

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
6 September 2002 (06.09.2002)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
WO 02/068470 A2

- (51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: C07K 14/555
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/GB02/00830
- (22) International Filing Date: 26 February 2002 (26.02.2002)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:  
0104706.7 26 February 2001 (26.02.2001) GB  
0200619.5 11 January 2002 (11.01.2002) GB
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US):  
PHARMA PACIFIC PTY LTD [AU/AU]; 103-105  
Pipe Road, Laverton North, Victoria 3026 (AU).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): MERITET,  
Jean-François [FR/FR]; 62, rue de Picpus, F-75012 Paris  
(FR). DRON, Michel [FR/FR]; 22, avenue des Cottages,  
F-92340 Bourg la Reine (FR). TOVEY, Michael, Gerard  
[GB/FR]; 7, rue Lagrange, F-75005 Paris (FR).
- (74) Agents: IRVINE, Jonquil, Claire et al.; J.A. Kemp & Co.,  
14 South Square, Gray's Inn, London WC1R 5JJ (GB).
- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU,  
AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU,  
CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH,  
GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC,  
LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW,  
MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG,  
SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ,  
VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM,  
KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW),  
Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),  
European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR,  
GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent  
(BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR,  
NE, SN, TD, TG).

**Published:**

— without international search report and to be republished  
upon receipt of that report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.



WO 02/068470 A2

(54) Title: INTERFERON-ALPHA INDUCED GENE

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to identification of a gene upregulated by interferon- $\alpha$  administration corresponding to the cDNA sequence set forth in SEQ. ID. No. 1 and SEQ. ID. No. 3. Determination of expression products of this gene is proposed as having utility in predicting responsiveness to treatment with interferon- $\alpha$  and other interferons which act at the Type 1 interferon receptor. Therapeutic use of the protein encoded by the same gene is also envisaged.

## INTERFERON-ALPHA INDUCED GENE

### Field of the Invention

5           The present invention relates to identification of a human gene upregulated by interferon- $\alpha$  (IFN- $\alpha$ ) administration, the coding sequence of which is believed to be previously unknown. Detection of expression products of this gene may find use in predicting responsiveness to IFN- $\alpha$  and other interferons which act at the Type 1  
10           interferon receptor. Therapeutic use of the isolated novel protein encoded by the same gene is also envisaged.

### Background of the Invention

15           IFN- $\alpha$  is widely used for the treatment of a number of disorders. Disorders which may be treated using IFN- $\alpha$  include neoplastic diseases such as leukemia, lymphomas, and solid tumours, AIDS-related Kaposi's sarcoma and viral infections such as chronic hepatitis. IFN- $\alpha$  has also been proposed for administration via the oromucosal route for the treatment of autoimmune, mycobacterial, neurodegenerative, parasitic and viral disease. In particular, IFN- $\alpha$  has been proposed, for example, for the treatment of  
20           multiple sclerosis, leprosy, tuberculosis, encephalitis, malaria, cervical cancer, genital herpes, hepatitis B and C, HIV, HPV and HSV-1 and 2. It has also been suggested for the treatment of arthritis, lupus and diabetes. Neoplastic diseases such as multiple myeloma, hairy cell leukemia, chronic myelogenous leukemia, low grade lymphoma, cutaneous T-cell lymphoma, carcinoid tumours, cervical cancer, sarcomas including Kaposi's  
25           sarcoma, kidney tumours, carcinomas including renal cell carcinoma, hepatic cellular carcinoma, nasopharyngeal carcinoma, haematological malignancies, colorectal cancer, glioblastoma, laryngeal papillomas, lung cancer, colon cancer, malignant melanoma and brain tumours are also suggested as being treatable by administration of IFN- $\alpha$  via the oromucosal route, i.e. the oral route or the nasal route.

IFN- $\alpha$  is a member of the Type 1 interferon family, which exert their characteristic biological activities through interaction with the Type 1 interferon receptor. Other Type 1 interferons include IFN- $\beta$ , IFN- $\omega$  and IFN- $\tau$ .

5 Unfortunately, not all potential patients for treatment with a Type 1 interferon such as interferon- $\alpha$ , particularly, for example, patients suffering from chronic viral hepatitis, neoplastic disease and relapsing remitting multiple sclerosis, respond favourably to Type 1 interferon therapy and only a fraction of those who do respond exhibit long-term benefit. The inability of the physician to confidently predict the  
10 therapeutic outcome of Type 1 interferon treatment raises serious concerns as to the cost-benefit ratio of such treatment, not only in terms of wastage of an expensive biopharmaceutical and lost time in therapy, but also in terms of the serious side effects to which the patient is exposed. Furthermore, abnormal production of IFN- $\alpha$  has been shown to be associated with a number of autoimmune diseases. For these reasons, there  
15 is much interest in identifying Type 1 interferon responsive genes since Type 1 interferons exert their therapeutic action by modulating the expression of a number of genes. Indeed, it is the specific pattern of gene expression induced by Type 1 interferon treatment that determines whether a patient will respond favourably or not to the treatment.

20

### **Summary of the Invention**

A human gene cDNA has now been identified as corresponding to a mouse gene  
25 upregulated by administration of IFN- $\alpha$  by an oromucosal route or intraperitoneally and is believed to represent a novel DNA. The corresponding human gene is thus now also designated an IFN- $\alpha$  upregulated gene.

The protein encoded by the same gene is referred to below as HuIFRG 68.1  
30 protein. This protein, and functional variants thereof, are now envisaged as therapeutic agents, in particular for use as an anti-viral, anti-tumour or immunomodulatory agent. For example, they may be used in the treatment of autoimmune, mycobacterial, neurodegenerative, parasitic or viral disease, arthritis, diabetes, lupus, multiple sclerosis,

leprosy, tuberculosis, encephalitis, malaria, cervical cancer, genital herpes, hepatitis B or C, HIV, HPV, HSV-1 or 2, or neoplastic disease such as multiple myeloma, hairy cell leukemia, chronic myelogenous leukemia, low grade lymphoma, cutaneous T-cell lymphoma, carcinoid tumours, cervical cancer, sarcomas including Kaposi's sarcoma, kidney tumours, carcinomas including renal cell carcinoma, hepatic cellular carcinoma, nasopharyngeal carcinoma, haematological malignancies, colorectal cancer, glioblastoma, laryngeal papillomas, lung cancer, colon cancer, malignant melanoma or brain tumours. In other words, such a protein may find use in treating any Type 1 interferon treatable disease.

10

Determination of the level of HuIFRG 68.1 protein or a naturally-occurring variant thereof, or the corresponding mRNA, in cell samples of Type 1 interferon-treated patients, e.g. patients treated with IFN- $\alpha$ , e.g. such as by the oromucosal route or intravenously, may also be used to predict responsiveness to such treatment. It has additionally been found that alternatively, and more preferably, such responsiveness may be judged, for example, by treating a sample of human peripheral blood mononuclear cells *in vitro* with a Type 1 interferon and looking for upregulation or downregulation of an expression product, preferably mRNA, corresponding to the HuIFRG 68.1 gene.

20

According to a first aspect of the invention, there is thus provided an isolated polypeptide comprising;

25

- (i) the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2;
- (ii) a variant thereof having substantially similar function, e.g. an immunomodulatory activity and/or an anti-viral activity and/or an anti-tumour activity; or
- (iii) a fragment of (i) or (ii) which retains substantially similar function, e.g. an immunomodulatory activity and/or an anti-viral activity and/or an anti-tumour activity.

30

In a preferred embodiment of the first aspect of the invention, such an isolated polypeptide may comprise:

- (i) the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4;
- (ii) a variant thereof having substantially similar function; or

(iii) a fragment of (i) or (ii) which retains substantially similar function.

The invention also provides such a protein for use in therapeutic treatment of a human or non-human animal, more particularly for use as an anti-viral, anti-tumour or immunomodulatory agent. As indicated above, such use may extend to any Type 1  
5 interferon treatable disease.

According to another aspect of the invention, there is provided an isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide of the invention as defined above or a complement thereof. Such a polynucleotide will typically include a sequence comprising:

- 10 (a) the nucleic acid of SEQ. ID. No. 1 or the coding sequence thereof and/or a sequence complementary thereto;
- (b) a sequence which hybridises, e.g. under stringent conditions, to a sequence complementary to a sequence as defined in (a);
- (c) a sequence which is degenerate as a result of the genetic code to a  
15 sequence as defined in (a) or (b);
- (d) a sequence having at least 60% identity to a sequence as defined in (a), (b) or (c).

In a preferred embodiment, such a polynucleotide will include a sequence comprising:

- 20 (a) the nucleic acid of SEQ ID No: 3 or the coding sequence thereof and/or a sequence complementary thereto;
- (b) a sequence which hybridises, e.g. under stringent conditions, to a sequence complementary to a sequence complementary to a sequence as defined in (a);
- 25 (c) a sequence which is degenerate as a result of the genetic code to a sequence as defined in (a) or (b); or
- (d) a sequence having at least 60% identity to a sequence as defined on (a), (b) or (c).

The invention also provides;

- 30 - an expression vector which comprises a polynucleotide of the invention and which is capable of expressing a polypeptide of the invention;
- a host cell containing an expression vector of the invention;
- an antibody specific for a polypeptide of the invention;

- a method of treating a subject having a Type 1 interferon treatable disease, which method comprises administering to the said patient an effective amount of HuIFRG 68.1 protein or a functional variant thereof
- use of such a polypeptide in the manufacture of a medicament for use in therapy as an anti-viral or anti-tumour or immunomodulatory agent, more particularly for use in treatment of a Type 1 interferon treatable disease;
- a pharmaceutical composition comprising a polypeptide of the invention and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent;
- a method of producing a polypeptide of the invention, which method comprises maintaining host cells of the invention under conditions suitable for obtaining expression of the polypeptide and isolating the said polypeptide;
- a polynucleotide of the invention, e.g. in the form of an expression vector, which directs expression *in vivo* of a polypeptide as defined above for use in therapeutic treatment of a human or non-human animal, more particularly for use as an anti-viral, anti-tumour or immunomodulatory agent;
- a pharmaceutical composition comprising such a polynucleotide and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent;
- a method of treating a subject having a Type 1 interferon treatable disease, which method comprises administering to said patient an effective amount of such a polynucleotide;
- use of such a polynucleotide in the manufacture of a medicament, e.g. a vector preparation, for use in therapy as an anti-viral, anti-tumour or immunomodulatory agent, more particularly for use in treating a Type 1 interferon treatable disease; and
- a method of identifying a compound having immunomodulatory activity and/or anti-viral activity and/or anti-tumour activity comprising providing a cell capable of expressing HuIFRG 68.1 protein or a naturally occurring variant thereof, incubating said cell with a compound under test and monitoring for upregulation of HuIFRG 68.1 gene expression.

In a still further aspect, the invention provides a method of predicting responsiveness of a patient to treatment with a Type 1 interferon, e.g. IFN- $\alpha$  treatment (such as IFN- $\alpha$  treatment by the oromucosal route or a parenteral route, for example, intravenously, subcutaneously, or intramuscularly), which  
5 comprises determining the level of HuIFRG 68.1 protein or a naturally-occurring variant thereof, e.g. an allelic variant, or the corresponding mRNA, in a cell sample from said patient, e.g. a blood sample, wherein said sample is obtained from said patient following administration of a Type 1 interferon, e.g. IFN- $\alpha$  by an oromucosal route or intravenously, or is treated prior to said determining with  
10 a Type 1 interferon such as IFN- $\alpha$  *in vitro*. The invention also extends to kits for carrying out such testing.

