

19



Europäisches Patentamt
Office européen des brevets

11

Publication number:

0 193 926
A2

12

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

21 Application number: 86102812.4

51 Int. Cl.⁴: C 07 C 125/067, A 61 K 31/27

22 Date of filing: 04.03.86

30 Priority: 05.03.85 IL 74497

71 Applicant: **YISSUM RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COMPANY OF THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM**, 46, Jabotinsky Street P.O. box 4279, Jerusalem 91042 (IL)

43 Date of publication of application: 10.09.86
Bulletin 86/37

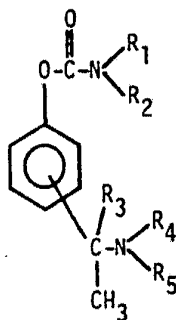
72 Inventor: **Weinstock Rosin, Marta, Prof.**, 9 Herzog Strasse, Jerusalem (IL)
Inventor: **Chorev, Michael**, 135/4 Feinstein Strasse, Jerusalem (IL)
Inventor: **Tashma, Zeev**, 2 Shahal Strasse, Jerusalem (IL)

64 Designated Contracting States: **AT BE CH DE FR GB IT LI LU NL SE**

74 Representative: **Spott, Gottfried, Dr. et al**, Patentanwälte Spott und Puschmann Sendlinger-Tor-Platz 11, D-8000 München 2 (DE)

54 Phenyl carbamates.

57 Phenyl carbamates of the general formula



I

wherein R₁ to R₅ are as defined in the claims, are useful as pharmaceuticals.

EP 0 193 926 A2

ACTORUM AG

Case 118-6848

PHENYL CARBAMATES

The present invention relates to novel phenyl carbamates which are useful as pharmaceutical compositions. The invention further relates to pharmaceutical compositions having anticholinesterase activity.

Acetylcholine is a major neurotransmitter which is found in all parts of the body. Any reduction in its activity, either as a result of neuronal damage, degeneration etc. or as induced by drugs or toxins, causes marked changes in the function of the organism. Acetylcholine itself has an extremely short half life, since it is rapidly hydrolysed at its site of action and in plasma by specific cholinesterase enzymes. Drugs that inhibit acetylcholinesterase, markedly increase and prolong the action of acetylcholine, thereby enhancing cholinergic transmission. Three such agents are used clinically, i.e., physostigmine, a naturally occurring alkaloid, and two synthetic analogues, neostigmine and pyridostigmine. The latter two agents are strongly ionised at physiological pH and therefore are only poorly absorbed from the gastro-intestinal tract, and do not penetrate the central nervous system to any significant extent. Physostigmine is absorbed after

oral administration and readily enters the brain. As a therapeutic agent it has several disadvantages. It is chemically unstable and must be prepared in solution with an antioxidant, and protected from light. It has a relatively short half-life (20-40 mins) thereby necessitating frequent administration. The latter is of particular importance when the drug is to be administered chronically. It has a low therapeutic ratio, a value of 3-5 being reported in the majority of studies in laboratory animals, and a small therapeutic window, i.e. small range of dose in which it can be given without the accompaniment of side effects. Although physostigmine is absorbed from the gastro-intestinal tract, this is reported to be irregular and unpredictable, and therefore it is usually preferred to administer the drug parenterally. This is a serious drawback if it is to be used chronically on an outpatient basis.

There are a number of clinical and pathological conditions which are associated with cholinergic under-activity which can be improved by the administration of an anticholinesterase agent. These include reduction in cholinergic transmission induced by a variety of exogenous substances acting in the peripheral, or central nervous system. Peripherally acting agents are gallamine, d-tubocurarine and pancuronium, which are used as muscle relaxants. Their action can readily be overcome by an anticholinesterase drug. Drugs which interfere with central cholinergic transmission are numerous, anticholinergic, atropine-like drugs including antiparkinson drugs, tricyclic antidepressants, neuroleptics, opiate analgesics, benzodiazepines and some types of general anaesthetics. So far the only agent that has proved to be of any value in reversing the effects of the latter group of drugs is physostigmine. In all reported cases of drug overdose or lack of recovery when the agent was used peri-operatively, physo-

stigmine is usually administered parenterally, and administration is repeated every 20-30 minutes as required.

