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Signature

PATENT APPLICATION IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Applicant:	NIYIKIZA Clet	
Title:	NOVEL ANTIFOLATE COMBINATION T	HERAPIES
Docket No.:	X-14173B	

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Introductory Comments

Please amend the accompanying application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification are reflected on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.

Amendments to the Specification

At page 1, line 2, please insert the following replacement paragraph:

This application is a divisional of Application No. 11/288,807, filed 29 November 2005, which is a divisional of Application No. 10/297,821 filed 05 December 2002, now Patent Number 7,053,065, which claims priority under 35 USC 371, for PCT/US01/14860, filed 15 June 2001, which claims the priority of U.S. provisional applications No. 60/215,310, filed 30 June 2000, No. 60/235,859, filed 27 September 2000, and No. 60/284,448, filed 18 April 2001.

Please replace paragraph [0024], at page 6, lines 6-16, with the following amended paragraph:

[0024] The terms "antifolate" and "antifolate drug" refer to a chemical compound which inhibits at least one key folate-requiring enzyme of the thymidine or purine biosynthetic pathways, preferably thymidylate synthase ("TS"), dihydrofolate reductase ("DHFR"), or glycinamide ribonucleotide formyltransferase ("GARFT"), by competing with reduced folates for binding sites of these enzymes. Preferred examples of antifolates include 5-fluorouraeil, as manufactured by Glaxo; Tomudex®, as manufactured by Zeneca; Methotrexate®, as manufactured by Lederle; Lometrexol®, as manufactured by Tularik; pyrido[2,3-d]pyrimidine derivatives described by Taylor et al in U.S. Pat. Nos. 4,684,653, 4,833,145, 4,902,796, 4,871,743, and 4,882,334; derivatives described by Akimoto in U.S. Pat. No. 4,997,838; thymidylate synthase inhibitors as found in EPO application 239,362; and most preferred, Pemetrexed Sodium Disodium (ALIMTA), as manufactured by Eli Lilly & Co.

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-28. Cancelled

29. (New) An improved method for administering pemetrexed disodium to a patient in need of chemotherapeutic treatment, wherein the improvement comprises:

a) administration of between 350 μ g and 1000 μ g of folic acid, daily beginning approximately 1 to 3 weeks before treatment with pemetrexed disodium;

b) administration of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent selected from the group consisting of vitamin B_{12} , hydroxocobalamin, cyano-10-chlorocobalamin, aquocobalamin perchlorate, aquo-10-chlorocobalamin perchlorate, azidocobalamin, chlorocobalamin and cobalamin, wherein the methylmalonic acid lowering agent is administered from about 1 to about 3 weeks prior to the first administration of pemetrexed disodium; and

c) administration of pemetrexed disodium in combination with between 350 μ g and 1000 μ g of folic acid, daily, until administration of pemetrexed disodium is discontinued, and a methylmalonic acid lowering agent selected from the group consisting of vitamin B₁₂, hydroxocobalamin, cyano-10-chlorocobalamin, aquocobalamin perchlorate, aquo-10-chlorocobalamin and cobalamin, wherein the methylmalonic acid lowering agent administration is repeated from about every 6 weeks to about every 12 weeks, until administration of pemetrexed disodium is discontinued.

30. (New) The improved method of Claim 29 wherein the methylmalonic acid lowering agent is vitamin B_{12} .

31. (New) The improved method of Claim **30** wherein about 500 μ g to about 1500 μ g of vitamin B₁₂ is administered.

32. (New) The improved method of Claim 31 wherein about 1000 μ g of vitamin B₁₂ is administered.

33. (New) The improved method of **Claim 29** wherein the methylmalonic acid lowering agent is administered by an intramuscular injection, orally, or as a parenteral.

34. (New) The improved method of **Claim 33** wherein the methylmalonic acid lowering agent is administered by an intramuscular injection.

35. (New) The improved method of **Claim 34** wherein the methylmalonic acid lowering agent administration is repeated about every 9 weeks, until administration of pemetrexed disodium is discontinued.

36. (New) The improved method of Claim 32 wherein vitamin B_{12} is administered by an intramuscular injection, orally, or as a parenteral.

37. (New) The improved method of Claim 36 wherein vitamin B_{12} is administered by an intramuscular injection.

38. (New) The improved method of **Claim 37** wherein the methylmalonic acid lowering agent administration is repeated about every 9 weeks, until administration of pemetrexed disodium is discontinued.

39. (New) An improved method for administering pemetrexed disodium to a patient in need of chemotherapeutic treatment, wherein the improvement comprises:

a) administration of between 350 μ g and 1000 μ g of folic acid, daily beginning approximately 1 to 3 weeks before treatment with pemetrexed disodium;

b) administration of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent selected from the group consisting of vitamin B_{12} , hydroxocobalamin, cyano-10-chlorocobalamin, aquocobalamin perchlorate, aquo-10-chlorocobalamin perchlorate, azidocobalamin, chlorocobalamin and cobalamin, wherein the methylmalonic acid lowering agent is administered from about 1 to about 3 weeks prior to the first administration of pemetrexed disodium; and

c) administration of pemetrexed disodium in combination with between 350 μ g and 1000 μ g of folic acid, daily, until administration of pemetrexed disodium is discontinued, and a methylmalonic acid lowering agent selected from the group consisting of vitamin B₁₂,

Docket No. X-14173B

hydroxocobalamin, cyano-10-chlorocobalamin, aquocobalamin perchlorate, aquo-10chlorocobalamin perchlorate, azidocobalamin, chlorocobalamin and cobalamin, wherein the methylmalonic acid lowering agent is administered by an intramuscular injection and wherein administration is repeated from about every 24 hours to about every1680 hours, until administration of pemetrexed disodium is discontinued.

<u>Remarks</u>

Applicants submit this paper and request entry of the amendments herein.

The Specification has been amended to recite specific reference to earlier-filed applications from which this application claims priority. The Specification has also been amended to correct an obvious error in the name of the compound "Alimta," which is found on page 6, line 16. The name has been corrected to read "pemetrexed disodium." Support for the correction can be found at least on page 2, lines 6-7, where the correct name of the compound is recited.

Claims 1-28 have been cancelled, and new Claims 29-39 have been introduced. Support for new Claim 29-39 is generally found in the specification, at least on page 5, line 20 to page 6, line 5; page 6, line 19 to page 7, line 4; page 7, lines 5-8, and 18-27; page 12, lines 19-29; page 13, line 21 to page 14, line 6; as well as in the claims as originally filed. Support for the improved combination can be found at least on page 13, line 21 to page 14, line 6; as well as on page 16, lines 3-9, and Table 1. More specifically, support for each element of Claims 29-39 is listed in the table below.

Claim	Element	Basis at
29(a)	"administration of between 350µg and 1000µg of folic	Page 13, line 21 to 25.
	acid, daily beginning approximately 1 to 3 weeks	
	before treatment with pemetrexed disodium"	
29(b)	"administration of a methylmalonic acid lowering	Page 7, lines 5-8;
	agent selected from the group consisting of vitamin	Originally filed Claim 7.
	B_{12} , hydroxocobalamin, cyano-10-chlorocobalamin,	
	aquocobalamin perchlorate, aquo-10-chlorocobalamin	
	perchlorate, azidocobalamin, chlorocobalamin and	
	cobalamin"	
29(b)	"wherein the methylmalonic acid lowering agent is	Page 7, lines 25-26.
	administered from about 1 to about 3 weeks prior to the	
	first administration of pemetrexed disodium"	
29(c)	"administration of pemetrexed disodium in	Page 5, lines 20-21;
	combination with"	Originally filed Claim 4.
29(c)	"between 350 µg and 1000µg of folic acid, daily, until	Page 13, line 21 to 25;
	administration of pemetrexed disodium is	Page 14, line 3.
	discontinued"	
29(c)	"a methylmalonic acid lowering agent selected from	Page 7, lines 5-8;
	the group consisting of vitamin B_{12} , hydroxocobalamin,	Originally filed Claim 7.
	cyano-10-chlorocobalamin, aquocobalamin	
	perchlorate, aquo-10-chlorocobalamin perchlorate,	
	azidocobalamin, chlorocobalamin and cobalamin"	
29(c)	"wherein the methylmalonic acid lowering agent	Page 7, lines 26-27.
	administration is repeated from about every 6 weeks to	

	about every 12 weeks, until administration of	
	pemetrexed disodium is discontinued"	
30	"methylmalonic acid lowering agent is vitamin B_{12}	Page 6, lines 20-21.
31	"about 500 μ g to about 1500 μ g of vitamin B ₁₂ "	Page 7, lines 18-19.
32	"about 1000 μ g of vitamin B ₁₂ "	Page 7, lines 24-25;
		Page 12, lines 21-24;
		Page 13, lines 27-28;
		Page 14, lines 3-4.
33/36	"administered by an intramuscular injection, orally, or	Page 7, lines 9-13.
	as a parenteral"	
34/37	"administered by an intramuscular injection"	Page 7, lines 11-13, and
		18-25;
		Page 12, lines 21-24;
		Page 13, lines 27-30;
		Page 14, lines 3-6.
35/38	"methylmalonic acid lowering agent administration is	Page 7, lines 26-27;
	repeated about every 9 weeks, until administration of	Page 12, lines 23-24;
	pemetrexed disodium is discontinued"	Page 13, lines 29-30;
		Page 14, lines 5-6.
39		See basis for elements of
		Claim 29; and
		Page 7, lines 18-22.

Applicants respectfully assert that no new matter has been introduced as a result of amendment of the Claims. Applicants request prompt consideration and allowance of the claimed subject matter. If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, Applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone her at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

/Manisha A. Desai/ Manisha A. Desai, Ph.D. Attorney for Applicant Registration No. 43,585 Phone: (317) 433-5333

Eli Lilly and Company Patent Division P.O. Box 6288 Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6288

July 11, 2007

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		Attorney Docket Number	X-141	73				
DECLARATIO	ON FOR	First Named Inventor	Clet N	liyikiza				
UTILITY OR I	DESIGN	COMPLETE IF KNOWN						
PATENT APPL	ICATION	Application Number						
		Filing Date						
X Declaration Submitted with Ini	tial Filing	Group Art Unit						
Declaration Submitted after In	itial Filing	Examiner Name						
As a below named inventor, I heret	by declare that:							
My residence, post office address, an	d citizenship are as state	d below next to my name.						
I believe I am the original, first and so below) of the subject matter which is	le Inventor (if only one na claimed and for which a p	me is listed below) or an original, firs atent is sought on the Invention entit	t and joint inver led:	ntor (if plural names are listed				
	NOVEL ANTIFOL	ATE COMBINATION THER	APIES					
the specification of which is attached hereto OR	15 June 2001	as Linited States Application Num	ber or PCT Inte	rnational				
(MM/DD/YYYY)								
Application PCT/US01 Number	/14860 and was ar (MM/DD/Y	nended on YYY)		(if applicable).				
amendment specifically referred to ab I acknowledge the duty to disclose int I hereby claim foreign priority benefits Inventor's certificate, or § 365(a) of ai America, listed below and have also i PCT international application having a	formation which is materia formation which is materia under Title 35, United St ny PCT international appli dentified below, by check a filing date before that of	al to patentability as defined in Title 3 ates Code § 119(a)-(d) or § 365(b) c ication which designated at least one ing the box, any foreign application fo the application on which priority is cl	7 Code of Fede f any foreign ap country other th or patent or inve aimed	ral Regulations, § 1.56. pplication(s) for patent or nan the United States of ntor's certificate, or of any				
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Additional foreign application	numbers are listed on a s	upplemental priority sheet attached b	ereto.					
Additional foreign application	numbers are listed on a s	upplemental priority sheet attached h	ereto.					
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Additional foreign application hereby claim the benefit under Title Application Number(s) 60/215,310	numbers are listed on a s 35, United States Code § Filli	upplemental priority sheet attached h 119(e) of any United States provisio ng Date (MM/DD/YYYY) 30 June 2000	ereto.	(s) listed below				

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As a named invent	or. hereby appoint t	he following registered pra	ctitioner(s) to pro-	secute this app	lication and	to transa	ct all business in the Patent
and Trademark Off	fice connected therev	vith:	• • •				
							·····
Attorney Name		Reg. No.	Atto	rney Name			Reg. No.
Arvie J. Anderson		45,263	Paul	J. Koivuniemi			31,533
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Brian P. Barrett		39,597	Kirby	/ Lee			47,744
Michael T. Bates		34,121	Jam	es P. Leeds			35,241
Roger S. Benjamin	l	27,025	Nels	en L Lentz			
Gary M. Birch		48,881	Eliza	beth A. McGra	W		44,646
William R. Boudrea	aux	35,796	Doug	jias K. Norman	1		33,267
Steven P. Caltrider		36,467	Arlee	an Palmberg	· · -		40,422
Paul R. Cantrell		36,470		nas G. Plant			35,784
John Cleveland		24 565	Euw				<u> </u>
Charles E. Conen		34,303	Giar				41,204
Crogory A. Cox	0	47 504	Mich	and I Savles			32 295
Paula K Davis		47,504	Davi	d M Stemerick			40 187
John C. Demeter		30 167	Marie	L Stewart	. <u> </u>		43 936
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Paul J. Gavlo		36,808	Robe	ert C. Tucker			45,165
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Amy E. Hamilton		33,894	Gilbe	ert T. Voy			43,972
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Danica Hostettler		51,820	Lawr	ence T. Welch	1		29,487
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Soonhee Jang		44,802	Dan	L. Wood			48,613
Charles Joyner		30,466					
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James J. Kelley		41,888					
Additional	registered practitione	er(s) named on a supplem	ental sheet attach	ed hereto.			
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Address	ATTN: Elizabet	h A. McGraw		ant a			
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City	INDIANAPOLIS	State	INDIANA			4	6206-6288
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jeopardize the valid	dity of the application	or any patent issued there	eon.				
Name of Sole	or First Inventor	🕂 📔 🗖 A Petitio	n has been file	d for this un	signed inv	entor	
Given	4	Middle	e	Family	Nivikiz	2	Suffix
Name Cie	t VI	Name		Name		a	e.g. Jr.
Inventor's Signati		S. LESZERLA			· · · · ·	Date	27 NOV 2009
inventor s orgination		apart and		Country			Citizenshin 110
Residence: City	Indianapolis	State		Country	US		
Address	6802 Antiet	tam Place					
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City Indiana	apoli s	State	N ZIP	46278	Country	US	
X Addition	al Inventors are bei	ng named on supplemen	nt sheet(s) attach	ed hereto.			

DECLARATION

[Page 2]

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DECLARATION

Name	of Additio	nal Joint Inventor, if any	<i>.</i>			A Petition ha	s been filed	l for thi	s unsigned in	nventor
Given Name	Paolo		Mie Na	ddie me		Family Name	Paolett	i	Suffix e.g. Jr.	
Inventor Signatur	re X	al Kallo	7					Date	Dec. 4	,2002
Residen	ce: City	Indianapolis	State		IN	Country	US		Citizenship	IT
Address		8015 Hayward Drive								
Post Off	ice Address	SAME AS ABOVE	.							
City	Indianap	olis	State	IN	Zip	46240	Country	US		

Name o	of Additio	nal Joint Inventor, if	any:				A Peti	ition h	ias bi	een filed	for this	s unsigned i	nventor
Given James Name 2001			Middle Name	Name Jacob Family Rusthoven		en	Suffix e.g. Jr.						
Inventor' Signatur		g the	Z						<u></u>		Date	16No	euber 02
Residenc	ce: City A	ncaster		State	Or	tario	Count	try C	`A			Citizenship	US
Post Offi	ce Address	15 Lovers Lane											
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Name of	Addit	ional Joint Inventor, i	fany:] A Petitio	on has been f	filed for this	unsig	gned inventor
Given		Middle	Middle Family				Suffix	
			Name		Maine			Jr.
Inventor's Signature)ate	
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Name of A	dditior	al Joint Inventor, if any	/: [A Pet	ition has t	een filed	for this	unsigr	ned inventor	
Given			Mic	dle	1	Fa	mily			Suffix	
Name			Nar	ne		Na Na	me			e.g. Jr.	
Inventor's Signature									Date		
Residence: C	ity	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	State	,		Countr	y			Citizenship	
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[Page 3]

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First Applicar	nt: NIYIKIZA Clet
Entitled: NO	VEL ANTIFOLATE COMBINATION THERAPIES
Docket No.: 2	X-14173B
ELI LILLY A (Name of Assign certifies that it is either:	ND COMPANY, an Indiana Corporation (Type of Assignee, e.g. corporation, partnership, university, government agency, etc.) the assignee of the entire right, title and interest in the patent application identified above by virtue of
A. [X] An assi	gnment from the inventor(s) of the patent application identified above.
[X] The	e assignment was recorded in the Patent and Trademark Office at Reel 014132, Frame 0597. assignment is being submitted separately for recordation; a copy of this assignment is attached.
	OR
B. [] A chain o below:	f title from the inventor(s), of the patent application identified above, to the current assignee as shown
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[]	Additional documents in the chain of title are listed on a supplemental sheet.
[] Copies of as	signments or other documents in the chain of title are attached.
The undersigned	(whose title is supplied below) is empowered to sign this certificate on behalf of the assignee.
I hereby declare information and false statements, United States Co issuing thereon.	that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful and the like so made, are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001, Title 18 of the ode, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent
July 11, 2007	/Manisha A. Desai/
Date	Manisha A. Desai

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PATENT APPLICATION IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Applicant:	NIYIKIZA Clet	
For:	NOVEL ANTIFOLATE COMBINATION T	HERAPIES
Docket No.:	X-14173B	

AMENDMENT AND PETITION TO CORRECT INVENTORSHIP UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.48(b)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

1. <u>Amendment and Petition</u>

This amendment and petition is to delete the names of the following persons originally named as inventors and who are not the inventors of the invention now being claimed: Paolo Paoletti, of Indianapolis, Indiana, and James Jacob Rusthoven, of Ancaster, Canada.

2. Claims Now On File

The claims in this application are as follows: New claims 29-39 filed on July 11, 2007

3. Diligence

This amendment and petition is being filed diligently after discovery that any claims for which the above named inventors who are being deleted are now no longer the inventors of the subject matter being claimed.

4. Fee Payment

Please charge \$130.00, the surcharge required by \$1.17(i), and charge any additional fees which may be required by this or any other related paper, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 05-0840, in the name of Eli Lilly and Company. I enclose an original and two copies of this paper.

Respectfully submitted,

/Manisha A. Desai/ Manisha A. Desai, Ph.D. Attorney for Applicant Registration No. 43,585 Telephone: (317) 433-5333

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PATENT APPLICATION IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Applica	ant: NIYIKIZA Clet	
Title:	NOVEL ANTIFOLATE COMBINATION THERAPIES	
Docket No.:	X-14173B	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

As a means of complying with the duty of disclosure, Applicants submit an "Information Disclosure Citation In An Application" on a Form PTO-1449 (modified) for consideration by the Examiner. As permitted by 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), Applicants refer to application Serial No. 11/288,807, filed November 29, 2005, for copies of the listed documents. Since this Statement is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b), Applicants submit that no additional fee is required.

Applicants request consideration of this information.

Respectfully submitted,

/Manisha A. Desai/ Manisha A. Desai, Ph.D. Attorney for Applicant Registration No. 43,585 Telephone: (317) 433-5333

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Sheet 1 of 2

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	CA	Calvert H.: "Folate status and the safety profile of antifolates", Seminars in Oncology, 2002, 29/2 Suppl. 5, pp. 3-7, XP008005755	
	СВ	Calvert H.: "Future directions in the development of pemetrexed", Seminars in Oncology, 2002, 29/2 Suppl. 5, pp. 54-61, XP008005744	
	CC	Westerhof, et al: "Carrier-and receptor-mediated transport of folate antagonists targeting folate-dependent enzymes: correlates of molecularstructure and biological activity", Mol. Pharmacology, 1995, 48(3), pp. 459- 71, XP008005762	
	CD	Worzalla, et a]: "Role of folic acid in modulating the toxicity and efficacy of the multitargeted antifolate, LY231514", Anticancer Research (1998), 18(5A), pp. 3235-3239, XP008005757	
	CE	Hanauske, et al: "Pemetrexed disodium: A novel antifolate clinically active against multiple solid tumors", Oncologist, Alphamed Press, US, Vol. 4, No. 6, 2001, pp. 363-373, XP008005751	
	CF	Bunn, et al: "Vitamin B 12 and folate reduce toxicity of Alimta (pemetrexed disodium, LY 231514, MTA), a novel antifolate/antimetabolite", Program/Proceedings - American Society of Clinical Oncology, the Society, US, Vol. 76A, No. 20, 2001, page 300, XPO08005885	
	CG	Dierkes, et al., Supplementation with Vitamin B12 Decreases Homocystein and Methylmalonic Acid but Also Serum Folate in Patients with End-Stage Renal Disease. Metabolism. May 1999. Vol. 48, No. 5, pages 631-635. See: abstract.	
	СН	Arsenyan et al. (Abstract: Onkol. Nauchn., (1978) 12(10):49-54	
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	СК	The Cecil Reference, TEXTBOOK of MEDICINE, 21st Edition (2000). Chapter 198. pps. 1060-1074.	

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Application Number:	11776329				
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Title of Invention:	NOVEL ANTIFOLATE COMBINATION THERAPIES				
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Customer Number:	25885				
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Attorney Docket Number:	X-14173B				
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First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:		Clet Niyikiza				
Filer:		Manisha Arvind Desai/Lisa Capps				
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Utility Filing Fees						
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PATENT APPLICATION	First Named Inventor or Application Identifier				
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 - (US). PAOLETTI, Paolo [IT/US]; 8015 Hayward Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46240 (US). RUSTHOVEN, James, Jacob [US/CA]; 15 Lovers Lane, Ancaster, Ontario L9G 1G4 (CA).

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(54) Title: NOVEL ANTIFOLATE COMBINATION THERAPIES

(57) Abstract: A method of administering an antifolate to a mammal in need thereof, comprising administering an effective amount of said antifolate in combination with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent.

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NOVEL ANTIFOLATE COMBINATION THERAPIES

- 5 Potentially, life-threatening toxicity remains a major limitation to the optimal administration of antifolates. (see, generally, <u>Antifolate Drugs in Cancer Therapy</u>, edited by Jackman, Ann L., Humana Press, Totowa, NJ, 1999.) In some cases, a supportive intervention is routinely used to permit safe, maximal dosing. For example, steroids, such as dexamethone, can be used to prevent the formation of skin rashes caused by the
- 10 antifolate. (Antifolate, pg 197.)

Antifolates represent one of the most thoroughly studied classes of antineoplastic agents, with aminopterin initially demonstrating clinical activity approximately 50 years ago. Methotrexate was developed shortly thereafter, and today is a standard component of effective chemotherapeutic regimens for malignancies such as lymphoma, breast cancer,

- 15 and head and neck cancer. (Bonnadonna G, Zambetti M, Valagussa P. Sequential or alternating doxorubicin and CMF regimens in breast cancer with more than three positive nodes: Ten year results. JAMA 1995;273(7):542-547; Bonnadonna G, Valagussa P, Moliterni A, Zambetti M, Brambilla C. Adjuvant cyclophosphamide, methotrexate, and fluorouracil in node-positive breast cancer: The results of 20 years of follow-up. N Engl J
- 20 Med 1995;332(14):901-906; and Hong WK, Schaefer S, Issell B, et al. A prospective randomized trial of methotrexate versus cisplatin in the treatment of recurrent squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck. Cancer 1983;52:206-210.) Antifolates inhibit one or several key folate-requiring enzymes of the thymidine and purine biosynthetic pathways, in particular, thymidylate synthase (TS), dihydrofolate reductase (DHFR), and glycinamide
- ribonucleotide formyltransferase (GARFT), by competing with reduced folates for binding sites of these enzymes. (Shih C, Habeck LL, Mendelsohn LG, Chen VJ, Schultz RM. Multiple folate enzyme inhibition: Mechanism of a novel pyrrolopyrimidine-based antifolate LY231514 (MTA). Advan Enzyme Regul, 1998; 38:135-152 and Shih C, Chen VJ, Gossett LS, et al. LY231514, a pyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidine-based antifolate that inhibits
- 30 multiple folate-requiring enzymes. Cancer Res 1997;57:1116-1123.) Several antifolate drugs are currently in development. Examples of antifolates that have thymidylate

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synthase inhibiting ("TSI") characteristics include 5-fluorouracil and Tomudex®. An example of an antifolate that has dihydrofolate reductase inhibiting ("DHFRI") characteristic is Methotrexate®. An example of an antifolate that has glycinamide ribonucleotide formyltransferase inhibiting ("GARFTI") characteristics is Lometrexol.

5 Many of these antifolate drugs inhibit more than one biosynthetic pathway. For example Lometrexol is also an inhibitor of dihydrofolate reductase and pemetrexed disodium (Alimta®, Eli Lilly and Company, Indianapolis, IN) has demonstrated thymidylate synthase, dihydrofolate reductase, and glycinamide ribonucleotide formyltransferase inhibition.

10

A limitation to the development of these drugs is that the cytotoxic activity and subsequent effectiveness of antifolates may be associated with substantial toxicity for some patients. Additionally antifolates as a class are associated with sporadic severe mylosuppression with gastrointestinal toxicity which, though infrequent, carries a high risk of mortality. The inability to control these toxicities led to the abandonment of clinical

- 15 development of some antifolates and has complicated the clinical development of others, such as Lometrexol and raltitrexed. (Jackman AL, Calvert AH Folate-Based Thymidylate Synthase Inhibitors as Anticancer Drugs. Ann Oncol 1995;6(9):871-881; Laohavinij S, Wedge SR, Lind MJ, et al. A phase I clinical study of the antipurine antifolate Lometrexol (DDATHF) given with oral folic acid. Invest New Drugs 1996;14:325-335; and Maughan
- 20 TS, James RD, Kerr D, et al., on behalf of the British MRC Colorectal Cancer Working Party. Preliminary results of a multicenter randomized trial comparing 3 chemotherapy regimens (deGramont, Lokich, and raltitrexed) in metastatic colorectal cancer. Proc ASCO 1999;18:Abst 1007.)

Initially, folic acid was used as a treatment for toxicities associated with GARFTI
see, e.g. U.S. Pat. No. 5,217,974. Folic acid has been shown to lower homocysteine
levels (see e.g. Homocysteine Lowering Trialist's Collaboration. Lowering blood
homocysteine with folic acid based supplements: meta-analysis of randomized trials. BMJ
1998;316:894-898 and Naurath HJ, Joosten E, Riezler R, Stabler SP, Allen RH,
Lindenbaum J. Effects of vitamin B12, folate and vitamin B6 supplements in elderly

30 people with normal serum vitamin concentrations. Lancet 1995;346:85-89), and homocysteine levels have been shown to be a predictor of cytotoxic events related to the

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-3-

use of GARFT inhibitors, see e.g. U.S. Pat. No. 5,217,974. However, even with this treatment, cytotoxic activity of GARFT inhibitors and antifolates as a class remains a serious concern in the development of antifolates as pharmaceutical drugs. The ability to lower cytotoxic activity would represent an important advance in the use of these agents.

5

Surprisingly and unexpectedly, we have now discovered that certain toxic effects such as mortality and nonhematologic events, such as skin rashes and fatigue, caused by antifolates, as a class, can be significantly reduced by the presence of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent, without adversely affecting therapeutic efficacy. The present invention thus provides a method for improving the therapeutic utility of antifolate drugs by

10 administering to the host undergoing treatment with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent. We have discovered that increased levels of methylmalonic acid is a predictor of toxic events in patients that receive an antifolate drug and that treatment for the increased methylmalonic acid, such as treatment with vitamin B12, reduces mortality and nonhematologic events, such as skin rashes and fatigue events previously associated with

15 the antifolate drugs.

Additionally, we have discovered that the combination of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent and folic acid synergistically reduces the toxic events associated with the administration of antifolate drugs. Although, the treatment and prevention of cardiovascular disease with folic acid in combination with vitamin B12 is known, the use

20 of the combination for the treatment of toxicity associated with the administration of antifolate drugs was unknown heretofore.

The present invention relates to a method of administering an antifolate to a mammal in need thereof, comprising administering an effective amount of said antifolate in combination with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent.

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Furthermore, the present invention relates to a method of reducing the toxicity associated with the administration of an antifolate to a mammal comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of said antifolate in combination with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent.

Furthermore, the present invention relates to a method of inhibiting tumor growth in mammals comprising administering to said mammals an effective amount of an antifolate in combination with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent.

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Furthermore, the present invention relates to a method of administering an antifolate to a mammal in need thereof, comprising administering an effective amount of said antifolate in combination with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent and a FBP binding agent. A preferred FBP binding agent is folic acid.

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Furthermore, the present invention relates to a method of reducing the toxicity associated with the administration of an antifolate to a mammal comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of said antifolate in combination with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent and a FBP binding agent. A preferred FBP binding agent is folic acid.

Furthermore, the present invention relates to a method of inhibiting tumor growth 10 in mammals comprising administering to said mammals an effective amount of an antifolate in combination with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent and a FBP binding agent. A preferred FBP binding agent is folic acid.

Furthermore, the present invention relates to the use of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent, alone or in combination with a FBP binding agent, in the preparation of a medicament useful in lowering the mammalian toxicity of an antifolate. A preferred FBP binding agent is folic acid.

Furthermore, the present invention relates to the use of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent in the preparation of a medicament useful in lowering the mammalian toxicity associated with an antifolate, and the medicament is administered in combination with an antifolate.

Furthermore, the present invention relates to the use of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent in the preparation of a medicament useful in lowering the mammalian toxicity associated with an antifolate, and the medicament is administered in combination with an antifolate and a FBP binding agent.

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Furthermore, the present invention relates to the use of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent in the manufacture of a medicament for use in a method of inhibiting tumor growth in mammals, which method comprises administering said methylmalonic acid lowering agent in combination with an antifolate.

Furthermore, the present invention relates to a product containing a methylmalonic acid lowering agent, an antifolate and optionally a FBP binding agent as a combined preparation for the simultaneous, separate or sequential use in inhibiting tumour growth.

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The current invention concerns the discovery that administration of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent in combination with an antifolate drug reduces the toxicity of the said antifolate drug.

The term "inhibit" as it relates to antifolate drugs refers to prohibiting, alleviating, ameliorating, halting, restraining, slowing or reversing the progression of, or reducing tumor growth.

As used herein, the term "effective amount" refers to an amount of a compound or drug, which is capable of performing the intended result. For example, an effective amount of an antifolate drug that is administered in an effort to reduce tumor growth is that amount which is required to reduce tumor growth.

As used herein, the term "toxicity" refers to a toxic event associated with the administration on an antifolate. Such events include, but are not limited to, neutropenia, thrombopenia, toxic death, fatigue, anorexia, nausea, skin rash, infection, diarrhea, mucositis, and anemia. For further explanation of the types of toxicity experienced by

15 patients receiving antifolates, see, generally, <u>Antifolate Drugs in Cancer Therapy</u>. Preferably, toxicity refers to toxic death, fatigue, neutropenia, thrombopenia, and mucositis.

As used herein, the term "nonhematologic event" refers to the occurrence of skin rash or fatigue due to the administration of an antifolate.

20 As used herein, the term "in combination with" refers to the administration of the methylmalonic acid lowering agent, the antifolate drug, and optionally the folic acid; in any order such that sufficient levels of methylmalonic acid lowering agent and optionally folic acid are present to reduce the toxicity of an antifolate in a mammal. The administration of the compounds maybe simultaneous as a single composition or as two separate

- 25 compositions or can be administered sequentially as separate compositions such that an effective amount of the agent first administered is in the patient's body when the second and/or third agent is administered. The antifolate drug may be administered to the mammal first, followed by treatment with the methylmalonic acid lowering agent. Alternatively, the mammal may be administered the antifolate drug simultaneously with the
- 30 methylmalonic acid lowering agent. Preferably, the mammal is pretreated with the methylmalonic acid lowering agent and then treated with the antifolate. If folic acid is to

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be administered in addition to the methylmalonic acid lowering agent, the folic acid may be administered at any time prior, post, or simultaneously to the administration of either the methylmalonic acid lowering agent or the antifolate. Preferably, the mammal is pretreated with the methylmalonic acid, and then treated with folic acid, followed by treatment with

5 the antifolate compound.

> The terms "antifolate" and "antifolate drug" refer to a chemical compound which inhibits at least one key folate-requiring enzyme of the thymidine or purine biosynthetic pathways, preferably thymidylate synthase ("TS"), dihydrofolate reductase ("DHFR"), or glycinamide ribonucleotide formyltransferase ("GARFT"), by competing with reduced

10 folates for binding sites of these enzymes. Preferred examples of antifolates include 5fluorouracil, as manufactured by Glaxo; Tomudex®, as manufactured by Zeneca; Methotrexate®, as manufactured by Lederle; Lometrexol®, as manufactured by Tularik; pyrido[2,3-d]pyrimidine derivatives described by Taylor et al. in U.S. Pat. Nos. 4684653, 4833145, 4902796, 4871743, and 4882,334; derivatives described by Akimoto in U.S.

15 Pat. No. 4997838; thymidylate synthase inhibitors as found in EPO application 239,362; and most preferred, Pemetrexed Sodium (ALIMTA), as manufactured by Eli Lilly & Co.

The terms "methylmalonic acid" and "MMA" refer to a structural isomer of succinic acid present in minute amounts in healthy human urine.

The term "methylmalonic acid lowering agent" refers to a substrate, which lowers 20 the concentration of methylmalonic acid in a mammal. A preferred example of such a substrate is vitamin B12. For methods of determining methylmalonic acid and substrates therefore, see, e.g., Matchar DB, Feussner JR, Millington DS, et al. Isotope dilution assay for urinary methylmalonic acid in the diagnosis of vitamin B12 deficiency. A prospective clinical evaluation. Ann Intern Med 1987; 106: 707-710; Norman EJ, Morrison JA.

25 Screening elderly populations for cobalamin (vitamin B12) deficiency using the urinary methylmalonic acid assay by gas chromatography mass spectrometry. Am J Med 1993; 94: 589-594; Norman EJ. Gas Chromatography mass spectrometry screening of urinary methylmalonic acid: early detection of vitamin B12 (cobalamin) deficiency to prevent permanent neurologic disability. GC/MS News 1984; 12:120-129; Martin DC, Francis J,

30 Protetch J, Huff FJ. Time dependency of cognitive recovery with cobalamin replacement: report of a pilot study. JAGS 1992; 40: 168-172; Norman EJ, Cronin C. Cobalamin

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deficiency. Neurol 1996; 47: 310-311; Rasmussen K, Moelby I, Jensen MK. Studies on methylmalonic acid in humans; Savage DG, Lindenbaum J, Stabler SP, Allen RH. Sensitivity of methylmalonic acid and total homocysteine determination for diagnosing cobalamin and folate deficiency. Am J Med 1994; 96: 239-246.

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The term "vitamin B12" refers to vitamin B12 and its pharmaceutical derivatives, such as hydroxocobalamin, cyano-10-chlorocobalamin, aquocobalamin perchlorate, aquo-10-chlorocobalamin perchlorate, azidocobalamin, chlorocobalamin, and cobalamin. Preferably the term refers to vitamin B12, cobalamin, and chlorocobalamin.

The dosage generally will be provided in the form of a vitamin supplement, namely as a tablet administered orally, such as a sustained release formulation, as an aqueous solution added to drinking water, or as an aqueous parenteral formulation. Preferably the methylmalonic acid lowering agent is administered as an intramuscular injection formulation. Such formulations are known in the art and are commercially available.

The skilled artisan will appreciate that the methylmalonic lowering agents are
effective over a wide dosage range. For example, when cobalamin is used as the methylmalonic lowering agent, the dosage of cobalamin may fall within the range of about 0.2 µg to about 3000 µg of cobalamin from once daily for a month to once every nine weeks for a year. Preferably, cobalamin will be dosed as an intramuscular injection of about 500 µg to about 1500 µg administered from about every 24 hours to about every

20 1680 hours. Preferably, it is an intramuscular injection of about 1000 µg administered initially from about 1 to about 3 weeks prior to administration of the antifolate and repeated from about every 24 hours to about every 1680 hours, regardless of when treatment with the antifolate is started and continued until the administration of the antifolate is discontinued. Most preferred is an intramuscular injection of about 1000 µg

25 administered initially from about 1 to about 3 weeks prior to the first administration of the antifolate and repeated every 6 to 12 weeks, preferably about every 9 weeks, and continued until the discontinuation of the antifolate administrations. However, it will be understood that the amount of the methylmalonic acid lowering agent actually administered will be determined by a physician, in the light of the relevant circumstances,

30 including the condition to be treated, the chosen route of administration, the actual agent

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administered, the age, weight, and response of the individual patient, and the severity of the patient's symptoms, and therefore the above dosage ranges are not intended to limit the scope of the invention in any way. In some instances dosage levels below the lower limit of the aforesaid range may be more than adequate, while in other cases still larger doses may be employed without causing any harmful side effect.

The term "FBP binding agent" as used herein refers to a folic binding protein binding agent which includes folic acid, (6R)-5-methyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrofolic acid, and (6R)-5-formyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrofolic acid, or a physiologically-available salt or ester thereof. This latter compound is the (6R)-isomer of leucovorin as disclosed in J. Am.

10 Chem. Soc., 74, 4215 (1952). Both of the tetrahydrofolic acid compounds are in the unnatural configuration at the 6-position. They are 10-20 fold more efficient in binding the folate binding protein compared with their respective (6S)—isomer, see Ratnam, et. al., Folate and Antifolate Transport in Mammalian Cells Symposium, Mar. 21-22, 1991, Bethesda, MD. These compounds are usually prepared as a mixture with their natural

15 form (6S) of diastereomers by non-stereoselective reduction from the corresponding dehydro precursors followed by separation through chromatographic or enzymatic techniques. See e.g. PCT Patent Application Publication WO 880844 (also Derwent Abstract 88-368464/51) and Canadian Patent 1093554. See, e.g. Dietary Reference Intakes for Thiamin, Riboflavin, Niacin, Vitamin B6, Folate, Vitamin B12, Pantothenic

20 Acid, Biotin, and Choline (2000), 8 Folate, pp. 196-305.

"Physiologically-available salt" refers to potassium, sodium, lithium, magnesium, or preferably a calcium salt of the FBP binding agent. "Physiologically-available...ester"
refers to esters which are easily hydrolyzed upon administration to a mammal to provide the corresponding FBP binding agent free acid, such as C₁-C₄ alkyl esters, mixed anhydrides, and the like.

The FBP binding agent to be utilized according to this invention can be in its free acid form, or can be in the form of a physiologically-acceptable salt or ester which is converted to the parent acid in a biological system. The dosage generally will be provided in the form of a vitamin supplement, namely as a tablet administered orally, preferably as a

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sustained release formulation, as an aqueous solution added to drinking water, an aqueous parenteral formulation, e.g., an intravenous formulation, or the like.

The FBP binding agent is usually administered to the subject mammal prior to treatment with the antifolate. Pretreatment with the suitable amount of FBP binding agent from about 1 to about 24 hours is usually sufficient to substantially bind to and block the folate binding protein prior to administration of the antifolate. Although one single dose of the FBP binding agent, preferably an oral administration of folic acid, should be sufficient to load the folate binding protein, multiple dosing of the FBP binding agent can be employed for periods up to weeks before treatment with the active agent to ensure that the folate binding protein is sufficiently bound in order to maximize the benefit derived

from such pretreatment.

In the especially preferred embodiment of this invention, about 0.1 mg to about 30 mg, most preferably about 0.3 mg to about 5 mg, of folic acid is administered orally to a mammal about 1 to 3 weeks post administration of the methylmalonic acid lowering agent and about 1 to about 24 hours prior to the parenteral administration of the amount of an antifolate. However, it will be understood that the amount of the methylmalonic acid lowering agent actually administered will be determined by a physician, in the light of the relevant circumstances, including the condition to be treated, the chosen route of

20 individual patient, and the severity of the patient's symptoms, and therefore the above dosage ranges are not intended to limit the scope of the invention in any way. In some instances dosage levels below the lower limit of the aforesaid range may be more than adequate, while in other cases still larger doses may be employed without causing any harmful side effect.

administration, the actual agent administered, the age, weight, and response of the

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In general, the term "pharmaceutical" when used as an adjective means substantially non-toxic to living organisms.

Methods

To assess the effect of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent, alone or in 30 combination with folic acid on the antitumor efficacy of an antifolate in a human tumor xenograft model, female nude mice bearing human MX-1 breast carcinoma were treated

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with ALIMTA alone or along with super-physiologic doses of folic acid or vitamin B12 (cobalamin).

The animals were maintained on sterilized standard lab chow ad libitum and sterilized water ad libitum. The human MX-1 tumor cells ($5 \ge 10^6$) obtained from donor tumors were implanted subcutaneously in a thigh of female nude mice 8- to 10-weeks old. Beginning on day 7 post tumor cell implantation, the animals were treated with ALIMTA (100 mg/kg or 150 mg/kg) once daily on days 7 through 11 and 14 through 18 by intraperitoneal injection alone or along with folic acid (6 mg/kg or 60 mg/kg) and/or vitamin B12 (165 mg/kg) by intraperitoneal injection on the same schedule.

Tumor response was monitored by tumor volume measurements twice weekly over the course of the experiment. Toxicity was monitored by body weight measurements made at the same time as the tumor volume measurements. Tumor growth delay was the difference in days for the treated and the controls tumors to reach 1000 mm³.

The human MX-1 breast carcinoma xenograft was responsive to treatment with ALIMTA with doses of 100 mg/kg and 150 mg/kg producing tumor growth delays of 17 days and 21 days, respectively. Folic acid was administered to the animals alone at two doses 6 mg/kg and 60 mg/kg on the same schedule as ALIMTA and produced tumor growth delays of 7 days and 12 days, respectively. Vitamin B12 administered alone at a dose of 165 mg/kg resulted in a tumor growth delay of 12 days.

20 Combinations of ALIMTA at each of the two doses were administered along with each of the vitamins as simultaneous combination regimens. Administration of folic acid (6 mg/kg) along with ALIMTA did not alter the tumor growth delay produced from that obtained with ALIMTA alone. The addition of folic acid at the higher dose (60 mg/kg) along with each dose of ALIMTA resulted in small increases in tumor growth delay to 22

25 days and 23 days at the ALIMTA doses of 100 mg/kg and 150 mg/kg, respectively. The tumor growth delays with ALIMTA and vitamin B12 (165 mg/kg) treatment were 22 days and 24 days at ALIMTA doses of 100 mg/kg and 150 mg/kg, respectively.

Body weight was used as a general measure of toxicity for each of the treatment regimens. The body weight loss pattern reflected the treatment regimens with weight decrease during the treatment times of days 7 through 11 and 14 through 18 with some

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weight recovery during the intervening two days. The weight loss due to ALITMA was dose dependent but overall minor (3%). Folic acid alone at either 6 mg/kg or 60 mg/kg did not cause weight loss, in fact folic acid treated animals maintained weight and gained weight over the course of the experiment better than the control animals. The animals treated with ALIMTA (100 mg/kg) and folic acid (60 mg/kg) gained weight (about 20%) over the course of the experiment.

Administration of vitamin B12 did not prevent weight gain in the animals over the time course of the experiment. The animals treated with ALIMTA (100 mg/kg) along with vitamin B12 gained weight while those treated with ALIMTA (150 mg/kg) along with vitamin B12 maintained weight over the course of the experiment.

In conclusion, administration of super-physiologic but non-toxic doses of the vitamins, folic acid and vitamin B12, did not alter the antitumor activity of ALIMTA in the human MX-1 breast carcinoma xenograft tumor in nude mice and did not increase the toxicity of ALIMTA as determined by body weight measurements of the animals.

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The effect of vitamin B12, alone or in combination with folic acid, on antifolates can be demonstrated in standard tests commonly utilized to determine the antitumor activity and toxic effects of the antifolates themselves. In one such test, mice are inoculated with the C3H strain of mammary adenocarcinoma by inserting a 2 mm by 2 mm section of tumor into the axillary region of the mice by trocar. The timing of administering the methylmalonic acid lowering agent, alone or in combination with the folic acid, and the antifolate may be varied. Ten animals are used at each dosage level. Antitumor activity is assessed on day ten (when day one is first dosage of antifolate) by measuring the length and width of the tumor growth using vernier calipers, and the activity is expressed as a

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percent inhibition of tumor growth.

When the antifolate is administered to infected mice which are maintained on a diet totally free of vitamin B12 and optionally folic acid for two weeks prior to and during treatment, it exhibits moderated antitumor activity at very low doses, but also causes severe toxicity at a very low dose (measured as death of mice).

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A test group of mice are maintained on a vitamin B12 and optionally folic acid free diet for two weeks before treatment. Vitamin B12 and optionally folic acid is then
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toxic effects.

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administered during the treatment by intramuscular injection of 0.0003% vitamin B12 (weight/volume) and optionally providing the animals drinking water containing 0.0003% folic acid (weight/volume). This concentration translates to about 1.75 mg of vitamin B12 and optionally folic acid per square meter of body surface per day. As the foregoing results indicate, addition of the indicated level of vitamin B12 to the diet of a subject

receiving an antifolate results in excellent antitumor activity at low doses, with little or no

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The foregoing tests establish that for tumor bearing mice maintained on a vitamin B12 and optionally folic acid free diet prior to and during treatment with an antifolate, the toxicity of the antifolate is very large, with 1 mg/kg/day being lethal to the majority of the mice, and lower antitumor activity is observed at non-toxic drug doses. Very low doses of vitamin B12 partially reverses drug toxicity and improved antitumor activity. Larger doses of vitamin B12 reduce antifolate toxicity even more significantly. Pretreatment of the mouse with vitamin B12 and then administering folic acid prior to administering the

15 antifolate demonstrates a striking reduction in toxicity, almost eliminating the antifolate toxicity completely. Thus, the use of vitamin B12 in combination with an antifolate reduces drug toxicity without adversely affecting antitumor activity, and the use of vitamin B12 in conjunction with folic acid synergistically reduces drug toxicity.

In a typical clinical evaluation involving cancer patients, all of whom have 20 histologically or cytologically confirmed diagnosis of cancer, an antifolate is administered in combination with vitamin B12. Vitamin B12 is administered as a 1000 µg intramuscular injection 1-3 weeks prior to treatment with the antifolate, and 1000 µg intramuscular injection of vitamin B12 is made approximately every 9 weeks until the patient discontinues from therapy. The antifolate is administered in four doses over a two

25 week period by rapid intravenous injection, followed by two weeks of non-therapy. Dosing is made on days 1, 4, 8 and 11 of any two week period. Patients will have an initial course of therapy at a dose of 5 mg/m²/dose, and depending upon the toxic effects observed in the initial course, their subsequent courses may be at the same dose, or may be escalated to 6 mg/m², or may be attenuated to 4 mg/m².

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In preparation for the foregoing clinical study, pilot studies in humans have established that vitamin B12 given to patients receiving Alimta has effected reduced side effects due to the Alimta. One to two weeks prior to administration of ALIMTA urine is collected and blood is drawn from a human subject; and vitamin metabolite levels,

- 5 methylmalonic acid and homocysteine, are determined. Homocysteine levels are determined in blood by a fluorescent polarization immunoassay kit manufactured by Abbot Laboratories. Methylmalonic acid levels are determined by urine levels using a 24 hour urine collection kit available from Biolab Medical Unit (a United Kingdom company). Additionally urine and blood may be collected one week prior to administration of
- 10 ALIMTA (after at least 5 days of folic acid supplementation and at least 1 week vitamin B12 supplementation), and up to 4 days prior to every cycle.

Method of administration and dosing procedures:

15 1. Folic Acid:

Folic acid will be supplied as one of the following options, with preference in order from option #1 to option #3:

- 1. $350 600 \mu g$ folic acid.
- 2. A multivitamin containing folic acid in the range of 350 μ g to 600 μ g is acceptable if option #1 is not available.
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- A dose of folic acid between 350 μg and 1000 μg is acceptable if neither option #1 or option # 2 is available.

For purposes of this study, patients should take oral folic acid daily beginning approximately 1 to 3 weeks before treatment with ALIMTA plus cisplatin or cisplatin

- 25 alone and continuing daily until discontinuation from study therapy.
 - 2. Vitamin B12

Vitamin B12 will be obtained and administered as a 1000 µg intramuscular injection. A vitamin B12 injection must be administered approximately 1 to 3 weeks before treatment with ALIMTA and should be repeated approximately every 9 weeks until

30 the patient discontinues from study therapy.

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Folic acid supplementation, $350 - 600 \ \mu g$ or equivalent should be taken orally daily beginning approximately 1 to 3 weeks prior to the first dose of MTA plus cisplatin and continue daily until the patient discontinues from study therapy. A vitamin B12 injection, 1000 μg , must be given intramuscularly approximately 1 to 3 weeks prior to the first dose of ALIMTA and should be repeated approximately every 9 weeks until the patient discontinues from study therapy.

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Compare presupplementation homocysteine and methylmalonic acid levels to a) the level immediately prior to the initial dose of study drug, and b) to the level immediately prior to the second dose of study drug (i.e., after a full cycle of supplementation), and

10 compare the prevalence of specific toxicities experienced in up to the first seven cycles of therapy in patients who have been supplemented from baseline to the prevalence seen in the earlier patients (n = 246) who were not supplemented (Farber et al.)

Toxicity may be compared in specific patients in non-supplemented cycles versus supplemented cycles (cross-over patients).

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The data to be compared are:

- Patient numbers and baseline demographic data for those supplemented from baseline.
- 2) Homocysteine and methylmalonic acid levels, levels at baseline, prior to first dose, prior to second dose, and prior to each therapy cycle depending of the type of cancer under study.

3) Grade 3 and 4 hematologic toxicity in these fully supplemented patients.

4) Grade 3 and 4 nonhematologic toxicity in these fully supplemented patients.

The grading of toxicities in chemotherapuetic clinical trials is well known to a person of skill in the art. Examples of fatigue and skin rash grading are provided below.

Fatigue Grading --

Neuromotor

- Grade 0 none or no change
- Grade 1 subjective weakness; no objective findings
- Grade 2 mild objective weakness without significant impairment of function
 - Grade 3 objective weakness with impairment of function
 - Grade 4 paralysis

Rash Grading --

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Grade 0 none or no change

Skin

Grade 1 scattered macular or papular eruption or erythema that is asymptomatic

Grade 2 scattered macular or papular eruption or erythema with pruritus or other associated eruption symptoms

Grade 3 generalized symptomatic macular, papular, or vesicular eruption
 Grade 4 exfoliative dermatitis or ulcerating dermatitis

The vitamins (both folic acid and B12) to be used in the following studies may be obtained from Zenith Gold Line, Centrum, Folvite, or in Canada Apo-Folic.

- 20 Cyanocobalamin is used as the methylmalonic acid lowering agent in these studies. Current and past clinical trials show a 4% drug-related death total, 50% grade 3/4 neutropenia, 7% grade 4 thrombocytopenia, and 10% grade 3/4 diarrheas and mucositis in patients administered ALIMTA and folic acid as described in U.S. Pat. No. 5,217,974. Vitamin B12 supplementation with ALIMTA has a moderate effect on drug related
- 25 toxicity, lowering drug related deaths to 3% and severe toxicities by about 25%. The combination of vitamin B12 and folic acid with ALIMTA has lowered the drug related deaths to <1% in over 480 so treated. The combination of vitamin B12 and folic acid has lowered the drug related grade 3/4 toxic events, see Table 1.</p>

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	Percent of occurrences prior to B12/folic acid treatment (N=246)	Percent of occurrences post B12/folic acid treatment (N=78)
Hematologic Toxicity/Non- Hematologic Toxicity	37%	6.4%
Neutropenia	32%	2.6%
Mucositis	5%	1.3%
Diarrhea	6%	2.6%
Neutropenia and Mucositis	3%	0%
Neutropenia and Diarrhea	3%	0%
Neutropenia and Infection	2%	0%

Table 1

Additionally, sixty-two chemonaive patients requiring chemotherapeutic treatment were divided into two groups. Seventeen of these patients received ALIMTA, but did not receive vitamin B12 or folic acid, as described *supra*. The remaining patients received treatment with vitamin B12, folic acid, and ALIMTA, as described *supra*. Of patients who received the combination treatment, 8 out of 45 responded to the chemotherapy. Of patients who did not receive the combination treatment, but rather, received only treatment with ALIMTA, only 1 out of 17 patients responded.

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We Claim:

1. A method of administering an antifolate to a mammal in need thereof, comprising administering an effective amount of said antifolate in combination with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent.

2. A method of reducing the toxicity associated with the administration of an antifolate to a mammal comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of said antifolate in combination with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent.

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3. A method of inhibiting tumor growth in mammals comprising administering to said mammals an effective amount of an antifolate in combination with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent.

4. A method of administering an antifolate to a mammal in need thereof, comprising administering an effective amount of said antifolate in combination with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent and FBP binding agent.

A method of reducing the toxicity associated with the administration of an
 antifolate to a mammal comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of
 said antifolate in combination with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent and FBP binding
 agent.

A method of inhibiting tumor growth in manimals comprising administering
 to said mammals an effective amount of an antifolate in combination with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent and FBP binding agent.

 A method of any one of claims 1-6 wherein the methylmalonic acid lowering agent is selected from the group consisting of hydroxocobalamin, cyano-10 chlorocobalamin, aquocobalamin perchlorate, aquo-10-chlorocobalamin perchlorate, azidocobalamin, chlorocobalamin, and cobalamin.

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8. A method of any one of claims 4-6 wherein the FBP binding agent is selected from the group consisting of folic acid, (6R)-5-methyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrofolic acid, and (6R)-5-formyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrofolic acid, or a physiologically-available salt or ester thereof.

9. A method of any one of claims 1-8 wherein the antifolate is ALIMTA.

10. A method of any one of claims 1-9 wherein the mammal is pretreated with10 methylmalonic acid lowering agent.

11. The use of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent in the preparation of a medicament useful in lowering the mammalian toxicity associated with an antifolate, and the medicament is administered in combination with an antifolate.

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12. The use of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent in the preparation of a medicament useful in lowering the mammalian toxicity associated with an antifolate, and the medicament is administered in combination with an antifolate and a FBP binding agent.

20 13. The use any one of claims 11-12 wherein the methylmalonic acid lowering agent is selected from the group consisting of hydroxocobalamin, cyano-10chlorocobalamin, aquocobalamin perchlorate, aquo-10-chlorocobalamin perchlorate, azidocobalamin, chlorocobalamin, and cobalamin.

25 14. The use of any one of claims 11-13 wherein the FBP binding agent is selected from the group consisting of folic acid, (6R)-5-methyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrofolic acid, and (6R)-5-formyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrofolic acid, or a physiologically-available salt or ester thereof.

15. The use of any one of claims 11-14 wherein the antifolate is ALIMTA.

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16. The use of any one of claims 11-15 wherein the mammal is pretreated with methylmalonic acid lowering agent.

17. Use of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent in the manufacture of a
5 medicament for lowering the mammalian toxicity associated with administration of an antifolate wherein said methylmalonic acid lowering agent is administered in combination with said antifolate.

18. Use of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent in the manufacture of a
 medicament for use in a method of inhibiting tumor growth in mammals, which method comprises administering said methylmalonic acid lowering agent in combination with an antifolate.

19. Use according to claim 17 or 18 wherein a FBP binding agent is also
administered in combination with said methylmalonic acid lowering agent and antifolate.

20. Use according to any one of claims 17-19 wherein the methylmalonic acid lowering agent, antifolate and optionally FBP binding agent is administered simultaneously, separately or sequentially of one another.

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21. The use any one of claims 17-20 wherein the methylmalonic acid lowering agent is selected from the group consisting of hydroxocobalamin, cyano-10-chlorocobalamin, aquocobalamin perchlorate, aquo-10-chlorocobalamin perchlorate, azidocobalamin, chlorocobalamin, and cobalamin.

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22. The use of any one of claims 19-21 wherein the FBP binding agent is selected from the group consisting of folic acid, (6R)-5-methyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrofolic acid, and (6R)-5-formyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrofolic acid, or a physiologically-available salt or ester thereof.

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23. The use of any one of claims 17-22 wherein the antifolate is ALIMTA.

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24. The use of any one of claims 17-23 wherein the mammal is pretreated with the methylmalonic acid lowering agent.

- 5 25. A product containing a methylmalonic acid lowering agent, an antifolate and optionally a FBP binding agent as a combined preparation for the simultaneous, separate or sequential use in inhibiting tumour growth.
- 26. A product according to claim 25 wherein the methylmalonic acid lowering
 agent is selected from the group consisting of hydroxocobalamin, cyano-10 chlorocobalamin, aquocobalamin perchlorate, aquo-10-chlorocobalamin perchlorate,
 azidocobalamin, chlorocobalamin, and cobalamin.
 - 27. A product according to claim 25 or 26 wherein the antifolate is ALIMTA.

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28. A product according to anyone of claims 25-27 wherein the FBP binding agent is selected from the group consisting of folic acid, (6R)-5-methyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrofolic acid, and (6R)-5-formyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrofolic acid, or a physiologically-available salt or ester thereof.

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Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt				
EFS ID:	1962281			
Application Number:	11776329			
International Application Number:				
Confirmation Number:	6568			
Title of Invention:	NOVEL ANTIFOLATE COMBINATION THERAPIES			
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Clet Niyikiza			
Customer Number:	25885			
Filer:	Manisha Arvind Desai/Lisa Capps			
Filer Authorized By:	Manisha Arvind Desai			
Attorney Docket Number:	X-14173B			
Receipt Date:	11-JUL-2007			
Filing Date:				
Time Stamp:	17:06:59			
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)			

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	yes			
Payment was successfully received in RAM	\$1000			
RAM confirmation Number	1835			
Deposit Account	050840			
The Director of the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayment as follows:				
Charge any Additional Fees required under 37 C.F.R. Section 1.16 and 1.17				

File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes) /Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
			129154		
1	Transmittal of New Application	X14173BTransmittal.pdf	19a1005eee70a4910f01583eb9e90bba	no	1
Warnings:			92d1093c		
Information	:				
			1138024		
2		X14173publishedAppl.pdf	0/549be3a4511647423084e1b13e3f87	yes	21
	Multipa	rt Description/PDF files in	.zip description		
	Document Des	scription	Start	E	nd
	Abstrac	1		1	
	Specificat	2	1	6	
	Claims	17	2	21	
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з		X14173BPreliminaryAmnmt.	112177	ves	7
		pdf	4055bc969280ff4da212364e0fe0dc4c1 32066fe	,	
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	Document Des	scription	Start	E	nd
	Preliminary Am	endment	1		1
	Specificat	ion	2		2
	Claims	;	3		5
	Applicant Arguments/Remarks	Made in an Amendment	6		7
Warnings:					
Information	:				
4	Oath or Declaration filed	X14173Declaration.pdf	180049	no	3
			819e1183c8bc8719ce2800c6624c0dedd 8101b1a		
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Information					
5	Power of Attornev	X14173BPOA.pdf	317670	no	1
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Warnings:								
Information	:							
6	Assignee showing of ownership per	X14173BCertificate373 pdf	86295	no	1			
	37 CFR 3.73(b).		1beacc36de17ef3782173894dc9e3ba2 d122cb44					
Warnings:	Warnings:							
Information								
7	Miscellaneous Incoming Letter	X14173BCorrectInventorship	82734	no	2			
,		.pdf	5d0fd58fa29a8f476a4e8e9945ca5bfa5 12f128e	110				
Warnings:								
Information	:							
8	Information Disclosure Statement	X14173BIDS.pdf	72699	no	1			
	(IDS) Filed		8b14cc73cae338f95afeb5c7c94ee7db0 494793a					
Warnings:								
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9	Information Disclosure Statement	X14173B1449 ndf	86170	no	2			
	(IDS) Filed		24dd6c5e029b6f159c7b50f5ad7bd1c0 de0182ab					
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Information								
		Total Files Size (in bytes)	22	13339				

This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.

New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111

If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371

If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office

If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.

7/11/07

PTO/SB/06 (12-04)

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Approved for use through 7/31/2006. OMB 0651-0032

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD

11/776,329

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		(Column 1)		(Column 2)	(Column 3)		
NT B		CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA		RATE (\$)	ADDI- TIONAL FEE (\$)
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	FIRST PRESENT	TATION OF MULT	IPLE DEF	PENDENT CLAIN	I (37 CFR 1.16(j))		N/A	
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The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in column 1.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.16. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. ADDRESS.

7/11/07

PTO/SB/06 (12-04) Approved for use through 7/31/2006. OMB 0651-0032 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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	Under the Pape	work Reduction	Act of 1	995, no person	is are required to res	pond to a c	collection of	information un	less it dis	plays a valid OMB	control number.
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~	APPL	ICATION AS	SAME	NDED - PA	RT II (Column 3)		SMALL E	NTITY	OR	OTHER SMALL	THAN ENTITY
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AMEA	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))		Minus	***	=	×	=		OR	x =	
	Application Siz	B FEB (37 CFR	1.10(5))		(17 CED 4 485)					·	
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USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

United States Patent and Trademark Office



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LICATION NUMBER	FILING or 371(c) DATE	GRP ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY.DOCKET.NO	
11/776,329	07/11/2007		1000	X14173B	

CONFIRMATION NO. 6568

FILING RECEIPT

25885 ELI LILLY & COMPANY PATENT DIVISION P.O. BOX 6288 INDIANAPOLIS, IN46206-6288

Date Mailed: 07/18/2007

Receipt is acknowledged of this non-provisional patent application. The application will be taken up for examination in due course. Applicant will be notified as to the results of the examination. Any correspondence concerning the application must include the following identification information: the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Filing Receipt Corrections. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections

Applicant(s)

Clet Niyikiza, Indianapolis, IN; Paolo Paoletti, Indianapolis, IN; James Jacob Rusthoven, Ancaster, CANADA;

Power of Attorney: The patent practitioners associated with Customer Number 25885

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a DIV of $11/288,807 \ 11/29/2005$ which is a DIV of $10/297,821 \ 12/05/2002 \ PAT \ 7,053,065$ which is a 371 of PCT/US01/14860 06/15/2001 which claims benefit of $60/215,310 \ 06/30/2000$ and claims benefit of $60/235,859 \ 09/27/2000 \ ABN$ and claims benefit of $60/284,448 \ 04/18/2001$

Foreign Applications

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted:

Projected Publication Date: To Be Determined - pending completion of Corrected Papers

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

Title

Preliminary Class

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Since the rights granted by a U.S. patent extend only throughout the territory of the United States and have no effect in a foreign country, an inventor who wishes patent protection in another country must apply for a patent in a specific country or in regional patent offices. Applicants may wish to consider the filing of an international application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). An international (PCT) application generally has the same effect as a regular national patent application in each PCT-member country. The PCT process **simplifies** the filing of patent applications on the same invention in member countries, but **does not result** in a grant of "an international patent" and does not eliminate the need of applicants to file additional documents and fees in countries where patent protection is desired.

Almost every country has its own patent law, and a person desiring a patent in a particular country must make an application for patent in that country in accordance with its particular laws. Since the laws of many countries differ in various respects from the patent law of the United States, applicants are advised to seek guidance from specific foreign countries to ensure that patent rights are not lost prematurely.

Applicants also are advised that in the case of inventions made in the United States, the Director of the USPTO must issue a license before applicants can apply for a patent in a foreign country. The filing of a U.S. patent application serves as a request for a foreign filing license. The application's filing receipt contains further information and guidance as to the status of applicant's license for foreign filing.

Applicants may wish to consult the USPTO booklet, "General Information Concerning Patents" (specifically, the section entitled "Treaties and Foreign Patents") for more information on timeframes and deadlines for filing foreign patent applications. The guide is available either by contacting the USPTO Contact Center at 800-786-9199, or it can be viewed on the USPTO website at http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/doc/general/index.html.

For information on preventing theft of your intellectual property (patents, trademarks and copyrights), you may wish to consult the U.S. Government website, http://www.stopfakes.gov. Part of a Department of Commerce initiative, this website includes self-help "toolkits" giving innovators guidance on how to protect intellectual property in specific countries such as China, Korea and Mexico. For questions regarding patent enforcement issues, applicants may call the U.S. Government hotline at 1-866-999-HALT (1-866-999-4158).

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Title 35, United States Code, Section 184

Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 5.11 & 5.15

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This license is to be retained by the licensee and may be used at any time on or after the effective date thereof unless it is revoked. This license is automatically transferred to any related applications(s) filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d). This license is not retroactive.

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NOT GRANTED

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Page 1 of 2

United States Patent and Trademark Office

		UNITED STATES DEPAITMENT OF COMMERCI United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1430 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov				
APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371 (c) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER			
11/776,329	07/11/2007	Clet Niyikiza	X14173B			
			CONFIRMATION NO. 6568			
25885			FORMALITIES			

25885 ELI LILLY & COMPANY PATENT DIVISION P.O. BOX 6288 INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46206-6288

Date Mailed: 07/18/2007

LETTER

NOTICE TO FILE CORRECTED APPLICATION PAPERS

Filing Date Granted

An application number and filing date have been accorded to this application. The application is informal since it does not comply with the regulations for the reason(s) indicated below. Applicant is given TWO MONTHS from the date of this Notice within which to correct the informalities indicated below. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

The required item(s) identified below must be timely submitted to avoid abandonment:

• A substitute specification excluding claims in compliance with 37 CFR 1.52, 1.121(b)(3), and 1.125 is required. The substitute specification must be submitted with markings and be accompanied by a clean version (without markings) as set forth in 37 CFR 1.125(c) and a statement that the substitute specification contains no new matter (see 37 CFR 1.125(b)). Since a preliminary amendment was present on the filing date of the application and such amendment is part of the original disclosure of the application, the substitute specification must include all of the desired changes made in the preliminary amendment. See 37 CFR 1.115 and 1.215.

Applicant is cautioned that correction of the above items may cause the specification and drawings page count to exceed 100 pages. If the specification and drawings exceed 100 pages, applicant will need to submit the required application size fee.

Replies should be mailed to:

Mail Stop Missing Parts Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria VA 22313-1450

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Office of Initial Patent Examination (571) 272-4000, or 1-800-PTO-9199 PART 3 - OFFICE COPY

> Teva – Fresenius Exhibit 1002-00056

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt			
EFS ID:	2057405		
Application Number:	11776329		
International Application Number:			
Confirmation Number:	6568		
Title of Invention:	NOVEL ANTIFOLATE COMBINATION THERAPIES		
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Clet Niyikiza		
Customer Number:	25885		
Filer:	Manisha Arvind Desai/Lisa Capps		
Filer Authorized By:	Manisha Arvind Desai		
Attorney Docket Number:	X14173B		
Receipt Date:	07-AUG-2007		
Filing Date:	11-JUL-2007		
Time Stamp:	16:30:00		
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)		

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	no

File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes) /Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Applicant Response to Pre-Exam	X14173BResptoRequestforC	150572	20	3
	Formalities Notice	orrectedFiling.pdf	54fd6d75d68eb420aff19840ee863d0c5 f3aaf09		
Warnings:					

Information	:							
2		X14173BAmendedSpecMark edupcopy.pdf	162063 3054d6e3790327768bd692b03327756 34e562t3c	yes	17			
	Multipart Description/PDF files in .zip description							
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	Specifical	1	16					
	Abstrac	17	17					
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3		X14173BAmendedSpecClea	161578	Ves	17			
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	Specifical	1	16					
	Abstrac	17	17					
Warnings:								
Information								
4	Request for Corrected Filing Receipt	X14173BFinalCorrectedFilin gReceipt.pdf	266851	no	5			
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Warnings:								
Information:								
		Total Files Size (in bytes)	. 74	1064				

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New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111

If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371

If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office

If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.

<u>PATENT APPLICATION</u> <u>IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</u>

First Applicant:	NIYIKIZA Clet		
Serial No.: 11	/776,329		
Application Date: 7/11/2007		Conf No.:	6568
For:	NOVEL ANTIFOLATE COMBI	NATION TI	HERAPIES
Docket No.:	X14173B		

RESPONSE TO NOTICE TO FILE CORRECTED APPLICATION PAPERS

Commissioner for Patents Mail Stop Missing Parts P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to a "Notice to File Corrected Application Papers," dated July 18, 2007, noting the absence of a marked up and clean copy of a substitute specification, excluding claims.

Enclosed herewith are: 1) a copy of the Notice; 2) a marked up copy of the specification, excluding claims, in compliance with 37 CFR 1.115 and 37 CFR 1.125; and 3) a clean copy of the specification, excluding claims, in compliance with 37 CFR 1.125(c).

Applicants assert that the substitute specification contains no new matter.

Respectfully submitted,

/Manisha A. Desai/ Manisha A. Desai, Ph.D. Attorney for Applicant Registration No. 43,585 Phone: (317) 433-5333

Eli Lilly and Company Patent Division P.O. Box 6288 Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6288

August 6, 2007

UNITED STATES	Patent and Tradema	ARK OFFICE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS PO Box 1450 Alexandra, Virguna 22313-1450 www.uspic.gov			
APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371 (c) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER		
11/776,329	07/11/2007	Clet Niyikiza	X14173B		
25885 ELI LILLY & COMPANY PATENT DIVISION P O. BOX 6288 INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46206-6288	Respon	re Que 18 SEP 201	CONFIRMATION NO. 6568 FORMALITIES LETTER		

NOTICE TO FILE CORRECTED APPLICATION PAPERS

Filing Date Granted

An application number and filing date have been accorded to this application. The application is informal since it does not comply with the regulations for the reason(s) indicated below. Applicant is given TWO MONTHS from the date of this Notice within which to correct the informalities indicated below. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a)

The required item(s) identified below must be timely submitted to avoid abandonment

• A substitute specification excluding claims in compliance with 37 CFR 1 52, 1 121(b)(3), and 1 125 is required The substitute specification must be submitted with markings and be accompanied by a clean version (without markings) as set forth in 37 CFR 1.125(c) and a statement that the substitute specification contains no new matter (see 37 CFR 1.125(b)). Since a preliminary amendment was present on the filing date of the application and such amendment is part of the original disclosure of the application, the substitute specification must include all of the desired changes made in the preliminary amendment. See 37 CFR 1.125.

Applicant is cautioned that correction of the above items may cause the specification and drawings page count to exceed 100 pages. If the specification and drawings exceed 100 pages, applicant will need to submit the required application size fee.

Replies should be mailed to:Mail Stop Missing PartsCommissioner for PatentsP.O Box 1450Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Registered users of EFS-Web may alternatively submit their reply to this notice via EFS-Web https://sportal.uspto.gov/authenticate/AuthenticateUserLocalEPF.html

For more information about EFS-Web please call the USPTO Electronic Business Center at **1-866-217-9197** or visit our website at <u>http://www.uspto.gov/ebc.</u>

If you are not using EFS-Web to submit your reply, you must include a copy of this notice.

Office of Initial Patent Examination (571) 272-4000, or 1-800-PTO-9199 PART 1 - ATTORNEY/APPLICANT COPY

<u>PATENT APPLICATION</u> <u>IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</u>

First Applicant: NIYIKIZA Clet				
Serial No.: 11/776,329				
Application Date: July 11, 2007	Conf No.: 6568			
For: NOVEL ANTIFOLATE COMBINATION THERAPIES				
Docket No.: X14173B				

REQUEST FOR CORRECTED FILING RECEIPT

Commissioner for Patents Office of Initial Patent Examination Customer Service Center P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant requests correction of the filing receipt for this application. A copy of the receipt, with the corrections noted, is enclosed.

With the transmittal of this application, an Amendment and Petition to Correct Inventorship under 37 CFR 1.48(b) was also submitted. The filing receipt does not reflect the corrected inventorship.

Applicant believes no fees are due; however, if any fees are due, please charge any fees that may be required by this or related papers, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 05-0840 in the name of Eli Lilly and Company. Applicant therefore requests that the filing receipt be corrected.

Respectfully submitted,

/Manisha A. Desai/ Manisha A. Desai, Ph.D. Attorney/Agent for Applicant Registration No. 43,585 Phone: (317) 433-5333 Eli Lilly and Company Patent Division P.O. Box 6288 Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6288 <u>August 7, 2007</u>

Enclosure: Copy of Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon.

United States Patent and Trademark Office				ARK OFFICE UNITED STATES DEP/ United States Patent a Address COV/MISSIONER H PO Bex 1430 Alexandra, Vrgnua 22: www.uspf.gov	CE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS PO Box 1450 Alexandra, Virguna 22313-1450 www.uspic.gov		
APPL NO	FILING OR 371(c) DATE		FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY DOCKET NO	TOT CLMS	IND CLMS	
11/776,329	07/11/2007		1000	D X14173B	11	2	· /
25885 ELI LILLY & COMPANY PATENT DIVISION P.O. BOX 6288 INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46206-6288 ELI LILLY AND COMPANY Patent Division			CONF OT FILING RECEIPT OMPANY *OC00000002488741 *OC00000002488741	FIRMATION T 8*	I NO. 6568		

Date Mailed: 07/18/2007

Receipt is acknowledged of this **no**pprovisional patent application The application will be taken up for examination in due course. Applicant will be notified as to the results of the examination. Any correspondence concerning the application must include the following identification information: the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Filing Receipt Corrections. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

Applicant(s)

Clet Niyikiza, Indianapolis, IN; Paolo Paoletti, Indianapolis, IN; James Jacob Rusthoven, Ancaster, CANADA;

Power of Attorney: The patent practitioners associated with Customer Number 25885.

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a DIV of 11/288,807 11/29/2005 which is a DIV of 10/297,821 12/05/2002 PAT 7,053,065 which is a 371 of PCT/US01/14860 06/15/2001 which claims benefit of 60/215,310 06/30/2000 and claims benefit of 60/235,859 09/27/2000 ABN and claims benefit of 60/284,448 04/18/2001

Foreign Applications

Projected Publication Date: To Be Determined - pending completion of Corrected Papers

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

Preliminary Class

PROTECTING YOUR INVENTION OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

Since the rights granted by a U.S patent extend only throughout the territory of the United States and have no effect in a foreign country, an inventor who wishes patent protection in another country must apply for a patent in a specific country or in regional patent offices. Applicants may wish to consider the filing of an international application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). An international (PCT) application generally has the same effect as a regular national patent application in each PCT-member country. The PCT process simplifies the filing of patent applications on the same invention in member countries, but **does not result** in a grant of "an international patent" and does not eliminate the need of applicants to file additional documents and fees in countries where patent protection is desired.

Almost every country has its own patent law, and a person desiring a patent in a particular country must make an application for patent in that country in accordance with its particular laws. Since the laws of many countries differ in various respects from the patent law of the United States, applicants are advised to seek guidance from specific foreign countries to ensure that patent rights are not lost prematurely.

Applicants also are advised that in the case of inventions made in the United States, the Director of the USPTO must issue a license before applicants can apply for a patent in a foreign country. The filing of a U.S patent application serves as a request for a foreign filing license. The application's filing receipt contains further information and guidance as to the status of applicant's license for foreign filing

Applicants may wish to consult the USPTO booklet, "General Information Concerning Patents" (specifically, the section entitled "Treaties and Foreign Patents") for more information on timeframes and deadlines for filing foreign patent applications. The guide is available either by contacting the USPTO Contact Center at 800-786-9199, or it can be viewed on the USPTO website at http://www uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/doc/general/index html.

For information on preventing theft of your intellectual property (patents, trademarks and copyrights), you may wish to consult the U.S. Government website, http://www.stopfakes.gov Part of a Department of Commerce initiative, this website includes self-help "toolkits" giving innovators guidance on how to protect intellectual property in specific countries such as China, Korea and Mexico For questions regarding patent enforcement issues, applicants may call the U.S. Government hotline at 1-866-999-HALT (1-866-999-4158).

LICENSE FOR FOREIGN FILING UNDER Title 35, United States Code, Section 184 Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 5.11 & 5.15

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The applicant has been granted a license under 35 U.S C 184, if the phrase "IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED" followed by a date appears on this form Such licenses are issued in all applications where the conditions for issuance of a license have been met, regardless of whether or not a license may be required as set forth in 37 CFR 5.15. The scope and limitations of this license are set forth in 37 CFR 5.15(a) unless an earlier license has been issued under 37 CFR 5.15(b). The license is subject to revocation upon written notification. The date indicated is the effective date of the license, unless an earlier license of similar scope has been granted under 37 CFR 5.13 or 5 14

This license is to be retained by the licensee and may be used at any time on or after the effective date thereof

Teva – Fresenius Exhibit 1002-00066 unless it is revoked. This license is automatically transferred to any related applications(s) filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d). This license is not retroactive.

The grant of a license does not in any way lessen the responsibility of a licensee for the security of the subject matter as imposed by any Government contract or the provisions of existing laws relating to espionage and the national security or the export of technical data Licensees should apprise themselves of current regulations especially with respect to certain countries, of other agencies, particularly the Office of Defense Trade Controls, Department of State (with respect to Arms, Munitions and Implements of War (22 CFR 121-128)); the Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce (15 CFR parts 730-774); the Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of Treasury (31 CFR Parts 500+) and the Department of Energy.

