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**PATENT**

**NOTICE OF ENTITLEMENT**

We, CAMBRIDGE NEUROSCIENCE, INC., of One Kendall Square, Building 700, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139, United States of America, being the applicant and the person nominated for grant of patent in respect of the Applicant for an invention entitled "SUBSTITUTED GUANIDINES AND DERIVATIVES THEREOF AS MODULATORS OF NEUROTRANSMITTER RELEASE AND NOVEL METHODOLOGY FOR IDENTIFYING NEUROTRANSMITTER RELEASE BLOCKERS" state the following:-

**PCT - CONVENTION NATIONAL PHASE FILING**

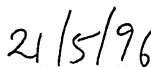
The nominated person is entitled to the grant of the patent because the nominated person derives title to the invention from the inventors by virtue of an assignment of the invention and of the priority right from the actual inventors.

The person nominated for the grant of the patent has entitlement from the applicants of the application listed in the declaration under Article 8 of the PCT by virtue of an assignment of the invention and of the priority right from the actual inventors.

The basic application listed in the Declaration made under Article 8 of the PCT is the first application made in a Convention country in respect of the invention.



Signature  
Elizabeth Eadie  
Registered Patent Attorney



Date



(12) PATENT ABRIDGMENT (11) Document No. AU-B-14496/92  
 (19) AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE (10) Acceptance No. 670232

- (54) Title  
 SUBSTITUTED GUANIDINES AND DERIVATIVES THEREOF AS MODULATORS OF  
 NEUROTRANSMITTER RELEASE AND NOVEL METHODOLOGY FOR IDENTIFYING  
 NEUROTRANSMITTER RELEASE BLOCKERS
- (51)<sup>5</sup> International Patent Classification(s)
- |              |              |              |              |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| A61K 031/16  | A61K 031/15  | A61K 031/34  | A61K 031/38  |
| A61K 031/39  | A61K 031/40  | A61K 031/42  | A61K 031/44  |
| A61K 031/47  | A61K 031/53  | A61K 031/54  | C07C 279/00  |
| C07C 279/16  | C07C 279/18  | C12Q 001/02  | A61K 031/155 |
| A61K 031/275 | A61K 031/305 | A61K 031/355 | A61K 031/415 |
| A61K 031/425 |              |              |              |
- (21) Application No. : 14496/92 (22) Application Date : 10.02.92
- (87) PCT Publication Number : WO92/14697
- (30) Priority Data
- (31) Number (32) Date (33) Country  
 652104 08.02.91 US UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
- (43) Publication Date : 15.09.92
- (44) Publication Date of Accepted Application : 11.07.96
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- (56) Prior Art Documents  
 AU 19282/92 A61K 31/155  
 AU 75796/91 C07C 279/-  
 AU 80032/91 C07C 279/-

(57) This invention is in the field of medicinal chemistry. In particular, this invention relates to modulators of neurotransmitter release, and to pharmaceutical compositions comprising the same which possess neuroprotective and other therapeutic utilities. The invention also relates to screening assays for compounds which inhibit neurotransmitter release. This invention further relates to methods involving the use of such neurotransmitter release modulators for the treatment or prevention of certain pathophysiologic conditions characterized by the excessive or inappropriate release of neurotransmitters.

It is an object of this invention to provide substituted guanidines, amino guanidines and N,N',N'',N'''-tetrasubstituted hydrazinedicarboximid-

amides which modulate the release of neurotransmitters (e.g., glutamate) from neuronal cells.

Some disorders (e.g., neuronal damage in stroke) may be alleviated by inhibiting the release of EAAs such as glutamate. Some disorders (e.g., depression) may be alleviated by inhibiting the release of inhibitory neurotransmitters such as gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA). Furthermore, inhibiting the release of an excitatory neurotransmitter (glutamate) may indirectly potentiate the release or the subsequent actions of an inhibitory transmitter (e.g., GABA), and thus serve to treat disorders known to be alleviated by more direct potentiation of inhibitory neurotransmission (in this example, anxiety and/or insomnia). This serves to illustrate the broad scope of the therapeutic potential of the compounds of the present invention. Thus, any disease that results from modulation of a particular neurotransmitter system can be counteracted by the substituted guanidines, amino guanidines and N,N',N'',N'''-tetrasubstituted hydrazinedicarboximidamides of the invention which act either on the same or another class of neurotransmitters.

It is yet a further object of the invention to treat or prevent nerve cell death resulting from hypoxia, hypoglycemia, brain or spinal cord ischemia, brain or spinal chord trauma, stroke, heart attack, or drowning, by the administration of effective amounts of substituted guanidines, amino guanidines and N,N',N'',N'''-tetrasubstituted hydrazinedicarboximidamides which inhibit the release of neurotransmitters from neuronal cells.

It is yet a further object of the present invention to treat or prevent various neurodegenerative diseases such as Huntington's disease, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, Alzheimer's disease, Down's Syndrome, Korsakoff's disease,

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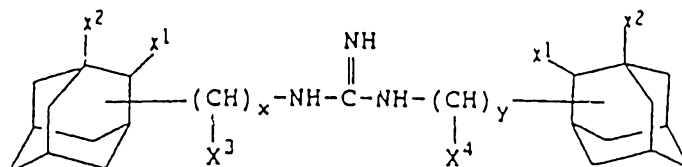
olivopontocerebellar atrophy, HIV-induced dementia and blindness or multi-infarct dementia, by the administration of effective amounts of substituted guanidines, amino guanidines and N,N',N'',N'''-tetra-substituted hydrazinedicarboximidamides which inhibit the release of neurotransmitters.

A further object of the invention is to provide substituted guanidines, amino guanidines and N,N',N'',N'''-tetrasubstituted hydrazinedicarboximidamides which are useful for the treatment or prevention of neurological conditions such as epilepsy and convulsions, carbon monoxide poisoning, cyanide poisoning, toxic brain damage caused by, for example, tetrodotoxin or shellfish toxins, anxiety, amnesia, migraine, river blindness, and nausea which may result from chemotherapy.

It is also an object of the present invention to provide a screening assay for inhibitors of neurotransmitter release (e.g. glutamate, dopamine, norepinephrine, glycine, aspartate, serotonin, and other neurotransmitters), from brain nerve terminals. It is also an object of the invention to provide a new screening assay which allows for the identification of new compounds which inhibit certain kinetic subcomponents of glutamate release. Such subcomponents can only be identified by an assay system capable of resolving neurotransmitter release on the subsecond time scale.

#### Claim

15. A compound having the formula:



wherein X<sup>1</sup>, X<sup>2</sup>, X<sup>3</sup> and X<sup>4</sup> are the same or different and are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, acetate, oxo, amino, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl amino, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, di-lower C<sub>2-12</sub> alkyl amino

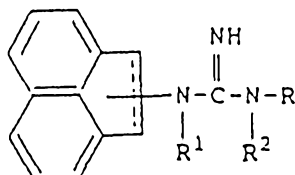
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nitro, azido, sulfhydryl, cyano, isocyanato, halogen, amido, sulfonato or carbamido; wherein at least one of  $X^1$ ,  $X^2$ ,  $X^3$  and  $X^4$  is other than hydrogen; x and y are the same or different and are 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

16. A compound having the formula:



wherein R is optionally substituted cycloalkyl of 3 to 12 carbon atoms; optionally substituted carbocyclic aryl, alkaryl, aralkyl or heterocyclic; R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl amino, C<sub>5-10</sub> aryl or substituted aryl; wherein R and the acenaphthyl group are optionally substituted by hydroxy, acetate, oxo, amino, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl amino, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, di-lower C<sub>2-12</sub> alkyl amino, nitro, azido, sulfhydryl, cyano, isocyanato, halogen, amido, sulfonato or carbamido; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE LATER PUBLICATION OF AMENDED CLAIMS  
(AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, STATEMENT UNDER ARTICLE 19)

14496/92



PCT

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION  
International Bureau

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

<p>(51) International Patent Classification<sup>5</sup> : C07C 279/16, 279/18, 279/04 C07C 279/06, 279/08, 279/12 A61K 31/155, 31/275, 31/34 A61K 31/38, 31/39, 31/40 A61K 31/425, 31/42, 41/415 A61K 31/44, 31/47, 31/305 A61K 31/53, 31/355, 31/54</p>	<p>A1</p>	<p>(11) International Publication Number: <b>WO 92/14697</b></p> <p>(43) International Publication Date: 3 September 1992 (03.09.92)</p>
<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/US92/01050 (22) International Filing Date: 10 February 1992 (10.02.92) (30) Priority data: 652,104 8 February 1991 (08.02.91) US (71) Applicant: CAMBRIDGE NEUROSCIENCE, INC. [US/ US]; One Kendall Square, Building 700, Cambridge, MA 02139 (US). (72) Inventors: GOLDIN, Stanley, M. ; 10 Russell Road, Lex- ington, MA 02173 (US). KATRAGADDA, Subbarao ; 65 Hawthorne Street, Belmont, MA 02178 (US). HU, Lain-Yen ; 54 Walnut Street, Apt. #2, Waltham, MA 02154 (US). REDDY, N., Laxma ; 24 Grover Street, Apt. #4, Malden, MA 02148 (US). FISCHER, James, B. ; 1524 Cambridge Street, Cambridge, MA 02139 (US). KNAPP, Andrew, Gannett ; 15 Warren Street, Salem, MA 01970 (US). MARGOLIN, Lee, David ; 109 White Street, Belmont, MA 02178 (US).</p>	<p>(74) Agents: ESMOND, Robert, W. et al.; Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein &amp; Fox, 1225 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 300, Washington, DC 20036 (US).</p> <p>(81) Designated States: AT (European patent), AU, BB, BE (European patent), BF (OAPI patent), BG, BJ (OAPI patent), BR, CA, CF (OAPI patent), CG (OAPI patent), CH, CH (European patent), CI (OAPI patent), CM (OAPI patent), CS, DE (European patent), DK (Euro- pean patent), ES (European patent), FI, FR (European patent), GA (OAPI patent), GB (European patent), GN (OAPI patent), GR (European patent), HU, IT (Euro- pean patent), JP, KP, KR, LK, LU (European patent), MC (European patent), MG, ML (OAPI patent), MN, MR (OAPI patent), MW, NL (European patent), NO, PL, RO, RU, SD, SE (European patent), SN (OAPI pa- tent), TD (OAPI patent), TG (OAPI patent).</p> <p><b>Published</b> With international search report With amended claims</p> <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">670232</p> <p>Date of publication of the amended claims: 15 October 1992 (15.10.92)</p>	
<p>(54) Title: SUBSTITUTED GUANIDINES AND DERIVATIVES THEREOF AS MODULATORS OF NEUROTRANS- MITTER RELEASE AND NOVEL METHODOLOGY FOR IDENTIFYING NEUROTRANSMITTER RE- LEASE BLOCKERS</p> <p>(57) Abstract</p> <p>Modulators of neurotransmitter release including substituted guanidines, N'-aminoguanidines, and N, N', N'', N'''-tetra- substituted hydrazinedicarboximidamides, and pharmaceutical compositions thereof are disclosed. Also disclosed are methods involving the use of such neurotransmitter release modulators for the treatment or prevention of pathophysiologic conditions characterized by the release of excessive or inappropriate levels of neurotransmitters. Also disclosed are screening assays for compounds which selectively inhibit glutamate release. Also disclosed are methods of blocking voltage sensitive sodium and calcium channels in mammalian nerve cells.</p>		

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Title of the Invention

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SUBSTITUTED GUANIDINES AND DERIVATIVES  
THEREOF AS MODULATORS OF NEUROTRANSMITTER  
RELEASE AND NOVEL METHODOLOGY FOR  
IDENTIFYING NEUROTRANSMITTER RELEASE BLOCKERS

Cross Reference to Related Applications

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~~The present application is a continuation-in-part  
of U.S. Application Serial No. 07/652,104, filed  
February 8, 1991, the contents of which are fully  
incorporated by reference herein.~~

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Field of the Invention

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This invention is in the field of medicinal  
chemistry. In particular, this invention relates to  
modulators of neurotransmitter release, and to  
pharmaceutical compositions comprising the same which  
possess neuroprotective and other therapeutic  
utilities. The invention also relates to screening  
assays for compounds which inhibit neurotransmitter  
release. This invention further relates to methods  
involving the use of such neurotransmitter release  
modulators for the treatment or prevention of certain  
pathophysiologic conditions characterized by the  
excessive or inappropriate release of  
neurotransmitters.

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Background of the Invention

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A wide variety of substituted guanidines are  
disclosed in the patent literature. For example:  
1,411,731 and 1,422,506 discloses  
diphenylguanidine as a rubber accelerator;

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1,597,233 discloses N-o-tolyl-N'-phenyl-guanidine as a rubber accelerator;

1,672,431 discloses N,N'-di-o-methoxyphenyl-guanidine as being useful for therapeutic purposes, especially in the form of water-soluble salts;

1,730,338 discloses N-p-dimethyl-amino-phenyl-N'-phenylguanidine as a rubber accelerator;

1,795,738 discloses a process for the production of N,N'-dialkyl-di-substituted guanidines, including N-di-ethyl-N'-phenyl-guanidine, N-diethyl-N-isoamylguanidine, N-dimethyl-N'-isoamylguanidine and N-dimethyl-N'-ethylguanidine;

1,850,682 discloses a process for the preparation of disubstituted guanidine rubber accelerators bearing an additional substituent on the imine nitrogen atom;

2,145,214 discloses the use of disubstituted guanidines, e.g., diarylguanidines especially dixylylguanidine, as parasiticides;

2,254,009 discloses sym-di-2-octyl-guanidine and 2,274,476 and 2,289,542 disclose sym-dicyclohexylguanidine as insecticides and moth larvae repellents;

2,633,474 discloses 1,3-bis(o-ethylphenyl)guanidine and 1,3-bis(p-ethylphenyl)guanidine as rubber accelerators;

3,117,994 discloses N,N',N''-trisubstituted guanidines and their salts as bacteriostatic compounds;

3,140,231 discloses N-methyl- and N-ethyl-N'-octylguanidines and their salts as antihypertensive agents;

3,248,246 describes (Example 5) a 1,3-disubstituted guanidine whose substituents are hydrophobic hydrocarbon groups, one of which is naphthylmethyl and the other is n-butyl;

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3,252,816 discloses various N-substituted and unsubstituted cinnamyl-guanidines and generically the corresponding N'- and N''-alkyl substituted compounds and their salts as antihypertensive agents;

5 3,270,054 discloses N-2-adamant-1-yl- and N-2-homoadamant-1-yl-oxy-ethyl-thioethyl- and aminoethyl-guanidine derivatives bearing at most two lower alkyl groups on the N'- and/or N''-nitrogen atom as sympathicolytic and anti-viral agents;

10 3,301,755 discloses N-ethylenically unsubstituted-alkyl-guanidines and the corresponding N'- and/or N''-lower alkyl compounds as hypoglycemic and antihypertensive agents;

15 3,409,669 discloses N-cyclohexylamino-(3,3-dialkyl-substituted-propyl)-guanidines and the corresponding N'-alkyl- and/or N''-alkyl-substituted compounds as hypotensive agents;

20 3,547,951 discloses 1,3-dioxolan-4-yl-alkyl-substituted guanidines which have anti-hypertensive activity and discloses lower alkyl, including n-butyl, as a possible substituent on the other amino group;

3,639,477 discloses propoxylguanidine compounds as having anorectic properties;

25 3,681,459; 3,769,427; 3,803,324; 3,908,013; 3,976,787; and 4,014,934 disclose aromatic substituted guanidine derivatives wherein the phenyl ring can contain hydroxy and/or halogen substituents for use in vasoconstrictive therapy;

30 3,804,898 discloses N-benzylcyclobutenyl and N-benzylcyclobutenyl-alkyl-guanidines and the corresponding N-alkyl and/or N''-alkyl-substituted compounds as hypotensive agents;

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3,968,243 discloses N-alkyl substituted guanidines and the corresponding N'-alkyl-N''-alkyl and N',N''-alkyl compounds as being useful in the treatment of cardiac arrhythmias;

5 3,795,533 discloses o-halo-benzylidene-amino-guanidines and their use as anti-depressants for overcoming psychic depression;

10 4,007,181 discloses various N,N'-disubstituted guanidines substituted on the imine nitrogen atom by a adamantyl as possessing antiarrhythmic and diuretic activities;

4,051,256 discloses N-phenyl- and N-pyridyl-N'-adamantyl and cycloalkyl-guanidines as antiviral agents;

15 4,109,014 discloses N-hydroxysubstituted guanidines and the corresponding N-methyl disubstituted guanidines as vasoconstrictor agents;

4,169,154 discloses the use of guanidines in the treatment of depression;

20 4,393,007 discloses N-substituted and unsubstituted, N-substituted methyl-N'-unsubstituted, monosubstituted and disubstituted-N''-unsubstituted and substituted guanidines as ganglionic blocking agents; and

25 4,471,137 discloses N,N,N',N''-tetraalkyl guanidines as being sterically hindered bases useful in chemical synthesis.

4,709,094 discloses 1,3-disubstituted-guanidines, e.g., 1,3-dibutyl-guanidine and 1,3 di-o-tolyl-guanidine (DTG), as sigma brain receptor ligands.

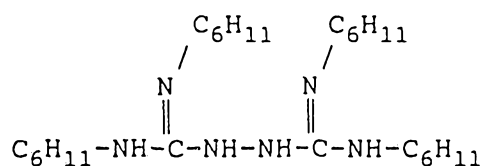
30 For examples of other substituted guanidines, see, e.g., 1,422,506; 1,642,180; 1,756,315; 3,159,676; 3,228,975; 3,248,426; 3,283,003; 3,320,229; 3,479,437; 3,547,951; 3,639,477; 3,784,643; 3,949,089; 3,975,533; 35 4,060,640 and 4,161,541.

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Geluk, H.W., et al., *J. Med. Chem.* 12:712 (1969) describe the synthesis of a variety of adamantyl disubstituted guanidines as possible antiviral agents, including N,N'-di-(adamantan-1-yl)-guanidine hydrochloride, N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N'-cyclohexyl-guanidine hydrochloride and N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N'-benzyl-guanidine hydrochloride.

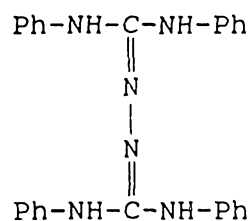
PCT Application Publication No. WO88/00583 discloses diadamantylguanidine and N,N'-di-(2-adamantyl)guanidine. These compounds are reportedly useful for treating schizophrenia, psychosis, and depression.

Vasilev, P., et al., *Chem. Abstr.* 93:150095u, discloses a compound with the following formula:



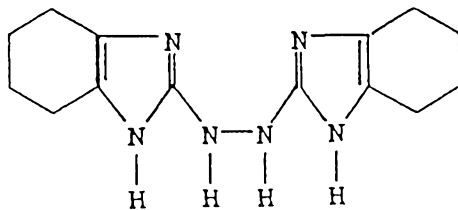
This compound reportedly has virucidal activity.

Ginsburg, V.A., et al., *Chem. Abstr.* 4518d (1962), and Ginsburg, V.A., et al., *Zhurnal Organ. Khimii* 7:2267-2270 (1971), disclose a compound having the formula:



Kreutzberger and Schuker, *Arch Pharmz. Ber. Deut. Pharm. Ges.* 305:400-405 (1975), disclose a compound having the formula:

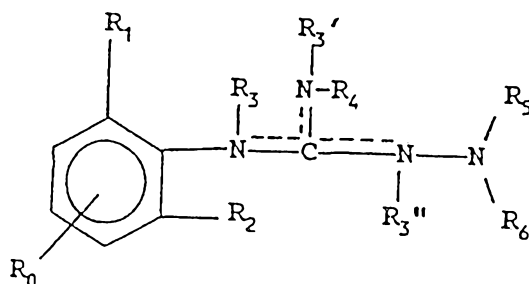
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German Patent No. DE 2,452,691, discloses a compound having the formula:

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wherein, *inter alia*,

$R_0$  is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, alkoxy or  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl;

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$R_1$  and  $R_2$  are halogen, hydroxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl or  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkoxy;

$R_3$ ,  $R_3'$  and  $R_3''$  are hydrogen or  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl;

$R_4$  is hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl, hydroxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkoxy or an amino group;

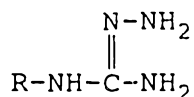
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$R_5$  and  $R_6$  are hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl, or an acyl group, or form a cyclic ring. Particular compounds disclosed in this patent document include 1-(2,6-dichlorophenyl)-2-(2,6-dichlorobenzylidene)aminoguanidine·HCl and 1-(2,6-dichlorophenyl)-2-cyclohexylidene-aminoguanidine. These compounds

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Sunderdiek, R., et al., *Chem. Abstr.* 81:91439m (1974), disclose a compound having the formula:

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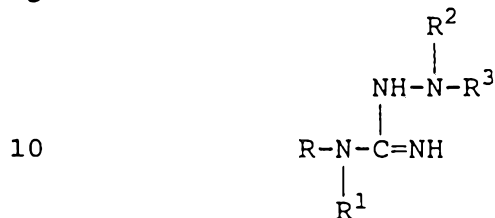


wherein  $R = \text{Ph}$  or cyclohexyl.

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Bent, K.J., et al., *Chem. Abstr.* 74:63479m (1971), is an abstract of German Patent No. 2,029,707. This patent discloses antiviral compounds having the formula:

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wherein:

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R is amino, methyl, iso-butyl or p-substituted phenyls;

R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen, methyl or iso-butyl;

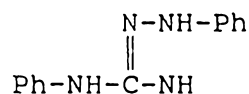
NRR<sub>1</sub> is morpholino;

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R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are hydrogen, CHC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>(2,4-), isopropyl, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>p-Cl, CH(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>10</sub>CH<sub>3</sub> or 1-(4-pyridyl)ethylidene.

Huisgen et al., *Chem. Abstr.* 63:2975d (1965), disclose a compound having the formula:

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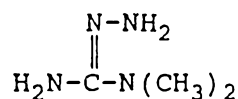
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Kroeger, F., et al., *Chem. Abstr.* 60:9264f, disclose a compounds having the formulae:

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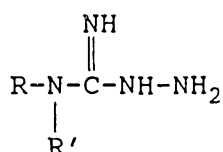
Heinisch, L., *J. Pract. Chem.* 329:290-300 (1987), discloses a compound having the formula:



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Kramer, C.-R., et al., *Biochem. Physiol. Pflanzen.* 178:469-477 (1983), disclose a compound having the formula:

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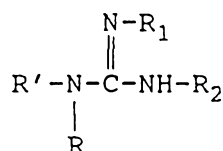
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wherein R is hydrogen, methyl, butyl, hexyl, benzyl and phenyl, and R' is hydrogen or methyl. These compounds reportedly have algicidal activity.

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Prasad, R.N., et al., *Can. J. Chem.* 45:2247-2252 (1967), disclose a compound having the formula:

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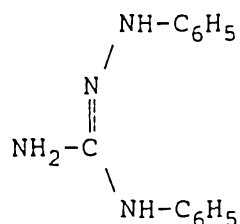
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wherein R and R' are hydrogen or  $\text{Cl}_2\text{-CH-CO-}$ , R<sub>2</sub> is hydrogen, and R' is any one of a number of substituents having the general formula alkyl=N-. These compounds were evaluated for their antibacterial activity.

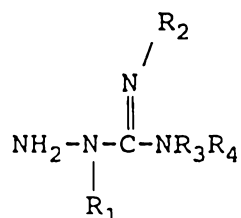
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Huisgen et al., *Chem. Ber.* 98:1476-1486 (1965), disclose a compound having the formula:

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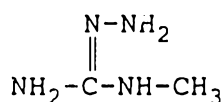


Podrebarac, E.G., et al., *J. Med. Chem.* :283-288 (1963), disclose compounds having the formula:

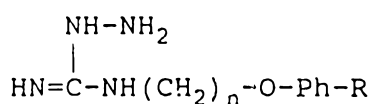


wherein the R groups may be hydrogen or methyl. These compounds were intermediates for the preparation of methylglyoxal bis(guanylhydrazone) analogs which may have activity against adult acute myelocytic leukemia.

Kroger et al., *Ber.* 97:396-404 (1964), disclose a compound having the formula:



Durant, G.J., et al., *J. Med. Chem.* :22-27 (1966), disclose a compound having the formula:



wherein R is an alkyl, halo, or alkoxy group. These compounds reportedly have antiinflammatory activity.

The amino acid L-glutamate is widely thought to act as a chemical transmitter substance at excitatory synapses within the central nervous system. Neuronal responses to glutamate are complex and appear to be mediated by at least three different receptor types, i.e., KA, QA and NMDA subtypes, each being named for their relatively specific ligands, i.e., kainic acid, quisqualic acid and N-methyl-D-aspartic acid, respectively. An amino acid which activates one or

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more of these receptor types is referred to as an excitatory amino acid (EAA).

5 The NMDA subtype of excitatory amino acid receptors is activated during normal excitatory synaptic transmission in the brain. Activation of NMDA receptors under normal conditions is responsible for the phenomena of long-term potentiation, a memory-like phenomenon, at excitatory synapses. Excessive excitation of neurons occurs in epileptic seizures and it has been shown that over-activation of NMDA receptors contributes to the pathophysiology of epilepsy.

10 NMDA receptors are also strongly involved in nerve cell death which occurs following brain or spinal chord ischemia. Upon the occurrence of ischemic brain insults such as stroke, heart attack or traumatic brain injury, an excessive release of endogenous glutamate occurs, resulting in the over-stimulation of NMDA receptors. Associated with the NMDA receptor is an ion channel. The recognition site, i.e., the NMDA receptor, is external to the ion channel. When glutamate interacts with the NMDA receptor, it causes the ion channel to open, thereby permitting a flow of cations across the cell membrane, e.g.,  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Na}^+$  into the cell and  $\text{K}^+$  out of the cell. It is believed that this flux of ions, especially the influx of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  ions, caused by the interaction of glutamate with the NMDA receptor, plays an important role in nerve cell death. See, e.g., Rothman, S.M. and Olney, J.W., *Trends in Neurosci.* 10(7):299-302 (1987).

15 *In vitro* studies have clearly demonstrated that activation of KA receptors can cause excitatory neuronal damage, although longer exposures are required (Koh, J.Y. et al., *J. Neurosci.* 10:693-705 (1990); and Frandsen, A.J. et al., *J. Neurochem.*

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33:297-299 (1989)). The competitive KA receptor antagonist 2,3-dihydroxy-6-nitro-7-sulfamoylbenzoquinoline (NBQX) is effective in preventing delayed neuronal degeneration following transient forebrain ischemia in rodents (Sheardown, M.J. et al., *Science* 247:571-574 (1990)). However, such effects require relatively large and potentially toxic systemic doses of NBQX, apparently because this compound exhibits poor penetration of the blood-brain barrier.

At present, there is a critical need for effective treatments which limit the extent of nerve cell death following a stroke or traumatic brain injury. Recent advances in the understanding of the mechanisms underlying this nerve cell death have led to the hope that a drug treatment can be developed. Research and development efforts in this area have focussed on blocking the actions of glutamate that are mediated by the NMDA receptor-channel complex. Two approaches are well developed: competitive NMDA receptor antagonists (Choi D.W. (1990) *Cerebrov. Brain Metab. Rev.* 1:165-211; Watkins, J.C. and Olverman, H.J. (1987) *Trends Neurosci.* 10:265-272) and blockers of the ion channel of the NMDA receptor-channel complex (Meldrum, B. (1990) *Cerebrovascular Brain Metab. Rev.* 2:27-57; Choi, D.W. (1990) *Cerebrovascular Brain Metab. Rev.* 2:105-147; and Kemp, J.A. et al., *Trends Neurosci.* 10:265-272 (1987)). The ion-channel blocker MK-801 is an effective neuroprotective agent in a variety of *in vivo* models of stroke (Meldrum, B. (1990) *Cerebrovascular Brain Metab. Rev.* 2:27-57; Albers, G.W. et al., *Annals Neurol.* 25:398-403 (1989)). However, there is some toxicity associated with this class of compounds (Olney, J.W. et al., *Science* 244:1360-1362 (1989); Koek, W. and Colpaert, J. (1990) *J. Pharmacol. Exp. Ther.* 252:349-357) and NMDA antagonists have been shown to inhibit memory

acquisition (Morris, R.G.M. (1988) in *Excit. A.A.'s in Health and Disease*, D. Lodge (ed.), Wiley, 297-320). These side effects may limit the clinical use of such agents to acute situations.

5           Blockers of neurotransmitter release have also received some attention as potential neuroprotective agents. For example, adenosine analogs may indirectly attenuate neurotransmitter release via G-protein-mediated inhibition of presynaptic Ca channels  
10 (Meldrum, B. *Cerebrovascular and Brain Metab. Rev.* 2:27-57 (1990); Dolphin, A.C. *Nature* 316:148-150 (1985)). It has been shown that such compounds are neuroprotective during ischemia in various rodent models of stroke (Evans, M.C. et al. *Neurosci. Lett.* 83:287-292 (1987)). Ault, B. and Wang, C.M., *Br. J. Pharmacol.* 87: 695-703 (1986), disclose that adenosine inhibits epileptiform activity in hippocampal slices.

15           Other putative blockers of glutamate release act by an as yet undefined mechanism. The substituted piperidine derivative 2-(4-(p-fluorobenzoyl)piperidin-1-yl)-2'-acetonaphthone (E-2001) (Kaneko, T. et al. *Arzneim-Forsch./Drug Res.* 39:445-450 (1989)) and the compound PK 26124 (riluzole, 2-amino-6-trifluoromethoxybenzothiazole) (Malgouris, C. et al. *J. Neurosci* 9:3720-3727 (1989)) have been shown to be neuroprotective in rodents. PK 26124, at therapeutic dosages in rats, does not seem to produce MK-801-like behavioral side effects in a controlled comparison of its efficacy/safety ratio with that of MK-801 (Koek, J.W. and Colpaert, F.C., *J. Pharmacol. Exp. Ther.* 252:349-357 (1990)). E-2001 ameliorates the degeneration of pyramidal neurons in the hippocampal CA1 sector following transient ischemia in Mongolian gerbils. In addition, E-2001 improves stroke symptoms induced by permanent unilateral carotid artery ligation in gerbils, prolonged the survival time  
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25  
30  
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following permanent bilateral carotid artery ligation in gerbils and mice, and prolonged the survival time following intravenous injection of KCN into mice. Kaneko, T. et al., *Arzneim.-Forsch./Drug Res.* 39:445-450 (1989).

