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(54) **DETECTION OF THE NUCLEOLAR
CHANNEL SYSTEM OF HUMAN
ENDOMETRIUM AND USES THEREOF**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Methods are disclosed for assaying at the light microscopic level for the presence or absence of nucleolar channel systems (NCSs) in an endometrial tissue sample, as are methods for determining whether or not a postovulatory human endometrium is in a state that is receptive for implantation of a human embryo, where the presence of NCSs indicates that the endometrium is in a state that is receptive for implantation of an embryo and the absence of NCSs indicates that the endometrium is not in a state that is receptive for implantation of the embryo, and methods for determining the effectiveness of a contraceptive in a woman, comprising assaying an endometrial tissue sample for the presence or absence of NCSs.

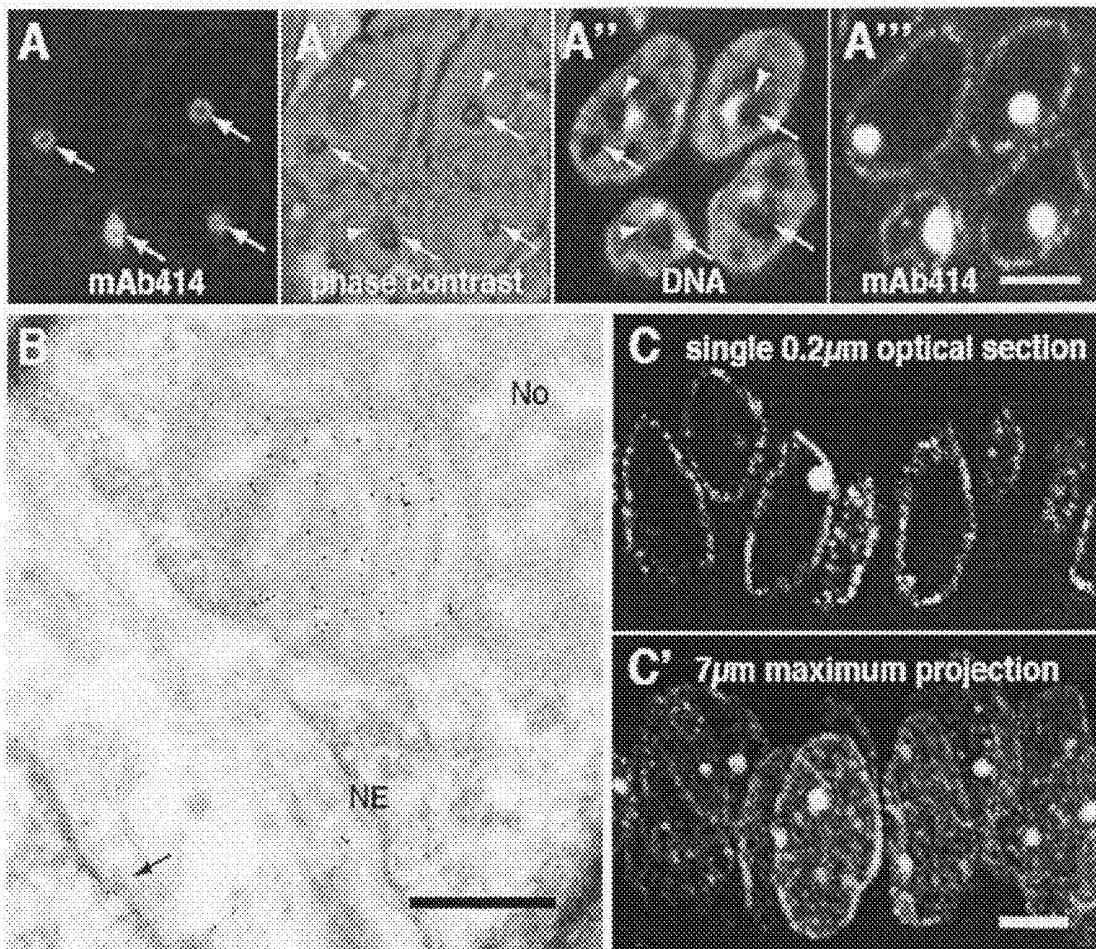


FIGURE 1A-1C'

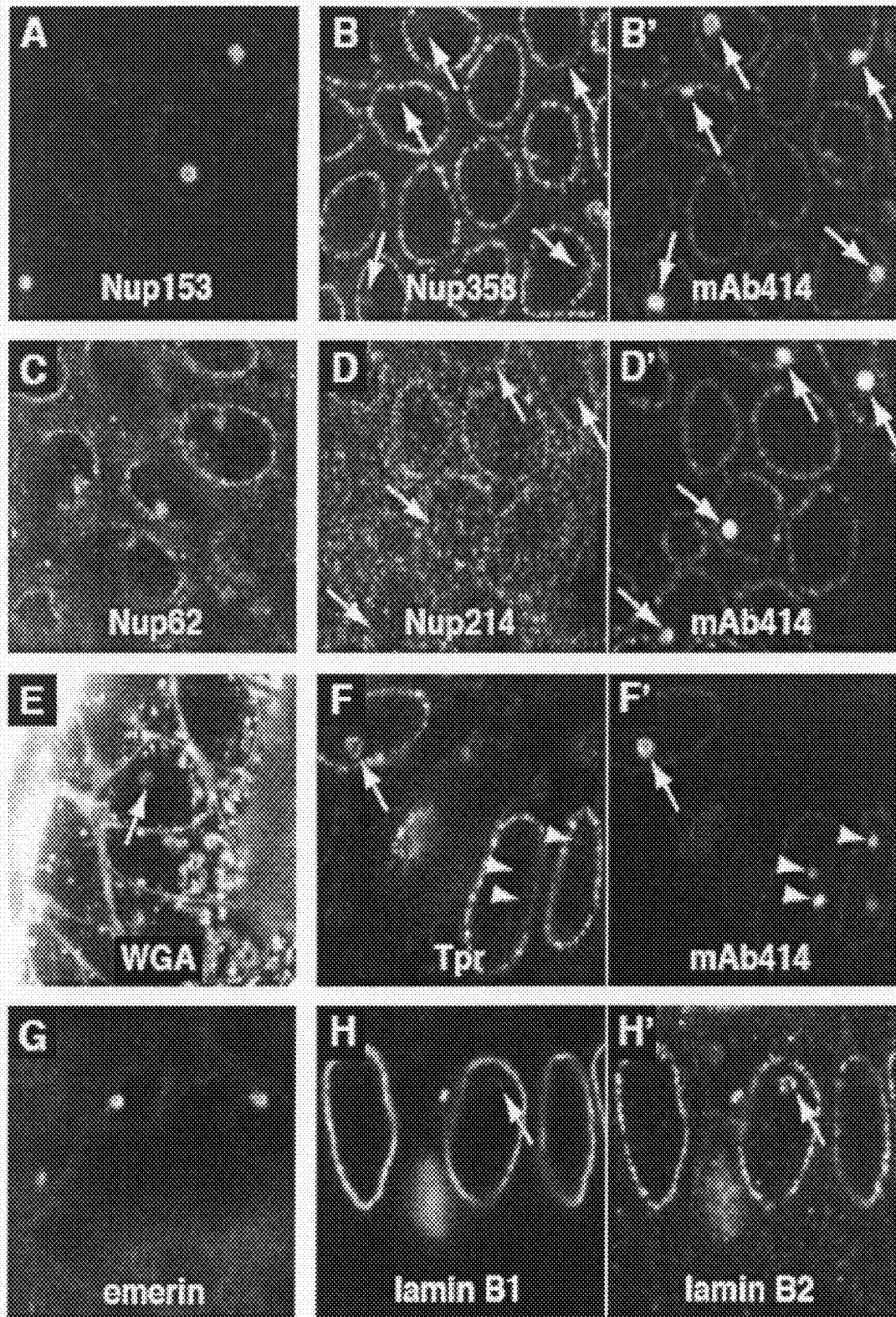


FIGURE 2A-2H'

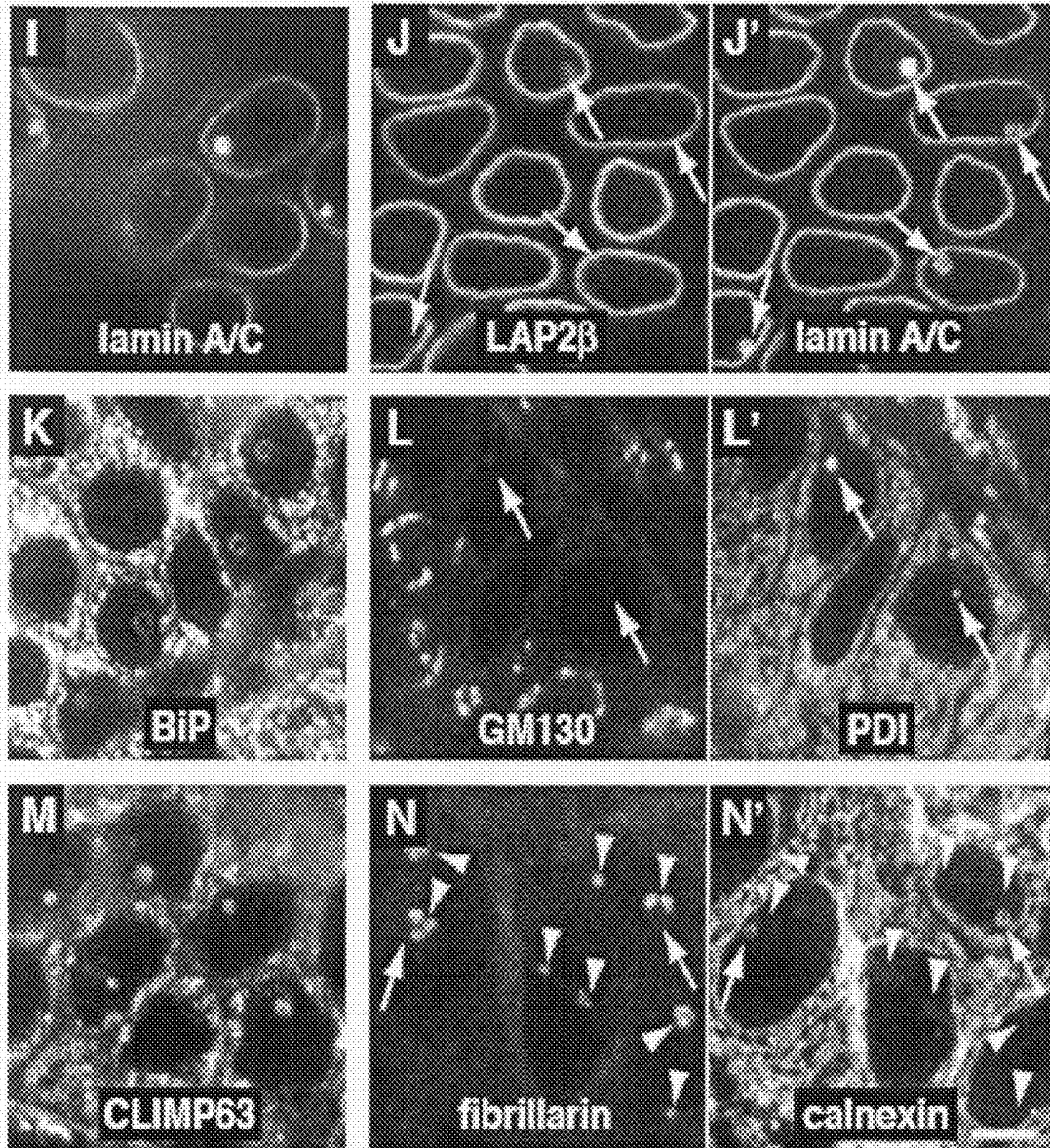


FIGURE 2I-2N'

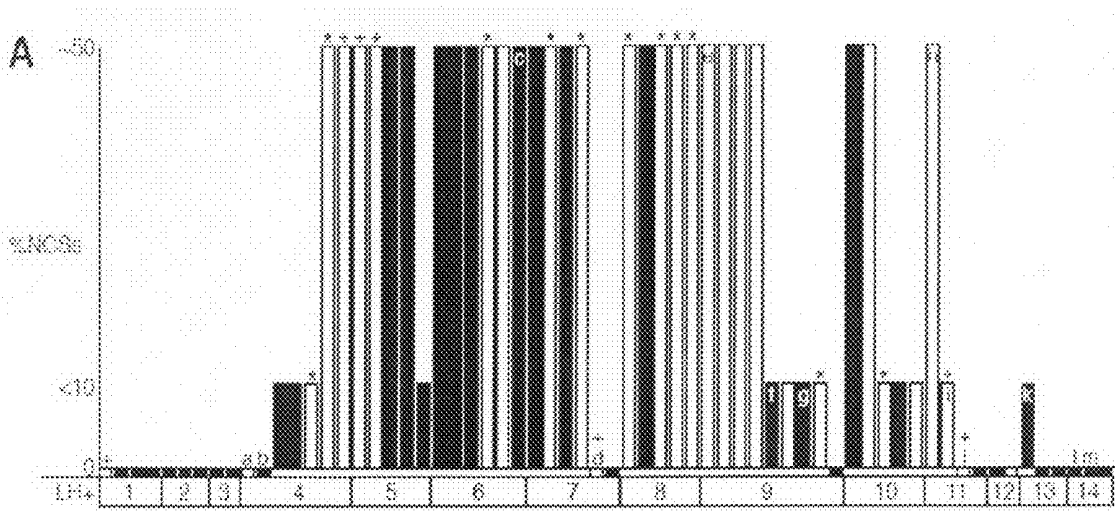


FIGURE 3A

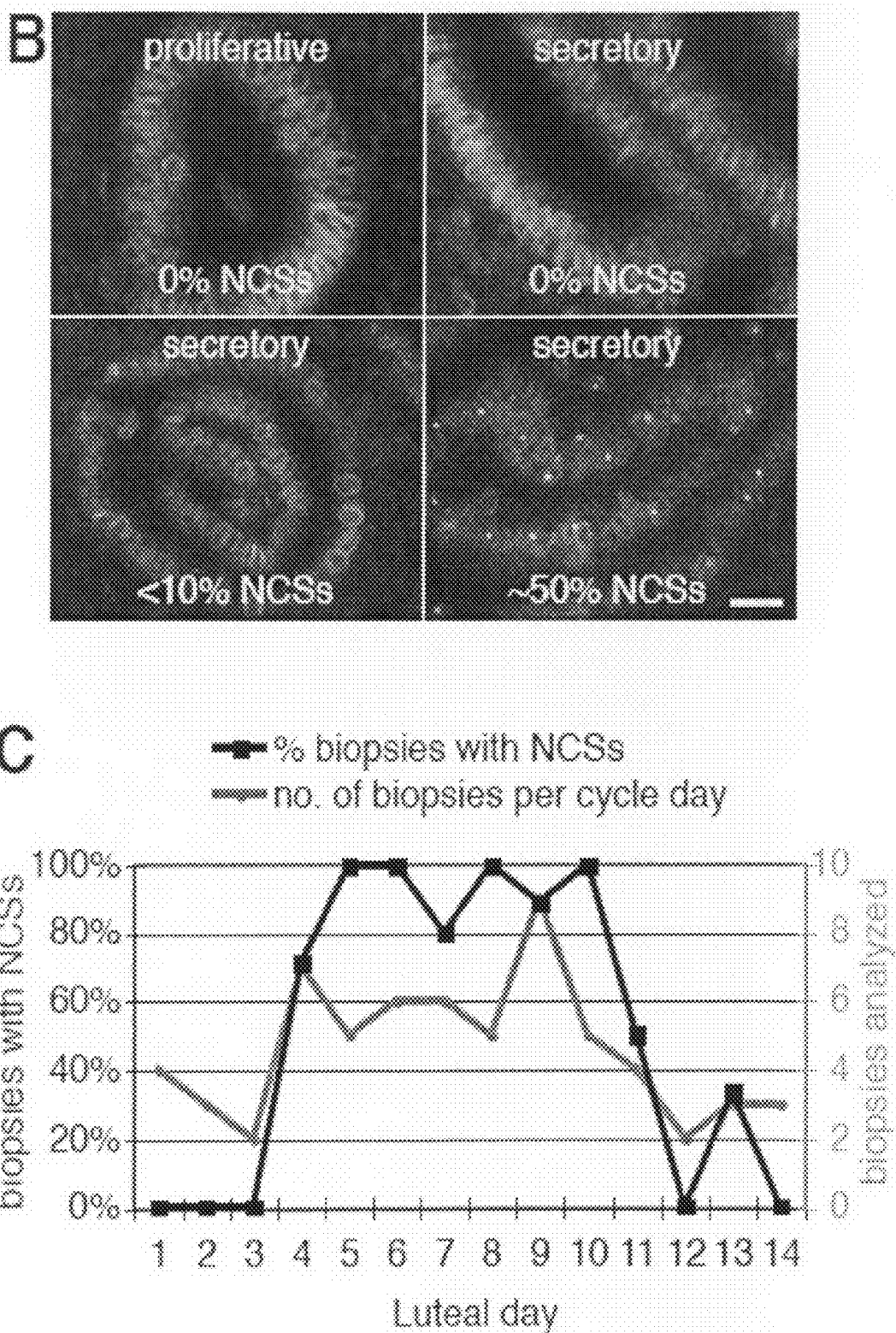


FIGURE 3B-3C

DETECTION OF THE NUCLEOLAR CHANNEL SYSTEM OF HUMAN ENDOMETRIUM AND USES THEREOF

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

[0001] This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 61/062,827, filed on Jan. 29, 2008, the content of which is hereby incorporated by reference.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0002] The present invention generally relates to methods for assaying at the light microscopic level for the presence or absence of nucleolar channel systems (NCSs) in an endometrial tissue sample; methods for determining whether or not a postovulatory human endometrium is in a state that is receptive for implantation of a human embryo, where the presence of NCSs indicates that the endometrium is in a state that is receptive for implantation of an embryo and the absence of NCSs indicates that the endometrium is not in a state that is receptive for implantation of the embryo; and methods for determining the effectiveness of a contraceptive in a woman, comprising assaying an endometrial tissue sample for the presence or absence of NCSs.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0003] Throughout this application various publications are referred to in parenthesis. Citations for these references may be found at the end of the specification immediately preceding the claims. The disclosures of these publications are hereby incorporated by reference in their entireties into the subject application to more fully describe the art to which the subject application pertains.

[0004] During an idealized 28-day human menstrual cycle, the endometrium undergoes well-timed changes in preparation for embryo implantation. The follicular or proliferative phase is separated by ovulation on day 14 from the luteal or secretory phase. The endometrium is only receptive for a short two-day period during luteal days 20-24 (Wilcox et al., 1999). Inaccurate identification of this implantation window is a major cause for the low success rate in artificial reproductive technologies (Norwitz et al., 2001).

[0005] These temporal changes of the endometrium are evident on the tissue and epithelial cell level. In fact, histological changes have been the gold standard for endometrial dating for the past 50 years but their value has recently been questioned (Coutifaris et al., 2004; Murray et al., 2004; Noyes et al., 1950). Among the ultrastructural hallmarks of endometrial epithelial cells are giant mitochondria, subnuclear glycogen deposits, pinopodes, and nucleolar channel systems (NCSs) (Martel, 1981; Spornitz, 1992). Whereas giant mitochondria and subnuclear glycogen deposits appear in the early luteal phase, pinopodes and NCSs more closely overlap with the mid luteal window of implantation and could serve as potential markers (Clyman, 1963; Nikas et al, 1995).

[0006] NCSs were discovered in the nuclei of endometrial epithelial cells using transmission electron microscopy, which is still their only method of identification (Dubrausky and Pohlmann, 1960). NCSs are small globular structures of about 1 μm in diameter and consist of three components, intertwined membrane tubules embedded in an electron dense matrix, and an amorphous core that is separated from

the nucleoplasm by the tubules and matrix (Clyman, 1963; Moricard and Moricard, 1964; Terzakis, 1965). Using histochemical labeling, the activity of glucose-6-phosphatase, a marker enzyme of endoplasmic reticulum, was documented in the lumen of the membrane tubules indicating their derivation from this cytoplasmic organelle, apparently through the contiguous nuclear envelope (Kittur et al., 2007).

