Amendments to the Claims under 37 C.F.R. § 1.121


Claim 2 (previously presented): An isolated truncated sTNFR polypeptide 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; provided however, that the truncated sTNFR polypeptide does not comprise amino acid residues 111-161 of SEQ ID NO: 2 or a portion thereof.

Claim 3 (cancelled).
Claim 4 (previously presented): The polypeptide of either Claim 1 or 2, wherein said amino acid sequence is nonglycosylated.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The polypeptide of either Claim 1 or 2, wherein said amino acid sequence is glycosylated.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The polypeptide of either Claim 1 or 2, wherein the protein is conjugated to a water soluble polymer.

Claim 7 (previously presented): A polyvalent truncated sTNFR molecule comprising at least one polypeptide of either Claim 1 or 2.

Claim 8 (previously presented): A polyvalent molecule having the formula $R_1$-$X$-$R_2$, wherein:

X comprises a linker, wherein said linker is a water soluble polymer; and

$R_1$ and $R_2$ are biologically-active molecules covalently bonded to said water soluble polymer, wherein at least one of $R_1$ and $R_2$ is a polypeptide of either Claim 1 or 2.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The polyvalent molecule of Claim 8, wherein the water soluble polymer is polyethylene glycol.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The polyvalent molecule of Claim 9, wherein $R_1$ and $R_2$ are polypeptides comprising:

(a) the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 4; or
(b) the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 6.

Claim 11-21 (cancelled).
Claim 22 (previously presented): A truncated sTNFR polypeptide which is the recombinant expression product of a prokaryotic or eukaryotic host cell containing an exogenous polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide of either Claim 1 or 2.

Claim 23 (previously presented): A pharmaceutical composition comprising the polypeptide of either Claim 1 or 2 in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle.

Claim 24 (previously presented): A pharmaceutical composition comprising:
A) a polypeptide produced by a process comprising the steps of growing a prokaryotic or eukaryotic host cell containing a polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide of either Claim 1 or 2 in a suitable nutrient medium and isolating the polypeptide from the host cell or nutrient medium; and
B) a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle.

Claim 25 (previously presented): A pharmaceutical composition comprising:
A) a polypeptide produced by a process comprising the steps of:
   (a) culturing a prokaryotic or eukaryotic host cell containing a polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide of either Claim 1 or 2;
   (b) maintaining the host cell under conditions allowing the expression of the polypeptide by the host cell; and
   (c) isolating the polypeptide expressed by the host cell; and
B) a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle.

Claims 26 and 27 (cancelled).

Claim 28 (previously presented): A method of preparing a pharmaceutical composition wherein a therapeutically effective amount of the polypeptide of either Claim 1 or 2 is mixed with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable vehicles.
Claims 29 and 30 (cancelled).

Claim 31 (previously presented): A kit for preparing an aqueous protein formulation comprising a first container having the polypeptide of either Claim 1 or 2 and a second container having a physiologically acceptable solvent.

Claim 32 (previously presented): The polypeptide of either Claim 1 or 2, wherein the protein is fused to a heterologous amino acid sequence.

Claim 33 (previously presented): The polypeptide of Claim 32, wherein the heterologous amino acid sequence is an IgG constant domain or fragment thereof.

Claim 34 (previously presented): A truncated sTNFR polypeptide which is the recombinant expression product of a prokaryotic or eukaryotic host cell containing an exogenous polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence:

(a) as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 3;
(b) as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 5;
(c) as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 7;
(d) as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 11;
(e) as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 9;
(f) as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 13;
(g) that is a degenerate sequence of the nucleotide sequence of any of (a) - (f); or
(h) encoding a polypeptide that is at least 90 percent identical to the polypeptide encoded by the nucleotide sequence of any of (a) - (g);

provided however, that the polypeptide does not comprise amino acid residues 111-161 of SEQ ID NO: 2 or a portion thereof;

and optionally further comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding an amino-terminal methionine.
Claim 35 (currently amended): A truncated sTNFR polypeptide which is the recombinant expression product of a prokaryotic or eukaryotic host cell containing an exogenous polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 11, SEQ ID NO: 9, or SEQ ID NO: 13, or a TNF inhibitory fragment thereof,

provided however, that the truncated sTNFR polypeptide does not comprise amino acid residues 111-161 of SEQ ID NO: 2 or a portion thereof.

