986) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* 83:8107-8111), are modified by replacement of one or more, preferably all three cysteine residues with, for example serine. Replacement may be effected by modification of the DNA encoding the *aequorin* apoprotein, such as that set forth in SEQ ID NO. 5, and replacing the cysteine codons with serine.

[0244] The photoproteins and *luciferases* from related species, such as *Obelia* are also contemplated for use herein. DNA encoding the Ca²⁺-activated photoprotein *obelin* from the hydroid polyp *Obelia longissima* is known and available (see, e.g., Illarionov et al. (1995) *Gene* 153:273-274; and Bondar et al. (1995) *Biochim. Biophys. Acta* 1231:29-32). This photoprotein can also be activated by Mn²⁺ (see, e.g., Vysotski et al. (1995) *Arch. Bioch. Biophys.* 316:92-93, Vysotski et al. (1993) *J. Biolumin. Chemilumin.* 8:301-305).

[0245] In general for use herein, the components of the bioluminescence are packaged or provided so that there is insufficient metal ions to trigger the reaction. When used, the trace amounts of triggering metal ion, particularly Ca²⁺ is contacted with the other components. For a more sustained glow, *aequorin* can be continuously reconstituted or can be added or can be provided in high excess.

[0246] b. Luciferin

[0247] The aequorin luciferin is coelenterazine and analogs therein, which include molecules including the structure (formula (I)):

$$R^3$$
 N
 CH_2
 R^2

[0248] in which R_1 is $CH_2C_6H_5$ or CH_3 ; R_2 is C_6H_5 , and R_3 is $p-C_6H_4OH$ or CH_3 or other such analogs that have activity. Preferred coelenterazine has the structure in which R^1 is $p-CH_2C_6H_4OH$, R_2 is C_6H_5 , and R_3 is $p-C_6H4OH$, which can be prepared by known methods (see, e.g., Inouye et al. (1975) *Jap. Chem. Soc., Chemistry Lttrs. pp* 141-144; and Hart et al. (1979) *Biochemistry* 18:2204-2210). Among the preferred analogs, are those that are modified, whereby the spectral frequency of the resulting light is shifted to another frequency.

[0249] The preferred coelenterazine has the structure (formula (II)):

[0250] and sulfated derivatives thereof.

[0251] Another coelentratrazine has formula (V):

$$\begin{array}{c|c} & & & \\ & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & \\ & & & \\ & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & &$$

[0252] (see, Hart et al. (1979) *Biochemistry* 18:2204-2210). Using this derivative in the presence of *luciferase* all of the light is in the ultraviolet with a peak at 390 nm. Upon addition of GFP, all light emitted is now in the visible range with a peak at 509 nm accompanied by an about 200-fold increase in the amount of light emitted. Viewed with a cut-off filter of 470 nm, in the light yield in the absence of GFP would be about zero, and would be detectable in the presence of GFP. This provides the basis for an immunoassay described in the EXAMPLES.

[0253] The reaction of coelenterazine when bound to the *aequorin* photoprotein with bound oxygen and in the presence of Ca²⁺ can represented as follows:

-continued O
$$CH_2$$
 OH + hu + CO_2

COELENTERAMIDE

[0254] The photoprotein aequorin (which contains apoae-quorin bound to a coelenterate luciferin molecule) and Renilla luciferase, discussed below, can use the same coelenterate luciferin. The aequorin photoprotein catalyses the oxidation of coelenterate luciferin (coelenterazine) to oxyluciferin (coelenteramide) with the concomitant production of blue light (lambda_{max}=469 nm).

[0255] Importantly, the sulfate derivative of the *coelenterate luciferin* (lauryl-*luciferin*) is particularly stable in water, and thus may be used in a *coelenterate*-like bioluminescent system. In this system, adenosine diphosphate (ADP) and a sulpha-kinase are used to convert the coelenterazine to the sulphated form. Sulfatase is then used to reconvert the lauryl-*luciferin* to the native *coelenterazine*. Thus, the more stable lauryl-*luciferin* is used in the item to be illuminated and the *luciferase* combined with the sulfatase are added to the *luciferin* mixture when illumination is desired.

[0256] Thus, the bioluminescent system of Aequorea is particularly suitable for use in the methods herein. The particular amounts and the manner in which the components are provided depends upon the type of neoplasia or specialty tissue to be visualized. This system can be provided in lyophilized form, that will glow upon addition of Ca²⁺. It can be encapsulated, linked to microcarriers, such as microbeads, or in as a compositions, such as a solution or suspension, preferably in the presence of sufficient chelating agent to prevent triggering the reaction. The concentration of the aequorin photoprotein will vary and can be determined empirically. Typically concentrations of at least 0.1 mg/l, more preferably at least 1 mg/l and higher, will be selected. In certain embodiments, 1-10 mg luciferin/100 mg of *luciferase* will be used in selected volumes and at the desired concentrations will be used.

[0257] 5. Crustacean, Particularly Cyrpidina, Systems

[0258] The ostracods, such as Vargula serratta, hilgendorfii and noctiluca are small marine crustaceans, sometimes called sea fireflies. These sea fireflies are found in the waters off the coast of Japan and emit light by squirting luciferin and luciferase into the water, where the reaction, which produces a bright blue luminous cloud, occurs. The reaction involves only luciferin, luciferase and molecular oxygen, and, thus, is very suitable for application herein.

[0259] The systems, such as the *Vargula* bioluminescent systems, are particularly preferred herein because the components are stable at room temperature if dried and powdered and will continue to react even if contaminated. Further, the bioluminescent reaction requires only the

luciferin/luciferase components in concentrations as low as 1:40 parts per billion to 1:100 parts per billion, water and molecular oxygen to proceed. An exhausted system can be renewed by addition of *luciferin*.

[0260] a. Vargula Luciferase

[0261] The Vargula luciferase is water soluble and is among those preferred for use in the methods herein. Vargula luciferase is a 555-amino acid polypeptide that has been produced by isolation from Vargula and also using recombinant technology by expressing the DNA in suitable bacterial and mammalian host cells (see, e.g., Thompson et al. (1989) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 86:6567-6571; Inouye et al. (1992) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 89:9584-9587; Johnson et al. (1978) Methods in Enzymology LVII:331-349; Tsuji et al. (1978) Methods Enzymol. 57:364-72; Tsuji (1974) Biochemistry 13:5204-5209; Japanese patent application No. JP 3-30678 Osaka; and European patent application No. EP 0 387 355 A1).

[0262] (1) Purification From Cypridina

[0263] Methods for purification of *Vargula* (*Cypridina*) *luciferase* are well known. For example, crude extracts containing the active can be readily prepared by grinding up or crushing the *Vargula* shrimp. In other embodiments, a preparation of *Cypridina hilgendorfi luciferase* can be prepared by immersing stored frozen *C. hilgendorfi* in distilled water containing, 0.5-5.0 M salt, preferably 0.5-2.0 M sodium or potassium chloride, ammonium sulfate, at 0-30° C., preferably 0-10° C., for 1-48 hr, preferably 10-24 hr, for extraction followed by hydrophobic chromatography and then ion exchange or affinity chromatography (TORAY IND INC, Japanese patent application JP 4258288, published Sep. 14, 1993; see, also, Tsuji et al. (1978) *Methods Enzymol.* 57:364-72 for other methods).

[0264] (2) Preparation by Recombinant Methods

[0265] The *luciferase* is preferably produced by expression of cloned DNA encoding the *luciferase* (European patent application No. 0 387 355 A1; International PCT Application No. WO 95/001542; see, also SEQ ID No. 5, which sets forth the sequence from Japanese Patent Application No. JP 3-30678 and Thompson et al. (1989) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* 86:6567-6571) DNA encoding the *luciferase* or variants thereof is introduced into *E. coli* using appropriate vectors and isolated using standard methods.

[0266] b. Vargula Luciferin

[0267] The natural *luciferin* is a substituted imidazopyrazine nucleus, such a compound of formula (III):

[0268] The *luciferin* can be isolated from ground dried *Vargula* by heating the extract, which destroys the *luciferase* but leaves the *luciferin* intact (see, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 4,853,327).

[0269] Analogs thereof and other compounds that react with the *luciferase* in a light producing reaction also may be used.

[0270] Other bioluminescent organisms that have *luciferases* that can react with the *Vargula luciferin* include, the genera *Apogon*, *Parapriacanthus* and *Porichthys*.

[0271] c. Reaction

[0272] The *luciferin* upon reaction with oxygen forms a dioxetanone intermediate (which includes a cyclic peroxide similar to the firefly cyclic peroxide molecule intermediate). In the final step of the bioluminescent reaction, the peroxide breaks down to form $\rm CO_2$ and an excited carbonyl. The excited molecule then emits a blue to blue-green light.

[0273] The optimum pH for the reaction is about 7. For purposes herein, any pH at which the reaction occurs may be used. The concentrations of reagents are those normally used for analytical reactions or higher (see, e.g., Thompson et al. (1990) *Gene* 96:257-262). Typically concentrations of the *luciferase* between 0.1 and 10 mg/l, preferably 0.5 to 2.5 mg/l will be used. Similar concentrations or higher concentrations of the *luciferin* may be used.

[0274] 6. Insect Bioluminescent Systems Including Fireflies, Click Beetles, and Other Insect System

[0275] The biochemistry of firefly bioluminescence was the first bioluminescent system to be characterized (see, e.g., Wienhausen et al. (1985) *Photochemistry and Photobiology* 42:609-611; McElroy et al. (1966) in *Molecular Architecture in cell Physiology*, Hayashi et al., eds. Prentice Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, N.J., pp. 63-80) and it is commercially available (e.g., from Promega Corporation, Madison, Wis., see, e.g., Leach et al. (1986) *Methods in Enzymology* 133:51-70, esp. Table 1). *Luciferases* from different species of fireflies are antigenically similar. These species include members of the genera *Photinus, Photurins* and *Luciola*. Further, the bioluminescent reaction produces more light at 30° C. than at 20° C., the *luciferase* is stabilized by small quantities of bovine albumin serum, and the reaction can be buffered by tricine.

[0276] a. Luciferase

[0277] DNA clones encoding *luciferases* from various insects and the use to produce the encoded *luciferase* is well known. For example, DNA clones that encode *luciferase* from *Photinus pyralis, Luciola cruciata* (see, e.g., de Wet et al. (1985) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* 82:7870-7873; de We et al. (1986) *Methods in Enzymology* 133:3; U.S. Pat. No. 4,968,613, see, also SEQ ID NO. 3) are available. The DNA has also been expressed in *Saccharomyces* (see, e.g., Japanese Application No. JP 63317079, published Dec. 26, 1988, KIKKOMAN CORP) and in tobacco.

[0278] In addition to the wild-type *luciferase* modified insect *luciferases* have been prepared. For example, heat stable *luciferase* mutants, DNA-encoding the mutants, vectors and transformed cells for producing the *luciferases* are available. A protein with 60% amino acid sequence homology with *luciferases* from *Photinus pyralis*, *Luciola min-*

grelica, L. cruciata or L. lateralis and having luciferase activity is available (see, e.g., International PCT Application No. WO 95/25798). It is more stable above 30° C. than naturally-occurring insect luciferases and may also be produced at 37° C. or above, with higher yield.

[0279] Modified *luciferases* can generate light at different wavelengths (compared with native luciferase), and thus, may be selected for their color-producing characteristics. For example, synthetic mutant beetle luciferase(s) and DNA encoding such luciferases that produce bioluminescence at a wavelength different from wild-type luciferase are known (Promega Corp, International PCT Application No. WO 95/18853, which is based on U.S. application Ser. No. 08/177,081). The mutant beetle luciferase has an amino acid sequence differing from that of the corresponding wild-type Luciola cruciata (see, e.g., U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,182,202, 5,219, 737, 5,352,598, see, also SEQ ID No.3) by a substitution(s) at one or two positions. The mutant luciferase produces a bioluminescence with a wavelength of peak intensity that differs by at least 1 nm from that produced by wild-type luciferase.

[0280] Other mutant luciferases can be produced. Mutant luciferases with the amino acid sequence of wild-type luciferase, but with at least one mutation in which valine is replaced by isoleucine at the amino acid number 233, valine by isoleucine at 239, serine by asparagine at 286, glycine by serine at 326, histidine by tyrosine at 433 or proline by serine at 452 are known (see, e.g., U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,219,737, and 5,330,906). The luciferases are produced by expressing DNA-encoding each mutant luciferase in E. coli and isolating the protein. These luciferases produce light with colors that differ from wild-type. The mutant *luciferases* catalyze luciferin to produce red (λ 609 nm and 612 nm), orange (λ 595 and 607 nm) or green (λ 558 nm) light. The other physical and chemical properties of mutant luciferase are substantially identical to native wild type-luciferase. The mutant luciferase has the amino acid sequence of Luciola cruciata luciferase with an alteration selected from Ser 286 replaced by Asn, Gly 326 replaced by Ser, His 433 replaced by Tyr or Pro 452 replaced by Ser. Thermostable luciferases are also available (see, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 5,229,285; see, also International PCT Application No. WO 95/25798, which provides *Photinus luciferase* in which the glutamate at position 354 is replaced with lysine and Luciola luciferase in which the glutamate at 356 is replaced with lysine).

[0281] These mutant *luciferases* as well as the wild type *luciferases* can be used in combination with the GFPs provided herein particularly in instances when a variety of colors are desired or when stability at higher temperatures is desired.

[0282] b. Luciferin

[0283] The firefly *luciferin* is a benzothiazole:

$$N$$
 N
 N
 $COOH$

[0284] Analogs of this *luciferin* and synthetic firefly *luciferins* are also known to those of skill in art (see, e.g.,

U.S. Pat. No. 5,374,534 and 5,098,828). These include compounds of formula (IV) (see, U.S. Pat. No. 5,098,828):

$$\begin{array}{c|c} & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ R^2-O \end{array}$$

[0285] in which:

[0286] R^1 is hydroxy, amino, linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkoxy, C_2 - C_{20} alkyenyloxy, an L-amino acid radical bond via the α -amino group, an oligopeptide radical with up to ten L-amino acid units linked via the α -amino group of the terminal unit;

[0287] R² is hydrogen, H_2PO_3 , HSO_3 , unsubstituted or phenyl substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl or C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl, aryl containing 6 to 18 carbon atoms, or R³—C(O)—; and

[0288] R^3 is an unsubstituted or phenyl substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl or C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl, aryl containing 6 to 18 carbon atoms, a nucleotide radical with 1 to 3 phosphate groups, or a glycosidically attached monoor disaccharide, except when formula (IV) is a D-luciferin or D-luciferin methyl ester.

[0289] Modified *luciferins* that have been modified to produce light of shifted frequencies are known to those of skill in the art.

[0290] c. Reaction

[0291] The reaction catalyzed by firefly *luciferases* and related insect *luciferases* requires ATP, Mg²⁺ as well as molecular oxygen. *Luciferin* must be added exogenously. Firefly *luciferase* catalyzes the firefly *luciferin* activation and the subsequent steps leading to the excited product. The *luciferin* reacts with ATP to form a *luciferyl* adenylate intermediate. This intermediate then reacts with oxygen to form a cyclic *luciferyl peroxy* species, similar to that of the *coelenterate* intermediate cyclic peroxide, which breaks down to yield CO₂ and an excited state of the carbonyl product. The excited molecule then emits a yellow light; the color, however, is a function of pH. As the pH is lowered the color of the bioluminescence changes from yellow-green to red.

[0292] Different species of fireflies emit different colors of bioluminescence so that the color of the reaction will be dependent upon the species from which the *luciferase* is obtained. Additionally, the reaction is optimized at pH 7.8.

[0293] Addition of ATP and *luciferin* to a reaction that is exhausted produces additional light emission. Thus, the system, once established, is relatively easily maintained. Therefore, it is highly suitable for use herein in embodiments in which a sustained glow is desired.

[**0294**] 7. Other Systems

[0295] Numerous other systems are known and have been described in detail for example in U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,876,995, 6,152,358 and 6,113,886).

[0296] a. Bacterial Systems

[0297] Luminous bacteria typically emit a continuous light, usually blue-green. When strongly expressed, a single bacterium may emit 10⁴ to 10⁵ photons per second. Bacterial bioluminescence systems include, among others, those systems found in the bioluminescent species of the genera *Photobacterium, Vibrio* and *Xenorhabdus*. These systems are well known and well characterized (see, e.g., Baldwin et al. (1984) *Biochemistry* 23:3663-3667; Nicoli et al. (1974) J. *Biol. Chem.* 249:2393-2396; Welches et al. (1981) *Biochemistry* 20:512-517; Engebrecht et al. (1986) *Methods in Enzymology* 133:83-99; Frackman et al. (1990) *J. of Bacteriology* 172:5767-5773; Miyamoto et al. (1986) *Methods in Enzymology* 133:70; U.S. Pat. No. 4,581,335).

[**0298**] (1) Luciferases

[0299] Bacterial *luciferase*, as exemplified by *luciferase* derived from Vibrio harveyi (EC 1.14.14.3, alkanol reduced-FMN-oxygen oxidoreductase I-hydroxylating, luminescing), is a mixed function oxidase, formed by the association of two different protein subunits α and β . The α -subunit has an apparent molecular weight of approximately 42,000 kDa and the β-subunit has an apparent molecular weight of approximately 37,000 kDa (see, e.g., Cohn et al. (1989) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 90:102-123). These subunits associate to form a 2-chain complex luciferase enzyme, which catalyzes the light emitting reaction of bioluminescent bacteria, such as Vibrio harveyi (U.S. Pat. No. 4,581, 335; Belas et al. (1982) Science 218:791-793), Vibrio fischeri (Engebrecht et al. (1983) Cell 32:773-781; Engebrecht et al. (1984) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 81:4154-4158) and other marine bacteria.

[0300] Bacterial luciferase genes have been cloned (see, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 5,221,623; U.S. Pat. No. 4,581,335; European patent application No. EP 386 691 A). Plasmids for expression of bacterial luciferase, such as Vibrio harveyi, include pFIT001 (NRRL B-18080), pPALE001 (NRRL B-18082) and pMR19 (NRRL B-18081)) are known. For example the sequence of the entire lux regulon from Vibiro fisheri has been determined (Baldwin et al. (1984), Biochemistry 23:3663-3667; Baldwin et al. (1981) Biochem. 20:512-517; Baldwin et al. (1984) Biochem. 23:3663-3667; see, also, e.g., U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,196,318, 5,221,623, and 4,581, 335). This regulon includes luxI gene, which encodes a protein required for autoinducer synthesis (see, e.g., Engebrecht et al. (1984) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 81:4154-4158), the luxC, luxD, and luxE genes, which encode enzymes that provide the *luciferase* with an aldehyde substrate, and the luxA and luxB genes, which encode the alpha and beta subunits of the luciferase.

[0301] Lux genes from other bacteria have also been cloned and are available (see, e.g., Cohn et al. (1985) *J. Biol. Chem.* 260:6139-6146; U.S. Pat. No. 5,196,524, which provides a fusion of the luxA and luxB genes from *Vibrio harveyl*). Thus, *luciferase* alpha and beta subunit-encoding DNA is provided and can be used to produce the *luciferase*. DNA encoding the a (1065 bp) and a (984 bp) subunits, DNA encoding a *luciferase* gene of 2124 bp, encoding the alpha and beta subunits, a recombinant vector containing DNA encoding both subunits and a transformed *E. coli* and other bacterial hosts for expression and production of the encoded *luciferase* are available. In addition, bacterial *luciferases* are commercially available.

[0302] (2) Luciferins

[0303] Bacterial luciferins include:

[0304] R is, for example,

[0305] in which the tetradecanal with reduced flavin mononucleotide are considered *luciferin* since both are oxidized during the light emitting reaction.

[0306] (3) Reactions

[0307] The bacterial systems require, in addition to reduced flavin, five polypeptides to complete the bioluminescent reaction: two subunits, α and β , of bacterial *luciferin* and three units of a fatty acid reductase system complex, which supplies the tetradecanal aldehyde. Examples of bacterial bioluminescent systems useful in the apparatus and methods provided herein include those derived from *Vibrio fisheri* and *Vibrio harveyi*. One advantage to this system is its ability to operate at cold temperatures; certain surgical procedures are performed by cooling the body to lower temperatures.

[0308] Bacterial *luciferase* catalyzes the flavin-mediated hydroxylation of a long-chain aldehyde to yield carboxylic acid and an excited flavin; the flavin decays to ground state with the concomitant emission of blue green light (λ max=490 nm; see, e.g., Legocki et al. (1986) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 81:9080; see U.S. Pat. No. 5,196,524):

$$FMNH_2 + R - CHO + O_2 \xrightarrow{luciferase} R - COOH + H_2O + H_3O + H$$

[0309] The reaction can be initiated by contacting reduced flavin mononucleotide (FMNH₂) with a mixture of the bacterial *luciferase*, oxygen, and a long-chain aldehyde, usually n-decyl aldehyde.

[0310] DNA encoding *luciferase* from the fluorescent bacterium *Alteromonas hanedai* is known (CHISSO CORP; see, also, Japanese application JP 7222590, published Aug. 22, 1995). The reduced flavin mononucleotide (FMNH₂; *luciferin*) reacts with oxygen in the presence of bacterial

luciferase to produce an intermediate peroxy flavin. This intermediate reacts with a long-chain aldehyde (tetradecanal) to form the acid and the luciferase-bound hydroxy flavin in its excited state. The excited luciferase-bound hydroxy flavin then emits light and dissociates from the luciferase as the oxidized flavin mononucleotide (FMN) and water. In vivo FMN is reduced again and recycled, and the aldehyde is regenerated from the acid.

[0311] Flavin reductases have been cloned (see, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 5,484,723; see, SEQ ID NO. 14 for a representative sequence from this patent). These as well as NAD(P)H can be included in the reaction to regenerate FMNH.sub.2 for reaction with the bacterial *luciferase* and long chain aldehyde. The flavin reductase catalyzes the reaction of FMN, which is the *luciferase* reaction, into FMNH₂; thus, if *luciferase* and the reductase are included in the reaction system, it is possible to maintain the bioluminescent reaction. Namely, since the bacterial *luciferase* turns over many times, bioluminescence continues as long as a long chain aldehyde is present in the reaction system.

[0312] The color of light produced by bioluminescent bacteria also results from the participation of a protein blue-florescent protein (BFP) in the bioluminescence reaction. This protein, which is well known (see, e.g., Lee et al. (1978) *Methods in Enzymology* LVII:226-234), may also be added to bacterial bioluminescence reactions in order to cause a shift in the color.

[0313] b. Dinoflagellate Bioluminescence Generating Systems

[0314] In *dinoflagellates*, bioluminescence occurs in *organelles* termed *scintillons*. These *organelles* are outpocketings of the cytoplasm into the cell vacuole. The scintillons contain only *dinoflagellate luciferase* and *luciferin* (with its binding protein), other cytoplasmic components being somehow excluded. The *dinoflagellate luciferin* is a *tetrapy-rrole* related to *chlorophyll*:

[0315] or an analog thereof.