[0007] Understanding of nuclear structure and function has advanced significantly (Stewart et al., 2007; Terry et al., 2007; Trinkle-Mulcahy and Lamond, 2007). Nuclear pore complexes (NPCs) perforate the nuclear envelope at the sites where the outer and inner nuclear membranes fuse and are thought to serve as the sole portal between nucleus and cytoplasm. The NPCs are large complex protein assemblies consisting of 35 or so proteins (nucleoporins) present in multiple copies and arranged in partial symmetry across the envelope and around the pore. Although some nucleoporins can exchange off NPCs during interphase and some concentrate in kinetochores during mitosis when NPCs disassemble, they are generally restricted to intact NPCs (Belgareh et al., 2001; Rabut et al., 2004). Whereas the outer membrane and the perinuclear space mirror the proteins of the attached endoplasmic reticulum, the protein composition of the inner nuclear membrane is distinct. Inner membrane proteins anchor the lamina (an intermediate filament meshwork lining the nucleoplasmic side) and/or chromatin at the nuclear envelope. Several of these proteins, including lamins (proteins of the lamina), are mutated in inherited diseases ranging from muscular dystrophies to progeria (premature aging) (Stewart et al., 2007).

[0008] Several lines of evidence suggest a role for NCSs in the preparation of the endometrium for reception of the embryo. NCSs have strictly been observed post ovulation, only on cycle days 16-24, and are not detected in pregnancy (Clyman, 1963). They appear to be induced by progesterone and are sensitive to oral and intrauterine contraceptives (Azadian-Boulanger et al., 1976; Feria-Velasco et al., 1972; Kohorn et al., 1970; Kohorn et al., 1972; Pryse-Davies et al., 1979; Roberts et al., 1975; Wynn, 1967). Finally, in several cases of unexplained infertility the absence or delayed appearance of NCSs was noted as the sole abnormal endometrial parameter (Dockery et al., 1996; Gore and Gordon, 1974; Kohorn et al., 1972). Despite this and additional evidence, NCSs have been neglected as potential markers or prerequisites for implantation. This can be mostly attributed to difficulty of their detection requiring transmission electron microscopy, which is further complicated by their small size and the perception that only about 5% of all endometrial epithelial cells develop NCSs (Novotny et al., 1999; Ryder et al., 1995). Accordingly, a method is needed that can be readily used to mark the window of uterine receptivity.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0009] The present invention is directed to methods of assaying for the presence or absence of nucleolar channel systems (NCSs) in an endometrial tissue sample, where the methods comprise contacting the tissue sample with an agent that is specific for a protein selected from the group consisting of one or more of Nup153, Nup62, Tpr, Lamin A/C, Lamin A, Lamin B2, Emerin, Calnexin, BiP, PDI, CLIMP63, Karyopherin beta 1, Ran and gamma-tubulin, wherein the presence of the protein within nuclei of endometrial epithelial cells indicates the presence of NCSs in the endometrial tissue sample and wherein the absence of the protein within nuclei

of endometrial epithelial cells indicates the absence of NCSs in the endometrial tissue sample.

[0010] The invention also provides methods of determining whether or not a postovulatory human endometrium is in a state that is receptive for implantation of a human embryo, where the methods comprise contacting a tissue sample from the endometrium with an agent that binds to nucleolar channel systems (NCSs), wherein the presence of NCSs indicates that the endometrium is in a state that is receptive for implantation of an embryo and the absence of NCSs indicates that the endometrium is not in a state that is receptive for implantation of an embryo.

[0011] The invention further provides methods of determining the effectiveness of a contraceptive in a woman, where the methods comprise contacting a tissue sample from the endometrium of a woman who is taking the contraceptive with an agent that binds to nucleolar channel systems (NCSs), wherein the presence of NCSs indicates that the contraceptive may not be effective and wherein the absence of NCSs between day 18 and day 24 of a 28 day menstrual cycle and/or between day 4 and day 9 of the luteal phase of the menstrual cycle indicates that the contraceptive is effective, where day 1 of the cycle is defined as the first day of menstrual blood loss.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0012] FIGS. 1-1C'. The monoclonal antibody 414 (mAb414) directed against nuclear pore complex (NPC) proteins exhibits a strong preference for NCSs. (A) Double fluorescence of mAb414 (A) and DAPI DNA stain (A'') on a semi-thin frozen section of human endometrium in the secretory phase. NCS fluorescence appears as rings (A, arrows). The rings, i.e., the matrix and membrane tubules of NCSs, appear as phase dense circles in phase contrast microscopy (A', arrows). Moreover, NCSs are often encircled by nucleoli (arrowheads) and, like nucleoli, appear chromatin-free (A''). The concentration of mAb414 antigens in NCSs is so high that the classical rim staining of NPCs only becomes visible if the image is overexposed to an extent that saturates NCS staining (A'''). Bar=5 μ m. (B) MAb414 immunogold-stained electron micrograph of an ultrathin cryosection of luteal human endometrium. Note the strong and specific gold labeling of a grazing section of a NCS (i.e., its core is covered by its membrane tubules and matrix) that is embedded in a nucleolus (No) and attached to the nuclear envelope (NE). At least one NPC of a neighboring cell is identified by mAb414 (arrow). Bar=0.5 μ m. (C) Confocal micrograph of indirect mAb414 fluorescence of a 7 μ m-thick paraffin section of luteal human endometrium. In a single 0.2 μ m optical section a NCS is visible in only one of the nuclei defined by the classical rim staining of NPCs (C), whereas, in a maximum projection of all optical planes, all nuclei outlined by hazy NPC staining contain NCSs (C'). Bar=5 μ m.

[0013] FIGS. 2A-2N'. NCSs consist of a unique subset of NPC, and nuclear membrane and lamina proteins. Indirect immunofluorescence on semi-thin frozen sections of human luteal endometrium of antigens clearly present and/or enriched in NCSs (left column: A, C, E, G, I, K, M), of antigens absent from, barely detectable, or only in some NCSs (middle column: B, D, F, H, J, L, N), and of antigens clearly present in NCSs as double fluorescence control (right column: B', D', F', H', J', L', N'). The identity of all antigens is indicated on each panel. NCSs that are not obvious (E) or all in the double fluorescence series (two right columns) are indicated (arrows). In all cases the identity of NCSs was

confirmed by double fluorescence and/or phase contrast microscopy. Note although mAb414 recognizes all four nucleoporins, only Nup153 (A) and Nup62 (C) but not Nup358 (B) nor Nup214 (D) are present in NCSs. Tpr is present in only some (F, arrow) but not other NCSs (arrowheads). Of the two inner nuclear membrane and lamina associated proteins emerlin (G) and LAP2 β (J), only emerlin is enriched in NCSs. Nucleoli, identified by fibrillarlin (N, arrowheads), are often adjacent to or surrounding NCSs (N', arrows) but do not overlap. Note the particularly high enrichment in NCSs of Nup153 (A), emerlin (G), and lamin A/C (I), which at this exposure are barely detectable in their usual nuclear envelope locations. Magnification is identical in all panels; bar=5 μ m (N').

[0014] FIGS. 3A-3C. The NCS marks the implantation window. (A) Histogram of 64 human endometrial biopsies collected on the indicated luteal days (LH+) and scored for the percentage of epithelial cell nuclei containing NCSs using three categories, none (0%), less than 10% (<10%), and between 10% and 60% but mostly around 50% (~50%). Where available, the luteal day was determined in the following order of priority, according to LH surge, classical histological criteria (+) (Noyes et al., 1950), and chronological day (*). Biopsies were considered out-of-phase if two methods differed by more than two days: (a) LH+4, chronological day (cd)=10, histological day (hd)=17, fibroid uterus; (b) LH+4, cd=15; (c) LH+6, cd=23; (d) menopause transition treated with hyper estrogen and hypo progesterone; (e) LH+9, hd=19, cd=26, 30-34d cycle; (f) LH+9, cd=27; (g) LH+9, cd=20; (h) LH+11, 34-37d cycle; (i) hd=25, cd=22, dysmenorrhea; (j) hd=25, cd=21; (k) LH+13, cd=30; (l) LH+14, cd=24; (m) LH+14, cd=25. (B) Representative mAb414 fluorescence micrographs for each category in (A) including a proliferative biopsy. Bar=20 μ m. (C) Summary of the data in (A) expressed as percentage of biopsies on each luteal day containing NCSs (black squares, left y-axis) and the number of biopsies analyzed on each day (gray circles, right y-axis). Note only on luteal days 4-10 did over 70% of biopsies contain NCSs.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0015] The invention is directed to a method of assaying for the presence or absence of nucleolar channel systems (NCSs) in an endometrial tissue sample, where the method comprises contacting the tissue sample with an agent that is specific for a protein selected from the group consisting of one or more of Nup153, Nup62, Tpr, Lamin A/C, Lamin A, Lamin B2, Emerin, Calnexin, BiP, PDI, CLIMP63, Karyopherin beta 1, Ran and gamma-tubulin, wherein the presence of the protein within nuclei of endometrial epithelial cells indicates the presence of NCSs in the endometrial tissue sample and wherein the absence of the protein within nuclei of endometrial epithelial cells indicates the absence of NCSs in the endometrial tissue sample. The presence of NCSs indicates that the endometrium is in a state that is receptive for implantation of an embryo. Where the tissue sample is obtained from the endometrium of a woman between day 18 and day 24, and more preferably between day 19 and day 22, of a 28 day menstrual cycle, where day 1 of the cycle is defined as the first day of menstrual blood loss, the absence of NCSs indicates that the endometrium is not in a state that is receptive for implantation of an embryo. Similarly, where the tissue sample is obtained from the endometrium of a woman between between day 4 and day 9 of the luteal phase of the

menstrual cycle, and more preferably between day 5 and day 8 of the luteal phase, the absence of NCSs indicates that the endometrium is not in a state that is receptive for implantation of an embryo. The luteal phase can be determined based on detection of the luteinizing hormone (LH) surge in the urine, which marks luteal day 0 (equivalent to day 14 of a 28 day menstrual cycle).

[0016] The invention also provides a method of determining whether or not a postovulatory human endometrium is in a state that is receptive for implantation of a human embryo, the method comprising contacting a tissue sample from the endometrium with an agent that binds to nucleolar channel systems (NCSs), wherein the presence of NCSs indicates that the endometrium is in a state that is receptive for implantation of an embryo and the absence of NCSs indicates that the endometrium is not in a state that is receptive for implantation of an embryo. Preferably, the tissue sample is obtained from the endometrium of a woman between day 18 and day 24 of a 28 day menstrual cycle, where day 1 of the cycle is defined as the first day of menstrual blood loss. More preferably, the tissue sample is obtained from the endometrium of a woman between day 19 and day 22 of a 28 day menstrual cycle. Preferably, the tissue sample is obtained from the endometrium of a woman between day 4 and day 9 of the luteal phase of the menstrual cycle, and more preferably between day 5 and day 8 of the luteal phase of the menstrual cycle.

[0017] The invention further provides a method of determining the effectiveness of a contraceptive in a woman, the method comprising contacting a tissue sample from the endometrium of a woman who is taking the contraceptive with an agent that binds to nucleolar channel systems (NCSs), wherein the presence of NCSs indicates that the contraceptive may not be effective and wherein the absence of NCSs between day 18 and day 24 of a 28 day menstrual cycle and/or between day 4 and day 9 of the luteal phase of the menstrual cycle indicates that the contraceptive is effective, where day 1 of the cycle is defined as the first day of menstrual blood loss. Preferably, the absence of NCSs between day 19 and day 22 of a 28 day menstrual cycle and/or between day 5 and day 8 of the luteal phase of the menstrual cycle indicates that the contraceptive is effective.

[0018] NCSs can be assayed using an agent that binds NCSs such as, for example, an antibody, an antibody fragment, a peptide, a lectin or an aptamer. As used herein, the term "antibody fragment" means fragments of whole antibodies wherein the fragments bind to NCSs. Antibody fragments include, but are not limited to, F(ab')₂ and Fab' fragments and single chain antibodies. F(ab')₂ is an antigen

binding fragment of an antibody molecule with deleted crystallizable fragment (Fc) region and preserved binding region. Fab' is 1/2 of the F(ab')₂ molecule possessing only 1/2 of the binding region. The term antibody is further meant to encompass polyclonal antibodies and monoclonal antibodies. Antibodies may be produced by techniques well known to those skilled in the art. The antibody can be, e.g., any of an IgA, IgD, IgE, IgG, or IgM antibody. Aptamers are single stranded oligonucleotides or oligonucleotide analogs that bind to a particular target molecule, such as a protein. Thus, aptamers are the oligonucleotide analogy to antibodies. Both RNA and single stranded DNA (or analog) aptamers can be used.

[0019] The agent that binds to NCSs can be labeled with a detectable marker. Labeling may be accomplished using one of a variety of labeling techniques, including peroxidase, chemiluminescent, and/or radioactive labels known in the art. The detectable marker may be, for example, a nonradioactive or fluorescent marker, such as biotin, fluorescein (FITC), acridine, cholesterol, or carboxy-X-rhodamine, which can be detected using fluorescence and other imaging techniques readily known in the art. Alternatively, the detectable marker may be a radioactive marker, including, for example, a radioisotope. The radioisotope may be any isotope that emits detectable radiation, such as, for example, ³⁵S, ³²P, or ³H. Radioactivity emitted by the radioisotope can be detected by techniques well known in the art. For example, gamma emission from the radioisotope may be detected using gamma imaging techniques, particularly scintigraphic imaging.

[0020] The agent, for example, can be specific for a protein selected from the group consisting of, but not limited to, one or more of Nup153, Nup62, Tpr, Lamin A/C, Lamin A, Lamin B2, Emerin, Calnexin, BiP, PDI, CLIMP63, Karyopherin beta 1, Ran and gamma-tubulin. Preferably, the agent is specific for a protein selected from the group consisting of one or more of Nup153, Lamin A/C and Emerin. A preferred agent is monoclonal antibody 414 (MAb414), which is commercially available from Covance, Berkeley, Calif. The presence or absence of the protein, and the presence or absence of NCSs, can be determined using a light microscope.

[0021] The methods of the present invention can also be carried using a combination of agents that detect a plurality of Nup153, Nup62, Tpr, Lamin A/C, Lamin A, Lamin B2, Emerin, Calnexin, BiP, PDI, CLIMP63, Karyopherin beta 1, Ran and gamma-tubulin. For example, two or more agents can be used, where each agent is specific for Nup153, Nup62, Tpr, Lamin A/C, Lamin A, Lamin B2, Emerin, Calnexin, BiP, PDI, CLIMP63, Karyopherin beta 1, Ran or gamma-tubulin.

[0022] Amino acid sequences for 13 preferred proteins are indicated below, where the standard single letter code is used for each amino acid.

Nup153 (human) Locus and Accession No. P49790

(SEQ ID NO: 1)

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1 masgaggvgg ggggkirrr chqgpikpyq qgrqhqgil srvteskni vpgwlqryfn
61 knedvcscst dtsevprwpe nkedhlvyad eessnitdgr itpepavsnt eepststas
121 nypdvltrps lhrshlnfsm lespalhcqp stssafpigs sgfslvkeik dstsqhddd
181 isttsqfssr asdkditvsk ntslplwsp eaershslsq htatsskkpa fnlsafgtls
241 pslgnssilk tsqldgspfy pgkttgygaa aavrsklrm tpyqapvrrq mkakqlsaqs
301 ygvtsstarr ilqslmss pladakrips ivssplnspl drsgiditdf qakrekvdsg

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-continued

361 yppvqrlmtp kpvsiatnrs vyfkpsltps gefrktngri dnkcstgyek nmtpgqnreq
 421 resgfsypnf slpaanglss gvqgggkmr rerhafvask pleeeemevp vlpkislpit
 481 ssslptfnfs speittsps pinssqaltn kvqmtspst gspmfkfspp ivksteinvl
 541 ppsigftfs vpvaktaels gssstlepii sssahhvtv nstnckktp edcegprpa
 601 eilkegsvid ilkspgfasp kidsvaagpt atspvvytrp aissfssgi gfgeslkags
 661 swqcdtcllq nkvtdnkia cqaaklsprd takqtgipt nksgkttlsa sgtgfgdkfk
 721 pviqtdcdt clvqnkpeai kvvacetpkp gtcvkraltl tvvsesaetm tssssctvt
 781 tgtlgfgdkf krpigswecc vccvnaed nkcvscmek pgsvspass stvpvslpsg
 841 gslglekfkf pegswdcelc lvqnkadstk clacesakpg tksgfkgfdt sssnsnaas
 901 sskfgvsss ssgsqtlts tgnfkfgdgg gfkigvssds gsinpmsgf kfskpigdfk
 961 fgvsesskpe evkdkndn fkfglssgls npvsltpfqf gvsnlgqeeq keelpksssa
 1021 gfsfgtgvn stpapativ tsenkssfnl gtietksasv apftcksea kkeempatkg
 1081 gfsfgnvepa slpsasvflv grteekqep vtstslvfgk kadneepkcp pvfsfgnseq
 1141 tkdensskst fsfsmtkpse kesepakat fafgaqtstt adqgaakpvf sflnsssss
 1201 stpatsaggf ifgsstssn ppvatfvfgq ssnpvssaf gntaesstsq sllfsqdkl
 1261 attsstgtav tpfvfgpgas snnttsgfg fqatttssa gssfvfgtgp sapsaspafg
 1321 anqtptfgqs qgasqpnpq fgsissstl fptgspapp tfgtvsssq ppvfgqpsq
 1381 safsgttnp ssaafqfss ttnfnftms psgvftfgan sstpaasaqp sgsggfpfnq
 1441 spaaftvgsn gknvfssst sfsgrkikta vrrrk

Nup62 (human) Locus and Accession No. P37198

(SEQ ID NO: 2)

1 msgfnfggtg aptggftfgt aktatttptat gfsfstsgtg gfnfgapfp atstpstglf
 61 slatqtpatq ttgftfgtat lasggtgfsl gigasklnls ntaatpaman psfglqssn
 121 ltnaisstvt ssqgtaptgf vfgpstsava pattsggfsf tggstaqpqg fnigsagnsa
 181 qptapatlpf tpatpaatta gatqpaapt tatitstggs ifasiatapt ssattglslc
 241 tpvttagapt agtqgfslka pgaasgtstt tstaatat tssssttgf alnlkplapa
 301 gipsntaaav tapppgaaa gaaassamty aqleslinkw sleledqerh flqqatqvna
 361 wdrtlienge kitslhreve kvkidqkrld qeldfilsqg keledllspl eelvkeqsgt
 421 iylqhadeer ektyklaeni daqlkrmaq lkdiihlnt sgapatsdp lqqickilna
 481 hmdsiqwidq nsallqrkve evtkvcegrr keqersfrit fd

Tpr (human) Locus and Accession No. P 12270

(SEQ ID NO: 3)

1 maavlqqvle rtelnklpks vqnklekfla dqqsaidglk grhekfkves eqqyfeiekr
 61 lshsqerlrvn etrecqslrl eleklennlk alteknekele iaqdrniaiq sqftrtkeel
 121 eaekrdlirt nerlsqelely ltedvkrlnk klkesnttkg elqlkldelq asdvsvkyre
 181 krleqekell hsqntwlnte lktktdella lgrekqneil elkcnlenkk eevsrleeqm
 241 nqlktsnehl qkhvedlltk lkeakeqqas meekfhneln ahiklsnlyk saaddseaks
 301 neltraveel hklkkaeqa nkaiqdhllk veqskdqmek emlekigrle kelenandll
 361 satkrkgail seeelaamp taaavakivk pgmkltelyn ayvetqdqll leklenkrin
 421 kyldeivkev eakapilkrq reeyeraqka vaslsvkleq amkeiqrlqe dtdkankqss
 481 vlerdnrme iqvkdlsqqi rvllmeleea rgnhvirdie vssadissss evisqhlvsy

