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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: CRYSTALLIZED STRUCTURE OF TYPE IV COLLAGEN NC1 DOMAIN HEXAMER

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1      10      20      30
α1  - - SVDH  FLV  F  F  T  I  D  D  Q  C  B  S  E  K  I  L  H  S  Y  32
α3  A  T  W  T  T  R  F  V  F  F  F  T  T  A  I  S  S  C  L  A  V  P  L  S  E  34
α5  - - SVAH  FLI  F  F  T  T  D  A  Q  C  P  Q  Q  V  L  Q  V  S  E  F  F  32
α2  - - VSI  G  Y  L  V  K  F  F  T  T  D  E  E  P  P  C  L  E  M  N  K  L  W  T  31
α4  - P  G  Y  L  G  F  L  V  L  H  F  F  T  T  C  E  L  E  M  N  K  L  W  T  33
α6  - - M  R  V  G  Y  T  L  V  K  F  F  T  T  D  E  E  P  P  C  L  E  M  S  Q  L  M  V  31
      1
α1  L  G  Y  V  F  Q  A  E  H  Q  A  E  H  A  L  Q  A  C  L  R  K  E  S  T  M  P  E  L  L  C  N  66
α3  L  F  F  V  Q  A  E  H  Q  A  E  H  A  L  Q  A  C  L  R  Q  R  E  S  T  M  P  E  L  L  C  N  68
α5  L  F  Y  V  Q  A  E  H  Q  A  E  H  A  L  Q  A  C  L  R  Q  R  E  S  T  M  P  E  L  L  C  N  66
α2  L  F  Y  F  Q  A  E  H  Q  A  E  H  A  L  A  Q  A  C  L  A  R  R  E  S  T  M  P  E  L  L  C  N  65
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α6  L  F  F  V  Q  A  E  H  Q  A  E  H  A  L  A  Q  A  C  L  P  R  E  S  T  M  P  E  L  L  C  N  67
      2
α1  I  N  N  C  C  C  S  S  S  N  V  N  P  K  S  S  T  T  A  P  L  P  P  S  A  D  I  T  T  E  N  100
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α5  I  N  N  C  C  C  S  S  S  N  V  N  P  K  S  S  T  T  A  P  L  P  P  S  A  D  I  T  T  E  N  100
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α4  I  H  V  C  H  Y  R  S  S  S  N  V  N  P  K  S  S  T  T  A  P  L  P  P  S  A  D  I  T  T  E  N  101
α6  I  N  E  V  C  H  Y  R  S  S  S  N  V  N  P  K  S  S  T  T  A  P  I  P  P  S  A  D  I  T  T  E  N  99
      1
α1  I  R  P  F  I  C  A  V  C  A  G  A  A  M  V  M  H  S  I  D  I  O  P  P  C  S  G  134
α3  L  E  P  Y  T  C  A  V  C  A  G  A  A  I  A  I  H  S  I  D  I  O  P  P  C  H  C  136
α5  I  Q  P  F  T  C  A  V  C  A  G  A  A  V  V  I  H  S  I  D  I  O  P  P  C  H  C  134
α2  I  K  P  Y  T  C  A  V  C  A  G  A  A  I  A  I  H  S  I  D  I  O  P  P  C  H  C  131
α4  I  R  P  Y  V  C  A  S  C  A  S  O  A  V  H  S  I  D  I  O  P  P  C  133
α6  I  P  Q  Y  T  C  A  S  C  A  S  O  A  I  H  S  I  D  I  O  P  P  C  131
      2
α1  S  L  E  F  Y  F  S  E  L  I  M  F  H  F  A  E  S  E  T  A  A  A  S  S  C  C  C  C  C  170
α3  I  E  F  Y  F  S  E  L  I  M  F  H  F  A  E  S  E  T  A  A  A  S  S  C  C  C  C  C  170
α5  I  E  F  Y  F  S  E  L  I  M  F  H  F  A  E  S  E  T  A  A  A  S  S  C  C  C  C  C  168
α2  S  L  E  F  Y  F  S  E  L  I  M  F  H  F  A  E  S  E  T  A  A  A  S  S  C  C  C  C  C  165
α4  S  L  E  F  Y  F  S  E  L  I  M  F  H  F  A  E  S  E  T  A  A  A  S  S  C  C  C  C  C  167
α6  S  L  E  F  Y  F  S  E  L  I  M  F  H  F  A  E  S  E  T  A  A  A  S  S  C  C  C  C  C  165
      5
α1  S  A  P  F  I  C  C  R  R  C  C  Y  Y  A  N  A  N  C  S  T  I  L  I  N  P  S  E  201
α3  S  A  P  F  I  C  C  R  R  C  C  Y  Y  A  N  A  N  C  S  T  I  L  I  N  P  S  E  203
α5  S  A  P  F  I  C  C  R  R  C  C  Y  Y  A  N  A  N  C  S  T  I  L  I  N  P  S  E  201
α2  A  A  A  F  I  C  C  R  R  C  C  Y  Y  A  N  A  N  C  S  T  I  T  T  I  P  E  O  S  F  199
α4  A  A  A  F  I  C  C  R  R  C  C  Y  Y  F  F  A  N  C  S  T  I  T  T  I  V  E  E  R  O  201
α6  A  A  T  F  I  C  S  A  R  C  C  Y  Y  F  F  A  N  C  S  T  I  T  T  I  V  E  E  R  O  199
      6
α1  F  K  - - T  P  S  L  L  A  G  E  L  -  R  T  H  V  - - C  M  R  R  T  -  229
α3  F  R  - - T  P  S  L  L  A  G  E  L  -  R  K  I  I  I  - - C  M  K  K  R  H  232
α5  F  R  S  - - T  P  S  L  L  A  G  E  L  -  R  T  H  I  I  - - C  M  K  K  R  T  -  229
α2  Q  G  S  - - F  T  A  D  D  L  L  A  G  E  L  I  -  R  T  H  I  I  - - C  M  K  N  L  -  227
α4  F  S  S  A  - - A  P  D  L  L  A  G  E  S  O  A  Q  R  Q  K  I  - - C  M  K  Y  S  -  231
α6  F  G  E  L  - - V  S  E  L  L  A  G  Q  L  -  H  T  R  V  - - C  M  K  S  L  -  228
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(57) Abstract: The present invention provides a crystallized NC1 domain hexamer of Type IV collagen, and methods for making the crystal, wherein the NC1 domain hexamer is crystallized such that the three dimensional structure of the crystallized NC1 domain hexamer can be determined to a resolution of at least 3 Å or better. The present invention also provides a method for designing compounds to inhibit angiogenesis, tumor growth, tumor metastasis, endothelial cell adhesion and/or proliferation, and/or basal lamina assembly, comprising analyzing the three dimensional structure of a crystallized Type IV collagen NC1 domain hexamer produced by the methods of the invention, and identifying and synthesizing compounds that target regions of the NC1 domain that have been identified by the analysis as being important for type IV collagen heterotrimer and hexamer assembly. The present invention also provides novel polypeptides designed by the rational drug design methods of the present invention, based on an analysis of the type IV collagen NC1 hexamer structure disclosed herein.

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## Crystallized structure of Type IV Collagen NC1 Domain Hexamer

### **CROSS REFERENCE**

5           This application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial Nos. 60/308,523 filed July 27, 2001; 60/351,289 filed October 29, 2001; 60/366,854 filed March 22, 2002; and 60/385,362 filed June 3, 2002.

### **STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENT INTEREST**

10           This work was supported by Grants DK18381 and DK53763 from the National Institutes of Health, and thus the U.S. government may have certain rights in the invention.

### **FIELD OF THE INVENTION**

15           The present invention relates to the fields of crystallography, molecular biology, protein chemistry, angiogenesis, tumor growth and metastasis, and basement membrane assembly

### **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

20           The basement membrane (basal lamina) is a sheet-like extracellular matrix (ECM), which is a basic component of all tissues. The basal lamina provides for the compartmentalization of tissues, and acts as a filter for substances traveling between tissue compartments. Typically the basal lamina is found closely associated with an epithelium or endothelium in all tissues of an animal, including blood vessels and  
25           capillaries. The basal lamina components are secreted by cells and then self assemble to form an intricate extra-cellular network. The formation of biologically active basal lamina is important to the development and differentiation of the associated cells.

          Type IV collagen has been shown to be a major structural component of basement membranes, and consists of a family of six homologous  $\alpha$  chains,  
30           designated  $\alpha 1(\text{IV})$  through  $\alpha 6(\text{IV})$ . Each  $\alpha$  chain is characterized by a non-

collagenous (NC1) domain at the carboxyl terminus; a long, helical collagenous domain in the middle region; and a 7S collagenous domain at the amino terminus. (Martin, et. al., 1988, Adv. Protein Chem. 39:1-50; Gunwar, et. al. 1991, J. Biol. Chem. 266:14088-14094). Three  $\alpha$  chains assemble into triple helical molecules, the  
5 “heterotrimer.” The heterotrimer, once formed in the endoplasmic lumen, is secreted into the extracellular space, where two such heterotrimers assemble into a hexamer via C-terminal interactions, and then into a supramolecular network through N-terminal associations. The NC1 domains play the dominant role in this assembly, by determining the C-terminal dimeric association, leading to hexamer assembly.

10 The chain composition, and thus the properties of type IV collagen networks, are influenced by two factors. First, the chain composition of networks is limited by chain availability: the six  $\alpha$  chains show a tissue-specific expression pattern, with the  $\alpha 1$  and  $\alpha 2$  chains being ubiquitous, and the  $\alpha 3$ - $\alpha 6$  chains having a more restricted tissue distribution. Second, the NC1 domain confers specificity to the chain-specific  
15 assembly of networks. Thus, as yet unidentified recognition sequences must exist within the NC1 domain that direct the selection of chains to form triple helical protomers, and that direct triple helical protomers to form hexamers and, thus, collagen networks. While numerous type IV collagen hexamers are theoretically possible that differ in kind and  $\alpha$  chain stoichiometry, only three have been identified:  
20  $[\alpha 1_2\alpha 2]_2$ ,  $[\alpha 3\alpha 4\alpha 5]_2$ , and  $[(\alpha 1_2\alpha 2)(\alpha 5_2\alpha 6)]$ .

Angiogenesis, the process of formation of new blood vessels, plays an important role in physiological processes such as embryonic and postnatal development, as well as in wound repair. Formation of blood vessels can also be induced by pathological processes involving inflammation (e.g., diabetic retinopathy  
25 and arthritis) or neoplasia (e.g., cancer) (Folkman, 1985, Perspect, Biol. Med., 29, 10). Neovascularization is regulated by angiogenic growth factors secreted by tumor or normal cells as well as by the composition of the extracellular matrix and the activity of endothelial enzymes (Nicosia and Ottinetti, 1990, Lab. Invest., 63, 115).

30 A common feature of all solid tumor growth is the requirement for a blood supply. Therefore, numerous laboratories have focused on developing anti-angiogenic compounds based on growth factors and their receptors. While this approach has led to some success, the number of growth factors known to play a role in angiogenesis is large. Therefore, the possibility exists that growth factor antagonists may have only limited use in treating cancer, since tumors and associated

inflammatory cells likely produce a wide variety of factors that can induce angiogenesis.

In this regard, a strategy that targets a common feature of angiogenesis, such as endothelial cell adhesion to the extracellular matrix (ECM), might be expected to have a profound physiological impact on tumor growth in humans. This notion is supported by the fact that antagonists of specific ECM cell adhesion receptors such as  $\alpha v\beta 3$  and  $\alpha v\beta 5$  integrins can block angiogenesis. Furthermore, the  $\alpha v\beta 3$  integrin is expressed most prominently on cytokine-activated endothelial and smooth muscle cells, and has been shown to be required for angiogenesis. (Varner et al., Cell Adhesion and Communication 3:367-374 (1995); Brooks et al., Science 264:569-571 (1994)). Based on these findings, a potentially powerful new approach to anti-angiogenic therapy is to specifically target critical regulatory domains within distinct ECM components.

Specific type IV collagen  $\alpha(IV)$  NC1 domains have been demonstrated to be effective inhibitors of angiogenesis, tumor growth, tumor metastasis, cell binding to basement membranes, and assembly of Type IV collagen molecules (see, for example, U.S. Patent Nos. 5,691,182; 5,856,184; 6,361,994; and 6,358,735). Despite the above, it would be of significant value to the art to identify further compounds capable of inhibiting these processes.

It is therefore highly desirable to provide a method of deducing the crystal structure of type IV collagen NC1 domains, and of providing a method of using this structure to design compounds that inhibit assembly of the type IV collagen heterotrimer and/or the type IV collagen hexamer.

## **SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

In one aspect, the present invention provides a crystallized NC1 domain hexamer of Type IV collagen, and methods for making the crystal, wherein the NC1 domain hexamer is crystallized such that the three dimensional structure of the crystallized NC1 domain hexamer can be determined to a resolution of at least 3 Å or better.

In another aspect, the present invention provides a method for designing compounds to inhibit angiogenesis, tumor growth, tumor metastasis, endothelial cell adhesion and/or proliferation, and/or basal lamina assembly, comprising analyzing the

three dimensional structure of a crystallized Type IV collagen NC1 domain hexamer produced by the methods of the invention, and identifying and synthesizing compounds that target regions of the NC1 domain that have been identified by the analysis as being important for type IV collagen heterotrimer and hexamer assembly.

5 Such compounds can be used to inhibit angiogenesis, tumor growth, tumor metastasis, endothelial cell adhesion and/or proliferation, and basal lamina assembly.

In another aspect, the present invention provides novel polypeptides designed by the rational drug design methods of the present invention, based on an analysis of the type IV collagen NC1 hexamer structure disclosed herein. As a result of the information available from the crystal structure, it is possible to predict individual NC1 domain sequences that are critical for assembly of the type IV collagen heterotrimer and/or hexamer. Thus, it is also possible to design therapeutic polypeptides that will interfere with those interactions, and to inhibit assembly of the type IV collagen heterotrimer and/or the type IV collagen hexamer. Such therapeutic polypeptides can be used to inhibit or disrupt type IV collagen assembly, and thus are useful to inhibit angiogenesis, angiogenesis-mediated disorders, tumor growth, tumor metastasis, endothelial cell adhesion and/or proliferation, and basal lamina assembly.

### Brief Description of the Figures

20 **Figure 1.** Alignment of six human  $\alpha$ NC1 chains grouped as  $\alpha$ 1-like (1, 3, & 5) and  $\alpha$ 2-like (2, 4, & 6) families. The cysteine pairs intrachain disulfides are labeled with identical numbers at the bottom. Six segments that form the trimer-trimer interface are boxed and three major segments at the monomer-monomer are highlighted with larger font size. The most important segments forming generic and specific interactions are identified at the bottom with darkly shaded bars, respectively.

**Figure 2.**(a)  $\alpha$ 1 chains and (b)  $\alpha$ 2 chains. Secondary structural elements are assigned based on the crystal structure. Both  $\alpha$ 1 and  $\alpha$ 2 structures contain  $\beta$ -strands  $\beta$ 1- $\beta$ 10 and  $\beta$ 1'- $\beta$ 10' and a  $3_{10}$  helices g1 and g1'. The differences in secondary structures are a  $3_{10}$  helix in  $\alpha$ 1 and  $\beta$ -strand  $\beta$ p' in  $\alpha$ 2 at the equivalent regions in the two sequences. The partner of  $\beta$ p' strand of  $\alpha$ 2 chain is in one of the two  $\alpha$ 1 chains. The corresponding region in  $\alpha$ 2 and the other  $\alpha$ 1 chains are extended structures. These regions marked by boxes. The secondary structures were from PROCHECK(61).

**Figure 3.** Stereo diagram of deduced NC1 hexamer structure. The trimer-trimer interface (“Equatorial Plane”), collagen triple helical junction, and pseudo 3-fold axis or triple helix axis (“Polar Axis”) are identified. The two trimers are related by a 2-fold NCS axis perpendicular to the polar axis and plane of the paper. This figure and  
5 Figs. 5, 8, 9 and 10b were made using SETOR (45).

**Figure 4.** (a) Illustration of  $\alpha 1$  monomer structure in the hexamer. Four  $\beta$ -sheet regions are identified as I, II, II' and II and three short  $3_{10}$  helices are also shown.

**Figure 5.** Topology diagram of NC1 trimer depicting interchain and intrachain 3D domain swapping interactions (generic assembly) and chain interfaces with different  
10 secondary structural elements (specific assembly). The secondary structural elements are labeled only for  $\alpha 1A$  chain. The  $\beta$ -sheets, I & II in the N-subdomain and I' & II' in the C-subdomain are identified. Each subdomain has 10  $\beta$ -strands ( $\beta 1$ - $\beta 10$  and  $\beta 1'$ - $\beta 10'$ ) and two short  $3_{10}$  ( $g1$  and  $g2'$ ) helices. Additionally there are distinct secondary structures at the three interfaces—a parallel  $\beta$ -sheet ( $\beta p$ - $\beta p'$ ) at  $\alpha 1B$ - $\alpha 2$  interface and  
15 a  $3_{10}$  helix ( $g1'$ ) and extended structure at  $\alpha 1A$ - $\alpha 1B$  and  $\alpha 2$ - $\alpha 1A$  interfaces.

**Figure 6.** a) Generic interactions in the trimer. Six-strand  $\beta$ -sheets formed by interchain and intrachain 3D domain swapping interactions form the major force in the trimer organization. The sheets belonging to subdomains are shown in boxes to highlight such interactions. Central  $\beta$  barrel-like core, shown inside the circle, also  
20 plays a role in packing and stabilizing this scaffold. (b) Unique secondary structures and prominent side chain interactions at the three interfaces are shown. The  $\alpha 1b$ - $\alpha 2$  interface has more number of hydrogen bonds than the other interfaces.

**Figure 7.** Trimer-trimer interface. Comparison of essential hydrogen bonding interactions in the interface at “core” (Figure 7A), “outer” (Figure 7B) and major-minor junction (Figure 7C) for  $\alpha 1$ - $\alpha 1$  and  $\alpha 1$ - $\alpha 2$  dimers (see text for details).  
25

### Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiments

Within this application, unless otherwise stated, the techniques utilized may be found in any of several well-known references such as: *Molecular Cloning: A  
30 Laboratory Manual* (Sambrook, et al., 1989, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press), *Gene Expression Technology* (Methods in Enzymology, Vol. 185, edited by D. Goeddel, 1991. Academic Press, San Diego, CA), “Guide to Protein Purification” in *Methods in Enzymology* (M.P. Deutshcer, ed., (1990) Academic Press, Inc.); *PCR*

*Protocols: A Guide to Methods and Applications* (Innis, et al. 1990. Academic Press, San Diego, CA), *Culture of Animal Cells: A Manual of Basic Technique, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.* (R.I. Freshney. 1987. Liss, Inc. New York, NY), and *Gene Transfer and Expression Protocols*, pp. 109-128, ed. E.J. Murray, The Humana Press Inc., Clifton, N.J.).

5           Type IV collagens are synthesized and assembled as heterotrimers inside the cells, which are then secreted extracellularly where hexamer assembly, and subsequent basement membrane (basal lamina) assembly, occurs.

          The present work has elucidated the structure of the type IV collagen  $[(\alpha 1)_2(\alpha 2)]_2$  NC1 hexamer. Knowledge of this structure has utility in the design of  
10       compounds that can inhibit assembly of type IV collagen heterotrimers and hexamers, and thus are beneficial in the inhibition of angiogenesis, angiogenesis-mediated disorders, tumor growth, tumor metastasis, endothelial cell adhesion and/or proliferation, and basal lamina assembly.

          Knowledge of the structure of the type IV collagen  $[(\alpha 1)_2(\alpha 2)]_2$  NC1 hexamer  
15       structure provided by the present invention also has utility in the design of compounds that promote heterotrimer and hexamer assembly by providing tools and reagents for increasing the understanding of type IV collagen assembly, and thus also of basal lamina/basement membrane structure and function in general.

          In one aspect, the present invention is directed to the three-dimensional  
20       structure of an isolated and purified type IV collagen  $[(\alpha 1)_2(\alpha 2)]_2$  NC1 domain hexamer ("hexamer"), such that the three dimensional structure of the crystallized type IV collagen  $[(\alpha 1)_2(\alpha 2)]_2$  NC1 hexamer can be determined to a resolution of 3.0 Å or better, preferably 2.2 Å or better, and most preferably 2.0 Å or better, and wherein the crystals are of space group P2<sub>1</sub>, with an approximate a=129.41 Å;  
25       approximate b=143.87 Å; approximate c=162.92 Å; and approximate  $\beta=91.3^\circ$  at room temperature and 4 hexamers in the asymmetric unit. Alternatively, the crystal has an approximate a=127.16 Å; approximate b=139.57 Å; approximate c=160.20 Å; and approximate  $\beta=91.3^\circ$  and 4 hexamers in the asymmetric unit. In a further alternative, the crystals may have an approximate a=79.79 Å; approximate b= 137.20 Å;  
30       approximate c= 126.69 Å; and approximate  $\beta=90.3^\circ$  at room temperature and 2 hexamers in the asymmetric unit.

          In another aspect, the invention provides a method for crystallizing a type IV collagen  $[(\alpha 1)_2(\alpha 2)]_2$  NC1 hexamer to a resolution of less than about 3.0 Å or better, preferably 2.2 Å or better, and most preferably 2.0 Å or better, wherein the type IV

collagen  $[(\alpha 1)_2(\alpha 2)]_2$  NC1 hexamer is present at a concentration of about 0.5 mg/ml to about 50 mg/ml, more preferably from about 1 mg/ml to about 15 mg/ml and most preferably about 10 mg/ml, and the crystallization takes place at 4°C to 32° C, more preferably from 10°C to 26°C, even more preferably at about 16° to 24°C, and even more preferably 20° C, to thereby obtain crystals of space group P2<sub>1</sub>. The crystals may have an approximate a=129.41 Å; approximate b=143.87 Å; approximate c=162.92 Å; and approximate  $\beta=91.3^\circ$  at room temperature and 4 hexamers in the asymmetric unit. Alternatively, cryocooling of the crystals may yield a crystal with an approximate a=127.16 Å; approximate b=139.57 Å; approximate c=160.20 Å; and approximate  $\beta=91.3^\circ$  and 4 hexamers in the asymmetric unit. In a further alternative, the crystals may have an approximate a=79.79Å; approximate b= 137.20 Å; approximate c= 126.69 Å; and approximate  $\beta=90.3^\circ$  at room temperature and 2 hexamers in the asymmetric unit.

The crystallization, in one embodiment, may occur using hanging drops and the vapor diffusion method over 10% (w/v) PEG 20K. Alternatively, other crystallization methods may be used. For instance, a temperature variation may be used to produce crystals, or crystallization in space may be used to improve resolution. The crystallization, in another embodiment, may occur over 20% PEG 3350. In addition, other chemicals can be used in the place of PEG 20K or 3350. For instance, organic chemicals (e.g. isopropanol), inorganic chemicals (e.g. (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, NaH<sub>2</sub> PO<sub>4</sub>), and other molecular weight PEG may be used. Further details of the method are as described below.

In a further aspect, the present invention provides a method for determining the three dimensional structure of the crystallized type IV collagen  $[(\alpha 1)_2(\alpha 2)]_2$  NC1 hexamer, comprising the steps of crystallizing the type IV collagen  $[(\alpha 1)_2(\alpha 2)]_2$  NC1 hexamer as described above, and then analyzing the type IV collagen  $[(\alpha 1)_2(\alpha 2)]_2$  NC1 hexamer to determine its three dimensional structure. In a preferred embodiment, the analyzing is by x-ray diffraction. Data sets generated from the diffraction analysis can be analyzed using any appropriate software, including but not limited to the DENZO and SCALEPACK programs of the HKL2000 suite (39), the SOLVE program (40), the RESOLVE (41) program, and/or the FFT program of CCP4 suite (42). Tracing of the polypeptides from the resulting analysis can be accomplished using any suitable software, including but not limited to the TOM FRODO graphics program (43). The final structure analysis can be accomplished

using any appropriate software, including but not limited to SETOR(45), GRASP(46), and SURFNET(47) graphics software packages, various utility programs in the CCP4 suite, and HBPLUS(48) and protein-protein interaction web server (<http://www.biochem.ucl.ac.uk/bsm/PP/server/>).

5 By analyzing the three-dimensional structure of the type IV collagen  $[(\alpha 1)_2(\alpha 2)]_2$  hexamer, one of skill in the art can determine the critical sites for type IV collagen NC1 domain heterotrimer and hexamer assembly, as described below.

Another aspect of the invention is to use the three-dimensional structure of the type IV collagen  $[(\alpha 1)_2(\alpha 2)]_2$  hexamer to solve the three-dimensional structure of a  
10 different type IV collagen NC1 domain hexamer crystal, or crystal of a mutant, homologue or co-complex of type IV collagen NC1 domain hexamer.

A further aspect of this invention is to use the three-dimensional structure of type IV collagen  $[(\alpha 1)_2(\alpha 2)]_2$  hexamer to design inhibitors of the assembly of heterotrimers and hexamers of type IV collagen, including the type IV collagen  
15  $[(\alpha 1)_2(\alpha 2)]_2$  NC1 hexamer. These inhibitors may be used as therapeutics to inhibit undesired angiogenesis, angiogenesis-mediated disorders, tumor growth, tumor metastasis, endothelial cell adhesion and/or proliferation, and basal lamina assembly. This embodiment comprises:

(a) obtaining crystals of an NC1 hexamer of type IV collagen, wherein the  
20 crystal comprises an  $[(\alpha 1)_2(\alpha 2)]_2$  NC1 hexamer of type IV collagen, wherein the crystal consists of space groups  $P2_1$  with approximate  $a =$  between 127.16 Å and 129.41 Å,  $b =$  between 139.57 Å and 143.87 Å;  $c =$  between 160.20 Å and 162.92 Å;  $\beta = 91.3^\circ$ , such that the three-dimensional structure of the crystallized NC1 domain hexamer can be determined to a resolution of 3 Å or better;

25 (b) analyzing the three-dimensional structure of the crystallized NC1 domain hexamer of type IV collagen; and

(c) designing a potential inhibitor of type IV collagen assembly that targets one or more regions of a type IV collagen NC1  $\alpha$  chain selected from the group consisting of:

- 30 (i) Inter-chain domain swapping region;  
(ii) Intra-chain domain swapping region;  
(iii) Specificity region;  
(iv) Specificity region partner;

- (v) Hexamer interface;
- (vi) Monomer-monomer interface; and
- (vii) Hypervariable region.

As used herein "target" or "targeting" refers to compounds that will interact  
5 with this region, via covalent or non-covalent means. The definitions of the various regions are discussed below.

As discussed above, the NC1 domains drive the selection process for type IV collagen chain assembly, and thus analysis of NC1 domain assembly correlates with type IV collagen assembly. Furthermore, given the high degree of homology of the  
10 different NC1 domains, analysis of the  $[(\alpha 1)_2(\alpha 2)]_2$  NC1 hexamer crystal structure provides insights into the structure of other hexamer types, as well as inhibitors of such assembly.

As used herein, "inhibiting assembly of heterotrimers and hexamers of type IV collagen" means to inhibit initial assembly of such heterotrimers and/or hexamers,  
15 or to disrupt the assembly of already assembled heterotrimers and hexamers of type IV collagen NC1 domains. In a highly preferred embodiment, the therapeutic compounds identified herein inhibit the initial assembly of such heterotrimers and/or hexamers of type IV collagen NC1 domains.

The inhibitors can comprise peptides, or antibodies directed against peptides  
20 derived from the critical regions that would be expected to interfere with type IV collagen heterotrimer and/or hexamer assembly. Alternatively, small molecules that are identified based on their potential to inhibit such assembly. Electronic screening of large, structurally diverse compound libraries, such as the Available Chemical Directory (ACD) can identify new structural classes of such modulators that would be  
25 expected to interact with the identified critical regions. Additionally, knowledge of the type IV collagen  $[(\alpha 1)_2(\alpha 2)]_2$  NC1 hexamer structure permits "de novo design" of compounds to inhibit assembly of any type IV collagen NC1 domain heterotrimers and/or hexamers.

Potential inhibitors can be examined *in silico* through the use of computer  
30 modeling, using a docking program such as GRAM, DOCK, or AUTODOCK [Dunbrack et al., 1997, supra]. These procedures can include computer fitting of candidate compounds to the type IV collagen  $[(\alpha 1)_2(\alpha 2)]_2$  NC1 hexamer to predict how the shape and chemical structure of the candidate compound will interfere with assembly of the type IV collagen heterotrimer and/or hexamer. Computer programs

can also be used to estimate the attraction, repulsion, and steric hindrance of the candidate compound to the relevant binding site on the type IV collagen  $[(\alpha 1)_2(\alpha 2)]_2$  hexamer. Generally the tighter the fit (e.g., the lower the steric hindrance, and/or the greater the attractive force), the more potent the candidate compound will be, and the less likely that the candidate compound will induce significant side effects due to unwanted interactions with other proteins.

Potential small molecule inhibitors can be obtained, for example, by screening random peptide libraries produced, for example, in recombinant bacteriophage (Scott and Smith, *Science*, 249:386-390 (1990); Cwirla et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.*, 87:6378-6382 (1990); Devlin et al., *Science*, 249:404-406 (1990)), or a combinatorial chemical library. Candidate compounds selected in this manner can be systematically modified by computer modeling programs until one or more promising candidate compounds are identified. Such analysis has been shown to be effective, for example, in the development of HIV protease inhibitors (Lam et al., *Science* 263:380-384 (1994); Wlodawer et al., *Ann. Rev. Biochem.* 62:543-585 (1993); Appelt, *Perspectives in Drug Discovery and Design* 1:23-48 (1993); Erickson, *Perspectives in Drug Discovery and Design* 1:109-128 (1993)).

Such computer modeling allows the selection of a finite number of rational chemical modifications, as opposed to the countless number of essentially random chemical modifications that could be made. Thus, the use of the three-dimensional structure disclosed herein, in conjunction with computer modeling, enables rapid screening *in silico*, which dramatically increases screening speed and efficiency.