[0316] The *luciferase* is a 135 kD single chain protein that is active at pH 6.5, but inactive at pH 8 (see, e.g., Hastings (1981) *Bioluminescence and Chemiluminescence*, DeLuca et al., eds. Academic Press, NY, pp.343-360). Luminescent activity can be obtained in extracts made at pH 8 by simply shifting the pH from 8 to 6. This occurs in soluble and particulate fractions. Within the intact scintillon, the luminescent flash occurs for ~100 msec, which is the duration of the flash in vivo. In solution, the kinetics are dependent on dilution, as in any enzymatic reaction. At pH 8, the *luciferin* is bound to a protein (*luciferin* binding protein) that prevents reaction of the *luciferin* with the *luciferase*. At pH 6, however, the *luciferin* is released and free to react with the enzyme.

[0317] D. Isolation and Identification of Nucleic Acids Encoding *Luciferases* and GFPs

[0318] Nucleic acid encoding bioluminescent proteins are provided. Particularly, nucleic acid encoding *Renilla reniformis* GFP is provided.

[0319] 1. Isolation of Specimens of the Genus Renilla

[0320] Specimens of *Renilla* are readily available from the oceans of the world, including the Gulf of Mexico, Pacific Ocean and Atlantic Ocean. *Renilla* typically live on the ocean bottom at about 30 to 100 feet deep and can be easily collected by dragging. For example, specimens of *R. kollikeri* can be obtained off the coast of California or Baja, Mexico. Alternatively, live specimens of *Renilla* may be purchased from a commercial supplier (e.g., Gulf Marine Incorporated, Panacea, Fla.). Upon capture or receipt, the specimens are washed thoroughly and may also be dissected to enrich for light-emitting tissues. The whole organisms or dissected tissues are then snap frozen and stored in liquid nitrogen.

[0321] As described in detail in the examples below, the frozen tissues were used as a source to isolate nucleic acids encoding *Renilla mulleri* GFP and *luciferase* (e.g., see SEQ ID NO. 15 and SEQ ID NO. 17, respectively).

[0322] 2. Preparation of *Renilla* cDNA Expression Libraries

[0323] Renilla cDNA expression libraries may be prepared from intact RNA following the methods described herein or by other methods known to those of skill the art (e.g., see Sambrook et al. (1989) Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y.; U.S. Pat. No. 5,292,658).

[0324] Typically, the preparation of cDNA libraries includes the isolation of polyadenylated RNA from the selected organism followed by single-strand DNA synthesis using reverse transcriptase, digestion of the RNA strand of the DNA/RNA hybrid and subsequent conversion of the single-stranded DNA to double stranded cDNA.

[0325] a. RNA Isolation and cDNA Synthesis

[0326] Whole Renilla or dissected Renilla tissues can be used a source of total cytoplasmic RNA for the preparation of Renilla cDNA. Total intact RNA can be isolated from crushed Renilla tissue, for example, by using a modification of methods generally known in the art (e.g., see Chirgwin et al. (1970) Biochemistry 18:5294-5299). After isolating total cellular RNA, polyadenylated RNA species are then easily separated from the nonpolyadenylated species using affinity chromatography on oligodeoxythymidylate cellulose columns, (e.g., as described by Aviv et al., (1972) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 69:1408).

[0327] The purified *Renilla* polyA-mRNA is then subjected to a cDNA synthesis reaction to generate a cDNA library from total polyA-mRNA. Briefly, reverse transcriptase is used to extend an annealed polydT primer to generate an RNA/DNA duplex. The RNA strand is then digested using an RNase, e.g., RNase H, and following second-strand synthesis, the cDNA molecules are bluntedended with S1 nuclease or other appropriate nuclease. The resulting double-stranded cDNA fragments can be ligated directly into a suitable expression vector or, alternatively,

oligonucleotide linkers encoding restriction endonuclease sites can be ligated to the 5'-ends of the cDNA molecules to facilitate cloning of the cDNA fragments.

[0328] b. Construction of cDNA Expression Libraries

[0329] The best characterized vectors for the construction of cDNA expression libraries are lambda vectors. Lambdabased vectors tolerate cDNA inserts of about 12 kb and provide greater ease in library screening, amplification and storage compared to standard plasmid vectors. Presently preferred vectors for the preparation of *Renilla* cDNA expression libraries are the Lambda, Uni-Zap, Lambda-Zap II or Lambda-ZAP Express/EcoRI/XhoI vectors, which are known to those of skill in the art (e.g., see U.S. Pat. No. 5,128,256), and are also commercially available (Stratagene, La Jolla, Calif.).

[0330] Generally, the Lambda-Zap vectors combine the high efficiency of a bacteriophage lambda vector systems with the versatility of a plasmid system. Fragments cloned into these vectors can be automatically excised using a helper phage and recircularized to generate subclones in the pBK-derived phagemid. The pBK phagemid carries the neomycin-resistance gene for selection in bacteria and G418 selection in eukaryotic cells or may contain the β -lactamase resistance gene. Expression of the recombinant polypeptide is under the control of the lacZ promoter in bacteria and the CMV promoter in eukaryotes.

[0331] More specifically, these lambda-based vectors are composed of an initiator-terminator cassette containing the plasmid system, e.g., a pBK Bluescript derivative (Stratagene, San Diego), bracketed by the right and left arm of the bacteriophage lambda. The lambda arms allow for efficient packaging of replicated DNA whereas the excisable initiator-terminator cassette allows for easy cloning of the cDNA fragments and the generation of a plasmid library without the need for additional subcloning.

[0332] When used herein, cDNA fragments are inserted into the multiple cloning site contained within the initiatorterminator cassette of the Lambda-Zap vector to create a set of cDNA expression vectors. The set of cDNA expression vectors is allowed to infect suitable E. coli cells, followed by co-infection with a filamentous helper phage. Within the cell, trans-acting proteins encoded by the helper phage, e.g., the gene II protein of M13, recognize two separate domains positioned within the lambda arms of the vector and introduce single-stranded nicks flanking the intiator-terminator cassette. Upon a subsequent round of DNA synthesis, a new DNA strand is synthesized that displaces the existing nick strand liberating the initiator-terminator cassette. The displaced strand is then circularized, packaged as filamentous phage by the helper proteins and excreted from the cell. The BK plasmid containing the cDNA is recovered by infecting an F' strain of E. coli and plating the infected cells on solid medium supplemented with kanamycin for the selection of pBK-containing cells.

[0333] The Renilla cDNA expression library can be screened using a variety of methods known to those of skill in the art. For example, identification of Renilla GFP may be achieved using a functional screening method employing blue light and observing colonies visually for emission of green fluorescence or by observing light emission using one or more bandpass filter.

[0334] 3. Cloning of *Renilla reniformis* Green Fluorescent Protein

[0335] Renilla reniformis GFP has 233 amino aids compared to GFPs from animals that contain luciferase-GFP bioluminescent systems Renilla mulleri, Ptilosarcus and Aequorea victoria. Other such GFPs have 238 amino acids. At the amino acid level, Renilla reniformis is respectively 53, 51 and 19% identical to the GFPs from these animals. The extent of identity of Renilla reniformis GFP to the half dozen cloned anthozoan coral GFPs, which do not contain associated luciferases, ranges from 32 to 38%. The overall identity among these GFPs is surprisingly low for a protein evolved from a common ancestor. These relationships are depicted as a phylogenetic tree (FIG. 1).

[0336] Most surprising is the finding that the *Renilla reniformis* GFP is much more closely related to *Ptilosarcus* GFP (77% identity) than to *Renilla reniformis* GFP (53%). It is unclear why the sequence relatedness between these 3 GFPs does not follow traditional taxonomy. Given the sequence differences at the amino acid level, coding DNA sequences are surprisingly well conserved. *Renilla reniformis* GFP DNA is 56 and 59% identical to *Renilla mulleri* and *Ptilosarcus* GFP DNA.

[0337] Thus cloning *Renilla reniformis* GFP clone suggests why many groups may have failed in attempts to clone this gene by traditional methods. An attempt to sequence the entire protein by Edman degradation was difficult from the outset because the GFP was refractory to most attempts at specific proteolysis. Although over 80% of the protein was eventually accurately sequenced, a 30 amino acid region (110-139 of SEQ ID NO. 27) had not be sequenced (as well as other regions, including amino acids 41-43, 65-71; SEQ ID NO. 27). This 30 amino acid region apparently is degraded by the proteolytic methods used into very small fragments that are difficult to isolate and sequence; proper ordering of sequenced fragments was also difficult.

[0338] The cloned DNA fragments can be replicated in bacterial cells, such as E. coli. A preferred DNA fragment also includes a bacterial origin of replication, to ensure the maintenance of the DNA fragment from generation to generation of the bacteria. In this way, large quantities of the DNA fragment can be produced by replication in bacteria. Preferred bacterial origins of replication include, but are not limited to, the f1-ori and col E1 origins of replication. Preferred hosts contain chromosomal copies of DNA encoding T7 RNA polymerase operably linked to an inducible promoter, such as the lacUV promoter (see, U.S. Pat. No. 4,952,496). Such hosts include, but are not limited to, lysogens E. coli strains HMS 174(DE3)pLysS, BL21(DE3)pLysS, HMS174(DE3) and BL21 (DE3). Strain BL21 (DE3) is preferred. The pLys strains provide low levels of T7 lysozyme, a natural inhibitor of T7 RNA polymerase.

[0339] For expression and for preparation of muteins, such as temperature sensitive muteins, eukaryotic cells, among them, yeast cells, such as Saccharomyces are preferred.

[0340] Nucleic acid encoding fusion proteins of the *luciferases* and GFPs are also provided. The resulting fusion proteins are also provided. Nucleic acids that encode *luciferase* and GFPs as polycistronic mRNA or under the control of separate promoters are also provided. Methods of use thereof are also provided.

[0341] The GFP cloned from *Renilla* has spectral properties that make it extremely useful. These properties include very high quantum efficiency, high molar absorbency and efficient use with universally available fluorescein filters (e.g., Endo GFP filter set sold by Chroma). It is known that *Renilla reniformis* GFP is sixfold brighter than the wild-type *Aequorea* GFP on a molar basis, and three to fourfold brighter than the brightest mutant.

[0342] The Renilla mullerei GFP encoded by the nucleic acid clones provided herein exhibits similar functional characteristics, and the spectra appear identical with those from native reniformis GFP. Sequence comparison among the GFPs isolated from Aequorea victoria, Renilla mullerei, and Ptilosarcus reveal that the chromophore sequences of R. mullerei and Ptilosarcus are identical, and differ from A. victoria. These sequence differences point to protein sites that can be modified without affecting the essential fluorescence properties and also provide a means to identify residues that change these properties.

[0343] 4. Isolation and Identification of DNA Encoding Renilla mulleri GFP

[0344] Methods for identification and cloning of GPFs from *Renilla* have been described (see, published International PCT application No. WO 99/49019, and copending allowed U.S. application Ser. No. 09/277,716). Nucleic acid encoding *Renilla mulleri* has been isolated. Briefly, a *R. mulleri* λ Uni-Zap cDNA expression plasmid library was prepared, transformed into competent *E. coli* cells and plated onto modified L-broth plates containing carbon black to absorb background fluorescence. Transformants were sprayed with a solution containing IPTG to induce expression of the recombinant *Renilla* GFP from the heterologous cDNA. To identify GFP expressing clones, transformants were placed in blue light, preferably 470 to 490 nm light, and colonies that emitted green fluorescence were isolated and grown in pure culture.

[0345] The nucleotide sequence of the cDNA insert of a green fluorescent transformant was determined (e.g., see SEQ ID NO. 15). The 1,079 cDNA insert encodes a 238 amino acid polypeptide that is only 23.5% identical to A. victoria GFP. The recombinant protein exhibits excitation and emission spectra similar to those reported for live Renilla species.

[0346] 5. Isolation and Identification of DNA Encoding Renilla mulleri Luciferase

[0347] The above-described R. mulleri cDNA expression library was also used to clone DNA encoding a R. mulleri luciferase. Single colony transformants were grown on modified L-broth plates containing carbon black and expression from the heterologous DNA was induced with IPTG, essentially as described above. After allowing time for expression, the transformants were sprayed with coelenterazine and screened for those colonies that emit blue light. Light-emitting colonies were isolated and grown in pure culture.

[0348] The nucleotide sequence of the cDNA insert contained in the light-emitting transformant was determined. The 1,217 cDNA insert encodes a 311 amino acid polypeptide. The recombinant protein exhibits excitation and emission spectra similar to those reported for live *Renilla* species.

[0349] E. Recombinant Expression of Proteins

[0350] 1. DNA Encoding Renilla Proteins

[0351] As described above, DNA encoding a *Renilla* GFP or *Renilla luciferase* can be isolated from natural sources, synthesized based on *Renilla* sequences provided herein or isolated as described herein.

[0352] In preferred embodiments, the DNA fragment encoding a *Renilla* GFP has the sequence of amino acids set forth in SEQ ID NO. 27, encoded by nucleic acid, such as that set forth SEQ ID NOs. 23-26 and 27.

[0353] A DNA molecule encoding a *Renilla luciferase* has the sequence of amino acids set forth in SEQ ID NO. 18. In more preferred embodiments, the DNA fragment encodes the sequence of amino acids encoded by nucleotides 31-963 of the sequence of nucleotides set forth in SEQ ID NO. 17.

[0354] 2. DNA Constructs for Recombinant Production of *Renilla reniformis* GFP and Other Proteins

[0355] DNA is introduced into a plasmid for expression in a desired host. In preferred embodiments, the host is a bacterial host. The sequences of nucleotides in the plasmids that are regulatory regions, such as promoters and operators, are operationally associated with one another for transcription of the sequence of nucleotides that encode a *Renilla* GFP or *luciferase*. The sequence of nucleotides encoding the FGF mutein may also include DNA encoding a secretion signal, whereby the resulting peptide is a precursor of the *Renilla* GFP.

[0356] In preferred embodiments the DNA plasmids also include a transcription terminator sequence. The promoter regions and transcription terminators are each independently selected from the same or different genes.

[0357] A wide variety of multipurpose vectors suitable for the expression of heterologous proteins are known to those of skill in the art and are commercially available. Expression vectors containing inducible promoters or constitutive promoters that are linked to regulatory regions are preferred. Such promoters include, but are not limited to, the T7 phage promoter and other T7-like phage promoters, such as the T3, T5 and SP6 promoters, the trp, Ipp, tet and lac promoters, such as the lacUV5, from *E. coli*; the SV40 promoter; the P10 or polyhedron gene promoter of baculovirus/insect cell expression systems, retroviral long-terminal repeats and inducible promoters from other eukaryotic expression systems.

[0358] Particularly preferred vectors for recombinant expression of *Renilla mulleri* in prokaryotic organisms are lac- and T7 promoter-based vectors, such as the well known Bluescript vectors, which are commercially available (Stratagene, La Jolla, Calif.).

[0359] 3. Host Organisms for Recombinant Production of *Renilla* Proteins

[0360] Host organisms include those organisms in which recombinant production of heterologous proteins have been carried out, such as, but not limited to, bacteria (for example, *E. coli*, yeast (for example, *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* and *Pichia pastoris*), fungi, baculovirus/insect systems, amphibian cells, mammalian cells, plant cells and insect cells.

Presently preferred host organisms are strains of bacteria or yeast. Most preferred host organisms are strains of *E. coli* or *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*.

[0361] 4. Methods for Recombinant Production of *Renilla* Proteins

[0362] The DNA encoding a *Renilla* GFP or *Renilla mulleri luciferase* is introduced into a plasmid in operative linkage to an appropriate promoter for expression of polypeptides in a selected host organism. The DNA molecule encoding the *Renilla* GFP or *luciferase* may also include a protein secretion signal that functions in the selected host to direct the mature polypeptide into the periplasm or culture medium. The resulting *Renilla* GFP or *luciferase* can be purified by methods routinely used in the art, including methods described hereinafter in the Examples.

[0363] Methods of transforming suitable host cells, preferably bacterial cells, and more preferably *E. coli* cells, as well as methods applicable for culturing said cells containing a gene encoding a heterologous protein, are generally known in the art. See, for example, Sambrook et al. (1989) *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y.

[0364] Once the *Renilla*-encoding DNA molecule has been introduced into the host cell, the desired *Renilla* GFP is produced by subjecting the host cell to conditions under which the promoter is induced, whereby the operatively linked DNA is transcribed. The cellular extracts of lysed cells containing the protein may be prepared and the resulting "clarified lysate" was employed as a source of recombinant *Renilla* GFP or *Renilla mulleri luciferase*. Alternatively, the lysate may be subjected to additional purification steps (e.g., ion exchange chromatography or immunoaffinity chromatography) to further enrich the lysate or provide a homogeneous source of the purified enzyme (see e.g., U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,292,658 and 5,418,155).

[0365] 5. Recombinant Cells Expressing Heterologous Nucleic Acid Encoding *Renilla* GFP

[0366] Cells, vectors and methods are described with respect to *Renilla*. The same cells, vectors and methods may be used for expressing *luciferases* and other GFPs from species including *Gaussia*, *Pleuromamma* and *Ptilosarcus*.

[0367] Recombinant cells containing heterologous nucleic acid encoding a *Renilla reniformis* GFP are provided. In preferred embodiments, the recombinant cells express the encoded *Renilla* GFP which is functional and non-toxic to the cell.

[0368] In certain embodiments, the recombinant cells may also include heterologous nucleic acid encoding a component of a bioluminescence-generating system, preferably a photoprotein or *luciferase*. In preferred embodiments, the nucleic acid encoding the bioluminescence-generating system component is isolated from the species *Aequorea*, *Vargula* or *Renilla*. In more preferred embodiments, the bioluminescence-generating system component is a *Renilla mulleri luciferase* having the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO. 18.

[0369] Recombinant host cells containing heterologous nucleic acid encoding a *Renilla mulleri luciferase* are also provided. In preferred embodiments, the heterologous

nucleic acid encodes the sequence of amino acids as set forth in SEQ ID NO. 18. In more preferred embodiments, the heterologous nucleic acid encodes the sequence of nucleotides set forth in SEQ ID NO. 17.

[0370] Exemplary cells include bacteria (e.g., E. coli), plant cells, cells of mammalian origin (e.g., COS cells, mouse L cells, Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) cells, human embryonic kidney (HEK) cells, African green monkey cells and other such cells known to those of skill in the art), amphibian cells (e.g., Xenopus laevis oocytes), yeast cells (e.g., Saccharomyces cerevisiae, Pichia pastoris), and the like. Exemplary cells for expressing injected RNA transcripts include Xenopus laevis oocytes. Eukaryotic cells that are preferred for transfection of DNA are known to those of skill in the art or may be empirically identified, and include HEK293 (which are available from ATCC under accession #CRL 1573); Ltk⁻ cells (which are available from ATCC under accession #CCL1.3); COS-7 cells (which are available from ATCC under accession #CRL 1651); and DG44 cells (dhfr- CHO cells; see, e.g., Urlaub et al. (1986) Cell. Molec. Genet. 12: 555). Presently preferred cells include strains of bacteria and yeast.

[0371] The recombinant cells that contain the heterologous DNA encoding the *Renilla* GFP are produced by transfection with DNA encoding a *Renilla* GFP or *luciferase* or by introduction of RNA transcripts of DNA encoding a *Renilla* proteins using methods well known to those of skill in the art. The DNA may be introduced as a linear DNA fragment or may be included in an expression vector for stable or transient expression of the encoding DNA. The sequences set forth herein for *Renilla reniformis* GFP are presently preferred (see SEQ ID NOs 23-25 and 27; see, also SEQ ID NO. 26, which sets forth human optimized codons).

[0372] Heterologous DNA may be maintained in the cell as an episomal element or may be integrated into chromosomal DNA of the cell. The resulting recombinant cells may then be cultured or subcultured (or passaged, in the case of mammalian cells) from such a culture or a subculture thereof. Also, DNA may be stably incorporated into cells or may be transiently expressed using methods known in the art

[0373] The recombinant cells can be used in a wide variety of cell-based assay methods, such as those methods described for cells expressing wild type or modified *A. victoria* GFPs or GFP fusion proteins (e.g., see U.S. Pat. No. 5,625,048; International patent application Publication Nos. WO 95/21191; WO 96/23810; WO 96/27675; WO 97/26333; WO 97/28261; WO 97/41228; and WO 98/02571).

[0374] F. Compositions and Conjugates

[0375] Compositions and conjugates and methods of use are described with reference to *Renilla* proteins and nucleic acids. The same compositions and methods for preparation and use thereof are intended for use with other *luciferases*, such as *Pleuromamma* and *Ptilosarcus* proteins and nucleic acids.

[0376] 1. Renilla GFP Compositions

[0377] Compositions containing a *Renilla* GFP or GFP peptide are provided. The compositions can take any of a number of forms, depending on the intended method of use

therefor. In certain embodiments, for example, the compositions contain a *Renilla* GFP or GFP peptide, preferably *Renilla mulleri* GFP or *Renilla reniformis* GFP peptide, formulated for use in luminescent novelty items, immunoassays, FRET and FET assays. The compositions may also be used in conjunction with multi-well assay devices containing integrated photodetectors, such as those described herein.

[0378] Compositions that contain a *Renilla mulleri* GFP or GFP peptide and at least one component of a bioluminescence-generating system, preferably a *luciferase*, *luciferin* or a *luciferase* and a *luciferin*, are provided. In preferred embodiments, the *luciferase/luciferin* bioluminescence-generating system is selected from those isolated from: an insect system, a *coelenterate* system, a *crustacea* system, a bacterial system, a *mollusk* system, a *crustacea* system, a fish system, an annelid system, and an earthworm system. Presently preferred bioluminescence-generating systems are those isolated from *Renilla*, *Aequorea*, and *Vargula*.

[0379] In more preferred embodiments, the bioluminescence-generating system component is a *Renilla mulleri luciferase* having the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO. 18 or a *Renilla reniformis luciferase*. These compositions can be used in a variety of methods and systems, such as included in conjunction with diagnostic systems for the in vivo detection of neoplastic tissues and other tissues, such as those methods described in detail below.

[0380] These methods and products include any known to those of skill in the art in which *luciferase* is used, including, but not limited to U.S. application Ser. Nos. 08/757,046, 08/597,274 and 08/990,103, U.S. Pat. No. 5,625,048; International patent application Publication Nos. WO 95/21191; WO 96/23810; WO 96/27675; WO 97/26333; WO 97/28261; WO 97/41228; and WO 98/02571).

