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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

Merck Sharp & Dohme LLC,
Petitioner,

v.

Halozyme Inc.,
Patent Owner.

Case No. PGR2025-00087
U.S. Patent No. 12,371,685

PETITION FOR POST GRANT REVIEW

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I. Introduction

Petitioner Merck Sharp & Dohme LLC (“Merck”) requests post grant review of U.S. Patent No. 12,371,685 (“’685 Patent”).

Claims 1-10 of the ’685 Patent specify modified human PH20 polypeptides that (i) *must have* one amino acid substitution at position 324, and (ii) *may have* up to 20 additional substitutions at *any* of 432 other positions, and to *any* of 19 other amino acids. Together, these parameters operate to capture between 10^{49} and 10^{60} distinct PH20 polypeptides, a scale that is unfathomable—the collective weight of one molecule of each polypeptide in the smallest set exceeds the weight of the Earth, and simply making and testing each set per the patent’s methodology would require lifetimes of “making and testing” experiments.

Critically, every claim also requires modified PH20 polypeptides that “exhibit[] increased hyaluronidase activity” compared to the unmodified 447-residue PH20 polypeptide in SEQ ID NO: 3 (PH20₁₋₄₄₇). But which of the 10^{49+} multiply modified PH20 polypeptides being claimed actually exhibit increased activity is undisclosed and unknown. Also undisclosed and unknown are which of the modified PH20 polypeptides that meet the sequence identity parameters but (i) exhibit lower hyaluronidase activity than unmodified PH20₁₋₄₄₇, (ii) are or are not “soluble,” (iii) are properly folded but are inactive, and (iv) do not fold or cannot be produced (and thus have no utility).

These immensely broad claims thus are unpatentable for two independent reasons, both of which are linked to their extreme breadth. Specifically, when measured against the common disclosure of the '685 Patent and its ultimate parent '731 Application,¹ each utterly fails the written description and enablement requirements of § 112(a). That also precludes the claims from being entitled to a valid § 120 benefit claim to the '731 Application, the only non-provisional application filed before March 16, 2013, thus making the '685 Patent PGR eligible.

Regarding written description, the common disclosure makes no effort to identify (and never contends there is) a common structure shared by all multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides that meet the claims' parameters and exhibit increased hyaluronidase activity. The disclosed examples also are not representative of the claimed "increased activity" modified PH20 polypeptides. Each has only *one* amino acid substitution within *one* PH20 sequence: the PH20₁₋₄₄₇ sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3, while the claims encompass PH20 polypeptides with myriad, *undescribed* combinations of 5, 10, 15, or 20 substitutions anywhere within a *different* PH20 reference sequence (*i.e.*, the 433 residue PH20 sequence of SEQ ID NO: 35). And the common disclosure nowhere connects the variables of the claims: "increased activity," modifying PH20 polypeptides having 433 (rather

¹ 13/694,731 ('731 Application) (EX1026).

than 447) residues, and substitutions at position 324 combined with between 16 and 20 additional substitutions, deletions, and/or additions.

Regarding enablement, equally fatal problems exist: the disclosure identifies *no* enzymatically active modified PH20 polypeptide with 2 or more substitutions, much less affirmatively guides the selection of *which* of the 10^{49+} combinations of substitutions will yield enzymes that are active and exhibit *increased* activity. And the only process it discloses for making multiply-substituted active mutants is a prophetic “trial-and-error discovery” experiment that must be repeated innumerable times until between 10^{49} and 10^{60} unique proteins have been made and tested to determine which are active mutants within the claim scope. That is far more than undue experimentation—it is impossible. Indeed, the Supreme Court found claims to a much smaller genus of modified proteins non-enabled due to the necessity of performing analogous “trial and error discovery” experiments to discover which met the claim requirements.²

Patentee’s recent conduct in other members the ’685 Patent family reflects even its recognition that analogous claims requiring increased activity claims are fatally defective. Specifically, each time Petitioner challenged comparable claims requiring increased hyaluronidase activity or solubility in another member of the

² *Amgen Inc. v. Sanofi*, 598 U.S. 594, 614 (2023).

'685 Patent family for lack of written description or non-enablement, Patentee responded by statutorily disclaiming those challenged claims, instead of attempting to defend them.³ Halozyme's actions speak volumes.

For the reasons set forth in this Petition, each claim of the '685 Patent lacks sufficient written description in and is not enabled by the disclosure of any application to which it claims priority or benefit, as well as by the application that issued as the '685 Patent. Because each claim is unpatentable, the Board should institute trial.

II. Compliance with PGR Requirements

A. Certification of Standing

Petitioner certifies this Petition is filed within 9 months of the '685 Patent's issuance. Petitioner certifies it is not barred or estopped from requesting this PGR.

³ PGR2025-00003, EX2003 (claims 5-7); PGR2025-00004, EX2003 (claims 5-6); PGR2025-00006, EX2003 (claims 5-7); PGR2025-00009, EX2003 (claims 4-5, 15); PGR2025-00017, EX2003 (claims 4-5, 16); PGR2025-00024, EX2003 (claims 4-5, 16); PGR2025-00030, EX2003 (claims 4-5); PGR2025-00033, EX2003 (claims 4-5, 35); PGR2025-00039, EX2003 (claims 5-6); PGR2025-00042, EX2003 (claims 4, 6); PGR2025-00046, EX2003 (claims 4, 6); PGR2025-00050, EX2003 (claims 4-5); PGR2025-00053 (claim 4).

Petitioner and its privies have not filed a civil action challenging the validity of any claim of the '685 Patent.

The '685 Patent is eligible for post-grant review because at least one of its claims is not entitled to an effective filing date prior to March 16, 2013.

A patent is PGR eligible if it issued from an application filed after March 16, 2013 “if the patent contains ... at least one claim that was not disclosed in compliance with the written description and enablement requirements of § 112(a) in the earlier application for which the benefit of an earlier filing date prior to March 16, 2013 was sought.” *See Inguran, LLC v. Premium Genetics (UK) Ltd.*, Case PGR2015-00017, Paper 8 at 16-17 (P.T.A.B. Dec. 22, 2015); *US Endodontics, LLC v. Gold Standard Instruments, LLC*, PGR2015-00019, Paper 17 at 8 (P.T.A.B. Jan. 29, 2016); *Collegium Pharm., Inc. v. Purdue Pharma L.P.*, 2021 WL 6340198, at *14-18 (P.T.A.B. Nov. 19, 2021) (same) *aff'd Purdue Pharma L.P. v. Collegium Pharm., Inc.*, 86 F.4th 1338, 1346 (Fed. Cir. 2023); *Intex Recreation Corp. v. Team Worldwide Corp.*, 2020 WL 2071543, at *26 (P.T.A.B. Apr. 29, 2020) (same).

Only one of the applications to which the '685 Patent claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 and/or § 121 was filed before March 16, 2013—U.S.

Application No. 13/694,731 (the '731 Application), filed on December 28, 2012.

That application, issued as U.S. Patent No. 9,447,401 (EX1025), claims priority to

two provisional applications (61/631,313, filed November 1, 2012 and 61/796,208, filed December 30, 2011) and WO 01/3087 (“WO087”). The ’731 Application, however, alters several passages of the provisional disclosures, adds new examples and tested mutants and makes other changes.⁴

The ’731 Application (including subject matter incorporated by reference from the two provisional applications) does not provide written description support for and does not enable any claim of the ’685 Patent (§§ V.A, V.B). The same is true for the ’685 Patent, whose disclosure relative to the claims is generally the same as the ’731 Application.⁵ The ’685 Patent is PGR eligible as at least one of its claims does not comply with § 112(a) based on the ’731 Application filed before March 16, 2013 for the reasons set forth in §§ V.A, V.B and V.D, *infra*.

B. Mandatory Notices

1. Real Party-in-Interest

Merck Sharp & Dohme LLC is the real party-in-interest for this Petition.

⁴ EX1026, 153:15-163:26, 324-34, 19:25-26, 28; EX1051; EX1052.

⁵ “Common disclosure” refers to the shared disclosure of the ’685 Patent and the ’731 Application (EX1026). Citations are to the ’685 Patent; EX1015 correlates citations to the ’731 Application. The disclosures are highly similar but not identical. *See* EX1068, ¶ 14.

2. Related Proceedings

PGR2025-00003, PGR2025-00004, PGR2025-00006, PGR2025-00009, PGR2025-00017, PGR2025-00024, PGR2025-00030, PGR2025-00033, PGR2025-00039, PGR2025-00042, PGR2025-00046, PGR2025-00050, PGR2025-00052, and PGR2025-00053 are related proceedings.

On April 24, 2025, Patent Owner filed a complaint in *Halozyme, Inc. v. Merck Sharp & Dohme Corp.*, Case No. 2-25-cv-03179 (D.N.J.), alleging infringement of related patents in the '685 Patent's family.

3. Counsel and Service Information

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Petitioner consents to service via e-mail at the email addresses listed above and at HalozymePGRs@sidley.com.

III. Grounds

The grounds advanced in this Petition are:

- (a) Claims 1-10 are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as lacking adequate written description.
- (b) Claims 1-10 are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as not being enabled.

Petitioner's grounds are supported by the evidence submitted with this Petition, including testimony from Dr. Michael Hecht (EX1003) and Dr. Sheldon Park (EX1004).

“PH20” refers to the human PH20 hyaluronidase protein. The full-length PH20 protein (SEQ ID NO: 6) includes a 35 amino acid signal sequence, and mature forms of PH20 differ from SEQ ID NO: 6 by 35 residues.⁶ “PH20_{1-n}” refers to a sequence of 1-n residues in PH20 (*e.g.*, PH20₁₋₄₄₇ is SEQ ID NO: 3), and “AxxxB” is used to identify the position of a substitution (*e.g.*, “E324D”).

⁶ EX1003, ¶ 16.

IV. Background on the '685 Patent

A. Field of the Patent

The '685 Patent concerns the human PH20 hyaluronidase enzyme and making structurally altered forms of that protein that retain enzymatic activity.⁷

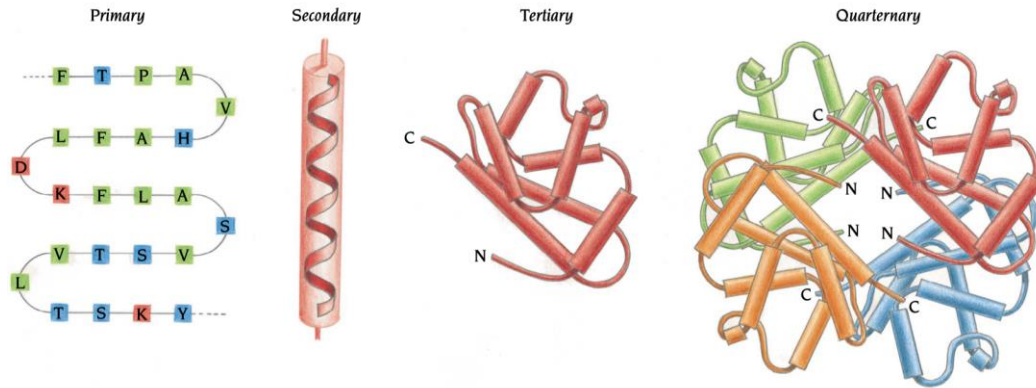
1. Protein Structures

Proteins are comprised of sequences of amino acids. A protein's activity, however, derives from its unique, three-dimensional shape—its structure.⁸ That is dictated by specific and often characteristic patterns of amino acids in its sequence, which induce formation and maintenance of various secondary structures and structural motifs, which are packed into compact domains that define the protein's overall structure (tertiary structure).⁹

⁷ EX1001, 4:16-19; EX1003, ¶¶ 36-38.

⁸ EX1003, ¶ 39, EX1014, 3-4.

⁹ EX1014, 3-4, 24-32, Figure 1.1; EX1039, 136-37 (Figure 3-11); EX1003, ¶¶ 39-43.



Secondary structures, such as α -helices or β -strands, are formed and stabilized by different but characteristic patterns of amino acids (below).¹⁰

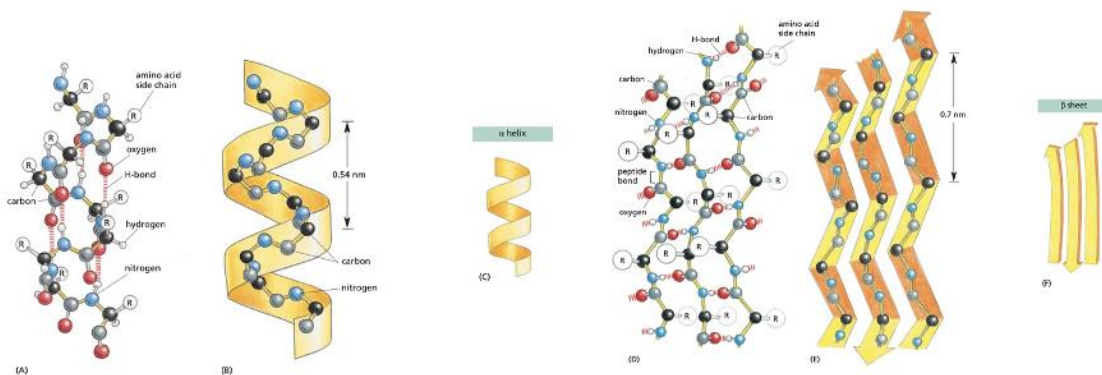


Figure 3-7 The regular conformation of the polypeptide backbone in the α helix and the β sheet. <GTAG> <TGCT>
 (A, B, and C) The α helix. The N-H of every peptide bond is hydrogen-bonded to the C=O of a neighboring peptide bond located four peptide bonds away in the same chain. Note that all of the N-H groups point up in this diagram and that all of the C=O groups point down (toward the C-terminus); this gives a polarity to the helix, with the C-terminus having a partial negative and the N-terminus a partial positive charge. (D, E, and F) The β sheet. In this example, adjacent peptide chains run in opposite (antiparallel) directions. Hydrogen-bonding between peptide bonds in different strands holds the individual polypeptide chains (strands) together in a β sheet, and the amino acid side chains in each strand alternately project above and below the plane of the sheet. (A) and (D) show all the atoms in the polypeptide backbone, but the amino acid side chains are truncated and denoted by R. In contrast, (B) and (E) show the backbone atoms only, while (C) and (F) display the shorthand symbols that are used to represent the α helix and the β sheet in ribbon drawings of proteins (see Panel 3-2B).

¹⁰ EX1039, 134; EX1014, 14-22, Figures 2.2, 2.5, Table 2.1; EX1047, 2031-32; EX1003, ¶¶ 43-46.

Intervening sequences between those characteristic sequences are important too; they direct and facilitate positioning and arrangement of the various secondary structures into structural motifs and the protein's tertiary structure.¹¹

Changes to a protein's amino acid sequence can affect the folding, formation and stability of these various structures that define the protein's overall shape. For example, changing even a single residue known to be critical to the protein's structure or activity can render a protein inactive.¹²

Making many concurrent changes to a protein's sequence can cause myriad effects on the protein's structure, especially when they are in or affect the same region(s) of the protein.¹³ For example, it can disrupt the characteristic patterns, spacing and/or types of amino acids required to induce formation and stability of secondary structures, and disrupt folding and positioning of the secondary structures and structural motifs into the protein's tertiary structure.¹⁴ Multiple changes in different regions of the amino acid sequence also cause unfavorable

¹¹ EX1003, ¶¶ 47-49; EX1014, 21-22.

¹² EX1003, ¶¶ 57, 61, 174; EX1004, ¶¶ 20, 25.

¹³ EX1003, ¶ 58, 69, 182.

¹⁴ EX1003, ¶¶ 57-58, 167-168; EX1047, 6349; EX1046, 2034; *see also* EX1040, 14412-13; EX1041, 21149-50; EX1042, 1-3.

spatial interactions that destabilize or impair folding.¹⁵ Consequently, in 2011, predicting the effects of the myriad interactions that may be disrupted by multiple concurrent substitutions was beyond the capacity of skilled artisans and available computational tools.¹⁶

2. Hyaluronidase Enzymes

PH20 is one of five structurally similar human hyaluronidases and is homologous—evolutionarily related to—hyaluronidases in many species.¹⁷ PH20 breaks down hyaluronan (“HA”) by selectively hydrolyzing glycosidic linkages.¹⁸ PH20 exists naturally as a GPI anchored protein; deletion of its GPI-anchoring sequence yields a soluble, neutral active enzyme.¹⁹

¹⁵ EX1003, ¶¶ 60-62.

¹⁶ EX1003, ¶¶ 53, ; EX1004, ¶¶ 172-174; EX1027 at 8-11.

¹⁷ EX1007, 10:18-30; EX1006, 6911, 6916 (Figure 3); EX1003, ¶¶ 36, 81.

¹⁸ EX1003, ¶ 81; EX1008, 819.

¹⁹ EX1005, 2:40-61, 87:52-88:24; EX1013, 430-32, Figure 2; EX1003, ¶¶ 96, 228; EX1029, 546, Figure 1.

Many essential residues in PH20 had been identified before 2011. Several are in the shared catalytic site of the protein;²⁰ mutating certain residues in or near that site can abolish enzymatic activity.²¹ Conserved cysteine residues that stabilize the protein structure are also essential,²² as are certain conserved asparagine residues involved in glycosylation.²³

In 2007, Chao reported an experimentally determined structure of the human HYAL1 hyaluronidase, and used an alignment of the five human hyaluronidases to illustrate shared secondary structures and conserved residues in these proteins.²⁴ Using its experimental structure and sequence analysis, an earlier structure of bee venom hyaluronidase, and a computer model of the protein structures, Chao showed that human and non-human hyaluronidases share a highly conserved active

²⁰ EX1006, 6914-16, Figure 3; EX1007, 35:28-36:10; EX1011, 810-14; EX1008, 824-25; EX1009, 6912-17.

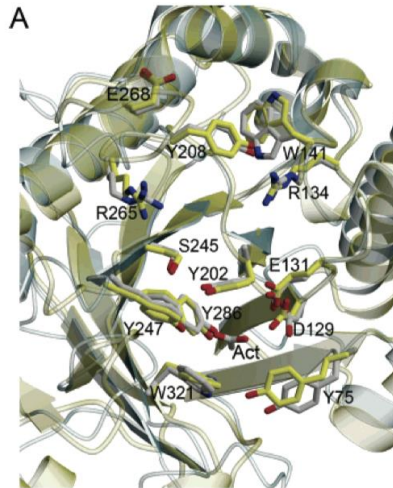
²¹ EX1011, 812-14; EX1010, 9435-39, Table 1.

²² EX1006, 6914-16, Figure 3; EX1011, 810-11; EX1005, 88:21-22.

²³ EX1005, 7:9-27; EX1007, 36:12-20; EX1010, 9433, 9435-40.

²⁴ EX1006, 6914-18.

site and identified residues that interact with HA, *inter alia*, by superimposing HYAL1 and bee venom hyaluronidase structures.²⁵



The '429 Patent likewise used the bee venom hyaluronidase structure to identify critical residues in PH20,²⁶ and taught that hyaluronidase domains share similarity among species, including residues necessary for enzymatic activity.²⁷ It did not, however, include a PH20 or other human hyaluronidase structural model in its disclosure.

²⁵ EX1006, 6912-6914, 6916-18 Figures 2C, 4A; EX1033, 1028-29, 1035; Figure 1; EX1010, 9434, 9436, Figure 1; EX1004, ¶¶ 89-91; EX1003, ¶¶ 85-86.

²⁶ EX1005, 4:12-22, 86:49-53, 88:14-24.

²⁷ EX1005, 2:6-67, 4:11-22.