Once such candidate compounds are identified, they are chemically synthesized, and their biological activity is assayed, as discussed below. For those compounds that show activity, they can be complexed with the type IV collagen  $[(\alpha 1)_2(\alpha 2)]_2$  NC1 hexamer crystal for further X-ray diffraction analysis to map the interactions of the compound with the crystal structure. The three-dimensional structure of the supplemental crystal can be determined by Molecular Replacement Analysis, which involves using a known three-dimensional structure as a search model to determine the structure of a closely related molecule or protein-ligand complex in a new crystal form. The measured X-ray diffraction properties of the new crystal are compared with the search model structure to compute the position and orientation of the protein in the new crystal. Using this approach, it is possible to use the structure of the type IV collagen  $[(\alpha 1)_2(\alpha 2)]_2$  NC1 hexamer disclosed herein to

solve the three-dimensional structures of any such type IV collagen hexamer or co-complex.

### Functional Assays

5           Any assay that can be used to test the effect of the candidate compounds on the in vitro or in vivo assembly of type IV collagen heterotrimers and/or hexamers can be used to verify the efficacy of the candidate compounds identified by the methods of the invention. Furthermore, any assay that can be used to test the effect of the candidate compounds on angiogenesis, tumor growth, tumor metastasis, and  
10 endothelial cell adhesion and/or motility can be used to verify their inhibitory activity. Such assays include, but are not limited to, the following.

### Assembly assay

          In one example, the methods employed are as described in Boutaud et al., JBC  
15 275 (39):30716-30724 (2000). Native GBM hexamers are isolated by standard methods and dissociated by dilution (<50  $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ ) into a solution of 50 mM formic acid buffered at pH 3.0 with Tris base. Under these conditions, complete dissociation to NC1 monomers and dimers occurs, as can be verified by HPLC or FPLC gel filtration. The absence of salt from the buffer is optimal for complete hexamer  
20 dissociation. Reassembly of the dissociated NC1 domains is performed by changing the buffer to Tris-buffered saline (50mM Tris, pH 7.4, 150mM NaCl) by repeated dilution-concentration cycles. After incubating the NC1 domains at a concentration of about 1 mg/ml for 24 hours at room temperature, in the presence or absence of the candidate compounds at a desired concentration(s), the reaction products are  
25 separated according to their molecular weights using gel filtration chromatography. Quantification of the relative amounts of the various species in the mixture is done by peak area analysis from the HPLC profiles. Hexamer assembly from purified  $\alpha 1\text{-}\alpha 6$  NC1 domains is carried out similarly.

          In all experiments, the ratio of the NC1 domains in the association mixture is  
30 preferably kept at 1:1. The isolated NC1 hexamers can subsequently be analyzed for composition by immunoprecipitation followed by Western blotting; for overall appearance (size and shape) by electron microscopy; and for molecular weight by sedimentation equilibrium ultracentrifugation.

### **In Vitro Effect on Angiogenesis**

With modifications, the procedures of Nicosia and Ottinetti, (1990, Lab. Invest., 63, 115) and Nicosia, et. al. (1994, Exp. Biology, 164, 197-206) are utilized for experiments designed to test the effect of the drug candidates on angiogenesis under *in vitro* conditions. The model has been used to study the effects of growth factors and extracellular matrix molecules on the angiogenic response, and employs aortic ring cultures in three-dimensional collagen gels under serum-free conditions.

Experiments are performed with 1-3 month old Swiss Webster male mice. Following anesthesia, the thoracic aorta is excised under aseptic conditions and transferred to sterile MCDB 131 sterile growth medium (Clonetics, San Diego, CA) containing antibiotics. Fat is dissected away from the aorta and approximately six to eight 1 mm thoracic segments are obtained from each specimen. Segments are transferred to 48 well tissue culture plates. The wells of these plates are layered with 100 microliters of Matrigel™ (EHS basement membrane, Collaborative Biomedical Products, Bedford, MA) prior to transfer of the aortic segments. The Matrigel™ is diluted 1:1 with MCDB 131 growth medium prior to use. The segments are centered in the wells and an additional 100 microliters of Matrigel™ is then placed over the specimens. The aortic segments are therefore embedded in the basement membrane matrix. Each well then receives 300 microliters of MCDB 131 growth medium. The plates are placed in an incubator maintained at 37° C with 5% CO<sub>2</sub>. Specimens are observed daily over a 7 day period. Newly growing microvessels are counted using an inverted phase microscope at various times during the culture period. To test for the effect of drug candidates on angiogenesis, the drug candidates are mixed with the Matrigel™ and with the MCDB 131 growth medium, and the growth of microvessels from the cultured tissue into the matrix is analyzed.

### **Subcutaneous fibrin implant angiogenesis**

The drug candidates are injected intravenously into rats containing fibrin implants surgically placed subcutaneously, a modified version of the method described by Dvorak et al. ( Lab. Invest. 57(6):673-686 (1987)). For example, rats are given tail vein injections of either control, or various concentrations of the drug candidates. The implants are then removed at appropriate times, and directly analyzed

using an inverted microscope. The analysis involved counting the number of blood vessels per implant that grow into the fibrin in the control and experimental group.

#### **Chick embryo CAM angiogenesis assay**

5           Angiogenesis is induced in the CAMs of 10 day old chick embryos with bFGF as described (Brooks et al., Cell 92:391-400 (1998)). Twenty four hours later, the embryos are systemically treated with various concentrations of the drug candidates, in a total volume of 100  $\mu$ l of sterile phosphate buffered saline (PBS). Two days later, the embryos are sacrificed and the filter discs and CAM tissues removed.  
10          Angiogenesis is quantitated by counting the number of angiogenic blood vessel branch points in the confined area of the filter disc. The Angiogenic Index is defined as the number of branch points from experimental treatment minus control treatment.

#### **Chick embryo tumor growth assay**

15           Briefly, single cell suspensions of distinct tumor types are applied to the CAM of 10 day old chick embryos. The tumors may include, for example, CS-1 Melanoma cells, HT1080 human fibrosarcoma cells, and Hep-3 human epidermoid carcinoma cells. The embryos are injected systemically with varying concentrations of the drug candidates 24 hours later. The embryos are allowed to incubate for a total of 7 days,  
20          at which time they are sacrificed. The resulting tumors are resected and wet weights determined compared to control.

#### **Immobilized NC1 domains support human endothelial cell adhesion**

25           In order for new blood vessels to form, endothelial cells must have the capacity to adhere and migrate through the ECM. Moreover, this endothelial cell-ECM interaction may facilitate signal transduction events required for new blood vessel formation. Therefore, the ability of drug candidates to support endothelial cell attachment can be assessed.

30           Microtiter plates are coated with varying amounts of the drug candidates, followed by incubation with 1% bovine serum albumin (BSA) to block non-specific interactions. Endothelial cells, such as human ECV304 cells, are then allowed to attach to the immobilized polypeptides for varying time periods. Non-adherent cells are removed by washing and attached cells are quantified by measuring the optical density of crystal violet eluted from attached cells.

**In vitro Endothelial Cell Migration**

Invasive cellular processes, such as angiogenesis and tumor metastasis, also require cellular motility. Thus, the ability of the drug candidates to support human endothelial cell migration can be tested in vitro. These experiments are conducted essentially according to the methods in Brooks et al., J. Clin. Invest. 99:1390-1398 (1997).

**In vivo Endothelial Cell Migration**

The ability of the drug candidates to support human endothelial cell migration can be tested in vivo. For example, drug candidates can be tested in the metastatic Lewis lung mouse tumor model using a standard protocol which is considered to be a good model of both metastasis and angiogenesis of lung tumors. (See for example, Teicher et al., Anticancer Res. 18:2567-2573 (1998); Guibaud et al., Anticancer Drugs 8:276-282 (1997); Anderson et al., Cancer Res. 56:715-718 (1996)).

Drug candidates are administered intravenously once every 2 days for a desired number of doses starting one day after tumor inoculation. All animals are weighed twice a week throughout the study. Starting one day after the last treatment, 1 or more mice are periodically sacrificed from each control group to measure pulmonary tumor burden. The experiment is terminated when the lungs of control animals have sufficient tumor mass to provide meaningful evaluation. At that time, the lungs of all remaining animals are excised, weighed, and the number of tumor foci greater than 2 mm in diameter counted.

In another aspect, the present invention provides an inhibitor of type IV collagen assembly identified by any of the methods described above.

In another aspect, the present invention provides an inhibitor of one or more process selected from the group consisting of angiogenesis, tumor growth, tumor metastasis, endothelial cell adhesion, endothelial cell proliferation, and basal lamina assembly, identified by any of the methods described above.

In another aspect, the present invention provides novel polypeptides that can be used to inhibit or disrupt type IV collagen assembly, and thus are useful to inhibit angiogenesis, angiogenesis-mediated disorders, tumor growth, tumor metastasis, endothelial cell adhesion and/or proliferation, and basal lamina assembly.

The term "polypeptide" is used in its broadest sense to refer to a compound of two or more subunit amino acids, amino acid analogs, or peptidomimetics. The subunits are linked by peptide bonds. The polypeptides described herein may be chemically synthesized or recombinantly expressed.

5 Preferably, the polypeptides of the present invention are chemically synthesized. Synthetic polypeptides, prepared using the well known techniques of solid phase, liquid phase, or peptide condensation techniques, or any combination thereof, can include natural and unnatural amino acids. Amino acids used for peptide synthesis may be standard Boc (N $\alpha$ -amino protected N $\alpha$ -t-butyloxycarbonyl) amino  
10 acid resin with the standard deprotecting, neutralization, coupling and wash protocols of the original solid phase procedure of Merrifield (1963, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 85:2149-2154), or the base-labile N $\alpha$ -amino protected 9-fluorenylmethoxycarbonyl (Fmoc) amino acids first described by Carpino and Han (1972, J. Org. Chem. 37:3403-3409). Both Fmoc and Boc N $\alpha$ -amino protected amino acids can be obtained from Sigma,  
15 Cambridge Research Biochemical, or other chemical companies familiar to those skilled in the art. In addition, the polypeptides can be synthesized with other N $\alpha$ -protecting groups that are familiar to those skilled in this art.

Solid phase peptide synthesis may be accomplished by techniques familiar to those in the art and provided, for example, in Stewart and Young, 1984, Solid Phase  
20 Synthesis, Second Edition, Pierce Chemical Co., Rockford, Ill.; Fields and Noble, 1990, Int. J. Pept. Protein Res. 35:161-214, or using automated synthesizers. The polypeptides of the invention may comprise D-amino acids (which are resistant to L-amino acid-specific proteases in vivo), a combination of D- and L-amino acids, and various "designer" amino acids (e.g.,  $\beta$ -methyl amino acids, C $\alpha$ -methyl amino acids,  
25 and N $\alpha$ -methyl amino acids, etc.) to convey special properties. Synthetic amino acids include ornithine for lysine, fluorophenylalanine for phenylalanine, and norleucine for leucine or isoleucine.

In addition, the polypeptides can have peptidomimetic bonds, such as ester bonds, to prepare peptides with novel properties. For example, a peptide may be  
30 generated that incorporates a reduced peptide bond, i.e., R<sub>1</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-NH-R<sub>2</sub>, where R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are amino acid residues or sequences. A reduced peptide bond may be introduced as a dipeptide subunit. Such a polypeptide would be resistant to protease activity, and would possess an extended half-life in vivo.

As discussed above, type IV collagens are synthesized and assembled as heterotrimers inside the cells, which are then secreted extracellularly where hexamer assembly, and subsequent basement membrane assembly, occurs. The polypeptides disclosed herein can work intra-cellularly to prevent heterotrimer assembly, which also necessarily inhibits hexamer assembly, and provide the desired therapeutic result. Alternatively (or additionally), the polypeptides disclosed herein can work extracellularly, to inhibit hexamer assembly, and/or to disrupt assembled hexamers, providing the desired therapeutic result.

Such polypeptides can be selected based on their utility in inhibiting generic heterotrimer assembly (ie: not  $\alpha$  chain specific); specific heterotrimer assembly (ie:  $\alpha$  chain specific); generic hexamer assembly (ie: not  $\alpha$  chain specific); and/or specific hexamer assembly (ie: not  $\alpha$  chain specific). Without knowledge of the type IV collagen  $[(\alpha 1)_2(\alpha 2)]_2$  NC1 hexamer structure described herein, the design of inhibitors with such desired properties would not be available to those skilled in the art.

The single letter abbreviation for amino acids is used herein; "norL" refers to nor leucine.

In one embodiment, the polypeptides consist of at least 8 contiguous amino acids of general formula I:

**PF(R1)(R2)CN(R3)(R4)(R5)VC(R6)(R7)A (SEQ ID NO:1)**

R1 is selected from the group consisting of L, M, A, V, norL, and I;

R2 is selected from the group consisting of F and Y;

R3 is selected from the group consisting of I, V, L, norL, A, and P;

R4 is selected from the group consisting of N, G, and H;

R5 is selected from the group consisting of N, D, Q, and E;

R6 is selected from the group consisting of N, Y, and H; and

R7 is selected from the group consisting of F and Y.

This general formula I is derived from a consensus sequences of type IV collagen NC1  $\alpha 1$ - $\alpha 6$  domains at the inter-chain domain swapping region ("Inter-CDSR") that includes the  $\beta 6$ - $\beta 7$  strands in the crystal structure, as further described below. This region is involved in interchain interactions within the heterotrimer, and a substantial portion of the sequence is also present at the hexamer interface, and thus is involved in hexamer assembly/stabilization. As such, peptides of general formula I

are useful for inhibiting appropriate interchain interactions, and thus for disrupting optimal heterotrimer and hexamer assembly.

In various further embodiments, the polypeptides consists of at least 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, or 14 amino acids of general formula I. In a preferred embodiment, the  
5 polypeptide consists of 14 amino acids of general formula I.

In a preferred embodiment, the polypeptides consist at least 8 contiguous amino acids of general formula II, with the further limitation that R2 is F; R4 is N; R5 is selected from the group consisting of N and D; R6 is N; and R7 is F. Polypeptides of this embodiment are derived from a consensus sequences of type IV collagen NC1  
10  $\alpha$ 1,  $\alpha$ 3, and  $\alpha$ 5 domains at the Inter-CDSR.

In a further preferred embodiment, the polypeptides consist at least 8 contiguous amino acids of general formula I, with the further limitation that R2 is Y; R3 is selected from the group consisting of P and I; R5 is selected from the group consisting of D, Q, and E; R6 is selected from the group consisting of Y and H; and  
15 R7 is Y. Polypeptides of this embodiment are derived from a consensus sequences of type IV collagen NC1  $\alpha$ 2,  $\alpha$ 4, and  $\alpha$ 6 domains at the Inter-CDSR.

In a further preferred embodiment, the polypeptides according to formula 1 consist of at least 8 contiguous amino acids of a sequence selected from the group consisting of PFLFCNINNVCNFA ( $\alpha$ 1) (SEQ ID NO:2); PFLFCNVNDVCNFA  
20 ( $\alpha$ 3) (SEQ ID NO:3); PFMFCNINNVCNFA ( $\alpha$ 5) (SEQ ID NO:4); PFLYCNPGDVCYYA ( $\alpha$ 2) (SEQ ID NO:5); PFAYCNIIHQVCHYA ( $\alpha$ 4) (SEQ ID NO:6); and PFIYCNINEVCHYA ( $\alpha$ 6) (SEQ ID NO:7). These sequences represent the Inter-CDSR sequences from the individual type IV collagen  $\alpha$ 1- $\alpha$ 6 NC1 domains. In various further embodiments, the polypeptides consist of at least 9, 10, 11, 12, 13,  
25 or 14 amino acids of one of the recited sequences. In a preferred embodiment, the polypeptide consists of 14 amino acids of one of the recited sequences.

In another embodiment, the polypeptides of the present invention consist of at least 7 contiguous amino acids of general formula II:

**PF(R1)EC(R2)G(R3)(R4)GTC(R5) (SEQ ID NO:8)**

30 R1 is selected from the group consisting of L, A, V, norL, and I;  
R2 is selected from the group consisting of H, N, Q, and S;  
R3 is selected from the group consisting of G, R, A, or is absent;  
R4 is selected from the group consisting of R and Q; and  
R5 is selected from the group consisting of N and H.

This general formula is derived from a consensus sequences of type IV collagen NC1  $\alpha 1$ - $\alpha 6$  domains at the intra-chain domain swapping region (“Intra-CDSR”) that includes the  $\beta 6'$ - $\beta 7'$  strands in the crystal structure, as further described below. This region is involved in monomer-monomer interactions within the heterotrimer, and a substantial portion of the sequence is also present at the hexamer interface, and thus is involved in hexamer assembly/stabilization. As such, peptides of this general formula are useful for inhibiting both heterotrimer and hexamer interactions of type IV collagen.

In various further embodiments, the polypeptides consists of at least 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, or 13 amino acids of general formula II. In a preferred embodiment, the polypeptide consists of 13 amino acids of general formula II.

In a preferred embodiment, the polypeptides consist at least 7 contiguous amino acids of general formula II, with the further limitation that R2 is H; R3 is R; R4 is G; and R5 is N. Polypeptides of this embodiment are derived from a consensus sequence of the intra-CDSR sequences of the type IV collagen  $\alpha 1$ ,  $\alpha 3$ , and  $\alpha 5$  NC1 domains.

In a further preferred embodiment, the polypeptides consist at least 7 contiguous amino acids of general formula II, with the further limitation that R2 is selected from the group consisting of N, Q, and S; R3 is selected from the group consisting of G, R, and A; R4 is selected from the group consisting of R and Q; and R5 is H. Polypeptides of this embodiment are derived from a consensus sequence of the intra-CDSR sequences of the type IV collagen  $\alpha 2$ ,  $\alpha 4$ , and  $\alpha 6$  NC1 domains.

In a further embodiment, the polypeptides according to general formula II consist of at least 7 contiguous amino acids of a sequence selected from the group consisting of PFIECHGRGTCN ( $\alpha 1$  and  $\alpha 5$ ) (SEQ ID NO:9); PFLECHGRGTCN ( $\alpha 3$ ) (SEQ ID NO:10); PFIECNGGRGTCH ( $\alpha 2$ ) (SEQ ID NO:11); PFLECQGRQGTCH ( $\alpha 4$ ) (SEQ ID NO:12); and PFIECSGARGTCH ( $\alpha 6$ ) (SEQ ID NO:13). These sequences represent the Intra-CDSR sequences from the individual type IV collagen  $\alpha 1$ - $\alpha 6$  NC1 domains. In various further embodiments, the polypeptides of this embodiment consist of at least 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, or 13 amino acids of one of the recited sequences. In a most preferred embodiment, the polypeptides consist of 12 ( $\alpha 1$ ,  $\alpha 3$ ,  $\alpha 5$ ) or 13 ( $\alpha 2$ ,  $\alpha 4$ ,  $\alpha 6$ ) contiguous amino acids of any one the recited sequences.

In a further embodiment, the full length Intra-CDSR polypeptides (e.g.: **SEQ ID NO: 9, 10, 11, 12, or 13**) may optionally further include 0-5 amino acids at either or both the amino and carboxyl terminus that are derived from the same  $\alpha$  chain, in order to provide appropriate secondary structural characteristics to the polypeptide for optimal inhibitory activity. Thus, the polypeptides of the invention derived from the Intra-CDSR sequence of the  $\alpha 1$ -like NC1 chains can thus be selected from the group consisting of at least 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, or 22 amino acids of a sequence selected from the group consisting of:

$\alpha 1$ : (E)(F)(R)(S)(A) PFIECHGRGTCN(Y)(Y)(A)(N)(A) (**SEQ ID NO:14**),

$\alpha 3$ : (E)(F)(R)(A)(S)PFLECHGRGTCN(Y)(Y)(S)(N)(S) (**SEQ ID NO: 15**); and

$\alpha 5$ : (E)(F)(R)(S)(A)PFIECHGRGTCN(Y)(Y)(A)(N)(S) (**SEQ ID NO: 16**);

wherein the residues in parenthesis are the flanking sequences of the Intra-CDSR.

Alternatively, the polypeptides of the invention derived from the Intra-CDSR sequence of the  $\alpha 2$ -like NC1 chains can thus be selected from the group consisting of at least 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, or 23 amino acids of a sequence selected from the group consisting of:

$\alpha 2$ : (D)(F)(R)(A)(T)PFIECNGGRGTCH(Y)(Y)(A)(N)(K) (**SEQ ID NO: 17**);

$\alpha 4$ : (D)(F)(R)(A)(A)PFLECQGRQGTCH(F)(F)(A)(N)(K) (**SEQ ID NO: 18**); and

$\alpha 6$ : (D)(F)(R)(A)(T)PFIECSGARGTCH(Y)(F)(A)(N)(K) (**SEQ ID NO: 19**);

wherein the residues in parenthesis are the flanking sequences of the Intra-CDSR.

The Inter CDSR sequence, while widely separated in the linear sequence of a given type IV collagen NC1 domain from the Intra-CDSR sequence in the same  $\alpha$  chain (separated by approximately 100 amino acids), is present in close spatial proximity (within approximately 2 amino acids) to the Inter-CDSR sequence in the

same  $\alpha$  chain based on the derived crystal structure data. Thus, in another embodiment, the present invention provides chimeric polypeptides comprising:

- (a) one or more Inter-CDSR polypeptides of general formula I;
- (b) one or more Intra-CDSR polypeptides of general formula II; and
- 5 (c) a linker polypeptide between the Intra-CDSR polypeptide and the Inter-CDSR polypeptide consisting of between 0-20 amino acids.

In preferred embodiments, the Inter-CDSR and/or the Intra-CDSR portion of the chimeric polypeptides consists of 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, or 14 amino acids of general formula I and 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 amino acids of general formula II, respectively.

10 In various other preferred embodiments, the linker polypeptide consists of 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, or 20 amino acids. The optimal length of the spacer depends, at least in part, on the length of the Inter-CDSR and Intra-CDSR, as well as the position of the sequences within the full length Inter-CDSR and Intra-CDSR used to create the chimera. For example, if a full length Inter-

15 CDSR and a full length Intra-CDSR were used, then the spacer is preferably between 0-5 amino acids in length, more preferably between 1-4 amino acids in length, and most preferably 2-3 amino acids in length. Based on the teachings herein, it will be apparent to one of skill in the art to design further such chimeric polypeptides.

In a most preferred embodiment of these chimeric polypeptides, the Inter-

20 CDSR polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of PFLFCNINNVCNFA (SEQ ID NO:2), PFLFCNVNDVCNFA (SEQ ID NO:3), PFMFCNINNVCNFA (SEQ ID NO:4), PFLYCNP GDVCYYA (SEQ ID NO:5), PFAYCNIHQVCHYA (SEQ ID NO:6), and PFIYCNINEVCHYA (SEQ ID NO:7); the Intra-CDSR polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of PFIECHGRGTCN (SEQ ID

25 NO:9), PFLECHGRGTCN (SEQ ID NO:10), PFIECNGGRGTCH (SEQ ID NO:11), PFLECQGRQGTCH (SEQ ID NO:12), and PFIECSGARGTCH (SEQ ID NO:13); and the linker polypeptide is 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids; most preferably 2 amino acids.

In another embodiment, the polypeptides of the present invention consist of a

30 sequence of an amino acids of general formula III:

**F(R1)T(R2) (SEQ ID NO:20)**

wherein R1 is selected from the group consisting of S and T; and

R2 is selected from the group consisting of M and L.

This general formula III is derived from a consensus sequences of type IV collagen NC1  $\alpha$ 1- $\alpha$ 6 domains at the specificity region (“SR”) between the  $\beta$ 5- $\beta$ 6 strands in the crystal structure, as further described below. This region is involved in specific recognition between monomers, by recognizing the specificity region partner (“SRP”) in the monomer with which the SR of a given  $\alpha$  chain interacts. As such, peptides of general formula III are useful for inhibiting both heterotrimer and hexamer interactions of type IV collagen.

In a further embodiment, the SR polypeptides are selected from the group consisting of FSTM ( $\alpha$ 1,  $\alpha$ 2,  $\alpha$ 5, and  $\alpha$ 6) (SEQ ID NO:21), FTTM ( $\alpha$ 3) (SEQ ID NO:22) and FTSL ( $\alpha$ 4) (SEQ ID NO:23).

In a further embodiment, the SR polypeptides (e.g.: SEQ ID NO:21, 22, and 23) may optionally further include 0-5 amino acids at either or both the amino and carboxyl terminus that are derived from the same  $\alpha$  chain, in order to provide appropriate secondary structural characteristics to the polypeptide for optimal inhibitory activity. Thus, according to this embodiment, the polypeptides of the invention derived from the SR sequence of the NC1  $\alpha$  chains can be selected from the group consisting of:

$\alpha$ 1 X1-FSTM-Z1, wherein X1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SCLRK (SEQ ID NO: 24), and Z1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence PFLFC (SEQ ID NO: 25) (the full sequence would thus be SCLRKFSTMPFLFC) (SEQ ID NO: 26);

$\alpha$ 3: X3-FTTM-Z3, wherein X3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SCLQR (SEQ ID NO: 27), and Z3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence PFLFC (SEQ ID NO: 25) (the full sequence would thus be SCLQRFTTMPFLFC) (SEQ ID NO:28);

$\alpha$ 5: X5-FSTM-Z5, wherein X5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SCLRR (SEQ ID NO: 29), and Z5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence PFMFC (SEQ ID NO: 30) (the full sequence would thus be SCLRRFSTMPFMFC) (SEQ ID NO: 31);

$\alpha$ 2: X2-FSTM-Z2, wherein X2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SCLAR (SEQ ID NO: 32), and Z2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence PFLYC (SEQ ID NO: 33) (the full sequence would thus be SCLARFSTMPFLYC) (SEQ ID NO: 34);

$\alpha 4$ : X4-FSTL-Z4, wherein X4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SCLPV (SEQ ID NO: 35), and Z4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence PFAYC (SEQ ID NO: 36) (the full sequence would thus be SCLPVFSTLPFAYC) (SEQ ID NO: 37); and

5  $\alpha 6$ : X6-FSTM-Z6, wherein X6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SCLPR (SEQ ID NO: 38), and Z6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence PFIYC (SEQ ID NO: 39) (the full sequence would thus be SCLPRFSTMPFIYC) (SEQ ID NO: 40).

10 In another embodiment, the polypeptides of the invention consist of an amino acid sequence of general formula IV:

(R1)MF(R2)K (SEQ ID NO:41)

wherein R1 is selected from the group consisting of E, R, and D; and

R2 is selected from the group consisting of K, R, and S.

15 This general formula IV is derived from a consensus sequences of type IV collagen NC1  $\alpha 1$ ,  $\alpha 3$ , and  $\alpha 5$  domains at the specificity region partner ("SRP") located between the  $\beta 8'$  and  $\beta 9'$  strands, as discussed in more detail below. This region is involved in specific recognition between monomers, by recognizing the specificity region ("SR") in the monomer with which the SRP of a given  $\alpha$  chain  
20 interacts. As such, peptides of general formula IV are useful for inhibiting both heterotrimer and hexamer interactions of type IV collagen.

In a preferred embodiment, the SRP polypeptides according to general formula IV are selected from the group consisting of EMFKK ( $\alpha 1$ ) (SEQ ID NO:42), RMFRK ( $\alpha 3$ ) (SEQ ID NO:43), and DMFSK ( $\alpha 5$ ) (SEQ ID NO:44).

25 In a further preferred embodiment, the SRP polypeptides are selected from the group consisting of SFQ (SRP of  $\alpha 2$ ) (SEQ ID NO:45); LQF (SRP of  $\alpha 4$ ) (SEQ ID NO:46), and QQF (SRP of  $\alpha 6$ ) (SEQ ID NO:47). These sequences represent the SRP of the type IV collagen  $\alpha$  chain NC1 domains as indicated. This region in the  $\alpha 2$  NC1 domain adopts an extended conformation and pairs with the extended  
30 structure (Phe57-Thr59) in the adjacent  $\alpha 1$  chain to form a short parallel  $\beta$  sheet, which is the only parallel  $\beta$ -sheet in the entire structure, as further discussed below.

In a further embodiment, the SRP polypeptides (e.g.: SEQ ID NOS:42-47) may optionally further include 0-5 amino acids at either or both the amino and carboxyl terminus that are derived from the same  $\alpha$  chain, in order to provide

appropriate secondary structural characteristics to the polypeptide for optimal inhibitory activity. The SRP-containing polypeptides of this embodiment of the invention can thus be selected from the group consisting of:

5  $\alpha 1$  X1-EMFKK-Z1, wherein X1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence TIERS (SEQ ID NO: 48), and wherein Z1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence PTPST (SEQ ID NO: 49) (the full length sequence would thus be TIERSEMFKKPTPST) (SEQ ID NO: 50);

10  $\alpha 3$ : X3-RMFRK-Z3, wherein X3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SLNPE (SEQ ID NO: 51), and wherein Z3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence PIPST (SEQ ID NO: 52) (the full length sequence would thus be SLNPERMFRKPIPST) (SEQ ID NO: 53);

15  $\alpha 5$ : X5-DMFSK-Z5, wherein X5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence TVDVS (SEQ ID NO: 54), and wherein Z5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence PQSET (SEQ ID NO: 55) (the full length sequence would thus be TVDVSDMFSKPQSET) (SEQ ID NO: 56);

$\alpha 2$ : X2-SFQ-Z2, wherein X2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence TIPEQ (SEQ ID NO: 57), and wherein Z2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence GSPSA (SEQ ID NO: 58) (the full length sequence would thus be TIPEQSFQGSPSA) (SEQ ID NO: 59);

20  $\alpha 4$ : X4-LQF-Z4, wherein X4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence TVKAD (SEQ ID NO: 60), and wherein Z4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SSAPA (SEQ ID NO: 61) (the full length sequence would thus be TVKADLQFSSAPA) (SEQ ID NO: 62); and

25  $\alpha 6$ : X6-QQF-Z6, wherein X6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence TVEER (SEQ ID NO: 63), and wherein Z6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence GELPV (SEQ ID NO: 64) (the full length sequence would thus be TVEERQQFGELPV) (SEQ ID NO: 65).

