



evropský
sociální
fond v ČR



EVROPSKÁ UNIE



MINISTERSTVO ŠKOLSTVÍ,
MLÁDEŽE A TĚLOVÝCHOVY



OP Vzdělávání
pro konkurenceschopnost

INVESTICE DO ROZVOJE VZDĚLÁVÁNÍ

Therapeutic peptides

© doc. PharmDr. Oldřich Farsa, PhD., 2020

Classification of therapeutic peptides

1. Hormones

1.1 Liberins a statins („releasing“&“inhibiting“)

1.2.Soma(to)tropin

1.3 Oxytocin, vasopressin and their analogues

1.4 Insulines, glucagon and GLP-1 analogues

1.5 Calcitonin

2. Blood factors of erythropoietine type

3. Colony stimulating factors

4. Non-specific antibodies

One- and three-letter symbols of L- α -amino acid rests

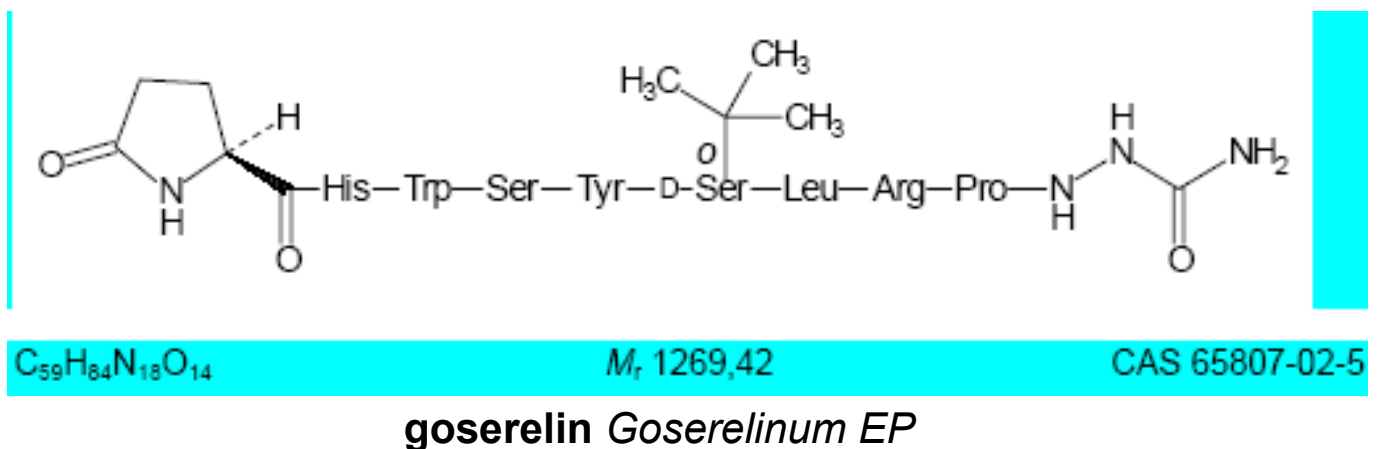
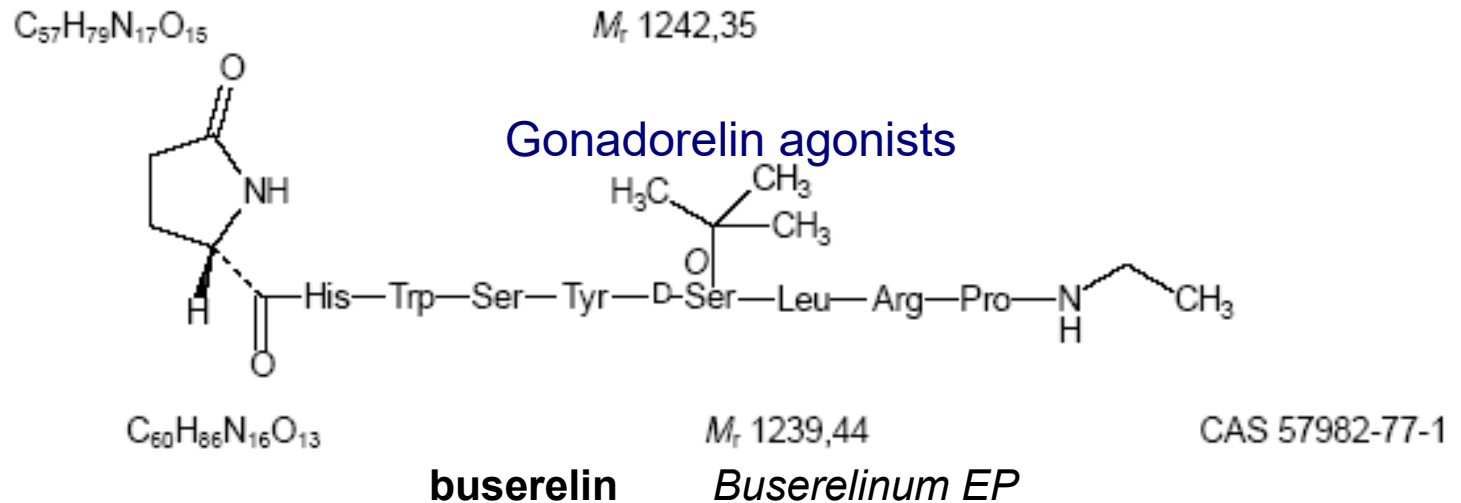
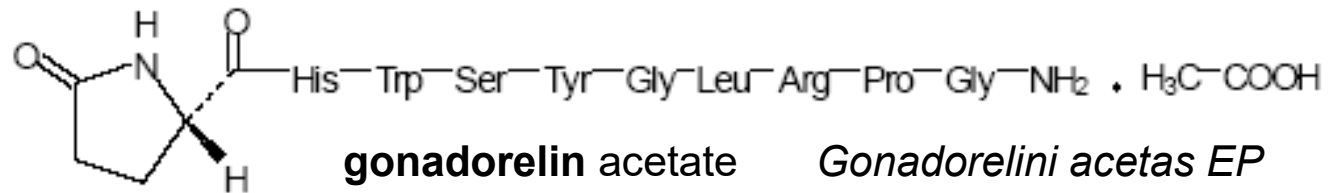
One-letter	Three-letter	
A	Ala	alanine
B	Asx	asparaginic acid or asparagine
C	Cys	cysteine
D	Asp	asparaginic acid
E	Glu	glutamic acid
F	Phe	phenylalanine
G	Gly	glycine
H	His	histidine
I	Ile	isoleucine
K	Lys	lysine
L	Leu	leucine
M	Met	methionine
N	Asn	asparagine
P	Pro	proline
Q	Gln	glutamine
R	Arg	arginine
S	Ser	serine
T	Thr	threonine
U	Sec	selenocysteine
V	Val	valine
W	Trp	tryptofane
X	Xaa	unknown or „other“ amino acid
Y	Tyr	thyrosine
Z	Glx	glutamic acid or glutamine (or compounds such as 4-carboxyglutamic acid 5-oxoproline)

1. Hormones

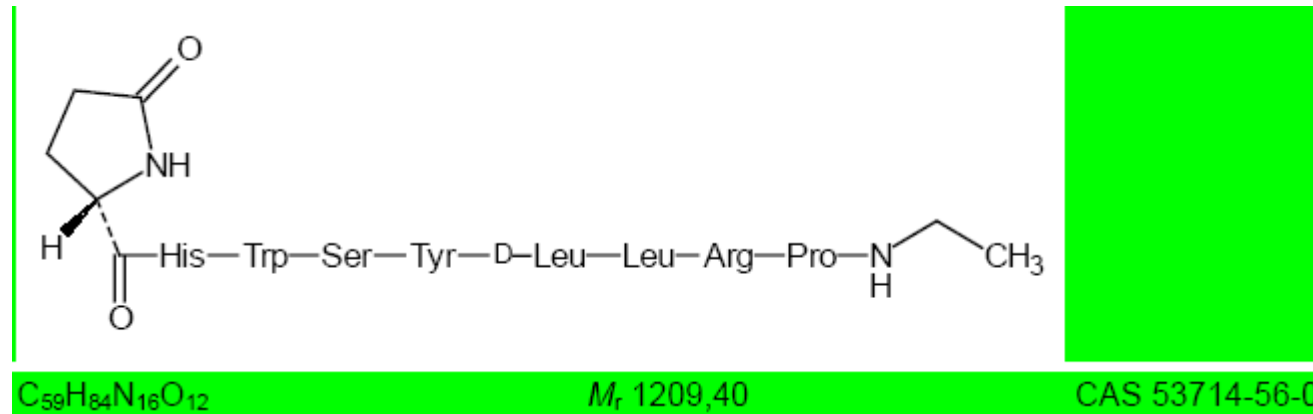
1.1 Liberins and statins („releasing“ & „inhibiting“)

Gonadorelin (GnRH = LHRH) and its analogues

- hormone of hypothalamus
- stimulates releasing of follicles stimulating hormone (FSH) and luteinizing hormone (LH) from pituitary gland; GnRH receptors also in various non-reproductive tissues



Gonadorelin and its analogues Agonists



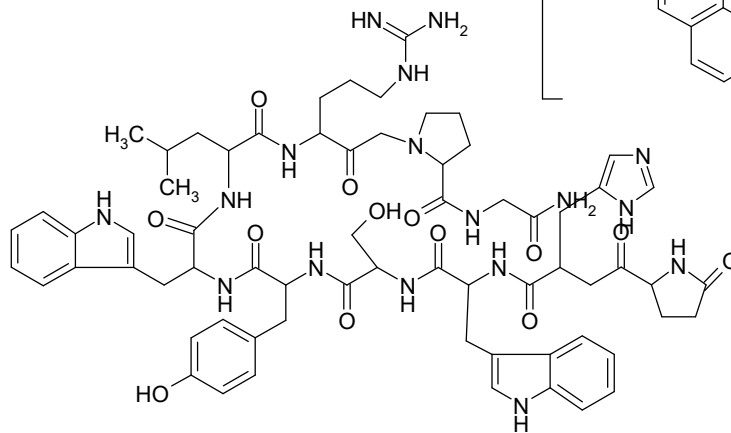
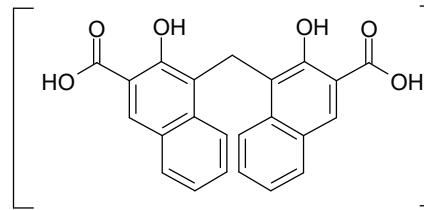
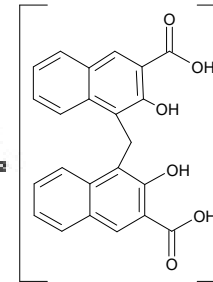
leuprorelin (syn. leuprolide) *Leuprorelinum EP*

Eligard®

- longer-term application lowers testosterone levels ⇒ treatment of prostate cancer
⇒ treatment of sexual deviations

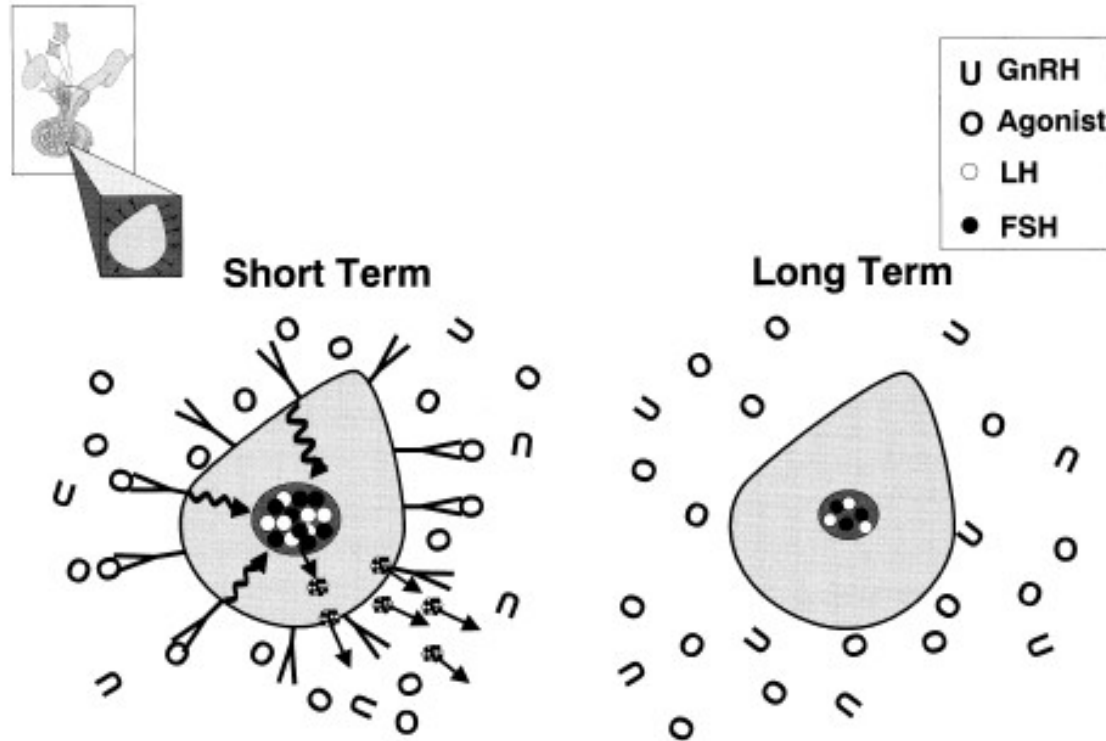
Gonadorelin and its analogues Agonists

Trelstar™ (triptorelin pamoate)



Short- and long term action of gonadorelin agonists

Effects of GnRH agonist.

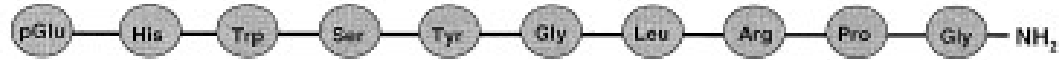


- long term action leads to receptors internalisation and stopping of the effect (due to decreasing LH and FSH levels and thus also levels of sexual hormones)

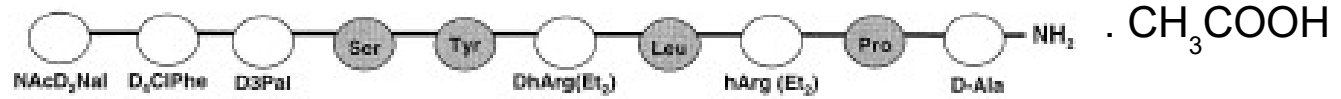
Gonadorelin analogues Gonadorelin antagonists

The GnRH antagonists.

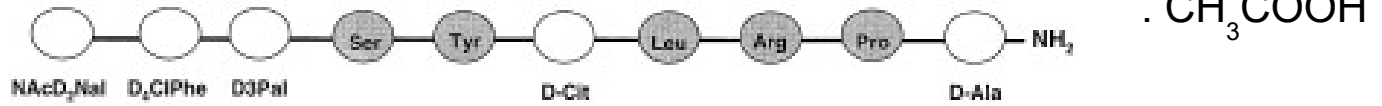
GnRH



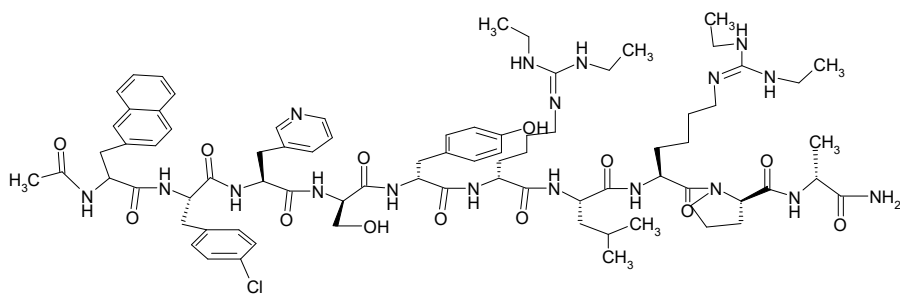
Antagon™ (ganirelix acetate)



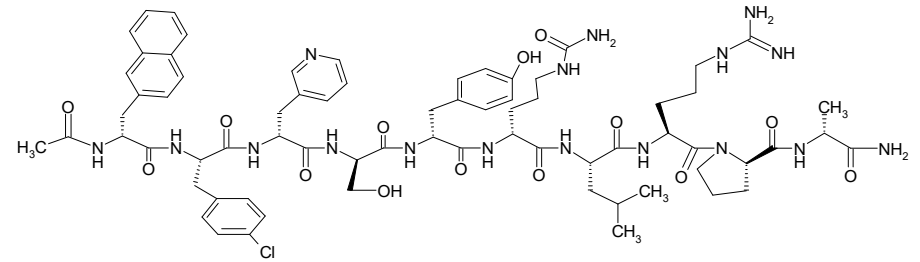
Cetrotide® (cetorelix acetate)



Amino Acid Number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	NAcD ₂ Nal	D ₂ ClPhe	D ₃ Pal	Ser	Tyr	D-Cit	Leu	Arg	Pro	D-Ala



ganirelix



cetorelix

Gonadorelin and its analogues

- preparation: chemical synthesis
- usage: assisted reproduction, treatment of prostate cancer, sexual deviation ...
- advantages of analogues: significantly higher stability \Rightarrow longer elimination half-time \Rightarrow
 \Rightarrow possibility of application in markedly longer intervals; a single injection of an agonist can replace a continuous infusion of gonadorelin

