

Señora

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Superintendencia de Industria y Comercio

Ministerio de Comercio, Industria y Turismo

E. S. D.

Re.:Expediente No. **NC2021/0002965**

Solicitud de Patente PCT entrada en Fase Nacional, para: **“ÁCIDOS NUCLEICOS PARA LA EXPRESIÓN DE GENES TERAPÉUTICOS QUE COMPRENDEN ITR DE PARVOVIRUS NO AAV”** (nuevo título)

Solicitante: **BIOVERATIV THERAPEUTICS INC.**

RESPUESTA A EXAMEN DE FONDO

Yo, **MARGARITA CASTELLANOS ABONDANO**, mayor de edad, identificada y domiciliada como aparece al pie de mi firma, obrando en mi calidad de apoderada de la sociedad solicitante del asunto citado en la referencia, en atención a su oficio **No. 16873** notificado el 19 de septiembre de 2024, y para el cual solicité oportunamente prórroga el pasado 03 de diciembre de 2024, me permito dar respuesta al mismo de la siguiente manera:

1. Modificación a las Reivindicaciones

De acuerdo con lo establecido en el Artículo 34 de la Decisión 486 y en vista de las observaciones realizadas por el Examinador, se presenta en esta oportunidad un nuevo pliego reivindicatorio conformado por 18 reivindicaciones. Las modificaciones introducidas son las siguientes:

- Se modificó el contenido de las reivindicaciones 1-5 y 14, con el fin de presentar la materia de forma más clara.
- No se incluye las anteriores reivindicaciones 6, 7, 12 y 15-17.
- Se incluyen seis nuevas reivindicaciones.

- En vista de las modificaciones anteriores, las reivindicaciones restantes, así como sus dependencias han sido reenumeradas.

El soporte para las nuevas reivindicaciones modificadas puede encontrarse en toda la descripción y en las reivindicaciones tal y como se presentaron originalmente. Por ejemplo, el soporte para las reivindicaciones 1, 6-9 y 18 se encuentra al menos en las reivindicaciones 2 y 4 de las reivindicaciones presentadas el 14 de septiembre de 2021. No se ha adicionado materia nueva.

2. Modificación al Título de la Solicitud

Siguiendo la amable sugerencia del Examinador, se ha modificado el título de la solicitud para indicar:

“ÁCIDOS NUCLEICOS PARA LA EXPRESIÓN DE GENES TERAPÉUTICOS QUE
COMPRENDEN ITR DE PARVOVIRUS NO AAV”

De esta manera, se refleja con mayor claridad el objeto reivindicado, atendiendo la objeción respectiva.

3. No es una Invención

El Examinador afirma que el objeto de las reivindicaciones 1-5 y 9 no se considera una invención. En particular, el Examinador considera que el objeto se refiere a una molécula de ácido nucleico que comprende una primera y una segunda repetición terminal invertida (ITR) que flanquean un casete genético que comprende una secuencia de polinucleótidos heteróloga, un promotor, una secuencia intrónica, un elemento regulador postranscripcional y una secuencia de cola 3' UTR de poli(A), o célula huésped que comprende la misma; sin proporcionar el casete genético completo ni el polinucleótido heterólogo, y sólo se proporcionan como características técnicas las secuencias de nucleótidos de las ITR procedentes de los genomas de los virus.

El Solicitante desea expresar su desacuerdo con esta objeción. Sin embargo, la reivindicación 1 (de la que dependen las reivindicaciones 2-5) ha sido modificada, para mencionar lo siguiente:

- una primera repetición terminal invertida (ITR) y una segunda ITR que flanquean un casete genético que comprende un promotor y una secuencia de polinucleótidos heteróloga que codifica:
- (A) un factor de crecimiento, una hormona, una citocina, o un anticuerpo o fragmento funcional del mismo; y/o
- (B) un gen seleccionado de distrofina ligada a X, MTM1 (miotubularina), tirosina hidroxilasa, AADC, ciclohidrolasa, SMN1, FXN (frataxina), GUCY2D, RS1, CFH, HTRA, ARMS, CFB/CC2, CNGA/CNGB, Prf65, ARSA, PSAP, IDUA (MPS I), IDS (MPS II), PAH, GAA (alfa-glucosidasa ácida), y cualquier combinación de los mismos; y/o
- (C) un miARN que regula por disminución la expresión de un gen diana seleccionado entre SOD1, HTT, RHO y cualquier combinación de los mismos;
- en donde la primera ITR y la segunda ITR comprenden una secuencia de nucleótidos establecida en SEQ ID NO: 180, 181, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187 o 188.

La molécula de ácido nucleico definida por la reivindicación 1 modificada no se encuentra en la naturaleza y no puede aislarse de ningún ser vivo natural. Por lo tanto, las presentes reivindicaciones se refieren a materia patentable.

Por lo tanto, el pliego reivindicatorio comprende materia patentable, de acuerdo con la Decisión 486.

4. Sobre las Reivindicaciones Relativas a un Uso

En vista de que las anteriores reivindicaciones 15 a 17 no han sido incluidas en esta oportunidad se supera la objeción formulada para ellas.

5. Sobre la Claridad y Concisión de las Reivindicaciones

A este respecto, se desea llamar la atención sobre las modificaciones introducidas a las reivindicaciones, de forma que la materia se presenta de forma más clara y concisa.

Adicionalmente, se desea poner de presente lo siguiente:

- El Examinador señala que la reivindicación 1 no está soportada por la descripción puesto que se refiere una molécula de ácido nucleico que comprende: *“una primera ITR y/o una segunda ITR”* seleccionadas de SEQ ID NO: 180, 181, 183, 184, 184, 185, 186, 187 o 188 que flanquean un casete genético que comprende una secuencia de polinucleótidos heteróloga, en donde dicha molécula no se define en términos de su estructura mínima ya que ni siquiera menciona que comprenda dos ITR, sino que contempla secuencias con una única secuencia ITR. Además, el casete genético y/o polinucleótido heterólogo se pretende definir por el nombre de las proteínas codificadas y no en términos de su estructura correspondiente a su secuencia de nucleótidos y, no se proporciona una característica estructural técnica esencial para la proteína codificada.

El Solicitante discrepa respetuosamente respecto a la opinión del Examinador. Sin embargo, se ha modificado la reivindicación 1 para definir el casete genético en términos de que comprende un promotor y un polinucleótido heterólogo que codifica (A) un factor de crecimiento, una hormona, una citoquina, o un anticuerpo o fragmento funcional del mismo; y/o (B) un gen seleccionado de distrofina ligada a X, MTM1 (miotubularina), tirosina hidroxilasa, AADC, ciclohidrolasa, SMN1, FXN (frataxina), GUCY2D, RS1, CFH, HTRA, ARMS, CFB/CC2, CNGA/CNGB, Prf65, ARSA, PSAP, IDUA (MPS I), IDS (MPS II), PAH, GAA (alfa-glucosidasa ácida), y cualquier combinación de los mismos; en donde la primera ITR y la segunda ITR comprenden una secuencia de nucleótidos expuesta en SEQ ID NO: 180, 181, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187 o 188.

La persona medianamente versada en la materia puede entonces establecer que el efecto técnico de la molécula de ácido nucleico reivindicada, según lo demostrado en la solicitud tal como se presentó, incluye el establecimiento de la transducción persistente de células diana y la expresión estable a largo plazo de un polinucleótido heterólogo, lo cual se consigue mediante las ITR primera y segunda que flanquean el casete genético. De esta manera, las reivindicaciones incluyen suficientes características estructurales para permitir a una persona medianamente versada en la materia reproducir la molécula de ácido nucleico reivindicada. Adicionalmente, esto deja claro que los inventores estaban en posesión del alcance total de las reivindicaciones en el momento en el que se presentó la solicitud.

- El Examinador objeta la reivindicación 7 porque las secuencias de la proteína codificada supuestamente no se corresponden con la molécula mencionada en el preámbulo.

Teniendo en cuenta que la reivindicación 7 no ha sido incluida en esta oportunidad, la objeción indicada se ve superada.

- El Examinador objeta la reivindicación 8 por no estar soportada por la descripción, ya que se refiere a un vector que no está definido por la secuencia de nucleótidos de la molécula de ADN que contiene.

El Solicitante discrepa respetuosamente respecto a la opinión del Examinador. Sin embargo, se ha modificado la reivindicación 1 -de la que dependen directa o indirectamente todas las reivindicaciones- para definir el casete genético como se ha indicado anteriormente y para mencionar que la primera ITR y la segunda ITR comprenden una secuencia de nucleótidos expuesta en SEQ ID NO: 180, 181, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187 o 188.

La persona medianamente versada en la materia puede entonces establecer que el efecto técnico del vector reivindicado es impartido por la molécula de ácido nucleico como se define en la reivindicación 1. En consecuencia, las reivindicaciones incluyen suficientes características estructurales para permitir a una persona medianamente versada en la materia reproducir el vector reivindicado. Adicionalmente, esto deja claro que los inventores estaban en posesión del alcance total de las reivindicaciones en el momento en el que se presentó la solicitud.

- El Examinador objeta la reivindicación 12 porque define un sistema de baculovirus en términos de su finalidad, lo que se considera un resultado a alcanzar.

Dado que la reivindicación 12 no ha sido incluida en esta oportunidad, la objeción indicada se ve superada.

- El Examinador objeta las reivindicaciones 2, 4 y 5 porque incluyen el término “*opcionalmente*”.

Las reivindicaciones según se presentan en esta oportunidad, han sido modificadas a fin de no incluir el término “*opcionalmente*”, permitiendo superar esta objeción.

Por lo tanto, se considera que la presente solicitud cumple con las disposiciones del Artículo 30 de la Decisión 486.

6. Sobre la Descripción

El Examinador considera que la descripción no divulga la invención de manera suficientemente clara y completa, de modo que un experto en la materia pueda reproducirla, incumpliendo así lo dispuesto en el artículo 28 de la Decisión 486 de la Comisión de la Comunidad Andina. El Examinador señala las modalidades específicas divulgadas en la descripción.

Ahora bien, en este sentido, es importante mencionar que el Solicitante tiene la facultad de reivindicar una generalización razonable de los ejemplos encontrados en la Descripción. Esto no quiere decir que las reivindicaciones deban estar limitadas únicamente a los ejemplos, según solicita el Examinador, toda vez que esto permitiría que el alcance protegido pueda ser fácilmente vulnerado sin cometer una infracción del derecho. Tal como señala la Guía para el Examen de Solicitudes de Patente de Invención y Modelo de Utilidad (ver Sección 4.4.2):

- *“La invención puede estar suficientemente descrita si se aporta:
Un sólo ejemplo o un número razonable de ejemplos, modos de realización alternativos o variaciones que habilitan a la persona del oficio normalmente versada en la materia para que, junto con sus conocimientos generales, pueda poner en práctica la invención en toda el área reivindicada y no sólo algunas especies particulares reivindicadas, sin que requiera de un esfuerzo inventivo. En tal caso, la presentación de ejemplos relativos a todas las especies particulares de la invención o a cada alternativa reivindicada no será condición necesaria para la suficiencia, siempre y cuando dichas especies se mencionen en la descripción”.*
(énfasis adicionado)

Las construcciones de ejemplo citadas por el Examinador proporcionan una prueba de concepto para los géneros de moléculas de ácido nucleico mencionados en las reivindicaciones de la presente solicitud. Junto con la descripción en su conjunto, y la habilidad de un experto medianamente versado en terapia génica, estas construcciones de ejemplo proporcionan un soporte claro y suficiente para el alcance actual de las reivindicaciones.

En consecuencia, la solicitud cumple con los requisitos establecidos en el Artículo 28 de la Decisión 486.

7. Sobre la Unidad de Invención

El Examinador considera que la presente solicitud no cumple con el requisito de unidad de invención, por cuanto el concepto común inventivo se encuentra divulgado en el documento WO2019032898 (D1). De esta manera, se determinan 8 grupos inventivos diferentes.

El Solicitante discrepa respetuosamente respecto a esta opinión. Lo anterior, por cuanto el documento D1 fue publicado después de la fecha de prioridad de la presente solicitud. La solicitud prioritaria de la presente solicitud y D1 tienen la misma fecha de presentación: **9 de agosto de 2018**.

La presente solicitud tiene como fecha de prioridad el **9 de agosto de 2018**, y **no 9 de agosto de 2019**, como afirma el Examinador. Aunque la fecha de prioridad de D1 es anterior a la fecha de prioridad de la solicitud de patente objeto de examen, la materia en la que se basa el Examinador no se describía en el documento de prioridad de D1 (US 62/543,297, presentada el 9 de agosto de 2017 (adjunta a la presente)). Por ejemplo, ninguno de los elementos SEQ ID NO: 179, SEQ ID NO: 182 y las características de las reivindicaciones anteriores 1-17 se divulgan D1. Por lo tanto, estos elementos no formaban parte del estado de la técnica antes de la fecha de prioridad de la presente solicitud.

De esta manera, D1 no puede ser considerado un documento válido para afectar la unidad de invención de la presente solicitud.

En consecuencia, la presente solicitud cumple con el requisito de unidad de invención según se establece en el Artículo 25 de la Decisión 486.

8. Sobre la Novedad

El Examinador afirma que D1 divulga moléculas de ácido nucleico que comprenden una primera repetición invertida (ITR), una segunda ITR y un casete genético que codifica un miARN y/o una proteína terapéutica, en donde la proteína terapéutica comprende un factor de coagulación tipo polipéptido FVIII, un polipéptido FIX o un fragmento del mismo (página 1, resumen).

En respuesta a esta objeción, se desea indicar que las reivindicaciones modificadas en esta oportunidad mencionan características técnicas que no son anticipadas por D1. Específicamente, D1 no divulga una molécula de ácido nucleico que comprende un casete genético que comprende una secuencia de polinucleótidos heteróloga que codifica: (A) un factor de crecimiento, una hormona, una citoquina, o un anticuerpo o fragmento funcional del mismo; y/o (B) un gen seleccionado de distrofina ligada a X, MTM1 (miotubularina), tirosina hidroxilasa, AADC, ciclohidrolasa, SMN1, FXN (frataxina), GUCY2D, RS1, CFH, HTRA, ARMS, CFB/CC2, CNGA/CNGB, Prf65, ARSA, PSAP, IDUA (MPS I), IDS (MPS II), PAH, GAA (alfa-glucosidasa ácida), y/o (C) un miARN que regula por disminución la expresión de un gen diana seleccionado entre SOD1, HTT, RHO, y cualquier combinación de los mismos; flanqueado por una primera ITR y una segunda ITR que comprenden una secuencia de nucleótidos expuesta en SEQ ID NO: 180, 181, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187 o 188.

Por lo tanto, D1 no divulga una molécula de ácido nucleico que contenga todos y cada uno de los elementos mencionados en las reivindicaciones modificadas.

Consecuentemente, el pliego de reivindicaciones es novedoso a la luz de D1, de acuerdo con lo indicado en el Artículo 16 de la Decisión 486.

9. Conclusión

En vista de las modificaciones introducidas en esta oportunidad y los argumentos que se presentan, es posible establecer que las reivindicaciones cumplen con los requerimientos de la Decisión 486.

10. Anexos

- Nuevo pliego reivindicatorio conformado por dieciocho (18) reivindicaciones.
- Copia del recibo por concepto de modificaciones a las reivindicaciones.
- Copia de la prioridad US 62/543,297

Señora Directora,



Margarita Castellanos Abondano

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**Superintendencia de
Industria y Comercio**

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NIT: 800.176.089-2

COMPROBANTE DE RECAUDO SISTEMA SIPI

Radicado: NC2021/0002965

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Fecha: 29/01/2025

CASTELLANOS & CO

NI: 8.001.746.411

Pago PSE No: 1067350

CUS: 1226205021

Patente PCT

MOLÉCULAS DE ÁCIDO NUCLEICO Y SUS USOS PARA LA TERAPIA GÉNICA NO VIRAL

Detalle del pago

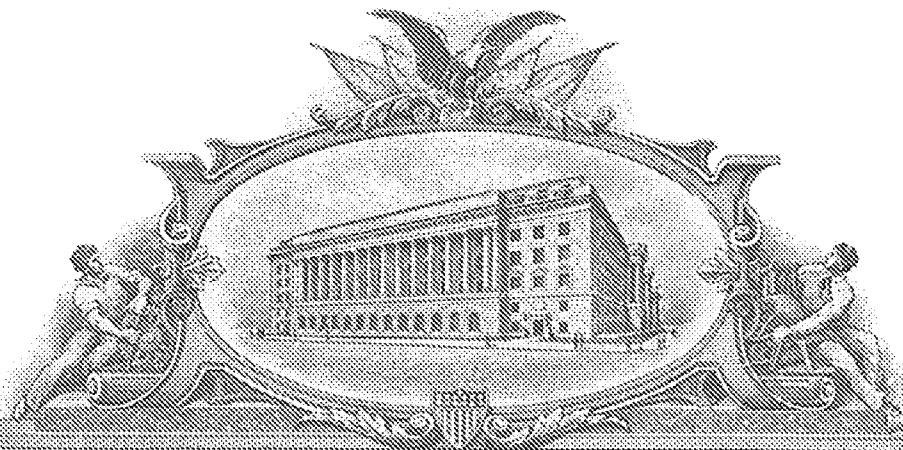
Id.	Rentístico	Concepto y Servicio	Cant.	Val. Unit.	Subtotal
1	50005-01-03	Modificaciones / Correcciones al registro Patente PCT (DESCUENTO INTERNET)	1	\$ 226,000	\$ 226,000
TOTAL					\$ 226,000

DOCUMENT MADE AVAILABLE UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

International application number:	PCT/US2018/046110
International filing date:	09 August 2018 (09.08.2018)
Document type:	Certified copy of priority document
Document details:	Country/Office: US
	Number: 62/543,297
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Date of receipt at the International Bureau:	31 August 2018 (31.08.2018)

Remark: Priority document submitted or transmitted to the International Bureau in compliance with Rule 17.1(a),(b) or (b-bis)

946230



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TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

August 30, 2018

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT ANNEXED HERETO IS A TRUE COPY FROM THE RECORDS OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE OF THOSE PAPERS OF THE BELOW IDENTIFIED PATENT APPLICATION THAT MET THE REQUIREMENTS TO BE GRANTED A FILING DATE.

APPLICATION NUMBER: 62/543,297

FILING DATE: *August 09, 2017*

RELATED PCT APPLICATION NUMBER: *PCT/US18/46110*

THE COUNTRY CODE AND NUMBER OF YOUR PRIORITY APPLICATION, TO BE USED FOR FILING ABROAD UNDER THE PARIS CONVENTION, IS *US62/543,297*



Certified by

Michelle K. Lee

Under Secretary of Commerce
for Intellectual Property
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Application Number To Be Assigned

Filing Date Herewith

First Named Inventor Alexey SEREGIN

Title Nucleic Acid Molecules and Uses thereof

Art Unit To Be Assigned

Examiner Name To Be Assigned

Attorney Docket Number 4159.4930000/C-K/BMD

SIGNATURE of Applicant or Patent Practitioner

Signature  Date (Optional) August 9, 2017

Name Ji-Eun Kim Registration Number 68,504

Title (if Applicant is a juristic entity) Attorney for Applicant

Applicant Name (if Applicant is a juristic entity) Bioverativ Therapeutics Inc.

NOTE: This form must be signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.33. See 37 CFR 1.4(d) for signature requirements and certifications. If more than one applicant, use multiple forms.

☒ *Total of 1 forms are submitted.

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I hereby revoke all previous powers of attorney given in the application identified in either the attached transmittal letter or the boxes below.

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I am the Applicant (if the Applicant is a juristic entity, list the Applicant name in the box):

Bioverativ Therapeutics Inc.

- ☐ Inventor or Joint Inventor (title not required below)
- ☐ Legal Representative of a Deceased or Legally Incapacitated Inventor (title not required below)
- ☒ Assignee or Person to Whom the Inventor is Under an Obligation to Assign (provide signer's title if applicant is a juristic entity)
- ☐ Person Who Otherwise Shows Sufficient Proprietary Interest (e.g., a petition under 37 CFR 1.46(b)(2) was granted in the application or is concurrently being filed with this document) (provide signer's title if applicant is a juristic entity)

SIGNATURE of Applicant for Patent

The undersigned (whose title is supplied below) is authorized to act on behalf of the applicant (e.g., where the applicant is a juristic entity).

Signature

Date (Optional)

Name

Title

Assistant Secretary, Bioverativ Therapeutics Inc.

NOTE: Signature - This form must be signed by the applicant in accordance with 37 CFR 1.33. See 37 CFR 1.4 for signature requirements and certifications. If more than one applicant, use multiple forms.

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Provisional Application for Patent Cover Sheet

This is a request for filing a PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT under 37 CFR 1.53(c)

Inventor(s)

Inventor 1

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Given Name	Middle Name	Family Name	City	State	Country i
Alexey		SEREGIN	Westford	MA	US

Inventor 2

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Given Name	Middle Name	Family Name	City	State	Country i
Tongyao		LIU	Lexington	MA	US

Inventor 3

[Remove](#)

Given Name	Middle Name	Family Name	City	State	Country i
Susannah		PATARROYO-WH	Waltham	MA	US

Inventor 4

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Given Name	Middle Name	Family Name	City	State	Country i
Douglas		DRAGER	Waltham	MA	US

Inventor 5

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Robert	T.	PETERS	Needham	MA	US

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Title of Invention Nucleic Acid Molecules and Uses thereof

Attorney Docket Number (if applicable) 4159.4930000/C-K/BMD

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Document Description: Provisional Cover Sheet (SB16)

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The invention was made by an agency of the United States Government or under a contract with an agency of the United States Government.

● No.

Yes, the invention was made by an agency of the United States Government. The U.S. Government agency name is:

Yes, the invention was under a contract with an agency of the United States Government. The name of the U.S. Government agency and Government contract number are:

Entity Status**Applicant asserts small entity status under 37 CFR 1.27 or applicant certifies micro entity status under 37 CFR 1.29**

- ☒ Applicant asserts small entity status under 37 CFR 1.27
- ☐ Applicant certifies micro entity status under 37 CFR 1.29. Applicant must attach form PTO/SB/15A or B or equivalent.
- ☐ No

Warning

Petitioner/applicant is cautioned to avoid submitting personal information in documents filed in a patent application that may contribute to identity theft. Personal information such as social security numbers, bank account numbers, or credit card numbers (other than a check or credit card authorization form PTO-2038 submitted for payment purposes) is never required by the USPTO to support a petition or an application. If this type of personal information is included in documents submitted to the USPTO, petitioners/applicants should consider redacting such personal information from the documents before submitting them to USPTO. Petitioner/applicant is advised that the record of a patent application is available to the public after publication of the application (unless a non-publication request in compliance with 37 CFR 1.213(a) is made in the application) or issuance of a patent. Furthermore, the record from an abandoned application may also be available to the public if the application is referenced in a published application or an issued patent (see 37 CFR 1.14). Checks and credit card authorization forms PTO-2038 submitted for payment purposes are not retained in the application file and therefore are not publicly available.

Signature

Please see 37 CFR 1.4(d) for the form of the signature.

Signature	Ji-Eun Kim/		Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2017-08-09	
First Name	Ji-Eun	Last Name	Kim	Registration Number (If appropriate)	68504

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.51. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 8 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **This form can only be used when in conjunction with EFS-Web. If this form is mailed to the USPTO, it may cause delays in handling the provisional application.**

Privacy Act Statement

The Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579) requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that : (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

1. The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether disclosure of these records is required by the Freedom of Information Act.
2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspection or an issued patent.
9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76		Attorney Docket Number	4159.4930000/C-K/BMD
		Application Number	
Title of Invention	Nucleic Acid Molecules and Uses thereof		
The application data sheet is part of the provisional or nonprovisional application for which it is being submitted. The following form contains the bibliographic data arranged in a format specified by the United States Patent and Trademark Office as outlined in 37 CFR 1.76. This document may be completed electronically and submitted to the Office in electronic format using the Electronic Filing System (EFS) or the document may be printed and included in a paper filed application.			

Secrecy Order 37 CFR 5.2:

☐ Portions or all of the application associated with this Application Data Sheet may fall under a Secrecy Order pursuant to 37 CFR 5.2 (Paper filers only. Applications that fall under Secrecy Order may not be filed electronically.)

Inventor Information:

Inventor 1		Remove	
Legal Name			
Prefix	Given Name	Middle Name	Family Name
	Alexey		SEREGIN
Residence Information (Select One) • US Residency Non US Residency Active US Military Service			
City	Westford	State/Province	MA
Country of Residence		US	
Mailing Address of Inventor:			
Address 1		15 Commodore Way	
Address 2			
City	Westford	State/Province	MA
Postal Code	01886	Country i	US
Inventor 2		Remove	
Legal Name			
Prefix	Given Name	Middle Name	Family Name
	Tongyao		LIU
Residence Information (Select One) • US Residency Non US Residency Active US Military Service			
City	Lexington	State/Province	MA
Country of Residence		US	
Mailing Address of Inventor:			
Address 1		53 Buckman Drive	
Address 2			
City	Lexington	State/Province	MA
Postal Code	02421	Country i	US
Inventor 3		Remove	
Legal Name			
Prefix	Given Name	Middle Name	Family Name
	Susannah		PATARROYO-WHITE
Residence Information (Select One) • US Residency Non US Residency Active US Military Service			

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Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76		Attorney Docket Number	4159.4930000/C-K/BMD
		Application Number	
Title of Invention	Nucleic Acid Molecules and Uses thereof		

City	Waltham	State/Province	MA	Country of Residence ⁱ	US
------	---------	----------------	----	-----------------------------------	----

Mailing Address of Inventor:

Address 1	c/o Bioverativ Therapeutics Inc.				
Address 2	225 Second Avenue				
City	Waltham	State/Province	MA		
Postal Code	02451	Country ⁱ	US		
Inventor	4				Remove

Legal Name

Prefix	Given Name	Middle Name	Family Name	Suffix
	Douglas		DRAGER	

Residence Information (Select One) ☒ US Residency ☐ Non US Residency ☐ Active US Military Service

City	Waltham	State/Province	MA	Country of Residence ⁱ	US
------	---------	----------------	----	-----------------------------------	----

Mailing Address of Inventor:

Address 1	c/o Bioverativ Therapeutics Inc.				
Address 2	225 Second Avenue				
City	Waltham	State/Province	MA		
Postal Code	02451	Country ⁱ	US		
Inventor	5				Remove

Legal Name

Prefix	Given Name	Middle Name	Family Name	Suffix
	Robert	T.	PETERS	

Residence Information (Select One) ☒ US Residency ☐ Non US Residency ☐ Active US Military Service

City	Needham	State/Province	MA	Country of Residence ⁱ	US
------	---------	----------------	----	-----------------------------------	----

Mailing Address of Inventor:

Address 1	53 Parkinson Street				
Address 2					
City	Needham	State/Province	MA		
Postal Code	02492	Country ⁱ	US		

All Inventors Must Be Listed - Additional Inventor Information blocks may be generated within this form by selecting the **Add** button.**Correspondence Information:**

Enter either Customer Number or complete the Correspondence Information section below. For further information see 37 CFR 1.33(a).	
☐ An Address is being provided for the correspondence Information of this application.	

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76		Attorney Docket Number	4159.4930000/C-K/BMD	
		Application Number		
Title of Invention	Nucleic Acid Molecules and Uses thereof			
Customer Number	146235			
Email Address			Add Email	Remove Email

Application Information:

Title of the Invention	Nucleic Acid Molecules and Uses thereof			
Attorney Docket Number	4159.4930000/C-K/BMD	Small Entity Status Claimed ☒		
Application Type	Provisional v			
Subject Matter	Utility v			
Total Number of Drawing Sheets (if any)	2	Suggested Figure for Publication (if any) v		

Filing By Reference:

Only complete this section when filing an application by reference under 35 U.S.C. 111(c) and 37 CFR 1.57(a). Do not complete this section if application papers including a specification and any drawings are being filed. Any domestic benefit or foreign priority information must be provided in the appropriate section(s) below (i.e., "Domestic Benefit/National Stage Information" and "Foreign Priority Information").

For the purposes of a filing date under 37 CFR 1.53(b), the description and any drawings of the present application are replaced by this reference to the previously filed application, subject to conditions and requirements of 37 CFR 1.57(a).

Application number of the previously filed application	Filing date (YYYY-MM-DD)	Intellectual Property Authority or Country

Publication Information:

☐ Request Early Publication (Fee required at time of Request 37 CFR 1.219)
☐ Request Not to Publish. I hereby request that the attached application not be published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b) and certify that the invention disclosed in the attached application has not and will not be the subject of an application filed in another country, or under a multilateral international agreement, that requires publication at eighteen months after filing.

Representative Information:

Representative information should be provided for all practitioners having a power of attorney in the application. Providing this information in the Application Data Sheet does not constitute a power of attorney in the application (see 37 CFR 1.32). Either enter Customer Number or complete the Representative Name section below. If both sections are completed the customer Number will be used for the Representative Information during processing.			
Please Select One:	☒ Customer Number	☐ US Patent Practitioner	☐ Limited Recognition (37 CFR 11.9)
Customer Number	146235		

Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76		Attorney Docket Number	4159.4930000/C-K/BMD
		Application Number	
Title of Invention	Nucleic Acid Molecules and Uses thereof		

Domestic Benefit/National Stage Information:

This section allows for the applicant to either claim benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e), 120, 121, 365(c), or 386(c) or indicate National Stage entry from a PCT application. Providing benefit claim information in the Application Data Sheet constitutes the specific reference required by 35 U.S.C. 119(e) or 120, and 37 CFR 1.78.

When referring to the current application, please leave the "Application Number" field blank.

Prior Application Status		Remove	
Application Number	Continuity Type	Prior Application Number	Filing or 371(c) Date (YYYY-MM-DD)
Additional Domestic Benefit/National Stage Data may be generated within this form by selecting the Add button.			Add

Foreign Priority Information:

This section allows for the applicant to claim priority to a foreign application. Providing this information in the application data sheet constitutes the claim for priority as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b) and 37 CFR 1.55. When priority is claimed to a foreign application that is eligible for retrieval under the priority document exchange program (PDX)ⁱ the information will be used by the Office to automatically attempt retrieval pursuant to 37 CFR 1.55(i)(1) and (2). Under the PDX program, applicant bears the ultimate responsibility for ensuring that a copy of the foreign application is received by the Office from the participating foreign intellectual property office, or a certified copy of the foreign priority application is filed, within the time period specified in 37 CFR 1.55(g)(1).

Application Number	Country ⁱ	Filing Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	Remove
			Access Code ⁱ (if applicable)
Additional Foreign Priority Data may be generated within this form by selecting the Add button.			Add

Statement under 37 CFR 1.55 or 1.78 for AIA (First Inventor to File) Transition Applications

This application (1) claims priority to or the benefit of an application filed before March 16, 2013 and (2) also contains, or contained at any time, a claim to a claimed invention that has an effective filing date on or after March 16, 2013. ☐ NOTE: By providing this statement under 37 CFR 1.55 or 1.78, this application, with a filing date on or after March 16, 2013, will be examined under the first inventor to file provisions of the AIA.
--

Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76		Attorney Docket Number	4159.4930000/C-K/BMD
		Application Number	
Title of Invention	Nucleic Acid Molecules and Uses thereof		

Authorization or Opt-Out of Authorization to Permit Access:

When this Application Data Sheet is properly signed and filed with the application, applicant has provided written authority to permit a participating foreign intellectual property (IP) office access to the instant application-as-filed (see paragraph A in subsection 1 below) and the European Patent Office (EPO) access to any search results from the instant application (see paragraph B in subsection 1 below).

Should applicant choose not to provide an authorization identified in subsection 1 below, applicant **must opt-out** of the authorization by checking the corresponding box A or B or both in subsection 2 below.

NOTE: This section of the Application Data Sheet is **ONLY** reviewed and processed with the **INITIAL** filing of an application. After the initial filing of an application, an Application Data Sheet cannot be used to provide or rescind authorization for access by a foreign IP office(s). Instead, Form PTO/SB/39 or PTO/SB/69 must be used as appropriate.

1. Authorization to Permit Access by a Foreign Intellectual Property Office(s)

A. Priority Document Exchange (PDX) - Unless box A in subsection 2 (opt-out of authorization) is checked, the undersigned hereby **grants the USPTO authority** to provide the European Patent Office (EPO), the Japan Patent Office (JPO), the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO), the State Intellectual Property Office of the People's Republic of China (SIPO), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), and any other foreign intellectual property office participating with the USPTO in a bilateral or multilateral priority document exchange agreement in which a foreign application claiming priority to the instant patent application is filed, access to: (1) the instant patent application-as-filed and its related bibliographic data, (2) any foreign or domestic application to which priority or benefit is claimed by the instant application and its related bibliographic data, and (3) the date of filing of this Authorization. See 37 CFR 1.14(h)(1).

B. Search Results from U.S. Application to EPO - Unless box B in subsection 2 (opt-out of authorization) is checked, the undersigned hereby **grants the USPTO authority** to provide the EPO access to the bibliographic data and search results from the instant patent application when a European patent application claiming priority to the instant patent application is filed. See 37 CFR 1.14(h)(2).

The applicant is reminded that the EPO's Rule 141(1) EPC (European Patent Convention) requires applicants to submit a copy of search results from the instant application without delay in a European patent application that claims priority to the instant application.

2. Opt-Out of Authorizations to Permit Access by a Foreign Intellectual Property Office(s)

☐ A. Applicant **DOES NOT** authorize the USPTO to permit a participating foreign IP office access to the instant application-as-filed. If this box is checked, the USPTO will not be providing a participating foreign IP office with any documents and information identified in subsection 1A above.

☐ B. Applicant **DOES NOT** authorize the USPTO to transmit to the EPO any search results from the instant patent application. If this box is checked, the USPTO will not be providing the EPO with search results from the instant application.

NOTE: Once the application has published or is otherwise publicly available, the USPTO may provide access to the application in accordance with 37 CFR 1.14.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76		Attorney Docket Number	4159.4930000/C-K/BMD
		Application Number	
Title of Invention	Nucleic Acid Molecules and Uses thereof		

Applicant Information:

Providing assignment information in this section does not substitute for compliance with any requirement of part 3 of Title 37 of CFR to have an assignment recorded by the Office.

Applicant	1	Remove
If the applicant is the inventor (or the remaining joint inventor or inventors under 37 CFR 1.45), this section should not be completed. The information to be provided in this section is the name and address of the legal representative who is the applicant under 37 CFR 1.43; or the name and address of the assignee, person to whom the inventor is under an obligation to assign the invention, or person who otherwise shows sufficient proprietary interest in the matter who is the applicant under 37 CFR 1.46. If the applicant is an applicant under 37 CFR 1.46 (assignee, person to whom the inventor is obligated to assign, or person who otherwise shows sufficient proprietary interest) together with one or more joint inventors, then the joint inventor or inventors who are also the applicant should be identified in this section. Clear		
Assignee	Legal Representative under 35 U.S.C. 117	Joint Inventor
☒ Person to whom the inventor is obligated to assign.		☐ Person who shows sufficient proprietary interest
If applicant is the legal representative, indicate the authority to file the patent application, the inventor is:		
Name of the Deceased or Legally Incapacitated Inventor:		
If the Applicant is an Organization check here. ☒		
Organization Name	BIOVERATIV THERAPEUTICS INC.	
Mailing Address Information For Applicant:		
Address 1	225 Second Avenue	
Address 2		
City	Waltham	State/Province MA
Country	US	Postal Code 02451
Phone Number		Fax Number
Email Address		
Additional Applicant Data may be generated within this form by selecting the Add button. Add		

Assignee Information including Non-Applicant Assignee Information:

Providing assignment information in this section does not substitute for compliance with any requirement of part 3 of Title 37 of CFR to have an assignment recorded by the Office.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76		Attorney Docket Number	4159.4930000/C-K/BMD
		Application Number	
Title of Invention	Nucleic Acid Molecules and Uses thereof		

Assignee	1
-----------------	---

Complete this section if assignee information, including non-applicant assignee information, is desired to be included on the patent application publication. An assignee-applicant identified in the "Applicant Information" section will appear on the patent application publication as an applicant. For an assignee-applicant, complete this section only if identification as an assignee is also desired on the patent application publication.

Remove

If the Assignee or Non-Applicant Assignee is an Organization check here. ☐

Prefix	Given Name	Middle Name	Family Name	Suffix

Mailing Address Information For Assignee including Non-Applicant Assignee:

Address 1				
Address 2				
City		State/Province		
Country i		Postal Code		
Phone Number		Fax Number		
Email Address				

Additional Assignee or Non-Applicant Assignee Data may be generated within this form by selecting the Add button.

Add

Signature:

Remove

NOTE: This Application Data Sheet must be signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.33(b). However, if this Application Data Sheet is submitted with the **INITIAL** filing of the application and either box A or B is not checked in subsection 2 of the "Authorization or Opt-Out of Authorization to Permit Access" section, then this form must also be signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.14(c).

This Application Data Sheet **must** be signed by a patent practitioner if one or more of the applicants is a **juristic entity** (e.g., corporation or association). If the applicant is two or more joint inventors, this form must be signed by a patent practitioner, **all** joint inventors who are the applicant, or one or more joint inventor-applicants who have been given power of attorney (e.g., see USPTO Form PTO/AIA/81) on behalf of **all** joint inventor-applicants.

See 37 CFR 1.4(d) for the manner of making signatures and certifications.

Signature	/Ji-Eun Kim/		Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2017-08-09
First Name	Ji-Eun	Last Name	Kim	Registration Number
				68504

Additional Signature may be generated within this form by selecting the Add button.

Add

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.76		Attorney Docket Number	4159.4930000/C-K/BMD
		Application Number	
Title of Invention	Nucleic Acid Molecules and Uses thereof		

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Privacy Act Statement

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1. The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether the Freedom of Information Act requires disclosure of these records.
2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspections or an issued patent.
9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

ABSTRACT

The present disclosure provides nucleic acid molecules comprising a first inverted terminal repeat (ITR), a second ITR, and a genetic cassette encoding a therapeutic protein. In certain embodiments, the therapeutic protein comprises a clotting factor, *e.g.*, a FVIII polypeptide, a FIX polypeptide, or a fragment thereof. In some embodiments, the first ITR and/or the second ITR is an ITR of a non-adenoviral virus (AAV). The present disclosure also provides methods of treating bleeding disorders such as hemophilia comprising administering to the subject the nucleic acid molecule or a polypeptide encoded thereby.

#5510070

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A nucleic acid molecule comprising a first inverted terminal repeat (ITR), a second ITR, and a genetic cassette encoding a therapeutic protein;
wherein the first ITR and/or the second ITR are an ITR of a non-adeno-associated virus (non-AAV), wherein the genetic cassette is positioned between the first ITR and the second ITR, and
wherein the therapeutic protein comprises a clotting factor.
2. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the non-AAV is selected from the group consisting of a member of the viral family *Parvoviridae*.
3. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 or 2, wherein the first ITR is an ITR of a non-AAV and the second ITR is an ITR of an adeno-associated virus (AAV) or wherein the first ITR is an ITR of an AAV and the second ITR is an ITR of a non-AAV.
4. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 or 2, wherein the first ITR and the second ITR are ITRs of a non-AAV.
5. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1, 2, and 4, wherein the first ITR and the second ITR are identical.
6. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the first ITR and/or the second ITR comprise a palindromic sequence that is uninterrupted.
7. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the first ITR and/or the second ITR comprise a palindromic sequence that is interrupted.
8. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein the non-AAV is a member of the viral family *Parvoviridae*.
9. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 8, wherein the member of the viral family *Parvoviridae* is selected from the group consisting of *Bocavirus*, *Dependovirus*, *Erythrovirus*, *Amdovirus*, *Parvovirus*, *Densovirus*, *Iteravirus*, *Contravirus*, *Aveparvovirus*, *Copiparvovirus*, *Protoparvovirus*, *Tetraparvovirus*, *Ambidensovirus*, *Brevidensovirus*, *Hepandensovirus*, and *Penstyldensovirus*.

10. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 8, wherein the member of the viral family *Parvoviridae* is erythrovirus parvovirus B19 (human virus).
11. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 8, wherein the member of the viral family *Parvoviridae* is a Muscovy duck parvovirus (MDPV) strain.
12. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 11, wherein the MDPV strain is attenuated FZ91-30.
13. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 11, wherein the MDPV strain is pathogenic YY.
14. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 9, wherein the *Dependoparvovirus* is a *Dependovirus* Goose parvovirus (GPV) strain.
15. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 14, wherein the GPV strain is attenuated 82-0321V.
16. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 14, wherein the GPV strain is pathogenic B.
17. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 8, wherein the member of the viral family *Parvoviridae* is selected from the group consisting of porcine parvovirus (U44978), mice minute virus (U34256), canine parvovirus (M19296), and mink enteritis virus (D00765).
18. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1 to 17, which further comprises a promoter.
19. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 18, wherein the promoter is a tissue-specific promoter.
20. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 18 or 19, wherein the promoter drives expression of the therapeutic protein in hepatocytes, endothelial cells, muscle cells, sinusoidal cells, or any combination thereof.
21. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 18 or 19, wherein the promoter drives expression of the therapeutic protein in hepatocytes.
22. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 18 to 21, wherein the promoter is positioned 5' to the nucleic acid sequence encoding the clotting factor.

23. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 18 to 22, wherein the promoter is selected from the group consisting of a mouse thyretin promoter (mTTR), an endogenous human factor VIII promoter (F8), a human alpha-1-antitrypsin promoter (hAAT), a human albumin minimal promoter, a mouse albumin promoter, a tristetraproline (TTP) promoter, a CAG promoter, a CAG promoter, a cytomegalovirus (CMV) promoter, α 1-antitrypsin (AAT), muscle creatine kinase (MCK), myosin heavy chain alpha (α MHC), myoglobin (MB), desmin (DES), SPc5-12, 2R5Sc5-12, dMCK, tMCK, and a phosphoglycerate kinase (PGK) promoter.
24. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 18 to 23, wherein the promoter comprises a TTP promoter.
25. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1 to 24, wherein the nucleotide sequence further comprises an intronic sequence.
26. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 25, wherein the intronic sequence is positioned 5' to the nucleic acid sequence encoding the clotting factor.
27. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 25 or 26, wherein the intronic sequence is positioned 3' to the promoter.
28. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 25 to 27, wherein the intronic sequence comprises a synthetic intronic sequence.
29. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 25 to 28, wherein the intronic sequence comprises SEQ ID NO: 115.
30. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1 to 29, wherein the genetic cassette further comprises a post-transcriptional regulatory element.
31. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 30, wherein the post-transcriptional regulatory element is positioned 3' to the nucleic acid sequence encoding the clotting factor.
32. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 30 or 31, wherein the post-transcriptional regulatory element comprises a mutated woodchuck hepatitis virus post-transcriptional regulatory element (WPRE), a microRNA binding site, a DNA nuclear targeting sequence, or any combination thereof.

33. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 32, wherein the microRNA binding site comprises a binding site to miR142-3p.
34. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1 to 33, wherein the genetic cassette further comprises a 3'UTR poly(A) tail sequence.
35. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 34, wherein the 3'UTR poly(A) tail sequence is selected from the group consisting of bGH poly(A), actin poly(A), hemoglobin poly(A), and any combination thereof.
36. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 34 or 35, wherein the 3'UTR poly(A) tail sequence comprises bGH poly(A).
37. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1 to 36, wherein the genetic cassette further comprises an enhancer sequence.
38. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 37, wherein the enhancer sequence is positioned between the first ITR and the second ITR.
39. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1 to 38, wherein the nucleic acid molecule comprises in this order: the first ITR, the genetic cassette, and the second ITR; wherein the genetic cassette comprises a tissue-specific promoter sequence, an intronic sequence, the nucleic acid sequence encoding the clotting factor, a post-transcriptional regulatory element, and a 3'UTR poly(A) tail sequence.
40. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 39, wherein the genetic cassette comprises in this order: a tissue-specific promoter sequence, an intronic sequence, the nucleic acid sequence encoding the FVIII polypeptide, a post-transcriptional regulatory element, and a 3'UTR poly(A) tail sequence.
41. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 38 or 39, wherein:
- (a) the first ITR is an ITR of a non-AAV family member of *Parvoviridae*;
 - (b) the tissue specific promoter sequence comprises a TTT promoter;
 - (c) the intron is a synthetic intron;
 - (d) the nucleotide sequence encoding a clotting factor;
 - (e) the post-transcriptional regulatory element comprises WPRE;

- (f) the 3'UTR poly(A) tail sequence comprises bGHpA; and
 - (g) the second ITR is an ITR of a non-AAV family member of *Parvoviridae*.
42. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1 to 41, wherein the genetic cassette comprises a single stranded nucleic acid.
43. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1 to 41, wherein the genetic cassette comprises a double stranded nucleic acid.
44. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1 to 43, wherein the clotting factor is expressed by hepatocytes, endothelial cells, muscle cells, sinusoidal cells, or any combination thereof.
45. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1 to 44, wherein the clotting factor comprises factor I (FI), factor II (FII), factor III (FIII), factor IV (FVI), factor V (FV), factor VI (FVI), factor VII (FVII), factor VIII (FVIII), factor IX (FIX), factor X (FX), factor XI (FXI), factor XII (FXII), factor XIII (FVIII), Von Willebrand factor (VWF), prekallikrein, high-molecular weight kininogen, fibronectin, antithrombin III, heparin cofactor II, protein C, protein S, protein Z, Protein Z-related protease inhibitor (ZPI), plasminogen, alpha 2-antiplasmin, tissue plasminogen activator(tPA), urokinase, plasminogen activator inhibitor-1 (PAI-1), plasminogen activator inhibitor-2 (PAI2), or any combination thereof.
46. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1 to 45, wherein the clotting factor is FVIII.
47. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 46, wherein the FVIII comprises full-length mature FVIII.
48. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 47, wherein the FVIII comprises an amino acid sequence at least about 70%, at least about 75%, at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 90%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, at least about 99%, or 100% identical to an amino acid sequence having SEQ ID NO: 106.
49. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 46, wherein the FVIII comprises A1 domain, A2 domain, A3 domain, C1 domain, C2 domain, and a partial or no B domain.

50. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 49, wherein the FVIII comprises an amino acid sequence at least about 70%, at least about 75%, at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 90%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, at least about 99%, or 100% identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:109.

51. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1 to 50, wherein the clotting factor comprises a heterologous moiety.

52. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 51, wherein the heterologous moiety is selected from the group consisting of albumin or a fragment thereof, an immunoglobulin Fc region, the C-terminal peptide (CTP) of the β subunit of human chorionic gonadotropin, a PAS sequence, a HAP sequence, a transferrin or a fragment thereof, an albumin-binding moiety, a derivative thereof, or any combination thereof.

53. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 51 or 52, wherein the heterologous moiety is linked to the N-terminus or the C-terminus of the FVIII or inserted between two amino acids in the FVIII.

54. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 53, wherein the heterologous moiety is inserted between two amino acids at one or more insertion site selected from the insertion sites listed in Table 4.

55. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 45 to 54, wherein the FVIII further comprises A1 domain, A2 domain, C1 domain, C2 domain, an optional B domain, and a heterologous moiety, wherein the heterologous moiety is inserted immediately downstream of amino acid 745 corresponding to mature FVIII (SEQ ID NO:106).

56. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 53 to 55, wherein the FVIII further comprises an FcRn binding partner.

57. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 56, wherein the FcRn binding partner comprises an Fc region of an immunoglobulin constant domain.

58. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 45 to 57, wherein the nucleic acid sequence encoding the FVIII is codon optimized.

59. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 45 to 58, wherein the nucleic acid sequence encoding the FVIII is codon optimized for expression in a human.
60. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 59, wherein the nucleic acid sequence encoding the FVIII comprises a nucleotide sequence at least about 60%, at least about 65%, at least about 70%, at least about 75%, at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 90%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, at least about 99%, or about 100% identical to a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 107.
61. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 59, wherein the nucleic acid sequence encoding the FVIII comprises a nucleotide sequence at least about 60%, at least about 65%, at least about 70%, at least about 75%, at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 90%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, at least about 99%, or about 100% identical to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 71.
62. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1 to 61, wherein the nucleic acid molecule is formulated with a delivery agent.
63. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 62, wherein the delivery agent comprises a lipid nanoparticle.
64. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 63, wherein the delivery agent is selected from the group consisting of liposomes, non-lipid polymeric molecules, endosomes, and any combination thereof.
65. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1 to 64, wherein the nucleic acid molecule is formulated for intravenous, transdermal, intradermal, subcutaneous, pulmonary, or oral delivery, or any combination thereof.
66. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 65, wherein the nucleic acid molecule is formulated for intravenous delivery.
67. A vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1 to 66.
68. A polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1 to 66.
69. A host cell comprising the nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1 to 66.

70. A pharmaceutical composition comprising (a) the nucleic acid of any one of claims 1 to 66, the vector of claim 67, the polypeptide of claim 68, or the host cell of claim 69; (b) an LNP; and (c) a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.
71. A kit, comprising the nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1 to 66 and instructions for administering the nucleic acid molecule to a subject in need thereof.
72. A baculovirus system for production of the nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1 to 66.
73. The baculovirus system of claim 72, wherein the nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1 to 66 is produced in insect cells.
74. A nanoparticle delivery system for expression constructs, wherein the expression construct comprises the nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1 to 66.
75. A method of producing a polypeptide with clotting activity, comprising: culturing the host cell of claim 79 under suitable conditions and recovering the polypeptide with clotting activity.
76. A method of expressing a clotting factor in a subject in need thereof, comprising administering to the subject the nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1 to 66, the vector of claim 67, the polypeptide of claim 68, or the pharmaceutical composition of claim 70.
77. A method of treating a subject having a clotting factor deficiency, comprising administering to the subject the nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1 to 66, the vector of claim 67, the polypeptide of claim 68, or the pharmaceutical composition of claim 70.
78. The method of claim 76 or 77, wherein the nucleic acid molecule is administered intravenously, transdermally, intradermally, subcutaneously, orally, pulmonarily, or any combination thereof.
79. The method of claim 78, wherein the nucleic acid molecule is administered intravenously.
80. The method of any one of claims 76 to 79, further comprising administering to the subject a second agent.

- 81. The method of any one of claims 76 to 80, wherein the subject is a mammal.
- 82. The method of any one of claims 76 to 81, wherein the subject is a human.
- 83. The method of any one of claims 76 to 82, wherein the administration of the nucleic acid molecule to the subject results in an increased FVIII activity, relative to a FVIII activity in the subject prior to the administration, wherein the FVIII activity is increased by at least about 2-fold, at least about 3-fold, at least about 4-fold, at least about 5-fold, at least about 6-fold, at least about 7-fold, at least about 8-fold, at least about 9-fold, at least about 10-fold, at least about 11-fold, at least about 12-fold, at least about 13-fold, at least about 14-fold, at least about 15-fold, at least about 20-fold, at least about 25-fold, at least about 30-fold, at least about 35-fold, at least about 40-fold, at least about 50-fold, at least about 60-fold, at least about 70-fold, at least about 80-fold, at least about 90-fold, or at least about 100-fold.
- 84. The method of any one of claims 76 to 83, wherein the subject has a bleeding disorder.
- 85. The method of claim 84, wherein the bleeding disorder is a hemophilia.
- 86. The method of claim 84 or 85, wherein the bleeding disorder is hemophilia A.

Nucleic Acid Molecules and Uses thereof

REFERENCE TO SEQUENCE LISTING SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY

[0001] The content of the electronically submitted sequence listing in ASCII text file (Name: 4159_4930000_ST25_8_9_2017; Size: 388,406 bytes; and Date of Creation: August 9, 2017) is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

BACKGROUND OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0002] The blood coagulation pathway, in part, involves the formation of an enzymatic complex of Factor VIIIa (FVIIIa) and Factor IXa (FIXa) (Xase complex) on the surface of platelets. FIXa is a serine protease with relatively weak catalytic activity without its cofactor FVIIIa. The Xase complex cleaves Factor X (FX) into Factor Xa (FXa), which in turn interacts with Factor Va (FVa) to cleave prothrombin and generate thrombin. Various bleeding disorders are caused by mutations and/or deletions in one or more genes encoding for a clotting factor, resulting in a deficiency in clotting activity. In some cases, patients have reduced levels of one or more clotting factor FVIII due to the presence of inhibitors, such as anti-FVIII antibodies.

[0003] Hemophilia A is a bleeding disorder caused by a mutation and/or deletion in the FVIII gene. It is characterized by spontaneous hemorrhage and excessive bleeding. Over time, the repeated bleeding into muscles and joints, which often begins in early childhood, results in hemophilic arthropathy and irreversible joint damage. This damage is progressive and can lead to severely limited mobility of joints, muscle atrophy and chronic pain (Rodriguez-Merchan, E.C., *Semin. Thromb. Hemost.* 29:87-96 (2003), which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety). Similar forms of hemophilia include hemophilia B (or Christmas disease), caused by a FIX deficiency; Alexander's disease, caused by a factor VII (FVII) deficiency; and von Willebrand disease, caused by a von Willebrand factor (VWF) deficiency.

[0004] These diseases can be treated by replacement therapy targeting restoration of clotting factor activity. There are plasma-derived and recombinant clotting factor products available to treat bleeding episodes on-demand or to prevent bleeding episodes from occurring by treating prophylactically. Based on the half-life of these products (10-12 hr for FVIII replacement protein) (White G.C., et al., *Thromb. Haemost.* 77:660-7 (1997); Morfini, M., *Haemophilia* 9 (suppl 1):94-99;discussion 100 (2003)), treatment regimens require frequent intravenous administration, commonly for hemophilia A patients, this can include FVIII treatment two to three times weekly for prophylaxis and one to three times daily for on-demand treatment

(Manco-Johnson, M.J., et al., *N. Engl. J. Med.* 357:535-544 (2007)), each of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. Such frequent administration is inconvenient and costly. Further complicating clotting factor replacement therapy is the high cost of commercial production. For example, FVIII protein expresses poorly in heterologous expression systems, two to three orders of magnitude lower than similarly sized proteins. (Lynch et al., *Hum. Gene. Ther.*; 4:259-72 (1993).

[0005] Thus, there exists a need in the art to express efficiently and persistently clotting factors in *in vitro* and *in vivo* settings.

SUMMARY OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0006] One aspect of the present disclosure is directed to a nucleic acid molecule comprising a first inverted terminal repeat (ITR), a second ITR, and a genetic cassette encoding a therapeutic protein; wherein the first ITR and/or the second ITR are an ITR of a non-adenovirus (non-AAV), wherein the genetic cassette is positioned between the first ITR and the second ITR, and wherein the therapeutic protein comprises a clotting factor. In some embodiments, the non-AAV is selected from the group consisting of a member of the viral family *Parvoviridae* and any combination thereof. In some embodiments, the first ITR is an ITR of a non-AAV and the second ITR is an ITR of an adenovirus (AAV) or wherein the first ITR is an ITR of an AAV and the second ITR is an ITR of a non-AAV. In other embodiments, the first ITR and the second ITR are ITRs of a non-AAV. In some embodiments, the first ITR and the second ITR are identical. In some embodiments, the first ITR and/or the second ITR comprise a palindromic sequence that is uninterrupted. In other embodiments, the first ITR and/or the second ITR comprise a palindromic sequence that is interrupted.

[0007] In some embodiments, the non-AAV in the nucleic acid molecule is a member of the viral family *Parvoviridae*. In some embodiments, the member of the viral family *Parvoviridae* is selected from the group consisting of *Bocavirus*, *Dependovirus*, *Erythrovirus*, *Amdovirus*, *Parvovirus*, *Densovirus*, *Iteravirus*, *Contravirus*, *Aveparvovirus*, *Copiparvovirus*, *Protoparvovirus*, *Tetraparvovirus*, *Ambidensovirus*, *Brevidensovirus*, *Hepandensovirus*, *Penstyldensovirus* and any combination thereof. In some embodiments, the member of the viral family *Parvoviridae* is erythrovirus parvovirus B19 (human virus). In some embodiments, the member of the viral family *Parvoviridae* is a Muscovy duck parvovirus (MDPV) strain. In some embodiments, the MDPV strain is attenuated FZ91-30. In some embodiments, the MDPV strain is pathogenic YY. Still in some embodiments, the *Dependoparvovirus* is a *Dependovirus* Goose

parvovirus (GPV) strain. In some embodiments, the GPV strain is attenuated 82-0321V. In some embodiments, the GPV strain is pathogenic B. In some embodiments, the member of the viral family *Parvoviridae* is selected from the group consisting of porcine parvovirus (U44978), mice minute virus (U34256), canine parvovirus (M19296), mink enteritis virus (D00765) and any combination thereof.

[0008] In some embodiments, the nucleic acid molecule further comprises a promoter. In some embodiments, the promoter is a tissue-specific promoter. In some embodiments, the promoter drives expression of the therapeutic protein in hepatocytes, endothelial cells, muscle cells, sinusoidal cells, or any combination thereof. In some embodiments, the promoter is positioned 5' to the nucleic acid sequence encoding the clotting factor. In some embodiments, the promoter is selected from the group consisting of a mouse thyretin promoter (mTTR), an endogenous human factor VIII promoter (F8), a human alpha-1-antitrypsin promoter (hAAT), a human albumin minimal promoter, a mouse albumin promoter, a tristetraprolin (TTP) promoter, a CASI promoter, a CAG promoter, a cytomegalovirus (CMV) promoter, α 1-antitrypsin (AAT), muscle creatine kinase (MCK), myosin heavy chain alpha (α MHC), myoglobin (MB), desmin (DES), SPc5-12, 2R5Sc5-12, dMCK, tMCK, a phosphoglycerate kinase (PGK) promoter and any combination thereof. In some embodiments, the promoter comprises a TTP promoter.

[0009] In some embodiments, the nucleic acid molecule further comprises an intronic sequence. In some embodiments, the intronic sequence is positioned 5' to the nucleic acid sequence encoding the clotting factor. In some embodiments, the intronic sequence is positioned 3' to the promoter. In some embodiments, wherein the intronic sequence comprises a synthetic intronic sequence. In some embodiments, the intronic sequence comprises SEQ ID NO: 115.

[0010] In some embodiments, the nucleic acid molecule comprises a post-transcriptional regulatory element. In some embodiments, the post-transcriptional regulatory element is positioned 3' to the nucleic acid sequence encoding the clotting factor. In some embodiments, the post-transcriptional regulatory element comprises a mutated woodchuck hepatitis virus post-transcriptional regulatory element (WPRE), a microRNA binding site, a DNA nuclear targeting sequence, or any combination thereof. In some embodiments, the microRNA binding site comprises a binding site to miR142-3p.

[0011] In some embodiments, the nucleic acid molecule comprises a 3'UTR poly(A) tail sequence. In some embodiments, the 3'UTR poly(A) tail sequence is selected from the group consisting of bGH poly(A), actin poly(A), hemoglobin poly(A), and any combination thereof. In some embodiments, the 3'UTR poly(A) tail sequence comprises bGH poly(A).

[0012] In some embodiments, the nucleic acid molecule comprises an enhancer sequence. In some embodiments, the enhancer sequence is positioned between the first ITR and the second ITR.

[0013] In some embodiments, the nucleic acid molecule comprises in this order: the first ITR, the genetic cassette, and the second ITR; wherein the genetic cassette comprises a tissue-specific promoter sequence, an intronic sequence, the nucleic acid sequence encoding the clotting factor, a post-transcriptional regulatory element, and a 3'UTR poly(A) tail sequence.

[0014] In some embodiments, the nucleic acid molecule comprises in this order: a tissue-specific promoter sequence, an intronic sequence, the nucleic acid sequence encoding the FVIII polypeptide, a post-transcriptional regulatory element, and a 3'UTR poly(A) tail sequence.

[0015] In one embodiment, the nucleic acid molecule comprises:

- (a) the first ITR is an ITR of a non-AAV family member of *Parvoviridae*;
- (b) the tissue specific promoter sequence, *e.g.*, a TTT promoter;
- (c) the intron, *e.g.*, a synthetic intron;
- (d) the nucleotide sequence encoding a clotting factor;
- (e) the post-transcriptional regulatory element, *e.g.*, WPRE;
- (f) the 3'UTR poly(A) tail sequence, *e.g.*, bGHpA; and
- (g) the second ITR is an ITR of a non-AAV family member of *Parvoviridae*.

[0016] In some embodiments, the nucleic acid molecule comprises a single stranded nucleic acid. In some embodiments, the genetic cassette comprises a double stranded nucleic acid.

[0017] In some embodiments, the nucleic acid molecule comprises a clotting factor, wherein the clotting factor is expressed by hepatocytes, endothelial cells, muscle cells, sinusoidal cells, or any combination thereof. In some embodiments, the clotting factor comprises factor I (FI), factor II (FII), factor III (FIII), factor IV (FVI), factor V (FV), factor VI (FVI), factor VII (FVII), factor VIII (FVIII), factor IX (FIX), factor X (FX), factor XI (FXI), factor XII (FXII), factor XIII (FVIII), Von Willebrand factor (VWF), prekallikrein, high-molecular weight kininogen, fibronectin, antithrombin III, heparin cofactor II, protein C, protein S, protein Z, Protein Z-related protease inhibitor (ZPI), plasminogen, alpha 2-antiplasmin, tissue plasminogen activator(tPA), urokinase, plasminogen activator inhibitor-1 (PAI-1), plasminogen activator inhibitor-2 (PAI2), or any combination thereof. In some embodiments, the clotting factor is FVIII. In some embodiments, the FVIII comprises full-length mature FVIII. In some embodiments, the FVIII comprises an amino acid sequence at least about 70%, at least about

75%, at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 90%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, at least about 99%, or 100% identical to an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 106. In some embodiments, the FVIII comprises A1 domain, A2 domain, A3 domain, C1 domain, C2 domain, and a partial or no B domain. In some embodiments, the FVIII comprises an amino acid sequence at least about 70%, at least about 75%, at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 90%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, at least about 99%, or 100% identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 109.

[0018] In some embodiments, the clotting factor comprises a heterologous moiety. In some embodiments, the heterologous moiety is selected from the group consisting of albumin or a fragment thereof, an immunoglobulin Fc region, the C-terminal peptide (CTP) of the β subunit of human chorionic gonadotropin, a PAS sequence, a HAP sequence, a transferrin or a fragment thereof, an albumin-binding moiety, a derivative thereof, and any combination thereof. In some embodiments, the heterologous moiety is linked to the N-terminus or the C-terminus of the FVIII or inserted between two amino acids in the FVIII. In some embodiments, the heterologous moiety is inserted between two amino acids at one or more insertion site selected from the insertion sites listed in Table 4. In some embodiments, the FVIII further comprises A1 domain, A2 domain, C1 domain, C2 domain, an optional B domain, and a heterologous moiety, wherein the heterologous moiety is inserted immediately downstream of amino acid 745 corresponding to mature FVIII (SEQ ID NO: 106).

[0019] In some embodiments, the FVIII further comprises an FcRn binding partner. In some embodiments, the FcRn binding partner comprises an Fc region of an immunoglobulin constant domain. In some embodiments, the nucleic acid sequence encoding the FVIII is codon optimized. In some embodiments, the nucleic acid sequence encoding the FVIII is codon optimized for expression in a human.

[0020] In some embodiments, the nucleic acid sequence encoding the FVIII comprises a nucleotide sequence at least about 60%, at least about 65%, at least about 70%, at least about 75%, at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 90%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, at least about 99%, or about 100% identical to a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 107. In some embodiments, the nucleic acid sequence encoding the FVIII comprises a nucleotide sequence at least about 60%, at least about 65%, at least about 70%, at least about 75%, at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 90%, at

least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, at least about 99%, or about 100% identical to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 71.

[0021] In some embodiments, the nucleic acid molecule is formulated with a delivery agent. In some embodiments, the delivery agent comprises one or more lipid nanoparticles. In some embodiments, the delivery agent is selected from the group consisting of liposomes, non-lipid polymeric molecules, endosomes and any combination thereof.

[0022] In some embodiments, the nucleic acid molecule is formulated for intravenous, transdermal, intradermal, subcutaneous, pulmonary, or oral delivery, or any combination thereof. In some embodiments, the nucleic acid molecule is formulated for intravenous delivery.

[0023] In some embodiments, provided herein is a vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule as described throughout the disclosure. In some embodiments, provided herein is a polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid molecule as described throughout the disclosure. In some embodiments, provided herein is a host cell comprising the nucleic acid molecule as described throughout the disclosure.

[0024] In some embodiments, provided herein is a pharmaceutical composition comprising (a) the nucleic acid as described herein, the vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule as described throughout the disclosure, the polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid molecule as described throughout the disclosure, or the host cell comprising the nucleic acid molecule as described throughout the disclosure; (b) an LNP; and (c) a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient. In some embodiments, provided herein is a kit, comprising the nucleic acid molecule as described throughout the disclosure and instructions for administering the nucleic acid molecule to a subject in need thereof. In some embodiments, provided herein is a baculovirus system for production of the nucleic acid molecule described herein. In some embodiments, provided herein is a baculovirus system, wherein the nucleic acid molecule disclosed herein is produced in insect cells.

[0025] In some embodiments, provided herein is a nanoparticle delivery system for expression constructs, wherein the expression construct comprises the nucleic acid molecule described herein.

[0026] Also disclosed herein is a method of producing a polypeptide with clotting activity, comprising: culturing a host cell disclosed herein under suitable conditions and recovering the polypeptide with clotting activity. In some embodiments, disclosed herein is a method of expressing a clotting factor in a subject in need thereof, comprising administering to the subject the nucleic acid molecule disclosed herein, the vector disclosed herein, the

polypeptide disclosed herein, or the pharmaceutical composition disclosed herein. In some embodiments, disclosed herein is a method of treating a subject having a clotting factor deficiency, comprising administering to the subject the nucleic acid molecule disclosed herein, the vector disclosed herein, the polypeptide disclosed herein, or the pharmaceutical composition disclosed herein. In some embodiments, the nucleic acid molecule is administered intravenously, transdermally, intradermally, subcutaneously, orally, pulmonarily, or any combination thereof. In some embodiments, the nucleic acid molecule is administered intravenously. In some embodiments, the method further comprises administering to the subject a second agent. In some embodiments, the subject is a mammal. In some embodiments, the subject is a human.

[0027] In some embodiments, the administration of the nucleic acid molecule to the subject results in an increased FVIII activity, relative to a FVIII activity in the subject prior to the administration, wherein the FVIII activity is increased by at least about 2-fold, at least about 3-fold, at least about 4-fold, at least about 5-fold, at least about 6-fold, at least about 7-fold, at least about 8-fold, at least about 9-fold, at least about 10-fold, at least about 11-fold, at least about 12-fold, at least about 13-fold, at least about 14-fold, at least about 15-fold, at least about 20-fold, at least about 25-fold, at least about 30-fold, at least about 35-fold, at least about 40-fold, at least about 50-fold, at least about 60-fold, at least about 70-fold, at least about 80-fold, at least about 90-fold, or at least about 100-fold.

[0028] In some embodiments, the subject has a bleeding disorder. In some embodiments, the bleeding disorder is a hemophilia. In some embodiments, the bleeding disorder is hemophilia A.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0029] **FIG. 1A** is a schematic representation of a single strand clotting factor (*e.g.*, FVIII) expression cassette. The locations of 5' ITR from a non-AAV (with hairpin loop at the end of the ssDNA structure), 3' ITR from a non-AAV (with hairpin loop), a promotor sequence (*e.g.*, TTPp), and a transgene sequence, *e.g.*, FVIIIco6XTEN sequence with an XTEN144 inserted within the B domain are shown. The exemplary expression cassette also shows additional possible elements, *e.g.*, an intron sequence, WPREmut sequence, and bGHpA sequence.

[0030] **FIG. 1B** is a schematic representation of the plasmid used to prepare a single strand clotting factor expression cassette. A plasmid construct comprising an ssFVIII expression cassette as shown here was digested with PvuII (at PvuII sites) to release the viral genome. The

double stranded DNA was heated to at 95°C to produce ssDNA and then incubate at 4°C to allow for ITR structure formation.

[0031] **FIG. 2** shows FVIII plasma activity following single-stranded FVIII-AAV naked DNA (ssAAV-FVIII) administration via hydrodynamic injection (HDI) in Hem A mice. FVIII Activity was measured (as a percentage of a control) in plasma samples at 24 hours, 3 days, 2 weeks, 3 weeks, 1 month, 2 months, 3 months, and 4 months in mice treated with a single HDI of ssDNA at 20 µg/mouse, 10 µg/mouse, or 5 µg/mouse. An HDI of 5 µg/mouse of plasmid DNA was given as a control.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0032] The present disclosure describes nucleic acid molecules comprising a first inverted terminal repeat (ITR), a second ITR, and a genetic cassette encoding a therapeutic protein wherein the first ITR and/or the second ITR are an ITR of a non-adenovirus-associated virus (*e.g.*, the first ITR and/or the second ITR are from a non-AAV). In some embodiments, the therapeutic protein comprises a clotting factor. In one particular embodiment, the therapeutic protein comprises a FVIII or a FIX protein. In certain embodiments, the non-AAV is selected from the group consisting of a member of the viral family *Parvoviridae* and any combination thereof. The present disclosure is further directed to methods of expressing a therapeutic protein, *e.g.*, a clotting factor, *e.g.*, a FVIII, in a subject in need thereof, comprising administering to the subject a nucleic acid molecule comprising a first inverted terminal repeat (ITR), a second ITR, and a genetic cassette encoding a therapeutic protein wherein the first ITR and/or the second ITR are an ITR of a non-adenovirus-associated virus (non-AAV). In certain embodiments, the disclosure describes an isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence, which has sequence homology to a nucleotide sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs: 113 and 120.

[0033] Exemplary constructs of the disclosure are illustrated in the accompanying figures and sequence listing. In order to provide a clear understanding of the specification and claims, the following definitions are provided below.

I. Definitions

[0034] It is to be noted that the term "a" or "an" entity refers to one or more of that entity: for example, "a nucleotide sequence" is understood to represent one or more nucleotide

sequences. As such, the terms "a" (or "an"), "one or more," and "at least one" can be used interchangeably herein.

[0035] The term "about" is used herein to mean approximately, roughly, around, or in the regions of. When the term "about" is used in conjunction with a numerical range, it modifies that range by extending the boundaries above and below the numerical values set forth. In general, the term "about" is used herein to modify a numerical value above and below the stated value by a variance of 10 percent, up or down (higher or lower).

[0036] Also as used herein, "and/or" refers to and encompasses any and all possible combinations of one or more of the associated listed items, as well as the lack of combinations when interpreted in the alternative ("or").

[0037] "Nucleic acids," "nucleic acid molecules," "nucleotides," "nucleotide(s) sequence," and "polynucleotide" are used interchangeably and refer to the phosphate ester polymeric form of ribonucleosides (adenosine, guanosine, uridine or cytidine; "RNA molecules") or deoxyribonucleosides (deoxyadenosine, deoxyguanosine, deoxythymidine, or deoxycytidine; "DNA molecules"), or any phosphoester analogs thereof, such as phosphorothioates and thioesters, in either single stranded form, or a double-stranded helix. Single stranded nucleic acid sequences refer to single-stranded DNA (ssDNA) or single-stranded RNA (ssRNA). Double stranded DNA-DNA, DNA-RNA and RNA-RNA helices are possible. The term nucleic acid molecule, and in particular DNA or RNA molecule, refers only to the primary and secondary structure of the molecule, and does not limit it to any particular tertiary forms. Thus, this term includes double-stranded DNA found, *inter alia*, in linear or circular DNA molecules (*e.g.*, restriction fragments), plasmids, supercoiled DNA and chromosomes. In discussing the structure of particular double-stranded DNA molecules, sequences can be described herein according to the normal convention of giving only the sequence in the 5' to 3' direction along the non-transcribed strand of DNA (*i.e.*, the strand having a sequence homologous to the mRNA). A "recombinant DNA molecule" is a DNA molecule that has undergone a molecular biological manipulation. DNA includes, but is not limited to, cDNA, genomic DNA, plasmid DNA, synthetic DNA, and semi-synthetic DNA. A "nucleic acid composition" of the disclosure comprises one or more nucleic acids as described herein.

[0038] As used herein, an "inverted terminal repeat" (or "ITR") refers to a nucleic acid subsequence located at either the 5' or 3' end of a single stranded nucleic acid sequence, which comprises a set of nucleotides (initial sequence) followed downstream by its reverse complement, *i.e.*, palindromic sequence. The intervening sequence of nucleotides between the

initial sequence and the reverse complement can be any length including zero. In one embodiment, the ITR useful for the present disclosure comprises one or more "palindromic sequences." In one embodiment, the initial sequence and/or the reverse complement comprise about 2-200 nucleotides, about 5-200 nucleotides, about 10-200 nucleotides, about 20-200 nucleotides, about 30-200 nucleotides, about 40-200 nucleotides, about 50-200 nucleotides, about 60-200 nucleotides, about 70-200 nucleotides, about 80-200 nucleotides, about 90-200 nucleotides, about 100-200 nucleotides, about 125-200 nucleotides, about 150-200 nucleotides, or about 175-200 nucleotides. In other embodiments, the initial sequence and/or the reverse complement comprise about 2-150 nucleotides, about 5-150 nucleotides, about 10-150 nucleotides, about 20-150 nucleotides, about 30-150 nucleotides, about 40-150 nucleotides, about 50-150 nucleotides, about 75-150 nucleotides, about 100-150 nucleotides, or about 125-150 nucleotides. In other embodiments, the initial sequence and/or the reverse complement comprise about 2-100 nucleotides, about 5-100 nucleotides, about 10-100 nucleotides, about 20-100 nucleotides, about 30-100 nucleotides, about 40-100 nucleotides, about 50-100 nucleotides, or about 75-100 nucleotides. In other embodiments, the initial sequence and/or the reverse complement comprise about 2-50 nucleotides, about 10-50 nucleotides, about 20-50 nucleotides, about 30-50 nucleotides, about 40-50 nucleotides, about 3-30 nucleotides, about 4-20 nucleotides, or about 5-10 nucleotides. In another embodiment, the initial sequence and/or the reverse complement consist of two nucleotides, three nucleotides, four nucleotides, five nucleotides, six nucleotides, seven nucleotides, eight nucleotides, nine nucleotides, ten nucleotides, 11 nucleotides, 12 nucleotides, 13 nucleotides, 14 nucleotides, 15 nucleotides, 16 nucleotides, 17 nucleotides, 18 nucleotides, 19 nucleotides, or 20 nucleotides. In other embodiments, an intervening nucleotide between the initial sequence and the reverse complement is (*e.g.*, consists of) 0 nucleotide, 1 nucleotide, two nucleotides, three nucleotides, four nucleotides, five nucleotides, six nucleotides, seven nucleotides, eight nucleotides, nine nucleotides, 10 nucleotides, 11 nucleotides, 12 nucleotides, 13 nucleotides, 14 nucleotides, 15 nucleotides, 16 nucleotides, 17 nucleotides, 18 nucleotides, 19 nucleotides, or 20 nucleotides. Therefore, an "ITR" as used herein can fold back on itself and form a double stranded segment. For example, the sequence GATCXXXXGATC comprises an initial sequence of GATC and its complement (3'CTAG5') when folded to form a double helix. In some embodiments, the ITR comprises a continuous palindromic sequence (*e.g.*, GATCGATC) between the initial sequence and the reverse complement. In some embodiments the ITR comprises an interrupted palindromic sequence (*e.g.*, GATCXXXXGATC) between the initial sequence and the reverse

complement. In some embodiments, the complementary sections of the continuous or interrupted palindromic sequence interact with each other to form a "hairpin loop" structure. As used herein, a "hairpin loop" structure results when at least two complimentary sequences on a single-stranded nucleotide molecule base-pair to form a double stranded section. In some embodiments, only a portion of the ITR forms a hairpin loop. In other embodiments the entire ITR forms a hairpin loop.

[0039] In the present disclosure, at least one ITR is an ITR of a non-adenovirus associated virus (non-AAV). In certain embodiments, the ITR is an ITR of a non-AAV member of the viral family *Parvoviridae*. In some embodiments, the ITR is an ITR of a non-AAV member of the genus *Dependovirus* or the genus *Erythrovirus*. In particular embodiments, the ITR is an ITR of a goose parvovirus (GPV), a Muscovy duck parvovirus (MDPV), or an erythrovirus parvovirus B19 (also known as parvovirus B19, primate erythroparvovirus 1, B19 virus, and erythrovirus). In certain embodiments, one ITR of two ITRs is an ITR of an AAV. In other embodiments, one ITR of two ITRs in the construct is an ITR of an AAV serotype selected from serotype 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and any combination thereof. In one particular embodiment, the ITR is derived from AAV serotype 2, *e.g.*, an ITR of AAV serotype 2.

[0040] In certain aspects of the present disclosure, the nucleic acid molecule comprises two ITRs, a 5' ITR and a 3' ITR, wherein the 5' ITR is located at the 5' terminus of the nucleic acid molecule, and the 3' ITR is located at the 3' terminus of the nucleic acid molecule. The 5' ITR and the 3' ITR can be derived from the same virus or different viruses. In certain embodiments, the 5' ITR is derived from an AAV and the 3' ITR is not derived from an AAV virus (*e.g.*, a non-AAV). In some embodiments, the 3' ITR is derived from an AAV and the 5' ITR is not derived from an AAV virus (*e.g.*, a non-AAV). In other embodiments, the 5' ITR is not derived from an AAV virus (*e.g.*, a non-AAV), and the 3' ITR is derived from the same or a different non-AAV virus.

[0041] The term "parvovirus" as used herein encompasses the family *Parvoviridae*, including but not limited to autonomously-replicating parvoviruses and Dependoviruses. The autonomous parvoviruses include, for example, members of the genera *Bocavirus*, *Dependovirus*, *Erythrovirus*, *Amdovirus*, *Parvovirus*, *Densovirus*, *Iteravirus*, *Contravirus*, *Aveparvovirus*, *Copiparvovirus*, *Protoparvovirus*, *Tetraparvovirus*, *Ambidensovirus*, *Brevidensovirus*, *Hepandensovirus*, and *Penstyldensovirus*.

[0042] Exemplary autonomous parvoviruses include, but are not limited to, porcine parvovirus, mice minute virus, canine parvovirus, mink enteritis virus, bovine parvovirus,

chicken parvovirus, feline panleukopenia virus, feline parvovirus, goose parvovirus, H1 parvovirus, muscovy duck parvovirus, snake parvovirus, and B19 virus. Other autonomous parvoviruses are known to those skilled in the art. *See, e.g.*, FIELDS et al. VIROLOGY, volume 2, chapter 69 (4th ed., Lippincott-Raven Publishers).

[0043] The term "non-AAV" as used herein encompasses nucleic acids, proteins, and viruses from the family *Parvoviridae* excluding any adeno-associated viruses (AAV) of the *Parvoviridae* family. "Non-AAV" includes but is not limited to autonomously-replicating members of the genera *Bocavirus*, *Dependovirus*, *Erythrovirus*, *Amdovirus*, *Parvovirus*, *Densovirus*, *Iteravirus*, *Contravirus*, *Aveparvovirus*, *Copiparvovirus*, *Protoparvovirus*, *Tetraparvovirus*, *Ambidensovirus*, *Brevidensovirus*, *Hepandensovirus*, and *Penstylidensovirus*.

[0044] As used herein, the term "adeno-associated virus" (AAV), includes but is not limited to, AAV type 1, AAV type 2, AAV type 3 (including types 3A and 3B), AAV type 4, AAV type 5, AAV type 6, AAV type 7, AAV type 8, AAV type 9, AAV type 10, AAV type 11, AAV type 12, AAV type 13, snake AAV, avian AAV, bovine AAV, canine AAV, equine AAV, ovine AAV, goat AAV, shrimp AAV, those AAV serotypes and clades disclosed by Gao et al. (J. Virol. 78:6381 (2004)) and Moris et al. (Virol. 33:375 (2004)), and any other AAV now known or later discovered. *See, e.g.*, FIELDS et al. VIROLOGY, volume 2, chapter 69 (4th ed., Lippincott-Raven Publishers).

[0045] The term "derived from," as used herein, refers to a component that is isolated from or made using a specified molecule or organism, or information (*e.g.*, amino acid or nucleic acid sequence) from the specified molecule or organism. For example, a nucleic acid sequence (*e.g.*, ITR) that is derived from a second nucleic acid sequence (*e.g.*, ITR) can include a nucleotide sequence that is identical or substantially similar to the nucleotide sequence of the second nucleic acid sequence. In the case of nucleotides or polypeptides, the derived species can be obtained by, for example, naturally occurring mutagenesis, artificial directed mutagenesis or artificial random mutagenesis. The mutagenesis used to derive nucleotides or polypeptides can be intentionally directed or intentionally random, or a mixture of each. The mutagenesis of a nucleotide or polypeptide to create a different nucleotide or polypeptide derived from the first can be a random event (*e.g.*, caused by polymerase infidelity) and the identification of the derived nucleotide or polypeptide can be made by appropriate screening methods, *e.g.*, as discussed herein. Mutagenesis of a polypeptide typically entails manipulation of the polynucleotide that encodes the polypeptide. In some embodiments, a nucleotide or amino acid sequence that is derived from a second nucleotide or amino acid sequence has a sequence identity

of at least 80%, at least 81%, at least 82%, at least 83%, at least 84%, at least 85%, at least 86%, at least 87%, at least 88%, at least 89%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or 100% to the second nucleotide or amino acid sequence, respectively, wherein the first nucleotide or amino acid sequence retains the biological activity of the second nucleotide or amino acid sequence. In other embodiments, an ITR derived from an ITR of a non-AAV (or AAV) is at least 90% identical to the non-AAV ITR (or AAV ITR, respectively). In some embodiments, an ITR derived from an ITR of a non-AAV (or AAV) is at least 80% identical to the non-AAV ITR (or AAV ITR, respectively).

[0046] A "capsid-free" or "capsid-less" vector or nucleic acid molecule refers to a vector construct free from a capsid. In some embodiments, the capsid-less vector or nucleic acid molecule does not contain sequences encoding, *e.g.*, an AAV Rep protein.

[0047] As used herein, a "coding region" or "coding sequence" is a portion of polynucleotide which consists of codons translatable into amino acids. Although a "stop codon" (TAG, TGA, or TAA) is typically not translated into an amino acid, it can be considered to be part of a coding region, but any flanking sequences, for example promoters, ribosome binding sites, transcriptional terminators, introns, and the like, are not part of a coding region. The boundaries of a coding region are typically determined by a start codon at the 5' terminus, encoding the amino terminus of the resultant polypeptide, and a translation stop codon at the 3' terminus, encoding the carboxyl terminus of the resulting polypeptide. Two or more coding regions can be present in a single polynucleotide construct, *e.g.*, on a single vector, or in separate polynucleotide constructs, *e.g.*, on separate (different) vectors. It follows, then, that a single vector can contain just a single coding region, or comprise two or more coding regions.

[0048] Certain proteins secreted by mammalian cells are associated with a secretory signal peptide which is cleaved from the mature protein once export of the growing protein chain across the rough endoplasmic reticulum has been initiated. Those of ordinary skill in the art are aware that signal peptides are generally fused to the N-terminus of the polypeptide, and are cleaved from the complete or "full-length" polypeptide to produce a secreted or "mature" form of the polypeptide. In certain embodiments, a native signal peptide or a functional derivative of that sequence that retains the ability to direct the secretion of the polypeptide that is operably associated with it. Alternatively, a heterologous mammalian signal peptide, *e.g.*, a human tissue plasminogen activator (TPA) or mouse β -glucuronidase signal peptide, or a functional derivative thereof, can be used.

[0049] The term "downstream" refers to a nucleotide sequence that is located 3' to a reference nucleotide sequence. In certain embodiments, downstream nucleotide sequences relate to sequences that follow the starting point of transcription. For example, the translation initiation codon of a gene is located downstream of the start site of transcription.

[0050] The term "upstream" refers to a nucleotide sequence that is located 5' to a reference nucleotide sequence. In certain embodiments, upstream nucleotide sequences relate to sequences that are located on the 5' side of a coding region or starting point of transcription. For example, most promoters are located upstream of the start site of transcription.

[0051] As used herein, the term "gene regulatory region" or "regulatory region" refers to nucleotide sequences located upstream (5' non-coding sequences), within, or downstream (3' non-coding sequences) of a coding region, and which influence the transcription, RNA processing, stability, or translation of the associated coding region. Regulatory regions can include promoters, translation leader sequences, introns, polyadenylation recognition sequences, RNA processing sites, effector binding sites, or stem-loop structures. If a coding region is intended for expression in a eukaryotic cell, a polyadenylation signal and transcription termination sequence will usually be located 3' to the coding sequence.

[0052] A polynucleotide which encodes a gene product, *e.g.*, a polypeptide, can include a promoter and/or other expression (*e.g.*, transcription or translation) control elements operably associated with one or more coding regions. In an operable association a coding region for a gene product, *e.g.*, a polypeptide, is associated with one or more regulatory regions in such a way as to place expression of the gene product under the influence or control of the regulatory region(s). For example, a coding region and a promoter are "operably associated" if induction of promoter function results in the transcription of mRNA encoding the gene product encoded by the coding region, and if the nature of the linkage between the promoter and the coding region does not interfere with the ability of the promoter to direct the expression of the gene product or interfere with the ability of the DNA template to be transcribed. Other expression control elements, besides a promoter, for example enhancers, operators, repressors, and transcription termination signals, can also be operably associated with a coding region to direct gene product expression.

[0053] "Transcriptional control sequences" refer to DNA regulatory sequences, such as promoters, enhancers, terminators, and the like, that provide for the expression of a coding sequence in a host cell. A variety of transcription control regions are known to those skilled in the art. These include, without limitation, transcription control regions which function in vertebrate cells, such as, but not limited to, promoter and enhancer segments from

cytomegaloviruses (the immediate early promoter, in conjunction with intron-A), simian virus 40 (the early promoter), and retroviruses (such as Rous sarcoma virus). Other transcription control regions include those derived from vertebrate genes such as actin, heat shock protein, bovine growth hormone and rabbit β -globin, as well as other sequences capable of controlling gene expression in eukaryotic cells. Additional suitable transcription control regions include tissue-specific promoters and enhancers as well as lymphokine-inducible promoters (*e.g.*, promoters inducible by interferons or interleukins).

[0054] Similarly, a variety of translation control elements are known to those of ordinary skill in the art. These include, but are not limited to ribosome binding sites, translation initiation and termination codons, and elements derived from picornaviruses (particularly an internal ribosome entry site, or IRES, also referred to as a CITE sequence).

[0055] The term "expression" as used herein refers to a process by which a polynucleotide produces a gene product, for example, an RNA or a polypeptide. It includes without limitation transcription of the polynucleotide into messenger RNA (mRNA), transfer RNA (tRNA), small hairpin RNA (shRNA), small interfering RNA (siRNA) or any other RNA product, and the translation of an mRNA into a polypeptide. Expression produces a "gene product." As used herein, a gene product can be either a nucleic acid, *e.g.*, a messenger RNA produced by transcription of a gene, or a polypeptide which is translated from a transcript. Gene products described herein further include nucleic acids with post transcriptional modifications, *e.g.*, polyadenylation or splicing, or polypeptides with post translational modifications, *e.g.*, methylation, glycosylation, the addition of lipids, association with other protein subunits, or proteolytic cleavage. The term "yield," as used herein, refers to the amount of a polypeptide produced by the expression of a gene.

[0056] A "vector" refers to any vehicle for the cloning of and/or transfer of a nucleic acid into a host cell. A vector can be a replicon to which another nucleic acid segment can be attached so as to bring about the replication of the attached segment. A "replicon" refers to any genetic element (*e.g.*, plasmid, phage, cosmid, chromosome, virus) that functions as an autonomous unit of replication *in vivo*, *i.e.*, capable of replication under its own control. The term "vector" includes vehicles for introducing the nucleic acid into a cell *in vitro*, *ex vivo* or *in vivo*. A large number of vectors are known and used in the art including, for example, plasmids, modified eukaryotic viruses, or modified bacterial viruses. Insertion of a polynucleotide into a suitable vector can be accomplished by ligating the appropriate polynucleotide fragments into a chosen vector that has complementary cohesive termini.

[0057] Vectors can be engineered to encode selectable markers or reporters that provide for the selection or identification of cells that have incorporated the vector. Expression of selectable markers or reporters allows identification and/or selection of host cells that incorporate and express other coding regions contained on the vector. Examples of selectable marker genes known and used in the art include: genes providing resistance to ampicillin, streptomycin, gentamycin, kanamycin, hygromycin, bialaphos herbicide, sulfonamide, and the like; and genes that are used as phenotypic markers, *i.e.*, anthocyanin regulatory genes, isopentanyl transferase gene, and the like. Examples of reporters known and used in the art include: luciferase (Luc), green fluorescent protein (GFP), chloramphenicol acetyltransferase (CAT), β -galactosidase (LacZ), β -glucuronidase (Gus), and the like. Selectable markers can also be considered to be reporters.

[0058] The term "host cell" as used herein refers to, for example microorganisms, yeast cells, insect cells, and mammalian cells, that can be, or have been, used as recipients of ssDNA or vectors. The term includes the progeny of the original cell which has been transduced. Thus, a "host cell" as used herein generally refers to a cell which has been transduced with an exogenous DNA sequence. It is understood that the progeny of a single parental cell may not necessarily be completely identical in morphology or in genomic or total DNA complement to the original parent, due to natural, accidental, or deliberate mutation. In some embodiments, the host cell can be an *in vitro* host cell.

[0059] The term "selectable marker" refers to an identifying factor, usually an antibiotic or chemical resistance gene, that is able to be selected for based upon the marker gene's effect, *i.e.*, resistance to an antibiotic, resistance to a herbicide, colorimetric markers, enzymes, fluorescent markers, and the like, wherein the effect is used to track the inheritance of a nucleic acid of interest and/or to identify a cell or organism that has inherited the nucleic acid of interest. Examples of selectable marker genes known and used in the art include: genes providing resistance to ampicillin, streptomycin, gentamycin, kanamycin, hygromycin, bialaphos herbicide, sulfonamide, and the like; and genes that are used as phenotypic markers, *i.e.*, anthocyanin regulatory genes, isopentanyl transferase gene, and the like.

[0060] The term "reporter gene" refers to a nucleic acid encoding an identifying factor that is able to be identified based upon the reporter gene's effect, wherein the effect is used to track the inheritance of a nucleic acid of interest, to identify a cell or organism that has inherited the nucleic acid of interest, and/or to measure gene expression induction or transcription. Examples of reporter genes known and used in the art include: luciferase (Luc), green fluorescent

protein (GFP), chloramphenicol acetyltransferase (CAT), β -galactosidase (LacZ), β -glucuronidase (Gus), and the like. Selectable marker genes can also be considered reporter genes.

[0061] "Promoter" and "promoter sequence" are used interchangeably and refer to a DNA sequence capable of controlling the expression of a coding sequence or functional RNA. In general, a coding sequence is located 3' to a promoter sequence. Promoters can be derived in their entirety from a native gene, or be composed of different elements derived from different promoters found in nature, or even comprise synthetic DNA segments. It is understood by those skilled in the art that different promoters can direct the expression of a gene in different tissues or cell types, or at different stages of development, or in response to different environmental or physiological conditions. Promoters that cause a gene to be expressed in most cell types at most times are commonly referred to as "constitutive promoters." Promoters that cause a gene to be expressed in a specific cell type are commonly referred to as "cell-specific promoters" or "tissue-specific promoters." Promoters that cause a gene to be expressed at a specific stage of development or cell differentiation are commonly referred to as "developmentally-specific promoters" or "cell differentiation-specific promoters." Promoters that are induced and cause a gene to be expressed following exposure or treatment of the cell with an agent, biological molecule, chemical, ligand, light, or the like that induces the promoter are commonly referred to as "inducible promoters" or "regulatable promoters." It is further recognized that since in most cases the exact boundaries of regulatory sequences have not been completely defined, DNA fragments of different lengths can have identical promoter activity.

[0062] The promoter sequence is typically bounded at its 3' terminus by the transcription initiation site and extends upstream (5' direction) to include the minimum number of bases or elements necessary to initiate transcription at levels detectable above background. Within the promoter sequence will be found a transcription initiation site (conveniently defined for example, by mapping with nuclease S1), as well as protein binding domains (consensus sequences) responsible for the binding of RNA polymerase.

[0063] In some embodiments, the nucleic acid molecule comprises a tissue specific promoter. In certain embodiments, the tissue specific promoter drives expression of the therapeutic protein, *e.g.*, the clotting factor, in the liver, *e.g.*, in hepatocytes and/or endothelial cells. In particular, embodiments, the promoter is selected from the group consisting of a mouse thyretin promoter (mTTR), an endogenous human factor VIII promoter (F8), a human alpha-1-antitrypsin promoter (hAAT), a human albumin minimal promoter, a mouse albumin promoter, a

tristetraprolin (TTP) promoter, a CAG promoter, a cytomegalovirus (CMV) promoter, a phosphoglycerate kinase (PGK) promoter and any combination thereof. In some embodiments, the promoter is selected from a liver specific promoter (*e.g.*, α 1-antitrypsin (AAT)), a muscle specific promoter (*e.g.*, muscle creatine kinase (MCK), myosin heavy chain alpha (α MHC), myoglobin (MB), and desmin (DES)), a synthetic promoter (*e.g.*, SPc5-12, 2R5Sc5-12, dMCK, and tMCK) and any combination thereof. In one particular embodiment, the promoter comprises a TTP promoter.

[0064] The terms "restriction endonuclease" and "restriction enzyme" are used interchangeably and refer to an enzyme that binds and cuts within a specific nucleotide sequence within double stranded DNA.

[0065] The term "plasmid" refers to an extra-chromosomal element often carrying a gene that is not part of the central metabolism of the cell, and usually in the form of circular double-stranded DNA molecules. Such elements can be autonomously replicating sequences, genome integrating sequences, phage or nucleotide sequences, linear, circular, or supercoiled, of a single- or double-stranded DNA or RNA, derived from any source, in which a number of nucleotide sequences have been joined or recombined into a unique construct, which is capable of introducing a promoter fragment and DNA sequence for a selected gene product along with appropriate 3' untranslated sequence into a cell.

[0066] Eukaryotic viral vectors that can be used include, but are not limited to, adenovirus vectors, retrovirus vectors, adeno-associated virus vectors, poxvirus, *e.g.*, vaccinia virus vectors, baculovirus vectors, or herpesvirus vectors. Non-viral vectors include plasmids, liposomes, electrically charged lipids (cytofectins), DNA-protein complexes, and biopolymers.

[0067] A "cloning vector" refers to a "replicon," which is a unit length of a nucleic acid that replicates sequentially and which comprises an origin of replication, such as a plasmid, phage or cosmid, to which another nucleic acid segment can be attached so as to bring about the replication of the attached segment. Certain cloning vectors are capable of replication in one cell type, *e.g.*, bacteria and expression in another, *e.g.*, eukaryotic cells. Cloning vectors typically comprise one or more sequences that can be used for selection of cells comprising the vector and/or one or more multiple cloning sites for insertion of nucleic acid sequences of interest.

[0068] The term "expression vector" refers to a vehicle designed to enable the expression of an inserted nucleic acid sequence following insertion into a host cell. The inserted nucleic acid sequence is placed in operable association with regulatory regions as described above.

[0069] Vectors are introduced into host cells by methods well known in the art, *e.g.*, transfection, electroporation, microinjection, transduction, cell fusion, DEAE dextran, calcium phosphate precipitation, lipofection (lysosome fusion), use of a gene gun, or a DNA vector transporter. "Culture," "to culture" and "culturing," as used herein, means to incubate cells under *in vitro* conditions that allow for cell growth or division or to maintain cells in a living state. "Cultured cells," as used herein, means cells that are propagated *in vitro*.