It is believed that glutamate neurotoxicity is involved in acute injury to the nervous system as observed with seizure, hypoxia, hypoglycemia, and trauma, as well as in chronic degenerative diseases such as Huntington's disease, olivopontocerebellar atrophy associated with glutamate dehydrogenase deficiency and decreased glutamate catabolism, Guam amyotrophic lateral sclerosis/ Parkinsonium-dementia, Parkinson's disease, and Alzheimer's disease. Choi, D.W., *Neuron* 1:623-634 (1988); Choi, D.W., *Cereb. Brain Met. Rev.* 2:105-147 (1990).

Langlais, P.L. et al., *J. Neurosci* 10:1664-1674 (1990), disclose that glutamate and GABA may be involved in pyridoxamine-induced thiamine deficiency (PTD) which causes the formation of thalamic lesions and seizures. Administration of the NMDA receptor antagonist MK-801 during the late stages of PTD resulted in a marked attenuation of necrotic damage to the thalamus and periaqueductal gray and a reduction in the number and size of hemorrhagic lesions. Since thiamine deficiency is responsible for similar damage in Wernicke-Korsakoff's syndrome, Langlais et al. suggest that these results provide an important rationale for the treatment of this human neuropathic condition.

Malgouris, C. et al., *J. Neurosci.* 9:3720-3727 (1989), disclose that PK 26124 (riluzole), a compound which inhibits glutamate release from nerve terminals, has anticonvulsant activity, improves sleep quality in rodents, and is active in protecting the rodent brain from the cellular and functional consequences of

ischemia, including the prevention of memory loss and hippocampal neuronal damage.

Miller, et al., *New Anticonvulsant Drugs*, Meldrum, B.S. and Porter R.J. (eds), London:John Libbey, 165-177 (1986), disclose that the glutamate release blocker lamotragine is an anticonvulsant.

Price, M.T. and Olney, J.W., *Soc. Neurosci. Abstr.* 16:377, abstr. 161.16 (1990), disclose that the administration of EAA antagonists completely prevented emesis in ferrets that were subject to chemotherapy with cisplatin. The EAA antagonists employed did not penetrate the blood-brain barrier, and it was thus suggested that such compounds way prevent nausea, a common side effect during cancer chemotherapy.

Calcium antagonists such as nimodipine act both as cerebral vasodilators (Wong, M.C.W. and Haley, E.C. Jr., *Stroke* 24:31-36 (1989)), and to block calcium entry into neurons (Scriabine, A. *Adv. Neurosurg.* (1990)). Modest improvement in the outcome of stroke has been observed in clinical trials (Gelmers, H.J. et al., *N. Eng. J. Med.* 318:203-207 (1988)). While there are significant cardiovascular side effects, nimodipine appears less toxic than the NMDA antagonists and may find a role in the chronic treatment of stroke and other neurological disorders.

There are at least 3 subclasses of Ca channels, "T", "N", and "L", that differ in their pharmacology, location in neuronal and non-neuronal tissues, and physiological properties (Nowycky, M.C. et al. *Nature* 316:440-443 (1985); Bean, B.P. *Ann. Rev. Physiol.* 51:367-384 (1989)). Voltage-sensitive calcium channels (VSCC) in presynaptic nerve terminals control the influx of  $Ca^{2+}$  and thereby determine the quantity and duration of transmitter released by the presynaptic action potentials. Biochemical  $^{45}Ca$  tracer flux experiments with isolated nerve endings

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(synaptosomes) indicate that  $K^+$ -depolarization dependent  $^{45}Ca$  entry consists of fast transient and slow sustained components. The transient Ca influx has been determined to represent a channel mediated process, whereas the sustained component reflects Ca entry via reversed Na/Ca exchange (Turner, T. and Goldin, S., *J. Neurosci.* 5:841-849 (1985); Suszkiw, J.B. *NATO ASI Series, H21:286-291* (1988); Suszkiw, J.B. *et al. J. Neurochem.* 42:1260-1269 (1989)).

European Patent Application No. 0 266 574, discloses that calcium overload blockers will be useful in the treatment of anoxia, ischemia, migraine and epilepsy. This application also discloses that certain piperidine derivatives have activity against calcium overload in the brain and may be used in the treatment of migraine.

Dreyer, E.B. *et al.*, *Science* 248:364-367 (1990), disclose that the HIV-1 coat protein gp120 produces neuronal cell injury which may be responsible for the dementia and blindness encountered in acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS). Calcium channel antagonists prevented the gp120-induced neuronal injury of retinal ganglion cells. Dreyer *et al.* propose that calcium channel antagonists may prove useful in mitigating HIV-1 related neuronal injury.

#### Summary of the Invention

It is an object of this invention to provide substituted guanidines, amino guanidines and  $N,N',N'',N'''$ -tetrasubstituted hydrazinedicarboximidamides which modulate the release of neurotransmitters (e.g., glutamate) from neuronal cells.

Some disorders (e.g., neuronal damage in stroke) may be alleviated by inhibiting the release of EAAs such as glutamate. Some disorders (e.g., depression)

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may be alleviated by inhibiting the release of inhibitory neurotransmitters such as gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA). Furthermore, inhibiting the release of an excitatory neurotransmitter (glutamate) may indirectly potentiate the release or the subsequent actions of an inhibitory transmitter (e.g., GABA), and thus serve to treat disorders known to be alleviated by more direct potentiation of inhibitory neurotransmission (in this example, anxiety and/or insomnia). This serves to illustrate the broad scope of the therapeutic potential of the compounds of the present invention. Thus, any disease that results from modulation of a particular neurotransmitter system can be counteracted by the substituted guanidines, amino guanidines and N,N',N'',N'''-tetra-substituted hydrazinedicarboximidamides of the invention which act either on the same or another class of neurotransmitters.

It is yet a further object of the invention to treat or prevent nerve cell death resulting from hypoxia, hypoglycemia, brain or spinal cord ischemia, brain or spinal chord trauma, stroke, heart attack, or drowning, by the administration of effective amounts of substituted guanidines, amino guanidines and N,N',N'',N'''-tetrasubstituted hydrazinedicarboximidamides which inhibit the release of neurotransmitters from neuronal cells.

It is yet a further object of the present invention to treat or prevent various neurodegenerative diseases such as Huntington's disease, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, Alzheimer's disease, Down's Syndrome, Korsakoff's disease, olivopontocerebellar atrophy, HIV-induced dementia and blindness or multi-infarct dementia, by the administration of effective amounts of substituted guanidines, amino guanidines and N,N',N'',N'''-tetra-

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substituted hydrazinedicarboximidamides which inhibit the release of neurotransmitters.

5 A further object of the invention is to provide substituted guanidines, amino guanidines and N,N',N'',  
N'''-tetrasubstituted hydrazinedicarboximidamides which  
are useful for the treatment or prevention of  
neurological conditions such as epilepsy and  
convulsions, carbon monoxide poisoning, cyanide  
10 poisoning, toxic brain damage caused by, for example,  
tetrodotoxin or shellfish toxins, anxiety, amnesia,  
migraine, river blindness, and nausea which may result  
from chemotherapy.

It is also an object of the present invention to  
15 provide a screening assay for inhibitors of  
neurotransmitter release (e.g. glutamate, dopamine,  
norepinephrine, glycine, aspartate, serotonin, and  
other neurotransmitters), from brain nerve terminals.  
It is also an object of the invention to provide a new  
screening assay which allows for the identification of  
20 new compounds which inhibit certain kinetic  
subcomponents of glutamate release. Such  
subcomponents can only be identified by an assay  
system capable of resolving neurotransmitter release  
on the subsecond time scale.

25 The screening assay of the invention comprises  
the following steps:

(a) contacting immobilized synaptosomes  
containing radiolabelled neurotransmitter with a  
30 compound suspected of inhibiting neurotransmitter  
release;

(b) inducing, by depolarization, the release of  
radiolabelled neurotransmitter from the  
immobilized radiolabelled synaptosomes obtained  
in step (a);

35 (c) washing the immobilized radiolabelled  
synaptosomes obtained in step (b) with a buffer

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comprising said compound and fractionating the effluent every 15 to 500 msec; and

(d) detecting the relative amount of radiolabelled neurotransmitter in each fraction compared to control synaptosomes which have not been exposed to the compound of interest;

wherein a reduced amount of released radiolabelled neurotransmitter in the fractions from synaptosomes treated with the compound relative to control synaptosomes indicates that the compound inhibits neurotransmitter release.

The screening assay may be conducted in the presence or absence of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  in order to identify those compounds which are selective inhibitors of one or more subcomponents or neurotransmitter release.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide novel substituted guanidines, amino guanidines and  $\text{N,N',N'',N''}'$ -tetrasubstituted hydrazinedicarboximidamides as well as pharmaceutical compositions thereof.

Upon further study of the specification and appended claims, further objects and advantages of this invention will become apparent to those skilled in the art.

#### Brief Description of the Drawings

Various other objects, features and attendant advantages of the present invention will be more fully appreciated as the same becomes better understood when considered in conjunction with the accompanying Figures wherein:

Figure 1 depicts a graph showing  $^3\text{H}$  glutamate release from rat brain synaptosomes in the presence and absence of 2.4 mM  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ .

Figure 2 depicts a graph showing the effect of 0  $\mu\text{M}$ , 10  $\mu\text{M}$ , 30  $\mu\text{M}$ , and 100  $\mu\text{M}$  N,N'-di-(adamantan-1-yl)guanidine on the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -dependent  $^3\text{H}$  glutamate release from rat brain synaptosomes.

5 Figure 3 depicts a graph showing the effect of 0  $\mu\text{M}$ , 1  $\mu\text{M}$ , 3  $\mu\text{M}$  and 10  $\mu\text{M}$  of N,N'-di(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine over time on the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -dependent release of [ $^3\text{H}$ ]glutamate from radiolabelled synaptosomes after  $\text{K}^+$  depolarization (at time 0).

10 Figure 4 depicts a graph showing the correlation between inhibition of synaptosomal  $^{45}\text{Ca}$  uptake by 10  $\mu\text{M}$  of N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N'-(2-methylphenyl)guanidine (#1), N-(1-naphthyl)-N'-(m-ethylphenyl)-N'-methylguanidine (#2), N,N'-di-(1-naphthyl)guanidine (#3), N,N'-di-(adamantan-1-yl)guanidine (#4), N,N'-di-(adamantan-2-yl)guanidine (#5), N,N',N'',N'''-tetracyclohexylhydrazinedicarboximidamide (#6) and N,N'-di(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine (#7) and the inhibition of the tonic (persistent) Ca-dependent component of glutamate release, i.e. the component of release which does not rapidly decay, but persists for at least several seconds following depolarization. Figure 4 further depicts the non-correlation between inhibition of synaptosomal  $^{45}\text{Ca}$ -uptake by 10  $\mu\text{M}$  of the above-mentioned compounds and the inhibition of the phasic component of glutamate release.

20 Figure 5 depicts a graph showing the effects of various concentrations of N,N'-di-(adamantan-2-yl)guanidine on the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -dependent glutamate release stimulated with the sodium channel activator veratridine.

30 Figure 6 depicts a graph showing the inhibition of potassium-stimulated Ca uptake of synaptosomes by N,N'-di-(adamantan-2-yl)guanidine (■), N,N'-di-(1-naphthyl)guanidine (◆; ·····  $\text{IC}_{50} = 9.1 \mu\text{M}$ , -----  $\text{IC}_{50} = 16 \mu\text{M}$ ), N,N',N'', N'''-tetracyclohexylhydrazine-

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dicarboximidamide ( $\bullet$ ; — IC<sub>50</sub> = 3.3  $\mu$ M), and N,N'-di-(adamantan-1-yl)guanidine ( $\Delta$ ; — IC<sub>50</sub> = 6.6  $\mu$ M) against the percent of Ca uptake compared to control synaptosomes.

5 Figure 7 depicts a graph showing the sodium channel blockade by N,N'-di(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine in N1E-115 cells, compared to control cells not treated with the drug. The stimulus protocol is shown on the top of the figure.

10 Figure 8 depicts a graph showing the Ca-independent and Ca-dependent recovery of <sup>3</sup>H-glutamate release from synaptosomes over time.

15 Figure 9 depicts a graph showing the Ca-independent and Ca-dependent recovery of <sup>3</sup>H-glutamate release from synaptosomes, as a percentage of the first pulse.

20 Figure 10 depicts a graph showing an electrophysiology study on N-type channels of single bullfrog dorsal root ganglion cells treated with 5  $\mu$ M of N,N'-di(acenaphthyl)guanidine.

Figure 11 depicts a hippocampal slice preparation containing a stimulating and recording electrode.

25 Figure 12A depicts a graph showing the results from the bath application of N,N'-di(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine on population spikes and field EPSP.

30 Figure 12B depicts a graph showing the results from the bath application of N,N'-di(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine on the field EPSP after electrical stimulation.

Figure 12C depicts the effect of 20  $\mu$ M of N,N'-di(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine on the amplitude of the response to an electrical stimulus.

Figure 13A depicts a graph showing the results

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from the bath application of adenosine on the field EPSP after electrical stimulation.

Figure 13B depicts the effect of adenosine on the amplitude of the response to an electrical signal.

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#### Description of the Preferred Embodiments

The invention is related to the discovery that certain substituted guanidines, amino guanidines and  
10 N,N',N'',N'''-tetrasubstituted hydrazinedicarboximid-  
amides have the ability to modulate, i.e. inhibit or potentiate the release of, or lengthen the time course of action of, neurotransmitters from neuronal tissue. As a result, these compounds may be used to treat or  
15 prevent those pathophysiologic conditions which result from excessive or inadequate release of neurotransmitters. Although applicants do not wish to be bound by any particular theory, it appears that the substituted guanidines, amino guanidines and  
20 N,N',N'',N'''-tetrasubstituted hydrazinedicarboximid-  
amides of the invention mediate the inhibition of neurotransmitter release by blocking presynaptic calcium channels.

Unexpectedly, the applicants have discovered that  
25 there are three distinct subcomponents of glutamate release from depolarized-stimulated neuronal cells. As shown in Figure 1, the first component is a rapidly decaying Ca<sup>2+</sup>-dependent phasic component with a decay time constant of <200 msec (termed the phasic component). A second component (termed tonic) is Ca<sup>2+</sup>-  
30 dependent and persists for at least one second and generally for the duration of the depolarization. A third component is Ca<sup>2+</sup>-independent and may result from the reversal of electrogenic Na-dependent glutamate uptake system. As shown in Figure 4, blockage of the  
35 tonic Ca<sup>2+</sup>-dependent component correlates well with the

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blockage of calcium uptake. Calcium influx into the nerve terminals is an important step in the cascade of changes which occur in neuronal cell death from ischemia. These results suggest that the substituted guanidines, amino guanidines and N,N',N'',N'''-tetrasubstituted hydrazine-dicarboximidamides of the invention hold promise in the prevention of neuronal death from ischemia.

The inhibition of glutamate release by the compounds of the invention does not appear to be related to any sigma receptor binding activity. Both N,N'-di-(adamantan-1-yl)guanidine and N,N'-di-(adamantan-2-yl)guanidine have similar inhibitory activity on glutamate release (55% and 60% inhibition at 30  $\mu$ M, respectively) but widely different sigma receptor binding activities ( $IC_{50}$ =16.5 nM and 92.7 nM against  $^3H$ -DTG, respectively).

The identification of three subcomponents of inhibition of glutamate release allow for the screening of compounds which exhibit selectivity for the  $Ca^{2+}$ -dependent persistent component of glutamate release. The identification of such compounds will provide for more efficacious drugs with fewer side effects.

In general, substituted guanidines which may modulate neurotransmitter release and which are useful in the practice in the practice of the invention include compounds having the Formula (I).



wherein R and R<sup>1</sup> are the same or different and are optionally substituted cycloalkyl of 3 to 12 carbon atoms, e.g., cyclopropyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cyclohexenyl, cycloheptyl, 1,4-methylenecyclohexyl, 1- or 2-adamantyl, exo or

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endo 2-norbornyl, exo or endo 2-isobornyl, menthyl, cyclopentyl-methyl, cyclohexylmethyl, 1- or 2-cyclohexylethyl and 1-, 2- or 3-cyclohexylpropyl; optionally substituted carbocyclic aryl, alkaryl, aralkyl or heterocyclic, e.g., of 6 to 18 carbon atoms and containing 1-3 separate or fused rings, and 0-5 O, N and/or S ring atoms in an aryl, alicyclic or mixed ring system, e.g., phenyl, benzyl, 1- and 2-phenylethyl, 1-, 2-, or 3-phenylpropyl; o-, m-, or p-tolyl, m,m'-dimethylphenyl, o-, m-, or p-ethylphenyl, m,m'-diethylphenyl, m-methyl-m'-ethylphenyl, o-propylphenyl, p-isopropylphenyl, p-tert-butylphenyl, p-n-propylphenyl, p-cyclopropylphenyl, p-cyclohexylphenyl, p-n-butylphenyl; naphthyl, e.g. 1- or 2-naphthyl; biphenyl; or a heterocyclic group such as indanyl, e.g. 4-indanyl; indenyl, e.g. 1- or 4-indenyl; acenaphthyl, e.g. 3- or 5-acenaphthyl; acenaphthylenyl, e.g. 5-acenaphthylenyl; indolyl, for example, 7-indolyl; benzthiazole, quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, furanyl, thienyl, pyrrolyl, thiazolyl, oxazolyl, imidazolyl and coumarinyl; and R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are the same or different and are hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, lower C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylamino, aryl or substituted aryl; or R and R<sub>2</sub> or R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> form a C<sub>4</sub> to C<sub>6</sub> heterocyclic ring together with the guanidine nitrogen which may be fused to or substituted by a benzene ring.

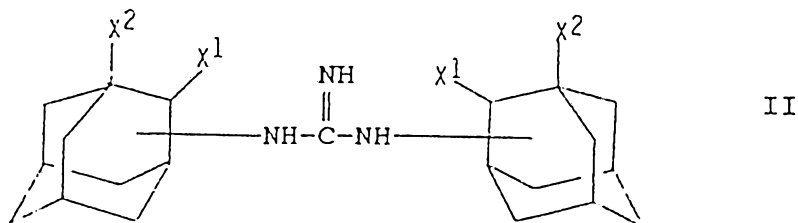
The groups R, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> may be substituted with one or more substituents including hydroxy, amino, oxo, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> cycloalkyl, lower C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylamino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy, nitro, azido, cyano, isocyanato, amido, carbamido, sulfonate, or halogen, e.g. fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine.

Particular compounds within the scope of Formula I include N,N'-di(adamant-1-yl)guanidine, N,N'-

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di(adamant-2-yl)guanidine, N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N'-(1-naphthyl)guanidine, N-(adamantan-2-yl)-N'-(1-naphthyl)guanidine, N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N'-(2-iodophenyl)guanidine, N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N'-(2-methylphenyl)guanidine, N-(adamantan-2-yl)-N'-(2-methylphenyl)guanidine, N-((±)-endo-2-norbornyl)-N'-(2-iodophenyl)guanidine, N-(α-naphthyl)-N'-(2-iodophenyl)guanidine, N-(3-ethylphenyl)-N'-(1-naphthyl)guanidine, N-(1-naphthyl)-N'-(m-ethylphenyl)-N'-methylguanidine, N,N'-di(4-n-butylphenyl)guanidine, N,N'-di(4-cyclohexylphenyl)guanidine, N,N'-di(4-biphenyl)guanidine, N,N'-di(4-neopentylphenyl)guanidine, N,N'-di(4-cyclopropylphenyl)guanidine, N,N'-di(4-isopropylphenyl)guanidine, and N,N'-di(4-tert.-butylphenyl)guanidine.

Preferred disubstituted guanidines within the scope of general Formula (I) include compounds having the Formula (II):



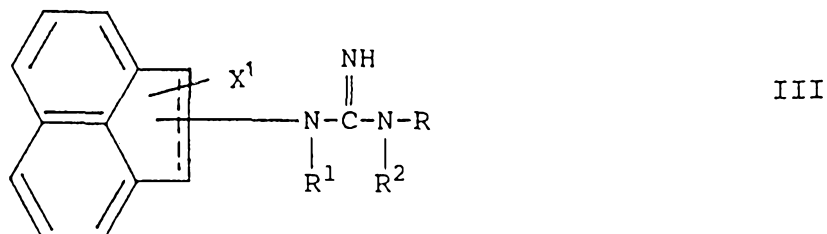
wherein the guanidine nitrogen may be substituted at any position of the adamantyl groups;

$R^2$  and  $R^3$  are as defined above;

$X^1$  and  $X^2$  are the same or different and are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, acetate, oxo, amino, lower  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl, amino, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, e.g., methoxy, ethoxy and propoxy; lower  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl amino, di-lower  $C_{2-12}$  alkyl amino, nitro, azido, sulfhydryl, cyano, isocyanato, or halogen, e.g. fluoro, chloro, bromo, or iodo; amido, e.g., acetamido, N-ethylacetamido; carbamido, e.g., carbamyl, N-methylcarbamyl, N,N'-dimethylcarbamyl;

etc., wherein at least one of  $X^1$  and  $X^2$  is other than hydrogen.

Other preferred guanidines within the scope of general Formula (I) include compounds having the Formula (III):



wherein R,  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ , and  $X^1$  are as defined above.

15 Preferred compounds within the scope of general Formula III include N,N'-di-(1-acenaphthyl)guanidine, N,N'-di-(3-acenaphthyl)guanidine, N,N'-di-(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine, N,N'-di-(acenaphthylen-1-yl)guanidine, N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N'-(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-(adamantan-2-yl)-N-(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N-(3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-(adamantan-2-yl)-N'-(3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-(adamant-1-yl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-fluoronaphthyl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-fluoronaphthyl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-hydroxynaphthyl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-hydroxynaphthyl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-methoxynaphthyl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-methoxynaphthyl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-nitronaphthyl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-nitronaphthyl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-aminonaphthyl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-aminonaphthyl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-azidonaphthyl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-azidonaphthyl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-bromonaphthyl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-bromonaphthyl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N-(4-cyanonaphthyl)

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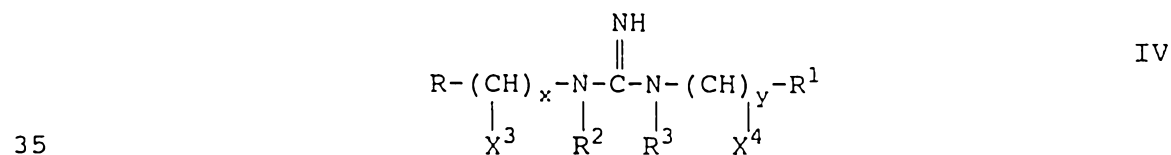
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guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N-(4-cyanonaphthyl)-  
 guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-amidonaphthyl)-  
 guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-amidonaphthyl)-  
 guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-(4-iodonaphthyl)-  
 5 guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-(4-iodonaphthyl)-  
 guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(7-fluoronaphthyl)-  
 guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(7-fluoronaphthyl)-  
 guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-fluoronaphthyl)-  
 guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-fluoronaphthyl)-  
 10 guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-methoxynaphthyl)-  
 guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-methoxynaphthyl)-  
 guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-hydroxynaphthyl)  
 guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-hydroxynaphthyl)-  
 guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-aminonaphthyl)-  
 15 guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-aminonaphthyl)-  
 guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-isopropylphenyl)  
 guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-isopropylphenyl)-  
 guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-n-propylphenyl)-  
 guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-n-propylphenyl)-  
 20 guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N-(2-isopropylphenyl)-  
 guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N-(2-isopropylphenyl)-  
 guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N-(4-cyclopropylphenyl)-  
 guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N-(4-cyclopropylphenyl)-  
 guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(coumarinyl)guanidine;  
 25 N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(coumarinyl)guanidine; N-(3-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(quinolinyl)guanidine; N-(5-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(quinolinyl)guanidine; N-(4-hydroxy-3-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl) guanidine; N-(4-  
 hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl) guanidine; N-  
 30 (4-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine;  
 N-(4-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guani-  
 dine; N-(4-nitro-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-  
 yl)guanidine; N-(4-nitro-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-  
 yl)guanidine; N-(4-amino-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-  
 35 yl)guanidine; N-(4-amino-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-  
 yl)guanidine; N-(4-amino-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-

yl)guanidine; N-(4-amino-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-methoxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-methoxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-methoxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-methoxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)enyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(3-

acenaphthylenyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(5-  
 acenaphthylenyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(5-  
 acenaphthylenyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N,N'-  
 bis(4-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-bromo-  
 5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-hydroxy-3-  
 acenaphthyl)-guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-hydroxy-5-  
 acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-amino-3-  
 acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-amino-5-  
 acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-nitro-3-  
 acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-nitro-5-  
 acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-bromo-3-  
 acenaphthyl)-guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-bromo-5-  
 acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-bromo-3-  
 acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-bromo-5-  
 acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-hydroxy-3-  
 acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-hydroxy-5-  
 acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-hydroxy-3-  
 acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-hydroxy-5-  
 acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-  
 guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine;  
 N,N'-bis(2-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-  
 oxo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(3-  
 acenaphthylenyl)guanidine; N,N<sup>1</sup>-bis(4-azido-5-  
 acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N<sup>1</sup>-bis(4-sulfonyl-5-  
 acenaphthyl)guanidine; and N,N'-bis(5-  
 acenaphthylenyl)guanidine.

Other substituted guanidines which may modulate  
 neurotransmitter release and which are useful in the  
 practice in the practice of the invention include  
 compounds having the Formula (IV):

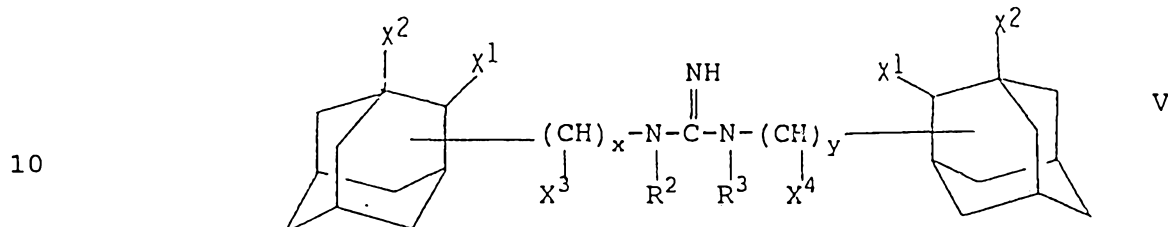


wherein R, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are as described above, X<sup>3</sup> and  
 X<sup>4</sup> have the same meaning as X<sup>1</sup> and X<sup>2</sup>; and

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x and y are the same or different and are 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4.

Preferred substituted guanidines within the scope of general Formula (I) include compounds having the Formula (V):



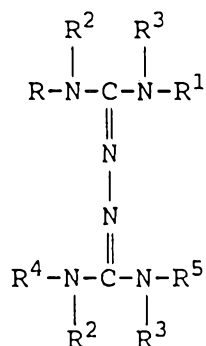
wherein  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ ,  $X^1$ ,  $X^2$ ,  $X^3$ ,  $X^4$ ,  $x$  any  $y$  are as described above.

Preferred substituted guanidines within the scope of Formula (V) include  $N,N'$ -di-(3-nitroadamantan-1-yl)guanidine,  $N,N'$ -di-(3-hydroxyadamantan-1-yl)guanidine,  $N,N'$ -di-(3-aminoadamantan-1-yl)guanidine,  $N,N'$ -di-(3-nitroadamantan-2-yl)guanidine,  $N,N'$ -di-(3-hydroxyadamantan-2-yl)guanidine,  $N,N'$ -di-(3-aminoadamantan-2-yl)guanidine,  $N,N'$ -di-(5-nitroadamantan-2-yl)guanidine,  $N,N'$ -di-(5-hydroxyadamantan-2-yl)guanidine,  $N,N'$ -di-(5-aminoadamantan-2-yl)guanidine,  $N,N'$ -di-(methyleneadamantan-1-yl)guanidine,  $N,N'$ -di-(methyleneadamantan-2-yl)guanidine,  $N$ -(adamantan-1-yl)- $N'$ -(methyleneadamantan-1-yl)guanidine,  $N$ -(adamantan-2-yl)- $N'$ -(methyleneadamantan-2-yl)guanidine,  $N$ -(adamantan-1-yl)- $N'$ -(methyleneadamantan-2-yl)guanidine,  $N$ -(adamantan-2-yl)- $N'$ -(methyleneadamantan-1-yl)guanidine,  $N,N'$ -di-(methylene-(3-aminoadamantan-1-yl))guanidine,  $N,N'$ -di-(methylene-(3-aminoadamantan-2-yl))guanidine,  $N,N'$ -di-(methylene-(3-hydroxyadamantan-1-yl))guanidine,  $N,N'$ -di-(methylene-(3-hydroxyadamantan-2-yl))guanidine,  $N,N'$ -di-(methylene-(3-mercaptadamantan-1-yl))guanidine,  $N,N'$ -

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di-(methyl-ene-(3-mercapto-adamantan-2-yl))guanidine,  
 N,N'-di-(methyl-ene-(3-mercaptoadamantan-1-  
 yl))guanidine, N,N'-di-(methylene-(3-  
 mercaptoadamantan-2-yl))guanidine, N,N'-di-  
 5 (methylene-(3-cyanoadamantan-1-yl))guanidine, N,N'-di-  
 (methylene-(3-cyanoadamantan-2-yl))guanidine, N,N'-  
 di-(methylene-(3-cyanoadamantan-1-yl))guanidine and  
 N,N'-di-(methylene-(3-cyanoadamantan-2-yl))guanidine.