Structure – activity relationships (SAR)

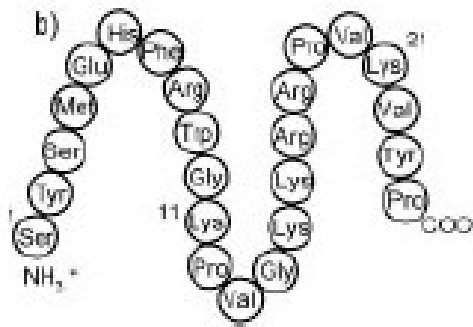
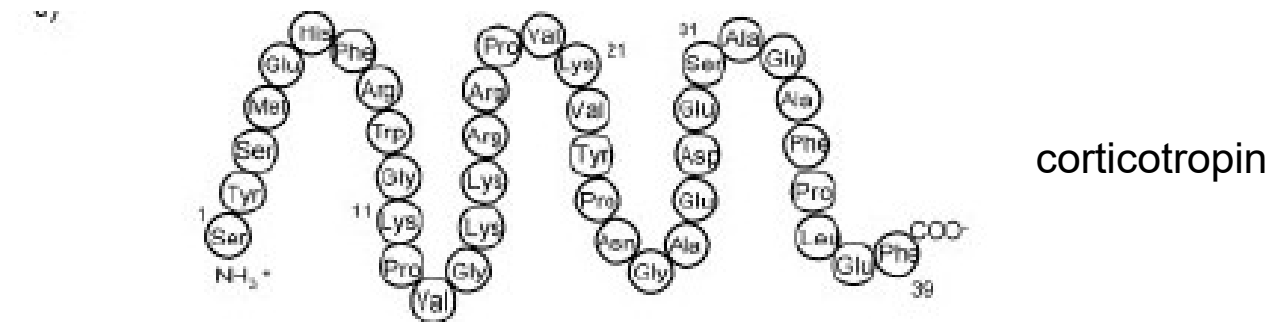
- replacement of Gly in position 6 with a more bulky amino acid leads to stability increase
- the sequence of the first three amino acids is needed for receptor binding and is kept in agonists
- antagonists have Trp in position 3 replaced with a non-physiologic amino acid, they bind to GnRH and avoid its action on receptors

Corticotropin and its analogues

Corticotropin = Adrenocorticotrophic hormone (ACTH); an anterior pituitary hormone that stimulates the adrenal cortex and

its production of both gluco- and mineralocorticoids and growth of adrenal glands

- polypeptide of 39 amino acids; N-terminal 24 identical in all species
- N-terminal 24 AA are responsible for biologic activity; C-terminal 15 AA for immunospecificity

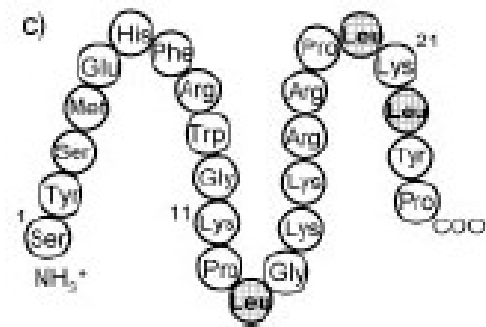


tetraacosactide

syn. cosyntropin [USAN]

Tetraacosactidum EP

Synacten®

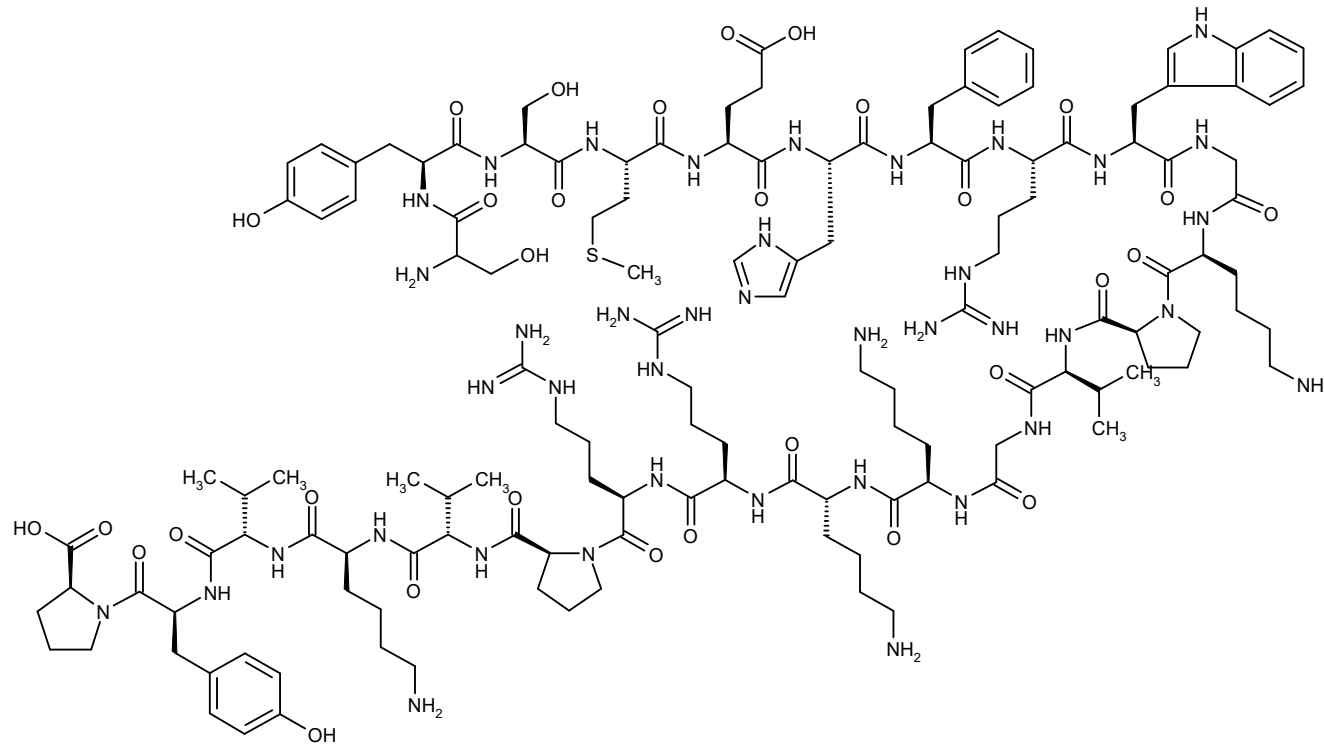


SynVL

• compound used as a standard for determination of tetraacosactide by mass spectrometry

Usage of corticotropin and tetracosactide

- diagnosis of adrenal glands function
- substitution treatment in lack of glucocorticoids
- substitution of depot administration of glucocorticoids in a long-term treatment

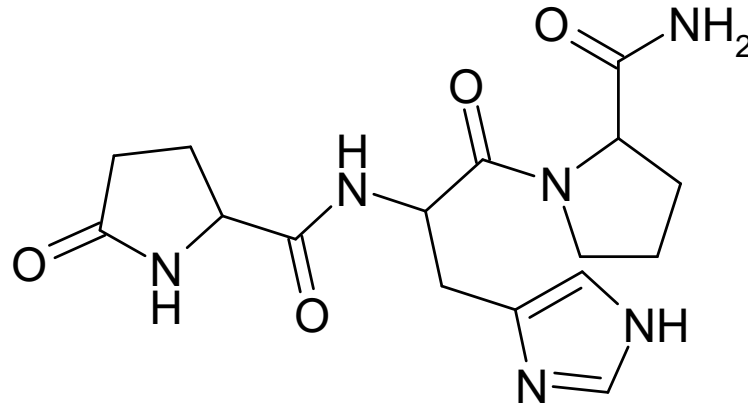


tetracosactide

- used since 1961
- prepared by synthesis
- misused for doping in sport

Protirelin – synthetic thyrotropin-releasing hormone (TRH)

- a hormone synthesized in paraventricular nucleus of hypothalamus, stimulating release of thyrotropin and prolactin from the anterior pituitary gland
- also neurotransmitter in CNS, takes part in food intake regulation, control of energy metabolism etc.



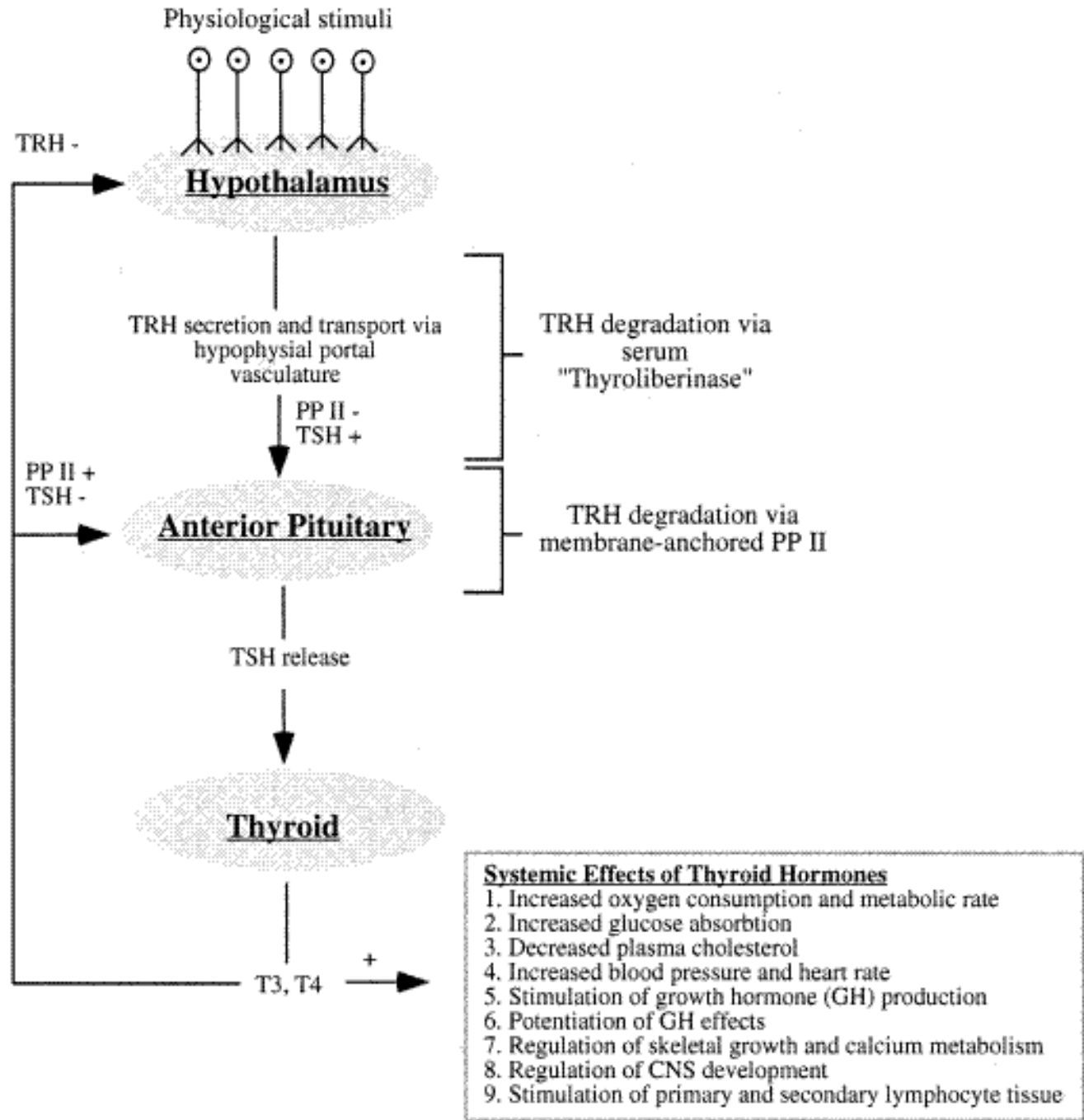
protirelin

5-oxopropyl-histidyl-prolinamide

Protirelinum EP

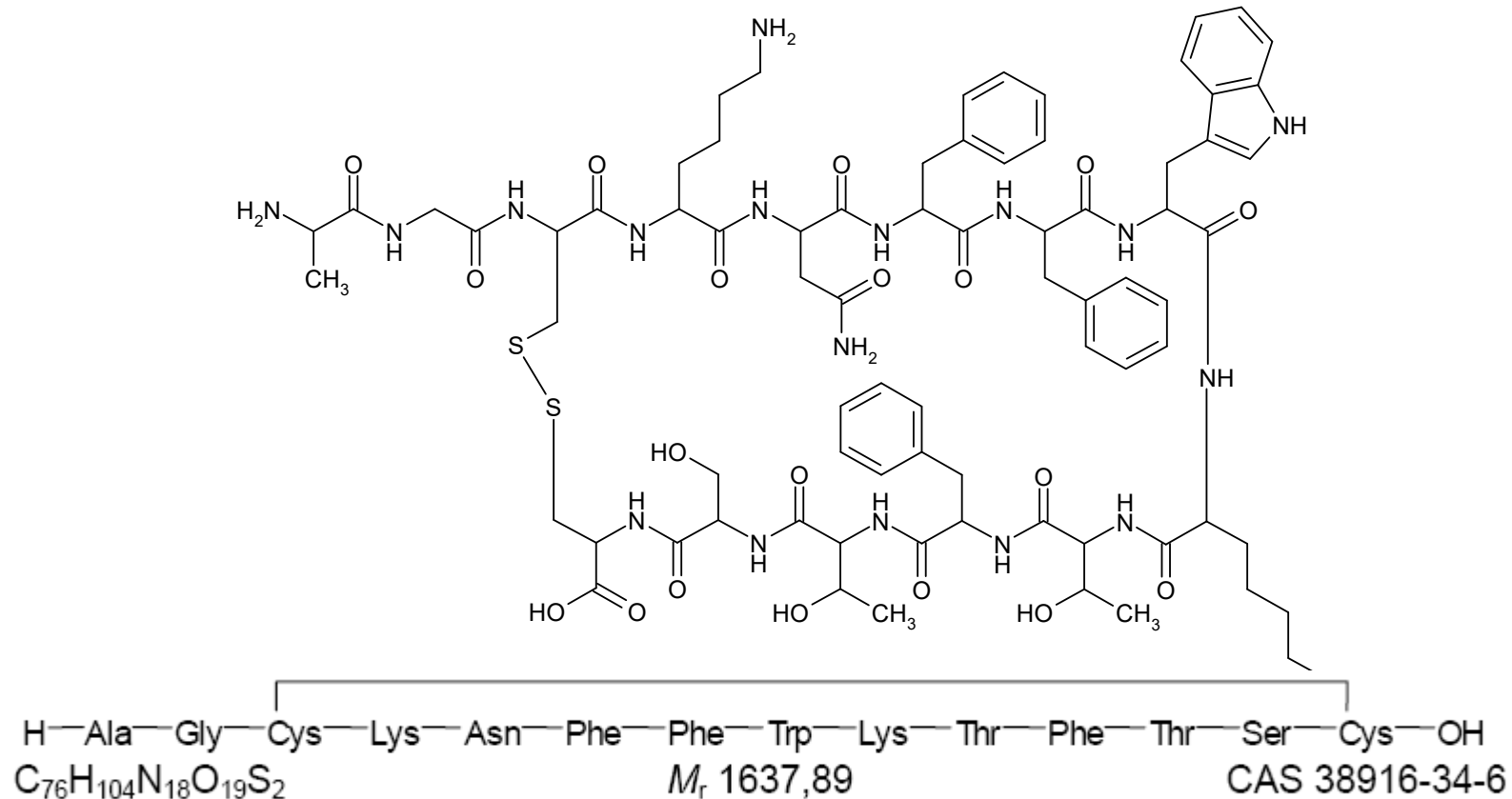
- structure elucidated 1969, used approx. 1976 – 1991, then abandoned
- administered *p.o.*
- used as cognitive functions enhancer for treatment of post-traumatic conditions in injuries of brain and spinal cord and of neurodegeneration diseases (Alzheimer, Parkinson, motoric neuronal disease etc.)