NOT GRANTED

No license under 35 U.S.C. 184 has been granted at this time, if the phrase "IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED" DOES NOT appear on this form. Applicant may still petition for a license under 37 CFR 5 12, if a license is desired before the expiration of 6 months from the filing date of the application. If 6 months has lapsed from the filing date of this application and the licensee has not received any indication of a secrecy order under 35 U.S.C. 181, the licensee may foreign file the application pursuant to 37 CFR 5.15(b).

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NOVEL ANTIFOLATE COMBINATION THERAPIES

- 5 This application is a divisional of Application No. 11/288,807, filed 29 November 2005, which is a divisional of Application No. 10/297,821 filed 12 May 2002, now Patent Number 7,053,065, which claims priority under 35 USC 371, for PCT/US01/14860, filed 15 June 2001, which claims the priority of U.S. provisional applications No. 60/215,310, filed 30 June 2000, No. 60/235,859, filed 27 September 2000, and No. 60/284,448, filed
- 10 <u>18 April 2001.</u>

Potentially, life-threatening toxicity remains a major limitation to the optimal administration of antifolates. (see, generally, <u>Antifolate Drugs in Cancer Therapy</u>, edited by Jackman, Ann L., Humana Press, Totowa, NJ, 1999.) In some cases, a supportive intervention is routinely used to permit safe, maximal dosing. For example, steroids, such

15 as dexamethone, can be used to prevent the formation of skin rashes caused by the antifolate. (<u>Antifolate</u>, pg 197.)

Antifolates represent one of the most thoroughly studied classes of antineoplastic agents, with aminopterin initially demonstrating clinical activity approximately 50 years ago. Methotrexate was developed shortly thereafter, and today is a standard component

- 20 of effective chemotherapeutic regimens for malignancies such as lymphoma, breast cancer, and head and neck cancer. (Bonnadonna G, Zambetti M, Valagussa P. Sequential or alternating doxorubicin and CMF regimens in breast cancer with more than three positive nodes: Ten year results. JAMA 1995;273(7):542-547; Bonnadonna G, Valagussa P, Moliterni A, Zambetti M, Brambilla C. Adjuvant cyclophosphamide, methotrexate, and
- 25 fluorouracil in node-positive breast cancer: The results of 20 years of follow-up. N Engl J Med 1995;332(14):901-906; and Hong WK, Schaefer S, Issell B, et al. A prospective randomized trial of methotrexate versus cisplatin in the treatment of recurrent squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck. Cancer 1983;52:206-210.) Antifolates inhibit one or several key folate-requiring enzymes of the thymidine and purine biosynthetic pathways,
- 30 in particular, thymidylate synthase (TS), dihydrofolate reductase (DHFR), and glycinamide ribonucleotide formyltransferase (GARFT), by competing with reduced folates for binding sites of these enzymes. (Shih C, Habeck LL, Mendelsohn LG, Chen

-2-

VJ, Schultz RM. Multiple folate enzyme inhibition: Mechanism of a novel pyrrolopyrimidine-based antifolate LY231514 (MTA). Advan Enzyme Regul, 1998;
38:135-152 and Shih C, Chen VJ, Gossett LS, et al. LY231514, a pyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidine-based antifolate that inhibits multiple folate-requiring enzymes. Cancer Res

5 1997;57:1116-1123.) Several antifolate drugs are currently in development. Examples of antifolates that have thymidylate synthase inhibiting ("TSI") characteristics include 5-fluorouracil and Tomudex®. An example of an antifolate that has dihydrofolate reductase inhibiting ("DHFRI") characteristic is Methotrexate®. An example of an antifolate that has glycinamide ribonucleotide formyltransferase inhibiting ("GARFTI")

10 characteristics is Lometrexol. Many of these antifolate drugs inhibit more than one biosynthetic pathway. For example Lometrexol is also an inhibitor of dihydrofolate reductase and pemetrexed disodium (Alimta®, Eli Lilly and Company, Indianapolis, IN) has demonstrated thymidylate synthase, dihydrofolate reductase, and glycinamide ribonucleotide formyltransferase inhibition.

15 A limitation to the development of these drugs is that the cytotoxic activity and subsequent effectiveness of antifolates may be associated with substantial toxicity for some patients. Additionally antifolates as a class are associated with sporadic severe mylosuppression with gastrointestinal toxicity which, though infrequent, carries a high risk of mortality. The inability to control these toxicities led to the abandonment of

- 20 clinical development of some antifolates and has complicated the clinical development of others, such as Lometrexol and raltitrexed. (Jackman AL, Calvert AH Folate-Based Thymidylate Synthase Inhibitors as Anticancer Drugs. Ann Oncol 1995;6(9):871-881; Laohavinij S, Wedge SR, Lind MJ, et al. A phase I clinical study of the antipurine antifolate Lometrexol (DDATHF) given with oral folic acid. Invest New Drugs
- 25 1996;14:325-335; and Maughan TS, James RD, Kerr D, et al., on behalf of the British MRC Colorectal Cancer Working Party. Preliminary results of a multicenter randomized trial comparing 3 chemotherapy regimens (deGramont, Lokich, and raltitrexed) in metastatic colorectal cancer. Proc ASCO 1999;18:Abst 1007.)

Initially, folic acid was used as a treatment for toxicities associated with GARFTI 30 see, e.g. U.S. Pat. No. 5,217,974. Folic acid has been shown to lower homocysteine levels (see e.g. Homocysteine Lowering Trialist's Collaboration. Lowering blood homocysteine with folic acid based supplements: meta-analysis of randomized trials. BMJ X14173B

1998;316:894-898 and Naurath HJ, Joosten E, Riezler R, Stabler SP, Allen RH, Lindenbaum J. Effects of vitamin B12, folate and vitamin B6 supplements in elderly people with normal serum vitamin concentrations. Lancet 1995;346:85-89), and homocysteine levels have been shown to be a predictor of cytotoxic events related to the

-3-

- 5 use of GARFT inhibitors, see e.g. U.S. Pat. No. 5,217,974. However, even with this treatment, cytotoxic activity of GARFT inhibitors and antifolates as a class remains a serious concern in the development of antifolates as pharmaceutical drugs. The ability to lower cytotoxic activity would represent an important advance in the use of these agents.
- Surprisingly and unexpectedly, we have now discovered that certain toxic effects such as mortality and nonhematologic events, such as skin rashes and fatigue, caused by antifolates, as a class, can be significantly reduced by the presence of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent, without adversely affecting therapeutic efficacy. The present invention thus provides a method for improving the therapeutic utility of antifolate drugs by administering to the host undergoing treatment with a methylmalonic acid lowering
- 15 agent. We have discovered that increased levels of methylmalonic acid is a predictor of toxic events in patients that receive an antifolate drug and that treatment for the increased methylmalonic acid, such as treatment with vitamin B12, reduces mortality and nonhematologic events, such as skin rashes and fatigue events previously associated with the antifolate drugs.
- 20 Additionally, we have discovered that the combination of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent and folic acid synergistically reduces the toxic events associated with the administration of antifolate drugs. Although, the treatment and prevention of cardiovascular disease with folic acid in combination with vitamin B12 is known, the use of the combination for the treatment of toxicity associated with the administration of antifolate drugs was unknown heretofore.

The present invention relates to a method of administering an antifolate to a mammal in need thereof, comprising administering an effective amount of said antifolate in combination with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent.

Furthermore, the present invention relates to a method of reducing the toxicity 30 associated with the administration of an antifolate to a mammal comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of said antifolate in combination with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent.

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Furthermore, the present invention relates to a method of inhibiting tumor growth in mammals comprising administering to said mammals an effective amount of an antifolate in combination with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent.

Furthermore, the present invention relates to a method of administering an
antifolate to a mammal in need thereof, comprising administering an effective amount of said antifolate in combination with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent and a FBP binding agent. A preferred FBP binding agent is folic acid.

Furthermore, the present invention relates to a method of reducing the toxicity associated with the administration of an antifolate to a mammal comprising administering
to said mammal an effective amount of said antifolate in combination with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent and a FBP binding agent. A preferred FBP binding agent is folic acid.

Furthermore, the present invention relates to a method of inhibiting tumor growth in mammals comprising administering to said mammals an effective amount of an

15 antifolate in combination with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent and a FBP binding agent. A preferred FBP binding agent is folic acid.

Furthermore, the present invention relates to the use of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent, alone or in combination with a FBP binding agent, in the preparation of a medicament useful in lowering the mammalian toxicity of an antifolate. A preferred FBP hinding agent is folio acid

20 binding agent is folic acid.

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Furthermore, the present invention relates to the use of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent in the preparation of a medicament useful in lowering the mammalian toxicity associated with an antifolate, and the medicament is administered in combination with an antifolate.

Furthermore, the present invention relates to the use of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent in the preparation of a medicament useful in lowering the mammalian toxicity associated with an antifolate, and the medicament is administered in combination with an antifolate and a FBP binding agent.

Furthermore, the present invention relates to the use of a methylmalonic acid
lowering agent in the manufacture of a medicament for use in a method of inhibiting
tumor growth in mammals, which method comprises administering said methylmalonic
acid lowering agent in combination with an antifolate.

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Furthermore, the present invention relates to a product containing a methylmalonic acid lowering agent, an antifolate and optionally a FBP binding agent as a combined preparation for the simultaneous, separate or sequential use in inhibiting tumour growth.

The current invention concerns the discovery that administration of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent in combination with an antifolate drug reduces the toxicity of the said antifolate drug.

The term "inhibit" as it relates to antifolate drugs refers to prohibiting, alleviating, ameliorating, halting, restraining, slowing or reversing the progression of, or reducing tumor growth.

As used herein, the term "effective amount" refers to an amount of a compound or drug, which is capable of performing the intended result. For example, an effective amount of an antifolate drug that is administered in an effort to reduce tumor growth is that amount which is required to reduce tumor growth.

As used herein, the term "toxicity" refers to a toxic event associated with the administration on an antifolate. Such events include, but are not limited to, neutropenia, thrombopenia, toxic death, fatigue, anorexia, nausea, skin rash, infection, diarrhea, mucositis, and anemia. For further explanation of the types of toxicity experienced by patients receiving antifolates, see, generally, <u>Antifolate Drugs in Cancer Therapy</u>.

20 Preferably, toxicity refers to toxic death, fatigue, neutropenia, thrombopenia, and mucositis.

As used herein, the term "nonhematologic event" refers to the occurrence of skin rash or fatigue due to the administration of an antifolate.

- As used herein, the term "in combination with" refers to the administration of the 25 methylmalonic acid lowering agent, the antifolate drug, and optionally the folic acid; in any order such that sufficient levels of methylmalonic acid lowering agent and optionally folic acid are present to reduce the toxicity of an antifolate in a mammal. The administration of the compounds maybe simultaneous as a single composition or as two separate compositions or can be administered sequentially as separate compositions such
- 30 that an effective amount of the agent first administered is in the patient's body when the second and/or third agent is administered. The antifolate drug may be administered to the mammal first, followed by treatment with the methylmalonic acid lowering agent.

Teva – Fresenius Exhibit 1002-00072
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Alternatively, the mammal may be administered the antifolate drug simultaneously with the methylmalonic acid lowering agent. Preferably, the mammal is pretreated with the methylmalonic acid lowering agent and then treated with the antifolate. If folic acid is to be administered in addition to the methylmalonic acid lowering agent, the folic acid may

5 be administered at any time prior, post, or simultaneously to the administration of either the methylmalonic acid lowering agent or the antifolate. Preferably, the mammal is pretreated with the methylmalonic acid, and then treated with folic acid, followed by treatment with the antifolate compound.

The terms "antifolate" and "antifolate drug" refer to a chemical compound which inhibits at least one key folate-requiring enzyme of the thymidine or purine biosynthetic pathways, preferably thymidylate synthase ("TS"), dihydrofolate reductase ("DHFR"), or glycinamide ribonucleotide formyltransferase ("GARFT"), by competing with reduced folates for binding sites of these enzymes. Preferred examples of antifolates include 5-fluorouracil, as manufactured by Glaxo; Tomudex®, as manufactured by Zeneca;

Methotrexate®, as manufactured by Lederle; Lometrexol®, as manufactured by Tularik; pyrido[2,3-d]pyrimidine derivatives described by Taylor et al in U.S. Pat. Nos. 4,684,653, 4,833,145, 4,902,796, 4,871,743, and 4,882,334; derivatives described by Akimoto in U.S. Pat. No. 4,997,838; thymidylate synthase inhibitors as found in EPO application 239,362; and most preferred, Pemetrexed Sodium-Disodium (ALIMTA), as manufactured
20 by Eli Lilly & Co.

20 by Eli Lilly & Co.

The terms "methylmalonic acid" and "MMA" refer to a structural isomer of succinic acid present in minute amounts in healthy human urine.

The term "methylmalonic acid lowering agent" refers to a substrate, which lowers the concentration of methylmalonic acid in a mammal. A preferred example of such a substrate is vitamin B12. For methods of determining methylmalonic acid and substrates therefore, see, e.g., Matchar DB, Feussner JR, Millington DS, et al. Isotope dilution assay for urinary methylmalonic acid in the diagnosis of vitamin B12 deficiency. A prospective clinical evaluation. Ann Intern Med 1987; 106: 707-710; Norman EJ, Morrison JA. Screening elderly populations for cobalamin (vitamin B12) deficiency using the urinary methylmalonic acid assay by gas chromatography mass spectrometry. Am J Med 1993;

94: 589-594; Norman EJ. Gas Chromatography mass spectrometry screening of urinary methylmalonic acid: early detection of vitamin B12 (cobalamin) deficiency to prevent

permanent neurologic disability. GC/MS News 1984; 12:120-129; Martin DC, Francis J, Protetch J, Huff FJ. Time dependency of cognitive recovery with cobalamin replacement: report of a pilot study. JAGS 1992; 40: 168-172; Norman EJ, Cronin C. Cobalamin deficiency. Neurol 1996; 47: 310-311; Rasmussen K, Moelby I, Jensen MK. Studies on

5 methylmalonic acid in humans; Savage DG, Lindenbaum J, Stabler SP, Allen RH. Sensitivity of methylmalonic acid and total homocysteine determination for diagnosing cobalamin and folate deficiency. Am J Med 1994; 96: 239-246.

The term "vitamin B12" refers to vitamin B12 and its pharmaceutical derivatives, such as hydroxocobalamin, cyano-10-chlorocobalamin, aquocobalamin perchlorate, aquo10 10-chlorocobalamin perchlorate, azidocobalamin, chlorocobalamin, and cobalamin.
Preferably the term refers to vitamin B12, cobalamin, and chlorocobalamin.

The dosage generally will be provided in the form of a vitamin supplement, namely as a tablet administered orally, such as a sustained release formulation, as an aqueous solution added to drinking water, or as an aqueous parenteral formulation.

15 Preferably the methylmalonic acid lowering agent is administered as an intramuscular injection formulation. Such formulations are known in the art and are commercially available.

The skilled artisan will appreciate that the methylmalonic lowering agents are effective over a wide dosage range. For example, when cobalamin is used as the 20 methylmalonic lowering agent, the dosage of cobalamin may fall within the range of about 0.2 µg to about 3000 µg of cobalamin from once daily for a month to once every nine weeks for a year. Preferably, cobalamin will be dosed as an intramuscular injection of about 500 µg to about 1500 µg administered from about every 24 hours to about every 1680 hours. Preferably, it is an intramuscular injection of about 1000 µg administered

- 25 initially from about 1 to about 3 weeks prior to administration of the antifolate and repeated from about every 24 hours to about every 1680 hours, regardless of when treatment with the antifolate is started and continued until the administration of the antifolate is discontinued. Most preferred is an intramuscular injection of about 1000 µg administered initially from about 1 to about 3 weeks prior to the first administration of the
- 30 antifolate and repeated every 6 to 12 weeks, preferably about every 9 weeks, and continued until the discontinuation of the antifolate administrations. However, it will be

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understood that the amount of the methylmalonic acid lowering agent actually administered will be determined by a physician, in the light of the relevant circumstances, including the condition to be treated, the chosen route of administration, the actual agent administered, the age, weight, and response of the individual patient, and the severity of

- 5 the patient's symptoms, and therefore the above dosage ranges are not intended to limit the scope of the invention in any way. In some instances dosage levels below the lower limit of the aforesaid range may be more than adequate, while in other cases still larger doses may be employed without causing any harmful side effect.
- The term "FBP binding agent" as used herein refers to a folic binding protein binding agent which includes folic acid, (6R)-5-methyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrofolic acid, and (6R)-5-formyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrofolic acid, or a physiologically-available salt or ester thereof. This latter compound is the (6R)-isomer of leucovorin as disclosed in J. Am. Chem. Soc., 74, 4215 (1952). Both of the tetrahydrofolic acid compounds are in the unnatural configuration at the 6-position. They are 10-20 fold more efficient in binding
- 15 the folate binding protein compared with their respective (6S)—isomer, see Ratnam, et. al., Folate and Antifolate Transport in Mammalian Cells Symposium, Mar. 21-22, 1991, Bethesda, MD. These compounds are usually prepared as a mixture with their natural form (6S) of diastereomers by non-stereoselective reduction from the corresponding dehydro precursors followed by separation through chromatographic or enzymatic
- 20 techniques. See e.g. PCT Patent Application Publication WO 880844 (also Derwent Abstract 88-368464/51) and Canadian Patent 1093554. See, e.g. Dietary Reference Intakes for Thiamin, Riboflavin, Niacin, Vitamin B6, Folate, Vitamin B12, Pantothenic Acid, Biotin, and Choline (2000), 8 Folate, pp. 196-305.
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"Physiologically-available salt" refers to potassium, sodium, lithium, magnesium, or preferably a calcium salt of the FBP binding agent. "Physiologically-available...ester" refers to esters which are easily hydrolyzed upon administration to a mammal to provide the corresponding FBP binding agent free acid, such as C_1 - C_4 alkyl esters, mixed anhydrides, and the like.

The FBP binding agent to be utilized according to this invention can be in its free acid form, or can be in the form of a physiologically-acceptable salt or ester which is

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converted to the parent acid in a biological system. The dosage generally will be provided in the form of a vitamin supplement, namely as a tablet administered orally, preferably as a sustained release formulation, as an aqueous solution added to drinking water, an aqueous parenteral formulation, e.g., an intravenous formulation, or the like.

- 5 The FBP binding agent is usually administered to the subject mammal prior to treatment with the antifolate. Pretreatment with the suitable amount of FBP binding agent from about 1 to about 24 hours is usually sufficient to substantially bind to and block the folate binding protein prior to administration of the antifolate. Although one single dose of the FBP binding agent, preferably an oral administration of folic acid, should be
- 10 sufficient to load the folate binding protein, multiple dosing of the FBP binding agent can be employed for periods up to weeks before treatment with the active agent to ensure that the folate binding protein is sufficiently bound in order to maximize the benefit derived from such pretreatment.
- In the especially preferred embodiment of this invention, about 0.1 mg to about 30 15 mg, most preferably about 0.3 mg to about 5 mg, of folic acid is administered orally to a mammal about 1 to 3 weeks post administration of the methylmalonic acid lowering agent and about 1 to about 24 hours prior to the parenteral administration of the amount of an antifolate. However, it will be understood that the amount of the methylmalonic acid lowering agent actually administered will be determined by a physician, in the light of the
- 20 relevant circumstances, including the condition to be treated, the chosen route of administration, the actual agent administered, the age, weight, and response of the individual patient, and the severity of the patient's symptoms, and therefore the above dosage ranges are not intended to limit the scope of the invention in any way. In some instances dosage levels below the lower limit of the aforesaid range may be more than
- 25 adequate, while in other cases still larger doses may be employed without causing any harmful side effect.

In general, the term "pharmaceutical" when used as an adjective means substantially non-toxic to living organisms.

30 <u>Methods</u>

To assess the effect of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent, alone or in combination with folic acid on the antitumor efficacy of an antifolate in a human tumor -10-

xenograft model, female nude mice bearing human MX-1 breast carcinoma were treated with ALIMTA alone or along with super-physiologic doses of folic acid or vitamin B12 (cobalamin).

The animals were maintained on sterilized standard lab chow ad libitum and sterilized water ad libitum. The human MX-1 tumor cells (5 x 10⁶) obtained from donor tumors were implanted subcutaneously in a thigh of female nude mice 8- to 10-weeks old. Beginning on day 7 post tumor cell implantation, the animals were treated with ALIMTA (100 mg/kg or 150 mg/kg) once daily on days 7 through 11 and 14 through 18 by intraperitoneal injection alone or along with folic acid (6 mg/kg or 60 mg/kg) and/or vitamin B12 (165 mg/kg) by intraperitoneal injection on the same schedule.

Tumor response was monitored by tumor volume measurements twice weekly over the course of the experiment. Toxicity was monitored by body weight measurements made at the same time as the tumor volume measurements. Tumor growth delay was the difference in days for the treated and the controls tumors to reach 1000 mm^3 .

The human MX-1 breast carcinoma xenograft was responsive to treatment with ALIMTA with doses of 100 mg/kg and 150 mg/kg producing tumor growth delays of 17 days and 21 days, respectively. Folic acid was administered to the animals alone at two doses 6 mg/kg and 60 mg/kg on the same schedule as ALIMTA and produced tumor

20 growth delays of 7 days and 12 days, respectively. Vitamin B12 administered alone at a dose of 165 mg/kg resulted in a tumor growth delay of 12 days.

Combinations of ALIMTA at each of the two doses were administered along with each of the vitamins as simultaneous combination regimens. Administration of folic acid (6 mg/kg) along with ALIMTA did not alter the tumor growth delay produced from that

25 obtained with ALIMTA alone. The addition of folic acid at the higher dose (60 mg/kg) along with each dose of ALIMTA resulted in small increases in tumor growth delay to 22 days and 23 days at the ALIMTA doses of 100 mg/kg and 150 mg/kg, respectively. The tumor growth delays with ALIMTA and vitamin B12 (165 mg/kg) treatment were 22 days and 24 days at ALIMTA doses of 100 mg/kg and 150 mg/kg, respectively.

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Body weight was used as a general measure of toxicity for each of the treatment regimens. The body weight loss pattern reflected the treatment regimens with weight

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decrease during the treatment times of days 7 through 11 and 14 through 18 with some weight recovery during the intervening two days. The weight loss due to ALITMA was dose dependent but overall minor (3%). Folic acid alone at either 6 mg/kg or 60 mg/kg did not cause weight loss, in fact folic acid treated animals maintained weight and gained

5 weight over the course of the experiment better than the control animals. The animals treated with ALIMTA (100 mg/kg) and folic acid (60 mg/kg) gained weight (about 20%) over the course of the experiment.

Administration of vitamin B12 did not prevent weight gain in the animals over the time course of the experiment. The animals treated with ALIMTA (100 mg/kg) along
with vitamin B12 gained weight while those treated with ALIMTA (150 mg/kg) along with vitamin B12 maintained weight over the course of the experiment.

In conclusion, administration of super-physiologic but non-toxic doses of the vitamins, folic acid and vitamin B12, did not alter the antitumor activity of ALIMTA in the human MX-1 breast carcinoma xenograft tumor in nude mice and did not increase the toxicity of ALIMTA as determined by body weight measurements of the animals.

The effect of vitamin B12, alone or in combination with folic acid, on antifolates can be demonstrated in standard tests commonly utilized to determine the antitumor activity and toxic effects of the antifolates themselves. In one such test, mice are

- 20 inoculated with the C3H strain of mammary adenocarcinoma by inserting a 2 mm by 2 mm section of tumor into the axillary region of the mice by trocar. The timing of administering the methylmalonic acid lowering agent, alone or in combination with the folic acid, and the antifolate may be varied. Ten animals are used at each dosage level. Antitumor activity is assessed on day ten (when day one is first dosage of antifolate) by measuring the length and width of the tumor growth using vernier calipers, and the
- activity is expressed as a percent inhibition of tumor growth.

When the antifolate is administered to infected mice which are maintained on a diet totally free of vitamin B12 and optionally folic acid for two weeks prior to and during treatment, it exhibits moderated antitumor activity at very low doses, but also causes severe toxicity at a very low dose (measured as death of mice).

A test group of mice are maintained on a vitamin B12 and optionally folic acid free diet for two weeks before treatment. Vitamin B12 and optionally folic acid is then

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administered during the treatment by intramuscular injection of 0.0003% vitamin B12 (weight/volume) and optionally providing the animals drinking water containing 0.0003% folic acid (weight/volume). This concentration translates to about 1.75 mg of vitamin B12 and optionally folic acid per square meter of body surface per day. As the foregoing

5 results indicate, addition of the indicated level of vitamin B12 to the diet of a subject receiving an antifolate results in excellent antitumor activity at low doses, with little or no toxic effects.

The foregoing tests establish that for tumor bearing mice maintained on a vitamin B12 and optionally folic acid free diet prior to and during treatment with an antifolate, the toxicity of the antifolate is very large, with 1 mg/kg/day being lethal to the majority of the mice, and lower antitumor activity is observed at non-toxic drug doses. Very low doses of vitamin B12 partially reverses drug toxicity and improved antitumor activity. Larger doses of vitamin B12 reduce antifolate toxicity even more significantly. Pretreatment of the mouse with vitamin B12 and then administering folic acid prior to administering the antifolate demonstrates a striking reduction in toxicity, almost eliminating the antifolate toxicity completely. Thus, the use of vitamin B12 in combination with an antifolate

reduces drug toxicity without adversely affecting antitumor activity, and the use of vitamin B12 in conjunction with folic acid synergistically reduces drug toxicity. In a typical clinical evaluation involving cancer patients, all of whom have

20 histologically or cytologically confirmed diagnosis of cancer, an antifolate is administered in combination with vitamin B12. Vitamin B12 is administered as a 1000 µg intramuscular injection 1-3 weeks prior to treatment with the antifolate, and 1000 µg intramuscular injection of vitamin B12 is made approximately every 9 weeks until the patient discontinues from therapy. The antifolate is administered in four doses over a two

25 week period by rapid intravenous injection, followed by two weeks of non-therapy. Dosing is made on days 1, 4, 8 and 11 of any two week period. Patients will have an initial course of therapy at a dose of 5 mg/m²/dose, and depending upon the toxic effects observed in the initial course, their subsequent courses may be at the same dose, or may be escalated to 6 mg/m², or may be attenuated to 4 mg/m².

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In preparation for the foregoing clinical study, pilot studies in humans have established that vitamin B12 given to patients receiving Alimta has effected reduced side

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effects due to the Alimta. One to two weeks prior to administration of ALIMTA urine is collected and blood is drawn from a human subject; and vitamin metabolite levels, methylmalonic acid and homocysteine, are determined. Homocysteine levels are determined in blood by a fluorescent polarization immunoassay kit manufactured by

- 5 Abbot Laboratories. Methylmalonic acid levels are determined by urine levels using a 24 hour urine collection kit available from Biolab Medical Unit (a United Kingdom company). Additionally urine and blood may be collected one week prior to administration of ALIMTA (after at least 5 days of folic acid supplementation and at least 1 week vitamin B12 supplementation), and up to 4 days prior to every cycle.
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Method of administration and dosing procedures:

1. Folic Acid:

Folic acid will be supplied as one of the following options, with preference in order from option #1 to option #3:

- 1. 350 600 μg folic acid.
- A multivitamin containing folic acid in the range of 350 μg to 600 μg is acceptable if option #1 is not available.
- A dose of folic acid between 350 μg and 1000 μg is acceptable if neither option #1 or option # 2 is available.

For purposes of this study, patients should take oral folic acid daily beginning approximately 1 to 3 weeks before treatment with ALIMTA plus cisplatin or cisplatin alone and continuing daily until discontinuation from study therapy.

2. Vitamin B12

25 Vitamin B12 will be obtained and administered as a 1000 μg intramuscular injection. A vitamin B12 injection must be administered approximately 1 to 3 weeks before treatment with ALIMTA and should be repeated approximately every 9 weeks until the patient discontinues from study therapy.

Folic acid supplementation, 350 – 600 µg or equivalent should be taken orally
daily beginning approximately 1 to 3 weeks prior to the first dose of MTA plus cisplatin and continue daily until the patient discontinues from study therapy. A vitamin B12

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injection, 1000 μ g, must be given intramuscularly approximately 1 to 3 weeks prior to the first dose of ALIMTA and should be repeated approximately every 9 weeks until the patient discontinues from study therapy.

Compare presupplementation homocysteine and methylmalonic acid levels to a)
the level immediately prior to the initial dose of study drug, and b) to the level immediately prior to the second dose of study drug (i.e., after a full cycle of supplementation), and compare the prevalence of specific toxicities experienced in up to the first seven cycles of therapy in patients who have been supplemented from baseline to the prevalence seen in the earlier patients (n = 246) who were not supplemented (Farber

10 et al.)

Toxicity may be compared in specific patients in non-supplemented cycles versus supplemented cycles (cross-over patients).

The data to be compared are:

1) Patient numbers and baseline demographic data for those supplemented from baseline.

 Homocysteine and methylmalonic acid levels, levels at baseline, prior to first dose, prior to second dose, and prior to each therapy cycle depending of the type of cancer under study.

3) Grade 3 and 4 hematologic toxicity in these fully supplemented patients.

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4) Grade 3 and 4 nonhematologic toxicity in these fully supplemented patients.

The grading of toxicities in chemotherapuetic clinical trials is well known to a person of skill in the art. Examples of fatigue and skin rash grading are provided below.

25 Fatigue Grading --

Neuromotor

- Grade 0 none or no change
- Grade 1 subjective weakness; no objective findings
- Grade 2 mild objective weakness without significant impairment of function
- 30 Grade 3 objective weakness with impairment of function
 - Grade 4 paralysis

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Rash Grading --

Skin

Grade 0 none or no change

- Grade 1 scattered macular or papular eruption or erythema that is asymptomatic
- 5 Grade 2 scattered macular or papular eruption or erythema with pruritus or other associated eruption symptoms

Grade 3 generalized symptomatic macular, papular, or vesicular eruption

Grade 4 exfoliative dermatitis or ulcerating dermatitis

10 The vitamins (both folic acid and B12) to be used in the following studies may be obtained from Zenith Gold Line, Centrum, Folvite, or in Canada Apo-Folic. Cyanocobalamin is used as the methylmalonic acid lowering agent in these studies.

Current and past clinical trials show a 4% drug-related death total, 50% grade 3/4 neutropenia, 7% grade 4 thrombocytopenia, and 10% grade 3/4 diarrheas and mucositis in

- 15 patients administered ALIMTA and folic acid as described in U.S. Pat. No. 5,217,974. Vitamin B12 supplementation with ALIMTA has a moderate effect on drug related toxicity, lowering drug related deaths to 3% and severe toxicities by about 25%. The combination of vitamin B12 and folic acid with ALIMTA has lowered the drug related deaths to <1% in over 480 so treated. The combination of vitamin B12 and folic acid has
- 20 lowered the drug related grade 3/4 toxic events, see Table 1.

	Percent of occurrences	Percent of occurrences post B12/folic acid treatment
	treatment (N=246)	(N=78)
Hematologic Toxicity/Non-	37%	6.4%
Hematologic Toxicity		
Neutropenia	32%	2.6%
Mucositis	5%	1.3%
Diarrhea	6%	2.6%
Neutropenia and Mucositis	3%	0%
Neutropenia and Diarrhea	3%	0%
Neutropenia and Infection	2%	0%

Additionally, sixty-two chemonaive patients requiring chemotherapeutic treatment were divided into two groups. Seventeen of these patients received ALIMTA, but did not receive vitamin B12 or folic acid, as described *supra*. The remaining patients received

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treatment with vitamin B12, folic acid, and ALIMTA, as described *supra*. Of patients who received the combination treatment, 8 out of 45 responded to the chemotherapy. Of patients who did not receive the combination treatment, but rather, received only treatment with ALIMTA, only 1 out of 17 patients responded.

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Abstract

A method of administering an antifolate to a mammal in need thereof, comprising administering an effective amount of said antifolate in combination with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent. -17-

Abstract

A method of administering an antifolate to a mammal in need thereof, comprising administering an effective amount of said antifolate in combination with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent.

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NOVEL ANTIFOLATE COMBINATION THERAPIES

5 This application is a divisional of Application No. 11/288,807, filed 29 November 2005, which is a divisional of Application No. 10/297,821 filed 12 May 2002, now Patent Number 7,053,065, which claims priority under 35 USC 371, for PCT/US01/14860, filed 15 June 2001, which claims the priority of U.S. provisional applications No. 60/215,310, filed 30 June 2000, No. 60/235,859, filed 27 September 2000, and No. 60/284,448, filed 10 18 April 2001.

Potentially, life-threatening toxicity remains a major limitation to the optimal administration of antifolates. (see, generally, <u>Antifolate Drugs in Cancer Therapy</u>, edited by Jackman, Ann L., Humana Press, Totowa, NJ, 1999.) In some cases, a supportive intervention is routinely used to permit safe, maximal dosing. For example, steroids, such as dexamethone, can be used to prevent the formation of skin rashes caused by the

15 as dexamethone, can be used to prevent the formation of skin rashes caused by antifolate. (<u>Antifolate</u>, pg 197.)

Antifolates represent one of the most thoroughly studied classes of antineoplastic agents, with aminopterin initially demonstrating clinical activity approximately 50 years ago. Methotrexate was developed shortly thereafter, and today is a standard component

- 20 of effective chemotherapeutic regimens for malignancies such as lymphoma, breast cancer, and head and neck cancer. (Bonnadonna G, Zambetti M, Valagussa P. Sequential or alternating doxorubicin and CMF regimens in breast cancer with more than three positive nodes: Ten year results. JAMA 1995;273(7):542-547; Bonnadonna G, Valagussa P, Moliterni A, Zambetti M, Brambilla C. Adjuvant cyclophosphamide, methotrexate, and
- 25 fluorouracil in node-positive breast cancer: The results of 20 years of follow-up. N Engl J Med 1995;332(14):901-906; and Hong WK, Schaefer S, Issell B, et al. A prospective randomized trial of methotrexate versus cisplatin in the treatment of recurrent squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck. Cancer 1983;52:206-210.) Antifolates inhibit one or several key folate-requiring enzymes of the thymidine and purine biosynthetic pathways,
- 30 in particular, thymidylate synthase (TS), dihydrofolate reductase (DHFR), and glycinamide ribonucleotide formyltransferase (GARFT), by competing with reduced folates for binding sites of these enzymes. (Shih C, Habeck LL, Mendelsohn LG, Chen

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VJ, Schultz RM. Multiple folate enzyme inhibition: Mechanism of a novel pyrrolopyrimidine-based antifolate LY231514 (MTA). Advan Enzyme Regul, 1998;
38:135-152 and Shih C, Chen VJ, Gossett LS, et al. LY231514, a pyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidine-based antifolate that inhibits multiple folate-requiring enzymes. Cancer Res

5 1997;57:1116-1123.) Several antifolate drugs are currently in development. Examples of antifolates that have thymidylate synthase inhibiting ("TSI") characteristics include 5-fluorouracil and Tomudex®. An example of an antifolate that has dihydrofolate reductase inhibiting ("DHFRI") characteristic is Methotrexate®. An example of an antifolate that has glycinamide ribonucleotide formyltransferase inhibiting ("GARFTI")

10 characteristics is Lometrexol. Many of these antifolate drugs inhibit more than one biosynthetic pathway. For example Lometrexol is also an inhibitor of dihydrofolate reductase and pemetrexed disodium (Alimta®, Eli Lilly and Company, Indianapolis, IN) has demonstrated thymidylate synthase, dihydrofolate reductase, and glycinamide ribonucleotide formyltransferase inhibition.

15 A limitation to the development of these drugs is that the cytotoxic activity and subsequent effectiveness of antifolates may be associated with substantial toxicity for some patients. Additionally antifolates as a class are associated with sporadic severe mylosuppression with gastrointestinal toxicity which, though infrequent, carries a high risk of mortality. The inability to control these toxicities led to the abandonment of

- 20 clinical development of some antifolates and has complicated the clinical development of others, such as Lometrexol and raltitrexed. (Jackman AL, Calvert AH Folate-Based Thymidylate Synthase Inhibitors as Anticancer Drugs. Ann Oncol 1995;6(9):871-881; Laohavinij S, Wedge SR, Lind MJ, et al. A phase I clinical study of the antipurine antifolate Lometrexol (DDATHF) given with oral folic acid. Invest New Drugs
- 25 1996;14:325-335; and Maughan TS, James RD, Kerr D, et al., on behalf of the British MRC Colorectal Cancer Working Party. Preliminary results of a multicenter randomized trial comparing 3 chemotherapy regimens (deGramont, Lokich, and raltitrexed) in metastatic colorectal cancer. Proc ASCO 1999;18:Abst 1007.)

Initially, folic acid was used as a treatment for toxicities associated with GARFTI 30 see, e.g. U.S. Pat. No. 5,217,974. Folic acid has been shown to lower homocysteine levels (see e.g. Homocysteine Lowering Trialist's Collaboration. Lowering blood homocysteine with folic acid based supplements: meta-analysis of randomized trials. BMJ

1998;316:894-898 and Naurath HJ, Joosten E, Riezler R, Stabler SP, Allen RH, Lindenbaum J. Effects of vitamin B12, folate and vitamin B6 supplements in elderly people with normal serum vitamin concentrations. Lancet 1995;346:85-89), and homocysteine levels have been shown to be a predictor of cytotoxic events related to the

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- 5 use of GARFT inhibitors, see e.g. U.S. Pat. No. 5,217,974. However, even with this treatment, cytotoxic activity of GARFT inhibitors and antifolates as a class remains a serious concern in the development of antifolates as pharmaceutical drugs. The ability to lower cytotoxic activity would represent an important advance in the use of these agents.
- Surprisingly and unexpectedly, we have now discovered that certain toxic effects such as mortality and nonhematologic events, such as skin rashes and fatigue, caused by antifolates, as a class, can be significantly reduced by the presence of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent, without adversely affecting therapeutic efficacy. The present invention thus provides a method for improving the therapeutic utility of antifolate drugs by administering to the host undergoing treatment with a methylmalonic acid lowering
- 15 agent. We have discovered that increased levels of methylmalonic acid is a predictor of toxic events in patients that receive an antifolate drug and that treatment for the increased methylmalonic acid, such as treatment with vitamin B12, reduces mortality and nonhematologic events, such as skin rashes and fatigue events previously associated with the antifolate drugs.
- 20 Additionally, we have discovered that the combination of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent and folic acid synergistically reduces the toxic events associated with the administration of antifolate drugs. Although, the treatment and prevention of cardiovascular disease with folic acid in combination with vitamin B12 is known, the use of the combination for the treatment of toxicity associated with the administration of antifolate drugs was unknown heretofore.

The present invention relates to a method of administering an antifolate to a mammal in need thereof, comprising administering an effective amount of said antifolate in combination with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent.

Furthermore, the present invention relates to a method of reducing the toxicity 30 associated with the administration of an antifolate to a mammal comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of said antifolate in combination with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent.

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Furthermore, the present invention relates to a method of inhibiting tumor growth in mammals comprising administering to said mammals an effective amount of an antifolate in combination with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent.

Furthermore, the present invention relates to a method of administering an
antifolate to a mammal in need thereof, comprising administering an effective amount of said antifolate in combination with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent and a FBP binding agent. A preferred FBP binding agent is folic acid.

Furthermore, the present invention relates to a method of reducing the toxicity associated with the administration of an antifolate to a mammal comprising administering
to said mammal an effective amount of said antifolate in combination with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent and a FBP binding agent. A preferred FBP binding agent is folic acid.

Furthermore, the present invention relates to a method of inhibiting tumor growth in mammals comprising administering to said mammals an effective amount of an

15 antifolate in combination with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent and a FBP binding agent. A preferred FBP binding agent is folic acid.

Furthermore, the present invention relates to the use of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent, alone or in combination with a FBP binding agent, in the preparation of a medicament useful in lowering the mammalian toxicity of an antifolate. A preferred FBP hinding agent is folio acid

20 binding agent is folic acid.

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Furthermore, the present invention relates to the use of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent in the preparation of a medicament useful in lowering the mammalian toxicity associated with an antifolate, and the medicament is administered in combination with an antifolate.

Furthermore, the present invention relates to the use of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent in the preparation of a medicament useful in lowering the mammalian toxicity associated with an antifolate, and the medicament is administered in combination with an antifolate and a FBP binding agent.

Furthermore, the present invention relates to the use of a methylmalonic acid
lowering agent in the manufacture of a medicament for use in a method of inhibiting
tumor growth in mammals, which method comprises administering said methylmalonic
acid lowering agent in combination with an antifolate.

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Furthermore, the present invention relates to a product containing a methylmalonic acid lowering agent, an antifolate and optionally a FBP binding agent as a combined preparation for the simultaneous, separate or sequential use in inhibiting tumour growth.

The current invention concerns the discovery that administration of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent in combination with an antifolate drug reduces the toxicity of the said antifolate drug.

The term "inhibit" as it relates to antifolate drugs refers to prohibiting, alleviating, ameliorating, halting, restraining, slowing or reversing the progression of, or reducing tumor growth.

As used herein, the term "effective amount" refers to an amount of a compound or drug, which is capable of performing the intended result. For example, an effective amount of an antifolate drug that is administered in an effort to reduce tumor growth is that amount which is required to reduce tumor growth.

As used herein, the term "toxicity" refers to a toxic event associated with the administration on an antifolate. Such events include, but are not limited to, neutropenia, thrombopenia, toxic death, fatigue, anorexia, nausea, skin rash, infection, diarrhea, mucositis, and anemia. For further explanation of the types of toxicity experienced by patients receiving antifolates, see, generally, <u>Antifolate Drugs in Cancer Therapy</u>.

20 Preferably, toxicity refers to toxic death, fatigue, neutropenia, thrombopenia, and mucositis.

As used herein, the term "nonhematologic event" refers to the occurrence of skin rash or fatigue due to the administration of an antifolate.

- As used herein, the term "in combination with" refers to the administration of the 25 methylmalonic acid lowering agent, the antifolate drug, and optionally the folic acid; in any order such that sufficient levels of methylmalonic acid lowering agent and optionally folic acid are present to reduce the toxicity of an antifolate in a mammal. The administration of the compounds maybe simultaneous as a single composition or as two separate compositions or can be administered sequentially as separate compositions such
- 30 that an effective amount of the agent first administered is in the patient's body when the second and/or third agent is administered. The antifolate drug may be administered to the mammal first, followed by treatment with the methylmalonic acid lowering agent.

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Alternatively, the mammal may be administered the antifolate drug simultaneously with the methylmalonic acid lowering agent. Preferably, the mammal is pretreated with the methylmalonic acid lowering agent and then treated with the antifolate. If folic acid is to be administered in addition to the methylmalonic acid lowering agent, the folic acid may

5 be administered at any time prior, post, or simultaneously to the administration of either the methylmalonic acid lowering agent or the antifolate. Preferably, the mammal is pretreated with the methylmalonic acid, and then treated with folic acid, followed by treatment with the antifolate compound.

The terms "antifolate" and "antifolate drug" refer to a chemical compound which inhibits at least one key folate-requiring enzyme of the thymidine or purine biosynthetic pathways, preferably thymidylate synthase ("TS"), dihydrofolate reductase ("DHFR"), or glycinamide ribonucleotide formyltransferase ("GARFT"), by competing with reduced folates for binding sites of these enzymes. Preferred examples of antifolates include Tomudex®, as manufactured by Zeneca; Methotrexate®, as manufactured by Lederle;

- 15 Lometrexol®, as manufactured by Tularik; pyrido[2,3-d]pyrimidine derivatives described by Taylor et al in U.S. Pat. Nos. 4,684,653, 4,833,145, 4,902,796, 4,871,743, and 4,882,334; derivatives described by Akimoto in U.S. Pat. No. 4,997,838; thymidylate synthase inhibitors as found in EPO application 239,362; and most preferred, Pemetrexed Disodium (ALIMTA), as manufactured by Eli Lilly & Co.
- 20 The terms "methylmalonic acid" and "MMA" refer to a structural isomer of succinic acid present in minute amounts in healthy human urine.

The term "methylmalonic acid lowering agent" refers to a substrate, which lowers the concentration of methylmalonic acid in a mammal. A preferred example of such a substrate is vitamin B12. For methods of determining methylmalonic acid and substrates

- 25 therefore, see, e.g., Matchar DB, Feussner JR, Millington DS, et al. Isotope dilution assay for urinary methylmalonic acid in the diagnosis of vitamin B12 deficiency. A prospective clinical evaluation. Ann Intern Med 1987; 106: 707-710; Norman EJ, Morrison JA. Screening elderly populations for cobalamin (vitamin B12) deficiency using the urinary methylmalonic acid assay by gas chromatography mass spectrometry. Am J Med 1993;
- 30 94: 589-594; Norman EJ. Gas Chromatography mass spectrometry screening of urinary methylmalonic acid: early detection of vitamin B12 (cobalamin) deficiency to prevent permanent neurologic disability. GC/MS News 1984; 12:120-129; Martin DC, Francis J,

Protetch J, Huff FJ. Time dependency of cognitive recovery with cobalamin replacement: report of a pilot study. JAGS 1992; 40: 168-172; Norman EJ, Cronin C. Cobalamin deficiency. Neurol 1996; 47: 310-311; Rasmussen K, Moelby I, Jensen MK. Studies on methylmalonic acid in humans; Savage DG, Lindenbaum J, Stabler SP, Allen RH.

5 Sensitivity of methylmalonic acid and total homocysteine determination for diagnosing cobalamin and folate deficiency. Am J Med 1994; 96: 239-246.

The term "vitamin B12" refers to vitamin B12 and its pharmaceutical derivatives, such as hydroxocobalamin, cyano-10-chlorocobalamin, aquocobalamin perchlorate, aquo-10-chlorocobalamin, chlorocobalamin, and cobalamin.

10 Preferably the term refers to vitamin B12, cobalamin, and chlorocobalamin.

The dosage generally will be provided in the form of a vitamin supplement, namely as a tablet administered orally, such as a sustained release formulation, as an aqueous solution added to drinking water, or as an aqueous parenteral formulation. Preferably the methylmalonic acid lowering agent is administered as an intramuscular

15 injection formulation. Such formulations are known in the art and are commercially available.

The skilled artisan will appreciate that the methylmalonic lowering agents are effective over a wide dosage range. For example, when cobalamin is used as the methylmalonic lowering agent, the dosage of cobalamin may fall within the range of

- 20 about 0.2 µg to about 3000 µg of cobalamin from once daily for a month to once every nine weeks for a year. Preferably, cobalamin will be dosed as an intramuscular injection of about 500 µg to about 1500 µg administered from about every 24 hours to about every 1680 hours. Preferably, it is an intramuscular injection of about 1000 µg administered initially from about 1 to about 3 weeks prior to administration of the antifolate and
- 25 repeated from about every 24 hours to about every 1680 hours, regardless of when treatment with the antifolate is started and continued until the administration of the antifolate is discontinued. Most preferred is an intramuscular injection of about 1000 µg administered initially from about 1 to about 3 weeks prior to the first administration of the antifolate and repeated every 6 to 12 weeks, preferably about every 9 weeks, and
- 30 continued until the discontinuation of the antifolate administrations. However, it will be understood that the amount of the methylmalonic acid lowering agent actually

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administered will be determined by a physician, in the light of the relevant circumstances, including the condition to be treated, the chosen route of administration, the actual agent administered, the age, weight, and response of the individual patient, and the severity of the patient's symptoms, and therefore the above dosage ranges are not intended to limit

5 the scope of the invention in any way. In some instances dosage levels below the lower limit of the aforesaid range may be more than adequate, while in other cases still larger doses may be employed without causing any harmful side effect.

The term "FBP binding agent" as used herein refers to a folic binding protein binding agent which includes folic acid, (6R)-5-methyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrofolic acid, and

10 (6R)-5-formyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrofolic acid, or a physiologically-available salt or ester thereof. This latter compound is the (6R)-isomer of leucovorin as disclosed in J. Am. Chem. Soc., 74, 4215 (1952). Both of the tetrahydrofolic acid compounds are in the unnatural configuration at the 6-position. They are 10-20 fold more efficient in binding the folate binding protein compared with their respective (6S)—isomer, see Ratnam, et.

- al., Folate and Antifolate Transport in Mammalian Cells Symposium, Mar. 21-22, 1991,
 Bethesda, MD. These compounds are usually prepared as a mixture with their natural form (6S) of diastereomers by non-stereoselective reduction from the corresponding dehydro precursors followed by separation through chromatographic or enzymatic techniques. See e.g. PCT Patent Application Publication WO 880844 (also Derwent
- Abstract 88-368464/51) and Canadian Patent 1093554. See, e.g. Dietary Reference
 Intakes for Thiamin, Riboflavin, Niacin, Vitamin B6, Folate, Vitamin B12, Pantothenic
 Acid, Biotin, and Choline (2000), 8 Folate, pp. 196-305.
- 25 "Physiologically-available salt" refers to potassium, sodium, lithium, magnesium, or preferably a calcium salt of the FBP binding agent. "Physiologically-available...ester" refers to esters which are easily hydrolyzed upon administration to a mammal to provide the corresponding FBP binding agent free acid, such as C₁-C₄ alkyl esters, mixed anhydrides, and the like.

The FBP binding agent to be utilized according to this invention can be in its free acid form, or can be in the form of a physiologically-acceptable salt or ester which is converted to the parent acid in a biological system. The dosage generally will be

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provided in the form of a vitamin supplement, namely as a tablet administered orally, preferably as a sustained release formulation, as an aqueous solution added to drinking water, an aqueous parenteral formulation, e.g., an intravenous formulation, or the like.

The FBP binding agent is usually administered to the subject mammal prior to treatment with the antifolate. Pretreatment with the suitable amount of FBP binding agent from about 1 to about 24 hours is usually sufficient to substantially bind to and block the folate binding protein prior to administration of the antifolate. Although one single dose of the FBP binding agent, preferably an oral administration of folic acid, should be sufficient to load the folate binding protein, multiple dosing of the FBP binding agent can be employed for periods up to weeks before treatment with the active agent to ensure that the folate binding protein is sufficiently bound in order to maximize the benefit derived

from such pretreatment.

In the especially preferred embodiment of this invention, about 0.1 mg to about 30 mg, most preferably about 0.3 mg to about 5 mg, of folic acid is administered orally to a 15 mammal about 1 to 3 weeks post administration of the methylmalonic acid lowering agent and about 1 to about 24 hours prior to the parenteral administration of the amount of an antifolate. However, it will be understood that the amount of the methylmalonic acid lowering agent actually administered will be determined by a physician, in the light of the relevant circumstances, including the condition to be treated, the chosen route of

- 20 administration, the actual agent administered, the age, weight, and response of the individual patient, and the severity of the patient's symptoms, and therefore the above dosage ranges are not intended to limit the scope of the invention in any way. In some instances dosage levels below the lower limit of the aforesaid range may be more than adequate, while in other cases still larger doses may be employed without causing any
- 25 harmful side effect.

In general, the term "pharmaceutical" when used as an adjective means substantially non-toxic to living organisms.

Methods

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To assess the effect of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent, alone or in combination with folic acid on the antitumor efficacy of an antifolate in a human tumor xenograft model, female nude mice bearing human MX-1 breast carcinoma were treated

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with ALIMTA alone or along with super-physiologic doses of folic acid or vitamin B12 (cobalamin).

The animals were maintained on sterilized standard lab chow ad libitum and sterilized water ad libitum. The human MX-1 tumor cells (5 x 10⁶) obtained from donor tumors were implanted subcutaneously in a thigh of female nude mice 8- to 10-weeks old. Beginning on day 7 post tumor cell implantation, the animals were treated with ALIMTA (100 mg/kg or 150 mg/kg) once daily on days 7 through 11 and 14 through 18 by intraperitoneal injection alone or along with folic acid (6 mg/kg or 60 mg/kg) and/or vitamin B12 (165 mg/kg) by intraperitoneal injection on the same schedule.

10 Tumor response was monitored by tumor volume measurements twice weekly over the course of the experiment. Toxicity was monitored by body weight measurements made at the same time as the tumor volume measurements. Tumor growth delay was the difference in days for the treated and the controls tumors to reach 1000 mm³.

The human MX-1 breast carcinoma xenograft was responsive to treatment with ALIMTA with doses of 100 mg/kg and 150 mg/kg producing tumor growth delays of 17 days and 21 days, respectively. Folic acid was administered to the animals alone at two doses 6 mg/kg and 60 mg/kg on the same schedule as ALIMTA and produced tumor growth delays of 7 days and 12 days, respectively. Vitamin B12 administered alone at a dose of 165 mg/kg resulted in a tumor growth delay of 12 days.

Combinations of ALIMTA at each of the two doses were administered along with each of the vitamins as simultaneous combination regimens. Administration of folic acid (6 mg/kg) along with ALIMTA did not alter the tumor growth delay produced from that obtained with ALIMTA alone. The addition of folic acid at the higher dose (60 mg/kg)

25 along with each dose of ALIMTA resulted in small increases in tumor growth delay to 22 days and 23 days at the ALIMTA doses of 100 mg/kg and 150 mg/kg, respectively. The tumor growth delays with ALIMTA and vitamin B12 (165 mg/kg) treatment were 22 days and 24 days at ALIMTA doses of 100 mg/kg and 150 mg/kg, respectively.

30 Body weight was used as a general measure of toxicity for each of the treatment regimens. The body weight loss pattern reflected the treatment regimens with weight decrease during the treatment times of days 7 through 11 and 14 through 18 with some

weight recovery during the intervening two days. The weight loss due to ALITMA was dose dependent but overall minor (3%). Folic acid alone at either 6 mg/kg or 60 mg/kg did not cause weight loss, in fact folic acid treated animals maintained weight and gained weight over the course of the experiment better than the control animals. The animals

5 treated with ALIMTA (100 mg/kg) and folic acid (60 mg/kg) gained weight (about 20%) over the course of the experiment.

Administration of vitamin B12 did not prevent weight gain in the animals over the time course of the experiment. The animals treated with ALIMTA (100 mg/kg) along with vitamin B12 gained weight while those treated with ALIMTA (150 mg/kg) along with vitamin B12 maintained weight over the course of the experiment.

In conclusion, administration of super-physiologic but non-toxic doses of the vitamins, folic acid and vitamin B12, did not alter the antitumor activity of ALIMTA in the human MX-1 breast carcinoma xenograft tumor in nude mice and did not increase the toxicity of ALIMTA as determined by body weight measurements of the animals.

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The effect of vitamin B12, alone or in combination with folic acid, on antifolates can be demonstrated in standard tests commonly utilized to determine the antitumor activity and toxic effects of the antifolates themselves. In one such test, mice are inoculated with the C3H strain of mammary adenocarcinoma by inserting a 2 mm by 2

20 mm section of tumor into the axillary region of the mice by trocar. The timing of administering the methylmalonic acid lowering agent, alone or in combination with the folic acid, and the antifolate may be varied. Ten animals are used at each dosage level. Antitumor activity is assessed on day ten (when day one is first dosage of antifolate) by measuring the length and width of the tumor growth using vernier calipers, and the 25 activity is expressed as a percent inhibition of tumor growth.

When the antifolate is administered to infected mice which are maintained on a diet totally free of vitamin B12 and optionally folic acid for two weeks prior to and during treatment, it exhibits moderated antitumor activity at very low doses, but also causes severe toxicity at a very low dose (measured as death of mice).

A test group of mice are maintained on a vitamin B12 and optionally folic acid free diet for two weeks before treatment. Vitamin B12 and optionally folic acid is then administered during the treatment by intramuscular injection of 0.0003% vitamin B12

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(weight/volume) and optionally providing the animals drinking water containing 0.0003% folic acid (weight/volume). This concentration translates to about 1.75 mg of vitamin B12 and optionally folic acid per square meter of body surface per day. As the foregoing results indicate, addition of the indicated level of vitamin B12 to the diet of a subject

5 receiving an antifolate results in excellent antitumor activity at low doses, with little or no toxic effects.

The foregoing tests establish that for tumor bearing mice maintained on a vitamin B12 and optionally folic acid free diet prior to and during treatment with an antifolate, the toxicity of the antifolate is very large, with 1 mg/kg/day being lethal to the majority of the mice, and lower antitumor activity is observed at non-toxic drug doses. Very low doses of vitamin B12 partially reverses drug toxicity and improved antitumor activity. Larger doses of vitamin B12 reduce antifolate toxicity even more significantly. Pretreatment of the mouse with vitamin B12 and then administering folic acid prior to administering the antifolate demonstrates a striking reduction in toxicity, almost eliminating the antifolate

15 toxicity completely. Thus, the use of vitamin B12 in combination with an antifolate reduces drug toxicity without adversely affecting antitumor activity, and the use of vitamin B12 in conjunction with folic acid synergistically reduces drug toxicity.

In a typical clinical evaluation involving cancer patients, all of whom have histologically or cytologically confirmed diagnosis of cancer, an antifolate is

20 administered in combination with vitamin B12. Vitamin B12 is administered as a 1000 µg intramuscular injection 1-3 weeks prior to treatment with the antifolate, and 1000 µg intramuscular injection of vitamin B12 is made approximately every 9 weeks until the patient discontinues from therapy. The antifolate is administered in four doses over a two week period by rapid intravenous injection, followed by two weeks of non-therapy.

25 Dosing is made on days 1, 4, 8 and 11 of any two week period. Patients will have an initial course of therapy at a dose of 5 mg/m²/dose, and depending upon the toxic effects observed in the initial course, their subsequent courses may be at the same dose, or may be escalated to 6 mg/m², or may be attenuated to 4 mg/m².

In preparation for the foregoing clinical study, pilot studies in humans have established that vitamin B12 given to patients receiving Alimta has effected reduced side effects due to the Alimta. One to two weeks prior to administration of ALIMTA urine is collected and blood is drawn from a human subject; and vitamin metabolite levels, methylmalonic acid and homocysteine, are determined. Homocysteine levels are determined in blood by a fluorescent polarization immunoassay kit manufactured by Abbot Laboratories. Methylmalonic acid levels are determined by urine levels using a 24

5 hour urine collection kit available from Biolab Medical Unit (a United Kingdom company). Additionally urine and blood may be collected one week prior to administration of ALIMTA (after at least 5 days of folic acid supplementation and at least 1 week vitamin B12 supplementation), and up to 4 days prior to every cycle.

10 Method of administration and dosing procedures:

1. Folic Acid:

Folic acid will be supplied as one of the following options, with preference in order from option #1 to option #3:

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1. 350 - 600 μg folic acid.

- A multivitamin containing folic acid in the range of 350 μg to 600 μg is acceptable if option #1 is not available.
- A dose of folic acid between 350 μg and 1000 μg is acceptable if neither option #1 or option # 2 is available.
- 20 For purposes of this study, patients should take oral folic acid daily beginning approximately 1 to 3 weeks before treatment with ALIMTA plus cisplatin or cisplatin alone and continuing daily until discontinuation from study therapy.
 - 2. Vitamin B12

Vitamin B12 will be obtained and administered as a 1000 µg intramuscular

25 injection. A vitamin B12 injection must be administered approximately 1 to 3 weeks before treatment with ALIMTA and should be repeated approximately every 9 weeks until the patient discontinues from study therapy.

Folic acid supplementation, $350 - 600 \mu g$ or equivalent should be taken orally daily beginning approximately 1 to 3 weeks prior to the first dose of MTA plus cisplatin

and continue daily until the patient discontinues from study therapy. A vitamin B12
 injection, 1000 μg, must be given intramuscularly approximately 1 to 3 weeks prior to the

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first dose of ALIMTA and should be repeated approximately every 9 weeks until the patient discontinues from study therapy.

Compare presupplementation homocysteine and methylmalonic acid levels to a) the level immediately prior to the initial dose of study drug, and b) to the level immediately prior to the second dose of study drug (i.e., after a full cycle of

supplementation), and compare the prevalence of specific toxicities experienced in up to the first seven cycles of therapy in patients who have been supplemented from baseline to the prevalence seen in the earlier patients (n = 246) who were not supplemented (Farber et al.)

Toxicity may be compared in specific patients in non-supplemented cycles versus supplemented cycles (cross-over patients).

The data to be compared are:

- 1) Patient numbers and baseline demographic data for those supplemented from baseline.
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2) Homocysteine and methylmalonic acid levels, levels at baseline, prior to first dose, prior to second dose, and prior to each therapy cycle depending of the type of cancer under study.

3) Grade 3 and 4 hematologic toxicity in these fully supplemented patients.

4) Grade 3 and 4 nonhematologic toxicity in these fully supplemented patients.

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The grading of toxicities in chemotherapuetic clinical trials is well known to a person of skill in the art. Examples of fatigue and skin rash grading are provided below.

Fatigue Grading --

25		Neuromotor
	Grade 0	none or no change
	Grade 1	subjective weakness; no objective findings
	Grade 2	mild objective weakness without significant impairment of function
	Grade 3	objective weakness with impairment of function
30	Grade 4	paralysis

Rash Grading --

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Skin

Grade 0 none or no change

- Grade 1 scattered macular or papular eruption or erythema that is asymptomatic
- Grade 2 scattered macular or papular eruption or erythema with pruritus or other
- 5 associated eruption symptoms
 - Grade 3 generalized symptomatic macular, papular, or vesicular eruption
 - Grade 4 exfoliative dermatitis or ulcerating dermatitis

The vitamins (both folic acid and B12) to be used in the following studies may be

10 obtained from Zenith Gold Line, Centrum, Folvite, or in Canada Apo-Folic.

Cyanocobalamin is used as the methylmalonic acid lowering agent in these studies.

Current and past clinical trials show a 4% drug-related death total, 50% grade 3/4 neutropenia, 7% grade 4 thrombocytopenia, and 10% grade 3/4 diarrheas and mucositis in patients administered ALIMTA and folic acid as described in U.S. Pat. No. 5,217,974.

15 Vitamin B12 supplementation with ALIMTA has a moderate effect on drug related toxicity, lowering drug related deaths to 3% and severe toxicities by about 25%. The combination of vitamin B12 and folic acid with ALIMTA has lowered the drug related deaths to <1% in over 480 so treated. The combination of vitamin B12 and folic acid has lowered the drug related grade 3/4 toxic events, see Table 1.</p>

	Percent of occurrences prior to B12/folic acid	Percent of occurrences post B12/folic acid treatment
	treatment (N=246)	(N=78)
Hematologic Toxicity/Non-	37%	6.4%
Hematologic Toxicity		
Neutropenia	32%	2.6%
Mucositis	5%	1.3%
Diarrhea	6%	2.6%
Neutropenia and Mucositis	3%	0%
Neutropenia and Diarrhea	3%	0%
Neutropenia and Infection	2%	0%

Table 1

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Additionally, sixty-two chemonaive patients requiring chemotherapeutic treatment were divided into two groups. Seventeen of these patients received ALIMTA, but did not receive vitamin B12 or folic acid, as described *supra*. The remaining patients received treatment with vitamin B12, folic acid, and ALIMTA, as described *supra*. Of patients

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who received the combination treatment, 8 out of 45 responded to the chemotherapy. Of patients who did not receive the combination treatment, but rather, received only treatment with ALIMTA, only 1 out of 17 patients responded.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



AT OF COMPANY		UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS PO. Box 1450 Alexandria, Vrginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov				
PPLICATION NUMBER	FILING or 371(c) DATE	GRP ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY.DOCKET.NO	TOT CLAIMS	IND CLAIMS
11/776,329	07/11/2007	1751	1000	X14173B	11	2
				CONFIRM	ATION NO. 6	568
35				UPDATED FILI	NG RECEIP [.]	т

25885 ELI LILLY & COMPANY PATENT DIVISION P.O. BOX 6288 INDIANAPOLIS, IN46206-6288

Date Mailed: 08/31/2007

Receipt is acknowledged of this non-provisional patent application. The application will be taken up for examination in due course. Applicant will be notified as to the results of the examination. Any correspondence concerning the application must include the following identification information: the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Filing Receipt Corrections. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections

Applicant(s)

Clet Niyikiza, Indianapolis, IN; Paolo Paoletti, Indianapolis, IN; James Jacob Rusthoven, Ancaster, CANADA;

Power of Attorney: The patent practitioners associated with Customer Number <u>25885</u>

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a DIV of 11/288,807 11/29/2005 which is a DIV of 10/297,821 12/05/2002 PAT 7,053,065 which is a 371 of PCT/US01/14860 06/15/2001 which claims benefit of 60/215,310 06/30/2000 and claims benefit of 60/235,859 09/27/2000 ABN and claims benefit of 60/284,448 04/18/2001

Foreign Applications

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 08/31/2007

The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is **US11/776,329**

Projected Publication Date: 12/13/2007

Non-Publication Request: No

Title

NOVEL ANTIFOLATE COMBINATION THERAPIES

Preliminary Class

510

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Since the rights granted by a U.S. patent extend only throughout the territory of the United States and have no effect in a foreign country, an inventor who wishes patent protection in another country must apply for a patent in a specific country or in regional patent offices. Applicants may wish to consider the filing of an international application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). An international (PCT) application generally has the same effect as a regular national patent application in each PCT-member country. The PCT process **simplifies** the filing of patent applications on the same invention in member countries, but **does not result** in a grant of "an international patent" and does not eliminate the need of applicants to file additional documents and fees in countries where patent protection is desired.

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Applicants also are advised that in the case of inventions made in the United States, the Director of the USPTO must issue a license before applicants can apply for a patent in a foreign country. The filing of a U.S. patent application serves as a request for a foreign filing license. The application's filing receipt contains further information and guidance as to the status of applicant's license for foreign filing.

Applicants may wish to consult the USPTO booklet, "General Information Concerning Patents" (specifically, the section entitled "Treaties and Foreign Patents") for more information on timeframes and deadlines for filing foreign patent applications. The guide is available either by contacting the USPTO Contact Center at 800-786-9199, or it can be viewed on the USPTO website at http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/doc/general/index.html.

For information on preventing theft of your intellectual property (patents, trademarks and copyrights), you may wish to consult the U.S. Government website, http://www.stopfakes.gov. Part of a Department of Commerce initiative, this website includes self-help "toolkits" giving innovators guidance on how to protect intellectual property in specific countries such as China, Korea and Mexico. For questions regarding patent enforcement issues, applicants may call the U.S. Government hotline at 1-866-999-HALT (1-866-999-4158).

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Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 5.11 & 5.15

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United States Patent and Trademark Office



APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(c) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
11/776,329	07/11/2007	Clet Niyikiza	X14173B

CONFIRMATION NO. 6568

25885 ELI LILLY & COMPANY PATENT DIVISION P.O. BOX 6288 INDIANAPOLIS, IN46206-6288

Date Mailed. 11/23/2007

NOTICE OF NEW OR REVISED PROJECTED PUBLICATION DATE

The above-identified application has a new or revised projected publication date. The current projected publication date for this application is 02/07/2008. If this is a new projected publication date (there was no previous projected publication date), the application has been cleared by Licensing & Review or a secrecy order has been rescinded and the application is now in the publication queue.

If this is a revised projected publication date (one that is different from a previously communicated projected publication date), the publication date has been revised due to processing delays in the USPTO or the abandonment and subsequent revival of an application. The application is anticipated to be published on a date that is more than six weeks different from the originally-projected publication date.

More detailed publication information is available through the private side of Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) System. The direct link to access PAIR is currently http://pair.uspto.gov. Further assistance in electronically accessing the publication, or about PAIR, is available by calling the Patent Electronic Business Center at 1-866-217-9197.

Questions relating to this Notice should be directed to the Office of Patent Publication at 1-888-786-0101.

PART 1 - ATTORNEY/APPLICANT COPY





APPLICATION NUMBER FILING OR 371(c) DATE FIRST NAMED APPLICANT ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITL	

11/776,329

07/11/2007

Clet Niyikiza

X14173B

CONFIRMATION NO. 6568

25885 ELI LILLY & COMPANY PATENT DIVISION P.O. BOX 6288 INDIANAPOLIS, IN46206-6288

Title: NOVEL ANTIFOLATE COMBINATION THERAPIES

Publication No. US-2008-0032948-A1 Publication Date: 02/07/2008

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF APPLICATION

The above-identified application will be electronically published as a patent application publication pursuant to 37 CFR 1.211, et seq. The patent application publication number and publication date are set forth above.

The publication may be accessed through the USPTO's publically available Searchable Databases via the Internet at www.uspto.gov. The direct link to access the publication is currently http://www.uspto.gov/patft/.

The publication process established by the Office does not provide for mailing a copy of the publication to applicant. A copy of the publication may be obtained from the Office upon payment of the appropriate fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.19(a)(1). Orders for copies of patent application publications are handled by the USPTO's Office of Public Records. The Office of Public Records can be reached by telephone at (703) 308-9726 or (800) 972-6382, by facsimile at (703) 305-8759, by mail addressed to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Office of Public Records, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or via the Internet.

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Pre-Grant Publication Division, 703-605-4283

PATENT APPLICATION IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Applicant:	Clet Niyikiza	Conf No.:	6568
Serial No.:	11/776,329		
Application Date	: July 11, 2007		
For: NOVEL ANTIFOLATE COMBINATION THERAPIES			
Docket No.:	X-14173B		

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Introductory Comments

Please amend the accompanying application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.

Serial No. 11/776,329

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-39 (Cancelled)

40. (New) A method for administering pemetrexed disodium to a patient in need thereof comprising administering an effective amount of pemetrexed disodium in combination with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent, wherein:

the methylmalonic lowering agent is selected from the group consisting of vitamin B_{12} , hydroxycobolamin, cyano-10-chlorocobolamin, aquocobolamin perchlorate, aquo-10-cobolamin perchlorate, azidocobolamin or chlorocobolamin;

the methylmalonic acid lowering agent is administered from about 1 week to about 3 weeks prior to the first administration of the pemetrexed disodium; and

the methylmalonic acid administration is repeated about every 6 to about every 12 weeks until administration of the pemetrexed disodium is discontinued.

41. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein the methylmalonic lowering agent is vitamin B_{12} .

42. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein the vitamin B_{12} is administered as an intramuscular injection of about 500 µg to about 1500 µg.

43. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the vitamin B_{12} is administered as an intramuscular injection of about 1000 µg.

44. (New) The method of claim 41, 42 or 43, wherein the vitamin B_{12} administration is repeated about every 9 weeks until the administration of the pemetrexed disodium is discontinued.

45. (New) The method of claim 44, further comprising administering a folic-bindingprotein binding agent to the patient.

46. (New) The method of claim 45 wherein the folic-binding-protein binding agent is folic acid and the folic acid is administered prior to the first administration of the pemetrexed disodium.
47. (New) The method of claim 46 wherein the folic acid is administered 1 to 3 weeks prior to the first administration of the pemetrexed disodium.

48. (New) The method of claim 47wherein the folic acid is administered from about 1 to about 24 hours prior to administration of the pemetrexed disodium.

49. (New) The method according to any one of claims 46-48, wherein between 0.3 mg to about 5 mg of folic acid is administered orally.

50. (New) The method of claim 49 wherein about 350 μ g to about 1000 μ g of folic acid is administered.

51. (New) The method of claim 50 wherein 350 µg to 600 µg of folic acid is administered.

52. (New) The method of claim 40 or 45 further comprising the administration of cisplatin to the patient.

<u>Remarks</u>

Applicants submit this paper and request entry of the amendments herein. Claims 1-39 are hereby cancelled and new Claims 40-52 are introduced. Support for new Claims 40-52 is found in the specification, as well as in the claims as originally filed. Applicants respectfully assert that no new matter has been introduced as a result of the amendments to the claims.

Applicants request prompt consideration and allowance of the claimed subject matter. If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, Applicant's undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone him at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

/John A. Cleveland, Jr./ John A. Cleveland, Jr., Ph.D. Attorney for Applicant Registration No. 50,697 Phone: (317) 276-0307

Eli Lilly and Company Patent Division P.O. Box 6288 Indianapolis, IN 46206-6288 December 8, 2008

Electronic Patent Application Fee Transmittal					
Application Number:	11	776329			
Filing Date:	11.	Jul-2007			
Title of Invention:	NOVEL ANTIFOLATE COMBINATION THERAPIES				
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Cle	t Niyikiza			
Filer:	Joł	nn A. Cleveland/Lisa	ı Capps		
Attorney Docket Number:	X1	4173B			
Filed as Large Entity					
Utility under 35 USC 111(a) Filing Fees					
Description		Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD(\$)
Basic Filing:					
Pages:					
Claims:					
Multiple dependent claims		1203	1	390	390
Miscellaneous-Filing:					
Petition:					
Patent-Appeals-and-Interference:					
Post-Allowance-and-Post-Issuance:					
Extension-of-Time:				<u>Teva – F</u> r Exhibit 100	esenius 2-00111

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD(\$)
Miscellaneous:				
	Total in USD (\$)			390

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt				
EFS ID:	4418432			
Application Number:	11776329			
International Application Number:				
Confirmation Number:	6568			
Title of Invention:	NOVEL ANTIFOLATE COMBINATION THERAPIES			
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Clet Niyikiza			
Customer Number:	25885			
Filer:	John A. Cleveland/Lisa Capps			
Filer Authorized By:	John A. Cleveland			
Attorney Docket Number:	X14173B			
Receipt Date:	09-DEC-2008			
Filing Date:	11-JUL-2007			
Time Stamp:	10:37:54			
Application Type:	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)			

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	yes				
Payment Type	Deposit Account				
Payment was successfully received in RAM	\$390				
RAM confirmation Number	6258				
Deposit Account	050840				
Authorized User					
The Director of the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayment as follows:					
Charge any Additional Fees required under 37 C.F.R. Section 1.21 (Miscellaneous fees and charges)					

File Listin	g:				
Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)/ Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1		X14173BUSPreliminaryAmend	86772	72	
I		ment.pdf	7939711f9c3fb4f3ab7acf30c9f7c8c20351c 515	yes	4
Multipart Description/PDF files in .zip description					
	Document De	Start	E	nd	
	Preliminary Am	1		1	
	Claims	2		3	
	Applicant Arguments/Remarks	4		4	
Warnings:					
Information:					1
2	Fee Worksheet (PTO-06)	fee-info.pdf	30193	no	2
-			62164f53fae261e03c8ca115834309e18a65 5863		
Warnings:					
Information:			1		
		Total Files Size (in bytes)	1	16965	
This Acknow characterized Post Card, as <u>New Applica</u> If a new appl 1.53(b)-(d) an Acknowledg <u>National Stag</u> If a timely su U.S.C. 371 an national stag <u>New Internat</u> If a new inter an internatio and of the In national secu	ledgement Receipt evidences receip d by the applicant, and including pa- s described in MPEP 503. <u>tions Under 35 U.S.C. 111</u> lication is being filed and the applicand MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CF ement Receipt will establish the filing <u>ge of an International Application un</u> bmission to enter the national stage and other applicable requirements a F ge submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 w <u>tional Application Filed with the USF</u> rnational application is being filed a onal filing date (see PCT Article 11 an ternational Filing Date (Form PCT/Re urity, and the date shown on this Act	ot on the noted date by the U ge counts, where applicable. The first of the second of the second of the second of the second of the application. The of an international application of an international application of the second	SPTO of the indicated It serves as evidence components for a filin course and the date s ion is compliant with ing acceptance of the Filing Receipt, in du ion includes the nece of the International ourse, subject to pres	document of receipt s g date (see hown on th the condition e course. ssary comp Application scriptions co	s, similar to a 37 CFR nis ons of 35 n as a conents for Number oncerning

PTO/SB/06 (07-06)

Approved for use through 1/31/2007. OMB 0651-0032 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

PÆ	Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to re- PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORI					nd to A	a collection of	of information unle Docket Number	ss it dis Fili	plays a valid ing Date	OMB control number.
		Substitute	for Form P	ГО-875			11///	6,329	07/*	11/2007	To be Mailed
	AF	PPLICATIO	N AS FILE (Column 1	D – PART I)	(Column 2)		SMALL		OR	OTH SMA	HER THAN
	FOR		NUMBER FIL	.ED NU	MBER EXTRA		RATE (\$)	FEE (\$)		RATE (\$)	FEE (\$)
	BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16(a), (b), (or (c))	N/A		N/A		N/A			N/A	
	SEARCH FEE (37 CFR 1.16(k), (i), c	or (m))	N/A		N/A		N/A			N/A	
	EXAMINATION FE (37 CFR 1.16(o), (p), (E or (q))	N/A		N/A		N/A			N/A	
TOT (37 (AL CLAIMS CFR 1.16(i))		min	us 20 = *			X \$ =		OR	X \$ =	
INDI (37 0	EPENDENT CLAIM CFR 1.16(h))	S	m	nus 3 = *			X \$ =			X \$ =	
	PPLICATION SIZE 37 CFR 1.16(s))	FEE If f sh is ac 35	he specifica eets of pape \$250 (\$125 ditional 50 s U.S.C. 41(a	tion and drawin er, the application for small entity) sheets or fraction a)(1)(G) and 37	gs exceed 100 on size fee due for each n thereof. See CFR 1.16(s).						
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					I		TOTAL			TOTAL	
	APPI	(Column 1)	S AMENL	(Column 2)	(Column 3)		SMAL	L ENTITY	OR	OTHE SMA	ER THAN
NТ	12/09/2008	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMEN	Т	HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA		RATE (\$)	ADDITIONAL FEE (\$)		RATE (\$)	ADDITIONAL FEE (\$)
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Ľ.	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	* 1	Minus	***3	= 0		X \$ =		OR	X \$220=	0
AM	Application Si	ze Fee (37 CF	R 1.16(s))								
		ITATION OF MUI	TIPLE DEPEN	DENT CLAIM (37 CF	R 1.16(j))				OR		
							TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	0
		(Column 1)		(Column 2)	(Column 3)				-		
		CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMEN	G IT	HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA		RATE (\$)	additional Fee (\$)		RATE (\$)	ADDITIONAL FEE (\$)
БЛ	Total (37 CFR 1.16(i))	*	Minus	**	=		X \$ =		OR	X \$ =	
DM	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(h))	*	Minus	***	=		X \$ =		OR	X \$ =	
leN	Application Si	ze Fee (37 CF	R 1.16(s))								
A		ITATION OF MUI	TIPLE DEPEN	DENT CLAIM (37 CF	R 1.16(j))				OR		
* If t	TOTAL TOTAL ADD'L OR ADD'L FEE FEE										
** lf *** lf The	 * If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3. ** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20". *** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3". 										
This c	his collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.16. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to										

process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

	ed States Patent	AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	UNITED STATES DEPAR United States Patent and Address: COMMISSIONER F P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22. www.uspto.gov	TMENT OF COMMERCE Trademark Office OR PATENTS 313-1450	
APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
11/776,329	07/11/2007	Clet Niyikiza	X14173B	6568	
25885 ELI LILLY & (PATENT DIVI	7590 02/02/2009 COMPANY SION	EXAMINER WEDDINGTON, KEVIN E			
P.O. BOX 6288 INDIANAPOL	3 JS. IN 46206-6288		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
	15, 11 10200 0200		1614		
			NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
			02/02/2009	ELECTRONIC	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

patents@lilly.com

	Application No.	Applicant(s)				
Interview Summary	11/776,329	NIYIKIZA ET AL.				
interview Summary	Examiner	Art Unit				
	KEVIN WEDDINGTON	1614				
All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO	personnel):					
(1) <u>KEVIN WEDDINGTON</u> .	(3) <u>MR. WILLIAM McMILLI</u>	<u>EN</u> .				
(2) <u>DR. JOHN A. CLEVELAND, JR.</u> .	(4)					
Date of Interview: <u>27 January 2009</u> .						
Type: a) Telephonic b) Video Conference c)⊠ Personal [copy given to: 1) applicant 2)⊠ applicant's representative]						
Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d)⊠ Yes e)∏ No. If Yes, brief description: <i>Binder with related applications</i> .						
Claim(s) discussed: <u>The claims in general</u> .						
Identification of prior art discussed: <u>NONE</u> .						
Agreement with respect to the claims f) was reached.	ı) Was not reached. h) ⊠ N	I/A.				
Substance of Interview including description of the general reached, or any other comments: <u>The attorney of record, D</u> <u>application and its related patent application</u> . Upon examin <u>the attorney of any critical problems</u> .	nature of what was agreed to <u>Pr. Cleveland, explained the in</u> nation of the present application	if an agreement aportance of the p on, the Examiner	was <u>present</u> will inform			
(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amend allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no c allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached	iments which the examiner ag opy of the amendments that v d.)	reed would rende vould render the	er the claims claims			
THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN A NON-EXTENDABLE PERIOD OF THE LONGER OF ONE MONTH OR THIRTY DAYS FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.						
/Kevin E Weddington/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit						
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office						

U.S. Patent and Trademark Offic PTOL-413 (Rev. 04-03)

Interview Summary

Paper No. 20090127

Notice of References Cited	Application/Control No. 11/776,329	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination NIYIKIZA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Kevin E. Weddington	1614	Page 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	Classification
*	А	US-4,140,707	02-1979	Cleare et al.	556/137
	в	US-			
	С	US-			
	D	US-			
	Е	US-			
	F	US-			
	G	US-			
	н	US-			
	I	US-			
	J	US-			
	к	US-			
	L	US-			
	м	US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Country	Name	Classification
	N					
	0					
	Р					
	Q					
	R					
	S					
	Т					

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
	U	
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*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).) Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.