[0070] As used herein, the term "polypeptide" is intended to encompass a singular "polypeptide" as well as plural "polypeptides," and refers to a molecule composed of monomers (amino acids) linearly linked by amide bonds (also known as peptide bonds). The term "polypeptide" refers to any chain or chains of two or more amino acids, and does not refer to a specific length of the product. Thus, peptides, dipeptides, tripeptides, oligopeptides, "protein," "amino acid chain," or any other term used to refer to a chain or chains of two or more amino acids, are included within the definition of "polypeptide," and the term "polypeptide" can be used instead of, or interchangeably with any of these terms. The term "polypeptide" is also intended to refer to the products of post-expression modifications of the polypeptide, including without limitation glycosylation, acetylation, phosphorylation, amidation, derivatization by known protecting/blocking groups, proteolytic cleavage, or modification by non-naturally occurring amino acids. A polypeptide can be derived from a natural biological source or produced recombinant technology, but is not necessarily translated from a designated nucleic acid sequence. It can be generated in any manner, including by chemical synthesis.

[0071] The term "amino acid" includes alanine (Ala or A); arginine (Arg or R); asparagine (Asn or N); aspartic acid (Asp or D); cysteine (Cys or C); glutamine (Gln or Q); glutamic acid (Glu or E); glycine (Gly or G); histidine (His or H); isoleucine (Ile or I); leucine (Leu or L); lysine (Lys or K); methionine (Met or M); phenylalanine (Phe or F); proline (Pro or P); serine (Ser or S); threonine (Thr or T); tryptophan (Trp or W); tyrosine (Tyr or Y); and valine (Val or V). Non-traditional amino acids are also within the scope of the disclosure and include norleucine, omithine, norvaline, homoserine, and other amino acid residue analogues such as those described in Ellman *et al.* Meth. Enzym. 202:301-336 (1991). To generate such non-naturally occurring amino acid residues, the procedures of Noren *et al.* Science 244:182 (1989) and Ellman *et al.*, *supra*, can be used. Briefly, these procedures involve chemically activating a suppressor tRNA with a non-naturally occurring amino acid residue followed by *in vitro* transcription and translation of the RNA. Introduction of the non-traditional amino acid can also be achieved using peptide chemistries known in the art. As used herein, the term "polar amino

acid" includes amino acids that have net zero charge, but have non-zero partial charges in different portions of their side chains (*e.g.*, M, F, W, S, Y, N, Q, C). These amino acids can participate in hydrophobic interactions and electrostatic interactions. As used herein, the term "charged amino acid" includes amino acids that can have non-zero net charge on their side chains (*e.g.*, R, K, H, E, D). These amino acids can participate in hydrophobic interactions and electrostatic interactions.

[0072] Also included in the present disclosure are fragments or variants of polypeptides, and any combination thereof. The term "fragment" or "variant" when referring to polypeptide binding domains or binding molecules of the present disclosure include any polypeptides which retain at least some of the properties (*e.g.*, FcRn binding affinity for an FcRn binding domain or Fc variant, coagulation activity for an FVIII variant, or FVIII binding activity for the VWF fragment) of the reference polypeptide. Fragments of polypeptides include proteolytic fragments, as well as deletion fragments, in addition to specific antibody fragments discussed elsewhere herein, but do not include the naturally occurring full-length polypeptide (or mature polypeptide). Variants of polypeptide binding domains or binding molecules of the present disclosure include fragments as described above, and also polypeptides with altered amino acid sequences due to amino acid substitutions, deletions, or insertions. Variants can be naturally or non-naturally occurring. Non-naturally occurring variants can be produced using art-known mutagenesis techniques. Variant polypeptides can comprise conservative or non-conservative amino acid substitutions, deletions or additions.

[0073] A "conservative amino acid substitution" is one in which the amino acid residue is replaced with an amino acid residue having a similar side chain. Families of amino acid residues having similar side chains have been defined in the art, including basic side chains (*e.g.*, lysine, arginine, histidine), acidic side chains (*e.g.*, aspartic acid, glutamic acid), uncharged polar side chains (*e.g.*, glycine, asparagine, glutamine, serine, threonine, tyrosine, cysteine), nonpolar side chains (*e.g.*, alanine, valine, leucine, isoleucine, proline, phenylalanine, methionine, tryptophan), beta-branched side chains (*e.g.*, threonine, valine, isoleucine) and aromatic side chains (*e.g.*, tyrosine, phenylalanine, tryptophan, histidine). Thus, if an amino acid in a polypeptide is replaced with another amino acid from the same side chain family, the substitution is considered to be conservative. In another embodiment, a string of amino acids can be conservatively replaced with a structurally similar string that differs in order and/or composition of side chain family members.

[0074] The term "percent identity" as known in the art, is a relationship between two or more polypeptide sequences or two or more polynucleotide sequences, as determined by comparing the sequences. In the art, "identity" also means the degree of sequence relatedness between polypeptide or polynucleotide sequences, as the case can be, as determined by the match between strings of such sequences. "Identity" can be readily calculated by known methods, including but not limited to those described in: *Computational Molecular Biology* (Lesk, A. M., ed.) Oxford University Press, New York (1988); *Biocomputing: Informatics and Genome Projects* (Smith, D. W., ed.) Academic Press, New York (1993); *Computer Analysis of Sequence Data, Part I* (Griffin, A. M., and Griffin, H. G., eds.) Humana Press, New Jersey (1994); *Sequence Analysis in Molecular Biology* (von Heinje, G., ed.) Academic Press (1987); and *Sequence Analysis Primer* (Gribskov, M. and Devereux, J., eds.) Stockton Press, New York (1991). Preferred methods to determine identity are designed to give the best match between the sequences tested. Methods to determine identity are codified in publicly available computer programs. Sequence alignments and percent identity calculations can be performed using sequence analysis software such as the Megalign program of the LASERGENE bioinformatics computing suite (DNASTAR Inc., Madison, WI), the GCG suite of programs (Wisconsin Package Version 9.0, Genetics Computer Group (GCG), Madison, WI), BLASTP, BLASTN, BLASTX (Altschul *et al.*, *J. Mol. Biol.* 215:403 (1990)), and DNASTAR (DNASTAR, Inc. 1228 S. Park St. Madison, WI 53715 USA). Within the context of this application it will be understood that where sequence analysis software is used for analysis, that the results of the analysis will be based on the "default values" of the program referenced, unless otherwise specified. As used herein "default values" will mean any set of values or parameters which originally load with the software when first initialized. For the purposes of determining percent identity between a therapeutic protein, *e.g.*, a clotting factor, sequence of the disclosure and a reference sequence, only nucleotides in the reference sequence corresponding to nucleotides in the therapeutic protein, *e.g.*, the clotting factor, sequence of the disclosure are used to calculate percent identity. For example, when comparing a full length FVIII nucleotide sequence containing the B domain to an optimized B domain deleted (BDD) FVIII nucleotide sequence of the disclosure, the portion of the alignment including the A1, A2, A3, C1, and C2 domain will be used to calculate percent identity. The nucleotides in the portion of the full length FVIII sequence encoding the B domain (which will result in a large "gap" in the alignment) will not be counted as a mismatch. In addition, in determining percent identity between an optimized BDD FVIII sequence of the disclosure, or a designated portion thereof (*e.g.*, nucleotides 58-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID

NO:3), and a reference sequence, percent identity will be calculated by aligning dividing the number of matched nucleotides by the total number of nucleotides in the complete sequence of the optimized BDD-FVIII sequence, or a designated portion thereof, as recited herein.

[0075] As used herein, nucleotides corresponding to nucleotides in a particular sequence of the disclosure are identified by alignment of the sequence of the disclosure to maximize the identity to a reference sequence. The number used to identify an equivalent amino acid in a reference sequence is based on the number used to identify the corresponding amino acid in the sequence of the disclosure.

[0076] A "fusion" or "chimeric" protein comprises a first amino acid sequence linked to a second amino acid sequence with which it is not naturally linked in nature. The amino acid sequences which normally exist in separate proteins can be brought together in the fusion polypeptide, or the amino acid sequences which normally exist in the same protein can be placed in a new arrangement in the fusion polypeptide, *e.g.*, fusion of a Factor VIII domain of the disclosure with an Ig Fc domain. A fusion protein is created, for example, by chemical synthesis, or by creating and translating a polynucleotide in which the peptide regions are encoded in the desired relationship. A chimeric protein can further comprises a second amino acid sequence associated with the first amino acid sequence by a covalent, non-peptide bond or a non-covalent bond.

[0077] As used herein, the term "insertion site" refers to a position in a polypeptide, or fragment, variant, or derivative thereof, which is immediately upstream of the position at which a heterologous moiety can be inserted. An "insertion site" is specified as a number, the number being the number of the amino acid in a reference sequence. For example, an "insertion site" in FVIII refers to the number of the amino acid sequence in mature native FVIII (SEQ ID NO: 15) to which the insertion site corresponds, which is immediately N-terminal to the position of the insertion. For example, the phrase "a3 comprises a heterologous moiety at an insertion site which corresponds to amino acid 1656 of SEQ ID NO: 15" indicates that the heterologous moiety is located between two amino acids corresponding to amino acid 1656 and amino acid 1657 of SEQ ID NO: 15.

[0078] The phrase "immediately downstream of an amino acid" as used herein refers to position right next to the terminal carboxyl group of the amino acid. Similarly, the phrase "immediately upstream of an amino acid" refers to the position right next to the terminal amine group of the amino acid.

[0079] The terms "inserted," "is inserted," "inserted into" or grammatically related terms, as used herein refer to the position of a heterologous moiety in a polypeptide, *e.g.*, a clotting factor, relative to the analogous position in the parental polypeptide. For example, in certain embodiment, "inserted" and the like refer to the position of a heterologous moiety in a recombinant FVIII polypeptide, relative to the analogous position in native mature human FVIII. As used herein the terms refer to the characteristics of the polypeptide, and do not indicate, imply or infer any methods or process by which the polypeptide was made.

[0080] As used herein, the term "half-life" refers to a biological half-life of a particular polypeptide *in vivo*. Half-life can be represented by the time required for half the quantity administered to a subject to be cleared from the circulation and/or other tissues in the animal. When a clearance curve of a given polypeptide is constructed as a function of time, the curve is usually biphasic with a rapid α -phase and longer β -phase. The α -phase typically represents an equilibration of the administered Fc polypeptide between the intra- and extra-vascular space and is, in part, determined by the size of the polypeptide. The β -phase typically represents the catabolism of the polypeptide in the intravascular space. In some embodiments, the therapeutic protein, *e.g.*, the clotting factor, *e.g.*, FVIII, and chimeric proteins comprising the same are monophasic, and thus do not have an alpha phase, but just the single beta phase. Therefore, in certain embodiments, the term half-life as used herein refers to the half-life of the polypeptide in the β -phase.

[0081] The term "linked" as used herein refers to a first amino acid sequence or nucleotide sequence covalently or non-covalently joined to a second amino acid sequence or nucleotide sequence, respectively. The first amino acid or nucleotide sequence can be directly joined or juxtaposed to the second amino acid or nucleotide sequence or alternatively an intervening sequence can covalently join the first sequence to the second sequence. The term "linked" means not only a fusion of a first amino acid sequence to a second amino acid sequence at the C-terminus or the N-terminus, but also includes insertion of the whole first amino acid sequence (or the second amino acid sequence) into any two amino acids in the second amino acid sequence (or the first amino acid sequence, respectively). In one embodiment, the first amino acid sequence can be linked to a second amino acid sequence by a peptide bond or a linker. The first nucleotide sequence can be linked to a second nucleotide sequence by a phosphodiester bond or a linker. The linker can be a peptide or a polypeptide (for polypeptide chains) or a nucleotide or a nucleotide chain (for nucleotide chains) or any chemical moiety (for both polypeptide and polynucleotide chains). The term "linked" is also indicated by a hyphen (-).

[0082] Hemostasis, as used herein, means the stopping or slowing of bleeding or hemorrhage; or the stopping or slowing of blood flow through a blood vessel or body part.

[0083] Hemostatic disorder, as used herein, means a genetically inherited or acquired condition characterized by a tendency to hemorrhage, either spontaneously or as a result of trauma, due to an impaired ability or inability to form a fibrin clot. Examples of such disorders include the hemophilias. The three main forms are hemophilia A (factor VIII deficiency), hemophilia B (factor IX deficiency or "Christmas disease") and hemophilia C (factor XI deficiency, mild bleeding tendency). Other hemostatic disorders include, *e.g.*, von Willebrand disease, Factor XI deficiency (PTA deficiency), Factor XII deficiency, deficiencies or structural abnormalities in fibrinogen, prothrombin, Factor V, Factor VII, Factor X or factor XIII, Bernard-Soulier syndrome, which is a defect or deficiency in GPIb. GPIb, the receptor for vWF, can be defective and lead to lack of primary clot formation (primary hemostasis) and increased bleeding tendency), and thrombasthenia of Glanzman and Naegeli (Glanzmann thrombasthenia). In liver failure (acute and chronic forms), there is insufficient production of coagulation factors by the liver; this can increase bleeding risk.

[0084] The isolated nucleic acid molecules, isolated polypeptides, or vectors comprising the isolated nucleic acid molecule of the disclosure can be used prophylactically. As used herein the term "prophylactic treatment" refers to the administration of a molecule prior to a bleeding episode. In one embodiment, the subject in need of a general hemostatic agent is undergoing, or is about to undergo, surgery. A polynucleotide, polypeptide, or vector of the disclosure can be administered prior to or after surgery as a prophylactic. The polynucleotide, polypeptide, or vector of the disclosure can be administered during or after surgery to control an acute bleeding episode. The surgery can include, but is not limited to, liver transplantation, liver resection, dental procedures, or stem cell transplantation.

[0085] The isolated nucleic acid molecules, isolated polypeptides, or vectors of the disclosure are also used for on-demand treatment. The term "on-demand treatment" refers to the administration of an isolated nucleic acid molecule, isolated polypeptide, or vector in response to symptoms of a bleeding episode or before an activity that can cause bleeding. In one aspect, the on-demand treatment can be given to a subject when bleeding starts, such as after an injury, or when bleeding is expected, such as before surgery. In another aspect, the on-demand treatment can be given prior to activities that increase the risk of bleeding, such as contact sports.

[0086] As used herein the term "acute bleeding" refers to a bleeding episode regardless of the underlying cause. For example, a subject can have trauma, uremia, a hereditary bleeding

disorder (*e.g.*, factor VII deficiency) a platelet disorder, or resistance owing to the development of antibodies to clotting factors.

[0087] Treat, treatment, treating, as used herein refers to, *e.g.*, the reduction in severity of a disease or condition; the reduction in the duration of a disease course; the amelioration of one or more symptoms associated with a disease or condition; the provision of beneficial effects to a subject with a disease or condition, without necessarily curing the disease or condition, or the prophylaxis of one or more symptoms associated with a disease or condition. In one embodiment, the term "treating" or "treatment" means maintaining, *e.g.*, a FVIII trough level at least about 1 IU/dL, 2 IU/dL, 3 IU/dL, 4 IU/dL, 5 IU/dL, 6 IU/dL, 7 IU/dL, 8 IU/dL, 9 IU/dL, 10 IU/dL, 11 IU/dL, 12 IU/dL, 13 IU/dL, 14 IU/dL, 15 IU/dL, 16 IU/dL, 17 IU/dL, 18 IU/dL, 19 IU/dL, 20 IU/dL, 25 IU/dL, 30 IU/dL, 35 IU/dL, 40 IU/dL, 45 IU/dL, 50 IU/dL, 55 IU/dL, 60 IU/dL, 65 IU/dL, 70 IU/dL, 75 IU/dL, 80 IU/dL, 85 IU/dL, 90 IU/dL, 95 IU/dL, 100 IU/dL, 105 IU/dL, 110 IU/dL, 115 IU/dL, 120 IU/dL, 125 IU/dL, 130 IU/dL, 135 IU/dL, 140 IU/dL, 145 IU/dL, or 150 IU/dL in a subject by administering an isolated nucleic acid molecule, isolated polypeptide or vector of the disclosure. In another embodiment, treating or treatment means maintaining a FVIII trough level between about 1 and about 150 IU/dL, about 1 and about 125 IU/dL, about 1 and about 100 IU/dL, about 1 and about 90 IU/dL, about 1 and about 85 IU/dL, about 1 and about 80 IU/dL, about 1 and about 75 IU/dL, about 1 and about 70 IU/dL, about 1 and about 65 IU/dL, about 1 and about 60 IU/dL, about 1 and about 55 IU/dL, about 1 and about 50 IU/dL, about 1 and about 45 IU/dL, about 1 and about 40 IU/dL, about 1 and about 35 IU/dL, about 1 and about 30 IU/dL, about 1 and about 25 IU/dL, about 25 and about 125 IU/dL, about 50 and about 100 IU/dL, about 50 and about 75 IU/dL, about 75 and about 100 IU/dL, about 1 and about 20 IU/dL, about 2 and about 20 IU/dL, about 3 and about 20 IU/dL, about 4 and about 20 IU/dL, about 5 and about 20 IU/dL, about 6 and about 20 IU/dL, about 7 and about 20 IU/dL, about 8 and about 20 IU/dL, about 9 and about 20 IU/dL, or about 10 and about 20 IU/dL. Treatment or treating of a disease or condition can also include maintaining FVIII activity in a subject at a level comparable to at least about 1%, 2%, 3%, 4%, 5%, 6%, 7%, 8%, 9%, 10%, 11%, 12%, 13%, 14%, 15%, 16%, 17%, 18%, 19%, 20%, 25%, 30%, 35%, 40%, 45%, 50%, 55%, 60%, 65%, 70%, 75%, 80%, 85%, 90%, 95%, 100%, 105%, 110%, 115%, 120%, 125%, 130%, 135%, 140%, 145%, or 150% of the FVIII activity in a non-hemophiliac subject. The minimum trough level required for treatment can be measured by one or more known methods and can be adjusted (increased or decreased) for each person.

[0088] "Administering," as used herein, means to give a pharmaceutically acceptable nucleic acid molecule, polypeptide expressed therefrom, or vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of the disclosure to a subject via a pharmaceutically acceptable route. Routes of administration can be intravenous, *e.g.*, intravenous injection and intravenous infusion. Additional routes of administration include, *e.g.*, subcutaneous, intramuscular, oral, nasal, and pulmonary administration. The nucleic acid molecules, polypeptides, and vectors can be administered as part of a pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one excipient.

[0089] The term "pharmaceutically acceptable" as used herein refers to molecular entities and compositions that are physiologically tolerable and do not typically produce toxicity or an allergic or similar untoward reaction, such as gastric upset, dizziness and the like, when administered to a human. Optionally, as used herein, the term "pharmaceutically acceptable" means approved by a regulatory agency of the federal or a state government or listed in the U.S. Pharmacopeia or other generally recognized pharmacopeia for use in animals, and more particularly in humans.

[0090] As used herein, the phrase "subject in need thereof" includes subjects, such as mammalian subjects, that would benefit from administration of a nucleic acid molecule, polypeptide, or vector of the disclosure, *e.g.*, to improve hemostasis. In one embodiment, the subjects include, but are not limited to, individuals with hemophilia. In another embodiment, the subjects include, but are not limited to, individuals who have developed an inhibitor to the therapeutic protein, *e.g.*, the clotting factor, *e.g.*, FVIII, and thus are in need of a bypass therapy. The subject can be an adult or a minor (*e.g.*, under 12 years old).

[0091] As used herein, the term "clotting factor," refers to molecules, or analogs thereof, naturally occurring or recombinantly produced which prevent or decrease the duration of a bleeding episode in a subject. In other words, it means molecules having pro-clotting activity, *i.e.*, are responsible for the conversion of fibrinogen into a mesh of insoluble fibrin causing the blood to coagulate or clot. "Clotting factor" as used herein includes an activated clotting factor, its zymogen, or an activatable clotting factor. An "activatable clotting factor" is a clotting factor in an inactive form (*e.g.*, in its zymogen form) that is capable of being converted to an active form. The term "clotting factor" includes but is not limited to factor I (FI), factor II (FII), factor III (FIII), factor IV (FIV), factor V (FV), factor VI (FVI), FVII, FVIII, FIX, factor X (FX), factor XI (FXI), factor XII (FXII), factor XIII (FXIII), Von Willebrand factor (VWF), prekallikrein, high-molecular weight kininogen, fibronectin, antithrombin III, heparin cofactor II, protein C, protein S, protein Z, Protein Z-related protease inhibitor (ZPI), plasminogen, alpha 2-antiplasmin,

tissue plasminogen activator(tPA), urokinase, plasminogen activator inhibitor-1 (PAI-1), plasminogen activator inhibitor-2 (PAI2), zymogens thereof, activated forms thereof, or any combination thereof.

[0092] Clotting activity, as used herein, means the ability to participate in a cascade of biochemical reactions that culminates in the formation of a fibrin clot and/or reduces the severity, duration or frequency of hemorrhage or bleeding episode.

[0093] As used herein the terms "heterologous" or "exogenous" refer to such molecules that are not normally found in a given context, *e.g.*, in a cell or in a polypeptide. For example, an exogenous or heterologous molecule can be introduced into a cell and are only present after manipulation of the cell, *e.g.*, by transfection or other forms of genetic engineering or a heterologous amino acid sequence can be present in a protein in which it is not naturally found.

[0094] As used herein, the term "heterologous nucleotide sequence" refers to a nucleotide sequence that does not naturally occur with a given polynucleotide sequence. In one embodiment, the heterologous nucleotide sequence encodes a polypeptide capable of extending the half-life of the therapeutic protein, *e.g.*, the clotting factor, *e.g.*, FVIII. In another embodiment, the heterologous nucleotide sequence encodes a polypeptide that increases the hydrodynamic radius of the therapeutic protein, *e.g.*, the clotting factor, *e.g.*, FVIII. In other embodiments, the heterologous nucleotide sequence encodes a polypeptide that improves one or more pharmacokinetic properties of the therapeutic protein without significantly affecting its biological activity or function (*e.g.*, a procoagulant activity). In some embodiments, the therapeutic protein is linked or connected to the polypeptide encoded by the heterologous nucleotide sequence by a linker. Non-limiting examples of polypeptide moieties encoded by heterologous nucleotide sequences include an immunoglobulin constant region or a portion thereof, albumin or a fragment thereof, an albumin-binding moiety, a transferrin, the PAS polypeptides of U.S. Pat Application No. 20100292130, a HAP sequence, transferrin or a fragment thereof, the C-terminal peptide (CTP) of the β subunit of human chorionic gonadotropin, albumin-binding small molecule, an XTEN sequence, FcRn binding moieties (*e.g.*, complete Fc regions or portions thereof which bind to FcRn), single chain Fc regions (ScFc regions, *e.g.*, as described in US 2008/0260738, WO 2008/012543, or WO 2008/1439545), polyglycine linkers, polyserine linkers, peptides and short polypeptides of 6-40 amino acids of two types of amino acids selected from glycine (G), alanine (A), serine (S), threonine (T), glutamate (E) and proline (P) with varying degrees of secondary structure from less than 50% to greater than 50%, amongst others, or two or more combinations thereof. In some embodiments,

the polypeptide encoded by the heterologous nucleotide sequence is linked to a non-polypeptide moiety. Non-limiting examples of the non-polypeptide moieties include polyethylene glycol (PEG), albumin-binding small molecules, polysialic acid, hydroxyethyl starch (HES), a derivative thereof, or any combinations thereof.

[0095] As used herein, the term "Fc region" is defined as the portion of a polypeptide which corresponds to the Fc region of native Ig, *i.e.*, as formed by the dimeric association of the respective Fc domains of its two heavy chains. A native Fc region forms a homodimer with another Fc region. In contrast, the term "genetically-fused Fc region" or "single-chain Fc region" (scFc region), as used herein, refers to a synthetic dimeric Fc region comprised of Fc domains genetically linked within a single polypeptide chain (*i.e.*, encoded in a single contiguous genetic sequence).

[0096] In one embodiment, the "Fc region" refers to the portion of a single Ig heavy chain beginning in the hinge region just upstream of the papain cleavage site (*i.e.*, residue 216 in IgG, taking the first residue of heavy chain constant region to be 114) and ending at the C-terminus of the antibody. Accordingly, a complete Fc domain comprises at least a hinge domain, a CH2 domain, and a CH3 domain.

[0097] The Fc region of an Ig constant region, depending on the Ig isotype can include the CH2, CH3, and CH4 domains, as well as the hinge region. Chimeric proteins comprising an Fc region of an Ig bestow several desirable properties on a chimeric protein including increased stability, increased serum half-life (see Capon *et al.*, 1989, *Nature* 337:525) as well as binding to Fc receptors such as the neonatal Fc receptor (FcRn) (U.S. Pat. Nos. 6,086,875, 6,485,726, 6,030,613; WO 03/077834; US2003-0235536A1), which are incorporated herein by reference in their entireties.

[0098] A "reference nucleotide sequence," when used herein as a comparison to a nucleotide sequence of the disclosure, is a polynucleotide sequence essentially identical to the nucleotide sequence of the disclosure except that sequence is not optimized. For example, the reference nucleotide sequence for a nucleic acid molecule consisting of the codon optimized BDD FVIII of SEQ ID NO: 1 and a heterologous nucleotide sequence that encodes a single chain Fc region linked to SEQ ID NO: 1 at its 3' end is a nucleic acid molecule consisting of the original (or "parent") BDD FVIII of SEQ ID NO: 16 and the identical heterologous nucleotide sequence that encodes a single chain Fc region linked to SEQ ID NO: 16 at its 3' end.

[0099] As used herein, the term "optimized," with regard to nucleotide sequences, refers to a polynucleotide sequence that encodes a polypeptide, wherein the polynucleotide sequence

has been mutated to enhance a property of that polynucleotide sequence. In some embodiments, the optimization is done to increase transcription levels, increase translation levels, increase steady-state mRNA levels, increase or decrease the binding of regulatory proteins such as general transcription factors, increase or decrease splicing, or increase the yield of the polypeptide produced by the polynucleotide sequence. Examples of changes that can be made to a polynucleotide sequence to optimize it include codon optimization, G/C content optimization, removal of repeat sequences, removal of AT rich elements, removal of cryptic splice sites, removal of cis-acting elements that repress transcription or translation, adding or removing poly-T or poly-A sequences, adding sequences around the transcription start site that enhance transcription, such as Kozak consensus sequences, removal of sequences that could form stem loop structures, removal of destabilizing sequences, and two or more combinations thereof.

II. Nucleic Acid Molecules

[0100] Certain aspects of the present disclosure are directed to a nucleic acid molecule, comprising a first ITR, a second ITR, and a genetic cassette encoding a therapeutic protein. In some embodiments, the therapeutic protein comprises a clotting factor. In certain embodiments, the genetic cassette is positioned between the first ITR and the second ITR. In some embodiments, the nucleic acid molecule further comprises one or more noncoding region. In certain embodiments, the one or more non-coding region comprises a promoter sequence, an intron, a post-transcriptional regulatory element, a 3'UTR poly(A) sequence, or any combination thereof.

[0101] In one embodiment, the genetic cassette is a single stranded nucleic acid. In another embodiment, the genetic cassette is a double stranded nucleic acid.

[0102] In one embodiment, the nucleic acid molecule comprises:

- (a) a first ITR that is an ITR of a non-AAV family member of *Parvoviridae*;
- (b) a tissue specific promoter sequence, *e.g.*, TTT promoter;
- (c) an intron, *e.g.*, a synthetic intron;
- (d) a nucleotide encoding a therapeutic protein, *e.g.*, a clotting factor;
- (e) a post-transcriptional regulatory element, *e.g.*, WPRE;
- (f) a 3'UTR poly(A) tail sequence, *e.g.*, bGHpA;
- (g) a second ITR that is an ITR of a non-AAV family member of *Parvoviridae*

[0103] In one embodiment, the nucleic acid molecule comprises:

- (a) a first ITR that is an ITR of an AAV, *e.g.*, an AAV serotype 2 genome;
- (b) a tissue specific promoter sequence, *e.g.*, TTT promoter;
- (c) an intron, *e.g.*, a synthetic intron;
- (d) a nucleotide encoding FVIII; wherein the nucleotide has at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to a nucleotide sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs: 1-14 or SEQ ID NO: 71;
- (e) a post-transcriptional regulatory element, *e.g.*, WPRE;
- (f) a 3'UTR poly(A) tail sequence, *e.g.*, bGHpA; and
- (g) a second ITR that is an ITR of an AAV, *e.g.*, an AAV serotype 2 genome.

[0104] In another embodiment, the nucleic acid molecule comprises:

- (a) a first ITR;
- (b) a tissue specific promoter sequence, *e.g.*, TTT promoter;
- (c) an intron, *e.g.*, a synthetic intron;
- (d) a nucleotide encoding a therapeutic protein, *e.g.*, clotting factor;
- (e) a post-transcriptional regulatory element, *e.g.*, WPRE;
- (f) a 3'UTR poly(A) tail sequence, *e.g.*, bGHpA; and
- (g) a second ITR,

wherein one of the first ITR or the second ITR is an ITR of a non-AAV family member of *Parvoviridae* and the other ITR is an ITR of an AAV, *e.g.*, an AAV serotype 2 genome.

[0105] In another embodiment, the nucleic acid molecule comprises:

- (a) a first ITR;
- (b) a tissue specific promoter sequence, TTT promoter;
- (c) an intron, *e.g.*, a synthetic intron;
- (d) a nucleotide encoding a therapeutic protein, *e.g.*, clotting factor;
- (e) a post-transcriptional regulatory element, *e.g.*, WPRE;
- (f) a 3'UTR poly(A) tail sequence, *e.g.*, bGHpA; and
- (g) a second ITR,

wherein the first ITR is a synthetic ITR, the second ITR is a synthetic ITR, or both the first ITR and the second ITR are synthetic ITRs.

A. Inverted Terminal Repeats

[0106] Certain aspects of the present disclosure are directed to a nucleic acid molecule comprising a first ITR, *e.g.*, a 5' ITR, and second ITR, *e.g.*, a 3' ITR. Typically, ITRs are

involved in parvovirus (*e.g.*, AAV) DNA replication and rescue, or excision, from prokaryotic plasmids (Samulski et al., 1983, 1987; Senapathy et al., 1984; Gottlieb and Muzyczka, 1988). In addition, ITRs appear to be the minimum sequences required for AAV proviral integration and for packaging of AAV DNA into virions (McLaughlin et al., 1988; Samulski et al., 1989). These elements are essential for efficient multiplication of a parvovirus genome. It is hypothesized that the minimal defining elements indispensable for ITR function are a Rep-binding site (*e.g.*, RBS; GCGCGCTCGCTCGCTC (SEQ ID NO: 104) for AAV2) and a terminal resolution site (*e.g.*, TRS; AGTTGG (SEQ ID NO: 105) for AAV2) plus a variable palindromic sequence allowing for hairpin formation. Palindromic nucleotide regions normally function together in *cis* as origins of DNA replication and as packaging signals for the virus. Complimentary sequences in the ITRs fold into a hairpin T-shaped structure during DNA replication.

[0107] In some embodiments, the ITR comprises a naturally occurring, *e.g.* the ITR comprises all or a portion of a parvovirus ITR. In some embodiments, the ITR comprises a synthetic sequence. In one embodiment, the first ITR or the second ITR comprises a synthetic sequence. In another embodiment, each of the first ITR and the second ITR comprises a synthetic sequence. In some embodiments, the first ITR or the second ITR comprises a naturally occurring sequence. In another embodiment, each of the first ITR and the second ITR comprises a naturally occurring sequence.

[0108] In some embodiments, the ITR comprises an ITR from an AAV genome. In some embodiments, the ITR is an ITR of an AAV genome selected from AAV1, AAV2, AAV3, AAV4, AAV5, AAV6, AAV7, AAV8, AAV9, AAV10 AAV11, and any combination thereof. In a particular embodiment, the ITR is an ITR of the AAV2 genome. In another embodiment, the ITR is a synthetic sequence genetically engineered to include at its 5' and 3' ends ITRs derived from one or more of AAV genomes.

[0109] In some embodiments, the ITR is not derived from an AAV genome. In some embodiments, the ITR is an ITR of a non-AAV. In some embodiments, the ITR is an ITR of a non-AAV genome from the viral family *Parvoviridae* selected from, but not limited to, the group consisting of *Bocavirus*, *Dependovirus*, *Erythrovirus*, *Amdovirus*, *Parvovirus*, *Densovirus*, *Iteravirus*, *Contravirus*, *Aveparvovirus*, *Copiparvovirus*, *Protoparvovirus*, *Tetraparvovirus*, *Ambidensovirus*, *Brevidensovirus*, *Hepandensovirus*, *Penstyldensovirus* and any combination thereof. In certain embodiments, the ITR is derived from erythrovirus parvovirus B19 (human virus). In another embodiment, the ITR is derived from a Muscovy duck parvovirus (MDPV) strain. In certain embodiments, the MDPV strain is attenuated, *e.g.*, MDPV strain FZ91-30. In

other embodiments, the MDPV strain is pathogenic, *e.g.*, MDPV strain YY. In some embodiments, the ITR is derived from a porcine parvovirus, *e.g.*, porcine parvovirus U44978. In some embodiments, the ITR is derived from a mice minute virus, *e.g.*, mice minute virus U34256. In some embodiments, the ITR is derived from a canine parvovirus, *e.g.*, canine parvovirus M19296. In some embodiments, the ITR is derived from a mink enteritis virus, *e.g.*, mink enteritis virus D00765. In some embodiments, the ITR is derived from a *Dependoparvovirus*. In one embodiment, the *Dependoparvovirus* is a *Dependovirus* Goose parvovirus (GPV) strain. In a specific embodiment, the GPV strain is attenuated, *e.g.*, GPV strain 82-0321V. In another specific embodiment, the GPV strain is pathogenic, *e.g.*, GPV strain B.

[0110] The first ITR and the second ITR of the nucleic acid molecule can be derived from the same genome, *e.g.*, from the genome of the same virus, or from different genomes, *e.g.*, from the genomes of two or more different viruses genomes. In certain embodiments, the first ITR and the second ITR are derived from the same AAV genome. In a specific embodiment, the two ITRs present in the nucleic acid molecule of the invention are the same, and can in particular be AAV2 ITRs. In other embodiments, the first ITR is derived from an AAV genome and the second ITR is not derived from an AAV genome (*e.g.*, a non-AAV genome). In other embodiments, the first ITR is not derived from an AAV genome (*e.g.*, a non-AAV genome) and the second ITR is derived from an AAV genome. In still other embodiments, both the first ITR and the second ITR are not derived from an AAV genome (*e.g.*, a non-AAV genome). In one particular embodiment, the first ITR and the second ITR are identical.

[0111] In some embodiments, the first ITR is derived from an AAV genome, and the second ITR is derived from a genome selected from the group consisting of *Bocavirus*, *Dependovirus*, *Erythrovirus*, *Amdovirus*, *Parvovirus*, *Densovirus*, *Iteravirus*, *Contravirus*, *Aveparvovirus*, *Copiparvovirus*, *Protoparvovirus*, *Tetraparvovirus*, *Ambidensovirus*, *Brevidensovirus*, *Hepandensovirus*, *Penstyldensovirus* and any combination thereof. In other embodiments, the second ITR is derived from an AAV genome, and the first ITR is derived from a genome selected from the group consisting of *Bocavirus*, *Dependovirus*, *Erythrovirus*, *Amdovirus*, *Parvovirus*, *Densovirus*, *Iteravirus*, *Contravirus*, *Aveparvovirus*, *Copiparvovirus*, *Protoparvovirus*, *Tetraparvovirus*, *Ambidensovirus*, *Brevidensovirus*, *Hepandensovirus*, *Penstyldensovirus*, and any combination thereof.

[0112] In some embodiments, the first ITR is derived from an AAV genome, and the second ITR is derived from erythrovirus parvovirus B19 (human virus). In other embodiments,

the second ITR is derived from an AAV genome, and the first ITR is derived from erythrovirus parvovirus B19 (human virus).

[0113] In some embodiments, the first ITR is derived from an AAV genome, and the second ITR is derived from a Muscovy duck parvovirus (MDPV) strain. In other embodiments, the second ITR is derived from an AAV genome, and the first ITR is derived from a Muscovy duck parvovirus (MDPV) strain. In certain embodiments, the MDPV strain is attenuated, *e.g.*, MDPV strain FZ91-30. In other embodiments, the MDPV strain is pathogenic, *e.g.*, MDPV strain YY.

[0114] In some embodiments, the first ITR is derived from an AAV genome, and the second ITR is derived from a *Dependoparvovirus*. In some embodiments, the second ITR is derived from an AAV genome, and the first ITR is derived from a *Dependoparvovirus*. In other embodiments, the first ITR is derived from an AAV genome, and the second ITR is derived from a *Dependovirus* goose parvovirus (GPV) strain. In other embodiments, the second ITR is derived from an AAV genome, and the first ITR is derived from a *Dependovirus* GPV strain. In certain embodiments, the GPV strain is attenuated, *e.g.*, GPV strain 82-0321V. In other embodiments, the GPV strain is pathogenic, *e.g.*, GPV strain B.

[0115] In certain embodiments, the first ITR is derived from an AAV genome, and the second ITR is derived from a genome selected from the group consisting of porcine parvovirus, *e.g.*, porcine parvovirus strain U44978; mice minute virus, *e.g.*, mice minute virus strain U34256; canine parvovirus, *e.g.*, canine parvovirus strain M19296; mink enteritis virus, *e.g.*, mink enteritis virus strain D00765; and any combination thereof. In other embodiments, the second ITR is derived from an AAV genome, and the first ITR is derived from a genome selected from the group consisting of porcine parvovirus, *e.g.*, porcine parvovirus strain U44978; mice minute virus, *e.g.*, mice minute virus strain U34256; canine parvovirus, *e.g.*, canine parvovirus strain M19296; mink enteritis virus, *e.g.*, mink enteritis virus strain D00765; and any combination thereof.

[0116] In another particular embodiment, the ITR is a synthetic sequence genetically engineered to include at its 5' and 3' ends ITRs not derived from an AAV genome. In another particular embodiment, the ITR is a synthetic sequence genetically engineered to include at its 5' and 3' ends ITRs derived from one or more of non-AAV genomes. The two ITRs present in the nucleic acid molecule of the invention can be the same or different non-AAV genomes. In particular, the ITRs can be derived from the same non-AAV genome. In a specific embodiment,

the two ITRs present in the nucleic acid molecule of the invention are the same, and can in particular be AAV2 ITRs.

[0117] In some embodiments, the ITR sequence comprises one or more palindromic sequence. A palindromic sequence of an ITR disclosed herein includes, but is not limited to, native palindromic sequences (*i.e.*, sequences found in nature), synthetic sequences (*i.e.*, sequences not found in nature), such as pseudo palindromic sequences, and combinations or modified forms thereof. A "pseudo palindromic sequence" is a palindromic DNA sequence, including an imperfect palindromic sequence, which shares less than 80% including less than 70%, 60%, 50%, 40%, 30%, 20%, 10%, or 5%, or no, nucleic acid sequence identity to sequences in native AAV or non-AAV palindromic sequence which form a secondary structure. The native palindromic sequences can be obtained or derived from any genome disclosed herein. The synthetic palindromic sequence can be based on any genome disclosed herein.

[0118] The palindromic sequence can be continuous or interrupted. In some embodiments, the palindromic sequence is interrupted, wherein the palindromic sequence comprises an insertion of a second sequence. In some embodiments, the second sequence comprises a promoter, an enhancer, an integration site for an integrase (*e.g.*, sites for Cre or Flp recombinase), an open reading frame for a gene product, or a combination thereof.

[0119] In some embodiments, the ITRs form hairpin loop structures. In one embodiment, the first ITR forms a hairpin structure. In another embodiment, the second ITR forms a hairpin structure. Still in another embodiment, both the first ITR and the second ITR form hairpin structures.

[0120] In some embodiments, an ITR in a nucleic acid molecule described herein may be a transcriptionally activated ITR. A transcriptionally-activated ITR can comprise all or a portion of a wild-type ITR that has been transcriptionally activated by inclusion of at least one transcriptionally active element. Various types of transcriptionally active elements are suitable for use in this context. In some embodiments, the transcriptionally active element is a constitutive transcriptionally active element. Constitutive transcriptionally active elements provide an ongoing level of gene transcription, and are preferred when it is desired that the transgene be expressed on an ongoing basis. In other embodiments, the transcriptionally active element is an inducible transcriptionally active element. Inducible transcriptionally active elements generally exhibit low activity in the absence of an inducer (or inducing condition), and are up-regulated in the presence of the inducer (or switch to an inducing condition). Inducible transcriptionally active elements may be preferred when expression is desired only at certain times or at certain

locations, or when it is desirable to titrate the level of expression using an inducing agent. Transcriptionally active elements can also be tissue-specific; that is, they exhibit activity only in certain tissues or cell types.

[0121] Transcriptionally active elements, can be incorporated into an ITR in a variety of ways. In some embodiments, a transcriptionally active element is incorporated 5' to any portion of an ITR or 3' to any portion of an ITR. In other embodiments, a transcriptionally active element of a transcriptionally-activated ITR lies between two ITR sequences. If the transcriptionally active element comprises two or more elements which must be spaced apart, those elements may alternate with portions of the ITR. In some embodiments, a hairpin structure of an ITR is deleted and replaced with inverted repeats of a transcriptional element. This latter arrangement would create a hairpin mimicking the deleted portion in structure. Multiple tandem transcriptionally active elements can also be present in a transcriptionally-activated ITR, and these may be adjacent or spaced apart. In addition, protein binding sites (*e.g.*, Rep binding sites) can be introduced into transcriptionally active elements of the transcriptionally-activated ITRs. A transcriptionally active element can comprise any sequence enabling the controlled transcription of DNA by RNA polymerase to form RNA, and can comprise, for example, a transcriptionally active element, as defined below.

[0122] Transcriptionally-activated ITRs provide both transcriptional activation and ITR functions to the nucleic acid molecule in a relatively limited nucleotide sequence length which effectively maximizes the length of a transgene which can be carried and expressed from the nucleic acid molecule. Incorporation of a transcriptionally active element into an ITR can be accomplished in a variety of ways. A comparison of the ITR sequence and the sequence requirements of the transcriptionally active element can provide insight into ways to encode the element within an ITR. For example, transcriptional activity can be added to an ITR through the introduction of specific changes in the ITR sequence that replicates the functional elements of the transcriptionally active element. A number of techniques exist in the art to efficiently add, delete, and/or change particular nucleotide sequences at specific sites (see, for example, Deng and Nickoloff (1992) *Anal. Biochem.* 200:81-88). Another way to create transcriptionally-activated ITRs involves the introduction of a restriction site at a desired location in the ITR. In addition, multiple transcriptionally activate elements can be incorporated into a transcriptionally-activated ITR, using methods known in the art.

[0123] By way of illustration, transcriptionally-activated ITRs can be generated by inclusion of one or more transcriptionally active elements such as: TATA box, GC box, CCAAT

box, Sp1 site, Inr region, CRE (cAMP regulatory element) site, ATF-1/CRE site, APB β box, APB α box, CArG box, CCAC box, or any other element involved in transcription as known in the art.

B. Therapeutic Proteins

[0124] Certain aspects of the present disclosure are directed to a nucleic acid molecule comprising a first ITR, a second ITR, and a genetic cassette encoding a therapeutic protein.

[0125] Certain embodiments of the present disclosure are directed to a nucleic acid molecule comprising a first ITR, a second ITR, and a genetic cassette encoding a therapeutic protein, wherein the therapeutic protein comprises a clotting factor. In some embodiments, the clotting factor is selected from the group consisting of F1, FII, FIII, FIV, FV, FVI, FVII, FVIII, FIX, FX, FXI, FXII, FXIII), VWF, prekallikrein, high-molecular weight kininogen, fibronectin, antithrombin III, heparin cofactor II, protein C, protein S, protein Z, Protein Z-related protease inhibitor (ZPI), plasminogen, alpha 2-antiplasmin, tissue plasminogen activator(tPA), urokinase, plasminogen activator inhibitor-1 (PAI-1), plasminogen activator inhibitor-2 (PAI2), any zymogen thereof, any active form thereof, and any combination thereof. In one embodiment, the clotting factor comprises FVIII or a variant or fragment thereof. In another embodiment, the clotting factor comprises FIX or a variant or fragment thereof. In another embodiment, the clotting factor comprises FVII or a variant or fragment thereof. In another embodiment, the clotting factor comprises VWF or a variant or fragment thereof.

1. FVIII and Polynucleotide Sequences Encoding the FVIII Protein

[0126] In some embodiments, the nucleic acid molecule comprises a first ITR, a second ITR, and a genetic cassette encoding a therapeutic protein, wherein the therapeutic protein comprises a factor VIII polypeptide. "Factor VIII," abbreviated throughout the instant application as "FVIII," as used herein, means functional FVIII polypeptide in its normal role in coagulation, unless otherwise specified. Thus, the term FVIII includes variant polypeptides that are functional. "A FVIII protein" is used interchangeably with FVIII polypeptide (or protein) or FVIII. Examples of the FVIII functions include, but are not limited to, an ability to activate coagulation, an ability to act as a cofactor for factor IX, or an ability to form a tenase complex with factor IX in the presence of Ca²⁺ and phospholipids, which then converts Factor X to the activated form Xa. The FVIII protein can be the human, porcine, canine, rat, or murine FVIII protein. In addition, comparisons between FVIII from humans and other species have identified conserved residues that are likely to be required for function (Cameron *et al.*, *Thromb. Haemost.* 79:317-22 (1998);

US 6,251,632). The full length polypeptide and polynucleotide sequences are known, as are many functional fragments, mutants and modified versions. Various FVIII amino acid and nucleotide sequences are disclosed in, *e.g.*, US Publication Nos. 2015/0158929 A1, 2014/0308280 A1, and 2014/0370035 A1 and International Publication No. WO 2015/106052 A1. FVIII polypeptides include, *e.g.*, full-length FVIII, full-length FVIII minus Met at the N-terminus, mature FVIII (minus the signal sequence), mature FVIII with an additional Met at the N-terminus, and/or FVIII with a full or partial deletion of the B domain. FVIII variants include B domain deletions, whether partial or full deletions.

[0127] The FVIII portion in the chimeric protein used herein has FVIII activity. FVIII activity can be measured by any known methods in the art. A number of tests are available to assess the function of the coagulation system: activated partial thromboplastin time (aPTT) test, chromogenic assay, ROTEM assay, prothrombin time (PT) test (also used to determine INR), fibrinogen testing (often by the Clauss method), platelet count, platelet function testing (often by PFA-100), TCT, bleeding time, mixing test (whether an abnormality corrects if the patient's plasma is mixed with normal plasma), coagulation factor assays, antiphospholipid antibodies, D-dimer, genetic tests (*e.g.*, factor V Leiden, prothrombin mutation G20210A), dilute Russell's viper venom time (dRVVT), miscellaneous platelet function tests, thromboelastography (TEG or Sonoclot), thromboelastometry (TEM[®], *e.g.*, ROTEM[®]), or euglobulin lysis time (ELT).

[0128] The aPTT test is a performance indicator measuring the efficacy of both the "intrinsic" (also referred to the contact activation pathway) and the common coagulation pathways. This test is commonly used to measure clotting activity of commercially available recombinant clotting factors, *e.g.*, FVIII. It is used in conjunction with prothrombin time (PT), which measures the extrinsic pathway.

[0129] ROTEM analysis provides information on the whole kinetics of haemostasis: clotting time, clot formation, clot stability and lysis. The different parameters in thromboelastometry are dependent on the activity of the plasmatic coagulation system, platelet function, fibrinolysis, or many factors which influence these interactions. This assay can provide a complete view of secondary haemostasis.

