Title: SURFACTANT-BASED GEL AS AN INJECTABLE, SUSTAINED DRUG DELIVERY VEHICLE

Abstract: The present invention provides methods and compositions for the sustained delivery of beneficial agents. In certain embodiments, the invention provides compositions comprising a surfactant, a solvent, and a beneficial agent, wherein upon exposure to a hydrophilic environment, the surfactant and solvent form a viscous gel and the beneficial agent is dispersed or dissolved in the gel. In other embodiments, the invention provides compositions comprising a surfactant, a solvent, a hydrophilic media, and a beneficial agent, wherein the surfactant solvent, and hydrophilic media form a viscous gel and the beneficial agent is dispersed or dissolved in the gel.

Published:
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A61F 2/00; A61K 9/14, A61K 9/50
US CL. : 424/423, 426, 484, 486, 492, 499; 514/937, 944, 947, 969

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 424/423, 426, 484, 486, 492, 499; 514/937, 944, 947, 969

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

Please See Continuation Sheet

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>SHAWESH et al. Pluronic F-127 gels as a vehicle for topical formulations of indomethacin and rheological behavior of these formulations. Pharmazie 2002, Vol. 57, No. 3, pages 186-190, especially pages 186, 187 and 189.</td>
<td>1-24, 26 and 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>US 5,242,910 A (DAMANJI) 07 September 1993 (07.09.1993), cols. 2-5.</td>
<td>1-27</td>
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</tbody>
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☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☐ See patent family annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search
25 May 2005 (25.05.2005)

Date of mailing of the international search report
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Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (January 2004)
Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:
APS, CAS ONLINE, MEDLINE, BIOTECHNO, BIOSIS, DISSABS, TOXCETER, WPIDS
search terms: surfactant# or surface active agent; solvent or excipient?; slow drug release or sustained drug release; glyco or lysosphospho or sphing[w]lipid#; pharmaceut# or prepar? or drug formulat?; hydrophil? gel# or gelling or gel forming; polyethylene glycol or PEG, glycerol, diglyceride.