

Title (en)
HIGHLY ACTIVE FORMS OF INTERFERON REGULATORY FACTOR PROTEINS

Title (de)
HOCHWIRKSAME FORME VON INTERFERON REGULATIONSFAKTOR PROTEINE

Title (fr)
FORMES HAUTEMENT ACTIVES DE PROTEINES DU FACTEUR DE REGULATION DE L'INTERFERON

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Application
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Abstract (en)
[origin: WO9951737A1] The present invention relates to IRF proteins that have been modified in the carboxy-terminus domain (transactivation domain) by modification of serine and/or threonine sites. Modification may be achieved by phosphorylation of serine and/or threonine, or by replacement of serine and/or threonine residues with residues having acidic side-chains, preferably carboxylic acid-containing side-chains, such as aspartic acid or glutamic acid residues. Such modified proteins may be mutants of IRF-3 and IRF-7, including chimeric proteins having portions of both IRF-3 and IRF-7, and post-translationally modified (phosphorylated) IRF-3 protein, the phosphorylation being induced by Sendai virus infection. More specifically, the present invention provides a modified interferon regulatory factor (IRF) protein, the protein comprising at least one modified serine or threonine phosphoacceptor site in the carboxy-terminus domain, preferably wherein cytokine gene activation by the modified IRF is increased relative to cytokine gene activation by a corresponding wild type IRF protein. The invention also provides for pharmaceutical compositions containing IRF protein, and uses of the protein, nucleotide sequence encoding it, and pharmaceutical compositions containing it.

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