### **Brief description of the Sequences**

15 SEQ. ID. No.1 is the amino acid sequence of human protein HuIFRG 68.1 and its encoding cDNA.

SEQ. ID. No.2 is the amino acid sequence alone of HuIFRG 68.1 protein.

SEQ. ID. No. 3 is the amino acid sequence of a variant of HuIFRG 68.1 which is extended at the amino terminus, and its coding sequence.

20 SEQ. ID. No. 4 is the amino acid sequence alone of a variant of HuIFRG 68.1 protein which is extended at the amino terminus.

### **Detailed Description of the Invention**

25 As indicated above, human protein HuIFRG 68.1 and functional variants thereof are now envisaged as therapeutically useful agents, more particularly for use as an anti-viral, anti-tumour or immunomodulatory agent.

30 A variant of HuIFRG 68.1 protein for this purpose may be a naturally occurring variant, either an allelic variant or species variant, which has substantially the same functional activity as HuIFRG 68.1 protein and is also upregulated in response to administration of IFN- $\alpha$ . Alternatively, a variant of HuIFRG 68.1 protein for therapeutic

use may comprise a sequence which varies from SEQ. ID. No. 2 or from SEQ. ID. No. 4 but which is a non-natural mutant.

The term "functional variant" refers to a polypeptide which has the same  
5 essential character or basic function of HuIFRG 68.1 protein. The essential character of HuIFRG 68.1 protein may be deemed to be as an immunomodulatory peptide. A functional variant polypeptide may show additionally or alternatively anti-viral activity and/or anti-tumour activity.

10 Desired anti-viral activity may, for example, be tested or monitored as follows. A sequence encoding a variant to be tested is cloned into a retroviral vector such as a retroviral vector derived from the Moloney murine leukemia virus (MoMuLV) containing the viral packaging signal  $\psi$ , and a drug-resistance marker. A pantropic packaging cell line containing the viral *gag*, and *pol*, genes is then co-transfected with  
15 the recombinant retroviral vector and a plasmid, pVSV-G, containing the vesicular stomatitis virus envelope glycoprotein in order to produce high-titre infectious replication incompetent virus (Burns *et al.*, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA **84**, 5232-5236). The infectious recombinant virus is then used to transfect interferon sensitive fibroblasts or lymphoblastoid cells and cell lines that stably express the variant protein are then  
20 selected and tested for resistance to virus infection in a standard interferon bio-assay (Tovey *et al.*, Nature, **271**, 622-625, 1978). Growth inhibition using a standard proliferation assay (Mosmann, T., J. Immunol. Methods, **65**, 55-63, 1983) and expression of MHC class I and class II antigens using standard techniques may also be determined.

25 A desired functional variant of HuIFRG 68.1 may consist essentially of the sequence of SEQ. ID. No. 2 or of SEQ. ID. No. 4. A functional variant of SEQ. ID. No.2 or of SEQ. ID. No. 4 may be a polypeptide which has a least 60% to 70% identity, preferably at least 80% or at least 90% and particularly preferably at least 95%, at least 97% or at least 99% identity with the amino acid sequence of SEQ. ID. No. 2 or of SEQ.  
30 ID. No. 4 over a region of at least 20, preferably at least 30, for instance at least 100 contiguous amino acids or over the full length of SEQ. ID. No. 2 or of SEQ. ID. No. 4. Methods of measuring protein identity are well known in the art.

Amino acid substitutions may be made, for example from 1, 2 or 3 to 10, 20 or 30 substitutions. Conservative substitutions may be made, for example according to the following Table. Amino acids in the same block in the second column and preferably in  
 5 the same line in the third column may be substituted for each other.

ALIPHATIC	Non-polar	G A P
		I L V
	Polar-uncharged	C S T M
		N Q
	Polar-charged	D E
		K R
AROMATIC		H F W Y

Variant polypeptide sequences for therapeutic use in accordance with the invention may be shorter polypeptide sequences, for example, a peptide of at least 20  
 10 amino acids or up to 50, 60, 70, 80, 100, 150 or 200 amino acids in length is considered to fall within the scope of the invention provided it retains appropriate biological activity of HuIFRG 68.1 protein. In particular, but not exclusively, this aspect of the invention encompasses the situation when the variant is a fragment of a complete natural naturally-occurring protein sequence.

15

Also encompassed by the invention are modified forms of HuIFRG 68.1 protein and fragments thereof which can be used to raise anti-HuIFRG 68.1 protein antibodies. Such variants will comprise an epitope of the HuIFRG 68.1 protein.

20

Polypeptides of the invention may be chemically modified, e.g. post-translationally modified. For example, they may be glycosylated and/or comprise modified amino acid residues. They may also be modified by the addition of a sequence at the N-terminus and/or C-terminus, for example by provision of histidine residues or a

T7 tag to assist their purification or by the addition of a signal sequence to promote insertion into the cell membrane. Such modified polypeptides fall within the scope of the term "polypeptide" of the invention.

5 A polypeptide of the invention may be labelled with a revealing label. The revealing label may be any suitable label which allows the polypeptide to be detected. Suitable labels include radioisotopes such as <sup>125</sup>I, <sup>35</sup>S or enzymes, antibodies, polynucleotides and linkers such as biotin. Labelled polypeptides of the invention may be used in assays. In such assays it may be preferred to provide the polypeptide attached  
10 to a solid support. The present invention also relates to such labelled and/or immobilised polypeptides packaged in the form of a kit in a container. The kit may optionally contain other suitable reagent(s), control(s) or instructions and the like.

The polypeptides of the invention may be made synthetically or by recombinant  
15 means. Such polypeptides of the invention may be modified to include non-naturally occurring amino acids, e.g. D amino acids. Variant polypeptides of the invention may have modifications to increase stability *in vitro* and/or *in vivo*. When the polypeptides are produced by synthetic means, such modifications may be introduced during production. The polypeptides may also be modified following either synthetic or recombinant  
20 production.

A number of side chain modifications are known in the protein modification art and may be present in polypeptides of the invention. Such modifications include, for example, modifications of amino acids by reductive alkylation by reaction with an  
25 aldehyde followed by reduction with NaBH<sub>4</sub>, amidination with methylacetimidate or acylation with acetic anhydride.

Polypeptides of the invention will be in substantially isolated form. It will be understood that the polypeptides may be mixed with carriers or diluents which will not  
30 interfere with the intended purpose of the polypeptide and still be regarded as substantially isolated. A polypeptide of the invention may also be in substantially purified form, in which case it will generally comprise the polypeptide in a preparation in

which more than 90%, for example more than 95%, 98% or 99%, by weight of polypeptide in the preparation is a polypeptide of the invention.

### Polynucleotides

5

The invention also includes isolated nucleotide sequences that encode HuIFRG 68.1 protein or a variant thereof as well as isolated nucleotide sequences which are complementary thereto. The nucleotide sequence may be DNA or RNA, single or double stranded, including genomic DNA, synthetic DNA or cDNA. Preferably the nucleotide  
10 sequence is a DNA sequence and most preferably, a cDNA sequence.

As indicated above, such a polynucleotide will typically include a sequence comprising:

- (a) the nucleic acid of SEQ. ID. No. 1 or SEQ. ID. No. 3 or the coding sequence  
15 thereof and/or a sequence complementary thereto;
- (b) a sequence which hybridises, e.g. under stringent conditions, to a sequence complementary to a sequence as defined in (a);
- (c) a sequence which is degenerate as a result of the genetic code to a sequence as defined in (a) or (b);
- 20 (d) a sequence having at least 60% identity to a sequence as defined in (a), (b) or (c).

Polynucleotides comprising an appropriate coding sequence can be isolated from human cells or synthesised according to methods well known in the art, as described by  
25 way of example in Sambrook *et al.* (1989) *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press.

Polynucleotides of the invention may include within them synthetic or modified nucleotides. A number of different types of modification to polynucleotides are known  
30 in the art. These include methylphosphonate and phosphothioate backbones, addition of acridine or polylysine chains at the 3' and/or 5' ends of the molecule. Such modifications may be carried out in order to enhance the *in vivo* activity or lifespan of polynucleotides of the invention.

Typically a polynucleotide of the invention will include a sequence of nucleotides, which may preferably be a contiguous sequence of nucleotides, which is capable of hybridising under selective conditions to the coding sequence or the complement of the coding sequence of SEQ. ID. No. 1 or SEQ. ID. No. 3. Such hybridisation will occur at a level significantly above background. Background hybridisation may occur, for example, because of other cDNAs present in a cDNA library. The signal level generated by the interaction between a polynucleotide of the invention and the coding sequence or complement of the coding sequence of SEQ. ID. No. 1 or SEQ. ID. No. 3 will typically be at least 10 fold, preferably at least 100 fold, as intense as interactions between other polynucleotides and the coding sequence of SEQ. ID. No. 1 or SEQ. ID. No. 3. The intensity of interaction may be measured, for example, by radiolabelling the probe, e.g. with  $^{32}\text{P}$ . Selective hybridisation may typically be achieved using conditions of low stringency (0.3M sodium chloride and 0.03M sodium citrate at about 40°C), medium stringency (for example, 0.3M sodium chloride and 0.03M sodium citrate at about 50°C) or high stringency (for example, 0.03M sodium chloride and 0.03M sodium citrate at about 60°C).

The coding sequence of SEQ ID No: 1 or SEQ ID No: 3 may be modified by nucleotide substitutions, for example from 1, 2 or 3 to 10, 25, 50 or 100 substitutions. Degenerate substitutions may be made and/or substitutions may be made which would result in a conservative amino acid substitution when the modified sequence is translated, for example as shown in the table above. The coding sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID No: 3 may alternatively or additionally be modified by one or more insertions and/or deletions and/or by an extension at either or both ends.

A polynucleotide of the invention capable of selectively hybridising to a DNA sequence selected from SEQ. ID No.1 or 3, the coding sequence thereof and DNA sequences complementary thereto will be generally at least 70%, preferably at least 80 or 90% and more preferably at least 95% or 97%, homologous to the target sequence. This homology may typically be over a region of at least 20, preferably at least 30, for instance at least 40, 60 or 100 or more contiguous nucleotides.

Any combination of the above mentioned degrees of homology and minimum sized may be used to define polynucleotides of the invention, with the more stringent combinations (i.e. higher homology over longer lengths) being preferred. Thus for  
5 example a polynucleotide which is at least 80% homologous over 25, preferably over 30 nucleotides forms may be found suitable, as may be a polynucleotide which is at least 90% homologous over 40 nucleotides.

