

Melanin-Concentrating Hormones

Inventors:

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Applications:

CNS, Oncology, Drug Discovery and Development

MCH as a therapeutic for suppression of melanoma-proliferation by topical application of melanin-concentrating hormones, or as a target for molecules acting on MCH

The invention relates to mammalian melanin-concentrating hormone (MCH), MCH precursors (NEI and NGE) and DNA encoding same. Mammalian MCH is useful to treat humans and other mammals to lighten skin color, by local or topical application. It is also useful to suppress the proliferation of certain skin tumor cells, such as melanomas, when suitably applied by topical application or the like. It is also found that mammalian MCH can be used to modulate the secretion of ACTH in humans and other mammals and thus can be used to modify the effects of stress, by systemically administering an effective amount of mammalian MCH.

References:

Endocrinology 125: 1660-1665 (1989) and 130: 1024-1029 (1992)
Neuroscience Lett. 136: 145-149 (1992)

Patent Status:

U.S. Patent No. 5,049,655 issued September 17, 1991
U.S. Patent No. 5,449,766 issued September 12, 1995 (S55511)
U.S. Patent No. 5,530,095 issued June 25, 1996 (S95065)
Numerous foreigners

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