-continued

541 rnieelqqqn qrllvalrel getrereeqe ttsskitelq lklesaltel eqlrksrqhq
 601 mqlvdsivrq rdmyrillsq ttgvaiplha sslldvslas tpkrpstsqt vstpapvpvi
 661 esteaieaka alkqlqeife nykkekaene kiqneqlekl qeqvtdlrsq ntkistqldf
 721 askryemlqd nvegyrreit slhernqklt attqkqeqii ntmtdlrga neklavaevr
 781 aenlkkekem lklsevrslq qresllaeqr gqnllltnlq tiqgilerse tetkqrlssq
 841 iekieheish lkkkleneve qrhtltrnld vqlldtkrql dtetnlhlnt kellknaqke
 901 iatlkghlsn mevqvasqss qrtgkgqpsn kedvddlvsq lrqteeqvnd lkerlktsts
 961 nvegyqamvt sleeslnkek qvteevrkni evrlkesaef qtqlekkhme vekekqelqd
 1021 dkrraiesme qqlselkktl ssvqnevqea lqrastalsn eqqarrdcqe qakiaveaqn
 1081 kyereumlha advealqaak eqvskmasvr qhleettqka esqllleckas weerermld
 1141 evskvcrcrce dlekqnrlhh dqieklsvk vasvkegvqg plnvslseeg ksseqileil
 1201 rfirrekeia etrfevaqve slryrqrvel lerelqeled slnaerekvq vtaktmaqhe
 1261 elmkkttetmn vvmetnkmlr eekerleqdl qgmqakvrkl eldilplqea naelseksgm
 1321 lqaekkllee dvkrwkarnq hlvsqqkdpd teeyrklise kevhtkriqq lteeigrka
 1381 eiarsnaslt nnqnliqslk edlnkvrtek etiqkdldak iidiqekvkt itqvkkigr
 1441 yktqyeelka qqdkvmetsa qssgdhqege vsvqemqelk etlnqaetks kslesqvenl
 1501 qktlsekete arnlqeqtqv lqselsrlrq dlqdrttqee qlrqqiteke ektrkaivaa
 1561 kskiahlagv kdqtkenee lkqrngaldq qkdeldvrit alksqyegri srlrelreh
 1621 qerhleqrde pqepsnkve qqrqitlkt pasgergias tsdpptanik ptpvvstpsk
 1681 vtaamaqnk stprasirpm vtpatvtnpt ttptatvmp tqvseamq segpvhevvp
 1741 fgstsgsvrs tspnvqpsis qpiltvqqqt qatafvqptq qshpqiepan qelssnivev
 1801 vqsspverps tstavfgtvs atpssslpkr treeeedsti easdqvsddt vemplpkkk
 1861 svtpvgtee vmaeestdge vetqvynqds qdsigegvtq gdytpmedse etsqslqidl
 1921 gplqsdqqt tssqdgqgkg ddvividdd eedeedddd deddtgmge gedsnegtgs
 1981 adgndgyead daeggdgtdp gteteesmgg gegnhraads qnsgegntga aessfsqevs
 2041 reqqpsasae rqaapraqsp rrpplppr ltihaqqel gppvqriqmt rrqsvgrglq
 2101 ltpgiggmq hffddedrtv pstptlvvph rtdgfaeah spqvagvprf rfgppedmpq
 2161 tssshsdlgq lasqgglgmy etplflahee esggrsvptt plqvaapvtv ftesttsdas
 2221 ehasqsvpmv ttstgtlstd netatgddgd evfveaeseg isseagleid sqqeeepvqa
 2281 sdesdlpsts qdppssssvd tsssqpkpfr rvrlqtllrq qvrqrqfnrq rgvshamggr
 2341 gginrgnin

Lamin A/C (human) Locus and Accession No. P02545

(SEQ ID NO: 4)

1 metpsqrrat rsgaqasstp lsptritrllq ekedlqelnd rlavyidrivr sletenaglr
 61 lriteseevv srevsgikaa yeaeldark tldsvakera rlqlelskvr eefkelkarn
 121 tkkegdliiaa qarlkdaleal lnskeaalst alsekrteleg elhdlrgqva kleaalgeak
 181 kqlqdemlrr vdaenrlqtm keeldfqkni yseelretrk rhetriveid ngkqrefesr
 241 ladalqelra qhedqveqyk kelektysak ldnarqsaer nsnlvgaah elqqsririd
 301 slsaqlsqliq kqlaakeakl rdledslare rdtstrllae keremaemra rmqqqldeyq

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361 elldiklald meihayrkll egeeerlrll psptsqrsrg rasshssqtq gggsvtkkrk
 421 lesteerssf sqhartsgrv aveevdeegk fvrlrnksne dqsmgnwqik rqnqddpllt
 481 yrfppkftlk agqvvtiwaa gagathsppt dlwkaqntw gcgnslrtal instgeevam
 541 rklvrsvtvv eddededgdd llhhhgshc sssgdpaeyn lrsrtvlcgt cgqpadkasa
 601 sgsgaqvqgp issgssassv tvtrsyrsvg gsgggsfgdn lvtrsyllgn ssprtqspqn
 661 csim

Lamin B2 (human) Locus and Accession No. NP_116126

(SEQ ID NO: 5)

1 matplpgrag gpatplsptr lsrlqekeel relndrlahy idrvralele ndrlllkise
 61 keevttrevs gikalysesel adarrvldet arerariqie igklraelde vnksakkreg
 121 eltvaqgrvk dleslfhrse velaaalsdk rqlsdvael raqlakaedg havakkqlek
 181 etlrmrvden rcqslqeeld frksvfееev retrrrherr lvevdssrqy eydfkmaqal
 241 eelrsqhdeq vrlykleleq tyqakldsak lssdqndkaa saareelkea rmlreslsyq
 301 lsqqlqkqasa aedrirelee amagerdkfr kmlakeqem temrdvmqqq laeyqelldv
 361 klaldmeina yrkllgeeee rkklspssps rvtvsratss ssgslsatgr lgrskrkrle
 421 veepgsgps vlggtgtgsg gfhlhaqqasa sgsvsieeid legkfvqlkn nsdkdqslgn
 481 wrikrqvleg eeiaykftpk yilragqmvv vvaagagvah sppstlvwkg qsswgtgesf
 541 rtvlnvadge evamrtvks svmenenge eeeeeafge edlfhqgqdp rttsrqcyvm

Emerin (human) Locus and Accession No. P50402

(SEQ ID NO: 6)

1 mdnyadlsdt elttllrryn iphgpvvgst rrylkekife yetqrrrlsp psssaassys
 61 fsdlnstrgd admydlpkke dallyqskgy nddyeesyf ttrtygepes agpsravrqs
 121 vtsfpdadaf hhqvhdldll ssseeckdr erpmygrdsa yqsithyrpv sasrssldls
 181 yyptsstsf msssssssw ltrairpen rapgaglgqd rqpvlwgql lflvfivlfl
 241 fihfmqae gnpf

Calnexin (human) Locus and Accession No. AAA36125

(SEQ ID NO: 7)

1 megkwlcmll vlgltaivea hdghddvid ieddlddvie evedskpdt appsspkvty
 61 kapvptgevy fadsfdrgtl sgwilskakk dtddeiaky dgkweeemk esklpgdkgl
 121 vlmsrakhha isaklnkpfll fdtkplivqy evnfqngiec ggayvklksp tpeinldqfh
 181 dktpytmfvg pdkcgedykl hfifrhknpk tgiyeekhak rpdadlkytf tdkkthlytl
 241 ilnpdnsfei lvdqsvvnsq nllndmtppv npsreiedpe drkpedwder pkipdpeavk
 301 pddwedapa kipdeeatk egwlddepey vpdpdaeke dwdedmdgew eapqianprc
 361 esapgcgvwq rpvidnpyk gkwkppmidn psyqgiwpr kipnpdffed lepfrmtfps
 421 aiglelwsmt sdifdnfii cadrrivddw andgwglkka adgaaepgvv gqmieaaeer
 481 pwlwvyvilt valpvflvil fccsgkkqts gmeykktdap qpdvkeeeee keeekdkgde
 541 eegeeklee kqksdaeeg gtvsqeedr kpkaeedeil nrsprnrkpr re

BiP (human) Locus and Accession No. P11021

(SEQ ID NO: 8)

1 mklslvaaml lllsaaraee edkkedvqtv vgidlgttys cvgvfkngrv eiiandqgnr
 61 itpsyvaftp egerligdaa knqltsnpen tvfdakrlig rtwndpsvqq dikflpfkvv
 121 ekktkpyiqv digggqtktf apeeisamvl tkmketaeay lgkkvthavv tvpayfndaq
 181 rqatkdagti aglnvmriin eptaaiayg ldkregekni lvfdlgggtf dvslltidng

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241 vfevvatngd thlggedfdq rvmehfikly kktgkdvrc dnravqklrr evekakrals
301 sqhgarieie sfyegedfse tltrakfeel nmdlfrstmk pvqkvledsd lkksdideiv
361 lvggstripk iqqlvkeffn gkepsrginp deavaygaav qagvlsqdqg tgdvlldvc
421 pltlgietyg gvmtkliprn tvvptkksqi fstasdnqpt vtikvyeger pltkdnhllg
481 tfdltgippa prgvppievt feidvngilr vtaedkgtgn knkititndq nrltpeeier
541 mvndaekfae edkklkerid trnelesyay slknqigdkel klggklssed ketmekavee
601 kiewleshqd adiedfkakk keleeivqpi isklygsagp pptgeedtae kdel

PDI (human) Locus and Accession No. P07237

(SEQ ID NO: 9)

1 mlrallcla vaalvradap eeedhvlvlr ksnfaealaa hkyllvefya pwcghckala
61 peyakaagkl kaegseirla kvdateesdl aqygvrgyp tikffrngdt aspkeytagr
121 eaddivnwlk krtgpaattl pdgaaeslv essevavigf fkdvesdsak qflqaaaid
181 dipfgitsns dvfskyqldk dgvvlfkkfd egrnnfegev tkenlldfik hnqplvief
241 teqtapkifg geikthillf lpksvsdydq klsnfktaae sfkgkilfif idsdhtdnqr
301 ileffglkke ecpavrlitl eeemtkyke seeltaerit efchrflgk ikphlmsqel
361 pedwdkqpvk vlvgnfedv afdekknvfv efyapwcqhc kqlapiwdkl getykdheni
421 viakmdstan eveavkhsf ptlkffpasa drtvidynge rtdgfkfkl esggqdgagd
481 dddledleea eepdmeeddd qkavkdel

CLIMP63 (human) Locus and Accession No. NP_006816

(SEQ ID NO: 10)

1 mpsakqrgsk qghgaapse kgahpsggad dvakkpppap qppppppaph pqqhqqhqp
61 nqahgkghr ggggggkss sssasaaaa aaaasssasc srrlgralnlf lfylalvaa
121 afsqvcvhv leevqqvrrs hqdfsree lggqlgveq kvqslqatfg tfesilrssq
181 hkqdltekav kqgesevri sevlqklqne ilkdlsdgi hvkdarerdv tsentveer
241 lteltksind niaiftevqk rsqkeindmk akvasleese gnkqdlkalk eavkeiqtsa
301 ksrewdmeal rstlqtmesd iytevrelevs lkqeqqafke aadterlalq altekllrse
361 esvrlpeei rrleelrql ksdshgpked ggfrhseafe alqqsqgld srlqhvdegv
421 lsmqvasarq teslesllsk sqeheqrlaa lqgrleglgs seadqdglas tvrsigetql
481 vlygdveelk rsvgelpstv eslqkvqev htllsqdqaq aarlppqdf lrlssldnlk
541 asvsqveadl kmlrtavdsv vaysvkietn ennlesakgl lddlrndldr lfvkvekihe
601 kv

Karyopherin beta 1 (human) Locus and Accession No. NP_002256

(SEQ ID NO: 11)

1 melitilekt vspdrlelea aqkfleraav enlptflvel srvlanpgns qvarvaaglg
61 iknsltskdp dikaqyqqrw laidanarre vknyvlqtlg tetyrpsas qcvagiace
121 ipvnqwpeli pqlvanvtnp nstehmkest leaigycqd idpeqlqdk neiltaiiq
181 mrkeepsnkv klaatnalln sleftkanfd keserhfimq vvceatqcpd trvrvaalqn
241 lvkimslyyq ymetymgpall faitieamks didevalggi efwsnvcdee mdlaieasea
301 aegrrppeit skfyakgalq ylvpiltqt tkqdendddd dwnpckaagv clmlatocce
361 ddivphvlpf ikehiknpdw ryrdaavmaf gcilegpeps qlkplviqam ptlielmkdp
421 svvvrdaaw tvgricellp eaaindvyla pllqcliegl saepvasnv cwafsslaea

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481 ayeaadvadd qeepatycls ssfelivqkl lettdrpdgh qnnlrssaye slmeivknsa
 541 kdcypavqkt tlvimerlqq vlqmeshiqs tsdriqfndl qsilcatlqn vlrvqhqda
 601 lqisdvvas llrmfqstag sggvqedalm avstlvevlq geflkymeaf kpflgiglkn
 661 yaeyqvclaa vglvgdlcra lqsniiipfcd evmqllleni gnenvhrsvk pqilsvfgdi
 721 alaiggefkk yleवलntlq qasqaqvdkd dydmvdyne lrescleayt givqglkgdq
 781 envhpdvmlv qprvefilsf idhiagdedh tdgvvacaag ligdlctafg kdvlklvear
 841 pmihellteg rrsktnkakt latwatkelr klknqa

GTP-binding nuclear protein Ran (human)
 Locus and Accession No. P62826

(SEQ ID NO: 12)

1 maaqgeppvq fklvlgdgg tgkttfvkrh ltgefekkyv atlqvevhpl vfhtnrgpik
 61 fnvwdtagge kfgglrdggy iqaqcaimf dvtsrvtykn vpnwhrdlvr vcnipivlc
 121 qnkvdikdrk vkaksivfhr kknlggydis aksnynfep flwlarklig dpnlefvamp
 181 alappevmd palaaqyehd levaqtal dedddl

Gamma-tubulin (human) Locus and Accession No. AAF34188

(SEQ ID NO: 13)

1 mpreiitlql gqcgngiqfe fwkqlcaehg ispegiveef ategtdrkdv ffyqaddeh
 61 ipravlldle prvihsilns pyaklynpen iylsehggga gnnwasgfsq gekihedifd
 121 iidreadgsd slegfvichs iaggtgsglg syllerlndr ypkklvtys vfpqdemsd
 181 vvvqynsll tlkrltqnad cvvldntal nriatdrli qnpsfsqinq lvstimsast
 241 ttlyrpgymn ndigliasl iptprlhflm tgytplttdq svasvrkttv ldvmrllqp
 301 knvmvstgrd rqtncyiai lniigevdp tqvhkslqri rerklanfip wgpasiqval
 361 srkspylpsa hrvgslmman htsisslfes scqqfdklrk rdafleqfrk edmfkdnfde
 421 mdrsrevvqe lideyhaatq pdyiswgtqe q

[0023] The methods of the present invention are carried out *ex vivo*.

[0024] This invention will be better understood from the Experimental Details, which follow. However, one skilled in the art will readily appreciate that the specific methods and results discussed are merely illustrative of the invention as described more fully in the claims that follow thereafter.

EXPERIMENTAL DETAILS

Materials and Methods

[0025] Human Endometrial Biopsies. Endometrial biopsies were obtained by informed consent from normally cycling women at two sites, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx, NY (site 1, 50 biopsies) and University of North Carolina School of Medicine, Chapel Hill, N.C. (site 2, 45 biopsies). The respective Institutional Review Boards approved the collection protocols. The site 1 protocol was described previously (Kittur et al., 2007). Endometrial tissue was fixed with 4% paraformaldehyde in phosphate buffered saline. Routine histological methods were used for paraffin embedding and sectioning of tissue at the Histotechnology and Comparative Pathology Facility of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. 28 hematoxylin and eosin stained sections of site 1 biopsies were scored blinded for the cycle day by two independent histopathologists using classical criteria (Noyes et al., 1950). The site 2 protocol was identical, except

all samples were obtained from normal volunteers and cycle timing was based on cycle day (proliferative) and urine LH surge identification (secretory). Cycle day was confirmed by a single investigator blinded to LH data using the same criteria of Noyes et al. (1950). No biopsies were reassigned to a different cycle day based on histological review.

[0026] Immunostaining of Tissue Sections. For immunostaining, sections on slides were first deparaffinized by heating at 60° C. for 20 min, and rehydrated as follows: twice in xylene (5min each), 100% ethanol (10 min), 95% ethanol (5 min), 80% ethanol (2 min), 70% ethanol (2 min), twice in distilled water (2 min each). For subsequent antigen retrieval, slides were microwave-heated at full power (2 min) in 10 mM sodium citrate (pH 6.0) and steamed in a rice cooker (20 min). After cooling to room temperature, slides were rinsed with phosphate buffered saline and processed for routine immunostaining as described except that the sections were not further permeabilized with detergent (Isaac et al., 1998). Nuclei were counterstained with DAPI (Sigma) 1 mg/ml.

[0027] Cryosectioning was performed by the method of Tokuyasu as described previously (Kittur et al., 2007). For light microscopy, 0.5 μm thick (semi-thin) cryosections were cut from the fixed tissue, picked up using 2.3 M sucrose and placed on glass coverslips. The sucrose was dissolved by incubating the sections in nanopure water. Sections were next permeabilized by the following treatment for 30 seconds each, xylene, 100% ethanol, 95% ethanol, 80% ethanol, 70%

ethanol, and distilled water. The antigen retrieval and immunostaining was identical to that described above for the paraffin sections.

[0028] Tissue arrays used were 61 endometrial carcinomas (adenocarcinomas grade I-III) with normal controls (Cybrdi Inc., Frederick, Md.), multiple organs and normal tissue from 48 patients (Cybrdi Inc.), and 59 normal endometrial sections (Imgenex Corporation, San Diego, Calif.). Tissue cores on the array slides were formalin-fixed and processed for immunostaining as described above.

[0029] Antibodies. Mouse IgGs (Covance Research Products Inc., Princeton, N.J.) of mAb414 (Davis and Blobel, 1986) were used at 2 µg/ml for light and at 500 µg/ml for electron microscopy. The following primary antibodies were used on paraffin and cryosections at the dilutions indicated in parentheses: anti-calnexin rabbit polyclonal serum (SPA860 at 1:200; Assay Designs/StressGen, Ann Arbor, Mich.); anti-BiP mouse IgGs (10C3 anti-KDEL at 2.5 µg/ml, Assay Designs/StressGen); anti-PDI polyclonal serum (SPA860 at 1:200, Assay Designs/StressGen); anti-Sec61b rabbit serum (1:200 using RNase)(Fons et al., 2003; Snapp et al., 2004); anti-human Nopp140 rabbit polyclonal serum (RS8 1:500) (Kittur et al., 2007); anti-human NAP57 rabbit polyclonal serum (RU8 at 1:200)(Darzacq et al., 2006); anti-fibrillarin mouse monoclonal IgG (clone D77 at 1 µg/ml)(Aris and Blobel, 1988); anti-nucleolin mouse ascites fluid (clone 7G2 at 1:1000)(Pinol-Roma, 1999); anti-UBF1 rabbit polyclonal serum (1:100, from Larry Rothblum, University of Oklahoma Medical College, Oklahoma City, Okla.); anti-SC35 mouse ascites fluid (1:1000, Sigma Aldrich Corp., St. Louis, Mo.); anti-coilin mouse ascites fluid (clone 5P10 at 1:1000) (Almeida et al., 1998); anti-RNA polymerase II C-terminal domain mouse monoclonal culture supernatants (clone H14, IgM undiluted, initiating) and (clone H5, IgG undiluted, elongating)(Bregman et al., 1995); anti-Nup153 mouse monoclonal ascites fluid (clone 322 at 1:100)(Sukegawa and Blobel, 1993) and culture supernatant (clone SA1 at 1:10) (Bodoor et al., 1999); anti-Nup358 rabbit polyclonal serum (1:500)(Wu et al., 1995); anti-Tpr rabbit polyclonal serum (Tpr C at 1:300)(Frosst et al., 2002); anti-Nup62 goat polyclonal (sc-1916 at 1:20, Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Inc., Santa Cruz, Calif.); anti-Nup214 rabbit polyclonal serum (1:50, from Joseph Glavy, Stevens Institute of Technology); anti-lamin A/C rabbit polyclonal IgG (sc-20681 at 2 µg/ml, Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Inc.); anti-lamin A goat polyclonal IgG (sc-6214 at 4 µg/ml, Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Inc.); anti-lamin B1 rabbit polyclonal serum (1:1000)(Moss et al., 1999); anti-lamin B2 mouse monoclonal IgG (clone LN43 at 100 µg/ml, Chemicon International Inc., Temecula, Calif.); anti-LAP2b mouse monoclonal IgG (5 µg/ml, BD Transduction Laboratories, San Diego, Calif.); anti-emerin mouse monoclonal culture supernatant (clone 4G5 at 1:20, Novocastra Laboratories Ltd., Newcastle upon Tyne, UK); anti-CLIMP63 rabbit polyclonal serum (1:200)(Schweizer et al., 1995); anti-p115 rabbit polyclonal serum (1:500) (Mukherjee et al., 2007); anti-GM130 mouse monoclonal IgG (clone 35 at 1.25 µg/ml, BD Transduction Laboratories); anti-progesterone receptor rabbit polyclonal IgG (sc-538 at 2 µg/ml, Santa Cruz Biotechnology Inc., and ab15509 at 2 µg/ml, Abcam Inc., Cambridge, Mass.); anti-estrogen receptor a rabbit polyclonal IgG (sc-542 at 2 µg/ml, Santa Cruz Biotechnology Inc.); fluorescently-labeled wheat germ agglutinin (WGA at 0.1 mg/ml, Sigma Aldrich Corp.). Although all antibodies stained cells in their predicted pat-

tern, the lack of NCS staining in some cases could result from masking or loss of an epitope specifically in NCSs.