Homologues of polynucleotide or protein sequences as referred to herein may be  
10 determined in accordance with well-known means of homology calculation, e.g. protein homology may be calculated on the basis of amino acid identity (sometimes referred to as "hard homology"). For example the UWGCG Package provides the BESTFIT program which can be used to calculate homology, for example used on its default settings, (Devereux *et al.* (1984) *Nucleic Acids Research* **12**, 387-395). The PILEUP  
15 and BLAST algorithms can be used to calculate homology or line up sequences or to identify equivalent or corresponding sequences, typically used on their default settings, for example as described in Altschul S. F. (1993) *J. Mol. Evol.* **36**,290-300; Altschul, S. F. *et al.* (1990) *J. Mol. Biol.* **215**,403-10.

20 Software for performing BLAST analyses is publicly available through the National Center for Biotechnology Information (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/>). This algorithm involves first identifying high scoring sequence pairs (HSPs) by identifying short words of length W in the query sequence that either match or satisfy some positive-valued threshold score T when aligned with a word of the same length in a database  
25 sequence. T is referred to as the neighbourhood word score threshold (Altschul *et al.*, *supra*). These initial neighbourhood word hits act as seeds for initiating searches to find HSPs containing them. The word hits are extended in both directions along each sequence for as far as the cumulative alignment score can be increased. Extensions for the word hits in each direction are halted when: the cumulative alignment score falls off  
30 by the quantity X from its maximum achieved value; the cumulative score goes to zero or below, due to the accumulation of one or more negative-scoring residue alignments; or the end of either sequence is reached. The BLAST algorithm parameters W, T and X

determine the sensitivity and speed of the alignment. The BLAST program uses as defaults a word length (W) of 11, the BLOSUM62 scoring matrix (see Henikoff and Henikoff (1992) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA **89**,10915-10919) alignments (B) of 50, expectation (E) of 10, M=5, N=4, and a comparison of both strands.

5

The BLAST algorithm performs a statistical analysis of the similarity between two sequences; see e.g., Karlin and Altschul (1993) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 90: 5873-5787. One measure of similarity provided by the BLAST algorithm is the smallest sum probability (P(N)), which provides an indication of the probability by which a match  
10 between two nucleotide or amino acid sequences would occur by chance. For example, a sequence is considered similar to another sequence if the smallest sum probability in comparison of the first sequence to the second sequence is less than about 1, preferably less than about 0.1, more preferably less than about 0.01, and most preferably less than about 0.001.

15

Polynucleotides according to the invention have utility in production of the proteins according to the invention, which may take place *in vitro*, *in vivo* or *ex vivo*. In such a polynucleotide, the coding sequence for the desired protein of the invention will be operably-linked to a promoter sequence which is capable of directing expression of  
20 the desired protein in the chosen host cell. Such a polynucleotide will generally be in the form of an expression vector. Polynucleotides of the invention, e.g. in the form of an expression vector, which direct expression *in vivo* of a polypeptide of the invention having immunomodulatory activity and/or anti-viral activity and/or anti-tumour activity may also be used as a therapeutic agent.

25

Expression vectors for such purposes may be constructed in accordance with conventional practices in the art of recombinant DNA technology. They may, for example, involve the use of plasmid DNA. They may be provided with an origin of replication. Such a vector may contain one or more selectable marker genes, for example  
30 an ampicillin resistance gene in the case of a bacterial plasmid. Other features of vectors of the invention may include appropriate initiators, enhancers and other elements, such as for example polyadenylation signals which may be desirable, and which are

positioned in the correct orientation, in order to allow for protein expression. Other suitable non-plasmid vectors would be apparent to persons skilled in the art. By way of further example in this regard reference is made again to Sambrook *et al.*, 1989 (*supra*). Such vectors additionally include, for example, viral vectors. Examples of suitable viral  
5 vectors include herpes simplex viral vectors, replication-defective retroviruses, including lentiviruses, adenoviruses, adeno-associated virus, HPV viruses (such as HPV-16 and HPV-18) and attenuated influenza virus vectors.

Promoters and other expression regulation signals may be selected to be  
10 compatible with the host cell for which expression is designed. For example, yeast promoters include *S. cerevisiae* GAL4 and ADH promoters, *S. pombe nmt1* and *adh* promoter. Mammalian promoters include the metallothionein promoter which can be induced in response to heavy metals such as cadmium and  $\beta$ -actin promoters. Viral promoters such as the SV40 large T antigen promoter or adenovirus promoters may also  
15 be used. Other examples of viral promoters which may be employed include the Moloney murine leukemia virus long terminal repeat (MMLV LTR), the rous sarcoma virus (RSV) LTR promoter, the human cytomegalovirus (CMV) IE promoter, and HPV promoters, particularly the HPV upstream regulatory region (URR). Other suitable promoters will be well-known to those skilled in the recombinant DNA art.

20 An expression vector of the invention may further include sequences flanking the coding sequence for the desired polypeptide of the invention providing sequences homologous to eukaryotic genomic sequences, preferably mammalian genomic sequences, or viral genomic sequences. This will allow the introduction of such  
25 polynucleotides of the invention into the genome of eukaryotic cells or viruses by homologous recombination. In particular, a plasmid vector comprising the expression cassette flanked by viral sequences can be used to prepare a viral vector suitable for delivering the polynucleotides of the invention to a mammalian cell.

30 The invention also includes cells *in vitro*, for example prokaryotic or eukaryotic cells, which have been modified to express the HuIFRG 68.1 protein or a variant thereof. Such cells include stable, e.g. eukaryotic, cell lines wherein a polynucleotide encoding HuIFRG 68.1 protein or a variant thereof is incorporated into the host genome. Host cells

of the invention may be mammalian cells or insect cells, lower eukaryotic cells, such as yeast or prokaryotic cells such as bacterial cells. Particular examples of cells which may be modified by insertion of vectors encoding for a polypeptide according to the invention include mammalian HEK293T, CHO, HeLa and COS cells. Preferably a cell line may  
5 be chosen which is not only stable, but also allows for mature glycosylation of a polypeptide. Expression may, for example, be achieved in transformed oocytes.

A polypeptide of the invention may be expressed in cells of a transgenic non-human animal, preferably a mouse. A transgenic non-human animal capable of  
10 expressing a polypeptide of the invention is included within the scope of the invention.

Polynucleotides according to the invention may also be inserted into vectors as described above in an antisense orientation in order to provide for the production of antisense sequences. Antisense RNA or other antisense polynucleotides may also be  
15 produced by synthetic means.

A polynucleotide, e.g. in the form of an expression vector, capable of expressing *in vivo* an antisense sequence to a coding sequence for the amino acid sequence defined by SEQ. ID. No. 2, or a naturally-occurring variant thereof, for example that defined by  
20 SEQ ID No. 4, for use in therapeutic treatment of a human or non-human animal is also envisaged as constituting an additional aspect of the invention. Such a polynucleotide will find use in treatment of diseases associated with upregulation of HuIFRG 68.1 protein.

Polynucleotides of the invention extend to sets of primers for nucleic acid  
25 amplification which target sequences within the cDNA for a polypeptide of the invention, e.g. pairs of primers for PCR amplification. The invention also provides probes suitable for targeting a sequence within a cDNA or RNA for a polypeptide of the invention which may be labelled with a revealing label, e.g. a radioactive label or a non-  
30 radioactive label such as an enzyme or biotin. Such probes may be attached to a solid support. Such a solid support may be a micro-array (also commonly referred to as nucleic acid, probe or DNA chip) carrying probes for further nucleic acids, e.g. mRNAs or amplification products thereof corresponding to other Type 1 interferon upregulated

genes, e.g. such genes identified as upregulated in response to oromucosal or intravenous administration of IFN- $\alpha$ . Methods for constructing such micro-arrays are well-known (see, for example, EP-B 0476014 and 0619321 of Affymax Technologies N.V. and Nature Genetics Supplement January 1999 entitled "The Chipping Forecast").

5

The nucleic acid sequence of such a primer or probe will preferably be at least 10, preferably at least 15 or at least 20, for example at least 25, at least 30 or at least 40 nucleotides in length. It may, however, be up to 40, 50, 60, 70, 100 or 150 nucleotides in length or even longer.

10

Another aspect of the invention is the use of probes or primers of the invention to identify mutations in HuIFRG 68.1 genes, for example single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs).

15

As indicated above, in a still further aspect the present invention provides a method of identifying a compound having immunomodulatory activity and/or antiviral activity and/or anti-tumour activity comprising providing a cell capable of expressing HuIFRG 68.1 protein or a naturally-occurring variant thereof, incubating said cell with a compound under test and monitoring for upregulation of HuIFRG 68.1 gene expression.

20

Such monitoring may be by probing for mRNA encoding HuIFRG 68.1 protein or a naturally-occurring variant thereof. Alternatively antibodies or antibody fragments capable of specifically binding one or more of HuIFRG 68.1 and naturally-occurring variants thereof may be employed.

25

### Antibodies

30

According to another aspect, the present invention also relates to antibodies (for example polyclonal or preferably monoclonal antibodies, chimeric antibodies, humanised antibodies and fragments thereof which retain antigen-binding capability) which have been obtained by conventional techniques and are specific for a polypeptide of the invention. Such antibodies could, for example, be useful in purification, isolation or screening methods involving immunoprecipitation and may be used as tools to further

elucidate the function of HuIFRG 68.1 protein or a variant thereof. They may be therapeutic agents in their own right. Such antibodies may be raised against specific epitopes of proteins according to the invention. An antibody specifically binds to a protein when it binds with high affinity to the protein for which it is specific but does not  
5 bind or binds with only low affinity to other proteins. A variety of protocols for competitive binding or immunoradiometric assays to determine the specific binding capability of an antibody are well-known.

#### Pharmaceutical compositions

10

A polypeptide of the invention is typically formulated for administration with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent. The pharmaceutical carrier or diluent may be, for example, an isotonic solution. For example, solid oral forms may contain, together with the active compound, diluents, e.g. lactose, dextrose, saccharose, cellulose,  
15 corn starch or potato starch; lubricants, e.g. silica, talc, stearic acid, magnesium or calcium stearate, and/or polyethylene glycols; binding agents; e.g. starches, arabic gums, gelatin, methyl cellulose, carboxymethylcellulose or polyvinyl pyrrolidone; desegregating agents, e.g. starch, alginic acid, alginates or sodium starch glycolate; effervescing mixtures; dyestuffs; sweeteners; wetting agents, such as lecithin,  
20 polysorbates, laurylsulphates; and, in general, non-toxic and pharmacologically inactive substances used in pharmaceutical formulations. Such pharmaceutical preparations may be manufactured in known manner, for example, by means of mixing, granulating, tableting, sugar-coating, or film coating processes.

25

Liquid dispersions for oral administration may be syrups, emulsions and suspensions. The syrups may contain as carriers, for example, saccharose or saccharose with glycerine and/or mannitol and/or sorbitol.

30

Suspensions and emulsions may contain as carrier, for example a natural gum, agar, sodium alginate, pectin, methyl cellulose, carboxymethylcellulose, or polyvinyl alcohol. The suspensions or solutions for intramuscular injections may contain, together with the active compound, a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, e.g. sterile water, olive

oil, ethyl oleate, glycols, e.g. propylene glycol, and if desired, a suitable amount of lidocaine hydrochloride.

Solutions for intravenous administration or infusions may contain as carrier, for example, sterile water or preferably they may be in the form of sterile, aqueous, isotonic saline solutions.