Metabolism of TRH and its regulation



Somatostatin

- cyclic tetradecapeptide formed namely in hypothalamus, but also in peripheral nervous
- system, the gut, and other organs
- inhibits pituitary growth hormone (somatotropin) release and probably also release of TRH, prolactin, insulin and glucagon
- has impact to functions of kidneys, pancreas and GIT
- also acts as neurotransmitter in CNS („neuropeptide“)



somatostatin

Somatostatinum EP

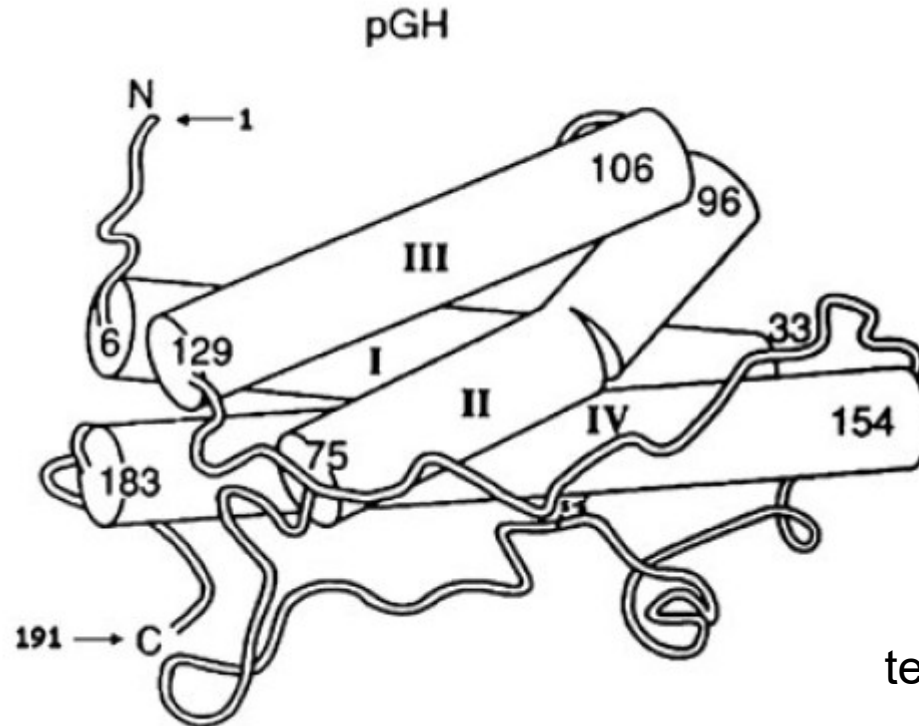
Somatostatin Eumedica® inf.

- prepared by synthesis
- treatment of acromegaly

1.2 Soma(to)tropin

= growth hormone (GH)

- peptide consisted of 191 AA secreted from anterior pituitary gland
- stimulates mitosis, growth and differentiation of cells of some tissues
- influences expression of genes and metabolism
- sequence of AA known since 1972, nucleotide sequence of the encoding gene since 1977



tertiary structure of porcine GH

somatropin

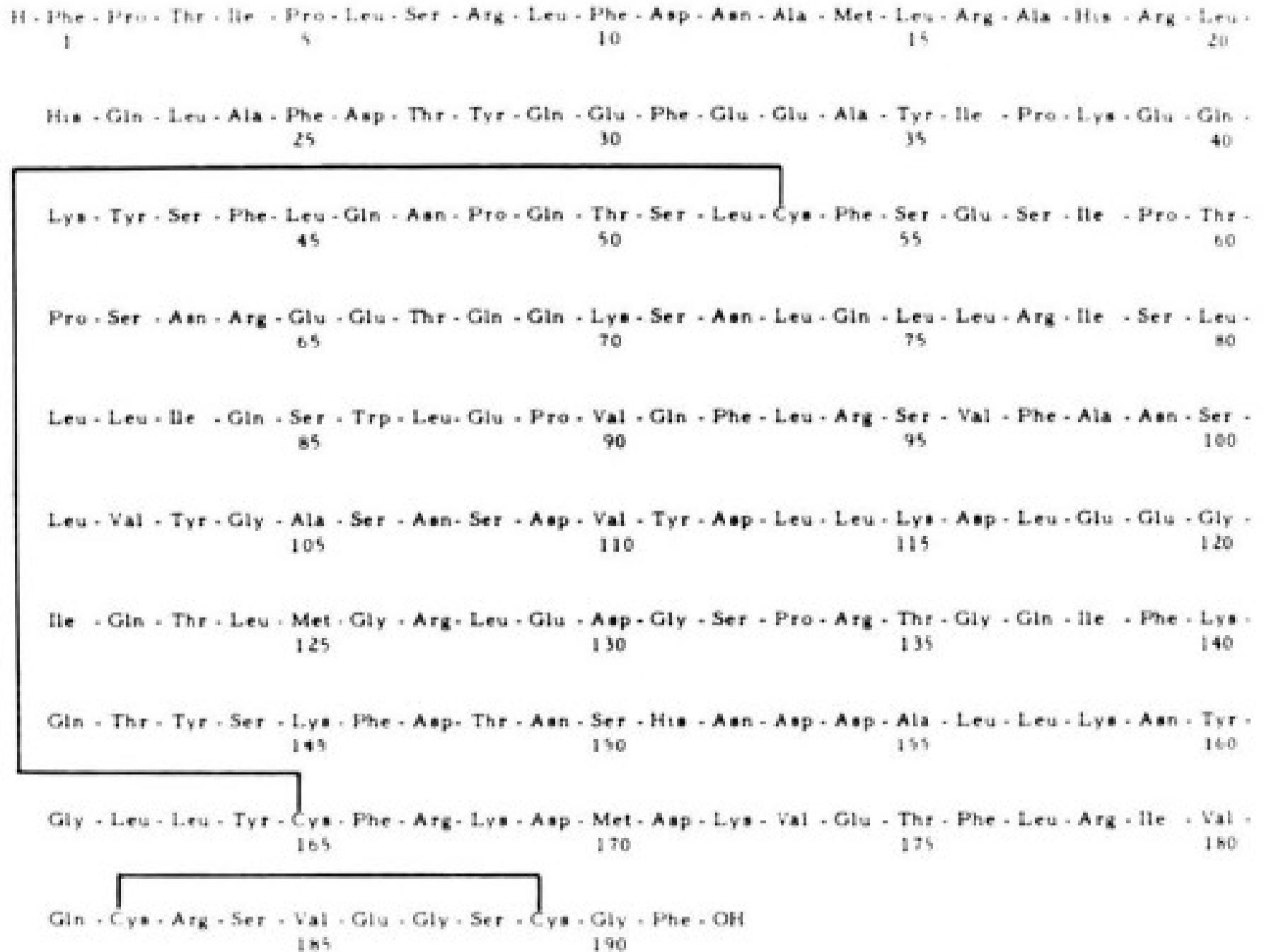
Somatropinum EP

- human, prepared by recombinant technology, used since 1985
- substitution treatment of natural GH deficiency

Genotropin® , Humatrope® , Nutropinaq® , Omnitrope® ...

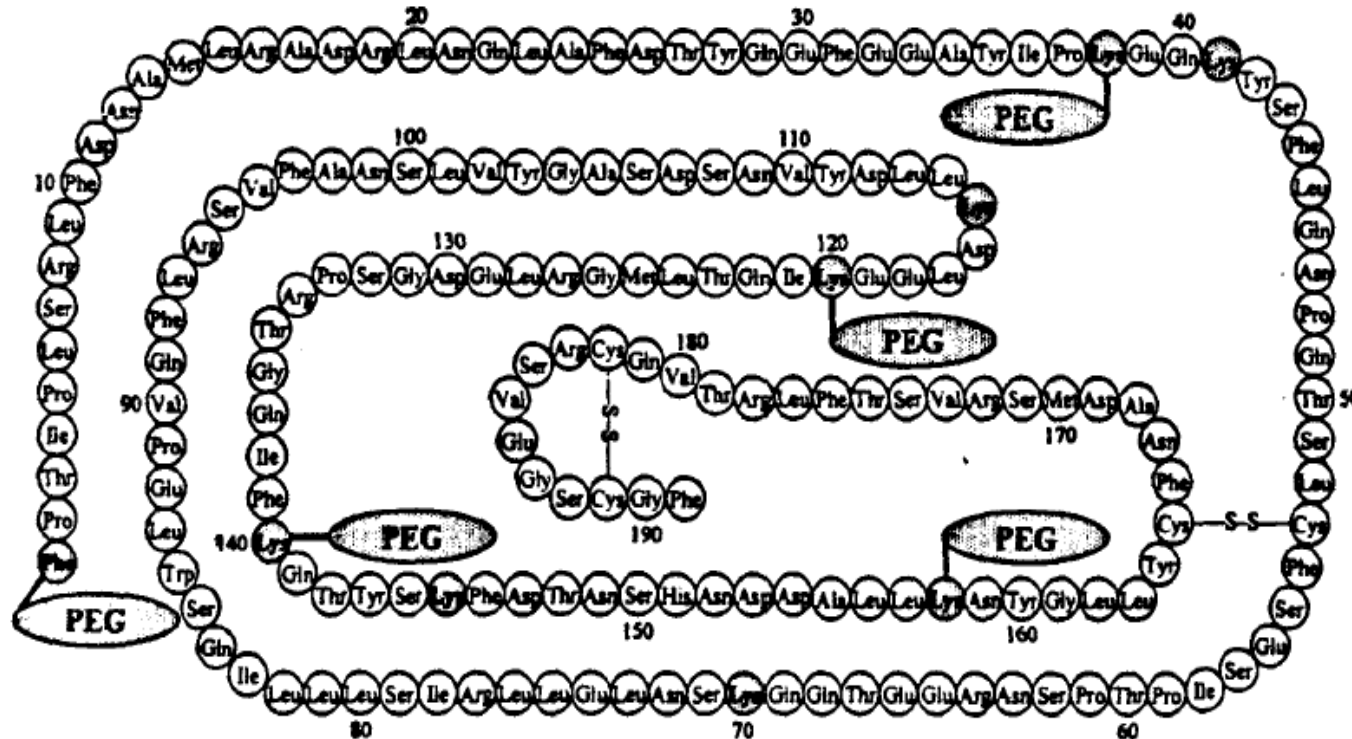
```
1 MATGSRTSLL LAFGLLCLPW LQEGSAFPTI PLSRLFDNAM LRAHRLHQLA FDTYQEFEEA YIPKEQKYSF LQNPQTSLCF SESIPTPSNR EETQQKSNLE 100
101 LLRISLLLIQ SWLEPVQFLR SVFANSLVYG ASDSNVYDLL KDLEEGIQTL MGRLEDGSPR TGQIFKQTYS KFDNTSHNDD ALLKNYGLLY CFRKDMDKVE 200
201 TFLRIVQCRS VEGSCGF
```

Primary structure of human somatotropin



Somatropin (GH) analogues

Amino Acid Sequence of Pegvisomant Protein



* Stippled residues indicate PEG attachment sites (Phe₁, Lys₃₈, Lys₄₁, Lys₇₀, Lys₁₁₅, Lys₁₂₀, Lys₁₄₀, Lys₁₄₅, Lys₁₅₈)

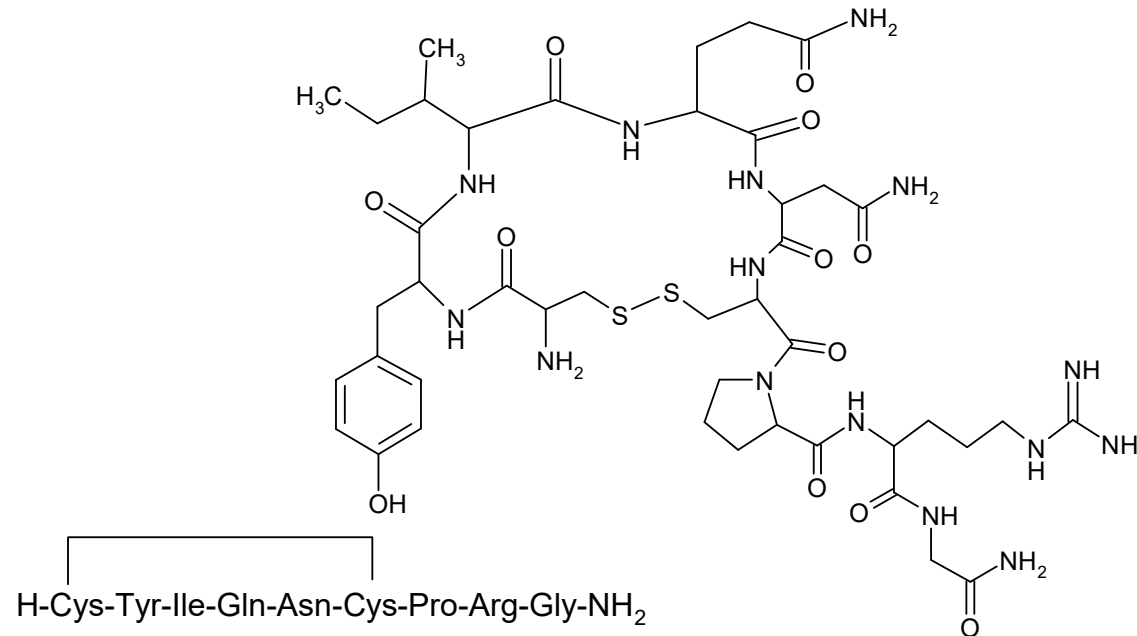
pegvisomant

- analogue – antagonist of human GH, in which 9 AA are changed; which enables it to block binding of native GH to its receptor by means of preventing receptor dimerisation
- pegylation is performed on 4 – 5 sites randomly selected from Phe₁ and various 8 Lys residues
- prepared by the recombinant technology followed by a controlled reaction with oxiran (polyaddition) which results to covalent binding of 4 – 5 polyoxoethylene chains of M_r ~ 500
- pegylation lowers antigenicity and prolongs the biologic half-time
- using: treatment of acromegaly

1.3 Oxytocin, vasopressins and their analogues

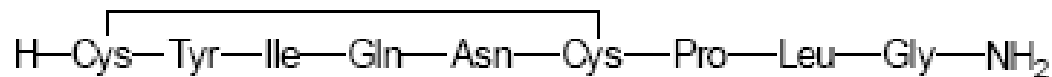
Vasotocin

= phylogenetic precursor of oxytocin and vasopressins in organisms lower than mammals



Oxytocin

- a cyclic nonapeptide released from the posterior pituitary gland (neurohypophysis)
- acts on smooth muscle cells, such as causing uterine contractions and milk ejection



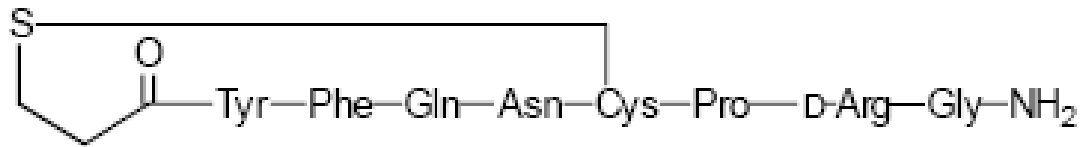
C₄₃H₆₆N₁₂O₁₂S₂

M_r 1007,19

CAS 50-56-6

- prepared by synthesis
- used for triggering of the birth and enhancing of uterine contractions
Oxytocinum EP; Oxytocin Ferring-Léčiva ® inj. sol.

Vasopressin analogues
Desmopressin



$C_{46}H_{64}N_{14}O_{12}S_2$

M_r 1069,22

CAS 16679-58-6

Desmopressinum EP

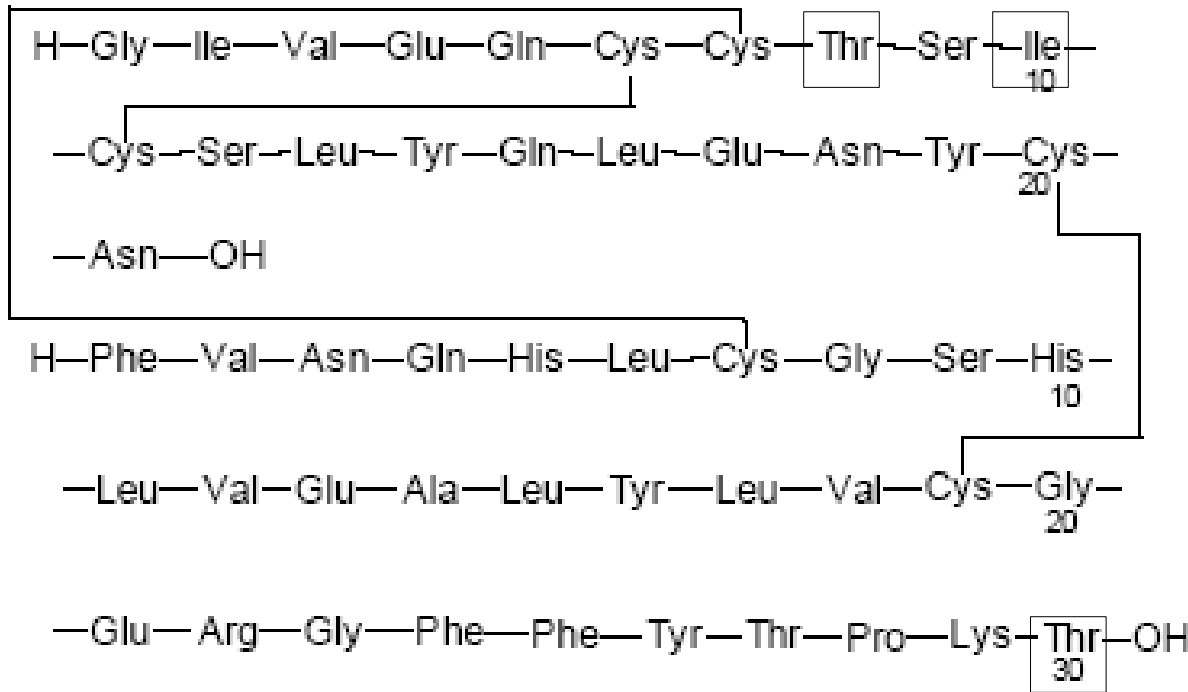
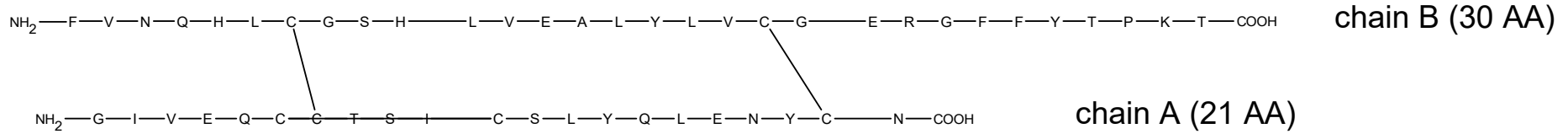
- cyclic pseudononapeptide
- prepared by synthesis
- antidiuretic (*enuresis nocturna*, ...)