Part of Paper No. 20090211

Sheet 1 of 2

FORM PTO) 1449 (modified)	Atty. Do	Atty. Docket No. Serial No					
INFORMA	τιον γ	DISCLOSURE CITATION	X-14173 First App	X-141/3B First Applicant					
IN AN APP	PLICAT	ION	NIYIKIZ	NIYIKÎZA Clet					
			Filing D	Filing Date Group					
		<u>U</u> .	S. PATENT D	OCUME	NTS				
Examiner	Cite	Document Number	Publicatio	on Date	Name	of Patentee or	Pages, Co	olumns, Lines,	
Initials* No. 1 Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			n) MM-DD-	YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document Where Relevant Pa or Relevant Figur Appear			elevant Pages vant Figures oppear	
/KW/	AA	US 5,405,839	4/ 11/1995		Tetsuo, e	t al.			
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	AJ	US 2,920,015	01/1960		Thompso	n, Robert E.			
	AK	US 2004/0005311 Al	01/2004		Pitman, E	Bradford D.			
\mathbf{V}	AL	US 5,344,932	09/1994		Taylor, Ed	lward C.			
/KW/	AM	US 7,053,065	05/2006	006 Niyikiza, et al.					
		FODI	TICN DATEN'		MENTS		1		
Examiner	Cite	Foreign Patent Document		Name of	Patentee or			T ⁶	
Initials*	No. ¹	Country Code ³ -Number ⁴⁻ Kind Code5 (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	n Date Document		nt of Cited Pages, Columns, Lines, Wh cument Relevant Passages or Relev. Figures Appear			
/KW/	BA	EP 0 546 870	6/16/1993	EPO					

Examiner Signature	/Kevin Weddington/ (02/11/2009)	Date Considered	02/11/2009				
*EXAMINED: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MDED 600. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include conv. of							

on is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if no nd not considered. Inclu de copy of al if referei this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <u>www.uspto.gov</u> or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patient document. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document will very depending upon the needs of the individual case. Burden Hours Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

			NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS	
Exam Initia	iner ıls*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s) publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶
/K	(W/	CA	Calvert H.: "Folate status and the safety profile of antifolates", Seminars in Oncology, 2002, 29/2 Suppl. 5, pp. 3-7, XP008005755	
000000000000000000000000000000000000000	CB Calvert H.: "Future directions in the development of pemetrexed", Seminars in Oncology, 2002, 29/2 Suppl. 5, pp. 54-61, XP008005744			
******		CC	Westerhof, et al: "Carrier-and receptor-mediated transport of folate antagonists targeting folate-dependent enzymes: correlates of molecularstructure and biological activity", Mol. Pharmacology, 1995, 48(3), pp. 459- 71, XP008005762	
000000000000000000000000000000000000000		CD	Worzalla, et a]: "Role of folic acid in modulating the toxicity and efficacy of the multitargeted antifolate, LY231514", Anticancer Research (1998), 18(5A), pp. 3235-3239, XP008005757	
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		CG	Dierkes, et al., Supplementation with Vitamin B12 Decreases Homocystein and Methylmalonic Acid but Also Serum Folate in Patients with End-Stage Renal Disease. Metabolism. May 1999. Vol. 48, No. 5, pages 631-635. See: abstract.	
******		СН	Arsenyan et al. (Abstract: Onkol. Nauchn., (1978) 12(10):49-54	
		Cl	John, et al. (Cancer 2000, 88: 1807-13)	
V	/	CJ	Poydock et al., "Growth-inhibiting effect of hydroxocobaltniin and L-ascorbic acid on two solid tumors in mce", IRCS Medical _Science, Vol. 12, No. 9, pp. 813 (1984).	
/	/KW/	CK	The Cecil Reference, TEXTBOOK of MEDICINE, 21st Edition (2000). Chapter 198. pps. 1060-1074.	

Examiner	/Kevin Weddington/ (02/11/2009)	Date Considered	02/11/2009					
Signature								
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of								

this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <u>www.uspto.gov</u> or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the

two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patient document. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document will very depending upon the needs of the individual case. Burden Hours Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

	ed States Patent .	and Trademark Office	UNITED STATES DEPAR United States Patent and Address: COMMISSIONER F P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22. www.uspto.gov	TMENT OF COMMERCE Trademark Office 'OR PATENTS 313-1450		
APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.		
11/776,329	07/11/2007	Clet Niyikiza	X14173B	6568		
25885 ELI LILLY & (PATENT DIVI	7590 02/18/2009 COMPANY SION	EXAM	EXAMINER WEDDINGTON, KEVIN E			
P.O. BOX 6288 INDIANAPOL	3 JS. IN 46206-6288		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER		
	15, 11 10200 0200		1614			
			NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE		
			02/18/2009	ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

patents@lilly.com

	Application No.	Applicant(s)								
	11/776,329	NIYIKIZA ET AL.								
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit								
	Kevin E. Weddington	1614								
The MAILING DATE of this communication app Period for Reply	The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply									
 A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earmed patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). 										
Status	Status									
 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>09 December 2008</u>. 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final. 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i>, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. 										
Disposition of Claims										
 4) Claim(s) <u>40-52</u> is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration. 5) Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) <u>40-52</u> is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) is/are objected to. 8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or election requirement. 										
Application Papers										
 9) The specification is objected to by the Examine 10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) acc Applicant may not request that any objection to the Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correct 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Example. 	er. epted or b) objected to by the d drawing(s) be held in abeyance. Sec tion is required if the drawing(s) is ob caminer. Note the attached Office	Examiner. e 37 CFR 1.85(a). jected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d). e Action or form PTO-152.								
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119										
 Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of: Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. 										
 Attachment(s) 1)	4) Interview Summary Paper No(s)/Mail Da 5) Notice of Informal F 6) Other:	(PTO-413) ate Patent Application								

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office PTOL-326 (Rev. 08-06)

Office Action Summary

Part of Paper No./Mail Date 20090211 Teva – Fresenius Exhibit 1002-00122

Claim 40-52 are presented for examination.

Applicants' preliminary amendment filed December 9, 2008; and the information

disclosure statement filed July 11, 2007 have been received and entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claim 45 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply

with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had

possession of the claimed invention.

This is a written description rejection.

A lack of adequate written description issue arises if the knowledge and level of skill in the art would not permit one skilled in the art to immediately envisage the product claimed from the disclosed process. See, e.g., Fujikawa v. Wattanasin, 93 F.3d 1559, 1571, 39 USPQ2d 1895, 1905 (Fed. Cir. 1996) (a "laundry list" disclosure of every possible moiety does not constitute a written description of every species in a genus because it would not "reasonably lead" those skilled in the art to any particular species); In re Ruschig, 379 F.2d 990, 995, 154 USPQ 118, 123 (CCPA 1967).

An applicant may also show that an invention is complete by disclosure of sufficiently detailed, relevant identifying characteristics which provide evidence that

applicant was in possession of the claimed invention, i.e., complete or partial structure, other physical and/or chemical properties, functional characteristics when coupled with a known or disclosed correlation between function and structure, or some combination of such characteristics.

In particular, the specification as original filed fails to provide sufficient written bases of any of the agents demonstrating wherein possession of use of the broad term: **a folicbinding-protein agent**. The mere fact that Applicant may have discovered one type of folic-binding-protein agent is combined with the composition comprising pemetrexed disodium and a methylmalonic acid lowering agent is not sufficient to claim the entire genus.

The written description requirement for a claimed genus may be satisfied through sufficient description of a representative number of species by actual reduction to practice, reduction to drawings, or by disclosure of relevant, identifying characteristics, i.e., structure or other physical and/or chemical properties, by functional characteristics coupled with a known or disclosed correlation between function and structure, or by a combination of such identifying characteristics, sufficient to show the applicant was in possession of the claimed genus. See Eli Lilly, 119 F.3d at 1568, 43 USPQ2d at 1406.

A "representative number of species" means that the species which are adequately described are representative of the entire genus. Thus, when there is substantial variation within the genus, one must describe a sufficient variety of species to reflect the variation within the genus. The disclosure of only one species encompassed within a genus adequately describes a claim directed to that genus only if

the disclosure "indicates that the patentee has invented species sufficient to constitute

the gen[us]."

Claim 45 is not allowed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 40-52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being

indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which

applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 40 is rendered indefinite because the phrase "methylmalonic acid", located

in line 9. The Examiner thinks the applicants left out some important words such as

"lowering agent". The remaining claims 41-52 are rendered indefinite to the extent that

they incorporate the above terminology.

Claims 40-52 are not allowed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in Graham v. John Deere Co., 383 U.S. 1, 148

USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining

obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

- 1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
- 2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
- 3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
- 4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 40-52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Taylor (5,344,932) of PTO-1449 in view of Poydock et al., IRCS Medical Science, Vol. 12, No. 9, pp. 813 (1984) of PTO-1449, further in view of Worzalla et al., Anticancer Research, Vol. 18, No. 5, pp. 3235-3239 of PTO-1449, and further in view of Cleare et al. (4,149,707).

Taylor teaches N-(pyrrolo(2,3-D)pyrimidin-3-ylacyl)-glutamic acid derivatives which includes LY 2315 (pemetrexe) and LY 231514-disodium, (pemetrexed disodium) are effective as antineoplastic agents to inhibit the growth of tumors (see column 8, lines 57-63). Note particularly column 8, lines 64-68 states that other antineoplastic agents can be combined with LY 231514. Note particularly column 9, line 1 shows the various modes of administration such as parenteral routes (intramuscular) and oral.

The instant invention differs from the cited reference in that the cited reference does not teach the addition of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent . However, the secondary reference, Poydock et al., teaches a methylmalonic acid lowering agent such as hydroxocobalamin is effective by inhibiting tumors implanted in mice (see the abstract).

The instant invention differs from the cited references in that the cited references do not teach the addition of a folic-binding-protein agent. However, the tertiary reference, Worzalla et al., teaches the supplementation of folic acid with LY 231514 to enhance LY 231514 antitumor activity.

The instant invention differs from the cited references in that the cited references do not teach the addition of cisplatin. However, the quaternary reference, Cleare et al., teaches malonato platinum anti-tumor compounds such as cisplatin to treat malignant tumors (see the abstract).

Clearly, one skilled in the art would have assumed the combination of three antineoplastic agents into a single composition would give an additive effect in the absence of evidence to the contrary.

The instant invention differs from the cited references in that the cited references do not teach the applicants' preferred dosage range for the methylmalonic acid lowering agent. However, those skilled in the art would have been readily optimized effective dosages and concurrent administration dosage forms as determined by good medical practice and the clinical condition of the individual patient. Regardless of the manner of administration, the specific dose may be calculated according to body weight, body

surface area or organ size. Further refinement of the calculations necessary to determine the appropriate dosage for treatment involving each of the above mentioned formulations is routinely made by those skilled in the art and is within the ability of tasks routinely performed by them without undue experimentation.

Claims 40-52 are not allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin E. Weddington whose telephone number is (571)272-0587. The examiner can normally be reached on 12:30 pm-9:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ardin Marschel can be reached on (571)272-0718. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

> Kevin E. Weddington Primary Examiner Art Unit 1614

/Kevin E. Weddington/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1614



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BIB DATA SHEET

CONFIRMATION NO. 6568

SERIAL NUM	BER	FILING	_ 371(c)		CLASS	GR	OUP ART	UNIT	ΑΤΤΟ	
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	Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination
Search Notes	11776329	NIYIKIZA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Kevin E Weddington	1614

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514	52	2/11/09	KEW						
514	77	2/11/09	KEW						
514	249	2/11/09	KEW						
514	251	2/11/09	KEW						
514	265.1	2/11/09	KEW						

SEARCH NOTES								
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REGISTRY includes numerically searchable data for experimental and predicted properties as well as tags indicating availability of experimental property data in the original document. For information on property searching in REGISTRY, refer to:

http://www.cas.org/support/stngen/stndoc/properties.html

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E1	1 CISPENTACIN/CN
E2	1 CISPERMETHRIN/CN
E3	1> CISPLATIN/CN
E4	1 CISPLATIN ADDUCT EXCISION NUCLEASE/CN
E5	1 CISPLATIN RESISTANCE ASSOCIATED (MOUSE STRAIN FVB/N-3 CLONE
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PROPERTY DATA AVAILABLE IN THE 'PROP' FORMAT

23661 REFERENCES IN FILE CA (1907 TO DATE) 755 REFERENCES TO NON-SPECIFIC DERIVATIVES IN FILE CA 23758 REFERENCES IN FILE CAPLUS (1907 TO DATE)

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ANSWER 1 OF 1 MRCK COPYRIGHT (C) 2009 Merck and Co., Inc., L2 Whitehouse Station, New Jersey, USA. All rights reserved. on STN (MNO): 1402317 MERCK Number CAS Registry No. (RN): 15663-27-1 MERCK Index Name (MIN): Cisplatin (CN): (SP-4-2)-Diamminedichloroplatinum CA Index Name Synonym(s) (CN): Cis-diamminedichloroplatinum; Cis-platinum II; Cis-DDP; CACP; CPDC; DDP (CN): NSC-119875 Drug Code(s) Trade Name(s) (CN): Blastolem (Lemery); Briplatin (Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.; BMS); Cisplatyl (Sanofi-Aventis Group; Sanofi-Aventis); Neoplatin (Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.; BMS); Platamine (Pfizer, Inc.; Pfizer); Platinex (Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.; BMS); Platiblastin (Pfizer, Inc.; Pfizer); Platinol (Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.; BMS); Platosin (Pharmachemie); Randa (Nippon Kayaku Co., Ltd.; Nippon Kayaku) File Segment. (FS): Active Monographs (MF): C12 H6 N2 Pt Molecular Form. Wgt Composition (COMP): Cl 23.63%, H 2.02%, N 9.34%, Pt 65.02%. Molecular Weight (MW): 300.05 (RE): Antitumor platinum coordination complex. Originally References known as Peyrone's salt or Peyrone's chloride; of interest in the development of coordination theory. Prepn: M. Peyrone, Ann. 51, 1 (1845); G. B. Kauffman, D. O. Cowan, Inorg. Synth. 7, 239 (1963); S. C. Dhara, Indian J. Chem. 8, 193 (1970). Early structural studies: R. Werner, Z. Anorg. Chem. 3, 267 (1893); H. D. K. Drew et al., J. Chem. Soc. 1932, 988. Discovery of anti-tumor activity: B. Rosenberg et al., Nature 205, 698 (1965); 222, 385 (1972). Use as neoplasm inhibitor: M. L. Tobe et al., DE 2318020 (1972 to Rustenburg Platinum Mines Ltd.), C.A. 80, 55897e (1974); M. J. Cleare et al., DE 2329485 (1972 to Research Corp.), C.A. 81, 21172v (1974). X-ray structure of cisplatin-DNA adduct: S.E. Sherman et al., Science 230, 412 (1985). Inhibition of in vitro DNA synthesis: A. L. Pinto, S. J. Lippard, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 82, 4616 (1985). Pharmacology: A. Sirica et al., Proc. Am. Assoc. Cancer Res. 12, 4 (1971); C. L. Litterst et al., Cancer Res. 36, 2340 (1976); N. P. Johnson et al., Chem. Biol. Interact. 23, 267 (1978). Metabolism: R. C. Lange et al., J. Nucl. Med. 14, 191 (1973). Clinical studies: J. J. Ochs et al., Cancer Treat. Rep. 62, 239 (1978); H. M. Pinedo et al., Eur. J. Cancer 14, 1149 (1978). Toxicology: R. L. Dixon, Proc. 7th Int. Congr. Chemother. Vol. 2 (University Park Press, Baltimore, 1972) pp 241-243; R. W. Fleishman et al., Toxicol. Appl. Pharmacol. 33, 320 (1975). Review of carcinogenicity studies: IARC Monographs 26, 154-161 (1981); of neurotoxicity: R. J. Cersosimo, Cancer Treat. Rev. 16, 195-211 (1989). Comprehensive description: C. M. Riley, L. M. Sternson, Anal. Profiles Drug Subs. 14, 77-105 (1985). Book: Cisplatin, Current Status and New Developments, A. W. Prestayko et al., Eds. (Academic Press, New York, 1980) 527 pp. Review of mechanism of action: M. A. Fuertes et al., Curr. Med. Chem. 10, 257-266 (2003); Z. H. Siddik, Oncogene 22, 7265-7279 (2003).

Toxicity (TOX): LD50 in guinea pigs: 9.7 mg/kg i.p. (Fleishman). Other Properties (OCPP): Yellow to orange crystalline powder. Soly in water 0.253 g/100 g at 25°; slowly changes to trans-form in aq soln. Insol in most common solvents. Sol in DMF. LD50 in guinea pigs: 9.7 mg/kg i.p. (Fleishman) . Notes (NTE): Caution: This substance is reasonably anticipated to be a human carcinogen: Report on Carcinogens, Eleventh Edition (PB2005-104914, 2004) p III-67.

Therapeutic Codes (THER): Antineoplastic. Therapeutic Codes (Veterinary) (VTHER): Antineoplastic. Other Sources (OS): CA 80:55897; CA 81:21172 Referenced Patent (RPN): DE2318020; DE2329485

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LЗ 23661 L1 => s (cancer or tumor?) 360427 CANCER 526372 TUMOR? 720567 (CANCER OR TUMOR?) T.4 => s 13 and 14 14478 L3 AND L4 L5 => d 14400-14478 ANSWER 14400 OF 14478 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN L5 Full Text AN 89:1 89:157244 CA OREF 89:24255a,24258a Platinum complexes as radiosensitizers of hypoxic mammalian cells ΤТ AU Douple, E. B.; Richmond, R. C. Norris Cotton Cancer Cent., Dartmouth, NH, USA British Journal of Cancer, Supplement (1978), 37(3), 98-102 CS SO CODEN: BJCSB5; ISSN: 0306-9443 DT Journal English LA ANSWER 14401 OF 14478 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN L5 Full Text 89:140347 CA AN

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OREF 89:21617a,21620a Evaluation of single-agent therapy in human colorectal **tumor** xenografts ΤT AU Houghton, P. J.; Houghton, J. A. Dep. Radiopharmacol., Inst. Cancer Res., Sutton, UK CS British Journal of Cancer (1978), 37(5), 833-40 SO CODEN: BJCAAI; ISSN: 0007-0920 DT Journal English LA ANSWER 14402 OF 14478 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN L5 Full Text AN 89:140186 CA OREF 89:21585a,21588a Distribution of a platinum anti-tumor drug in HeLa cells by analytical ΤT electron microscopy AU Khan, M. U. A.; Sadler, P. J. CS Chem. Dep., Birkbeck Coll., London, UK SO Chemico-Biological Interactions (1978), 21(2-3), 227-32 CODEN: CBINA8; ISSN: 0009-2797 DT Journal LA English ANSWER 14403 OF 14478 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN L5 Full Text AN 89:99746 CA OREF 89:15115a,15118a A general mechanism for microsomal activation of quinone anticancer agents ΤI to free radicals Bachur, Nicholas R.; Gordon, Sandra L.; Gee, Malcolm V. AU CS Baltimore Cancer Res. Cent., Natl. Cancer Inst., Baltimore, MD, USA Cancer Research (1978), 38(6), 1745-50 SO CODEN: CNREA8; ISSN: 0008-5472 DT Journal English LА L5 ANSWER 14404 OF 14478 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text 89:99480 CA AN OREF 89:15047a,15050a ΤI Variation in response of xenografts of colorectal carcinoma to chemotherapy AU Nowak, K.; Peckham, M. J.; Steel, G. G. Div. Radiotherap. Biophys., Inst. Cancer Res., Sutton, UK CS SO British Journal of Cancer (1978), 37(4), 576-84 CODEN: BJCAAI; ISSN: 0007-0920 DT Journal English LA L5 ANSWER 14405 OF 14478 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text AN 89:84661 CA OREF 89:12869a ΤI Chemotherapy of transplantable mouse **tumors** with cis-dichlorodiammineplatinum(II) alone and in combination with sarcolysin AU Presnov, M. A.; Konovalova, A. L.; Romanova, L. F.; Sofina, Z. P.; Stetsenko, A. I. CS Lab. Exp. Cancer Chemother., Cancer Res. Cent., Moscow, USSR Cancer Treatment Reports (1978), 62(5), 705-12 SO CODEN: CTRRDO; ISSN: 0361-5960 DT Journal LA English L5 ANSWER 14406 OF 14478 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text 89:70802 CA AN OREF 89:10819a,10822a ТΤ Evaluation of single agents and combinations of chemotherapeutic agents in mouse colon carcinomas Corbett, T. H.; Griswold, D. P., Jr.; Roberts, B. J.; Peckham, J. C.; AU Schabel, F. M., Jr. CS Southern Res. Inst., Birmingham, AL, USA Cancer (New York, NY, United States) (1977), 40(5, Suppl.), 2660-80 SO

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agent. AU Speer, Robert J.; Ridgway, Helen; Stewart, David P.; Hall, Larry M.; Zapata, Alba; Hill, Joseph M. CS Wadley Inst. Mol. Med., Dallas, TX, USA Journal of Clinical Hematology and Oncology (1977), 7(1), 210-19 SO CODEN: JCHODP; ISSN: 0162-9360 DT Journal English LA ANSWER 14423 OF 14478 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN L5 Full Text AN 86:183312 CA OREF 86:28685a,28688a ТΤ Response of transferrin bound iron to treatment of rat lymphosarcoma with cis-dichlorodiammineplatinum(II) AU Warner, F. W.; Demanuelle, M.; Stjernholm, R.; Cohn, I.; Baddley, W. H. Div. Eng. Res., Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA, USA CS Journal of Clinical Hematology and Oncology (1977), 7(1), 180-9 SO CODEN: JCHODP; ISSN: 0162-9360 DT Journal LA English ANSWER 14424 OF 14478 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN L5 Full Text AN 86:165238 CA OREF 86:25889a,25892a Comparative nephrotoxicity of platinum cancer chemotherapeutic agents ΤT Ward, J. M.; Young, D. M.; Fauvie, K. A.; Wolpert, M. K.; Davis, R.; AIJ Guarino, A. M. Lab. Toxicol., Natl. Cancer Inst., Bethesda, MD, USA CS Cancer Treatment Reports (1976), 60(11), 1675-8 SO CODEN: CTRRDO; ISSN: 0361-5960 DT Journal English LΑ L5 ANSWER 14425 OF 14478 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text 86:150511 CA AN OREF 86:23571a,23574a ΤI cis-Dichlorodiammineplatinum(II) chemotherapy in experimental murine myeloma MOPC 104E AU Ghanta, Vithal K.; Jones, M. Terry; Woodard, Dolores A.; Durant, John R.; Hiramoto, Raymond N. CS Comprehensive Cancer Cent., Univ. Alabama, Birmingham, AL, USA Cancer Research (1977), 37(3), 771-4 SO CODEN: CNREA8; ISSN: 0008-5472 DT Journal English LA L5 ANSWER 14426 OF 14478 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text AN 86:115133 CA OREF 86:18129a,18132a Antineoplastic activity of cis-diamminedichloroplatinum(II) ΤI Nikolin, V. P.; Gruntenko, E. V.; Mal'chikov, G. D.; Sysoeva, G. M. AU Inst. Tsitol. Genet., Novosibirsk, USSR CS Voprosy Onkologii (1976), 22(12), 73-5 SO CODEN: VOONAW; ISSN: 0507-3758 DT Journal LΑ Russian ANSWER 14427 OF 14478 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN L5 Full Text AN 86:83786 CA OREF 86:13189a,13192a Effects of the cis-dichlorodiamminoplatinum(II)-deoxyribonucleic acid ТΤ complex on normal and **cancer** cells Heinen, E.; Desaive, C.; Houssier, C.; Gillet, M. C.; Chevremont, M. AU Inst. Histol., Liege, Belg. CS SO Comptes Rendus des Seances de la Societe de Biologie et de Ses Filiales (1976), 170(4), 919-21 CODEN: CRSBAW; ISSN: 0037-9026

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OREF 85:6598h,6599a
     Effects of cis-dichlorodiammine platinum(II) on DNA synthesis in kidney
ТΤ
     and other tissues of normal and tumor-bearing rats
     Taylor, David M.; Tew, Kenneth D.; Jones, Julie D.
Radiopharmacol. Dep., Inst. Cancer Res., Sutton/Surrey, UK
European Journal of Cancer (1965-1981) (1976), 12(4), 249-54
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ТΤ
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     treated with cis platinum(II) diamminedichloride: the extent of platinun
     binding to template DNA in relation to the size of low molecular weight
     nascent DNA
AU
     Van den Berg, H. W.; Roberts, J. J.
     Inst. Cancer Res., R. Cancer Hosp., Chalfont St. Giles/Bucks, UK
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     Chemico-Biological Interactions (1976), 12(3-4), 375-90
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Full Text
AN
     84:38769 CA
OREF 84:6319a,6322a
     Combined radiotherapy and chemotherapy of P388 leukemia in vivo
ΤI
     Wodinsky, I.; Kensler, C. J.; Venditti, J. M.
AU
     Arthur D. Little, Inc., Cambridge, MA, USA
Prog. Chemother. (Antibacterial, Antiviral, Antineoplast.), Proc. Int.
CS
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Full Text
AN 83:172656 CA
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     Single and combination chemotherapy for primary murine bladder cancer
ΤI
AU
     Soloway, Mark S.
     Dep. Surg., Univ. Hosp., Cleveland, OH, USA
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SO
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Full Text
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     Platinum-pyrimidine blues and related complexes. New class of potent
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     antitumor agents
     Davidson, James P.; Faber, Paula J.; Fischer, Robert G., Jr.; Mansy,
AU
     Samir; Peresie, Henry J.; Rosenberg, Barnett; VanCamp, Loretta
Dep. Biophys., Michigan State Univ., East Lansing, MI, USA
Cancer Chemotherapy Reports, Part 1 (1975), 59(2), 287-300
CS
SO
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     English
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Full Text
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OREF 83:695a,698a
ΤI
     Platinum-195m, a new radionuclide. Its application to the monitoring of
     cancer chemotherapeutic agents
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OREF 79:11821a,11824a
ΤI
    Cis-dichlorodiammineplatinum(II). Irreversible inhibition of DNA
     synthesis and cell growth in tissue culture and inhibition of chick embryo
     cell transformation by Rous sarcoma virus
     Kara, J.; Svoboda, J.; Drobnik, J.
AU
CS
     Inst. Exp. Biol. Genet., Czech. Acad. Sci., Prague, Czech.
SO
     Advan. Antimicrob. Antineoplastic Chemother., Proc. Int. Congr.
     Chemother., 7th (1972), Meeting Date 1971, Volume 2, 205-7. Editor(s):
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AN
     79:38643 CA
OREF 79:6255a,6258a
ТΤ
     Whole-body counting and the distribution of platinum-195m-labeled
     cis-dichlorodiammineplatinum(II) in the major organs of Swiss white mice
AU
     Hoeschele, J. D.; VanCamp, Loretta
     Biophys. Dep., Michigan State Univ., East Lansing, MI, USA
CS
SO
     Advan. Antimicrob. Antineoplastic Chemother., Proc. Int. Congr.
     Chemother., 7th (1972), Meeting Date 1971, Volume 2, 241-2. Editor(s):
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AN 79:38642 CA
OREF 79:6255a,6258a
     Combination therapy of cis-dichlorodiammineplatinum(II) with cytoxan
ΤI
     against the sarcoma 180 tumor in Swiss white mice
     VanCamp, Loretta; Rosenberg, B.
AU
     Dep. Biophys., Michigan State Univ., East Lansing, MI, USA
CS
     Advan. Antimicrob. Antineoplastic Chemother., Proc. Int. Congr.
SO
     Chemother., 7th (1972), Meeting Date 1971, Volume 2, 239-40. Editor(s):
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     79:38641 CA
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OREF 79:6255a,6258a
     Role of host defenses in the regression of sarcoma-180 in mice treated
ΤI
     with cis-dichlorodiammineplatinum(II)
     Conran, P. B.; Rosenberg, B.
ΑIJ
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ΤI
     dose calculations for platinum-193m and platinum-195m
     Lange, Robert C.; Spencer, Richard P.; Harder, Harold C.
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AIJ
CS
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SO
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     Journal
LA
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OREF 73:14103a,14106a TI Successful regression of large solid sarcoma 180 tumors by platinum compounds AU Rosenberg, Barnett; VanCamp, Loretta Biophys. Dep., Michigan State Univ., East Lansing, MI, USA Cancer Research (1970), 30(6), 1799-802 CODEN: CNREA8; ISSN: 0008-5472 CS SO DT Journal LA English => log y COST IN U.S. DOLLARS SINCE FILE TOTAL ENTRY SESSION 105.09 117.03 FULL ESTIMATED COST

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<u>PATENT APPLICATION</u> IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Applicant:	Clet Niyikiza	Group Art	Unit: 1614	
Serial No.:	11/776,329	Examiner:	Weddington, Kevin	
Application Date:	: July 11, 2007	Conf No.: 6568		
For:	NOVEL ANTIFOLATE COMBI THERAPIES	NATION		
Docket No.:	X14173B			

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Under the guidelines of 37 C.F.R. 1.97, Applicant submits a copy of each of the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 (modified) for consideration by the Examiner.

Since this Statement is being filed after the period specified in §1.97(b), but before the mailing date of a final action or a notice of allowance, please charge the fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p), and charge any additional fees which may be required by this or any other related paper, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 05-0840.

Applicant requests consideration of this information.

Respectfully submitted,

/ John A Cleveland, Jr./ John A. Cleveland, Jr. Attorney for Applicant Registration No. 50,697 Phone: 317-276-0307 Application No.: 11/776329

Eli Lilly and Company Patent Division P.O. Box 6288 Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6288

<u>May 4, 2009</u>

PATENT APPLICATION IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Applicant:	Clet Niyikiza	Group Art	Unit: 1614		
Serial No.:	11/776,329	Examiner: Weddington, Kevin			
Application Date:	: July 11, 2007	Conf No.: 6568			
For:	NOVEL ANTIFOLATE COMBINATION THERAPIES				
Docket No.:	X14173B				

COMMUNICATION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 18, 2009, Applicants submit the following remarks in connection with the above-identified patent application:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-39 (Cancelled)

40. (Currently amended) A method for administering pemetrexed disodium to a patient in need thereof comprising administering an effective amount of pemetrexed disodium in combination with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent, wherein:

the methylmalonic <u>acid</u> lowering agent is selected from the group consisting of vitamin B₁₂, hydroxycobolamin, cyano-10-chlorocobolamin, aquocobolamin perchlorate, aquo-10 cobolamin perchlorate, azidocobolamin or chlorocobolamin;

the methylmalonic acid lowering agent is administered from about 1 week to about 3 weeks prior to the first administration of the pemetrexed disodium; and

the methylmalonic acid <u>lowering agent</u> administration is repeated about every 6 to about every 12 weeks until administration of the pemetrexed disodium is discontinued.

41. (previously presented) The method of claim 40, wherein the methylmalonic lowering agent is vitaminB₁₂.

42. (previously presented) The method of claim 41, wherein the vitamin B₁₂ is administered as an intramuscular injection of about 500 μ g to about 1500 μ g.

43. (previously presented) The method of claim 42, wherein the vitamin B_{12} is administered as an intramuscular injection of about 1000 µg.

44. (previously presented) The method of claim 41, 42 or 43, wherein the vitamin B₁₂ administration is repeated about every 9 weeks until the administration of the pemetrexed disodium is discontinued.

45. (currently amended) The method of claim 44, further comprising administering a folicbinding protein binding agent to the patient, wherein the folic-binding protein binding agent is selected from the group consisting of folic acid, (6R)-5-methyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrofolic acid or (6R)-5-formyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrofolic acid, or a physiologically available salt or ester therof.

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46. (previously presented) The method of claim 45 wherein the folic-binding-protein binding agent is folic acid and the folic acid is administered prior to the first administration of the pemetrexed disodium.

47. (previously presented) The method of claim 46 wherein the folic acid is administered 1 to 3 weeks prior to the first administration of the pemetrexed disodium.

48. (previously presented) The method of claim 47 wherein the folic acid is administered from about 1 to about 24 hours prior to administration of the pemetrexed disodium.

49. (previously presented) The method according to any one of claims 46-48, wherein between 0.3 mg to about 5 mg of folic acid is administered orally.

50. (previously presented) The method of claim 49 wherein about $350\mu g$ to about $1000 \ \mu g$ of folic acid is administered.

51. (previously presented) The method of claim 50 wherein 350 μ g to 600 μ g of folic acid is administered.

52. (previously presented) The method of claim 40 or 45 further comprising the administration of cisplatin to the patient.

Remarks

Claims 40-52 are pending in the application. No Claims are allowed. Claim 45 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st paragraph. Claims 40-52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph and 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

In view of the present amendment and reasons set forth below, it is submitted that the rejections are improper and should be withdrawn. Reconsideration and reexamination of the present application is respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 USC §112, first paragraph

Claim 45 is stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The Office Action asserts that the specification as originally filed fails to provide sufficient written bases of any of the agents demonstrating wherein possession of use of the broad term: "folic-binding-protein binding agents." In response, Claim 45 has been amended to disclose specific folic-binding-protein binding agent species recited in the specification. In light of this amendment, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 USC §112, second paragraph

Claims 40-52 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The office action points out that the phrase "methylmalonic acid" appears to be missing the phrase "lowering agent" in one of the recitations of claim 40. In response, Claim 40 has been amended to add the inadvertently omitted phrase "lowering agent." In light of this amendment, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 USC §103(a)

Claims 40-52 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Taylor (5,344,932) of PTO-1449 in view of Poydock et al., IRCS Medical Science, Vol. 12, No. 9, pp. 813 (1984) of PTO-1449, further in view of Worzalla et al., Anticancer Research, Vol. 18, No. 5, pp. 3235-3239 of PTO-1449, and further in view of Cleare et al. (4,149,707). Specifically, the Office Action asserts that: "[t]he instant invention differs from the cited reference in that the cited reference does not teach the addition of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent. However, the secondary reference, Poydock et al., teaches a methylmalonic acid lowering agent such as hydroxocobalamin is effective by inhibiting tumors implanted in mice (see the abstract)."

Applicants note at the outset that independent Claim 40 comprises administration of pemetrexed disodium with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent (e.g., vitamin B12). Applicants assert that since Poydock et al. was discredited prior to the present application's priority date, it cannot even be used to support an assertion that methylmalonic acid lowering agent (e.g., hydroxocobalamin) is effective at inhibiting tumors implanted in mice.

Teva – Fresenius Exhibit 1002-00160

Application No.: 11/776329

Poydock et al. teaches that mice given a mixture containing L-ascorbic acid, hydroxocobalamin (a methylmalonic acid lowering agent), and Na ascorbate is effective at inhibiting tumors implanted in mice. Shortly after this abstract was published, however, it was discovered that the antitumor activity was <u>not</u> associated with the L-ascorbic acid, the hydroxocobalamin (a methylmalonic acid lowering agent), or the Na ascorbate. In fact, the researchers found that the Lascorbic acid which they had used had oxidized to dehydroascorbic acid (see, e.g., Toohey, John I., Cancer Letters (Shannon, Ireland) (2008), 263(2), 164-169). In subsequent research with authentic materials, it was discovered that it was in fact the dehydroascorbic acid which was the active factor in the mixture (see Poydock et al., Experimental Cell Biology (1982), 50(2), 88-91; Poydock et al., American Journal of Clinical Oncology 8 (1985) 266-269; and particularly Poydock et al., American Journal of Clinical Nutrition 54 (1991) 1261S-1265S).

In addition, Poydock himself demonstrated that "[i]njections of ascorbic acid or of vitamin B_{12} alone had no effect on mitotic activity..." (see Poydock et al., American Journal of Clinical Nutrition 54 (1991) 1261S-1265S page 1262S 3rd paragraph) Moreover, in addition to reviewing the discovery of the antitumor activity of dehydroascorbic acid, Toohey, John I., Cancer Letters (Shannon, Ireland) (2008), 263(2), 164-169) also discusses the use of Vitamin B_{12} (a methylmalonic acid lowering agent) in studies by Poydock (see footnote page 164):

"It should be noted that Poydock continued to add Vitamin B_{12} to most treatment protocols although her own data showed that it was not needed and there was no good rationale for adding it....To this day there is no rationale for giving B_{12} and no known reaction between B_{12} and ascorbic acid or dehydroascorbic acid which could explain her result."

These clarification studies (at least those published prior to Applicant's priority date) demonstrate that vitamin B12 does, in fact, <u>not</u> possess anti-tumor activity, contrary to the teaching of Poydock et al. Therefore, Poydock et al. cannot be used to support the assertion in the Office Action that one skilled in the art would have combined pemetrexed disodium with vitamin B12 because both are anti-neoplastic agents. For the same reason, since Claims 41-52 depend from Claim 40, which contains the methylmalonic acid lowering agent limitation, the combination with folicbinding protein binding agent and/or cisplatin would not be obvious. Application No.: 11/776329

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully assert that the rejection is improper and should be withdrawn. Reconsideration is, therefore, kindly solicited. For at least the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that the above identified application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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May 4, 2009

Teva – Fresenius Exhibit 1002-00162 Am J Clin Oncol (CCT) 8: 266-269, 1985.

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2

Mitogenic inhibition and effect on survival of mice bearing L1210 leukemia using a combination of dehydroascorbic acid and hydroxycobalamin

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S. Harguindey, M.D.

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THE PRESENT STUDY WAS DESIGNED to test the effect of a combination of dehydroascorbic acid (DHA) and hydroxycobalamin (vitamin B_{12}) on the survival of mice bearing L1210 leukemia. Results showed a significant increase in survival of treated mice compared with controls ($p \leq 0.0001$) (Student's *t*-test). This positive effect was significantly lost when DHA was substituted by ascorbic acid (AA) in the same experimental conditions. In vitro findings also revealed that the DHA-B₁₂ combination specifically inhibited mitoses of L1210 cells while non-neoplastic L929 cells were not affected. H. Takita, м.D.

D. Kelly, B.S.

rowth suppression of human leukemic Jcells in vitro by L-ascorbic acid (AA) has been recently reported.⁴ Preliminary in vivo and in vitro experiments from our laboratory have previously shown that a mixture of L-ascorbic acid (AA) and hydroxycobalamin inhibited mitoses of several transplanted ascites tumors.⁶ Subsequent studies disclosed that the survival rate of mice bearing P388 leukemia and Ehrlich carcinoma was significantly increased after treatment with L-ascorbic acid and hydroxycobalamin buffered with Na⁺ ascorbate.7 DHA has been advanced by several authors to potentially offer a more potent antitumor activity than AA. Cell uptake of DHA is much higher than AA in normal and leukemic leucocytes as well as in HeLa cells and erythrocytes.^{1,2} DHA uptake also seems to be related to the concentration of the vitamin in the medium.² Previous work from this laboratory has shown that DHA completely inhibited mitoses in Ehrlich ascites tumor and P388 leukemia in mice.8 The authors thought it advisable, therefore, to test the effect of dehydroascorbic acid and hydroxycobalamin on the highly resistant L1210 mouse leukemia.

Material and methods

Preparation of vitamin mixture

Using aseptic technique, the vitamin combination, in crystalline form, was prepared by introducing into a small, sterile tube, 0.01 g hydroxycobalamin, 0.02 g dehydroascorbic acid (or 0.02 g ascorbic acid (AA)) buffered to pH 5.2 with 0.02 g sodium ascorbate, as previously reported.⁷ In our hands, this dosage has proven

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to be the highest tolerated dose which does not induce weight loss in the treated mice. A sufficient number of tubes with dry crystals were prepared in advance. Immediately before injection 1 ml of sterile normal saline at 60°C was added to the tube. To avoid denaturization, only the amount needed (1 ml) to treat five mice was diluted at one time. Hydroxycobalamin was obtained from Merck Chemical Division (West Point, PA). Ascorbic acid and sodium ascorbate were purchased from Sigma Chemical Co. (St. Louis, MO). DHA was obtained from ICN Nutritional Biochemicals (Cleveland, OH).

In vivo experiments

L1210 leukemia was supplied in DBA/2 mice from Roswell Park Memorial Institute, Buffalo, NY. This was the standard line used at the Institute for a number of years and it has been largely validated in a multiplicity of chemotherapy testing programs. Three experiments were tried using a total of 140 mice. In each of the two experiments involving DHA 40 female DBA/2 mice, 10 weeks old, within a 2-gram weight range, were used. Another 60 mice of the same characteristics (30 treated and 30 controls) were used for the AA experiment. All mice were fed normal laboratory food ad libitum. The tested mice were injected (i.p.) with 10⁵ washed L1210 cells, suspended in 0.1 ml Tyrode's solution, producing an ascitic leukemia that later progressed to generalized disease. Mice were then randomized into equally fed groups. Starting 24 hours after implantation, test mice were injected i.p. with 10 mg/ 0.2 ml (0.4 g/kg body weight) DHA- B_{12} or $AA-B_{12}$ mixture for 8 successive days in sterile conditions, after passing it through a 0.22 μ Millipore system. Two days later they were given, on alternate days, two more treatments, making a total of 10 treatments. Control mice were injected i.p. in the same conditions with 0.2 ml of a saline solution of the same pH (pH: 5.2) and osmolarity (305 mosm/liter).

In vitro experiments

Cells used in this study were propagated in RPMI medium 1640, supplemented with 10% calf serum plus 1% garamycin. Viable L1210 was the neoplastic tissue tested; whereas L929 fibroblasts (Microbiological Associates, suspension in frozen ampule) were the non-neoplastic cells used. For testing the effect of DHA- B_{12} on L1210 cells in vitro the ascites exudate was removed from tumor-bearing mice. It was washed with Tyrodes' solution, centrifuged at 500 rpm for 10 minutes, and the pellet resuspended in RPMI medium 1640 to yield the initial inoculum of 1×10^6 cells/ml. Then 0.4 ml of the L1210 cell suspension was introduced into each of four Falcon Flasks containing 4 ml RPMI medium. After an initial mitotic count was made, the flasks were divided into two test and two control, and 0.62 mg/0.05 ml of the vitamin mixture was added to each of the test flasks. They were incubated at 37.5°C. At 2, 4, 6, and 24 hours, mitotic counts were made by withdrawing a drop of the cell suspension with a Pasteur pipette and staining with acetocarmine, using the procedure described previously.⁶ For estimating the effect of DHA-B₁₂ on mitoses of L929 fibroblasts the procedure was the same except that counts were made in 10 fields of the monolayer. An inverted microscope with phase contrast optics at $300 \times$ was used. This experiment was repeated, following the same procedure mentioned above, and the results were totally reproducible. The effect of AA-B₁₂ on L1210 and L929 cells has been reported before.6

Results

Figure 1 demonstrates the survival curve for 40 DBA/2 mice bearing L1210 leukemia after treatment with DHA-B₁₂. Two identical experiments were tried, and the results were identical. Results revealed a pronounced increase in the survival rate of the treated mice compared with the control group ($p \leq 0.0001$). The median survival time of the treated mice was greater than 60 days, and for the control group it was just under 12 days. The experiment was continued for 60 days after tumor implantation, then terminated. Postmortem and histological examination of untreated mice revealed disseminated disease to liver, spleen, and lungs. Treated mice sacrificed after day 60 revealed no evidence of disease. An incidental finding in some of the dead treated mice was "cloromization" (formation of solid tumors) of L1210 in the peritoneal cavity.

Table 1 compares the *in vitro* results of L1210 neoplastic cells with viable non-neoplastic L929 fibroblasts. This table represents the average of two experiments, two test and two control flasks in each. Results indicated that the vitamin mixture inhibited mitoses in



FIGURE 1. Survival of mice bearing leukemia L1210 after treatment with a mixture of hydroxycobalamin and dehydroascorbic acid. I.p. doses, 10 mg/ 0.2 ml on days 1-8, 11, and 13 were given. Eighty mice were sampled (40 treated and 40 control).

Discussion

L1210 cells, but mitotic division of the nonneoplastic L929 fibroblasts was not affected.

Figure 2 shows the packed cell volume of the L1210 exudate taken from a treated DBA/2 (TEST) and control (CON) mouse after five treatments with DHA-B₁₂. A microscopic scrutiny of the acetocarmine smears, prepared from the ascitic fluid taken from the treated mice only revealed disintegrating tumor cells. Also, an increase in lymphocytes, neutrophils, and monocytes (some of which were dividing) was noted in the sample treated with DHA-B₁₂. Viability tests with trypan blue showed that these white blood cells were all viable.

Figure 3 shows the survival curve for 60 (30 test and 30 treated) mice bearing L1210 leukemia after treatment with $AA-B_{12}$. This experiment demonstrates that the substitution of DHA by AA in the same experimental conditions abolishes most of the antitumoral effect of the vitamin $C-B_{12}$ combination.

TABLE 1

DHA and Vitamin B₁₂

	1 1 1 * .	Mitotic Index			
Tissue Tested	Time (hr.)	Test	Control		
L 1210	0	46	46		
	2	0	40		
	4	0	42		
	6	0	48		
	24	0	42		
L929	0	52	52		
	2	50	48		
	4	62	60		
	6	64	62		
	24	56	58		

Comparison of *in vitro* inhibitory effect of a mixture of hydroxycobalamin and dehydroascorbic acid on mitoses of L 1210 cells and L929 libroblasts. (Dosage 0.62 mg/0.05 ml).

The results of these investigations show that the DHA- B_{12} mixture significantly increases the survival rate of mice bearing the classic L1210 leukemia. We have previously reported that vitamin C (L-ascorbic) and B_{12} administered separately at the same dosage as the mixed preparation to tumor bearing mice had no apparent effect on mitoses of Ehrlich ascites



FIGURE 2. Packed cell volume of the L1210 i.p. exudate taken from a treated DBA/2 (TEST) and control (CON) mouse after five treatments with DHA- B_{12} .

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FIGURE 3. Survival of mice bearing leukemia L1210 after treatment with a mixture of hydroxycobalamin and ascorbic acid. Dosages and conditions were exactly the same as shown in the experiment in Figure 1. Sixty mice (30 treated and 30 control) were sampled.

tumor.⁶ We have also demonstrated the effect of dehydroascorbic acid alone on mitoses in two murine ascites tumors (Ehrlich and P388 leukemia) and the stained ascitic fluid revealed no mitotic figures.8 The mechanism by which the mixture of hydroxycobalamin and dehydroascorbic acid seems to act selectively on tumor cells and inhibits mitoses has not yet been resolved, nor the reason for the apparent potentiating effect of B12 on vitamin C derivates.^{6,7} Work done by others in the past has shown that high doses of B_{12} alone caused a decrease in the growth of certain transplanted mouse tumors and the results exhibited a selective action of vitamin B_{12} for the specific tumor studied.9 Several possible mechanisms may explain the suppressive effect of ascorbic acid derivatives on tumor cells.^{5,10-13} It has been suggested that glutathione may be involved in the modulation of mitosis by ascorbic acid derivatives.^{11,13} It has also been known for some time that the level of cAMP is increased by L-ascorbic acid; therefore cell division may indirectly be suppressed by a mixture of vitamin C derivatives and B_{12} .¹² Mitotic inhibition may also be mediated by a membrane redox phenomenon, an antioxidant effect produced by dehydroascorbic acid,¹⁰ an oxidation of SH groups of nucleic acid DNA polymerase,⁵ or even a combination of two or more of these mechanisms. Although the mechanism of action that halts cell division of neoplastic cells is still controversial and a direct toxic effect can not be ruled out, a mixture of dehydroascorbic acid and hydroxycobalamin, given in sustained doses, is highly cytotoxic for L1210 cells, nontoxic for L929 non-neoplastic cells, and can reach a cure rate of at least 50% of the animals transplanted with this resistant leukemia. At the present time, a phase I–II human study using this kind of DHA-B₁₂ combinations is in progress.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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Teva – Fresenius Exhibit 1002-00166

Intrathecal Methotrexate–Induced Megaloblastic Anemia in Patients With Acute Leukemia

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• Objective.—To evaluate the occurrence of megaloblastic anemia induced by the infusion of therapeutic or prophylactic methotrexate in patients with acute leukemia.

Design.—Data on 3 patients with acute leukemia receiving intrathecal methotrexate were prospectively analyzed.

Setting.—Large tertiary-care center.

Results.—All 3 patients with acute leukemia developed megaloblastic anemia confirmed by examination of the bone marrow aspirate and biopsy. Two of the 3 patients had low folic acid levels, while all patients had normal serum B_{12} levels. All patients responded favorably to a therapeutic trial of folic acid. The median time for recovery of the hematologic parameters in these patients was 7 days.

B y binding critical enzymes, folate acts as a cofactor and functions to receive a single-carbon fragment from selected enzymatic reactions and transfer this carbon unit to other molecules important for de novo synthesis of purines and pyrimidines, precursors of DNA.¹ To form an active compound, folate must be reduced to tetrahydrofolate (FH₄). The enzyme dihydrofolate reductase, a critical enzyme in intracellular methylation reactions, catalyzes the reduction of folic acid to dihydrofolate and FH₄.^{1,2}

Methotrexate (MTX), an inhibitor of dihydrofolate reductase, is often used in the treatment of hematologic malignancies, as well as for prophylaxis and treatment of the central nervous system in patients with acute leukemia or lymphoma. When used intravenously or orally, MTX can cause depletion of intracellular tetrahydrofolate, leading to megaloblastic anemia.

In MTX-treated cells, inhibition of dihydrofolate reductase results in the entrapment of folate as inactive dihydrofolate with subsequent suppression of thymidylate synthesis, leading to a reduction in the rate of DNA synthesis.^{3,4} The slowing of DNA synthesis in combination with normal cytoplasmic RNA synthesis leads, over several cell divisions, to asynchrony between the rates of cytoplasmic and nuclear maturation. This unbalanced growth affects all proliferating cells, but is most easily ob-

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Conclusions.—Intrathecally administered methotrexate may result in megaloblastic changes in the bone marrow of leukemic patients. The morphologic clues suggestive of folate deficiency in patients with acute leukemia may be masked by coexisting factors, such as the effects of cytotoxic treatment, prior transfusions, or persistent changes from the leukemic clone itself. Caution should be exercised to avoid attributing these changes to the neoplastic process, since the prognosis and treatment for the conditions involved are totally different. Repeat examination of the bone marrow, obtaining folic acid and vitamin B_{12} levels, and a therapeutic trial of folic acid may help identify and reverse these changes.

(Arch Pathol Lab Med. 1999;123:774-777)

served in bone marrow cells, which morphologically appear to be megaloblastic.

REPORT OF CASES

The following is a critical description of the courses of 3 patients with acute leukemia and megaloblastic anemia. The Table provides a detailed laboratory analysis of each case before and after folic acid supplementation and lists each patient's MTX, folic acid, and vitamin B_{12} level at the time megaloblastic anemia was diagnosed.

Case 1

A 64-year-old woman with acute myelomonocytic leukemia (French-American-British grade M4), presented 2 months after the end of her consolidation treatment with headache, confusion, and increasing fatigue. Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) cytology revealed numerous blasts consistent with leukemic involvement. Bone marrow aspirate and biopsy revealed no evidence of leukemia. Methotrexate at a dose of 15 mg was administered intrathecally via lumbar puncture and then through ventricular reservoir for 2 additional doses. Repeat CSF analysis showed normal protein and glucose levels and no blasts. Two weeks later, the patient presented with increasing fatigue and mild chest discomfort. Laboratory analysis at the time demonstrated an absolute neutrophil count of 310/ μ L; platelets, 14 × 10^o/L; hemoglobin, 88 g/L; and mean cell volume, 95.5 fL. Review of the blood film revealed nuclear hypersegmentation of neutrophils, as depicted in Figure 1. Repeat examination of the bone marrow aspirate and biopsy showed megaloblastic erythroid hyperplasia and large metamyelocytes (Figure 2). The patient's lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) level was 296 U/L (normal, 122–240 U/L). After obtaining folic acid and vitamin B₁₂ levels, the patient was given a therapeutic trial of 5 mg folic acid daily; white blood cell and platelet counts recovered on day 7, and LDH levels normalized by day 21.

Case 2

A 20-year-old woman with acute lymphoblastic leukemia underwent induction treatment with L-asparaginase, doxorubicin,

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Reprints not available from the author.

	Characteristics and Laboratory Results of 3 Patients With Acute Leukemia and Megaloblastic Anemia Before and 2					
Weeks After Replacement With Folic Acid*						

		Before Replacement												
									Folates.		- After Replacement			
Patient No.	Diagnosis	Hb, g/L	MCV, fL	ANC, /μL	Platelets, × 10%/L	B ₁₂ , pmol/L	Serum/RBC, nmol/L	MTX, μmol/L	Hb, g/L	мсv, fL	ANC, /μL	Platelets, ×10º/L		
1	AML	88	96	310	14	494	13.8/543 8	< 0.05	98	85	3200	130		
2	ALL	74	112	1210	19	472	2.2/244 7	< 0.05	90	92	3900	122		
3	ALL	79	103	940	22	542	2.7/233.3	< 0.05	88	89	3600	127		

^{*} AML indicates acute myeloid leukemia, ALL, acute lymphoid leukemia; Hb, hemoglobin; MCV, mean cell volume; ANC, absolute neutrophil count; RBC, red blood cell; and MTX, methotrexate Normal values: Hb, 120–160 g/L, MCV, 80–100 fL; ANC, 2500–4500 neutrophils/ μL; platelets, ×10⁹/L; serum folate, 11–57 nmol/L; RBC folate, 376–1450 nmol/L; serum B₁₂, 247–911 pmol/L; and MTX, lower limit of detection, 0.05 μmol/L.



Figure 1. Peripheral blood, 2 weeks after central nervous system relapse. The red blood cell mean cell volume is increased from 88 fL pretreatment with methotrexate to 96 fL (normal, 80–100 fL). Note the large 6-lobed neutrophil and profound thrombocytopenia (Wright-Giemsa, original magnification \times 630).

vincristine, prednisone, cytosine-arabinoside, and cyclophosphamide. Bone marrow aspirate and biopsy following treatment showed no evidence of leukemia. Two weeks later, consolidation treatment with vincristine and doxorubicin was started, and prophylactic intrathecal MTX was administered at a dose of 12 mg via lumbar puncture twice weekly. Repeat complete blood counts following the third dose of MTX showed an absolute neutrophil count of 1210/ μ L; platelets, 19 × 10°/L; hemoglobin, 74 g/L; and mean cell volume, 112 fL. Few ovalocytes and anisopoikilocytosis were present in the peripheral blood smear. This degree of pancytopenia was disproportionate to what was expected from this particular chemotherapy regimen. Therefore, we examined the bone marrow aspirate and biopsy, which revealed megaloblastic erythroid hyperplasia and giant metamyelocytes. The patient's LDH level at this presentation was 310 U/L. After obtaining folic acid and vitamin B_{12} levels, a therapeutic trial of 2-mg daily doses of folic acid was started. No complete blood count was available on this patient on day 7; however, repeat laboratory analysis showed improvement in both the hematologic parameters and LDH by day 14 of folic acid replacement.

Case 3

The patient, a 29-year-old man with acute lymphoblastic leukemia in remission, verified by bone marrow examination, was started on prophylactic administration of MTX at a dose of 12 mg through ventricular reservoir. Following the third dose, the patient presented with increasing fatigue and shortness of breath. Laboratory findings at the time of presentation showed the pa-

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Figure 2. Marrow aspirate at the time of central nervous system relapse. Erythroid hyperplasia with megaloblastic changes is evident. Note the large megaloblasts and metamyelocytes, as well as nuclear-cytoplasmic dysynchrony. At this time, the myeloid-erythroid ratio was 1:2 and myeloblasts were 4% of the nucleated cells (Wright-Giemsa, original magnification \times 630)

tient's absolute neutrophil count to be 940/ μ L; platelets, 22 × 10°/ L; hemoglobin, 79 g/L; and mean cell volume, 103 fL. Mild anisocytosis, poikilocytosis, and few tear drops were evident in the blood film. Examination of the bone marrow aspirate and biopsy showed megaloblastic erythroid hyperplasia. The patient's LDH level was 276 U/L. After obtaining folic acid and B₁₂ levels, a daily replacement with 2 mg folic acid was administered, resulting in improvement of the blood counts by day 7 and normalization of LDH by day 14.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Folate and Vitamin B₁₂

Folate and vitamin B_{12} were measured on a Technicon Immuno 1 (Technicon, Tarrytown, NY) system using competitive magnetic separation immunoassays. Folate and vitamin B_{12} were first released from serum binders with a pretreatment. The released vitamins were reacted with a binding protein reagent (folate binding protein and intrinsic factor for folate and vitamin B₁₂, respectively) and incubated at 37°C. Folate or B12 conjugated to an alkaline phosphatase enzyme was then added to compete with the sample for the binding protein. A monoclonal immunomagnetic particle was incubated with the reagents, washed, and paranitrophenyl phosphate substrate was added. Absorbance at 405 nm due to the formation of paranitrophenoxide is inversely proportional to the amount of vitamin in the sample. The folate assay is linear from 0.7 to 34 nmol/L (0.3-15 ng/mL), with a normal range of 5.9 to 39.2 nmol/L (2.6-17.3 ng/mL) for serum folate and 362.6 to 1602.1 nmol/L (160-707 ng/mL) for red blood cell folate; the vitamin B_{12} assay is linear from 19 to 1106 pmol/L

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(26–1500 pg/mL), with a normal range of 182 to 672 pmol/L (247–911 pg/mL). These tests were performed after examining the bone marrow aspirate and biopsy, and before replacement with folic acid.

Methotrexate

Methotrexate was measured on a TDX analyzer (Abbott Laboratories USA, Abbott Park, III) using a fluorescence polarization immunoassay. This technique adds a pretreatment reagent to free any bound analyte from serum proteins. A specific monoclonal antibody is added together with a tracer-labeled MTX that competes for the antibody with the MTX in the sample. The intensity of the fluorescent signal varies inversely with the amount of MTX in the sample. The assay range is 0 to 1000 μ mol/L with a lower limit of detection of 0.05 μ mol/L. Methotrexate concentrations were measured 48 to 72 hours after treatment.

Bone Marrow Preparation

Bone marrow biopsies were fixed for 2 hours in 10% buffered formalin, decalcified for 30 minutes in Baxter Decal, and processed routinely for surgical pathology. Biopsies were evaluated for cellularity; cellular composition, including the presence or absence of clusters of leukemic blasts; and the overall adequacy of megakaryocytes. Aspirate particle smears and biopsy touch preparations were stained with Wright-Giemsa stain and were examined to determine the myeloid-erythroid ratio, evaluate trilineage hematopoiesis, and evaluate the presence or absence of leukemic blasts. Storage iron was evaluated with Prussian blue stain. Special stains for myeloperoxidase, chloroacetate esterase,

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Teva – Fresenius Exhibit 1002-00169 and α -naphthyl butyrate esterase and immunophenotyping by flow cytometry were performed as needed to determine leukemic lineage.

Follow-up Studies

Follow-up complete blood count and LDH values were performed on a weekly basis after the administration of folic acid supplements until normalization of these parameters and then as dictated by each patient's treatment plan. Laboratory data at 1 week posttreatment were not available for patient 2, owing to noncompliance with our instructions.

RESULTS

Intrathecally administered MTX resulted in megaloblastic anemia in 3 patients with acute leukemia. None of these patients had morphologic evidence of relapsed leukemia in their bone marrow biopsies at the time of assessment.

Serum folate levels were below normal in patients 2 and 3, but were normal in patient 1. Serum B_{12} levels were normal in all patients. Methotrexate concentrations were below detectable limits in all patients. Replacement with folic acid led to improvement of the hematologic parameters and LDH in all patients. None of the patients had evidence of systemic toxicity or end-organ damage at the time of administration.

COMMENT

Methotrexate is an antineoplastic agent used in the treatment of several malignancies. Through its tight binding of dihydrofolate reductase, MTX inhibits the production of tetrahydrofolates necessary for tumor cell growth. Methotrexate exhibits activity in leukemia and lymphoma, two malignancies with a propensity for sequestration in the central nervous system.

Owing to its low lipid solubility, diffusion of MTX into the CSF in concentrations necessary for tumor cell kill (usually 1 µmol/L) are not achievable at "conventional" doses in the range of 30 to 100 mg/m² (CSF-plasma ratio, 0.03). This obstacle may be overcome by (1) administering the agent in higher doses (eg, ≥ 1 g/m²) or (2) direct administration into the CSF. The expected corollary is that intrathecally administered MTX can slowly diffuse from the CSF into the systemic circulation, yielding prolonged elevated plasma levels and potential toxicities.⁵

Elimination from the central nervous system is primarily by bulk resorption of CSF Jacobs and colleagues⁶ compared the pharmacokinetics of orally, intravenously, and intrathecally administered MTX in 2 patients with acute lymphocytic leukemia. Their results suggest that MTX given intrathecally slowly diffuses into the plasma, leading to concentrations greater than 10^{-8} mol/L for twice as long as expected for the same dose given orally or intravenously. A patient with high-grade lymphoma and central nervous system involvement who developed tumor lysis after 1 dose of intrathecal MTX has also been described.⁷

In this short series, 3 patients received intrathecal MTX and subsequently developed megaloblastic bone marrow changes and peripheral cytopenias that recovered following replacement with folic acid. The course of improvement of both the peripheral counts (average, 7 days) and LDH (average, 14 days) corresponds well with the reversion of the effects of folic acid deficiency following replacement. All the patients had serum MTX levels below the limits of detection, suggesting that there was no laboratory evidence of systemic toxicity. In support of this finding is the absence of clinical symptoms or signs related to MTX toxicity, such as nausea, vomiting, and mucositis.

As was noted, patient 1 had normal folic acid and vitamin B_{12} values. However, examination of the bone marrow and peripheral blood smear in this patient demonstrated findings consistent with megaloblastic anemia, including the multilobated neutrophils depicted in Figure 1. In addition, the patient had a well-documented response to a therapeutic trial of folic acid.

It is important to realize that none of the patients had renal insufficiency or third space fluid collection, factors that may prolong the exposure to MTX and lead to systemic toxicity. Also, none of the patients at the time of their evaluation was receiving other medications that might have induced folic acid deficiency.

It appears that intrathecally administered MTX may have resulted in megaloblastic bone marrow changes by a diffusion mechanism from the central nervous system to the systemic circulation in amounts not sufficient to cause systemic toxicity. An alternative explanation is that our 3 previously treated patients had borderline low folic acid levels, and that even a small leakage of MTX to the systemic circulation led to megaloblastic anemia.

Also noteworthy were the extreme neutropenia and thrombocytopenia observed in the 3 patients, as well as the lack of the typical hypercellular marrow characteristic of nutritional megaloblastic anemia.⁸ These findings may be explained by prior exposure to systemic chemotherapy and the persistence of a subclinical leukemic clone.

It is crucial not to assume automatically that pancytopenia in the peripheral blood or megaloblastic erythropoiesis in the bone marrow of patients receiving intrathecal MTX is due to relapsed leukemia, since these findings may also be due to MTX administration and may respond favorably to folic acid therapy.

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The Inhibition and Promotion of Cancers by Folic Acid, Vitamin B₁₂, and Their Antagonists

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For the past two years, our group has been collaborating with that of Dr. Ludwik Gross in the area of these studies, attempting to "switch off" the oncogene for guinea pig leukemia/lymphoma (1). The concept involved is that DNA methylation, and specifically methylation of cytosine in higher eukaryotes can directly suppress gene expression. This concept has been elaborated in several reviews, of which the most recent is by Eick et al. (2) in Analytical Biochemistry 135:165-171, 1983. The first dramatic presentation of possible clinical value of being able to demethylate a gene was the study by Heller and his associates in Chicago suggesting that they could "switch on" the fetal hemoglobin gene using 5-azacytidine, presumably by hypomethylating the fetal globin gene. They collaborated with Ley et al. in a study strongly suggesting that they could, in fact, switch on fetal hemoglobin synthesis with 5-azacytidine (3). This was confirmed by Charache and Dover and their associates at Johns Hopkins University (4) but Nathan and Lethvin and their associates showed that two other S-phase specific cytotoxic agents, hydroxyurea and cytosine arabinoside, could also increase fetal hemoglobin synthesis, Stanatiannopoulos and Poppianopoulou found that cytosine arabinoside can produce identical response in baboons to 5-azacytidine, and Nathan was quoted as concluding that the three drugs "probably act in the same way. Methylation has nothing to do with it" (5).

However, W. French Anderson and his associates were able to show directly in the cell culture system that 5-azacytidine does in fact selectively hypomethylate fetal globin genes, but that other genes, including an oncogene, are remethylated shortly after losing their methyl groups. These superficially divergent results can be reconciled by the concept that hypomethylation causes the persistent hemoglobin, whereas other mechanisms produce the <u>acute</u> increased production of fetal hemoglobin which occurs after 5-azacytidine (or hydroxyurea or cytosine arabinoside ($\underline{5}$).

Similarly, different acute and persistent effects may explain

0097-6156/85/0277-0031\$06.00/0 © 1985 American Chemical Society why the same antifolate, methotrexate, which can shut down a lympho-proliferative malignancy, may result years later in the development of a second malignancy (1). One can speculate that an acute toxic effect kills the tumor but that the same methotrexate which acutely toxically kills the tumor, in a long period of time will result in demethylation of an oncogene, which can then be expressed as second malignancy.

Other evidence that demethylation can cause the expression of malignancies comes from studies by Feinberg and Vogelstein at Johns Hopkins (6) at the Institute Pasteur by Bourgeois and her associates, who found that glucocorticoids can cause expression of murine mammary tumor virus (MMTV) by glucocorticoid-induced methylation of long-terminal repeat sequences (7). Similarly, Proirier and his associates published a number of studies delineating the ability of methyl-deficient, amino acid-defined diets to produce liver tumors in rats treated both with and without initiating doses of diethylnitrosamine (8, 9). Their studies indicate that diethylmethyl deficiency markedly promotes liver carcinogenesis and exhibits complete carcinogenetic activity in this organ in the rat. Rogers and Newberne had shown that dietary methyl deficiency enhances the activities of a number of hepatocarcinogens, and Shinizuka and Lombardi have found that choline deficiency enhanced the hepatocarcinogenic activities of several agents.

The concept that deficiency of folate or vitamin B-12, or any other cause of failure to methylate DNA and/or RNA can activate malignancy by hypomethylation or oncogenes, and that methylating oncogenes can inhibit malignancy by making them dormant, is similar to the concept of "relaxed control" of RNA synthesis. In the '50s, Mendel and Borek (10) had noted that when an organism autotrophic from methionine is deprived of methionine, it loses its ability to suppress synthesis of RNA, which is then synthesized more rapidly. It was speculated that deficiency of B-12 or folate could produce similar "relaxed control". It is possible that some forms of vitamin B-12 and of folic acid may act as inhibitors of methylation and other forms as promoters of methylation of RNA and DNA (1). Reduced forms of folic acid are metabolically active; oxidized forms may be antimetabolites (1). Hydroxocobalamin is metabolically

active; cyanocobalamin can be a B-12 antimetabolite (1). Leuchtenberger et al. had reported that inositol inhibited animal tumor growth but various B vitamins did not (11, 12). This requires reinvestigation to determine whether inositol can methylate

oncogenes. Oxidized folate monoglutamate, which is not a metabolically active form of the vitamin, not only did not inhibit spontaneous breast cancer in mice but actually produced a more rapid growth of the primary tumors and a significant increase in lung metastases. This work requires repeating today, particularly from the point of view of whether metabolically

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inactive folate, that is, oxidized folate, can promote tumor development but metabolically active folate, particularly the very active triglutamates, can promote methylation of oncogenes and thereby inhibit their expression.

For many years, a number of workers have been exploring the question of whether one form of a vitamin can be a growth promoter by acting as a coenzyme (i.e., a promoter of normal and tumor cell

growth) while another form of the same vitamin can attach to the same apoenzyme or other ligand (such as a vitamin transporting protein) and then jam the machinery, just as a key with a tooth missing can fit into a lock and then not turn. The answer to that question is clearly yes. Slight to major differences in the same vitamin structure (i.e., analogues and congeners) both exist in nature and are synthesizable; some of them are antagonists or anti-vitamins which can be created from vitamins by only slightly warping their structure $(\underline{1})$.

Farber et al. (13) reported from Harvard giving pteroyltriglutamic acid (teropterin) and pteroyldiglutamic acid (diopterin), both synthesized by U. SubbaRow and his associates at Lederle Laboratories, to 90 patients with various malignancies, noting that "in general, adult patients experienced improvement in energy, appetite, sense of well being...might be ascribed to improved morale resulting from frequent visits, more medical attention..." They also reported inconstant temporary decreases in size of metastases in some tumors and degeneration and necrosis in others.

The apocryphal story is that Dr. Farber was also giving folic acid (the oxidized, stable pharmaceutical form of the vitamin) to children with lymphoproliferative malignancies (lymphocytic leukemia and lymphoma) until one of his residents collected sufficient data to suggest that the children receiving this new vitamin were dying faster than those children not receiving it. This observation allegedly led Dr. Farber to ask the Lederle people to create a warped folic acid molecule which would interfere with folate metabolism in the malignant cells, and this was done by adding an NH2 group, thereby creating aminopterin. A second alteration, metyhylation in the 10-position, created methotrexate, still one of our most potent anti-cancer agents, particularly effective against childhood lymphoproliferative disorders and trophoblastic malignancies.

There is considerable evidence that rapidly growing neoplastic tissue consumes folate at so rapid a rate that folate deficiency megaloblastosis can occur in the host cells $(\underline{14}, \underline{15})$. There is also evidence that vitamin B-12 deficiency may slow tumor growth, whether that deficiency results from inadequate absorption or elevated levels in serum of a vitamin B-12 binder which does not deliver the vitamin to tumor tissue $(\underline{16})$, but will deliver it to the liver in a calcium-dependent fashion $(\underline{14}, \underline{17-20})$. Interestingly, granulocytes and liver are a major source of serum binding proteins for both bitamin B-l2 and folic acid (21), and malignancies of granulocytes and liver may partly control themselves by releasing into the serum large amounts of binders for vitamin B-l2 and folic acid which bind those vitamins and thereby prevent delivery to, and nourishment of, the tumor.

Oxidized folate is not only metabolically dead buyt may even be neurotoxic. For example, a patient with epilepsy who has not had a convulsion in years because dilantin has produced complete control, can be thrown into an immediate convulsion with a megadose of folic acid, because folic acid and dilantin compete for absorption at the brain cell surface, and too much oxidized folic acid will block the ability of the brain cell to take up dilantin, similar to the competition between dilantin and folic acid for uptake by the gutcell (22).

There appear to be one-way transport systems to remove oxidized folates from the nervous system (22, 23) and to remove vitamin B-12 analogues from the body via the bile (24). Some of the B-12 analogues present in multivitamin/mineral preparations may block mammalian cell metabolism (25) and since they block normal cell metabolism, possibly may block malignant cell metabolism. For a number of years, Russian workers have been feeding analogues of vitamin B-12 to normal and malignant cells and showing that these analogues will knock out B-12 metabolism (25a).

Do the B-12 analogues (which have now been found in human serum, liver, bile red cells, and brain) (26) play any role in the promotion or inhibition of carcinogenesis in humans? Levels of analogue in serum are elevated in some malignancies (1). Levels of methylated bases in urine are elevated in some hematologic melignancies (1). In the same hematological malignancies in which methylated bases are elevated in the urine, B-12 analogue is elevated in the blood serum (1). We have recently found enormous quantities of analogues in human stool, and have been studying whether the analogue in human colon bacteria is the source of the analogue in human tissues (27). In preliminary studies, we found two large analogue peaks in human bile and two similar large analogue peaks in human stool. We are now attempting to find out whether these peaks are the same analogue (27). If they are, then the analogue in bile would have come from the analogue in stool, because the quantity of analogue present in food is tiny compared to the quantity present in human stool.

Working with Dr. Ludwik Gross in our first attempts to methylate oncogenes, we gave 5-methylcytidine (5mC) to guinea pigs in whom was transplanted guinea pig leukemia/lymphoma (1). The experiments over a six-month period were unsuccessful in showing any dramatic inhibition, although there was a non-statistically significant inhibition. We subsequently began giving 5-iodocytidine (5IC) to these guinea pigs, having switched from 5MC because of the evidence that the methyl group is taken

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off on passage through the liver, resulting in cytidine alone being incorporated into the DNA and RNA of the oncogene. We though that perhaps iodine would not be removed from the cytidine as easily, and iodocytidine would be incorporated intact into RNA, with the iodine perceived by the cell as if it were a methyl group, as is true for iododeoxyuridine being perceived by cells as if it were methyldeoxyuridine (i.e., thymidine) (1). These studies are not yet completed; preliminary results have been equivocal but teasing.

Evidence that methylation can suppress normal and malignant gene expression, and demethylation can bring about expression, continues to build (28-30), although expression is not always related to state of methylation (31, 32).

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VITAMIN B 12 AS A POSSIBLE ADJUNCT IN PREVENTION OF METHOTREXATE HEPATOTOXICITY

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Abstract

It has been established by several investigators that hepatic betaine levels reflect whether or not a lipotrope deficiency state exists in the experimental animal.