Other substituted guanidines which may modulate  
 neurotransmitter release and which are useful in the  
 10 practice in the practice of the invention include  
 compounds having the Formula (VI):



VI

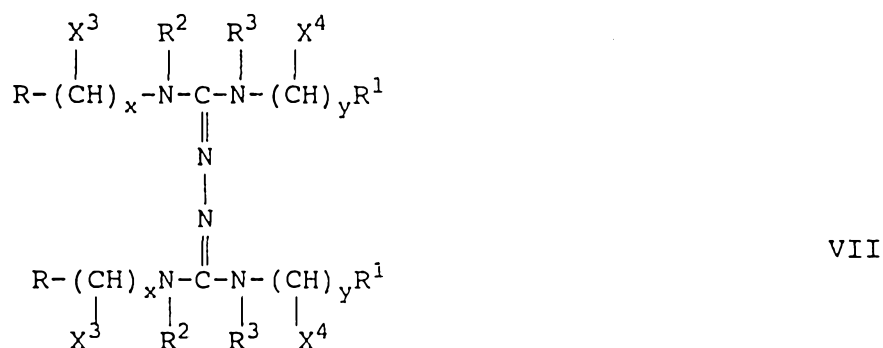
wherein R, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are as defined above and R<sup>4</sup>  
 and R<sup>5</sup> have the same meaning as R and R<sup>1</sup>. Compounds  
 having Formula (V) may be either symmetrical dimers of  
 a single guanidine or conjugates of different  
 30 guanidines.

Especially preferred compounds within the scope  
 of Formula (VI) which may be used in the practice of  
 the invention include N,N',N'',N'''-tetra-  
 cyclohexylhydrazinedicarboximidamide, N,N',N'',N'''-  
 35 tetraphenylhydrazinedicarboximidamide, N,N'-di-  
 (adamantan-1-yl)-N'',N'''-dicyclohexylhydrazine-  
 dicarboximidamide, N,N'-di-(adamantan-2-yl)-N'',N'''-  
 dicyclohexylhydrazinedicarboximidamide, N,N',N'',N'''-  
 tetra-(adamantan-1-yl)-hydrazinedicarboximidamide,  
 40 N,N',N'',N'''-tetra-(adamantan-2-yl)-hydrazinedicarbox-

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imidamide, N,N'-di-(adamantan-1-yl)-N'',N'''-di-(adamantan-2-yl)-hydrazinedicarboximidamide, N,N'-di-(2-norbornyl)-N'',N'''-dicyclohexylhydrazinedicarboximidamide, N,N'-di-(2-isobornyl)-N'',N'''-dicyclohexylhydrazinedicarboximidamide, N,N'-di-(2-isobornyl)-N'',N'''-di-(adamantan-1-yl)hydrazinedicarboximidamide, and N,N'-di-(2-isobornyl)-N'',N'''-di-(adamantan-2-yl)hydrazinedicarboximidamide.

Other substituted guanidines which may modulate neurotransmitter release and which are useful in the practice in the practice of the invention include compounds having the Formula (VII):



wherein R, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, X<sup>3</sup>, X<sup>4</sup>, x and y are as defined above. Preferred compounds having Formula (VI) are wherein R and R<sup>1</sup> are adamantyl groups.

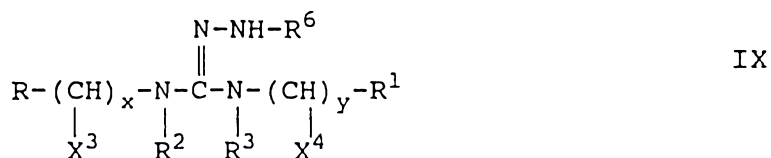
Other substituted guanidines which may modulate neurotransmitter release and which are useful in the practice in the practice of the invention include compounds having the Formula (VIII):



wherein R, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are as described above and R<sup>6</sup> is hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>12</sub> cycloalkyl, carbocyclic aryl, nitrile, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy carbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> acyl or benzoyl.

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Other substituted guanidines which may modulate neurotransmitter release and which are useful in the practice in the practice of the invention include compounds having the Formula (IX):



wherein R, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, X<sup>3</sup>, X<sup>4</sup>, x and y are as defined above.

Preferred compounds within the scope of Formula (IX) include N,N'-dicyclohexyl-N"-aminoguanidine, N,N'-di-(adamantan-1-yl)-N"-aminoguanidine, N,N'-di-(adamantan-2-yl)-N"-aminoguanidine, N,N'-di-(2-norbornyl)-N"-aminoguanidine, and N,N'-di-(2-isobornyl)-N"-aminoguanidine.

Preferably, 0, 1, 2, 3 or more polar groups defined by X<sup>1</sup> and X<sup>2</sup> may be present on the R groups of compounds having Formulae (I)-(IX). Especially preferred are compounds of Formulae (I)-(IX) wherein at least one of R and R<sup>1</sup> is a 1- or 2-substituted adamantyl group or a 3- or 5-acenaphthyl group. Other especially preferred compounds are those with increased aqueous solubility. Such compounds are where at least one of X<sup>1</sup> or X<sup>2</sup> is a polar group or at least one of R and R<sup>1</sup> is substituted by a polar group.

The substituted guanidines, amino guanidines and N,N',N'',N'''-tetrasubstituted hydrazinedicarboximidamides of the invention may exist as any one of a number of tautomeric isomers. Any one of these tautomeric isomers are within the scope of compounds which are useful in the claimed invention.

The substituted guanidines, amino guanidines and N,N',N'',N'''-tetrasubstituted hydrazine-dicarboximidamides of the invention are effective modulators of neurotransmitter release from ischemic

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neuronal cells. Modulation of neurotransmitter release involves either the inhibition of neurotransmitter release, the potentiation of neurotransmitter release, or the modulation of the time course of action of neurotransmitters.

The compounds of the invention are effective inhibitors if they cause at least about a 50% inhibition of neurotransmitter release at a concentration of about 100  $\mu\text{M}$  according to the protocol disclosed herein. More preferably, the compounds cause at least about a 50% inhibition of neurotransmitter release at a concentration of about 30  $\mu\text{M}$ . The compounds of the invention are effective potentiators of neurotransmitter release if they cause at least about a 50% potentiation of neurotransmitter release at a concentration of about 100  $\mu\text{M}$ . More preferably, the compounds cause at least about a 50% potentiation of neurotransmitter release at a concentration of about 30  $\mu\text{M}$ . The compounds of the invention are effective upward or downward modulators of neurotransmitter decay kinetics if they cause a doubling or halving, respectively, of the neurotransmitter release kinetics. For example, effective upward modulators of neurotransmitter release kinetics may cause a doubling of decay kinetics from about 100 msec (as observed for the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -dependent tonic component of glutamate release) to about 200 msec.

The neurotransmitters which may modulate neurotransmitter release include, but are not limited to glutamate, dopamine, norepinephrine, glycine, aspartate, and serotonin. One of ordinary skill in the art can identify those compounds which are effective modulators of neurotransmitter release using the procedures disclosed herein with no more than routine experimentation.

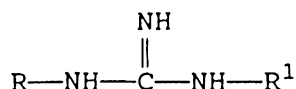
The most promising compounds for treatment or prevention of neuronal death can be evaluated *in vivo* in one or more variations of the rat middle cerebral artery occlusion model. Such models are generally considered to be particularly predictive or neuroprotective efficacy in stroke (Ginsburg, M.D. and Busto, R.B., *Stroke* 20: 1627-1642 (1989)).

In parallel, the efficacy of lead candidates may be assessed in the widely accepted 4-vessel occlusion model of global ischemia (Pulsinelli, W.A. and Buchan, A.M., *Stroke* 19: 913-941 (1988)). Initially, clasps are placed around each common carotid artery of anaesthetized rats, and the vertebral arteries are electrocoagulated. After 24 hours, the clasps are tightened for 10-30 minutes and then loosened to allow reperfusion. Three days later, the animals are sacrificed and the brains are examined histologically.

Numerous studies have emphasized the importance of administration of neuroprotective drugs very soon after the ischemic insult (Ginsburg, M.D., and Busto, R.B., *Stroke* 20:1627-1642 (1989)). Therefore, in both models, candidate compounds may be administered intravenously or intraperitoneally at varying time intervals within 1 hour after the onset of ischemia, to evaluate the optimum window of therapeutic efficacy.

Disubstituted guanidines are the subject of copending application serial no. 07/237,367 filed August 29, 1988, and U.S. Patent No. 4,709,094, whose disclosures are incorporated herein by reference. The preferred guanidines in U.S. patent No. 4,709,094 are described therein by the formula:

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5            wherein R and R<sup>1</sup> are each independently alkyl, cyclo-  
alkyl, carbocyclic aryl, alkaryl or aralkyl. As a  
class, these compounds are described in this patent as  
exhibiting a highly selective binding activity to the  
sigma brain receptor. In copending application Serial  
10          No. 07/237,367, it is disclosed that additional  
specific members of this class of disubstituted  
guanidines exhibit a high binding activity for the PCP  
receptor.

            These N,N'-disubstituted guanidines of Formula  
15          III can readily be prepared by conventional chemical  
reactions, e.g., when R and R<sup>1</sup> are the same, by  
reaction of the corresponding amine with cyanogen  
bromide. Other methods which can be employed include  
the reaction of an amine with a preformed cycloalkyl  
20          or aryl cyanamide. See Safer, S.R., et al., *J. Org.*  
*Chem.* 13:924 (1948). This is the method of choice for  
producing asymmetrical N,N'-disubstituted guanidines.  
For a recent synthesis of asymmetrical guanidines, see  
G.J. Durant et al., *J. Med. Chem.* 28:1414 (1985), and  
25          C.A. Maryanoff et al., *J. Org. Chem.* 51:1882 (1986),  
the disclosures of which are incorporated by reference  
herein.

            The compounds having Formulae (VI) and (VII) may  
be prepared by reacting a symmetrical or unsymmetrical  
30          carbodiimide with hydrazine in an organic solvent (see  
the Examples). The compounds having Formulae (VIII)  
and (IX) may be prepared by reacting a symmetrical or  
unsymmetrical carbodiimide with hydrazine to give a  
1:1 adduct. See Example 2; Weygand and Hilgetag in  
35          *Preparative Organic Chemistry*, Hilgetag and Martini  
(eds.), John Wiley & Sons, New York, NY, page 408

(1972); or Vasilev, P. et al., *Chem. Abstr.* 93: 150095u.

The compounds of the invention bearing R and R<sup>1</sup> groups having polar substituents may be prepared using the above-noted methods wherein the starting material (R-NH<sub>2</sub> or R<sup>1</sup>-NH<sub>2</sub>) has a polar group or a protected form thereof. Methods for preparing such starting materials are taught, for example, in U.S. Patent No. 4,649,222, Morat and Rassat, *Tec. Lett.*:4561-4564 (1979); Sollott and Gilbert, *J. Org. Chem.* 45:5405-5408 (1980); and Zajac, W.W. et al., *J. Org. Chem.* 54:2468-2471 (1989); the disclosures of which are incorporated by reference herein in their entirety.

N,N'-disubstituted-N''-aminoguanidines may be prepared according to any of the methods which are well known in the art. See, for example, German Patent No. DE 2,452,691, Sunderdiek, R., et al., *Chem. Abstr.* 81:91439m (1974), Bent, K.J., et al., *Chem. Abstr.* 74:63479m (1971), German Patent No. 2,029,707, Huisgen et al., *Chem. Abstr.* 63:2975d (1965), Kroeger, F., et al., *Chem. Abstr.* 60:9264f, Heinisch, L., *J. Pract. Chem.* 329:290-300 (1987), Kramer, C.-R., et al., *Biochem. Physiol. Pflanzen.* 178:469-477 (1983), Prasad, R.N., et al., *Can. J. Chem.* 45:2247-2252 (1967), Huisgen et al., *Chem. Ber.* 98:1476-1486 (1965), Podrebarac, E.G., et al., *J. Med. Chem.* 6:283-288 (1963), Kroger et al., *Ber.* 97:396-404 (1964), and Durant, G.J., et al., *J. Med. Chem.* 9:22-27 (1966).

In a compositional aspect, this invention relates to a pharmaceutical composition in unit dosage form and adapted for systemic administration to a subject, e.g., a human being, comprising per unit dosage an amount of a substituted guanidine, amino guanidine or N,N',N'',N'''-tetrasubstituted hydrazinedicarboximidamide of the invention effective to modulate the release of a neurotransmitter. Preferably, the

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neurotransmitter is glutamate. Such compounds are preferably effective modulators of neurotransmitter release from ischemic neuronal cells.

5 In another compositional aspect, this invention relates to a neuroprotecting substituted guanidine, amino guanidine or N,N',N'',N'''-tetrasubstituted  
10 hydrazine-dicarboximidamide of the invention which modulates the release of a neurotransmitter, in particular glutamate, and the physiologically acceptable salts thereof. Preferably, such compounds are effective inhibitors of neurotransmitter release from ischemic neuronal cells.

15 In a method aspect, this invention relates to a method for treating or preventing certain neurological disorders, including nausea resulting from chemotherapy, the consequences of stroke or traumatic brain injury, epilepsy or neurological diseases, carbon monoxide poisoning, cyanide poisoning, toxic brain damage caused by, for example, tetrodotoxin or  
20 shellfish toxins, anxiety, and river blindness, comprising the administration of an effective amount of a substituted guanidine, amino guanidine or N,N',N'',N'''-tetrasubstituted hydrazinedicarboximidamide of the invention which inhibits the release of  
25 a neurotransmitter to a subject in need of such treatment. Such substituted guanidines, amino guanidines and N,N',N'',N'''-tetrasubstituted hydrazine-dicarboximidamides of the invention may be non-competitive blockers of neurotransmitter (e.g.  
30 glutamate) release. Preferably, compounds are effective inhibitors of neurotransmitter release from ischemic neuronal cells.

35 In a further method aspect, this invention relates to a method of ameliorating the neurotoxic effect of ischemia, comprising administering to a subject, e.g., a human being exhibiting symptoms of or

susceptible to such ischemia, a substituted guanidine, amino guanidine or N,N',N'',N'''-tetrasubstituted hydrazinedicarboximidamide of the invention, which inhibits the release of a neurotransmitter, in an amount effective to ameliorate the neurotoxic effect.

In another method aspect, the present invention relates to a method of treating Korsakoff's disease, a chronic alcoholism-induced condition, comprising administering to a mammal a substituted guanidine, amino guanidine or N,N',N'',N'''-tetrasubstituted hydrazinedicarboximidamide of the invention, in an amount effective to treat the disease. Pretreatment of animals with the substituted guanidines, amino guanidines and N,N',N'',N'''-tetrasubstituted hydrazinedicarboximidamides of the invention may markedly attenuate the extent of cell loss, hemorrhages and amino acid changes in a rat model of Korsakoff's disease. See Langlais, P.J. et al., *Soc. Neurosci. Abstr.* 14:774 (1988).

In another method aspect, the present invention relates to a method of treating or preventing HIV-induced dementia and blindness, comprising administering to a mammal a substituted guanidine, amino guanidine or N,N',N'',N'''-tetrasubstituted hydrazinedicarboximidamide of the invention, in an amount effective to treat the disease. As disclosed by Dreyer et al., *Science* 248: 364-367 (1990), gp120 neurotoxicity is associated with increased levels of Ca<sup>2+</sup> which are apparently mediated by excitatory amino acids binding at the NMDA receptor site. Therefore, the substituted guanidines, amino guanidines and N,N',N'',N'''-tetrasubstituted hydrazinedicarboximidamides will find utility in treating or preventing HIV-induced dementia and blindness by preventing the release of excessive glutamate.

The substituted guanidines, amino guanidines and N,N',N'',N'''-tetrasubstituted hydrazinedicarboximidamides will find utility in treating or preventing conditions treatable by the blockage of sodium ion channels, e.g. epilepsy. Although the mechanism of blockage of neurotransmitter release by PK 26124 is not yet clearly defined, this compound may antagonize not the presynaptic calcium channels but, instead, the sodium channels in or near the nerve terminals. See Hays, S.J. et al., Abstr. 201st Amer. Chem. Soc. Natl. Meeting, Med.Chem. Abstr. No. 14 (1991). In addition, certain antiepileptic agents, for example phenytoin (ibid; McLean and MacDonald, *J. Pharmacol. Exp. Ther.* 227:779 (1990)) and lamotrigine (Leach, M.J. et al., *Epilepsia* 27:490-497 (1986)) block sodium channels in a use-dependent fashion. Specifically, they inhibit the ability of neurons to sustain repetitive firing, and their maximum efficacy occurs under situations where bursts of sodium channel-mediated action potentials occur, such as in epilepsy. N,N'-di(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine is shown in Figure 7 to block sodium channels, in addition to the presynaptic calcium channels. This dual action may be a desirable property of neuroprotective agents, as they may be more effective blockers of neurotransmitter release. Moreover, the use-dependence, ability to block release of glutamate and other neurotransmitters under conditions causing sustained depolarization of neurons and/or repetitive firing of action potentials, may be desirable properties of neuroprotective agents.

The invention also relates to the treatment of amnesia with the compounds of the invention. The glutamate release blocker riluzole has been shown to prevent memory loss in ischemic animals. Therefore, it is expected that the disubstituted guanidines, aminoguanidines, and N,N',N'',N'''-tetrasubstituted

hydrazinedicarboximidamides of the invention are also useful for treating or preventing memory loss.

The invention also relates to the treatment of migraine with the compounds of the invention. The calcium channel blocker disclosed in EP 0 266 574 reportedly is useful for the treatment of migraine. Therefore, it is expected that the disubstituted guanidines, aminoguanidines, and N,N',N'',N'''-tetrasubstituted hydrazinedicarboximidamides of the invention are also useful for treating or preventing migraines.

The invention also relates to the treatment or prevention of multi-infarct dementia, a progressive deterioration of brain function and intellect due to multiple small strokes over time. The disubstituted guanidines, aminoguanidines, and N,N',N'',N'''-tetrasubstituted hydrazinedicarboximidamides of the invention are expected to be useful in treating elderly patients who suffer from multi-infarct dementia as well as arteriosclerosis.

The methods of the present invention may be practiced on any animal, especially mammals and, more particularly, humans. However, it is intended that any animal which may experience benefit from administration of the disubstituted guanidines, aminoguanidines, and N,N',N'',N'''-tetrasubstituted hydrazinedicarboximidamides of the invention are within the scope of animals which may be treated according to the invention.

The new drug screening method of the invention allows the identification of drugs which may be antagonists of the presynaptic calcium channel and which inhibit certain subcomponents of neurotransmitter release from neuronal tissue subject to ischemia.

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Such compounds which inhibit neurotransmitter release can be determined by a method involving:

(a) contacting immobilized synaptosomes containing radiolabelled neurotransmitter with a compound suspected of inhibiting neurotransmitter release;

(b) inducing, by depolarization, the release of radiolabelled neurotransmitter from the immobilized radiolabelled synaptosomes obtained in step (a); (c) washing the immobilized radiolabelled synaptosomes obtained in step (b) with a buffer comprising said compound and fractionating the effluent every 15 to 500 msec; and

(d) detecting the relative amount of radiolabelled neurotransmitter in each fraction compared to control synaptosomes which have not been exposed to the compound of interest;

wherein a reduced amount of released radiolabelled neurotransmitter in the fractions from synaptosomes treated with the compound relative to control synaptosomes indicates that the compound inhibits neurotransmitter release.

This drug screening method requires that the entrapped synaptosomes be housed in a superfusion chamber having a very small dead volume to allow subsecond time resolution. Such superfusion chambers are taught, for example, in U.S. Patent No. 4,891,185 and by Turner, T.J. *et al.*, *Anal. Biochem.* 178:8-16 (1989), the disclosures of which are fully incorporated by reference herein.

This method also allows for the screening of drugs which selectively inhibit a  $Ca^{2+}$ -dependent or  $Ca^{2+}$ -independent subcomponent of neurotransmitter release. As shown in Figure 1, there are both phasic and tonic components of glutamate release in the

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presence of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  and a  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -independent component which can be seen in the absence of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ . Preferably, drugs are identified which selectively inhibit the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -dependent tonic component of glutamate release. Such  
5 drugs may be identified by running the assay in the presence of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  and the drug in question. Preferably, the concentration of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  is about  $>50 \mu\text{M}$ . More preferably, the concentration of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  is about 2 mM. The selective inhibition of the tonic component of  
10 neurotransmitter release indicates that the drug may be particularly effective in preventing neuronal loss due to ischemia and in treating other pathophysiologic conditions which are the consequence of elevated levels of release of neurotransmitters such as  
15 glutamate.

Preferably, the synaptosomes are immobilized. Methods for preparing immobilized cells are taught, for example, in U.S. Patent Nos. 4,390,627, 4,212,943, and 4,337,313, the disclosures of which are fully  
20 incorporated by reference herein. Most preferably, the synaptosomes are entrapped in a filter matrix, as more fully described below, in a housing with a very small dead volume, and a physiologic buffer is passed therethrough. The effluent is then fractionated over  
25 very short periods of time (15 to 500 msec) and the relative amounts of radiolabelled neurotransmitter (preferably glutamate) in each fraction is determined. A plot of the amount of radiolabelled glutamate over time gives a measure of the ability of the compound to  
30 inhibit neurotransmitter release. An example of such a plot is shown in Figure 2.

A more detailed, but not limiting, protocol is as follows:

(a) contacting brain synaptosomes with  
35 radiolabelled glutamate for a time sufficient to allow uptake of the radiolabelled glutamate via

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the Na-dependent glutamate uptake system, to give radiolabelled synaptosomes;

(b) preparing a suspension of the radiolabelled synaptosomes obtained in step (a) in a physiologic buffer and passing the suspension through a filter matrix to entrap the radiolabelled synaptosomes;

(c) washing the entrapped radiolabelled synaptosomes obtained in step (b) with a physiologic buffer;

(d) contacting the entrapped radiolabelled synaptosomes obtained in step (c) with a compound suspected of being an inhibitor of glutamate release;

(e) depolarizing the membranes of the entrapped radiolabelled synaptosomes obtained in step (d);

(f) washing the entrapped radiolabelled synaptosomes obtained in step (e) with a physiologic buffer comprising the organic compound of interest and fractionating the effluent every 15 to 500 msec; and

(g) detecting the relative amount of radiolabelled glutamate in each fraction compared to control effluent which has not been exposed to the compound of interest.

Where there is a reduced amount of radiolabelled glutamate in the effluent fractions of synaptosomes treated with the compound relative to control synaptosomes, the compound is an inhibitor of glutamate release. As discussed above, the assay may be conducted in the presence and absence of  $Ca^{2+}$ , and the kinetics of the Ca-dependent component of neurotransmitter release may be analyzed to determine the effect of the compound on the three subcomponents of glutamate release.

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In the above method, synaptosomes are isolated and radioisotopically labeled with radiolabelled neurotransmitter. The radiolabelled synaptosomes are then entrapped in a filter matrix and allowed to equilibrate with a physiologic buffer solution that flows into the sample chamber through a valve. This valve is then closed simultaneously with the opening of a second valve allowing a physiologic solution comprising the organic test compound to flow through the filter matrix and contact the entrapped synaptosomes. The second valve is then closed simultaneously with the opening of a third valve comprising a substance, with or without  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ , which causes depolarization of the synaptosome membranes, together with the organic test compound. The third valve is then closed simultaneously with the opening of the second valve. During the entire superfusion period, the effluent comprising each physiologic buffer, test compound and radiolabelled glutamate is continuously fractionated. This method allows for the rapid kinetic measurement of radiolabelled glutamate release from synaptosomes. Optionally, one or more of the test solutions comprising  $>50 \mu\text{M}$   $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  may be delivered through the third valve.

The synaptosomes may be derived from any animal, including the rat. They may be isolated according to Example 3, herein, or according to Gray and Whittaker, *J. Anat.* 96:79-88 (1962); or Suszkiw et al., *J. Neurosci.* 6:1349-1357 (1986).

Any radiolabelled form of the neurotransmitter may be used in the practice of the screening assay including  $^3\text{H}$  and  $^{14}\text{C}$  labelled neurotransmitter. Both  $^3\text{H}$  and  $^{14}\text{C}$  labelled glutamate are commercially available.

The entrapped synaptosomes are contacted with the radiolabelled neurotransmitter for a time sufficient

to allow uptake of the radiolabelled neurotransmitter by the synaptosomes. A preferred time is about 10 minutes.

5 The physiologic buffer may be any buffer known to those of ordinary skill in the art which is compatible with synaptosomes. See Example 3 (basal buffer); Gray and Whittaker, *J. Anat.* 96:79-88 (1962); or Suszkiw et al., *J. Neurosci.* 6:1349-1357 (1986).

10 Filters which may be used to entrap the synaptosomes are matrices of randomly-oriented fibers or beads pressed, wound, or otherwise bonded together into a tortuous maze of flow channels (definition obtained from Millipore Corp. Catalogue and Purchasing Guide, Lit. No. PA085, printed 9/85). A depth filter is capable of trapping the substrate in a three  
15 dimensional matrix thereby allowing a maximum amount of synaptosomes to be loaded onto the filter without causing a blockage (clogging) of the solution flow. The preferred depth filters are glass fiber filters such as Whatman GF/F filters; ceramic filters can also  
20 be used. Glass fiber filters are particularly desirable because of their flexibility, chemical inertness, and low cost. A Millipore SC filter may be used to maintain the integrity of glass fiber filters. See Turner, T.J. et al., *Anal. Biochem.* 178:8-16  
25 (1989), incorporated by reference herein, for a detailed description of the superfusion system and the filter configuration for entrapping synaptosomes.

30 The concentration of test organic compound in the physiologic buffer may range from 0 to about 1 mM, more preferably, from 0 to about 100  $\mu$ M. If the guanidine is not soluble in the physiologic buffer, then an equivalent amount of a soluble pharmacologically acceptable salt of the organic  
35 compound, as disclosed herein, may be utilized.

Alternatively, the compounds may be diluted from a suitable organic solvent.

The flow rates of the physiologic solutions and test solutions should be at least 0.1 ml/sec. Preferably, the flow rate is about 1.0 ml/sec.

Induction of the neurotransmitter release may be accomplished by depolarizing the synaptosome membranes by contact with relatively high concentrations of cations such as  $K^+$  or by the application of a voltage across the synaptosomes. Alternatively, the release of the neurotransmitter may be induced by contacting the synaptosomes with veratramine. The concentration of  $K^+$  necessary to cause depolarization may range from about 10 to about 150 mM. A preferred concentration is about 110 mM (as KCl). The corresponding transmembrane voltage necessary to cause depolarization may range from about -40mV to about 60 mV.

The effluent fractions may be collected using any means which allow the collection of fractions over periods of time as short as about 15 msec. The fractions may be collected in a series of separate tube or may be continuously applied to an absorbent substrate such as filter paper. Preferably, the fractions are obtained and collected with the superfusion instrument described in the present Examples and disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 4,891,185, the content of which is fully incorporated by reference herein. In general, the effluent is collected in vials positioned as a spiral or a circle on a turntable which rotates at 16, 33, 45 and 78 rpm, giving 3.75, 1.82, 1.33 and 0.77 seconds per rotation. Fifty collection vials in each single revolution allows for the collection of fractions for as long as 66 msec. or as short as 15 msec.

The compounds of this invention can be administered intranasally, orally or by injection, e.g., intramuscular, intraperitoneal or intravenous injection or by transdermal, intraocular or enteral means. The optimal dose can be determined by conventional means. Because many of the substituted guanidines employed in this invention are substantially water insoluble, they are ordinarily administered in the protonated form, e.g., as a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of an organic or inorganic acid, e.g., hydrochloride, sulfate, hemisulfate, phosphate, nitrate, acetate, oxalate, citrate, malate, etc.

The compounds of this invention can be employed in mixture with conventional excipients, i.e., pharmaceutically acceptable organic or inorganic carrier substances suitable for parenteral, enteral or intranasal application which do not deleteriously react to the active compounds. Suitable pharmaceutically acceptable carriers include but are not limited to water, salt solutions, alcohol, vegetable oils, polyethylene glycols, gelatin, lactose, amylose, magnesium stearate, talc, silicic acid, viscous paraffin, perfume oil, fatty acid monoglycerides and diglycerides, petroethral fatty acid esters, hydroxymethylcellulose, polyvinylpyrrolidone, etc. The pharmaceutical preparations can be sterilized and if desired mixed with auxiliary agents, e.g., lubricants, preservatives, stabilizers, wetting agents, emulsifiers, salts for influencing osmotic pressure, buffers, colorings, flavoring and/or aromatic substances and the like which do not deleteriously react with the active compounds.

For parenteral application, particularly suitable are solutions, preferably oily or aqueous solutions as

well as suspensions, emulsions, or implants, including suppositories. Ampules are convenient unit dosages.

For enteral application, particularly suitable are tablets, dragees or capsules having talc and/or a carbohydrate carrier binder or the like, the carrier preferably being lactose and/or corn starch and/or potato starch. A syrup, elixir or the like can be used wherein a sweetened vehicle is employed. Sustained release compositions can be formulated including those wherein the active component is protected with differentially degradable coatings, e.g., by microencapsulation, multiple coatings, etc.

Intravenous or parenteral administration, e.g., subcutaneous, intraperitoneal, or intramuscular are preferred. The compounds of this invention being particularly valuable in the treatment of mammalian subjects, e.g., humans. Typically, such subjects include those suffering from or likely to suffer from nervous system dysfunctions resulting from, for example, epilepsy or nerve cell degeneration which is the result of hypoxia, hypoglycemia, brain or spinal chord trauma, or brain or spinal chord ischemia. Typical candidates for treatment include heart attack, stroke, brain or spinal cord injury patients, patients undergoing major surgery where brain ischemia is a potential complication, patients [divers] suffering from decompression sickness due to gas emboli in the blood stream, drowning victims, and patients suffering from carbon monoxide poisoning, cyanide poisoning, and toxic brain damage from ingestion of tetrodotoxin or shellfish toxin. Other candidates include patients suffering from amnesia, migraine, and multi-infarct dementia. Other candidates for treatment include those patients afflicted with neurodegenerative diseases such as Huntington's disease, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, Alzheimer's disease, Down's

Syndrome olivopontocerebellar atrophy, and Korsakoff's disease. In addition, HIV-infected individuals may be treated with the substituted guanidines, amino guanidines and N,N',N'', N'''-tetrasubstituted hydrazinedicarboximidamides of the invention to treat or prevent blindness and HIV-associated dementia. Moreover, the substituted guanidines, amino guanidines and N,N',N'', N'''-tetrasubstituted hydrazinedicarboximidamides of the invention may be administered to those patients who are susceptible to generalized anxiety disorder (GAD) in order to treat or prevent anxiety.

