
or variants and derivatives thereof; provided however, that when the truncated sTNFR polypeptide comprises amino acid residues 3-110, 4-110, 5-110, 6-110, 7-110, 8-110, 9-110, 10-110, 11-110, 12-110, 13-110, 14-110, 15-110, 16-110, 17-110, or 18-110 of SEQ ID NO: 2, the polypeptide does not further comprise amino acid residues 111-161 of SEQ ID NO: 2, or a portion thereof;

and optionally further comprising an amino-terminal methionine.

2. (Amended) A tumor necrosis binding protein comprising the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID NO: 10, or SEQ ID NO: 14; or a variant or derivative thereof.

A nucleic acid molecule encoding a tumor necrosis factor binding protein, comprising a nucleotide sequence that is:

(a) the nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 3;
(b) the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 5;
(c) the nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 7;
(d) the nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 11;
(e) the nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 9;
(f) the nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 13;
(g) a nucleotide sequence which is degenerate in the coding regions or portions thereof of the nucleotide sequence of (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), or (f);
(h) a nucleotide which hybridizes to the nucleotide sequence of (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), or (g); or
(i) a nucleotide sequence which is complementary to the nucleotide sequence of (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), or (h);

provided however, that the nucleic acid does not encode a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, the polypeptide does not further comprise amino acid residues 111-