A suitable dose of HuIFRG 68.1 protein or a functional analogue thereof for use in accordance with the invention may be determined according to various parameters, especially according to the substance used; the age, weight and condition of the patient to be treated; the route of administration; and the required regimen. Again, a physician will be able to determine the required route of administration and dosage for any particular patient. A typical daily dose may be from about 0.1 to 50 mg per kg, preferably from about 0.1mg/kg to 10mg/kg of body weight, according to the activity of the specific inhibitor, the age, weight and condition of the subject to be treated, and the frequency and route of administration. Preferably, daily dosage levels may be from 5 mg to 2 g.

A polynucleotide of the invention suitable for therapeutic use will also typically be formulated for administration with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent. Such a polynucleotide may be administered by any known technique whereby expression of the desired polypeptide can be attained *in vivo*. For example, the polynucleotide may be introduced by injection, preferably intradermally, subcutaneously or intramuscularly. Alternatively, the nucleic acid may be delivered directly across the skin using a particle-mediated delivery device. A polynucleotide of the invention suitable for therapeutic nucleic acid may alternatively be administered to the oromucosal surface for example by intranasal or oral administration.

A non-viral vector of the invention suitable for therapeutic use may, for example, be packaged into liposomes or into surfactant containing vector delivery particles. Uptake of nucleic acid constructs of the invention may be enhanced by several known transfection techniques, for example those including the use of transfection agents. Examples of these agents include cationic agents, for example calcium phosphate and

DEAE dextran and lipofectants, for example lipopfectam and transfectam. The dosage of the nucleic acid to be administered can be varied. Typically, the nucleic acid will be administered in the range of from 1pg to 1mg, preferably from 1pg to 10 $\mu$ g nucleic acid for particle-mediated gene delivery and from 10 $\mu$ g to 1 mg for other routes.

5

#### Prediction of Type 1 interferon responsiveness

As also indicated above, in a still further aspect the present invention provides a method of predicting responsiveness of a patient to treatment with a Type 1 interferon, e.g. IFN- $\alpha$  treatment such as IFN- $\alpha$  treatment by an oromucosal route or intravenously, which comprises determining the level of HuIFRG 68.1 protein or a naturally-occurring variant thereof, for example a protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4, or the corresponding mRNA, in a cell sample from said patient, wherein said sample is taken from said patient following administration of a Type 1 interferon or is treated prior to said determining with a Type 1 interferon *in vitro*.

15

Preferably, the Type 1 interferon for testing responsiveness will be the Type 1 interferon selected for treatment. It may be administered by the proposed treatment route and at the proposed treatment dose. Preferably, the subsequent sample analysed may be, for example, a blood sample or a sample of peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs) isolated from a blood sample.

20

More conveniently and preferably, a sample obtained from the patient comprising PBMCs isolated from blood may be treated *in vitro* with a Type 1 interferon, e.g. at a dosage range of about 1 to 10,000 IU/ml. Such treatment may be for a period of hours, e.g. about 7 to 8 hours. Preferred treatment conditions for such *in vitro* testing may be determined by testing PBMCs taken from normal donors with the same interferon and looking for upregulation of an appropriate expression product. Again, the Type 1 interferon employed will preferably be the Type 1 interferon proposed for treatment of the patient, e.g. recombinant IFN- $\alpha$ . PBMCs for such testing may be isolated in conventional manner from a blood sample using Ficoll-Hypaque density

30

gradients. An example of a suitable protocol for such *in vitro* testing of Type 1 interferon responsiveness is provided in Example 3 below.

The sample, if appropriate after *in vitro* treatment with a Type 1 interferon, may  
5 be analysed for the level of HuIFRG 68.1 protein or a naturally-occurring variant thereof.  
This may be done using an antibody or antibodies capable of specifically binding one or  
more of HuIFRG 68.1 protein and naturally-occurring variants thereof, e.g. allelic  
variants thereof. Preferably, however, the sample will be analysed for mRNA encoding  
HuIFRG 68.1 protein or a naturally-occurring variant thereof. Such mRNA analysis may  
10 employ any of the techniques known for detection of mRNAs, e.g. Northern blot  
detection or mRNA differential display. A variety of known nucleic acid amplification  
protocols may be employed to amplify any mRNA of interest present in the sample, or a  
portion thereof, prior to detection. The mRNA of interest, or a corresponding amplified  
nucleic acid, may be probed for using a nucleic acid probe attached to a solid support.  
15 Such a solid support may be a micro-array as previously discussed above carrying  
probes to determine the level of further mRNAs or amplification products thereof  
corresponding to Type 1 interferon upregulated genes, e.g. such genes identified as  
upregulated in response to oromucosal or intravenous administration of IFN- $\alpha$ .

20 The following examples illustrate the invention:

### Examples

#### Example 1

25

Previous experiments had shown that the application of 5  $\mu$ l of crystal violet to  
each nostril of a normal adult mouse using a P20 Eppendorf micropipette resulted in an  
almost immediate distribution of the dye over the whole surface of the oropharyngeal  
30 cavity. Staining of the oropharyngeal cavity was still apparent some 30 minutes after  
application of the dye. These results were confirmed by using  $^{125}$ I-labelled recombinant  
human IFN- $\alpha$ 1-8 applied in the same manner. The same method of administration was  
employed to effect oromucosal administration in the studies which are described below.

Six week old, male DBA/2 mice were treated with either 100,000 IU of recombinant murine interferon  $\alpha$  (IFN  $\alpha$ ) purchased from Life Technologies Inc, in phosphate buffered saline (PBS), 10 $\mu$ g of recombinant human interleukin 15 (IL-15) purchased from Protein Institute Inc, PBS containing 100  $\mu$ g/ml of bovine serum albumin (BSA), or left untreated. Eight hours later, the mice were sacrificed by cervical dislocation and the lymphoid tissue was removed surgically from the oropharyngeal cavity and snap frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at -80°C. RNA was extracted from the lymphoid tissue by the method of Chomczynski and Sacchi 1987, (Anal. Biochem. **162**, 156-159) and subjected to mRNA Differential Display Analysis (Lang, P. and Pardee, A.B., Science, **257**, 967-971).

#### Differential Display Analysis

Differential display analysis was carried out using the "Message Clean" and "RNA image" kits of the GenHunter Corporation essentially as described by the manufacturer. Briefly, RNA was treated with RNase-free DNase, and 1  $\mu$ g was reverse-transcribed in 100  $\mu$ l of reaction buffer using either one or the other of the three one-base anchored oligo-(dT) primers A, C, or G. RNA was also reverse-transcribed using one or the other of the 9 two-base anchored oligo-(dT) primers AA, CC, GG, AC, CA, GA, AG, CG, GC. All the samples to be compared were reverse transcribed in the same experiment, separated into aliquots and frozen. The amplification was performed with only 1  $\mu$ l of the reverse transcription sample in 10  $\mu$ l of amplification mixture containing *Taq* DNA polymerase and  $\alpha$ -<sup>33</sup>P dATP (3,000 Ci/mmmole). Eighty 5' end (HAP) random sequence primers were used in combination with each of the (HT11) A, C, G, AA, CC, GG, AC, CA, GA, AG, CG or GC primers. Samples were then run on 7% denaturing polyacrylamide gels and exposed to autoradiography. Putative differentially expressed bands were cut out, reamplified according to the instructions of the supplier, and further used as probes to hybridize Northern blots of RNA extracted from the oropharyngeal cavity of IFN treated, IL-15 treated, and excipient treated animals.

#### Cloning and Sequencing

Re-amplified bands from the differential display screen were cloned in the

*Sfr* 1 site of the pPCR-Script SK(+) plasmid (Stratagene) and cDNAs amplified from the rapid amplification of cDNA ends were isolated by TA cloning in the pCR3 plasmid (Invitrogen). DNA was sequenced using an automatic di-deoxy sequencer (Perkin Elmer ABI PRISM 377).

5

### Isolation of Human cDNA

Differentially expressed murine 3' sequences identified from the differential display screen were compared with random human expressed sequence tags (EST) present in the dbEST database of GenBank™ of the United States National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI). The sequences potentially related to the murine EST isolated from the differential display screen were combined in a contig and used to construct a human consensus sequence corresponding to a putative cDNA. One such cDNA was found to be 2175 nucleotides in length. This corresponded to a mouse gene whose expression was found to be enhanced approximately 8-fold in the lymphoid tissue of the oral cavity of mice following oromucosal administration of IFN- $\alpha$ .

In order to establish that this putative cDNA corresponded to an authentic human gene, primers derived from the 5' and 3' ends of the consensus sequence were used to synthesise cDNA from mRNA extracted from human peripheral blood leukocytes (PBL) by specific reverse transcription and PCR amplification. A unique cDNA fragment of the predicted size was obtained, cloned and sequenced (SEQ. ID. No.1). This human cDNA contains an open reading frame (ORF) of 1818 bp in length at positions 42-1859 encoding a protein of 605 amino acids with a deduced molecular weight of 68.45 kDa (SEQ. ID. No. 2).

A second cDNA was found to be 3411 nucleotides in length. As described above, a unique cDNA fragment of the predicted size was obtained, cloned and sequenced (SEQ ID No: 3). This human cDNA contains an open reading frame (ORF) of 3297 bp in length at positions 95 to 3391 encoding a protein of 1098 amino acids with deduced molecular weight of 124 kDa (SEQ ID No: 4). The nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID No: 3 is a longer form of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID No: 1 and encodes a

variant of the HuIFRG 68.1 protein of SEQ ID No: 2 which is extended at the amino terminus.

### Example 2

5

#### Intravenous administration of IFN- $\alpha$

Male DBA/2 mice were injected intraperitoneally with 100,000 IU of recombinant murine IFN- $\alpha$  purchased from Life Technologies Inc. in 200  $\mu$ l of PBS or  
10 treated with an equal volume of PBS alone. Eight hours later, the animals were sacrificed by cervical dislocation and the spleen was removed using conventional procedures. Total RNA was extracted by the method of Chomczynski and Sacchi (Anal. Biochem. (1987) 162,156-159) and 10.0  $\mu$ g of total RNA per sample was subjected to Northern blotting in the presence of glyoxal and hybridised with a cDNA probe for HuIFRG 68.1 mRNA as  
15 described by Dandoy-Dron et al.(J. Biol. Chem. (1998) 273, 7691-7697). The blots were first exposed to autoradiography and then quantified using a PhosphorImager according to the manufacturer's instructions. Enhanced levels of mRNA for HuIFRG 68.1 protein (approximately 10 fold) were detected in samples of RNA extracted from spleens of IFN- $\alpha$  treated animals relative to animals treated with excipient alone.

20

### Example 3

#### Testing Type 1 interferon responsiveness *in vitro*

25 Human Daudi, Jurkat or HeLa cells were treated *in vitro* with 10,000 IU of recombinant human IFN- $\alpha$ 2 (Intron A from Schering-Plough) in PBS or with an equal volume of PBS alone. Eight hours later the cells were centrifuged (800 x g for 10 minutes) and the cell pellet recovered. Total RNA was extracted from the cell pellet by the method of Chomczynski and Sacchi and 10.0  $\mu$ g of total RNA per sample was  
30 subjected to Northern blotting in the presence of glyoxal and hybridised with a cDNA probe for HuIFRG 68.1 mRNA as previously described in Example 2 above and an equivalent cDNA probe for the HuIFRG 68.1 variant described in Example 1. Enhanced

levels of mRNA for HulFRG 68.1 protein (approximately 5-fold) were detected in samples of RNA extracted from IFN- $\alpha$  treated Daudi or HeLa cells compared to samples treated with PBS alone. Enhanced levels of mRNA for HulFRG 68.1 variant protein (approximately 5-fold) were detected in samples of RNA extracted from IFN- $\alpha$  treated  
5 Daudi or Jurkat cells compared to samples treated with PBS alone.