[0030] DNA was stained with 4',6-diaminidino-2-phenylindole dihydrochloride (DAPI at 1 µg/ml, Sigma Aldrich Corp.). Secondary antibodies for immunofluorescence against IgGs were Cy3 or Cy5 conjugated donkey anti-mouse, Cy2 conjugated donkey anti-rabbit, and Cy3 conjugated donkey anti-goat (1:200, Jackson ImmunoResearch Labs Inc., West Grove, Pa.); and AlexaFluor488 conjugated goat anti-mouse IgMs (1:200, Invitrogen Corp., Carlsbad, Calif.).

[0031] Imaging. All imaging was done at the Analytical Imaging Facility of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Epifluorescence of cryo- and paraffin sections was performed with the identical procedure and equipment as described recently (Kittur et al., 2007). Confocal laser scanning microscopy of paraffin sections was performed on a AOBS microscope (Leica, Mannheim, Germany) employing a 63×/1.4 NA planapo objective. Argon and helium-neon lasers provided lines at 488 nm and 543 nm for excitation of Cy2 and Cy3 fluorophores, respectively. Detection ranges were set to eliminate crosstalk between fluorophores. Image stacks were reconstructed in 3-dimensions, enhanced, and analyzed using ImageJ software (National Institutes of Health, Bethesda Md.).

[0032] NCS Quantification. Quantitation of NCSs using mAb414 on paraffin sections was first established on a 3-dimensional training set of 11 endometrial specimens from luteal days 4-10. For this purpose the ~7 µm-thick sections were imaged with the confocal laser scanning microscope at 0.2 µm steps. In order to account for all NCSs, maximum projections of all stacks were reconstructed using the standard deviation method in ImageJ software (e.g., FIG. 1C'), and at least 600 epithelial cell nuclei for each biopsy were visually inspected for NCSs. The numbers from this analysis were related to those observed by two-dimensional analysis of the same biopsies using epifluorescence. In this manner, biopsies could easily be classified into three categories, those without NCSs (0%), those with low amounts (<10%), and those with plenty of NCSs, most commonly around 50% (~50%). All residual biopsies were analyzed using epifluorescence and assigned to one of these three categories. All scoring was done by at least two independent observers who were blinded as to the cycle day.

Results

[0033] Light Microscopic Detection of NCSs. In electron micrographs, NCSs are often associated with the nuclear envelope. Therefore, the presence in NCSs of proteins from the nuclear boundary was tested using indirect immunofluorescence on semi-thick frozen sections of human endometrium. Indeed, the monoclonal antibody 414 (mAb414), directed against a subset of nuclear pore complex proteins (Davis and Blobel, 1986), identified rings in the nuclei of some endometrial epithelial cells (FIG. 1A). The concentration of nucleoporins in these structures proved so high that the classical punctate NPC staining of the nuclear periphery only became evident upon overexposure of the image (FIG. 1A'). Although sometimes associated with nucleoli (FIG. 1A, arrowheads), these structures were distinct entities and had a darker ring shaped appearance in phase contrast images of these 0.5 µm-thick sections (FIG. 1A''). Nevertheless, like nucleoli, these rings did not stain for DNA (FIG. 1A'''). To determine their identity on an ultrastructural

level, cryosections of human endometrium were stained with mAb414 followed by gold-labeled secondary antibodies. In addition to a NPC in an adjacent cell nucleus, mAb414 specifically and to a high density labeled NCSs but not adjacent nucleoli or other cellular compartments (FIG. 1B). Therefore, the rings identified at the light microscopic level were NCSs rendering mAb414 a specific marker for this nuclear organelle. The additional labeling of NPCs serves as a control for positive antibody staining and demarcation of cell nuclei.

[0034] To test the robustness of the mAb414 staining method and its applicability to more commonly available paraffin embedded tissue, paraffin sections of human endometrium were labeled. As in cryosections, mAb414 specifically stained NCSs and NPCs of epithelial cell nuclei whether visualized by epi-(FIG. 3B) or confocal fluorescence microscopy (FIG. 1C).

[0035] NCSs are Abundant Organelles Specific to Endometrial Epithelial Cells. In single 0.5 μm -thick cryosections or 0.2 μm -thick optical confocal planes of paraffin sections, NCSs are observed in only about 10% of epithelial cell nuclei (FIG. 1C), although clusters of NCS-positive nuclei can be observed (FIG. 1A). To assess the number of NCSs in entire nuclei, 7 μm -thick paraffin sections were stained with mAb414 and imaged across their entire thickness in 0.2 μm steps using confocal laser scanning microscopy. Whereas a NCS is visible in only one nucleus of a single optical plane (FIG. 1C), NCSs are detected in most nuclei of a maximum projection of all planes (FIG. 1C'). Analysis in this manner of 237 to 1034 epithelial cell nuclei per endometrial biopsy from 11 women (obtained between day 18 and 24 of an idealized 28 day cycle) revealed the following facts about NCSs. In total, 6701 nuclei contained 3065 NCSs corresponding to 46% of epithelial cell nuclei. In individual women, the number of NCSs varied between 27% and 58% with an average of 44% (+/-9). Most nuclei only contained a single NCS, although two and, in rare cases, up to five were also observed. All NCSs were apposed to the nuclear envelope and full-grown NCSs were uniform in size with a diameter of 1 μm . This overall abundance, and limitation in number per nucleus and size suggests a physiological role and a tight regulation of NCSs in the postovulatory endometrium.

[0036] NCSs were most abundant in epithelial glands but also present in luminal epithelium facing the uterine cavity. However, on no occasion were NCSs observed in nuclei of stromal cells. Moreover, analysis of tissue arrays containing six paraffin sections each of human esophagus, stomach, liver, colon, rectum, lung, kidney, and breast tissue, failed to reveal any NCSs when stained with mAb414. This is most remarkable for breast tissue, which, like endometrium, is under control of ovarian hormones. When endometrial tissue arrays from healthy and carcinoma patients were stained, 17% (n=59) of control specimens contained NCSs (which is in the expected range if biopsies were taken randomly throughout the cycle), whereas none of the carcinoma sections showed any. Therefore, NCSs are restricted to the nuclei of healthy endometrial epithelial cells.

[0037] Reportedly, NCSs are absent from animal endometria, even those of baboons (Clyman, 1963; MacLennan et al., 1971). To reevaluate these reports with the present robust NCS detection method, endometrial paraffin sections collected from 19 baboons during the height of receptivity were analyzed. Although the NPCs were readily detected by mAb414, no NCSs were identified. Hence, the NCS is a human-specific organelle.

[0038] The NCS is an Organelle of Unique Composition. In a candidate approach, colocalization with mAb414 was used for an initial compositional analysis of NCSs. First it was investigated if all nucleoporins recognized by mAb414 were present because no intact NPCs can be distinguished on an ultrastructural level. Indeed, when using nucleoporin-specific antibodies, only Nup153 and Nup62, but not Nup358 nor Nup214 were in NCSs (FIGS. 2A-D). Whereas the latter mark the cytosolic face of NPCs, the former constitute part of the central and nucleoplasmic face of NPCs (Tran and Wenthe, 2006). Therefore, the presence of Tpr was tested. Tpr is a nucleoporin interacting with Nup153 and forming the nuclear baskets of NPCs (Hase and Cordes, 2003; Krull et al., 2004). Interestingly, Tpr was enriched in some, mostly full-sized, NCSs but absent from others (FIG. 2F, compare arrows and arrowheads). This indicates the existence of two classes of NCSs that differ in composition and/or developmental stages, i.e., an early stage without and a mature one with Tpr, possibly mirroring the late NPC recruitment of Tpr in telophase (Hase and Cordes, 2003). Many nucleoporins, including Nup153 and Nup62, are post-translationally modified by single O-linked N-acetylglucosamine moieties, which bind the lectin wheat germ agglutinin (Davis and Blobel, 1986; Davis and Blobel, 1987). This lectin indeed recognized NCSs, presumably binding the sugar moieties of Nup153 and Nup62, which consequently must have been modified like their counterparts in NPCs (FIG. 2E). NPCs are anchored in the intermediate filament meshwork of the nuclear lamina that spans the inner nuclear envelope. Although lamins A/C were highly enriched in NCSs (FIGS. 2I and J'), lamin B1 was barely detectable (H), whereas B2 was present (H'). Of two integral membrane proteins specific to the inner nuclear membrane, emerin was most highly enriched in NCSs (FIG. 2G), whereas LAP2b was barely, if at all, detectable (J). This was surprising because both proteins belong to the lamin-interacting LEM-domain proteins (Lin et al., 2000; Wagner and Krohne, 2007). Unprecedented therefore, NCSs are composed of a specific subset of nuclear envelope proteins, part NPC, part lamina, and part inner membrane.

[0039] Apparently, the membrane tubules of the NCS are derived from the inner nuclear membrane, which is contiguous with that of the endoplasmic reticulum via the pore and the outer nuclear membrane. Therefore, the presence of endoplasmic reticulum proteins was tested for in NCSs. Both luminal, e.g., BiP and PDI, and integral membrane proteins, e.g., calnexin, could be detected in NCSs (FIG. 2K, L, and N'). Surprisingly, even the cytoskeleton linking integral membrane protein CLIMP63, which is concentrated in the endoplasmic reticulum but absent from the nuclear envelope (Klopfenstein et al., 2001), was prominent in NCSs (FIG. 2M). However, the rough endoplasmic reticulum marker protein Sec61, which is part of the protein-conducting channel, was not detected (Table 1). Similarly, antigens further along the secretory pathway, e.g., from the Golgi apparatus were absent from NCSs, specifically, GM130 and p115 (FIG. 2M and Table 1). Therefore, the NCS membrane system appears to derive from the nuclear envelope and the smooth endoplasmic reticulum.

[0040] As reflected in their name, NCSs are often surrounded by nucleoli in electron micrographs. A thorough analysis using three-dimensional confocal colocalization of mAb414 with the nucleolar marker Nopp140, which is not enriched in NCSs (Kittur et al., 2007), revealed 44% of NCSs (n=295) associated with nucleoli. Although only analyzed in

0.5 μm -thick frozen sections, there appeared to be an inverse relationship between the presence of Tpr in NCSs and their nucleolar association. To test if a common composition, as in the case of other nuclear membrane structures (Isaac et al., 2001; Kittur et al., 2007), was responsible for this association, additional nucleolar proteins were investigated for their presence in NCSs. Surprisingly, nucleolar proteins never concentrated in NCSs but often were apposed to them in nucleoli (FIG. 2N and Table 1). Therefore, the molecular basis of the NCS-nucleolus relationship remains to be elucidated. Finally, none of the markers for other nucleoplasmic domains or functions accumulated in NCSs, specifically, the Cajal body marker coilin, the nuclear speckle-specific splicing factor SC35, initiating or elongating RNA polymerase II, and the progesterone and estrogen receptor transcription factors (Table 1). Consequently, the NCS represents a nuclear organelle of distinct composition.

[0041] The NCS Marks the Implantation Window. Although previous electron microscopic studies agree that the NCS marks the postovulatory endometrium, the exact window of NCS appearance varies. Therefore, the present robust NCS detection method was tested on 95 endometrial biopsies from fertile women, 31 from the follicular and 64 from the luteal phase. NCSs were restricted to luteal days LH+4 to LH+13 and none were detected in any of the follicular phase biopsies (FIG. 3A and B). Whereas no NCSs were observed before day LH+4, after day LH+9, they appeared to gradually decline as the number with few and no NCSs increased. Although, across all days, one site had a slightly lower proportion of samples without NCSs, biopsies collected at two separate sites defined the same NCS window (FIG. 3A, black and white bars). Several biopsies were considered out-of-phase due to a more than two-day difference between dating methods, LH surge, histological dating, and chronological dating, or patients had irregular and/or long cycles (FIG. 3A, lettered biopsies). If all those biopsies were disregarded, NCSs were only observed on days LH+4 to LH+10, but none in the three days prior or four days after. In fact, even when considering all biopsies, over 70% of biopsies/day in that window contained NCSs, whereas thereafter their number dropped to 50% and below (FIG. 3C). In summary, the NCS appearance peaks on cycle days LH+5 to LH+9 (+/-1 day), i.e., days 19-23 (+/-1) of an idealized 28-day cycle define the NCS window.

TABLE 1

List of antigens tested for presence in NCSs.		
Compartment	Antigen	NCS
NPC	Nup153	+++
	Nup62	+
	Nup358	-
	Nup214	-
	Tpr	+/-
	WGA	+
Nuclear Envelope	Lamin A/C	+++
	Lamin A	+
	Lamin B1	(+)
	Lamin B2	+
	Emerin	+++
Endoplasmic Reticulum	LAP2 β	(+)
	Calnexin	+
	BiP	+
	PDI	+
	CLIMP63	+
	Sec61	-

TABLE 1-continued

List of antigens tested for presence in NCSs.		
Compartment	Antigen	NCS
Nucleolus	Nopp140	-
	NAP57	-
	Fibrillarin	-
	Nucleolin	-
	UBF1	-
Nucleoplasm	Coilin	-
	Pol II CTD S2-P ^a	-
	Pol II CTD S5-P ^b	-
	SC35	-
	Progesterone receptor	-
	Estrogen receptor	-
Golgi	p115	-
	GM130	-

+++; highly enriched; +, present; -, absent; +/-, only in some; (+), barely detectable.

^aAntibodies specific for the phosphorylated serine 2 of the carboxyl terminal domain of RNA polymerase II, which is characteristic for the initiating enzyme.

^bAntibodies specific for the phosphorylated serine 5 of the carboxyl terminal domain of RNA polymerase II, which is characteristic for the elongating enzyme.

Discussion

[0042] The major impact of the present results is two-fold, the NCS detection assay provides a simple method for endometrial dating and the unique molecular composition of the NCS provides a basis for understanding complex interactions governing nuclear architecture.

[0043] Nuclear Organelles of Novel Composition. What is the NCS? The monoclonal antibody 414 is an excellent marker for NCSs. However, only a subset of the nucleoporins recognized by this antibody resides in NCSs, Nup153 and Nup62. Similarly, only some inner nuclear membrane (emerin) and lamina proteins (lamin A/C) are enriched in NCSs, whereas all tested proteins of the smooth endoplasmic reticulum are present. This selective composition of the NCS, together with its membrane tubules in the normally membrane-free nucleus, renders the NCS unique among nuclear organelles. Despite the analysis of only a sampling of envelope proteins, it is clear that NCSs are not a mere extension but a specialization of the nuclear envelope.

[0044] Although membranous structures have been previously observed in nuclei, they were all artificially induced and differ in composition from the physiological NCSs as detailed below. R-rings, which are induced by exogenous expression of the nucleolar protein Nopp140, are virtually indistinguishable from NCSs on an ultrastructural level hinting at a common derivation from the inner nuclear membrane (Isaac et al., 2001; Kittur et al., 2007). However, R-rings differ from NCSs in their composition, e.g., in their accumulation of nucleolar proteins that are absent from NCSs (Isaac et al., 2001; Kittur et al., 2007). Interestingly, overexpression of mammalian Nup153 and B-type lamins, which are both present in NCSs, and of the yeast Nup53p leads to intranuclear membrane formation (Bastos et al., 1996; Marelli et al., 2001; Prufert et al., 2004; Ralle et al., 2004). However, none of these proteins is overexpressed in NCS-positive cells because, unlike during their exogenous expression, nuclear envelope staining of these proteins is not increased compared to that of neighboring, NCS-free cells. Additionally, where available, these

membranes differ in composition, as the Nup153 induced structures lack Nup62 and lamins (data not shown), and Nup53p structures stain negative for mAb414 (Marelli et al., 2001). Moreover, membrane proliferation-appeared to be dependent on the permanent farnesylation of B-type lamins (Prufert et al., 2004; Ralle et al., 2004), but this modification is removed from the more highly NCS enriched A-type lamins. Finally, the presence of lamins and only some nucleoporins sets NCSs apart from annulate lamellae, intact NPCs embedded in register in lamin-free stacks of smooth endoplasmic reticulum (Chen and Merisko, 1988). Consequently, NCSs are distinct from all these nuclear structures.

[0045] What causes the formation of NCSs? Apparently, NCSs are induced by the action of progesterone, but steroid receptors are not enriched in NCSs (Table 1) (Kohorn et al., 1970; Kohorn et al., 1972; Pryse-Davies et al., 1979; Roberts et al., 1975). NCSs are only one of several precisely timed ultrastructural changes occurring in postovulation endometrial epithelial cells (Spornitz, 1992). The uniform size of NCSs of 1 μ m and limited number of one per nucleus indicate that their growth is controlled and not a random proliferation. Unlike in artificial cases mentioned herein, NCSs are not induced by simple overexpression of one of its components. This is supported by gene expression profiling studies of human endometrium reporting no upregulation of any of the NCS components identified here or of nuclear structures altogether (Borthwick et al., 2003; Carson et al., 2002; Horcujadas et al., 2004; Kao et al., 2002; Mirkin et al., 2005; Riesewijk et al., 2003; Talbi et al., 2006). This is surprising considering that, based on extrapolations of fluorescence intensity measurements to the surfaces of entire NCSs and nuclear envelopes, the amount in the NCS of its most prominent constituents (Nup153, emerin, and lamin A/C) equals that of the entire nuclear envelope. Therefore, even the levels of those proteins need only increase two-fold to account for their bright fluorescence in NCSs. In a tissue-wide analysis this factor would be reduced by at least half due to the presence of NCS-free epithelial cells alone. Consequently, these proteins would escape the sensitivity of a gene profiling approach arguing for more sensitive, single cell based assays as reported here.

[0046] Markers for Uterine Receptivity. The identification of the first molecular markers for NCSs allowed development of a light microscopic assay for their detection. Application of this assay reveals a peak presence of NCSs in over 50% of endometrial epithelial cells or a ten-fold higher prevalence than was appreciated based on previous electron microscopic studies (Novotny et al., 1999; Ryder et al., 1995). Therefore, the present results establish the NCS as a major physiological hallmark of the postovulatory endometrium. Based on the analysis of 95 endometrial biopsies, NCSs define a six-day window, days 19-24 (+/-1) of an idealized 28 day cycle, that precedes and overlaps with the implantation window. This NCS window can now easily be determined in fresh and archival endometrial biopsies using our robust immunodetection assay.

[0047] Definition of the receptive period, the implantation window, of human endometrium has been and is a major challenge. This becomes particularly evident in artificial reproductive technologies that depend on accurate timing to increase the low average implantation rate of ~25% (de los Santos et al., 2003). Long-standing histological markers of uterine receptivity are slowly giving way to molecular markers, although no single one has up to now been able to with-

stand the test of time (Aghajanova et al., 2007). Pinopodes, which are apical membrane protrusions thought to be critical for and present at the site of blastocyst attachment, persist through early menses and pregnancy (Acosta et al., 2000; Bentin-Ley et al., 1999; Nikas et al., 1995; Usadi et al., 2003). Additionally, the value of pinopodes as implantation markers has recently been questioned (Petersen et al., 2005; Quinn et al., 2007). With the development of the present assay, the NCS now combines a histological marker with molecular detection. The present application indicates that NCSs can be used as a hallmark of receptive endometrium as they define a luteal window that closely mirrors serum progesterone levels.

