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Biologic for the treatment of metabolic syndrome

Invention

Metabolic syndrome is defined as a cluster of cardiovascular risk factors including at least central obesity plus at least two other conditions selected from elevated triglycerides, low levels of HDL, elevated blood pressure and insulin resistance. It is estimated that up to 25% of the world's adult population have metabolic syndrome which is also linked to increased risk of developing type 2 diabetes.

The individual components of metabolic syndrome are currently treated separately, generating a high pill burden for the patients. Researchers of the University of Geneva have identified a peptide which reduces body fat, improves lipid metabolism and insulin resistance, and reduces blood pressure, thereby addressing all aspects of metabolic syndrome at once.

Applications

- Therapeutic compound for treatment of obesity and/or insulin resistance
- Possible extension of the indication to treatment of metabolic syndrome if long-term studies show that the compound can indeed prevent/delay the onset of diabetes or cardiovascular disease, as we anticipate.

Advantages

- One compound addresses all aspects of metabolic syndrome
- Compound is currently being used in humans in a different context and is known to have a benign side effect profile

Status

- *In vitro* data confirm mode of action of the compound and its receptor
- *In vivo* data (high fat diet-induced model of obesity in rats) confirm improvement of all parameters linked to metabolic syndrome.
- US provisional patent application filed (priority date 18 May 2010).



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