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(54) PROTEIN VARIANTS HAVING MODIFIED IMMUNOGENICITY

(75) Inventors: Erwin Ludo Roggen, Lyngby
 (DK); Steffen Ernst, Bronshoj
 (DK); Allan Svendsen, Horsholm
 (DK); Esben Peter Friis, Valby
 (DK); Claus Von Der Osten,
 Lyngby (DK)

Correspondence Address: NOVOZYMES NORTH AMERICA, INC. 500 FIFTH AVENUE, SUITE 1600 NEW YORK, NY 10110 (US)

- (73) Assignee: NOVOZYMES A/S, BAGSVAERD (DK)
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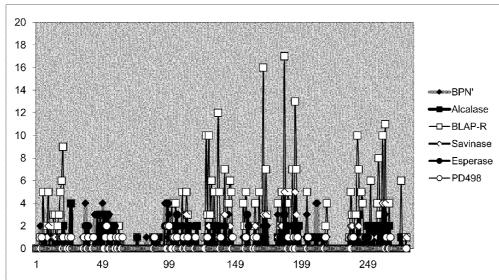
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(57) ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to a method of selecting a protein variant having modified immunogenicity as compared to the parent protein comprising the steps obtaining antibody binding peptide sequences, using the sequences to localise epitope sequences on the 3-dimensional structure of parent protein, defining an epitope area including amino acids situated within 5 Å from the epitope amino acids constituting the epitope sequence, changing one or more of the amino acids defining the epitope area of the parent protein by genetical engineering mutations of a DNA sequence encoding the parent protein, introducing the mutated DNA sequence into a suitable host, culturing said host and expressing the protein variant, and evaluating the immunogenicity of the protein variant using the parent protein as reference. The invention further relates to the protein variant and use thereof, as well as to a method for producing said protein variant.



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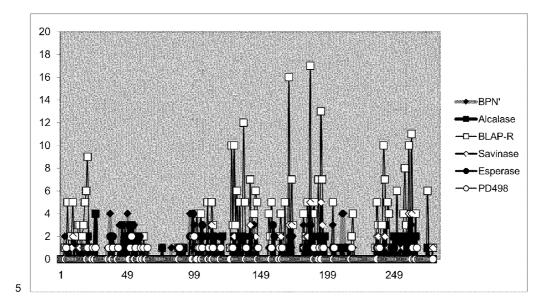


FIG. 1

PROTEIN VARIANTS HAVING MODIFIED IMMUNOGENICITY

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application is a continuation of U.S. application Ser. No. 09/957,806 filed on Sep. 21, 2001, which is a continuation of PCT/DK01/00293 filed Apr. 30, 2001 and claims, under 35 U.S.C. 119, priority or the benefit of Danish application nos. PA 2000 00707 and PA 2001 00327 filed Apr. 28, 2000 and Feb. 28, 2001, respectively, and U.S. application Nos. 60/203,345 and 60/277,817 filed May 10, 2000 and Mar. 21, 2001, respectively, the contents of which are fully incorporated herein by reference.

FIELD OF INVENTION

[0002] The present invention relates to a method of selecting a protein variant having modified immunogenicity as compared to the parent protein, to the protein variant and use thereof, as well as to a method for producing said protein variant.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0003] An increasing number of proteins, including enzymes, are being produced industrially, for use in various industries, housekeeping and medicine. Being proteins they are likely to stimulate an immunological response in man and animals, including an allergic response.

[0004] Depending on the application, individuals get sensitised to the respective allergens by inhalation, direct contact with skin and eyes, or injection. The general mechanism behind an allergic response is divided in a sensitisation phase and a symptomatic phase. The sensitisation phase involves a first exposure of an individual to an allergen. This event activates specific T- and B-lymphocytes, and leads to the production of allergen specific IgE antibodies (in the present context the antibodies are denoted as usual, i.e. immunoglobulin E IgE etc.). These IgE antibodies eventually facilitate allergen capturing and presentation to T-lymphocytes at the onset of the symptomatic phase. This phase is initiated by a second exposure to the same or a resembling antigen. The specific IgE antibodies bind to the specific IgE receptors on mast cells and basophils, among others, and capture at the same time the allergen. The polyclonal nature of this process results in bridging and clustering of the IgE receptors, and subsequently in the activation of mast cells and basophils. This activation triggers the release of various chemical mediators involved in the early as well as late phase reactions of the symptomatic phase of allergy. Prevention of allergy in susceptible individuals is therefore a research area of great importance.

[0005] For certain forms of IgE-mediated allergies, a therapy exists, which comprises repeated administration of allergen preparations called 'allergen vaccines' (Int. Arch. Allergy Immunol., 1999, vol. 119, pp 1-5). This leads to reduction of the allergic symptoms, possibly due to a redirection of the immune response away from the allergic (Th2) pathway and towards the immunoprotective (Th1) pathway (Int. Arch. Allergy Immunol., 1999, vol. 119, pp 1-5).

[0006] Various attempts to reduce the immunogenicity of polypeptides and proteins have been conducted. It has been found that small changes in an epitope may affect the binding to an antibody. This may result in a reduced importance of

such an epitope, maybe converting it from a high affinity to a low affinity epitope, or maybe even result in epitope loss, i.e. that the epitope cannot sufficiently bind an antibody to elicit an immunogenic response.

[0007] There is a need for methods to identify epitopes on proteins and alter these epitopes in order to modify the immunogenicity of proteins in a targeted manner. Such methods and kits for their execution can have at least four useful purposes:

[0008] 1) reduce the allergenicity of a commercial protein using protein engineering.

[0009] 2) reduce the potential of commercial proteins to cross-react with environmental allergens and hence cause allergic reactions in people sensitized to the environmental allergens (or vice versa).

[0010] 3) improve the immunotherapeutic effect of allergen vaccines.

[0011] 4) assist characterization of clinical allergies in order to select the appropriate treatment, including allergen vaccination.

[0012] In WO 99/53038 (Genencor Int.) as well as in prior references (Kammerer et al, Clin. Exp. Allergy, 1997, vol. 27, pp 1016-1026; Sakakibara et al, J. Vet. Med. Sci., 1998; vol. 60, pp. 599-605), methods are described, which identify linear T-cell epitopes among a library of known peptide sequences, each representing part of the primary sequence of the protein of interest. Further, several similar techniques for localization of B-cell epitopes are disclosed by Walshet et al, J. Immunol. Methods, vol. 121, 1275-280, (1989), and by Schoofs et al. J. Immunol. vol. 140, 611-616, (1987). All of these methods, however, only leads to identification of linear epitopes, not to identification of 'structural' or 'discontinuous' epitopes, which are found on the 3-dimensional surface of protein molecules and which comprise amino acids from several discrete sites of the primary sequence of the protein. For several allergens, it has been realized that the dominant epitopes are of such discontinuous nature (Collins et al., Clin. Exp. All. 1996, vol. 26, pp. 36-42).

[0013] Slootstra et al; Molecular Diversity, 2, pp. 156-164, 1996 disclose the screening of a semi-random library of synthetic peptides for their binding properties to three monoclonal antibodies by immobilizing the peptides on polyethylene pins and binding a dilution series of each antibody to the pins. This reference does not disclose any indication of how the antibody binding peptide sequences relate to any full protein antigens or allergens.

[0014] In WO 92/10755 a method for modifying proteins to obtain less immunogenic variants is described. Randomly constructed protein variants, revealing a reduced binding of antibodies to the parent enzyme as compared to the parent enzyme itself, are selected for the measurement in animal models in terms of allergenicity. Finally, it is assessed whether reduction in immunogenicity is due to true elimination of an epitope or a reduction in affinity for antibodies. This method targets the identification of amino acids that may be part of structural epitopes by using a complete protein for assessing antigen binding. The major drawbacks of this approach are the 'trial and error' character, which makes it a lengthy and expensive process, and the lack of general information on the epitope patterns. Without this information, the results obtained for one protein can not be applied on another protein.

[0015] WO 99/47680 (ALK-ABELLÓ) discloses the identification and modification of B-cell epitopes by protein engineering. However, the method is based on crystal structures of Fab-antigen complexes, and B-cell epitopes are defined as "a section of the surface of the antigen comprising 15-25 amino acid residues, which are within a distance from the atoms of the antibody enabling direct interaction" (p. 3). This publication does not show how one selects which Fab fragment to use (e.g. to target the most dominant allergy epitopes) or how one selects the substitutions to be made. Further, their method cannot be used in the absence of such crystallographic data for antigen-antibody complexes, which are very cumbersome, sometimes impossible, to obtain—especially since one would need a separate crystal structure for each epitope to be changed.

[0016] Hence, it is of interest to establish a general and efficient method to identify structural epitopes on the 3-dimensional surface of commercial and environmental allergens.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0017] The present invention relates to a method of selecting a protein variant having modified immunogenicity as compared to a parent protein, comprising the steps of:

[0018] a) obtaining antibody binding peptide sequences,

[0019] b) using the sequences to localise epitope sequences on the 3-dimensional structure of parent protein,

[0020] c) defining an epitope area including amino acids situated within 5 Å from the epitope amino acids constituting the epitope sequence,

[0021] d) changing one or more of the amino acids defining the epitope area of the parent protein by genetic engineering mutations of a DNA sequence encoding the parent protein,

[0022] e) introducing the mutated DNA sequence into a suitable host, culturing said host and expressing the protein variant, and

[0023] f) evaluating the immunogenicity of the protein variant using the parent protein as reference.

[0024] A second aspect of the present invention is a protein variant having modified immunogenicity as compared to its parent protein. The amino acid sequence of the protein variant differs from the amino acid sequence of the parent protein with respect to at least one epitope pattern of the parent protein, such that the immunogenicity of the protein variant is modified as compared with the immunogenicity of the parent protein.

[0025] A further aspect of the present invention is a composition comprising a protein variant as defined above, as well as the use of the composition for industrial application, such as the production of a formulation for personal care products (for example shampoo; soap; skin, hand and face lotions; skin, hand and face crèmes; hair dyes; toothpaste), food (for example in the baking industry), detergents and for the production of pharmaceuticals, e.g. vaccines.

[0026] Yet another aspect is a DNA molecule encoding a protein variant as defined above.

[0027] Further aspects are a vector comprising a DNA molecule as described above as well a host cell comprising said DNA molecule.

[0028] Another aspect is a method of producing a protein variant having modified immunogenicity as compared to the parent protein as defined above.

DEFINITIONS

[0029] Prior to a discussion of the detailed embodiments of the invention, a definition of specific terms related to the main aspects of the invention is provided.

[0030] In accordance with the present invention there may be employed conventional molecular biology, microbiology, and recombinant DNA techniques within the skill of the art. Such techniques are explained fully in the literature. See, e.g., Sambrook, Fritsch & Maniatis, Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual, Second Edition (1989) Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y. (herein "Sambrook et al., 1989") DNA Cloning: A Practical Approach, Volumes I and II/D. N. Glover ed. 1985); Oligonucleotide Synthesis (M. J. Gait ed. 1984); Nucleic Acid Hybridization (B. D. Hames & S. J. Higgins eds (1985)); Transcription And Translation (B. D. Hames & S. J. Higgins, eds. (1984)); Animal Cell Culture (R. I. Freshney, ed. (1986)); Immobilized Cells And Enzymes (IRL Press, (1986)); B. Perbal, A Practical Guide To Molecular Cloning (1984).

[0031] When applied to a protein, the term "isolated" indicates that the protein is found in a condition other than its native environment, such as apart from blood and animal tissue. In a preferred form, the isolated protein is substantially free of other proteins, particularly other proteins of animal origin. It is preferred to provide the proteins in a highly purified form, i.e., greater than 95% pure, more preferably greater than 99% pure. When applied to a polynucleotide molecule, the term "isolated" indicates that the molecule is removed from its natural genetic milieu, and is thus free of other extraneous or unwanted coding sequences, and is in a form suitable for use within genetically engineered protein production systems. Such isolated molecules are those that are separated from their natural environment and include cDNA and genomic clones. Isolated DNA molecules of the present invention are free of other genes with which they are ordinarily associated, and may include naturally occurring 5' and 3' untranslated regions such as promoters and terminators. The identification of associated regions will be evident to one of ordinary skill in the art (see for example, Dynan and Tijan, Nature 316: 774-78, 1985).

[0032] A "polynucleotide" is a single- or double-stranded polymer of deoxyribonucleotide or ribonucleotide bases read from the 5' to the 3' end. Polynucleotides include RNA and DNA, and may be isolated from natural sources, synthesized in vitro, or prepared from a combination of natural and synthetic molecules.

[0033] A "nucleic acid molecule" refers to the phosphate ester polymeric form of ribonucleosides (adenosine, guanosine, uridine or cytidine; "RNA molecules") or deoxyribonucleosides (deoxyadenosine, deoxyguanosine, deoxythymidine, or deoxycytidine; "DNA molecules") in either single stranded form, or a double-stranded helix. Double stranded DNA-DNA, DNA-RNA and RNA-RNA helices are possible. The term nucleic acid molecule, and in particular DNA or RNA molecule, refers only to the primary and secondary structure of the molecule, and does not limit it to any particular tertiary or quaternary forms. Thus, this term includes double-stranded DNA found, inter alia, in linear or circular DNA molecules (e.g., restriction fragments), plasmids, and chromosomes. In discussing the structure of particular double-stranded DNA molecules, sequences may be described herein according to the normal convention of giving only the sequence in the 5' to 3' direction along the nontranscribed strand of DNA (i.e., the strand having a sequence homologous to the mRNA). A "recombinant DNA molecule" is a DNA molecule that has undergone a molecular biological manipulation.

[0034] A DNA "coding sequence" is a double-stranded DNA sequence, which is transcribed and translated into a polypeptide in a cell in vitro or in vivo when placed under the control of appropriate regulatory sequences. The boundaries of the coding sequence are determined by a start codon at the 5' (amino) terminus and a translation stop codon at the 3' (carboxyl) terminus. A coding sequence can include, but is not limited to, prokaryotic sequences, cDNA from eukaryotic mRNA, genomic DNA sequences from eukaryotic (e.g., mammalian) DNA, and even synthetic DNA sequences. If the coding sequence is intended for expression in a eukaryotic cell, a polyadenylation signal and transcription termination sequence will usually be located 3' to the coding sequence.

[0035] An "Expression vector" is a DNA molecule, linear or circular, that comprises a segment encoding a polypeptide of interest operably linked to additional segments that provide for its transcription. Such additional segments may include promoter and terminator sequences, and optionally one or more origins of replication, one or more selectable markers, an enhancer, a polyadenylation signal, and the like. Expression vectors are generally derived from plasmid or viral DNA, or may contain elements of both.

[0036] Transcriptional and translational control sequences are DNA regulatory sequences, such as promoters, enhancers, terminators, and the like, that provide for the expression of a coding sequence in a host cell. In eukaryotic cells, polyadenylation signals are control sequences.

[0037] A "secretory signal sequence" is a DNA sequence that encodes a polypeptide (a "secretory peptide" that, as a component of a larger polypeptide, directs the larger polypeptide through a secretory pathway of a cell in which it is synthesized. The larger polypeptide is commonly cleaved to remove the secretory peptide during transit through the secretory pathway.

[0038] The term "promoter" is used herein for its art-recognized meaning to denote a portion of a gene containing DNA sequences that provide for the binding of RNA polymerase and initiation of transcription. Promoter sequences are commonly, but not always, found in the 5' non-coding regions of genes.

[0039] "Operably linked", when referring to DNA segments, indicates that the segments are arranged so that they function in concert for their intended purposes, e.g. transcription initiates in the promoter and proceeds through the coding segment to the terminator.

[0040] A coding sequence is "under the control" of transcriptional and translational control sequences in a cell when RNA polymerase transcribes the coding sequence into mRNA, which is then trans-RNA spliced and translated into the protein encoded by the coding sequence.

[0041] "Isolated polypeptide" is a polypeptide which is essentially free of other non-[enzyme]polypeptides, e.g., at least about 20% pure, preferably at least about 40% pure, more preferably about 60% pure, even more preferably about 80% pure, most preferably about 90% pure, and even most preferably about 95% pure, as determined by SDS-PAGE.

[0042] "Heterologous" DNA refers to DNA not naturally located in the cell, or in a chromosomal site of the cell. Preferably, the heterologous DNA includes a gene foreign to the cell.

[0043] A cell has been "transfected" by exogenous or heterologous DNA when such DNA has been introduced inside the cell. A cell has been "transformed" by exogenous or heterologous DNA when the transfected DNA effects a phe-

notypic change. Preferably, the transforming DNA should be integrated (covalently linked) into chromosomal DNA making up the genome of the cell.

[0044] A "clone" is a population of cells derived from a single cell or common ancestor by mitosis.

[0045] "Homologous recombination" refers to the insertion of a foreign DNA sequence of a vector in a chromosome. Preferably, the vector targets a specific chromosomal site for homologous recombination. For specific homologous recombination, the vector will contain sufficiently long regions of homology to sequences of the chromosome to allow complementary binding and incorporation of the vector into the chromosome. Longer regions of homology, and greater degrees of sequence similarity, may increase the efficiency of homologous recombination.

Nucleic Acid Sequence

[0046] The techniques used to isolate or clone a nucleic acid sequence encoding a polypeptide are known in the art and include isolation from genomic DNA, preparation from cDNA, or a combination thereof. The cloning of the nucleic acid sequences of the present invention from such genomic DNA can be effected, e.g., by using the well known polymerase chain reaction (PCR) or antibody screening of expression libraries to detect cloned DNA fragments with shared structural features. See, e.g., Innis et al., 1990, A Guide to Methods and Application, Academic Press, New York. Other nucleic acid amplification procedures such as ligase chain reaction (LCR), ligated activated transcription (LAT) and nucleic acid sequence-based amplification (NASBA) may be used. The nucleic acid sequence may be cloned from a strain producing the polypeptide, or from another related organism and thus, for example, may be an allelic or species variant of the polypeptide encoding region of the nucleic acid sequence. [0047] The term "isolated" nucleic acid sequence as used herein refers to a nucleic acid sequence which is essentially free of other nucleic acid sequences, e.g., at least about 20% pure, preferably at least about 40% pure, more preferably about 60% pure, even more preferably about 80% pure, most preferably about 90% pure, and even most preferably about 95% pure, as determined by agarose gel electorphoresis. For example, an isolated nucleic acid sequence can be obtained by standard cloning procedures used in genetic engineering to relocate the nucleic acid sequence from its natural location to a different site where it will be reproduced. The cloning procedures may involve excision and isolation of a desired nucleic acid fragment comprising the nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide, insertion of the fragment into a vector molecule, and incorporation of the recombinant vector into a host cell where multiple copies or clones of the nucleic acid sequence will be replicated. The nucleic acid sequence may be of genomic, cDNA, RNA, semisynthetic, synthetic origin, or any combinations thereof.

Nucleic Acid Construct

[0048] As used herein the term "nucleic acid construct" is intended to indicate any nucleic acid molecule of cDNA, genomic DNA, synthetic DNA or RNA origin. The term "construct" is intended to indicate a nucleic acid segment which may be single- or double-stranded, and which may be based on a complete or partial naturally occurring nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide of interest. The construct may optionally contain other nucleic acid segments.

[0049] The DNA of interest may suitably be of genomic or cDNA origin, for instance obtained by preparing a genomic or cDNA library and screening for DNA sequences coding for all or part of the polypeptide by hybridization using synthetic oligonucleotide probes in accordance with standard techniques (cf. Sambrook et al., supra).

[0050] The nucleic acid construct may also be prepared synthetically by established standard methods, e.g. the phosphoamidite method described by Beaucage and Caruthers, Tetrahedron Letters 22 (1981), 1859-1869, or the method described by Matthes et al., EMBO Journal 3 (1984), 801-805. According to the phosphoamidite method, oligonucleotides are synthesized, e.g. in an automatic DNA synthesizer, purified, annealed, ligated and cloned in suitable vectors.

[0051] Furthermore, the nucleic acid construct may be of mixed synthetic and genomic, mixed synthetic and cDNA or mixed genomic and cDNA origin prepared by ligating fragments of synthetic, genomic or cDNA origin (as appropriate), the fragments corresponding to various parts of the entire nucleic acid construct, in accordance with standard techniques.

[0052] The nucleic acid construct may also be prepared by polymerase chain reaction using specific primers, for instance as described in U.S. Pat. No. 4,683,202 or Saiki et al., Science 239 (1988), 487-491.

[0053] The term nucleic acid construct may be synonymous with the term expression cassette when the nucleic acid construct contains all the control sequences required for expression of a coding sequence of the present invention. The term "coding sequence" as defined herein is a sequence which is transcribed into mRNA and translated into a polypeptide of the present invention when placed under the control of the above mentioned control sequences. The boundaries of the coding sequence are generally determined by a translation start codon ATG at the 5'-terminus and a translation stop codon at the 3'-terminus. A coding sequence can include, but is not limited to, DNA, cDNA, and recombinant nucleic acid sequences.

[0054] The term "control sequences" is defined herein to include all components which are necessary or advantageous for expression of the coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence. Each control sequence may be native or foreign to the nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide. Such control sequences include, but are not limited to, a leader, a polyadenylation sequence, a propeptide sequence, a promoter, a signal sequence, and a transcription terminator. At a minimum, the control sequences include a promoter, and transcriptional and translational stop signals. The control sequences may be provided with linkers for the purpose of introducing specific restriction sites facilitating ligation of the control sequences with the coding region of the nucleic acid sequence encoding a polypeptide.

[0055] The control sequence may be an appropriate promoter sequence, a nucleic acid sequence which is recognized by a host cell for expression of the nucleic acid sequence. The promoter sequence contains transcription and translation control sequences which mediate the expression of the polypeptide. The promoter may be any nucleic acid sequence which shows transcriptional activity in the host cell of choice and may be obtained from genes encoding extracellular or intracellular polypeptides either homologous or heterologous to the host cell.

[0056] The control sequence may also be a suitable transcription terminator sequence, a sequence recognized by a

host cell to terminate transcription. The terminator sequence is operably linked to the 3' terminus of the nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide. Any terminator which is functional in the host cell of choice may be used in the present invention.

[0057] The control sequence may also be a polyadenylation sequence, a sequence which is operably linked to the 3' terminus of the nucleic acid sequence and which, when transcribed, is recognized by the host cell as a signal to add polyadenosine residues to transcribed mRNA. Any polyadenylation sequence which is functional in the host cell of choice may be used in the present invention.

[0058] The control sequence may also be a signal peptide coding region, which codes for an amino acid sequence linked to the amino terminus of the polypeptide which can direct the expressed polypeptide into the cell's secretory pathway of the host cell. The 5' end of the coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence may inherently contain a signal peptide coding region naturally linked in translation reading frame with the segment of the coding region which encodes the secreted polypeptide.

[0059] Alternatively, the 5' end of the coding sequence may contain a signal peptide coding region which is foreign to that portion of the coding sequence which encodes the secreted polypeptide. A foreign signal peptide coding region may be required where the coding sequence does not normally contain a signal peptide coding region. Alternatively, the foreign signal peptide coding region may simply replace the natural signal peptide coding region in order to obtain enhanced secretion relative to the natural signal peptide coding region normally associated with the coding sequence. The signal peptide coding region may be obtained from a glucoamylase or an amylase gene from an Aspergillus species, a lipase or proteinase gene from a Rhizomucor species, the gene for the alpha-factor from Saccharomyces cerevisiae, an amylase or a protease gene from a Bacillus species, or the calf preprochymosin gene. However, any signal peptide coding region capable of directing the expressed polypeptide into the secretory pathway of a host cell of choice may be used in the present invention.

[0060] The control sequence may also be a propeptide coding region, which codes for an amino acid sequence positioned at the amino terminus of a polypeptide. The resultant polypeptide is known as a proenzyme or propolypeptide (or a zymogen in some cases). A propolypeptide is generally inactive and can be converted to mature active polypeptide by catalytic or autocatalytic cleavage of the propeptide from the propolypeptide. The propeptide coding region may be obtained from the *Bacillus subtilis* alkaline protease gene (aprE), the *Bacillus subtilis* neutral protease gene (nprT), the *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* alpha-factor gene, or the *Myceliophthora thermophilum* laccase gene (WO 95/33836).

[0061] The nucleic acid constructs of the present invention may also comprise one or more nucleic acid sequences which encode one or more factors that are advantageous in the expression of the polypeptide, e.g., an activator (e.g., a transacting factor), a chaperone, and a processing protease. Any factor that is functional in the host cell of choice may be used in the present invention. The nucleic acids encoding one or more of these factors are not necessarily in tandem with the nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide.

[0062] An activator is a protein which activates transcription of a nucleic acid sequence encoding a polypeptide (Kudla et al., 1990, EMBO Journal 9:1355-1364; Jarai and Buxton,

1994, Current Genetics 26:2238-244; Verdier, 1990, Yeast 6:271-297). The nucleic acid sequence encoding an activator may be obtained from the genes encoding *Bacillus stearothermophilus* NprA (nprA), *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* heme activator protein 1 (hap1), *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* galactose metabolizing protein 4 (gal4), and *Aspergillus nidulans* ammonia regulation protein (areA). For further examples, see Verdier, 1990, supra and MacKenzie et al., 1993, Journal of General Microbiology 139:2295-2307.

[0063] A chaperone is a protein which assists another polypeptide in folding properly (Hartl et al., 1994, TIBS 19:20-25; Bergeron et al., 1994, TIBS 19:124-128; Demolder et al., 1994, Journal of Biotechnology 32:179-189; Craig, 1993, Science 260:1902-1903; Gething and Sambrook, 1992, Nature 355:33-45; Puig and Gilbert, 1994, Journal of Biological Chemistry 269:7764-7771; Wang and Tsou, 1993, The FASEB Journal 7:1515-11157; Robinson et al., 1994, Bio/Technology 1:381-384). The nucleic acid sequence encoding a chaperone may be obtained from the genes encoding Bacillus subtilis GroE proteins, Aspergillus oryzae protein disulphide isomerase, Saccharomyces cerevisiae calnexin, Saccharomyces *cerevisiae* BiP/GRP78, and Saccharomyces cerevisiae Hsp70. For further examples, see Gething and Sambrook, 1992, supra, and Hartl et al., 1994, supra.

[0064] A processing protease is a protease that cleaves a propeptide to generate a mature biochemically active polypeptide (Enderlin and Ogrydziak, 1994, Yeast 10:67-79; Fuller et al., 1989, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA 86:1434-1438; Julius et al., 1984, Cell 37:1075-1089; Julius et al., 1983, Cell 32:839-852). The nucleic acid sequence encoding a processing protease may be obtained from the genes encoding *Aspergillus niger* Kex2, *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* dipeptidylaminopeptidase, *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* Kex2, and *Yarrowia lipolytica* dibasic processing endoprotease (xpr6).

[0065] It may also be desirable to add regulatory sequences which allow the regulation of the expression of the polypeptide relative to the growth of the host cell. Examples of regulatory systems are those which cause the expression of the gene to be turned on or off in response to a chemical or physical stimulus, including the presence of a regulatory compound. Regulatory systems in prokaryotic systems would include the lac, tac, and trp operator systems. In yeast, the ADH2 system or GAL1 system may be used. In filamentous fungi, the TAKA alpha-amylase promoter, Aspergillus niger glucoamylase promoter, and the Aspergillus oryzae glucoamylase promoter may be used as regulatory sequences. Other examples of regulatory sequences are those which allow for gene amplification. In eukaryotic systems, these include the dihydrofolate reductase gene which is amplified in the presence of methotrexate, and the metallothionein genes which are amplified with heavy metals. In these cases, the nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide would be placed in tandem with the regulatory sequence.

Promoters

[0066] Examples of suitable promoters for directing the transcription of the nucleic acid constructs of the present invention, especially in a bacterial host cell, are the promoters obtained from the *E. coli* lac operon, the *Streptomyces coelicolor* agarase gene (dagA), the *Bacillus subtilis* levansucrase gene (sacB), the *Bacillus subtilis* alkaline protease gene, the *Bacillus licheniformis* alpha-amylase gene (amyL), the

Bacillus stearothermophilus maltogenic amylase gene (amyM), the *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* alpha-amylase gene (amyQ), the *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* BAN amylase gene, the *Bacillus licheniformis* penicillinase gene (penP), the *Bacillus subtilis* xylA and xylB genes, and the prokaryotic beta-lactamase gene (Villa-Kamaroff et al., 1978, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA 75:3727-3731), as well as the tac promoter (DeBoer et al., 1983, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA 80:21-25), or the *Bacillus pumilus* xylosidase gene, or by the phage Lambda PR or PL promoters or the *E. coli* lac, trp or tac promoters. Further promoters are described in "Useful proteins from recombinant bacteria" in Scientific American, 1980, 242:74-94; and in Sambrook et al., 1989, supra.

[0067] Examples of suitable promoters for directing the transcription of the nucleic acid constructs of the present invention in a filamentous fungal host cell are promoters obtained from the genes encoding Aspergillus oryzae TAKA amylase, Rhizomucor miehei aspartic proteinase, Aspergillus niger neutral alpha-amylase, Aspergillus niger acid stable alpha-amylase, Aspergillus niger or Aspergillus awamori glucoamylase (glaA), Rhizomucor miehei lipase, Aspergillus oryzae alkaline protease, Aspergillus oryzae triose phosphate isomerase, Aspergillus nidulans acetamidase, Fusarium oxysporum trypsin-like protease (as described in U.S. Pat. No. 4,288,627, which is incorporated herein by reference), and hybrids thereof. Particularly preferred promoters for use in filamentous fungal host cells are the TAKA amylase, NA2tpi (a hybrid of the promoters from the genes encoding Aspergillus niger neutral alpha-amylase and Aspergillus oryzae triose phosphate isomerase), and glaA promoters. Further suitable promoters for use in filamentous fungus host cells are the ADH3 promoter (McKnight et al., The EMBO J. 4 (1985), 2093-2099) or the tpiA promoter.

[0068] Examples of suitable promoters for use in yeast host cells include promoters from yeast glycolytic genes (Hitzeman et al., J. Biol. Chem. 255 (1980), 12073-12080; Alber and Kawasaki, J. Mol. Appl. Gen. 1 (1982), 419-434) or alcohol dehydrogenase genes (Young et al., in Genetic Engineering of Microorganisms for Chemicals (Hollaender et al, eds.), Plenum Press, New York, 1982), or the TPI1 (U.S. Pat. No. 4,599,311) or ADH2-4-c (Russell et al., Nature 304 (1983), 652-654) promoters.

[0069] Further useful promoters are obtained from the *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* enolase (ENO-1) gene, the *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* galactokinase gene (GAL1), the *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* alcohol dehydrogenase/glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase genes (ADH2/GAP), and the *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* 3-phosphoglycerate kinase gene. Other useful promoters for yeast host cells are described by Romanos et al., 1992, Yeast 8:423-488. In a mammalian host cell, useful promoters include viral promoters such as those from Simian Virus 40 (SV40), Rous sarcoma virus (RSV), adenovirus, and bovine papilloma virus (BPV).

[0070] Examples of suitable promoters for directing the transcription of the DNA encoding the polypeptide of the invention in mammalian cells are the SV40 promoter (Subramani et al., Mol. Cell. Biol. 1 (1981), 854-864), the MT-1 (metallothionein gene) promoter (Palmiter et al., Science 222 (1983), 809-814) or the adenovirus 2 major late promoter.

[0071] An example of a suitable promoter for use in insect cells is the polyhedrin promoter (U.S. Pat. No. 4,745,051; Vasuvedan et al., FEBS Lett. 311, (1992) 7-11), the P10 promoter (J. M. Vlak et al., J. Gen. Virology 69, 1988, pp.

765-776), the *Autographa californica* polyhedrosis virus basic protein promoter (EP 397 485), the baculovirus immediate early gene 1 promoter (U.S. Pat. No. 5,155,037; U.S. Pat. No. 5,162,222), or the baculovirus 39K delayed-early gene promoter (U.S. Pat. No. 5,155,037; U.S. Pat. No. 5,162, 222).

Terminators

[0072] Preferred terminators for filamentous fungal host cells are obtained from the genes encoding *Aspergillus oryzae* TAKA amylase, *Aspergillus niger glucoamylase, Aspergillus nidulans* anthranilate synthase, *Aspergillus niger* alpha-glucosidase, and *Fusarium oxysporum* trypsin-like protease. for fungal hosts) the TPI1 (Alber and Kawasaki, op. cit.) or ADH3 (McKnight et al., op. cit.) terminators.

[0073] Preferred terminators for yeast host cells are obtained from the genes encoding *Saccharomyces cerevisiae enolase, Saccharomyces cerevisiae* cytochrome C (CYC1), or *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase. Other useful terminators for yeast host cells are described by Romanos et al., 1992, supra.

Polyadenylation Signals

[0074] Preferred polyadenylation sequences for filamentous fungal host cells are obtained from the genes encoding *Aspergillus oryzae* TAKA amylase, *Aspergillus niger* glucoamylase, *Aspergillus nidulans* anthranilate synthase, and *Aspergillus niger* alpha-glucosidase.

[0075] Useful polyadenylation sequences for yeast host cells are described by Guo and Sherman, 1995, Molecular Cellular Biology 15:5983-5990.

[0076] Polyadenylation sequences are well known in the art for mammalian host cells such as SV40 or the adenovirus 5 Elb region.

Signal Sequences

[0077] An effective signal peptide coding region for bacterial host cells is the signal peptide coding region obtained from the maltogenic amylase gene from *Bacillus* NCIB 11837, the *Bacillus stearothermophilus* alpha-amylase gene, the *Bacillus licheniformis* subtilisin gene, the *Bacillus licheniformis* beta-lactamase gene, the *Bacillus stearothermophilus* neutral proteases genes (nprT, nprS, nprM), and the *Bacillus subtilis* PrsA gene. Further signal peptides are described by Simonen and Palva, 1993, Microbiological Reviews 57:109-137.

[0078] An effective signal peptide coding region for filamentous fungal host cells is the signal peptide coding region obtained from *Aspergillus oryzae* TAKA amylase gene, *Aspergillus niger* neutral amylase gene, the *Rhizomucor miehei* aspartic proteinase gene, the *Humicola lanuginosa* cellulase or lipase gene, or the *Rhizomucor miehei* lipase or protease gene, *Aspergillus* sp. amylase or glucoamylase, a gene encoding a *Rhizomucor miehei* lipase or protease. The signal peptide is preferably derived from a gene encoding *A. oryzae* TAKA amylase, *A. niger* neutral alpha-amylase, *A. niger* acid-stable amylase, or *A. niger* glucoamylase.

[0079] Useful signal peptides for yeast host cells are obtained from the genes for *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* alpha-factor and *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* invertase. Other useful signal peptide coding regions are described by Romanos et al., 1992, supra.

[0080] For secretion from yeast cells, the secretory signal sequence may encode any signal peptide which ensures efficient direction of the expressed polypeptide into the secretory pathway of the cell. The signal peptide may be naturally occurring signal peptide, or a functional part thereof, or it may be a synthetic peptide. Suitable signal peptides have been found to be the a-factor signal peptide (cf. U.S. Pat. No. 4,870,008), the signal peptide of mouse salivary amylase (cf. O. Hagenbuchle et al., Nature 289, 1981, pp. 643-646), a modified carboxypeptidase signal peptide (cf. L. A. Valls et al., Cell 48, 1987, pp. 887-897), the yeast BAR1 signal peptide (cf. WO 87/02670), or the yeast aspartic protease 3 (YAP3) signal peptide (cf. M. Egel-Mitani et al., Yeast 6, 1990, pp. 127-137).

[0081] For efficient secretion in yeast, a sequence encoding a leader peptide may also be inserted downstream of the signal sequence and upstream of the DNA sequence encoding the polypeptide. The function of the leader peptide is to allow the expressed polypeptide to be directed from the endoplasmic reticulum to the Golgi apparatus and further to a secretory vesicle for secretion into the culture medium (i.e. exportation of the polypeptide across the cell wall or at least through the cellular membrane into the periplasmic space of the yeast cell). The leader peptide may be the yeast a-factor leader (the use of which is described in e.g. U.S. Pat. No. 4,546,082, EP 16 201, EP 123 294, EP 123 544 and EP 163 529). Alternatively, the leader peptide may be a synthetic leader peptide, which is to say a leader peptide not found in nature. Synthetic leader peptides may, for instance, be constructed as described in WO 89/02463 or WO 92/11378.

[0082] For use in insect cells, the signal peptide may conveniently be derived from an insect gene (cf. WO 90/05783), such as the lepidopteran *Manduca sexta* adipokinetic hormone precursor signal peptide (cf. U.S. Pat. No. 5,023,328).

Expression Vectors

[0083] The present invention also relates to recombinant expression vectors comprising a nucleic acid sequence of the present invention, a promoter, and transcriptional and translational stop signals. The various nucleic acid and control sequences described above may be joined together to produce a recombinant expression vector which may include one or more convenient restriction sites to allow for insertion or substitution of the nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide at such sites. Alternatively, the nucleic acid sequence of the present invention may be expressed by inserting the nucleic acid sequence or a nucleic acid construct comprising the sequence into an appropriate vector for expression. In creating the expression vector, the coding sequence is located in the vector so that the coding sequence is operably linked with the appropriate control sequences for expression, and possibly secretion.

[0084] The recombinant expression vector may be any vector (e.g., a plasmid or virus) which can be conveniently subjected to recombinant DNA procedures and can bring about the expression of the nucleic acid sequence. The choice of the vector will typically depend on the compatibility of the vector with the host cell into which the vector is to be introduced. The vectors may be linear or closed circular plasmids. The vector may be an autonomously replicating vector, i.e., a vector which exists as an extrachromosomal entity, the replication of which is independent of chromosomal replication, e.g., a plasmid, an extrachromosomal element, a minichromosome, or an artificial chromosome. The vector may con-

tain any means for assuring self-replication. Alternatively, the vector may be one which, when introduced into the host cell, is integrated into the genome and replicated together with the chromosome(s) into which it has been integrated. The vector system may be a single vector or plasmid or two or more vectors or plasmids which together contain the total DNA to be introduced into the genome of the host cell, or a transposon.

[0085] The vectors of the present invention preferably contain one or more selectable markers which permit easy selection of transformed cells. A selectable marker is a gene the product of which provides for biocide or viral resistance, resistance to heavy metals, prototrophy to auxotrophs, and the like. Examples of bacterial selectable markers are the dal genes from Bacillus subtilis or Bacillus licheniformis, or markers which confer antibiotic resistance such as ampicillin, kanamycin, chloramphenicol, tetracycline, neomycin, hygromycin or methotrexate resistance. A frequently used mammalian marker is the dihydrofolate reductase gene (DHFR). Suitable markers for yeast host cells are ADE2, HIS3, LEU2, LYS2, MET3, TRP1, and URA3. A selectable marker for use in a filamentous fungal host cell may be selected from the group including, but not limited to, amdS (acetamidase), argB (ornithine carbamoyltransferase), bar (phosphinothricin acetyltransferase), hygB (hygromycin phosphotransferase), niaD (nitrate reductase), pyrG (orotidine-5'-phosphate decarboxylase), sC (sulfate adenyltransferase), trpC (anthranilate synthase), and glufosinate resistance markers, as well as equivalents from other species. Preferred for use in an Aspergillus cell are the amdS and pyrG markers of Aspergillus nidulans or Aspergillus oryzae and the bar marker of Streptomyces hygroscopicus. Furthermore, selection may be accomplished by co-transformation, e.g., as described in WO 91/17243, where the selectable marker is on a separate vector.

[0086] The vectors of the present invention preferably contain an element(s) that permits stable integration of the vector into the host cell genome or autonomous replication of the vector in the cell independent of the genome of the cell.

[0087] The vectors of the present invention may be integrated into the host cell genome when introduced into a host cell. For integration, the vector may rely on the nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide or any other element of the vector for stable integration of the vector into the genome by homologous or nonhomologous recombination. Alternatively, the vector may contain additional nucleic acid sequences for directing integration by homologous recombination into the genome of the host cell. The additional nucleic acid sequences enable the vector to be integrated into the host cell genome at a precise location(s) in the chromosome(s). To increase the likelihood of integration at a precise location, the integrational elements should preferably contain a sufficient number of nucleic acids, such as 100 to 1,500 base pairs, preferably 400 to 1,500 base pairs, and most preferably 800 to 1,500 base pairs, which are highly homologous with the corresponding target sequence to enhance the probability of homologous recombination. The integrational elements may be any sequence that is homologous with the target sequence in the genome of the host cell. Furthermore, the integrational elements may be non-encoding or encoding nucleic acid sequences. On the other hand, the vector may be integrated into the genome of the host cell by non-homologous recombination. These nucleic acid sequences may be any sequence that is homologous with a target sequence in the genome of the host cell, and, furthermore, may be non-encoding or encoding sequences.

[0088] For autonomous replication, the vector may further comprise an origin of replication enabling the vector to replicate autonomously in the host cell in question. Examples of bacterial origins of replication are the origins of replication of plasmids pBR322, pUC19, pACYC177, pACYC184, pUB110, pE194, pTA1060, and pAM β 1. Examples of origin of replications for use in a yeast host cell are the 2 micron origin of replication, the combination of CEN6 and ARS4, and the combination of CEN3 and ARS1. The origin of replication may be one having a mutation which makes its functioning temperature-sensitive in the host cell (see, e.g., Ehrlich, 1978, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA 75:1433).

[0089] More than one copy of a nucleic acid sequence encoding a polypeptide of the present invention may be inserted into the host cell to amplify expression of the nucleic acid sequence. Stable amplification of the nucleic acid sequence can be obtained by integrating at least one additional copy of the sequence into the host cell genome using methods well known in the art and selecting for transformants.

[0090] The procedures used to ligate the elements described above to construct the recombinant expression vectors of the present invention are well known to one skilled in the art (see, e.g., Sambrook et al., 1989, supra).

Host Cells

[0091] The present invention also relates to recombinant host cells, comprising a nucleic acid sequence of the invention, which are advantageously used in the recombinant production of the polypeptides. The term "host cell" encompasses any progeny of a parent cell which is not identical to the parent cell due to mutations that occur during replication. [0092] The cell is preferably transformed with a vector comprising a nucleic acid sequence of the invention followed by integration of the vector into the host chromosome. "Transformation" means introducing a vector comprising a nucleic acid sequence of the present invention into a host cell so that the vector is maintained as a chromosomal integrant or as a self-replicating extra-chromosomal vector. Integration is generally considered to be an advantage as the nucleic acid sequence is more likely to be stably maintained in the cell. Integration of the vector into the host chromosome may occur by homologous or non-homologous recombination as described above.

[0093] The choice of a host cell will to a large extent depend upon the gene encoding the polypeptide and its source. The host cell may be a unicellular microorganism, e.g., a prokaryote, or a non-unicellular microorganism, e.g., a eukaryote. Useful unicellular cells are bacterial cells such as gram positive bacteria including, but not limited to, a Bacillus cell, e.g., Bacillus alkalophilus, Bacillus amyloliquefaciens, Bacillus brevis, Bacillus circulans, Bacillus coagulans, Bacillus lautus, Bacillus lentus, Bacillus licheniformis, Bacillus megaterium, Bacillus stearothermophilus, Bacillus subtilis, and Bacillus thuringiensis; or a Streptomyces cell, e.g., Streptomyces lividans or Streptomyces murinus, or gram negative bacteria such as E. coli and Pseudomonas sp. In a preferred embodiment, the bacterial host cell is a Bacillus lentus, Bacillus licheniformis, Bacillus stearothermophilus or Bacillus subtilis cell. The transformation of a bacterial host cell may, for instance, be effected by protoplast transformation (see, e.g., Chang and Cohen, 1979, Molecular General Genetics 168:111-115), by using competent cells (see, e.g., Young and Spizizin, 1961, Journal of Bacteriology 81:823-829, or Dubnar and Davidoff-Abelson, 1971, Journal of Molecular Biology 56:209-221), by electroporation (see, e.g., Shigekawa and Dower, 1988, Biotechniques 6:742-751), or by conjugation (see, e.g., Koehler and Thorne, 1987, Journal of Bacteriology 169:5771-5278).

[0094] The host cell may be a eukaryote, such as a mammalian cell, an insect cell, a plant cell or a fungal cell.

[0095] Useful mammalian cells include Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) cells, HeLa cells, baby hamster kidney (BHK) cells, COS cells, or any number of other immortalized cell lines available, e.g., from the American Type Culture Collection.

[0096] Examples of suitable mammalian cell lines are the COS (ATCC CRL 1650 and 1651), BHK (ATCC CRL 1632, 10314 and 1573, ATCC CCL 10), CHL (ATCC CCL39) or CHO (ATCC CCL 61) cell lines. Methods of transfecting mammalian cells and expressing DNA sequences introduced in the cells are described in e.g. Kaufman and Sharp, J. Mol. Biol. 159 (1982), 601-621; Southern and Berg, J. Mol. Appl. Genet. 1 (1982), 327-341; Loyter et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 79 (1982), 422-426; Wigler et al., Cell 14 (1978), 725; Corsaro and Pearson, Somatic Cell Genetics 7 (1981), 603, Ausubel et al., Current Protocols in Molecular Biology, John Wiley and Sons, Inc., N.Y., 1987, Hawley-Nelson et al., Focus 15 (1993), 73; Ciccarone et al., Focus 15 (1993), 80; Graham and van der Eb, Virology 52 (1973), 456; and Neumann et al., EMBO J. 1 (1982), 841-845.

[0097] In a preferred embodiment, the host cell is a fungal cell. "Fungi" as used herein includes the phyla Ascomycota, Basidiomycota, Chytridiomycota, and Zygomycota (as defined by Hawksworth et al., In, Ainsworth and Bisby's Dictionary of The Fungi, 8th edition, 1995, CAB International. University Press, Cambridge, UK) as well as the Oomycota (as cited in Hawksworth et al., 1995, supra, page 171) and all mitosporic fungi (Hawksworth et al., 1995, supra). Representative groups of Ascomycota include, e.g., Neurospora, Eupenicillium (=Penicillium), Emericella (=Aspergillus), Eurotium (=Aspergillus), and the true yeasts listed above. Examples of Basidiomycota include mushrooms, rusts, and smuts. Representative groups of Chytridiomycota include, e.g., Allomyces, Blastocladiella, Coelomomyces, and aquatic fungi. Representative groups of Oomycota include, e.g., Saprolegniomycetous aquatic fungi (water molds) such as Achlya. Examples of mitosporic fungi include Aspergillus, Penicillium, Candida, and Alternaria. Representative groups of Zygomycota include, e.g., Rhizopus and Mucor.

[0098] In a preferred embodiment, the fungal host cell is a yeast cell. "Yeast" as used herein includes ascosporogenous yeast (Endomycetales), basidiosporogenous yeast, and yeast belonging to the Fungi Imperfecti (Blastomycetes). The ascosporogenous yeasts are divided into the families Spermophthoraceae and Saccharomycetaceae. The latter is comprised of four subfamilies, Schizosaccharomycoideae (e.g., genus *Schizosaccharomyces*), Nadsonioideae, Lipomycoideae, and Saccharomycoideae (e.g., genera *Pichia, Kluyveromyces* and *Saccharomyces*). The basidiosporogenous yeasts include the genera *Leucosporidim, Rhodosporidium, Sporidiobolus, Filobasidium*, and *Filobasidiella*. Yeast belonging to the Fungi Imperfecti are divided into two

families, Sporobolomycetaceae (e.g., genera *Sorobolomyces* and *Bullera*) and Cryptococcaceae (e.g., genus *Candida*). Since the classification of yeast may change in the future, for the purposes of this invention, yeast shall be defined as described in Biology and Activities of Yeast (Skinner, F. A., Passmore, S. M., and Davenport, R. R., eds, Soc. App. Bacteriol. Symposium Series No. 9, 1980. The biology of yeast and manipulation of yeast genetics are well known in the art (see, e.g., Biochemistry and Genetics of Yeast, Bacil, M., Horecker, B. J., and Stopani, A. O. M., editors, 2nd edition, 1987; The Yeasts, Rose, A. H., and Harrison, J. S., editors, 2nd edition, 1987; and The Molecular Biology of the Yeast *Saccharomyces, Strathern et al., editors*, 1981).

[0099] The yeast host cell may be selected from a cell of a species of *Candida, Kluyveromyces, Saccharomyces, Schizosaccharomyces, Candida, Pichia, Hansenula, or Yarrowia.* In a preferred embodiment, the yeast host cell is a *Saccharomyces carlsbergensis, Saccharomyces douglasii, Saccharomyces diastaticus, Saccharomyces douglasii, Saccharomyces kluyveri, Saccharomyces norbensis or Saccharomyces oviformis cell.* Other useful yeast host cells are a *Kluyveromyces lactis, Kluyveromyces fragilis, Hansenula polymorpha, Pichia pastoris, Yarrowia lipolytica, Schizosaccharomyces pombe, Ustilgo maylis, Candida maltose, Pichia guillermondii and Pichia methanolio cell (cf. Gleeson et al., J. Gen. Microbiol. 132, 1986, pp. 3459-3465; U.S. Pat. No. 4,882,279 and U.S. Pat. No. 4,879,231).*

[0100] In a preferred embodiment, the fungal host cell is a filamentous fungal cell. "Filamentous fungi" include all filamentous forms of the subdivision Eumycota and Oomycota (as defined by Hawksworth et al., 1995, supra). The filamentous fungi are characterized by a vegetative mycelium composed of chitin, cellulose, glucan, chitosan, mannan, and other complex polysaccharides. Vegetative growth is by hyphal elongation and carbon catabolism is obligately aerobic. In contrast, vegetative growth by yeasts such as Saccharomyces cerevisiae is by budding of a unicellular thallus and carbon catabolism may be fermentative. In a more preferred embodiment, the filamentous fungal host cell is a cell of a species of, but not limited to, Acremonium, Aspergillus, Fusarium, Humicola, Mucor, Myceliophthora, Neurospora, Penicillium, Thielavia, Tolypocladium, and Trichoderma or a teleomorph or synonym thereof. In an even more preferred embodiment, the filamentous fungal host cell is an Aspergillus cell. In another even more preferred embodiment, the filamentous fungal host cell is an Acremonium cell. In another even more preferred embodiment, the filamentous fungal host cell is a Fusarium cell. In another even more preferred embodiment, the filamentous fungal host cell is a Humicola cell. In another even more preferred embodiment, the filamentous fungal host cell is a Mucor cell. In another even more preferred embodiment, the filamentous fungal host cell is a Myceliophthora cell. In another even more preferred embodiment, the filamentous fungal host cell is a Neurospora cell. In another even more preferred embodiment, the filamentous fungal host cell is a Penicillium cell. In another even more preferred embodiment, the filamentous fungal host cell is a Thielavia cell. In another even more preferred embodiment, the filamentous fungal host cell is a Tolypocladium cell. In another even more preferred embodiment, the filamentous fungal host cell is a Trichoderma cell. In a most preferred embodiment, the filamentous fungal host cell is an Aspergillus awamori, Aspergillus foetidus, Aspergillus japonicus, Aspergillus niger, Aspergillus nidulans or Aspergillus oryzae

cell. In another most preferred embodiment, the filamentous fungal host cell is a Fusarium cell of the section Discolor (also known as the section Fusarium). For example, the filamentous fungal parent cell may be a Fusarium bactridioides, Fusarium cerealis, Fusarium crookwellense, Fusarium culmorum, Fusarium graminearum, Fusarium graminum, Fusarium heterosporum, Fusarium negundi, Fusarium reticulaturn, Fusarium roseum, Fusarium sambucinum, Fusarium sarcochroum, Fusarium sulphureum, or Fusarium trichothecioides cell. In another preferred embodiment, the filamentous fungal parent cell is a Fusarium strain of the section Elegans, e.g., Fusarium oxvsporum. In another most preferred embodiment, the filamentous fungal host cell is a Humicola insolens or Humicola lanuginosa cell. In another most preferred embodiment, the filamentous fungal host cell is a Mucor miehei cell. In another most preferred embodiment, the filamentous fungal host cell is a Myceliophthora thermophilum cell. In another most preferred embodiment, the filamentous fungal host cell is a Neurospora crassa cell. In another most preferred embodiment, the filamentous fungal host cell is a Penicillium purpurogenum cell. In another most preferred embodiment, the filamentous fungal host cell is a Thielavia terrestris cell or an Acremonium chtysogenum cell. In another most preferred embodiment, the Trichoderma cell is a Trichoderma harzianum, Trichoderma koningii, Trichoderma longibrachiatum, Trichoderma reesei or Trichoderma viride cell. The use of Aspergillus spp. for the expression of proteins is described in, e.g., EP 272 277, EP 230 023.

Transformation

[0101] Fungal cells may be transformed by a process involving protoplast formation, transformation of the protoplasts, and regeneration of the cell wall in a manner known per se. Suitable procedures for transformation of Aspergillus host cells are described in EP 238 023 and Yelton et al., 1984, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA 81:1470-1474. A suitable method of transforming Fusarium species is described by Malardier et al., 1989, Gene 78:147-156 or in copending U.S. Ser. No. 08/269,449. Examples of other fungal cells are cells of filamentous fungi, e.g. Aspergillus spp., Neurospora spp., Fusarium spp. or Trichoderma spp., in particular strains of A. oryzae, A. nidulans or A. niger. The use of Aspergillus spp. for the expression of proteins is described in, e.g., EP 272 277, EP 230 023. The transformation of F. oxysporum may, for instance, be carried out as described by Malardier et al., 1989, Gene 78: 147-156.

[0102] Yeast may be transformed using the procedures described by Becker and Guarente, In Abelson, J. N. and Simon, M. I., editors, Guide to Yeast Genetics and Molecular Biology, Methods in Enzymology, Volume 194, pp 182-187, Academic Press, Inc., New York; Ito et al., 1983, Journal of Bacteriology 153:163; and Hinnen et al., 1978, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA 75:1920. Mammalian cells may be transformed by direct uptake using the calcium phosphate precipitation method of Graham and Van der Eb (1978, Virology 52:546).

[0103] Transformation of insect cells and production of heterologous polypeptides therein may be performed as described in U.S. Pat. No. 4,745,051; U.S. Pat. No. 4,775, 624; U.S. Pat. No. 4,879,236; U.S. Pat. No. 5,155,037; U.S. Pat. No. 5,162,222; EP397,485) all of which are incorporated herein by reference. The insect cell line used as the host may suitably be a *Lepidoptera* cell line, such as *Spodoptera frugiperda* cells or *Trichoplusia ni* cells (cf. U.S. Pat. No. 5,077,

214). Culture conditions may suitably be as described in, for instance, WO 89/01029 or WO 89/01028, or any of the aforementioned references.

Methods of Production

[0104] The transformed or transfected host cells described above are cultured in a suitable nutrient medium under conditions permitting the production of the desired molecules, after which these are recovered from the cells, or the culture broth.

[0105] The medium used to culture the cells may be any conventional medium suitable for growing the host cells, such as minimal or complex media containing appropriate supplements. Suitable media are available from commercial suppliers or may be prepared according to published recipes (e.g. in catalogues of the American Type Culture Collection). The media are prepared using procedures known in the art (see, e.g., references for bacteria and yeast; Bennett, J. W. and LaSure, L., editors, More Gene Manipulations in Fungi, Academic Press, CA, 1991).

[0106] If the molecules are secreted into the nutrient medium, they can be recovered directly from the medium. If they are not secreted, they can be recovered from cell lysates. The molecules are recovered from the culture medium by conventional procedures including separating the host cells from the medium by centrifugation or filtration, precipitating the proteinaceous components of the supernatant or filtrate by means of a salt, e.g. ammonium sulphate, purification by a variety of chromatographic procedures, e.g. ion exchange chromatography, gelfiltration chromatography, affinity chromatography, or the like, dependent on the type of molecule in question.

[0107] The molecules of interest may be detected using methods known in the art that are specific for the molecules. These detection methods may include use of specific antibodies, formation of a product, or disappearance of a substrate. For example, an enzyme assay may be used to determine the activity of the molecule. Procedures for determining various kinds of activity are known in the art.

[0108] The molecules of the present invention may be purified by a variety of procedures known in the art including, but not limited to, chromatography (e.g., ion exchange, affinity, hydrophobic, chromatofocusing, and size exclusion), electrophoretic procedures (e.g., preparative isoelectric focusing (IEF), differential solubility (e.g., ammonium sulfate precipitation), or extraction (see, e.g., Protein Purification, J-C Janson and Lars Ryden, editors, VCH Publishers, New York, 1989).

[0109] The term "immunological response", used in connection with the present invention, is the response of an organism to a compound, which involves the immune system according to any of the four standard reactions (Type I, II, III and IV according to Coombs & Gell).

[0110] Correspondingly, the "immunogenicity" of a compound used in connection with the present invention refers to the ability of this compound to induce an 'immunological response' in animals including man.

[0111] The term "allergic response", used in connection with the present invention, is the response of an organism to a compound, which involves IgE mediated responses (Type I reaction according to Coombs & Gell). It is to be understood that sensibilization (i.e. development of compound-specific IgE antibodies) upon exposure to the compound is included in the definition of "allergic response".

[0112] Correspondingly, the "allergenicity" of a compound used in connection with the present invention refers to the ability of this compound to induce an 'allergic response' in animals including man.

[0113] The term "parent protein" refer to the polypeptide to be modified by creating a library of diversified mutants. The "parent protein" may be a naturally occurring (or wild-type) polypeptide or it may be a variant thereof prepared by any suitable means. For instance, the "parent protein" may be a variant of a naturally occurring polypeptide which has been modified by substitution, deletion or truncation of one or more amino acid residues or by addition or insertion of one or more amino acid residues to the amino acid sequence of a naturally-occurring polypeptide.

[0114] The term "enzyme variants" or "protein variants" refer to a polypeptide of the invention comprising one or more substitutions of the specified amino acid residues. The total number of such substitutions is typically not more than 10, e.g. one, two, three, four, five or six of said substitutions. In addition, the enzyme variant or protein variant of the invention may optionally include other modifications of the parent enzyme, typically not more than 10, e.g. not more than 5 such modifications. The variant generally has a homology with the parent enzyme of at least 80%, e.g. at least 85%, typically at least 90% or at least 95%.

[0115] The term "randomized library" of protein variants refers to a library with at least partially randomized composition of the members, e.g. protein variants.

[0116] An "epitope" is a set of amino acids on a protein that are involved in an immunological response, such as antibody binding or T-cell activation. One particularly useful method of identifying epitopes involved in antibody binding is to screen a library of peptide-phage membrane protein fusions and selecting those that bind to relevant antigen-specific antibodies, sequencing the randomized part of the fusion gene, aligning the sequences involved in binding, defining consensus sequences based on these alignments, and mapping these consensus sequences on the surface or the sequence and/or structure of the antigen, to identify epitopes involved in antibody binding.

[0117] By the term "epitope pattern" is meant such a consensus sequence of antibody binding peptides. An example is the epitope pattern A R R<R. The sign "<" in this notation indicates that the aligned antibody binding peptides included a non-consensus amino acid between the second and the third arginine.

[0118] An "epitope area" is defined as the amino acids situated close to the epitope sequence amino acids. Preferably, the amino acids of an epitope area are located <5 Å from the epitope sequence. Hence, an epitope area also includes the corresponding epitope sequence itself. Modifications of amino acids of the 'epitope area' can possibly affect the immunogenic function of the corresponding epitope.

[0119] By the term "epitope sequence" is meant the amino acid residues of a parent protein, which have been identified to belong to an epitope by the methods of the present invention (an example of an epitope sequence is E271 Q12 I8 in Savinase).

[0120] The term 'antibody binding peptide' denotes a peptide that bind with sufficiently high affinity to antibodies. Identification of 'antibody binding peptides' and their sequences constitute the first step of the method of this invention. **[0121]** "Anchor amino acids" are the individual amino acids of an epitope pattern.

[0122] "Hot spot amino acids" are amino acids of parent protein, which are particularly likely to result in modified immunogenecity if they are mutated. Amino acids, which appear in three or more epitope sequences or which correspond to anchor amino acids are hot spot amino acids.

[0123] "Environmental allergens" are protein allergens that are present naturally. They include pollen, dust mite allergens, pet allergens, food allergens, venoms, etc.

[0124] "Commercial allergens" are protein allergens that are being brought to the market commercially. They include enzymes, pharmaceutical proteins, antimicrobial peptides, as well as allergens of transgenic plants.

[0125] The "donor protein" is the protein that was used to raise antibodies used to identify antibody binding sequences, hence the donor protein provides the information that leads to the epitope patterns.

[0126] The "acceptor protein" is the protein, whose structure is used to fit the identified epitope patterns and/or to fit the antibody binding sequences. Hence the acceptor protein is also the parent protein.

[0127] An "autoepitope" is one that has been identified using antibodies raised against the parent protein, i.e. the acceptor and the donor proteins are identical.

[0128] A "heteroepitope" is one that has been identified with distinct donor and acceptor proteins.

[0129] The term "functionality" of protein variants refers to e.g. enzymatic activity; binding to a ligand or receptor; stimulation of a cellular response (e.g. ³H-thymidine incorporation as response to a mitogenic factor); or anti-microbial activity. **[0130]** By the term "specific polyclonal antibodies" is meant polyclonal antibodies isolated according to their specificity for a certain antigen, e.g. the protein backbone.

[0131] By the term "monospecific antibodies" is meant polyclonal antibodies isolated according to their specificity for a certain epitope. Such monospecific antibodies will bind to the same epitope, but with different affinity, as they are produced by a number of antibody producing cells recognizing overlapping but not necessarily identical epitopes.

[0132] The term "randomized library" of protein variants refers to a library with at least partially randomized composition of the members, e.g. protein variants.

[0133] 'Spiked mutagenesis' is a form of site-directed mutagenesis, in which the primers used have been synthesized using mixtures of oligonucleotides at one or more positions.

[0134] By the term "a protein variant having modified immunogenicity as compared to the parent protein" is meant a protein variant which differs from the parent protein in one or more amino acids whereby the immunogenicity of the variant is modified. The modification of immunogenicity may be confirmed by testing the ability of the protein variant to elicit an IgE/IgG response.

[0135] In the present context the term "protein" is intended to cover oligopeptides, polypeptides as well as proteins as such.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0136] The present invention relates to a method of selecting a protein variant having modified immunogenicity as compared to a parent protein, comprising the steps of:

[0137] a) obtaining antibody binding peptide sequences,

[0138] b) using the sequences to localise epitope sequences on the 3-dimensional structure of parent protein,

[0139] c) defining an epitope area including amino acids situated within 5 Å from the epitope amino acids constituting the epitope sequence,

[0140] d) changing one or more of the amino acids defining the epitope area of the parent protein by genetic engineering mutations of a DNA sequence encoding the parent protein,

[0141] e) introducing the mutated DNA sequence into a suitable host, culturing said host and expressing the protein variant, and

[0142] f) evaluating the immunogenicity of the protein variant using the parent protein as reference.

A) How to Find Antibody Binding Peptide Sequences and Epitope Patterns

[0143] A first step of the method is to identify peptide sequences, which bind specifically to antibodies.

[0144] Antibody binding peptide sequences can be found by testing a set of known peptide sequences for binding to antibodies raised against the donor protein. These sequences are typically selected, such that each represents a segment of the donor protein sequence (Mol. Immunol., 1992, vol. 29, pp. 1383-1389; Am. J. Resp. Cell. Mol. Biol. 2000, vol. 22, pp. 344-351). Also, randomized synthetic peptide libraries can be used to find antibody binding sequences (Slootstra et al; Molecular Diversity, 1996, vol. 2, pp. 156-164).

[0145] In a preferred method, the identification of antibody binding sequences may be achieved by screening of a display package library, preferably a phage display library. The principle behind phage display is that a heterologous DNA sequence can be inserted in the gene coding for a coat protein of the phage (WO 92/15679). The phage will make and display the hybrid protein on its surface where it can interact with specific target agents. Such target agent may be antigenspecific antibodies. It is therefore possible to select specific phages that display antibody-binding peptide sequences. The displayed peptides can be of predetermined lengths, for example 9 amino acids long, with randomized sequences, resulting in a random peptide display package library. Thus, by screening for antibody binding, one can isolate the peptide sequences that have sufficiently high affinity for the particular antibody used. The peptides of the hybrid proteins of the specific phages which bind protein-specific antibodies characterize epitopes that are recognized by the immune system. [0146] The antibodies used for reacting with the display package are preferably IgE antibodies to ensure that the epitopes identified are IgE epitopes, i.e. epitopes inducing and binding IgE. In a preferred embodiment the antibodies are polyclonal antibodies, optionally monospecific antibodies.

[0147] For the purpose of the present invention polyclonal antibodies are preferred in order to obtain a broader knowledge about the epitopes of a protein.

[0148] It is of great importance that the amino acid sequence of the peptides presented by the display packages is long enough to represent a significant part of the epitope to be identified. In a preferred embodiment of the invention the peptides of the peptide display package library are oligopeptides having from 5 to 25 amino acids, preferably at least 8 amino acids, such as 9 amino acids. For a given length of peptide sequences (n), the theoretical number of different possible sequences can be calculated as 20ⁿ. The diversity of

the package library used must be large enough to provide a suitable representation of the theoretical number of different sequences. In a phage-display library, each phage has one specific sequence of a determined length. Hence an average phage display library can express 10^{8} - 10^{12} different random sequences, and is therefore well-suited to represent the theoretical number of different sequences.

[0149] The antibody binding peptide sequences can be further analysed by consensus alignment e.g. by the methods described by Feng and Doolittle, Meth. Enzymol., 1996, vol. 266, pp. 368-382; Feng and Doolittle, J. Mol. Evol., 1987, vol. 25, pp. 351-360; and Taylor, Meth. Enzymol., 1996, vol. 266, pp. 343-367.

[0150] This leads to identification of epitope patterns, which can assist the comparison of the linear information obtained from the antibody binding peptide sequences to the 3-o dimensional structure of the acceptor protein in order to identify epitope sequences at the surface of the acceptor protein.

B) How to Identify Epitope Sequences and Epitope Areas.