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 35 40 45

Asn Ile Val Pro Gly Trp Leu Gln Arg Tyr Phe Asn Lys Asn Glu Asp
 50 55 60

Val Cys Ser Cys Ser Thr Asp Thr Ser Glu Val Pro Arg Trp Pro Glu
 65 70 75 80

Asn Lys Glu Asp His Leu Val Tyr Ala Asp Glu Glu Ser Ser Asn Ile
 85 90 95

Thr Asp Gly Arg Ile Thr Pro Glu Pro Ala Val Ser Asn Thr Glu Glu
 100 105 110

Pro Ser Thr Thr Ser Thr Ala Ser Asn Tyr Pro Asp Val Leu Thr Arg
 115 120 125

Pro Ser Leu His Arg Ser His Leu Asn Phe Ser Met Leu Glu Ser Pro
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Ala Leu His Cys Gln Pro Ser Thr Ser Ser Ala Phe Pro Ile Gly Ser
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Ser Gly Phe Ser Leu Val Lys Glu Ile Lys Asp Ser Thr Ser Gln His
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Asp Asp Asp Asn Ile Ser Thr Thr Ser Gly Phe Ser Ser Arg Ala Ser
 180 185 190

Asp Lys Asp Ile Thr Val Ser Lys Asn Thr Ser Leu Pro Pro Leu Trp
 195 200 205

Ser Pro Glu Ala Glu Arg Ser His Ser Leu Ser Gln His Thr Ala Thr
 210 215 220

Ser Ser Lys Lys Pro Ala Phe Asn Leu Ser Ala Phe Gly Thr Leu Ser
 225 230 235 240

Pro Ser Leu Gly Asn Ser Ser Ile Leu Lys Thr Ser Gln Leu Gly Asp
 245 250 255

Ser Pro Phe Tyr Pro Gly Lys Thr Thr Tyr Gly Gly Ala Ala Ala Ala
 260 265 270

Val Arg Gln Ser Lys Leu Arg Asn Thr Pro Tyr Gln Ala Pro Val Arg
 275 280 285

Arg Gln Met Lys Ala Lys Gln Leu Ser Ala Gln Ser Tyr Gly Val Thr
 290 295 300

Ser Ser Thr Ala Arg Arg Ile Leu Gln Ser Leu Glu Lys Met Ser Ser
 305 310 315 320

Pro Leu Ala Asp Ala Lys Arg Ile Pro Ser Ile Val Ser Ser Pro Leu
 325 330 335

Asn Ser Pro Leu Asp Arg Ser Gly Ile Asp Ile Thr Asp Phe Gln Ala

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340					345					350					
Lys	Arg	Glu	Lys	Val	Asp	Ser	Gln	Tyr	Pro	Pro	Val	Gln	Arg	Leu	Met
	355						360					365			
Thr	Pro	Lys	Pro	Val	Ser	Ile	Ala	Thr	Asn	Arg	Ser	Val	Tyr	Phe	Lys
	370					375					380				
Pro	Ser	Leu	Thr	Pro	Ser	Gly	Glu	Phe	Arg	Lys	Thr	Asn	Gln	Arg	Ile
	385					390					395				400
Asp	Asn	Lys	Cys	Ser	Thr	Gly	Tyr	Glu	Lys	Asn	Met	Thr	Pro	Gly	Gln
				405					410					415	
Asn	Arg	Glu	Gln	Arg	Glu	Ser	Gly	Phe	Ser	Tyr	Pro	Asn	Phe	Ser	Leu
			420					425					430		
Pro	Ala	Ala	Asn	Gly	Leu	Ser	Ser	Gly	Val	Gly	Gly	Gly	Gly	Gly	Lys
			435				440					445			
Met	Arg	Arg	Glu	Arg	His	Ala	Phe	Val	Ala	Ser	Lys	Pro	Leu	Glu	Glu
	450					455					460				
Glu	Glu	Met	Glu	Val	Pro	Val	Leu	Pro	Lys	Ile	Ser	Leu	Pro	Ile	Thr
	465					470					475				480
Ser	Ser	Ser	Leu	Pro	Thr	Phe	Asn	Phe	Ser	Ser	Pro	Glu	Ile	Thr	Thr
				485					490					495	
Ser	Ser	Pro	Ser	Pro	Ile	Asn	Ser	Ser	Gln	Ala	Leu	Thr	Asn	Lys	Val
				500					505				510		
Gln	Met	Thr	Ser	Pro	Ser	Ser	Thr	Gly	Ser	Pro	Met	Phe	Lys	Phe	Ser
		515					520					525			
Ser	Pro	Ile	Val	Lys	Ser	Thr	Glu	Ala	Asn	Val	Leu	Pro	Pro	Ser	Ser
	530					535					540				
Ile	Gly	Phe	Thr	Phe	Ser	Val	Pro	Val	Ala	Lys	Thr	Ala	Glu	Leu	Ser
	545					550					555				560
Gly	Ser	Ser	Ser	Thr	Leu	Glu	Pro	Ile	Ile	Ser	Ser	Ser	Ala	His	His
				565					570					575	
Val	Thr	Thr	Val	Asn	Ser	Thr	Asn	Cys	Lys	Lys	Thr	Pro	Pro	Glu	Asp
			580					585						590	
Cys	Glu	Gly	Pro	Phe	Arg	Pro	Ala	Glu	Ile	Leu	Lys	Glu	Gly	Ser	Val
		595					600					605			
Leu	Asp	Ile	Leu	Lys	Ser	Pro	Gly	Phe	Ala	Ser	Pro	Lys	Ile	Asp	Ser
	610					615					620				
Val	Ala	Ala	Gln	Pro	Thr	Ala	Thr	Ser	Pro	Val	Val	Tyr	Thr	Arg	Pro
	625					630					635				640
Ala	Ile	Ser	Ser	Phe	Ser	Ser	Ser	Gly	Ile	Gly	Phe	Gly	Glu	Ser	Leu
				645					650					655	
Lys	Ala	Gly	Ser	Ser	Trp	Gln	Cys	Asp	Thr	Cys	Leu	Leu	Gln	Asn	Lys
			660					665					670		
Val	Thr	Asp	Asn	Lys	Cys	Ile	Ala	Cys	Gln	Ala	Ala	Lys	Leu	Ser	Pro
		675					680					685			
Arg	Asp	Thr	Ala	Lys	Gln	Thr	Gly	Ile	Glu	Thr	Pro	Asn	Lys	Ser	Gly
	690					695					700				
Lys	Thr	Thr	Leu	Ser	Ala	Ser	Gly	Thr	Gly	Phe	Gly	Asp	Lys	Phe	Lys
	705					710					715				720
Pro	Val	Ile	Gly	Thr	Trp	Asp	Cys	Asp	Thr	Cys	Leu	Val	Gln	Asn	Lys
			725					730						735	
Pro	Glu	Ala	Ile	Lys	Cys	Val	Ala	Cys	Glu	Thr	Pro	Lys	Pro	Gly	Thr
			740					745						750	

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Cys Val Lys Arg Ala Leu Thr Leu Thr Val Val Ser Glu Ser Ala Glu
 755 760 765
 Thr Met Thr Ala Ser Ser Ser Ser Cys Thr Val Thr Thr Gly Thr Leu
 770 775 780
 Gly Phe Gly Asp Lys Phe Lys Arg Pro Ile Gly Ser Trp Glu Cys Ser
 785 790 795 800
 Val Cys Cys Val Ser Asn Asn Ala Glu Asp Asn Lys Cys Val Ser Cys
 805 810 815
 Met Ser Glu Lys Pro Gly Ser Ser Val Pro Ala Ser Ser Ser Ser Thr
 820 825 830
 Val Pro Val Ser Leu Pro Ser Gly Gly Ser Leu Gly Leu Glu Lys Phe
 835 840 845
 Lys Lys Pro Glu Gly Ser Trp Asp Cys Glu Leu Cys Leu Val Gln Asn
 850 855 860
 Lys Ala Asp Ser Thr Lys Cys Leu Ala Cys Glu Ser Ala Lys Pro Gly
 865 870 875 880
 Thr Lys Ser Gly Phe Lys Gly Phe Asp Thr Ser Ser Ser Ser Ser Asn
 885 890 895
 Ser Ala Ala Ser Ser Ser Phe Lys Phe Gly Val Ser Ser Ser Ser Ser
 900 905 910
 Gly Pro Ser Gln Thr Leu Thr Ser Thr Gly Asn Phe Lys Phe Gly Asp
 915 920 925
 Gln Gly Gly Phe Lys Ile Gly Val Ser Ser Asp Ser Gly Ser Ile Asn
 930 935 940
 Pro Met Ser Glu Gly Phe Lys Phe Ser Lys Pro Ile Gly Asp Phe Lys
 945 950 955 960
 Phe Gly Val Ser Ser Glu Ser Lys Pro Glu Glu Val Lys Lys Asp Ser
 965 970 975
 Lys Asn Asp Asn Phe Lys Phe Gly Leu Ser Ser Gly Leu Ser Asn Pro
 980 985 990
 Val Ser Leu Thr Pro Phe Gln Phe Gly Val Ser Asn Leu Gly Gln Glu
 995 1000 1005
 Glu Lys Lys Glu Glu Leu Pro Lys Ser Ser Ser Ala Gly Phe Ser
 1010 1015 1020
 Phe Gly Thr Gly Val Ile Asn Ser Thr Pro Ala Pro Ala Asn Thr
 1025 1030 1035
 Ile Val Thr Ser Glu Asn Lys Ser Ser Phe Asn Leu Gly Thr Ile
 1040 1045 1050
 Glu Thr Lys Ser Ala Ser Val Ala Pro Phe Thr Cys Lys Thr Ser
 1055 1060 1065
 Glu Ala Lys Lys Glu Glu Met Pro Ala Thr Lys Gly Gly Phe Ser
 1070 1075 1080
 Phe Gly Asn Val Glu Pro Ala Ser Leu Pro Ser Ala Ser Val Phe
 1085 1090 1095
 Val Leu Gly Arg Thr Glu Glu Lys Gln Gln Glu Pro Val Thr Ser
 1100 1105 1110
 Thr Ser Leu Val Phe Gly Lys Lys Ala Asp Asn Glu Glu Pro Lys
 1115 1120 1125
 Cys Gln Pro Val Phe Ser Phe Gly Asn Ser Glu Gln Thr Lys Asp
 1130 1135 1140

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Glu	Asn	Ser	Ser	Lys	Ser	Thr	Phe	Ser	Phe	Ser	Met	Thr	Lys	Pro
1145						1150					1155			
Ser	Glu	Lys	Glu	Ser	Glu	Gln	Pro	Ala	Lys	Ala	Thr	Phe	Ala	Phe
1160						1165					1170			
Gly	Ala	Gln	Thr	Ser	Thr	Thr	Ala	Asp	Gln	Gly	Ala	Ala	Lys	Pro
1175						1180					1185			
Val	Phe	Ser	Phe	Leu	Asn	Asn	Ser	Ser	Ser	Ser	Ser	Ser	Thr	Pro
1190						1195							1200	
Ala	Thr	Ser	Ala	Gly	Gly	Gly	Ile	Phe	Gly	Ser	Ser	Thr	Ser	Ser
1205						1210						1215		
Ser	Asn	Pro	Pro	Val	Ala	Thr	Phe	Val	Phe	Gly	Gln	Ser	Ser	Asn
1220						1225						1230		
Pro	Val	Ser	Ser	Ser	Ala	Phe	Gly	Asn	Thr	Ala	Glu	Ser	Ser	Thr
1235						1240						1245		
Ser	Gln	Ser	Leu	Leu	Phe	Ser	Gln	Asp	Ser	Lys	Leu	Ala	Thr	Thr
1250						1255						1260		
Ser	Ser	Thr	Gly	Thr	Ala	Val	Thr	Pro	Phe	Val	Phe	Gly	Pro	Gly
1265						1270						1275		
Ala	Ser	Ser	Asn	Asn	Thr	Thr	Thr	Ser	Gly	Phe	Gly	Phe	Gly	Ala
1280						1285						1290		
Thr	Thr	Thr	Ser	Ser	Ser	Ala	Gly	Ser	Ser	Phe	Val	Phe	Gly	Thr
1295						1300						1305		
Gly	Pro	Ser	Ala	Pro	Ser	Ala	Ser	Pro	Ala	Phe	Gly	Ala	Asn	Gln
1310						1315						1320		
Thr	Pro	Thr	Phe	Gly	Gln	Ser	Gln	Gly	Ala	Ser	Gln	Pro	Asn	Pro
1325						1330						1335		
Pro	Gly	Phe	Gly	Ser	Ile	Ser	Ser	Ser	Thr	Ala	Leu	Phe	Pro	Thr
1340						1345						1350		
Gly	Ser	Gln	Pro	Ala	Pro	Pro	Thr	Phe	Gly	Thr	Val	Ser	Ser	Ser
1355						1360						1365		
Ser	Gln	Pro	Pro	Val	Phe	Gly	Gln	Gln	Pro	Ser	Gln	Ser	Ala	Phe
1370						1375						1380		
Gly	Ser	Gly	Thr	Thr	Pro	Asn	Ser	Ser	Ser	Ala	Phe	Gln	Phe	Gly
1385						1390						1395		
Ser	Ser	Thr	Thr	Asn	Phe	Asn	Phe	Thr	Asn	Asn	Ser	Pro	Ser	Gly
1400						1405						1410		
Val	Phe	Thr	Phe	Gly	Ala	Asn	Ser	Ser	Thr	Pro	Ala	Ala	Ser	Ala
1415						1420						1425		
Gln	Pro	Ser	Gly	Ser	Gly	Gly	Phe	Pro	Phe	Asn	Gln	Ser	Pro	Ala
1430						1435						1440		
Ala	Phe	Thr	Val	Gly	Ser	Asn	Gly	Lys	Asn	Val	Phe	Ser	Ser	Ser
1445						1450						1455		
Gly	Thr	Ser	Phe	Ser	Gly	Arg	Lys	Ile	Lys	Thr	Ala	Val	Arg	Arg
1460						1465						1470		
Arg	Lys													
1475														

<210> SEQ ID NO 2

<211> LENGTH: 522

<212> TYPE: PRT

<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 2

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Met Ser Gly Phe Asn Phe Gly Gly Thr Gly Ala Pro Thr Gly Gly Phe
1 5 10 15
Thr Phe Gly Thr Ala Lys Thr Ala Thr Thr Thr Pro Ala Thr Gly Phe
20 25 30
Ser Phe Ser Thr Ser Gly Thr Gly Gly Phe Asn Phe Gly Ala Pro Phe
35 40 45
Gln Pro Ala Thr Ser Thr Pro Ser Thr Gly Leu Phe Ser Leu Ala Thr
50 55 60
Gln Thr Pro Ala Thr Gln Thr Thr Gly Phe Thr Phe Gly Thr Ala Thr
65 70 75 80
Leu Ala Ser Gly Gly Thr Gly Phe Ser Leu Gly Ile Gly Ala Ser Lys
85 90 95
Leu Asn Leu Ser Asn Thr Ala Ala Thr Pro Ala Met Ala Asn Pro Ser
100 105 110
Gly Phe Gly Leu Gly Ser Ser Asn Leu Thr Asn Ala Ile Ser Ser Thr
115 120 125
Val Thr Ser Ser Gln Gly Thr Ala Pro Thr Gly Phe Val Phe Gly Pro
130 135 140
Ser Thr Thr Ser Val Ala Pro Ala Thr Thr Ser Gly Gly Phe Ser Phe
145 150 155 160
Thr Gly Gly Ser Thr Ala Gln Pro Ser Gly Phe Asn Ile Gly Ser Ala
165 170 175
Gly Asn Ser Ala Gln Pro Thr Ala Pro Ala Thr Leu Pro Phe Thr Pro
180 185 190
Ala Thr Pro Ala Ala Thr Thr Ala Gly Ala Thr Gln Pro Ala Ala Pro
195 200 205
Thr Pro Thr Ala Thr Ile Thr Ser Thr Gly Pro Ser Leu Phe Ala Ser
210 215 220
Ile Ala Thr Ala Pro Thr Ser Ser Ala Thr Thr Gly Leu Ser Leu Cys
225 230 235 240
Thr Pro Val Thr Thr Ala Gly Ala Pro Thr Ala Gly Thr Gln Gly Phe
245 250 255
Ser Leu Lys Ala Pro Gly Ala Ala Ser Gly Thr Ser Thr Thr Thr Ser
260 265 270
Thr Ala Ala Thr Ala Thr Ala Thr Thr Thr Ser Ser Ser Ser Thr Thr
275 280 285
Gly Phe Ala Leu Asn Leu Lys Pro Leu Ala Pro Ala Gly Ile Pro Ser
290 295 300
Asn Thr Ala Ala Ala Val Thr Ala Pro Pro Gly Pro Gly Ala Ala Ala
305 310 315 320
Gly Ala Ala Ala Ser Ser Ala Met Thr Tyr Ala Gln Leu Glu Ser Leu
325 330 335
Ile Asn Lys Trp Ser Leu Glu Leu Glu Asp Gln Glu Arg His Phe Leu
340 345 350
Gln Gln Ala Thr Gln Val Asn Ala Trp Asp Arg Thr Leu Ile Glu Asn
355 360 365
Gly Glu Lys Ile Thr Ser Leu His Arg Glu Val Glu Lys Val Lys Leu
370 375 380
Asp Gln Lys Arg Leu Asp Gln Glu Leu Asp Phe Ile Leu Ser Gln Gln
385 390 395 400

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Lys Glu Leu Glu Asp Leu Leu Ser Pro Leu Glu Glu Leu Val Lys Glu
 405 410 415
 Gln Ser Gly Thr Ile Tyr Leu Gln His Ala Asp Glu Glu Arg Glu Lys
 420 425 430
 Thr Tyr Lys Leu Ala Glu Asn Ile Asp Ala Gln Leu Lys Arg Met Ala
 435 440 445
 Gln Asp Leu Lys Asp Ile Ile Glu His Leu Asn Thr Ser Gly Ala Pro
 450 455 460
 Ala Asp Thr Ser Asp Pro Leu Gln Gln Ile Cys Lys Ile Leu Asn Ala
 465 470 475 480
 His Met Asp Ser Leu Gln Trp Ile Asp Gln Asn Ser Ala Leu Leu Gln
 485 490 495
 Arg Lys Val Glu Glu Val Thr Lys Val Cys Glu Gly Arg Arg Lys Glu
 500 505 510
 Gln Glu Arg Ser Phe Arg Ile Thr Phe Asp
 515 520

<210> SEQ ID NO 3
 <211> LENGTH: 2349
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 3

Met Ala Ala Val Leu Gln Gln Val Leu Glu Arg Thr Glu Leu Asn Lys
 1 5 10 15
 Leu Pro Lys Ser Val Gln Asn Lys Leu Glu Lys Phe Leu Ala Asp Gln
 20 25 30
 Gln Ser Glu Ile Asp Gly Leu Lys Gly Arg His Glu Lys Phe Lys Val
 35 40 45
 Glu Ser Glu Gln Gln Tyr Phe Glu Ile Glu Lys Arg Leu Ser His Ser
 50 55 60
 Gln Glu Arg Leu Val Asn Glu Thr Arg Glu Cys Gln Ser Leu Arg Leu
 65 70 75 80
 Glu Leu Glu Lys Leu Asn Asn Gln Leu Lys Ala Leu Thr Glu Lys Asn
 85 90 95
 Lys Glu Leu Glu Ile Ala Gln Asp Arg Asn Ile Ala Ile Gln Ser Gln
 100 105 110
 Phe Thr Arg Thr Lys Glu Glu Leu Glu Ala Glu Lys Arg Asp Leu Ile
 115 120 125
 Arg Thr Asn Glu Arg Leu Ser Gln Glu Leu Glu Tyr Leu Thr Glu Asp
 130 135 140
 Val Lys Arg Leu Asn Glu Lys Leu Lys Glu Ser Asn Thr Thr Lys Gly
 145 150 155 160
 Glu Leu Gln Leu Lys Leu Asp Glu Leu Gln Ala Ser Asp Val Ser Val
 165 170 175
 Lys Tyr Arg Glu Lys Arg Leu Glu Gln Glu Lys Glu Leu Leu His Ser
 180 185 190
 Gln Asn Thr Trp Leu Asn Thr Glu Leu Lys Thr Lys Thr Asp Glu Leu
 195 200 205
 Leu Ala Leu Gly Arg Glu Lys Gly Asn Glu Ile Leu Glu Leu Lys Cys
 210 215 220
 Asn Leu Glu Asn Lys Lys Glu Glu Val Ser Arg Leu Glu Glu Gln Met
 225 230 235 240