Since methotrexate through its antagonism of folate metabolism in the organism may in turn interfere with one carbon metabolism, the possibility exists that methotrexate hepatotoxicity may be due to a drug-imposed lipotrope deficiency.

Several studies are reviewed in which the effects of methotrexate administration on levels of hepatic betaine were measured in rats. It was observed that animals receiving dietary vitamin B_{12} were protected against a methotrexate-induced lowering of hepatic betaine. The livers of those animals on a vitamin B_{12} deficient diet, however, showed a marked reduction in this important methylating agent when administered methotrexate. Since betaine is a reflection of lipotrope deficiency, the use of vitamin B_{12} as a means of protecting against methotrexate hepatotoxicity is considered.

It is well known that methotrexate (MTX), a folate antagonist used in cancer chemotherapy and psoriasis, inhibits the enzyme dihydrofolate reductase. This inhibition reduces the amount of tetrahydrofolate coenzymes (1) available for purine synthesis, and in turn, reduces nucleic acid formation in the body hence restricting rapidly growing tissue. A common practice in treating neoplastic disease has been to administer citrovorum-factor along with the MTX in order to "rescue" the normal cells from the deleterious effects of inhibited folate metabolism. Since tumor cells are more vulnerable than normal cells to the lack of nucleic acid synthesis, the citrovorum factor furnishes needed folate coenzymes and helps rescue normal cells in the wake of the methotrexate effects.

If the tetrahydrofolate coenzyme pool of the body is depleted by the action of MTX, it is entirely feasible that this may impair certain vital methyl transfer reactions in the liver. For example, this may inhibit the N5 -methyltetrahydrofolate-homocysteine methyltransferase involved in the

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formation of lipotropic substances such as methionine, S-adenosylmethionine (SAM) and choline. Since these substances are the major lipotropic compounds in the body, a serious deficiency could lead to fatty metamorphosis in the liver and the liver damage seen with the use of MTX.

Several workers have attempted to approach this question by conducting "protective" experiments with choline and other lipotropes when administering MTX to humans and animals. Weinstein and Frei (2) have suggested that concomitant administration of choline with methotrexate may prevent MTX-related hepatotoxicity in humans. Freeman-Narrod et al. (3) administered MTX alone and in combination with varying amounts of choline to rats. The rats receiving the combined treatment showed significantly lower levels of triglyceride in their livers than did those given MTX alone and the protective effect of the choline on the liver appeared to be dose related.

A past study in this laboratory (4), using the rat as the experimental model, has lent support to the findings of the above authors. This work tested the effect of MTX on hepatic fatty infiltration (a measure of liver injury) in rats fed a lipotrope-deficient diet and the effect of MTX on similarly fed animals when the diet was individually supplemented with the lipotropes methionine and choline. It was found that triglyceride and cholesterol esters were elevated in the rats fed the basal diet and that this accumulation was potentiated in animals receiving MTX. In animals whose diets were supplemented with choline or methionine, however, the drug did not affect the hepatic levels of triglyceride and cholesterol esters. These results indicated that MTX may interfere with the formation of choline and methionine but does not interfere with the lipotropic action of preformed choline and methionine. Since choline and methionine are products of one-carbon metabolism beyond the involvment of MTX with folate, these results support the case for supplementation with lipotropic agents during MTX administration.

Both choline and methionine are lipotropic substances by virtue of their contribution to phosphatidylcholine synthesis which is involved in proper cellular membrane function and structure (5). Methionine makes its contribution in this respect by its conversion to SAM which plays a vital role phospholipid produce sequential methylation in to essential phosphatidylcholine. The contribution of choline takes place in two different ways. One, through conversion to phosphatidylcholine in the Kennedy pathway (6) and secondly, via the oxidative pathway for choline which forms betaine. Betaine is then utilized by betaine-homocysteine methyltransferase to methylate homocysteine in an alternate pathway to form methionine and hence SAM.

According to Finkelstein and Martin (7), the reaction mediated by N⁵-methyltetrahydrofolate-homocysteine methyltransferase and the reaction utilizing betaine through the medium of betaine-homocysteine methyltransferase are of equal importance in methionine synthesis and in promoting methylation in the liver. Once thought to fulfill a very minor function in the organism, betaine is now felt to play a very active and important role as a methylating substance and therapeutic agent (8,9). Some workers feel that the hepatic betaine level is a good index of a choline deficiency in the liver. Wong and Thompson (10), Barak and Tuma (11), and Martin and Finkelstein (12) have all shown a marked reduction in hepatic betaine levels in animals fed diets deficient in choline.

Since it was felt that hepatic betaine levels reflected the choline deficiency state of the animal, several studies (13-15) were conducted in this laboratory to determine the effect of MTX administration on hepatic betaine

levels in the rat. In this work, rats were divided into pairs and pair-fed with each of three different kinds of widely used control diets. These were the control diet of Iseri et al. (16), the control diet of French (17) and Purina rat chow, respectively. The experimental animals in each pair were injected daily and intraperitoneally with 0.1mg MTX/kgm body weight. Control animals were injected daily with saline. Rats fed the Iseri control diet showed no changes in hepatic betaine when treated with MTX for 10 days. Rats fed the Purina rat chow showed no changes in liver betaine in 30 days on the drug. However, rats fed the French control diet demonstrated a highly significant lowering of betaine in their livers with MTX treatment for 10 days.

The results summarized above posed the strong question of why MTX should produce a choline (betaine) deficiency state (10-12) when rats were fed the French control diet but not when fed the Iseri control diet or the Purina rat chow in the times described. On close study, it was determined that the major difference between the three diets used, other than the fat, was the vitamin B_{12} content. The French control diet, either as originally described or as supplied commercially, is devoid of vitamin B_{12} .

To determine whether the absence of dietary vitamin B_{12} was responsible for the lowering of hepatic betaine in the livers of rats receiving MTX, a further study (18) was conducted in this laboratory. Rats were divided into pairs. One group of paired rats was fed on the French choline deficient diet to which had been added choline at the level of 0.4 g per 100g of diet and vitamin B_{12} at the level of 2.2 µg per 100g of diet. A second group of paired rats was fed the same diet from which the B_{12} had been eliminated. Control animals of each pair in both groups were pair-fed to the consumption of the experimental animals in each group which were treated with MTX for 10 days. On sacrifice, it was shown that hepatic betaine was not reduced by the MTX in animals receiving the dietary B_{12} , however, the hepatic betaine was markedly lowered in those animals receiving MTX with no B_{12} .

At present the reason for the sparing effect of vitamin B_{12} for hepatic betaine is not clear. One would expect that hepatic betaine would be depleted by MTX even when dietary B_{12} is furnished. This should occur through the inhibition of the folate contribution to methionine biosynthesis with the pool size of betaine becoming lowered through the action of betaine-homocysteine methyltransferase as a compensatory mechanism to maintain essential methionine. This did not happen, however, and only with the lack of B_{12} , a coenzyme for N-methyltetrahydrofolate-homocysteine methyltransferase, was the betaine depleted.

It is feasible that the dietary presence of B_{12} may maintain or stimulate the action of N-methyltetrahydrofolate-homocysteline methyltransferase in the face of the MTX to preserve hepatic betaine or act in some unknown manner to increase betaine production through choline oxidase. Whatever the function of the B_{12} , the fact that this vitamin prevented a condition of hypomethylation from occurring in the experimental animal may prove to have practical application in the prevention of liver injury during MTX chemotherapy in humans.

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	(54) Title: RECEPTOR MODULATING AGENTS AND	METH	DDS RELATING THERETO
	(57) Abstract		CONH2 CONH-
	Receptor modulating agents capable of modulating ce by affecting the cell surface receptor trafficking pathwa modulating agents are comprised of a covalently bound ren targeting molety.	ll surfac ay. Th outing 1	e receptors e receptor noiety and H_2NOC CH_3 CH_3 CH_3 CH_3 CH_3 CH_3 CH_3 CH_3 CH_3 CH
			$H_2 NOC$ D N C CH_3 CH_3 CH_3
			CH ₃ ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
۱.			G O HOCH2
۰ ۱			$R_1 = CN$; $R_2 = NH_2$ (Cyanocobalamin)
•			R ₁ = CN ; R ₂ = OH (Cyanocobalamin -(3)-free acid) R ₁ = CN ; R ₂ = HN-CH ₂ -CH ₂ -CH ₂ -CO ₂ H (GABA adduct)
			R ₁ = CN ; R ₂ = GABA - Peptide (where GABA = linker) R ₁ = CN ; R ₂ = Peptide
			$R_1 = CN$; $R_2 = HN$ -(linker)-tyramine-1251
			$x_1 = Cx$; $x_2 = Hx - (Inker)-tysosomotropic agentR_1 = Cx; R_2 = Hx - (Inker)-X - Inking agent$
			$R_1 = CN; R_2 = HN-(linker)-biotin$ $R_1 = CN; R_2 = NH-(CH_2)_2NH_2$
	,		× + 1

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Description

RECEPTOR MODULATING AGENTS AND METHODS RELATING THERETO

Technical Field

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The present invention is generally directed to receptor modulating agents which modulate cell surface receptors and, more specifically, to receptor modulating agents which bind to cell surface receptors and affect the receptor trafficking pathway and methods related thereto.

Background of the Invention

Cell surface receptors constitute a class of proteins which are responsible for receptor-mediated endocytosis of specific ligands. Basically, the receptors serve as escorts for ligand delivery to intracellular destinations.

Ligand delivery is generally achieved through coated regions on the plasma membrane called "coated pits." These pits continually invaginate and pinch off, forming "coated vesicles" in the cytoplasm. Coated pits and vesicles provide a pathway for receptor mediated endocytosis of specific ligands. The ligands that bind to specific cell surface receptors are internalized via coated pits, enabling cells to ingest large

- 20 cell surface receptors are internalized via coated pits, enabling cells to ingest large numbers of specific ligands without taking in correspondingly large volume of extracellular fluid. The internalized coated vesicles may or may not lose their coats and bind with other vesicles to form larger vesicles called "endosomes." In the endosome the ligand and the receptor are separated or "sorted." Endosomes which sort ligands
- 25 and receptors are known as "compartment of uncoupling of receptor and ligand" or "CURL."

Endosomes may fuse with primary lysosomes, where their contents are digested, or they may be delivered to other intracellular destinations. The receptor proteins are generally not digested, but are rather recycled to the cell membrane surface through a process called "exocytosis," or transferred to early or late endosomes via

multivesicular bodies. The entire pathway is referred to as the "receptor trafficking pathway."

Some receptors deliver their ligand directly to the cytoplasm or other specific intracellular locations. Perhaps one of the most studied receptor trafficking pathways is that of iron transport. In this pathway, a serum carrier protein, transferrin, binds iron and transports it to transferrin receptors on the plasma membrane surface. .

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After binding and internalization, via coated pits, the resulting vesicle combines first with early endosomes and then with late endosomes. This process results in the gradual drop in pH in the vesicle. The drop in pH causes the transferrin carrier protein to lose its affinity to iron. When this occurs, the iron translocates through the membrane of the vesicle and joins the intracellular pool of enzymes. The transferrin receptor may then recycle to the cell surface where it may repeat the process.

Other receptors may deliver their ligand directly to the lysosomes for digestion. For example, the epidermal growth factor ("EGF") receptor delivers its ligand directly to a lysosome for degradation (Prog. Histochem. Cytochem. 26:39-48,1992). The EGF receptor may recycle to the cell surface depending on its

state of phosphorylation (<u>Cancer Treat. Rep. 61</u>:139-160, 1992; <u>J. Cell. Biol.</u> <u>116</u>:321-330, 1992).

A single receptor may utilize more than one receptor trafficking pathway within the same cell. For example in polarized cells, such as specialized transport 15 epithelia cells, membrane trafficking is distinct between apical and basal sides of the cell (Sem. Cell. Biol, 2:387-396, 1991). Moreover, non-polarized epithelia cells may simultaneously follow two separate sorting pathways.

The control or regulation of cell surface receptors may be achieved by a variety of techniques. Regulation of cell surface receptors may be accomplished, at a very basic level, by the binding of naturally occurring ligands. As discussed above, receptor binding of a ligand will generally trigger the internalization of the ligand-receptor complex. Such internalization may desensitize the cell to further ligand binding. (J. Immunol. 150:3161-9, 1993; Mol. Endocrinol. 6:2090-102, 1992; J. Cell. Physiol. 154:281-8, 1993; Receptor 1:13-32, 1990-91; Biochem. J. 288:55-61, 1992; J.

25 Immunol. <u>148</u>:2709-11, 1992; <u>J. Cell. Physiol.</u> <u>148</u>:24-34, 1991). This type of regulation, however, is transient in nature and does not result in diminution of biologic response.

Regulation of cell surface receptors may also be accomplished by administration of receptor antagonists or agonists. Receptor antagonists are organic protein or peptide ligands generally derived through empirical structure-function studies, or through the use of detailed knowledge of ligand and receptor interaction. Essentially, an antagonist may constitute any molecule with similar binding activity to a natural ligand, but incapable of producing the biological response normally induced by the natural ligand. Thus, the antagonist competitively blocks receptor activity. With a

35 competitive antagonist, the regulation of receptor activity is dependent upon both the antagonist's affinity for the receptor, as well as its extracellular concentration over time.

Receptor agonists are protein or peptide ligands derived in a similar manner as antagonists. Essentially, an agonist may constitute any molecule which binds to the receptor in a manner superior to that of the natural ligand.

One receptor of particular interest is the vitamin B₁₂ receptor. As has been demonstrated in experimental <u>in vitro</u> data, pre-clinical animal models, and patient studies, vitamin B₁₂ is a co-enzyme necessary in cell division, as well as cellular metabolism, in proliferating normal and neoplastic cells. Insufficient vitamin B₁₂ causes cellular division to be held in abeyance and ultimately may result in apoptosis. The nutrient is generally derived from dietary intake and is transported throughout the body complexed to transport proteins. The complex of transport protein and vitamin

- B_{12} is recognized by a cellular receptor which internalizes the complex and releases the vitamin intracellularly. The overall process has been reviewed in <u>GUT 31</u>:59, 1991. Vitamin B_{12} is taken in through the diet. Binding proteins in the saliva (R-binder) and gut (intrinsic factor-(IF)) complex vitamin B_{12} after release from endogenous binding
- 15 proteins by action of enzymes and low pH in the stomach. Vitamin B_{12} is transferred across the intestinal epithelium in a receptor specific fashion to transcobalamin II (TcII). The vitamin B_{12} /transcobalamin II complex is then transported throughout the body and recognized by receptors present on dividing cells, internalized and released within the cell where it is utilized by certain enzymes as a co-factor.
- 20 The high affinity receptor in dividing tissues or cells responsible for internalization of vitamin B_{12} recognizes transcobalamin II complexed with vitamin B_{12} . The vitamin B_{12} /TcII receptor recognizes only the vitamin B_{12} /TcII complex and not the serum transport protein or the vitamin alone. The receptor is undetectable on non-dividing cells; the mechanism for supplying non-dividing cells with vitamin B_{12} is
- 25 poorly understood. However, it is known that more vitamin B_{12} is required during cell division than during metabolism, and that the vitamin B_{12} /TcII receptor is the only high affinity means for cellular uptake of vitamin B_{12} during cell division. When stimulated to divide, cells demonstrate transient expression of this receptor leading to vitamin B_{12} uptake which precedes actual DNA synthesis (J. Lab. Clin. Med. 103:70, 1984).
- 30 Vitamin B_{12} receptor levels may be measured by binding of ⁵⁷Co-vitamin B_{12} complexed to transcobalamin II (present in serum) on replicate cultures grown in chemically defined medium without serum. No receptor mediated uptake occurs in the absence of carrier protein.
- Dividing cells, induced to differentiate, lose receptor expression and no
 longer take up vitamin B₁₂. More importantly, leukemic cells, deprived of vitamin B₁₂,
 will stop dividing and die (<u>Acta Haemat. 81</u>:61, 1989). In a typical experiment,

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leukemic cell cultures were deprived of serum for 3 days, and then supplemented either with serum (a source of vitamin B_{12}) or a non-metabolizable analogue of vitamin B_{12} . and cultured up to five days. Cell cultures supplemented with vitamin B_{12} continued to grow, whereas those deprived of the active nutrient stopped growing and die.

- Based on these observations, it has been suggested that whole body deprivation of vitamin B_{12} may be useful in the treatment of cancer or other disorders characterized by uncontrolled growth of cells. Moreover, because of the critical role played by vitamin B_{12} -containing enzymes in cell division, it is believed that vitamin B_{12} deprivation may be used in combination with chemotherapeutic drugs which inhibit cellular replication. For example, when vitamin B_{12} depletion was combined with
- methotrexate, the two modalities together were more efficient in depleting folate levels in leukemic cells than either alone (FASEB J. 4:1450, 1990; Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 270:729, 1989; Leukemia Research 15:165, 1991). Folates are precursors in the production of DNA and proteins. In typical experiments, cultures of leukemic cells
- 15 were exposed to nitrous oxide for several hours to convert the active form of endogenous vitamin B_{12} to an inactive form. Replicate cultures were then left without further treatment, or additionally treated with methotrexate. Cellular folate levels were measured three days later. Cells treated with the combination (*i.e.*, both methotrexate and inactive vitamin B_{12}) showed a more striking decrease in cellular folate levels than
- 20 with either of the two approaches alone. This combination also results in a higher cell kill in vitro. When this approach was applied to the treatment of highly aggressive leukemia/lymphoma in animal models (Am. J. Haematol. 34:128,1990; Anticancer Res. 6:737, 1986; Cancer Chemother. Pharmacol. 17:114, 1986; Br. J. Cancer 50:793, 1984), additive or synergy of anti-tumor action was observed, resulting in prolonged promissions and super super
- 25 remissions and cures.

A key finding in the experiments described above was that short-term (hours to days), whole body depletion of vitamin B_{12} can act synergistically with chemotherapeutic drugs (such as methotrexate and 5-FU) to inhibit tumor growth and treat animals with leukemia/lymphoma. Despite synergistic anti-tumor activity, there

- 30 was no toxicity attributable to the short-term vitamin B₁₂ depletion for proliferating normal cells. This combination therapy was demonstrated in multiple animal models. Observations in patients have indicated that long-term (months to years) vitamin B₁₂ depletion is required to produce significant normal tissue toxicity. Even in those cases, subsequent infusion of vitamin B₁₂ can readily reverse symptomology (Br. J. Cancer 5.010, 1000)
- 35 <u>5</u>:810, 1989).

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Because of the promise of this therapeutic approach, various methods have been sought to efficiently and controllably perform a temporary depletion of vitamin B_{12} . Such methods, however, affect all of the body's stores of vitamin B_{12} . They include dietary restriction, high doses of vitamin B₁₂ analogues (non-5 metabolizable-competitive antagonists which act as enzyme inhibitors), and nitrous oxide (transformation of vitamin B_{12} to inactivate form). These different methods have been used in culture systems and in animals to deplete vitamin B₁₂. The most efficient and the most utilized method has been the inhalation of nitrous oxide (laughing gas). Animals are maintained typically under an atmosphere of 50% to 70% of nitrous oxide 10 for periods from a few hours to a few days, causing the conversion of endogenous vitamin B_{12} into an inactive form. This methodology has been utilized in combination with drugs for therapy of leukemia/lymphoma. A further method for vitamin B_{12} depletion involves infusion of a non-metabolizable analogue of vitamin B_{12} which essentially dilutes out the active form. This form of therapy is not specific for dividing 15 cells but affects liver dependent metabolic processes. Another approach includes restricting the dietary intake of vitamin B₁₂. This method, however, requires very long periods of dietary restriction and is offset by hepatic storage of vitamin B_{12} . All of these methods suffer from problems of specificity, since they affect both vitamin B_{12} dependent growth as well as basal metabolism, and therefore are not particularly suited 20 to the development of anti-proliferative pharmaceutical products.

In view of the biological importance of cell surface receptors, receptorcontrolling agents have emerged as a class of pharmaceutical drugs. Moreover, with the advent of genetic engineering for the isolation and amplification of genes for cell surface receptors, as well as computer programs to model the interactions between ligands and receptors (*i.e.*, "rational" drug design), the production of receptorcontrolling drugs has been significantly enhanced.

To date, many months or even years of scientific research, as well as significant financial resources, are required to produce new receptor antagonists or agonists. To speed up this process, new screening technologies have been developed

- 30 which utilize peptide or antibody recombinant libraries (see, e.g., Gene 73:305, 1988; Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. (USA) 87:6378, 1990; Biochromatography 5:22, 1990; Protein Engineering 3:641, 1989). While library screening does not require the same degree of knowledge of a specific receptor/ligand system, it does involve an intensive screening effort utilizing functional receptor-specific assays. Moreover, the initial compounds
- 35 identified by such screening programs are generally only precursors to the development of therapeutic products through more typical structure-functional assessments.

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While antagonists and agonists are generally capable of regulating a biological response, the surface receptors which bind such ligands are continually being re-expressed on the cell surface. Thus, effective regulation by antagonists or agonists must rely on a relatively high and sustained serum concentration in order to bind the new surface receptors continually being expressed on the cell surface.

Accordingly, there is a need in the art for agents which bind cell surface receptors and thus regulate biological responses associated therewith, and which further effect normal cellular trafficking of the bound receptor. There is also a need in the art for agents which, when bound by a cell surface receptor and internalized, promote retention of the receptor within the cell. Moreover, there exists a need for methods relating to the administration of such agents to regulate a biological response. The

present invention fulfills these needs and provides further related advantages.

Summary of the Invention

Briefly stated, the present invention provides receptor modulating agents which are capable of affecting a receptor trafficking pathway of the cell. Receptor modulating agents of the present invention are comprised of a rerouting moiety coupled to a targeting moiety.

Suitable targeting moieties include, by way of example, a vitamin B₁₂ 20 molecule or any one of several proteins and peptides.

Suitable rerouting moieties include, by way of example, lysosomotropic moieties, such as gentamycin, kanamycin, neomycin, and streptomycin; intracellular polymerizing moieties, such as dipeptide esters and leucine zippers; peptide sorting sequences, such as endoplasmic reticulum retention peptides, golgi retention peptides, lysosomal retention peptides, organism specific retention peptides and clathrin-binding peptides; conditional membrane binding peptides, such as charged glutamate, aspartate,

and histidine; and bi- or multi-valent receptor cross-linking moieties.

In a preferred embodiment of the present invention, a receptor modulating agent, is comprised of a vitamin B_{12} molecule coupled to a rerouting moiety by a linker. Generally, the linker is at least 4 atoms in length, typically, the linker is about 6 to 20 atoms in length and preferably, the linker is 12 atoms in length. Suitable linkers include linkers which include an amino group, such as diaminoalkyl, diaminoalkylaryl, diaminoheteroalkyl, diaminoheteroalkylaryl and diaminoalkanes. Preferably, the linker is -NH(CH₂)_xNH- wherein x = 2-20 or -NH(CH₂)_yCO-, wherein y = 3-12. In one embodiment the linker is a trifunctional linker.

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In a preferred embodiment of this aspect of the present invention, a B_{12} molecule is coupled to a rerouting moiety at a *b*-, *d*- or *e*- coupling site. In a particularly preferred embodiment of the present invention, a B_{12} molecule is coupled to a rerouting moiety at a *d*- or *e*- coupling site. In another embodiment, the B_{12} molecule is coupled to a rerouting moiety at a ribose coupling site. In yet another embodiment, the receptor modulating agent is bound to transcobalamin.

Receptor modulating agents of the present invention may act by affecting a receptor trafficking pathway in any one of several ways, including, by redirecting an agent/receptor complex; by cross-linking one or more cell surface receptors; by anchoring a cell surface receptor in the membrane; and by retaining a receptor in an endosome.

Another aspect of the present invention includes a vitamin B_{12} dimer comprising a first and a second vitamin B_{12} molecule coupled through a coupling site independently selected from the group consisting of coupling sites *a-g*, coupling sites *h*, and coupling sites *i*. In a preferred embodiment, the B_{12} molecule coupled through an *e-* or *d-* coupling site.

In another embodiment, B_{12} molecules are coupled by a linker. Generally, the linker is at least 4 atoms in length, typically, the linker is about 10 to 55 atoms in length and preferably, the linker is 35 to 45 atoms in length. In a preferred embodiment, the linker is a trifunctional linker. Suitable linkers include linkers which include an amino group, such as diaminoalkyl, diaminoalkylaryl, diaminoheteroalkyl, diaminoheteroalkylaryl and diaminoalkanes. Preferably, the linker is -NH(CH₂)_xNH-wherein x = 2-20 or -NH(CH₂)_yCO-, wherein y = 3-12.

In another aspect of this embodiment, a vitamin B₁₂ dimer is coupled to 25 at least one transcobalamin II molecule. In yet another aspect of this embodiment, at least one of said first and said second vitamin B₁₂ molecules of the dimer is a vitamin B₁₂ derivative.

These and other aspects of the present invention will become evident upon reference to the following detailed description and attached drawings. In addition, warious references set forth below which describe certain procedures or compositions in more detail are incorporated by reference in their entirety.

Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1 is a schematic illustrating a mechanism of action of a receptor modulating agent of the present invention. A healthy receptor will internalize when bound by the appropriate ligand, release the ligand within the cell and then recycle to

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the cell surface. Receptor modulating agents of the present invention impede the receptor trafficking pathway by inhibiting the recycling of receptors to the cell surface. Essentially, the targeting moiety on receptor modulating agents bind the receptor and the rerouting moiety redirects the receptor/receptor modulating agent complex to other

5 points within the cell, where it may be retained or degraded. (Not shown in this schematic are receptors synthesized <u>de novo</u>).

Figures 2-5 are formulae representing families of antibiotics which act as rerouting moieties. The preferred reactive groups for coupling with a targeting moiety are indicated. These rerouting moieties facilitate retention of the receptor/receptor

10 modulating agent complex through protonation of the complex, eventually delivering it to lysosomes for degradation.

Figure 2 illustrates formulae representing the gentamycin, sisomicin, and netilmicin families of antibiotics.

Figure 3 illustrates formulae representing the kanomycin, tobramycin, 15 and amikacin families of antibiotics.

Figure 4 illustrates formulae representing the neomycin, paromomycin, ribostamycin, and butirosin families of antibiotics.

Figure 5 illustrates formulae representing the streptomycin family of antibiotics.

Figure 6 illustrates formulae representing substituted aminoquinolines (e.g., chloroquine) substituted aminoacridines (e.g., quinacrine), and substituted aminonapthalines (e.g., dansyl cadaverine), all of which are representative rerouting moieties of the present invention. These rerouting moieties impede the receptor trafficking pathway through protonation and intracellular retention.

Figure 7 illustrates formulae representing glycosylation inhibitors, all of which are representative rerouting moieties of the present invention. These sugars may be conjugated to targeting moieties using linkages typical of oligomeric carbohydrate chains. The resulting receptor modulating agent is recognized by internal glycosyl transferases, subject to intracellular retention, and, ultimately, degradation in the lysosomes.

Figure 8 illustrates a formula representing a vitamin B_{12} (cyanocobalamin) molecule and identifies a preferred coupling site suitable for use in the present invention for derivatization and conjugation.

Figure 9 is a schematic depicting a representative reaction scheme for 35 the synthesis of a vitamin B₁₂-GABA adduct.

Figure 10a is a schematic depicting a representative reaction scheme for the synthesis of a vitamin B_{12} derivative comprising a vitamin B_{12} molecule with a diaminododecane linker arm coupled to any one of coupling sites *d*-, *e*-, or *b*-.

Figure 10b is a schematic depicting a representative reaction scheme for coupling a succinic anhydride to a vitamin B_{12} diaminododecane adduct in preparation for coupling the adduct to a rerouting moiety, or other molecule, with an amino reaction site.

Figure 11 is a schematic depicting a representative reaction scheme for the synthesis of a vitamin B_{12} derivative comprising a vitamin B_{12} molecule and a diaminododecane linker arm coupled to a ribose coupling site.

Figure 12 is a schematic depicting a representative reaction scheme for coupling vitamin B_{12} or a vitamin B_{12} -GABA adduct to amikacin.

Figure 13 is a schematic depicting a representative reaction scheme for coupling vitamin B_{12} or a vitamin B_{12} -GABA adduct to streptomycin.

Figure 14 is a schematic depicting a representative reaction scheme for coupling a vitamin B_{12} carboxylate derivative or a vitamin B_{12} -GABA adduct to acridine.

Figure 15 is a schematic depicting a representative reaction scheme for the synthesis of a bivalent receptor modulating agent, a vitamin B₁₂ dimer, using a
trifunctional linker. The trifunctional linker allows for coupling with additional compounds (*e.g.*, R-NH₂) such as, by way of example, aminoglucosides (Figures 2-5), aminoacridines (Figure 6), glycosylation inhibitors (Figure 7), and biotin.

Figure 16 is a schematic depicting a representative reaction scheme for the synthesis of a vitamin B_{12} dimer using a homobifunctional or homotrifunctional cross-linking reagent.

Figure 17 is a schematic depicting a representative reaction scheme for the synthesis of a vitamin B_{12} dimer using a heterobifunctional cross-linker.

Figures 18-21 are schematics depicting representative reaction schemes for the synthesis of various receptor modulating agents generally comprised of a rerouting moiety, designated by the reactive group and R, selected from those represented in Figures 2-7, and a vitamin B₁₂ molecule or derivative thereof as a targeting moiety.

Figure 22 is a graph illustrating the binding curve of Transcobalamin II to the cyanocobalamin monocarboxylic acids produced in Example 1. AD = 35 Cyanocobalamin (1); AL = Cyanocobalamin b-monocarboxylic acid (2); AM =

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Cyanocobalamin e-monocarboxylic acid (3); and AN= Cyanocobalamin dmonocarboxylic acid (4).

Figure 23 is a graph illustrating the binding curve of Transcobalamin II to the cyanocobalamin diaminododecane adducts produced in Example 3 and 4. AH = Cyanocobalamin b-monocarboxylic acid conjugate diaminododecane (7); AI = 5 Cyanocobalamin e-monocarboxylic acid conjugate diaminododecane (8); AJ = Cyanocobalamin d-monocarboxylic acid conjugate diaminododecane (9); AK = Cobalamin e-monocarboxylic acid conjugate diaminododecane, and AE = Cyanocobalamin ribose-succinate (11).

- 10 Figure 24 is a graph illustrating the binding curve of Transcobalamin II to a series of vitamin B_{12} dimers. Dimer X = b-acid dimer with isophthaloyl dichloride (36); Dimer Y = e-acid dimer with isophthaloyl dichloride (37); dimer Z = d-acid dimer with isophthaloyl dichloride (38); Dimer A = b-acid Dimer with p-iodo benzoyl isophthaloyl dichloride (58); Dimer B = e-acid Dimer with p-iodo benzoyl isophthaloyl
- dichloride (59); and Dimer C = d-acid Dimer with p-iodo benzoyl isophthaloyl 15 dichloride (60). These dimers were prepared as set forth in the Examples below. (see Examples 13 and 16.)

Figure 25 is a graph illustrating the binding curve of Transcobalamin II to a series of biotinylated vitamin B_{12} molecules. AA = Cyanocobalamin b-20 monocarboxylic acid conjugate diaminododecane and biotin (17); AB = Cyanocobalamin e-monocarboxylic acid conjugate diaminododecane and biotin (18); AC = Cyanocobalamin d-monocarboxylic acid conjugate diaminododecane and biotin (19); AF = Cyanocobalamin ribose-succinate conjugate diaminododecane (13); and AG = Cyanocobalamin ribose-succinate conjugate diaminododecane and biotin (20). These

25 biotinylated molecules were prepared as set forth in Examples below. (see Example 8.)

Detailed Description of the Invention

The present invention is generally directed to a receptor modulating agent which is capable of binding to a cell surface receptor to form a receptor 30 modulating agent/receptor complex ("agent/receptor complex"). The binding of a suitable receptor modulating agent to a cell surface receptor generally results in invagination of the agent/receptor complex into the cell into the vesicular system in the same manner as the natural ligand. However, once internalized, or as part of the internalization process, a receptor modulating agent of the present invention affects the 35

receptor trafficking pathway by effectively impeding, preventing, or delaying the

receptor from recycling to the surface, thus depriving the cell of receptors able to engage in binding its natural ligand and triggering related biological responses.

Within the context of the present invention, "affecting the receptor trafficking pathway" refers to impeding the receptor trafficking pathway in such a
manner so as to affect biological response. This would include trapping, delaying, retaining, re-directing, or degrading the cell surface receptor. A "receptor modulating agent" is comprised of at least one targeting moiety covalently attached to at least one rerouting moiety. A "targeting moiety," as described in detail below, is a moiety capable of specifically binding to a cell surface receptor to yield an agent/receptor of within 100-fold, and more preferably, within 10-fold, of the affinity of the natural ligand for the receptor. A preferred targeting moiety is a vitamin B₁₂ molecule. In contrast, a "rerouting moiety" is a moiety which redirects an agent/receptor complex, resulting in prolonged retention, degradation, and/or modulation of the receptor within the interior of a cell or on the cell surface, including, by way of example, retaining the

15 the interior of a cell or on the cell surface, including, by way of example, retaining the receptor in the cell membrane or directing the receptor to a lysosome within the cell. Suitable rerouting moieties are described in detail below.

A targeting moiety is coupled to a rerouting moiety to yield the receptor modulating agent by any suitable means known in the art, including direct covalent linkage of an appropriate chemical linker or through a very tight association in noncovalent attachment. By way of example for the latter, in one embodiment, coupling is accomplished through the combination of an avidin or streptavidin conjugate with a vitamin B₁₂/biotin conjugate. Coupling of the targeting moiety and the rerouting moiety should be of a nature which resists cleavage by the enzymatic and low pH conditions normally encountered within the internal portion of the cell, including endosomes and lysosomes. Suitable linkers are noted below. The ability to resist cleavage may be detected by any means known in the art, including exposing the receptor modulating agent to enzymes at low pH and measuring release of the targeting or rerouting moiety using techniques known in the art.

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Coupling of a targeting moiety and a rerouting moiety should not significantly hinder the ability of the targeting moiety to specifically bind the cell surface receptor. The receptor modulating agent may also include additional moieties, so long as they do not interfere with either the targeting or the rerouting moieties. For example, such moieties may be coupled to the receptor modulating agent through the

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use of a trifunctional linker or they may be coupled to a rerouting or targeting moiety. Optimal attachment of the two moieties may be determined by comparing the affinity of binding of the receptor modulating agent with free targeting moiety in assays of inhibition of binding.

These, and other suitable techniques, are described in detail in Sambrook et al., <u>Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual</u>, Cold Spring Harbor, 1989.

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Coupling of a targeting molety and a rerouting molety should also not significantly affect the ability of the rerouting molety to retain or delay the agent/receptor complex within the cell. This may be empirically determined by any one of several methods known in the art, including using labeling techniques to compare intracellular retention of the targeting molety versus that of the receptor modulating agent as exemplified below.

As noted above, targeting moieties of a receptor modulating agent include any moiety which specifically binds to a cell surface receptor. Suitable targeting moieties include proteins and peptides. Representative examples of suitable targeting moieties include peptides such as bombesin, gastrin-releasing peptide, cell

- 15 adhesion peptides, substance P, neuromedin-B, neuromedin-C and metenkephalin; hormones, including EGF, alpha- and beta-TGF, estradiol, neurotensin, melanocyte stimulating hormone, follicle stimulating hormone, luteinizing hormone, and human growth hormone; proteins corresponding to ligands for known cell surface receptors, including low density lipoproteins, transferrin and insulin; fibrinolytic enzymes; and
- 20 biological response modifiers, including interleukin, interferon, erythropoietin and colony stimulating factor also constitute targeting moieties of this invention. Moreover, analogs of the above targeting moieties that retain the ability to specifically bind to a cell surface receptor are suitable targeting moieties. Essentially, any analog having about the same affinity as a targeting moiety, herein specified, could be used in synthesis of receptor modulating agents.

In a preferred embodiment, a targeting moiety is a vitamin B_{12} molecule. Vitamin B_{12} is an essential nutrient for dividing cells. By inhibiting its uptake, the growth of dividing cells can be halted. The cell surface receptor for vitamin B_{12} is the transcobalamin II/vitamin B_{12} ("TcII/ B_{12} ") receptor, which is characterized by a high

- 30 affinity for the carrier protein, transcobalamin II (TcII), when complexed with vitamin B_{12} ("TcII/B₁₂ complex"). The TcII/B₁₂ receptor does not recognize vitamin B_{12} alone, but does recognize the carrier protein TcII with reduced affinity when not complexed with vitamin B_{12} . In many respects, this receptor system is similar to that for transferrin/iron in that the goal of the receptor system is to deliver vitamin B_{12} into
- 35 cells such that it can be utilized by enzymes involved in DNA synthesis. Within the context of the present invention, the term "vitamin B_{12} " refers to the class of

compounds known as cobalamins and derivatives thereof, including, by way of example, cyanocobalamin. The term "vitamin B_{12} " is used interchangeably with the term cyanocobalamin.

Suitable vitamin B₁₂ molecules includes any vitamin B₁₂ capable of
coupling to another molecule while maintaining its ability to form a TcII/B₁₂ complex. A preferred vitamin B₁₂ targeting moiety is generally comprised of a vitamin B₁₂ molecule, such as a cyanocobalamin, and a linker, described in detail below. The linker may be coupled to any one of several sites on a vitamin B₁₂ molecule, including potential carboxyl coupling sites *a*- through *g*-, an alcohol (ribose) coupling site
("coupling site *h*") or a benzimidazole coupling site ("coupling site *i*.") (See structure I below.) Preferably, a linker is coupled to coupling sites *b*-, *d*- or *e*- on a vitamin B₁₂ molecule. Even more preferably, a linker is coupled to coupling site *d*- or *e*-. This embodiment of the present invention includes compounds represented by the following formula:



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wherein at least one of R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5 , R_6 , and R_7 is a linker. One of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that a number of other coupling sites on the vitamin B_{12}

molecule may be chemically altered without affecting coupling of the molecule with a linker or TcII. Coupling sites which are not occupied by a linker may have a variety of chemical moieties attached thereto, including an amino, secondary amino, tertiary hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, amino, alkoxyalkoxy, cycloalkylalkoxy, and thioalkyl groups.

In a preferred embodiment, R₁, R₂ or R₄ is a linker and the remaining R groups are -NH₂, with the exception of R₇, which is preferably -OH. In an especially preferred embodiment, R₂ is a linker, R₁, R₃-R₆ are -NH₂ and R₇ is -OH.

In another preferred embodiment, R7 is a linker and R1-R6 are -NH2.



	bis[2- (sulfosuccinimidooxycarbonyloxy)ethyl]su lfone (Sulfo-BSOCOES)*
	bismaleimidohexane (BMH)*
F NO2	1,5-Difluoro-2,4-dinitrobenzene (DFDNB)*
`Са` Ны N_С-СН ₂ -СН ₂ -СН ₂ -СН ₂ -С H ₂ CO ² ОСН ₂ ОСН ₂	dimethyl adipimidate-2 HCl (DMA)•
носо са,ним са,ним	dimethyl pimelimidate-2 HCl (DMP)*
`СІ [*] Ны ^N , ССН ₂ СН ₂	dimethyl subevimidate-2 HCl (DMS)*
a tota	isophthaloyl dichloride**

*Pierce Chemical, Co., Rockford, Illinois

**Aldrich Chemical Co., Milwaukee, Wisconsin



	succinimidyl 4-(N-maleimidomethyl)cyclohexane-1- carboxylate (SMCC)*
	sulfosuccinimidyl 4-(N- maleimidomethyl)cyclohexane-1-carboxylate (Sulfo- SMCC)*
J-i-J	m-maleimidobenzoyl-N-hydroxysuccinimide ester (MBS)*
NEOS Handle	m-maleimidobenzoyl-N-hydroxysulfosuccinimide ester (Sulfo-MBS)*
l#O-loy	N-succinimidyl(4-iodoacetyl)aminobenzoate (SIAB)*
1-014-C-N-O-C-0-N-	sulfosuccinimidyl(4-iodoacetyl)aminobenzoate (Sulfo-SIAB)*
	succinimidyl-4-(p-maleimidophenyl)butyrate (SMPB)*
	sulfosuccinimidyl-4-(p-maleimidophenyl)butyrate (Sulfo-SMPB)*

*Pierce Chemical, Co., Rockford, Illinois

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TABLE 3 TRIFUNCTIONAL LINKERS		
TFPO2C NHBoc	Derived from 5-amino isophthalic [*] acid - unreported synthesis (D.S. Wilbur, D.K. Hamlin, University of Washington)	
H ₂ N V CO ₃ Me	Derived from 3,5-diaminovbenzoic acid* - unreported synthesis	
	5-(p-iodobenzoyl)amino-1,3-isophthaloyl ditetra-fluorophenyl ester - unreported synthesis (D.S. Wilbur, D.K. Hamlin, University of Washington)	
	5(p-tri-N-butylisomylbenzoyl)-amino-1,3- isophthaloyl ditchtrafluorophenyl ester - unreported synthesis (D.S. Wilbur, D.K. Hamlin, University of Washington)	
	D.S. Wilbur et al., <u>Bioconjugate Chem.</u> 5(3):220-235, 1994.	
	D.S. Wilbur et al., <u>Bioconjugate Chem.</u> 5(3):220-235, 1994.	

*Aldrich Chemical Co., Milwaukee, Wisconsin

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Suitable linkers include any one of several linkers, preferably containing at least two coupling or reactive groups, allowing the linker to bind to both vitamin B_{12} and a rerouting moiety. In the context of the present invention, the terms "coupling group" and "reactive group" are used interchangeably. By way of example, a linker may be homobifunctional, heterobifunctional, homotrifunctional, or heterotrifunctional. Homobifunctional agents may facilitate cross-linking, or dimerization of vitamin B_{12}

molecules in a single step, hence a coupling reaction using these agents should be performed with an excess of homobifunctional agents, unless dimerization is the desired result, as in the synthesis of dimers described in detail below.

- Suitable homobifunctional agents include those listed in Table 1, as well as those described in detail below. Heterobifunctional agents facilitate cross-linking in a stepwise method, allowing more than one linker to be incorporated and a variety of targeting agents such as vitamin B₁₂ molecules to be linked. Suitable heterobifunctional agents include those listed in Table 2 as well as those described in detail below. Homo- and hetero- trifunctional linkers are coupled to a rerouting moiety
- 10 and a vitamin B₁₂ molecule as described above, with the additional advantage of a third coupling site on the linker. One of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that this allows for any number of different molecules to couple with the rerouting moiety, including, by way of example, markers, such as radiolabeled and fluorescent molecules; proteins and peptides, such as antibodies; and conjugating molecules, such as biotin.
 15 Suitable trifunctional linkers are listed in Table 3. Homobifunctional
- 15 Suitable trifunctional linkers are listed in Table 3. Homobifunctional, heterobifunctional, homotrifunctional, and heterotrifunctional linkers are commercially available.

Suitable linkers are generally relatively linear molecules greater than 4 atoms in length, typically between 6 and 30 atoms in length, and preferably are 8 to 20 atoms in length. In a particularly preferred embodiment, the linker is a linear molecule of 12 atoms in length. In the context of the present invention, the term "atom" refers to a chemical element such as, by way of example, C, N, O, or S. The ranges provided above are based on the relatively linear accounting of the linker. One of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that a linker may be linear, branched, and even contain cyclical elements.

Coupling or reactive groups include any functional group capable of coupling a linker to a vitamin B_{12} molecule. Suitable coupling groups include, nucleophilic and electrophilic functional groups. Suitable nucleophilic groups include hydroxy groups, amino groups, and thio groups. Suitable electrophilic groups include carboxylic acid groups and carboxylic acid derivatives including acid halides, acid

anhydrides, and active esters such as NHS esters.

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Suitable homobifunctional linkers include, by way of example, diaminoalkanes, such as those represented by the formula $NH_2(CH_2)_xNH_2$, wherein x = 2-20. A preferred linker is a diaminododecane. Suitable heterobifunctional linkers include those represented by the formula $NH_2(CH_2)_yCOOH$, wherein y = 3-12. Those

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of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that a protecting group may be necessary when utilizing a heterobifunctional group.

A linker may be coupled to the preferred b-, d- or e- coupling sites (see Structure I above) by any one of several suitable means, including, by way of example, activating a vitamin B₁₂ molecule by hydrolyzing its propionamide groups to produce monocarboxylates, purifying the resulting monocarboxylates, and coupling a linker to a selected coupling site. Hydrolysis of the coupling sites may be accomplished by exposing vitamin B₁₂ to aqueous acid for a period of time and under suitable conditions to hydrolyze the desired propionamide groups. Preferably, hydrolysis is performed by exposure of the amide to dilute aqueous acid for a period of about 6 to 12 days, typically about 9 to 11 days, and most preferably about 10 days at room temperature. Suitable aqueous acids include, by way of example, 0.1N hydrochloric acid, 0.5N phosphoric acid or 0.5N sulfuric acid.

- Purification of b-, d- and e- monocarboxylates can be accomplished by 15 any one of several means, including column chromatography, such as gel permeation chromatography, adsorption chromatography, partition chromatography, ion exchange chromatography, and reverse phase chromatography. Preferably, column chromatography is preparative reverse phase liquid chromatography. These techniques are described in detail in Lim, <u>HPLC of Small Molecules</u>, IRL Press, Washington,
- 20 D.C., 1986. Purification of monocarboxylates by preparative liquid chromatography (LC) should be accomplished at a very slow flow rate. For example, LC purification may be conducted at a flow rate of 0.15 mL/min. on a 5 μ m, 4.6 X 250 mm propylamine column (RAININ microsorb-MV amino column) eluting with 58 μ M pyridine acetate, pH 4.4 in H₂O : THF (96 : 4) solution. Even more preferably, the
- 25 coupling reaction is monitored using analytical high pressure liquid chromatography (HPLC). Reverse-phase HPLC chromatography is preferably carried out using an analytical version of above-noted propylamine column using a gradient solvent system at a flow rate of 1 mL/min. Within the context of the present invention, the d- isomer is identified as the longest retained peak (third), the e- isomer is identified as the second
- 30 retained peak, and the *b* isomer is identified as the shortest retained peak (first) eluted from the LC column. The *d*- isomer may also be identified as that vitamin B_{12} derivative demonstrating the greatest biological activity as noted below.

A ribose coupling site (coupling site h, see structure I) may be activated by any one of several suitable means including, activating a hydroxyl group at coupling site h by reaction with a suitable reagent (e.g., succinic anhydride), to yield a ribose derivative which bears a reactive group (e.g., a carboxylate group). This technique is

described in detail in Toraya, <u>Bioinorg. Chem.</u> 4:245-255, 1975. Separation and purification of the activated molecule may be accomplished on a C18 column as noted below. Once coupling site h has been activated, a linker may be coupled to this site in the same manner as described below.

- After activating the vitamin B₁₂ molecule at a selected coupling site, 5 linkers may be coupled to a vitamin B_{12} molecule to form a vitamin B_{12} linker adduct using any one of several means, including, by way of example, an amide forming reaction, employing an amine group on the linker and a carboxylate coupling site on a vitamin B_{12} molecule. Alternatively, a linker may be coupled to a vitamin B_{12} 10 molecule through an amide forming reaction, employing a carboxylate group on the linker and an amino group on a B₁₂ molecule. The amide forming reaction may include the use of a coupling agent. Suitable coupling agents include carbodiimide coupling agents, such as, by way of example, 1-ethyl-3-(3-dimethylaminopropyl) carbodiimide hydrochloride (EDC), 1-benzyl-3-(3-dimethylaminopropyl), carbodiimide (BDC), 1-15 cyclohexyl-3-(2-morpholinyl-4-ethyl)carbodiimide (CMC), and 1,3-
- dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (DCC). Preferably, the coupling agent is water soluble. Even more preferably, the coupling agent is EDC.

Alternatively, the amide forming reaction coupling the linker to a B₁₂ molecule may employ a reactive carboxylic acid group and an amine. Suitable reactive carboxylic acid groups include carboxylic acid derivatives which yield an amide upon reaction with an amine. Such reactive groups include, by way of example, any reactive carboxylic acid derivative, including, by way of example, carboxylic acid halides, such as acid chlorides and bromides; carboxylic acid anhydrides, such as acetic anhydrides and trifluoroacetic anhydrides; esters, such as p-nitrophenyl esters and N-hydroxysuccinimide esters. Such techniques are described in detail in Bodanszky, Principles of Peptide Synthesis, Springer Verlag, Berlin, 1984.

Although coupling of a linker through a cyano coupling site is possible it is not preferred, due to the instability of linkers coupled to this site. Dolphin, D., [205] <u>Methods Enzymol. 18C</u>:34-52, 1971. Additionally, a linker may be coupled to a

30 benzimidazole (coupling site *i*, see Structure I) using techniques described in detail in Jacobsen, <u>Anal. Biochem</u>, <u>113</u>:164-171, 1981.

Vitamin B_{12} linker adducts may be separated and purified using any suitable means, including column chromatography, such as gel permeation chromatography, adsorption chromatography, partition chromatography, ion exchange chromatography, and reverse phase chromatography. Preferably, column

chromatography is preparative LC. These techniques are described in detail in Lim, HPLC of Small Molecules, IRL Press, Washington, D.C., 1986.

As noted above, the vitamin B_{12} receptor modulating agents of the present invention must be capable of binding transcobalamin II. The ability of a receptor modulating agent to bind TcII may be ascertained using any one of several means known in the art, including competitive binding assays with the receptor modulating agent competing with native vitamin B_{12} .

Rerouting moieties of the present invention include any moiety which is capable of affecting the receptor trafficking pathway. This characteristic can be assessed by employing a receptor modulating agent having a radiolabeled targeting moiety and following its path through the cell. This is accomplished using techniques known in the art, including using radiolabeled, biotinylated, or FITC labeled targeting moiety followed by binding assays, ELISA, or flow cytometry. A preferred receptor modulating agent is one which results in the removal of the highest percent of receptor 15 for the longest period of time.

Suitable rerouting moieties of this invention do not significantly detract from the selectivity of the targeting moiety. Whether a rerouting moiety detracts from the selectivity of a targeting moiety may be determined by any one of several methods known in the art, including comparing binding of the receptor modulating agent on 20 receptor positive and receptor negative cells, as assessed by ELISA, flow cytometry, or other binding assays.

Rerouting moieties cause the retention/degradation of an agent/receptor complex within at least one cell type, but not necessarily in all cells. In like fashion, a rerouting moiety causes retention of an agent/receptor complex in some cells, but not 25 necessarily other agent/receptor complexes in other cells. Different rerouting moieties may also distinguish between receptor species, for example, as in polarized epithelium where the same receptor may independently traffic on the apical, basal, or basolateral sides of the cell. To determine if a particular rerouting moiety is suitable, a rerouting moiety is covalently attached to the targeting moiety, and the resulting receptor modulating agent is compared for receptor modulation on different receptor-bearing cells using binding or functional assays known in the art.

Suitable rerouting moieties of this invention may be categorized into five different functional classes: (1) lysosmotropic moieties; (2) intracellular polymerizing moieties; (3) protein sorting signals or sequences; (4) conditional membrane binding peptides; and (5) bi- or multi-valent receptor cross linking moieties. While such rerouting mojeties may have different functional mechanisms of action, all promote

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retention of the agent/receptor complex within the intracellular vesicular system. All of these classes of rerouting moieties will impart the ability to affect the receptor trafficking pathway.

In one aspect of the present invention, a first functional class of rerouting moieties, lysosomotropic moieties, are disclosed. Within the context of the present invention, the term "lysosomotropic moieties" refers to moieties which route the agent/receptor complex to the lysosomes. Numerous suitable lysosomotropic moieties are known, and are reviewed in <u>Biochem. Pharmacol. 23</u>:2495-2531, 1974.

A preferred lysosomotropic moiety includes an aminoglycoside 10 antibiotic marked by the characteristic ability to accumulate in lysosomes after intracellular protonation. Intracellular protonation occurs in the increasingly acidic conditions which occur during the transfer from early to late endosomes and, finally, to the lysosome. Strong positive charges prohibit the lysosomotropic moiety from leaving the membrane-enclosed vesicles, thus trapping the agent/receptor complex in the vessel.

Aminoglycoside antibiotics are similar in structure, but are divided into structurally related families of compounds based upon the sugar units. Each of the families of aminoglycoside antibiotics, as well as representative members thereof, are set forth in Figures 2-5. These families include gentamycin, kanamycin, neomycin and streptomycin. The gentamycin family includes gentamycin C₁, gentamycin C₂, gentamycin C_{1a}, sisomicin and netilmicin; the kanamycin family includes kanamycin A, tobramycin and amikacin; the neomycin family includes neomycin B, paromomycin, ribostamycin and bytirosin B; and the streptomycin family includes streptomycin A and

streptomycin B.

In a particularly preferred embodiment of the present invention, the rerouting moiety is gentamycin, which accumulates in lysosomes in concentration as much as 300 fold that of the extracellular concentration (<u>J. Pharmacol. Exp. Ther.</u> <u>255</u>:867-74, 1990; <u>Ren. Fail. 14</u>:351-7, 1992).

Suitable aminoglycosides have reactive amine groups capable of being coupled through peptide or other chemical linkers. Thus, a targeting moiety may be 30 readily attached via covalent linkage to these rerouting moieties using any one of several techniques known in the art to form covalent bonds, for example, using thioether, disulfide, ether, ester and peptide bonds. Since many of the aminoglycoside antibiotics have several amines which could be derivatized in a conjugation procedure, a primary amine contained in these compounds can be selectively reacted to favor covalently attachment to the targeting moiety through this amine (*see* amine indicated

35 covalently attachment to the targeting moiety through this amine (see amine indicated with arrow in Figures 2-4). With regard to streptomycin, covalent attachment to the

targeting moiety may be accomplished by converting the aldehyde moiety indicated in Figure 5 to an amine, and attaching to the targeting moiety using carbodiimide or other suitable activated carboxylic acid. Aminoglycosides are water soluble and do not readily bind to other proteins, and thus do not impart non-specific binding to a receptor modulating agent.

Particularly preferred aminoglycosides include those which allow for preferential derivation of a selected amine. Specifically, preferred aminoglycosides include those compounds to which protective groups can be added to various nitrogen atoms thereof and, subsequently, selectively deprotected to yield a single free amine.

- 10 The free amine can be further derivatized, for example, by addition of a peptide linker or covalently attached directly to the targeting moiety. These rerouting moieties include ribostamycin (*see* Figure 4), kanamycin (*see* Figure 3), amikacin, and streptomycin. Ribostamycin is particularly preferred, due to its relative low toxicity and its derivatization chemistry, allowing an acyl migration reaction to be effected on a
- 15 hydroxyl protected ribostamycin to yield a single amine adduct. Kanamycin may also be used in a selective protection/acylation reaction; Amikacin is commercially available in a form which allows attachment without deprotecting its amines or alcohol groups; and streptomycin can also be readily derivatized by protonating guanidinium groups under physiologic conditions to provide the polycations necessary for cellular or
- 20 lysosomal retention.

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In another aspect of the present invention, non-aminoglycoside lysosomotropic compounds which may accumulate after intracellular protonation are also suitable rerouting moieties (*see* Figure 6). Suitable non-aminoglycoside compounds exhibiting this characteristic are known in the art, a series of aminoacridine and amino quinoline dyes, typified by cholquinine and quinacrine; a group of amino naphthalenes, typified by dansyl cadaverine; and derivatives thereof. Such dyes are characterized by cellular retention and low toxicity. All of these compounds have characteristic sites for covalent attachment to a targeting moiety via the nitrogen indicated in Figure 6 and may be attached thereto as described above.

30 Another aspect of the present invention utilizes a lysosomotropic peptide subject to charge modification under intracellular conditions is employed as a rerouting moiety. Once charge-modified, the rerouting peptide acts to retain an agent/receptor complex in the intracellular vesicular system until membrane flow delivers it to the lysosome for degradation. Preferably, these peptides are capable of being phosphorylated by intracellular protein kinases. When phosphorylated by the intracellular enzymes, such peptides would be highly anionic.

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Charge-based retention can be an inherent property of the rerouting peptide or can be imparted by intracellular modification. Intracellular modification may be accomplished by any of several means known in the art, including phosphorylation of certain residues of some receptors (*e.g.*, the EGF receptor) may cause intracellular rerouting (Cancer Treat. Res. <u>61</u>:139-160, 1992; J. Cell. Biol, <u>116</u>:321-30, 1992).

The rerouting peptides may be covalently attached to a targeting moiety by any means, including, for example, covalently linking the peptide directly to the targeting moiety, or by use of an appropriate linker moiety, such as G-G-G, which may be derivatized and covalently attached to the targeting moiety.

10 Preferred rerouting peptides include protein kinase-substrate peptides that incorporate serine. These peptides are particularly preferred for enhancement of receptor rerouting in tumor target cells, which have increased levels of protein kinase activity for serines or tyrosines. Increased levels of kinase activity within tumor cells may be attributed to the presence of oncogene products, such as H-ras, on the cytoplasmic side of tumor cell plasma membranes (C.I.B.A. Found. Symp. 164:208-18, 1992).

Suitable rerouting peptides also include protein kinase substrates and peptides that possess a single positive charge. The latter type of rerouting peptide may form an ion pair with a "glutamate-like" residue of an attached or closely associated residue(s) of the receptor. Particularly preferred rerouting peptides may be derived, using technologies known in the art, from the proteins and the amino acid sequences identified in Table 4.

TABLE 4 REROUTING PEPTIDES		
PEPTIDE SOURCE	AMINO ACID SEQUENCE	
EGF receptor	DVVDADEYLIPQ	
EGF fragment	CMHIESLDSYTC	
Phosphorylase kinase	RTKRSGSVYEPLKI	
Protein kinase C pseudosubstrate	RFARK-GALRQKNV	
Myelin basic protein	S/T-XAA-K/R (where XAA is an uncharged residue)	
Kemptide	RGYALG or RGYSLG	
Glycogen synthetase	PLSRTLSVAA	

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Transferrin receptor	FSLAR
III histone	ASGSFKL
Casein kinase II substrate	AAAAAASEEE or AAAAAASDDD
Insulin receptor auto-phosphorylation	DIYETDYYR
substrate	
calmodulin-dependent protein kinase	Waxman and Arenowski Biochem.
П	<u>32(11)</u> :2923-30, 1993
Neurogranin	Chen et al., Biochem. 32(4):1032-9, 1993
MARCKS	Heemskerk et al., Biochem, Biophys, Res.
	Commun. 190(1):236-41, 1993
Glycogen synthase	Marais et al., FEBS Letters 277:151-5, 1990
Ribosomal protein S6	Munro et al., Biochem. Biophys. Acta
	<u>1054</u> :225-30, 1990
Co-polymers which serve as	Abdel-Ghony et al., Proc. Nat'l. Acad. Sci.
substrates for protein kinase A, C, P	86:1761-5, 1989; Abdel-Ghony et al., Proc.
	Nat'l. Acad. Sci. 85:1408-11, 1988
Serine-threonine kinases	Abdel-Ghony et al., Proc. Nat'l. Acad. Sci.
	86:1761-5, 1989; Abdel-Ghony et al., Proc.
	Nat'l. Acad. Sci. 85:1408-11, 1988

In another aspect of the present invention, the rerouting moiety is a lysosomotropic amino acid ester which, in high concentration, can cause the lysis of granule containing cells, such as NK cells, cytolytic T cells and monocytes. The concentration must generally be maintained below 100 mM to avoid lysis. Suitable lysosomotropic amino acid esters and their sources are presented in Table 5.

Table 5 Lysosomotropic Amino Acid Esters		
Leu-O-Me	Res. Immunol. 143:893-901, 1992	
	Eur. J. Immunol. 23:562-5, 1993	
	Intl. Arch. Aller. & Immunol. 100:56-59, 1993	
	Cell. Immunol. 139:281-91, 1992	
	Exp. Pathol. 42:121-7, 1991	

Iso-leu-O-Me	Res. Immunol. 143:893-901, 1992
L-Val-O-Me	<u>J. Immunol. 134</u> :786-93, 1985
Phe-O-Me	J. Immunol. 148:3950-7, 1992 Blood 79:964-71, 1992
Phe-, Ala-, Met-, Trp-, Cys-, Try-, Asp-, & Glu-O-Me	Int. J. Immunopharmacol. 13:401-9, 1991

The lysosomotropic amino acid esters identified in Table 5 can be used to retain the agent/receptor complex in lysosomes after intracellular cleavage of the ester. In one embodiment, such amino acid esters may be utilized as the C-terminal portion of a larger peptide containing a linker sequence and/or a phosphorylation substrate sequence, and with suitable residues, such as cysteine, for covalent attachment to a targeting moiety, such as a sequence encoding a peptide or protein ligand for a given cell surface receptor.

In another embodiment of the present invention, a second functional 10 class of rerouting moieties is disclosed. This class includes peptides which undergo polymerization within endosomes or lysosomes, inhibiting their passage through intracellular membranes.

Intracellular polymerizing compounds can be incorporated into a larger peptide containing the targeting moiety and a linker. Suitable peptides include the dipeptide ester referenced in Table 5 (*i.e.*, L-Leucyl-L-Leucine-O-Me). When transported into cells, these dipeptide esters preferentially accumulate in lysosomes and secondary granules of cytotoxic cells. These dipeptides also undergo self-association and polymerization, which results in trapping at low concentrations, and membrane rupture at higher concentrations.

TABLE 6
POLYMERIZING DI-PEPTIDE ESTER: L-Leucyl-L-Leucine-O-Me
J. Invest. Dermat. 99:805-825, 1992
J. Clin. Invest. 84:1947-56, 1989
<u>Transpl. 53</u> :1334-40, 1992
<u>J. Immunol. 138</u> :51-7, 1987
J. Immunol. 148:3950-7, 1992

<u>J. Immunol. 136</u> :1038-48, 1986
<u>Cryobiology 29</u> :165-74, 1992
Acta. Biochem Biophys. Hung 24:299-311,1989
<u>Blood 79</u> :964-71, 1992
Blood 78:2131-8, 1991
J. Immunol. 139:2137-42, 1987
J. Exp. Med. 172:183-194, 1990
J. Clin. Invest. 78:1415-20, 1986
<u>PNAS 87</u> :83-7, 1990
J. Immunol. 137:1399-406, 1986
PNAS 82:2468-72, 1985

Suitable intracellular polymerizing compounds also include peptides that can self-associate into alpha-helical structures termed "leucine zippers". In the context of this invention, such structures may be used to form intracellular polymers that are incapable of exiting intracellular vesicles. Such sequences can be selected by observing self association of the compounds in solution, and the formation of polymers capable of

5 incapable of exiting intracellular vesicles. Such sequences can be selected by observing self association of the compounds in solution, and the formation of polymers capable of binding to DNA. Suitable peptide sequences that can self-associate into alpha helical structures are presented in Table 7.

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TABLE 7	•
LEUCINE ZIPPERS	
Boc(t-butoxycarbonyl)-Aib(alpha-aminoisobutyryl)	
Glu(OB _n l)-(benzoyl ester)-Leu-Aib-Ala-Leu-Aib-Ala-	
Boc-Aib-Leu-Aib-Leu-Aib-Leu-Aib-O-Me	,
Proteins 12:324-30, 1992	
Lys(Z)(benzyloxy-carbonyl)-Aib-O-Me	
<u>PNAS 87</u> :7921-5, 1990	
GELEELLKHLKELLKGER	
<u>Biochem. 31</u> :1579-84, 1992	

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In another embodiment of the present invention, a third functional class of rerouting moieties is disclosed. This class includes moieties that can be recognized by intracellular receptors. Such sequences are identified by their ability to stop movement of endogenously synthesized proteins to the cell surface. Suitable peptides include certain peptide sequences (such as sorting or signal sequences) associated with the trafficking of endogenously synthesized proteins (<u>Cur. Opin. Cell. Biol. 3</u>:634-41, 1991). Such peptide sequences, when covalently attached to the C-terminus of an exogenously added targeting moiety, result in the retention of the agent/receptor complexes in the endoplasmic reticulum ("ER"), Golgi apparatus, or lysosomes.

Such peptide sequences are recognized by intracellular receptors, examples of which include both mammalian and bacterial versions of ER receptors described in detail in J. Cell. Biol. 120:325-8, 1993; Embo. J. 11:4187-95, 1992; Nature 348:162-3, 1990. Further exemplary peptide sequences and variants thereof (shown in parentheses) that can be recognized by intracellular receptors are set forth in Table 8, Sections A and B.

Certain signal sequences may be preferred for retention by one type of organism versus another type. For example, REDLK is a preferred sequence recognized by prokaryotic cells and to a lesser degree by eukaryotic cells (*see* Table 8, section C). Thus, employing this sequence as the rerouting moiety, receptor modulating agents can be constructed to selectively inhibit a receptor-mediated process in bacteria, while having little effect on mammalian cells.

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TABLE 8			
PEPTIDE SEQUENCES WHICH BIND INTRACELLULAR RECEPTORS			
A. Endoplasm	A. Endoplasmic Reticulum or Golgi Retention Peptides		
1. KDEL (DKEL, RDEL, KNEL, SDEL, KEEL, QDEL, KEDL, KDEL)	I. Biol. Chem. 265:5952-5, 1990 Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun. 172:1384-91, 1990 J. Virol, 65:3938-42, 1991 Exp. Cell Res. 197:119-24, 1991 Growth Factors 5:243-53, 1991 J. Biol. Chem. 267(10):7022-6, 1992 J. Biol. Chem. 267:10631-7, 1992 J. Cell. Biol. 118:795-811, 1992 J. Cell. Biol. 118:795-811, 1992 Exp. Cell. Res. 203:1-4, 1992 P.N.A.S. 90:2695-9, 1993 Mol. Biochem Parasitol 48:47-58, 1991 Embo J. 4:2345-55, 1992 J. Biol. Chem. 266:14277-82, 1991 Mol. Cell Biol. 11:4036-44, 1991		
2. HDEL (HVEL, HNEL, HTEL, TEHT, DDEL, HIEL)	J. Biol. Chem. 268:7728-32, 1993 Mol. Biochem Parasitol 57:193-202, 1993 J. Cell SCI 102:261-71, 1992 Eur J. Biochem. 206:801-6, 1992 J. Biol. Chem. 266:20498-503, 1991		
3. ADEL	Embo J. 11:1583-91, 1992		
4. REDLK	<u>J. Biol. Chem. 266</u> :17376-81, 1991		
5. SEKDEL	Growth Factors 5:243-53, 1991		
6. KTEL	<u>J. Virol. 66</u> :4951-6, 1992		
B. Lysosomal Retention Peptides			
1. KFERQ	Trends Biochem SCI 15:305-9, 1990		
2. Tyrosine-containing polypeptides	J. Cell Biol. 111:955-66, 1990		
C. ORGANISM-SPECIFIC RETENTION PEPTIDES			
1. REDLK	J. Biol. Chem. 266:17376-17381, 1991		

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D. CLATHRIN-BINDING PEPTIDES (INTERNALIZATION SIGNALS)			
1.	LLAV	J. Cell. Biol. 199:249-57, 1992	
2.	YKYSKV	J. Cell. Biol. <u>199</u> :249-57, 1992 Embo. J. <u>7</u> :3331-6, 1988	
3.	PPGYE	Cell <u>67</u> :1203-9, 1991 Curr. Opin. Cell Biol. <u>3</u> :1062, 1991	

A further class of peptide sequences of this invention, termed "internalization signals," function by binding to clathrin, both in the coated pits, as well as those intracellular vesicles which maintain a clathrin coat. Representative examples of such clathrin-binding peptides (CBP) are disclosed in Table 8, section D. The CBP binds clathrin in the coated pits initially located on the cell surface causing retention of the targeting moiety to which it is conjugated.

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A further class of moieties capable of recognizing intracellular receptors includes carbohydrates. Suitable carbohydrates include any carbohydrate which is capable of binding to intracellular carbohydrate (CHO) receptors but not cell surface CHO receptors. Such carbohydrates include: mannose-6-phosphate and glucose-6-phosphate. Suitable carbohydrate moieties include those which bind to the insulin-like growth factor II/mannose-6-phosphate (IGF II/M6P) receptor, include analogs of mannose-6-phosphate, as well as other phosphorylated saccharides (Carbohydrate Res. 213:37-46, 1991; FEBS Lett. 262:142-4, 1990).

The affinity of the rerouting moiety can be varied by changes in the chemical nature of the phosphorylated saccharides (J. Biol. Chem. 264:7970-5, 1989; J. Biol. Chem. 264:7962-9, 1989) (monosaccharides bind with the lowest affinity, while di- or tri-saccharides bind with increasingly higher affinity). Clustering of phosphorylated saccharides on protein carriers can dramatically increase affinity to the intracellular receptor.

Synthesis of various oligosaccharides are reviewed in <u>Sem. Cell. Biol.</u> 2:319-326, 1991. Although, mannose-6-phosphate receptor expression is primarily intracellular, expression also occurs on cell surfaces. Thus, in the context of the present invention, covalent attachment of a targeting moiety with a carbohydrate which binds the mannose-6-phosphate receptor should be constructed so as to give at least 100-fold difference in binding affinity between the targeting moiety and the rerouting moiety. For example, a vitamin B₁₂/transcobalamin II receptor targeting moiety, in this case vitamin B₁₂, would have a binding affinity for the carrier protein, transcobalamin II

(TcII), of $\geq 10^{-10}$ M and an affinity for the IGF II/M-6-P receptor of 10^{-8} M or less. This will maintain the specificity of the vitamin B₁₂ binding (via TcII), while allowing transfer of the receptor modulating agent from serum M-6-P soluble receptor to cell surface receptor.

In addition to IGF II/M-6-P receptor moieties, other carbohydrate-based rerouting moieties also promote retention of the modulating agent/receptor complex in the ER or Golgi complex. Such moieties are based on the recognition by various glycosyl transferases of carbohydrate moieties, either as a natural substrate or as an inhibitor. Such moieties are reviewed in <u>Sem. Cell. Biol.</u> 2:289-308, 1991. For example, saccharide recognition moieties include penultimate sugars, such as glucose and N-acetyl glucosamine (which are natural substrates). More preferred, however, are glycosylation inhibitors which are recognized by glycosyl transferases, but cannot serve to append further carbohydrate residues on growing chains (<u>Sem. Cell. Biol.</u> 2:309-318, 1991) (*see* Figure 7).

15 In yet another embodiment of the present invention, a fourth functional class of rerouting moieties is disclosed. This class is generally comprised of rerouting moieties which anchor the receptor to the cell membrane. By way of example, this class includes membrane-binding peptides that exhibit conditional pH-dependent membrane binding. Such peptides exhibit α -helical character in acid but not neutral pH When a conditional membrane-binding peptide assumes a helical 20 solutions. conformation at an acidic pH, it acquires the property of amphiphilicity, (e.g., it has both hydrophobic and hydrophilic interfaces). More specifically, within a pH range of approximately 5.0-5.5, such a peptide forms an alpha-helical, amphiphilic structure that facilitates insertion of the peptide into a target membrane. An alpha helix-induced 25 acidic pH environment may be found, for example, in the low pH environment present within cellular endosomes or lysosomes. In aqueous solution at physiological pH, a conditional, membrane-binding peptide is unfolded (due to strong charge repulsion among charged amino acid side chains) and is unable to interact with membranes.

Suitable conditional membrane-binding peptide sequences include the 30 charged amino acids glutamate, aspartate, and histidine. A preferred conditional membrane-binding peptide includes those with a high percentage of helix-forming residues, such as glutamate, methionine, alanine, and leucine. Further, conditional membrane-binding peptide sequences include ionizable residues having pKas within the range of pH 5-7, so that a sufficiently uncharged membrane-binding domain will be

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present within the peptide at pH 5 to allow insertion into the target cell membrane. Conditional membrane-binding peptides can be incorporated through covalent bonds to

a chemical or peptide targeting moiety or synthesized as an entire peptide sequence including a linker and peptide targeting moiety.

A particularly preferred conditional membrane-binding peptide is aalaa2-aa3-EAALA(EALA)₄-EALEALAA-amide, which represents a modification of a published peptide sequence (<u>Biochemistry</u> 26:2964, 1987). Within this peptide sequence, the first amino acid residue (aa1) is preferably a unique residue such as cysteine or lysine, that facilitates chemical conjugation of the conditional membranebinding peptide to a targeting protein. The peptide can also be incorporated into a fusion protein with a protein or peptide targeting moiety (*see* Example 7). Amino acid

- 10 residues 2-3 (*i.e.*, aa2-aa3) may be selected to modulate the affinity of the translocating peptide for different membranes. For instance, if both residues 2 and 3 are lysine or arginine, the peptide will have the capacity to bind to membranes or patches of lipids having a negative surface charge. If residues 2-3 are neutral amino acids, the peptide will insert into neutral membranes.
- 15 Yet another preferred conditional membrane-binding peptide can be derived from sequences of apo-lipoprotein A-1 and B; peptide toxins such as melittin, bombolittin, delta hemolysin and the pardaxins; antibiotic peptides, such as alamethicin; peptide hormones, such as calcitonin, corticotrophin releasing factor, beta endorphin, glucagon, parathyroid hormone, and pancreatic polypeptide. Such peptides 20 normally bind membranes at physiologic pH but through attachment of substituents the
- peptides can be enhanced in their ability to form alpha-helices at acidic pH and reduced in their membrane-binding at physiologic pH. An example of such a modified peptide having pH-dependent membrane binding at acidic pH is fully succinylated melittin. In this example, a peptide (melittin) that normally binds to membranes at physiological pH
- 25 is converted to a pH-dependent peptide through succinylation of lysines. Upon succinylation, the peptide displays an amphipathic character only at acidic pHs.

Insertion of a conditional membrane-binding peptide into a target cell membrane is enhanced through stabilization of the amphiphilic alpha helix. Helix stabilization may be achieved: (1) by adding repeating "EALA" units to form a longer

- 30 peptide; (2) by placing an amide at the C-terminus of the peptide, in order to counteract the helical dipole; (3) by polymerizing the peptide; (4) by substituting a natural helixformer for one or more of the stacked glutamates; or (5) by attaching the peptide to a targeting moiety through use of a longer linker, in order to provide sufficient distance between the membrane binding peptide and the targeting moiety for the peptide to
- 35 contact and interact with the target cell intracellular membranes.

In yet another embodiment of the present invention, a fifth functional class of rerouting moieties is disclosed. In this context, the rerouting moiety merely functions as a modulating agent in that the moiety disables the receptors by crosslinking the same. This class includes bi- or multi-valent receptor crosslinking moieties formed from monovalent binding targeting moieties. Cross-linking of receptors in some receptor systems is sufficient to cause a rerouting of cell surface receptors to lysosomes for degradation, rather than their normal pathway of receptor recycling. The synthesis of a bivalent receptor modulating agent is exemplified in greater detail in the examples below.

A preferred cross-linking receptor modulating agent is a vitamin B_{12} dimer. In this embodiment, each vitamin B_{12} molecule acts as a targeting agent and a rerouting agent; cross-linking the B₁₂ dimer will cross-link the vitamin B₁₂ receptors, thus impeding the receptor trafficking pathway. A preferred vitamin B_{12} dimer is generally comprised of two vitamin B₁₂ molecules, such as cyanocobalamin, coupled 15 by one or more linkers through coupling sites independently selected from a-g, h (ribose), and i (benzimidazole). Preferably, cross-linking occurs between d- or ecoupling sites on both molecules. The dimer must be capable of forming a B_{12} /TcII complex. As noted above, this characteristic may be assayed using any one of several techniques known in the art, including competitive binding assays.

20 A vitamin B_{12} may be coupled to a second vitamin B_{12} molecule in the same manner as described in detail for conjugation of rerouting moieties to vitamin B_{12} targeting moieties. As noted above, dimers may be synthesized using one or more linkers of various lengths and any combination of homobifunctional, heterobifunctional, homotrifunctional, or heterotrifunctional linkers. As noted above, the use of a 25 trifunctional linker allows for coupling with any number of additional moieties.

In selecting a linker for dimer synthesis, it should be noted that the total number of atoms comprising the linker between the vitamin B₁₂ molecules should generally be greater than 10 atoms, typically be in the range of 30 to 55 atoms and, preferably be 45. As noted above, one of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that 30 although the number of atoms is calculated relative to a linear chain of atoms, linear chain, branched chain, and cyclical chain linkers or combinations thereof would be suitable. Hence, the structure of the atom chain in a linker would include, by way of example, alkyl, heteroalky, alkylaryl, and heteroalkyl aryl.

By way of example, a dimer may be synthesized by combining two 35 different vitamin B_{12} linker adducts in the presence of a coupling agent. The linkers

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couple and dimers may then be separated and purified using the same methods outlined above.

Alternatively, activated vitamin B₁₂ may simply be combined with a homobifunctional or homotrifunctional linker (Tables 1 and 3). Preferably, in this embodiment, the ratio of vitamin B₁₂ to linker should be in the range of 2:1. Preferably, a 1:1 ratio is used in preparation of mixed dimers (*e.g.*, *b*- and *e*-acid derivatives) or mixed ligands (*e.g.*, B₁₂ and hormone). Dimers may be separated and purified as noted above.

In still another alternative, vitamin B₁₂ linker adducts, synthesized as described, above may be coupled by a third linker. The third linker, a "cross-linker," serves to bridge the linkers on the vitamin B₁₂ linker adducts. Suitable cross-linkers include those noted in Tables 1, 2, and 3.