[0151] Given a number of antibody binding peptide sequences and possibly the corresponding epitope patterns, one need the 3-dimensional structure coordinates of an acceptor protein to find the epitope sequences on its surface.

[0152] These coordinates can be found in databases (NCBI: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/), determined experimentally using conventional methods (Ducruix and Giege: Crystallization of Nucleic Acids and Proteins, IRL PRess, Oxford, 1992, ISBN 0-19-963245-6), or they can be deduced from the coordinates of a homologous protein. Typical actions required for the construction of a model structure are: alignment of homologous sequences for which 3-dimensional structures exist, definition of Structurally Conserved Regions (SCRs), assignment of coordinates to SCRs, search for structural fragments/loops in structure databases to replace Variable Regions, assignment of coordinates to these regions, and structural refinement by energy minimization. Regions containing large inserts (>3 residues) relative to the known 3-dimensional structures are known to be quite difficult to model, and structural predictions must be considered with care.

[0153] Using the coordinates and the several methods of mapping the linear information on the 3-dimensional surface are possible, as described in the examples below.

[0154] One can match each amino acid residue of the antibody binding peptide to an identical or homologous amino acid on the 3-D surface of the acceptor protein, such that amino acids that are adjacent in the primary sequence are close on the surface of the acceptor protein, with close being <5 Å, preferably <3 Å between any two atoms of the two amino acids.

[0155] Alternatively, one can define a geometric body (e.g. an ellipsoid, a sphere, or a box) of a size that matches a possible binding interface between antibody and antigen and look for a positioning of this body where it will contain most of or all the anchor amino acids.

[0156] Also, one can use the epitope patterns to facilitate identification of epitope sequences. This can be done, by first matching the anchor amino acids on the 3-D structure and subsequently looking for other elements of the antibody binding peptide sequences, which provide additional matches. If there are many residues to be matched, it is only necessary that a suitable number can be found on the 3-D structure. For

example if an epitope pattern comprises 4, 5, 6, or 7 amino acids, it is only necessary that 3 matches surface elements of the acceptor protein.

[0157] In all cases, it is desirable that amino acids of the epitope sequence are surface exposed (as described below in Examples).

[0158] It is known, that amino acids that surround binding sequences can affect binding of a ligand without participating actively in the binding process. Based on this knowledge, areas covered by amino acids with potential steric effects on the epitope-antibody interaction, were defined around the identified epitope sequences. These areas are called 'epitope areas'. Practically, all amino acids situated within 5 Å from the amino acids defining the epitope sequence were included. Preferably, the epitope area equals the epitope sequence. The accessibility criterium was not used as hidden amino acids of an epitope area also can have an effect on the adjacent amino acids of the epitope sequence.

C) How to Use the Epitope Information.

[0159] There are at least four ways to utilize the information about epitope sequences, which has been derived by the methods of this invention:

[0160] 1) reduce the allergenicity of a commercial protein using protein engineering.

[0161] 2) reduce the potential of commercial proteins to cross-react with environmental allergens and hence cause allergic reactions in people sensitized to the environmental allergens (or vice versa).

[0162] 3) improve the immunotherapeutic effect of allergen vaccines.

[0163] 4) assist characterization of clinical allergies in order to select the appropriate allergen vaccine.

Protein Engineering to Reduce the Allergenicity, Cross-Reactivity and/or Immunotherapeutic Effect of Proteins.

[0164] The methods described thus far have led to identification of epitope areas on an acceptor protein, each containing epitope sequences. These subsets of amino acids, are preferred for introducing mutations that are meant to modify the immunogenecity of the acceptor protein. An even more preferred subset of amino acids to target by mutagenesis are 'hot spot amino acids', which appear in several different epitope sequences, or which corresponds to anchor amino acids of the epitope patterns.

[0165] Thus, genetic engineering mutations should be designed in the epitope areas, preferably in epitope sequences, and more preferably in the 'hot spot amino acids'.

Substitution, Deletion, Insertion

[0166] When the epitope area(s) have been identified, a protein variant exhibiting a modified immunogenicity may be produced by changing the identified epitope area of the parent protein by genetic engineering mutation of a DNA sequence encoding the parent protein.

[0167] The epitope identified may be changed by substituting at least one amino acid of the epitope area. In a preferred embodiment at least one anchor amino acid or hot spot amino acid is changed. The change will often be substituting to an amino acid of different size, hydrophilicity, and/or polarity, such as a small amino acid versus a large amino acid, a hydrophilic amino acid versus a hydrophobic amino acid, a polar amino acid versus a non-polar amino acid and a basic versus an acidic amino acid. **[0168]** Other changes may be the addition/insertion or deletion of at least one amino acid of the epitope sequence, preferably deleting an anchor amino acid or a hot spot amino acid. Furthermore, an epitope pattern may be changed by substituting some amino acids, and deleting/adding other.

[0169] In the claims a position to be changed by substitution, insertion, deletion will be indicated by: "Position xx to aaa, bbb, ccc, insertion, deletion", meaning that position xx can be substituted by the amino acid aaa, bbb, ccc or that any amino acid can be inserted after position xx or that position xx can be deleted, e.g. "Position 27 to A, D, E, insertion, deletion" means that in position 27 the amino acid can be substituted by A, D or E, or that any amino acid can be inserted after position 27, or that the amino acid in position 27 can be deleted.

[0170] When one uses protein engineering to eliminate epitopes, it is indeed possible that new epitopes are created, or existing epitopes are duplicated. To reduce this risk, one can map the planned mutations at a given position on the 3-dimensional structure of the protein of interest, and control the emerging amino acid constellation against a database of known epitope patterns, to rule out those possible replacement amino acids, which are predicted to result in creation or duplication of epitopes. Thus, risk mutations can be identified and eliminated by this procedure, thereby reducing the risk of making mutations that lead to increased rather than decreased allergenicity.

Introduction of Residues for Chemical Derivatization in Epitope Areas

[0171] In vet another embodiment, one can design the mutation, such that amino acids suitable for chemical modification are substituted for existing ones in the epitope areas. The protein variant can then be conjugated to activated polymers. Which amino acids to substitute and/or insert, depends in principle on the coupling chemistry to be applied. The chemistry for preparation of covalent bioconjugates can be found in "Bioconjugate Techniques", Hermanson, G. T. (1996), Academic Press Inc., which is hereby incorporated as reference (see below). It is preferred to make conservative substitutions in the polypeptide when the polypeptide has to be conjugated, as conservative substitutions secure that the impact of the substitution on the polypeptide structure is limited. In the case of providing additional amino groups this may be done by substitution of arginine to lysine, both residues being positively charged, but only the lysine having a free amino group suitable as an attachment groups. In the case of providing additional carboxylic acid groups the conservative substitution may for instance be an asparagine to aspartic acid or glutamine to glutamic acid substitution. These residues resemble each other in size and shape, except from the carboxylic groups being present on the acidic residues. In the case of providing SH-groups the conservative substitution may be done by changing threonine or serine to cysteine.

Chemical Conjugation

[0172] For chemical conjugation, the protein variant needs to be incubate with an active or activated polymer and subsequently separated from the unreacted polymer. This can be done in solution followed by purification or it can conveniently be done using the immobilized protein variants, which can easily be exposed to different reaction environments and washes.

[0173] In the case were polymeric molecules are to be conjugated with the polypeptide in question and the polymeric molecules are not active they must be activated by the use of a suitable technique. It is also contemplated according to the invention to couple the polymeric molecules to the polypeptide through a linker. Suitable linkers are well-known to the skilled person. Methods and chemistry for activation of polymeric molecules as well as for conjugation of polypeptides are intensively described in the literature. Commonly used methods for activation of insoluble polymers include activation of functional groups with cyanogen bromide, periodate, glutaraldehyde, biepoxides, epichlorohydrin, divinylsulfone, carbodiimide, sulfonyl halides, trichlorotriazine etc. (see R. F. Taylor, (1991), "Protein immobilisation. Fundamental and applications", Marcel Dekker, N.Y.; S. S. Wong, (1992), "Chemistry of Protein Conjugation and Crosslinking", CRC Press, Boca Raton; G. T. Hermanson et al., (1993), "Immobilized Affinity Ligand Techniques", Academic Press, N.Y.). Some of the methods concern activation of insoluble polymers but are also applicable to activation of soluble polymers e.g. periodate, trichlorotriazine, sulfonylhalides, divinylsulfone, carbodiimide etc. The functional groups being amino, hydroxyl, thiol, carboxyl, aldehyde or sulfydryl on the polymer and the chosen attachment group on the protein must be considered in choosing the activation and conjugation chemistry which normally consist of i) activation of polymer, ii) conjugation, and iii) blocking of residual active groups.

[0174] In the following a number of suitable polymer activation methods will be described shortly. However, it is to be understood that also other methods may be used.

[0175] Coupling polymeric molecules to the free acid groups of polypeptides may be performed with the aid of diimide and for example amino-PEG or hydrazino-PEG (Pollak et al., (1976), J. Am. Chem. Soc., 98, 289-291) or diazoacetate/amide (Wong et al., (1992), "Chemistry of Protein Conjugation and Crosslinking", CRC Press).

[0176] Coupling polymeric molecules to hydroxy groups is generally very difficult as it must be performed in water. Usually hydrolysis predominates over reaction with hydroxyl groups.

[0177] Coupling polymeric molecules to free sulfhydryl groups can be achieved with special groups like maleimido or the ortho-pyridyl disulfide. Also vinylsulfone (U.S. Pat. No. 5,414,135, (1995), Snow et al.) has a preference for sulfhydryl groups but is not as selective as the other mentioned.

[0178] Accessible arginine residues in the polypeptide chain may be targeted by groups comprising two vicinal carbonyl groups.

[0179] Techniques involving coupling of electrophilically activated PEGs to the amino groups of Lysines may also be useful. Many of the usual leaving groups for alcohols give rise to an amine linkage. For instance, alkyl sulfonates, such as tresylates (Nilsson et al., (1984), Methods in Enzymology vol. 104, Jacoby, W. B., Ed., Academic Press: Orlando, p. 56-66; Nilsson et al., (1987), Methods in Enzymology vol. 135; Mosbach, K., Ed.; Academic Press: Orlando, pp. 65-79; Scouten et al., (1987), Methods in Enzymology vol. 135, Mosbach, K., Ed., Academic Press: Orlando, 1987; pp 79-84; Crossland et al., (1971), J. Amr. Chem. Soc. 1971, 93, pp. 4217-4219), mesylates (Harris, (1985), supra; Harris et al., (1984), J. Polym. Sci. Polym. Chem. Ed. 22, pp 341-352), aryl sulfonates like tosylates, and para-nitrobenzene sulfonates can be used.

[0180] Organic sulfonyl chlorides, e.g. Tresyl chloride, effectively converts hydroxy groups in a number of polymers, e.g. PEG, into good leaving groups (sulfonates) that, when reacted with nucleophiles like amino groups in polypeptides allow stable linkages to be formed between polymer and polypeptide. In addition to high conjugation yields, the reaction conditions are in general mild (neutral or slightly alkaline pH, to avoid denaturation and little or no disruption of activity), and satisfy the non-destructive requirements to the polypeptide.

[0181] Tosylate is more reactive than the mesylate but also less stable decomposing into PEG, dioxane, and sulfonic acid (Zalipsky, (1995), Bioconjugate Chem., 6, 150-165). Epoxides may also been used for creating amine bonds but are much less reactive than the abovementioned groups.

[0182] Converting PEG into a chloroformate with phosgene gives rise to carbamate linkages to Lysines. Essentially the same reaction can be carried out in many variants substituting the chlorine with N-hydroxy succinimide (U.S. Pat. No. 5,122,614, (1992); Zalipsky et al., (1992), Biotechnol. Appl. Biochem., 15, p. 100-114; Monfardini et al., (1995), Bioconjugate Chem., 6, 62-69, with imidazole (Allen et al., (1991), Carbohydr. Res., 213, pp 309-319), with para-nitrophenol, DMAP (EP 632 082 A1, (1993), Looze, Y.) etc. The derivatives are usually made by reacting the chloroformate with the desired leaving group. All these groups give rise to carbamate linkages to the peptide.

[0183] Furthermore, isocyanates and isothiocyanates may be employed, yielding ureas and thioureas, respectively.

[0184] Amides may be obtained from PEG acids using the same leaving groups as mentioned above and cyclic imid thrones (U.S. Pat. No. 5,349,001, (1994), Greenwald et al.). The reactivity of these compounds are very high but may make the hydrolysis to fast.

[0185] PEG succinate made from reaction with succinic anhydride can also be used. The hereby comprised ester group make the conjugate much more susceptible to hydrolysis (U.S. Pat. No. 5,122,614, (1992), Zalipsky). This group may be activated with N-hydroxy succinimide.

[0186] Furthermore, a special linker can be introduced. The most well studied being cyanuric chloride (Abuchowski et al., (1977), J. Biol. Chem., 252, 3578-3581; U.S. Pat. No. 4,179, 337, (1979), Davis et al.; Shafer et al., (1986), J. Polym. Sci. Polym. Chem. Ed., 24, 375-378.

[0187] Coupling of PEG to an aromatic amine followed by diazotation yields a very reactive diazonium salt, which can be reacted with a peptide in situ. An amide linkage may also be obtained by reacting an azlactone derivative of PEG (U.S. Pat. No. 5,321,095, (1994), Greenwald, R. B.) thus introducing an additional amide linkage.

[0188] As some peptides do not comprise many Lysines it may be advantageous to attach more than one PEG to the same Lysine. This can be done e.g. by the use of 1,3-diamino-2-propanol.

[0189] PEGs may also be attached to the amino-groups of the enzyme with carbamate linkages (WO 95/11924, Greenwald et al.). Lysine residues may also be used as the backbone.

[0190] The coupling technique used in the examples is the N-succinimidyl carbonate conjugation technique descried in WO 90/13590 (Enzon).

[0191] In a preferred embodiment, the activated polymer is methyl-PEG which has been activated by N-succinimidyl

carbonate as described WO 90/13590. The coupling can be carried out at alkaline conditions in high yields.

[0192] For coupling of polymers to the protein variants, it is preferred to use conditions similar to those described in WO 96/17929 and WO 99/00489 (Novo Nordisk A/S) e.g. mono or bis activated PEG's of molecular weight ranging from 100 to 5000 Da. For instance, a methyl-PEG 350 could be activated with N-succinimidyl carbonate and incubated with protein variant at a molar ratio of more than 5 calculated as equivalents of activated PEG divided by moles of lysines in the protein of interest. For coupling to immobilized protein variant, the PEG:protein ratio should be optimized such that the PEG concentration is low enough for the buffer capacity to maintain alkaline pH throughout the reaction; while the PEG concentration is still high enough to ensure sufficient degree of modification of the protein. Further, it is important that the activated PEG is kept at conditions that prevent hydrolysis (i.e. dissolved in acid or solvents) and diluted directly into the alkaline reaction buffer. It is essential that primary amines are not present other than those occurring in the lysine residues of the protein. This can be secured by washing thoroughly in borate buffer. The reaction is stopped by separating the fluid phase containing unreacted PEG from the solid phase containing protein and derivatized protein. Optionally, the solid phase can then be washed with tris buffer, to block any unreacted sites on PEG chains that might still be present.

Introduction of Consensus Sequences for Post-Translational Modifications in the Epitope Areas

[0193] In another embodiment, the mutations are designed, such that recognition sites for post-translational modifications are introduced in the epitope areas, and the protein variant is expressed in a suitable host organism capable of the corresponding post-translational modification. These posttranslational modifications may serve to shield the epitope and hence lower the immunogenicity of the protein variant relative to the protein backbone. Post-translational modifications include glycosylation, phosphorylation, N-terminal processing, acylation, ribosylation and sulfatation. A good example is N-glycosylation. N-glycosylation is found at sites of the sequence Asn-Xaa-Ser, Asn-Xaa-Thr, or Asn-Xaa-Cys, in which neither the Xaa residue nor the amino acid following the tri-peptide consensus sequence is a proline (T. E. Creighton, 'Proteins-Structures and Molecular Properties, 2nd edition, W.H. Freeman and Co., New York, 1993, pp. 91-93). It is thus desirable to introduce such recognition sites in the sequence of the backbone protein. The specific nature of the glycosyl chain of the glycosylated protein variant may be linear or branched depending on the protein and the host cells. Another example is phosphorylation: The protein sequence can be modified so as to introduce serine phosphorylation sites with the recognition sequence \arg - \arg - $(xaa)_n$ -ser (where n=0, 1, or 2) (SEQ ID NOS: 38 and 39), which can be phosphorylated by the cAMP-dependent kinase or tyrosine phosphorylation sites with the recognition sequence -lys/arg-(xaa) 3-asp/glu-(xaa)3-tyr (SEC) ID NO: 40), which can usually be phosphorylated by tyrosine-specific kinases (T. E. Creighton, "Proteins-Structures and molecular properties", 2nd ed., Freeman, N.Y., 1993).

Randomized Approaches to Introduce Modifications in Epitope Areas.

[0194] In order to generate protein variants, more than one amino acid residue may be substituted, added or deleted,

these amino acids preferably being located in different epitope areas. In that case, it may be difficult to assess a priori how well the functionality of the protein is maintained while antigenicity is reduced, especially since the possible number of mutation-combinations becomes very large, even for a small number of mutations. In that case, it will be an advantage, to establish a library of diversified mutants each having one or more changed amino acids introduced and selecting those variants, which show good retention of function and at the same time a significant reduction in antigenicity.

[0195] A diversified library can be established by a range of techniques known to the person skilled in the art (Reetz M T; Jaeger K E, in 'Biocatalysis-from Discovery to Application' edited by Fessner W D, Vol. 200, pp. 31-57 (1999); Stemmer, Nature, vol. 370, p. 389-391, 1994; Zhao and Arnold, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., USA, vol. 94, pp. 7997-8000, 1997; or Yano et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., USA, vol. 95, pp 5511-5515, 1998). These include, but are not limited to, 'spiked mutagenesis', in which certain positions of the protein sequence are randomized by carring out PCR mutagenesis using one or more oligonucleotide primers which are synthesized using a mixture of nucleotides for certain positions (Lanio T, Jeltsch A, Biotechniques, Vol. 25(6), 958,962,964-965 (1998)). The mixtures of oligonucleotides used within each triplet can be designed such that the corresponding amino acid of the mutated gene product is randomized within some predetermined distribution function. Algorithms have been disclosed, which facilitate this design (Jensen L J et al., Nucleic Acids Research, Vol. 26(3), 697-702 (1998)).

[0196] In an embodiment substitutions are found by a method comprising the following steps: 1) a range of substitutions, additions, and/or deletions are listed encompassing several epitope areas (preferably in the corresponding epitope sequences, anchor amino aids, and/or hot spots), 2) a library is designed which introduces a randomized subset of these changes in the amino acid sequence into the target gene, e.g. by spiked mutagenesis, 3) the library is expressed, and preferred variants are selected. In another embodiment, this method is supplemented with additional rounds of screening and/or family shuffling of hits from the first round of screening (J. E. Ness, et al, Nature Biotechnology, vol. 17, pp. 893-896, 1999) and/or combination with other methods of reducing immunogenicity by genetic means (such as that disclosed in WO 92/10755).

[0197] The library may be designed, such that at least one amino acid of the epitope area is substituted. In a preferred embodiment at least one amino acid of the epitope sequence itself is changed, and in an even more preferred embodiment, one or more hot spot amino acids are changed. The library may be biased such that towards introducing an amino acid of different size, hydrophilicity, and/or polarity relative to the original one of the 'protein backbone'. For example changing a small amino acid or a large amino acid, a hydrophilic amino acid to a hydrophobic amino acid, a polar amino acid. Other changes may be the addition or deletion of at least one amino acid of the epitope area, preferably deleting an anchor amino acid. Furthermore, substituting some amino acids and deleting or adding others may change an epitope.

[0198] Diversity in the protein variant library can be generated at the DNA triplet level, such that individual codons are variegated e.g. by using primers of partially randomized sequence for a PCR reaction. Further, several techniques have been described, by which one can create a library with such diversity at several locations in the gene, which are too far apart to be covered by a single (spiked) oligonucleotide primer. These techniques include the use of in vivo recombination of the individually diversified gene segments as described in WO 97/07205 on page 3, line 8 to 29 or by using DNA shuffling techniques to create a library of full length genes that combine several gene segments each of which are diversified e.g. by spiked mutagenesis (Stemmer, Nature 370, pp. 389-391, 1994 and U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,605,793 and 5,830, 721). In the latter case, one can use the gene encoding the "protein backbone" as a template double-stranded polynucleotide and combining this with one or more single or doublestranded oligonucleotides as described in claim 1 of U.S. Pat. No. 5,830,721. The single-stranded oligonucleotides could be partially randomized during synthesis. The doublestranded oligonucleotides could be PCR products incorporating diversity in a specific region. In both cases, one can dilute the diversity with corresponding segments containing the sequence of the backbone protein in order to limit the number of changes that are on average introduced. As mentioned above, methods have been established for designing the ratios of nucleotides (A; C; T; G) used at a particular codon during primer synthesis, so as to approximate a desired frequency distribution among a set of desired amino acids at that particular codon. This allows one to bias the partially randomized mutagenesis towards e.g. introduction of post-translational modification sites, chemical modification sites, or simply amino acids that are different from those that define the epitope or the epitope area. One could also approximate a sequence in a given location or epitope area to the corresponding location on a homologous, human protein.

[0199] Occasionally, one would be interested in testing a library that combines a number of known mutations in different locations in the primary sequence of the 'protein backbone'. These could be introduced post-translational or chemical modification sites, or they could be mutations, which by themselves had proven beneficial for one reason or another (e.g. decreasing antigenicity, or improving specific activity, performance, stability, or other characteristics). In such cases, it may be desirable to create a library of diverse combinations of known sequences. For example if 12 individual mutations are known, one could combine (at least) 12 segments of the 'protein backbone' gene in which each segment is present in two forms: one with and one without the desired mutation. By varying the relative amounts of those segments, one could design a library (of size 2^{12}) for which the average number of mutations per gene can be predicted. This can be a useful way of combining elements that by themselves give some, but not sufficient effect, without resorting to very large libraries, as is often the case when using 'spiked mutagenesis'. Another way to combine these 'known mutations' could be by using family shuffling of oligomeric DNA encoding the known changes with fragments of the full length wild type sequence.

Assays for Reduced Allergenicity

[0200] When protein variants have been constructed based on the methods described in this invention, it is desirable to confirm their antibody binding capacity, functionality, immunogenicity and/or allergenicity using a purified preparation. For that use, the protein variant of interest can be expressed in larger scale, purified by conventional techniques, and the antibody binding and functionality should be examined in detail using dose-response curves and e.g. direct or competitive ELISA (C-ELISA). **[0201]** The potentially reduced allergenicity (which is likely, but not necessarily true for a variant w. low antibody binding) should be tested in in vivo or in vitro model systems: e.g. an in vitro assays for immunogenicity such as assays based on cytokine expression profiles or other proliferation or differentiation responses of epithelial and other cells incl. B-cells and T-cells. Further, animal models for testing allergenicity should be set up to test a limited number of protein variants that show desired characteristics in vitro. Useful animal models include the guinea pig intratracheal model (GPIT) (Ritz, et al. Fund. Appl. Toxicol., 21, pp. 31-37, 1993), mouse subcutaneous (mouse-SC) (WO 98/30682, Novo Nordisk), the rat intratracheal (rat-IT) (WO 96/17929, Novo Nordisk), and the mouse intranasal (MINT) (Robinson et al., Fund. Appl. Toxicol. 34, pp. 15-24, 1996) models.

[0202] The immunogenicity of the protein variant is measured in animal tests, wherein the animals are immunised with the protein variant and the immune response is measured. Specifically, it is of interest to determine the allergenicity of the protein variants by repeatedly exposing the animals to the protein variant by the intratracheal route and following the specific IgG and IgE titers. Alternatively, the mouse intranasal (MINT) test can be used to assess the allergenicity of protein variants. By the present invention the allergenicity is reduced at least 3 times as compared to the allergenicity of the parent protein, preferably 10 times reduced, more preferably 50 times.

[0203] However, the present inventors have demonstrated that the performance in ELISA correlates closely to the immunogenic responses measured in animal tests. To obtain a useful reduction of the allergenicity of a protein, the IgE binding capacity of the protein variant must be reduced to at least below 75%, preferably below 50%, more preferably below 25% of the IgE binding capacity of the parent protein as measured by the performance in IgE ELISA, given the value for the IgE binding capacity of the parent protein is set to 100%.

[0204] Thus a first assessment of the immunogenicity and/ or allergenicity of a protein can be made by measuring the antibody binding capacity or antigenicity of the protein variant using appropriate antibodies. This approach has also been used in the literature (WO 99/47680).

Assays for Altered Immunotherapeutic Effect

[0205] The immunotherapeutic effect of allergen vaccines can be assessed a number of different ways. One is to measure the specific IgE binding, the reduction of which indicates a better allergen vaccine potential (WO 99/47680, ALK-ABELLO). Also, several cellular assays could be employed to show the modified immuneresponse indicative of good allergen vaccine potential as shown in several publications, all of which are hereby incorporated by reference (van Neerven et al, "T lymphocyte responses to allergens: Epitope-specificity and clinical relevance", Immunol Today, 1996, vol. 17, pp. 526-532; Hoffmann et al., Allergy, 1999, vol. 54, pp. 446-454, WO 99/07880).

[0206] Eventually, clinical trials with allergic patients could be employed using cellular or clinical end-point measurements. (Ebner et al., Clin. Exp. All., 1997, vol. 27, pp. 107-1015; Int. Arch. Allergy Immunol., 1999, vol. 119, pp 1-5).

Determining Functionality

[0207] A wide variety of protein functionality assays are available in the literature. Especially, those suitable for auto-

mated analysis are useful for this invention. Several have been published in the literature such as protease assays (WO 99/34011, Genencor International; J. E. Ness, et al, Nature Biotechn., 17, pp. 893-896, 1999), oxidoreductase assays (Chemy et al., Nature Biotechn., 17, pp. 379-384, 1999, and assays for several other enzymes (WO 99/45143, Novo Nordisk). Those assays that employ soluble substrates can be employed for direct analysis of functionality of immobilized protein variants.

Cross-Reactivity

[0208] A related objective is to reduce cross-reactivity between 'commercial allergens' and 'environmental allergens'. Cross-reactivities between food allergens of different origin are well-known (Akkerdaas et al, Allergy 50, pp 215-220, 1995). Similarly, cross-reactivities between other environmental allergens (like pollen, dust mites etc.) and commercial allergens (like enzyme proteins) have been established in the literature (J. All. Clin. Immunol., 1998, vol. 102, pp. 679-686 and by the present inventors. The molecular reason for this cross-reactivity can be explored using epitope mapping. By finding epitope patterns using antibodies raised against environmental allergen (donor protein) and mapping this information on a commercial allergen (the acceptor protein), one may find the epitopes that are common to both proteins, and hence responsible for the cross-reactivity. Obviously, one can also use the commercial allergen as donor and the environmental allergen as acceptor. By modifying the commercial allergen using protein engineering in the epitope areas identified as described above, one can reduce the crossreactivity of the commercial allergen variant towards the environmental allergens (and vice versa). Hence, the use of the modified commercial allergens would be safer than using the unmodified commercial allergen.

[0209] Testing of this approach would be done using an antibody-binding assay with the protein variant (and its parent protein as control) and antibodies raised against the protein that cross-reacts with the parent protein. The method is otherwise identical to those described in the Methods section for characterization of allergencity and antigenicity.

Wash Performance etc.

[0210] The modifications of the enzymes in the epitope areas as disclosed the present application may cause other effects to the enzyme than modified immunogenicity. A modification may also change the performance of the enzyme, such as the wash performance, thermo stability, storage stability and increased catalytical activity of the enzyme. **[0211]** The ability of an enzyme to catalyze the degradation of various naturally occurring substrates present on the objects to be cleaned during e.g. wash is often referred to as its washing ability, wash-ability, detergency, or wash performance. Throughout this application the term wash performance will be used to encompass this property.

Commercial Enzyme Applications

Industrial Applications

[0212] Another aspect of the invention is a composition comprising at least one protein (polypeptide) or enzyme of the invention. The composition may comprise other polypeptides, proteins or enzymes and/or ingredients normally used in personal care products, such as shampoo, soap bars, skin

lotion, skin creme, hair dye, toothpaste, household articles, agro chemicals, personal care products, such as cleaning preparations e.g. for contact lenses, cosmetics, toiletries, oral and dermal pharmaceuticals, compositions used for treating textiles, compositions used for manufacturing food, e.g. baking, and feed etc.

[0213] Examples of said proteins(polypeptides)/enzymes include enzymes exhibiting protease, lipolytic enzyme, oxidoreductase, carbohydrase, transferase, such as transglutaminase, phytase and/or anti-microbial polypeptide activity. These enzymes may be present as conjugates with reduced activity.

[0214] The protein of the invention may furthermore typically be used in detergent composition. It may be included in the detergent composition in the form of a non-dusting granulate, a stabilized liquid, or a protected enzyme. Non-dusting granulates may be produced, e.g., as disclosed in U.S. Pat. Nos. 4,106,991 and 4,661,452 (both to Novo Industri NS) and may optionally be coated by methods known in the art. Examples of waxy coating materials are poly(ethylene oxide) products (polyethylene glycol, PEG) with mean molecular weights of 1000 to 20000; ethoxylated nonylphenols having from 16 to 50 ethylene oxide units; ethoxylated fatty alcohols in which the alcohol contains from 12 to 20 carbon atoms and in which there are 15 to 80 ethylene oxide units; fatty alcohols; fatty acids; and mono- and di- and triglycerides of fatty acids. Examples of film-forming coating materials suitable for application by fluid bed techniques are given in patent GB 1483591. Liquid enzyme preparations may, for instance, be stabilized by adding a polyol such as propylene glycol, a sugar or sugar alcohol, lactic acid or boric acid according to established methods. Other enzyme stabilizers are well known in the art. Protected enzymes may be prepared according to the method disclosed in EP 238,216.

[0215] The detergent composition may be in any convenient form, e.g. as powder, granules, paste or liquid. A liquid detergent may be aqueous, typically containing up to 70% water and 0-30% organic solvent, or non-aqueous.

[0216] The detergent composition comprises one or more surfactants, each of which may be anionic, nonionic, cationic, or zwitterionic. The detergent will usually contain 0-50% of anionic surfactant such as linear alkylbenzenesulfonate (LAS), alpha-olefinsulfonate (AOS), alkyl sulfate (fatty alcohol sulfate) (AS), alcohol ethoxysulfate (AEOS or AES), secondary alkanesulfonates (SAS), alpha-sulfo fatty acid methyl esters, alkyl- or alkenylsuccinic acid, or soap. It may also contain 0-40% of nonionic surfactant such as alcohol ethoxylate (AEO or AE), carboxylated alcohol ethoxylates, nonylphenol ethoxylate, alkylpolyglycoside, alkyldimethylamine oxide, ethoxylated fatty acid monoethanolamide, fatty acid monoethanolamide, or polyhydroxy alkyl fatty acid amide (e.g. as described in WO 92/06154).

[0217] The detergent composition may additionally comprise one or more other enzymes, such as e.g. proteases, amylases, lipolytic enzymes, cutinases, cellulases, peroxidases, oxidases, and further anti-microbial polypeptides.

[0218] The detergent may contain 1-65% of a detergent builder or complexing agent such as zeolite, diphosphate, triphosphate, phosphonate, citrate, nitrilotriacetic acid (NTA), ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA), diethylenetriaminepentaacetic acid (DTMPA), alkyl- or alkenylsuccinic acid, soluble silicates or layered silicates (e.g. SKS-6 from Hoechst). The detergent may also be unbuilt, i.e. essentially free of detergent builder.

[0219] The detergent may comprise one or more polymers. Examples are carboxymethylcellulose (CMC), poly(vinylpyrrolidone) (PVP), polyethyleneglycol (PEG), poly(vinyl alcohol) (PVA), polycarboxylates such as polyacrylates, maleic/acrylic acid copolymers and lauryl methacrylate/ acrylic acid copolymers.

[0220] The detergent may contain a bleaching system which may comprise a H_2O_2 source such as perborate or percarbonate which may be combined with a peracid-forming bleach activator such as tetraacetylethylenediamine (TAED) or nonanoyloxybenzenesulfon-ate (NOBS). Alternatively, the bleaching system may comprise peroxyacids of, e.g., the amide, imide, or sulfone type.

[0221] The detergent composition of the invention comprising the polypeptide of the invention may be stabilized using conventional stabilizing agents, e.g. a polyol such as propylene glycol or glycerol, a sugar or sugar alcohol, lactic acid, boric acid, or a boric acid derivative such as, e.g., an aromatic borate ester, and the composition may be formulated as described in, e.g., WO 92/19709 and WO 92/19708.

[0222] The detergent may also contain other conventional detergent ingredients such as, e.g., fabric conditioners including clays, foam boosters, suds suppressors, anti-corrosion agents, soil-suspending agents, anti-soil-redeposition agents, dyes, bactericides, optical brighteners, or perfume.

[0223] The pH (measured in aqueous solution at use concentration) will usually be neutral or alkaline, e.g. in the range of 7-11.

Dishwashing Composition

[0224] Further, a modified enzyme according to the invention may also be used in dishwashing detergents.

[0225] Dishwashing detergent compositions comprise a surfactant which may be anionic, non-ionic, cationic, amphoteric or a mixture of these types. The detergent will contain 0-90% of non-ionic surfactant such as low- to non-foaming ethoxylated propoxylated straight-chain alcohols.

[0226] The detergent composition may contain detergent builder salts of inorganic and/or organic types. The detergent builders may be subdivided into phosphorus-containing and non-phosphorus-containing types. The detergent composition usually contains 1-90% of detergent builders.

[0227] Examples of phosphorus-containing inorganic alkaline detergent builders, when present, include the watersoluble salts especially alkali metal pyrophosphates, orthophosphates, and polyphosphates. An example of phosphoruscontaining organic alkaline detergent builder, when present, includes the water-soluble salts of phosphonates. Examples of non-phosphorus-containing inorganic builders, when present, include water-soluble alkali metal carbonates, borates and silicates as well as the various types of waterinsoluble crystalline or amorphous alumino silicates of which zeolites are the best-known representatives.

[0228] Examples of suitable organic builders include the alkali metal, ammonium and substituted ammonium, citrates, succinates, malonates, fatty acid sulphonates, carboxymetoxy succinates, ammonium polyacetates, carboxylates, polycarboxylates, aminopolycarboxylates, polyacetyl carboxylates and polyhydroxsulphonates.

[0229] Other suitable organic builders include the higher molecular weight polymers and co-polymers known to have builder properties, for example appropriate polyacrylic acid, polymaleic and polyacrylic/polymaleic acid copolymers and their salts.

[0230] The dishwashing detergent composition may contain bleaching agents of the chlorine/bromine-type or the oxygen-type. Examples of inorganic chlorine/bromine-type bleaches are lithium, sodium or calcium hypochlorite and hypobromite as well as chlorinated trisodium phosphate. Examples of organic chlorine/bromine-type bleaches are heterocyclic N-bromo and N-chloro imides such as trichloroisocyanuric, tribromoisocyanuric, dibromoisocyanuric and dichloroisocyanuric acids, and salts thereof with water-solubilizing cations such as potassium and sodium. Hydantoin compounds are also suitable.

[0231] The oxygen bleaches are preferred, for example in the form of an inorganic persalt, preferably with a bleach precursor or as a peroxy acid compound. Typical examples of suitable peroxy bleach compounds are alkali metal perborates, both tetrahydrates and monohydrates, alkali metal percarbonates, persilicates and perphosphates. Preferred activator materials are TAED and glycerol triacetate.

[0232] The dishwashing detergent composition of the invention may be stabilized using conventional stabilizing agents for the enzyme(s), e.g. a polyol such as e.g. propylene glycol, a sugar or a sugar alcohol, lactic acid, boric acid, or a boric acid derivative, e.g. an aromatic borate ester.

[0233] The dishwashing detergent composition of the invention may also contain other conventional detergent ingredients, e.g. deflocculant material, filler material, foam depressors, anti-corrosion agents, soil-suspending agents, sequestering agents, anti-soil redeposition agents, dehydrating agents, dyes, bactericides, fluorescers, thickeners and perfumes.

[0234] Finally, the enzyme of the invention may be used in conventional dishwashing-detergents, e.g. in any of the detergents described in any of the following patent publications: EP 518719, EP 518720, EP 518721, EP 516553, EP 516554, EP 516555, GB 2200132, DE 3741617, DE 3727911, DE 4212166, DE 4137470, DE 3833047, WO 93/17089, DE 4205071, WO 52/09680, WO 93/18129, WO 93/04153, WO 92/06157, WO 92/08777, EP 429124, WO 93/21299, U.S. Pat. No. 5,141,664, EP 561452, EP 561446, GB 2234980, WO 93/03129, EP 481547, EP 530870, EP 533239, EP 554943, EP 346137, U.S. Pat. No. 5,112,518, EP 318204, EP 318279, EP 271155, EP 271156, EP 346136, GB 2228945, CA 2006687, WO 93/25651, EP 530635, EP 414197, and U.S. Pat. No. 5,240,632.

Personal Care Applications

[0235] A particularly useful application area for low allergenic proteins or of proteins with low cross-reactivity to environmental allergens would be in personal care products where the end-user is in close contact with the protein, and where certain problems with allergenicity has been encountered in experimental set-ups (Kelling et al., J. All. Clin. 1 mm., 1998, Vol. 101, pp. 179-187 and Johnston et al., Hum. Exp. Toxicol., 1999, Vol. 18, p. 527).

[0236] First of all the conjugate or compositions of the invention can advantageously be used for personal care products, such as hair care and hair treatment products. This include products such as shampoo, balsam, hair conditioners, hair waving compositions, hair dyeing compositions, hair tonic, hair liquid, hair cream, shampoo, hair rinse, hair spray. **[0237]** Further contemplated are oral care products such as dentifrice, oral washes, chewing gum.

[0238] Also contemplated are skin care products and cosmetics, such as skin cream, skin milk, cleansing cream,

cleansing lotion, cleansing milk, cold cream, cream soap, nourishing essence, skin lotion, milky lotion, calamine lotion, hand cream, powder soap, transparent soap, sun oil, sun screen, shaving foam, shaving cream, baby oil lipstick, lip cream, creamy foundation, face powder, powder eye-shadow, powder, foundation, make-up base, essence powder, whitening powder.

[0239] Also for contact lenses hygiene products the conjugate of the invention can be used advantageously. Such products include cleaning and disinfection products for contact lenses.

Proteases

[0240] Proteases are well-known active ingredients for cleaning of contact lenses. They hydrolyse the proteinaceous soil on the lens and thereby makes it soluble. Removal of the protein soil is essential for the wearing comfort.

[0241] Proteases are also effective ingredients in skin cleaning products, where they remove the upper layer of dead keratinaseous skin cells and thereby make the skin look brighter and fresher.

[0242] Proteases are also used in oral care products, especially for cleaning of dentures, but also in dentifrices.

[0243] Further, proteases are used in toiletries, bath and shower products, including shampoos, conditioners, lotions, creams, soap bars, toilet soaps, and liquid soaps.

Lipolytic Enzymes

[0244] Lipolytic enzymes can be applied for cosmetic use as active ingredients in skin cleaning products and anti-acne products for removal of excessive skin lipids, and in bath and shower products such as creams and lotions as active ingredients for skin care.

[0245] Lipolytic enzymes can also be used in hair cleaning products (e.g. shampoos) for effective removal of sebum and other fatty material from the surface of hair.

[0246] Lipolytic enzymes are also effective ingredients in products for cleaning of contact lenses, where they remove lipid deposits from the lens surface.

Oxidoreductases

[0247] The most common oxidoreductase for personal care purposes is an oxidase (usually glucose oxidase) with substrate (e.g. glucose) that ensures production of H_2O_2 , which then will initiate the oxidation of for instance SON⁻ or I⁻ into antimicrobial reagents (SCNO⁻ or I₂) by a peroxidase (usually lactoperoxidase). This enzymatic complex is known in nature from e.g. milk and saliva.

[0248] It is being utilised commercially as anti-microbial system in oral care products (mouth rinse, dentifrice, chewing gum) where it also can be combined with an amyloglucosidase to produce the glucose. These systems are also known in cosmetic products for preservation.

[0249] Anti-microbial systems comprising the combination of an oxidase and a peroxidase are know in the cleaning of contact lenses.

[0250] Another application of oxidoreductases is oxidative hair dyeing using oxidases, peroxidases and laccases.

[0251] Free radicals formed on the surface of the skin (and hair) known to be associated with the ageing process of the skin (spoilage of the hair). The free radicals activate chain reactions that lead to destruction of fatty membranes, collagen, and cells. The application of free radical scavengers

such as Superoxide dismutase into cosmetics is well known (R. L. Goldemberg, DCI, Nov. 93, p. 48-52).

[0252] Protein disulfide isomerase (PDI) is also an oxidoreductase. It can be utilised for waving of hair (reduction and reoxidation of disulfide bonds in hair) and repair of spoiled hair (where the damage is mainly reduction of existing disulfide bonds).

Carbohydrases

[0253] Plaque formed on the surface of teeth is composed mainly of polysaccharides. They stick to the surface of the teeth and the microorganisms. The polysaccharides are mainly α -1,6 bound glucose (dextran) and α -1,3 bound glucose (mutan). The application of different types of glucanases such as mutanase and dextranase helps hydrolysing the sticky matrix of plaque, making it easier to remove by mechanical action.

[0254] Also other kinds of biofilm for instance the biofilm formed in lens cases can be removed by the action of glucanases.

Food and Feed

[0255] Further conjugated enzymes or polypeptides with reduced immunogenicity according to the invention may advantageously be used in the manufacturing of food and feed.

Proteases

[0256] The gluten in wheat flour is the essential ingredient responsible for the ability of flour to be used in baked food-stuffs. Proteolytic enzymes are sometimes needed to modify the gluten phase of the dough, e.g. a hard wheat flour can be softened with a protease.

[0257] Neutrase[®] is a commercially available neutral metallo protease that can be used to ensure a uniform dough quality and bread texture, and to improve flavour. The gluten proteins are degraded either moderately or more extensively to peptides, whereby close control is necessary in order to avoid excessive softening of the dough.

[0258] Proteases are also used for modifying milk protein.[0259] To coagulate casein in milk when producing cheese proteases such as rennet or chymosin may be used.

[0260] In the brewery industry proteases are used for brewing with unmalted cereals and for controlling the nitrogen content.

[0261] In animal feed products proteases are used so to speak to expand the animals digestion system.

Lipolytic Enzymes

[0262] Addition of lipolytic enzyme results in improved dough properties and an improved breadmaking quality in terms of larger volume, improved crumb structure and whiter crumb colour. The observed effect can be explained by a mechanism where the lipolytic enzyme changes the interaction between gluten and some lipids fragment during dough mixing. This results in an improved gluten network.

[0263] The flavour development of blue roan cheese (e.g. Danablue), certain Italian type cheese, and other dairy products containing butter-fat, are dependent on the degradation of milk fat into free fatty acids. Lipolytic enzymes may be used for developing flavour in such products.

[0264] In the oil- and fat producing industry lipases are used e.g. to minimize the amount of undesirable side-products, to modify fats by interesterification, and to synthesis of esters.

Oxidoreductases

[0265] Further oxidoreductases with reduced immunogenicity according to the invention may advantageously be used in the manufacturing of food and feed.

[0266] Several oxidoreductases are used for baking, glucose oxidase, lipoxygenase, peroxidase, catalase and combinations hereof. Traditionally, bakers strengthen gluten by adding ascorbic acid and potassium bromate. Some oxidoreductases can be used to replace bromate in dough systems by oxidation of free sulfydryl units in gluten proteins. Hereby disulphide linkages are formed resulting in stronger, more elastic doughs with greater resistance.

[0267] GluzymeTM (Novozymes A/S) is a glucose oxidase preparation with catalase activity that can be used to replace bromate. The dough strengthen is measured as greater resistance to mechanical shock, better oven spring and larger loaf volume.

Carbohydrases

[0268] Flour has varying content of amylases leading to differences in the baking quality. Addition of amylases can be necessary in order to standardize the flour. Amylases and pentosanases generally provide sugar for the yeast fermentation, improve the bread volume, retard retrogradation, and decrease the staling rate and stickiness that results from pentosan gums. Examples of carbohydrases are given below.

[0269] Certain maltogenic amylases can be used for prolonging the shelf life of bread for two or more days without causing gumminess in the product. Selectively modifies the gelatinized starch by cleaving from the non-reducing end of the starch molecules, low molecular wight sugars and dextrins. The starch is modified in such a way that retrogradation is less likely to occur. The produced low-molecular-weight sugars improve the baked goods water retention capacity without creating the intermediate-length dextrins that result in gumminess in the finished product. The enzyme is inactivated during bread baking, so it can be considered a processing aid that does not have to be declared on the label. Overdosing of Novamyl can almost be excluded.

[0270] The bread volume can be improved by fungal α -amylases which further provide good and uniform structure of the bread crumb. Said α -amylases are endoenzymes that produce maltose, dextrins and glucose. Cereal and some bacterial α -amylases are inactivated at temperatures above the gelatinization temperature of starch, therefore when added to wheat dough it results in a low bread volume and a sticky bread interior. Fungamyl has the advantage of being thermolabile and is inactivated just below the gelatinization temperature.

[0271] Enzyme preparations containing a number of pentosanase and hemi-cellulase activities can improve the handling and stability of the dough, and improves the freshness, the crumb structure and the volume of the bread.

[0272] By hydrolysing the pentosans fraction in flour, it will lose a great deal of its water-binding capacity, and the water will then be available for starch and gluten. The gluten becomes more pliable and extensible, and the starch gelati-

nizes more easily. Pentosanases can be used in combination with or as an alternative to emulsifiers.

[0273] Further carbohydrases are user for producing syrups from starch, which are widely used in soft drinks, sweets, meat products, dairy products, bread products, ice cream, baby food, jam etc.

[0274] The conversion of starch is normally carried out three steps. First the starch is liquefied, by the use of alphaamylases. Maltodextrins, primary consisting of oligosaccharides and dextrins, are obtained.

[0275] The mixture is then treated with an amyloglucosidase for hydrolysing the oligosaccharides and dextrins into glucose. This way a sweeter product is obtained. If high maltose syrups are desired beta-amylases alone or in combination with a pullulanase (de-branching enzyme) may be used.

[0276] The glucose mixture can be made even sweeter by isomerization to fructose. For this an immobilized glucose isomerase can be used.

[0277] In the sugar industry, it is common practice to speed up the break down of present starch in cane juices. Thereby the starch content in the raw sugar is reduced and filtration at the refinery facilitated.

[0278] Furthermore dextranases are used to break down dextran in raw sugar juices and syrups.

[0279] In the alcohol industry alpha-amylases is advantageously being used for thinning of starch in distilling mashes.

[0280] In the brewing industry alpha-amylases is used for adjunct liquefaction.

[0281] In the dairy industry beta-galactosidases (lactase) is used when producing low lactose milk for persons suffering from lactose malabsorption.

[0282] When flavoured milk drinks are produced from lactase-treated milk, the addition of sugar can be reduced without reducing the sweetness of the product.

[0283] In the production of condensed milk, lactose crystallization can be avoided by lactase treatment, and the risk of thickening caused by casein coagulation in lactose crystals is thus reduced.

[0284] When producing ice cream made from lactase-treated milk (or whey) no lactose crystals will be formed and the defect, sandiness, will not occur.

[0285] Further, xylanases are known to be used within a number of food/feed industrial applications as described in WO 94/21785 (Novo Nordisk A/S).

[0286] Alpha-amylases are used in the animal feed industry to be added to cereal-containing feed to improve the digestibility of starch.

Anti-Microbial Polypeptides

[0287] Certain bacteriolytic enzymes may be used e.g. to wash carcasses in the meat packing industry (see U.S. Pat. No. 5,354,681 from Novo Industri A/S)

Transferases

[0288] Transglutaminases with reduced immunogenicity according to the invention may advantageously be used in the manufacturing of food and feed.

[0289] Transglutaminases has the ability to crosslinking protein.

[0290] This property can be used for gelling of aqueous phases containing proteins. This may be used for when producing of spreads (DK patent application no. 1071/84 from Novo Nordisk A/S).

[0291] Transglutaminases are being used for improvement of baking quality of flour e.g. by modifying wheat flour to be used in the preparation of cakes with improved properties, such as improved taste, dent, mouth-feel and a higher volume (see JP 1-110147).

[0292] Further producing paste type food material e.g. used as fat substitution in foods as ice cream, toppings, frozen desserts, mayonnaises and low fat spreads (see WO 93/22930 from Novo Nordisk A/S).

[0293] Furthermore for preparation of gels for yoghurt, mousses, cheese, puddings, orange juice, from milk and milk-like products, and binding of chopped meat product, improvement of taste and texture of food proteins (see WO 94/21120 and WO 94/21129 from Novo Nordisk A/S).

Phytases

[0294] Phytases of the invention may advantageously be used in the manufacturing of food, such as breakfast cereal, cake, sweets, drinks, bread or soup etc., and animal feed.

[0295] Phytases may be used either for exploiting the phosphorus bound in the phytate/phytic acid present in vegetable protein sources or for exploiting the nutritionally important minerals bound in phytic acid complexes.

[0296] Microbial phytase may be added to feedstuff of monogastric animals in order to avoid supplementing the feed with inorganic phosphorus (see U.S. Pat. No. 3,297,548).

[0297] Further phytases may be used in soy processing. Soyabean meal may contain high levels of the anti-nutritional factor phytate which renders this protein source unsuitable for application in baby food and feed for fish, calves and other non-ruminants, since the phytate chelates essential minerals present therein (see EP 0 420 358).

[0298] Also for baking purposes phytases may be used. Bread with better quality can be prepared by baking divided pieces of a dough containing wheat flour etc. and phytase (see JP-0-3076529-A).

[0299] A high phytase activity as in koji mold are known to be used for producing refined sake (see JP-0-6070749-A).

Textile Applications

Proteases

[0300] Proteases are used for degumming and sand washing of silk.

Lipolytic Enzymes

[0301] Lipolytic enzymes are used for removing fatty matter containing hydrophobic esters (e.g. triglycerides) during the finishing of textiles (see e.g. WO 93/13256 from Novo Nordisk A/S).

Oxidoreductases

[0302] In bleach clean up of textiles catalases may serve to remove excess hydrogen peroxide.

Carbohydrases

[0303] Cellulolytic enzymes are widely used in the finishing of denim garments in order to provide a localized variation in the colour density of the fabric (Enzyme facilitated "stone wash").

[0304] Also cellulolytic enzymes find use in the bio-polishing process. Bio-Polishing is a specific treatment of the yarn surface which improves fabric quality with respect to handle and appearance without loss of fabric wettability. Biopolishing may be obtained by applying the method described e.g. in WO 93/20278.

[0305] During the weaving of textiles, the threads are exposed to considerable mechanical strain. In order to prevent breaking, the threads are usually reinforced by the coating (sizing) with a gelatinous substance (size). The most common sizing agent is starch in native or modified form. A uniform and durable finish can thus be obtained only after removal of the size from the fabric, the so-called desizing. Desizing of fabrics sized with a size containing starch or modified starch is preferably facilitated by use of amylolytic enzymes.

Oral and Dermal Pharmaceuticals

Proteases

[0306] Different combinations of highly purified proteases (e.g. Trypsin and Chymotrypsin) are used in pharmaceuticals to be taken orally, and dermal pharmaceuticals for combating e.g. inflammations, edemata and injuries.

Leather Production

Transferase

[0307] Transglutaminase is known to be used to caseinfinishing leather by acting as a hardening agent (see WO 94/13839 from Novo Nordisk).

Hard Surface Cleaning

[0308] Cleaning of hard surfaces e.g. in the food industry is often difficult, as equipment used for producing dairies, meat, sea food products, beverages etc. often have a complicated shape. The use of surfactant compositions in the form gels and foams comprising enzymes have shown to facilitate and improve hard surface cleaning. Enzymes, which advantageously may be added in such surfactant compositions, are in particular proteases, lipolytic enzymes, amylases and cellulases.

[0309] Such hard surface cleaning compositions comprising enzymes may also advantageously be used in the transport sector, for instance for washing cars and for general vessel wash.

[0310] Furthermore this invention relates to the method by which the protein variants are being synthesised and expressed in host cells. This is achieved by culturing host cells capable of expressing a polypeptide in a suitable culture medium to obtain expression and secretion of the polypeptide into the medium, followed by isolation of the polypeptide from the culture medium. The host cell may be any cell suitable for the large-scale production of proteins, capable of expressing a protein and being transformed by an expression vector.

[0311] The host cell comprises a DNA construct as defined above, optionally the cells may be transformed with an expression vector comprising a DNA construct as defined above. The host cell is selected from any suitable cell, such as a bacterial cell, a fungal cell, an animal cell, such as an insect cell or a mammalian cell, or a plant cell.

Immunotherapy

[0312] A number of vaccination approaches have been described to for infective diseases as well as for non-infective

diseases (such as cancers). In a number of cases, the antigen provided is an isolated protein or protein-adjuvant mixture and more and more often, the protein is recombinant (e.g. the hepatitits B vaccine from Merck & Co). In these cases, it could be desirable to modify the immunogenicity of the antigen vaccine, such that it offers a stronger or more specific protection. This can be achieved by protein engineering of the amino acid sequence of the antigen, and would be greatly facilitated by the use of the methods of this invention for identification of epitopes on the antigen vaccine to be the favored sites for modification.

[0313] There are several examples of vaccine molecules that have been engineered to achieve a specific immune protection against virus, parasites or cancer (Ryu and Nam, Biotechnol. Prog., 2000, vol. 16 pp. 2-16; and references cited therein). "The goal is often to vaccinate with a minimal structure consisting of a well-defined antigen, to stimulate an effective specific immune response, while avoiding potentially hazardous risks" (Ryu and Nam, Biotechnol. Prog., 2000, vol. 16 pp. 2-16). Thus, the methods of this invention can be used to identify such minimal structures that define an antigen (or epitope thereof) whether in the form of the parent protein scaffold with a number of mutations introduced in it, or whether it is in the form of the antibody binding peptides themselves.

Allergen Vaccines

[0314] Today, a patient suffering allergic disease may be subjected to allergy vaccine therapy using allergens selected on the basis of testing the specificity of the patient's serum IgE against a bank of allergen extracts (or similar specificity tests of the patient's sensibilization such as skin prick test.

[0315] One could improve the quality of characterization by using antibody binding peptides corresponding to various epitope sequences on the protein allergens of interest. This would require a kit comprising reagents for such specificity characterization, e.g. the antibody binding peptides of desired specificity. It would be preferred to use antibody binding sequences in the kit, which correspond to defined epitope sequences known to be specific for the allergen under investigation (i.e. not identified on other allergens and/or not cross-reacting with sera raised against other allergy the patient is suffering from. This kit will lead to a more specific answer than those kits used today, and hence to a better selection of allergen vaccine therapy for the individual patient.

[0316] Further, the knowledge about cross-reacting epitopes may improve vaccine development.

[0317] In an extension of this approach, one could also characterize the patient's serum by identifying the corresponding antibody binding peptides among a random display library using the aforementioned methods. This again may lead to a better selection of allergen vaccine therapy.

[0318] Further, one could use the individual antibody binding sequences as allergen vaccines leading to more specific allergen vaccine. These antibody binding sequences could be administered in an isolated form or fused to a membrane protein of the phage display system, or to another protein, which may have beneficial effect for the immunoprotective effect of the antibody binding peptide (Dalum et al., Nature Biotechnology, 1999, Vol. 17, pp. 666-669).

D) Variations Possible

Parent Protein

[0319] The "parent protein" can in principle be any protein molecule of biological origin, non-limiting examples of which are peptides, polypeptides, proteins, enzymes, post-translationally modified polypeptides such as lipopeptides or glycosylated peptides, anti-microbial peptides or molecules, and proteins having pharmaceutical properties etc.

[0320] Accordingly the invention relates to a method, wherein the "parent protein" is chosen from the group consisting of polypeptides, small peptides, lipopeptides, antimicrobials, and pharmaceutical polypeptides.

[0321] The term "pharmaceutical polypeptides" is defined as polypeptides, including peptides, such as peptide hormones, proteins and/or enzymes, being physiologically active when introduced into the circulatory system of the body of humans and/or animals.

[0322] Pharmaceutical polypeptides are potentially immunogenic as they are introduced into the circulatory system.

[0323] Examples of "pharmaceutical polypeptides" contemplated according to the invention include insulin, ACTH, glucagon, somatostatin, somatotropin, thymosin, parathyroid hormone, pigmentary hormones, somatomedin, erythropoietin, luteinizing hormone, chorionic gonadotropin, hypothalmic releasing factors, antidiuretic hormones, thyroid stimulating hormone, relaxin, interferon, thrombopoietin (TPO) and prolactin.

[0324] However, the proteins are preferably to be used in industry, housekeeping and/or medicine, such as proteins used in personal care products (for example shampoo; soap; skin, hand and face lotions; skin, hand and face cremes; hair dyes; toothpaste), food (for example in the baking industry), detergents and pharmaceuticals.

Antimicrobial Peptides.

[0325] The antimicrobial peptide (AMP) may be, e.g., a membrane-active antimicrobial peptide, or an antimicrobial peptide affecting/interacting with intracellular targets, e.g. binding to cell DNA. The AMP is generally a relatively short peptide, consisting of less than 100 amino acid residues, typically 20-80 residues. The antimicrobial peptide has bactericidal and/or fungicidal effect, and it may also have antiviral or antitumour effects. It generally has low cytotoxicity against normal mammalian cells.

[0326] The antimicrobial peptide is generally highly cationic and hydrophobic. It typically contains several arginine and lysine residues, and it may not contain a single glutamate or asparatate. It usually contains a large proportion of hydrophobic residues. The peptide generally has an amphiphilic structure, with one surface being highly positive and the other hydrophobic.

[0327] The bioactive peptide and the encoding nucleotide sequence may be derived from plants, invertebrates, insects, amphibians and mammals, or from microorganisms such as bacteria and fungi.

[0328] The antimicrobial peptide may act on cell membranes of target microorganisms, e.g. through nonspecific binding to the membrane, usually in a membrane-parallel orientation, interacting only with one face of the bilayer.

[0329] The antimicrobial peptide typically has a structure belonging to one of five major classes: a helical, cystine-rich

(defensin-like), b-sheet, peptides with an unusual composition of regular amino acids, and peptides containing uncommon modified amino acids.

[0330] Examples of alpha-helical peptides are Magainin 1 and 2; Cecropin A, B and P1; CAP18; Andropin; Clavanin A or AK; Styelin D and C; and Buforin II. Examples of cystinerich peptides are a-Defensin HNP-1 (human neutrophil peptide) HNP-2 and HNP-3; b-Defensin-12, Drosomycin, g1-purothionin, and Insect defensin A. Examples of b-sheet peptides are Lactoferricin B, Tachyplesin I, and Protegrin PG1-5. Examples of peptides with an unusual composition are Indolicidin; PR-39; Bactenicin Bac5 and Bac7; and Histatin 5. Examples of peptides with unusual amino acids are Nisin, Gramicidin A, and Alamethicin.

[0331] Another example is the antifungal peptide (AFP) from *Aspergillus* giganteus. As explained in detail in WO 94/01459, which is hereby incorporated by reference, the antifungal polypeptide having the amino acid sequence shown in FIG. 1 has been found in several strains of the fungal species *A. giganteus*, an example of which is the *A. giganteus* strain deposited with the Centraallbureau voor Schimmelcultures (CBS) under the deposition number CBS 526.65.

[0332] However, the antifungal polypeptide, or variants thereof, suitable for the use according to the invention are expected to be derivable from other fungal species, especially other *Aspergillus* species such as *A. pallidus*, *A. clavatus*, *A. longivesica*, *A. rhizopodus* and *A. clavatonanicus*, because of the close relationship which exists between these species and *A. giganteus*.

[0333] In one embodiment of the invention the protein is an enzyme, such as glycosyl hydrolases, carbohydrases, peroxidases, proteases, lipolytic enzymes, phytases, polysaccharide lyases, oxidoreductases, transglutaminases and glycoseisomerases, in particular the following.

Parent Proteases

[0334] Parent proteases (i.e. enzymes classified under the Enzyme Classification number E.C. 3.4 in accordance with the Recommendations (1992) of the International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (IUBMB)) include proteases within this group.

[0335] Examples include proteases selected from those classified under the Enzyme Classification (E.C.) numbers:

[0336] 3.4.11 (i.e. so-called aminopeptidases), including 3.4.11.5 (Prolyl aminopeptidase), 3.4.11.9 (X-pro aminopeptidase), 3.4.11.10 (Bacterial leucyl aminopeptidase), 3.4.11.12 (Thermophilic aminopeptidase), 3.4.11.15 (Lysyl aminopeptidase), 3.4.11.17 (Tryptophanyl aminopeptidase), 3.4. 11.18 (Methionyl aminopeptidase).

[0337] 3.4.21 (i.e. so-called serine endopeptidases), including 3.4.21.1 (Chymotrypsin), 3.4.21.4 (Trypsin), 3.4.21.25 (Cucumisin), 3.4.21.32 (Brachyurin), 3.4.21.48 (Cerevisin) and 3.4.21.62 (Subtilisin);

[0338] 3.4.22 (i.e. so-called cysteine endopeptidases), including 3.4.22.2 (Papain), 3.4.22.3 (Ficain), 3.4.22.6 (Chymopapain), 3.4.22.7 (Asclepain), 3.4.22.14 (Actimidain), 3.4.22.30 (Caricain) and 3.4.22.31 (Ananain);

[0339] 3.4.23 (i.e. so-called aspartic endopeptidases), including 3.4.23.1 (Pepsin A), 3.4.23.18 (Aspergillopepsin I), 3.4.23.20 (Penicillopepsin) and 3.4.23.25 (Saccharopepsin); and

[0340] 3.4.24 (i.e. so-called metalloendopeptidases), including 3.4.24.28 (Bacillolysin).

Serine Proteases

[0341] A serine protease is an enzyme which catalyzes the hydrolysis of peptide bonds, and in which there is an essential serine residue at the active site (White, Handler and Smith, 1973 "*Principles of Biochemistry*," Fifth Edition, McGraw-Hill Book Company, NY, pp. 271-272).

[0342] The bacterial serine proteases have molecular weights in the 20,000 to 45,000 Dalton range. They are inhibited by diisopropylfluorophosphate. They hydrolyze simple terminal esters and are similar in activity to eukaryotic chymotrypsin, also a serine protease. A more narrow term, alkaline protease, covering a sub-group, reflects the high pH optimum of some of the serine proteases, from pH 9.0 to 11.0 (for review, see Priest (1977) *Bacteriological Rev.* 41 711-753).

Subtilases

[0343] A sub-group of the serine proteases tentatively designated subtilases has been proposed by Siezen et al., *Protein Engng.* 4 (1991) 719-737 and Siezen et al. *Protein Science* 6 (1997) 501-523. They are defined by homology analysis of more than 170 amino acid sequences of serine proteases previously referred to as subtilisin-like proteases. A subtilisin was previously often defined as a serine protease produced by Gram-positive bacteria or fungi, and according to Siezen et al. now is a subgroup of the subtilases. A wide variety of subtilases have been identified, and the amino acid sequence of a number of subtilases has been determined. For a more detailed description of such subtilases and their amino acid sequences reference is made to Siezen et al., (1997).

Savinase-Like Subtilisin

[0344] One subgroup of the subtilases may be classified as savinase-like subtilisins, having at least 81% homology to Savinase, preferably at least 85% homology, more preferably at least 90% homology, even more preferably at least 96% homology, most preferably at least 98% homology to Savinase.

Parent Subtilase

[0345] The term "parent subtilase" describes a subtilase defined according to Siezen et al. (1991 and 1997). For further details see description of "SUBTILASES" immediately above. A parent subtilase may also be a subtilase isolated from a natural source, wherein subsequent modifications have been made while retaining the characteristic of a subtilase. Furthermore, a parent subtilase may also be a subtilase which has been prepared by the DNA shuffling technique, such as described by J. E. Ness et al., Nature Biotechnology, 17, 893-896 (1999).

[0346] Alternatively the term "parent subtilase" may be termed "wild type subtilase".

Modification(s) of a Subtilase Variant

[0347] The term "modification(s)" used herein is defined to include chemical modification of a subtilase as well as genetic manipulation of the DNA encoding a subtilase. The

modification(s) can be replacement(s) of the amino acid side chain(s), substitution(s), deletion(s) and/or insertions in or at the amino acid(s) of interest.

Subtilase Variant

[0348] In the context of this invention, the term subtilase variant or mutated subtilase means a subtilase that has been produced by an organism which is expressing a mutant gene derived from a parent microorganism which possessed an original or parent gene and which produced a corresponding parent enzyme, the parent gene having been mutated in order to produce the mutant gene from which said mutated subtilase protease is produced when expressed in a suitable host.

[0349] Examples of relevant subtilisins comprise subtilisin BPN', subtilisin amylosacchariticus, subtilisin 168, subtilisin mesentericopeptidase, subtilisin Carlsberg, subtilisin DY, subtilisin 309, subtilisin 147, PD498 (WO 93/24623), thermitase, aqualysin, *Bacillus* PB92 protease, proteinase K, Protease TW7, and Protease TW3.

[0350] Preferred commercially available protease enzymes include AlcalaseTM, SavinaseTM PrimaseTM, DuralaseTM, Neutrase[®], Dyrazym[®], EsperaseTM, Pyrase[®], Pancreatic Trypsin NOVO (PTN), Bio-FeedTM Pro, Clear-Lens Pro, and Relase[®] (Novozymes A/S), MaxataseTM MaxacalTM, MaxapemTM, ProperaseTM, PurafectTM, Purafect OxPTM (Genencor International Inc.).