Chao also identified predicted secondary structures (e.g., β -sheets, α -helices) within human PH20 and the four other human hyaluronidases (Figure 3, below), as well as invariant conserved positions (blue), residues involved in catalysis (red), conserved cysteines that form disulfide bonds (gold) and conserved asparagine residues that are glycosylated (turquoise).²⁸

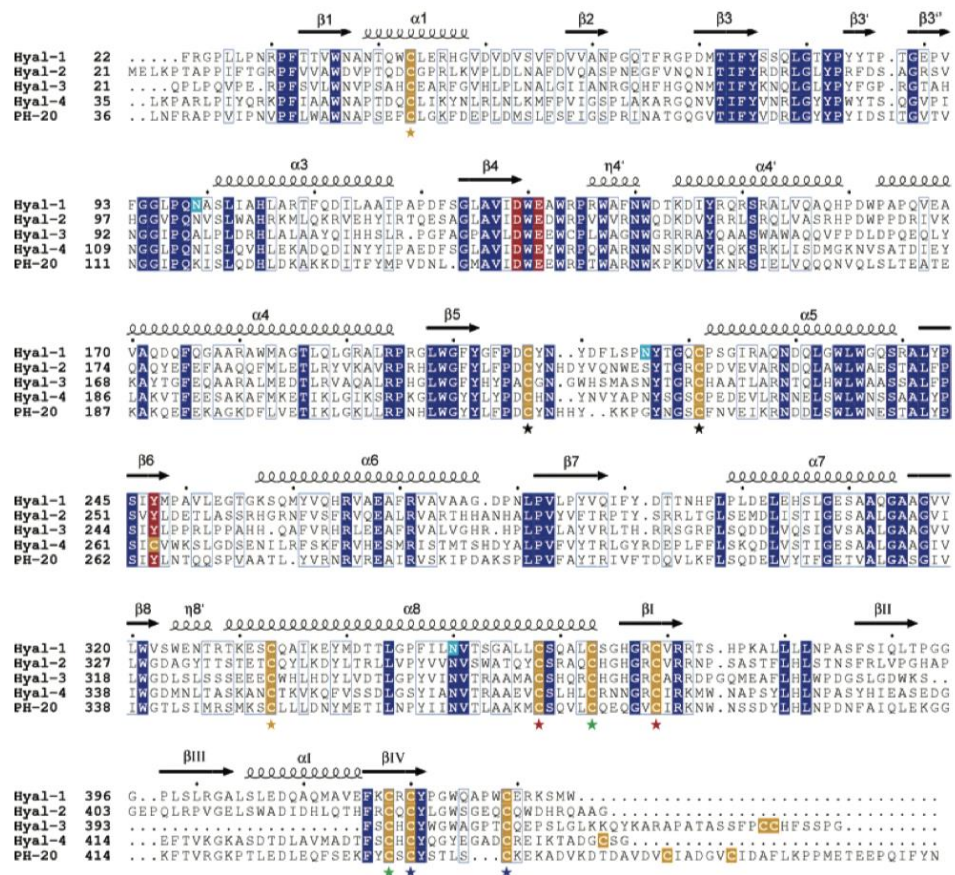


FIGURE 3: Structure-based sequence alignment of human hyaluronidases. Invariant residues are shown in blue except for three key catalytic residues that are colored red. Cysteine residues are colored yellow. The hHyal-1 N-glycosylated asparagines residues are colored turquoise. Residues exhibiting conservative replacements are blocked in blue. Pairs of cysteine residues that form disulfide bonds are indicated by stars with matching colors. Secondary structure units are labeled as in Figure 2B.

²⁸ EX1006, 6916; EX1003, ¶¶ 87, 91; EX1004, ¶¶ 92, 249.

Among Chao's findings was that human hyaluronidases (including PH20) contain a unique structure—"a novel, EGF-like domain" in the C-terminal region of human hyaluronidases²⁹—that was "closely associated" with the catalytic domain.³⁰ It identified a characteristic pattern for this "Hyal-EGF" domain, which in PH20 is at positions 337-409.³¹

3. Protein Engineering

There are two general approaches used to engineer changes into proteins.³² In "rational design," skilled artisans employed computational tools—sequence

²⁹ EX1006, 6911 ("a novel, EGF-like domain, characteristic of involvement in protein-protein interactions and regulatory processes"); 6917 ("Now that the 3D structure of hHyal-1 has revealed the presence of a novel HyalEGF-like domain, a search for partners and characterization of their interactions are timely."), 6913 ("The HyalEGF-like fold does not resemble the Hyal-1 C-terminal domain fold predicted by ab initio approaches (33)") (citing EX1009). *Also id.* at 6911-6913, 6916-6918, Figures 2A, 2D, 4B; EX1010, 9434, 9436; EX1003, ¶¶ 88-90.

³⁰ EX1006, 6911, 6913, 6914, 6917, 6918; EX1003, ¶¶ 88-90.

³¹ EX1006, 6911-6912; Figure 3; EX1004, ¶¶ 97-98; EX1003, ¶¶ 88-90.

³² EX1003, ¶ 49.

alignments and protein structure models—to study the protein and then select where and what changes to introduce.³³ For example, a “multiple-sequence alignment” (“MSA”)³⁴ produced by aligning known sequences of homologous, naturally occurring proteins identifies positions with no or little amino acid variation (“conserved” / “essential” residues) and positions where different amino acids occur (“non-conserved” / “non-essential” residues).³⁵ A structural model using the protein’s sequence but based on a known structure of a homologous protein enabled assessment of interactions between amino acids at a particular positions.³⁶ Using rational design techniques, a skilled artisan could assess, with varying effort, effects of changing one or a few amino acids, but could not use those techniques to predict the effects of many concurrent changes, given the escalating complexity of numerous, interrelated interactions between residues

³³ EX1016, 181-82; EX1017, 223, 236; EX1003, ¶¶ 51-53.

³⁴ EX1017, 224-27; EX1016, 181-86 (Figure 1); EX1003, ¶¶ 51-53; EX1004, ¶¶ 22-23, 29.

³⁵ EX1003, ¶ 251; EX1004, ¶¶ 21-22, 25, 30; EX1016, 181-84; EX1017, 224-25; EX1014, 351.

³⁶ EX1017, 228-30; EX1031, 461, 463, 469-71; EX1014, 351-52; EX1032, 265-66; EX1004, ¶ 37; *also id.* 33-36; EX1003, ¶¶ 261-266.

(which exponentially increase with the number of changes) and the limits of protein modeling tools.³⁷ Indeed, computer-based systems for predicting protein structures from amino acid sequences did not reach levels of accuracy comparable to experimentally determined structure until the 2018-2020 time frame (below).³⁸

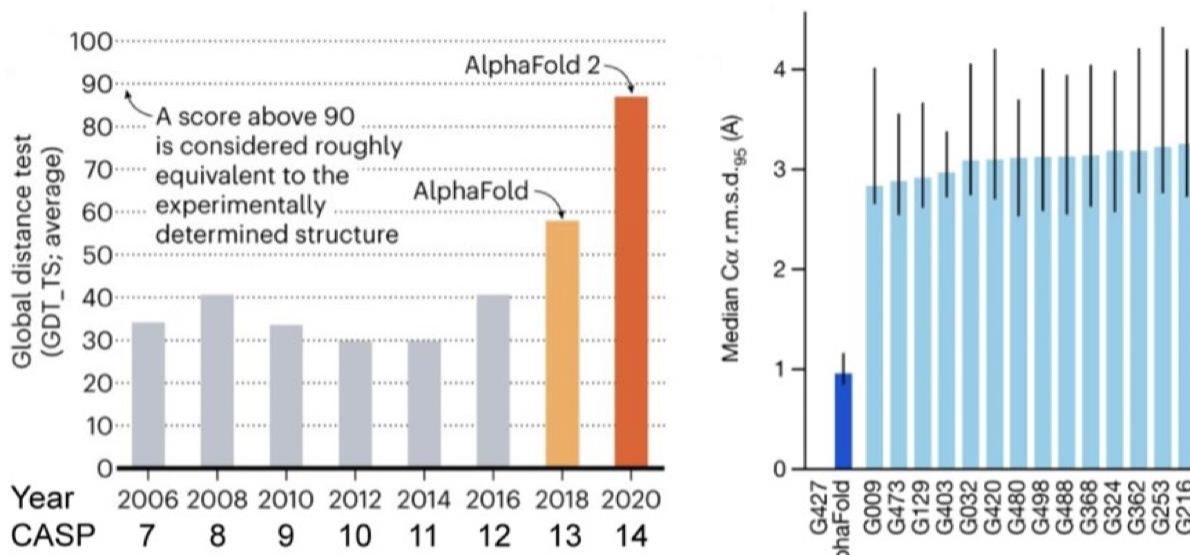


Figure 6. Left: progress of the CASP performance over the years for the best models and the most difficult targets.³⁸ Right: performance of AlphaFold2 relative to the top 15 entries by other groups in CASP14. Data are the median coordinate error and the 95% confidence interval of the median, estimated from 10 000 bootstrap samples.⁴¹

“Directed evolution” techniques arose due to the limits of rational design.³⁹

They use “trial-and-error” experiments to find mutants with randomly distributed changes that exhibit desired properties, but require creation and screening of large

³⁷ EX1003, ¶¶ 53, 184; EX1004, ¶¶ 172-174.

³⁸ EX1027, 6-11, Figure 6; EX1003, ¶¶ 168, 182.

³⁹ EX1003, ¶¶ 53-54; EX1059, 1225-26; EX1018, 378.

libraries of mutants, each with one amino acid randomly changed at one position in its sequence.⁴⁰ Importantly, until a desired mutant is made, found, and tested, whether it can be made and its sequence are unknown.⁴¹ Sophisticated assays that rapidly and precisely identify mutants with desired properties are critical, given the scale of experimentation this approach requires.⁴² The '685 Patent embodies this approach.⁴³

B. Person of Ordinary Skill in the Art

While the '685 Patent claims priority to provisional applications dating to December 30, 2011 and benefit to the '731 Application filed December 28, 2012, none of those earlier-filed applications when each was filed supported the claims as required by § 112(a). In particular, the arguments and evidence presented in this petition establish that the contested claims are unpatentable because the disclosure of the '731 Application (as well as the more limited disclosures in the two provisional applications incorporated within the '731 Application) do not provide an adequate written description of and do not enable what is being claimed by each

⁴⁰ EX1003, ¶¶ 53-54; EX1059, 1225-26; EX1018, 378.

⁴¹ EX1003, ¶¶ 214-215.

⁴² EX1003, ¶¶ 53-55.

⁴³ EX1003, ¶¶ 146, 183, 193, 197.

of the challenged claims as of the dates each of those applications was filed (*i.e.*, December 30, 2011, November 1, 2012 and December 28, 2012). *See* §§ II.A, V.A, V.B.

In this Petition, Merck is only advancing grounds based on inadequate written description and lack of enablement. In several post-grant review petitions challenging related patents in the family of the '685 Patent, Merck included obviousness grounds.⁴⁴ To support the obviousness grounds in those earlier petitions, Petitioner also included evidence documenting knowledge in the prior art and perspectives of a skilled artisan just prior to the earliest of the priority dates claimed by the patent at issue (*i.e.*, December 2011).⁴⁵

⁴⁴ *See, e.g., Merck Sharp & Dohme LLC v. Halozyme, Inc.*, PGR2025-00003, Paper 1 at 7.

⁴⁵ *See, e.g., Merck Sharp & Dohme LLC v. Halozyme, Inc.*, PGR2025-00003, Paper 1 at 16 (explaining that the '600 Patent claims "...are not entitled to those dates [2011 provisional application filing] or the filing date of the '731 Application (December 28, 2012), as they are not supported as § 112(a) requires by those earlier-filed applications" and noting "[t]he prior art of the grounds, however, was published by December 2011, and the obviousness

A person of ordinary skill in the art would have had an undergraduate degree, a Ph.D., and post-doctoral experience in scientific fields relevant to study of protein structure and function (*e.g.*, chemistry, biochemistry, biology, biophysics). From training and experience, the person would have been familiar with factors influencing protein structure, folding and activity, production of modified proteins using recombinant DNA techniques, and use of biological assays to characterize protein function, as well with techniques used to analyze protein structure (*i.e.*, sequence searching and alignments, protein modeling software, etc.).⁴⁶

C. Prosecution History

The '685 Patent issued on July 29, 2025. Examination, however, concluded in August of 2024, well before Merck submitted the first of its post-grant review petitions against members of this patent family.

During examination, the claims were rejected on several grounds (indefiniteness, anticipation, and double-patenting) that are not relevant to the

grounds thus use that date to assess the knowledge and perspectives of the skilled artisan”).

⁴⁶ EX1003, ¶ 12.

currently presented grounds.⁴⁷ These rejections were traversed with claim amendments, cancellation of claims, and terminal disclaimers.⁴⁸ Enablement grounds were not considered during examination.

After initially rejecting the then-pending claims for lack of written description, the Examiner withdrew the rejections without explanation after discussions between the Examiner and Patentee and the claims were amended to add an “increased hyaluronidase activity” requirement.⁴⁹ The written description rejections did not advance the same reasoning as and were not supported by evidence that is used in the present grounds. Moreover, the Examiner erred by not rejecting the amended claims that required increased hyaluronidase activity for lack of written description and enablement.

To the extent Patentee contends discretionary denial is warranted, Petitioner reserves the right to respond separately pursuant to the Acting Director’s March 26, 2025 Memorandum.⁵⁰

⁴⁷ EX1002, 497-498, 505-519, 586-588.

⁴⁸ EX1002, 537-539, 556, 614-616, 630-633, 638-641.

⁴⁹ EX1002, 498-505, 588-594, 614-615, 627, 638-639, 649, 676-677, 683.

⁵⁰ <https://www.uspto.gov/sites/default/files/documents/InterimProcesses-PTABWorkloadMgmt-20250326.pdf>;

D. The Challenged Claims

The claim terms are either expressly defined in the common disclosure or are used with their common and ordinary meaning. Consequently, no term requires an express construction to assess the grounds in this Petition.

A clear understanding of the *breadth* of the claims, however, is important—each captures a genus of mutants with increased hyaluronidase activity from within a massive number of structurally distinct mutant PH20 polypeptides which is neither adequately described in nor enabled by the common disclosure of the '731 Application and the '685 Patent.

1. The Claims Encompass a Staggering Number of Modified PH20 Polypeptides

The claims define an incredibly broad and diverse genus of “modified PH20 polypeptides,” which the common disclosure defines as “a PH20 polypeptide that contains at least one amino acid modification, such as at least one amino acid replacement ... in its sequence of amino acids compared to a reference unmodified PH20 polypeptide.”⁵¹

Claim 1 defines the genus as containing modified PH20 polypeptides that:

<https://www.uspto.gov/patents/ptab/faqs/interim-processes-workload-management>.

⁵¹ EX1001, 49:19-24.

- **must** contain **one** amino acid replacement at position 324 selected from substitution to one of three amino acids (D, N, and R); and
- **may** contain **additional** modifications, provided each polypeptide retains **at least 95% sequence identity** to SEQ ID NO: 35, which has a length of 433 residues.

Claim 1 further requires that the modified PH20 polypeptide “exhibits increased hyaluronidase activity compared to the hyaluronidase activity of the polypeptide set forth in the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3, measured under identical conditions,” but the claim does not indicate **which** of the $10^{49}+$ possible polypeptides meeting the two parameters above possess such increased activity.

Certain dependent claims further restrict the parameters of claim 1:

- (i) claims 2-3 require the substitution at position 324 to be to aspartic acid (D),
- (ii) claim 3 also requires 96% sequence identity with SEQ ID NO: 35, and
- (iii) claims 4-5 add further functional requirements to claim 1 (*i.e.*, “at least 120% of the hyaluronidase activity” of SEQ ID NO: 3 or solubility, respectively).

Claims 6-10 depend from claim 1 but do not alter its parameters governing the number of modified PH20 polypeptides:

- (i) claims 6-8 specify additional features (*e.g.*, glycosylation),

- (ii) claim 9 recites pharmaceutical compositions, and
- (iii) claim 10 recites a method of manufacturing.

The specification explains that “sequence identity can be determined by standard alignment algorithm programs ...”⁵² and provides an example, explaining a polypeptide that is “‘at least 90% identical to’ refers to percent identities from 90 to 100% relative to the reference polypeptide” where “no more than 10% (*i.e.*, 10 out of 100) of amino acids [] in the test polypeptide [] differs from that of the reference polypeptides.”⁵³

It further explains that “differences can be represented as point mutations randomly distributed over the entire length of an amino acid sequence” and that “[d]ifferences are defined as [] amino acid substitutions, insertions or deletions.”⁵⁴ Also, “amino acids selected to replace the target positions on the particular protein being optimized can be either all of the remaining 19 amino acids, or a more restricted group containing only selected amino acids” (*e.g.*, 10-18 of the 19 alternative amino acids).⁵⁵ Except for position 324, no language in the claims

⁵² EX1001, 60:50-52.

⁵³ EX1001, 61:18-27.

⁵⁴ EX1001, 61:28-36; *see also id.* at 5:1-2, 48:24-28, 37-39.

⁵⁵ EX1001, 138:8-15; *see also id.* at 143:25-27.

restricts *where* substitutions can occur within the modified PH20 sequence, or *which* of 19 other amino acids can be substituted at those positions.

The sequence identity parameters capture immense numbers of modified PH20 polypeptides, each with a unique amino acid sequence (below).⁵⁶

Claims	Max Length	Seq. Id. %	Max Changes	Pos. 324 Choices	# of Distinct Polypeptides
1, 4-10	433	95	21	3	1.52×10^{60}
2	433	95	21	1	5.08×10^{59}
3	433	96	17	1	1.53×10^{49}

2. The Claim Language Expressly Restricts the Claims to “Active Mutants”

When a specification discloses alternative embodiments, the claim language may limit the claims to one.⁵⁷ That is unquestionably true here: the specification describes two mutually exclusive categories of “modified PH20 polypeptides” (*i.e.*, “active mutants” vs. “inactive mutants”), but the claim language expressly limits them to modified PH20 polypeptides with “increased hyaluronidase activity” (*i.e.*, “active mutants”).

⁵⁶ EX1003, ¶¶ 133-135; EX1004, ¶¶ 180-182, Appendix F.

⁵⁷ *TIP Sys., LLC v. Phillips & Brooks/Gladwin, Inc.*, 529 F.3d 1364, 1375 (Fed. Cir. 2008).

The common disclosure portrays modified PH20 polypeptides as falling into one of two mutually exclusive categories:

- “**Active mutants**” are modified PH20 polypeptides “whereby the polypeptides exhibit at least 40% of the hyaluronidase activity of the corresponding PH20 polypeptide not containing the amino acid modification (*e.g.*, amino acid replacement).”⁵⁸
- “**Inactive mutants**” are modified PH20 polypeptides that “generally exhibit less than 20% ... of the hyaluronidase activity of a wildtype or reference PH20 polypeptide, such as the polypeptide set forth in SEQ ID NO: 3 or 7.”⁵⁹

It then classifies modified PH20₁₋₄₄₇ polypeptides with a single amino acid substitution into tables of “active” or “inactive” mutants using the >40% threshold

⁵⁸ EX1001, 76:19-24; *see also id.* at 80:1-5 (“active mutants” “can exhibit 40% to 5000% of the hyaluronidase activity of a wildtype or reference PH20 polypeptide ...”); *id.* at 79:65-80:1.

⁵⁹ EX1001, 119:58-67. *See also id.* at 270:18-22 (mutants with <20% activity “were rescreened to confirm that the dead mutants are inactive” in Table 10).