[0130] The chromogenic assay mechanism is based on the principles of the blood coagulation cascade, where activated FVIII accelerates the conversion of Factor X into Factor Xa in the presence of activated Factor IX, phospholipids and calcium ions. The Factor Xa activity is assessed by hydrolysis of a p-nitroanilide (pNA) substrate specific to Factor Xa. The initial rate

of release of p-nitroaniline measured at 405 nM is directly proportional to the Factor Xa activity and thus to the FVIII activity in the sample.

[0131] The chromogenic assay is recommended by the FVIII and Factor IX Subcommittee of the Scientific and Standardization Committee (SSC) of the International Society on Thrombosis and Hemostasis (ISTH). Since 1994, the chromogenic assay has also been the reference method of the European Pharmacopoeia for the assignment of FVIII concentrate potency. Thus, in one embodiment, the chimeric polypeptide comprising FVIII has FVIII activity comparable to a chimeric polypeptide comprising mature FVIII or a BDD FVIII (*e.g.*, ADVATE[®], REFACTO[®], or ELOCTATE[®]).

[0132] In another embodiment, the chimeric protein comprising FVIII of this disclosure has a Factor Xa generation rate comparable to a chimeric protein comprising mature FVIII or a BDD FVIII (*e.g.*, ADVATE[®], REFACTO[®], or ELOCTATE[®]).

[0133] In order to activate Factor X to Factor Xa, activated Factor IX (Factor IXa) hydrolyzes one arginine-isoleucine bond in Factor X to form Factor Xa in the presence of Ca²⁺, membrane phospholipids, and a FVIII cofactor. Therefore, the interaction of FVIII with Factor IX is critical in coagulation pathway. In certain embodiments, the chimeric polypeptide comprising FVIII can interact with Factor IXa at a rate comparable to a chimeric polypeptide comprising mature FVIII sequence or a BDD FVIII (*e.g.*, ADVATE[®], REFACTO[®], or ELOCTATE[®]).

[0134] In addition, FVIII is bound to von Willebrand Factor while inactive in circulation. FVIII degrades rapidly when not bound to VWF and is released from VWF by the action of thrombin. In some embodiments, the chimeric polypeptide comprising FVIII binds to von Willebrand Factor at a level comparable to a chimeric polypeptide comprising mature FVIII sequence or a BDD FVIII (*e.g.*, ADVATE[®], REFACTO[®], or ELOCTATE[®]).

[0135] FVIII can be inactivated by activated protein C in the presence of calcium and phospholipids. Activated protein C cleaves FVIII heavy chain after Arginine 336 in the A1 domain, which disrupts a Factor X substrate interaction site, and cleaves after Arginine 562 in the A2 domain, which enhances the dissociation of the A2 domain as well as disrupts an interaction site with the Factor IXa. This cleavage also bisects the A2 domain (43 kDa) and generates A2-N (18 kDa) and A2-C (25 kDa) domains. Thus, activated protein C can catalyze multiple cleavage sites in the heavy chain. In one embodiment, the chimeric polypeptide comprising FVIII is inactivated by activated Protein C at a level comparable to a chimeric polypeptide comprising mature FVIII sequence or a BDD FVIII (*e.g.*, ADVATE[®], REFACTO[®], or ELOCTATE[®]).

[0136] In other embodiments, the chimeric protein comprising FVIII has FVIII activity *in vivo* comparable to a chimeric polypeptide comprising mature FVIII sequence or a BDD FVIII (*e.g.*, ADVATE[®], REFACTO[®], or ELOCTATE[®]). In a particular embodiment, the chimeric polypeptide comprising FVIII is capable of protecting a HemA mouse at a level comparable to a chimeric polypeptide comprising mature FVIII sequence or a BDD FVIII (*e.g.*, ADVATE[®], REFACTO[®], or ELOCTATE[®]) in a HemA mouse tail vein transection model.

[0137] A "B domain" of FVIII, as used herein, is the same as the B domain known in the art that is defined by internal amino acid sequence identity and sites of proteolytic cleavage by thrombin, *e.g.*, residues Ser741-Arg1648 of mature human FVIII. The other human FVIII domains are defined by the following amino acid residues, relative to mature human FVIII: A1, residues Ala1-Arg372; A2, residues Ser373-Arg740; A3, residues Ser1690-Ile2032; C1, residues Arg2033-Asn2172; C2, residues Ser2173-Tyr2332 of mature FVIII. The sequence residue numbers used herein without referring to any SEQ ID Numbers correspond to the FVIII sequence without the signal peptide sequence (19 amino acids) unless otherwise indicated. The A3-C1-C2 sequence, also known as the FVIII heavy chain, includes residues Ser1690-Tyr2332. The remaining sequence, residues Glu1649-Arg1689, is usually referred to as the FVIII light chain activation peptide. The locations of the boundaries for all of the domains, including the B domains, for porcine, mouse and canine FVIII are also known in the art. In one embodiment, the B domain of FVIII is deleted ("B-domain-deleted FVIII" or "BDD FVIII"). An example of a BDD FVIII is REFACTO[®] (recombinant BDD FVIII). In one particular embodiment the B domain deleted FVIII variant comprises a deletion of amino acid residues 746 to 1648 of mature FVIII.

[0138] A "B-domain-deleted FVIII" may have the full or partial deletions disclosed in U.S. Pat. Nos. 6,316,226, 6,346,513, 7,041,635, 5,789,203, 6,060,447, 5,595,886, 6,228,620, 5,972,885, 6,048,720, 5,543,502, 5,610,278, 5,171,844, 5,112,950, 4,868,112, and 6,458,563 and Int'l Publ. No. WO 2015106052 A1 (PCT/US2015/010738). In some embodiments, a B-domain-deleted FVIII sequence used in the methods of the present disclosure comprises any one of the deletions disclosed at col. 4, line 4 to col. 5, line 28 and Examples 1-5 of U.S. Pat. No. 6,316,226 (also in US 6,346,513). In another embodiment, a B-domain deleted Factor VIII is the S743/Q1638 B-domain deleted Factor VIII (SQ BDD FVIII) (*e.g.*, Factor VIII having a deletion from amino acid 744 to amino acid 1637, *e.g.*, Factor VIII having amino acids 1-743 and amino acids 1638-2332 of mature FVIII). In some embodiments, a B-domain-deleted FVIII used in the methods of the present disclosure has a deletion disclosed at col. 2, lines 26-51 and examples 5-8

of U.S. Patent No. 5,789,203 (also US 6,060,447, US 5,595,886, and US 6,228,620). In some embodiments, a B-domain-deleted Factor VIII has a deletion described in col. 1, lines 25 to col. 2, line 40 of US Patent No. 5,972,885; col. 6, lines 1-22 and example 1 of U.S. Patent no. 6,048,720; col. 2, lines 17-46 of U.S. Patent No. 5,543,502; col. 4, line 22 to col. 5, line 36 of U.S. Patent no. 5,171,844; col. 2, lines 55-68, figure 2, and example 1 of U.S. Patent No. 5,112,950; col. 2, line 2 to col. 19, line 21 and table 2 of U.S. Patent No. 4,868,112; col. 2, line 1 to col. 3, line 19, col. 3, line 40 to col. 4, line 67, col. 7, line 43 to col. 8, line 26, and col. 11, line 5 to col. 13, line 39 of U.S. Patent no. 7,041,635; or col. 4, lines 25-53, of U.S. Patent No. 6,458,563. In some embodiments, a B-domain-deleted FVIII has a deletion of most of the B domain, but still contains amino-terminal sequences of the B domain that are essential for *in vivo* proteolytic processing of the primary translation product into two polypeptide chain, as disclosed in WO 91/09122. In some embodiments, a B-domain-deleted FVIII is constructed with a deletion of amino acids 747-1638, *i.e.*, virtually a complete deletion of the B domain. Hoebe R.C., *et al. J. Biol. Chem.* 265 (13): 7318-7323 (1990). A B-domain-deleted Factor VIII may also contain a deletion of amino acids 771-1666 or amino acids 868-1562 of FVIII. Meulien P., *et al. Protein Eng.* 2(4): 301-6 (1988). Additional B domain deletions that are part of the invention include: deletion of amino acids 982 through 1562 or 760 through 1639 (Toole *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* (1986) 83, 5939-5942)), 797 through 1562 (Eaton, *et al. Biochemistry* (1986) 25:8343-8347)), 741 through 1646 (Kaufman (PCT published application No. WO 87/04187)), 747-1560 (Sarver, *et al.*, *DNA* (1987) 6:553-564)), 741 through 1648 (Pasek (PCT application No.88/00831)), or 816 through 1598 or 741 through 1648 (Lagner (Behring Inst. Mitt. (1988) No 82:16-25, EP 295597)). In one particular embodiment, the B-domain-deleted FVIII comprises a deletion of amino acid residues 746 to 1648 of mature FVIII. In another embodiment, the B-domain-deleted FVIII comprises a deletion of amino acid residues 745 to 1648 of mature FVIII. In some embodiments, the BDD FVIII comprises single chain FVIII that contains a deletion in amino acids 765 to 1652 corresponding to the mature full length FVIII (also known as rVIII-SingleChain and AFSTYLA®). *See* US Patent No. 7,041,635.

[0139] In other embodiments, BDD FVIII includes a FVIII polypeptide containing fragments of the B-domain that retain one or more N-linked glycosylation sites, *e.g.*, residues 757, 784, 828, 900, 963, or optionally 943, which correspond to the amino acid sequence of the full-length FVIII sequence. Examples of the B-domain fragments include 226 amino acids or 163 amino acids of the B-domain as disclosed in Miao, H.Z., *et al.*, *Blood* 103(a): 3412-3419 (2004), Kasuda, A, *et al.*, *J. Thromb. Haemost.* 6: 1352-1359 (2008), and Pipe, S.W., *et al.*, *J. Thromb.*

Haemost. 9: 2235-2242 (2011) (*i.e.*, the first 226 amino acids or 163 amino acids of the B domain are retained). In still other embodiments, BDD FVIII further comprises a point mutation at residue 309 (from Phe to Ser) to improve expression of the BDD FVIII protein. *See* Miao, H.Z., *et al.*, *Blood* 103(a): 3412-3419 (2004). In still other embodiments, the BDD FVIII includes a FVIII polypeptide containing a portion of the B-domain, but not containing one or more furin cleavage sites (*e.g.*, Arg1313 and Arg 1648). *See* Pipe, S.W., *et al.*, *J. Thromb. Haemost.* 9: 2235-2242 (2011). In some embodiments, the BDD FVIII comprises single chain FVIII that contains a deletion in amino acids 765 to 1652 corresponding to the mature full length FVIII (also known as rVIII-SingleChain and AFSTYLA®). *See* US Patent No. 7,041,635. Each of the foregoing deletions may be made in any FVIII sequence.

[0140] A great many functional FVIII variants are known, as is discussed above and below. In addition, hundreds of nonfunctional mutations in FVIII have been identified in hemophilia patients, and it has been determined that the effect of these mutations on FVIII function is due more to where they lie within the 3-dimensional structure of FVIII than on the nature of the substitution (Cutler *et al.*, *Hum. Mutat.* 19:274-8 (2002)), incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. In addition, comparisons between FVIII from humans and other species have identified conserved residues that are likely to be required for function (Cameron *et al.*, *Thromb. Haemost.* 79:317-22 (1998); US 6,251,632), incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

[0141] In some embodiments, the FVIII polypeptide comprises a FVIII variant or fragment thereof, wherein the FVIII variant or the fragment thereof has a FVIII activity. In some embodiments, the genetic cassette encodes a full-length FVIII polypeptide. In other embodiments, the genetic cassette encodes a B domain-deleted (BDD) FVIII polypeptide, wherein all or a portion of the B domain of FVIII is deleted. In one particular embodiment, the genetic cassette encodes a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence having at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 86%, at least about 87%, at least about 88%, at least about 89%, at least about 90%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NOs: 106, 107, 109, 110, 111, or 112. In some embodiments, the genetic cassette encodes a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 17 or a fragment thereof. In some embodiments, the genetic cassette encodes a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 106 or a fragment thereof. In some embodiments, the genetic cassette comprises a nucleotide sequence which has at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 107. In some embodiments, the genetic cassette encodes a polypeptide

having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 109 or a fragment thereof. In some embodiments, the genetic cassette comprises a nucleotide sequence which has at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 16. In some embodiments, the genetic cassette comprises a nucleotide sequence which has at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 109.

[0142] In some embodiments, the genetic cassette of the disclosure encodes a FVIII polypeptide comprising a signal peptide or a fragment thereof. In other embodiments, the genetic cassette encodes a FVIII polypeptide which lacks a signal peptide. In some embodiments, the signal peptide comprises amino acids 1-19 of SEQ ID NO: 17.

[0143] In some embodiments, the genetic cassette comprises a nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide, wherein the nucleotide sequence is codon optimized. In certain embodiments, the genetic cassette comprises a nucleotide sequence which is disclosed in International Application No. PCT/US2017/015879, which is incorporated by reference in its entirety. In some embodiments, the genetic cassette comprises a nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide, wherein the nucleotide sequence is codon optimized. In certain embodiments, the genetic cassette comprises a nucleotide sequence which has at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to a nucleotide sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs: 1-14. In some embodiments, the genetic cassette comprises a nucleotide sequence which has at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 71. In some embodiments, the genetic cassette comprises a nucleotide sequence which has at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 19.

a. Codon Optimized Nucleotide Sequences Encoding FVIII Polypeptides

[0144] In some embodiments, a nucleic acid molecule of the present disclosure comprises a first ITR, a second ITR, and a genetic cassette encoding a therapeutic protein, wherein the first ITR and the second ITR are derived from an AAV genome, and wherein the genetic cassette comprises a codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide. In some embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encodes a full-length FVIII polypeptide. In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encodes a B domain-deleted (BDD) FVIII polypeptide, wherein all or a portion of the B domain of FVIII is deleted. In one

particular embodiment, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encodes a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence having at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 86%, at least about 87%, at least about 88%, at least about 89%, at least about 90%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 17 or a fragment thereof. In one embodiment, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encodes a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 17 or a fragment thereof.

[0145] In some embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encodes a FVIII polypeptide comprising a signal peptide or a fragment thereof. In other embodiments, the codon optimized sequence encodes a FVIII polypeptide which lacks a signal peptide. In some embodiments, the signal peptide comprises amino acids 1-19 of SEQ ID NO: 17.

[0146] In some embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a nucleotide sequence which comprises a first nucleic acid sequence encoding an N-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide and a second nucleic acid sequence encoding a C-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide; wherein the first nucleic acid sequence has at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 3 or (ii) nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 4; and wherein the N-terminal portion and the C-terminal portion together have a FVIII polypeptide activity. In one particular embodiment, the first nucleic acid sequence has at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 3. In another embodiment, the first nucleic acid sequence has at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 4. In other embodiments, the first nucleotide sequence comprises nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 3 or nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 4.

[0147] In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a nucleotide sequence which comprises a first nucleic acid sequence encoding an N-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide and a second nucleic acid sequence encoding a C-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide; wherein the first nucleic acid sequence has at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 3 or (ii) nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 4; and wherein the N-terminal portion and the C-terminal portion together have a FVIII polypeptide activity. In one embodiment, the first nucleotide sequence comprises nucleotides 1-

1791 of SEQ ID NO: 3 or nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 4. In another embodiment, the second nucleotide sequence has at least 60%, at least 70%, at least 80%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 3 or 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 4. In one particular embodiment, the second nucleotide sequence comprises nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 3 or 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 4. In still another embodiment, the second nucleotide sequence has at least 60%, at least 70%, at least 80%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 3 or 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 4 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 3 or 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 4 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment). In one particular embodiment, the second nucleotide sequence comprises nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 3 or 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 4 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 3 or 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 4 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment).

[0148] In some embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a nucleotide sequence which comprises a first nucleic acid sequence encoding an N-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide and a second nucleic acid sequence encoding a C-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide; wherein the second nucleic acid sequence has at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5 or (ii) 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6; and wherein the N-terminal portion and the C-terminal portion together have a FVIII polypeptide activity. In certain embodiments, the second nucleic acid sequence has at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5. In other embodiments, the second nucleic acid sequence has at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6. In one particular embodiment, the second nucleic acid sequence comprises nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5 or 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6. In some embodiments, the first nucleic acid sequence linked to the second nucleic acid sequence listed above has at least 60%, at least 70%, at least 80%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 5 or nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 6. In other embodiments, the first nucleic acid sequence linked to the second nucleic acid sequence listed above has at least 60%, at least 70%, at least 80%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at

least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 5 or nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 6.

[0149] In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a nucleotide sequence which comprises a first nucleic acid sequence encoding an N-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide and a second nucleic acid sequence encoding a C-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide; wherein the second nucleic acid sequence has at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment) or (ii) 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment); and wherein the N-terminal portion and the C-terminal portion together have a FVIII polypeptide activity. In certain embodiments, the second nucleic acid sequence has at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment). In other embodiments, the second nucleic acid sequence has at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment). In one particular embodiment, the second nucleic acid sequence comprises nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5 or 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5 or 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment). In some embodiments, the first nucleic acid sequence linked to the second nucleic acid sequence listed above has at least 60%, at least 70%, at least 80%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 5 or nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 6. In other embodiments, the first nucleic acid sequence linked to the second nucleic acid sequence listed above has at least 60%, at least 70%, at least 80%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 5 or nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 6.

[0150] In some embodiments, the p codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a nucleotide sequence which comprises a first nucleic acid sequence

encoding an N-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide and a second nucleic acid sequence encoding a C-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide; wherein the first nucleic acid sequence has at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 1, (ii) nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 2, (iii) nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 70, or (iv) nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 71; and wherein the N-terminal portion and the C-terminal portion together have a FVIII polypeptide activity. In other embodiments, the first nucleotide sequence comprises nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 1, nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 2, (iii) nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 70, or (iv) nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 71.

[0151] In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a nucleotide sequence which comprises a first nucleic acid sequence encoding an N-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide and a second nucleic acid sequence encoding a C-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide; wherein the first nucleic acid sequence has at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 1, (ii) nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 2, (iii) nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 70, or (iv) nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 71; and wherein the N-terminal portion and the C-terminal portion together have a FVIII polypeptide activity. In one embodiment, the first nucleotide sequence comprises nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 1, nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 2, (iii) nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 70, or (iv) nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 71. In another embodiment, the second nucleotide sequence linked to the first nucleotide sequence has at least 60%, at least 70%, at least 80%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 1, 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 2, (iii) nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 70, or (iv) nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 71. In one particular embodiment, the second nucleotide sequence linked to the first nucleotide sequence comprises (i) nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 1, (ii) nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 2, (iii) nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 70, or (iv) nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 71. In other embodiments, the second nucleotide sequence linked to the first nucleotide sequence has at least 60%, at least 70%, at least 80%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 1, (ii) nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 2, (iii) nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 70, or (iv) nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 71. In one embodiment, the second nucleotide sequence

comprises (i) nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 1, (ii) nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 2, (iii) nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 70, or (iv) nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 71.

[0152] In another embodiment, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a nucleotide sequence which comprises a first nucleic acid sequence encoding an N-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide and a second nucleic acid sequence encoding a C-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide; wherein the second nucleic acid sequence has at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 1, (ii) nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 2, (iii) nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 70, or (iv) nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 71; and wherein the N-terminal portion and the C-terminal portion together have a FVIII polypeptide activity. In one particular embodiment, the second nucleic acid sequence comprises (i) nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 1, (ii) nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 2, (iii) nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 70, or (iv) nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 71. In some embodiments, the codon optimized sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a nucleotide sequence which comprises a first nucleic acid sequence encoding an N-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide and a second nucleic acid sequence encoding a C-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide; wherein the second nucleic acid sequence has at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 1, (ii) nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 2, (iii) nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 70, or (iv) nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 71 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 1, nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 2, nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 70, or nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 71 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment); and wherein the N-terminal portion and the C-terminal portion together have a FVIII polypeptide activity. In one embodiment, the second nucleic acid sequence comprises (i) nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 1, (ii) nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 2, (iii) nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 70, or (iv) nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 71 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 1, nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 2, nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 70, or nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 71 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment).

[0153] In some embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide with FVIII activity, wherein the nucleotide sequence comprises a nucleic acid sequence having at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to nucleotides 58 to 4374 of SEQ ID NO: 1. In other embodiments, the nucleotide sequence comprises a nucleic acid sequence having at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to nucleotides 58-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 1 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 58-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 1 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment). In other embodiments, the nucleic acid sequence has at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 1. In other embodiments, the nucleotide sequence comprises nucleotides 58-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 1 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 58-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 1 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment) or nucleotides 58 to 4374 of SEQ ID NO: 1. In still other embodiments, the nucleotide sequence comprises nucleotides 1-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 1 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 1-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 1 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment) or nucleotides 1 to 4374 of SEQ ID NO: 1.

[0154] In some embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide with FVIII activity, wherein the nucleotide sequence comprises a nucleic acid sequence having at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to nucleotides 58 to 4374 of SEQ ID NO: 2. In other embodiments, the nucleotide sequence comprises a nucleic acid sequence having at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to nucleotides 58-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 2. In other embodiments, the nucleic acid sequence has at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 2. In other embodiments, the nucleotide sequence comprises nucleotides 58-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 2 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 58-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 2 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment) or nucleotides 58 to 4374 of SEQ ID NO: 2. In still other embodiments, the nucleotide sequence comprises nucleotides 1-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 2 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 1-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 2 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment) or nucleotides 1 to 4374 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

[0155] In some embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide with FVIII activity, wherein the nucleotide sequence comprises a nucleic acid sequence having at least 85%, at least 86%, at least 87%, at least 88%, at least 89%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to nucleotides 58 to 4374 of SEQ ID NO: 70. In other embodiments, the nucleotide sequence comprises a nucleic acid sequence having at least 85%, at least 86%, at least 87%, at least 88%, at least 89%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to nucleotides 58-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 70 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 58-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 70 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment). In other embodiments, the nucleic acid sequence has at least 85%, at least 86%, at least 87%, at least 88%, at least 89%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 70. In other embodiments, the nucleotide sequence comprises nucleotides 58-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 70 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 58-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 70 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment) or nucleotides 58 to 4374 of SEQ ID NO: 70. In still other embodiments, the nucleotide sequence comprises nucleotides 1-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 70 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 1-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 70 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment) or nucleotides 1 to 4374 of SEQ ID NO: 70.

[0156] In some embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide with FVIII activity, wherein the nucleotide sequence comprises a nucleic acid sequence having at least 85%, at least 86%, at least 87%, at least 88%, at least 89%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to nucleotides 58 to 4374 of SEQ ID NO: 71. In other embodiments, the nucleotide sequence comprises a nucleic acid sequence having at least 85%, at least 86%, at least 87%, at least 88%, at least 89%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to nucleotides 58-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 71 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 58-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 71 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment). In other embodiments, the nucleic acid sequence has at least 85%, at least 86%, at least 87%, at least 88%, at least 89%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 71. In other embodiments, the nucleotide sequence comprises nucleotides 58-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 71 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 58-

4374 of SEQ ID NO: 71 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment) or nucleotides 58 to 4374 of SEQ ID NO: 71. In still other embodiments, the nucleotide sequence comprises nucleotides 1-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 71 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 1-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 71 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment) or nucleotides 1 to 4374 of SEQ ID NO: 71.

[0157] In some embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide with FVIII activity, wherein the nucleotide sequence comprises a nucleic acid sequence having at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to nucleotides 58 to 4374 of SEQ ID NO: 3. In other embodiments, the nucleotide sequence comprises a nucleic acid sequence having at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to nucleotides 58-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 3 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 58-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 3 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment). In certain embodiments, the nucleic acid sequence has at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 3. In some embodiments, the nucleotide sequence comprises nucleotides 58-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 3 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 58-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 3 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment) or nucleotides 58 to 4374 of SEQ ID NO: 3. In still other embodiments, the nucleotide sequence comprises nucleotides 58-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 3 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 1-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 3 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment) or nucleotides 1 to 4374 of SEQ ID NO: 3.

[0158] In some embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide with FVIII activity, wherein the nucleotide sequence comprises a nucleic acid sequence having at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to nucleotides 58 to 4374 of SEQ ID NO: 4. In other embodiments, the nucleotide sequence comprises a nucleic acid sequence having at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to nucleotides 58-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 4 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 58-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 4 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment). In other embodiments, the nucleic acid sequence has at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence

identity to SEQ ID NO: 4. In other embodiments, the nucleotide sequence comprises nucleotides 58-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 4 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 58-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 4 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment) or nucleotides 58 to 4374 of SEQ ID NO: 4. In still other embodiments, the nucleotide sequence comprises nucleotides 1-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 4 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 1-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 4 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment) or nucleotides 1 to 4374 of SEQ ID NO: 4.

[0159] In some embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide with FVIII activity, wherein the nucleotide sequence comprises a nucleic acid sequence having at least 89%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to nucleotides 58 to 4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5. In other embodiments, the nucleotide sequence comprises a nucleic acid sequence having at least 89%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to nucleotides 58-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 58-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment). In certain embodiments, the nucleic acid sequence has at least 89%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 5. In some embodiments, the nucleotide sequence comprises nucleotides 58-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 58-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment) or nucleotides 58 to 4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5. In still other embodiments, the nucleotide sequence comprises nucleotides 1-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 1-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment) or nucleotides 1 to 4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5.

[0160] In some embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide with FVIII activity, wherein the nucleotide sequence comprises a nucleic acid sequence having at least 89%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to nucleotides 58 to 4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6. In other embodiments, the nucleotide sequence comprises a nucleic acid sequence having at least 89%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to nucleotides 58-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 58-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6 without the nucleotides

encoding the B domain or B domain fragment). In certain embodiments, the nucleic acid sequence has at least 89%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, or at least 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 6. In some embodiments, the nucleotide sequence comprises nucleotides 58-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 58-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment) or nucleotides 58 to 4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6. In still other embodiments, the nucleotide sequence comprises nucleotides 1-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 1-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment) or nucleotides 1 to 4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6.

[0161] In some embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a nucleic acid sequence encoding a signal peptide. In certain embodiments, the signal peptide is a FVIII signal peptide. In some embodiments, the nucleic acid sequence encoding a signal peptide is codon optimized. In one particular embodiment, the nucleic acid sequence encoding a signal peptide has at least 60%, at least 70%, at least 80%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or 100% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 1 to 57 of SEQ ID NO: 1; (ii) nucleotides 1 to 57 of SEQ ID NO: 2; (iii) nucleotides 1 to 57 of SEQ ID NO: 3; (iv) nucleotides 1 to 57 of SEQ ID NO: 4; (v) nucleotides 1 to 57 of SEQ ID NO: 5; (vi) nucleotides 1 to 57 of SEQ ID NO: 6; (vii) nucleotides 1 to 57 of SEQ ID NO: 70; (viii) nucleotides 1 to 57 of SEQ ID NO: 71; or (ix) nucleotides 1 to 57 of SEQ ID NO: 68.

[0162] SEQ ID NOs: 1-6, 70, and 71 are optimized versions of SEQ ID NO: 16, the starting or "parental" or "wild-type" FVIII nucleotide sequence. SEQ ID NO: 16 encodes a B domain-deleted human FVIII. While SEQ ID NOs: 1-6, 70, and 71 are derived from a specific B domain-deleted form of FVIII (SEQ ID NO: 16), it is to be understood that the present disclosure also includes optimized versions of nucleic acids encoding other versions of FVIII. For example, other versions of FVIII can include full length FVIII, other B-domain deletions of FVIII (described herein), or other fragments of FVIII that retain FVIII activity.

[0163] In one embodiments, the genetic cassette comprises a FVIII construct, which includes a polynucleotide sequence (6526 nucleotides) as listed in Table 1.

Table 1: Example FVIII construct (nucleotides 1-6526; SEQ ID NO: 110)

Description	Sequence
5' ITR (5'-end)	1 -- CTGCGCGCTCGCTCGCTCACTGAGGCCGCCCGGGCAAAGCCCCGGGCGTCGGGCGACCTTT

AAV2 inverted terminal repeat) (SEQ ID NO:111)	GGTCGCCCCGGCCTCAGTGAGCGAGCGAGCGCGCAGAGAGGGAGTGGCCAACTCCATCACTAGGGG TTCCT -- 130
Plasmid Backbone Sequence (PBS)-1 (SEQ ID NO:112)	131 -- GCGGCAATTCAGTCGATAACTATAACGGTCCTAAGGTAGCGATTAAATACGCGCTCT CTTAAGGTAGCCCCGGGACGCGTCAATTGAGATCTGGATCCGGTACCGAATTCGCGGCCCGCCTCG ACGACTAGCGTTTAATTAA -- 272
TTPp (liver-specific promoter) (SEQ ID NO:113)	273 -- ACGCGTGTCTGTCTGCACATTTCTGTAGAGCGAGTGTTCCGATACTCTAATCTCCCTAG GCAAGGTTTCATATTTGTGTAGGTTACTTATTCTCCTTTTGTGACTAAGTCAATAATCAGAATCA GCAGGTTTGGAGTCAGCTTGGCAGGGATCAGCAGCCTGGGTGGAAGGAGGGGTATAAAAGCCC CTTCAACCAGGAGAAGCCGTACACAGATCCACAAGCTCCTG -- 501
PBS-2 (SEQ ID NO:114)	502 -- AG -- 503
Synthetic Intron (SEQ ID NO:115)	504 -- GTAAGTGCCGTGTGTGGTTCCCGCGGGCCTGGCCTCTTTACGGGTTATGGCCCTTGCG TGCCTTGAATTACTGACACTGACATCCACTTTTTCTTTTCTCCACAG -- 609
PBS-3 (SEQ ID NO:116)	610 -- CTAGCGCCACC -- 620
FVIIIco6XTEN (SEQ ID NO:117) (open reading frame for codon-optimized FVIII version 6 containing XTEN144; the XTEN sequence is marked by <u>double underlining</u> (SEQ ID NO:118))	621 -- ATGCAGATTGAGCTGTCCACTTGTTTTCTTCTGTGCCTCCTGCGCTTCTGTTTCTCCG CCACTCGCCGGTACTACCTTGGAGCCGTGGAGCTTTCATGGGACTACATGCAGAGCGACCTGGGC GAACTCCCCGTGGATGCCAGATTCCCCCCCCGCGTGCCAAAGTCCTTCCCCTTTAACACCTCCGT GGTGTACAAGAAAACCTCTTTGTCTGAGTTCACTGACCACCTGTTCAACATCGCCAAGCCGCGCC CACCTTGGATGGGCCTCCTGGGACCGACCATTCAGCTGAAGTGATGACGACACCGTGGTGATCACC CTGAAGAACATGGCGTCCCACCCCGTGTCCCTGCATGCGGTGCGAGTGCTCTACTGGAAGGCCTC CGAAGGAGCTGAGTACGACGACCACTAGCCAGCGGAAAAGGAGGACGATAAAGTGTTCCTCCG GCGGCTCGCATACTTACGTGTGGCAAGTCCTGAAGGAAAACGGACCTATGGCATCCGATCCTCTG TGCCTGACTTACTCCTACCTTTCCCATGTGGACCTCGTGAAGGACCTGAACAGCGGGCTGATTGG TGCCTTCTCGTGTGCCGGAAGGTTGCTGCTGCTAAGGAAAAGACCCAGACCTCCATAAGTTCA TCCTTTTGTTCGCTGTGTTTCGATGAAGGAAAGTCATGGCATTCGGAATAGAACTCGTGTATG CAGGACCGGGATGCCGCTCAGCCCCGCGCCTGGCCTAAAATGCATACAGTCAACGGATACGTGAA TCGGTCACTGCCCCGGGCTCATCGGTTGTACAGAAAGTCCGTGTACTGGCACGTATCGGCATGG GCACTACGCCTGAAGTGCACTCCATCTTCTGGAAGGGCACACCTTCTCGTGCGCAACCACCGC CAGGCCTCTCTGGAATCTCCCCGATTACCTTTCTGACCGCCAGACTCTGCTCATGGACCTGGG GCAGTTCTTCTCTTCTGCCACATCTCCAGCCATCAGCACGACGGAATGGAGGCCCTACGTGAAGG TGGACTCATGCCCGGAAGAACCTCAGTTGCGGATGAAGAACAACGAGGAGGCCGAGGACTATGAC GACGATTTGACTGACTCCGAGATGGACGTCGTGCGGTTTCGATGACGACAACAGCCCCAGCTTCAT CCAGATTGCGAGCGTGGCCAAGAAGCACCCCAAAACCTGGGTGCACTACATCGCGGCCGAGGAAG AAGATTGGGACTACGCCCCGTTGGTGCTGGCACCCGATGACCGGTGCTACAAGTCCCAGTATCTG AACAATGGTCCGCAGCGGATTGGCAGAAAGTACAAGAAAGTGCGGTTTCATGGCGTACACTGACGA AACGTTTAAGACCCGGGAGGCCATTCAACATGAGAGCGGCATTCCTGGGACCACTGCTGTACGGAG AGGTGCGCGATAACCTGCTCATCATCTTCAAAAACAGGCCTCCCGGCCCTTACAACATCTACCCCT CACGGAATCACCGACGTGCGGCCACTCTACTCGCGCGCCTGCCGAAGGGCGTCAAGCACCTGAA AGACTTCCCTATCCTGCGGGGCGAAATCTTCAAGTATAAGTGGACCGTCACCGTGGAGGACGGGC CCACCAAGAGCGATCCTAGGTGTCTGACTCGGTACTACTCCAGCTTCGTGAACATGGAACGGGAC CTGGCATCGGGACTCATTGGACCGCTGCTGATCTGCTACAAAGAGTCCGTGGATCAACCGCGCAA CCAGATCATGTCCGACAAGCGCAACGTGATCCTGTTCTCCGTGTTTGTATGAAAACAGATCCTGGT ACCTCACTGAAAACATCCAGAGGTTCTTCCCAAACCCCGCAGGAGTGCAACTGGAGGACCTTGAG TTTTCAGGCCTCGAATATCATGCACTCGATTAAACGGTTACGTGTTCGACTCGCTGCAACTGAGCGT GTGCCTCCATGAAGTCGCTTACTGGTACATTCTGTCCATCGGCGCCCAGACTGACTTCTTGAGCG GTGTTCTTTTCCGGTTACACCTTTAAGCACAAGATGGTGTACGAAGATACCTGACCTGTTCCTT TCTCCTCCGCGAAACGGTTCATGTGCTGATGGAGAAACCCGGGTCTGTGGATGCCACAA CAGCGACTTTCGGAACCGCGGAATGACTGCCCTGCTGAAGGTGTCCTCATGCGACAAGAACACCG

	GAGACTACTACGAGGACTCCTACGAGGATATCTCAGCCTACCTCCTGTCCAAGAACAACGCGATC GAGCCGCGCAGCTTCAGCCAGAACGGCGCGCCAACATCAGAGAGCGCCACCCCTGAAAGTGGTCC CGGGAGCGAGCCAGCCACATCTGGGTTCGGAACGCCAGGCACAAGTGAGTCTGCAACTCCCGAGT CCGGACCTGGCTCCGAGCCTGCCACTAGCGGGCTCCGAGACTCCGGGAACCTCCGAGAGCGCTACA CCAGAAAGCGGACCCGGAACCACTACCGAACCTAGCGAGGGCTCTGCTCCGGGCAGCCAGCCGG CTCTCCTACATCCACGGAGGAGGGCACTTCCGAATCCGCCACCCCGGAGTCAGGGCCAGGATCTG AACCCGCTACCTCAGGCAGTGAGACGCCAGGAACGAGCGAGTCCGCTACACCGGAGAGTGGGCCA GGGAGCCCTGCTGGATCTCCTACGTCCACTGAGGAAGGGTCACCAGCGGGCTCGCCCCACCAGCAC TGAAGAAGGTGCCTCGAGCCCGCTGTGCTGAAGAGGCACCAGCGAGAAATTACCCGGACCACCC TCCAATCGGATCAGGAGGAAATCGACTACGACGACACCATCTCGGTGAAATGGAAGCAAGGAT TTGATATCTACGACGAGGACGAAAATCAGTCCCCTCGCTCATTCCAAAAGAAAACTAGACACTA CTTTATCGCCGCGGTGGAAAGACTGTGGGACTATGGAATGTCATCCAGCCCTCACGTCTTTCGGA ACCGGGCCCGAGAGCGGATCGGTGCCTCAGTTCAAGAAAGTGGTGTTCAGGAGTTTACCAGCGGC AGCTTACCCAGCCGCTGTACCGGGGAGAACTGAACGAACACCTGGGCCTGCTCGGTCCCTACAT CCGCGCGGAAGTGGAGGATAACATCATGGTGACCTTCCGTAACCAAGCATCCAGACCTTACTCCT TCTATTCTCCTGATCTCATACGAGGAGGACCAAGCGCCGAGCCCCGCAAGAACTTC TCCGGTCACGTGTTCACTGTGCGCAAGAAGGAGGAGTACAAGATGGCGCTGTACAATCTGTACC TGAGTTTGACTGCAAGGCCTGGGCCTACTTCTCCGACGTGGACCTTGAGAAGGATGTCCATTCCG GCCTGATCGGGCCGCTGCTCGTGTGTACACCAACACCCCTGAACCCAGCGCATGGACGCCAGGTC ACCGTCCAGGAGTTTGTCTGTTCTTACCATTTTTACGAAACTAAGTCTGGTACTTACCAG GAATATGGAGCGAACTGTAGAGCGCCCTGCAATATCCAGATGGAAGATCCGACTTTCAAGGAGA ACTATAGATTCCACGCCATCAACGGGTACATCATGGATACTCTGCCGGGGCTGGTTCATGGCCCAG GATCAGAGGATTCGGTGGTACTTGTGTCAATGGGATCGAACGAAAACATTCACTCCATTCACTT CTCCGGTCACGTGTTCACTGTGCGCAAGAAGGAGGAGTACAAGATGGCGCTGTACAATCTGTACC CCGGGGTGTTGCAAACTGTGGAGATGCTGCCGTCCAAGGCCGGCATCTGGAGAGTGGAGTGCCTG ATCGGAGAGCACCTCCACGCGGGGATGTCCACCCTCTTCTGGTGTACTCGAATAAGTGCCAGAC CCCCTGGGCATGGCCTCGGGCCACATCAGAGACTTCCAGATCACAGCAAGCGGACAATACGGCC AATGGGCGCCGAAGCTGGCCCGCTTGCACTACTCCGGATCGATCAACGCATGGTCCACCAAGGAA CCGTTCTCGTGGATTAAGGTGGACCTCCTGGCCCCATGATTATCCACGGAATTAAGACCCAGGG CGCCAGGCAGAAGTTCTCCTCCCTGTACATCTCGCAATTCATCATGTACAGCCTGGACGGGA AGAAGTGGCAGACTTACAGGGGAACTCCACGGCACCCCTGATGGTCTTTTTTCGGCAACGTGGAT TCCTCCGGCATTAAAGCACACATCTTCAACCCACCGATCATAGCCAGATATATTAGGCTCCACCC CACTCACTACTCAATCCGCTCAACTCTTCCGATGGAACCTCATGGGGTGCGACCTGAACTCCTGCT CCATGCCGTGGGGATGGAATCAAAGGCTATTAGCGACGCCAGATCACCGCGAGCTCCTACTTC ACTAACATGTTCCGCACCTGGAGCCCTCCAAGGCCAGGCTGCACCTTGACGGGACGGTCAAATGC CTGGCGGCCGCAAGTGAACAATCCGAAGGAATGGCTTCAAGTGGATTTCAAAAAGACCATGAAAG TGACCGGAGTCACCACCCAGGGAGTGAAGTCCCTTCTGACCTCGATGTATGTGAAGGAGTTCCTG ATTAGCAGCAGCCAGGACGGGACCACTGGACCTGTCTTCCAAAACGAAAGGTCAAGGTGTT CCAGGGGAACAGGACTCGTTACACCCGTGGTGAACCTCCCTGGACCCCACTTACGCTGACCGGT ACTTGAGGATTCATCCTCAGTCTGGGTCCATCAGATTGCATTGCGAATGGAAGTCCCTGGGCTGC GAGGCCAGGACCTGTACTGA -- 5444
PBS-4 (SEQ ID NO:119)	5445 -- ATCAGCCTGAGCTCGCTGA -- 5463
WPRE (mutated woodchuck hepatitis virus post-transcriptional regulatory element) (SEQ ID NO:120)	5464 -- TCATAATCAACCTCTGGATTACAAAATTTGTGAAAGATTGACTGGTATTCTTAACTA TGTTGCTCCTTTTACGCTATGTGGATACGCTGCTTTAATGCCTTTGTATCATGCTATTGCTTCCC GTATGGCTTTTCATTTTCTCCTCCTTGATATAAATCCTGGTTGCTGTCTCTTTATGAGGAGTTGTGG CCGTTGTGTCAGGCAACGTGGCGTGGTGTGCACTGTGTTTGTGACGCAACCCCCACTGGTTGGGG CATTGCCACCACCTGTCAGTCTCTTTCCGGGACTTTTCGCTTTCCCCCTCCCTATTGCCACGGCGG AACTCATCGCCGCTGCCTTGCCCGCTGCTGGACAGGGGCTCGGCTGTTGGGCACCTGACAATTCC GTGGTGTGTGCGGGGAAATCATCGTCTCTTTCTTGGCTGCTCGCCTGTGTTGCCACCTGGATTCT GCGCGGGACGTCTCTGCTACGTCCCTTCGGCCCTCAATCCAGCGGACCTTCTTCCCGCGGCC TGCTGCCGGCTCTGCGGCCTCTTCCGCGCTCTTCGCTTTCGCTTTCAGACGAGTCCGATCTCCCTT TGGGCCGCTCCCCGCTG -- 6058
PBS-5 (SEQ ID NO:121)	6059 -- ATCAGCCT -- 6066
bGHpA (bovine growth hormone)	6067 -- CGACTGTGCCTTCTAGTTGCCAGCCATCTGTTGTTTGCCCCCTCCCCGTGCCTTCCT TGACCCTGGAAGGTGCCACTCCCCTGTCCTTTCTTAATAAAAAATGAGGAAATTCATCGCATTTGT CTGAGTAGGTGTCATTCTATTCTGGGGGTGGGGTGGGGCAGGACAGCAAGGGGGAGGATTGGGA

polyadenylation signal) (SEQ ID NO:122)	AGACAATAGCAGGCATGCTGGGGA -- 6277
PBS-6 (SEQ ID NO:123)	6278 -- TGC GGTGGGCTCTATGGCTTCTGAGGCGGAAAGAACGGGCTCGAGAAGCTTCTAGATATCCTCTCTTAAGGTAGCATCGAGATTTAAATTAGGGATAACAGGGTAATGGCGCGGGCCGC -- 6396
3' ITR (3'-end AAV2 inverted terminal repeat) (SEQ ID NO:124)	6397 -- AGGAACCCCTAGTGATGGAGTTGGCCACTCCCTCTCTGCGCGCTCGCTCGCTCACTGAGGCCGGGCGACCAAAGGTCGCCCCGACGCCCGGGCTTTGCCCGGGCGGCCTCAGTGAGCGAGCGAGCGCGCAG -- 6526

i. Codon Adaptation Index

[0164] In one embodiment, the genetic cassette comprises a codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide, wherein the human codon adaptation index of the codon optimized nucleotide sequence is increased relative to SEQ ID NO: 16. For example, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence can have a human codon adaptation index that is at least about 0.75 (75%), at least about 0.76 (76%), at least about 0.77 (77%), at least about 0.78 (78%), at least about 0.79 (79%), at least about 0.80 (80%), at least about 0.81 (81%), at least about 0.82 (82%), at least about 0.83 (83%), at least about 0.84 (84%), at least about 0.85 (85%), at least about 0.86 (86%), at least about 0.87 (87%), at least about 0.88 (88%), at least about 0.89 (89%), at least about 0.90 (90%), at least about 0.91 (91%), at least about 0.92 (92%), at least about 0.93 (93%), at least about 0.94 (94%), at least about 0.95 (95%), at least about 0.96 (96%), at least about 0.97 (97%), at least about 0.98 (98%), or at least about 0.99 (99%). In some embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence has a human codon adaptation index that is at least about .88 (88%). In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence has a human codon adaptation index that is at least about .91 (91%). In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence has a human codon adaptation index that is at least about .91 (97%).

[0165] In one particular embodiment, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a nucleotide sequence which comprises a first nucleic acid sequence encoding an N-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide and a second nucleic acid sequence encoding a C-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide; wherein the first nucleic acid sequence has at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 86%, at least about 87%, at least about 88%, at least about 89%, at least about 90%, at least about 91%, at least about 92%, at least about 93%, at least about 94%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at

least about 98%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 3; (ii) nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 3; (iii) nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 4; or (iv) nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 4; wherein the N-terminal portion and the C-terminal portion together have a FVIII polypeptide activity; and wherein the human codon adaptation index of the nucleotide sequence is increased relative to SEQ ID NO: 16. In some embodiments, the nucleotide sequence has a human codon adaptation index that is at least about 0.75 (75%), at least about 0.76 (76%), at least about 0.77 (77%), at least about 0.78 (78%), at least about 0.79 (79%), at least about 0.80 (80%), at least about 0.81 (81%), at least about 0.82 (82%), at least about 0.83 (83%), at least about 0.84 (84%), at least about 0.85 (85%), at least about 0.86 (86%), at least about 0.87 (87%), at least about 0.88 (88%), at least about 0.89 (89%), at least about 0.90 (90%), or at least about .91 (91%). In one particular the nucleotide sequence has a human codon adaptation index that is at least about .88 (88%). In another embodiment, the nucleotide sequence has a human codon adaptation index that is at least about .91 (91%).

[0166] In another embodiment, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a nucleotide sequence which comprises a first nucleic acid sequence encoding an N-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide and a second nucleic acid sequence encoding a C-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide; wherein the second nucleic acid sequence has at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 86%, at least about 87%, at least about 88%, at least about 89%, at least about 90%, at least about 91%, at least about 92%, at least about 93%, at least about 94%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5 or (ii) 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6; wherein the N-terminal portion and the C-terminal portion together have a FVIII polypeptide activity; and wherein the human codon adaptation index of the nucleotide sequence is increased relative to SEQ ID NO: 16. In some embodiments, the nucleotide sequence has a human codon adaptation index that is at least about 0.75 (75%), at least about 0.76 (76%), at least about 0.77 (77%), at least about 0.78 (78%), at least about 0.79 (79%), at least about 0.80 (80%), at least about 0.81 (81%), at least about 0.82 (82%), at least about 0.83 (83%), at least about 0.84 (84%), at least about 0.85 (85%), at least about 0.86 (86%), at least about 0.87 (87%), or at least about 0.88 (88%). In one particular the nucleotide sequence has a human codon adaptation index that is at least about .83 (83%). In another embodiment, the nucleotide sequence has a human codon adaptation index that is at least about .88 (88%).

[0167] In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide with FVIII activity, wherein the nucleotide sequence comprises a nucleic acid sequence having at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 89%, at least about 90%, at least about 91%, at least about 92%, at least about 93%, at least about 94%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to nucleotides 58-2277 and 2320-4374 of an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 70, and 71 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 58-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 70, or 71 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment); and wherein the human codon adaptation index of the nucleotide sequence is increased relative to SEQ ID NO: 16. In some embodiments, the nucleotide sequence has a human codon adaptation index that is at least about 0.75 (75%), at least about 0.76 (76%), at least about 0.77 (77%), at least about 0.78 (78%), at least about 0.79 (79%), at least about 0.80 (80%), at least about 0.81 (81%), at least about 0.82 (82%), at least about 0.83 (83%), at least about 0.84 (84%), at least about 0.85 (85%), at least about 0.86 (86%), at least about 0.87 (87%), or at least about 0.88 (88%). In one particular the nucleotide sequence has a human codon adaptation index that is at least about .75 (75%). In another embodiment, the nucleotide sequence has a human codon adaptation index that is at least about .83 (83%). In another embodiment, the nucleotide sequence has a human codon adaptation index that is at least about .88 (88%). In another embodiment, the nucleotide sequence has a human codon adaptation index that is at least about .91 (91%). In another embodiment, the nucleotide sequence has a human codon adaptation index that is at least about .97 (97%).