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Asn Gly Leu Lys Thr Ser Asn Glu His Leu Gln Lys His Val Glu Asp
 245 250 255
 Leu Leu Thr Lys Leu Lys Glu Ala Lys Glu Gln Gln Ala Ser Met Glu
 260 265 270
 Glu Lys Phe His Asn Glu Leu Asn Ala His Ile Lys Leu Ser Asn Leu
 275 280 285
 Tyr Lys Ser Ala Ala Asp Asp Ser Glu Ala Lys Ser Asn Glu Leu Thr
 290 295 300
 Arg Ala Val Glu Glu Leu His Lys Leu Leu Lys Glu Ala Gly Glu Ala
 305 310 315 320
 Asn Lys Ala Ile Gln Asp His Leu Leu Glu Val Glu Gln Ser Lys Asp
 325 330 335
 Gln Met Glu Lys Glu Met Leu Glu Lys Ile Gly Arg Leu Glu Lys Glu
 340 345 350
 Leu Glu Asn Ala Asn Asp Leu Leu Ser Ala Thr Lys Arg Lys Gly Ala
 355 360 365
 Ile Leu Ser Glu Glu Glu Leu Ala Ala Met Ser Pro Thr Ala Ala Ala
 370 375 380
 Val Ala Lys Ile Val Lys Pro Gly Met Lys Leu Thr Glu Leu Tyr Asn
 385 390 395 400
 Ala Tyr Val Glu Thr Gln Asp Gln Leu Leu Leu Glu Lys Leu Glu Asn
 405 410 415
 Lys Arg Ile Asn Lys Tyr Leu Asp Glu Ile Val Lys Glu Val Glu Ala
 420 425 430
 Lys Ala Pro Ile Leu Lys Arg Gln Arg Glu Glu Tyr Glu Arg Ala Gln
 435 440 445
 Lys Ala Val Ala Ser Leu Ser Val Lys Leu Glu Gln Ala Met Lys Glu
 450 455 460
 Ile Gln Arg Leu Gln Glu Asp Thr Asp Lys Ala Asn Lys Gln Ser Ser
 465 470 475 480
 Val Leu Glu Arg Asp Asn Arg Arg Met Glu Ile Gln Val Lys Asp Leu
 485 490 495
 Ser Gln Gln Ile Arg Val Leu Leu Met Glu Leu Glu Glu Ala Arg Gly
 500 505 510
 Asn His Val Ile Arg Asp Glu Glu Val Ser Ser Ala Asp Ile Ser Ser
 515 520 525
 Ser Ser Glu Val Ile Ser Gln His Leu Val Ser Tyr Arg Asn Ile Glu
 530 535 540
 Glu Leu Gln Gln Gln Asn Gln Arg Leu Leu Val Ala Leu Arg Glu Leu
 545 550 555 560
 Gly Glu Thr Arg Glu Arg Glu Glu Gln Glu Thr Thr Ser Ser Lys Ile
 565 570 575
 Thr Glu Leu Gln Leu Lys Leu Glu Ser Ala Leu Thr Glu Leu Glu Gln
 580 585 590
 Leu Arg Lys Ser Arg Gln His Gln Met Gln Leu Val Asp Ser Ile Val
 595 600 605
 Arg Gln Arg Asp Met Tyr Arg Ile Leu Leu Ser Gln Thr Thr Gly Val
 610 615 620
 Ala Ile Pro Leu His Ala Ser Ser Leu Asp Asp Val Ser Leu Ala Ser
 625 630 635 640

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Thr Pro Lys Arg Pro Ser Thr Ser Gln Thr Val Ser Thr Pro Ala Pro
 645 650 655
 Val Pro Val Ile Glu Ser Thr Glu Ala Ile Glu Ala Lys Ala Ala Leu
 660 665 670
 Lys Gln Leu Gln Glu Ile Phe Glu Asn Tyr Lys Lys Glu Lys Ala Glu
 675 680 685
 Asn Glu Lys Ile Gln Asn Glu Gln Leu Glu Lys Leu Gln Glu Gln Val
 690 695 700
 Thr Asp Leu Arg Ser Gln Asn Thr Lys Ile Ser Thr Gln Leu Asp Phe
 705 710 715 720
 Ala Ser Lys Arg Tyr Glu Met Leu Gln Asp Asn Val Glu Gly Tyr Arg
 725 730 735
 Arg Glu Ile Thr Ser Leu His Glu Arg Asn Gln Lys Leu Thr Ala Thr
 740 745 750
 Thr Gln Lys Gln Glu Gln Ile Ile Asn Thr Met Thr Gln Asp Leu Arg
 755 760 765
 Gly Ala Asn Glu Lys Leu Ala Val Ala Glu Val Arg Ala Glu Asn Leu
 770 775 780
 Lys Lys Glu Lys Glu Met Leu Lys Leu Ser Glu Val Arg Leu Ser Gln
 785 790 795 800
 Gln Arg Glu Ser Leu Leu Ala Glu Gln Arg Gly Gln Asn Leu Leu Leu
 805 810 815
 Thr Asn Leu Gln Thr Ile Gln Gly Ile Leu Glu Arg Ser Glu Thr Glu
 820 825 830
 Thr Lys Gln Arg Leu Ser Ser Gln Ile Glu Lys Leu Glu His Glu Ile
 835 840 845
 Ser His Leu Lys Lys Lys Leu Glu Asn Glu Val Glu Gln Arg His Thr
 850 855 860
 Leu Thr Arg Asn Leu Asp Val Gln Leu Leu Asp Thr Lys Arg Gln Leu
 865 870 875 880
 Asp Thr Glu Thr Asn Leu His Leu Asn Thr Lys Glu Leu Leu Lys Asn
 885 890 895
 Ala Gln Lys Glu Ile Ala Thr Leu Lys Gln His Leu Ser Asn Met Glu
 900 905 910
 Val Gln Val Ala Ser Gln Ser Ser Gln Arg Thr Gly Lys Gly Gln Pro
 915 920 925
 Ser Asn Lys Glu Asp Val Asp Asp Leu Val Ser Gln Leu Arg Gln Thr
 930 935 940
 Glu Glu Gln Val Asn Asp Leu Lys Glu Arg Leu Lys Thr Ser Thr Ser
 945 950 955 960
 Asn Val Glu Gln Tyr Gln Ala Met Val Thr Ser Leu Glu Glu Ser Leu
 965 970 975
 Asn Lys Glu Lys Gln Val Thr Glu Glu Val Arg Lys Asn Ile Glu Val
 980 985 990
 Arg Leu Lys Glu Ser Ala Glu Phe Gln Thr Gln Leu Glu Lys Lys Leu
 995 1000 1005
 Met Glu Val Glu Lys Glu Lys Gln Glu Leu Gln Asp Asp Lys Arg
 1010 1015 1020
 Arg Ala Ile Glu Ser Met Glu Gln Gln Leu Ser Glu Leu Lys Lys
 1025 1030 1035
 Thr Leu Ser Ser Val Gln Asn Glu Val Gln Glu Ala Leu Gln Arg

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1040	1045	1050
Ala Ser Thr Ala Leu Ser	Asn Glu Gln Gln Ala Arg	Arg Asp Cys
1055	1060	1065
Gln Glu Gln Ala Lys Ile	Ala Val Glu Ala Gln Asn	Lys Tyr Glu
1070	1075	1080
Arg Glu Leu Met Leu His	Ala Ala Asp Val Glu Ala	Leu Gln Ala
1085	1090	1095
Ala Lys Glu Gln Val Ser	Lys Met Ala Ser Val Arg	Gln His Leu
1100	1105	1110
Glu Glu Thr Thr Gln Lys	Ala Glu Ser Gln Leu Leu	Glu Cys Lys
1115	1120	1125
Ala Ser Trp Glu Glu Arg	Glu Arg Met Leu Lys Asp	Glu Val Ser
1130	1135	1140
Lys Cys Val Cys Arg Cys	Glu Asp Leu Glu Lys Gln	Asn Arg Leu
1145	1150	1155
Leu His Asp Gln Ile Glu	Lys Leu Ser Asp Lys Val	Val Ala Ser
1160	1165	1170
Val Lys Glu Gly Val Gln	Gly Pro Leu Asn Val Ser	Leu Ser Glu
1175	1180	1185
Glu Gly Lys Ser Gln Glu	Gln Ile Leu Glu Ile Leu	Arg Phe Ile
1190	1195	1200
Arg Arg Glu Lys Glu Ile	Ala Glu Thr Arg Phe Glu	Val Ala Gln
1205	1210	1215
Val Glu Ser Leu Arg Tyr	Arg Gln Arg Val Glu Leu	Leu Glu Arg
1220	1225	1230
Glu Leu Gln Glu Leu Glu	Asp Ser Leu Asn Ala Glu	Arg Glu Lys
1235	1240	1245
Val Gln Val Thr Ala Lys	Thr Met Ala Gln His Glu	Glu Leu Met
1250	1255	1260
Lys Lys Thr Glu Thr Met	Asn Val Val Met Glu Thr	Asn Lys Met
1265	1270	1275
Leu Arg Glu Glu Lys Glu	Arg Leu Glu Gln Asp Leu	Gln Gln Met
1280	1285	1290
Gln Ala Lys Val Arg Lys	Leu Glu Leu Asp Ile Leu	Pro Leu Gln
1295	1300	1305
Glu Ala Asn Ala Glu Leu	Ser Glu Lys Ser Gly Met	Leu Gln Ala
1310	1315	1320
Glu Lys Lys Leu Leu Glu	Glu Asp Val Lys Arg Trp	Lys Ala Arg
1325	1330	1335
Asn Gln His Leu Val Ser	Gln Gln Lys Asp Pro Asp	Thr Glu Glu
1340	1345	1350
Tyr Arg Lys Leu Leu Ser	Glu Lys Glu Val His Thr	Lys Arg Ile
1355	1360	1365
Gln Gln Leu Thr Glu Glu	Ile Gly Arg Leu Lys Ala	Glu Ile Ala
1370	1375	1380
Arg Ser Asn Ala Ser Leu	Thr Asn Asn Gln Asn Leu	Ile Gln Ser
1385	1390	1395
Leu Lys Glu Asp Leu Asn	Lys Val Arg Thr Glu Lys	Glu Thr Ile
1400	1405	1410
Gln Lys Asp Leu Asp Ala	Lys Ile Ile Asp Ile Gln	Glu Lys Val
1415	1420	1425

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Lys Thr	Ile Thr	Gln Val	Lys	Lys Ile	Gly Arg	Arg	Tyr Lys Thr
1430			1435			1440	
Gln Tyr	Glu Glu	Leu Lys	Ala	Gln Gln	Asp Lys	Val	Met Glu Thr
1445			1450			1455	
Ser Ala	Gln Ser	Ser Gly	Asp	His Gln	Glu Gln	His	Val Ser Val
1460			1465			1470	
Gln Glu	Met Gln	Glu Leu	Lys	Glu Thr	Leu Asn	Gln	Ala Glu Thr
1475			1480			1485	
Lys Ser	Lys Ser	Leu Glu	Ser	Gln Val	Glu Asn	Leu	Gln Lys Thr
1490			1495			1500	
Leu Ser	Glu Lys	Glu Thr	Glu	Ala Arg	Asn Leu	Gln	Glu Gln Thr
1505			1510			1515	
Val Gln	Leu Gln	Ser Glu	Leu	Ser Arg	Leu Arg	Gln	Asp Leu Gln
1520			1525			1530	
Asp Arg	Thr Thr	Gln Glu	Glu	Gln Leu	Arg Gln	Gln	Ile Thr Glu
1535			1540			1545	
Lys Glu	Glu Lys	Thr Arg	Lys	Ala Ile	Val Ala	Ala	Lys Ser Lys
1550			1555			1560	
Ile Ala	His Leu	Ala Gly	Val	Lys Asp	Gln Leu	Thr	Lys Glu Asn
1565			1570			1575	
Glu Glu	Leu Lys	Gln Arg	Asn	Gly Ala	Leu Asp	Gln	Gln Lys Asp
1580			1585			1590	
Glu Leu	Asp Val	Arg Ile	Thr	Ala Leu	Lys Ser	Gln	Tyr Glu Gly
1595			1600			1605	
Arg Ile	Ser Arg	Leu Glu	Arg	Glu Leu	Arg Glu	His	Gln Glu Arg
1610			1615			1620	
His Leu	Glu Gln	Arg Asp	Glu	Pro Gln	Glu Pro	Ser	Asn Lys Val
1625			1630			1635	
Pro Glu	Gln Gln	Arg Gln	Ile	Thr Leu	Lys Thr	Thr	Pro Ala Ser
1640			1645			1650	
Gly Glu	Arg Gly	Ile Ala	Ser	Thr Ser	Asp Pro	Pro	Thr Ala Asn
1655			1660			1665	
Ile Lys	Pro Thr	Pro Val	Val	Ser Thr	Pro Ser	Lys	Val Thr Ala
1670			1675			1680	
Ala Ala	Met Ala	Gly Asn	Lys	Ser Thr	Pro Arg	Ala	Ser Ile Arg
1685			1690			1695	
Pro Met	Val Thr	Pro Ala	Thr	Val Thr	Asn Pro	Thr	Thr Thr Pro
1700			1705			1710	
Thr Ala	Thr Val	Met Pro	Thr	Thr Gln	Val Glu	Ser	Gln Glu Ala
1715			1720			1725	
Met Gln	Ser Glu	Gly Pro	Val	Glu His	Val Pro	Val	Phe Gly Ser
1730			1735			1740	
Thr Ser	Gly Ser	Val Arg	Ser	Thr Ser	Pro Asn	Val	Gln Pro Ser
1745			1750			1755	
Ile Ser	Gln Pro	Ile Leu	Thr	Val Gln	Gln Gln	Thr	Gln Ala Thr
1760			1765			1770	
Ala Phe	Val Gln	Pro Thr	Gln	Gln Ser	His Pro	Gln	Ile Glu Pro
1775			1780			1785	
Ala Asn	Gln Glu	Leu Ser	Ser	Asn Ile	Val Glu	Val	Val Gln Ser
1790			1795			1800	

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Ser	Pro	Val	Glu	Arg	Pro	Ser	Thr	Ser	Thr	Ala	Val	Phe	Gly	Thr
1805						1810					1815			
Val	Ser	Ala	Thr	Pro	Ser	Ser	Ser	Leu	Pro	Lys	Arg	Thr	Arg	Glu
1820						1825					1830			
Glu	Glu	Glu	Asp	Ser	Thr	Ile	Glu	Ala	Ser	Asp	Gln	Val	Ser	Asp
1835						1840					1845			
Asp	Thr	Val	Glu	Met	Pro	Leu	Pro	Lys	Lys	Leu	Lys	Ser	Val	Thr
1850						1855					1860			
Pro	Val	Gly	Thr	Glu	Glu	Glu	Val	Met	Ala	Glu	Glu	Ser	Thr	Asp
1865						1870					1875			
Gly	Glu	Val	Glu	Thr	Gln	Val	Tyr	Asn	Gln	Asp	Ser	Gln	Asp	Ser
1880						1885					1890			
Ile	Gly	Glu	Gly	Val	Thr	Gln	Gly	Asp	Tyr	Thr	Pro	Met	Glu	Asp
1895						1900					1905			
Ser	Glu	Glu	Thr	Ser	Gln	Ser	Leu	Gln	Ile	Asp	Leu	Gly	Pro	Leu
1910						1915					1920			
Gln	Ser	Asp	Gln	Gln	Thr	Thr	Thr	Ser	Ser	Gln	Asp	Gly	Gln	Gly
1925						1930					1935			
Lys	Gly	Asp	Asp	Val	Ile	Val	Ile	Asp	Ser	Asp	Asp	Glu	Glu	Glu
1940						1945					1950			
Asp	Glu	Glu	Asp	Asp	Asp	Asp	Asp	Glu	Asp	Asp	Thr	Gly	Met	Gly
1955						1960					1965			
Asp	Glu	Gly	Glu	Asp	Ser	Asn	Glu	Gly	Thr	Gly	Ser	Ala	Asp	Gly
1970						1975					1980			
Asn	Asp	Gly	Tyr	Glu	Ala	Asp	Asp	Ala	Glu	Gly	Gly	Asp	Gly	Thr
1985						1990					1995			
Asp	Pro	Gly	Thr	Glu	Thr	Glu	Glu	Ser	Met	Gly	Gly	Gly	Glu	Gly
2000						2005					2010			
Asn	His	Arg	Ala	Ala	Asp	Ser	Gln	Asn	Ser	Gly	Glu	Gly	Asn	Thr
2015						2020					2025			
Gly	Ala	Ala	Glu	Ser	Ser	Phe	Ser	Gln	Glu	Val	Ser	Arg	Glu	Gln
2030						2035					2040			
Gln	Pro	Ser	Ser	Ala	Ser	Glu	Arg	Gln	Ala	Pro	Arg	Ala	Pro	Gln
2045						2050					2055			
Ser	Pro	Arg	Arg	Pro	Pro	His	Pro	Leu	Pro	Pro	Arg	Leu	Thr	Ile
2060						2065					2070			
His	Ala	Pro	Pro	Gln	Glu	Leu	Gly	Pro	Pro	Val	Gln	Arg	Ile	Gln
2075						2080					2085			
Met	Thr	Arg	Arg	Gln	Ser	Val	Gly	Arg	Gly	Leu	Gln	Leu	Thr	Pro
2090						2095					2100			
Gly	Ile	Gly	Gly	Met	Gln	Gln	His	Phe	Phe	Asp	Asp	Glu	Asp	Arg
2105						2110					2115			
Thr	Val	Pro	Ser	Thr	Pro	Thr	Leu	Val	Val	Pro	His	Arg	Thr	Asp
2120						2125					2130			
Gly	Phe	Ala	Glu	Ala	Ile	His	Ser	Pro	Gln	Val	Ala	Gly	Val	Pro
2135						2140					2145			
Arg	Phe	Arg	Phe	Gly	Pro	Pro	Glu	Asp	Met	Pro	Gln	Thr	Ser	Ser
2150						2155					2160			
Ser	His	Ser	Asp	Leu	Gly	Gln	Leu	Ala	Ser	Gln	Gly	Gly	Leu	Gly
2165						2170					2175			
Met	Tyr	Glu	Thr	Pro	Leu	Phe	Leu	Ala	His	Glu	Glu	Glu	Ser	Gly

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2180	2185	2190
Gly Arg Ser Val Pro Thr Thr	Pro Leu Gln Val Ala	Ala Pro Val
2195	2200	2205
Thr Val Phe Thr Glu Ser Thr	Thr Ser Asp Ala Ser	Glu His Ala
2210	2215	2220
Ser Gln Ser Val Pro Met Val	Thr Thr Ser Thr Gly	Thr Leu Ser
2225	2230	2235
Thr Thr Asn Glu Thr Ala Thr	Gly Asp Asp Gly Asp	Glu Val Phe
2240	2245	2250
Val Glu Ala Glu Ser Glu Gly	Ile Ser Ser Glu Ala	Gly Leu Glu
2255	2260	2265
Ile Asp Ser Gln Gln Glu Glu	Glu Pro Val Gln Ala	Ser Asp Glu
2270	2275	2280
Ser Asp Leu Pro Ser Thr Ser	Gln Asp Pro Pro Ser	Ser Ser Ser
2285	2290	2295
Val Asp Thr Ser Ser Ser Gln	Pro Lys Pro Phe Arg	Arg Val Arg
2300	2305	2310
Leu Gln Thr Thr Leu Arg Gln	Gly Val Arg Gly Arg	Gln Phe Asn
2315	2320	2325
Arg Gln Arg Gly Val Ser His	Ala Met Gly Gly Arg	Gly Gly Ile
2330	2335	2340
Asn Arg Gly Asn Ile Asn		
2345		

<210> SEQ ID NO 4
 <211> LENGTH: 664
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 4

Met Glu Thr Pro Ser Gln Arg Arg Ala Thr Arg Ser Gly Ala Gln Ala		
1	5	10 15
Ser Ser Thr Pro Leu Ser Pro Thr Arg Ile Thr Arg Leu Gln Glu Lys		
	20	25 30
Glu Asp Leu Gln Glu Leu Asn Asp Arg Leu Ala Val Tyr Ile Asp Arg		
	35	40 45
Val Arg Ser Leu Glu Thr Glu Asn Ala Gly Leu Arg Leu Arg Ile Thr		
	50	55 60
Glu Ser Glu Glu Val Val Ser Arg Glu Val Ser Gly Ile Lys Ala Ala		
	65	70 75 80
Tyr Glu Ala Glu Leu Gly Asp Ala Arg Lys Thr Leu Asp Ser Val Ala		
	85	90 95
Lys Glu Arg Ala Arg Leu Gln Leu Glu Leu Ser Lys Val Arg Glu Glu		
	100	105 110
Phe Lys Glu Leu Lys Ala Arg Asn Thr Lys Lys Glu Gly Asp Leu Ile		
	115	120 125
Ala Ala Gln Ala Arg Leu Lys Asp Leu Glu Ala Leu Leu Asn Ser Lys		
	130	135 140
Glu Ala Ala Leu Ser Thr Ala Leu Ser Glu Lys Arg Thr Leu Glu Gly		
	145	150 155 160
Glu Leu His Asp Leu Arg Gly Gln Val Ala Lys Leu Glu Ala Ala Leu		
	165	170 175

