

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau(43) International Publication Date
24 December 2008 (24.12.2008)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2008/156331 A3

(51) International Patent Classification:

A61K 31/075 (2006.01) A61K 36/53 (2006.01)
A61K 36/18 (2006.01) A61P 3/04 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/KR2008/003525

(22) International Filing Date: 20 June 2008 (20.06.2008)

(25) Filing Language: Korean

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:

10-2007-0060176 20 June 2007 (20.06.2007) KR
10-2008-0019147
29 February 2008 (29.02.2008) KR

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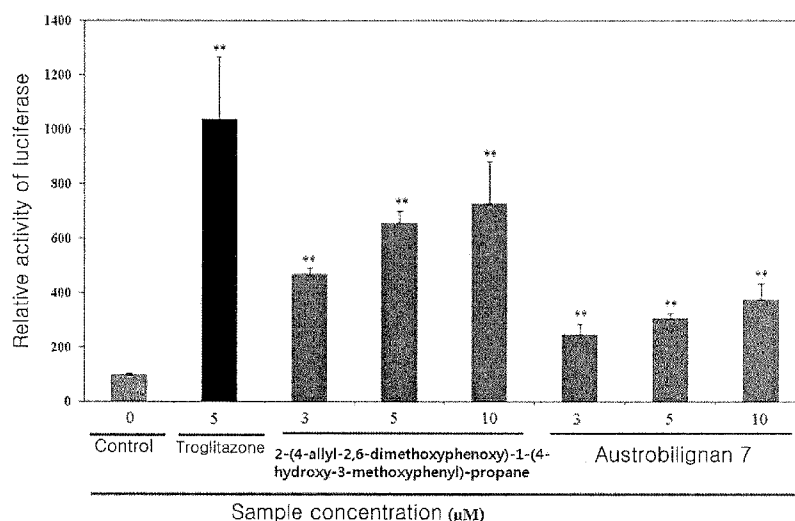
(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: NOVEL USE OF LIGNAN COMPOUNDS

FIG. 12



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to novel use of lignan compounds, and more particularly, the present invention relates to novel use of an extract of the aril of nutmeg, 2-(4-allyl-2, 6-dimethoxyphenoxy)-1-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-propane, austroblignan 7 or licarin E, for preventing or treating diabetes or PPAR γ -mediated diseases. The said compound and extract of the aril of nutmeg act as ligands for PPAR γ , and they may be used for preventing or treating PPAR γ -mediated diseases, not limited thereto, such as diabetes and diabetic complication. Accordingly, 2-(4-allyl-2, 6-dimethoxyphenoxy)-1-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-propane, austroblignan 7 or licarin E and extract of the aril of nutmeg may be useful as preventing or treating agent for PPAR γ -mediated diseases, not limited thereto, such as diabetes and diabetic complication.



FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MT, NL,
NO, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG,
CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

— *with sequence listing part of description published separately in electronic form and available upon request from the International Bureau*

Published:

- *with international search report*
- *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

(88) **Date of publication of the international search report:**
26 February 2009

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/KR2008/003525**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER***A61K 31/075(2009.01)i, A61K 36/18(2009.01)i, A61K 36/53(2009.01)i, A61P 3/04(2009.01)i*

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)

IPC 8 : as above

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)

EKIPASS(kipo Internal), PubMed, STN(CA plus)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	JP 2006-273788 A (KANEKA CORP.) 12 October 2006 (12.10.2006) See paragraphs <1>, <9>, <10>, <13>, <20>-<22>, <32>; examples 1 and 2; claims 1-7.	1, 2, 7
A	-----	3-6, 9, 11
X	KR 10-2007-0033938 A (BIOCARE CO., LTD) 27 March 2007 (27.03.2007) See abstract; page 3, lines 13-52; page 5, line 9-36; example 2; claims 3-4.	1, 2, 7
A	-----	3-6, 9, 11
A	LEIGH BROADHURST, C. et al. "Insulin-like Biological Activity of Culinary and Medicinal Plant Aqueous Extracts in Vitro." J. Agric. Food. Chem. Vol. 48, 2000, pp.849-852. See abstract; Table 2.	1-7, 9, 11
A	-----	1-7, 9, 11
A	KIM, K-J. and HAN, Y. N. "Lignans from Myristica Fragrans." Yakhak Hoeji. Vol.46, No.2, 2002, pp.98-101. See the whole document.	1-7, 9, 11

☐ 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 but 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 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

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

02 JANUARY 2009 (02.01.2009)

Date of mailing of the international search report

06 JANUARY 2009 (06.01.2009)

Name and mailing address of the ISA/KR

Korean Intellectual Property Office
Government Complex-Daejeon, 139 Seonsa-ro, Seo-
gu, Daejeon 302-701, Republic of Korea

Facsimile No. 82-42-472-7140

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/KR2008/003525

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
JP 2006-273788 A	12.10.2006	None	
KR 10-2007-0033938 A	27.03.2007	EP 1948161 A2	30.07.2008

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/KR2008/003525

Box No. I Nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence(s) (Continuation of item 1.b of the first sheet)

1. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of :

a. type of material



a sequence listing



table(s) related to the sequence listing

b. format of material



on paper



in electronic form

c. time of filing/furnishing



contained in the international application as filed



filed together with the international application in electronic form



furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search

2. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.

3. Additional comments:

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/KR2008/003525**Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)**

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.: 8, 10, 12
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Claims 8, 10, 12 pertain to methods for treatment of the human or animal body by therapy, as well as diagnostic methods, and thus relate to a subject matter which this International Searching Authority is not required to search under Article 17(2)(a)(i) of the PCT and Rule 39.1(iv) of the Regulations under the PCT.
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.