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[54] **INFLUENZA VACCINE**

[75] Inventors: **Walter Charles Fiers**, Destelbergen; **Tom Marie Deroo**, Kuurne; **Willy Alfons Min Jou**, Destelbergen, all of Belgium

[73] Assignee: **Vlaams Interuniversitair Instituut Voor Biotechnologie**, Zwijnaarde, Belgium

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[58] **Field of Search** 435/200, 240.2, 435/320.1; 536/23.2; 424/94.6, 325; 935/22

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Primary Examiner—Robert A. Wax
Assistant Examiner—Einar Stoel
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Webb Ziesenheim Logsdon Orkin & Hanson, P.C.

[57] **ABSTRACT**

The present invention relates to a recombinant neuraminidase obtainable by culturing in a suitable culture medium host cells which are transformed with a neuraminidase expression vector or infected with a virus which is transformed with a neuraminidase expression vector, wherein the expression vector comprises at least a part of the coding region of a neuraminidase gene of an influenza virus minus the region which codes for the membrane anchor, or a modified version thereof, preceded in phase by a signal sequence; and isolating the expression product neuraminidase from the culture medium. The invention further relates to a vaccine in which the recombinant neuraminidase is applied, and methods for manufacturing and purifying thereof.

13 Claims, 17 Drawing Sheets