The compounds of the invention may also be employed in cryopreservation solutions for tissues, organs and animals. The compounds of the invention in such solutions may be effective for reducing the amount of neuronal loss associated with the freezing of tissues, organs and animals.

It will be appreciated that the actually preferred amounts of active compounds used will vary according to the specific compound being utilized, the particular compositions formulated, the mode of application and the particular site of administration. Optimal administration rates for a given protocol of administration can be readily ascertained by those skilled in the art using conventional dosage determination tests conducted with regard to the foregoing guidelines.

Like the guanidines of U.S. Patent Nos. 1,411,713, 1,422,506 and 1,597,233, the substituted guanidines and related compounds of the present invention may also be used as rubber accelerators.

The invention also relates to radiolabeled derivatives of the guanidines and related compounds of the present invention. Preferably, the radiolabel is  $^3\text{H}$ ,  $^{11}\text{C}$ ,  $^{14}\text{C}$ ,  $^{18}\text{F}$ ,  $^{125}\text{I}$ ,  $^{131}\text{I}$ ,  $^{15}\text{N}$ ,  $^{35}\text{S}$  or  $^{32}\text{P}$ . These

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radiolabeled compounds may be used to study the receptors responsible for their pharmacologic activity as well as for imaging of tissue samples for the distribution of receptors for these compounds.

5 The invention also relates to the compounds of the invention in the form of pharmaceutically acceptable salts, e.g. salts with pharmaceutically acceptable acids such as hydrochloric, sulfuric, acetic, malic, phosphoric or succinic acid, etc.

10 Without further elaboration, it is believed that one skilled in the art can, using the preceding description, utilize the present invention to its fullest extent. The following preferred specific embodiments are, therefore, to be construed as merely illustrative, and not limitative of the remainder of  
15 the disclosure in any way whatsoever.

The entire text of all applications, patents and publications cited above and below are hereby incorporated by reference.

#### 20 EXAMPLES

Example 1: Synthesis of N,N'-(Adamantan-2-yl)guanidine Hydrochloride

25 2-Adamantylcyanamide. 2-Adamantanamine hydrochloride (25 g, 133.2 mmol, Aldrich) was partitioned between 200 mL of toluene and 200 mL of 1N NaOH and the mixture stirred for 30 minutes. The  
30 layers were separated and the aqueous layer extracted with toluene (75 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with water (100 mL), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and the resultant filtrate utilized as is (the amount of 2-adamantanamine was assumed to be 133 mmol). To this  
35 ice cold solution was added dropwise with stirring a solution of cyanogen bromide (8.74 g, 82.5 mmol) in 25

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mL of toluene. As the addition proceeded, a precipitate formed. After the addition of the cyanogen bromide was completed, the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and stir for an additional two hours. The precipitate was filtered off and the filtrate concentrated in vacuo to afford 10 g of a light yellow solid. The crude product was recrystallized (methanol/water) and the product dried in vacuo (1 torr, over P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>/KOH) to give 9.04 g (62% yield) of the desired product.

N,N'-(Adamantan-2-yl)guanidine Hydrochloride. A mixture of 2-adamantylcyanamide (3.4 g, 19.35 mmol) and 2-adamantanamide hydrochloride (2.9 g, 15.48 mmol) was heated in an oil bath at 205°C under an atmosphere of argon. The mixture gradually fused to a semisolid residue (but never yielded a clear melt) and then solidified. The reaction mixture was allowed to cool and methanol (30 mL) and water (30 mL) were then added to the solid. The mixture was filtered and the solid obtained warmed with methanol (150 mL) and the insoluble material removed by gravity filtration. The filtrate was clarified with activated charcoal and concentrated in vacuo to afford a white solid. This material was dissolved in 150 mL of boiling ethanol and the resultant solution concentrated over a hot plate to give 60 mL. On cooling, crystallization occurred to give 3 g of product which was again recrystallized, but this time from ethanol and water, to give (after drying in vacuo over P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> at 65°C for 24 hrs) 2.92 g of N,N'-(Adamantan-2-yl)guanidine Hydrochloride. M.p. > 340 °C. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>34</sub>N<sub>3</sub>Cl: C, 67.08; H, 9.11; N, 11.18. Found C, 67.21; H, 9.26; N, 11.34.

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Example 2:            Synthesis            of            N,N',N'',N'''-  
t e t r a c y c l o h e x y l -  
hydrazinedicarboximidamide

5            DCC (1.03 g, 4.97 mmol) was dissolved in  
tetrahydrofuran (15 mL). Hydrazine (135 mg, 4.22  
mmol) was added via syringe. Stirring 30 hours at  
room temperature produced a clear yellow mixture which  
was evaporated to a white powder (922 mg). Solution  
10 of this powder in diethyl ether, filtration and  
acidification with HCl (60 mL of saturated Et<sub>2</sub>O) gave  
a yellow white precipitate (856 mg). Two  
recrystallizations (EtOH in an Et<sub>2</sub>O chamber) gave  
white prisms (133 mg, 18%, M.P. 288-290°C). The low  
15 percentage of nitrogen in the elemental analysis of  
this compound indicates that two equivalents of DCC  
have reacted to hydrazine, forming the title compound.  
<sup>1</sup>H NMR ([<sup>2</sup>H]-CH<sub>3</sub>OH) δ 3.21 (s, 4, N-bearing  
cyclohexyl), 2.0-1.5 (m, 44, cyclohexyls). <sup>13</sup>C NMR  
20 ([<sup>2</sup>H]-CH<sub>3</sub>OH) δ 154.1 (guanidine), 51.7 (N-bearing  
cyclohexyl), 32.4 and 24.8 (cyclohexyls). IR shows  
peaks at 1639 and 1589 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Elem. Analysis  
(C<sub>26</sub>N<sub>6</sub>H<sub>50</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>:1/2 H<sub>2</sub>O). Theor. C 59.30, H 9.76, N  
15.96, Found C 58.94, H 9.76, N 16.01.

25

Example 3:            Synthesis            of            N,N'-Bis(5-  
acenaphthyl)guanidine hydrobromide:

30

35

5-Aminoacenaphthene-40 gms (Aldrich lot # CY  
02301 HX, containing 15% of the 3-nitro isomer) of 5-  
nitroacenaphthene was dissolved in a mixture of  
tetrahydrofuran (150 ml) and acetic acid (25 ml.). To  
this solution was added 1.0 of 10% Pd/C and the  
mixture hydrogenated (40 psi) at room temperature.  
After 2 hours, the mixture was filtered through a bed  
of celite and the filtrate concentrated in vacuo to  
give a mixture of a solid which darkened (to purple)

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considerably on exposure to air. This material was redissolved in methylene chloride and decolorized with activated charcoal and then the product recrystallized from a mixture of cyclohexane:ethyl acetate (3:1) to give 8.3 g of clean material- only the major 5-amino isomer being present by TLC. This material was used as is directly in the next step.

N,N'-Bis(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine hydrobromide:

To a stirred solution of 5-aminoacenaphthene (8.1 g, 49 mmol) in ethanol (35 ml) was added, dropwise with stirring, a solution of cyanogen bromide (2.6 g, 24.5 mmol) in ethanol (25 ml). The mixture was then refluxed for 6h and allowed to stand for 48 h for convenience. The crystals were collected by filtration and washed with a little ethanol and then ether to give 7.7 g of crude product. This material was combined with a smaller 1.1 g lot and the total amount dissolved in boiling ethanol (approximately 1 L) and decolorized with activated charcoal. The charcoal was removed by gravity filtration and the filtrate concentrated over a hot plate to 200 mL. On cooling, off white crystals were deposited which were dried in vacuo at 100°C under 1 torr, to give 5.9 gms; mp 288-290°C.

Anal. Calcd. for  $C_{25}H_{22}N_3Br$  (444.35); C, 67.56; H, 4.99; N, 9.46.

Found: C, 67.46; H, 5.06; N, 9.21.

HPLC (reverse phase): MeCN/H<sub>2</sub>O (50:50 with 0.1% TFA), single component Rt=12.91 minutes

Example 4      Synthesis of N,N'-Bis(3-acenaphthyl)guanidine hydrobromide

5            3-Aminoacenaphthene. A 25 g sample of commercial  
5-nitroacenaphthene (containing 15% of the 3-nitro  
isomer) was chromatographed (600 g silica gel, 230-400  
mesh, hexane/ethyl acetate (10:1)) to give 400 mg of  
the 3-nitro isomer. The remainder of the fractions  
10           were a mixture of both isomers and this method was  
abandoned as a method to separate the two isomers.  
The 400 mg sample was hydrogenated (40 PSI, 10% Pd/C,  
5% acetic acid in THF) on a Parr apparatus to give the  
amino compound which solidified after removal of the  
solvent in vacuo. This material was used directly, in  
15           the next step.

N,N'-Bis(3-acenaphthyl)guanidine Hydrobromide:

To a solution of 3-aminoacenaphthene in 15 mL of  
absolute ethanol was added 85 mg of cyanogen bromide.  
The solution was heated at reflux, under an nitrogen  
20           atmosphere, for 11 hours. The solution was  
concentrated in vacuo to ~8 mL and the mixture cooled  
in an ice bath to give 120 mg of crude product. This  
material was recrystallized from ethanol to give 60 mg  
of product, mp 291-293°C. The HPLC of this material  
25           showed the presence of a single impurity (15%).  
Therefore, this material was partitioned between a 10%  
aqueous solution of sodium bicarbonate and ethyl  
acetate, with the intention of converting it to the  
free base and then running a prep TLC. However, a  
30           good portion of the material formed an emulsion in the  
organic layer. This solid was collected by filtration  
and turned out to be free of the impurity. It was  
redissolved in 0.7 M HCl in methanol and concentrated  
in vacuo to afford a cream white solid; wt 20 mg; mp  
35           210(s)-230°C (slow dec). This step should probably  
have been omitted, since it is hard to predict if the  
material is a hydrochloride or hydrobromide. Since we

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have such a small quantity of material, and it is clean by TLC and HPLC we made no attempt to carry out an elemental analysis.

5 HPLC: C18 Reverse phase, MeCN:H<sub>2</sub>O 50:50 with 0.1% TFA, Rt=16.7 min (98.85%), impurities at 4.62 min (.625%) and 15.83 min (.517%).

10 Example 5                    Synthesis of N-(3- and 5-Acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-isopropylphenyl)-guanidine·HCl

15 A mixture of 3- and 5-nitroacenaphthene (5 g) was dissolved in EtOAc and placed into a hydrogenating flask containing Palladium on activated carbon (10%, 0.5 g). The reaction mixture was hydrogenated at 40 psi for 1.5 hr. The pressure of hydrogen dropped due to the consuming of the hydrogen, and it was brought back to 50 psi a few times during the reaction. When all the starting material was used, the hydrogen was released and the resulting solution was filtered through a pad of celite and washed with EtOAc (20 mL). The clear filtrate was concentrated and dried under vacuum to yield a mixture of 3- and 5-aminoacenaphthene as a brown solid (4.2 g, 100 % yield).

20 TLC (SiO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): R<sub>f</sub> 0.2

30                    3- and 5-aminoacenaphthene·HCl

35 Mixture of 3- and 5-aminoacenaphthene (0.8 g) in MeOH (40 mL) was treated with HCl/MeOH (0.5 M, 20 mL), and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 min. Then the solution was concentrated and dried under vacuum to yield a mixture of 3- and 5-aminoacenaphthene·HCl as a gray solid.

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Isopropylphenyl cyanamide

5 A solution of cyanogen bromide (1.59 g, 15 mmol)  
in diethylether (20) was added dropwise to a solution  
of 4-isopropylaniline (3.24 g) in diethylether (50 mL)  
at 4°C with stirring. After the addition, the  
10 reaction mixture was kept stirring at room temperature  
for 18 h. Then a solution with white precipitates  
formed and the precipitates were removed by  
filtration. The etherate solution was washed with  
aqueous HCl (1 N, 30 mL, two times) as well as brine,  
15 dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated, and dried  
under vacuum to yield 4-isopropylphenyl cyanamide (2.0  
g, 84%).

TLC (SiO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>CL<sub>2</sub>): R<sub>f</sub> 0.2IR(CH<sub>2</sub>CL<sub>2</sub>): 2220 cm<sup>-1</sup>.Synthesis of Di-(3- and 5-Acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-isopropylphenyl)-guanidine.HCl

20 A stirred solution of 4-isopropylphenyl cyanamide  
(160 mg) in chlorobenzene (35 mL) as added a mixture  
of 3- and 5-aminoacenaphthene.HCl (230 mg, 1 mmol) at  
25°C under Argon. The reaction mixture was heated at  
150°C in an oil bath for 20 hr. A homogenous solution  
was obtained and this solution was concentrated to  
dryness by rotavap. The obtained product was further  
30 purified by prep. TLC to yield N-(3- and 5-  
Acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-isopropylphenyl)-guanidine.HCl as a  
light brown solid (0.28 g, 71% yield).

TLC (SiO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>CL<sub>2</sub>/MeOH = 9/1): R<sub>f</sub> = 0.36IR(CH<sub>2</sub>CL<sub>2</sub>): 1660 cm<sup>-1</sup> (guanidine peak).

35 <sup>1</sup>H NMR(CD<sub>3</sub>OD) ppm: 1.07 (d, J = 8.57 Hz, 6H), 2.76 (m,  
1H), 3.24 (m, 4H), 7.08-7.52 (m, 9H).

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$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR( $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ ) ppm: 24.30, 30.94, 31.54, 35.01,  
118.48, 120.35, 121.35, 126.45, 126.86, 127.61,  
128.38, 128.98, 129.53, 130.24, 133.85, 141.63,  
147.99, 148.76, 149.68, 149.87, 157.30.

5

High Resolution Mass Spec:  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_3$  329.1892 (Calc.),  
329.1889 (Exp.).

Example 6            Synthesis of N-(3- and 5-Acenaphthyl)-  
10                        N-(4-fluoronaphthyl)- guanidine·HCl

3- and 5-Acenaphthyl cyanamide:

15

A solution of cyanogen bromide in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  (5 M, 5.1 mL, 25.6 mmol) was added slowly into a stirred solution of 3- and 5-aminoacenaphthene (41 mmol) in diethylether (65 mL) and EtOAc (10 mL) at  $0^\circ\text{C}$ . After the addition, the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 23 h. Finally, the reaction mixture became a green solution with gray precipitates; the precipitates were removed by filtration. The green filtrate was further washed by aqueous HCl (1N, three times), water (100 mL, and brine (200 mL). Then the solution was dried over  $\text{MgSO}_4$ , filtered, concentrated, and dried under vacuum to yield 3- and 5-acenaphthyl cyanamide. The product was a brown solid (3.64 g; 92% in yield).

20

25

30

TLC ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{MeOH}=9/1$ ):  $R_f = 0.67$ .

4-Fluoro-1-aminoaphthalene

35

4-Fluoro-1-nitro-naphthalene (1 g) was dissolved in EtOAc (20 mL) and placed into a hydrogenating flask containing Palladium on activated charcoal (10%, 0.3 g). The reaction mixture was hydrogenated at 50 psi for 5 hr. During the reaction, the pressure of the

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hydrogen dropped due to the consuming of the hydrogen, and it was brought back to 50 psi a few times. Finally, the reaction stopped when all the starting material was used. The resulting solution was  
5 filtered through a pad of celite and washed with EtOAc (20 mL). The clear filtrate was concentrated and dried under vacuum to yield 4-Fluoro-1-aminonaphthalene.

10 TLC (SiO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): R<sub>f</sub> = 0.33

4-Fluoro-1-aminoaphthalene·HCl To 4-fluoro-1-aminoaphthalene in MeOH (5 mL) was added HCl/MeOH (0.5 M, 20 mL), then the reaction mixture was stirred at  
15 room temperature for 30 min. A white precipitate formed during the reaction; the precipitate was collected by filtration and dried under vacuum to yield 4-fluoro-1-aminoaphthalene·HCl as a white solid (0.81 g; 80% yield).

20

N-(3- and 5-Acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine·HCl

25

A mixture of 3- and 5-acenaphthyl cyanamide (516 mg, 2.66 mmol) and 4-fluoro-1-aminonaphthalene·HCl (500 mg, 2.53 mmol) in chlorobenzene (15 mL) was heated to 150°C for 24 hr with stirring. After the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, diethylether (50 mL) was added and a white precipitate formed. The  
30 precipitate was collected by filtration, redissolved in methanol, treated with Norit for 30 min, filtered and concentrated to yield the crude product. The crude product was further recrystallized in EtOH/Et<sub>2</sub>O to yield pure (N-(3- and 5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-fluoronaphthyl)guanidine·HCl (0.52 g, 53% yield).

35

TLC (SiO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH = 9/1): R<sub>f</sub> = 0.37

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<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD) ppm: 3.33-3.38 (m, 4H), 7.22-8.10 (m, 11H).

5 <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD) ppm: 30.97, 31.55, 110.64, 118.41, 120.39, 121.45, 122.09, 123.38, 125.84, 127.23, 127.68, 128.02, 128.44, 128.97, 129.56, 129.84, 130.37, 133.18, 141.67, 148.09, 149.19, 158.43, 160.13 (d, j = 253.4 Hz).

10 High Resolution Mass Spec: C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>3</sub>F 355.1484 (Cacl.), 355.1479 (Exp.).

15 Example 7            Synthesis of N-(3- and 4-Acenaphthyl)-  
N-(4-methoxynaphthyl)-  
guanidine.HCl

4-Methoxy-1-aminonaphthalene

20            A mixture of 4-methoxy-1-nitro-naphthalene (2 g, 9.84 mmol) was dissolved in EtOAc (100 mL) and placed into a hydrogenating flask containing Palladium on activated carbon (10%, 0.2 g). The reaction mixture was hydrogenated at 50 psi for 1.5 hr. During the  
25 reaction, the pressure of the hydrogen dropped a few times due to the consuming of the hydrogen, and the pressure was brought back to 50 psi. When the starting material was used, the reaction was stopped and the hydrogen was released. The resulting solution  
30 was filtered through a pad of celite and washed with EtOAc (20 mL). The clear filtrate was concentrated and dried under vacuum to yield 4-Fluoro-1-aminonaphthalene (100% yield).

35 TLC (SiO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): R<sub>f</sub> = 0.24

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4-Methoxy-1-aminonaphthalene·HCl

4-Methoxy-1-aminonaphthalene (0.53 g, 3.1 mmol) was dissolved in HCl/MeOH (0.5 M, 15 mL), then the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 60 min. The reaction mixture was concentrated to dryness to yield the crude product as a solid. The solid was further washed by EtOAc, collected by filtration, and dried under vacuum to yield 4-methoxy-1-aminonaphthalene·HCl as a white solid (0.61 g; yield: 96%).

N-(3- and 5-Acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-methoxynaphthyl)-guanidine·HCl

Mixture of 3- and 5-acenaphthyl cyanamide (243 mg, 1.25 mmol and 4-methoxy-1-aminonaphthalene·HCl (250 mg, 1.19 mmol) in chlorobenzene was heated to 150°C for 7 hr with stirring. After the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, it became a mixture of a brown solution and white precipitates. The precipitates were collected by filtration, washed thoroughly with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (30 mL) as well as EtOAc (15 mL), and dried under vacuum to yield N-(3- and 5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-methoxynaphthyl)guanidine·HCl (0.41 g, 86% yield) as a white powder.

TLC (SiO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH = 9/1): R<sub>f</sub> = 0.33

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD) ppm: 3.32-3.36 (m, 4H), 3.96 (s, 3H), 6.89-8.24 (m, 11H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD) ppm: 30.96, 31.55, 104.76, 118.44, 120.37, 121.42, 122.79, 123.64, 123.82, 123.86, 127.08, 127.31, 127.77, 128.32, 128.87, 128.98,

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130.06, 132.62, 141.67, 148.07, 149.13, 157.62,  
158.57.

High Resolution Mass:  $C_{24}H_{21}N_3O$  367.1685 (Calc.).  
5 367.1686 (Exp.).

Example 8: Basic Protocol for the Preparation of  
Synaptosomes and Superfusion

10 Solutions:  
0.32 M sucrose solution  
0.80 M sucrose solution

Basal buffer is of the following composition:

15 NaCl 147 mM  
KCl 3 mM  
HEPES 10 mM  
Dextrose 10 mM  
MgCl<sub>2</sub> 1.2 mM  
20 EGTA-TRIS 1 mM  
pH 7.4

High-K<sup>+</sup> buffer

25 NaCl 95 mM  
KCl 55 mM

30 The rest of the components in high-K<sup>+</sup> buffer are  
of the same composition as Basal buffer. For studying  
total <sup>3</sup>H-glutamate release, Ca<sup>+2</sup> is added to the high-  
K<sup>+</sup> buffer at 2.4 mM.

35 To study the release of presynaptic <sup>3</sup>H-glutamate,  
synaptosomes from young rats were used. CD Male rats  
of 4 to 6 weeks (50-75 g) were used for the  
preparation of synaptosomes. Rats were killed by  
decapitation with guillotine and the skull bone was  
opened in the center with the pointed blade of

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dissection scissors. The bone is then peeled away with a bone cutter and the brain is pried with a micro spatula. The cerebellum is removed and the rest of the brain is placed in 35 ml of 0.32 M Sucrose solution and homogenized in a Thomas glass teflon homogenizer C at the maximum power setting (about 450 rpm) with 16 strokes. The pestle is rinsed with 5 ml of sucrose solution and added to the homogenate. The homogenate is centrifuged for 10 min at 3500 rpm (1500 g) in a SS-34 rotor in Sorvall RC-5B. The resulting pellet ( $P_1$ ) is discarded and the supernatant ( $S_1$ ) is recentrifuged for 20 min at 8700 rpm (8500 g). The supernatant ( $S_2$ ) is discarded and the pellet ( $P_2$ ) is resuspended in 5 ml of 0.32 M sucrose and hand homogenized with 4 strokes (Thomas C) and the volume was made up to 8 ml. This homogenate was layered on 20 ml of 0.8 M sucrose solution in two centrifuge tubes and spun for 25 minutes at 8700 rpm (8500 g). At the end of this spin, most of the myelin stays at the interphase of 0.32 M and 0.8 M sucrose and mitochondria pellet as a brown pellet. The synaptosomes are dispersed in the 0.8 M sucrose. Using a 10 ml pipette, the 0.8 M sucrose layer is collected (without disturbing the top myelin layer or the pellet) and diluted slowly with an equal volume of chilled basal buffer, while stirring gently with a Pasteur pipette. This diluted solution is centrifuged for 10 min at 10,000 rpm (12,000 g) and the pellet is resuspended in 1.5 ml of basal buffer and hand-homogenized in a Wheaton glass-glass 7 ml homogenizer with 8 strokes.

#### DILUTION OF SYNAPTOSOME PREP FOR SUPERFUSION

The synaptosomal homogenate is diluted 1 ml to 10 ml with basal buffer. This dilution gives a protein

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concentration of 500 to 600  $\mu\text{g/ml}$ . One hundred  $\mu\text{l}$  of this diluted prep with 50-60  $\mu\text{g}$  of protein is used for each superfusion event. This amount of protein is found to be optimum for a rapid washout of released tracer. The diluted synaptosomal solution was kept on ice until the end of the experiment.

#### LOADING SYNAPTOSOMES WITH $^3\text{H}$ -GLUTAMATE

$^3\text{H}$ -glutamate (purchased from NEN) is stored in the refrigerator. Pipette 6  $\mu\text{l}$  (6 Ci; 40 to 55 Ci/mmol) into a disposable test tube. Add 100  $\mu\text{l}$  of diluted prep and mix gently on vortex and incubate at 30°C for 10 min.  $^3\text{H}$ -glutamate is taken up by sodium-coupled glutamate transporter present in synaptosomal membranes. After 10 min, dilute the incubation mixture with 690  $\mu\text{l}$  of basal buffer. This solution is then transferred in Tygon tubing that is connected to the synaptosome loading chamber. Using a syringe filler with air, the solution is forced through the Millipore SC - GF/F - Millipore SC filter sandwich. These filters retain the synaptosomes and the solution flows through.

#### LOADING CHAMBER

The loading chamber is assembled from a "General Valve" tube-tube connector. One end is connected to a barbed fitting which in turn is connected to a 12 gm Tygon tube and serves as inlet to the chamber. On the other end of the connector is attached to the filter assembly. The filter assembly consists of a stainless steel washer with a flat side facing the filter, a SC Millipore filter, GF/F Whatman glass fiber filter disc with grid facing into the flow, another SC filter followed by a stainless steel screen and a stainless steel washer with the flat side facing the screen.

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This whole assembly is secured with a teflon nut. After the synaptosomes are loaded, by unscrewing the nut and tapping it to the workbench, the filter sandwich can be dislodged.

5

## SUPERFUSION

An important component of the superfusion setup is the custom made stainless steel "General Valve" three-valve solenoid operated superfusion chamber with an outlet for the effluent. The three inlets are connected to stainless steel buffer reservoirs that contain (1) wash buffer, (2) control buffer and (3) experimental buffer which are kept under 40 psi of nitrogen gas through teflon tubing connections. The superfusion is controlled through a menu-driven program on an Apple IIe computer. See Turner, J.T. et al., *Anal. Biochem.* 178:8-16 (1989), and U.S. Patent No. 4,891,185, the disclosures of which are fully incorporated by reference herein.

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15  
20

The superfusion chamber has a teflon bushing and a stainless steel washer fixed with the flat surface facing the filters. A GF/B filter disc is placed first in the chamber to eliminate the switching related artifacts. The synaptosome loaded sandwich is then placed facing the synaptosomes into the flow followed by RA filter, stainless steel screen and a washer with the flat side facing the screen. This assembly is secured with a teflon nut that has two layers of teflon tubing fixed inside with epoxy to reduce the dead volume and improve the effluent flow.

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30

The time protocol can be varied as for the requirements of the particular experiment. Before superfusion the synaptosomes are subjected to two 5 sec washes with basal buffer, with a flow rate of about 1.2 ml/sec and the effluent is collected for

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radioactive disposal. After the wash, the outlet is centering on the fraction collection vials. A typical protocol (with 16 rpm) consists of a first 1.08 sec superfuse with basal buffer and switch to a high- $K^+$  buffer for 2.1 sec and a switch back to basal buffer for the remaining time. By selecting "Do the superfusion" from the menu and activating by returning, the effluent flows into vials on a rotating turntable platter.

#### EFFLUENT COLLECTION

This is done using a turntable which rotates at 16, 33, 45 and 78 rpm, giving 3.75, 1.82, 1.33 and 0.77 seconds for each rotation. On the turntable a platter with 50 uniformly drilled holes in a circle to allow for glass vials for collecting the effluent. So, depending on the rpm of turntable, one can collect fraction of as long as 66 msec or as short as 15 msec.

The superfusion event and the fraction collection are synchronized with a magnetic reed switch that is activated by a permanently fixed magnet to the turntable. If the flow rate is 1.25 ml/sec, at 33 rpm each fraction is 45 ul.

To the fractions, one ml of "Hydrofluor" (National Diagnostics, Manville, NJ) is added, and the fractions are counted in a liquid scintillation counter. After superfusion, all the filters in the chamber are taken out and suspended in 1 ml of counting fluid and counted after placing it overnight on a shaking platform and counted the next day.

#### DATA ANALYSIS

Lotus 123 spreadsheet software is used to analyze the data. The liquid scintillation counter gives the

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averaged cpm directly. Using a spreadsheet, the counts are entered against time (and fraction number). In the next column, the counter background is subtracted for each fraction. All of the counts are summed, including the ones retained on the filter. This represents the total amount taken up by the synaptosomes. From this sum, each fraction is calculated as a percent release and plotted against time. This plot would clearly show the pattern of baseline, valve opening and tracer release. Plotting these net results against valve 3 time gives the net release of radiolabelled guanidine in response to experimental buffer as a function of time.

Figure 1 depicts a graph showing  $^3\text{H}$  glutamate release from rat brain synaptosome which had been loaded with  $^3\text{H}$ -glutamate for 10 minutes at  $30^\circ\text{C}$ . The synaptosomes (50  $\mu\text{g}$  protein) were loaded into the superfusion chamber and washed for 10 seconds with the basal buffer containing 145 mM NaCl and 5 mM KCl. The superfusion was then started immediately. At time 0, the synaptosomes were depolarized by switching to a high K buffer (40 mM NaCl, 110 mM KCl). The upper curve in Figure 1 denotes release evoked in the presence of 2.4 mM  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ . The lower curve displays release evoked in Ca-free buffer. The data are expressed as a percent of the total  $^3\text{H}$ -glutamate pool released in each 72 millisecond fraction collected. Error bars are for triplicate determinations.

Example 9: Assay for Inhibition of Glutamate Release

The experimental drugs are first dissolved in methanol to make a stock of 20 mM. This solution is diluted into the basal buffer as well as high- $\text{K}^+$  buffer to give the required concentration of this

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drug. All solutions including the controls are made to have the same concentration of methanol. Methanol concentration never exceeded 0.3% (v/v) of buffers. Synaptosomes were first exposed to the drugs during the wash before superfusion and also during the entire superfusion protocol. The total time synaptosomes were exposed to the test organic compounds before the glutamate release was <25 sec.

Figure 2 depicts a graph showing the effect of 0 uM, 10 uM, 30 uM and 100 uM N,N'-di-(adamantan-1-yl)guanidine on the release of <sup>3</sup>H-glutamate from rat brain synaptosomes. The same concentrations of the guanidine were maintained in all superfusion solutions. The results are plotted in terms of cumulative amount of glutamate release in a single 2.1 second K<sup>+</sup> depolarizing pulse, as the percent of total radioactive glutamate loaded in the synaptosomes. As is clear from Figure 2, increasing concentrations of N,N'-di(adamantan-1-yl) guanidine resulted in decreasing release of glutamate from synaptosomes.