Claim 36 (previously presented): A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

A) a polypeptide produced by a process comprising growing a prokaryotic or eukaryotic host cell containing a polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence:

(a) as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 3;
(b) as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 5;
(c) as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 7;
(d) as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 11;
(e) as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 9;
(f) as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 13;

(g) that is a degenerate sequence of the nucleotide sequence of any of (a) - (f); or

(h) encoding a polypeptide that is at least 90 percent identical to the polypeptide encoded by the nucleotide sequence of any of (a) - (g);

provided however, that the polypeptide does not comprise amino acid residues 111-161 of SEQ ID NO: 2 or a portion thereof;

and optionally further comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding an amino-terminal methionine;

in a suitable nutrient medium and isolating the polypeptide from the host cell or nutrient medium; and

B) a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle.
Claim 37 (previously presented): A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

A) a polypeptide produced by a process comprising growing a prokaryotic or eukaryotic host cell containing a polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 11, SEQ ID NO: 9, or SEQ ID NO: 13, or a TNF inhibitory fragment thereof, wherein the polypeptide does not comprise amino acid residues 111-161 of SEQ ID NO: 2 or a portion thereof, in a suitable nutrient medium and isolating the polypeptide from the host cell or nutrient medium; and

B) a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle.

Claim 38 (previously presented): A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

A) a polypeptide produced by a process comprising:

(a) culturing a prokaryotic or eukaryotic host cell containing a polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence:

(i) as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 3;
(ii) as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 5;
(iii) as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 7;
(iv) as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 11;
(v) as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 9;
(vi) as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 13;
(vii) that is a sequence of the nucleotide sequence of any of (i) - (vi); or
(viii) encoding a polypeptide that is at least 90 percent identical to the polypeptide encoded by the nucleotide sequence of any of (i) - (vii);

provided however, that the polypeptide does not comprise amino acid residues 111-161 of SEQ ID NO: 2 or a portion thereof;

and optionally further comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding an amino-terminal methionine;

(b) maintaining the host cell under conditions allowing the expression of the polypeptide by the host cell; and

(c) isolating the polypeptide expressed by the host cell; and
B) a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle.

Claim 39 (previously presented): A pharmaceutical composition comprising:
A) a polypeptide produced by a process comprising:
   (a) culturing a prokaryotic or eukaryotic host cell containing a polynucleotide
       comprising a nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID
       NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 11, SEQ ID NO: 9, or SEQ ID NO: 13, or a TNF inhibitory fragment
       thereof, wherein the polypeptide does not comprise amino acid residues 111-161 of SEQ
       ID NO: 2 or a portion thereof, in a suitable nutrient medium;
   (b) maintaining the host cell under conditions allowing the expression of the
       polypeptide by the host cell; and
   (c) isolating the polypeptide expressed by the host cell; and
B) a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle.

Claim 40 (previously presented): The polypeptide of Claim 6, wherein the water soluble
polymer is polyethylene glycol.

Claim 41 (previously presented): A pharmaceutical composition comprising the polyvalent
truncated sTNFR molecule of Claim 7 in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle.

Claim 42 (previously presented): A method of preparing a pharmaceutical composition
wherein a therapeutically effective amount of the polyvalent truncated sTNFR molecule of Claim
7 is mixed with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable vehicles.

Claim 43 (previously presented): A kit for preparing an aqueous protein formulation
comprising a first container having the polyvalent truncated sTNFR molecule of Claim 7 and a
second container having a physiologically acceptable solvent.

Claim 44 (cancelled).