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Gly Glu Ala Lys Lys Gln Leu Gln Asp Glu Met Leu Arg Arg Val Asp
 180 185 190

Ala Glu Asn Arg Leu Gln Thr Met Lys Glu Glu Leu Asp Phe Gln Lys
 195 200 205

Asn Ile Tyr Ser Glu Glu Leu Arg Glu Thr Lys Arg Arg His Glu Thr
 210 215 220

Arg Leu Val Glu Ile Asp Asn Gly Lys Gln Arg Glu Phe Glu Ser Arg
 225 230 235 240

Leu Ala Asp Ala Leu Gln Glu Leu Arg Ala Gln His Glu Asp Gln Val
 245 250 255

Glu Gln Tyr Lys Lys Glu Leu Glu Lys Thr Tyr Ser Ala Lys Leu Asp
 260 265 270

Asn Ala Arg Gln Ser Ala Glu Arg Asn Ser Asn Leu Val Gly Ala Ala
 275 280 285

His Glu Glu Leu Gln Gln Ser Arg Ile Arg Ile Asp Ser Leu Ser Ala
 290 295 300

Gln Leu Ser Gln Leu Gln Lys Gln Leu Ala Ala Lys Glu Ala Lys Leu
 305 310 315 320

Arg Asp Leu Glu Asp Ser Leu Ala Arg Glu Arg Asp Thr Ser Arg Arg
 325 330 335

Leu Leu Ala Glu Lys Glu Arg Glu Met Ala Glu Met Arg Ala Arg Met
 340 345 350

Gln Gln Gln Leu Asp Glu Tyr Gln Glu Leu Leu Asp Ile Lys Leu Ala
 355 360 365

Leu Asp Met Glu Ile His Ala Tyr Arg Lys Leu Leu Glu Gly Glu Glu
 370 375 380

Glu Arg Leu Arg Leu Ser Pro Ser Pro Thr Ser Gln Arg Ser Arg Gly
 385 390 395 400

Arg Ala Ser Ser His Ser Ser Gln Thr Gln Gly Gly Gly Ser Val Thr
 405 410 415

Lys Lys Arg Lys Leu Glu Ser Thr Glu Ser Arg Ser Ser Phe Ser Gln
 420 425 430

His Ala Arg Thr Ser Gly Arg Val Ala Val Glu Glu Val Asp Glu Glu
 435 440 445

Gly Lys Phe Val Arg Leu Arg Asn Lys Ser Asn Glu Asp Gln Ser Met
 450 455 460

Gly Asn Trp Gln Ile Lys Arg Gln Asn Gly Asp Asp Pro Leu Leu Thr
 465 470 475 480

Tyr Arg Phe Pro Pro Lys Phe Thr Leu Lys Ala Gly Gln Val Val Thr
 485 490 495

Ile Trp Ala Ala Gly Ala Gly Ala Thr His Ser Pro Pro Thr Asp Leu
 500 505 510

Val Trp Lys Ala Gln Asn Thr Trp Gly Cys Gly Asn Ser Leu Arg Thr
 515 520 525

Ala Leu Ile Asn Ser Thr Gly Glu Glu Val Ala Met Arg Lys Leu Val
 530 535 540

Arg Ser Val Thr Val Val Glu Asp Asp Glu Asp Glu Asp Gly Asp Asp
 545 550 555 560

Leu Leu His His His His Gly Ser His Cys Ser Ser Ser Gly Asp Pro
 565 570 575

Ala Glu Tyr Asn Leu Arg Ser Arg Thr Val Leu Cys Gly Thr Cys Gly

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130		135		140											
Pro	Leu	Ile	Val	Gln	Tyr	Glu	Val	Asn	Phe	Gln	Asn	Gly	Ile	Glu	Cys
145					150					155					160
Gly	Gly	Ala	Tyr	Val	Lys	Leu	Leu	Ser	Lys	Thr	Pro	Glu	Leu	Asn	Leu
				165					170					175	
Asp	Gln	Phe	His	Asp	Lys	Thr	Pro	Tyr	Thr	Ile	Met	Phe	Gly	Pro	Asp
			180						185					190	
Lys	Cys	Gly	Glu	Asp	Tyr	Lys	Leu	His	Phe	Ile	Phe	Arg	His	Lys	Asn
		195					200					205			
Pro	Lys	Thr	Gly	Ile	Tyr	Glu	Glu	Lys	His	Ala	Lys	Arg	Pro	Asp	Ala
	210					215					220				
Asp	Leu	Lys	Thr	Tyr	Phe	Thr	Asp	Lys	Lys	Thr	His	Leu	Tyr	Thr	Leu
225					230					235					240
Ile	Leu	Asn	Pro	Asp	Asn	Ser	Phe	Glu	Ile	Leu	Val	Asp	Gln	Ser	Val
				245					250					255	
Val	Asn	Ser	Gly	Asn	Leu	Leu	Asn	Asp	Met	Thr	Pro	Pro	Val	Asn	Pro
			260					265					270		
Ser	Arg	Glu	Ile	Glu	Asp	Pro	Glu	Asp	Arg	Lys	Pro	Glu	Asp	Trp	Asp
		275					280					285			
Glu	Arg	Pro	Lys	Ile	Pro	Asp	Pro	Glu	Ala	Val	Lys	Pro	Asp	Asp	Trp
	290					295					300				
Asp	Glu	Asp	Ala	Pro	Ala	Lys	Ile	Pro	Asp	Glu	Glu	Ala	Thr	Lys	Pro
305					310					315					320
Glu	Gly	Trp	Leu	Asp	Asp	Glu	Pro	Glu	Tyr	Val	Pro	Asp	Pro	Asp	Ala
				325					330					335	
Glu	Lys	Pro	Glu	Asp	Trp	Asp	Glu	Asp	Met	Asp	Gly	Glu	Trp	Glu	Ala
			340					345					350		
Pro	Gln	Ile	Ala	Asn	Pro	Arg	Cys	Glu	Ser	Ala	Pro	Gly	Cys	Gly	Val
			355				360					365			
Trp	Gln	Arg	Pro	Val	Ile	Asp	Asn	Pro	Asn	Tyr	Lys	Gly	Lys	Trp	Lys
	370					375						380			
Pro	Pro	Met	Ile	Asp	Asn	Pro	Ser	Tyr	Gln	Gly	Ile	Trp	Lys	Pro	Arg
385					390					395					400
Lys	Ile	Pro	Asn	Pro	Asp	Phe	Phe	Glu	Asp	Leu	Glu	Pro	Phe	Arg	Met
			405						410					415	
Thr	Pro	Phe	Ser	Ala	Ile	Gly	Leu	Glu	Leu	Trp	Ser	Met	Thr	Ser	Asp
			420						425				430		
Ile	Phe	Phe	Asp	Asn	Phe	Ile	Ile	Cys	Ala	Asp	Arg	Arg	Ile	Val	Asp
		435					440					445			
Asp	Trp	Ala	Asn	Asp	Gly	Trp	Gly	Leu	Lys	Lys	Ala	Ala	Asp	Gly	Ala
	450					455					460				
Ala	Glu	Pro	Gly	Val	Val	Gly	Gln	Met	Ile	Glu	Ala	Ala	Glu	Glu	Arg
465					470					475					480
Pro	Trp	Leu	Trp	Val	Val	Tyr	Ile	Leu	Thr	Val	Ala	Leu	Pro	Val	Phe
				485					490					495	
Leu	Val	Ile	Leu	Phe	Cys	Cys	Ser	Gly	Lys	Lys	Gln	Thr	Ser	Gly	Met
			500					505					510		
Glu	Tyr	Lys	Lys	Thr	Asp	Ala	Pro	Gln	Pro	Asp	Val	Lys	Glu	Glu	Glu
		515					520					525			
Glu	Glu	Lys	Glu	Glu	Glu	Lys	Asp	Lys	Gly	Asp	Glu	Glu	Glu	Glu	Gly
	530					535					540				

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Glu Glu Lys Leu Glu Glu Lys Gln Lys Ser Asp Ala Glu Glu Asp Gly
 545 550 555 560

Gly Thr Val Ser Gln Glu Glu Glu Asp Arg Lys Pro Lys Ala Glu Glu
 565 570 575

Asp Glu Ile Leu Asn Arg Ser Pro Arg Asn Arg Lys Pro Arg Arg Glu
 580 585 590

<210> SEQ ID NO 8
 <211> LENGTH: 654
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 8

Met Lys Leu Ser Leu Val Ala Ala Met Leu Leu Leu Leu Ser Ala Ala
 1 5 10 15

Arg Ala Glu Glu Glu Asp Lys Lys Glu Asp Val Gly Thr Val Val Gly
 20 25 30

Ile Asp Leu Gly Thr Thr Tyr Ser Cys Val Gly Val Phe Lys Asn Gly
 35 40 45

Arg Val Glu Ile Ile Ala Asn Asp Gln Gly Asn Arg Ile Thr Pro Ser
 50 55 60

Tyr Val Ala Phe Thr Pro Glu Gly Glu Arg Leu Ile Gly Asp Ala Ala
 65 70 75 80

Lys Asn Gln Leu Thr Ser Asn Pro Glu Asn Thr Val Phe Asp Ala Lys
 85 90 95

Arg Leu Ile Gly Arg Thr Trp Asn Asp Pro Ser Val Gln Gln Asp Ile
 100 105 110

Lys Phe Leu Pro Phe Lys Val Val Glu Lys Lys Thr Lys Pro Tyr Ile
 115 120 125

Gln Val Asp Ile Gly Gly Gly Gln Thr Lys Thr Phe Ala Pro Glu Glu
 130 135 140

Ile Ser Ala Met Val Leu Thr Lys Met Lys Glu Thr Ala Glu Ala Tyr
 145 150 155 160

Leu Gly Lys Lys Val Thr His Ala Val Val Thr Val Pro Ala Tyr Phe
 165 170 175

Asn Asp Ala Gln Arg Gln Ala Thr Lys Asp Ala Gly Thr Ile Ala Gly
 180 185 190

Leu Asn Val Met Arg Ile Ile Asn Glu Pro Thr Ala Ala Ala Ile Ala
 195 200 205

Tyr Gly Leu Asp Lys Arg Glu Gly Glu Lys Asn Ile Leu Val Phe Asp
 210 215 220

Leu Gly Gly Gly Thr Phe Asp Val Ser Leu Leu Thr Ile Asp Asn Gly
 225 230 235 240

Val Phe Glu Val Val Ala Thr Asn Gly Asp Thr His Leu Gly Gly Glu
 245 250 255

Asp Phe Asp Gln Arg Val Met Glu His Phe Ile Lys Leu Tyr Lys Lys
 260 265 270

Lys Thr Gly Lys Asp Val Arg Lys Asp Asn Arg Ala Val Gln Lys Leu
 275 280 285

Arg Arg Glu Val Glu Lys Ala Lys Arg Ala Leu Ser Ser Gln His Gln
 290 295 300

Ala Arg Ile Glu Ile Glu Ser Phe Tyr Glu Gly Glu Asp Phe Ser Glu

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305	310	315	320
Thr Leu Thr Arg	Ala Lys Phe Glu Glu Leu Asn Met Asp Leu Phe Arg		
	325	330	335
Ser Thr Met Lys Pro Val Gln Lys Val Leu Glu Asp Ser Asp Leu Lys			
	340	345	350
Lys Ser Asp Ile Asp Glu Ile Val Leu Val Gly Gly Ser Thr Arg Ile			
	355	360	365
Pro Lys Ile Gln Gln Leu Val Lys Glu Phe Phe Asn Gly Lys Glu Pro			
	370	375	380
Ser Arg Gly Ile Asn Pro Asp Glu Ala Val Ala Tyr Gly Ala Ala Val			
	385	390	395
Gln Ala Gly Val Leu Ser Gly Asp Gln Asp Thr Gly Asp Leu Val Leu			
	405	410	415
Leu Asp Val Cys Pro Leu Thr Leu Gly Ile Glu Thr Val Gly Gly Val			
	420	425	430
Met Thr Lys Leu Ile Pro Arg Asn Thr Val Val Pro Thr Lys Lys Ser			
	435	440	445
Gln Ile Phe Ser Thr Ala Ser Asp Asn Gln Pro Thr Val Thr Ile Lys			
	450	455	460
Val Tyr Glu Gly Glu Arg Pro Leu Thr Lys Asp Asn His Leu Leu Gly			
	465	470	475
Thr Phe Asp Leu Thr Gly Ile Pro Pro Ala Pro Arg Gly Val Pro Gln			
	485	490	495
Ile Glu Val Thr Phe Glu Ile Asp Val Asn Gly Ile Leu Arg Val Thr			
	500	505	510
Ala Glu Asp Lys Gly Thr Gly Asn Lys Asn Lys Ile Thr Ile Thr Asn			
	515	520	525
Asp Gln Asn Arg Leu Thr Pro Glu Glu Ile Glu Arg Met Val Asn Asp			
	530	535	540
Ala Glu Lys Phe Ala Glu Glu Asp Lys Lys Leu Lys Glu Arg Ile Asp			
	545	550	555
Thr Arg Asn Glu Leu Glu Ser Tyr Ala Tyr Ser Leu Lys Asn Gln Ile			
	565	570	575
Gly Asp Lys Glu Lys Leu Gly Gly Lys Leu Ser Ser Glu Asp Lys Glu			
	580	585	590
Thr Met Glu Lys Ala Val Glu Glu Lys Ile Glu Trp Leu Glu Ser His			
	595	600	605
Gln Asp Ala Asp Ile Glu Asp Phe Lys Ala Lys Lys Lys Glu Leu Glu			
	610	615	620
Glu Ile Val Gln Pro Ile Ile Ser Lys Leu Tyr Gly Ser Ala Gly Pro			
	625	630	635
Pro Pro Thr Gly Glu Glu Asp Thr Ala Glu Lys Asp Glu Leu			
	645	650	

<210> SEQ ID NO 9

<211> LENGTH: 508

<212> TYPE: PRT

<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 9

Met Leu Arg Arg Ala Leu Leu Cys Leu Ala Val Ala Ala Leu Val Arg
1 5 10 15

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Ala Asp Ala Pro Glu Glu Glu Asp His Val Leu Val Leu Arg Lys Ser
20 25 30

Asn Phe Ala Glu Ala Leu Ala Ala His Lys Tyr Leu Leu Val Glu Phe
35 40 45

Tyr Ala Pro Trp Cys Gly His Cys Lys Ala Leu Ala Pro Glu Tyr Ala
50 55 60

Lys Ala Ala Gly Lys Leu Lys Ala Glu Gly Ser Glu Ile Arg Leu Ala
65 70 75 80

Lys Val Asp Ala Thr Glu Glu Ser Asp Leu Ala Gln Gln Tyr Gly Val
85 90 95

Arg Gly Tyr Pro Thr Ile Lys Phe Phe Arg Asn Gly Asp Thr Ala Ser
100 105 110

Pro Lys Glu Tyr Thr Ala Gly Arg Glu Ala Asp Asp Ile Val Asn Trp
115 120 125

Leu Lys Lys Arg Thr Gly Pro Ala Ala Thr Thr Leu Pro Asp Gly Ala
130 135 140

Ala Ala Glu Ser Leu Val Glu Ser Ser Glu Val Ala Val Ile Gly Phe
145 150 155 160

Phe Lys Asp Val Glu Ser Asp Ser Ala Lys Gln Phe Leu Gln Ala Ala
165 170 175

Glu Ala Ile Asp Asp Ile Pro Phe Gly Ile Thr Ser Asn Ser Asp Val
180 185 190

Phe Ser Lys Tyr Gln Leu Asp Lys Asp Gly Val Val Leu Phe Lys Lys
195 200 205

Phe Asp Glu Gly Arg Asn Asn Phe Glu Gly Glu Val Thr Lys Glu Asn
210 215 220

Leu Leu Asp Phe Ile Lys His Asn Gln Leu Pro Leu Val Ile Glu Phe
225 230 235 240

Thr Glu Gln Thr Ala Pro Lys Ile Phe Gly Gly Glu Ile Lys Thr His
245 250 255

Ile Leu Leu Phe Leu Pro Lys Ser Val Ser Asp Tyr Asp Gly Lys Leu
260 265 270

Ser Asn Phe Lys Thr Ala Ala Glu Ser Phe Lys Gly Lys Ile Leu Phe
275 280 285

Ile Phe Ile Asp Ser Asp His Thr Asp Asn Gln Arg Ile Leu Glu Phe
290 295 300

Phe Gly Leu Lys Lys Glu Glu Cys Pro Ala Val Arg Leu Ile Thr Leu
305 310 315 320

Glu Glu Glu Met Thr Lys Tyr Lys Pro Glu Ser Glu Glu Leu Thr Ala
325 330 335

Glu Arg Ile Thr Glu Phe Cys His Arg Phe Leu Glu Gly Lys Ile Lys
340 345 350

Pro His Leu Met Ser Gln Glu Leu Pro Glu Asp Trp Asp Lys Gln Pro
355 360 365

Val Lys Val Leu Val Gly Lys Asn Phe Glu Asp Val Ala Phe Asp Glu
370 375 380

Lys Lys Asn Val Phe Val Glu Phe Tyr Ala Pro Trp Cys Gly His Cys
385 390 395 400

Lys Gln Leu Ala Pro Ile Trp Asp Lys Leu Gly Glu Thr Tyr Lys Asp
405 410 415

His Glu Asn Ile Val Ile Ala Lys Met Asp Ser Thr Ala Asn Glu Val

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          420          425          430
Glu Ala Val Lys Val His Ser Phe Pro Thr Leu Lys Phe Phe Pro Ala
   435          440          445
Ser Ala Asp Arg Thr Val Ile Asp Tyr Asn Gly Glu Arg Thr Leu Asp
   450          455          460
Gly Phe Lys Lys Phe Leu Glu Ser Gly Gly Gln Asp Gly Ala Gly Asp
   465          470          475          480
Asp Asp Asp Leu Glu Asp Leu Glu Glu Ala Glu Glu Pro Asp Met Glu
   485          490          495
Glu Asp Asp Asp Gln Lys Ala Val Lys Asp Glu Leu
   500          505

<210> SEQ ID NO 10
<211> LENGTH: 602
<212> TYPE: PRT
<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 10
Met Pro Ser Ala Lys Gln Arg Gly Ser Lys Gly Gly His Gly Ala Ala
 1          5          10
Ser Pro Ser Glu Lys Gly Ala His Pro Ser Gly Gly Ala Asp Asp Val
 20          25          30
Ala Lys Lys Pro Pro Pro Ala Pro Gln Gln Pro Pro Pro Pro Ala
 35          40          45
Pro His Pro Gln Gln His Pro Gln Gln His Pro Gln Asn Gln Ala His
 50          55          60
Gly Lys Gly Gly His Arg Gly Gly Gly Gly Gly Gly Lys Ser Ser
 65          70          75          80
Ser Ser Ser Ser Ala Ser Ala Ala Ala Ala Ala Ala Ala Ser Ser
 85          90          95
Ser Ala Ser Cys Ser Arg Arg Leu Gly Arg Ala Leu Asn Phe Leu Phe
 100         105         110
Tyr Leu Ala Leu Val Ala Ala Ala Ala Phe Ser Gly Trp Cys Val His
 115         120         125
His Val Leu Glu Glu Val Gln Gln Val Arg Arg Ser His Gln Asp Phe
 130         135         140
Ser Arg Gln Arg Glu Glu Leu Gly Gln Gly Leu Gln Gly Val Glu Gln
 145         150         155         160
Lys Val Gln Ser Leu Gln Ala Thr Phe Gly Thr Phe Glu Ser Ile Leu
 165         170         175
Arg Ser Ser Gln His Lys Gln Asp Leu Thr Glu Lys Ala Val Lys Gln
 180         185         190
Gly Glu Ser Glu Val Ser Arg Ile Ser Glu Val Leu Gln Lys Leu Gln
 195         200         205
Asn Glu Ile Leu Lys Asp Leu Ser Asp Gly Ile His Val Val Lys Asp
 210         215         220
Ala Arg Glu Arg Asp Phe Thr Ser Leu Glu Asn Thr Val Glu Glu Arg
 225         230         235         240
Leu Thr Glu Leu Thr Lys Ser Ile Asn Asp Asn Ile Ala Ile Phe Thr
 245         250         255
Glu Val Gln Lys Arg Ser Gln Lys Glu Ile Asn Asp Met Lys Ala Lys
 260         265         270