Following the above procedure, a number of additional compounds were screened for glutamate-release inhibitory activity. The relative levels of glutamate release in the presence of these compounds of the invention appear in Table I.

Table I

<u>Compound</u>	<u>30 <math>\mu</math>M<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>100<math>\mu</math>M<sup>1</sup></u>
N,N'-di-( <u>o</u> -tolyl)guanidine	nd <sup>2</sup>	91
N,N'-di-(2-iodophenyl)guanidine	nd	61
N,N-di-(3-methylphenyl)guanidine	nd	106
N-cyclohexyl-N'-(2-methylphenyl)- guanidine	100	nd
N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N'-cyclohexyl- guanidine	120	nd

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	N,N-di-(adamantan-1-yl)guanidine	45	13
	N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N'-(2-iodo-phenyl)guanidine	39	nd
5	N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N'-(2-methyl-phenyl)guanidine	52	45
	N-(adamantan-2-yl)-N'-(2-iodo-phenyl)guanidine	74	nd
10	N-(adamantan-2-yl)-N'-(2-methyl-phenyl)guanidine	100	nd
	N-( $\pm$ -endo-2-norbornyl)-N'(2-iodophenyl)guanidine	77	nd
	N,N'-di-(adamantan-2-yl)guanidine	40	20
	N,N'-di-(1-naphthyl)guanidine	19	29
15	N-( $\alpha$ -naphthyl)-N'-(2-iodophenyl)-guanidine	77	nd
	N-(3-ethylphenyl)-N'-(1-naphthyl)-guanidine	59	nd
	Di-( <u>o</u> -methyl)benzyl)amine	100	nd
20	N,N'-di-(3-ethylphenyl)-N-methyl-guanidine	88	nd
	N,N',N'',N'''-tetracyclohexylhydra-zinedicarboximidamide	51	nd
25	N-(1-naphthyl)-N'-( <u>o</u> -isopropyl-phenyl)guanidine	100	nd
	N-(1-naphthyl)-N-methyl-N'-( <u>o</u> -iso-propylphenyl)guanidine	95	nd
	N-(1-naphthyl)-N'-( <u>m</u> -ethylphenyl)-N'-methylguanidine	76	21
30	Control	100	100

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<sup>1</sup>Concentration.
<sup>2</sup>nd=not done.

35                    Figure 3 depicts a graph showing the effect of 0 uM, 1 uM, 3 uM and 10 uM of N,N'-di(5-acenaphthyl)

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guanidine over time on the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -dependent release of [ $^3\text{H}$ ]glutamate from radiolabelled synaptosomes after  $\text{K}^+$  depolarization (at time 0). Figure 3 indicates that this compound is a potent inhibitor of glutamate release from brain nerve terminal preparations. At 3-10  $\mu\text{M}$  concentrations, it blocks the persistent component of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -dependent glutamate release more than the initial transient component.

10 Example 10: Correlation Between Inhibition of Ca Uptake with Inhibition of Glutamate Release

Several compounds were also tested to determine whether the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  dependent and independent components of glutamate release are related to the blockage of  $^{45}\text{Ca}$  uptake. Calcium uptake is one step in the cascade of events which occur in neuronal cell death from ischemia. See Bassaclough and Leach, *Current Patents Ltd.*, 2-27 (19\_\_). The Ca-flux protocol is as follows. Rat brain synaptosomes were prepared according to Hajos, *Brain Res.* 93:485 (1975). Synaptosomes were suspended in low potassium "LK" buffer (containing 3 mM KCl) at 2 mg/ml. Drugs in LK were added to synaptosomes to a final concentration of 10  $\mu\text{M}$  and incubated for 5 min at room temperature.  $^{45}\text{Ca}$  uptake was then measured by adding isotope in either LK or high potassium (150 mM KCl) containing buffer. After 5 seconds, the  $^{45}\text{Ca}$  flux was stopped with 0.9 ml quench solution (LK + 10 mM EGTA). The solution was filtered under vacuum and the filters washed with 15 ml of quench buffer. The effect of drug is expressed as % inhibition (or block) of control potassium-stimulated  $^{45}\text{Ca}$  influx. This method is an adaptation of the method disclosed by Nachsen and Blaustein, *J. Physiol.* 361:251-268 (1985).

As shown in Figure 4, there is a near linear correlation between the inhibition of synaptosomal  $^{45}\text{Ca}$

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uptake and inhibition of the persistent component ( $\Delta$ ) of glutamate release by N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N'-(2-methylphenyl)guanidine (#1), N-(1-naphthyl)-N'-(methylphenyl)-N'-methylguanidine (#2), N,N'-di-(1-naphthyl)guanidine (#3), N,N'-diadamantan-1-yl)guanidine (#4), N,N'-di-(adamantan-2-yl)guanidine (#5), N,N',N'',N'''-tetracyclohexylhydrazinedicarboximidamide (#6) and N,N'-di-(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine. In contrast, there was no correlation between the inhibition of synaptosomal  $^{45}\text{Ca}$  uptake and the inhibition of the phasic component (o) of glutamate release (Figure 4). An exception is N,N'-di(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine which inhibits the persistent component of glutamate release to a greater degree than predicted by its ability to inhibit  $^{45}\text{Ca}$  uptake.

Figure 6 depicts a graph showing the inhibition of potassium-stimulated Ca uptake of synaptosomes by N,N'-di-(adamantan-2-yl)guanidine ( $\blacksquare$ ), N,N'-di-(1-naphthyl)guanidine ( $\blacklozenge$ ;  $\cdots\cdots$   $\text{IC}_{50} = 9.1 \mu\text{M}$ ,  $-----$   $\text{IC}_{50} = 16 \mu\text{M}$ ), N,N',N'',N'''-tetracyclohexylhydrazinedicarboximidamide ( $\bullet$ ;  $-----$   $\text{IC}_{50} = 3.3 \mu\text{M}$ ), and N,N'-di-(adamantan-1-yl)guanidine ( $\Delta$ ;  $-----$   $\text{IC}_{50} = 6.6 \mu\text{M}$ ) against the percent of Ca uptake compared to control synaptosomes. As shown in Figure 6, the drugs caused an inhibition of potassium-stimulated Ca uptake in a dose-dependent manner.

A number of additional compounds (at  $10 \mu\text{M}$ ) were tested for activity in inhibiting/potentiating the potassium-stimulated uptake of calcium into synaptosomes. The results are shown in Table II:

Table II

<u>Compound</u>	<u>% Uptake vs. Control</u>
N-( $\alpha$ -Naphthyl)-N'-(1-piperidinyl)-guanidine	131

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	N-(Cyclohexyl)-N'-(1-piperidinyl)-guanidine	108
	N-( $\alpha$ -Naphthyl)-N'-(4-phenylpiperidinyl)-guanidine	79
5	N,N'-Bis(indan-1-yl)-guanidine	88
	N,N'-Bis(m-ethylphenyl)-2-imino-imidazolidine	101
10	N,N'-Bis(o-tolyl)-N,N'-butanyl(bridge)-guanidine	119
	N-N'-Bis(1-Adamantanemethyl)-guanidine	111
15	N-(8-Aminocoumarinyl)-N'-(m-ethylphenyl)-N'-methyl-guanidine	151
	N,N'-Bis(1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-1-quinolinyl)-guanidine	87
	N,N'-Bis(5-acenaphthyl)-guanidine	43
20	N-(m-Ethylphenyl)-N'-(2-carboethoxy-7-benzofuranyl)-N-methyl guanidine	71
	N-( $\alpha$ -Naphthyl)-N'-(m-ethylphenyl)-N''-cyanoguanidine	95
25	N-(Adamantan-1-yl)-N'-(4,5-benzo-2-thia-1,3-diazol-6-yl)guanidine	98

Table III shows the percentage inhibition of synaptosomal  $^{45}\text{Ca}$  uptake by certain N,N'-disubstituted guanidines of the invention.

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TABLE III		
Inhibition of Synaptosomal $^{45}\text{Ca}$ Uptake By Substituted Guanidines and Related Compounds		
Compound	Inhibition of $^{45}\text{Ca}$ Uptake	
	% Inhibition @ 10 $\mu\text{M}$ (SEM)	IC <sub>50</sub> , $\mu\text{M}$
N,N'-Bis(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine	46 ( $\pm 15$ )	10.7 $\pm 3$
N-(Adamantan-1-yl)-N'-( $\alpha$ -naphthyl)guanidine	31 ( $\pm 14$ )	---
N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-isopropylphenyl)guanidine	68 ( $\pm 1$ )	6.5 $\pm 1$
N-(Adamantan-1-yl)-N'-(adamantan-2-yl)guanidine	49 ( $\pm 8$ )	---
N,N'-Bis(p-tert.-butylphenyl)guanidine	47 ( $\pm 7$ )	---
N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-fluoronaphthyl)guanidine	47 ( $\pm 4$ )	---
N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-hydroxynaphthyl)guanidine	35 ( $\pm 7$ )	---
N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-methoxynaphthyl)guanidine	56 ( $\pm 3$ )	---
N-(Adamantan-2-yl)-N'-(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine	69 ( $\pm 3$ )	4.8
N,N'-Bis(3-acenaphthyl)guanidine	36 ( $\pm 14$ )	11
N,N',N'',N'''-tetracyclohexylhydrazine-dicarboximidamide	74 ( $\pm 6$ )	3
N,N'-Di-(adamantan-2-yl)guanidine	35 ( $\pm 12$ )	16.1 $\pm$ 10
N,N'-Bis(1-naphthyl)guanidine	27 ( $\pm 5$ )	23.6 $\pm$ 10
N,N'-Di-(4-isopropylphenyl)guanidine	48 ( $\pm 14$ )	19 $\pm$ 7
N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)-guanidine	47 $\pm 11$	9.7 $\pm 3$
N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(1-naphthyl)guanidine	40 $\pm 6$	16.2 $\pm 0.4$
N,N'-Di-(adamantan-1-yl)guanidine	25 ( $\pm 11$ )	25 $\pm$ 9

Table IV shows the percentage inhibition of glutamate release (persistent component) by certain N,N'-disubstituted guanidines of the invention.

TABLE IV		
Inhibition of Glutamate Release (Persistent Component) By Substituted Guanidines and Related Compounds		
Compound	Inhibition of Glutamate Release	
	% Inhibition @ 10 uM	IC50, uM
N,N'-Bis(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine	92	3
N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-fluoronaphthyl)guanidine	85	<5
N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-hydroxynaphthyl)guanidine	25	
N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-methoxynaphthyl)guanidine	90	
N-(Adamantan-2-yl)-N'-(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine	63	5
N,N',N'',N'''-tetracyclohexylhydrazine-dicarboximidamide	67	
N,N'-Di-(adamantan-2-yl)guanidine	60	
N,N'-Bis(1-naphthyl)guanidine	31	
N,N'-Di-(adamantan-1-yl)guanidine	49	

Example 11: Inhibition of Glutamate Release of Synaptosomes Depolarized With Veratridine

Next, the effect of various concentrations of N,N'-di-(adamantan-2-yl)guanidine on Ca<sup>2+</sup> release of synaptosomes depolarized with veratridine was evaluated. As shown in Figure 5, increasing concentrations of N,N'-di-(adamantan-2-yl)guanidine caused an inhibition of glutamate release in a dose dependent manner.

Example 12: The Effect of N,N'-di(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine on Sodium Currents in Neuroblastoma Cells

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Whole cell sodium currents were elicited in voltage clamped N1E-115 neuroblastoma cells, using the stimulus protocol shown on the top of Figure 7. Pressure ejection of 30  $\mu$ M N,N'-di(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine onto these cells (N = 5) blocked inward sodium currents by an average of 40% (49% inhibition in the cell shown, the results for which are depicted in Figure 7). The effects of this drug were partially reversed following washout.

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Example 13: Monitoring of the Use-Dependence with the Superfusion System

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$^3$ H-glutamate loaded synaptosomes were washed for 10 sec. to washout the exterior radioactivity and the superfusion was started. The superfusion consisted of 2 sec. low- $K^+$  (3 mM) buffer flow followed by 1 sec. of high- $K^+$  (55 mM) flow. This was repeated three more times followed by 2 sec. of low- $K^+$  buffer. The results are shown in Figures 8 and 9. Ca-independent and Ca-dependent glutamate release in the later pulses were expressed as a percent of their initial fluxes. Figures 8 and 9 show that Ca-independent glutamate release is fairly constant whereas the Ca-dependent component decays and requires time to recover.

25

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Example 14: Electrophysiology Studies on N-type Channels

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Single bullfrog dorsal root ganglion cells, which express  $\omega$ -conotoxin-sensitive N-type calcium channels, were treated with 5  $\mu$ M of N,N'-di(acenaphthyl)guanidine. The solution also contained (in mM) CsCl,

-75-

90; creatine phosphate, 5; MgATP, 5; tris GTP, 0.3; EGTA, 10; HEPES, 10; pH 7.2. As shown in Figure 10, this compound inhibited about 40% of the current. At 20 uM, this compound inhibited nearly all of the current (not shown). Most of the inhibition was reversed in about 6 minutes (not shown). Calcium channel rundown during the recording period may account for the lack of complete reversal of inhibition. This further supports the hypothesis that certain substituted guanidines inhibit neurotransmitter release by clocking presynaptic calcium channels.

Example 15: Electrophysiology Studies on Excitatory Synaptic Transmission

Transverse sections of hippocampus were obtained from 4-6 week old Sprague-Dawley rats and maintained under standard conditions. As shown in Figure 11, synaptic potentials were elicited by application of constant current electrical stimuli delivered through concentric bipolar platinum/iridium electrodes placed in the *stratum radiatum* to ensure full stimulation of the Schaffer collaterals. Extracellular excitatory post synaptic potentials (EPSP's) were recorded by placing a saline-filled glass microelectrode in either the *stratum radiatum* or *stratum lacunosum*. Population spikes were recorded by placing an electrode in the *stratum pyramidale*.

As shown in Figure 12A, the bath application of N,N'-di(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine completely eliminated population spikes. This effect is completely reversible following washout. The upwardly going field EPSP was also reversibly blocked by bath perfusion of the drug.

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As shown in Figure 12B, the bath application of N,N'-di(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine almost completely eliminated the field EPSP. This effect is fully reversible following washout. Small population spikes are also evident superimposed on the late phase of the EPSP. The bath perfusion of this compound also reversibly blocked these population spikes.

Figure 12C depicts the effect of 20  $\mu$ M of N,N'-di(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine on the amplitude of the response to an electrical stimulus. EPSP amplitude was reduced between 80-90% and the response was fully recovered following washout.

Figure 13 depicts two graphs showing the effect of 1 mM adenosine (a known presynaptic transmitter release blocker) on EPSP amplitude in hippocampal slices. Figure 13A shows that the bath application of adenosine almost completely eliminated field EPSP's in a fully reversible fashion. There was a noticeable overshoot following recovery. Population spikes occurring during the late phase of EPSP were totally blocked by adenosine but did not appear to return following washout. The presence and duration of the presynaptic volley was unaffected by adenosine; however, there appeared to be a small reversible change in amplitude. While transmitter release may be blocked, there is no measurable effect on the afferent volley. In addition, this experimental paradigm cannot distinguish between presynaptically and postsynaptically mediated reductions of extracellularly measured synaptic potentials.

Figure 13B shows the effect of 1 mM adenosine on normalized EPSP amplitude (measured EPSP amplitude divided by maximum EPSP amplitude in millivolts) over time. Bath application of adenosine caused a 90% reduction in the EPSP amplitude of the field EPSP (first response to paired stimuli shown here). This

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effect is fully reversible following washout with some overshoot evident in this slice.

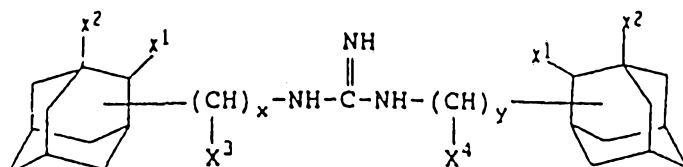
The results of the hippocampal slice recordings lead to the following conclusions. The bath application of N,N'-di(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine (20uM) substantially and reversibly reduced the amplitude of both field EPSP's and population spikes by 80-90%. The effects of this compound were fully reversible, The effects of this compound qualitatively resembles the actions of adenosine, an agonist of the presynaptic adenosine receptors which is known to block glutamate release. This is consistent with presynaptic inhibition of neurotransmitter release by the compound.

The preceding examples can be repeated with similar success by substituting the generically or specifically described reactants and/or operating conditions of this invention for those used in the preceding examples.

From the foregoing description, one skilled in the art can easily ascertain the essential characteristics of this invention, and without departing from the spirit and scope thereof, can make various changes and modifications of the invention to adapt it to various usages and conditions.

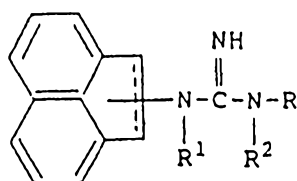
The claims defining the invention are as follows:

1. A method for modulating the release of endogenous neurotransmitters comprising administering to an animal in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound having the formula:



10 wherein  $X^1$ ,  $X^2$ ,  $X^3$  and  $X^4$  are the same or different and are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, acetate, oxo, amino, lower  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl, lower  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl amino, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, di-lower  $C_{2-12}$  alkyl amino, nitro, azido, sulfhydryl, cyano, isocyanato, halogen, amido, sulfonato or carbamido; wherein at least one of  $X^1$ ,  $X^2$ ,  $X^3$  and  $X^4$  is other than hydrogen;  $x$  and  $y$  are the same or different and are 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4.

15 2. A method for modulating the release of excess endogenous neurotransmitters comprising administering to an animal in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound having the formula:



25 wherein R is optionally substituted cycloalkyl of 3 to 12 carbon atoms; optionally substituted carbocyclic aryl, alkaryl, aralkyl or heterocyclic;  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl, lower  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl amino,  $C_{5-10}$  aryl or substituted aryl; wherein R and the acenaphthyl group are optionally substituted by hydroxy, acetate, oxo, amino, lower  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl, lower  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl amino, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, di-lower  $C_{2-12}$  alkyl amino, nitro, azido, sulfhydryl, cyano, isocyanato, halogen, amido, sulfonato or carbamido.

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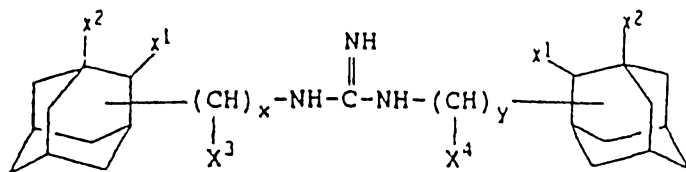
3. The method of claim 2, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of N,N'-di-(1-acenaphthyl)guanidine, N,N'-di-(3-

acenaphthyl)guanidine, N,N'-di-(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine, N,N'-di-  
 (acenaphthylen-1-yl)guanidine, N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N'-(5-  
 acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-(adamantan-2-yl)-N-(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-  
 (adamantan-1-yl)-N-(3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-(adamantan-2-yl)-N'-(3-  
 5 acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-(adamant-1-yl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(3-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
 fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-hydroxynaphthyl)-  
 guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-hydroxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-methoxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
 10 methoxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-nitronaphthyl)-guanidine;  
 N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-nitronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
 aminonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-aminonaphthyl)-guanidine;  
 N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-azidonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
 azidonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-bromonaphthyl)-guanidine;  
 15 N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-bromonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
 cyanonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-cyanonaphthyl)-guanidine;  
 N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-amidonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
 amidonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-iodonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-  
 (5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-iodonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(7-  
 20 fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(7-fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine;  
 N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-  
 fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-methoxynaphthyl)-  
 guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-methoxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-  
 25 acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-hydroxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-  
 hydroxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-aminonaphthyl)-  
 guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-aminonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-isopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
 isopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-n-propylphenyl)-guanidine;  
 N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-n-propylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-  
 30 isopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-isopropylphenyl)-  
 guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-cyclopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(5-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-cyclopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-

(coumarinyl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(coumarinyl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(quinolinyl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(quinolinyl)guanidine; N-(4-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl) guanidine; N-(4-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl) guanidine; N-(4-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl) guanidine; N-(4-nitro-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-nitro-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-amino-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-amino-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-amino-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-amino-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-methoxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-methoxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-methoxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-methoxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-

yl)guanidine; N-(2-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthylenyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthylenyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthylenyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthylenyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-amino-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-amino-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-nitro-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-nitro-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(3-acenaphthylenyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(5-acenaphthylenyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-azido-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; and N,N'-bis(4-sulfonyl-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine.

4. A method for inhibiting the release of endogenous neurotransmitters comprising administering to an animal in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound having the formula:

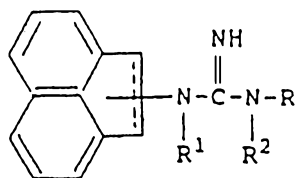


wherein  $X^1$ ,  $X^2$ ,  $X^3$  and  $X^4$  are the same or different and are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, acetate, oxo, amino, lower  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl, lower  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl amino, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, di-lower  $C_{2-12}$  alkyl amino, nitro, azido, sulfhydryl, cyano, isocyanato, halogen, amido, sulfonato or carbamido; wherein at least one of  $X^1$ ,  $X^2$ ,  $X^3$  and  $X^4$  is other than hydrogen;

x and y are the same or different and are 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4.

5. A method for inhibiting the release of excess endogenous neurotransmitters comprising administering to an animal in need of such treatment an effective amount of N,N'-di-(adamantan-1-yl)guanidine, N,N'-di-(adamantan-2-yl)guanidine, N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N'-(2-iodophenyl)guanidine, N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N'-(2-methylphenyl)guanidine, N,N'-di-(1-naphthyl)guanidine, N-(3-ethylphenyl)-N'-(1-naphthyl)guanidine, or N-(1-naphthyl)-N'-(m-ethylphenyl)-N'-methylguanidine.

6. A method for inhibiting the release of endogenous neurotransmitters comprising administering to an animal in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound having the formula:



wherein R is optionally substituted cycloalkyl of 3 to 12 carbon atoms; optionally substituted carbocyclic aryl, alkaryl, aralkyl or heterocyclic; R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl amino, C<sub>5-10</sub> aryl or substituted aryl; wherein R and the acenaphthyl group are optionally substituted by hydroxy, acetate, oxo, amino, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl amino, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, di-lower C<sub>2-12</sub> alkyl amino, nitro, azido, sulfhydryl, cyano, isocyanato, halogen, amido, sulfonato or carbamido.

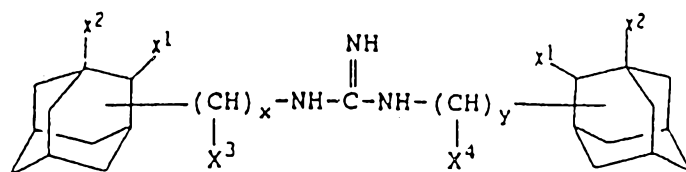
7. The method of claim 6, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of N,N'-di-(1-acenaphthyl)guanidine, N,N'-di-(3-acenaphthyl)guanidine, N,N'-di-(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine, N,N'-di-(acenaphthylen-1-yl)guanidine, N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N'-(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-(adamantan-2-yl)-N-(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N-(3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-(adamantan-2-yl)-N'-(3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N'-(adamantan-2-yl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-

fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-hydroxynaphthyl)-  
guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-hydroxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-  
acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-methoxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
methoxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-nitronaphthyl)-guanidine;  
5 N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-nitronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
aminonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-aminonaphthyl)-guanidine;  
N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-azidonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
azidonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-bromonaphthyl)-guanidine;  
N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-bromonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
10 cyanonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-cyanonaphthyl)-guanidine;  
N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-amidonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
amidonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-iodonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-  
(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-iodonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(7-  
fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(7-fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine;  
15 N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-  
fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-methoxynaphthyl)-  
guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-methoxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-  
acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-hydroxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-  
hydroxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-aminonaphthyl)-  
20 guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-aminonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-  
acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-isopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
isopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-n-propylphenyl)-guanidine;  
N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-n-propylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-  
isopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-isopropylphenyl)-  
25 guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-cyclopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(5-  
acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-cyclopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-  
(coumarinyl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(coumarinyl)guanidine; N-(3-  
acenaphthyl)-N'-(quinolinyl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-  
(quinolinyl)guanidine; N-(4-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)  
30 guanidine; N-(4-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl) guanidine; N-(4-  
hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl) guanidine; N-(4-hydroxy-5-  
acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl) guanidine; N-(4-nitro-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-

(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-nitro-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-amino-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-amino-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-amino-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-amino-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-methoxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-methoxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-methoxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-methoxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthylenyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthylenyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthylenyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthylenyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'

bis(4-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-  
 guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-amino-3-  
 acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-amino-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-  
 nitro-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-nitro-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-  
 5 bis(1-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-bromo-5-  
 acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-  
 bromo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine;  
 N,N'-bis(1-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-hydroxy-3-  
 acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-  
 10 bis(1-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine;  
 N,N'-bis(2-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-oxo-5-  
 acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(3-acenaphthylenyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(5-  
 acenaphthylenyl)guanidine; N,N<sup>1</sup>-bis(4-azido-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; and  
 N,N<sup>1</sup>-bis(4-sulfonyl-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine.

15 8. A method for treating or preventing a disease of the nervous system  
 in which the pathophysiology of the disorder involves excessive release of a  
 neurotransmitter from neuronal cells comprising the administration to a  
 mammal exhibiting symptoms of such disorders or susceptible to such  
 disorders, an effective amount of a compound having the formula:

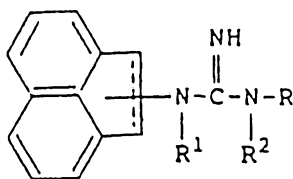


25 wherein X<sup>1</sup>, X<sup>2</sup>, X<sup>3</sup> and X<sup>4</sup> are the same or different and are selected from the  
 group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, acetate, oxo, amino, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl,  
 lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl amino, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, di-lower C<sub>2-12</sub> alkyl amino,  
 nitro, azido, sulfhydryl, cyano, isocyanato, halogen, amido, sulfonato or  
 carbamido; wherein at least one of X<sup>1</sup>, X<sup>2</sup>, X<sup>3</sup> and X<sup>4</sup> is other than hydrogen;  
 x and y are the same or different and are 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4.

30 9. A method for treating or preventing a disease of the nervous system  
 in which the pathophysiology of the disorder involves excessive release of a  
 neurotransmitter from neuronal cells comprising the administration to a

mammal exhibiting symptoms of such disorders or susceptible to such disorders, an effective amount of a compound having the formula:

5



wherein R is optionally substituted cycloalkyl of 3 to 12 carbon atoms; optionally substituted carbocyclic aryl, alkaryl, aralkyl or heterocyclic;  
 10 R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl amino, C<sub>5-10</sub> aryl or substituted aryl; wherein R and the acenaphthyl group are optionally substituted by hydroxy, acetate, oxo, amino, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl amino, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, di-lower C<sub>2-12</sub> alkyl amino, nitro, azido, sulfhydryl, cyano,  
 15 isocyanato, halogen, amido, sulfonato or carbamido.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of N,N'-di-(1-acenaphthyl)guanidine, N,N'-di-(3-acenaphthyl)guanidine, N,N'-di-(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine, N,N'-di-(acenaphthylen-1-yl)guanidine, N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N'-(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-(adamantan-2-yl)-N-(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N-(3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-(adamantan-2-yl)-N'-(3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-(adamant-1-yl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-hydroxynaphthyl)-  
 20 guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-hydroxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-methoxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-methoxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-nitronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-nitronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-aminonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-aminonaphthyl)-guanidine;  
 25 N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-azidonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-azidonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-bromonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-bromonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-

30

cyanonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-cyanonaphthyl)-guanidine;  
 N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-amidonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
 amidonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-iodonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-  
 (5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-iodonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(7-  
 5 fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(7-fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine;  
 N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-  
 fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-methoxynaphthyl)-  
 guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-methoxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-hydroxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-  
 10 hydroxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-aminonaphthyl)-  
 guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-aminonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-isopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
 isopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-n-propylphenyl)-guanidine;  
 N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-n-propylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-  
 15 isopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-isopropylphenyl)-  
 guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-cyclopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(5-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-cyclopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-  
 (coumarinyl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(coumarinyl)guanidine; N-(3-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(quinolinyl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-  
 20 (quinolinyl)guanidine; N-(4-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)  
 guanidine; N-(4-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl) guanidine; N-(4-  
 hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl) guanidine; N-(4-hydroxy-5-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl) guanidine; N-(4-nitro-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-  
 (adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-nitro-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine;  
 25 N-(4-amino-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-amino-3-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-amino-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-  
 (adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-amino-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-  
 yl)guanidine; N-(4-methoxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-  
 methoxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-methoxy-5-  
 30 acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-methoxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-  
 (adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-  
 yl)guanidine; N-(4-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-

bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-  
 N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-  
 yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-5-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-  
 5 (adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine;  
 N-(2-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)-  
 N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-  
 yl)guanidine; N-(1-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-  
 bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-  
 10 N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-  
 yl)guanidine; N-(2-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-  
 bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-  
 N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-  
 yl)guanidine; N-(1-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-  
 15 hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-hydroxy-5-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-  
 (adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-  
 yl)guanidine; N-(2-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-  
 hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-hydroxy-5-  
 20 acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthylenyl)-N'-(adamant-  
 1-yl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthylenyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(5-  
 acenaphthylenyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthylenyl)-N'-  
 (adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-  
 bis(4-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-  
 25 guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-amino-3-  
 acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-amino-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-  
 nitro-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-nitro-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-  
 bis(1-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-bromo-5-  
 acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-  
 30 bromo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine;  
 N,N'-bis(1-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-hydroxy-3-  
 acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-

bis(1-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(3-acenaphthylenyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(5-acenaphthylenyl)guanidine; N,N<sup>1</sup>-bis(4-azido-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; and N,N<sup>1</sup>-bis(4-sulfonyl-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine.