The same procedure may be used to predict Type 1 interferon responsiveness using PBMCs taken from a patient proposed to be treated with a Type 1 interferon.

#### 10 Example 4

##### Expression of HulFRG 68.1 variant mRNA

The HulFRG 68.1 variant coding sequence was amplified and used as a probe to  
15 determine the tissue distribution of HulFRG 68.1 variant mRNA. HulFRG 68.1 variant expression was assessed in a wide variety of tissues and was found to be widely expressed.

CLAIMS

1. An isolated polypeptide comprising
- 5 (i) the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4;
- (ii) a variant thereof having substantially similar function selected from immunomodulatory activity and/or anti-viral activity and/or anti-tumour activity; or
- (iii) a fragment of (i) or (ii) which retains substantially similar function
- 10 selected from immunomodulatory activity and/or anti-viral activity and/or anti-tumour activity.
2. A variant or fragment of the polypeptide defined by the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ. ID. No. 2 or SEQ ID No: 4 suitable for raising specific antibodies
- 15 for said polypeptide and/or a naturally-occurring variant thereof.
3. A polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide as claimed in claim 1 or 2.
4. A polynucleotide as claimed in claim 3 which is a cDNA.
- 20
5. A polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide as claimed in claim 1, which polynucleotide comprises:
- (a) the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO. 3 or the coding sequence thereof and/or a sequence complementary thereto;
- 25 (b) a sequence which hybridises to a sequence as defined in (a);
- (c) a sequence that is degenerate as a result of the genetic code to a sequence as defined in (a) or (b); or
- (d) a sequence having at least 60% identity to a sequence as defined in
- 30 (a), (b) or (c).

6. An expression vector comprising a polynucleotide sequence as claimed in any one of claims 3 to 5, which is capable of expressing a polypeptide according to claim 1 or 2.
- 5 7. A host cell containing an expression vector according to claim 6.
8. An antibody specific for a polypeptide as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2.
9. An isolated polynucleotide which directs expression *in vivo* of a polypeptide as  
10 claimed in claim 1.
10. A polypeptide as claimed in claim 1 or a polynucleotide as claimed in claim 9 for use in therapeutic treatment of a human or non-human animal.
- 15 11. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a polypeptide as claimed in claim 1 or a polynucleotide as claimed in claim 9 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.
12. Use of a polypeptide as claimed in claim 1 or a polynucleotide as claimed in  
20 claim 9 in the preparation of medicament for use in therapy as an anti-viral, anti-tumour or immunomodulatory agent.
13. A method of treating a patient having a Type 1 interferon treatable disease, which comprises administering to said patient an effective amount of a polypeptide as  
25 claimed in claim 1 or a polynucleotide as claimed in claim 9.
14. A method of producing a polypeptide according to claim 1 or 2, which method comprises culturing host cells as claimed in claim 7 under conditions suitable for obtaining expression of the polypeptide and isolating the said polypeptide.  
30
15. A method of identifying a compound having immunomodulatory activity and/or anti-viral activity and/or anti-tumour activity comprising providing a cell capable

of expressing the polypeptide of SEQ. ID. No. 2 or SEQ. ID. No: 4 or a naturally-occurring variant thereof, incubating said cell with a compound under test and monitoring for upregulation of the gene encoding said polypeptide or variant.

- 5 16. A polynucleotide capable of expressing *in vivo* an antisense sequence to a coding sequence for the amino acid sequence defined by SEQ. ID. No.2 or SEQ. ID. No. 4 or a naturally-occurring variant of said coding sequence for use in therapeutic treatment of a human or non-human animal.
- 10 17. An antibody as claimed in claim 8 for use in therapeutic treatment.
18. A set of primers for nucleic acid amplification which target sequences within a cDNA as claimed in claim 4.
- 15 19. A nucleic acid probe derived from a polynucleotide as claimed in any one of claims 3 to 5.
20. A probe as claimed in claim 19 which is attached to a solid support.
- 20 21. A method of predicting responsiveness of a patient to treatment with a Type 1 interferon, which comprises determining the level of the protein defined by the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ. ID. No. 2 or SEQ. ID. No. 4 or a naturally-occurring variant thereof, or the corresponding mRNA, in a cell sample from said patient, wherein said sample is obtained from said patient following  
25 administration of a Type 1 interferon or is treated prior to said determining with a Type 1 interferon *in vitro*.
22. A method as claimed in claim 21 wherein the interferon administered prior to obtaining said sample or used to treat said sample *in vitro* is the interferon  
30 proposed for treatment of said patient.

23. A method as claimed in claim 21 or claim 22 wherein a sample comprising peripheral blood mononuclear cells isolated from a blood sample of the patient is treated with a Type 1 interferon *in vitro*.
- 5 24. A method as claimed in any one of claims 21 to 23 wherein said determining comprises determining the level of mRNA encoding the protein defined by the sequence set forth in SEQ. ID. No. 2 or SEQ. ID. No. 4 or a naturally-occurring variant of said protein.
- 10 25. A non-human transgenic animal capable of expressing a polypeptide that is claimed in claim 1.



gtt gaa tct tta act tgt gga aag atc ttt gca gtg gaa ata ctt gac 392  
 Val Glu Ser Leu Thr Cys Gly Lys Ile Phe Ala Val Glu Ile Leu Asp  
 105 110 115

aaa gct gac att cca ctt gtt gtt ctg tac gat acc tca gga gaa gat 440  
 Lys Ala Asp Ile Pro Leu Val Val Leu Tyr Asp Thr Ser Gly Glu Asp  
 120 125 130

gat atc aat atc aat gcc acc tgc ttg aag gct ata tgt gac aag tca 488  
 Asp Ile Asn Ile Asn Ala Thr Cys Leu Lys Ala Ile Cys Asp Lys Ser  
 135 140 145

cta gag gtt cac ctg cag gtt gac gcc atg tac aca aat gtc aaa gta 536  
 Leu Glu Val His Leu Gln Val Asp Ala Met Tyr Thr Asn Val Lys Val  
 150 155 160 165

act aat att tgc tct gat ggg aca ctc tac tgc cag gtg cct tgt aag 584  
 Thr Asn Ile Cys Ser Asp Gly Thr Leu Tyr Cys Gln Val Pro Cys Lys  
 170 175 180

ggt ctg aac aag ctc agt gac ctt cta cgt aag ata gag gac tac ttc 632  
 Gly Leu Asn Lys Leu Ser Asp Leu Leu Arg Lys Ile Glu Asp Tyr Phe  
 185 190 195

cat tgc aag cac atg acc tct gag tgc ttt gtt tca tta ccc ttc tgt 680  
 His Cys Lys His Met Thr Ser Glu Cys Phe Val Ser Leu Pro Phe Cys  
 200 205 210

ggg aaa atc tgc ctc ttc cat tgc aaa gga aaa tgg tta cga gta gag 728  
 Gly Lys Ile Cys Leu Phe His Cys Lys Gly Lys Trp Leu Arg Val Glu  
 215 220 225

atc aca aat gtt cac agc agc cgg gct ctt gat gtt cag ttc ctg gac 776  
 Ile Thr Asn Val His Ser Ser Arg Ala Leu Asp Val Gln Phe Leu Asp  
 230 235 240 245

tct ggc act gtg aca tct gta aaa gtg tca gag ctc agg gaa att cca 824  
 Ser Gly Thr Val Thr Ser Val Lys Val Ser Glu Leu Arg Glu Ile Pro  
 250 255 260

cct cgg ttt cta caa gaa atg att gca ata cca cct cag gcc att aag 872  
 Pro Arg Phe Leu Gln Glu Met Ile Ala Ile Pro Pro Gln Ala Ile Lys  
 265 270 275

tgc tgt tta gca gat ctt cca caa tct att ggc atg tgg aca cca gat 920  
 Cys Cys Leu Ala Asp Leu Pro Gln Ser Ile Gly Met Trp Thr Pro Asp  
 280 285 290

gca gtg ctg tgg tta aga gat tct gtt ttg aat tgc tgc gac tgt agc 968  
 Ala Val Leu Trp Leu Arg Asp Ser Val Leu Asn Cys Ser Asp Cys Ser  
 295 300 305

att aag gtt aca aaa gtg gat gaa acc aga ggg atc gca cat gtt tat 1016  
 Ile Lys Val Thr Lys Val Asp Glu Thr Arg Gly Ile Ala His Val Tyr  
 310 315 320 325

tta ttt acc cct aag aac ttc cct gac cct cat cgc agt att aat cgc 1064  
 Leu Phe Thr Pro Lys Asn Phe Pro Asp Pro His Arg Ser Ile Asn Arg  
 330 335 340

cag att aca aat gca gac ttg tgg aag cat cag aag gat gtg ttt ttg 1112  
 Gln Ile Thr Asn Ala Asp Leu Trp Lys His Gln Lys Asp Val Phe Leu  
 345 350 355

agt gcc ata tcc agt gga gct gac tct ccc aac agc aaa aat ggc aac 1160  
 Ser Ala Ile Ser Ser Gly Ala Asp Ser Pro Asn Ser Lys Asn Gly Asn  
 360 365 370

atg ccc atg tgc ggc aac act gga gag aat ttc aga aag aac ctc aca 1208  
 Met Pro Met Ser Gly Asn Thr Gly Glu Asn Phe Arg Lys Asn Leu Thr  
 375 380 385

gat gtc atc aaa aag tcc atg gtg gac cat acg agc gct ttc tcc aca 1256  
 Asp Val Ile Lys Lys Ser Met Val Asp His Thr Ser Ala Phe Ser Thr  
 390 395 400 405

gag gaa ctg cca cct cct gtc cac tta tca aag cca ggg gaa cac atg 1304  
 Glu Glu Leu Pro Pro Pro Val His Leu Ser Lys Pro Gly Glu His Met  
 410 415 420

gat gtg tat gtg cct gtg gcc tgt cac cca ggc tac ttc gtc atc cag 1352  
 Asp Val Tyr Val Pro Val Ala Cys His Pro Gly Tyr Phe Val Ile Gln  
 425 430 435

cct tgg cag gag ata cat aag ttg gaa gtt ctg atg gaa gag atg att 1400  
 Pro Trp Gln Glu Ile His Lys Leu Glu Val Leu Met Glu Glu Met Ile  
 440 445 450

cta tat tac agc gtg tct gaa gag cgc cac ata gca gtg gag aaa gac 1448  
 Leu Tyr Tyr Ser Val Ser Glu Glu Arg His Ile Ala Val Glu Lys Asp  
 455 460 465

caa gtg tat gct gca aaa gtg gaa aat aag tgg cac agg gtg ctt tta 1496  
 Gln Val Tyr Ala Ala Lys Val Glu Asn Lys Trp His Arg Val Leu Leu  
 470 475 480 485