[0351] It is to be understood that also protease variants are contemplated as the parent protease. Examples of such protease variants are disclosed in EP 130.756 (Genentech), EP 214.435 (Henkel), WO 87/04461 (Amgen), WO 87/05050 (Genex), EP 251.446 (Genencor), EP 260.105 (Genencor), Thomas et al., (1985), Nature. 318, p. 375-376, Thomas et al., (1987), J. Mol. Biol., 193, pp. 803-813, Russel et al., (1987), Nature, 328, p. 496-500, WO 88/08028 (Genex), WO 88/08033 (Amgen), WO 89/06279 (Novo Nordisk A/S), WO 91/00345 (Novo Nordisk A/S), EP 525 610 (Solvay) and WO 94/02618 (Gist-Brocades N.V.).

[0352] The activity of proteases can be determined as described in "Methods of Enzymatic Analysis", third edition, 1984, Verlag Chemie, Weinheim, vol. 5.

Parent Lipolytic Enzymes

[0353] Lipolytic enzymes are classified in EC 3.1.1 Carboxylic Ester Hydrolases according to Enzyme Nomenclature (available at http://www.chem.qmw.ac.uk/iubmb/enzyme). The lipolytic enzyme may have a substrate specificity with an activity such as EC 3.1.1.3 triacylglycerol lipase, EC 3.1.1.4 phospholipase A2, EC 3.1.1.5 lysophospholipase, EC 3.1.1.26 galactolipase, EC 3.1.1.32 phospholipase A1, EC 3.1.1.73 feruloyl esterase or EC 3.1.1.74 cutinase.

[0354] The parent lipolytic enzyme may be prokaryotic, particularly a bacterial enzyme, e.g. from *Pseudomonas*. Examples are *Pseudomonas* lipases, e.g. from *P. cepacia* (U.S. Pat. No. 5,290,694, pdb file 1OIL), *P. glumae* (N Frenken et al. (1992), Appl. Envir. Microbiol. 58 3787-3791, pdb files 1TAH and 1QGE), *P. pseudoalcaligenes* (EP 334 462) and *Pseudomonas* sp. strain SD 705 (FERM BP-4772) (WO 95/06720, EP 721 981, WO 96/27002, EP 812 910). The *P. glumae* lipase sequence is identical to the amino acid sequence of *Chromobacterium viscosum* (DE 3908131 A1). Other examples are bacterial cutinases, e.g. from *Pseudomonas* such as *P. mendocina* (U.S. Pat. No. 5,389,536) or *P. putida* (WO 88/09367).

[0355] Alternatively, the parent lipolytic enzyme may be eukaryotic, e.g. a fungal lipolytic enzyme such as lipolytic enzymes of the Humicola family and the Zygomycetes family and fungal cutinases.

[0356] Examples of fungal cutinases are the cutinases of *Fusarium solani pisi* (S. Longhi et al., Journal of Molecular Biology, 268 (4), 779-799 (1997)) and *Humicola insolens* (U.S. Pat. No. 5,827,719).

[0357] The parent lipolytic enzyme may be fungal and may have an amino acid sequence that can be aligned with SEQ ID NO: 1 which is the amino acid sequence shown in positions 1-269 of SEQ ID NO: 2 of U.S. Pat. No. 5,869,438 for the lipase from Thermomyces lanuginosus (synonym Humicola lanuginosa), described in EP 258 068 and EP 305 216 (trade name LIPOLASE). The parent lipolytic enzyme may particularly have an amino acid sequence with at least 50% homology with SEQ ID NO: 1. In addition to the lipase from T. lanuginosus, other examples are a lipase from Penicillium camembertii (P25234), a lipase from Fusasrium, lipase/phospholipase from Fusarium oxysporum (EP 130064, WO 98/26057), lipase from F. heterosporum (R87979), lysophospholipase from Aspergillus foetidus (W33009), phospholipase A1 from A. oryzae (JP-A 10-155493), lipase from A. oryzae (D85895), lipase/ferulic acid esterase from A. niger (Y09330), lipase/ferulic acid esterase from A. tubingensis (Y09331), lipase from A. tubingensis (WO 98/45453), lysophospholipase from A. niger (WO 98/31790), lipase from F. solanii having an isoelectric point of 6.9 and an apparent molecular weight of 30 kDa (WO 96/18729).

[0358] Other examples are the Zygomycetes family of lipases comprising lipases having at least 50% homology with the lipase of *Rhizomucor miehei* (P19515. This family also includes the lipases from *Absidia reflexa*, *A. sporophora*, *A. corymbifera*, *A. blakesleeana*, *A. griseola* (all described in WO 96/13578 and WO 97/27276) and *Rhizopus oryzae* (P21811). Numbers in parentheses indicate publication or accession to the EMBL, GenBank, GeneSeqp or Swiss-Prot databases.

[0359] Examples of lipases include lipases derived from the following microorganisms. The indicated patent publications are incorporated herein by reference:

[0360] Humicola, e.g. H. brevispora, H. brevis var. thermoidea.

[0361] Pseudomonas, e.g. Ps. fragi, Ps. stutzeri, Ps. cepacia and Ps. fluorescens (WO 89/04361), or Ps. plantarii or Ps. gladioli (U.S. Pat. No. 4,950,417 (Solvay enzymes)) or Ps. alcaligenes and Ps. pseudoalcaligenes (EP 218 272) or.

[0362] Candida, e.g. C. cylindracea (also called C. rugosa) or C. antarctica (WO 88/02775) or C. antarctica lipase A or B (WO 94/01541 and WO 89/02916).

[0363] Geotricum, e.g. G. candidum (Schimada et al., (1989), J. Biochem., 106, 383-388).

[0364] *Rhizopus*, e.g. *R. delemar* (Hass et al., (1991), Gene 109, 107-113) or *R. niveus* (Kugimiya et al., (1992) Biosci. Biotech. Biochem 56, 716-719) or *R. oryzae*.

[0365] *Bacillus*, e.g. *B. subtilis* (Dartois et al., (1993) Biochemica et Biophysica acta 1131, 253-260) or *B. stearothermophilus* (JP 64/7744992) or *B. pumilus* (WO 91/16422).

[0366] Specific examples of readily available commercial lipases include Lipolase® (WO 98/35026) LipolaseTM Ultra, Lipozyme®, Palatase®, Novozym® 435, Lecitase® (all available from Novozymes A/S).

[0367] Examples of other lipases are LumafastTM, *Ps. mendocian* lipase from Genencor Int. Inc.; LipomaxTM, *Ps.* 24

pseudoalcaligenes lipase from Gist Brocades/Genencor Int. Inc.; *Fusarium solani* lipase (cutinase) from Unilever; *Bacillus* sp. lipase from Solvay enzymes. Other lipases are available from other companies.

[0368] It is to be understood that also lipase variants are contemplated as the parent enzyme. Examples of such are described in e.g. WO 93/01285 and WO 95/22615.

[0369] The activity of the lipase can be determined as described in "Methods of Enzymatic Analysis", Third Edition, 1984, Verlag Chemie, Weinhein, vol. 4, or as described in AF 95/5 GB (available on request from Novozymes A/S).

Parent Oxidoreductases

[0370] Parent oxidoreductases (i.e. enzymes classified under the Enzyme Classification number E.C. 1 (Oxidoreductases) in accordance with the Recommendations (1992) of the International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (IUBMB)) include oxidoreductases within this group.

[0371] Examples include oxidoreductases selected from those classified under the Enzyme Classification (E.C.) numbers:

[0372] Glycerol-3-phosphate dehydrogenase (NAD) (1.1. 1.8), Glycerol-3-phosphate dehydrogenase [NAD(P)] (1.1.1. 94), Glycerol-3-phosphate 1-dehydrogenase [NADP] (1.1.1. 94), Glucose oxidase (1.1.3.4), Hexose oxidase (1.1.3.5), Catechol oxidase (1.1.3.14), Bilirubin oxidase (1.3.3.5), Alanine dehydrogenase (1.4.1.1), Glutamate dehydrogenase (1.4.1.2), Glutamate dehydrogenase [NAD(P)] (1.4.1.3), Glutamate dehydrogenase (NADP) (1.4.1.4), L-Amino acid dehydrogenase (1.4.1.5), Serine dehydrogenase (1.4.1.7), Valine dehydrogenase (NADP) (1.4.1.8), Leucine dehydrogenase (1.4.1.9), Glycine dehydrogenase (1.4.1.10), L-Amino-acid oxidase (1.4.3.2.), D-Amino-acid oxidase(1. 4.3.3), L-Glutamate oxidase (1.4.3.11), Protein-lysine 6-oxidase (1.4.3.13), L-lysine oxidase (1.4.3.14), L-Aspartate oxidase (1.4.3.16), D-amino-acid dehydrogenase (1.4.99.1), Protein disulfide reductase (1.6.4.4), Thioredoxin reductase (1.6.4.5), Protein disulfide reductase (glutathione) (1.8.4.2), Laccase (1.10.3.2), Catalase (1.11.1.6), Peroxidase (1.11.1. 7), Lipoxygenase (1.13.11.12), Superoxide dismutase (1.15. 1.1).

[0373] Said glucose oxidases may be derived from *Aspergillus niger*.

[0374] Said laccases may be derived from *Polyporus pin*situs, Myceliophthora thermophila, Coprinus cinereus, Rhizoctonia solani, Rhizoctonia praticola, Scytalidium thermophilum and Rhus vernicifera. Because of the homology found between the above mentioned laccases (see WO 98/38287), they are considered to belong to the same class of laccases, namely the class of "Coprinus-like laccases". Accordingly, in the present context, the term "Coprinus-like laccase" is intended to indicate a laccase which, on the amino acid level, displays a homology of at least 50% and less than 100% to the Coprinus cinereus laccase SEQ ID NO: 3, or at least 55% and less than 100% to the Coprinus cinereus laccase SEQ ID NO: 3, or at least 60% and less than 100% to the Coprinus cinereus laccase SEQ ID NO: 3, or at least 65% and less than 100% to the Coprinus cinereus laccase SEQ ID NO: 3, or at least 70% and less than 100% to the Coprinus cinereus laccase SEQ ID NO: 3, or at least 75% and less than 100% to the Coprinus cinereus laccase SEQ ID NO: 3, or at least 80% and less than 100% to the Coprinus cinereus laccase SEQ ID NO: 3, or at least 85% and less than 100% to the Coprinus cinereus laccase SEQ ID NO: 3, or at least 90% and less than 100% to the *Coprinus cinereus* laccase SEQ ID NO: 3, at least 95% and less than 100% or at least 98% and less than 100% to the *Coprinus cinereus* laccase SEQ ID NO: 3.

[0375] Bilirubin oxidases may be derived from Myrothechecium verrucaria.

[0376] The peroxidase may be derived from e.g. Soy bean, Horseradish or *Coprinus cinereus*.

[0377] The protein disulfide reductase may be any of the mentioned in Danish application nos. 768/93, 265/94 and 264/94 (Novo Nordisk A/S), which are hereby incorporated as references, including Protein Disulfide reductases of bovine origin, Protein Disulfide reductases derived from *Aspergillus oryzae* or *Aspergillus niger*, and DsbA or DsbC derived from *Escherichia coli*.

[0378] Specific examples of readily available commercial oxidoreductases include $Gluzyme^{TM}$ (enzyme available from Novozymes A/S). However, other oxidoreductases are available from others.

[0379] It is to be understood that also variants of oxidoreductases are contemplated as the parent enzyme.

[0380] The activity of oxidoreductases can be determined as described in "Methods of Enzymatic Analysis", third edition, 1984, Verlag Chemie, Weinheim, vol. 3.

Parent Carbohydrases

[0381] Parent carbohydrases may be defined as all enzymes capable of breaking down carbohydrate chains (e.g. starches) of especially five and six member ring structures (i.e. enzymes classified under the Enzyme Classification number E.C. 3.2 (glycosidases) in accordance with the Recommendations (1992) of the International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (IUBMB)). Also included in the group of carbohydrases according to the invention are enzymes capable of isomerizing carbohydrates e.g. six member ring structures, such as D-glucose to e.g. five member ring structures like D-fructose.

[0382] Examples include carbohydrases selected from those classified under the Enzyme Classification (E.C.) numbers: alpha-amylase (3.2.1.1), beta-amylase (3.2.1.2), glucan 1,4-alpha-glucosidase (3.2.1.3), cellulase (3.2.1.4), endo-1,3 (4)-beta-glucanase (3.2.1.6), endo-1,4-beta-xylanase (3.2.1. 8), dextranase (3.2.1.11), chitinase (3.2.1.14), polygalacturonase (3.2.1.15), lysozyme (3.2.1.17), beta-glucosidase (3.2. 1.21), alpha-galactosidase (3.2.1.22), beta-galactosidase (3.2.1.23), amylo-1,6-glucosidase (3.2.1.33), xylan 1,4-betaxylosidase (3.2.1.37), glucan endo-1,3-beta-D-glucosidase (3.2.1.39), alpha-dextrin endo-1,6-glucosidase (3.2.1.41), sucrose alpha-glucosidase (3.2.1.48), glucan endo-1,3-alphaglucosidase (3.2.1.59), glucan 1,4-beta-glucosidase (3.2.1. 74), glucan endo-1,6-beta-glucosidase (3.2.1.75), arabinan endo-1,5-alpha-arabinosidase (3.2.1.99), lactase (3.2.1.108), chitonanase (3.2.1.132) and xylose isomerase (5.3.1.5).

[0383] Examples of relevant carbohydrases include alpha-1,3-glucanases derived from *Trichoderma harzianum*; alpha-1,6-glucanases derived from a strain of *Paecilomyces*; betaglucanases derived from *Bacillus subtilis*; beta-glucanases derived from *Humicola insolens*; beta-glucanases derived from *Aspergillus niger*, beta-glucanases derived from a strain of *Trichoderma*; beta-glucanases derived from a strain of *Oerskovia xanthineolytica*; exo-1,4-alpha-D-glucosidases (glucoamylases) derived from *Aspergillus niger*; alpha-amylases derived from *Bacillus subtilis*; alpha-amylases derived from *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens*; alpha-amylases derived from *Bacillus stearothermophilus*; alpha-amylases derived from Aspergillus oryzae; alpha-amylases derived from nonpathogenic microorganisms; alpha-galactosidases derived from Aspergillus niger, Pentosanases, xylanases, cellobiases, cellulases, hemi-cellulases derived from Humicola insolens; cellulases derived from Trichoderma reesei; cellulases derived from non-pathogenic mold; pectinases, cellulases, arabinases, hemi-celluloses derived from Aspergillus niger, dextranases derived from Penicillium lilacinum; endo-glucanase derived from non-pathogenic mold; pullulanases derived from Bacillus acidopullyticus; beta-galactosidases derived from Kluyveromyces fragilis; xylanases derived from Trichoderma reesei.

[0384] Specific examples of readily available commercial carbohydrases include Alpha-GalTM Bio-FeedTM Alpha, Bio-FeedTM Beta, Bio-FeedTM Plus, Bio-FeedTM Plus, Novozyme® 188, Carezyme® (SEQ ID NO: 5), Celluclast®, Cellusoft®, Ceremyl®, CitrozymTM, DenimaxTM DezymeTM, DextrozymeTM, Finizym®, FungamylTM, GamanaseTM, Glucanex®, Lactozym®, MaltogenaseTM, PentopanTM, PectinexTM, Promozyme®, PulpzymeTM, NovamylTM, Termamyl®, AMG (Amyloglucosidase Novo), Maltogenase®, Sweetzyme®, Aquazym®, Natalase® (SEQ ID NO: 4), SP722, AA560 (all enzymes available from Novozymes A/S). Other carbohydrases are available from other companies.

[0385] The parent cellulase is preferably a microbial cellulase. As such, the cellulase may be selected from bacterial cellulases, e.g. Pseudomonas cellulases or Bacillus, such as the Bacillus strains described in U.S. Pat. No. 4,822,516, U.S. Pat. No. 5,045,464 or EP 468 464, or B. lautus (cf. WO 91/10732), cellulases. More preferably, the parent cellulases may be a fungal cellulase, in particular Humicola, Trichoderma, Irpex, Aspergillus, Penicillium, Myceliophthora or Fusarium cellulases. Examples of suitable parent cellulases are described in, e.g. WO 91/17244. Examples of suitable Trichoderma cellulases are those described in T. T. Teeri, Gene 51, 1987, pp. 43-52. Preferably, the parent cellulase is selected from the cellulases classified in family 45, e.g. the enzymes EG B (Pseudomonas fluorescens) and EG V (Humicola insolens), as described in Henrissat, B. et al.: Biochem. J. (1993), 293, p. 781-788.

The Termamyl-Like Alpha-Amylase

[0386] It is well known that a number of alpha-amylases produced by Bacillus spp. are highly homologous on the amino acid level. For instance, the B. licheniformis alphaamylase comprising the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 4 of WO 00/29560 (commercially available as Termamyl®) has been found to be about 89% homologous with the B. amyloliquefaciens alpha-amylase comprising the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 5 of WO 00/29560 and about 79% homologous with the B. stearothermophilus alpha-amylase comprising the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 3 of WO 00/29560. Further homologous alpha-amylases include an alpha-amylase derived from a strain of the Bacillus sp. NCIB 12289, NCIB 12512, NCIB 12513 or DSM 9375, all of which are described in detail in WO 95/26397, and the alpha-amylase described by Tsukamoto et al., Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications, 151 (1988), pp. 25-31.

[0387] Still further homologous alpha-amylases include the alpha-amylase produced by the *B. licheniformis* strain described in EP 0252666 (ATCC 27811), and the alphaamylases identified in WO 91/00353 and WO 94/18314. Other commercial Termamyl-like *B. licheniformis* alphaamylases are Optitherm[®] and Takatherm[®] (available from Solvay), Maxamyl[®] (available from Gist-brocades/Genencor), Spezym AA[®] and Spezyme Delta AATM (available from Genencor), and Keistase[®] (available from Daiwa).

[0388] Because of the substantial homology found between these alpha-amylases, they are considered to belong to the same class of alpha-amylases, namely the class of "Termamyl-like alpha-amylases".

[0389] Accordingly, in the present context, the term "Termamyl-like alpha-amylase" is intended to indicate an alphaamylase which, at the amino acid level, exhibits a substantial homology to Termamyl®, i.e., the B. licheniformis alphaamylase having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 4 (WO 00/29560). In other words, a Termamyl-like alpha-amylase is an alpha-amylase which has the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NOS: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8 of WO 00/29560, and the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 of WO 95/26397 (the same as the amino acid sequence shown as SEQ ID NO: 7 of WO 00/29560) or in SEQ ID NO: 2 of WO 95/26397 (the same as the amino acid sequence shown as SEQ ID NO: 8 of WO 00/29560) or in Tsukamoto et al., 1988, (which amino acid sequence is shown in SEQ ID NO: 6 of WO 00/29560) or i) which displays at least 60% homology (identity), preferred at least 70%, more preferred at least 75%, even more preferred at least 80%, especially at least 85%, especially preferred at least 90%, especially at least 95%, even especially more preferred at least 97%, especially at least 99% homology with at least one of said amino acid sequences shown in SEQ ID NOS: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8 of WO 00/29560 and/or ii) displays immunological crossreactivity with an antibody raised against one or more of said alpha-amylases, and/or iii) is encoded by a DNA sequence which hybridizes, under the low to very high stringency conditions (said conditions described below) to the DNA sequences encoding the above-specified alpha-amylases which are apparent from SEQ ID NOS: 9, 10, 11, 12, and 32, respectively, of the present application (which encodes the amino acid sequences shown in SEQ ID NOS: 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 herein, respectively), from SEQ ID NO: 4 of WO 95/26397 (which DNA sequence, together with the stop codon TAA, is shown in SEQ ID NO: 13 herein and encodes the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 8 herein) and from SEQ ID NO: 5 of WO 95/26397 (shown in SEQ ID NO: 14 herein), respectively.

[0390] In connection with property i), the "homology" (identity) may be determined by use of any conventional algorithm, preferably by use of the gap progamme from the GCG package version 8 (August 1994) using default values for gap penalties, i.e., a gap creation penalty of 3.0 and gap extension penalty of 0.1 (Genetic Computer Group (1991) Programme Manual for the GCG Package, version 8, 575 Science Drive, Madison, Wis., USA 53711).

[0391] The parent Termamyl-like alpha-amylase backbone may in an embodiment have an amino acid sequence which has a degree of identity to SEQ ID NO: 4 (WO 00/29560) of at least 65%, preferably at least 70%, preferably at least 75%, more preferably at least 80%, more preferably at least 85%, even more preferably at least about 90%, even more preferably at least 95%, even more preferably at least 97%, and even more preferably at least 99% identity determined as described above.

[0392] A structural alignment between Termamyl® (SEQ ID NO: 4) and a Termamyl-like alpha-amylase may be used to identify equivalent/corresponding positions in other Ter-

mamyl-like alpha-amylases. One method of obtaining said structural alignment is to use the Pile Up programme from the GCG package using default values of gap penelties, i.e., a gap creation penalty of 3.0 and gap extension penalty of 0.1. Other structural alignment methods include the hydrophobic cluster analysis (Gaboriaud et al., (1987), FEBS LETTERS 224, pp. 149-155) and reverse threading (Huber, T; Torda, A E, PRO-TEIN SCIENCE Vol. 7, No. 1 pp. 142-149 (1998).

Parent Glucoamylases

[0393] Parent glucoamylase contemplated according to the present invention include fungal glucoamylases, in particular fungal glucoamylases obtainable from an Aspergillus strain, such as an Aspergillus niger or Aspergillus awamori glucoamylases and variants or mutants thereof, homologous glucoamylases, and further glucoamylases being structurally and/or functionally similar to SEQ ID NO: 2 (WO 00/04136). Specifically contemplated are the Aspergillus niger glucoamylases G1 and G2 disclosed in Boel et al. (1984), "Glucoamylases G1 and G2 from Aspergillus niger are synthesized from two different but closely related mRNAs", EMBO J. 3 (5), p. 1097-1102. The G2 glucoamylase is disclosed in SEQ ID NO: 2 (WO 00/04136). The G1 glucoamylase is disclosed in SEQ ID NO: 13 (WO 00/04136). Another AMG backbone contemplated is Talaromyces emersonii, especially Talaromyces emersonii DSM disclosed in WO 99/28448 (Novo Nordisk).

[0394] The homology referred to above of the parent glucoamylase is determined as the degree of identity between two protein sequences indicating a derivation of the first sequence from the second. The homology may suitably be determined by means of computer programs known in the art such as GAP provided in the GCG program package (Program Manual for the Wisconsin Package, Version 8, August 1994, Genetics Computer Group, 575 Science Drive, Madison, Wis., USA 53711) (Needleman, S. B. and Wunsch, C. D., (1970), Journal of Molecular Biology, 48, p. 443-453). Using Gap with the following settings for polypeptide sequence comparison: Gap creation penalty of 3.0 and Gap extension penalty of 0.1, the mature part of a polypeptide encoded by an analogous DNA sequence of the invention exhibits a degree of identity preferably of at least 60%, such as 70%, at least 80%, at least 90%, more preferably at least 95%, more preferably at least 97%, and most preferably at least 99% with the mature part of the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 (WO 00/04136).

[0395] Preferably, the parent glucoamylase comprise the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO: 2 (WO 00/04136); or allelic variants thereof; or fragments thereof that has glucoamylase activity.

[0396] A fragment of SEQ ID NO: 2 is a polypeptide which have one or more amino acids deleted from the amino and/or carboxyl terminus of this amino acid sequence. For instance, the AMG G2 (SEQ ID NO: 2) is a fragment of the *Aspergillus niger* G1 glucoamylase (Boel et al. (1984), EMBO J. 3 (5), p. 1097-1102) having glucoamylase activity. An allelic variant denotes any of two or more alternative forms of a gene occupying the same chromosomal locus. Allelic variation arises naturally through mutation, and may result in polymorphism within populations. Gene mutations can be silent (no change in the encoded polypeptide) or may encode polypeptides having altered amino acid sequences. An allelic variant of a polypeptide is a polypeptide encoded by an allelic variant of a gene.

[0397] It is to be understood that also carbohydrase variants are contemplated as the parent enzyme.

[0398] The activity of carbohydrases can be determined as described in "Methods of Enzymatic Analysis", third edition, 1984, Verlag Chemie, Weinheim, vol. 4.

Parent Transferases

[0399] Parent transferases (i.e. enzymes classified under the Enzyme Classification number E.C. 2 in accordance with the Recommendations (1992) of the International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (IUBMB)) include transferases within this group.

[0400] The parent transferases may be any transferase in the subgroups of transferases: transferases transferring onecarbon groups (E.C. 2.1); transferases transferring aldehyde or residues (E.O 2.2); acyltransferases (E.C. 2.3); glucosyltransferases (E.C. 2.4); transferases transferring alkyl or aryl groups, other that methyl groups (E.C. 2.5); transferases transferring nitrogeneous groups (2.6).

[0401] In a preferred embodiment the parent transferase is a transglutaminase E.C 2.3.2.13 (Protein-glutamine μ -glutamyltransferase).

[0402] Transglutaminases are enzymes capable of catalyzing an acyl transfer reaction in which a gamma-carboxyamide group of a peptide-bound glutamine residue is the acyl donor. Primary amino groups in a variety of compounds may function as acyl acceptors with the subsequent formation of monosubstituted gamma-amides of peptide-bound glutamic acid. When the epsilon-amino group of a lysine residue in a peptide-chain serves as the acyl acceptor, the transferases form intramolecular or intermolecular gamma-glutamyl-epsilon-lysyl crosslinks.

[0403] Examples of transglutaminases are described in the pending DK patent application no. 990/94 (Novo Nordisk A/S).

[0404] The parent transglutaminase may be of human, animal (e.g. bovine) or microbial origin.

[0405] Examples of such parent transglutaminases are animal derived Transglutaminase, FXIIIa; microbial transglutaminases derived from *Physarum polycephalum* (Klein et al., Journal of Bacteriology, Vol. 174, p. 2599-2605); transglutaminases derived from *Streptomyces* sp., including *Streptomyces lavendulae*, *Streptomyces lydicus* (former *Streptomyces libani*) and *Streptoverticillium* sp., including *Streptoverticillium mobaraense*, *Streptoverticillium cinnamoneum*, and *Streptoverticillium griseocarneum* (Motoki et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,156,956; Andou et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,252,469; Kaempfer et al., Journal of General Microbiology, Vol. 137, p. 1831-1892; Ochi et al., International Journal of Sytematic Bacteriology, Vol. 44, p. 285-292; Andou et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,252,469; Williams et al., Journal of General Microbiology, Vol. 129, p. 1743-1813).

[0406] It is to be understood that also transferase variants are contemplated as the parent enzyme.

[0407] The activity of transglutaminases can be determined as described in "Methods of Enzymatic Analysis", third edition, 1984, Verlag Chemie, Weinheim, vol. 1-10.

Parent Phytases

[0408] Parent phytases are included in the group of enzymes classified under the Enzyme Classification number E.C. 3.1.3 (Phosphoric Monoester Hydrolases) in accordance

with the Recommendations (1992) of the International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (IUBMB)).

[0409] Phytases are enzymes produced by microorganisms which catalyse the conversion of phytate to inositol and inorganic phosphorus

[0410] Phytase producing microorganisms comprise bacteria such as *Bacillus subtilis, Bacillus natto* and *Pseudomonas*; yeasts such as *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*; and fungi such as *Aspergillus niger, Aspergillus ficuum, Aspergillus awamori, Aspergillus oryzae, Aspergillus terreus* or *Aspergillus nidulans*, and various other *Aspergillus* species).

[0411] Examples of parent phytases include phytases selected from those classified under the Enzyme Classification (E.C.) numbers: 3-phytase (3.1.3.8) and 6-phytase (3.1. 3.26).

[0412] The activity of phytases can be determined as described in "Methods of Enzymatic Analysis", third edition, 1984, Verlag Chemie, Weinheim, vol. 1-10, or may be measured according to the method described in EP-A1-0 420 358, Example 2A.

Lyases

[0413] Suitable lyases include Polysaccharide lyases: Pectate lyases (4.2.2.2) and pectin lyases (4.2.2.10), such as those from *Bacillus licheniformis* disclosed in WO 99/27083.

Isomerases

Protein Disulfide Isomerase

[0414] Without being limited thereto suitable protein disulfide isomerases include PDIs described in WO 95/01425 (Novo Nordisk A/S) and suitable glucose isomerases include those described in Biotechnology Letter, Vol. 20, No 6, June 1998, pp. 553-56.

[0415] Contemplated isomerases include xylose/glucose Isomerase (5.3.1.5) including Sweetzyme[®].

Environmental Allergens

[0416] The environmental allergens that are of interest for epitope mapping include allergens from pollen, dust mites, mammals, venoms, fungi, food items, and other plants.

[0417] Pollen, allergens include but are not limited to those of the order Fagales, Oleales, Pinales, Poales, Asterales, and Urticales; including those from *Betula, Alnus, Corylus, Carpinus, Olea, Phleum pratense* and *Artemisia vulgaris,* such as Aln g1, Cor a1, Car b1, Cry j1, Amb a1 and a2, Art v1, Par j1, Ole e1, Ave v1, and Bet v1 (WO 99/47680).

[0418] Mite allergens include but are not limited to those from Derm. farinae and Derm. pteronys., such as Der f1 and f2, and Der p1 and p2.

[0419] From mammals, relevant environmental allergens include but are not limited to those from cat, dog, and horse as well as from dandruff from the hair of those animals, such as Fel d1; Can f1; Equ c1; Equ c2; Equ c3.

[0420] Venum allergens include but are not limited to PLA2 from bee venom as well as *Apis* m1 and m2, Ves g1, g2 and g5, Ves v5 and to Pol and Sol allergens.

[0421] Fungal allergens include those from *Alternaria* alt. and Cladospo. herb. such as Alt al and Cla h1.

[0422] Food allergens include but are not limited to those from milk (lactoglobulin), egg (ovalbumin), peanuts, hazel-nuts, wheat (alpha-amylase inhibitor),

[0423] Other plant allergens include latex (hevea brasiliensis).

[0424] In addition, a number of proteins of interest for expression in transgenic plants could be useful objects for epitope engineering. If for instance a heterologous enzyme is introduced into a transgenic plant e.g. to increase the nutritional value of food or feed derived from that plant, that enzyme may lead to allergenicity problems in humans or animals ingesting the plant-derived material. Epitope mapping and engineering of such heterologous enzymes or other proteins of transgenic plants may lead to reduction or elimination of this problem. Hence, the methods of this patent are also useful for potentially modifying proteins for heterologous expression in plants and plant cells.

Materials and Methods

Materials

ELISA Reagents:

[0425] Horse Radish Peroxidase labelled pig anti-rabbit-Ig (Dako, DK, P217, dilution 1:1000)

Rat anti-mouse IgE (Serotec MCA419; dilution 1:100)

Mouse anti-rat IgE (Serotec MCA193; dilution 1:200) Biotin-labelled mouse anti-rat IgG1 monoclonal antibody (Zymed 03-9140; dilution 1:1000)

Biotin-labelled rat anti-mouse IgG1 monoclonal antibody (Serotec MCA336B; dilution 1:2000)

Streptavidin-horse radish peroxidase (Kirkegård & Perry 14-30-00; dilution 1:1000).

Buffers and Solutions:

[0426] PBS (pH 7.2 (1 liter))

NaCl	8.00 g	
KCl	0.20 g	
K_2HPO_4	1.04 g	
KH ₂ PO ₄	0.32 g	

[0427] Washing buffer PBS, 0.05% (v/v) Tween 20

[0428] Blocking buffer PBS, 2% (wt/v) Skim Milk powder

[0429] Dilution buffer PBS, 0.05% (v/v) Tween 20, 0.5%

(wt/v) Skim Milk powder

[0430] Citrate buffer 0.1M, pH 5.0-5.2

[0431] Stop-solution (DMG-buffer)

[0432] Sodium Borate, borax (Sigma)

[0433] 3,3-Dimethyl glutaric acid (Sigma)

[0434] Tween 20: Poly oxyethylene sorbitan mono laurate (Merck cat no. 822184)

[0435] PMSF (phenyl methyl sulfonyl flouride) from Sigma

[0436] Succinyl-Alanine-Alanine-Proline-Phenylalanineparanitro-anilide (Suc-AAPF-pNP) Sigma no. S-7388, Mw 624.6 g/mol.

[0437] mPEG (Fluka)

Coloring Substrate:

[0438] OPD: o-phenylene-diamine, (Kementec cat no. 4260)

Methods

Automatic Epitope Mapping

Implementation

[0439] The implementation consists of 3 pieces of code:

1. The core program (see above), written in C (see Appendix A).

2. A "wrapping" cgi-script run by the web server, written in Python (see Appendix B).

3. A HTML page defining the input/submission form (see Appendix C).

[0440] The wrapper receives the input and calls the core program and several other utilities.

Apart from the standard Unix utility programs (my, rm, awk, etc.) the following must be installed:

[0441] A web server capable of running cgi-scripts, e.g. Apache

[0442] Python 1.5 or later

[0443] Gnuplot 3.7 or later

[0444] DSSP, version July 1995

The Core Program

Inputs

[0445] 1. A Brookhaven PDB file with the structure of the protein

2. The output of DSSP called with the above PDB file.

3. Maximum distance between adjacent residues

4. Minimum solvent accessible surface area for each residue 5. Maximum epitope size (max distance between any two residues in epitope)

6. Maximum number of non-redundant epitopes to include (0=all)

7. The shortest acceptable epitope (as a fraction of the length of the epitope consensus sequence).

8. Epitope consensus sequence describing which residues are possible at the different positions. An example is shown below:

KR (Lys or Arg allowed)

AILV- (Ala, Ile, Leu, Val or missing residue allowed) * (All Residues Allowed, but there Must be a Residue)

? (All or Missing Residue Allowed)

[0446] DE (Asp or Glu allowed)

(*, ? or – in first or last position is allowed but obsolete. (– in first position is ignored.))

[0447] Examples of matching epitopes:

KAAKD (SEQ ID NO: 41), KLASD (SEQ ID NO: 42), KLYSD (SEQ ID NO: 43), KLY-D (SEQ ID NO: 44), R-M-D.

The Epitope Searching Algorithm

[0448] The "core" of the program is the algorithm that scans the protein surface for the epitope patterns. The principle is that several "trees" are built, where each of their branches describes one epitope:

1. All residues in the protein are checked according to: a) Does the residue type match the first residue of the epitope consensus sequence. b) Is the surface accessibility greater than or equal to the given threshold. If both requirements are fulfilled, the protein residue is considered as one root in the epitope tree. Remark that there are usually many roots.

2. For each of the residues defined as roots, all residues within the given threshold distance between adjacent residues (e.g. 7 Angstroms) are checked for the same as above: a) Does the residue type match the second residue of the epitope consensus sequence. b) Is the surface accessibility greater than or equal to the given threshold. If yes, the protein residue is considered as a "child" of the root. The spatial position of a residue is defined as the coordinates of its C-alpha atom.

3. The procedure from step 2 is repeated for the next residue in the epitope consensus sequence, where each of the "childs" found in step 2 are now "roots" of new childs. If a gap is defined in the epitope consensus sequence, a "missing" residue is allowed, and the coordinates of the root (also called "parent") is used.

4. This procedure is repeated for all residues in the epitope consensus sequence.

5. In this way a number of trees (corresponding to the number of roots found in step 1) are found. Notice that the same protein residue can be present many places in the trees.

6. If no epitopes that matches the length of the epitope consensus sequence are found, the longest shorter epitopes that matches the first n residues of the epitope consensus sequence are used, where n is an integer smaller than the length of the epitope consensus sequence. If n is smaller than the length of the epitope consensus sequence multiplied by the fraction value defining the shortest acceptable epitope length, no epitopes are written to the output, and steps 7, 8 and 9 are skipped.

7. The epitopes are extracted from the trees by traversing down from each of the "childs" in the last level. The algorithm also finds epitopes which have the same protein residue present more than once. This is, of course, an artifact and such epitopes are discarded. Every epitope is then checked for its size, that is, the maximum distance between any two residues which are members of the epitope. If this exceeds the threshold, the epitope is discarded.

8. Redundant epitopes are removed. Epitopes containing one or more gaps are redundant if they are subsets of other epitopes without or with fewer gaps. For example: A82-gap-F45-G44-K43 is a subset of A82-L46-F45-G44-K43, and is therefore discarded.

9. For every epitope, the total solvent accessible surface area is calculated (by adding the contributions from each residue as found by the DSSP program). The epitopes are sorted according to this area in descending order. If a maximum number of n non-redundant epitopes has been specified, the n epitopes with largest solvent accessible surface area are selected.

10. The output consists of a list of the found epitopes, along with information of the epitope consensus sequence used and other internal parameters. A separate file containing the number of epitopes that each of the protein residues is a member of is also written.

The wrapper

Inputs

[0449] 1. One PDB file, describing one structure, or one ZIP file, containing a number of PDB files, each describing one structure. The ZIP file must not contain subfolders.

 $2.\,An$ epitope consensus sequence or which part of the current epitope library to use (full library or IgE part or IgG part).

3. Maximum distance between adjacent residues

4. Minimum solvent accessible surface area for each residue

5. Maximum epitope size (max distance between any two residues in epitope)

6. Maximum number of non-redundant epitopes to include (0=all)

7. Whether to use sequential numbering (1,2,3,4, etc) or PDB-file numbering.

DESCRIPTION

[0450] The core program accepts only one structure and one epitope consensus sequence. It is usually desirable to use a library of epitope consensus sequences and sometimes several protein structures. The wrapper reads the user input and calls the utility programs and the core program the necessary number of times. The output is collected and presented on the web page returned to the user.

[0451] Depending on the type of input, the wrapper works in different modes:

[0452] Epitope consensus can be given directly or taken from a library

[0453] Input type can be a single PDB file or a collection of PDB file given as a ZIP-file.

[0454] Any of the four possible combinations are allowed.

[0455] The epitope library consists of a number of text files, each containing one epitope consensus sequence as specified above.

[0456] The layout of the wrapper is like this:

1. Check if the program is already in use from somewhere else (this is done by checking for a lock file when the wrapper starts. If it does not exist, it is created and removed again when the program is finished).

2. If the epitope consensus sequences are to be read from the library, make an internal list of the desired library entries.

3. If the input type is a ZIP file, unzip the file and create one new directory for each of the contained PDB files. Move each PDB file to its corresponding directory.

4. Do a loop over the structures and/or epitope consensus sequences. For each structure/epitope consensus sequence pair, DSSP and the core program is called with the required parameters. If the input type is a ZIP file, the outputs are put in the appropriate directories.

5. If the epitope library is used, a sum file containing the total number of epitopes each residue is a member of. (Such a file is generated by the core program for each epitope consensus sequence—here a sum of these files is calculated). If input type is a ZIP file, a sum file is generated for each structure and put in the appropriate directory.

6. If the epitope library is used, a file containing the total number of epitopes found from each entry in the epitope library. If the input type is a PDB file, the file contains only one line (with a number of data corresponding to the library size). If the input type is a ZIP file, there is one line for each structure.

7. Depending on the combination of input type (ZIP or single PDB) and epitope consensus sequence source (typed-in or epitope library), different information is returned to the user: Single PDB+typed in epitope: Graph of numbers of epitopes that each residue is a member of. List of found epitopes.

ZIP file+typed in epitope: Graphs (one for each structure) of numbers of epitopes that each residue is a member of. Lists (one for each structure) of found epitopes.

Single PDB+epitope library: Graph of numbers of epitopes that each residue is a member of (total for the complete library).

ZIP file+epitope library: Graphs (one for each structure) of numbers of epitopes that each residue is a member of (total for the complete library).

Data flow sheets for the four different are shown in the FIG. 8. For all modes except Single PDB+typed in epitope, a ZIP file containing all output files is created and returned to the user.

Immunisation of Brown Norway Rats:

[0457] Twenty intratracheal (IT) immunisations were performed weekly with 0,100 ml 0.9% (wt/vol) NaCl (control group), or 0,100 ml of a protein dilution (~0, 1-1 mg/ml). Each group contained 10 rats. Blood samples (2 ml) were collected from the eye one week after every second immunisation. Serum was obtained by blood clothing and centrifugation and analysed as indicated below.

Immunisation of Balb/C Mice:

[0458] Twenty subcutaneous (SC) immunisations were performed weekly with 0.05 ml 0.9% (wt/vol) NaCl (control group), or 0.050 ml of a protein dilution (~0.01-0.1 mg/ml). Each group contained 10 female Balb/C mice (about 20 grams) purchased from Bomholdtgaard, Ry, Denmark. Blood samples (0.100 ml) were collected from the eye one week after every second immunisation. Serum was obtained by blood clothing and centrifugation and analysed as indicated below.

ELISA Procedure for Detecting Serum Levels of IgE and IgG:

[0459] Specific IgG1 and IgE levels were determined using the ELISA specific for mouse or rat IgG1 or IgE. Differences between data sets were analysed by using appropriate statistical methods.

Activation of CovaLink Plates:

[0460] A fresh stock solution of cyanuric chloride in acetone (10 mg/ml) is diluted into PBS, while stirring, to a final concentration of 1 mg/ml and immediately aliquoted into CovaLink NH2 plates (100 microliter per well) and incubated for 5 minutes at room temperature. After three washes with PBS, the plates are dryed at 50° C. for 30 minutes, sealed with sealing tape, and stored in plastic bags at room temperature for up to 3 weeks.

[0461] Mouse anti-Rat IgE was diluted $200\times$ in PBS (5 microgram/ml). 100 microliter was added to each well. The plates were coated overnight at 4° C.

[0462] Unspecific adsorption was blocked by incubating each well for 1 hour at room temperature with 200 microliter blocking buffer. The plates were washed $3 \times$ with 300 microliter washing buffer.

[0463] Unknown rat sera and a known rat IgE solution were diluted in dilution buffer: Typically $10\times$, $20\times$ and $40\times$ for the unknown sera, and 1/2 dilutions for the standard IgE starting from 1 µg/ml. 100 microliter was added to each well. Incubation was for 1 hour at room temperature.

[0464] Unbound material was removed by washing 3× with washing buffer. The anti-rat IgE (biotin) was diluted 2000× in dilution buffer. 100 microliter was added to each well. Incubation was for 1 hour at room temperature. Unbound material was removed by washing 3× with washing buffer.

[0465] Streptavidin was diluted 1000× in dilution buffer. 100 microliter was added to each well. Incubation was for 1 hour at room temperature. Unbound material was removed by washing $3\times$ with 300 microliter washing buffer. OPD (0.6 mg/ml) and H_2O_2 (0.4 microliter/ml) were dissolved in citrate buffer. 100 microliter was added to each well. Incubation was for 30 minutes at room temperature. The reaction was stopped by addition of 100 microliter H_2SO_4 . The plates were read at 492 nm with 620 nm as reference.

[0466] Similar determination of IgG can be performed using anti Rat-IgG and standard rat IgG reagents.

[0467] Similar determinations of IgG and IgE in mouse serum can be performed using the corresponding species-specific reagents.

Direct IgE Assay:

[0468] To determine the IgE binding capacity of protein variants one can use an assay, essentially as described above, but using sequential addition of the following reagents:

1) Mouse anti-rat IgE antibodies coated in wells;

2) Known amounts of rat antiserum containing IgE against the parent protein;

3) Dilution series of the protein variant in question (or parent protein as positive control);

4) Rabbit anti-parent antibodies

5) HRPO-labelled anti-rabbit Ig antibodies for detection using OPD as described.

[0469] The relative IgE binding capacity (end-point and/or affinity) of the protein variants relative to that of the parent protein are determined from the dilution-response curves. The IgE-positive serum can be of other animals (including humans that inadvertently have been sensitized to the parent

protein) provided that the species-specific anti-IgE capture antibodies are changed accordingly.

Competitive ELISA (C-ELISA):

[0470] C-ELISA was performed according to established procedures. In short, a 96 well ELISA plate was coated with the parent protein. After proper blocking and washing, the coated antigen was incubated with rabbit anti-enzyme polyclonal antiserum in the presence of various amounts of modified protein (the competitior). The residual amount of rabbit antiserum was detected by horseraddish peroxidase-labelled pig anti-rabbit immunoglobulin.

Protein Sequences and Alignments:

[0471] For purposes of the present invention, the degree of homology may be suitably determined by means of computer programs known in the art, such as GAP provided in the GCG program package (Program Manual for the Wisconsin Package, Version 8, August 1994, Genetics Computer Group, 575 Science Drive, Madison, Wis., USA 53711) (Needleman, S. B. and Wunsch, C. D., (1970), Journal of Molecular Biology, 48, 443-45).

Subtilisin Proteases:

[0472] In the present invention, corresponding (or homologous) positions in subtilisin protease sequences are defined by alignment with Subtilisin Novo (BPN') from *B. amyloliquefaciens*, as shown in Table 1A for Alcalase, Protease B, Esperase, Protease C, Protease D, Protease E, Protease A, PD498, Properase, Relase, Savinase.

TABLE 1A

	Alignment of different proteases to the sequence of BPN'
69.5% ide	Alcalase: entity in 275 residues overlap; Score: 953.0; Gap frequency: 0.4%
Alcalase, BPN',	1 AQTVPYGIPLIKADKVQAQGFKGANVKVAVLDTGIQASHPDLNVVGGASFVAGEAYN-TD 1 AQSVPYGVSQIKAPALHSQGYTGSNVKVAVIDSGIDSSHPDLKVAGGASMVPSETPNFQD ** **** *** ** * * * ****** * ** ***** *
Alcalase, BPN',	60GNGHGTHVAGTVAALDNTTGVLGVAPSVSLYAVKVLNSSGSGSYSGIVSGIEWATTNGMD 61DNSHGTHVAGTVAALDNSIGVLGVAPSSALYAVKVLGDAGSGQYSWIINGIEWAIANNMD * ************* * ******** ******* **** *** *** *
Alcalase, BPN',	120VINMSLGGASGSTAMKQAVDNAYARGVVVVAAAGNSGSSGNTNTIGYPAKYDSVIAVGAV 121VINMSLGGPSGSAALKAAVDKAVASGVVVVAAAGNEGSTGSSSTVGYPGKYPSVIAVGAV ******** *** * * *** * * ********** **
Alcalase, BPN',	180DSNSNRASFSSVGAELEVMAPGAGVYSTYPTNTYATLNGTSMASPHVAGAAALILSKHPN 181DSSNQRASFSSVGPELDVMAPGVSIQSTLPGNKYGAYNGTSMASPHVAGAAALILSKHPN ** ******* ** ***** ** ** * * ********
Alcalase, BPN',	240LSASQVRNRLSSTATYLGSSFYYGKGLINVEAAAQ (SEQ ID NO: 45) 241WTNTQVRSSLQNTTTKLGDSFYYGKGLINVQAAAQ (SEQ ID NO: 46) *** * * * * ** **********
	Protease B:
59.6% ide	entity in 275 residues overlap; Score: 820.0; Gap frequency: 2.2%
PROTEASE B BPN',	, 1AQTIPWGISRVQAPAAHNRGLTGSGVKVAVLDTGI-STHPDLNIRGGASFVPGE-PSTQD 1AQSVPYGVSQIKAPALHSQGYTGSNVKVAVIDSGIDSSHPDLKVAGGASMVPSETPNFQD ** * * * *** *** * *** ***** * ** ****
PROTEASE B BPN',	<pre>, 59GNGHGTHVAGTIAALNNSIGVLGVAPSAELYAVKVLGASGSGSVSSIAQGLEWAGNNGMH 61DNSHGTHVAGTVAALNNSIGVLGVAPSSALYAVKVLGDAGSGQYSWIINGIEWAIANNMD * ******** **************************</pre>

	TABLE IA-CONTINUED
F	Alignment of different proteases to the sequence of BPN'
PROTEASE B, BPN',	119VANLSLGSPSPSATLEQAVNSATSRGVLVVAASGNSGAGSISYPARYANAMAVGAT 121VINMSLGGPSGSAALKAAVDKAVASGVVVVAAAGNEGSTGSSSTVGYPGKYPSVIAVGAV * * *** ** ** * * * * * ** ** ** ** **
PROTEASE B, BPN',	175 DQNNNRASFSQYGAGLDIMAPGVNIQSTYPGSTYASDNGTSMATPHVAGAAALVKQKNPS 181 DSSNQRASFSSVGPELDVMAPGVSIQSTLPGNKYGAYNGTSMASPHVAGAAALILSKHPN * * ***** * * ** ***** **** ** * ******
PROTEASE B, BPN',	235WSNVQIRNHLKNTATSLGSTNLYGSGLVNAEAATR (SEQ ID NO: 47) 241WTNTQVRSSLQNTTTKLGDSFYYGKGLINVQAAAQ (SEQ ID NO: 46) * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
54.7% ide	Esperase: ntity in 274 residues overlap; Score: 745.0; Gap frequency: 2.2%
Esperase, BPN',	1QTVPWGISFINTQQAHNRGIFGNGARVAVLDTGI-ASHPDLRIAGGASFISSE-PSYHDN 2QSVPYGVSQIKAPALHSQGYTGSNVKVAVIDSGIDSSHPDLKVAGGASMVPSETPNFQDD * ** * * * * * * * * * * *** *** ***** ****
Esperase, BPN',	59NGHGTHVAGTIAALNNSIGVLGVAPSADLYAVKVLDRNGSGSLASVAQGIEWAINNNMHI 62NSHGTHVAGTVAALNNSIGVLGVAPSSALYAVKVLGDAGSGQYSWIINGIEWAIANNMDV * ******** **************************
Esperase, BPN',	119 INMSLGSTSGSSTLELAVNRANNAGILLVGAAGNTGRQGVNYPARYSGVMAVAAVD 122 INMSLGGPSGSAALKAAVDKAVASGVVVVAAAGNEGSTGSSSTVGYPGKYPSVIAVGAVD ****** *** * ** * * * * * * ****
Esperase, BPN',	175QNGQRASFSTYGPEIEISAPGVNVNSTYTGNRYVSLSGTSMATPHVAGVAALVKSRYPSY 182SSNQRASFSSVGPELDVMAPGVSIQSTLPGNKYGAYNGTSMASPHVAGAAALILSKHPNW ****** *** *** *** ** ** ** ** ***** ****
Esperase, BPN',	235TNNQIRQRINQTATYLGSPSLYGNGLVHAGRATQ (SEQ ID NO: 48) 242TNTQVRSSLQNTTTKLGDSFYYGKGLINVQAAAQ (SEQ ID NO: 46) ** * * * * * * ** ** ** *
	Protease C:
59.6% 1de	ntity in 275 residues overlap; Score: 825.0; Gap frequency: 2.2%
ProteaseC, BPN',	1 AQSVPWGISRVQAPAAHNRGLTGSGVRVAVLDTGI-STHPDLNIRGGASFVPGE-PSTQD 1 AQSVPYGVSQIKAPALHSQGYTGSNVKVAVIDSGIDSSHPDLKVAGGASMVPSETPNFQD ***** * * *** * * *** * *** * *** * *** *
ProteaseC, BPN',	59GNGHGTHVAGTIAALNNSIGVLGVAPSAELYAVKVLGASGSGSYSSIAQGLEWAGNNGMH 61DNSHGTHVAGTVAALNNSIGVLGVAPSSALYAVKVLGDAGSGQYSWIINGIEWAIANNMD * ******** **************** ******** ****
ProteaseC, BPN',	119VASLSLGSPSPSATLEQAVNSATSRGVLVVAASGNSGAGSISYPARYANAMAVGAT 121VINMSLGGPSGSAALKAAVDKAVASGVVVVAAAGNEGSTGSSSTVGYPGKYPSVIAVGAV * *** ** ** ** ** * ** ** ** ****
ProteaseC, BPN',	175 DQNNNRASFSQYGAGLDIVAPGVNVQSTYPGSTYASLNGTSMATPHVAGAAALVKQKNPS 181 DSSNQRASFSSVGPELDVMAPGVSIQSTLPGNKYGAYNGTSMASPHVAGAAALILSKHPN * * ***** * ** *** *** *** * * ***** ***
ProteaseC, BPN',	235WSNVQIRNHLKNTATSLGSTNLYGSGLVNAEAAAR (SEQ ID NO: 49) 241WTNTQVRSSLQNTTTKLGDSFYYGKGLINVQAAAQ (SEQ ID NO: 46) * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
59.3% ide	Protease D: ntity in 275 residues overlap; Score: 815.0; Gap frequency: 2.2%
ProteaseD, BPN',	1 AQSVPWGI SRVQAPAAHNRGL TGSGVKVAVLD TGI - STHPDLNI RGGAS FVPGE - PSTQD 1 AQSVPYGVSQI KAPALHSQGY TGSNVKVAVI DSGI DSSHPDL KVAGGASMVPSETPNFQD ***** * * *** * * *** * **** * *** * *** *
ProteaseD, BPN',	59GNGHGTHVAGTIAALDNSIGVLGVAPSAELYAVKVLGASGSGAISSIAQGLEWAGNNGMH 61DNSHGTHVAGTVAALNNSIGVLGVAPSSALYAVKVLGDAGSGQYSWIINGIEWAIANNMD * ******** *** ********** ******** *** *** *
ProteaseD, BPN',	119VANLSLGSPSPSATLEQAVNSATSRGVLVVAASGNSGAGSISYPARYANAMAVGAT 121VINMSLGGPSGSAALKAAVDKAVASGVVVVAAAGNEGSTGSSSTVGYPGKYPSVIAVGAV * * *** ** ** ** ** ** ** ** ***** ** *

TABLE 1A-continued

	lignment of different proteases to the sequence of BPN'
ProteaseD, BPN',	175 DQNNNRAS FSQYGAGLD I VAPGVNVQSTYPGS TYAS LNGTSMATPHVAGAAALVKQKNPS 181 DSSNQRAS FSSVGPELDVMAPGVSIQSTLPGNKYGAYNGTSMASPHVAGAAALI LSKHPN * * ***** * * ** **** *** ** * ****** ****
ProteaseD, BPN',	235WSNVQIRNHLKNTATSLGSTNLYGSGLVNAEAATR (SEQ ID NO: 50) 241WTNTQVRSSLQNTTTKLGDSFYYGKGLINVQAAAQ (SEQ ID NO: 46) * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
58.2% ide	Protease E: ntity in 275 residues overlap; Score: 800.0; Gap frequency: 2.2%
ProteaseE, BPN',	1 AQSVPWGISRVQAPAAHNRGLTGSGVKVAVLDTGI-STHPDLNIRGGASFVPGE-PSTQD 1 AQSVPYGVSQIKAPALHSQGYTGSNVKVAVIDSGIDSSHPDLKVAGGASMVPSETPNFQD ***** * * *** * * *** * *** **** * ** *
ProteaseE, BPN',	59GNGHGTHVAGTIAALNNSIGVLGVAPSAELYAVKVLGASGGGAISSIAQGLEWAGNNGMH 61DNSHGTHVAGTVAALNNSIGVLGVAPSSALYAVKVLGDAGSGQYSWIINGIEWAIANNMD * ******** **************************
ProteaseE, BPN',	119 VANLSLGSPSPSATLEQAVNSATSRGVLVVAASGNSGADSISYPARYANAMAVGAT 121 VINMSLGGPSGSAALKAAVDKAVASGVVVVAAAGNEGSTGSSSTVGYPGKYPSVIAVGAV * * *** ** ** * * * * * * * ** ** * * *
ProteaseE, BPN',	175 DQNNNRASFSQYGAGLDIVAPGVNVQSTYPGSTYASLNGTSMATPHVAGAAVLVKHKNPS 181 DSSNQRASFSSVGPELDVMAPGVSIQSTLPGNKYGAYNGTSMASPHVAGAAALILSKHPN * * ***** * * ** **** ** ** * ****** ****
ProteaseE, BPN',	235WSNVRIRDHLKKTATSLGSTNLYGSGLVNAEAATR (SEQ ID NO: 51) 241WTNTQVRSSLQNTTTKLGDSFYYGKGLINVQAAAQ (SEQ ID NO: 46) * * * * * * * * * *
58.9% ide	Protease A: ntity in 275 residues overlap; Score: 812.0; Gap frequency: 2.2%
Protease A, BPN',	1 AQSVPWGI SRVQAPAAHNRGLTGSGVKVAVLDTGI - STHPDLNIRGGASFVPGE - PSTQD 1 AQSVPYGVSQIKAPALHSQGYTGSNVKVAVIDSGIDSSHPDLKVAGGASMVPSETPNFQD ***** * * *** * * *** * **** * *** * ****
Protease A, BPN',	59GNGHGTHVAGTIAALNNSIGVLGVAPSAELYAVKVLGASGSGSVSSIAQGLEWAGNNGMH 61DNSHGTHVAGTVAALNNSIGVLGVAPSSALYAVKVLGDAGSGQYSWIINGIEWAIANNMD * ******** **************************
Protease A, BPN',	119VANLSLGSPSAGGTLEQAVNSATSRGVLVVAASGNSGAGSISAPASYANAMAVGAT 121VINMSLGGPSGSAALKAAVDKAVASGVVVVAAAGNEGSTGSSSTVGYPGKYPSVIAVGAV * * *** ** * * * * * * ** ** ** * * *
Protease A, BPN',	175DQNNNRASFSQYGPGLDIVAPGVNVQSTYPGSTYASLNGTSMATPHVAGAAALVKQKNPS 181DSSNQRASFSSVGPELDVMAPGVSIQSTLPGNKYGAYNGTSMASPHVAGAAALILSKHPN * * ***** ** ** ** *** *** *** ** ******
Protease A, BPN',	235WSNVQIRNHLKNTATSLGSTNLYGSGLVNAEAATR (SEQ ID NO: 52) 241WTNTQVRSSLQNTTTKLGDSFYYGKGLINVQAAAQ (SEQ ID NO: 46) * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
PD498: 47.7% identity in 266 residues overlap; Score: 487.0; Gap frequency: 4.9%	
PD498, BPN',	13 YGPQNTSTPAAWDVTRGSSTQTVAVLDSGVDYNHPDLARKVIKGYDFIDRDN-NPMDLNG 6 YGVSQIKAPALHSQGYTGSNVKVAVIDSGIDSSHPDLKVAGGASMVPSETPNFQDDNS ** ** * * * ** *** * **** * ****
PD498, BPN',	72HGTHVAGTVAADTNNGIGVAGMAPDTKILAVRVLDANGSGSLDSIASGIRYAADQGAKVL 64HGTHVAGTVAA-LNNSIGVLGVAPSSALYAVKVLGDAGSGQYSWIINGIEWAIANNMDVI *********** ** ** ** ** ** ** ** ** **
PD498, BPN',	132NLSLGCECNSTTLKSAVDYAWNKGAVVVAAAGNDNVSRTFQPASYPNAIAVGAIDS 123NMSLGGPSGSAALKAAVDKAVASGVVVVAAAGNEGSTGSSSTVGYPGKYPSVIAVGAVDS * *** * * ** *** * * ******** * * ******
PD498, BPN',	188NDRKASFSNYGTWVDVTAPGVNIASTVPNNGYSYMSGTSMASPHVAGLAALLASQGKN 183SNQRASFSSVGPELDVMAPGVSIQSTLPGNKYGAYNGTSMASPHVAGAAALILSKHPNWT **** * ** **** * ** * * * * * *

TABLE 1A-continued

	Alignment of different proteases to the sequence of BPN'
PD498, BPN',	246NVQIRQAIEQTADKISGTGTNFKYGK (SEQ ID NO: 53) 243NTQVRSSLQNTTTKLGDSFYYGK (SEQ ID NO: 46) * * * * * * * * * * ***
58.9% ide	Properase: entity in 275 residues overlap; Score: 813.0; Gap frequency: 2.2%
Properase, BPN',	1 AQSVPWGISRVQAPAAHNRGLTGSGVKVAVLDTGI-STHPDLNIRGGASFVPGE-PSTQD 1 AQSVPYGVSQIKAPALHSQGYTGSNVKVAVIDSGIDSSHPDLKVAGGASMVPSETPNFQD ***** * * *** * *** * **** * *** * ***
Properase, BPN',	59GNGHGTHVAGTIAALNNSIGVLGVAPNAELYAVKVLGASGGGSNSSIAQGLEWAGNNGMH 61DNSHGTHVAGTVAALNNSIGVLGVAPSSALYAVKVLGDAGSGQYSWIINGIEWAIANNMD * ******** **************************
Properase, BPN',	119VANLSLGSPSPSATLEQAVNSATSRGVLVVAASGNSGAGSISYPARYANAMAVGAT 121VINMSLGGPSGSAALKAAVDKAVASGVVVVAAAGNEGSTGSSSTVGYPGKYPSVIAVGAV * * *** ** ** * * * * * * ** ** ** ** *
Properase, BPN',	175DQNNNRASFSQYGAGLDIVAPGVNVQSTYPGSTYASLNGTSMATPHVAGAAALVKQKNPS 181DSSNQRASFSSVGPELDVMAPGVSIQSTLPGNKYGAYNGTSMASPHVAGAAALILSKHPN * * ***** * ** **** *** *** * *****
Properase, BPN',	235WSNVQIRNHLKNTATSLGSTNLYGSGLVNAEAATR (SEQ ID NO: 54) 241WTNTQVRSSLQNTTTKLGDSFYYGKGLINVQAAAQ (SEQ ID NO: 46) * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
	Relase:
60.7% ide	entity in 275 residues overlap; Score: 858.0; Gap frequency: 1.8%
Relase, BPN',	1 AQSVPWGISRVQAPAAHNRGLTGSGVKVAVLDTGIDSTHPDLNIRGGASFVPGE-PSTQD 1 AQSVPYGVSQIKAPALHSQGYTGSNVKVAVIDSGIDSSHPDLKVAGGASMVPSETPNFQD ***** * * *** * * *** * **** * **** * ****
Relase, BPN',	60GNGHGTHVAGTIAALDNSIGVLGVAPSAELYAVKVLGASGSGSVSSIAQGLEWAGNNGMD 61DNSHGTHVAGTVAALNNSIGVLGVAPSSALYAVKVLGDAGSGQYSWIINGIEWAIANNMD * ******** *** ********** ***********
Relase, BPN',	120VANLSLGSPSPSATLEQAVNSATSRGVLVVAASGNSGAGSISYPARYANAMAVGAT 121VINMSLGGPSGSAALKAAVDKAVASGVVVVAAAGNEGSTGSSSTVGYPGKYPSVIAVGAV * * *** ** ** * * * * * * ** ** ** ** *
Relase, BPN',	176DQNNNRASFSQYGAELDIVAPGVNVQSTYPGSTYASLNGTSMATPHVAGAAALVLQKNPS 181DSSNQRASFSSVGPELDVMAPGVSIQSTLPGNKYGAYNGTSMASPHVAGAAALILSKHPN * * ***** * *** **** **** ** * * ******
Relase, BPN',	236WSNVQIRNHLKNTATSLGSTNLYGSGLVNAEAATR (SEQ ID NO: 55) 241WTNTQVRSSLQNTTTKLGDSFYYGKGLINVQAAAQ (SEQ ID NO: 46) * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
59.6% ide	Savinase: entity in 275 residues overlap; Score: 821.0; Gap frequency: 2.2%
Savinase, BPN',	1 AQSVPWGISRVQAPAAHNRGLTGSGVKVAVLDTGI-STHPDLNIRGGASFVPGE-PSTQD 1 AQSVPYGVSQIKAPALHSQGYTGSNVKVAVIDSGIDSSHPDLKVAGGASMVPSETPNFQD ***** * * *** * *** * **** * *** * ***
Savinase, BPN',	59GNGHGTHVAGTIAALNNSIGVLGVAPSAELYAVKVLGASGSGSVSSIAQGLEWAGNNGMH 61DNSHGTHVAGTVAALNNSIGVLGVAPSSALYAVKVLGDAGSGQYSWIINGIEWAIANNMD * ******** **************************
Savinase, BPN',	119VANLSLGSPSPSATLEQAVNSATSRGVLVVAASGNSGAGSISYPARYANAMAVGAT 121VINMSLGGPSGSAALKAAVDKAVASGVVVVAAAGNEGSTGSSSTVGYPGKYPSVIAVGAV * * *** ** ** * * * * * * ** ** **** ** *
Savinase, BPN',	175 DQNNNRASFSQYGAGLDIVAPGVNVQSTYPGSTYASLNGTSMATPHVAGAAALVKQKNPS 181 DSSNQRASFSSVGPELDVMAPGVSIQSTLPGNKYGAYNGTSMASPHVAGAAALILSKHPN * * ***** * ** *** *** *** * * ********
Savinase, BPN',	235WSNVQIRNHLKNTATSLGSTNLYGSGLVNAEAATR (SEQ ID NO: 56) 241WTNTQVRSSLQNTTTKLGDSFYYGKGLINVQAAAQ (SEQ ID NO: 46) * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

[0473] To find the homologous positions in subtilisin protease sequences not shown in the alignment of Table 1A, the sequence of interest is aligned to the sequence of BPN' as shown in Table 1B for YaB protease and Subtilisin sendai. The new sequence is aligned to the BPN' sequence by using the GAP alignment to the most homologous sequence found by the GAP program. GAP is provided in the GCG program package (Program Manual for the Wisconsin Package, Version 8, August 1994, Genetics Computer Group, 575 Science Drive, Madison, Wis., USA 53711) (Needleman, S. B. and Wunsch, C. D., (1970), Journal of Molecular Biology, 48, 443-45).