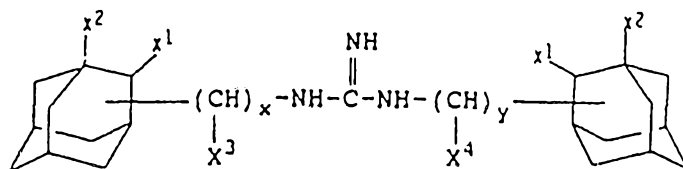
11. The method of claim of any one of claims 1 to 10, wherein said compound is administered as part of a pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

12. The method of any one of claims 8 to 11, wherein said disorder is a neurodegenerative disease selected from the group consisting of Huntington's disease, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, Alzheimer's disease, Down's Syndrome, Korsakoff's disease, olivopontocerebellar atrophy, HIV-induced dementia, HIV-induced blindness, or multi-infarct dementia.

13. The method of any one of claims 8 to 11, wherein said disorder is nausea which may result from chemotherapy, epilepsy, convulsions, carbon monoxide poisoning, cyanide poisoning, toxic brain damage caused by tetrodotoxin or shellfish toxins, amnesia, migraine or river blindness.

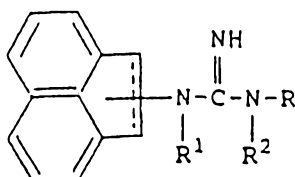
14. The method of any one of claims 8 to 11, wherein said disorder is a result of nerve cell death resulting from hypoxia, hypoglycemia, brain or spinal cord ischemia, brain or spinal chord trauma, stroke, heart attack, or drowning.

15. A compound having the formula:



wherein X<sup>1</sup>, X<sup>2</sup>, X<sup>3</sup> and X<sup>4</sup> are the same or different and are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, acetate, oxo, amino, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl amino, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, di-lower C<sub>2-12</sub> alkyl amino, nitro, azido, sulfhydryl, cyano, isocyanato, halogen, amido, sulfonato or carbamido; wherein at least one of X<sup>1</sup>, X<sup>2</sup>, X<sup>3</sup> and X<sup>4</sup> is other than hydrogen; x and y are the same or different and are 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

16. A compound having the formula:



wherein R is optionally substituted cycloalkyl of 3 to 12 carbon atoms;  
 optionally substituted carbocyclic aryl, alkaryl, aralkyl or heterocyclic;  
 R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of  
 hydrogen, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl amino, C<sub>5-10</sub> aryl or substituted aryl;  
 wherein R and the acenaphthyl group are optionally substituted by hydroxy,  
 acetate, oxo, amino, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl amino, alkoxy of 1-6  
 carbon atoms, di-lower C<sub>2-12</sub> alkyl amino, nitro, azido, sulfhydryl, cyano,  
 isocyanato, halogen, amido, sulfonato or carbamido; or a pharmaceutically  
 acceptable salt thereof.

17. A compound of claim 16 which is selected from the group consisting  
 of N,N'-di-(1-acenaphthyl)guanidine, N,N'-di-(3-acenaphthyl)guanidine, N,N'-di-  
 (5-acenaphthyl)guanidine, N,N'-di-(acenaphthyl-1-yl)guanidine, N-  
 (adamantan-1-yl)-N'-(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-(adamantan-2-yl)-N-(5-  
 acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N-(3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-  
 (adamantan-2-yl)-N'-(3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N'-(adamant-  
 2-yl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
 hydroxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-hydroxynaphthyl)-  
 guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-methoxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-methoxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
 nitronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-nitronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-  
 (3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-aminonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
 aminonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-azidonaphthyl)-guanidine;  
 N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-azidonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
 bromonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-bromonaphthyl)-guanidine;  
 N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-cyanonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-

cyanonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-amidonaphthyl)-guanidine;  
N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-amidonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
iodonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-iodonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-  
5 acenaphthyl)-N'-(7-fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(7-  
fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine;  
N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-  
methoxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-methoxynaphthyl)-  
guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-hydroxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-  
acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-hydroxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-  
10 aminonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-aminonaphthyl)-guanidine;  
N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-isopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
isopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-n-propylphenyl)-guanidine;  
N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-n-propylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-  
isopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-isopropylphenyl)-  
15 guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-cyclopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(5-  
acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-cyclopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-  
(coumarinyl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(coumarinyl)guanidine; N-(3-  
acenaphthyl)-N'-(quinolinyl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-  
(quinolinyl)guanidine; N-(4-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)  
20 guanidine; N-(4-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl) guanidine; N-(4-  
hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl) guanidine; N-(4-hydroxy-5-  
acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl) guanidine; N-(4-nitro-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-  
(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-nitro-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine;  
N-(4-amino-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-amino-3-  
25 acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-amino-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-  
(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-amino-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-  
yl)guanidine; N-(4-methoxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-  
methoxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-methoxy-5-  
acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-methoxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-  
30 (adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-  
yl)guanidine; N-(4-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-  
bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-

N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine;

5 N-(2-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthylenyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthylenyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthylenyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthylenyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-amino-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-amino-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-nitro-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-nitro-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine;

10 N,N'-bis(1-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine;

N,N'-bis(2-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(3-acenaphthylenyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(5-acenaphthylenyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-azido-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; and N,N'-bis(4-sulfonyl-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine.

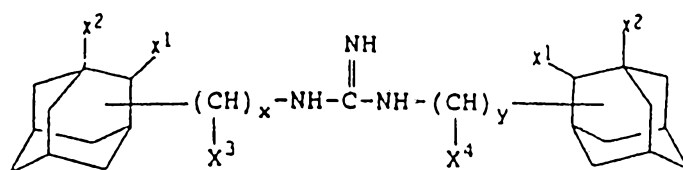
- 5 18. A compound selected from the group consisting of N,N'-bis(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine, N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N'( $\alpha$ -naphthyl)guanidine, N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-isopropylphenyl)guanidine, N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N'-(adamantan-2-yl)guanidine, N,N'-bis(p-tert.-butylphenyl)guanidine, N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-fluoronaphthyl)guanidine, N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-hydroxynaphthyl)guanidine, N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-methoxynaphthyl)guanidine, N-(adamantan-2-yl)-N'-(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine, N,N'-bis(3-acenaphthyl)-guanidine, N,N',N'',N'''-tetracyclohexylhydrazine-dicarboximidamide, N,N'-di(adamantan-2-yl)guanidine, N,N'-bis(1-naphthyl)guanidine, N,N'-di(4-isopropylphenyl)guanidine, N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamantan-1-yl)guanidine, N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(1-naphthyl)guanidine, and N,N'-di(adamantan-1-yl)guanidine; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

15 19. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound of any one of claims 15 to 18 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

20 20. The compound of any one of claims 15 to 18 in radiolabelled form.

21. The compound of claim 20, wherein said radiolabel is selected from the group consisting of  $^3\text{H}$ ,  $^{11}\text{C}$ ,  $^{14}\text{C}$ ,  $^{18}\text{F}$ ,  $^{125}\text{I}$ ,  $^{131}\text{I}$ ,  $^{15}\text{N}$ ,  $^{35}\text{S}$  and  $^{32}\text{P}$ .

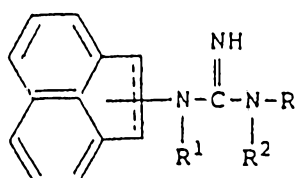
22. A method for blocking voltage sensitive sodium channels of mammalian neuronal cells comprising the administration to a mammal in need of such treatment, an effective amount of a compound having the formula:



- 30 wherein  $X^1$ ,  $X^2$ ,  $X^3$  and  $X^4$  are the same or different and are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, acetate, oxo, amino, lower  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkyl, lower  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkyl amino, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, di-lower  $\text{C}_{2-12}$  alkyl amino,

nitro, azido, sulfhydryl, cyano, isocyanato, halogen, amido, sulfonato or carbamido; wherein at least one of  $X^1$ ,  $X^2$ ,  $X^3$  and  $X^4$  is other than hydrogen;  $x$  and  $y$  are the same or different and are 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4.

23. A method for blocking voltage sensitive sodium channels of mammalian neuronal cells comprising the administration to a mammal in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound having the formula:



wherein R is optionally substituted cycloalkyl of 3 to 12 carbon atoms; optionally substituted carbocyclic aryl, alkaryl, aralkyl or heterocyclic;  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl, lower  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl amino,  $C_{5-10}$  aryl or substituted aryl; wherein R and the acenaphthyl group are optionally substituted by hydroxy, acetate, oxo, amino, lower  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl, lower  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl amino, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, di-lower  $C_{2-12}$  alkyl amino, nitro, azido, sulfhydryl, cyano, isocyanato, halogen, amido, sulfonato or carbamido.

24. The method of claim 23, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of N,N'-di-(1-acenaphthyl)guanidine, N,N'-di-(3-acenaphthyl)guanidine, N,N'-di-(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine, N,N'-di-(acenaphthylen-1-yl)guanidine, N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N'-(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-(adamantan-2-yl)-N-(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N-(3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-(adamantan-2-yl)-N'-(3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N'-(adamantan-2-yl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-hydroxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-hydroxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-methoxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-methoxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-nitronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-nitronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-

aminonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-aminonaphthyl)-guanidine;  
 N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-azidonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
 azidonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-bromonaphthyl)-guanidine;  
 N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-bromonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
 5 cyanonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-cyanonaphthyl)-guanidine;  
 N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-amidonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
 amidonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-iodonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-  
 (5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-iodonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(7-  
 fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(7-fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine;  
 10 N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-  
 fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-methoxynaphthyl)-  
 guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-methoxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-hydroxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-  
 hydroxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-aminonaphthyl)-  
 15 guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-aminonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-isopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
 isopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-n-propylphenyl)-guanidine;  
 N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-n-propylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-  
 isopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-isopropylphenyl)-  
 20 guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-cyclopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(5-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-cyclopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-  
 (coumarinyl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(coumarinyl)guanidine; N-(3-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(quinolinyl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-  
 (quinolinyl)guanidine; N-(4-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)  
 25 guanidine; N-(4-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl) guanidine; N-(4-  
 hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl) guanidine; N-(4-hydroxy-5-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl) guanidine; N-(4-nitro-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-  
 (adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-nitro-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine;  
 N-(4-amino-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-amino-3-  
 30 acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-amino-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-  
 (adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-amino-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-  
 yl)guanidine; N-(4-methoxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-

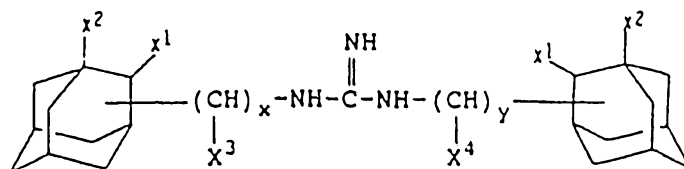
methoxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-methoxy-5-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-methoxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-  
 (adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-  
 yl)guanidine; N-(4-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-  
 5 bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-  
 N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-  
 yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-5-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-  
 (adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine;  
 10 N-(2-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)-  
 N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-  
 yl)guanidine; N-(1-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-  
 bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-  
 N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-  
 15 yl)guanidine; N-(2-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-  
 bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-  
 N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-  
 yl)guanidine; N-(1-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-  
 hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-hydroxy-5-  
 20 acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-  
 (adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-  
 yl)guanidine; N-(2-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-  
 hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-hydroxy-5-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthylenyl)-N'-(adamant-  
 25 1-yl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthylenyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(5-  
 acenaphthylenyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthylenyl)-N'-  
 (adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-  
 bis(4-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-  
 guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-amino-3-  
 30 acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-amino-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-  
 nitro-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-nitro-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-  
 bis(1-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-bromo-5-

acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-azido-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; and N,N'-bis(4-sulfonyl-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine.

25. A method for blocking voltage sensitive sodium channels of mammalian neuronal cells comprising the administration to a mammal in need of such treatment an effective amount of N,N'-di-(adamantan-1-yl)guanidine, N,N'-di-(adamantan-2-yl)guanidine, N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N'-(2-iodophenyl)guanidine, N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N'-(2-methylphenyl)guanidine, N,N'-di-(1-naphthyl)guanidine, N-(3-ethylphenyl)-N'-(1-naphthyl)guanidine, or N-(1-naphthyl)-N'-(m-ethylphenyl)-N'-methylguanidine.

26. The method of claim of any one of claims 22 to 25, wherein said compound is administered as part of a pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

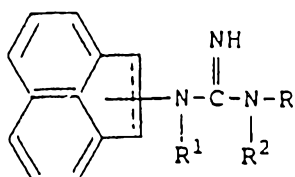
27. A method for blocking voltage sensitive calcium channels of mammalian neuronal cells comprising the administration to a mammal in need of such treatment, an effective amount of a compound having the formula:



wherein X<sup>1</sup>, X<sup>2</sup>, X<sup>3</sup> and X<sup>4</sup> are the same or different and are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, acetate, oxo, amino, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl amino, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, di-lower C<sub>2-12</sub> alkyl amino, nitro, azido, sulfhydryl, cyano, isocyanato, halogen, amido, sulfonato or carbamido; wherein at least one of X<sup>1</sup>, X<sup>2</sup>, X<sup>3</sup> and X<sup>4</sup> is other than hydrogen; x and y are the same or different and are 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4.

28. A method for blocking voltage sensitive calcium channels of mammalian neuronal cells comprising the administration to a mammal in need of such treatment an effective amount of N,N'-di-(adamantan-1-yl)guanidine, N,N'-di-(adamantan-2-yl)guanidine, N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N'-(2-iodophenyl)guanidine, N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N'-(2-methylphenyl)guanidine, N,N'-di-(1-naphthyl)guanidine, N-(3-ethylphenyl)-N'-(1-naphthyl)guanidine, or N-(1-naphthyl)-N'-(m-ethylphenyl)-N'-methylguanidine.

29. A method for blocking voltage sensitive calcium channels of mammalian neuronal cells comprising the administration to a mammal in need of such treatment, an effective amount of a compound having the formula:



wherein R is optionally substituted cycloalkyl of 3 to 12 carbon atoms; optionally substituted carbocyclic aryl, alkaryl, aralkyl or heterocyclic; R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl amino, C<sub>5-10</sub> aryl or substituted aryl; wherein R and the acenaphthyl group are optionally substituted by hydroxy, acetate, oxo, amino, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl amino, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, di-lower C<sub>2-12</sub> alkyl amino, nitro, azido, sulfhydryl, cyano, isocyanato, halogen, amido, sulfonato or carbamido.

30. The method of claim 29, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of N,N'-di-(1-acenaphthyl)guanidine, N,N'-di-(3-acenaphthyl)guanidine, N,N'-di-(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine, N,N'-di-(acenaphthylen-1-yl)guanidine, N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N'-(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-(adamantan-2-yl)-N-(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N-(3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-(adamantan-2-yl)-N'-(3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-(adamant-1-yl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-hydroxynaphthyl)-

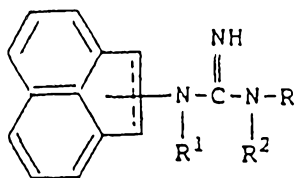
guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-hydroxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-methoxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
 methoxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-nitronaphthyl)-guanidine;  
 N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-nitronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
 5 aminonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-aminonaphthyl)-guanidine;  
 N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-azidonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
 azidonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-bromonaphthyl)-guanidine;  
 N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-bromonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
 cyanonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-cyanonaphthyl)-guanidine;  
 10 N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-amidonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
 amidonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-iodonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-  
 (5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-iodonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(7-  
 fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(7-fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine;  
 N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-  
 15 fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-methoxynaphthyl)-  
 guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-methoxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-hydroxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-  
 hydroxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-aminonaphthyl)-  
 guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-aminonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-  
 20 acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-isopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
 isopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-n-propylphenyl)-guanidine;  
 N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-n-propylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-  
 isopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-isopropylphenyl)-  
 guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-cyclopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(5-  
 25 acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-cyclopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(  
 coumarinyl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(coumarinyl)guanidine; N-(3-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(quinolinyl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(  
 quinolinyl)guanidine; N-(4-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)  
 guanidine; N-(4-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl) guanidine; N-(4-  
 30 hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl) guanidine; N-(4-hydroxy-5-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl) guanidine; N-(4-nitro-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(  
 adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-nitro-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine;

N-(4-amino-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-amino-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-amino-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-amino-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-methoxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-methoxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-methoxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-methoxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthylenyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthylenyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthylenyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthylenyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-

guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-amino-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-amino-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-nitro-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-nitro-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-azido-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; and N,N'-bis(4-sulfonyl-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine.

31. The method of claim of any one of claims 27 to 30, wherein said compound is administered as part of a pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

32. A method for treating or preventing nerve cell death comprising administering to a mammal exhibiting symptoms of nerve cell death or susceptible to nerve cell death an effective amount of a compound having the formula:



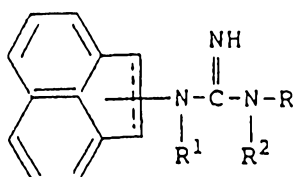
wherein R is optionally substituted cycloalkyl of 3 to 12 carbon atoms, optionally substituted carbocyclic aryl, alkaryl, aralkyl or heterocyclic; R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl amino, C<sub>5-10</sub> aryl or substituted aryl; wherein R and the acenaphthyl group are optionally substituted by hydroxy, acetate, oxo, amino, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl amino, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, di-lower C<sub>2-12</sub> alkyl amino, nitro, azido, sulfhydryl, cyano, isocyanato, halogen, amido, sulfonato or carbamido.

33. The method of claim 32 where the mammal is a human.

34. The method of claim 32 or claim 33 wherein the nerve cell death results from hypoxia, hypoglycemia, brain or spinal cord trauma, stroke, heart attack, or drowning.

5 35. A method for treating brain or spinal cord trauma, stroke or heart attack comprising administering to a mammal exhibiting symptoms of or susceptible to brain or spinal cord trauma, stroke or heart attack an effective amount of a compound having the formula:

10



15

wherein R is optionally substituted cycloalkyl of 3 to 12 carbon atoms; optionally substituted carbocyclic aryl, alkaryl, aralkyl or heterocyclic; R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl amino, C<sub>5-10</sub> aryl or substituted aryl; wherein R and the acenaphthyl group are optionally substituted by hydroxy, acetate, oxo, amino, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl amino, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, di-lower C<sub>2-12</sub> alkyl amino, nitro, azido, sulfhydryl, cyano, isocyanato, halogen, amido, sulfonato or carbamido.

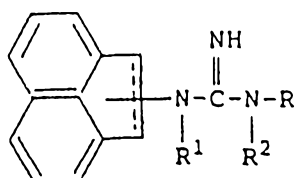
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36. The method of claim 35 where the mammal is a human.

25

37. A method of treating a disease selected from the group consisting of Huntington's disease, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, Alzheimer's disease, Down's Syndrome, Korsakoff's disease, olivopontocerebellar atrophy, HIV-induced dementia, HIV-induced blindness, or multi-infarct dementia, the method comprising administering to a mammal exhibiting symptoms of said disease or susceptible to said disease an effective amount of a compound having the formula:

30



wherein R is optionally substituted cycloalkyl of 3 to 12 carbon atoms; optionally substituted carbocyclic aryl, alkaryl, aralkyl or heterocyclic; R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl amino, C<sub>5-10</sub> aryl or substituted aryl; 5 wherein R and the acenaphthyl group are optionally substituted by hydroxy, acetate, oxo, amino, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, lower C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl amino, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, di-lower C<sub>2-12</sub> alkyl amino, nitro, azido, sulfhydryl, cyano, isocyanato, halogen, amido, sulfonato or carbamido.

38. The method of claim 37 where the mammal is a human.

10 39. A compound of claim 2, 6, 9, 16, 23, 29, 32, 34, 35 or 37, wherein R is optionally substituted cyclopropyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cyclohexenyl, cycloheptyl, 1,4-methylenecyclohexyl, 1-adamantyl, 2-adamantyl, exo 2-norbornyl, endo 2-norbornyl, exo 2-isobornyl, endo 2-isobornyl, menthyl, cyclopentylmethyl, cyclohexylmethyl, 1-cyclohexylethyl, 2-cyclohexylethyl, 1-15 cyclohexylpropyl, 2-cyclohexylpropyl or 3-cyclohexylpropyl.

40. A compound of claim 2, 6, 9, 16, 23, 29, 32, 34, 35 or 37, where R is optionally substituted carbocyclic aryl, alkaryl, aralkyl or heterocyclic.

20 41. A compound of claim 40, where R has 6 to 18 carbon atoms and contains 1-3 separate or fused rings, and 0-5 O, N and/or S ring atoms in an aryl, alicyclic or mixed ring system.

42. A compound of claim 40, where R is optionally substituted phenyl, benzyl, naphthyl, 3-acenaphthyl, or 5-acenaphthyl.

25 43. A compound of claim 40, where R is optionally substituted phenyl, benzyl, 1-phenylethyl, 2-phenylethyl, 1-phenylpropyl, 2-phenylpropyl, 3-phenylpropyl, o-tolyl, m-tolyl, p-tolyl, m,m'-diethylphenyl, o-ethylphenyl, m-ethylphenyl, p-ethylphenyl, m,m'-diethylphenyl, m-methyl-m'-ethylphenyl, o-propylphenyl, 1-naphthyl, 2-naphthyl, biphenyl, indanyl, indenyl, 3-30 acenaphthyl, 5-acenaphthyl, 3-acenaphthylene, 5-acenaphthylene, indolyl, benzthiazole, quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, furanyl, thienyl, pyrrolyl, thiazolyl, oxazolyl, coumarinyl or imidazolyl.

44. A compound of claim 2, 6, 9, 16, 23, 29, 32, 34, 35 or 37, wherein R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are each hydrogen.

45. A compound of claim 2, 6, 9, 16, 23, 29, 32, 34, 35 or 37 that is N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-methoxynaphthyl)guanidine, N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-methoxynaphthyl)guanidine, N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-methoxynaphthyl)guanidine or N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-methoxynaphthyl)guanidine.

46. A compound of claim 32, 34, 35 or 37 that is: N,N'-di-(1-acenaphthyl)guanidine, N,N'-di-(3-acenaphthyl)guanidine, N,N'-di-(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine, N,N'-di-(acenaphthylen-1-yl)guanidine, N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N'-(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-(adamantan-2-yl)-N-(5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N-(3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-(adamantan-2-yl)-N'-(3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N-(adamantan-1-yl)-N'-(adamantan-2-yl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-hydroxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-hydroxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-methoxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-methoxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-nitronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-nitronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-aminonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-aminonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-azidonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-azidonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-bromonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-bromonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-cyanonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-cyanonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-amidonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-amidonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-iodonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-iodonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(7-fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(7-fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-fluoronaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-methoxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-methoxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-hydroxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-hydroxynaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-aminonaphthyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-aminonaphthyl)-guanidine;

N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-isopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-  
 isopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-n-propylphenyl)-guanidine;  
 N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-n-propylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-  
 isopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(2-isopropylphenyl)-  
 5 guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-cyclopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(5-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(4-cyclopropylphenyl)-guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthyl)-N'-  
 (coumarinyl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(coumarinyl)guanidine; N-(3-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(quinolinyl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthyl)-N'-  
 (quinolinyl)guanidine; N-(4-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)  
 10 guanidine; N-(4-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl) guanidine; N-(4-  
 hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl) guanidine; N-(4-hydroxy-5-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl) guanidine; N-(4-nitro-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-  
 (adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-nitro-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine;  
 N-(4-amino-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-amino-3-  
 15 acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-amino-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-  
 (adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-amino-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-  
 yl)guanidine; N-(4-methoxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-  
 methoxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-methoxy-5-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-methoxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-  
 20 (adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-  
 yl)guanidine; N-(4-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(4-  
 bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(4-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-  
 N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-  
 yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-5-  
 25 acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-  
 (adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine;  
 N-(2-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)-  
 N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-  
 yl)guanidine; N-(1-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-  
 30 bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-  
 N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-  
 yl)guanidine; N-(2-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-

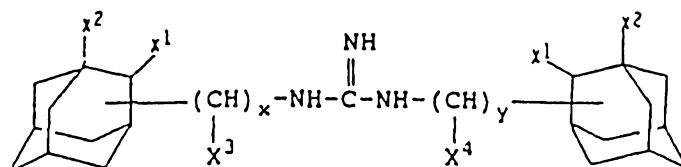
bromo-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-  
 N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-  
 yl)guanidine; N-(1-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-  
 hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(1-hydroxy-5-  
 5 acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(1-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-  
 (adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-  
 yl)guanidine; N-(2-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(2-  
 hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(2-hydroxy-5-  
 acenaphthyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthylenyl)-N'-(adamant-  
 10 1-yl)guanidine; N-(3-acenaphthylenyl)-N'-(adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N-(5-  
 acenaphthylenyl)-N'-(adamant-1-yl)guanidine; N-(5-acenaphthylenyl)-N'-  
 (adamant-2-yl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-  
 bis(4-bromo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)-  
 guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-amino-3-  
 15 acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-amino-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-  
 nitro-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-nitro-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-  
 bis(1-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-bromo-5-  
 acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-bromo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-  
 bromo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-hydroxy-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine;  
 20 N,N'-bis(1-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-hydroxy-3-  
 acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-hydroxy-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-  
 bis(1-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(1-oxo-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine;  
 N,N'-bis(2-oxo-3-acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(2-oxo-5-  
 25 acenaphthyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(3-acenaphthylenyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(5-  
 acenaphthylenyl)guanidine; N,N'-bis(4-azido-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine; and  
 N,N'-bis(4-sulfonyl-5-acenaphthyl)guanidine.

47. The method of claims 2, 6, 9, 16, 23, 29, 32, 34, 35 or 37, wherein the compound is administered as a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.

48. A method for treating or preventing nerve cell death comprising  
 30 administering to a mammal exhibiting symptoms of nerve cell death or

susceptible to nerve cell death an effective amount of a compound having the formula:

5



10

wherein  $X^1$ ,  $X^2$ ,  $X^3$  and  $X^4$  are the same or different and are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, acetate, oxo, amino, lower  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl, lower  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl amino, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, di-lower  $C_{2-12}$  alkyl amino, nitro, azido, sulfhydryl, cyano, isocyanato, halogen, amido, sulfonato or carbamido; wherein at least one of  $X^1$ ,  $X^2$ ,  $X^3$  and  $X^4$  is other than hydrogen;  $x$  and  $y$  are the same or different and are 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4.

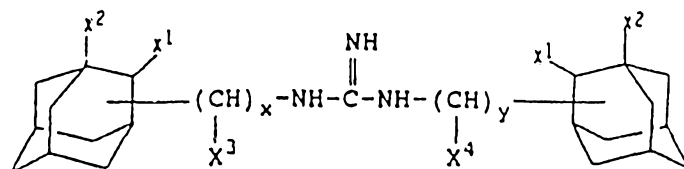
49. The method of claim 48 where the mammal is a human.

15

50. The method of claim 48 or claim 49 wherein the nerve cell death results from hypoxia, hypoglycemia, brain or spinal cord trauma, stroke, heart attack, or drowning.

20

51. A method for treating brain or spinal cord trauma, stroke or heart attack comprising administering to a mammal exhibiting symptoms of or susceptible to brain or spinal cord trauma, stroke or heart attack an effective amount of a compound having the formula:



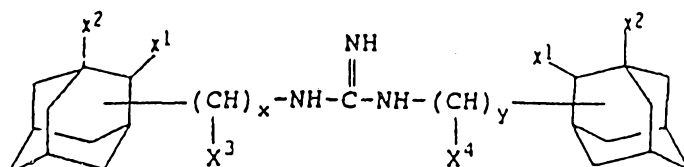
25

wherein  $X^1$ ,  $X^2$ ,  $X^3$  and  $X^4$  are the same or different and are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, acetate, oxo, amino, lower  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl, lower  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl amino, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, di-lower  $C_{2-12}$  alkyl amino, nitro, azido, sulfhydryl, cyano, isocyanato, halogen, amido, sulfonato or carbamido; wherein at least one of  $X^1$ ,  $X^2$ ,  $X^3$  and  $X^4$  is other than hydrogen;  $x$  and  $y$  are the same or different and are 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4.