30 In another embodiment, the polypeptides of the invention consist of an amino acid sequence of general formula V:

(R1)AH(R2)QD (SEQ ID NO: 66)

wherein R1 is selected from the group consisting of R and K; and  
R2 is selected from the group consisting of G and N.

This general formula V is derived from a consensus sequences of type IV collagen NC1 domain  $\beta$ -barrel-like core at the  $\beta$ 4 strand, as discussed in more detail below. This region is involved in generic monomer-monomer interactions. As such, peptides of general formula V are useful for inhibiting both heterotrimer and hexamer interactions of type IV collagen.

In a preferred embodiment, the polypeptides according to general formula V are selected from the group consisting of RAHGQD ( $\alpha$ 1,  $\alpha$ 3,  $\alpha$ 5) (SEQ ID NO:67) and KAHNQD ( $\alpha$ 2,  $\alpha$ 4,  $\alpha$ 6) (SEQ ID NO:68).

In a further preferred embodiment, the  $\beta$ -barrel polypeptides according to general formula V (e.g.: SEQ ID NOS:67-68) may optionally further include 0-5 amino acids at either or both the amino and carboxyl terminus that are derived from the same  $\alpha$  chain, in order to provide appropriate secondary structural characteristics to the polypeptide for optimal inhibitory activity. The  $\beta$ -barrel-containing polypeptides of this embodiment of the invention can thus be selected from the group consisting of:

$\alpha$ 1 X1-RAHGQD-Z1, wherein X1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence VQGNE (SEQ ID NO: 69), and wherein Z1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence LGTAG (SEQ ID NO: 70) (the full length sequence would thus be VQGN<sub>1</sub>RAHGQDDL<sub>1</sub>GTA) (SEQ ID NO: 71);

$\alpha$ 3: X3-RAHGQD-Z3, wherein X3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence VQGNQ (SEQ ID NO: 72), and wherein Z3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence LGTLG (SEQ ID NO: 73) (the full length sequence would thus be VQGN<sub>3</sub>QRAHGQDL<sub>3</sub>GTLG) (SEQ ID NO:74);

$\alpha$ 5: X5-RAHGQD-Z5, wherein X5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence VQGNK (SEQ ID NO: 75), and wherein Z5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence LGTAG (SEQ ID NO: 70) (the full length sequence would thus be VQGN<sub>5</sub>KRAHGQDL<sub>5</sub>GTAG) (SEQ ID NO: 76);

$\alpha$ 2: X2-KAHNQD-Z2, wherein X2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence FEGQE (SEQ ID NO: 77), and wherein Z2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence LGLAG (SEQ ID NO: 78) (the full length sequence would thus be FEGQEKAHNQDL<sub>2</sub>LGLAG) (SEQ ID NO: 79);

$\alpha$ 4: X4-KAHNQD-Z4, wherein X4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence LEGQE (SEQ ID NO: 80), and wherein Z4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids

of the sequence LGLAG (**SEQ ID NO: 78**) (the full length sequence would thus be LEGQEKAHNQDLGLAG) (**SEQ ID NO: 81**); and

5  $\alpha 6$ : X6-KAHNQD-Z6, wherein X6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence VEGQE (**SEQ ID NO: 82**), and wherein Z6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence LGFAG (**SEQ ID NO: 83**) (the full length sequence would thus be VEGQEKAHNQDLGFAG) (**SEQ ID NO: 84**).

In another embodiment, the polypeptides of the invention consist of an amino acid sequence of general formula VI:

10 (R1)G(R2)GQ (**SEQ ID NO:85**)

wherein R1 is selected from the group consisting of E and Q; and

R2 is selected from the group consisting of S, T, and G.

This general formula VI is derived from a consensus sequences of type IV collagen NC1 domain  $\beta$ -barrel-like core at the  $\beta 4'$  strand, as discussed in more detail  
15 below. This region is involved in generic monomer-monomer interactions. As such, peptides of general formula VI are useful for inhibiting both heterotrimer and hexamer interactions of type IV collagen.

In a preferred embodiment, the polypeptides according to general formula VI are selected from the group consisting of EGSGQ ( $\alpha 1$ ,  $\alpha 5$ ) (**SEQ ID NO:86**),  
20 EGTGQ ( $\alpha 3$ ) (**SEQ ID NO:87**), EGGGQ ( $\alpha 2$ ,  $\alpha 6$ ) (**SEQ ID NO:88**) and QGGGQ ( $\alpha 4$ ) (**SEQ ID NO:89**).

In a further embodiment, the  $\beta$ -barrel polypeptides according to general formula VI (e.g.: **SEQ ID NOS:86-89**) may optionally further include 0-5 amino acids at either or both the amino and carboxyl terminus that are derived from the same  
25  $\alpha$  chain, in order to provide appropriate secondary structural characteristics to the polypeptide for optimal inhibitory activity. The  $\beta$ -barrel-containing polypeptides of this embodiment of the invention can thus be selected from the group consisting of:

$\alpha 1$  and  $\alpha 5$  X1-EGSGQ-Z1, wherein X1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence TSAGA (**SEQ ID NO: 90**), and wherein Z1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino  
30 acids of the sequence ALASP (**SEQ ID NO: 91**) (the full length sequence would thus be TSAGAEGSGQALASP) (**SEQ ID NO: 92**);

$\alpha 3$ : X3-EGTGQ-Z3, wherein X3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence TSAGS (**SEQ ID NO: 93**), and wherein Z3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids

of the sequence ALASP (SEQ ID NO: 91) (the full length sequence would thus be TSAGSEGTGQALASP) (SEQ ID NO:94);

5  $\alpha$ 2: X2-EGGGQ-Z2, wherein X2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence TAAGD (SEQ ID NO: 95), and wherein Z2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SLVSP (SEQ ID NO: 96) (the full length sequence would thus be TAAGDEGGGQSLVSP) (SEQ ID NO: 97);

10  $\alpha$ 4: X4-QGGGQ-Z4, wherein X4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence TGAGD (SEQ ID NO: 98), and wherein Z4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence ALMSP (SEQ ID NO: 99) (the full length sequence would thus be TGAGDQGGGQALMSP) (SEQ ID NO: 100); and

$\alpha$ 6: X6-EGGGQ-Z6, wherein X6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence TAAGA (SEQ ID NO: 101), and wherein Z6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SLVSP (SEQ ID NO: 96) (the full length sequence would thus be TAAGAEGGGQSLVSP) (SEQ ID NO: 102).

15

In another embodiment, the polypeptides comprise sequences present at the hexamer interface, as determined from the deduced crystal structure. Type IV collagens are synthesized and assembled as trimers inside the cells, which are then secreted extracellularly where hexamer assembly, and subsequent basement membrane assembly, occurs. Therapeutics, such as those disclosed herein, can work 20 intra-cellularly to prevent trimer assembly, thus inhibiting hexamer assembly, thus providing the desired therapeutic result. Alternatively (or additionally), therapeutics can work extracellularly, which leaves trimer assembly uninhibited, but targets hexamer assembly.

25 As such, polypeptides from regions at the hexamer interface can be used to inhibit hexamer formation or disrupt hexamer formation. In this embodiment, the polypeptides of the invention consist of an amino acid sequence of general formula VII:

(R1)G(R2)(R3) (SEQ ID NO:103)

30 wherein R1 is selected from the group consisting of Q and E;  
R2 is selected from the group consisting of N and Q; and  
R3 is selected from the group consisting of E, Q, and K.

This general formula VII is derived from a consensus sequences of type IV collagen NC1  $\alpha$ 1- $\alpha$ 6 domains at the hexamer interface at the end of the  $\beta$ 3 strand up to

the beginning of the  $\beta 4$  strand, as discussed in more detail below. This region is present at the hexamer interface, and is involved in hexamer assembly and stabilization. As such, peptides of general formula VII are useful for inhibiting hexamer interactions of type IV collagen.

5 In a preferred embodiment, the polypeptides consist of general formula VII, with the further limitation that R1 is Q and R2 is N. In this embodiment, the formula is a consensus of the sequences present in the  $\alpha 1/\alpha 3/\alpha 5$  NC1 domains for general formula VII. In a further preferred embodiment, the polypeptides according to general formula VII are selected from the group consisting of QGNE ( $\alpha 1$ ) (**SEQ ID NO:104**), QGNQ ( $\alpha 3$ ) (**SEQ ID NO:105**), and QGNK( $\alpha 5$ ) (**SEQ ID NO:106**)

10 In a further preferred embodiment, the polypeptides according to general formula VII consist of EGQE (**SEQ ID NO:107**), which is the sequence of the sequences present in the  $\alpha 2/\alpha 4/\alpha 6$  NC1 domains in general formula VII.

15 In a further embodiment, the hexamer polypeptides selected from the group consisting of **SEQ ID NOS:104-107** may optionally further include 0-5 amino acids at either or both the amino and carboxyl terminus that are derived from the same  $\alpha$  chain, in order to provide appropriate secondary structural characteristics to the polypeptide for optimal inhibitory activity. Such polypeptides can thus be selected from the group consisting of:

20  $\alpha 1$ : X1-QGNE-Z1, wherein X1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SLLYV (**SEQ ID NO: 108**), and wherein Z1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence RAHGQ (**SEQ ID NO: 109**) (the full length sequence would thus be SLLYVQGNRAHGQ) (**SEQ ID NO: 110**);

25  $\alpha 3$ : X3-QGNQ-Z3, wherein X3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SFLFV (**SEQ ID NO: 111**), and wherein Z3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence RAHGQ (**SEQ ID NO: 109**) (the full length sequence would thus be SFLFVQGNQRAHGQ) (**SEQ ID NO:112**);

30  $\alpha 5$ : X5-QGNK-Z5, wherein X5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SLLYV (**SEQ ID NO:108**), and wherein Z5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence RAHGQ (**SEQ ID NO: 109**) (the full length sequence would thus be SLLYVQGNKRAHGQ) (**SEQ ID NO: 113**);

$\alpha 2$ : X2-EGQE-Z2, wherein X2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SLLYF (**SEQ ID NO:114**), and wherein Z2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids

of the sequence KAHNQ (SEQ ID NO:115) (the full length sequence would thus be SLLYFEGQEKAHNQ) (SEQ ID NO: 116);

5  $\alpha$ 4: X4-EGQE-Z4, wherein X4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SLLYL (SEQ ID NO:117), and wherein Z4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence KAHNQ (SEQ ID NO:115) (the full length sequence would thus be SLLYLEGQEKAHNQ) (SEQ ID NO: 118); and

10  $\alpha$ 6: X6-EGQE-Z6, wherein X6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SLLFV (SEQ ID NO:119), and wherein Z6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence KAHNQ (SEQ ID NO:115) (the full length sequence would thus be SLLFVEGQEKAHNQ) (SEQ ID NO: 120).

An especially preferred embodiment of these hexamer interface polypeptides according to general formula VII consists of 1 additional amino acid at both the amino and carboxy terminus of the  $\alpha$ 1- $\alpha$ 6 hexamer peptides, as follows:

15  $\alpha$ 1 VQGNER (SEQ ID NO: 121)  
 $\alpha$ 3: VQGNQR (SEQ ID NO: 122)  
 $\alpha$ 5: VQGNKR (SEQ ID NO: 123)  
 $\alpha$ 2: FEGQEK (SEQ ID NO: 124)  
 $\alpha$ 4: LEGQEK (SEQ ID NO: 125)  
 20  $\alpha$ 6: VEGQEK (SEQ ID NO: 126)

In a further embodiment wherein the polypeptides comprise sequences present at the hexamer interface, as determined from the deduced crystal structure, the polypeptides of the invention consist of an amino acid sequence of general formula  
 25 VIII:

M(R1)M(R2)P (SEQ ID NO:127)

wherein R1 is selected from the group consisting of S, N, or is absent; and

R2 is selected from the group consisting of A, Q, or is absent.

This general formula VIII is derived from a consensus sequences of type IV  
 30 collagen NC1  $\alpha$ 1- $\alpha$ 6 domains at the hexamer interface between the  $\beta$ 8 and  $\beta$ 9 strands, as discussed in more detail below. This region is present at the hexamer interface, and is involved in hexamer assembly and stabilization. As such, peptides of general formula VIII are useful for inhibiting hexamer interactions of type IV collagen.

In a preferred embodiment, the polypeptides of general formula VIII are selected from the group consisting of MSMAP ( $\alpha 1$ ) (SEQ ID NO:128), MNMAP ( $\alpha 3$ ) (SEQ ID NO:129), MSMQP ( $\alpha 5$ ) (SEQ ID NO:130), and MMP ( $\alpha 2$ ,  $\alpha 4$ , and  $\alpha 6$ ) (SEQ ID NO: 131).

5 In a further preferred embodiment, the hexamer polypeptides selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:128-131 may optionally further include 0-5 amino acids at either or both the amino and carboxyl terminus that are derived from the same  $\alpha$  chain, in order to provide appropriate secondary structural characteristics to the polypeptide for optimal inhibitory activity. Such polypeptides can thus be selected  
10 from the group consisting of:

$\alpha 1$ : X1-MSMAP-Z1, wherein X1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence PEPMP (SEQ ID NO: 132), and wherein Z1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence ITGEN (SEQ ID NO: 133) (the full length sequence would thus be PEPMPMSMAPITGEN) (SEQ ID NO: 134);

15  $\alpha 3$ : X3-MNMAP-Z3, wherein X3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence PALMP (SEQ ID NO: 135), and wherein Z3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence ITGRA (SEQ ID NO: 136) (the full length sequence would thus be PALMPMNMAPITGRA) (SEQ ID NO:137);

$\alpha 5$ : X5-MSMQP-Z5, wherein X5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the  
20 sequence PEPMP (SEQ ID NO:132), and wherein Z5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence LKGQS (SEQ ID NO: 138) (the full length sequence would thus be PEPMPMSMQPLKGQS) (SEQ ID NO: 139);

$\alpha 2$ : X2-MMP-Z2, wherein X2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the  
25 sequence TAPLP (SEQ ID NO:140), and wherein Z2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence VAEDE (SEQ ID NO:141) (the full length sequence would thus be TAPLPMMPVAEDE) (SEQ ID NO: 142);

$\alpha 4$ : X4-MMP-Z4, wherein X4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the  
30 sequence AAPLP (SEQ ID NO:143), and wherein Z4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence LSEEA (SEQ ID NO:144) (the full length sequence would thus be AAPLPMMPVSEEA) (SEQ ID NO: 145); and

$\alpha 6$ : X6-MMP-Z6, wherein X6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the  
sequence TAPIP (SEQ ID NO:146), and wherein Z6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence VSQTQ (SEQ ID NO:147) (the full length sequence would thus be TAPIPMMPVVSQTQ) (SEQ ID NO: 148).

An especially preferred embodiment of these hexamer interface peptides according to general formula VIII consists of 3 additional amino acids at both the amino and carboxy terminus of the  $\alpha 1$ - $\alpha 6$  hexamer peptides, as follows:

- 5             $\alpha 1$     PMPMSMAPITG (SEQ ID NO: 149);  
               $\alpha 3$ :    LMPMNMAPITG (SEQ ID NO:150);  
               $\alpha 5$ :    PMPMSMQPLKG (SEQ ID NO: 151);  
               $\alpha 2$ :    PLPMPVAE (SEQ ID NO: 152);  
               $\alpha 4$ :    PLPMMPLSE (SEQ ID NO: 153); and  
 10             $\alpha 6$ :    PIPMMPVSQ (SEQ ID NO: 154).

In a further embodiment wherein the polypeptides comprise sequences present at the hexamer interface, as determined from the deduced crystal structure, the polypeptides of the invention consist of an amino acid sequence of general formula  
 15    IX:

AG(R1)(R2) (SEQ ID NO:155)

wherein R1 is selected from the group consisting of A, S and D; and

R2 is selected from the group consisting of E and Q.

This general formula IX is derived from a consensus sequences of type IV  
 20    collagen NC1  $\alpha 1$ - $\alpha 6$  domains between the  $\beta 3'$  and  $\beta 4'$  strands, as discussed in more detail below. This region is present at the hexamer interface, and is involved in hexamer assembly and stabilization. As such, peptides of general formula IX are useful for inhibiting hexamer interactions of type IV collagen.

In a preferred embodiment, the polypeptides of general formula IX are  
 25    selected from the group consisting of AGAE ( $\alpha 1$ ,  $\alpha 5$ , and  $\alpha 6$ ) (SEQ ID NO:156), AGSE ( $\alpha 3$ ) (SEQ ID NO:157), AGDE ( $\alpha 2$ ) (SEQ ID NO:158), and AGDQ ( $\alpha 4$ ) (SEQ ID NO:159).

In a further embodiment, the hexamer polypeptides selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:156-159 may optionally further include 0-5 amino acids  
 30    at either or both the amino and carboxyl terminus that are derived from the same  $\alpha$  chain, in order to provide appropriate secondary structural characteristics to the polypeptide for optimal inhibitory activity. Such polypeptides can thus be selected from the group consisting of:

$\alpha 1$ : X1-AGAE-Z1, wherein X1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence VMHTS (SEQ ID NO: 160), and wherein Z1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence GSGQA (SEQ ID NO: 161) (the full length sequence would thus be VMHTSAGAEGSGQA) (SEQ ID NO: 162);

5  $\alpha 3$ : X3-AGSE-Z3, wherein X3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence IMFTS (SEQ ID NO: 163), and wherein Z3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence GTGQA (SEQ ID NO: 164) (the full length sequence would thus be IMFTSAGSEGTGQA) (SEQ ID NO: 165);

10  $\alpha 5$ : X5-AGAE-Z5, wherein X5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence MMHTS (SEQ ID NO: 166), and wherein Z5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence GSGQA (SEQ ID NO: 161) (the full length sequence would thus be MMHTSAGAEGSGQA) (SEQ ID NO: 167);

15  $\alpha 2$ : X2-AGDE-Z2, wherein X2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence LMHTA (SEQ ID NO: 168), and wherein Z2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence GGGQS (SEQ ID NO: 169) (the full length sequence would thus be LMHTAAGDEGGGQS) (SEQ ID NO: 170);

20  $\alpha 4$ : X4-AGDQ-Z4, wherein X4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence LMHTG (SEQ ID NO: 171), and wherein Z4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence GGGQA (SEQ ID NO: 172) (the full length sequence would thus be LMHTGAGDQGGGQA) (SEQ ID NO: 173); and

25  $\alpha 6$ : X6-AGAE-Z6, wherein X6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence LMHTA (SEQ ID NO: 168), and wherein Z6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence GGGQS (SEQ ID NO: 169) (the full length sequence would thus be LMHTAAGAEGGGQS) (SEQ ID NO: 174).

In a further embodiment wherein the polypeptides comprise sequences present at the hexamer interface, as determined from the deduced crystal structure, the polypeptides of the invention consist of at least 5 amino acids of the sequence of general formula X:

30 EC(R1)G(R2)(R3)GTC(R4)(R5)(R6) (SEQ ID NO: 175)

wherein R1 is selected from the group consisting of H, N, Q, and S;

R2 is selected from the group consisting of G, R, A, or is absent;

R3 is selected from the group consisting of R and Q

R4 is selected from the group consisting of N and H;

R5 is selected from the group consisting of F and Y; and

R6 is selected from the group consisting of F and Y.

In various preferred embodiments, the polypeptide consists of at least 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12 amino acids of general formula X. In a preferred embodiment, the polypeptide consists of 12 amino acids of general formula X. This general formula X extensively overlaps with the Intra-CDSR, discussed above, and is present within the  $\beta 6'$ - $\beta 7'$  strands, as discussed in more detail below. This region is present at the hexamer interface, and is involved in hexamer assembly and stabilization. As such, peptides of general formula X are useful for inhibiting hexamer interactions of type IV collagen.

In a further embodiment, the polypeptides are as described above for general formula X, with the exception that R2 is selected from the group consisting of G, R, A; and R4 is H. Polypeptides of this embodiment are derived from the consensus sequence of the  $\alpha 2/4/6$  of general formula X.

In a further preferred embodiment, the polypeptides of general formula X are selected from the group consisting of ECHGRGTCNYY ( $\alpha 1/3/5$ ) (SEQ ID NO:176), ECNGGRGTCHYY ( $\alpha 2$ ) (SEQ ID NO:177), ECQGRQGTCHFF ( $\alpha 4$ ) (SEQ ID NO:178), and ECSGARGTCHYF ( $\alpha 6$ ) (SEQ ID NO:179).

In a further preferred embodiment, the polypeptides of the invention consist of an amino acid sequence of general formula XI:

(R1)(R2)T(R3)K (SEQ ID NO:180)

wherein R1 is selected from the group consisting of P, S, and A;

R2 is selected from the group consisting of S, E, and D; and

R3 is selected from the group consisting of L and V.

This general formula XI is present overlapping with the  $\beta 9'$  strand in the crystal structure, as discussed in more detail below. This region is present at the hexamer interface, and is involved in hexamer assembly and stabilization. As such, peptides of general formula XI are useful for inhibiting hexamer interactions of type IV collagen.

In a preferred embodiment of general formula XI, R3 is L (as in  $\alpha 2/4/6/1/5$ ). In a further preferred embodiment of general formula XI, R2 is selected from D and E ( $\alpha 2/4/5/6$ ). In further preferred embodiments, the polypeptide according to general formula XI is selected from the group consisting of PSTLK ( $\alpha 1$ ) (SEQ ID NO:181),

PSTVK ( $\alpha 3$ ) (SEQ ID NO:182), SETLK ( $\alpha 5$  and  $\alpha 6$ ) (SEQ ID NO:183), ADTLK ( $\alpha 2$ ) (SEQ ID NO:184), and PDTLK ( $\alpha 4$ ) (SEQ ID NO:185).

In a further embodiment, the hexamer polypeptides selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:181-185 may optionally further include 0-5 amino acids at either or both the amino and carboxyl terminus that are derived from the same  $\alpha$  chain, in order to provide appropriate secondary structural characteristics to the polypeptide for optimal inhibitory activity. Such polypeptides can thus be selected from the group consisting of:

10  $\alpha 1$ : X1-PSTLK-Z1, wherein X1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence FKKPT (SEQ ID NO: 186), and wherein Z1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence AGELR (SEQ ID NO: 187) (the full length sequence would thus be FKKPTPSTLKAGELR) (SEQ ID NO: 188);

15  $\alpha 3$ : X3-PSTVK-Z3, wherein X3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence FRKPI (SEQ ID NO: 189), and wherein Z3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence AGELE (SEQ ID NO: 190) (the full length sequence would thus be FRKPIPSTVKAGELE) (SEQ ID NO:191);

20  $\alpha 5$ : X5-SETLK-Z5, wherein X5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence FSKPQ (SEQ ID NO:192), and wherein Z5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence AGDLR (SEQ ID NO: 193) (the full length sequence would thus be FSKPQSETLKAGDLR) (SEQ ID NO: 194);

25  $\alpha 2$ : X2-ADTLK-Z2, wherein X2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence QGSPS (SEQ ID NO:195), and wherein Z2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence AGLIR (SEQ ID NO:196) (the full length sequence would thus be QGSPSADTLKAGLIR) (SEQ ID NO: 197);

$\alpha 4$ : X4-PDTLK-Z4, wherein X4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SSAPA (SEQ ID NO:198), and wherein Z4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence ESQAQ (SEQ ID NO:199) (the full length sequence would thus be SSAPAPDTLKESQAQ) (SEQ ID NO: 200); and

30  $\alpha 6$ : X6-SETLK-Z6, wherein X6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence GELPV (SEQ ID NO:201), and wherein Z6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence AGQLH (SEQ ID NO:202) (the full length sequence would thus be GELPVSETLKAGQLH) (SEQ ID NO: 203).

In a further preferred embodiment, the polypeptides of the invention consist of an amino acid sequence of general formula XII:

**A(R1)RND (SEQ ID NO:204)**

wherein R1 is selected from the group consisting of S, Q, and R.

5 This general formula XII is present in the highly conserved loop connecting the  $\beta 7$  and  $\beta 8$  strands in the crystal structure. This region is present at the hexamer interface, and is involved in hexamer assembly and stabilization. As such, peptides of general formula XII are useful for inhibiting hexamer interactions of type IV collagen.

10 In further preferred embodiments, the polypeptide according to general formula XII is selected from the group consisting of ASRND ( $\alpha 1$ ,  $\alpha 3$ ,  $\alpha 5$ ,  $\alpha 2$ ) (**SEQ ID NO:205**), AQRND ( $\alpha 4$ ) (**SEQ ID NO:206**), and ARRND ( $\alpha 6$ ) (**SEQ ID NO:207**).

In a further embodiment, the hexamer polypeptides selected from the group consisting of **SEQ ID NOS:205, 206, and 207** may optionally further include 0-5 amino acids at either or both the amino and carboxyl terminus that are derived from the same  $\alpha$  chain, in order to provide appropriate secondary structural characteristics to the polypeptide for optimal inhibitory activity. Such polypeptides can thus be selected from the group consisting of:

20  $\alpha 1$  and  $\alpha 5$ : X1-ASRND-Z1, wherein X1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence NVCNF (**SEQ ID NO: 208**), and wherein Z1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence YSYWL (**SEQ ID NO: 209**) (the full length sequence would thus be NVCNFASRNDYSYWL) (**SEQ ID NO: 210**);

25  $\alpha 3$ : X3-ASRND-Z3, wherein X3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence DVCNF (**SEQ ID NO: 211**), and wherein Z3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence YSYWL (**SEQ ID NO: 209**) (the full length sequence would thus be DVCNFASRNDYSYWL) (**SEQ ID NO:212**);

30  $\alpha 2$ : X2-ASRND-Z2, wherein X2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence DVCYY (**SEQ ID NO:213**), and wherein Z2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence KSYWL (**SEQ ID NO:214**) (the full length sequence would thus be DVCYYASRNDKSYWL) (**SEQ ID NO: 215**);

$\alpha 4$ : X4-AQRND-Z4, wherein X4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence QVCHY (**SEQ ID NO:216**), and wherein Z4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino

acids of the sequence RSYWL (SEQ ID NO:217) (the full length sequence would thus be QVCHYAQRNDRSYWL) (SEQ ID NO: 218); and

5  $\alpha 6$ : X6-ARRND-Z6, wherein X6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence EVCHY (SEQ ID NO:219), and wherein Z6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence KSYWL (SEQ ID NO:214) (the full length sequence would thus be EVCHYARRNDKSYWL) (SEQ ID NO: 220).

In a further preferred embodiment, the polypeptides of the invention consist of an amino acid sequence of general formula XIII:

(R1)(R2)(R3)N(R4) (SEQ ID NO:221)

10 wherein R1 is selected from the group consisting of Y and F;  
R2 is selected from the group consisting of Y and F;  
R3 is selected from the group consisting of A and S; and  
R4 is selected from the group consisting of A, S, and K.

15 This general formula XIII is present in the highly conserved loop connecting the  $\beta 7'$  and  $\beta 8'$  strands in the crystal structure. This region is present at the hexamer interface, and is involved in hexamer assembly and stabilization. As such, peptides of general formula XIII are useful for inhibiting hexamer interactions of type IV collagen.

20 In further preferred embodiments, the polypeptide according to general formula XIII is selected from the group consisting of YYANA ( $\alpha 1$ ) (SEQ ID NO:222) YYSNS ( $\alpha 3$ ) (SEQ ID NO:223) YYANS ( $\alpha 5$ ) (SEQ ID NO:224) YYANK ( $\alpha 2$ ) (SEQ ID NO:225) FFANK ( $\alpha 4$ ) (SEQ ID NO:226) and YFANK( $\alpha 6$ ) (SEQ ID NO:227).

25 In a further embodiment, the hexamer polypeptides selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:222-227 may optionally further include 0-5 amino acids at either or both the amino and carboxyl terminus that are derived from the same  $\alpha$  chain, in order to provide appropriate secondary structural characteristics to the polypeptide for optimal inhibitory activity. Such polypeptides can thus be selected from the group consisting of:

30  $\alpha 1$ : X1-YYANA-Z1, wherein X1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence RGTCN (SEQ ID NO: 228), and wherein Z1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence YSFWL (SEQ ID NO: 229) (the full length sequence would thus be RGTCNYYANAYSFWL) (SEQ ID NO: 230);

$\alpha 3$ : X3-YYSNS-Z3, wherein X3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence RGTCN (**SEQ ID NO: 228**), and wherein Z3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence YSFWL (**SEQ ID NO: 229**) (the full length sequence would thus be RGTCNYYSNSYSFWL) (**SEQ ID NO:231**);

5  $\alpha 5$ : X1-YYANS-Z2, wherein X1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence RGTCN (**SEQ ID NO: 228**), and wherein Z5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence YSFWL (**SEQ ID NO: 229**) (the full length sequence would thus be RGTCNYYANSYSFWL) (**SEQ ID NO: 232**);

10  $\alpha 2$ : X2-YYANK-Z2, wherein X2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence RGTCH (**SEQ ID NO:233**), and wherein Z2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence YSFWL (**SEQ ID NO:229**) (the full length sequence would thus be RGTCHYYANKYSFWL) (**SEQ ID NO: 234**);

15  $\alpha 4$ : X4-FFANK-Z4, wherein X4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence QGTCH (**SEQ ID NO:235**), and wherein Z4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence YSFWL (**SEQ ID NO:229**) (the full length sequence would thus be QGTCHFFANKYSFWL) (**SEQ ID NO: 236**); and

20  $\alpha 6$ : X6-YFANK-Z6, wherein X6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence RGTCH (**SEQ ID NO:233**), and wherein Z6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence YSFWL (**SEQ ID NO:229**) (the full length sequence would thus be RGTCHYFANKYSFWL) (**SEQ ID NO: 237**).