(Tables 3 and 9) or <20% threshold (Tables 5 and 10).⁶⁰ There are no examples in the common disclosure of an “active mutant” modified PH20 polypeptide with two or more specific substitutions,⁶¹ much less one with: (i) a first substitution listed in Tables 3 or 9 *plus* (ii) a second substitution listed in Tables 5 and 10.

The claim language explicitly requires each of the modified PH20 polypeptides to have *greater* hyaluronidase activity than unmodified PH20₁₋₄₄₇ (SEQ ID NO: 3). As claim 1 states:

...wherein the modified PH20 polypeptide *exhibits increased hyaluronidase activity* compared to the hyaluronidase activity of the polypeptide set forth in the amino acid

⁶⁰ EX1001, 235:1-3 (“Active mutants were selected whereby *at least one duplicate sample* exhibited greater than 40% of wildtype activity ...”); *id.* at 235:9-13 (Table 9 “...sets forth the *average hyaluronidase activity* of tested duplicates...”); *id.* at 82:3-29, 235:2-4, 120:58-122:7, 270:44-47 (“reconfirmed inactive mutants are set forth in Table 10.”); EX1003 ¶¶ 107-109, 112.

⁶¹ *E.g.*, EX1003, ¶¶ 166, 185.

sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3, measured under identical conditions.⁶²

Dependent claim 4 further requires the modified PH20 polypeptides of claim 1 to have “at least 120% of the hyaluronidase activity” relative to unmodified PH20₁₋₄₄₇, reinforcing that all modified PH20 polypeptides in claim 1 are “active mutants.”⁶³ The claim language thus requires every modified PH20 polypeptide in the claims’ scope to possess at least 100% of the activity of unmodified PH20₁₋₄₄₇, and expressly excludes “inactive mutants.”

The claims require modified PH20 polypeptides with a single substitution at 324—the “wild-type” glutamic acid (“E”) must be changed to one or one of three alternative amino acids: aspartic acid (“D”), asparagine (“N”), or arginine (“R”). The common disclosure reports that modified PH20₁₋₄₄₇ polypeptides with these substitutions are “Active Mutants” and exhibit >100% activity.⁶⁴

⁶² EX1001, 326:62-67 (emphasis added). The common disclosure likewise explains that “increased activity” “means that, when tested under the same conditions, the modified PH20 hyaluronidase exhibits greater hyaluronidase activity...”. *Id.* at 51:24-29.

⁶³ EX1001, 53:20-26, 135:8-27, 180:59-62, 320:36-321:56.

⁶⁴ EX1001, 87 (Table 3), 260 (Table 9), 101:49-61; EX1003, ¶¶ 149-152.

TABLE 8-continued

PH20 Variants	
E324A	GCT
E324C	TGT
E324D	GAT
E324F	TTT
E324G	GGG
E324H	CAT
E324L	TTG
E324M	ATG
E324N	AAT
E324P	CCT
E324R	CGG
E324S	AGT
E324V	GTG
E324W	TGG
E324Y	TAT

EX1001, 225

TABLE 9-continued

ACTIVE MUTANTS		
E324A		0.59
E324D		1.15
E324H		0.79
E324M		0.50
E324N	623	1.01
E324R	624	2.28
E324S		0.62

EX1001, 260

The specification defines a “modified PH20 polypeptide” as “a PH20 polypeptide that contains at least one amino acid modification,” but explains it can “have up to 150 amino acid replacements, so long as the resulting modified PH20 polypeptide *exhibits hyaluronidase activity*.”⁶⁵ The claim language thus aligns with the specification’s prophetic methodology for discovering modified PH20 polypeptides with multiple changes, which selects “active mutants” with one substitution, randomly introduces another substitution, and then screens to find “double mutants” that *retained* hyaluronidase activity.⁶⁶

⁶⁵ EX1001, 49:19-34; *see also id.* at 48:42-46, 76:44-47, 77:39-46, 82:10-29; EX1003, ¶ 153.

⁶⁶ EX1001, 142:59-143:3; *see also id.* at 42:48-55; EX1003, ¶ 153.

The only credible utility identified in the common disclosure is for modified PH20 that *retain hyaluronidase activity*.⁶⁷ The sole hypothetical utility proposed for inactive mutants—“as antigens in contraception vaccines”—was not credible as of December 28, 2012. *See* § V.C.⁶⁸

3. “Soluble PH20 Polypeptide”

Claim 5 further limits claim 1 by requiring the modified human PH20 polypeptides to be “soluble.” The common disclosure defines a “soluble human PH20” polypeptide as follows:

As used herein, soluble human PH20 (sHuPH20) includes human PH20 polypeptides that lack a contiguous sequence of amino acids from the C-terminus of human PH20 that includes all or a portion of the glycosylphosphatidylinositol

⁶⁷ EX1001, 182:7-13; *see also id.* at 4:33-36, 74:5-19, 158:20-22, 182:7-195:40. EX1003, ¶¶ 121, 193.

⁶⁸ EX1001, 76:28-30 (“Also provided are modified PH20 polypeptides that are inactive, *and* that can be used, for example, as antigens in contraception vaccines.”); *see also id.* at 195:41-42, 73:32-34, 195:40-60 (for “contraception” “the modified PH20 polypeptides can be inactive enzymes, such as any described in Sections C.2.”), 158:23-36; EX1003, ¶¶ 123-125; EX1060, 1711.

(GPI) anchor sequence (C-terminally truncated PH20 polypeptides) such that upon expression, the polypeptides are soluble under physiological conditions.⁶⁹

As defined, there are two attributes of a soluble human PH20 polypeptide.

First, it “lacks a contiguous sequence of amino acids that includes all or a portion of the [GPI] anchor sequence,” which the common disclosure identifies as “ATMFIVSILFLIISVAS” (positions 456 to 474 of SEQ ID NO:7), and a GPI anchor residue at 455.⁷⁰ A soluble wild-type PH20 may—but does not necessarily—result if it terminates between positions 455 and 473.⁷¹

Second, “a soluble PH20 refers to a polypeptide characterized by its solubility under physiological conditions.”⁷² The common disclosure then defines “solubility” with reference to proteins as follows:

⁶⁹ EX1001, 47:36-47 (emphasis added).

⁷⁰ EX1001, 73:9-16 (“...a GPI-anchor attachment signal sequence of human PH20 is located at amino acid positions 491-509 of the precursor polypeptide set forth in SEQ ID NO:6, and the ω-site is amino acid position 490.”); EX1003, ¶¶ 134-135.

⁷¹ EX1003, ¶ 136; EX1105, ¶ 349 (reporting “insoluble” PH20 polypeptides terminating between residues 466 to 474, relative to SEQ ID NO: 7).

⁷² EX1001, 47:7-9.

As used herein, “solubility” with reference to a protein refers to a protein that *is homogenous in an aqueous solution*, whereby protein molecules diffuse and do not sediment spontaneously. Hence a soluble protein solution is one in which there is an absence of a visible or discrete particle in a solution containing the protein, such that the particles cannot be easily filtered. Generally, a protein is soluble if there are no visible or discrete particles in the solution.⁷³

Particles are insoluble aggregates of a protein that form when the normal structure of the protein is disrupted (*e.g.*, by mutations, environmental conditions, etc.), thereby causing hydrophobic patches within the protein to become exposed to the aqueous environment that induce strong but non-specific interactions with other hydrophobic patches in the same or other proteins.⁷⁴

Thus, per the common disclosure’s definitions, a “soluble PH20 polypeptide” is “a PH20 polypeptide that (i) omits all or part of the C-terminal

⁷³ EX1001, 51:35-41.

⁷⁴ EX1001, 51:45-49 (“aggregation ... refers to the presence of visible or discrete particles in solution containing the protein”), 181:20-22; EX1003, ¶¶ 42, 156-157; EX1014, 99, 117 (“Unfolded proteins with exposed hydrophobic patches aggregate easily by non-specific hydrophobic interactions.”).

sequence 456-474 of SEQ ID NO:7 and (ii) is homogenous in an aqueous solution at physiological conditions.”⁷⁵ Petitioner notes that all species within the scope of claims 1 and 5 must terminate at or before position 453, as they must be based on SEQ ID NO: 35 (positions 1-433) and may include 20 additions in combination with the required substitution at position 324 (*i.e.*, $433 + 20 = 453$).

V. All Challenged Claims Are Unpatentable Under § 112 and None Are Entitled to Benefit to Any Pre-March 13, 2013 Application

Claims 1-10 are unpatentable because each claims enzymatically active modified PH20 polypeptides that lack written description in and were not enabled by the common disclosure.

Per § IV.D.1, the claim parameters capture between 10^{49} and 10^{60} distinct PH20 polypeptides. To practice the claims’ full scope of multiply-modified PH20 mutants with increased hyaluronidase activity (and, for that matter, to weed out the “inactive” and inoperative mutants captured by the claims’ sequence identity parameters), requires a skilled artisan to make-and-test at least $\sim 10^{49}$ mutants.⁷⁶ Simply producing one molecule of each mutant in the smallest set—required to know if each is active, inactive, can be produced or will fold—would consume an aggregate mass ($\sim 1.37 \times 10^{27}$ kg) that exceeds the mass of the Earth ($\sim 6 \times 10^{24}$

⁷⁵ EX1003, ¶ 144.

⁷⁶ EX1003, ¶¶ 133, 214-216.

kg).⁷⁷ Testing every polypeptide within the claims' scope in search of "active mutants" is impossible—literally.

Relative to that broad scope, the '685 Patent and the '731 Application provide only a meager disclosure: *singly*-modified PH20₁₋₄₄₇ polypeptides and a prophetic, make-and-test research plan to discover multiply-modified ones. It nowhere demonstrates possession of the vast remainder of enzymatically active multiply-modified polypeptides within each claim's scope, nor does it enable a skilled artisan to practice that full-range of active mutants having increased hyaluronidase activity without undue experimentation.

These *omissions* in the common disclosure cause fatal § 112(a) deficiencies for the claims:

- (i) The absence of any description of innumerable distinct multiply modified PH20 polypeptides, coupled with the absence of an identified common structure shared by all PH20 polypeptides with increased hyaluronidase activity that meet the claim parameters, renders the claims unpatentable due to inadequate written description.

⁷⁷ EX1003, ¶¶ 136, 220; *see also, e.g.*, EX1039, 136-37 (10³⁹⁰ forms of a polypeptide possible from 300 residue sequence).

- (ii) The absence of any examples of multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides with increased hyaluronidase activity, coupled with the disclosure's limited guidance on producing them—a single, prophetic method that requires making and testing $10^{49}+$ different PH20 polypeptides to discover which exhibit increased hyaluronidase activity—renders the claims unpatentable as being non-enabled.

For these and other reasons, explained *infra*, every claim is unpatentable under § 112(a).

Finally, as noted above, in the face of comparable § 112(a) challenges in other patents in the family that includes the '685 Patent, Patentee statutorily disclaimed claims requiring the modified PH20 polypeptides to have >100% or 120% hyaluronidase activity, increased stability, or to be soluble.⁷⁸ Patentee's conduct speaks volumes here.

A. All Claims Lack Written Description

The written description analysis focuses on the four corners of the patent disclosure.⁷⁹ “To fulfill the written description requirement, a patent owner must

⁷⁸ See FN 3, *supra*.

⁷⁹ *Ariad Pharms., Inc. v. Eli Lilly & Co.*, 598 F.3d 1336, 1351 (Fed. Cir. 2010) (*en banc*).

convey with reasonable clarity to those skilled in the art that, as of the filing date sought, he or she was in possession of the invention, and demonstrate that by disclosure in the specification of the patent.”⁸⁰ If the claims define a genus, the written description must “show that one has truly invented a genus ...,” “[o]therwise, one has only a research plan, leaving it to others to explore the unknown contours of the claimed genus.”⁸¹

“[A] genus can be sufficiently disclosed by either a representative number of species falling within the scope of the genus or structural features common to the members of the genus so that one of skill in the art can visualize or recognize the members of the genus.”⁸² “One factor in considering [written description] is how large a genus is involved and what species of the genus are described in the patent ... [I]f the disclosed species only abide in a corner of the genus, one has not

⁸⁰ *Idenix Pharm., LLC v. Gilead Scis., Inc.*, 941 F.3d 1149, 1163 (Fed. Cir. 2019) (internal quotation marks omitted).

⁸¹ *AbbVie Deutschland GmbH & Co., KG v. Janssen Biotech, Inc.*, 759 F.3d 1285, 1300 (Fed. Cir. 2014).

⁸² *Idenix*, 941 F.3d at 1164.

described the genus sufficiently to show that the inventor invented, or had possession, of the genus.”⁸³

A disclosure that fails to “provide sufficient blaze marks to direct a POSA to the specific subset” of a genus with the claimed function or characteristic does not satisfy § 112(a).⁸⁴ “[M]erely drawing a fence around the outer limits of a purported genus” is insufficient.⁸⁵ Instead, “the specification must demonstrate that the applicant has made a generic invention that achieves the claimed result and do so by showing that the applicant has invented species sufficient to support a claim to the functionally-defined genus.”⁸⁶

Four cases are especially probative here.

⁸³ *AbbVie*, 759 F.3d at 1299-1300.

⁸⁴ *Idenix*, 941 F.3d at 1164.

⁸⁵ *Ariad*, 598 F.3d at 1350-54.

⁸⁶ *Id.* at 1349. *In re Entresto*, 125 F.4th 1090, 1097-99 (Fed. Cir. 2025) found sufficient written description of a pharmaceutical composition of two known active ingredients even though it did not disclose that they formed a particular complex. Unlike *Entresto*, there is no disclosure of the vast majority of mutant species within the claimed genera here.

First, in *Novozymes et al., v. DuPont Nutrition Biosciences et al.*, 723 F.3d 1336 (Fed. Cir. 2013), the Federal Circuit held invalid for lack of written description genus claims to modified enzymes. Similar to the structure of the presently challenged claims, the *Novozyme* claims defined a genus of modified enzymes that required: (i) one amino acid substitution, (ii) 90% sequence identity to a reference enzyme sequence, and (iii) increased enzyme activity (“increased thermostability”) relative to the parent enzyme.⁸⁷

The Court started by rejecting the premise that written description of a genus of enzymes can be established by combining individual attributes of the enzymes reported in the specification (*i.e.*, “[i]n particular, BSG alpha-amylase, amino acid position 239 and improved thermostability...”).⁸⁸ Instead, the disclosure must describe the specific enzymes that possess those combinations of attributes:

While the 2000 application provides formal textual support for each individual limitation recited in the claims of the ’23 [sic] patent, ***it nowhere describes the actual functioning, thermostable alpha-amylase variants that those limitations***

⁸⁷ *Novozymes*, 723 F.3d at 1348.

⁸⁸ *Novozymes*, 723 F.3d at 1346, 1349 (“[T]he supporting disclosure of the 2000 application provides only generalized guidance listing several variables that might, in some combination, lead to a useful result.”).

together define. Taking each claim—as we must—as an integrated whole rather than as a collection of independent limitations, one searches the 2000 application in vain for the disclosure of even a single species that falls within the claims or for any “blaze marks” that would lead an ordinarily skilled investigator toward such a species among a slew of competing possibilities. “Working backward from a knowledge of [the claims], that is by hindsight,” *Novozymes* seeks to derive written description support from an amalgam of disclosures plucked selectively from the 2000 application.⁸⁹

The Court also rejected the idea that because written description can be established if one can perform experiments that might discover additional species of mutated enzymes within the genus:

Novozymes nonetheless maintains that one of ordinary skill in the art directed to position 239 would have known how to test every possible variant at that position and thus would have found the claimed variants as a matter of course. That argument misses the point, however. The question before us is not whether one of ordinary skill in the art presented with the 2000 application would have been enabled to take those final steps, but whether the 2000 application “discloses the

⁸⁹ *Novozymes*, 723 F.3d 1336, 1349 (emphasis added, citations omitted, second alteration in original).

[variants] to him, specifically, as something appellants actually invented.”⁹⁰

As the Court concluded:

In this case, to actually possess the variant enzymes claimed in the '23 [sic] patent would have required Novozymes to confirm its predictions by actually making and testing individual variants or at least identifying subclasses of variants that could be expected to possess the claimed properties, which it did not do before filing the 2000 application. At best, the 2000 application describes a roadmap for producing candidate alpha-amylase variants and then determining which might exhibit enhanced thermostability. A patent, however, “is not a reward for the search, but compensation for its successful conclusion.” *Ariad*, 598 F.3d at 1353 (quoting *University of Rochester*, 358 F.3d at 930 n. 10). For that reason, the written description requirement prohibits a patentee from “leaving it to the ... industry to complete an unfinished invention.”⁹¹

Second, in *AbbVie*, the Federal Circuit found a disclosure of 300 examples to not be representative of a genus of particular IL-12 antibodies:

⁹⁰ *Novozymes*, 723 F.3d at 1350 (citation omitted, alteration in original).

⁹¹ *Novozymes*, 723 F.3d at 1350 (quoting *Ariad*, 598 F.3d at 1353, second alteration in original).

Although the number of the described species appears high quantitatively, the described species are all of the similar type and do not qualitatively represent other types of antibodies encompassed by the genus.⁹²

It also criticized the prophetic description as being “only a research plan, leaving it to others to explore the unknown contours of the claimed genus” and a “trial and error approach.”⁹³

Third, *Idenix* addressed method of treatment claims using a broad genera of compounds defined by “eighteen position-by-position formulas describing ‘principal embodiments’ of compounds that may treat HCV,” each with “more than a dozen options” at each position (totaling “more than 7,000 unique configurations”).⁹⁴ The court criticized the specification’s failure to indicate which of the thousands of compounds would be effective, and found that “provid[ing] lists or examples of supposedly effective nucleosides,” without “explain[ing] what makes them effective, or why” deprives a skilled artisan “of any meaningful guidance into what compounds beyond the examples and formulas, if any, would provide the same result” because they “fail[] to provide sufficient blaze marks to

⁹² *AbbVie*, 759 F.3d at 1300-1301.

⁹³ *Id.*

⁹⁴ *Idenix*, 941 F.3d at 1158-64.

direct a POSA to the specific subset of 2'-methyl-up nucleosides that are effective in treating HCV.”⁹⁵

Finally, the Board in *Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health USA Inc. v. Kan. State Univ. Research Found.*, PGR2020-00076, Paper 42, 6 (P.T.A.B. Jan. 31, 2022) found unpatentable claims employing “90% sequence homology” language that captured “broad genus of amino acid sequence homologues” but which (like claim 1 here) imposed no restrictions where particular replacements could be made, thereby causing the claim “to cover, at minimum, thousands of amino acid sequences.”⁹⁶ Citing dependent claim 12, the Board found fatal to claim 1 the specification’s failure to “explain what, if any, structural features exist (*e.g.*, remain) in sequences that vary by as much as 10% that allow them to retain the antigenic characteristics referenced in the Specification” (*i.e.*, the same property that would be required of “inactive mutant” contraceptive PH20 polypeptides contemplated by the disclosure here).⁹⁷ As it observed, the homology limitation “serves to merely draw a fence around the outer limits of a purported genus

⁹⁵ *Id.* at 1164.

⁹⁶ *Boehringer*, at 16. The claims included methods of using proteins. *Id.* at 6.

⁹⁷ *Boehringer*, at 35; EX1001, 73:32-34.

[which] is not an adequate substitute for describing a variety of materials constituting the genus” for purposes of section 112(a).⁹⁸

The deficiencies of the present claims dwarf those in these cases. They capture much larger, much less predictable, and much more diverse sub-genera, and the common disclosure is far more limited. Because the common disclosure neither discloses a representative number of species of modified PH20 polypeptides with increased enzymatic activity meeting the claim requirements, nor identifies sufficient structural features common to such modified PH20 polypeptides, it fails to demonstrate possession of the full scope of the claims of the '685 Patent.