[0168] In some embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide of the present disclosure has an increased frequency of optimal codons (FOP) relative to SEQ ID NO: 16. In certain embodiments, the FOP of the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide is at least about 40, at least about 45, at least about 50, at least about 55, at least about 60, at least about 64, at least about 65, at least about 70, at least about 75, at least about 79, at least about 80, at least about 85, or at least about 90.

[0169] In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide of the present disclosure has an increased relative synonymous codon usage (RCSU) relative to SEQ ID NO: 16. In some embodiments, the RCSU of the isolated nucleic acid molecule is greater than 1.5. In other embodiments, the RCSU of the isolated nucleic acid molecule is greater than 2.0. In certain embodiments, the RCSU of the isolated nucleic acid molecule is at least about 1.5, at least about 1.6, at least about 1.7, at least about 1.8, at least

about 1.9, at least about 2.0, at least about 2.1, at least about 2.2, at least about 2.3, at least about 2.4, at least about 2.5, at least about 2.6, or at least about 2.7.

[0170] In still other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide of the present disclosure has a decreased effective number of codons relative to SEQ ID NO: 16. In some embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide has an effective number of codons of less than about 50, less than about 45, less than about 40, less than about 35, less than about 30, or less than about 25. In one particular embodiment, the isolated nucleic acid molecule has an effective number of codons of about 40, about 35, about 30, about 25, or about 20.

ii. G/C Content Optimization

[0171] In some embodiments, the genetic cassette comprises a codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide, wherein the codon optimized nucleotide sequence contains a higher percentage of G/C nucleotides compared to the percentage of G/C nucleotides in SEQ ID NO: 16. In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide has a G/C content that is at least about 45%, at least about 46%, at least about 47%, at least about 48%, at least about 49%, at least about 50%, at least about 51%, at least about 52%, at least about 53%, at least about 54%, at least about 55%, at least about 56%, at least about 57%, at least about 58%, at least about 59%, or at least about 60%.

[0172] In one particular embodiment, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a first nucleic acid sequence encoding an N-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide and a second nucleic acid sequence encoding a C-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide; wherein the first nucleic acid sequence has at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 86%, at least about 87%, at least about 88%, at least about 89%, at least about 90%, at least about 91%, at least about 92%, at least about 93%, at least about 94%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 3; (ii) nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 3; (iii) nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 4; or (iv) nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 4; wherein the N-terminal portion and the C-terminal portion together have a FVIII polypeptide activity; and wherein the nucleotide sequence contains a higher percentage of G/C nucleotides compared to the percentage of G/C nucleotides in SEQ ID NO: 16. In some embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises has a G/C content that is at least about 45%, at least about 46%, at least about 47%, at least about 48%, at least about 49%,

at least about 50%, at least about 51%, at least about 52%, at least about 53%, at least about 54%, at least about 55%, at least about 56%, at least about 57%, or at least about 58%. In one particular embodiment, the nucleotide sequence that encodes a polypeptide with FVIII activity has a G/C content that is at least about 58%.

[0173] In another embodiment, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a first nucleic acid sequence encoding an N-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide and a second nucleic acid sequence encoding a C-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide; wherein the second nucleic acid sequence has at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 86%, at least about 87%, at least about 88%, at least about 89%, at least about 90%, at least about 91%, at least about 92%, at least about 93%, at least about 94%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5; (ii) nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6; (iii) nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment), or (iv) 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment); wherein the N-terminal portion and the C-terminal portion together have a FVIII polypeptide activity; and wherein the codon optimized nucleotide sequence contains a higher percentage of G/C nucleotides compared to the percentage of G/C nucleotides in SEQ ID NO: 16. In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide has a G/C content that is at least about 45%, at least about 46%, at least about 47%, at least about 48%, at least about 49%, at least about 50%, at least about 51%, at least about 52%, at least about 53%, at least about 54%, at least about 55%, at least about 56%, or at least about 57%. In one particular embodiment, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide has a G/C content that is at least about 52%. In another embodiment, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide has a G/C content that is at least about 55%. In another embodiment, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide has a G/C content that is at least about 57%.

[0174] In other embodiments, the genetic cassette comprises a codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide, wherein the codon optimized nucleotide sequence comprises a nucleic acid sequence having at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 89%, at least about 90%, at least about 91%, at least about 92%, at least about 93%, at least about 94%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%,

or at least about 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 58-4374 or (ii) nucleotides 58-2277 and 2320-4374 of an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 70, and 71 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 58-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 70, or 71 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment); and wherein the nucleotide sequence contains a higher percentage of G/C nucleotides compared to the percentage of G/C nucleotides in SEQ ID NO: 16. In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide has a G/C content that is at least about 45%. In one particular embodiment, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide has a G/C content that is at least about 52%. In another embodiment, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide has a G/C content that is at least about 55%. In another embodiment, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide has a G/C content that is at least about 57%. In another embodiment, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide has a G/C content that is at least about 58%. In still another embodiment, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide has a G/C content that is at least about 60%.

[0175] "G/C content" (or guanine-cytosine content), or "percentage of G/C nucleotides," refers to the percentage of nitrogenous bases in a DNA molecule that are either guanine or cytosine. G/C content can be calculated using the following formula:

$$\frac{G + C}{A + T + G + C} \times 100 \quad (III)$$

[0176] Human genes are highly heterogeneous in their G/C content, with some genes having a G/C content as low as 20%, and other genes having a G/C content as high as 95%. In general, G/C rich genes are more highly expressed. In fact, it has been demonstrated that increasing the G/C content of a gene can lead to increased expression of the gene, due mostly to an increase in transcription and higher steady state mRNA levels. *See Kudla et al.*, PLoS Biol., 4(6): e180 (2006).

iii. Matrix Attachment Region-Like Sequences

[0177] In some embodiments, the genetic cassette comprises a codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide, wherein the codon optimized nucleotide sequence contains fewer MARS/ARS sequences relative to SEQ ID NO: 16. In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide contains at most 6, at most 5, at most 4, at most 3, or at most 2 MARS/ARS sequences. In other

embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide contains at most 1 MARS/ARS sequence. In yet other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide does not contain a MARS/ARS sequence.

[0178] In one particular embodiment, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a first nucleic acid sequence encoding an N-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide and a second nucleic acid sequence encoding a C-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide; wherein the first nucleic acid sequence has at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 86%, at least about 87%, at least about 88%, at least about 89%, at least about 90%, at least about 91%, at least about 92%, at least about 93%, at least about 94%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 3; (ii) nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 3; (iii) nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 4; or (iv) nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 4; wherein the N-terminal portion and the C-terminal portion together have a FVIII polypeptide activity; and wherein the codon optimized nucleotide sequence contains fewer MARS/ARS sequences relative to SEQ ID NO: 16. In other embodiments, the nucleotide sequence that encodes a polypeptide with FVIII activity contains at most 6, at most 5, at most 4, at most 3, or at most 2 MARS/ARS sequences. In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide contains at most 1 MARS/ARS sequence. In yet other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide does not contain a MARS/ARS sequence.

[0179] In another embodiment, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a first nucleic acid sequence encoding an N-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide and a second nucleic acid sequence encoding a C-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide; wherein the second nucleic acid sequence has at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 86%, at least about 87%, at least about 88%, at least about 89%, at least about 90%, at least about 91%, at least about 92%, at least about 93%, at least about 94%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5; (ii) nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6; (iii) nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment); or (iv) nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment); wherein the N-terminal portion and the C-terminal portion together have a FVIII polypeptide activity; and

wherein the nucleotide sequence contains fewer MARS/ARS sequences relative to SEQ ID NO: 16. In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide contains at most 6, at most 5, at most 4, at most 3, or at most 2 MARS/ARS sequences. In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide contains at most 1 MARS/ARS sequence. In yet other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide does not contain a MARS/ARS sequence.

[0180] In other embodiments, the genetic cassette comprises a codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide, wherein the codon optimized nucleotide sequence comprises a nucleic acid sequence having at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 89%, at least about 90%, at least about 91%, at least about 92%, at least about 93%, at least about 94%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 58-4374 of SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 70, or 71 or (ii) nucleotides 58-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 70, or 71 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 58-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 70, or 71 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment); and wherein the codon optimized nucleotide sequence contains fewer MARS/ARS sequences relative to SEQ ID NO: 16. In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide contains at most 6, at most 5, at most 4, at most 3, or at most 2 MARS/ARS sequences. In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide contains at most 1 MARS/ARS sequence. In yet other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide does not contain a MARS/ARS sequence.

[0181] AT-rich elements in the human FVIII nucleotide sequence that share sequence similarity with *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* autonomously replicating sequences (ARSs) and nuclear-matrix attachment regions (MARs) have been identified. (Fallux *et al.*, *Mol. Cell. Biol.* 16:4264-4272 (1996). One of these elements has been demonstrated to bind nuclear factors *in vitro* and to repress the expression of a chloramphenicol acetyltransferase (CAT) reporter gene. *Id.* It has been hypothesized that these sequences can contribute to the transcriptional repression of the human FVIII gene. Thus, in one embodiment, all MAR/ARS sequences are abolished in the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide of the present disclosure. There are four MAR/ARS ATATTT sequences (SEQ ID NO: 21) and three MAR/ARS AAATAT sequences (SEQ ID NO: 22) in the parental FVIII sequence (SEQ ID NO: 16). All of these sites were mutated to destroy the MAR/ARS sequences in the optimized FVIII sequences

(SEQ ID NOs: 1-6). The location of each of these elements, and the sequence of the corresponding nucleotides in the optimized sequences are shown in Table 2, below.

Table 2: Summary of Changes to Repressive Elements

Location of Element	Starting BDD FVIII Sequence (SEQ ID NO: 16)	Optimized BDD FVIII Sequence							
		SEQ ID NO: 1	SEQ ID NO: 2	SEQ ID NO: 3	SEQ ID NO: 4	SEQ ID NO: 5	SEQ ID NO: 6	SEQ ID NO: 70	SEQ ID NO: 71
Destabilizing Sequences									
639	ATTTA	GTTTA	GTTCA	GTTCA	GTTCA	GTTCA	GTTCA	GTTCA	GTTCA
1338	ATTTA	GTTTA	GTTCA	CTTCA	GTTCA	GTTCA	GTTCA	CTTCA	GTTCA
1449	ATTTA	CTTTA	CTTCA	CTTCA	CTTCA	CTTCA	CTTCA	CTTCA	CTTCA
1590	TAAAT	TAAAT	CAAGT	CAAGT	TAAGT	CAAGT	CAAGT	CAAGT	TAAGT
1623	TAAAT	CAAAA	GAAGA	CTAAG	CAAGA	CAAGA	CAAGA	TAAGT	CAAGA
2410	ATTTA	ATCTA	ATCTA	ATCTA	ATCTA	ATCTA	ATCTA	ATCTA	ATCTA
2586	ATTTA	GTTTA	GTTCA	GTTCA	GTTCA	GTTCA	GTTCA	GTTCA	GTTCA
2630	TAAAT	TGAAT	TGAAC	TGAAC	TGAAC	TCAAT	TGAAC	TCAAT	TGAAC
3884	ATTTA	ATCTG	ACCTG	ACCTG	ACCTG	ATCTG	ACCTG	ATCTG	ACCTG
3887	TAAAT	TGAAC	TGAAC	TGAAC	TGAAC	TGAAC	TGAAC	TGAAC	TGAAC
Potential Promoter Binding Sites									
641	TTATA	TTATC	TCATC	TCATT	TCATC	TCATC	TCATC	TCATT	TCATC
1275	TATAA	CTATA	TTACA	CTACA	GTACA	CTACA	CTACA	CTACA	GTACA
1276	TTATA	TATAA	TACAA	TACAA	TACAA	TACAA	TACAA	TACAA	TACAA
1445	TTATA	TCATC	TCATC	TTATC	TCATC	TCATC	TCATC	TTATC	TCATC
1474	TATAA	TATAA	TACAA	TACAA	TACAA	TACAA	TACAA	TACAA	TACAA
1588	TATAA	TATAA	TACAA	TACAA	TATAA	TACAA	TACAA	TACAA	TATAA
2614	TTATA	CTGTA	CTGTA	CTGTA	CTGTA	TTGTA	CTGTA	TTGTA	CTGTA
2661	TATAA	CATCA	CATCA	CATCA	CATCA	CATCA	CATCC	CATCA	CATCC
3286	TATAA	TATAA	TACAA	TACAA	TACAA	TACAA	TACAA	TACAA	TACAA
3840	TTATA	TTATA	TTACT	CTACA	CTACA	CTACA	CTACT	CTACA	CTACT
Matrix Attachment-Like Sequences (MARS/ARS)									
1287	ATATTT	GTATCT	GTACCT	GTACCT	GTATCT	GTACCT	GTACCT	GTACCT	GTATCT

1447	ATATTT	ATCTTT	ATCTTC	ATCTTC	ATCTTC	ATCTTC	ATCTTC	ATCTTC	ATCTTC
1577	AAATAT	AAATCT	AGATCT	AAATCT	AAATCT	AGATCT	AGATCT	AAATCT	AAATCT
1585	AAATAT	AAGTAT	AAGTAC	AAGTAC	AAGTAT	AAGTAC	AAGTAC	AAGTAC	AAGTAT
2231	ATATTT	ACATCA	ATATCA	ACATCA	ACATCA	ACATCT	ATATCT	ACATCT	ATATCT
3054	AAATAT	AAACAT	GAATAT	GAACAT	GAACAT	GAACAT	GAATAT	GAACAT	GAATAT
3788	ATATTT	ATATCT	ATATCT	ACATCT	ACATCT	ACATCT	ACATCT	ACATCT	ACATCT
AU Rich Sequence Elements (AREs)									
2468	ATTTTAT T	ACTTCA TC	ACTTCAT C	ACTTCA TT	ACTTCAT T	ACTTTAT T	ACTTTAT C	ACTTTAT T	ACTTTA TC
3790	ATTTTTA A	ATCTTT AA	ATCTTCA A	ATCTTC AA	ATCTTCA A	ATCTTCA A	ATCTTCA A	ATCTTCA A	ATCTTC AA
Poly A/Poly T Sequences									
3273	AAAAAAA A	GAAAAA A	GAAGAA G	GAAGAA G	GAAGAA G	GAAGAA G	CAAGAA G	GAAGAAG	CAAGAAG
4195	TTTTTT	TTCTTT	TTCTTC	TTCTTC	TTCTTC	TTCTTC	TTCTTC	TTCTTCC	TTCTTCC
Splice Sites									
2203	GGTGAT	GGGGAC	GGCGAC	GGGGAC	GGGGAC	GGAGAC	GGAGAC	GGAGAC	GGAGAC

iv. Destabilizing Sequences

[0182] In some embodiments, the genetic cassette comprises a codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide, wherein the codon optimized nucleotide sequence contains fewer destabilizing elements relative to SEQ ID NO: 16. In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide contains at most 9, at most 8, at most 7, at most 6, or at most 5 destabilizing elements. In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide contains at most 4, at most 3, at most 2, or at most 1 destabilizing elements. In yet other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide does not contain a destabilizing element.

[0183] In one particular embodiment, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a first nucleic acid sequence encoding an N-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide and a second nucleic acid sequence encoding a C-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide; wherein the first nucleic acid sequence has at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 86%, at least about 87%, at least about 88%, at least about 89%, at least about 90%, at least about 91%, at least about 92%, at least about 93%, at least about 94%, at least about 95%, at

least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 3; (ii) nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 3; (iii) nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 4; or (iv) nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 4; wherein the N-terminal portion and the C-terminal portion together have a FVIII polypeptide activity; and wherein the codon optimized nucleotide sequence contains fewer destabilizing elements relative to SEQ ID NO: 16. In other embodiments, the nucleotide sequence that encodes a polypeptide with FVIII activity contains at most 9, at most 8, at most 7, at most 6, or at most 5 destabilizing elements. In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide contains at most 4, at most 3, at most 2, or at most 1 destabilizing elements. In yet other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide does not contain a destabilizing element.

[0184] In another embodiment, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a first nucleic acid sequence encoding an N-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide and a second nucleic acid sequence encoding a C-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide; wherein the second nucleic acid sequence has at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 86%, at least about 87%, at least about 88%, at least about 89%, at least about 90%, at least about 91%, at least about 92%, at least about 93%, at least about 94%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5; (ii) nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6; (iii) nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment); or (iv) nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment); wherein the N-terminal portion and the C-terminal portion together have a FVIII polypeptide activity; and wherein the codon optimized nucleotide sequence contains fewer destabilizing elements relative to SEQ ID NO: 16. In other embodiments, the nucleotide sequence that encodes a polypeptide with FVIII activity contains at most 9, at most 8, at most 7, at most 6, or at most 5 destabilizing elements. In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide contains at most 4, at most 3, at most 2, or at most 1 destabilizing elements. In yet other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide does not contain a destabilizing element.

[0185] In other embodiments, the genetic cassette comprises a codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide, wherein the codon optimized nucleotide

sequence comprises a nucleic acid sequence having at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 89%, at least about 90%, at least about 91%, at least about 92%, at least about 93%, at least about 94%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 58-4374 of an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 70, and 71 or (ii) nucleotides 58-2277 and 2320-4374 of an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 70, and 71 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 58-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 70, or 71 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment); and wherein the codon optimized nucleotide sequence contains fewer destabilizing elements relative to SEQ ID NO: 16. In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide contains at most 9, at most 8, at most 7, at most 6, or at most 5 destabilizing elements. In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide contains at most 4, at most 3, at most 2, or at most 1 destabilizing elements. In yet other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide does not contain a destabilizing element.

[0186] There are ten destabilizing elements in the parental FVIII sequence (SEQ ID NO: 16): six ATTTA sequences (SEQ ID NO: 23) and four TAAAT sequences (SEQ ID NO: 24). In one embodiment, sequences of these sites were mutated to destroy the destabilizing elements in optimized FVIII SEQ ID NOs: 1-6, 70, and 71. The location of each of these elements, and the sequence of the corresponding nucleotides in the optimized sequences are shown in Table 2.

v. *Potential Promoter Binding Sites*

[0187] In some embodiments, the genetic cassette comprises a codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide, wherein the nucleotide sequence contains fewer potential promoter binding sites relative to SEQ ID NO: 16. In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide contains at most 9, at most 8, at most 7, at most 6, or at most 5 potential promoter binding sites. In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide contains at most 4, at most 3, at most 2, or at most 1 potential promoter binding sites. In yet other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide does not contain a potential promoter binding site.

[0188] In one particular embodiment, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a first nucleic acid sequence encoding an N-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide and a second nucleic acid sequence encoding a C-terminal portion of a FVIII

polypeptide; wherein the first nucleic acid sequence has at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 86%, at least about 87%, at least about 88%, at least about 89%, at least about 90%, at least about 91%, at least about 92%, at least about 93%, at least about 94%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 3; (ii) nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 3; (iii) nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 4; or (iv) nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 4; wherein the N-terminal portion and the C-terminal portion together have a FVIII polypeptide activity; and wherein the codon optimized nucleotide sequence contains fewer potential promoter binding sites relative to SEQ ID NO: 16. In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide contains at most 9, at most 8, at most 7, at most 6, or at most 5 potential promoter binding sites. In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide contains at most 4, at most 3, at most 2, or at most 1 potential promoter binding sites. In yet other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide does not contain a potential promoter binding site.

[0189] In another embodiment, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a first nucleic acid sequence encoding an N-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide and a second nucleic acid sequence encoding a C-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide; wherein the second nucleic acid sequence has at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 86%, at least about 87%, at least about 88%, at least about 89%, at least about 90%, at least about 91%, at least about 92%, at least about 93%, at least about 94%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5; (ii) nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6; (iii) nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment); or (iv) nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment); wherein the N-terminal portion and the C-terminal portion together have a FVIII polypeptide activity; and wherein the codon optimized nucleotide sequence contains fewer potential promoter binding sites relative to SEQ ID NO: 16. In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide contains at most 9, at most 8, at most 7, at most 6, or at most 5 potential promoter binding sites. In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide contains at most 4, at most 3, at most 2, or at most 1 potential

promoter binding sites. In yet other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide does not contain a potential promoter binding site.

[0190] In other embodiments, the genetic cassette comprises a codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide, wherein the nucleotide sequence comprises a nucleic acid sequence having at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 89%, at least about 90%, at least about 91%, at least about 92%, at least about 93%, at least about 94%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 58-4374 of an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 70, and 71 or (ii) nucleotides 58-2277 and 2320-4374 of an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 70, and 71 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 58-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 70, or 71 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment); and wherein the codon optimized nucleotide sequence contains fewer potential promoter binding sites relative to SEQ ID NO: 16. In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide contains at most 9, at most 8, at most 7, at most 6, or at most 5 potential promoter binding sites. In other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide contains at most 4, at most 3, at most 2, or at most 1 potential promoter binding sites. In yet other embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide does not contain a potential promoter binding site.

[0191] TATA boxes are regulatory sequences often found in the promoter regions of eukaryotes. They serve as the binding site of TATA binding protein (TBP), a general transcription factor. TATA boxes usually comprise the sequence TATAA (SEQ ID NO: 28) or a close variant. TATA boxes within a coding sequence, however, can inhibit the translation of full-length protein. There are ten potential promoter binding sequences in the wild type BDD FVIII sequence (SEQ ID NO: 16): five TATAA sequences (SEQ ID NO: 28) and five TTATA sequences (SEQ ID NO: 29). In some embodiments, at least 1, at least 2, at least 3, or at least 4 of the promoter binding sites are abolished in the FVIII genes of the present disclosure. In some embodiments, at least 5 of the promoter binding sites are abolished in the FVIII genes of the present disclosure. In other embodiments, at least 6, at least 7, or at least 8 of the promoter binding sites are abolished in the FVIII genes of the present disclosure. In one embodiment, at least 9 of the promoter binding sites are abolished in the FVIII genes of the present disclosure. In one particular embodiment, all promoter binding sites are abolished in the FVIII genes of the

present disclosure. The location of each potential promoter binding site and the sequence of the corresponding nucleotides in the optimized sequences are shown in Table 2.

vi. Other Cis Acting Negative Regulatory Elements

[0192] In addition to the MAR/ARS sequences, destabilizing elements, and potential promoter sites described above, several additional potentially inhibitory sequences can be identified in the wild type BDD FVIII sequence (SEQ ID NO: 16). Two AU rich sequence elements (AREs) can be identified (ATTTTATT (SEQ ID NOs: 30); and ATTTTTAA (SEQ ID NO: 31), along with a poly-A site (AAAAAAA; SEQ ID NO: 26), a poly-T site (TTTTTT; SEQ ID NO: 25), and a splice site (GGTGAT; SEQ ID NO: 27) in the non-optimized BDD FVIII sequence. One or more of these elements can be removed from the optimized FVIII sequences. The location of each of these sites and the sequence of the corresponding nucleotides in the optimized sequences are shown in Table 2.

[0193] In certain embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a first nucleic acid sequence encoding an N-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide and a second nucleic acid sequence encoding a C-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide; wherein the first nucleic acid sequence has at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 86%, at least about 87%, at least about 88%, at least about 89%, at least about 90%, at least about 91%, at least about 92%, at least about 93%, at least about 94%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 3; (ii) nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 3; (iii) nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 4; or (iv) nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 4; wherein the N-terminal portion and the C-terminal portion together have a FVIII polypeptide activity; and wherein the codon optimized nucleotide sequence does not contain one or more cis-acting negative regulatory elements, for example, a splice site, a poly-T sequence, a poly-A sequence, an ARE sequence, or any combinations thereof.

[0194] In another embodiment, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a first nucleic acid sequence encoding an N-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide and a second nucleic acid sequence encoding a C-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide; wherein the second nucleic acid sequence has at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 86%, at least about 87%, at least about 88%, at least about 89%, at least about 90%, at least about 91%, at least about 92%, at least about 93%, at least about 94%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, or at least about 99% sequence

identity to (i) nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5; (ii) nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6; (iii) nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 5 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment); or (iv) nucleotides 1792-2277 and 2320-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 1792-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 6 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment); wherein the N-terminal portion and the C-terminal portion together have a FVIII polypeptide activity; and wherein the codon optimized nucleotide sequence does not contain one or more cis-acting negative regulatory elements, for example, a splice site, a poly-T sequence, a poly-A sequence, an ARE sequence, or any combinations thereof.

[0195] In other embodiments, the genetic cassette comprises a codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide, wherein the nucleotide sequence comprises a nucleic acid sequence having at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 89%, at least about 90%, at least about 91%, at least about 92%, at least about 93%, at least about 94%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 58-4374 of an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 70, and 71 or (ii) nucleotides 58-2277 and 2320-4374 of an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 70, and 71 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 58-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 70, or 71 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment); and wherein the codon optimized nucleotide sequence does not contain one or more cis-acting negative regulatory elements, for example, a splice site, a poly-T sequence, a poly-A sequence, an ARE sequence, or any combinations thereof.

[0196] In some embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a first nucleic acid sequence encoding an N-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide and a second nucleic acid sequence encoding a C-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide; wherein the first nucleic acid sequence has at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 86%, at least about 87%, at least about 88%, at least about 89%, at least about 90%, at least about 91%, at least about 92%, at least about 93%, at least about 94%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 3; (ii) nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 3; (iii) nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 4; or (iv) nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 4; wherein the N-terminal portion and the C-terminal portion together have a FVIII polypeptide activity; and wherein the codon optimized nucleotide sequence does not contain the splice site GGTGAT (SEQ ID NO: 27). In some embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a

FVIII polypeptide comprises a first nucleic acid sequence encoding an N-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide and a second nucleic acid sequence encoding a C-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide; wherein the first nucleic acid sequence has at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 86%, at least about 87%, at least about 88%, at least about 89%, at least about 90%, at least about 91%, at least about 92%, at least about 93%, at least about 94%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 3; (ii) nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 3; (iii) nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 4; or (iv) nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 4; wherein the N-terminal portion and the C-terminal portion together have a FVIII polypeptide activity; and wherein the codon optimized nucleotide sequence does not contain a poly-T sequence (SEQ ID NO: 25). In some embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a first nucleic acid sequence encoding an N-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide and a second nucleic acid sequence encoding a C-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide; wherein the first nucleic acid sequence has at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 86%, at least about 87%, at least about 88%, at least about 89%, at least about 90%, at least about 91%, at least about 92%, at least about 93%, at least about 94%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 3; (ii) nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 3; (iii) nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 4; or (iv) nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 4; wherein the N-terminal portion and the C-terminal portion together have a FVIII polypeptide activity; and wherein the codon optimized nucleotide sequence does not contain a poly-A sequence (SEQ ID NO: 26). In some embodiments, the codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide comprises a first nucleic acid sequence encoding an N-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide and a second nucleic acid sequence encoding a C-terminal portion of a FVIII polypeptide; wherein the first nucleic acid sequence has at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 86%, at least about 87%, at least about 88%, at least about 89%, at least about 90%, at least about 91%, at least about 92%, at least about 93%, at least about 94%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 3; (ii) nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 3; (iii) nucleotides 58-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 4; or (iv) nucleotides 1-1791 of SEQ ID NO: 4; wherein the N-terminal portion and the C-terminal portion together have a FVIII polypeptide activity; and wherein the codon optimized nucleotide sequence does not contain an ARE element (SEQ ID NO: 30 or SEQ ID NO: 31).

[0197] In some embodiments, the genetic cassette comprises a codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide, wherein the codon optimized nucleotide sequence comprises a nucleic acid sequence having at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 89%, at least about 90%, at least about 91%, at least about 92%, at least about 93%, at least about 94%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 58-4374 of an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 70, and 71 or (ii) nucleotides 58-2277 and 2320-4374 of an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 70, and 71 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 58-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 70, or 71 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment); and wherein the codon optimized nucleotide sequence does not contain the splice site GGTGAT (SEQ ID NO: 27). In some embodiments, the genetic cassette comprises a codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide, wherein the codon optimized nucleotide sequence comprises a nucleic acid sequence having at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 89%, at least about 90%, at least about 91%, at least about 92%, at least about 93%, at least about 94%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 58-4374 of an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 70, and 71 or (ii) nucleotides 58-2277 and 2320-4374 of an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 70, and 71 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 58-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 70, or 71 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment); and wherein the codon optimized nucleotide sequence does not contain a poly-T sequence (SEQ ID NO: 25). In some embodiments, the genetic cassette comprises a codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide, wherein the codon optimized nucleotide sequence comprises a nucleic acid sequence having at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 89%, at least about 90%, at least about 91%, at least about 92%, at least about 93%, at least about 94%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 58-4374 of an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 70, and 71 or (ii) nucleotides 58-2277 and 2320-4374 of an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 70, and 71 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 58-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 70, or 71 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment); and wherein the codon optimized nucleotide sequence does not contain a poly-A sequence (SEQ ID NO: 26). In some embodiments, the genetic cassette comprises a codon optimized nucleotide sequence encoding a FVIII polypeptide, wherein the codon optimized nucleotide sequence comprises a

nucleic acid sequence having at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 89%, at least about 90%, at least about 91%, at least about 92%, at least about 93%, at least about 94%, at least about 95%, at least about 96%, at least about 97%, at least about 98%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to (i) nucleotides 58-4374 of an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 70, and 71 or (ii) nucleotides 58-2277 and 2320-4374 of an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 70, and 71 (*i.e.*, nucleotides 58-4374 of SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 70, or 71 without the nucleotides encoding the B domain or B domain fragment); and wherein the codon optimized nucleotide sequence does not contain an ARE element (SEQ ID NO: 30 or SEQ ID NO: 31).

[0198] In other embodiments, an optimized FVIII sequence of the disclosure does not comprise one or more of antiviral motifs, stem-loop structures, and repeat sequences.

[0199] In still other embodiments, the nucleotides surrounding the transcription start site are changed to a kozak consensus sequence (GCCGCCACCAATGC (SEQ ID NO: 32), wherein the underlined nucleotides are the start codon). In other embodiments, restriction sites can be added or removed to facilitate the cloning process.

2. FIX and Polynucleotide Sequences Encoding the FIX Protein

[0200] In some embodiments, the nucleic acid molecule comprises a first ITR, a second ITR, and a genetic cassette encoding a therapeutic protein, wherein the therapeutic protein comprises a FIX polypeptide. In some embodiments, the FIX polypeptide comprises FIX or a variant or fragment thereof, wherein the FIX or the variant or fragment thereof has a FIX activity.

[0201] Human FIX is a serine protease that is an important component of the intrinsic pathway of the blood coagulation cascade. "Factor IX" or "FIX," as used herein, refers to a coagulation factor protein and species and sequence variants thereof, and includes, but is not limited to, the 461 single-chain amino acid sequence of human FIX precursor polypeptide ("prepro"), the 415 single-chain amino acid sequence of mature human FIX (SEQ ID NO: 125), and the R338L FIX (Padua) variant (SEQ ID NO: 126). FIX includes any form of FIX molecule with the typical characteristics of blood coagulation FIX. As used herein "Factor IX" and "FIX" are intended to encompass polypeptides that comprise the domains Gla (region containing γ -carboxyglutamic acid residues), EGF1 and EGF2 (regions containing sequences homologous to human epidermal growth factor), activation peptide ("AP," formed by residues R136-R180 of the mature FIX), and the C-terminal protease domain ("Pro"), or synonyms of these domains known in the art, or can be a truncated fragment or a sequence variant that retains at least a portion of the

biological activity of the native protein. FIX or sequence variants have been cloned, as described in U.S. Patent Nos. 4,770,999 and 7,700,734, and cDNA coding for human FIX has been isolated, characterized, and cloned into expression vectors (see, for example, Choo et al., Nature 299:178-180 (1982); Fair et al., Blood 64:194-204 (1984); and Kurachi et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., U.S.A. 79:6461-6464 (1982)). One particular variant of FIX, the R338L FIX (Padua) variant (SEQ ID NO: 2), characterized by Simioni et al, 2009, comprises a gain-of-function mutation, which correlates with a nearly 8-fold increase in the activity of the Padua variant relative to native FIX (Table 3). FIX variants can also include any FIX polypeptide having one or more conservative amino acid substitutions, which do not affect the FIX activity of the FIX polypeptide. In some embodiments, the FIX variant comprises rFIX-albumin fused by a cleavable linker, e.g., IDELVION®. See US 7,939,632, incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

Table 3: Example FIX Sequences

<u>SEQ ID NO: 125 (mature FIX polypeptide)</u>	
1:YNSGKLEEFV QGNLERECME EKCSFEEARE VFENTERTE FWKQYVDGDQ CESNPCLNGG	
61:SCKDDINSYE CWC PFGFEGK NCELDVTCNI KNGRCEQFCK NSADNKVVCS CTEGYRLAEN	
121:QKSCEPAVPF PCGRVSVSQT SKLTRAETVF PDVDYVNSTE AETILDNITQ STQSFNDFTR	
181:VVGGEDAKPG QFPWQVVLNG KVDAFCGGS I VNEKWI VTAA HCVETGVKIT VVAGEHNIEE	
241:TEHTEQKRN V IRIIPHHN YN AAINKYNHDI ALLELDEPLV LNSYVTPICI ADKEYTNIFL	
301:KFGSGYVSGW GRVFHKGRSA LVLQYLRVPL VDRATCLRST KFTIYNNMFC AGFHEGGRDS	
361:CQGD SGGPHV TEVEGTSFLT GIISWGEECA MKGKYGIYTK VSRVYVNWIKE KTKLT	
<u>SEQ ID NO: 126 (mature Padua(R338L)FIX Polypeptide)</u>	
1:YNSGKLEEFV QGNLERECME EKCSFEEARE VFENTERTE FWKQYVDGDQ CESNPCLNGG	
61:SCKDDINSYE CWC PFGFEGK NCELDVTCNI KNGRCEQFCK NSADNKVVCS CTEGYRLAEN	
121:QKSCEPAVPF PCGRVSVSQT SKLTRAETVF PDVDYVNSTE AETILDNITQ STQSFNDFTR	
181:VVGGEDAKPG QFPWQVVLNG KVDAFCGGS I VNEKWI VTAA HCVETGVKIT VVAGEHNIEE	
241:TEHTEQKRN V IRIIPHHN YN AAINKYNHDI ALLELDEPLV LNSYVTPICI ADKEYTNIFL	
301:KFGSGYVSGW GRVFHKGRSA LVLQYLRVPL VDRATCLLST KFTIYNNMFC AGFHEGGRDS	
361:CQGD SGGPHV TEVEGTSFLT GIISWGEECA MKGKYGIYTK VSRVYVNWIKE KTKLT	
<u>SEQ ID NO: 127 (FIX Signal Polypeptide and Propeptide)</u>	
1: MQRVNMIMAE SPGLITICLL GYLLSAECTV FLDHENANKI LNRPKR	
<u>SEQ ID NO: 160 (FIX-Linker-Albumin)</u>	
YNSGKLEEFV QGNLERECME EKCSFEEARE VFENTERTE FWKQYVDGDQ	50
CE ~~S~~ NPCLNGG ~~S~~ CKDDINSYE CWC PFGFEGK NCELDVTCNI KNGRCEQFCK	100
NSADNKVVCS CTEGYRLAEN QKSCEPAVPF PCGRVSVSQT SKLTRAETVF	150
PDVDYV ~~N~~ STE AETILD ~~N~~ ITQ ~~S~~ TQSFNDF ~~T~~ R VVGGEDAKPG QFPWQVVLNG	200
KVDAFCGGS I VNEKWI VTAA HCVETGVKIT VVAGEHNIEE TEHTEQKRN V	250

IRIIPHNNYN	AANKYNHDI	ALLELDEPLV	LNSYVTPICI	ADKEYTNIFL	300
KFGSGYVSGW	GRVFHKG RSA	LVLQYLRVPL	VDRATCLRST	KFTIYNNMFC	350
AGFHEGGRDS	CQGDSSGPHV	TEVEGTSFLT	GIISWGEECA	MKGKYGITYK	400
VSRYVNWIKE	KTKLTPVSQT	SKLTRAETVF	PDVDAH KSEV	AHRFKDLGEE	450
NFKALVLIAF	AQYLQQCPFE	DHVKLVNEVT	EFAKTCVADE	SAENC DKSLH	500
TLFGDKLCTV	ATLRETYGEM	ADCCAKQEPE	RNECFLQHKD	DNP NL PRLVR	550
PEVDVMCTAF	HDNEETFLKK	YLYEIARRHP	YFYAPELLFF	AKRYKAAFTF	600
CCQAADKAAC	LLPKLDEL RD	EGKASSAKQR	LK CASLQKFG	ERAFKAWAVA	650
RLSQRFPKAE	FAEVSKLVTD	LTKVHTECCH	GDLLECADDR	ADLAKYICEN	700
QDSISSKLKE	CCEKPLLEKS	HCIAEVENDE	MPADLPSLAA	DFVESKDVCK	750
NYAEAKDVFL	GMFLYEYARR	HPDYSVVL LL	RLAKTYETTL	EKCCAAADPH	800
ECYAKVFDEF	KPLVEEPQNL	IKQNC ELF EQ	LGEYKFQNAL	LVR YTKKVPQ	850
VSTPTLVEVS	RNLGKVGS KC	CKHPEAKRMP	CAEDYLSVVL	NQLCVLHEKT	900
PVSDRVTKCC	TESLVNRRPC	FSALEVDETY	VPKEFNAETF	TFHADICTLS	950
EKERQIKKQT	ALVELVKHKP	KATKEQLKAV	MDDFAAFVEK	CCKAD DKETC	1000
FAEEGKKLVA	ASQAALGL	1018			
<u>SEQ ID NO: 161 (FIX)</u>					
YNSGKLEEFVQGNL ERECMEEKCSFEEAREVF ENTERTTEFWKQYVDGDQCE ~~SN~~ PNCLNGGSCKDDINSYECWCPFG FEGKNCELDVTCNIKNGRCEQFCKNSADNKVVCSCTEGYRLAENQKSCEPAVPFP CGRVSVSQT SKLTRAETVFPD VDYV ~~NS~~ TEAETIL ~~DNIT~~ QSTQSFNDFTRVVGGEDAKPGQFPWQVVLNGKVDAFCGGSIVNEKWI VTAACHCVETGVK ITV VAGEHNI EETEHTEQKRN VIRIIPHNNYNAAINKYNHDIALLELDEPLVLNSYVTPIC IADKEYTNIFLKF GS GYVSGWGRVFHKG RSALVLQYLRVPLVDRATCLRSTKFTIYNNMFCAGFHEGGRDSCQGDSSGPHVTEVEGTSFLT GIISWGEECAMKGKYGITYKVSRYVNWIKEKTKLTPVSQTSKLT					
<u>SEQ ID NO: 162 (Linker)</u>					
RAETVFPDV					
<u>SEQ ID NO: 163 (Albumin)</u>					
DAHKSEVAHRFKDLGEENFKALVLIAFAQYLQQCPFEDHVKLVNEVT EFAKTCVADESAENC DKSLHTLFGDKLCT VATLRETYGEMADCCAKQEPE RNECFLQHKDDNP NL PRLVRPEVDVMCTAFHDNEETFLKKYLYEIARRHPYFYAP ELLFFAKRYKAAFTFECQAADKAACLLPKLDEL RDEGKASSAKQRLK CASLQKFG ERAFKAWAVARLSQRFPKAEF AEVSKLVTDLTKVHTECCHGDLLECADDRADLAKYICENQDSISSKLKECCEKPLLEKSHCIAEVENDEMPADLPS LAADFVESKDVCKNYAEAKDVFLGMFLYEYARRHPDYSVVL LLRLAKTYETTL EKCCAAADPHECYAKVFDEFKPL VEEPQNL IKQNC ELF EQ LGEYKFQNAL LVR YTKKVPQVSTPTLVEVS RNLGKVGS KCCKHPEAKRMPCAEDYLSV LNQLCVLHEKTPVSDRVTKCCTESLVNRRPCFSALEVDETYVPKEFNAETFTFHADICTLSEKERQIKKQTALVEL VKHKPKATKEQLKAVMDDFAAFVEKCKCKAD DKETCFAEEGKKLVAASQAALGL					

[0202] The FIX polypeptide is 55 kDa, synthesized as a prepropolypeptide chain (SEQ ID NO: 125) composed of three regions: a signal peptide of 28 amino acids (amino acids 1 to 28 of SEQ ID NO: 127), a propeptide of 18 amino acids (amino acids 29 to 46), which is required for gamma-carboxylation of glutamic acid residues, and a mature Factor IX of 415 amino acids (SEQ ID NO: 125 or 126). The propeptide is an 18-amino acid residue sequence N-terminal to the gamma-carboxyglutamate domain. The propeptide binds vitamin K-dependent gamma carboxylase and then is cleaved from the precursor polypeptide of FIX by an endogenous protease, most likely PACE (paired basic amino acid cleaving enzyme), also known as furin or PCSK3. Without the gamma carboxylation, the Gla domain is unable to bind calcium to assume

the correct conformation necessary to anchor the protein to negatively charged phospholipid surfaces, thereby rendering Factor IX nonfunctional. Even if it is carboxylated, the Gla domain also depends on cleavage of the propeptide for proper function, since retained propeptide interferes with conformational changes of the Gla domain necessary for optimal binding to calcium and phospholipid. In humans, the resulting mature Factor IX is secreted by liver cells into the blood stream as an inactive zymogen, a single chain protein of 415 amino acid residues that contains approximately 17% carbohydrate by weight (Schmidt, A. E., et al. (2003) Trends Cardiovasc Med, 13: 39).

[0203] The mature FIX is composed of several domains that in an N- to C-terminus configuration are: a GLA domain, an EGF1 domain, an EGF2 domain, an activation peptide (AP) domain, and a protease (or catalytic) domain. A short linker connects the EGF2 domain with the AP domain. FIX contains two activation peptides formed by R145-A146 and R180-V181, respectively. Following activation, the single-chain FIX becomes a 2-chain molecule, in which the two chains are linked by a disulfide bond. Clotting factors can be engineered by replacing their activation peptides resulting in altered activation specificity. In mammals, mature FIX must be activated by activated Factor XI to yield Factor IXa. The protease domain provides, upon activation of FIX to FIXa, the catalytic activity of FIX. Activated Factor VIII (FVIIIa) is the specific cofactor for the full expression of FIXa activity.

[0204] In certain embodiments, a FIX polypeptide comprises an Thr148 allelic form of plasma derived FIX and has structural and functional characteristics similar to endogenous FIX.

[0205] A great many functional FIX variants are known. International publication number WO 02/040544 A3 discloses mutants that exhibit increased resistance to inhibition by heparin at page 4, lines 9-30 and page 15, lines 6-31. International publication number WO 03/020764 A2 discloses FIX mutants with reduced T cell immunogenicity in Tables 2 and 3 (on pages 14-24), and at page 12, lines 1-27. International publication number WO 2007/149406 A2 discloses functional mutant FIX molecules that exhibit increased protein stability, increased *in vivo* and *in vitro* half-life, and increased resistance to proteases at page 4, line 1 to page 19, line 11. WO 2007/149406 A2 also discloses chimeric and other variant FIX molecules at page 19, line 12 to page 20, line 9. International publication number WO 08/118507 A2 discloses FIX mutants that exhibit increased clotting activity at page 5, line 14 to page 6, line 5. International publication number WO 09/051717 A2 discloses FIX mutants having an increased number of N-linked and/or O-linked glycosylation sites, which results in an increased half-life and/or recovery at page 9, line 11 to page 20, line 2. International publication number WO 09/137254 A2 also

discloses Factor IX mutants with increased numbers of glycosylation sites at page 2, paragraph [006] to page 5, paragraph [011] and page 16, paragraph [044] to page 24, paragraph [057]. International publication number WO 09/130198 A2 discloses functional mutant FIX molecules that have an increased number of glycosylation sites, which result in an increased half-life, at page 4, line 26 to page 12, line 6. International publication number WO 09/140015 A2 discloses functional FIX mutants that an increased number of Cys residues, which can be used for polymer (*e.g.*, PEG) conjugation, at page 11, paragraph [0043] to page 13, paragraph [0053]. The FIX polypeptides described in International Application No. PCT/US2011/043569 filed July 11, 2011 and published as WO 2012/006624 on January 12, 2012 are also incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

[0206] In addition, hundreds of non-functional mutations in FIX have been identified in hemophilia subjects, many of which are disclosed in Table 5, at pages 11-14 of International publication number WO 09/137254 A2. Such non-functional mutations are not included in the invention, but provide additional guidance for which mutations are more or less likely to result in a functional FIX polypeptide.

[0207] In one embodiment, the FIX polypeptide (or Factor IX portion of a fusion polypeptide) comprises an amino acid sequence at least 70%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or 100% identical to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1 or 2 (amino acids 1 to 415 of SEQ ID NO: 125 or 126), or alternatively, with a propeptide sequence, or with a propeptide and signal sequence (full length FIX). In another embodiment, the FIX polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence at least 70%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or 100% identical to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2.

[0208] FIX coagulant activity is expressed as International Unit(s) (IU). One IU of FIX activity corresponds approximately to the quantity of FIX in one milliliter of normal human plasma. Several assays are available for measuring FIX activity, including the one stage clotting assay (activated partial thromboplastin time; aPTT), thrombin generation time (TGA) and rotational thromboelastometry (ROTEM®). The invention contemplates sequences that have homology to FIX sequences, sequence fragments that are natural, such as from humans, non-human primates, mammals (including domestic animals), and non-natural sequence variants which retain at least a portion of the biologic activity or biological function of FIX and/or that are useful for preventing, treating, mediating, or ameliorating a coagulation factor-related disease, deficiency, disorder or condition (*e.g.*, bleeding episodes related to trauma, surgery, of deficiency

of a coagulation factor). Sequences with homology to human FIX can be found by standard homology searching techniques, such as NCBI BLAST.

[0209] In certain embodiments, the FIX sequence is codon-optimized. Examples of codon-optimized FIX sequences include, but are not limited to, SEQ ID NOs: 1 and 54-58 of International Publication No. WO 2016/004113 A1, which is incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

3. FVII and Polynucleotide Sequences Encoding the FVII Protein

[0210] In some embodiments, the nucleic acid molecule comprises a first ITR, a second ITR, and a genetic cassette encoding a therapeutic protein, wherein the therapeutic protein comprises a Factor VII polypeptide. In some embodiments, the FVII polypeptide comprises FVII or a variant or fragment thereof, wherein the variant or fragment thereof has a FVII activity.

[0211] "Factor VII" ("FVII," or "F7;" also referred to as Factor 7, coagulation factor VII, serum factor VII, serum prothrombin conversion accelerator, SPCA, proconvertin and eptacog alpha) is a serine protease that is part of the coagulation cascade. In one embodiment, the clotting factor in the nucleic acid described herein is FVII. Recombinant activated Factor VII ("FVII") has become widely used for the treatment of major bleeding, such as that which occurs in patients having hemophilia A or B, deficiency of coagulation Factor XI, FVII, defective platelet function, thrombocytopenia, or von Willebrand's disease.

[0212] Recombinant activated FVII (rFVIIa; NOVOSEVEN[®]) is used to treat bleeding episodes in (i) hemophilia patients with neutralizing antibodies against FVIII or FIX (inhibitors), (ii) patients with FVII deficiency, or (iii) patients with hemophilia A or B with inhibitors undergoing surgical procedures. However, NOVOSEVEN[®] displays poor efficacy. Repeated doses of FVIIa at high concentration are often required to control a bleed, due to its low affinity for activated platelets, short half-life, and poor enzymatic activity in the absence of tissue factor. Accordingly, there is an unmet medical need for better treatment and prevention options for hemophilia patients with FVIII and FIX inhibitors and/or with FVII deficiency.