In a further embodiment, the present invention provides novel polypeptides derived from the hypervariable region of the type IV collagen  $\alpha$  chain NC1 domain sequences located between the  $\beta 8'$  and the  $\beta 9'$  strands, which are identified from the crystal structure as being present at the monomer-monomer interface, and which include the SRP and are involved in providing appropriate secondary structure for optimal interactions between the SR and the SRP. In this embodiment, the polypeptides consist of at least 7 amino acids of a sequence selected from the group consisting of IERSEMFKKPT ( $\alpha 1$ ) (**SEQ ID NO:238**), LNPERMFRKPI ( $\alpha 3$ ) (**SEQ ID NO:239**), VDVSDMFSKPQ ( $\alpha 5$ ) (**SEQ ID NO:240**), IPEQSFQGSPS ( $\alpha 2$ ) (**SEQ ID NO:241**), VKADLQFSSAPA ( $\alpha 4$ ) (**SEQ ID NO:242**), and VEERQQFGELPV ( $\alpha 6$ ) (**SEQ ID NO:243**). In various embodiments, the polypeptides consist of at least

8, 9, 10, 11, or 12 amino acids of a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:235-240.

In a further embodiment, the polypeptides selected from the group consisting of **SEQ ID NOS:238-243** may optionally further include 0-5 amino acids at either or  
5 both the amino and carboxyl terminus that are derived from the same  $\alpha$  chain, in order to provide appropriate secondary structural characteristics to the polypeptide for optimal inhibitory activity. Such polypeptides can thus be selected from the group consisting of:

$\alpha 1$ : X1-IERSEMFKKPT-Z1, wherein X1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids  
10 of the sequence FWLAT (**SEQ ID NO: 244**), and wherein Z1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence PSTLK (**SEQ ID NO: 181**) (the full length sequence would thus be FWLATIERSEMFKKPTPSTLK) (**SEQ ID NO: 245**);

$\alpha 3$ : X3-LNPERMFRKPI-Z3, wherein X3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids  
15 of the sequence FWLAS (**SEQ ID NO: 246**), and wherein Z3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence PSTVK (**SEQ ID NO: 182**) (the full length sequence would thus be FWLASLNPERMFRKPIPSTVK) (**SEQ ID NO:247**);

$\alpha 5$ : X1-VDVSDMFSKPQ-Z2, wherein X1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids  
of the sequence FWLAT (**SEQ ID NO: 244**), and wherein Z5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5  
20 amino acids of the sequence SETLK (**SEQ ID NO: 183**) (the full length sequence would thus be FWLATVDVSDMFSKPQSETLK) (**SEQ ID NO: 248**);

$\alpha 2$ : X2-IPEQSFQGSPS-Z2, wherein X2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of  
the sequence FWLTT (**SEQ ID NO:249**), and wherein Z2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino  
acids of the sequence ADTLK (**SEQ ID NO:184**) (the full length sequence would  
thus be FWLTTIPEQSFQGSPSADTLK) (**SEQ ID NO: 250**);

$\alpha 4$ : X4-VKADLQFSSAPA-Z4, wherein X4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino  
25 acids of the sequence FWLTT (**SEQ ID NO:249**), and wherein Z4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence PDTLK (**SEQ ID NO:185**) (the full length sequence would thus be FWLTTVKADLQFSSAPADTLK) (**SEQ ID NO: 251**); and

$\alpha 6$ : X6-VEERQQFGELPV-Z6, wherein X6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino  
30 acids of the sequence FWLTT (**SEQ ID NO:249**), and wherein Z6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SETLK (**SEQ ID NO:183**) (the full length sequence would thus be FWLTTVEERQQFGELPVSETLK) (**SEQ ID NO: 252**).

In further embodiments, the present invention provides other polypeptides that include multiple regions identified as being important for inhibiting monomer-monomer interactions (and thus heterotrimer assembly), and/or trimer-trimer interactions (and thus hexamer assembly). Polypeptides according to this aspect of  
5 the invention include the following:

SR plus the Inter-CDSR:

- $\alpha$ 1: FSTMPFLFCNINNVCFNFA (SEQ ID NO: 253)  
 $\alpha$ 3: FTTMPFLFCNVNDVCFNFA (SEQ ID NO: 254)  
 10  $\alpha$ 5: FSTMPFMFCNINNVCFNFA (SEQ ID NO: 255)  
 $\alpha$ 2: FSTMPFLYCNPGDVCYYA (SEQ ID NO: 256)  
 $\alpha$ 4: FSTLPFAYCNIHQVCHYA (SEQ ID NO: 257)  
 $\alpha$ 6: FSTMPFIYCNINEVCHYA (SEQ ID NO: 258)

15 Inter-CDSR plus contiguous hexamer interface region:

- $\alpha$ 1: PFLFCNINNVCFNFA SRND (SEQ ID NO: 259)  
 $\alpha$ 3: PFLFCNVNDVCFNFA SRND (SEQ ID NO: 260)  
 $\alpha$ 5: PFMFCNINNVCFNFA SRND (SEQ ID NO: 261)  
 $\alpha$ 2: PFLYCNPGDVCYYA SRND (SEQ ID NO: 262)  
 20  $\alpha$ 4: PFAYCNIHQVCHYA QRND (SEQ ID NO: 263)  
 $\alpha$ 6: PFIYCNINEVCHYA RRND (SEQ ID NO: 264)

SR plus the Inter-CDSR plus contiguous hexamer interface region:

- $\alpha$ 1: FSTMPFLFCNINNVCFNFA SRND (SEQ ID NO: 265)  
 25  $\alpha$ 3: FTTMPFLFCNVNDVCFNFA SRND (SEQ ID NO: 266)  
 $\alpha$ 5: FSTMPFMFCNINNVCFNFA SRND (SEQ ID NO: 267)  
 $\alpha$ 2: FSTMPFLYCNPGDVCYYA SRND (SEQ ID NO: 268)  
 $\alpha$ 4: FSTLPFAYCNIHQVCHYA QRND (SEQ ID NO: 269)  
 $\alpha$ 6: FSTMPFIYCNINEVCHYA RRND (SEQ ID NO: 270)

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Intra-CDSR plus contiguous hexamer interface region:

- $\alpha$ 1 and  $\alpha$ 5: PFIECHGRGTCNYY (SEQ ID NO: 271)  
 $\alpha$ 3: PFLECHGRGTCNYY (SEQ ID NO: 272)  
 $\alpha$ 2: PFIECNGGRGTCHYY (SEQ ID NO: 273)

$\alpha$ 4: PFLECGRQGTCHFF (SEQ ID NO: 274)

$\alpha$ 6: PFIECSGARGTCHYF (SEQ ID NO: 275)

SRP/variable region plus contiguous hexamer interface:

5  $\alpha$ 1: IERSEMFKKPTSTLKAG (SEQ ID NO: 276)

$\alpha$ 3: LNPERMFRKPIPSTVKAG (SEQ ID NO: 277)

$\alpha$ 5: VDVSDMFSKPQSETLKAG (SEQ ID NO: 278)

$\alpha$ 2: IPEQSFQGPSADTLKAG (SEQ ID NO: 279)

$\alpha$ 4: VKADLQFSSAPAPDTLKES (SEQ ID NO: 280)

10  $\alpha$ 6: VEERQQFGELPVSETLKAG (SEQ ID NO: 281)

Specific monomer-monomer inhibitor plus SR:

$\alpha$ 1: GSCLRKFSTM (SEQ ID NO: 282)

$\alpha$ 3: GSCLQRFTTM (SEQ ID NO: 283)

15  $\alpha$ 5: GSCLRRFSTM (SEQ ID NO: 284)

$\alpha$ 2: GSCLARFSTM (SEQ ID NO: 285)

$\alpha$ 4: GSCLPVFSTL (SEQ ID NO: 286)

$\alpha$ 6: GSCLPRFSTM (SEQ ID NO: 287)

20 Monomer-monomer inhibitor plus SR plus Inter-CDSR plus hexamer interface

$\alpha$ 1 LRKFSTMPFLFCNINNVCF (SEQ ID NO: 288)

$\alpha$ 3: LQRFTTMPFLFCNVNDVCF (SEQ ID NO: 289)

$\alpha$ 5: LRRFSTMPFMFCNINNVCF (SEQ ID NO: 290)

$\alpha$ 2: LARFSTMPFLYCNPGDVCYY (SEQ ID NO: 291)

25  $\alpha$ 4: LPVFSTLPFAYCNIHQVCHY (SEQ ID NO: 292)

$\alpha$ 6: LPRFSTMPFIYCNINEVCHY (SEQ ID NO: 293)

In another aspect, the present invention provides methods for inhibiting angiogenesis, angiogenesis-mediated disorders, tumor growth, tumor metastasis, endothelial cell adhesion and/or proliferation, and basal lamina assembly, comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an amount effective to inhibit angiogenesis, angiogenesis-mediated disorders, tumor growth, tumor metastasis, endothelial cell adhesion and/or proliferation, and basal lamina assembly of one or more polypeptides

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of the invention, antibodies against such polypeptides, or pharmaceutical compositions thereof.

“Angiogenesis-mediated disorders” refers to diseases and conditions with accompanying undesired angiogenesis, including but not limited to solid and blood-borne tumors, diabetic retinopathy, rheumatoid arthritis, retinal neovascularization, choroidal neovascularization, macular degeneration, corneal neovascularization, retinopathy of prematurity, corneal graft rejection, neovascular glaucoma, retrolental fibroplasia, epidemic keratoconjunctivitis, Vitamin A deficiency, contact lens overwear, atopic keratitis, superior limbic keratitis, pterygium keratitis sicca, sogrens, acne rosacea, phlyctenulosis, syphilis, Mycobacteria infections, lipid degeneration, chemical burns, bacterial ulcers, fungal ulcers, Herpes simplex infections, Herpes zoster infections, protozoan infections, Kaposi's sarcoma, Mooren ulcer, Terrien's marginal degeneration, marginal keratolysis, trauma, systemic lupus, polyarteritis, Wegeners sarcoidosis, scleritis, Steven's Johnson disease, radial keratotomy, sickle cell anemia, sarcoid, pseudoxanthoma elasticum, Pagets disease, vein occlusion, artery occlusion, carotid obstructive disease, chronic uveitis, chronic vitritis, Lyme's disease, Eales disease, Bechets disease, myopia, optic pits, Stargarts disease, pars planitis, chronic retinal detachment, hyperviscosity syndromes, toxoplasmosis, post-laser complications, abnormal proliferation of fibrovascular tissue, hemangiomas, Osler-Weber-Rendu, acquired immune deficiency syndrome, ocular neovascular disease, osteoarthritis, chronic inflammation, Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, psoriasis, atherosclerosis, and pemphigoid. (See U.S. Patent No. 5,712,291)

The polypeptides, or antibodies against such polypeptides, may be subjected to conventional pharmaceutical operations such as sterilization and/or may contain conventional adjuvants, such as preservatives, stabilizers, wetting agents, emulsifiers, buffers etc.

For administration, the polypeptides, or antibodies against such polypeptides, are ordinarily combined with one or more adjuvants appropriate for the indicated route of administration. The polypeptides, or antibodies against such polypeptides, may be admixed with lactose, sucrose, starch powder, cellulose esters of alkanolic acids, stearic acid, talc, magnesium stearate, magnesium oxide, sodium and calcium salts of phosphoric and sulphuric acids, acacia, gelatin, sodium alginate, polyvinylpyrrolidone, and/or polyvinyl alcohol, and tableted or encapsulated for conventional administration. Alternatively, the polypeptides, or antibodies against

such polypeptides of this invention may be dissolved in saline, water, polyethylene glycol, propylene glycol, carboxymethyl cellulose colloidal solutions, ethanol, corn oil, peanut oil, cottonseed oil, sesame oil, tragacanth gum, and/or various buffers. Other adjuvants and modes of administration are well known in the pharmaceutical art. The carrier or diluent may include time delay material, such as glyceryl monostearate or glyceryl distearate alone or with a wax, or other materials well known in the art.

In practicing this aspect of the invention, the amount or dosage range of the polypeptides, antibodies against such polypeptides, or pharmaceutical compositions employed is one that effectively inhibits angiogenesis, angiogenesis-mediated disorders, tumor growth, tumor metastasis, and/or endothelial cell-extracellular matrix interactions. An inhibiting amount of the polypeptides that can be employed ranges generally between about 0.01  $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$  body weight and about 10  $\text{mg}/\text{kg}$  body weight, preferably ranging between about 0.05  $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$  and about 5  $\text{mg}/\text{kg}$  body weight.

The polypeptides, antibodies against such polypeptides, or pharmaceutical compositions thereof may be administered by any suitable route, including orally, parentally, by inhalation spray, rectally, or topically in dosage unit formulations containing conventional pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, adjuvants, and vehicles. The term parenteral as used herein includes, subcutaneous, intravenous, intra-arterial, intramuscular, intrasternal, intratendinous, intraspinal, intracranial, intrathoracic, infusion techniques or intraperitoneally. In preferred embodiments, the polypeptides are administered intravenously or subcutaneously.

The polypeptides, antibodies against such polypeptides, or pharmaceutical compositions thereof may be made up in a solid form (including granules, powders or suppositories) or in a liquid form (*e.g.*, solutions, suspensions, or emulsions). The polypeptides and antibodies against such polypeptides of the invention may be applied in a variety of solutions. Suitable solutions for use in accordance with the invention are sterile, dissolve sufficient amounts of the polypeptides, and are not harmful for the proposed application.

In a preferred embodiment, one or more of the disclosed polypeptides, antibodies against such polypeptides, or pharmaceutical compositions thereof, are used so as to target more than one region of type IV collagen for inhibition of assembly. For example, peptides that target different hexamer regions can be used in combination to increase their inhibitory effect. Alternatively, or additionally,

combining a peptide targeting monomer-monomer interactions with a peptide that targets hexamer assembly can provide an additive inhibitory effect. Other combinations are well within the knowledge of one of skill in the art, based on the teachings herein.

5

## EXAMPLES

*Protein Purification and Crystallization.* The  $[(\alpha 1)_2 \cdot \alpha 2]_2$  NC1 hexamer was isolated from bovine eye lenses purchased from Pel-Freeze Biologicals (Rogers, AR) (37). Briefly, LBM was prepared by sonication of the lenses in the presence of 1 M NaCl and protease inhibitors (38). To cleave the NC1 domain from the full-length type IV collagen, the LBM preparation was digested with bacterial collagenase at 37° C. The NC1 hexamer was purified by using DE-52 and S-300 column chromatography.

Initial crystallization screening with commercial sparse matrix kits (Hampton Research, Laguna Niguel, CA) was carried out using concentrated protein (10 mg/ml) and hanging drop vapor diffusion method. LBM NC1 crystals grow as small clusters overnight in 10% (w/v) PEG 20K, 0.1 M Bicine buffer (pH 9.0) at room temperature. Diffraction quality crystals were grown using microseeding procedures under similar conditions with lower protein concentration. The crystals belong to monoclinic  $P2_1$  space group with unit cell dimensions  $a = 129.41 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $b = 143.87 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $c = 162.92 \text{ \AA}$ , and  $\beta = 91.3^\circ$  at room temperature and four hexamers in the asymmetric unit. Cryocooling of the crystals in 25% 2,4-methyl pentanediol (MPD) or glycerol results in the shrinkage of the unit cell ( $a = 127.16 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $b = 139.57 \text{ \AA}$ ;  $c = 160.20 \text{ \AA}$ ;  $\beta = 91.3^\circ$ ).

*Structure Determination and Refinement.* Initial heavy atom soaks were carried out at the crystallization pH and later switched to neutral pH with phosphate buffer. NC1 crystals soaked in synthetic mother liquor containing 2mM  $\text{LuCl}_3$  or  $\text{K}_2\text{PtCl}_6$  transform the lattice to a smaller unit cell of dimensions  $a = 79.79 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $b = 137.20 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $c = 126.69 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\beta = 90.3^\circ$  and two hexamers in the asymmetric unit. The crystals were routinely transformed into new form by soaking in 2 mM  $\text{LuCl}_3$  overnight and used for further heavy atom soakings. Multiwavelength anomalous diffraction (MAD) data sets were collected at peak, inflection and two remote wavelengths using a single crystal soaked in 0.5 M KBr for 1 min and flash-frozen in cold  $\text{N}_2$  stream (Table 1).

The heavy atom soak screens were carried out at beamlines 1-5 and 9-2 of Stanford Synchrotron Radiation Laboratory (SSRL) and beamline X8C of National Synchrotron Light Source (NSLS) at Brookhaven National Laboratory. The Br-MAD data sets used in this study were collected at SSRL and processed using DENZO and SCALEPACK programs of HKL2000 suite (39). The Br<sup>-</sup> sites were located using SOLVE program (40) and 37 highest peaks ( $> 6\sigma$ ) were used for phasing the reflections at 2.2 Å resolution. The resulting phases were improved by solvent flattening using RESOLVE (41) and the electron density map was calculated using FFT program of CCP4 suite (42). Polypeptides of two  $\alpha$ 1 chains and one  $\alpha$ 2 chain (chains A-C) were traced using the TOM FRODO graphics program (43). The complete asymmetric unit was generated using non-crystallographic symmetry (“NCS”) relations obtained from Br<sup>-</sup> sites—first the second trimer (chains D-F) was generated to complete one hexamer and then the second hexamer (chains G-L) was generated from the first hexamer. The 2.0 Å data set collected at 0.8856 Å ( $\lambda_4$ ) was used for model refinement using CNS program (44) and 5% of the data were set aside for monitoring  $R_{\text{free}}$ . The initial model was subjected to rigid body refinement using reflections in the 30.0-3.0 Å resolution range ( $R = 0.361$  and  $R_{\text{free}} = 0.364$ ) followed by simulated annealing refinement in the 10.0-2.5 Å resolution range ( $R = 0.326$  and  $R_{\text{free}} = 0.287$ ). Resolution was slowly extended to 2.0 Å in several iterative cycles of model building and refinement of positional and thermal parameters. During the final rounds of refinement, solvent molecules (water and glycerol) and Br<sup>-</sup> ions were added in steps using  $2F_o - F_c$  and  $F_o - F_c$  maps and hydrogen bonding criteria. Multiple conformers of a few sidechains were modeled in the final round. The structure was analyzed using SETOR(45), GRASP(46), and SURFNET(47) graphics software packages and various utility programs in CCP4 suite. The hexamer interface was analyzed using HBPLUS(48) and protein-protein interaction web server (<http://www.biochem.ucl.ac.uk/bsm/PP/server/>).

**Table 1.** Summary of Crystallographic Analysis

<b>Data Collection</b>				
Dataset	Peak	Inflection	Remote1	Remote2
Wavelength (Å)	0.9195	0.9197	0.9537	0.8856
Resolution (Å)	2.1	2.1	2.15	2.0
Measured reflections	602,172	603,309	568,640	686,286
Unique reflections	159,617	159,667	149,817	184,445
Completeness (%) <sup>*</sup>	98.3 (90.9)	98.2 (90.5)	98.7 (95.1)	97.9 (87.8)
R <sub>sym</sub> (%) <sup>†</sup>	4.0 (7.7)	3.0 (6.7)	2.4 (4.9)	3.4 (8.6)
I/σ(I)	29.2(15.0)	33.0 (18.2)	37.6 (26)	30.5 (13.1)
<b>Phasing Statistics</b>				
Resolution range (Å)	50.0 – 2.2			
Number of Br sites	33			
Overall Z-score	127			
Figure of Merit SOLVE / RESOLVE	0.67 / 0.76			
<b>Refinement Statistics</b>				
Resolution range (Å)	8.0 – 2.0			
Number of reflections (σ>2) working / test	166,448 / 8,789			
R <sub>cryst</sub> / R <sub>free</sub> (%) <sup>‡</sup>	17.0 / 19.6			
RMS deviation				
Bond lengths (Å)	0.0051			
Bond angles (°)	1.29			

<sup>\*</sup> The overall completeness is given, with the completeness in the highest resolution shell shown in the parentheses. Similar convention is followed for R<sub>sym</sub> and I/σ(I) also. <sup>†</sup>R<sub>sym</sub> =  $\sum_h \sum_i |<I(h)> - I(h)_i| / \sum_h \sum_i |I(h)_i|$ . <sup>‡</sup> 5% of the data were excluded from refinement and were used to determine the R<sub>free</sub>. The R<sub>cryst</sub> does not include these reflections. In both cases  $R = \sum (|F_o| - k|F_c|) / \sum |F_o|$ , with an appropriate choice of reflections for the summation.

5

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

**Structure Determination and Overview.** The bovine LBM NC1 hexamer, composed of α1 and α2 chains, crystallizes in monoclinic space group *P2*<sub>1</sub> (A-form) with four hexamers per asymmetric unit. This is different from the crystal forms reported for mouse EHS tumor NC1 (49) and human placenta NC1 hexamers (50), which

10

crystallized with two hexamers and one hexamer in the asymmetric unit respectively. The intensity statistics of the preliminary diffraction data suggested the presence of pseudo-translation symmetry along the *c* axis in LBM NC1 crystals. An extensive search for heavy atom derivatives using soaking experiments was not successful.

5 However, crystals soaked in LuCl<sub>3</sub> at pH 7.0 transformed the lattice to a smaller unit cell as a result of pseudo-translation symmetry becoming crystallographic translation in the same space group with only two hexamers in the asymmetric unit (B-form). MAD data of the crystals soaked in LuCl<sub>3</sub> did not provide useful phase information, probably due to a single weak binding site that was responsible for lattice

10 transformation. However, we took advantage of the smaller unit cell for further heavy atom screening, including the newly suggested short-soaking strategy with halides (51,52). The LuCl<sub>3</sub>-soaked B-form crystal structure was determined at 2.0 Å resolution by the MAD method using Br<sup>-</sup> as the anomalous scatterer combined with solvent flattening. The data collection, phasing and refinement statistics are shown in

15 **Table 1.**

The map was fitted with human NC1 α1 and α2 sequences (**Fig. 2**) since neither of the bovine sequences is available. Four each of the α1 and α2 sequences of other mammalian species are known, which share more than 95% sequence identity among them. More than 95% of the residues of the human sequences fit experimental

20 electron density map. Differences between the human sequences and the map were found for residues Ile15Thr, Ser22Pro, Pro129Gln in α1 chain and Asp96Glu, Glu97Asp, and Gly176Ala in α2 chain. The sequences are numbered so that the residue after the last Gly-Xaa-Yaa repeat of the collagenous region is counted as the first residue in both α chains. The 12 chains in two hexamers have been assigned

25 chain IDs A-L in the order of α1, α1 and α2 in each trimer. The map shows disorder for 5-6 residues at N- and two residues at C-termini of all the chains. The final model includes two hexamers, 36 Br<sup>-</sup> ions, 48 glycerol molecules and 1139 water molecules. The final R-factor and R<sub>free</sub> of the refinement are 0.168 and 0.197 respectively. More than 90% of the residues are within the most favorable regions in Ramachandran map

30 and Arg76 and Ser148 of the first α1 chain, Ser148 of the second α1 chain and Arg75, Glu95 and Ala145 of α2 chain in each trimer lie in the disallowed region. Only a handful of residues are in multiple conformations. The two hexamers in the

asymmetric unit are similar with no apparent differences due to crystal contacts. The hexamer comprising chains A-F is used to describe the model.

The overall structure of the hexamer is illustrated in **Fig. 3**. The two trimers in the hexamer are related by a 2-fold NCS axis at the interface (“equatorial plane”) and the monomers within a trimer are related by a pseudo 3-fold symmetry coinciding with the triple helix axis (“polar axis”).

**Monomer Topology:** The NC1 monomer folds into a novel tertiary structure with predominantly  $\beta$ -strands as predicted by our earlier study using multiple sequence alignment (22)(**Fig. 4**). The two  $\alpha 1$  chains in the trimer are identical and the  $\alpha 2$  chain has a similar overall structure. The  $C_{\alpha}$  atoms of 214 matching residues in one of the  $\alpha 1$  chains and the  $\alpha 2$  chain superimpose with an RMS deviation of 0.9 Å. Each chain can be divided into two homologous subdomains, N- and C-subdomains. The two subdomains fold in a similar topology and  $C_{\alpha}$  atoms of 96 matching residues of two subdomains of  $\alpha 1$  chain superimpose with an RMS deviation of 1.0 Å. The 12 invariant cysteine residues form six disulfides, three in each subdomain, at conserved positions (**Fig. 2 and 5**). The major difference between the two subdomains occurs at the regions encompassing Pro86-Pro95 in the N-subdomain and Ile196-Thr209 in the C-subdomain, which are least conserved in the six human sequences (**Fig. 1**). Each subdomain has two  $\beta$ -sheets—a three-strand anti-parallel sheet (I & I’) close to the triple helical junction and a six-strand anti-parallel sheet (II & II’) close to the hexamer interface, which consists of the regions of interactions between the two trimers that make up the hexamer (**Fig. 4 and 5**). The  $\beta$ -sheet I is formed by the three non-contiguous strands ( $\beta 1$ ,  $\beta 10$  and  $\beta 2$ ) of the sequence belonging to the first half of the polypeptide. However, in the  $\beta$ -sheet II, only four strands ( $\beta 4$ ,  $\beta 3$ ,  $\beta 8$ , and  $\beta 9$ ) belong to the first half of the sequence and the remaining two strands ( $\beta 6'$  and  $\beta 7'$ ) form a part of the second half of the sequence. Thus, a  $\beta$ -hairpin structure from the second half of the sequence (the “intra-chain domain swapping region”, or “Intra-CDSR”) swaps into the N-subdomain to form a six-strand  $\beta$ -sheet. The two halves of the polypeptide being topologically similar, the region in the C-subdomain corresponding to the six-strand  $\beta$ -sheet in the N-subdomain lacks two strands to form a similar  $\beta$ -sheet in the isolated monomer structure. Similarly,  $\beta 6$ - $\beta 7$  hairpin in the N-terminal half, which corresponds to the  $\beta 6'$ - $\beta 7'$  hairpin in the C-terminal involved

in the domain swapping interaction, extends out in the monomer structure. These two features form the basis for the trimer organization described in the next section.

**Trimer Organization:** Two chains of the  $\alpha 1$  NC1 domain and one chain of the  $\alpha 2$  NC1 domain form the trimer structure with a pseudo 3-fold molecular symmetry. Since each chain is made up of topologically similar subdomains, there is even a pseudo 6-fold symmetry. The topology diagram of the trimer is shown in **Fig. 5**. The trimer structure is approximately cone-shaped with a base diameter of about 65 Å and a hollow core of about 12-14.0 Å inner diameter. This is about the same of as the diameter of the collagen triple helix, with N-termini of all three chains coming together at the vertex of the cone where the triple helical collagenous domain links with the NC1 domain. The trimer is tightly packed through several interchain hydrophobic and hydrogen bonding interactions (**Table 2**). Residues of five segments in the N-subdomain of one chain make contact with those of seven segments in the C-subdomain of the second chain, and constitute the “monomer-monomer interface”, which consists of the regions of monomer-monomer interaction within the trimer. The most important interactions are confined to one N-subdomain segment and two C-subdomain segments (**Fig. 1**). There are two levels of monomer-monomer interactions, one essential for the “generic trimer” assembly and the other dictating the  $\alpha$ NC1 chain specificity of the monomer-monomer interactions within the trimer.

Table 2. Comparison of monomer-monomer interfaces in the trimer.						
	$\alpha 1A-\alpha 1B$		$\alpha 1b-\alpha 2$		$\alpha 2-\alpha 1A$	
Interface Parameter	$\alpha 1A$	$\alpha 1B$	$\alpha 1B$	$\alpha 2$	$\alpha 2$	$\alpha 1A$
Number of segments	5	7	5	7	5	8
Number of residues	49	60	51	65	49	59
$\Delta$ ASA (Å <sup>2</sup> )	2137	2182	2087	2066	1985	2044
Polar/non-polar atoms (%)	40.1/59.9	24.5/75.5	44.3/55.7	32.5/67.5	39.9/60.1	24.8/75.3
Hydrogen bonds						
M-M/M-S/S-S	9/8/5		11/8/12		9/9/3	

$\Delta$  ASA, interface solvent accessible area; M, main chain; S, side chain

Within the trimer, the following monomer-monomer interfaces exist:  $\alpha 1A$ - $\alpha 2C$ ;  $\alpha 1B$ - $\alpha 2C$ ; and  $\alpha 1A$ - $\alpha 1B$ . The hexamer contains two such trimers; the monomer-monomer interfaces in the second trimer are  $\alpha 1D$ - $\alpha 2F$ ;  $\alpha 1E$ - $\alpha 2F$ ; and  $\alpha 1D$ - $\alpha 1E$ .

5 **Generic Trimer:** At the first level, the monomers intertwine with each other to form the trimer through 3D domain swapping interactions (**Fig. 5 and 6a**) (53). A six-strand  $\beta$ -sheet (II') is formed in the C-subdomain from strands of two different  $\alpha$  chains similar to the  $\beta$ -sheet II in the N-subdomain formed from the strands in two halves of the same chain. These  $\beta$ -sheets are indistinguishable in  $\alpha 1$  and  $\alpha 2$  chains.

