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DESCRIPTION

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0001] The field comprises pharmaceuticals and pharmaceutical treatments, including, for example, (i) methods of administering chemoprotective compounds and chemotherapeutic agents; (ii) formulations comprising chemoprotective compounds and/or chemotherapeutic agents; (iii) delivery devices containing compounds and/or formulations; and (iv) methods of using formulations and devices to treat subjects in need thereof.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] Anti-cancer therapy, such as the administration of chemotherapeutic agents, is associated with Adverse Events including chemotherapy-associated toxicities. Chemotherapy-associated toxicities include, for example, neurotoxicity, nephrotoxicity, ototoxicity, allergic or hypersensitivity reactions, hepatic toxicity, myelosuppression, as well as other toxicities.

[0003] Chemotherapy-associated toxicities can materially offset or limit the potential benefits to the patient undergoing treatment. By way of non-limiting example, chemotherapy-associated toxicity can result in treatment delays, treatment interruptions, dose modifications; dose schedule modifications, or even complete cessation of treatment. Thus, in addition to their adverse pharmacological affects, the development of chemotherapy-associated toxicities can limit or curtail the effectiveness of the primary treatment of the patient's cancer or preclude it all together. Cessation, interruption, or delays in patient treatment, or reducing the dosage of chemotherapeutic therapy, for example, may be detrimental to a subject's chances of long-term survival or control of the cancer, since the interruption, delay, reduction in dose, or cessation of chemotherapy can allow the progression of cancer within the subject. In some instances, it is well recognized that these chemotherapy-associated toxicities can be so severe and/or protracted that they are immediately life-threatening or fatal to the patient.

[0004] Currently, there are approximately twenty recognized classes of FDA-approved chemotherapeutic agents. These classifications are generalizations based upon either a common structure shared by the particular agents (*i.e.*, structure-based classes) or upon a common identified mechanism(s) of action of the particular agents (*i.e.*, mechanism-based classes); in many instances these classifications identify the same compounds by different classification approaches. Structural-based classes of chemotherapeutic agents include, for example: fluoropyrimidines; pyrimidine nucleosides; purines; anti-folates, platinum analogs; electrophilic alkylating agents; anthracyclines/anthracenediones; podophyllotoxins; camptothecins; hormones and hormonal analogs; enzymes, proteins, and antibodies, vinca alkaloids, taxanes and epothilones.

[0005] Mechanism-based classes of chemotherapeutic agents include, for example: antihormonals; antimicrotubule agents, alkylating agents (classical and non-classical), antimetabolites, topoisomerase inhibitors, antivirals, and miscellaneous cytotoxic and cytostatic agents.

[0006] Taxane chemotherapeutic agents have been used to treat subjects with breast, ovarian, lung, bladder, and esophageal cancer, among others. Representatives of taxanes include paclitaxel, including without limitation, *e.g.*, taxol, abraxane, and the like, and analogs thereof, including, without limitation, polyglutamylated forms of paclitaxel (Xyotax™), liposomal paclitaxel (Tocotax™), and docetaxel and analogs and formulations thereof. However, the administration of taxanes, for example, is commonly limited due to the development of serious and potentially life-threatening toxicities. In particular, the clinical use of taxanes frequently involves delay, modification, or discontinuance of use due to chemotherapy-associated toxicities including toxic disorders of peripheral nerve systems (including chemotherapy-induced peripheral neuropathy) resulting in numbness, burning, pain, paresthesias, dysesthesias, sensory loss, weakness, paralysis, arthralgia, myalgia, as well as other toxicities and Adverse Events (including, for example, hepatotoxicity and myelosuppression).

[0007] Platinum analog chemotherapeutic agents have been used to treat subjects with lung, head, neck, ovary, esophagus, bladder, testis, and other cancers. Representatives of platinum analog chemotherapeutic agents include cisplatin, carboplatin, oxaliplatin, satraplatin, derivatives thereof, and others. Like the taxanes and other chemotherapeutic drugs, platinum analogs are associated with a number of toxicities, including nephrotoxicity, bone marrow suppression, neurotoxicity, nausea, vomiting, and others.

[0008] Amifostine (Ethylol®) and 2-mercaptopropionate sodium are FDA-approved cytoprotective agents for use in

preventing and mitigating chemotherapy agent-associated Adverse Events. Amifostine is currently approved to help prevent cisplatin-induced nephrotoxicity. Problematically, however, amifostine administration has been observed to result in increased intrinsic adverse effects, such as nausea, vomiting, and severe hypotension and has not been shown to reduce or prevent neurotoxicity. 2-mercapto ethane sulfonate sodium, also known as mesna, is used to help prevent hemorrhagic toxicity to the uroepithelial tract (e.g., primarily ureters, urethra and bladder) associated with the administration of oxazaphosphorine chemotherapy, particularly ifosfamide and, less commonly, cyclophosphamide. Mesna administration, even to healthy volunteers, has been observed to result in various adverse chemotherapy-associated Adverse Events including, for example, nausea, vomiting, hypotension, pain, and diarrhea. See, e.g., *Physicians Desk Reference* (PDR) and *American Hospital Formulary Service* (AHFS).

[0009] There remains an unmet need for chemoprotective agents and compositions and methods of their administration that are optimally capable of reducing, preventing, mitigating, and/or delaying chemotherapy-associated toxicities, and which also do not result in either the addition of, or the augmentation of medically-unacceptable adverse effects that may otherwise limit or interfere with the safety and utility of the chemoprotectant agent in the subjects.

[0010] Ideal properties of a chemoprotective agent, composition, and/or regime include:

(i) maximum reduction, prevention, mitigation, and/or delay in onset of chemotherapy-associated toxicities (and associated treatment interruptions, delays or dose modifications due to such toxicities); (ii) a lack of interference with anti-tumor activity and lack of tumor desensitization to cytotoxic effects of chemotherapy; (iii) a safety profile that is medically acceptable; (iv) exploitation of biochemical and pharmacological mechanisms to reduce, prevent, mitigate, and/or delay chemotherapy-associated toxicity; and (v) increases in chemotherapeutic index by allowing increases in dose, frequency, and/or duration of primary chemotherapy treatment. If a chemoprotective agent is capable of increasing the therapeutic index of an active, but otherwise toxic, chemotherapy drug, composition, and/or regimen it may lead to significant benefit to the subject by increasing tumor response rate, increasing time to tumor progression, and overall patient survival. Boven et al. (*British Journal of Cancer*, 2005, 92, 1636-1643), and US patent applications US 2003/0203960 and US 2003/0133994 disclose the use of 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate to reduce paclitaxel and cisplatin-induced neurotoxicity.

[0011] The inventor has previously disclosed the use of, for example, 2,2'-dithio-bis ethane sulfonate and other dithioethers: (i) to prevent and decrease nephrotoxicity (see, for example, U.S. Patent Nos. 5,789,000; 5,866,169; 5,866,615; 5,866,617; 5,902,610) and (ii) to increase the therapeutic index of antineoplastic agents (see, for example, U.S. Patent No. 6,037,336). Disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis ethane sulfonate has been referred to as dimesna, Tavocept®, and BNP7787 in the literature.

[0012] The present invention discloses methods, as well as compositions and formulations and methods for their administration, to achieve higher degrees of patient safety and patient benefit while maintaining or increasing the therapeutic index and preventing and reducing chemotherapy-associated toxicities, including those toxicities described in the above-noted patents and patent applications. By significantly increasing the degree of safety of the patient's overall treatment with chemotherapy and reducing adverse physiological responses to chemotherapeutic pharmacological intervention, the methods, compositions and formulations of this invention will, for example: (i) allow physicians to administer increased dose levels of chemotherapeutic agents, (ii) allow administration of chemotherapeutic agents more frequently, i.e., with shorter time intervals between treatment or actual treatment time; (iii) allow increases in the number of chemotherapy treatments by the prevention of cumulative toxicities; (iv) any combination of numbers (i)-(iii) above, and/or (v) allow reduced numbers of instances of dose modifications, treatment interruptions or delays, or discontinued treatments, alone or in combination with beneficial patient outcomes, as described in numbers (i)-(iv) above.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0013] The invention provides 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for use in decreasing hypersensitivity-based adverse events associated with the administration of chemotherapeutic agents, wherein the 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof is to be administered at a rate of 0.1 g/min. to 2.0 g/min.

[0014] It is also disclosed the 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate or pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof is administered at a rate of about 0.2 g/min. to about 1.0 g/min. to the subject.

[0015] It is also disclosed the 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate or pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof is administered at a rate of about 0.7 g/min. to the subject.

[0016] In one embodiment, a dose of a 2,2-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof is administered over a period of about 45 minutes to the subject.

[0017] In another embodiment, the total dose of a 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof administered to a subject is from about 4.0 g/m² to about 35 g/m². One preferred dose is about 18.4 g/m². Particularly preferred is the administration of one or more of said doses of said compounds to a subject over about 45 minutes.

[0018] The invention also discloses methods of reducing, preventing, mitigating, delaying the onset of, attenuating the severity of, and/or hastening the resolution of chemotherapy-associated toxicity in a subject receiving a chemotherapy agent, comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of a 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, which include the compounds of Formula (I), at a rate of about 0.1 g/min. to about 4.6 g/min., at a total dose of about 4 g/m² to about 35 g/m². Preferred is administration of a total dose of about 18.4 g/m² at a rate of about 0.1 g/min. to about 4.6 g/min. to a subject. Particularly preferred is administration of a total dose of about 18.4 g/m² over about 45 minutes to a subject at an administration rate of about 0.4 g/m²/min.

[0019] In another disclosure, an effective amount of a 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, which include the compounds of Formula (I), is administered to a subject at a rate of about 1 mg/mL/min. to about 50 mg/mL/min.

[0020] In another disclosure of the invention, an effective amount of a 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, which include the compounds of Formula (I), is administered to a subject at a rate of about 7 mg/mL/min. In one disclosure a 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, which include the compounds of Formula (I), is administered to a subject over a period of about 45 minutes. In another disclosure a 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, which include the compounds of Formula (I), is administered to a subject in a formulation having a concentration of about 100 mg/mL of the chemoprotective agent. In yet another disclosure a 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, which include the compounds of Formula (I), is administered to a subject over a period of about 45 minutes and in a formulation having a concentration of about 100 mg/mL of the chemoprotective agent.

[0021] In another disclosure of the invention, an effective amount of a 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, which include the compounds of Formula (I), is administered to a subject at a rate of about 7 mg/mL/min., for a period of about 45 minutes. In another disclosure of the invention, an effective amount of a 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, which include the compounds of Formula (I), is administered to a subject at a rate of about 7 mg/mL/min., in a formulation having a concentration of about 100 mg/mL of the chemoprotective agent. In yet another disclosure of the invention, an effective amount of a 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, which include the compounds of Formula (I), is administered to a subject at a rate of about 7 mg/mL/min., for a period of about 45 minutes, in a formulation having a concentration of about 100 mg/mL of the chemoprotective agent.

[0022] The invention also discloses methods of reducing, preventing, mitigating, delaying the onset of, attenuating the severity of, and/or hastening the resolution of toxicity in a subject receiving a chemotherapeutic agent comprising administering to the subject, a composition comprising an effective amount of a 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, which include the compounds of Formula (I), wherein the composition has an osmolarity that is about 0.1- to about 5-times the osmolarity of the normal range of plasma osmolarity. Osmolarity is a measure of the osmoles (Osm) of solute per kilogram of solvent. In another aspect of the invention, the composition has an osmolarity that is about 2- to about 4-times the normal range of plasma osmolarity. In yet another aspect of the invention, the composition has an osmolarity that is about 3-times the normal range of plasma osmolarity, wherein the normal range of human plasma ranges from approximately 280 mOsm to approximately 320 mOsm.

[0023] Any one of the variables of dose, rate of administration, concentration of chemoprotective agent, formulation osmolarity, and infusion time may be combined with any one or more other of these variables, in the amounts and/or ranges set forth, to create a composition or formulation or method of administration for one or more of the described chemoprotective agents. For example, varying formulation osmolarity may be administered to the subject, as compared to the normal range of human plasma osmolarity (which ranges from approximately 280 mOsm to approximately 320 mOsm). Osmolarity is a measure of the osmoles of solute per kilogram of solvent.

[0024] In another embodiment, the 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate is a disodium salt.

[0025] In another disclosure, a 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate analog, including, for example, a compound of Formula (I), is a disodium salt.

[0026] In other embodiments, compounds of Formula (I) include, for example, monosodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, sodium potassium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, dipotassium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, calcium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, magnesium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, monopotassium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, or manganese 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate; ammonium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate. Mono-and di-potassium salts of 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate and/or an analog thereof, are generally administered to a subject if the total dose of potassium administered at any given point in time is not greater than 100 Meq, and the subject is not hyperkalemic and does not have a condition that would predispose the subject to hyperkalemia (e.g., renal failure).