1. Claims 1-4 Lack Written Description

The claims encompass *all* enzymatically active PH20 polypeptides exhibiting increased hyaluronidase activity relative to the unmodified PH20₁₋₄₄₇ enzyme and that meet the sequence identity parameters of the claims. But the common disclosure does not identify *which* of the 10⁴⁹⁺ polypeptides within the claims' scope are those increased-activity mutants, much less demonstrates possession of all of them. And simply reciting a *desired* hyaluronidase activity (*i.e.*, >100% or ≥120%) does not identify *which* of the 10⁴⁹ to 10⁶⁰ modified PH20

⁹⁸ *Boehringer*, at 35-36.

polypeptides with 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 35 and a specified replacement at position 324 will exhibit those functional properties.⁹⁹

First, the handful of PH20₁₋₄₄₇ polypeptides with only one substitution at position 324 that are disclosed in the common disclosure and that exhibited the claimed levels of hyaluronidase activity are not representative of each claim's genus, which includes 10⁴⁹ to 10⁶⁰ additional PH20 polypeptides with up to 16 or 20 additional substitutions, deletions, and/or additions.¹⁰⁰ Critically, there are *no examples* (prophetic or actual) of any modified PH20 polypeptide *with 433 residues* (*i.e.*, SEQ ID NO: 35) that includes the required position 324 substitution, much less additional substitutions, deletions or additions.¹⁰¹

Second, the common disclosure identifies no common structural feature shared by all multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides (if any) within the claims' parameters exhibiting increased activity or $\geq 120\%$ of the activity of unmodified PH20₁₋₄₄₇.¹⁰² The presence of a single substitution at position 324 does not demonstrate that all multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides with that substitution

⁹⁹ EX1003, ¶¶ 190, 201.

¹⁰⁰ EX1001, 260 (Table 9); EX1003, ¶¶ 169, 201, 222.

¹⁰¹ EX1003, ¶ 166; *see* § V.A.1.c.ii.

¹⁰² EX1003, ¶¶ 164, 181, 190.

will also exhibit increased activity, and the common disclosure does not contend otherwise.¹⁰³ The sequence identity parameters used in the claims, notably, do not identify any specific structural changes within any particular modified PH20 polypeptides being claimed—they merely define the boundaries of the claims.

Third, the common disclosure makes no connection between modified PH20 polypeptides with “increased activity” that have 433 residues (SEQ ID NO: 35) and particular substitutions at position 324, and up to 16-20 additional substitutions. This connection is only made in the claims presented in the ’685 Patent, which seek to claim a specific subgenus of modified PH20 polypeptides not described in the common disclosure.

Fourth, the use of sequence identity language causes the claims to encompass modified PH20 polypeptides with modifications that the common disclosure instructs should be avoided in enzymatically active forms of PH20. By claiming enzymatically active modified PH20 polypeptides with such mutations, the claims are additionally unpatentable for lack of written description.

Finally, as noted previously, when faced with PGR petitions challenging claims requiring $>100\%$ or $\geq 120\%$ activity on written description grounds,

¹⁰³ EX1003, ¶¶ 166, 169.

Patentee has consistently filed statutory disclaimers disavowing those claims rather than defend their patentability.¹⁰⁴

(a) *The Claims Capture Massive and Diverse Sets of Enzymatically Active Modified PH20 Polypeptides*

Claims 1-4 encompass modified PH20 polypeptides based on SEQ ID NO: 35 (*i.e.*, residues 1-433) that are not only immense in number but are structurally and functionally diverse. They include mutants with between 2-21 substitutions for the broadest claims (*e.g.*, claims 1-2) to 2-17 for the narrowest (claim 3). The optional sets of substitutions can be anywhere in the sequence (*i.e.*, clustered in a narrow region, spaced apart in groups, or spread randomly throughout the sequence), to any of 19 other amino acids, and arranged in any manner.¹⁰⁵ The claims thus capture a mutant with 5 substituted hydrophobic residues clustered in a small region, as well as a mutant with 21 or 17 substitutions that mix polar, charged, aliphatic, and aromatic amino acids in any manner.¹⁰⁶

Each claim also encompasses substitutions within C-terminally truncated forms of PH20, which, via the claims' sequence identity language, capture PH20 polypeptides terminating at positions well before 430. For example, the sequence

¹⁰⁴ See FN 3, *supra*.

¹⁰⁵ EX1003, ¶¶ 132, 171; EX1001, 61:28-35, 48:24-28, 48:37-39, 42:3-9.

¹⁰⁶ EX1003, ¶¶ 132-133, 180.

identity parameters in claims 1 and 2 when applied to SEQ ID NO: 35 (433 residues in length) permit up to 20 deletions, thus capturing PH20s terminating at or before position 416. But removing so many residues from the C-terminus of PH20 can render it inactive, and the disclosure does not describe (or suggest) that incorporating a substitution at position 324 would restore (let alone increase) hyaluronidase activity.¹⁰⁷

(b) Mutations the Common Disclosure Says to Avoid in Enzymatically Active Modified PH20 Polypeptides

The claims' unconstrained sequence identity language captures modified PH20 polypeptides with innumerable combinations of substitutions, which Patent Owner may incorrectly contend capture modified PH20 polypeptides having features a skilled artisan would understand the disclosure to be saying to avoid in "active mutants." These include: (i) active mutant modified PH20 polypeptides that include substitutions that, as single substitutions, rendered the PH20 polypeptide inactive, and (ii) mutants with C-terminal truncations that, in the wild-type PH20 polypeptide, are substantially reduced or no hyaluronidase activity.

Multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides with these structural features raise questions regarding whether any will possess hyaluronidase activity (let alone increased activity), but at a minimum they would be viewed by a skilled artisan as

¹⁰⁷ EX1003, ¶¶ 187-191.

being structurally distinct types of enzymatically active modified PH20 polypeptides as compared to singly-substituted PH20₁₋₄₄₇ polypeptides which do not have those additional structural features.

The common disclosure does nothing to navigate this confusing landscape—it simply instructs the skilled artisan “to generate a modified PH20 polypeptide containing any one or more of the described mutations, and test each for a property or activity as described herein.”¹⁰⁸ The common disclosure thus does not describe modified PH20 polypeptides reflecting the structural diversity of the “active mutants” subgenus in the claims’ scope, let alone the portion of it that includes modified PH20 polypeptides with >100% or ≥120% of the hyaluronidase activity of PH20₁₋₄₄₇.

(i) “Active Mutant” PH20 Polypeptides with Substitutions that Render PH20₁₋₄₄₇ Inactive

The common disclosure indicates that “active mutant” modified PH20 polypeptides should not incorporate amino acid substitutions that, as single substitutions, rendered PH20₁₋₄₄₇ inactive, stating:

¹⁰⁸ EX1001, 79:6-10; EX1003, ¶ 165, 181-183, 201.

To retain hyaluronidase activity, modifications typically *are not made* at those positions that are less tolerant to change or required for hyaluronidase activity.¹⁰⁹

It identifies these changes as: (i) any substitution at 96 different positions in the PH20 sequence, and (ii) 313 specific amino acid substitutions listed in Tables 5 and 10.¹¹⁰ It does not limit this observation to single-substitution PH20₁₋₄₄₇ mutants—read literally, it instructs that any of the substitutions that alone render PH20₁₋₄₄₇ inactive should not be included in enzymatically active, multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides. The common disclosure also does not identify or describe any modified PH20 polypeptides that include any of the inactivating substitutions listed in Tables 5 and 10 in any enzymatically active multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides.¹¹¹ The common disclosure thus clearly conveys to the skilled artisan that enzymatically active multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides do not and should not contain (i) any substitutions at 96 identified positions or (ii) particular amino acid substitutions found in Tables 5 or 10.¹¹²

¹⁰⁹ EX1001, 80:52-54 (emphases added).

¹¹⁰ EX1001, 80:54-81:27.

¹¹¹ EX1003, ¶¶ 174-175, 184-186, 191-192.

¹¹² EX1003, ¶¶ 172-175, 180, 185-186; EX1001, 80:52-81:27, 71:17-28.

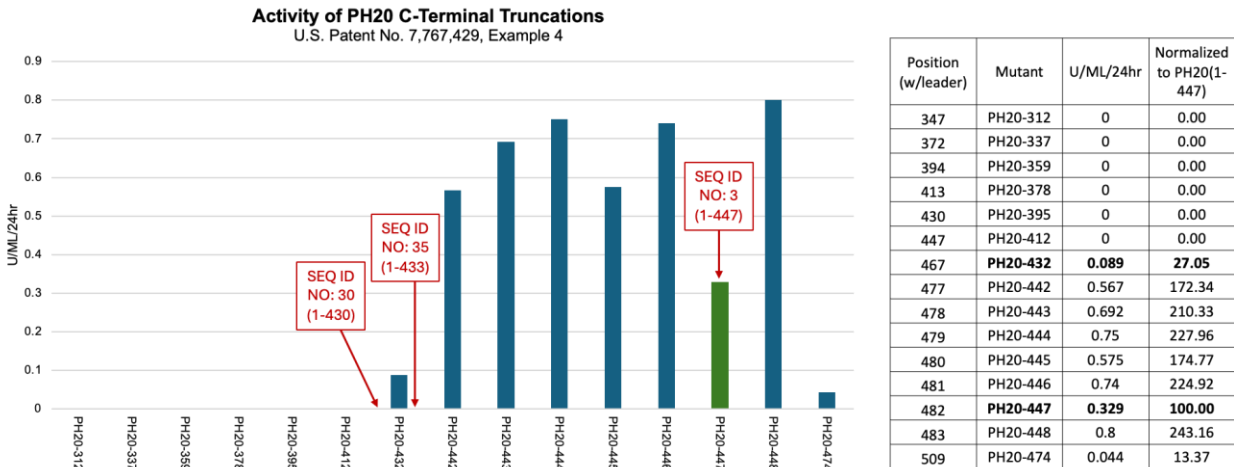
(ii) Multiply-Modified “Active Mutant” PH20 Polypeptides with Significant C-terminal Truncations

The common disclosure does not provide guidance concerning multiply-modified “active mutant” PH20 polypeptides truncated before position 447.¹¹³

The common disclosure and prior art report that wild-type PH20 polypeptides terminating at or below position 442 have *reduced, unpredictable, or no* hyaluronidase activity. For example, Patentee’s ’429 Patent reported that PH20 mutants terminating below position 432 lacked hyaluronidase activity, while those terminating between positions 432 and 448 had widely varying activity (below):¹¹⁴

¹¹³ EX1003, ¶¶ 98, 100-101, , 142, 176-178; EX1001, 74:48-54.

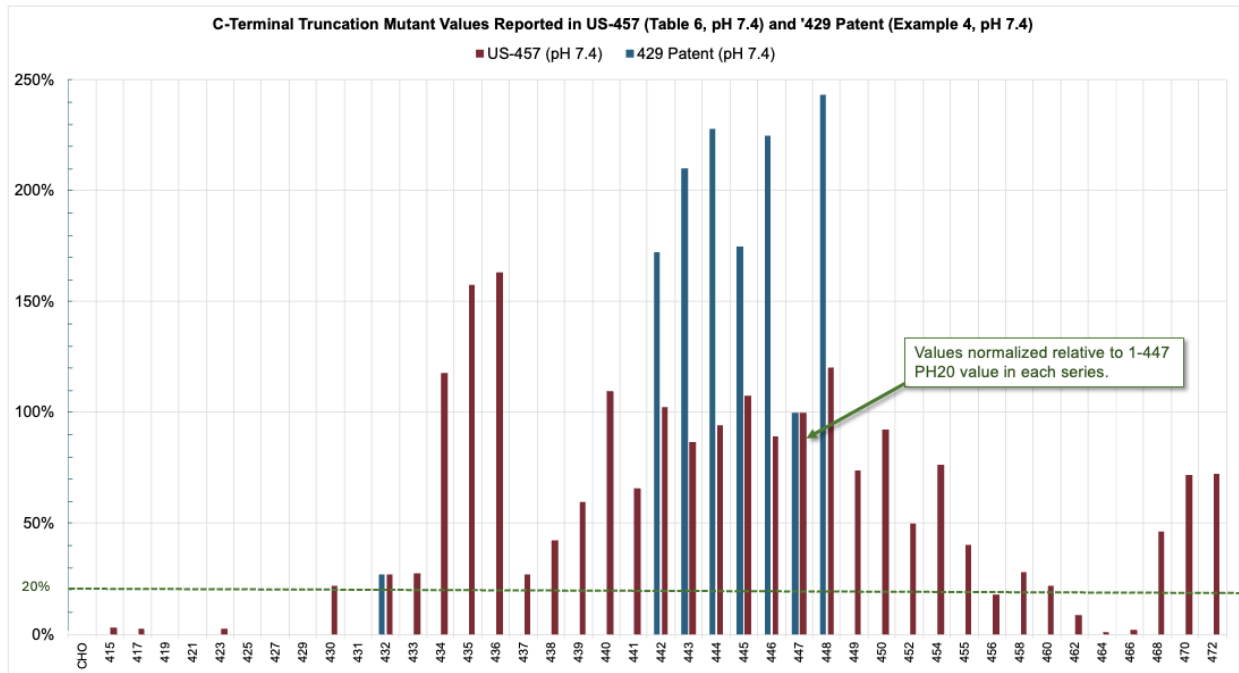
¹¹⁴ EX1005, 87:52-88:24 (PH20₁₋₄₄₂ activity “decreased to approximately 10%”); EX1013, Fig. 2, 430-32 (“[l]ess than 10% activity was recovered when constructs terminated after amino acid 467 [432] or when using the full-length PH20 cDNA”); EX1003, ¶ 98.



Patentee's published application, U.S. 2010/0143457 ("US-457"), reinforced what was known in the prior art regarding the inactivity of PH20 polypeptides terminating below position 430, and further illustrated the unpredictability of PH20 polypeptides terminating between positions 430 and 442 (*i.e.*, PH20₁₋₄₃₀ and PH20₁₋₄₄₂).¹¹⁵ For example, US-457 reported that the activity of a PH20 polypeptide terminating at positions 434, 435, or 436 was between ~300% to ~600% the activity of neighboring C-terminal truncation mutants having one more (437) or one fewer (433) residue (below).¹¹⁶

¹¹⁵ EX1105, ¶ 360-362; EX1003, ¶ 98, 177.

¹¹⁶ EX1105, ¶ 362; EX1003, ¶ 98, Appendix A-10; EX1105, ¶ 362 (Table 6), and EX1005, 87:52-88:24 (Example 4).



Patentee's '429 Patent also reported that “a very narrow range spanning ... [437-447] ... defined the minimally active domain” of human PH20, and observed this “minimally active” human PH20 domain contains at least residues 1-429.¹¹⁷

The common disclosure reiterates these earlier findings, stating that PH20 polypeptides must extend to at least position 429 to exhibit hyaluronidase activity:

A mature PH20 polypeptide ... containing a contiguous sequence of amino acids having a C-terminal amino acid residue corresponding to amino acid residue **464** of SEQ ID

¹¹⁷ EX1005, 6:65-7:7 (“... sHASEGP from amino acids 36 to Cys 464 [429] ... comprise the minimally active human sHASEGP hyaluronidase domain”); EX1003, ¶¶ 97-98, 142.

NO: 6 [position **429** without signal] ... *is the minimal sequence required for hyaluronidase activity*.¹¹⁸

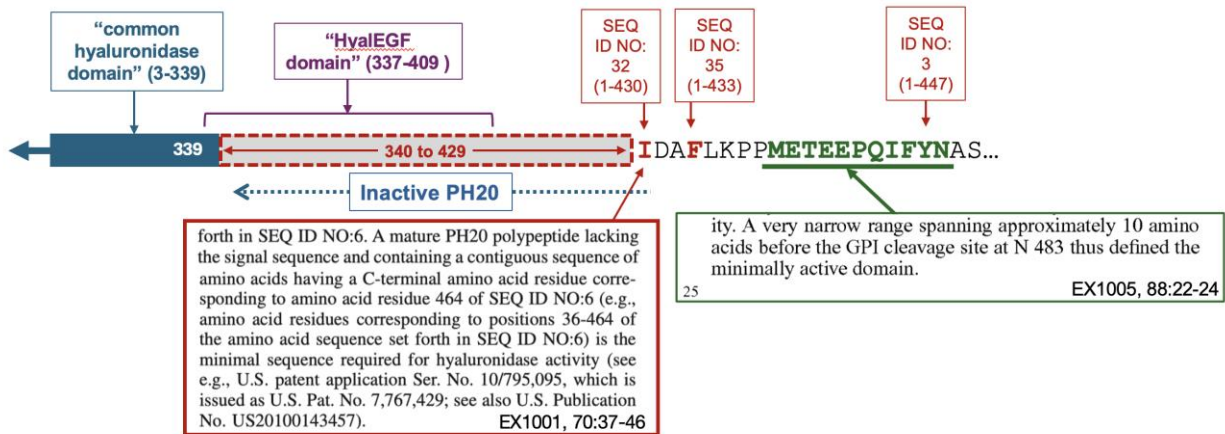
In 2007, Chao reported that the C-terminal region of human hyaluronidases contains a unique domain (“Hyal-EGF”) linked to a characteristic pattern of sequences, which runs from positions 337-409 in PH20.¹¹⁹ In 2009, Zhang showed the Hyal-EGF domain was necessary for hyaluronidase activity.¹²⁰

An illustration of the C-terminus of PH20 (below) shows: (i) positions where SEQ ID NOS: **3** (447), **32** (430) and **35** (433) terminate, (ii) the “minimally active domain” at 437-447, (iii) residues before position 429, and (iv) that PH20 polypeptides with 21 or 16 deletions from SEQ ID NOS: 32 and 35, respectively, terminate before position 429.

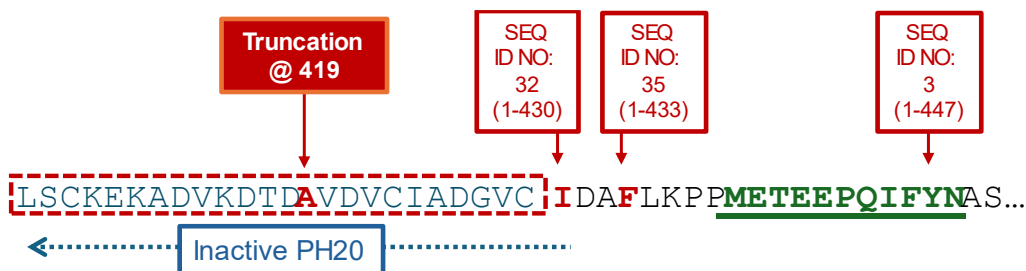
¹¹⁸ EX1001, 70:37-46 (emphases added); *also* EX1003, ¶¶ 97, 177.

¹¹⁹ EX1006, 6912-13, 6916-18; EX1004, ¶¶ 97-99; EX1003, ¶ 88, 91.

¹²⁰ EX1010, 9438; EX1003, ¶ 93-94.



Following the observations in the common disclosure and information published before 2011, a skilled artisan would have believed a PH20 polypeptide terminating at position 419 would be inactive and other PH20 polypeptides terminating between 430 and 447 would have variable activity.¹²¹



Despite this, the common disclosure provides no examples of (or guidance concerning) enzymatically active, multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides (or ones

¹²¹ EX1003, ¶¶ 97-98, 101-104, 188-189, 196.

with greater activity than unmodified PH20₁₋₄₄₇) that are truncated to positions terminating between positions 418 and 447 (including position 433).¹²²

(c) *Empirical Test Results Do Not Identify Enzymatically Active Multiply-Modified PH20 Polypeptides*

The empirical results in the common disclosure do not provide any guidance to a skilled artisan about the structural features of multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides with enzymatic activity—much less those with increased activity. Moreover, all of the modified PH20 polypeptides that were tested for activity had a different length (447 residues) than that in SEQ ID NO:35 (433 residues).