[0213] In one embodiment, the genetic cassette encodes a mature form of FVII or a variant thereof. FVII includes a Gla domain, two EGF domains (EGF-1 and EGF-2), and a serine protease domain (or peptidase S1 domain) that is highly conserved among all members of the peptidase S1 family of serine proteases, such as for example with chymotrypsin. FVII occurs as a single chain zymogen (*i.e.*, activatable FVII) and a fully activated two-chain form.

C. Heterologous Moieties

[0214] In some embodiments, the nucleic acid molecule comprises a first ITR, a second ITR, and a genetic cassette encoding a therapeutic protein, wherein the therapeutic protein comprises at least one heterologous moiety. In some embodiments, the heterologous moiety is fused to the N-terminus or C-terminus of the therapeutic protein. In other embodiments, the heterologous moiety is inserted between two amino acids within the therapeutic protein.

[0215] In some embodiments, the therapeutic protein comprises a FVIII polypeptide and a heterologous moiety, which is inserted between two amino acids within the FVIII polypeptide. In some embodiments, the heterologous moiety is inserted within the FVIII polypeptide at one or more insertion site selected from Table 4. In some embodiments, the heterologous amino acid sequence can be inserted within the clotting factor polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid molecule of the disclosure at any site disclosed in International Publication No. WO 2013/123457 A1, WO 2015/106052 A1 or U.S. Publication No. 2015/0158929 A1, which are herein incorporated by reference in their entirety. In one particular embodiment, the therapeutic protein comprises a FVIII and a heterologous moiety, wherein the heterologous moiety is inserted within the FVIII immediately downstream of amino acid 745 relative to mature FVIII. In one particular embodiment, the therapeutic protein comprises a FVIII and an XTEN wherein the XTEN is inserted within the FVIII immediately downstream of amino acid 745 relative to mature FVIII. In one particular embodiment, the FVIII comprises a deletion of amino acids 746-1646, corresponding to mature human FVIII (SEQ ID NO:15), and the heterologous moiety is inserted immediately downstream of amino acid 745, corresponding to mature human FVIII (SEQ ID NO:15).

Table 4: FVIII Heterologous Moiety Insertion Sites

Insertion Site	Domain	Insertion Site	Domain	Insertion Site	Domain
3	A1	375	A2	1749	A3
18	A1	378	A2	1796	A3
22	A1	399	A2	1802	A3
26	A1	403	A2	1827	A3
40	A1	409	A2	1861	A3
60	A1	416	A2	1896	A3

65	A1	442	A2	1900	A3
81	A1	487	A2	1904	A3
116	A1	490	A2	1905	A3
119	A1	494	A2	1910	A3
130	A1	500	A2	1937	A3
188	A1	518	A2	2019	A3
211	A1	599	A2	2068	C1
216	A1	603	A2	2111	C1
220	A1	713	A2	2120	C1
224	A1	745	B	2171	C2
230	A1	1656	a3 region	2188	C2
333	A1	1711	A3	2227	C2
336	A1	1720	A3	2332	CT
339	A1	1725	A3		

[0216] In some embodiments, the therapeutic protein comprises a FIX polypeptide and a heterologous moiety, which is inserted between two amino acids within the FIX polypeptide. In some embodiments, the heterologous moiety is inserted within the FIX polypeptide at one or more insertion site selected from Table 4. In some embodiments, the heterologous amino acid sequence can be inserted within the clotting factor polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid molecule of the disclosure at any site disclosed in International Application No. PCT/US2017/015879, which is herein incorporated by reference in their entirety. In one particular embodiment, the therapeutic protein comprises a FIX polypeptide and a heterologous moiety, wherein the heterologous moiety is inserted within the FIX polypeptide immediately downstream of amino acid 166 relative to mature FIX. In one particular embodiment, the therapeutic protein comprises a FIX polypeptide and an XTEN, wherein the XTEN is inserted within the FIX immediately downstream of amino acid 166 relative to mature FVIII.

Table 5: FIX Heterologous Moiety Insertion Sites

Insertion Site	Domain	Insertion Site	Domain	Insertion Site	Domain
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52	EGF1	149	AP	257	Catalytic
59	EGF1	162	AP	265	Catalytic
66	EGF1	166	AP	277	Catalytic
80	EGF1	174	AP	283	Catalytic
85	EGF2	188	Catalytic	292	Catalytic
89	EGF2	202	Catalytic	316	Catalytic
103	EGF2	224	Catalytic	341	Catalytic
105	EGF2	226	Catalytic	354	Catalytic
113	EGF2	228	Catalytic	392	Catalytic
129	Linker	230	Catalytic	403	Catalytic
142	Linker	240	Catalytic	413	Catalytic

[0217] In other embodiments, the therapeutic proteins of the disclosure further comprise two, three, four, five, six, seven, or eight heterologous nucleotide sequences. In some embodiments, all the heterologous moieties are identical. In some embodiments, at least one heterologous moiety is different from the other heterologous moieties. In some embodiments, the disclosure can comprise two, three, four, five, six, or more than seven heterologous moieties in tandem.

[0218] In some embodiments, the heterologous moiety increases the half-life (is a "half-life extender") of the therapeutic protein.

[0219] In some embodiments, the heterologous moiety is a peptide or a polypeptide with either unstructured or structured characteristics that are associated with the prolongation of *in vivo* half-life when incorporated in a protein of the disclosure. Non-limiting examples include albumin, albumin fragments, Fc fragments of immunoglobulins, the C-terminal peptide (CTP) of the β subunit of human chorionic gonadotropin, a HAP sequence, an XTEN sequence, a transferrin or a fragment thereof, a PAS polypeptide, polyglycine linkers, polyserine linkers, albumin-binding moieties, or any fragments, derivatives, variants, or combinations of these polypeptides. In one particular embodiment, the heterologous amino acid sequence is an immunoglobulin constant region or a portion thereof, transferrin, albumin, or a PAS sequence. In some aspects, a heterologous moiety includes von Willebrand factor or a fragment thereof. In other related aspects a heterologous moiety can include an attachment site (*e.g.*, a cysteine amino acid) for a non-polypeptide moiety such as polyethylene glycol (PEG), hydroxyethyl starch

(HES), polysialic acid, or any derivatives, variants, or combinations of these elements. In some aspects, a heterologous moiety comprises a cysteine amino acid that functions as an attachment site for a non-polypeptide moiety such as polyethylene glycol (PEG), hydroxyethyl starch (HES), polysialic acid, or any derivatives, variants, or combinations of these elements.

[0220] In one specific embodiment, a first heterologous moiety is a half-life extending molecule which is known in the art, and a second heterologous moiety is a half-life extending molecule which is known in the art. In certain embodiments, the first heterologous moiety (*e.g.*, a first Fc moiety) and the second heterologous moiety (*e.g.*, a second Fc moiety) are associated with each other to form a dimer. In one embodiment, the second heterologous moiety is a second Fc moiety, wherein the second Fc moiety is linked to or associated with the first heterologous moiety, *e.g.*, the first Fc moiety. For example, the second heterologous moiety (*e.g.*, the second Fc moiety) can be linked to the first heterologous moiety (*e.g.*, the first Fc moiety) by a linker or associated with the first heterologous moiety by a covalent or non-covalent bond.

[0221] In some embodiments, the heterologous moiety is a polypeptide comprising, consisting essentially of, or consisting of at least about 10, at least about 100, at least about 200, at least about 300, at least about 400, at least about 500, at least about 600, at least about 700, at least about 800, at least about 900, at least about 1000, at least about 1100, at least about 1200, at least about 1300, at least about 1400, at least about 1500, at least about 1600, at least about 1700, at least about 1800, at least about 1900, at least about 2000, at least about 2500, at least about 3000, or at least about 4000 amino acids. In other embodiments, the heterologous moiety is a polypeptide comprising, consisting essentially of, or consisting of about 100 to about 200 amino acids, about 200 to about 300 amino acids, about 300 to about 400 amino acids, about 400 to about 500 amino acids, about 500 to about 600 amino acids, about 600 to about 700 amino acids, about 700 to about 800 amino acids, about 800 to about 900 amino acids, or about 900 to about 1000 amino acids.

[0222] In certain embodiments, a heterologous moiety improves one or more pharmacokinetic properties of the therapeutic protein without significantly affecting its biological activity or function.

[0223] In certain embodiments, a heterologous moiety increases the *in vivo* and/or *in vitro* half-life of the therapeutic protein of the disclosure. In other embodiments, a heterologous moiety facilitates visualization or localization of the therapeutic protein of the disclosure or a fragment thereof (*e.g.*, a fragment comprising a heterologous moiety after proteolytic cleavage of

the FVIII protein). Visualization and/or location of the therapeutic protein of the disclosure or a fragment thereof can be *in vivo*, *in vitro*, *ex vivo*, or combinations thereof.

[0224] In other embodiments, a heterologous moiety increases stability of the therapeutic protein of the disclosure or a fragment thereof (*e.g.*, a fragment comprising a heterologous moiety after proteolytic cleavage of the therapeutic protein, *e.g.*, a clotting factor). As used herein, the term "stability" refers to an art-recognized measure of the maintenance of one or more physical properties of the therapeutic protein in response to an environmental condition (*e.g.*, an elevated or lowered temperature). In certain aspects, the physical property can be the maintenance of the covalent structure of the therapeutic protein (*e.g.*, the absence of proteolytic cleavage, unwanted oxidation or deamidation). In other aspects, the physical property can also be the presence of the therapeutic protein in a properly folded state (*e.g.*, the absence of soluble or insoluble aggregates or precipitates). In one aspect, the stability of the therapeutic protein is measured by assaying a biophysical property of the therapeutic protein, for example thermal stability, pH unfolding profile, stable removal of glycosylation, solubility, biochemical function (*e.g.*, ability to bind to a protein, receptor or ligand), etc., and/or combinations thereof. In another aspect, biochemical function is demonstrated by the binding affinity of the interaction. In one aspect, a measure of protein stability is thermal stability, *i.e.*, resistance to thermal challenge. Stability can be measured using methods known in the art, such as, HPLC (high performance liquid chromatography), SEC (size exclusion chromatography), DLS (dynamic light scattering), etc. Methods to measure thermal stability include, but are not limited to differential scanning calorimetry (DSC), differential scanning fluorimetry (DSF), circular dichroism (CD), and thermal challenge assay.

[0225] In certain aspects, a therapeutic protein encoded by the nucleic acid molecule of the disclosure comprises at least one half-life extender, *i.e.*, a heterologous moiety which increases the *in vivo* half-life of the therapeutic protein with respect to the *in vivo* half-life of the corresponding therapeutic protein lacking such heterologous moiety. *In vivo* half-life of a therapeutic protein can be determined by any methods known to those of skill in the art, *e.g.*, activity assays (*e.g.*, chromogenic assay or one stage clotting aPTT assay wherein the therapeutic protein comprises a FVIII polypeptide), ELISA, ROTEMTM, etc.

[0226] In some embodiments, the presence of one or more half-life extenders results in the half-life of the therapeutic protein to be increased compared to the half-life of the corresponding protein lacking such one or more half-life extenders. The half-life of the therapeutic protein comprising a half-life extender is at least about 1.5 times, at least about 2

times, at least about 2.5 times, at least about 3 times, at least about 4 times, at least about 5 times, at least about 6 times, at least about 7 times, at least about 8 times, at least about 9 times, at least about 10 times, at least about 11 times, or at least about 12 times longer than the *in vivo* half-life of the corresponding therapeutic protein lacking such half-life extender.

[0227] In one embodiment, the half-life of the therapeutic protein comprising a half-life extender is about 1.5-fold to about 20-fold, about 1.5 fold to about 15 fold, or about 1.5 fold to about 10 fold longer than the *in vivo* half-life of the corresponding protein lacking such half-life extender. In another embodiment, the half-life of therapeutic protein comprising a half-life extender is extended about 2-fold to about 10-fold, about 2-fold to about 9-fold, about 2-fold to about 8-fold, about 2-fold to about 7-fold, about 2-fold to about 6-fold, about 2-fold to about 5-fold, about 2-fold to about 4-fold, about 2-fold to about 3-fold, about 2.5-fold to about 10-fold, about 2.5-fold to about 9-fold, about 2.5-fold to about 8-fold, about 2.5-fold to about 7-fold, about 2.5-fold to about 6-fold, about 2.5-fold to about 5-fold, about 2.5-fold to about 4-fold, about 2.5-fold to about 3-fold, about 3-fold to about 10-fold, about 3-fold to about 9-fold, about 3-fold to about 8-fold, about 3-fold to about 7-fold, about 3-fold to about 6-fold, about 3-fold to about 5-fold, about 3-fold to about 4-fold, about 4-fold to about 6 fold, about 5-fold to about 7-fold, or about 6-fold to about 8 fold as compared to the *in vivo* half-life of the corresponding protein lacking such half-life extender.

[0228] In other embodiments, the half-life of the therapeutic protein comprising a half-life extender is at least about 17 hours, at least about 18 hours, at least about 19 hours, at least about 20 hours, at least about 21 hours, at least about 22 hours, at least about 23 hours, at least about 24 hours, at least about 25 hours, at least about 26 hours, at least about 27 hours, at least about 28 hours, at least about 29 hours, at least about 30 hours, at least about 31 hours, at least about 32 hours, at least about 33 hours, at least about 34 hours, at least about 35 hours, at least about 36 hours, at least about 48 hours, at least about 60 hours, at least about 72 hours, at least about 84 hours, at least about 96 hours, or at least about 108 hours.

[0229] In still other embodiments, the half-life of the therapeutic protein comprising a half-life extender is about 15 hours to about two weeks, about 16 hours to about one week, about 17 hours to about one week, about 18 hours to about one week, about 19 hours to about one week, about 20 hours to about one week, about 21 hours to about one week, about 22 hours to about one week, about 23 hours to about one week, about 24 hours to about one week, about 36 hours to about one week, about 48 hours to about one week, about 60 hours to about one week,

about 24 hours to about six days, about 24 hours to about five days, about 24 hours to about four days, about 24 hours to about three days, or about 24 hours to about two days.

[0230] In some embodiments, the average half-life per subject of the therapeutic protein comprising a half-life extender is about 15 hours, about 16 hours, about 17 hours, about 18 hours, about 19 hours, about 20 hours, about 21 hours, about 22 hours, about 23 hours, about 24 hours (1 day), about 25 hours, about 26 hours, about 27 hours, about 28 hours, about 29 hours, about 30 hours, about 31 hours, about 32 hours, about 33 hours, about 34 hours, about 35 hours, about 36 hours, about 40 hours, about 44 hours, about 48 hours (2 days), about 54 hours, about 60 hours, about 72 hours (3 days), about 84 hours, about 96 hours (4 days), about 108 hours, about 120 hours (5 days), about six days, about seven days (one week), about eight days, about nine days, about 10 days, about 11 days, about 12 days, about 13 days, or about 14 days.

[0231] One or more half-life extenders can be fused to C-terminus or N-terminus of therapeutic protein or inserted within therapeutic protein.

1. An immunoglobulin Constant Region or a Portion Thereof

[0232] In another aspect, a heterologous moiety comprises one or more immunoglobulin constant regions or portions thereof (*e.g.*, an Fc region). In one embodiment, an isolated nucleic acid molecule of the disclosure further comprises a heterologous nucleic acid sequence that encodes an immunoglobulin constant region or a portion thereof. In some embodiments, the immunoglobulin constant region or portion thereof is an Fc region.

[0233] An immunoglobulin constant region is comprised of domains denoted CH (constant heavy) domains (CH1, CH2, etc.). Depending on the isotype, (*i.e.* IgG, IgM, IgA IgD, or IgE), the constant region can be comprised of three or four CH domains. Some isotypes (*e.g.* IgG) constant regions also contain a hinge region. *See Janeway et al.* 2001, *Immunobiology*, Garland Publishing, N.Y., N.Y.

[0234] An immunoglobulin constant region or a portion thereof of the present disclosure can be obtained from a number of different sources. In one embodiment, an immunoglobulin constant region or a portion thereof is derived from a human immunoglobulin. It is understood, however, that the immunoglobulin constant region or a portion thereof can be derived from an immunoglobulin of another mammalian species, including for example, a rodent (*e.g.*, a mouse, rat, rabbit, guinea pig) or non-human primate (*e.g.*, chimpanzee, macaque) species. Moreover, the immunoglobulin constant region or a portion thereof can be derived from any immunoglobulin

class, including IgM, IgG, IgD, IgA and IgE, and any immunoglobulin isotype, including IgG1, IgG2, IgG3 and IgG4. In one embodiment, the human isotype IgG1 is used.

[0235] A variety of the immunoglobulin constant region gene sequences (*e.g.*, human constant region gene sequences) are available in the form of publicly accessible deposits. Constant region domains sequence can be selected having a particular effector function (or lacking a particular effector function) or with a particular modification to reduce immunogenicity. Many sequences of antibodies and antibody-encoding genes have been published and suitable Ig constant region sequences (*e.g.*, hinge, CH2, and/or CH3 sequences, or portions thereof) can be derived from these sequences using art recognized techniques. The genetic material obtained using any of the foregoing methods can then be altered or synthesized to obtain polypeptides of the present disclosure. It will further be appreciated that the scope of this disclosure encompasses alleles, variants and mutations of constant region DNA sequences.

[0236] The sequences of the immunoglobulin constant region or a portion thereof can be cloned, *e.g.*, using the polymerase chain reaction and primers which are selected to amplify the domain of interest. To clone a sequence of the immunoglobulin constant region or a portion thereof from an antibody, mRNA can be isolated from hybridoma, spleen, or lymph cells, reverse transcribed into DNA, and antibody genes amplified by PCR. PCR amplification methods are described in detail in U.S. Pat. Nos. 4,683,195; 4,683,202; 4,800,159; 4,965,188; and in, *e.g.*, "PCR Protocols: A Guide to Methods and Applications" Innis et al. eds., Academic Press, San Diego, CA (1990); Ho et al. 1989. *Gene* 77:51; Horton et al. 1993. *Methods Enzymol.* 217:270). PCR can be initiated by consensus constant region primers or by more specific primers based on the published heavy and light chain DNA and amino acid sequences. PCR also can be used to isolate DNA clones encoding the antibody light and heavy chains. In this case the libraries can be screened by consensus primers or larger homologous probes, such as mouse constant region probes. Numerous primer sets suitable for amplification of antibody genes are known in the art (*e.g.*, 5' primers based on the N-terminal sequence of purified antibodies (Benhar and Pastan. 1994. *Protein Engineering* 7:1509); rapid amplification of cDNA ends (Ruberti, F. et al. 1994. *J. Immunol. Methods* 173:33); antibody leader sequences (Larrick et al. 1989 *Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun.* 160:1250). The cloning of antibody sequences is further described in Newman et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,658,570, filed January 25, 1995, which is incorporated by reference herein.

[0237] An immunoglobulin constant region used herein can include all domains and the hinge region or portions thereof. In one embodiment, the immunoglobulin constant region or a

portion thereof comprises CH2 domain, CH3 domain, and a hinge region, *i.e.*, an Fc region or an FcRn binding partner.

[0238] As used herein, the term "Fc region" is defined as the portion of a polypeptide which corresponds to the Fc region of native Ig, *i.e.*, as formed by the dimeric association of the respective Fc domains of its two heavy chains. A native Fc region forms a homodimer with another Fc region. In contrast, the term "genetically-fused Fc region" or "single-chain Fc region" (scFc region), as used herein, refers to a synthetic dimeric Fc region comprised of Fc domains genetically linked within a single polypeptide chain (*i.e.*, encoded in a single contiguous genetic sequence). *See* International Publication No. WO 2012/006635, incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

[0239] In one embodiment, the "Fc region" refers to the portion of a single Ig heavy chain beginning in the hinge region just upstream of the papain cleavage site (*i.e.*, residue 216 in IgG, taking the first residue of heavy chain constant region to be 114) and ending at the C-terminus of the antibody. Accordingly, a complete Fc region comprises at least a hinge domain, a CH2 domain, and a CH3 domain.

[0240] An immunoglobulin constant region or a portion thereof can be an FcRn binding partner. FcRn is active in adult epithelial tissues and expressed in the lumen of the intestines, pulmonary airways, nasal surfaces, vaginal surfaces, colon and rectal surfaces (U.S. Pat. No. 6,485,726). An FcRn binding partner is a portion of an immunoglobulin that binds to FcRn.

[0241] The FcRn receptor has been isolated from several mammalian species including humans. The sequences of the human FcRn, monkey FcRn, rat FcRn, and mouse FcRn are known (Story et al. 1994, J. Exp. Med. 180:2377). The FcRn receptor binds IgG (but not other immunoglobulin classes such as IgA, IgM, IgD, and IgE) at relatively low pH, actively transports the IgG transcellularly in a luminal to serosal direction, and then releases the IgG at relatively higher pH found in the interstitial fluids. It is expressed in adult epithelial tissue (U.S. Pat. Nos. 6,485,726, 6,030,613, 6,086,875; WO 03/077834; US2003-0235536A1) including lung and intestinal epithelium (Israel et al. 1997, Immunology 92:69) renal proximal tubular epithelium (Kobayashi et al. 2002, Am. J. Physiol. Renal Physiol. 282:F358) as well as nasal epithelium, vaginal surfaces, and biliary tree surfaces.

[0242] FcRn binding partners useful in the present disclosure encompass molecules that can be specifically bound by the FcRn receptor including whole IgG, the Fc fragment of IgG, and other fragments that include the complete binding region of the FcRn receptor. The region of the Fc portion of IgG that binds to the FcRn receptor has been described based on X-ray

crystallography (Burmeister et al. 1994, Nature 372:379). The major contact area of the Fc with the FcRn is near the junction of the CH2 and CH3 domains. Fc-FcRn contacts are all within a single Ig heavy chain. The FcRn binding partners include whole IgG, the Fc fragment of IgG, and other fragments of IgG that include the complete binding region of FcRn. The major contact sites include amino acid residues 248, 250-257, 272, 285, 288, 290-291, 308-311, and 314 of the CH2 domain and amino acid residues 385-387, 428, and 433-436 of the CH3 domain. References made to amino acid numbering of immunoglobulins or immunoglobulin fragments, or regions, are all based on Kabat et al. 1991, Sequences of Proteins of Immunological Interest, U.S. Department of Public Health, Bethesda, Md.

[0243] Fc regions or FcRn binding partners bound to FcRn can be effectively shuttled across epithelial barriers by FcRn, thus providing a non-invasive means to systemically administer a desired therapeutic molecule. Additionally, fusion proteins comprising an Fc region or an FcRn binding partner are endocytosed by cells expressing the FcRn. But instead of being marked for degradation, these fusion proteins are recycled out into circulation again, thus increasing the *in vivo* half-life of these proteins. In certain embodiments, the portions of immunoglobulin constant regions are an Fc region or an FcRn binding partner that typically associates, via disulfide bonds and other non-specific interactions, with another Fc region or another FcRn binding partner to form dimers and higher order multimers.

[0244] Two FcRn receptors can bind a single Fc molecule. Crystallographic data suggest that each FcRn molecule binds a single polypeptide of the Fc homodimer. In one embodiment, linking the FcRn binding partner, *e.g.*, an Fc fragment of an IgG, to a biologically active molecule provides a means of delivering the biologically active molecule orally, buccally, sublingually, rectally, vaginally, as an aerosol administered nasally or via a pulmonary route, or via an ocular route. In another embodiment, the clotting factor protein can be administered invasively, *e.g.*, subcutaneously, intravenously.

[0245] An FcRn binding partner region is a molecule or portion thereof that can be specifically bound by the FcRn receptor with consequent active transport by the FcRn receptor of the Fc region. Specifically bound refers to two molecules forming a complex that is relatively stable under physiologic conditions. Specific binding is characterized by a high affinity and a low to moderate capacity as distinguished from nonspecific binding which usually has a low affinity with a moderate to high capacity. Typically, binding is considered specific when the affinity constant K_A is higher than 10^6 M^{-1} , or higher than 10^8 M^{-1} . If necessary, non-specific binding can be reduced without substantially affecting specific binding by varying the binding conditions.

The appropriate binding conditions such as concentration of the molecules, ionic strength of the solution, temperature, time allowed for binding, concentration of a blocking agent (*e.g.*, serum albumin, milk casein), etc., can be optimized by a skilled artisan using routine techniques.

[0246] In certain embodiments, a therapeutic protein encoded by the nucleic acid molecule of the disclosure comprises one or more truncated Fc regions that are nonetheless sufficient to confer Fc receptor (FcR) binding properties to the Fc region. For example, the portion of an Fc region that binds to FcRn (*i.e.*, the FcRn binding portion) comprises from about amino acids 282-438 of IgG1, EU numbering (with the primary contact sites being amino acids 248, 250-257, 272, 285, 288, 290-291, 308-311, and 314 of the CH2 domain and amino acid residues 385-387, 428, and 433-436 of the CH3 domain). Thus, an Fc region of the disclosure can comprise or consist of an FcRn binding portion. FcRn binding portions can be derived from heavy chains of any isotype, including IgG1, IgG2, IgG3 and IgG4. In one embodiment, an FcRn binding portion from an antibody of the human isotype IgG1 is used. In another embodiment, an FcRn binding portion from an antibody of the human isotype IgG4 is used.

[0247] The Fc region can be obtained from a number of different sources. In one embodiment, an Fc region of the polypeptide is derived from a human immunoglobulin. It is understood, however, that an Fc moiety can be derived from an immunoglobulin of another mammalian species, including for example, a rodent (*e.g.*, a mouse, rat, rabbit, guinea pig) or non-human primate (*e.g.*, chimpanzee, macaque) species. Moreover, the polypeptide of the Fc domains or portions thereof can be derived from any immunoglobulin class, including IgM, IgG, IgD, IgA and IgE, and any immunoglobulin isotype, including IgG1, IgG2, IgG3 and IgG4. In another embodiment, the human isotype IgG1 is used.

[0248] In certain embodiments, the Fc variant confers a change in at least one effector function imparted by an Fc moiety comprising said wild-type Fc domain (*e.g.*, an improvement or reduction in the ability of the Fc region to bind to Fc receptors (*e.g.* FcγRI, FcγRII, or FcγRIII) or complement proteins (*e.g.*, C1q), or to trigger antibody-dependent cytotoxicity (ADCC), phagocytosis, or complement-dependent cytotoxicity (CDCC)). In other embodiments, the Fc variant provides an engineered cysteine residue.

[0249] The Fc region of the disclosure can employ art-recognized Fc variants which are known to impart a change (*e.g.*, an enhancement or reduction) in effector function and/or FcR or FcRn binding. Specifically, an Fc region of the disclosure can include, for example, a change (*e.g.*, a substitution) at one or more of the amino acid positions disclosed in International PCT Publications WO88/07089A1, WO96/14339A1, WO98/05787A1, WO98/23289A1,

WO99/51642A1, WO99/58572A1, WO00/09560A2, WO00/32767A1, WO00/42072A2, WO02/44215A2, WO02/060919A2, WO03/074569A2, WO04/016750A2, WO04/029207A2, WO04/035752A2, WO04/063351A2, WO04/074455A2, WO04/099249A2, WO05/040217A2, WO04/044859, WO05/070963A1, WO05/077981A2, WO05/092925A2, WO05/123780A2, WO06/019447A1, WO06/047350A2, and WO06/085967A2; US Patent Publication Nos. US2007/0231329, US2007/0231329, US2007/0237765, US2007/0237766, US2007/0237767, US2007/0243188, US20070248603, US20070286859, US20080057056; or US Patents 5,648,260; 5,739,277; 5,834,250; 5,869,046; 6,096,871; 6,121,022; 6,194,551; 6,242,195; 6,277,375; 6,528,624; 6,538,124; 6,737,056; 6,821,505; 6,998,253; 7,083,784; 7,404,956, and 7,317,091, each of which is incorporated by reference herein. In one embodiment, the specific change (*e.g.*, the specific substitution of one or more amino acids disclosed in the art) can be made at one or more of the disclosed amino acid positions. In another embodiment, a different change at one or more of the disclosed amino acid positions (*e.g.*, the different substitution of one or more amino acid position disclosed in the art) can be made.

[0250] The Fc region or FcRn binding partner of IgG can be modified according to well recognized procedures such as site directed mutagenesis and the like to yield modified IgG or Fc fragments or portions thereof that will be bound by FcRn. Such modifications include modifications remote from the FcRn contact sites as well as modifications within the contact sites that preserve or even enhance binding to the FcRn. For example, the following single amino acid residues in human IgG1 Fc (Fc $\square$ 1) can be substituted without significant loss of Fc binding affinity for FcRn: P238A, S239A, K246A, K248A, D249A, M252A, T256A, E258A, T260A, D265A, S267A, H268A, E269A, D270A, E272A, L274A, N276A, Y278A, D280A, V282A, E283A, H285A, N286A, T289A, K290A, R292A, E293A, E294A, Q295A, Y296F, N297A, S298A, Y300F, R301A, V303A, V305A, T307A, L309A, Q311A, D312A, N315A, K317A, E318A, K320A, K322A, S324A, K326A, A327Q, P329A, A330Q, P331A, E333A, K334A, T335A, S337A, K338A, K340A, Q342A, R344A, E345A, Q347A, R355A, E356A, M358A, T359A, K360A, N361A, Q362A, Y373A, S375A, D376A, A378Q, E380A, E382A, S383A, N384A, Q386A, E388A, N389A, N390A, Y391F, K392A, L398A, S400A, D401A, D413A, K414A, R416A, Q418A, Q419A, N421A, V422A, S424A, E430A, N434A, T437A, Q438A, K439A, S440A, S444A, and K447A, where for example P238A represents wild type proline substituted by alanine at position number 238. As an example, a specific embodiment incorporates the N297A mutation, removing a highly conserved N-glycosylation site. In addition to alanine other amino acids can be substituted for the wild type amino acids at the positions

specified above. Mutations can be introduced singly into Fc giving rise to more than one hundred Fc regions distinct from the native Fc. Additionally, combinations of two, three, or more of these individual mutations can be introduced together, giving rise to hundreds more Fc regions.

[0251] Certain of the above mutations can confer new functionality upon the Fc region or FcRn binding partner. For example, one embodiment incorporates N297A, removing a highly conserved N-glycosylation site. The effect of this mutation is to reduce immunogenicity, thereby enhancing circulating half-life of the Fc region, and to render the Fc region incapable of binding to FcγRI, FcγRIIA, FcγRIIB, and FcγRIIIA, without compromising affinity for FcRn (Routledge et al. 1995, Transplantation 60:847; Friend et al. 1999, Transplantation 68:1632; Shields et al. 1995, J. Biol. Chem. 276:6591). As a further example of new functionality arising from mutations described above affinity for FcRn can be increased beyond that of wild type in some instances. This increased affinity can reflect an increased "on" rate, a decreased "off" rate or both an increased "on" rate and a decreased "off" rate. Examples of mutations believed to impart an increased affinity for FcRn include, but not limited to, T256A, T307A, E380A, and N434A (Shields et al. 2001, J. Biol. Chem. 276:6591).

[0252] Additionally, at least three human Fc gamma receptors appear to recognize a binding site on IgG within the lower hinge region, generally amino acids 234-237. Therefore, another example of new functionality and potential decreased immunogenicity can arise from mutations of this region, as for example by replacing amino acids 233-236 of human IgG1 "ELLG" (SEQ ID NO: 45) to the corresponding sequence from IgG2 "PVA" (with one amino acid deletion). It has been shown that FcγRI, FcγRII, and FcγRIII, which mediate various effector functions will not bind to IgG1 when such mutations have been introduced. Ward and Ghetie 1995, Therapeutic Immunology 2:77 and Armour et al. 1999, Eur. J. Immunol. 29:2613.

[0253] In another embodiment, the immunoglobulin constant region or a portion thereof comprises an amino acid sequence in the hinge region or a portion thereof that forms one or more disulfide bonds with a second immunoglobulin constant region or a portion thereof. The second immunoglobulin constant region or a portion thereof can be linked to a second polypeptide, bringing the therapeutic protein and the second polypeptide together. In some embodiments, the second polypeptide is an enhancer moiety. As used herein, the term "enhancer moiety" refers to a molecule, fragment thereof or a component of a polypeptide which is capable of enhancing the activity of the therapeutic protein. The enhancer moiety can be a cofactor, such as, wherein the therapeutic protein is a clotting factor, a soluble tissue factor (sTF), or a procoagulant peptide.

Thus, upon activation of the clotting factor, the enhancer moiety is available to enhance clotting factor activity.

[0254] In certain embodiments, a therapeutic protein encoded by a nucleic acid molecule of the disclosure comprises an amino acid substitution to an immunoglobulin constant region or a portion thereof (*e.g.*, Fc variants), which alters the antigen-independent effector functions of the Ig constant region, in particular the circulating half-life of the protein.

2. scFc Regions

[0255] In another aspect, a heterologous moiety comprises a scFc (single chain Fc) region. In one embodiment, an isolated nucleic acid molecule of the disclosure further comprises a heterologous nucleic acid sequence that encodes a scFc region. The scFc region comprises at least two immunoglobulin constant regions or portions thereof (*e.g.*, Fc moieties or domains (*e.g.*, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, or more Fc moieties or domains)) within the same linear polypeptide chain that are capable of folding (*e.g.*, intramolecularly or intermolecularly folding) to form one functional scFc region which is linked by an Fc peptide linker. For example, in one embodiment, a polypeptide of the disclosure is capable of binding, via its scFc region, to at least one Fc receptor (*e.g.*, an FcRn, an FcγR receptor (*e.g.*, FcγRIII), or a complement protein (*e.g.*, C1q)) in order to improve half-life or trigger an immune effector function (*e.g.*, antibody-dependent cytotoxicity (ADCC), phagocytosis, or complement-dependent cytotoxicity (CDCC) and/or to improve manufacturability).

3. CTP

[0256] In another aspect, a heterologous moiety comprises one C-terminal peptide (CTP) of the β subunit of human chorionic gonadotropin or fragment, variant, or derivative thereof. One or more CTP peptides inserted into a recombinant protein is known to increase the *in vivo* half-life of that protein. See, *e.g.*, U.S. Patent No. 5,712,122, incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

[0257] Exemplary CTP peptides include DPRFQDSSSSKAPPPSLPSPSRLPGPSDTPIL (SEQ ID NO: 33) or SSSSKAPPPSLPSPSRLPGPSDTPILPQ (SEQ ID NO: 34). See, *e.g.*, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2009/0087411 A1, incorporated by reference.

4. XTEN Sequence

[0258] In some embodiments, a heterologous moiety comprises one or more XTEN sequences, fragments, variants, or derivatives thereof. As used here "XTEN sequence" refers to

extended length polypeptides with non-naturally occurring, substantially non-repetitive sequences that are composed mainly of small hydrophilic amino acids, with the sequence having a low degree or no secondary or tertiary structure under physiologic conditions. As a heterologous moiety, XTENs can serve as a half-life extension moiety. In addition, XTEN can provide desirable properties including but are not limited to enhanced pharmacokinetic parameters and solubility characteristics.

[0259] The incorporation of a heterologous moiety comprising an XTEN sequence into a protein of the disclosure can confer to the protein one or more of the following advantageous properties: conformational flexibility, enhanced aqueous solubility, high degree of protease resistance, low immunogenicity, low binding to mammalian receptors, or increased hydrodynamic (or Stokes) radii.

[0260] In certain aspects, an XTEN sequence can increase pharmacokinetic properties such as longer *in vivo* half-life or increased area under the curve (AUC), so that a protein of the disclosure stays *in vivo* and has procoagulant activity for an increased period of time compared to a protein with the same but without the XTEN heterologous moiety.

[0261] In some embodiments, the XTEN sequence useful for the disclosure is a peptide or a polypeptide having greater than about 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 150, 200, 250, 300, 350, 400, 450, 500, 550, 600, 650, 700, 750, 800, 850, 900, 950, 1000, 1200, 1400, 1600, 1800, or 2000 amino acid residues. In certain embodiments, XTEN is a peptide or a polypeptide having greater than about 20 to about 3000 amino acid residues, greater than 30 to about 2500 residues, greater than 40 to about 2000 residues, greater than 50 to about 1500 residues, greater than 60 to about 1000 residues, greater than 70 to about 900 residues, greater than 80 to about 800 residues, greater than 90 to about 700 residues, greater than 100 to about 600 residues, greater than 110 to about 500 residues, or greater than 120 to about 400 residues. In one particular embodiment, the XTEN comprises an amino acid sequence of longer than 42 amino acids and shorter than 144 amino acids in length.

[0262] The XTEN sequence of the disclosure can comprise one or more sequence motif of 5 to 14 (*e.g.*, 9 to 14) amino acid residues or an amino acid sequence at least 80%, 90%, 91%, 92%, 93%, 94%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, or 99% identical to the sequence motif, wherein the motif comprises, consists essentially of, or consists of 4 to 6 types of amino acids (*e.g.*, 5 amino acids) selected from the group consisting of glycine (G), alanine (A), serine (S), threonine (T), glutamate (E) and proline (P). *See* US 2010-0239554 A1.

[0263] In some embodiments, the XTEN comprises non-overlapping sequence motifs in which about 80%, or at least about 85%, or at least about 90%, or about 91%, or about 92%, or about 93%, or about 94%, or about 95%, or about 96%, or about 97%, or about 98%, or about 99% or about 100% of the sequence consists of multiple units of non-overlapping sequences selected from a single motif family selected from Table 6, resulting in a family sequence. As used herein, "family" means that the XTEN has motifs selected only from a single motif category from Table 6; *i.e.*, AD, AE, AF, AG, AM, AQ, BC, or BD XTEN, and that any other amino acids in the XTEN not from a family motif are selected to achieve a needed property, such as to permit incorporation of a restriction site by the encoding nucleotides, incorporation of a cleavage sequence, or to achieve a better linkage to the therapeutic protein. In some embodiments of XTEN families, an XTEN sequence comprises multiple units of non-overlapping sequence motifs of the AD motif family, or of the AE motif family, or of the AF motif family, or of the AG motif family, or of the AM motif family, or of the AQ motif family, or of the BC family, or of the BD family, with the resulting XTEN exhibiting the range of homology described above. In other embodiments, the XTEN comprises multiple units of motif sequences from two or more of the motif families of Table 6. These sequences can be selected to achieve desired physical/chemical characteristics, including such properties as net charge, hydrophilicity, lack of secondary structure, or lack of repetitiveness that are conferred by the amino acid composition of the motifs, described more fully below. In the embodiments hereinabove described in this paragraph, the motifs incorporated into the XTEN can be selected and assembled using the methods described herein to achieve an XTEN of about 36 to about 3000 amino acid residues.

Table 6. XTEN Sequence Motifs of 12 Amino Acids and Motif Families

Motif Family*	MOTIF SEQUENCE	SEQ ID NO:
AD	GESPGGSSGSES	73
AD	GSEGSSGPGESS	74
AD	GSSESGSSEGGP	75
AD	GSGGEPSESGSS	76
AE, AM	GSPAGSPTSTEE	77
AE, AM, AQ	GSEPATSGSETP	78
AE, AM, AQ	GTSESATPESGP	79
AE, AM, AQ	GTSTEPSEGSAP	80
AF, AM	GSTSESPSGTAP	81

Motif Family*	MOTIF SEQUENCE	SEQ ID NO:
AF, AM	GTSTPESGSASP	82
AF, AM	GTSPSGESSTAP	83
AF, AM	GSTSSTAESP GP	84
AG, AM	GTPGSGTASSSP	85
AG, AM	GSSTPSGATGSP	86
AG, AM	GSSPSASTGTGP	87
AG, AM	GASPGTSSTGSP	88
AQ	GEPAGSPTSTSE	89
AQ	GTGEPSSTPASE	90
AQ	GSGPSTESAPTE	91
AQ	GSETPSGPSETA	92
AQ	GPSETSTSEPGA	93
AQ	GSPSEPTEGTSA	94
BC	GSGASEPTSTEP	95
BC	GSEPATSGTEPS	96
BC	GTSEPSTSEPGA	97
BC	GTSTEPSEPGSA	98
BD	GSTAGSETSTEA	99
BD	GSETATSGSETA	100
BD	GTSESATSESGA	101
BD	GTSTEASEGSAS	102

* Denotes individual motif sequences that, when used together in various permutations, results in a "family sequence"

[0264] Examples of XTEN sequences that can be used as heterologous moieties in the therapeutic proteins of the disclosure are disclosed, *e.g.*, in U.S. Patent Publication Nos. 2010/0239554 A1, 2010/0323956 A1, 2011/0046060 A1, 2011/0046061 A1, 2011/0077199 A1, or 2011/0172146 A1, or International Patent Publication Nos. WO 2010091122 A1, WO 2010144502 A2, WO 2010144508 A1, WO 2011028228 A1, WO 2011028229 A1, or WO 2011028344 A2, each of which is incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

[0265] XTEN can have varying lengths for insertion into or linkage to a therapeutic protein. In one embodiment, the length of the XTEN sequence(s) is chosen based on the property or function to be achieved in the fusion protein. Depending on the intended property or function, XTEN can be short or intermediate length sequence or longer sequence that can serve as carriers. In certain embodiments, the XTEN includes short segments of about 6 to about 99 amino acid

residues, intermediate lengths of about 100 to about 399 amino acid residues, and longer lengths of about 400 to about 1000 and up to about 3000 amino acid residues. Thus, the XTEN inserted into or linked to a therapeutic protein can have lengths of about 6, about 12, about 36, about 40, about 42, about 72, about 96, about 144, about 288, about 400, about 500, about 576, about 600, about 700, about 800, about 864, about 900, about 1000, about 1500, about 2000, about 2500, or up to about 3000 amino acid residues in length. In other embodiments, the XTEN sequences is about 6 to about 50, about 50 to about 100, about 100 to 150, about 150 to 250, about 250 to 400, about 400 to about 500, about 500 to about 900, about 900 to 1500, about 1500 to 2000, or about 2000 to about 3000 amino acid residues in length. The precise length of an XTEN inserted into or linked to a therapeutic protein can vary without adversely affecting the activity of the therapeutic protein. In one embodiment, one or more of the XTENs used herein have 42 amino acids, 72 amino acids, 144 amino acids, 288 amino acids, 576 amino acids, or 864 amino acids in length and can be selected from one or more of the XTEN family sequences; *i.e.*, AD, AE, AF, AG, AM, AQ, BC or BD.

[0266] In some embodiments, the therapeutic protein comprises a FVIII polypeptide and an XTEN, wherein the XTEN comprises 288 amino acids. In one embodiment, the therapeutic protein comprises a FVIII polypeptide and an XTEN, wherein the XTEN comprises 288 amino acids, and the XTEN is inserted within the B domain of the FVIII polypeptide. In one particular embodiment, the therapeutic protein comprises a FVIII polypeptide and an XTEN comprising SEQ ID NO:109, and the XTEN is inserted within the B domain of the FVIII polypeptide. In one particular embodiment, the therapeutic protein comprises a FVIII polypeptide and an XTEN comprising SEQ ID NO:109, and the XTEN is inserted within the FVIII polypeptide immediately downstream of amino acid 745 of mature FVIII.

[0267] In some embodiments, the therapeutic protein comprises a FIX polypeptide and an XTEN, wherein the XTEN comprises 72 amino acids. In one embodiment, the therapeutic protein comprises a FIX polypeptide and an XTEN, wherein the XTEN comprises 72 amino acids, and the XTEN is inserted within the FIX polypeptide immediately downstream of amino acid 166 of mature FIX.

[0268] In some embodiments, the XTEN sequence used in the disclosure is at least 60%, 70%, 80%, 85%, 90%, 91%, 92%, 93%, 94%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, 99%, or 100% identical to a sequence selected from the group consisting of AE42, AG42, AE48, AM48, AE72, AG72, AE108, AG108, AE144, AF144, AG144, AE180, AG180, AE216, AG216, AE252, AG252, AE288, AG288, AE324, AG324, AE360, AG360, AE396, AG396, AE432, AG432, AE468,

AG468, AE504, AG504, AF504, AE540, AG540, AF540, AD576, AE576, AF576, AG576, AE612, AG612, AE624, AE648, AG648, AG684, AE720, AG720, AE756, AG756, AE792, AG792, AE828, AG828, AD836, AE864, AF864, AG864, AM875, AE912, AM923, AM1318, BC864, BD864, AE948, AE1044, AE1140, AE1236, AE1332, AE1428, AE1524, AE1620, AE1716, AE1812, AE1908, AE2004A, AG948, AG1044, AG1140, AG1236, AG1332, AG1428, AG1524, AG1620, AG1716, AG1812, AG1908, AG2004, and any combination thereof. *See* US 2010-0239554 A1. In one particular embodiment, the XTEN comprises AE42, AE72, AE144, AE288, AE576, AE864, AG 42, AG72, AG144, AG288, AG576, AG864, or any combination thereof.

[0269] Exemplary XTEN sequences that can be used as heterologous moieties in the therapeutic protein of the disclosure include XTEN AE42-4 (SEQ ID NO: 46, encoded by SEQ ID NO: 47), XTEN AE144-2A (SEQ ID NO: 48, encoded by SEQ ID NO: 49), XTEN AE144-3B (SEQ ID NO: 50, encoded by SEQ ID NO: 51), XTEN AE144-4A (SEQ ID NO: 52, encoded by SEQ ID NO: 53), XTEN AE144-5A (SEQ ID NO: 54, encoded by SEQ ID NO: 55), XTEN AE144-6B (SEQ ID NO: 56, encoded by SEQ ID NO: 57), XTEN AG144-1 (SEQ ID NO: 58, encoded by SEQ ID NO: 59), XTEN AG144-A (SEQ ID NO: 60, encoded by SEQ ID NO: 61), XTEN AG144-B (SEQ ID NO: 62, encoded by SEQ ID NO: 63), XTEN AG144-C (SEQ ID NO: 64, encoded by SEQ ID NO: 65), and XTEN AG144-F (SEQ ID NO: 66, encoded by SEQ ID NO: 67). In one particular embodiment, the XTEN is encoded by SEQ ID NO:18.

[0270] In another embodiment, the XTEN sequence is selected from the group consisting of AE36 (SEQ ID NO: 130), AE42 (SEQ ID NO: 131), AE72 (SEQ ID NO: 132), AE78 (SEQ ID NO: 133), AE144 (SEQ ID NO: 134), AE144_2A (SEQ ID NO: 48), AE144_3B (SEQ ID NO: 50), AE144_4A (SEQ ID NO: 52), AE144_5A (SEQ ID NO: 54), AE144_6B (SEQ ID NO: 135), AG144 (SEQ ID NO: 136), AG144_A (SEQ ID NO: 137), AG144_B (SEQ ID NO: 62), AG144_C (SEQ ID NO: 64), AG144_F (SEQ ID NO: 66), AE288 (SEQ ID NO: 138), AE288_2 (SEQ ID NO: 139), AG288 (SEQ ID NO: 140), AE576 (SEQ ID NO: 141), AG576 (SEQ ID NO: 142), AE864 (SEQ ID NO: 143), AG864 (SEQ ID NO: 144), XTEN_AE72_2A_1 (SEQ ID NO:145), XTEN_AE72_2A_2 (SEQ ID NO: 146), XTEN_AE72_3B_1 (SEQ ID NO: 147), XTEN_AE72_3B_2 (SEQ ID NO: 148), XTEN_AE72_4A_2 (SEQ ID NO: 149), XTEN_AE72_5A_2 (SEQ ID NO: 150), XTEN_AE72_6B_1 (SEQ ID NO: 151), XTEN_AE72_6B_2 (SEQ ID NO: 152), XTEN_AE72_1A_1 (SEQ ID NO: 153), XTEN_AE72_1A_2 (SEQ ID NO: 154), XTEN_AE144_1A (SEQ ID NO: 155), AE150 (SEQ ID NO: 156), AG150 (SEQ ID NO: 157), AE294 (SEQ ID NO: 158), AG294 (SEQ ID NO:166),

and any combinations thereof. In a specific embodiment, the XTEN sequence is selected from the group consisting of AE72, AE144, and AE288. The amino acid sequences for certain XTEN sequences of the invention are shown in Table 7.