[0027] In another disclosure, the 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, which include the compounds of Formula (I), is administered intravenously using the rates and/or times described herein, with or without using the concentrations and/or osmolarity ranges described herein, alone or in conjunction with a dose as described herein.

[0028] In another disclosure, the 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, which include the compounds of Formula (I), is administered from about once a day to about once every five weeks, including about once a week or less, about once every two weeks or less, about one every three weeks or less, about once every four weeks or less, about once every five weeks or less, and any daily or weekly interval in between.

[0029] In one disclosure, the 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, which include the compounds of Formula (I), is utilized to reduce, prevent, mitigate, delay the onset of, or attenuate one or more toxicities consequent to administration of a chemotherapeutic agent. Such toxicities may include, for example, neurotoxicity and nephrotoxicity. Reducing includes reducing, preventing, mitigating, delaying the onset of, attenuating the severity of, and/or hastening the resolution rate of at least one toxicity, typically an observed toxicity, consequent to administration of a chemotherapeutic agent.

[0030] In one disclosure, the 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, which include the compounds of Formula (I), is used to shorten the duration between treatment cycles of a chemotherapeutic agent.

[0031] In another disclosure, the 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, which include the compounds of Formula (I), is utilized to increase the dosage of a chemotherapeutic agent, preferably to a maximum useful amount.

[0032] In another disclosure, the 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, which include the compounds of Formula (I), is administered to shorten the duration between treatment cycles of a chemotherapeutic agent and allow a safe increase in the dosage or dosage rate (e.g., mg/day or week or mg/min.) of a chemotherapeutic agent administered.

[0033] In one disclosure, the 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, which include the compounds of Formula (I), is administered with a chemotherapeutic agent, either alone or in multiple chemotherapeutic agent combinations, without limitation, in accordance with medical indications involving the proper treatment of a subject's cancer.

[0034] The chemotherapeutic agent is, for example: a fluoropyrimidine; a pyrimidine nucleoside; a purine nucleoside; an antifolate, a platinum analog; an anthracycline/anthracenedione; an epipodophyllotoxin; a camptothecin; a hormone, a hormonal analog; an antihormonal; an enzyme, protein, peptide, or polyclonal and monoclonal antibody; a vinca alkaloid; a taxane; an epothilone; an antimicrotubule agent; an alkylating agent; an antimetabolite; a topoisomerase inhibitor; an antiviral; or another cytotoxic and/or cytostatic agent. Fluoropyrimidines include, for example, 5-fluorouracil (5-FU), S-1 capecitabine, flotafur, 5'-deoxyflouridine, UFT, eniluracil, and the like. Pyrimidine nucleosides include, for example, cytarabine, deoxycytidine, 5-azacytosine, gemcitabine, 5-azacytosine, 5-azadeoxycytidine, and the like. Purine nucleosides include, for example, fludarabine, 6-mercaptopurine, thioguanine, allopurinol, cladribine, and 2-chloro adenosine. Antifolates include, for example, methotrexate (MTX), trimetrexate, aminopterin, and methylene-10-deazaaminopterin (MDAM). Platinum analogs include, for example, cisplatin,

carboplatin, oxaliplatin, satraplatin, picoplatin, tetraplatin, platinum-DACH and analogs thereof. Anthracyclines/anthracenediones include, for example, doxorubicin, daunorubicin, epirubicin, and idarubicin. Epipodophyllotoxin derivatives include, for example, etoposide, etoposide phosphate and teniposide. Camptothecins include, for example, irinotecan, topotecan, 9-aminocamptothecin, 10, 11-methylenedioxycamptothecin, karenitecin, 9-nitrocamptothecin, and TAS 103: Hormones and hormonal analogs may include, for example, estrogens and estrogen analogs, including anastrazole, diethylstilbestrol, estradiol, premarin, raloxifene; progesterone, progesterone analogs and progestins, including progesterone, norethynodrel, esthisterone, dimesthisterone, megestrol acetate, medroxyprogesterone acetate, hydroxyprogesterone caproate, and norethisterone; androgens, including fluoxymesterone, methyltestosterone and testosterone; as well as adrenocorticosteroids, including dexamethasone, prednisone, cortisol, solumedrol, and the like. Antihormones include, for example, (i) antiestrogens, including: tamoxifen, fulvestrant, toremifene; aminoglutethimide, testolactone, droloxifene, anastrozole; (ii) antiandrogens, including: bicalutamide, flutamide, nilutamide, goserelin; (iii) antitestosterones, including: flutamide, leuprolide, and triptorelin; (iv) adrenal steroid inhibitors including: aminoglutethimide and mitotane; and anti-leuteinizing hormones, including goserelin. Enzymes, proteins, peptides, polyclonal and/or monoclonal antibodies, may include, for example, asparaginase, cetuximab, erlotinib, bevacizumab, rituximab, gefitinib, trastuzumab, interleukins, interferons, leuprolide, pegasparanase, and the like. Vinca Alkaloids include, for example, vincristine, vinblastine, vinorelbine, vindesine, and the like. Taxanes include, for example, paclitaxel, docetaxel, and formulations and analogs thereof. Alkylating agents may include, for example, dacarbazine; procarbazine; temozolamide; thiotepa; nitrogen mustards (e.g., mechlorethamine, chlorambucil, L-phenylalanine mustard, melphalan, and the like); oxazaphosphorines (e.g., ifosfamide, cyclophosphamide, mefosfamide, perfosfamide, trophosfamide and the like); alkyl sulfonates (e.g., busulfan); and nitrosoureas (e.g., carmustine, lomustine, semustine and the like). Epothilones include, for example, epothilones A-E. Antimetabolites include, for example, tomudex and methotrexate, 6-mercaptopurine, and 6-thioguanine. Topoisomerase inhibitors include, for example, irinotecan, and topotecan, karenitecin, amsacrine, etoposide, etoposide phosphate, teniposide, and doxorubicin, daunorubicin, and other analogs. Antiviral agents include, for example, acyclovir, valacyclovir, ganciclovir, amantadine, rimantadine, lamivudine, and zidovudine. Monoclonal antibody agents include, for example, bevacizumab, trastuzumab, rituximab, and the like, as well as growth inhibitors such as erlotinib, and the like. In general, cytostatic agents are mechanism-based agents that slow the progression of neoplastic disease.

[0035] In one disclosure, the method further comprises one or more hydration step(s).

[0036] In one disclosure, the method further comprises one or more premedication(s).

[0037] In one disclosure, the method further comprises one or more hydration step(s) and one or more premedication(s).

[0038] In one disclosure, the method is carried out to treat one or more cancers in a subject. In another embodiment, the subject is a human. Cancers include all cancers and may include, for example, one or more cancers of the ovary, breast, lung, esophagus, bladder, stomach, pancreas, liver (including gall bladder and bile ducts, and Ampulla of Vater), testes, germ cell, bone, cartilage, head, neck, oral mucosa, colorectal area (including colon cancer), anus, kidney, uroepithelium, lymphoma, central nervous system, prostate, endometrium, cervix, uterus, fallopian tube, peripheral nervous system, as well as cancers such as melanoma, mesothelioma, myeloma, leukemia, and Kaposi's sarcoma.

SUMMARY OF FIGURES

[0039]

Figure 1 illustrates a comparison of the number of hypersensitivity Adverse Events between groups of patients in whom 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate or a placebo was infused over (1) 30 minutes, (2) 30 and 45 minutes, or (3) 45 minutes. The chemotherapeutic agent administered was paclitaxel. In this Figure, n= #, equals the number of patients.

Figure 2 illustrates a comparison of the number of patients experiencing at least one drug-related (i.e., disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate-related) Serious Adverse Event (SAE) and those patients experiencing at least one drug-related grade 3 or greater Adverse Event (AE) between groups of patients wherein disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate was infused over 30 minutes, 30 and 45 minutes, or 45 minutes. Drug concentrations of disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate administered were 200 mg/mL infused over 30 minutes, 200 mg/mL and 100 mg/mL infused over 30 & 45 minutes, respectively, and 100 mg/mL infused over 45 minutes. Drug-related Adverse Events are rated from grade 1 to grade 5 and relate to the severity or intensity of the Adverse Event (grade 1 is mild, grade 2 is moderate, grade 3 is severe, grade 4 is life threatening, and grade 5 results in death). A full definition of Adverse Events is provided, below. The chemotherapeutic agent administered was paclitaxel. In this Figure, n= #, equals the number of patients.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

DEFINITIONS

[0040] "Scaffold" or "Skeleton" mean the fixed structural part of the molecule of the formula given.

[0041] "Nucleophile" means an ion or molecule that donates a pair of electrons to an atomic nucleus to form a covalent bond; the nucleus that accepts the electrons is called an electrophile. This occurs, for example, in the formation of acids and bases according to the Lewis concept, as well as in covalent carbon bonding in organic compounds.

[0042] "Pharmaceutically-acceptable salt" means salt derivatives of drugs which are accepted as safe for human administration. In the present invention, these derivatives may comprise various salts including, but not limited to, inorganic salts and alkaline earth metal salts.

[0043] "Fragments", "Moieties" or "Substituent Groups" are the variable parts of the molecule, designated in the formula by variable symbols, such as R_x , X or other symbols. Substituent Groups may consist of one or more of the following:

[0044] " C_xC_y alkyl" generally means a straight or branched-chain aliphatic hydrocarbon containing as few as x and as many as y carbon atoms. Examples include " C_1-C_6 alkyl" (also referred to as "lower alkyl"), which includes a straight or branched chain hydrocarbon with no more than 6 total carbon atoms, and C_1-C_{16} alkyl, which includes a straight or branched chain hydrocarbon with as few as one up to as many as sixteen total carbon atoms, and the like. In the present application, the term "alkyl" is defined as comprising a straight or branched chain hydrocarbon of between 1 and 20 atoms, which can be saturated or unsaturated, and may include heteroatoms such as nitrogen, sulfur, and oxygen;

[0045] " C_xC_y alkylene" means a bridging moiety formed of as few as " x " and as many as " y " $-CH_2-$ groups. In the present invention, the term "alkylene" is defined as comprising a bridging hydrocarbon having from 1 to 6 total carbon atoms which is bonded at its terminal carbons to two other atoms $(-CH_2)_x$ where x is 1 to 6;

[0046] " C_xC_y alkenyl or alkynyl" means a straight or branched chain hydrocarbon with at least one double bond(alkenyl) or triple bond (alkynyl) between two of the carbon atoms;

[0047] "Halogen" or "Halo" means chloro, fluoro, bromo or iodo;

[0048] "Acyl" means $-C(O)-R$, where R is hydrogen, C_xC_y alkyl, aryl, C_xC_y alkenyl, C_xC_y alkynyl, and the like;

[0049] "Acyloxy" means $-O-C(O)-R$, where R is hydrogen, C_xC_y alkyl, aryl, and the like;

[0050] " C_xC_y Cycloalkyl" means a hydrocarbon ring or ring system consisting of one or more rings, fused or unfused, wherein at least one of the ring bonds is completely saturated, with the ring(s) having from x to y total carbon atoms;

[0051] "Aryl" generally means an aromatic ring or ring system consisting of one or more rings, preferably one to three rings, fused or unfused, with the ring atoms consisting entirely of carbon atoms. In the present invention, the term "aryl" is defined as comprising as an aromatic ring system, either fused or unfused, preferably from one to three total rings, with the ring elements consisting entirely of 5-8 carbon atoms;

[0052] "Amine" means a class of organic complexes of nitrogen that may be considered as derived from ammonia (NH_3) by replacing one or more of the hydrogen atoms with alkyl groups. The amine is primary, secondary or tertiary, depending upon whether one, two or three of the hydrogen atoms are replaced. A "short chain anime" is one in which the alkyl group contain from 1 to 10 carbon atoms;

[0053] "Azide" means any group of complexes having the characteristic formula $R(N_3)_x$. R may be almost any metal atom, a

hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, the ammonium radical, a complex $[CO(NH_3)_6]$, $[Hg(CN)_2M]$, (with $M=Cu$, Zn , Co , Ni) an organic radical like methyl, phenyl, nitrophenol, dinitrophenol, *p*-nitrobenzyl, ethyl nitrate, and the like. The azide group possesses a chain structure rather than a ring structure;

[0054] "Heterocycle" means a cyclic moiety of one or more rings, preferably one to three rings, fused or unfused, wherein at least one atom of one of the rings is a non-carbon atom. Preferred heteroatoms include oxygen, nitrogen and sulfur, or any combination of two or more of those atoms. The term "Heterocycle" includes furanyl, pyranyl, thionyl, pyrrolyl, pyrrolidinyl, prolinyl, pyridinyl, pyrazolyl, imidazolyl, triazolyl, tetrazolyl, oxathiazolyl, dithioly, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, oxadiazolyl, pyridazinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, piperazinyl, oxazinyl, thiazolyl, and the like.

[0055] "Imine" means a class of nitrogen-containing complexes possessing a carbon-to-nitrogen double bond (*i.e.*, $R-CH=NH$).

