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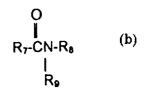
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(54) Title: INHIBITION OF EXOPROTEIN IN ABSORBENT ARTICLE

(57) Abstract

Absorbent articles, such as catamenial tampons, for absorbing body fluids are disclosed which include an effective amount of an ether, amine or amide composition, either alone or in combination to

R₃-N-R₄ (a)



substantially inhibit the production of exotoxins by Gram positive bacteria. The ether composition has the general formula: R_1 -O- R_2 wherein R_1 is a straight or branched alkyl group having a chain of 8 to 18 carbon atoms and R_2 is selected from an alcohol, a polyalkoxylated sulfate salt and a polyalkoxylated sulfosuccinate salt. The amine compound has general formula (a) wherein R_3 is an alkyl group having from about 8 to about 18 carbon atoms; and R_4 and R_5 can be the same or different and are selected from hydrogen and an alkyl group having from 1 to about 18 crbon atoms and which can have one or more substitutional moieties selected from hydroxyl, carboxyl and carboxyl salts, and imidazoline. The amide comound has general formula (b) wherein R_7 is an alkyl group having 8 to 18 carbon atoms, inclusive of the carbonyl carbon, and R_8 and R_9 can be the same or different, R_8 and R_9 are selected from hydrogen, an alkyl group having 1 to about 12 carbon atoms and may contain one or more substituent groups selected from ester, ether, amine, hydroxyl, carboxyl salts, sulfonate salts and combinations thereof. A method of inhibiting the production of exoprotein from Gram positive bacteria is also disclosed.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 6 A61L15/46 A61L15 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 6 A61L 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) C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category ' Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. EP 0 483 812 A (MCNEIL PPC INC) 6 May 1992 1 - 24Α see claims EP 0 395 099 A (MCNEIL PPC INC) 31 October Α 1-24 1990 see claims; examples WO 86 05388 A (HARVARD COLLEGE) 25 Α 1 - 24September 1986 see claims US 4 405 323 A (AUERBACH SIDNEY) 20 1 September 1983 see claims Α EP 0 402 266 A (SANOFI SA) 12 December 25-66 see claims; examples -/--Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Х Patent family members are listed in annex. * Special categories of cited documents: T after 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 "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention citation or other special reason (as specified) cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled "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 mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 07.05.97 22 April 1997 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2 Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo ni, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 ESPINOSA, M

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International application No.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/US 96/08911

Box I Obs	servations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)
This Internati	ional Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:
	ms Nos.: suse they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
beca	ms Nos.: suse they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
	ms Nos.: suse they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).
Box II Obs	servations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)
This Internat	ional Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
2. C1	aims 1 - 24 (in full) aims 25 - 44 (in full), 45, 61, 63 - 66 (in part) aims 46 - 60, 62 (in full), 45, 61, 63 - 66 (in part)
	all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all chable claims.
2. As a of a	all searchable claims could be searches without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment ny additional fee.
	only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report ers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
	required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is ricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:
Remark on P	The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest. X No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

information on patent family members

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