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Declaration under Rule 4.17:

— of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv))

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2 November 2006

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

(54) Title: THE USE OF FLUPIRTINE FOR THE TREATMENT OF OVERACTIVE BLADDER AND ASSOCIATED DISEASES, AND FOR THE TREATMENT OF IRRITABLE BOWEL SYNDROME

(57) Abstract: The present invention is directed to the prevention, reversal and medical treatment of lower urinary tract dysfunction including bladder instability and other related diseases as described below including urinary flow problems, urgency and incontinence as a result of prostate hyperplasia (BPH) and to the prevention, reversal and medical treatment of irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) with special focus on the diarrhea-predominant and mixed diarrhea-constipation type IBS, both in human beings and animals.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/EP2006/000814

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. A61K31/44 A61P13/10

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, EMBASE, CHEM ABS Data, BIOSIS, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	VAHLENSIECK W: "Inpatient urologic rehabilitation for interstitial cystitis" UROLOGE - AUSGABE A 2005 GERMANY, vol. 44, no. 1, 1 January 2005 (2005-01-01), pages 41-45, XP002331469 ISSN: 0340-2592 Date of online publication: 15.12.2004 page 41, column 1 - column 2 table 2 page 42, column 2, last paragraph	1-13
A	EP 1 072 260 A (NOVOSIS PHARMA AG) 31 January 2001 (2001-01-31) paragraphs [0001], [0002], [0004]	1-13
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. 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	"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
"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date	"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
"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 documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search 20 April 2006	Date of mailing of the international search report 26. 07. 2006
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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 Langer, O
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
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C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	DE 36 04 575 A1 (DEGUSSA AG) 28 August 1986 (1986-08-28) abstract page 3, line 9 - page 4, line 13 -----	1-13

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/EP2006/000814

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: -
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Although claim 13 is 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 compound/composition.
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 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:

see additional sheet

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 fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers 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.:
1, 2 (all partially), 3-13

Remark on Protest

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

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 3-13, and partially 1 and 2

Use of flupirtine or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof for the treatment, inhibition or prevention of a lower unitary tract dysfunction.

2. claim: 1 and 2 (both partially)

Use of flupirtine or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof for the treatment, inhibition or prevention of irritable bowel syndrome (IBS).

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/EP2006/000814

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 1072260	A	31-01-2001	DE 19934523 A1	25-01-2001
DE 3604575	A1	28-08-1986	NONE	