[0474] The sequence of the YaB protease is disclosed by Kaneko, R.; Koyama, N.; Tsai, Y.-C.; Juang, R.-Y.; Yoda, K.; Yamasaki, M.; Molecular cloning of the structural gene for

alkaline elastase YaB, a new subtilisin produced by an alkalophilic *Bacillus* strain. J. Bacteriol. 171:5232 (1989), it has Swissprot number P20724, and is shown in SEQ ID NO: 35. **[0475]** The sequence of the Subtilisin sendai is disclosed by Yamagata, Y.; Isshiki, K.; Ichishima, E.; Subtilisin Sendai from alkalophilic *Bacillus* sp.: molecular and enzymatic properties of the enzyme and molecular cloning and characterization of the gene, aprS. Enzyme Microb. Technol. 17:653 (1995), it has SPTREMBL accession number Q45522, and is shown in SEQ ID NO: 34. Identity to savinase: 81.7% identity to savinase: 82.09%

Swissprot: P20724

[0476]

TABLE 1B

	Alignment of YAB protease to BPN': 55.3% identity CLUSTAL W (1.7) multiple sequence alignment
YAB BPN	-QTVPWGINRVQAPIAQSRGFTGTGVRVAVLDTGISN-HADLRIRGGASFVPGE-PNISD AQSVPYGVSQIKAPALHSQGYTGSNVKVAVIDSGIDSSHPDLKVAGGASMVPSETPNFQD *:**:*:::::** ::::** ::*:**:*:*:**:*
YAB BPN [´]	GNGHGTQVAGTIAALNNSIGVLGVAPNVDLYGVKVLGASGSGSISGIAQGLQWAANNGMH DNSHGTHVAGTVAALNNSIGVLGVAPSSALYAVKVLGDAGSGQYSWIINGIEWAIANNMD .*.***:****:**************************
YAB BPN [´]	IANMSLGSSAGSATMEQAVNQATASGVLVVAASGNSGAGNVGFPARYANAMAVGAT VINMSLGGPSGSAALKAAVDKAVASGVVVVAAAGNEGSTGSSSTVGYPGKYPSVIAVGAV : ********::: **::*.****
YAB BPN [´]	DQNNNRATFSQYGAGLDIVAPGVGVQSTVPGNGYASFNGTSMATPHVAGVAALVKQKNPS DSSNQRASFSSVGPELDVMAPGVSIQSTLPGNKYGAYNGTSMASPHVAGAAALILSKHPN **:**:**. *. **::****.:**** *.::********
YAB BPN [´]	WSNVQIRNHLKNTATNLGNTTQFGSGLVNAEAATR (SEQ ID NO: 57) WTNTQVRSSLQNTTTKLGDSFYYGKGLINVQAAAQ (SEQ ID NO: 46) *:*.*:: *: *:*:*:: :*:*:::
	Alignment of Subtilisin sendai to BPN': 55.6% identity. CLUSTAL W (1.7) multiple sequence alignment
sendai BPN	NQVTPWGITRVQAPTAWTRGYTGTGVRVAVLDTGIS-THPDLNIRGGVSFVPGE-PSYQD AQSVPYGVSQIKAPALHSQGYTGSNVKVAVIDSGIDSSHPDLKVAGGASMVPSETPNFQD * .*:*:::::**: :::***: ::****:*:***::****:
sendai BPN	GNGHGTHVAGTIAALNNSIGVVGVAPNAELYAVKVLGANGSGSVSSIAQGLQWTAQNNIH DNSHGTHVAGTVAALNNSIGVLGVAPSSALYAVKVLGDAGSGQYSWIINGIEWAIANNMD .*.**********************************
sendai BPN	VANLSLGSPVGSQTLELAVNQATNAGVLVVAATGNNGSGTVSYPARYANALAVGAT VINMSLGGPSGSAALKAAVDKAVASGVVVVAAAGNEGSTGSSSTVGYPGKYPSVIAVGAV * *:***.* ** :*: **::*. :**:***:* *.**.**.**.**.**
sendai BPN	DQNNNRASFSQYGTGLNIVAPGVGIQSTYPGNRYASLSGTSMATPHVAGVAALVKQKNPS DSSNQRASFSSVGPELDVMAPGVSIQSTLPGNKYGAYNGTSMASPHVAGAAALILSKHPN **:*****. *. *:::****.**** ***:*.: .******.****
sendai BPN	WSNTQIRQHLTSTATSLGNSNQFGSGLVNAEAATR (SEQ ID NO: 58) WTNTQVRSSLQNTTTKLGDSFYYGKGLINVQAAAQ (SEQ ID NO: 46) *:***:*. * .*:*.**:* :*.**:*

[0477] These alignments reveal that that homology between various subtilisin proteases ranges between 100% and 40%.

[0478] Unless specified, subtilisin sequences and positions mentioned in the present invention, are given in the BPN' numeration, and can be converted by alignment as 50 described above (Tables 1A and 1B).

[0479] Sequence identities between different pairs of proteases are given below:

Sequence identity to BPN':

Savinase	60.4%	
Alcalase	69.5%	
BLAPR	60.4%	
ProteaseC	0.4%	
ProteaseD	0.0%	
ProteaseE	8.2%	
Protease A	0.0%	
Properase	9.6%	
Relase	61.5%	
PD498	44.8%	
sendai	55.6%	
YAB	55.3%	

Sequence identity to Savinase:

Alcalase	60.9%	
BLAPR	98.1%	
ProteaseC	8.5%	
ProteaseD	8.9%	
ProteaseE	6.7%	
Protease A	7.8%	
Properase	8.9%	
Relase	98.1%	
PD498	44.3%	
sendai	81.4%	
YAB	81.8%	

Structures

[0480] The protein structure of PD498 is disclosed in WO 98/35026 (Novo Nordisk). The structure of Savinase can be found in BETZEL et al, J.MOL.BIOL., Vol. 223, p. 427, 1992 (1 svn.pdb).

Homology Modelling

[0481] Three dimensional structural models of the subtilisins properase, release, ProteaseC, ProteaseD, ProteaseE, and PROTEASE B were constructed based on three dimensional structure of Savinase (Protein Data Bank entry 1SVN; Betzel, C., Klupsch, S., Papendorf, G., Hastrup, S., Branner, S., Wilson, K. S.: Crystal structure of the alkaline proteinase Savinase from *Bacillus lentus* at 1.4 Å resolution. *J Mol Biol* 223 pp. 427 (1992)) using the Modeller 50 (Sali, A.; T. L. Blundell, "Definition of general topological equivalence in protein structures: A procedure involving comparison of properties and relationships through simulated annealing and dynamic programming," *J. Mol. Biol.*, 212 403-428 (1990)) module of the Insight 2000 molecular modelling package (Biosym inc.). Default parameters were used with the alignments shown in FIG. 1A as input, e.g. alignment between the columns labelled Savinase and PROTEASE B served as input alignment in construction of a PROTEASE B structural model. The Modeller module by default output ten structural models, of these the model with lowest 'modeller objective function' score was chosen as representing PROTEASE B structure.

Lipase:

[0482] The sequence of the *T. lanuginosus* lipase (trade name Lipolase) is provided in SEQ ID NO: 1 and the structure is disclosed in WO 98/35026 and as "1tib", available in Structural Classification of Proteins (SCOP) on the Internet.

Amylase:

[0483] The amylase used in the examples is the alphaamylase of *Bacillus halmapalus* (WO 96/23873), which is called amylase SP722 (the wild-type). Its sequence is shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 and the corresponding protein structure was built from the BA2 structure, as described in WO 96/23874. The first four amino acids of the structural model are not defined, hence the sequence used for numeration of amino acid residues in the examples of this invention is four amino acids shorter than the one of the full length protein SP722.

[0484] Several variants of this amylase are available (WO 96/23873). One particularly useful variant has deleted two amino acid residues at D-G at positions 183 and 184 of the SEQ ID NO: 2 (corresponding to residues 179 and 180 of the modelled structure). This variant is called JE-1 or Natalase. **[0485]** Another amylase that is particularly useful is the

[0405] Another amylase that is particularly useful is the amylase AA560: This alkaline alpha-amylase may be derived from a strain of *Bacillus* sp. DSM 12649. The strain was deposited on 25 Jan. 1999 by the assignee under the terms of the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure at Deutshe Sammlung von Microorganismen and Zellkulturen GmbH (DSMZ), Mascheroder Weg 1b, D-38124 Braunschweig DE.

Laccase:

[0486] The laccase used in this invention is that from *Coprinus cinereus* (WO 98/38287), the sequence of which is shown as SEQ ID NO: 3. The structure of the *Myceliophthora thermophila* laccase can be built by homology modeling to the *Coprinus cinereus* laccase as shown in WO 98/38287.

Cellulase:

[0487] The cellulase sequence and structure used in the present invention is that of the core fragment of endoglucanase V from *Humicola insolens* (aka Cel45 or Carezyme). The core fragment structure is available as 3eng.pdb (G. J. DAVIES et al. ACTA CRYSTALLOGR., SECT.D, Vol. 52, p. 7 1996; G. J. DAVIES et al. BIOCHEMISTRY, V. 34, p. 16210, 1995); SwissProt accession number P43316, and the sequences shown in SEQ ID 4. The corresponding full-length sequence is disclosed in WO 91/17243 and shown here in SEQ ID NO: 5. The numeration of all description and claims of this invention pertain to the core fragment, however, it is contemplated that all claims are also valid for the corresponding positions in the full-length protein.

TABLE	1
TADTE	1

			Ali	gnment a	and nume	ration		for su	lbtilisins			
	(S	EQ ID N	OS: 46,	45, 47,	48, 49	, 50, 5	51, 52,	54, 55	, 56, 53,	respect	ively)	
	BPN' A	Alcalase	Pro- eteaseB	Esperase	Pro- eteaseC	Pro- teaseD	Pro- teaseE	Pro- teaseA	Properase	Relase	Savinase	PD498
-6												W
-5												s
-4												P
-3												N
-2												D
-1												P
1	А	А	A		A	А	А	А	А	A	A	Y
2	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Y
3	S	т	Т	Т	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
3a												A
4	v	v	I	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	Y
5	Р	Р	Ρ	Ρ	Ρ	Ρ	Ρ	Ρ	Р	P	Р	Q
6	Y	Y	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	Y
7	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G
8	v	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	Ρ
9	S	Р	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	Q
10	Q	L	R	F	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	N
11	I	I	V	I	v	v	v	v	v	v	V	т
12	К	К	Q	N	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	S
13	A	A	A	т	A	А	A	A	А	A	A	т
14	Р	D	Ρ	Q	Ρ	Ρ	Ρ	Ρ	Ρ	P	Ρ	Ρ
15	A	К	A	Q	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
16	L	v	A	A	A	А	A	A	А	A	A	A
17	н	Q	н	н	н	н	н	н	н	Н	Н	W
18	S	A	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	D
19	Q	Q	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	v
20	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	
21	Y	F	L	I	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	т
22	т	к	т	F	т	Т	Т	Т	т	Т	Т	R
23	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G
24	S	А	S	N	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
25	N	N	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	S
26	v	v	v	A	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	т
27	К	к	к	R	R	К	К	К	К	К	K	Q
28	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	т

			Ali	ignment a			scheme		ubtilisins			
		(SEQ ID NO	OS: 46,	45, 47,	48, 49	<u>, 50, 5</u>	51, 52,	54, 55	, 56, 53,	respect	ively)	
	BPN	' Alcalase	Pro- teaseB	Esperase	Pro- teaseC	Pro- teaseD	Pro- teaseE	Pro- teaseA	Properase	Relase	Savinase	PD49
28a												V
29	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	А	A
30	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	V
31	I	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L
32	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
33	S	т	Т	Т	Т	Т	т	т	т	т	т	S
34	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G
35	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	v
36	D	Q								D		D
37	S	А	S	A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	Y
38	S	S	т	S	т	т	т	т	т	т	т	N
39	н	н	н	Н	Н	н	н	н	н	Н	н	Н
40	Ρ	Р	Р	Ρ	Ρ	Ρ	Ρ	Ρ	Р	Р	P	Ρ
41	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
42	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	\mathbf{L}
43	К	N	N	R	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	A
44	v	v	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	R
44a												K
44b												v
45	A	v	R	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	I
46	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	K
47	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G
48	A	А	A	A	A	A	А	A	А	А	А	Y
49	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	D
50	М	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F
51	v	v	V	I	v	v	V	v	v	v	v	I
52	Ρ	A	Ρ	S	Ρ	Ρ	Ρ	Ρ	Р	Р	Ρ	D
53	S	G	G	S	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	R
54	Е	E	Е	Е	Е	Е	Е	Е	Е	Е	Е	D
55	т	A	Ρ		Ρ	Ρ	Ρ	P	Р	Ρ	P	N
56	Ρ	Y		Ρ								N
57	N	N	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	Ρ
58	F		Т	Y	т	т	т	т	т	Т	т	М
59	Q	т	Q	Н	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	
60	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D

94

К

К

К

К

К

					TABL	E 1-c	ontin	led				
	(SEQ ID NOS							btilisins , 56, 53, 1	respect	ively)	
P		<u>]</u>	Pro-	Demonsor	Pro-	Pro-	Pro-	Pro-	Duenewsge	Delege	Continent	DD 400
	D	G	G	N	G	G	G	G	Properase G	G	G	L L
	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
53	s	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G
	н	н	н	н	н	н	н	н	н	н	н	н
55	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G
56	т	т	т	т	т	т	т	т	т	т	т	Т
	н	н	н	н	н	н	н	н	н	н	н	н
58	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v
59	Ā	Ā	Ā	Ā	A	A	A	A	Ā	A	A	A
70	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G
71	т	Т	Т	т	т	т	т	т	T	т	T	Т
72	v	v	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	v
73	Ā	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
74	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
75	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	D
75a	_	_	_	_		_	_	_	_	_		Т
	N	D	N	N	N	D	N	N	N	D	N	N
	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
78	s	т	S	S	s	S	S	S	S	S	S	G
79	I	T	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I
30	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G
31	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v
32	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	A
33	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G
34	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	М
35	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	А	A	A	A
36	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Р	Р	P	P	P
37	s	S	S	S	s	S	s	S	N	S	S	D
38	s	v	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	т
39	A	S	Е	D	Е	Е	Е	Е	Е	Е	Е	к
9 0	г	L	L	L	L	L	L	Г	L	L	L	I
91	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	L
92	A	А	A	A	A	A	A	A	А	A	A	A
	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v

к к к

К

к к

R

TABLE 1-continued

TABLE	1-continued
IADLL	1-concinued

			٦٦	ianment a		E I-C			ubtilisins			
		(SEQ ID NC		0	48, 49		1, 52,	54, 55		respect	ively)	
	BPN'	Alcalase	Pro- teaseB	Esperase	Pro- teaseC	Pro- teaseD	Pro- teaseE	Pro- teaseA	Properase	Relase	Savinase	PD498
95	V	v	V	v	v	v	v	V	V	v	v	v
96	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L
97	G	N	G	D	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	D
98	D	S	А	R	A	A	A	А	A	A	A	A
99	A	S	S	N	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N
100	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G
101	S	S	S	S	S	S	G	S	G	S	S	S
102	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G
103	Q	S	S	S	S	А	А	S	S	S	S	S
104	Y	Y	v	L	Y	I	I	v	N	v	v	L
105	S	S	S	А	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	D
106	W	G	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
107	I	I	I	v	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I
108	I	v	А	А	А	А	А	А	А	А	А	А
109	N	S	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	S
110	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G
111	I	I	L	I	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	I
112	Е	Е	Е	Е	E	Е	Е	Е	Е	Е	Е	R
113	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	Y
114	А	А	А	А	А	А	А	А	А	А	А	А
115	I	т	G	I	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	А
116	A	Т	Ν	N	N	N	N	Ν	N	N	N	D
117	N	N	Ν	N	Ν	N	N	Ν	N	N	N	Q
118	N	G	G	N	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G
119	М	М	М	М	М	М	М	М	М	М	М	А
120	D	D	н	н	н	н	Н	н	н	D	Н	К
121	V	v	v	I	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v
122	I	I	A	I	A	А	А	А	А	A	А	L
123	N	N	Ν	N	S	N	N	N	N	Ν	N	N
124	М	М	L	М	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L
125	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
126	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L
127	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G
128	G	G	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	С
129	Ρ	А	Ρ	т	Ρ	Ρ	Р	Ρ	Р	Р	Ρ	Е

TABLE 1-continued	
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							ontin					
		(SEQ ID N							btilisins , 56, 53,		ively)	
	BPN	Alcalase	Pro- e teaseB	Esperase	Pro- teaseC	Pro- teaseD	Pro- teaseE	Pro- teaseA	Properase	Relase	Savinase	PD498
130	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	С
131	G	G	Р	G	Ρ	Ρ	Р	A	Р	Ρ	Р	N
132	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	G	S	S	S	S
133	А	т	А	S	A	A	A	G	А	А	A	т
134	A	A	Т	Т	т	Т	т	т	т	т	Т	т
135	L	М	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L
136	К	К	Е	Е	Е	Е	Е	Е	E	Е	Е	К
137	A	Q	Q	L	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	S
138	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
139	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	V	v	v
140	D	D	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	D
141	К	N	S	R	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	Y
142	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
143	v	Y	т	N	т	т	т	т	т	т	т	W
144	A	A	S	N	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N
145	S	R	R	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	К
146	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G
147	v	v	v	I	v	v	v	v	v	V	v	A
148	v	v	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	v
149	V	v	V	L	v	v	v	v	v	V	v	V
150	v	v	V	V	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	V
151	A	A	A	G	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
152	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
153	A	A	S	A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	A
154	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G
155	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
156	Е	S	S	Т	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	D
157	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	N
158	S	S	A	R	A	A	A	A	А	A	A	v
159	Т	S		Q								
160	G	G	G	G	G	G	D	G	G	G	G	S
161	S	N	S		S	S	S	S	S	S	S	R
162	S	Т	I		I	I	I	I	I	I	I	т
163	S	N	S		S	S	S	S	S	S	S	F
164	т	т										

					TABL	E 1-c	ontin	ued				
		(SEQ ID NO			nd nume 48, 49		scheme 1, 52,		ıbtilisins , 56, 53,	respect	ively)	
	BPN'	Alcalase	Pro- teaseB	Esperase	Pro- teaseC	Pro- teaseD	Pro- teaseE	Pro- teaseA	Properase	Relase	Savinase	PD498
165	V	I		V								
166	G	G		N								
167	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	А	Y	Y	Y	Q
168	Ρ	Р	Ρ	Ρ	Ρ	Ρ	Ρ	Ρ	Р	Ρ	Р	Ρ
169	G	А	A	A	А	A	А	А	А	A	А	А
170	К	K	R	R	R	R	R	S	R	R	R	S
171	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
172	Ρ	D	A	S	A	A	A	A	А	A	A	Ρ
173	S	S	N	G	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
174	V	v	A	V	A	A	A	A	А	A	A	A
175	I	I	М	М	М	М	М	М	М	М	М	I
176	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
177	V	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v
178	G	G	G	A	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G
179	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	А	А	A	А	A
180	V	v	Т	v	Т	Т	Т	Т	т	Т	т	I
181	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
182	S	S	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	S
183	S	N	N	N	Ν	Ν	N	Ν	N	N	N	N
184	Ν	S	N	G	Ν	N	N	N	N	N	N	D
185	Q	N	N	Q	Ν	Ν	N	N	Ν	N	N	R
186	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	К
187	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	А	A	А	A
188	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
189	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F
190	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
191	S	S	Q	Т	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	N
192	v	v	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
193	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G
194	P	А	А	Ρ	A	A	A	Ρ	А	A	A	Т
195	Е	Е	G	Е	G	G	G	G	G	Е	G	W
196	\mathbf{L}	L	L	I	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	v
197	D	Е	D	Е	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
198	v	v	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	v
199	М	М	М	S	V	v	v	v	v	v	V	т

TABLE 1-continued

					TABL	E 1-c	ontin	ued				
		(SEQ ID N							ubtilisins , 56, 53,		ively)	
			Pro-		Pro-	Pro-	Pro-	Pro-	Properase			PD498
200	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
201	P	P	P	Р	Ρ	Ρ	Ρ	Ρ	Р	Р	P	P
202	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G
203	v	A	v	V	v	v	v	v	v	v	V	v
204	S	G	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
205	I	V	I	V	V	v	V	v	v	v	V	I
206	Q	Y	Q	N	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	А
207	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
208	т	т	Т	Т	т	Т	т	Т	Т	т	Т	Т
209	L	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	v
210	Ρ	Р	Ρ	Т	Ρ	Р	Р	Р	Р	Ρ	P	Р
211	G	Т	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	N
212	N	N	S	N	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N
213	К	т	т	R	т	т	т	т	т	т	Т	G
214	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
215	G	A	А	v	A	А	А	A	А	А	A	S
216	А	т	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	Y
217	Y	L	D	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	М
218	N	N	N	S	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	S
219	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G
220	т	т	т	Т	т	т	т	Т	т	т	Т	Т
221	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
222	М	М	М	М	М	М	М	М	М	М	М	М
223	А	A	A	A	A	А	A	A	А	A	A	А
224	S	S	т	Т	т	Т	Т	Т	Т	т	Т	S
225	Ρ	Ρ	Ρ	Р	Ρ	P	Ρ	Ρ	Р	Ρ	P	Ρ
226	Н	Н	н	н	н	н	н	н	Н	Н	Н	н
227	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v
228	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	А	A	A	А
229	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G
230	A	A	A	v	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	L
231	A	A	A	A	A	A	А	А	A	A	A	А
232	A	A	A	A	A	A	v	A	A	A	A	A
233	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L

v

v v

L

234 I I V V V V V

TABLE 1-continued

					TABL	E 1-c	ontin	ued				
		(SEQ ID N			and nume 48, 49				ıbtilisins , 56, 53,		ivelv)	
			Pro-		Pro-	Pro-	Pro-	Pro-		i.		
235	L Bby	L L	K K	Esperase K	K K	K K	K	teaseA K	Properase K	L	K	PD498 A
236	s	s	Q	s	Q	Q	н	Q	Q	Q	Q	s
237	ĸ	ĸ	ĸ	R	ĸ	ĸ	ĸ	ĸ	ĸ	ĸ	ĸ	Q
238	н	н	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	G
239	Р	Р	P	Р	P	P	P	P	P	P	Р	K
240	N	N	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	N
241	W	Г	W	Y	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	
242	т	S	S	Т	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
243	N	A	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
244	т	S	v	N	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v
245	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	R	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q
246	v	v	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I
247	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
248	S	N	N	Q	N	N	D	N	N	N	N	Q
249	S	R	Н	R	н	н	Н	Н	н	Н	н	A
250	L	L	L	I	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	I
251	Q	S	К	N	к	к	К	К	к	K	к	Е
252	N	S	N	Q	N	N	К	N	N	N	N	Q
253	т	т	Т	Т	т	т	т	т	т	Т	т	т
254	т	А	A	А	А	A	А	А	A	А	А	A
255	т	Т	Т	Т	т	Т	Т	т	Т	Т	т	D
256	K	Y	S	Y	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	К
257	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	I
258	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	S
259	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	G
260	S	S	Т	Ρ	Т	Т	Т	Т	Т	Т	Т	Т
261	F	F	N	S	N	N	N	N	Ν	N	N	G
262	Y	Y	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	Т
263	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
264	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	F
264a												K
265	К	К	S	N	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	Y
266	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G
267	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	K

268 I I V V V V V V V V I

TABLE 1-continued

					TABL	E I-C	ontin	uea				
	Alignment and numeration scheme for subtilisins (SEQ ID NOS: 46, 45, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 54, 55, 56, 53, respectively)											
	BPN'	Alcalas	Pro- e teaseB	Esperase	Pro- e teaseC		Pro- teaseE	Pro- teaseA	Properase	Relase	Savinase	PD498
269	N	N	N	н	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
270	V	v	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	S
271	Q	E	Е	G	Е	E	E	Е	Е	Е	E	N
272	A	A	A	R	A	A	A	A	А	А	А	K
273	A	A	A	А	А	A	А	A	A	A	A	А
274	A	A	Т	Т	A	Т	т	Т	Т	Т	т	v
275	Q	Q	R	Q	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
276												Y

TABLE 1-continued

EXAMPLES

Example 1

Identification of Epitope Sequences and Epitope Patterns

[0488] High diversity libraries (10^{12}) of phages expressing random hexa-, nona- or dodecapetides as part of their membrane proteins, were screened for their capacity to bind purified specific rabbit IgG, and purified rat and mouse IgG1 and IgE antibodies. The phage libraries were obtained according to prior art (se WO 9215679 hereby incorporated by reference).

[0489] The antibodies were raised in the respective animals by subcutaneous, intradermal, or intratracheal injection of relevant proteins (e.g. proteases, lipolytic enzymes, amylases, oxidoreductases) dissolved in phosphate buffered saline (PBS). The respective antibodies were purified from the serum of immunised animals by affinity chromatography using paramagnetic immunobeads (Dynal AS) loaded with pig anti-rabbit IgG, mouse anti-rat IgG1 or IgE, or rat antimouse IgG1 or IgE antibodies.

[0490] The respective phage libraries were incubated with the IgG, IgG1 and IgE antibody coated beads. Phages, which express oligopeptides with affinity for rabbit IgG, or rat or mouse IgG1 or IgE antibodies, were collected by exposing these paramagnetic beads to a magnetic field. The collected phages were eluted from the immobilised antibodies by mild acid treatment, or by elution with intact enzyme. The isolated phages were amplified as know to the specialist. Alternatively, immobilised phages were directly incubated with E. coli for infection. In short, F-factor positive E. coli (e.g. XL-1 Blue, JM101, TG1) were infected with M13-derived vector in the presence of a helper-phage (e.g. M13K07), and incubated, typically in 2xYT containing glucose or IPTG, and appropriate antibiotics for selection. Finally, cells were removed by centrifugation. This cycle of events was repeated 2-5 times on the respective cell supernatants. After selection round 2, 3, 4, and 5, a fraction of the infected E. coli was incubated on selective 2xYT agar plates, and the specificity of the emerging phages was assessed immunologically. Thus, phages were transferred to a nitrocellulase (NC) membrane. For each plate, 2 NC-replicas were made. One replica was incubated with the selection antibodies, the other replica was incubated with the selection antibodies and the immunogen used to obtain the antibodies as competitor. Those plaques that were absent in the presence of immunogen, were considered specific, and were amplified according to the procedure described above.

[0491] The specific phage-clones were isolated from the cell supernatant by centrifugation in the presence of polyethylenglycol. DNA was isolated, the DNA sequence coding for the oligopeptide was amplified by PCR, and the DNA sequence was determined, all according to standard procedures. The amino acid sequence of the corresponding oligopeptide was deduced from the DNA sequence.

[0492] Thus, a number of peptide sequences with specificity for the protein specific antibodies, described above, were obtained. These sequences were collected in a database, and analysed by sequence alignment to identify epitope patterns. For this sequence alignment, conservative substitutions (e.g. aspartate for glutamate, lysine for arginine, serine for threonine) were considered as one. This showed that most sequences were specific for the protein the antibodies were raised against. However, several cross-reacting sequences were obtained from phages that went through 2 selection rounds only. In the first round 22 epitope patterns were identified.

[0493] In further rounds of phage display, more antibody binding sequences were obtained leading to more epitope patterns. Further, the literature was searched for peptide sequences that have been found to bind environmental allergen-specific antibodies (J All Clin Immunol 93 (1994) pp. 34-43; Int Arch Appl Immunol 103 (1994) pp. 357-364; Clin Exp Allergy 24 (1994) pp. 250-256; Mol Immunol 29 (1992) pp. 1383-1389; J Immunol 121 (1989) pp. 275-280; J. Immunol 147 (1991) pp. 205-211; Mol Immunol 29 (1992) pp. 739-749; Mol Immunol 30 (1993) pp. 1511-1518; Mol Immunol 28 (1991) pp. 1225-1232; J. Immunol 151 (1993) pp. 7206-7213). These antibody binding peptide sequences were included in the database.

[0494] A first generation database of antibody binding peptides identified and their corresponding epitope patterns are shown in Table 2-7 below.

Tables 2-7: Overview of the antibody binding peptide sequences, epitope patterns and epitope sequences. The type of antibody used for identifying the antibody binding sequences is indicated as IgG or IgE and the species from which the antibodies were derived are indicated as mo (mouse), ra (rat) and hu (human).

TABLE	2

		antibody bind patterns an		
Antibody binding peptide	Method of identification	Epitope pattern	Donor	Acceptor Epitope Sequence (BPN')
VQVYGDTSA (SEQ ID NO: 59)	Phage display	Q > Y > D >	Savinase	savinaseQ206 V81 Y214 G80 D41 T208
LQCVGS (SEQ ID NO: 60)	Protein fragments		a-amylase inhibitor	savinaseL21 Q236 V26 G25 S24
KRFANTELA (SEQ ID NO: 61)	Phage display	R/KRF > N	Savinase	savinaseK251 R247 A174 N173
LDQIFFTRW (SEQ ID NO: 62)	Phage display	D/EQIFF	T Savinase	savinaseL42/L75 D41 Q2 I79
FNDAFFVKM (SEQ ID NO: 63)	Phage display		Savinase	savinaseN185 D181 A187 F189 V203
ANIPIWSRSA (SEQ ID NO: 64)	Phage display	> R S A	Savinase	savinaseR145 S144 A142
ANIPIWSRSA (SEQ ID NO: 64)	Phage display	> R S A	Savinase	savinaseS188 R186 S190 A179
RQSTDFGTT (SEQ ID NO: 65)	Phage display	R Q > > D/E	Savinase	savinaseR186 Q191 S156
VQVYGDTSA (SEQ ID NO: 66)	Phage display	Q > Y > D >	Savinase	savinaseQ191 Y192 G193/A194/G195 D197 S265
RRFSNATRA (SEQ ID NO: 67)	Phage display	R/KRF > N	Savinase	savinaseK251 R247 A174 N173
CTARLRAGNACG (SEQ ID NO: 68)	Phage display	A R > A	Savinase	savinaseA172/A169 R170 A194 G193 N261
LDQIFFTRW (SEQ ID NO: 69)	Phage display	D/EQIFF	T Savinase	savinaseD60 Q59 I44/I35
LDQIFFTRW (SEQ ID NO: 69)	Phage display	D/EQIFF	T Savinase	savinaseL42/L75 D41 Q2 I79
EQIFFTSGL (SEQ ID NO: 70)	Phage display	D/EQIFF	T Savinase	savinaseE112 Q109 I79
GRFSNSKFK (SEQ ID NO: 71)	Phage display	L > G R S	Savinase	savinaseL196 G195 R170 S163
AVLRDC (SEQ ID NO: 72)	Protein fragments		a-amylase inhibitor	savinaseA254 V268 L267 R10 D181
LQCVGS (SEQ ID NO: 73)	Protein fragments		a-amylase inhibitor	savinaseL217 Q206 V81 G80 S3
LRQCNERCV (SEQ ID NO: 74)	Phage display	R Q > > D/E	Savinase	savinaseL267 R10 Q12 N269 E271 R275
SPVTKRASLKIDSKK (SEQ ID NO: 75)	Protein fragments		Der p II	savinaseA88 S87/T22 L233 K235 I246
RQSTDFGTT (SEQ ID NO: 76)	Phage display	R Q > > D/E	Savinase	savinaseR247 Q245 S240/S242
FCTNNCELS (SEQ ID NO: 77)	Phage display	N > > E L	Savinase	savinaseT143 N173 N140 E136 L13
FCTNNCELS (SEQ ID NO: 77)	Phage display	N > > E L	Savinase	savinaseN117 N116 E112 L111
DFHVKYAAQ (SEQ ID NO: 78)	Phage display		Savinase	savinase

		TABLE 2-c	ontinued	
		antibody bind: be patterns and		
JAQYKALPVVLENA (SEQ ID NO: 79)	Protein fragments		Fel d I	savinaseL135 P168 V139 L111 E112 N116
AAYPDV (SEQ ID NO: 80)	Protein fragments	A > > > > Y P >	a-amylase inhibitor	savinaseA215 Y214 P40 D41 V81
EQIFFTSGL (SEQ ID NO: 81)	Phage display	D/EQIFF	T Savinase	savinaseE271 Q12 I8
VDAAF (SEQ ID NO: 32)	Protein fragments		Poa p IX	savinaseV203 D181 A179 A187 F189
AVLRDC (SEQ ID NO: 83)	Protein fragments		a-amylase inhibitor	savinaseA232 V234 L250 R247 D197
AFRRNANW (SEQ D NO: 84)	Phage display	AR>A	Savinase	savinaseA272/A273 R275 R19 N18 A15/A16
TARLRAGNACG SEQ ID NO: 85)	Phage display	AR>A	Savinase	savinaseA15/A16 R19 L21 R275 A272 A273 N269
FHDAPALQ (SEQ D NO: 86)	Phage display		Savinase	savinaseH39 D41 A74/A73 P86 A88 L90
TARVVALGVCG SEQ ID NO: 87)	Phage display	A R > A	Savinase	savinaseR145 V147 V149 A151 L124/L126 G127
RFSNSKFK (SEQ NO: 88)	Phage display	L > G R S	Savinase	savinaseL148 G146 R145 S144/S141 N140
RFANDHTR (SEQ D NO: 89)	Phage display	R/K R F > N	savinase	savinaseK27 R45 N43 D41 H39 T38/T213
RFANTEPA (SEQ D NO: 90)	Phage display	R/K R F > N	savinase	savinaseK251 R247 A174 N173
KVSAL (SEQ ID O: 91)	Protein fragments		a-amylase inhibitor	savinase¥91 K27 V26 S24 G23 L21
GKYVS (SEQ ID O: 92)	Protein fragments		a-amylase inhibitor	savinaseS24 G25 K27 Y91 V93

TABLE 2-continued

 Antibody binding peptide	Epitope #	IgGIgE
VQVYGDTSA (SEQ ID NO: 59)	savl.1	Ra
LQCVGS (SEQ ID NO: 60)	sav19.1	Hu
KRFANTELA (SEQ ID NO: 61)	sav6.1	Ra-Mo Mo
LDQIFFTRW (SEQ ID NO: 62)	sav5.1	Ra
FNDAFFVKM (SEQ ID NO: 63)	sav11.0	Ra
ANIPIWSRSA (SEQ ID NO: 64)	sav3.2-lac1.0- lip4.0-pd5.0	Ra
ANIPIWSRSA (SEQ ID NO: 64)	sav3.1-lac1.0- lip4.0-pd5.0	Ra
RQSTDFGTT (SEQ ID NO: 65)	sav2.2	Ra
VQVYGDTSA (SEQ ID NO: 66)	sav1.2	Ra

TABL	E 2-continued			
	y binding peptide s rns and epitope seq			
	RRFSNATRA (SEQ ID NO: 67)	sav6.1	Ra- Mo	- Mo
	CTARLRAGNACG (SEQ ID NO: 68)	sav10.4	Ra	
	LDQIFFTRW (SEQ ID NO: 69)	sav5.2	Ra	
	LDQIFFTRW (SEQ ID NO: 69)	sav5.1	Ra	
	EQIFFTSGL (SEQ ID NO: 70)	sav5.4	Ra	
	GRFSNSKFK (SEQ ID NO: 71)	sav9.2-je4.0-lip5.1-5.2	Ra	
	AVLRDC (SEQ ID NO: 72)	sav18.1-pd18.1-18.2		Hu
	LQCVGS (SEQ ID NO: 73)	sav19.2		Hu
	LRQCNERCV (SEQ ID NO: 74)	sav2.1	Ra	
	SPVTKRASLKIDSKK (SEQ ID NO: 75)	sav16.0-pd7.0		Hu
	RQSTDFGTT (SEQ ID NO: 76)	sav2.3	Ra	
	FCTNNCELS (SEQ ID NO: 77)	sav7.2	Ra	
	FCTNNCELS (SEQ ID NO: 77)	sav7.1	Ra	
	DFHVKYAAQ (SEQ ID NO: 78)	sav8.0	Ra	
	VAQYKALPVVLENA (SEQ ID NO: 79)	sav12.0-pd8.0		Hu
	AAYPDV (SEQ ID NO: 80)	sav13.0-pd13.1-13.2		Hu
	EQIFFTSGL (SEQ ID NO: 81)	sav5.3	Ra	
	VDAAF (SEQ ID NO: 82)	sav15.0-pd12.0	Hu	
	AVLRDC (SEQ ID NO: 83)	sav18.2-pd18.1-18.2		Hu
	RAFRRNANW (SEQ ID NO: 84)	sav10.1	Ra	
	CTARLRAGNACG (SEQ ID NO: 85)	sav10.2	Ra	
	TFHDAPALQ (SEQ ID NO: 86)	sav4.0	Ra	
	CTARVVALGVCG (SEQ ID NO: 87)	sav10.3	Ra	
	GRFSNSKFK (SEQ ID NO: 88)	sav9.1-je4.0-lip5.1-5.2	Ra	

Savinase antibody binding peptide sequences, epitope patterns and epitope sequences.						
	RRFANDHTR (SEQ ID NO: 89)	sav6.2	Ra			
	KRFANTEPA (SEQ ID NO: 90)	sav6.1	Ra-Mo Mo			
	YKVSAL (SEQ ID NO: 91)	sav14.0-pd14.0	Hu			
	TGKYVS (SEQ ID NO: 92)	sav17.0-pd17.1-17.2	Hu			

TABLE	3

Epitope pattern	Donor	Accepto	rEpitope Sequence (BPN')	Epitope #	IgG	IgE
	Fel d I	pd498	V198 A254 Q252 Y276 K239 A235 L233 P86	pd8.0		Hu
A > > > > Y P >	a-amylase inhibitor	pd498	*3aA Y1/Y2 P-4/P-1 D-2 V81	pd13.2		Hu
	Poa p IX	pd498	S182 Y6 G7 P8 T13 P14 A15 A16	pd11.0	Hu	
> K L > >	Poa p IX	pd498	Y171 K136 L135 A108 Y113	pd4.4	Hu	
	a-amylase inhibitor	-	Y48/Y37 K46 *44aaV A43 L42	pd14.0		Hu
	Poa p IX	pd498	V196/V198 D197 A174/A176 A169 F163	pd12.0	Hu	
KQS	Poa p IX	pd498	A142 A147 V148 K120 Q27 S24/S25	pd2.3	Hu	
KQS	pd498	pd498	R44 K89 Q27 S236 K120 G146	pd2.2	Ra	
	Der p II	pd498	*28aV T88 *44a K R44 A43 L42	pd7.0		Hu
> K L > >	pd498	pd498	N56/N55 K46 L91 A29/A119 T28	pd4.3	Ra	
> K L > >	pd498	pd498	N240/N243 K239 L233/L234 A16 T21 R22	pd4.1	Ra	
> K L > >	Poa p IX	pd498	Y37 K46 L91 A114 Y113	pd4.5	Hu	
> K L > >	pd498	pd498	N240/N243 K239 L233/L234 A16 T21 R22	pd4.1	Ra	
YI > KL	pd498	pd498	Y113 I111 A108/A138 K136 L135	pd3.1	Ra	
KQS	pd498	pd498	A115 K145 N243 N240 K239 Q237 S236	pd2.1	Ra	
> R Y > K/I	R pd498	pd498	R94 R53 Y48 Q117 R112 S109/S137	pd1.5-lac2.0	Ra	
	Phl p V	pd498	A169 Q167 F163 T162 S160 G193	pd10.0		Hu
YI > KL	pd498	pd498	Y276 I246 K239 L234 S236	pd3.2	Ra	
> K L > >	pd498	pd498	N240/N243 K239 L233/L234 R22 P86	pd4.2	Ra	
A > > > > Y P >	a-amylase inhibitor	-	*3aA Y2 P14 D18 V19	pd13.1		Hu
KQS	Poa p IX	pd498	A15 A16 V274 K239 Q237 S236	pd2.4	Hu	
	a-amylase inhibitor		G146 K145 Y141 V139 S137	pd17.2		Hu
	a-amylase inhibitor	pd498	A273 V274 L233 R22 D87	pd18.1		Hu

	PD498 ant	ibody bi	inding peptide sequences, epitope patter	ns and epitope sequence	es.	
Epitope pattern	Donor	Accepto	rEpitope Sequence (BPN')	Epitope #	IgG	IgE
AR>A	Par j 1 + Par o 1	pd498	N10 S12 A15/A16 R275 A273/A249 R247 A174 D197 S170	pd9.0	Hu + Ra	Hu
	pd498	pd498	R22 G23 L233 S236	pd6.2	Ra	
> R Y > K/	R pd498	pd498	R94 R53 Y48 P57 K46 L91	pd1.4-lac2.0	Ra	
> R Y > K/3	R pd498	pd498	R94 R53 Y48 P57 K46 L91	pd1.4-lac2.0	Ra	
	a-amylase inhibitor		L96 R94 S33 V35 Y37	pd15.0		Hu
> R Y > K/	R pd498	pd498	S109/S137 R112 Y141 N144 K145	pd1.3-lac2.0	Ra	
> R Y > K/	R pd498	pd498	T162 R161 Y192 N191 K186	pd1.2-lac2.0	Ra	
> R Y > K/	R pd498	pd498	T133/T134 R112 Y141 N144 K145	pd1.1-lac2.0	Ra	
	a-amylase inhibitor	-	A92 *44aaV L42 R44 D75	pd18.2		Hu
	a-amylase inhibitor		S236 G238 K239 Y276 V274 S270	pd17.1		Hu
	a-amylase inhibitor	-	S12 P14 W17 S-5 W-6	pd16.0		Hu
> R S A	pd498	pd498	S137 R112 S109 A108	pd5.0-lac1.0-lip4.0- sav3.1-3.2	Ra	
	pd498	pd498	S215 M217 I205 M222 G219	pd6.1	Ra	

TABLE 3-continued

TABLE	4
	-

AIIC	roody binding pe			itope patterns and epitope se lipase (Lipolase).	quences IOI	
Antibody binding peptide	Method of identification	Epitope pattern	Donor	Acceptor Epitope Sequence	Epitope #	IgGIgE
QRPPRYELE (SEQ ID NO: 93)	Phage display	RPPR	lipolase	lipolase	lip1.0	Ra
ELEYRPPRQ (SEQ ID NO: 94)	Phage display	> E Y	lipolase	lipolaseL124 E129 Y164	lip2.1	Ra
HEYDMRVAW (SEQ ID NO: 95)	Phage display	> E Y	lipolase	lipolaseH215 E219 Y220	lip2.2	Ra
HEYPMDFHL (SEQ ID NO: 96)	Phage display	> E Y	lipolase	lipolaseH215 E219 Y220	lip2.2	Ra
SEYSMSITP (SEQ ID NO: 97)	Phage display	> E Y	lipolase	lipolaseS217 E219 Y220	lip2.3	Ra
CVWPAHAPLSCG (SEQ ID NO: 98)	Phage display	> P > > P A P > S	lipolase	lipolase P253 P250 A243 P208/P207 S214/S216/S217	lip3.0	Ra
CSWPSPAPLSCG (SEQ ID NO: 99)	Phage display	> P > > P A P > S	lipolase	lipolaseP253 P250 A243 P208/P207 S214/S216/S217	lip3.0	Ra
CDFPLHAPLSCG (SEQ ID NO: 100)	Phage display	> P > > P A P > S	lipolase	lipolase P253 P250 A243 P208/P207 S214/S216/S217	lip3.0	Ra

Anti	ibody binding pe			tope patterns and epitope seq lipase (Lipolase).	uences for	
Antibody binding peptide	Method of identification	Epitope ı pattern	Donor	Acceptor Epitope Sequence	Epitope #	IgGIgE
CLFPSPAPRSCG (SEQ ID NO: 101)	Phage display	> P > > P A P > S	9 lipolase	lipolase P253 P250 A243 P208/P207 S214/S216/S217	lip3.0	Ra
CDGPAPAPWSCG (SEQ ID NO: 102)	Phage display	> P > > F A P > S) lipolase	lipolase P253 P250 A243 P208/P207 S214/S216/S217	lip3.0	Ra
CSFPLPAPRSCG (SEQ ID NO: 103)	Phage display	> P > > F A P > S	9 lipolase	lipolase P253 P250 A243 P208/P207 S214/S216/S217	lip3.0	Ra
CVYPSPAPWSCG (EQ ID NO: 104)	Phage display	> P > > F A P > S	9 lipolase	lipolase P253 P250 A243 P208/P207 S214/S216/S217	lip3.0	Ra
PEYTMNALS (SEQ ID NO: 105)	Phage display	> E Y	lipolase	lipolaseP218 E219 Y220	lip2.4	Ra
CSRSAKGARLCG (EQ ID NO: 106)	Phage display	> R S A	lipolase	lipolaseR209 S214 A182	lip4.0-lac1.0- pd5.0- sav3.1-3.2	Ra
LEYPMSASQ (SEQ ID NO: 107)	Phage display	> E Y	lipolase	lipolaseL124 E129 Y164	lip2.1	Ra
RKLTLSGRS (SEQ ID NO: 108)	Phage display	L > G R S	lipolase	lipolaseL67 G65 R81 S83/S85	lip5.1-je4.0- sav9.0	Ra
RKLTLSGRS (SEQ ID NO: 109)	Phage display	L > G R S	lipolase	lipolaseL96/L97 G212 R209/ R179 S214	lip5.2-je4.0- sav9.0	Ra
SYGAPATPAA (SEQ ID NO: 110)	Protein fragments		Poa p IX	lipolaseS170 Y171 G172 A173 P174 A150 T153	lip6.0	Hu
PAAGYTPAAP (SEQ ID NO: 111)	Protein fragments		Poa p IX	lipolaseA18/A19/A20 G65 Y53 T123	lip7.0	Hu Hu
YKLAY (SEQ ID NO: 112)	Protein fragments		Poa p IX	lipolaseY138 K74 L75 A68 Y16	lip8.1	Hu
YKLAY (SEQ ID NO: 112)	Protein fragments		Poa p IX	lipolase¥53 K127 L67 A68 Y16	lip8.2	Hu
KYDDYVATLS (SEQ ID NO: 113)	Protein fragments		Poa p IX	lipolaseY194 D167 D165 Y164 V132 A131 L52 S54	lip9.0	Hu
EVKATPAGEL (SEQ ID NO: 114)	Protein fragments		Poa p IX	lipolaseE43 V44 K46 A47 T72	lip10.0	Hu
CGYSNAQGVDYWI (SEQ ID NO: 115)	Protein fragments		Der p I	lipolase Y53 S54 N25/N26 A18/A19/A20 Q15 V44	lip15.0	Hu Hu
VPGIDPNACHYMKC (SEQ ID NO: 116)	Protein fragments		Der p II	lipolaseP256 I255 D254 P253 N200 H198 Y261	lip16.0	Hu
SPVTKRASLKIDSKK (SEQ ID NO: 117)	Protein fragments		Der p II	lipolaseR179 A182 S216/S217 I238 K237 I235 D234 S224 K223	lip17.0	Hu
IMSALAMVYLGAK (SEQ ID NO: 118)	Protein fragments		Ovalbumin	lipolaseV140 Y138 L69 A49 A4 K46	7 lip18.0	Hu
ELGVRE (SEQ ID NO: 119)	Protein fragments		a-amylase inhibitor	lipolase E99 L97 G109/G177 V176 R175 D242	lip11.0	Hu
GCRKEV (SEQ ID NO: 120)	Protein fragments		a-amylase inhibitor	lipolaseG106 C107 R108 K98 E99	lip12.0	Hu

TABLE 4-continued

Antibody binding peptide sequences, epitope patterns and epitope sequences for the <i>T. lanuginosus</i> lipase (Lipolase).					
Antibody binding peptide	Method of Epitope identification pattern	Donor	Acceptor Epitope Sequence	Epitope #	IgGIgE
LRSVYQ (SEQ ID NO: 121)	Protein fragments	a-amylase inhibitor	lipolaseL147 R81 S79 V77 Y16 Q15	lip13.0	Hu
SGPWSW (SEQ ID NO: 122)	Protein fragments	a-amylase inhibitor	lipolaseS170 G172 P174 W89 S83	lip14.0	Hu

	TABLE 5				
	-	alase) antibody b pe patterns and e		-	-
Antibody binding peptide		Epitope pattern	Donor	Accepto:	rEpitope Sequence
ARIDPRGPS (SEQ ID NO: 123)	Phage display	A > I D P R/K	amylase	amylase	A380 K381 I382 D383 P384 R389
ARIDPRHGS (SEQ ID NO: 124)	Phage display	A > I D P R/K	amylase	amylase	A380 K381 1382 D383 P384 R389
CSVAKIDPRTCG (SEQ ID NO: 125)	Phage display	A > I D P R/K	amylase	amylase	A109 K138 D140 P142 R144
CSVAKIDPRTCG (SEQ ID NO: 125)	Phage display	A > 1 D P R/K	amylase	amylase	A380 K381 I382 D383 P384 R389
AKIDPKPDT (SEQ ID NO: 126)	Phage display	A > I D P R/K	amylase	amylase	A109 K138 D140 P142 R144
AKIDPKPDT (SEQ ID NO: 126)	Phage display	A > I D P R/K	amylase	amylase	A380 K381 I382 D383 P384 R389
ARIDPRHGS (SEQ ID NO: 127)	Phage display	A > I D P R/K	amylase	amylase	A109 K138 D140 P142 R144
QIYNDTGPT (SEQ ID NO: 128)	Phage display	Q > Y > D >	amylase	amylase	Q390 L386 Y368/Y367 D366
QIYNDTGPT (SEQ ID NO: 128)	Phage display	Q > Y > D >	amylase	amylase	Q170 I173 Y196 D195
QIYNDTGPT (SEQ ID NO: 128)	Phage display	Q > Y > D >	amylase	amylase	Q357 I352 Y349 D366
QIYNDTGPT (SEQ ID NO: 128)	Phage display	Q > Y > D >	amylase	amylase	Q331 I370 Y368/Y367 D366
CGSATIDPRQCG (SEQ ID NO: 129)	Phage display	A > I D P R/K	amylase	amylase	A109 K138 D140 P142 R144
CNADNQMYPQCG (SEQ ID NO: 130)	Phage display	A > > > > Y P >	amylase	amylase	N29 A27 D26/D25 Y8 P41/P42
ARIDPRGPS (SEQ ID NO: 131)	Phage display	A > I D P R/K	amylase	amylase	A109 K138 D140 P142 R144
CGSATIDPRQCG (SEQ ID NO: 132)	Phage display	A > I D P R/K	amylase	amylase	A380 K381 I382 D383 P384 R389
CDADSSGYPLCG (SEQ ID NO: 133)	Phage display	A > > > > Y P >	amylase	amylase	A107/A109 D108 Y57 P41/42
QLYGDEQLP (SEQ ID NO: 134)	Phage display	Q > Y > D >	amylase	amylase	Q331 I370 Y368/Y367 D366
QLYGDEQLP (SEQ ID NO: 134)	Phage display	Q > Y > D >	amylase	amylase	Q357 I352 Y349 D366

TABLE	5-continued

		TABLE	5-continued			
	Amylase	e (Natalase) ant: epitope pattern		-	-	
DLYGDEQLP (SEQ D NO: 134)	Phage display	Q > Y > D	> amylase	amylase	Q170 I173 Y196 D19	95
DLYGDEQLP (SEQ D NO: 134)	Phage display	Q > Y > D	> amylase	amylase	Q390 L386 Y368/Y36	57 D366
YAQIDPRW (SEQ D NO: 135)	Phage display	A > I D P	R/K amylase	amylase	A380 K381 I382 D38 R389	33 P384
YAQIDPRW (SEQ D NO: 135)	Phage display	A > I D P	R/K amylase	amylase	A109 K138 D140 P14 R144	12
EFNLGRSS (SEQ D NO: 136)	Phage display	L > G R S	amylase	amylase	L88 G92 R31 S28	
NADSWGYPRCG SEQ ID NO: 137)	Phage display	A > > > >	Y P > amylase	amylase	N29 A27 D26/D25 Y8 P41/P42	3
NADNQMYPQCG SEQ ID NO: 138)	Phage display	A > > > >	Y P > amylase	amylase	N102 A233 D232 Y54 P41/P42	ł
NADSWGYPRCG SEQ ID NO: 137)	Phage display	A > > > >	Y P > amylase	amylase	N102 A233 D232 Y54 P41/P42	ł
EFNLGRSS (SEQ D NO: 139)	Phage display	L > G R S	amylase	amylase	L62 G63/G76 R78 S7	79
			Antibody bindi peptide	ng Epitop	e #	IgGIgE
			ARIDPRGPS (SEQ ID NO: 123)	je1.1		Ra
			ARIDPRHGS (SEQ ID NO: 124)	je1.1		Ra
			CSVAKIDPRTCG (SEQ ID NO: 12	je1.2 5)		Ra
			CSVAKIDPRTCG (SEQ ID NO: 12	je1.1 5)		Ra
			AKIDPKPDT (SEQ ID NO: 126)	je1.2		Ra
			AKIDPKPDT (SEQ ID NO: 126)	je1.1		Ra
			ARIDPRHGS (SEQ ID NO: 127)	je1.2		Ra

ID NO: 127)		
QIYNDTGPT (SEQ ID NO: 128)	je2.4	Ra
QIYNDTGPT (SEQ ID NO: 128)	je2.3	Ra
QIYNDTGPT (SEQ ID NO: 128)	je2.2	Ra
QIYNDTGPT (SEQ ID NO: 128)	je2.1	Ra
CGSATIDPRQCG (SEQ ID NO: 129)	je1.2	Ra
CNADNQMYPQCG (SEQ ID NO: 130)	je3.1	Ra

ARIDPRGPS (SEQ je1.2 ID NO: 131) Ra

TABLE	5-continued		
Amylase (Natalase) anti epitope patterna	body binding pept and epitope sequ		
	CGSATIDPRQCG (SEQ ID NO: 132)	je1.1	Ra
	CDADSSGYPLCG (SEQ ID NO: 133)	e3.3	Ra
	QLYGDEQLP (SEQ ID NO: 134)	je2.1	Ra
	QLYGDEQLP (SEQ ID NO: 134)	je2.2	Ra
	QLYGDEQLP (SEQ ID NO: 134)	je2.3	Ra
	QLYGDEQLP (SEQ ID NO: 134)	je2.4	Ra
	RYAQIDPRW (SEQ ID NO: 135)	je1.1	Ra
	RYAQIDPRW (SEQ ID NO: 135)	jel.2	Ra
	GEFNLGRSS (SEQ ID NO: 136)	je4.1-sav9.0-lip5.1-5.2	Ra
	CNADSWGYPRCG (SEQ ID NO: 137)	je3.1	Ra
	CNADNQMYPQCG (SEQ ID NO: 138)	je3.2	Ra
	CNADSWGYPRCG (SEQ ID NO: 137)	je3.2	Ra
	GEFNLGRSS (SEQ ID NO: 139)	je4.2-sav9.0-lip5.1-5.2	Ra

TABLE 5-continued

TABLE 6

		-		<i>la insolens</i>) antibody bindin ns and epitope sequences.	a	
Antibody binding peptide		Epitope pattern	Donor	Acceptor Epitope Sequence	Epitope #	IgGIgE
CVHAGPRAGTCG (SEQ ID NO: 140)	Phage display	> G > > A G	carezyme	carezymeP23 R201 A83 G84	car1.1	Ra
CVHAGPRAGTCG (SEQ ID NO: 140)	Phage display	V H > G >	carezyme	carezyme	car2.0	Ra
CLSGPLAGRVCG (SEQ ID NO: 141)	Phage display	> G > > A G	carezyme	carezymeP23 R201 A83 G84	car1.1	Ra
CRISPWYSVPCG (SEQ ID NO: 142)	Phage display		carezyme	carezyme	car3.0	Ra
CLSGPAAGQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 143)	Phage display Phage display		carezyme je-1	carezymeP23 R201 A83 G84 carezymeR146 I131 D133 P137	car1.1 car11.2 Ra	Ra
CITRGTRAGWCG (SEQ ID NO: 144)	Phage display Phage display		carezyme savinase	1	car1.1 car6.2	Ra Ra
CLSGPAAGQSCG (SEQ ID NO: 143)	Phage display	> G > > A G	carezyme	carezymeT95/S96 G27 P98 A100 G101	car1.2	Ra

TABLE	6-	continued
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		-		<i>la insolens</i>) antibody binding s and epitope sequences.		
Antibody binding peptide		n Epitope pattern	Donor	Acceptor Epitope Sequence	Epitope #	IgGIgE
	Phage display	A > I D P R/K	je-1	carezymeA195 R37 I38 D40	car11.1 Ra	
	Phage display	Q > Y > D >	savinase,	L44 carezymeQ59 Y54 G134 D133 T136	car10.0	Ra
	Phage display	> P > > A P > S	je-1 lipoprime	carezyme₩62/₩169 P61 P165 A162 P160	car9.0	Ra
CITRGTRAGWCG (SEQ ID NO: 144)	Phage display	> G > > A G	carezyme	carezymeT95/S96 G27 P98 A100 G101	car1.2	Ra
(Phage display	R/K R F > N	savinase	carezymeR7 R170 F174 A177	car7.0	Ra
CLSGPLAGRVCG (SEQ ID NO: 145)	Phage display	> G > > A G	carezyme	carezymeT95/S96 G27 P98 A100 G101	car1.2	Ra
(<u>-</u> ,	Phage display	AR > A	savinase	carezymeAl R4 R7 A177 N176	car6.1	Ra
	Phage display	> P > R D T G	laccase	CarezymeD178 P180 R4 D2 S183	car5.0	Ra
	Phage display	> R Y > K/R	pd498	carezymeR170 R153 Y168 P165	car4.0	Ra
	Phage display	D/EQIFFT	savinase	K164 L163 carezymeQ36 I38 F41 F29 T197	car8.0	Ra
CLTAGPSAGYCG (SEQ ID NO: 146)	Phage display	> G > > A G	carezyme	carezymeT95/S96 G27 P98 A100 G101	car1.2	Ra
CYTTGRLAGLCG (SEQ ID NO: 147)	Phage display	> G > > A G	carezyme	carezymeP23 R201 A83 G84	car1.1	Ra
CYTTGRLAGLCG (SEQ ID NO: 147)	Phage display	> G > > A G	carezyme	carezymeT95/S96 G27 P98 A100 G101	car1.2	Ra
CVHSGPRAGYCG (SEQ ID NO: 148)	Phage display	> G > > A G	carezyme	carezymeP23 R201 A83 G84	car1.1	Ra
CVHSGPRAGYCG (SEQ ID NO: 148)	Phage display	V H > G >	carezyme	carezyme	car2.0	Ra
CVHAGPRAGTCG (SEQ ID NO: 149)	Phage display	> G > > A G	carezyme	carezymeT95/S96 G27 P98 A100 G101	car1.2	Ra
CVHSGPRAGYCG (SEQ ID NO: 148)	Phage display	> G > > A G	carezyme	carezymeT95/S96 G27 P98 A100 G101	car1.2	Ra
CVHSGLSRRLLR (SEQ ID NO: 150)	Phage display	V H > G >	carezyme	carezyme	car2.0	Ra
CVTRGPNAGSCG (SEQ ID NO: 151)	Phage display	> G > > A G	carezyme	carezymeT95/S96 G27 P98 A100 G101	car1.2	Ra
CLTAGPSAGYCG (SEQ ID NO: 152)	Phage display	> G > > A G	carezyme	carezymeP23 R201 A83 G84	car1.1	Ra
CVTRGPNAGSCG (SEQ ID NO: 151)	Phage display	> G > > A G	carezyme	carezymeP23 R201 A83 G84	car1.1	Ra
CITSGPRAGNCG (SEQ ID NO: 153)	Phage display	> G > > A G	carezyme	carezymeT95/S96 G27 P98 A100 G101	car1.2	Ra
CITSGPRAGNCG (SEQ ID NO: 153)	Phage display	> G > > A G	carezyme	carezymeP23 R201 A83 G84	car1.1	Ra

Antibody binding peptide	Method of identification	Epitope pattern	Donor	Acceptor	Epitope Sequence	Epitope #	IgGIgE
PQSD5PGESQ (SEQ ID NO: 154)	Phage display	P > S/T D P	Glaccase	laccase	P180 R175 T168 D166 P165 G265	lac3.2	Ra
WPKSDAGDS (SEQ ID NO: 155)	Phage display	P > > D A G	laccase	laccase	P241 R409 S410/S416 D43 A389 G390	4 lac4.1	Ra
PQSDAGVVM (SEQ ID NO: 156)	Phage display	P > > D A G	laccase	laccase	P241 R409 S410/S416 D43 A389 G390	4 lac4.1	Ra
DPVRDTGAG (SEQ ID NO: 157)	Phage display	> P > R D T	Glaccase	laccase	P241 R409 D434 T432 G430/G390	lac5.1	Ra
GPSRDAGLL (SEQ ID NO: 158)	Phage display	P > > D A G	laccase	laccase	P241 R409 S410/S416 D43 A389 G390	4 lac4.1	Ra
PASDAGRGP (SEQ ID NO: 159)	Phage display	P > > D A G	laccase	laccase	P241 R409 S410/S416 D43 A389 G390	4 lac4.1	Ra
PRDSTGLAL (SEQ ID NO: 160)	Phage display	P > S/T D P	Glaccase	laccase	P378 R379 T442 D443 P445 G446	lac3.1	Ra
PQSDPGESQ (SEQ ID NO: 161)	Phage display	P > S/T D P	Glaccase	laccase	P378 R379 T442 D443 P445 G446	lac3.1	Ra
RYPFLRATN (SEQ ID NO: 162)	Phage display	> R Y > K/R	laccase	laccase		lac2.0- pd1.1-1.4	Ra
GAARDARSA (SEQ ID NO: 163)	Phage display	> R S A	laccase	laccase		lac1.0- lip4.0- pd5.0- sav3.1- 3.2	Ra
PRSDTGFGS (SEQ ID NO: 164)	Phage display	> P > R D T	Glaccase	laccase	P241 R409 D434 T432 G430/G390	lac5.1	Ra
LPRSDPGGR (SEQ ID NO: 165)	Phage display	P > S/T D P	Glaccase	laccase	P180 R175 T168 D166 P165 G265	lac3.2	Ra
DPARDTGDV (SEQ ID NO: 166)	Phage display	> P > R D T	Glaccase	laccase	P241 R409 D434 T432 G430/G390	lac5.1	Ra
APKSDNGIT (SEQ ID NO: 167)	Phage display	P > > D A G	laccase	laccase	P241 R409 S410/S416 D434 A389 G390	lac4.1	Ra
PKSDPGTNW (SEQ ID NO: 168)	Phage display	P > S/T D P	Glaccase	laccase	P378 R379 T442 D443 P445 G446	lac3.1	Ra
PRTDPGWLA (SEQ ID NO: 169)	Phage display	P > S/T D P	Glaccase	laccase	P378 R379 T442 D443 P445 G446	lac3.1	Ra
LPRSDPGGR (SEQ ID NO: 170)	Phage display	P > S/T D P	Glaccase	laccase	P378 R379 T442 D443 P445 G446	lac3.1	Ra
PSSDPGARS (SEQ ID NO: 171)	Phage display	P > S/T D P	Glaccase	laccase	P180 R175 T168 D166 P165 G265	lac3.2	Ra
HVFDKNVTR (SEQ ID NO: 172)	Phage display		laccase	laccase		lac6.0	
PRSDPGTPT (SEQ ID	Phage display	P > S/T D P	Glaccase	laccase	P378 R379 T442 D443	lac3.1	Ra
	Phage display	P > S/T D P	Glaccase	laccase	P445 G446 P180 R175 T168 D166	lac3.2	Ra
NO: 173)					P165 G265		

TABLE 7-continued

	Lacca	ase (Mycel:				ila laccas erns and		ody binding peptide sequences.	sequenc	ces,	
Antibody b: peptide	inding	Method of identific		Epitop	€	Donor		Epitope Sequence	1	Epitope #	IgGIgE
PRTDPGWLA NO: 175)	(SEQ ID	Phage dis	play	P > S/'	ГDР	Glaccase	laccase	P180 R175 T168 D160 P165 G265	5	lac3.2	Ra
PSSDPGARS NO: 176)	(SEQ ID	Phage dis	play	P > S/'	ΓDΡ	Glaccase	laccase	P378 R379 T442 D443 P445 G446	3	lac3.1	Ra
PKSDPGTNW NO: 177)	(SEQ ID	Phage dis	play	P > S/'	ГDР	Glaccase	laccase	P180 R175 T168 D160 P165 G265	5	lac3.2	Ra
WPKSDAGDS NO: 178)	(SEQ ID	Phage dis	play	P > > 1	DAG	laccase	laccase	P350 S349 D80 A79 (378	lac4.2	Ra
PQSDAGVVM NO: 179)	(SEQ ID	Phage dis	play	P > >]	DAG	laccase	laccase	P350 S349 D80 A79 (378	lac4.2	Ra
GPSRDAGLL NO: 180)	(SEQ ID	Phage dis	play	P > >]	DAG	laccase	laccase	P350 S349 D80 A79 (378	lac4.2	Ra
PASDAGRGP NO: 181)	(SEQ ID	Phage dis	play	P > >]	DAG	laccase	laccase	P350 S349 D80 A79 (378	lac4.2	Ra
APKSDNGIT NO: 182)	(SEQ ID	Phage dis	play	P > >]	DAG	laccase	laccase	P350 S349 D80 A79 (378	lac4.2	Ra
WPKSDAGDS NO: 183)	(SEQ ID	Phage dis	play	P > >]	DAG	laccase	laccase	P300 R234 S211 D213	3 A296 :	lac4.3	Ra
PQSDAGVVM NO: 184)	(SEQ ID	Phage dis	play	P > > 1	DAG	laccase	laccase	P300 R234 S211 D213	3 A296 (lac4.3	Ra
GPSRDAGLL NO: 185)	(SEQ ID	Phage dis	play	P > > 1	DAG	laccase	laccase	P300 R234 S211 D213	3 A296 (lac4.3	Ra
PASDAGRGP NO: 186)	(SEQ ID	Phage dis	play	P > >]	DAG	laccase	laccase	P300 R234 S211 D213	3 A296 1	lac4.3	Ra
APKSDNGIT NO: 187)	(SEQ ID	Phage dis	play	P > > 1	DAG	laccase	laccase	P300 R234 S211 D213	3 A296 (lac4.3	Ra
DPVRDTGAG NO: 188)	(SEQ ID	Phage dis	play	> P >]	RDT	Glaccase	laccase	P378 R379 D469 T473	3 G446	lac5.2	Ra
PRSDTGFGS NO: 189)	(SEQ ID	Phage dis	play	> P > 1	RDT	Glaccase	laccase	P378 R379 D469 T473	3 G446 3	lac5.2	Ra
DPARDTGDV NO: 190)	(SEQ ID	Phage dis	play	> P >]	RDТ	Glaccase	laccase	P378 R379 D469 T473	3 G446	lac5.2	Ra
	(SEQ ID	Phage dis	play	> P > 1	RDT	Glaccase	laccase	P60 R59 D51/D53 T10/T12 G30	:	lac5.3	Ra
PRSDTGFGS NO: 192)	(SEQ ID	Phage dis	play	> P > 1	RDT	Glaccase	laccase	P60 R59 D51/D53 T10/T12 G30	:	lac5.3	Ra
DPARDTGDV NO: 193)	(SEQ ID	Phage dis	play	> P > 1	RDT	Glaccase	laccase	P60 R59 D51/D53 T10/T12 G30	:	lac5.3	Ra
DPVRDTGAG NO: 194)	(SEQ ID	Phage dis	play	> P > 1	RDT	Glaccase	laccase	P157/P155 R23 D118 T114 G113	:	lac5.4	Ra
PRSDTGFGS NO: 195)	(SEQ ID	Phage dis	play	> P > 1	RDT	Glaccase	laccase	P157/P155 R23 D118 T114 G113	:	lac5.4	Ra
DPARDTGDV NO: 196)	(SEQ ID	Phage dis	play	> P > 1	RDТ	Glaccase	laccase	P157/P155 R23 D118 T114 G113	:	lac5.4	Ra

Example 2

Localisation of Epitope Sequences and Epitope Areas on the 3D-Structure of Acceptor Proteins

[0495] Epitope sequences were assessed manually on the screen on the 3D-structure of the protein of interest, using appropriate software (e.g. SwissProt Pdb Viewer, WebLite Viewer).