[0056] "Osmolarity" is a measure of the osmoles of solute per kilogram of solvent. For purposes of calculating osmolarity, salts are presumed to dissociate into their component ions. For example, a mole of glucose in solution is one osmole, whereas a mole of sodium chloride in solution is two osmoles (one mole of sodium and one mole of chloride). Both sodium and chloride ions affect the osmotic pressure of the solution. The equation to determine the osmolarity of a solution is given by $Osm=\Phi nC$, where Φ is the osmotic coefficient and accounts for the degree of dissociation of the solute; Φ is between 0 and 1, where 1 indicates 100% dissociation; n is the number of particles into which a molecule dissociates (for example: Glucose equals 1 and NaCl equals 2); and C is the molar concentration of the solution.

[0057] "Substituted" modifies the identified fragments (moieties) by replacing any, some or all of the hydrogen atoms with a moiety (moieties) as identified in the specification. Substitutions for hydrogen atoms to form substituted complexes include halo, alkyl, nitro, amino (also N-substituted, and N,N di-substituted amino), sulfonyl, hydroxy, alkoxy, phenyl, phenoxy, benzyl, benzoxy, benzoyl, and trifluoromethyl.

[0058] As used herein "chemotherapeutic agent" or "chemotherapy agent" or "antineoplastic agent" refer to an agent that reduces, prevents, mitigates, limits, and/or delays the growth of metastases or neoplasms, or kills neoplastic cells directly by necrosis or apoptosis of neoplasms or any other mechanism, or that can be otherwise used, in a pharmaceutically-effective amount, to reduce, prevent, mitigate, limit, and/or delay the growth of metastases or neoplasms in a subject with neoplastic disease. Chemotherapeutic agents include, for example, fluoropyrimidines; pyrimidine nucleosides; purine nucleosides; anti-folates, platinum complexes; anthracyclines/anthracenediones; epipodopodophyllotoxins; camptothecins; hormones; hormonal complexes; antihormonals; enzymes, proteins, and antibodies; vinca alkaloids; taxanes; antimicrotubule agents; alkylating agents; antimetabolites; topoisomerase inhibitors; antivirals; and miscellaneous cytotoxic and cytostatic agents. "Chemotherapy" refers to treatments using chemotherapeutic agents, chemotherapy agents, or antineoplastic agents.

[0059] As used herein, an "effective amount" or a "pharmaceutically-effective amount" in reference to the-compounds or compositions of the instant invention refers to the amount sufficient to induce a desired biological, pharmacological, or therapeutic outcome in a subject with neoplastic disease. That outcome can be reduction, prevention, mitigation, delay, shortening the time to resolution of, alleviation of the signs or symptoms of, or exert a medically-beneficial effect upon the underlying pathophysiology or pathogenesis of an expected or observed Adverse Event, toxicity, disorder or condition, or any other desired alteration of a biological system. In the present invention, the result will generally include the reduction, prevention, mitigation, delay in the onset of, attenuation of the severity of, and/or a hastening in the resolution of, or reversal of chemotherapy-associated toxicity; an increase in the frequency and/or number of treatments; and/or an increase in duration of chemotherapeutic therapy.

[0060] As used herein, the term "reducing" or "reduces" includes reducing, preventing, mitigating, delaying the onset of, attenuating the severity of, and/or hastening the resolution of a chemotherapy-associated Adverse Event, symptom, sign, or condition in a subject, including preventing the onset, or the development of more severe forms of an adverse symptom, sign, or condition in a subject, in whole or in part, or ameliorating or controlling such adverse forms of symptoms, signs, or conditions in the subject, as they involve any drug-related or chemotherapy-associated Adverse Events in the form of toxicities, Adverse Experiences, and/or Adverse Effects.

[0061] As used herein the terms "Adverse Event", "Adverse Effect", or "Adverse Experience" include a manifestation or condition that is reported by the patient (*e.g.*, nausea, chills, depression, numbness, tingling, anorexia, dysguesia, and the like). An "adverse sign" means an objective finding that is a physically observable manifestation of a condition, Adverse Event in the patient (*e.g.*, palpable purpura, maculopapular rash, spider angioma, Chvostek's sign, Babinski's sign, Trousseau's sign, opisthotonus, and the like).

[0062] Definitions for the terms Adverse Event (effect or experience), adverse reaction, and unexpected adverse reaction have previously been agreed to by consensus of the more than 30 Collaborating Centers of the WHO International Drug Monitoring Centre (Uppsala, Sweden). See, Edwards, I.R., et al., Harmonisation in Pharmacovigilance Drug Safety 10(2):93-102 (1994). The following definitions, with input from the WHO Collaborative Centre, have been agreed to:

1. 1. Adverse Event (Adverse Effect or Adverse Experience) - Any untoward medical occurrence in a patient or clinical investigation subject administered a pharmaceutical product and which does not necessarily have to have a causal relationship with this treatment. An Adverse Event (AE) can therefore be any unfavorable and unintended sign (including an abnormal laboratory finding, for example), symptom, or disease temporally associated with the use of a medicinal product, whether or not considered related to the medicinal product.
2. 2. Adverse Drug Reaction (ADR) - In the *pre-approval clinical experience* with a new medicinal product or its new usages, particularly as the therapeutic dose(s) may not be established: all noxious and unintended responses to a medicinal product related to any dose should be considered adverse drug reactions. Drug-related Adverse Events are rated from grade 1 to grade 5 and relate to the severity or intensity of the event. Grade 1 is mild, grade 2 is moderate, grade 3 is severe, grade 4 is life threatening, and grade 5 results in the subject's death.
3. 3. Unexpected Adverse Drug Reaction - An adverse reaction, the nature or severity of which is not consistent with the applicable product information.

[0063] Serious Adverse Event or Adverse Drug Reaction: A Serious Adverse Event (experience or reaction) is any untoward medical occurrence that at any dose:

1. (1) Results in death, is life-threatening. It should be noted that the term "life-threatening" in the definition of "serious" refers to an event in which the patient was at risk of death at the time of the event; it does not refer to an event which hypothetically might have caused death if it were more severe.
2. (2) Requires inpatient hospitalization or prolongation of existing hospitalization.
3. (3) Results in persistent or significant disability/incapacity, or
4. (4) Is a congenital anomaly/birth defect.

[0064] As used herein an "analog" of a compound refers to molecules that share substantial structural (e.g., scaffold or skeleton) and/or functional characteristics with the parent compound. For example, analogs of 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane-sulfonate may include, unless specifically identified otherwise, compounds of Formula (I); prodrugs thereof; pharmaceutically-acceptable salts of the compounds and/or prodrugs; and conjugates, hydrates or solvates of the compounds, salts and/or prodrugs; as well as stereoisomers (including diastereoisomers and enantiomers) and tautomers of the compounds, salts, and/or prodrugs.

[0065] As used herein a "solvate" of a compound refers to a molecular complex of the solute (the compound) and the solvent. For example, a solvate of the present invention may comprise of a molecular complex represented by Formula (I) compounds including, for example, 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane-sulfonate analogs, conjugates, hydrates, prodrugs, polymorphs, as well as stereoisomers (including diastereoisomers and enantiomers) and tautomers thereof, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, with one or more solvent molecules. Such solvent molecules are those that are commonly used in the pharmaceutical art, e.g., water, ethanol, and the like. The term "hydrate" refers to the molecular complex where the solvent molecule is water.

[0066] Formula (I) refers to the compounds:

X-S-S-R₁-R₂:

• wherein;

R₁ is a lower alkylene, wherein R₁ is optionally substituted by a member of the group comprising: aryl, hydroxy, alkoxy, aryloxy, mercapto, alkylthio or arylthio, for a corresponding hydrogen atom;

R₂ is sulfonate or phosphonate;

X is a sulfur-containing amino acid or a peptide comprising from 2-10 amino acids; wherein X is optionally substituted by a member of the group comprising : lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, lower alkynyl, aryl, alkoxy, aryloxy, mercapto, alkylthio or hydroxy for a corresponding hydrogen atom. The compounds of Formula (I) include pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, as well as well as prodrugs, analogs, conjugates, hydrates, solvates, and polymorphs, as well as stereoisomers (including diastereoisomers and

enantiomers) and tautomers thereof.

[0067] As used herein, the term "pre-treatment" comprises the administration of one or more medications, said administration occurring at various times including: at least one day prior to chemotherapy, prior to each chemotherapy treatment, immediately prior to each chemotherapy treatment, concomitantly with or simultaneously during chemotherapy treatment, immediately subsequent to chemotherapy, subsequent to chemotherapy, and/or according to methods known within the art and in accordance with the patient's medical condition.

[0068] As used herein, the term "cytostatic agents" are mechanism-based agents that slow the progression of neoplastic disease.

[0069] As used herein the term "cytotoxic agents" are any agents or processes that kill neoplastic cells.

[0070] As used herein, "treatment schedule time" means the difference in schedule of administration time, including: (i) the amount of drug administered per week; (ii) the amount of drug administered per week/ m^2 of body surface area; and (iii) the amount of drug administered per week per kg of body weight.

[0071] 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate has previously been shown to be useful in enhancing the utility of chemotherapeutic agents. See, Published U.S. Patent Application 2003/0203960, Published U.S. Patent Application No. 2003/0133994, U.S. Patent No. 5,902,610, and U.S. Patent No. 5,789,000.

[0072] New methods of administration of agents such as 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, pharmaceutically-acceptable salts, and/or an analog thereof, have now been discovered in connection with a human clinical study comprising a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study with a 1:1 randomization. Initial blinded study results support the ability of compounds such as 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate to markedly enhance overall safety, decrease overall Adverse Events, decrease hypersensitivity-based Adverse Events, and increase the time of Adverse Event onset, while maintaining at least the same therapeutic indices (e.g. dose level administered in a prescribed specific time schedule, including duration of administration and frequency), and reduction, prevention, mitigation, and/or delay of toxicities associated with the administration of chemotherapeutic agents.

[0073] Clinical study results support the administration of compounds such as 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, pharmaceutically-acceptable salts thereof, and/or analogs thereof, over a period of about 45 minutes and at a concentration of about 100 mg/mL, which resulted in an observed substantial decrease in the frequency and severity of hypersensitivity Adverse Events over previously disclosed methods of administration. For example, as shown in Figure 1, the proportion of patients with at least one hypersensitivity Adverse Event was lowered from approximately 42% to approximately 30%. These results are based upon a double-blind, placebo-controlled study with a 1:1 randomization; which includes patients who received placebo, as well as all patients in cohorts treated with paclitaxel, which is known to produce hypersensitivity reactions and more severe forms of allergic reactions including anaphylaxis. It is noted that the overall expected value for paclitaxel alone is approximately 40-45% hypersensitivity reactions; however a reduction in the overall proportion of patients experiencing hypersensitivity reactions by approximately 12% (i.e., approximately 42% to approximately 30%) was observed. This reduction in the proportion of patients experiencing hypersensitivity reactions overall represents a medically significant difference in such adverse reactions. It represents a reduction in the risk of an observed potentially serious and life-threatening Adverse Event by approximately 29% in the entire study population (i.e., both placebo and 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate-populations). As there is no additive or expected placebo induced-effect affecting reported hypersensitivity Adverse Events, there may be up to an approximate 57% reduction in such hypersensitivity Adverse Events in the 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate treatment population (e.g., approximately 42% observed overall, prior to the implementation of novel methods of administration to which the present invention relates, followed by approximately 30% observed incidence, after such implementation). In the aforementioned calculations, approximately 42% represents the incidence of hypersensitivity Adverse Events observed or reported in the entire treated population who received paclitaxel plus either placebo or 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate (i.e., 1:1 or approximately 50%, each) at 200 mg/mL over a total of 30 minutes; whereas approximately 30% represents the incidence of hypersensitivity Adverse Events observed or reported in the entire treated population who received paclitaxel plus either placebo or 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate (i.e., 1:1 or approximately 50% each) at 100 mg/mL over a total of 45 minutes.

[0074] Results similar to that found in Figure 1 were shown in Figure 2, with an observed substantial decrease in the frequency of drug-related (i.e., disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate-related) Serious Adverse Events with the administration of disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate over about 45 minutes and at a concentration of about 100 mg/mL when compared to an

administration period of about 30 minutes at a concentration of about 200 mg/mL. The 45 minute administration of a compound with a concentration of 100 mg/mL resulted in the proportion of patients experiencing at least one drug-related Serious Adverse Event (SAE) being lowered from approximately 7.6% to approximately 5.4%, an approximate 29% overall reduction. Moreover, the percentage of patients experiencing at least one drug-related Adverse Event of grade 3 or higher was decreased from 16.4% (30 minutes, 200 mg/mL) to 8.6% (45 minutes, 100 mg/mL), an approximate 47% overall reduction.

