

CURRENT PATENTS GAZETTE



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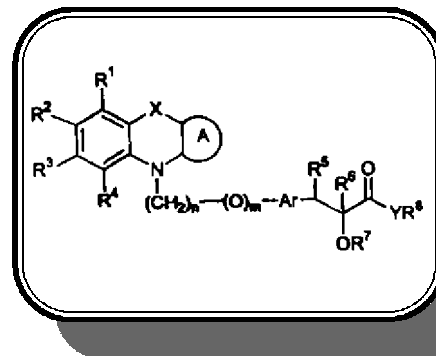
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DRUG PATENTING IN CONTEXT

Current Patents *Gazette* is the most rapid competitive intelligence service covering innovation in the pharmaceutical industry. Patent applications published during the past week have been classified and analysed, in order to place the inventions in context. For the most crucial innovations, those involving new chemical compounds, additional information is given in the form of front page images. These can be enlarged to show details of chemical structures and inventor teams, for example. Applications filed jointly, representing collaborative research, are highlighted, as are sequences of inter-related documents.

THIS WEEK Dr Reddy's Research Institute follows up its recent patenting of hypolipidemic and antihyperglycemic agents based on β -aryl- α -oxy-substituted alkylcarboxylic acid derivatives with a new application covering their tricyclic variant.



HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

Limited Partnership No 1 is the rather curious name used on a joint application filed by **Boehringer Mannheim** and **SmithKline Beckman** (sic), in which a method of treating Alzheimer's disease is claimed. However, the inventors are based near **SmithKline Beecham's** UK research site at Harlow, and the responsible agent is at the SB site in Pennsylvania. The acridine derivatives in question clearly resemble carvedilol, claimed in WO9815272 as an agent for inhibiting stress-activated protein kinases (SAPKs), acting as a non-selective dual α/β 1 **adrenoceptor antagonist**. However, this earlier invention, from SB's US site, names SmithKline Beecham as the partner in Limited Partnership No 1. The collaboration on development of **carvedilol** dates back to the early 1990, and the associated patenting has been afflicted by confusion over names throughout.

Meyer Laboratories of Fort Lauderdale in Florida was the acquisition that enabled Glaxo to make serious inroads into the US market for the first time in the 1970s. Now, twenty years later, the name **Meyer Pharmaceuticals** appears on an application relating to **cancer immunotherapy**, based on sequential implantation of allostimulated cells. There is no apparent link between the two Meyers, and indeed the inventor has been patenting in this field for ten years or so, most recently in the name of the University of California.

Cambridge NeuroScience has a case focusing on **enantiomers of various guanidines** used in the treatment of **neurodegenerative disorders**. This Massachusetts-based specialist, initially backed by **Boehringer Ingelheim**, has a substantial portfolio of candidates acting by such mechanisms as **opioid receptor, ion channel** and **neurotransmitter modulation**. One of the compounds named specifically in the present application is identifiable as **CNS-5161**, an **NMDA antagonist** first described in WO9429571, and now in phase I trials for migraine and neuropathy, and possibly the company's most advanced candidate. Also interested in chiral compounds, **Lilly** claims S(+)-mandelic acid salts of several phenylpropylamines, this moiety being present in **fluoxetine, tomoxetine** and similar **noradrenalin uptake inhibitors**. In accordance with Lilly's usual procedure, PCT and European applications relating to this invention have appeared simultaneously.

Immunology is a popular topic among this week's Biotech applications. Two focus on the immune response to viruses. **City of Hope**, claims **CTL epitopes of human cytomegalovirus**, and **Pangaea Pharmaceuticals** claim immunogenic peptides from the **HPV E7 protein**. Pangaea is developing **Biotope CD**, a DNA-based therapeutic in phase I, designed to encode epitopes against HPV for the treatment of HPV-associated cervical dysplasia. Meanwhile, **Astra** claims synthetic genes with immunomodulatory effects, and the **Ludwig Institute** tackles immune regulation in a different way, claiming **interferon- γ regulatory factors**.