[0496] In a first step, the identified epitope patterns were fitted with the 3D-structure of the enzymes. A sequence of at least 3 amino acids, defining a specific epitope pattern, was localised on the 3D-structure of the acceptor protein. Conservative mutations (e.g. aspartate for glutamate, lysine for arginine, serine for threonine) were considered as one for those patterns for which phage display had evidenced such exchanges to occur. Among the possible sequences provided by the protein structure, only those were retained where the sequence matched a primary sequence, or where it matched a structural sequence of 5 Å from the next one. Occasionally, the mobility of the amino acid side chains, as provided by the software programme, had to be taken in to consideration for this criterium to be fulfilled.

[0497] Secondly, the remaining anchor amino acids as well as the variable amino acids, i.e. amino acids that were not defining a pattern but were present in the individual sequences identified by phage library screening, were assessed in the area around the various amino acid sequences localised in step 1. Only amino acids situated within a distance of 5 Å from the next one were included.

[0498] Finally, an accessibility criterium was introduced. The criterium was that at least half of the anchor amino acids had a surface that was >30% accessible. Typically, 0-2 epitopes were retained for each epitope pattern. In some cases, two different amino acids could with equal probability be part of the epitope (e.g. two leucines located close to each other in the protein 3D-structure). For example, in Savinase two epitopes actually fit to the antibody binding peptide LDQIFFTRW (SEQ ID NO:62): L75 D41 Q2 179 and L42 D41 Q2 179. A shorthand notation for such a situation is: L42/L75 D41 Q2 179.

[0499] Thus, a number of epitope sequences were identified and localised on the surface of various proteins. As suggested by sequence alignment of the antibody binding pep-

tides, structural analysis confirmed most of the epitopes to be enzyme specific, with only few exceptions. Overall, most of the identified epitopes were at least partially structural. However, some proteins (e.g. amylase) expressed predominantly primary sequence epitopes. Typically, the epitopes were localised in very discrete areas of the enzymes, and different epitope sequences often shared some amino acids (hot-spots). **[0500]** The identified epitope sequences are shown in Tables 2-7.

Birch Allergen:

[0501] Bet v1 (WO 99/47680) was used as the parent protein for identification of epitope sequences that may cross react with enzyme epitopes. The structural coordinates from 1BV1.pdb (Gajhede et al., NAT.STRUCT.BIOL., Vol. 3, p. 1040, 1996) were used as well the corresponding sequence (Swissprot accession number P15494). The epitope pattern P>PAP>S (which had been identified from antibody binding peptides specific for anti-Lipolase antibodies) was found to match three (overlapping) epitope sequences on the surface of Bet v1:

Bet v1 1.1: P31 A34 P35 A37 P59 S39/S40;

Bet v1 1.2: P63 L62 P59 A37 P35 S39/S40; and

Bet v1 1.3: P59 S39/S40 P31 A34 P35 S39/S40.

Example 3

Epitope Areas

[0502] It is common knowledge that amino acids that surround binding sequences can affect binding of a ligand without participating actively in the binding process. Based on this knowledge, areas covered by amino acids with potential steric effects on the epitope-antibody interaction, were defined around the identified epitopes. Practically, all amino acids situated within 5 Å from the amino acids defining the epitope were included. The accessibility criterium was not included for defining epitope areas, as hidden amino acids can have an effect on the surrounding structures.

[0503] For Savinase, the following amino acid residues belong to the epitope area that correspond to each epitope sequence indicated in Table 2:

sav1.1	A1	Q2	S3	P5	H39	P40	D41	L42	N43	G63	T66	
	H67	A69	G70	T71	A73	A74	L75	N77	S78	I79	G8 0	
	V81	L82	G83	N204	V205	Q206	S207	T208	Y209	P210	S212	
	T213	Y214	A215	S216	L217							
sav1.2	S153	G154	N155	S156	G157	A158	G160	S161	I162	S163	A169	
	R170	A174	M175	A176	V177	G178	R186	F189	S190	Q191	Y192	
	G193	A194	G195	L196	D197	I198	V199	T220	R247	K251	A254	
	T255	S256	T260	N261	L262	Y263	G264	S265	G266	L267		
sav2.1	W6	G7	18	R10	V11	Q12	A13	P14	A15	A16	R19	L21
	V84	T180	D181	Q182	N183	N184	I198	V199	A200	P201	H226	
	V227	A230	L233	V234	K237	N238	H249	L250	T253	A254	T255	
	S256	L257	S265	G266	L267	V268	N269	A270	E271	A272	A273	
	T274	R275										
sav2.2	S153	G154	N155	S156	G157	A158	S161	I162	S163	G178	A179	
	T180	D181	N184	N185	R186	A187	S188	F189	S190	Q191	Y192	
	G193	L196	T220	L262	Y263							
sav2.3	A142	T143	G146	V147	L148	Y171	A172	N173	A174	M175	D197	
	A231	V234	K235	N238	P239	S240	W241	S242	N243	V244	Q245	
	I246	R247	N248	H249	L250	K251					-	

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sav3.1	S153	G154	N155	S156	G157	A158	V177	G178	A179	T180	D181	
	N184	N185	R186	A187	S188	F189	S190	Q191	Y192	V199	A200	
	P201	G202	V203	N218	G219	T220	A223	L262	Y263			
sav3.2	L111	E112	G115	N116		A138	V139	N140	S141	A142	S144	
sav4.0	R145 Q2	G146 H17	V147 T22	V149 G23	N173 S24	N243 G25	V26	K27	V28	V3 0	135	
sav4.0	S37	T38	H39	P40	D41	L42	N43	K27 I44	R45	G 46	T66	
	A69	G70	T71	172	A73	A74	L75	N76	N77	I79	G8 0	
	V81	L82	G83	V84	A85	P86	S87	A88	E89	L90	Y91	
	A92	T208	Y209	P210	S212	T213	Y214					
sav5.1	A1	Q2	S3	V4	135	S37	H39	P40	D41	L42	N43	I44
	T66 V81	A69 L82	G70 G83	A73 P86	A74 L90	L75 T208	N76 Y214	N77	S78	I79	G8 0	
sav5.2	V30	T33	G34	I35	S37	T38	L42	N43	I44	R45	G46	
	E54	S57	T58	Q59	D60	G61	N62	G63	H64	G65	T66	
	H67	A69	L90	Ŷ91	A92	K94	P210					
sav5.3	V4	P5	W6	G7	18	S9	R10	V11	Q12	A13	P14	
	A15	A16	R19	N269	A270	E271	A272	A273	T274	R275		
av5.4	A1 V104	Q2	P40	D41	F50	L75	N77	S78	I79 E112	G80	V81	
		S105 N116	S106 Q137	I107 A138	A108 S141	A142	G110 Y214	L111	E112	W113	A114	
av6.1		N140	T143	L148	V149		P168	A169	Y171	A172	N173	
		M175	A176	D197		N243	V244	Q245	I246	R247	N248	
	H249		K251	N252	T253	A254	S265					
av6.2	Q2	G25	V26	K27	V28	A29	I35	S37	T38	H39	P40	
	D41	L42	N43	I44	R45	G46	G47	Q59	T66	A69	G70	
	A73	A74	L75	N77	I79	G80	V81	L82	A88	E89	L90	
	Y91 S212	N117 T213	G118 Y214	M119 A215	H120	V121	S207	T208	Y209	P210	G211	
av7.1	K27	L31	I107		Q109	G110	L111	E112	W113	A114	G115	
		N117	G118	M119		L124	L135	Q137	A138	V139	S141	
	A142	R145	V149					-				
sav7.2	V104			L111	S132	A133	T134	L135	E136	Q137	A138	
		N140	S141	A142	T143	S144	R145	G146	V147	V149	Y167	
0 1	P168 L111	Y171	A172	N173	A174	M175 M119	N243	R247	4122	E136	0127	
sav9.1		E112 V139	N140	G115 S141	A142	T143	S144	V121 R145	A122 G146	V147	Q137 L148	
		V150	N173	M175		I246	R247	L250	GIIO	• • • •	ETIO	
sav9.2	L126	G127	S128	P129	A152	S153	G154	S161	I162	S163	Y167	
	P168	A169	R 170	Y171	A172	A176	V177	G178	Q191	Y192	G193	
		G195	L196	D197			T260	N261	L262	Y263	G264	
av10.1	Q12	A13	P14	A15	A16	H17	N18	R19	G20	L21	T22	
	N76 L250	L82 T253	G83 N269	V84 A270	A85	P86 A272	L233 A273	V234 T274	K237 R275	N238	H249	
av10.2	V11	Q12	A13	P14	A15	A16	H17	N18	R19	G20	L21	
	T22	G23	L233		Q236		N238	H249	L250	T253	A254	
	T255	L267	V268	N269	A270	E271	A272	A273	T274	R275		
av10.3	L31	D32	H64	V68	V95	L96	I107	L111	A114	G115		
		M119	V121	A122		L124	S125	L126	G127	S128	P129	
	V139		A142	T143	S144	R145	G146	V147	L148	V149	V150	
	A151 V177	A152 T220	S153 S221	S163 M222	Y167	P168 P225	A169 V227	N173 A228	A174 A231	M175 N243	A176 I246	
		L250	5221	141222	1224	1225	V 221	A220	A231	11245	1240	
av10.4		S132	A133	L135	E136	V139	A151	A152	S153	G160		
	S161	I162	S163	Y167	P168		R170	Y171	A172	N173	A174	
		Q191		G193	A194	G195	L196	R247	S259	T260	N261	
11.0	L262	Y263	G264	0156	C11.5.7	1170	TT1 0.0	D101	0100	1102		
sav11.0	W6	G154 N185	N155 R186		G157	A179		D181	Q182	N183 P201	G202	
		N204		A187 L217	S188 N218	F189 G219	S190 T220	Q191 L262	Y192 Y263	F201	G202	
sav12.0	L31	I107		Q109		L111	E112	W113	A114	G115		
54112.0		N117	G118	A122		S132	A133	T134	L135	Q137	A138	
		N140	S141	T143	R145	V149	A151	S163	Y167	P168	A169	
	R170	Y171	N173	A174								
sav13.0	Q2	S3	P5	T38	H39	P40	D41	L42	N43	H67		
	G70	A73	A74	L75	N77	I79	G8 0	V81	L82	G83	V205	
	Q206	S207	T208	Y209	S212	T213	Y214	A215	S216	L217		
sav14.0	A16	H17	R19	G20	L21	T22	G23	S24	G25	V26		
	K27	V28	A29	V30	135	I44	R45	G46	G47	V84	A85	
	P86	S87	A88	E89	L90	Y91	A92	V93	W113	N117	G118	
15.0		H120	V121	A232		K235	-	K237	T274	T100		
	W6	R10	G154	N155		G157 R186	V177 A187	G178 S188	A179 F189	T180 S190	Q191	
sav15.0	D191	0182										
sav15.0	D181 V199	Q182 A200	N183 P201	N184 G202			G219	T220	A223	L257	Y263	

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sav16.0	A13 V28 G229	A16 172 A230	H17 A73 A231	G20 V84 A232	L21 A85 L233	T22 P86 V234	G23 S87 K235	S24 A88 Q236	G25 E89 K237	V26 L90 N238	H120 P239
sav17.0	S240 T22	W241 G23	I246 S24	H249 G25	L250 V26	A270 K27	A273 V28	T274 A29	V3 0	L31	
	D32 Y91 V121	I35 A92 A232	I44 V93 K225	R45 K94	G46 V95	G47 G110	A48 W113	F50 N117	S87 G118	A88 M119	E89 L90 H120
sav18.1	W6 Q182	G7	K235 I8 N184	Q236 S9 N185	R10 R186	V11 A187	Q12 I198	A179 V199	T180 A200	D181 P201	V203
	H226 L257	V227 S265	A230 G266	H249 L267	L250 V268	K251 N269	N252 A270	T253	A254	T255	S256
sav18.2	A13 A88 D197	A16 V121 I198	H17 L148 V199	L21 Y171 V227	T22 A172 A228	G23 N173 G229	V26 V174 A230	V28 M175	V84 A176	A85 G195 L233	L196 V234
	K235	Q236	K237 K251	N238 N252	W241 T253	N243	N230 V244 Y263	A231 Q245 G264	A232 1246 S265	R247 G266	V234 N248 V268
sav19.1	A270 A16	A273 H17	T274 R19	G20	L21	T22	G23	S24	G25	V26	
10.2	K27 Q236	V28 K237	S87 N238	A88 P239	E89 T274	H120	V121	A232	L233	V234	K235
sav19.2	A1 A74 N204	Q2 L75 V205	S3 N77 Q206	V4 S78 S207	P5 I79 T208	D41 G80 Y209	H64 V81 Y214	H67 L82 A215	G70 G83 S216	T71 G202 L217	V203 N218
	G219	M222									

[0504] For PD498, the following amino acid residues belong to the epitope area that correspond to each epitope sequence indicated in Table 3:

pd1.1	D105	A108	S109	G110	I111	R112	Y113	A114	A115	D116	Q117
	N131	S132	T133	T134	L135	K136	S137	A138	V139	D140	Y141
	A142	W143	N144	K145	G146	A147					
pd1.2	C128	E129	A153	G154	N155	D156	N157	V158	S160	R161	T162
-	F163	Q167	S170	G178	A179	I180	D181	D184	R185	K186	A187
	S188	F189	S190	N191	Y192	G193	T194	W195	V196	T220	T262
	N263										
pd1.3	F50	L104	D105	S106	I107	A108	S109	G110	I111	R112	Y113
	A114	A115	D116	Q117	T133	T134	L135	K136	S137	A138	V139
	D140	Y141	A142	W143	N144	K145	G146	A147			
pd1.4	T28	*28aV	A29	V30	D32	S33	G34	V35	Y37	*44aaV	I45
	K46	G47	Y48	D49	F50	I51	R53	D54	N55	N56	P57
	M58	D60	L61	K89	I90	L91	A92	V93	R94	V95	L96
	D97	A98	Y113	A114	Q117	A119					
pd1.5	D32	S33	G34	K46	G47	Y48	D49	F50	I51	D52	R53
	D54	N55	P57	M58	L61	L91	A92	V93	R94	V95	L96
	D97	A98	L104	D105	S106	I107	A108	S109	G110	I111	R112
	Y113	A114	A115	D116	Q117	G118	A119	T133	T134	L135	K136
	S137	A138	V139	D140	Y141	A142					
pd2.1	V19	T21	I111	R112	Y113	A114	A1	D116	Q117	G118	A119
	L122	D140	Y141	A142	W143	N144	K145	G146	A147	V148	L233
	L234	A235	S236	Q237	G238	K239	N240	N243	V244	Q245	I246
	R247	Q248	A249	A273	V274	R275	Y276				
pd2.2	S24	S25	T26	Q27	T28	*28aV	L42	A43	R44	*44aK	*44aaV
F	I45	D75	N77	D87	T88	K89	190	L91	G118	A119	K120
	V121	L122	G146	A147	V148	A232	A235	S236			
pd2.3	R22	G23	S24	S25	T26	Q27	T28	*28aV	D87	T88	K89
042.0	I111	A115	G118	A119	K120	V121	L122	S137	A138	V139	D140
	Y141	A142	W143	N144	K145	G146	A147	V148	V149	V150	I175
	A231	A232	A235	S236	N243	1246	R247	• 1 10	110	•150	1175
pd2.4	W-6	S12	T13	P14	A15	A16	V19	T21	R22	G23	S24
pu2. 4	Q27	L230	A231	L233	L234	A10 A235	\$236	Q237	G238	K239	N240
	Q27 N243	Q245	A251 I246	S270	L234 N271	A255 K272	8230 A273	Q237 V274	G238 R275	K239 Y276	11240
		-					A275 V93				8106
pd3.1	L31	K46	G47	Y48	F50	L91		S103	L104	D105	S106
	I107	A108	S109	G110	I111	R112	Y113	A114	A115	D116	Q117
	G118	L122	L124	C130	S132	T133	T134	L135	K136	S137	A138
	V139	D140	Y141	A142	Q167	P168	Y171	P172			

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pd3.2	V19 A232	T21 L233	R22 L234	G23 A235	S24 S236	Q27 Q237	K120 G238	V121 K239	V148 N240	L230 N243	A231 Q245	
	I246 Y276	R247	Q248	A249	I250	Q252	T253	K272	A273	V274	R275	
pd4.1	W-6	S12	T13	P14	A15	A16	W17	D18	V19	T21	R22	
	G23 V148	S24 G229	M84 L230	A85 A231	P86 A232	D87 L233	T88 L234	A142 A235	W143 S236	G146 Q237	A147 G238	
	K239 N271	N240 A273	N243 V274	V244 R275	Q245 Y276	I246	R247	Q248	A249	1250	S270	
pd4.2	W-6	T13	A16	W17	V19	T21	R22	G23	S24	*44aK	A73	
1	A74	*75aT	G83	M84	A85	P86	D87	T88	A142	G146	G146	
	A147	V148	G229	L230	A231	A232	L233	L234	A235	S236	Q237	
	G232 S270	K239 A273	N240 V274	N243 R275	V244 Y276	Q245	I246	R247	Q248	A249	I250	
pd4.3	T26 K46	Q27 G47	T28 Y48	*28aV D49	A29 D52	V30 R53	L31 D54	Y37 N55	*44aaV N56	I45 P57	M58	
	V72	T88	K89	190	L91	A92	V93	Y113	A114	A115	Q117	
	G118	A119	K120	V121	L122	N123	A147	A228	A232		L	
pd4.4	K46	G47	F50	L91	V93	S103	L104	D105	S106	I107	A108	
	S109	G110	I111	R112	Y113	A114	A115	D116	Q117	G118	C130	
	S132	T133	T134	L135	K136	S137	A138	V139	D140	Y141	Q167	
pd4.5	P168 T28	A169 *28aV	S170 A29	Y171 V30	P172 L31	N173 V35	A174 D36	Y37	N38	H39	L42	
Pano	A43	*44aaV	I45	K 46	G47	V 35 Y48	F50	N55	N56	P57	112	
	M58	K89	190	L91	A92	V93	A108	S109	G110	I111	R112	
	Y113	A114	A115	D116	Q117	G118	A119	L122				
pd5.0	F50	S103	L104	D105	S106	I107	A108	S109	G110	I111	R112	
	Y113 V139	A114 D140	A115 Y141	D116 A142	Q117	T133	T134	L135	K136	S137	A138	
pd6.1	Y4	Y6	G7	G63	H64	H67	V68	T71	N155	A179	F189	
	P201	G202	V203	N204	I205	A206	S207	V209	G213	Y214	S215	
- 16 2	Y216 W-6	M217	S218	G219	T220 V19	S221	M222	A223	S224 S24	P225	H226	
pd6.2	w-0 M84	T13 A85	A16 P86	W17 D87	T88	T21 G229	R22 L230	G23 A231	824 A232	S25 L233	Q27 L234	
	A235	S236	Q237	G238	S270	V274	L230	A251	A232	L233	L234	
pd7.0	R22	G23	S24	S25	Q27	T28	*28aV	A29	V30	V35	D36	
	Y37	N38	H39	P40	D41	L42	A43	R44	*44aK	*44aaV	T66	
	A69	G70	V72	A73	A74	D75	N77	A85	P86	D87	T88	
	K89	I90	L91	A119	V121	L122	N123	T208	A228	A231		
pd8.0	W-6	T13	A16	W17	T21	R22	G23	Q27	*44aK	A73	A74	
	*75aT	G83	M84	A85	P86	D87	T88	K120	V121	I175	A176	
	V177	G178	V196	D197	V198	T199	A200	V227	G229	L230	A231	
	A232 I246	L233 Q248	L234 A249	A235 I250	S236 Q252	Q237 T253	G238 A254	K239 F264	N240 Y265	N243 G266	Q245 I268	
pd9.0	W-6	¥6	G7	P8	Q232 Q9	N10	T11	S12	T13	P14	A15	
pus.0	A16	W17	D18	V19	T21	M84	V139	W143	V148	V149	A151	
	P168	A169	Y171	P172	N173	A174	I175	A176	D181	S182	N183	
	D184	D197	P201	L230	L233	L234	K239	N240	N243	V244	Q245	
	I246	R247	Q248	A249	I250	E251	Q252	T253	A254	K267	I268	
14 -	N269	S270	N271	K272	A273	V274	R275	Y276				
pd10.0	L124	L126	G127	C128	E129	C130	N131	L135	V139	A151	A152	
	A153 P168	G154 A169	N155 S170	D156 Y171	N157 A174	V158 I175	S160 A176	R161 N191	T162 Y192	F163 G193	Q167 T194	
	W195	A169 V196	T262	N263	A1 /4 F264	1175 *264aK	A170	11131	1192	6610	1194	
pd11.0	W-6	\$190 S-5	Y2	N203 Y4	Q5	Y6	G7	P8	Q9	N10	T11	
r	S12	T13	P14	W17	D18	V19	T21	A82	M84	I180	D181	
	S182	N183	D184	P201	G202	V203	N204	1205	H226	L233	S270	
	N271	V274	R275									
pd12.0	G127	C128	E129	V139	V148	V149	V150	A151	A152	A153	G154	
	N155	D156	V158	R161	T162	F163	Q167	P168	A169	S170	Y171	
	P172	N173	A174	I175	A176	V177	G178 W227	N191	Y192	G193	T194	
	W195	V196 E264	D197 *264.W	V198 V265	T199 G266	A200	V227	R247	I250	E251	A254	
pd13.1	N263 W-6	F264 S-5	*264aK P-4	Y265 D-2	G266 P-1	I268 Y1	Y2	S3	*3aA	Y4	Q5	P8
par3.1	w-0 Q9	S-3 S12	r-4 T13	D-2 P14	A15	A16	W17	55 D18	V19	14 T21	R22	10
	G80	V81	A82	N271	V274	R275	** 17	1010	+ 17	121	1122	
pd13.2	W-6	S-5	P-4	N-3	D-2	P-1	Y1	Y2	S3	*3aA	Y4	Q5
	P8	Q9	P14	W17	D41	G70	A74	D75	*75aT	N76	N77	×-
	G78	179	G8 0	V81	A82	G83	A206	S207	T208	Y214		
pd14.0	T28	V35	D36	Y37	N38	H39	P40	D41	L42	A43	R44	
	*44aK	*44aaV	I45	K46	G47	Y48	D49	F50	R53	D54		
	N55	N56	P57	M58	T66	A69	G70	A73	A74	D75	K89	I9 0
	L91	A92	V93	R94	Y113	T208						

pd15.0	V30	L31	D32	S33	G34	V35	D36	Y37	N38	H39	L42	
	A43	*44aaV	K46	Y48	D49	F50	I51	N56	P57	M58		
	D60	L61	N62	G63	H64	G65	T66	A69	I9 0	A92	V93	
	R94	V95	L96	D97	A98	G100	S101	G102	S103	S106	I107	
	G110	S125	L126	V209	P210	N211	N212					
pd16.0	W-6	S-5	P-4	N-3	Y2	G7	P8	Q9	N10	T11	S12	T13
-	P14	A15	A16	W17	D18	V19	T21	R22	*75aT	N76	A82	
	G83	M84	A85	P86	L233	N269	S270	N271				
pd17.1	T11	S12	A15	A16	D18	V19	T21	R22	G23	S24	Q27	
	L230	A232	L233	L234	A235	S236	Q237	G238	K239	N240	N243	
	Q245	I246	Q248	A249	Q252	T253	N269	S270	N271	K272	A273	
	V274	R275	Y276									
pd17.2	A108	I111	R112	A115	D116	K120	L124	T133	T134	L135	K136	
	S137	A138	V139	D140	Y141	A142	W143	N144	K145	G146	A147	
	V148	V149	P168	Y171	N173	A174	N243					
pd18.1	W-6	T13	A16	W17	V19	T21	R22	G23	S24	S25	*44aK	
	M84	A85	P86	D87	T88	K89	G229	L230	A231	A232	L233	
	L234	A235	S236	Q237	K239	A249	I250	T253	N269	S270	N271	
	K272	A273	V274	R275	Y276							
pd18.2	D-2	V30	V35	D36	Y37	N38	H39	P40	D41	L42	A43	
	R44	*44aK	*44aaV	I45	K46	G47	Y48	P57	T66	A69		
	G70	A73	A74	D75	*75aT	N76	N77	I79	V81	A82	A85	
	P86	D87	T88	K89	I90	L91	A92	V93	R94	T208		

[0505] For Lipolase, the following amino acid residues	
belong to the epitope area that correspond to each epitope	
sequence indicated in Table 4:	

lip2.1	Y53	F55	V63	L78	F80	W117	V120	A121	D122	T123	L124	
	R125	Q126	K127	V128	E129	D130	A131	V132	R133	V140	L159	
	R160	G161	N162	G163	Y164	D165	I166	G190				
lip2.2	V2	L6	F10	A173	P174	R175	A182	L193	Y194	R195	I196	
	T197	P204	R205	Y213	S214	H215	S216	S217	P218	E219	Y220	
	W221	I222	1235	V236	K237	I238	E239	I241	D242	A243	G246	
	N247	N248										
lip2.3	V2	L6	F10	A182	L185	T186	L193	Y194	R195	I196	T197	
	H215	S216	S217	P218	E219	Y220	W221	I222	I235	V236	K237	
	I238	E239	G240	I241	A243	G246	N247	N248				
lip2.4	V2	L6	F10	L193	Y194	R195	I196	T197	S216	S217	P218	
	E219	Y220	W221	I222	I235	V236	K237	I238	E239	G240	A243	
	G246	N247	N248									
lip3.0	L93	K94	F95	H110	A173	P174	R175	V176	G177	N178	R179	
	A182	L185	T186	L193	R195	N200	D201	I202	P204	R205	L206	
	P207	P208	R209	E210	F211	G212	Y213	S214	H215	S216	S217	
	P218	E219	I238	E239	G240	I241	D242	A243	T244	G245	N248	
	?R259?	P250	N251	I252	P253	D254	I255					
lip4.0	R175	V176	G177	N178	R179	A180	F181	A182	E183	F184	L185	
	T186	R205	P207	P208	R209	E210	F211	G212	Y213	S214	H215	
	S216	S217	I241	D242	N248							
lip5.1	A20	Y21	N25	N26	T50	F51	L52	Y53	S54	F55	E56	
	V63	T64	G65	F66	L67	A68	L69	I76	V77	L78	S79	F80
	R81	G82	S83	R84	S85	I86	E87	N88	W89	K127	V128	
	A131	H145	S146	L147	G148	L151	G266					
lip5.2	K94	F95	L96	L97	K98	E99	R108	G109	H110	D111	G112	
	R175	V176	G177	N178	R179	A180	F181	A182	E183	F184	R205	
	P207	P208	R209	E210	F211	G212	Y213	S214	H215	S216	I241	
	D242	N248										
lip6.0	Q9	F10	N11	F13	A14	S17	V63	F80	R81	W89	L93	
	F113	S116	W117	F142	T143	G144	H145	S146	L147	G148	G149	
	A150	L151	A152	T153	V154	A155	G156	A157	V168	F169	S170	
	Y171	G172	A173	P174	R175	V176	F181	L185	L193	Y194	R195	
	I196	T197	D201	V203	P204	L206	P207	H215	H258	Y261	F262	
	1265	/										
lip7.0	F13	A14	Q15	Y16	S17	A180	A19	A20	Y21	C22	G23	
	N25	N26	I34	C36	A40	C41	F51	L52	Y53	S54	F55	
	E56	V63	T64	G65	F66	L67	S79	F80	R81	V120	A121	
	D122	T123	L124	R125	Q126	K127	V128	L264	I265	120	11121	
	10166	1123	1127	K12J	Q120	IX127	¥ 120	1204	1200			

					-0	ontinue	d					
lip8.1	L12 A49	F13 T50	A14 F51	Q15 L52	Y16 F66	S17 L67	A18 A68	A19 L69	A20 D70	I34 N71	V44 T72	
	N73 V140	K74 V141	L75 T143	I76	V77	S79	H135	P136	D137	Y138	R139	
lip8.2	L12	F13	A14	Q15	Y16	S17	A18	A19	A20	I34	V44	
	A49	T50	F51	L52	Y53	S54	F55	G65	F66	L67	A68	L69
	D70 K127	N73 V128	L75	I76	V77	L78	S79	T123	L124	R125	Q126	
lip9.0	L6	F10	E129 N25	D130 N26	A131 D27	T143 A28	A30	G31	T50	F51	L52	
np2.0	Y53	S54	F55	E56	G65	F66	L67	A68	L69	176	T123	
	L124	R125	Q126	K127	V128	E129	D130	A131	V132	R1333	E134	
	H135	P136	R139	V140	V141	F142	G156	L159	R160	G161	N162	
	G163	Y164	D165	I166	D167	V168	F169	S170	G190	G191	T192	
	L193	Y194	R195	I196	Y220							
lip10.0	N11	L12	Q15	Y16	I34	T35	C36	C41	P42	E43	V44	
	E45	K46	A47	D48	A49	D70	N71	T72	N73	K74		
lip11.0	F95	L96	L97	K98	E99	I100	N101	D102	C107	R108	G109	
	H110		F113	T114	S115	A150	T153	V154	A173	P174 P207	R175	
	V176 R209	G177 F211	N178 G212	R179 Y213	F181 S214	V203 H215	P204 G240	R205 I241	L206	P207 A243	P208 T244	
	N248				5214	11213	0240	1241	D242	A245	1244	
lip12.0	L96	L97	K98	E99	I100	N101	D102	C104	S105	G106	C107	
	R108	G109	H110	T114	S115	V176	G177	N178	A180	F181	F184	
lip13.0	N11	L12	F13	A14	Q15	Y16	S17	A182	A19	A20	Y21	
	N26	I34	C36	A40	C41	P42	E43	V44	A49	F55	E56	1.70
	V63 S79	T64 F80	G65 R81	F66 G82	L67 S83	A68 R84	D70 W89	N73 W117	L75 L124	176 V128	V77 V141	L78
	579 F142	T143	G144	H145	S85 S146	L147	G148	G149	A150	L151	A152	
	A155											
lip14.0	Q9	F10	N11	F13	A14	S17	Y21	R81	G82	S83	R84	
	S85	186	E87	N88	W89	I90	G91	N92	L93	F113	T143	
	G144	H145	S146	L147	G149	A150	T153	V168	F169	S170	Y171	
	A173 P204	P174 L206	R175 P207	V176	L193 H258	Y194	R195 F262	I196	T197	D201	V203	
lip15.0	P204 N11	L206 L12	F13	H215 A14	Q15	Y261 Y16	F202 S17	I265 A18	G266 A19	A20	Y21	
np15.0	C22	G23	K24	N25	N26	D27	A28	I34	T35	C36	A40	
	C41	P42	E43	V44	E45	K46	A47	A49	F51	L52	Y53	
	S54	F55	E56	T64	G65	F66	L67	S79	F80	R81	T123	
	L124	K127	L264	I265								
lip16.0	A14	E87	I9 0	H145	G172	I196	T197	H198	T199	N200	D201	
	I202	P204	R205	W221	I222	K223	S224	G225	T226	G246	N247	
	N254	1252	P253	D254	1255	P256	A257	H258	L259	W260	Y261	
	F262	G263	1265									
lip17.0	E1	V2	F7	F10	G177	N178	R179	A180	F181	A182	E183	
	F184 S217	L185 P218	T186 E219	L193 Y220	R195 W221	H198 I222	T199 K223	G212 S224	S214 G225	H215 T226	S216 V228	
	S217 P229	V230	E219 T231	R232	W 221 N233	D234	K223 I235	8224 V236	G225 K237	1226 I238	E239	
	G240	V230 I241	D242	A243	N233 T244	G245	G246	V 230 I262	K 237	1230	12239	
lip18.0	Q9	F13	Y16	T32	N33	I34	C41	P42	E43	V44	E45	
r	K46	A47	D48	A49	T50	F51	L52	L67	A68	L69	D70	
	N71	T72	N73	L75	I76	V128	V132	H135	P136	D137	Y138	
	R139	V140	V141	F142	Y164	D165	I166	D167	F169	Y194		

[0506] For Amylase, the following amino acid residues belong to the epitope area that correspond to each epitope sequence indicated in Table 5:

je1.1	N2	G3	T4	R33		Y349	1352		T354		P360
	V362	D366	Y367	M378	K379	A380	K381	I382	D383	P384	1385
	L386	E387	A388	R389	Q390	N391	F392	A393	Y394	I450	T451
je1.2	Y57	D58	Y 60	D61	F65	N66	Q67	L104	G105	G106	A107
	D108	A109	T110	E111	A135	W136	T137	K138	F139	D140	F141
	P142	G143	R144	G145	N146	T147	Y148	S149	F151	K152	W153
	R154	F158									
je2.1	M6	Y8	E10	W11	H12	D26	L30	R33	V325	D326	N327
	H328	D329	S33 0	Q331	P332	G333	E334	E337	F339	K345	Y349
	V362	F363	Y364	G365	D366	Y367	Y368	G369	I370	P371	T372
	H373	S374	V375	P376	A377	M378	K379	I382	D383	L386	

						-comm	ucu					
je2.2	L289	L293	V314	P318	T323	F324	V325	D326	F339	K345	P346	
	L347	A348	Y349	A350	L351	1352	L353	T354	R355	F356	Q357	
	G358	Y359	P360	S361	V362	F363	Y364	G365	D366	Y367	Y368	
	G369	P376	A377	M378	K379	1382	1385	R389	Q397			
je2.3	N102	V116	E117	V118	P120	R123	D159		V161	D162	W163	
	Q168	F169	Q170	N171	R172	I173	Y174	K175	A182	W183	D184	
	V187	D188	N193	Y194	D195	Y196	L197	M198	Y199	A200	D201	
	V202	H236										
je2.4	T1	N2	T4	M6	Y8	D26	L30	R31	N32	R33	G34	I35
	V325	D326	F339	K345	Y349	L353	V362	F363	Y364	G365	D366	
	Y367	Y368	G369	I370	P376	A377		K379	I382	D383	P384	
	1385	L386	E387	A388	R389	Q390	N391	F392	Y394	H417		
je3.1	M6	Q7	Y8	F9	E10	L13	H19	W20	N21	R22	L23	
	R24	D25	D26	A27	S28	N29	L30	R31	N32	R33	1385	
	W39	I40	P41	P42	A43	W44	V52	G53	Y54	Y75	A87	L88
	N91	V93	D98	V 100	Y364	Y368						
je3.2	Y8	F9	W11	H19	W20	W39	I40	P41	P42	A43	W44	
	D51	V52	G53	Y54	G55	A56	Y75	D98	V99	V100	M101	
	N102	H103	L104	D195	L197	M198	A200	D201	V202	R230	I231	
	D232	A233	V234	K235	H236	I237	E262	H328				
je3.3	Y8	F9	H19	W20	W39	I40	P41	P42	A43	W44	K45	
	G46	T47	V52	G53	Y54	G55	A56	Y57	D58	L59	Q67	
	K68	Y75	D98	V100	L104	G105	G106	A107	D108	A109	T110	
	E111	A135	W136	T137	K138	F139	D140	F141	P142			
je4.1	L23	D25	D26	A27	S28	N29	L30	R31	N32	R33	G34	135
	T36	I38	A84	185	H86	A87	L88	K89	N90	N91	G92	
	V93	Q94	V95	Q390								
je4.2	A43	W44	K45	L59	Y 60	D61	L62	G63	E64	F65	V71	
	R72	T73	K74	Y75	G76	T77	R78	S79	Q80	L81	E82	
	S83	Y148	W219	Y220	T223	L224						

-continued

Example 4

[0507] Having identified 'antibody binding peptide' sequences and by consensus analysis also "epitope patterns" (e.g. >DF>>K>), one can identify potential epitope sequences on the 3-dimensional surface of a parent protein (=acceptor protein) in a semi-automated manner using the following method:

[0508] The anchor amino acid residues are transferred to a three dimensional structure of the protein of interest, by colouring D red, F white and K blue. Any surface area having all three residues within a distance of 18 Å, preferably 15 Å, more preferably 12 Å, is then claimed to be an epitope. The relevant distance can easily be measured using e.g. molecular graphics programs like Insight!! from Molecular Simulations Inc.

[0509] The residues in question should be surface exposed, meaning that the residue should be more than 20% surface exposed, preferably more than 50% surface exposed, more preferably 70% surface exposed. The percentage "surface accessible area" of an amino acid residue of the parent protein is defined as the Connolly surface (ACC value) measured using the DSSP program to the relevant protein part of the structure, divided by the residue total surface area and multiplied by 100. The DSSP program is disclosed in W. Kabsch and C. Sander, BIOPOLYMERS 22 (1983) pp. 2577-2637. The residue total surface areas of the 20 natural amino acids are tabulated in Thomas E. Creighton, PROTEINS; Structure and Molecular Principles, W.H. Freeman and Company, NY, ISBN: 0-7167-1566-X (1984).

[0510] Substitutions of one or more residue (s) within 18 Å, preferably 15 Å, more preferably 12 Å, around the geometri-

cal center of the residues involved in the epitope, for a bigger or smaller residues, may destroy the epitope, and make the protein less antigenic.

[0511] Residues involved in epitope is 2, preferably 3 and more preferably 4

Example 5

Production, Selection, and Evaluation of Enzyme Variants with Reduced Antiqenicity or Immunogenicity

[0512] Epitope sequences and hot-spots amino acids were mutated using standard techniques know to the person skilled in the field (e.g. site-directed mutagenesis, error-prone PCR—see for example Sambrook et al. (1989), Molecular Cloning. A Laboratory Manual, Cold Spring Harbour, N Y). **[0513]** In the examples shown below, variants were made by site-directed mutagenesis. Amino acid exchanges giving new epitopes or duplicating existing epitopes, according to the information collected in the epitope-database (See Example 1), were avoided in the mutagenesis process.

[0514] Enzyme variants were screened for reduced binding of antibodies raised against the backbone enzyme. Antibody binding was assessed by competitive ELISA as described in the Methods section.

[0515] Variants with reduced antibody binding capacity were further evaluated in the mouse SC animal model (See methods section).

Parent protein	Mutations	Target epitope sequences	% IgG response	% IgE response
Savinase	D181N	Sav11.0; Sav15.0 and Sav18.1. Hot spot amino acid.	50	19
Savinase	R170L; Q206E	Sav9.4; Sav10.4; Sav1.1; and Sav19.2	5	34
Savinase	R170L, S57P	Sav9.4; Sav10.4	45	12
Savinase	R247E	Sav2.3, Sav6.1, Sav18.2 Hot spot amino acid.	75	30
Savinase	R247Q	Sav2.3, Sav6.1, Sav18.2 Hot spot amino acid.	17	20
Savinase	R247H	Sav2.3, Sav6.1, Sav18.2 Hot spot amino acid.	40	27
Savinase	R247K	Sav2.3, Sav6.1, Sav18.2 Hot spot amino acid.	74	34

[0516] The following variants showed reduced IgE and/or reduced IgG levels in the mouse model:

Example 6

Production, Selection, and Evaluation of Enzyme Variants with Reduced Antigenicity or Immunogenicity

[0517] Hot-spots or epitopes were mutated using techniques known to the expert in the field (e.g. site-directed mutagenesis, error-prone PCR).

[0518] In the examples showed below, variants were made by site-directed mutagenesis. Amino acid exchanges giving new epitopes or duplicating existing epitopes according to the information collected in the epitope-database, were avoided in the mutagenesis process.

[0519] Enzyme variants were screened for reduced binding of antibodies raised against the backbone enzyme. This antibody binding was assessed by established assays (e.g. competitive ELISA, agglutination assay).

[0520] Variants with reduced antibody binding capacity were further evaluated in animal studies.

[0521] Mice were immunised subcutanuous weekly, for a period of 20 weeks, with 50 microliters 0.9% (wt/vol) NaCl (control group), or 50 microliters 0.9% (wt/vol) NaCl containing 10 micrograms of protein. Blood samples (100 microliters) were collected from the eye one week after every second immunization. Serum was obtained by blood clothing, and centrifugation.

[0522] Specific IgG1 and IgE levels were determined using the ELISA specific for mouse or rat IgG1 or IgE. Differences between data sets were analysed by using appropriate statistical methods.

A. Site-Directed Mutagenesis of Amino Acids Defining Epitopes, with an Effect on IgG1 and/or IgE Responses in Mice.

Epitope: A172/A169 R170A194 G193 N261

Pattern: AR>R>A>N

Antibody: IgG1+IgE

Backbone: Savinase

[0523] The variant carried the mutation R170F.

[0524] In a competitive IgE ELISA, this variant was less effective in competing for anti-savinase antibodies, giving a 15% lower endpoint inhibition as compared to the savinase backbone.

[0525] Mouse studies revealed an 80% reduction of the specific IgE levels, as compared to savinase backbone (p<0. 01). The IgG1 levels were not significantly affected.

Epitope: S216 E219 Y220

Pattern: E Y>M

Antibody: IgG1

Backbone: Lipoprime

[0526] The variant carried the mutation S216W.

[0527] In a competitive IgG ELISA, the variant was less effective in competing for Lipolase antibodies, giving a 38% decrease in endpoint inhibition as compared to the enzyme backbone.

[0528] Mouse studies revealed a 69% decrease in specific IgG1 levels, compared to the lipolase backbone (p<0.05). The IgE levels were not significantly affected.

B. Site-Directed Mutagenesis of Epitopes, with Examples of Epitope Duplication, and New Epitope Formation, Respectively, Predicted by the Epitope-Database.

Epitope: T143 N173 N140 E136 L135

Pattern: S/T NN>EL

Antibody: IgG1

Backbone: Savinase

[0529] The variant carried the mutation E136R.

[0530] In a competitive IgG ELISA, the variants were less effective in competing for savinase antibodies, giving a 38% decrease in endpoint inhibition as compared to the savinase backbone.

[0531] Mouse studies revealed a dramatic increase in specific IgG1 levels, compared to savinase backbone (p<0.01). The IgE levels were not significantly affected.

[0532] Mutation E136R establishes an IgG1 epitope of the R Y P R/K pattern, previously identified on PD498. Apparently, this new epitope was more antigenic in mice than the existing epitope. The introduction of a savinase unrelated epitope on the savinase backbone could explain the observed discrepancy between competitive ELISA and animal studies. **[0533]** In this example, it was found that using information derived exclusively from screening phage libraries with anti-

PD498 antibodies (to identify the R Y P R/K epitope pattern of Table 2) one could predict the outcome of a genetic engineering experiment for Savinase in which the E136R mutation created the PD498-epitope on the Savinase surface, leading to increased immunogenicity of this Savinase variant. This demonstrates that the epitope patterns identified may be used to predict the effect on immunogenicity of substitutions in proteins that are different from the parent protein(s) used to identify the epitope pattern.

C. Site-Directed Mutagenesis of Amino Acids Defining Epitope Areas, with a Differential Effect on IgG1 and IgE Antibody Levels in Mice, and an Inhibiting Effect on IgG Binding, Respectively.

Epitope: A172/A169 R170A194 G193 N261

Pattern: AR>R>A>N

Antibody: IgG1+IgE

Backbone: Savinase

[0534] Epitope area: P131, S132, A133, L135, E136, V139, A151, A152, S153, G161, S162, I165, S166, Y167, P168, Y171, N173, A174, A176, Q191, Y192, G195, L196, R247, S259, T260, L262, Y263, G264.

[0535] The variant was different at position Y167 by the mutation Y167I.

[0536] In a competitive IgE ELISA, the variant was less effective in competing for anti-savinase antibodies, giving a 8% lower endpoint inhibition as compared to the its backbone.

[0537] Mouse studies revealed a 75% reduction of the specific IgE levels, as compared to the backbone (p<0.01). In contrast, the IgG1 levels were dramatically increased (p<0.01).

Epitope: T143 N173 N140 E136 L135

Pattern: S/T NN>EL

Antibody: IgG1

Backbone: Savinase

[0538] Epitope area: V10A, 1107, A108, L111, E112, G115, S132, A133, T134, Q137, A138, V139, S141, A142, S144, R145, G146, V147, V149, Y167, P168, Y171, A172, A174, M175, N243, R247.

[0539] While variant no. 1 was mutated at the epitope position (N140D), variant no. 2 was mutated at N140 (N140D), but also at the epitope area position (A172D).

[0540] In a competitive IgG ELISA, variant no. 1 was less effective in competing for anti-savinase antibodies, as compared to savinase. This variant revealed a 21% lower endpoint inhibition as compared to the its backbone.

[0541] Variant no. 2 resulted in an endpoint inhibition that was 60% lower as compared to savinase, and 40% as compared to variant no. 1.

Example 7

Conjugation of Savinase Variant E136K with Activated Bis-PEG-1000

[0542] 4.9 mg of the Savinase variant was incubated in 50 mM Sodium Borate pH 9.5 with 12 mg of N-succinimidyl carbonate activated bis-PEG 1000 in a reaction volume of approximately 2 ml. The reaction was carried out at ambient

temperature using magnetic stirring while keeping the pH within the interval 9.0-9.5 by addition of 0.5 M NaOH. The reaction time was 2 hours.

[0543] The derivatives was purified and reagent excess removed by size exclusion chromatography on a Superdex-75 column (Pharmacia) equilibrated in 50 mM Sodium Borate, 5 mM Succinic Acid, 150 mM NaCl, 1 mM CaCl₂ pH 6.0.

[0544] The conjugate was stored at -20° C., in the above described buffer.

[0545] Compared to the parent enzyme variant, the protease activity of the conjugate was retained (97% using Dimethyl-casein as substrate at pH 9).

Example 8

[0546] Competitive ELISA was performed according to established procedures. In short, a 96 well ELISA plate was coated with the parent protein. After proper blocking and washing, the coated antigen was incubated with rabbit antienzyme polyclonal antiserum in the presence of various amounts of modified protein (the competitior).

[0547] The amount of residual rabbit antiserum was detected by pig anti-rabbit immunoglobulin, horseraddish peroxidase labelled.

Epitope:	T143 N173 N140 E136 L135
Pattern:	S/T N N > E L
Antibody:	IgG1
Backbone:	Savinase
Mutation:	E136K
Mutation:	E136K
Modification:	bis-NHS-PEG1000

[0548] The data show that the derivative (60% endpoint inhibition) has reduced capacity to bind enzyme specific immunoglobulines, as compared to the parent protein (100% endpoint inhibition).

Example 9

[0549] For this example the epitope sequences were determined in four environmental allergens (Bet v1; Der f2; Der p2 and PhI p2), based on their structures (1btv.pdb; 1ahm.pdb; a19v.pdb; and 1whp.pdb, respectively), sequences (SEQ ID NOS: 6, 7, 8 and 9, respectively) and computer modelling of the epitope patterns that had been assembled in our database (shown in Table 8). The allergens arise from common sources of allergy: Birch (Bet v1 from *Betula pendula*), House dust mites (Der f2 from *Dermatophagoides farinae* and Der p2 from *Dermatophagoides pteronyssinus*), and Timothy grass (PhI p2 from *Phleum pratense*).

[0550] The protein surface is scanned for epitope patterns matching the given "consensus" sequence of about 6-12 residues. First, residues on the protein surface that match the first residue of the consensus sequence are identified. Within a specified distance from each of these, residues on the protein surface that match the next residue of the consensus sequence are identified. This procedure is repeated for the remaining residues of the consensus sequence. The method is further described under the paragraph "Methods" above and the computer program can be found in the Appendixes.

[0551] The critical parameters used in this screening included:

[0552] i) a maximal distance between the alpha-carbon atoms of subsequent amino acids,

- **[0553]** ii) a minimal accessibility of the amino acid of 20 Å2,
- [0554] iii) the largest maximal distance between the most distinct amino acids should be less than 25 Å,
- [0555] iv) the 5 best epitopes were taken,
- [0556] v) the minimal homology with the epitope pattern of interest was 80%

[0557] In this way a number of potential epitopes are identified. The epitopes are sorted according to total surface accessible area, and certain entries removed:

- **[0558]** 1) Epitopes that contain the same protein surface residue more than once. These are artefacts generated by the described algorithm.
- **[0559]** 2) Epitopes which are "too big", i.e. where a distance between any two residues in the epitope exceeds a given threshold.

[0560] The epitope sequences found by this second generation mapping procedure were:

Bet v1:

Epi#02

A146, K32, Q36, F30, T142, R145, V12 A34, K32, Q36, F30, T142, R145, V12 Epi#03 L62, K65, ---, 156, Y66 L24, K20, H76, I23, Y81 L24, K20, H76, 1104, Y81 Epi#04 K134, S136, Q132, K129, A130, A135 K134, S136, Q132, K129, V128, G1 Epi#05 G140, A146, R145, T10, G111, A106, T107, V12G26, A146, R145, T10, G110, A106, T107, V12 G140, A146, R145, T10, G110, S11, S149, L152 G110, A106, S11, T9, G140, R145, T10, V12 G140, A146, R145, T10, G111, S11, S149, V12Epi#06 G110, P108, D109, T107, A106, P14 G111, P108, D109, T107, A106, P14 A34, N28, D27, S40, K32, P35 G26, N28, D27, S39, K32, P35 A106, N78, D75, T77, A16, P14 G26, N28, D27, S39, Q36, P35 Epi#07 G46, T52, D69, S99, R70, V71, P50, D72 G49, T52, D69, S99, R70, V71, P50, D72 G48, T52, D69, S99, R70, V71, P50, D72

Epi#08 K123, E127, G1, V2, H121, F3 K65, E60, F64, V67, F58 K65, E60, F58, V67, F64 K129, E127, G1, V2, H121, F3 Epi#09 S149, L152, D156, N159, R17, L24, D75, K103, N78, A106, V12 L152, S149, D156, N159, R17, L24, D75, H76, N78, A106, V12 L152, D156, N159, R17, L24, D75, K80, N78, A106, V12 Epi#10 D109, A106, N78, T77, F79, R17, K20 E141, T10, R145, T142, F30, G26, K32 E8, T10, R145, T142, F30, G26, K32 Epi#11 F30, K32, I38, Q36, V33, E148 F22, F30, I38, Q36, V33, E148 F30, L143, 138, Q36, V33, E148 Epi#12 Y5, E6 Y83, E73 Y120, E127 Y5. E8 Y66, E87 Y81, E73 Epi#13 H76, A16, P14, T107, A106, P108, G110, G111 A16, R17, P14, T107, A106, P108, G110, G111 A157, R17, P14, T107, A106, P108, G111, G110 Epi#15 K65, P90, D93, I91, K97, G92 K32, P31, D27, I56, K65, G61 Epi#17 A153, S149, R145, S11 A106, S11, R145, S149 Epi#18 R145, S149, L152, A153, Y150, L151, H154, S155 R145, S149, L152, A153, S155, L151, A157, N159 Epi#22

D125, D93, P90, K65 D93, P90, P63, E60

Epi#23

K55, N43, E42, S57, L62, P63 K68, N43, E42, S40, F30, P35 K54, N43, E42, S57, F64, P63 K55, N43, E42, S40, F58, P35 Epi#24 E96, K97, E87, P90, F64, E60, K65 E127, K123, E96, P90, F64, P63, K65 E42, K68, E87, P90, F64, E60, K65 E42, K55, E87, P90, F64, E60, K65 D93, G92, E87, P90, F64, E60, K65 D125, K123, E96, P90, F64, P63, K65 Epi#25 R70, K55, I44, E45, E42 R70, K54, I44, E45, N47 R70, K68, I53, E45, N47 Epi#27 D93, E127, D125, K123 Epi#28 A146, Q36, F58, E60, L62, F64, P63, K65 I38, Q36, F58, E60, L62, F64, P63, K65 A34, Q36, F58, E60, L62, F64, P63, K65 L143, Q36, F58, E60, L62, F64, P63, K65 V33, Q36, F58, E60, L62, F64, G61, K65 Epi#29 G61, K65, L62, F58, E60 156, K65, L62, F64, E60 G89, K65, L62, F64, E60 V67, K65, L62, F64, E60 Epi#30 G1, N4, S99, H121, K97, I91, P90 I113, I13, S149, H154, S155, L152, L151 I13, L152, A153, H154, S155, L151, V33 G110, I13, S149, H154, S155, L152, L151 G1, N4, S99, H121, K97, I98, V2 G1, N4, S99, H121, K97, I91, V85 Epi#33 K32, F30, P35, S39, S57, K65 Q36, F30, P35, S39, S40, K32 K32, F30, P35, S40, S57, K65 K65, F58, P35, S39, A34, R145

Epi#34 V105, P14, T107, V12, R145, Y150, S155 I113, P14, T107, V12, R145, Y150, S155 Epi#37 P50, V74, L24, R17, N159 P50, V74, L24, K20, N159 P14, R17, L24, K20, N159 Epi#38 L143, G140, E141, R145, V33, N28, P31, S39 L143, G140, E141, R145, V33, N28, P31, S40 L143, G140, E141, R145, V33, N28, P31, S57 Epi#39 A130, E127, H126, T94, P90, G89, L62 A130, E127, H121, T94, P90, G89, L62 Epi#40 A157, L152, A153, Y150, K32, S39 A153, L152, A157, Y150, K32, S40 R17, L151, A153, Y150, K32, S40 R145, L143, A34, Y150, A153, S155 R145, L143, G140, T9, K115, T10 Epi#41 P63, Y66, L62, S57 Epi#44 I23, R17, D156, Y150, S149, V12, T10 L24, R17, D156, Y150, S149, V12, P14 L24, R17, D156, Y158, A16, A106, P108 I13, R17, D156, Y150, S149, V12, T10 L151, R17, D156, Y150, S149, V12, T10 L24, R17, D156, Y150, S149, V12, T107 Epi#45 K32, P35, F30, Y150, R145, M139, G140 K32, P35, F30, Y150, R145, M139, L143 K32, P31, F30, Y150, R145, M139, G140 Epi#47 L152, S149, R145, L143, A34, F30, N28, P31, P35 A153, S149, R145, A146, A34, F30, N28, P31, P35 Epi#48 E60, K65, P90, P63, G61 E60, K65, P63, P90, G92 Epi#51 T94, H126, E127, D125, G124, K123, H121 D125, H126, E127, T94, K123, T122, H121

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Der f2: Epi#02 A98, K100, S101, P99, R128, R31 A98, K100, R128, P99, R31, V94 T91, N93, P95, P34, R31, R128 L61, N93, P95, P34, R31, R128 Epi#03 L40, K15, A39, I13, Y86 L40, K14, A39, I88, Y90 Epi#05 G32, A98, R31, P34, G20, T36, T91, Y90 G32, A98, R31, P34, G20, T36, T91, V94 G32, A98, R31, P34, G20, T36, T91, L37 G32, A98, R31, P34, G20, T36, T91, V18 Epi#06 A98, P99, D129, R31, K96, P95 G32, P99, D129, R128, R31, P95 A98, P99, D129, R31, K33, P95 A98, P99, D129, R31, K96, P34 A98, P99, D129, R128, K126, P26 Epi#07 T107, S57, D59, S101, R128, A98, P99, D129 T107, S57, D59, S101, R31, A98, P99, D129 Epi#08 K15, D87, V76, H74, F75 K14, D87, V76, H74, F75 K77, D87, V76, H74, F75 Epi#09 L61, D64, I68, H74, F75, T70, N71 N114, N46, D113, K48, N71, T70, T49 G83, N46, D113, K48, N71, T70, T49 Epi#10 L40, I13, D42, N44, V81, K48, N46, N114, G115 L40, I13, D42, N44, V81, K82, N46, N114, G115 L37, D19, G20, V18, V3, D4, K6, A120, T107, V105 Epi#11 F75, K51, I111, Q45, V116, D113 F75, K51, I111, Q45, V81, D113 Epi#12 Y90, E38 Epi#13 H30, R31, P95, A98, P99, S101, G60, L61

Epi#15 [0561] K96, P99, D129, 128, R128, A98 K96, P99, D129, I127, R128, A98 K96, P99, D129, I29, R128, A98 K55, P66, D64, I68, T70, G67 Epi#18 R31, R128, I28, G125, T123, H124, V105 R31, R128, I127, G125, T123, H124, V105 Epi#22 D1, M17, D4, V3, K6 D1, M17, D19, P34, K96 D1, M17, D4, V5, K6 Epi#23 K14, N11, E12, N44, Q85, P79 K14, N11, E12, N10, Q45, P79 K14, N11, E12, N44, Q84, P79 K14, N11, E12, L40, Q85, P79 Epi#24 D129, K100, E102, P99, R128, R31, K96 E62, G60, E102, P99, R128, R31, K96 D129, K126, E102, P99, R128, R31, K33 D129, K126, E102, P99, R31, P95, K96 Epi#25 R31, K96, I97, D59, E62 R128, R31, I97, D59, E102 R128, K126, I127, E102, N103 Epi#27 D64, E62, D59, K100 D59, E62, D64, K55 D87, E38, D19, K33 D19, E38, D87, K15 D19, E38, D87, K14 D19, E38, D87, K77 Epi#28 V16, D87, Q85, K14, E12, K15, Q2, D1 I13, D87, Q85, K14, E12, K15, Q2, D1 V3, D1, Q2, K15, E12, K14, Q85, D87 L40, D87, Q85, K14, E12, K15, Q2, D1 I88, D87, Q85, K14, E12, K15, Q2, D1 V76, D87, Q85, K14, E12, K15, Q2, D1 V18, D1, Q2, K15, E12, K14, Q85, D87

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Epi#29 G32, N93, L61, E62 V94, N93, L61, E62 Epi#30 G60, I97, A98, H30, K96, P34, P95 I68, N71, H74, K77, P79, V81 G32, I97, A98, H30, K96, P95, P34 Epi#34 V105, P26, S24, G125, R128, S101, P99 W92, P34, T91, V94, R31, S101, P99 I28, P26, T123, G125, R128, S101, P99 Epi#37 A120, V16, L40, K14, N11 A39, V16, L40, K14, N11 Y90, A39, L40, K14, N11 Y86, A39, L40, K14, N11 Epi#39 A120, E38, T91, P34, G20, L37 A39, E38, T91, P34, G20, L37 Epi#40 G20, L37, A120, T123, K6, S24 A39, L37, A120, T123, K6, S24 G20, L37, A120, T107, K6, T123 Epi#41 P34, L37, V106, S57 Epi#42 P26, S24, G125, R128, R31 P99, S101, G125, R128, R31 Epi#44 V16, Q2, D19, P34, W92, Y90, A39, V18, T91 V16, Q2, D19, P34, W92, Y90, A39, V5, T123 V3, Q2, D19, P34, W92, Y90, A39, V18, T91 Epi#45 K77, H74, F75, N71, D69, G67 [0562] K77, H74, F75, N71, D69, V76 K77, H74, F75, N71, D69, V65 Epi#46 A98, R128, R31, P95, N93, G32 A98, R128, R31, P34, G20, Q2 Epi#48 Q2, D19, P34, P95, G32 H30, K96, P95, P34, G20

Epi#49 D87, D42, L40, Q85, Q84, C78, T47, Q45, K48 D87, D42, L40, Q85, Q84, C78, T47, Q45, K82 Epi#50 D19, W92, P34, T91 D19, W92, P34, P95 D19, W92, T91, T36 Epi#51 D129, H30, K33, R31, R128, K126, H124 R31, H30, D129, R128, K100, K126, H124 T123, H124, K126, R128, R31, K33, H30 Der p2: Epi#03 L17, K89, A39, I13, Y86 L17, K89, A72, I88, Y90 L17, K89, A72, I52, Y90 Epi#04 K15, S1, Q2, K14, V16, L17 [0563] K15, S1, Q2, K14, A39, L17 K15, S1, Q2, K14, V40, I13 Epi#05 G60, A56, L61, P99, G32, R31, H30, I97 G60, A56, L61, P99, G32, R31, H30, I28 Epi#06 G60, A56, D64, S57, K55, P66 G83, N46, D114, T49, K48, P79 G60, N103, D59, S101, R31, P95 Epi#08 K55, D64, S57, V106, F35 K55, E62, S57, V106, F35 Epi#09 L61, G60, E102, R128, I28, K126, N103, T123, V105 L61, G60, E102, R128, I127, K100, N103, T123, V105 L61, G60, E102, R128, I127, H124, N103, T123, V105 Epi#10 SAS: 435, Size 24.47: D69, T91, N93, F35, G32, R31 SAS: 422, Size 20.74: E38, T91, N93, F35, G32, K96 Epi#11 K14, I13, Q85, V81, E42 K15, I13, Q85, V81, E42

K14, I13, Q85, V40, D87

Epi#12 Y86, E42 Y90, E53 Y90, E38 Epi#13 H30, A125, P26, T123, A122, P19, L37, P34, W92 H30, A125, P26, T123, A122, H124, S24, G23, G20 H30, A125, P26, T123, A122, P19, L17, G20, F35 Epi#15 K55, P66, D69, I68, K89, A72 K55, P66, D69, I68, K89, A39 K55, P66, D64, I54, K109, G115 K55, P66, D64, I54, K109, A9 Epi#18 R31, I29, A125, S101, E102, N103 R31, I29, A125, S101, E102, V104 R31, I29, A125, T123, A122, V105 Epi#22 D69, P66, D64, V65, K55 D64, P66, D69, T91, K89 D59, L61, D64, P66, W92 D59, L61, D64, V65, E62 D69, P66, D64, V65, E53 Epi#24 D64, K55, E62, P99, R31, P34, K96 E53, K55, E62, P99, R31, P95, K96 D64, K55, E62, P99, R31, A98, K96 Epi#25 R31, H30, I28, E102, N103 R128, K126, I127, E102, N103 R128, K126, I28, E102, V105 Epi#27 D64, E53, D69, K89 D69, E53, D64, K55 D59, E62, D64, K55 Epi#28 V40, D87, Q85, E42, Q84, G83, K82 G20, H22, Q2, L17, E38, L37, Q36, P34, K33 G20, H22, Q2, L17, E38, L37, F35, P34, K33 Epi#29

197, K100, L61, E62

G60, N103, L61, E62

I127, N103, L61, E62

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Epi#30 G60, N103, S101, H30, K96, I97, P95 G60, N103, A125, H30, K96, I97, P95 I28, I127, A125, H30, K96, I97, P95 Epi#33 Q36, F35, V106, S57, A56, K55 K33, F35, V106, S57, A56, K55 Epi#34 I28, P26, S24, G23, G20, T123, S57 I28, P26, S24, V3, G20, T123, T107 W92, P34, T91, V18, G20, T123, P26 Epi#37 P66, V63, L61, K100, N103 P95, A98, L61, K100, N103 P19, V18, L17, K89, D87 P19, V3, L17, K89, D87 T123, V104, L61, K100, N103 Epi#38 L61, G60, E102, A125, V105, N103, P99, S57 L61, G60, E62, A56, V105, N103, P99, S57 Epi#39 A125, E102, H124, T123, P26, G20, L17 Epi#40 G60, L61, A56, T107, K6, T123 A39, L17, G20, T123, P26, S24 G60, L61, A56, T107, K55, S57 G60, L61, A56, T123, K126, S101 Epi#41 P19, L17, V3, S1 P19, L17, V5, S24 Epi#44 V65, D64, P66, W92, Y90, A39, V18, P19 L61, D64, P66, W92, Y90, A39, V18, T91 Epi#45 R31, P34, F35, N93, V94 K96, P34, F35, N93, G32 Epi#47 1127, S101, R31, I97, A98, L61, N103, P99, P95 I28, S101, R31, I97, A98, L61, N103, P99, S57 Epi#48 H30, K96, P95, P99, G60 H30, K96, P34, P19, G20 H30, K96, P34, P19, V18

H30, K96, P34, P95, V94 H30, K96, P34, P19, V3 E38, K89, P70, P66, V65 H30, K96, P95, P34, G32 Q36, K89, P70, P66, V65 Epi#50 D69, Y90, W92, P66, P70 D69, Y90, W92, P34, P95 D69, Y90, W92, T91, P34 D69, Y90, W92, V94, P95 D69, Y90, W92, L37, P19 Epi#51 K126, H124, E102, R128, I28, R31, H30 T123, H124, K126, R128, I28, R31, H30 D4, H124, K126, R128, I28, R31, H30 PhI p2: Epi#02 T87, K85, Q61, S38, R34, R67 T87, K85, Q61, P63, R34, V42 Epi#03 K10, A90, I88, Y86 K10, A18, I88, Y86 Epi#04 R34, S38, Q61, K85, T87, I88 R34, S38, Q61, K85, T87, A90 Epi#05 G47, A18, S12, T87, G89, T91, T5, V1 G73, A29, L69, T27, G50, T53, T45, V42 G11, A18, L20, T91, G89, A90, T87, I88 Epi#06 A93, P94, D79, R34, Q61, P59 A93, P94, D79, R34, Q61, P83 A93, P94, D80, R34, Q61, P59 A93, P94, D79, R34, Q61, P63 Epi#08 K10, E9, G11, A18, H16, F54 K46, E48, G47, A18, H16, F54 K10, E9, S12, A18, H16, F54 Epi#09

L69, T27, G73, N76, R67, V77, D79, R34, A43, T45, V42 L69, T27, A29, E30, R67, V77, D80, R34, A43, T45, V42 Epi#10 D55, A18, N13, S12, F54, G47, K46 T45, A18, N13, S56, F54, G47, K46 Epi#09 L60, S56, E57, D55, K15, N13, S12, G11 L60, S56, E57, D55, H16, F54, T45, T53 L60, S56, E57, D55, H16, F54, T45, G47 Epi#12 Y86, E84 Y23, E24 Epi#18 N76, R67, F78, V81, A93, Y92, T91, T5, P2, V1 Epi#19 D39, W41, S38, Q61, R34, G37 E40, W41, S38, Q61, R34, A43 Epi#22 D79, P94, D80, P83, K85 D79, P94, D80, P63, K85 Epi#23 K10, N13, E14, L60, Q61, P59 K10, N13, E14, L60, Q61, P83 K10, N13, E14, L60, Q61, P63 Epi#24 E58, K15, E57, P59, S56, E14, Q61 D55, K15, E57, P59, S56, E58, Q61 Epi#25 R34, R67, W41, D39, E40 Epi#26 S38, E40, W41, V42, E32, E30 S38, E40, W41, V42, A43, E32 Epi#27 E14, E57, E58, K15 D55, E14, E84, K85 Epi#28 G37, H36, Q61, K85, E84, L60, F54, A43, K46 G37, H36, Q61, K85, E84, L60, F54, S12, D55 G37, H36, Q61, K85, E84, L60, F54, S56, D55 G37, H36, Q61, K85, E84, L60, F54, A43, R67 G37, H36, Q61, K15, E57, L60, F54, A43, K46 G37, H36, Q61, K85, E84, L60, F54, S12, K15 G37, H36, Q61, K85, E84, L60, F54, S56, K15 G37, H36, Q61, K85, E84, L60, F54, A43, R34 G37, H36, Q61, K85, E84, L60, F54, A18, D55

Epi#29	Epi#44
G73, K72, L69, R67, E30	V77, R67, D79, P94, Y92, A93, V1, P2
I88, N13, L60, F54, E57	L69, R67, D79, P94, Y92, A93, V1, T5
G25, K72, L69, R67, E32	Epi#45
V77, K75, L69, R67, E30	D79, P94, F78, N76, M74, L69
G37, H36, L60, F54, E57	D80, P94, F78, R67, D79, V77
G37, Q61, L60, F54, E57	K3, P94, F78, N76, M74, G73
Epi#30	Epi#46
I88, N13, S12, H16, K15, P59, L60	A43, R67, R34, P63, H36, Q61
I88, N13, S56, H16, K15, L60, P59	V77, R67, R34, P63, H36, G37
I88, N13, A18, H16, K15, P59, L60	L69, R67, R34, P63, G37, Q61
Epi#33	Epi#47
K46, F54, V42, S56, K15	G37, E35, E40, A43, R34, L60, N13, P59, S56
H16, F54, V42, S56, K15	V77, E32, E40, A43, R34, L60, N13, P59, S56
Epi#34	S38, G37, E40, A43, R34, L60, N13, P59, S56
V1, P2, T5, V4, P94, Y92, T87	Epi#48
V1, P2, T5, L20, G89, T91, T87	E24, K3, P94, P2, V1
V81, P94, T5, V1, P2, Y92, T91	E84, D80, P94, P2, V1
Epi#37	Epi#50
T27, A29, L69, K72, D26	D39, W41, A43, T45
A43, R67, L69, K75, N76	D39, W41, V42, T45
Epi#38	Epi#51
L20, G89, E9, A18, N13, P59, S56	D79, H36, E84, T87, K10, G11, H16
Epi#40	D39, H36, Q61, K85, P63, R34, W41
G49, L20, G89, Y86, K85, T87	D79, H36, E40, D39, G37, R34, W41
G49, L20, G89, T87, K10, S12	Q61, H36, E84, T87, K10, G11, H16
G49, L20, G89, T87, K10, T7	[0564]

TABLE 8

Each row indicates an epitope pattern. At each position (from 1 to maximum of 12) the cells indicate which amino acids (single letter coding) are allowed at that position. The last column indicates the patterns identified using IgE antibody binding.