10 Thus, there are six  $\beta$ -sheets (II/II'), one in each of the six subdomains, forming the close-ended 3D domain swapping interactions in the NC1 trimer structure. Each of these six-strand  $\beta$ -sheets is formed by four strands ( $\beta 4/4'$ ,  $\beta 3/3'$ ,  $\beta 8/8'$ ,  $\beta 9/9'$ ) in one half of the sequence and the remaining two strands ( $\beta 6'/6$ ,  $\beta 7'/7$ ) are contributed by the other half of the same chain ( $\beta 6/\beta 7$ ; the Inter-CDSR) or adjacent chain ( $\beta 6'/\beta 7'$ ;

15 the "Intra-chain domain swapping region", or "Intra-CDSR"). The amino acid sequences of all the strands with the exception of  $\beta 9$ , are highly conserved in  $\alpha$  chains within and across the species. The six topologically similar  $\beta$ -sheets formed in cyclical fashion give the pseudo 6-fold symmetry appearance for the trimer (**Fig. 6a**). In each of the  $\beta$ -sheets, the outermost strand ( $\beta 9/\beta 9'$ ) lies on the surface parallel to the

20 equatorial plane of the hexamer interface forming a part of the outer ring and the innermost strand ( $\beta 4/\beta 4'$ ) runs nearly parallel to the polar axis or pseudo 3-fold axis in the core. The angle between these two strands within each sheet is about  $75^\circ$  giving it a right-handed twist. The  $\beta 4/\beta 4'$  strands from all the six  $\beta$ -sheets form a parallel  $\beta$  barrel-like core of about 14 Å diameter even though there are no backbone

25 hydrogen bonds between them (**Fig. 6a**). However, these core strands are stabilized by backbone-side chain hydrogen bonds either directly or mediated through solvent molecules. The  $\beta 4/4'$  strands have a mixture of hydrophobic and hydrophilic residues, with the former pointing to the core and the latter pointing towards the adjacent strand. Interestingly, the  $\beta 4$  strands contain long chain hydrophilic amino

30 acids so that they form more direct hydrogen bonds with the backbone atoms of the  $\beta 4'$  strand of the neighboring chain indicating stronger interchain interactions. The interactions between  $\beta 4'$  and  $\beta 4$  within a chain are mainly mediated through solvent

molecules. Thus, the six-strand  $\beta$ -sheets are essential structural components in the organization of the generic trimer structure through 3D domain swapping interactions and the compact  $\beta$  barrel-like core structure. However, they may play only a limited role in the chain specific assembly of the trimer. Therefore, compounds that target the  
5 Intra-CDSR, the Inter-CDSR, and the  $\beta 4/\beta 4'$  based  $\beta$  barrel-like core, such as peptides derived from these regions, can be used to inhibit generic monomer-monomer interactions, and thus to inhibit trimer assembly.

**Chain Specificity in the Trimer Structure:** The sequence of the loop connecting the  
10  $\beta 8'$  and  $\beta 9'$  strands is the most variable region in all the six human  $\alpha$  chains (referred to as the “hypervariable region”). This hypervariability in the primary sequences manifests itself as different secondary structures in the  $\alpha 1$  and  $\alpha 2$  chains in the crystal structure. Whereas it forms a short  $3_{10}$  helix ( $g2'$ ) in all the  $\alpha 1$ -like chains (the “specificity region partner” or “SRP”; Glu200-Lys204 (EMFKK)), the corresponding  
15 region in  $\alpha 2$  chain (Ser198-Gln200; SFQ) adopts an extended conformation ( $\beta p'$ ) and pairs with the extended structure (the “specificity region”, or “SR”;  $\beta p$ , Phe57-Met60; FSTM) in the adjacent  $\alpha 1B$  chain to form a short parallel  $\beta$ -sheet (Fig. 8b). It should be noted that the sequence of the SR from  $\alpha 1$  and  $\alpha 2$  is identical (FSTM). This is the only parallel  $\beta$ -sheet in the entire structure, which is predominantly made up of  
20  $\beta$ -strands. The sequence of the  $\beta p$  is highly conserved in all the six  $\alpha$  chains and forms the same extended structure in  $\alpha 2$  chain also, even though it doesn't have a partner in  $\alpha 1A$  chain to form the parallel  $\beta$ -sheet. Thus, these additional main chain hydrogen bond interactions between the two chains are found only at the  $\alpha 1B$ - $\alpha 2$  interface (i.e.: which includes the interaction of the SR of  $\alpha 1$  and the SRP of  $\alpha 2$ ), but  
25 not in  $\alpha 2$ - $\alpha 1A$  (i.e.: which includes the interaction of the SRP of  $\alpha 1$  and the SR of  $\alpha 2$ ) or  $\alpha 1A$ - $\alpha 1B$  (i.e.: which includes the interaction of the SR of  $\alpha 1$  and the SRP of  $\alpha 1$ ) interfaces, due to the presence of the  $3_{10}$  helical structure in  $\alpha 1$  chains rather than the extended structure present in  $\alpha 2$  chain. Besides this difference in the secondary structural elements in the three interfaces, there are also differences in the main  
30 chain-side chain and side chain-side chain interactions at the monomer-monomer interface (Fig. 6b). This is also reflected in different ratios of polar to non-polar atoms at the three interfaces (Table 2). Therefore, compounds that target the SR, the SRP,

or the hyper-variability region, such as peptides derived from these regions, can be used to inhibit specific monomer-monomer interactions, and thus inhibit trimer assembly.

Furthermore, given the composition of the individual interfaces within the monomer-monomer interface, a preferred inhibitor of specific trimer assembly would target the SR, which is identical in  $\alpha 1$  and  $\alpha 2$ , and thus such an inhibitor would be expected to interfere with interactions at each interface within the monomer-monomer interface, and thus to inhibit trimer assembly. Also preferred would be an inhibitor that targets the  $\alpha 2$  SRP, which is required for the additional H-bonding interactions seen at the  $\alpha 1$ B- $\alpha 2$  interface.

The side chain of Lys56( $\alpha 1$ B) is sandwiched between the backbone of the loop preceding the parallel  $\beta$ -sheet in  $\alpha 2$  chain and the contiguous bonds of backbone and side chain of Gln120( $\alpha 2$ ). In this tightly locked position, Lys56( $\alpha 1$ B) assumes a linear conformation to form two strong hydrogen bonds with the carbonyl of Ile194( $\alpha 2$ ) and the carboxyl of Asp121( $\alpha 2$ ), and two more weak interactions with the carbonyls of Gln120( $\alpha 2$ ) and Glu196( $\alpha 2$ ). The  $\alpha 1$ -like (ie:  $\alpha 1/3/5$  family) region corresponding to the parallel  $\beta$ -sheet of  $\alpha 2$  chain is the  $3_{10}$  helix, which spans a longer sequence. Hence, in the  $\alpha 1$ A- $\alpha 1$ B interface, Lys56( $\alpha 1$ A) is not quite parallel to the backbone bonds, which provides more room for this lysine to adopt a different rotamer conformation to form only weak hydrogen bond with the carbonyl oxygen of Ile196( $\alpha 1$ B). This may also be influenced by the presence of hydrophobic Thr124 in  $\alpha 1$  chains in place of hydrophilic Asp121 in  $\alpha 2$ . At the  $\alpha 2$ - $\alpha 1$ A interface Arg55( $\alpha 2$ ) is docked in similar position as Lys56 of  $\alpha 1$  chains in other two interfaces with one strong hydrogen bond interaction with carbonyl of Ile196( $\alpha 1$ A). Other differences in amino acid sequences including Arg55/Ala54 and Gly98/Glu95 make differences in hydrogen bonding patterns at the interfaces. Thus, the Arg55( $\alpha 2$ )/Lys56( $\alpha 1$ ) is an important residue for optimal  $\alpha 1$ - $\alpha 2$  monomer-monomer interactions, and compounds targeting this region, such as peptides including LRKF (SEQ ID NO:294) ( $\alpha 1$ ) or LARF (SEQ ID NO:295) ( $\alpha 2$ ), can be used to inhibit the assembly of specific monomer-monomer interactions. Since this region precedes the SR, this region can be combined with the SR to form a longer peptide that will interfere with multiple aspects of specific monomer-monomer interactions, and thus be even more effective at inhibiting trimer assembly.

Furthermore, the regions Ile194-Glu196 ( $\alpha 2$ ), Ile196 ( $\alpha 1$ ) and Gln120-Asp121( $\alpha 2$ ) also are involved in optimal  $\alpha 1$ - $\alpha 2$  monomer-monomer interactions, and compounds targeting these region, such as peptides including IPE (SEQ ID NO:294) ( $\alpha 2$  184-196), IER (SEQ ID NO:295) ( $\alpha 1$  196-198) or QD (SEQ ID NO:296) ( $\alpha 2$  120-121), can be used to inhibit the assembly of specific monomer-monomer interactions, and thus to inhibit trimer assembly.

The  $\alpha 1B$ - $\alpha 2$  interface (i.e.: which includes the interaction of the SR of  $\alpha 1$  and the SRP of  $\alpha 2$ ) has the maximum number of contact residues, the highest proportion of hydrophilic atoms, and contains more hydrogen bonds than the other monomer-monomer interfaces (Table 2). On the other hand, the buried surface area is largest for  $\alpha 1A$ - $\alpha 1B$  interface (i.e.: which includes the interaction of the SR of  $\alpha 1$  and the SRP of  $\alpha 1$ ). From these observations, it is evident that the  $\alpha 1B$ - $\alpha 2$  interface is formed predominantly through hydrogen bonding interactions and the  $\alpha 1A$ - $\alpha 1B$  interface is stabilized by more hydrophobic forces.

In addition to the specific interactions at the interfaces, packing considerations may also play an important role in determining chain stoichiometry in the trimer. Even though the  $\alpha 1$  and  $\alpha 2$  NC1 chains fold in a similar tertiary structure with a low RMS deviation, the relative orientation of the two subdomains in each NC1 chain is different near the triple helical junction. The region encompassing Thr13-Tyr30 of the N-subdomain in the  $\alpha 2$  chain is farther from its equivalent region Asp121-Tyr138 of the C-subdomain in the  $\alpha 2$  chain compared to the relative orientations of similar regions in the  $\alpha 1$  structure. The larger width of the  $\alpha 2$  structure near the triple helical junction results in serious steric clashes when packed into a hypothetical  $\alpha 2$ -homotrimer. However, it is possible to accommodate three  $\alpha 1$  chains in a hypothetical homotrimer, albeit with weaker interactions.

It is preferred that peptides designed to interfere with monomer-monomer interactions are preferably delivered into the cell, where such monomer-monomer assembly occurs. Alternatively, the peptides can be used to disrupt assembled trimers that have been secreted by the cell.

30

**Hexamer Assembly:** The type IV collagen trimer, once formed in the endoplasmic lumen, is secreted into the extracellular space where it assembles into the hexamer, and then into a supramolecular network through N- and C-terminal associations. The

NC1 domains play the dominant role in this assembly, by determining the C-terminal dimeric association, leading to hexamer assembly. In this section we describe the forces that influence such hexamer assembly as observed in the crystal structure, and provide a rationale for the specificity in the type IV collagen network assembly.

5           The foot-ball shaped hexamer is made up of two identical trimers, each containing two  $\alpha 1$  chains and one  $\alpha 2$  chain as described in the previous section. Each protomer (ie: the complete type IV collagen trimer, including NC1 domains) formed by the tightly intertwined trimer is considered as a single entity so that the hexamer can be analyzed relative to other homodimeric protein complexes (43). We have  
10 determined several parameters defining the hexamer interface to evaluate the strength of interactions between the two trimers and analyze hexamer assembly in the type IV collagen network (**Table 3**).

**Table 3.** Comparison of interface parameters defining the trimer-trimer interaction in the NC1 hexamer and observed mean for 32 homodimer complexes.

Interface Parameter	NC1 Hexamer	Observed Mean (43) (32 Homodimers)
$\Delta$ ASA ( $\text{\AA}^2$ )	4173.1	1685.03
Planarity	1.91	3.46
Circularity	0.87	0.71
Segmentation	18	5.22
Hydrogen bonds per 100 $\text{\AA}^2$	1.2	0.70
Gap Index	1.24	2.2

15 Percentage of polar and non-polar atoms are 45.5 and 54.5 respectively.

Like most homodimers, the two NC1 trimers are related by a 2-fold NCS axis in lying the equatorial plane and perpendicular to the pseudo 3-fold axis of symmetry within an individual trimer (Fig. 4). This symmetry constraint may be partly  
20 influenced by a few differences in the interface residues of  $\alpha 1$  like and  $\alpha 2$  like sequences in addition to more efficient packing. The hexamer interface is formed by the nearly flat surfaces of the two trimers, with an RMS deviation of 1.9  $\text{\AA}$  for all the hexamer interface atoms from the mean plane (Fig. 9a). This is significantly lower than the average planarity value of 3.5  $\text{\AA}$  for 32 homodimers discussed in a recent  
25 review (43). The hexamer interface formed by six segments each of the three

monomers, with a total of 109 residues per trimer, is nearly circular, with the major and minor axial lengths of the mean plane measuring approximately 69 and 61 Å respectively. This flat circular hexamer interface covers about 4400 Å<sup>2</sup> of solvent accessible area per trimer, which correlates with the observation of larger molecules having larger interfaces (54). Such a large interface facilitates strong interaction between the trimers, involving both hydrophobic and hydrophilic residues. The polar (45.5%) and non-polar atoms (54.5%) in the hexamer interface are nearly in equal proportions, underscoring the importance of both types of interactions in hexamer stabilization.

The discussion thus far focused on the overall nature of the hexamer interface. Next, the interactions between the individual chains at the hexamer interface are analyzed in more detail. Each monomer of one trimer makes contact with two monomers of the other trimer, designated as the “major” and “minor” contacts based on the extent of the contact area and number of hydrogen bonds. The two monomers making major contact is referred to as “dimer” in a similar sense as the term used in the denaturation experiments of hexamers (55). The 2-fold NCS between the two trimers results in only one “homodimer” formed by two  $\alpha$ 1 chains (**Figure 7A**), with the remaining two “heterodimers” formed by  $\alpha$ 1 and  $\alpha$ 2 chains (**Figure 7A-B**).

A 120° rotation of one trimer with respect to the other about the pseudo 3-fold axis will result in an “all homodimers” structure. Why such an arrangement is not possible can be explained mainly on symmetry consideration: breaking the symmetry results in less efficient packing with possibly fewer interactions and some unfavorable contacts. In order to understand the complex hydrogen bonding interactions at the interface, it is essential to look into the interactions of each monomer with its “major” and “minor” interacting partners. The complexity presented even at this level may be simplified further by breaking down the interactions to three regions in the structure: “core” and “outer” regions of “major” contact and the “major-minor junction”.

*Core regions of major contact:* The two 6-strand  $\beta$ -sheets, II and II', formed by the 3D domain swapping interactions play as crucial role in the formation of hexamer assembly as in the case of trimer organization. The hexamer interface is populated with  $\beta$ -turns connecting  $\beta$ 3- $\beta$ 4 and  $\beta$ 3'- $\beta$ 4' in the core. These turns along with the remaining strands of the  $\beta$ -sheets II/II' position a large number of conserved residues for extensive hydrogen bonding interactions at the hexamer interface. The

core  $\beta$ -turns (two per monomer contributed by the two equivalent subdomains) in the two trimers pack in staggered configuration such that each turn in one trimer contacts with two turns in the other trimer. The turns in the N-subdomains are of type I'/III' containing hydrophilic amino acids in the second (Asn39/Gln38) and third positions (Glu40/39). The C-subdomain turns are of type II in  $\alpha$ 1 chains and type II' in  $\alpha$ 2 chains with small hydrophobic amino acids, Ala149/146-Gly150/147-Ala151/Asp148, with Ala149  $\alpha$ 1 or Asp148 of  $\alpha$ 2 introducing a  $\beta$ -bulge. Thus, the hydrophilic side chains of turns in the N-subdomain participate in hydrogen bonds and hydrophobic residues of turns in C-subdomain pack through hydrophobic interaction as well as stacking interaction of peptide planes (**Fig. 7A**). Whereas the Asn39(Gln38) side chain in the N-subdomain forms a hydrogen bond with the backbone amide in C-subdomain turn, the conserved Glu40(39) penetrates between the N- and C-subdomains of a monomer chain in the other trimer to form a hydrogen bond with the side chain of the conserved Gln37(36). The Glu40 residues in the  $\alpha$ 1- $\alpha$ 1 dimer form a strong hydrogen bond with each other that is missing in  $\alpha$ 1- $\alpha$ 2 dimers. The packing of the turns and side chains appear to be tight at the core interface in CPK models indicating strong van der Waals interactions in additions to the obvious hydrogen bonding interactions. Therefore, compounds that target the core regions of major contact at the hexamer interface, such as peptides derived from these regions, can be used to inhibit hexamer assembly. For example, peptides including the  $\beta$ 3- $\beta$ 4 connecting region or the  $\beta$ 3'- $\beta$ 4' connecting region, can be used to inhibit hexamer assembly at the core region of major contact.

*Outer regions of major contact:* The sequence variability preceding Arg179(177), influences the number of potential H bonds at the  $\alpha$ 1- $\alpha$ 2 (hexamer) interface. The interactions in the outer region involve the highly conserved loop connecting the  $\beta$ 7 and  $\beta$ 8, and  $\beta$ 7'- $\beta$ 8' sheets. In the  $\alpha$ 1- $\alpha$ 1 major interface of the hexamer, five contiguous carbonyl oxygens of highly conserved Ala74-Asp78 in one chain form hydrogen bonds with side chains Asn77, Arg179, and Tyr185 of the other chain in symmetrical sets (Fig. 9c). These side chains are also conserved in both  $\alpha$ 1 and  $\alpha$ 2 chains. However, insertion of Gly176 and substitution of Asn174 in  $\alpha$ 2 sequence alters the orientation conserved Asn78 and Arg177 residues, which results in the few hydrogen bonds in the  $\alpha$ 1- $\alpha$ 2 interface. Therefore, compounds that target

the outer regions of major contact at the hexamer interface, such as peptides derived from these regions, can be used to inhibit hexamer assembly. For example, peptides including the sequence ASRND (SEQ ID NO:201) ( $\alpha$ 1) or YYANA (SEQ ID NO:218) ( $\alpha$ 1), or the corresponding sequences in the other alpha chains, can be used to inhibit hexamer assembly at the outer region of major contact.

*Major-minor junction:* The major-minor junction is the area of the hexamer interface where two chains from one trimer contact two chains of the other trimer. There are two types of junctions, one involving three  $\alpha$ 1 and one  $\alpha$ 2 chains, and the other involving two each of  $\alpha$ 1 and  $\alpha$ 2 chains. The hydrogen bonding pattern in the two junctions is highly conserved (**Figure 7C**). Both  $\alpha$ 1- $\alpha$ 1 and  $\alpha$ 2- $\alpha$ 2 form a Asn187(185)-Tyr189(188) (NYY) (SEQ ID NO:297) hydrogen bond pairs in the interface. In addition to this, Asn187(185) forms a pair of hydrogen bonds with Arg76(75) of another chain (within the outer region of major contact discussed above) from the opposite trimer. The multiple hydrogen bonds formed by Asn187(185) involving residues from two different chains is probably one of the major factors stabilizing the trimer-trimer interface. Therefore, compounds that target major-minor junction at the hexamer interface, such as peptides derived from these regions, can be used to inhibit hexamer assembly. For example, peptides including the sequence NYY (SEQ ID NO:288) ( $\alpha$ 1) (such as ECHGRGTCNYY (SEQ ID NO:172)), or corresponding sequences in the other  $\alpha$  chains, all of which is present at the hexamer interface (and which includes a large portion of the Intra-CDSR), or ASRND (SEQ ID NO:201) ( $\alpha$ 1 (which includes the ARG76(75) residue), or corresponding sequences in the other  $\alpha$  chains, can be used to inhibit hexamer assembly at the major-minor junction. Thus, peptides containing the sequence ASRND (SEQ ID NO:201) can interfere with hexamer assembly by interfering with interactions at both the outer region of major contact and the major-minor junction. Similarly, peptides that target the Intra-CDSR and extend to contain the 2 additional Y residues from the sequence "NYY" (SEQ ID NO:288) can be used to inhibit trimer assembly, as well as hexamer assembly.

Other residues that are located at the hexamer interface, and that are believed to be important for hexamer assembly, include (1) MSMAP (SEQ ID NO:129)

(residues 91-95  $\alpha$ 1)/MMP (SEQ ID NO:132) ( $\alpha$ 2), and corresponding sequences in the other  $\alpha$  chains; (2) PSTLK (SEQ ID NO:177) (residues 208-212 in  $\alpha$ 1;  $\beta$ 9' strand; ADTLK in  $\alpha$ 2 (SEQ ID NO:180)), and corresponding sequences in the other  $\alpha$  chains; (3) FCNINNVCNFA (SEQ ID NO:289) ( $\alpha$ 1 AND  $\alpha$ 5--co-extensive with the Inter-  
5 CDSR), and corresponding sequences in the other  $\alpha$  chains:

$\alpha$ 3: FCNVNDVCNF (SEQ ID NO:298)

$\alpha$ 2: YCNPGDVCYY (SEQ ID NO:299)

$\alpha$ 4: YCNIHQVCHY (SEQ ID NO:300)

$\alpha$ 6: YCNINEVCHY (SEQ ID NO:301)

10 Thus, peptides containing these sequences, or portions thereof, can be used to inhibit hexamer assembly.

#### **Disulfide bonds: Interchain or Intrachain?**

Disulfide cross-linking is a recurring theme in collagen assembly and is  
15 believed to play an important role in the stabilization of the trimeric structure (11). Fibrillar procollagens are believed to form interchain disulfide bonds catalyzed by protein disulfide isomerase in either the C-telopeptide or C-propeptide (56, Kiovu, 1987 #343). Interchain disulfides have been proposed to form both in the collagenous and NC1 domains of type IV collagen. Whereas the interchain disulfides in the  
20 collagenous domains are formed within a protomer to stabilize the collagen triple helix, those in the NC1 domains are believed to occur between the protomers to stabilize the network at the C-terminus. Disulfide exchange between NC1 domains of similar  $\alpha$  chains from two different protomers was proposed as one of the major stabilizing forces in the **hexamer** assembly (57). Under denaturing conditions, the  
25 human placenta derived NC1 hexamer dissociated as dimers and monomers. The dimers were shown to be crosslinked predominantly by disulfide bridges. However, a later study by Langeveld et al (55) comparing the NC1 hexmers isolated from several BMs revealed rather complex results. Whereas the results of placenta BM and kidney glomerular BM NC1 hexamers agreed with the previous observations, dissociating as  
30 dimers upon denaturation, the LBM NC1 hexamer dissociated predominantly as monomers implying the absence of disulfide cross-linking. The crystal structure of LBM NC1 hexamer reveals just that—all the cysteines are involved in intrachain disulfides.

Siebold et al (57) proposed disulfide exchanges involving Cys20(20')-Cys111'(111) and Cys53(53')-Cys108'(108) pairs in N-subdomain ( and those in similar positions in C-subdomain) in  $\alpha 1$  chain resulting in a total of four disulfide crosslinkings in each subdomain based on the cynogen bromide. The topological arrangement of disulfides observed in the crystal structure suggests the possibility for such a rearrangement is extremely remote (**Figure 7A**). The disulfides in the NC1 monomer are arranged in three tiers with Cys20-Cys111 and Cys130-Cys225 are close to the triple helical junction, Cys65-Cys71 and Cys176-Cys182 are close to the interface and Cys53-Cys108 and Cys164-Cys222 lies in between. The disulfide pairs Cys20-Cys111 and Cys53-Cys108 in the monomers of  $\alpha 1A$ - $\alpha 1D$  dimer are about 70 Å and 50 Å apart respectively. Thus the possibility for disulfide exchange, if any, exists only for the Cys65-Cys71 and Cys176-Cys182 pairs. However, the staggered arrangement of the two trimers brings Cys65-Cys71 pair of  $\alpha 1A$  closer to its C-subdomain equivalent Cys176'-Cys182' pair of  $\alpha 1D$  chain rather than its counterpart Cys65'-Cys71' in the N-subdomain. These two closest disulfide pairs in  $\alpha 1A$ - $\alpha 1D$  dimer are about 16 Å from each other. Even more importantly, these intrachain disulfides are located in the 3D domain-swapped  $\beta$ -hairpin regions. If the disulfide exchanges were indeed possible between these pairs it would involve major conformational alterations. Such a movement of the  $\beta$ -hairpins containing the "exchangeable" cysteine residues would break both the interchain and intrachain 3D domain swapping interactions, thus destabilizing the trimer structure. From these arguments, it is difficult to envisage disulfide cross-linking between the monomers belonging to two protomers in the present structure. We also examined the possibility of intra-protomer disulfides, which would also require major conformational changes and potentially move the N-terminii of the three chains severely affecting collagen-NC1 linkage. An alternative conformation must exist for the NC1 domains from all other BMs to account for the inter-protomer disulfide cross-linkings.

**Biological Significance.** There is very little crystallographic data available on non-collagenous domains. The only available structures of non-collagenous domains are those of endostatins (58,59), which are homologous fragments of single chains from types XVIII and XV collagens.

The present work provides the first unambiguous structural basis for the chain stoichiometry of the type IV collagen  $\alpha 1.\alpha 2$  network, as well as the structural basis for chain specific assembly of type IV collagen. The NC1 monomer folds into a novel tertiary structure and the close ended-trimer of  $(\alpha 1)_2.\alpha 2$  is organized through unique  
5 3D domain swapping interactions. These features must be conserved in all type IV collagen networks, from all species, due to overall sequence similarity and very high sequence identity of the regions participating in domain swapping. The chain specificity is determined by the differences in the primary sequences of the hypervariable regions of the NC1 domains of the constituent chains, which manifest  
10 as different secondary structures at the monomer-monomer interfaces. The hexamer structure is stabilized by the extensive hydrophobic and hydrophilic interactions at the trimer-trimer interface without a need for disulfide cross-linking. The crystal structure of LBM NC1 hexamer and the denaturation studies of NC1 hexamers from several BMs suggest an alternative conformation must exist in hexamers that are  
15 cross-linked by interchain disulfides. Some hitherto unknown enzymatic process might be responsible for folding the same amino acid sequences into different conformations in different tissues.

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1. A polypeptide consisting of at least 8 contiguous amino acids of general  
5 formula I:
- PF(R1)(R2)CN(R3)(R4)(R5)VC(R6)(R7)A (SEQ ID NO:1)**
- R1 is selected from the group consisting of L, M, A, V, norL, and I;  
R2 is selected from the group consisting of F and Y;  
R3 is selected from the group consisting of I, V, L, norL, A, and P;  
10 R4 is selected from the group consisting of N, G, and H;  
R5 is selected from the group consisting of N, D, Q, and E;  
R6 is selected from the group consisting of N, Y, and H; and  
R7 is selected from the group consisting of F and Y.
2. The polypeptide of claim 1 consisting of the amino acid sequence of general  
15 formula I.
3. The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein  
R2 is F;  
R4 is N;  
R5 is selected from the group consisting of N and D;  
20 R6 is N; and  
R7 is F.
4. The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein  
R2 is Y;  
R3 is selected from the group consisting of P and I;  
25 R5 is selected from the group consisting of D, Q, and E;  
R6 is selected from the group consisting of Y and H; and  
R7 is Y.
5. The polypeptide of claim 1 wherein the polypeptide is selected from the group  
consisting of PFLFCNINNVCNFA (SEQ ID NO:2); PFLFCNVNDVCNFA (SEQ  
30 ID NO:3); PFMFCNINNVCNFA (SEQ ID NO:4); PFLYCNPGDVCYYA (SEQ ID  
NO:5); PFAYCNIHQVCHYA (SEQ ID NO:6); and PFIYCNINEVCHYA (SEQ ID  
NO:7).

6. A polypeptide consisting of at least 7 contiguous amino acids of general formula II:

**PF(R1)EC(R2)G(R3)(R4)GTC(R5) (SEQ ID NO:8)**

R1 is selected from the group consisting of L, A, V, norL, and I;

5 R2 is selected from the group consisting of H, N, Q, and S;

R3 is selected from the group consisting of G, R, A, or is absent;

R4 is selected from the group consisting of R and Q; and

R5 is selected from the group consisting of N and H.

7. The polypeptide of claim 6 consisting of the amino acid sequence of general  
10 formula II.

8. The polypeptide of claim 6 wherein

R2 is H;

R3 is R;

R4 is G; and

15 R5 is N.

9. The polypeptide of claims 6 wherein

R2 is selected from the group consisting of N, Q, and S;

R3 is selected from the group consisting of G, R, and A;

R4 is selected from the group consisting of R and Q; and

20 R5 is H.

10. The polypeptide of claim 6 wherein the polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of PFIECHGRGTCN (SEQ ID NO:9); PFLECHGRGTCN (SEQ ID NO:10); PFIECNGGRGTCH (SEQ ID NO:11); PFLECQGRQGTCH (SEQ ID NO:12); and PFIECSGARGTCH (SEQ ID NO:13).