(i) Single-Replacement Results Not Probative of Multiple-Replacement Mutants

The common disclosure reports results from testing a portion of a library of ~6,753 single-replacement PH20₁₋₄₄₇ polypeptide sequences.¹²³ The mutants were produced using a library of CHO cells transfected with a plasmid encoding mutagenized PH20₁₋₄₄₇ sequences where one of 447 positions in the sequence “was

¹²² EX1003, ¶¶ 103-104, 164, 177-178, 190-192.

¹²³ EX1001, 135:28-39, 202:42-44, 202:22-28.

changed to one of about 15 amino acid residues, such that each member contained a single amino change.”¹²⁴ Results for ~5,917 of the mutants are reported.¹²⁵

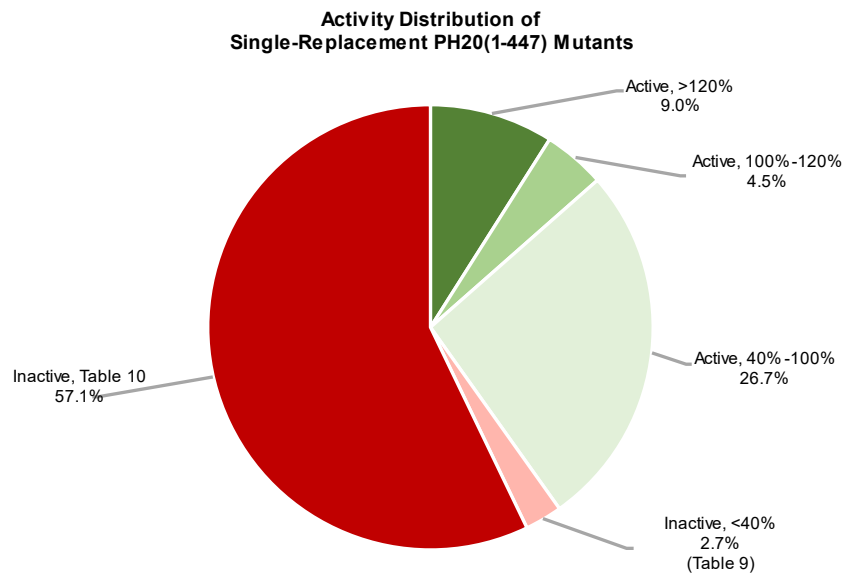
The common disclosure classifies more than half (~57%) of the tested mutants as “inactive mutants” and ~30% as having less activity than unmodified PH20₁₋₄₄₇ (20%-100%).¹²⁶ In other words, it portrays ~87% of the 5,917 single-replacement PH20₁₋₄₄₇ polypeptides that were made and tested as having *less* activity than unmodified PH20₁₋₄₄₇. Relevant to the claims here, these experimental results also show that only ~13% of singly-substituted mutants exhibited more than 100% activity relative to unmodified PH20₁₋₄₄₇.

¹²⁴ EX1001, 202:22-31.

¹²⁵ EX1003, ¶¶ 115-116. Inconsistent numbers and classifications of mutants are not explained: (i) Table 3 lists 2,516 single-replacement PH20₁₋₄₄₇ mutants as “active mutants,” but Table 9 identifies only 2,376 mutants that exhibit >40% hyaluronidase activity; (ii) Tables 5 and 10 list 3,368 and 3,380 PH20₁₋₄₄₇ “inactive mutants,” respectively.

¹²⁶ EX1003, ¶¶ 116, 118.

Activity vs. Unmodified PH20	Number	% of Tested (5916)
Active Mutants (Table 9)		
>120%	532	9.0%
100%-120%	267	4.5%
40%-100%	1577	26.7%
Inactive Mutants (Table 9)		
<40%	160	2.7%
Inactive Mutants (Table 10)		
Table 10 ‘inactive mutants’	3,380	57.1%



Notably, the data is not analyzed in the common disclosure—it is simply presented. No attempt is made to assess the impact of any single substitution on the protein’s structure, much less extrapolate these results to PH20 polypeptides with multiple substitutions.¹²⁷

¹²⁷ EX1003, ¶¶ 119, 164-165, 169.

The data's quality is also questionable: no control values or statistical assessments are provided for these activity results, nor are the individual measured values from testing mutants.¹²⁸ The common disclosure also does not report the hyaluronidase activity measured for 3,380 inactive mutants, and provides no information on 836 other single substitution PH20₁₋₄₄₇ mutants that were made and tested, or classify them as "active" or "inactive" mutants. *See* § V.C.

The data reveal no trends or correlations even for single-replacement PH20₁₋₄₄₇ polypeptides.¹²⁹ For example, different substitutions at the same position in PH20₁₋₄₄₇ yielded active and inactive mutants, with >800 unclassified mutants.¹³⁰

Position	Active	Inactive	Unclassified
45	I, K	A, D, F, G, P, W	H, M, Q, S, T, V, Y
110	V	F, K, L, M, P, W	A, C, D, G, H, N, R, S
124	H, L, R	C, D, E, F, N	A, G, I, P, S, T, V, W
290	I, M	D, Q, Y	A, C, G, H, K, L, R, S, T, V
343	T, V	C, D, F, I, P, W	E, G, L, M, R, S, Y

¹²⁸ EX1003, ¶¶ 111, 113-114, 119.

¹²⁹ EX1003, ¶¶ 164-169.

¹³⁰ EX1001, Tables 8, 9, 10.

Changing multiple residues in PH20 polypeptides can cause unpredictable interactions within the protein's structure and resulting function that do not occur in single-substitution mutants.¹³¹ The empirical test results for single substitution mutants do not identify to a skilled artisan which of the 10⁴⁹+ PH20 mutants with a 324 substitution and 1-20 (or 1-16) additional substitutions are enzymatically active or have increased activity, or for that matter, are enzymatically inactive, will not stably fold, are not secreted and/or will aggregate.¹³² Instead, all it shows is that *most* single-substitutions impaired or eliminated hyaluronidase activity.¹³³

The data from testing single-substitution PH20₁₋₄₄₇ mutants is also not probative of effects of changes in the 1-433 PH20 sequence. For example, numerous single substitution mutants made at positions between position 433 and 447 rendered the PH20₁₋₄₄₇ protein enzymatically inactive, suggesting these positions can influence the activity of the protein (Table 5, below).¹³⁴ The common disclosure does not provide data from testing any truncation mutants which terminate at positions between 433-441 and also contain a substitution at

¹³¹ EX1003, ¶¶ 58-63, 167.

¹³² EX1003, ¶¶ 117, 165-167, 169, 181, 183.

¹³³ EX1003, ¶ 118.

¹³⁴ EX1001, columns 131-132; EX1003, ¶¶ 177-178. *See* § V.A.1(b)(ii).

position 324 (or any other position), and no such results had been published in the scientific literature before December 28, 2012.

TABLE 5-continued

Inactive Mutants					
Corres- ponding Position	Replacement	Corres- ponding Position	Replacement	Corres- ponding Position	Replacement
430	ADELMNSTV	431	P	432	CFIKLMPY
434	HKPQRW	437	T	438	Y
439	NR	440	Q	441	R
442	MNS	443	D		

Crucially, the common disclosure provides no answers to these unanswered questions about combinations of changes within the C-terminal region of multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides that terminate between positions 430 and 447.¹³⁵ Prior to December 2012 (and even today), whether multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides must retain native residues at positions between 433-447 to retain activity is an open question that was not answered by the experimental data reported in the common disclosure.¹³⁶

¹³⁵ EX1003, ¶¶ 98, 177.

¹³⁶ EX1003, ¶¶ 98, 177.

(ii) Purported Stability Data Is Not Reliable or Probative

The common disclosure reports results testing ~409 single-replacement PH20₁₋₄₄₇ polypeptides in “stability” assays.¹³⁷ Table 11 reports hyaluronidase activities of the mutants at 4° C and 37° C, and with a “phenolic preservative” (m-cresol).¹³⁸ Table 12 reports relative hyaluronidase activities of those mutants.¹³⁹

The “stability” data provides no meaningful insights.¹⁴⁰ Unsurprisingly, many single-replacement PH20₁₋₄₄₇ polypeptides showed more activity at 37° C than at 4° C.¹⁴¹ And testing with m-cresol showed only a few mutants resisted denaturation.¹⁴² With one exception, the measured activity data cannot be attributed to improved stability of PH20.¹⁴³

¹³⁷ EX1001, Tables 11-12.

¹³⁸ EX1001, 284:13-293:67 (Table 11).

¹³⁹ EX1001, 295:1-307:13 (Table 12).

¹⁴⁰ EX1003, ¶ 71-73, 80.

¹⁴¹ EX1003, ¶ 75; EX1001, 178:48-57.

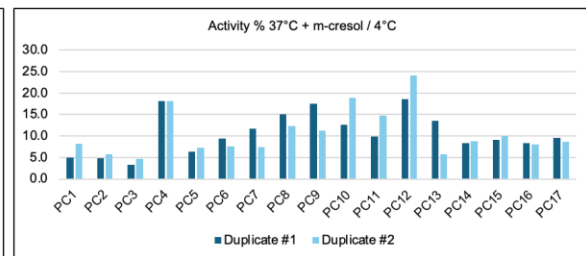
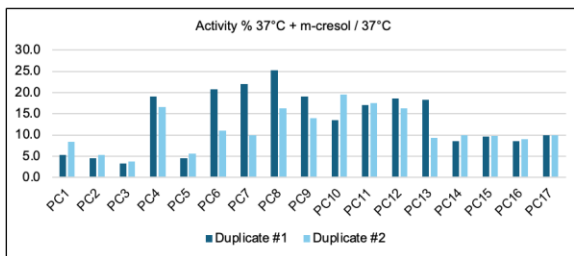
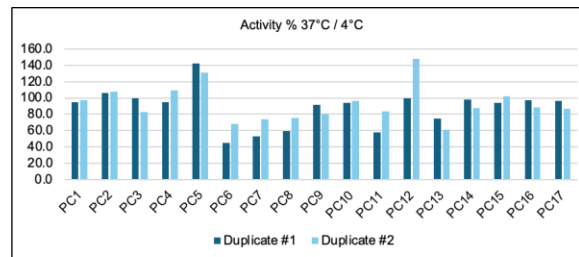
¹⁴² EX1003, ¶ 75, 78.

¹⁴³ EX1003, ¶ 79.

The data are also largely meaningless—many measured activity values are within the activity ranges reported for the positive control.¹⁴⁴

Positive Control ("PC") (OHO)	Duplicate #1			Duplicate #2		
	% Activity at 37°C/4°C	% Activity at 37°C+m-cresol / 37°C	% Activity at 37°C + mcr/4°C	% Activity at 37°C/4°C	% Activity at 37°C+m-cresol / 37°C	% Activity at 37°C+mcr/4 °C
PC1	94.998	5.230	4.970	96.871	8.456	8.190
PC2	105.798	4.480	4.740	108.066	5.246	5.670
PC3	100.000	3.330	3.330	82.778	3.759	4.590
PC4	94.762	19.070	18.070	109.539	16.529	18.110
PC5	142.024	4.480	6.360	130.947	5.595	7.330
PC6	45.115	20.770	9.370	68.017	11.035	7.510
PC7	53.324	21.950	11.710	74.253	9.960	7.400
PC8	59.581	25.240	15.040	75.872	16.231	12.310
PC9	91.844	19.050	17.500	80.371	13.977	11.230
PC10	93.828	13.470	12.630	96.630	19.454	18.800
PC11	57.773	17.040	9.850	83.536	17.573	14.680
PC12	100.000	18.560	18.560	148.226	16.239	24.070
PC13	74.325	18.290	13.600	61.119	9.286	5.680
PC14	98.132	8.480	8.320	87.677	10.006	8.770
PC15	93.817	9.620	9.020	102.223	9.745	9.960
PC16	96.922	8.560	8.300	87.993	9.064	7.980
PC17	96.648	9.910	9.580	86.891	9.938	8.630

KEY
Coloration of Percent (%) Activity Values
n/a
>120
between 100 and 120
between 80 and 100
between 40 and 80
between 20 and 40
between 10 and 20
between 0 and < 10



¹⁴⁴ EX1003, ¶ 74, Appendix A-7, A-8; EX1001, 305-307:13 (Table 12).

	Duplicate 1			Duplicate 2		
	% Activity at 37°C/4°C	% Activity at 37°C+m-cresol / 37°C	% Activity at 37°C + mcr/4°C	% Activity at 37°C/4°C	% Activity at 37°C+m-cresol / 37°C	% Activity at 37°C + mcr/4°C
High	142.02	25.24	18.56	148.23	19.45	24.07
Low	45.12	3.33	3.33	61.12	3.76	4.59
Range	96.91	21.91	15.23	87.11	15.70	19.48
Average	88.17	13.38	10.64	93.00	11.30	10.64
Mean	94.76	13.47	9.58	87.68	9.96	8.63

As Dr. Hecht observes, this significant variation “raises serious doubts about how probative or instructive the values of individual tested mutants are that fall within the range of variability observed for the control.”¹⁴⁵

Importantly, the common disclosure does not identify any—let alone *which*—combinations of substitutions in a multiply-modified PH20 improve stability.¹⁴⁶ The common disclosure thus does not describe or provide meaningful guidance concerning which of the 10⁴⁹+ multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides that may have increased stability (or any other functional attribute, such as increased hyaluronidase activity).¹⁴⁷

¹⁴⁵ EX1003, ¶ 76; *see also* EX1001, 307:20-30 (positive control also varied).

¹⁴⁶ EX1003, ¶¶ 170, 215.

¹⁴⁷ EX1003, ¶ 170, 208-209.

(d) *The Common Disclosure's Research Plan Does Not Identify Any Singly- or Multiply-Modified Enzymatically Active PH20 Polypeptides Terminating at Position 433*

The common disclosure has two notable omissions: (i) it describes no example of a modified PH20 polypeptide having residues 1-433 (SEQ NO: 35) and a substitution at position 324, and (ii) it does not describe *any* multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides (including those that are “active mutants” with increased hyaluronidase activity, and which contain a position 324 substitution).¹⁴⁸ Instead, it simply presents *the idea* that multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides can be made that may have enzymatic activity (or increased activity).¹⁴⁹

First, it observes that “[a] modified PH20 polypeptide can have up to 150 amino acid replacements,” “[t]ypically” contains between 1 and 50 amino acid replacements and “can include any one or more other modifications, in addition to at least one amino acid replacement as described herein.”¹⁵⁰ It also contends a modified PH20 polypeptide with “a sequence of amino acids that exhibits” between 68% and 99% sequence identity with any of unmodified SEQ ID NOS: 74-855 “*can* exhibit altered, such as improved or increased, properties or activities

¹⁴⁸ EX1003, ¶¶ 165-166, 170, 190, 201.

¹⁴⁹ EX1003, ¶ 201.

¹⁵⁰ EX1001, 49:24-34.

compared to the corresponding PH20 polypeptide not containing the amino acid modification (*e.g.*, amino acid replacement).”¹⁵¹

None of these statements *identify* any actual multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides (*i.e.*, PH20 polypeptides with specific sets of 2 or more amino acid substitutions). They simply draw boundaries around immense numbers of modified PH20 polypeptides that may be enzymatically active.

The common disclosure also describes no enzymatically active, multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides that were made and tested.¹⁵² Instead, it provides only a prophetic research plan requiring “iterative” make-and-test experiments that *might discover* such modified PH20 polypeptides, stating they “*can be* modified or further modified” and “*can be* identified.”¹⁵³ This research plan does not identify *which* multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides *are* active mutants or have increased activity.¹⁵⁴

¹⁵¹ EX1001, 101:1-15 (emphasis added).

¹⁵² EX1003, ¶¶ 165-166, 170, 190, 201.

¹⁵³ EX1001, 142:58-143:3 (emphases added); *see also id.* at 42:48-55, 136:7-12; EX1003, ¶¶ 206-209.

¹⁵⁴ EX1003, ¶¶ 201, 208-209, 214-215; EX1001, 134:62-64; *see generally id.*, 135:28-136:6, 136:15-137:57, 138:17-142:57.

Alternatively, it proposes mutations that *can be* “targeted near” “critical residues” which supposedly “*can be* identified because, when mutated, a normal activity of the protein is ablated or reduced.”¹⁵⁵ But Tables 5 and 10 report at least one substitution at each of 405 positions between positions 1 and 444 of PH20₁₋₄₄₇ resulted in an inactive mutant.¹⁵⁶ This guidance to target locations “near” ~90% of the amino acids in PH20₁₋₄₄₇ is no different than targeting *every residue*.¹⁵⁷

These prophetic research plans, based entirely on unfocused, iterative “make-and-test” experiments, do not identify to a skilled artisan which of the 10⁴⁹⁺ multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides within the claims’ scope *are* enzymatically active.¹⁵⁸ Instead, they require a skilled artisan to perform repeated cycles of mutagenesis, screening, and selection until 10⁴⁹ to 10⁶⁰ modified PH20 polypeptides are made and tested.¹⁵⁹ That in no way demonstrates possession of *all* “active mutant” multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides in the scope of the

¹⁵⁵ EX1001, 143:4-29; EX1003, ¶¶ 207.

¹⁵⁶ EX1003, ¶ 112, 207, Appendix A-3.

¹⁵⁷ EX1003, ¶ 207, 209-210.

¹⁵⁸ EX1003, ¶ 211-214.

¹⁵⁹ EX1003, ¶¶ 203-204, 206-208, 218-220; EX1001, 137:65-138:3, 137:58-138:15, 141:9-13, 141:24-29, 141:46-60.

claims, much less the subset of such multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides with increased activity.

(e) *The Common Disclosure Does Not Identify a Structure-Function Relationship for Enzymatically Active, Multiply-Modified PH20 Polypeptides*

The common disclosure does not identify the structural significance of any of the ~2,500 mutations that yielded single residue “active mutant” PH20₁₋₄₄₇ polypeptides (or the ~3,400 inactive mutants or ~830 mutants that were uncharacterized).¹⁶⁰ For example, it does not identify the effect of any replacement on any domain structure, any structural motif(s), or even the local secondary structure at the site of the substitution in the PH20 polypeptide, nor does it identify how any such (possible) structural change(s) is/are responsible for the measured change in hyaluronidase activity.¹⁶¹ Instead, it simply lists *single* replacements to random amino acids that yielded “active mutants.”¹⁶²

The common disclosure also does not identify any *sets* of specific amino acid replacements within a single modified PH20 polypeptide that correlate to changes in structural domains or motifs that positively or negatively influence

¹⁶⁰ EX1003, ¶¶ 169, 181, 222-223.

¹⁶¹ EX1003, ¶¶ 73, 164, 181, 183.

