**Title:** METHOD FOR TREATING ALZHEIMER'S DEMENTIA

**Abstract:** The invention is directed to a method of selecting an agent that prevents cleavage of an APP substrate by contacting a candidate agent with a β-secretase complex that encompasses cathepsin B and cathepsin L, in the presence of an APP substrate and under conditions that allow for cleavage of the APP substrate by the β-secretase complex; and selecting the agent that prevents the cleavage of the APP substrate by the β-secretase complex. The prevention of Aβ peptide formation by an individual results in a reduction amyloid plaques. Thus, the invention provides a method of reducing the severity of a condition characterized by amyloid plaque formation such as Alzheimer's Disease.
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
   IPC(7) : G01N 33/573; C12Q 1/37, 1/60
   US CL. : 435/7.4, 24, 23, 4
   According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED
   Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
   U.S. : WEST/NPL/GOOGLE:B-secretase, cathepsin b and L, amyloid precursor protein

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

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

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Y</td>
<td>PAGANO et al, Can J. Biochem., Vol 60(6), pages 631-637, June 1982.</td>
<td>1-19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

- Special categories of cited documents:
  - "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
  - "E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date
  - "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
  - "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
  - "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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

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Date of the actual completion of the international search
01 March 2005 (01.03.2005)

Date of mailing of the international search report
04 APR 2005

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