30

52. A method of treating a disease selected from the group consisting of Huntington's disease, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, Alzheimer's disease,

Down's Syndrome, Korsakoff's disease, olivopontocerebellar atrophy, HIV-induced dementia, HIV-induced blindness, or multi-infarct dementia, the method comprising administering to a mammal exhibiting symptoms of said disease or susceptible to said disease an effective amount of a compound having the formula:

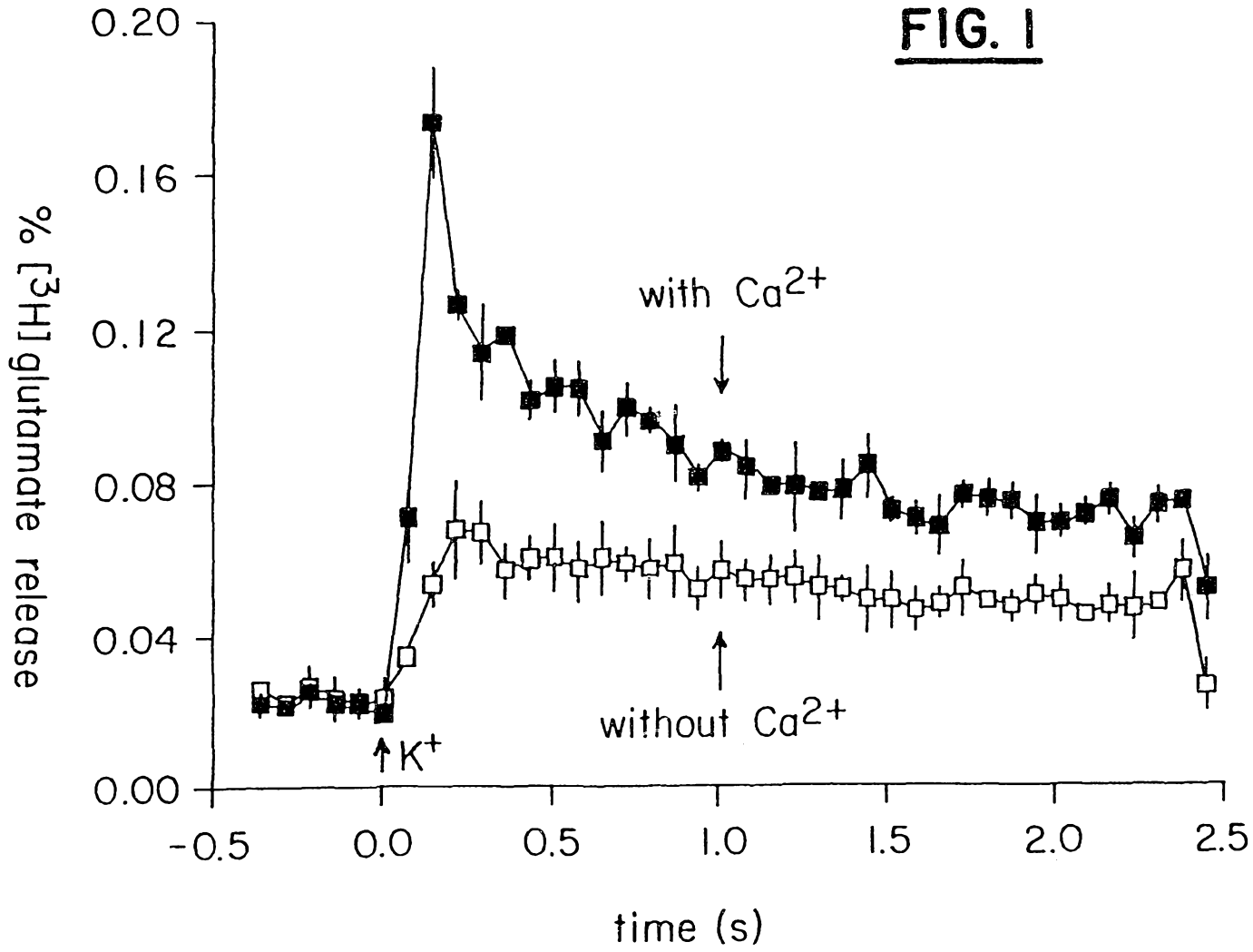


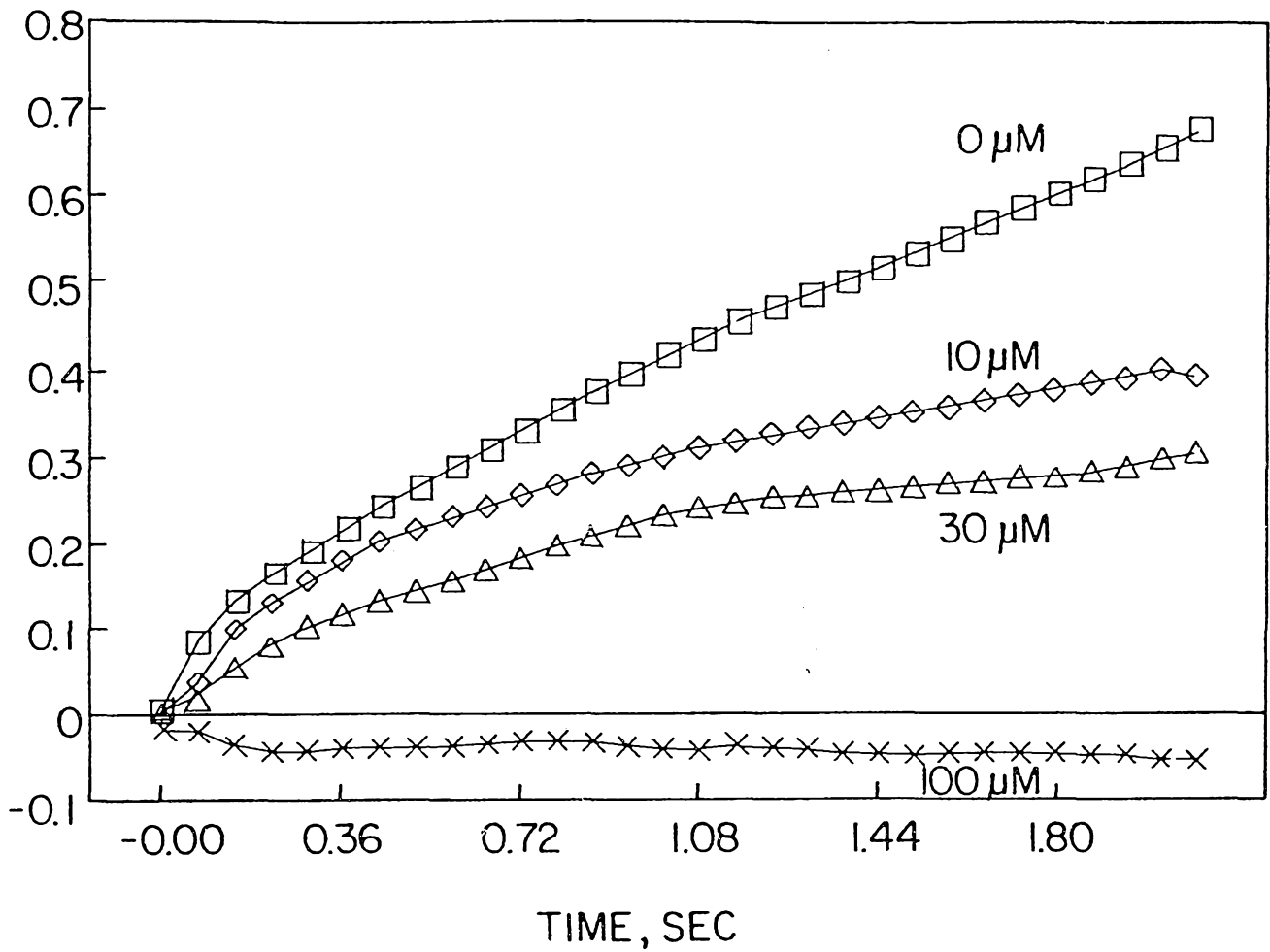
wherein  $X^1$ ,  $X^2$ ,  $X^3$  and  $X^4$  are the same or different and are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, acetate, oxo, amino, lower  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl, lower  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl amino, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, di-lower  $C_{2-12}$  alkyl amino, nitro, azido, sulfhydryl, cyano, isocyanato, halogen, amido, sulfonato, or carbamido; wherein at least one of  $X^1$ ,  $X^2$ ,  $X^3$  and  $X^4$  is other than hydrogen;  $x$  and  $y$  are the same or different and are 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4.

53. A compound of claim 2, 6, 9, 16, 23, 29, 32, 34, 35 or 37, wherein R is optionally substituted by hydroxy, acetate, oxo, amino, lower  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl, lower  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl amino, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, di-lower  $C_{2-12}$  alkyl amino, nitro, azido, sulfhydryl, cyano, isocyanato, halogen, amido, sulfonato or carbamido.

DATED this 30th day of April, 1996.