¹⁶² EX1001, 235:2-30; EX1003, ¶¶ 164-166.

hyaluronidase activity, much less *predictably* increase activity to defined thresholds.¹⁶³

The common disclosure's empirically identified examples of "active mutant" singly-modified PH20₁₋₄₄₇ polypeptides do not *by themselves* identify any "structure-function" relationship between "active mutants" and the set of single-replacement modified PH20₁₋₄₄₇ polypeptides.¹⁶⁴ Nor do they do so for the unknown number of "active mutant" multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides of varying lengths with between 2-21 substitutions.¹⁶⁵

The common disclosure *does not even contend* that a particular amino acid replacement at a particular position (*e.g.*, 324) that makes PH20₁₋₄₄₇ an "active mutant" will make any other modified PH20 polypeptide with that replacement plus 1-20 additional substitutions an "active mutant" or one with increased activity.¹⁶⁶ Such an assertion would have no scientific credibility—the activity of a protein such as PH20 is dictated by its overall structure, which can be influenced unpredictably and dramatically by different combinations of changes to its amino

¹⁶³ EX1003, ¶¶ 167-169.

¹⁶⁴ EX1003, ¶¶ 169, 171, 181, 183.

¹⁶⁵ EX1003, ¶ 168-169, 177-178.

¹⁶⁶ EX1003, ¶¶ 191-192, 215-216.

acid sequence.¹⁶⁷ Thus, even the inventors did not view their compilation of empirical test results as identifying a structure-function relationship for 10⁴⁹⁺ multiply-modified “active mutants.”¹⁶⁸

The common disclosure, thus, does not identify to a skilled artisan *any structural features* shared by all modified PH20 polypeptides having increased hyaluronidase activity within the scope of the claims.¹⁶⁹

(f) The Common Disclosure Does Not Describe a Representative Number of Multiply-Modified PH20 Polypeptides with Enzymatic Activity or Increased Activity

The ~2,500 active mutant singly-modified PH20₁₋₄₄₇ polypeptides in the disclosure are not representative of multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides with increased hyaluronidase activity encompassed by the claims.¹⁷⁰

First, single-replacement PH20₁₋₄₄₇ examples are not representative of the 10⁴⁹⁺ PH20 polypeptides being claimed that have *1 to 20 additional substitutions* to any of 19 other amino acids at any of hundreds of positions within the protein.¹⁷¹

¹⁶⁷ EX1003, ¶¶ 57-58, 222.

¹⁶⁸ See, e.g., EX1001, 79:65-82:29, 101:16-102:11.

¹⁶⁹ EX1003, ¶ 181.

¹⁷⁰ EX1003, ¶¶ 169, 179, 183.

¹⁷¹ See § IV.D.1; EX1003, ¶¶ 169, 183.

The latter group includes a massive number of structurally distinct proteins (*e.g.*, distinct sequences, distinct secondary structures, distinct structural motifs, etc.) that form when PH20 sequences with multiple amino acid substitutions successfully fold.¹⁷² None of them are described in the common disclosure.¹⁷³

Multiple substitutions made to a protein can cause different interactions between neighboring residues relative to those caused by single substitutions.¹⁷⁴ For example, a first amino acid substitution can affect the neighbors of the replaced amino acid by (i) introducing a stabilizing interaction, (ii) removing a stabilizing interaction, and/or (iii) introducing a conflicting interaction (*e.g.*, adverse charge or hydrophobicity interactions).¹⁷⁵ A second substitution in that region may reverse those interactions (or not), and a third substitution may do the same, and so on up to 17 rounds permitted by the narrowest claim, each potentially causing different interactions.¹⁷⁶

¹⁷² EX1003, ¶¶61-65, 180, 220.

¹⁷³ EX1003, ¶ 166.

¹⁷⁴ EX1003, ¶¶ 57-59, 61, 167-168.

¹⁷⁵ EX1003, ¶¶ 57-59, 61-64, 167.

¹⁷⁶ EX1003, ¶¶ 166-167.

The common disclosure, however, does not identify effects of any single substitution on the various secondary structures, structural motifs or other structural attributes of any PH20 polypeptide within the scope of the claims.¹⁷⁷ And the activity of a protein with multiple modifications is rarely impacted by only one of the modifications—it is instead the overall structure reflecting *the totality* of the effects of the modifications on the protein’s structure that dictates attributes of the protein, such as its activity, stability, or solubility.¹⁷⁸ The common disclosure provides no information on the *structural* effects in multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides of multiple substitutions, deletions and or insertions, much less predictably correlates any consequences of those structural effects on the activity, stability or solubility of the modified proteins.¹⁷⁹

The “active mutant” singly-modified PH20₁₋₄₄₇ polypeptides in the disclosure thus are not representative of the unidentified and undisclosed enzymatically active multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides within the claims’ scope (particularly those with increased hyaluronidase activity), which comprise myriad combinations of substitutions that each can uniquely impact the structures

¹⁷⁷ EX1003, ¶¶ 166-167, 169, 220.

¹⁷⁸ EX1003, ¶¶ 39, 62, 168.

¹⁷⁹ EX1003, ¶ 181.

and properties of the modified protein and may (or may not) result in a mutant with increased hyaluronidase activity.¹⁸⁰

Enzymatically active singly-substituted PH20₁₋₄₄₇ polypeptides also are not representative of modified PH20 polypeptides that might incorporate additional modifications that by themselves rendered wild-type PH20₁₋₄₄₇ inactive (*e.g.*, truncations terminating below position 429, or single substitutions that inactivated PH20₁₋₄₄₇).¹⁸¹ That is because the singly-substituted active mutant modified PH20 polypeptides do not contain the additional and distinct structural features associated with the modifications that proved deleterious to the structure and/or function of the PH20 polypeptides.¹⁸² For example, the singly-substituted E324D PH20₁₋₄₄₇ polypeptide would not be considered representative of a PH20 terminating at position 419 with that E324D substitution, as the former omits the structural feature (an extensive C-terminal truncation) that a skilled artisan would have believed would render the latter inactive.¹⁸³ The common disclosure does not teach—and a skilled artisan could not have predicted from the examples of singly-

¹⁸⁰ EX1003, ¶¶ 165, 181, 183.

¹⁸¹ EX1003, ¶¶ 172, 174, 177, 190.

¹⁸² EX1003, ¶ 175.

¹⁸³ EX1003, ¶¶ 187-190.

modified PH20₁₋₄₄₇ polypeptides—which single substitutions in a truncated, inactive PH20 mutant would not only restore activity but would increase enzymatic activity, and nowhere identifies the precise combinations that do.¹⁸⁴

The common disclosure thus provides a very narrow set of working examples relative to the diversity of modified PH20 polypeptides with increased activity being claimed.¹⁸⁵ The examples are restricted to *one type of change* (a single amino acid replacement) in *one type of PH20 polypeptide* (SEQ ID NO: 3).¹⁸⁶ By contrast, the claims encompass changes to a 433-residue PH20 polypeptide (not tested), and include, in addition to a replacement at position 324, up to 20 (claims 1-2, 4-10) or 16 (claim 3) additional modifications.¹⁸⁷

Consequently, a skilled artisan would not have viewed the examples of single amino acid replacements in PH20₁₋₄₄₇ in the common disclosure to be *representative* of the diversity modified PH20 polypeptides with increased activity encompassed by the claims.¹⁸⁸

¹⁸⁴ EX1003, ¶ 191-192.

¹⁸⁵ EX1003, ¶ 179.

¹⁸⁶ EX1003, ¶¶ 110, 164, 169.

¹⁸⁷ EX1003, ¶¶ 128-133.

¹⁸⁸ EX1003, ¶ 169, 201, 222.

(g) *The Common Disclosure's Disparate and Generic Statements Regarding SEQ ID NO: 35, Position 324 and Increased Activity Do Not Describe the Claimed Genus*

The common disclosure also fails to provide § 112(a) support under rationale of *Tronzo v. Biomet, Inc.* and similar Federal Circuit precedent, each of which rejected attempts to claim particular embodiments of a putative invention that were not disclosed or described in the disclosure by combining in the claims disparate and generic disclosures found in the specification.¹⁸⁹

In *Tronzo*, the Court held claims which captured multiple shapes of cups to not be adequately supported by a specification that described the invention as a cup having a conical shape, and where the specification's "only reference... to different shapes is a recitation of the prior art."¹⁹⁰ More recently, in *Novozymes*, the Federal Circuit reiterated the "fundamental concepts" of its § 112 precedents that dictate claims (such as those at issue here) are invalid "where a patent's written description disclosed certain subject matter in terms of a broad genus but its claims specified a particular subgenus or species contained therein."¹⁹¹ For example, in *Novozymes*, the Court explained (citing *Ruschig*) that "a claim to a

¹⁸⁹ *Tronzo*, 156 F.3d 1154, 1158-60 (Fed. Cir. 1998).

¹⁹⁰ *Id.* at 1158-59.

¹⁹¹ *Novozymes*, 723 F.3d at 1346.

specific drug molecule” lacked written description where the specification “disclosed only a generic structure that could yield the claimed molecule given the proper selections at several variable positions,” which “failed to provide ‘sufficient blaze marks’ to guide a reader through the forest of disclosed possibilities toward the claimed compound, which resided among the myriad others that also could have been made.”¹⁹² Likewise, in *Boston Scientific*, claims requiring drug-eluting stents to incorporate “a macrocyclic triene analog” of a particular drug were found invalid or lack of written description because the specification only “made passing reference to the term ‘macrocyclic triene’ and gave no indication that they “might be of special interest,” such that there was no evidence the inventors “were in possession of the claimed invention.”¹⁹³ Finally, in *Purdue Pharma*, claims to an extended-release formulation requiring a particular blood concentration ratio were not supported by two examples that “could be shown to meet the claimed

¹⁹² *Novozymes*, 723 F.3d at 1346 (citing *In re Ruschig*, 379 F.2d 990, 993-95 (1967)).

¹⁹³ *Novozymes*, 723 F.3d at 1346 (citing *Boston Scientific Corp. v. Johnson & Johnson*, 647 F.3d 1353, 1367-69 (Fed. Cir. 2011)).

limitation by piecing together the disclose data” but where the specification did not “in any way emphasize the [claimed] ratio.”¹⁹⁴

The “fundamental concepts” illustrated in these decisions confirm the lack of written description support for the ’685 Patent’s claims, all of which (unlike other patents in this extended family) require every modified PH20 polypeptide to have 95% or 96% sequence identity relative to one reference sequence: SEQ ID NO: 35 that consists of residues 1-433 of the unmodified PH20 protein. But the common disclosure makes only “passing reference” to this particular reference sequence, does not identify it as having any particular significance or special interest, and does not include *any* examples of modified PH20 polypeptides made from this reference sequence (whether with a position 324 substitution or with any other modifications).¹⁹⁵ Rather, every mutant made and tested by the inventors used a different reference sequence (NO: 3) having 447 residues, and the inventors provided no particular reason to make mutants using a 433-length sequence instead.¹⁹⁶

¹⁹⁴ *Novozymes*, 723 F.3d at 1346-47 (citing *Purdue Pharma L.P. v. Faulding Inc.*, 230 F.3d 1320, 1323-26 (Fed. Cir. 2000)).

¹⁹⁵ *See, e.g.*, EX1001, 5:33-57, 82:3-10; EX1003, ¶¶ 190-191.

¹⁹⁶ *See, e.g.*, EX1001, 202:22-44, Table 8; EX1003, ¶¶ 110, 190-191.

In fact, the common disclosure, referencing experimental results in an earlier Halozyme patent (the '429 Patent) (EX1005) and in a published application US-457 (EX1105), reported that truncated wild-type human PH20 polypeptides terminating before position 430 are inactive, and that the 1-433 wild-type PH20 sequence (SEQ ID NO: 35) had only ~27% of the activity of PH20₁₋₄₄₇.¹⁹⁷

Deletion Mutant	<u>Hyaluronidase Activity</u>			
	Precursor (AA)	Mature (AA)	pH 7.4 Activity (Units/ml)	pH 5.5 Activity (Units/ml)
SPAM1-IDAF (SEQ ID NO: 84)	468	433	0.5625	0.62775
SPAM1-QIFY (SEQ ID NO: 70)	482	447	2.03175	1.647
			27.69%	

There is no data reported in the '685 Patent (or the prior art) from testing the activity of a PH20 polypeptide with *any* type of modification to the SEQ ID NO: 35 sequence (including a substitution at position 324). The common disclosure also does not reconcile the data indicating truncation mutants terminating at or

¹⁹⁷ EX1001, 70:37-46; *Also* EX1005, 87:52-88:24; EX1105, ¶ 362, Table 6 (p.49); EX1013, 432, Figure 2; EX1003, ¶¶ 96-98, 142, 176-177.

below position 433 exhibit *reduced or no hyaluronidase activity* and the claim language requiring such modified PH20 polypeptides with one or more modifications exhibit *increased hyaluronidase activity*, much less provide specific examples of such singly- or multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides.¹⁹⁸

The common disclosure thus does not describe any (much less 10^{49+}) modified PH20 polypeptides based on SEQ ID NO:35 that contain a position 324 substitution, up to 20 (or 16) additional modifications, and exhibit *increased activity* relative to unmodified PH20₁₋₄₄₇. That omission from the common disclosure cannot be rectified by “piecing together” desired combinations of properties and traits of modified PH20 polypeptides from the disparate and generic disclosures scattered through the common disclosure. Those disclosures do not guide a skilled artisan through its recitation of countless combinations of reference sequences and possible substitutions, deletions, and/or additions and desired activity levels to the particular (yet still enormous) genus of mutants being claimed by the '685 Patent.

¹⁹⁸ EX1003, ¶¶ 176-178.

(h) *The Claims Capture Multiply-Modified PH20 Polypeptides the Disclosure Excludes from the Class of Enzymatically Active PH20 Polypeptides*

The claims require enzymatically active PH20 polypeptides. *See* § IV.D.2. The claim language also permits the modified PH20 polypeptides, in addition to a position 324 substitution, to contain up to 20 additional modifications to any other amino acid at any position in SEQ ID NO: 35.

The common disclosure, however, instructs that certain changes are to be avoided in “active mutant” modified PH20 polypeptides (*i.e.*, substitutions listed in Tables 5/10 or C-terminal truncations before position 429).¹⁹⁹ It also provides no guidance on incorporating substitutions in an inactive mutant having one of the substitutions in Tables 5 or 10 that would fully restore—and increase—enzymatic activity to that mutant.²⁰⁰ Yet the claims capture such enzymatically active multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides having changes the disclosure says to omit it from “active mutants.”²⁰¹

Should Patent Owner contend the claims encompass combinations the common disclosure expressly excludes from the class of “active mutant” PH20

¹⁹⁹ EX1001, 80:52-81:27; EX1003, ¶¶ 172-175, 185-186.

²⁰⁰ EX1003, ¶ 191.

²⁰¹ EX1003, ¶ 185.

polypeptides (*e.g.*, a single enzymatically active PH20 polypeptide that contains least one substitution listed in Tables 5 or 10 in combination with at least one additional substitution listed in Tables 3 or 9), the claims would independently violate the written description requirement pursuant to *Gentry Gallery, Inc. v. Berkline Corp.*, 134 F.3d 1473, 1479-80 (Fed. Cir. 1998)—if a disclosure “unambiguously limited” the invention, but the claims circumvent that limitation, those claims are “broader than the supporting disclosure” and are unpatentable.

2. Dependent Claims 5-10 Lack Written Description

(a) Claim 5

Claim 5 requires the modified PH20 polypeptide to be “soluble.”

Initially, claim 5 lacks written description support for the same reasons identified for claim 1. It does not resolve the problems of claim 1’s scope, but compounds them by imposing a second functional requirement (solubility).

Claim 5 additionally lacks written description support because the common disclosure does not identify *which* of the 10⁴⁹+ modified PH20 polypeptides being claimed are *both* enzymatically active (with increased activity) *and* are soluble. Solubility is not a characteristic that can be predicted solely from the amino acid sequence of a modified PH20 polypeptide that incorporates multiple (*e.g.*, 5, 10,

15, or 20) modifications as the claims permit.²⁰² Instead, whether a multiply-modified PH20 polypeptide will be soluble depends on the structure of each mutant—if the modifications (individually or collectively) cause structural changes that expose hydrophobic patches or structures to the aqueous environment, that increases the likelihood the mutant overall will be insoluble.²⁰³

Consequently, as the common disclosure explains, “a soluble PH20 refers to a polypeptide characterized by its solubility under physiological conditions,”²⁰⁴ and solubility is determined by making and testing each modified PH20 polypeptide (“[s]olubility can be assessed by any suitable method that demonstrates solubility under physiologic conditions”).²⁰⁵ Also, while modified PH20 polypeptides that exhibit enzymatic activity often are soluble, it is not always the case.²⁰⁶ Consistent with this point, claim 5 *adds* the requirement for solubility to the genus of enzymatically active modified PH20 polypeptides defined by claim 1. Because one could not have identified which of the 10⁴⁹⁺ multiply-modified PH20

²⁰² EX1003, ¶¶ 65, 47-148, 155, 182.

²⁰³ EX1003, ¶¶ 42, 65, 117, 155-156; EX1014, 99, 117; EX1081, 897.

²⁰⁴ EX1001, 47:36-42.

²⁰⁵ EX1001, 47:47-49, 74:24-32, 180:41-55; EX1003, ¶¶ 145-146.

²⁰⁶ EX1003, ¶¶ 42, 65, 117, 155-156.

polypeptides being claimed were **both** enzymatically active (with >100% activity) **and** are soluble from the common disclosure, it does not demonstrate possession of the genus defined by claim 5.

Claim 5 also lacks written description because it encompasses modified PH20 polypeptides that the common disclosure suggests will be insoluble and thus will lack enzymatic activity. The common disclosure explains that “a soluble PH20 lacks all or a portion of a glycoposphatidyl anchor (GPI) attachment sequence,” which was known to be hydrophobic,²⁰⁷ and identifies position 456 as the first residue of the GPI sequence in PH20 (position 491 in SEQ ID NO: 6).²⁰⁸ It also states that a soluble PH20 “is a polypeptide that is truncated after amino acid 482 of ... SEQ ID NO: 6” (*i.e.*, 447 in SEQ ID NO: 3).²⁰⁹ The common disclosure thus suggests that human PH20 sequences that terminate below position 448 are soluble while those terminating above position 456 are insoluble.²¹⁰

²⁰⁷ EX1001, 47:9-11, 72:47-48, 73:4-16, 74:65-75:10; EX1005, 86:18-22;

EX1003, ¶¶ 141.

²⁰⁸ EX1001, 73:4-16.

²⁰⁹ EX1001, 75:55-57; EX1005, 3:57-62.

²¹⁰ EX1003, ¶¶ 140-141.

Claim 5 also encompasses modified PH20 polypeptides which terminate between positions 448 and 452. For example, SEQ ID NO: 35 has 433 residues, and an addition of 20 residues yields a sequence terminating at position 453. Yet the common disclosure provides no guidance concerning or examples of modified PH20 polypeptides that terminate between positions 448 and 453 demonstrating such PH20 polypeptides are soluble as the claims require.²¹¹

Patentee may contend that some unidentified number of modified PH20 polypeptides that terminate at positions between 448 and 453 *may* be soluble. For example, the common disclosure suggests that between 1-10 residues within the GPI anchor “can be retained, provided the polypeptide is soluble.”²¹² But the common disclosure does not identify *which* modified PH20 polypeptides terminating between positions 448 and 453 *are* soluble and have increased activity. Critically, the common disclosure provides no examples of modified PH20 polypeptides terminating at those positions that are soluble.²¹³ It also provides no

²¹¹ EX1003, ¶ 142.

²¹² EX1001, 74:58-64.

²¹³ EX1003, ¶¶ 141-142.

reason to expect that multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides within the claims' scope are soluble.²¹⁴

Claim 5 is thus unpatentable for these additional, independent reasons.

