

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## PCT

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

|                                                               |                                                                                     |                                                                                               |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| Applicant's or agent's file reference<br>1848179-0002-169-WO1 |                                                                                     | <b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b><br>see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below. |  |
| International application No.<br>PCT/US 24/13378              | International filing date ( <i>day/month/year</i> )<br>29 January 2024 (29.01.2024) | (Earliest) Priority Date ( <i>day/month/year</i> )<br>09 March 2023 (09.03.2023)              |  |
| Applicant<br>MERCK SHARP & DOHME LLC                          |                                                                                     |                                                                                               |  |

This international search report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This international search report consists of a total of 4 sheets.

☐ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

**1. Basis of the report**

a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of:

☒ the international application in the language in which it was filed.

☐ a translation of the international application into \_\_\_\_\_ which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b)).

b. ☐ This international search report has been established taking into account the **rectification of an obvious mistake** authorized by or notified to this Authority under Rule 91 (Rule 43.6bis(a)).

c. ☒ With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. ☒ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (see Box No. II).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box No. III).

4. With regard to the **title**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2, by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regard to the **drawings**,

a. the figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

b. ☒ none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

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**Box No. I**      **Nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence(s) (Continuation of item 1.c of the first sheet)**

1. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of a sequence listing:
  - a. ☒ forming part of the international application as filed.
  - b. ☐ furnished subsequent to the international filing date for the purposes of international search (Rule 13ter.1(a)),  
☐ accompanied by a statement to the effect that the sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed.
2. ☐ With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, this report has been established to the extent that a meaningful search could be carried out without a WIPO Standard ST.26 compliant sequence listing.
3. Additional comments:

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## Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☒ Claims Nos.: 10-32, 36-37, 42-46  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

### Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

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## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC - INV. A61K 38/17, A61K 38/18, C07K 14/71, C07K 19/00 (2024.01)  
ADD.

CPC - INV. A61K 38/179, A61K 38/17, C07K 14/71

ADD. C07K 2319/00, C07K 2319/30

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

See Search History document

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

See Search History document

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

See Search History document

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages                        | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Y         | US 2022/0204588 A1 (ACCELERON PHARMA INC.) 30 June 2022 (30.06.2022); para [0012], [0123], [0126], [0127] | 1-9, 33-35, 38-41     |
| Y         | US 2007/0249022 A1 (KNOPF et al.) 25 October 2007 (25.10.2007); para [0011], SEQ ID NO: 7                 | 1-9, 33-35, 38-41     |
| Y         | US 2006/0093598 A1 (CHEN et al.) 4 May 2006 (04.05.2006); para [0005], [0031], [0106], Claim 24           | 3-6, 8-9, 33-35       |
| Y         | US 2008/0095806 A1 (BATHURST et al.) 24 April 2008 (24.04.2008); para [0015], [0018]                      | 7                     |
| Y         | US 2016/0152683 A1 (AMGEN INC.) 2 June 2016 (02.06.2016); para [0010], [0054], [0057], [0064], [0066]     | 33-35, 38-41          |
| Y         | WO 2022/271571 A1 (ACCELERON PHARMA, INC.) 29 December 2022 (29.12.2022); Pg 14, ln 27-29; Claim 83       | 39-40                 |

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"D" document cited by the applicant in the international application

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

12 April 2024 (12.04.2024)

Date of mailing of the international search report

**MAY 16 2024**

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US, Commissioner for Patents

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