Met Glu Asp Glu Met Lys Glu Tyr Tyr Ser Lys Asn Pro Lys Ile Thr  
 1 5 10 15  
 Pro Val Gln Ala Val Asn Val Gly Gln Leu Leu Ala Val Asn Ala Glu  
 20 25 30  
 Glu Asp Ala Trp Leu Arg Ala Gln Val Ile Ser Thr Glu Glu Asn Lys  
 35 40 45  
 Ile Lys Val Cys Tyr Val Asp Tyr Gly Phe Ser Glu Asn Val Glu Lys  
 50 55 60  
 Ser Lys Ala Tyr Lys Leu Asn Pro Lys Phe Cys Ser Leu Ser Phe Gln  
 65 70 75 80  
 Ala Thr Lys Cys Lys Leu Ala Gly Leu Glu Val Leu Ser Asp Asp Pro  
 85 90 95  
 Asp Leu Val Lys Val Val Glu Ser Leu Thr Cys Gly Lys Ile Phe Ala  
 100 105 110  
 Val Glu Ile Leu Asp Lys Ala Asp Ile Pro Leu Val Val Leu Tyr Asp  
 115 120 125  
 Thr Ser Gly Glu Asp Asp Ile Asn Ile Asn Ala Thr Cys Leu Lys Ala  
 130 135 140  
 Ile Cys Asp Lys Ser Leu Glu Val His Leu Gln Val Asp Ala Met Tyr  
 145 150 155 160  
 Thr Asn Val Lys Val Thr Asn Ile Cys Ser Asp Gly Thr Leu Tyr Cys  
 165 170 175  
 Gln Val Pro Cys Lys Gly Leu Asn Lys Leu Ser Asp Leu Leu Arg Lys  
 180 185 190  
 Ile Glu Asp Tyr Phe His Cys Lys His Met Thr Ser Glu Cys Phe Val  
 195 200 205  
 Ser Leu Pro Phe Cys Gly Lys Ile Cys Leu Phe His Cys Lys Gly Lys  
 210 215 220  
 Trp Leu Arg Val Glu Ile Thr Asn Val His Ser Ser Arg Ala Leu Asp  
 225 230 235 240  
 Val Gln Phe Leu Asp Ser Gly Thr Val Thr Ser Val Lys Val Ser Glu  
 245 250 255  
 Leu Arg Glu Ile Pro Pro Arg Phe Leu Gln Glu Met Ile Ala Ile Pro  
 260 265 270

Pro Gln Ala Ile Lys Cys Cys Leu Ala Asp Leu Pro Gln Ser Ile Gly  
 275 280 285

Met Trp Thr Pro Asp Ala Val Leu Trp Leu Arg Asp Ser Val Leu Asn  
 290 295 300

Cys Ser Asp Cys Ser Ile Lys Val Thr Lys Val Asp Glu Thr Arg Gly  
 305 310 315 320

Ile Ala His Val Tyr Leu Phe Thr Pro Lys Asn Phe Pro Asp Pro His  
 325 330 335

Arg Ser Ile Asn Arg Gln Ile Thr Asn Ala Asp Leu Trp Lys His Gln  
 340 345 350

Lys Asp Val Phe Leu Ser Ala Ile Ser Ser Gly Ala Asp Ser Pro Asn  
 355 360 365

Ser Lys Asn Gly Asn Met Pro Met Ser Gly Asn Thr Gly Glu Asn Phe  
 370 375 380

Arg Lys Asn Leu Thr Asp Val Ile Lys Lys Ser Met Val Asp His Thr  
 385 390 395 400

Ser Ala Phe Ser Thr Glu Glu Leu Pro Pro Pro Val His Leu Ser Lys  
 405 410 415

Pro Gly Glu His Met Asp Val Tyr Val Pro Val Ala Cys His Pro Gly  
 420 425 430

Tyr Phe Val Ile Gln Pro Trp Gln Glu Ile His Lys Leu Glu Val Leu  
 435 440 445

Met Glu Glu Met Ile Leu Tyr Tyr Ser Val Ser Glu Glu Arg His Ile  
 450 455 460

Ala Val Glu Lys Asp Gln Val Tyr Ala Ala Lys Val Glu Asn Lys Trp  
 465 470 475 480

His Arg Val Leu Leu Lys Gly Ile Leu Thr Asn Gly Leu Val Ser Val  
 485 490 495

Tyr Glu Leu Asp Tyr Gly Lys His Glu Leu Val Asn Ile Arg Lys Val  
 500 505 510

Gln Pro Leu Val Asp Met Phe Arg Lys Leu Pro Phe Gln Ala Val Thr  
 515 520 525

Ala Gln Leu Ala Gly Val Lys Cys Asn Gln Trp Ser Glu Glu Ala Ser  
 530 535 540

Met Val Phe Arg Asn His Val Glu Lys Lys Pro Leu Val Ala Leu Val  
 545 550 555 560

Gln Thr Val Ile Glu Asn Ala Asn Pro Trp Asp Arg Lys Val Val Val  
 565 570 575

Tyr Leu Val Asp Thr Ser Leu Pro Asp Thr Asp Thr Trp Ile His Asp  
 580 585 590

Phe Met Ser Glu Tyr Leu Ile Glu Leu Ser Lys Val Asn  
 595 600 605

<210> 3  
 <211> 3411  
 <212> DNA  
 <213> Homo Sapiens

<220>  
 <221> CDS  
 <222> (95)..(3391)  
 <223>

<400> 3  
 ccggcggcag gagctgggcc cctggcggag acggcggcag gagctgggcc cagagacgcg 60

gggacgggcc gtgggcccc ggaacgaggc aaag atg ctg gaa gga gat ctg gtt 115  
 Met Leu Glu Gly Asp Leu Val  
 1 5

tca aag atg cta cga gct gtt ctg cag tct cat aag aat gga gta gca 163  
 Ser Lys Met Leu Arg Ala Val Leu Gln Ser His Lys Asn Gly Val Ala  
 10 15 20

tta ccc cgg ctc caa gga gag tac aga tcc ttg act gga gac tgg atc 211  
 Leu Pro Arg Leu Gln Gly Glu Tyr Arg Ser Leu Thr Gly Asp Trp Ile  
 25 30 35

ccc ttc aaa cag cta ggt ttc cct aca cta gaa gcc tat ctg aga agt Pro Phe Lys Gln Leu Gly Phe Pro Thr Leu Glu Ala Tyr Leu Arg Ser 40 45 50 55	259
gtg cca gca gtg gtc agg ata gag act rgt aga tct gga gag att acc Val Pro Ala Val Val Arg Ile Glu Thr Xaa Arg Ser Gly Glu Ile Thr 60 65 70	307
tgc tat gcc atg gcc tgc aca gaa act gca aga att gct cag ctt gtg Cys Tyr Ala Met Ala Cys Thr Glu Thr Ala Arg Ile Ala Gln Leu Val 75 80 85	355
gct cgt caa agg agt tct aaa agg aaa acc ggg cgt caa gtt aat tgt Ala Arg Gln Arg Ser Ser Lys Arg Lys Thr Gly Arg Gln Val Asn Cys 90 95 100	403
cag atg aga gtg aag aaa acc atg cca ttt ttt cta gaa gga aaa cca Gln Met Arg Val Lys Lys Thr Met Pro Phe Phe Leu Glu Gly Lys Pro 105 110 115	451
aaa gca acc ctc aga caa cca gga ttt gct tca aat ttt tct gtt ggc Lys Ala Thr Leu Arg Gln Pro Gly Phe Ala Ser Asn Phe Ser Val Gly 120 125 130 135	499
aaa aaa cct aat cca gca ccg tta aga gac aaa gga aac tct gtt gga Lys Lys Pro Asn Pro Ala Pro Leu Arg Asp Lys Gly Asn Ser Val Gly 140 145 150	547
gtt aag cct gat gct gaa atg tct cct tat atg cta cac aca act ctt Val Lys Pro Asp Ala Glu Met Ser Pro Tyr Met Leu His Thr Thr Leu 155 160 165	595
gga aat gaa gca ttc aaa gac att cca gtg caa agg cat gtg acc atg Gly Asn Glu Ala Phe Lys Asp Ile Pro Val Gln Arg His Val Thr Met 170 175 180	643
tcc acc aac aac agg ttt agc cca aag gcg tcc ctt caa cca cct ttg Ser Thr Asn Asn Arg Phe Ser Pro Lys Ala Ser Leu Gln Pro Pro Leu 185 190 195	691
cag atg cat ctc tca aga acc tct act aag gaa atg agt gat aat tta Gln Met His Leu Ser Arg Thr Ser Thr Lys Glu Met Ser Asp Asn Leu 200 205 210 215	739
aat cag act gtt gaa aaa ccc aat gtc aag cct cct gcc tct tac act Asn Gln Thr Val Glu Lys Pro Asn Val Lys Pro Pro Ala Ser Tyr Thr 220 225 230	787

tat aaa atg gat gag gtt caa aat cgc ata aag gaa ata cta aac aag Tyr Lys Met Asp Glu Val Gln Asn Arg Ile Lys Glu Ile Leu Asn Lys 235 240 245	835
cat aac aat ggc att tgg ata tct aag ctt cca cat ttt tac aaa gag His Asn Asn Gly Ile Trp Ile Ser Lys Leu Pro His Phe Tyr Lys Glu 250 255 260	883
tta tat aaa gaa gac ctt aat caa gga att tta caa cag ttt gaa cac Leu Tyr Lys Glu Asp Leu Asn Gln Gly Ile Leu Gln Gln Phe Glu His 265 270 275	931
tgg cct cat att tgc acg gtg gag aaa cct tgc agt ggt ggc caa gat Trp Pro His Ile Cys Thr Val Glu Lys Pro Cys Ser Gly Gly Gln Asp 280 285 290 295	979
tta ctt ctt tat cca gct aag aga aag cag ctt ttg aga agt gaa ctg Leu Leu Leu Tyr Pro Ala Lys Arg Lys Gln Leu Leu Arg Ser Glu Leu 300 305 310	1027
gat act gag aaa gta cct cta tcc cca cta cct ggt ccc aaa caa aca Asp Thr Glu Lys Val Pro Leu Ser Pro Leu Pro Gly Pro Lys Gln Thr 315 320 325	1075
cca ccg ttg aaa ggg tgt cca aca gtt atg gca gga gac ttt aaa gaa Pro Pro Leu Lys Gly Cys Pro Thr Val Met Ala Gly Asp Phe Lys Glu 330 335 340	1123
aaa gtg gca gac ctg ctg gtg aaa tac aca agt ggc ctt tgg gcc agt Lys Val Ala Asp Leu Leu Val Lys Tyr Thr Ser Gly Leu Trp Ala Ser 345 350 355	1171
gca ctt ccg aaa gca ttt gag gaa atg tac aaa gtg aaa ttc cct gag Ala Leu Pro Lys Ala Phe Glu Glu Met Tyr Lys Val Lys Phe Pro Glu 360 365 370 375	1219
gat gcc tta aaa aat ctt gcc tca ctt tct gat gta tgc agc ata gac Asp Ala Leu Lys Asn Leu Ala Ser Leu Ser Asp Val Cys Ser Ile Asp 380 385 390	1267
tac att tct gga aat ccc cag aag gcc att ctc tat gct aaa ctt cca Tyr Ile Ser Gly Asn Pro Gln Lys Ala Ile Leu Tyr Ala Lys Leu Pro 395 400 405	1315
ttg ccc act gac aaa atc caa aag gat gca ggg caa gca cat ggt gat Leu Pro Thr Asp Lys Ile Gln Lys Asp Ala Gly Gln Ala His Gly Asp 410 415 420	1363