[0381] 2. Renilla Luciferase Compositions

[0382] DNA encoding the *Renilla mulleri luciferase* or *Renilla reniformis luciferase* is used to produce the encoded *luciferase*, which has diagnostic applications as well as use as a component of the bioluminescence generating systems as described herein, such as in beverages, and methods of diagnosis of neoplasia and in the diagnostic chips described herein. These methods and products include any known to those of skill in the art in which *luciferase* is used, including, but not limited to, U.S. application Ser. Nos. 08/757,046, 08/597,274 and 08/990,103, U.S. Pat. No. 5,625,048; International patent application Publication Nos. WO 95/21191; WO 96/23810; WO 96/27675; WO 97/26333; WO 97/28261; WO 97/41228; and WO 98/02571).

[0383] In other embodiments, the *Renilla luciferase* and the remaining components may be packaged as separate compositions, that, upon mixing, glow. For example, a composition containing *Renilla luciferase* may be provided separately from, and use with, a separate composition containing a bioluminescence substrate and bioluminescence activator. In another instance, *luciferase* and *luciferin* compositions may be separately provided and the bioluminescence activator may be added after, or simultaneously with, mixing of the other two compositions.

[0384] 3. Conjugates

[0385] Conjugates are provided herein for a variety of uses. Among them are for targeting to tumors for visualiza-

tion of the tumors, particularly in situ during surgery. A general description of these conjugates and the uses thereof is described in allowed U.S. application Ser. No. 08/908, 909. In practice, prior to a surgical procedure, the conjugate is administered via any suitable route, whereby the targeting agent binds to the targeted tissue by virtue of its specific interaction with a tissue-specific cell surface protein. During surgery the tissue is contacted, with the remaining component(s), typically by spraying the area or local injection, and any tissue to which conjugate is bound will glow. The glow should be sufficient to see under dim light or, if necessary, in the dark

[0386] The conjugates that are provided herein contain a targeting agent, such as a tissue specific or tumor specific monoclonal antibody or fragment thereof linked either directly or via a linker to a targeted agent, a *Renilla* GFP, *Renilla* or *Gaussia luciferase* and other *luciferases* (including photoproteins or *luciferase* enzymes) or a *luciferin*. The targeted agent may be coupled to a microcarrier. The linking is effected either chemically, by recombinant expression of a fusion protein in instances when the targeted agent is a protein, and by combinations of chemical and recombinant expression. The targeting agent is one that will preferentially bind to a selected tissue or cell type, such as a tumor cell surface antigen or other tissue specific antigen.

[0387] Methods for preparing conjugates are known to those of skill in the art. For example, aequorin that is designed for conjugation and conjugates containing such aequorin have been produced (see, e.g., International PCT application No. WO 94/18342; see, also Smith et al. (1995) in American Biotechnology Laboratory). Aequorin has been conjugated to an antibody molecule by means of a sulfhydryl-reacting binding agent (Stultz et al. (1992) Use of Recombinant Biotinylated Apoaequorin from Escherichia coli. Biochemistry 31, 1433-1442). Such methods may be adapted for use herein to produce the luciferase coupled to protein or other such molecules, which are useful as targeting agents. Vargula luciferase has also been linked to other molecules (see, e.g., Japanese application No. JP 5064583, Mar. 19, 1993). Such methods may be adapted for use herein to produce luciferase coupled to molecules that are useful as targeting agents.

[0388] The conjugates can be employed to detect the presence of or quantitate a particular antigen in a biological sample by direct correlation to the light emitted from the bioluminescent reaction.

[0389] As an alternative, a component of the bioluminescence generating system may be modified for linkage, such as by addition of amino acid residues that are particularly suitable for linkage to the selected substrate. This can be readily effected by modifying the DNA and expressing such modified DNA to produce *luciferase* with additional residues at the N- or C-terminus.

[0390] Methods for preparing conjugates are known to those of skill in the art. For example, aequorin that is designed for conjugation and conjugates containing such aequorin have been produced (see, e.g., International PCT application No. WO 94/18342; see, also Smith et al. (1995) in American Biotechnology Laboratory). Aequorin has been conjugated to an antibody molecule by means of a sulfhydryl-reacting binding agent (Stultz et al. (1992) Use of Recombinant Biotinylated Apoaequorin from Escherichia

coli. Biochemistry 31, 1433-1442). Such methods may be adapted for use herein to produce aequorin coupled to protein or other such molecules, which are useful as targeting agents. Vargula luciferase has also been linked to other molecules (see, e.g., Japanese application No. JP 5064583, Mar. 19, 1993). Such methods may be adapted for use herein to produce aequorin coupled to protein or other such molecules, which are useful as targeting agents. The bioluminescence generating reactions are used with the Renilla reniformis GFP provided herein.

[0391] a. Linkers

[0392] Any linker known to those of skill in the art may be used herein. Other linkers are suitable for incorporation into chemically produced conjugates. Linkers that are suitable for chemically linked conjugates include disulfide bonds, thioether bonds, hindered disulfide bonds, and covalent bonds between free reactive groups, such as amine and thiol groups. These bonds are produced using heterobifunctional reagents to produce reactive thiol groups on one or both of the polypeptides and then reacting the thiol groups on one polypeptide with reactive thiol groups or amine groups to which reactive maleimido groups or thiol groups can be attached on the other. Other linkers include, acid cleavable linkers, such as bismaleimideothoxy propane, acid labiletransferrin conjugates and adipic acid diihydrazide, that would be cleaved in more acidic intracellular compartments; cross linkers that are cleaved upon exposure to WV or visible light and linkers, such as the various domains, such as C_H1, C_H2, and C_H3, from the constant region of human IgG₁ (see, Batra et al. (1993) transferrin Molecular Immunol. 30:379-386). In some embodiments, several linkers may be included in order to take advantage of desired properties of each linker.

[0393] Chemical linkers and peptide linkers may be inserted by covalently coupling the linker to the TA and the targeted agent. The heterobifunctional agents, described below, may be used to effect such covalent coupling. Peptide linkers may also be linked by expressing DNA encoding the linker and TA, linker and targeted agent, or linker, targeted agent and TA as a fusion protein.

[0394] Flexible linkers and linkers that increase solubility of the conjugates are contemplated for use, either alone or with other linkers are contemplated herein.

heterobifunctional [0395] Numerous cross-linking reagents that are used to form covalent bonds between amino groups and thiol groups and to introduce thiol groups into proteins, are known to those of skill in this art (see, e.g., the PIERCE CATALOG, ImmunoTechnology Catalog & Handbook, 1992-1993, which describes the preparation of and use of such reagents and provides a commercial source for such reagents; see, also, e.g., Cumber et al. (1992) Bioconjugate Chem. 3:397-401; Thorpe et al. (1987) Cancer Res. 47:5924-5931; Gordon et al. (1987) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 84:308-312; Walden et al. (1986) J. Mol. Cell Immunol. 2:191-197; Carlsson et al. (1978) Biochem. J. 173: 723-737; Mahan et al. (1987) Anal. Biochem. 162:163-170; Wawryznaczak et al. (1992) Br. J. Cancer 66:361-366; Fattom et al. (1992) Infection & Immun. 60:584-589). These reagents may be used to form covalent bonds between the TA and targeted agent. These reagents include, but are not limited to: N-succinimidyl-3-(2-pyridyldithio)propionate (SPDP; disulfide linker); sulfosuccinimidyl 6-(3-(2-pyridyidithio)propionamido)hexanoate (sulfo-LC-SPDP); succinimidyloxycarbonyl-α-methyl benzyl thiosulfate (SMBT, hindered disulfate linker); succinimidyl 6-(3-(2-pyridyidithio) propionamido)hexanoate (LC-SPDP); sulfosuccinimidyl 4-(N-maleimidomethyl)cyclohexane-1-carboxylate (sulfo-SMCC); succinimidyl 3-(2-pyridyidithio)butyrate (SPDB; hindered disulfide bond linker); sulfosuccinimidyl 2-(7-azido-4-methylcoumarin-3-α-cetamide) ethyl-1,3'-dithiopropionate (SAED); sulfo-succinimidyl 7-azido-4-methylcoumarin-3-acetate (SAMCA); sulfosuccinimidyl 6-(alpha-methyl-alpha-(2pyridyldithio)toluamido)-hexanoate (sulfo-LC-SMPT); 1,4di-(3'-(2'-pyridyidithio)propion-amido)butane (DPDPB); 4-succinimidyloxycarbonyl-α-methyl-α-(2-pyridylthio)toluene (SMPT, hindered disulfate linker); sulfosuccinimidyl6(α-methy-1-α-(2-pyridyldithio)toluamido)hexanoate (sulfo-LC-SMPT); m-maleimidobenzoyl-N-hydroxysuccinimide ester (MBS); m-maleimidobenzoyl-N-hydroxysulfosuccinimide ester (sulfo-MBS); N-succinimidyl(4-iodoacetyl)aminobenzoate (SIAB; thioether linker): sulfosuccinimidyl(4-iodoacetyl)amino benzoate SIAB); succinimidyl4(p-maleimidophenyl)butyrate (SMPB); sulfosuccinimidyl4-(p-ma-leimidophenyl)butyrate (sulfo-SMPB); azidobenzoyl hydrazide (ABH)

[0396] Acid cleavable linkers, photocleavable and heat sensitive linkers may also be used, particularly where it may be necessary to cleave the targeted agent to permit it to be more readily accessible to reaction. Acid cleavable linkers include, but are not limited to, bismaleimideothoxy propane; and adipic acid dihydrazide linkers (see, e.g., Fattom et al. (1992) *Infection & Immun.* 60:584-589) and acid labile transferrin conjugates that contain a sufficient portion of transferrin to permit entry into the intracellular transferrin cycling pathway (see, e.g., Welhoner et al. (1991) *J. Biol. Chem.* 266:4309-4314).

[0397] Photocleavable linkers are linkers that are cleaved upon exposure to light (see, e.g., Goldmacher et al. (1992) Bioconj. Chem. 3:104-107, which linkers are herein incorporated by reference), thereby releasing the targeted agent upon exposure to light. Photocleavable linkers that are cleaved upon exposure to light are known (see, e.g., Hazum et al. (1981) in Pept., Proc. Eur. Pept. Symp., 16th, Brunfeldt, K (Ed), pp. 105-110, which describes the use of a nitrobenzyl group as a photocleavable protective group for cysteine; Yen et al. (1989) Makromol. Chem 190:69-82, which describes water soluble photocleavable copolymers, including hydroxypropylmethacrylamide copolymer, glycine copolymer, fluorescein copolymer and methylrhodamine copolymer; Goldmacher et al. (1992) Bioconj. Chem. 3:104-107, which describes a cross-linker and reagent that undergoes photolytic degradation upon exposure to near UV light (350 nm); and Senter et al. (1985) Photochem. Photobiol 42:231-237, which describes nitrobenzyloxycarbonyl chloride cross linking reagents that produce photocleavable linkages), thereby releasing the targeted agent upon exposure to light. Such linkers would have particular use in treating dermatological or ophthalmic conditions that can be exposed to light using fiber optics. After administration of the conjugate, the eye or skin or other body part can be exposed to light, resulting in release of the targeted moiety from the conjugate. Such photocleavable linkers are useful in connection with diagnostic protocols in which it is desirable to remove the targeting agent to permit rapid clearance from the body of the animal.

[0398] b. Targeting Agents

[0399] Targeting agents include any agent that will interact with and localize the targeted agent cells in a tumor or specialized tissue (targeted tissue). Such agents include any agent that specifically interacts with a cell surface protein or receptor that is present at sufficiently higher concentrations or amounts on the targeted tissue, whereby, when contacted with an appropriate bioluminescence generating reagent and activators produces light. These agents include, but are not limited to, growth factors, preferentially modified to not internalize, methotrexate, and antibodies, particularly, antibodies raised against tumor specific antigens. A plethora of tumor-specific antigens have been identified from a number of human neoplasms.

[0400] c. Anti-Tumor Antigen Antibodies

[0401] Polyclonal and monoclonal antibodies produced against selected antigens. Alternatively, many such antibodies are presently available. An exemplary list of antibodies and the tumor antigen for which each has been directed against is provided in U.S. application Ser. No. 08/908,909, which is incorporated by reference in its entirety. It is contemplated that any of the antibodies listed may be conjugated with a bioluminescence generating component following the methods provided herein.

[0402] Among the preferred antibodies for use in the methods herein are those of human origin or, more preferably, are humanized monoclonal antibodies. These are preferred for diagnosis of humans.

[0403] d. Preparation of the Conjugates

[0404] The methods for preparation of the conjugates for use in the tumor diagnostic methods can be used for preparation of the fusion proteins and conjugated proteins for use in the BRET system described below. Any method for linking proteins may be used. For example, methods for linking a *luciferase* to an antibody is described in U.S. Pat. No. 5,486,455. As noted above, the targeting agent and *luciferin* or *luciferase* may be linked directly, such as through covalent bonds, i.e., sulfhyryl bonds or other suitable bonds, or they may be linked through a linker. There may be more than one *luciferase* or *luciferin* per targeting agent, or more than one targeting agent per *luciferase* or *luciferin*.

[0405] Alternatively, an antibody, or F(Ab)₂ antigen-binding fragment thereof or other protein targeting agent may be fused (directly or via a linking peptide) to the *luciferase* using recombinant DNA technology. For example, the DNA encoding any of the anti-tumor antibodies of Table 3 may be ligated in the same translational reading frame to DNA encoding any of the above-described *luciferases*, e.g., SEQ ID NOs. 1-14 and inserted into an expression vector. The DNA encoding the recombinant antibody-*luciferase* fusion may be introduced into an appropriate host, such as bacteria or yeast, for expression.

[0406] 4. Formulation of the Compositions for Use in the Diagnostic Systems

[0407] In most embodiments, the *Renilla* GFPS and components of the diagnostic systems provided herein, such as *Renilla luciferase*, are formulated into two compositions: a first composition containing the conjugate; and a second composition containing the remaining components of the

bioluminescence generating system. The compositions are formulated in any manner suitable for administration to an animal, particularly a mammal, and more particularly a human. Such formulations include those suitable for topical, local, enteric, parenteral, intracystal, intracutaneous, intravitreal, subcutaneous, intramuscular, or intravenous administration.

[0408] For example, the conjugates, which in preferred embodiments, are a targeting agent linked to a *luciferase* (or photoprotein) are formulated for systemic or local administration. The remaining components are formulated in a separate second composition for topical or local application. The second composition will typically contain any other agents, such as spectral shifters that will be included in the reaction. It is preferred that the components of the second composition are formulated in a time release manner or in some other manner that prevents degradation and/or interaction with blood components.

[0409] a. The First Composition: Formulation of the Conjugates

[0410] As noted above, the conjugates either contain a luciferase or luciferin and a targeting agents. The preferred conjugates are formed between a targeting agent and a luciferase, particularly the Gaussia, Renilla mulleri or Pleuromamma luciferase. The conjugates may be formulated into pharmaceutical compositions suitable for topical, local, intravenous and systemic application. Effective concentrations of one or more of the conjugates are mixed with a suitable pharmaceutical carrier or vehicle. The concentrations or amounts of the conjugates that are effective requires delivery of an amount, upon administration, that results in a sufficient amount of targeted moiety linked to the targeted cells or tissue whereby the cells or tissue can be visualized during the surgical procedure. Typically, the compositions are formulated for single dosage administration. Effective concentrations and amounts may be determined empirically by testing the conjugates in known in vitro and in vivo systems, such as those described here; dosages for humans or other animals may then be extrapolated therefrom.

[0411] Upon mixing or addition of the conjugate(s) with the vehicle, the resulting mixture may be a solution, suspension, emulsion or the like. The form of the resulting mixture depends upon a number of factors, including the intended mode of administration and the solubility of the conjugate in the selected carrier or vehicle. The effective concentration is sufficient for targeting a sufficient amount of targeted agent to the site of interest, whereby when combined with the remaining reagents during a surgical procedure the site will glow. Such concentration or amount may be determined based upon in vitro and/or in vivo data, such as the data from the mouse xenograft model for tumors or rabbit ophthalmic model. If necessary, pharmaceutically acceptable salts or other derivatives of the conjugates may be prepared.

[0412] Pharmaceutical carriers or vehicles suitable for administration of the conjugates provided herein include any such carriers known to those skilled in the art to be suitable for the particular mode of administration. In addition, the conjugates may be formulated as the sole pharmaceutically ingredient in the composition or may be combined with other active ingredients.

[0413] The conjugates can be administered by any appropriate route, for example, orally, parenterally, intravenously,

intradermally, subcutaneously, or topically, in liquid, semiliquid or solid form and are formulated in a manner suitable for each route of administration. Intravenous or local administration is presently preferred. Tumors and vascular proliferative disorders, will typically be visualized by systemic, intradermal or intramuscular, modes of administration.

[0414] The conjugate is included in the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier in an amount sufficient to produce detectable tissue and to not result in undesirable side effects on the patient or animal. It is understood that number and degree of side effects depends upon the condition for which the conjugates are administered. For example, certain toxic and undesirable side effects are tolerated when trying to diagnose life-threatening illnesses, such as tumors, that would not be tolerated when diagnosing disorders of lesser consequence.

[0415] The concentration of conjugate in the composition will depend on absorption, inactivation and excretion rates thereof, the dosage schedule, and amount administered as well as other factors known to those of skill in the art. Typically an effective dosage should produce a serum concentration of active ingredient of from about 0.1 ng/ml to about 50-1000 μ g/ml, preferably 50-100 μ g/ml. The pharmaceutical compositions typically should provide a dosage of from about 0.01 mg to about 100-2000 mg of conjugate, depending upon the conjugate selected, per kilogram of body weight per day. Typically, for intravenous administration a dosage of about between 0.05 and 1 mg/kg should be sufficient. Local application for, such as visualization of ophthalmic tissues or local injection into joints, should provide about I ng up to 1000 μ g, preferably about 1 μ g to about 100 μ g, per single dosage administration. It is understood that the amount to administer will be a function of the conjugate selected, the indication, and possibly the side effects that will be tolerated. Dosages can be empirically determined using recognized models.

[0416] The active ingredient may be administered at once, or may be divided into a number of smaller doses to be administered at intervals of time. It is understood that the precise dosage and duration of administration is a function of the disease condition being diagnosed and may be determined empirically using known testing protocols or by extrapolation from in vivo or in vitro test data. It is to be noted that concentrations and dosage values may also vary with the 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 the concentration ranges set forth herein are exemplary only and are not intended to limit the scope or practice of the claimed compositions.

[0417] Solutions or suspensions used for parenteral, intradermal, subcutaneous, or topical application can include any of the following components: a sterile diluent, such as water for injection, saline solution, fixed oil, polyethylene glycol, glycerine, propylene glycol or other synthetic solvent; antimicrobial agents, such as benzyl alcohol and methyl parabens; antioxidants, such as ascorbic acid and sodium bisulfite; chelating agents, such as ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA); buffers, such as acetates, citrates and phosphates; and agents for the adjustment of tonicity such as

sodium chloride or dextrose. Parental preparations can be enclosed in ampules, disposable syringes or multiple dose vials made of glass, plastic or other suitable material.

[0418] If administered intravenously, suitable carriers include physiological saline or phosphate buffered saline (PBS), and solutions containing thickening and solubilizing agents, such as glucose, polyethylene glycol, and polypropylene glycol and mixtures thereof. Liposomal suspensions may also be suitable as pharmaceutically acceptable carriers. These may be prepared according to methods known to those skilled in the art.

[0419] The conjugates may be prepared with carriers that protect them against rapid elimination from the body, such as time release formulations or coatings. Such carriers include controlled release formulations, such as, but not limited to, implants and microencapsulated delivery systems, and biodegradable, biocompatible polymers, such as ethylene vinyl acetate, polyanhydrides, polyglycolic acid, polyorthoesters, polylacetic acid and others.

[0420] The conjugates may be formulated for local or topical application, such as for topical application to the skin and mucous membranes, such as in the eye, in the form of gels, creams, and lotions and for application to the eye or for intracistemal or intraspinal application. Such solutions, particularly those intended for ophthalmic use, may be formulated as 0.01%-10% isotonic solutions, pH about 5-7, with appropriate salts. The ophthalmic compositions may also include additional components, such as hyaluronic acid. The conjugates may be formulated as aerosols for topical application (see, e.g., U.S. Pat. Nos. 4,044,126, 4,414,209, and 4,364,923).

[0421] Also, the compositions for activation of the conjugate in vivo during surgical procedures may be formulated as an aerosol. These compositions contain the activators and also the remaining bioluminescence generating agent, such as *luciferin*, where the conjugate targets a *luciferase*, or a *luciferase*, where the conjugate targets a *luciferin*, such as coelenterazine.

[0422] If oral administration is desired, the conjugate should be provided in a composition that protects it from the acidic environment of the stomach. For example, the composition can be formulated in an enteric coating that maintains its integrity in the stomach and releases the active compound in the intestine. Oral compositions will generally include an inert diluent or an edible carrier and may be compressed into tablets or enclosed in gelatin capsules. For the purpose of oral administration, the active compound or compounds can be incorporated with excipients and used in the form of tablets, capsules or troches. Pharmaceutically compatible binding agents and adjuvant materials can be included as part of the composition.

[0423] Tablets, pills, capsules, troches and the like can contain any of the following ingredients, or compounds of a similar nature: a binder, such as microcrystalline cellulose, gum tragacanth and gelatin; an excipient such as starch and lactose, a disintegrating agent such as, but not limited to, alginic acid and corn starch; a lubricant such as, but not limited to, magnesium stearate; a glidant, such as, but not limited to, colloidal silicon dioxide; a sweetening agent such as sucrose or saccharin; and a flavoring agent such as peppermint, methyl salicylate, and fruit flavoring.

[0424] When the dosage unit form is a capsule, it can contain, in addition to material of the above type, a liquid carrier such as a fatty oil. In addition, dosage unit forms can contain various other materials which modify the physical form of the dosage unit, for example, coatings of sugar and other enteric agents. The conjugates can also be administered as a component of an elixir, suspension, syrup, wafer, chewing gum or the like. A syrup may contain, in addition to the active compounds, sucrose as a sweetening agent and certain preservatives, dyes and colorings and flavors.

[0425] The active materials can also be mixed with other active materials that do not impair the desired action, or with materials that supplement the desired action, such as cisplatin for treatment of tumors.

[0426] Finally, the compounds may be packaged as articles of manufacture containing packaging material, one or more conjugates or compositions as provided herein within the packaging material, and a label that indicates the indication for which the conjugate is provided.

[0427] b. The Second Composition

[0428] The second composition will include the remaining components of the bioluminescence generating reaction. In preferred embodiments in which these components are administered systemically, the remaining components include the *luciferin* or substrate, and optionally additional agents, such as spectral shifters, particularly the GFPs provided herein. These components, such as the *luciferin*, can be formulated as described above for the conjugates. In some embodiments, the *luciferin* or *luciferase* in this composition will be linked to a protein carrier or other carrier to prevent degradation or dissolution into blood cells or other cellular components.