Polymerization of peptides may be accomplished by placing a cysteine residue at each end of a peptide, followed by oxidation using dissolved oxygen or other 15 mild oxidizing agent, such as oxidized glutathione. The average length of a polymerized peptide may be controlled by varying the polymerization reaction conditions.

The amino acid sequence of any of the peptides of this invention may be selected to include all L-amino acids or all D-amino acids having a side chain pK_a from 5.0 to 9.0. D-amino acids may be advantageously used to form non-proteolyzable peptides, since the D-amino acids are not metabolized within the cell. Further, the peptides of the present invention may include a combination of L- and D-amino acids, wherein D-amino acids are substituted for L-amino acids on either side of a proteolytic cleavage site. Yet another preferred noncleavable peptide incorporates peptide bond analogs that are not susceptible to proteolytic cleavage by cellular enzymes.

As discussed above, the receptor modulating agents of this invention comprise a targeting moiety coupled to the rerouting moiety. The rerouting moieties identified above may be covalently attached to the targeting moiety by any one of several techniques known in the art, including (a) by chemical modifications such as a

- 30 disulfide formation, thioether formation, amide formation or a reduced or non-reduced Schiff's base, (b) by direct peptide bond formation as in a fusion protein, or (c) by use of a chemical and peptide linker. Suitable peptide linkers in this regard correspond to two or more amino acid residues that allow the rerouting peptide to assume its active conformation independent of its interaction with the targeting moiety, and which allows
- 35 sufficient distance for rerouting moiety access to, for example, intracellular membranes from the peptide attachment site on the targeting moiety.
In one embodiment, a rerouting moiety may be conjugated to a vitamin B_{12} targeting moiety by any one of several means, including, by way of example, coupling a rerouting moiety to a reactive group on a vitamin B_{12} linker adduct; coupling a vitamin B_{12} to a reactive group on a rerouting moiety linker adduct or an appropriate side chain thereof; coupling a vitamin B_{12} linker adduct to a rerouting moiety linker adduct to a rerouting moiety linker adduct or an appropriate side chain thereof; coupling a vitamin B_{12} linker adduct to a rerouting moiety linker adduct or an appropriate side chain thereof; coupling a rerouting moiety/biotin binding protein conjugate to a vitamin B_{12} /biotin conjugate; or coupling a rerouting moiety biotin conjugate to a vitamin B_{12} /biotin binding protein conjugate.

Coupling of a rerouting moiety to a vitamin B_{12} linker adduct, or a 10 vitamin B_{12} to a rerouting moiety linker adduct, may be accomplished using the same techniques noted above for coupling a vitamin B_{12} molecule with a linker. The only critical consideration of this aspect of the invention is that the total linker length must be sufficient to avoid steric hindrance. Preferably, the total linker length is at least 6 atoms.

15 Coupling of a rerouting moiety/biotin binding protein conjugate to a vitamin B₁₂/biotin conjugate may be accomplished using any one of several means described in detail in <u>Avidin-Biotin Chemistry: A Handbook</u>, ed. D. Savage, Pierce Chemical Co., 1992. Briefly, a biotin binding protein conjugate is prepared using a rerouting moiety or, as in a second embodiment, a vitamin B₁₂ molecule. Suitable biotin binding proteins include avidin or streptavidin. In some circumstances, a linker may be utilized to distance the molecules. For example, when coupling a vitamin B₁₂ to an avidin, a linker of at least 6 atoms is preferred.

A biotin conjugate is prepared using a vitamin B₁₂ molecule or, as in a second embodiment, a rerouting moiety. By way of example, a vitamin B₁₂ molecule is combined with an NHS ester of biotin. Preferably, the vitamin B₁₂ molecule is a vitamin B₁₂ linker adduct as described above. Even more preferably, the vitamin B₁₂ molecule is a vitamin B₁₂ linker adduct characterized by a 12 atom linear linker coupled to the *d*- or *e*- coupling site.

Once formulated, coupling between the biotin conjugates and biotin 30 binding protein conjugates is easily accomplished by combining the complementing conjugates, *i.e.*, a vitamin B₁₂/biotin conjugate with a rerouting moiety/avidin conjugate.

In another aspect of the present invention, a B_{12} /biotin conjugate is utilized to couple a vitamin B_{12} to any number of compounds through biotin binding protein conjugates. Using a vitamin B_{12} /biotin conjugate, any compound which is capable of coupling a biotin binding protein may be coupled to a vitamin B_{12} and

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thereby internalized into cells expressing the vitamin B_{12} receptor. Such compounds include, in addition to the rerouting moieties described in detail below, hormones, enzymes, antibodies or fragments thereof, markers, or therapeutics. Coupling any of these compounds to a biotin binding protein, such as avidin or streptavidin, may be accomplished using techniques described in detail in <u>Avidin-Biotin Chemistry:</u> A

Handbook, ed. D. Savage, Pierce Chemical Co., 1992. In one aspect of this embodiment, a vitamin B_{12} /biotin conjugate is coupled to a therapeutic/avidin conjugate directed at neoplastic disorders. Neoplastic disorder therapeutics which may be coupled to a vitamin B_{12} /biotin conjugate through

10 avidin include doxorubicin, daunorubicin, etoposide, teniposide, vinblastine, vincristin, cyclophophamide, cisplatin and nucleoside antimetabolites such as arabinosylcytosine, arabinosyladenine and fludarabine.

In another aspect of this embodiment, a vitamin B_{12} /biotin conjugate is coupled to a marker conjugated with a biotin binding protein. Suitable markers include,

- 15 by way of example, fluorescent molecules or radiolabeled molecules. This combination may be utilized as a detection system incorporated into a screening device to identify patients with low receptor bearing cells or in the evaluation of receptor up-regulation, for example, following treatment of patients for any one of a wide variety of receptor modulation disorders.
- 20 In another aspect of this embodiment, a vitamin B_{12} /biotin conjugate is coupled to a radioisotope conjugated to a biotin binding protein. Suitable radioisotopes include, any high energy emitting radioisotopes capable of conjugating a biotin binding protein. This combination may be utilized as a targeted radiodiagnostic or radiotherapeutic.
- 25 In yet another aspect of this embodiment, a vitamin B_{12} /biotin conjugate is used to immobilize vitamin B_{12} to a solid matrix or avidin-coated substrate. By way of example, this would enable one to isolate TcII, TcII receptors, and evaluate coupling sites on the Vitamin B_{12} .
- The receptor modulating agents of this invention regulate receptor-30 dependent biological responses through alterations in the receptor trafficking pathway. As illustrated in Figure 1, with specific reference to the receptor for vitamin B_{12} , cell surface receptors are often associated with clathrin-coated pits. When bound by the receptor modulating agent of the present invention, the coated pits invaginate to form vesicles. The vesicles are then directed by the rerouting agent to lysosomes for receptor
- 35 degradation or delivered to endosomes where the rerouting agent securely binds or

delays the agent/receptor complex. Thus, the receptor modulating agents can incapacitate the receptors normally undergoing recycling.

Newly synthesized receptors will eventually replace the internalized receptor on the cell surface. However, this process is far more time consuming than recycling-many cells require hours or days to achieve maximal receptor re-expression. Continued exposure of the cell to the receptor modulating agents will exhaust the intracellular receptor pools. Thus, by modulating a plasma membrane receptor, reexpression of the receptor can be substantially delayed, thereby regulating a biological response associated with that receptor for a prolonged period of time.

10 Biological activity of receptor modulating agents of the present invention may be ascertained in vitro by any one of several means known in the art including, competition binding assays or cell proliferation studies. These techniques are described in detail in Laboratory Techniques in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology: An Introduction to Radioimmunoassay and Related Techniques, 3rd Edition,

- 15 ed. Burdon and van Knippenberg, Elsevier, 1987. By way of example, a receptor modulating agent may be cultured with a suitable cell line, such as K562 cells (ATCC CCL 243), under conditions representing in vivo conditions. Such conditions would include the provision of a human source of TcII (such as human serum), vitamin B₁₂, and, preferably by careful removal by chromatography, of all TcII from other medium
- 20 supplements such that proliferation is solely dependent on a known amount of exogenous TcII. Cell cultures deprived of vitamin B₁₂ gradually lose their proliferative capacity, eventually resulting in cell death. Biological activity may be evaluated in vivo using techniques described in detail in Shieh et al., <u>J. Immunol. 152(2):859-866</u>, 1994 in which human tumor cell lines are injected into nude mice, followed by therapy
- 25 with receptor modulating agents. Next, tumor cells are removed, single cell suspensions prepared and TcII cell surface receptor density may be evaluated by flow cytometry and biotinylated vitamin B_{12} and avidin FITC.

The receptor modulating agent of the present invention may be administered in a therapeutically effective amount to treat a variety of disorders characterized in which control of the disease process or symptoms can be achieved by modulation of one or more receptor systems and the associated biological responses. Such disorders include neoplastic disorders, autoimmune diseases, rheumatic arthritis, cardiovascular disease, and neurodegenerative diseases.

Common to many non-neoplastic disease processes is a stage in which the disease process itself, or its symptoms, can be halted or ameliorated by the use of an anti-proliferative agent such as vitamin B₁₂/TcII receptor modulating agents. These commonly recognized stages include a sensitization or elicitation phase in which immune cells responsible for the disease become turned on by antigen specific or nonspecific means, followed by a proliferative phase in which the immune cells expand in number, and finally a symptomatic phase in which the expanded immune cells create

- 5 tissue damage directly or indirectly. Neoplastic disorders include, by way of example, leukemia, sarcoma, myeloma, carcinoma, neuroma, melanoma, cancers of the breast, lung, liver, brain, colon, cervix, prostrate, Hodgkin's disease, and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Because of this, anti-proliferative chemotherapeutic drugs are commonly utilized in the treatment of many diseases other than cancer, but are limited in use to life
- 10 threatening situations due to their associated toxicity. Anti-proliferative agents, such as the ones of the present invention (with little of the direct toxicity of chemotherapeutic drugs), may be used more widely. More specifically, the vitamin B_{12} receptor modulating agents of the present invention are not destructive to plasma membrane processes (*e.g.*, ion transport). In addition, the anti-proliferative activity is reversible by
- 15 administration of vitamin B_{12} . Furthermore, the agents of this invention may not be mutagenic, teratogenic, or carcinogenic since they act at the level of the plasma membrane, and not at the level of the nucleus, and DNA by intercalation or crosslinking (as many chemotherapeutic drugs act).

An understanding of the pharmaceutical applications for B₁₂/TcII 20 receptor modulating agents requires a knowledge of the cell types targeted by such therapy. To this end, various pharmaceutical applications are disclosed in Table 9 below.

	Table 9 Target Cells for Vitamin B_{12} Receptor modulating agents				
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TAI	RGET CELL	Other Proliferation Associated Markers	POTENTIAL PHARMACEUTICAL Applications		
30 Act	ivated T-Cell	IL-2 receptor Transferrin Receptor Insulin Receptor Class II Histocompatibility Antigens	Graft versus Host Disease Organ Transplants Auto-Immune Diseases Asthma Crohn's Disease		
15 Tur	nor Cells	Tumor Assoc. Ags. Ki67 Transferrin Receptor	Tumor Therapy (alone and in combination with chemotherapeutic drugs)		

Bone Marrow	CD-34	Allogeneic Bone Marrow	
Stem Cells	Transferrin Receptor	Transplants	
	Class II Histocompatibility Antigens	Reduction in Toxicity of Chemotherapy	
	IL-1, IL-3 Receptors		
Proliferating Fibroblasts	Thy 1.1 Transferrin Receptor	Inhibition of Adhesions, Scarring	
	Insulin & Insulin-like Growth-Factor Receptors	Scleroderma	
	Fibroblast Growth-Factor Receptor		
Proliferating Epithelium or Epidermal	EGF Receptor Proto-Oncogenes	Psoriasis	
	Bone Marrow Stem Cells Proliferating Fibroblasts Proliferating Epithelium or Epidermal	Bone MarrowCD-34Stem CellsTransferrin Receptor Class II Histocompatibility Antigens IL-1, IL-3 ReceptorsProliferatingThy 1.1FibroblastsTransferrin Receptor Insulin & Insulin-like Growth-Factor ReceptorsProliferatingEGF ReceptorProliferatingEGF Receptor Proto-OncogenesProliferatingEGF Receptor Proto-Oncogenes	Bone Marrow Stem CellsCD-34Allogeneic Bone Marrow Transferrin Receptor Class II Histocompatibility Antigens IL-1, IL-3 ReceptorsTransplants Reduction in Toxicity of ChemotherapyProliferating FibroblastsThy 1.1Inhibition of Adhesions, Scarring Insulin & Insulin-like Growth-Factor ReceptorsProliferating FibroblastsThy 1.1Inhibition of Adhesions, ScarringProliferating FibroblastsThy 1.1Inhibition of Adhesions, ScarringProliferating Fibroblast Growth-Factor ReceptorSclerodermaProliferating Epithelium or Epithelium or Epidermal (Continentate)EGF Receptor Proto-Oncogenes

Proliferating and activated T-cells can cause a wide variety of diseases ranging from the chronic inflammation of Crohn's disease to more acute organ graft rejection. In all of these diseases, the T-cell may serve a central pathogenic role or a more accessory role. Anti-proliferative chemotherapeutic drugs serve to reduce symptomotology and in some cases lead to long-term remission. Similarly, 25 proliferating fibroblasts and epithelial cells may give rise to diseases characterized by cell overgrowth. Vitamin B₁₂ receptor modulating agents may be used to replace or used in combination with existing chemotherapeutic regimens in these diseases. An important aspect of the use of anti-proliferative vitamin B12 receptor modulating agents in these diseases is not to apply it so aggressively or with improper timing such that 30 normal healing (adhesions, scarring) or cell renewal (psoriasis) processes are also inhibited. As such, low doses of receptor modulating agents may be used during healing and higher doses once healing is completed. Alternatively, receptor modulating agents may not be administered at all until after healing is completed.

As previously mentioned, $B_{12}/TcII$ receptor modulating agents can be used to deprive neoplastic cells of vitamin B_{12} . It has already been shown that 35 sufficient deprivation leads to the death of rapidly proliferating lymphoid neoplasms such as leukemia and lymphoma. Moreover, short term treatment to reduce cellular availability of this nutrient, combined with existing chemotherapeutic agents, markedly improves therapeutic efficacy.

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For solid tumors, vitamin B_{12} depletion may induce cytostasis and differentiation as well as cell death. Thus, B_{12} /TcII receptor modulating agents may be used to induce differentiation in hormonally responsive solid tumors. An increase in the number of cells expressing a differentiated phenotype should translate into an increase in expression of hormone receptors. The hormone receptor status of tumors,

- such as breast and prostrate cancer, are directly correlated with their response to hormonal therapy. Accordingly, B_{12} /TcII receptor modulating agents can be used to increase the number of receptor positive tumor cells or increase receptor density in order to enhance efficacy of subsequent hormonal therapy.
- 10 Vitamin B_{12} receptor modulating agents may affect both replicating neoplastic and normal cells. However, bone marrow progenitors demonstrate differential sensitivity or response. Thus, B_{12} receptor modulating agents can be used to modulate sensitivity of bone marrow progenitors so as to enhance their resistance to the toxic effects of chemotherapeutic agents. Such chemotherapeutic drugs act
- 15 primarily on replicating cells, with non-replicating cells being much less sensitive. Decreasing the sensitivity of progenitors to toxic drugs would increase the bone marrow reserves and enhance subsequent response to colony stimulating factors, and enable higher doses of chemotherapy or reduce the interval to reconstitution. It should also be recognized that such positive effects on bone marrow progenitors, as a natural 20 consequence of B₁₂ receptor therapy for cancer, is an additional mechanism by which
- the therapeutic index of chemotherapeutic drugs other than 5-FU and methotrexate can be improved.

In a variety of autoimmune diseases, graft versus host disease, ectopic allergy, and organ transplantation, an initial 'induction' phase, in which the patient becomes sensitized to self or allo-antigens, is followed by a "proliferative" phase in which forbidden or unregulated clones of B- or T-cells are expanded. It has long been known that treatment with anti-proliferative, chemotherapeutic drugs following induction can inhibit expansion of forbidden clones, inhibit progression of disease, and restore a stable state of tolerance.

- 30 Inflammation is an application for which antibodies are already being utilized in clinical trials. The primary emphasis has been on inhibiting the early manifestations of inflammation by inhibiting recruitment or binding of inflammatory cells to vascular endothelium of injured tissue. It also well recognized that proliferation of cells at the site of inflammation contributes to the pathology and tissue destruction of
- 35 both acute as well as chronic inflammation. To this end, anti-proliferative, chemotherapeutic drugs have been widely used to inhibit sequelae of inflammation.

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Methotrexate is one such drug commonly used to treat symptoms associated with rheumatoid arthritis. The drug acts to reduce both localized (e.g., synovium) and generalized inflammation associated with disease progression. Methotrexate acts synergistically with vitamin B_{12} depletion in therapy of leukemia. B_{12} receptor modulating agents can therefore be combined with methotrexate to enhance efficacy in rheumatoid arthritis. Other methotrexate applications include treating destructive inflammation associated with chronic heart disease and colitis.

Surgery, radiation or chemotherapy to the abdomen is often complicated by the development of tissue adhesions. These represent a considerable clinical problem because they lead to bowel blockage and require surgical intervention. Peritoneal adhesions arise as a result of proliferation of the cells of the peritoneal membrane lining the abdomen. A non-toxic means of interfering with such proliferation could lead to restoration of these normal cells to homeostatic control mechanisms and thereby inhibition of adhesion formation. A similar process of benign proliferation and subsequent scarring is a complication of retinal surgery. Direct

instillation of a small molecule analog of an antibody receptor antagonist could prevent such disabling complications.

The term "treatment" as used within the context of the present invention, refers to reducing or alleviating symptoms in a subject, preventing symptoms from 20 worsening or progressing, inhibition or elimination of the causative agent, or prevention, of the infection or disorder in a subject who is free therefrom. Thus, for example, treatment of infection includes destruction of the infecting agent, inhibition of or interference with its growth or maturation, neutralization of its pathological effects and the like. A disorder is "treated" by partially or wholly remedying the deficiency which 25 causes the deficiency or which makes it more severe.

The receptor modulating agents of the present invention are administered in a therapeutically effective dose. A therapeutically effective dose may be determined by <u>in vitro</u> experiment followed by <u>in vivo</u> studies.

- Pharmaceutical compositions containing the receptor modulating agents 30 in an admixture with a pharmaceutical carrier or diluent can be prepared according to conventional pharmaceutical compounding techniques. The carrier may take a wide variety of forms depending on the form of preparation desired for administration (*e.g.*, intravenous, oral topical, aerosol, suppository, parenteral or spinal injection). Preferably, administration is via stereotactical injection.
 - The following examples are offered by way of illustration, not limitation.

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EXAMPLES

In summary, the examples which follow disclose the synthesis of several receptor modulating agents of this invention utilizing different functional classes of rerouting moieties. More specifically, a series of examples are presented which employ vitamin B₁₂ as a targeting moiety in a receptor modulating agent.

All chemicals purchased from commercial sources were analytical grade or better and were used without further purification unless noted. Isophthaloyl dichloride was purchased from Lancaster Synthesis Inc. (Windham, NH). All other
 reagents were obtained from Aldrich Chemical Co. (Milwaukee, WI). Solvents for HPLC analysis were obtained as HPLC grade and were filtered (0.2 µm) prior to use. Ion exchange chromatography was conducted with 200-400 mesh strongly basic anion 2% cross-linking Dowex-1-chloride (Aldrich Chemical Co). Amberlite XAD-2 nonionic polymeric adsorbent and octadecyl functionalized silica gel for column thromatography were obtained from Aldrich Chemical Co.

¹H NMR were obtained on Bruker AC-500 (500 MHz) instrument. The chemical shifts are expressed as ppm (δ) using tetramethylsilane as internal reference. IR data were obtained on a Perkin-Elmer 1420 infrared spectrophotometer. UV data were obtained on a Perkin-Elmer Lambda 2 UV/V is spectrophotometer. Mass spectral data were obtained on a VG 7070H mass spectrometer using fast atom bombardment

(FAB).

HPLC separations of compounds were obtained on Hewlett-Packard quaternary 1050 gradient pumping system with a UV detector. Analysis of the HPLC data were obtained on a Hewlett-Packard HPLC Chemstation software.

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HPLC for Monomers: HPLC separations were conducted at a flow rate of 1 mL/min. on a 5 mm, 4.6 250 mm NH₂ column (RAININ microsorb-MV amino column) eluting with 58 mM pyridine acetate, pH 4.4 in H₂O : THF (96 : 4) solution. Retention times were: 1 = 4.3 min; 2 = 6.5 min; 3 = 8.0 min; 4 = 8.8 min; 5 = 10.9 min; 6 = 2.3 min; 7 = 2.3 min; 8 = 3.0 min; 9 = 2.9 min; 10 = 2.9 min; 13 = 3.4 min.

- 30 Reverse-phase HPLC chromatography was carried out using a Hewlett-Packard Lichrospher 100 RP-18 (5 mm, 125 X 4 mm) C-18 column using a gradient solvent system at a flow rate of 1 mL/min. Solvent A in the gradient was methanol. Solvent B was H₂O. Starting from an 40% A, the gradient was increased to 100% A over 10 min. The gradient was then brought back to 40% A over a 5 min period. Retention times
- 35 under these conditions for biotin conjugates were: 17 = 7.1 min; 18 = 7.2 min; 19 = 6.9 min; 20 = 6.4 min.

Preparative LC was conducted to separate the mixture of monocarboxylic acids using RAININ Rabbit-plus peristaltic pumping system with a DYNAMAX (model UV-1) UV-visible absorbance detector at a flow rate of 0.15 mL/min. ID column (Alltech, 150 psi), (1000 mm X 25 mm) packed with aminopropyl silica (40-63 mm) was used.

HPLC for Dimers: For dimers 36, 37, and 38 solvent A in the gradient was methanol. Solvent B was H₂O. The gradient was held at the starting mixture of 70% A for 2 min, then the percentage of A was linearly increased to 100% over the next 10 min. The gradient was held at 100% A for 20 min. Retention times under these conditions for dimers were: 36 = 8.7 min; 37 = 9.0 min; 38 = 8.9 min. For dimers 58-60 and 64-66 Solvent A in the gradient was methanol. Solvent B was aqueous 1% acetic acid. The gradient was begun at 40% A and was held at that composition for 2 min, then the percentage of A was linearly increased to 100% over the next 10 min. Retention times for the compounds examined under these conditions were: 58 = 14.0min; 59 = 14.1 min; 60 = 13.9 min; 64 = 8.7 min; 65 = 8.6 min; 66 = 9.0 min.

EXAMPLE 1

PREPARATION AND PURIFICATION OF CYANOCOBALAMIN **MONOCARBOXYLATES: MODIFICATION ON THE CORRIN RING**

This example serves to demonstrate the hydrolysis of b-, d- and epropionamide sites on a vitamin B₁₂ molecule using dilute acid in preparation for coupling of a linker to the sites. Importantly, the hydrolysis of the b-, d- and epropionamides is selective over the hydrolysis of a-, c- and g-acetamides, or the f-amide in the heterocyclic chain connecting the benzimidazole. An optimal yield of monocarboxylate to di- and tri-carboxylate derivatives was obtained at room temperature in 0.1 N HCl over a 10 day period. The non-hydrolyzed vitamin B₁₂ and the di- and tri-carboxylates produced were readily isolated from the desired monocarboxylates by preparative liquid chromatography.

Specifically, cyanocobalamin (1) (3.7 mmol, 5 g) was dissolved in 500 mL of 0.1 N HCl and stirred at room temperature for 10 days under argon atmosphere. The solution was then neutralized with 6 N NaOH and the cobamides were desalted by extraction into phenol and applied to a 200 g (60 x 4 cm, 200-400 mesh) Dowex Cl⁻ x 2 column (acetate form; prepared by washing with saturated sodium acetate until it was free from Cl-, then washing with 200 mL water). The column was eluted with water to

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remove unreacted cyanocobalamin and then eluted with 0.04 M sodium acetate (pH 4.67).

The first fraction of the elution contained three monocarboxylic acids. These were desalted by extraction into 100 mL of 90% (w/w) phenol, twice with 25 mL and once with 10 mL of phenol. Three volumes of ethyl ether (3 x 160 mL) and 1 volume of acetone (160 mL) were added to the combined phenol extracts. Monocarboxylic acids were removed from the organic phase by extraction with water (2 x 100 mL). The combined aqueous phases were extracted twice with 20 mL of ether to remove residual phenol. The aqueous solution of monocarboxylic acids was evaporated to dryness. Yield: 2.5 g (50%).

The mixture of three acids (0.350 g) was then applied to a 200 g (1000 mm x 25 mm) column of aminopropyl coated silica (40-63 mm) and was eluted with 58 mM pyridine acetate pH 4.4 in H₂O : THF (96 : 4); the elute was collected with an automatic fraction collector. The first eluted acid was found to be *b*-monocarboxylic

acid (2), the second eluted acid was *e*-monocarboxylic acid (3) and the third eluted acid was *d*-monocarboxylic acid (4). The acid fractions were desalted by phenol extraction.
The solids obtained were crystallized from aqueous acetone.

b-acid (2): yield 0.122 g (35%), mp 267-270°C with decomposition, ¹H
NMR (MeOH-d₄, δ) 0.43 (s, 3H, C-20 CH₃); 1.00 (m, 2H); 1.18 (s, 3H, C-46 CH₃);
1.24 (d, 3H, Pr₃ CH₃); 1.36 (br s, 9H, C-47 CH₃, C-54 CH₃); 1.4 (s, 3H, C-25 CH₃);
1.9 (d, 7H, C-36 CH₃, C-30 CH₂, C-48 CH₂); 2.26 (d, 6H, B10 & B11, CH₃); 2.36 (d, 2H, C-26 CH₂); 2.57 (s, 10H, C-35 CH₃, C-31 CH₂, C-37 CH₂, C-53 CH₃); 2.8 (m, 2H, C-60 CH₂); 3.3 (m, 3H, C-8H, C-13H); 3.6 (m, 2H, Pr₁ CH₂); 3.7 (d, 1H, R₅);
3.9 (d, 1H, R₅); 4.0 (m, 1H, R₄); 4.12 (d, 1H, C-19); 4.17 (s, 1H, C-3); 4.3 (m, 1H,

R₂); 4.5 (m, 1H); 4.7 (m, 1H, R₃); 6.0 (s, 1H, C-10); 6.2 (s,1H, R₁); 6.5 (s,1H, B4);
7.1 (s, 1H, B2); 7.2 (s, 1H, B7). MS (FAB⁺): m/e 1357 (M⁺ +1). IR (KBr): 3400,
3200, 2950, 2060, 1660, 1570, 1490, 1060 cm⁻¹. UV (MeOH): λ360 (ε23441)

e-acid (3): yield 0.168 g (48%), mp 245-250° C with decomposition, ¹H NMR (MeOH-d₄, δ) 0.43 (s, 3H, C-20 CH₃); 1.01 (m, 2H); 1.15 (s, 3H, C-46 CH₃); 1.23 (d, 3H, Pr₃ CH₃); 1.36 (br s, 9H, C-47 CH₃, C-54 CH₃); 1.4 (s, 3H, C-25 CH₃); 1.83 (s, 4H, C-55 CH₂); 1.93 (m, 6H, C-36 CH₃, C-30 CH₂, C-48 CH₂); 2.22 (d, 6H, B10 & B11 CH₃); 2.35 (s, 3H,C-26 CH₂); 2.5 (d, 13H, C-35 CH₃, C-31 CH₂, C-37 CH₂, C-53 CH₃); 2.9 (m, 1H, C-60 H); 3.2 (m, 1H, C-13H); 3.4 (m, 1H, C-8 H); 3.6 (d, 1H, Pr1 CH); 3.7 (d, 1H); 3.9 (d, 1H); 4.0 (m, 2H); 4.1 (d, 1H); 4.2 (m, 2H); 4.6

35 (m, 1H); 6.0 (s, 1H, C-10); 6.3 (d, 1H, R1); 6.5 (s, 1H, B4); 7.0 (s, 1H, B2); 7.2 (s,

1H, B7). MS (FAB⁺): m/e 1357 (M⁺ +1). IR (KBr): 3400, 3200, 2950, 2060, 1660, 1570, 1490, 1060 cm⁻¹. UV (MeOH): λ 360 (ϵ 21 842)]

d-acid (4): yield 0.060 g (17%), mp > 300° C, ¹H NMR (MeOH- d_4 , δ) 0.43 (s, 3H, C-20 CH₃); 1.04 (m, 2H); 1.15 (s, 3H, C-46 CH₃); 1.25 (d, 3H, Pr₃ CH₃); 1.36 (br s, 9H, C-47 CH₃, C-54 CH₃); 1.4 (s, 3H, C-25 CH₃); 1.85 (s, 4H); 2.01 (s, 5 6H); 2.23 (d, 8H, B10 & B11 CH₃); 2.38 (d, 3H, C-26 CH₂); 2.53 (d, 13H, C-36 CH₃, C-30 CH₂, C-48 CH₂); 2.6 (m, 5H); 2.9 (m, 1H, C-60 H); 3.3 (d, 1H, C-13H); 3.4 (m, 1H, C-8 H); 3.6 (d, 1H, Pr₁ CH); 3.7 (d, 1H); 3.9 (d, 1H); 4.0 (m, 2H); 4.1 (d, 1H); 4.3 (m, 2H); 6.0 (s, 1H, C-10); 6.3 (d, 1H, R1); 6.5 (s, 1H, B4); 7.1 (s, 1H, B2);

7.2 (s, 1H, B7); UV (MeOH): λ 360 (ϵ 22 127). MS (FAB⁺): m/e 1357 (M⁺ +1). IR 10 (KBr): 3400, 3200, 2950, 2060, 1660, 1570, 1490, 1060 cm⁻¹.

EXAMPLE 2

CYANOCOBALAMIN MODIFIED ON RIBOSE: SUCCINATE CONJUGATE (5)

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This example serves to demonstrate the activation of the ribose coupling site coupling site h (see structure I) with succinic anhydide. Cyanocobalamin (1) (0.15 mmoL, 200 mg) was dissolved in 40 mL of dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO) containing 8 g (80 mmoL) of succinic anhydride and 6.4 mL of pyridine. After 14-16 h at room 20 temperature, the excess of succinic anhydride was destroyed by adding 500 mL of water and keeping the pH of the reaction mixture at 6 with 10% KOH. KCN was then added at a final concentration of 0.01 M and the pH of the solution was readjusted to 6 with 3 N HCl. After 1 h the cyanocobalamin components were desalted by phenol extraction and applied to a 100 g of Dowex Cl⁻ (60 x 2.5 cm) column (acetate form, 200-400 mesh). The cyanocobalamin was eluted with water. Succinate conjugate (5) was eluted with NaOAc (0.04 M, pH 4.67) which yielded 180 mg (85 %) after isolation. The O2',O5'-disuccinyl derivative remained absorbed on the column under these conditions. mp 208-210° C with decomposition.

¹H NMR (D₂O-d₄, δ): 0.43 (s, 3H, C-20 CH₃); 0.95 (m, 2H); 1.15 (s, 3H); 1.2 (d, 3H); 1.35 (d, 7H); 1.4 (s, 3H); 1.8 (s, 3H); 1.9 (s, 12H); 2.2 (d, 6H); 30 2.36 (d, 2H); 2.5 (d, 10H); 2.6-2.7 (m, 7H); 3.0 (m, 1H); 3.3 (d, 1H); 3.37 (m, 1H); 3.5 (d, 1H); 4.0 (d. 1H); 4.18 (m, 2H); 4.25 (m, 3H); 4.54 (d, 1H); 6.0 (s, 1H); 6.3 (d, 1H); 6.4 (s, 1H); 7.0 (s, 1H); 7.2 (s, 1H). MS (FAB⁺): m/e 1455 (M⁺ +1). IR (KBr): 3400, 3200, 2950, 2060, 1660, 1570, 1490, 1060 cm⁻¹; UV (MeOH): λ360 (ε 35 26041).

EXAMPLE 3

COUPLING OF CYANOCOBALAMIN MONOCARBOXYLIC ACIDS WITH 1,12-DIAMINODODECANE: REACTION WITHOUT SODIUM CYANIDE

This example serves to demonstrate the coupling of a linker to a cyanocobalamin monocarboxylate. Coupling of the monocarboxylates (2, 3, 4) with diaminododecane was first attempted using N-ethyl-N'-dimethylamino-propyl-carbodiimide hydrochloride (EDC) in H₂O according to Yamada and Hogenkamp, <u>J.</u>

- 10 <u>Biol. Chem. 247</u>, 6266-6270, 1972. However, the products obtained did not have a reactive amino group. Alteration of the reaction conditions by changing the reaction mixture to DMF/H₂O and adding NaCN/N-hydroxysuccinimide (see Example 4) to the reaction mixture gave the desired diaminododecane adducts.
- A mixture of cyanocobalamin monocarboxylic acid (0.370 mmoL, 500 15 mg) and 1,12-diaminododecane (3.6 g) in 100 mL H₂O was adjusted to pH 6 with 1 N HCl. The solution was then treated with N-ethyl-N'-dimethylamino-propylcarbodiimide-hydrochloride (EDC) (726 mg) and stirred at room temperature for 22 h. In 5 intervals of 6 to 14 h, 650 mg of EDC was added to the reaction mixture. After a total reaction time of 4 days (HPLC monitoring) the solution was evaporated to dryness, the residue was digested with 100 mL of acetone and the solvent was decanted.
- 20 dryness, the residue was digested with 100 mL of acetone and the solvent was decanted. The solid residue was dissolved in 50 mL of water and applied to an 175 g Amberlite XAD-2 (60 x 4 cm) column. Contaminates were washed from the column with 1L water, then the crude product was eluted with 500 mL of methanol. The solution was evaporated to dryness, the residue was dissolved in 25 mL of water and was applied to a
- 25 100g Dowex Cl⁻ (60 x 2.5 cm) column (acetate form, 200-400 mesh). The final product was eluted using 250 mL of water, thereby leaving non-converted acid bound to the column, which was later eluted with 0.04 mol/L sodium acetate buffer pH 4.67. The fraction containing the final product was evaporated to dryness.
- The mass spectral value obtained indicated that HCN was lost from the 30 desired product. Further, ¹H NMR data suggested that some protons were being affected by the cobalt. Thus, this reaction was conducted with NaCN (Example 4) to drive the equilibrium towards retention of Co-CN. N-hydroxy succinimide was also added to facilitate the coupling reaction.

e-acid adduct (6): Yield: 222 mg (40%). mp 172-174° C with 35 decomposition. ¹H NMR (MeOH-d₄, δ): 0.43 (m, 3H, C-20 CH₃); 1.06 (t, 4H, C-46 CH₃); 1.16 (m, 5H); 1.2 (m, 5H); 1.33 (m, 7H); 1.43 (s, 3H); 1.68 (m, 4H); 1.86 (m,

5H); 2.2 (m, 8H); 2.3 (m, 6H); 2.4 (m, 10H); 2.55 (m, 10H); 2.8 (m, 4H); 3.1 (m, 6H); 3.3 (m, 5H); 3.6 (m, 2H); 3.7 (m, 2H); 3.8 (m, 1H); 4.0 (m, 1H); 4.1 (m, 1H); 4.16 (m, 1H); 4.3 (m, 1H); 4.48 (m, 1H); 4.6 (m, 1H); 6.0 (d 1H, C-10); 6.2 (m, 1H, R1); 6.5 (m, 1H, B4); 7.1 (m, 1H, B2); 7.2 (m, 1H, B7). MS (FAB⁺): m/e 1512. IR (KBr): 3400, 3200, 2950, 1660, 1570, 1490, 1060 cm⁻¹. UV (MeOH): λ 360 (ϵ 21 877). *d-acid adduct* (7): yield: 225 mg (45%), mp 195-198° C with decomposition. ¹H NMR (MeOH-d₄, δ): 0.43 (m, 3H, C-20 CH₃); 1.09 (m, 7H); 1.14 (m, 6H); 1.2 (m, 10H); 1.27 (m, 10H); 1.33 (m, 6H); 1.5 (m, 3H); 1.77 (s, 3H); 2.2 (m, 8H); 2.26 (s, 2H); 2.5 (m, 10H); 2.7 (m, 5H); 3.0 (m, 2H); 3.1 (m, 2H); 3.2 (m, 3H); 3.5 (m, 2H); 3.6 (m, 1H); 3.8 (m, 1H); 3.9 (m, 1H); 4.0 (m, 1H); 4.1 (m, 1H); 4.2 (m, 1H); 4.4 (m, 1H); 4.6 (m, 1H); 6.0 (d 1H, C-10); 6.1 (m, 1H, R₁); 6.4 (m, 1H, B4); 7.0 (m, 1H, B2); 7.1 (m, 1H, B7); MS (FAB⁺): m/e 1512, IR (KBr): 3400, 3200, 2950, 1660, 1570, 1490, 1060 cm⁻¹; UV (MeOH): λ 360 (ϵ 22 680).

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EXAMPLE 4

COUPLING OF CYANOCOBALAMIN MONOCARBOXYLIC ACIDS WITH 1,12-DIAMINODODECANE: REACTION CONTAINING SODIUM CYANIDE

Cyanocobalamin monocarboxylic acid (2, 3, 4) (0.370 mmoL, 500 mg) 20 and N-hydroxysuccinimide (1.48 mmoL, 170 mg) were dissolved in a mixture of DMF: H₂O (1:1) (18.4 mL) and 363 mg of NaCN was added. 1,12-Diaminododecane was dissolved in a mixture of DMF : H₂O (1:1) (18.4 mL) and the pH was adjusted to 6 with 1 N HCl. The diaminododecane solution was then added in one portion to the cyanocobalamin solution. EDC (285 mg) was added and the pH of the solution was 25 readjusted to 5.5. The reaction mixture was then stirred overnight in the dark at room temperature. In 5 intervals of 6-14 h, 170 mg of N-hydroxysuccinimide and 285 mg of EDC were added to the solution, readjusting the pH value 5.5 each time. After a total reaction time of 4 days (reaction followed by HPLC), the solution was evaporated to dryness. The residue was digested with 100 mL of acetone and the solvent was decanted. The solid residue was dissolved in 50 mL of H₂O and applied to an 200 g 30 Amberlite XAD-2 (60 x 4 cm) column. The column was eluted with 1 L water to remove undesired materials, then the desired product was eluted with 500 mL methanol. The solution was evaporated to dryness, the residue was dissolved in 25 mL of water and was applied to a 100 g Dowex Cl⁻ (60 x 2.5 cm) column (acetate form, 200-400 mesh). The desired product was eluted from the column with 250 mL water, leaving 35

any non-reacted acid bound to the column. This was followed by elution with 0.04

mol/L sodium acetate buffer pH 4.7. The fractions containing the final product were evaporated to dryness.

b-isomer (8): yield 410 mg (82%), mp 172-174° C with decomposition.
¹H NMR (MeOH-d₄, δ) 0.43 (s, 3H, C-20 CH₃); 1.18 (s, 4H); 1.3 (m, 13H); 1.39 (m, 13H); 1.45 (s, 5H); 1.6 (m, 4H); 1.72 (m, 2H); 1.9 (s, 6H); 2.25 (d, 6H, B10 & B11 CH₃); 2.35 (m, 5H); 2.56 (m, 5H); 2.8-3.0 (m, 8H); 3.15 (m, 4H); 3.3 (m, 2H); 3.4 (m, 2H); 3.6 (m, 1H); 3.68 (m, 1H); 3.75 (m, 1H); 3.9 (d, 1H); 4.07 (m, 1H); 4.12 (d, 1H); 4.2 (br s, 1H); 4.3 (m, 1H); 4.47 (m, 1H); 4.7 (m, 1H); 6.0 (s, 1H, C-10); 6.2 (d, 1H, R₁); 6.5 (s, 1H, B4); 7.1 (s, 1H, B2); 7.2 (s, 1H, B7); MS (FAB⁺): m/e 1539 (M⁺+1). IR (KBr): 3400, 3200, 2950, 2060, 1660, 1570, 1490, 1060 cm⁻¹. UV

(MeOH): λ360 (ε15409).

e-isomer (9): yield: 430 mg (86%), mp 175-180° C with decomposition, ¹H NMR (MeOH-d₄, δ) 0.43 (s, 3H, C-20 CH₃); 1.17 (s, 4H, C-46 CH₃); 1.22 (d, 4H, Pr₃ CH₃); 1.29 (s, 24H); 1.36 (br s, 6H); 1.4 (s, 6H); 1.6 (m, 3H);

1.87 (s, 8H); 2.05 (m, 2H); 2.25 (s, 6H, B10 & B11 CH₃); 2.36 (m, 3H); 2.55 (d, 10H); 2.8 (s, 4H); 3.06 (t, 2H); 3.1 (m, 3H); 3.3 (s, 1H); 3.34 (m, 1H); 3.4 (m, 1H); 3.58 (m, 1H); 3.65 (m, 1H); 3.75 (d, 1H); 3.9 (d, 1H); 4.0 (m, 1H); 4.1 (d, 1H); 4.16 (m, 1H); 4.3 (m, 2H); 4.48 (m, 2H); 4.6 (m, 1H); 6.0 (s, 1H, C-10); 6.3 (d, 1H, R1); 6.5 (s, 1H, B4); 7.0 (s, 1H, B2); 7.2 (s, 1H, B7); MS (FAB⁺): m/e 1539 (M⁺ +1).
 20 IR (KBr): 3400, 3200, 2950, 2060, 1660, 1570, 1490, 1060 cm⁻¹. UV (MeOH): λ360 (

ε16 720)

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d-isomer (10): yield: 400 mg (80%), mp 174-178° C with decomposition, ¹H NMR (MeOH-d₄, δ) 0.43 (s, 3H, C-20 CH₃); 1.07 (m, 3H, C-46 CH₃); 1.2 (d, 4H, Pr₃ CH₃); 1.27 (m, 15H); 1.35 (br s, 9H); 1.42 (s, 3H); 1.53 (m, 2H); 1.6 (m, 4H); 1.86 (s, 4H); 2.25 (d, 6H, B10 & B11 CH₃); 2.5 (d, 10H); 2.8 (s, 2H); 1.6 (m, 4H); 1.86 (s, 4H); 2.8 (s, 2H); 1.6 (m, 4H); 1.86 (s, 4H); 2.8 (s, 2H); 1.8 (s

3H); 2.9 (m, 6H); 3.15 (m, 3H); 3.2 (m, 4H); 3.4 (m, 3H); 3.6 (d, 1H); 3.75 (d, 1H); 3.96 (d, 1H); 4.08 (m, 2H); 4.19 (m, 1H); 4.3 (m, 2H); 4.65 (m, 1H); 6.0 (s, 1H, C-10); 6.3 (d, 1H, R₁); 6.5 (s, 1H, B4); 7.1 (s, 1H, B2); 7.2 (s, 1H, B7); UV (MeOH):

- $\lambda 360$ ($\epsilon 17$ 665). MS (FAB⁺): m/e 1539 (M⁺ +1). IR (KBr): 3400, 3200, 2950,
- $30 \quad 2060, 1660, 1570, 1490, 1060 \text{ cm}^{-1}.$

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EXAMPLE 5

COUPLING OF CYANOCOBALAMIN MONOCARBOXYLIC ACIDS WITH GAMMA-AMINOBUTYRIC ACID (GABA)

This example serves to demonstrate the coupling of a gammaaminobutyric acid (GABA) linker to a vitamin B_{12} molecule. This reaction scheme is represented in Figure 9.

Gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA) tert-butyl ester (11) (1 mmol) and cyanocobalamin monocarboxylates (2, 3, 4) (0.1 mmol.) are mixed in 20 mL H₂O and sufficient 0.1 N HCl is added to adjust to pH to 6.0. N-ethyl-N¹-dimethylaminopropylcarbodiimide hydrochloride (EDC) (0.5 mmol) is added to the solution. The reaction mixture is stirred at room temperature for 24 hours and then the mixture is dried under vacuum. This reaction mixture is treated with TFA to remove the tert-butyl ester. A cyanocobalamin-GABA adduct (12) was purified. Reverse-15 phase HPLC chromatography is carried out as described above. A cyanocobalamin-GABA adduct (12) was purified.

GABA adduct (12) can be further activated with a carbodiimide and coupled to a moiety as described below.

Example 6

CYANOCOBALAMIN MODIFIED ON RIBOSE: SUCCINATE-DIAMINODODECANE CONJUGATE (13)

Cyanocobalamin-Ribose-Succinate (5) (0.370 mmoL, 538 mg) and Nhydroxylsuccinimide (1.48 mmoL, 170 mg) were dissolved in a mixture of DMF : H₂O 25 (1:1) (18.4 mL) and 363 mg of NaCN was added. This reaction scheme is represented in Figure 11. 1,12-Diaminododecane was taken in a mixture of DMF : H₂O (1:1) (18.4 mL), pH was adjusted to 6 with 1N HCl. The diaminododecane solution was then added in a portion to the cyanocobalamin solution. EDC (285 mg) was added, the pH of the solution was readjusted to 5.5 and the reaction mix. was stirred overnight in the 30 dark at room temperature. In 5 intervals of 6 to 14 h 170 mg of N-hydroxysuccinimide and 285 mg of EDC was added to the solution, readjusting the pH 5.5 each time. After a total reaction time of 4 days (HPLC monitored) the solution was evaporated to dryness, the residue was digested with 100 mL of acetone and the solvent was decanted. The solid residue was dissolved in 50 mL of H_2O and applied to an 200 g Amberlite 35 XAD-2 (60 x 4 cm) column. Contaminates were washed from the column with 1 L

water and then the crude product was eluted with 500 mL methanol. The solution was

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evaporated to dryness, the residue was dissolved in 25 mL of water and was applied to a 100 g Dowex Cl⁻ (60 x 2.5 cm) column (acetate form, 200-400 mesh). The final product was eluted using 250 mL water, thereby leaving non-converted acid bound to the column, which was later eluted with 0.04 mol/L sodium acetate buffer pH 4.7. The fraction containing the final product (13) was evaporated to dryness. Yield : 425 mg

(70%), mp 185-187° C with decomposition.

¹H NMR (MeOH-d₄, δ): 0.43 (s, 3H, C-20 CH₃); 1.15 (s, 3H); 1.2 (d, 3H); 1.3 (s, 27H); 1.4 (m, 3H); 1.55 (m, 6H); 1.85 (m, 12H); 2.2 (d, 6H); 2.3 (d, 6H); 2.5 (d, 10H); 2.8 (m, 10H); 3.0 (t, 3H); 3.1 (t, 3H); 3.2 (s, 6H); 3.3 (m, 4H); 3.58 (m, 2H); 3.6 (d, 1H); 4.1 (d. 1H); 4.2 (m, 2H); 4.3 (m, 1H); 4.4 (d, 1H); 6.0 (s, 1H); (2.4 (d, 1H); (5.6 (d, 1H); 7.1 (d, 1H); 7.2 (d, 1H); 1.6 (d, 1H); 4.1 (d, 1H); 4.2 (d, 1H); 4.1 (d

1H); 6.2 (d, 1H); 6.5 (s, 1H); 7.1 (s, 1H); 7.2 (s, 1H). MS (FAB⁺): m/e 1638 (M⁺). IR (KBr): 3400, 3200, 2950, 2060, 1660, 1570, 1490, 1060 cm⁻¹; UV (MeOH): λ360.

EXAMPLE 7

15 MODIFICATION OF CYANOCOBALAMIN MONOCARBOXYLIC ACIDS CONJUGATED WITH 1,12-DIAMINODODECANE: REACTION WITH SUCCINIC ANHYDRIDE

This example serves to demonstrate modification of an amino terminus linking moiety to a carboxylate terminus. Such a modification may be necessary for conjugating amino containing rerouting agents (*e.g.*, aminosugars) to cyanocobalamin derivatives containing a linker.

Cyanocobalamin carboxylic acid diaminododecane conjugate (8, 9, 10) (0.138 mmoL, 200 mg) was dissolved in 40 mL of dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO) containing 8 g (80 mmoL) of succinic anhydride and 6.4 mL of pyridine. After 14-16 h

- 25 at room temperature, the excess of succinic anhydride was destroyed by adding 500 mL of water and keeping the pH of the reaction mixture at 6 with 10% KOH. KCN was then added at a final concentration of 0.01 M and the pH of the solution was readjusted to 6 with 3 N HCl. After 1 h the cyanocobalamin components were desalted by phenol extraction. The residue was digested with 100 mL of acetone and the solvent was
- 30 decanted. It was dissolved in 40 mL of H_2O . 1N NaOH (2 mL) was added to it and the reaction was stirred at room temperature for 15-20 min. It was then neutralized with 1N HCl and the cyanocobalamin components (14, 15, 16) were desalted by phenol extraction. Yield: 80 mg (40%); mp 190-198° C with decomposition.

¹H NMR (MeOH-d₄, δ): 0.43 (s, 3H, C-20 CH₃); 1.17 (s, 4H, C-46
CH₃); 1.23 (d, 4H, Pr₃ CH₃); 1.29 (s, 24H); 1.36 (br s, 6H); 1.4 (s, 6H); 1.87 (s, 4H);
2.05 (m, 2H); 2.25 (s, 6H, B10 & B11 CH₃); 2.35 (m, 3H); 2.4 (m, 5H); 2.55 (d,

10H); 2.7 (s, 5H); 2.8 (m, 2H); 3.1 (m, 6H); 3.3 (s, 6H); 3.4 (m, 1H); 3.65 (m, 2H); 3.75 (d, 1H); 3.9 (d, 1H); 4.0 (m, 1H); 4.1 (d, 1H); 4.16 (m, 1H); 4.3 (m, 1H); 4.48 (m, 1H); 4.6 (m, 2H); 6.0 (s, 1H, C-10); 6.3 (d, 1H, R₁); 6.5 (s, 1H, B4); 7.1 (s, 1H, B2); 7.2 (s, 1H, B7). MS (FAB⁺): m/e 1639 (M⁺). IR (KBr): 3400, 3200, 2950, 2060, 1660, 1570, 1490, 1060 cm⁻¹. UV (MeOH): λ 360 (ϵ 22 564).

Example 8

CYANOCOBALAMIN MODIFIED ON MONOCARBOXYLIC ACID: DIAMINODODECANE-BIOTIN CONJUGATES

This example serves to demonstrate coupling a vitamin B_{12} derivative and biotin. Biotin conjugates (17, 18, 19) were obtained by reaction of activated cyanocobalamin monocarboxylic acid diaminododecane (14), (15), and (16) with the NHS ester of biotin (Sigma Chemical Co.).

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To a solution of cyanocobalamin monocarboxylic acid diaminododecane conjugate (14, 15, 16) (300 mg, 0.195 mmoL) in DMF (35 mL), was added triethylamine (0.027 mL, 0.195 mmoL). N-Hydroxysuccinimidobiotin (100 mg, 0.295 mmoL) was then added over a period of 10-15 min and evaporated to dryness. The solid residue was dissolved in 20 mL of water and applied to an 75 g of Dowex Cl⁻ (40 x 2 cm) (acetate form, 200-400 mesh) column. The product was eluted using 250 mL

- 20 x 2 cm) (acetate form, 200-400 mesh) column. The product was eluted using 250 mL of water. It was then evaporated to dryness, the residue was dissolved in a 10 mL of methanol water (7:3 v/v) and the solution was applied to a reverse phase C-18 column (500 mm x 25 mm, Alltech, 150 psi) which was developed with the same solvent. RAININ Rabbit-plus peristaltic pumping system was used with a DYNAMAX (model
- 25 UV-1) UV visible absorbance detector. The eluate was collected with an automatic fraction collector. The fractions containing the final product (HPLC monitored) were evaporated to dryness.

b-isomer (17): yield 159 mg (53%), mp 210-212° C with decomposition, ¹H NMR (MeOH-d₄, δ): 0.43 (s, 3H, C-20 CH₃); 1.18 (s, 4H); 1.3 (m, 13H); 1.39 (m, 13H); 1.45 (s, 5H); 1.6 (m, 4H); 1.72 (m, 2H); 1.9 (s, 6H); 2.2 (d, 8H, B10 & B11 CH₃); 2.6 (d, 12H); 2.7 (m, 3H); 2.8-3.0 (m, 8H); 3.1 (m, 3H); 3.2 (m, 2H); 3.4 (s, 1H); 3.6 (m, 2H); 3.68 (d, 1H); 3.75 (m, 1H); 3.9 (d, 1H); 4.07 (m, 1H); 4.12 (d, 1H); 4.2 (s, 1H); 4.3 (m, 1H); 4.47 (m, 1H); 4.7 (m, 1H); 6.0 (s, 1H, C-10); 6.2 (d,1H, R1); 6.5 (s,1H, B4); 7.1 (s, 1H, B2); 7.2 (s, 1H, B7); MS (FAB⁺):

35 m/e 1764 (M⁺). IR (KBr): 3400, 3200, 2950, 2060, 1660, 1570, 1490, 1060 cm⁻¹. UV (MeOH): λ360 (ε23 746).

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Exhibit 1002-00233

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Anal. Caicd. for $C_{85}H_{127}N_{17}O_{16}CoPS \cdot 11H_2O$: C, 51.98; H, 7.59; N, 12.13. Found: C, 51.91; H, 7.81; N, 12.31.

- e-isomer (18): yield 174 mg (58%), mp 222-224° C with decomposition, ¹H NMR (MeOH-d₄, δ): 0.43 (s, 3H, C-20 CH₃); 1.17 (s, 4H, C-46
 5 CH₃); 1.22 (d, 4H, Pr₃ CH₃); 1.29 (s, 24H); 1.36 (br s, 6H); 1.4 (s, 6H); 1.6 (m, 4H); 1.72 (m, 2H); 1.87 (s, 4H); 2.17 (m, 3H); 2.25 (s, 6H, B10 & B11 CH₃); 2.36 (m, 3H); 2.55 (d, 10H); 2.64 (m, 2H); 2.8 (s, 4H); 2.97 (s, 4H); 3.1 (m, 3H); 3.3 (m, 1H); 3.4 (m, 1H); 3.58 (m, 1H); 3.65 (m, 1H); 3.75 (d, 1H); 3.9 (d, 1H); 4.0 (m, 1H); 4.1 (d, 1H); 4.16 (m, 1H); 4.3 (m, 2H); 4.48 (m, 2H); 4.6 (m, 1H); 6.0 (s, 1H, C-10); 6.3 (d, 1H, R1); 6.5 (s, 1H, B4); 7.0 (s, 1H, B2); 7.2 (s, 1H, B7); MS (FAB⁺): m/e 1764 (M⁺). IR (KBr): 3400, 3200, 2950, 2060, 1660, 1570, 1490, 1060 cm⁻¹. UV
- m/e 1764 (M⁺). IR (KBr): 3400, 3200, 2950, 2060, 1660, 1570, 1490, 1060 cm⁻¹. UV (MeOH): λ 360 (ϵ 24 441).

Anal. Calcd. for $C_{85}H_{127}N_{17}O_{16}CoPS \cdot 9H_2O$ (13): C, 52.96; H, 7.53; N, 12.35. Found: C, 52.85; H, 7.55; N, 12.30.

- d-isomer (19): yield 165 mg (55%), mp 216-218° C with decomposition,
 ¹H NMR (MeOH-d₄, δ): 0.43 (s, 3H, C-20 CH₃); 1.16 (s, 3H, C-46 CH₃); 1.2 (d, 4H,
 Pr₃ CH₃); 1.28 (s, 15H); 1.35 (br s, 9H); 1.42 (s, 3H); 1.53 (m, 2H); 1.6 (m, 4H);
 1.72 (m, 2H); 1.86 (s, 6H); 2.16 (m, 3H); 2.02 (m, 4H); 2.25 (d, 6H, B10 & B11 CH₃); 2.5 (d, 10H); 2.7 (d, 1H); 2.8 (m, 5H); 3.1 (m, 6H); 3.2 (m, 3H); 3.4 (m, 1H);
 3.57 (m, 1H); 3.6 (d, 1H); 3.7 (d, 1H); 3.9 (d, 1H); 4.0 (m, 1H); 4.11 (d, 1H); 4.17 (m, 1H); 4.3 (m, 2H); 4.4 (m, 2H); 4.6 (m, 1H); 6.0 (s, 1H, C-10); 6.3 (d, 1H, R1);
 6.5 (s, 1H, B4); 7.1 (s, 1H, B2); 7.2 (s, 1H, B7); MS (FAB⁺): m/e 1764 (M⁺); IR (KBr): 3400, 3200, 2950, 2060, 1660, 1570, 1490, 1060 cm⁻¹; UV (MeOH): \label{a360} (\varepsilon 29 824).
- 25 Anal. Calcd for $C_{85}H_{127}N_{17}O_{16}CoPS \cdot 10H_2O$: C, 52.46; H, 7.56; N, 12.24. Found: C, 52.27; H, 7.56; N, 12.34.

EXAMPLE 9

CYANOCOBALAMIN MODIFIED ON RIBOSE:

SUCCINATE-DIAMINODODECANE-BIOTIN CONJUGATE (20)

This example serves to demonstrate the conjugation of the ribose-linked diaminododecane adduct (13) with biotin to produce a cyanocobalamin biotin conjugate (20).

35 To a solution of (11) (300 mg, 0.183 mmoL) in DMF (35 mL), triethylamine (0.025 mL, 0.183 mmoL) was added. N-hydroxysuccinimidobiotin (100

mg, 0.295 mmoL) was added over a period of 10-15 min. and then evaporated to dryness. The solid residue was dissolved in 20 mL of water and adjusted to pH 10 with 1N NaOH and applied to an 75 g Dowex Cl⁻ (40 x 2 cm) (200-400 mesh) column. The water fraction was discarded. The product was then eluted with 0.1N NH₄OAc and was desalted by phenol extraction. The residue was dissolved in a 10 mL of methanol - water (7:3 v/v) and the solution was applied to a reverse phase column (octadecyl) which was developed with the same solvent. The fractions containing the final product (20) (HPLC monitored) were evaporated to dryness. Yield 135 mg (45 %), mp 198-205 ° C with decomposition.

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¹H NMR (MeOH-d₄, δ): 0.43 (s, 3H, C-20 CH₃); 1.15 (s, 3H); 1.2 (d, 3H); 1.3 (s, 27H); 1.36 (m, 6H); 1.4 (m, 3H); 1.6 (m, 4H); 1.7 (m, 2H); 1.85 (m, 12H); 2.0 (d, 3H); 2.17 (m, 3H); 2.2 (d, 6H); 2.3 (d, 6H); 2.5 (d, 10H); 2.64 (m, 2H); 2.8 (m, 10H); 3.1 (m, 6H); 3.25 (m, 6H); 3.58 (m, 2H); 4.0 (m, 1H); 4.1 (m, 1H); 4.16 (m, 1H); 4.4 (m, 1H); 4.6 (s, 2H); 4.7 (m, 1H); 6.0 (s, 1H); 6.2 (d, 1H); 6.5 (s, 1H); 7.1 (s, 1H); 7.2 (s, 1H). MS (FAB⁺): m/e 1866 (M⁺). IR (KBr): 3400, 3200, 2950, 2060, 1660, 1570, 1490, 1060 cm⁻¹. UV (MeOH): λ 360 (ϵ 28 434).

EXAMPLE 10

SYNTHESIS OF A CYANOCOBALAMIN/LYSOSOMOTROPIC COMPOUND (STREPTOMYCIN) RECEPTOR MODULATING AGENT

This example demonstrates coupling of streptomycin to a cyanocobalamin or cobalamin derivative. Streptomycin (21) is conjugated with cyanocobalamin monocarboxylate (2, 3, 4) or a diaminoalkylsuccinate derivative (14, 25 15, 16) through the use of an oxime coupled linking moiety (Figure 13). The linking group, ((3-aminopropyl)aminoxy)acetamide (22) is prepared by reaction of the Nhydroxysuccinimidyl ester of 1,1-dimethylethoxycarbonyl-aminooxyacetic acid (23) (L. Med. Chem. 36:1255-126, 1993) with an excess of diaminopropane in anhydrous THF. The linking group is separated from other compounds in the reaction mixture by 30 preparative chromatography. The linker (1 g) is then mixed with streptomycin (0.5g) in 10 mL of H_2O containing sodium acetate. The aqueous solution is warmed in a H_2O bath for 10 minutes to yield a crude streptomycin-linker adduct (25) which may be purified by chromatography on acid washed alumina (J. Am. Chem. Soc. 68:1460, 1946). The aqueous solution containing the streptomycin linker adduct (0.15 mmol) is 35 mixed with an aqueous solution of activated cyanocobalamin (2, 3, 4) (01. mmol) and EDC (0.5 mmol) is added. The reaction mixture is stirred at room temperature for 24 hours, then run over a reversed-phase preparative chromatography column for purification of the cyanocobalamin-streptomycin receptor modulating agent (26).

EXAMPLE 11

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SYNTHESIS OF A CYANOCOBALAMIN/LYSOSOMOTROPIC Compound (Acridine) Receptor Modulating Agent

This example demonstrates the coupling of the vitamin B_{12} to acridine. Chloroquine, quinacrine and acridine are lysosomotropic dyes which are relatively non-

- 10 toxic and concentrated as much as several hundred fold in lysosomes. Acridine derivatives may be covalently attached to a targeting moiety (such as cyanocobalamin) by the reaction scheme illustrated in Figure 14, method A, or similarly as described in method B. Both reaction schemes produce a cyanocobalamin-acridine conjugate.
- Method A: A diamine side chain is first synthesized in a manner analogous to the side chain of quinacrine. Specifically, mono-phthaloyl protected 1,4diaminobutane (27) is reacted with 6,9-dichloro-2-methoxyacridine (28) in phenol (J. Am. Chem. Soc. 66:1921-1924, 1944). The reaction mixture is then poured into an excess of 2 N NaOH and extracted with ether. The ether extract is washed with 1 M NaHCO₃, then H₂O, and dried over MgSO₄. The crude product is recrystallized from
- H₂O-alcohol. The phthaloyl protecting group is removed using anhydrous hydrazine in MeOH (<u>Bioconjugate Chem. 2</u>:435-440, 1991) to yield the aminoacridine, (29). Aminoacridine (29) is then conjugated with vitamin B₁₂ monocarboxylic acid (2, 3, 4) to yield a cyanocobalamin-acridine conjugate (30).

Method. B: Acridine derivative (31) (0.098 mmol, 0.045 g) was 25 dissolved in 0.5 mL of trifluoroacetic acid. This solution was stirred at room temperature for 0.5 h. TFA was removed by aspirator vacuum. The residue was dissolved in 5 mL of acetonitrile and was neutralized by few drops of triethylamine. Acetonitrile was then removed by aspirator vacuum. The residue was dissolved in DMSO (10 mL) and cyanocobalamin carboxylic acid-diaminododecane-succinyl

- 30 derivative (15, 16, 17) (0.098 mmol, 134 mg) was added followed by triethylamine (12 μL). The reaction mixture was then stirred at room temperature for 24 h. (HPLC monitored), and evaporated to dryness. The residue was digested with 100 mL of acetone and the solvent was decanted yielding a cyanocobalamin-acridine conjugate (32). Yield: 120 mg (62%). mp 182-188 °C.
- 35 ¹H NMR (MeOH-d₄, δ): 0.43 (s, 3H, C-20 CH₃); 1.17 (s, 4H, C-46 CH₃); 1.23 (d, 4H, Pr₃ CH₃); 1.29 (s, 24H); 1.36 (br s, 6H); 1.4 (s, 6H); 1.65 (m,

2H); 1.87 (s, 4H); 2.05 (m, 2H); 2.25 (s, 6H, B10 & B11 CH₃); 2.35 (m, 3H); 2.4 (d, 5H); 2.44 (d, 2H); 2.55 (d, 10H); 2.64 (s, 5H); 2.8-2.9 (m, 8H); 3.1-3.15 (m, 6H); 3.3 (s, 6H); 3.4 (m, 1H); 3.65 (m, 2H); 3.75 (d, 1H); 3.9 (d, 1H); 3.98 (s, 2H); 4.0 (m, 2H); 4.1 (d, 1H); 4.16 (m, 1H); 4.3 (m, 1H); 4.48 (m, 1H); 4.6 (m, 2H); 6.0 (s, 1H, C-10); 6.3 (d, 1H, R₁); 6.5 (s, 1H, B4); 7.1 (s, 1H, B2); 7.2 (s, 1H, B7); 7.3 (t, 1H); 7.4 (dd, 1H); 7.6 (dd, 1H); 7.7 (2dd, 2H); 7.8 (d, 1H); 7.9 (d, 1H); 8.4 (d, 1H).

EXAMPLE 12

SYNTHESIS OF A CYANOCOBALAMIN/LYSOSOMOTROPIC COMPOUND (AMIKACIN) RECEPTOR MODULATING AGENT

This example demonstrates conjugation of amikacin to a cyanocobalamin molecule to form a cyanocobalamin-amikacin conjugate. A reaction scheme for the conjugation is depicted in Figure 12. As noted above, chemical moieties that are retained subcellularly within lysosomes are termed lysosomotropic. Aminoglycosides are lysosomotropic compounds, and thus may be used as rerouting moieties of this invention. The primary long chain amine on the hydroxyaminobutyric acid side chain of the aminoglycoside, amikacin (*see* Figure 3), is preferentially reactive. Specifically, amikacin (33) (Sigma Chemical Co., St. Louis), is reacted with a vitamin B₁₂ monocarboxylate (2, 3, 4) in the presence of EDC. A cyanocobalamin-

amikacin conjugate (34) is then separated and purified by reverse-phase LC chromatography under conditions noted above.

EXAMPLE 13

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CYANOCOBALAMIN MONOCARBOXYLIC ACID DIAMINODODECANE Conjugate Dimer: Isophthaloyl dichloride Cross-Linking

This example demonstrates the production of a cyanocobalamin dimer suitable for use as a cross-linking receptor modulating agent. Cross-linking of receptors in some receptor systems is sufficient to cause a rerouting of cell surface receptors to lysosomes for degradation, rather than their normal pathway of receptor recycling.

To a solution of cyanocobalamin monocarboxylic acid diaminododecane conjugate (8, 9, 10) (0.192 mmol, 0.300 g) in DMF (30 mL), was added triethylamine (18 μ L). Isophthaloyl dichloride (35) (0.096 mmol, 0.0195 g) was added over a period of 10-15 min. The reaction mixture was stirred at 55-60°C for 48 h (HPLC monitored)

and evaporated to dryness. The solid residue was dissolved in 20 mL of methanol :

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 $H_2O(7:3)$ and applied to a reverse phase C-18 column (500 mm x 25 mm, Alltech, 150 psi) which was developed with the same solvent. RAININ Rabbit-plus peristaltic pumping system was used with a DYNAMAX (model UV-1) UV visible absorbance detector; the elute was collected with an automatic fraction collector. The fractions containing the final product (HPLC monitored) were evaporated to dryness.

b-acid dimer (36): yield 96 mg (30%), mp 217-220° C with decomposition, ¹H NMR (D₂O, δ) 0.43 (s, 6H, C-20 CH₃); 1.18 (s, 8H); 1.3 (m, 36H); 1.37 (m, 12H); 1.46 (s, 10H); 1.6 (m, 8H); 1.9 (d, 12H); 2.05 (m, 10H); 2.2 (d, 16H, B10 & B11 CH₃); 2.35 (m, 8H); 2.6 (d, 18H); 2.8-3.0 (m, 16H); 3.15 (m, 6H); 3.3 (s, 8H); 3.37 (m, 14H); 3.6 (m, 4H); 3.76 (m, 2H); 3.9 (d, 2H); 4.07 (m, 2H); 4.12 (m, 2H); 4.18 (m, 2H); 4.3 (m, 2H); 4.5 (m, 2H); 4.6 (s, 2H); 4.68 (m, 2H); 6.0 (s, 2H, 2C-10); 6.26 (d, 2H, 2R1); 6.6 (s, 2H, 2B4); 7.1 (s, 2H, 2B2); 7.25 (s, 2H, 2B7); 7.54 (t, 1H); 7.95 (d, 2H); 8.25 (s, 1H); MS (FAB⁺): m/e 3208. IR (KBr): 3400, 3200, 2950, 2060, 1660, 1570, 1490, 1060 cm⁻¹; UV: λ360 (ε42 380).

- 15 e-acid dimer (37): yield 121 mg (38%), mp 220-222° C with decomposition, ¹H NMR (D₂O, δ) 0.43 (s, 6H, C-20 CH₃); 1.17 (s, 8H); 1.22 (d, 13H); 1.29 (s, 45H); 1.36 (d, 22H); 1.44 (s, 10H); 1.6 (m, 8H); 1.87 (s, 8H); 2.04 (m, 10H); 2.25 (s, 12H, B10 & B11 CH₃); 2.36 (m, 8H); 2.55 (d, 20H); 2.8 (m, 8H); 3.15 (m, 8H); 3.29 (s, 10H); 3.36 (m, 14H); 3.6 (m, 4H); 3.73 (m, 2H); 3.9 (d, 2H); 4.07 (m, 2H); 4.12 (m, 2H); 4.16 (m, 2H); 4.3 (m, 2H); 4.5 (m, 2H); 4.6 (s, 2H); 4.66 (m, 2H); 6.0 (s, 2H, 2C-10); 6.26 (d, 2H, 2R1); 6.6 (s, 2H, 2B4); 7.1 (s, 2H, 2B2); 7.25 (s, 2H, 2B7); 7.54 (t, 1H); 7.93 (d, 2H); 8.25 (s, 1H); MS (FAB⁺): m/e 3208. IR (KBr): 3400, 3200, 2950, 2060, 1660, 1570, 1490, 1060 cm⁻¹. UV (MeOH): λ360 (ε 33 854)
- 25 d-acid dimer (38): yield 96 mg (30%), mp 225-228° C with decomposition, ¹H NMR (D₂O, δ) 0.43 (s, 6H, C-20 CH₃); 1.16 (s, 8H); 1.29 (m, 36H); 1.35 (d, 12H); 1.44 (s, 10H); 1.53 (m, 6H); 1.6 (m, 8H); 1.85 (s, 12H); 2.03 (m, 8H); 2.25 (d, 12H, B10 & B11 CH₃); 2.33 (m, 8H); 2.54 (d, 20H); 2.8 (m, 8H); 3.13 (m, 8H); 3.28 (s, 12H); 3.35 (m, 12H); 3.6 (m, 4H); 3.73 (m, 2H); 3.9 (d, 2H); 4.07 (m, 2H); 4.12 (m, 2H); 4.16 (m, 2H); 4.3 (m, 2H); 4.5 (m, 2H); 4.64 (m, 2H); 4.7 (s, 2H); 6.0 (s, 2H, 2C-10); 6.26 (d, 2H, 2R1); 6.6 (s, 2H, 2B4); 7.1 (s, 2H, 2B2); 7.25 (s, 2H, 2B7); 7.54 (t, 1H); 7.93 (d, 2H); 8.25 (s, 1H); MS (FAB⁺): m/e 3208. IR (KBr): 3400, 3200, 2950, 2060, 1660, 1570, 1490, 1060 cm⁻¹ UV (MeOH): λ360 (ε 31 747).

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EXAMPLE 14

CYANOCOBALAMIN MONOCARBOXYLIC ACID DIAMINODODECANE CONJUGATE DIMER: ETAC CROSS-LINKING

5 This example serves to illustrate synthesis of a bivalent receptor modulating agent using a heterotrifunctional cross-linker. The reaction scheme for this synthesis is depicted in Figure 15. The heterotrifunctional cross-linker is formed an ETAC reagent (Bioconiugate Chem, 1:36-50, 1990; Bioconiugate Chem, 1:51-59, 1990; J. Am. Chem. Soc. 101:3097-3110, 1979). Bivalency, in addition to enhancing 10 affinity of binding, also imparts the ability to cross-link neighboring receptors and trigger endocytosis. The bivalent "arms" of the agent may be lengthened with peptide or other linking molecules to enable simultaneous binding of both "arms". In the case of vitamin B₁₂ this may be assessed by gel filtration. If the linkers allow simultaneous interaction, there will be 2 moles of TcII for every mole of ETAC dimer present in a 15 single peak of 80,000 m.w. (versus 40,000 m.w. of monomeric TcII). Simultaneous binding of 2 moles of TcII will then have the potential for bivalent binding to cell surface receptor. This can be tested by comparing the affinity of monomer and dimer

rerouting moiety of this invention which enhances lysosomal targeting and retention, 20 the compound tyramine, useful for radio-labeling is disclosed for the purpose of illustration.

Referring to Figure 15, carboxy-ETAC (39) is prepared by the method of Liberatore et al. (Bioconjugate Chem. 1:1990). The carboxy-ETAC is converted to its acid chloride by reaction in thionyl chloride. Addition of amine (40) gives the amine-

binding to receptor. While the bivalent agent can be synthesized to include any

25 ETAC adduct (41). Reaction of amine-ETAC (1 mmol) in CH₃CN with 1 M aqueous cysteamine (10 mmol) is conducted by stirring at room temperature for 24 h. This compound is reduced with NaCNBH₃ under acidic conditions. The crude amine-ETAC-cysteamine adduct (42) is purified by reverse-phase LC, using conditions noted above. A vitamin B₁₂ monocarboxylate (2, 3, 4) is conjugated with tyramine-ETAC-

30 cysteamine compound by reaction with EDC in H_2O . The resultant vitamin B_{12} -ETAC-tyramine dimer (43) is purified by reverse phase LC, using conditions described above.

EXAMPLE 15

CYANOCOBALAMIN MONOCARBOXYLIC ACID DIAMINODODECANE Conjugate Dimer: Isophthlate Cross-Linking with Biotin Moiety

This example illustrates the synthesis of a bivalent receptor modulating agent which is additionally coupled to a biotin moiety (44). Further modification can be obtained by coupling of this molecule with an avidin or streptavidin moiety.

Reaction Step A: Biotin (12.3 mmol, 3 g) was dissolved in warm (bath temperature 70°C) DMF (60 mL) under argon atmosphere. It was then cool to ambient temperature and DCC (13.5 mmol, 2.79 g) was added, followed by tetrafluorophenol (24.6 mmol, 4.08g). The reaction mixture was then cooled to 0°C and stirred for 0.5 h. It was then brought back to ambient temperature and stirred for another 4-5 h. The reaction mixture was filtered and the filtrate was evaporated to dryness. The precipitate was washed with acetonitrile (50 mL) and was filtered to yield 5 g (98%) of white solid 15 (45).

¹H NMR (DMSO, δ): 1.4 (m, 2H); 1.7 (m, 2H); 2.5 (t, 2H); 2.8 (t, 2H); 3.1 (m, 1H); 4.1 (m, 1H); 4.3 (m, 1H); 6.4 (d, 2H); 7.9 (m, 1H).

Reaction Step B: 6-Aminocaproic acid (46) (7.5 mmol, 0.99g) was dissolved in H_2O (75 mL). Triethylamine (0.5 mL) was added followed by a solution

- of TFP ester of Biotin (5 mmol, 1.96 g) in warm acetonitrile (300 mL). The reaction was stirred overnight at room temperature. It was then filtered, washed with H₂O (50 mL) and dried on high vacuum. Yield: 0.870 g (47%). The filtrate was evaporated to dryness. The residue was taken in boiling acetonitrile (75 mL) and was filtered, washed with hot acetonitrile. The solid (47) was dried on high vacuum to give 0.6 g, for a total yield of 1.47 g (79%).
 - ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆, δ): 1.2-1.6 (m, 8H); 2.0 (t, 2H); 2.2 (t, 2H); 2.5 (dd, 2H); 2.8 (dd, 2H); 3.1 (m, 3H); 4.1 (m, 1H); 4.3 (m, 1H); 6.4 (d, 2H); 7.7 (m, 1H).

Reaction Step C: Biotin conjugated caproic acid (47) (2.68 mmol, 1 g) 30 was dissolved in DMSO (50 mL). Triethylamine (0.4 mL) was added followed by TFP acetate (4.02 mmol, 1.05 g). The reaction mixture was then stirred at room temperature for 15-20 min (HPLC monitored). It was then evaporated to dryness. The residue was washed with ether and dichloromethane and dried on high vacuum (48). Yield: 1.24 g (89%).

¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆, δ): 1.2 (t, 2H); 1.3-1.7 (m, 5H); 2.1 (t, 2H); 2.6 (dd, 2H); 2.8 (m, 4H); 3.1 (m, 4H); 4.2 (m, 1H); 4.4 (m, 1H); 6.4 (d, 2H); 7.8 (t, 1H); 8.0 (m, 1H).

Reaction Step D: TFP ester of Biotin-caproic acid (48) (0.67 mmol, 0.35
g) was dissolved in DMF (40 mL). Triethylamine (80 μL) was added followed by aminoisophthalic acid (1.005 mmol, 0.182 g). The reaction was stirred at room temp. for 8 days (HPLC monitored) while adding triethylamine (80 μL) every after 24 h. It was then evaporated to dryness. The residue was then applied to a column of silica and was initially eluted with acetonitrile (450 mL). It was then eluted with methanol, 20
mL of fractions were collected, at the fraction 2 the solvent was changed to DMF. The fractions containing the final product (HPLC monitored) were evaporated to dryness (49) to yield 230 mg (65%).

¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆, δ): 1.3-1.7 (m, 8H); 2.1 (t, 2H); 2.3 (t, 2H); 2.6 (m, 2H); 2.8 (m, 2H); 3.1 (m, 3H); 4.1 (m, 1H); 4.3 (m, 1H); 6.4 (d, 2H); 7.8 (t, 1H); 8.1 (m, 1H); 8.46 (s, 2H).

Reaction Step E: Biotin-caproic acid-isophthalic acid (49) (0.376 mmol, 200 mg) was dissolved in DMF (30 mL) under argon atmosphere. TFP acetate (0.94 mmol, 241 mg) was added by double ended needle, followed by triethylamine (112 μ L). The reaction was then stirred at room temp. for 24 h (HPLC monitored). It was then evaporated to dryness. The light brownish oil was taken in ether, solid was filtered

20 then evaporated to dryness. The light brownish oil was taken in ether, solid was filtered and was washed with ether (50 mL) (50) to yield 250 mg (86%).

¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆, δ): 1.3-1.7 (m, 8H); 2.1 (t, 2H); 2.3 (t, 2H); 2.6 (m, 2H); 2.8 (m, 2H); 3.1 (m, 3H); 4.2 (m, 1H); 4.4 (m, 1H); 6.4 (d, 2H); 7.8 (t, 1H); 8.1 (m, 2H); 8.57 (s, 1H); 8.9 (s, 2H).

- Reaction Step F: In a solution of cyanocobalamin carboxylic acid diaminododecane conjugate (8, 9, 10) (0.130 mmol, 0.2 g) in a mixture of DMF : H₂O (3:1) (40 mL) triethylamine (12 μL) was added. DiTFP ester of biotin-caproic acid-isophthalic acid (50) (0.065 mmol, 0.050 g) was added over a period of 5-10 min. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 3 h (HPLC monitored). It was then evaporated to dryness. The residue was digested with 100 mL of acetone and the
 - solvent was decanted to yield 230 mg (62%) (51). mp 195-198°C with decomposition.

Example 16

CYANOCOBALAMIN MONOCARBOXYLIC ACID DIAMINODODECANE CONJUGATE DIMER: ISOPHTHALATE CROSS-LINKING WITH PARA-IODOBENZOYL MOIETY

This is an example of a bivalent receptor modulating agent which is also conjugated to a *para*-iodobenzoyl moiety.

Reaction Step A: A 5g (28 mmol) quantity of 5-aminoisophthalic acid
(52) was dissolved in 30 mL 1N NaOH and placed in an ice/water bath. To the cold solution was added 7.5g (28 mmol) 4-iodobenzoyl chloride (52) in 60 mL of
acetonitrile, dropwise. The thick white precipitate was then stirred for 10 minutes before removing the ice/water bath and allowing the mixture to stir an additional 10 minutes. The reaction mixture was adjusted to pH 4 with acetic acid and the resulting solid collected. This solid was then dissolved in 30 mL 1N NaOH and washed with ether (2 x 50 mL). The resulting aqueous solution was filtered and acidified to pH 4

- yield .6 g (99+%) of (54). mp >300 °C; IR (Nujol, cm⁻¹) 3570(m), 3300(m), 1645, 1580(m), 1525(m), 760(m); ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆, δ), 8.51 (2H, d, J = 0.7 Hz), 8.27 (1H, s), 7.94 (2H, d, J = 4.2 Hz), 7.84 (2H, d, J = 4.1 Hz).
- <u>Reaction_Step_B</u>: A 5g (12.2 mmol) quantity of 5-[Niodobenzoyl)amino]-isophthalic acid (54) was suspended in 100 mL anhydrous ethyl acetate. To this was added 12.5g (73 mmol) 2,3,5,6-tetrafluorophenol (55) followed by 5g (24.2 mmol) 1,3-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide. This suspension was then stirred at room temperature for 3 days before filtering off the solid and washing with an additional 20 mL of ethyl acetate. The filtrate was then evaporated to dryness. The resulting sticky white solid was suspended in 50 mL acetonitrile and stirred for 30 minutes. Filtering yielded 3.75g of white solid (43%) (56). mp 250-251 °C; IR (Nujol, cm-1) 3220(m), 3060(m), 1750, 1655, 1520, 1485, 1330, 1195, 1110, 1085, 955(m), 945(m); ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆, δ), 9.06 (2H, d, J = 0.7 Hz), 8.57 (1H, t, J = 1.4)
- 30 <u>Reaction Step C</u>: To a solution of cyanocobalamin carboxylic acid diaminododecane conjugate (56) (0.192 mmol, 0.3 g) in a mixture of DMF : H₂O (3:1) (40 mL) was added triethylamine (0.018 mL). To this solution, DiTFP ester of 5-[N-(p-Iodobenzoyl)amino]-Isophthalic acid (57)(0.096 mmol, 0.068 g) was added over a period of 5-10 min. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4-5 h

Hz), 8.04 (2H, m), 7.94 (2H, d, J = 4.2 Hz), 7.81 (2H, d, J = 4.3 Hz).

35 (HPLC monitored). It was then evaporated to dryness. The solid residue was dissolved in 20 mL of methanol : H₂O (8:2) and applied to a reverse phase C-18 column (500 mm x 25 mm, Alltech, 150 psi) which was developed with the same solvent. RAININ Rabbit-plus peristaltic pumping system was used with a DYNAMAX (model UV-1). UV visible absorbance detector; the elute was collected with an automatic fraction collector. The fractions containing the final product (HPLC monitored) were evaporated to dryness.

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b-acid dimer (58): yield: 280 mg (76%), mp 230-233 °C with decomposition, ¹H NMR (D₂O, δ) 0.43 (s, 6H, C-20 CH₃); 1.19 (s, 8H); 1.3 (m, 36H); 1.37 (d, 12H); 1.46 (s, 10H); 1.63 (m, 8H); 1.87 (s, 12H); 2.05 (m, 10H); 2.27 (d, 16H, B10 & B11 CH₃); 2.35 (m, 8H); 2.6 (d, 18H); 2.8 (s, 8H); 3.0 (s, 10H); 3.15 (m, 8H); 3.3 (d, 8H); 3.37 (m, 14H); 3.6 (m, 2H); 3.68 (d, 2H); 3.76 (m, 2H); 3.9 (d, 2H); 4.07 (m, 2H); 4.12 (m, 2H); 4.18 (m, 2H); 4.3 (m, 2H); 4.5 (m, 2H); 4.64 (m, 4H); 6.0 (s, 2H, 2C-10); 6.26 (d, 2H, 2R₁); 6.6 (s, 2H, 2B4); 7.1 (s, 2H, 2B2); 7.25 (s, 2H, 2B7); 7.7 (d, 2H); 7.9 (d, 2H); 7.99 (d, 1H); 8.28 (s, 2H); MS (FAB⁺): m/e 3453. IR (KBr): 3400, 3200, 2950, 2060, 1660, 1570, 1490, 1060 cm⁻¹. UV (MeOH): λ 360.6 (ϵ 48 871)

e-acid dimer (59): yield: 258 mg (70%), mp 285-290 °C with decomposition, ¹H NMR (D₂O, δ) 0.43 (s, 6H, C-20 CH₃); 1.17 (s, 8H); 1.22 (d, 13H); 1.29 (s, 45H); 1.36 (d, 22H); 1.44 (s, 10H); 1.6 (m, 8H); 1.86 (s, 12H); 2.04 (m, 10H); 2.25 (s, 12H, B10 & B11 CH₃); 2.36 (m, 8H); 2.55 (d, 20H); 2.83 (m, 8H);
3.15 (m, 8H); 3.29 (s, 10H); 3.36 (m, 8H); 3.58 (m, 2H); 3.65 (m, 2H); 3.75 (m, 2H); 3.9 (d, 2H); 4.06 (m, 2H); 4.12 (m, 2H); 4.16 (m, 2H); 4.3 (m, 2H); 4.57 (s, 2H); 4.65 (m, 2H); 6.0 (s, 2H, 2C-10); 6.26 (d, 2H, 2R1); 6.5 (s, 2H, 2B4); 7.1 (s, 2H, 2B2); 7.25 (s, 2H, 2B7); 7.7 (d, 2H); 7.89 (d, 2H); 7.98 (s, 1H); 8.26 (s, 2H); MS (FAB⁺): m/e 3453. IR (KBr): 3400, 3200, 2950, 2060, 1660, 1570, 1490, 1060 cm⁻¹; UV (MeOH): λ360 (ε41 481).

d-acid dimer (60): yield 265 mg (72%), mp 253-255 °C with decomposition, ¹H NMR (D₂O, δ) 0.43 (s, 6H, C-20 CH₃); 1.16 (s, 8H); 1.22 (d, 12H); 1.33 (m, 36H); 1.43 (s, 10H); 1.53 (m, 6H); 1.6 (m, 8H); 1.86 (s, 12H); 2.03 (m, 8H); 2.25 (d, 12H, B10 & B11 CH₃); 2.33 (m, 8H); 2.54 (d, 20H); 2.8 (s, 4H); 3.0 (s, 4H); 3.28 (s, 10H); 3.35 (m, 8H); 3.58 (m, 2H); 3.65 (m, 2H); 3.73 (m, 2H); 3.88 (d, 2H); 4.05 (m, 2H); 4.1 (m, 2H); 4.17 (m, 2H); 4.3 (m, 2H); 4.5 (m, 2H); 4.57 (s, 2H); 4.63 (m, 2H); 6.0 (s, 2H, 2C-10); 6.26 (d, 2H, 2R₁); 6.5 (s, 2H, 2B4); 7.1 (s, 2H, 2B2); 7.25 (s, 2H, 2B7); 7.7 (d, 2H); 7.89 (d, 2H); 7.98 (s, 1H); 8.26 (s, 2H); MS (FAB⁺): m/e 3453. IR (KBr): 3400, 3200, 2950, 2060, 1660, 1570, 1490, 1060 cm⁻¹; UV (MeOH): λ360 (ε48 245).

EXAMPLE 17

CYANOCOBALAMIN MONOCARBOXYLIC ACID DIAMINODODECANE CONJUGATE DIMER: ISOPHTAHATE CROSS-LINKING WITH PARA-(TRI-BUTYLSTANNYL)BENZOYL MOIETY

This is an example of a bivalent receptor modulating agent coupled to a *para*-tri-N-butyl stannyl moiety.

Reaction Step A: A 2 g (2.8 mmol) quantity of the diTFP ester of 5-[N-(p-Iodobenzoyl)amino]-Isophthalic acid (57) (as prepared above) was dissolved in 20 mL dry toluene under argon. To this was added 2.8 mL (5.5 mmol) of *bis*(tributyltin) (61) followed by 40 mg (0.04 mmol) tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium (62). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 15 minutes before heating to 80°C for 2 h. Since the mixture only darkened slightly over the 2 h period, an additional 40 mg of palladium catalyst was added. Within 1 hour the mixture had turned black. After cooling to room temperature, the toluene was removed by rotary evaporation. The resulting black oil (containing solids), was then taken into 20 mL ethyl acetate and dried onto 10 g silica gel (via rotoevaporation). This solid was then added to a 250 g

acid. After 600 mL, the solvent was changed to 90/10 hexanes/ethyl acetate (containing
5% acetic acid). Fractions 14-16 were combined and dried to yield 1.5 g (62%) of white solid (62). mp 120-123 °C;

(40 x 3.5 cm) silica gel column and eluted initially with hexanes containing 5% acetic

¹H NMR (CDCl₃, δ), 8.87 (2H, d, J = 0.7 Hz), 8.76 (1H, t, J = 1.6 Hz), 8.38 (1H, s), 7.84 (2H, d, J = 4.1 Hz), 7.62 (2H, d, J = 4.1 Hz), 7.07 (2H, m), 1.55 (6H, m), 1.36 (15H,m), 1.11 (6H,m), 0.89 (9H, t, J = 7.3 Hz); MS (FAB⁺) M+H patterns calculated 870 (75.1%), 871 (52.9%), 872 (100%), 873 (41.0%), 874 (21.4%), found

25 calculated 870 (75.1%), 871 (52.9%), 872 (100%), 873 (41.0%), 874 (21.4%), found
870 (82.1%), 871 (55.1%), 872 (100%), 873 (42.1%), 874 (25.2%).

IR (Nujol, cm⁻¹) 1750, 1645, 1520, 1480(m), 1185, 1100, 1085.

Reaction Step B: In a solution of cyanocobalamin carboxylic acid diaminododecane conjugate (8, 9, 10) (0.065 mmol, 0.1 g) in a mixture of DMF : H₂O (3:1) (40 mL) triethylamine (0.006 mL) was added. DiTFP ester of 5-[N-(p-tributyltin benzoyl) amino]-Isophthalic acid (63)(0.0325 mmol, 0.028 g) was added over a period of 5-10 min. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12-14 h (HPLC monitored). It was then evaporated to dryness. The residue was digested with 100 mL of acetone and the solvent was decanted.

35 *b-acid dimer* (64): yield: 90 mg (70%), mp 208-212 °C with decomposition, ¹H NMR (D₂O, δ) 0.43 (s, 6H, C-20 CH₃); 0.88 (t, 9H); 1.15 (t,

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12H); 1.19 (s, 8H); 1.3 (m, 36H); 1.37 (d, 12H); 1.46 (s, 10H); 1.6 (m, 8H); 1.9 (s, 12H); 2.05 (m, 10H); 2.28 (d, 16H, B10 & B11 CH₃); 2.35 (m, 8H); 2.6 (d, 18H); 2.8-2.9 (m, 16H); 3.15 (m, 8H); 3.3 (s, 8H); 3.37 (m, 14H); 3.6 (m, 4H); 3.76 (m, 2H); 3.9 (d, 2H); 4.07 (m, 2H); 4.12 (m, 2H); 4.18 (m, 2H); 4.3 (m, 2H); 4.5 (m, 2H); 4.68 (m, 2H); 6.0 (s, 2H, 2C-10); 6.26 (d, 2H, 2R₁); 6.6 (s, 2H, 2B4); 7.1 (s, 2H, 2B2); 7.25 (d, 2H, 2B7); 7.6 (d, 2H); 7.9 (d, 2H); 7.99 (br s, 1H); 8.28 (br s, 2H); IR (KBr): 3400, 3200, 2950, 2060, 1660, 1570, 1490, 1060 cm⁻¹.

e-acid dimer (65): yield: 93 mg (72%), mp >300 °C, ¹H NMR (D₂O, δ) 0.43 (s, 6H, C-20 CH₃); 0.88 (t, 9H); 1.12 (t, 12H); 1.17 (d, 8H); 1.22 (d, 13H); 1.29 (s, 45H); 1.36 (d, 22H); 1.44 (s, 10H); 1.6 (m, 8H); 1.87 (d, 12H); 2.04 (m, 10H); 2.25 (s, 12H, B10 & B11 CH₃); 2.36 (m, 8H); 2.55 (d, 20H); 2.8 (m, 8H); 3.15 (m, 8H); 3.29 (s, 10H); 3.36 (m, 14H); 3.6 (m, 4H); 3.73 (m, 2H); 3.9 (d, 2H); 4.07 (m, 2H); 4.12 (m, 2H); 4.16 (m, 2H); 4.3 (m, 2H); 4.5 (m, 2H); 4.66 (m, 2H); 6.0 (s, 2H, 2C-10); 6.26 (d, 2H, 2R₁); 6.6 (s, 2H, 2B4); 7.1 (s, 2H, 2B2); 7.25 (s, 2H,

2B7); 7.6 (d, 2H); 7.9 (d, 2H); 7.98 (br s, 1H); 8.28 (br s, 2H); IR (KBr): 3400, 3200, 2950, 2060, 1660, 1570, 1490, 1060 cm⁻¹.

d-acid dimer (66): yield: 100 mg (78%), mp 202-205 °C with decomposition, ¹H NMR (D₂O, δ) 0.43 (s, 6H, C-20 CH₃); 0.88 (t, 9H); 1.12 (t, 12H); 1.15 (s, 8H); 1.29 (m, 36H); 1.35 (d, 12H); 1.44 (s, 10H); 1.53 (m, 6H); 1.6
(m, 8H); 1.86 (d, 12H); 2.03 (m, 8H); 2.25 (d, 12H, B10 & B11 CH₃); 2.33 (m, 8H); 2.54 (d, 20H); 2.8 (m, 8H); 3.13 (m, 8H); 3.28 (s, 10H); 3.35 (m, 10H); 3.6 (m, 4H); 3.73 (m, 2H); 3.9 (d, 2H); 4.05 (m, 2H); 4.1 (m, 2H); 4.17 (m, 2H); 4.3 (m, 2H); 4.5 (m, 2H); 4.6 (m, 2H); 6.0 (s, 2H, 2C-10); 6.26 (d, 2H, 2R1); 6.6 (s, 2H, 2B4); 7.1 (s, 2H, 2B2); 7.25 (s, 2H, 2B7); 7.6 (d, 2H); 7.9 (d, 2H); 7.98 (br s, 1H); 8.28 (br s, 2H); IR (KBr): 3400, 3200, 2950, 2060, 1660, 1570, 1490, 1060 cm⁻¹.

EXAMPLE 18

EVALUATION OF THE ABILITY OF VITAMIN $B_{12}\,Receptor$ Modulating Agents to Bind to TCII

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This example serves to demonstrate a competitive binding assay suitable for evaluating the ability of vitamin B_{12} receptor modulating agents to bind TcII. Binding of the vitamin B_{12} derivatives to recombinant transcobalamin II was conducted in picomolar concentrations and the percent bound ascertained.

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In this competitive binding assay, various B_{12} derivatives, including vitamin B_{12} receptor modulating agents, were evaluated for their ability to bind to TcII

relative to radiolabeled B_{12} . Varying concentrations of each derivative were incubated with immobilized TcII in the presence of a constant amount of radiolabeled B_{12} . After incubation for 20 minutes at 37° C, the free radiolabeled B_{12} was separated from the TcII bound tracer by removal of the supernatant. The radioactivity of the supernatant

5 solution was then measured to determine the amount of free radiolabeled B₁₂ present at the end of each competition. By measuring the amount of free radiolabeled B₁₂ for each competition, the ability of each derivative to inhibit radiolabeled B₁₂ binding was determined. A binding curve was then be constructed for each B₁₂ derivative where the amount of radiolabeled B₁₂ bound (% radiolabel bound) was correlated with the concentration of derivative present in the original mixture. The more effective the

derivative is in binding to TcII, the lower the percent bound radiolabeled vitamin B₁₂. Figure 22 illustrates the binding curve of Transcobalamin II to the cyanocobalamin monocarboxylic acids produced in Example 1. AD = Cyanocobalamin (1); AL = Cyanocobalamin b-monocarboxylic acid (2); AM = Cyanocobalamin emonocarboxylic acid (3); and AN= Cyanocobalamin d-monocarboxylic acid (4). The d-carboxylate (3) appears to bind nearly as well as cyanocobalamin. Two samples of

vitamin B_{12} were used, one as a known standard and the other as an unknown.

Figure 23 illustrates the binding curve of Transcobalamin II to the cyanocobalamin diaminododecane adducts (8, 9, 10) and succinate adduct (13) produced in Example 3 and 4 above. AH = Cyanocobalamin b-monocarboxylic acid conj Diaminododecane (7); AI = Cyanocobalamin e-monocarboxylic acid conj Diaminododecane (8); AJ = Cyanocobalamin d-monocarboxylic acid conj Diaminododecane (9); AK = Cobalamin e-monocarboxylic acid conj Diaminododecane, and AE = Cyanocobalamin Ribose-Succinate (11). The b-conjugate (17) has the least binding, whereas the e-conjugate (18) has intermediate binding, and the d-conjugate (19) binds quite well. The biotin conjugate attached to the ribose site (13) appears to bind very well, as does its precursor amino derivative (12). The additional compound studied is of unknown structure, but may have the amine group coordinated with the cobalt atom as the mass spectrum indicates that it has the appropriate mass for (7)

30 minus HCN. It is clear that this unknown compound is not likely to bind TcII. Figure 24 illustrates the binding curve of Transcobalamin II to a series of

vitamin B₁₂ dimers. Dimer X = *b*-acid dimer with Isophthaloyl dichloride (36); Dimer Y = *e*-acid dimer with Isophthaloyl dichloride (37); dimer Z = *d*-acid dimer with Isophthaloyl dichloride (38); Dimer A= *b*-acid Dimer with *p*-Iodo benzoyl Isophthaloyl

dichloride (58); Dimer B = e-acid Dimer with p-Iodo benzoyl Isophthaloyl dichloride
 (59); and Dimer C = d-acid Dimer with p-Iodo benzoyl Isophthaloyl dichloride (60).

Figure 25 illustrates the binding curve of Transcobalamin II to a series of biotinylated vitamin B_{12} molecules. AA = Cyanocobalamin *b*-monocarboxylic acid conj Diaminododecane and Biotin (17); AB = Cyanocobalamin *e*-monocarboxylic acid conj Diaminododecane and Biotin (18); AC = Cyanocobalamin *d*-monocarboxylic acid conj Diaminododecane and Biotin (19); AF = Cyanocobalamin Ribose-Succinate conj Diaminododecane (13); and AG = Cyanocobalamin Ribose-Succinate conj. Diaminododecane and Biotin (20).

Example 19 Assay for Biological Activity of Vitamin B₁₂ Receptor Modulating Agents

This example serves to demonstrate the use of an assay to ascertain biological activity of the receptor modulating agents of the present invention.

15 Receptor down-modulation involves a comparison of treatment of a target cell line such as K562, each sample is treated with vitamin B₁₂ or a vitamin B₁₂ receptor modulating agent at 4°C for 24 hours. Following this period, cells of each sample are separated from a vitamin B₁₂ or a vitamin B₁₂ receptor modulating agent by centrifugation. The cells are then washed and resuspended in phosphate buffered saline

20 containing 2 mM EDTA for a brief period of time not to exceed 15 minutes at 4°C. Then, the cells are washed again and returned to a tissue culture medium at 4°C. The tissue culture medium containing TcII and a radiolabeled TcII/B₁₂ complex. The time course of TcII/B₁₂ binding to the cell receptor is determined by measuring the percent radiolabel bound to the cell at 0, 15, 30, 60, 120, and 240 minutes. Those samples exposed to the vitamin B₁₂ receptor modulating agents of the present invention show significantly reduced TcII/B₁₂ complex binding compared to cells cultured in vitamin B₁₂. Trypsin treated cells reveal any nonspecific binding or uptake of the labeled vitamin B₁₂ on or within the cell.

Example 20 Method for Assessing Biological Activity of a Receptor Modulating Agent

This example serves to demonstrate a method suitable for assessing the biological activity of a receptor modulating agent of the present invention.

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 0.2×10^6 cells/ml K562 cells were cultured in RPMI medium modified by addition of 10 μ M MeTHF, 2.7 nM vitamin B₁₂ and 1% human serum. No folate was added. 10 μ M d-diamimododecane adduct (7) was added and cultured over 9 days at 37°C. 10 μ M vitamin B₁₂ cultured under identical conditions as (7) was utilized as a control. The cultures were then independently assessed for proliferation and cell death by Trypan blue exclusion. The results are described in Table 10, below, in terms of the percent cell death.

Table 10

	Control	d-diaminododecane adduct (7)
Proliferation	98%	9%
Cell Death	8%	85 %

The receptor modulating agent, in this case *d*-diaminododecane adduct (7), clearly demonstrates the marked biological activity of the receptor modulating agent.

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Example 21 Synthesis Of An Anti-Inflammatory Receptor Modulating Agent

- The synthetic peptide f-met-leu-phe is equivalent to a bacterial cell wall constituent (Biochem. Soc. Trans. 19:1127-9, 1991; Agents Actions Suppl. 35:3-8, 1991; Agents Actions Suppl. 35:11-6, 1991; J. Immunol. 146:975-80, 1991). This peptide is recognized by receptors on PMN which can respond by chemotaxis to sites of local inflammation along a gradient of the peptide. During inflammation, receptor expression can be dramatically increased by mobilizing receptor from intracellular pools. Non-specific methods used to abrogate this up-regulation also inhibit chemotaxis and presumably the anti-inflammatory reaction associated with local inflammation (J. Immunol. 145:2633-8, 1990). The synthesis of a receptor modulation agent useful as an inhibitor of early inflammation is described below.
- The peptide f-met-leu-phe-(gly)₃-leu-O-Me is synthesized using tea-bag 30 methodology or solid phase peptide synthesis procedures described by Merrifield et al. (Biochemistry 21:5020-31, 1982) and Houghten (Proc. Nat'l. Acad. Sci. (USA) 82:5131-35, 1985), or using a commercially available automated synthesizer, such as the Applied Biosystems 430 A peptide synthesizer. The peptide-amide is deprotected

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in 45% trifluoroacetic acid-51% methylene chloride-2% ethanedithiol-2% anisole for 20 minutes, and cleaved from the 4-methylbenzhydrylamine resin using the Tam-Merrifield low-high HF procedure (J. P. Tam et al., J. Am. Chem. Soc. 105:6442-55, 1983). The peptide is then extracted from the resin using 0.1 M ammonium acetate

- 5 buffer, pH 8, and is lyophilized. The crude peptide is purified using reverse phase HPLC on a Vydac C-4 analytical column (The Separations Group, Hesperia, Calif.), and a linear gradient of 0.5-1.0%/min. from 100% acetonitrile + 0.1%v/v trifluoroacetate to 100% acetonitrile + 0.1% trifluoroacetate. The HPLC-purified peptide is analyzed by amino acid analysis (R. L. Heinriksen and S. C. Meredith, <u>Anal.</u>
- 10 Biochem. 160:65-74, 1984) after gas phase hydrolysis (N. M. Meltzer et al., Anal. Biochem. 160:356-61, 1987). The sequence of the purified peptide may be confirmed by Edman degradation on a commercially available sequencer (R. M. Hewick et al., J. Biol. Chem. 15:7990-8005, 1981). The peptide amide is converted to an O-methyl ester (*i.e.*, f-met-leu-phe-(gly)₃-leu-O-Me) by treatment with dimethylformamide (5g/60 mL
- 15 with 1.3 equivalents of NaHCO₃ in excess methyl iodide (4 equivalents). The mixture is stirred under argon gas at room temperature for 40 hours. If required, the peptide is extracted to dryness with 150 mL of ethyl acetate. The receptor for modulating agent is used to treat PMN, activated with GM-CSF (to increase expression of fMLP receptors). Loss of binding of biotinylated fMLP is compared on fMLP versus f-MLP receptor 20 modulating agent treated cells.
 - Example 22

SYNTHESIS OF A FUSION PROTEIN RECEPTOR MODULATING AGENT

An EGF receptor modulating agent containing a genetically engineered fusion protein is hereby described. Briefly, the C-terminus of a DNA sequence encoding EGF, or its receptor binding domain, is ligated by conventional procedures (e.g., using T₄DNA ligase) to a DNA sequence corresponding to a GGG spacer. The C-terminus of the EGF-GGG DNA sequence is then fused to the N-terminus of a DNA sequence encoding the conditional, membrane binding peptide KGEAALA(EALA)₄-EALEALAA. Alternately, peptide-spacer DNA sequences may be synthesized *in vitro* using standard oligonucleotide synthesis procedures (*see, e.g.*, U.S. Pat. Nos. 4,500,707 and 4, 668,777). The recombinant EGF peptide DNA sequence is cloned in an *E. coli* expression vector using conventional procedures. *E. coli* strain HB101 is transformed
with the fused recombinant DNA sequence and cultured to produce the EGF peptide. The fusion protein is purified form the transformed *E. coli* culture by standard methods,

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including anti-EGF affinity chromatography. The fusion protein may be eluted from the affinity matrix using standard techniques, such as high salt, chaotropic agents, or high or low pH. Loss of EGF receptor is measured by flow cytometry and mouse monoclonal antibody to EGF receptor.

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From the foregoing, it will be appreciated that, although specific embodiments of this invention have been described herein for purposes of illustration, various modifications may be made without deviating from the spirit and scope of the invention. Accordingly, the invention is not limited except by the appended claims.

Claims

1. A receptor modulating agent, comprising a vitamin B_{12} molecule coupled to a rerouting moiety.

2. The receptor modulating agent of claim 1 wherein said B_{12} molecule is coupled to said rerouting moiety by a linker.

3. The receptor modulating agent of claim 2 wherein said linker is at least 4 atoms in length.

4. The receptor modulating agent of claim 3 wherein said linker is 6 to 20 atoms in length.

5. The receptor modulating agent of claim 4 wherein said linker is 12 atoms in length.

6. The receptor modulating agent of claim 2 wherein said linker includes at least one amino group.

7. The receptor modulating agent of claim 6 wherein said linker additionally includes a group selected from the group consisting of sulfhydryls and carboxyls.

8. The receptor modulating agent of claim 6 wherein said linker is selected from the group consisting of a diaminoalkyls, diaminoalkylaryls, diaminoheteroalkylaryls, and diaminoalkanes.

9. The receptor modulating agent of claim 6 wherein said linker is selected from the group consisting of $-NH(CH_2)_xNH$ - wherein x = 2-20.

10. The receptor modulating agent of claim 6 wherein said linker is selected from the group consisting of -NH(CH₂)_yCO-, wherein y = 3-12.

11. The receptor modulating agent of claim 2 wherein said linker is coupled to said rerouting moiety through a coupling site on said vitamin B_{12} derivative selected from the group consisting of *b*-, *d*- and *e*-.

12. The receptor modulating agent of claim 11 wherein said linker is coupled through a coupling site selected from the group consisting of *d*- and *e*- coupling sites.

13. The receptor modulating agent of claim 2 wherein said linker is coupled to a ribose coupling site on said vitamin B_{12} molecule.

14. The receptor modulating agent of claim 2 wherein said linker is a trifunctional linker.

15. The receptor modulating agent of claim 14 wherein a biotin molecule is coupled through a reactive site on said trifunctional linker.

16. The receptor modulating agent of claim 1 wherein said rerouting moiety is selected from the group consisting of lysosomotropic moieties, intracellular polymerizing moieties, peptide sorting sequences, conditional membrane binding peptides and bi- or multi-valent receptor cross-linking moieties membrane anchors.

17. The receptor modulating agent of claim 1 wherein said receptor modulating agent affects a receptor trafficking pathway by redirecting an agent/receptor complex.

18. The receptor modulating agent of claim 1 wherein said receptor modulating agent affects a receptor trafficking pathway by cross-linking one or more receptors.

19. The receptor modulating agent of claim 18 wherein said receptor modulating agent is a vitamin B_{12} dimer.

20. The receptor modulating agent as in claim 1 wherein said receptor modulating agent affects a receptor trafficking pathway by anchoring a receptor in a cell membrane.

21. The receptor modulating agent as in claim 1 wherein said receptor modulating agent affects a receptor trafficking pathway by retaining an agent/receptor complex in an endosome.
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22. The receptor modulating agent as in claim 1 wherein said rerouting moiety is a lysosomotropic moiety selected from the group consisting of gentamycin, sisomicin, netilmicin, kanamycin, tobramycin, amikacin, neomycin, paromomycin ribostamycin butirosin, and streptomycin.

23. The receptor modulating agent as in claim 1 wherein said rerouting moiety is an intracellular polymerizing moiety selected from the group consisting of dipeptide esters and leucine zippers.

24. The receptor modulating agent as in claim 1 wherein said rerouting moiety is a peptide sorting sequence selected from the group consisting of endoplasmic reticulum retention peptides, golgi retention peptides, lysosomal retention peptides, organism specific retention peptides and clathrin-binding peptides.

25. The receptor modulating agent as in claim 1 wherein said rerouting moiety is a conditional membrane binding peptide selected from the group consisting of charged glutamate, aspartate, and histidine.

26. A vitamin B_{12} dimer comprising a first and a second vitamin B_{12} molecule coupled through a coupling site independently selected from the group consisting of coupling sites *a-g*, coupling site h, and coupling site i.

27. The dimer of claim 26 wherein said first and second vitamin B_{12} molecules are coupled through a coupling site independently selected from the group consisting of *d*- and *e*- coupling sites on said first and said second vitamin B_{12} molecule.

28. The dimer of claim 26 wherein at least one of said first and said second vitamin B_{12} molecules is a vitamin B_{12} derivative.

29. The dimer of claim 26 wherein said first and second B_{12} molecules are coupled through at least one linker.

30. The dimer of claim 29 wherein said linker is at least 4 atoms in length.

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31. The dimer of claim 30 wherein said linker is about 10 to 55 atoms in length.

32. The dimer of claim 31 wherein said linker is 35 to 45 atoms in length.

33. The dimer of claim 29 wherein said linker includes at least one amino group.

34. The dimer of claim 33 wherein said linker additionally includes a group selected from the group consisting of sulfhydryls and carboxyls.

35. The dimer of claim 33 wherein said linker is selected from the group consisting of a diaminoalkyls, diaminoalkylaryls, diaminoheteroalkyls, diaminoheteroalkylaryls, and diaminoalkanes.

36. The dimer of claim 33 wherein said linker is selected from the group consisting of $-NH(CH_2)_xNH$ - wherein x = 2-20.

37. The dimer of claim 33 wherein said linker is selected from the group consisting of $-NH(CH_2)_yCO$, wherein y = 3-12.

38. The dimer of claim 29 wherein said linker is a trifunctional linker.

39. A method for modulating a vitamin B_{12} receptor, comprising administering an effective amount of a receptor modulating agent to a warm-blooded animal such that a vitamin B_{12} receptor is modulated, said receptor modulating agent comprising a vitamin B_{12} molecule coupled to a rerouting moiety.

40. The method of claim 39 wherein said B_{12} molecule is coupled to said rerouting moiety by a linker.

41. The method of claim 40 wherein said linker is at least 4 atoms in length.

42. The method of claim 41 wherein said linker is 6 to 20 atoms in length.

43. The method of claim 42 wherein said linker is 12 atoms in length.

44. The method of claim 40 wherein said linker includes at least one amino group.

45. The method of claim 44 wherein said linker additionally includes a group selected from the group consisting of sulfhydryls and carboxyls.

46. The method of claim 44 wherein said linker is selected from the group consisting of a diaminoalkyls, diaminoalkylaryls, diaminoheteroalkyls, diaminoheteroalkylaryls, and diaminoalkanes.

47. The method of claim 44 wherein said linker is selected from the group consisting of $-NH(CH_2)_xNH$ - wherein x = 2-20.

48. The method of claim 44 wherein said linker is selected from the group consisting of $-NH(CH_2)_yCO$, wherein y = 3-12.

49. The method of claim 40 wherein said linker is coupled to said rerouting moiety through a coupling site on said vitamin B_{12} derivative selected from the group consisting of *b*-, *d*- and *e*-.

50. The method of claim 49 wherein said linker is coupled through a coupling site selected from the group consisting of d- and e- coupling sites.

51. The method of claim 40 wherein said linker is coupled to a ribose coupling site on said vitamin B_{12} molecule.

52. The method of claim 40 wherein said linker is a trifunctional linker.

53. The method of claim 39 wherein said rerouting moiety is selected from the group consisting of lysosomotropic moieties, intracellular polymerizing moieties, peptide sorting sequences, conditional membrane binding peptides and bi- or multi-valent receptor cross-linking moieties membrane anchors. 54. The method of claim 39 wherein said receptor modulating agent affects a receptor trafficking pathway by redirecting an agent/receptor complex.

55. The method of claim 39 wherein said receptor modulating agent affects a receptor trafficking pathway by cross-linking one or more receptors.

56. The method of claim 55 wherein said receptor modulating agent is a vitamin B_{12} dimer.

57. The method of claim 39 wherein said receptor modulating agent affects a receptor trafficking pathway by anchoring a receptor in a cell membrane.

58. The method of claim 39 wherein said receptor modulating agent affects a receptor trafficking pathway by retaining an agent/receptor complex in an endosome.

59. The method of claim 39 wherein said rerouting moiety is a lysosomotropic moiety selected from the group consisting of gentamycin, sisomicin, netilmicin, kanamycin, tobramycin, amikacin, neomycin, paromomycin ribostamycin butirosin, and streptomycin.

60. The method of claim 39 wherein said rerouting moiety is an intracellular polymerizing moiety selected from the group consisting of dipeptide esters and leucine zippers.

61. The method of claim 39 wherein said rerouting moiety is a peptide sorting sequence selected from the group consisting of endoplasmic reticulum retention peptides, golgi retention peptides, lysosomal retention peptides, organism specific retention peptides and clathrin-binding peptides.

62. The method of claim 52 wherein said rerouting moiety is a conditional membrane binding peptide selected from the group consisting of charged glutamate, aspartate, and histidine.

63. The method of claim 56 wherein said vitamin B_{12} dimer is comprised of a first and a second vitamin B_{12} molecule coupled through a coupling site independently selected from the group consisting of coupling sites *a-g*, coupling site h, and coupling site i. 75

64. The method of claim 63 wherein said first and second vitamin B_{12} molecules are coupled through a coupling site independently selected from the group consisting of *d*- and *e*- coupling sites on said first and said second vitamin B_{12} molecule.

65. The method of claim 63 wherein at least one of said first and said second vitamin B_{12} molecules is a vitamin B_{12} derivative.

66. The method of claim 65 wherein said first and second B_{12} molecules are coupled through at least one linker.

67. The method of claim 66 wherein said linker is at least 4 atoms in length.

68. The method of claim 67 wherein said linker is about 10 to 55 atoms in length.

69. The method of claim 68 wherein said linker is 35 to 45 atoms in length.

70. The dimer of claim 66 wherein said linker includes at least one amino group.

71. The dimer of claim 70 wherein said linker additionally includes a group selected from the group consisting of sulfhydryls and carboxyls.

72. The dimer of claim 70 wherein said linker is selected from the group consisting of a diaminoalkyls, diaminoalkylaryls, diaminoheteroalkylaryls, and diaminoalkanes.

73. The dimer of claim 70 wherein said linker is selected from the group consisting of $-NH(CH_2)_xNH$ - wherein x = 2-20.

74. The dimer of claim 70 wherein said linker is selected from the group consisting of $-NH(CH_2)_yCO$, wherein y = 3-12.

75. The dimer of claim 66 wherein said linker is a trifunctional linker.

76. The method of claim 75 wherein a reactive site on said trifunctional linker is coupled to a biotin molecule.

77. The method of claim 39 wherein said vitamin B_{12} receptor modulation is sufficient to treat a neoplastic disorder.

78. The method of claim 77 wherein said neoplastic disorder is selected from the group consisting of leukemia, sarcoma, myeloma, carcinoma, neuroma, melanoma, cancers of the lung, liver, breast, brain, colon, cervix, prostrate, Hodgkin's disease, and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

79. A method for regulating a biological response associated with a cell surface receptor, comprising administering an effective amount of a receptor modulating agent to a warm-blooded animal such that a biological response is regulated.

80. A vitamin B_{12} derivative comprising a vitamin B_{12} molecule coupled to a biotin molecule.

81. The vitamin B_{12} derivative of claim 80 wherein said vitamin B_{12} molecule is cyanocobalamin.

82. The vitamin B_{12} derivative of claim 80 wherein said vitamin B_{12} molecule is coupled to said biotin molecule by a linker.

83. The vitamin B_{12} derivative of claim 82 wherein said linker is at least 4 atoms in length.

84. The vitamin B_{12} derivative of claim 83 wherein said linker is 6 to 20 atoms in length.

85. The vitamin B_{12} derivative of claim 84 wherein said linker is 12 atoms in length.

86. The vitamin B_{12} derivative of claim 82 wherein said linker includes at least one amino group.

87. The vitamin B_{12} derivative of claim 86 wherein said linker additionally includes a group selected from the group consisting of sulfhydryls and carboxyls.

88. The vitamin B_{12} derivative of claim 86 wherein said linker is selected from the group consisting of a diaminoalkyls, diaminoalkylaryls, diaminoheteroalkyls, diaminoheteroalkylaryls, and diaminoalkanes.

89. The vitamin B_{12} derivative of claim 86 wherein said linker is selected from the group consisting of -NH(CH₂)_xNH- wherein x = 2-20.

90. The vitamin B_{12} derivative of claim 87 wherein said linker is selected from the group consisting of -NH(CH₂)_yCO-, wherein y = 3-12.

91. The vitamin B_{12} derivative of claim 82 wherein said linker is coupled to said rerouting moiety through a coupling site on said vitamin B_{12} derivative selected from the group consisting of b-, d- and e-.

92. The vitamin B_{12} derivative of claim 91 wherein said linker is coupled through a coupling site selected from the group consisting of *d*- and *e*- coupling sites on said vitamin B_{12} molecule.

93. The vitamin B_{12} derivative of claim 82 wherein said linker is coupled to a ribose coupling site on said vitamin B_{12} molecule.

94. The receptor modulating agent of claim 82 wherein said linker is a trifunctional linker.

95. The vitamin B_{12} derivative of claim 80 wherein said biotin is additionally coupled to a rerouting moiety.

96. The vitamin B_{12} derivative of claim 95 wherein said biotin is coupled to said rerouting moiety by a biotin binding protein.

97. The vitamin B_{12} derivative of claim 96 wherein said biotin binding protein is selected from the group consisting of avidin and streptavidin.

98. A complex comprising a vitamin B_{12} derivative according any one of claims 80 to 97 bound to a transcobalamin II.

99. A kit for determining the presence or amount of transcobalamin in a sample using a vitamin B_{12} derivative according to any one of claims 80 to 97.

100. A pharmaceutical composition, comprising a vitamin B_{12} derivative according to any one of claims 80 to 97 and a suitable pharmaceutical carrier or diluent.

101. A receptor modulating agent, comprising a targeting moiety coupled to a rerouting moiety.

102. The receptor modulating agent as in claim 101 wherein said rerouting moiety is selected from the group consisting of lysosomotropic moieties, intracellular polymerizing moieties, peptide sorting sequences, conditional membrane binding peptides and bi- or multi-valent receptor cross-linking moieties.

103. The receptor modulating agent as in claim 101 wherein said targeting moiety is selected from the group consisting of proteins, peptides, and nonproteinacious molecules.

104. The receptor modulating agent as in claim 101 wherein the receptor modulating agent affects a receptor trafficking pathway by redirecting an agent/receptor complex.

105. The receptor modulating agent as in claim 101 wherein said receptor modulating agent affects a receptor trafficking pathway by cross-linking one or more cell surface receptors.

106. The receptor modulating agent as in claim 101 wherein said receptor modulating agent affects a receptor trafficking pathway by anchoring a cell surface receptor in a cell membrane.

107. The receptor modulating agent as in claim 101 wherein said receptor modulating agent affects a receptor trafficking pathway by retaining a receptor in an endosome.

108. The receptor modulating agent as in claim 102 wherein said lysosomotropic moiety is selected from the group consisting of gentamycin, sisomicin, netilmicin, kanamycin, tobramycin, amikacin, neomycin, paromomycin ribostamycin butirosin, and streptomycin.

109. The receptor modulating agent as in claim 102 wherein said intracellular polymerizing moiety is selected from the group consisting of dipeptide esters and leucine zippers.

110. The receptor modulating agent as in claim 102 wherein said peptide sorting sequence is selected from the group consisting of endoplasmic reticulum retention peptides, golgi retention peptides, lysosomal retention peptides, organism specific retention peptides and clathrin-binding peptides.

111. The receptor modulating agent as in claim 102 wherein said conditional membrane binding peptide is selected from the group consisting of charged glutamate, aspartate, and histidine.

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FIGURE

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Gentamicin C_1 :	$R_1 = R_2 = CH_3$
Gentamicin C ₂ :	$R_1 = CH_3; R_2 = H$
Gentamicin Cla:	$R_1 = R_2 = H$



Sisomicin

Netilmicin

Fig. 2

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Kanamycin A



Tobramycin



Amikacin



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Ribostamycin

Butirosin B

Fig. 4

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Streptomycin A



Streptomycin B

Fig. 5

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Chloroquine Derivatives

Quinacrine Derivatives



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Dansyl Cadaverine



Amino Acridine

Fig. 6

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Fig. 7

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$$\begin{split} R_1 &= CN \ ; \ R_2 = NH_2 \ (Cyanocobalamin) \\ R_1 &= CN \ ; \ R_2 = OH \ (Cyanocobalamin -(3)-free acid) \\ R_1 &= CN \ ; \ R_2 = HN-CH_2-CH_2-CO_2H \ (GABA adduct) \\ R_1 &= CN \ ; \ R_2 = GABA - Peptide \ (where GABA = linker) \\ R_1 &= CN \ ; \ R_2 = Peptide \\ R_1 &= CN \ ; \ R_2 = Peptide \\ R_1 &= CN \ ; \ R_2 = HN-(linker)-tyramine^{-125}I \\ R_1 &= CN \ ; \ R_2 = HN-(linker)-lysosomotropic agent \\ R_1 &= CN \ ; \ R_2 = HN-(linker)-lysosomotropic agent \\ R_1 &= CN \ ; \ R_2 = HN-(linker)-biotin \\ R_1 &= CN \ ; \ R_2 = HN-(linker)-biotin \\ R_1 &= CN \ ; \ R_2 = NH-(CH_2)_{12}NH_2 \end{split}$$

Fig. 8

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Fig. 10a



Fig. 10b



Fig. 11

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Fig. 13

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Fig. 14

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Fig. 15

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Fig. 16

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Fig. 17

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Interr al Application No PCT/US 95/04404

		PC	T/US 95/04404
A. CLASS IPC 6	CO7H23/00 GO1N33/82 A61K	31/68	
According	to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national	classification and IPC	
B. FIELD	S SEARCHED	- Bardan bala	
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Documents	ation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent	t that such documents are included i	n the fields searched
Electronic	data base consulted during the international search (name of da	ts base and, where practical, search	terms used)
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C. DOCUN	MENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of	the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
٨	EP,A,O 425 680 (TEIJIN LTD) 8	1,26,39, 79,80, 101	
	see page 3 - page 5		
A	EP,A,O 069 450 (TECHNICON INST January 1983	1,26,39, 79,80, 101	
	see example		
A	US,A,4 167 556 (SELHUB JACOB E September 1979	1,26,39, 79,80, 101	
	see the whole document		101
Puri	ther documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	X Patent family membe	rs are listed in annez.
* Special ca	stegories of cited documents :	"T" later document published or priority date and not i	after the international filing date in conflict with the application but
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"O" docum other	tent referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or means	document is combined w ments, such combination	it one or more other such docu- being obvious to a person skilled
"P" docum iater t	ent published prior to the international filing dats but han the priority date claimed	in the art. "&" document member of the	same patent family
Date of the	actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the int	ernational search report
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	INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT	PCT/US 95/04404						
Box I O	x I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)							
This intern	This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:							
L. X CL be Re of CZ 2. Ch be an	 Claims Nos.: 39-69,77-79 because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely: Remark: Although claims 39-69,77-79 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. 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. Cli	aims Nos.: cause they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the secon	nd and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).						
Box II Of	bservations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of	first sheet)						
This Interns	ational Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international applic	ation, as follows:						
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4. 🗌 No resi	o required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently tricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nor	, this international search report is L:						
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	Intern 11 PCT/US	Intern 11 Application No PCT/US 95/04404			
Patent document sited in search report	Publication date	ion Patent family member(s)		Publication Patent family date member(s)	Publication date
EP-A-0425680	08-05-91	JP-A- WO-A- US-A-	2289597 9010014 5405839	29-11-90 07-09-90 11-04-95	
P-A-0069450	12-01-83	CA-A- JP-C- JP-A- US-A-	1180273 1848006 58000997 4465775	01-01-85 07-06-94 06-01-83 14-08-84	
JS-A-4167556	11-09-79	US-A-	4273757	16-06-81	

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Effect of combined ascorbic acid and B-12 on survival of mice with implanted Ehrlich carcinoma and L1210 leukemia^{1,2}

M Eymard Poydock

ABSTRACT A combination of dehydroascorbic acid and hydroxycobalamin (vitamin B-12) inhibited mitoses of tumors in mice. The present study was performed to test the effect of these vitamins on the survival of mice bearing carcinomas and leukemias. In each assay 40 mice received 0.1 mL ip tumor cells $(\times 10^5)$. After 24 h, 20 mice were injected with 0.2 mL (0.4 g/ kg body wt) of the vitamins daily for 10 d. All controls died by day 19, but > 50% of the treated mice were alive after 60 d. In vitro findings revealed inhibition of mitoses in L1210 leukemia cells, but not in normal L929 cells. In recent research with cobaltascorbate plus vitamin C, we demonstrated that when B-12 is combined with vitamin C, the cobalt nucleus of B-12 attaches to a carbon on vitamin C, forming cobalt ascorbate. Tests proved that cobalt ascorbate plus vitamin C also inhibited tumor cells. Am J Clin Nutr 1991;54:1261S-5S.

KEY WORDS Ascorbic acid, vitamin C, hydroxycobalamin, vitamin B-12, cancer, combination therapy

Introduction

Chemotherapeutic agents such as antimetabolites and alkylating agents can be cytotoxic for normal proliferating cells as well as malignant cells. Consequently, progress in cancer therapy requires an exploration of other approaches, including biological response modifiers and agents that might be selectively toxic to malignant, but not to normal cells. The latter line of research has been conducted in our laboratory, and a series of experiments are summarized below.

Early experiments demonstrated an inhibiting effect in vitro of combined dehydroascorbic acid and vitamin B-12 on the mitotic activity of several types of tumor cells, but not on normal fibroblasts. This was followed by experiments in mice that confirmed the selective effect in vivo. These preliminary results were followed by investigations of the survival of mice bearing ascites tumor after treatment with the vitamin mixture. Finally, further explorations were conducted to elucidate the mechanism of tumor inhibition by these agents.

Methods and results

Inhibition of mitosis in vitro and in vivo by dehydroascorbic acid and B-12

In vitro experiments. These results have been reported in detail elsewhere (1). For the neoplastic material, sarcoma 37, Ehrlich

carcinoma, Krebs 2, and L1210 leukemia were obtained from various sources; fibroblasts L929 were obtained for the nonneoplastic cells. Cells were propagated in Eagle, Earle's base medium with 10% calf serum. The vitamin mixture was prepared by adding 0.1 g B-12 (cyanocobalamin was equally effective) to 10 mL distilled water, and then adding 0.2 g dehydroascorbic acid (see Appendix). Immediately before use the mixture was diluted with three parts 5% calcium ascorbate to one part vitamin mixture. The tumor was obtained from the ascites exudate taken from a tumor stock mouse, centrifuged at 500 rpm for 10 min, and the pellet was resuspended to bring the cell suspension to 106 cells/ mL. Then, 0.025 mL of the vitamin mixture was added to the test flasks. After incubation at 37.5 °C, mitotic counts were made at various times throughout the day (Table 1) by staining a drop of the cell suspension with acetocarmine. About 500 cells were counted and the mitotic index (M/C) was calculated as follows:

M/C = (number of mitotic cells/total cells counted) \times 1000

Table 1 shows the results of the in vitro experiments. The mixture of dehydroascorbic acid and vitamin B-12 inhibited mitoses in the neoplastic cells but did not affect the nonneoplastic L929 fibroblasts.

In vivo experiments. The animals were female HA/ICR Swiss mice obtained from the Roswell Park Memorial Institute (Buffalo, NY). All procedures conformed to the guidelines of the National Research Council for the care and use of laboratory animals. Transplantable sarcoma 37, Krebs 2, and Ehrlich carcinomas in the ascites form were used. Mice were injected with 0.1 mL ip washed ascites cells ($\times 10^6$), harvested on the seventh day after tumor implantation. Five experiments using a total of 50 mice were used for each tumor type. Twenty-four hours after tumor implantation the mice were divided into equal test and control groups. Test animals were treated daily with 0.2 mL ip of the vitamin mixture, 360 mg/kg body wt, for 7 d. Control animals received an equal volume of Hank's saline. After the third treatment, and for the remaining 5 d, one control and one test animal were killed at the same time each day. The ascites exudate and body cavity washings were centrifuged at 500 rpm for 10 min and were resuspended to prepare an acetocarmine smear as described above. Similar studies examined the effect of dehydroascorbic acid alone and vitamin B-12 alone.

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TABLE I

Effect of a mixture of dehydroascorbate and vitamin B-12 (hydroxycobalamin) on mitoses of malignant cells (Sarcoma 37, Ehrlich, L1210) and nonmalignant cells (L929 fibroblasts) in vitro*

		Mitotic index		
Tissue tested	Incubation time	Test	Control	
	h			
Sarcoma 37	0	48	48	
	5	0	30	
	6	0	75	
	8.5	0	86	
Ehrlich	0	78	78	
	3.5	0	41	
	4.5	0	55	
	6.5	0	63	
L1210	0	46	46	
	2.5	0	40	
	4.5	0	42	
	6.5	0	48	
L929	0	52	52	
	2.5	50	48	
	4.5	62	60	
	6.5	64	62	

* Reference 1.

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Microscopic examination of the stained ascitic fluid from the mice after four treatments with the vitamin mixture revealed many lymphocytes, neutrophils, monocytes, and disintegrating tumor cells. By the sixth and seventh treatments, no tumor cells were visible in the ascitic fluid of treated mice, but numerous monocytes and macrophages were observed.

Table 2 presents the results of the effects on mitoses; the data represent an average of five experiments for each of the tumor types. Packed-cell volume of the ascites exudate from mice treated with the vitamin mixture was insignificant, and there were few tumor cells and no mitotic figures. Lymphocytes, neutrophils, and monocytes were abundant. In contrast, treatment with reduced ascorbate, calcium ascorbate, and vitamin B-12 administered separately, in the same doses as provided by the mixture, had no effect on the mitotic counts of Ehrlich ascites tumor (Table 3). Injecting a higher dose of reduced ascorbate slightly inhibited mitoses.

These results demonstrated that after three injections of the mixture of dehydroascorbic acid and vitamin B-12, mitotic activity of the ascites tumors (sarcoma 37, Krebs 2, and Ehrlich carcinoma) was completely inhibited, whereas the mitotic activity of the normal L929 fibroblasts was not. Ascites fluid taken from treated mice contained an increased concentration of lymphocytes, neutrophils, monocytes, and disintegrating tumor cells, suggesting an enhancement of immune function. Injections of ascorbic acid or of vitamin B-12 alone had no effect on mitotic activity or white blood cell population.

In further experiments, we investigated the effect of dehydroascorbic acid on mitotic activity of two different murine ascites tumors (2) and attempted to determine whether the effect was due to the acidity of dehydroascorbic acid. The methods and number of animals were the same as described above, with the following exceptions. P388 leukemia and Ehrlich carcinoma

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TABLE 2

Mitotic counts (M/C) and packed cell volume (PCV, in mL) taken for 5 successive days after treatment with a mixture of dehydroascorbic acid and hydroxycobalamin (vitamin B-12)*

	Ehrlich			Sarcoma 37			Krebs						
	M/C		PCV		M/C		1	PCV		M/C		PCV	
No. of treatments	т	С	т	с	т	с	т	с	т	с	т	с	
3	0	40.5	0	0.5	0	25.2	0	0.96	0	29.6	0	1.34	
4	0	39.6	0	0.96	0	32.0	0	0.92	0	22.0	0	0.66	
5	0	45.0	0	1.24	0	25.6	0	0.7	0	21.0	0	0.72	
6	0	31.6	0	1.54	0	25.6	0	0.94	0	20.0	0	0.72	
7	0	28.0	0	2.1	0	25.2	0	0.9	0	24.0	0	1.4	
Mean	0	36.9	0	1.27	0	26.7	0	0.89	0	23.3	0	0.97	

* Represents the average of five experiments performed with each type of tumor. T, test; C, control. Reference 1.

were used. Test animals were treated daily with 10 mg/0.2 mL dehydroascorbic acid ip for 7 d, and control animals received an equal volume of saline. Vitamin B-12 was not included in the mixture. Animals were killed after seven treatments. Moreover, to demonstrate that it was not the acidity of dehydroascorbic acid that caused inhibition of mitoses, a subsequent experiment was performed. By using the same procedure as above, test animals injected with tumor were treated with citric acid at the same pH (2.4) as the dehydroascorbic acid. Results proved that citric acid had no effect on mitoses.

Treatment with dehydroascorbic acid alone dramatically affected the mitotic activity (Table 4). The ascites exudate from treated mice was insignificant, and only a thin film of cells could be observed in the bottom of the tube after centrifugation, whereas packed-cell volume of control animals was 3-5 mL. Few tumor cells and no mitotic activity was observed, whereas monocytes and macrophages were numerous.

TABLE 3

Mitotic counts taken for 5 successive days in Ehrlich ascites tumor after treatment with ascorbic acid and hydroxycobalamin administered separately*

	Ascorbic acid and calcium ascorbate (340 mg/kg)		Ascorbic acid (800 mg/kg)		Vitamin B-12 (20 mg/kg)	
No. of treatments	T	С	Т	С	Т	С
3	29.2	53.2	11.4	38.8	39.2	34.0
4	48.8	45.0	12.4	42.0	36.4	32.4
5	45.2	50.0	17.6	47.6	36.0	49.6
6	36.8	41.0	32.8	38.0	35.6	34.0
7	39.6	53.2	19.0	37.6	47.6	35.6
Mean	39.9	48.9	18.6	40.8	38.9	37.1

* Represents average data of five experiments performed with each type of treatment. The vitamin B-12 was administered in the same dosage as in the vitamin mixture whose results were presented in Table 1; the ascorbic acid/calcium ascorbate was also in the same dose as that used in the vitamin mixture, but ascorbic acid rather than dehydroascorbic acid was tested. T, test; C, control. Reference 1.

COMBINED VITAMINS C AND B-12 ON SURVIVAL

TABLE 4 Mean mitotic index taken in Ehrlich carcinoma and P388 leukemia after treatment with dehydroascorbic acid (DHA) and citric acid*

	DHA, 400 mg/kg (pH 2.4) P388 leukemia		DH/ m((pH Eh) carci	A, 400 g/kg l 2.4) rlich noma	Citric acid, 85.6 mg/kg (pH 2.4) Ehrlich carcinoma	
	Т	с	т	с	Т	С
	0	32	0	34	35	34
	0	34	0	32	41	36
	0	43	0	50	30	35
	0	40	0	34	30	35
	0	39	0	36	32	29
Mean	0	38	0	37	34	34

• Each group represents a sampling of 50 mice (25 test, 25 control). T, test; C, control. Reference 2.

Effect of dehydroascorbic acid and B-12 on survival of mice bearing ascites tumor

Earlier experiments in vitro and in vivo (1, 2) demonstrated an inhibitory effect on cell division of malignant cells without any comparable inhibition of normal fibroblasts or white blood cells. It remained to be answered whether these effects would be manifested in increased survival of animals with tumors. These methods and results have been reported elsewhere (3).

Transplantable P388 leukemia and Ehrlich carcinoma in the ascites form were used. P388 was maintained in DBA/2 stock mice, and Ehrlich carcinoma was maintained in HA/ICR Swiss mice. In this experiment the vitamin mixture was prepared by adding the crystals as follows: 0.01 g B-12, 0.01 g dehydroascorbic acid, and 0.01 g sodium ascorbate, into a small tube. Immediately before injection, 1 mL sterile distilled water was added to the tube.

Two experiments were conducted, one with P388 leukemia in BDF, mice and one with Ehrlich carcinoma in HA/ICR Swiss mice; 100 mice (50 test, 50 control) were used in each experiment. Animals were injected ip with 0.1 mL washed ascites cells $(\times 10^6)$. After 24 h, mice were divided into test and control groups. Test mice received 6 mg/0.2 mL ip vitamin C and B-12 daily for 8 consecutive days. Control animals received an equal volume of saline. On the second weekend, mice received no treatment, and then injections were continued on alternate days for 3 wk for a total of 17 treatments. Treatment with a mixture of dehydroascorbic acid and B-12 dramatically increased the survival of tumor-bearing mice. Figure 1 shows the results for mice treated with P388 leukemia, but results for Ehrlich carcinoma were virtually identical. All 50 control mice bearing P388 leukemia were dead by day 17, whereas the earliest deaths in the vitamin-treated group occurred on day 32. Median survival for untreated mice, both P388 and Ehrlich carcinoma, was 15 d; the experiments were terminated after \sim 70 d, at which time > 50% of the animals receiving the vitamin treatment were still alive.

Whatever the mechanism, these results demonstrate a very significant improvement in survival of tumor-bearing animals treated intraperitoneally with a mixture of dehydroascorbic acid and vitamin B-12 (hydroxycobalamin).

Effect of dehydroascorbic acid or ascorbic acid and B-12 on survival of mice bearing L1210 leukemia

Because of previous work indicating the efficacy of dehydroascorbic acid in suppressing tumor mitotic activity and the results showing increased survival in animals treated with dehydroascorbic acid plus B-12, we tested the effect of dehydroascorbic acid and B-12 on the highly resistant L1210 mouse leukemia (4).

As before, the vitamin mixture was prepared in crystalline form, 0.01 g hydroxycobalamin, 0.01 g dehydroascorbic acid, buffered to pH 5.2 with 0.01 g sodium ascorbate, dissolved with 1 mL sterile water. L1210 leukemia was supplied in DBA/2 mice from Roswell Park Memorial Institute.

A total of 140 mice were used in the three experiments conducted. Two experiments involved dehydroascorbic acid, with 40 female DBA/2 mice used in each; the third experiment involved ascorbic acid, with 60 mice used. Mice were injected intraperitoneally with 10^5 L1210 cells in 0.1 mL Tyrodes solution; this produced an ascitic leukemia, which later progressed to generalized disease. After 24 h, test mice were injected with 10 mg/0.2 mL ip (0.4 g/kg body wt) dehydroascorbate/B-12 or ascorbic acid/B-12 for 8 consecutive days. Two days later they were given another two treatments on alternate days, for a total of 10 treatments. Control mice were injected under the same conditions with saline of the same volume, pH, and osmolarity.

The two experiments involving dehydroascorbic acid, each with 40 mice, produced identical results, shown in Figure 2. Treatment with dehydroascorbic acid plus vitamin B-12 produced a substantial increase in survival. The median survival among control animals was 12 d, whereas for treated mice > 50% were still alive when the experiment was terminated after 60 d. Postmortem and histological examination of control mice revealed disseminated disease to liver, spleen, and lungs; treated mice killed after day 60 revealed no evidence of disease.

In the experiment involving recently purchased ascorbic acid plus B-12, the increase in survival of treated over untreated animals was minimal, and all animals were dead by day 17. (Note that our earlier published papers referred to ascorbic acid, but



FIG 1. Survival of mice bearing P388 leukemia after treatment with dehydroascorbic acid and hydroxycobalamin (vitamin B-12). One hundred mice were sampled, 50 treated ($\bullet - - \bullet$) and 50 control (O - - O). Test mice were inoculated once daily with 0.2 mL of the vitamin mixture for 8 successive days; control animals received an equal volume of saline. + = study terminated.

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FIG 2. Survival of mice bearing leukemia L1210 after treatment with a mixture of dehydroascorbic acid and hydroxycobalamin (vitamin B-12). Eighty mice were sampled, 40 treated and 40 control. Test mice were injected with 0.2 mL ip of the vitamin mixture on days 1-8, 11, and 13. Control mice received an equal volume of a saline solution of the same pH and osmolarity.

we subsequently determined that our stock of ascorbic acid had oxidized, see Appendix A.)

Effect of dehydroascorbic acid and B-12 on growth of two solid tumors

Because ascites tumors are rarely found in clinical situations, we investigated the efficacy of the vitamin mixture on the growth of solid tumors (5). Two transplantable solid tumors, Krebs 2 and Ehrlich carcinoma, were used. Female HA/ICR Swiss mice were injected subcutaneously in the left flank with 0.1 mL (2×10^6) washed ascites cells in Hanks solution. (When an ascites tumor is injected subcutaneously it develops into a solid tumor.) Fifty mice received Krebs 2 carcinoma and 50 mice received Ehrlich carcinoma. The groups were then randomized to test and control. Starting 24 h after tumor implantation, test mice received, in the area of the tumor implant, 6 mg/0.2 mL sc (240 mg/kg body wt) of the dehydroascorbic acid-B-12 mixture buffered to pH 6.6 with sodium ascorbate. Control animals received an equal volume of Hank's solution. Treatment continued for 8 successive days.

Ten days after tumor transplantation, tumors were measured in three dimensions with a metric dial caliper with measurements in 0.05-mm increments. Results are shown in **Table 5**. All untreated mice developed tumors, whereas only two of the treated animals developed tumors, and those tumors were much smaller than in control animals. These results demonstrate that the combination of dehydroascorbic acid and vitamin B-12, when injected at the site of tumor implantation, almost completely inhibits the growth of these solid tumors.

Chemical investigations of the vitamin mixture

Hydroxycobalamin (vitamin B-12) contains at its center a cobalt atom bonded in a corrin ring structure. Experiments were conducted to determine whether it is the presence of the cobalt or the corrin ring that is critical to the efficacy of the vitamin mixture and whether ascorbate is critical to the efficacy (unpublished data).

The methods were similar to those described above. Ehrlich carcinoma and P388 leukemia tumors were used, and the effect on mitotic index was examined after treatment with various

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agents. Cobalt acetate and cobalt sulfate, when combined with sodium ascorbate, were as effective in inhibiting mitotic activity as had the hydroxycobalamin-ascorbate combination reported above. Thus, it would appear that it is the cobalt and not the corrin ring that is critical in the hydroxycobalamin. However, when cobalt acetate and cobalt sulfate were used alone, without the sodium ascorbate, there were no significant differences between the control and treated tubes. These experiments suggested that it is a compound of cobalt and ascorbate that is effective.

Further experiments in our laboratory confirmed that after mixture with dehydroascorbate and sodium ascorbate the B-12 was changed from the oxidized to the reduced form. The large stoichiometric excess of ascorbate present was sufficient to prevent the reoxidation of the Co(II) to Co(III). Fractionation experiments conducted at Battelle Labs, Columbus, OH, showed that the C-B-12 mixture contained unreacted ascorbate, reduced B-12, and a new compound showing evidence of cobalt-carbon covalent bond formation as well as preservation of the basic B-12 structure. It seems reasonable to postulate that some sort of cobalt (II) ascorbate complex is formed, and that it is this complex that is the active agent. It is also notable that cobalt (II) is much less expensive than B-12.

Discussion

This series of experiments demonstrated that a mixture of dehydroascorbate and hydroxycobalamin greatly inhibits mitotic activity of several tumor types without inhibiting the activity of normal fibroblasts; that hydroxycobalamin alone is ineffective, as are the cobalt salts, cobalt (II) acetate and cobalt (II) sulfate; that the vitamin mixture with the use of ascorbic acid instead of dehydroascorbic acid is much less effective. Most important, the experiments demonstrated that the dehydroascorbate-hydroxycobalamin vitamin mixture dramatically improves survival of tumor-bearing mice.

This series of experiments has several characteristics that may provide clues and directions for further research. 1) It was the oxidized form, dehydroascorbic acid, which was effective in mitotic index and survival studies, not ascorbic acid itself. 2) It appeared to be the combination of agents, dehydroascorbic acid and hydroxycobalamin, given simultaneously, that was effective. 3) In the tumor models we used, the effect of an agent on mitotic index was a good predictor of subsequent effects on the survival of mice implanted with those tumors.

The first two of these characteristics may be useful in understanding the results of other studies of the role of ascorbate in

TABLE 5

Size (cm²) of two types of solid tumor measured 1 wk after treatment with a mixture of hydroxycobalamin and dehydroascorbic acid buffered to pH 6.6 with sodium ascorbate*

Tumor	Test	Controlt
Krebs 2	0.13‡	1.63 ± 0.47
Ehrlich	0.00§	2.19 ± 0.58

* n = 25. Reference 5.

 $\dagger \bar{x} \pm$ SD. Controls all developed tumors.

‡ Mean of only two tumors that developed.

§ No tumors developed.

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relation to cancer. Some investigators have used just the reduced form, ascorbic acid; in our experiments that form was moderately effective in inhibiting mitoses only when given at very high doses and was ineffective in prolonging survival in the tumor types and animal models we used. Although other investigators have found ascorbic acid to be effective in various animal tumor models, future research should be careful to distinguish between these two forms and to examine their effectiveness separately. Furthermore, relatively few investigations have been carried out with combinations of ascorbate and other agents. Our results suggest that future research should examine the effectiveness of ascorbate when used in combination with other agents. Finally, it is notable that our research involved injection of the agents either intraperitoneally or directly in the area of the tumor. It would seem that future research might examine the effectiveness of various forms of ascorbate when administered in that way, in addition to simple administration in food or water.

Others have suggested that dehydroascorbate is an important inhibitor of cell growth and division (6, 7), and Omura et al (8) reported a 68% inhibition of growth of solid sarcoma 180 by dehydroascorbic acid. Moreover, Hogenkamp (9) reported that, in the presence of ascorbate, B-12 undergoes reactions leading to the release of the cobalt nucleus. Hollis et al (10) showed that the C2 carbon atom of vitamin C served as a binding site for transitional metals (which include both platinum and cobalt), leading to the formation of platinum-ascorbate that displayed antitumor activity. Such mechanisms and results would appear to warrant further investigation.

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APPENDIX A

The in vitro and animal experiments reported in references 1, 3, and 5 were reported in the published papers to have used L-ascorbic acid. However, subsequent experiments in our laboratory with the use of freshly purchased ascorbic acid revealed that the active agent in the earlier work had probably been the oxidized form, dehydroascorbic acid, rather than ascorbic acid itself. The terminology used in the descriptions of that work in the present paper has therefore been corrected to refer to the active agent as dehydroascorbic acid rather than ascorbic acid.

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Influence of Vitamins C and B₁₂ on the Survival Rate of Mice Bearing Ascites Tumor

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Key Words. Ascites tumors · Vitamin C · Vitamin B₁₂

Abstract. The survival rate of mice bearing P388 leukemia and Ehrlich carcinoma was increased after treatment with a mixture of vitamins C and B_{12} . All the mice receiving the vitamins outlived the control group. At the termination of the experiment, 30 days later, 50% of the treated mice appeared normal and healthy, whereas the remainder showed signs of tumor distention.

Introduction

Current animal experimentation and clinical findings suggest a new dimension in cancer therapy. The number of publications regarding the relationship between vitamins and cancer is steadily increasing. Nutritional deficiencies that often coexist with malignancy in humans also appear to be associated with lowered resistance [9, 10]. Basu et al. [1] and Basu [2] reported that nutrition and absorption of certain vitamins seem to improve the immunity of the body. A number of workers [8,11] have explored the efficacy of vitamin A treatment alone, and in combination with anticancer agents. Kaplan and Busford [12] suggested that vitamin B_{12} deficiency impairs the metabolic activity associated with phagocytosis suggesting that this vitamin is influential in augmenting the host's natural resistance. Evidence is accumulating that vitamin C may be a determinant factor in host resistance to cancer [4-7, [13, 15], and that large doses directly interfere with the metabolism of neoplastic cells. *Benade* et al. [3] found that ascorbic acid exhibited cytotoxic activity in Ehrlich carcinoma cells in tissue culture, while *Park* et al. [15] reported that ascorbic acid suppressed the growth of leukemic cells in vitro.

Previous studies in this laboratory by Poydock et al. [16] demonstrated complete inhibition of mitoses in sarcoma 37, P388 leukemia and Ehrlich carcinoma after treatment with a mixture no apparent tox the author [17] r inhibited in two tions of dehyd seemed importa the effect of the mice bearing as

Methods and

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Fig. 1. Surviva P388 leukemia afti vitamins C and B₁ sampled; 50 treate trol (o). + = Termi
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Influence of Vitamins C and B₁₂ on Survival

with a mixture of vitamins C and B_{12} , with no apparent toxic side-effects. More recently the author [17] reported that cell division was inhibited in two ascites tumors after injections of dehydroascorbic acid in mice. It seemed important, therefore, to investigate the effect of the vitamins on the longevity of mice bearing ascites tumors.

Methods and Materials

The transplantable P388 leukemia and Ehrlich carcinoma in the ascites form were used in this assay. To carry the ascites tumor in stock mice they were injected (i.p.) with 0.1 ml (10⁶) washed ascites cells harvested on the 7th day after tumor implantation. P388 was maintained in DBA/2 stock mice, whereas Ehrlich carcinoma was propagated in HA/ICR Swiss mice.

Two experiments were designed for this study. Experiment 1 utilized P388 leukemia in BDE₁ mice and experiment 2 tested Ehrlich carcinoma in HA/ICR Swiss mice. A total of 100 mice (50 test,

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50 control) were used for each experiment. All the animals were within a 3-gram weight range.

They were injected (i.p.) with 0.1 ml (10⁶) washed ascites cells taken from a stock mouse. 24 h after tumor transplantation the mice in each experiment were divided equally into two groups and designated as test and control. The test mice were inoculated once daily (i.p.) with 6 mg/0.2 ml vitamin C and B_{12} mixture for 8 successive days. The control animals received an equal volume of saline. During the weekend the mice received no treatment, then the vitamin injections were continued on alternate days for 3 weeks. The total number of treatments was 17.

The vitamins, in crystalline form, were prepared by introducing 0.01 g B_{12} , 0.01 g sodium ascorbate (NaASC), and 0.01 g *L*-ascorbic acid into a small tube. A sufficient number of tubes with the dry crystals were prepared in advance. Immediately before injection, 1 ml sterile distilled H₂O was added to the tube. The solution was withdrawn into a 1-ml tuberculin syringe, a Millex-GS filter unit attached, and the needle added. Only the amount needed (1 ml) to inject 5 mice was diluted at one time.

Vitamin B_{12} (hydroxocobalamin) was received from Merck Chemical Company. The *L*-ascorbic acid and its salt NaASC, were purchased from Sigma Chemical Co. The Millex-GS filter unit was obtained from Millipore Corp.

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Fig. 2. Survival of mice bearing Ehrlich carcinoma after treatment (with vitamins C and B_{12} . 100 mice were sampled; 50 treated (•) and 50 control (0). + = Terminated.

Results

Figures 1 and 2 show the percent survival of mice bearing P388 leukemia and Ehrlich carcinoma, respectively, after treatment with a mixture of vitamins C and B_{12} . The survival of mice receiving the vitamin mixture was significantly prolonged when compared with the control mice. The earliest deaths in the vitamin-treated group occurred on the 32nd day after tumor transplantation, whereas none of the control animals survived longer than 22 days.

The median survival time for the untreated mice, both P388 and Ehrlich, was 15 days. All the mice receiving the vitamins survived at least 30 days after tumor transplantation. Then a few, showing signs of cancer growth (distended with tumor tissue), died. After all the control mice and the test mice distended with tumors had died, the experiment was continued for another 30 days, then terminated. At this time about 50% of the animals receiving the vitamin treatment were still alive.

Discussion and Conclusion

Treatment with a mixture of vitamins C and B12 increased the survival rate of tumorbearing mice. This substantiates reports published by Cameron and Campell [4] and Ca. meron and Pauling [5], where supplemental treatments of ascorbic acid significantly prolonged the survival time of patients with terminal cancer.

The mechanism of action which brings about the destruction of neoplastic cells is 5still unclear. The vitamin mixture may alter (the cell membrane of malignant cells enabling the T lymphocytes to recognize them as foreign. Then, as Old [14] suggests, T cells kill V the tumor cells by releasing a toxic factor that (disrupts the cell membrane. This suggestion (offered as a possible mechanism of action is supported in part by the fact that microscopic examination of the stained ascitic fluid taken from the mice after four treatments with the mixture of vitamins C and B_{12} revealed V many lymphocytes, neutrophils, monocytes, and disintegrating tumor cells. When the

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stained ascites fluid was examined after the sixth and seventh treatments, no tumor cells, but an abundance of monocytes and macrophages were found [16]. This possible explanation, however, is hypothetical and certainly needs to be verified.

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Mini-review

Dehydroascorbic acid as an anti-cancer agent

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Abstract

Three discoveries together point the way to a potential treatment for cancer. In 1982, Poydock and colleagues found that dehydroascorbic acid has the remarkable ability to eliminate the aggressive mouse tumours, L1210, P388, Krebs sarcoma, and Ehrlich carcinoma. In 1993, Jakubowski found that cancer cells (but not normal cells) contain measurable quantities of homocysteine thiolactone. Recently, the author found that dehydroascorbic acid reacts with homocysteine thiolactone converting it to the toxic compound, 3-mercaptopropionaldehyde. Taken together, these findings suggest that rapidly-dividing tumour cells make unusually large amounts of homocysteine thiolactone and that administered dehydroascorbic acid enters the cells and converts the thiolactone to mercaptopropionaldehyde which kills the cancer cells. The effectiveness of dehydroascorbic acid might be further increased by combining it with methionine and/or methotrexate to increase the homocysteine concentration in cancer cells.

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Keywords. Homocysteine thiolactone; Dehydroascorbic acid; Mercaptopropionaldehyde; Cancer treatment; Methionine auxotrophy

Twenty five years ago, the cancer-curing effect of dehydroascorbic acid was first discovered. The significance of that discovery was not appreciated until recently when it was corroborated by new findings. This review summarizes the original discovery and two recent discoveries which explain the anti-cancer effect of dehydroascorbic acid as well as the phenomenon of methionine auxotrophy in cancer cells.