aat gat atc aag gct atg gtt gaa caa gag tat ttg cag gta gaa gaa Asn Asp Ile Lys Ala Met Val Glu Gln Glu Tyr Leu Gln Val Glu Glu 425 430 435	1411
agc att gct gaa agt gct aat acc ttt atg gag gac ata aca gtt cct Ser Ile Ala Glu Ser Ala Asn Thr Phe Met Glu Asp Ile Thr Val Pro 440 445 450 455	1459
cct tta atg att cca act gaa gca tca cca tct gta ttg gtg gtt gaa Pro Leu Met Ile Pro Thr Glu Ala Ser Pro Ser Val Leu Val Val Glu 460 465 470	1507
ctg agc aac aca aat gaa gtg gtt atc agg tat gtg ggc aaa gac tat Leu Ser Asn Thr Asn Glu Val Val Ile Arg Tyr Val Gly Lys Asp Tyr 475 480 485	1555
tct gct gct cag gaa tta atg gaa gat gag atg aag gaa tat tac agt Ser Ala Ala Gln Glu Leu Met Glu Asp Glu Met Lys Glu Tyr Tyr Ser 490 495 500	1603
aag aat cct aag atc aca cca gtc cag gct gtg aat gtt ggg cag ttg Lys Asn Pro Lys Ile Thr Pro Val Gln Ala Val Asn Val Gly Gln Leu 505 510 515	1651
ctg gcc gta aat gcc gag gag gac gcc tgg tta cgg gca cag gtc atc Leu Ala Val Asn Ala Glu Glu Asp Ala Trp Leu Arg Ala Gln Val Ile 520 525 530 535	1699
tca aca gaa gag aac aaa ata aag gta tgc tat gtt gac tat ggt ttt Ser Thr Glu Glu Asn Lys Ile Lys Val Cys Tyr Val Asp Tyr Gly Phe 540 545 550	1747
agt gaa aat gtt gaa aaa agc aaa gca tac aaa tta aac ccg aag ttt Ser Glu Asn Val Glu Lys Ser Lys Ala Tyr Lys Leu Asn Pro Lys Phe 555 560 565	1795
tgt tca ctc tca ttt caa gct aca aaa tgt aag ctt gca ggc ttg gaa Cys Ser Leu Ser Phe Gln Ala Thr Lys Cys Lys Leu Ala Gly Leu Glu 570 575 580	1843
gtc cta agc gat gac cct gat cta gtg aag gtg gtt gaa tct tta act Val Leu Ser Asp Asp Pro Asp Leu Val Lys Val Val Glu Ser Leu Thr 585 590 595	1891
tgt gga aag atc ttt gca gtg gaa ata ctt gac aaa gct gac att cca Cys Gly Lys Ile Phe Ala Val Glu Ile Leu Asp Lys Ala Asp Ile Pro 600 605 610 615	1939

ctt gtt gtt ctg tac gat acc tcr gga gaa gat gat atc aat atc aat Leu Val Val Leu Tyr Asp Thr Xaa Gly Glu Asp Asp Ile Asn Ile Asn 620 625 630	1987
gcc acc tgc ttg aag gct ata tgt gac aag tca cta gag gtt cac ctg Ala Thr Cys Leu Lys Ala Ile Cys Asp Lys Ser Leu Glu Val His Leu 635 640 645	2035
cag gtt gac gcc atg tac aca aat gtc aaa gta act aat att tgc tct Gln Val Asp Ala Met Tyr Thr Asn Val Lys Val Thr Asn Ile Cys Ser 650 655 660	2083
gat ggg aca ctc tac tgc cag gtg cct tgt aag ggt ctg aac aag ctc Asp Gly Thr Leu Tyr Cys Gln Val Pro Cys Lys Gly Leu Asn Lys Leu 665 670 675	2131
agt gac ctt cta cgt aag ata gag gac tac ttc cat tgc aag cac atg Ser Asp Leu Leu Arg Lys Ile Glu Asp Tyr Phe His Cys Lys His Met 680 685 690 695	2179
acc tct gag tgc ttt gtt tca tta ccc ttc tgt ggg aaa atc tgc ctc Thr Ser Glu Cys Phe Val Ser Leu Pro Phe Cys Gly Lys Ile Cys Leu 700 705 710	2227
ttc cat tgc aaa gga aaa tgg tta cga gta gag atc aca aat gtt cac Phe His Cys Lys Gly Lys Trp Leu Arg Val Glu Ile Thr Asn Val His 715 720 725	2275
agc agc cgg gct ctt gat gtt cag ttc ctg gac tct ggc act gtg aca Ser Ser Arg Ala Leu Asp Val Gln Phe Leu Asp Ser Gly Thr Val Thr 730 735 740	2323
tct gta aaa gtg tca gag ctc agg gaa att cca cct cgg ttt cta caa Ser Val Lys Val Ser Glu Leu Arg Glu Ile Pro Pro Arg Phe Leu Gln 745 750 755	2371
gaa atg att gca ata cca cct cag gcc att aag tgc tgt tta gca gat Glu Met Ile Ala Ile Pro Pro Gln Ala Ile Lys Cys Cys Leu Ala Asp 760 765 770 775	2419
ctt cca caa tct att ggc atg tgg aca cca gat gca gtg ctg tgg tta Leu Pro Gln Ser Ile Gly Met Trp Thr Pro Asp Ala Val Leu Trp Leu 780 785 790	2467
aga gat tct gtt ttg aat tgc tcg gac tgt agc att aag gtt aca aaa Arg Asp Ser Val Leu Asn Cys Ser Asp Cys Ser Ile Lys Val Thr Lys 795 800 805	2515

gtg gat gaa acc aga ggg atc gca cat gtt tat tta ttt acc cct aag Val Asp Glu Thr Arg Gly Ile Ala His Val Tyr Leu Phe Thr Pro Lys 810 815 820	2563
aac ttc cct gac cct cat cgc agt att aat cgc cag att aca aat gca Asn Phe Pro Asp Pro His Arg Ser Ile Asn Arg Gln Ile Thr Asn Ala 825 830 835	2611
gac ttg tgg aag cat cag aag gat gtg ttt ttg agt gcc ata tcc agt Asp Leu Trp Lys His Gln Lys Asp Val Phe Leu Ser Ala Ile Ser Ser 840 845 850 855	2659
gga gct gac tct ccc aac agc aaa aat ggc aac atg ccc atg tcg ggc Gly Ala Asp Ser Pro Asn Ser Lys Asn Gly Asn Met Pro Met Ser Gly 860 865 870	2707
aac act gga gag aat ttc aga aag aac ctc aca gat gtc atc aaa aag Asn Thr Gly Glu Asn Phe Arg Lys Asn Leu Thr Asp Val Ile Lys Lys 875 880 885	2755
tcc atg gtg gac cat acg agc gct ttc tcc aca gag gaa ctg cca cct Ser Met Val Asp His Thr Ser Ala Phe Ser Thr Glu Glu Leu Pro Pro 890 895 900	2803
cct gtc cac tta tca aag cca ggg gaa cac atg gat gtg tat gtg cct Pro Val His Leu Ser Lys Pro Gly Glu His Met Asp Val Tyr Val Pro 905 910 915	2851
gtg gcc tgt cac cca ggc tac ttc gtc atc cag cct tgg cag gag ata Val Ala Cys His Pro Gly Tyr Phe Val Ile Gln Pro Trp Gln Glu Ile 920 925 930 935	2899
cat aag ttg gaa gtt ctg atg gaa gag atg att cta tat tac agc gtg His Lys Leu Glu Val Leu Met Glu Glu Met Ile Leu Tyr Tyr Ser Val 940 945 950	2947
tct gaa gag cgc cac ata gca gtg gag aaa gac caa gtg tat gct gca Ser Glu Glu Arg His Ile Ala Val Glu Lys Asp Gln Val Tyr Ala Ala 955 960 965	2995
aaa gtg gaa aat aag tgg cac agg gtg ctt tta aaa gga atc ctg acc Lys Val Glu Asn Lys Trp His Arg Val Leu Leu Lys Gly Ile Leu Thr 970 975 980	3043
aat gga ctg gta tct gtg tat gag ctg gat tat ggc aaa cac gaa tta Asn Gly Leu Val Ser Val Tyr Glu Leu Asp Tyr Gly Lys His Glu Leu 985 990 995	3091

gtc aac ata aga aaa gta cag ccc cta gtg gac atg ttc cga aag 3136  
 Val Asn Ile Arg Lys Val Gln Pro Leu Val Asp Met Phe Arg Lys  
 1000 1005 1010

ctg ccc ttc caa gca gtc aca gct caa ctt gca gga gtg aag tgc 3181  
 Leu Pro Phe Gln Ala Val Thr Ala Gln Leu Ala Gly Val Lys Cys  
 1015 1020 1025

aac cag tgg tct gag gag gct tct atg gtg ttt cga aat cat gtg 3226  
 Asn Gln Trp Ser Glu Glu Ala Ser Met Val Phe Arg Asn His Val  
 1030 1035 1040

gag aag aaa cct ctg gtg gca ctg gtg cag aca gtc att gaa aat 3271  
 Glu Lys Lys Pro Leu Val Ala Leu Val Gln Thr Val Ile Glu Asn  
 1045 1050 1055

gct aac cct tgg gac cgg aaa gta gtg gtc tac tta gtg gac aca 3316  
 Ala Asn Pro Trp Asp Arg Lys Val Val Val Tyr Leu Val Asp Thr  
 1060 1065 1070

tcg ttg cca gac acc gat acc tgg att cat gat ttt atg tca gag 3361  
 Ser Leu Pro Asp Thr Asp Thr Trp Ile His Asp Phe Met Ser Glu  
 1075 1080 1085

tat ctg ata gag ctt tca aaa gtt aat taa tgactgcctc tgaaccttg 3411  
 Tyr Leu Ile Glu Leu Ser Lys Val Asn  
 1090 1095

<210> 4  
 <211> 1098  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Homo sapiens

<220>  
 <221> misc\_feature  
 <222> (65)..(65)  
 <223> The 'Xaa' at location 65 stands for Gly, or Ser.

<220>  
 <221> misc\_feature  
 <222> (623)..(623)  
 <223> The 'Xaa' at location 623 stands for Ser.