[0429] For embodiments, in which the second composition is applied locally or topically, they can be formulated in a spray or aerosol or other suitable means for local or topical application.

[0430] In certain embodiments described herein, all components, except an activator are formulated together, such as by encapsulation in a time release formulation that is targeted to the tissue. Upon release the composition will have been localized to the desired site, and will begin to glow.

[0431] In practice, the two compositions can be administered simultaneously or sequentially. Typically, the first composition, which contains the conjugate is administered first, generally an hour or two before the surgery, and the second composition is then administered, either pre-operatively or during surgery.

[0432] The conjugates that are provided herein contain a targeting agent, such as a tissue specific or tumor specific monoclonal antibody or fragment thereof linked either directly or via a linker to a targeted agent, a *luciferase* (including photoproteins or *luciferase* enzymes) or a *luciferin*. The targeted agent may be coupled to a microcarrier. The linking is effected either chemically, by recombinant expression of a fusion protein in instances when the targeted agent is a protein, and by combinations of chemical and recombinant expression. The targeting agent is one that will preferentially bind to a selected tissue or cell type, such as a tumor cell surface antigen or other tissue specific antigen.

[0433] Methods for preparing conjugates are known to those of skill in the art. For example, aequorin that is designed for conjugation and conjugates containing such aequorin have been produced (see, e.g., International PCT application No. WO 94/18342; see, also Smith et al. (1995) in American Biotechnology Laboratory). Aequorin has been conjugated to an antibody molecule by means of a sulfhydryl-reacting binding agent (Stultz et al. (1992) Use of Recombinant Biotinylated Apoaequorin from Escherichia coli (Biochemistry 31:1433-1442). Such methods may be adapted for use herein to produce aequorin coupled to protein or other such molecules, which are useful as targeting agents. Vargula luciferase has also been linked to other molecules (see, e.g., Japanese application No. JP 5064583, Mar. 19, 1993). Such methods may be adapted for use herein to produce aequorin coupled to protein or other such molecules, which are useful as targeting agents.

[0434] Aequorin-antibody conjugates have been employed to detect the presence of or quantitate a particular antigen in a biological sample by direct correlation to the light emitted from the bioluminescent reaction.

[0435] As an alternative, the *Renilla* GFP or *Renilla mulleri* or *Gaussia luciferase* or a component of the bioluminescence generating system may be modified for linkage, such as by addition of amino acid residues that are particularly suitable for linkage to the selected substrate. This can be readily effected by modifying the DNA and expressing such modified DNA to produce *luciferase* with additional residues at the N- or C-terminus.

[0436] Selection of the system depends upon factors such as the desired color and duration of the bioluminescence desired as well as the particular item. Selection of the targeting agent primarily depends upon the type and characteristics of neoplasia or tissue to be visualized and the setting in which visualization will be performed.

[0437] The *Renilla reniformis* GFP is added to one or both compositions to act as a spectral shifter.

[0438] c. Practice of the Reactions in Combination with Targeting Agents

[0439] The particular manner in which each bioluminescence system will be combined with a selected targeting agent will be a function of the agent and the neoplasia or tissue to be visualized. In general, however, a *luciferin, Renilla GFP, Renilla mulleri, Pleuromamma* or *Gaussia luciferase* or other *luciferase*, of the reaction will be conjugated to the targeting agent, administered to an animal prior to surgery. During the surgery, the tissues of interest are contacted with the remaining component(s) of a bioluminescence generating system. Any tissue to which or with which the targeting agent reacts will glow.

[0440] Any color of visible light produced by a bioluminescence generating system is contemplated for use in the methods herein. Preferably the visible light is a combination of blue, green and/or red light of varying intensities and wavelengths. For visualizing neoplasia or specialty tissues through mammalian tissues or tumors deeply embedded in tissue, longer wavelengths of visible light, ie., red and near infrared light, is preferred because wavelengths of near infrared light of about 700-1300 nm are known to penetrate soft tissue and bone (e.g., see U.S. Pat. No. 4,281,645).

[0441] In other embodiments, the conjugate can be applied to the tissues during surgery, such as by spraying a sterile solution over the tissues, followed by application of the remaining components. Tissues that express the targeted antigen will glow.

[0442] The reagents may be provided in compositions, such as suspensions, as powders, as pastes or any in other suitable sterile form. They may be provided as sprays, aerosols, or in any suitable form. The reagents may be linked to a matrix, particularly microbeads suitable for in vivo use and of size that they pass through capillaries. Typically all but one or more, though preferably all but one, of the components necessary for the reaction will be mixed and provided together; reaction will be triggered contacting the mixed component(s) with the remaining component(s), such as by adding Ca²⁺, FMN with reductase, FMNH₂, ATP, air or oxygen.

[0443] In preferred embodiments the *luciferase* or *luciferase/luciferin* will be provided in combination with the targeting agent before administration to the patient. The targeting agent conjugate will then be contacted in vivo with the remaining components. As will become apparent herein, there are a multitude of ways in which each system may be combined with a selected targeting agent.

[0444] G. Combinations

[0445] Renilla reniformis GFP can be used in combination with articles of manufacture to produce novelty items. The Renilla reniformis GFP can be used with a bioluminescence generating system. Such items and methods for preparation are described in detail in U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,876,995, 6,152, 358 and 6,113,886) These novelty items, which are articles of manufacture, are designed for entertainment, recreation and amusement, and include, but are not limited to: toys, particularly squirt guns, toy cigarettes, toy "Halloween" eggs, footbags and board/card games; finger paints and other paints, slimy play material; textiles, particularly clothing, such as shirts, hats and sports gear suits, threads and varns; bubbles in bubble making toys and other toys that produce bubbles; balloons; figurines; personal items, such as bath powders, body lotions, gels, powders and creams, nail polishes, cosmetics including make-up, toothpastes and other dentifrices, soaps, body paints, and bubble bath; items such as fishing lures, inks, paper; foods, such as gelatins, icings and frostings; fish food containing luciferins and transgenic fish, particularly transgenic fish that express a luciferase; plant food containing a luciferin or luciferase, preferably a luciferin for use with transgenic plants that express luciferase and beverages, such as beer, wine, champagne, soft drinks, and ice cubes and ice in other configurations; fountains, including liquid "fireworks" and other such jets or sprays or aerosols of compositions that are solutions, mixtures, suspensions, powders, pastes, particles or other suitable form.

[0446] Any article of manufacture that can be combined with a bioluminescence-generating system as provided herein and thereby provide entertainment, recreation and/or amusement, including use of the items for recreation or to attract attention, such as for advertising goods and/or services that are associated with a logo or trademark is contemplated herein. Such uses may be in addition to or in conjunction with or in place of the ordinary or normal use of such items. As a result of the combination, the items glow or

produce, such as in the case of squirt guns and fountains, a glowing fluid or spray of liquid or particles.

[0447] H. Exemplary Uses of *Renilla reniformis* GFPs and Encoding Nucleic Acid Molecules

[0448] 1. Methods for Diagnosis of Neoplasms and Other Tissues

[0449] Methods for diagnosis and visualization of tissues in vivo or in situ, preferably neoplastic tissue, using compositions containing a Renilla mulleri or Ptilosarcus GFP and/or a Renilla mulleri, Pleuromamma or Gaussia luciferase are provided. For example, the Renilla mulleri GFP protein can be used in conjunction with diagnostic systems that rely on bioluminescence for visualizing tissues in situ, such as those described in co-pending application Ser. No. 08/908,909. The systems are particularly useful for visualizing and detecting neoplastic tissue and specialty tissue, such as during non-invasive and invasive procedures. The systems include compositions containing conjugates that include a tissue specific, particularly a tumor-specific, targeting agent linked to a targeted agent, such as a Renilla reniformis GFP, a luciferase or luciferin. The systems also include a second composition that contains the remaining components of a bioluminescence generating reaction and/ or the GFP. In some embodiments, all components, except for activators, which are provided in situ or are present in the body or tissue, are included in a single composition.

[0450] In particular, the diagnostic systems include two compositions. A first composition that contains conjugates that, in preferred embodiments, include antibodies directed against tumor antigens conjugated to a component of the bioluminescence generating reaction, a *luciferase* or *luciferin*, preferably a *luciferase* are provided. In certain embodiments, conjugates containing tumor-specific targeting agents are linked to *luciferases* or *luciferins*. In other embodiments, tumor-specific targeting agents are linked to microcarriers that are coupled with, preferably more than one of the bioluminescence generating components, preferably more than one *luciferase* molecule.

[0451] The second composition contains the remaining components of a bioluminescence generating system, typically the *luciferin* or *luciferase* substrate. In some embodiments, these components, particularly the *luciferin* are linked to a protein, such as a serum albumin, or other protein carrier. The carrier and time release formulations, permit systemically administered components to travel to the targeted tissue without interaction with blood cell components, such as hemoglobin that deactivates the *luciferin* or *luciferase*.

[0452] 2. Methods of Diagnosing Diseases

[0453] Methods for diagnosing diseases, particularly infectious diseases, using chip methodology, a *luciferase/luciferin* bioluminescence-generating system, including a *Gaussia, Pleuromamma* or *Renilla mulleri luciferase* plus a *Renilla reniformis* GFP, are provided. In particular, the chip includes an integrated photodetector that detects the photons emitted by the bioluminescence-generating system as shifted by the GFP. This chip device, which is described in copending U.S. application Ser. No. 08/990,103, which is published as International PCT application No. WO 98/26277, includes an integrated photodetector that detects the photons emitted by the bioluminescence generating

system. The method may be practiced with any suitable chip device, including self-addressable and non-self addressable formats, that is modified as described herein for detection of generated photons by the bioluminescence generating systems. The chip device provided herein is adaptable for use in an array format for the detection and identification of infectious agents in biological specimens.

[0454] To prepare the chip, a suitable matrix for chip production is selected, the chip is fabricated by suitably derivatizing the matrix for linkage of macromolecules, and including linkage of photodiodes, photomultipliers CCD (charge coupled device) or other suitable detector, for measuring light production; attaching an appropriate macromolecule, such as a biological molecule or anti-ligand, e.g., a receptor, such as an antibody, to the chip, preferably to an assigned location thereon. Photodiodes are presently among the preferred detectors, and specified herein. It is understood, however, that other suitable detectors may be substituted therefor.

[0455] In one embodiment, the chip is made using an integrated circuit with an array, such as an X-Y array, of photodetectors, such as that described in co-pending U.S. application Ser. No. 08/990,103. The surface of circuit is treated to render it inert to conditions of the diagnostic assays for which the chip is intended, and is adapted, such as by derivatization for linking molecules, such as antibodies. A selected antibody or panel of antibodies, such as an antibody specific for particularly bacterial antigen, is affixed to the surface of the chip above each photodetector. After contacting the chip with a test sample, the chip is contacted with a second antibody linked to the GFP, such as the Renilla GFP, to form a chimeric antibody-GFP fusion protein or an antibody linked to a component of a bioluminescence generating system, such as a Pleuromamma, Gaussia or R. mulleri luciferase. The antibody is specific for the antigen. The remaining components of the bioluminescence generating reaction are added, and, if any of the antibodies linked to a component of a bioluminescence generating system are present on the chip, light will be generated and detected by the adjacent photodetector. The photodetector is operatively linked to a computer, which is programmed with information identifying the linked antibodies, records the event, and thereby identifies antigens present in the test sample.

[0456] 3. Methods for Generating Renilla mulleri Luciferase, Pleuromamma Luciferase and Gaussia Luciferase Fusion Proteins with Renilla reniformis GFP.

[0457] Methods for generating GFP and *luciferase* fusion proteins are provided. The methods include linking DNA encoding a gene of interest, or portion thereof, to DNA encoding a *Renilla reniformis* GFP and a *luciferase* in the same translational reading frame. The encoded-protein of interest may be linked in-frame to the amino- or carboxylterminus of the GFP or *luciferase*. The DNA encoding the chimeric protein is then linked in operable association with a promoter element of a suitable expression vector. Alternatively, the promoter element can be obtained directly from the targeted gene of interest and the promoter-containing fragment linked upstream from the GFP or *luciferase* coding sequence to produce chimeric GFP proteins.

[0458] For example, a chimeric fusion containing the *luciferase*, preferably a *Renilla luciferase*, more preferably a *Renilla reniformis luciferase*, and *Renilla reniformis* GFP

encoding DNA linked to the N-terminal portion of a cellulose binding domain is provided.

[0459] 4. Cell-Based Assays for Identifying Compounds

[0460] Methods for identifying compounds using recombinant cells that express heterologous DNA encoding a *Renilla reniformis* GFP under the control of a promoter element of a gene of interest are provided. The recombinant cells can be used to identify compounds or ligands that modulate the level of transcription from the promoter of interest by measuring GFP-mediated fluorescence. Recombinant cells expressing chimeric GFPs may also be used for monitoring gene expression or protein trafficking, or determining the cellular localization of the target protein by identifying localized regions of GFP-mediated fluorescence within the recombinant cell.

[0461] I. Kits

[0462] Kits may be prepared containing the *Renilla reniformis* GFP or the encoding nucleic acid moleucles (see, SEQ ID NOs. 23-26) with or without components of a bioluminescence generating system for use in diagnostic and immunoassay methods and with the novelty items, including those described herein.

[0463] In one embodiment, the kits contain appropriate reagents and an article of manufacture for generating bioluminescence in combination with the article. These kits, for example, can be used with a bubble-blowing or producing toy or with a squirt gun. These kits can also include a reloading or charging cartridge.

[0464] In another embodiment, the kits are used for detecting and visualizing neoplastic tissue and other tissues and include a first composition that contains the *Renilla reniformis* GFP and a selected *luciferase*, such as a *Renilla mulleri*, *Renilla reniformis* or *Gaussia luciferase*, and a second that contains the activating composition, which contains the remaining components of the bioluminescence generating system and any necessary activating agents.

[0465] In other embodiments, the kits are used for detecting and identifying diseases, particularly infectious diseases, using multi-well assay devices and include a multi-well assay device containing a plurality of wells, each having an integrated photodetector, to which an antibody or panel of antibodies specific for one or more infectious agents are attached, and composition containing a secondary antibody, such as an antibody specific for the infectious agent that is linked, for example, to a Renilla reniformis GFP protein, a chimeric antibody-Renilla reniformis GFP fusion protein, F(Ab) antibody fragment-Renilla reniformis GFP fusion protein or to such conjugates containing the, for example, Gaussia or Renilla mulleri or reniformis, luciferase. A second composition containing the remaining components of a bioluminescence generating system, such as system that emits a wavelength of light within the excitation range of the GFP, such as species of Renilla or Aequorea, for exciting the Renilla luciferase, which produces green light that is detected by the photodetector of the device to indicate the presence of the agent.

[0466] In further embodiments, the kits contain the components of the diagnostic systems. The kits comprise compositions containing the conjugates, preferably *Renilla GFP* and a *Gaussia*, or Pleuromamma or *Renilla mulleri*

luciferase and remaining bioluminescence generating system components. The first composition in the kit typically contains the targeting agent conjugated to a GFP or luciferase. The second composition, contains at least the luciferin (substrate) and/or luciferase. Both compositions are formulated for systemic, local or topical application to a mammal. In alternative embodiments, the first composition contains the luciferin linked to a targeting agent, and the second composition contains the luciferase or the luciferase and a GFP.

[0467] In general, the packaging is non-reactive with the compositions contained therein and where needed should exclude water and or air to the degree those substances are required for the luminescent reaction to proceed.

[0468] Diagnostic applications may require specific packaging. The bioluminescence generating reagents may be provided in pellets, encapsulated as micro or macro-capsules, linked to matrices, preferably biocompatible, more preferably biodegradable matrices, and included in or on articles of manufacture, or as mixtures in chambers within an article of manufacture or in some other configuration. For example, a composition containing *luciferase* conjugate will be provided separately from, and for use with, a separate composition containing a bioluminescence substrate and bioluminescence activator.

[0469] Similarly, the Renilla reniformis GFP and selected luciferase and/or luciferin, such as a Pleuromamma, Renilla mulleri or Gaussia luciferase or luciferin, may be provided in a composition that is a mixture, suspension, solution, powder, paste or other suitable composition separately from or in combination with the remaining components, but in the absence of an activating component. Upon contacting the conjugate, which has been targeted to a selected tissue, with this composition the reaction commences and the tissue glows. In preferred embodiments, the tissue glows green emitting light near 510 nm. The luciferase, GFP and bioluminescence substrate, for example, are packaged to exclude water and/or air, the bioluminescence activator. Upon administration and release at the targeted site, the reaction with salts or other components at the site, including air in the case of surgical procedures, will activate the components. In some embodiments, it is desirable to provide at least the GFPs or one component of the bioluminescence generating system linked to a matrix substrate, which can then be locally or systemically administered.

[0470] Suitable dispensing and packaging apparatus and matrix materials are known to those of skill in the art, and preferably include all such apparatus described in U.S. patent Nos. see U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,876,995, 6,152,358 and 6,113,886.

[0471] J. Muteins

[0472] Muteins of the *Renilla reniformis* GFP are provided herein. Muteins in which conservative amino acid changes that do not alter its ability to act as an acceptor of energy generated by a *Renilla luciferase*/substrate reaction are provided. Also provided are muteins with altered properties, including muteins with altered spectral properties, muteins with altered surface properties that reduce multimerization, including dimerization.

[0473] 1. Mutation of GFP Surfaces to Disrupt Multimerization

[0474] FIG. 5 depicts the three anthozoan fluorescent proteins for which a crystal structure exists; another is available commercially from Clontech as dsRed (also known as drFP583, as in this alignment) (Wall et al. (2000); Nature Struct. Biol. 7:1133-1138; Yarbrough et al., (2001) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 98: 462-467). A dark gray background depicts amino acid conservation, and a light gray background depicts shared physiochemical properties. These crystal structures and biochemical characterization (Baird et al (2000) Proc. Natl Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 97: 11984-11989) show that dsRed exists as a obligate tetramer in vitro. Evidence also exists that dsRed multimerizes in living cells (Baird et al. (2000) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 97: 11984-11989). Sedimentation and native gel electrophoresis studies indicate that Ptilosarcus and Renilla mullerei GFPs also form tetramers in vitro and multimerize in vivo. Ptilosarcus and Renilla mullerei GFPs diverge strongly in amino acid sequence from dsRed (39% and 38% identical, respectively). Computational polypeptide threading algorithms predict that these GFPs fold into essentially the same structure as dsRed, and also the much more sequence divergent Aequorea victoria GFP. Renilla reniformis GFP is similarly related in sequence to d/Red, Ptilosarcus and Renilla mullerei GFPs (37%, 51% and 53% identical, respectively), and thus is extremely likely to form similar multimers. Multimerization is undesirable for many applications that use GFP as the reporting moiety in chimeric protein fusion. Hence muteins in which the capacity to multimerize is reduced are provided. Thus provided are mutations Renia reniformis GFP that disrupt the formation of GFP multimers. Such mutations may also be effected in the Ptilosarcus and Renilla mullerei and other GFPs (see FIG. 6).

[0475] Two interaction surfaces within the dsRed tetramer, one primarily hydrophobic (residues marked by X) and one primarily hydrophilic (residues marked by O) have been described (see, Wall et al. (2000); *Nature Struct. Biol.* 7:1133-1138). In general, the corresponding residues vary considerably between the 4 GFPs in a complex way, although the physicochemical properties of the amino acids are often conserved. There are a few clusters of conserved residues, especially between *Ptilosarcus* and *Renilla mullerei* GFPs, in keeping with their 77% overall identity.

[0476] The scheme provided herein for disruption focuses on altering surface amino acid side chains so that the surfaces acquire or retain a hydrophilic character, and are also altered in their stereo-chemistry (the sizes of the side chains are altered). These GFP surface regions roughly map to the P-sheet secondary structures that comprise the GFP P-barrel tertiary structure. It is thus essential that the secondary structure in any surface mutants be retained, so that the choice of amino acid side chain substitutions is governed by this consideration.

[0477] It is also desirable to introduce mutations that alter charge. For example, such mutations are those in which R, H and K residues have been replaced with D, such that the hydrophobic and hydrophilic surfaces now each contain 3 mutated residues (SEQ ID NO. 33; Lys to Asp at amino acids 108, 127 and 226, Arg to Asp at amino acids131 and 199; His to Asp at amino acid 172.

[0478] Site directed mutagenesis techniques are used to introduce amino acid side chains that are amenable to

aqueous solvation, and that significantly alter surface sterochemistry. Disruption of interacting surfaces involves lossof-function mutagenesis. It is thus contemplated that altering only a few residues, perhaps even one, is sufficient.

[0479] 2. Use of Advantageous GFP Surfaces with Substituted Fluorophores

[0480] Other surfaces of GFPs may be key determinants of GFP usefulness as reporters in living systems. A GFP surface may adventitiously interact with vital cellular components, thereby contributing to GFP-induced cytoxicity. Anthozoan GFPs from bioluminescent luciferase-GFP systems serve fundamentally different biological functions than do anthozoan GFPs from coral and anemones. The Renilla reniformis GFP is present in low quantity and functions as a resonance energy acceptor in response to a dynamic neural network that enables a startled animal to emit light flashes. A coral GFP-like protein is present in large quantity and apparently is used primarily as a passive pigment; it may not have evolved to dynamically interact with sensitive cellular machinery. These two classes of anthozoan fluorescent proteins thus may have surfaces with markedly different biological properties.

[0481] FIG. 4 exemplifies the site for substitution for inserting fluorophores into the background of Ptilosarcus, Renilla mullerei and Renilla reniformis GFPs. In particular, the 20 amino acid region that lies between two highly conserved prolines with the corresponding 20 amino acid region from any other anthozoan GFP (the underlined regions corresponds to amino acids 56-75 of SEQ ID NO. 27 Renilla reniformis GFP; amino acids 59-78 of SEQ ID NO. 16 Renilla mulleri GFP; and amino acids 59-78 of SEQ ID NO. 32 for Ptilosarcus GFP) is replaced or modified. These 20 residues comprise the bulk of a polypeptide region that threads along the interior of the β-barrel structure that is characteristic of anthozoan GFPs (Wall et al. (2000) Nature Struct. Biol. 7:1133-1138; Yarbrough et al. (2001) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 98: 462-467); replacement or modification alters spectral properties.

[0482] K. Transgenic Plants and Animals

[0483] As discussed above, transgenic animals and plants that contain the nucleic acid encoding the *Renilla reniformis* GFP are provided. Methods for producing transgenic plants and animals that express a GFP are known (see, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 6,020,538).