1.4 Insulines, glucagon and GLP-1 analogues

Insuline

- Secreted mostly by β -cells of Langerhans islets of pancreas
- Enables utilisation of glucose by cells of body
- First isolated by Banting and Best from dog's pancreas in 1921

Human insuline



C₂₅₇H₃₈₃N₆₅O₇₇S₆

M_r 5807,60

CAS 11061-68-0

- formed from its precursor proinsuline consisted of 110 AA

10 20 30 40 50 60
MALWMRLLPL LALLALWGPD PAAAFVNQHL CGSHLVEALY LVCGERGFFY TPKTRREAED

70 80 90 100 110
LQVGQVELGG GPGAGSLQPL ALEGLQKRG IVEQCCTSIC SLYQLENYCN

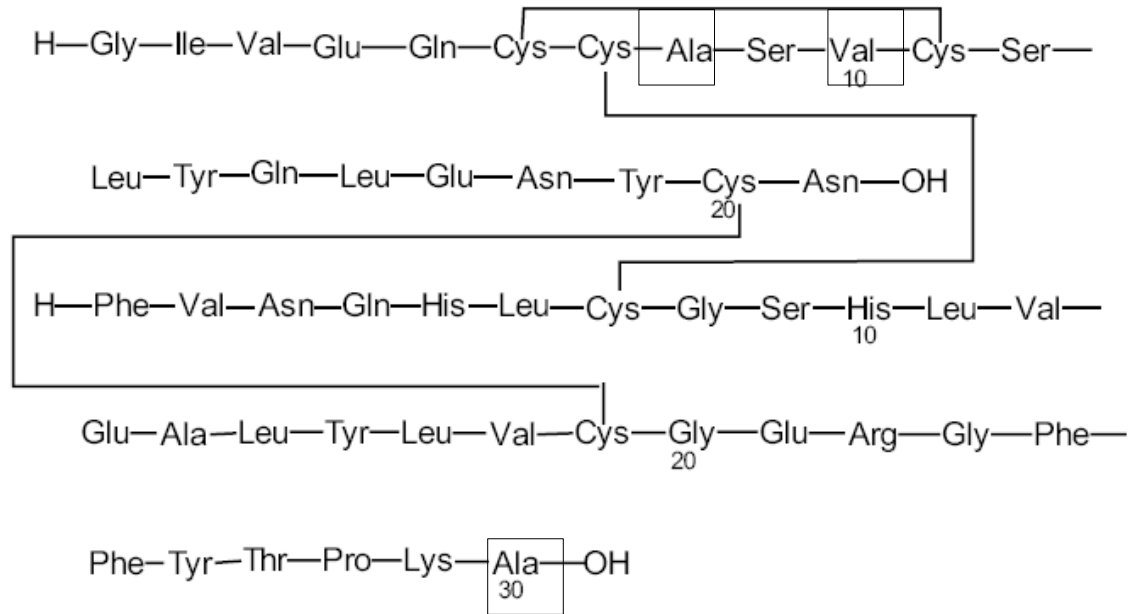
1-24 signal sequence; 25-54 chain B; 57-87 peptide C; 90-110 chain A

- today produced by recombinant technology, or by partial synthesis from the porcine one

Insulinum humanum PhEur

- syn. humuline

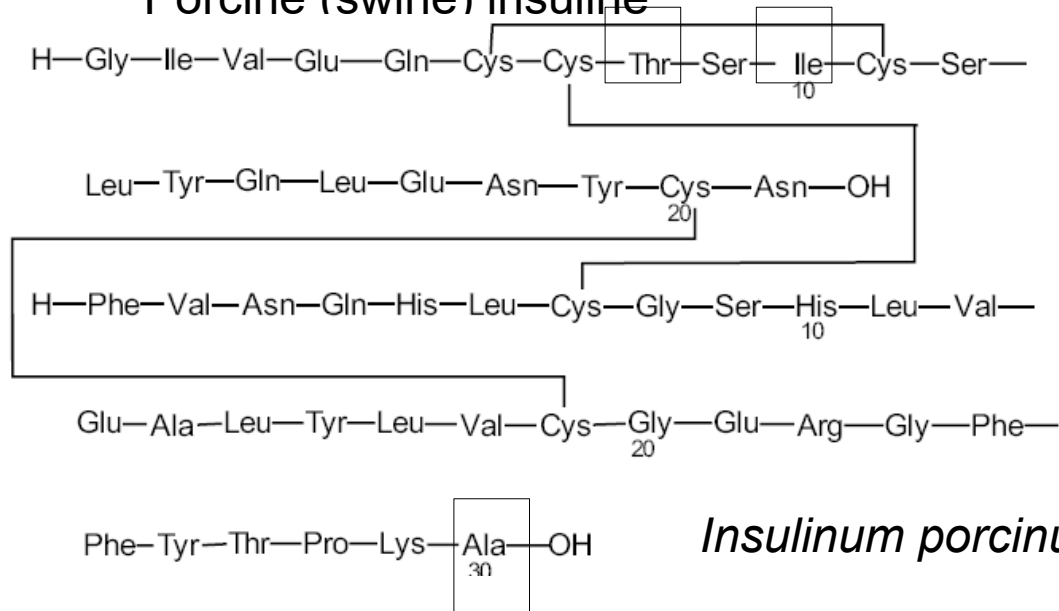
Bovine (cow's) insulin



Insulinum bovinum PhEur

- isolation from beef pancreases

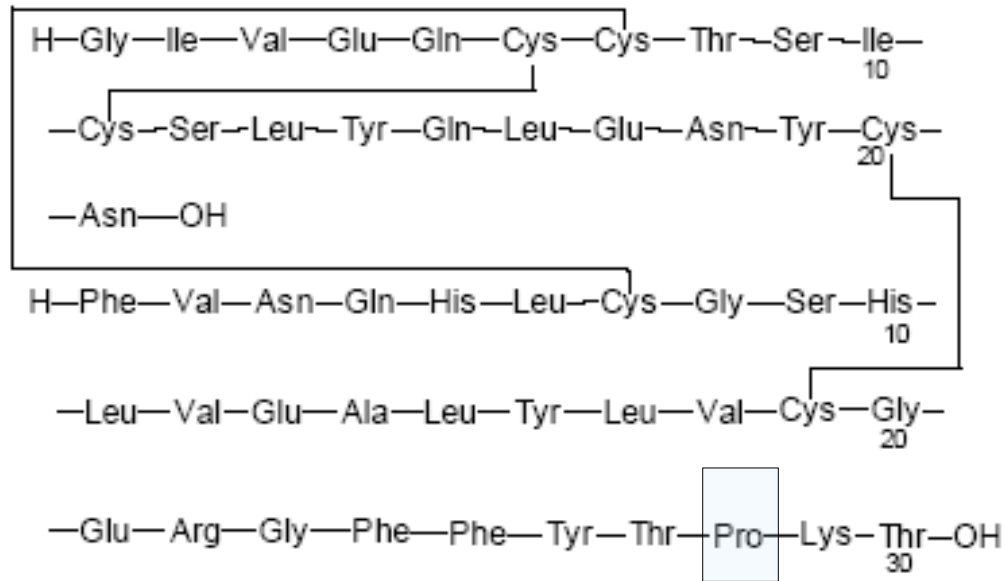
Porcine (swine) insulin



Insulinum porcinum PhEur

Insuline analogues

human

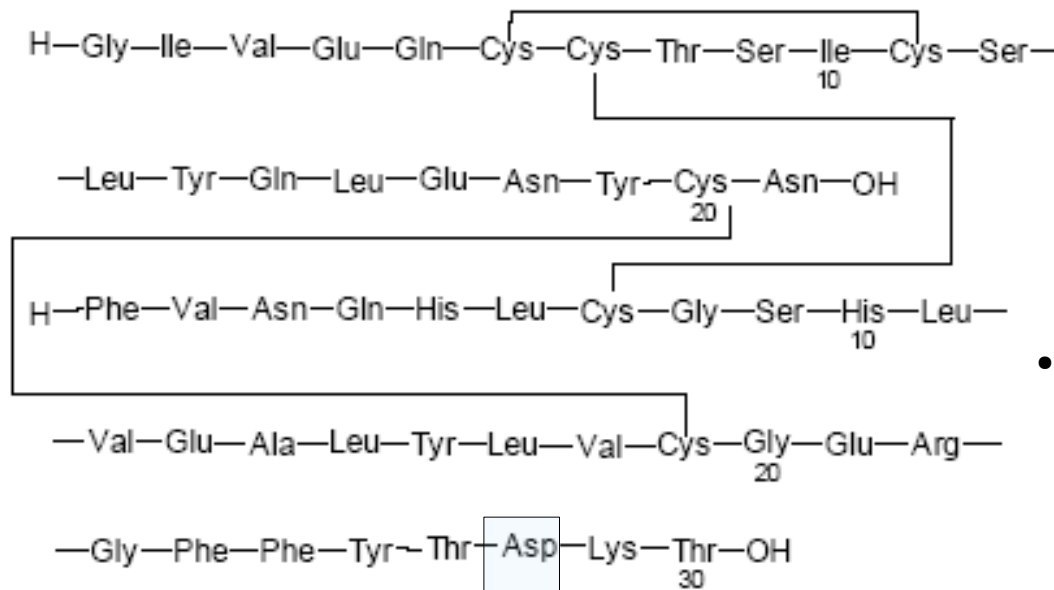


$C_{257}H_{383}N_{65}O_{77}S_6$

M_r 5807,60

CAS 11061-68-0

aspart
Insulinum aspartum
 PhEur
 Novorapid®

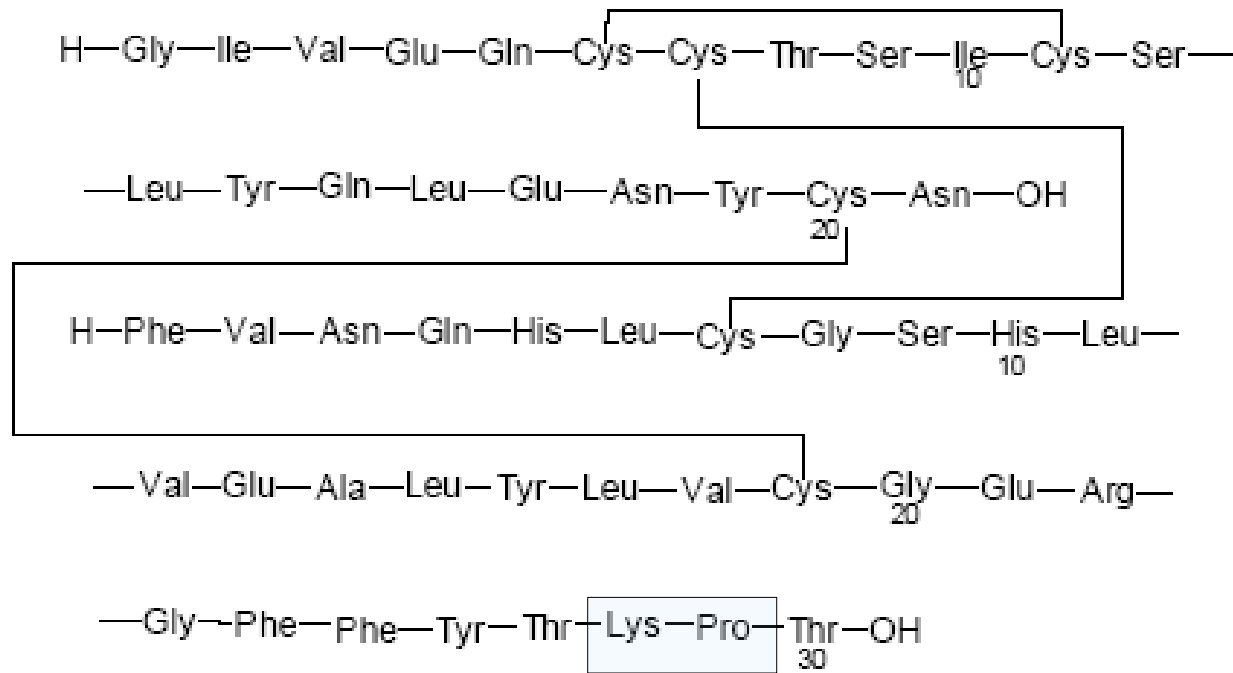


•recombinant technology

$C_{256}H_{381}N_{65}O_{79}S_6$

M_r 5825,58

CAS 116094-23-6



$C_{257}H_{383}N_{65}O_{77}S_6$

M_r 5807,61

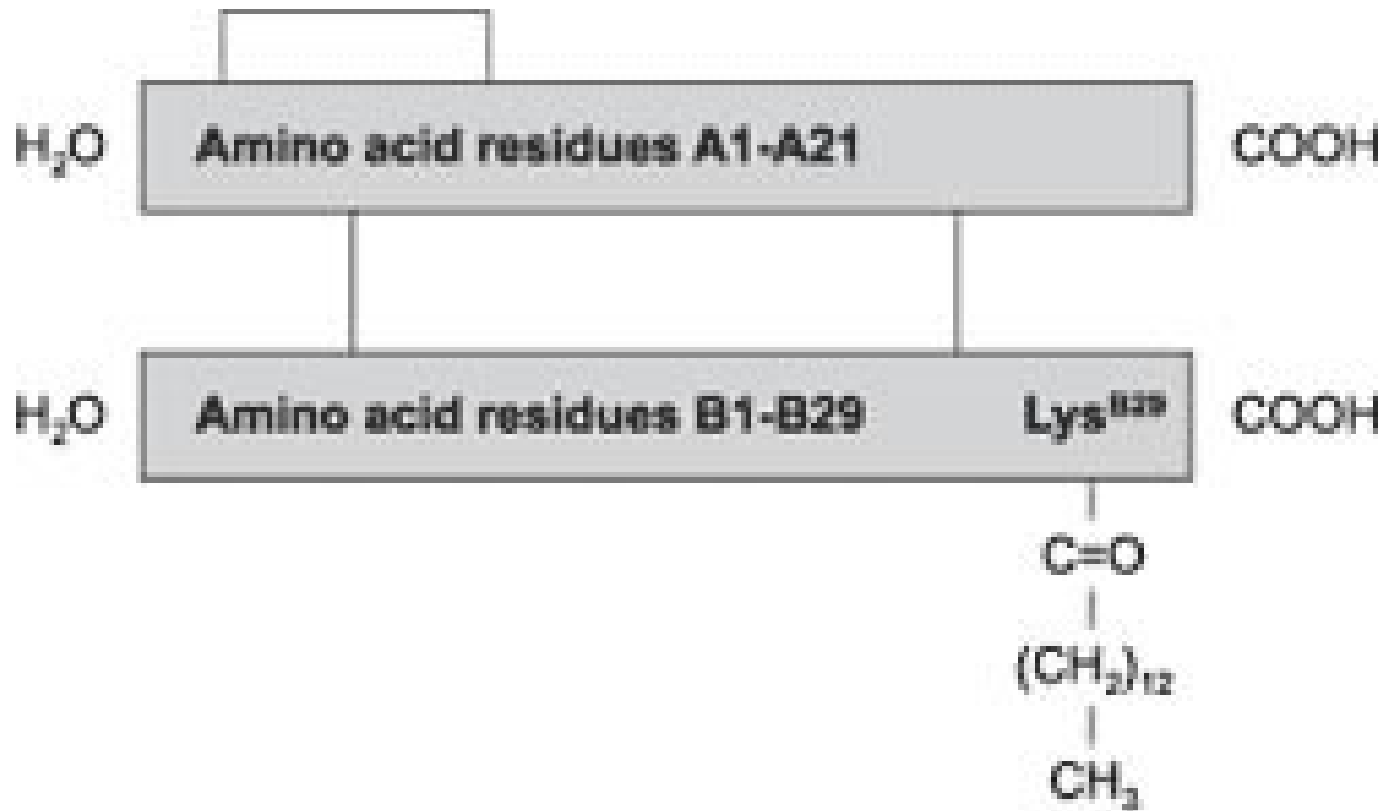
CAS 133107-64-9

insulin-lispro

Insulinum lisprum PhEur

•recombinant

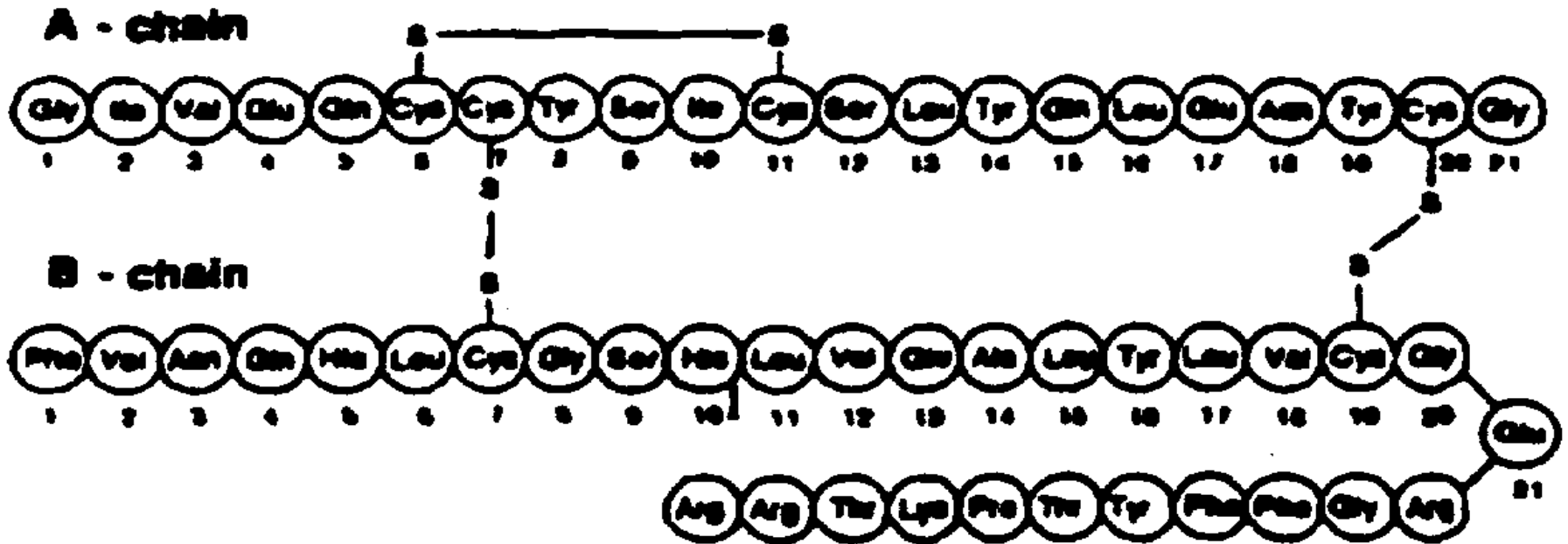
Humalog ®, Liprolog ®



insulin-detemir

- chain B has only 29 AA, tetradecanoyl (myristoyl) attached to Lys^{B29}
- recombinant-semi synthetic