<400> 4

Met Leu Glu Gly Asp Leu Val Ser Lys Met Leu Arg Ala Val Leu Gln  
 1 5 10 15

Ser His Lys Asn Gly Val Ala Leu Pro Arg Leu Gln Gly Glu Tyr Arg  
 20 25 30

Ser Leu Thr Gly Asp Trp Ile Pro Phe Lys Gln Leu Gly Phe Pro Thr  
 35 40 45

Leu Glu Ala Tyr Leu Arg Ser Val Pro Ala Val Val Arg Ile Glu Thr  
 50 55 60

Xaa Arg Ser Gly Glu Ile Thr Cys Tyr Ala Met Ala Cys Thr Glu Thr  
 65 70 75 80

Ala Arg Ile Ala Gln Leu Val Ala Arg Gln Arg Ser Ser Lys Arg Lys  
 85 90 95

Thr Gly Arg Gln Val Asn Cys Gln Met Arg Val Lys Lys Thr Met Pro  
 100 105 110

Phe Phe Leu Glu Gly Lys Pro Lys Ala Thr Leu Arg Gln Pro Gly Phe  
 115 120 125

Ala Ser Asn Phe Ser Val Gly Lys Lys Pro Asn Pro Ala Pro Leu Arg  
 130 135 140

Asp Lys Gly Asn Ser Val Gly Val Lys Pro Asp Ala Glu Met Ser Pro  
 145 150 155 160

Tyr Met Leu His Thr Thr Leu Gly Asn Glu Ala Phe Lys Asp Ile Pro  
 165 170 175

Val Gln Arg His Val Thr Met Ser Thr Asn Asn Arg Phe Ser Pro Lys  
 180 185 190

Ala Ser Leu Gln Pro Pro Leu Gln Met His Leu Ser Arg Thr Ser Thr  
 195 200 205

Lys Glu Met Ser Asp Asn Leu Asn Gln Thr Val Glu Lys Pro Asn Val  
 210 215 220

Lys Pro Pro Ala Ser Tyr Thr Tyr Lys Met Asp Glu Val Gln Asn Arg  
 225 230 235 240

Ile Lys Glu Ile Leu Asn Lys His Asn Asn Gly Ile Trp Ile Ser Lys  
 245 250 255

Leu Pro His Phe Tyr Lys Glu Leu Tyr Lys Glu Asp Leu Asn Gln Gly  
 260 265 270

Ile Leu Gln Gln Phe Glu His Trp Pro His Ile Cys Thr Val Glu Lys  
 275 280 285

Pro Cys Ser Gly Gly Gln Asp Leu Leu Leu Tyr Pro Ala Lys Arg Lys  
 290 295 300

Gln Leu Leu Arg Ser Glu Leu Asp Thr Glu Lys Val Pro Leu Ser Pro  
 305 310 315 320

Leu Pro Gly Pro Lys Gln Thr Pro Pro Leu Lys Gly Cys Pro Thr Val  
 325 330 335

Met Ala Gly Asp Phe Lys Glu Lys Val Ala Asp Leu Leu Val Lys Tyr  
 340 345 350

Thr Ser Gly Leu Trp Ala Ser Ala Leu Pro Lys Ala Phe Glu Glu Met  
 355 360 365

Tyr Lys Val Lys Phe Pro Glu Asp Ala Leu Lys Asn Leu Ala Ser Leu  
 370 375 380

Ser Asp Val Cys Ser Ile Asp Tyr Ile Ser Gly Asn Pro Gln Lys Ala  
 385 390 395 400

Ile Leu Tyr Ala Lys Leu Pro Leu Pro Thr Asp Lys Ile Gln Lys Asp  
 405 410 415

Ala Gly Gln Ala His Gly Asp Asn Asp Ile Lys Ala Met Val Glu Gln  
 420 425 430

Glu Tyr Leu Gln Val Glu Glu Ser Ile Ala Glu Ser Ala Asn Thr Phe  
 435 440 445

Met Glu Asp Ile Thr Val Pro Pro Leu Met Ile Pro Thr Glu Ala Ser  
 450 455 460

Pro Ser Val Leu Val Val Glu Leu Ser Asn Thr Asn Glu Val Val Ile  
 465 470 475 480

Arg Tyr Val Gly Lys Asp Tyr Ser Ala Ala Gln Glu Leu Met Glu Asp  
 485 490 495

Glu Met Lys Glu Tyr Tyr Ser Lys Asn Pro Lys Ile Thr Pro Val Gln  
 500 505 510

Ala Val Asn Val Gly Gln Leu Leu Ala Val Asn Ala Glu Glu Asp Ala  
 515 520 525

Trp Leu Arg Ala Gln Val Ile Ser Thr Glu Glu Asn Lys Ile Lys Val  
 530 535 540

Cys Tyr Val Asp Tyr Gly Phe Ser Glu Asn Val Glu Lys Ser Lys Ala  
 545 550 555 560

Tyr Lys Leu Asn Pro Lys Phe Cys Ser Leu Ser Phe Gln Ala Thr Lys  
 565 570 575

Cys Lys Leu Ala Gly Leu Glu Val Leu Ser Asp Asp Pro Asp Leu Val  
 580 585 590

Lys Val Val Glu Ser Leu Thr Cys Gly Lys Ile Phe Ala Val Glu Ile  
 595 600 605

Leu Asp Lys Ala Asp Ile Pro Leu Val Val Leu Tyr Asp Thr Xaa Gly  
 610 615 620

Glu Asp Asp Ile Asn Ile Asn Ala Thr Cys Leu Lys Ala Ile Cys Asp  
 625 630 635 640

Lys Ser Leu Glu Val His Leu Gln Val Asp Ala Met Tyr Thr Asn Val  
 645 650 655

Lys Val Thr Asn Ile Cys Ser Asp Gly Thr Leu Tyr Cys Gln Val Pro  
 660 665 670

Cys Lys Gly Leu Asn Lys Leu Ser Asp Leu Leu Arg Lys Ile Glu Asp  
 675 680 685

Tyr Phe His Cys Lys His Met Thr Ser Glu Cys Phe Val Ser Leu Pro  
 690 695 700

Phe Cys Gly Lys Ile Cys Leu Phe His Cys Lys Gly Lys Trp Leu Arg  
 705 710 715 720

Val Glu Ile Thr Asn Val His Ser Ser Arg Ala Leu Asp Val Gln Phe  
 725 730 735

Leu Asp Ser Gly Thr Val Thr Ser Val Lys Val Ser Glu Leu Arg Glu  
 740 745 750

Ile Pro Pro Arg Phe Leu Gln Glu Met Ile Ala Ile Pro Pro Gln Ala  
 755 760 765

Ile Lys Cys Cys Leu Ala Asp Leu Pro Gln Ser Ile Gly Met Trp Thr  
 770 775 780

Pro Asp Ala Val Leu Trp Leu Arg Asp Ser Val Leu Asn Cys Ser Asp  
 785 790 795 800

Cys Ser Ile Lys Val Thr Lys Val Asp Glu Thr Arg Gly Ile Ala His  
 805 810 815

Val Tyr Leu Phe Thr Pro Lys Asn Phe Pro Asp Pro His Arg Ser Ile  
                   820                                  825                                  830

Asn Arg Gln Ile Thr Asn Ala Asp Leu Trp Lys His Gln Lys Asp Val  
                   835                                  840                                  845

Phe Leu Ser Ala Ile Ser Ser Gly Ala Asp Ser Pro Asn Ser Lys Asn  
                   850                                  855                                  860

Gly Asn Met Pro Met Ser Gly Asn Thr Gly Glu Asn Phe Arg Lys Asn  
 865                                  870                                  875                                  880

Leu Thr Asp Val Ile Lys Lys Ser Met Val Asp His Thr Ser Ala Phe  
                                   885                                  890                                  895

Ser Thr Glu Glu Leu Pro Pro Pro Val His Leu Ser Lys Pro Gly Glu  
                                   900                                  905                                  910

His Met Asp Val Tyr Val Pro Val Ala Cys His Pro Gly Tyr Phe Val  
                   915                                  920                                  925

Ile Gln Pro Trp Gln Glu Ile His Lys Leu Glu Val Leu Met Glu Glu  
                   930                                  935                                  940

Met Ile Leu Tyr Tyr Ser Val Ser Glu Glu Arg His Ile Ala Val Glu  
 945                                  950                                  955                                  960

Lys Asp Gln Val Tyr Ala Ala Lys Val Glu Asn Lys Trp His Arg Val  
                                   965                                  970                                  975

Leu Leu Lys Gly Ile Leu Thr Asn Gly Leu Val Ser Val Tyr Glu Leu  
                                   980                                  985                                  990

Asp Tyr Gly Lys His Glu Leu Val Asn Ile Arg Lys Val Gln Pro Leu  
                   995                                  1000                                  1005

Val Asp Met Phe Arg Lys Leu Pro Phe Gln Ala Val Thr Ala Gln  
                   1010                                  1015                                  1020

Leu Ala Gly Val Lys Cys Asn Gln Trp Ser Glu Glu Ala Ser Met  
                   1025                                  1030                                  1035

Val Phe Arg Asn His Val Glu Lys Lys Pro Leu Val Ala Leu Val  
                   1040                                  1045                                  1050

Gln Thr Val Ile Glu Asn Ala Asn Pro Trp Asp Arg Lys Val Val  
                   1055                                  1060                                  1065

Val Tyr Leu Val Asp Thr Ser Leu Pro Asp Thr Asp Thr Trp Ile  
1070 1075 1080

His Asp Phe Met Ser Glu Tyr Leu Ile Glu Leu Ser Lys Val Asn  
1085 1090 1095

专利名称(译)	干扰素- $\alpha$ 诱导的基因		
公开(公告)号	<a href="#">EP1368458A2</a>	公开(公告)日	2003-12-10
申请号	EP2002701425	申请日	2002-02-26
申请(专利权)人(译)	PHARMA PACIFIC PTY. LTD.		
当前申请(专利权)人(译)	PHARMA PACIFIC PTY. LTD.		
[标]发明人	MERITET JEAN FRANCOIS DRON MICHEL TOVEY MICHAEL GERARD		
发明人	MERITET, JEAN-FRANÇOIS DRON, MICHEL TOVEY, MICHAEL, GERARD		
IPC分类号	A01K67/027 A61K38/00 A61K39/395 A61K48/00 A61P3/10 A61P11/00 A61P19/02 A61P25/00 A61P31/04 A61P31/12 A61P31/18 A61P31/20 A61P31/22 A61P33/00 A61P35/00 A61P35/02 A61P37/02 C07K14/47 C07K16/18 C12N1/15 C12N1/19 C12N1/21 C12N5/10 C12N15/09 C12N15/12 C12P21/02 C12Q1/02 C12Q1/68 G01N33/53 G01N33/566		
CPC分类号	A01K2217/05 A61K38/00 A61P3/10 A61P11/00 A61P19/02 A61P25/00 A61P31/04 A61P31/12 A61P31/18 A61P31/20 A61P31/22 A61P33/00 A61P35/00 A61P35/02 A61P37/02 C07K14/4718		
优先权	2001004706 2001-02-26 GB 2002000619 2002-01-11 GB		
外部链接	<a href="#">Espacenet</a>		

#### 摘要(译)

本发明涉及鉴定通过干扰素- $\alpha$ 给药而上调的基因，其对应于SEQ.ID.NO. 1所示的cDNA序列。ID. No.1和SEQ. ID. 该基因的表达产物的确定被认为可用于预测对干扰素- $\alpha$ 和作用于1型干扰素受体的干扰素的治疗的反应性。还设想了由相同基因编码的蛋白质的治疗用途。