25

11. A polypeptide consisting of at least 13 amino acids selected from the group consisting of:

(a) EFRSAPFIECHGRGTCNYYANA (SEQ ID NO:14),

(b) EFRASPFLECHGRGTCNYYSNS (SEQ ID NO: 15);

30 (c) EFRSAPFIECHGRGTCNYYANS (SEQ ID NO: 16);

(d) DFRATPFIECNGGRGTCHYYA)NK (SEQ ID NO: 17);

(e) DFRAAPFLECQGRQGTCHFFANK (SEQ ID NO: 18); and

(f) DFRATPFIECSGARGTCHYFANK (SEQ ID NO: 19)

12. A chimeric polypeptide consisting of:
- (a) a polypeptide according to claim 1;
  - (b) a polypeptide according to claim 6; and
  - (c) a polypeptide linker consisting of between 0 and 20 amino acids.
- 5
13. The chimeric polypeptide of claim 12 consisting of
- (a) a polypeptide according to claim 5;
  - (b) a polypeptide according to claim 10; and
  - (c) a polypeptide linker consisting of 2 amino acids.
- 10 14. A polypeptide consisting of a sequence of general formula III:  
F(R1)T(R2) (**SEQ ID NO:20**)  
wherein R1 is selected from the group consisting of S and T; and  
R2 is selected from the group consisting of M and L.
- 15 15. The polypeptide of claim 14, wherein the polypeptide is selected from the  
group consisting of FSTM (**SEQ ID NO:21**), FTTM (**SEQ ID NO:22**) and FTSL  
(**SEQ ID NO:23**).
16. A polypeptide selected from the group consisting of
- (a) X1-FSTM-Z1, wherein X1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the  
sequence SCLRK (**SEQ ID NO: 24**), and Z1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the  
20 sequence PFLFC (**SEQ ID NO: 25**);
  - (b) X3-FTTM-Z3, wherein X3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the  
sequence SCLQR (**SEQ ID NO: 27**), and Z3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the  
sequence PFLFC(**SEQ ID NO: 25**);
  - (c) X5-FSTM-Z5, wherein X5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the  
25 sequence SCLRR (**SEQ ID NO: 29**), and Z5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the  
sequence PFMFC (**SEQ ID NO: 30**);
  - (d) X2-FSTM-Z2, wherein X2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the  
sequence SCLAR (**SEQ ID NO: 32**), and Z2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the  
sequence PFLYC (**SEQ ID NO: 33**);
  - (e) X4-FSTL-Z4, wherein X4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the  
30 sequence SCLPV (**SEQ ID NO: 35**), and Z4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the  
sequence PFAYC (**SEQ ID NO: 36**); and

- (f) X6-FSTM-Z6, wherein X6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SCLPR (SEQ ID NO: 38), and Z6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence PFIYC (SEQ ID NO: 39).
- 5 17. A polypeptide consisting of a sequence of general formula IV:  
(R1)MF(R2)K (SEQ ID NO:41)  
wherein R1 is selected from the group consisting of E, R, and D; and  
R2 is selected from the group consisting of K, R, and S.
- 10 18. The polypeptide of claim 17, wherein the polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of EMFKK (SEQ ID NO:42), RMFRK (SEQ ID NO:43), and DMFSK (SEQ ID NO:44).
19. A polypeptide selected from the group consisting of
- 15 (a) X1-EMFKK-Z1, wherein X1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence TIERS (SEQ ID NO: 48), and wherein Z1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence PTPST (SEQ ID NO: 49);
- (b) X3-RMFRK-Z3, wherein X3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SLNPE (SEQ ID NO: 51), and wherein Z3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids
- 20 of the sequence PIPST (SEQ ID NO: 52);
- (c) X5-DMFSK-Z5, wherein X5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence TVDVS (SEQ ID NO: 54), and wherein Z5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence PQSET (SEQ ID NO: 55);
- 25
20. A polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SFQ (SEQ ID NO:45); LQF (SEQ ID NO:46), and QQF (SEQ ID NO:47).
21. A polypeptide selected from the group consisting of
- (a) X2-SFQ-Z2, wherein X2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the
- 30 sequence TIPEQ (SEQ ID NO: 57), and wherein Z2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence GSPSA (SEQ ID NO: 58);
- (b) X4-LQF-Z4, wherein X4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence TVKAD (SEQ ID NO: 60), and wherein Z4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SSAPA (SEQ ID NO: 61); and

- (c) X6-QQF-Z6, wherein X6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence TVEER (**SEQ ID NO: 63**), and wherein Z6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence GELPV (**SEQ ID NO: 64**).
- 5 22. A polypeptide consisting of a sequence of general formula V:  
(R1)AH(R2)QD (**SEQ ID NO:66**)  
wherein R1 is selected from the group consisting of R and K; and  
R2 is selected from the group consisting of G and N.
- 10 23. The polypeptide of claim 22 wherein the polypeptide consists of a sequence  
selected from the group consisting of RAHGQD (**SEQ ID NO:67**) and KAHNQD  
(**SEQ ID NO:68**)..
24. A polypeptide selected from the group consisting of
- 15 (a) X1-RAHGQD-Z1, wherein X1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the  
sequence VQGNE (**SEQ ID NO: 69**), and wherein Z1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids  
of the sequence LGTAG (**SEQ ID NO: 70**;
- (b) X3-RAHGQD-Z3, wherein X3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the  
sequence VQGNQ (**SEQ ID NO: 72**), and wherein Z3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino  
acids of the sequence LGTLG (**SEQ ID NO: 73**);
- 20 (c) X5-RAHGQD-Z5, wherein X5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the  
sequence VQGNK (**SEQ ID NO: 75**), and wherein Z5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino  
acids of the sequence LGTAG (**SEQ ID NO: 70**);
- (d) X2-KAHNQD-Z2, wherein X2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the  
sequence FEGQE (**SEQ ID NO: 77**), and wherein Z2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids  
25 of the sequence LGLAG (**SEQ ID NO: 78**);
- (e) X4-KAHNQD-Z4, wherein X4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the  
sequence LEGQE (**SEQ ID NO: 80**), and wherein Z4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids  
of the sequence LGLAG (**SEQ ID NO: 78**); and
- (f) X6-KAHNQD-Z6, wherein X6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the  
30 sequence VEGQE (**SEQ ID NO: 82**), and wherein Z6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids  
of the sequence LGFAG (**SEQ ID NO: 83**).
25. A polypeptide consisting of a sequence of general formula VI:  
(R1)G(R2)GQ (**SEQ ID NO:85**)

wherein R1 is selected from the group consisting of E and Q; and  
 R2 is selected from the group consisting of S, T, and G.

26. The polypeptide of claim 25, wherein the polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of EGSGQ (**SEQ ID NO:86**), EGTGQ (**SEQ ID NO:87**), EGGGQ (**SEQ ID NO:88**) and QGGGQ (**SEQ ID NO:89**)

27. A polypeptide selected from the group consisting of

(a) X1-EGSGQ-Z1, wherein X1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence TSAGA (**SEQ ID NO: 90**), and wherein Z1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence ALASP (**SEQ ID NO: 91**);

(b) X3-EGTGQ-Z3, wherein X3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence TSAGS (**SEQ ID NO: 93**), and wherein Z3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence ALASP (**SEQ ID NO: 91**);

(c) X2-EGGGQ-Z2, wherein X2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence TAAGD (**SEQ ID NO: 95**), and wherein Z2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SLVSP (**SEQ ID NO: 96**);

(d) X4-QGGGQ-Z4, wherein X4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence TGAGD (**SEQ ID NO: 98**), and wherein Z4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence ALMSP (**SEQ ID NO: 99**); and

(e) X6-EGGGQ-Z6, wherein X6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence TAAGA (**SEQ ID NO: 101**), and wherein Z6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SLVSP (**SEQ ID NO: 96**).

28. A polypeptide consisting of a sequence of general formula VII:  
 (R1)G(R2)(R3) (**SEQ ID NO:103**)

wherein R1 is selected from the group consisting of Q and E;  
 R2 is selected from the group consisting of N and Q; and  
 R3 is selected from the group consisting of E, Q, and K.

29. The polypeptide of claim 28, wherein R1 is Q and R2 is N.

30. The polypeptide of claim 28, wherein the polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of QGNE (**SEQ ID NO:104**), QGNQ (**SEQ ID NO:105**), QGNK (**SEQ ID NO:106**), and EGQE (**SEQ ID NO:107**)

31. A polypeptide selected from the group consisting of
- (a) X1-QGNE-Z1, wherein X1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SLLYV (**SEQ ID NO: 108**), and wherein Z1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence RAHGQ (**SEQ ID NO: 109**);
  - 5 (b) X3-QGNQ-Z3, wherein X3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SFLFV (**SEQ ID NO: 111**), and wherein Z3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence RAHGQ (**SEQ ID NO: 109**);
  - (c) X5-QGNK-Z5, wherein X5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SLLYV (**SEQ ID NO:108**), and wherein Z5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence RAHGQ (**SEQ ID NO: 109**) ;
  - 10 (d) X2-EGQE-Z2, wherein X2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SLLYF (**SEQ ID NO:114**), and wherein Z2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence KAHNQ (**SEQ ID NO:115**);
  - (e) X4-EGQE-Z4, wherein X4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SLLYL (**SEQ ID NO:117**), and wherein Z4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence KAHNQ (**SEQ ID NO:115**); and
  - 15 (f) X6-EGQE-Z6, wherein X6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SLLFV (**SEQ ID NO:119**), and wherein Z6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence KAHNQ (**SEQ ID NO:115**).
- 20
32. The polypeptide of claim 31, wherein the polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of VQGNER (**SEQ ID NO: 121**), VQGNQR (**SEQ ID NO: 122**), VQGNKR (**SEQ ID NO: 123**), FEGQEK (**SEQ ID NO: 124**), LEGQEK (**SEQ ID NO: 125**), and VEGQEK (**SEQ ID NO: 126**).
- 25
33. A polypeptide consisting of a sequence of general formula VIII:  
M(R1)M(R2)P (**SEQ ID NO:127**)  
wherein R1 is selected from the group consisting of S, N, or is absent; and  
R2 is selected from the group consisting of A, Q, or is absent.
- 30
34. The polypeptide of claim 33 wherein the polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of MSMAP (**SEQ ID NO:128**), MNMAP (**SEQ ID NO:129**), MSMQP (**SEQ ID NO:130**), and MMP (**SEQ ID NO: 131**).
35. A polypeptide selected from the group consisting of

- (a) X1-MSMAP-Z1, wherein X1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence PEPMP (**SEQ ID NO: 132**), and wherein Z1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence ITGEN (**SEQ ID NO: 133**);
- (b) X3-MNMAP-Z3, wherein X3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence PALMP (**SEQ ID NO: 135**), and wherein Z3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence ITGRA (**SEQ ID NO: 136**);
- (c) X5-MSMQP-Z5, wherein X5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence PEPMP (**SEQ ID NO:132**), and wherein Z5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence LKGQS (**SEQ ID NO: 138**);
- (d) X2-MMP-Z2, wherein X2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence TAPLP (**SEQ ID NO:140**), and wherein Z2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence VAEDE (**SEQ ID NO:141**);
- (e) X4-MMP-Z4, wherein X4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence AAPLP (**SEQ ID NO:143**), and wherein Z4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence LSEEA (**SEQ ID NO:144**); and
- (f) X6-MMP-Z6, wherein X6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence TAPIP (**SEQ ID NO:146**), and wherein Z6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence VSQTQ (**SEQ ID NO:147**).
36. A polypeptide selected from the group consisting of PMPMSMAPITG (**SEQ ID NO: 149**); LMPMNMAPITG (**SEQ ID NO:150**); PMPMSMQPLKG (**SEQ ID NO: 151**); PLPMMPVAE (**SEQ ID NO: 152**); PLPMMPLSE (**SEQ ID NO: 153**); and PIPMMPVSQ (**SEQ ID NO: 154**).
37. A polypeptide consisting of a sequence of general formula IX:  
 AG(R1)(R2) (**SEQ ID NO:155**)  
 wherein R1 is selected from the group consisting of A, S and D; and  
 R2 is selected from the group consisting of E and Q.
38. The polypeptide of claim 37 wherein the polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of AGAE (**SEQ ID NO:156**), AGSE (**SEQ ID NO:157**), AGDE (**SEQ ID NO:158**), and AGDQ (**SEQ ID NO:159**).
39. A polypeptide selected from the group consisting of

- (a) X1-AGAE-Z1, wherein X1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence VMHTS (**SEQ ID NO: 160**), and wherein Z1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence GSGQA (**SEQ ID NO: 161**);
- (b) X3-AGSE-Z3, wherein X3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence IMFTS (**SEQ ID NO: 163**), and wherein Z3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence GTGQA (**SEQ ID NO: 164**);
- (c) X5-AGAE-Z5, wherein X5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence MMHTS (**SEQ ID NO:166**), and wherein Z5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence GSGQA (**SEQ ID NO: 161**);
- (d) X2-AGDE-Z2, wherein X2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence LMHTA (**SEQ ID NO:168**), and wherein Z2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence GGGQS (**SEQ ID NO:169**);
- (e) X4-AGDQ-Z4, wherein X4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence LMHTG (**SEQ ID NO:171**), and wherein Z4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence GGGQA (**SEQ ID NO:172**); and
- (f) X6-AGAE-Z6, wherein X6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence LMHTA (**SEQ ID NO:168**), and wherein Z6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence GGGQS (**SEQ ID NO:169**).

40. A polypeptide consisting of at least 5 contiguous amino acids of general formula X:

EC(R1)G(R2)(R3)GTC(R4)(R5)(R6) (**SEQ ID NO:175**)

wherein R1 is selected from the group consisting of H, N, Q, and S;

R2 is selected from the group consisting of G, R, A, or is absent;

R3 is selected from the group consisting of R and Q

R4 is selected from the group consisting of N and H;

R5 is selected from the group consisting of F and Y; and

R6 is selected from the group consisting of F and Y.

41. The polypeptide of claim 40, wherein the polypeptide consists of the amino acid sequence of general formula X.

42. The polypeptide of claim 40, wherein

R2 is selected from the group consisting of G, R, A; and

R4 is H.

43. The polypeptide of claims 40 wherein the polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of ECHGRGTCNYY (**SEQ ID NO:176**), ECNGGRGTCHYY (**SEQ ID NO:177**), ECQGRQGTCHFF (**SEQ ID NO:178**), and ECSGARGTCHYF (**SEQ ID NO:179**).
- 5
44. A polypeptide consisting of an amino acid sequence of general formula XI:  
(R1)(R2)T(R3)K (**SEQ ID NO:180**)  
wherein R1 is selected from the group consisting of P, S, and A;  
R2 is selected from the group consisting of S, E, and D; and  
10 R3 is selected from the group consisting of L and V.
45. The polypeptide of claim 44 wherein R3 is L.
46. The polypeptide of claim 44 wherein R2 is selected from D and E.
47. The polypeptide of claim 44 wherein the polypeptide is selected from the  
15 group consisting of PSTLK (**SEQ ID NO:181**), PSTVK (**SEQ ID NO:182**), SETLK (**SEQ ID NO:183**), ADTLK (**SEQ ID NO:184**), and PDTLK (**SEQ ID NO:185**).
48. A polypeptide selected from the group consisting of
- (a) X1-PSTLK-Z1, wherein X1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the  
20 sequence FKKPT (**SEQ ID NO: 186**), and wherein Z1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence AGELR (**SEQ ID NO: 187**);
- (b) X3-PSTVK-Z3, wherein X3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence FRKPI (**SEQ ID NO: 189**), and wherein Z3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence AGELE (**SEQ ID NO: 190**);
- 25 (c) X5-SETLK-Z5, wherein X5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence FSKPQ (**SEQ ID NO:192**), and wherein Z5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence AGDLR (**SEQ ID NO: 193**);
- (d) X2-ADTLK-Z2, wherein X2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence QGSPS (**SEQ ID NO:195**), and wherein Z2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids  
30 of the sequence AGLIR (**SEQ ID NO:196**);
- (e) X4-PDTLK-Z4, wherein X4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SSAPA (**SEQ ID NO:198**), and wherein Z4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence ESQAQ (**SEQ ID NO:199**); and

(f) X6-SETLK-Z6, wherein X6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence GELPV (SEQ ID NO:201), and wherein Z6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence AGQLH (SEQ ID NO:202).

5 49. A polypeptide consisting of an amino acid sequence of general formula XII:  
A(R1)RND (SEQ ID NO:204)

wherein R1 is selected from the group consisting of S, Q, and R.

50. The polypeptide of claim 49, wherein the polypeptide sequence is selected from the group consisting of ASRND (SEQ ID NO:205), AQRND (SEQ ID  
10 NO:206), and ARRND (SEQ ID NO:207).

51. A polypeptide selected from the group consisting of

(a) X1-ASRND-Z1, wherein X1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence NVCNF (SEQ ID NO: 208), and wherein Z1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence YSYWL (SEQ ID NO: 209);

15 (b) X3-ASRND-Z3, wherein X3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence DVCNF (SEQ ID NO: 211), and wherein Z3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence YSYWL (SEQ ID NO: 209);

(c) X2-ASRND-Z2, wherein X2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence DVCYY (SEQ ID NO:213), and wherein Z2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino  
20 acids of the sequence KSYWL (SEQ ID NO:214);

(d) X4-AQRND-Z4, wherein X4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence QVCHY (SEQ ID NO:216), and wherein Z4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence RSYWL (SEQ ID NO:217); and

(e) X6-ARRND-Z6, wherein X6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the  
25 sequence EVCHY (SEQ ID NO:219), and wherein Z6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence KSYWL (SEQ ID NO:214).

52. A polypeptide consisting of an amino acid sequence of general formula XIII:  
(R1)(R2)(R3)N(R4) (SEQ ID NO:221)

30 wherein R1 is selected from the group consisting of Y and F;  
R2 is selected from the group consisting of Y and F;  
R3 is selected from the group consisting of A and S; and  
R4 is selected from the group consisting of A, S, and K.

53. The polypeptide of claim 49, wherein the polypeptide sequence is selected from the group consisting of YYANA (SEQ ID NO:222) YYSNS (SEQ ID NO:223) YYANS (SEQ ID NO:224) YYANK (SEQ ID NO:225) FFANK (SEQ ID NO:226) and YFANK (SEQ ID NO:227).

5

54. A polypeptide selected from the group consisting of

(a) X1-YYANA-Z1, wherein X1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence RGTCN (SEQ ID NO: 228), and wherein Z1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence YSFWL (SEQ ID NO: 229);

10 (b) X3-YYSNS-Z3, wherein X3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence RGTCN (SEQ ID NO: 228), and wherein Z3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence YSFWL (SEQ ID NO: 229);

(c) X1-YYANS-Z2, wherein X1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence RGTCN (SEQ ID NO: 228), and wherein Z5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence YSFWL (SEQ ID NO: 229);

(d) X2-YYANK-Z2, wherein X2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence RGTCH (SEQ ID NO:233), and wherein Z2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence YSFWL (SEQ ID NO:229);

(e) X4-FFANK-Z4, wherein X4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence QGTCH (SEQ ID NO:235), and wherein Z4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence YSFWL (SEQ ID NO:229); and

(f) X6-YFANK-Z6, wherein X6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence RGTCH (SEQ ID NO:233), and wherein Z6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence YSFWL (SEQ ID NO:229).

25

55. A polypeptide selected from the group consisting of IERSEMFKKPT (SEQ ID NO:238), LNPERMFRKPI (SEQ ID NO:239), VDVSDMFSKPQ (SEQ ID NO:240), IPEQSFQGPS (SEQ ID NO:241), VKADLQFSSAPA (SEQ ID NO:242), and VEERQQFGELPV (SEQ ID NO:243).

30

56. A polypeptide selected from the group consisting of

(a) X1-IERSEMFKKPT-Z1, wherein X1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence FWLAT (SEQ ID NO: 244), and wherein Z1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence PSTLK (SEQ ID NO: 181);

(b) X3-LNPERMFRKPI-Z3, wherein X3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence FWLAS (SEQ ID NO: 246), and wherein Z3 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence PSTVK (SEQ ID NO: 182);

(c) X1-VDVSDMFSKPQ-Z2, wherein X1 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence FWLAT (SEQ ID NO: 244), and wherein Z5 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SETLK (SEQ ID NO: 183);

(d) X2-IPEQSFQGPS-Z2, wherein X2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence FWLTT (SEQ ID NO:249), and wherein Z2 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence ADTLK (SEQ ID NO:184);

(e) X4-VKADLQFSSAPA-Z4, wherein X4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence FWLTT (SEQ ID NO:249), and wherein Z4 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence PDTLK (SEQ ID NO:185); and

(f) X6-VEERQQFGELPV-Z6, wherein X6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence FWLTT (SEQ ID NO:249), and wherein Z6 is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acids of the sequence SETLK (SEQ ID NO:183).

57. A polypeptide selected from the group consisting of  
 FSTMPFLFCNINNVCNFA (SEQ ID NO: 253), FTTMPFLFCNVNDVCNFA (SEQ  
 ID NO: 254), FSTMPFMFCNINNVCNFA (SEQ ID NO: 255),  
 FSTMPFLYCNPGDVCYYA (SEQ ID NO: 256), FSTLPFAYCNIHQVCHYA  
 (SEQ ID NO: 257), FSTMPFIYCNINEVCHYA (SEQ ID NO: 258),  
 PFLFCNINNVCNFASRND (SEQ ID NO: 259), PFLFCNVNDVCNCFASRND (SEQ  
 ID NO: 260), PFMFCNINNVCNFASRND (SEQ ID NO: 261),  
 PFLYCNPGDVCYYASRND (SEQ ID NO: 262), PFAYCNIHQVCHYAQRND  
 (SEQ ID NO: 263), PFIYCNINEVCHYARRND (SEQ ID NO: 264),  
 FSTMPFLFCNINNVCNFASRND (SEQ ID NO: 265),  
 FTTMPFLFCNVNDVCNCFASRND (SEQ ID NO: 266),  
 FSTMPFMFCNINNVCNFASRND (SEQ ID NO: 267),  
 FSTMPFLYCNPGDVCYYASRND (SEQ ID NO: 268),  
 FSTLPFAYCNIHQVCHYAQRND (SEQ ID NO: 269),  
 FSTMPFIYCNINEVCHYARRND (SEQ ID NO: 270), PFIECHGRGTCNYY (SEQ  
 ID NO:271), PFLECHGRGTCNYY (SEQ ID NO: 272), PFIECNGGRGTCHYY  
 (SEQ ID NO: 273), PFLECQGRQGTCHFF (SEQ ID NO: 274),  
 PFIECSGARGTCHYF (SEQ ID NO: 275), IERSEMFKKPTPSTLKAG (SEQ ID

**NO: 276)**, LNPERMFRKPIPSTVKAG (**SEQ ID NO:277**),  
 VDVSDFMFSKPQSETLKAG (**SEQ ID NO: 278**), IPEQSFQGSPSADTLKAG (**SEQ ID NO: 279**), VKADLQFSSAPAPDTLKES (**SEQ ID NO: 280**),  
 VEERQQFGELPVSETLKAG (**SEQ ID NO: 281**), GSCLRKFSTM (**SEQ ID NO: 282**), GSCLQRFTTM (**SEQ ID NO:283**), GSCLRRFSTM (**SEQ ID NO: 284**),  
 5 GSCLARFSTM (**SEQ ID NO: 285**), GSCLPVFSTL (**SEQ ID NO: 286**),  
 GSCLPRFSTM (**SEQ ID NO: 287**), LRKFSTMPFLFCNINNVCF (**SEQ ID NO: 288**), LQRFTTMPFLFCNVNDVCF (**SEQ ID NO:289**),  
 LRRFSTMPFMFCNINNVCF (**SEQ ID NO: 290**),  
 10 LARFSTMPFLYCNPGDVCYY (**SEQ ID NO: 291**),  
 LPVFSTLPPFAYCNIHQVCHY (**SEQ ID NO: 292**), LPRFSTMPFIYCNINEVCHY (**SEQ ID NO: 293**), IPE (**SEQ ID NO:294**), IER (**SEQ ID NO:295**), QD (**SEQ ID NO:296**), NYY (**SEQ ID NO:297**), FCNVNDVCF (**SEQ ID NO:298**),  
 YCNPGDVCYY (**SEQ ID NO:299**), YCNIHQVCHY (**SEQ ID NO:300**), and  
 15 YCNINEVCHY (**SEQ ID NO:301**)

58. A pharmaceutical composition comprising:
- (a) the polypeptide of any one of claims 1-57; and
  - (b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

20

59. A method for inhibiting angiogenesis in tissue comprising contacting said tissue with an effective inhibiting amount of the polypeptide of any one of claims 1-57.

25

60. A method for inhibiting angiogenesis in tissue comprising contacting said tissue with an effective inhibiting amount of the pharmaceutical composition of claim 58.

- 30 61. The method of claim 59 or 60 wherein the angiogenesis is tumor-induced.

62. A method for treating an angiogenesis-mediated disease or condition in a mammal, comprising administering to a mammal with an angiogenesis-mediated

disease or condition an amount effective to inhibit angiogenesis of the polypeptide of any one of claims 1-57.

63. A method for treating an angiogenesis-mediated disease or condition in a mammal, comprising administering to a mammal with an angiogenesis-mediated disease or condition an amount effective to inhibit angiogenesis of the pharmaceutical composition of claim 58

64. The method of claim 62 or 63 wherein the angiogenesis-mediated disease or condition is selected from the group consisting of solid and blood-borne tumors, diabetic retinopathy, rheumatoid arthritis, retinal neovascularization, choroidal neovascularization, macular degeneration, corneal neovascularization, retinopathy of prematurity, corneal graft rejection, neovascular glaucoma, retrolental fibroplasia, epidemic keratoconjunctivitis, Vitamin A deficiency, contact lens overwear, atopic keratitis, superior limbic keratitis, pterygium keratitis sicca, sogrens, acne rosacea, phlyectenulosis, syphilis, Mycobacteria infections, lipid degeneration, chemical burns, bacterial ulcers, fungal ulcers, Herpes simplex infections, Herpes zoster infections, protozoan infections, Kaposi's sarcoma, Mooren ulcer, Terrien's marginal degeneration, marginal keratolysis, trauma, systemic lupus, polyarteritis, Wegeners sarcoidosis, scleritis, Steven's Johnson disease, radial keratotomy, sickle cell anemia, sarcoid, pseudoxanthoma elasticum, Pagets disease, vein occlusion, artery occulsion, carotid obstructive disease, chronic uveitis, chronic vitritis, Lyme's disease, Eales disease, Bechets disease, myopia, optic pits, Stargarts disease, pars planitis, chronic retinal detachment, hyperviscosity syndromes, toxoplasmosis, post-laser complications, abnormal proliferation of fibrovascular tissue, hemangiomas, Osler-Weber-Rendu, acquired immune deficiency syndrome, ocular neovascular disease, osteoarthritis, chronic inflammation, Crohn's disease, ulceritive colitis, psoriasis, atherosclerosis, and pemphigoid.

65. A method for inhibiting tumor metastasis, comprising contacting a tumor or tissue with an amount effective to inhibit tumor metastasis of the polypeptide of any one of claims 1-57.

66. A method for inhibiting tumor metastasis, comprising contacting a tumor or tissue with an amount effective to inhibit tumor metastasis of the pharmaceutical composition of claim 58.

67. A method for inhibiting tumor growth, comprising contacting a tumor or tissue  
5 with an amount effective to inhibit tumor growth of the polypeptide of any one of claims 1-57.

68. A method for inhibiting tumor growth, comprising contacting a tumor or tissue  
10 with an amount effective to inhibit tumor growth of the pharmaceutical composition of claim 58.

69. A method for inhibiting endothelial cell interaction with the extracellular matrix in an animal tissue comprising contacting the tumor or animal tissue with an amount effective to inhibit endothelial cell interaction with the extracellular matrix of the  
15 polypeptide of any one of claims 1-57.

70. A method for inhibiting endothelial cell interaction with the extracellular matrix in an animal tissue comprising contacting the tumor or animal tissue with an amount effective to inhibit endothelial cell interaction with the extracellular matrix of the  
20 pharmaceutical composition of claim 58.

71. A method for inhibiting basal lamina membrane formation in cell or tissue development comprising contacting the cell or tissue with an amount effective to inhibit basal lamina membrane formation of the polypeptide of any one of claims 1-  
25 57.

72. A method for inhibiting basal lamina membrane formation in cell or tissue development comprising contacting the cell or tissue with an amount effective to inhibit basal lamina membrane formation of the pharmaceutical composition of claim  
30 58.

73. A crystal of an NC1 domain hexamer of type IV collagen, wherein the crystal comprises an  $[(\alpha 1)_2 \cdot \alpha 2]_2$  NC1 hexamer of type IV collagen, wherein the crystal consists of space groups  $P2_1$  with approximate  $a =$  between 127.16 Å and 129.41 Å, 5  $b =$  between 139.57 Å and 143.87 Å;  $c =$  between 160.20 Å and 162.92 Å;  $\beta = 91.3^\circ$ , such that the three-dimensional structure of the crystallized NC1 domain hexamer can be determined to a resolution of 3 Å or better.

74. The crystal of claim 73, wherein the three-dimensional structure of the 10 crystallized NC1 domain hexamer can be determined to a resolution of 2.2 Å or better.

75. The crystal of claim 73, wherein the three-dimensional structure of the 15 crystallized NC1 domain hexamer can be determined to a resolution of 2 Å or better.

76. A method for identifying inhibitors of type IV collagen assembly, comprising:  
(a) obtaining crystals of an NC1 hexamer of type IV collagen, wherein the crystal comprises an  $[(\alpha 1)_2 \cdot \alpha 2]_2$  NC1 hexamer of type IV collagen, wherein the 20 crystal consists of space groups  $P2_1$  with approximate  $a =$  between 127.16 Å and 129.41 Å,  $b =$  between 139.57 Å and 143.87 Å;  $c =$  between 160.20 Å and 162.92 Å;  $\beta = 91.3^\circ$ , such that the three-dimensional structure of the crystallized NC1 domain hexamer can be determined to a resolution of 3 Å or better.

(b) analyzing the three-dimensional structure of the crystallized NC1 25 domain hexamer of type IV collagen of claim 75; and

(b) designing a potential inhibitor of type IV collagen assembly that targets one or more regions of a type IV collagen NC1  $\alpha$  chain selected from the group consisting of:

- (i) Intor-chain domain swapping region;
- 30 (ii) Intra-chain domain swapping region;
- (iii) Specificity region;
- (iv) Specificity region partner;
- (v) Hexamer interface;
- (vi) Monomer-monomer interface; and

(vii) Hypervariable region.

77. The method of claim 76, further comprising:
- 5 (a) synthesizing the potential inhibitor; and  
(b) determining whether the potential inhibitor inhibits the assembly of type IV collagen.
- 78 The method of claim 76, further comprising:
- 10 (a) synthesizing the potential inhibitor; and  
(b) conducting an assay to determine whether the potential inhibitor inhibits one or more of angiogenesis, tumor growth, tumor metastasis, endothelial cell adhesion, endothelial cell proliferation, and basal lamina assembly.
- 15 79. An inhibitor of type IV collagen assembly identified by the method of any one of claims 76-78.
80. An inhibitor of one or more process selected from the group consisting of angiogenesis, tumor growth, tumor metastasis, endothelial cell adhesion, endothelial  
20 cell proliferation, and basal lamina assembly, identified by the method of any one of claims 76-78.