NYCOMED IMAGING AS  
By Their Patent Attorneys:  
CALLINAN LAWRIE



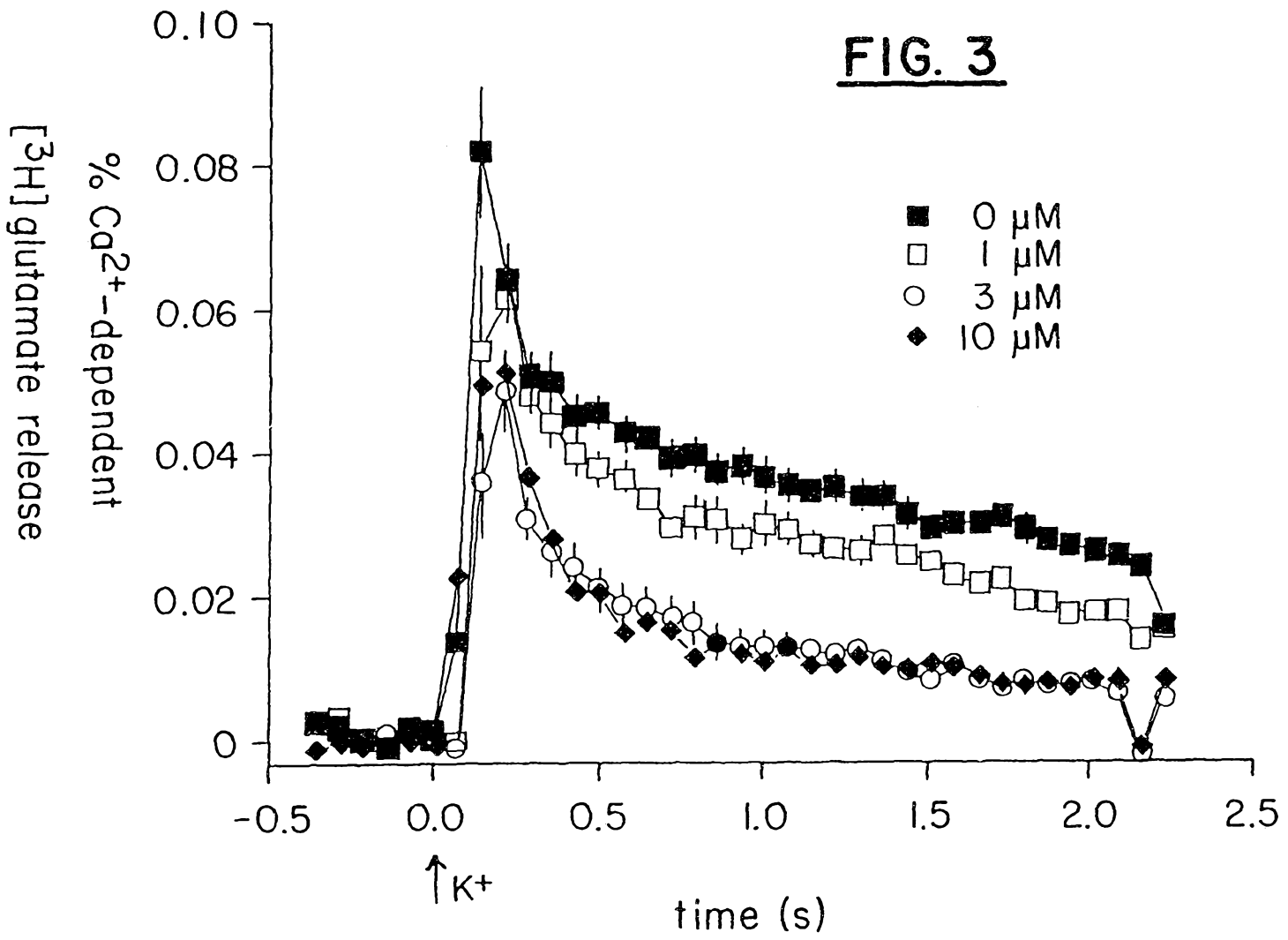


**FIG. 2**

**SUBSTITUTE SHEET**

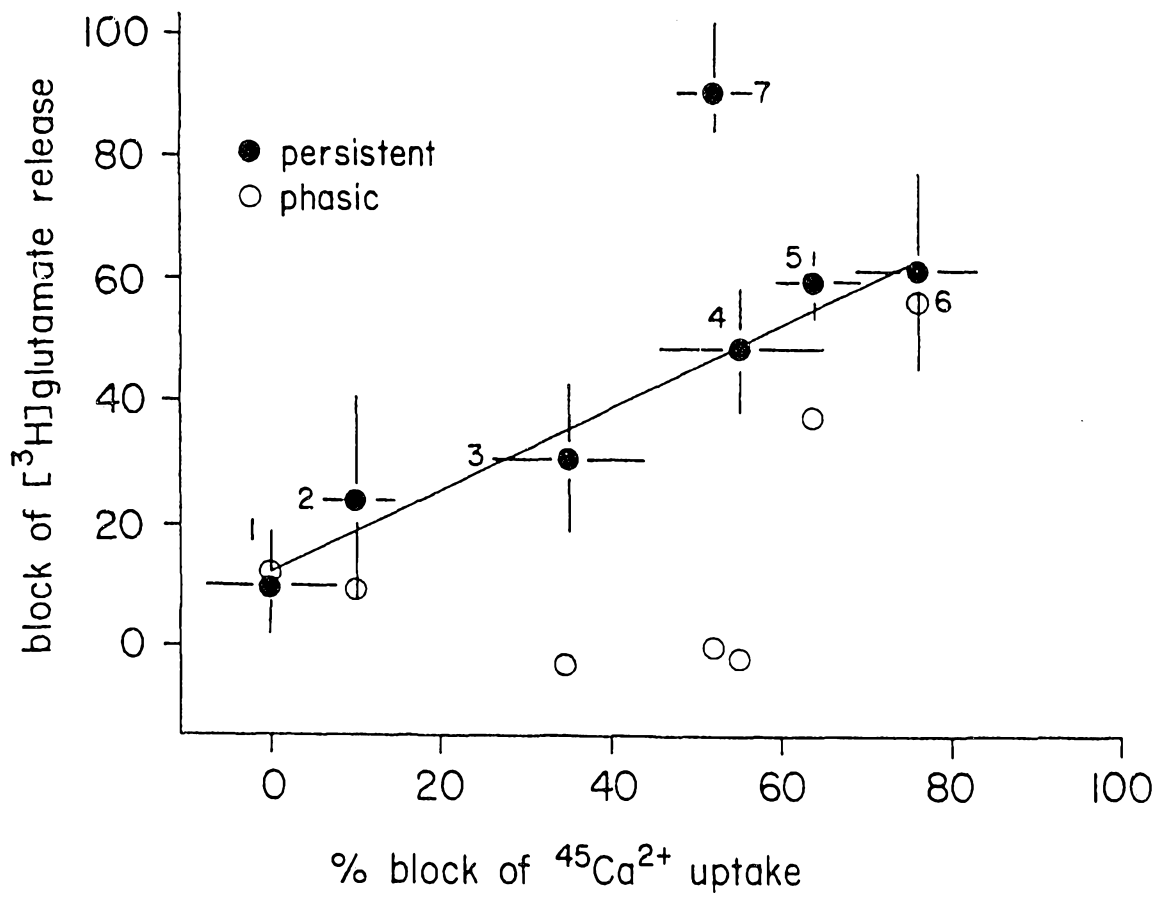
**% CUMULATIVE Ca-DEP 3H-GLU RELEASE**

FIG. 3

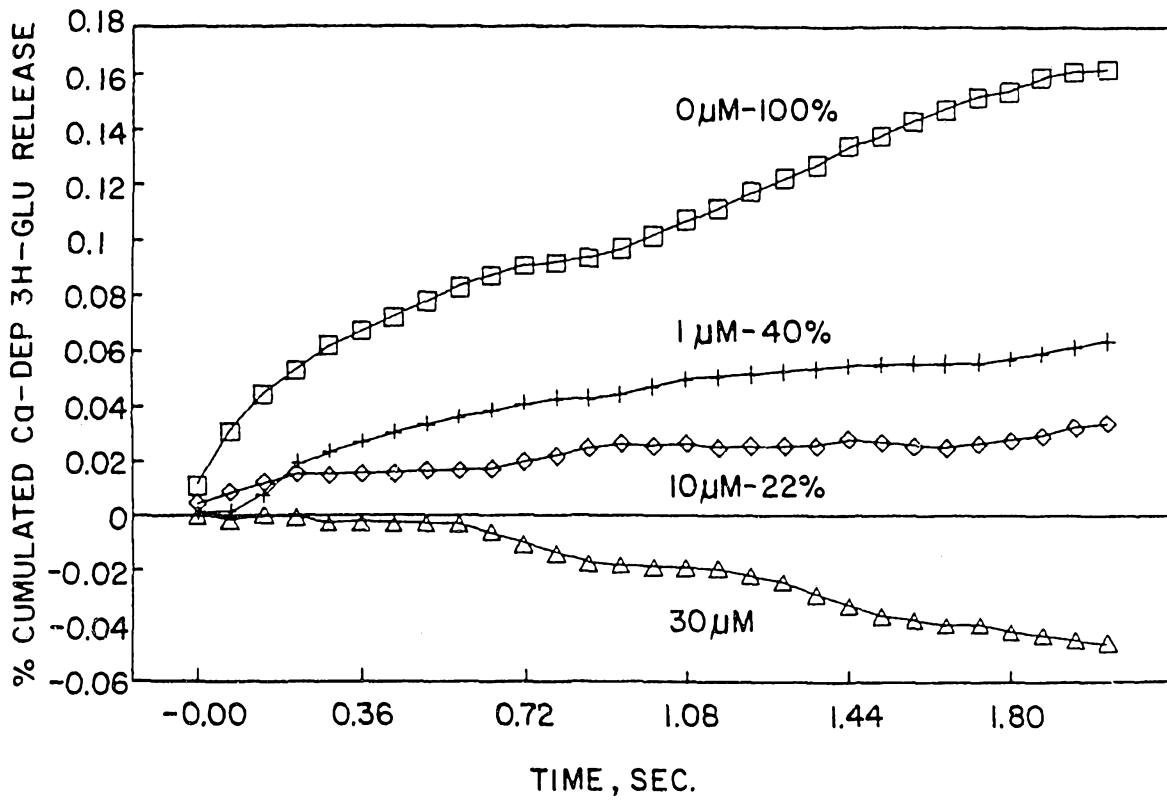


REPLACEMENT SHEET

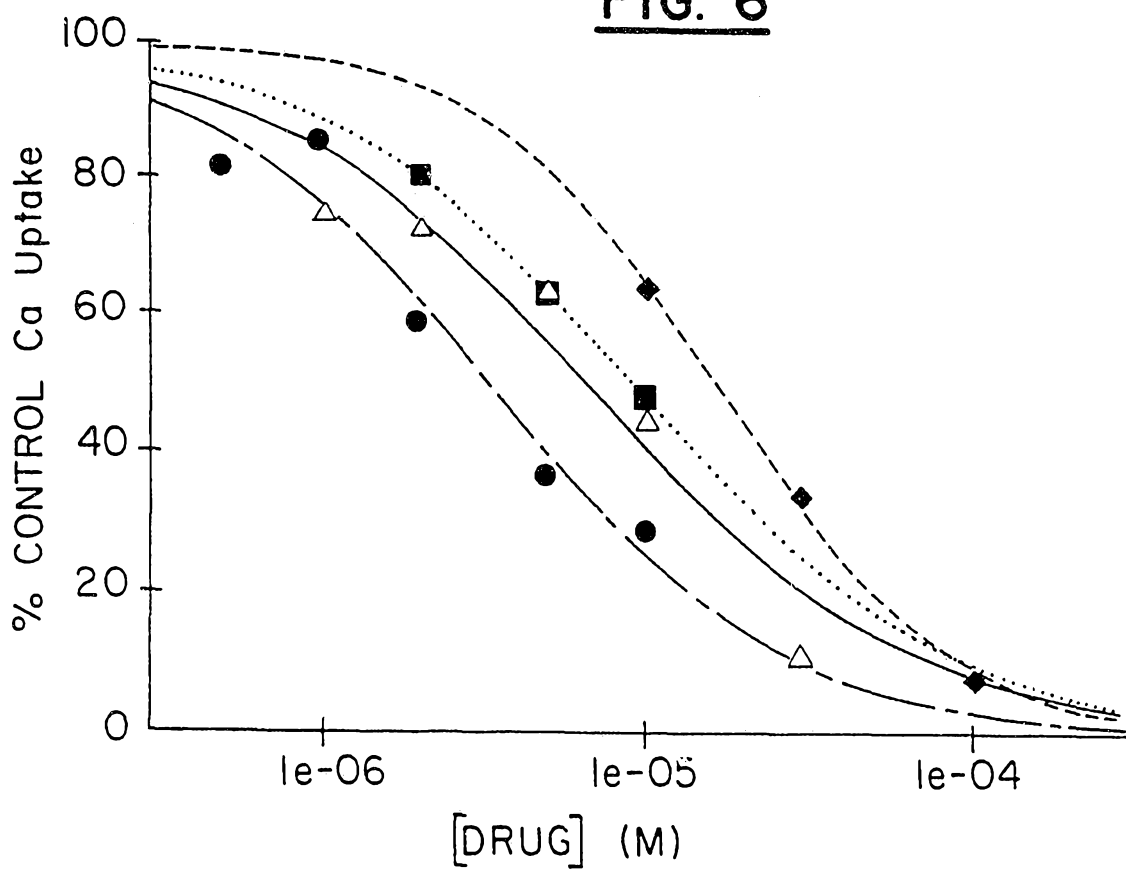
**FIG. 4**



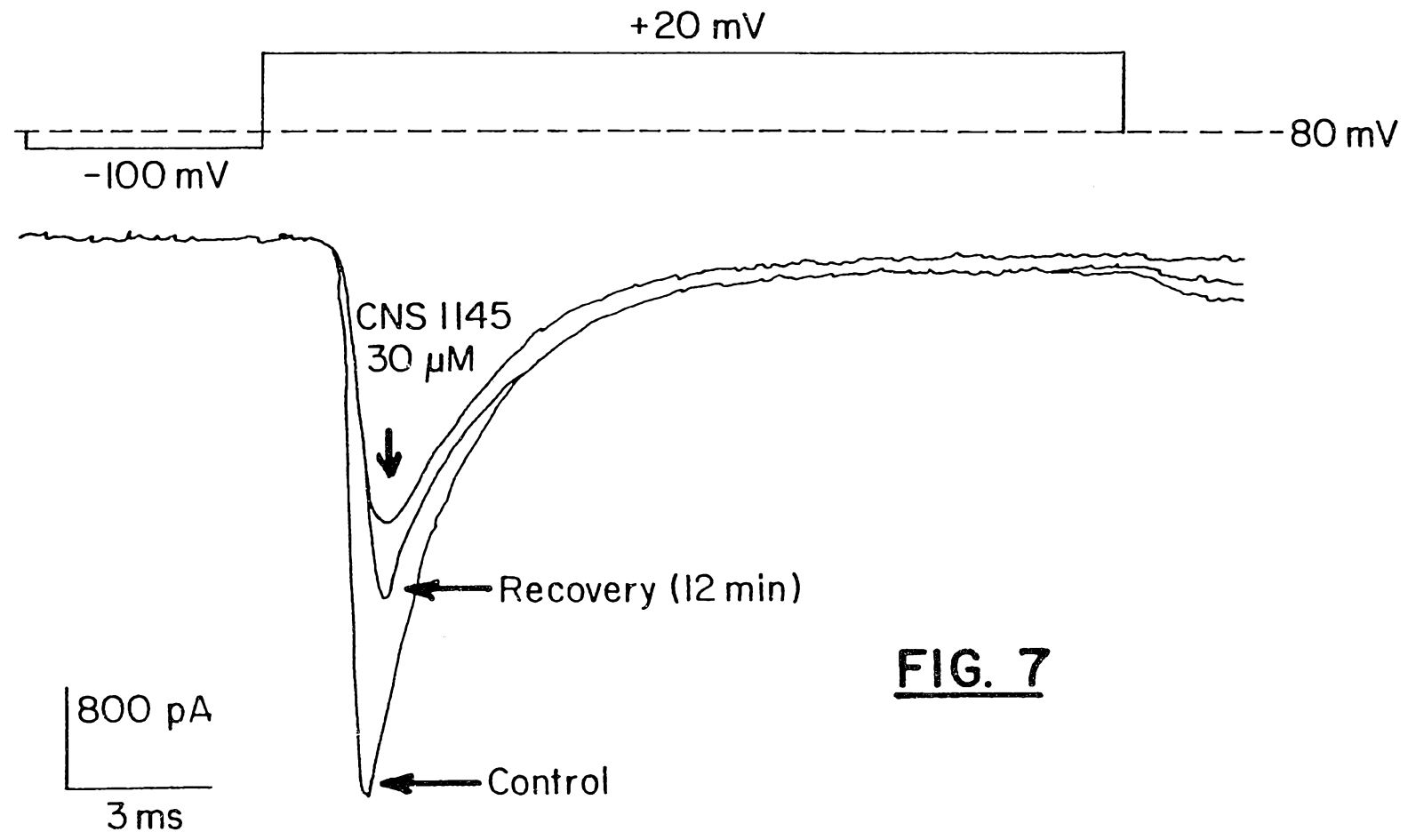
**FIG. 5**



**FIG. 6**

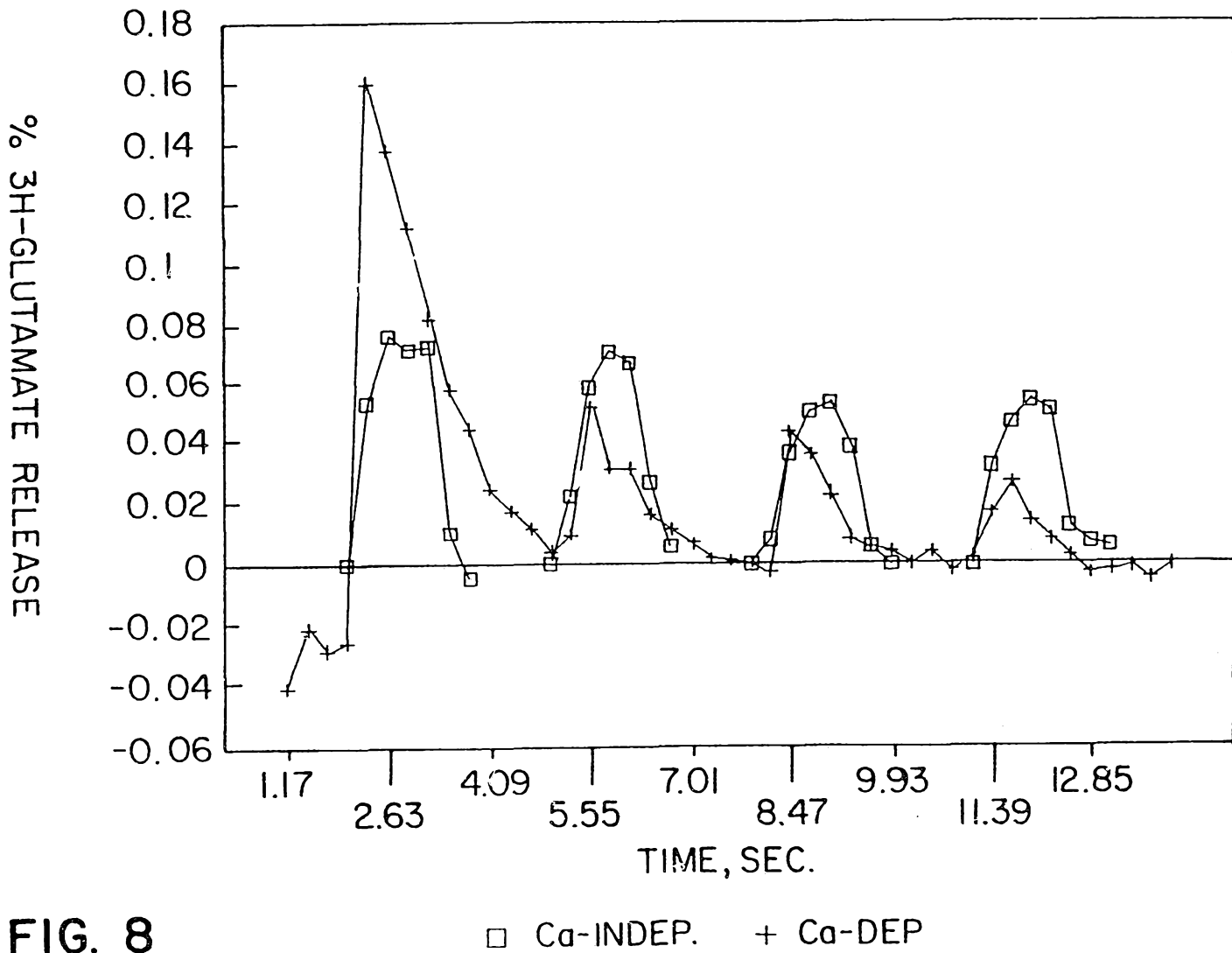


SUBSTITUTE SHEET



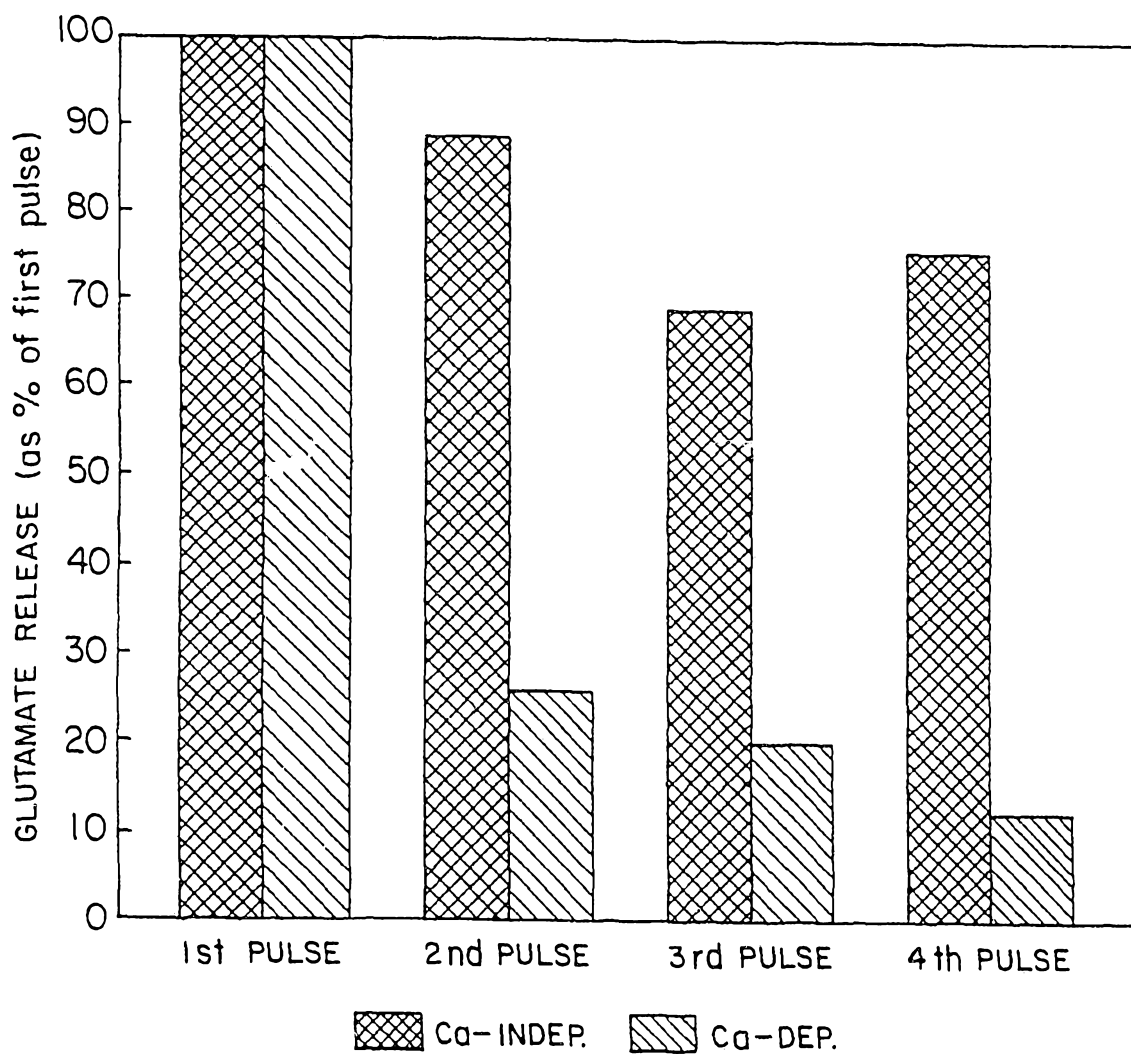
**FIG. 7**

SUBSTITUTE SHEET

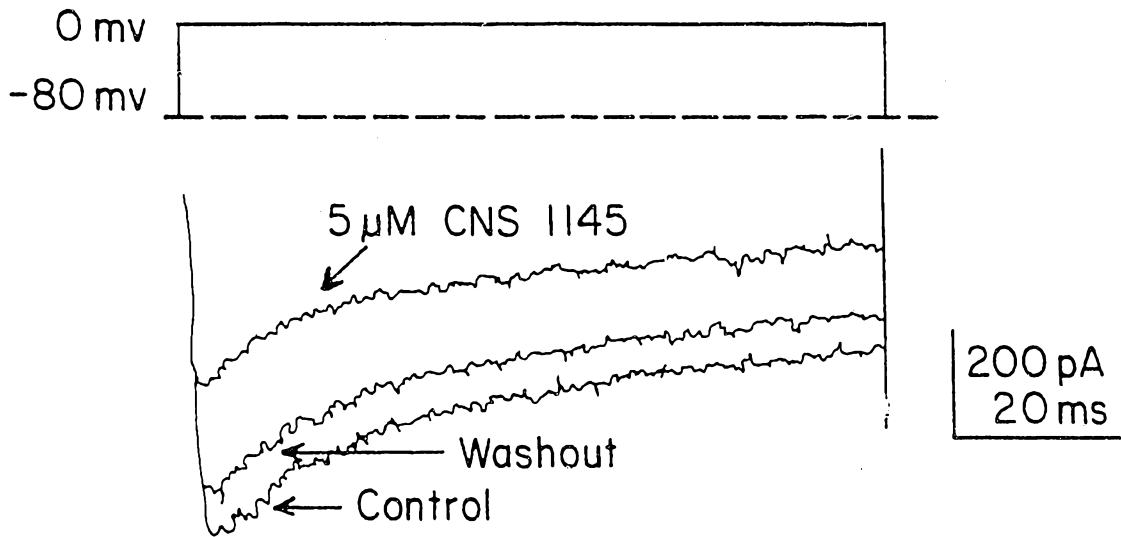


**FIG. 8**

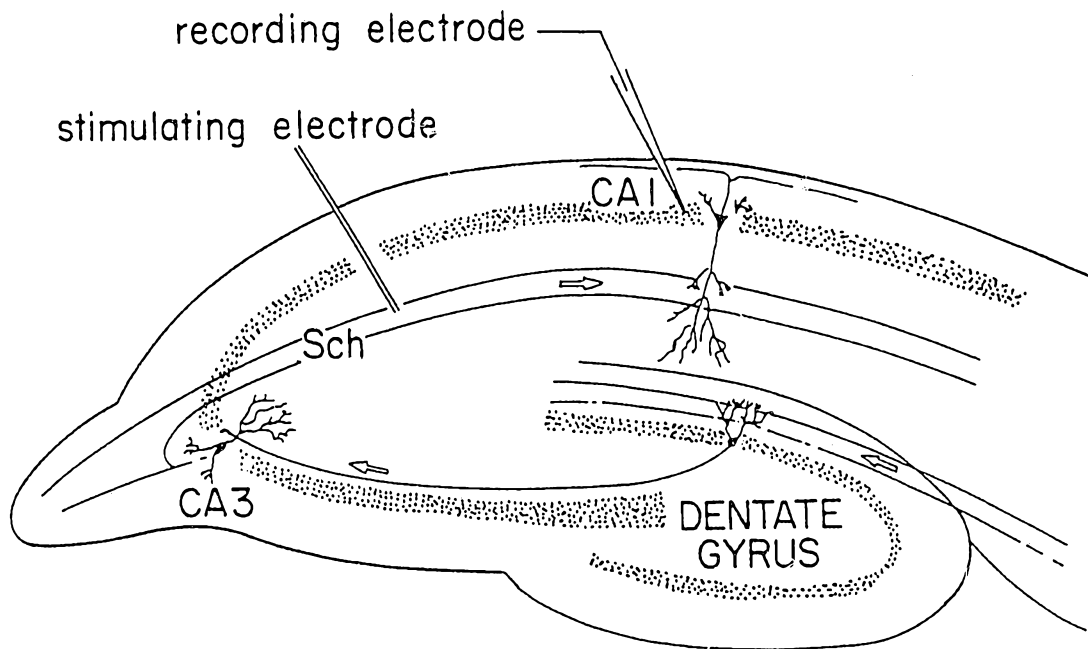
**FIG. 9**



**FIG. 10**



**FIG. II**



synaptic layer

cell body layer

- control
- CNS 1145 (20  $\mu$ M)
- wash

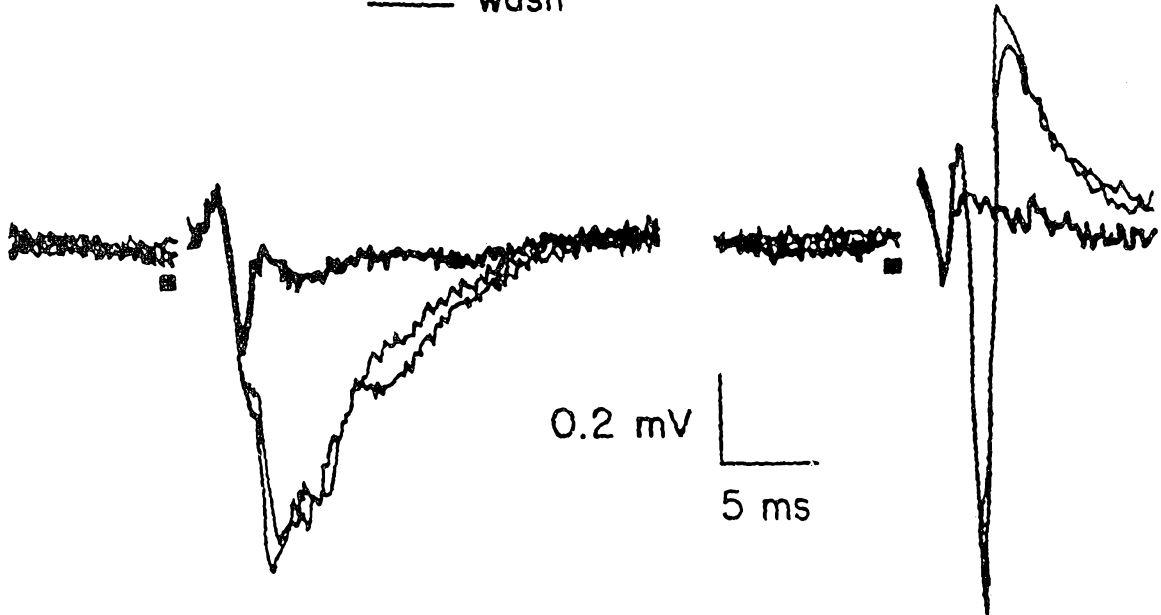
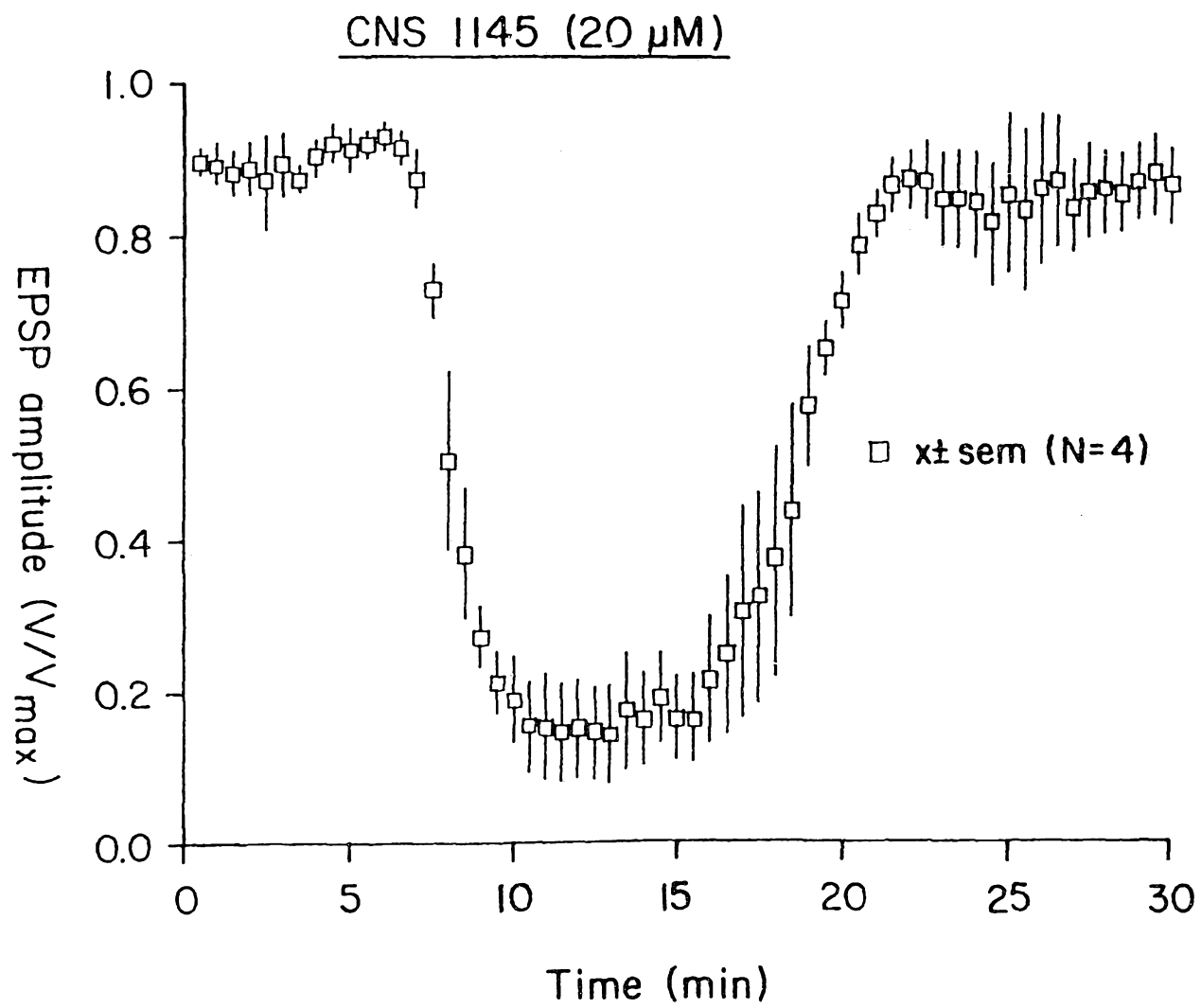


FIG. 12B

FIG. 12A

**FIG. 12C**



SUBSTITUTE SHEET

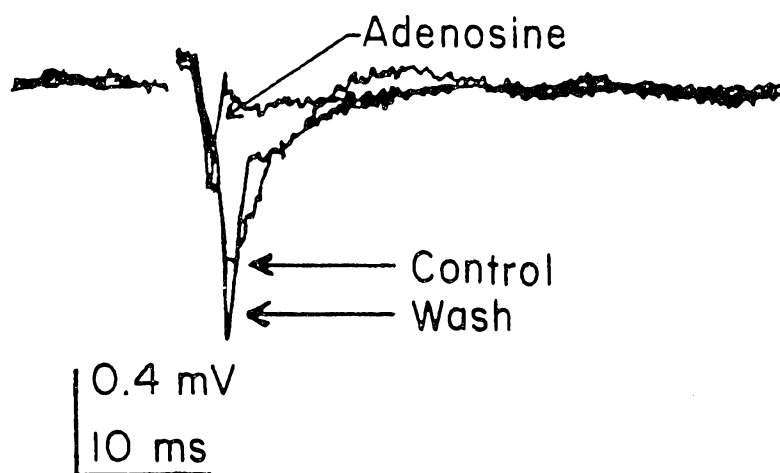


FIG. 13A

SUBSTITUTE SHEET

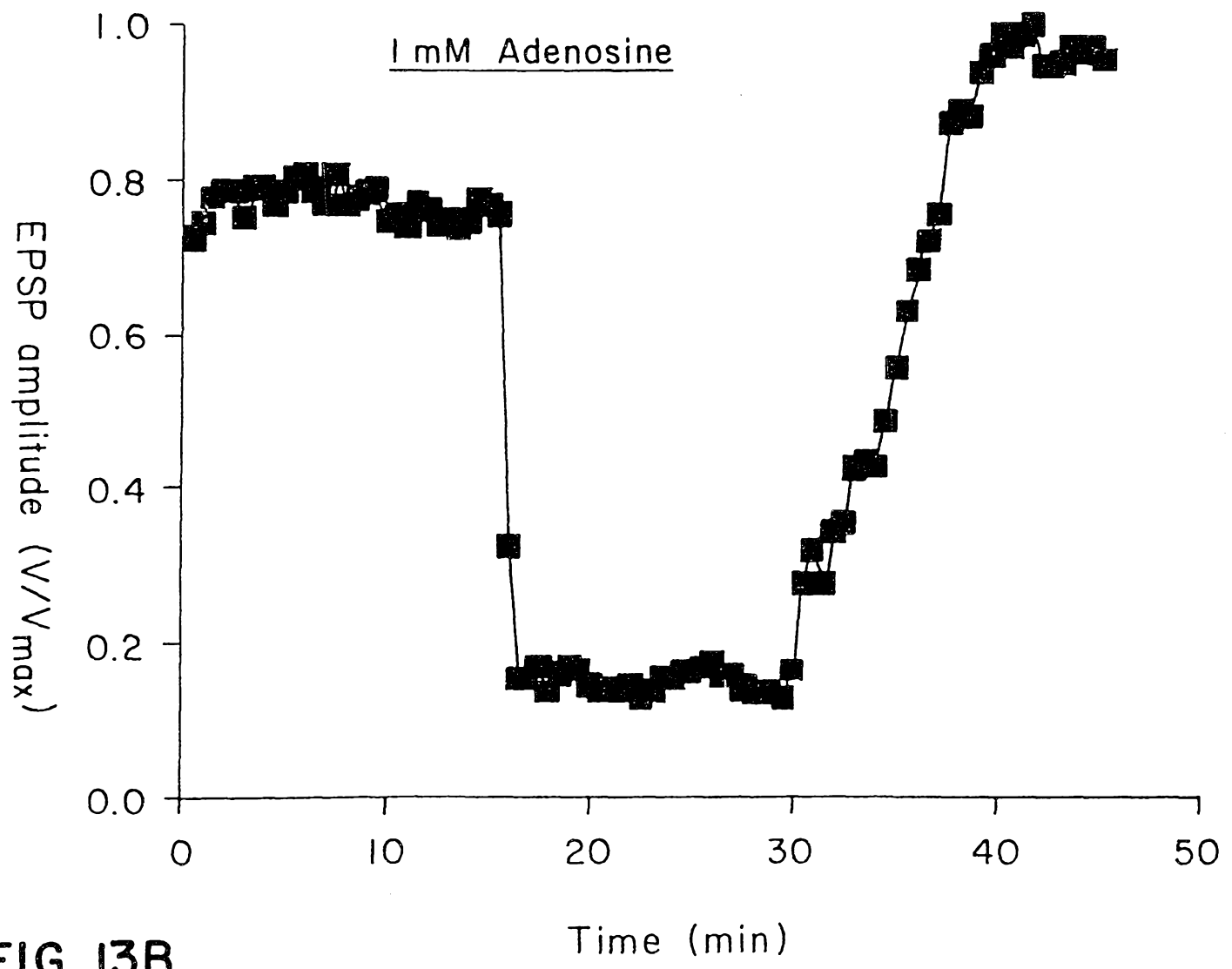
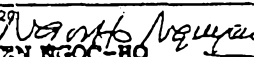


FIG. 13B

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No. PCT/US92/01181

<b>I. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b> (If several classification symbols apply, indicate all) <sup>3</sup>				
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both National Classification and IPC				
IPC (5): Please See Attached Sheet.				
US CL : Please See Attached Sheet.				
<b>II. FIELDS SEARCHED</b>				
Minimum Documentation Searched <sup>4</sup>				
Classification System	Classification Symbols			
U.S.	Please See Attached Sheet.			
Documentation Searched other than Minimum Documentation to the extent that such Documents are included in the Fields Searched <sup>5</sup>				
STN-CAS ON LINE				
<b>III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b> <sup>14</sup>				
Category <sup>6</sup>	Citation of Document, <sup>16</sup> with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages <sup>17</sup>	Relevant to Claim No. <sup>18</sup>		
A	US, A, 4,906,779 (WEBER ET AL.) 06 March 1990, See col. 5 & 6.	1-3, 11-13, 21-23, 35, 44-46, 57, 58, and 59		
A	US, A, 4,051,256 (SWALLOW) 27 September 1977, See abstract.	1-3, 11-13, 21-23, 35, 44-46, 57, 58, and 59		
A	US, A, 3,479,437 (SZABO ET AL.) 18 November 1969, See abstract.	1-3, 11-13, 21-23, 35, 44-46, 57, 58, and 59		
<p>* Special categories of cited documents:<sup>15</sup></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;"> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"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)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;"> <p>"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</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step</p> <p>"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</p> <p>"&amp;" document member of the same patent family</p> </td> </tr> </table>			<p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"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)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p>	<p>"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</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step</p> <p>"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</p> <p>"&amp;" document member of the same patent family</p>
<p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"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)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p>	<p>"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</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step</p> <p>"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</p> <p>"&amp;" document member of the same patent family</p>			
<b>IV. CERTIFICATION</b>				
Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search <sup>2</sup>	Date of Mailing of this International Search Report <sup>2</sup>			
25 JUNE 1992	JUN 11 1992			
International Searching Authority <sup>1</sup>	Signature of Authorized Officer <sup>20</sup>			
ISA/US	 FR NGUYEN NGOC-HO MACK W. RUSSELL INTERNATIONAL DIVISION			

## FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM THE SECOND SHEET

V.  OBSERVATIONS WHERE CERTAIN CLAIMS WERE FOUND UNSEARCHABLE<sup>1</sup>

1.  Claim numbers         , because they relate to subject matter (1) not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2.  Claim numbers         , 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 (1), specifically:
3.  Claim numbers 58, because they are dependent claims not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of PCT Rule 6.4(a). **Note: There are no claims 52-54**

VI.  OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION IS LACKING<sup>2</sup>

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application as follows:  
Please See Attached Sheet.

1.  As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims of the international application.
2.  As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims of the international application for which fees were paid, specifically claims:
3.  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 claim numbers:  
1-3, 11-13, 21-23, 35, 44-46, 57, 58, & 59
4.  As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the International Search Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

Remark on protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by applicant's protest.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

## FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS SHEETS

## I. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER:

IPC (5):

C07C 279/16; C07C 279/18; C07C 279/04; C07C 279/06; C07C 279/08 C07C 279/12; A61K 31/155; A61K 31/275; A61K 31/34; A61K 31/38; A61K 31/39; A61K 31/40; A61K 31/425; A61K 31/42; A61K 41/415; A61K 31/44; A61K 31/47; A61K 31/305; A61K 31/53; A61K 31/355; A61K 31/54

## I. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER:

US CL :

564/237; 564/238; 564/240; 514/482; 514/414; 514/415 514/367; 514/308; 514/310; 514/313; 514/352; 514/353; 514/339; 514/340; 514/341; 514/342; 514/275; 514/255; 514/256; 514/472; 514/444; 514/447; 514/426; 514/370; 514/372; 514/377; 514/380; 514/397; 514/398; 514/438; 514/427; 514/365; 514/374; 514/378; 514/399

## II. FIELDS SEARCHED

Classification Symbols of Fields Searched:

564/237; 564/238; 564/240; 514/482; 514/414; 514/415 514/367; 514/308; 514/310; 514/313; 514/352; 514/353; 514/339; 514/340; 514/341; 514/342; 514/275; 514/255; 514/256; 514/472; 514/444; 514/447; 514/426; 514/370; 514/372; 514/377; 514/380; 514/397; 514/398; 514/438; 514/427; 514/365; 514/374; 514/378; 514/399

## VI. OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION WAS LACKING

This ISA found multiple inventions as follows:

This application contains claims which do not relate to one invention so as to form a single, inventive concept. Thus, there is lack of unity under PCT Rule 13.

GROUP I: Claims 1-3, 11-13, 21-23, 35, 44-46, 57, 58 and 59 drawn to a method of inhibiting or modulating neurotransmitter release and to bis compounds wherein R-R<sup>5</sup> are optionally substituted cycloaliphatic, carbocyclic aryl or aralkyl classified for example in class 564.

GROUP II: Claims 1, 3, 11, 21, 23, 44, 46, 57 and 59 drawn to a method of inhibiting or modulating neurotransmitters and to bis compounds wherein R-R<sup>5</sup> are pyrrolyl, genzothiazole, imidazole, oxazole, and indole classified for example in class 548.

GROUP III: Claims 1, 3, 11, 21, 23, 44, 46, 57 and 59 drawn to method of inhibiting neurotransmitter release and to bis compounds wherein R-R<sup>5</sup> are guinoyl, isoguinoyl, and pyridyl, classified for example in class 546.

GROUP IV: Claims 1, 3, 11, 21, 23, 44, 46, 57 and 59, drawn to a method of inhibiting neurotransmitter release and to bis compounds wherein R-R<sup>5</sup> are pyrimidyl or pyrazinyl classified for example in class 544.

GROUP V: Claims 1, 3, 11, 21, 23, 44, 46, 57 and 59, drawn to a method of inhibiting neurotransmitter release and to bis compounds wherein R-R<sup>5</sup> are furanyl, thienyl, and coumarinyl classified in class 549.

GROUP VI: Claims 4-9, 14-19, 24-28, 36-39, 47-51, 55, and 60-65 drawn to inhibiting neurotransmitter release and to guanidine compounds wherein R, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, or R<sup>3</sup> is optionally substituted cycloaliphatic, carbocyclic aryl and aralkyl classified for example in class 564.

GROUP VII: Claims 4, 5, 8, 14, 15, 18, 24, 25, 27, 47, 48, 50, 60, 61, and 64 drawn to a method of inhibiting neurotransmitter release and guanidine compounds wherein R, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> or R<sup>3</sup> are pyrrolyl, benzothiazole, thiazole, imidazole, oxazole, and indole classified for example in class 548.

GROUP VIII: Claims 4, 5, 8, 9, 14, 15, 18, 19, 24, 25, 27, 28, 37, 38, 47, 48, 50, 51, 60, 61, 64 and 65 drawn to a method of inhibiting neurotransmitter release and to guanidine compounds where R, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, or R<sup>3</sup> are quinoyl, isoquinoyl, and pyridyl classified for example in class 546.

GROUP IX: Claims 4, 5, 8, 9, 14, 15, 18, 19, 24, 25, 27, 28, 37, 38, 47, 48, 50, 51, 60, 61, 64 and drawn to a method of inhibiting neurotransmitter release and to guanidine compounds where R, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> or R<sup>3</sup> is pyrimidine or pyrazinyl classified for example in class 544.

GROUP X: Claims 4, 5, 8, 9, 14, 15, 18, 19, 24, 25, 27, 28, 37, 38, 47, 48, 50, 51, 60, 61, 64 and 65 drawn to a method of inhibiting neurotransmitter release and to guanidine compounds where R, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, or R<sup>3</sup> is furanyl, thienyl, and coumarinyl classified for example in class 549.

## FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS SHEETS

GROUP XI: Claims 30 and 32 drawn to a method of treating neurodegenerative diseases and disorders resulting from nerve cell death with bis compounds wherein R-R<sup>3</sup> is cycloaliphatic, carbocyclic aryl; or arylalkyl classified for example in class 514, subclass 482.

GROUP XII: Claims 30 and 32 drawn to a method of treating neurodegenerative diseases and disorders resulting from cell death with bis compounds wherein R-R<sup>3</sup> are pyrrolyl, benzothiazole, imidazole, oxazole, and idole classified for example in class 514, subclass 367.

GROUP XIII: Claims 30 and 32 drawn to a method of treating neurodegenerative diseases and disorders resulting from cell death with bis compounds wherein R-R<sup>5</sup> are quinolyl, isoguinolyl, and pyridyl classified for example in class 514, subclass 307.

GROUP XIV: Claims 30 and 32 drawn to a method of treating neurodegenerative diseases and disorders resulting from cell death with bis compounds wherein R-R<sup>3</sup> are furanyl, thienyl, or coumarinyl classified for example in class 514 subclass 438.

GROUP XVI: Claims 30 and 32 drawn to a method of treating neurodegenerative diseases and disorders resulting from cell death with guanidine compounds wherein R, R<sup>1</sup> or R<sup>2</sup> is optionally substituted cycloaliphatic, carbocyclic aryl and aralkyl classified for example in class 514 subclass 482.

GROUP XVII: Claims 30 and 32 drawn to a method of treating neurodegenerative diseases and disorders resulting from cell death with guanidine compounds wherein R, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, or R<sup>6</sup> is quinolyl, isoquinolyl, and pyridyl classified for example in class 514, subclass 307.

GROUP XIX: Claims 30 and 32 drawn to a method of treating neurodegenerative diseases and disorders resulting from cell death with guanidine compounds wherein R, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> or R<sup>6</sup> is pyrimidyl or pyrazinyl classified in class 514 subclass 269.

GROUP XX: Claims 30 and 32 drawn to a method of treating neurodegenerative diseases and disorders resulting from cell death with guanidine compounds wherein R, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> or R<sup>6</sup> is furanyl, thienyl or coumarinyl classified in class 514 subclass 433.

GROUP XXI: Claim 31 drawn to a method of treating nausea with bis compounds wherein R-R<sup>5</sup> are optionally substituted cycloaliphatic, carbocyclic aryl or aralkyl classified for example in class 514, subclass 482 and 872.

GROUP XXII: Claim 31 drawn to a method of treating nausea with bis compounds wherein R-R<sup>5</sup> are pyrrole, indole, benzothiazole, imidazole, and oxazole classified for example in class 514 subclasses 367 and 872.

GROUP XXIII: Claim 31 drawn to a method of treating nausea with bis compounds wherein R-R<sup>5</sup> are quinolyl, isoquinolyl, and pyridyl, classified for example in class 514 subclasses 349 and 872.

GROUP XXIV: Claim 31 drawn to a method of treating nausea with bis compounds wherein R-R<sup>5</sup> are pyrimidyl or pyrazinyl classified for example in class 514 subclass 255 and 872.

GROUP XXV: Claim 31 drawn to a method of treating nausea with bis compounds wherein R-R<sup>5</sup> are furanyl, thienyl, and coumarinyl classified for example in class 514 subclass 457 and 872.

GROUP XXVI: Claim 31 drawn to a method of treating nausea with guanidine compounds wherein R, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, or R<sup>6</sup> is optionally cycloaliphatic, carbocyclic aryl, and aralkyl classified for example in class 514 subclasses 482 and 872.

GROUP XXVII: Claim 31 drawn to a method of treating nausea with guanidine compounds wherein R, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, or R<sup>6</sup> is optionally cycloaliphatic, carbocyclic aryl, and aralkyl classified for example in class 514 subclasses 482 and 872.

GROUP XXVIII: Claim 31 drawn to a method of treating nausea with guanidine compounds wherein R, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, or R<sup>6</sup> is pyrrole, benzothiazole, thiazole, imidazole, oxazole, and indole classified for example in class 514 subclasses 397 and 872.

GROUP XXIX: Claim 31 drawn to a method of treating nausea with guanidine compounds wherein R, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, or R<sup>6</sup> is quinolyl, isoquinolyl and pyridyl classified in class 514 subclasses 313 and 872.

GROUP XXX: Claim 31 drawn to a method of treating nausea with guanidine compounds wherein R, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, or R<sup>6</sup> is pyrimidyl or pyrazinyl classified for example in class 514

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS SHEETS

subclasses 269 and 872.

Group XXX: Claim 31 drawn to a method of treating nausea with guanidine compounds wherein R, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, or R<sup>6</sup> is furanyl, thienyl, and coumarinyl classified for example in class 514, subclasses 471 and 872.

GROUP XXXI: Claims 33 and 34 drawn to an assay classified in class 424 subclass 1.1.

Claims 10, 20, 29, 41-42 and 66 are generic to invention of GROUPS I-X and will be examined to the extent they read upon the elected invention.

Claim 56 has been found to be unsearchable since it depends from some claims not in the application.

The inventions of GROUPS I-X do not form a single inventive concept as each group is drawn to a divergent chemical group which is not recognized in the art to be equivalent. Applicants are entitled to one method of use under PCT Rule 13. Hence, GROUPS XI-XXXI form independent inventive concepts.