[0075] The invention discloses methods, formulations, and devices. The methods, formulations, and devices may be used for reducing, preventing, mitigating, delaying the onset of, attenuating the severity of, and/or hastening the resolution of toxicity in a subject receiving a chemotherapeutic agent comprising administering to the subject, an effective amount of a 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, which include the compounds of Formula (I).

[0076] The invention additionally discloses the use of the methods and the administration of the compositions and formulations described herein to a subject, optionally with or within a device, wherein the administration takes place as medically indicated in the subject prior to, concurrently or simultaneously, or following the administration of any chemotherapeutic agent or pharmaceutically active compound(s) associated with any one or more of the toxicities noted herein by any route, dose, concentration, duration or schedule.

[0077] Various chemotherapeutic agents may be used in conjunction with, or as a part of, the methods described and claimed herein. Chemotherapeutic agents may include, for example, a fluoropyrimidine; a pyrimidine nucleoside; a purine nucleoside; an antifolate, a platinum analog; an anthracycline/anthracenedione; an epipodophyllotoxin; a camptothecin; a hormone, a hormonal analog; an antihormonal; an enzyme, protein, peptide, or polyclonal and monoclonal antibody; a vinca alkaloid; a taxane; an epothilone; an antimicrotubule agent; an alkylating agent; an antimetabolite; a topoisomerase inhibitor; an antiviral; or another cytotoxic and/or cytostatic agent.

[0078] Fluoropyrimidines may include, for example, 5-fluorouracil (5-FU), S-1 capecitabine, florasur, 5'deoxyflurouridine, UFT, eniluracil, and the like.

[0079] Pyrimidine nucleosides may include, for example, cytarabine, deoxycytidine, 5-azacytosine, gemcitabine, 5-azadeoxycytosine, and the like.

[0080] Purine nucleosides may include, for example, fludarabine, 6-mercaptopurine, thioguanine, allopurinol, cladribine, 2-chloro adenosine, and the like.

[0081] Antifolates may include, for example, methotrexate (MTX), trimetrexate, aminopterin, methylene-10-deazaaminopterin (MDAM), and the like.

[0082] Platinum analogs may include, for example, cisplatin, carboplatin, oxaplatin, picoplatin, tetraplatin, satraplatin, platinum-DACH, ormaplatin, Cl-973, JM-216, and analogs thereof.

[0083] Anthracyclines/anthracenediones may include, for example, doxorubicin, daunorubicin, epirubicin, idarubicin, and the like.

[0084] Epipodophyllotoxin derivatives may include, for example, etoposide, etoposide phosphate, teniposide, and the like.

[0085] Camptothecins may include, for example, irinotecan, topotecan, 9-aminocamptothecin, 10, 11-methylenedioxycamptothecin, karenitecin, 9-nitrocamptothecin, TAS 103, and the like.

[0086] Hormones and hormonal analogs may include, for example, estrogens and estrogen analogs, including anastrazole, diethylstilbestrol, estradiol, premarin, raloxifene; progesterone, progesterone analogs and progestins, including progesterone, norethynodrel, esthisterone, dimethylhisterone, megestrol acetate, medroxyprogesterone acetate, hydroxyprogesterone caproate, and norethisterone; androgens, including fluoxymesterone, methyltestosterone and testosterone; adrenocorticosteroids, including dexamethasone, prednisone, cortisol, solumedrol, and the like.

[0087] Antihormones, may include, for example, antiestrogens (e.g., tamoxifen, fulvestrant, toremifene, aminoglutethimide, testolactone, droloxifene, anastrozole); antiandrogens (e.g., bicalutamide, flutamide, nilutamide, goserelin); antitestosterones (e.g., flutamide, leuprolide, triptorelin); adrenal steroid inhibitors (e.g., aminoglutethimide and mitotane); and anti-leuteinizing hormones (e.g., goserelin).

[0088] Enzymes, proteins, peptides, polyclonal and/or monoclonal antibodies may include, for example, asparaginase, cetuximab, erlotinib, bevacizumab, rifuximab, trasfuzumab, gefitinib, interleukins, interferons, leuprolide, pegasparanase, and the like.

[0089] Vinca alkaloids may include, for example, vincristine, vinblastine, vinorelbine, vindesine, and the like.

[0090] Taxanes may include, for example, paclitaxel, docetaxel, and various formulations and analogs thereof.

[0091] Alkylating agents may include, for example, dacarbazine; procarbazine; temozolamide; thiotepa; nitrogen mustards (e.g., mechlorethamine, chlorambucil, L-phenylalanine mustard, melphalan, and the like); oxazaphosphorines (e.g., ifosfamide, cyclophosphamide, mefosfamide, perfosfamide, trophosfamide and the like); alkyl sulfonates (e.g., busulfan); and nitrosoureas (e.g., carmustine, lomustine, thiotepa, semustine and the like).

[0092] Epothilones may include, for example, epothilones A-E, and the like.

[0093] Antimetabolites may include, for example, tomudex, methotrexate, 6-mercaptopurine, 6-thioguanine, and the like.

[0094] Topoisomerase inhibitors may include, for example, irinotecan, topotecan, amsacrine, etoposide, etoposide phosphate, teniposide, doxorubicin, daunorubicin, karenitecin, and various other analogs.

[0095] Antiviral agents may include, for example, acyclovir, valacyclovir, ganciclovir, amantadine, rimantadine, lamivudine, zidovudine, and the like.

[0096] Cytostatic agents, such as monoclonal antibodies, may include, for example, bevacizumab, trastuzumab, rituximab, and the like.

[0097] Formula (I) refers to the compounds:



wherein;

R₁ is a lower alkylene, wherein R₁ is optionally substituted by a member of the group comprising: aryl, hydroxy, alkoxy, aryloxy, mercapto, alkylthio or arylthio, for a corresponding hydrogen atom;

R₂ is sulfonate or phosphonate;

X is a sulfur-containing amino acid or a peptide comprising from 2-10 amino acids; wherein X is optionally substituted by a member of the group comprising : lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, lower alkynyl, aryl, alkoxy, aryloxy, mercapto, alkylthio or hydroxy for a corresponding hydrogen atom. The compounds of Formula (I) include pharmaceutically-acceptable salts thereof, as well as prodrugs, analogs, conjugates, hydrates, solvates and polymorphs, as well as stereoisomers (including diastereoisomers and enantiomers) and tautomers thereof. Compounds of Formula (I), and their synthesis are described in published U.S. Patent Application No. US 2005/0256055, the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.

[0098] In one disclosure, an effective amount of 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, may include, for example, a range from about 0.01 g/m² to about 100 g/m². Additional effective doses may include, for example, from about 0.1 g/m² to about 90 g/m²; about 1.0 g/m² to about 80 g/m²; about 4.0 g/m² to about 70 g/m²; about 5.0 g/m² to about 60 g/m²; about 10 g/m² to about 50 g/m²; about 15 g/m² to about 25 g/m²; about 4 g/m², about 8 g/m²; about 12 g/m²; about 18 g/m²; about 28 g/m²; about 35 g/m²; and about 41 g/m². Other amounts within these ranges may also be used.

[0099] In one preferred disclosure, 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, is administered at a concentration of about 100 mg/mL. In another preferred disclosure 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, is infused over about 45 minutes. In yet another preferred disclosure 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, is administered

at a concentration of about 100 mg/mL over a period of about 45 minutes.

[0100] In another disclosure, 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, may be administered, for example, at an infusion rate of about 0.1 g/min. to about 4.6 g/min. Additional infusion rates include, for example, about 0.2 g/min to about 2.0 g/min.; about 0.2 g/min. to about 4.0 g/min.; about 0.25 g/min. to about 3.0 g/min., about 0.3 g/min. to about 2.5 g/min.; about 0.35 g/min. to about 2.0 g/min.; about 0.4 g/min. to about 1.5 g/min.; about 0.45 g/min. to about 1.4 g/min.; about 0.5 g/min. to about 1.3 g/min.; about 0.55 g/min. to about 1.3 g/min.; about 0.6 g/min. to about 1.2 g/min.; about 0.55 g/min. to about 1.2 g/min.; about 0.6 g/min. to about 1.1 g/min.; about 0.65 g/min. to about 1.0 g/min. Other amounts within these ranges may also be used. The infusion rate can be calculated by those skilled in the art based on the desired dose per mass, Body Surface Area (BSA) of the subject and infusion time. For example, a dose of about 18.4 g/m², in a patient with a BSA of 1.7 m², infused over 45 minutes would have an infusion rate of about 0.7 g/minute.

[0101] In another embodiment, 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, is administered, for example, at about 1.0 mg/mL/min. to about 50 mg/mL/min. Additional dosing may include, for example, from about 2.0 mg/mL/min. to about 20 mg/mL/min.; about 1.5 mg/mL/min. to about 40 mg/mL/min.; about 2.0 mg/mL/min. to about 35 mg/mL/min.; about 2.5 mg/mL/min. to about 30 mg/mL/min.; about 3.0 mg/mL/min. to about 25 mg/mL/min.; about 3.5 mg/mL/min. to about 20 mg/mL/min.; about 4.0 mg/mL/min. to about 15 mg/mL/min.; about 4.5 mg/mL/min.; about 5.0 mg/mL/min.; about 5.5 mg/mL/min.; about 6.0 mg/mL/min.; about 6.5 mg/mL/min.; about 7.0 mg/mL/min.; about 7.5 mg/mL/min.; about 8.0 mg/mL/min.; about 8.5 mg/mL/min.; about 9.0 mg/mL/min.; about 9.5 mg/mL/min.; about 10 mg/mL/min.; about 11 mg/mL/min.; about 12 mg/mL/min.; about 13 mg/mL/min.; and about 14 mg/mL/min. Other amounts approximating these ranges may also be utilized. The mg/mL/min dosing schedule can be calculated by those skilled in the art based on a desired dose per mass, BSA of the subject, infusion time and desired concentration. For example, a dose of about 18.4 g/m², in a patient with a BSA of about 1.7 m², infused over 45 minutes at a concentration of 100 mg/mL would be about 7 mg/mL/min.

[0102] In a preferred disclosure, the method of administration comprises administration of 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, in a composition that is hyperosmotic relative to the patient's plasma or serum osmolarity. In one embodiment, for example, the compound is administered in a composition having an osmolarity of about 0.1- to about 5-times the osmolarity of the normal plasma or serum osmolarity in a subject. In another embodiment, the compound is administered in a composition having an osmolarity of about 2- to about 4-times the osmolarity of the normal plasma or serum osmolarity in a subject. In yet other embodiments, the compound is administered in a composition having an osmolarity of about 1-; about 2-; about 3-; about 4-; or about 5-times the osmolarity of the normal plasma or serum osmolarity in a subject. The normal range of human plasma osmolarity ranges from approximately 280 mOsm to approximately 320 mOsm.

[0103] Without wishing to be bound by theory, hyperosmotic compositions are believed to facilitate a protective renal effect by inducing increases in renal clearance of body water, by an osmotically-mediated increase in the clearance of free water, thereby enhancing the rate, volume and/or frequency of urinary output per unit of time (*i.e.*, diuresis). In addition, this hyperosmotic effect is believed to facilitate the entry of a chemoprotective agent, *e.g.*, a 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, into cells, or conversely, an egress of free water from the intracellular compartment into the renal tubular lumen and collecting ducts, either by, for example, uptake of the agent by renal cells or osmotic diffusion of water in the tubular lumen of the kidney mediated by a process similar to the diffusion of a solute through a semi-permeable membrane (*i.e.*, Le Chatteau's diffusion principle). 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, may also be taken up by renal tubular epithelium by energy-dependent transport mechanisms, and thereby exert its beneficial biological, pharmaceutical and medicinal effects locally.

[0104] 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate is a known compound and can be manufactured by methods known in the art. See, *e.g.*, *J. Org. Chem.* 26:1330-1331 (1961); *J. Org. Chem.* 59:8239 (1994). In addition, 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate and other dithioethers may also be synthesized as outlined in U.S. Patent No. 5,808,160, U.S. Patent No. 6,160,167 and U.S. Patent No. 6,504,049. Compounds of Formula (I) may be manufactured as described in U.S. Patent Application 2005/0256055.

[0105] In another disclosure of the invention, the 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate and/or an analog thereof, is a pharmaceutically-acceptable disodium salt. In other embodiments, the 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate and/or an analog thereof, is/are pharmaceutically-acceptable salt(s) which include, for example: (i) monosodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate; (ii) sodium potassium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate; (iii) dipotassium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate; (iv) calcium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate; (v) magnesium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate; (vi) manganese 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate; (vii) ammonium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate; and (viii) monopotassium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate. Mono- and di-potassium salts of 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate and/or an analog thereof are administered to a subject if the total dose of potassium administered at any

given point in time is not greater than 100 Meq, and the subject is not hyperkalemic and does not have a condition that would predispose the subject to hyperkalemia (e.g., renal failure).

[0106] In one disclosure, the method of administration further comprises the step of administering one or more chemotherapeutic agents. The administration of a 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, may be prior to, immediately prior to, during, immediately subsequent to or subsequent to the administration of the one or more chemotherapeutic agents.