[0484] Among the transgenic plants and animals provided are those that are novelty items, such as animals with eyes or fingernails or tusks or hair that glows fluorescently. Transgenic food animals, such as chickens and cows and pigs are contemplated from which glowing meat and eggs (green eggs and ham) can be obtained; glowing worms can serve as fishing lures. In addition, the Renilla reniformis can serve as a reporter to detect that a heterologous gene linked to the GFP gene is incorporated into the animal's genome or becomes part of the genome in some or all cells. The Renilla reniformis can similarly be used as a reporter for gene therapy. The GFP can be introduced into plants to make transgenic ornamental plants that glow, such as orchids and roses and other flowering plants. Also the GFP can be used as a marker in plants, such as by linking it to a promoter, such as Fos that responds to secondary messages to assess signal transduction. The GFP can be linked to adenylcyclase causing the plants to emit different spectral frequencies as the levels of adenylcyclase change.

[0485] L. Bioluminescence Resonance Energy Transfer (BRET) System

[0486] In nature, coelenterazine-using luciferases emit broadband blue-green light (max. ~480 mn). Bioluminescence Resonance Energy Transfer (BRET) is a natural phenomenon first inferred from studies of the hydrozoan Obelia (Morin & Hastings (1971) J. Cell Physiol. 77:313-18), whereby the green bioluminescent emission observed in vivo was shown to be the result of the luciferase nonradiatively transferring energy to an accessory green fluorescent protein (GFP). BRET was soon thereafter observed in the hydrozoan Aeguorea victoria and the anthozoan Renilla reniforms. Although energy transfer in vitro between purified luciferase and GFP has been demonstrated in Aequorea (Morise et al. (1974) Biochemistry 13:2656-62) and Renilla (Ward & Cormier (1976) J. Phys. Chem. 80:2289-91) systems, a key difference is that in solution efficient radiationless energy transfer occurs only in Renilla, apparently due to the pre-association of one luciferase molecule with one GFP homodimer (Ward & Cormier (1978) Photochem. Photobiol. 27:389-96). The blue (486 nm) luminescent emission of Renilla luciferase can be completely converted to narrow band green emission (508 mn) upon addition of proper amounts of Renilla GFP (Ward & Cormier (1976) J. Phys. Chem. 80:2289-91). GFPs accept energy from excited states of luciferase-substrate complexes and re-emit the light as narrow-band green light (~510 nm). By virtue of the non-radiative energy transfer, the quantum yield of the luciferase is increased.

[0487] Luciferases and fluorescent proteins have many well-developed and valuable uses as protein tags and transcriptional reporters; BRET increases the sensitivity and scope of these applications. A GFP increases the sensitivity of the luciferase reporter by raising the quantum yield. A single luciferase fused (or chemically linked) to several spectrally distinct GFPs provides for the simultaneous use of multiple luciferase reporters, activated by addition of a single luciferin. By preparing two fusion proteins (or chemical conjugates), each containing a GFP having a different emission wavelength fused to identical luciferases, two or more reporters can be used with a single substrate addition. Thus multiple events may be monitored or multiple assays run using a single reagent addition. Such a reporter system is self-ratioing if the distribution of luciferin is uniform or reproducible.

[0488] The ability to conveniently monitor several simultaneous macromolecular events within a cell is a major improvement over current bioluminescent technology. BRET also enables completely new modes of reporting by exploiting changes in association or orientation of the *luciferase* and fluorescent protein. By making fusion proteins, the *luciferase*-GFP acceptor pair may be made to respond to changes in association or conformation of the fused moieties and hence serves as a sensor.

[0489] Energy transfer between two fluorescent proteins (FRET) as a physiological reporter has been reported (Miyawaki et al. (1997) *Nature* 388:882-7), in which two different GFPs were fused to the carboxyl and amino termini of *calmodulin*. Changes in calcium ion concentration caused a sufficient conformational change in calmodulin to alter the

level of energy transfer between the GFP moieties. The observed change in donor emission was $\sim 10\%$ while the change in ratio was ~ 1.8 .

[0490] FIG. 2, reproduced from allowed copending application U.S. application Ser. No. 09/277,716, illustrates the underlying principle of Bioluminescent Resonance Energy Transfer (BRET) using GFPs and luciferase, preferably cognate luciferase, and its use as sensor: A) in isolation, a luciferase, preferably an anthozoan luciferase, emits blue light from the *coelenterazine*-derived chromophore; B) in isolation, a GFP, preferably an anthozoan GFP that binds to the luciferase, that is excited with blue-green light emits green light from its integral peptide based fluorophore; C) when the luciferase and GFP associate as a complex in vivo or in vitro, the *luciferase* non-radiatively transfers its reaction energy to the GFP fluorophore, which then emits the green light; D) any molecular interaction that disrupts the luciferase-GFP complex can be quantitatively monitored by observing the spectral shift from green to blue light. Hence, the interaction or disruption thereof serves as a sensor.

[0491] The similar use of a *luciferase*-GFP pair in the presence of substrate *luciferin* has important advantages. First, there is no background and no excitation of the acceptor from the primary exciting light. Second, because the quantum yield of the *luciferase* is greatly enhanced by nonradiative transfer to GFP, background from donor emission is less, and the signal from the acceptor relatively greater. Third, the wavelength shift from the peak emission of *luciferase* (~480 nm) to that of the GFP (typically 508-510 nm) is large, minimizing signal overlap. All three factors combine to increase the signal-to-noise ratio. The concentration of the GFP acceptor can be independently ascertained by using fluorescence.

[0492] For some applications, in vitro crosslinked or otherwise in vitro modified versions of the native proteins is contemplated. The genetically encoded fusion proteins have many great advantages: A) In vivo use—unlike chemistry-based luminescence or radioactivity-based assays, fusion proteins can be genetically incorporated into living cells or whole organisms. This greatly increases the range of possible applications; B) Flexible and precise modification—many different response modifying elements can be reproducibly and quantitatively incorporated into a given luciferase-GFP pair; C) Simple purification—only one reagent would need to be purified, and its purification could be monitored via the fluorescent protein moiety. Ligand-binding motifs can be incorporated to facilitate affinity purification methods.

[0493] 1. Design of Sensors Based on BRET

[0494] Resonance energy transfer between two chromophores is a quantum mechanical process that is exquisitely sensitive to the distance between the donor and acceptor chromophores and their relative orientation in space (Wu & Brand (1994) *Anal. Biochem.* 218: 1-13). Efficiency of energy transfer is inversely proportional to the 6th power of chromophore separation. In practice, the useful distance range is about 10 to 100 A, which has made resonance energy transfer a very useful technique for studying the interactions of biological macromolecules. A variety of fluorescence-based FRET biosensors have been constructed, initially employing chemical fluors conjugated to proteins or membrane components, and more recently, using pairs of

spectrally distinct GFP mutants (Giuliano & Taylor (1998) *Trends Biotech.* 16:99-146; Tsien (1998) *Annu. Rev. Biochem.* 67:509-44).

[0495] Although these genetically encoded GFP bioluminescence-based biosensors have advantages over less convenient and less precise chemical conjugate-based biosensors, all share a limitation in their design: it is generally difficult to construct a biosensor in which energy transfer is quantitative when the chromophores are in closest apposition. It is almost impossible to arbitrarily manipulate the complex stereochemistry of proteins so that conjugated or intrinsic chromophores are stably positioned with minimal separation and optimal orientation. The efficiency of such biosensors are also often limited by stoichiometric imbalances between resonance energy donor and acceptor; the donor and acceptor macromolecules must be quantitatively complexed to avoid background signal emanating from uncomplexed chromophores. These limitations in general design become important when biosensors must be robust, convenient and cheap. Developing technologies such as high throughput screening for candidate drugs (using high throughput screening (HTS) protocols), biochips and environmental monitoring systems would benefit greatly from modular biosensors where the signal of a rare target "hit" (e.g., complex formation between two polypeptides) is unambiguously (statistically) distinguishable from the huge excess of "non-hits"). Current genetically encoded FRET and bioluminescence-based biosensors display hit signals that very often are less than two-fold greater than non-hit signals, and are at best a few-fold greater (Xu et al. (1999) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci USA 96: 151-156; Miyawaki et al. (1997) Nature 388:882-7).

[0496] To solve these problems, the anthozoan GFPs, particularly the *Renilla* GFPs, provided herein can be used in combination with its cognate *luciferases*. *Anthozoan luciferases*-GFP complexes provide a "scaffold" upon which protein domains that confer the biological properties specific to a given biosensor can be linked. Although one can construct many useful two component biosensors based on this scaffold, in a biosensor contemplated herein, independent protein domains that potentially complex with one another are respectively fused to the *luciferase* and the GFP.

[0497] There are many possible variations on this theme. For example, in a three component system either the *luciferase* or GFP can be fused to a ligand-binding domain from a protein of interest or other target peptide or other moiety of interest. If the design of the fusion protein is correct, binding of a small molecule or protein ligand then prevents the *luciferase*-GFP association. The resulting combination of elements is a BRET-based biosensor; the change in spectral properties in the presence and absence of the ligand serves as sensor. More complex protein fusions can be designed to create two component and even single component BRET biosensors for a multitude of uses.

[0498] The nucleic acids, and the constructs and plasmids herein, permit preparation of a variety of configurations of fusion proteins that include an anthozoan GFP, in this case *Renilla reniformis*, preferably with a *Renilla luciferase*, more preferably with the *Renilla reniformis luciferase*. The nucleic acid encoding the GFP can be fused adjacent to the nucleic acid encoding the *luciferase* or separated therefrom by insertion of nucleic acid encoding, for example, a ligand-

binding domain of a protein of interest. The GFP and *luciferase* will be bound. Upon interaction of the ligand-binding domain with the a test compound or other moiety, the interaction of the GFP and *luciferase* will be altered thereby changing the emission signal of the complex. If necessary the GFP and *luciferase* can be modified to fine tune the interaction to make it more sensitive to conformational changes or to temperature or other parameters.

[0499] 2. BRET Sensor Architectures

[0500] FIG. 3 depicts some exemplary BRET sensor architectures. The upper left panel depicts the *luciferase*-GFP scaffold, the basis for the representative BRET sensor architectures shown here. The depicted single polypeptide fusion constructs place the *luciferase* and GFP at the polypeptide termini, bracketing interacting protein domains of choice. The *luciferase* and GFP can alternatively be placed centrally within the polypeptide, between interacting protein domains (not shown). This alternative arrangement is advantageous for one step protein interaction-based cloning schemes, where cDNA fragments encoding potential protein targets can be ligated onto one end of the construct.

[0501] Single polypeptide sensors that detect conformational changes within protein targets or the association-dissociation of protein targets are well-suited for the detection of physiological signals, such as those mediated by phosphorylation or other modification of targets, or by binding of regulatory ligands, such as hormones, to targets. Sensors based on interference are best suited to assaying the presence of small molecules or proteins independent of any regulatory context. Quantitative assays of metabolites, such as a sugar and allergens, are among those contemplated.

[0502] Since in vivo and in vitro *luciferase*-to-GFP energy transfer can be nearly 100% efficient, binding interactions between the luciferase and GFP must be sufficient to establish an optimal spatial relationship between donor and acceptor chromophores. Optimization of the luciferase-GFP energy transfer module is important in building effective BRET sensors. In a single polypeptide sensor it is crucial that the luciferase-GFP interaction be weak relative to interactions between target domains, thus the need for an optimized energy transfer module. In practice, either the luciferase or GFP surface can be randomly mutagenized, and an optimized luciferase-GFP scaffold then selected by screening for either blue or green emission at two near physiological temperatures (thermal endpoint-selection) using current robotic systems. This disruption of BRET is readily achievable because loss-of-function mutants (weakened luciferase-GFP binding) are orders of magnitude more frequent than gain-of-function mutants.

[0503] With an optimized energy transfer scaffold in hand, thermal endpoint-selection can then be used, if necessary, to optimize the interactions between the target domains incorporated into a sensor. This second round of thermal endpoint-selection may be especially important for the construction of interference sensors because it is essential that such sensors be able to "open and close" at near physiological temperatures to sense interference. Thermal endpoint-selection can also be used to weaken the binding affinity of the analyte to the interference sensor, making it possible to thermally wash off the analyte and reuse the sensor, a great advantage for biochip-based applications.

[0504] 3. Advantages of BRET Sensors

[0505] There are many advantages to the BRET sensors provided herein. For example, BRET sensors are self-ratioing. The reporter and target are integrated into single polypeptide. This ensures 1:1:1 stoichiometry among luciferase, GFP and target (or a 1:N:1 stoichiometry if more than one, typically a homodimer, GFP can be bound to a luciferase). GFP fluorescence allows absolute quantitation of sensor. The null state gives signal that verifies sensor functionality. Quantifiable null state facilitates disruptionof-BRET sensors (DBRET). BRET sensors have better signal-to-noise ratio than GFP FRET sensors because there is no cellular autofluorescence, no excitation of the acceptor from the primary exciting light, the quantum yield of luciferase greatly enhanced by non-radiative energy transfer to GFP, and there is minimal signal overlap between emission of the *luciferase* and emission of the GFP. Also, anthozoan GFPs have 6-fold higher extinction coefficients than Aequorea GFP.

[0506] The BRET sensors can be used for hit identification and downstream evaluation in in vitro screening assays in in vitro or in vivo or in situ, including in cultured cells and tissues and animals. The BRET sensors can be created by thermal endpoint-selection, which is suited to DBRET (Disruption-of-BRET) and reduces need for knowledge of target 3D structure and functional dynamics. Existing screening robotics can be used to optimize biosensors. BRET sensors benefit from vast genetic diversity anthozoans have evolved efficient luciferase-GFP energy transfer systems and the components can be mixed and matched. Highly efficient heterologous luciferases may be substituted for less active luciferases. For example, a copepod luciferase active site can be fused to an anthozoan luciferase GFP-binding domain. There are many diverse coelenterazine-using luciferases.

[0507] BRET sensors are modular so that an optimized sensor scaffold may be used with different targets. Also the BRET acceptor may be varied to give shifted emissions, facilitating multiple simultaneous readouts. The anthozoan GFPs can be mutated, GFPs or other proteins can be modified with different chemical fluors, high throughput screening (HTS) fluor-modified FRET acceptors can be adapted, and the BRET donor (luciferase) may be varied, such as by using an Aequorin (Ca++ activated) photoprotein, or a firefly luciferse (requires ATP and a firefly luciferin) to give conditional activation. The sensor scaffold can be incorporated into a variety of immobilization motifs, including free format plates, which can reduce reagent volumes, reusable microtiter plates, miniature columns and biochips. Finally, BRET sensors are inexpensive and reproducible reagents because they can be produced by standardized protein production and can incorporate purification tags. Genetically encoded reporters more reproducible than chemically modified reporters. Linear translation of BRET modules ensures sensor integrity.

[0508] The following example is included for illustrative purposes only and is not intended to limit the scope of the invention.

EXAMPLE

[0509] Specimens of the sea pansy Renilla reniformis were collected from inshore waters off the coast of Georgia.

To prepare the sea pansies for isolation of mRNA, about 25 or so at time were placed on a large bed of dry ice. They were flipped with a spatula to flip them over to prevent them from freezing. Oddly, the entire animal illuminated when it came in contact with the dry ice. The brightest and greenest were culled, placed in a bag and back into sea water at about 65-70° C. for two hours. This process of dry ice, culling and sea water treatment was repeated three times over a 6 hour period. In addition, the process was performed at night. After they were exhausted with the last chilling, the culled animals were frozen solid. A cDNA library was prepared from the frozen animals.

[0510] The animals that were selected this way were frozen in liquid nitrogen, and shipped to Stratagene, Inc. (La Jolla, Calif.), a commercial vendor whose business includes the construction of custom cDNA libraries under contract to prepare the library. Purified polyA-mRNA was prepared, and a cDNA synthesis reaction was performed, appending a 3' XhoI site and a 5' EcoRI restriction site to the cDNA. The cDNA was inserted by ligation between the EcoRI and XhoI sites of the Uni-ZAP Lambda phage cDNA cloning vector.

[0511] The resulting unamplified library contained approximately 1.6×10⁸ primary plaques, which after amplification gave a titer of 3.5-7.5 pfb (plaque forming units)/ml. Insert sizes ranged from 0.9 to 3.0 kb, with an average size around 1.5 kb. Two mass excisions were performed to give pBluescript phagemid containing the cDNA inserts; each excision from about 8×10 plaques gave rise to about 4.8×10⁹ cfu (colony forming units)/ml. Phagemids were transfected into the SOLR strain of *E. coli*.

[0512] Screening was performed by plating (using an artist's airbrush) approximately 200,000 colonies to each of 40 cafeteria trays containing LB agar medium incorporating 0.4% carbon black to absorb background fluorescence. After 24 hours growth at 30° C. in a humidified incubator, GFP expressing colonies were identified by illuminating the plates using a 250 Watt quartz halogen fiber optics light (Cuda Products Corp) with an EGFP bandpass excitation filter (Chroma), and viewing colonies through a GFP bandpass emission filter. Approximately 10 fluorescent colonies were picked, DNA isolated from minipreps, and the DNA transformed into the XL-10 Gold E. coli strain (Stratagene). Analysis by restriction digestion resolved three distinguishable sizes of insert. DNA was prepared from a clone of each size class and sent to SeqWright LLB (Houston, Tex.) for sequencing. Sequencing data were reported to Prolume on 1-25-99.

[0513] Three independent cDNA clones of *Renilla reniformis* GFP were isolated (SEQ ID NOs 23-25). Each cDNA is fall length as judged by identical 5' termini and each encodes an identical protein of 233 amino acids (see SEQ ID NO. 27). Compared to the primary clone (Clone 1), the coding sequence of Clone 2 differs by 4 silent mutations. Clones 2 and 3 also contain small differences in the 5' and 3' untranslated regions of the cDNA. This nucleic acid has been inserted into expression vector, and the encoded protein produced.

[0514] Since modifications may be apparent to those of skill in the art, it is intended that the invention be limited only by the appended claims.

SEQUENCE LISTING

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			aat ggt tot tat Asn Gly Ser Tyr . 95	
	Tyr Lys Tyr I		ttg aac ttc tta Leu Asn Phe Leu 110	
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			gaa gaa gga gaa Glu Glu Gl y Glu 175	
	Asn Asn Phe F		atg ttg cca tca Met Leu Pro Ser 190	
	Leu Glu Pro G		gca tat ctt gaa Ala Tyr Leu Glu 205	
			tta tca tgg cct Leu Ser Trp Pro 220	
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ttt tcg caa gaa gat gca cct gat gaa atg gga aaa tat atc aaa tcg Phe Ser Gln Glu Asp Ala Pro Asp Glu Met Gly Lys Tyr Ile Lys Ser 290 295 300	912
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atg aag cta ata att ctg tct att ata ttg gcc tac tgt gtc aca gtc Met Lys Leu Ile Ile Leu Ser Ile Ile Leu Ala Tyr Cys Val Thr Val 1	96 144 192 240

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Ser Ile Pro Tyr Ser Ser Glu Asn Thr Ser Ile Tyr Trp Gln Asp Gly 405 gac atc ctg acg acg gcc atc cta cct gaa gct ctt gtc gtt aag ttc Asp Ile Leu Thr Thr Ala Ile Leu Pro Glu Ala Leu Val Val Lys Phe 420 acc ttt aag cag ctc ctt gta gtt cat atc aga gat cca ttc gat gga Asn Phe Lys Gln Leu Leu Val Val His Ile Arg Asp Pro Phe Asp Gly	Asp					${\tt Gly}$					Val					Val	1200
Asp Ile Leu Thr Thr Ala Ile Leu Pro Glu Ala Leu Val Val Lys Phe 420 425 430 aac ttt aag cag ctc ctt gta gtt cat atc aga gat cca ttc gat gga Asn Phe Lys Gln Leu Leu Val Val His Ile Arg Asp Pro Phe Asp Gly					Ser					Ser					Asp		1248
Asn Phe Lys Gln Leu Leu Val Val His Ile Arg Asp Pro Phe Asp Gly	-		_	Thr	-	-			Pro	-	_		_	Val	_		1296
			Lys					Val					Pro				1344

aag aca tgc ggc ata tgt ggt aac tat aat caa gat tca act gat gat	
Lys Thr Cys Gly Ile Cys Gly Asn Tyr Asn Gln Asp Ser Thr Asp Asp 450 450 460	1392
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			115					120					125				
						ggc Gly											432
Vá						acc Thr 150		-			-	_		-	_		480
						ctg Leu											528
						agt Ser											576
		_	_			atg Met			_					_			624
	_	_				cac His	_			_		_				-	672
A	_	_	_			ggt Gly 230			-					-	-		720
		-	-			cat His					_						768
				_		ttt Phe	_	-	_	_					_	-	816
_						act Thr			-			-		_	-		864
		-	-		-	ttt Phe	-					-	_				912
Ly			-	_		aat Asn 310		-			-				-		960
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						tat Tyr											1056
						gac Asp											1104
						aaa Lys											1152
G.						gga Gly 390											1200
						aat Asn											1248
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											con	CIII	uea	
		420					425					430		
cat ttc His Phe														1344
tac caa Tyr Gln 450														1392
tct atc Ser Ile 465														1440
gag ctt Glu Leu														1488
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gtt gct Val Ala 545														1644
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aac tgt Asn Cys		-	-	-		-	-		-	_			-	96
cca aca Pro Thr														144
acc aga Thr Arg 50	Cys													192
gaa aat Glu Asn 65														240
gaa tgc Glu Cys	_	-	-	_	_				_	_				288
aga ttt Arg Phe														336
aag ggt Lys Gly														384

_									con	tin	uea			
		115			120				125					
	aag Lys 130												432	
	ata Ile												480	
	gct Ala												528	
	gct Ala												576	
	aaa Lys			-		_	 	_		-	-		624	
	cca Pro 210												672	
	gag Glu												720	
	atc Ile												768	
	aat Asn		-	-		-		_	_				816	
	gct Ala												864	
	gcc Ala 290												912	
	ttc Phe	-	-		-	-	 _	-	_	-		_	960	
	gtt Val												1008	
	caa Gln												1056	
	tgg Trp												1104	
	act Thr 370												1152	
	ctc Leu												1200	
	atc Ile												1248	
	atc Ile												1296	

