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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the “Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations” appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: DRUG DELIVERY TO THE INNER EAR AND METHODS OF USING SAME

(57) Abstract: The inventors have demonstrated that they can deliver therapeutic compositions to the inner ear of mammals via a variety of routes including the round window membrane, the semicircular canals, via cochleostomy and through the stapes footplate. Using pancaspase inhibitors, the inventors have shown that relatively large volumes of compositions can be injected with little to no hearing loss.
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPCT() : A61K 38/00; C07K 14/81; C07H 19/00

US CL : 514/2, 18, 19; 530/402, 333

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. : 514/2, 18, 19; 530/402, 333

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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Y</td>
<td>US 20020058685 A1 (HAMILTON, G. S.) 16 May 2002, paragraphs [0117] and [0155], example 54, and abstract.</td>
<td>1, 2 and 4</td>
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</tbody>
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☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☐ See patent family annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

25 May 2005 (25.05.2005)

Date of mailing of the international search report

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Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (January 2004)
Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:

zinc finger, tetracycline repressor/repression, Krabs and VP16.