[0107] Chemotherapeutic agents may be prepared and administered to subjects using methods known within the art. For example, paclitaxel may be prepared using methods described in U.S. Patent Nos. 5,641,803, 6,506,405, and 6,753,006 and is administered as known in the art (see, for example, U.S. Patent Nos. 5,641,803, 6,506,405, and 6,753,006). Paclitaxel may be prepared for administration in a dose in the range of about 50 mg/m² and about 275 mg/m². Preferred doses include about 80 mg/m², about 135 mg/m² and about 175 mg/m².

[0108] Docetaxel may be prepared using methods described in U.S. Patent No. 4,814,470 and is administered as known in the art (see, for example, U.S. Patent Nos. 4,814,470, 5,438,072, 5,698,582, and 5,714,512). Docetaxel may be prepared for administration in a dose in the range of about 30 mg/m² and about 100 mg/m². Preferred doses include about 55 mg/m², about 60 mg/m², about 75 mg/m², and about 100 mg/m².

[0109] Cisplatin may be prepared using methods described in U.S. Patent Nos. 4,302,446, 4,322,391, 4,310,515, and 4,915,956 and is administered as known in the art (see, for example, U.S. Patent Nos. 4,177,263, 4,310,515, 4,451,447). Cisplatin may be prepared for administration in a dose in the range of about 30 mg/m² and about 120 mg/m² in a single dose or 15 mg/m² and about 20 mg/m² daily for five days. Preferred doses include about 50 mg/m², about 75 mg/m² and about 100 mg/m².

[0110] Carboplatin may be prepared using methods described in U.S. Patent No. 4,657,927 and is administered as known in the art (see, for example, U.S. Patent No. 4,657,927). Carboplatin may be prepared for administration in a dose in the range of about 20 mg/kg and about 200 mg/kg. Preferred doses include about 300 mg/m² and about 360 mg/m². Other dosing may be calculated using a formula according to the manufacturer's instructions.

[0111] Oxaliplatin may be prepared using methods described in U.S. Patent Nos. 5,290,961, 5,420,319, 5,338,874 and is administered as known in the art (see, for example, U.S. Patent No. 5,716,988). Oxaliplatin may be prepared for administration in a dose in the range of about 50 mg/m² and about 200 mg/m². Preferred doses include about 85 mg/m² and about 130 mg/m².

[0112] In another disclosure the method comprises one or more additional hydration step(s). Hydration comprises the administration of various fluids to the subject in need thereof for purposes of facilitating medical treatment to said subject. Such hydration may serve, e.g., to replace or increase internal fluid levels. For example, saline hydration may include administration of about 250 mL to about 1000 mL of 0.9% saline solution administered over about 1 hour to about 2 hours. Other forms of hydration, including hypertonic (e.g., 3% sodium chloride) or hypotonic (e.g., 0.45 M sodium chloride or Dextrose 5% in Water or Ringer's lactate) solutions that are commercially available for parenteral administration may be used in *lieu* of, or in combination with, or in addition to saline hydration as dictated by the patient's medical condition.

[0113] In another disclosure the method comprises an additional step of administering one or more pre-therapy medication(s). Pre-medications include, for example, antihistamines, steroids, antiemetics, and 5-HT3 antagonists. Antihistamines may include, for example, diphenhydramine, clemastine, cimetidine, ranitidine and famotidine. Steroids may include, for example, corticosteroids, including hydrocortisone, dexamethasone, prednisolone and prednisone. Antiemetics may include, for example, prochloroperazine, metoclopramide, and dimenhydrinate. 5-HT3 antagonists may include, for example, ondansetron, dolasetron, and granisetron. Other pre-therapy drugs may include, for example, diazepam congeners, gabapentin and amitriptyline. Pre-therapy may be administered at least one day prior to chemotherapy, prior to each chemotherapy treatment, immediately prior to each chemotherapy treatment, concomitantly with or simultaneously during chemotherapy treatment, immediately subsequent to chemotherapy, subsequent to chemotherapy, and/or according to methods known within the art and in accordance with the patient's medical condition.

[0114] In one disclosure, 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, is administered to a subject in need of treatment for one or more cancers. Said subject may be a human. Said cancer or cancers may be human cancers, which may include, for example, one or more cancers of the: ovary, breast, lung, esophagus, bladder, stomach, pancreas, liver (e.g., bile ducts, gall bladder, and Ampulla of Vater), testes, germ cell, bone, cartilage, head, neck, oral

mucosa, colorectal area, anus, kidney, uroepithelium, lymphoma, central nervous system, prostate, endometrium, cervix, uterus, fallopian tube, peripheral nervous system, and various other cancers including melanoma, mesothelioma, myeloma, leukemia, and Kaposi's sarcoma.

[0115] The present invention also discloses controlled or other doses, dosage forms, formulations, compositions and/or devices containing 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, for example, doses and dosage forms for oral administration (for example by means of tablets, troches, lozenges, sublingual absorption, and the like), injection (for example: subcutaneous administration, intradermal administration, subdermal administration, intramuscular administration, depot administration, intravenous administration or intra-arterial administration, intra-cavitory administration (e.g., administration into the intrapleural or intraperitoneal space), and any such administration may occur by, for example, delivery via parenteral bolus, slow intravenous injection, and intravenous drip, as well as by the use of infusion devices (e.g., implantable infusion devices, both active and passive).

[0116] The dosage forms, formulations, devices and/or compositions of the invention may be formulated for periodic administration, including at least once daily administration, at least about once every two days, at least about once every three days, at least about once every four days, at least about once every five days, at least about once every six days, at least about once a week, at least about once every 1.5 weeks or less, at least about once every 2 weeks or less, at least about once every 2.5 weeks or less, at least about once every 3 weeks or less, at least about once every 3.5 weeks or less, at least about once every 4 weeks or less, at least about once every 5 weeks or less, or any time interval between one day and five weeks or more than once every five weeks.

[0117] In a preferred embodiment, the composition of the invention comprises 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, at about 100 to about 200 mg/mL or, alternately, about 600 to about 1,800 mOsm/L.

[0118] In certain of the methods of the invention, and the uses of the compositions and formulations of the invention, the chemoprotective agent may be administered in conjunction with a chemotherapeutic agent wherein the duration of treatment comprises at least 3 continuous courses, each course being of a specified period for medication of a chemotherapeutic agent, for example, a taxane antineoplastic agent, and an interval for suspending the chemotherapeutic agent medication. In conjunction with the inventions described and claimed herein, the chemotherapeutic agent treatment may comprise, for example, 2 or more treatment courses, 5 or more treatment courses, 6 or more treatment courses, 7 or more treatment courses, 8 or more treatment courses, or 9 or more treatment courses. The treatment courses may also be continuous. The chemotherapeutic agent may be a taxane antineoplastic agent, such as paclitaxel or docetaxel. The chemotherapeutic agent, which may be a taxane antineoplastic agent such as paclitaxel or docetaxel, may also be administered in a course of therapy in combination with another chemotherapeutic agent, for example, a platinum analog antineoplastic drug. The platinum analog antineoplastic drug, for example, may be cisplatin, carboplatin, oxaliplatin, or satraplatin.

[0119] The compositions and formulations of the invention, alone or in combination with one or more chemotherapeutic agents, and instructions for their use, may be included in a form of packs or kits. Thus, the invention also includes kits comprising the compositions, formulations, and/or devices described herein with instructions for use. For example, a kit may comprise a 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof and instructions for administration. Kits may additionally comprise one or more chemotherapeutic agents with instructions for their use. Kits may also additionally comprise one or more pre-treatments as described herein and instructions for their use.

[0120] In general, the compositions and formulations of the invention are administered once a day wherein a chemotherapeutic agent is administered at 1 day to 5 week intervals, or any times in between, or longer than 5 week intervals as described herein, and the compositions and formulations of the invention are administered on the same date as the chemotherapeutic agent is administered.

[0121] For example, a course of therapy may include a single dose of paclitaxel (175 mg/m²) administered intravenously over 3 hours, pre-cisplatin saline hydration for 1 hour, immediately followed by a single dose of a 2,2'-dithiobis ethane sulfonate (in a formulation having the concentration and/or osmolarity set forth herein, and/or administered at a rate set forth herein) administered intravenously over about 45 minutes, a single dose of cisplatin (75 mg/m²) administered intravenously over 1 hour and subsequently post-cisplatin saline hydration for 1.5 hours. This is but one example. The methods of the invention may be carried out, and the formulations of the invention used, with only one chemotherapeutic agent, e.g., a taxane or a platinum analog chemotherapeutic agent, or with more than one chemotherapeutic agent.

[0122] As noted herein, the methods of the invention may also be carried out, and the formulations of the invention also used, in conjunction with one or more premedications.

[0123] Pre-therapy may be administered at least one day prior to chemotherapy, prior to each chemotherapy treatment, immediately prior to each chemotherapy treatment, concomitantly with or simultaneously during chemotherapy treatment, immediately subsequent to chemotherapy, subsequent to chemotherapy, and/or according to methods known within the art and in accordance with the patient's medical condition. Pre-medications may be administered according to the manufacturer's instructions. See also, e.g., Example 4, below.

[0124] Saline hydration may include, for example administration of about 250 mL to about 1000 mL of 0.9% saline solution administered over about 1 hour to about 2 hours. Other forms of hydration, including hypertonic (e.g., 3% sodium chloride) or hypotonic (e.g., 0.45 M sodium chloride or Dextrose 5% in Water or Ringer's lactate) solutions that are commercially available for parenteral administration may be used *in lieu* of, or in combination with, or in addition to saline hydration as dictated by the patient's medical condition. Hydration steps can be added prior to the administration of paclitaxel, after administration of 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, prior to the administration of cisplatin, and/or after the administration of cisplatin.

[0125] Examples of dosage forms suitable for injection of the compounds and formulations of the invention include delivery via bolus such as single or multiple or continuous or constant administrations by intravenous injection, subcutaneous, subdermal, and intramuscular administration. These forms may be injected using syringes, pens, jet injectors, and internal or external pumps, with vascular or peritoneal access, for example. Syringes come in a variety sizes including 0.3, 0.5, 1, 2, 5, 10,25 and 50 mL capacity. Needleless jet injectors are also known in the art and use a pressurized air to inject a fine spray of solution into the skin. Pumps are also known in the art. The pumps are connected by flexible tubing to a catheter, which is inserted into the tissue just below the skin. The catheter is left in place for several days at a time. The pump is programmed to dispense the necessary amount of solution at the proper times. In addition, the invention provides for infusion dose delivery formulations and devices, including but not limited to implantable infusion devices for delivery of compositions and formulations of the invention. Implantable infusion devices may also comprise a coating of, or a portion of, a medical device wherein the coating comprises the polymer loaded with 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

[0126] Examples of infusion devices for compounds and formulations of the invention include infusion pumps containing a 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, to be administered at a desired rate and amount for a desired number of doses or steady state administration, and include implantable drug pumps.

[0127] Examples of implantable infusion devices for compounds, and formulations of the invention include any solid form or liquid form in which the active agent is a solution, suspension or encapsulated within or dispersed throughout a biodegradable polymer or synthetic polymer, for example, silicone, polypropylene, silicone rubber, silastic or similar polymer.

[0128] Examples of controlled drug formulations useful for delivery of the compounds and formulations of the invention are found in, for example, Sweetman, S. C. (Ed.), *The Complete Drug Reference*, 33rd Edition, Pharmaceutical Press, Chicago, 2483 pp. (2002); Aulton, M. E. (Ed.), *Pharmaceutics: The Science of Dosage Form Design*. Churchill Livingstone, Edinburgh, 734 pp. (2000); and, Ansel, H. C., Allen, L. V. and Popovich, N. G., *Pharmaceutical Dosage Forms and Drug Delivery Systems*, 7th Ed., Lippincott, 676 pp. (1999). Excipients employed in the manufacture of drug delivery systems are described in various publications known to those skilled in the art including, for example, Kibbe, E. H., *Handbook of Pharmaceutical Excipients*, 3rd Ed., American Pharmaceutical Association, Washington, 665 pp. (2000).

[0129] Further examples of dosage forms of the invention include, but are not limited to modified-release (MR) dosage forms including delayed-release (DR) forms; prolonged-action (PA) forms; controlled-release (CR) forms; extended-release (ER) forms; timed-release (TR) forms; and long-acting (LA) forms. For the most part, these terms are used to describe orally administered dosage forms, however these terms may be applicable to any of the dosage forms, formulations, compositions and/or devices described herein. These formulations effect delayed and controlled total drug release for some time after drug administration, and/or drug release in small aliquots intermittently after administration, and/or drug release slowly at a controlled rate governed by the delivery system, and/or drug release at a constant rate that does not vary, and/or drug release for a significantly longer period than usual formulations.