Levemir ®

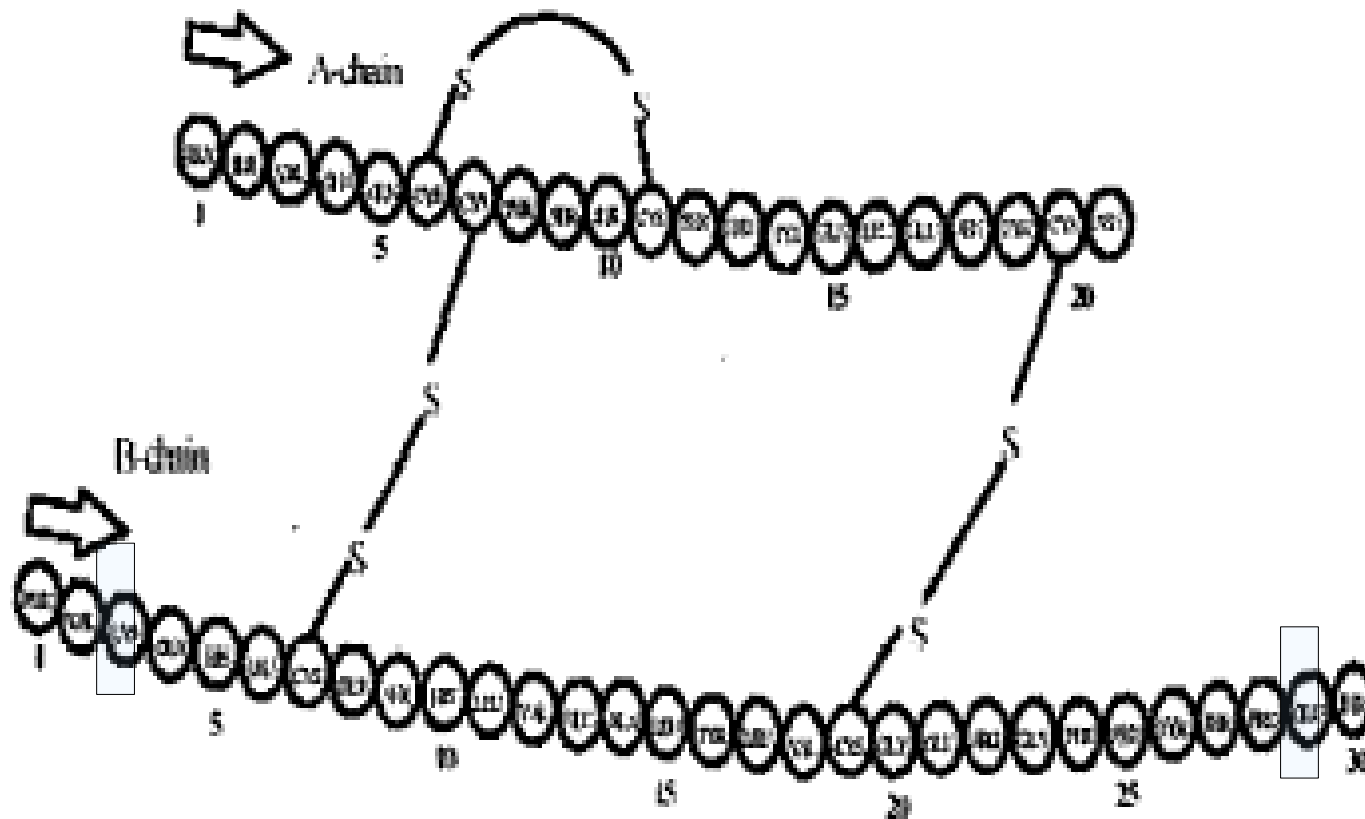


insulin-glargin

Gly^{21A}-L-Arg^{30B}-L-Arg^{31B}-insulin

Lantus[®], Optisulin[®]

- insulin of 1st choice in diabetes of 2nd type when oral antidiabetics are not satisfactory
- long T_{1/2}, typically administered 1x daily s.c. before sleeping



Chemical name: 3βLys-29βGlu-human insulin

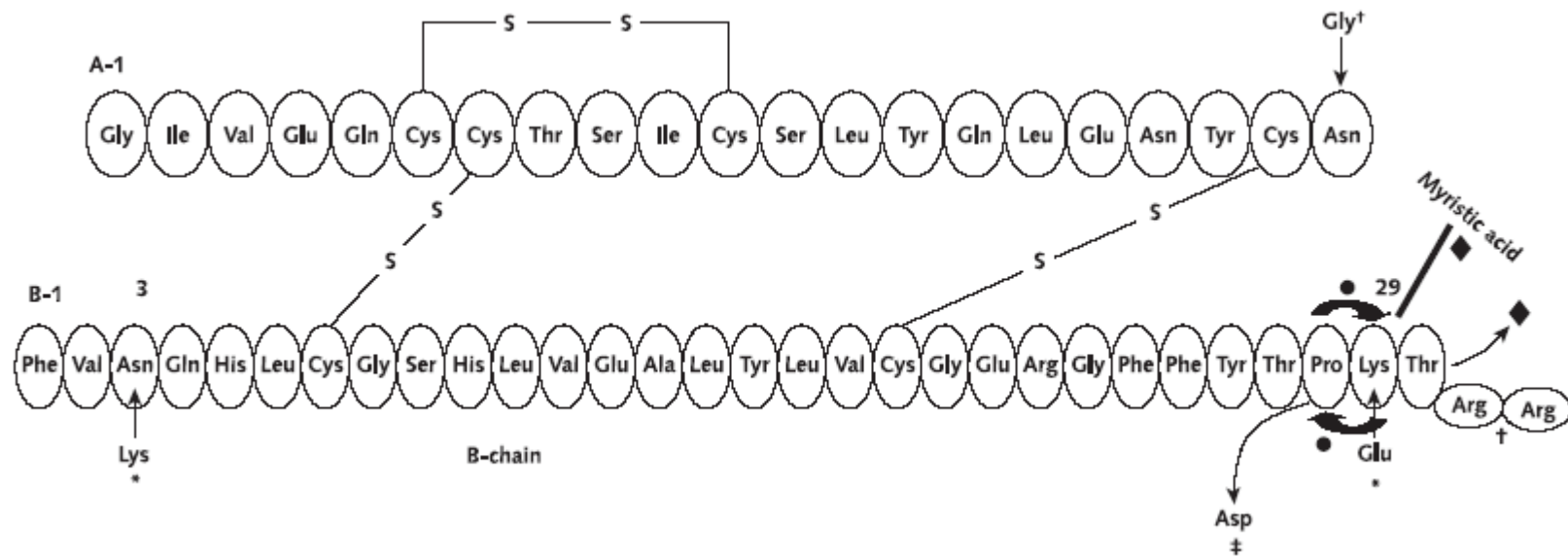
CAS registry number: 207748-29-6

Molecular formula/molecular weight: $C_{258}H_{384}O_{78}N_{64}S_6/5823$

insulin-glulisin

Apidra ®

Summary of the used insuline analogues



◆ = Insulin lispro differs from human insulin by the substitution of proline with lysine at position 28 and the substitution of lysine with proline at position 29 of the insulin β chain.

‡ = Insulin aspart is designed with the single replacement of the amino acid proline by aspartic acid at position 28 of the human insulin β chain.

* = Insulin glulisine is designed with the substitution of the amino acid lysine with asparagine at position 3 of the human insulin β chain and by substitution of the amino acid lysine at position 29 with glutamine.

† = Insulin glargine differs from human insulin in that the amino acid asparagine at position A21 is replaced by glycine and 2 arginines are added to the C-terminus of the β chain.

◆ = Insulin detemir is designed to bind albumin in plasma after absorption. Threonine is omitted from position 30 of the insulin β chain and replaced by myristic acid, a C14 fatty acid chain.

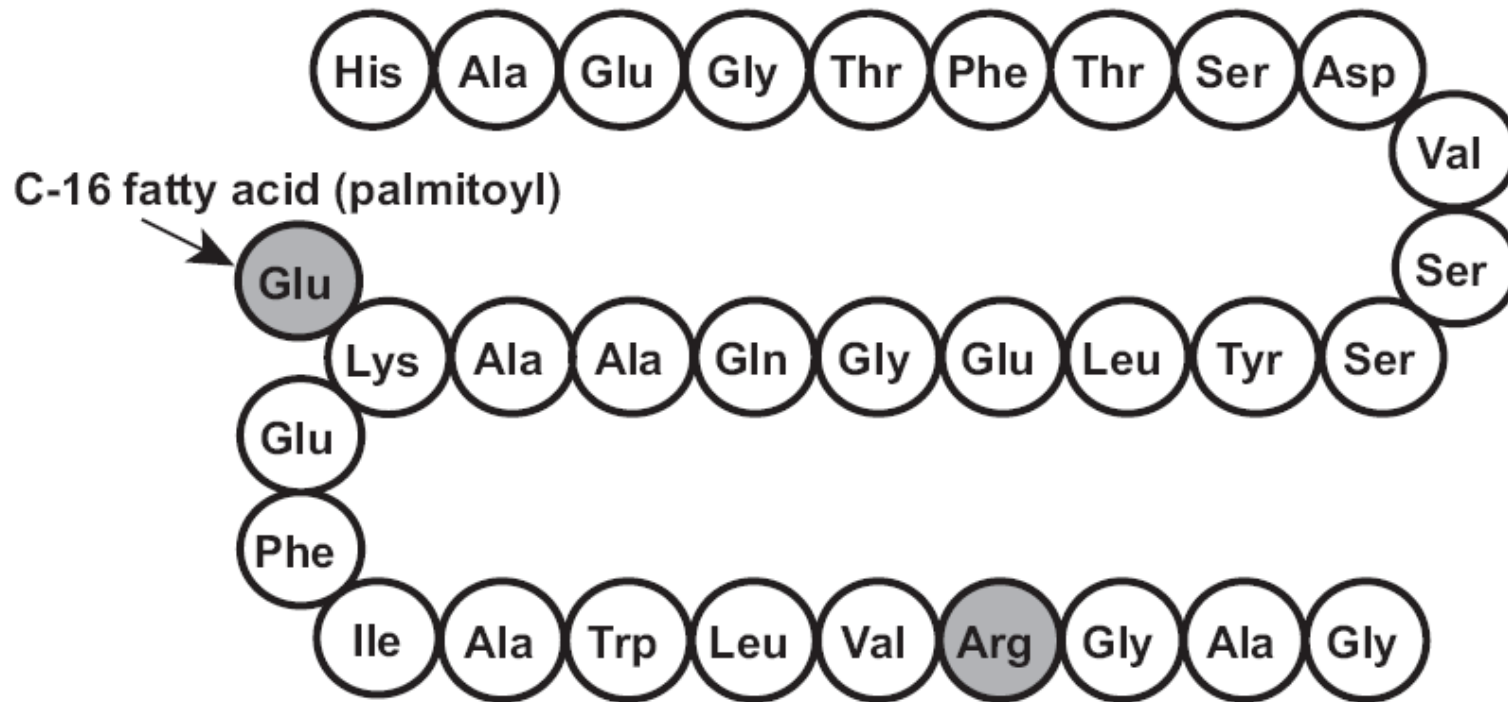
Figure reprinted with permission from reference 2: Oiknine R, Bernbaum M, Mooradian AD. A critical appraisal of the role of insulin analogues in the management of diabetes mellitus. *Drugs*. 2005;65:325-40. [PMID: 15669878]

GLP-1 analogues

- GLP-1: Glucagon-like peptide 1 = an intestinal hormone, which together with glucose-dependent insulinotropic polypeptide (GIP)* potentiates insulin secretion induced by food
- potentiates all steps of insulin biosynthesis; has positive impact to function and surviving of β -cells
 - decreases redundant glucose production in liver, slows down stomach emptying leading to postprandial hypoglycaemia, its central effect leads to appetite decrease (\Rightarrow body weight loss), probably also positive effects to cardiovascular system
 - disadvantages of GLP-1 as a drug: necessity of administration in a continual infusion, extremely short biological half-time $T_{1/2} = 2 - 3$ min (fast decomposition by peptidases) \Rightarrow need of more stable analogues
-

*Both are known also as **incretins**.

GLP-1 analogues



liraglutide

Victoza® inj. sol.

γ -L-glutamoyl(N- α -hexadecanoyl)-Lys²⁶, Arg³⁴-GLP-1(7-37)

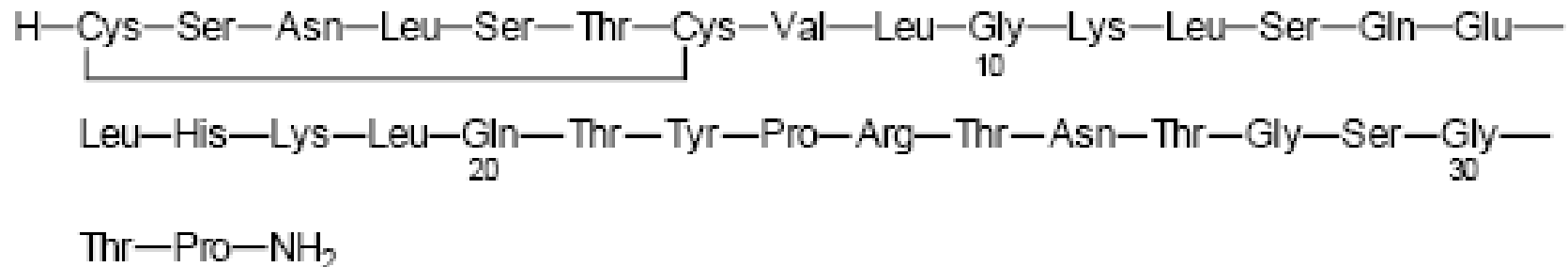
- sequence of amino acid rests shares 97 % identity with the fragment 7-37 of the native GLP-1

- strong binding to serum albumin, mutual association of molecules, does not come under glomerular filtration $\Rightarrow T_{1/2} = 12.5$ hours after s.c. injection

- improves functions of both α and β cells

Calcitonin

- released from thyroidal C-cells (= parafollicular cells – Baber 1876), in lower vertebrates from ultimobranchial bodies, originated from 5th branchial fissure
- peptide from 32 amino acid residues (salmon's – *Onchorhyncus kisutch*; human has 139 AA)
- receptors on osteoclasts (also in kidneys and brain)
- ↓ excretion of Ca²⁺ from the bone (⇒ ↓ calcaemia)
- ↓ osteoclasts formation
- used together with Ca²⁺ for treatment of osteoporosis