Epitope Pattern						Posit	ion						
Number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
1	TS	RQ	YS	NHC	KR	KR	Ρ	HNP	L				IgE
2	RV	R	Y-	PST	FR-	ALPQS- (SEQ ID NO: 197)	RKN	ALT					IgE
3	Y	I	AH-	K	L								
4	AGIL (SEQ ID NO: 198)	ANRTV- (SEQ ID NO: 199)	KRY	Q	S	Υ-	KR						
5	GILVY (SEQ ID NO: 200)	STH	ASTR- (SEQ ID NO: 201)	G	PT-	RNAFLS (SEQ ID NO: 202)	A	G					IgE

TABLE 8-continued

	1					Deedt	4						
		2	3	4	5	Posit	7	8	9	10	11	12	
	Ρ	KRQSA (SEQ ID NO: 203)	STRC (SEQ ID NO: 204)	D	PAN	GA							IgE
7 1	D	Ρ	AV-	R	S-	D	S-	Т	G				
8	F	HI-	VA-	FSG-	DE-	KA							IgE
	NRGLTV- (SEQ ID NO: 205)		ANF	RKH	D-	AILV- (SEQ ID NO: 207)	R-	(ENRSV- SEQ ID NO: 208)		DGNT- (SEQ ID NO: 209)	LIS-		IgE
10	KR	RG	F	C-	AST-	RN	NTA	DECT (SEQ ID NO: 210)					IgE
11	DE	V-	Q	I	FLK	F							
12	E	Y											IgE
	FWYGL (SEQ ID NO: 211)	PG	ALS-	РН	A	Τ-	Ρ	LRWA (SEQ ID NO: 212)	SAH				IgE
14	GV	Q	ILV	I-	Y	GNR	DN	TEH					
15 .	AG	RKQT- (SEQ ID NO: 213)	I	D	Ρ	RKN							IgE
16	DN	А	DA	SDN	QRSW (SEQ ID NO: 214)	GMR	У	Ρ	RQL				
17	S-	R	S	A									
	(SEQ ID	AEHNPT- (SEQ ID NO: 216)		L-	ST-	Υ-	GAL	LIV-	CSF-	R	FRN-	SD	IgE
	AGLKM (SEQ ID NO: 217)	R	Q	QSC	NTW	DEI							IgE
20	D	G	D	KN	L	LF-	Ρ	к	v	A			IgE
21	Ρ	S	I-	I	LR-	CI							IgE
	(SEQ ID NO: 218)	ACLPTV WY- (SEQ ID NO: 219)		ASLPM- (SEQ ID NO: 220)									IgE
23	AP	LQF	SYLN- (SEQ ID NO: 221)	Е	N	RK							IgE
24		(SEQ ID	TSFR (SEQ ID NO: 223)		EA	GK	DE						IgE
25	ENV	DE	IW-	RKH	R								IgE
26	DE	AGE	PHV	W	E-	S	W						IgE

TABLE 8-continued Each row indicates an epitope pattern. At each position (from 1 to maximum of 12)

Epitope Pattern						Posit	ion						
Number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
28	DKR	APSG- (SEQ ID NO: 224)	QF -	CFIKLW- (SEQ ID NO: 225)		FIKLW- (SEQ ID NO: 226)	Q	DH-	AGILV (SEQ ID NO: 227)				Ig
29	Е	RF-	L	KRQHNG P (SEQ ID NO: 228)	GILV (SEQ ID NO: 229)								Ig
30	LVP	LIP	IKLPQS- (SEQ ID NO: 230)		AS -	LIMN (SEQ ID NO: 231)	GI						
31	D	FI-	MV -	FW	R	N	QR	L					
32	v	f-	DE	A	А	F							
33	KR	SA-	S	VP	YF	KQH							Ig
34	STP	STY	GPR-	GLV	STM	WP	IVW						
35	I	М	S	A-	L	AG							
36	AW	A	PV-	K-	Q-	ST	¥-	G-	V-	A	A	TP	Ig
37	NYD	KR	L	ARV	TYAP (SEQ ID NO: 232)								Ig
38	S	P	N	LR-	RV-	AR-	Е	G	L				
39	L	G	Ρ	RT-	HL-	Е	A						
40	ST-	APK-	YT	AG	L-	AGR							Ig
41	St	V-	L	Yh-	P-								
42	RQ	R	P-	H-	NQG	S	P	L					
43	Т-	RI	ML	S	HQ	GL	YA	WC	I				
44	РТ	AGV	SA	У	W -	P-	D-	RQ-	ILVS (SEQ ID NO: 233)				Ig
45	LVG	MD -	RN	Y-	F	PH	KRD						Ig
46	AGQ	HNQGC (SEQ ID NO: 234)		R	R	AVLCY (SEQ ID NO: 235)							Ig
47	PS	RP	N	LFQA- (SEQ ID NO: 236)		AILMNV (SEQ ID NO: 237)		AGSYLE (SEQ ID NO: 238)					
48	GV	Ρ	Ρ	KHQD (SEQ ID NO: 240)	SHQE (SEQ ID NO: 241)								
49	KIN	Q-	TMC	WYC-	Q	Q	FP-	VP-	L	W -	D		
50	PST	STAPLW V (SEQ ID NO: 242)	W	WY-	RHD								

TABLE 8-continued

	the	e cells i	ndicate w	/hich ami	no acids	(single	letter c	oding) a	are allow	timum of 1 wed at that tibody bir	at	
Epitope Pattern		Position										
Number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
51	WH	TSKHRQ G (SEQ ID NO: 243)			DEKQHT Q(SEQ ID NO: 246)		RKQDT (SEQ ID					
52	Q	DNT -	W	R	STRE- (SEQ ID NO: 248)	A	FW					

Example 10

[0565] For this example the third-generation epitope sequences were determined in further 11 environmental allergens (Bosd2, Equc1, Gald4-mutant (with alanine substituted for glycine in position 102), Hevb8, Profillin1-AC, Profillin1-AT, Profillin2-AC, Profillin-birch pollen, Rag weed pollen5 and Vesv5), based on their structures sequences (SEQ ID NOS: 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22, respectively), their structures (1bj7.pdb, 1ew3.pdb, 1flu.pdb, 1g5u.pdb, 1prq.pdb, 1a0k.pdb, 1f2k.pdb, 1cqa.pdb, 1bbg.pdb, and 1qnx.pdb, respectively), and computer modelling of the epitope patterns that had been assembled in our database (shown in Table 8). Further, the epitope sequences of the four environmental allergens of example 9, Bet v1, Der f2, Der p2, and PhI p2, were redetermined.

[0566] The additional allergens arise from common sources of allergy: cows (Bos d2 which is a bovine member of the lipocalin family of allergens), horses (Equ C1, a major horse allergen also of the lipocalin family), Hen egg white (Lysozyme Gal D 4), Latex (Hey b8, a profilin from *Hevea brasiliensis*), *Acanthamoeba castellani* (Profilin1-AC, a profilin isoform IA and Profilin2-AC, a profilin isoform II), *Arabidosis thaliana* (Profilin1-AT a cytoskeleton profilin), Birch (Profilin-birch pollen (Birch pollen profilin), Rag weed pollen5 (Ragweed pollen allergen V from *Ambrosia trifida*) and whasp venom (Ves v5 allergen from Vespula vulgaris venom).

[0567] The protein surface is scanned for epitope patterns matching the given "consensus" sequence of about 6-12 residues. First, residues on the protein surface that match the first residue of the consensus sequence are identified. Within a specified distance from each of these, residues on the protein surface that match the next residue of the consensus sequence are identified. This procedure is repeated for the remaining residues of the consensus sequence. The method is further described under the paragraph "Methods" above and the program can be found in Appendixes.

[0568] The critical parameters used in this screening included:

- **[0569]** i) a maximal distance between the alpha-carbon atoms of subsequent amino acids,
- **[0570]** ii) a minimal accessability of the amino acid of 20 Å2,

- [0571] iii) the largest maximal distance between the most distinct amino acids should be less than 25 Å,
- [0572] iv) the best epitope were taken,
- [0573] v) the homology with the epitope pattern of interest was 100%

[0574] In this way a number of potential epitopes are identified. The epitopes are sorted according to total surface accessible area, and certain entries removed:

- **[0575]** a. Epitopes that contain the same protein surface residue more than once. These are artefacts generated by the described algorithm.
- [0576] b. Epitopes which are "too big", i.e. where a distance between any two residues in the epitope exceeds a given threshold.
- [0577] The epitope sequences found were:

Bosd2:

Epi#01

L65, P155, P156, R17, R40, N37, Y39, R41, T67

L65, P155, P156, R17, R40, N37, Y39, R41, S52

L64, P155, P156, R17, R40, N37, Y39, R41, T54

Epi#02

T121, K150, S122, R17, P156, Y39, R41, R40

T121, K150, S122, R17, P156, Y56, R36, V30

Epi#03

L128, K130, H92, 17, Y76

L134, K130, H92, 17, Y76

L128, K130, H92, 191, Y76

Epi#04

R72, Y76, S50, Q73, K71, V69, I45

K71, Y76, S50, Q73, R72, V69, L80

K71, Y76, S50, Q73, R72, V69, I42

Epi#06 G14, P13, D47, S10, K11, P9 G14, P13, D47, S10, S94, P9 G14, P13, D47, C44, S10, P9 Epi#08 K71, E49, S50, V69, F82 K71, E49, S50, V79, F82 Epi#09 17, S10, D8, E95, K119, N96, S122, T121 S10, I7, D8, E95, K11, N96, S122, T124 Epi#10 E15, T54, R41, T67, F55, R17, K119 E43, T54, R41, T67, F55, R17, K119 E31, T151, N153, C63, F55, R40, R41 E31, T151, N153, C154, F55, R41, R17 Epi#11 K26, I145, Q132, E143 K26, I145, Q132, E137 K26, I145, Q132, E129 Epi#12 Y105. E108 Y83. E81 Epi#15 N153, P156, D152, I149, T121, G120 R17, P156, D152, I149, T121, G120 N153, P156, D152, I149, R17, G14 Epi#18 R109, 1110, G107, Y83, T85, E81, V69 R109, 1110, G107, Y105, T85, E81, V69 Epi#19 E43, N46, S50, Q73, R72, K71 D47, N46, S50, Q73, R72, G75 E49, N46, S50, Q73, R72, K71 I45, N46, S50, Q73, R72, K71 Epi#20 V30, K28, P34, L57, L65, K58, D59, G32, D27 V30, K28, P34, L57, L64, K58, D59, G33, D27 Epi#22 D8, S10, D47, P13, E15 D8, S10, D47, P13, E43 D47, S10, D8, V93, E95 D8, S10, D47, C48, K71

Epi#23 K119, N96, E127, S122, L128, P125 K150, N147, E146, Y20, F123, P125 K11, N96, E127, S122, L128, P125 Epi#24 E129, K130, E126, P125, S122, L128, Q133 E126, K130, E129, P125, S122, R17, K119 E126, K130, E129, P125, T124, L128, Q133 Epi#25 R72, K71, I45, D47, N46 R72, K71, I45, E43, N46 Epi#27 D47, E49, E74, K71 D24, E143, E146, K150 D47, E43, E15, K119 Epi#28 L134, Q133, L128, E126, K130, F123, S122, K150 Q132, K130, E126, L128, F123, S122, K150 L65, D59, Q60, K58, E31, L57, G32, D27 G61, D59, Q60, K58, E31, K28, G32, D27 Epi#29 V69, K71, L80, R72, E74 I45, K71, L80, R72, E74 G61, Q60, L64, F55, E68 Epi#30 G120, N96, S94, H92, K130, L128, P125 I91, I7, S94, H92, K130, L128, P125 Epi#33 K130, F123, P125, S122, K150 K71, Y76, P9, S10, S94, K119 Epi#34 I7, P9, S10, G14, R17, T121, S122 I45, P13, S10, G14, R41, Y39, P156 Epi#37 T67, V69, L80, K71, Y76 P156, R40, L65, K58, D59 P155, R40, L65, K58, N153 Epi#38 L80, G84, E108, R109, N25, P141, S136 Epi#39 E137, R138, P141, G139, L134 E31, L57, R36, P34, G84, L80

Epi#40 R17, G120, T121, K150, S122 R17, G120, T121, K150, T151 Epi#41 P34, Y83, L80, V69, S52 P34, Y83, L80, V79, S50 Epi#42 L128, P125, S122, G120, R17, R41 L128, P125, S122, G120, R17, R40 Epi#44 S10, D47, P9, Y76, S50, V69, T67 I45, D47, P9, Y76, S50, V69, T67 Epi#45 D27, P34, F82, Y105, R109, D106, G107 D59, P34, F82, Y105, R109, D106, G107 K58, P34, F82, Y105, R109, D106, G107 D27, P34, F82, Y105, R109, D106, G84 Epi#46 Y39, R41, R40, P155, C63, Q60 Y20, R17, R40, P155, C63, Q60 Epi#47 L128, E126, E129, L134, R138, Q133, N142, P141, S136 V69, E81, E68, I42, R41, F55, N37, R40, P156 V69, E43, E15, I42, R41, F55, N37, R40, P156 S122, E127, E129, L134, R138, Q133, N142, P141, S136 Epi#48 E43, D47, P13, P9, V93 S10, D47, P9, P13, G14 E43, D47, P13, P9, V90 E49, D47, P13, P9, V93 Equc1: Epi#02 L66, N68, A65, F90, S69, Y72, R64, V89 A65, R64, S31, F28, S112, Y123, R110, V108 L179, R180, Q178, F177, P143, Y38, R141, V145 L66, R64, S31, F28, S112, Y123, R110, V125 L66, N68, A65, F90, S69, Y72, R64, V62 Epi#03 K32, A65, I63, Y72 Epi#05 G35, A65, S69, T93, G97, R26, S112, Y123 G35, A65, S69, T93, G97, R26, S112, I25

Epi#07 G97, T93, S70, D91, S100, R110, V125, P132, D128 Epi#08 K129, D130, F127, V108, F90 K129, D130, F127, V108, F109 K129, D130, F127, V125, F136 K129, D130, F127, V125, F133 Epi#10 E48, N53, N80, T77, C83, F177, R175, K172 E82, N80, N53, T77, C83, F177, G181, R180 E52, N53, N80, T77, C83, F177, R175, K172 Epi#11 F133, K47, I167, Q158, V163, E165 Epi#12 Y38, E142 Y38, E36 Y139, E142 Epi#13 K129, P132, D45, 1167, Q158, G161 R131, P132, D45, 1167, K164, G161 Epi#16 P87, Y72, R64, S70, S69, D67, A65, N68 Epi#17 A65, S31, R64, S34 Epi#18 R64, S31, I30, A65, S34, L66, N68, S69 Epi#19 E82, N80, C83, Q178, R175, K172 Epi#22 D130, P132, D128, Y106, K129 Epi#23 D144, K150, E148, P147, S146, E151, K155 Epi#25 R160, K159, I156, E151, E148 Epi#27 E118, E142, D144, K172 E36, E142, D144, K172 Epi#28 1173, D174, Q178, L179, E85, C83, F177, G181, R180 1173, D174, Q178, L179, E85, C83, F177, P143, D144 Epi#29 G181, Q178, L179, R180, E36 G181, Q178, L179, R180, E85

Epi#30 I30, N27, S112, H119, I121, I25, V23 Epi#31 L122, R110, N27, R26, F28, I30, D96 L124, R110, N27, R26, F28, I30, D96 Epi#33 H119, Y38, V62, S34, S31, R64 Epi#34 V62, P87, M88, V89, R64, S31, S34 Epi#37 P87, V89, L66, R64, D67 Epi#40 R64, L66, A65, Y72, S34 R64, L66, A65, Y72, S69 Epi#41 P132, Y106, L101, V89, S100 P132, Y106, L101, V89, S70 Epi#44 V46, R131, D128, P132, Y106, S100, V89, P87 Epi#45 K129, P132, F127, Y106, N102, D91, V89 K129, P132, F127, Y106, N102, D104, G105 Epi#47 S146, E148, E152, V23, R26, A24, N27, R110, S112 V23, E115, E118, N116, R26, F28, N27, R110, S112 Gald4: Epi#01 L75, N65, P70, R73, R61, N59, Y53, R45, T47 L75, N65, P70, R68, R61, N59, Y53, R45, T47 Epi#02 A90, N77, L75, R73, P70, R61, R68 A122, R125, Q121, T118, R114, R112 Epi#04 R21, Y20, S24, Q121, R125, R128, L129 R21, Y20, S24, Q121, R125, R128, G126 Epi#05 G16, A10, R128, G126, A122, T118, G117 G4, A10, R128, G126, A122, T118, G117 Epi#06 G67, P79, D66, R61, R73, P70 G67, N65, D66, S72, R73, P70

G49, N46, D48, R61, R73, P70

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Epi#07 G71, T69, D66, S72, R73, P70, D48 G67, T69, D66, S72, R73, P70, D48 Epi#08 K1, D87, S86, V2, F38 K1, D87, S86, V2, F3 Epi#09 Epi#10 E7, A11, R14, A10, C6, F3, R5, R125 D87, A11, R14, A10, C6, F3, R5, R125 T47, N46, N44, S36, F34, R114, R112 D18, A10, R14, A11, C6, F3, R5, R125 T118, N113, R112, A110, F34, R114, K116 Epi#11 L129, I124, Q121, V120, D119 Epi#12 Y53, E35 Epi#15 R73, P70, D66, I78, A82 R73, P70, D66, I78, A90 Epi#17 A102, S100, R21, S24 Epi#18 R112, N113, R114, F34, V109, A107, A102, N103 N113, R112, R114, F34, V109, A107, N103, S100 Epi#19 D18, N19, S24, Q121, R125, L129 D18, N19, S24, Q121, R125, G126 Epi#22 D48, P70, D66, W63, W62 D66, P70, D48, T69, W62 D48, P70, D66, W63, K97 Epi#23 R45, N44, E35, N39, Q41, A42 R45, N44, E35, Y53, Q41, A42 Epi#25 R128, R125, W123, D119, N27 R128, R125, W123, D119, V120 Epi#26 W62, S72, W63, P79, A82, D87 W62, S72, W63, P79, G67, D66

Epi#28 G117, D119, Q121, I124, E7, C6, F3, A11, R14 A122, D119, Q121, I124, E7, C6, F3, A11, R14 Epi#29 G126, R125, L129, R128, E7 G16, R14, L129, R128, E7 Epi#30 I124, L129, A10, H15, I88, L84 I124, L129, A11, H15,188, L84 Epi#31 L75, R73, N65, R61, W62, I98, D101 L75, R73, N74, R61, W62, I98, D101 Epi#33 Q41, F38, V2, S86, S85, K1 Q41, F38, V2, S36, A110, R114 Epi#34 W63, W62, T69, G71, R73, S72, P70 W62, W63, S72, L75, R73, T69, P70 Epi#36 A110, A107, A102, S100, K96, A90, A82 Epi#37 A10, R128, L129, R14, D18 A10, R128, L129, K13, N19 Epi#40 R128, L129, A11, T89, A90, S85 R14, L129, A11, T89, A90, S85 Epi#41 Y53, L84, S81 Y53, L84, S86 Epi#42 P79, S81, N65, P70, R61, R73 P79, S81, N65, P70, R61, R68 Epi#44 L129, R14, D18, Y20, S24, V120, T118 L129, R14, D18, Y23, S24, V120, T118 Epi#46 L75, R61, R73, P70, N65, G67 L75, R73, R61, P70, N65, A82 L75, R61, R68, P70, N65, G67 Epi#47 S72, G71, R68, N65, R61, L75, N77, R73, P70 G67, S72, R68, N65, R61, L75, N77, R73, P70

Epi#49

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Epi#12 K65 SAS: 335, Size 9.08: T7, Y5, E6, N4 SAS: 331, Size 11.28: R145, Y150, E148, L152 K65 SAS: 326, Size 10.37: R70, Y83, E73, P50 SAS: 311, Size 10.32: 1116, Y5, E6, N4 K68 SAS: 308, Size 8.33: R145, Y150, E148, S149 K65 Epi#18 Epi#29 SAS: 328, Size 24.67: S117, K103, F79, V105, A16, Y158, L24 Epi#22 SAS: 533, Size 9.96: D125, D93, K123, E127 SAS: 533, Size 9.96: D93, D125, K123, E127 Epi#32 SAS: 476, Size 11.40: D125, D93, K123, E96 SAS: 476, Size 11.40: D93, D125, K123, E96 SAS: 400, Size 17.99: D125, D93, P90, E87 Epi#33 Epi#23 SAS: 451, Size 22.02: K68, N43, E42, S57, F64, P63 SAS: 450, Size 22.02: K55, N43, E42, S57, F64, P63 SAS: 428, Size 22.02: K68, N43, E42, S57, L62, P63 SAS: 427, Size 22.02: K55, N43, E42, S57, L62, P63 Epi#36 SAS: 412, Size 18.85: K68, N43, E42, S40, F30, P35 Epi#24 SAS: 734, Size 18.92: E127, K123, E96, P90, S136, E131, K129 SAS: 729, Size 18.92: D93, K123, E96, P90, S136, E131, K129 SAS: 716, Size 19.57: E127, K123, E96, P90, S136, E131, Epi#40 K134 SAS: 711, Size 19.57: D93, K123, E96, P90, S136, E131, K134 SAS: 708, Size 20.49: D125, K123, E96, P90, S136, E131, K129 Epi#25 Epi#44 SAS: 467, Size 12.68: R70, K55, I44, E42, E45 T10 SAS: 425, Size 12.68: R70, K54, I44, E42, E45 SAS: 420, Size 14.01: R70, K55, I44, D27, E42 Epi#27 P14 SAS: 613, Size 14.25: D93, E127, A130, E131, K129 SAS: 595, Size 16.54: D93, E127, A130, E131, K134 P108 SAS: 592, Size 16.70: D125, E127, A130, E131, K129 T107 SAS: 574, Size 19.79: D125, E127, A130, E131, K134 Epi#45 SAS: 524, Size 18.78: D93, E127, A130, E131, K137 Epi#28 SAS: 546, Size 20.89: K32, P31, F30, Y150, R145, V12 SAS: 869, Size 21.93: V33, Q36, F58, E60, L62, F64, P63, K65

SAS: 837, Size 21.83: V33, Q36, F58, E60, L62, F64, G61, SAS: 808, Size 24.56: V33, Q36, F58, E60, L62, F64, P90, SAS: 783, Size 21.83: V33, Q36, F58, E60, K65, F64, S57, SAS: 782, Size 21.83: V33, Q36, F58, E60, L62, F64, S57, SAS: 516, Size 9.52: G61, K65, L62, E60 SAS: 440, Size 8.70: G61, P63, L62, E60 SAS: 371, Size 6.78: G61, P59, L62, E60 SAS: 374, Size 17.88: F79, A16, A106, D109, V12 SAS: 354, Size 20.42: F22, A16, A106, D109, V12 SAS: 541, Size 18.79: K65, F64, P90, S136, A135, K134 SAS: 498, Size 9.15: Q36, F30, P35, S39, K32 SAS: 496, Size 11.27: Q36, F30, P35, S40, K32 SAS: 494, Size 12.19: Q36, F58, P35, S39, K32 SAS: 493, Size 18.79: K65, Y66, P90, S136, A135, K134 SAS: 447, Size 19.17: T77, A16, A106, V12, G110, T10 SAS: 430, Size 19.17: T77, A16, A106, V12, G111, T10 SAS: 392, Size 19.17: T77, A16, A106, V105, G110, T10 SAS: 391, Size 19.17: T77, A16, A106, V12, G110, T107 SAS: 375, Size 19.17: T77, A16, A106, V105, G111, T10 SAS: 246, Size 21.55: A106, A16, Y158, S155 SAS: 223, Size 13.25: A135, A130, Y5, T7 SAS: 196, Size 14.88: A135, A130, Y5, S117 SAS: 178, Size 10.62: A135, G140, T142, S136 SAS: 530, Size 19.04: L24, R17, D156, Y150, S149, V12, SAS: 492, Size 19.04: 123, R17, D156, Y150, S149, V12, T10 SAS: 490, Size 17.39: L24, R17, D156, Y150, S149, V12, SAS: 483, Size 23.09: L24, R17, D156, Y158, A16, A106, SAS: 474, Size 20.83: L24, R17, D156, Y150, S149, V12, SAS: 606, Size 21.41: K32, P35, F30, Y150, R145, V12

SAS: 533, Size 15.19: K32, P35, F30, Y150, R145, G140

SAS: 533, Size 12.63: K32, P35, F30, Y150, R145, V33 SAS: 532, Size 19.60: K32, P35, F30, N28, D27, I44 Epi#47 SAS: 333, Size 21.03: R17, L24, N28, P31, P35 SAS: 300, Size 22.72: R17, L24, N28, P31, S39 SAS: 298, Size 21.80: R17, L24, N28, P31, S40 SAS: 269, Size 24.87: R17, L24, N28, P31, S57 Epi#48 SAS: 436, Size 14.26: S57, K65, P90, P63, G61 SAS: 414, Size 17.96: S39, K32, P35, P59, G61 SAS: 412, Size 17.96: S40, K32, P35, P59, G61 SAS: 389, Size 18.32: S57, K65, P63, P90, G92 SAS: 365, Size 21.15: S57, K65, P59, P35, V33 [0578] "SAS" is solvent accessible surface. "Size" is the total surface area of the epitope in A2. Derf2: Epi#02 A98, K100, S101, P99, R128, R31 A98, K100, R128, P99, R31, V94 T91, N93, P95, P34, R31, R128 L61, N93, P95, P34, R31, R128 Epi#03 L40, K15, A39, I13, Y86 L40, K14, A39, I88, Y90 Epi#05 G32, A98, R31, P34, G20, T36, T91, Y90 G32, A98, R31, P34, G20, T36, T91, V94 G32, A98, R31, P34, G20, T36, T91, L37 G32, A98, R31, P34, G20, T36, T91, V18 Epi#06 A98, P99, D129, R31, K96, P95 G32, P99, D129, R128, R31, P95 A98, P99, D129, R31, K33, P95 A98, P99, D129, R31, K96, P34 A98, P99, D129, R128, K126, P26 Epi#07 T107, S57, D59, S101, R128, A98, P99, D129 T107, S57, D59, S101, R31, A98, P99, D129 Epi#08 K15, D87, V76, H74, F75 K14, D87, V76, H74, F75 K77, D87, V76, H74, F75

Epi#09 L61, D64, I68, H74, F75, T70, N71 N114, N46, D113, K48, N71, T70, T49 G83, N46, D113, K48, N71, T70, T49 Epi#10 L40, I13, D42, N44, V81, K48, N46, N114, G115 L40, I13, D42, N44, V81, K82, N46, N114, G115 L37, D19, G20, V18, V3, D4, K6, A120, T107, V105 Epi#11 F75, K51, I111, Q45, V116, D113 F75, K51, I111, Q45, V81, D113 Epi#12 Y90, E38 Epi#13 H30, R31, P95, A98, P99, S101, G60, L61 Epi#15 K96, P99, D129, 128, R128, A98 K96, P99, D129, I127, R128, A98 [0579] K96, P99, D129, 129, R128, A98 K55, P66, D64, I68, T70, G67 Epi#18 R31, R128, I28, G125, T123, H124, V105 R31, R128, I127, G125, T123, H124, V105 Epi#22 D1, M17, D4, V3, K6 D1, M17, D19, P34, K96 D1, M17, D4, V5, K6 Epi#23 K14, N11, E12, N44, Q85, P79 K14, N11, E12, N10, Q45, P79 K14, N11, E12, N44, Q84, P79 K14, N11, E12, L40, Q85, P79 Epi#24 D129, K100, E102, P99, R128, R31, K96 E62, G60, E102, P99, R128, R31, K96 D129, K126, E102, P99, R128, R31, K33 D129, K126, E102, P99, R31, P95, K96 Epi#25 R31, K96, I97, D59, E62

R128, R31, 197, D59, E102 R128, K126, I127, E102, N103

Epi#27 D64, E62, D59, K100 D59, E62, D64, K55 D87, E38, D19, K33 D19, E38, D87, K15 D19, E38, D87, K14 D19, E38, D87, K77 Epi#28 V16, D87, Q85, K14, E12, K15, Q2, D1 I13, D87, Q85, K14, E12, K15, Q2, D1 V3, D1, Q2, K15, E12, K14, Q85, D87 L40, D87, Q85, K14, E12, K15, Q2, D1 188, D87, Q85, K14, E12, K15, Q2, D1 V76, D87, Q85, K14, E12, K15, Q2, D1 V18, D1, Q2, K15, E12, K14, Q85, D87 Epi#29 G32, N93, L61, E62 V94, N93, L61, E62 Epi#30 G60, 197, A98, H30, K96, P34, P95 I68, N71, H74, K77, P79, V81 G32, I97, A98, H30, K96, P95, P34 Epi#34 V105, P26, S24, G125, R128, S101, P99 W92, P34, T91, V94, R31, S101, P99 I28, P26, T123, G125, R128, S101, P99 Epi#37 A120, V16, L40, K14, N11 A39, V16, L40, K14, N11 Y90, A39, L40, K14, N11 Y86, A39, L40, K14, N11 Epi#39 A120, E38, T91, P34, G20, L37 A39, E38, T91, P34, G20, L37 Epi#40 G20, L37, A120, T123, K6, S24 A39, L37, A120, T123, K6, S24 G20, L37, A120, T107, K6, T123 Epi#41 P34, L37, V106, S57 Epi#42 P26, S24, G125, R128, R31 P99, S101, G125, R128, R31

Epi#44 V16, Q2, D19, P34, W92, Y90, A39, V18, T91 V16, Q2, D19, P34, W92, Y90, A39, V5, T123 V3, Q2, D19, P34, W92, Y90, A39, V18, T91 Epi#45 K77, H74, F75, N71, D69, G67 K77, H74, F75, N71, D69, V76 K77, H74, F75, N71, D69, V65 Epi#46 A98, R128, R31, P95, N93, G32 A98, R128, R31, P34, G20, Q2 Epi#48 Q2, D19, P34, P95, G32 H30, K96, P95, P34, G20 Epi#49 D87, D42, L40, Q85, Q84, C78, T47, Q45, K48 D87, D42, L40, Q85, Q84, C78, T47, Q45, K82 Epi#50 D19, W92, P34, T91 D19, W92, P34, P95 D19, W92, T91, T36 Epi#51 D129, H30, K33, R31, R128, K126, H124 R31, H30, D129, R128, K100, K126, H124 T123, H124, K126, R128, R31, K33, H30 Derp2: Epi#03 L17, K89, A39, I13, Y86 L17, K89, A72, I88, Y90 L17, K89, A72, I52, Y90 Epi#04 K15, S1, Q2, K14, V16, L17 K15, S1, Q2, K14, A39, L17 K15, S1, Q2, K14, V40, I13 Epi#05 G60, A56, L61, P99, G32, R31, H30, I97 G60, A56, L61, P99, G32, R31, H30, I28 Epi#06 G60, A56, D64, S57, K55, P66 G83, N46, D114, T49, K48, P79 G60, N103, D59, S101, R31, P95

Epi#08 K55, D64, S57, V106, F35 K55, E62, S57, V106, F35 Epi#09 L61, G60, E102, R128, 128, K126, N103, T123, V105 L61, G60, E102, R128, 1127, K100, N103, T123, V105 L61, G60, E102, R128, 1127, H124, N103, T123, V105 Epi#10 SAS: 435, Size 24.47: D69, T91, N93, F35, G32, R31 SAS: 422, Size 20.74: E38, T91, N93, F35, G32, K96 Epi#11 K14, I13, Q85, V81, E42 K15, I13, Q85, V81, E42 K14, I13, Q85, V40, D87 Epi#12 Y86, E42 Y90, E53 Y90, E38 Epi#13 H30, A125, P26, T123, A122, P19, L37, P34, W92 H30, A125, P26, T123, A122, H124, S24, G23, G20 H30, A125, P26, T123, A122, P19, L17, G20, F35 Epi#15 K55, P66, D69, I68, K89, A72 K55, P66, D69, I68, K89, A39 K55, P66, D64, I54, K109, G115 K55, P66, D64, I54, K109, A9 Epi#18 R31, 129, A125, S101, E102, N103 R31, 129, A125, S101, E102, V104 R31, 129, A125, T123, A122, V105 Epi#22 D69, P66, D64, V65, K55 D64, P66, D69, T91, K89 D59, L61, D64, P66, W92 D59, L61, D64, V65, E62 D69, P66, D64, V65, E53 Epi#24 D64, K55, E62, P99, R31, P34, K96 E53, K55, E62, P99, R31, P95, K96

D64, K55, E62, P99, R31, A98, K96

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Epi#25 R31, H30, I28, E102, N103 R128, K126, I127, E102, N103 R128, K126, I28, E102, V105 Epi#27 D64, E53, D69, K89 D69, E53, D64, K55 D59, E62, D64, K55 Epi#28 V40, D87, Q85, E42, Q84, G83, K82 G20, H22, Q2, L17, E38, L37, Q36, P34, K33 G20, H22, Q2, L17, E38, L37, F35, P34, K33 Epi#29 197, K100, L61, E62 G60, N103, L61, E62 I127, N103, L61, E62 Epi#30 G60, N103, S101, H30, K96, I97, P95 G60, N103, A125, H30, K96, I97, P95 I28, I127, A125, H30, K96, I97, P95 Epi#33 Q36, F35, V106, S57, A56, K55 K33, F35, V106, S57, A56, K55 Epi#34 I28, P26, S24, G23, G20, T123, S57 I28, P26, S24, V3, G20, T123, T107 W92, P34, T91, V18, G20, T123, P26 Epi#37 P66, V63, L61, K100, N103 P95, A98, L61, K100, N103 P19, V18, L17, K89, D87 P19, V3, L17, K89, D87 T123, V104, L61, K100, N103 Epi#38 L61, G60, E102, A125, V105, N103, P99, S57 L61, G60, E62, A56, V105, N103, P99, S57 Epi#39 A125, E102, H124, T123, P26, G20, L17 Epi#40 G60, L61, A56, T107, K6, T123 A39, L17, G20, T123, P26, S24 G60, L61, A56, T107, K55, S57 G60, L61, A56, T123, K126, S101

Epi#41 P19, L17, V3, S1 P19, L17, V5, S24 Epi#44 V65, D64, P66, W92, Y90, A39, V18, P19 L61, D64, P66, W92, Y90, A39, V18, T91 Epi#45 R31, P34, F35, N93, V94 K96, P34, F35, N93, G32 Epi#47 I127, S101, R31, 197, A98, L61, N103, P99, P95 I28, S101, R31, 197, A98, L61, N103, P99, S57 Epi#48 H30, K96, P95, P99, G60 H30, K96, P34, P19, G20 H30, K96, P34, P19, V18 H30, K96, P34, P95, V94 H30, K96, P34, P19, V3 E38, K89, P70, P66, V65 H30, K96, P95, P34, G32 Q36, K89, P70, P66, V65 Epi#50 D69, Y90, W92, P66, P70 D69, Y90, W92, P34, P95 D69, Y90, W92, T91, P34 D69, Y90, W92, V94, P95 D69, Y90, W92, L37, P19 Epi#51 K126, H124, E102, R128, 128, R31, H30 T123, H124, K126, R128, 128, R31, H30 D4, H124, K126, R128, 128, R31, H30 [0580] PhIp2: Epi#02 T87, K85, Q61, S38, R34, R67 T87, K85, Q61, P63, R34, V42 Epi#03 K10, A90, I88, Y86 K10, A18, I88, Y86 Epi#04 R34, S38, Q61, K85, T87, I88 R34, S38, Q61, K85, T87, A90

Epi#05 G47, A18, S12, T87, G89, T91, T5, V1 G73, A29, L69, T27, G50, T53, T45, V42 G11, A18, L20, T91, G89, A90, T87, I88 Epi#06 A93, P94, D79, R34, Q61, P59 A93, P94, D79, R34, Q61, P83 A93, P94, D80, R34, Q61, P59 A93, P94, D79, R34, Q61, P63 Epi#08 K10, E9, G11, A18, H16, F54 K46, E48, G47, A18, H16, F54 K10, E9, S12, A18, H16, F54 Epi#09 L69, T27, G73, N76, R67, V77, D79, R34, A43, T45, V42 L69, T27, A29, E30, R67, V77, D80, R34, A43, T45, V42 Epi#10 D55, A18, N13, S12, F54, G47, K46 T45, A18, N13, S56, F54, G47, K46 Epi#09 L60, S56, E57, D55, K15, N13, S12, G11 L60, S56, E57, D55, H16, F54, T45, T53 L60, S56, E57, D55, H16, F54, T45, G47 Epi#12 Y86, E84 Y23, E24 Epi#18 N76, R67, F78, V81, A93, Y92, T91, T5, P2, V1 Epi#19 D39, W41, S38, Q61, R34, G37 E40, W41, S38, Q61, R34, A43 Epi#22 D79, P94, D80, P83, K85 D79, P94, D80, P63, K85 Epi#23 K10, N13, E14, L60, Q61, P59 K10, N13, E14, L60, Q61, P83 K10, N13, E14, L60, Q61, P63 Epi#24 E58, K15, E57, P59, S56, E14, Q61 D55, K15, E57, P59, S56, E58, Q61 Epi#25 R34, R67, W41, D39, E40

Epi#26 S38, E40, W41, V42, E32, E30 S38, E40, W41, V42, A43, E32 Epi#27 E14, E57, E58, K15 D55, E14, E84, K85 Epi#28 G37, H36, Q61, K85, E84, L60, F54, A43, K46 G37, H36, Q61, K85, E84, L60, F54, S12, D55 G37, H36, Q61, K85, E84, L60, F54, S56, D55 G37, H36, Q61, K85, E84, L60, F54, A43, R67 G37, H36, Q61, K15, E57, L60, F54, A43, K46 G37, H36, Q61, K85, E84, L60, F54, S12, K15 G37, H36, Q61, K85, E84, L60, F54, S56, K15 G37, H36, Q61, K85, E84, L60, F54, A43, R34 G37, H36, Q61, K85, E84, L60, F54, A18, D55 Epi#29 G73, K72, L69, R67, E30 188, N13, L60, F54, E57 G25, K72, L69, R67, E32 V77, K75, L69, R67, E30 G37, H36, L60, F54, E57 G37, Q61, L60, F54, E57 Epi#30 188, N13, S12, H16, K15, P59, L60 188, N13, S56, H16, K15, L60, P59 I88, N13, A18, H16, K15, P59, L60 Epi#33 K46, F54, V42, S56, K15 H16, F54, V42, S56, K15 Epi#34 V1, P2, T5, V4, P94, Y92, T87 V1, P2, T5, L20, G89, T91, T87 V81, P94, T5, V1, P2, Y92, T91 Epi#37 T27, A29, L69, K72, D26 A43, R67, L69, K75, N76 Epi#38 L20, G89, E9, A18, N13, P59, S56 Epi#40 G49, L20, G89, Y86, K85, T87 G49, L20, G89, T87, K10, S12

G49, L20, G89, T87, K10, T7

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Epi#44 V77, R67, D79, P94, Y92, A93, V1, P2 L69, R67, D79, P94, Y92, A93, V1, T5 Epi#45 D79, P94, F78, N76, M74, L69 D80, P94, F78, R67, D79, V77 K3, P94, F78, N76, M74, G73 Epi#46 A43, R67, R34, P63, H36, Q61 V77, R67, R34, P63, H36, G37 L69, R67, R34, P63, G37, Q61 Epi#47 G37, E35, E40, A43, R34, L60, N13, P59, S56 V77, E32, E40, A43, R34, L60, N13, P59, S56 S38, G37, E40, A43, R34, L60, N13, P59, S56 Epi#48 E24, K3, P94, P2, V1 E84, D80, P94, P2, V1 Epi#50 D39, W41, A43, T45 D39, W41, V42, T45 Epi#51 D79, H36, E84, T87, K10, G11, H16 D39, H36, Q61, K85, P63, R34, W41 D79, H36, E40, D39, G37, R34, W41 Q61, H36, E84, T87, K10, G11, H16

Example 11

[0581] For this example a third-generation epitope sequences were determined for some additional enzymes and redetermined for all of the enzymes in example 1-3. New enzymes are AMG (AMG pdb), BPN" (1sup.pdb), Esperase (structure see Appendix D), Natalase (structure modelling based on SP722), Amylase-AA560 (Structure modelling based on SP722), Protease A, Alcalase, Protease B, ProteaseC, ProteaseD, ProteaseE, Properase and Relase based on their sequences and structures. The structures of Protease B, Properase, Relase, Protease A, Alcalase, ProteaseC, ProteaseD and ProteaseE can be found by "Homology modelling" (see above) and computer modelling of the epiope patterns that had been assembled in our database (shown in Table 8). Furthermore, the epitope sequences were redetermined for CAREZYME, Laccase, PD498, Savinase, Amylase SP722, and Cellulase, according to the method.

[0582] The protein surface is scanned for epitope patterns matching the given "consensus" sequence of about 6-12 residues. First, residues on the protein surface that match the first residue of the consensus sequence are identified. Within a specified distance from each of these, residues on the protein surface that match the next residue of the consensus sequence are identified. This procedure is repeated for the remaining residues of the consensus sequence. The method is further

described under the paragraph "Methods" above and the program can be found in Appendixes.

[0583] The critical parameters used in this screening included:

- **[0584]** i) a maximal distance between the alpha-carbon atoms of subsequent amino acids,
- **[0585]** ii) a minimal accessability of the amino acid of 20 Å2,
- $[0586]\;$ iii) the largest maximal distance between the most distinct amino acids should be less than 25 Å
- [0587] iv) the best epitope were taken,
- **[0588]** v) the homology with the epitope pattern of interest was 100%

[0589] In this way a number of potential epitopes are identified. The epitopes are sorted according to total surface accessible area, and certain entries removed:

- **[0590]** 1) Epitopes that contain the same protein surface residue more than once. These are artefacts generated by the described algorithm.
- **[0591]** 2) Epitopes which are "too big", i.e. where a distance between any two residues in the epitope exceeds a given threshold.

[0592] The subtilisin sequences and positions mentioned in the following are not given in the BPN' numeration but in the subtilisins own numeration (see the alignment as described above in Tables 1A and 1B).

[0593] The epitope sequences found were:

AMG:

Epi#01

- L104, P123, P107, R125, R122, N182, S184, Q172, T173
- L104, P107, P123, R125, R122, N182, S184, Q172, S453
- L104, P107, P123, R125, R122, N182, S184, Q172, T452

Epi#02

L234, R241, S240, F237, T173, Y175, R122, R125

L234, R241, S240, F237, T173, Y169, R125, R122

L234, R241, S240, F237, T173, Y175, R125, R54

Epi#03

L291, K404, I288, Y289

L66, K61, H254, I253, Y329

Epi#04

R122, Y175, S184, Q172, Y169, A454, I455

R122, Y175, S184, Q172, Y169, N171, A451

R125, Y175, S184, Q172, Y169, T452, A451

Epi#06

G31, A24, D25, S30, A27, P41

G146, N145, D144, T148, S149, P467

A471, N145, D144, T148, S149, P467

Epi#07

G294, T290, S405, D293, S287, R286, P307, D283 G294, T290, S287, D293, S296, R286, P307, D283 G207, T204, S200, D214, S209, R160, P157, D153 G294, T290, S405, D293, S287, R286, P307, D309 Epi#08 A27, D25, S30, V111, F49 A24, D25, S30, V111, F49 Epi#09 S149, T148, G146, N145, A471, R68, N69, T72, V470 S73, S76, T72, N69, R68, A471, N145, T148 Epi#10 D238, N182, N236, S240, F237, R241, K244 D238, T173, N182, S239, F237, R241, K244 Epi#11 F49, F109,191, Q85, E113 Epi#12 Y363, E342 Y311. E308 Y175, E180 Epi#13 S119, W120, P123, A102, P94, S92, G90, L98 S119, W120, P123, A102, P94, S92, G96, G90 Epi#15 K244, P307, D283, I288, T290, G294 R160, P157, D153, I154, T462, G90 R286, P307, D283, I288, T290, G294 Epi#16 L410, P46, Y48, R413, S397, S394, A392, A393, N395 R160, P157, Y458, G456, S211, S209, A205, A201, D214 Epi#17 A201, S209, R160, S459 A205, S209, R160, S459 Epi#19 D44, N45, S411, Q409, R413, L410 D47, N45, S411, Q409, R413, L410 Epi#20 K61, P434, L66, L423, N427, D65, G70, D71 Epi#22 D357, S356, D349, V346, D345 D349, S356, D357, A359, D345 D357, S356, D349, L348, D345 Epi#23 K404, N292, E299, S298, L295, A300 K404, N292, E299, S296, L295, A300

Epi#24 Epi#40 D336, K337, E259, P258, S431, L332, K378 A205, L143, G146, Y147, P467, T464 D336, K337, E259, P258, S431, R429, K378 G146, L143, A205, T204, A201, S209 A451, A450, T448, P446, S444 D336, K337, A261, P258, S436, E259, Q338 Epi#41 Epi#25 P467, Y147, L143, V206, S149 R125, R122, W120, E180, N182 Epi#42 R241, K244, E308, N313 L66, P434, S431, N430, R429, R428 Epi#26 L104, P123, S95, G101, P94, R122, R125 W212, S200, E198, W437, V197, G438, E259 L104, P107, S95, G96, P123, R125, Q172 W212, S200, E198, W437, V197, A201, D214 Epi#44 Epi#27 L143, Q140, D144, W141, Y147, S468, V470, T72 D283, E280, D349, K352 V206, Q140, D144, W141, Y147, S468, V470, P467 D403, E408, D406, K404 S211, Q216, D214, P218, Y223, A451, A450, T448 D349, E280, D283, K244 S211, Q216, D214, P218, Y223, A450, G447, T448 D349, E280, D283, K279 Epi#45 Epi#28 R413, P46, F49, Y50, N110, D112, G31 L332, D336, Q338, K337, E259, C262, P272, D345 R413, P41, F49, Y50, N110, D33, G31 D44, P46, F49, Y50, N110, D112, G31 V374, D336, Q338, K337, E259, C262, P272, D345 Epi#46 G339, D336, Q338, K337, E259, C262, P272, D345 Y175, R125, R122, P123, G174, Q172 Epi#29 Y169, R125, R122, P123, G174, Q172 L295, G294, L291, R286, E299 V432, R429, R428, P434, N69, G70 I288, K404, L291, R286, E299 Y175, R125, R122, P94, N93, G90 L348, K352, L354, F380, E299 Y175, R122, R125, P123, N182, G121 Epi#33 Y175, R125, R122, P94, G101, A102 K352, Y355, V374, S371, S365, K337 Y175, R125, R122, P94, G118, A115 K352, Y355, V374, S365, S340, K337 Y175, R125, R122, P94, G101, G96 Y175, R122, R125, P123, N182, G183 Epi#34 Epi#48 V463, W466, S468, V470, P467, T464, T462 S211, D214, P218, P446, G447 I469, W466, S468, V470, P467, T464, T462 E259, K337, P258, P434, V432 I154, W466, S468, V470, P467, T464, T462 S215, D214, P218, P446, G447 V463, W466, S468, V470, P467, S465, T464 S209, D214, P218, P446, V445 Epi#37 E259, K337, P258, P434, V433 T362, A359, L348, K352, D357 Epi#50 T360, V346, L348, K352, D357 R122, Y175, W120, T117, S119 T362, A359, L348, K352, D349 R125, Y175, W120, S119, T117 Epi#38 Epi#51 G438, E259, A435, R68, L66, N69, P434, S431 T390, H391, E408, Q409, R413, S411, W317 Epi#39 T390, H391, E408, S405, I288, K404, W317 A353, E299, R286, P307, G243, L234 D406, H391, E408, Q409, R413, S411, W317 A300, E299, R286, P307, G243, L234 T390, H391, E408, D406, K404, Q409, W317

Epi#52 W437, A260, T266, R273, W228, D264, Q225 BPN': Epi#02 T255, K256, S260, F261, P194, Y262, R186, V203 L257, K256, S260, F261, P194, Y262, R186, V203 T253, K256, S260, F261, P194, Y262, R186, V203 Epi#03 K141, A137, I108, Y104 K136, A137, I108, Y104 K136, A134, I108, Y104 Epi#04 K265, Y262, S188, Q185, R186, N184, L257 K265, Y262, S188, Q185, Y263, R186, L257 K265, Y262, S188, Q185, R186, N184, G258 K265, Y262, S188, Q185, Y263, R186, G258 Epi#05 G80, A1, N77, P40, G211, S38, S37, V44 G80, A1, N77, P40, G211, S38, S37, L42 G127, A152, N155, T164, G160, S158, S188, Y262 Epi#06 G211, N212, D36, S37, K43, P40 G80, N212, D36, S38, K43, P40 G211, N212, D36, S38, K43, P86 Epi#08 K256, D259, S260, F261 K43, D36, S38, V44, F58 Epi#09 S105, S132, A133, A137, D140, K141, A144, S145, N118 S248, T244, A144, S145, D120, K27, N118, A116, N117 Epi#10 E54, T55, N57, S37, F58, G46, K43 T55, A48, N57, S37, F58, G46, K43 E54, T55, N57, S49, F58, G46, K43 Epi#11 K136, I108, Q103, V51, D98 Epi#12 Y171, E195 Epi#13 S101, W106, P52, T55, A48, P56, S49, G47, F58 S105, W106, P52, T55, A48, P56, S49, G47, W113

Epi#15 N25, P239, D120, I115, K141, A144 N240, P239, D120, I115, K141, A144 Epi#16 Q271, P14, Y21, G20, Q19, S18, A15, A272, N252 Q59, P210, Y214, G211, S38, D36, D61, A99, D98 Epi#17 A187, S188, R186, S183 A187, S188, R186, S182 Epi#18 N184, R186, S188, G157, S158, T159, S161 N184, R186, S188, G157, S158, T159, S162 N184, R186, S188, G157, S158, E156, N155 N184, R186, S188, G157, S158, E156, F189 Epi19 E156, N155, S188, Q185, R186, L257 E156, N155, S188, Q185, R186, G258 E156, N155, S188, Q185, R186, A187 Epi#22 D197, S260, D259, L257, K256 D197, S260, D259, Y263, K256 Epi#23 N155, E156, S188, Q185, A187 Epi#24 E156, G166, E195, P194, S260, L257, K256 D259, G264, E195, P194, S260, L257, K256 D197, K170, E195, P194, S260, L257, K256 Epi#25 K141, I115, D120, N25 K141, I115, D120, N118 K141, I115, E112, N118 Epi#26 W113, S49, W106, P52, E54, D98 W113, S49, W106, P52, E54, D60 W113, S49, W106, V51, E54, D98 Epi#28 A99, D61, Q59, F58, E54, L96, Q103, G102, D98 A99, D98, Q59, F58, E54, L96, Q103, G100, D61 A99, D61, Q59, F58, E54, L96, Q103, S101, D98 Epi#29 G102, Q103, L96, E54 G100, Q103, L96, E54

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SAS: 473, Size 18.68: R19, N18, E265, L21, Q230, P233 Protease B: SAS: 468, Size 15.74: R164, N167, E134, S139, Q135, A131 Epi#05 SAS: 463, Size 13.77: R164, N167, E134, S130, Q135, A131 SAS: 454, Size 24.86: G189, A188, R164, P127, G125, S99 SAS: 461, Size 21.98: R44, N42, E87, S24, Q230, P233 SAS: 452, Size 15.92: G189, A188, R164, P127, G125, S128 Epi#28 SAS: 451, Size 24.86: G157, A188, R164, P127, G125, S99 SAS: 520, Size 19.27: V102, Q107, W111, E110, Q135, SAS: 449, Size 15.92: G157, A188, R164, P127, G125, S128 S139, R143 SAS: 445, Size 23.31: G189, A166, R164, P127, G125, S99 SAS: 492, Size 24.70: V102, Q107, F49, E53, Q57, G46, R44 Epi#09 SAS: 480, Size 22.76: V50, Q107, W111, E110, Q135, S139, SAS: 446, Size 15.76: T254, G189, A166, R164, A188, S158 R143 SAS: 312, Size 15.90: T22, G20, L21, R19, A15, S9 SAS: 452, Size 19.08: V50, Q107, F49, E53, Q57, G46, R44 SAS: 441, Size 24.70: V102, Q107, E110, W111, F49, G46, Epi#42 R44 SAS: 528, Size 16.22: L21, P14, S9, Q12, H17, R19, 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17.28: D175, N177, N179, S182, F183, G155, SAS: 374, Size 18.08: T254, A188, L256, R180, N179 R180 SAS: 335, Size 19.96: T254, A188, L256, R180, N178 SAS: 431, Size 13.75: D175, N212, N153, S182, F183, G155, Epi#39 R180 SAS: 425, Size 16.00: A166, E134, R164, P127, G125, L124 SAS: 403, Size 15.83: D175, N212, N153, S154, F183, G155, R180 SAS: 421, Size 16.36: A131, E134, R164, P127, G125, L124 SAS: 387, Size 16.14: D175, N178, N179, S182, F183, G155, SAS: 400, Size 16.00: A166, E134, R164, P129, G125, L124 R180 SAS: 396, Size 16.36: A131, E134, R164, P129, G125, L124 SAS: 373, Size 16.76: D175, N212, N153, A156, F183, SAS: 359, Size 16.00: A166, E134, T132, P129, G125, L124 G155, R180 Epi#40 Epi#12 SAS: 358, Size 15.76: A166, G189, Y186, A188, T254 SAS: 292, Size 13.45: P127, Y161, E134, P129 SAS: 352, Size 15.76: A166, G189, T254, A188, S158 SAS: 287, Size 9.30: R44, Y89, E87, N42 SAS: 326, Size 11.62: A96, G59, T56, P54, S55 SAS: 284, Size 9.35: R164, Y161, E134, P129 SAS: 322, Size 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SAS: 428, Size 13.76: D175, N212, N153, S182, F183, G155, Epi#31 R180 SAS: 355, Size 21.56: L256, R180, N178, R10, W6, V197, SAS: 403, Size 15.83: D175, N212, N153, S154, F183, G155, D175 R180 SAS: 352, Size 17.71: L251, R180, N178, R10, W6, V197, SAS: 391, Size 16.15: D175, N178, N179, S182, F183, G155, D175 R180 Epi#34 SAS: 372, Size 16.77: D175, N212, N153, A156, F183, SAS: 457, Size 18.37: V238, W235, S236, G144, R143, G155, R180 S139, S142 Epi#12 SAS: 457, Size 18.37: V238, W235, S236, G144, R143, SAS: 302, Size 13.47: P127, Y161, E134, P129 S142, S139 SAS: 290, Size 9.39: R164, Y161, E134, P129 SAS: 447, Size 14.02: V238, W235, S236, G144, R143, S142, T141 SAS: 282, Size 18.68: P127, Y161, E134, N138 SAS: 447, Size 14.02: V238, W235, S236, G144, R143, SAS: 280, Size 16.87: P127, Y161, E134, N167 T141, S142 SAS: 270, Size 13.10: R164, Y161, E134, N138 SAS: 374, Size 18.37: V238, W235, S236, G144, R143, Epi#17 T141, S139 SAS: 286, Size 15.87: A188, S158, R164, S126 Epi#37 SAS: 397, Size 23.08: T254, A188, L256, R180, N177 SAS: 250, Size 12.76: A156, S158, R164, S126 Epi#18 SAS: 361, Size 18.08: T254, A188, L256, R180, N179 SAS: 328, Size 19.98: T254, A188, L256, R180, N178 SAS: 446, Size 16.31: S250, K245, S259, L256, A188, T254, L251 Epi#39 SAS: 406, Size 14.13: S250, K245, S259, L256, G252, T254, SAS: 425, Size 16.36: A131, E134, R164, P127, G125, L124 L251 SAS: 423, Size 16.02: A166, E134, R164, P127, G125, L124 SAS: 406, Size 14.13: S250, K245, S259, L251, G252, T254, SAS: 399, Size 16.36: A131, E134, R164, P129, G125, L124 L256 SAS: 397, Size 16.02: A166, E134, R164, P129, G125, L124 SAS: 406, Size 14.13: S259, K245, S250, L251, G252, T254, L256 SAS: 379, Size 16.36: A131, E134, T132, P129, G125, L124 SAS: 388, Size 14.13: S250, K245, S259, L256, G252, T249, Epi#40 L251 SAS: 354, Size 15.77: A166, G189, T254, A188, S158 Epi#19 SAS: 351, Size 15.77: A166, G189, Y186, A188, T254 SAS: 319, Size 15.07: D175, W6, S9, Q12, R10 SAS: 334, Size 17.81: G189, A188, Y186, A156, S182 SAS: 276, Size 21.28: E110, T141, S236, Q239, R241 SAS: 334, Size 17.81: A188, G189, Y186, A156, S182 Epi#23 SAS: 330, Size 14.42: A166, G189, Y186, A188, S158 SAS: 497, Size 19.86: R143, N114, E110, S139, Q135, A131 Epi#41 SAS: 487, Size 15.77: R164, N167, E134, S139, Q135, A131 SAS: 217, Size 19.46: P204, Y208, L211, V197, S210 SAS: 478, Size 13.78: R164, N167, E134, S130, Q135, A131 Epi#44 SAS: 477, Size 18.16: R143, N138, E134, S139, Q135, A131 SAS: 407, Size 15.10: L256, R180, Y186, S158, A188, T254 SAS: 472, Size 22.70: R143, N115, E110, S139, Q135, A131 SAS: 404, Size 18.45: L251, R180, Y186, S158, A188, T254 Epi#28 SAS: 387, Size 15.52: L256, R180, Y186, A188, G189, T254 SAS: 554, Size 22.17: A101, Q107, I102, E134, Q135, S139, SAS: 384, Size 16.23: L251, R180, Y186, A188, G189, T254 R143 SAS: 373, Size 22.26: V197, R180, Y186, S158, A188, T254 SAS: 532, Size 19.36: 1102, Q107, W111, E110, Q135, S139, R143 Epi#46 SAS: 527, Size 22.79: V50, Q107, I102, E134, Q135, S139, SAS: 545, Size 12.69: A15, R269, R19, P14, N18, G20 R143 Epi#53 SAS: 509, Size 24.76: 1102, Q107, F49, E53, Q57, G46, R44 SAS: 306, Size 18.06: W235, S234, Q239, K245 SAS: 508, Size 22.17: A101, Q107, W111, E110, Q135, S139, R143 SAS: 277, Size 9.52: W235, S234, Q239, K229

SAS: 276, Size 9.46: W235, S234, Q230, K231 Epi#17 SAS: 268, Size 9.46: W235, P233, Q230, K231 SAS: 258, Size 14.50: W235, S236, Q239, K245 ProteaseE: Epi#05 L251 SAS: 461, Size 15.49: G189, A166, R164, P127, G125, S128 SAS: 459, Size 15.90: G189, A188, R164, P127, G125, S128 L256 SAS: 435, Size 15.49: G189, A166, R164, P127, G125, S126 SAS: 433, Size 15.49: G189, A166, R164, P129, G125, S128 L256 SAS: 433, Size 15.86: G189, A188, R164, P127, G125, S126 L251 Epi#06 SAS: 518, Size 14.10: G189, A188, D157, S158, R164, P127 L256 SAS: 490, Size 15.98: G189, A188, D157, S158, R164, P129 SAS: 460, Size 14.60: G155, A156, D157, S158, R164, P127 SAS: 432, Size 17.71: G155, A156, D157, S158, R164, P129 Epi#09 SAS: 482, Size 15.78: T254, G189, A166, R164, A188, S158 SAS: 311, Size 15.91: T22, G20, L21, R19, A15, S9 Epi#10 SAS: 455, Size 17.26: D175, N177, N179, S182, F183, G155, R180 R143 SAS: 406, Size 13.76: D175, N212, N153, S182, F183, G155, R180 SAS: 383, Size 16.16: D175, N178, N179, S182, F183, G155, R180 SAS: 381, Size 15.82: D175, N212, N153, S154, F183, G155, R180 R44 SAS: 347, Size 16.78: D175, N212, N153, A156, F183, G155, R180 Epi#12 SAS: 310, Size 13.48: P127, Y161, E134, P129 SAS: 306, Size 9.40: R164, Y161, E134, P129 SAS: 297, Size 9.40: R164, Y165, E134, P129 SAS: 285, Size 16.90: P127, Y161, E134, N167 SAS: 281, Size 18.68: P127, Y161, E134, N138 Epi#16 SAS: 673, Size 19.67: R164, P127, Y161, G125, S126, S154, D157, A188, N255 SAS: 664, Size 20.60: R164, P129, Y165, G189, S158, S154, D157, A188, N255 SAS: 645, Size 20.60: R164, P129, Y161, G125, S126, S154, D175 D157, A188, N255 SAS: 636, Size 14.89: R164, P127, Y161, G125, S126, S154, D175 D157, A156, N153 SAS: 627, Size 17.25: R164, P129, Y165, G189, S158, S154, D157, A156, N153