[0130] Modified-release dosage forms of the invention include dosage forms having drug release features based on time, course, and/or location which are designed to accomplish therapeutic or convenience objectives not offered by conventional or immediate-release forms. See, e.g., Bogner, R. H., *Bioavailability and bioequivalence of extended-release oral dosage forms*. U.S. Pharmacist 22 (Suppl.):3-12 (1997). Extended-release dosage forms of the invention include, for example, as defined by The United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA), a dosage form that allows a reduction in dosing frequency to that represented

by a conventional dosage form, e.g., a solution or an immediate-release dosage form.

[0131] The present invention discloses extended-release formulations containing 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or analogs thereof, for parenteral administration. Extended rates of 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, action following injection may be achieved in a number of ways, including the following: crystal or amorphous 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate forms having prolonged dissolution characteristics; slowly dissolving chemical complexes of the 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate formulation; solutions or suspensions of 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, in slowly absorbed carriers or vehicles (e.g., oleaginous); increased particle size of 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or analogs thereof, in suspension; or, by injection of slowly eroding microspheres of 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, (see, e.g., Friess, W., Lee, G. and Groves, M. J., Insoluble collagen matrices for prolonged delivery of proteins. *Pharmaceut. Dev. Technol.* 1:185-193 (1996). For example, the duration of action of the various forms of insulin is based in part on its physical form (amorphous or crystalline), complex formation with added agents, and its dosage form (solution or suspension).

[0132] An acetate, phosphate, citrate, bicarbonate, glutamine or glutamate buffer may be added to modify pH of the final composition. Optionally a carbohydrate or polyhydric alcohol tonicifier and, a preservative selected from the group consisting of m-cresol, benzyl alcohol, methyl, ethyl, propyl and butyl parabens and phenol may also be added. Water for injection, tonicifying agents such as sodium chloride, as well as other excipients, may also be present, if desired. For parenteral administration, formulations may be isotonic or substantially isotonic to avoid irritation and pain at the site of administration. Alternatively, formulations for parenteral administration may also be hyperosmotic relative to normal mammalian plasma, as described herein.

[0133] The terms buffer, buffer solution and buffered solution, when used with reference to hydrogen-ion concentration or pH, refer to the ability of a solute/solvent system, particularly an aqueous solution, to resist a change in pH with the addition of acid or alkali, or upon dilution with a solvent, or both. Characteristic of buffered solutions, which undergo small changes of pH on addition of acid or base, is the presence either of a weak acid and a salt of the weak acid, or a weak base and a salt of the weak base. An example of the former system is acetic acid and sodium acetate. The change of pH is slight as long as the amount of hydroxyl ion added does not exceed the capacity of the buffer system to neutralize it.

[0134] The buffer used in the practice of the present invention is selected from any of the following, for example, an acetate, phosphate, citrate, bicarbonate, glutamine, or glutamate buffer, with the most preferred buffer being a phosphate buffer.

[0135] Carriers or excipients can also be used to facilitate administration of the compositions and formulations of the invention. Examples of carriers and excipients include calcium carbonate, calcium phosphate, various sugars such as lactose, glucose, or sucrose, or types of starch, cellulose derivatives, gelatin, polyethylene glycols, and physiologically compatible solvents.

[0136] A stabilizer may be included in the formulations of the invention, but will generally not be needed. If included, however, a stabilizer useful in the practice of the invention is a carbohydrate or a polyhydric alcohol. The polyhydric alcohols include such compounds as sorbitol, mannitol, glycerol, xylitol, and polypropylene/ethylene glycol copolymer, as well as various polyethylene glycols (PEG) of molecular weight 200,400, 1450, 3350, 4000, 6000, and 8000). The carbohydrates include, for example, mannose, ribose, trehalose, maltose, inositol, lactose, galactose, arabinose, or lactose.

[0137] The *United States Pharmacopeia* (USP) states that anti-microbial agents in bacteriostatic or fungistatic concentrations must be added to preparations contained in multiple dose containers. They must be present in adequate concentration at the time of use to prevent the multiplication of microorganisms inadvertently introduced into the preparation while withdrawing a portion of the contents with a hypodermic needle and syringe, or using other invasive means for delivery, such as pen injectors. Antimicrobial agents should be evaluated to ensure compatibility with all other components of the formula, and their activity should be evaluated in the total formula to ensure that a particular agent that is effective in one formulation is not ineffective in another. It is not uncommon to find that a particular agent will be effective in one formulation but not effective in another formulation.

[0138] A preservative is, in the common pharmaceutical sense, a substance that prevents or inhibits microbial growth and may be added to a pharmaceutical formulation for this purpose to avoid consequent spoilage of the formulation by microorganisms. While the amount of the preservative is not great, it may nevertheless affect the overall stability of the 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate. Preservatives include, for example, benzyl alcohol and ethyl alcohol.

[0139] While the preservative for use in the practice of the invention can range from 0.005 to 1.0% (w/v), the preferred range for each preservative, alone or in combination with others, is: benzyl alcohol (0.1-1.0%), or m-cresol (0.1-0.6%), or phenol (0.1-0.8%)

or combination of methyl (0.05-0.25%) and ethyl or propyl or butyl (0.005%-0.03%) parabens. The parabens are lower alkyl esters of para-hydroxybenzoic acid.

[0140] A detailed description of each preservative is set forth in "Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences" as well as Pharmaceutical Dosage Forms: Parenteral Medications, Vol. 1, Avis, et al. (1992). For these purposes, the 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, may be administered parenterally (including subcutaneous injections, intravenous, intramuscular, intradermal injection or infusion techniques) in dosage unit formulations containing conventional non-toxic pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, adjuvants, and vehicles.

[0141] If desired, the parenteral formulation may be thickened with a thickening agent such as a methylcellulose. The formulation may be prepared in an emulsified form, either water in oil or oil in water. Any of a wide variety of pharmaceutically-acceptable emulsifying agents may be employed including, for example, acacia powder, a non-ionic surfactant, or an ionic surfactant.

[0142] It may also be desirable to add suitable dispersing or suspending agents to the pharmaceutical formulation. These may include, for example, aqueous suspensions such as synthetic and natural gums, e.g., tragacanth, acacia, alginate, dextran, sodium carboxymethylcellulose, methylcellulose, polyvinyl-pyrrolidone, or gelatin.

[0143] It is possible that other ingredients may be present in the parenteral pharmaceutical formulation of the invention. Such additional ingredients may include wetting agents, oils (e.g., a vegetable oil such as sesame, peanut, or olive), analgesic agents, emulsifiers, antioxidants, bulking agents, toxicity modifiers, metal ions, oleaginous vehicles, proteins (e.g., human serum albumin, gelatin, or proteins) and a zwitterion (e.g., an amino acid such as betaine, taurine, arginine, glycine, lysine, or histidine). Such additional ingredients, of course, should not adversely affect the overall stability of the pharmaceutical formulation of the present invention.

[0144] Containers and kits are also a part of a composition and may be considered a component. Therefore, the selection of a container is based on a consideration of the composition of the container, as well as of the ingredients, and the treatment to which it will be subjected.

[0145] Regarding pharmaceutical formulations, see also, Pharmaceutical Dosage Forms: Parenteral Medications, Vol. 1, 2nd ed., Avis et al., Eds., Marcel Dekker, New York, N.Y. (1992).

[0146] Suitable routes of parenteral administration include intramuscular, intravenous, subcutaneous, intraperitoneal, subdermal, intradermal, intraarticular, intrathecal, and the like. Mucosal delivery is also permissible. The dose and dosage regimen will depend upon the weight, health, disease type, and degree of disease severity affecting the subject.

[0147] In addition to the above means of achieving extended drug action, the rate and duration of delivery of 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, (or analogs, conjugates, hydrates, solvates, or polymorphs, as well as stereoisomers (including diastereoisomers and enantiomers) and tautomers thereof), may be controlled by, e.g., using mechanically controlled drug infusion pumps.

[0148] The invention also discloses infusion dose delivery formulations and devices, including but not limited to implantable infusion devices for delivery of compositions and formulations of the invention. Implantable infusion devices may employ inert material such as biodegradable polymers listed above or synthetic silicones, for example, cylastic, silicone rubber or other commercially-available polymers manufactured and approved for such uses. The polymer may be loaded with 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate and any excipients. Implantable infusion devices may also comprise a coating of, or a portion of, a medical device wherein the coating comprises the polymer loaded with 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof. Such an implantable infusion device may be prepared as disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 6,309,380 by coating the device with an *in vivo* biocompatible and biodegradable or bioabsorbable or bioerodible liquid or gel solution containing a polymer with the solution comprising a desired dosage amount of 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, and any excipients. The solution is converted to a film adhering to the medical device thereby forming the implantable 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate-deliverable medical device.

[0149] An implantable infusion device may also be prepared by the *in situ* formation of 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, containing solid matrix as disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 6,120,789, herein incorporated in its entirety. Implantable infusion devices may be passive or active. An active implantable infusion device may comprise a 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane-sulfonate reservoir, a means of allowing the 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, (or prodrugs, analogs, conjugates, hydrates, solvates, or polymorphs, as well as stereoisomers (including diastereoisomers and enantiomers) and tautomers thereof), to exit the reservoir, for example a

permeable membrane, and a driving force to propel the 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane, sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, from the reservoir. Such an active implantable infusion device may additionally be activated by an extrinsic signal, such as that disclosed in WO 02/45779, wherein the implantable infusion device comprises a system configured to deliver the 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, comprising an external activation unit operable by a user to request activation of the implantable infusion device, including a controller to reject such a request prior to the expiration of a lockout interval. Examples of an active implantable infusion device include implantable drug pumps. Implantable drug pumps include, for example, miniature, computerized, programmable, refillable drug delivery systems with an attached catheter that inserts into a target organ system, usually the spinal cord or a vessel. See, Medtronic Inc. Publications: UC9603124EN NP-2687, 1997; UC199503941b ENNP-2347 182577-101, 2000; UC199801017a EN NP3273a 182600-101, 2000; UC200002512 EN NP4050, 2000; UC199900546bEN NP- 3678EN, 2000. Medtronic, Inc., Minneapolis, MN. (1997-2000). Many pumps have 2 ports: one into which drugs can be injected and the other that is connected directly to the catheter for bolus administration or analysis of fluid from the catheter. Implantable drug infusion pumps (e.g., SynchroMed EL and SynchroMed programmable pumps; Medtronic) are indicated for long-term intrathecal infusion of morphine sulfate for the treatment of chronic intractable pain; intravascular infusion of floxuridine for treatment of primary or metastatic cancer; intrathecal injection (baclofen injection) for severe spasticity; long-term epidural infusion of morphine sulfate for treatment of chronic intractable pain; long-term intravascular infusion of doxorubicin, cisplatin, or methotrexate for the treatment or metastatic cancer; and long-term intravenous infusion of clindamycin for the treatment of osteomyelitis. Such pumps may also be used for the long-term infusion of one or more compounds simultaneously, including, 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, in combination with one or more chemotherapeutic agents of choice, at a desired amount for a desired number of doses or steady state administration. One form of a typical implantable drug infusion pump (e.g., SynchroMed EL programmable pump; Medtronic) is titanium covered and roughly disk shaped, measures 85.2 mm in diameter and 22.86 mm in thickness, weighs 185 g, has a drug reservoir of 10 mL, and runs on a lithium thionyl-chloride battery with a 6- to 7-year life, depending on use. The downloadable memory contains programmed drug delivery parameters and calculated amount of drug remaining, which can be compared with actual amount of drug remaining to access accuracy of pump function, but actual pump function over time is not recorded. The pump is usually implanted in the right or left abdominal wall. Other pumps useful in the invention include, for example, Portable Disposable Infuser Pumps (PDIPs). Additionally, implantable infusion devices may employ liposome delivery systems, such as a small unilamellar vesicles, large unilamellar vesicles, and multilamellar vesicles can be formed from a variety of phospholipids, such as cholesterol, stearyl amine or phosphatidylcholines.

[0150] The invention also discloses dose delivery formulations and devices formulated to enhance bioavailability of 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof. This may be in addition to or in combination with any of the formulations or devices described above.

[0151] An increase in bioavailability of 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, may be achieved by complexation of 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, with one or more bioavailability or absorption enhancing agents or in bioavailability or absorption enhancing formulations, including bile acids such as taurocholic acid.

[0152] The invention in part also provides for the formulation of 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, prodrugs, analogs, conjugates, hydrates, solvates, and/or polymorphs, as well as stereoisomers (including diastereoisomers and enantiomers) and tautomers thereof, in a microemulsion to enhance bioavailability. A microemulsion is a fluid and stable homogeneous solution composed of four major constituents, respectively, a hydrophilic phase, a lipophilic phase, at least one surfactant (SA) and at least one cosurfactant (CoSA). A surfactant is a chemical compound possessing two groups, the first polar or ionic, which has a great affinity for water, the second which contains a longer or shorter aliphatic chain and is hydrophobic. These chemical compounds having marked hydrophilic character are intended to cause the formation of micelles in aqueous or oily solution. Examples of suitable surfactants include mono-, di- and triglycerides and polyethylene glycol (PEG) mono-and diesters. A cosurfactant, also sometimes known as "co-surface-active agent", is a chemical compound having hydrophobic character, intended to cause the mutual solubilization of the aqueous and oily phases in a microemulsion. Examples of suitable co-surfactants include ethyl diglycol, lauric esters of propylene glycol, oleic esters of polyglycerol, and related compounds.