Finally, as noted above, when faced with PGR petitions challenging claims requiring solubility on written description grounds, Patentee has consistently disclaimed rather than defend such claims.²¹⁵

(b) Claims 6-10

Dependent claims 6-10 do not alter the genus of modified PH20 polypeptides encompassed by claim 1. They instead specify additional features (claims 6-8), pharmaceutical compositions (9), or methods of manufacture (10) that reference the genus of claim 1. They lack written description for the same reasons explained in § V.A.1.²¹⁶

B. All Challenged Claims Are Not Enabled

All challenged claims are also unpatentable for lack of enablement.

²¹⁴ EX1003, ¶¶ 142, 147.

²¹⁵ See proceedings cited in footnote 3.

²¹⁶ *Idenix*, 941 F.3d at 1155, 1165; *Boehringer*, PGR2020-00076, Paper 42, at 40-41.

“If a patent claims an entire class of ... compositions of matter, the patent’s specification must enable a person skilled in the art to make and use the *entire* class,” *i.e.*, “the *full scope* of the invention,” and so the “more one claims, the more one must enable.”²¹⁷ “It is the specification, not the knowledge of one skilled in the art, that must supply the novel aspects of an invention in order to constitute adequate enablement.”²¹⁸ “Claims are not enabled when, at the effective filing date of the patent, one of ordinary skill in the art could not practice their full scope without undue experimentation.”²¹⁹

Although not required, enablement may be assessed using the *Wands* factors, which consider: “(1) the quantity of experimentation necessary; (2) how routine any necessary experimentation is in the relevant field; (3) whether the patent discloses specific working examples of the claimed invention; (4) the

²¹⁷ *Amgen*, 598 U.S. at 610 (emphases added).

²¹⁸ *Idenix*, 941 F.3d at 1159.

²¹⁹ *Wyeth & Cordis Corp. v. Abbott. Labs*, 720 F.3d 1380, 1383-84 (Fed. Cir. 2013).

amount of guidance presented in the patent; (5) the nature and predictability of the field; (6) the level of ordinary skill; and (7) the scope of the claimed invention.”²²⁰

Where the scope of the claims is large, few working examples are disclosed, and the only guidance to practice “the full scope of the invention [is] to use trial and error to narrow down the potential candidates to those satisfying the claims’ functional limitations—the asserted claims are not enabled.”²²¹

“It is well established that the enablement requirement of § 112 incorporates the utility requirement of § 101.”²²² A claimed invention must be **presently useful**—stating a hypothesis and proposing testing to determine its accuracy is insufficient.²²³ Further, if a claim encompasses significant numbers of inoperative

²²⁰ *Idenix*, 941 F.3d at 1156 (citing *In re Wands*, 858 F.2d 731, 737 (Fed. Cir. 1988)).

²²¹ *Baxalta Inc. v. Genentech, Inc.*, 579 F. Supp. 3d 595, 615-16 (D. Del. 2022) (Dyk, T., sitting by designation) *aff’d* 81 F.4th 1362 (Fed. Cir. 2023).

²²² *In re Fisher*, 421 F.3d 1365, 1379 (Fed. Cir. 2005).

²²³ *In re ’318 Patent Infringement Litigation*, 583 F.3d 1317, 1327 (Fed. Cir. 2009); *In re Kirk*, 376 F.2d, 936, 942 (C.C.P.A. 1967) (emphasis added).

embodiments, and a skilled artisan must engage in undue experimentation to identify the operative ones, that renders the claims non-enabled.²²⁴

Here, the common disclosure utterly fails to enable the immense genus of modified PH20 polypeptides being claimed. Using the disclosure and knowledge in the prior art, the skilled artisan would have to make and test 10⁴⁹⁺ distinct modified PH20 polypeptides having (i) a substitution at position 324 and (ii) up to 16 to 20 additional modifications. Doing so is the only way the patent describes making multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides.²²⁵ Yet until all of the modified PH20 polypeptides meeting the claim parameters are made and tested, a skilled artisan could not know which exhibit increased hyaluronidase activity.²²⁶ Practicing the full scope of the claims requires the skilled artisan to perform an impossible scale of experimentation—an amount far more than “undue.”

²²⁴ *Crown Operations Intern. Ltd v. Solutia Inc.*, 389 F.3d 1367, 1380, FN8 (Fed. Cir. 2002); *Atlas Powder Co. v. E.I. du Pont De Nemours Co.*, 750 F.2d 1569, 1577 (Fed. Cir. 1984).

²²⁵ EX1003, ¶¶ 218-219.

²²⁶ EX1003, ¶¶ 113, 127, 199-201, 221.

1. Claims 1-4 Are Not Enabled

This case is a textbook example of claims that are not enabled under the reasoning articulated by the Supreme Court in *Amgen*. An analysis of the common disclosure under the Federal Circuit's framework for assessing undue experimentation using the factors in *In re Wands*, 858 F.2d 731 (Fed. Cir. 1988) compels the same conclusion.

(a) *Extreme Scope of the Claims*

As explained in § IV.D.1, claims 1-4 capture between 10^{49} and 10^{60} modified PH20 polypeptides that have (i) a particular substitution at position 324, and (ii) 1 to 20 additional substitutions to any other amino acid anywhere in a PH20 polypeptide sequence that is 433 residues in length. Within these immense sets of modified PH20 polypeptides are unknown numbers of “active mutant” modified PH20 polypeptides with unknown sequences that have $>100\%$ or $\geq 120\%$ of the activity of unmodified PH20₁₋₄₄₇.

Practicing the full scope of either of these “active mutant” subgenera within the claims requires navigating substantial scientific questions left unanswered by the common disclosure. Indeed, other than by making and testing $\sim 10^{49}$ to 10^{60} multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides using the prophetic, iterative procedure described, the common disclosure does not explain how to determine *which* combinations of substitutions (in addition to position 324) will yield enzymatically

active multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides, particularly ones with the required thresholds of increased hyaluronidase activity.

There are also many types of PH20 mutants that the common disclosure would lead a skilled artisan to believe will *not* be enzymatically active, but which are nonetheless captured by the claims' sequence identity parameters, including those that:

- (i) have substitutions the disclosure instructs to not include in an enzymatically active modified PH20 polypeptide because they rendered PH20₁₋₄₄₇ an inactive mutant;²²⁷
- (ii) terminate before position 429, which the disclosure reports will eliminate activity in unmodified PH20 proteins;²²⁸ and
- (iii) include substitutions at positions that the common disclosure instructs “are less tolerant to change or required for hyaluronidase activity.”²²⁹

²²⁷ EX1001, 80:52-54.

²²⁸ EX1001, 70:37-46; EX1003, ¶¶ 98, 177-178, 190.

²²⁹ EX1001, 78:17-29.

Whether there are any (and how many of) such “active mutant” modified PH20 polypeptides within the scope of the claims is unknown, but the common disclosure identifies *none*.²³⁰

The common disclosure also does not provide any guidance that a skilled artisan could use to identify which of the 10^{49} - 10^{60} modified PH20 polypeptides with a position 324 substitution and 1-20 additional substitutions are *inactive* (and therefore, according to the common disclosure, allegedly useful as a contraceptive antigen), or *cannot fold or be produced* and thus have no utility at all.²³¹

In short, the claims capture a massive number of multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides that have *unknowable* properties absent the skilled artisan making and testing 10^{49} - 10^{60} distinct mutants pursuant to the common disclosure’s prophetic “make and test” methodology.²³²

Claims that capture massive and diverse sets of proteins such as those here have routinely been found non-enabled. For example, the claims in *Amgen* covered “millions” of different, untested antibodies,²³³ while in *Idenix*, the Court

²³⁰ EX1003, ¶ 190.

²³¹ EX1003, ¶¶ 113, 127, 157, 192.

²³² EX1003, ¶¶ 155-156, 183, 202, 214.

²³³ 598 U.S. at 603.

found that a skilled artisan would “understand that ‘billions and billions’ of compounds literally meet the structural limitations of the claim.”²³⁴ In both cases (as here), the enormous claim scope was contrasted to limited working examples in the patent, the field of technology was unpredictable, and an immense quantity of experimentation was required to practice the claims’ full scope (*Wands* Factors 1, 3, 4, and 7). Importantly, as the *Idenix* Court also observed, it is improper to rely on the knowledge and efforts of a skilled artisan to try to “fill the gaps in the specification” regarding which of the “many, many thousands” of possible compounds should be selected for screening, and which in this case is impossible.²³⁵

(b) *Limited Working Examples and Only a Research Plan for Discovering “Active Mutant” Modified PH20 Polypeptides*

The common disclosure provides an extremely narrow set of working examples: ~5,917 randomly generated single-replacement PH20₁₋₄₄₇ polypeptides, of which ~2,500 were “active mutants” (with ~800 of that set exhibiting over >100% activity), ~3,380 were “inactive mutants,” and ~830 mutants that are only characterized by the single substitution each incorporates; these latter modified

²³⁴ 941 F.3d at 1157.

²³⁵ *Id.* at 1159.

PH20 polypeptides are not classified as either “active” or “inactive” mutants.²³⁶

Combined, those examples constitute a tiny fraction of the 10^{49} to 10^{60} modified PH20 polypeptides covered by the claims, and provide no insights into the effects of combining 5, 10, 15, or 20+ substitutions in one modified PH20 polypeptide.²³⁷

Notably, *none* of the examples of modified PH20 polypeptides described in the disclosure are based on a PH20 polypeptide truncated before position 447—there are *zero* examples of a modified PH20 polypeptide based on SEQ ID NO: 35 (PH20₁₋₄₃₃) that has a position 324 substitution and *also* has up to 20 additional substitutions, deletions or additions.²³⁸

The common disclosure does reference US-457, which reports the activity of the *unmodified* PH20 polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 35 (PH20₁₋₄₃₃) being 27% of the wild-type PH20₁₋₄₄₇ sequence.²³⁹ But neither the common disclosure nor the disclosure in US-457 provides any predictable guidance about making changes to

²³⁶ EX1003, ¶¶ 110, 111, 118.

²³⁷ EX1003, ¶¶ 179-180, 183.

²³⁸ EX1001, 202:22-44, Table 9 (describing generation of single substitution mutants based on PH20₁₋₄₄₇ and reporting activity only of those mutants); EX1003, ¶¶ 166, 179-180, 183.

²³⁹ EX1001, 70:37-46, 72:1-20, 74:48-54; EX1003, ¶ 98.

the PH20 polypeptides with deletions or other modifications in the C-terminus of the protein. For example, US-457 reports (but does not explain why) a wild-type PH20 terminating at position 434 had more than 300% of the activity reported for PH20₁₋₄₃₃.²⁴⁰ See § V.A.1(b)(ii). The common disclosure provides no guidance about how one might modify the largely inactive PH20₁₋₄₃₃ polypeptide to cause it to have greater hyaluronidase activity than unmodified PH20₁₋₄₄₇, let alone every possible form of a PH20₁₋₄₃₃ that includes a position 324 substitution plus 1 to 20 additional substitutions, deletions or additions.²⁴¹ If anything, the examples of truncated wild-type PH20 polypeptides and singly substituted PH20₁₋₄₄₇ polypeptides in the common disclosure and the prior art demonstrate that modifications yielding PH20 polypeptides terminating at positions 430 to 443 are unpredictable and often *fatal* to the activity of modified PH20 polypeptides.²⁴² The working examples in the common disclosure thus provide no predictable guidance

²⁴⁰ EX1001, 70:28-46; EX1105, ¶ 362, Table 6 (p.48); EX1005 ('429 Patent), 87:52-88:24; EX1013 (Frost), 430-432, Fig. 2; EX1003, ¶ 97-99.

²⁴¹ EX1003, ¶¶ 97-99, 102, 191.

²⁴² EX1003, ¶ 177; EX1001, cols. 131-132 (Table 5) (reporting 34 inactive single-substitution modified PH20 polypeptides with modifications between positions 430 and 443).

to the skilled artisan for practicing the full scope of modified PH20 polypeptides representing the vast majority of the scope of the claims—enzymatically active, *multiply*-modified PH20 polypeptides terminating at or near position 433.²⁴³

The remainder of the common disclosure does not provide this guidance either. Instead, it proposes only a prophetic research plan for producing multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides requiring an “iterative” “make and test” process for *discovering* “active mutant” multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides. *See* § V.A.1.d. That research plan requires a skilled artisan to engage in undue (and impossible) scale of experimentation to practice the full scope of the claims.

First, the prophetic method described in the common disclosure requires performing endless, iterative rounds of mutation and screening steps (up to 21 rounds per starting molecule under the broadest claims) to *discover* which of the 10^{49+} possible modified PH20 polypeptides the claims encompass might possess increased hyaluronidase activity.²⁴⁴

²⁴³ EX1003, ¶¶ 159, 162, 164, 190.

²⁴⁴ EX1003, ¶¶ 210, 219-220; *see also* EX1018, 382 (“combinatorial randomization of only five residues generates a library of 205 possibilities (3.2×10^6 mutants), too large a number for manual screening”). Chica credited a “ground-breaking” predictive molecular modeling technique that

Second, the common disclosure provides no meaningful guidance or information that a skilled artisan could use to implement the prophetic procedure it discloses for making and discovering “active mutant” modified PH20 polypeptides with increased hyaluronidase activity relative to PH20₁₋₄₄₇:

- (i) it does not identify *any* specific combination of two or more replacements within any PH20 polypeptide that yield “active mutants” or those with increased activity;
- (ii) it provides no data from testing *any* modified PH20 polypeptide with two or more substitutions; and
- (iii) it does not identify the regions or residues in PH20 polypeptides that are “associated with activity and/or stability of the molecule” or “critical residues that are involved in the structural folding or other activities of the molecule” particularly when two or more replacements have been made.²⁴⁵

Instead, the common disclosure requires the skilled artisan to iteratively repeat its prophetic research plan to make and test 10⁴⁹⁺ multiply-modified PH20

was later shown to be false. EX1018, 384, 382; EX1030, 569; EX1034, 258; EX1036, 275, 277; EX1048, 859.

²⁴⁵ EX1001, 143:5-17; EX1003, ¶¶ 170, 182, 201, 209-210, 214-215.

polypeptides to discover which are enzymatically active and will exhibit increased activity.²⁴⁶

Regardless whether any individual round of the common disclosure's "iterative" production and testing methodology might be considered "routine," the aggregate scale of experimentation required to practice the full scope of the claims goes far beyond undue—it is impossible. Simply put, the common disclosure's iterative and labor-intensive process requires a skilled artisan to make and screen an immense number of modified PH20 polypeptides to determine which of 10⁴⁹+ possible multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides are within the claims' scope.²⁴⁷ The "iterative, trial-and-error process" the common disclosure specifies here is indistinguishable from those consistently found by the Board and courts to not enable broad genus claims to modified proteins or other useful compounds.²⁴⁸

²⁴⁶ EX1003, ¶¶ 201, 214-215.

²⁴⁷ EX1003, ¶¶ 213-215, 220, 222.

²⁴⁸ *Idenix*, 941 F.3d at 1161-63 (emphasis added); *see also Amgen*, 598 U.S. at 612-15; *Wyeth*, 720 F.3d at 1384-86; *Baxalta*, 597 F. Supp. 3d at 616-19.

(c) *Making Multiple Modifications to PH20 Polypeptides Was Unpredictable*

Like any protein, the activity of PH20 can be unpredictably influenced by modifying its amino acid sequence.²⁴⁹ Introducing modifications (*i.e.*, substitutions, deletions, and/or insertions) can alter the local structure of the protein where the change is made, which may unpredictably disrupt secondary structures or structural motifs within the protein that are important to its biological activity (*e.g.*, catalysis, ligand binding, etc.) and/or stability.²⁵⁰

By 2011, skilled artisans could have assessed whether certain *single* amino acid substitutions at certain positions would be tolerated within the PH20 protein structure with a reasonable (though not absolute) expectation of success.²⁵¹ However, before the advances in computer-based protein structure prediction that occurred in the 2018-2020 time frame,²⁵² skilled artisans could *not* have predicted the effects of making more than a few concurrent amino acid replacements within a

²⁴⁹ EX1003, ¶ 64.

²⁵⁰ EX1003, ¶¶ 64, 222-223.

²⁵¹ EX1003, ¶¶ 224, 260.

²⁵² EX1003, ¶¶ 6, 165, 182, 264.

PH20 polypeptide, particularly when they were within a particular region of the protein.²⁵³

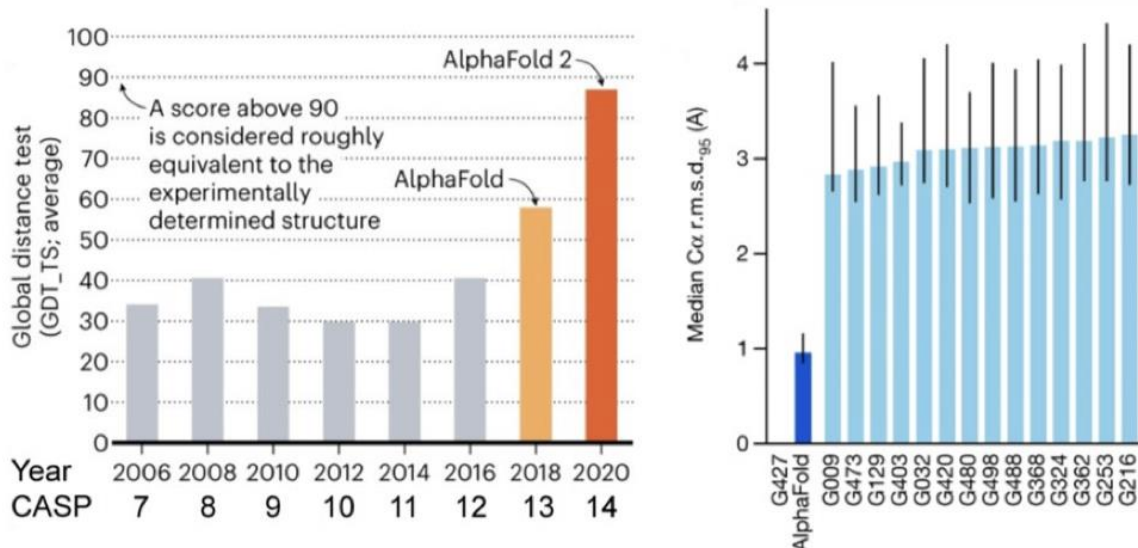


Figure 6. Left: progress of the CASP performance over the years for the best models and the most difficult targets.³⁸ Right: performance of AlphaFold2 relative to the top 15 entries by other groups in CASP14. Data are the median coordinate error and the 95% confidence interval of the median, estimated from 10 000 bootstrap samples.⁴¹

More generally, introducing *multiple* concurrent modifications into a particular region of a protein greatly increases the likelihood of disrupting secondary structures and structural motifs essential to the protein's activity and/or stability, and can even introduce new ones into the protein.²⁵⁴ Replacing multiple amino acids thus can introduce an immense number of simultaneous influences on a protein's structure that cannot be predicted, particularly whether the resulting

²⁵³ EX1003, ¶¶ 58-59, 62-63, 181; EX1027, 6-11, Figure 6.

²⁵⁴ EX1003, ¶¶ 58-59, 62-63, 181.

protein would have the required threshold hyaluronidase activity—be it >100% or $\geq 120\%$ of hyaluronidase activity compared to that of unmodified PH20₁₋₄₄₇.²⁵⁵

The cumulative effects of multiple changes also would have rapidly exceeded the capacity of computer-based, rational design protein engineering techniques to reliably predict the effects of each change on the protein's structure.²⁵⁶ For example, the further away the modeled amino acid sequence gets from an actual naturally-occurring sequence and/or the original model's structure, the less reliable that model became.²⁵⁷ In addition, depending on the structural template used to produce the model, regions of the protein not supported by a corresponding structure cannot be reliably used to assess particular changes.²⁵⁸ And the time required to carry out rational design techniques to “practice” the full scope of the claimed genus would be unimaginable.²⁵⁹

Consequently, a skilled artisan could not have used conventional rational design techniques to identify multiply-modified PH20 polypeptide sequences

²⁵⁵ EX1003, ¶¶ 58, 64, 225-226, 260.