Discovery 1: dehydroascorbic acid kills cancer cells

Between 1979 and 1985, Poydock and colleagues, published results showing a remarkable anti-cancer effect of dchydroascorbic acid [1-6]. Initially, they intended to study the effect of a mixture of Vitamins C and B_{12} .¹ However, after their first publication describing marked anti-cancer effects [1], they found that the "ascorbic acid"

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¹ It should be noted that Poydock continued to add Vitamin B_{12} to most treatment protocols although her own data showed that it was not needed and there was no good rationale for adding it. Her initial use of B_{12} seems to have stemmed from the orthomolecular theories of Linus Pauling and a few reports describing anti-cancer effects of megadoses of B_{12} although there were other reports showing no effect of B_{12} and some showed that B_{12} enhanced tumour growth. To this day there is no rationale for giving B_{12} and no known reaction between B_{12} and ascorbic acid or dehydroascorbic acid which could explain her results. On the contrary, it is known that B_{12} administered in excess of the carrying capacity of TC I and TC II is rapidly excreted in the urine.

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which they had used was old and had oxidized to dehydroascorbic acid [2]. In subsequent studies with authentic materials, they established that dehydroascorbic acid was the active factor and that ascorbic acid had no effect [2,4]. The studies were carried out carefully with several malignant murine cell lines *in vitro* and *in vivo* and with large numbers of mice. A non-malignant cell line was used for comparison. The results are summarized briefly below.

In *in vitro* experiments, cells were cultured in MEM 10% fetal calf serum with and without 2 mM dehydroascorbic acid and 25 μ M cyanocobalamin. The cultures were examined for mitotic figures at frequent intervals. Malignant cells (L1210, Sarcoma 37, and Ehrlich carcinoma) with treatment showed no mitosis after 2.5–5 h. Untreated malignant cells continued to multiply and the non-malignant lymphocyte cell line (L929) continued to multiply with or without treatment [1].

In the *in vivo* counterpart, cancer cells from ascites culture, were injected intraperitoneally into mice and, after one day, the mice were injected i.p. daily with 300 mg/kg of dehydroascorbic acid and 80 mg/kg of cyanocobalamin. Controls were injected with saline. There were 50 mice in each group. Mice were killed daily and examined for mitoses. In treated mice, mitosis of malignant cells stopped after three treatments and malignant cells were not detectable after five treatments. In control mice receiving saline, the tumour cells continued to multiply [1]. This experiment was repeated with dehydroascorbic acid alone (no B_{12}) with the same results [2].

Survival studies were carried out according to the NCI protocol which was used to develop all the early anti-cancer drugs [7]. With P388 and Ehrlich carcinoma, 50 mice received 2 mg of dehydroascorbic acid (80 mg/kg) and 2 mg of cyanocobalamin intraperitoneally daily and 50 mice received saline. The survival data were remarkable. Control mice receiving saline died on average at day 11 as expected. Treated mice with P388 and Ehrlich carcinoma did not start to die until day 32 and 50% of them went on to long-term survival with no tumour cells detectable [3].

In the survival study with L1210, dehydroascorbic acid and ascorbic acid were compared. Forty mice received dehydroascorbic acid 2 mg per day (80 mg/kg) plus B_{12} , 40 mice received saline, and 60 mice received ascorbic acid 2 mg per day plus B_{12} . The control mice receiving saline and the mice receiving ascorbic acid died at the same rate with an average survival of 11–12 days. The mice receiving dehydroascorbic acid did not begin to die until day 12 and by day 42 only 50% were dead. That 50% went on to long-term survival and were free of tumour cells [4].

Solid tumours were studied using Krebs 2 sarcoma and Ehrlich carcinoma which grow as solid masses when inoculated subcutaneously [5]. Fifty mice were treated by subcutaneous injection of dehydroascorbic acid 2 mg per day (80 mg/kg) plus B₁₂. After 1 week, the control Ehrlich carcinoma tumours had an average size of 2.19 ± 0.58 cm² while there were no tumours in the dehydroascorbic acid-treated mice. With Krebs sarcoma, the control tumours averaged 1.63 ± 0.47 cm² while only 2 out 25 dehydroascorbic acid-treated mice had tumours and they were very small (0.13 cm²) [5,6].

These results are truly remarkable. These mouse tumours are extremely aggressive and their "cure" by a single agent was unknown at the time. In the survival tests with L1210 and P388, untreated mice normally die in a very narrow period around day 11. An increase in survival time of 20% is considered significant [7]. Long-term survival is rare in L1210 even with aggressive combination chemotherapy and then only in one or two mice out of groups of ten. P388 is more aggressive and survival even rarer. Poydock's observation of 100% cure rate and long-term survival is exceptional. These results were unexplainable at the time; they were given little credence, and have been rarely cited. However, they can be explained now on the basis of two new findings: the synthesis of homocysteine thiolactone in cancer cells and the recently-discovered reaction between dehydroascorbic (DHA) acid and homocysteine thiolactone (HTL) in which HTL is converted to toxic mercaptopropionaldehyde.

Discovery 2: HTL detected in cancer cells

HTL synthesis is mammalian cells was first demonstrated in three malignant cell lines, human cervical carcinoma (HELA), mouse renal adenocarcinoma (RAG), and Chinese hamster ovary carcinoma (CHO) [8]. In direct comparison under the same conditions, HTL could not be detected in two non-malignant cell lines, normal



human fibroblasts (GM 1374) and normal mouse fibroblasts (BALB/c 3T3). However, in normal mouse fibroblasts exposed to the folate antagonist, aminopterin, or in human fibroblast cell lines containing genetic defects in cystathionine beta synthase, HTL was formed in a linear relationship with time of culture [9]. These two conditions promote homocysteine accumulation by blocking its conversion to methionine or to cysteine, respectively. In human breast cancer cells exposed to aminopterin, there was a dramatic (ninefold) increase in HTL production [9].

The mechanism of HTL biosynthesis involves the process of amino acid activation (a preliminary step in protein synthesis which involves ATP, the amino acid, transfer RNA, and an amino acid-specific enzyme called amino acyl-tRNA synthetase). Homocysteine itself does not occur in proteins and there is no enzyme for activating it. However, homocysteine is erroneously activated by methionyl-tRNA synthetase in mammals. This is recognized as an error and the homocysteinyl-AMP is edited-out whereupon it converts to homocysteine thiolactone [8]. The chemical energy of the phosphoanhydride bond is conserved in the thiolactone bond.

The presence of HTL in cancer cells is a finding of major interest which has not yet been fully developed. It may be related to two conditions in rapidlydividing cells:

- (a) the high demand for methyl groups which leads to homocysteine formation
- S-adenosylmethionine \rightarrow S-adenosyl-homocysteine \rightarrow homocysteine (1)
 - (b) the high rate of protein synthesis which increases the risk of homocyseine misactivation
- homocysteine + ATP \rightarrow homocysteinyl-AMP
 - \rightarrow homocysteine thiolactone (2)

Together these processes can explain the occurrence of HTL in rapidly-dividing cancer cells, as discussed further below.

Discovery 3: the dehydroascorbic acid-homocysteine thiolactone reaction

When DHA and HTL are combined in aqueous solution at neutral pH and room temperature, there

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is a spontaneous reaction yielding CO₂, a red product, and 3-mercaptopropionaldehyde [10]. This is the Strecker degradation of amino acids with DHA replacing the traditional ninhydrin; the product from ninhydrin being blue and that from DHA being red. The remarkable feature of the DHA-HTL reaction is the facility with which it occurs. Other amino acids react with DHA (as they do with ninhydrin) but only at boiling temperature [11]. In contrast, HTL reacts at room temperature. The high reactivity of HTL can be attributed to the high energy content of the thiolactone bond since homoserine lactone also reacts with DHA at low temperature [10]. The facility of this chemical reaction suggests that it can occur in vivo. This is supported by the observation that, when solutions of DHA and HTL were injected separately into mice, the red product was excreted in the urine during the next 3 h [10]. This reaction may have relevance to Alzheimer's Disease [10] and connective tissue disease [12].

Poydock's results explained

One further fact is needed to set the scene for Poydock's remarkable experiments, i.e. that extracellular dehydroascorbic acid is transported very rapidly into cells by the facilitative glucose transport system [13]. Therefore, in Poydock's experiments, the injected DHA would enter the tumour cells where it would convert the endogenous HTL to 3-mercaptopropionaldehyde. The latter compound combines the toxicities of aldehydes and mercaptans and would be expected to kill the tumour cells.

Therapeutic potential

The indicated mechanism has obvious advantages for cancer therapy; the toxic agent is generated inside the cancer cells and appears to be selective for cancer cells. As noted above, the high demand for methyl groups and the rapid synthesis of proteins may account for the occurrence of HTL in rapidly-dividing cells. However, Jakubowski found measurable HTL only in malignant cells and not in non-malignant cells [8]. This coincides with Poydock's finding that DHA kills cancer cells but not normal cells. There are two possible explanations; (a) that cancer cells but not normal cells make HTL and (b) that all cells have the same ability to make HTL but normal cells have the ability to destroy it rapidly while cancer cells have lost that ability. Extracellular thiolactonase activity has been demonstrated in human serum and intracellular thiolactonase has been found in human placenta [14] but there is no information on its activity in cancer cells. The enzyme would need to be active intracellularly in order to be protective against the mechanism as proposed here.

The therapeutic potential of this mechanism might be further increased by giving methionine or a folic acid antagonist (methotrexate) along with DHA in order to increase HTL formation in cancer cells. It is well documented that methionine ingestion causes an increase in plasma homocysteine in humans [15]. The effect of folate antagonists in increasing HTL production in cancer cells is described above [9]. It may be necessary to add these agents in order to use this therapy for slow-growing cancers in which HTL production may be slow.

Methionine auxotrophy also explained

If intracellular HTL is a "marker" for malignant cells, it may explain another sulfur-related cancer "marker", methionine auxotrophy, the inability of cancer cells to survive and multiply in vitro in medium in which methionine is replaced by homocysteine whereas normal cells can multiply in these conditions [16]. Methionine auxotrophy may now be explainable on the basis of the recent discoveries; i.e. when homocysteine is present in excess in the culture medium and methionine availability is severely limited, the enzyme methionyl-tRNA synthetase may activate homocysteine rather than methionine. This would lead to HTL formation and its conversion to MPA which would kill the cells. In fact, in many of the studies, HTL itself was added to the medium rather than homocysteine. Again, normal cells may survive in these conditions because they have the ability to destroy HTL. Research is needed to compare the relative activity of thiolactonase in normal and malignant cells.

Relationship to Vitamin C as an anti-cancer agent

There is renewed interest in testing intravenously-administered Vitamin C as a cancer therapy agent (reviewed in [13]). The basis of this interest is that the early trials used intravenous administration with positive results while later controlled tri-

als used oral administration with negative results. Oral Vitamin C achieves a physiologically-limited blood level of 0.2 mM whereas intravenous administration can achieve concentrations of 5-6 mM. It is theorized that Vitamin C may have a toxic effect on cancer cells through reactive oxygen species, hydrogen peroxide and superoxide (ROS), which are generated during its oxidation. It is also thought that ascorbate transport may involve its prior oxidation to DHA which is then transported by the glucose transporter [13,17]. This is supported by detection of ascorbate radical in the interstitial fluid in rats under the conditions of artificially high blood ascorbate induced by i.v. administration [17]. Ascorbate radical is an intermediate in the oxidation of ascorbate to DHA. Therefore, if Vitamin C is found to have a clinical effect on cancer, the DHA-HTL mechanism outlined above will have to be considered as an alternative to the ROS mechanism.

Conclusion

The field of sulfur metabolism has yielded more differences between cancer cells and normal cells than any other area of metabolism. Aside from methionine auxotrophy and HTL formation discussed above, absence of methyhlthioadenosine phosphorylase (MTAP) and deficiency of cystathionase are major markers for cancer. MTAP absence was first found in a bank of murine tumours [18] and has been identified in a large number of human cancers [19]. Cystathionase deficiency has been found in 50-80% of neuroblastomas [20,21], 45% of hepatoblastomas [22], and 80% of acute leukemias [23]. This phenomenon is associated with cystathioninuria in vivo and with cysteine auxotrophy of the affected cancer cells in vitro. Because of the role of cystathionase in removing homocysteine, it is tempting to speculate that a deficiency of it might be related to Jakubowski's finding of HTL in cancer cells. However, congenital cystathionase deficiency is not a known cause of hyperhomocysteinemia and, therefore, the acquired defect is not likely to cause HTL formation in cancer cells. Methionine auxotrophy, MTAP absence, and cystathionase deficiency have been exploited to design and test anti-cancer therapies. HTL formation and the application of DHA have the simplest rationale and the most direct treatment design but no trials have been done yet in humans.

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Internat. J. Vit. Nutr. Res. 67 (1997) 164–170 Received for publication December 9, 1996 Methylcobalamin Vitamin B₁₂ Androgen-sensitive cell line Estrogen-sensitive cell line

Effects of Methylcobalamin on the Proliferation of Androgen-Sensitive or Estrogen-Sensitive Malignant Cells in Culture and *in vivo*

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Summary: Methylcobalamin is one of the coenzymatically active cobalamin derivates and required for the activity of the cytoplasmic enzyme methionine synthetase catalyzing the methylation of homocysteine into methionine. The effect of methylcobalamin on the proliferation of malignant cells has been examined. Methylcobalamin inhibited the proliferation of androgensensitive SC-3 cells (a cloned cell line from Shionogi mouse mammary tumor, SC115) in culture at the concentration of 100-300 µg/ml. An inhibitory activity of methylcobalamin on the proliferation was also observed in other cell lines (estrogen-sensitive B-1F cells from mouse Leydig cell tumor and MCF-7 cells from human mammary tumor) at the concentration of 500 µg/ml. Moreover, large doses of methylcobalamin injected intraperitoneally (100 mg/kg body weight/day) were non-toxic and suppressed the tumor growth of SC115 and B-1F cells in mice fed a vitamin B_{12} deficient diet. These results show that methylcobalamin inhibits the proliferation of malignant cells in culture and in vivo and propose the possibility of methylcobalamin as a candidate of potentially useful agents for the treatment for some malignant tumors.

Introduction

Abnormalities of serum levels of vitamin B₁₂ and R-binder, one of less specific vitamin B_{12} binding proteins, have been reported in patients with many types of malignant tumor [1, 2]. Serum levels of vitamin B₁₂ have been elevated in patients with chronic myeloid leukemia, polycythemia vera and idiopathic thrombocythemia. The presence of abnormal R-binder has been reported in some gastric cancer extracts [3]. Effects of vitamin B₁₂ on the proliferation of malignant cells have been also reported. Various reports, however, showed conflicting results. In the treatment of children with neuroblastoma vitamin B₁₂ therapy was effective in some studies [4, 5], but not effective in other studies [6, 7]. An inhibitory activity of vitamin B₁₂ on the proliferation was shown in experiments with mice and rats. A mixture of vitamins B₁₂ and C inhibited the mitotic activity of Ehrlich sarcoma in culture as well as the growth of certain solid tumors [8–10]. In another study with combination of vitamin C, vitamin B₁₂ was not effective on the growth of L9 gliosarcoma [11]. In some cases vitamin B12 inversely enhanced the growth of fibrosarcoma in rats [12] and exerted a procarcinogenic effect on the induction of malignant tumors in rats and hamsters [13, 14].

A recent study indicated that the metabolically active forms of cobalamins. methylcobalamin

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and 5'-deoxyadenosylcobalamin, effectively elongated cell doubling time for the various malignant cells in *in vitro* study [15]. These active metabolites could significantly increase the survival time of animals implanted with the P388 leukemia cells [16]. Furthermore, we have also shown the inhibition of the proliferation of the cell line, established from an androgen-sensitive tumor, by active cobalamins [17]. In addition. cobalamins have inhibited productive human immunodeficiency virus-1 infection of hematopoietic cells in vitro [18]. Atypical squamous metaplasia, which is a precancerous lesion, in the lung has disappeared by the administration of the supraphysiological doses of folic acid and vitamin B_{12} to the heavy smokers [19]. In the patients with chronic myelogenous leukemia, the plasma proportion of methylcobalamin was significantly lower than in a reference group, and an association of a low plasma proportion of methylcobalamin with a poor prognosis was shown [20] In the present study. effects of methylcobalamin on the proliferation of some sex hormone-sensitive cell lines in vitro and in vivo have been examined to know whether the supraphysiological dose of methylcobalamin is a useful agent for the treatment for some malignant tumors.

Materials and Methods

Cell culture The cell lines SC-3 and B-1F were established respectively. from an androgen-sensitive mouse mammary carcinoma SC 115 [21] and from an estrogen-sensitive mouse Leydig cell tumor T124958-R [22] SC-3 cells were cultured continuously in Eagle's minimum essential medium (MEM) containing 2% dextran-coated charcoal (DCC)-treated fetal bovine serum (FBS) and 10 * M testosterone in the presence of 5% CO₂ in air at 37°C B-1F cells were maintained in MEM-Ham s F12 (1 1 vol/vol) containing 0.1% (wt/vol) bovine serum albumin (HMB medium) supplemented with 10-8 M 17βestradiol (E) in the presence of 5% CO; in air at 37 C Cells were grown to confluence and passaged using trypsin (0.01%. wt/vol)-EDTA (0 02%. wt/vol) in phosphate buffered saline MCF-7 cells. an estrogen-sensitive human breast cancer cell line. were kindly supplied by Dr. R L Sutherland (Garvin Institute of Medical Research. St. Vinsent's Hospital, Sidney. Australia) and maintained in Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium (DME) containing 10% FBS. MCF-7 cells were passaged using trypsin (0 05%. wt/vol)-EDTA (0 02%. wt/vol) in phosphate buffered saline

Cell growth experiment The effects of methylcobalamin on the proliferation were examined as described previously [17. 23-25] In the present study, the basic medium used for following experiments of B-1F and MCF-7 cells was HMB medium in spite of the presence of cyanocobalamin in HMB medium Because B-1F and MCF-7 cells could not grow in HMB medium without Ham's F12 and a stimulative effect of estrogen on the proliferation of B-IF cells was not fully observed in the presence of FBS even if at the low concentration B-1F and MCF-7 cells were plated on four replicate 35-mm culture dishes at an initial cell density of 1×10^4 and 2×10^4 /dish in HMB medium and DME containing 5% DCC-treated FBS, respectively On the following day (day 0). the medium was changed into HMB medium supplemented with various concentrations of methylcobalamin To remove the residual FBS in full, the dishes on which MCF-7 cells were seeded were washed twice with phosphate-buffered saline These media were changed every 2 days On day 6. the viable cells were counted as described previously.

Animals and Diets Male DS mice (seven-week-old) were obtained from Shionogi Laboratories (Osaka. Japan), housed 5/cage in a temperature-controlled (25°C) room with 12-h light/dark cycle, and given *ad libitum* access to water and pelleted diets DS mice were transplanted subcutaneously with minced SC115 tumors Starting 24 hours (day 0) after transplantation, mice were injected intraperitoneally with or without methylcobalamin (100 mg/kg body weight/day) in 0.3 ml of saline solution daily for 24 days Sterile methylcobalamin solution (10 mg/ml of saline) was used Feeding with vitamin B₁₂ deficient diets was started simultaneously with the injection Pelleted vitamin B₁₂ deficient diets (Clea Japan Inc. Tokyo, Japan) (Tab I) were stored at 4°C and given with every other day replacement Palpable tumor was measured with caliper at the indicated times In case of B-1F cells, after being har-

<i>Table 1</i> Number Composition of Vitamin \mathbf{D}_1 deficient of	Table I	Nutrient con	position of vitami	n Bi	deficient	dıe
--	---------	--------------	--------------------	------	-----------	-----

18.0%
67 6%
80%
4.0%
1 5%
0 3%
01%
0 5%
2 00 mg/100 g of diet
2 00
20.00
1 50
0 80
0 50
24.35
0 50
2.00
8.00
10 00
5 00
10 00
0 20
413.15

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vested and washed, the cells $(5 \times 10^3$ cells) resuspended in MEM were implanted subcutaneously into castrated male Balb/c mice (seven-week-old). The Balb/c mice were implanted subcutaneously with a fused pellet of 5% estradiol in cholesterol and injected intraperitoneally with or without methyl-cobalamin on the following day (day 0) of B-1F cell implantation.

Vitamin B₁₂ assay: In principle, vitamin B₁₂ assay was performed as described by Gimsing [20]. On day 24 the mice described above were sacrificed under nembtal anesthesia. The whole blood samples were taken via an inferior vena cava by venopuncture. The serum was separated after centrifugation within 30 min after sampling. Syringes and sample containers were covered with aluminium foil. All stages of the method were carried out by red safe-light or in darkness. Tumors were cut into small pieces and washed twice with 0.15 M NaCl at 4°C. Minced tissues were homogenized in four volumes of 0.15 M NaCl by Polytron PT-10. After centrifugation (10 min, 2000 g) of homogenates the supernatants were used for vitamin B12 and protein assays. The concentration of protein was determined using protein assay kit. The total concentration of vitamin B₁₂ was determined by radioisotope dilution method using a solid-phase intrinsic factor as the specific cobalaminbinding protein The assays were performed as directed in the manual from the supplier of the assay kit. For vitamin B12 the intra-assay variation amounted to a mean of 2-6% and the inter-assay variation to a mean of 5-8%. In case of established cells, cells were seeded at an initial density of 1.3 and 2.6×106 cells/100-mm dish in MEM containing 2% DCC-treated fFBS and HMB medium, respectively, for SC-3 and B-1F cells. On the following day (day 0), the medium was changed to 2% DCC-treated FBS-MEM supplemented with 10⁻⁴ M testosterone (SC-3 cells) and 10⁻⁴ M estradiol (B-1F cells) in the presence or absence lof methylcobalamin (final concentration of 300 µg/ml for SC-3 cells or 500 µg/ml for B-1F cells). The cells harvested on day 3 were washed four times with 20 ml of ice-cold 0.15 M NaCl and then resuspended in four volumes of 0.15 M NaCl. The viable cell number was determined with hemocytometer by trypan blue dye exclusion method. The cells lyzed by freeze-thawing were homogenized as described for minced tissues

Statistical analysis. All values were expressed as mean \pm SE. Significant differences were estimated by Student's t test (p< 0.05).

Materials: The radioinert steroids, BSA, trypsin, activated charcoal and methylcobalamin were purchased from Sigma Chemical Co (St. Louis, MO, USA). Dextran T-70 was from Pharmacia Fine Chemicals (Uppsala, Sweden) MEM. DME and Ham's F-12 were obtained from Nissui Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (Tokyo, Japan). FBS was from Nichirei Co., Ltd. (Tokyo, Japan). FBS was from Nichirei Co., Ltd. (Tokyo, Japan). Protein assay kit was from BIO-RAD (California, USA). Balb/c mice were obtained from Shizuoka Experimental Animal Farm (Shizuoka, Japan). The other chemicals used in this study were of analytical grade.



Figure 1: Effects of methylcobalamin on the proliferation of SC-3, B-1F and MCF-7 cells. Cells were plated on four 35-mm culture dishes as described in materials and methods. On the following day (day 0), the medium was changed into the medium supplemented with various concentrations of methylcobalamin. On day 6 the viable cells were counted. The cell number was expressed as a percentage, taking the value in the absence of methylcobalamin as 100%. A. B and C correspond to SC-3, B-1F and MCF-7 cells respectively. Points, means of 4 determinations; bars, S. E.; *, P<0.05. Further 4 trials gave similar results.

Results

Effects of methylcobalamin on the proliferation of cultured cells: Figure 1 presents results on the cell yield of androgen-sensitive SC-3 cells and estrogen-sensitive B-1F and MCF-7 cells treated with various concentrations of methylcobalamin. In SC-3 cells (Fig. 1A) methylcobalamin inhibited the proliferation at the concentrations of 50–100 μ g/ml (0.037–0.074 mM) as reported previously [17]. The proliferation of B-1F and MCF-7 cells were also inhibited (Fig. 1B and 1C) by methylcobalamin, but a higher concentration (500 μ g/ml, 0.37 mM) of methylcobalamin was necessary.

Effects of methylcobalamin on the tumor growth: Effects of methylcobalamin on the tumor growth were examined at the dose of 100 mg/kg body weight/injection/day. The mice were able to tolerate the injection of methylcobalamin at this dose without any adverse effects. In the present study B-1F cells were used in vitro (in culture) and in vivo. In the experiments of androgen-sensitive tumor, tumor pieces of SC115 were subcutaneously transplanted instead of SC-3 cells, because SC-3 cells could not cause the tumor formation in vivo. Figure 2 shows an inhibitory effect of methylcobalamin on the tumor growth of SC115, especially in early phase, in DS mice. In B-1F cells (Fig. 3) methylcobalamin also inhibited the tumor growth. The ratio of the tumor formation was not significantly different between control and methylcobalamin injected mice (SC115 and B-1F cells). In histological findings with hematoxylin-eosin stain there was no prominent difference between tumors treated with and without methylcobalamin (data not shown), and no toxic effect on mice was observed.



Figure 2: In vivo growth inhibition of SC115 tumor by methylcobalamin.

Male DS mice (seven-week-old) were transplanted subcutaneously with minced SC115 tumors. Starting 24 hours (day 0) after transplantation, mice were injected intraperitoneally with or without methylcobalamin (100 mg/kg body weight/day) daily for 24 days. Feeding with vitamin B_{12} deficient diets was started simultaneously with the injection. Palpable tumor was measured at the indicated times. The tumor volume is expressed as 4/3× long diameter (mm)× short diameter (mm)× short diameter (mm). Points, means of 10 determinations; bars, S.E.; *, P<0.05; MeCbl, methylcobalamin. Further 3 trials gave similar results.



Figure 3: In vivo growth inhibition of B-1F tumor by methylcobalamin.

B-1F cells (5×10^3 cells) in MEM were implanted subcutaneously into castrated male Balb/c mice (seven-week-old). The mice were also implanted subcutaneously with a fused pellet of 5% estradiol in cholesterol and injected intraperitoneally with or without methylcobalamin on the following day (day 0) of B-1F cell implantation. Feeding with vitamin B₁₂ deficient diets was started simultaneously with the injection. Palpable tumor was measured at the indicated times. The tumor volume is expressed as 4/3 × long diameter (mm) × short diameter (mm). × short diameter (mm). Points, means of 10 determinations; bars, S. E.; *, P<0.05; MeCbl, methylcobalamin. Further 3 trials gave similar results.

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Vitamin B_{12} assay: Sera and tissue specimens of the mice, and cultured cells treated with or without methylcobalamin were measured for total vitamin B_{12} , using M-vitamin B_{12} /folic acid kit. The concentrations of vitamin B_{12} are given in Table II. The serum, tissue and cellular concentrations of vitamin B_{12} were significantly increased in cases treated with methylcobalamin compared to the controls.

Discussion

We have found that methylcobalamin inhibits the *in vitro* proliferation of the androgen-sensitive cell line SC-3 and of the estrogen-sensitive cell lines B-1F and MCF-7 as well as the *in vivo* tumor growth of SC115 and B-1F cells. Effective dose of methylcobalamin was higher in B-1F and MCF-7 cells than in SC-3 cells. It might be partly due to the difference of the intracellular vitamin B₁₂ contents among these cells. The basal level of vitamin B₁₂ in SC-3 cells was extremely lower than that in B-1F cells. In the *in vitro* experiments the basic culture medium used for B-1F and MCF-7 cells was a HMB medium containing a cyanocobalamin at the concentration of $0.68 \,\mu g/ml$. On the other hand the medium used for SC-3 cells contained vitamin B_{12} at the concentration of 10–30 pg/ml. Methylcobalamin seems to be also more effective for SC115 tumor than for B-1F tumor. The content of vitamin B_{12} in SC115 tumor was lower than that in B-1F tumor, while the serum levels of vitamin B₁₂ were similar between Balb/c and DS mice. The metabolism of methylcobalamin might be different between SC115 and B-1F tumors, therefore between SC-3 and B-1F cells. In the in vivo experiments the observed maximum inhibitory activity of methylcobalamin was smaller than that in cultured systems, partly due to the solubility of methylcobalamin. It could not be solubilized in concentrations larger than 10 mg/ml in PBS. Therefore it was difficult that mice could be administered with methylcobalamin at doses larger than 100 mg/kg body weight/day in 0.3 ml of saline solution.

The precise mechanism of the inhibitory activity of methylcobalamin is not clear. In SC-3 cells, androgen induces FGF-like growth factor (AIGF) and FGF receptors [26, 27]. In MCF-7 cells, estrogen induces various growth factors

	Methylcobalarmn (-)	Methylcobalamin (+)
SC115 tumor		
Tumor	0.39 ± 0.04 ng/mg protein (n=8)	13.28 ± 1 34 ng/mg protein (n=6)
Serum	$14276 \pm 3287 \text{ pg/ml}$ (n=5)	$204061 \pm 12506 \text{ pg/ml}$ (n=5)
B-1F tumor		
Tumor	1.56 ± 0.12 ng/mg protein (n=8)	22.76 ± 348 ng/mg protein (n=7)
Serum	$15035 \pm 970 \text{ pg/ml}$ (n = 10)	$183000 \pm 16197 \text{ pg/ml}$ (n = 9)
SC-3 cell		
	$0.01 \pm 0.00 \text{ ng}/10^{\circ} \text{ cells}$ (n=5) $0.10 \pm 0.03 \text{ ng/mg protein}$	$148.6 \pm 12.6 \text{ ng}/10^6 \text{ cells}$ (n=5) $1871 \pm 101 \text{ ng/mg protein}$
B-1E cell	(n=3)	(n=5)
D-11 COI	$0.24 \pm 0.01 \text{ ng}/10^6 \text{ cells}$ (n=5)	230±13.5 ng/10 ⁶ cells (n=5)
	1.81 ± 0.02 ng/mg protein (n = 5)	2246 ± 120 ng/mg protein (n=5)

On day 24 the mice described in Figures 2 and 3 were sacrificed. The whole blood samples were taken via an inferior *vena cava* by venopuncture. In case of established cells, cells were seeded and treated with methylcobalamin as described in materials and methods. The total concentration of vitamin B_{12} in tumors, sera and cells was determined by radio isotope dilution method. Table shows means $\pm S$. E. "n" shows the number of assayed samples.

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and their receptors [28-30]. But estrogen inhibits the activity of 5-lipoxygenase, which is a key enzyme for the production of leukotrienes that suppress the proliferation of B-1F cells [23, 24, 31. 32]. In SC-3 and MCF-7 cells. and SC115 tumor. sex-hormone seems to mostly stimulate the positive growth control system, while estrogen seems to mostly inactivate the negative growth control system in B-1F cells. The inhibitory activity of methylcobalamin on the proliferation might be mediated through the interference of these systems. In our previous report [17] the treatment of SC-3 cells with methylcobalamin decreased the activity of AIGF at the level of post androgen receptor binding. The presence of the common inhibitory mechanism by methylcobalamin among these diverse systems is unknown. Furthermore, whether the inhibitory activity is specific for methylcobalamin or not is also unknown up to this point. Nevertheless. because of the ability to achieve high blood and tissue levels in vivo and the lack of toxicity, methylcobalamin should be considered as a candidate of potentially useful agents for the treatment for some malignant tumors.

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Cobalamin and Survival of Tumor-Bearing Mice

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Influence of Cobalamin on the Survival of Mice Bearing Ascites Tumor

Key Words

Cobalamin Ascites tumor Mice survival

Abstract

The effect of cobalamin (vitamin B_{12}) on the survival time of mice bearing P388 leukemia has been examined. Among the three cobalamins studied, the enzymatically active derivatives, methylcobalamin and 5'-deoxyadenosylcobalamin, were able to significantly increase the survival time of mice implanted intraperitoneally with the tumor cells. The pharmaceutical form, cyanocobalamin, was not active. The antitumor activity of these cobalamins may be associated with their functions in metabolism.

Evidence has accumulated in the recent past that vitamin B_{12} is associated with tumorigenesis. Patients with many types of malignant neoplasia and leukemia had elevated serum levels of vitamin B_{12} [1, 2] and vitamin B_{12} specific binding proteins [3–5]. Certain cancer-bearing mice synthesized vitamin B_{12} and stored more vitamin B_{12} than normal controls did [1, 6]; but several spontaneous mammary tumors were shown to destroy this vitamin [6]. Studies with mouse spleen cells have shown that the addition of methylcobalamin to culture medium enhanced the production of antibody and suppressor T cells [7].

Vitamin B_{12} had been used with apparent benefit in the treatment of young children with neuroblastoma [8, 9], but the results of two survey studies using data from several hospitals failed to confirm that vitamin B_{12} therapy was effective either when it was administered alone or in conjunction with X-ray or chemotherapeutic agents [10, 11].

Experiments with laboratory animals also showed conflicting results. The administration of vitamin B_{12} inhib-

ited the growth of certain tumors implanted in mice [12, 13]. Mice treated with vitamin B_{12} survived longer than did untreated controls. Vitamin B_{12} also inhibited the growth of liver tumors induced by p-dimethylaminoazobenzene in rats [14]. A mixture of vitamin B_{12} and vitamin C was able to inhibit the growth of certain mouse ascites or solid tumors and to increase the survival rate of tumor bearing mice [15-17]. However, in another study with Fischer CDF rats, a mixture of vitamins B_{12} and C had no effects on the growth of L₉ gliosarcoma, and no differences in survival time between treatment and control group were observed [18]. Furthermore, in some cases, vitamin B_{12} enhanced the growth of fibrosarcoma in rats and of Rous sarcoma in chickens [19]. Vitamin B₁₂ was also reported to be procarcinogenic in rats and hamsters [20, 21]. In addition, a deficiency of vitamin B_{12} decreased the potency of certain carcinogens in rats [22, 23].

A recent in vitro study with cultured cells indicated that cobalamins were able to inhibit the growth of several malignant cell lines [24]. In these experiments, the meta-

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bolically active forms, methylcobalamin and 5'-deoxyadenosylcobalamin, were found to be effective but the metabolically inactive cyanocobalamin had practically no effect [24]. In the present study, in vivo experiments were carried out to examine the effects of three different forms of cobalamin on the survival of mice bearing ascites tumors.

Methods and Materials

Survival Time

Drug test was performed using a murine model, under the auspices of the NCI Division of Cancer Treatment, for screening chemical agents and natural products against animal tumors, model 3PS31, In Vivo Cancer Models, US Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health Publication No. 84-2635 (1984).

Female DBA and CDF₁ mice (18-20 g) were purchased from Simonsen Laboratories, Inc. (Gilroy, Calif.). They were fed a nonpurified diet (Purina Certified Rodent Diet, No. 5001, Ralston Purina Co., St. Louis, Mo.) throughout the experiment. Feed and water were offered ad libitum. Mouse lymphoid neoplasm cells P388 were propagated in DBA mice. The ascites cells were harvested on the 7th day after tumor implantation. The CDF₁ mice were injected intraperitoneally with 106 washed cells, suspended in 0.1 ml phosphate-buffered saline. Mice were then randomized into various test groups of 10 animals each. Starting 24 h after implantation, test mice were injected intraperitoneally with various doses of vitamin B12 in 0.2 ml of saline solution daily for 10 days. The control animals received an equal volume of saline. The mice were weighed twice a week and were killed 30 days after tumor implantation and the result evaluated. When 50% or more of the animals in a test group survived to the 30-day time period after tumor implantation, the experiment was extended to a total of 60 days. The number of days that each mouse lived after the transplantation of tumor cells was recorded as the survival time.

Statistical Calculations

The Student's two tailed t test was used to determine statistical differences between the control and experimental groups. The median survival time of each group was also used as an index of comparison of the test animals to their corresponding controls. The median survival time of the untreated control groups of these experiments was 16 ± 4 days. A test-to-control ratio of survival time of 1.3 for a test agent was considered to demonstrate activity, whereas a ratio of 1.75 or greater was considered significant activity.

Calculation of Therapeutic Index

The therapeutic index, referring to the dose ratio between toxic and therapeutic effect, is expressed as the ratio LD_{50}/ED_{90} , where LD_{50} is the dosage lethal to 50% of the untreated animals and ED_{90} is the dosage that give a 90% cell kill in the experimental mice [25]. Values of ED_{90} were measured using CDF_1 mice. The mice were injected intraperitoneally with 10⁶ cells, suspended in 0.1 ml phosphate-buffered saline. The mice were then randomized into various groups of 10 animals each. Starting 24 h after implantation, test mice were injected intraperitoneally with various doses of the test agents in 0.2 ml of saline solution. On the tenth day after tumor implantation, the ascites cells were harvested and washed. Then, a homogeneous representation of the cells was stained with erythrosin B. The numbers of viable cells and dead cells were counted with a hemocytometer. The value of ED_{90} was calculated by comparing viable cell numbers in treated and control animals. The survival inocculum curves from the studies of survival time described above were also used for the calculation of ED_{90} . A good agreement was obtained between the two methods of calculation.

Chemicals

Cyano-, methyl- and 5'-deoxyadenosyl cobalamin were purchased from Sigma Chemical Co.. St. Louis, Mo. The cobalamin derivatives were prepared by introducing the dry crystals into small sterile tubes. A sufficient number of tubes were prepared and stored at -20 °C. Immediately before injection, sterile saline solution was added to the tubes to dissolve the compounds.

Results and Discussion

We have tested the antitumor activity of three cobalamin derivatives that were available to us, at three different dosages: 25,50 and 100 mg/kg body weight/injection. The mice were able to tolerate the injection of cobalamin at a daily dose of 100 mg/kg body weight without any apparent adverse effect. Table 1 shows the survival times of test and control mice bearing P388 leukemia after treatment with cobalamins. The data indicate a statistically significant increase in the survival of mice treated with methylcobalamin or adenosylcobalamin when compared with the controls. Adenosylcobalamin was apparently more effective than methylcobalamin. However, cyanocobalamin has practically no effect on tumor growth. These observations were in good agreement with results in previous experiments in which in vitro cell culture technique was used [24]. The ratios of median survival time of a test group to median survival time of control for these mice are shown in parentheses in table 1. These ratios are in accordance with the corresponding p values.

The therapeutic index is the ratio between toxic and therapeutic effect, or the ratio of LD_{50} and ED_{90} [25]. The values of ED_{90} for methyl- and 5'-deoxyadenosylcobalamin were 120 and 100 mg/kg body weight, respectively, whereas cyanocobalamin did not affect cell growth at a daily dose as high as 1,000 mg/kg body weight. It has been shown that the addition of vitamin B₁₂ to food in amounts far in excess of need or absorbability appears to be without hazard. Cyanocobalamin has caused no toxicity in animals at levels several thousand times their nutritional requirements [29]. Toxicity tests in our laboratory indicated that these three cobalimin derivatives were

Table 1. Effect of cobalamin derivatives	Test agent	Dosage, m	Therapeutic			
tumor		0	25	50	100	Index
	Cyanocobalamin	17.8±2.9	12.6±7.5 (0.97)	19.3±4.2 (1.03)	18.7±1.5 (1.06)	_
		19.6±3.5	17.1 ± 3.5 (0.94)	20.5±2.7 (1.17)	20.5±1.4 (1.17)	
		18.1±3.6	17.9±3.4 (0.97)	18.3±4.5 (1.00)	18.5±4.2 (1.03)	
	Methylcobalamin	18.0±6.0	17.5±2.8 (1.00)	17.3±0.5 (1.00)	38.0±18.4ª (2.12)	15
		17.0±3.2	-	18.9±0.3 (1.06)	22.7±9.7 (1.61)	
		16.7±0.9	-	17.3 ± 6.1 (0.91)	32.7±10.6° (2.18)	
	Adenosylcobalamin	9.4±2.4	9.1±1.4 (1.18)	8.9±2.3 (1.18)	29.1 ± 1.9° (3.53)	20
		15.5±0.9	16.7±4.5 (1.11)	21.2 ± 6.2^{b} (1.43)	34.3 ± 10.3° (2.86)	
		15.0±2.1	-	28.4 ± 13.7^{b} (1.33)	40.7 ± 25.2 ^b (3.83)	

Values are means \pm SD of survival times (days) for n = 10. Significance of the difference between control and experimental values: $^{a}p < 0.05$; $^{b}p < 0.01$; $^{c}p < 0.001$. Values in parentheses are ratios of median survival time of test group to median survival time of control group. A value of 1.75 or greater for a test agent was considered to demonstrate significant'activity.

Therapeutic index is expressed as the ratio LD₅₀/ED₉₀, where LD₅₀ is the dose lethal to 50% of a population and ED₉₀ is the dose that gives a 90% cell kill.

remarkably nontoxic when administered intraperitoneally. The LD₅₀ for methylcobalamin was 1,800 mg/kg body weight, which was 15 times the effective dose. The LD₅₀ for 5'-deoxyadenosylcobalamin was higher than that for methylcobalamin. However, when a dose of 2,000 mg/kg body weight was injected into these mice, they started to lose weight. Thus, the value of 2,000 mg/kg body weight was used and the therapeutic index for 5'deoxyadenosylcobalamin was 20. Although very large doses of cobalamins injected intraperitoneally were nontoxic, it became lethal when a much smaller dose was injected intravenously into the mouse tail vein. This may be the effect of the large volume of fluid entering the mouse bloodstream during a relatively short period of injection time.

Vitamin B_{12} and folate are involved in the process of one-carbon-unit metabolism and methylcobalamin is a source of one-carbon functional groups [26, 27]. Although the mechanism of the antitumor activity is not known, it is quite evident that the roles of vitamin B_{12} in carcinogenesis may be associated with its functions in normal metabolism, particularly in the one-carbon-unit metabolism and in the positive and negative control of DNA synthesis by normal and malignant cells [26, 27]. Vitamin B_{12} is expected to correct defective DNA-thymine synthesis in vitamin B₁₂-defective marrow [28], because thymidylate synthase requires N⁵,N¹⁰-methylenetetrahydrofolate as methyl donor. For the same reason, in patients with folate and vitamin B_{12} deficiency, the addition of these vitamins to marrow and lymphocyte cultures enhanced the incorporation of ³H-deoxyuridine into DNA [29].

Cobalamin and Ascites Tumor

Previous in vitro findings have indicated that the metabolically active cobalamins were able to inhibit malignant cell growth, while the metabolically inactive forms had practically no effect [24]. Folic acid and vitamin B_{12} are intimately related to the synthesis of DNA and RNA; lack of either damages DNA synthesis. The primary damage is to de novo DNA synthesis, with the result that there may be a secondary increment in salvage DNA synthesis [27, 29]. In those tumors in which synthesis of DNA by the salvage pathway is relatively greater than in normal cells, as compared to the de novo pathway of DNA synthesis, it is theoretically possible that folate and vitamin B_{12} , by enhancing de novo DNA synthesis, could be relatively more helpful to normal than to tumor cells and relatively more harmful to certain tumor cells [27, 29]. It has been suggested that these vitamins and their antagonists could be involved in the control of normal gene expression and that deficiency of folate or vitamin B_{12} or any cause of failure to methylate DNA or RNA can activate malignancy by hypomethylating oncogenes, leading to such gene expression or gene amplication, and that methylating oncogenes can inhibit malignancy by making them dormant. Furthermore, these vitamins can be useful in controlling tumors that grow more rapidly as more of them are supplied, because the tumor cells can be stimulated into the DNA synthesis phase in which a number of cancer chemotherapy agents exert their deadly effects. These agents can be used in a sequence right after folate or vitamin B₁₂ [27, 30]. Large doses of folic acid and vitamin B_{12} were able to potentiate cytotoxicity of fluoropyrimidine by stabilizing the ternary complex and between fluorodeoxyuridylate and thymidylate synthase [30]. The finding that adenosylcobalamin was more effective than methylcobalamin indicated that the mechanism of cobalamin in carcinogenesis involved not only methylation but also other metabolic pathways of vitamin B_{12} metabolism.

Most of the cobalamin in animals exists as the two coenzymatically active forms, methylcobalamin and adenosylcobalamin [26]. Methylcobalamin constitutes 60– 80% of the total plasma cobalamin. Adenosylcobalamin is the major cobalamin in cellular tissues. The stable pharmaceutical form, cyanocobalamin, is not nutritionally active. Although animals have the biochemical machinery to convert cyanocobalamin and other cobalamins into the two metabolically active cobalamins, the difference in activity of the three cobalamins indicated that the rate of the conversion was probably very low and insufficient in view of the rather high required dosage of the active cobalamins.

In summary, these studies indicate that methyl- and 5'-deoxyadenosylcobalamin were able to significantly increase the survival time of mice implanted with the P388 tumor cells. Because there has been criticism of the use of P388 as a tumor system for drug discovery and development, other tumor systems are being studied in our laboratory for further evaluation.

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Experimental Study of the Therapeutic Effects of Folate, Vitamin A, and Vitamin B₁₂ on Squamous Metaplasia of the Bronchial Epithelium

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Background. Vitamin deficiency may be related to carcinogenesis. Cytologic examinations of sputum have already found that the administration of folate and vitamin B_{12} suppressed the development of squamous metaplasia and atypia in conokers' airways. The authors investigated the effect of folic acid, vitamin B_{12} , and vitamin A on the formation of metaplasia and hyperplasia in methylcholanthrene (MCA)-treated rats.

Methods. The SD strain of rats received 10 mg of MCA intratracheally and was divided into six groups as follows: (1) vitamin A; (2) folic acid; (3) vitamin B_{12} ; (4) vitamin B_{12} with folic acid; (5) a combination of vitamin A, folic acid, and vitamin B_{12} ; and (6) no vitamins. The Lower respiratory tract epithelia of the rats were examined histologically 20, 32, and 36 weeks after MCA administration and at the end of the experiment.

Results. A clear difference was detected between the group receiving folic acid and that receiving vitamin A. In the former group, metaplasia was found in only one rat, atypia was not found, and hyperplasia with marked changes was present in less than 50% of other groups. In the latter group, atypia was found in all of the metaplastic foci.

Conclusions. It was suggested that the epithelial hyperplasia and metaplasia of respiratory tract induced by MCA can be suppressed by the administration of folic acid. *Cancer* 1993; 71:2477–83.

Key words: bronchial metaplasia, folate, serum folate concentration, lung cancer, vitamin A, vitamin B_{12} .

There are numerous factors in our daily environment that are associated with carcinogenesis.^{1,2} Diet and smoking, in particular, are the most important among these factors.³ The relationship between smoking and lung cancer has already been reported,⁴⁻⁶ e.g., tobacco smoke contains carcinogens that may induce lung cancer.^{7,8} Airways of smokers often show epithelial hyperplasia and squamous metaplasia.⁴ These changes may be induced by various stimuli, e.g., tobacco smoke, in the airways and by the persistent inflammation caused by these stimuli.

Metaplasia usually refers to the transformation of normal cellular components into completely different and thoroughly mature cells. Incomplete metaplastic foci, which consist of atypical cells mixed with well-differentiated metaplastic cells, are occasionally observed. The relationship between hyperplasia and metaplasia of the airway epithelium and pulmonary carcinogenesis has long been suggested.⁹ This relationship can be particularly important when the lesion shows atypia.

On the other hand, it has been suggested that the lack of inhibitors of carcinogenesis in the human diet as well as the carcinogen itself can be an important factor in carcinogenesis.¹⁰ Recently, some reports indicated that green and yellow vegetables contain some inhibitors of carcinogenesis.^{11,12} Vitamin A and folate are considered to be the vitamins that are contained in these foods.

Vitamin A is expected to maintain the normal epithelial cell differentiation and to reinforce cellular immunity.¹³ A number of investigators have reported that a deficiency of vitamin A plays a major role in pulmonary carcinogenesis and metaplasia, both epidemiologically and experimentally.^{11,14-19} It is also reported that administration of vitamin A, to a certain extent, was able to suppress the development of lung cancer and metaplastic changes.²⁰⁻²²

Folate ordinarily exists in the body as a coenzyme and is an essential factor in the synthesis of nuclear

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proteins. Investigations suggest that a deficiency of folate also enhances the development of preneoplastic conditions and carcinogenesis, which are suppressed when folate is supplied.²³⁻²⁵ It has been reported that the serum concentrations of folate and vitamin B_{12} are decreased in smokers.²⁶⁻²⁸ This decrease is caused by inactivation of folate and vitamin B12 by some element in the tobacco smoke.^{24,29,30} One group reported that the serum folate concentration is lower in smokers with metaplastic lesions, which are in a potentially preneoplastic condition, than in those without them.³¹ They also suggested that folate deficiency can render the bronchial epithelium more susceptible to neoplastic transformation by carcinogenic hydrocarbons of tobacco smoke.³¹ Recently, they also showed, using cytologic examinations, that the administration of folate and vitamin B₁₂ together significantly decreased the number of atypical metaplastic cells in the sputum of smokers.³² Vitamin B₁₂ is also considered to be a coenzyme necessary for human metabolism, and its deficiency secondarily causes folate deficiency.33

We examined histopathologically the effects of these vitamins, including folate, on the development of metaplasia and atypia in the airways of rats. The treatment of rats with a carcinogenic agent in the airways was followed by the systemic administration of vitamins. Histopathologic examinations were made of the airway epithelia to determine the degree of differentiation and atypia of metaplastic cells. The serum concentraticr of various vitamins and their changes were also studied.

Materials and Methods

One hundred seven Sprague-Dawley rats were raised on a standard feed containing 880 IU of vitamin A, 0.14 mg of folate, and 6.0 μ g of vitamin B₁₂ per 100 g. This standard feed was continued throughout the experiment. Ten animals were used as controls, and 97 received methylcholanthrene (MCA) at the age of 6 weeks. MCA (1200 mg) was mixed with 0.2% gelatin in physiologic saline solution (48 ml), and 0.2 ml of the suspension, containing 5 mg of MCA, was administered intratracheally to each rat under ether anesthesia twice with a 24-hour interval between doses (total dose, 10 mg). The treated animals were divided into six groups. Group 1 was given vitamin A; Group 2 received folate; Group 3 was given vitamin B₁₂; Group 4 received folic acid and vitamin B₁₂; Group 5 was given vitamin A, folate, and vitamin B₁₂; and Group 6 received no vitamins. The administration of these vitamins was initiated 9 weeks after the MCA treatment in addition to those in the standard feed. Retinol palmitate was administered as vitamin A twice a week intramuscularly,

folate for injection twice a week intramuscularly, and hydroxycobalamin as vitamin B_{12} once a week intramuscularly, at weekly doses of 25,000 IU, 15 mg, and 500 μ g, respectively. The blood concentration of hydroxy-cobalamin is known to be sustained for a long time.^{33,34}

Ten animals of the MCA-treated and untreated groups were killed for evaluation 8 weeks after the administration of MCA. Measurement of the animal's body weight once a week were started 9 weeks after MCA administration. A few animals in these groups were killed 20 and 32 weeks after MCA administration and the rest of the animals, after 36 weeks. Histopathologic evaluations were done. After death, the right lung was fixed by infusing 10% formaldehyde solution, and the left lung was fixed by infusing Carnofsky solution. The fixed right lung was cut along the long axis of the bronchi in the superior, middle, inferior, and intermediate lobes, and sections in which the bronchial lumen could be observed along the long axis were studied under light microscopy with hematoxylin and eosin staining. The left lung was studied by electron microscopy. Macroscopic tumors and abscesses were also studied by preparing special sections containing them. The serum vitamin concentrations were measured in a small number of animals randomly selected at each time of death. Vitamin A was assayed as retinol using highperformance liquid chromatography and folic acid and vitamin B₁₂, by competitive protein-binding methods.

Results

Changes in Body Weight

The mean body weight of rats in each group was measured at time points during the experiment and after 36 weeks. These results are shown in Figure 1. The comparisons were expressed in terms of the percentage relative to Group 6, which did not receive extra vitamins. The body weight gains were less (95.2%) in Group 1 (vitamin A alone) and poor (85.3%) in Group 5 (vitamin A plus other vitamins, Fig. 1). The body weight gains were the similar in Group 6, the groups given folate alone (Group 2, 99.6%) and vitamin B₁₂ alone (Group 3, 100.1%), and the greatest in the group given folate with vitamin B₁₂ (Group 4, 108.6%).

Histopathologic Findings

Histologic examinations showed hyperplasia of various degrees and metaplasia with various degrees of differentiation and atypia. Metaplasia could be classified into the following three stages. First, there was typical metaplasia in which the process of keratinization was clear and intercellular bridges were readily observed, as in



Figure 1. Effects on vitamin administration and body weight (9-36 weeks) after MCA administration. The mean weight (in grams) of each group is given at the time points indicated. The treatment groups were as follows: Group 1 (vitamin A), Group 2 (folate), Group 3 (vitamin B_{12}), Group 4 (folate plus vitamin B_{12}), Group 5 (vitamin A, folate, and vitamin B_{12}), and Group 6 (no vitamins). Relative to Group 6, the body weight in each group was 95.2% in Group 1, 99.6% in Group 2, 100.1% in Group 3, 108.6% in Group 4, and 85.3% in Group 5. The body weight gains were the greatest in Group 4, followed by Groups 2, 3, and 6. Group 1 had a slightly smaller body weight, and Group 5 showed poor body weight gains.

the stratified squamous epithelium (Fig. 2, top left). This was regarded as metaplasia without atypia. Second, there were stratified lesions in which no keratinization was detected and the degree of differentiation was obscure, but intercellular bridges were clearly observed (Fig. 2, top right). These were regarded as metaplasia with mild atypia. Third, there were stratified lesions in which the gradient of differentiation was further reduced, only a small number of intercellular bridges were present, and mitosis was occasionally observed (Fig. 2, bottom left). These were regarded as metaplasia with moderate atypia.

Because a high degree of atypia means a carcinoma in itself, the highest atypical changes in metaplasia were expressed as metaplasia with moderate atypia. Concerning hyperplasia, some lesions were hypertrophic and were not readily distinguishable from metaplastic lesions, i.e., they showed swelling of nucleoli and occasional mitosis (Fig. 2, bottom right). In contrast to the general hyperplastic changes, such as increases in goblet cells and simple stratification, these lesions were regarded as "hyperplasia with marked changes" and were examined with special attention by classifying them as moderate (++) or mild (+), according to their extent. This classification was made as follows. All lices from each rat were checked with microscopy, and ie length of each marked hyperplasia seen in one slice as measured. When any one of the slices of one rat lowed a length longer than 1000 μ m, the sample was assified as ++. The notation + means the longest ngth was 500–1000 μ m long, and \pm means less than 10 µm long.

Frequency of Metaplasia and Hyperplasia

The frequency of metaplastic lesions observed from 20 weeks after MCA administration to the end of the study varied among groups. In Group 1, which was given vitamin A, metaplasia was observed at five sites in 4 (29%) of the 14 animals. Atypia was moderate in three (60%) and mild in two (40%) of the five sites. In the group that received folate (Group 2), metaplasia was observed in only one animal that died of bronchial pneumonia, and no atypia was noted. In Group 3, which was was given vitamin B_{12} , metaplasia was observed in 5 (38%) of the 13 animals, and mild atypia was noted in 4 (80%) of them. In the group receiving folate and vitamin B₁₂ (Group 4), metaplasia was noted at six sites in 4 (31%) of the 13 animals, and mild atypia was noted at 2 sites (33%). In Group 5, which was given the three vitamins, metaplasia with mild atypia was noted in 1 (7%) of the 14 animals. In the untreated group (Group 6), metaplasia was observed at three sites in 2 (15%) of the 13 animals, and mild atypia was noted at one site (33%) (Table 1). In the 17 animals that were killed 8 weeks after MCA administration (before the beginning of vitamin administration) or died of diseases before this time, metaplasia without atypia was observed in one animal (6%), but no metaplasia was noted in the controls killed similarly after 8 weeks (not shown in Table 1). No animals died or were killed from 9 weeks (beginning of vitamin administration) to 20 weeks (12th week of vitamin administration) after MCA administration.

The frequency of the finding of hyperplasia with marked changes also varied among the groups. Moderate and mild hyperplasia was observed as follows: 5 (36%) and 3 (21%), respectively, of the 14 animals in the vitamin A group; 1 (8%) and 2 (15%), respectively, of the 13 animals in the folate group; 2 (15%) and 6 (46%), respectively, of the 13 animals in vitamin B_{12} group; 2 (15%) and 4 (31%), respectively, of the 13 animals in the folate plus vitamin B_{12} group; 6 (43%) and 2 (14%), respectively, of the 14 animals in the group that received three vitamins; and 2 (15%) and 7 (54%), respectively, of the 13 animals in the untreated group (Table 2). Moderate and mild hyperplasia with marked changes was observed in 3 (18%) and 4 (24%), respectively, of the 17 animals that were killed 8 weeks after MCA administration or died of diseases before this time, and in one (10%) and 5 (50%), respectively, of the 10 controls examined similarly after 8 weeks (not shown in Table 2).

To summarize, in animals that were killed or died of diseases after the initiation of vitamin administration (20 or more weeks after MCA administration), the following results were obtained. In the folate group, meta-



Figure 2. (Top left) Metaplasia without atypia. A typical focus of squamous metaplasia. Stages of differentiation leading to keratinization are clearly recognized, and intercellular bridges are readily confirmed. The tissue profile is that of nearly normal stratified squamous epithelium, and no atypical cells are noted. (Top right) Metaplasia with mild atypia. A multilayer lesion in which stages of differentiation are obscure. Intercellular bridges are clearly observed, but no keratinization is noted. (Bottom left) Metaplasia with moderate atypia. A multilayer lesion showing faint intercellular bridges and poor gradient of differentiation. Mitosis is observed occasionally. (Bottom right) Hyperplasia with marked changes. The lesion is not only multilayered but is accompanied by hypertrophy and is hardly distinguishable from a metaplastic lesion. Nucleoli are enlarged, and occasional mitoses are noted.

plasia was noted in only one animal that died of disease, and the cells were well differentiated with no atypia, unlike other groups, in which some atypia was noted. Mild and moderate hyperplasia with marked changes was observed in 23% of the folate-treated group and in 46% of the folic acid plus vitamin B_{12} group. It was more frequent (57-69%) in the other groups. Moderate hyperplasia was noted in 8% of the

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	Group (%)						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
No. of rats	14	13	13	13	14	13	80
No. of rats with metaplasia	4 (29)	1 (8)	5 (38)	4 (31)	1 (7)	2 (15)	17 (21)
Total no. of metaplastic foci	5	1	5	6	1	3	21
Degree of atypism							
Metaplasia with no atypism	0 (0)	1 (100)	1 (20)	4 (67)	0 (0)	2 (67)	8
Metaplasia with mild atypism	2 (40)	0 (0)	4 (80)	2 (33)	1 (100)	1 (33)	10
Metap asia with moderate atypism	3 (60)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	3

Table 1. Frequency of Metaplasia Foci in Airway Epithelium

	Group (%)					
	I	II	Ш	IV	V	VI
No. of rats	14	13	13	13	14	13
Hyperplasia with marked changes						
-	6 (43)	8 (62)	3 (23)	5 (38)	2 (14)	1 (8)
±	0 (0)	2 (15)	2 (15)	2 (15)	4 (29)	3 (23)
+	3 (21)	2 (15)	6 (46)	4 (31)	2 (14)	7 (54)
++	5 (36)	1 (8)	2 (15)	2 (15)	6 (43)	2 (15)

 Table 2. Frequency of Hyperplasia With Marked Changes in Airway Epithelium

folate-treated group but in 15% or more animals in other groups. The frequency of hyperplasia with marked changes in the folate-treated group was approximately 50% or less of that in the other groups, including the untreated group.

The frequency of metaplasia without atypia was slightly higher in the group that received folate and vitamin B_{12} than in the group given vitamin B_{12} alone, in which metaplasia with mild atypia was also noted. The frequency of hyperplasia was similarly reduced in the folate plus vitamin B_{12} group. In the groups that received vitamin A with or without other vitamins, some atypia was noted in all metaplastic lesions, but both the frequency of metaplasia and the degree of atypia were less in the vitamin A, folate, plus vitamin B₁₂ group than in the vitamin A-treated group. Similarly, among those with hyperplasia with marked changes, mild and moderate changes combined were noted in 57% of both groups that received vitamin A alone and with other vitamins and moderate changes, in 36% and 43% of the respective groups.

In the animals that were killed 8 weeks after MCA administration or died of diseases before this time, metaplasia without atypia was noted in one that died of disease, but no marked difference was observed compared with the control group. Moderate hyperplasia was slightly more frequent, but mild hyperplasia was less frequent.

Sites of Metaplasia

Metaplasia was classified according to its sites (Table 3). The first was metaplasia of large bronchi in the lungs observed in nine animals. It was accompanied by moderate atypia in three and mild atypia in four. The second was metaplasia of the epithelium covering the internal surface of the walls of pulmonary abscesses. It was observed in five animals and accompanied by mild atypia in two. The third was metaplasia of the peripheral airways. It morphologically resembled stratified squamous epithelium observed in metaplasia of other sites and showed nearly solid foci. It was observed in six animals and was accompanied by mild atypia in two. In two animals, metaplasia was noted in the tracheal epithelium and accompanied by mild atypia. To generalize these findings, metaplasia in the walls of abscesses or peripheral airways is considered to be less frequently associated with cell atypia than metaplasia in the bronchi.

Changes in Serum Vitamin Concentrations

Figure 3 shows the results of measurement of the serum vitamin concentrations in the animals that received MCA. The vitamin A concentration showed no marked changes with or without vitamin A administration (Fig. 3a). The folate concentration also showed no major changes in the animals given folate after compared with before administration, but it decreased markedly in the animals not receiving folate and became less than 50% of the level of the treated group (Fig. 3b). The vitamin B_{12} concentration increased markedly in the animals that received the vitamin but slightly decreased in those that did not (Fig. 3c).

Tab	le 3.	Sites	of	Metapl	lasia	and Degrees	; of	Atypism
								~ ~

Site of metaplasia	Metaplasia with no atypism	Metaplasia with mild atypism	Metaplasia with moderate atypism	Total
Bronchi	2	4	3	9
Wall of abscess	3	2	0	5
Peripheral airway	4	2	0	6
Trachea	0	2	0	2
Total	9	10	3	22



Figure 3. The serum vitamin concentrations were determined in a few animals randomly selected from each group when they were killed 5-8 weeks after MCA administration (before vitamin administration), 20 weeks after MCA administration (12 weeks after the beginning of vitamin administration), and 36 weeks after MCA administration (at the end of the study, 28 weeks after the beginning of vitamin administration). (a) Serum vitamin A concentration. The serum vitamin A concentration showed no marked changes even after vitamin A administration in the animals given it and was comparable with that of the group without Vitamin A administration. (b) Serum folate concentration. The serum folate concentration did not markedly increase in the animals that received folate but markedly decreased in the group that did not. (c) Serum vitamin B12. The serum vitamin B12 concentration markedly increased in the animals that received vitamin B12 (scaled out at 2000 pg/ml) but slightly decreased in the group that did not.

Discussion

In our study, a model of pulmonary carcinogenesis was employed to show the effect of administering vitamins A, B₁₂, folate on the development of metaplasia and atypia of metaplastic cells histopathologically. It was found that metaplasia, atypia of metaplastic cells, and hyperplasia with marked changes were less frequent in the group that received folate alone than in the other groups. In the MCA-treated animals without folate administration, the serum folate concentration markedly decreased 20 or more weeks after MCA administration, whereas the folate levels were maintained around the initial level in those that were treated with folate. These findings provided an additional evidence to support the results in an earlier report on the preventative effect of folate administration on the development of atypia in airway epithelium, although their study was limited to the cytologic observations of sputum in smokers.³²

In the experiment of vitamin B_{12} administration, some atypia, although mild, was observed in the group given vitamin B_{12} alone, and this suggested the presence of an enhancing, rather than an inhibiting, factor in the vitamin B_{12} compound to accelerate the development of atypia.

On the other hand, the preventative effect of a large amount of vitamin A against pulmonary carcinogenesis and metaplasia has been reported.²⁰⁻²² In our study, the administration of vitamin A in large doses had no preventative effect on the development of metaplasia or atypia in the airway epithelium.²² Mild or moderate atypia was observed in all metaplastic foci in animals receiving vitamin A, and this suggested that some ingredient(s) in this vitamin A compound might work as a stronger enhancing factor than vitamin B₁₂ compound.

Vitamin preparations used for oral intake have been employed in most of the earlier reports, whereas the vitamin compounds used in this study were preparations to be given by injection. The effect of ingredients other than vitamins in these preparations, e.g., solvents, relative to the development of atypia was not investigated.

Further investigations are warranted, using a greater number of animals, to detect the effect of ingredients in the vitamin preparations, to study the time course of serum folate concentrations, and to measure the timing to start folate administration.

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Experimental Study of Antitumor Effect of Methyl-B₁₂

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Key Words. Vitamin $B_{12} \cdot Methyl - B_{12} \cdot Antitumor$ effect

Abstract. We examined the antitumor effect of vitamin B_{12} (methyl- B_{12}) using C3H/He, C57BL/6 and BALB/C mice for animals and MH134 hepatoma ascites cells, Lewis lung cancer cells and Ehrlich ascites tumor cells for tumor cells. At 1.0–10 µg/ml, methyl- B_{12} enhanced PHA- and Con-A-induced lymphocyte blastoformation of C3H/He mice. The growth of MH134 tumors on the backs of C3H/He mice were suppressed by the 7-day administration of 50 or 100 µg/day i.p. and their survival was longer than that of untreated mice. However, methyl- B_{12} administration did not positively affect the survival of C3H/He mice that had been irradiated with ⁶⁰Co 300 R on the day before tumor cell inoculation. The growth of Ehrlich ascites tumor cells inoculated into BALB/C mice was also reduced at 17 and 19 days after tumor inoculation by administration of methyl- B_{12} 50 µg/day i.p. and the mice survived longer than the untreated mice.

Introduction

Vitamin B_{12} has been used to treat pernicious anemia or malabsorption syndrome [1]. Experimental studies have shown that vitamin B_{12} promotes the regeneration of crushed peripheral nerves [14], the correction of defective DNA synthesis [12] and the maintenance and biosynthesis of RNA [5].

Takimoto et al. [11] have reported that vitamin B_{12} modulates the immune response in mice as strongly as levamisole and that the activity was strongest with methylcobalamin (CH₃-B₁₂), one of the homologues of vitamin B₁₂. We now present an experimental study on the antitumor effect of CH₃-B₁₂.

Materials and Methods

We examined the effect of CH_3-B_{12} on in vitro mitogenstimulated lymphocyte blastoformation and on in vivo tumor growth. Male 4- to 6-week-old C3H/He, C57BL/6 and BALB/C mice (Kureha K.K., Tokyo, Japan) and MH134 ascites hepatoma cells, Lewis lung cancer cells and Ehrlich ascites tumor cells (maintained at our laboratory) were used. Methycobal^{at} (Eisai, Tokyo, Japan) was used as CH_3-B_{12} .

Effect of CH₃-B₁₂ on Mitogen-Stimulated Lymphocyte Blastoformation

Splenic lymphocytes from normal C3H/He mice were stimulated with phytohemagglutinin P (PHA, 15 µg/ml), concanavalin A (Con A, 10 µg/ml) or pokeweed mitogen (PWM, 10 µg/ml). Nunc microplates containing 1×10^5 splenic lymphocytes in RPMI 1640 medium and 20% fetal calf serum per well were incubated for 48 h at 37 °C in CO₂ incubator in the presence of mitogen. Before incubation, CH₃-B₁₂ was added (0, 0.1, 1.0, 10, 50 or 100 µg/ml). After 28-hour incubation, 0.5 µCi/well of ³H-thymidine was added to each well and the incubation was continued. The cells were harvested with a cell harvester. ³H-thymidine uptake was measured by a liquid scintillation counter; the results are shown as the percentage, using the formula:

$$\% = \frac{\text{counts in the presence of } CH_3 - B_{12} \text{ (cpm)}}{\text{counts in the absence of } CH_3 - B_{12} \text{ (cpm)}} \times 100.$$

All procedures were performed under low-light conditions because light adversely affects the effect of CH_3-B_{12} .

In vivo Effect of $CH_3 - B_{12}$

C3H/He mice were divided into five groups and in each group the tumor growth rate, the survival rate of tumor-bearing mice, and

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the mitogen-stimulated splenic lymphocyte blastoformation rate were examined. The tumor growth rate was calculated as follows:

tumor growth rate =	$\sqrt{\text{longest diameter } \times}$	right-angled diameter
, ·	$\sqrt{ \begin{matrix} longest \ diameter \\ 7 \ or \ 10 \ days \\ after \ tumor \\ inoculation \end{matrix} } $	right-angled diameter 7 or 10 days after tumor inoculation

The five groups were as follows: group 1 (control): MH134 ascites tumor cells (5×10^6) were subcutaneously inoculated into the back of each mouse. Group 2 (CH₃-B₁₂, 50 µg): 1 week after MH134 ascites tumor inoculation into the back (5×10^6 cells, s.c.), CH₃-B₁₂ (50 µg/mouse/day) was intraperitoneally injected for 7 consecutive days. Group 3 (CH₃-B₁₂, 100 µg): CH₃-B₁₂ (100 µg/mouse/day) was injected intraperitoneally 1 week after MH134 inoculation. Group 4 (irradiated control): these mice were irradiated with ⁶⁰Co 300 R and the next day injected with 5×10^6 MH134 cells. Group 5 (irradiated CH₃-B₁₂, 50 µg): these mice were irradiated with ⁶⁰Co 300 R and the next day 5×10^6 MH134 cells were injected subcutaneously. One week later, CH₃-B₁₂ (50 µg) was injected intraperitoneally for 7 consecutive days.

C57BL/6 and BALB/C mice were divided into three groups and in each group the tumor growth rate and the survival rate of tumor-bearing mice were examined, respectively.

The six groups were as follows: group 6 (control): Lewis lung cancer cells (5×10^6) were subcutaneously inoculated into the back of C57BL/6 mouse. Group 7 (CH₃-B₁₂, 50 µg): ten days after Lewis lung cancer cell inoculation into the back of C57BL/6 mice $(5 \times 10^6$ cells, s.c.), CH₃-B₁₂ 50 µg/mouse/day was intraperitoneally injected for 7 consecutive days. Group 8 (CH₃-B₁₂, 100 µg): CH₃-B₁₂ 100 µg/mouse/day was injected intraperitoneally for 7 consecutive days 10 days after Lewis lung cancer inoculation. Group 9 (control):





Fig. 1. Effect of CH_3-B_{12} on mitogen-stimulated splenic lymphocyte blastoformation. Each response with various concentrations of CH_3-B_{12} is shown as the percentage of the increase or decrease of ³H-thymidine uptake when the ³H-thymidine uptake of each response without CH_3-B_{12} is 100%. The PHA response is markedly enhanced at CH_3-B_{12} concentrations of 0.1, 1.0 and 10 µg/ml.

Ehrlich ascites tumor cells (5×10^6) were subcutaneously inoculated into the back of BALB/C mice. Group 10 (CH₃-B₁₂, 50 µg): ten days after Ehrlich ascites tumor cell inoculation into the back of BALB/C mice $(5 \times 10^6$ cells, s.c.), CH₃-B₁₂ 50 µg/mouse/day was injected intraperitoneally for 7 consecutive days. Group 11 (CH₃-B₁₂, 100 µg): CH₃-B₁₂ 100 µg/mouse/day was injected intraperitoneally for 7 consecutive days after Ehrlich ascites tumor cell inoculation. Intergroup differences were evaluated with Student's t test.

Results

Effect of CH_3-B_{12} on Mitogen-Stimulated Splenic Lymphocyte Blastoformation

Figure 1 shows the ³H-thymidine uptake at the different CH_3-B_{12} concentrations used. The PHA response was markedly enhanced at CH_3-B_{12} concentrations of 0.1, 1.0 and 10 µg/ml (p<0.05), whereas the PWM response was not enhanced at any concentration of CH_3-B_{12} .

In vivo Effect of CH_3-B_{12}

Tumor Growth Rate. The tumor growth rates of all the groups are shown in table I. The tumor growth rates of group 3 at 12 and 15 days after tumor inoculation were slower than in group 1 (p < 0.05). The tumor growth rates of groups 4 and 5 were not significantly different. Between groups 6 and 7 no significant difference was observed. The tumor growth rates in



Fig. 2. Survival rate of C3H/He mice inoculated with MH134 hepatoma ascites tumor cells. The number of mice is 10 in each group. The mice in groups 2 and 3 survived longer than in group 1 (p < 0.05); survival in group 5 was shorter than in group 2 (p < 0.05). Between groups 1 and 4, and groups 4 and 5, no significant difference in survival was seen.



group 10 at 17 and 19 days after tumor inoculation were more reduced than in group 9.

Survival Rate of Tumor-Bearing Mice. The survival rate of C3H/He mice that clearly bore tumors 1 week after MH134 tumor cell inoculation is shown in figure 2. The survival period after tumor formation was 14.00 ± 3.96 days for group 1 (n = 10), 25.88 ± 6.90 days for group 2 (n = 10) and 21.78 ± 7.01 days for group 3 (n = 10) (table II). The survival of groups 2 and 3 was statistically longer than in the control group (p < 0.05). The survival period was 15.40 ± 2.30 days in group 4 (n = 10) and 16.44 ± 6.62 days in group 5 (n = 10) and there was no statistical difference between the two irradiated groups. The survival of mice in the irradiated group treated with CH_3-B_{12} , 50 µg (group 5) was statistically shorter than in the nonirradiated group treated with CH_3-B_{12} , 50 µg (p<0.05). Between the irradiated and nonirradiated control groups, no significant difference in survival was found. Survival periods of C57BL/6 mice inoculated Lewis lung cancer and BALB/C mice inoculated Ehrlich ascites tumor were shown in table II and survival rates in figures 3 and 4. Survival periods in groups 9 and 10 were 24.7 ± 4.5 and 39.3 ± 13.2 days, respectively. Mice in group 10 survived longer than in group 9 (p<0.01).

Mitogen-Stimulated Splenic Lymphocyte Blastoformation Rate. In group 1, the mitogen responses

Table I. Tumor growth rate of all groups

Days after tumor inoculation	Group I (control)	Group 2 (CH ₃ -B ₁₂ , 50 μg)	Group 3 (CH ₃ -B ₁₂ , 100 μg)	Group 4 (radiated control)	Group 5 (radiated, CH ₃ -B ₁₂ , 50 μ g)
10th	1.49 ± 0.35 (n = 10)	1.37 ± 0.13 (n = 10)	1.29 ± 0.13 (n = 10)	1.31 ± 0.10 (n = 10)	1.52 ± 0.31 (n = 10)
12th	2.07 ± 0.75^{a} (n = 10)	1.76 ± 0.20 (n = 10)	1.52 ± 0.17^{a} (n = 10)	1.56 ± 0.29 (n = 10)	1.94 ± 0.63 (n = 10)
15th	2.89 ± 1.41^{b} (n = 8)	2.02 ± 0.31 (n = 10)	1.73 ± 0.16^{b} (n = 10)	1.99 ± 0.28 (n = 10)	2.24 ± 0.52 (n = 7)
Days after tumor inoculation	Group 6 (control)	Group 7 (CH ₃ -B ₁₂ , 50 µg)	Group 8 (CH ₃ -B ₁₂ , 100 μg)		
12th	1.15 ± 0.10 (n = 10)	1.13 ± 0.16 (n = 10)	1.08 ± 0.14 (n = 10)		
15th	1.33 ± 0.21 (n = 9)	1.49 ± 0.59 (n = 9)	1.24 ± 0.11 (n = 8)		
Days after tumor inoculation	Group 9 (control)	Group 10 (CH ₃ -B ₁₂ , 50 μg)	Group 11 (CH ₃ -B ₁₂ , 100 μg)		
12th	1.17 ± 0.15 (n = 10)	1.11 ± 0.09 (n = 10)	1.09 ± 0.10 (n = 10)		
lSth	1.60 ± 0.47 (n = 10)	1.24 ± 0.27 (n = 10)	1.39 ± 0.30 (n = 10)		
17th	$1.84 \pm 0.58^{\circ}$ (n = 10)	$1.26 \pm 0.28^{\circ}$ (n = 10)	1.44 ± 0.41 (n = 10)	: /·	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
19th	2.22 ± 0.85^{d} (n = 7)	1.44 ± 0.37^{d} (n = 10)	1.83 ± 0.89 (n = 8)		

^{a-a}, ^{b-b} p<0.05; ^{c-c} p<0.01; ^{d-d} p<0.02. Group 1-5: C3H/He MH134; group 6-8: C57BL/6 Lewis lung cancer; group 9-11: BALB/C Ehrlich ascites tumor cell.

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Fig. 3. Survival rate of C57BL/6 mice inoculated with Lewis lung carcinoma cells. No significant difference in the survival rates of the three groups was found.



Fig. 5. Change of mitogen-stimulated lymphocyte blastoformation rate. ³H-thymidine uptake of each response is shown as stimulation index (SI). In group 1, Con A and PWM responses are depressed at 1 or 2 weeks after inoculation, but PHA response is rather enhanced at 1 week and depressed at 2 weeks. In groups 2 and 3, PHA response is enhanced at 2 or 3 weeks after inoculation. In groups 4 and 5, the mitogen responses are lower before and after tumor inoculation compared with groups 1 and 2.