[0153] Any such dose may be administered by any of the routes or in any of the forms herein described. For example, a dose or doses could be given parenterally using a dosage form suitable for parenteral administration which may incorporate features or compositions described in respect of dosage forms delivered in a modified release, extended release, delayed release, slow release or repeat action oral dosage form.

[0154] A better understanding of the invention will be gained by reference to the following specific examples.

EXAMPLE 1

PREPARATION OF DISODIUM 2,2'-DITHIO-BIS-ETHANE SULFONATE SOLUTION FOR ADMINISTRATION

[0155] Sterile de-pyrogenated, disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate that has been manufactured for parenteral administration to subjects, can be prepared for administration as follows.

[0156] All facilities and equipment are verified to be suitable for use in making pharmaceutical preparations (hereinafter "the preparation room"). After the facilities are verified to be suitably sterile, and has acceptable endotoxin, impurity, and contaminant levels, the solution from Example 1 is transferred to the preparation room. The preparation room is continuously monitored for airborne particles and viable flora as well as pressure differential compared to the pressure outside the preparation room. A heat belt is applied to a sterile vessel, of the appropriate size, containing the 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate composition (i.e., disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, and/or another pharmaceutically-acceptable salt, prodrugs, analogs, conjugates, hydrates, solvates, and/or polymorphs, as well as stereoisomers (including diastereoisomers and enantiomers) and tautomers thereof) in solution form to warm the solution to between 35-40°C. After the solution has been allowed to sit at this temperature overnight, the solution is filtered through the 0.6 micron sterile pre-filter and then through the 0.2 micron sterile filter. When the solution has all passed through the filters, the filter is then bubble tested and flushed using a solution of 60% isopropyl alcohol and 40% water and the water bubble point of 11 psi should be reached. If the test fails, filtration must be repeated with new filters until a successful bubble test is obtained. A sample of the disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate-containing solution is withdrawn and assayed for purity prior to proceeding to the filling step.

[0157] The solution is then transferred to a Flexicon® filling machine, which dispenses 6.0 g ± 0.1 g of solution into each sterile vial. A sterile stopper is then applied to each vial and finally a sterile seal is applied and crimped to each vial. A number of vials are removed for testing after filling and sealing. The number of vials filled is recorded and the vials transferred to a quarantine area for inspection. After the vials are inspected, a label having printed information regarding the contents, instructions for use, and/or safety information is affixed to each vial. The concentration of the disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, and/or other pharmaceutically-acceptable salt, and/or an analog thereof, contained in each vial marked on the label.

[0158] Calculation of the required amount of disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate is made based upon the desired dose rate (e.g., grams or milligrams per m² per minute, without limitation) and that is considered appropriate by the treating physician for the patient's condition. For example, if a physician determines the need to treat the patient with disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate in conjunction with the patient's chemotherapy to reduce, prevent, mitigate or delay toxicity, and has determined that the patient has a body surface area (i.e., as determined by an acceptable conventional methodology) of 1.7 m² and further decides that the desired dose rate of the disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate solution to be administered is approximately about 695 mg/min, and a disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate solution osmolarity of about 1,660 mOsm/L, to be administered over a period of 45 minutes total, the pharmacist would prepare the disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate solution for administration as follows: (i) 695 mg/min x 45 minutes = 31,280 milligrams; (ii) next, the pharmacist would prepare a 20% (200 mg/mL) stock solution of disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate in sufficient quantity for administration to the patient by calculation of 31,280 milligrams divided by 200 mg/mL = 156.4 mL of the 20% disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate solution. The 200 mg/mL stock solution is then diluted for various other desired concentrations.

[0159] When prepared for administration, the calculated amount of disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate and/or another pharmaceutically-acceptable salt, prodrugs, analogs, conjugates, hydrates, solvates, and/or polymorphs, as well as stereoisomers (including diastereoisomers and enantiomers) and tautomers thereof, is either drawn from an appropriately manufactured 20% solution or immediately reconstituted in water, dextrose in water, physiological saline solution, dextrose and saline in water, or any other acceptable diluent that is approved for parenteral administration. The diluent is stored for use in parenteral injections in a suitable sterile, pyrogen-free, plastic or glass container that is designed for such administration.

EXAMPLE 2**ADMINISTRATION OF A DISODIUM 2,2'-DITHIO-BIS-ETHANE SULFONATE SOLUTION**

[0160] In the event it is further desired to administer a disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate solution to the same or a

different patient from the immediately preceding Example 1, that has a final osmolarity of about 830 mOsm/L and to administer said solution to the patient at the same dose rate, the adjustment in the osmolarity of the preparation of the disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate solution and the administration of the same prepared solution may be as follows: (i) 156.4 mL of a 20% (200 mg/mL) disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate solution would be added to 156.4 mL of water dextrose in water, physiological saline solution, dextrose and saline solution, or any other acceptable sterile diluent that is approved for use in parenteral administration, and placed in a suitable plastic or glass container for said administration; (ii) the rate of the disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate solution infusion would be increased by a factor of about 2 to ensure that the medication was administered within 45 minutes total time, if this was the total amount of time used in Example 1 to administer the disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate solution infusion to the subject.

EXAMPLE 3

ADMINISTRATION OF A DISODIUM 2,2'-DITHIO-BIS-ETHANE SULFONATE SOLUTION AT A 100 MG/ML CONCENTRATION OVER A 45 MINUTE TIME RANGE

[0161] Administration of an appropriately prepared solution of 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, e.g., disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate (and/or another pharmaceutically-acceptable salt, prodrugs, analogs, conjugates, hydrates, solvates, and/or polymorphs, as well as stereoisomers (including diastereoisomers and enantiomers) and tautomers thereof), approximately 830 mOsm/L in final form, is carried out under a properly executed physician's order. The subject is administered intravenously a 100 mg/mL disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate solution at a rate of about 7 mL/minute for 45 minutes total.

EXAMPLE 4

ADMINISTRATION OF DISODIUM 2,2'-DITHIO-BIS-ETHANE SULFONATE SOLUTION WITH A TAXANE CHEMOTHERAPEUTIC AGENT

[0162] Patients diagnosed with breast cancer received treatment with paclitaxel and disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate; both medications were administered separately as a single daily intravenous infusion once every seven days. Paclitaxel was administered intravenously over a period of 1 hour at a dose of 80 mg/m². About 18.4 g/m² of disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate was administered intravenously over 45 minutes, immediately following paclitaxel administration. The patients' body surface area (BSA) was determined based on the use of standard methods that are customarily used for such purposes, including standardized nomograms and calculations that utilize the individual height and weight data from each patient.

[0163] Disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate was prepared as described in Example 1 and provided in glass bottles at a stock concentration of 200 mg/mL.

[0164] Calculating Dose: The dose and volume of disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate for each patient was calculated with the following formula:

(18,400 mg/m² x BSA in m²) divided by 200 mg/mL = total dose in milliliters for each patient.

[0165] For example, a patient with a BSA of 1.76 m² would receive a total volume of 162 mL of stock solution calculated as follows:

(18,400 mg/m² divided by 200 mg/mL) x 1.76 m² = 92 x 1.76 = 162 mL

[0166] Calculating Concentration: The final concentration of the medication for each patient was calculated based on administration of a final disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate concentration of 100 mg/mL.

STEP 1: CALCULATION OF CONCENTRATION FACTOR FOR FINAL CONCENTRATION TO BE ADMINISTERED

[0167] Starting concentration (mg/mL) divided by target concentration = X = concentration factor.

STEP 2: CALCULATION OF VOLUME OF FINAL CONCENTRATION

[0168] Volume of starting concentration multiplied by X = final total volume.

[0169] For example, if the patient is to receive a dose of 162 mL of 200 mg/mL stock solution, the 162 mL of disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate disodium would be added to an equal volume of sterile water for intravenous administration as follows:

STEP 1: 200 mg/mL divided by 100 mg/mL = 2

STEP 2: 162 mL x 2 = 324 mL (final total volume)

[0170] Calculating Rate: The rate of infusion was calculated based on a 45 minute infusion time.

Total Volume = mL/min divided by the total number of minutes.

[0171] For example, if the total volume is 324 mL, the rate would be about 7.2 or 7 mL/min. (i.e., 324 mL divided by 45 minutes equals 7.2 mL per minute).

[0172] Paclitaxel was diluted in 250 to 500 cc of 5% dextrose for Injection, USP or 0.9% sodium chloride for injection, USP. While 80 mg/m² is described above, other doses may also be administered. For example, paclitaxel may be administered from about 50 mg/m² to about 175 m², about 100 mg/m², including, for example, about 135 mg/m², about 150 mg/m² and about 175 mg/m². Additionally, alternative infusion times may include, for example, from about 1 hour to about 24 hours. Paclitaxel solutions may be prepared in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions on the label.

[0173] HER2 positive patients may have additionally received trastuzumab treatment. Trastuzumab was reconstituted prior to administration using exactly 20 mL of the bacteriostatic water supplied with the drug. The resulting stock solution contained 21 mg/mL of trastuzumab. Trastuzumab was further diluted before administration by adding the appropriate amount of drug to a polyvinyl chloride or polyethylene infusion bag containing 250 cm³ of 0.9% sodium chloride for injection, USP. The first dose of trastuzumab was 4 mg/kg administered intravenously over 90 minutes. All subsequent doses of trastuzumab were 2 mg/kg, administered over 30 minutes once weekly. Trastuzumab was administered following the completion of each dose of disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate.

[0174] Optionally, patients may additionally receive pre-medications for paclitaxel and/or saline hydration. Pre-medications may include, for example, dexamethasone, diphenhydramine and H2 antihistamines including cimetidine, ranitidine or famotidine.

[0175] Dexamethasone may be administered according to the standard practice/regimen, however, the following taper is recommended to avoid cumulative dexamethasone toxicity in patients. 10 mg of dexamethasone for parenteral administration can be prepared in accordance with the manufacturer's label and administered intravenously 30 minutes prior to paclitaxel infusion during the first week, followed by 8 mg intravenously the second week, 6 mg intravenously the third week 3, 4 mg intravenously the fourth week, and 2 mg intravenously thereafter as long as paclitaxel treatment continues. If a patient receives a dexamethasone dose less than 10 mg and experiences any hypersensitivity reaction, the patient may receive the next higher dexamethasone dose, or other higher doses of dexamethasone if desired, prior to all further paclitaxel therapy.

[0176] If intravenous dexamethasone is not available, oral formulations of commercially available dexamethasone, at the same doses noted above, administered 4-6 hours prior to paclitaxel infusion may be used. Prednisone or prednisolone from commercial sources may be substituted for the above noted doses of dexamethasone at the following doses: dose dexamethasone (dose prednisone): 10 mg (60 mg), 8 mg (50 mg), 6 mg (40 mg), 4 mg (25 mg), or 2 mg (15 mg).

[0177] Diphenhydramine hydrochloride, from commercial sources, 50 mg may be administered intravenously 30 to 60 minutes prior to paclitaxel administration. Diphenhydramine should be prepared and administered to the patient in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

[0178] One of the following commercially available H2 antihistamine premedications may optionally be administered 30 to 60 minutes prior to paclitaxel administration: (i) i.v ranitidine hydrochloride 50 mg; (ii) i.v cimetidine hydrochloride 300 mg; or (iii) i.v. famotidine 20 mg. The H2 antihistamine that is administered to the patient should be prepared and administered in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

[0179] Saline hydration may include, for example administration of about 250 mL to about 1000 mL of 0.9% saline (sodium chloride) solution administered over about and hour to about 2 hours. Saline hydration steps can be administered, for example, prior to the administration of paclitaxel or after administration of disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate.

EXAMPLE 5

ADMINISTRATION OF DISODIUM 2,2'-DITHIO-BIS-ETHANE SULFONATE SOLUTION WITH A TAXANE CHEMOTHERAPEUTIC AGENT AND A PLATINUM CHEMOTHERAPEUTIC AGENT

[0180] 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, e.g., disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, may also be administered in combination with both a taxane chemotherapeutic agent and a platinum chemotherapeutic agent. This treatment regime is administered about once a week. Alternatively, the treatment regime is administered about once every two weeks, about once every two and a half weeks, or about once every three weeks.