420 425 430	
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tgt aca gag gaa cag aaa cca gaa gct gag cga ctt tgc aat aat ctc Cys Thr Glu Glu Gln Lys Pro Glu Ala Glu Arg Leu Cys Asn Asn Leu 485 490 495	1488
ttt gat tct tct atc gac gag aaa tgt aat gtc tgc tac aag cct gac Phe Asp Ser Ser Ile Asp Glu Lys Cys Asn Val Cys Tyr Lys Pro Asp 500 505 510	1536
cgg att gcc cga tgt atg tac gag tat tgc ctg agg gga caa caa gga Arg Ile Ala Arg Cys Met Tyr Glu Tyr Cys Leu Arg Gly Gln Gln Gly 515 520 525	1584
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gga gac act cta gaa gta cca cct gaa tgt caa taaacgtaca aagatacaga Gly Asp Thr Leu Glu Val Pro Pro Glu Cys Gln 555	1685
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ata tgg ggt gat gct ttg ttt gat atc gtt gac aaa gat caa aat gga Ile Trp Gly Asp Ala Leu Phe Asp Ile Val Asp Lys Asp Gln Asn Gly 115 120 125	501
gcc att aca ctg gat gaa tgg aaa gca tac acc aaa gct gct ggt atc Ala Ile Thr Leu Asp Glu Trp Lys Ala Tyr Thr Lys Ala Ala Gly Ile 130 135 140 145	549
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aac cac aat gga agg atc tct ctt gac gag atg gtc tac aag gcg tcc Asn His Asn Gly Arg Ile Ser Leu Asp Glu Met Val Tyr Lys Ala Ser 35 40 45	144
gat att gtt ata aac aat ctt gga gca aca cct gaa caa gcc aaa cgt Asp Ile Val Ile Asn Asn Leu Gly Ala Thr Pro Glu Gln Ala Lys Arg 50 55 60	192
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										tini			
	{	35				90					95		
gct tcc gag g Ala Ser Glu G													336
cgt tta tgg g Arg Leu Trp G													384
gga gct att t Gly Ala Ile S 130													432
atc atc caa t Ile Ile Gln S 145			Asp										480
att gat gaa a Ile Asp Glu S		ly Gln		-	-	-		_		-			528
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								_	con	tını	ued		
130				135				140					
atc atc cas Ile Ile Glr 145													480
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tta gga tti Leu Gly Phe													576
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atg acc ago Met Thr Sei	c gaa	caa Gln				Leu					Asp		48
1 cca aga tgo Pro Arg Tr													96
aac cac aat Asn His Asn 35	ı Gly												144
gat att gto Asp Ile Val													192
cac aaa gat His Lys Asp 65													240
ggt gtg gaa Gly Val Glu		-			-							-	288
gct act gat Ala Thr Asp													336
cgt ata tgg Arg Ile Trp 115	Gly												384
gga gcc att Gly Ala Ile 130													432
atc atc cas Ile Ile Glr 145			-	-	_	 -			_		_	-	480
att gat gaa Ile Asp Glu													528
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		gtt Val														1	92
		gat Asp		-		-					-	-	_			2	40
		gaa Glu														2	88
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		tgg Trp 115														3	84
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		ttt Phe														5	76
		gtc Val 195														5	88
<21 <21 <21 <22 <22	1> LE 2> TY 3> OF 0> FE 1> NA	EQ II ENGTH PE: RGANI EATUF AME/F	I: 58 DNA SM: RE: KEY:	8 Aeqı CDS			ctori	La									
		HER QUEN			ION:	Rec	idmo	inant	: sit	e-di	irect	ed A	Aequo	orin	muta	nt	
atg	acc	agc Ser	gaa	caa													48
		tgg Trp															96
aac	cac	aat	gga	agg	atc	tct	ctt	gac	gag	atg	gtc	tac	aag	gcg	tcc	1	44

Asn His Asn Gly Arg Ile Ser Leu Asp Glu Met Val Tyr Lys Ala Ser 35 40 45	
gat att gtt ata aac aat ctt gga gca aca cct gaa caa gcc aaa cgt Asp Ile Val Ile Asn Asn Leu Gly Ala Thr Pro Glu Gln Ala Lys Arg 50 55 60	192
cac aaa gat gct gta gaa gcc ttc ttc gga gga gct gca atg aaa tat His Lys Asp Ala Val Glu Ala Phe Phe Gly Gly Ala Ala Met Lys Tyr 65 70 75 80	240
ggt gta gaa act gaa tgg cct gaa tac atc gaa gga tgg aaa aga ctg Gly Val Glu Thr Glu Trp Pro Glu Tyr Ile Glu Gly Trp Lys Arg Leu 85 90 95	288
gct tcc gag gaa ttg aaa agg tat tca aaa aac caa atc aca ctt att Ala Ser Glu Glu Leu Lys Arg Tyr Ser Lys Asn Gln Ile Thr Leu Ile 100 105 110	336
cgt tta tgg ggt gat gca ttg ttc gat atc att tcc aaa gac caa aat Arg Leu Trp Gly Asp Ala Leu Phe Asp Ile Ile Ser Lys Asp Gln Asn 115 120 125	384
gga gct att tca ctg gat tca tgg aaa gca tac acc aaa tct gct ggc Gly Ala Ile Ser Leu Asp Ser Trp Lys Ala Tyr Thr Lys Ser Ala Gly 130 135 140	432
atc atc caa tcg tca gaa gat tgc gag gaa aca ttc aga gtg tgc gat Ile Ile Gln Ser Ser Glu Asp Cys Glu Glu Thr Phe Arg Val Cys Asp 145 150 155 160	480 528
att gat gaa agt gga cag ctc gat gtt gat gag atg aca aga caa cat Ile Asp Glu Ser Gly Gln Leu Asp Val Asp Glu Met Thr Arg Gln His 165 170 175	576
tta gga ttt tgg tac acc atg gat cct gct tgc gaa aag ctc tac ggt Leu Gly Phe Trp Tyr Thr Met Asp Pro Ala Cys Glu Lys Leu Tyr Gly 180 185 190 qga gct gtc ccc	588
Gly Ala Val Pro 195	
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cca aaa tgg att gga cga cac aag cac atg ttt aat ttt ctt gat gtc Pro Lys Trp Ile Gly Arg His Lys His Met Phe Asn Phe Leu Asp Val 20 25 30	96
aac cac aat gga agg atc tct ctt gac gag atg gtc tac aag gcg tcc Asn His Asn Gly Arg Ile Ser Leu Asp Glu Met Val Tyr Lys Ala Ser 35 40 45	144
gat att gtt ata aac aat ctt gga gca aca cct gaa caa gcc aaa cgt Asp Ile Val Ile Asn Asn Leu Gly Ala Thr Pro Glu Gln Ala Lys Arg 50 55 60	192
cac aaa gat gct gta gaa gcc ttc ttc gga gga gct gca atg aaa tat His Lys Asp Ala Val Glu Ala Phe Phe Gly Gly Ala Ala Met Lys Tyr 65 70 75 80	240

ant ate are set are tan act are tan sta are are tan sec are ate	
ggt gta gaa act gaa tgg cct gaa tac atc gaa gga tgg aaa aga ctg Gly Val Glu Thr Glu Trp Pro Glu Tyr Ile Glu Gly Trp Lys Arg Leu 85 90 95	288
gct tcc gag gaa ttg aaa agg tat tca aaa aac caa atc aca ctt att Ala Ser Glu Glu Leu Lys Arg Tyr Ser Lys Asn Gln Ile Thr Leu Ile 100 105 110	336
cgt tta tgg ggt gat gca ttg ttc gat atc att tcc aaa gac caa aat Arg Leu Trp Gly Asp Ala Leu Phe Asp Ile Ile Ser Lys Asp Gln Asn 115 120 125	384
gca gct att tca ctg gat gaa tgg aaa gca tac acc aaa tct gct ggc Ala Ala Ile Ser Leu Asp Glu Trp Lys Ala Tyr Thr Lys Ser Ala Gly 130 135 140	432
atc atc caa tcg tca gaa gat tgc gag gaa aca ttc aga gtg tgc gat Ile Ile Gln Ser Ser Glu Asp Cys Glu Glu Thr Phe Arg Val Cys Asp 145 150 155 160	480
att gat gaa agt gga cag ctc gat gtt gat gag atg aca aga caa cat Ile Asp Glu Ser Gly Gln Leu Asp Val Asp Glu Met Thr Arg Gln His 165 170 175	528
tta gga ttt tgg tac acc atg gat cct gct tgc gaa aag ctc tac ggt Leu Gly Phe Trp Tyr Thr Met Asp Pro Ala Cys Glu Lys Leu Tyr Gly 180 185 190	576
gga gct gtc ccc Gly Ala Val Pro 195	588
<pre><221> NAME/KEY: CDS <222> LOCATION: (1)(567) <223> OTHER INFORMATION: Recombinant apoaequorin (AQUALITEP)</pre>	
<pre><400> SEQUENCE: 13 gtc aag ctt aca cca gac ttc gac aac cca aaa tgg att gga cga cac Val Lys Leu Thr Pro Asp Phe Asp Asp Pro Lys Trp Ile Gly Arg His</pre>	48
gtc aag ctt aca cca gac ttc gac aac cca aaa tgg att gga cga cac Val Lys Leu Thr Pro Asp Phe Asp Asn Pro Lys Trp Ile Gly Arg His 1 5 10 15 aag cac atg ttt aat ttt ctt gat gtc aac cac aat gga agg atc tct	96
gtc aag ctt aca cca gac ttc gac aac cca aaa tgg att gga cga cac Val Lys Leu Thr Pro Asp Phe Asp Asn Pro Lys Trp Ile Gly Arg His 1 5 10 15 aag cac atg ttt aat ttt ctt gat gtc aac cac aat gga agg atc tct Lys His Met Phe Asn Phe Leu Asp Val Asn His Asn Gly Arg Ile Ser 20 25 30	96
gtc aag ctt aca cca gac ttc gac aac cca aaa tgg att gga cga cac Val Lys Leu Thr Pro Asp Phe Asp Asn Pro Lys Trp Ile Gly Arg His 1 5 10 15 aag cac atg ttt aat ttt ctt gat gtc aac cac aat gga agg atc tct Lys His Met Phe Asn Phe Leu Asp Val Asn His Asn Gly Arg Ile Ser	
gtc aag ctt aca cca gac ttc gac aac cca aaa tgg att gga cga cac Val Lys Leu Thr Pro Asp Phe Asp Asn Pro Lys Trp Ile Gly Arg His 1 5 10 15 aag cac atg ttt aat ttt ctt gat gtc aac cac aat gga agg atc tct Lys His Met Phe Asn Phe Leu Asp Val Asn His Asn Gly Arg Ile Ser 20 25 30 ctt gac gag atg gtc tac aag gcg tcc gat att gtt ata aac aat ctt Leu Asp Glu Met Val Tyr Lys Ala Ser Asp Ile Val Ile Asn Asn Leu	96
gtc aag ctt aca cca gac ttc gac aac cca aaa tgg att gga cga cac Val Lys Leu Thr Pro Asp Phe Asp Asn Pro Lys Trp Ile Gly Arg His 1 5 10 15 aag cac atg ttt aat ttt ctt gat gtc aac cac aat gga agg atc tct Lys His Met Phe Asn Phe Leu Asp Val Asn His Asn Gly Arg Ile Ser 20 25 30 ctt gac gag atg gtc tac aag gcg tcc gat att gtt ata aac aat ctt Leu Asp Glu Met Val Tyr Lys Ala Ser Asp Ile Val Ile Asn Asn Leu 35 40 45 gga gca aca cct gaa caa gcc aaa cgt cac aaa gat gct gta gaa gcc Gly Ala Thr Pro Glu Gln Ala Lys Arg His Lys Asp Ala Val Glu Ala	96
gtc aag ctt aca cca gac ttc gac aac cca aaa tgg att gga cga cac Val Lys Leu Thr Pro Asp Phe Asp Asn Pro Lys Trp Ile Gly Arg His 1 5 10 15 aag cac atg ttt aat ttt ctt gat gtc aac cac aat gga agg atc tct Lys His Met Phe Asn Phe Leu Asp Val Asn His Asn Gly Arg Ile Ser 20 25 30 ctt gac gag atg gtc tac aag gcg tcc gat att gtt ata aac aat ctt Leu Asp Glu Met Val Tyr Lys Ala Ser Asp Ile Val Ile Asn Asn Leu 35 40 45 gga gca aca cct gaa caa gcc aaa cgt cac aaa gat gct gta gaa gcc Gly Ala Thr Pro Glu Gln Ala Lys Arg His Lys Asp Ala Val Glu Ala 50 55 60 ttc ttc gga gga gct gga atg aaa tat ggt gta gaa act gaa tgg cct Phe Phe Gly Gly Ala Gly Met Lys Tyr Gly Val Glu Thr Glu Trp Pro	96 144 192
gtc aag ctt aca cca gac ttc gac aac cca aaa tgg att gga cga cac Val Lys Leu Thr Pro Asp Phe Asp Asn Pro Lys Trp Ile Gly Arg His 1 5 10 15 15 aag cac atg ttt aat ttt ctt gat gtc aac cac aat gga agg atc tct Lys His Met Phe Asn Phe Leu Asp Val Asn His Asn Gly Arg Ile Ser 20 25 30 ctt gac gag atg gtc tac aag gcg tcc gat att gtt ata aac aat ctt Leu Asp Glu Met Val Tyr Lys Ala Ser Asp Ile Val Ile Asn Asn Leu 35 40 45 gga gca aca cct gaa caa gcc aaa cgt cac aaa gat gct gta gaa gcc Gly Ala Thr Pro Glu Gln Ala Lys Arg His Lys Asp Ala Val Glu Ala 50 55 60 ttc ttc gga gga gct gga atg aaa tat ggt gta gaa act gaa tgg cct Phe Phe Gly Gly Ala Gly Met Lys Tyr Gly Val Glu Thr Glu Trp Pro 65 70 75 80 gaa tac atc gaa gga tgg aaa aaa ctg gct tcc gag gaa ttg aaa agg Glu Tyr Ile Glu Gly Trp Lys Lys Leu Ala Ser Glu Glu Leu Lys Arg	96 144 192 240

tgg aaa gca tac Trp Lys Ala Tyr 130			caa tcg tca gaa Gln Ser Ser Glu 140	
tgc gag gaa aca Cys Glu Glu Thr 145				
gat gtt gat gag Asp Val Asp Glu				Met
gat cct gct tgc Asp Pro Ala Cys 180				567
<210> SEQ ID NO <211> LENGTH: 23 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM:	6			
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Thr Phe Arg Ile 20	Leu Leu His P	ro Glu Gln Pro 25	Val Ala Phe Lys 30	Ala
Gly Gln Tyr Leu 35	Thr Val Val Me		Asp Lys Arg Pro 45	Phe
Ser Ile Ala Ser 50	Ser Pro Cys A 55	rg His Glu Gl y	Glu Ile Glu Leu 60	His
Ile Gly Ala Ala 65	Glu His Asn A	la Tyr Ala Gly 75	Glu Val Val Glu	Ser 80
Met Lys Ser Ala	Leu Glu Thr G	Ly Gly Asp Ile 90	Leu Ile Asp Ala 95	Pro
His Gly Glu Ala 100	Trp Ile Arg G	lu Asp Ser Asp 105	Arg Ser Met Leu 110	Leu
Ile Ala Gly Gly 115	_	er Tyr Val Arg	Ser Ile Leu Asp 125	His
Cys Ile Ser Gln 130	Gln Ile Gln Ly 135	ys Pro Ile Ty r	Leu Tyr Trp Gly 140	Gly
Arg Asp Glu Cys 145	Gln Leu Tyr Ai 150	la Lys Ala Glu 155	Leu Glu Ser Ile	Ala 160
Gln Ala His Ser	165	170	175	
Gly Trp Thr Gly 180		185	190	-
Phe Asn Ser Leu 195		sp Ile Tyr Ile 00	Ala Gly Arg Phe 205	Glu
Met Ala Gly Ala 210	215		220	Lys
Lys Glu Gln Leu 225	Phe Gly Asp A	la Phe Ala Phe 235	Ile	
<pre><210> SEQ ID NO <211> LENGTH: 10 <212> TYPE: DNA <213> ORGANISM: <220> FEATURE: <221> NAME/KEY:</pre>	79 Renilla muller	·i		

<pre><222> LOCATION: (259)(975) <223> OTHER INFORMATION: Renilla mulleri GFP</pre>	
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acataatatc taagagacgc ctcatttaag agtagtaaaa atataatata	a 180
tacaactctc gccttagaca gacagtgtgc aacagagtaa ctcttgttaa tgcaatcga	aa 240
agcgtcaaga gagataag atg agt aaa caa ata ttg aag aac act tgt tta Met Ser Lys Gln Ile Leu Lys Asn Thr Cys Leu 1 5 10	291
caa gaa gta atg tcg tat aaa gta aat ctg gaa gga att gta aac aac Gln Glu Val Met Ser Tyr Lys Val Asn Leu Glu Gly Ile Val Asn Asn 15 20 25	339
cat gtt ttt aca atg gag ggt tgc ggc aaa ggg aat att tta ttc ggc His Val Phe Thr Met Glu Gly Cys Gly Lys Gly Asn Ile Leu Phe Gly 30 35 40	387
aat caa ctg gtt cag att cgt gtc acg aaa ggg gcc cca ctg cct ttt Asn Gln Leu Val Gln Ile Arg Val Thr Lys Gly Ala Pro Leu Pro Phe 45 50 55	435
gca ttt gat att gtg tca cca gct ttt caa tat ggc aac cgt act ttc Ala Phe Asp Ile Val Ser Pro Ala Phe Gln Tyr Gly Asn Arg Thr Phe 60 65 70 75	483
acg aaa tat ccg aat gat ata tca gat tat ttt ata caa tca ttt cca Thr Lys Tyr Pro Asn Asp Ile Ser Asp Tyr Phe Ile Gln Ser Phe Pro 80 85 90	531
gca gga ttt atg tat gaa cga aca tta cgt tac gaa gat ggc gga ctt Ala Gly Phe Met Tyr Glu Arg Thr Leu Arg Tyr Glu Asp Gly Gly Leu 95 100 105	579
gtt gaa att cgt tca gat ata aat tta ata gaa gac aag ttc gtc tac Val Glu Ile Arg Ser Asp Ile Asn Leu Ile Glu Asp Lys Phe Val Tyr 110 115 120	627
aga gtg gaa tac aaa ggt agt aac ttc cca gat gat ggt ccc gtc atg Arg Val Glu Tyr Lys Gly Ser Asn Phe Pro Asp Asp Gly Pro Val Met 125 130 135	675
cag aag act atc tta gga ata gag cct tca ttt gaa gcc atg tac atg Gln Lys Thr Ile Leu Gly Ile Glu Pro Ser Phe Glu Ala Met Tyr Met 140 145 150 150	723
aat aat ggc gtc ttg gtc ggc gaa gta att ctt gtc tat aaa cta aac Asn Asn Gly Val Leu Val Gly Glu Val Ile Leu Val Tyr Lys Leu Asn 160 165 170	771
tct ggg aaa tat tat tca tgt cac atg aaa aca tta atg aag tcg aaa Ser Gly Lys Tyr Tyr Ser Cys His Met Lys Thr Leu Met Lys Ser Lys 175 180 185	819
ggt gta gta aag gag ttt cct tcg tat cat ttt att caa cat cgt ttg Gly Val Val Lys Glu Phe Pro Ser Tyr His Phe Ile Gln His Arg Leu 190 195 200	867
gaa aag act tac gta gaa gac ggg ggg ttc gtt gaa cag cat gag act Glu Lys Thr Tyr Val Glu Asp Gly Gly Phe Val Glu Gln His Glu Thr 205 210 215	915
gct att gct caa atg aca tct ata gga aaa cca cta gga tcc tta cac Ala Ile Ala Gln Met Thr Ser Ile Gly Lys Pro Leu Gly Ser Leu His 220 225 230 235	963
gaa tgg gtt taa acacagttac attacttttt ccaattcgtg tttcatgtca	1015
Glu Trp Val *	

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aaaa	1079
<210> SEQ ID NO 16 <211> LENGTH: 238 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Renilla mulleri	
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Tyr Lys Val Asn Leu Glu Gly Ile Val Asn Asn His Val Phe Thr Met 20 25 30	
Glu Gly Cys Gly Lys Gly Asn Ile Leu Phe Gly Asn Gln Leu Val Gln 35 40 45	
Ile Arg Val Thr Lys Gly Ala Pro Leu Pro Phe Ala Phe Asp Ile Val 50 55 60	
Ser Pro Ala Phe Gln Tyr Gly Asn Arg Thr Phe Thr Lys Tyr Pro Asn 65 70 75 80	
Asp Ile Ser Asp Tyr Phe Ile Gln Ser Phe Pro Ala Gly Phe Met Tyr 85 90 95	
Glu Arg Thr Leu Arg Tyr Glu Asp Gly Gly Leu Val Glu Ile Arg Ser 100 105 110	
Asp Ile Asn Leu Ile Glu Asp Lys Phe Val Tyr Arg Val Glu Tyr Lys 115 120 125	
Gly Ser Asn Phe Pro Asp Asp Gly Pro Val Met Gln Lys Thr Ile Leu 130 135 140	
Gly Ile Glu Pro Ser Phe Glu Ala Met Tyr Met Asn Asn Gly Val Leu 145 150 155 160	
Val Gly Glu Val Ile Leu Val Tyr Lys Leu Asn Ser Gly Lys Tyr Tyr 165 170 175	
Ser Cys His Met Lys Thr Leu Met Lys Ser Lys Gly Val Val Lys Glu 180 185 190	
Phe Pro Ser Tyr His Phe Ile Gln His Arg Leu Glu Lys Thr Tyr Val	
Glu Asp Gly Gly Phe Val Glu Gln His Glu Thr Ala Ile Ala Gln Met 210 215 220	
Thr Ser Ile Gly Lys Pro Leu Gly Ser Leu His Glu Trp Val 225 230 235	
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	caa Gln															150
	cat His															198
	tat Tyr															246
	att Ile															294
	ggt Gly 90															342
	aaa Lys															390
	ggt Gly	_	_		_				_		_		_	-	-	438
	aaa Lys															486
	gac Asp	-			_		-	-	-		-	_				534
	gaa Glu 170															582
	ttg Leu															630
	tat Tyr															678
	tca Ser															726
-	gta Val	-		-					-			-	-	-		774
-	tta Leu 250			_			_		-							822
	att Ile															870
	aaa Lys															918
	tat Tyr															963
taaa	actad	cca (ggtti	tccat	tg ti	tgcca	acttt	ago	ctgg	gttt	aata	aaati	ttc a	actat	tcaatt	1023
tgaa	acaat	tt (cacat	ttaat	tt ti	taact	tatta	a aaa	aaatt	atg	gaca	acago	gga t	tata	atcaga	1083

tgattaattt agttgggaac aatgaatacc gaatattatg aattctcttt agctatttat	1143
aataatcaca ttcttatgta ataaaacttt gttttaataa attaatgatt cagaaaaaaa	1203
aaaaaaaaa aaaa	1217
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Gly Pro Gln Trp Trp Ala Arg Cys Lys Gln Met Asn Val Leu Asp Ser 20 25 30	
Phe Ile Asn Tyr Tyr Asp Ser Glu Lys His Ala Glu Asn Ala Val Ile 35 40 45	
Phe Leu His Gly Asn Ala Ala Ser Ser Tyr Leu Trp Arg His Val Val 50 55 60	
Pro His Val Glu Pro Val Ala Arg Cys Ile Ile Pro Asp Leu Ile Gly 65 70 75 80	
Met Gly Lys Ser Gly Lys Ser Gly Asn Gly Ser Tyr Arg Leu Leu Asp 85 90 95	
His Tyr Lys Tyr Leu Thr Glu Trp Phe Lys His Leu Asn Leu Pro Lys	
Lys Ile Ile Phe Val Gly His Asp Trp Gly Ala Cys Leu Ala Phe His 115 120 125	
Tyr Cys Tyr Glu His Gln Asp Arg Ile Lys Ala Val Val His Ala Glu 130 135 140	
Ser Val Val Asp Val Ile Glu Ser Trp Asp Glu Trp Pro Asp Ile Glu 145 150 155 160	
Glu Asp Ile Ala Leu Ile Lys Ser Glu Glu Gly Glu Lys Met Val Leu 165 170 175	
Glu Asn Asn Phe Phe Val Glu Thr Met Leu Pro Ser Lys Ile Met Arg 180 185 190	
Lys Leu Glu Pro Glu Glu Phe Ala Ala Tyr Leu Glu Pro Phe Lys Glu 195 200 205	
Lys Gly Glu Val Arg Arg Pro Thr Leu Ser Trp Pro Arg Glu Ile Pro 210 215 220	
Leu Val Lys Gly Gly Lys Pro Asp Val Val Glu Ile Val Arg Asn Tyr 225 230 235 240	
Asn Ala Tyr Leu Arg Ala Ser His Asp Leu Pro Lys Met Phe Ile Glu 245 250 255	
Ser Asp Pro Gly Phe Phe Ser Asn Ala Ile Val Glu Gly Ala Lys Lys 260 265 270	
Phe Pro Asn Thr Glu Phe Val Lys Val Lys Gly Leu His Phe Ser Gln 275 280 285	
Glu Asp Ala Pro Asp Glu Met Gly Asn Tyr Ile Lys Ser Phe Val Glu 290 295 300	
Arg Val Leu Lys Asn Glu Gln 305 310	