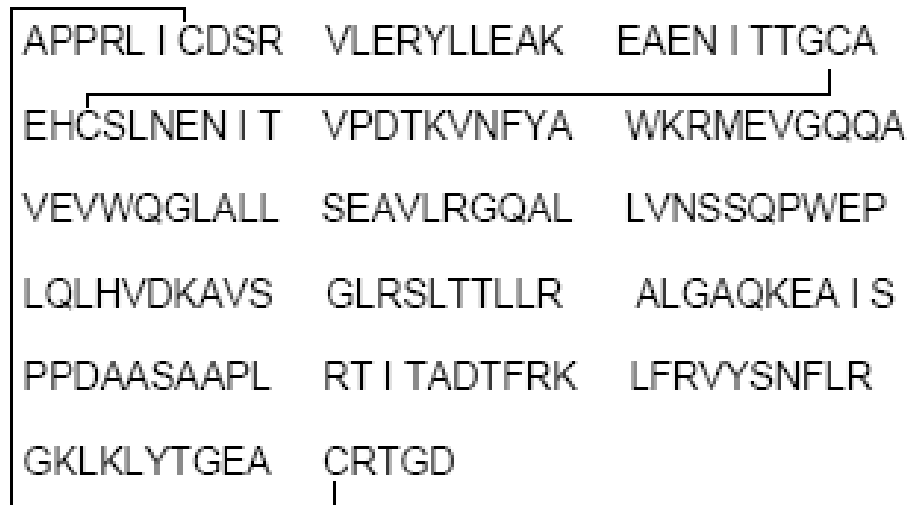


C₁₄₅H₂₄₀N₄₄O₄₈S₂

M_r 3431,88

CAS 47931-85-1

2. Blood factors of erythropoietine type



erythropoietin (EPO)

= glycosylated protein from 165 AA

M_r about 30 600

CAS 113427-24-0

Erythropoietini solutio concentrata EP

= a solution containing a group of closely related glycoproteins, which are not to distinguish from the natural human erythropoietin (human urine erythropoietin, huEPO), from the point of view of 165 amino acids sequence and their average profile of glycosylation

- naturally released from kidneys of adults and in liver of foetus
- stimulates stem cells of bone marrow to proliferation and differentiation
- produced *in vitro* mostly in rodent cell lines by a method based on the recombinant DNA technology
- **INN names: epoetin + greek letter spelt in full** (eg. epoetin beta)
- various epoetins differ in glycosylation, complex branched oligomeric sugar chains are attached
- treatment of anaemia in chronic kidney failure, missused for doping

Epoetin Alfa (Genetical Recombination)

エポエチン アルファ (遺伝子組換え)

Protein moiety

```

APPRLICDSR VLERYLLEAK EAENITTGCA EHC SLNENIT VPDTKVN FYA
WKRMEVGQQA VEVWQGLALL SEAVLRGQAL LVNSSQPWEP LQLHV DKA VS
GLRSLTTLR ALGAQKEAIS PPDAASAAPL RTITADTFRK LFRVYSN FLR
GKLKLYTGEA CRTGD
  
```

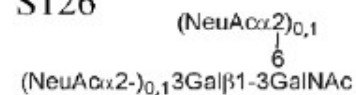
N24, N38, N83 and S126 : glycosylation

Carbohydrate moiety (structure of major glycans)

N24, N38 and N83



S126



$\text{C}_{809}\text{H}_{1301}\text{N}_{229}\text{O}_{240}\text{S}_5$: 18235.70 (Protein moiety)
[113427-24-0]

Epoetin Beta (Genetical Recombination)

エポエチン ベータ (遺伝子組換え)

Protein moiety

```

APPRLICDSR VLERYLLEAK EAENITTGCA EHCSLNENIT VPDTKVNEYA
WKRMEVGQQA VEVWQGLALL SEAVLRGQAL LVNSSQPWEP LQLHVDKAVS
GLRSLTTLR  ALGAQKEAIS PPDAASAAPL RTITADTERK LFRVYSNELR
GKLKLYTGEA CRTGD
  
```

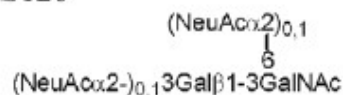
N24, N38, N83 and S126: glycosylation

Carbohydrate moiety (structure of major glycans)

N24, N38 and N83



S126

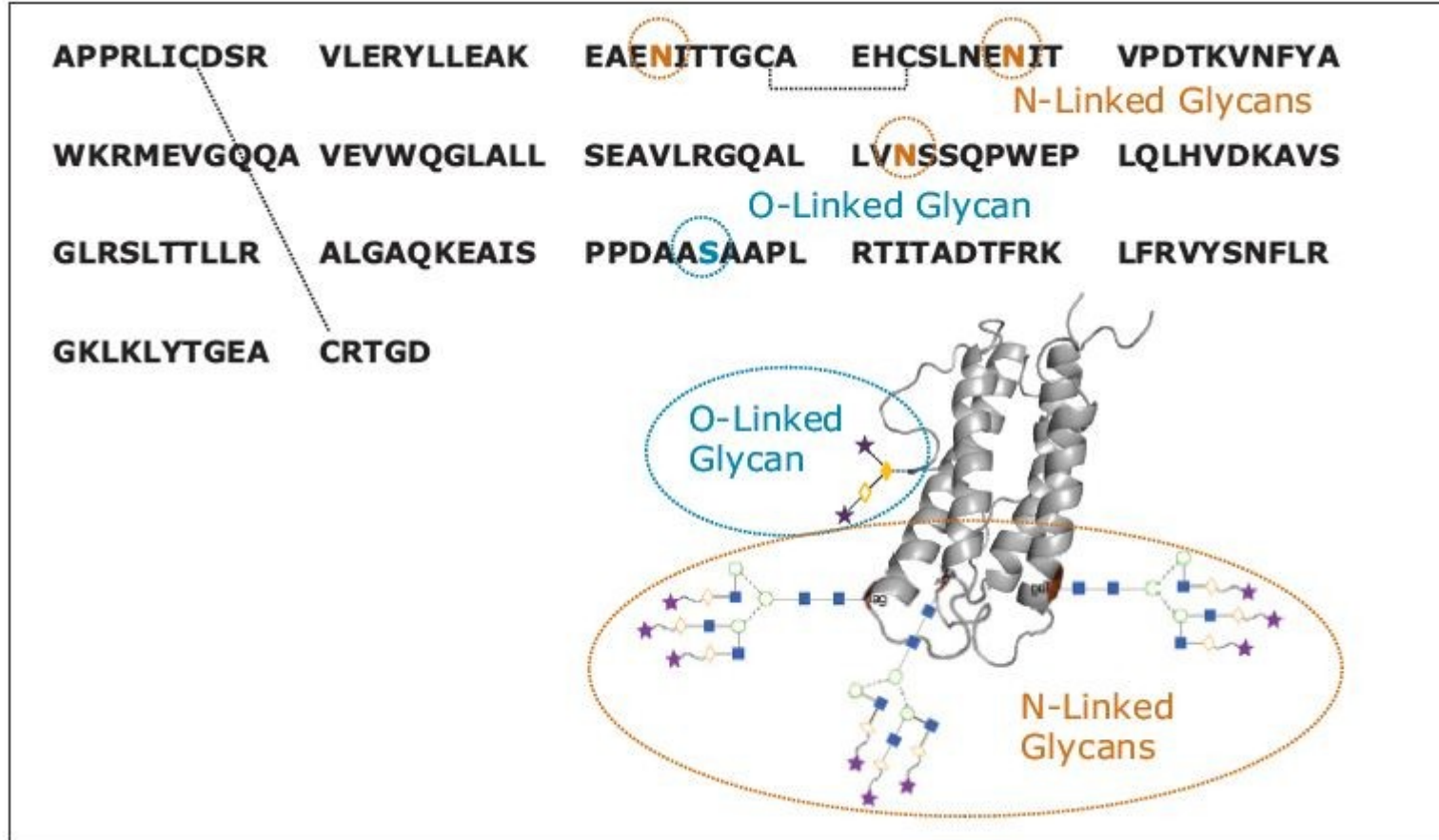


$\text{C}_{809}\text{H}_{1301}\text{N}_{229}\text{O}_{240}\text{S}_5$: 18235.70 (Protein moiety)
[122312-54-3]

Overview of epoetins

INN name: epoetin	Year of discovery/approval	Production organism / tissue	M _r CAS	Glycosylation pattern	Originator product/biosimilar	Brand names ®, generic codes
alfa	2000	Chinese hamster ovary	113427-24-0	similar to uhEPO	orig/biosim	Eprex , Binocrit, Abseamed
beta	1997	Chinese hamster ovary	122312-54-3		orig	Neorecormon
gama	1990	C127 murine cells transfected with huEPO cRNA	28 000-31 000 130455-76-4		orig	TYB-5220
delta	2002 - 2009	human fibrosarcoma cell line HT-1080	261356-80-3	less O-acetyls in O-glycan chains; similar to uhEPO	orig	Dynepo
epsilon	1995		154725-65-2		orig	
zeta	2007	Chinese hamster ovary	32 000-40 000 604802-70-2		biosim. of EPO alfa	Silapo, Retacrit
theta	2009	Chinese hamster ovary	762263-14-9	sugars represent 40 % of total M _r	orig	Biopoin, Eporatio
kappa	2010	Chinese hamster ovary	11096-26-7		biosim. of EPO alfa	Epoetin alfa BS injection ®
lambda	1996	PLK 31 cells of of	149363-16-0	greater	orig	Eprex

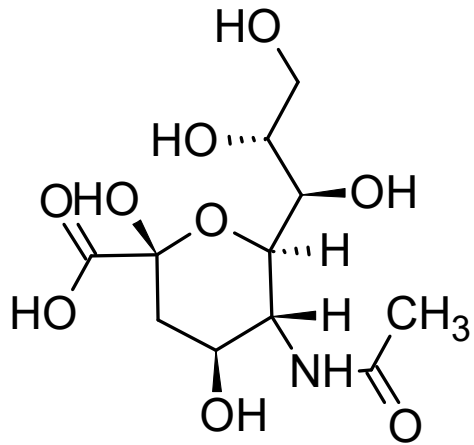
Epoetins' glycosylation



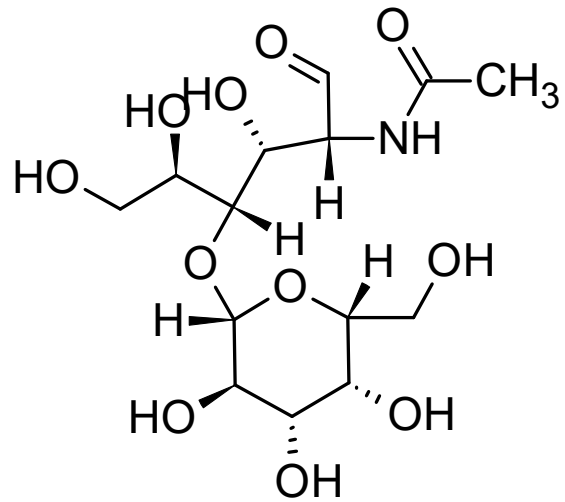
Sites of *N*-glycosylation: Asn24, Asn38, Asn83 (= N24, N38, N83)

Site of *O*-glycosylation: Ser126 (= S126)

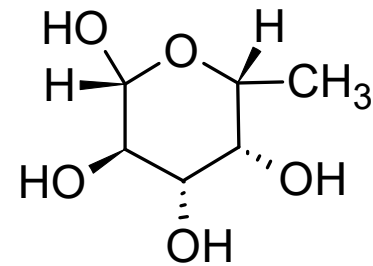
Epoetins' glycosylation: some more specific occurring sugars



N-acetylneuraminic acid (= sialic acid)



N-acetyllactosamine



L-fucose

Epoetins' glycosylation: secondary structure of *N*-attached oligosaccharide chains

Structures of asialo *N*-linked saccharides obtained from recombinant erythropoietin

Saccharide	Structure ^a	Relative amount %
Biantennary	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Gal}\beta 1 \rightarrow 4 \text{GlcNAc}\beta 1 \rightarrow 2 \text{Man}\alpha 1 \\ \searrow 6 \\ \text{Man}\beta 1 \rightarrow 4 \text{GlcNAc}\beta 1 \rightarrow 4 \text{GlcNAcOH} \\ \nearrow 3 \\ \text{Gal}\beta 1 \rightarrow 4 \text{GlcNAc}\beta 1 \rightarrow 2 \text{Man}\alpha 1 \end{array}$	1.4
	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Gal}\beta 1 \rightarrow 4 \text{GlcNAc}\beta 1 \rightarrow 2 \text{Man}\alpha 1 \\ \searrow 6 \\ \text{Man}\beta 1 \rightarrow 4 \text{GlcNAc}\beta 1 \rightarrow 4 \text{GlcNAcOH} \\ \nearrow 3 \\ \text{Gal}\beta 1 \rightarrow 4 \text{GlcNAc}\beta 1 \end{array}$	3.5
Triantennary	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Gal}\beta 1 \rightarrow 4 \text{GlcNAc}\beta 1 \\ \searrow 4 \\ \text{Man}\alpha 1 \\ \nearrow 2 \\ \text{Gal}\beta 1 \rightarrow 4 \text{GlcNAc}\beta 1 \end{array}$	6.5
	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Gal}\beta 1 \rightarrow 4 \text{GlcNAc}\beta 1 \\ \searrow 6 \\ \text{Man}\alpha 1 \\ \nearrow 2 \\ \text{Gal}\beta 1 \rightarrow 4 \text{GlcNAc}\beta 1 \end{array}$	
	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Gal}\beta 1 \rightarrow 4 \text{GlcNAc}\beta 1 \\ \searrow 6 \\ \text{Man}\alpha 1 \\ \nearrow 2 \\ \text{Gal}\beta 1 \rightarrow 4 \text{GlcNAc}\beta 1 \end{array}$	
Triantennary Lac ₁	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Gal}\beta 1 \rightarrow 4 \text{GlcNAc}\beta 1 \rightarrow 2 \text{Man}\alpha 1 \\ \searrow 6 \\ \text{Man}\beta 1 \rightarrow 4 \text{GlcNAc}\beta 1 \rightarrow 4 \text{GlcNAcOH} \\ \nearrow 3 \\ \text{Gal}\beta 1 \rightarrow 4 \text{GlcNAc}\beta 1 \rightarrow 3 \text{Gal}\beta 1 \rightarrow 4 \text{GlcNAc}\beta 1 \\ \searrow 4 \\ \text{Man}\alpha 1 \\ \nearrow 2 \\ \text{Gal}\beta 1 \rightarrow 4 \text{GlcNAc}\beta 1 \end{array}$	3.5

Carbohydrate Structure of Human Recombinant Erythropoietin

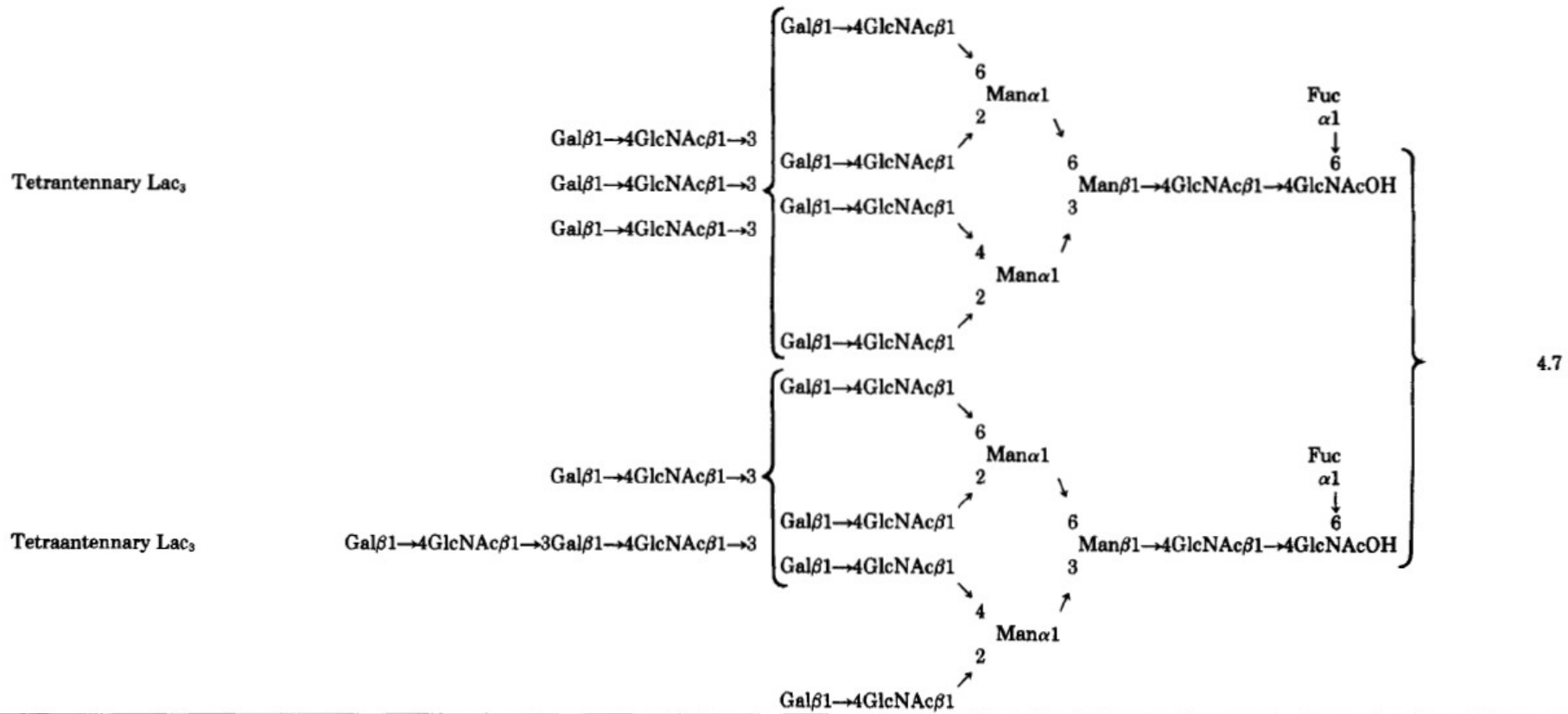
Epoetins' glycosylation: secondary structure of *N*-attached oligosaccharide chains continued

TABLE III-Continued

Saccharide	Structure ^a	Relative amount
		%
Tetraantennary Lac ₁	<p>Galβ1→4GlcNAcβ1</p> <p>Galβ1→4GlcNAcβ1→3Galβ1→4GlcNAcβ1</p> <p>Galβ1→4GlcNAcβ1</p> <p>Manα1</p> <p>Manβ1→4GlcNAcβ1→4GlcNAcOH</p> <p>Fuc α1</p>	3.2
	<p>Galβ1→4GlcNAcβ1</p> <p>Galβ1→4GlcNAcβ1→3Galβ1→4GlcNAcβ1</p> <p>Galβ1→4GlcNAcβ1</p> <p>Manα1</p> <p>Manβ1→4GlcNAcβ1→4GlcNAcOH</p> <p>Fuc α1</p>	13.2
	<p>Galβ1→4GlcNAcβ1</p> <p>Galβ1→4GlcNAcβ1→3Galβ1→4GlcNAcβ1</p> <p>Galβ1→4GlcNAcβ1</p> <p>Manα1</p> <p>Manβ1→4GlcNAcβ1→4GlcNAcOH</p> <p>Fuc α1</p>	3.3

Carbohydrate Structure of Human Recombinant Erythropoietin

Epoetins' glycosylation: secondary structure of *N*-attached oligosaccharide chains continued



* 15% of the saccharides lack fucose attached to the reducing terminal *N*-acetylglucosamine.

