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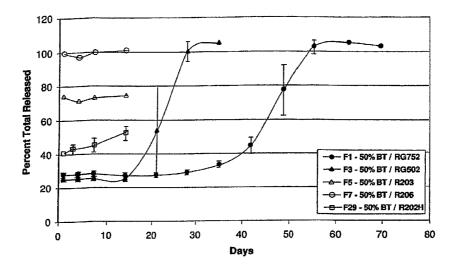
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SUSTAINED RELEASE INTRAOCULAR IMPLANTS AND METHODS FOR PREVENTING RETINAL DYSFUNCTION



(57) Abstract: Biocompatible intraocular microspheres and implants include an alpha-2 adrenergic receptor agonist and a polymer associated with the alpha-2 adrenergic receptor agonist to facilitate release of the alpha-2 adrenergic receptor agonist into an eye for an extended period of time. The alpha-2 adrenergic receptor agonist may be associated with a biodegradable polymer matrix, such as a matrix of a two biodegradable polymers. The implants may be placed in an eye to treat or to prevent the occurrence of one or more ocular conditions, to reduce one or more symptoms of an ocular condition, such as an ocular neurosensory disorder and the like, to enhance normal retinal function and/or to lower intraocular pressure.



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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) \\ A61K \end{tabular}$

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, WPI Data, PAJ

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X Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.	X See patent family annex.
* Special categories of cited documents: "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "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) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "&" document member of the same patent family
Date of the actual completion of the international search 10 April 2006	Date of mailing of the international search report 21/04/2006
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Giménez Miralles, J

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