

Current Patents Gazette

ISSUE 0431 30th JULY 2004

DOLPHIN



The records appearing in this Gazette will be added to DOLPHIN, the database Of all pharmaceutical inventions in the next week. Based on the INPADOC database produced by the European Patent Office, it covers all national and international patents with relevance to pharmaceutical research and development published from 1968 onwards and selected patents from earlier years. DOLPHIN contains information on bibliographic data, contents, associated products, legal status, licensees and context of patents, which is presented in a format to convey all aspects of a patent at a glance.

News & Highlights from Week 0431

The expiry of the UK SPC covering **Chiron's** anticancer recombinant interleukin-2 compound **aldesleukin** was officially announced this week. The SPC based on GB2130219 expired on the 2nd July after extending protection for this product by roughly nine months.

Chinese companies have this week announced they intend to challenge the local patent for GSK's antidiabetic compound **rosiglitazone**. The companies involved include **Shanghai Sunve Pharmaceutical** and **Taiji Group**. **Rosiglitazone** is protected in Europe by EP306228, the subject of several SPCs throughout Europe extending protection until 2013. This challenge follows the decision to revoke the Chinese patent protecting **Pfizer's sildenafil**.

Ortho appears to have a particular interest in the choline salt of **topiramate**. In July 2001 a priority application for **topiramate** salts was filed and subsequently published on 23rd January 2003 as WO03006467. Just before publication of the PCT, on 3rd January 2003, another, almost identical priority application was filed, the major difference being the inclusion of a claim to the choline salt of **topiramate** as well as alkali metal and magnesium salts.

GSK's continuing interest in the glucocorticoid agonist, 6 α ,9 α -difluoro-17 α -(furan-2-ylcarbonyloxy)-11 β -hydroxy-16 α -methyl-3-oxo-androstan-1,4-diene-17 β -carbothioic acid S-fluoromethyl ester is demonstrated by a filing for a nasal pump spray dispenser for the compound. Crystalline forms of the same molecule are disclosed in WO2004024745.

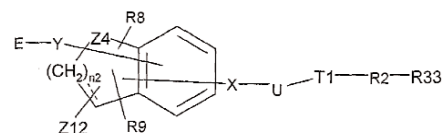
Application was made earlier this year to amend EP667852 (**Pfizer Healthcare**) under Sections 27 and 75 of the UK Patents Act 1977. The amendments are now open to opposition. The original application was filed by **Kabi Pharmaceuticals (P&U)** and covers **tolterodine**, its muscarinic antagonist used to treat unstable bladder or urinary incontinence.

Cortex Pharmaceuticals in collaboration with the **University of California** and **Wake Forest University** is seeking to gain protection on the use of AMPA receptor potentiator compounds for the treatment of cognitive impairment due to sleep deprivation with an application published this week. **Cortex** has an exclusive license for compounds with this activity from the **University of California**, these are commercially known as **AMPAKINES®**, with the lead product from this project appearing to be **AMPALEX**. Dr Deadwyler from **Wake Forest** has received extended funding from the **Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA)** for research in to these compounds in the prevention of sleep deprivation, indicating an interest for their use in the military. **Organon** has a license from **Cortex** to develop these products for the indications schizophrenia and depression. Additionally **Cortex** is collaborating with **Servier** for the development of **AMPAKINES®** in the treatment of neurodegenerative disorders.

Phase 2 Discovery appear to have added to their development pipeline. This week sees the publication of an application claiming new uses of a compound first disclosed in US5792775, assigned to the **US Dept Health and Human Services**.

4',4''-substituted 3 α -(diphenylmethoxy)tropane analogs were originally proposed for the treatment of cocaine abuse. **Phase 2** specialize in the clinical development of early pharmaceutical candidates particularly those for the treatment of neurological disorders.

2-Deoxyglucose has been known as an anti-neoplastic agent for a number of years with articles stretching back as far as 1952. US company **Threshold Pharmaceuticals** are pursuing this candidate as a treatment of multi-drug resistant cancers, with clinical trials commencing in March 2004 on both the drug as a single treatment and in combination with **docetaxel**. Claims in an application published this week seek to protect the use of this compound in cancer therapy.



Fused heterocyclic based PPAR modulators are the focus of a cluster of new applications from Lilly, with claims to a variety of pyrazole and thiophene derivatives including hints to a specific target for this program