Differences in individual epotins' glycosylation pattern: CZE in accordance with the European Pharmacopoea continued

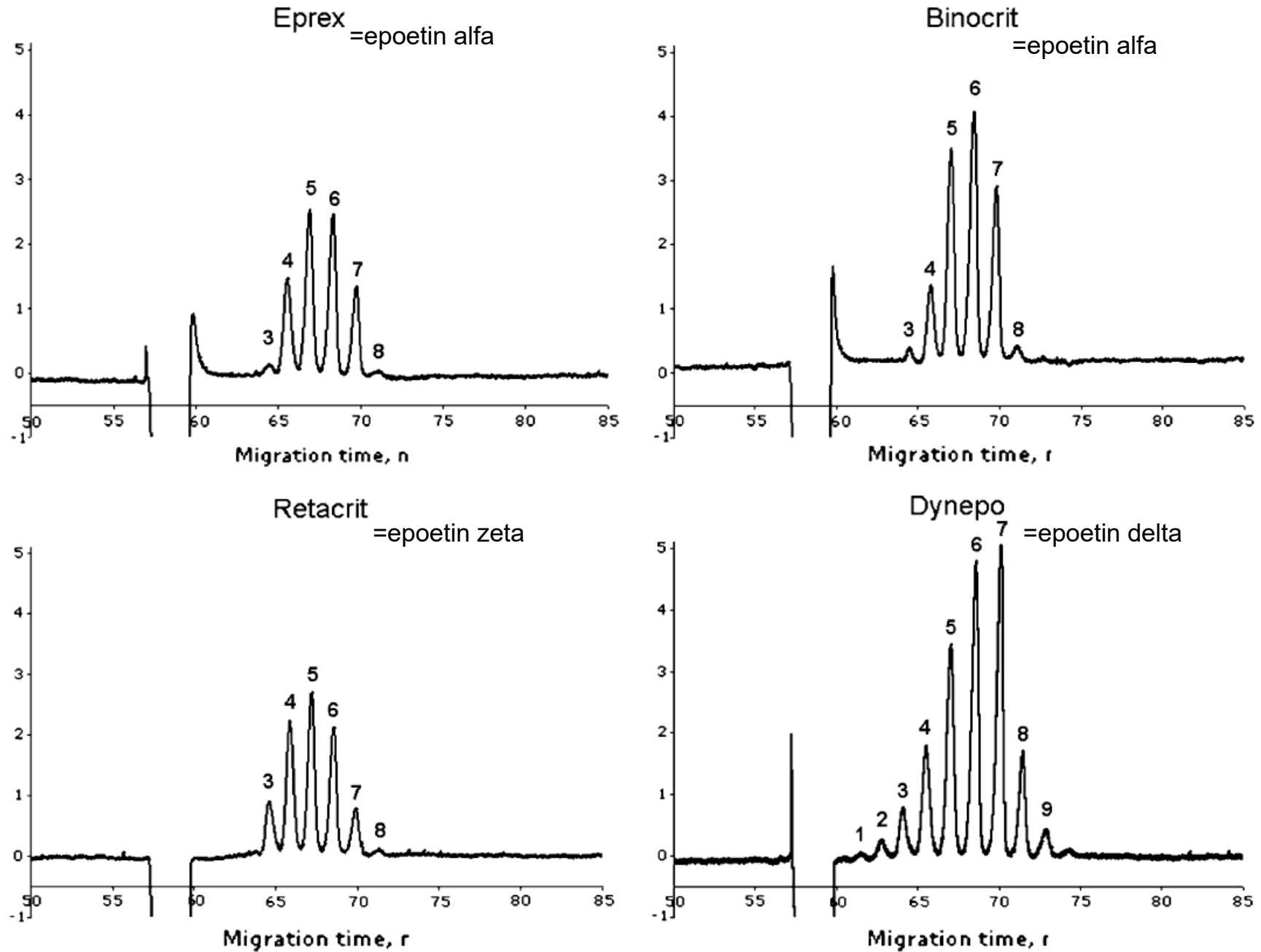
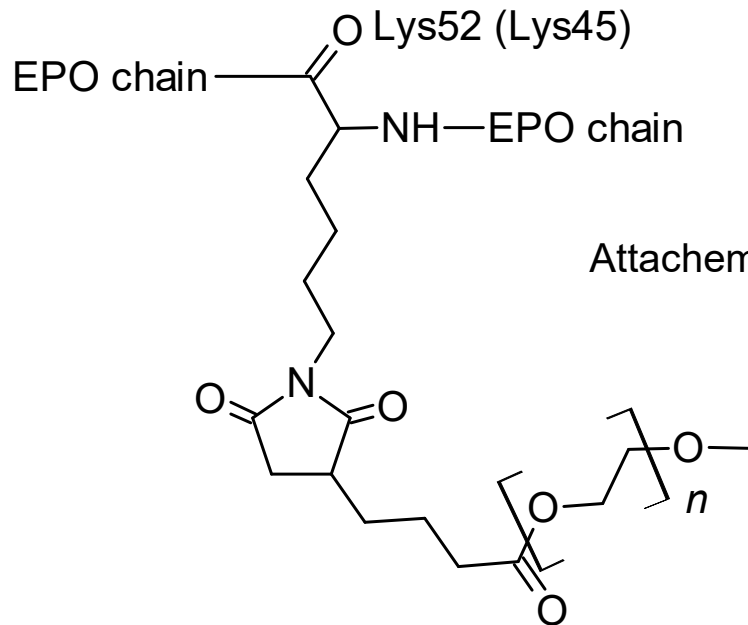


Fig. 3 CE-UV analysis of the four EPO products.

Epoetin conjugates
Methoxy-polythylenglycol-epoetin beta

Total M_r cca 60 000



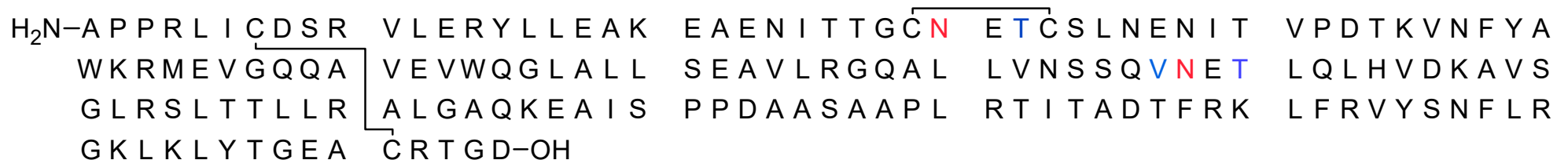
Plasmatic $T_{1/2}$ cca 139 h \Rightarrow „continuous erythropoietin receptor activator“, CERA
Mircera [®] (s.c. or i.v.) for treatment of anemia in chronic renal disease

Epoetin analogues with altered protein sequence

Darbepoetin alfa

- sequence of EPO alfa changed: Asn30, Thr32, Val87, Asn88 and Thr90 \Rightarrow 2 new sites of *N*-glycosylation \Rightarrow 5 sites of *N*-glycosylation in total; 2 new oligosaccharide chains attached
- total M_r 30 000 – 37 000
- recombinant
- indicated for treatment of anemia caused by a chemotherapy of non-myeloid cancers or by chronic renal failure

Aranesp® (originator); Nespo® (biosimilar – approved in EU 2001 - 2008)



Primary structure of darbepoetin alfa aglycone. New asparagine residues, to which new carbohydrate chains are attached, are in red, other changed amino acid residues in blue.

Colony stimulating factors (CSFs)

= proteins supporting survival and expansion of pluripotent stem cells and stimulate them to differentiation into various types of leukocytes

GM-CSF: Granulocyte macrophage colony stimulating factor

```

      10           20           30           40           50
MWLQSLLLLG TVAC SISAPA RSPSPSTQPW EHVNAIQEAR RLLNLSRDTA
      60           70           80           90          100
AEMNETVEVI SEMFDLQEPT CLQTRLELYK QGLRGSLTKL KGPLTMMASH
      110          120          130          140
YKQHCPPTPE TSCATQITF ESFKENLKDF LLVIPFDCWE PVQE
```

signaling peptide
GM-CSF

Sites of glycosylation: O-: Ser22, Ser24, Ser26, Thr27; N-: Asn44, Asn54

Colony stimulating factors

APARSPSPST QPWEHVNAIQ EARRLLNLSR
DTAAEMNETV EVISEMFDLQ EPTCLQTRLE
LYKQGLRGSL TKLKGPLTMM ASHYKQHCPP
TPETSCATQI ITFESFKENL KDFLLVIPFD
CWEPVQE

$C_{639}H_{1007}N_{171}O_{196}S_8$

M_r 14 477,49

CAS 99283-10-0

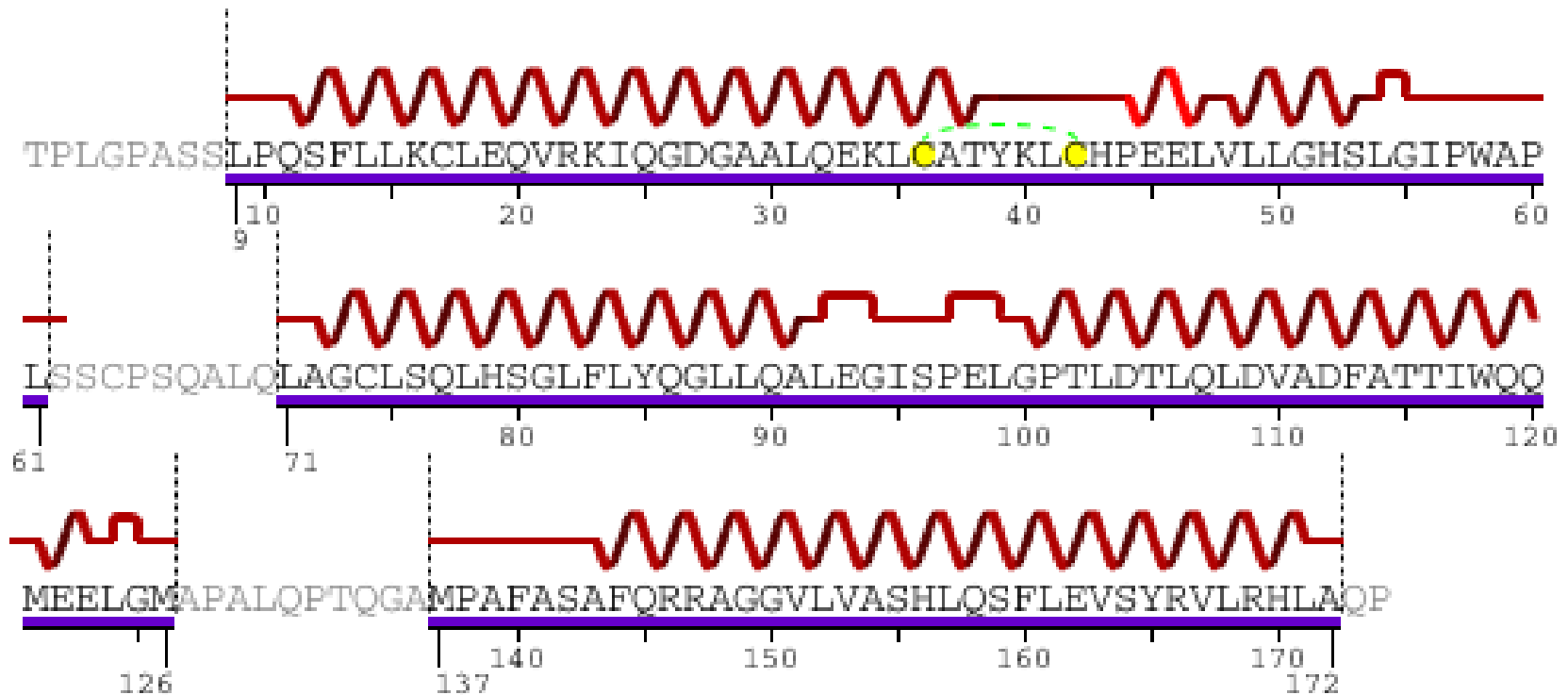
molgramostim

= a factor stimulating granulocytes and macrophages colonies released from various kinds of blood cells

- not glycosylated
- stimulates differentiation and proliferation of leukocyte pluripotent stem cells into matured granulocytes and macrophages
- production by a recombinant technology using bacteria as host cells
- treatment of leukopenia in cancer chemotherapy or HIV infections

Filgrastim and pegfilgrastim

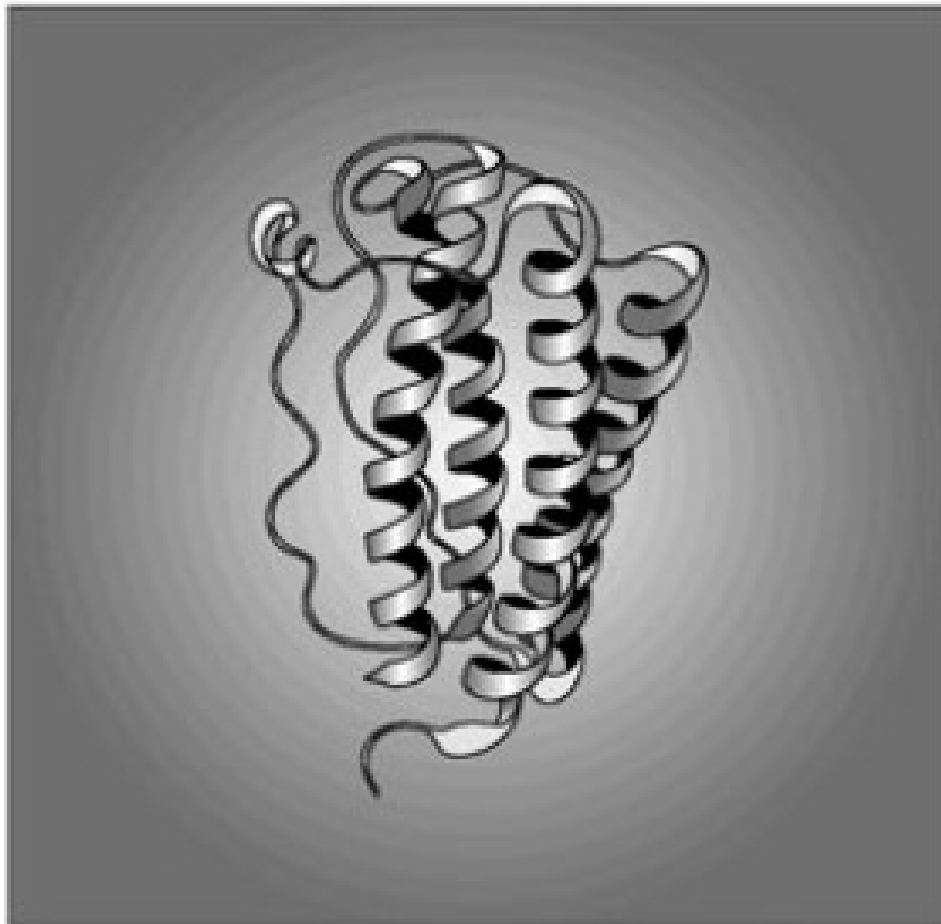
Filgrastim = human granulocytes colony-stimulating factor (G-CSF); glycosylated, 174 AA
Sequence of filgrastim precursor