[0181] Paclitaxel is administered intravenously over a period of 1 hour at a dose of 80 mg/m². Approximately 18 g/m² of disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate is administered intravenously over 45 minutes, immediately following paclitaxel administration. Cisplatin, from commercial sources, is administered intravenously over a period of 1 hour, immediately following disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate. Cisplatin may be administered at a dose from about 30 mg/m² to about 120 mg/m².

[0182] Disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate is prepared as described in Example 1 and provided in glass bottles at a stock concentration of 200 mg/mL. Dose, concentration and infusion rate is calculated as described in Example 4, based on a dose of about 18.4 g/m², concentration of about 100 mg/mL and infusion time of about 45 minutes.

[0183] Optionally, patients also receive pre-medications for paclitaxel, pre-medications for cisplatin, and/or saline hydration.

[0184] Pre-medications may include, for example, antihistamines, steroids, antiemetics, and 5-HT3 antagonists. Antihistamines may include, without limitation, for example, diphenhydramine, clemastine, cimetidine, ranitidine and famotidine. Steroids may include, for example, corticosteroids, including hydrocortisone, dexamethasone, prednisolone and prednisone. Antiemetics may include, for example, prochloroperazine, metoclopramide, and dimenhydrinate. 5-HT3 antagonists may include, for example, ondansetron, dolasetron, and granisetron. Other pre-therapy drugs may include, for example, diazepam congeners, gabapentin and amitriptyline. Pre-therapy may be administered at least one day prior to chemotherapy, prior to each chemotherapy treatment, immediately prior to each chemotherapy treatment, concomitantly with or simultaneously during chemotherapy treatment, immediately subsequent to chemotherapy, subsequent to chemotherapy, and/or according to methods known within the art and in accordance with the patient's medical condition. Pre-medications may be administered according to the manufacturer's instructions and as described in Example 4.

[0185] Saline hydration may include, for example administration of about 250 mL to about 1000 mL of 0.9% saline solution administered over about 1 hour to about 2 hours. Other forms of hydration, including hypertonic (e.g., 3% sodium chloride) or hypotonic (e.g., 0.45 sodium chloride or Dextrose 5% in Water or Ringer's lactate) solutions that are commercially available for parenteral administration may be used *in lieu* of, or in combination with, or in addition to saline hydration as dictated by the patient's medical condition. Hydration steps can be added prior to the administration of paclitaxel, after administration of disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, prior to the administration of cisplatin, and/or after the administration of cisplatin.

DISCUSSION OF CLINICAL RESULTS (FIGURE 1 AND FIGURE 2)

[0186] Clinical study results support the administration of compounds such as disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate, and/or another pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and/or an analog thereof, over a period of about 45 minutes and at a

concentration of about 100 mg/mL, which resulted in an observed substantial decrease in the frequency of hypersensitivity Adverse Events over administration of the same compound over a period of 30 minutes at a concentration of 200 mg/mL. **Figure 1** illustrates a comparison of the number of hypersensitivity Adverse Events between groups of patients in whom 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate or a placebo was infused over (1) 30 minutes, (2) 30 minutes and 45 minutes, or (3) 45 minutes. In addition, the total number of hypersensitivity Adverse Events, the mean time to the first hypersensitivity Adverse Event, and a variety of the types of hypersensitivity Adverse Events were also shown. **Figure 1** shows the proportion of patients with at least one hypersensitivity Adverse Event was lowered from approximately 42% to approximately 30%. These results are based upon a double-blind, placebo-controlled study with a 1:1 randomization; which includes patients who received placebo, as well as all patients in cohorts treated with paclitaxel, which is known to produce Adverse Events (e.g., hypersensitivity reactions and more severe forms of allergic reactions including anaphylaxis). The overall expected value for paclitaxel alone is approximately 40-45% hypersensitivity reactions; however a reduction in the overall proportion of patients experiencing hypersensitivity Adverse Events by approximately 12% (i.e., approximately 42% to approximately 30%) was observed. This reduction in the proportion of patients experiencing hypersensitivity Adverse Events overall represents a reduction in the risk of an observed potentially serious and life-threatening Adverse Event by approximately 29% in the entire study population (i.e., both placebo and disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate populations). As there is no additive or expected placebo induced-effect causing reported hypersensitivity reactions, there may be up to an approximate 57% reduction in such hypersensitivity events in the disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate treatment population (e.g., approximately 42% observed overall, prior to the implementation of novel methods of administration to which the present invention relates, followed by approximately 30% observed incidence, after such implementation). In the aforementioned calculations, approximately 42% represents the incidence of Adverse Events observed or reported in the entire treated population who received paclitaxel plus either placebo or disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate (i.e., 1:1 or approximately 50%, each) at 200 mg/mL over a total of 30 minutes; whereas approximately 30% represents the incidence of Adverse Events observed or reported in the entire treated population who received paclitaxel plus either placebo or disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate (i.e., 1:1 or approximately 50% each) at 100 mg/mL over a total of 45 minutes.

[0187] **Figure 2** illustrates a comparison of the number of patients experiencing at least one drug-related Serious Adverse Effect (SAE) and those patients experiencing at least one drug-related grade 3 or greater Adverse Event (AE) between groups of patients wherein disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate was infused over about 30 minutes, about 30 and about 45 minutes, or about 45 minutes. Drug concentrations administered were about 200 mg/mL infused over about 30 minutes, about 200 mg/mL and about 100 mg/mL infused over about 30 & about 45 minutes, respectively, and about 100 mg/mL infused over about 45 minutes. Results similar to that found in **Figure 1** were shown in **Figure 2**, with an observed substantial decrease in the frequency of drug-related Serious Adverse Events with the administration of the disodium 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethane sulfonate over about 45 minutes and at a concentration of about 100 mg/mL when compared to an administration period of about 30 minutes at a concentration of about 200 mg/mL. The 45 minute administration of a compound with a concentration of about 100 mg/mL resulted in the proportion of patients experiencing at least one drug-related Serious Adverse Event (SAE) being lowered from approximately 7.6% to approximately 5.4%, an approximate 29% overall reduction. Moreover, the percentage of patients experiencing at least one drug-related grade 3 or greater Adverse Event was decreased from 16.4% (30 minutes, 200 mg/mL) to 8.6% (45 minutes, 100 mg/mL), an approximate 47% overall reduction. A full definition of Adverse Effects or Adverse Events is provided in paragraph [0064] and in part states, drug-related Adverse Events are rated from grade 1 to grade 5 and relate to the severity or intensity of the effect or event (grade 1 is mild, grade 2 is moderate, grade 3 is severe, grade 4 is life threatening, and grade 5 results in death).

REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION

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PATENTKRAV

1. 2,2'-Dithio-bis-ethansulfonat eller et farmaceutisk acceptabelt salt deraf til anvendelse ved mindskelse af bivirkninger som følge af overfølsomhed i forbindelse med indgivelse af kemoterapeutika, hvor 2,2'-dithio-bis-ethansulfonatet eller det farmaceutisk acceptable salt deraf skal indgives med en hastighed på 0,1 g/min til 2,0 g/min.
5
2. 2,2'-Dithio-bis-ethansulfonat eller et farmaceutisk acceptabelt salt deraf til anvendelse ifølge krav 1, som skal indgives med en hastighed på 1 mg/ml/min til 10 50 mg/ml/min.
3. 2,2'-Dithio-bis-ethansulfonat eller et farmaceutisk acceptabelt salt deraf til anvendelse ifølge krav 1, som skal indgives i en totaldosis på 4 g/m² til 35 g/m².
15
4. 2,2'-Dithio-bis-ethansulfonat eller et farmaceutisk acceptabelt salt deraf til anvendelse ifølge et hvilket som helst af kravene 1 til 3, hvor det farmaceutisk acceptable salt er et dinatriumsalt, et mononatriumsalt, et natriumkaliumsalt, et dikaliumsalt, et calciumsalt, et magnesiumsalt, et mangansalt, et ammoniumsalt eller 20 et monokaliumsalt.
5. 2,2'-Dithio-bis-ethansulfonat eller et farmaceutisk acceptabelt salt deraf til anvendelse ifølge krav 4, hvor det farmaceutisk acceptable salt er dinatrium-2,2'-dithio-bis-ethansulfonat.
25
6. 2,2'-Dithio-bis-ethansulfonat eller et farmaceutisk acceptabelt salt deraf til anvendelse ifølge et hvilket som helst af kravene 1 til 5, som skal indgives fra én gang dagligt til én gang hver femte uge.
- 30 7. 2,2'-Dithio-bis-ethansulfonat eller et farmaceutisk acceptabelt salt deraf til anvendelse ifølge et hvilket som helst af kravene 1 til 6, hvor det kemoterapeutiske middel er en taxanalog og/eller en platinanalog.
8. 2,2'-Dithio-bis-ethansulfonat eller et farmaceutisk acceptabelt salt deraf til 35 anvendelse ifølge krav 7, hvor den taxanaloge er docetaxel eller paclitaxel.

9. 2,2'-Dithio-bis-ethansulfonat eller et farmaceutisk acceptabelt salt deraf til anvendelse ifølge krav 7, hvor den platinanaloge er cisplatin, carboplatin, oxaliplatin eller satraplatin.
- 5 10. 2,2'-Dithio-bis-ethansulfonat eller et farmaceutisk acceptabelt salt deraf til anvendelse ifølge et hvilket som helst af kravene 1 til 9, som foreligger i en til oral indgivelse egnet form.
- 10 11. 2,2'-Dithio-bis-ethansulfonat eller et farmaceutisk acceptabelt salt deraf til anvendelse ifølge et hvilket som helst af kravene 1 til 9, som foreligger i en til parenteral indgivelse egnet form.
12. 2,2'-Dithio-bis-ethansulfonat eller et farmaceutisk acceptabelt salt deraf til anvendelse ifølge krav 11, som foreligger i en til intravenøs indgivelse egnet form.
- 15 13. 2,2'-Dithio-bis-ethansulfonat eller et farmaceutisk acceptabelt salt deraf til anvendelse ifølge krav 1 til anvendelse ved nedsættelse af hyppigheden og sværheden af overfølsomhedsreaktioner og allergiske reaktioner, der fremkaldes af paclitaxel.
- 20 14. 2,2'-Dithio-bis-ethansulfonat eller et farmaceutisk acceptabelt salt deraf til anvendelse ifølge krav 13, som skal indgives i et tidsrum på ca. 45 minutter og i en koncentration på ca. 100 mg/ml.

DRAWINGS

Figure 1

	30 min Infusion (N= 257)	30 & 45 min Infusions (N= 148)	45 min Infusion (N= 50)
Number of Patients with at Least One Hypersensitivity Adverse Event	108 (42.0%)	40 (27.0%)	15 (30.0%)
Total Number of Hypersensitivity Adverse Events	314	137	29
Mean Time to First Hypersensitivity Event	23.9	69.6	91.6
IMMUNE SYSTEM DISORDERS	32 (12.5%)	9 (6.1%)	6 (12.0%)
ANAPHYLACTIC SHOCK	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (2.0%)
DRUG HYPERSENSITIVITY	4 (1.6%)	0 (0.0%)	3 (6.0%)
HYPERSensitivity	28 (10.9%)	9 (6.1%)	2 (4.0%)
RESPIRATORY, THORACIC AND MEDIASTINAL DISORDERS	39 (15.2%)	6 (4.1%)	2 (4.0%)
APNOEA	2 (0.8%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
DYSPNOEA	36 (14.0%)	6 (4.1%)	2 (4.0%)
DYSPNOEA EXACERBATED	1 (0.4%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
SKIN AND SUBCUTANEOUS TISSUE DISORDERS	51 (19.8%)	19 (12.8%)	7 (14.0%)
DERMATITIS ALLERGIC	8 (3.1%)	11 (7.4%)	2 (4.0%)
ERYTHEMA	17 (6.6%)	3 (2.0%)	2 (4.0%)
RASH	27 (10.5%)	3 (2.0%)	1 (2.0%)
RASH ERYTHEMATOUS	1 (0.4%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
RASH GENERALISED	1 (0.4%)	1 (0.7%)	0 (0.0%)
RASH MACULAR	1 (0.4%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
URTICARIA	5 (1.9%)	1 (0.7%)	2 (4.0%)
VASCULAR DISORDERS	35 (13.6%)	14 (9.5%)	2 (4.0%)
FLUSHING	18 (7.0%)	13 (8.8%)	1 (2.0%)
HOT FLUSH	9 (3.5%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (2.0%)
HYPOTENSION	16 (6.2%)	1 (0.7%)	0 (0.0%)

Figure 2

Administration Parameter and Drug Concentration	30 minutes (n=171) 200 mg/mL	30 & 45 minutes (n=109) 200 mg/mL @ 30 minutes 100 mg/mL @ 45 minutes	45 minutes (n=93) 100 mg/mL
Patients experiencing at least one drug-related SAE	13 (7.6%)	4 (3.7)	5 (5.4%)
Patients experiencing at least one drug-related \geq grade 3 AE	28 (16.4%)	7 (6.4%)	8 (8.6%)