Chronic treatment with neuroleptics often results in tardive dyskinesias. The widespread use of agents having anticholinesterase activity for the treatment of schizophrenia makes this side effect an ever increasing possibility. Physostigmine injected intravenously produces a significant but short lived improvement in a proportion of patients.

A number of pathological and degenerative diseases has also been shown to be associated with a reduction or loss of cholinergic transmission. This includes myasthenia gravis and Eaton Lambert syndrome in which there is an interference with neuromuscular transmission.

A selective loss of choline acetyltransferase (the enzyme that synthesises acetylcholine) has been found in specific brain regions of patients with pre-senile dementia of the Alzheimer type. These include the frontal and temporal cortex, hippocampus, amygdala, caudate nucleus, substantia innominata. Degeneration of cholinergic neurons in some of these areas appears to be associated with the aphasia, apraxia, agnosia and loss of short term memory that occurs in Alzheimer's disease. A similar type of dementia is also found in patients with Down's syndrome that survive to the age of 40 years and show similar cholinergic deficits. There is also a loss of cholinergic transmission in the caudate nucleus and putamen of patients with Huntingdon's chorea. Physostigmine injections have also been of some benefit in this condition. Treatment with a centrally acting anticholinesterase should also prove to be beneficial in Friedrich's ataxia.

There are two major classes of potent inhibitors of the enzyme cholinesterase. The first group was modelled primarily on the natural alkaloids physostigmine (a carbamate) and an inhibitor of cholinesterase, and d-tubocurarine, an antagonist of acetylcholine. The second group consists of various organophosphorus compounds, such as diisopropylfluorophosphonate, paraxon etc. The vast majority of the compounds of both these series were designed primarily as insecticides. In the first group of carbamate derivatives, almost all of the potent insecticides are monomethyl carbamates lacking a charged nitrogen function. This enables the molecule to penetrate rapidly the insect cuticle and fatty nerve sheath. The dimethyl derivatives are slightly less potent but are particularly toxic to houseflies and aphids. The monomethyl derivatives tend to be unstable in solution and hydrolyse readily at physiological pH. This greatly limits their biological action in mammals and makes them less suitable as pharmaceutical or therapeutic agents.

The organo-phosphorus group of compounds causes irreversible inhibition of cholinesterase and other serine containing enzymes, which, together with their high relative toxicity, virtually precludes their use in pharmaceutical preparations. The only exception is echothiopate, a quaternary ammonium organo-phosphorus compound, employed in eye drops for the treatment of glaucoma.

The synthetic anticholinesterase agents currently employed as pharmaceuticals all contain a charged nitrogen function and can be broadly classified into 3 groups.

- 1) Reversible inhibitors which contain a charged nitrogen function attached to an aromatic ring, e.g. edrophonium.

Explore Litigation Insights

Docket Alarm provides insights to develop a more informed litigation strategy and the peace of mind of knowing you're on top of things.

Real-Time Litigation Alerts



Keep your litigation team up-to-date with **real-time alerts** and advanced team management tools built for the enterprise, all while greatly reducing PACER spend.

Our comprehensive service means we can handle Federal, State, and Administrative courts across the country.

Advanced Docket Research



With over 230 million records, Docket Alarm's cloud-native docket research platform finds what other services can't. Coverage includes Federal, State, plus PTAB, TTAB, ITC and NLRB decisions, all in one place.

Identify arguments that have been successful in the past with full text, pinpoint searching. Link to case law cited within any court document via Fastcase.

Analytics At Your Fingertips



Learn what happened the last time a particular judge, opposing counsel or company faced cases similar to yours.

Advanced out-of-the-box PTAB and TTAB analytics are always at your fingertips.

API

Docket Alarm offers a powerful API (application programming interface) to developers that want to integrate case filings into their apps.

LAW FIRMS

Build custom dashboards for your attorneys and clients with live data direct from the court.

Automate many repetitive legal tasks like conflict checks, document management, and marketing.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Litigation and bankruptcy checks for companies and debtors.

E-DISCOVERY AND LEGAL VENDORS

Sync your system to PACER to automate legal marketing.