Table 7. XTEN Sequences

XTEN	Amino Acid Sequence
AE42-4 (SEQ ID NO: 46)	GAPGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPASS
AE144-2A (SEQ ID NO: 48)	TSTEPSEGSAPGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSESATPESGP GTSTEPSEGSAPGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGS PGTSESATPESGPGTSESATPESGPG
AE144-3B (SEQ ID NO: 50)	SPAGSPTSTEEGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPESGPGTSTEPSEGSAP GTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGS PGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSTEPSEGSAPG
AE144-4A (SEQ ID NO: 52)	TSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPESGP GTSTEPSEGSAPGTSESATPESGPGSPAGSPTSTEEGSPAGSPTSTEEGSPAGSPTSTE EGTSESATPESGPGTSTEPSEGSAPG
AE144-5A (SEQ ID NO: 54)	TSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPESGP GTSTEPSEGSAPGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPESG PGSPAGSPTSTEEGSPAGSPTSTEEG
AE144-6B (SEQ ID NO: 56)	TSTEPSEGSAPGTSESATPESGPGTSESATPESGPGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETP GSEPATSGSETPGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGSEPATSGSET PGTSESATPESGPGTSTEPSEGSAPG
AG144-1 (SEQ ID NO: 58)	PGSSPSASTGTGPGSSPSASTGTGPGTPGSGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGSPGSSPSASTGT GPGASPGTSSTGSPGTPGSGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGSPGTPGSGTASSSPGASPGTSST GSPGASPGTSSTGSPGTPGSGTASSS
AG144-A (SEQ ID NO: 60)	GASPGTSSTGSPGSSPSASTGTGPGSSPSASTGTGPGTPGSGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGS PGSSPSASTGTGPGASPGTSSTGSPGTPGSGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGSPGTPGSGTASS SPGASPGTSSTGSPGASPGTSSTGSP
AG144-B (SEQ ID NO: 62)	GTPGSGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGSPGASPGTSSTGSPGTPGSGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGS PGSSPSASTGTGPGSSPSASTGTGPGSSTPSGATGSPGSSTPSGATGSPGASPGTSSTG SPGASPGTSSTGSPGASPGTSSTGSP
AG144-C (SEQ ID NO: 64)	GTPGSGTASSSPGASPGTSSTGSPGASPGTSSTGSPGASPGTSSTGSPGSSPSASTGTG PGTPGSGTASSSPGASPGTSSTGSPGASPGTSSTGSPGASPGTSSTGSPGSSTPSGATG SPGSSTPSGATGSPGASPGTSSTGSP
XTEN AG144-F (SEQ ID NO: 66)	GSSPSASTGTGPGSSPSASTGTGPGASPGTSSTGSPGASPGTSSTGSPGSSTPSGATGS PGSSPSASTGTGPGASPGTSSTGSPGSSPSASTGTGPGTPGSGTASSSPGSSTPSGATG SPGSSTPSGATGSPGASPGTSSTGSP
AE36 (SEQ ID NO: 130)	GSPAGSPTSTEEGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETP
AE42 (SEQ ID NO: 131)	GAPGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPASS
AE72	GAPTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPE

(SEQ ID NO: 132)	SGPGTSTEPSEGSAPGASS
AE78 (SEQ ID NO: 133)	GAPTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPE SGPGTSTEPSEGSAPGASS
AE144 (SEQ ID NO: 134)	GSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSTEPSEGS PGSEPATSGSETPGSEPATSGSETPGSEPATSGSETPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSESAPESG PGSEPATSGSETPGTSTEPSEGSAP
AE144_6B (SEQ ID NO: 135)	TSTEPSEGSAPGTSESATPESGPGTSESATPESGPGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETP GSEPATSGSETPGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGSEPATSGSET PGTSESATPESGPGTSTEPSEGSAPG
AG144 (SEQ ID NO:136)	GTPGSGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGSPGSSPSASTGTGPGSSPSASTGTGPGASPGTSSTGS PGASPGTSSTGSPGSSSTPSGATGSPGSSPSASTGTGPGASPGTSSTGSPGSSPSASTGT GPGTPGSGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGSP
AG144_A (SEQ ID NO: 137)	GASPGTSSTGSPGSSPSASTGTGPGSSPSASTGTGPGTPGSGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGS PGSSPSASTGTGPGASPGTSSTGSPGTPGSGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGSPGTPGSGTASS SPGASPGTSSTGSPGASPGTSSTGSP
AE288 (SEQ ID NO: 138)	GTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPESG PGTSTEPSEGSAPGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPES GPGSPAGSPTSTEEGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSESATPESGPGTSESATPE SGPGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGSEPATSGSETPGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSTEPSE GSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPESGPGTSTEPSEGSAP
AE288_2 (SEQ ID NO: 139)	GSPAGSPTSTEEGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPESGPGTSTEPSEGS PGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGS APGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPE SGPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPESGPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSESATPESGPGSPAGSPT STEEGSPAGSPTSTEEGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSESATPESGPGTSTEPSEGSAP
AG288 (SEQ ID NO: 140)	PGASPGTSSTGSPGASPGTSSTGSPGTPGSGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGSPGTPGSGTASS SPGSSTPSGATGSPGTPGSGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGSPGSSTPSGATGSPGSSPSASTG TGPGSSPSASTGTGPGASPGTSSTGSPGTPGSGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGSPGSSPSAST GTGPGSSPSASTGTGPGASPGTSSTGSPGASPGTSSTGSPGSSTPSGATGSPGSSPSAS TGTGPGASPGTSSTGSPGSSPSASTGTGPGTPGSGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGS
AE576 (SEQ ID NO: 141)	GSPAGSPTSTEEGTSESATPESGPGTSTEPSEGSAPGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSTEPSEGS PGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGSEPATSGSETPGSPAGSPTST EEGTSESATPESGPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSTEPSEG SAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSESATPESGPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSG SETPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSESATPESGPGTSESATPESGPGSPAGSP TSTEEGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPESGPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEP SEGSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGSPAG SPTSTEEGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPESGPGSEP ATSGSETPGTSESATPESGPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSESATPESGPGSPAGSPTSTEEGSP AGSPTSTEEGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSESATPESGPGTSTEPSEGSAP
AG576 (SEQ ID NO: 142)	PGTPGSGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGSPGSSPSASTGTGPGSSPSASTGTGPGSSTPSGATG SPGSSTPSGATGSPGASPGTSSTGSPGASPGTSSTGSPGASPGTSSTGSPGTPGSGTAS SSPGASPGTSSTGSPGASPGTSSTGSPGASPGTSSTGSPGSSPSASTGTGPGTPGSGTA SSSPGASPGTSSTGSPGASPGTSSTGSPGASPGTSSTGSPGSSTPSGATGSPGSSTPSG ATGSPGASPGTSSTGSPGTPGSGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGSPGSSTPSGATGSPGSSTPS GATGSPGSSPSASTGTGPGASPGTSSTGSPGASPGTSSTGSPGTPGSGTASSSPGASPG TSSTGSPGASPGTSSTGSPGASPGTSSTGSPGASPGTSSTGSPGTPGSGTASSSPGSST PSGATGSPGTPGSGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGSPGTPGSGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGSPGSS TPSGATGSPGSSPSASTGTGPGSSPSASTGTGPGASPGTSSTGSPGTPGSGTASSSPGS STPSGATGSPGSSPSASTGTGPGSSPSASTGTGPGASPGTSSTGS
AE864 (SEQ ID NO: 143)	GSPAGSPTSTEEGTSESATPESGPGTSTEPSEGSAPGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSTEPSEGS PGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGSEPATSGSETPGSPAGSPTST EEGTSESATPESGPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSTEPSEG SAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSESATPESGPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSG SETPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSESATPESGPGTSESATPESGPGSPAGSP TSTEEGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPESGPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEP SEGSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGSPAG

	SPTSTEEGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPESGPGSEP ATSGSETPGTSESATPESGPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSESATPESGPGSPAGSPTSTEEGSP AGSPTSTEEGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSESATPESGPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSESATPESGPGS EPATSGSETPGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPESGPGTSTEPSEGSAPG SPAGSPTSTEEGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPESGPGSPAGSPTSTEE GSPAGSPTSTEEGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSESATPESGPGTSESATPESGPGTSESATPESG PGSEPATSGSETPGSEPATSGSETPGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGS APGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPESGPGTSTEPSEGSAP
AG864 (SEQ ID NO: 144)	GASPGTSSSTGSPGSSPSASTGTGPGSSPSASTGTGPGTPGSGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGS PGSSPSASTGTGPGASPGTSSSTGSPGTGPGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGSPGTGPGTASS SPGASPGTSSSTGSPGASPGTSSSTGSPGTGPGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGSPGASPGTSS GSPGTGPGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGSPGSSPSASTGTGPGSSPSASTGTGPGSSSTPSGA TGSPGSSSTPSGATGSPGASPGTSSSTGSPGASPGTSSSTGSPGASPGTSSSTGSPGTGPG ASSSPGASPGTSSSTGSPGASPGTSSSTGSPGASPGTSSSTGSPGSSPSASTGTGPGTPGSG TASSSPGASPGTSSSTGSPGASPGTSSSTGSPGASPGTSSSTGSPGSSTPSGATGSPGSSTP SGATGSPGASPGTSSSTGSPGTGPGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGSPGSSTPSGATGSPGSST PSGATGSPGSSPSASTGTGPGASPGTSSSTGSPGASPGTSSSTGSPGTGPGTASSSPGAS PGTSSSTGSPGASPGTSSSTGSPGASPGTSSSTGSPGASPGTSSSTGSPGTGPGTASSSPGS STPSGATGSPGTGPGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGSPGTGPGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGSPG SSTPSGATGSPGSSPSASTGTGPGSSPSASTGTGPGASPGTSSSTGSPGTGPGTASSSP GSSTPSGATGSPGSSPSASTGTGPGSSPSASTGTGPGASPGTSSSTGSPGASPGTSSSTGS PGSSTPSGATGSPGSSPSASTGTGPGASPGTSSSTGSPGSSPSASTGTGPGTPGSGTASS SPGSSTPSGATGSPGSSTPSGATGSPGASPGTSSSTGSP
XTEN_AE72_2A_1 (SEQ ID NO: 145)	TSTEPSEGSAPGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSESATPESGP GTSTEPSEGSAPG
XTEN_AE72_2A_2 (SEQ ID NO: 146)	TSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSESATPESGP GTSESATPESGPG
XTEN_AE72_3B_1 (SEQ ID NO:147)	SPAGSPTSTEEGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPESGPGTSTEPSEGSAP GTSTEPSEGSAPG
XTEN_AE72_3B_2 (SEQ ID NO: 148)	TSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGSPAGSPTSTEE GTSTEPSEGSAPG
XTEN_AE72_4A_2 (SEQ ID NO: 149)	TSESATPESGPGSPAGSPTSTEEGSPAGSPTSTEEGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSESATPESGP GTSTEPSEGSAPG
XTEN_AE72_5A_2 (SEQ ID NO: 150)	SPAGSPTSTEEGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPESGPGSPAGSPTSTEE GSPAGSPTSTEEG
XTEN_AE72_6B_1 (SEQ ID NO: 151)	TSTEPSEGSAPGTSESATPESGPGTSESATPESGPGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETP GSEPATSGSETPG
XTEN_AE72_6B_2 (SEQ ID NO: 152)	SPAGSPTSTEEGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPESGP GTSTEPSEGSAPG
XTEN_AE72_1A_1 (SEQ ID NO: 153)	SPAGSPTSTEEGTSESATPESGPGTSTEPSEGSAPGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSTEPSEGSAP GTSTEPSEGSAPG
XTEN AE72_1A	TSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGSEPATSGSETPGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSESATPESGP

2 (SEQ ID NO: 154)	GTSTEPSEGSAPG
XTEN AE144_1A (SEQ ID NO: 155)	SPAGSPTSTEEGTSESATPESGPGTSTEPSEGSAPGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSTEPSEGSAP GTSTEPSEGSAPGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGSEPATSGSETPGSPAGSPTSTE EGTSESATPESGPGTSTEPSEGSAPG
AE150 (SEQ ID NO: 156)	GAPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSTEPSE GSAPGSEPATSGSETPGSEPATSGSETPGSEPATSGSETPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSESAT PESGPGSEPATSGSETPGTSTEPSEGSAPASS
G150 (SEQ ID NO: 157)	GAPGTPGSGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGSPGSSPSASTGTGPGSSPSASTGTGPGASPGTSS TGSPGASPGTSSSTGSPGSSTPSGATGSPGSSPSASTGTGPGASPGTSSSTGSPGSSPSAS TGTGPGTPGSGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGSPASS
AE294 (SEQ ID NO: 158)	GAPGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATP ESGPGTSTEPSEGSAPGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESAT PESGPGSPAGSPTSTEEGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSESATPESGPGTSESA TPESGPGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGSETPGSEPATSGSETPGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSTE PEGSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGSEPATSGSETPGTSESATPESGPGTSTEPSEGSAPASS
AG294 (SEQ ID NO: 159)	GAPPGASPGTSSSTGSPGASPGTSSSTGSPGTPGSGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGSPGTPGSGT ASSSPGSSTPSGATGSPGTPGSGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGSPGSSTPSGATGSPGSSPSA STGTGPGSSPSASTGTGPGASPGTSSSTGSPGTPGSGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGSPGSSPS ASTGTGPGSSPSASTGTGPGASPGTSSSTGSPGASPGTSSSTGSPGSSTPSGATGSPGSSP SASTGTGPGASPGTSSSTGSPGSSPSASTGTGPGTPGSGTASSSPGSSTPSGATGSASS

[0271] In some embodiments, less than 100% of amino acids of an XTEN are selected from glycine (G), alanine (A), serine (S), threonine (T), glutamate (E) and proline (P), or less than 100% of the sequence consists of the sequence motifs from Table 6 or an XTEN sequence provided herein. In such embodiments, the remaining amino acid residues of the XTEN are selected from any of the other 14 natural L-amino acids, but can be preferentially selected from hydrophilic amino acids such that the XTEN sequence contains at least about 90%, 91%, 92%, 93%, 94%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, or at least about 99% hydrophilic amino acids. The content of hydrophobic amino acids in the XTEN utilized in the conjugation constructs can be less than 5%, or less than 2%, or less than 1% hydrophobic amino acid content. Hydrophobic residues that are less favored in construction of XTEN include tryptophan, phenylalanine, tyrosine, leucine, isoleucine, valine, and methionine. Additionally, XTEN sequences can contain less than 5% or less than 4% or less than 3% or less than 2% or less than 1% or none of the following amino acids: methionine (for example, to avoid oxidation), or asparagine and glutamine (to avoid desamidation).

[0272] The one or more XTEN sequences can be inserted at the C-terminus or at the N-terminus of the therapeutic protein or inserted between two amino acids in the amino acid sequence of the therapeutic protein. For example, where the therapeutic protein comprises a FVIII polypeptide, the XTEN can be inserted between two amino acids at one or more insertion site selected from Table 4. Where the therapeutic protein comprises a FIX polypeptide, the

XTEN can be inserted between two amino acids at one or more insertion site selected from Table 4.

[0273] Additional examples of XTEN sequences that can be used according to the present invention and are disclosed in US Patent Publication Nos. 2010/0239554 A1, 2010/0323956 A1, 2011/0046060 A1, 2011/0046061 A1, 2011/0077199 A1, or 2011/0172146 A1, or International Patent Publication Nos. WO 2010091122 A1, WO 2010144502 A2, WO 2010144508 A1, WO 2011028228 A1, WO 2011028229 A1, WO 2011028344 A2, WO 2014/011819 A2, or WO 2015/023891.

5. Albumin or Fragment, Derivative, or Variant Thereof

[0274] In some embodiments, a heterologous moiety comprises albumin or a functional fragment thereof. Human serum albumin (HSA, or HA), a protein of 609 amino acids in its full-length form, is responsible for a significant proportion of the osmotic pressure of serum and also functions as a carrier of endogenous and exogenous ligands. The term "albumin" as used herein includes full-length albumin or a functional fragment, variant, derivative, or analog thereof. Examples of albumin or the fragments or variants thereof are disclosed in US Pat. Publ. Nos. 2008/0194481A1, 2008/0004206 A1, 2008/0161243 A1, 2008/0261877 A1, or 2008/0153751 A1 or PCT Appl. Publ. Nos. 2008/033413 A2, 2009/058322 A1, or 2007/021494 A2, which are incorporated herein by reference in their entireties.

[0275] In one embodiment, the therapeutic protein of the disclosure comprises albumin, a fragment, or a variant thereof which is further linked to a second heterologous moiety selected from the group consisting of an immunoglobulin constant region or portion thereof (*e.g.*, an Fc region), a PAS sequence, HES, PEG and any combination thereof.

6. Albumin-binding Moiety

[0276] In certain embodiments, the heterologous moiety is an albumin-binding moiety, which comprises an albumin-binding peptide, a bacterial albumin-binding domain, an albumin-binding antibody fragment, or any combinations thereof.

[0277] For example, the albumin-binding protein can be a bacterial albumin-binding protein, an antibody or an antibody fragment including domain antibodies (see U.S. Pat. No. 6,696,245). An albumin-binding protein, for example, can be a bacterial albumin-binding domain, such as the one of streptococcal protein G (Konig, T. and Skerra, A. (1998) *J. Immunol. Methods* 218, 73-83). Other examples of albumin-binding peptides that can be used as

conjugation partner are, for instance, those having a Cys-Xaa₁-Xaa₂-Xaa₃-Xaa₄-Cys consensus sequence, wherein Xaa₁ is Asp, Asn, Ser, Thr, or Trp; Xaa₂ is Asn, Gln, His, Ile, Leu, or Lys; Xaa₃ is Ala, Asp, Phe, Trp, or Tyr; and Xaa₄ is Asp, Gly, Leu, Phe, Ser, or Thr as described in US patent application 2003/0069395 or Dennis et al. (Dennis et al. (2002) *J. Biol. Chem.* 277, 35035-35043).

[0278] Domain 3 from streptococcal protein G, as disclosed by Kraulis *et al.*, FEBS Lett. 378:190-194 (1996) and Linhult *et al.*, Protein Sci. 11:206-213 (2002) is an example of a bacterial albumin-binding domain. Examples of albumin-binding peptides include a series of peptides having the core sequence DICLPRWGCLW (SEQ ID NO: 35). *See, e.g.*, Dennis *et al.*, *J. Biol. Chem.* 2002, 277: 35035-35043 (2002). Examples of albumin-binding antibody fragments are disclosed in Muller and Kontermann, *Curr. Opin. Mol. Ther.* 9:319-326 (2007); Roovers *et al.*, *Cancer Immunol. Immunother.* 56:303-317 (2007), and Holt *et al.*, *Prot. Eng. Design Sci.*, 21:283-288 (2008), which are incorporated herein by reference in their entireties. An example of such albumin-binding moiety is 2-(3-maleimidopropanamido)-6-(4-(4-iodophenyl)butanamido) hexanoate ("Albu" tag) as disclosed by Trussel *et al.*, *Bioconjugate Chem.* 20:2286-2292 (2009).

[0279] Fatty acids, in particular long chain fatty acids (LCFA) and long chain fatty acid-like albumin-binding compounds can be used to extend the *in vivo* half-life of clotting factor proteins of the disclosure. An example of a LCFA-like albumin-binding compound is 16-(1-(3-(9-(((2,5-dioxopyrrolidin-1-yl)oxy) carbonyloxy)-methoxy)-7-sulfo-9H-fluoren-2-ylamino)-3-oxopropyl)-2,5-dioxopyrrolidin-3-ylthio) hexadecanoic acid (*see, e.g.*, WO 2010/140148).

7. PAS Sequence

[0280] In other embodiments, the heterologous moiety is a PAS sequence. A PAS sequence, as used herein, means an amino acid sequence comprising mainly alanine and serine residues or comprising mainly alanine, serine, and proline residues, the amino acid sequence forming random coil conformation under physiological conditions. Accordingly, the PAS sequence is a building block, an amino acid polymer, or a sequence cassette comprising, consisting essentially of, or consisting of alanine, serine, and proline which can be used as a part of the heterologous moiety in the chimeric protein. Yet, the skilled person is aware that an amino acid polymer also can form random coil conformation when residues other than alanine, serine, and proline are added as a minor constituent in the PAS sequence. The term "minor constituent" as used herein means that amino acids other than alanine, serine, and proline can be added in the

PAS sequence to a certain degree, *e.g.*, up to about 12%, *i.e.*, about 12 of 100 amino acids of the PAS sequence, up to about 10%, *i.e.*, about 10 of 100 amino acids of the PAS sequence, up to about 9%, *i.e.*, about 9 of 100 amino acids, up to about 8%, *i.e.*, about 8 of 100 amino acids, about 6%, *i.e.*, about 6 of 100 amino acids, about 5%, *i.e.*, about 5 of 100 amino acids, about 4%, *i.e.*, about 4 of 100 amino acids, about 3%, *i.e.*, about 3 of 100 amino acids, about 2%, *i.e.*, about 2 of 100 amino acids, about 1%, *i.e.*, about 1 of 100 of the amino acids. The amino acids different from alanine, serine and proline can be selected from the group consisting of Arg, Asn, Asp, Cys, Gln, Glu, Gly, His, Ile, Leu, Lys, Met, Phe, Thr, Trp, Tyr, and Val.

[0281] Under physiological conditions, the PAS sequence stretch forms a random coil conformation and thereby can mediate an increased *in vivo* and/or *in vitro* stability to the clotting factor protein. Since the random coil domain does not adopt a stable structure or function by itself, the biological activity mediated by the clotting factor protein is essentially preserved. In other embodiments, the PAS sequences that form random coil domain are biologically inert, especially with respect to proteolysis in blood plasma, immunogenicity, isoelectric point/electrostatic behaviour, binding to cell surface receptors or internalisation, but are still biodegradable, which provides clear advantages over synthetic polymers such as PEG.

[0282] Non-limiting examples of the PAS sequences forming random coil conformation comprise an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of ASPAAPAPASPAAPAPSAPA (SEQ ID NO: 36), AAPASPAPAAPSAPAPAAPS (SEQ ID NO: 37), APSSPSPSAPSSPSPASPSS (SEQ ID NO: 38), APSSPSPSAPSSPSPASPS (SEQ ID NO: 39), SSPSAPSPSSPASPSPSSPA (SEQ ID NO: 40), AASPAAPSAPPAAASPAAPSAPPA (SEQ ID NO: 41), ASAAAPAAASAAASAPSAAA (SEQ ID NO: 42) and any combinations thereof. Additional examples of PAS sequences are known from, *e.g.*, US Pat. Publ. No. 2010/0292130 A1 and PCT Appl. Publ. No. WO 2008/155134 A1.

8. HAP Sequence

[0283] In certain embodiments, the heterologous moiety is a glycine-rich homo-amino-acid polymer (HAP). The HAP sequence can comprise a repetitive sequence of glycine, which has at least 50 amino acids, at least 100 amino acids, 120 amino acids, 140 amino acids, 160 amino acids, 180 amino acids, 200 amino acids, 250 amino acids, 300 amino acids, 350 amino acids, 400 amino acids, 450 amino acids, or 500 amino acids in length. In one embodiment, the HAP sequence is capable of extending half-life of a moiety fused to or linked to the HAP sequence. Non-limiting examples of the HAP sequence includes, but are not limited to (Gly)_n,

(Gly₄Ser)_n or S(Gly₄Ser)_n, wherein n is 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, or 20. In one embodiment, n is 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 26, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, or 40. In another embodiment, n is 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, 120, 130, 140, 150, 160, 170, 180, 190, or 200.

9. Transferrin or Fragment thereof

[0284] In certain embodiments, the heterologous moiety is transferrin or a fragment thereof. Any transferrin can be used to make the clotting factor proteins of the disclosure. As an example, wild-type human TF (TF) is a 679 amino acid protein, of approximately 75 KDa (not accounting for glycosylation), with two main domains, N (about 330 amino acids) and C (about 340 amino acids), which appear to originate from a gene duplication. *See* GenBank accession numbers NM001063, XM002793, M12530, XM039845, XM 039847 and S95936 (www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/), all of which are herein incorporated by reference in their entirety. Transferrin comprises two domains, N domain and C domain. N domain comprises two subdomains, N1 domain and N2 domain, and C domain comprises two subdomains, C1 domain and C2 domain.

[0285] In one embodiment, the transferrin heterologous moiety includes a transferrin splice variant. In one example, a transferrin splice variant can be a splice variant of human transferrin, *e.g.*, Genbank Accession AAA61140. In another embodiment, the transferrin portion of the chimeric protein includes one or more domains of the transferrin sequence, *e.g.*, N domain, C domain, N1 domain, N2 domain, C1 domain, C2 domain or any combinations thereof.

10. Clearance Receptors

[0286] In certain embodiments, the heterologous moiety is a clearance receptor, fragment, variant, or derivative thereof. LRP1 is a 600 kDa integral membrane protein that is implicated in the receptor-mediate clearance of a variety of proteins, such as Factor X. *See, e.g.*, Narita et al., Blood 91:555-560 (1998).

11. von Willebrand Factor or Fragments Thereof

[0287] In certain embodiments, the heterologous moiety is von Willebrand Factor (VWF) or one or more fragments thereof.

[0288] VWF (also known as F8VWF) is a large multimeric glycoprotein present in blood plasma and produced constitutively in endothelium (in the Weibel-Palade bodies), megakaryocytes (α -granules of platelets), and subendothelial connective tissue. The basic VWF

monomer is a 2813 amino acid protein. Every monomer contains a number of specific domains with a specific function, the D' and D3 domains (which together bind to Factor VIII), the A1 domain (which binds to platelet GPIb-receptor, heparin, and/or possibly collagen), the A3 domain (which binds to collagen), the C1 domain (in which the RGD domain binds to platelet integrin α IIB β 3 when this is activated), and the "cysteine knot" domain at the C-terminal end of the protein (which VWF shares with platelet-derived growth factor (PDGF), transforming growth factor- β (TGF β) and β -human chorionic gonadotropin (β HCG)).

[0289] The 2813 monomer amino acid sequence for human VWF is reported as Accession Number NP000543.2 in Genbank. The nucleotide sequence encoding the human VWF is reported as Accession Number NM000552.3 in Genbank. SEQ ID NO: 129 is the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO: 128. The D' domain includes amino acids 764 to 866 of SEQ ID NO: 129. The D3 domain includes amino acids 867 to 1240 of SEQ ID NO: 44.

[0290] In plasma, 95-98% of FVIII circulates in a tight non-covalent complex with full-length VWF. The formation of this complex is important for the maintenance of appropriate plasma levels of FVIII *in vivo*. Lenting *et al.*, *Blood*. 92(11): 3983-96 (1998); Lenting *et al.*, *J. Thromb. Haemost.* 5(7): 1353-60 (2007). When FVIII is activated due to proteolysis at positions 372 and 740 in the heavy chain and at position 1689 in the light chain, the VWF bound to FVIII is removed from the activated FVIII.

[0291] In certain embodiments, the heterologous moiety is full length von Willebrand Factor. In other embodiments, the heterologous moiety is a von Willebrand Factor fragment. As used herein, the term "VWF fragment" or "VWF fragments" used herein means any VWF fragments that interact with FVIII and retain at least one or more properties that are normally provided to FVIII by full-length VWF, *e.g.*, preventing premature activation to FVIIIa, preventing premature proteolysis, preventing association with phospholipid membranes that could lead to premature clearance, preventing binding to FVIII clearance receptors that can bind naked FVIII but not VWF-bound FVIII, and/or stabilizing the FVIII heavy chain and light chain interactions. In a specific embodiment, the heterologous moiety is a (VWF) fragment comprising a D' domain and a D3 domain of VWF. The VWF fragment comprising the D' domain and the D3 domain can further comprise a VWF domain selected from the group consisting of an A1 domain, an A2 domain, an A3 domain, a D1 domain, a D2 domain, a D4 domain, a B1 domain, a B2 domain, a B3 domain, a C1 domain, a C2 domain, a CK domain, one or more fragments thereof, and any combinations thereof. Additional examples of the polypeptide having FVIII activity fused to the VWF fragment are disclosed in U.S. provisional patent application no.

61/667,901, filed July 3, 2012, and U.S. Publication No. 2015/0023959 A1, which are both incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

12. Linker Moieties

[0292] In certain embodiments, the heterologous moiety is a peptide linker.

[0293] As used herein, the terms "peptide linkers" or "linker moieties" refer to a peptide or polypeptide sequence (*e.g.*, a synthetic peptide or polypeptide sequence) which connects two domains in a linear amino acid sequence of a polypeptide chain.

[0294] In some embodiments, peptide linkers can be inserted between the therapeutic protein of the disclosure and a heterologous moiety described above, such as albumin. Peptide linkers can provide flexibility to the chimeric polypeptide molecule. Linkers are not typically cleaved, however such cleavage can be desirable. In one embodiment, these linkers are not removed during processing.

[0295] A type of linker which can be present in a chimeric protein of the disclosure is a protease cleavable linker which comprises a cleavage site (*i.e.*, a protease cleavage site substrate, *e.g.*, a factor XIa, Xa, or thrombin cleavage site) and which can include additional linkers on either the N-terminal of C-terminal or both sides of the cleavage site. These cleavable linkers when incorporated into a construct of the disclosure result in a chimeric molecule having a heterologous cleavage site.

[0296] In one embodiment, a therapeutic protein encoded by a nucleic acid molecule of the instant disclosure comprises two or more Fc domains or moieties linked via a cscFc linker to form an Fc region comprised in a single polypeptide chain. The cscFc linker is flanked by at least one intracellular processing site, *i.e.*, a site cleaved by an intracellular enzyme. Cleavage of the polypeptide at the at least one intracellular processing site results in a polypeptide which comprises at least two polypeptide chains.

[0297] Other peptide linkers can optionally be used in a construct of the disclosure, *e.g.*, to connect a clotting factor protein to an Fc region. Some exemplary linkers that can be used in connection with the disclosure include, *e.g.*, polypeptides comprising GlySer amino acids described in more detail below.

[0298] In one embodiment, the peptide linker is synthetic, *i.e.*, non-naturally occurring. In one embodiment, a peptide linker includes peptides (or polypeptides) (which can or cannot be naturally occurring) which comprise an amino acid sequence that links or genetically fuses a first linear sequence of amino acids to a second linear sequence of amino acids to which it is not

naturally linked or genetically fused in nature. For example, in one embodiment the peptide linker can comprise non-naturally occurring polypeptides which are modified forms of naturally occurring polypeptides (*e.g.*, comprising a mutation such as an addition, substitution or deletion). In another embodiment, the peptide linker can comprise non-naturally occurring amino acids. In another embodiment, the peptide linker can comprise naturally occurring amino acids occurring in a linear sequence that does not occur in nature. In still another embodiment, the peptide linker can comprise a naturally occurring polypeptide sequence.

[0299] For example, in certain embodiments, a peptide linker can be used to fuse identical Fc moieties, thereby forming a homodimeric scFc region. In other embodiments, a peptide linker can be used to fuse different Fc moieties (*e.g.* a wild-type Fc moiety and an Fc moiety variant), thereby forming a heterodimeric scFc region.

[0300] In another embodiment, a peptide linker comprises or consists of a gly-ser linker. In one embodiment, a scFc or cscFc linker comprises at least a portion of an immunoglobulin hinge and a gly-ser linker. As used herein, the term "gly-ser linker" refers to a peptide that consists of glycine and serine residues. In certain embodiments, said gly-ser linker can be inserted between two other sequences of the peptide linker. In other embodiments, a gly-ser linker is attached at one or both ends of another sequence of the peptide linker. In yet other embodiments, two or more gly-ser linker are incorporated in series in a peptide linker. In one embodiment, a peptide linker of the disclosure comprises at least a portion of an upper hinge region (*e.g.*, derived from an IgG1, IgG2, IgG3, or IgG4 molecule), at least a portion of a middle hinge region (*e.g.*, derived from an IgG1, IgG2, IgG3, or IgG4 molecule) and a series of gly/ser amino acid residues.

[0301] Peptide linkers of the disclosure are at least one amino acid in length and can be of varying lengths. In one embodiment, a peptide linker of the disclosure is from about 1 to about 50 amino acids in length. As used in this context, the term "about" indicates +/- two amino acid residues. Since linker length must be a positive integer, the length of from about 1 to about 50 amino acids in length, means a length of from 1-3 to 48-52 amino acids in length. In another embodiment, a peptide linker of the disclosure is from about 10 to about 20 amino acids in length. In another embodiment, a peptide linker of the disclosure is from about 15 to about 50 amino acids in length. In another embodiment, a peptide linker of the disclosure is from about 20 to about 45 amino acids in length. In another embodiment, a peptide linker of the disclosure is from about 15 to about 35 or about 20 to about 30 amino acids in length. In another embodiment, a peptide linker of the disclosure is from about 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16,

17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 500, 1000, or 2000 amino acids in length. In one embodiment, a peptide linker of the disclosure is 20 or 30 amino acids in length.

[0302] In some embodiments, the peptide linker can comprise at least two, at least three, at least four, at least five, at least 10, at least 20, at least 30, at least 40, at least 50, at least 60, at least 70, at least 80, at least 90, or at least 100 amino acids. In other embodiments, the peptide linker can comprise at least 200, at least 300, at least 400, at least 500, at least 600, at least 700, at least 800, at least 900, or at least 1,000 amino acids. In some embodiments, the peptide linker can comprise at least about 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, 700, 800, 900, 1000, 1100, 1200, 1300, 1400, 1500, 1600, 1700, 1800, 1900, or 2000 amino acids. The peptide linker can comprise 1-5 amino acids, 1-10 amino acids, 1-20 amino acids, 10-50 amino acids, 50-100 amino acids, 100-200 amino acids, 200-300 amino acids, 300-400 amino acids, 400-500 amino acids, 500-600 amino acids, 600-700 amino acids, 700-800 amino acids, 800-900 amino acids, or 900-1000 amino acids.

[0303] Peptide linkers can be introduced into polypeptide sequences using techniques known in the art. Modifications can be confirmed by DNA sequence analysis. Plasmid DNA can be used to transform host cells for stable production of the polypeptides produced.

13. Monomer-Dimer Hybrids

[0304] In some embodiments, the therapeutic protein of the disclosure comprises a monomer-dimer hybrid molecule comprising a clotting factor.

[0305] The term "monomer-dimer hybrid" used herein refers to a chimeric protein comprising a first polypeptide chain and a second polypeptide chain, which are associated with each other by a disulfide bond, wherein the first chain comprises a clotting factor, *e.g.*, FVIII, and a first Fc region and the second chain comprises, consists essentially of, or consists of a second Fc region without the clotting factor. The monomer-dimer hybrid construct thus is a hybrid comprising a monomer aspect having only one clotting factor and a dimer aspect having two Fc regions.

14. Expression Control Sequences

[0306] In some embodiments, the nucleic acid molecule of the disclosure further comprises at least one expression control sequence. An expression control sequence as used herein is any regulatory nucleotide sequence, such as a promoter sequence or promoter-enhancer

combination, which facilitates the efficient transcription and translation of the coding nucleic acid to which it is operably linked. For example, the nucleic acid molecule of the disclosure can be operably linked to at least one transcription control sequence. The gene expression control sequence can, for example, be a mammalian or viral promoter, such as a constitutive or inducible promoter.

[0307] Constitutive mammalian promoters include, but are not limited to, the promoters for the following genes: hypoxanthine phosphoribosyl transferase (HPRT), adenosine deaminase, pyruvate kinase, beta-actin promoter, and other constitutive promoters. Exemplary viral promoters which function constitutively in eukaryotic cells include, for example, promoters from the cytomegalovirus (CMV), simian virus (*e.g.*, SV40), papilloma virus, adenovirus, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), Rous sarcoma virus, cytomegalovirus, the long terminal repeats (LTR) of Moloney leukemia virus, and other retroviruses, and the thymidine kinase promoter of herpes simplex virus. Other constitutive promoters are known to those of ordinary skill in the art. The promoters useful as gene expression sequences of the disclosure also include inducible promoters. Inducible promoters are expressed in the presence of an inducing agent. For example, the metallothionein promoter is induced to promote transcription and translation in the presence of certain metal ions. Other inducible promoters are known to those of ordinary skill in the art.

[0308] In one embodiment, the disclosure includes expression of a transgene under the control of a tissue specific promoter and/or enhancer. In another embodiment, the promoter or other expression control sequence selectively enhances expression of the transgene in liver cells. In certain embodiments, the promoter or other expression control sequence selective enhances expression of the transgene in hepatocytes, sinusoidal cells, and/or endothelial cells. In one particular embodiment, the promoter or other expression control sequence selective enhances expression of the transgene in endothelial cells. Examples of liver specific promoters include, but are not limited to, a mouse thyretin promoter (mTTR), an endogenous human factor VIII promoter (F8), human alpha-1-antitrypsin promoter (hAAT), human albumin minimal promoter, and mouse albumin promoter. In a particular embodiment, the promoter comprises a mTTR promoter. The mTTR promoter is described in R. H. Costa et al., 1986, Mol. Cell. Biol. 6:4697. The F8 promoter is described in Figueiredo and Brownlee, 1995, J. Biol. Chem. 270:11828-11838. In some embodiments, the promoter is selected from a liver specific promoter (*e.g.*, α 1-antitrypsin (AAT)), a muscle specific promoter (*e.g.*, muscle creatine kinase (MCK), myosin heavy chain alpha (α MHC), myoglobin (MB), and desmin (DES)), a synthetic promoter (*e.g.*, SPc5-12, 2R5Sc5-12, dMCK, and tMCK), and any combination thereof.

[0309] In one embodiment, the promoter is selected from the group consisting of a mouse thyretin promoter (mTTR), an endogenous human factor VIII promoter (F8), human alpha-1-antitrypsin promoter (hAAT), human albumin minimal promoter, mouse albumin promoter, TTPp, a CASI promoter, a CAG promoter, a cytomegalovirus (CMV) promoter, α 1-antitrypsin (AAT), muscle creatine kinase (MCK), myosin heavy chain alpha (α MHC), myoglobin (MB), desmin (DES), SPc5-12, 2R5Sc5-12, dMCK, and tMCK, a phosphoglycerate kinase (PGK) promoter and any combination thereof.

[0310] Expression levels can be further enhanced to achieve therapeutic efficacy using one or more enhancers. One or more enhancers can be provided either alone or together with one or more promoter elements. Typically, the expression control sequence comprises a plurality of enhancer elements and a tissue specific promoter. In one embodiment, an enhancer comprises one or more copies of the α -1-microglobulin/bikunin enhancer (Rouet et al., 1992, J. Biol. Chem. 267:20765-20773; Rouet et al., 1995, Nucleic Acids Res. 23:395-404; Rouet et al., 1998, Biochem. J. 334:577-584; Ill et al., 1997, Blood Coagulation Fibrinolysis 8:S23-S30). In another embodiment, an enhancer is derived from liver specific transcription factor binding sites, such as EBP, DBP, HNF1, HNF3, HNF4, HNF6, with Enh1, comprising HNF1, (sense)-HNF3, (sense)-HNF4, (antisense)-HNF1, (antisense)-HNF6, (sense)-EBP, (antisense)-HNF4 (antisense).

[0311] In a particular example, a promoter useful for the disclosure comprises SEQ ID NO: 69 (*i.e.*, ET promoter), which is also known as GenBank No. AY661265. *See also* Vigna et al., *Molecular Therapy* 11(5):763 (2005). Examples of other suitable vectors and gene regulatory elements are described in WO 02/092134, EP1395293, or US Patent Nos. 6,808,905, 7,745,179, or 7,179,903, which are incorporated by reference herein in their entireties.

[0312] In one embodiment, the nucleic acid molecules of the present disclosure further comprises an intronic sequence. In some embodiments, the intronic sequence is positioned 5' to the nucleic acid sequence encoding the FVIII polypeptide. In some embodiments, the intronic sequence is a naturally occurring intronic sequence. In some embodiments, the intronic sequence is a synthetic sequence. In some embodiments, the intronic sequence is derived from a naturally occurring intronic sequence. In certain embodiments, the intronic sequence comprises the SV40 small T intron. In one embodiment, the intronic sequence comprises SEQ ID NO: 115.

[0313] In some embodiments, the nucleic acid molecule further comprises a post-transcriptional regulatory element. In certain embodiments, the post-transcriptional regulatory element comprises a mutated woodchuck hepatitis virus post-transcriptional regulatory element

(WPRE). In one particular embodiment, the post-transcriptional regulatory element comprises SEQ ID NO: 120.

[0314] In some embodiments, the nucleic acid molecule comprises a microRNA (miRNA) binding site. In one embodiment, the miRNA binding site is a miRNA binding site for miR-142-3p. In other embodiments, the miRNA binding site is selected from an miRNA binding site disclosed by Rennie et al., *RNA Biol.* 13(6):554-560 (2016), and STarMirDB, available at <http://sfold.wadsworth.org/starmirDB.php>, which are incorporated by reference herein in their entirety.

[0315] In some embodiments, the nucleic acid molecule comprises one or more DNA nuclear targeting sequences (DTSs). A DTS promotes translocation of DNA molecules containing such sequences into the nucleus. In certain embodiments, the DTS comprises an SV40 enhancer sequence. In certain embodiments, the DTS comprises a c-Myc enhancer sequence. In some embodiments, DTSs are between the first ITR and the second ITR. In some embodiments, the DTS is 3' to the first ITR and 5' to the therapeutic protein. In other embodiments, the DTS is 3' to the therapeutic protein and 5' to the second ITR.

[0316] In some embodiments, the nucleic acid molecule further comprises a 3'UTR poly(A) tail sequence. In one embodiment, the 3'UTR poly(A) tail sequence comprises bGH poly(A). In one embodiment, the 3'UTR poly(A) tail comprises an actin poly(A) site. In one embodiment, the 3'UTR poly(A) tail comprises a hemoglobin poly(A) site.

[0317] In one particular embodiment, the 3'UTR poly(A) tail sequence comprises SEQ ID NO: 122.

III. Tissue Specific Expression

[0318] In certain embodiments, it will be useful to include within the vector one or more miRNA target sequences which, for example, are operably linked to the clotting factor transgene. Thus, the disclosure also provides at least one miRNA sequence target operably linked to the clotting factor nucleotide sequence or otherwise inserted within a vector. More than one copy of a miRNA target sequence included in the vector can increase the effectiveness of the system. Also included are different miRNA target sequences. For example, vectors which express more than one transgene can have the transgene under control of more than one miRNA target sequence, which can be the same or different. The miRNA target sequences can be in tandem, but other arrangements are also included. The transgene expression cassette, containing miRNA target sequences, can also be inserted within the vector in antisense orientation. Antisense orientation can be useful in the production of viral particles to avoid expression of gene products

which can otherwise be toxic to the producer cells. In other embodiments, the vector comprises 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8 copies of the same or different miRNA target sequence. However in certain other embodiments, the vector will not include any miRNA target sequence. Choice of whether or not to include an miRNA target sequence (and how many) will be guided by known parameters such as the intended tissue target, the level of expression required, etc.

[0319] In one embodiment, the target sequence is an miR-223 target which has been reported to block expression most effectively in myeloid committed progenitors and at least partially in the more primitive HSPC. miR-223 target can block expression in differentiated myeloid cells including granulocytes, monocytes, macrophages, myeloid dendritic cells. miR-223 target can also be suitable for gene therapy applications relying on robust transgene expression in the lymphoid or erythroid lineage. miR-223 target can also block expression very effectively in human HSC.

[0320] In another embodiment, the target sequence is an miR142 target (tccataaagt aggaacact aca (SEQ ID NO: 43)). In one embodiment, the vector comprises 4 copies of miR-142 target sequences. In certain embodiments, the complementary sequence of hematopoietic-specific microRNAs, such as miR-142 (142T), is incorporated into the 3' untranslated region of a vector, *e.g.*, lentiviral vectors (LV), making the transgene-encoding transcript susceptible to miRNA-mediated down-regulation. By this method, transgene expression can be prevented in hematopoietic-lineage antigen presenting cells (APC), while being maintained in non-hematopoietic cells (Brown et al., Nat Med 2006). This strategy can impose a stringent post-transcriptional control on transgene expression and thus enables stable delivery and long-term expression of transgenes. In some embodiments, miR-142 regulation prevents immune-mediated clearance of transduced cells and/or induce antigen-specific Regulatory T cells (T regs) and mediate robust immunological tolerance to the transgene-encoded antigen.

[0321] In some embodiments, the target sequence is an miR181 target. Chen C-Z and Lodish H, *Seminars in Immunology* (2005) 17(2):155-165 discloses miR-181, a miRNA specifically expressed in B cells within mouse bone marrow (Chen and Lodish, 2005). It also discloses that some human miRNAs are linked to leukemias.

[0322] The target sequence can be fully or partially complementary to the miRNA. The term "fully complementary" means that the target sequence has a nucleic acid sequence which is 100 % complementary to the sequence of the miRNA which recognizes it. The term "partially complementary" means that the target sequence is only in part complementary to the sequence of the miRNA which recognizes it, whereby the partially complementary sequence is still

recognized by the miRNA. In other words, a partially complementary target sequence in the context of the present disclosure is effective in recognizing the corresponding miRNA and effecting prevention or reduction of transgene expression in cells expressing that miRNA. Examples of the miRNA target sequences are described at WO2007/000668, WO2004/094642, WO2010/055413, or WO2010/125471, which are incorporated herein by reference in their entireties.

[0323] In some embodiments, the transgene expression is targeted to the liver. In certain embodiments, the transgene expression is targeted to hepatocytes. In other embodiment, the transgene expression is targeted to endothelial cells. In one particular embodiment, the transgene expression is targeted to any tissue that naturally expressed endogenous FVIII.

IV. Host Cells

[0324] The disclosure also provides a host cell comprising a nucleic acid molecule or vector of the disclosure. As used herein, the term "transformation" shall be used in a broad sense to refer to the introduction of DNA into a recipient host cell that changes the genotype and consequently results in a change in the recipient cell.

[0325] "Host cells" refers to cells that have been transformed with vectors constructed using recombinant DNA techniques and encoding at least one heterologous gene. The host cells of the present disclosure are preferably of mammalian origin; most preferably of human or mouse origin. Those skilled in the art are credited with ability to preferentially determine particular host cell lines which are best suited for their purpose. Exemplary host cell lines include, but are not limited to, CHO, DG44 and DUXB11 (Chinese Hamster Ovary lines, DHFR minus), HELA (human cervical carcinoma), CVI (monkey kidney line), COS (a derivative of CVI with SV40 T antigen), R1610 (Chinese hamster fibroblast) BALBC/3T3 (mouse fibroblast), HAK (hamster kidney line), SP2/O (mouse myeloma), P3.times.63-Ag3.653 (mouse myeloma), BFA-1c1BPT (bovine endothelial cells), RAJI (human lymphocyte), PER.C6[®], NS0, CAP, BHK21, and HEK 293 (human kidney). In one particular embodiment, the host cell is selected from the group consisting of: a CHO cell, a HEK293 cell, a BHK21 cell, a PER.C6[®] cell, a NS0 cell, a CAP cell and any combination thereof. In some embodiments, the host cells of the present disclosure are of insect origin. In one particular embodiment, the host cells are SF9 cells. Host cell lines are typically available from commercial services, the American Tissue Culture Collection, or from published literature.