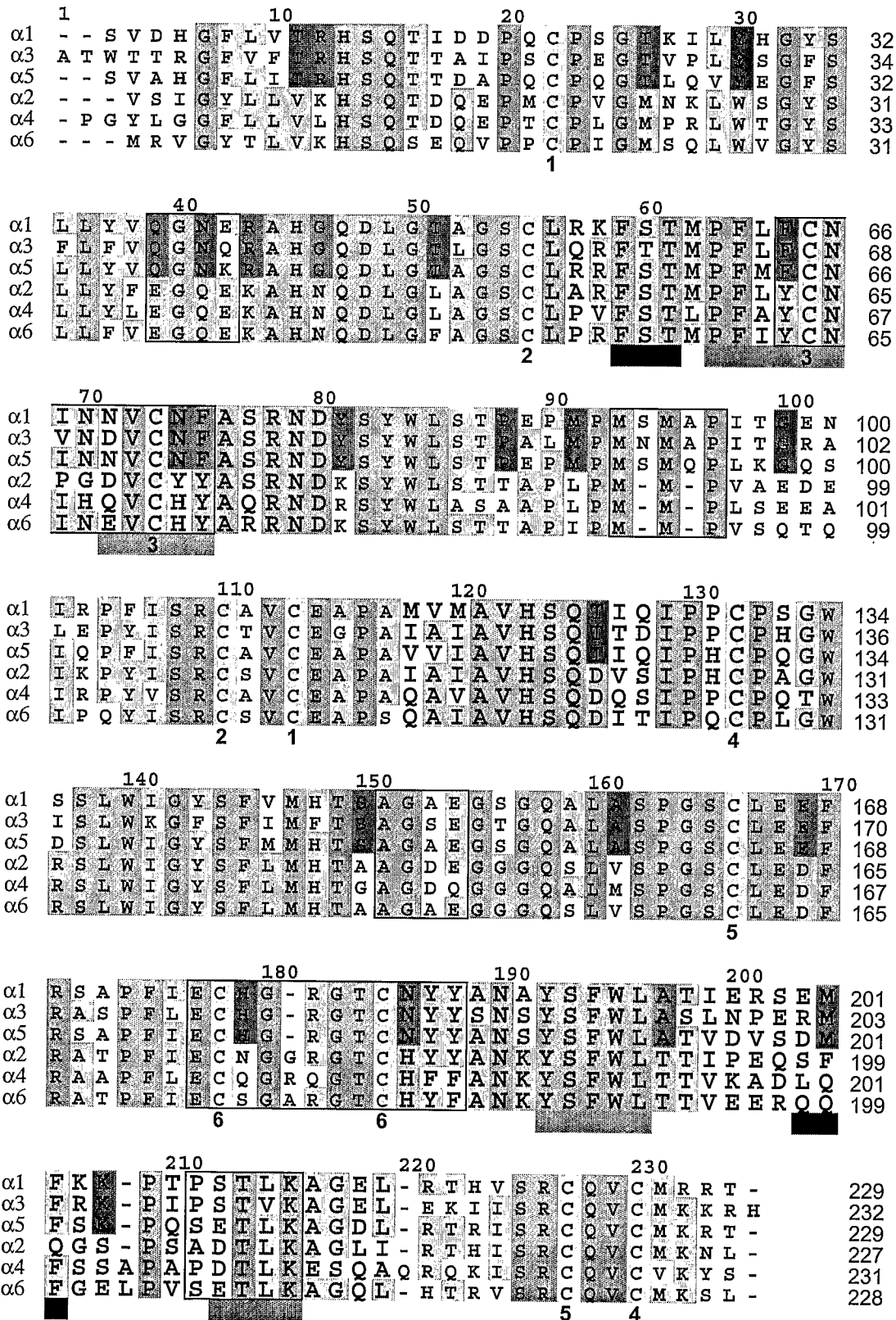


FIGURE 1

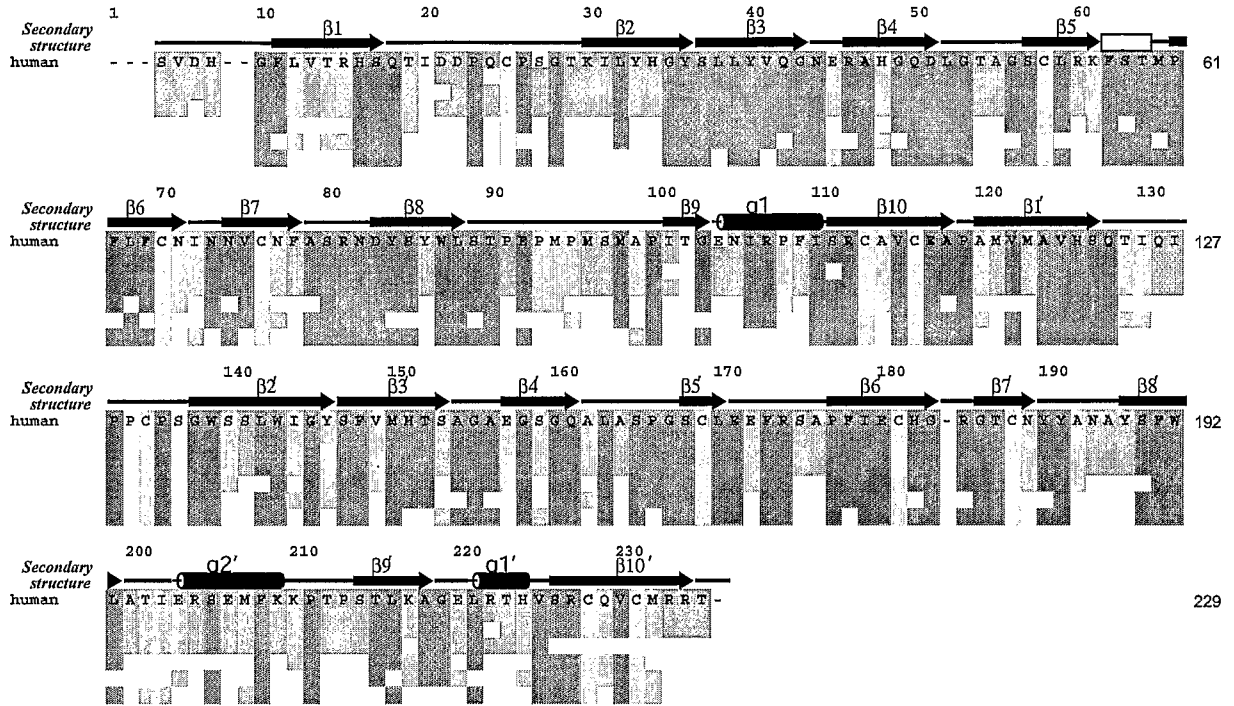


FIGURE 2a

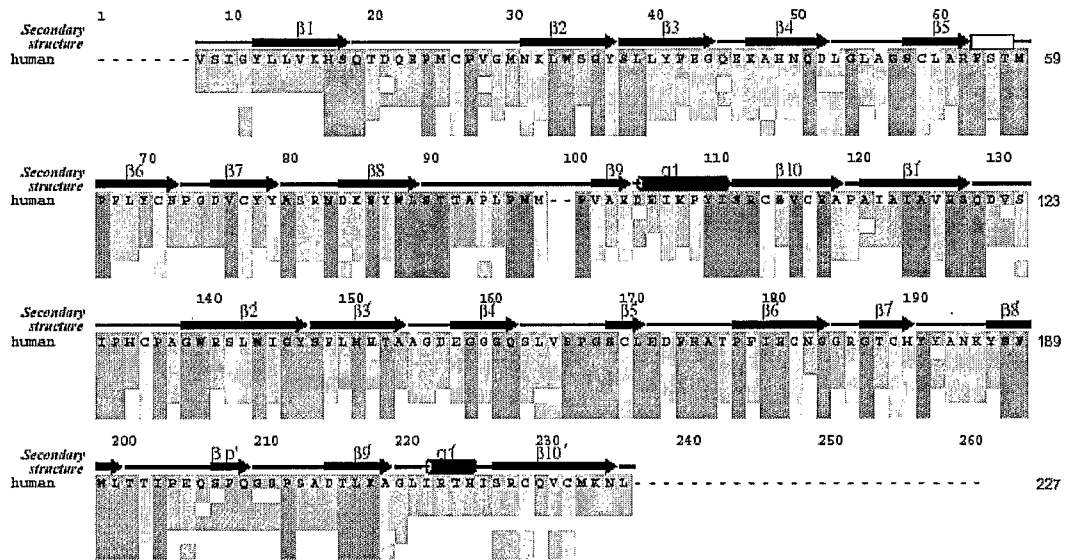


FIGURE 2b

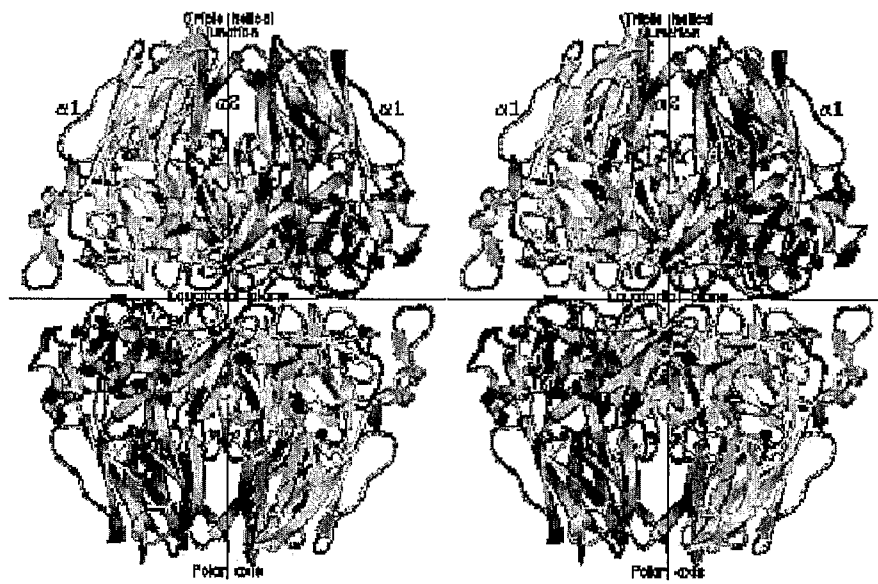


FIGURE 3

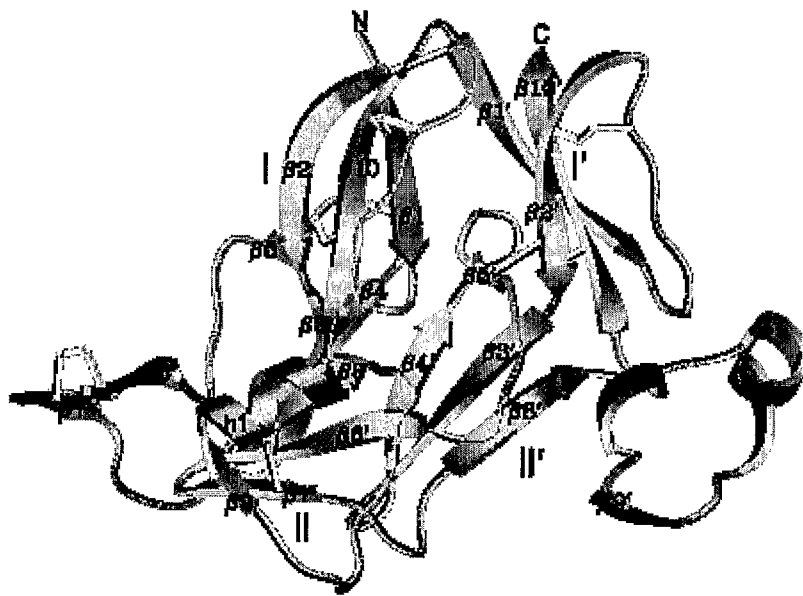


FIGURE 4

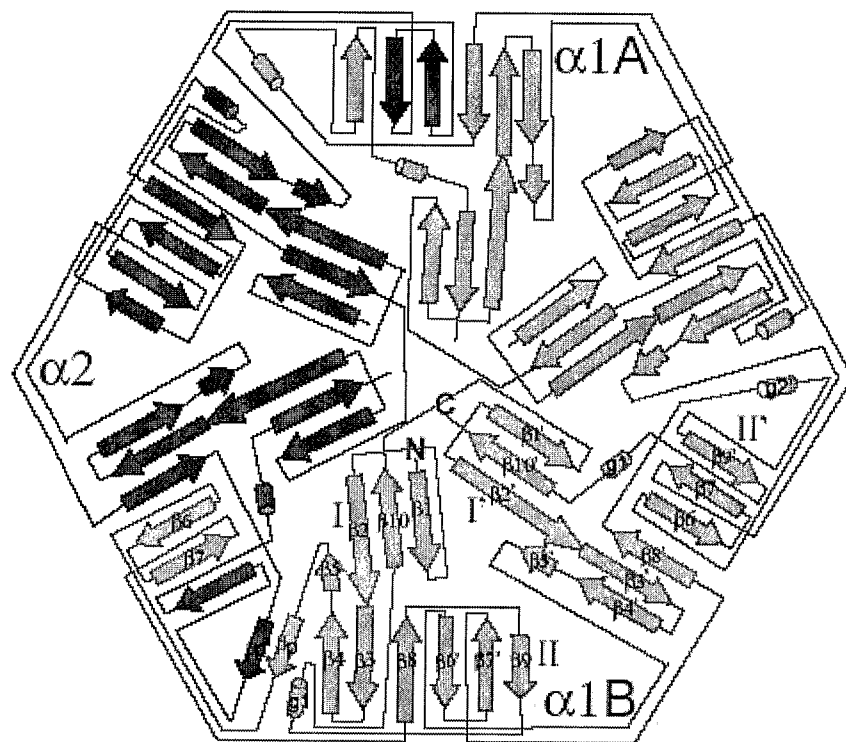


FIGURE 5

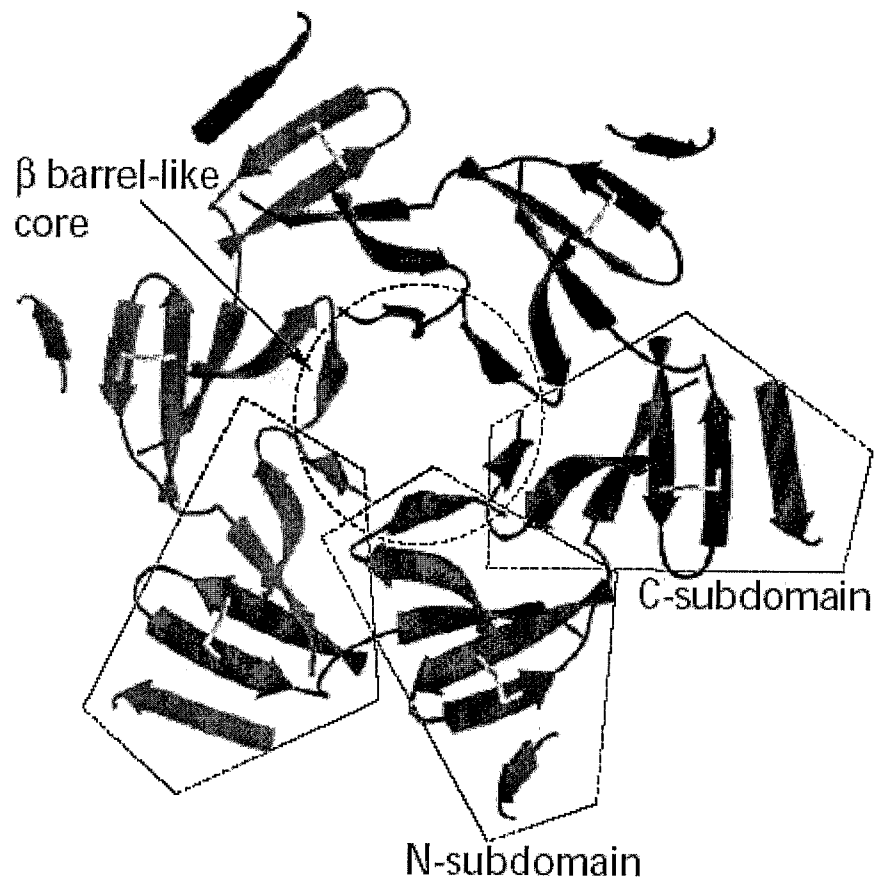


FIGURE 6a

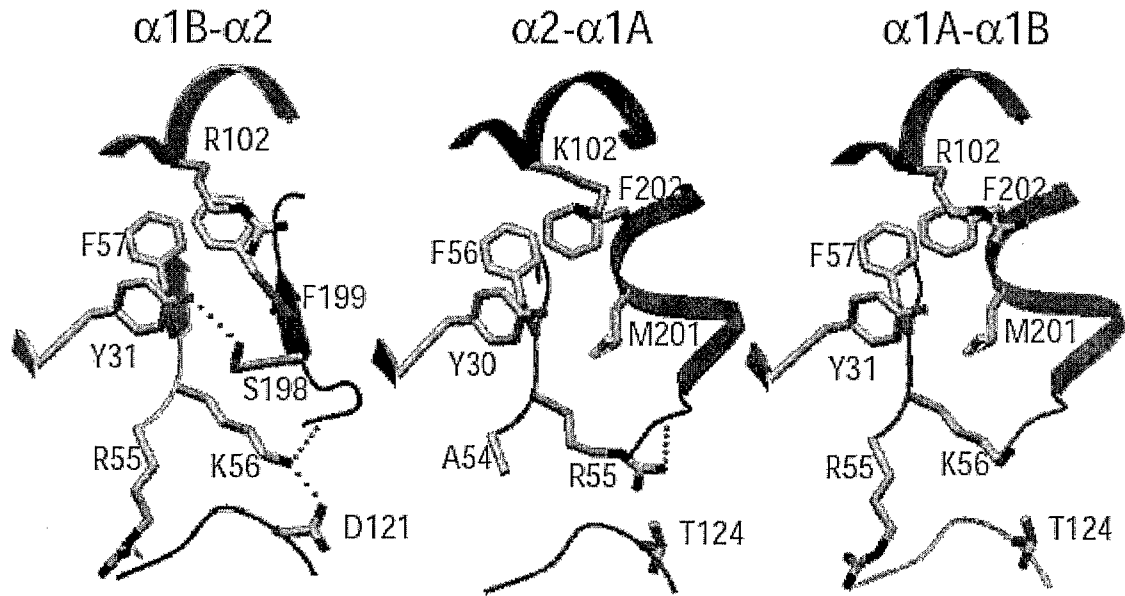


FIGURE 6b

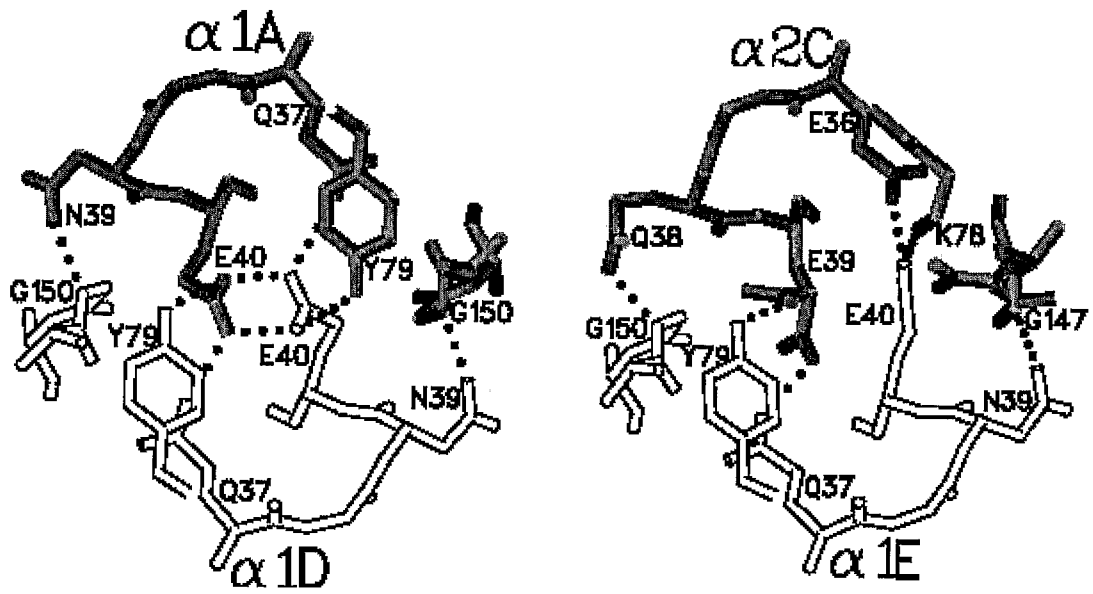


FIGURE 7a

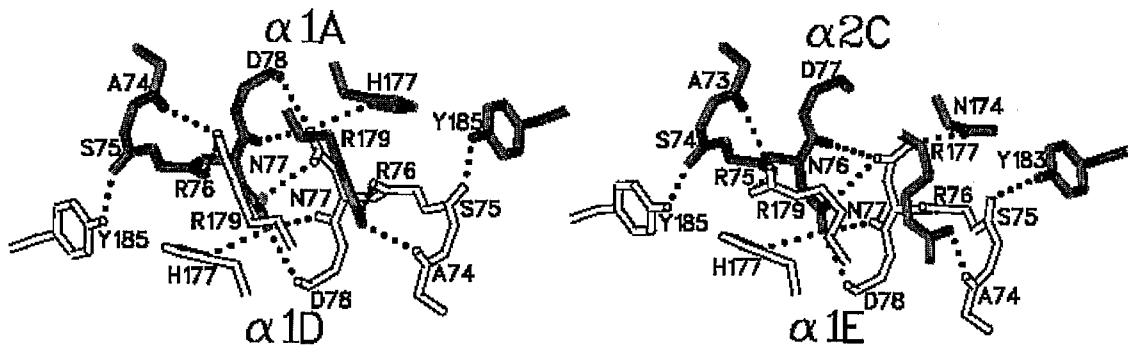


FIGURE 7b

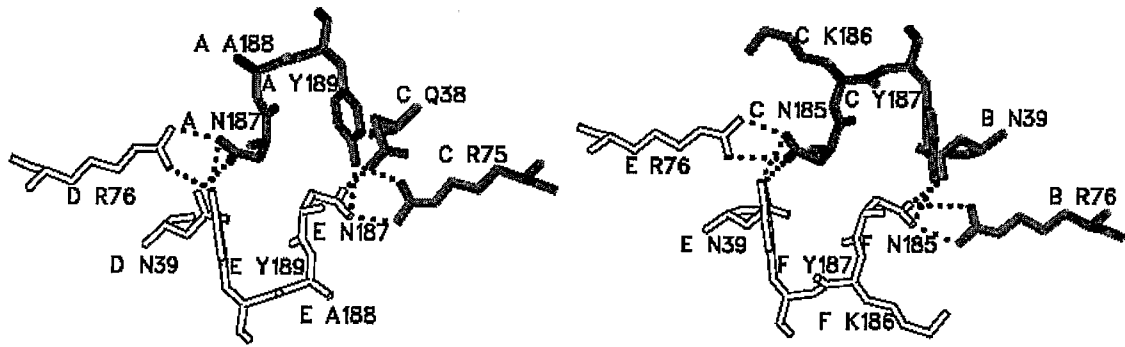


FIGURE 7c

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Hudson, B.

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<151> 2002-03-22

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<223> X stands for histidine, asparagine, glutamine, or serine.

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<223> X stands for arginine or glutamine.

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1 5 10

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1 5 10

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<400> 11

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1 5 10

<210> 12

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1                   5                   10                   15

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                  20

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Glu Phe Arg Ser Ala Pro Phe Ile Glu Cys His Gly Arg Gly Thr Cys  
1                   5                   10                   15

Asn Tyr Tyr Ala Asn Ser  
                  20

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Asp Phe Arg Ala Thr Pro Phe Ile Glu Cys Asn Gly Gly Arg Gly Thr  
1                   5                   10                   15

Cys His Tyr Tyr Ala Asn Lys  
20

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19 is absent, 20-23 are absent, if 20 is absent, 21-23 are absent, etc.

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Asp Phe Arg Ala Ala Pro Phe Leu Glu Cys Gln Gly Arg Gln Gly Thr  
1                   5                   10                   15

Cys His Phe Phe Ala Asn Lys  
20

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5 is absent, 1-4 are absent, if 4 is absent, 1-3 are absent, etc.

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1                   5                   10                   15

Cys His Tyr Phe Ala Asn Lys  
20

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Phe Ser Thr Met  
1

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Phe Thr Thr Met  
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Phe Thr Ser Leu  
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<210> 24  
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1 5

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Pro Phe Leu Phe Cys  
1 5

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Ser Cys Leu Gln Arg

1 5

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Arg Met Phe Arg Lys  
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Gln Gln Phe  
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Leu Gly Leu Ala Gly  
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<222> (1)..(1)  
<223> X stands for glutamate or glutamine.

<220>  
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<222> (3)..(3)  
<223> X stands for serine, threonine, or glycine.

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Glu Gly Thr Gly Gln  
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Glu Gly Gly Gly Gln  
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Gln Gly Gly Gly Gln  
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Thr Ser Ala Gly Ala  
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Ala Leu Ala Ser Pro  
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Thr Ala Ala Gly Asp  
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Ser Leu Val Ser Pro  
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Thr Ala Ala Gly Asp Glu Gly Gly Gly Gln Ser Leu Val Ser Pro  
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Ala Leu Met Ser Pro  
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Thr Ala Ala Gly Ala  
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Thr Ala Ala Gly Ala Glu Gly Gly Gly Gln Ser Leu Val Ser Pro  
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<223> X stands for glutamine or glutamate.

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<223> X stands for asparagine or glutamine.

<220>  
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<222> (4)..(4)  
<223> X stands for gluatamate, glutamine, or lysine.

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Gln Gly Asn Gln

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Gln Gly Asn Lys

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Glu Gly Gln Glu

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Ser Leu Leu Tyr Val

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Arg Ala His Gly Gln

1 5

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Ser Leu Leu Tyr Val Gln Gly Asn Glu Arg Ala His Gly Gln

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Ser Phe Leu Phe Val  
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Ser Phe Leu Phe Val Gln Gly Asn Gln Arg Ala His Gly Gln  
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Ser Leu Leu Tyr Val Gln Gly Asn Lys Arg Ala His Gly Gln  
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Ser Leu Leu Tyr Phe  
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Lys Ala His Asn Gln  
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Ser Leu Leu Tyr Leu  
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Ser Leu Leu Phe Val  
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Val Gln Gly Asn Glu Arg  
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Val Gln Gly Asn Gln Arg  
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Val Gln Gly Asn Lys Arg  
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Phe Glu Gly Gln Glu Lys  
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Leu Glu Gly Gln Glu Lys  
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Val Glu Gly Gln Glu Lys  
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<210> 127

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<222> (2)..(2)

<223> X stands for serine, asparagine, or is absent.

<220>

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<222> (4)..(4)

<223> X stands for alanine, glutamine, or is absent.

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<400> 128

Met Ser Met Ala Pro  
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Met Asn Met Ala Pro  
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Met Ser Met Gln Pro  
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Met Met Pro  
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Pro Glu Pro Met Pro  
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Ile Thr Gly Glu Asn  
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Pro Glu Pro Met Pro Met Ser Met Ala Pro Ile Thr Gly Glu Asn  
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Pro Ala Leu Met Pro

1 5

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Ile Thr Gly Arg Ala  
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Leu Lys Gly Gln Ser  
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Pro Glu Pro Met Pro Met Ser Met Gln Pro Leu Lys Gly Gln Ser  
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Thr Ala Pro Leu Pro  
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Val Ala Glu Asp Glu  
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Thr Ala Pro Leu Pro Met Met Pro Val Ala Glu Asp Glu  
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Ala Ala Pro Leu Pro  
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Leu Ser Glu Glu Ala  
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Ala Ala Pro Leu Pro Met Met Pro Leu Ser Glu Glu Ala  
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Thr Ala Pro Ile Pro  
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Val Ser Gln Thr Gln  
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Pro Met Pro Met Ser Met Ala Pro Ile Thr Gly  
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Leu Met Pro Met Asn Met Ala Pro Ile Thr Gly  
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Pro Met Pro Met Ser Met Gln Pro Leu Lys Gly  
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Pro Leu Pro Met Met Pro Val Ala Glu  
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Pro Leu Pro Met Met Pro Leu Ser Glu  
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Pro Ile Pro Met Met Pro Val Ser Gln  
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<223> X stands for alanine, serine, or aspartate.

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<222> (4)..(4)

<223> X stands for glutamate or glutamine.

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Ala Gly Ala Glu  
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Ala Gly Ser Glu  
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Ala Gly Asp Glu  
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Ala Gly Asp Gln  
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Val Met His Thr Ser  
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Gly Ser Gly Gln Ala  
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Val Met His Thr Ser Ala Gly Ala Glu Gly Ser Gly Gln Ala  
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Ile Met Phe Thr Ser  
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Gly Thr Gly Gln Ala  
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Ile Met Phe Thr Ser Ala Gly Ser Glu Gly Thr Gly Gln Ala

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Met Met His Thr Ser  
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Met Met His Thr Ser Ala Gly Ala Glu Gly Ser Gly Gln Ala  
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Leu Met His Thr Ala  
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Gly Gly Gly Gln Ser  
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Leu Met His Thr Ala Ala Gly Asp Glu Gly Gly Gly Gln Ser  
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Leu Met His Thr Gly  
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Gly Gly Gly Gln Ala  
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Leu Met His Thr Gly Ala Gly Asp Gln Gly Gly Gly Gln Ala  
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Leu Met His Thr Ala Ala Gly Ala Glu Gly Gly Gly Gln Ser  
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<222> (3)..(3)  
<223> X stands for histidine, asparagine, glutamine, or serine.

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<221> MISC\_FEATURE  
 <222> (5)..(5)  
 <223> X stands for glycine, arginine, alanine, or is absent.