²⁵⁶ EX1003, ¶ 168, 182; EX1027, 6-11, Figure 6.

²⁵⁷ EX1003, ¶¶ 182, 221, 264; EX1004, ¶¶ 173-174.

²⁵⁸ EX1003, ¶¶ 182, 260; EX1004, ¶¶ 163-165; EX1012, 4, 8.

²⁵⁹ EX1003, ¶¶ 199, 220; EX1059, 1225-26; EX1018, 378.

having more than a few substitutions, and certainly not up to 17 or 21 substitutions.²⁶⁰ Moreover, using such techniques to identify even a handful of “active mutant” modified PH20 polypeptides with more than 1 substitution would have taken an extreme amount of time and effort.²⁶¹

(d) Other Wands Factors and Conclusion

The remaining *Wands* factors either support the conclusion that practicing the full scope of the claims would require undue experimentation or are neutral.

For example, while a skilled artisan was highly skilled, the field of protein engineering was unpredictable and tools did not exist that permitted accurate modeling of the range of multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides being claimed.²⁶² Likewise, while there was significant public knowledge about hyaluronidases, there was no experimentally-determined structure of the PH20 protein.²⁶³ Also, the public literature generally reported on *loss of activity* from mutations in

²⁶⁰ EX1003, ¶¶ 51-53, 221.

²⁶¹ EX1003, ¶¶ 199-201, 211-213.

²⁶² EX1003, ¶¶ 168, 182-183, 260; EX1027, 6-11; EX1004, ¶¶ 170-172.

²⁶³ EX1004, ¶ 36.

hyaluronidases, and did not predictably teach how to introduce modifications that preserved or *increased* activity or stability of such proteins.²⁶⁴

Practicing the full scope of claims 1-4 thus would have required a skilled artisan to engage in undue experimentation, which renders those claims non-enabled.

2. Dependent Claims 5-10 Are Not Enabled

(a) Claim 5

Claim 5 requires “soluble” forms of PH20. Because claim 5 encompasses a substantial portion of the genus of claim 1, it is not enabled for the same reasons.

Additionally, the common disclosure does not enable the full scope of “soluble” multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides being claimed. As explained in § IV.D.3, a “soluble” modified PH20 polypeptide is one that is homogeneous in an aqueous solution at physiological conditions.²⁶⁵ As explained in §V.A.2(a) and the common disclosure, determining whether any particular multiply-modified PH20

²⁶⁴ EX1011, 812-814; EX1010, 9437-9439.

²⁶⁵ The claimed modified PH20 polypeptides omit the C-terminal sequence from positions 456-474 of SEQ ID NO:7, as they permit at most 20 modifications relative to SEQ ID NO:35 (positions 1-433 of PH20).

polypeptide being claimed is or is not soluble requires testing it.²⁶⁶ Similarly as explained in §V.A.2(a), solubility is not necessarily present if a multiply-modified PH20 polypeptide is enzymatically active, consistent with the structure of claims 1 and 5.²⁶⁷

Consequently, a skilled artisan could not have predicted from the amino acid sequence and measured activity of any particular multiply-modified PH20 polypeptide whether it will be soluble without making and testing it.²⁶⁸ The “*iterative, trial-and-error process[es]*” the common disclosure specifies are indistinguishable from those consistently found insufficient to enable comparable genus claims to modified proteins and compounds.²⁶⁹ And carrying out such testing for the full scope of the claimed genus of claim 5 here is literally impossible—it would require making and testing 10⁴⁹+ different multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides.²⁷⁰

²⁶⁶ EX1001, 47:47-49, 74:24-32, 180:41-55; EX1003, ¶¶ 65, 145-147.

²⁶⁷ EX1003, ¶¶ 155, 182.

²⁶⁸ EX1003, ¶¶ 65, 145-147.

²⁶⁹ *Idenix*, 941 F.3d at 1161-63 (emphasis added); *see also Amgen*, 598 U.S. at 612-15; *Wyeth*, 720 F.3d at 1384-86; *Baxalta*, 597 F. Supp. 3d at 616-19.

²⁷⁰ EX1003, ¶¶ 65, 145-147, 182.

Additionally, as explained in § V.A.2.b, the common disclosure suggests that modified PH20 polypeptides extending past position 447 may be “insoluble.” A skilled artisan would have expected the presence of the hydrophobic GPI sequence in a PH20 protein to cause aggregation, loss of activity, and/or reduced expression.²⁷¹ The common disclosure recognizes these problems, but provides no solutions to them—it discloses *no* examples of modified PH20 polypeptides extending past position 447 that are soluble.²⁷² The full scope of claim 5 thus is not enabled by the common disclosure.

(b) Claims 6-10

Claims 6-10 employ the genus definition used in claim 1 and recite either further modifications to the modified polypeptides (6-8), pharmaceutical compositions (9), or methods of manufacture (10) using the claimed genus. These claims do not add requirements that limit the structure of polypeptides in the claim 1 genus and are not enabled for the same reasons.²⁷³

²⁷¹ EX1003, ¶¶ 96-97, 228; EX1005, 86:18-26, 87:52-88:24; EX1013, 430-432, Fig. 2.

²⁷² EX1003, ¶¶ 100-101, 104, 142; EX1001, 70:37-46.

²⁷³ *See, e.g., Idenix*, 941 F.3d at 1155, 1165.

C. Inactive PH20 Polypeptides Meeting the Recited Sequence Identity Parameters Underscores the § 112(a) Deficiencies of the Claims

As explained in § IV.D.2, every claim requires modified PH20 polypeptides based on PH20₁₋₄₃₃ (SEQ ID NO: 35) that have (i) a specified position 324 substitution and (ii) up to between 16-20 additional modifications. These sequence parameters capture an unknown number of modified PH20 polypeptides that exhibit less than 100% of the hyaluronidase activity of unmodified PH20₁₋₄₄₇. They also capture modified PH20 polypeptides that are “inactive mutants” (less than 20% of the activity of unmodified PH20₁₋₄₄₇) as well as modified PH20 polypeptides that are not secreted, will not fold and/or form insoluble aggregates (and thus have no utility).²⁷⁴

Despite this, the common disclosure identifies no correlation between either of the two claimed sub-genera of enzymatically active modified PH20 polypeptides (*i.e.*, those with >100% or ≥120% of the hyaluronidase activity of unmodified PH20₁₋₄₄₇) and the 10⁴⁹⁺ multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides captured by the sequence identity parameters of the claims.²⁷⁵ Consequently, whether to identify the species within each sub-genera of modified PH20

²⁷⁴ EX1003, ¶¶ 128-129.

²⁷⁵ EX1003, ¶ 170.

polypeptides with “increased hyaluronidase activity,” or to practice the full scope of each claimed subgenera will require a skilled artisan to perform trial-and-error testing of $10^{49}+$ multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides to determine which are within either sub-genera, which are “inactive mutants,” and which cannot be produced or will not fold (and have no utility).²⁷⁶

The common disclosure also does not demonstrate that ~3,380 “inactive mutant” modified PH20 polypeptides folded correctly but were inactive—there is no evidence all these inactive mutants were successfully produced. The experimental protocol instead equated the *absence* of hyaluronidase activity in the supernatant from each transfected cell with proof of production of an “inactive mutant.”²⁷⁷ But an absence of hyaluronidase activity in the supernatant would be observed if the cell did not secrete the mutant, if the secreted mutant did not fold and/or if it formed aggregates.²⁷⁸

The common disclosure also does not report the measured hyaluronidase activity values of the 3,380 mutants labeled “inactive mutants” or ~830 (12%) unclassified mutants, even though it did so for the thousands of “active mutants” in

²⁷⁶ EX1003, ¶¶ 214-216.

²⁷⁷ EX1003, ¶¶ 111-114.

²⁷⁸ EX1003, ¶¶ 113.

Table 9.²⁷⁹ It is thus impossible to determine from the common disclosure which of the ~ 4,180 mutants made (i) were actually expressed, properly folded, and enzymatically inactive, (ii) were not successfully produced by or secreted from the transfected cells, or (iii) were secreted but did not fold.²⁸⁰

These deficiencies are material to assessing enablement and written description (or lack thereof) of the claims because, even if a fraction of a percent of the 10^{49+} multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides within the scope of the claims' sequence identity parameters cannot be produced or did not properly fold, they represent a massive absolute number of inoperative embodiments that must be identified by making and testing 10^{49+} polypeptides.²⁸¹ Performing the scale of testing necessary to identify such inoperative species within the scope of the claims independently demonstrates a lack of enablement.²⁸²

²⁷⁹ EX1003, ¶¶ 116, 118-119; EX1001, 235:32-270:17 (Table 9), 270:48-281:17 (Table 10).

²⁸⁰ EX1003, ¶¶ 113, 116, 157.

²⁸¹ EX1003, ¶¶ 213-216, 220-221.

²⁸² EX1003, ¶¶ 126-127; *Atlas Powder Co.*, 750 F.2d at 1576-77; *Pharm. Res., Inc. v. Roxane Labs., Inc.*, 253 F. App'x. 26, 30 (Fed. Cir. 2007).

The common disclosure thus presents only a “research proposal” to discover “active mutants” and requires use of a labor and resource-intensive process to sort them from any “inactive mutants” with alleged contraceptive utility as well as other mutants having no utility.²⁸³ It does not demonstrate possession of or teach “how to make and use” all modified PH20 polypeptides with increased hyaluronidase activity within the claims’ scope. Thus, the claims are unpatentable under § 112(a).

D. The Original Claims of the ’731 Application Do Not Cure the Written Description and Enablement Deficiencies

As explained in §§ V.A to V.C, above, the specifications of the pre-AIA ’731 Application and post-AIA ’685 Patent are substantially identical, but neither supports the challenged claims as § 112(a) requires. The claims are both PGR-eligible and unpatentable under § 112(a).

The original claims of the ’731 Application provide no additional guidance demonstrating written description or enablement of the claimed genera of multiply-modified PH20 polypeptides. Those original claims claimed broad genera via sequence identity language (*e.g.*, 85% to SEQ ID NOS: 3, 7, or 32-66) (claims 1-3) or having up to “75 or more amino acid replacements” (claim 4). Certain

²⁸³ See *Janssen Pharmaceutica N.V. v. Teva Pharms. USA, Inc.*, 583 F.3d 1317, 1324 (Fed. Cir. 2009).

dependent claims listed single positions (claim 12) or replacements (claims 13-16) in those polypeptides. And, while certain claims contemplated 2-3 particular combinations of amino acid replacements (from dozens listed), others encompassed substitutions at unspecified locations.²⁸⁴

More directly, none of the original claims filed in the '731 Application or either of the provisional applications to which it claims priority include a claim that is restricted to modified PH20 polypeptides having (i) 95% sequence identity with only SEQ ID NO: 35, (ii) contain a position 324 substitution to D, N, and R, and (iii) have >100% or \geq 120% hyaluronidase activity of unmodified PH20₁₋₄₄₇.²⁸⁵ Such claims (if present) would not have been supported by an adequate written description in nor would have been enabled by any of the applications (or the '685 Patent disclosure), for the reasons set forth in §§ V.A to V.C.²⁸⁶

²⁸⁴ EX1026, 335.

²⁸⁵ EX1026, 335-356; EX1051 323-378; EX1052, 357-420.

²⁸⁶ *See, e.g., Ariad Pharms.*, 598 F.3d at 1349; *Fiers v. Revel*, 984 F.2d 1164, 1170-71 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

VI. Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, the challenged claims are unpatentable.

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EXHIBIT LIST

No.	Exhibit Description
1001	U.S. Patent No. 12,371,685
1002	File History of U.S. Patent No. 12,371,685
1003	Declaration of Dr. Michael Hecht
1004	Declaration of Dr. Sheldon Park
1005	U.S. Patent No. 7,767,429
1006	Chao et al., "Structure of Human Hyaluronidase-1, a Hyaluronan Hydrolyzing Enzyme Involved in Tumor Growth and Angiogenesis," <i>Biochemistry</i> , 46:6911-6920 (2007)
1007	WO 2010/077297, published 8 July 2010
1008	Stern et al., "The Hyaluronidases: Their Genomics, Structures, and Mechanisms of Action," <i>Chem. Rev.</i> 106:818-839 (2006)
1009	Jedzrejas et al., "Structures of Vertebrate Hyaluronidases and Their Unique Enzymatic Mechanism of Hydrolysis," <i>Proteins: Structure, Function and Bioinformatics</i> , 61:227-238 (2005)
1010	Zhang et al., "Hyaluronidase Activity of Human Hyal1 Requires Active Site Acidic and Tyrosine Residues," <i>J. Biol. Chem.</i> , 284(14):9433-9442 (2009)
1011	Arming et al., "In vitro mutagenesis of PH-20 hyaluronidase from human sperm," <i>Eur. J. Biochem.</i> , 247:810-814 (1997)
1012	Bordoli et al., "Protein structure homology modeling using SWISS-MODEL workspace," <i>Nature Protocols</i> , 4(1):1-13 (2008)
1013	Frost, "Recombinant human hyaluronidase (rHuPH20): an enabling platform for subcutaneous drug and fluid administration," <i>Expert Opinion on Drug Delivery</i> , 4(4):427-440 (2007)
1014	Branden & Tooze, "Introduction to Protein Structure," Second Ed., Chapters 1-6, 11-12, 17-18 (1999)
1015	Table Associating Citations from the '685 Patent (EX1001) to Corresponding Citations in the '731 Application (EX1026)

No.	Exhibit Description
1016	Steipe, "Consensus-Based Engineering of Protein Stability: From Intrabodies to Thermostable Enzymes," <i>Methods in Enzymology</i> , 388:176-186 (2004)
1017	Green, "Computer Graphics, Homology Modeling, and Bioinformatics," <i>Protein Eng'g & Design</i> , Ch. 10, 223-237 (2010)
1018	Chica et al., "Semi-rational approaches to engineering enzyme activity: combining the benefits of directed evolution and rational design," <i>Curr. Opin. Biotechnol.</i> , (4):378-384 (2005)
1019	Hardy et al., "Assessment of contraceptive vaccines based on recombinant mouse sperm protein PH20," <i>Reprod.</i> , 127:325-334 (2004)
1020	Pomering et al., "Restricted Entry of IgG into Male and Female Rabbit Reproductive Ducts Following Immunization with Recombinant Rabbit PH-20," <i>Am. J. Reprod. Immunol.</i> , (3):174-82 (2002)
1021	Baba et al., "Mouse Sperm Lacking Cell Surface Hyaluronidase PH-20 Can Pass through the Layer of Cumulus Cells and Fertilize the Egg," <i>J. Biol. Chem.</i> , 277(33):30310-4 (2002)
1022	Primakoff et al., "Reversible Contraceptive Effect of PH-20 Immunization in Male Guinea Pigs," <i>Biol Reprod.</i> , 56(5):1142-6 (1997)
1023	Tung et al., "Mechanism of Infertility in Male Guinea Pigs Immunized with Sperm PH-20," <i>Biol. Reprod.</i> , 56(5):1133-41 (1997)
1024	Rosengren et al., "Recombinant Human PH20: Baseline Analysis of the Reactive Antibody Prevalence in the General Population Using Healthy Subjects," <i>BioDrugs</i> , 32(1):83-89 (2018)
1025	U.S. Patent No. 9,447,401
1026	U.S. Patent Application No. 13/694,731
1027	2024 Chemistry Nobel Prize Background
1028	[Reserved]
1029	Gmachl et al., "The human sperm protein PH-20 has hyaluronidase activity," <i>FEBS Letters</i> , 3:545-548 (1993)

No.	Exhibit Description
1030	Sills, "Retraction," <i>Science</i> , 319:569 (2008)
1031	Yue et al., "Loss of Protein Structure Stability as a Major Causative Factor in Monogenic Disease," <i>J. Mol. Biol.</i> , 353:459-473 (2005)
1032	Wang & Moulton, "SNPs, Protein Structure, and Disease," <i>Hum. Mutation</i> , 17:263-270 (2001)
1033	Marković-Housley et al., "Crystal Structure of Hyaluronidase, a Major Allergen of Bee Venom," <i>Structure</i> , 8:1025-1035 (2000)
1034	"Negative Results," <i>Nature: Editorials</i> , 453:258 (2008)
1035	Lins et al., "Analysis of Accessible Surface of Residues in Proteins," <i>Protein Sci.</i> , 12:1406-1417 (2003)
1036	Hayden, "Chemistry: Designer Debacle," <i>Nature</i> , 453:275-278 (2008)
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No.	Exhibit Description
1045	Redline Comparison of the '731 and '685 Specifications
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No.	Exhibit Description
1064	Collection of BLAST Webpages from the Internet Archive, navigable from: https://web.archive.org/web/20111022151531/http://www.clustal.org/omega/
1065	Collection of Clustal Omega Webpages from the Internet Archive, navigable from: https://web.archive.org/web/20111022151531/http://www.clustal.org/omega/
1066	Collection of SWISS-MODEL Webpages from the Internet Archive, navigable from: https://web.archive.org/web/20110519141121/http://swissmodel.expasy.org/?pid=smh01&uid=&token=
1067	Collection of PyMol Webpages from the Internet Archive, navigable from: https://web.archive.org/web/20110701072314/http://pymol.org/
1068	Declaration of Jeffrey P. Kushan
1069	Swiss Model Printout of PH20 Model
1070	Swiss Model Printout of PH20 Model with E324D Mutation
1071	Swiss Model Printout of PH20 Model with E324N Mutation
1072	Swiss Model Printout of PH20 Model with E324R Mutation
1073	Swiss Model Printout of PH20 Model with E324A Mutation
1074	Swiss Model Printout of PH20 Model with E324H Mutation
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1104	[Reserved]
1105	U.S. Publication 2010/0143457
1106	Transcript of August 26, 2025 Deposition of Dr. Michael Hecht in PGR2025-00003, -00004, -00006, and -00009 proceedings
1107	Transcript of August 7, 2025 Deposition of Dr. Sheldon Park in PGR2025-00003, -00004, -00006, and -00009 proceedings
1108	Transcript of August 21, 2025 Deposition of Dr. Sheldon Park in PGR2025-00003, -00004, -00006, and -00009 proceedings
1109	Errata and Acknowledgement to Transcript of August 7, 2025 Deposition of Dr. Sheldon Park in PGR2025-00003, -00004, -00006, and -00009 proceedings
1110	Errata and Acknowledgement to Transcript of August 21, 2025 Deposition of Dr. Sheldon Park in PGR2025-00003, -00004, -00006, and -00009 proceedings
1111	Errata and Acknowledgement to Transcript of August 26, 2025 Deposition of Dr. Michael Hecht in PGR2025-00003, -00004, -00006, and -00009 proceedings
1112	Primakoff et al., "Fully effective contraception in male and female guinea pigs immunized with the sperm protein of PH-20," Nature 335:543-546 (1988)

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

I hereby certify that this brief complies with the type-volume limitations of 37 C.F.R. § 42.24, because it contains 17,841 words (as determined by the Microsoft Word word-processing system used to prepare the brief), excluding the parts of the brief exempted by 37 C.F.R. § 42.24.

Dated: November 10, 2025

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Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 42.6(e), I hereby certify that on this 10th day of November 2025, I caused to be served a true and correct copy of the foregoing and any accompanying exhibits by FedEx on the following counsel:

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