METHODS AND DEVICES FOR EPITHELIAL PROTECTION DURING PHOTODYNAMIC THERAPY

Abstract: Methods for preventing damage to epithelial tissue during PDT induced using a photosensitizing agent or pre-photosensitizing agent are provided. The methods of the present invention utilize spatial confinement to control photoactivation of the photoactive species to protect the epithelial tissue. In one embodiment, epithelial tissue surrounding a targeted treatment site can be protecting by decreasing the oxygen-content in the tissue, thereby preventing the conversion of the photosensitizer into the photo-toxic species in the epithelial tissue.
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC(7) : A61N 1/18, 1/30; A61K 39/395
US CL : 607/88; 604/20; 424/178.1
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. : 607/88; 604/20; 424/178.1

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)
Please See Continuation Sheet

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>
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<td>US 6,443,976 B1 (FLOWER et al) 03 September 2002(03.09.2002), see full text.</td>
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

Date of the actual completion of the international search
21 March 2005 (21.03.2005)

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Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (January 2004)
Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:
STN ONLINE, USPATFUL, CAPLUS
search terms: photodynamic therapy, aminolevulinic acid, nitric oxide, pxygen, vacuum, non-targeted tissue, selective, porphyrins, etc