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 <222> (6)..(6)  
 <223> X stands for arginine or glutamine.

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 <222> (10)..(10)  
 <223> X stands for asparagine or histidine.

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 <222> (11)..(11)  
 <223> X stands for phenylalanine or tyrosine.

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 <222> (12)..(12)  
 <223> X stands for phenylalanine or tyrosine.

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<400> 176

Glu Cys His Gly Arg Gly Thr Cys Asn Tyr Tyr  
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<210> 177  
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<400> 177

Glu Cys Asn Gly Gly Arg Gly Thr Cys His Tyr Tyr  
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Glu Cys Gln Gly Arg Gln Gly Thr Cys His Phe Phe  
1 5 10

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<211> 12  
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Glu Cys Ser Gly Ala Arg Gly Thr Cys His Tyr Phe  
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<222> (2)..(2)  
<223> X stands for glutamate, aspartate, or serine.

<220>  
<221> MISC\_FEATURE  
<222> (4)..(4)  
<223> X stands for leucine or valine.

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Xaa Xaa Thr Xaa Lys  
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Pro Ser Thr Leu Lys  
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Pro Ser Thr Val Lys  
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Ser Glu Thr Leu Lys  
1 5

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Ala Asp Thr Leu Lys  
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Pro Asp Thr Leu Lys  
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Phe Lys Lys Pro Thr

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Ala Gly Glu Leu Arg  
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Phe Lys Lys Pro Thr Pro Ser Thr Leu Lys Ala Gly Glu Leu Arg  
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Phe Arg Lys Pro Ile  
1 5

<210> 190  
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Ala Gly Glu Leu Glu  
1 5

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Phe Arg Lys Pro Ile Pro Ser Thr Val Lys Ala Gly Glu Leu Glu  
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Phe Ser Lys Pro Gln  
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Ala Gly Asp Leu Arg  
1 5

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Phe Ser Lys Pro Gln Ser Glu Thr Leu Lys Ala Gly Asp Leu Arg  
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Gln Gly Ser Pro Ser  
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Ala Gly Leu Ile Arg  
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Gln Gly Ser Pro Ser Ala Asp Thr Leu Lys Ala Gly Leu Ile Arg  
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Ser Ser Ala Pro Ala  
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Glu Ser Gln Ala Gln  
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Ser Ser Ala Pro Ala Pro Asp Thr Leu Lys Glu Ser Gln Ala Gln  
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Gly Glu Leu Pro Val  
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Ala Gly Gln Leu His  
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Gly Glu Leu Pro Val Ser Glu Thr Leu Lys Ala Gly Gln Leu His  
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<222> (2)..(2)

<223> X stands for serine, glutamine, or arginine.

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Ala Ser Arg Asn Asp  
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<210> 206

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Ala Gln Arg Asn Asp  
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Ala Arg Arg Asn Asp  
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<210> 208  
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Asn Val Cys Asn Phe  
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<210> 209  
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Tyr Ser Tyr Trp Leu  
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Asp Val Cys Asn Phe  
1 5

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Asp Val Cys Asn Phe Ala Ser Arg Asn Asp Tyr Ser Tyr Trp Leu  
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Asp Val Cys Tyr Tyr  
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Lys Ser Tyr Trp Leu  
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Asp Val Cys Tyr Tyr Ala Ser Arg Asn Asp Lys Ser Tyr Trp Leu  
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<400> 216

Gln Val Cys His Tyr  
1 5

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<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 217

Arg Ser Tyr Trp Leu  
1 5

<210> 218

<211> 15

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 218

Gln Val Cys His Tyr Ala Gln Arg Asn Asp Arg Ser Tyr Trp Leu  
1 5 10 15

<210> 219

<211> 5

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 219

Glu Val Cys His Tyr  
1 5

<210> 220

<211> 15

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 220

Glu Val Cys His Tyr Ala Arg Arg Asn Asp Lys Ser Tyr Trp Leu  
1 5 10 15

<210> 221

<211> 5

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<220>

<221> MISC\_FEATURE

<222> (1)..(1)

<223> X stands for tyrosine or phenylalanine.

<220>

<221> MISC\_FEATURE.

<222> (2)..(2)

<223> X stands for tyrosine or phenylalanine.

<220>  
<221> MISC\_FEATURE  
<222> (3)..(3)  
<223> X stands for alanine or serine.

<220>  
<221> MISC\_FEATURE  
<222> (5)..(5)  
<223> X stands for alanine, serine, or lysine.

<400> 221

Xaa Xaa Xaa Asn Xaa  
1 5

<210> 222  
<211> 5  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 222

Tyr Tyr Ala Asn Ala  
1 5

<210> 223  
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<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 223

Tyr Tyr Ser Asn Ser  
1 5

<210> 224  
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<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 224

Tyr Tyr Ala Asn Ser  
1 5

<210> 225  
<211> 5  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 225

Tyr Tyr Ala Asn Lys  
1 5

<210> 226

<211> 5

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 226

Phe Phe Ala Asn Lys  
1 5

<210> 227

<211> 5

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 227

Tyr Phe Ala Asn Lys  
1 5

<210> 228

<211> 5

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 228

Arg Gly Thr Cys Asn  
1 5

<210> 229

<211> 5

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 229

Tyr Ser Phe Trp Leu  
1 5

<210> 230

<211> 15

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 230

Arg Gly Thr Cys Asn Tyr Tyr Ala Asn Ala Tyr Ser Phe Trp Leu  
1 5 10 15

<210> 231  
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<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 231

Arg Gly Thr Cys Asn Tyr Tyr Ser Asn Ser Tyr Ser Phe Trp Leu  
1 5 10 15

<210> 232  
<211> 15  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 232

Arg Gly Thr Cys Asn Tyr Tyr Ala Asn Ser Tyr Ser Phe Trp Leu  
1 5 10 15

<210> 233  
<211> 5  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 233

Arg Gly Thr Cys His  
1 5

<210> 234  
<211> 15  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 234

Arg Gly Thr Cys His Tyr Tyr Ala Asn Lys Tyr Ser Phe Trp Leu  
1 5 10 15

<210> 235  
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<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 235

Gln Gly Thr Cys His  
1 5

<210> 236  
<211> 15  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 236

Gln Gly Thr Cys His Phe Phe Ala Asn Lys Tyr Ser Phe Trp Leu  
1                   5                   10                   15

<210> 237  
<211> 15  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 237

Arg Gly Thr Cys His Tyr Phe Ala Asn Lys Tyr Ser Phe Trp Leu  
1                   5                   10                   15

<210> 238  
<211> 11  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 238

Ile Glu Arg Ser Glu Met Phe Lys Lys Pro Thr  
1                   5                   10

<210> 239  
<211> 11  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 239

Leu Asn Pro Glu Arg Met Phe Arg Lys Pro Ile  
1                   5                   10

<210> 240  
<211> 11  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 240

Val Asp Val Ser Asp Met Phe Ser Lys Pro Gln  
1                   5                   10

<210> 241  
<211> 11  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 241

Ile Pro Glu Gln Ser Phe Gln Gly Ser Pro Ser  
1 5 10

<210> 242  
<211> 12  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 242

Val Lys Ala Asp Leu Gln Phe Ser Ser Ala Pro Ala  
1 5 10

<210> 243  
<211> 12  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 243

Val Glu Glu Arg Gln Gln Phe Gly Glu Leu Pro Val  
1 5 10

<210> 244  
<211> 5  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 244

Phe Trp Leu Ala Thr  
1 5

<210> 245  
<211> 21  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 245

Phe Trp Leu Ala Thr Ile Glu Arg Ser Glu Met Phe Lys Lys Pro Thr  
1 5 10 15

Pro Ser Thr Leu Lys  
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<210> 246  
<211> 5  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 246

Phe Trp Leu Ala Ser  
1 5

<210> 247  
<211> 21  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 247

Phe Trp Leu Ala Ser Leu Asn Pro Glu Arg Met Phe Arg Lys Pro Ile  
1 5 10 15

Pro Ser Thr Val Lys  
20

<210> 248  
<211> 21  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 248

Phe Trp Leu Ala Thr Val Asp Val Ser Asp Met Phe Ser Lys Pro Gln  
1 5 10 15

Ser Glu Thr Leu Lys  
20

<210> 249  
<211> 5  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 249

Phe Trp Leu Thr Thr  
1 5

<210> 250  
<211> 21  
<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 250

Phe Trp Leu Thr Thr Ile Pro Glu Gln Ser Phe Gln Gly Ser Pro Ser  
1 5 10 15

Ala Asp Thr Leu Lys  
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<210> 251

<211> 22

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 251

Phe Trp Leu Thr Thr Val Lys Ala Asp Leu Gln Phe Ser Ser Ala Pro  
1 5 10 15

Ala Pro Asp Thr Leu Lys  
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<210> 252

<211> 22

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 252

Phe Trp Leu Thr Thr Val Glu Glu Arg Gln Gln Phe Gly Glu Leu Pro  
1 5 10 15

Val Ser Glu Thr Leu Lys  
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<210> 253

<211> 18

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 253

Phe Ser Thr Met Pro Phe Leu Phe Cys Asn Ile Asn Asn Val Cys Asn  
1 5 10 15

Phe Ala

<210> 254  
<211> 18  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 254

Phe Thr Thr Met Pro Phe Leu Phe Cys Asn Val Asn Asp Val Cys Asn  
1 5 10 15

Phe Ala

<210> 255  
<211> 18  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 255

Phe Ser Thr Met Pro Phe Met Phe Cys Asn Ile Asn Asn Val Cys Asn  
1 5 10 15

Phe Ala

<210> 256  
<211> 18  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 256

Phe Ser Thr Met Pro Phe Leu Tyr Cys Asn Pro Gly Asp Val Cys Tyr  
1 5 10 15

Tyr Ala

<210> 257  
<211> 18  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 257

Phe Ser Thr Leu Pro Phe Ala Tyr Cys Asn Ile His Gln Val Cys His  
1 5 10 15

Tyr Ala

<210> 258  
<211> 18  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 258

Phe Ser Thr Met Pro Phe Ile Tyr Cys Asn Ile Asn Glu Val Cys His  
1 5 10 15

Tyr Ala

<210> 259  
<211> 18  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 259

Pro Phe Leu Phe Cys Asn Ile Asn Asn Val Cys Asn Phe Ala Ser Arg  
1 5 10 15

Asn Asp

<210> 260  
<211> 18  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 260

Pro Phe Leu Phe Cys Asn Val Asn Asp Val Cys Asn Phe Ala Ser Arg  
1 5 10 15

Asn Asp

<210> 261  
<211> 18  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 261

Pro Phe Met Phe Cys Asn Ile Asn Asn Val Cys Asn Phe Ala Ser Arg  
1 5 10 15

Asn Asp

<210> 262  
<211> 18  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 262

Pro Phe Leu Tyr Cys Asn Pro Gly Asp Val Cys Tyr Tyr Ala Ser Arg  
1 5 10 15

Asn Asp

<210> 263  
<211> 18  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 263

Pro Phe Ala Tyr Cys Asn Ile His Gln Val Cys His Tyr Ala Gln Arg  
1 5 10 15

Asn Asp

<210> 264  
<211> 18  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 264

Pro Phe Ile Tyr Cys Asn Ile Asn Glu Val Cys His Tyr Ala Arg Arg  
1 5 10 15

Asn Asp

<210> 265  
<211> 22  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 265

Phe Ser Thr Met Pro Phe Leu Phe Cys Asn Ile Asn Asn Val Cys Asn  
1 5 10 15

Phe Ala Ser Arg Asn Asp  
20

<210> 266  
<211> 22  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 266

Phe Thr Thr Met Pro Phe Leu Phe Cys Asn Val Asn Asp Val Cys Asn  
1 5 10 15

Phe Ala Ser Arg Asn Asp  
20

<210> 267  
<211> 22  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 267

Phe Ser Thr Met Pro Phe Met Phe Cys Asn Ile Asn Asn Val Cys Asn  
1 5 10 15

Phe Ala Ser Arg Asn Asp  
20

<210> 268  
<211> 22  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 268

Phe Ser Thr Met Pro Phe Leu Tyr Cys Asn Pro Gly Asp Val Cys Tyr  
1 5 10 15

Tyr Ala Ser Arg Asn Asp  
20

<210> 269  
<211> 22  
<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 269

Phe Ser Thr Leu Pro Phe Ala Tyr Cys Asn Ile His Gln Val Cys His  
1 5 10 15

Tyr Ala Gln Arg Asn Asp  
20

<210> 270

<211> 22

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 270

Phe Ser Thr Met Pro Phe Ile Tyr Cys Asn Ile Asn Glu Val Cys His  
1 5 10 15

Tyr Ala Arg Arg Asn Asp  
20

<210> 271

<211> 14

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 271

Pro Phe Ile Glu Cys His Gly Arg Gly Thr Cys Asn Tyr Tyr  
1 5 10

<210> 272

<211> 14

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 272

Pro Phe Leu Glu Cys His Gly Arg Gly Thr Cys Asn Tyr Tyr  
1 5 10

<210> 273

<211> 15

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 273

Pro Phe Ile Glu Cys Asn Gly Gly Arg Gly Thr Cys His Tyr Tyr

1 5 10 15

<210> 274  
<211> 15  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 274

Pro Phe Leu Glu Cys Gln Gly Arg Gln Gly Thr Cys His Phe Phe  
1 5 10 15

<210> 275  
<211> 15  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 275

Pro Phe Ile Glu Cys Ser Gly Ala Arg Gly Thr Cys His Tyr Phe  
1 5 10 15

<210> 276  
<211> 18  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 276

Ile Glu Arg Ser Glu Met Phe Lys Lys Pro Thr Pro Ser Thr Leu Lys  
1 5 10 15

Ala Gly

<210> 277  
<211> 18  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 277

Leu Asn Pro Glu Arg Met Phe Arg Lys Pro Ile Pro Ser Thr Val Lys  
1 5 10 15

Ala Gly

<210> 278  
<211> 18

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 278

Val Asp Val Ser Asp Met Phe Ser Lys Pro Gln Ser Glu Thr Leu Lys  
1                   5                   10                   15

Ala Gly

<210> 279

<211> 18

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 279

Ile Pro Glu Gln Ser Phe Gln Gly Ser Pro Ser Ala Asp Thr Leu Lys  
1                   5                   10                   15

Ala Gly

<210> 280

<211> 19

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 280

Val Lys Ala Asp Leu Gln Phe Ser Ser Ala Pro Ala Pro Asp Thr Leu  
1                   5                   10                   15

Lys Glu Ser

<210> 281

<211> 19

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 281

Val Glu Glu Arg Gln Gln Phe Gly Glu Leu Pro Val Ser Glu Thr Leu  
1                   5                   10                   15

Lys Ala Gly

<210> 282  
<211> 10  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 282

Gly Ser Cys Leu Arg Lys Phe Ser Thr Met  
1 5 10

<210> 283  
<211> 10  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 283

Gly Ser Cys Leu Gln Arg Phe Thr Thr Met  
1 5 10

<210> 284  
<211> 10  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 284

Gly Ser Cys Leu Arg Arg Phe Ser Thr Met  
1 5 10

<210> 285  
<211> 10  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 285

Gly Ser Cys Leu Ala Arg Phe Ser Thr Met  
1 5 10

<210> 286  
<211> 10  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 286

Gly Ser Cys Leu Pro Val Phe Ser Thr Leu  
1 5 10

<210> 287

<211> 10  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 287

Gly Ser Cys Leu Pro Arg Phe Ser Thr Met  
1 5 10

<210> 288  
<211> 20  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 288

Leu Arg Lys Phe Ser Thr Met Pro Phe Leu Phe Cys Asn Ile Asn Asn  
1 5 10 15

Val Cys Asn Phe  
20

<210> 289  
<211> 20  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 289

Leu Gln Arg Phe Thr Thr Met Pro Phe Leu Phe Cys Asn Val Asn Asp  
1 5 10 15

Val Cys Asn Phe  
20

<210> 290  
<211> 20  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 290

Leu Arg Arg Phe Ser Thr Met Pro Phe Met Phe Cys Asn Ile Asn Asn  
1 5 10 15

Val Cys Asn Phe  
20

<210> 291  
<211> 20

<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 291

Leu Ala Arg Phe Ser Thr Met Pro Phe Leu Tyr Cys Asn Pro Gly Asp  
1 5 10 15

Val Cys Tyr Tyr  
20

<210> 292  
<211> 20  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 292

Leu Pro Val Phe Ser Thr Leu Pro Phe Ala Tyr Cys Asn Ile His Gln  
1 5 10 15

Val Cys His Tyr  
20

<210> 293  
<211> 20  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 293

Leu Pro Arg Phe Ser Thr Met Pro Phe Ile Tyr Cys Asn Ile Asn Glu  
1 5 10 15

Val Cys His Tyr  
20

<210> 294  
<211> 4  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 294

Leu Arg Lys Phe  
1

<210> 295  
<211> 4  
<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 295

Leu Ala Arg Phe  
1

<210> 296

<211> 2

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 296

Gln Asp  
1

<210> 297

<211> 3

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 297

Asn Tyr Tyr  
1

<210> 298

<211> 10

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 298

Phe Cys Asn Val Asn Asp Val Cys Asn Phe  
1                   5                   10

<210> 299

<211> 10

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 299

Tyr Cys Asn Pro Gly Asp Val Cys Tyr Tyr  
1                   5                   10

<210> 300

<211> 10

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

&lt;400&gt; 300

Tyr Cys Asn Ile His Gln Val Cys His Tyr  
 1 5 10

&lt;210&gt; 301

&lt;211&gt; 10

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Homo sapiens

&lt;400&gt; 301

Tyr Cys Asn Ile Asn Glu Val Cys His Tyr  
 1 5 10

&lt;210&gt; 302

&lt;211&gt; 229

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Homo sapiens

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;221&gt; misc\_feature

&lt;223&gt; alpha 1 chain

&lt;400&gt; 302

Ser Val Asp His Gly Phe Leu Val Thr Arg His Ser Gln Thr Ile Asp  
 1 5 10 15

Asp Pro Gln Cys Pro Ser Gly Thr Lys Ile Leu Tyr His Gly Tyr Ser  
 20 25 30

Leu Leu Tyr Val Gln Gly Asn Glu Arg Ala His Gly Gln Asp Leu Gly  
 35 40 45

Thr Ala Gly Ser Cys Leu Arg Lys Phe Ser Thr Met Pro Phe Leu Phe  
 50 55 60

Cys Asn Ile Asn Asn Val Cys Asn Phe Ala Ser Arg Asn Asp Tyr Ser  
 65 70 75 80

Tyr Trp Leu Ser Thr Pro Glu Pro Met Pro Met Ser Met Ala Pro Ile  
 85 90 95

Thr Gly Glu Asn Ile Arg Pro Phe Ile Ser Arg Cys Ala Val Cys Glu  
 100 105 110

Ala Pro Ala Met Val Met Ala Val His Ser Gln Thr Ile Gln Ile Pro  
 115 120 125

Pro Cys Pro Ser Gly Trp Ser Ser Leu Trp Ile Gly Tyr Ser Phe Val  
 130 135 140

Met His Thr Ser Ala Gly Ala Glu Gly Ser Gly Gln Ala Leu Ala Ser  
 145 150 155 160

Pro Gly Ser Cys Leu Glu Glu Phe Arg Ser Ala Pro Phe Ile Glu Cys  
 165 170 175

His Gly Arg Gly Thr Cys Asn Tyr Tyr Ala Asn Ala Tyr Ser Phe Trp  
 180 185 190

Leu Ala Thr Ile Glu Arg Ser Glu Met Phe Lys Lys Pro Thr Pro Ser  
 195 200 205

Thr Leu Lys Ala Gly Glu Leu Arg Thr His Val Ser Arg Cys Gln Val  
 210 215 220

Cys Met Arg Arg Thr  
 225

<210> 303  
 <211> 227  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Homo sapiens

<220>  
 <221> misc\_feature  
 <223> alpha 2 chain

<400> 303

Val Ser Ile Gly Tyr Leu Leu Val Lys His Ser Gln Thr Asp Gln Glu  
 1 5 10 15

Pro Met Cys Pro Val Gly Met Asn Lys Leu Trp Ser Gly Tyr Ser Leu  
 20 25 30

Leu Tyr Phe Glu Gly Gln Glu Lys Ala His Asn Gln Asp Leu Gly Leu  
 35 40 45

Ala Gly Ser Cys Leu Ala Arg Phe Ser Thr Met Pro Phe Leu Tyr Cys



&lt;400&gt; 304

Ala Thr Trp Thr Thr Arg Gly Phe Val Phe Thr Arg His Ser Gln Thr  
 1 5 10 15

Thr Ala Ile Pro Ser Cys Pro Glu Gly Thr Val Pro Leu Tyr Ser Gly  
 20 25 30

Phe Ser Phe Leu Phe Val Gln Gly Asn Gln Arg Ala His Gly Gln Asp  
 35 40 45

Leu Gly Thr Leu Gly Ser Cys Leu Gln Arg Phe Thr Thr Met Pro Phe  
 50 55 60

Leu Phe Cys Asn Val Asn Asp Val Cys Asn Phe Ala Ser Arg Asn Asp  
 65 70 75 80

Tyr Ser Tyr Trp Leu Ser Thr Pro Ala Leu Met Pro Met Asn Met Ala  
 85 90 95

Pro Ile Thr Gly Arg Ala Leu Glu Pro Tyr Ile Ser Arg Cys Thr Val  
 100 105 110

Cys Glu Gly Pro Ala Ile Ala Ile Ala Val His Ser Gln Thr Thr Asp  
 115 120 125

Ile Pro Pro Cys Pro His Gly Trp Ile Ser Leu Trp Lys Gly Phe Ser  
 130 135 140

Phe Ile Met Phe Thr Ser Ala Gly Ser Glu Gly Ala Gly Gln Ala Leu  
 145 150 155 160

Ala Ser Pro Gly Ser Cys Leu Glu Glu Phe Arg Ala Ser Pro Phe Leu  
 165 170 175

Glu Cys His Gly Arg Gly Thr Cys Asn Tyr Tyr Ser Asn Ser Tyr Ser  
 180 185 190

Phe Trp Leu Ala Ser Leu Asn Pro Glu Arg Met Phe Arg Lys Pro Ile  
 195 200 205

Pro Ser Thr Val Lys Ala Gly Glu Leu Glu Lys Ile Ile Ser Arg Cys  
 210 215 220

Gln Val Cys Met Lys Lys Arg His  
225 230

<210> 305  
<211> 231  
<212> PRT  
<213> Homo sapiens

<220>  
<221> misc\_feature  
<223> alpha 4 chain

<400> 305

Pro Gly Tyr Leu Gly Gly Phe Leu Leu Val Leu His Ser Gln Thr Asp  
1 5 10 15

Gln Glu Pro Thr Cys Pro Leu Gly Met Pro Arg Leu Trp Thr Gly Tyr  
20 25 30

Ser Leu Leu Tyr Leu Glu Gly Gln Glu Lys Ala His Asn Gln Asp Leu  
35 40 45

Gly Leu Ala Gly Ser Cys Leu Pro Val Phe Ser Thr Leu Pro Phe Ala  
50 55 60

Tyr Cys Asn Ile His Gln Val Cys His Tyr Ala Gln Arg Asn Asp Arg  
65 70 75 80

Ser Tyr Trp Leu Ala Ser Ala Ala Pro Leu Pro Met Met Pro Leu Ser  
85 90 95

Glu Glu Ala Ile Arg Pro Tyr Val Ser Arg Cys Ala Val Cys Glu Ala  
100 105 110

Pro Ala Gln Ala Val Ala Val His Ser Gln Asp Gln Ser Ile Pro Pro  
115 120 125

Cys Pro Gln Thr Trp Arg Ser Leu Trp Ile Gly Tyr Ser Phe Leu Met  
130 135 140

His Thr Gly Ala Gly Asp Gln Gly Gly Gly Gln Ala Leu Met Ser Pro  
145 150 155 160

Gly Ser Cys Leu Glu Asp Phe Arg Ala Ala Pro Phe Leu Glu Cys Gln  
 165 170 175

Gly Arg Gln Gly Thr Cys His Phe Phe Ala Asn Lys Tyr Ser Phe Trp  
 180 185 190

Leu Thr Thr Val Lys Ala Asp Leu Gln Phe Ser Ser Ala Pro Ala Pro  
 195 200 205

Asp Thr Leu Lys Glu Ser Gln Ala Gln Arg Gln Lys Ile Ser Arg Cys  
 210 215 220

Gln Val Cys Val Lys Tyr Ser  
 225 230

<210> 306  
 <211> 229  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Homo sapiens

<220>  
 <221> misc\_feature  
 <223> alpha 5 chain

<400> 306

Ser Val Ala His Gly Phe Leu Ile Thr Arg His Ser Gln Thr Thr Asp  
 1 5 10 15

Ala Pro Gln Cys Pro Gln Gly Thr Leu Gln Val Tyr Glu Gly Phe Ser  
 20 25 30

Leu Leu Tyr Val Gln Gly Asn Lys Arg Ala His Gly Gln Asp Leu Gly  
 35 40 45

Thr Ala Gly Ser Cys Leu Arg Arg Phe Ser Thr Met Pro Phe Met Phe  
 50 55 60

Cys Asn Ile Asn Asn Val Cys Asn Phe Ala Ser Arg Asn Asp Tyr Ser  
 65 70 75 80

Tyr Trp Leu Ser Thr Pro Glu Pro Met Pro Met Ser Met Gln Pro Leu  
 85 90 95

Lys Gly Gln Ser Ile Gln Pro Phe Ile Ser Arg Cys Ala Val Cys Glu

100 105 110

Ala Pro Ala Val Val Ile Ala Val His Ser Gln Thr Ile Gln Ile Pro  
 115 120 125

His Cys Pro Gln Gly Trp Asp Ser Leu Trp Ile Gly Tyr Ser Phe Met  
 130 135 140

Met His Thr Ser Ala Gly Ala Glu Gly Ser Gly Gln Ala Leu Ala Ser  
 145 150 155 160

Pro Gly Ser Cys Leu Glu Glu Phe Arg Ser Ala Pro Phe Ile Glu Cys  
 165 170 175

His Gly Arg Gly Thr Cys Asn Tyr Tyr Ala Asn Ser Tyr Ser Phe Trp  
 180 185 190

Leu Ala Thr Val Asp Val Ser Asp Met Phe Ser Lys Pro Gln Ser Glu  
 195 200 205

Thr Leu Lys Ala Gly Asp Leu Arg Thr Arg Ile Ser Arg Cys Gln Val  
 210 215 220

Cys Met Lys Arg Thr  
 225

<210> 307  
 <211> 228  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Homo sapiens

<220>  
 <221> misc\_feature  
 <223> alpha 6 chain

<400> 307

Met Arg Val Gly Tyr Thr Leu Val Lys His Ser Gln Ser Glu Gln Val  
 1 5 10 15

Pro Pro Cys Pro Ile Gly Met Ser Gln Leu Trp Val Gly Tyr Ser Leu  
 20 25 30

Leu Phe Val Glu Gly Gln Glu Lys Ala His Asn Gln Asp Leu Gly Phe  
 35 40 45

Ala Gly Ser Cys Leu Pro Arg Phe Ser Thr Met Pro Phe Ile Tyr Cys  
 50 55 60

Asn Ile Asn Glu Val Cys His Tyr Ala Arg Arg Asn Asp Lys Ser Tyr  
 65 70 75 80

Trp Leu Ser Thr Thr Ala Pro Ile Pro Met Met Pro Val Ser Gln Thr  
 85 90 95

Gln Ile Pro Gln Tyr Ile Ser Arg Cys Ser Val Cys Glu Ala Pro Ser  
 100 105 110

Gln Ala Ile Ala Val His Ser Gln Asp Ile Thr Ile Pro Gln Cys Pro  
 115 120 125

Leu Gly Trp Arg Ser Leu Trp Ile Gly Tyr Ser Phe Leu Met His Thr  
 130 135 140

Ala Ala Gly Ala Glu Gly Gly Gly Gln Ser Leu Val Ser Pro Gly Ser  
 145 150 155 160

Cys Leu Glu Asp Phe Arg Ala Thr Pro Phe Ile Glu Cys Ser Gly Ala  
 165 170 175

Arg Gly Thr Cys His Tyr Phe Ala Asn Lys Tyr Ser Phe Trp Leu Thr  
 180 185 190

Thr Val Glu Glu Arg Gln Gln Phe Gly Glu Leu Pro Val Ser Glu Thr  
 195 200 205

Leu Lys Ala Gly Gln Leu His Thr Arg Val Ser Arg Cys Gln Val Cys  
 210 215 220

Met Lys Ser Leu  
 225

专利名称(译)	iv型胶原蛋白nc1域六聚体的结晶结构		
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CPC分类号	A61P1/04 A61P3/02 A61P3/10 A61P7/06 A61P9/00 A61P9/10 A61P17/00 A61P17/02 A61P17/06 A61P19/02 A61P19/08 A61P27/02 A61P27/06 A61P29/00 A61P31/04 A61P31/10 A61P31/18 A61P31 /22 A61P33/00 A61P33/02 A61P35/00 A61P35/02 A61P35/04 A61P37/04 A61P37/06 A61P37/08 A61P43/00 C07K14/78 C07K2299/00		
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#### 摘要(译)

本发明提供了IV型胶原的结晶NC1结构域六聚体，以及制备该晶体的方法，其中NC1结构域六聚体被结晶，使得结晶的NC1结构域六聚体的三维结构可以确定为至少3的分辨率。一个或更好。本发明还提供了设计抑制血管生成，肿瘤生长，肿瘤转移，内皮细胞粘附和/或增殖和/或基底层组装的化合物的方法，包括分析结晶的IV型胶原NC1结构域六聚体的三维结构。通过本发明的方法产生，并鉴定和合成靶向NC1结构域的区域，所述区域已经通过分析鉴定为对IV型胶原同源三聚体和六聚体装配是重要的。本发明还提供了基于本文公开的IV型胶原NC1六聚体结构的分析，通过本发明的合理药物设计方法设计的新型多肽。