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ttt gcc ctt att tgt att gct gtg gcc gag gcc aaa cca act gaa aac Phe Ala Leu Ile Cys Ile Ala Val Ala Glu Ala Lys Pro Thr Glu Asn 10 15 20	102
aat gaa gat ttc aac att gta gct gta gct agc aac ttt gct aca acg Asn Glu Asp Phe Asn Ile Val Ala Val Ala Ser Asn Phe Ala Thr Thr 25 30 35	150
gat ctc gat gct gac cgt ggt aaa ttg ccc gga aaa aaa tta cca ctt Asp Leu Asp Ala Asp Arg Gly Lys Leu Pro Gly Lys Lys Leu Pro Leu 40 45 50	198
gag gta ctc aaa gaa atg gaa gcc aat gct agg aaa gct ggc tgc act Glu Val Leu Lys Glu Met Glu Ala Asn Ala Arg Lys Ala Gly Cys Thr 55 60 65 70	246
agg gga tgt ctg ata tgc ctg tca cac atc aag tgt aca ccc aaa atg Arg Gly Cys Leu Ile Cys Leu Ser His Ile Lys Cys Thr Pro Lys Met 75 80 85	294
aag aag ttt atc cca gga aga tgc cac acc tat gaa gga gac aaa gaa Lys Lys Phe Ile Pro Gly Arg Cys His Thr Tyr Glu Gly Asp Lys Glu 90 95 100	342
agt gca cag gga gga ata gga gag gct att gtt gac att cct gaa att Ser Ala Gln Gly Gly Ile Gly Glu Ala Ile Val Asp Ile Pro Glu Ile 105 110 115	390
cct ggg ttt aag gat ttg gaa ccc atg gaa caa ttc att gca caa gtt Pro Gly Phe Lys Asp Leu Glu Pro Met Glu Gln Phe Ile Ala Gln Val 120 125 130	438
gac cta tgt gta gac tgc aca act gga tgc ctc aaa ggt ctt gcc aat Asp Leu Cys Val Asp Cys Thr Thr Gly Cys Leu Lys Gly Leu Ala Asn 135	486
gtg caa tgt tct gat tta ctc aag aaa tgg ctg cca caa aga tgt gca Val Gln Cys Ser Asp Leu Leu Lys Lys Trp Leu Pro Gln Arg Cys Ala 155 160 165	534
act ttt gct agc aaa att caa ggc caa gtg gac aaa ata aag ggt gcc Thr Phe Ala Ser Lys Ile Gln Gly Gln Val Asp Lys Ile Lys Gly Ala 170 175 180	582
ggt ggt gat taa tootaataga atactgoata actggatgat gatatactag Gly Gly Asp * 185	634
cttattgctc ataaaatggc catttttgt aacaaatcga gtctatgtaa ttcaaaatac	694
ctaattaatt gttaatacat atgtaattcc tataaatata atttatgcaa tccaaaaaaa	754
aaaaaaaaa a	765
<210> SEQ ID NO 20	

<211> LENGTH: 185
<212> TYPE: PRT
<213> ORGANISM: Renilla mulleri

<400> SEQUENCE: 20

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Ala	Lys	Pro	Thr 20	Glu	Asn	Asn	Glu	Asp 25	Phe	Asn	Ile	Val	Ala 30	Val	Ala	
Ser	Asn	Phe 35	Ala	Thr	Thr	Asp	Leu 40	Asp	Ala	Asp	Arg	Gly 45	Lys	Leu	Pro	
Gly	Ly s 50	Lys	Leu	Pro	Leu	Glu 55	Val	Leu	Lys	Glu	Met 60	Glu	Ala	Asn	Ala	
Arg 65	Lys	Ala	Gly	Cys	Thr	Arg	Gly	Cys	Leu	Ile 75	Cys	Leu	Ser	His	Ile 80	
	Cys	Thr	Pro	L y s 85	Met	Lys	Lys	Phe	Ile 90		Gly	Arg	Cys			
Tyr	Glu	Gly			Glu	Ser	Ala			Gly	Ile	Gly		95 Ala	Ile	
Val	Asp		100 Pro	Glu	Ile	Pro		105 Phe	Lys	Asp	Leu	Glu	110 Pro	Met	Glu	
Gln	Phe	115 Ile	Ala	Gln	Val	Asp	120 Leu	Cys	Val	Asp	Cys	125 Thr	Thr	Gly	Cys	
	130				Asn	135					140					
145					150					155					160	
				165	Ala				Ser 170	ьуѕ	TTE	GIN	GLY	GIn 175	vaı	
Asp	Lys	Ile	L y s 180	Gly	Ala	Gly	Gly	Asp 185								
		EQ II ENGTH														
<212 <213 <220 <223 <223	> OF > FE > NA > LO > OT	EATUF AME/F CATI THER	SM: RE: REY: REY: ON: INFO	Gaus CDS (1).	(1	Nuc	cleot	:ide	sequ	ience	e enc	odir	ıg a	CBD-	Gaussia	
<213 <213 <220 <223 <223 <223	> OF > FE > NA > LO > OT lu	RGANI EATUF AME/F OCATI THER LCLLE	SM: RE: CEY: CON: INFO erase	CDS (1). ORMAT e fus	(1 TION: sion	Nuc prot	cleot tein									48
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<21: <21: <22: <22: <22: <22: <400 atg Met 1 att Ile tta Leu	> OF FF NA	RGANJ EATUF MME/FOCATIJ CCATIJ CHER HICIFG CQUEN GTT Val CCA Pro Gac Asp 35 act Thr	ESM: (E: (EY: (ON: INFO perase (GE: gaa Glu ata Ile 20 gta Val ttc Phe	Gaus CDS (1). PMAT fur 21 ttt Phe 5 atc Ile aaa Lys tgg Trp act	tac Tyr aaaa Lys gtt Val	aac Asn att Ile aga Arg gac Asp 55	tct Ser act Thr tat Tyr 40 cat His	aac Asn aac Asn 25 tat Tyr	aaa Lys 10 aca Thr tac Tyr	tca Ser tct Ser aca Thr	gca Ala gac Asp agt Ser tta Leu 60	caa Gln agt Ser gat Asp 45 tta Leu	aca Thr gat Asp 30 ggt Gly	aac Asn 15 tta Leu aca Thr	tca Ser aat Asn caa Gln agc Ser	96 144
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_	ata Ile				_									_		384	
	ttt Phe 130	-	-	-	-				-	-				-		432	
	tat Tyr															480	
	ctg Leu			_		-		-			_		-		-	528	
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	gac Asp															624	
	gct Ala 210		_		-				_			-	-			672	
	gta Val	_	_	_	-			-		_	_		-	-	-	720	
	ggt Gly															768	
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Ile 305	gga Gly	Glu	Āla	Ile	Val 310	Asp	Ile	Pro	Glu	Ile 315	Pro	Gly	Phe	Lys	Asp 320	960	
Leu	gaa Glu	Pro	Met	Glu 325	Gln	Phe	Ile	Āla	Gln 330	Val	Āsp	Leu	Cys	Val 335	Āsp	1008	
Cys	Thr	Thr	Gly 340	Cys	Leu	Lys	Gly	Leu 345	Ala	Asn	Val	Gln	Cys 350	Ser	Asp	1056	
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							ttg Leu									108
							gac Asp									156
							gga Gly 40									204
							ttc Phe									252
							tat Tyr									300
							cca Pro									348
							act Thr									396
							gtg Val 120									444
							atg Met									492
							acc Thr									540
							caa Gln									588
							aag Lys									636
							ctc Leu 200									684
							gag Glu									732
							tta Leu		tag *	atao	cctg	ac a	acaat	tatt	cc	782
tate	gcac	gta q	gcatt	tttt	tt g	gaaat	tataa	a gto	ggtat	tgt	tcaa	ataa	aat a	attaa	atata	842
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					ggt Gly											107
					ggc Gly											155
					gaa Glu											203
		_			cca Pro 55		-		_		_		-	-		251
					gct Ala											299
					ttt Phe											347
					gga Gly											395
					ata Ile											443
					gtc Val 135											491
-				_	tac Tyr			-			-			-	-	539
					ctt Leu											587
					tca Ser											635
					cgc Arg											683
					cac His 215											731
			_		tct Ser			_	ata	tcta	tac a	acaa-	ttat [.]	tc		778
tate	gcac	gta q	gcat	tttt	tt g	gaaa	tataa	a gto	ggta	ttgt	tca	ataa	aat a	atta	aatata	838

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aac tta gaa gga ctg gtt ggc gac cac gct ttc tca atg gaa gga gtt Asn Leu Glu Gly Leu Val Gly Asp His Ala Phe Ser Met Glu Gly Val 20 25 30	156
ggc gaa ggc aac ata ttg gaa gga act caa gag gtg aag ata tcg gta Gly Glu Gly Asn Ile Leu Glu Gly Thr Gln Glu Val Lys Ile Ser Val 35 40 45	204
aca aaa ggc gca cca ctc cca ttc gca ttt gat atc gta tct gtg gct Thr Lys Gly Ala Pro Leu Pro Phe Ala Phe Asp Ile Val Ser Val Ala 50 55 60	252
ttt tca tat ggg aac aga gct tat acc ggt tac cca gaa gaa att tcc Phe Ser Tyr Gly Asn Arg Ala Tyr Thr Gly Tyr Pro Glu Glu Ile Ser 65 70 75 80	300
gac tac ttc ctc cag tcg ttt cca gaa ggc ttt act tac gag aga aac Asp Tyr Phe Leu Gln Ser Phe Pro Glu Gly Phe Thr Tyr Glu Arg Asn 85 90 95	348
att cgt tat caa gat gga gga act gca att gtt aaa tct gat ata agc Ile Arg Tyr Gln Asp Gly Gly Thr Ala Ile Val Lys Ser Asp Ile Ser 100 105 110	396
ttg gaa gat ggt aaa ttc ata gtg aat gta gac ttc aaa gcg aag gat Leu Glu Asp Gly Lys Phe Ile Val Asn Val Asp Phe Lys Ala Lys Asp 115 120 125	444
cta cgt cgc atg gga cca gtc atg cag caa gac atc gtg ggt atg cag Leu Arg Arg Met Gly Pro Val Met Gln Gln Asp Ile Val Gly Met Gln 130 135 140	492
cca tcg tat gag tca atg tac acc aat gtc act tca gtt ata ggg gaa Pro Ser Tyr Glu Ser Met Tyr Thr Asn Val Thr Ser Val Ile Gly Glu 145 150 155 160	540
tgt ata ata gca ttc aaa ctt caa act ggc aag cat ttc act tac cac Cys Ile Ile Ala Phe Lys Leu Gln Thr Gly Lys His Phe Thr Tyr His 165 170 175	588
atg agg aca gtt tac aaa tca aag aag cca gtg gaa act atg cca ttg Met Arg Thr Val Tyr Lys Ser Lys Lys Pro Val Glu Thr Met Pro Leu 180 185 190	636
tat cat ttc atc cag cat cgc ctc gtt aag acc aat gtg gac aca gcc Tyr His Phe Ile Gln His Arg Leu Val Lys Thr Asn Val Asp Thr Ala 195 200 205	684
agt ggt tac gtt gtg caa cac gag aca gca att gca gcg cat tct aca Ser Gly Tyr Val Val Gln His Glu Thr Ala Ile Ala Ala His Ser Thr 210 215 220	732
atc aaa aaa att gaa ggc tct tta cca tag atacctgtac acaattattc Ile Lys Lys Ile Glu Gly Ser Leu Pro * 225 230	782

tate	gcac	gta q	gcati	tttt-	tt g	gaaa	tataa	a gto	ggtat	tgt	tca	ataa	aat a	atta	aatata	842
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													acc Thr			108
													gag Glu 30			156
													atc Ile			204
													agc Ser			252
	_					-							gag Glu		_	300
													gag Glu			348
													gac Asp 110			396
													gcc Ala			444
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													cac His			732
atc	aag	aag	atc	gag	ggc	agc	ctg	ccc	taga	ataco	ctg -	taca	caat	ta		779

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Gly	Glu	Gly 35	Asn	Ile	Leu	Glu	Gly 40	Thr	Gln	Glu	Val	Lys 45	Ile	Ser	Val	
Thr	L y s 50	Gly	Ala	Pro	Leu	Pro 55	Phe	Ala	Phe	Asp	Ile 60	Val	Ser	Val	Ala	
Phe 65	Ser	Tyr	Gly	Asn	Arg 70	Ala	Tyr	Thr	Gly	Ty r 75	Pro	Glu	Glu	Ile	Ser 80	
Asp	Tyr	Phe	Leu	Gln 85	Ser	Phe	Pro	Glu	Gly 90	Phe	Thr	Tyr	Glu	Arg 95	Asn	
Ile	Arg	Tyr	Gln 100	Asp	Gly	Gly	Thr	Ala 105	Ile	Val	Lys	Ser	Asp 110	Ile	Ser	
Leu	Glu	Asp 115	Gly	Lys	Phe	Ile	Val 120	Asn	Val	Asp	Phe	L y s 125	Ala	Lys	Asp	
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Pro 145	Ser	Tyr	Glu	Ser	Met 150	Tyr	Thr	Asn	Val	Thr 155	Ser	Val	Ile	Gly	Glu 160	
Сув	Ile	Ile	Ala	Phe 165	Lys	Leu	Gln	Thr	Gl y 170	Lys	His	Phe	Thr	Ty r 175	His	
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Tyr	His	Phe 195	Ile	Gln	His	Arg	Leu 200	Val	Lys	Thr	Asn	Val 205	Asp	Thr	Ala	
Ser	Gly 210	Tyr	Val	Val	Gln	His 215	Glu	Thr	Ala	Ile	Ala 220	Ala	His	Ser	Thr	
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tege	tgaa	aag g	gtgat	ttct	g ta	igtga	atgtt	t ta	ttct	ggg	atgt	gato	aa q	ıtaca	acact	120

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tgg gcc gac tgt gga ccc aga ttt gat tcc act ggc agg aat aga tgc Trp Ala Asp Cys Gly Pro Arg Phe Asp Ser Thr Gly Arg Asn Arg Cys 30 35 40	270
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tac act gta ccg cac agg aag caa gtt cca gag tgc aaa caa gtc act Tyr Thr Val Pro His Arg Lys Gln Val Pro Glu Cys Lys Gln Val Thr 60 65 70	366
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cct gac cag gag aaa gtt cac cag aag aag tgc ctc aca taaatgttat Pro Asp Gln Glu Lys Val His Gln Lys Lys Cys Leu Thr 190 195	751
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Gln Val Pro Glu Cys Lys Gln Val Thr Lys Asp Asn Cys Val Thr Asp 65 70 75 80	
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Asp Phe Pro Thr Val Lys Thr Glu Cys Gly Ile Leu Ser His Leu Lys 115 120 125	
Tyr Ala Asp Phe Ile Glu Gly Pro Ser His Ser Leu Ser Met Arg Thr 130 135 140	
Asn Cys Gln Val Lys Ser Ser Leu Asp Cys Arg Pro Val Lys Thr Arg 145 150 155 160	
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Met Asn Arg Asn Val Leu Lys	102
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Met Asn Arg Asn Val Leu Lys 1 5 aac act gga ctg aaa gag att atg tcg gca aaa gct agc gtt gaa gga Asn Thr Gly Leu Lys Glu Ile Met Ser Ala Lys Ala Ser Val Glu Gly 10 15 20 atc gtg aac aat cac gtt ttt tcc atg gaa gga ttt gga aaa ggc aat Ile Val Asn Asn His Val Phe Ser Met Glu Gly Phe Gly Lys Gly Asn 25 30 35 gta tta ttt gga aac caa ttg atg caa atc cgg gtt aca aag gga ggt Val Leu Phe Gly Asn Gln Leu Met Gln Ile Arg Val Thr Lys Gly Gly	102
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Met Asn Arg Asn Val Leu Lys 1 5 aac act gga ctg aaa gag att atg tcg gca aaa gct agc gtt gaa gga Asn Thr Gly Leu Lys Glu Ile Met Ser Ala Lys Ala Ser Val Glu Gly 10 15 20 atc gtg aac aat cac gtt ttt tcc atg gaa gga ttt gga aaa ggc aat Ile Val Asn Asn His Val Phe Ser Met Glu Gly Phe Gly Lys Gly Asn 25 30 35 gta tta ttt gga aac caa ttg atg caa atc cgg gtt aca aag gga ggt Val Leu Phe Gly Asn Gln Leu Met Gln Ile Arg Val Thr Lys Gly Gly 40 45 50 55 ccg ttg cca ttc gct ttc gat att gtt tcc ata gct ttc caa tac ggg Pro Leu Pro Phe Ala Phe Asp Ile Val Ser Ile Ala Phe Gln Tyr Gly 60 65 70 aat cgc act ttc acg aaa tac cca gac gac att gcg gac tac ttt gtt Asn Arg Thr Phe Thr Lys Tyr Pro Asp Asp Ile Ala Asp Tyr Phe Val	102 150 198 246
Met Asn Arg Asn Val Leu Lys 1 5 aac act gga ctg aaa gag att atg tcg gca aaa gct agc gtt gaa gga Asn Thr Gly Leu Lys Glu Ile Met Ser Ala Lys Ala Ser Val Glu Gly 10 15 20 atc gtg aac aat cac gtt ttt tcc atg gaa gga ttt gga aaa ggc aat Ile Val Asn Asn His Val Phe Ser Met Glu Gly Phe Gly Lys Gly Asn 25 30 35 gta tta ttt gga aac caa ttg atg caa atc cgg gtt aca aag gga ggt Val Leu Phe Gly Asn Gln Leu Met Gln Ile Arg Val Thr Lys Gly Gly 40 45 50 55 ccg ttg cca ttc gct ttc gat att gtt tcc ata gct ttc caa tac ggg Pro Leu Pro Phe Ala Phe Asp Ile Val Ser Ile Ala Phe Gln Tyr Gly 60 65 70 aat cgc act ttc acg aaa tac cca gac gac att gcg gac tac ttt gtt Asn Arg Thr Phe Thr Lys Tyr Pro Asp Asp Ile Ala Asp Tyr Phe Val 75 80 85 caa tca ttc ccg gct gga ttt ttc tac gaa aga aat cta cgc ttt gaa Gln Ser Phe Pro Ala Gly Phe Phe Tyr Glu Arg Asn Leu Arg Phe Glu	102 150 198 246
Met Asn Arg Asn Val Leu Lys 1	102 150 198 246 294

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gtt ctg gtg ggc gaa gta gat ctc gtt tac aaa ctc gag tca ggg aac Val Leu Val Gly Glu Val Asp Leu Val Tyr Lys Leu Glu Ser Gly Asn 160 165 170	528
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aaa gaa ttc ccg gaa tat cac ttt atc cat cat cgt ctg gag aaa acc Lys Glu Phe Pro Glu Tyr His Phe Ile His His Arg Leu Glu Lys Thr 195 200 205	624
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<211> LENGTH: 238

