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(11) **EP 1 422 242 A8**

(12) **CORRECTED EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

Note: Bibliography reflects the latest situation

(15) Correction information:
Corrected version no 1 (W1 A1)
INID code(s) 72

(51) Int Cl.7: **C07K 14/78**, A61K 38/39,
A61L 27/22

(48) Corrigendum issued on:
11.08.2004 Bulletin 2004/33

(43) Date of publication:
26.05.2004 Bulletin 2004/22

(21) Application number: **03257349.5**

(22) Date of filing: **21.11.2003**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR
HU IE IT LI LU MC NL PT RO SE SI SK TR
Designated Extension States:
AL LT LV MK

(30) Priority: **22.11.2002 US 428438 P**
29.01.2003 CA 2417634
01.04.2003 JP 2003098691
27.08.2003 AU 2003236491

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(54) **Plastic and elastic protein copolymers**

(57) Synthetic protein copolymers with plastic and elastic properties, and methods producing the copolymers, are provided. For example, a BAB triblock copolymer comprises a hydrophilic block and one or more hydrophobic blocks. The mechanical properties of a gel,

fiber, fiber network, or film form of the copolymer are varied by one or more conditions before or after copolymer production. For example, a copolymer sequence can be varied before production, and one or more processing conditions such as solvent, pH, or temperature can be varied after production.

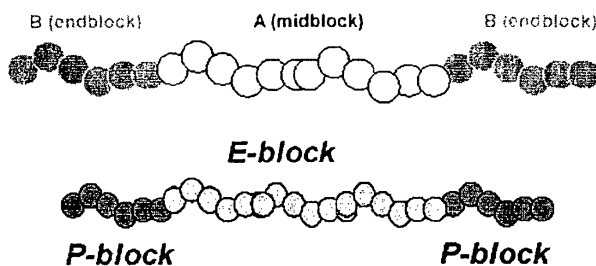


Figure 36.

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