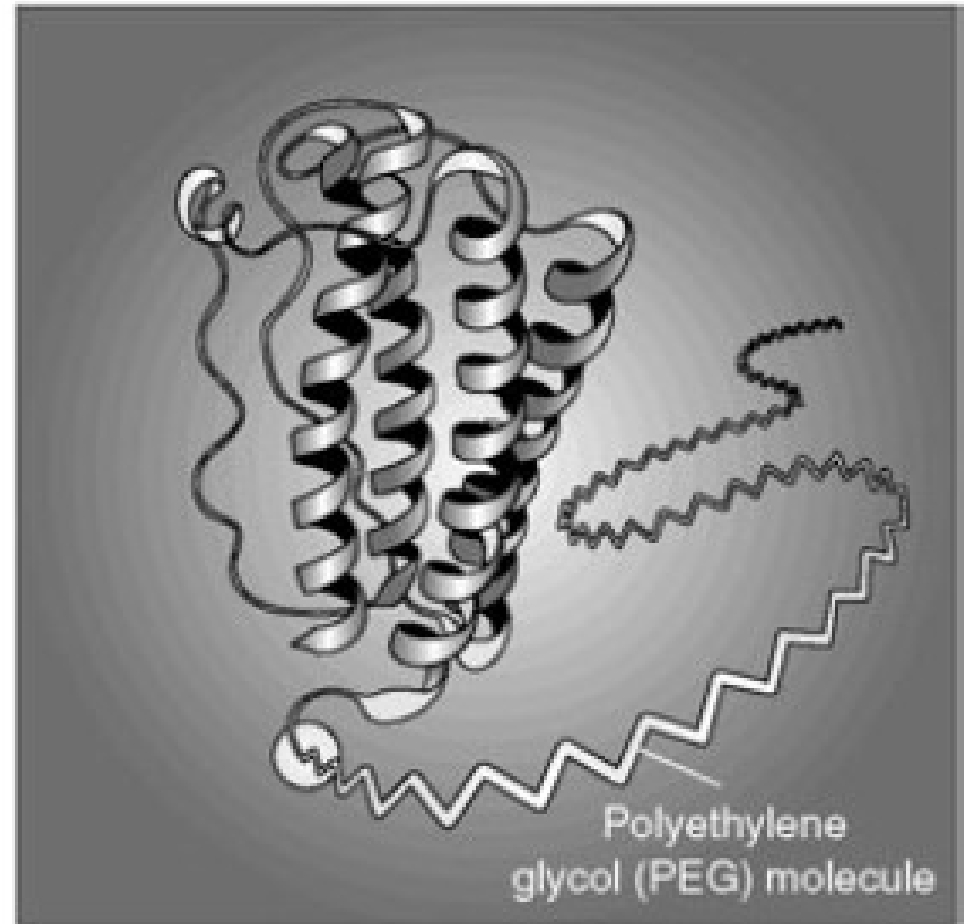
- treatment of neutropenia in cancer chemotheapy and in AIDS

Pegfilgrastim has covalently attached PEG chain of M_r cca 20 000 on N-terminus

- longer elimination half-time
- recombinant and semi-synthetic production



Filgrastim



Pegfilgrastim

Human stem cell factor (SCF)

1 MEGICRNRVT NNVKDVTKLV ANLPKDYMIT LKYVPGMDVL PSHCWISEMV
51 VQLSDSLTDL LDKFSNISEG LSNYSIIDKL VNIVDDLVEC VKENSSKDLK
101 KSFKSPEPRL FTPEEFFRIF NRSIDAFKDF VVASETSDCV VSSTLSPEKD
151 SRVSVTKPFM LPPVAA

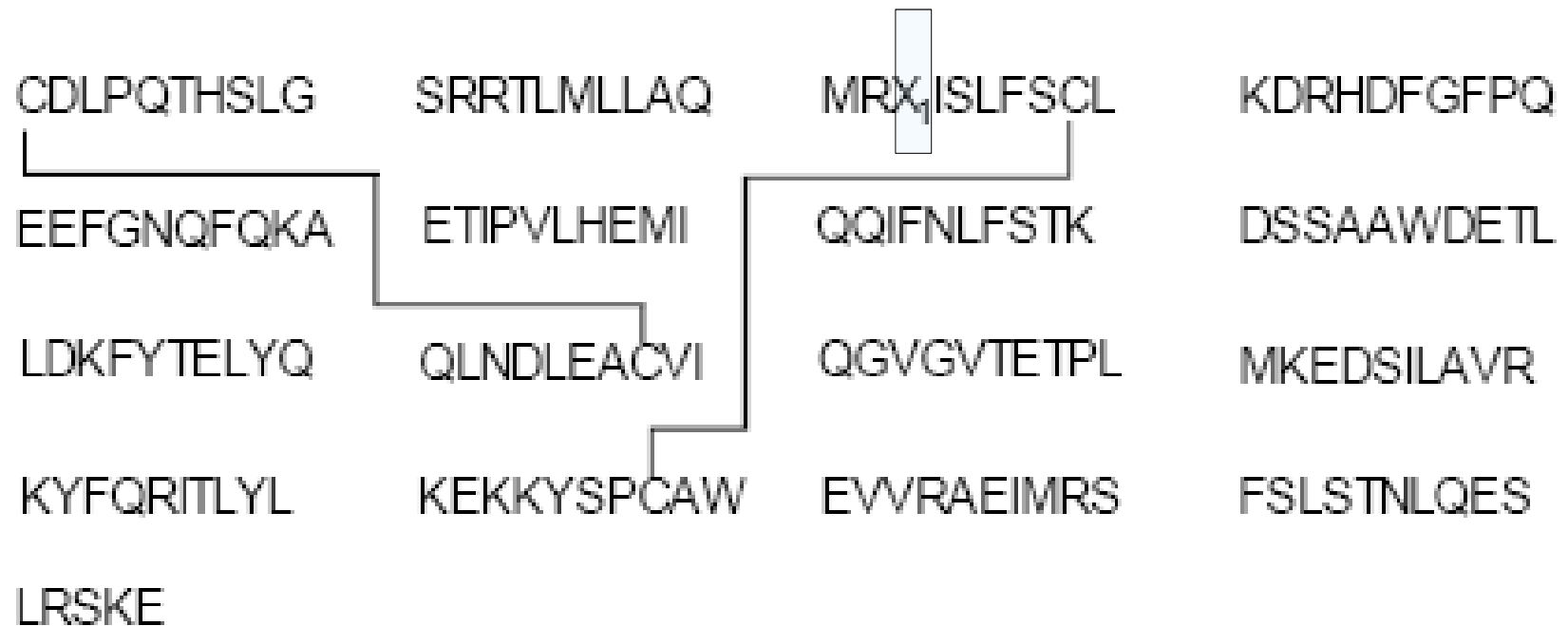
- ligand for the receptor-type protein-tyrosine kinase KIT (\Rightarrow synonym KITLG).
- plays an essential role in the regulation of cell survival and proliferation, hematopoiesis, stem cell maintenance, gametogenesis, mast cell development, migration and function, and in melanogenesis
- KITLG/SCF binding can activate several signaling pathways
- 166 AA
- two differentially glycosylated forms, LMW-SCF and HMW-SCF
- peripheral blood progenitor cell mobilization

A recombinant form of SCF: **ancestim** (Stemgen ®)

- dimer
- non-glycosylated
- indicated for the setting of autologous peripheral blood progenitor cell transplantation in patients at risk of poor peripheral blood progenitor cell mobilisation combined with filgrastim
- temporarily approved e.g. in Canada and New Zealand, currently withdrawn
- replaced in therapy with a small molecule – **plerixafor** Mozobil ®

<http://www.medsafe.govt.nz/regulatory/ProductDetail.asp?ID=8093>

4. Non-specific antibodies - interferons



interferon α_2

Interferoni alfa-2 solutio concentrata EP

X1 = Lys α_{2a}

X1 = Arg α_{2b}

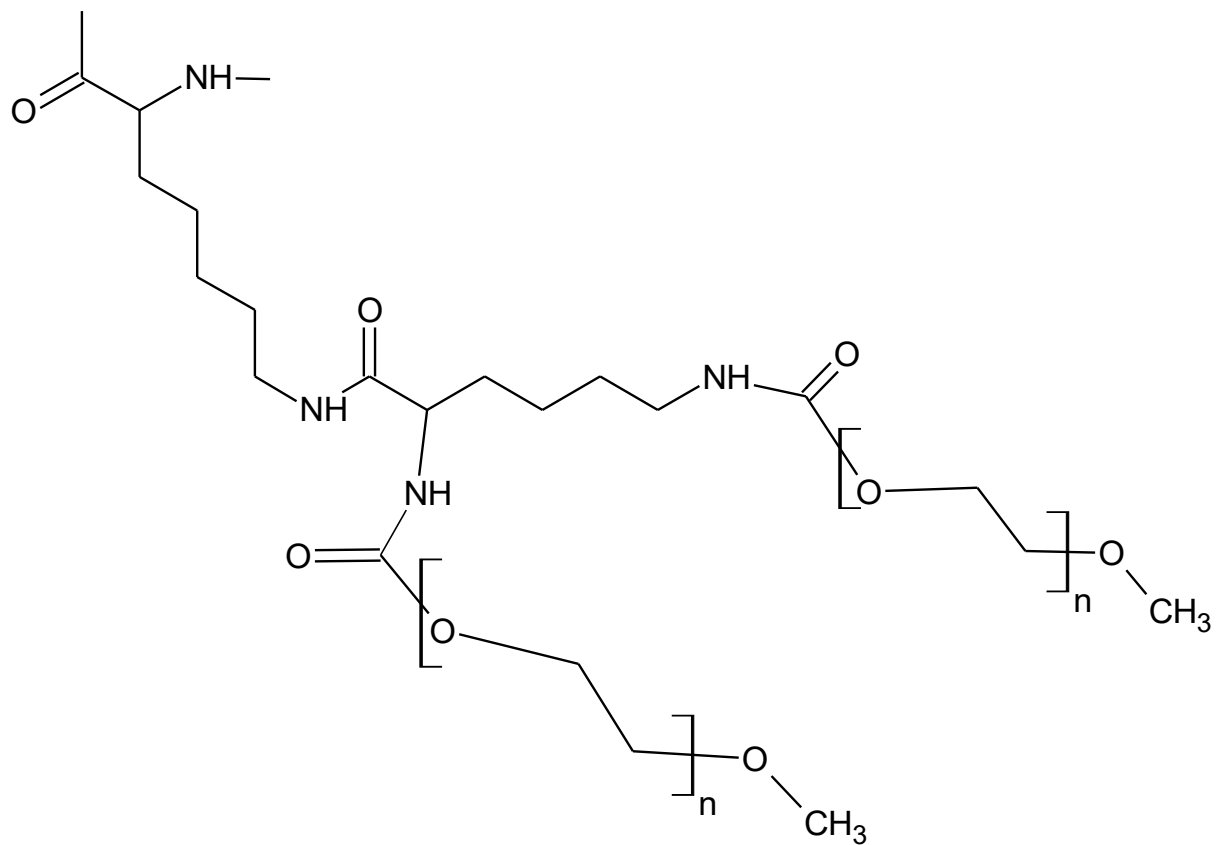
- antiviral activity during viral RNA and protein syntheses
- antiproliferation activity
- produced by a recombinant technology on bacteria

Pegylated interferons α

- **peginterferon α_{2a}** (Pegasys®) - on some Lys residues attached N², N⁶-dicarboxy-Lys esterified with PEG-monomethylether of M_r about 20 000
 - substitution is stable, free interferon is not released
 - peginterferon α_{2a} interacts directly with receptors on surface of the infected cell
 - lowered activity (only 7 % of free interferon α_{2a}) is counterbalanced by much longer half-time
 - treatment of hepatitis B and C combined with ribavirin
- **peginterferon α_{2b}** (Pegintron®) - only one PEG chain of M_r about 12 000 attached via urethane linker to a His, most frequently to His₃₄
 - urethane moiety is labile, free interferon α_{2b} is released into the circulation and directly interacts with receptors
 - treatment of hepatitis C

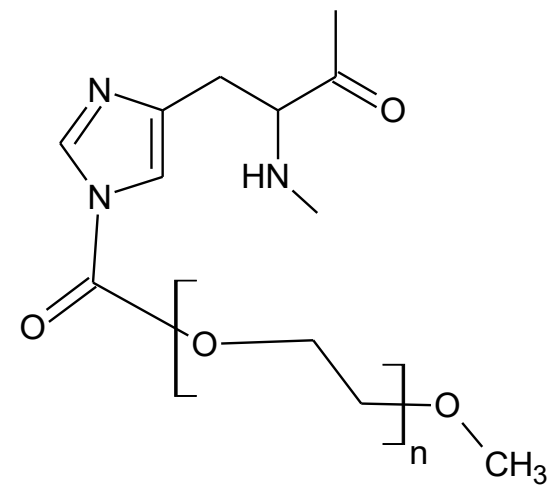
Pegylated interferons α

Differences in their substitutions



Lys

α_{2a}



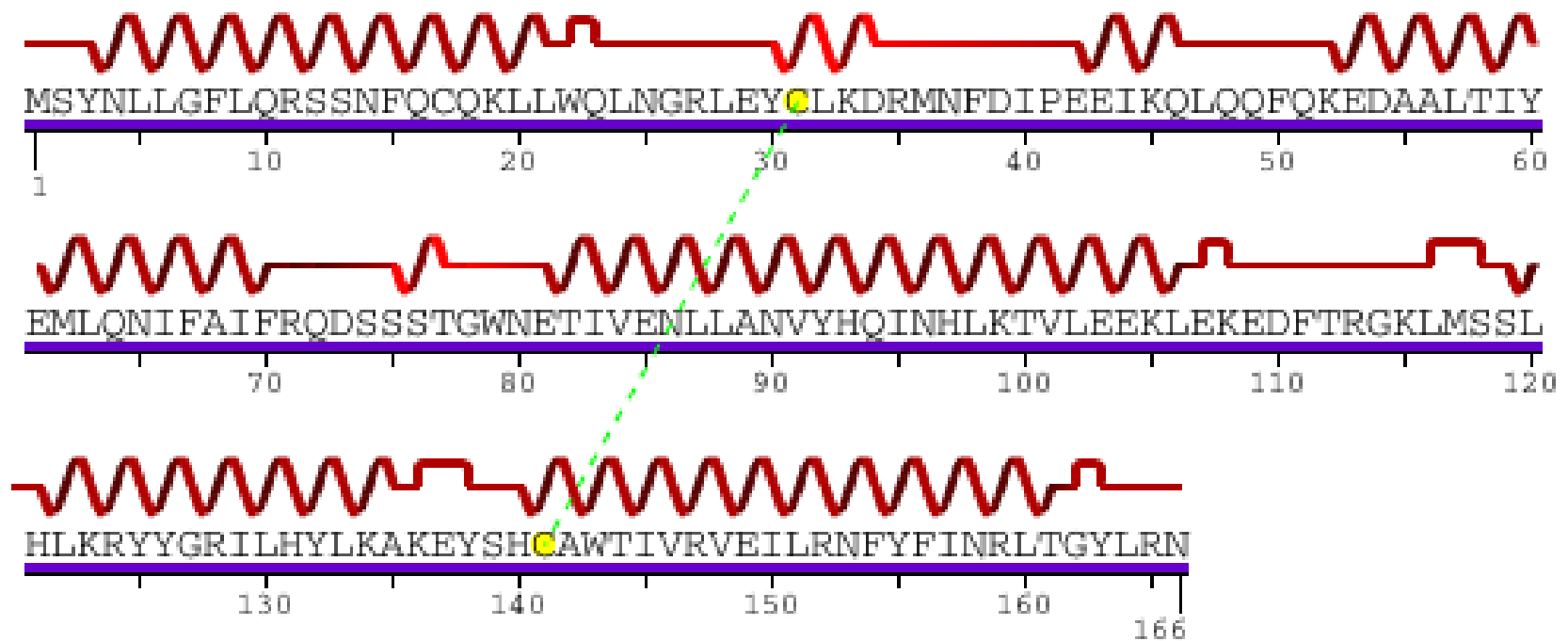
His³⁴

α_{2b}

interferon β

= a glycosylated peptide consisted of 166 AA

- produced by fibroblasts in response to stimulation by a living or inactivated virus or double-strained RNA



- treatment of multiple sclerosis

Variants of interferon β

- β_{1a} (Avonex[®] , Betaferon[®] , Rebif[®])
 - M_r cca 20 000
 - prepared by a recombinant technology on Chinese hamster ovary cell lines
 - preparations are not equally active probably due to different glycosylation
 - recommended *i.m.* application once weekly
 - injected *s.c.* is much more painful than β_{1b}
- β_{1b} (Extavia[®])
 - Cys₁₇ changed to Ser
 - recombinant technology on *E. coli*
 - *s.c.* application every other day

interferon γ_{1b}

- released by human T-lymfocytes in response to viral infections and other agents
- imunomodulatory effects
- non-covalent dimer of 2 identicas monomers consisted of 141 AA

Sequence of the monomer:

M

QDPYVKEAEN LKKYFNAGHS DVADNGTLFL GILKNWKEES
DRKIMQSQIV SFYFKLFKNF KDDQSIQKSV ETIKEDMNVK
FFNSNKKKRD DFEKLTNYSV TDLNVQRKAI HELIQVMAEL
SPAAKTGKRK RSQMLFRGR

$C_{734}H_{1166}N_{204}O_{216}S_5$

M_r 16 464,76

- production by recombinant technology on bacteria
- supporting treatment of idiopatic lung fibrosis; only increases the hope of patients live to see lungs transplantation