<212> TYPE: PRT

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Asp Ile Ala Asp Tyr Phe Val Gin Ser Phe Pro Ala Gly Phe Phe Tyr 95 Ser Clu Arg Asn Leu Arg Phe Glu Asp Gly Ala Ile Val Asp Ile Arg Ser 1000 Ilu Arg Asn Leu Arg Phe Glu Asp Gly Ala Ile Val Asp Ile Arg Ser 1100 Ilu Arg Asn Leu Arg Phe Glu Asp Gly Ala Ile Val Asp Ile Arg Ser 1100 Ilu Arg Asn Leu Arg Phe Glu Asp Asp Lys Phe His Tyr Lys Val Glu Tyr Arg Ile Ser Leu Glu Asp Asp Lys Phe His Tyr Lys Val Glu Tyr Arg Ile Ser Gly Wal Leu Ila Sel Val Ile Ula Ila Sel Val Ila Ile Ceu Ila Ser Gly Wal Leu Ila Ser Cys His Met Glu Val Asp Leu Val Tyr Lys Leu Glu Ser Gly Asn Tyr Tyr Ila Gly Glu Val Asp Leu Val Tyr Lys Leu Glu Ser Gly Wal Lys Glu Ila Gly Glu Tyr His Phe Ile His His Arg Leu Glu Lys Thr Tyr Ila Ila Gly Ser Phe Val Glu Gln His Glu Thr Ala Ile Ala Gln Leu 210 Ila Gly Ser Phe Val Glu Gln His Glu Thr Ala Ile Ala Gln Leu 210 Ila Gly Ser Phe Val Glu Gln Glu Gly Ser Leu His Glu Trp Val 220 Illa Cll Enorth: 233 <2125 TYPE: PRT 233 <2125 TYPE: PRT 233 <2125 TYPE: PRT 233 <2125 TYPE: PRT 235 FRI Sel Val Gly Asp His Ala Phe Ser Met Glu Gly Val 200 SEQUENCE: 33 Met Asp Leu Ala Lys Leu Gly Leu Lys Glu Val Met Pro Thr Lys Ile 1 Ser Val Ala Sel Gly Asn Ile Leu Glu Gly Thr Gln Glu Val Lys Ile Ser Val Ala Sel Gly Asn Ile Leu Glu Gly Thr Gln Glu Val Lys Ile Ser Val Ala Sel Gly Asn Ile Leu Glu Gly Thr Gln Glu Val Lys Ile Ser Val Ala Sel Gly Asn Ile Leu Glu Gly Thr Gly Tyr Pro Glu Glu Ile Ser Sel Glu Gly Asn Arg Ala Tyr Thr Gly Tyr Pro Glu Glu Ile Ser Sel Glu Asp Gly Asn Arg Ala Tyr Thr Gly Tyr Pro Glu Glu Ile Ser Rel Glu Gly Asp The Leu Glu Asp Gly Gly Thr Ala Ile Val Asp Ser Asp Ile Ser Ile Arg Tyr Gln Asp Gly Gly Thr Ala Ile Val Asp Phe Lys Ala Asp Asp 115 Ile Arg Tyr Glu Ser Met Tyr Thr Asn Val Thr Ser Val Ile Gly Glu Gly Met Gln Ila Ser Tyr Glu Ser Met Tyr Thr Asn Val Thr Gly Lys Asp Phe Tr Tyr His Ile Ser Tyr Glu Ser Met Tyr Thr Asn Val Thr Gly Lys Asp Phe Tr Tyr His Ile Ser Tyr Glu Ser Met Tyr Lys Ser Lys Lys Pro Val Glu Thr Ket Pro Leu Ile Gly Glu Ile Ser Tyr Glu Ser M																
Glu Arg Asn Leu Glu Arg Phe Glu Arg Gly Ala Ile Val Asp Ile Arg Ser 1100 1100 1100 1100 1100 1100 1100 11	Asp					70					75					80
Asp II eser Leu Glu Asp Asp Lys Phe His Tyr Lys Val Glu Tyr Arg 125 Gly Asn Gly Phe Pro Ser Asn Gly Pro Val Met Gln Lys Ala IIe Leu 130 Gly Asn Gly Phe Pro Ser Asn Gly Pro Val Met Gln Lys Ala IIe Leu 130 Gly Met Glu Pro Ser Phe Glu Val Val Tyr Met Asn Ser Gly Val Leu 140 Val Gly Glu Val Asp Leu Val Tyr Lys Leu Glu Ser Gly Asn Tyr Tyr 165 Ser Cys His Met Lys Thr Phe Tyr Arg Ser Lys Gly Gly Val Lys Glu 180 Phe Pro Glu Tyr His Phe IIe His His Arg Leu Glu Lys Thr Tyr Val 195 Glu Gly Ser Phe Val Glu Gln His Glu Thr Ala IIe Ala Gln Leu 215 Thr Thr IIe Gly Lys Pro Leu Gly Ser Leu His Glu Trp Val 225 Thr Thr IIe Gly Lys Pro Leu Gly Ser Leu His Glu Trp Val 225 **210> SEQ ID NO 33 **211> LENNTH: 233 **211> Tyr: PRT **213> ORGANISM: Renilla Reniformis mutein **400> SEQUENCE: 33 Met Asp Leu Ala Lys Leu Gly Leu Lys Glu Val Met Pro Thr Lys IIe 15 Asn Leu Glu Gly Lau Val Gly Asp His Ala Phe Ser Met Glu Gly Val 20 Gly Gly Ala Pro Leu Glu Gly Thr Gln Glu Val Lys IIe Ser Val 35 Gly Gly Ala Pro Leu Pro Phe Ala Phe Asp Ile Val Ser Val Ala 50 Phe Ser Tyr Gly Asn Arg Ala Tyr Thr Gly Tyr Pro Glu Glu IIe Ser 65 Phe Ser Tyr Gly Asn Arg Ala Tyr Thr Gly Tyr Pro Glu Glu IIe Ser 65 Asp Tyr Phe Leu Gln Ser Phe Pro Glu Gly Phe Thr Tyr Glu Arg Asn 95 Ile Arg Tyr Gln Asp Gly Gly Thr Ala IIe Val Asp Phe Lys Ala Asp Asp 115 Leu Glu Asp Gly Lys Phe IIe Val Asn Val Asp Phe Lys Ala Asp Asp 115 Leu Glu Asp Gly Lys Phe IIe Val Asn Val Asp Phe Lys Ala Asp Asp 115 Leu Glu Asp Met Gly Pro Wal Glu Gln Thr Ser Val IIe Gly Glu 145 Pro Ser Tyr Glu Ser Met Tyr Thr Asn Val Thr Ser Val IIe Gly Glu IIe Ser 170 Met Arg Thr Val Tyr Lys Ser Lys Lys Pro Val Glu Thr Met Pro Leu		Ile	Ala	Asp		Phe	Val	Gln	Ser		Pro	Ala	Gly	Phe		Tyr
115	Glu	Arg	Asn		Arg	Phe	Glu	Asp		Ala	Ile	Val	Asp		Arg	Ser
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145	Gly		Gly	Phe	Pro	Ser		Gly	Pro	Val	Met		Lys	Ala	Ile	Leu
Ser Cys His Met Lys Thr Phe Tyr Arg Ser Lys Gly Gly Val Lys Glu 180 Phe Pro Glu Tyr His Phe Ile His His Arg Leu Glu Lys Thr Tyr Val 200 Glu Glu Gly Ser Phe Val Glu Gln His Glu Thr Ala Ile Ala Gln Leu 210 Thr Thr Ile Gly Lys Pro Leu Gly Ser Leu His Glu Trp Val 225 <pre></pre>			Glu	Pro	Ser		Glu	Val	Val	Tyr		Asn	Ser	Gly	Val	
Phe Pro Glu Tyr His Phe Ile His His Arg Leu Glu Lys Thr Tyr Val 195	Val	Gly	Glu	Val		Leu	Val	Tyr	Lys		Glu	Ser	Gly	Asn		Tyr
Glu Glu Gly Ser Phe Val Glu Gln His Glu Thr Ala Ile Ala Gln Leu 210	Ser	Cys	His		Lys	Thr	Phe	Tyr		Ser	Lys	Gly	Gly		Lys	Glu
210 215 220 Thr Thr Ile Gly Lys Pro Leu Gly Ser Leu His Glu Trp Val 225 230	Phe	Pro		Tyr	His	Phe	Ile		His	Arg	Leu	Glu		Thr	Tyr	Val
225	Glu		Gly	Ser	Phe	Val		Gln	His	Glu	Thr		Ile	Ala	Gln	Leu
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Second S	Met				55											
Thr Lys Gly Ala Pro Leu Pro Phe Ala Phe Asp Ile Val Ser Val Ala		Asp	Leu	Ala	Lys	Leu	Gly	Leu	Lys		Val	Met	Pro	Thr	_	Ile
50 55 60 Phe Ser Tyr Gly Asn Arg Ala Tyr Thr Gly Tyr Pro Glu Glu Ile Ser 80 Asp Tyr Phe Leu Gln Asp Gly Gly Thr Ala Ile Val Asp Ser Asp Ile Ser 110 Leu Glu Asp Gly Lys Phe Ile Val Asn Val Asp Phe Lys Ala Asp Asp 125 Leu Arg Asp Met Gly Pro Val Met Gln Gln Asp Ile Val Asp Ile Val Asp Ile Gly Met Gln 135 Pro Ser Tyr Glu Ser Met Tyr Thr Asn Val Thr Ser Val Ile Gly Glu 160 Cys Ile Ile Ala Phe Lys Leu Gln Thr Gly Lys Pro Val Glu Thr Tyr His 175 Met Arg Thr Val Tyr Lys Ser Lys Pro Val Glu Thr Met Pro Leu	1	_		Gly	Lys 5		-		His	10				Glu	15	
Asp Tyr Phe Leu Gln Ser Phe Pro Glu Gly Phe Thr Tyr Glu Arg Asn 95 Ile Arg Tyr Gln Asp Gly Gly Thr Ala Ile Val Asp Ser Asp Ile Ser 110 Leu Glu Asp Gly Lys Phe Ile Val Asn Val Asp Phe Lys Ala Asp Asp 115 Leu Arg Arg Asp Met Gly Pro Val Met Gln Gln Asp Ile Val Gly Met Gln 135 Pro Ser Tyr Glu Ser Met Tyr Thr Asn Val Thr Ser Val Ile Gly Glu 160 Cys Ile Ile Ala Phe Lys Leu Gln Thr Gly Lys Asp Phe Thr Tyr His 175 Met Arg Thr Val Tyr Lys Ser Lys Lys Pro Val Glu Thr Met Pro Leu	1 Asn	Leu	Glu Gly	Gly 20	Lys 5 Leu	Val	Gly	Asp	His 25	10 Ala	Phe	Ser	Met Lys	Glu 30	15 Gly	Val
S5	1 Asn Gly	Leu Glu Lys	Glu Gly 35	Gly 20 Asn	Lys 5 Leu Ile	Val Leu	Gly Glu Pro	Asp Gly 40	His 25 Thr	10 Ala Gln	Phe Glu	Ser Val	Met Lys 45	Glu 30	15 Gly Ser	Val
Leu Glu Asp Gly Lys Phe Ile Val Asn Val Asp Phe Lys Ala Asp Asp 115 Leu Arg Asp Met Gly Pro Val Met Gln Gln Asp Ile Val Gly Met Gln 130 Pro Ser Tyr Glu Ser Met Tyr Thr Asn Val Thr Ser Val Ile Gly Glu 145 Cys Ile Ile Ala Phe Lys Leu Gln Thr Gly Lys Asp Phe Thr Tyr His 175 Met Arg Thr Val Tyr Lys Ser Lys Lys Pro Val Glu Thr Met Pro Leu	1 Asn Gly Thr	Leu Glu Lys 50	Glu Gly 35 Gly	Gly 20 Asn Ala	Lys 5 Leu Ile Pro	Val Leu Leu Arg	Gly Glu Pro	Asp Gly 40 Phe	His 25 Thr	10 Ala Gln Phe	Phe Glu Asp Tyr	Ser Val Ile 60	Met Lys 45 Val	Glu 30 Ile Ser	15 Gly Ser Val	Val Val Ala Ser
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130 135 140 Pro Ser Tyr Glu Ser Met Tyr Thr Asn Val Thr Ser Val Ile Gly Glu 145 Cys Ile Ile Ala Phe Lys Leu Gln Thr Gly Lys Asp Phe Thr Tyr His 165 Met Arg Thr Val Tyr Lys Ser Lys Lys Pro Val Glu Thr Met Pro Leu	1 Asn Gly Thr Phe 65 Asp	Leu Glu Lys 50 Ser	Glu Gly 35 Gly Tyr	Gly 20 Asn Ala Gly Leu	Lys 5 Leu Ile Pro Asn Gln 85	Val Leu Leu Arg 70 Ser	Gly Glu Pro 55 Ala	Asp Gly 40 Phe Tyr	His 25 Thr Ala Thr Glu	10 Ala Gln Phe Gly Gly 90	Phe Glu Asp Tyr 75 Phe	Ser Val Ile 60 Pro	Met Lys 45 Val Glu	Glu 30 Ile Ser Glu Glu	15 Gly Ser Val Ile Arg	Val Val Ala Ser 80 Asn
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Tyr His Phe Ile Gln His Asp Leu Val Lys Thr Asn Val Asp Thr Ala
Ser Gly Tyr Val Val Gln His Glu Thr Ala Ile Ala Ala His Ser Thr

Lle Asp Lys Ile Glu Gly Ser Leu Pro
225

What is claimed is:

- 1. An isolated substantially purified *Renilla reniformis* green fluorescent protein (GFP) encoded by an isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a *Renilla reniformis* green fluorescent protein, comprising a nucleic acid sequence that encodes the protein of SEQ ID NO. 27 or a green fluorescent protein encoded by a nucleic acid molecule of *Renilla reniformis* having at least 80% sequence identity thereto.
- 2. A mutein of the GFP of claim 1 that exhibits altered spectral properties.
- 3. A mutein of the GFP of claim 1 that exhibits a reduced tendency to form multimers.
- **4.** A composition, comprising the green fluorescent protein of claim 1 and at least one component of a bioluminescence generating system.
- 5. The composition of claim 4, wherein the bioluminescence generating system is selected from those isolated from: an insect system, a *coelenterate* system, a *ctenophore* system, a bacterial system, a *mollusk* system, a *crustacean* system, a fish system, an *annelid* system, and an earthworm system.
- 6. The composition of claim 4, wherein the bioluminescence generating system is selected from those isolated from: fireflies, Mnemiopsis, Beroe ovata, Aequorea, Obelia, Vargula, Pelagia, Renilla, Pholas Aristostomias, Pachystomias, Poricthys, Cypridina, Aristostomias, Pachystomias, Malacosteus, Gonadostomias, Gaussia, Watensia, Halisturia, Vampire squid, Glyphus, Mycotophids, Vinciguerria, Howella, Florenciella, Chaudiodus, Melanocostus, Sea Pens, Chiroteuthis, Eucleoteuthis, Onychoteuth is, Watasenia, cuttlefish, Sepiolina, Oplophorus, Acanthophyra, Sergestes, Gnathophausia, Argyropelecus, Yarella, Diaphus, Gonadostomias and Neoscopelus.
- 7. A mutein of claim 2, comprising substitution in amino acids at amino acids 56-75 of SEQ ID NO. 27, whereby the spectral properties are altered.
- **8**. The composition of claim 7, wherein the bioluminescence generating system is selected from those isolated from *Aequorea*, *Obelia*, *Vargula* and *Renilla*.
 - 9. A combination, comprising:
 - an article of manufacture; and
 - a *Renilla reniformis* green fluorescent protein (GFP) encoded by a nucleic acid molecule encoding a *Renilla reniformis* green fluorescent protein, comprising a nucleic acid sequence that encodes the protein of SEQ ED NO. 27 or a green fluorescent protein encoded by a nucleic acid molecule of *Renilla reniformis* having at least 80% sequence identity thereto.
 - 10. The combination of claim 9, further comprising:
 - at least one component of a bioluminescence generating system, whereby the combination is a novelty item.

- 11. The combination of claim 10, wherein the component of the bioluminescence generating system comprises a *luciferase*.
- 12. The combination of claim 10, wherein the component of the bioluminescence generating system comprises a *luciferin*.
- 13. The combination of claim 9, wherein the article of manufacture is selected from among toys, fountains, personal care items, fairy dust, foods, textile and paper products
- 14. The combination of claim 9 wherein the article of manufacture is selected from among toy guns, pellet guns, greeting cards, fingerpaints, foot bags, slimy play material, clothing, bubble making toys and bubbles therefor, balloons, bath powders, body lotions, gels, body powders, body creams, toothpastes, mouthwashes, soaps, body paints, bubble bath, board game toys, fishing lures, egg-shaped toys, toy cigarettes, dolls, sparklers, magic wand toys, wrapping paper, gelatins, icings, frostings, fairy dust, beer, ornamental transgenic plants, wine, champagne, milk, soft drinks, ice cubes, ice, dry ice, soaps, body paints and bubble bath.
- 15. The combination of claim 9 that is a transgenic ornamental plant.
- **16**. The combination of claim 9 that is a toy.
- 17. The combination of claim 9 that is a food.
- 18. The combination of claim 9 that is a cosmetic.
- 19. The combination of claim 9 that is a beverage.
- **20**. The combination of claim 9, wherein the article of manufacture is selected from among toys, fountains, personal care items, fairy dust, foods, textile, transgenic ornamental plant and paper products.
- 21. The combination of claim 9, wherein the article of manufacture is selected from among toy guns, pellet guns, greeting cards, fingerpaints, foot bags, slimy play material, clothing, bubble making toys and bubbles therefor, balloons, bath powders, body lotions, gels, body powders, body creams, toothpastes, mouthwashes, soaps, body paints, bubble bath, board game toys, fishing lures, egg-shaped toys, toy cigarettes, dolls, sparklers, magic wand toys, wrapping paper, gelatins, icings, frostings, fairy dust, beer, wine, champagne, soft drinks, ice cubes, ice, dry ice, soaps, body paints and bubble bath.
- **22**. An antibody that specifically binds to *Renilla reniformis* or a molecule or derivative of the antibody containing the binding domain thereof.
- 23. The antibody of claim 22 that is a monoclonal antibody.
- **24**. An isolated substantially purified *luciferase* and GFP fusion protein, wherein the GFP is a *Renilla reniformis* GFP and the fusion protein is encoded by a nucleic acid construct comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a *luciferase* and a nucleotide sequence encoding a *Renilla reniformis* green

fluorescent protein, comprising a nucleic acid sequence that encodes the protein of SEQ ID NO. 27 or a green fluorescent protein encoded by a nucleic acid molecule of *Renilla reniformis* having at least 80% sequence identity thereto that encodes a *Renilla reniformis* fluorescent protein (GFP), wherein the encoded *luciferase* and *Renilla reniformis* GFP comprise a fusion protein.

- 25. The fusion protein of claim 24, wherein the *luciferase* is a *Renilla luciferase*.
- **26**. The fusion protein of claim 24, wherein the *luciferase* is a *Renilla reniformis luciferase*.
 - 27. A composition comprising:
 - a nucleic acid construct comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a *luciferase* and a nucleotide sequence that encodes the protein of SEQ ID NO. 27 or a green fluorescent protein encoded by a nucleic acid molecule of *Renilla reniformis* having at least 80% sequence identity thereto, that encodes a *Renilla reniformis* fluorescent protein (GFP), wherein the encoded *luciferase* and *Renilla reniformis* GFP comprise a fusion protein.
- **28**. The composition of claim 27, further comprising at least one component of a bioluminescence generating system
- 29. The composition of claim 28, wherein the component of the bioluminescence generating system is a *luciferin*.
- **30.** A biosensor, comprising a GFP protein encoded a nucleic acid molecule encoding a *Renilla reniformis* green fluorescent protein, comprising a nucleic acid sequence that encodes the protein of SEQ ID NO. 27 or a green fluorescent protein encoded by a nucleic acid molecule of *Renilla reniformis* having at least 80% sequence identity thereto and a *luciferase*.
- **31**. The biosensor of claim 30, wherein the *luciferase* is a *Renilla luciferase*.
- 32. A biosensor of claim 30, further comprising a modulator.
- **33**. A biosensor, comprising the fusion protein of claim 24.
- **34.** A biosensor of claim **33**, wherein the GFP and *luciferase* in the fusion protein are not contiguous.
- **35**. A bioluminescence resonance energy transfer (BRET) system, comprising:
 - (a) a GFP encoded by a nucleic molecule encoding a *Renilla reniformis* green fluorescent protein, comprising a nucleic acid sequence that encodes the protein of SEQ ID NO. 27 or a green fluorescent protein encoded by a nucleic acid molecule of *Renilla reniformis* having at least 80% sequence identity thereto;
 - (b) a *luciferase* from which the GFP can accept energy when the GFP and *luciferase* associate; and
 - (c) a luciferin or other substrate of the luciferase.
- **36**. The BRET system of claim 35, further comprising one or more modulators.
- 37. The BRET system of claim 36, wherein the GFP and *luciferase* are each attached to a different modulator, or each are attached to the same modulator.
- **38**. The BRET system of claim 36, wherein a conformational change in a modulator causes an increase in the proximity of the *luciferase* and GFP.
- **39**. The BRET system of claim 36, wherein a conform additional change in a modulator causes a decrease in the proximity of the *luciferase* and GFP.

- **40**. The BRET system of claim 36, wherein the *luciferase* is *Renilla reniformis luciferase*.
 - 41. A microelectronic device, comprising:
 - a substrate;
 - a plurality of micro-locations defined on the substrate, wherein each micro-location is for linking a macromolecule:
 - an independent photodetector integrated at or adjacent to each micro-location and optically coupled to each micro-location, each photodetector being configured to generate a sensed signal responsive to the photons of light emitted at the corresponding micro-location when a light-emitting chemical reaction occurs at that micro-location, each photodetector being independent from the photodetectors optically coupled to the other micro-locations; and
 - an electronic circuit coupled to each photodetector and configured to read the sensed signal generated by each photodetector and to generate output data signals therefrom that are indicative of the light emitted at each micro-location by the light-emitting chemical reactions, whereby the device detects photons of light emitted by light-emitting chemical reactions, wherein:
 - each micro-location is defined by a portion of the surface; and
 - the micro-locations defined on the substrate each comprise a component of a bioluminescence generating system and a green fluorescent protein comprising a nucleic acid sequence that encodes the protein of SEQ ID NO. 27 or a green fluorescent protein encoded by a nucleic acid molecule of *Renilla reniformis* having at least 80% sequence identity thereto, whereby photons of light are emitted when a reaction takes place at that micro-location.
- **42**. The device of claim 41, wherein the micro-locations are provided as an array.
- **43**. The device of claim 41, wherein the bioluminescence generating system comprises a *Renilla luciferase*.
- **44**. The device of claim 42, wherein the bioluminescence generating system comprises a *Renilla reniformis luciferase*.
- **45**. A method of detecting and identifying analytes in a biological sample, comprising:

providing the microelectronic device of claim 41;

- attaching a macromolecule or plurality of different macromolecules to the surface at each micro-location on the device, wherein macromolecule is specific for binding to selected analyte that may be present in the biological sample;
- contacting the sample with the surface of the microelectronic device, whereby any of the selected analytes that are present in the sample bind to the macromolecule attached to the surface at each micro-location;
- exposing the surface of the microelectronic device to a second macromolecule or plurality thereof bound to the selected analyte already bound to the first macromolecule at each micro-location, wherein the second macromolecule comprises a component of a bioluminescence generating reaction;

initiating the bioluminescence generating reaction by contacting the surface of the device with the remaining components of the bioluminescence generating reaction, wherein the wavelength of the resulting light is shifted by the *Renilla reniformis* GFP; and

detecting photons of light emitted by the GFP using a photodetector optically coupled to each micro-location, each photodetector generating a sensed signal representative of the bioluminescence generation at the respective micro-location.

46. A transgenic animal or plant that expresses a *Renilla reniformis* nucleic acid encoding a *Renilla reniformis* green

fluorescent protein, comprising a nucleic acid sequence that encodes the protein of SEQ ID NO. 27 or a green fluorescent protein encoded by a nucleic acid molecule of *Renilla reniformis* having at least 80% sequence identity thereto.

- **47**. The transgenic animal or plant of claim 46, selected from among fish, worms, monkeys, rodents, goats, pigs, cow, sheep, horses, flowering plants, ornamental plants.
- **48**. The transgenic animal or plant of claim 46 that is an orchid.

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