[0326] Introduction of the nucleic acid molecules or vectors of the disclosure into the host cell can be accomplished by various techniques well known to those of skill in the art. These include, but are not limited to, transfection (including electrophoresis and electroporation), protoplast fusion, calcium phosphate precipitation, cell fusion with enveloped DNA, microinjection, and infection with intact virus. See, Ridgway, A. A. G. "*Mammalian Expression Vectors*" Chapter 24.2, pp. 470-472 Vectors, Rodriguez and Denhardt, Eds. (Butterworths, Boston, Mass. 1988). Most preferably, plasmid introduction into the host is via electroporation. The transformed cells are grown under conditions appropriate to the production of the light chains and heavy chains, and assayed for heavy and/or light chain protein synthesis. Exemplary assay techniques include enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA), radioimmunoassay (RIA), or fluorescence-activated cell sorter analysis (FACS), immunohistochemistry and the like.

[0327] Host cells comprising the isolated nucleic acid molecules or vectors of the disclosure are grown in an appropriate growth medium. As used herein, the term "appropriate growth medium" means a medium containing nutrients required for the growth of cells. Nutrients required for cell growth can include a carbon source, a nitrogen source, essential amino acids, vitamins, minerals, and growth factors. Optionally, the media can contain one or more selection factors. Optionally the media can contain bovine calf serum or fetal calf serum (FCS). In one embodiment, the media contains substantially no IgG. The growth medium will generally select for cells containing the DNA construct by, for example, drug selection or deficiency in an essential nutrient which is complemented by the selectable marker on the DNA construct or co-transfected with the DNA construct. Cultured mammalian cells are generally grown in commercially available serum-containing or serum-free media (*e.g.*, MEM, DMEM, DMEM/F12). In one embodiment, the medium is CDoptiCHO (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA.). In another embodiment, the medium is CD17 (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA.). Selection of a medium appropriate for the particular cell line used is within the level of those ordinary skilled in the art.

V. Preparation of Polypeptides

[0328] The disclosure also provides a polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid molecule of the disclosure. In other embodiments, the polypeptide of the disclosure is encoded by a vector comprising the nucleic molecules of the disclosure. In yet other embodiments, the polypeptide of the disclosure is produced by a host cell comprising the nucleic molecules of the disclosure.

[0329] In other embodiments, the disclosure also provides a method of producing a polypeptide with clotting factor, *e.g.*, FVIII, activity, comprising culturing a host cell of the

disclosure under conditions whereby a polypeptide with clotting factor, *e.g.*, FVIII, activity is produced, and recovering the polypeptide with clotting factor, *e.g.*, FVIII, activity. In some embodiments, the expression of the polypeptide with clotting factor, *e.g.*, FVIII, activity is increased relative to a host cell cultured under the same conditions but comprising a reference nucleotide sequence (*e.g.*, SEQ ID NO: 16, the parental FVIII gene sequence).

[0330] In other embodiments, the disclosure provides a method of increasing the expression of a polypeptide with clotting factor, *e.g.*, FVIII, activity comprising culturing a host cell of the disclosure under conditions whereby a polypeptide with clotting factor, *e.g.*, FVIII, activity is expressed by the nucleic acid molecule, wherein the expression of the polypeptide with clotting factor, *e.g.*, FVIII, activity is increased relative to a host cell cultured under the same conditions comprising a reference nucleic acid molecule (*e.g.*, SEQ ID NO: 16, the parental FVIII gene sequence).

[0331] In other embodiments, the disclosure provides a method of improving yield of a polypeptide with clotting factor, *e.g.*, FVIII, activity comprising culturing a host cell under conditions whereby a polypeptide with clotting factor, *e.g.*, FVIII, activity is produced by the nucleic acid molecule disclosed herein, wherein the yield of polypeptide with clotting factor, *e.g.*, FVIII, activity is increased relative to a host cell cultured under the same conditions comprising a reference nucleic acid sequence (*e.g.*, SEQ ID NO: 16, the parental FVIII gene sequence).

[0332] The therapeutic protein, *e.g.* the clotting factor, of the disclosure can be synthesized in a transgenic animal, such as a rodent, goat, sheep, pig, or cow. The term "transgenic animals" refers to non-human animals that have incorporated a foreign gene into their genome. Because this gene is present in germline tissues, it is passed from parent to offspring. Exogenous genes are introduced into single-celled embryos (Brinster et al. 1985, Proc. Natl. Acad.Sci. USA 82:4438). Methods of producing transgenic animals are known in the art including transgenics that produce immunoglobulin molecules (Wagner et al. 1981, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 78: 6376; McKnight et al. 1983, Cell 34 : 335; Brinster et al. 1983, Nature 306: 332; Ritchie et al. 1984, Nature 312: 517; Baldassarre et al. 2003, Theriogenology 59 : 831 ; Robl et al. 2003, Theriogenology 59: 107; Malassagne et al. 2003, Xenotransplantation 10 (3): 267).

VII. Pharmaceutical Composition

[0333] Compositions containing a nucleic acid molecule, a polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid molecule, a vector, or a host cell of the present disclosure can contain a suitable

pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. For example, they can contain excipients and/or auxiliaries that facilitate processing of the active compounds into preparations designed for delivery to the site of action.

[0334] In one embodiment, the present disclosure is directed to a pharmaceutical composition comprising (a) a nucleic acid molecule, a vector, a polypeptide, or a host cell disclosed herein; and (b) a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

[0335] In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition further comprises a delivery agent. In certain embodiments, the delivery agent comprises a lipid nanoparticle (LNP). In other embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition further comprises liposomes, other polymeric molecules, and exosomes.

[0336] The pharmaceutical composition can be formulated for parenteral administration (*i.e.* intravenous, subcutaneous, or intramuscular) by bolus injection. Formulations for injection can be presented in unit dosage form, *e.g.*, in ampoules or in multidose containers with an added preservative. The compositions can take such forms as suspensions, solutions, or emulsions in oily or aqueous vehicles, and contain formulatory agents such as suspending, stabilizing and/or dispersing agents. Alternatively, the active ingredient can be in powder form for constitution with a suitable vehicle, *e.g.*, pyrogen free water.

[0337] Suitable formulations for parenteral administration also include aqueous solutions of the active compounds in water-soluble form, for example, water-soluble salts. In addition, suspensions of the active compounds as appropriate oily injection suspensions can be administered. Suitable lipophilic solvents or vehicles include fatty oils, for example, sesame oil, or synthetic fatty acid esters, for example, ethyl oleate or triglycerides. Aqueous injection suspensions can contain substances, which increase the viscosity of the suspension, including, for example, sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, sorbitol and dextran. Optionally, the suspension can also contain stabilizers. Liposomes also can be used to encapsulate the molecules of the disclosure for delivery into cells or interstitial spaces. Exemplary pharmaceutically acceptable carriers are physiologically compatible solvents, dispersion media, coatings, antibacterial and antifungal agents, isotonic and absorption delaying agents, water, saline, phosphate buffered saline, dextrose, glycerol, ethanol and the like. In some embodiments, the composition comprises isotonic agents, for example, sugars, polyalcohols such as mannitol, sorbitol, or sodium chloride. In other embodiments, the compositions comprise pharmaceutically acceptable substances such as wetting agents or minor amounts of auxiliary substances such as wetting or emulsifying

agents, preservatives or buffers, which enhance the shelf life or effectiveness of the active ingredients.

[0338] Compositions of the disclosure can be in a variety of forms, including, for example, liquid (*e.g.*, injectable and infusible solutions), dispersions, suspensions, semi-solid and solid dosage forms. The preferred form depends on the mode of administration and therapeutic application.

[0339] The composition can be formulated as a solution, micro emulsion, dispersion, liposome, or other ordered structure suitable to high drug concentration. Sterile injectable solutions can be prepared by incorporating the active ingredient in the required amount in an appropriate solvent with one or a combination of ingredients enumerated above, as required, followed by filtered sterilization. Generally, dispersions are prepared by incorporating the active ingredient into a sterile vehicle that contains a basic dispersion medium and the required other ingredients from those enumerated above. In the case of sterile powders for the preparation of sterile injectable solutions, the preferred methods of preparation are vacuum drying and freeze-drying that yields a powder of the active ingredient plus any additional desired ingredient from a previously sterile-filtered solution. The proper fluidity of a solution can be maintained, for example, by the use of a coating such as lecithin, by the maintenance of the required particle size in the case of dispersion and by the use of surfactants. Prolonged absorption of injectable compositions can be brought about by including in the composition an agent that delays absorption, for example, monostearate salts and gelatin.

[0340] The active ingredient can be formulated with a controlled-release formulation or device. Examples of such formulations and devices include implants, transdermal patches, and microencapsulated delivery systems. Biodegradable, biocompatible polymers can be used, for example, ethylene vinyl acetate, polyanhydrides, polyglycolic acid, collagen, polyorthoesters, and polylactic acid. Methods for the preparation of such formulations and devices are known in the art. *See, e.g.*, Sustained and Controlled Release Drug Delivery Systems, J. R. Robinson, ed., Marcel Dekker, Inc., New York, 1978.

[0341] Injectable depot formulations can be made by forming microencapsulated matrices of the drug in biodegradable polymers such as polylactide-polyglycolide. Depending on the ratio of drug to polymer, and the nature of the polymer employed, the rate of drug release can be controlled. Other exemplary biodegradable polymers are polyorthoesters and polyanhydrides. Depot injectable formulations also can be prepared by entrapping the drug in liposomes or microemulsions.

[0342] Supplementary active compounds can be incorporated into the compositions. In one embodiment, the nucleic acid molecule of the disclosure is formulated with a clotting factor, or a variant, fragment, analogue, or derivative thereof. For example, the clotting factor includes, but is not limited to, factor V, factor VII, factor VIII, factor IX, factor X, factor XI, factor XII, factor XIII, prothrombin, fibrinogen, von Willebrand factor or recombinant soluble tissue factor (rsTF) or activated forms of any of the preceding. The clotting factor of hemostatic agent can also include anti-fibrinolytic drugs, *e.g.*, epsilon-amino-caproic acid, tranexamic acid.

[0343] Dosage regimens can be adjusted to provide the optimum desired response. For example, a single bolus can be administered, several divided doses can be administered over time, or the dose can be proportionally reduced or increased as indicated by the exigencies of the therapeutic situation. It is advantageous to formulate parenteral compositions in dosage unit form for ease of administration and uniformity of dosage. See, *e.g.*, Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences (Mack Pub. Co., Easton, Pa. 1980).

[0344] In addition to the active compound, the liquid dosage form can contain inert ingredients such as water, ethyl alcohol, ethyl carbonate, ethyl acetate, benzyl alcohol, benzyl benzoate, propylene glycol, 1,3-butylene glycol, dimethylformamide, oils, glycerol, tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohol, polyethylene glycols, and fatty acid esters of sorbitan.

[0345] Non-limiting examples of suitable pharmaceutical carriers are also described in Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences by E. W. Martin. Some examples of excipients include starch, glucose, lactose, sucrose, gelatin, malt, rice, flour, chalk, silica gel, sodium stearate, glycerol monostearate, talc, sodium chloride, dried skim milk, glycerol, propylene, glycol, water, ethanol, and the like. The composition can also contain pH buffering reagents, and wetting or emulsifying agents.

[0346] For oral administration, the pharmaceutical composition can take the form of tablets or capsules prepared by conventional means. The composition can also be prepared as a liquid for example a syrup or a suspension. The liquid can include suspending agents (*e.g.*, sorbitol syrup, cellulose derivatives or hydrogenated edible fats), emulsifying agents (lecithin or acacia), non-aqueous vehicles (*e.g.*, almond oil, oily esters, ethyl alcohol, or fractionated vegetable oils), and preservatives (*e.g.*, methyl or propyl-p-hydroxybenzoates or sorbic acid). The preparations can also include flavoring, coloring and sweetening agents. Alternatively, the composition can be presented as a dry product for constitution with water or another suitable vehicle.

[0347] For buccal administration, the composition can take the form of tablets or lozenges according to conventional protocols.

[0348] For administration by inhalation, the compounds for use according to the present disclosure are conveniently delivered in the form of a nebulized aerosol with or without excipients or in the form of an aerosol spray from a pressurized pack or nebulizer, with optionally a propellant, *e.g.*, dichlorodifluoromethane, trichlorofluoromethane, dichlorotetrafluoromethane, carbon dioxide or other suitable gas. In the case of a pressurized aerosol the dosage unit can be determined by providing a valve to deliver a metered amount. Capsules and cartridges of, *e.g.*, gelatin for use in an inhaler or insufflator can be formulated containing a powder mix of the compound and a suitable powder base such as lactose or starch.

[0349] The pharmaceutical composition can also be formulated for rectal administration as a suppository or retention enema, *e.g.*, containing conventional suppository bases such as cocoa butter or other glycerides.

[0350] In some embodiments, the composition is administered by a route selected from the group consisting of topical administration, intraocular administration, parenteral administration, intrathecal administration, subdural administration and oral administration. The parenteral administration can be intravenous or subcutaneous administration.

VIII. Methods of Treatment

[0351] In some embodiments, the nucleic acid molecule comprises a first ITR, a second ITR, and a genetic cassette, wherein the genetic cassette comprises a clotting factor, and wherein the nucleic acid molecule is used to treat a bleeding disease or condition in a subject in need thereof. The bleeding disease or condition is selected from the group consisting of a bleeding coagulation disorder, hemarthrosis, muscle bleed, oral bleed, hemorrhage, hemorrhage into muscles, oral hemorrhage, trauma, trauma capitis, gastrointestinal bleeding, intracranial hemorrhage, intra-abdominal hemorrhage, intrathoracic hemorrhage, bone fracture, central nervous system bleeding, bleeding in the retropharyngeal space, bleeding in the retroperitoneal space, bleeding in the iliopsoas sheath and any combinations thereof. In still other embodiments, the subject is scheduled to undergo a surgery. In yet other embodiments, the treatment is prophylactic or on-demand.

[0352] The disclosure provides a method of treating a bleeding disorder comprising administering to a subject in need thereof a nucleic acid molecule, vector, or polypeptide of the disclosure. In some embodiments, the bleeding disorder is characterized by a deficiency in a

clotting factor, *e.g.*, FVIII. In some embodiments, the bleeding disorder is hemophilia. In some embodiments, the bleeding disorder is hemophilia A. In some embodiments of the method of treating a bleeding disorder, plasma activity of a clotting factor, *e.g.*, FVIII, at 24 hours post administration is increased relative to a subject administered a reference nucleic acid molecule (*e.g.*, SEQ ID NO: 16, the parental FVIII gene sequence), a vector comprising a reference nucleic acid molecule, or a polypeptide encoded by a reference nucleic acid molecule.

[0353] The disclosure also relates to a method of treating, ameliorating, or preventing a hemostatic disorder in a subject comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of an isolated nucleic acid molecule of the disclosure or a polypeptide having clotting factor, *e.g.*, FVIII, activity encoded by the nucleic acid molecule of the disclosure. The treatment, amelioration, and prevention by the isolated nucleic acid molecule or the encoded polypeptide can be a bypass therapy. The subject receiving bypass therapy can have already developed an inhibitor to a clotting factor, *e.g.*, FVIII, or is subject to developing a clotting factor inhibitor.

[0354] The nucleic acid molecules, vectors, or polypeptides of the disclosure treat or prevent a hemostatic disorder by promoting the formation of a fibrin clot. The polypeptide having clotting factor, *e.g.*, FVIII, activity encoded by the nucleic acid molecule of the disclosure can activate a member of a coagulation cascade. The clotting factor can be a participant in the extrinsic pathway, the intrinsic pathway or both.

[0355] The nucleic acid molecules, vectors, or polypeptides of the disclosure can be used to treat hemostatic disorders known to be treatable with a clotting factor. The hemostatic disorders that can be treated using methods of the disclosure include, but are not limited to, hemophilia A, hemophilia B, von Willebrand's disease, Factor XI deficiency (PTA deficiency), Factor XII deficiency, as well as deficiencies or structural abnormalities in fibrinogen, prothrombin, Factor V, Factor VII, Factor X, or Factor XIII, hemarthrosis, muscle bleed, oral bleed, hemorrhage, hemorrhage into muscles, oral hemorrhage, trauma, trauma capitis, gastrointestinal bleeding, intracranial hemorrhage, intra-abdominal hemorrhage, intrathoracic hemorrhage, bone fracture, central nervous system bleeding, bleeding in the retropharyngeal space, bleeding in the retroperitoneal space, and bleeding in the iliopsoas sheath.

[0356] In some embodiments, the hemostatic disorder is an inherited disorder. In one embodiment, the subject has hemophilia A. In other embodiments, the hemostatic disorder is the result of a deficiency in a clotting factor. In other embodiments, the hemostatic disorder is the result of a deficiency in FVIII. In other embodiments, the hemostatic disorder can be the result of a defective FVIII clotting factor.

[0357] In another embodiment, the hemostatic disorder can be an acquired disorder. The acquired disorder can result from an underlying secondary disease or condition. The unrelated condition can be, as an example, but not as a limitation, cancer, an autoimmune disease, or pregnancy. The acquired disorder can result from old age or from medication to treat an underlying secondary disorder (*e.g.*, cancer chemotherapy).

[0358] The disclosure also relates to methods of treating a subject that does not have a hemostatic disorder or a secondary disease or condition resulting in acquisition of a hemostatic disorder. The disclosure thus relates to a method of treating a subject in need of a general hemostatic agent comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of the isolated nucleic acid molecule, vector, or polypeptide of the disclosure. For example, in one embodiment, the subject in need of a general hemostatic agent is undergoing, or is about to undergo, surgery. The isolated nucleic acid molecule, vector, or polypeptide of the disclosure can be administered prior to or after surgery as a prophylactic. The isolated nucleic acid molecule, vector, or polypeptide of the disclosure can be administered during or after surgery to control an acute bleeding episode. The surgery can include, but is not limited to, liver transplantation, liver resection, or stem cell transplantation.

[0359] In another embodiment, the isolated nucleic acid molecule, vector, or polypeptide of the disclosure can be used to treat a subject having an acute bleeding episode who does not have a hemostatic disorder. The acute bleeding episode can result from severe trauma, *e.g.*, surgery, an automobile accident, wound, laceration gun shot, or any other traumatic event resulting in uncontrolled bleeding.

[0360] The isolated nucleic acid molecule, vector, or protein can be used to prophylactically treat a subject with a hemostatic disorder. The isolated nucleic acid molecule, vector, or protein can be used to treat an acute bleeding episode in a subject with a hemostatic disorder.

[0361] In another embodiment, expression of the clotting factor protein by administering the isolated nucleic acid molecule or vector of the disclosure does not induce an immune response in a subject. In some embodiments, the immune response comprises development of antibodies against a clotting factor. In one embodiment, the immune response comprises development of antibodies against FVIII. In some embodiments, the immune response comprises cytokine secretion. In some embodiments, the immune response comprises activation of B cells, T cells, or both B cells and T cells. In some embodiments, the immune response is an inhibitory immune response, wherein the immune response in the subject reduces the activity of a clotting

factor protein relative to the activity of the clotting factor in a subject that has not developed an immune response. In certain embodiments, expression of a clotting factor protein by administering the isolated nucleic acid molecule or vector, of the disclosure prevents an inhibitory immune response against the clotting factor protein or the clotting factor protein expressed from the isolated nucleic acid molecule or the vector.

[0362] In some embodiments, an isolated nucleic acid molecule, vector, or protein composition of the disclosure is administered in combination with at least one other agent that promotes hemostasis. Said other agent that promotes hemostasis in a therapeutic with demonstrated clotting activity. As an example, but not as a limitation, the hemostatic agent can include FV, FVII, FIX, FX, FXI, FXII, FXIII, prothrombin, or fibrinogen or activated forms of any of the preceding. The clotting factor or hemostatic agent can also include anti-fibrinolytic drugs, *e.g.*, epsilon-amino-caproic acid, tranexamic acid.

[0363] In one embodiment of the disclosure, the composition (*e.g.*, the isolated nucleic acid molecule, vector, or polypeptide) is one in which the clotting factor is present in activatable form when administered to a subject. Such an activatable molecule can be activated *in vivo* at the site of clotting after administration to a subject.

[0364] The isolated nucleic acid molecule, vector, or polypeptide can be administered intravenously, subcutaneously, intramuscularly, or via any mucosal surface, *e.g.*, orally, sublingually, buccally, sublingually, nasally, rectally, vaginally or via pulmonary route. The clotting factor protein can be implanted within or linked to a biopolymer solid support that allows for the slow release of the chimeric protein to the desired site.

[0365] For oral administration, the pharmaceutical composition can take the form of tablets or capsules prepared by conventional means. The composition can also be prepared as a liquid for example a syrup or a suspension. The liquid can include suspending agents (*e.g.* sorbitol syrup, cellulose derivatives or hydrogenated edible fats), emulsifying agents (lecithin or acacia), non-aqueous vehicles (*e.g.* almond oil, oily esters, ethyl alcohol, or fractionated vegetable oils), and preservatives (*e.g.* methyl or propyl-p-hydroxybenzoates or sorbic acid). The preparations can also include flavoring, coloring and sweetening agents. Alternatively, the composition can be presented as a dry product for constitution with water or another suitable vehicle.

[0366] For buccal and sublingual administration the composition can take the form of tablets, lozenges or fast dissolving films according to conventional protocols.

[0367] For administration by inhalation, the polypeptide having clotting factor activity for use according to the present disclosure are conveniently delivered in the form of an aerosol spray from a pressurized pack or nebulizer (*e.g.*, in PBS), with a suitable propellant, *e.g.*, dichlorodifluoromethane, trichlorofluoromethane, dichlorotetrafluoromethane, carbon dioxide or other suitable gas. In the case of a pressurized aerosol the dosage unit can be determined by providing a valve to deliver a metered amount. Capsules and cartridges of, *e.g.*, gelatin for use in an inhaler or insufflator can be formulated containing a powder mix of the compound and a suitable powder base such as lactose or starch.

[0368] In one embodiment, the route of administration of the isolated nucleic acid molecule, vector, or polypeptide is parenteral. The term parenteral as used herein includes intravenous, intraarterial, intraperitoneal, intramuscular, subcutaneous, rectal or vaginal administration. The intravenous form of parenteral administration is preferred. While all these forms of administration are clearly contemplated as being within the scope of the disclosure, a form for administration would be a solution for injection, in particular for intravenous or intraarterial injection or drip. Usually, a suitable pharmaceutical composition for injection can comprise a buffer (*e.g.* acetate, phosphate or citrate buffer), a surfactant (*e.g.* polysorbate), optionally a stabilizer agent (*e.g.* human albumin), etc. However, in other methods compatible with the teachings herein, the isolated nucleic acid molecule, vector, or polypeptide can be delivered directly to the site of the adverse cellular population thereby increasing the exposure of the diseased tissue to the therapeutic agent.

[0369] Preparations for parenteral administration include sterile aqueous or non-aqueous solutions, suspensions, and emulsions. Examples of non-aqueous solvents are propylene glycol, polyethylene glycol, vegetable oils such as olive oil, and injectable organic esters such as ethyl oleate. Aqueous carriers include water, alcoholic/aqueous solutions, emulsions or suspensions, including saline and buffered media. In the subject disclosure, pharmaceutically acceptable carriers include, but are not limited to, 0.01-0.1M and preferably 0.05M phosphate buffer or 0.8% saline. Other common parenteral vehicles include sodium phosphate solutions, Ringer's dextrose, dextrose and sodium chloride, lactated Ringer's, or fixed oils. Intravenous vehicles include fluid and nutrient replenishers, electrolyte replenishers, such as those based on Ringer's dextrose, and the like. Preservatives and other additives can also be present such as for example, antimicrobials, antioxidants, chelating agents, and inert gases and the like.

[0370] More particularly, pharmaceutical compositions suitable for injectable use include sterile aqueous solutions (where water soluble) or dispersions and sterile powders for the

extemporaneous preparation of sterile injectable solutions or dispersions. In such cases, the composition must be sterile and should be fluid to the extent that easy syringability exists. It should be stable under the conditions of manufacture and storage and will preferably be preserved against the contaminating action of microorganisms, such as bacteria and fungi. The carrier can be a solvent or dispersion medium containing, for example, water, ethanol, polyol (*e.g.*, glycerol, propylene glycol, and liquid polyethylene glycol, and the like), and suitable mixtures thereof. The proper fluidity can be maintained, for example, by the use of a coating such as lecithin, by the maintenance of the required particle size in the case of dispersion and by the use of surfactants.

[0371] The pharmaceutical composition can also be formulated for rectal administration as a suppository or retention enema, *e.g.*, containing conventional suppository bases such as cocoa butter or other glycerides.

[0372] Effective doses of the compositions of the present disclosure, for the treatment of conditions vary depending upon many different factors, including means of administration, target site, physiological state of the patient, whether the patient is human or an animal, other medications administered, and whether treatment is prophylactic or therapeutic. Usually, the patient is a human but non-human mammals including transgenic mammals can also be treated. Treatment dosages can be titrated using routine methods known to those of skill in the art to optimize safety and efficacy.

[0373] The nucleic acid molecule, vector, or polypeptides of the disclosure can optionally be administered in combination with other agents that are effective in treating the disorder or condition in need of treatment (*e.g.*, prophylactic or therapeutic).

[0374] As used herein, the administration of isolated nucleic acid molecules, vectors, or polypeptides of the disclosure in conjunction or combination with an adjunct therapy means the sequential, simultaneous, coextensive, concurrent, concomitant or contemporaneous administration or application of the therapy and the disclosed polypeptides. Those skilled in the art will appreciate that the administration or application of the various components of the combined therapeutic regimen can be timed to enhance the overall effectiveness of the treatment. A skilled artisan (*e.g.*, a physician) would be readily be able to discern effective combined therapeutic regimens without undue experimentation based on the selected adjunct therapy and the teachings of the instant specification.

[0375] It will further be appreciated that the isolated nucleic acid molecule, vector, or polypeptide of the instant disclosure can be used in conjunction or combination with an agent or

agents (*e.g.*, to provide a combined therapeutic regimen). Exemplary agents with which a polypeptide or polynucleotide of the disclosure can be combined include agents that represent the current standard of care for a particular disorder being treated. Such agents can be chemical or biologic in nature. The term "biologic" or "biologic agent" refers to any pharmaceutically active agent made from living organisms and/or their products which is intended for use as a therapeutic.

[0376] The amount of agent to be used in combination with the polynucleotides or polypeptides of the instant disclosure can vary by subject or can be administered according to what is known in the art. *See, e.g.*, Bruce A Chabner *et al.*, *Antineoplastic Agents*, in GOODMAN & GILMAN'S THE PHARMACOLOGICAL BASIS OF THERAPEUTICS 1233-1287 ((Joel G. Hardman *et al.*, eds., 9th ed. 1996). In another embodiment, an amount of such an agent consistent with the standard of care is administered.

[0377] In one embodiment, also disclosed herein is a kit, comprising the nucleic acid molecule disclosed herein and instructions for administering the nucleic acid molecule to a subject in need thereof. In another embodiment, disclosed herein is a baculovirus system for production of the nucleic acid molecule provided herein. The nucleic acid molecule is produced in insect cells. In another embodiment, a nanoparticle delivery system for expression constructs is provided. The expression construct comprises the nucleic acid molecule disclosed herein.

IX. Gene Therapy

[0378] The disclosure provides a method of increasing expression of a polypeptide in a subject comprising administering the isolated nucleic acid molecule of the disclosure to a subject in need thereof.

[0379] Somatic gene therapy has been explored as a possible treatment for hemophilia A. Gene therapy is a particularly appealing treatment for hemophilia because of its potential to cure the disease through continuous endogenous production of a clotting factor, *e.g.*, FVIII, following a single administration of vector. Haemophilia A is well suited for a gene replacement approach because its clinical manifestations are entirely attributable to the lack of a single gene product (*e.g.*, FVIII) that circulates in minute amounts (200ng/ml) in the plasma.

[0380] A clotting factor protein of the disclosure can be produced *in vivo* in a mammal, *e.g.*, a human patient, using a gene therapy approach to treatment of a bleeding disease or disorder selected from the group consisting of a bleeding coagulation disorder, hemarthrosis, muscle bleed, oral bleed, hemorrhage, hemorrhage into muscles, oral hemorrhage, trauma,

trauma capitis, gastrointestinal bleeding, intracranial hemorrhage, intra-abdominal hemorrhage, intrathoracic hemorrhage, bone fracture, central nervous system bleeding, bleeding in the retropharyngeal space, bleeding in the retroperitoneal space, and bleeding in the iliopsoas sheath would be therapeutically beneficial. In one embodiment, the bleeding disease or disorder is hemophilia. In another embodiment, the bleeding disease or disorder is hemophilia A.

[0381] All of the various aspects, embodiments, and options described herein can be combined in any and all variations.

[0382] All publications, patents, and patent applications mentioned in this specification are herein incorporated by reference to the same extent as if each individual publication, patent, or patent application was specifically and individually indicated to be incorporated by reference.

[0383] Having generally described this disclosure, a further understanding can be obtained by reference to the examples provided herein. These examples are for purposes of illustration only and are not intended to be limiting.

EXAMPLES

Example 1. Generation of FVIII expression construct containing AAV ITRs.

Example 1a. Cloning of codon-optimized FVIII and inverted terminal repeat (ITR) regions from AAV into genetic cassettes.

[0384] FVIII genetic cassettes will be generated based on the genome of AAV serotype 2. However, ITR regions originated from any serotype (including synthetic) can be used in this approach.

[0385] Expression plasmids a codon-optimized FVIII coding sequence flanked by inverted terminal repeat (ITR) regions from AAV are designed for *in vitro* and *in vivo* expression, as shown in Figure 1B. ITR-codon-optimized FVIII-ITR sequences are cloned into a plasmid backbone comprising a ColE1 origin of replication and an expression cassette for beta-lactamase, which confers ampicillin resistance. AAV plasmids generated include pDNA-AAV-FVIII, pAAV-TTPp-FVIIIco6, pAAV-TTPp-FVIIIco6XTEN-WPRE-bGGHpA (6.5 kb), pAAV-ETp-FVIIIco6XTEN-WPRE-bGGHpA, and pAAV-TTPp-FVIIIco6-WPRE-bGGHpA.

[0386] It is hypothesized that formation of hairpin single-stranded structures within the AAV-ITR regions flanking the FVIII expression cassette drives persistent transduction of target cells. For proof-of-concept studies, a plasmid construct, pAAV-TTPp-FVIIIco6, was generated.

Recognition sites for the restriction endonuclease PvuII flanking the expression cassette were engineered to allow for precise excision of the AAV-FVIII construct upon PvuII digestion (Fig. 1A). Single-stranded AAV-FVIII (ssAAV-FVIII) fragment with formed hairpin ITR structures was generated by denaturing the double-stranded DNA fragment products (AAV-FVIII and plasmid backbone) of PvuII digestion at 95°C and then cooling down at 4°C to allow the palindromic ITR sequences to fold (Fig. 1B). The resulting ssAAV-FVIII was tested in the HemA (hemophilia A) mouse model for the ability to establish persistent transduction of hepatocytes. Isolated ssDNA hairpins were quantified.

Example 1b. Evaluation of ssParvo-FVIII-mediated long-term FVIII expression in HemA mice after hydrodynamic injection of naked DNA.

[0387] Based on the phylogenic relationship between the members of the viral family *Parvoviridae*, which AAV belongs to (Fig 1), it is hypothesized that other non-AAV members of the genus *Dependovirus* and the members of the genus *Erythrovirus* (and possibly all/many other members of the viral family) utilize similar cellular mechanisms for the maintenance of the viral life cycle and most importantly, establishment of persistent, latent infection. Therefore, the ITR regions originated from the genomes of these viruses could be utilized to develop AAV-like (but not AAV-based) genetic expression cassettes. The following parvoviruses will be tested for the suitability of their ITR regions for the development of genetic constructs for gene therapy applications: dependoviruses Goose parvovirus (GPV) strains 82-0321V (attenuated) and B (pathogenic), Muscovy duck parvovirus (MDPV) strains FZ91-30 (attenuated) and YY (pathogenic), and erythrovirus parvovirus B19 (human virus).

[0388] To create the non-AAV plasmids, the plasmids comprising ITRs from non-AAV parvoviruses are cloned as described in Example 1a. Parvo-FVIII linear dsDNA fragments are generated by digestion of the corresponding circular plasmid DNA with the type IIS restriction endonuclease LguI. Purified dsDNA fragments is heated at 95°C for 10 min to separate the two DNA stands followed by 10 min incubation on ice to produce ssParvo-FVIII genetic cassettes. Collectively, the non-AAV ssDNA molecules are called "ss-nonAAV-FVIII." Isolated ssDNA hairpins are quantified.

Example 1c. Use of a baculovirus expression system to generate AAV-FVIII constructs

[0389] A baculovirus expression system described in Li *et al.*, PLoS ONE 8(8): e69879 (2013) for production of AAV-FVIII constructs in a form of closed-end, linear duplex (CELiD) DNA molecules in insect cells is utilized. Systemic delivery of CELiD DNA expression cassettes have been demonstrated to establish persistent transduction of hepatocytes and drive long-term, stable transgene expression in the liver.

Example 2. Generation of LNP-ssAAV-FVIII

[0390] After each ssDNA is produced from the plasmids as described in Example 1, each ssDNA is complexed with liponanoparticles (LNPs) using two different lipid compositions, resulting in a lipid-DNA complex, LNP-ssAAV-FVIII or LNPss-nonAAV-FVIII. The parental plasmid DNA, pDNA-AAV-FVIII, formulated into LNPs is used as a control for transduction efficiency.

Example 3. *In vitro* evaluation of ssDNA

Example 3a. In vitro evaluation of ssAAV-FVIII-mediated FVIII expression in cultured hepatocytes.

[0391] ssAAV-FVIII and corresponding parental control plasmids are formulated into LNPs, as described in Example 2, for targeted gene delivery. Huh7 or HEK293T (non-hepatocyte control) cells are seeded into 24-well tissue culture plates at 7×10^4 cells/well and incubated overnight. On the next day, LNP-ssAAV-FVIII formulations are added onto the cells at 1000, 500, 250, 125 and 62.5 ng/well. Culture medium and cells are harvested at 24 and 48 hours post-transduction. FVIII activity in culture medium is measured by the chromogenic FVIII activity assay. Expression of FVIII in cells is analyzed by Western blot.

[0392] In addition, cellular histones are regularly positioned along the rAAV episomes, creating a chromatin-like structure that is similar to the cellular chromosomal DNA nucleosome pattern. Therefore, the ability of these constructs to establish chromatin-like nucleosomal structures required for persistent transduction of target cells is also assessed by Southern blot.

Example 3b. In vitro evaluation of ss-nonAAV-FVIII-mediated FVIII expression in cultured hepatocytes.

[0393] ssParvo-FVIII and corresponding parental plasmids are formulated into LNPs for targeted gene delivery into hepatocytes. Huh7 or HEK293T (non-hepatocyte control) cells will be seeded into 24-well tissue culture plates at 7×10^4 cells/well and incubated overnight. LNP-

ssParvo-FVIII formulations are then added onto the cells at 1000, 500, 250, 125 and 62.5 ng/well. Culture medium and cells are harvested at 24 and 48 hours post-transduction. FVIII activity in culture medium is measured by the chromogenic FVIII activity assay and expression of FVIII in cells is analyzed by Western blot. The ability of these constructs to establish chromatin-like nucleosomal structures required for persistent transduction of target cells by Southern blot is analyzed.

Example 4. Systemic delivery of FVIII in Hem A mice resulted in a long term FVIII expression.

Example 4a. In vivo evaluation of ssAAV-FVIII-mediated FVIII expression.

[0394] To validate the ability of ssAAV-FVIII bearing AAV ITR regions to mediate persistent transgene expression *in vivo*, the genetic expression cassette was delivered systemically via hydrodynamic injection (HDI) in Hem A mice at 5 µg, 10 µg, or 20 µg of ssDNA genetic expression cassette (ssAAV-TTPp-FVIIIcos6) (Fig. 2). HDI results in primary delivery of the injected material into the liver of experimental animals. Control animals injected with 5ug/mouse of the parental expression plasmid showed high levels of FVIII plasma activity shortly after administration. However, the level of circulating FVIII rapidly declined and became undetectable by 15 days post-injection (dpi). Plasma samples were isolated at 18 hours, 3 days, 2 weeks, 3 weeks, 1 month, 2 months, 3 months and 4 months after a single hydrodynamic injection of ssAAV-TTPp-FVIIIcos6. FVIII plasma activity in blood was analyzed by chromogenic FVIII activity assay. The experimental animals injected with 5, 10, and 20 ug/mouse of ssAAV-FVIII developed long-term expression of the transgene with stable levels of circulating FVIII around 8, 16, and 32% of normal FVIII level, respectively (Fig. 2). It should be emphasized that we observed a very good dose response suggesting high degree of correlation between injected dose and treatment outcome.

Example 4b. In vivo evaluation of non-ssAAV-FVIII-mediated FVIII expression.

[0395] To evaluate persistent expression of ss-nonAAV-FVIII bearing AAV ITR regions *in vivo*, 5 µg, 10 µg, or 20 µg of ssDNA genetic expression cassette (ss-Parvo-TTPp-FVIIIcos6) will be delivered systemically via hydrodynamic injection in 5-8-week old HemA mice. Blood samples will be collected through 4 months and FVIII activity in blood is analyzed by the

chromogenic FVIII activity assay. FVIII expression profile in mice treated with ss-nonAAV-FVIII will be compared to that of mice treated with pDNA-non-AAV-FVIII.

Example 4c. Evaluation of LNP-formulated ssParvo-FVIII-mediated long-term FVIII expression in HemA mice after intravenous administration.

[0396] 5-8-weeks old HemA mice will be administered either LNP-ssParvo-FVIII or LNP-pDNA-Parvo-FVIII (plasmid control) at 5, 10, 20, 40, 100 ug/mouse via IV injection, N=4/group. Blood samples will be collected at selected time points starting at 48 hours post-injection for up to 6 month and FVIII activity in blood are analyzed by chromogenic FVIII activity assay. FVIII expression profile in mice treated with ss-nonAAV-FVIII will be compared to that of mice treated with pDNA-non-AAV-FVIII.

Example 4d. In vivo evaluation of ssAAV-FVIII-mediated FVIII expression after a booster injection.

[0397] A sub set of mice treated with LNP-ssParvo-FVIII in Example 4c will be given an additional IV injection boost of LNP-ssParvo-FVIII at the same dose level 2 months after the initial injection. Blood samples will be collected at selected time points starting at 48 hours after the booster injection for up to 6 month. FVIII activity in blood will be analyzed by the chromogenic FVIII activity assay. FVIII expression profile in mice treated with ss-nonAAV-FVIII will be compared to that of mice treated with pDNA-non-AAV-FVIII.

FIG. 1A

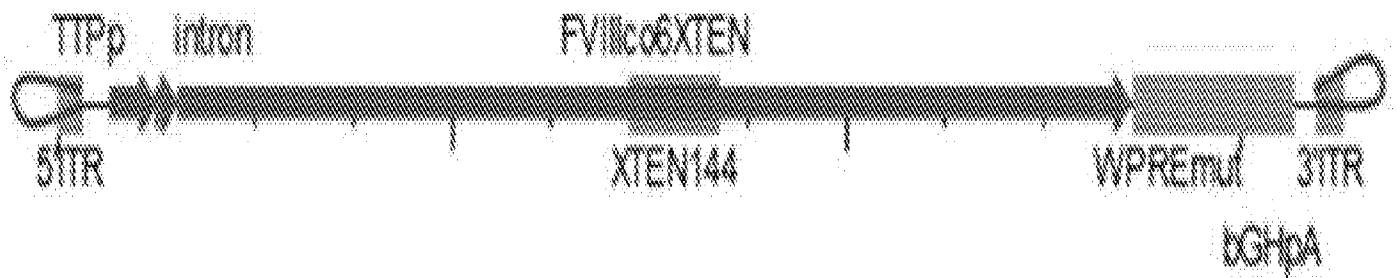


FIG. 1B

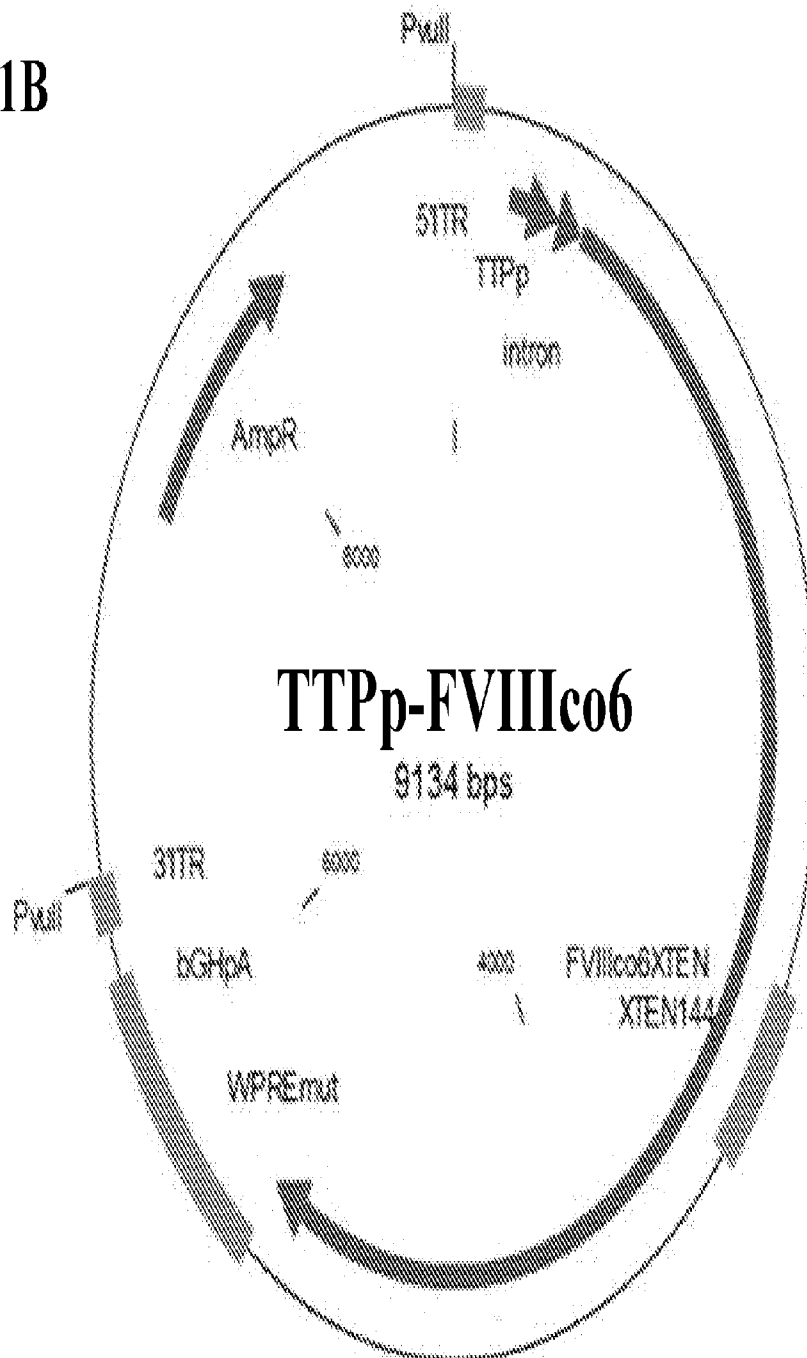
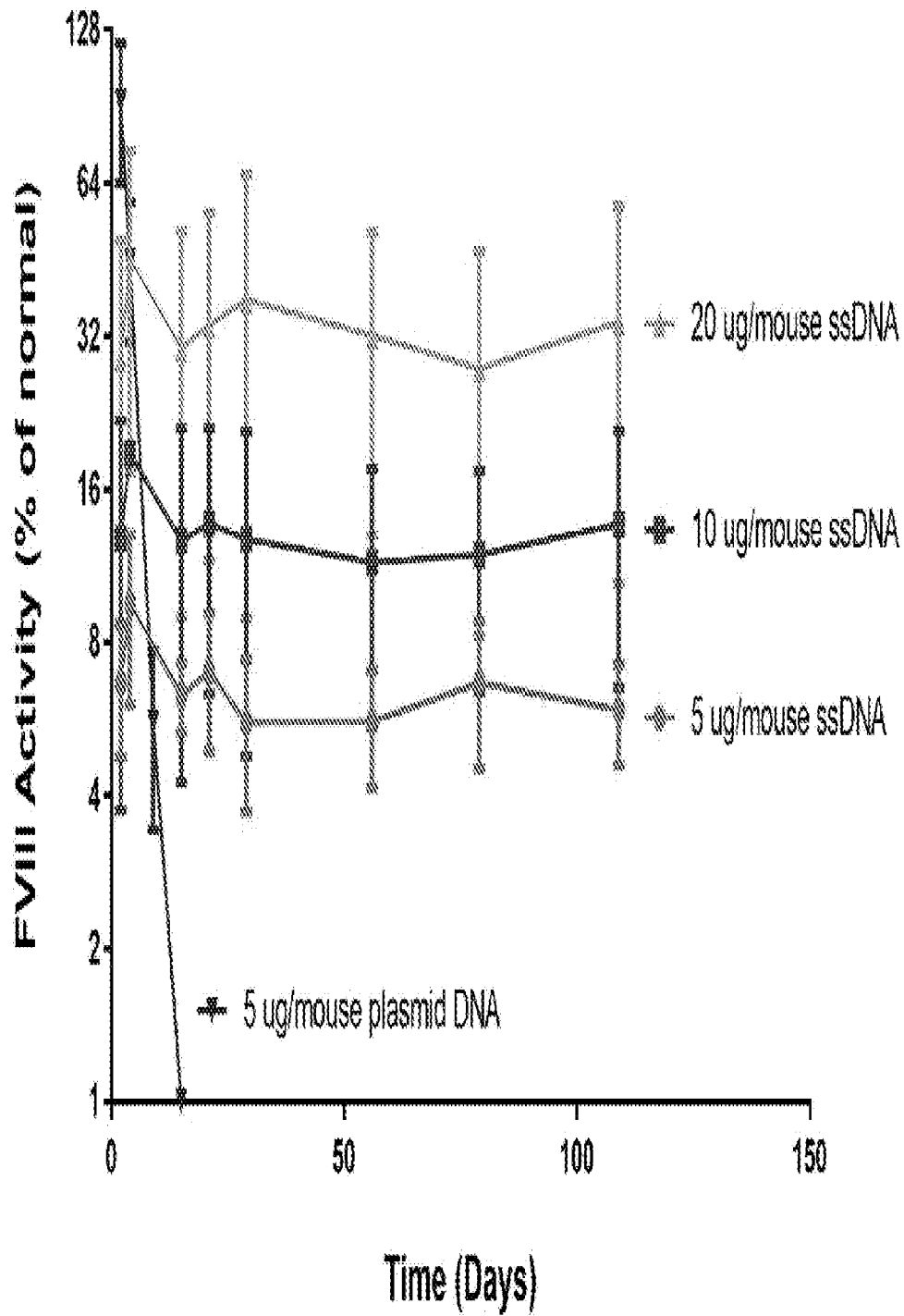


FIG. 2



Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt

EFS ID:	30034773
Application Number:	62543297
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	8731
Title of Invention:	Nucleic Acid Molecules and Uses thereof
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Alexey SEREGIN
Customer Number:	146235
Filer:	Ji Eun Kim/Kim Perry
Filer Authorized By:	Ji Eun Kim
Attorney Docket Number:	4159.4930000/C-K/BMD
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Payment Type	CARD
Payment was successfully received in RAM	\$ 330
RAM confirmation Number	081017INTEFSW20040900
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File Listing:					
Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Power of Attorney	41594930000-POA.pdf	1110105	no	2
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Warnings:					
Information:					
2	Authorization for Extension of Time all replies	41594930000-AUTHEOT.pdf	502332	no	1
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3	Provisional Cover Sheet (SB16)	41594930000_PROVCVRSHEET.pdf	1477490	no	4
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	Document Description		Start	End	
	Abstract		141	141	
	Claims		132	140	
	Specification		1	131	

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6	Drawings-other than black and white line drawings	41594930000_DRWGS.pdf	265749	no	2
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