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(54) Title: DRUG CORES FOR SUSTAINED RELEASE OF THERAPEUTIC AGENTS

(57) Abstract: A solid drug core insert can be manufactured by injecting a liquid mixture comprising a therapeutic agent and a matrix precursor into a sheath body. The injection can be conducted at subambient temperatures. The mixture is cured to form a solid drug-matrix core. The therapeutic agent can be a liquid at about room temperature that forms a dispersion of droplets in the matrix material. A surface of the solid drug core is exposed, for example by cutting the tube, and the exposed surface of the solid drug core releases therapeutic quantities of the therapeutic agent when implanted into the patient. In some embodiments, the insert body inhibits release of the therapeutic agent, for example with a material substantially impermeable to the therapeutic agent, such that the therapeutic quantities are released through the exposed surface, thereby avoiding release of the therapeutic agent to non-target tissues.





INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No PCT/US2008/010487

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER INV. A61K9/00 A61M5 A61M5/14 A61F2/02 A61F9/00 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) A61K Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, CHEM ABS Data C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category* Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. X WO 03/022242 A (SMART DRUG SYSTEMS INC.) 1-299 20 March 2003 (2003-03-20) the whole document Α WO 02/058667 A (BAUSCH & LOMB INC.) 1 - 2991 August 2002 (2002-08-01) the whole document Α US 2006/020248 A1 (A. PRESCOTT) 1 - 29926 January 2006 (2006-01-26) the whole document X US 5 283 063 A (J. FREEMAN) 1 - 2991 February 1994 (1994-02-01) the whole document Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex. Special categories of cited documents: *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention filing date cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docudocument referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 15 May 2009 25/05/2009 Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Glikman, J Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
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International application No. PCT/US2008/010487

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons: 1.
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely: Although claims 273–278 are directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the devices. 2. Claims Nos: because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically: 3. Claims Nos: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a). Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet) This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows: 1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers allsearchable claims.
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This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows: 1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims. 2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of
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additional fees.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search reportcovers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:
The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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