SAS: 305, Size 15.86: A188, S158, R164, S126 SAS: 270, Size 12.73: A156, S158, R164, S126 Epi#18 SAS: 590, Size 17.32: S250, K246, S259, L256, A188, T254, SAS: 551, Size 16.26: S259, K246, S250, L251, G252, T254, SAS: 551, Size 16.26: S250, K246, S259, L251, G252, T254, SAS: 551, Size 16.26: S250, K246, S259, L256, G252, T254, SAS: 518, Size 16.26: S250, K246, S259, L251, G252, S253, Epi#23 SAS: 471, Size 19.86: R143, N114, E110, S139, Q135, A131 SAS: 467, Size 13.75: R164, N167, E134, S130, Q135, A131 SAS: 467, Size 15.76: R164, N167, E134, S139, Q135, A131 SAS: 451, Size 22.69: R143, N115, E110, S139, Q135, A131 SAS: 446, Size 19.99: R143, N138, E134, S130, Q135, A131 Epi#28 SAS: 505, Size 19.43: 1102, Q107, W111, E110, Q135, S139, SAS: 500, Size 22.22: A101, Q107, W111, E110, Q135, S139, R143 SAS: 499, Size 24.79: 1102, Q107, F49, E53, Q57, G46, R44 SAS: 494, Size 24.56: A101, Q107, F49, E53, Q57, G46, R44 SAS: 441, Size 24.79: 1102, Q107, E110, W111, F49, G46, Epi#29 SAS: 216, Size 9.94: 143, R44, L41, E87 SAS: 209, Size 10.85: L73, N42, L41, E87 SAS: 200, Size 13.98: G46, R44, L41, E87 SAS: 199, Size 11.98: G45, R44, L41, E87 SAS: 197, Size 19.08: 177, N74, L41, E87 Epi#30 SAS: 318, Size 24.25: G20, L21, A15, H17, S85, L73, P39 SAS: 277, Size 24.25: G20, L21, A15, H17, S85, L41, P39 SAS: 258, Size 21.05: G20, L21, A15, H17, S85, L73, L41 Epi#31 SAS: 377, Size 21.62: L256, R180, N178, R10, W6, V197, SAS: 370, Size 17.72: L251, R180, N178, R10, W6, V197,

Epi#33

SAS: 388, Size 15.92: Q135, Y165, P129, S126, R164

Epi#34 SAS: 179, Size 7.76: W235, S234, K229 SAS: 420, Size 18.35: V238, W235, S236, G144, R143, SAS: 131, Size 8.39: W235, S236, K229 S139, S142 Properase: SAS: 411, Size 13.98: V238, W235, S236, G144, R143, Epi#05 S142, T141 SAS: 456, Size 15.94: G189, A188, R164, P127, G125, S128 SAS: 341, Size 18.35: V238, W235, S236, G144, R143, SAS: 453, Size 15.52: G189, A166, R164, P127, G125, S128 S139, T141 SAS: 451, Size 15.94: G157, A188, R164, P127, G125, S128 Epi#37 SAS: 427, Size 15.94: G189, A188, R164, P129, G125, S128 SAS: 412, Size 23.05: T254, A188, L256, R180, N177 SAS: 424, Size 15.52: G189, A166, R164, P129, G125, S128 SAS: 378, Size 18.07: T254, A188, L256, R180, N179 Epi#09 SAS: 340, Size 20.00: T254, A188, L256, R180, N178 SAS: 480, Size 15.73: T254, G189, A166, R164, A188, S158 Epi#39 SAS: 302, Size 15.88: T22, G20, L21, R19, A15, S9 SAS: 445, Size 16.04: A166, E134, R164, P127, G125, L124 SAS: 432, Size 16.40: A131, E134, R164, P127, G125, L124 Epi#10 SAS: 470, Size 17.27: D175, N177, N179, S182, F183, G155, SAS: 417, Size 16.04: A166, E134, R164, P129, G125, L124 R180 SAS: 404, Size 16.40: A131, E134, R164, P129, G125, L124 SAS: 446, Size 13.75: D175, N212, N153, S182, F183, G155, SAS: 376, Size 16.04: A166, E134, T132, P129, G125, L124 R180 Epi#40 SAS: 420, Size 15.84: D175, N212, N153, S154, F183, G155, R180 SAS: 374, Size 15.78: A166, G189, T254, A188, S158 SAS: 396, Size 16.09: D175, N178, N179, S182, F183, G155, SAS: 334, Size 15.78: A166, G189, Y186, A188, T254 R180 SAS: 317, Size 11.62: A96, G59, T56, P54, S55 SAS: 380, Size 16.78: D175, N212, N153, A156, F183, SAS: 312, Size 15.30: G98, G59, T56, P54, S55 G155, R180 SAS: 307, Size 15.49: G189, A166, Y165, P129, S128 Epi#12 Epi#41 SAS: 296, Size 9.36: R164, Y161, E134, P129 SAS: 234, Size 19.50: P204, Y208, L211, V197, S210 SAS: 295, Size 13.45: P127, Y161, E134, P129 SAS: 189, Size 19.50: P204, Y208, L211, V197, S215 SAS: 291, Size 9.36: R164, Y165, E134, P129 Epi#42 SAS: 271, Size 14.70: R164, Y161, E134, N102 SAS: 549, Size 16.42: L21, P14, S9, Q12, H17, R19, R269 SAS: 270, Size 13.45: P127, Y161, E134, N102 Epi#44 Epi#17 SAS: 398, Size 15.10: L256, R180, Y186, S158, A188, T254 SAS: 283, Size 15.87: A188, S158, R164, S126 SAS: 391, Size 18.47: L251, R180, Y186, S158, A188, T254 SAS: 241, Size 12.73: A156, S158, R164, S126 SAS: 372, Size 15.51: L256, R180, Y186, A188, G189, T254 Epi#18 SAS: 371, Size 12.26: L256, R180, Y257, S250, G252, T254 SAS: 474, Size 16.26: S250, K245, S259, L256, A188, T254, L251 SAS: 367, Size 15.51: L256, R180, Y186, S158, G189, T254 SAS: 435, Size 14.14: S250, K245, S259, L256, G252, T254, Epi#46 L251 SAS: 575, Size 12.75: A15, R269, R19, P14, N18, G20 SAS: 398, Size 14.14: S259, K245, S250, L251, G252, S253, L256 Epi#47 Epi#19 SAS: 491, Size 19.28: G45, E87, I43, R44, L41, N42, P39, S206 SAS: 260, Size 21.26: E110, T141, S236, Q239, R241 Epi#53 Epi#23 SAS: 202, Size 9.12: W235, P233, K231 SAS: 491, Size 19.86: R143, N114, E110, S139, Q135, A131 SAS: 199, Size 9.12: W235, S234, K231 SAS: 482, Size 15.76: R164, N167, E134, S139, Q135, A131 SAS: 182, Size 6.73: W235, P233, K229 SAS: 465, Size 22.69: R143, N115, E110, S139, Q135, A131

SAS: 462, Size 18.17: R143, N138, E134, S139, Q135, A131 Epi#46 SAS: 439, Size 18.17: R143, N138, E110, S139, Q135, A131 SAS: 581, Size 12.65: A15, R269, R19, P14, N18, G20 Epi#28 Epi#53 SAS: 297, Size 18.06: W235, S234, Q239, K245 SAS: 445, Size 22.79: V50, Q107, W111, E110, Q135, S139, R143 SAS: 283, Size 9.54: W235, S234, Q239, K229 SAS: 426, Size 19.06: V50, Q107, F49, E53, Q57, G46, R44 SAS: 250, Size 9.46: W235, S234, Q230, K231 SAS: 370, Size 19.06: V50, Q107, E110, W111, F49, G46, SAS: 249, Size 14.49: W235, S236, Q239, K245 R44 SAS: 247, Size 9.46: W235, P233, Q230, K231 Epi#31 Release: SAS: 347, Size 21.62: L256, R180, N178, R10, W6, V197, Epi#05 D175 SAS: 461, Size 17.25: G158, A189, R165, P128, G126, S129 SAS: 339, Size 17.74: L251, R180, N178, R10, W6, V197, D175 SAS: 439, Size 17.22: G158, A189, R165, P128, G126, S127 Epi#33 SAS: 436, Size 17.25: G158, A189, S159, P128, G126, S129 SAS: 368, Size 15.95: Q135, Y165, P129, S126, R164 SAS: 420, Size 17.25: G158, A189, R165, P130, G126, S129 Epi#34 SAS: 414, Size 17.22: G158, A189, S159, P128, G126, S127 Epi#09 SAS: 445, Size 18.39: V238, W235, S236, G144, R143, S139, S142 SAS: 510, Size 22.37: T22, G20, R19, A15, R270, A267, T250 SAS: 436, Size 14.07: V238, W235, S236, G144, R143, S142, T141 SAS: 501, Size 22.37: L21, G20, R19, A15, R270, A267, T250 SAS: 358, Size 18.39: V238, W235, S236, G144, R143, T141, S139 Epi#10 Epi#37 SAS: 458, Size 17.50: D176, N178, N180, S183, F184, G156, R181 SAS: 415, Size 23.03: T254, A188, L256, R180, N177 SAS: 424, Size 13.68: D176, N213, N154, S183, F184, G156, SAS: 374, Size 18.04: T254, A188, L256, R180, N179 R181 SAS: 341, Size 19.93: T254, A188, L256, R180, N178 SAS: 407, Size 15.87: D176, N213, N154, S155, F184, G156, Epi#39 R181 SAS: 323, Size 11.55: A15, E265, H17, R19, P14, G20, L21 SAS: 392, Size 16.18: D176, N179, N180, S183, F184, G156, R181 SAS: 238, Size 12.13: A15, E265, H17, T22, P14, G20, L21 SAS: 362, Size 16.73: D176, N213, N154, A157, F184, Epi#40 G156. R181 SAS: 370, Size 15.73: A166, G189, T254, A188, S158 Epi#12 SAS: 360, Size 15.73: A166, G189, Y186, A188, T254 SAS: 323, Size 9.38: R45, Y90, E88, N43 SAS: 324, Size 17.80: A188, G189, Y186, A156, S182 SAS: 312, Size 13.53: P128, Y162, E135, P130 SAS: 302, Size 9.46: R165, Y162, E135, P130 SAS: 321, Size 23.71: A166, G189, Y186, A156, S182 SAS: 296, Size 9.46: R165, Y166, E135, P130 Epi#41 SAS: 295, Size 13.19: T255, Y187, E190, S159 SAS: 228, Size 19.53: P204, Y208, L211, V197, S210 Epi#18 Epi#42 SAS: 431, Size 15.20: S251, K246, S260, L257, A189, T255, SAS: 554, Size 16.31: L21, P14, S9, Q12, H17, R19, R269 L252 Epi#44 SAS: 398, Size 14.35: S251, K246, S260, L252, G253, T255, L257 SAS: 406, Size 15.06: L256, R180, Y186, S158, A188, T254 SAS: 378, Size 14.35: S251, K246, S260, L257, G253, T250, SAS: 398, Size 18.38: L251, R180, Y186, S158, A188, T254 L252 SAS: 395, Size 12.22: L256, R180, Y257, S250, G252, T254 Epi#19 SAS: 392, Size 15.49: L256, R180, Y186, A188, G189, T254 SAS: 285, Size 21.53: E111, T142, S237, Q240, R242 SAS: 387, Size 12.22: L251, R180, Y257, S250, G252, T254 SAS: 275, Size 12.58: D119, T142, S237, Q240, R242

Epi#23 Epi#40 SAS: 512, Size 22.29: R45, N43, E88, S24, Q231, P234 SAS: 324, Size 11.66: A97, G60, T57, P55, S56 SAS: 476, Size 19.71: R144, N115, E111, S140, Q136, A132 SAS: 316, Size 17.09: G158, A189, Y187, A157, S183 SAS: 307, Size 14.92: G158, A157, Y187, A189, T255 SAS: 460, Size 13.83: R165, N168, E135, S131, Q136, A132 SAS: 307, Size 15.34: G99, G60, T57, P55, S56 SAS: 455, Size 20.11: R144, N139, E135, S131, Q136, A132 Epi#41 SAS: 452, Size 15.83: R165, N168, E135, S140, Q136, A132 SAS: 222, Size 19.74: P205, Y209, L212, V198, S211 Epi#25 Epi#42 SAS: 293, Size 13.93: R45, K27, D119, E88 SAS: 544, Size 16.22: L21, P14, S9, Q12, H17, R19, R270 Epi#28 Epi#44 SAS: 502, Size 19.99: V103, Q108, W112, E111, Q136, S140, R144 SAS: 421, Size 14.87: L257, R181, Y187, S159, A189, T255 SAS: 476, Size 21.74: V51, Q108, F50, E54, Q58, S37, R45 SAS: 415, Size 18.81: L252, R181, Y187, S159, A189, T255 SAS: 472, Size 24.93: V103, Q108, F50, E54, Q58, G47, R45 SAS: 389, Size 22.36: V198, R181, Y187, S159, A189, T255 SAS: 469, Size 23.18: V51, Q108, W112, E111, Q136, S140, SAS: 389, Size 21.81:144, R45, Y90, A48, V51, P52 R144 SAS: 386, Size 19.16:144, R45, Y90, A48, V51, P55 SAS: 439, Size 19.16: V51, Q108, F50, E54, Q58, G47, R45 Epi#46 Epi#31 SAS: 557, Size 14.54: A267, R270, R19, P14, N18, G20 SAS: 354, Size 21.73: L257, R181, N179, R10, W6, V198, SAS: 553, Size 12.63: A15, R270, R19, P14, N18, G20 D176 SAS: 540, Size 13.10: A267, R270, R19, P14, N18, A15 SAS: 348, Size 17.85: L252, R181, N179, R10, W6, V198, SAS: 444, Size 14.54: A267, R270, R19, P14, G20, A15 D176 Epi#47 Epi#33 SAS: 627, Size 16.22: A267, R270, A15, R19, L21, N18, P14, SAS: 396, Size 22.75: Q201, Y204, P205, S37, R45 S9 SAS: 379, Size 22.75: Q201, Y209, P205, S37, R45 SAS: 436, Size 15.11: A267, E266, A15, R19, L21, N18, P14, SAS: 357, Size 18.39: H63, Y204, P205, S37, R45 S9 Epi#51 Epi#34 SAS: 545, Size 21.66: L21, R19, H17, D75, S77, I78, S3, W6 SAS: 466, Size 13.97: V239, W236, S237, G145, R144, S143, T142 SAS: 485, Size 21.66: L21, R19, H17, D75, Q2, I78, S3, W6 SAS: 463, Size 18.37: V239, W236, S237, G145, R144, Epi#53 S140, S143 SAS: 328, Size 9.43: W236, S235, Q231, K232 SAS: 387, Size 18.37: V239, W236, S237, G145, R144, S140, T142 SAS: 316, Size 9.43: W236, P234, Q231, K232 SAS: 301, Size 18.21: W236, S235, Q240, K246 Epi#36 SAS: 246, Size 14.68: W236, S237, Q240, K246 SAS: 206, Size 22.37: T250, A267, A15, G20, T22 [0598] "SAS" is solvent accessible surface. "Size" is the Epi#37 total surface area of the epitope in A2. SAS: 400, Size 22.59: T255, A189, L257, R181, N178 Example 12 SAS: 359, Size 17.59: T255, A189, L257, R181, N180 [0599] The object of this example is to provide evidence SAS: 334, Size 19.35: T255, A189, L257, R181, N179 showing that subtilisins with an homology to BPN' of as low as 44.8% reveal a similar epitope distribution as BPN'. Epi#39 [0600] Alcalase, Protease B, Savinase, Esperase, and SAS: 464, Size 16.36: A167, E135, R165, P128, G126, L125 PD498 (which range from 44.8% to 69.5% in sequence identity to BPN') were epitope mapped as described in the above SAS: 444, Size 16.52: A132, E135, R165, P128, G126, L125 example, and compared with epitope mapped BPN' (FIG. 1). SAS: 441, Size 16.36: A167, E190, R165, P128, G126, L125 [0601] The data in FIG. 1 show a significant overlap between the areas on the primary structure of the respective SAS: 441, Size 18.98: A189, E190, R165, P128, G126, L125 proteases. Overall, 6 regions were identified: 1-20, 35-65, SAS: 423, Size 16.36: A167, E135, R165, P130, G126, L125 95-115, 130-145, 170-220, and 260-270.

[0602] Even better overlap between the epitope sequences can be found among proteins of higher sequence identity, such as within the Savinase-like subtilisins with more than 81% identity, preferably more than 85%, more preferably more than 96% or most preferably more than 98% identity.

Example 13

Wash Performance

[0603] The following example provides results from a number of washing tests that were conducted under the conditions indicated

TABLE 9

Experimenta	al conditions for evaluation of Subtilisin variants I44V.
Detergent	OMO Acao
Detergent dose	2.5 g/l
PH	10.5
Wash time	14 min.
Temperature	25° C.
Water hardness	9° dH
Enzymes	Subtilisin variant I44V
Enzyme conc.	10 nM
Test system	150 ml glass beakers with a stirring rod
Textile/volume	5 textile pieces (Ø 2.5 cm) in 50 ml detergent
Test material	EMPA117 from Center for Test materials, Holland

TABLE 10

Experimenta	l conditions for evaluation of Subtilisin variants Q12D.
Detergent	Persil Powder
Detergent dose	4 g/l
PH	10.5
Wash time	20 min.
Temperature	30° C.
Water hardness	18° dH
Enzymes	Subtilisin variant Q12D
Enzyme conc.	10 nM
Test system	150 ml glass beakers with a stirring rod
Textile/volume	5 textile pieces (Ø 2.5 cm) in 50 ml detergent
Test material	EMPA116 from Center for Test materials, Holland

TABLE 11

Experimental	conditions	for evaluation	of Subtilisin y	variants O12D.

Detergent Tide Detergent dose 1 g/l

TABLE 11-continued

Experimenta	l conditions for evaluation of Subtilisin variants Q12D.
РН	10.5
Wash time	10 min.
Temperature	25° C.
Water hardness	6° dH
Enzymes	Subtilisin variant Q12D
Enzyme conc.	10 nM
Test system	150 ml glass beakers with a stirring rod
Textile/volume	5 textile pieces (Ø 2.5 cm) in 50 ml detergent
Test material	EMPA117 from Center for Test materials, Holland

[0604] pH is adjusted to 10.5 which is within the normal range for a powder detergent.

[0605] Water hardness was adjusted by adding $CaCl_2$ and $MgCl_2$ ($Ca^{2+}:Mg^{2+}=2:1$) to deionized water (see also Surfactants in Consumer Products—Theory, Technology and Application, Springer Verlag 1986). pH of the detergent solution was adjusted to pH 10.5 by addition of HCl.

[0606] Measurement of reflectance (R) on the test material was done at 460 nm using a Macbeth ColorEye 7000 photometer. The measurements were done according to the manufacturers protocol.

[0607] The wash performance of the variants was evaluated by calculating a performance factor:

 $P = (R_{Variant} - R_{Blank})/(R_{Savinase} - R_{Blank})$

С

P: Performance factor

R_{Variant}: Reflectance of test material washed with variant

 $R_{Savinase}^{tranam}$: Reflectance of test material washed with Savinase® R_{Blank}^{t} : Reflectance of test material washed with no enzyme [0608] The variants all have improved wash performance compared to Savinase®—i.e. P>1.

[0609] The variants can be divided into improvement classes designated with capital letters:

Class A: 1<P≦1.5

Class B: 1.5<P≦2

Class C: P>2

[0610]

ТА	BLE 12
Subtilisin variants	and improvement classes.
Improvement class	Variants

[0611] As it can be seen from Table 12 SAVINASE® variants of the invention exhibits an improvement in wash performance.

I44V, Q12D

SEQUENCE LISTING

<160> NUMBER OF SEQ ID NOS: 248

<210> SEQ ID NO 1 <211> LENGTH: 269 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: T. lanuginosus

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Ser Ala	Ala	Ala 20	Tyr	Суз	Gly	Lys	Asn 25	Asn	Asp	Ala	Pro	Ala 30	Gly	Thr
Asn Ile	Thr 35	Cys	Thr	Gly	Asn	Ala 40	Cys	Pro	Glu	Val	Glu 45	Lys	Ala	Asp
Ala Thr 50	Phe	Leu	Tyr	Ser	Phe 55	Glu	Asp	Ser	Gly	Val 60	Gly	Asp	Val	Thr
Gly Phe 65	Leu	Ala	Leu	Asp 70	Asn	Thr	Asn	Lys	Leu 75	Ile	Val	Leu	Ser	Phe 80
Arg Gly	Ser	Arg	Ser 85	Ile	Glu	Asn	Trp	Ile 90	Gly	Asn	Leu	Asn	Phe 95	Asp
Leu Lys	Glu	Ile 100	Asn	Asp	Ile	Суз	Ser 105	Gly	Суз	Arg	Gly	His 110	Asp	Gly
Phe Thr	Ser 115	Ser	Trp	Arg	Ser	Val 120	Ala	Asp	Thr	Leu	Arg 125	Gln	Lys	Val
Glu Asp 130		Val	Arg	Glu	His 135	Pro	Asp	Tyr	Arg	Val 140	Val	Phe	Thr	Gly
His Ser 145	Leu	Gly	Gly	Ala 150	Leu	Ala	Thr	Val	Ala 155	Gly	Ala	Asp	Leu	Arg 160
Gly Asn	Gly	Tyr	Asp 165	Ile	Asp	Val	Phe	Ser 170	Tyr	Gly	Ala	Pro	Arg 175	Val
Gly Asn	Arg	Ala 180	Phe	Ala	Glu	Phe	Leu 185	Thr	Val	Gln	Thr	Gly 190	Gly	Thr
Leu Tyr	Arg 195	Ile	Thr	His	Thr	Asn 200	Asp	Ile	Val	Pro	Arg 205	Leu	Pro	Pro
Arg Glu 210	Phe	Gly	Tyr	Ser	His 215	Ser	Ser	Pro	Glu	Tyr 220	Trp	Ile	ГЛа	Ser
Gly Thr 225	Leu	Val	Pro	Val 230	Thr	Arg	Asn	Asp	Ile 235	Val	ГЛа	Ile	Glu	Gly 240
Ile Asp	Ala	Thr	Gly 245	Gly	Asn	Asn	Gln	Pro 250	Asn	Ile	Pro	Asp	Ile 255	Pro
Ala His	Leu	Trp 260	Tyr	Phe	Gly	Leu	Ile 265	Gly	Thr	Сүз	Leu			
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Arg Gly	Ile 35	Thr	Ala	Ile	Trp	Ile 40	Pro	Pro	Ala	Trp	Lys 45	Gly	Thr	Ser
Gln Asn 50	Asp	Val	Gly	Tyr	Gly 55	Ala	Tyr	Asp	Leu	Tyr 60	Asp	Leu	Gly	Glu
Phe Asn 65	Gln	Lys	Gly	Thr 70	Val	Arg	Thr	Lys	Tyr 75	Gly	Thr	Arg	Ser	Gln 80
Leu Glu	Ser	Ala	Ile 85	His	Ala	Leu	Lys	Asn 90	Asn	Gly	Val	Gln	Val 95	Tyr
g Gly n Asn 50 e Asn	Ile 35 Asp Gln	20 Thr Val Lys	Asn Ala Gly Gly Ile	Ile Tyr Thr 70	Trp Gly 55 Val	Ile 40 Ala Arg	25 Pro Tyr Thr	Asp Pro Asp Lys Asn	Ala Leu Tyr 75	Trp Tyr 60 Gly	Lys 45 Asp Thr	30 Gly Leu Arg	Arg Thr Gly Ser Val	Ser Glu Gln 80

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												COIL	υIII	ueu	
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Val	Leu	Ala 115	Val	Glu	Val	Asn	Pro 120	Asn	Asn	Arg	Asn	Gln 125	Glu	Ile	Ser
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Val	Val 210	Asn	Glu	Leu	Arg	Arg 215		Gly	Glu	Trp	Tyr 220	Thr	Asn	Thr	Leu
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Asn	Tyr	Leu 275		Lys	Thr	Asn	Trp 280	Asn	His	Ser	Val	Phe 285		Val	Pro
Leu	His 290		Asn	Leu	Tyr	Asn 295		Ser	Asn	Ser	Gly 300		Asn	Tyr	Asp
Met 305		Lys	Leu	Leu	Asn 310	Gly	Thr	Val	Val	Gln 315	Lys	His	Pro	Met	His 320
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Leu	Thr	Arg 355		Gln	Gly	Tyr	Pro 360	Ser	Val	Phe	Tyr	Gly 365		Tyr	Tyr
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His	Pro	Asn				Ala	Thr	Ile	410 Met	Ser	Asp	Gly		415 Gly	Gly
Glu	Lys				Val	Gly		425 Asn	Lys	Ala	Gly		430 Val	Trp	His
Asp		435 Thr		Asn	Lys		-	Thr	Val	Thr		445 Asn	Ala	Asp	Gly
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Val Asn 50	Asp	Leu	Asp	Asn	Pro 55	Thr	Met	Leu	Arg	Pro 60	Thr	Ser	Ile	His
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Val Gly	Gly	Pro 180	Ala	Ala	Glu	Leu	Ser 185	Ile	Val	Asn	Val	Glu 190	Gln	Gly
Гла Гла	Tyr 195	Arg	Met	Arg	Leu	Ile 200	Ser	Leu	Ser	Суз	Asp 205	Pro	Asn	Trp
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Thr Pro	Gly	Ala	Ala 325	Asn	Val	Asn	Leu	Arg 330	Phe	Gln	Leu	Gly	Phe 335	Ser
Gly Gly	Arg	Phe 340	Thr	Ile	Asn	Gly	Thr 345	Ala	Tyr	Glu	Ser	Pro 350	Ser	Val
Pro Thr	Leu 355	Leu	Gln	Ile	Met	Ser 360	Gly	Ala	Gln	Ser	Ala 365	Asn	Asp	Leu
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Asp	Ala	Leu	Lys	Pro 165	Gly	Сүз	Tyr	Trp	Arg 170	Phe	Asp	Trp	Phe	Lys 175	Asn
Ala	Asp	Asn	Pro 180	Ser	Phe	Ser	Phe	Arg 185	Gln	Val	Gln	Суз	Pro 190	Ala	Glu
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Leu	vai	195					200					205			

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Gly Pro Gly Thr Ile Lys Lys Ile Ser Phe Pro Glu Gly Phe Pro Phe 50 55 60
Lys Tyr Val Lys Asp Arg Val Asp Glu Val Asp His Thr Asn Phe Lys 65 70 75 80
Tyr Asn Tyr Ser Val Ile Glu Gly Gly Pro Ile Gly Asp Thr Leu Glu 85 90 95
Lys Ile Ser Asn Glu Ile Lys Ile Val Ala Thr Pro Asp Gly Gly Ser 100 105 110
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		20					25					30		
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Thr Ala L 50	yya	Ile	Glu	Ile	Lys 55	Ala	Ser	Ile	Asp	Gly 60	Leu	Glu	Val	Asp
Val Pro G 65	ly	Ile	Asp	Pro 70	Asn	Ala	Сув	His	Tyr 75	Met	Lys	Сүз	Pro	Leu 80
Val Lys G	Jy	Gln	Gln 85	Tyr	Asp	Ile	ГЛа	Tyr 90	Thr	Trp	Asn	Val	Pro 95	Гла
Ile Ala P		Lys 100	Ser	Glu	Asn	Val	Val 105	Val	Thr	Val	Lys	Val 110	Met	Gly
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Val Pro L	-		5					10	-				15	
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Leu	Pro 210	Gly	Asn	Lys	Tyr	Gly 215	Ala	Tyr	Asn	Gly	Thr 220	Ser	Met	Ala	Ser
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Ala	Arg 290	Glu	Tyr	Phe	Thr	Leu 295	His	Tyr	Pro	Gln	Tyr 300	Asp	Val	Tyr	Phe
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Val	Gly														
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<211 <211 <400 Gln 1 Asn Gly Ile Val 65 Val Gly	L> LH 2> TY 3> OF D> SE Thr Arg Ile Ser 50 Ala Ser	ENGTH (PE: CQUEN CQUEN Val Gly Ala 35 Ser Gly Pro Gly	H: 26 PRT (SM: VCE: Pro Ile 20 Ser Glu Thr Ser Ser Ser 100	68 Bac: 11 Trp 5 Phe His Pro Ile Ala 85	Gly Gly Pro Ser Ala 70 Asp Ala	Ile Asn Asp Tyr 55 Ala Leu Ser	Ser Gly Leu 40 His Leu Tyr Val	Ala 25 Arg Asp Asn Ala 105	10 Arg Ile Asn Asn Val 90 Gln	Val Ala Asn Ser 75 Lys Gly	Ala Gly Gly 60 Ile Val Ile	Val Gly 45 His Gly Leu Glu	Leu 30 Ala Gly Val Asp Trp 110	15 Asp Ser Thr Leu Arg 95 Ala	Thr Phe His Gly 80 Asn Ile

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Ser Ser Thr Leu Glu Leu Ala Val Asn Arg Ala Asn Asn Ala Gly Ile Leu Leu Val Gly Ala Ala Gly As
n Thr Gly Arg Gl
n Gly Val As
n Tyr $% \left({\left({{{\rm{A}}} \right)} \right)$ Pro Ala Arg Tyr Ser Gly Val Met Ala Val Ala Ala Val Asp Gln Asn Gly Gln Arg Ala Ser Phe Ser Thr Tyr Gly Pro Glu Ile Glu Ile Ser Ala Pro Gly Val Asn Val Asn Ser Thr Tyr Thr Gly Asn Arg Tyr Val Ser Leu Ser Gly Thr Ser Met Ala Thr Pro His Val Ala Gly Val Ala Ala Leu Val Lys Ser Arg Tyr Pro Ser Tyr Thr Asn Asn Gln Ile Arg Gln Arg Ile Asn Gln Thr Ala Thr Tyr Leu Gly Ser Pro Ser Leu Tyr Gly Asn Gly Leu Val His Ala Gly Arg Ala Thr Gln <210> SEQ ID NO 12 <211> LENGTH: 150 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Bos taurus <400> SEQUENCE: 12 Ile Asp Pro Ser Lys Ile Pro Gly Glu Trp Arg Ile Ile Tyr Ala Ala Ala Asp Asn Lys Asp Lys Ile Val Glu Gly Gly Pro Leu Arg Asn Tyr Tyr Arg Arg Ile Glu Cys Ile Asn Asp Cys Glu Ser Leu Ser Ile Thr Phe Tyr Leu Lys Asp Gln Gly Thr Cys Leu Leu Leu Thr Glu Val Ala Lys Arg Gln Glu Gly Tyr Val Tyr Val Leu Glu Phe Tyr Gly Thr $\ensuremath{\mathsf{Asn}}$ Thr Leu Glu Val Ile His Val Ser Glu Asn Met Leu Val Thr Tyr Val Glu Asn Tyr Asp Gly Glu Arg Ile Thr Lys Met Thr Glu Gly Leu Ala Lys Gly Thr Ser Phe Thr Pro Glu Glu Leu Glu Lys Tyr Gln Gln Leu Asn Ser Glu Arg Gly Val Pro Asn Glu Asn Ile Glu Asn Leu Ile Lys Thr Asp Asn Cys Pro Pro <210> SEQ ID NO 13 <211> LENGTH: 159 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Equus caballus <400> SEQUENCE: 13 Val Ala Ile Arg Asn Phe Asp Ile Ser Lys Ile Ser Gly Glu Trp Tyr 1 5 10 15 Ser Ile Phe Leu Ala Ser Asp Val Lys Glu Lys Ile Glu Glu Asn Gly

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			20					25					30		
Ser	Met	Arg 35	Val	Phe	Val	Asp	Val 40	Ile	Arg	Ala	Leu	Asp 45	Asn	Ser	Ser
Leu	Tyr 50	Ala	Glu	Tyr	Gln	Thr 55	Гла	Val	Asn	Gly	Glu 60	Суа	Thr	Glu	Phe
Pro 65	Met	Val	Phe	Asp	Lys 70	Thr	Glu	Glu	Asp	Gly 75	Val	Tyr	Ser	Leu	Asn 80
Tyr	Asp	Gly	Tyr	Asn 85	Val	Phe	Arg	Ile	Ser 90	Glu	Phe	Glu	Asn	Asp 95	Glu
His	Ile	Ile	Leu 100	Tyr	Leu	Val	Asn	Phe 105	Asp	Lys	Asp	Arg	Pro 110	Phe	Gln
Leu	Phe	Glu 115	Phe	Tyr	Ala	Arg	Glu 120	Pro	Asp	Val	Ser	Pro 125	Glu	Ile	Lys
Glu	Glu 130	Phe	Val	Гла	Ile	Val 135	Gln	Lys	Arg	Gly	Ile 140	Val	Lys	Glu	Asn
Ile 145	Ile	Asp	Leu	Thr	Lys 150	Ile	Asp	Arg	Суз	Phe 155	Gln	Leu	Arg	Gly	
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1 His	Asn	Arg	Gly	5 Leu	Thr	Gly	Ser	Gly	10 Val	Lys	Val	Ala	Val	15 Leu	Asp
		-	20		His			25		-			30		_
	-	35			Pro		40				-	45	_		
	50		-		Ile	55			-	-	60			-	
65			-		70					75			-		80
-				85	Ala			-	90		-			95	
			100		Val			105					110		
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Pro	Ser 130	Ala	Thr	Leu	Glu	Gln 135	Ala	Val	Asn	Ser	Ala 140	Thr	Ser	Arg	Gly
Val 145	Leu	Val	Val	Ala	Ala 150	Ser	Gly	Asn	Ser	Gly 155	Ala	Gly	Ser	Ile	Ser 160
Tyr	Pro	Ala	Arg	Tyr 165	Ala	Asn	Ala	Met	Ala 170	Val	Gly	Ala	Thr	Asp 175	Gln
Asn	Asn	Asn	Arg 180	Ala	Ser	Phe	Ser	Gln 185	Tyr	Gly	Ala	Gly	Leu 190	Asp	Ile
Met	Ala	Pro 195	Gly	Val	Asn	Ile	Gln 200	Ser	Thr	Tyr	Pro	Gly 205	Ser	Thr	Tyr
Ala	Ser	Aap	Asn	Gly	Thr	Ser	Met	Ala	Thr	Pro	His	Val	Ala	Gly	Ala

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Ala Ala Leu Val Lys Gln Lys Asn Pro Ser Trp Ser Asn Val Gln Ile Arg Asn His Leu Lys Asn Thr Ala Thr Ser Leu Gly Ser Thr Asn Leu Tyr Gly Ser Gly Leu Val Asn Ala Glu Ala Ala Thr Arg <210> SEQ ID NO 15 <211> LENGTH: 129 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Gallus gallus <400> SEQUENCE: 15 Lys Val Phe Gly Arg Cys Glu Leu Ala Ala Ala Met Lys Arg His Gly Leu Asp Asn Tyr Arg Gly Tyr Ser Leu Gly Asn Trp Val Cys Ala Ala Lys Phe Glu Ser Asn Phe Asn Thr Gln Ala Thr Asn Arg Asn Thr Asp Gly Ser Thr Asp Tyr Gly Ile Leu Gln Ile Asn Ser Arg Trp Trp Cys Asn Asp Gly Arg Thr Pro Gly Ser Arg Asn Leu Cys Asn Ile Pro Cys Ser Ala Leu Leu Ser Ser Asp Ile Thr Ala Ser Val Asn Cys Ala Lys Lys Ile Val Ser Asp Ala Asn Gly Met Asn Ala Trp Val Ala Trp Arg Asn Arg Cys Lys Gly Thr Asp Val Gln Ala Trp Ile Arg Gly Cys Arg Leu <210> SEO ID NO 16 <211> LENGTH: 260 <212> TYPE · PRT <213> ORGANISM: Havea brasiliensis <400> SEOUENCE: 16 Ser Trp Gln Thr Tyr Val Asp Asp His Leu Met Cys Asp Ile Asp Gly His Arg Leu Thr Ala Ala Ala Ile Ile Gly His Asp Gly Ser Val Trp Ala Gln Ser Ser Ser Phe Pro Gln Phe Lys Ser Asp Glu Val Ala Ala Val Met Lys Asp Phe Asp Glu Pro Gly Ser Leu Ala Pro Thr Gly Leu His Leu Gly Gly Thr Lys Tyr Met Val Ile Gln Gly Glu Pro Gly Ala Val Ile Arg Gly Lys Lys Gly Ser Gly Gly Ile Thr Val Lys Arg Thr Gly Gln Ala Leu Ile Ile Gly Ile Tyr Asp Glu Pro Leu Thr Pro Gly Gln Cys As
n Met Ile Val Glu Arg Leu Gly Asp
 Tyr Leu Leu Asp Gln $% \mathbb{C}$

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Gly Leu Ser Trp Gln Thr Tyr Val Asp Asp His Leu Met Cys Asp Ile Asp Gly His Arg Leu Thr Ala Ala Ala Ile Ile Gly His Asp Gly Ser Val Trp Ala Gln Ser Ser Ser Phe Pro Gln Phe Lys Ser Asp Glu Val Ala Ala Val Met Lys Asp Phe Asp Glu Pro Gly Ser Leu Ala Pro Thr Gly Leu His Leu Gly Gly Thr Lys Tyr Met Val Ile Gln Gly Glu Pro Gly Ala Val Ile Arg Gly Lys Lys Gly Ser Gly Gly Ile Thr Val Lys 210 215 220 Arg Thr Gly Gln Ala Leu Ile Ile Gly Ile Tyr Asp Glu Pro Leu Thr Pro Gly Gln Cys Asn Met Ile Val Glu Arg Leu Gly Asp Tyr Leu Leu Asp Gln Gly Leu <210> SEQ ID NO 17 <211> LENGTH: 125 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Acanthamoeba castellanii <400> SEQUENCE: 17 Ser Trp Gln Thr Tyr Val Asp Thr Asn Leu Val Gly Thr Gly Ala Val Thr Gln Ala Ala Ile Leu Gly Leu Asp Gly Asn Thr Trp Ala Thr Ser Ala Gly Phe Ala Val Thr Pro Ala Gln Gly Gln Thr Leu Ala Ser Ala Phe Asn Asn Ala Asp Pro Ile Arg Ala Ser Gly Phe Asp Leu Ala Gly Val His Tyr Val Thr Leu Arg Ala Asp Asp Arg Ser Ile Tyr Gly Lys Lys Gly Ser Ala Gly Val Ile Thr Val Lys Thr Ser Lys Ser Ile Leu Val Gly Val Tyr Asn Glu Lys Ile Gln Pro Gly Thr Ala Ala Asn Val Val Glu Lys Leu Ala Asp Tyr Leu Ile Gly Gln Gly Phe <210> SEQ ID NO 18 <211> LENGTH: 130 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Arabidosis thaliana <400> SEQUENCE: 18 Ser Trp Gln Ser Tyr Val Asp Asp His Leu Met Cys Asp Val Glu Gly Asn His Leu Thr Ala Ala Ala Ile Leu Gly Gln Asp Gly Ser Val Trp Ala Gln Ser Ala Lys Phe Pro Gln Leu Lys Pro Gln Glu Ile Asp Gly

Ile Lys Lys Asp Phe Glu Glu Pro Gly Phe Leu Ala Pro Thr Gly Leu Phe Leu Gly Gly Glu Lys Tyr Met Val Ile Gln Gly Glu Gln Gly Ala Val Ile Arg Gly Lys Lys Gly Pro Gly Gly Val Thr Ile Lys Lys Thr Asn Gln Ala Leu Val Phe Gly Phe Tyr Asp Glu Pro Met Thr Gly Gly Gln Cys Asn Leu Val Val Glu Arg Leu Gly Asp Tyr Leu Ile Glu Ser Glu Leu <210> SEQ ID NO 19 <211> LENGTH: 250 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Acanthamoeba castellanii <400> SEQUENCE: 19 Ser Trp Gln Thr Tyr Val Asp Thr Asn Leu Val Gly Thr Gly Ala Val Thr Gln Ala Ala Ile Ile Gly His Asp Gly Asn Thr Trp Ala Thr Ser Ala Gly Phe Ala Val Ser Pro Ala Asn Gly Ala Ala Leu Ala Asn Ala Phe Lys Asp Ala Thr Ala Ile Arg Ser Asn Gly Phe Glu Leu Ala Gly 50 55 60
 Thr Arg Tyr Val Thr Ile Arg Ala Asp Asp Arg Ser Val Tyr Gly Lys

 65
 70
 75
 80
 Lys Gly Ser Ala Gly Val Ile Thr Val Lys Thr Ser Lys Ala Ile Leu Ile Gly Val Tyr Asn Glu Lys Ile Gln Pro Gly Thr Ala Ala Asn Val Val Glu Lys Leu Ala Asp Tyr Leu Ile Gly Gln Gly Phe Ser Trp Gln Thr Tyr Val Asp Thr Asn Leu Val Gly Thr Gly Ala Val Thr Gln Ala Ala Ile Ile Gly His Asp Gly Asn Thr Trp Ala Thr Ser Ala Gly Phe Ala Val Ser Pro Ala Asn Gly Ala Ala Leu Ala Asn Ala Phe Lys Asp Ala Thr Ala Ile Arg Ser Asn Gly Phe Glu Leu Ala Gly Thr Arg Tyr Val Thr Ile Arg Ala Asp Asp Arg Ser Val Tyr Gly Lys Lys Gly Ser Ala Gly Val Ile Thr Val Lys Thr Ser Lys Ala Ile Leu Ile Gly Val Tyr Asn Glu Lys Ile Gln Pro Gly Thr Ala Ala Asn Val Val Glu Lys Leu Ala Asp Tyr Leu Ile Gly Gln Gly Phe

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Gln Val Gly Gln Asn Val Ala Leu Thr Gly Ser Thr Ala Ala Lys Tyr Asp Asp Pro Val Lys Leu Val Lys Met Trp Glu Asp Glu Val Lys Asp Tyr Asn Pro Lys Lys Lys Phe Ser Gly Asn Asp Phe Leu Lys Thr Gly His Tyr Thr Gln Met Val Trp Ala Asn Thr Lys Glu Val Gly Cys Gly Ser Ile Lys Tyr Ile Gln Glu Lys Trp His Lys His Tyr Leu Val Cys Asn Tyr Gly Pro Ser Gly Asn Phe Lys Asn Glu Glu Leu Tyr Gln Thr Lys <210> SEQ ID NO 23 <211> LENGTH: 269 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence <220> FEATURE: <223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic construct <400> SEQUENCE: 23 Ala Gln Thr Ile Pro Trp Gly Ile Ser Arg Val Gln Ala Pro Ala Ala His Asn Arg Gly Leu Thr Gly Ser Gly Val Lys Val Ala Val Leu Asp 20 25 Thr Gly Ile Ser Thr His Pro Asp Leu Asn Ile Arg Gly Gly Ala Ser Phe Val Pro Gly Glu Pro Ser Thr Gln Asp Gly Asn Gly His Gly Thr His Val Ala Gly Thr Ile Ala Ala Leu Asn Asn Ser Ile Gly Val Leu Gly Val Ala Pro Ser Ala Glu Leu Tyr Ala Val Lys Val Leu Gly Ala Ser Gly Ser Gly Ser Val Ser Ser Ile Ala Gln Gly Leu Glu Trp Ala Gly Asn Asn Gly Met His Val Ala Asn Leu Ser Leu Gly Ser Pro Ser Pro Ser Ala Thr Leu Glu Gln Ala Val Asn Ser Ala Thr Ser Arg Gly Val Leu Val Val Ala Ala Ser Gly Asn Ser Gly Ala Gly Ser Ile Ser Tyr Pro Ala Arg Tyr Ala Asn Ala Met Ala Val Gly Ala Thr Asp Gln Asn Asn Asn Arg Ala Ser Phe Ser Gln Tyr Gly Ala Gly Leu Asp Ile Met Ala Pro Gly Val Asn Ile Gln Ser Thr Tyr Pro Gly Ser Thr Tyr Ala Ser Asp Asn Gly Thr Ser Met Ala Thr Pro His Val Ala Gly Ala Ala Ala Leu Val Lys Gln Lys Asn Pro Ser Trp Ser Asn Val Gln Ile

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Thr 65	His	Val	Ala	Gly	Thr 70	Val	Ala	Ala	Leu	Asp 75	Asn	Thr	Thr	Gly	Val 80	L			
Leu	Gly	Val	Ala	Pro 85	Ser	Val	Ser	Leu	Tyr 90	Ala	Val	Lys	Val	Leu 95	Asn	ı			
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Ala	Thr								Asn	Met	Ser			Gly	Ala	à			
Ser	Gly		Thr	Ala	Met		120 Gln	Ala	Val	Asp		125 Ala	Tyr	Ala	Arg	J			
Gly	130 Val		Val	Val	Ala	135 Ala	Ala	Gly	Asn	Ser	140 Gly	Ser	Ser	Gly	Asn	ı			
145 Thr	Asn	Thr	Ile	Gly	150 Tyr	Pro	Ala	Lys	Tyr	155 Asp	Ser	Val	Ile	Ala	160 Val				
	Ala			165					170					175					
_			180					185					190		_				
	Glu	195					200	-		-		205			-				
Pro	Thr 210	Asn	Thr	Tyr	Ala	Thr 215	Leu	Asn	Gly	Thr	Ser 220	Met	Ala	Ser	Pro	>			
His 225	Val	Ala	Gly	Ala	Ala 230	Ala	Leu	Ile	Leu	Ser 235	-	His	Pro	Asn	Leu 240				
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Ala	Gln																		
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His	Asn	Arg	Gly 20	Leu	Thr	Gly	Ser	Gly 25	Val	Lys	Val	Ala	Val 30	Leu	Asp	ò			
Thr	Gly	Ile 35	Ser	Thr	His	Pro	Asp 40	Leu	Asn	Ile	Arg	Gly 45	Gly	Ala	Ser	£			
Phe	Val 50	Pro	Gly	Glu	Pro	Ser 55	Thr	Gln	Asp	Gly	Asn 60	Gly	His	Gly	Thr	c			
His 65	Val	Ala	Gly	Thr	Ile 70	Ala	Ala	Leu	Asn	Asn 75	Ser	Ile	Gly	Val	Leu 80	1			
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Pro	Ser 130	Ala	Thr	Leu	Glu	Gln 135	Ala	Val	Asn	Ser	Ala 140	Thr	Ser	Arg	Gly					
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Tyr	Pro	Ala	Arg	Tyr 165	Ala	Asn	Ala	Met	Ala 170	Val	Gly	Ala	Thr	Asp 175	Gln					
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Met	Ala	Pro 195	Gly	Val	Asn	Ile	Gln 200	Ser	Thr	Tyr	Pro	Gly 205	Ser	Thr	Tyr					
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Arg	Asn	His	Leu	Lys 245	Asn	Thr	Ala	Thr	Ser 250	Leu	Gly	Ser	Thr	Asn 255	Leu					
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His	Asn	Arg	Gly 20	Leu	Thr	Gly	Ser	Gly 25	Val	Arg	Val	Ala	Val 30	Leu	Asp					
Thr	Gly	Ile 35	Ser	Thr	His	Pro	Asp 40	Leu	Asn	Ile	Arg	Gly 45	Gly	Ala	Ser					
Phe	Val 50	Pro	Gly	Glu	Pro	Ser 55	Thr	Gln	Asp	Gly	Asn 60	Gly	His	Gly	Thr					
His 65	Val	Ala	Gly	Thr	Ile 70	Ala	Ala	Leu	Asn	Asn 75	Ser	Ile	Gly	Val	Leu 80					
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Ser	Gly	Ser	Gly 100	Ser	Tyr	Ser	Ser	Ile 105	Ala	Gln	Gly	Leu	Glu 110	Trp	Ala					
Gly	Asn	Asn 115	Gly	Met	His	Val	Ala 120	Ser	Leu	Ser	Leu	Gly 125	Ser	Pro	Ser					
	130					135					Ala 140			-	-					
145					150		-			155	Ala	-			160					
Tyr	Pro	Ala	Arg	Tyr	Ala	Asn	Ala	Met	Ala	Val	Gly	Ala	Thr	Aab	Gln					

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195 200 205 Ala See Leu Aun Gly Th T See Net Ala Thr Pro His Val Ala Gly Ala 210 210 220 230 29 Are an Pro Ser Try Ser Ann Val Glu 14e 226 Ang Aen His Leu Lye Ann Thr Ala Thr Ser Leu Gly Ser Thr Aen Leu 227 20 29 Cly Leu Val Awn Ala Glu Ala Ala Ala Ala Arg 228 20 29 Cly Leu Val Awn Ala Glu Ala Ala Ala Ala Arg 229 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20	Asn As	n A			Ala	Ser	Phe	Ser		Tyr	Gly	Ala	Gly		Asp	Ile						
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Arg Asp His Le	ı Lys Ly 245	s Thr Ala	Thr	Ser 250	Leu	Gly	Ser	Thr	Asn 255	Leu
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Thr	Lys	Ile	Leu 100	Ala	Val	Arg	Val	Leu 105	Asp	Ala	Asn	Gly	Ser 110	Gly	Ser
Leu	Asp	Ser 115	Ile	Ala	Ser	Gly	Ile 120	Arg	Tyr	Ala	Ala	Asp 125	Gln	Gly	Ala
Lys	Val 130	Leu	Asn	Leu	Ser	Leu 135	Gly	Суз	Glu	Суз	Asn 140	Ser	Thr	Thr	Leu
Lys 145	Ser	Ala	Val	Asp	Tyr 150		Trp	Asn	Lys	Gly 155		Val	Val	Val	Ala 160
Ala	Ala	Gly	Asn	Asp 165		Val	Ser	Arg	Thr 170	Phe	Gln	Pro	Ala	Ser 175	Tyr
Pro	Asn	Ala	Ile 180	Ala	Val	Gly	Ala	Ile 185	Asp	Ser	Asn	Asp	Arg 190	Гла	Ala
Ser	Phe	Ser 195	Asn	Tyr	Gly	Thr	Trp 200		Asp	Val	Thr	Ala 205	Pro	Gly	Val
Asn	Ile 210	Ala	Ser	Thr	Val	Pro 215	Asn	Asn	Gly	Tyr	Ser 220	Tyr	Met	Ser	Gly
Thr 225	Ser	Met	Ala	Ser	Pro 230		Val	Ala	Gly	Leu 235	Ala	Ala	Leu	Leu	Ala 240
Ser	Gln	Gly	Гла	Asn 245		Val	Gln	Ile	Arg 250		Ala	Ile	Glu	Gln 255	Thr

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148

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Val Pro Gly Glu 50	Pro Asn Il 55	e Ser Asp Gly	Asn Gly His G 60	ly Thr Gln
Val Ala Gly Thr 65	Ile Ala Al 70	a Leu Asn Asn	Ser Ile Gly V 75	al Leu Gly 80
Val Ala Pro Asn	Val Asp Le 85	ı Tyr Gly Val 90	Lys Val Leu G	ly Ala Ser 95
Gly Ser Gly Ser 100		y Ile Ala Gln 105		rp Ala Ala 10
Asn Asn Gly Met 115	His Ile Al	a Asn Met Ser 120	Leu Gly Ser S 125	er Ala Gly
Ser Ala Thr Met 130	Glu Gln Al 13		Ala Thr Ala S 140	er Gly Val
Leu Val Val Ala 145	Ala Ser Gly 150	y Asn Ser Gly	Ala Gly Asn V 155	al Gly Phe 160
Pro Ala Arg Tyr	Ala Asn Al 165	a Met Ala Val 170	Gly Ala Thr A	sp Gln Asn 175
Asn Asn Arg Ala 180		r Gln Tyr Gly 185		sp Ile Val 90
Ala Pro Gly Val 195	Gly Val Gl	n Ser Thr Val 200	Pro Gly Asn G 205	ly Tyr Ala
Ser Phe Asn Gly 210	Thr Ser Me 21		His Val Ala G 220	ly Val Ala
Ala Leu Val Lys 225	Gln Lys As 230	n Pro Ser Trp	Ser Asn Val G 235	ln Ile Arg 240
Asn His Leu Lys	Asn Thr Al 245	a Thr Asn Leu 250	Gly Asn Thr T	hr Gln Phe 255
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Asp Ser Gly Ile 35	Val Val Al	a Ser Pro Ser 40	Thr Asp Asn P 45	ro Asp Tyr

Ser Arg Gly Phe Thr Gly Thr Gly Val Arg Val Ala Val Leu Asp Thr 20 \$25\$ 30 \$30

45 Phe Tyr Thr Trp Thr Arg Asp Ser Gly Leu Val Leu Lys Thr Leu Val 60 50 55 Asp Leu Phe Arg Asn Gly Asp Thr Ser Leu Leu Ser Thr Ile Glu Asn65707580 Tyr Ile Ser Ala Gln Ala Ile Val Gln Gly Ile Ser Asn Pro Ser Gly 95 85 90

Asp Leu Ser Ser Gly Ala Gly Leu Gly Glu Pro Lys Phe Asn Val Asp

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Ala	Leu 130	Arg	Ala	Thr	Ala	Met 135	Ile	Gly	Phe	Gly	Gln 140	Trp	Leu	Leu	Asp
Asn 145	Gly	Tyr	Thr	Ser	Thr 150	Ala	Thr	Asp	Ile	Val 155	Trp	Pro	Leu	Val	Arg 160
Asn	Asp	Leu	Ser	Tyr 165	Val	Ala	Gln	Tyr	Trp 170	Asn	Gln	Thr	Gly	Tyr 175	Asp
Leu	Trp	Glu	Glu 180	Val	Asn	Gly	Ser	Ser 185	Phe	Phe	Thr	Ile	Ala 190	Val	Gln
His	Arg	Ala 195	Leu	Val	Glu	Gly	Ser 200	Ala	Phe	Ala	Thr	Ala 205	Val	Gly	Ser
Ser	Cys 210	Ser	Trp	Суз	Asp	Ser 215	Gln	Ala	Pro	Glu	Ile 220	Leu	Сүз	Tyr	Leu
Gln 225	Ser	Phe	Trp	Thr	Gly 230	Ser	Phe	Ile	Leu	Ala 235	Asn	Phe	Asp	Ser	Ser 240
Arg	Ser	Gly	Lys	Asp 245	Ala	Asn	Thr	Leu	Leu 250	Gly	Ser	Ile	His	Thr 255	Phe
Asp	Pro	Glu	Ala 260	Ala	Суз	Asp	Asp	Ser 265	Thr	Phe	Gln	Pro	Cys 270	Ser	Pro
Arg	Ala	Leu 275	Ala	Asn	His	LÀa	Glu 280	Val	Val	Asp	Ser	Phe 285	Arg	Ser	Ile
Tyr	Thr 290	Leu	Asn	Asp	Gly	Leu 295	Ser	Asp	Ser	Glu	Ala 300	Val	Ala	Val	Gly
Arg 305	Tyr	Pro	Glu	Asp	Thr 310	Tyr	Tyr	Asn	Gly	Asn 315	Pro	Trp	Phe	Leu	Суз 320
Thr	Leu	Ala	Ala	Ala 325	Glu	Gln	Leu	Tyr	Aap 330	Ala	Leu	Tyr	Gln	Trp 335	Asp
ГЛа	Gln	Gly	Ser 340	Leu	Glu	Val	Thr	Asp 345	Val	Ser	Leu	Asp	Phe 350	Phe	Lys
Ala	Leu	Tyr 355	Ser	Aap	Ala	Ala	Thr 360	Gly	Thr	Tyr	Ser	Ser 365	Ser	Ser	Ser
Thr	Tyr 370	Ser	Ser	Ile	Val	Asp 375	Ala	Val	Lys	Thr	Phe 380	Ala	Asp	Gly	Phe
Val 385	Ser	Ile	Val	Glu	Thr 390		Ala	Ala	Ser	Asn 395	Gly	Ser	Met	Ser	Glu 400
Gln	Tyr	Asp	Lys	Ser 405		Gly	Glu	Gln	Leu 410	Ser	Ala	Arg	Asp	Leu 415	Thr
Trp	Ser	Tyr	Ala 420	Ala	Leu	Leu	Thr	Ala 425	Asn	Asn	Arg	Arg	Asn 430	Ser	Val
Val	Pro	Ala 435	Ser	Trp	Gly	Glu	Thr 440		Ala	Ser	Ser	Val 445	Pro	Gly	Thr
Суз	Ala 450	Ala	Thr	Ser	Ala	Ile 455		Thr	Tyr	Ser	Ser 460	Val	Thr	Val	Thr
Ser 465	-	Pro	Ser	Ile	Val 470	Ala									
		EQ II													
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Lys	Gly	Ile 35	Ser	Ala	Val	Trp	Ile 40	Pro	Pro	Ala	Trp	Lys 45	Gly	Ala	Ser
Gln	Asn 50	Asp	Val	Gly	Tyr	Gly 55	Ala	Tyr	Asp	Leu	Tyr 60	Asp	Leu	Gly	Glu
Phe 65	Asn	Gln	Lys	Gly	Thr 70	Ile	Arg	Thr	Lys	Tyr 75	Gly	Thr	Arg	Asn	Gln 80
Leu	Gln	Ala	Ala	Val 85	Asn	Ala	Leu	Lys	Ser 90	Asn	Gly	Ile	Gln	Val 95	Tyr
Gly	Asp	Val	Val 100	Met	Asn	His	Lys	Gly 105	Gly	Ala	Asp	Ala	Thr 110	Glu	Met
Val	Arg	Ala 115	Val	Glu	Val	Asn	Pro 120	Asn	Asn	Arg	Asn	Gln 125	Glu	Val	Ser
Gly	Glu 130	Tyr	Thr	Ile	Glu	Ala 135	Trp	Thr	Lys	Phe	Asp 140	Phe	Pro	Gly	Arg
Gly 145	Asn	Thr	His	Ser	Asn 150	Phe	Lys	Trp	Arg	Trp 155	Tyr	His	Phe	Asp	Gly 160
Val	Asb	Trp	Asp	Gln 165	Ser	Arg	Lys	Leu	Asn 170	Asn	Arg	Ile	Tyr	Lys 175	Phe
Arg	Gly	Asp	Gly 180	Lys	Gly	Trp	Asp	Trp 185	Glu	Val	Asp	Thr	Glu 190	Asn	Gly
Asn	Tyr	Asp 195	Tyr	Leu	Met	Tyr	Ala 200	Asp	Ile	Asp	Met	Asp 205	His	Pro	Glu
Val	Val 210	Asn	Glu	Leu	Arg	Asn 215	Trp	Gly	Val	Trp	Tyr 220	Thr	Asn	Thr	Leu
Gly 225	Leu	Asb	Gly	Phe	Arg 230	Ile	Asp	Ala	Val	Lys 235	His	Ile	Lys	Tyr	Ser 240
Phe	Thr	Arg	Asp	Trp 245	Ile	Asn	His	Val	Arg 250	Ser	Ala	Thr	Gly	Lys 255	Asn
Met	Phe	Ala	Val 260	Ala	Glu	Phe	Trp	Lys 265	Asn	Asp	Leu	Gly	Ala 270	Ile	Glu
Asn	Tyr	Leu 275	Asn	Lys	Thr	Asn	Trp 280	Asn	His	Ser	Val	Phe 285	Asp	Val	Pro
Leu	His 290	Tyr	Asn	Leu	Tyr	Asn 295	Ala	Ser	Lys	Ser	Gly 300	Gly	Asn	Tyr	Asp
Met 305	Arg	Gln	Ile	Phe	Asn 310	Gly	Thr	Val	Val	Gln 315	Arg	His	Pro	Met	His 320
Ala	Val	Thr	Phe	Val 325	Asp	Asn	His	Asp	Ser 330	Gln	Pro	Glu	Glu	Ala 335	Leu
Glu	Ser	Phe	Val 340	Glu	Glu	Trp	Phe	Lys 345	Pro	Leu	Ala	Tyr	Ala 350	Leu	Thr
Leu	Thr	Arg 355	Glu	Gln	Gly	Tyr	Pro 360	Ser	Val	Phe	Tyr	Gly 365	Asp	Tyr	Tyr
Gly	Ile 370	Pro	Thr	His	Gly	Val 375	Pro	Ala	Met	Гла	Ser 380	Гла	Ile	Asp	Pro
Ile	Leu	Glu	Ala	Arg	Gln	Lys	Tyr	Ala	Tyr	Gly	Arg	Gln	Asn	Asp	Tyr

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385	390			395					400		
Leu Asp His H	is Asn Ile 405	Ile Gly	Trp Thr 410	Arg	Glu (Gly	Asn	Thr 415	Ala		
His Pro Asn Se 4:	er Gly Leu . 20	Ala Thr	Ile Met 425	Ser .	Aap (Gly	Ala 430	Gly	Gly		
Asn Lys Trp Me	et Phe Val	Glv Ara	Asn Lys	Ala	Glv	Gln	Val	Trn	Thr		
435	co me fai	440	iibii bys	TILG	-	445	VGL				
Asp Ile Thr G	ly Asn Arg	Ala Gly	Thr Val	Thr	Ile 2	Asn	Ala	Asp	Gly		
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rg Arg Xaa So	er										
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Arg Arg Xaa Xa											
	5										
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212> TYPE: P		-1 C									
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15	53

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Thr	Gly	Ile 35	Gln	Ala	Ser	His	Pro 40	Asp	Leu	Asn	Val	Val 45	Gly	Gly	Ala	
Ser	Phe 50	Val	Ala	Gly	Glu	Ala 55	Tyr	Asn	Thr	Asp	Gly 60	Asn	Gly	His	Gly	
Thr 65	His	Val	Ala	Gly	Thr 70	Val	Ala	Ala	Leu	Asp 75	Asn	Thr	Thr	Gly	Val 80	
Leu	Gly	Val	Ala	Pro 85	Ser	Val	Ser	Leu	Tyr 90	Ala	Val	ГЛа	Val	Leu 95	Asn	
Ser	Ser	Gly	Ser 100	Gly	Ser	Tyr	Ser	Gly 105	Ile	Val	Ser	Gly	Ile 110	Glu	Trp	
Ala	Thr	Thr 115	Asn	Gly	Met	Asp	Val 120	Ile	Asn	Met	Ser	Leu 125	Gly	Gly	Ala	
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Thr	Asn	Thr	Ile	Gly 165		Pro	Ala	Lys	Tyr 170	Asp	Ser	Val	Ile	Ala 175	Val	
Gly	Ala	Val	Asp 180	Ser	Asn	Ser	Asn	Arg 185	Ala	Ser	Phe	Ser	Ser 190	Val	Gly	
Ala	Glu	Leu 195	Glu	Val	Met	Ala	Pro 200	Gly	Ala	Gly	Val	Tyr 205	Ser	Thr	Tyr	
Pro	Thr 210	Asn	Thr	Tyr	Ala	Thr 215	Leu	Asn	Gly	Thr	Ser 220	Met	Ala	Ser	Pro	
His 225	Val	Ala	Gly	Ala	Ala 230	Ala	Leu	Ile	Leu	Ser 235	Lys	His	Pro	Asn	Leu 240	
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Ser	Gly	Ile 35	Asp	Ser	Ser	His	Pro 40	Asp	Leu	Lys	Val	Ala 45	Gly	Gly	Ala	
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Pro 225	His	Val	Ala	Gly	Ala 230	Ala	Ala	Leu	Ile	Leu 235	Ser	Гла	His	Pro	Asn 240			
Trp	Thr	Asn	Thr	Gln 245	Val	Arg	Ser	Ser	Leu 250	Gln	Asn	Thr	Thr	Thr 255	ГЛа			
Leu	Gly	Asp	Ser 260	Phe	Tyr	Tyr	Gly	Lys 265	Gly	Leu	Ile	Asn	Val 270	Gln	Ala			
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		EQUEI																
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His	Asn	Arg	Gly 20	Leu	Thr	Gly	Ser	Gly 25	Val	Lys	Val	Ala	Val 30	Leu	Asp			
Thr	Gly	Ile 35	Ser	Thr	His	Pro	Asp 40	Leu	Asn	Ile	Arg	Gly 45	Gly	Ala	Ser			
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His 65	Val	Ala	Gly	Thr	Ile 70	Ala	Ala	Leu	Asn	Asn 75	Ser	Ile	Gly	Val	Leu 80			
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Gly	Asn	Asn 115			His	Val	Ala 120		Leu	Ser	Leu	Gly 125		Pro	Ser			
	Ser 130		Thr	Leu	Glu	Gln 135	Ala	Val	Asn	Ser	Ala 140		Ser	Arg	Gly			
		Val	Val	Ala	Ala 150		Gly	Asn	Ser	Gly 155	Ala	Gly	Ser	Ile	Ser 160			

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_	COILC	T T T	uec	ł

Tyr Pro Ala Arg Tyr Ala Asn Ala Met Ala Val Gly Ala Thr Asp Gln Asn Asn Asn Arg Ala Ser Phe Ser Gln Tyr Gly Ala Gly Leu Asp Ile Met Ala Pro Gly Val Asn Ile Gln Ser Thr Tyr Pro Gly Ser Thr Tyr Ala Ser Asp Asn Gly Thr Ser Met Ala Thr Pro His Val Ala Gly Ala Ala Ala Leu Val Lys Gln Lys Asn Pro Ser Trp Ser Asn Val Gln Ile Arg Asn His Leu Lys Asn Thr Ala Thr Ser Leu Gly Ser Thr Asn Leu Tyr Gly Ser Gly Leu Val Asn Ala Glu Ala Ala Thr Arg <210> SEQ ID NO 48 <211> LENGTH: 268 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Bacillus <400> SEQUENCE: 48 Gln Thr Val Pro Trp Gly Ile Ser Phe Ile Asn Thr Gln Gln Ala His Asn Arg Gly Ile Phe Gly Asn Gly Ala Arg Val Ala Val Leu Asp Thr 20 25 30 Gly Ile Ala Ser His Pro Asp Leu Arg Ile Ala Gly Gly Ala Ser Phe 35 40 45 Ile Ser Ser Glu Pro Ser Tyr His Asp Asn Asn Gly His Gly Thr His Val Ala Gly Thr Ile Ala Ala Leu Asn Asn Ser Ile Gly Val Leu Gly 65 70 75 80 Val Ala Pro Ser Ala Asp Leu Tyr Ala Val Lys Val Leu Asp Arg Asn Gly Ser Gly Ser Leu Ala Ser Val Ala Gln Gly Ile Glu Trp Ala Ile Asn Asn Asn Met His Ile Ile Asn Met Ser Leu Gly Ser Thr Ser Gly Ser Ser Thr Leu Glu Leu Ala Val Asn Arg Ala Asn Asn Ala Gly Ile Leu Leu Val Gly Ala Ala Gly As
n Thr Gly Arg Gl
n Gly Val As
n Tyr $% \left({\left({{{\rm{A}}} \right)} \right)$ Pro Ala Arg Tyr Ser Gly Val Met Ala Val Ala Ala Val Asp Gln Asn Gly Gln Arg Ala Ser Phe Ser Thr Tyr Gly Pro Glu Ile Glu Ile Ser Ala Pro Gly Val Asn Val Asn Ser Thr Tyr Thr Gly Asn Arg Tyr Val Ser Leu Ser Gly Thr Ser Met Ala Thr Pro His Val Ala Gly Val Ala Ala Leu Val Lys Ser Arg Tyr Pro Ser Tyr Thr Asn Asn Gln Ile Arg Gln Arg Ile Asn Gln Thr Ala Thr Tyr Leu Gly Ser Pro Ser Leu Tyr