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Val Ala Ser Leu Glu Glu Ser Glu Gly Asn Lys Gln Asp Leu Lys Ala
 275 280 285
 Leu Lys Glu Ala Val Lys Glu Ile Gln Thr Ser Ala Lys Ser Arg Glu
 290 295 300
 Trp Asp Met Glu Ala Leu Arg Ser Thr Leu Gln Thr Met Glu Ser Asp
 305 310 315 320
 Ile Tyr Thr Glu Val Arg Glu Leu Val Ser Leu Lys Gln Glu Gln Gln
 325 330 335
 Ala Phe Lys Glu Ala Ala Asp Thr Glu Arg Leu Ala Leu Gln Ala Leu
 340 345 350
 Thr Glu Lys Leu Leu Arg Ser Glu Glu Ser Val Ser Arg Leu Pro Glu
 355 360 365
 Glu Ile Arg Arg Leu Glu Glu Glu Leu Arg Gln Leu Lys Ser Asp Ser
 370 375 380
 His Gly Pro Lys Glu Asp Gly Gly Phe Arg His Ser Glu Ala Phe Glu
 385 390 395 400
 Ala Leu Gln Gln Lys Ser Gln Gly Leu Asp Ser Arg Leu Gln His Val
 405 410 415
 Glu Asp Gly Val Leu Ser Met Gln Val Ala Ser Ala Arg Gln Thr Glu
 420 425 430
 Ser Leu Glu Ser Leu Leu Ser Lys Ser Gln Glu His Glu Gln Arg Leu
 435 440 445
 Ala Ala Leu Gln Gly Arg Leu Glu Gly Leu Gly Ser Ser Glu Ala Asp
 450 455 460
 Gln Asp Gly Leu Ala Ser Thr Val Arg Ser Leu Gly Glu Thr Gln Leu
 465 470 475 480
 Val Leu Tyr Gly Asp Val Glu Glu Leu Lys Arg Ser Val Gly Glu Leu
 485 490 495
 Pro Ser Thr Val Glu Ser Leu Gln Lys Val Gln Glu Gln Val His Thr
 500 505 510
 Leu Leu Ser Gln Asp Gln Ala Gln Ala Ala Arg Leu Pro Pro Gln Asp
 515 520 525
 Phe Leu Asp Arg Leu Ser Ser Leu Asp Asn Leu Lys Ala Ser Val Ser
 530 535 540
 Gln Val Glu Ala Asp Leu Lys Met Leu Arg Thr Ala Val Asp Ser Leu
 545 550 555 560
 Val Ala Tyr Ser Val Lys Ile Glu Thr Asn Glu Asn Asn Leu Glu Ser
 565 570 575
 Ala Lys Gly Leu Leu Asp Asp Leu Arg Asn Asp Leu Asp Arg Leu Phe
 580 585 590
 Val Lys Val Glu Lys Ile His Glu Lys Val
 595 600

<210> SEQ ID NO 11

<211> LENGTH: 876

<212> TYPE: PRT

<213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

<400> SEQUENCE: 11

Met Glu Leu Ile Thr Ile Leu Glu Lys Thr Val Ser Pro Asp Arg Leu
 1 5 10 15
 Glu Leu Glu Ala Ala Gln Lys Phe Leu Glu Arg Ala Ala Val Glu Asn
 20 25 30

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Leu Pro Thr Phe Leu Val Glu Leu Ser Arg Val Leu Ala Asn Pro Gly
 35 40 45
 Asn Ser Gln Val Ala Arg Val Ala Ala Gly Leu Gln Ile Lys Asn Ser
 50 55 60
 Leu Thr Ser Lys Asp Pro Asp Ile Lys Ala Gln Tyr Gln Gln Arg Trp
 65 70 75 80
 Leu Ala Ile Asp Ala Asn Ala Arg Arg Glu Val Lys Asn Tyr Val Leu
 85 90 95
 Gln Thr Leu Gly Thr Glu Thr Tyr Arg Pro Ser Ser Ala Ser Gln Cys
 100 105 110
 Val Ala Gly Ile Ala Cys Ala Glu Ile Pro Val Asn Gln Trp Pro Glu
 115 120 125
 Leu Ile Pro Gln Leu Val Ala Asn Val Thr Asn Pro Asn Ser Thr Glu
 130 135 140
 His Met Lys Glu Ser Thr Leu Glu Ala Ile Gly Tyr Ile Cys Gln Asp
 145 150 155 160
 Ile Asp Pro Glu Gln Leu Gln Asp Lys Ser Asn Glu Ile Leu Thr Ala
 165 170 175
 Ile Ile Gln Gly Met Arg Lys Glu Glu Pro Ser Asn Asn Val Lys Leu
 180 185 190
 Ala Ala Thr Asn Ala Leu Leu Asn Ser Leu Glu Phe Thr Lys Ala Asn
 195 200 205
 Phe Asp Lys Glu Ser Glu Arg His Phe Ile Met Gln Val Val Cys Glu
 210 215 220
 Ala Thr Gln Cys Pro Asp Thr Arg Val Arg Val Ala Ala Leu Gln Asn
 225 230 235 240
 Leu Val Lys Ile Met Ser Leu Tyr Tyr Gln Tyr Met Glu Thr Tyr Met
 245 250 255
 Gly Pro Ala Leu Phe Ala Ile Thr Ile Glu Ala Met Lys Ser Asp Ile
 260 265 270
 Asp Glu Val Ala Leu Gln Gly Ile Glu Phe Trp Ser Asn Val Cys Asp
 275 280 285
 Glu Glu Met Asp Leu Ala Ile Glu Ala Ser Glu Ala Ala Glu Gln Gly
 290 295 300
 Arg Pro Pro Glu His Thr Ser Lys Phe Tyr Ala Lys Gly Ala Leu Gln
 305 310 315 320
 Tyr Leu Val Pro Ile Leu Thr Gln Thr Leu Thr Lys Gln Asp Glu Asn
 325 330 335
 Asp Asp Asp Asp Asp Trp Asn Pro Cys Lys Ala Ala Gly Val Cys Leu
 340 345 350
 Met Leu Leu Ala Thr Cys Cys Glu Asp Asp Ile Val Pro His Val Leu
 355 360 365
 Pro Phe Ile Lys Glu His Ile Lys Asn Pro Asp Trp Arg Tyr Arg Asp
 370 375 380
 Ala Ala Val Met Ala Phe Gly Cys Ile Leu Glu Gly Pro Glu Pro Ser
 385 390 395 400
 Gln Leu Lys Pro Leu Val Ile Gln Ala Met Pro Thr Leu Ile Glu Leu
 405 410 415
 Met Lys Asp Pro Ser Val Val Val Arg Asp Thr Ala Ala Trp Thr Val
 420 425 430

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Gly Arg Ile Cys Glu Leu Leu Pro Glu Ala Ala Ile Asn Asp Val Tyr
 435 440 445
 Leu Ala Pro Leu Leu Gln Cys Leu Ile Glu Gly Leu Ser Ala Glu Pro
 450 455 460
 Arg Val Ala Ser Asn Val Cys Trp Ala Phe Ser Ser Leu Ala Glu Ala
 465 470 475 480
 Ala Tyr Glu Ala Ala Asp Val Ala Asp Asp Gln Glu Glu Pro Ala Thr
 485 490 495
 Tyr Cys Leu Ser Ser Ser Phe Glu Leu Ile Val Gln Lys Leu Leu Glu
 500 505 510
 Thr Thr Asp Arg Pro Asp Gly His Gln Asn Asn Leu Arg Ser Ser Ala
 515 520 525
 Tyr Glu Ser Leu Met Glu Ile Val Lys Asn Ser Ala Lys Asp Cys Tyr
 530 535 540
 Pro Ala Val Gln Lys Thr Thr Leu Val Ile Met Glu Arg Leu Gln Gln
 545 550 555 560
 Val Leu Gln Met Glu Ser His Ile Gln Ser Thr Ser Asp Arg Ile Gln
 565 570 575
 Phe Asn Asp Leu Gln Ser Leu Leu Cys Ala Thr Leu Gln Asn Val Leu
 580 585 590
 Arg Lys Val Gln His Gln Asp Ala Leu Gln Ile Ser Asp Val Val Met
 595 600 605
 Ala Ser Leu Leu Arg Met Phe Gln Ser Thr Ala Gly Ser Gly Gly Val
 610 615 620
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 Gly Glu Phe Leu Lys Tyr Met Glu Ala Phe Lys Pro Phe Leu Gly Ile
 645 650 655
 Gly Leu Lys Asn Tyr Ala Glu Tyr Gln Val Cys Leu Ala Ala Val Gly
 660 665 670
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 675 680 685
 Cys Asp Glu Val Met Gln Leu Leu Leu Glu Asn Leu Gly Asn Glu Asn
 690 695 700
 Val His Arg Ser Val Lys Pro Gln Ile Leu Ser Val Phe Gly Asp Ile
 705 710 715 720
 Ala Leu Ala Ile Gly Gly Glu Phe Lys Lys Tyr Leu Glu Val Val Leu
 725 730 735
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 740 745 750
 Asp Met Val Asp Tyr Leu Asn Glu Leu Arg Glu Ser Cys Leu Glu Ala
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 Tyr Thr Gly Ile Val Gln Gly Leu Lys Gly Asp Gln Glu Asn Val His
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 Pro Asp Val Met Leu Val Gln Pro Arg Val Glu Phe Ile Leu Ser Phe
 785 790 795 800
 Ile Asp His Ile Ala Gly Asp Glu Asp His Thr Asp Gly Val Val Ala
 805 810 815
 Cys Ala Ala Gly Leu Ile Gly Asp Leu Cys Thr Ala Phe Gly Lys Asp
 820 825 830
 Val Leu Lys Leu Val Glu Ala Arg Pro Met Ile His Glu Leu Leu Thr

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835	840	845															
Glu	Gly	Arg	Arg	Ser	Lys	Thr	Asn	Lys	Ala	Lys	Thr	Leu	Ala	Thr	Trp		
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 <213> ORGANISM: Homo sapiens

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Gly	Asp	Gly	Gly	Thr	Gly	Lys	Thr	Thr	Phe	Val	Lys	Arg	His	Leu	Thr		
			20						25				30				
Gly	Glu	Phe	Glu	Lys	Lys	Tyr	Val	Ala	Thr	Leu	Gly	Val	Glu	Val	His		
			35						40				45				
Pro	Leu	Val	Phe	His	Thr	Asn	Arg	Gly	Pro	Ile	Lys	Phe	Asn	Val	Trp		
50					55						60						
Asp	Thr	Ala	Gly	Gln	Glu	Lys	Phe	Gly	Gly	Leu	Arg	Asp	Gly	Tyr	Tyr		
65					70						75				80		
Ile	Gln	Ala	Gln	Cys	Ala	Ile	Ile	Met	Phe	Asp	Val	Thr	Ser	Arg	Val		
			85						90				95				
Thr	Tyr	Lys	Asn	Val	Pro	Asn	Trp	His	Arg	Asp	Leu	Val	Arg	Val	Cys		
			100						105				110				
Glu	Asn	Ile	Pro	Ile	Val	Leu	Cys	Gly	Asn	Lys	Val	Asp	Ile	Lys	Asp		
			115						120				125				
Arg	Lys	Val	Lys	Ala	Lys	Ser	Ile	Val	Phe	His	Arg	Lys	Lys	Asn	Leu		
130					135						140						
Gln	Tyr	Tyr	Asp	Ile	Ser	Ala	Lys	Ser	Asn	Tyr	Asn	Phe	Glu	Lys	Pro		
145					150						155				160		
Phe	Leu	Trp	Leu	Ala	Arg	Lys	Leu	Ile	Gly	Asp	Pro	Asn	Leu	Glu	Phe		
			165						170				175				
Val	Ala	Met	Pro	Ala	Leu	Ala	Pro	Pro	Glu	Val	Val	Met	Asp	Pro	Ala		
			180						185				190				
Leu	Ala	Ala	Gln	Tyr	Glu	His	Asp	Leu	Glu	Val	Ala	Gln	Thr	Thr	Ala		
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Leu	Pro	Asp	Glu	Asp	Asp	Asp	Leu										
210					215												

<210> SEQ ID NO 13
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Ile	Gly	Phe	Glu	Phe	Trp	Lys	Gln	Leu	Cys	Ala	Glu	His	Gly	Ile	Ser		
			20						25				30				

-continued

Asn	Phe	Asp	Glu	Met	Asp	Arg	Ser	Arg	Glu	Val	Val	Gln	Glu	Leu	Ile
			420					425					430		
Asp	Glu	Tyr	His	Ala	Ala	Thr	Gln	Pro	Asp	Tyr	Ile	Ser	Trp	Gly	Thr
		435					440					445			
Gln	Glu	Gln													
	450														

What is claimed is:

1. A method of assaying for the presence or absence of nucleolar channel systems (NCSs) in an endometrial tissue sample, where the method comprises contacting the tissue sample with an agent that is specific for a protein selected from the group consisting of one or more of Nup153, Nup62, Tpr, Lamin A/C, Lamin A, Lamin B2, Emerin, Calnexin, BiP, PDI, CLIMP63, Karyopherin beta 1, Ran and gamma-tubulin, wherein the presence of the protein within nuclei of endometrial epithelial cells indicates the presence of NCSs in the endometrial tissue sample and wherein the absence of the protein within nuclei of endometrial epithelial cells indicates the absence of NCSs in the endometrial tissue sample.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the agent binds to one or more of Nup153, Lamin A/C and Emerin.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the agent is an antibody or an antibody fragment.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the agent is monoclonal antibody 414.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the presence of NCSs indicates that the endometrium is in a state that is receptive for implantation of an embryo.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the tissue sample is obtained from the endometrium of a woman between day 18 and day 24 of a 28 day menstrual cycle, where day 1 of the cycle is defined as the first day of menstrual blood loss, and wherein the absence of NCSs indicates that the endometrium is not in a state that is receptive for implantation of an embryo.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the tissue sample is obtained from the endometrium of a woman between day 19 and day 22 of a 28 day menstrual cycle, where day 1 of the cycle is defined as the first day of menstrual blood loss, and wherein the absence of NCSs indicates that the endometrium is not in a state that is receptive for implantation of an embryo.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the tissue sample is obtained from the endometrium of a woman between day 4 and day 9 of the luteal phase of the menstrual cycle, and wherein the absence of NCSs indicates that the endometrium is not in a state that is receptive for implantation of an embryo.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the tissue sample is obtained from the endometrium of a woman between day 5 and day 8 of the luteal phase of the menstrual cycle, and wherein the absence of NCSs indicates that the endometrium is not in a state that is receptive for implantation of an embryo.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the presence or absence of the protein is determined using a light microscope.

11. A method of determining whether or not a postovulatory human endometrium is in a state that is receptive for implantation of a human embryo, the method comprising contacting a tissue sample from the endometrium with an

agent that binds to nucleolar channel systems (NCSs), wherein the presence of NCSs indicates that the endometrium is in a state that is receptive for implantation of an embryo and the absence of NCSs indicates that the endometrium is not in a state that is receptive for implantation of an embryo.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the tissue sample is obtained from the endometrium of a woman between day 18 and day 24 of a 28 day menstrual cycle, where day 1 of the cycle is defined as the first day of menstrual blood loss.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein the tissue sample is obtained from the endometrium of a woman between day 19 and day 22 of a 28 day menstrual cycle, where day 1 of the cycle is defined as the first day of menstrual blood loss.

14. The method of claim 11, wherein the agent binds to one or more of Nup153, Nup62, Tpr, Lamin A/C, Lamin A, Lamin B2, Emerin, Calnexin, BiP, PDI, CLIMP63, Karyopherin beta 1, Ran and gamma-tubulin.

15. The method of claim 11, wherein the agent binds to one or more of Nup153, Lamin A/C and Emerin.

16. The method of claim 11, wherein the agent that binds to NCSs is an antibody or an antibody fragment.

17. The method of claim 11, wherein the agent is monoclonal antibody 414.

18. The method of claim 11, wherein the presence of NCSs is detected between day 18 and day 24 of a 28 day menstrual cycle, where day 1 of the cycle is defined as the first day of menstrual blood loss.

19. The method of claim 11, wherein the presence of NCSs is detected between day 19 and day 22 of a 28 day menstrual cycle, where day 1 of the cycle is defined as the first day of menstrual blood loss.

20. The method of claim 11, wherein the presence of NCSs is detected between day 4 and day 9 of the luteal phase of the menstrual cycle.

21. The method of claim 11, wherein the presence of NCSs is detected between day 5 and day 8 of the luteal phase of the menstrual cycle.

22. A method of determining the effectiveness of a contraceptive in a woman, the method comprising contacting a tissue sample from the endometrium of a woman who is taking the contraceptive with an agent that binds to nucleolar channel systems (NCSs), wherein the presence of NCSs indicates that the contraceptive may not be effective and wherein the absence of NCSs between day 18 and day 24 of a 28 day menstrual cycle and/or between day 4 and day 9 of the luteal phase of the menstrual cycle indicates that the contraceptive is effective, where day 1 of the cycle is defined as the first day of menstrual blood loss.

23. The method of claim 22, wherein the absence of NCSs between day 19 and day 22 of a 28 day menstrual cycle indicates that the contraceptive is effective, where day 1 of the cycle is defined as the first day of menstrual blood loss.

24. The method of claim **22**, wherein the absence of NCSs between between day 5 and day 8 of the luteal phase of the menstrual cycle indicates that the contraceptive is effective.

25. The method of claim **22**, wherein the agent binds to one or more of Nup153, Nup62, Tpr, Lamin A/C, Lamin A, Lamin B2, Emerin, Calnexin, BiP, PDI, CLIMP63, Karyopherin beta 1, Ran and gamma-tubulin.

26. The method of claim **22**, wherein the agent binds to one or more of Nup153, Lamin A/C and Emerin.

27. The method of claim **22**, wherein the agent that binds to NCSs is an antibody or an antibody fragment.

28. The method of claim **22**, wherein the agent is monoclonal antibody 414.

* * * * *

专利名称(译)	检测人子宫内膜的核仁通道系统及其用途		
公开(公告)号	US20090215074A1	公开(公告)日	2009-08-27
申请号	US12/321603	申请日	2009-01-22
[标]申请(专利权)人(译)	MEIERÜTHOMAS		
申请(专利权)人(译)	MEIERÜTHOMAS		
当前申请(专利权)人(译)	MEIERÜTHOMAS		
[标]发明人	MEIER U THOMAS		
发明人	MEIER, U. THOMAS		
IPC分类号	G01N33/53		
CPC分类号	G01N2333/46 G01N33/5088		
优先权	61/062827 2008-01-29 US		
其他公开文献	US7846680		
外部链接	Espacenet USPTO		

摘要(译)

公开了用于在光学显微镜水平测定子宫内膜组织样品中核仁通道系统 (NCS) 的存在或不存在的方法, 以及用于确定排卵后子宫内膜是否处于可接受植入的状态的方法。人类胚胎, 其中NCS的存在表明子宫内膜处于可接受胚胎植入的状态, 并且缺乏NCS表明子宫内膜不处于接受胚胎植入的状态, 并且方法用于确定女性避孕药的有效性, 包括测定子宫内膜组织样品中是否存在NCS。

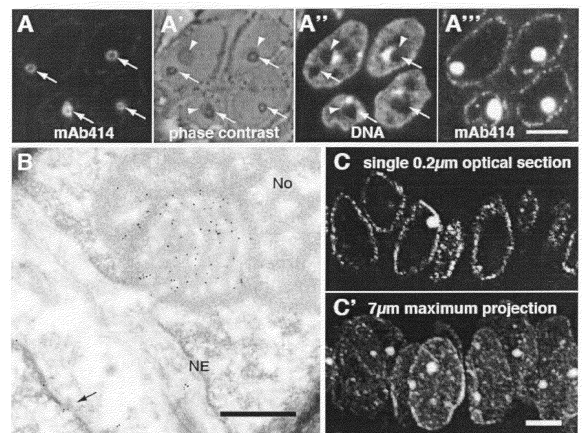


FIGURE 1A-1C'