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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 6:

A61K 31/165, 31/215, 31/235, 31/24, 31/19

(11) International Publication Number:

WO 98/19673

(42

A3

(43) International Publication Date:

14 May 1998 (14.05.98)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US97/20094

(22) International Filing Date:

4 November 1997 (04.11.97)

(30) Priority Data:

08/740,711

4 November 1996 (04.11.96) US

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(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published

With international search report.

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:

2 July 1998 (02.07.98)

(54) Title: ANTI-VIRAL AGENTS AND METHODS RELATING TO THE USE THEREOF

(57) Abstract

The invention relates to a method of treating viral infection in an animal (such as those caused by viruses of the Herpes virus family, like cytomegalovirus, herpes simplex virus and human lymphotrophic herpes virus) by administering pharmaceutical compositions containing compounds of formula (I), including pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein R₁ is selected from hydrogen, -COR₅ and -R₆; R₂ is selected from hydroxy, -OCOR5; -OR6; -NHR7 and -N(R7)(R8); R3 is selected from hydrogen and halogen; R4 represents from one to four substituents, wherein each substituent is independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, amino, -OR5 and -R6; R5 is an unsubstituted or substituted C1-8 alkyl moiety; R6 is selected from an unsubstituted or substituted C1-8alkyl moiety, an unsubstituted C6-12aryl moiety and an unsubstituted or substituted C₇₋₁₂aralkyl moiety; and R₇ and R₈ are independently selected from an unsubstituted or substituted C6-12aryl moiety and an unsubstituted or substituted C7-12 aralkyl moiety.

$$R_{i}$$
 R_{i}
 R_{i}
 R_{i}
 R_{i}

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Interr. In Application No PCT/US 97/20094

A. CLASSII IPC 6	FICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER A61K31/165 A61K31/215 A61K31/	/235 A61K31/24	A61K31/19	
According to	n International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classific	cation and IPC		
	SEARCHED			
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 6 A61K C07C Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched				
Documentat	ion searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that	such documents are included in th	e fields searched	
Electronic d	ata base consulted during the international search (name of data b	ase and, where practical, search to	erms used)	
C. DOCUME	ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the re	levant passages	Relevant to claim No.	
A	WO 96 20915 A (CELGENE CORPORAT) July 1996 see abstract see page 4, line 12 see page 6	ION) 11	1-21	
Α	US 5 242 946 A (GUINDON Y.) 7 Se 1993 see the whole document 	eptember	1-21	
Furti	her documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	X Patent family members	are listed in annex.	
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	April 1998		2 9. 04. 98	
Name and r	nailing 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,	Authorized officer Gac, G		

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 97/20094

Box i	Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)
This Inte	ernational Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:
1. X	Claims Nos.: 1-12 because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely: Although claims 1-12 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 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 II	Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)
This Int	ernational 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 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.:
Remai	The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest. No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

Intern. nal Application No PCT/US 97/20094

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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