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(54) Title: USE OF BETA-GLUCANS AGAINST BIOLOGICAL WARFARE WEAPONS AND PATHOGENS INCLUDING ANTHRAX

(57) Abstract: The present invention provides a means to broadly protect the military and the public from injury from biological warfare weapons, particularly infective agents such as anthrax. Beta (1,3)-glucans, particularly whole glucan particles, PGG-Glucan, and microparticulate glucan, provide general immune enhancement, thereby increasing the body's ability to defend against a wide variety of biological threats. Beta (1,3)-glucans have been shown to increase the resistance to infection by anthrax and other infectious organisms when administered before and after infection. The anti-infective mechanism of 3 (1,3)-glucan appears to involve stimulation of the innate immune system through increased cytokine release and CR3 receptor activation. Beta (1,3)-glucan is pharmaceutically stable, relatively compact, and can also be used without significant side effects. Beta (1,3)-glucan can also enhance the effectiveness of other medical countermeasures such as antibiotics, vaccines, and immune antibodies.



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International	application No.	 _	_	_	J

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER								
IPC(7) : A61K 31/715; A61K 31/66; A61K 39/395. US CL : 514/54, 885, 61; 536/123.12, 124, 127, 114, 123, 1.11, 117, 23.1, 23.2, 55.1; 424/1.73, 278.1, 442.								
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)								
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	JMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		0.1 1 /	TO 1 1 NT				
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where a			Relevant to claim No.				
Y	US 6,355,625 B1 (PAVLIAK et al) 12 March 2002	(12.03.2002), abstract and claims 21-24.	1-23				
Y	US 6,413,715 B2 (WAKSHULL et al) 02 July 2002	(02.07.2002	2), abstract and column 4.	1-23				
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A	US 5,622,940 (OSTROFF) 22 April 1997 (22.04.1997), abstract.			1-23				
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Further	documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.		See patent family annex.					
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	published prior to the international filing date but later than the	"&"	document member of the same patent fa	mily				
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Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:	
CAS online, EAST, Search terms used: glucan and pathogenesis; beta glucan and	nd infection; PGC glucan; whole glucan particles; anthrax;
tuberculosis; and biological warfare agents.	
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