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Thr	Gly	Ile 35	Ser	Thr	His	Pro	Asp 40	Leu	Asn	Ile	Arg	Gly 45	Gly	Ala	Ser
Phe	Val 50	Pro	Gly	Glu	Pro	Ser 55	Thr	Gln	Asp	Gly	Asn 60	Gly	His	Gly	Thr
His 65	Val	Ala	Gly	Thr	Ile 70	Ala	Ala	Leu	Asn	Asn 75	Ser	Ile	Gly	Val	Leu 80
Gly	Val	Ala	Pro	Ser 85	Ala	Glu	Leu	Tyr	Ala 90	Val	Lys	Val	Leu	Gly 95	Ala
Ser	Gly	Ser	Gly 100	Ser	Tyr	Ser	Ser	Ile 105	Ala	Gln	Gly	Leu	Glu 110	Trp	Ala
Gly	Asn	Asn 115	Gly	Met	His	Val	Ala 120	Ser	Leu	Ser	Leu	Gly 125	Ser	Pro	Ser
Pro	Ser 130	Ala	Thr	Leu	Glu	Gln 135	Ala	Val	Asn	Ser	Ala 140	Thr	Ser	Arg	Gly
Val 145	Leu	Val	Val	Ala	Ala 150	Ser	Gly	Asn	Ser	Gly 155	Ala	Gly	Ser	Ile	Ser 160
Tyr	Pro	Ala	Arg	Tyr 165	Ala	Asn	Ala	Met	Ala 170	Val	Gly	Ala	Thr	Asp 175	Gln
Asn	Asn	Asn	Arg 180	Ala	Ser	Phe	Ser	Gln 185	Tyr	Gly	Ala	Gly	Leu 190	Asp	Ile
	Ala	195	-				200			-		205			-
Ala	Ser 210	Leu	Asn	Gly	Thr	Ser 215	Met	Ala	Thr	Pro	His 220	Val	Ala	Gly	Ala
225	Ala			-	230	-				235					240
Arg	Asn	His	Leu	Lys 245	Asn	Thr	Ala	Thr	Ser 250	Leu	Gly	Ser	Thr	Asn 255	Leu
Tyr	Gly	Ser	Gly 260	Leu	Val	Asn	Ala	Glu 265	Ala	Ala	Ala	Arg			
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Phe	Val 50	Pro	Gly	Glu	Pro	Ser 55	Thr	Gln	Asp	Gly	Asn 60	Gly	His	Gly	Thr
His 65	Val	Ala	Gly	Thr	Ile 70	Ala	Ala	Leu	Asp	Asn 75	Ser	Ile	Gly	Val	Leu 80
Gly	Val	Ala	Pro	Ser 85	Ala	Glu	Leu	Tyr	Ala 90	Val	Lys	Val	Leu	Gly 95	Ala
Ser	Gly	Ser	Gly 100		Ile	Ser	Ser	Ile 105	Ala	Gln	Gly	Leu	Glu 110	Trp	Ala
Gly	Asn	Asn 115	Gly	Met	His	Val	Ala 120	Asn	Leu	Ser	Leu	Gly 125	Ser	Pro	Ser
Pro	Ser 130	Ala	Thr	Leu	Glu	Gln 135		Val	Asn	Ser	Ala 140	Thr	Ser	Arg	Gly
Val 145		Val	Val	Ala	Ala 150	Ser	Gly	Asn	Ser	Gly 155	Ala	Gly	Ser	Ile	Ser 160
Tyr	Pro	Ala	Arg	Tyr 165	Ala	Asn	Ala	Met	Ala 170	Val	Gly	Ala	Thr	Asp 175	Gln
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Val	Ala	Pro 195	Gly	Val	Asn	Val	Gln 200	Ser	Thr	Tyr	Pro	Gly 205	Ser	Thr	Tyr
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Ala 225	Ala	Leu	Val	Гла	Gln 230	_	Asn	Pro	Ser	Trp 235	Ser	Asn	Val	Gln	Ile 240
Arg	Asn	His	Leu	Lys 245	Asn	Thr	Ala	Thr	Ser 250	Leu	Gly	Ser	Thr	Asn 255	Leu
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Thr	Gly	Ile 35	Ser	Thr	His	Pro	Asp 40	Leu	Asn	Ile	Arg	Gly 45	Gly	Ala	Ser
Phe	Val 50	Pro	Gly	Glu	Pro	Ser 55	Thr	Gln	Asp	Gly	Asn 60	Gly	His	Gly	Thr
His 65	Val	Ala	Gly	Thr	Ile 70	Ala	Ala	Leu	Asn	Asn 75	Ser	Ile	Gly	Val	Leu 80
Gly	Val	Ala	Pro	Ser 85	Ala	Glu	Leu	Tyr	Ala 90	Val	ГЛа	Val	Leu	Gly 95	Ala
Ser	Gly	Gly	Gly 100		Ile	Ser	Ser	Ile 105	Ala	Gln	Gly	Leu	Glu 110	Trp	Ala

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Gly As		Asn 115	Gly	Met	His	Val	Ala 120	Asn	Leu	Ser	Leu	Gly 125	Ser	Pro	Ser
Pro Se 13	er 2 30	Ala	Thr	Leu	Glu	Gln 135	Ala	Val	Asn	Ser	Ala 140	Thr	Ser	Arg	Gly
Val Le 145	eu '	Val	Val	Ala	Ala 150	Ser	Gly	Asn	Ser	Gly 155	Ala	Asp	Ser	Ile	Ser 160
Tyr Pr	ro i	Ala	Arg	Tyr 165	Ala	Asn	Ala	Met	Ala 170	Val	Gly	Ala	Thr	Asp 175	Gln
Asn As	sn i	Asn	Arg 180	Ala	Ser	Phe	Ser	Gln 185	Tyr	Gly	Ala	Gly	Leu 190	Asp	Ile
Val Al		Pro 195	Gly	Val	Asn	Val	Gln 200	Ser	Thr	Tyr	Pro	Gly 205	Ser	Thr	Tyr
Ala Se 21	er 1 10	Leu	Asn	Gly	Thr	Ser 215	Met	Ala	Thr	Pro	His 220	Val	Ala	Gly	Ala
Ala Va 225	al 1	Leu	Val	Lys	His 230	Lys	Asn	Pro	Ser	Trp 235	Ser	Asn	Val	Arg	Ile 240
Arg As	ab j	His	Leu	Lys 245		Thr	Ala	Thr	Ser 250	Leu	Gly	Ser	Thr	Asn 255	Leu
Tyr Gl	ly :	Ser	Gly 260	Leu	Val	Asn	Ala	Glu 265	Ala	Ala	Thr	Arg			
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Thr Gl	-	Ile 35	Ser	Thr	His	Pro	Asp 40	Leu	Asn	Ile	Arg	Gly 45	Gly	Ala	Ser
Phe Va 50		Pro	Gly	Glu	Pro	Ser 55	Thr	Gln	Aab	Gly	Asn 60	Gly	His	Gly	Thr
His Va 65	al i	Ala	Gly	Thr	Ile 70	Ala	Ala	Leu	Asn	Asn 75	Ser	Ile	Gly	Val	Leu 80
Gly Va	al i	Ala	Pro	Ser 85	Ala	Glu	Leu	Tyr	Ala 90	Val	Lys	Val	Leu	Gly 95	Ala
Ser Gl	ly :	Ser	Gly 100	Ser	Val	Ser	Ser	Ile 105	Ala	Gln	Gly	Leu	Glu 110	Trp	Ala
Gly As		Asn 115	Gly	Met	His	Val	Ala 120	Asn	Leu	Ser	Leu	Gly 125	Ser	Pro	Ser
Ala Gl 13			Thr	Leu	Glu	Gln 135		Val	Asn	Ser	Ala 140		Ser	Arg	Gly
Val Le 145		Val	Val	Ala	Ala 150		Gly	Asn	Ser	Gly 155		Gly	Ser	Ile	Ser 160
Ala Pr	ro i	Ala	Ser	Tyr 165	Ala	Asn	Ala	Met			Gly	Ala	Thr		
Asn As	sn i	Asn				Phe	Ser		170 Tyr	Gly	Pro	Gly		175 Asp	Ile
Val Al	lal	Pro	180 Gly	Val	Asn	Val	Gln	185 Ser	Thr	Tyr	Pro	Gly	190 Ser	Thr	Tyr
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Ala Ser Leu Asn Gly Thr Ser Met Ala Thr Pro His Val Ala Gly Ala Ala Ala Leu Val Lys Gln Lys Asn Pro Ser Trp Ser Asn Val Gln Ile Arg Asn His Leu Lys Asn Thr Ala Thr Ser Leu Gly Ser Thr Asn Leu Tyr Gly Ser Gly Leu Val Asn Ala Glu Ala Ala Thr Arg <210> SEQ ID NO 53 <211> LENGTH: 271 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Bacillus <400> SEQUENCE: 53 Trp Ser Pro Asn Asp Pro Tyr Tyr Ser Ala Tyr Gln Tyr Gly Pro Gln Asn Thr Ser Thr Pro Ala Ala Trp Asp Val Thr Arg Gly Ser Ser Thr 20 25 30 Gln Thr Val Ala Val Leu Asp Ser Gly Val Asp Tyr Asn His Pro Asp Leu Ala Arg Lys Val Ile Lys Gly Tyr Asp Phe Ile Asp Arg Asp Asn Asn Pro Met Asp Leu Asn Gly His Gly Thr His Val Ala Gly Thr Val Ala Ala Asp Thr Asn Asn Gly Ile Gly Val Ala Gly Met Ala Pro Asp Thr Lys Ile Leu Ala Val Arg Val Leu Asp Ala Asn Gly Ser Gly Ser Leu Asp Ser Ile Ala Ser Gly Ile Arg Tyr Ala Ala Asp Gl
n Gly Ala Lys Val Leu Asn Leu Ser Leu Gly Cys Glu Cys Asn Ser Thr Thr Leu Lys Ser Ala Val Asp Tyr Ala Trp Asn Lys Gly Ala Val Val Ala Ala Ala Gly Asn Asp Asn Val Ser Arg Thr Phe Gln Pro Ala Ser Tyr Pro Asn Ala Ile Ala Val Gly Ala Ile Asp Ser Asn Asp Arg Lys Ala Ser Phe Ser Asn Tyr Gly Thr Trp Val Asp Val Thr Ala Pro Gly Val Asn Ile Ala Ser Thr Val Pro Asn Asn Gly Tyr Ser Tyr Met Ser Gly Thr Ser Met Ala Ser Pro His Val Ala Gly Leu Ala Ala Leu Leu Ala Ser Gln Gly Lys Asn Asn Val Gln Ile Arg Gln Ala Ile Glu Gln Thr Ala Asp Lys Ile Ser Gly Thr Gly Thr Asn Phe Lys Tyr Gly Lys

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Thr Gly Ile Ser 35	Thr His Pro	Asp Leu Asn 40	Ile Arg Gly Gly 45	Ala Ser
Phe Val Pro Gly 50	Glu Pro Ser 55	Thr Gln Asp	Gly Asn Gly His 60	Gly Thr
His Val Ala Gly 65	Thr Ile Ala 70	Ala Leu Asn	Asn Ser Ile Gly 75	Val Leu 80
Gly Val Ala Pro	Asn Ala Glu 85	. Leu Tyr Ala 90	Val Lys Val Leu	Gly Ala 95
Ser Gly Gly Gly 100	Ser Asn Ser	Ser Ile Ala 105	Gln Gly Leu Glu 110	Trp Ala
Gly Asn Asn Gly 115	Met His Val	Ala Asn Leu 120	Ser Leu Gly Ser 125	Pro Ser
Pro Ser Ala Thr 130	Leu Glu Gln 135		Ser Ala Thr Ser 140	Arg Gly
Val Leu Val Val 145	Ala Ala Ser 150	Gly Asn Ser	Gly Ala Gly Ser 155	Ile Ser 160
Tyr Pro Ala Arg	Tyr Ala Asn 165	Ala Met Ala 170	Val Gly Ala Thr	Asp Gln 175
Asn Asn Asn Arg 180	Ala Ser Phe	Ser Gln Tyr 185	Gly Ala Gly Leu 190	Asp Ile
Val Ala Pro Gly 195	Val Asn Val	Gln Ser Thr 200	Tyr Pro Gly Ser 205	Thr Tyr
Ala Ser Leu Asn 210	Gly Thr Ser 215		Pro His Val Ala 220	Gly Ala
Ala Ala Leu Val 225	Lys Gln Lys 230	Asn Pro Ser	Trp Ser Asn Val 235	Gln Ile 240
Arg Asn His Leu	Lys Asn Thr 245	Ala Thr Ser 250	Leu Gly Ser Thr	Asn Leu 255
Tyr Gly Ser Gly 260	Leu Val Asn	Ala Glu Ala 265	Ala Thr Arg	
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Thr Gly Ile Asp 35	Ser Thr His	Pro Asp Leu 40	Asn Ile Arg Gly 45	Gly Ala
Ser Phe Val Pro 50	Gly Glu Pro 55	Ser Thr Gln	Asp Gly Asn Gly 60	His Gly
Thr His Val Ala	Gly Thr Ile	Ala Ala Leu	Asp Asn Ser Ile	Gly Val

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65					70					75					80
Leu	Gly	Val	Ala	Pro 85	Ser	Ala	Glu	Leu	Tyr 90	Ala	Val	Lys	Val	Leu 95	Gly
Ala	Ser	Gly	Ser 100	-	Ser	Val	Ser	Ser 105	Ile	Ala	Gln	Gly	Leu 110	Glu	Trp
Ala	Gly	Asn 115	Asn	Gly	Met	Asp	Val 120	Ala	Asn	Leu	Ser	Leu 125	Gly	Ser	Pro
Ser	Pro 130	Ser	Ala	Thr	Leu	Glu 135	Gln	Ala	Val	Asn	Ser 140	Ala	Thr	Ser	Arg
Gly 145		Leu	Val	Val	Ala 150	Ala	Ser	Gly	Asn	Ser 155	Gly	Ala	Gly	Ser	Ile 160
Ser	Tyr	Pro	Ala	Arg 165	Tyr	Ala	Asn	Ala	Met 170	Ala	Val	Gly	Ala	Thr 175	Asp
Gln	Asn	Asn	Asn 180		Ala	Ser	Phe	Ser 185	Gln	Tyr	Gly	Ala	Glu 190	Leu	Asp
Ile	Val	Ala 195	Pro	Gly	Val	Asn	Val 200	Gln	Ser	Thr	Tyr	Pro 205	Gly	Ser	Thr
Tyr	Ala 210		Leu	Asn	Gly	Thr 215		Met	Ala	Thr	Pro 220		Val	Ala	Gly
Ala 225		Ala	Leu	Val	Leu 230	Gln	Lys	Asn	Pro	Ser 235		Ser	Asn	Val	Gln 240
	Arg	Asn	His			Asn	Thr	Ala	Thr 250		Leu	Gly	Ser	Thr 255	
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			20			Gly		25					30		
Thr	Gly	Ile 35	Ser	Thr	His	Pro	Asp 40	Leu	Asn	Ile	Arg	Gly 45	Gly	Ala	Ser
Phe	Val 50	Pro	Gly	Glu	Pro	Ser 55	Thr	Gln	Asp	Gly	Asn 60	Gly	His	Gly	Thr
His 65	Val	Ala	Gly	Thr	Ile 70	Ala	Ala	Leu	Asn	Asn 75	Ser	Ile	Gly	Val	Leu 80
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Ser	Gly	Ser	Gly 100	Ser	Val	Ser	Ser	Ile 105	Ala	Gln	Gly	Leu	Glu 110	Trp	Ala
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Pro	Ser 130	Ala	Thr	Leu	Glu	Gln 135	Ala	Val	Asn	Ser	Ala 140	Thr	Ser	Arg	Gly
Val 145	Leu	Val	Val	Ala	Ala 150	Ser	Gly	Asn	Ser	Gly 155	Ala	Gly	Ser	Ile	Ser 160
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Val	Ala	Pro 195	Gly	Val	Asn	Val	Gln 200	Ser	Thr	Tyr	Pro	Gly 205	Ser	Thr	Tyr	r	
Ala	Ser 210	Leu	Asn	Gly	Thr	Ser 215	Met	Ala	Thr	Pro	His 220	Val	Ala	Gly	Ala	a	
Ala 225	Ala	Leu	Val	ГÀа	Gln 230	ГЛа	Asn	Pro	Ser	Trp 235	Ser	Asn	Val	Gln	Ile 240		
Arg	Asn	His	Leu	Lys 245	Asn	Thr	Ala	Thr	Ser 250	Leu	Gly	Ser	Thr	Asn 255	Leu	u	
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Gly	Ile	Ser 35	Asn	His	Ala	Asp	Leu 40	Arg	Ile	Arg	Gly	Gly 45	Ala	Ser	Phe	e	
Val	Pro 50	Gly	Glu	Pro	Asn	Ile 55	Ser	Aab	Gly	Asn	Gly 60	His	Gly	Thr	Gln	n	
Val 65		Gly	Thr	Ile	Ala 70		Leu	Asn	Asn	Ser 75		Gly	Val	Leu	Gly 80	-	
	Ala	Pro	Asn	Val 85		Leu	Tyr	Gly	Val 90		Val	Leu	Gly	Ala 95			
Gly	Ser	Gly	Ser 100		Ser	Gly	Ile	Ala 105		Gly	Leu	Gln	Trp 110		Ala	a	
Asn	Asn	Gly 115		His	Ile	Ala		Met	Ser	Leu	Gly	Ser 125		Ala	Gly	У	
		Thr	Met					Asn				Ala	Ser	Gly	Val	1	
Leu	130 Val		Ala					Ser		Ala	140 Gly		Val	Gly			
145 Pro	Ala	Arg	Tyr	Ala	150 Asn	Ala	Met	Ala	Val	155 Gly	Ala	Thr	Asp	Gln	160 Asn		
Asn	Asn	Arq	Ala	165 Thr	Phe	Ser	Gln	Tyr	170 Gly	Ala	Gly	Leu	Asp	175 Ile	Val	1	
		-	180					185 Thr	-		-		190				
		195		•			200	Thr			-	205	-	•			
	210					215					220						
225			-		230			Ser	-	235					240	ō	
Asn	His	Leu	ГЛа	Asn 245	Thr	Ala	Thr	Asn	Leu 250	Gly	Asn	Thr	Thr	Gln 255	Phe	a	

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Gly Arg Phe Ser	Asn Ser Lys Phe Lys	
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<213> ORGANISM: Betula <400> SEQUENCE: 231 Leu Ile Met Asn 1 <210> SEQ ID NO 232 <211> LENGTH: 4 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Betula <400> SEQUENCE: 232 Thr Tyr Ala Pro 1

<210> SEQ ID NO 233 <211> LENGTH: 4 <212> TYPE: PRT
<213> ORGANISM: Betula <400> SEQUENCE: 233 Ile Leu Val Ser 1 <210> SEQ ID NO 234 <211> LENGTH: 5 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Betula <400> SEQUENCE: 234 His Asn Gln Gly Cys 1 5 <210> SEQ ID NO 235 <211> LENGTH: 5 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Betula <400> SEQUENCE: 235 Ala Val Leu Cys Tyr 1 5 <210> SEQ ID NO 236 <211> LENGTH: 4 <212> TYPE: PRT
<213> ORGANISM: Betula <400> SEQUENCE: 236 Leu Phe Gln Ala 1 <210> SEQ ID NO 237 <211> LENGTH: 6 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Betula <400> SEQUENCE: 237 Ala Ile Leu Met Asn Val 5 1 <210> SEQ ID NO 238 <211> LENGTH: 6 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Betula <400> SEQUENCE: 238 Ala Gly Ser Tyr Leu Glu 1 5 <210> SEQ ID NO 239 <211> LENGTH: 6 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Betula <400> SEQUENCE: 239 Leu Ile Ala Gly Val Ser

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-continued

<210> SEQ ID NO 240 <211> LENGTH: 4
<212> TYPE: PRT
<213> ORGANISM: Betula <400> SEQUENCE: 240 Lys His Gln Asp 1 <210> SEQ ID NO 241 <211> LENGTH: 4 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Betula <400> SEQUENCE: 241 Ser His Gln Glu 1 <210> SEQ ID NO 242 <211> LENGTH: 7 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Betula <400> SEQUENCE: 242 Ser Thr Ala Pro Leu Trp Val 1 5 <210> SEQ ID NO 243 <211> LENGTH: 7 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Betula <400> SEQUENCE: 243 Thr Ser Lys His Arg Gln Gly 1 5 <210> SEQ ID NO 244 <211> LENGTH: 6 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Betula <400> SEQUENCE: 244 Leu Ile Arg Lys Gly Pro 1 5 <210> SEQ ID NO 245 <211> LENGTH: 8 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Betula <400> SEQUENCE: 245 Asp Ser Arg Thr Gln Gly Lys His 1 5 <210> SEQ ID NO 246 <211> LENGTH: 6 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Betula <400> SEQUENCE: 246

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Asp Glu Lys Gln 1	His Thr 5
<210> SEQ ID NO <211> LENGTH: 5 <212> TYPE: PRT	
<212> TIFE: FRI <213> ORGANISM:	
<400> SEQUENCE:	247
Arg Lys Gln Asp 1	Thr 5
<210> SEQ ID NO <211> LENGTH: 4 <212> TYPE: PRT	
<213> ORGANISM:	
<400> SEQUENCE:	248
Ser Thr Arg Glu 1	

1-134. (canceled)

135. A protease variant having modified immunogenicity as compared to a parent protease, obtainable by a method comprising the steps of:

- (a) obtaining antibody binding peptide sequences,
- (b) using the sequences to localise epitope sequences on the 3-dimensional structure of the parent protein,
- (c) defining an epitope area including amino acids situated within 5 Å from the epitope amino acids constituting the epitope sequence,
- (d) changing one or more of the amino acids defining the epitope area of the parent protein by genetic engineering mutations of a DNA sequence encoding the parent protein,
- (e) introducing the mutated DNA sequence into a suitable host, culturing said host and expressing the protein variant, and
- (f) evaluating the immunogenicity of the protein variant using the parent protein as reference.

136. The protease variant of claim **135**, wherein the protease is a subtilisin comprising one or more of the following substitutions corresponding to any of the following in SEQ ID NO: 10:

- Position -6 to A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, W, Y, insertion, deletion;
- Position –5 to A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, W, Y, insertion, deletion;
- Position -4 to A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, W, Y, insertion, deletion;
- Position -2 to A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, W, Y, insertion, deletion;
- Position 3a to A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, W, Y, insertion, deletion;
- Position 28a to A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, W, Y, insertion, deletion;
- Position 44a to A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, W, Y, insertion, deletion;
- Position 44b to A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, W, Y, insertion, deletion;

Position 139 to A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, W, Y, insertion, deletion;

- Position 148 to A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, W, Y, insertion, deletion;
- Position 149 to A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, W, Y, insertion, deletion;
- Position 264a to A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, W, Y, insertion, deletion.

137. The protease variant of claim **135**, wherein the protease is a subtilisin comprising one or more of the following substitutions corresponding to any of the following in SEQ ID NO: 10:

Position –1 to G, V, L, I, W, P, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H;

- Position 1 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, S, T, R;
- Position 2 to G, V, I, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, H;
- Position 3 to W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, D, E, R, H;
- Position 4 to V, L, W, M, F, Y, R;
- Position 5 to V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, R, H;
- Position 6 to G, V, L, I, W, P, M, N, Q, T, D, E, R, H;
- Position 9 to G, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, Q, Y, S, T, R, H;
- Position 10 to G, A, V, I, W, P, M, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R;
- $Position \ 12 \ to \ G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E;$
- Position 14 to V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, R, H;
- Position 15 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, E, H;
- Position 17 to G, A, V, I, W, P, M, F, Y, H;
- Position 18 to G, A, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, D, E, H;
- Position 19 to A, V, I, W, M, F, N, Y, S, T, D, R, H;
- Position 20 to G, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E;
- Position 21 to G, V, I, W, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H;
- Position 22 to G, V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, S, T;
- Position 24 to G, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, D, E, R;
- Position 25 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H;
- Position 27 to G, L, I, W, P, M, F, Y, T, H;
- Position 38 to V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, H;
- Position 39 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, D, E, R, H;
- Position 40 to V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, R, H;
- Position 42 to G, A, L, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H;
- Position 43 to G, L, H;

Position 44 to G, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, Y, S, T; Position 45 to G, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H: Position 46 to G, A, L, I, W, P, M, F, Y, H; Position 47 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H; Position 48 to A, L, I, P, M, F, N, Y, D, H; Position 49 to G, A, V, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H: Position 50 to G, A, W, M, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, H; Position 51 to V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Y, R; Position 52 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, S, T, R; Position 53 to A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, D, E, H; Position 54 to V, L, I, W, M, F, S, R; Position 55 to G, A, V, L, I, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, D, E, R, K. H: Position 56 to G, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, H; Position 57 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H; Position 58 to L, W, M, F, N, Y, R; Position 59 to A, V, L, I, C, T, H; Position 61 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Y; Position 62 to G, A, L, W, M, F, N, Y, R; Position 64 to G, V, L, I, W, P, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R. K. H: Position 75 to L; Position 79 to I: Position 80 to G; Position 87 to A, V, L, I, W, M, F, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, H; Position 89 to G, V, L, I, W, P, F, N, Y, T, E; Position 91 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, N, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H; Position 98 to A; Position 99 to V. L, I, W, M, F, O, Y, H; Position 100 to G, V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, R, H; Position 101 to V, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, H; Position 102 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, R, H, G; Position 108 to I; Position 109 to N. Position 112 to E; Position 113 to W; Position 115 to I; Position 117 to N; Position 118 to N: Position 126 to L; Position 127 to G, A, V, I, W, M, F, Y, R, H, L; Position 128 to I, W; Position 129 to W: Position 130 to W, F, Y, R; Position 131 to W, Y, R; Position 132 to L, W, M, F, Y, S, H; Position 133 to A, L, I, W, M, F, Y, R; Position 134 to L, I, W, F, N, Q, Y, R, H; Position 136 to G, A, W, P, N, Y, S, T, D, E, H; Position 137 to G, A, V, I, W, P, M, N, Y, H; Position 140 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, H; Position 141 to G, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, Q, S, D, E, H; Position 143 to V, L, I, P, M, F, N, Y, R; Position 144 to L, W, P, M, F, N, O, Y, S, D, E, R, H; Position 145 to G, V, L, I, W, M, F, Q, Y, D, E, R, H; Position 146 to G, A, W, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, D, E, R, H; Position 155 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, R; Position 156 to V, I, W, F, R;

Position 157 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, T, R, H;

Position 158 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Y; Position 159 to A, W, M, Y, T, R, H; Position 160 to W, M, F, Y, R, H; Position 161 to I, W, M, F, Y, H; Position 167 to R, K; Position 171 to D: Position 172 to G, A, V, L, I, S, T, H; Position 173 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, E, H; Position 181 to G, A, V, L, I, W, C, M, F, Q, Y, T, D, R, K, H: Position 182 to A, V, L, I, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, H; Position 183 to G, A, V, L, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, E, R, H: Position 184 to A, V, L, I, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, E, H; Position 185 to G, A, V, L, I, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, E, H; Position 186 to G, A, V, L, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H: Position 188 to G, A, V, L, W, F, S, R, K; Position 189 to W, F; Position 191 to A, V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, T, R, H; Position 192 to G, L, I, W, M, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, R, H; Position 194 to W, N, Q, Y, D, H; Position 195 to W, P, Y; Position 196 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H; Position 203 to V, F, Y, R, H; Position 204 to I, W, M, Y, H; Position 206 to F; Position 209 to Y, R; Position 210 to W, F, Y; Position 211 to L, W, M, F, Y, H; Position 212 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, T, R, H; Position 214 to W, Y, R; Position 215 to A, L, I, W, M, F, Y; Position 216 to A, L, I, W, M, F, Y, R; Position 217 to W, R; Position 218 to G, A, L, W, P, M, F, Y, R, H; Position 221 to S; Position 236 to S; Position 240 to N; Position 241 to W; Position 243 to N; Position 245 to Q; Position 247 to G, V, I, W, P, F, Y, S, T, R; Position 248 to W, P, F, Y, E, R, H; Position 249 to L, W, P, F, S, D, E, H; Position 251 to G, L, I, W, P, M, F, Y, H; Position 252 to G, A, W, P, N, Q, Y, T, E, R, H; Position 254 to G, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, D, E, R, H; Position 255 to G, L, W, M, F, N, Y, T, D, H; Position 256 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, Q, Y, S, T, D, H; Position 257 to G, A, L, I, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, K. H: Position 258 to G, A, V, L, I, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, E, K, H: Position 259 to A, V, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, E, R; Position 260 to L, I, W, M, F, Y, T, H; Position 261 to L, N, S, H; Position 262 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, F, N, Q, Y, T, D, E, R, H; Position 263 to G, A, V, L, I, P, C, M, N, Q, Y, S, T, R, K; Position 265 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Y; Position 269 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, E, R, H;

Position 271 to A, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Y, S, T, R, H; Position 272 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, D, E, H; Position 275 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Y, T, D.

138. The protease variant of claim **135**, wherein the protease is a subtilisin comprising one or more of the following substitutions corresponding to any of the following in SEQ ID NO: 10:

Position -1 to Deletion; Position 9 to Insertion, deletion; Position 10 to Insertion, deletion; Position 12 to Insertion, deletion; Position 14 to Insertion, deletion; Position 15 to Insertion, deletion; Position 17 to Insertion, deletion: Position 18 to Insertion, deletion: Position 19 to Insertion, deletion; Position 20 to Insertion, deletion: Position 21 to Insertion, deletion; Position 22 to Insertion, deletion; Position 24 to Insertion, deletion; Position 25 to Insertion, deletion; Position 46 to Insertion, deletion; Position 47 to Insertion, deletion; Position 48 to Insertion, deletion: Position 49 to Insertion, deletion; Position 50 to Insertion, deletion; Position 51 to Insertion, deletion: Position 52 to Insertion, deletion; Position 53 to Insertion, deletion; Position 54 to Insertion, deletion; Position 55 to Insertion, deletion; Position 58 to Insertion, deletion: Position 59 to Insertion, deletion; Position 61 to Insertion, deletion; Position 64 to Insertion, deletion; Position 78 to Insertion: Position 80 to Insertion: Position 91 to Insertion, deletion: Position 98 to Deletion; Position 99 to Deletion; Position 102 to Deletion: Position 105 to Insertion: Position 108 to Insertion: Position 109 to Insertion; Position 112 to Insertion; Position 113 to Insertion; Position 115 to Insertion: Position 116 to Insertion; Position 117 to Insertion; Position 118 to Insertion; Position 131 to Deletion; Position 134 to Insertion, deletion; Position 136 to Insertion, deletion; Position 137 to Insertion, deletion; Position 140 to Insertion, deletion; Position 141 to Insertion, deletion; Position 143 to Insertion, deletion; Position 144 to Insertion, deletion; Position 145 to Insertion, deletion; Position 146 to Insertion, deletion; Position 171 to Deletion; Position 172 to Deletion; Position 173 to Deletion; Position 181 to Deletion;

Position 182 to Deletion: Position 183 to Deletion; Position 184 to Deletion; Position 185 to Deletion; Position 186 to Deletion: Position 188 to Deletion; Position 189 to Deletion; Position 191 to Deletion; Position 192 to Deletion; Position 195 to Deletion; Position 196 to Insertion, deletion; Position 221 to Insertion; Position 236 to Insertion; Position 237 to Insertion: Position 238 to Insertion: Position 239 to Insertion; Position 240 to Insertion; Position 241 to Insertion; Position 242 to Insertion; Position 243 to Insertion: Position 244 to Insertion; Position 245 to Insertion; Position 247 to Insertion, deletion; Position 248 to Insertion, deletion: Position 249 to Insertion, deletion; Position 251 to Insertion, deletion; Position 252 to Insertion, deletion: Position 254 to Insertion, deletion; Position 255 to Insertion, deletion; Position 256 to Insertion, deletion; Position 257 to Insertion, deletion; Position 258 to Insertion, deletion: Position 259 to Insertion, deletion; Position 260 to Insertion, deletion; Position 261 to Insertion, deletion; Position 262 to Insertion, deletion; Position 263 to Insertion, deletion; Position 265 to Insertion, deletion: Position 269 to Insertion, deletion; Position 271 to Insertion, deletion; Position 272 to Insertion, deletion; Position 275 to Insertion, deletion.

139. The protease variant of claim **135**, wherein the protease is a subtilisin comprising one or more of the following substitutions corresponding to any of the following in SEQ ID NO: 10:

- Position 7 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H:
- Position 8 to G, A, L, W, P, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H;
- Position 13 to G, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, D, E, H; Position 16 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, D, E, R, H:
- Position 23 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, E, R, H;
- Position 26 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H;
- $\begin{array}{l} \text{Position 28 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, } \\ \text{R, K, H;} \end{array}$
- $\begin{array}{l} \text{Position 29 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, } \\ \text{R, K, H;} \end{array}$
- Position 33 to V, L, I, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, R, H;
- $\begin{array}{l} Position \ 35 \ to \ G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, \\ K, H; \end{array}$
- Position 36 to V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Y, S, T, R, H;

- Position 37 to L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, R, H;
- Position 41 to G, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, R, H;
- $Position \ 60 \ to \ G, A, V, L, I, W, C, M, F, Q, Y, T, D, R, K, H;$
- Position 63 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, T, R, H;
- Position 73 to A; Position 74 to A;
- Position 74 to A;
- Position 81 to V;
- Position 82 to L;
- Position 86 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, D, E, R, H;
- Position 88 to A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H; Position 92 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E,
- R, K, H;
- Position 93 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H;
- Position 94 to G, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Y, T, D, E, K, H;
- Position 96 to L, W, F, Y, R, K;
- Position 97 to V, L, W, C, M, F, Y, H;
- Position 111 to I;
- Position 114 to A;
- Position 119 to M;
- Position 124 to M;
- Position 135 to G, L, P, C, N, Q, T, R, H;
- Position 138 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H;
- $\begin{array}{l} Position \, 142 \, to \, G, A, L, I, W, P, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, \\ R, K, H; \end{array}$
- Position 147 to G, A, V, L, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H;
- Position 151 to G, V, L, I, W, P, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H;
- Position 162 to I, W, F, Y, R;
- Position 163 to V, W, M, F, H;
- Position 168 to G, V, L, I, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H;
- Position 169 to C, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, Q, R, T, V, W, Y;
- $\begin{array}{l} Position 174 \mbox{ to } G, A, L, I, W, P, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, \\ R, K, H; \end{array}$
- $\begin{array}{l} Position \ 176 \ to \ G, A, V, L, I, W, P, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, \\ E, R, K, H; \end{array}$
- $\begin{array}{l} Position \ 179 \ to \ G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, \\ R, K, H; \end{array}$
- Position 187 to A, V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, R;
- Position 190 to G, A, V, L, I, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, R, K, H;
- Position 193 to G, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H;
- Position 197 to G, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, Q, Y, S, T, H;
- Position 198 to G, A, L, I, W, P, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H;
- Position 205 to W, F, Y, R, K;
- Position 208 to A, V, L, I, W, C, M, F, Y, T, R, K, H;
- Position 219 to G, A, V, L, I, W, F, Y, R, H;
- Position 222 to M;
- Position 232 to A;
- Position 233 to L;
- Position 234 to I;
- $\begin{array}{l} \text{Position 250 to } G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, \\ R, H; \end{array}$
- $\begin{array}{l} \text{Position 267 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, } \\ \text{H}; \end{array}$
- $\begin{array}{l} \text{Position 268 to G, V, L, I, W, C, M, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, }\\ \text{K, H;} \end{array}$
- Position 270 to G, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H;

Position 273 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H;

Position 274 to W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, D, E, R, H.

140. The protease variant of claim **135**, wherein the protease is a subtilisin comprising one or more of the following substitutions corresponding to any of the following in SEQ ID NO: 10:

Position 13 to Insertion, deletion; Position 16 to Insertion, deletion; Position 23 to Insertion, deletion: Position 26 to Insertion, deletion: Position 28 to Insertion, deletion; Position 29 to Insertion, deletion; Position 35 to Deletion: Position 60 to Insertion. deletion: Position 63 to Insertion; Position 81 to Insertion: Position 82 to Insertion; Position 92 to Insertion, deletion; Position 93 to Insertion, deletion: Position 94 to Insertion, deletion: Position 96 to Deletion. Position 106 to Insertion. Position 111 to Insertion. Position 114 to Insertion, Position 119 to Insertion, Position 124 to Insertion. Position 138 to Insertion, deletion; Position 142 to Insertion, deletion; Position 147 to Insertion, deletion; Position 151 to Insertion, deletion; Position 174 to Insertion, deletion: Position 176 to Insertion, deletion; Position 179 to Insertion, deletion; Position 187 to Deletion; Position 190 to Deletion; Position 193 to Deletion; Position 197 to Insertion, deletion: Position 198 to Insertion, deletion; Position 232 to Insertion, Position 233 to Insertion. Position 234 to Insertion. Position 246 to Insertion, Position 250 to Insertion, deletion; Position 267 to Insertion, deletion; Position 268 to Insertion, deletion; Position 270 to Insertion, deletion; Position 273 to Insertion, deletion.

141. The protease variant of claim **135**, wherein the protease is a savinase-like subtilisin comprising one or more of the following substitutions corresponding to any of the following in SEQ ID NO: 10:

- Position 2 to G, V, I, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, H,
- Position 3 to W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, D, E, R, H,
- Position 4 to V, L, W, M, F, Y, R,
- Position 6 to G, V, L, I, W, P, M, N, Q, T, D, E, R, H,
- Position 9 to G, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, Q, Y, S, T, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 10 to G, A, V, I, W, P, M, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, insertion, deletion,
- Position 12 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, insertion, deletion,
- Position 14 to V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, R, H, insertion, deletion,

- Position 15 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, E, H, insertion, deletion,
- $Position \, 17 \, to \, G, A, V, I, W, P, M, F, Y, H, insertion, deletion,$
- Position 18 to G, A, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, D, E, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 19 to A, V, I, W, M, F, N, Y, S, T, D, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 20 to G, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, insertion, deletion,
- Position 21 to G, V, I, W, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 22 to G, V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, S, T, insertion, deletion,
- Position 24 to G, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, D, E, R, insertion, deletion,
- Position 25 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 27 to G, L, I, W, P, M, F, Y, T, H,
- Position 37 to L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, R, H,
- Position 40 to V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, R, H,
- $Position \ 42 \ to \ G, A, L, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H,$
- Position 43 to G, L, H,
- Position 44 to G, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, Y, S, T,
- $\begin{array}{l} \text{Position 45 to G, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, } \\ \text{H}, \end{array}$
- Position 46 to G, A, L, I, W, P, M, F, Y, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 47 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 48 to A, L, I, P, M, F, N, Y, D, H, insertion, deletion, Position 50 to G, A, W, M, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, H, insertion, deletion.
- Position 51 to V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Y, R, deletion, insertion,
- Position 54 to V, L, I, W, M, F, S, R, deletion, insertion,
- Position 55 to G, A, V, L, I, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, D, E, R, K, H, deletion, insertion,
- Position 57 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H.
- Position 58 to L, W, M, F, N, Y, R, insertion, deletion,
- Position 59 to A, V, L, I, C, T, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 61 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, insertion, deletion,
- Position 64 to G, V, L, I, W, P, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 75 to L,
- Position 78 to insertion,
- Position 79 to I,
- Position 87 to A, V, L, I, W, M, F, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, H,
- Position 89 to G, V, L, I, W, P, F, N, Y, T, E,
- Position 91 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, N, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 98 to A, deletion,
- Position 100 to G, V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, R, H,
- Position 101 to V, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, H,
- Position 102 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, R, H, G, deletion,
- Position 109 to N, insertion,
- Position 112 to E, insertion,
- Position 113 to W, insertion,
- Position 116 to insertion,
- Position 117 to N, insertion,
- Position 126 to L,
- Position 127 to G, A, V, I, W, M, F, Y, R, H, L,
- Position 128 to I, W,
- Position 129 to W,
- Position 130 to W, F, Y, R,
- Position 131 to W, Y, R, deletion,

Position 132 to L, W, M, F, Y, S, H,

- Position 133 to A, L, I, W, M, F, Y, R,
- Position 134 to L, I, W, F, N, Q, Y, R, H, insertion, deletion, Position 136 to G, A, W, P, N, Y, S, T, D, E, H, insertion,
- deletion,
- Position 137 to G, A, V, I, W, P, M, N, Y, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 140 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 141 to G, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, Q, S, D, E, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 143 to V, L, I, P, M, F, N, Y, R, insertion, deletion,
- Position 144 to L, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 145 to G, V, L, I, W, M, F, Q, Y, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 146 to G, A, W, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 155 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, R,
- Position 156 to V, I, W, F, R,
- Position 157 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, T, R, H,
- Position 158 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Y,
- Position 160 to W, M, F, Y, R, H,
- Position 161 to I, W, M, F, Y, H,
- Position 167 to R, K,
- Position 170 to A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, W, Y;
- Position 171 to D, deletion,
- Position 172 to G, A, V, L, I, S, T, H, deletion,
- Position 173 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, E, H, deletion,
- Position 181 to G, A, V, L, I, W, C, M, F, Q, Y, T, D, R, K, H, deletion,
- Position 183 to G, A, V, L, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, E, R, H, deletion,
- Position 184 to A, V, L, I, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, E, H, deletion,
- Position 185 to G, A, V, L, I, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, E, H, deletion,
- Position 186 to G, A, V, L, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, deletion,
- Position 188 to G, A, V, L, W, F, S, R, K, deletion,
- Position 189 to W, F, deletion,
- Position 191 to A, V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, T, R, H, deletion,
- Position 192 to G, L, I, W, M, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, R, H, deletion,
- Position 194 to W, N, Q, Y, D, H,
- Position 195 to W, P, Y, deletion,
- Position 197 to G, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, Q, Y, S, T, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 203 to V, F, Y, R, H,
- Position 206 to F,
- Position 209 to Y, R,
- Position 210 to W, F, Y,
- Position 212 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, T, R, H,
- Position 214 to W, Y, R,
- Position 216 to A, L, I, W, M, F, Y, R,
- Position 217 to W, R,
- Position 218 to G, A, L, W, P, M, F, Y, R, H,
- Position 221 to S, insertion,
- Position 236 to S, insertion,
- Position 237 to insertion,
- Position 239 to insertion,
- Position 240 to N, insertion,

- Position 242 to insertion,
- Position 244 to insertion,
- Position 245 to Q, insertion,
- Position 247 to G, V, I, W, P, F, Y, S, T, R, insertion, deletion,
- Position 248 to W, P, F, Y, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 251 to G, L, I, W, P, M, F, Y, H, insertion, deletion, Position 252 to G, A, W, P, N, Q, Y, T, E, R, H, insertion,
- deletion, Position 255 to G, L, W, M, F, N, Y, T, D, H, insertion, deletion.
- Position 256 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, Q, Y, S, T, D, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 257 to G, A, L, I, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, K, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 258 to G, A, V, L, I, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, E, K, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 259 to A, V, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, E, R, insertion, deletion,
- Position 260 to L, I, W, M, F, Y, T, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 261 to L, N, S, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 262 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, F, N, Q, Y, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 263 to G, A, V, L, I, P, C, M, N, Q, Y, S, T, R, K, insertion, deletion,
- Position 265 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, insertion, deletion,
- Position 271 to A, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Y, S, T, R, H, insertion, deletion.
- Position 272 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, D, E, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 275 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Y, T, D, insertion, deletion.

142. The protease variant of claim 141, wherein the savinase-like subtilisin comprises one or more of the following substitutions corresponding to any of the following in SEQ ID NO: 10:

- Position 6 to G, V, L, I, W, P, M, N, Q, T, D, E, R, H,
- Position 9 to G, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, Q, Y, S, T, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 10 to G, A, V, I, W, P, M, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, insertion, deletion,
- Position 14 to V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, R, H, insertion, deletion.
- Position 15 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, E, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 17 to G, A, V, I, W, P, M, F, Y, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 18 to G, A, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, D, E, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 19 to A, V, I, W, M, F, N, Y, S, T, D, R, H, insertion, deletion.
- Position 20 to G, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, insertion, deletion,
- Position 21 to G, V, I, W, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 37 to L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, R, H,
- Position 43 to G, L, H,
- Position 45 to G, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, Η.
- Position 47 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 50 to G, A, W, M, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 51 to V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Y, R, deletion, insertion,
- Position 54 to V, L, I, W, M, F, S, R, deletion, insertion,

- Position 59 to A, V, L, I, C, T, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 89 to G, V, L, I, W, P, F, N, Y, T, E,
- Position 91 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, N, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 101 to V, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, H,
- Position 109 to N, insertion,
- Position 112 to E, insertion,
- Position 113 to W, insertion,
- Position 127 to G, A, V, I, W, M, F, Y, R, H, L,
- Position 128 to I, W,
- Position 129 to W.
- Position 130 to W, F, Y, R,
- Position 131 to W, Y, R, deletion,
- Position 133 to A, L, I, W, M, F, Y, R,
- Position 136 to G, A, W, P, N, Y, S, T, D, E, H, insertion, deletion.
- Position 137 to G, A, V, I, W, P, M, N, Y, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 140 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 141 to G, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, Q, S, D, E, H, insertion, deletion.
- Position 143 to V, L, I, P, M, F, N, Y, R, insertion, deletion,
- Position 144 to L, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 145 to G, V, L, I, W, M, F, Q, Y, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 146 to G, A, W, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 155 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, R,
- Position 157 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, T, R, H,
- Position 158 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Y,
- Position 160 to W, M, F, Y, R, H, Position 161 to I, W, M, F, Y, H,
- Position 167 to R, K,
- Position 170 to A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, W, Y:
- Position 171 to D. deletion.
- Position 172 to G, A, V, L, I, S, T, H, deletion,
- Position 173 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, E, H, deletion.
- Position 181 to G, A, V, L, I, W, C, M, F, Q, Y, T, D, R, K, H, deletion,
- Position 184 to A, V, L, I, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, E, H, deletion,
- Position 185 to G, A, V, L, I, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, E, H, deletion.
- Position 186 to G, A, V, L, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, deletion,
- Position 188 to G, A, V, L, W, F, S, R, K, deletion,
- Position 189 to W, F, deletion,
- Position 192 to G, L, I, W, M, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, R, H, deletion.
- Position 194 to W, N, Q, Y, D, H,
- Position 195 to W. P. Y. deletion.
- Position 197 to G, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, Q, Y, S, T, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 203 to V, F, Y, R, H,
- Position 210 to W, F, Y,
- Position 218 to G, A, L, W, P, M, F, Y, R, H,
- Position 236 to S, insertion,
- Position 237 to insertion,
- Position 239 to insertion,
- Position 240 to N, insertion,

- Position 241 to W, insertion,
- Position 242 to insertion,
- Position 244 to insertion,
- Position 245 to Q, insertion,
- $Position\,247\,to\,G,V,I,W,P,F,Y,S,T,R,insertion,deletion,$
- Position 251 to G, L, I, W, P, M, F, Y, H, insertion, deletion, Position 255 to G, L, W, M, F, N, Y, T, D, H, insertion,
- deletion, Position 256 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, Q, Y, S, T, D, H,
- Position 256 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, Q, Y, S, I, D, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 257 to G, A, L, I, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, K, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 258 to G, A, V, L, I, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, E, K, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 260 to L, I, W, M, F, Y, T, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 262 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, F, N, Q, Y, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 265 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, insertion, deletion,
- Position 271 to A, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Y, S, T, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 272 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, D, E, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 275 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Y, T, D, insertion, deletion.

143. The savinase-like subtilisin of claim **141**, wherein the subtilisin has at least 81% homology to SEQ ID NO: 24.

144. The savinase-like subtilisin of claim **141**, wherein the subtilisin has any of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 34, 35.

145. The protein variant of claim **135**, wherein the protease is a savinase-like subtilisin comprising one or more of the following substitutions corresponding to any of the following in SEQ ID NO: 10:

- Position 8 to G, A, L, W, P, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H,
- Position 16 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 23 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 26 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 35 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H, deletion,
- Position 38 to V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, H,
- Position 39 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, D, E, R, H,
- Position 41 to G, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, R, H,
- Position 60 to G, A, V, L, I, W, C, M, F, Q, Y, T, D, R, K, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 73 to A,
- Position 74 to A,
- Position 80 to G, insertion,
- Position 81 to V, insertion,
- Position 86 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, D, E, R, H,
- Position 88 to A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, Position 90 to A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S,
- T, V, W, Y, insertion, deletion,
- Position 93 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 108 to I, insertion,
- Position 111 to I, insertion,
- Position 124 to M, insertion,
- Position 135 to G, L, P, C, N, Q, T, R, H,
- Position 142 to G, A, L, I, W, P, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H, insertion, deletion,

- Position 147 to G, A, V, L, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 148 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 149 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 151 to G, V, L, I, W, P, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 163 to V, W, M, F, H,

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- Position 168 to G, V, L, I, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H,
- Position 169 to C, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, Q, R, T, V, W, Y,
- Position 174 to G, A, L, I, W, P, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 179 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 190 to G, A, V, L, I, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, R, K, H, deletion,
- $\begin{array}{l} Position \ 193 \ to \ G, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, \\ deletion, \end{array}$
- Position 196 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 208 to A, V, L, I, W, C, M, F, Y, T, R, K, H,
- Position 213 to N, oN, E,
- Position 215 to A, L, I, W, M, F, Y,
- Position 232 to A, insertion,
- Position 233 to L, insertion,
- Position 234 to I, insertion,
- Position 246 to insertion,
- Position 250 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 254 to G, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 267 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 268 to G, V, L, I, W, C, M, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 269 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 273 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H, insertion, deletion.

146. The savinase-like subtilisin of claim **145**, wherein the subtilisin has at least 81% homology to SEQ ID NO: 24.

147. The savinase-like subtilisin of claim **146**, wherein the subtilisin has any of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 34, 35.

148. The protease variant of claim **135** having modified immunogenicity as compared to its parent protein having at least 81% homology to SEQ ID NO: 25 comprising one or more of the following substitutions corresponding to any of the following in SEQ ID NO: 25:

- Position 21 to G, V, I, W, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 27 to G, L, I, W, P, M, F, Y, T, H,
- Position 50 to G, A, W, M, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 52 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, S, T, R, deletion, insertion,
- Position 55 to G, A, V, L, I, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, D, E, R, K, H, deletion, insertion,
- Position 129 to W,
- Position 133 to A, L, I, W, M, F, Y, R,
- Position 172 to G, A, V, L, I, S, T, H, deletion,

- Position 186 to G, A, V, L, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, deletion,
- Position 194 to W, N, Q, Y, D, H,
- Position 195 to W, P, Y, deletion,
- Position 197 to G, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, Q, Y, S, T, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 242 to insertion,
- Position 249 to L, W, P, F, S, D, E, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 252 to G, A, W, P, N, Q, Y, T, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 254 to G, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 257 to G, A, L, I, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, K, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 260 to L, I, W, M, F, Y, T, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 265 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, insertion, deletion,

with the proviso that the amino acids of the parent enzyme are substituted to another amino acid.

149. The protein variant of claim **135** having modified immunogenicity as compared to its parent protein having at least 81% homology to SEQ ID NO: 10 comprising one or more of the following substitutions corresponding to any of the following in SEQ ID NO: 10:

Position 4 to V, L, W, M, F, Y, R,

- Position 38 to V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, H,
- Position 40 to V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, R, H,
- Position 43 to G, L, H,
- Position 47 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 49 to G, A, V, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 54 to V, L, I, W, M, F, S, R, deletion, insertion,
- Position 96 to L, W, F, Y, R, K, deletion,
- Position 99 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Q, Y, H, deletion,
- Position 113 to W, insertion,
- Position 131 to W, Y, R, deletion,
- Position 133 to A, L, I, W, M, F, Y, R,
- Position 137 to G, A, V, I, W, P, M, N, Y, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 141 to G, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, Q, S, D, E, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 144 to L, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 170 to A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, W, Y;
- Position 173 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, E, H, deletion,
- Position 181 to G, A, V, L, I, W, C, M, F, Q, Y, T, D, R, K, H, deletion,
- Position 185 to G, A, V, L, I, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, E, H, deletion,
- Position 186 to G, A, V, L, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, deletion,
- Position 188 to G, A, V, L, W, F, S, R, K, deletion,
- Position 194 to W, N, Q, Y, D, H,
- Position 203 to V, F, Y, R, H,
- Position 210 to W, F, Y,
- Position 211 to L, W, M, F, Y, H,
- Position 257 to G, A, L, I, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, K, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 261 to L, N, S, H, insertion, deletion,
- $\begin{array}{l} Position \ 262 \ to \ G, A, V, L, I, W, P, F, N, Q, Y, T, D, E, R, H, \\ insertion, \ deletion, \end{array}$
- Position 265 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, insertion, deletion.

with the proviso that the amino acids of the parent enzyme are substituted to another amino acid.

150. The protein variant of claim **135** having modified immunogenicity as compared to its parent protein having at least 81% homology to SEQ ID NO: 11 comprising one or more of the following substitutions corresponding to any of the following in SEQ ID NO: 11:

- Position 38 to V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, H,
- Position 40 to V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, R, H,
- Position 45 to G, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H,
- Position 47 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 49 to G, A, V, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 50 to G, A, W, M, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, H, insertion, deletion,
- $Position \, 52 \, to \, V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, S, T, R, deletion, insertion,$
- Position 53 to A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, D, E, H, deletion, insertion.
- Position 56 to G, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, H,
- Position 58 to L, W, M, F, N, Y, R, insertion, deletion,
- Position 96 to L, W, F, Y, R, K, deletion,
- Position 97 to V, L, W, C, M, F, Y, H,
- Position 98 to A, deletion,

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- Position 105 to insertion,
- Position 109 to N, insertion,
- Position 113 to W, insertion,
- Position 115 to I, insertion,
- Position 133 to A, L, I, W, M, F, Y, R,
- Position 136 to G, A, W, P, N, Y, S, T, D, E, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 137 to G, A, V, I, W, P, M, N, Y, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 141 to G, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, Q, S, D, E, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 158 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Y,
- Position 159 to A, W, M, Y, T, R, H,
- Position 172 to G, A, V, L, I, S, T, H, deletion,
- Position 186 to G, A, V, L, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, deletion,
- Position 189 to W, F, deletion,
- Position 192 to G, L, I, W, M, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, R, H, deletion,

Position 195 to W, P, Y, deletion,

- Position 197 to G, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, Q, Y, S, T, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 257 to G, A, L, I, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, K, H, insertion, deletion,

Position 261 to L, N, S, H, insertion, deletion,

- Position 265 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, insertion, deletion,
- with the proviso that the amino acids of the parent enzyme are substituted to another amino acid.

151. The protein variant of claim **135** having modified immunogenicity as compared to its parent protein having at least 81% homology to SEQ ID NO: 33 comprising one or more of the following substitutions corresponding to any of the following in SEQ ID NO: 33:

- Position –6 to A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, Y, insertion, deletion,
- Position -5 to A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, T, V, W, Y, insertion, deletion,
- Position -4 to A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, Q, R, S, T, V, W, Y, insertion, deletion,

- Position –2 to A, C, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, W, Y, insertion, deletion,
- Position –1 to G, V, L, I, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, deletion,
- Position 1 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, S, T, R,
- Position 2 to G, V, I, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, H,
- Position 3a to A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, W, Y, insertion, deletion,
- Position 5 to V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, R, H,
- Position 6 to G, V, L, I, W, P, M, N, Q, T, D, E, R, H,
- $\begin{array}{l} \text{Position 7 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, } \\ \text{H}, \end{array}$
- Position 8 to G, A, L, W, P, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H,
- Position 10 to G, A, V, I, W, P, M, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, insertion, deletion,
- Position 12 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, insertion, deletion,
- Position 13 to G, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, D, E, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 14 to V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 15 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, E, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 16 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 17 to G, A, V, I, W, P, M, F, Y, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 18 to G, A, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, D, E, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 19 to A, V, I, W, M, F, N, Y, S, T, D, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 21 to G, V, I, W, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 22 to G, V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, S, T, insertion, deletion,
- Position 23 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 24 to G, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, D, E, R, insertion, deletion,
- Position 25 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 26 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 27 to G, L, I, W, P, M, F, Y, T, H,
- Position 28 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 28a to A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, W, Y, insertion, deletion,
- Position 29 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 33 to V, L, I, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, R, H,
- Position 35 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H, deletion,
- Position 37 to L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, R, H,
- Position 40 to V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, R, H,
- $Position \ 42 \ to \ G, A, L, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H,$
- Position 43 to G, L, H,
- Position 44 to G, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, Y, S, T,
- Position 44a to A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, W, Y, insertion, deletion,
- Position 44b to A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, W, Y, insertion, deletion,
- Position 46 to G, A, L, I, W, P, M, F, Y, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 48 to A, L, I, P, M, F, N, Y, D, H, insertion, deletion,

- Position 51 to V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Y, R, deletion, insertion,
- Position 52 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, S, T, R, deletion, insertion, Position 53 to A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, D, E, H, deletion, insertion,
- Position 55 to G, A, V, L, I, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, D, E, R, K, H, deletion, insertion,
- Position 56 to G, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, H,
- Position 57 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H,
- Position 58 to L, W, M, F, N, Y, R, insertion, deletion,
- Position 61 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, insertion, deletion,
- Position 64 to G, V, L, I, W, P, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 75 to L,

- Position 81 to insertion,
- Position 86 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, D, E, R, H,
- Position 87 to A, V, L, I, W, M, F, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, H,
- $Position \ 88 \ to \ A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H,$
- Position 89 to G, V, L, I, W, P, F, N, Y, T, E,
- Position 91 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, N, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 92 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 94 to G, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Y, T, D, E, K, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 96 to L, W, F, Y, R, K, deletion,
- Position 97 to V, L, W, C, M, F, Y, H,
- Position 98 to deletion,
- Position 101 to V, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, H,
- Position 102 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, R, H, G, deletion,
- Position 108 to I, insertion,
- Position 109 to N, insertion,
- Position 111 to insertion,
- Position 112 to E, insertion,
- Position 113 to W, insertion,
- Position 114 to insertion,
- Position 115 to I, insertion,
- Position 117 to N, insertion,
- Position 118 to N, insertion,
- Position 119 to M, insertion,
- Position 127 to G, A, V, I, W, M, F, Y, R, H, L,
- Position 133 to A, L, I, W, M, F, Y, R,
- Position 134 to L, I, W, F, N, Q, Y, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 135 to G, L, P, C, N, Q, T, R, H,
- Position 136 to G, A, W, P, N, Y, S, T, D, E, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 137 to G, A, V, I, W, P, M, N, Y, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 138 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 139 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 141 to G, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, Q, S, D, E, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 142 to G, A, L, I, W, P, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 144 to L, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 145 to G, V, L, I, W, M, F, Q, Y, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 146 to G, A, W, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 147 to G, A, V, L, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H, insertion, deletion,

- Position 148 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 156 to V, I, W, F, R,
- Position 158 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Y,
- Position 160 to V, E, I, W, M, I, I, Position 160 to W, M, F, Y, R, H,
- Position 161 to I, W, M, F, Y, H,
- Position 162 to I, W, F, Y, R,
- Position 163 to V, W, M, F, H,
- Position 167 to R, K,
- Position 169 to C, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, Q, R, T, V, W, Y,
- Position 170 to A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, W, Y, insertion, deletion,
- Position 171 to D, deletion,
- Position 174 to G, A, L, I, W, P, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 176 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H, insertion, deletion,
- $\begin{array}{l} \text{Position 182 to A, V, L, I, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, H, } \\ \text{deletion,} \end{array}$
- Position 186 to G, A, V, L, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, deletion,
- Position 188 to G, A, V, L, W, F, S, R, K, deletion,
- Position 191 to A, V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, T, R, H, deletion,
- Position 192 to G, L, I, W, M, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, R, H, deletion,
- Position 193 to G, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, deletion,
- Position 194 to W, N, Q, Y, D, H,
- Position 195 to W, P, Y, deletion,
- Position 196 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 197 to G, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, Q, Y, S, T, H, insertion, deletion,
- $\begin{array}{l} \text{Position 198 to G, A, L, I, W, P, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, }\\ \text{R, K, H, insertion, deletion,} \end{array}$
- Position 203 to V, F, Y, R, H,
- Position 205 to W, F, Y, R, K,
- Position 215 to A, L, I, W, M, F, Y,
- Position 216 to A, L, I, W, M, F, Y, R,
- Position 217 to W, R,
- Position 219 to G, A, V, L, I, W, F, Y, R, H,
- Position 233 to insertion,
- Position 234 to I, insertion,
- Position 236 to insertion,
- Position 237 to insertion,
- Position 238 to insertion.
- Position 239 to insertion,
- Position 240 to insertion,
- Position 243 to insertion.
- Position 246 to insertion,
- Position 247 to G, V, I, W, P, F, Y, S, T, R, insertion, deletion,
- Position 249 to L, W, P, F, S, D, E, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 252 to G, A, W, P, N, Q, Y, T, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 254 to G, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 262 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, F, N, Q, Y, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 264a to A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, W, Y, insertion, deletion,
- Position 270 to G, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H, insertion, deletion,

- Position 273 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 274 to W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, D, E, R, H,

- Position 275 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Y, T, D, insertion, deletion,
- Position 276 to A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, W, Y, insertion, deletion,

with the proviso that the amino acids of the parent enzyme are substituted to another amino acid.

152. The protein variant of claim **135** having modified immunogenicity as compared to its parent protein having at least 81% homology to SEQ ID NO: 33 comprising one or more of the following substitutions corresponding to any of the following in SEQ ID NO: 33:

Position 5 to V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, R, H,

- Position 22 to G, V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, S, T, insertion, deletion,
- Position 26 to G, A, V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 28 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 37 to L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, R, H,
- Position 40 to V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, R, H,
- Position 44 to G, V, L, I, W, P, M, F, Y, S, T,
- Position 51 to V, L, I, W, M, F, N, Y, R, deletion, insertion,
- $Position \, 52 \, to \, V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, S, T, R, deletion, insertion,$
- Position 55 to G, A, V, L, I, W, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, D, E, R, K, H, deletion, insertion,
- Position 58 to L, W, M, F, N, Y, R, insertion, deletion,
- Position 61 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, insertion, deletion,
- Position 64 to G, V, L, I, W, P, C, M, F, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, R, K, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 87 to A, V, L, I, W, M, F, Q, Y, S, T, D, E, H,
- Position 97 to V, L, W, C, M, F, Y, H,
- Position 98 to deletion,
- Position 101 to V, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, H,
- Position 102 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Y, R, H, G, deletion,
- Position 109 to N, insertion,
- Position 112 to E, insertion,
- Position 118 to N, insertion,
- Position 127 to G, A, V, I, W, M, F, Y, R, H, L,
- Position 137 to G, A, V, I, W, P, M, N, Y, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 146 to G, A, W, L, I, W, M, F, N, Q, Y, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 156 to V, I, W, F, R,
- Position 158 to V, L, I, W, M, F, Y,
- Position 161 to I, W, M, F, Y, H,
- Position 188 to G, A, V, L, W, F, S, R, K, deletion,
- Position 192 to G, L, I, W, M, N, Q, Y, S, T, D, R, H, deletion,
- Position 194 to W, N, Q, Y, D, H,
- Position 195 to W, P, Y, deletion,
- Position 203 to V, F, Y, R, H,
- Position 216 to A, L, I, W, M, F, Y, R,
- Position 236 to insertion,
- Position 237 to insertion,
- Position 262 to G, A, V, L, I, W, P, F, N, Q, Y, T, D, E, R, H, insertion, deletion,
- Position 264a to A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, W, Y, insertion, deletion,
- with the proviso that the amino acids of the parent enzyme are substituted to another amino acid.

153. A subtilisin variant comprising one or more of the insertions, substitutions and/or deletions in any of the positions of claim **136**.

154. The variant of claim **153**, wherein the subtilisin has at least 80% homology to SEQ ID NO; 10.

 $155.\,\mathrm{A}$ composition comprising the protein variant of claim $135.\,$

156. A DNA construct comprising a DNA sequence encoding a protein variant of claim **135**.

 $157. \ \mathrm{An} \ \mathrm{expression} \ \mathrm{vector} \ \mathrm{comprising} \ \mathrm{a} \ \mathrm{DNA} \ \mathrm{construct} \ \mathrm{of} \ \mathrm{claim} \ 156.$

158. A host cell which is capable of expressing a polypeptide and comprising a DNA construct of claim **156**. **159**. A host cell which is capable of expressing a polypeptide and which is transformed by an expression vector of claim **157**.

160. The host cell of claim **159**, which is a fungal cell, an insect cell, a mammalian cell, or a plant cell.

161. A method of producing a protein variant having reduced immunogenicity as compared to the parent protein, comprising:

- (a) culturing the host of claim 159 in a suitable culture medium to obtain expression and secretion of the protein into the medium, followed by
- (b) isolation of the protein from the culture medium.

* * * * *