Table II. Survival period

Group	Days after tumor inoculation	
1	$14.0 \pm 4.0^{a, b}$	
2	$25.9 \pm 6.9^{a, c}$	
3	21.8 ± 7.0 ^b	
4	15.4 ± 2.3	
5	16.4 ± 6.6^{c}	
6	19.7 ± 3.6	
7	23.1 ± 5.8	
8	19.5 ± 3.5	
9	24.7 ± 4.5^{d}	
10	39.3 ± 13.2^{d}	
	247 + 45	

were depressed 1 and 2 weeks after tumor inoculation (fig. 5). Similarly, in groups 2 and 3, Con A and PWM responses were depressed at 1 or 2 weeks after inoculation, but PHA response was rather enhanced in groups 2 or 3 at 2 weeks after inoculation. In irradiated mice (groups 4 and 5), the mitogen responses were lower before and after tumor inoculation compared with the nonirradiated mice (groups 1, 2).

Discussion

Takimoto et al. [11] reported that the effect of CH_3-B_{12} on the murine immune response was as strong as that of levamisole. Our study showed that the PHA and Con A responses of murine spleen cells were enhanced after incubation in the presence of $0.1-1.0 \ \mu\text{g/ml}$ CH_3-B_{12} (PHA) and $1.0-10 \ \mu\text{g/ml}$ CH_3-B_{12} (Con A) (fig. 1).

The effectiveness of massive doses of vitamin B_{12} in the treatment of malignant human tumors (pediatric neuroblastomas) was first studied by Bodian [2], who reported remission in many patients. At present, there is no consensus on the clinical efficacy of vitamin B_{12} . Clinical and experimental studies showed both, suppression of tumor growth [4, 8–10] and ineffectiveness or carcinogenicity [3, 6, 7, 13].

We observed that MH134 tumor-bearing C3H/He mice and BALB/C mice bearing Ehrlich ascites tumor cells survived longer if they were given 50 or $100 \,\mu g/$ day CH₃-B₁₂ for 7 consecutive days after tumor cell inoculation. Tumor growth rate of Ehrlich ascites tumor cells inoculated into BALB/C mice was slower at 17 and 19 days after tumor inoculation by administration of CH_3-B_{12} 50 µg/mouse/day for 7 consecutive days than without CH₃-B₁₂. However, the administration of CH₃-B₁₂ did not prolong the life span of mice that had been irradiated prior to tumor cell inoculation. Our finding that the PHA and Con A responses were enhanced in CH_3-B_{12} -treated mice and group 2 could survive longer than group 1, but group 5 could not survive longer than group 1 or as long as group 2, suggests that the administration of CH₃-B₁₂ stimulated their immune response. Immunological studies on the effect of CH₃-B₁₂ in tumorbearing mice are in progress in our laboratory.

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THE ROLE OF VITAMIN B12 AND FOLATE IN CARCINOGENESIS*

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ABSTRACT

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The roles of vitamin B_{12} and folate in carcinogenesis are largely extensions of and linked to their roles in normal metabolism, particularly l-carbon unit metabolism. A possible key area may be hypomethylation to "switch on" genes and methylation to "switch them off." Some vitamin analogues may act as antivitamins in these reactions, as may some vitaminbinding proteins. Others may act as specific delivery proteins. Using appropriate radioactive substrates and suspensions of vitamin-dependent normal and malignant cells, it may be possible to work out their positive and negative control of DNA synthesis.

INTRODUCTION

The roles of vitamin B_{12} and folate in carcinogenesis are largely extensions of and linked to their roles in normal metabolism. One key area is the conversion of homocysteine to methionine (methyl homocysteine). This process is dependent on folate delivering its 1-carbon unit to vitamin B_{12} , which then becomes methyl- B_{12} and transfers that methyl unit to homocysteine (Fig. 1). Newberne et al.¹ recently reviewed the role of the lipotropes choline and methionine and related factors in oncogenesis, including the impaired hormonal and cell-mediated immunity in folatedeficient humans and animals, and they pointed out the synergism between high fat diets and methyl deprivation.² Poirier³ reviewed the protective effect of methionine against hepatocarcinogenesis, and Farber⁴ discussed the carcinogenesis promotion effect of the ethyl analogue of methionine, ethionine.

ABBREVIATIONS: azaC = 5-azacytidine; TC II = transcobalamin II; PGA = pteroglutamic acid; SAM = <u>S</u>-adenosylmethionine; dU = deoxyuridine; AIDS = acquired immunodeficiency syndrome; dThd = thymidine; PHA = phytohemagglutinin A.

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Fig. 1. Biochemical interrelationships between vitamin B_{12} and folate in human metabolism.

In a series of painstaking studies, Poirier's group⁵ determined that, over a 76-week period, dietary methyl deficiency markedly promoted liver carcinogenesis and exhibited complete carcinogenic activity in this organ in the rat. They showed this in rats fed methyl-deficient, amino aciddeficient diets. When the diets were also devoid of folic acid and vitamin B_{12} , the diethylnitrosamine-initiated rats died within 23 experimental weeks, before developing hepatocellular carcinoma, but all had livers containing hepatocytes of atypical appearance and, particularly at the 2 higher dosages of diethylnitrosamine, a cirrhotic pseudonodular architecture. They also found neoplastic conversion of rat liver epithelial cells in culture by ethionine and <u>S</u>-adenosylethionine.⁶

Krumdieck⁷ reviewed the literature pertaining to the role of folate deficiency in facilitating carcinogenesis through 1982 and Eto⁸ has carried the subject through the beginning of 1985. Folate is essential in the biosynthesis of both purines and pyrimidines⁹,¹⁰ and therefore is required by all dividing cells. The conversion of deoxyuridylate to thymidylate (methyldeoxyuridylate) is folate- and B_{12} -dependent, involving these 2 vitamins in a key step in DNA synthesis (Fig. 1).⁹⁻¹¹ These biochemical facts underlie the chromosomal abnormalities that characterize human clinical deficiency of vitamin B_{12} and/or folate.^{12,13} A wide range of chemical carcinogens inhibit DNA methylation in vitro.¹⁴ It has been suggested that deficiency of folate or vitamin B_{12} or any cause of failure to methylate DNA and/or RNA can activate malignancy by hypomethylating oncogenes, leading to such gene expression and/or gene amplications, and that methylating oncogenes can inhibit malignancy by making them dormant.^{3,15} This is similar to the concept of "relaxed control" of RNA synthesis, discussed 3 decades ago by Borek and co-workers.¹⁰ They noted that when an organism auxotrophic for methionine is deprived of methionine, it loses its ability to suppress synthesis of RNA, which is then synthesized more rapidly; they tied that observation to methylation of RNA. We speculated that vitamin B_{12} or folate deficiency could produce such "relaxed control," and we noted more recently that folate, vitamin B_{12} , and their antagonists could be involved in the control of normal gene expression if in fact hypomethylation of DNA "switches on" normal genes and methylation "switches them off."¹⁸ Although the evidence of this process is significant but inconclusive, one would expect that hypomethylation would inactivate them. Perhaps some of the second cancers that develop after successful antimetabolic chemotherapy are due to the same chemotherapy that directly destroys an active cancer, demethylating an oncogene of a dormant cancer.

Gene amplification is a mechanism for tumor resistance to antimetabolites.¹⁹ One can speculate that it may also be a mechanism to aid in tumor proliferation by, for example, producing gene amplification of the hepatic Phase I enzymes that activate carcinogens.²⁰

Gautsch and Wilson²¹ found that de novo methylation of the input provirus occurs in embryonal carcinoma cells but not in permissive, differentiated teratocarcinoma. Harrison et al.²² demonstrated a 3-way correlation between tumorigenicity, trisomy for 3q, and specific demethylation, suggesting that decreased DNA methylation may be involved both in differentiation and in tumorigenicity and that the antileukemia drug azaC may induce chromosomal aberrations as well as altering DNA methylation. Altering DNA methylation is just one of the varied effects of azaC on cellular metabolism.²³⁻²⁵ The drug reduces DNA methylation and induces theoretically therapeutically valuable differentiation of human promyelocytic leukemia cells (HL-60) in culture, although this induction is less effective than that brought about in these cells by dimethylsulfoxide and L-ethionine.²⁶ Anderson and colleagues²⁵ found that azaC selectively hypomethylates fetal globin genes, supporting work by Ley et al.²³ and Charache and associates.²⁷

Patients with neoplasms excrete elevated levels of certain methylated bases in their urine, and Borek's group²⁸⁻³⁰ has been attempting to correlate the quantity of such excretion with the degree of tumor activity. Gross's group, in collaboration with our group, 15, 31, 32 were unable to show any reproducible inhibitory effect of 5-methylcytidine on the development of presumably RNA virus-induced transplanted L2C leukemialymphoma in guinea pigs; this appears to be an animal analogue to human leukemia-lymphoma of RNA virus etiology. 33, 34 After we switched to 5-iodocytidine, which seemed more promising, both groups unsuccessfully sought funding targeted to continue this work. Gross's³⁵ recent dramatic report of reduction in the incidence (i.e., the initial development) of radiation-induced tumors in rats after restriction of caloric food intake has been associated with renewed funding. His group previously noted that restriction of food intake will not significantly influence the growth or progress of established tumors in mice.³² American Cancer Society statistics suggest an increased frequency of malignancy in obese persons (L. Gross, personal communication).

The roles of vitamin B_{12} and folate in carcinogenesis are not at the simple level at which serum vitamin levels correlate with extent of disease. No correlation has been found between serum folate and vitamin B_{12} levels and the extent of small cell lung cancer.³⁶ However, a correlation may exist between levels of certain naturally occurring folate and

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B_{12} analogues in serum and/or tissues and malignancy. Some folate and B_{12} analogues may not only be vitamin-inactive for humans, but they may facilitate carcinogenesis or inhibit it by blocking normal vitamin action or in other ways. We now know, for example, that what is assayed as " B_{12} " in serum by most microbiological and radioassays is in fact a mixture of cobalamins and noncobalamin corrinoids (Fig. 2).³⁷ this is also true of the B_{12} in tissues³⁸ and multivitamin pills.^{99,40} Enormous amounts of this



R=R-binders

Serum B_{12} . The "serum B_{12} " consists of the sum of "true B_{12} " Fig. 2. (i.e., hydroxocobalamin and other cobalamins biologically active for humans), designated B_{12} , plus the serum content of other corrinoids (i.e., molecules that have the heme-like corrin nucleus of cobalamin but differ from cobalamin in part or all of the rest of their structure), designated A (analogues). Pure gastric IF (intrinsic factor) binds only cobalamins, whereas R binders (the B12 binders ubiquitous in body fluids, including saliva, serum, cerebrospinal fluid, bile, and urine) bind all corrinoids (cobalamin + analogues). The brackets identify the portions of total serum corrinoids bound by each of 4 different commercially available B_{12} radioassay binders. The mixture (IF + R + X Cbi) binds a little more than B_{12} alone and, therefore, more than pure IF does, when the amount (X) of preadded cobinamide exceeds the cobalamin-binding capacity of the mixture by about 100-fold; if the excess reaches 1,000-fold, there will be some binding to IF despite its specificity for cobalamins, and the mixture will therefore bind a little less than true B_{12} . Because of the specificity of its IF portion for cobalamin, ($\bar{I}\bar{F}$ + R) binds a bit less than the total corrinoids that are bound by pure R.

> Important note. Confusion can arise when results are reported as "serum vitamin B_{12} levels," which are actually serum total corrinoid levels, but the range of normal given with the report is for cobalamins rather than total corrinoids. For maximum reliability, each laboratory should develop its own range of normal for whatever serum B_{12} assay(s) it uses and should not use the range of normal determined in a different laboratory, because minor differences in methodology such as pH produce different values. Reprinted with permission from ref. 45.

		Corrinoid Content, µg					
			Radioassay				
B ₁₂ Claim on Bottle	<u>Lactobacillus</u> leichmanii	<u>Euglena</u> gracilis	Total Corrinoids	Cobalamin	Analogues		
6 µg	1.24	0.615	1.63	0.09	1.54		

Table 1. Cobalamin Content Versus Total Corrinoid Content of Spirulina^a

^aAll values are for 6 tablets, which is the daily dose recommended by the manufacturer, the Earthrise Company. <u>See</u> ref. 38.

 B_{12} have been found in the "health food" spirulina (Table 1), 41,42 in human colon, and lesser amounts in many foods. 43 Some of these analogues are antimetabolites; 40 their role in inhibiting 44 or promoting carcinogenesis, or even as direct carcinogens, remains to be determined, as do their levels in serum, tissues, bile, and colon of patients with and without various neoplasms. Furthermore, just as serum iron is attached to protein in both a "delivery" form (on transferrin) in equilibrium with parenchymal iron and a "storage" form (ferritin) in equilibrium with storage iron, 45 the same may prove true for folate 40 and B_{12} . Loss of B_{12} from TC II appears to be an earlier indicator of parenchymal B_{12} deficiency than clear reduction of total serum B_{12} , whereas the greater amount of B_{12} on TC II is equilibrated with bioavailable tissue B_{12} , whereas the greater amount of B_{12} on TC (I + III) is not. A recent-review of the macromolecules involved in the assimilation and transport of cobalamin discusses their known functions.

FOLATE DEFICIENCY

Some years ago, Heller and his associates⁵⁰ observed that folate deficiency increased normal hemoglobin production in a patient with sickle cell trait. Since higher normal hemoglobin production means lower sickle cell hemoglobin, this was a desirable phenomenon. However, treatment with folic acid produced the undesirable result of lowering the normal hemoglobin.

Recognizing that the primary role of folate is in transferring 1-carbon units, one of which is the methyl unit, Heller and others focused on cytidine, the most heavily methylated of the 4 bases of the genetic code (the other sometimes methylated base is guanine). In 1982, they reported that azaC selectively activates the gene for fetal hemoglobin synthesis in patients with beta-thalassemia and sickle cell disease.^{18,51} They raised the possibility that this activation results from the incorporation of azaC as cytidine into the gene for hemoglobin, which, with its 5 position blocked, cannot take on the methyl group made available in folate-(and vitamin B_{12} -) dependent reactions and thus was not methylated. It was suggested that failure to methylate the cytidine of the gene for fetal hemoglobin prevented it from becoming dormant, and it was activated to produce fetal hemoglobin. Whether or not the bases that make up the genetic code are methylated plays a major role in gene expression.^{52,53} Normally, 4-5% of cytosine residues in human DNA are methylated.⁵⁴ Whether oncogene expression can similarly be prevented by increasing ordinarily

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vitamin B_{12} -dependent and folate-dependent 1-carbon transfer to the genetic code of the oncogene has been the subject of subsequent studies.^{21,22,24-26}

The B vitamin, folic acid, was isolated in 1943: Stokstad purified PGA and Pfiffner and associates crystallized folate from liver.⁵⁵ Within a year, Leuchtenberger and associates at Mount Sinai Hospital^{56,57} reported that a form of this vitamin called folic acid concentrate [later to be known as oxidized folate triglutamate (teropterin)] inhibited the growth of transplanted sarcoma 180 in mice. This material and similar crystalline oxidized triglutamate known as fermentation <u>Lactobacillus casei</u> factor produced complete regression of single spontaneous breast cancers in mice.⁵⁸ One wonders if oxidized folate triglutamate could methylate sarcoma 180 and mouse breast cancer oncogenes. Leuchtenberger's first paper stated that Pollack and associates⁵⁹ had reported that fermentation L. casei factor (folic acid in triglutamate form⁶⁰) was present in human and rat cancers at higher levels than inositol and at much higher levels than biotin or pyridoxine.

Laszlo and Leuchtenberger⁶¹ reported that inositol (then believed to be a B vitamin for humans but more recently shown to be a B vitamin only for some bacteria, since it is synthesized adequately by humans⁶²) inhibited animal tumor growth, but other B vitamins did not. Vitamin B_{12} was yet to be discovered.

Lewisohn et al.⁶³ reported that not only did oxidized folate monoglutamate (liver L. casei factor from Lederle Laboratory) not inhibit spontaneous breast cancers in mice, but it actually produced a more rapid growth of the primary tumors and a significant increase in lung metastases. Here was evidence that one of the monoglutamate forms of the vitamin promoted tumor growth but that one of the triglutamate forms for the same vitamin inhibited the growth of the same tumor. Recent studies were aimed at determining whether oxidized folate monoglutamate may inhibit methylation of oncogenes, thereby allowing their expression, and whether triglutamates can do the opposite. Folate triglutamates are frequently more active than monoglutamates in methylation in man.^{64,65} Folate triglutamate has much greater affinity than folate monoglutamate for milk folate-binding protein,⁶⁰ which appears to be a folate delivery protein.⁶⁷ Gene amplification can lead to overproduction of certain proteins, including transport and delivery proteins as well as enzymes. Chabner's group⁶⁸ isolated a methotrexate-resistant mutant that could not polyglutamate methotrexate, causing the drug to leak out of the cell.

These and other studies suggest that one form of a vitamin can be a growth promoter, by acting as a coenzyme, while another form can attach to the same apoenzyme or other ligand, such as a vitamin-transporting protein, and interfere with the reaction, just as a key with a missing tooth can fit into a lock but will not turn. Different forms and major parts of the same basic vitamin structure, that is, analogues and congeners, exist in nature and are synthesizable; some are antagonists or antivitamins, some of which can be created from vitamins by only slightly warping their structure.

Farber et al.⁶⁰ gave pteroyltriglutamic acid (teropterin) and pteroyldiglutamic acid (diopterin), both synthesized by Y. SubbaRow and his associates at Lederle Laboratories, to 90 patients with various malignancies, noting that "in general, adult patients experienced improvement in energy, appetite, sense of well being...might be ascribed to improved morale from frequent visits, more medical attention..." They also reported inconstant temporary decreases in size of metastases in some tumors and degeneration and necrosis in others. The observation by Welch⁶⁹ of rapid deterioration of adult patients with chronic myelogenous leukemia given folic acid led to the earliest attempts at therapy in 2 patients by limiting the availability of folate through the use of x-methyl folic acid, coupled with succinylsulfathathioazole and low-folate diets. Both patients went into remission, stopped following the low-folate diets, and quickly relapsed.

It is apocryphally alleged that Farber was also giving the oxidized, stable pharmaceutical form of folic acid (i.e., PGA) to children with lymphoproliferative malignancies (lymphocytic leukemia and lymphoma) until one of his residents collected sufficient data to suggest that the children receiving this new vitamin were dying faster than those children not receiving it. This observation allegedly led Farber to ask Lederle to create a warped folic acid molecule that would interfere with folate metabolism in the malignant cells; this was done by adding an NH₂ group, thereby creating aminopterin. A second alteration, methylation in the 10 position, created methotrexate, still one of our most potent anticancer agents, particularly effective against childhood lymphoproliferative disorders and trophoblastic malignancies.

Rapidly growing neoplastic tissue consumes folate so rapidly that folate deficiency megaloblastosis can occur in the host cells.^{70,71} There is also evidence that tumor growth may be slowed by any form of vitamin B_{12} deficiency, including inadequate absorption or elevated levels in serum of a vitamin B_{12} binder that does not deliver the vitamin to tumor tissue⁷² but does deliver it to the liver in a calcium-dependent fashion.^{70,73-76} Granulocytes and liver are major sources of serumbinding proteins for both vitamin B_{12} and folic acid that tightly bind those vitamins; malignancies of granulocytes and liver theoretically can repress themselves by releasing large amounts of these binders, which could tie up supplies of the vitamins and prevent vitamin delivery to, and nourishment of, the malignancy.^{47,77}

Oxidized folate (such as PGA, the stable pharmaceutical form of the vitamin) is not per se metabolically active and may even be neurotoxic; it has a structural similarity to Dilantin.⁷⁸ PGA can produce seizures in patients with epilepsy by blocking the protective action of Dilantin, as Butterworth's group has shown.⁷⁹ Folic acid and Dilantin compete for intestinal absorption,⁸⁰ and they probably also compete at the brain cell, where Dilantin may interfere with ATPase, as in the gut.⁸¹ There appears to be a one-way transport system to remove noxious oxidized folates from the nervous system and a one-way transport system to deliver useful, reduced folate into the nervous system;⁸² this information has been used to successfully treat with folinic acid a child with congenital folate malabsorption unresponsive to folic acid.⁸³,⁸⁴

Similarly, there may be a one-way transport system to remove noxious vitamin B_{12} analogues from the body 15,85 and another transport system to deliver helpful forms of the vitamin to normal tissues, as we first reported for human serum delivery of vitamin B_{12} to liver. 74 Recent evidence suggests that vitamin B_{12} analogues in human tissues may arise primarily from human colon flora. 43

The transport systems have different affinities for different forms of vitamin B_{12} and folic acid and different delivery ability for helpful and noxious forms of the vitamins with respect to different normal cells and possibly also tumor cells.^{46,47} Sutherland⁸⁶ noted that folate deficiency produces fragile chromosomes. Das¹² has noted that folate therapy will not correct folate deficiency in circulating human lymphocytes or their chromosomes for 1-2 months after the start of therapy, whereas deficiency is corrected in bone marrow cells within 6 hours after the start of folate therapy. Fragile chromosomes can persist in lymphocytes

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for 1 or 2 months after the beginning of replacement therapy for folate deficiency, because circulating lymphocytes are impervious to nutrients such as the B vitamins until they are triggered to make DNA by a virus or lectin. 12 , 87 The role of fragile chromosomes in carcinogenesis was recently reviewed. 88

Vitamin B_{12} is not vitamin active in its stable pharmaceutical form, cyanocobalamin. The cyanide must be removed for vitamin function to occur. Even an active form of the vitamin, hydroxocobalamin, can block vitamin B_{12} metabolism by competing with adenosylcobalamin for the binding site on the adenosylcobalamin-dependent enzyme methyl malonyl-CoA mutase.⁸⁹ Conversely, the oncogenic potential of absorbed cyanide from cassava and other foods⁹⁰ may be muted by inactivation of the cyanide by the metabolically active form of vitamin B_{12} , hydroxocobalamin. Indeed, anesthesiologists have used massive doses of hydroxocobalamin to reverse cyanide toxicity by soaking up the cyanide from the nitroprusside used in openheart operations.⁹¹

Butterworth⁹² noted that naturally occurring folate analogues such as pteroic acid may be lethal for rats and can displace folate from human tissues and flush it out in the urine.⁹³ It remains to be determined whether there is a folate analogue, such as pteroic acid, that will selectively flush folate or vitamin B_{12} out of tumor tissue or selectively deliver folate or vitamin B_{12} to tumor tissue to potentiate fluoropyrimidine or other drug antitumor activity.^{94,95}

Human serum, Dilantin, and methotrexate have been reported to inhibit pteroyl monoglutamate and methyl tetrahydrofolate uptake by human bone marrow cells in vitro, but 2-deoxyglucose, an antagonist of glucose, will enhance such uptake.⁹⁶ It would be worthwhile to determine whether simultaneous administration of folate and 2-deoxyglucose are more harmful to tumor cells than to normal ones.

A folate-free diet was given for more than 4 months, with no clinical benefit, to 7 patients with disseminated cancers. The folate levels in tumor, liver, and blood all declined at the same rate.⁹⁷ On the other hand, Whitehead and colleagues⁹⁸ noted disappearance of megaloblastosis in cervical epithelial cells with folate therapy of women taking oral contraceptives, and Butterworth et al.⁹⁹ reported improvement in apparent cervical dysplasia in oral contraceptive users treated with folic acid. Longo and co-workers¹⁰⁰ noted human selective folate deficiency in the lymphocyte cell line after 4 months of oral contraceptive administration; lymphocytes and cervical epithelium may be similarly selectively folate deprived. Selective folate deficiency in one cell line and not another was first noted in 1962 in the first case of deliberately produced dietary folate deficiency in a volunteer, whose intestinal biopsy showed normal epithelial cells when his bone marrow had become megaloblastic.¹⁰¹ Presumably, the intestine epithelial cells took up the traces of folate in the folate-deficient diet to sustain their own normality, leaving little or none to be absorbed and delivered to the bone marrow.

Selective delivery of nutrients and antimetribolites to one cell line and not another is generally a function of selective transport and delivery protein and high-affinity receptors. 102

VITAMIN B12

Shortly after Minot and Murphy reported that liver therapy cured pernicious anemia, an achievement for which they shared a Nobel prize with Whipple, Minot reported the development of a malignancy (polycythemia

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vera) occurring immediately after the start of treatment for pernicious anemia. There were other sporadic reports of myeloproliferative disorders associated with therapy for pernicious anemia with liver extract and subsequently with pure vitamin B_{12} . The small number of such cases implies coincidence rather than cause and effect but does not prove it.

Warped vitamin B_{12} molecules (the anilide and ethylamide of vitamin B_{12} , synthesized by E. Lester Smith of Glaxo Laboratories) were first used a quarter of a century ago in the treatment of myelogenous leukemia refractory to all other therapy.¹⁰³ One woman given the anilide of vitamin B_{12} appeared to go into complete remission, with her bone marrow aspirate changing from florid myelogenous leukemia to a fibrotic picture. However, she continued to have a small number of leukemic cells in her peripheral blood. When she died of pneumonia 6 months later, her marrow was largely fibrotic. Whether this one case was cause and effect or coincidence is impossible to determine.

At the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children in London, Bodian¹⁰⁴ found that megadoses of vitamin B_{12} produced remission in neuroblastoma in children, but Sawitsky and Desposito¹⁰⁵ did not confirm this in 103 children. Bodian believed that megadoses of vitamin produced maturation of the tumor, but spontaneous maturation and spontaneous remission can occur in neuroblastoma with no therapy.

Day et al.¹⁰⁶ and Ostryanina¹⁰⁷ reported that vitamin B_{12} enhanced the carcinogenic effect of <u>p</u>-dimethylaminoazobenzene and 3 other carcinogens in rats consuming a methionine-deficient diet. Conversely, chemically induced tumors of the liver, colon, and esophagus are enhanced by diets deficient in folic acid, vitamin B_{12} , choline, and methionine.¹⁰⁸ Poirier et al.^{5,6} have elegantly and laboriously delineated this phenomenon.

Folic acid and vitamin B_{12} can prove useful in those tumors that grow more rapidly as more of these vitamins are supplied, because the tumor cells can be stimulated into the DNA synthesis phase in which a number of cancer chemotherapy agents exert their deadly effects. Those agents can be used in a sequence right after folic acid and/or vitamin B_{12} .

Analogues of vitamin B_{12} appear to be ubiquitous in human serum;³⁷ red blood cells, liver, and brain;³⁸ bile;¹⁰⁹ multivitamin pills;³⁹ a wide variety of microorganisms;¹¹⁰ and human colon content and feces.⁴³ Two analogues from multivitamin pills have been reported to block vitamin B_{12} metabolism in normal human cells in vitro.⁴⁰ The highest known pill content of analogue of vitamin B_{12} is in the health food fad pill spirulina.⁴¹ Such analogues must be evaluated for their ability to block vitamin B_{12} metabolism in both normal and malignant cells.⁴⁴ The entero-hepatic circulation functions to get rid of vitamin B_{12} analogues,¹⁰⁹ a teleologic suggestion that such analogues may have undesirable effects.

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The anesthetic gas nitrous oxide can produce acute vitamin B_{12} deficiency, as was first made clear by Amess et al.¹¹¹ Nitrous oxide produces a greater than 95% reduction in liver vitamin B_{12} in the fruit bat.¹¹² Scott and Weir in Dublin¹¹³ and Metz's group in South Africa¹¹⁴ showed that methionine can prevent the nerve damage produced by nitrous oxide-induced vitamin B_{12} deficiency in primates and the fruit bat, respectively. Chanarin et al.¹¹⁵ suggested that formyl folate monoglutamate, with its formate derived from methylthioribose, is the preferred substrate for the polyglutamate forms of folate that normal cells preferentially use. Studies of the effects of nitrous oxide potentiation of cytotoxic drugs on tumors in experimental animals, with and without methionine "rescue" of normal cells, are of great interest. Kroes and associates¹¹⁶, 117 showed that nitrous oxide retards leukemic proliferation

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in a transplantable acute nonlymphocytic leukemia in BN rats and enhanced this cytostatic effect with cycloleucine, which inactivates methionine adenosyltransferase and thereby inhibits the formation of SAM. Cycloleucine reversal of dU suppression was greater than the sum of the reversals produced by either gas or drug alone.

Differences in ability of normal versus tumor cells to take up various nutrients and antinutrients are being sought in efforts to kill tumor cells selectively. Normal cells treated with nitrous oxide to destroy vitamin B_{12} are better rescued by methionine than by SAM, even though SAM is the active form, because methionine much more readily crosses normal cell walls.¹¹⁵ The relative ability of these 2 rescue agents to cross tumor versus normal cell walls requires further study.

Because folic acid and vitamin B_{12} are intimately related to the synthesis of DNA, lack of either damages DNA synthesis. The primary damage is to de novo DNA synthesis, with the result that there may be a secondary increment in salvage DNA synthesis.¹¹⁸ In those tumors in which synthesis of DNA by the salvage pathway is relatively greater than in normal cells, as compared to the de novo pathway of DNA synthesis, it is theoretically possible that folic acid and/or vitamin B_{12} , by enhancing de novo DNA synthesis, could be relatively more helpful to normal than to tumor cells and relatively more harmful to certain tumor cells.¹⁵,¹¹⁸

Low serum vitamin B_{12} levels occur in multiple myeloma, ¹¹⁹ rheumatoid arthritis, ¹²⁰ systemic lupus erythematosus, ¹¹⁹, ¹²¹ and AIDS. ¹²² This may be a serum phenomenon related to transport protein abnormalities, and in AIDS it may be related to immune dysfunction. Elevation of TC II has been noted in AIDS¹²² and other autoimmune disorders¹²¹, ¹²³ and in acute leukemia and lymphoma. ¹¹⁹, ¹²¹ The relationship of this phenomenon to increased needs for vitamin B₁₂ and desaturation of TC II in vitamin B₁₂ deficiency in these disorders awaits determination. ⁴⁸ The diversity of disorders in which TC II is elevated suggests that it is an acute phase reactant. ¹²³

SUPPRESSION TESTING

Some years ago, we created the diagnostic dU suppression test to diagnose deficiencies of either vitamin B_{12} or folate; we showed that the slowing of DNA synthesis in bone marrow cells in the test tube, which Killman¹²⁴ had reported, could be corrected by adding the vitamin to the test tube. ^{125,126} More recently, the dThd suppression test has been added as an ancillary measure. ¹¹⁸

The immediate precursors of cellular DNA synthesis are dATP, dGTP, dCTP, and dTTP. In most mammalian cells, de novo synthesis of dTMP from dUMP is a rate-limiting step and requires 5,10-methylene tetrahydrofolate as a coenzyme.¹²⁷ However, the incorporation of preformed dThd into replicating cells provides a "salvage pathway" of dTMP synthesis.¹²⁸ It was reported that an excess of dU added to culture of normal bone marrow suppressed the incorporation of [³H]dThd into DNA but failed to do so in bone marrow of patients with vitamin $B_{12}^{-124,125}$ and folate-deficient^{125,126} megaloblastic anemia. It was also shown that this defect (impaired dU suppression of [³H]dThd into DNA) was partially corrected by adding vitamin B_{12} to the bone marrow cultures of vitamin $B_{12}^{-124,125}$ but not folatedeficient patients.¹²⁵ It was almost completely corrected by large doses of folic acid and smaller doses of folinic acid (5-formyl tetrahydrofolate) in both types of deficiencies; 5-methyl tetrahydrofolate corrected only folate deficiency.¹²⁵ Further, the corrective effect of either vitamin was prevented by the folate antagonist methotrexate.¹²⁵ The main folate

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Fig. 3. Biosynthetic pathways of deoxyribonucleotides and DNA. The enzymes catalyzing the reactions are (1) aspartic transcarba-mylase, (2) dihydroorotase, (3) dihydroorotate dehydrogenase, (4) OMP pyrophosphorylase, (5) OMP decarboxylase, (6) uridine kinase, (7) nucleoside monophosphokinases, (8) ribonucleotide reductase (ribonucleoside diphosphate reductase), (9) nucleoside diphosphate kinases, (10) dUTPase-dCTPase, (11) thymidylate synthetase (dTMP synthetase), (12) dTMP kinase, (13) DNA polymerase, (14) deoxyuridine kinase, (15) thymidine kinase, (16) deoxycytidine kinase, (17) deoxyguanosine-deoxyadenosine kinase, (18) dAMP kinase, (19) dGMP kinase, (20) dCMP deaminase, (21) 5-methyl THF:homocysteine methyltransferase, (24) 5,10-methylene THF reductase. (Note: For THF read H₄PteGlu; for DHF read H₂PteGlu.)

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coenzyme in plasma, 5-methyl tetrahydrofolate, which was shown by our laboratory to "pile up" in the plasma of patients with vitamin B_{12} deficiency, ¹²⁹ corrected the abnormal dU suppression in folate-deficient marrows but failed to do so in vitamin B_{12} -deficient marrows unless vitamin B_{12} was also added to the in vitro system. Essentially similar abnormalities in DNA synthesis were found to occur in PHA-stimulated lymphocytes of patients with vitamin B_{12} - and folate-deficient megaloblastic anemia.¹³⁰ These findings indicated that abnormal dU suppression of [³H]dThd incorporation into DNA in deficiency of vitamin B_{12} and/or folate was due to impaired de novo synthesis of thymine-DNA (impaired conversion of deoxyuridylate to thymidylate) because of reduced availability of the pertinent folate coenzyme, 5,10-methylenetetrahydrofolate.^{125,128}

The 2 alternative pathways of thymine-DNA synthesis, the de novo and the salvage pathways, are interrelated by a common end product, dTPP, which exerts a regulatory influence on both pathways by a feedback inhibition and thereby presumably maintains a balanced synthesis of cellular DNA (Fig. 3). It would be expected that, just as nonradioactive dU added to cell cultures in excess inhibits the incorporation of $[^{3}H]$ dThd into DNA (the dU suppression test), 124,125 nonradioactive dThd in excess would cause a reciprocal inhibition of $[^{3}H]$ dU into DNA (i.e., a dThd suppression test). 118 Almost a decade ago, we reported that excess TdR added to PHAstimulated lymphocyte cultures inhibited the incorporation into DNA of subsequently added $[^{3}H]$ dU, 131 but a seemingly contrary claim was made (without data) by Beck. 132 We subsequently described in detail the results of such dThd suppression tests in short-term suspension cultures on bone marrow and PHA-activated lymphocytes, indicating a reciprocity of the de novo and salvage pathways in the regulation of thymine-DNA synthesis in both cell systems. 118 This supported the theoretical concept of the dU suppression test in defining biochemical megaloblastosis caused by deficiency or inhibition of folate and vitamin B_{12} . Beck¹³³ recently reversed his prior position and published data similar to data we had presented at 2 meetings he attended. 134,135

Some patients have tumor shrinkage on therapy with massive doses of dThd.^{136,137} It is possible that patients who will respond can be prospectively separated from those who will not respond by determining the reciprocity or lack thereof of the salvage and de novo pathways of thymine-DNA synthesis in the tumor, using in vitro dU suppression tests and dThd suppression tests.¹¹⁸

Our routine dU suppression tests now use hydroxocobalamin instead of cyanocobalamin, as recommended by van der Weyden et al. $^{138}_{140}$ and Zittoun et al. $^{139}_{141}$, since it is more easily incorporated by cells, as is coenzyme B_{12} . The folic acid control is no longer used, since the methyl folate control adequately identifies folate deficiency, for reasons first noted by Metz and colleagues. 118 Zittoun et al. $^{140}_{140}$ have unpublished data similar to ours indicating decreased incorporation of either labeled dThd or labeled dU after preincubation with the other, unlabeled material.

The possibility that dU and dThd suppression tests involve repression and derepression of a number of biochemical pathways, as indicated in Fig. 2 of Das et al. (Fig. 3)¹⁴² does not reduce the value of these tests in the diagnosis of biochemical megaloblastosis. Using appropriate radioactive substrates and drug inhibitors, these tests appear to be of great value in working out the internal machinery of positive and negative controls of DNA synthesis in normal and malignant cells. The dU suppression test is being widely adopted to predict response to chemotherapy ¹¹⁶,¹¹⁷ (J. R. Bertino, personal communication); it may also be of value in assessing interferon effects.¹⁴³

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Effects of 5-Fluorouracil Treatment of Rat Leukemia with Concomitant Inactivation of Cobalamin

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Abstract. The cytostatic activity of 5-fluorouracil (5-FU) can be modified by the addition of reduced folates, as well as antifolates. This is indicative of the complex involvement of folate metabolism in the effects of 5-FU. In the BN rat leukemia model, 5-FU treatment was combined with the inactivation of cobalamin (vitamin B12) by nitrous oxide (N_2O) . Exposure to nitrous oxide causes severe disturbance of folate metabolism through the inhibition of the cobalamindependent enzyme methionine synthetase, and leads to loss of folates from the cell. With regard to the effects on growth of leukemia, the addition of nitrous oxide did not antagonize 5-FU. On the contrary, therapeutic effects were enhanced by combined treatment, as was evident from a further reduction of leukemic infiltration in spleen and liver, from a decrease or even disappearance of leukemic cells in the peripheral blood, and from extended survival of rats. These findings were in accordance with metabolic studies in isolated leukemic cells of treated rats, in which combined treatment caused further impairment of thymidylate and DNA synthesis. Pretreatment with nitrous oxide, for a period of 3 days, was more effective than treatment after the administration of 5-FU. Folate levels, in plasma and intracellular, were reduced after combined treatment. It is concluded that in this leukemia, unlike observations in some models of solid tumors, the activity of 5-FU is enhanced with a depletion of folates. This effect is probably

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Abbreviations: 5-FU: 5-Fluorouracil; 5-FdUMP: 5-Fluorodeoxyuridinemonophosphate; BNML: Brown Norway Myeloid Leukemia.

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comparable to the combination of methotrexate pretreatment with 5-FU, and might be important to applications of 5-FU in combination chemotherapy of hematological neoplasms.

The chemotherapeutic activity of 5-fluorouracil (5-FU) is closely related to folic acid metabolism. Thymidylate synthetase, the target enzyme of 5-FU with regard to inhibition of DNA synthesis, is dependent on folate coenzyme function. Recently, in several ways it has been tried to combine the inhibition of thymidylate synthetase by 5-FU wih treatment interfering with folate metabolism. 5-FU has been combined with antifolates, like methotrexate, which, through a depletion of folate coenzymes, also cause impairment of thymidylate synthesis (1). On the other hand, it has also been tried to increase the effects of 5-FU by the concomitant administration of reduced folates. This approach is based on biochemical evidence that the inhibitory complex of thymidylate synthetase and 5-FdUMP, an anabolite of 5-FU, is more stable in the presence of increased levels of folate coenzyme (2,3). Both methods are still under investigation in clinical trials, but so far varying resuls have been obtained (4-7). Clearly, the relationship between 5-FU and folate metabolism is rather complex, and more information will be useful for the optimal design of these chemotherapeutic combinations.

In this study, we present results of experiments in which 5-FU therapy is combined with inactivation of cobalamin (vitamin B12), in a rat model for acute myeloid leukemia (BNML, Brown Norway Myeloid Leukemia). Inactivation of the cobalamin coenzyme function in the enzyme methyltetrahydrofolate homocysteine methyltransferase, or methionine synthetase, is possible by exposure to nitrous oxide, or N_2O , a specific side effect of this anesthetic gas which was recognized only recently (8-10). Methionine synthetase is essential in folate metabolism, and therefore exposure to nitrous oxide represents yet another method to interfere with folate coenzyme functions. The interaction of nitrous oxide with 5-FU could, theoretically, lead to increased therapeutic effects, as well as to antagonism. We have previously described the reduction of leukemic growth by nitrous oxide in

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the BNML model (11), and have also reported on the therapeutic effects of 5-FU in this rat leukemia (12). The combination of both agents in the present study is directed at effects on leukemic growth and survival time of rats, and at some metabolic changes caused by this treatment, including the plasma and intracellular levels of folates, and tests of thymidylate and DNA synthesis in leukemic cells.

Materials and Methods

Animals. Male rats of the Brown Norway inbred strain were used, at the age of 12-16 weeks (body weight 200-275 g). Food and water were supplied ad libitum during the experiments.

Brown Norway Myeloid Leukemia (BNML). Properties and use of this transplantable rat leukemia have been described before (11,13). It is considered to be a suitable model for experimental chemotherapy (14). In this study, rats were injected with 10^7 leukemic cells i.v., which after progressive leukemic infiltration of bone marrow, liver and spleen leads to death after 20 - 24 days. Spleen and liver weights, steadily increasing in the course of leukemia, are reliable indicators of leukemic growth and, along with hematological determinations, can be used effectively to assess effects of chemotherapy (13).

Treatment with nitrous oxide and 5-FU. Exposure of leukemic rats to nitrous oxide was carried out in a 40 l flow chamber in which a mixture of 50% nitrous oxide and 50% oxygen was blown at a rate of 500 ml/min. Oxygen concentration was monitored with an oxygen analyzer (Teledyne Analytical Instruments). Carbon dioxide, water and contaminating volatile compounds were eliminated in a cleaning circuit (15). Rats not exposed to nitrous oxide were kept in air, but otherwise treated identically. 5-FU (Fluoro-uracil Roche, from Hoffmann-La Roche) was administered i.p., at a dose of 15 or 25 mg/kg, according to different treatment schedules. Rats not receiving 5-FU were injected wth 0.15 M NaCl i.p.

Evaluation of therapeutic effects. In most experiments, rats from all treatment groups were compared after a fixed period of leukemia of 19

days, which is just before untreated rats would die spontaneously. Rats were then killed by exsanguination, after recording their body weights. Liver and spleen were carefully removed and weighed. Leukocytes were counted electronically and differential blood cell counts were done. Normal values for organ weights and leukocyte counts were derived from 16 comparable non-leukemic Brown Norway rats. As an alternative method, in one experiment the extension of survival time in the treatment groups was compared.

Plasma vitamin B12 and folic acid. Plasma vitamin B12 and folic acid were determined simultaneously using a radioisotope dilution assay, essentially as described by Gutcho and Mansbach (16).

Studies using leukemic spleen cells. In separate experiments, leukemic rats were examined shortly after treatment, and leukemic spleen cells were obtained to perform additional metabolic studies. After washing and resuspension in Hankś balanced salt solution, these cell suspensions were counted and used in an assay of intracellular folate levels and in deoxyuridine suppression tests.

Intracellular folate. A pellet of ca. 10^8 cells was resuspended in a total volume of 1 ml 10% (=1.3 M) mercaptoethanol, heated for 5 min at 100°C, and cooled. After incubation with hog kidney polyglutamate hydrolase (17) at room temperature for 2 hours, the samples were frozen at -20°C until assayed. After thawing and centrifugation (1500 g for 10 min at 4°C) aliquots of the supernatant were used in a folate radioisotope dilution assay (18) with ¹²⁵I-folic acid (Becton Dickinson, Orangeburg, NY, USA) as a tracer, and beta-lactoglobulin (Sigma, St., Louis, USA) as a folate binder. 5-Methyltetrahydrofolate was used as a standard and results are expressed as pmol of folate per 10⁶ cells.

Deoxyuridine suppression test. This test is used to demonstrate impaired de novo synthesis of thymidylate. It measures the incorporation of ³H-thymidine into DNA without and with the addition of deoxyuridine. Deoxyuridine will suppress ³H-thymidine incorporation if it can be converted to thymidylate by the enzyme thymidylate synthetase. This suppression will be reduced under all circumstances with impaired activity of this enzyme (19) and the test therefore can be used to evaluate effects of chemotherapeutic agents on this metabolic pathway (20). The test was

Table I. Effects of treatment with 5-FU and nitrous oxide (N_2O) on growth of leukemia.

Treatment	No. of rats	Spleen weight (g ± s.e.m.)	Liver weight (g ± s.e.m.)	Peripheral leukocytes (10 ⁹ /1 ± s.e.m.)	% Leukemic cells (± s.e.m.)
None (untreated controls) ¹	9	4.10 ± 0.10	19.14 ± 0.67	23.6 ± 2.3	29 ± 4
N ₂ O only (12 days)	6	2.87 ± 0.14	13.57 ± 0.83	13.5 ± 1.4	23 ± 4
5-FU 3 × 15 mg/kg	10	2.91 ± 0.20	12.52 ± 0.69	15.6 ± 1.6	16 ± 3
5-FU 3 × 15 mg/kg + N ₂ O (12 days)	9	1.87 ± 0.74**	11.15 ± 0.81	$7.0 \pm 1.6^{\circ}$	8 ± 4*
5-FU 1 × 25 mg/kg	3	0.85 ± 0.03	8.19 ± 0.67	5.3 ± 1.0	0
5-FU 1 × 25 mg/kg + N ₂ O (4 d.after 5-FU)	3	0.83 ± 0.06	8.20 ± 0.25	7.2 ± 0.9	0
5-FU 1 \times 25 mg/kg + N ₂ O (4 d.before 5-FU)	4	0.46 ± 0.04	8.49 ± 0.26	3.3 ± 0.6	0
5-FU 1 × 25 mg/kg + N_2O (8 days)	5	0.43 ± 0.01	7.28 ± 0.18	2.7 ± 0.3	0
5-FU 3 × 25 mg/kg	9	0.90 ± 0.19	9.02 ± 0.92	5.7 ± 0.8	1 ± 1
5-FU 3 × 25 mg/kg + N ₂ O (12 days)	· 9	$0.49 \pm 0.07^{**}$	$7.48 \pm 0.16^{*}$	2.7 ± 0.6**	0
Normal BN-rais	16	0.45 ± 0.02	8.25 ± 0.24	3.9 ± 0.4	0

* Significantly different from results without N₂O with p < 0.01

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Figure 1. Plasma levels of (a) vitamin B12 and (b) folic acid, in leukemic rats after various treatment schedules. Shaded columns indicate results with exposure to nitrous oxide during the treatment period. Values in normal (non-leukemic) BN rats are shown in the last columns. S.e.m. is indicated in each column.

carried out essentially as described by Metz (21), with some modification as described (11). All incubations were carried out in triplicate, in each 5 \times 10⁶ cells were used with and without the addition of 0.1 mM deoxyuridine (Sigma, St Louis Mo, USA). Incorporation of ³H-thymidine (0.3 µCi, specific activity 25 µCi/mmol, from Amersham, UK) in incubations with deoxyuridine is expressed as a percentage of the incorporation in the incubations without deoxyuridine. In one experiment, however, incorporation after treatment was too low to detect significant differences with and without deoxyuridine, and in this case only ³H-thymidine incorporation in dpm/10⁶ cells is given, as determined in tests without deoxyuridine.

Results

Inhibition of leukemic growth. Leukemic rats were treated with 5-FU, and the effect of concomitant exposure to nitrous oxide was investigated. After a fixed period of leukemia (19 days) several groups were compared with regard to leukemic infiltration in spleen and liver, and leukemic cells in the peripheral blood. Results of these experiments are presented together in Table I. A a dose of 3×15 mg/kg 5-FU (administered at days 7, 12, and 17 of leukemia) the addition of nitrous oxide causes a further reduction of leukemic growth,



Figure 2. Survival of leukemic rats without treatment (controls), with 5-fluorouracil (FU) only, and with the combination of 5-fluorouracil and nitrous oxide (FU + N_2O). 5-FU (25 mg/kg i.p.) was administered every 5 days. With combined therapy, rats were exposed no nitrous oxide 3 days before each administration of 5-FU.

which is evident from all parameters that were studied. In addition, as indicated in Table I, most of these differences are statistically significant if Wilcoxon's non-parametric rank sum test is applied to values of individual rats. The same result is obtained with a combination of 3×25 mg/kg 5-FU and nitrous oxide. In this experiment the values of rats after combined treatment are not significantly increased compared to normal (non-leukemic) rats, whereas results after treatment with 5-FU alone are still significantly different from normal values (p < 0.05).

In one experiment with 1×25 mg/kg 5-FU, administered at day 14 of leukemia, the effects were studied of timing of exposure to nitrous oxide relative to the administration of 5-FU. It appears that results obtained with 4 days of nitrous oxide before 5-FU are better than with exposure only after 5-FU. In fact, this period of exposure does not add much to the effects of 5-FU alone, as is evident from the rats treated with nitrous oxide for both periods. In Figure 1 results are presented of determinations of plasma levels of vitamin B12 and folic acid in these experiments. It is evident that with treatment there is a dose-dependent normalization of the increased levels of vitamin B12 that are found in untreated controls. In all groups, however, the addition of nitrous oxide to 5-FU causes a further fall of vitamin B12 to subnormal levels. The determination of folic acid levels in plasma leads to more varying results, but it can be derived from Figure 1b that with the more effective doses of 5-FU the addition of nitrous oxide causes a decrease of folic acid levels to subnormal values.

Survival of leukemic rats. Leukemic rats were treated with 25 mg/kg 5-FU every 5 days, either or not preceded by a period of exposure to nitrous oxide of 3 days. This schedule was chosen as a consequence of the results in the studies presented in Table I, in which pretreatment with nitrous oxide

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Table II. Deoxyuridine suppression tests in leukemic cells after treatment of rats with 5-FU and nitrous oxide (N_2O) .

5-FU: 1 × 25 mg/kg i.p. at 3 days before examination.

Treatment	No. of % Suppression* rats				
Noné	4 12.6 (± 1.7)				
5-FU only	4 12.8 (± 0.6)				
N ₂ O only (3 days)	4 15.5 (± 2.1)				
5-FU + N ₂ O (3 d., after 5-FU)	2 14.5 (13,16)				
$5-FU + N_2O$ (3 d., before 5-FU)	2 24.0 (22,26)				
$5-FU + N_2O$ (6 days)	2 35.5 (33,38)				

 Deoxyuridine suppression values are expressed as percentages of the maximal incorporation of ³H-thymidine, in incubations without deoxyuridine.

Mean values of each group are given, with indication of s.e.m. in groups of 4 rats, and of individual results in groups of 2 rats.

The result of each rat is the mean of triple incubations.

before 5-FU was found to be most effective. Treatment was continued until death of the rats. Results of this experiment are presented in Figure 2. It appears that with addition of nitrous oxide survival of leukemic rats is extended to 40.2 \pm 1.5 days (mean \pm s.e.m.) compared to 22.0 \pm 0.5 days for untreated rats, and 34.3 ± 0.5 days for rats treated wth 5-FU alone. The results of combined treatment are significantly different from treatment with 5-FU only, with p < 0.005(Wilcoxon's rank sum test). Survival after combined treatment is increased by 18.2 days compared to untreated rats (183 %). In this leukemia model, 3 days of increased survival are eqivalent to a 10-fold reduction in tumor load (13), which in this case would mean a reduction by a factor 10⁶. All rats were examined after death and without exception, leukemia was considered to be the cause of death, in view of increased spleen and liver weights. No evidence for toxicity was found.

Deoxyuridine suppression tests. Treatment of leukemic rats with a single dose of 25 mg/kg 5-FU, was conbined wth 3 days of exposure to nitrous oxide, either before or after 5-FU, or both. Rats treated with 5-FU or nitrous oxide only, and untreated rats were also included. Leukemic spleen cells of all rats were used in deoxyuridine suppression tests, 3 days after administration of 5-FU, at day 16 of leukemia. Results of these tests are presented in Table II. It appears that there is an enhanced effect of combined treatment, indicated by a higher percentage of suppression, with nitrous oxide pretreatment and with continuous treatment for 6 days, but not with nitrous oxide exposure after 5-FU. 5-FU alone, after 3 days, does not cause a disturbance of this test.

DNA synthesis in leukemic cells. In a similar experiment, rats were examined 1 day after administration of 25 mg/kg 5-FU. In this case, only pretreatment with nitrous oxide for 3 days is possible. In Table III, results are included of tumor growth in



Figure 3. Intracellular folate levels in isolated leukemic cells after in vivo treatment of rats. 5-FU (25 mg/kg) was administered at 1 day and 3 days before examination, respectively, either or not preceded by 3 days of exposure to nitrous oxide (shaded columns). S.e.m. is indicated in each column.

various groups, examined at day 16 of leukemia. As in other experiments, combined treatment is most effective in reducing leukemic growth. In addition, in this table results are given of ³H-thymidine incorporation in isolated leukemic cells of these rats. DNA synthesis in both groups treated with 5-FU was impaired to such an extent that it was not possible to perform a deoxyuridine suppression test. A small additional effect of nitrous oxide exposure is still detectable, however.

Intracellular folate. In leukemic cell suspensions of rats treated in vivo with 25 mg/kg 5-FU, 1 or 3 days before examination and with or without 3 days of exposure to nitrous oxide prior to the administration of 5-FU, the intracellular levels of folate were determined. Results can be found in Figure 3. For comparison, values in untreated rats and rats treated with 3 days of nitrous oxide only, are also given. With 5-FU treatment there is some decrease of folate content, more apparent at the first day after administration, but with the addition of nitrous oxide folate loss becomes much more severe.

Discussion

Nitrous oxide distrurbs folate metabolism because of its specific interference with the coenzyme function of cobalamin, which causes inactivation of the enzyme methionine synthetase (22). This prvents the conversion of 5-methyltetrahydrofolate into tetrahydrofolate, which is essential for folate coenzyme functions. The effects of nitrous oxide develop rapidly, in a few hours after exposure is started and remain remarkably constant even with prolonged exposure of one week or more (23).

Treatment	No. of rats	Spleen weight (g ± s.e.m.)	Peripheral leukocytes (10 ⁹ /1 ± s.e.m.)	3 H-thymidine incorporation (dpm/10 ⁶ cells ± s.e.m.)
None	3	265 ± 0.18	10.8 ± 0.7	3522 ± 942
N ₂ O only (3 days)	3	1.83 ± 0.06	8.8 ± 1.6	2135 ± 536
5-FU only	3	1.01 ± 0.06	5.1 ± 0.1	243 ± 71
$5-FU + N_2O$ (3 d., before 5-FU)	3	0.68 ± 0.04	4.2 ± 0.2	173 ± 17

Table III. Effects of treatment with 5-FU and nitrous oxide (N₂O) on growth of leukemia and on DNA synthesis in leukemic cells. 5-FU- 1×25 mg/kg 1 p. at 1 day before examination. Examination at day 16 of leukemia.

Value of ³H-thymidine incorporation in leukemic cells of each rat is the mean of triple incubations.

For normal values of spleen weight and leukocyte count in BN rats, see Table I.

In this report exposure to nitrous oxide has been used to study the effects of impaired availability of folate coenzyme forms on the activity of 5-FU towards the BN rat leukemia. It appeared that the therapeutic effects of 5-FU were increased with the addition of nitrous oxide, with regard to the reduction of leukemic infiltration in spleen and liver, as well as with regard to leukocyte counts. In addition, compared to treatment with 5-FU alone, there was a significantly increased survival of leukemic rats after combined treatment. In none of the treatment schedules there was any indication of antagonism, and no evidence of increased toxicity was found.

Plasma levels of vitamin B12 in this study are interesting for two reasons. First, in this leukemia vitamin B12 steadily increases with progression of disease (11), an effect which is also often observed in human promyelocytic leukemia (24). Treatment of leukemia will reduce vitamin B12 to about normal levels. Separately, however, the specific effect of nitrous oxide on vitamin B12 will cause an additional fall of plasma levels (11, 25). These effects explain both the dosedependent reduction of plasma vitamin B12 with treatment, and the occurence of the lowest, subnormal, levels in rats with combined therapy.

The disturbance of folic acid metabolism by nitrous oxide is evident from the striking decrease of intracellular folates in leukemic cells after 3 days of exposure. Folate depletion with nitrous oxide exposure has often been observed (26), and is explained by a decreased synthesis of folate polyglutamates (27), as these forms are essential for cellular retention. Interestingly, 5-FU by itself also caused a less pronounced fall in intracellular folates, compared to untreated rats. This is evidence of a blockade in folate metabolism, as will indeed occur with inhibition of thymidylate synthetase, but the precise mechanism of this effect remains unclear. As would be expected, intracellular folate is lowest with combined treatment, one day after the administration of 5-FU.

The intracellular depletion of folates will ultimately also lead to reduced plasma levels of folate, as is demonstrated by the subnormal levels found after combined treatment with nitrous oxide and higher doses of 5-FU. Temporarily, however, loss of folates from the tissues can give rise to increased concentrations of folate in plasma, as has been observed before with nitrous oxide exposure (11, 28). This can explain the observation in this study of increased folate levels in rats after nitrous oxide alone and after low doses of 5-FU.

With regard to the mechanism of the interaction described in this study, an important observation is the significance of pretreatment with nitrous oxide. With nitrous oxide exposure after 5-FU, there was no enhancement of the effects of 5-FU on leukemic growth, and even some indication of a reduced effect in the deoxyuridine suppression test. A similar schedule-dependency of combination therapy is found with methotrexate and 5-FU (29, 30). In that combination, methotrexate pretreatment is essential to achieve synergistic effects. If 5-FU precedes methotrexate, antagonism will result (1). Several mechanisms have been proposed to explain these effects (31). Probably, the inhibition of purine synthesis by methotrexate is important, because this can lead to increased formation of 5-FU-nucleotides, interfering with both thymidylate (DNA) and RNA synthesis (32). This effect could also occur with nitrous oxide treatment, which can impair purine synthesis as well (33, 34). Other mechanisms may be involved however. Unlike methotrexate, nitrous oxide treatment for up to 3 days increases the activity of thymidylate synthetase (35), probably as an adaptive mechanism. Subsequent inhibition of this enzyme by 5-FU could render cells more vulnerable to the effects of nitrous oxide. This would also explain the necessity of pretreatment to achieve increased effects. Finally, it has been reported (2) that the addition of vitamin B12 and 5-methyltetrahydrofolate decreased the stability of the binding of 5-FdUMP to thymidylate synthetase. Prolonged exposure to nitrous oxide will decrease both these factors, and could therefore stabilize the inhibitory complex.

An important result of this study is the observation that some degree of folate depletion does not necessarily antago-

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nize the effects of 5-FU. This conclusion obviously only applies to the leukemia model used in this study, but, interestingly, in another experimental leukemia it has been found that the addition of reduced folates to 5-FU did not increase therapeutic effects (36). Furthermore, no increased cytoxicity results from folate addition to cultured leukemic cells treated with methotrexate and 5-FU (37). In that study, it was also concluded that the interactions of 5-FU and folates were more complex and variable than was previously understood. The synergistic effect of folates and 5-FU as observed in xenografts of colon carcinomas might well be tissue specific to some degree. As discussed in another study (12), 5-FU is not used clinically in the treatment of leukemia. Recently however, sequential methotrexate / 5-FU therapy has been applied to human leukemia with favourable results (38). This report further adds to the potential importance of 5-FU, alone or in combination with other agents interfering with folate-dependent nucleotide synthesis, in the treatment of leukemia.

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Enhanced therapeutic effect of methotrexate in experimental rat leukemia after inactivation of cobalamin (vitamin B12) by nitrous oxide

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Summary. Exposure to nitrous oxide interferes selectively with the coenzyme function of vitamin B12 and causes inactivation of methionine synthetase, with subsequent impairment of folate metabolism and reduction of cellular proliferation. In a rat leukemia model (BNML) we investigated the combined administration of nitrous oxide, inactivating vitamin B12, and methotrexate (MTX), a folate antagonist inhibiting the enzyme dihydrofolate reductase. Through different mechanisms, both agents decrease the availability of tetrahydrofolate, and subsequently of other reduced folates, with increased impairment of folate-dependent synthesis of thymidylate. Effects on leukemic growth and on hematological values in rats demonstrated enhancement of the therapeutic effect of MTX by exposure to nitrous oxide. With several treatment schedules, the results of combined treatment were seen to be better than additive when compared with the effects of single agents. In particular, pretreatment of leukemic rats with nitrous oxide for 3 days before administration of MTX appeared effective. With higher doses of MTX, concomitant exposure to nitrous oxide even resulted in toxic effects. These findings were in accordance with the results of some metabolic studies performed in leukemic rats. De novo synthesis of thymidylate in leukemic cells, when studied by means of the deoxyuridine suppression test, showed the most severe disturbance with combined treatment consisting in MTX (0.5 mg/kg) and nitrous oxide pretreatment for 3 days. Intracellular levels of folate and dTTP were lowest with 2 and 3 days' pretreatment before MTX, respectively. It is concluded that this interaction of nitrous oxide and MTX can result in enhanced metabolic and therapeutic effects of low doses of MTX. Inactivation of vitamin B12 appears to be a potentially useful addition in cancer chemotherapy.

Introduction

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The similarity of hematological disturbances caused by deficiency of either folic acid or cobalamin (vitamin B12) is well established. Both vitamins are involved in pathways essential in the synthesis of nucleotides, and consequently of DNA. The important function of folic acid in cellular proliferation is also reflected in the striking cytostatic activity of folate antagonists of which methotrexate (MTX) is the best known example. This antimetabolite is widely used in cancer chemotherapy [14]. In contrast, until recently, the role of vitamin B12 in neoplastic growth has remained unclear, because no effective method was available to interfere with its coenzyme function. In 1978, however, it was recognized that selective inactivation of vitamin B12 could be achieved with exposure to the anesthetic gas nitrous oxide, or N₂O [1, 7]. Megaloblastic hematopoiesis after prolonged exposure to nitrous oxide had been observed much earlier [21], and a chemical interaction of nitrous oxide with complexes of cobalt was also known for some time [2]. It appeared that a specific oxidative action of nitrous oxide on the cobalt moiety of vitamin B12 caused a nearly complete inactivation of the methylcobalamin-requiring enzyme methionine synthetase, or 5-methyltetrahydrofolate homocysteine methyltransferase (E. C. 2.1.1.13). Nitrous oxide effectively established a state of functional deficiency of vitamin B12, with severely disturbed folate metabolism [6] and toxic effects on hematopoiesis [38]. Methionine synthetase is essential in folate metabolism, because it provides the only pathway by which 5-methyltetrahydrofolate, the major extracellular folate, can be converted into tetrahydrofolate (THF). THF and other, subsequently formed, reduced folates can be converted into folylpolyglutamates, which are then retained in the cell and are important coenzymes in one-carbon transfer reactions. De novo synthesis of thymidylate requires such folate-dependent methylation. MTX also interferes with folate metabolism by limiting the generation of THF, but through a different mechanism. Its inhibition of dihydrofolate (DHF) reductase prevents the reconversion of DHF to THF.

It has been shown that the effect of nitrous oxide on vitamin B12 can be utilized to reduce growth of leukemia in vitro [18] and in vivo, in rats [20]. This effect is associated with a disturbance of folate-dependent de novo synthesis of thymidylate. Therefore, it appears that nitrous oxide and MTX, through inhibition of different pathways, ultimately may have similar effects on folate metabolism. These observations suggest that the inactivation of vitamin B12 can modify, and possibly enhance, the efficacy of MTX. In vitro studies on human bone marrow have demonstrated a synergistic effect of MTX and nitrous oxide

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Abbreviations used in this paper: MTX, methotrexate; THF, tetrahydrofolate; DHF, dihydrofolate; dTTP, deoxythymidine triphosphate.

with regard to impairment of nucleotide synthesis [17]. The purpose of the present study is to investigate the influence of nitrous oxide on the effects of MTX in vivo, using a rat leukemia model: the Brown Norway myeloid leukemia (BNML). This transplantable acute promyelocytic leukemia has been described in detail elsewhere [12] and is considered to be a suitable model for chemotherapeutic studies [40]. In addition to experiments intended to assess effects on leukemic growth, a number of metabolic studies were performed in leukemic rats, to investigate some effects of treatment on folate metabolism. These studies included deoxyuridine suppression tests, and determinations of intracellular folate and deoxythymidine triphosphate (dTTP) levels.

Materials and methods

Animals. Male rats of the Brown Norway inbred strain were used at the age of 12-16 weeks (body weight 200-275 g). Food and water were supplied ad libitum during the experiments.

Brown Norway myeloid leukemia (BNML). Cryopreserved leukemic cells were kindly provided by Dr. A. Hagenbeek from the Radiobiological Institute (TNO), Rijswijk, The Netherlands, where this transplantable rat leukemia model was developed. Origin, classification and proliferation kinetics were described elsewhere [12]. For leukemia transfer in experimental series, spleen cells of fully leukemic animals were used. A standard dose of 10⁷ cells suspended in Hanks' balanced salt solution was injected IV, which leads to progressive leukemic infiltration of bone marrow, spleen and liver, with death after 20-24 days. Spleen and liver weights, steadily increasing in the course of leukemia, are reliable indicators of tumor load and, along with hematological determinations, can be used effectively to assess effects of chemotherapy [12]. To avoid a gradual change in growth properties, serial transplantations were limited to only two passages, after which spleen cells were used from rats freshly inoculated with cells from a cryopreserved stock.

Treatment with nitrous oxide and MTX. Leukemic rats were treated according to different schedules in groups of at least four. Exposure to nitrous oxide was carried out in a 40-1 flow chamber into which a mixture of 50% nitrous oxide and 50% oxygen was blown at a rate of 500 ml/min. Oxygen concentration was monitored with an oxygen analyzer (Teledyne Analytical Instruments). Carbon dioxide, water, and contaminating volatile compounds were eliminated in a cleaning circuit, essentially as described by Rupreht and Dzoljic [37]. Rats not exposed to nitrous oxide were kept in air, but otherwise treated identically. Sodium methotrexate (Ledertrexate SP, from Lederle) was injected IP. Rats not receiving MTX received injections of 0.15 MNaCl IP instead.

Evaluation of leukemic growth. Experiments intended to assess effects on leukemic growth were all evaluated by the same procedure. To allow a simultaneous investigation of several aspects of leukemia these experiments were terminated after a fixed period of 18 days (in some instances: 19 days) of leukemia, just before death from leukemia was to be expected. Rats were killed by exsanguination, after re-

cording of body weights. Liver and spleen were carefully removed and weighed. Leukocytes were counted electronically, and in some experiments differential blood cell counts were done. Plasma levels of vitamin B12 were measured in a competitive radioisotope binding assay using purified intrinsic factor [22]. Normal values for organ weights, leukocyte counts and plasma vitamin B12 were derived from at least 12 comparable nonleukemic Brown Norway rats.

Metabolic studies. In separate experiments, rats with advanced leukemia were treated for short periods, after which leukemic cells were used in metabolic studies. Three similar experiments were carried out separately. In each, eight leukemic rats inoculated at day 0 were divided in four pairs. These pairs were treated with nitrous oxide for 3, 2, 1, or 0 days. Immediately afterwards one rat in each pair received MTX, 0.5 mg/kg IP, the other rat receiving saline only. At 18 h after administration of MTX, on day 15 of leukemia, leukemic cells were obtained from the spleens of all rats, washed, and resuspended in Hanks' balanced salt solution. These cell suspensions were counted electronically and used in deoxyuridine suppression tests and determinations of intracellular folate and dTTP.

Deoxyuridine suppression test. This test demonstrates impaired de novo synthesis of thymidylate. ³H-Thymidine incorporation into DNA is measured with and without addition of deoxyuridine. Deoxyuridine will suppress incorporation of ³H-thymidine in DNA if it can be converted to thymidylate through folate-dependent methylation. This suppression is reduced by vitamin B12 or folate deficiency [42], inactivation of vitamin B12 by nitrous oxide [28], and treatment with other agents interfering with de novo synthesis of thymidylate [5].

Leukemic spleen cells (approx. 5×10^6 per test) were used from rats of various groups, as described above. The test was carried out essentially according to Metz [30], with some modification as described elsewhere [20]. Deoxyuridine (Sigma, St. Louis, USA) was used in a concentration of 0.1 mmol/1. All incubations were performed in triplicate. Incorporation of ³H-thymidine (0.3 µCi per test, specific activity 25 Ci/mmol, from Amersham, UK) is expressed as a percentage of the maximal incorporation, measured in each case in incubations without addition of deoxyuridine.

Intracellular folate. In suspensions of leukemic spleen cells, intracellular folate content was determined. After centrifugation a pellet of approx. 108 cells was resuspended in a total volume of 1 ml 10% (=1.3 mol/l) mercaptoethanol, heated in a water bath of 100 °C for 5 min, and cooled. Hog kidney polyglutamate hydrolase, prepared as described by McMartin et al. [29], was added and allowed to incubate at room temperature for 2 h. The samples were frozen at -20 °C until assayed. After thawing, the extracts were centrifugated (1500 g for 10 min at 4 °C), and aliquots of the supernatants were used in a folate radioisotope dilution assay, essentially as described by Dunn and Foster [11], with ¹²⁵I-folic acid (Becton Dickinson, Orangeburg, N.Y., USA) as a tracer, and β-lactoglobulin (Sigma, St. Louis, USA) as a folate binder. 5-Methyl-THF was used as a standard, and results are expressed as picomoles of folate per 10⁶ cells.

Intracellular dTTP. In leukemic cells obtained from rats as described above, dTTP was determined using the DNA polymerase assay system originally developed by Solter and Handschumacher [39], with the modifications and corrections published by Hunting and Henderson [13]. A different extraction method was used, however. After being washed once in Hanks' balanced salt solution, cell suspensions were centrifuged and the supernatant was removed. To the pellet of about 10⁸ cells, 1.2 µg cyano [⁵⁷Co]cobalamin, or 10⁵ dpm, (Amersham, UK) was added, as an internal standard for cell quantities in the assay. The pellet was then extracted with 5 ml ice-cold 60% methanol and stored at -20 °C until assayed. After centrifugation the supernatant was dried using a rotary evaporator at 25 °C, dissolved in 50 m M potassium cacodylate and subsequently used in the DNA polymerase catalyzed assay. DNA polymerase I from E. coli, dATP, dTTP, and poly(d(A,T)) were all obtained from Boehringer Mannheim (FRG) and ³H-dATP and ³H-dTTP were from Amersham (UK), Procedures, and calculated corrections for dilution of specific activities by the endogenous nucleotides were carried out as described elsewhere [13]. Concentrations of dTTP are expressed as picomoles per 10⁶ cells, based upon counts of the internal standard and cell concentration of the initial suspension.

Results

Effects of growth of leukemia in rats

In Table 1, results of six experiments with several different treatment schedules are summarized. In all these experiments, one group of leukemic rats treated with MTX only is compared with one or more groups of rats treated with a combination of MTX and exposure to nitrous oxide. Most

Table 1. Effects of treatment on growth of leukemia

experiments included a group receiving nitrous oxide continuously throughout the treatment period (day 7 to day 18 or 19 of leukemia). In other groups, nitrous oxide treatment was limited to either 3 days before administration of MTX (pretreatment) or 3 days after administration of MTX (post-treatment). This is illustrated in Fig. 1, which shows the treatment schedules as applied in experiment 3 of Table 1. In addition, all experiments included rats receiving no treatment or nitrous oxide only (days 7-19), without MTX. Cumulative results in these rats are also shown in Table 1. From the data in Table 1, it follows that low doses of MTX alone do not have substantial effects on leukemic growth. In all experiments the addition of nitrous oxide enhanced the therapeutic effects of MTX. The differences between rats treated with MTX only and rats treated with both MTX and nitrous oxide (continuously) are statistically significant according to Wilcoxon's nonparametric rank sum test. For all three parameters of leukemia, results did not overlap, yielding p-values of 0.05 or less, in any of the experiments 1-4. In addition, the results of combined treatment appeared to be better than additive in these experiments, with the possible exception of experiment 1, in which the lowest dose of MTX was administered. In other cases, the reduction of leukemic growth obtained with combined treatment is often greater than the added effects of the two single agents, which is indicative of a synergistic interaction. From experiments 3 and 5 it can be derived that by far the major part of the added effect is contributed by the period of exposure to nitrous oxide before administration of MTX (pretreatment schedules). In experiment 6 the highest dose of MTX was used (4 mg/kg). In this experiment, rats treated with both MTX and nitrous oxide (continuously) died prematurely at 14-16 days after inoculation, without any evidence of leukemia. Spleen and liver weights at autopsy were subnor-

Expt	Treatment	No. of.	Spleen weight ^a	Liver weight ^b	Leukocytes ^c
no		rats	(g) mean±SEM	(g) mean ± SEM	(10°) mean±SEM
	None (untreated controls)	22	3.90±0.09	17.39±0.45	24.8 ± 2.1
	N ₂ O, continuous (days 7–18/19)	14	2.89 ± 0.09	14.33 ± 0.44	11.1 ± 1.0
1	MTX, 1×0.5 mg/kg (day 11)	5	3.64 ± 0.10	15.60±0.69	18.1 ± 1.2
	+ N ₂ O, continuous (days 7 – 19)	5	2.34 ± 0.10	12.50±0.55	7.7 ± 0.7
2	MTX, 2×0.5 mg/kg (days 10 and 14)	4	3.29 ± 0.09	12.95±0.52	16.6±1.3
	+ N ₂ O, continuous (days 7–18)	4	1.43 ± 0.14	9.76±0.47	3.8±0.5
3	MTX, 2×0.5 mg/kg (days 10 and 16) + N ₂ O, 2×3 days after MTX (days $10-13/16-19$) + N ₂ O, 2×3 days before MTX (days $7-10/13-16$) + N ₂ O, continuous (days $7-19$)	4 4ª 4	3.38 ± 0.18 3.32 2.37 ± 0.11 1.97 ± 0.17	16.04±0.78 17.05 13.08±0.44 11.68±0.81	$20.2 \pm 1.4 20.0 8.1 \pm 0.6 7.0 \pm 1.1$
4	MTX, 1 × 2 mg/kg (day 10)	4	3.44 ± 0.14	14.00±0.46	20.8 ± 2.9
	+ N ₂ O, 1 × 3 days before MTX (days 7–10)	4	2.58 ± 0.24	12.59±0.94	7.7 ± 1.0
	+ N ₂ O, continuous (days 7–19)	4	1.95 ± 0.08	11.47±0.17	6.1 ± 0.6
5	MTX, 2 × 1 mg/kg (days 6 and 14)	4	3.19 ± 0.22	12.37±0.59	15.9 ± 1.8
	+ N ₂ O, 2 × 3 days after MTX (days 6-9/14-17)	4	3.37 ± 0.10	14.70±0.80	14.0 ± 0.7
	+ N ₂ O, 2 × 3 days before MTX (days 3-6/11-14)	4	2.31 ± 0.14	10.64±0.51	10.8 ± 1.2
6	MTX, 1 × 4 mg/kg (day 10)	4	2.85 ± 0.32	13.30 ± 0.74	14.9 ± 1.1
	+ N ₂ O, 1 × 3 days before MTX (days 7–10)	4	1.47 ± 0.43	10.12 ± 0.49	4.2 ± 1.4
	+ N ₂ O, continuous (from day 7)	4	all rats died (with	out evidence of leu	kemia)

* Normal spleen weight in comparable nonleukemic BN rats: 0.45 ± 0.07 g

^b Normal liver weight in comparable nonleukemic BN rats: 8.25±0.99 g

• Normal value of leukocyte count in nonleukemic BN rats: $3.9 \pm 0.4 \times 10^{\circ}/1$

^d 2 rats dying prematurely of leukemia are not included



Fig. 1. Treatment of leukemic rats with nitrous oxide (N_2O) and methotrexate (MTX), as given in experiment 3 of Table 1. Periods of exposure to nitrous oxide are *shaded*, and *arrows* indicate time of administration of MTX. Rats receiving MTX or nitrous oxide only and untreated rats were also included



Fig. 2. Plasma levels of vitamin B12 in leukemic rats treated in several experiments with different doses of MTX. Groups with combined treatment received nitrous oxide continuously (days (7-18/19 of leukemia). Values in normal (nonleukemic) BN rats are also shown. *Bars* indicate SEM

mal, and body weight was seriously reduced (77% of weight before treatment). This was considered to be a toxic effect of treatment. In other experiments, however, no toxicity was observed and nitrous oxide treatment was well tolerated by rats without evident effects on consciousness. Even with combined treatment, loss of body weight was always less than 10%.

In some experiments differential blood cell counts were made, which demonstrated that the observed reductions in peripheral leukocyte counts were also accompanied by a striking relative decrease of leukemic cells (promyelocytes), as shown in Table 2.

Plasma levels of vitamin B12, as determined in these experiments, are presented in Fig. 2. Compared with normal BN rats, vitamin B12 levels in untreated leukemic controls are very high. With treatment these levels are reduced, as is shown for three doses of MTX. Exposure to nitrous oxide alone has marked effects on the vitamin B12 level in plasma, but much lower and even subnormal levels are found after combined treatment.

Metabolic effects

In separate experiments, pairs of leukemic rats were treated with nitrous oxide for 0, 1, 2, or 3 days. One rat of each pair subsequently received MTX (0.5 mg/kg), and 18 h afterwards leukemic cells of all rats were used for deoxyuri-



Fig. 3a-c. Results of metabolic experiments with leukemic spleen cells after in vivo treatment of rats with 0-3 days' exposure to nitrous oxide, followed or not by administration of MTX (0.5 mg/kg): a deoxyuridine suppression values, expressed as percentages of maximal incorporation of ³H-thymidine, in incubations without deoxyuridine; b intracellular levels of folate (pmol/10⁶ cells); c intracellular levels of dTTP (pmol/10⁶ cells). Shaded columns indicate MTX treatment. The experiments were performed 18 h after administration of MTX and/or exposure to nitrous oxide

dine suppression tests and determinations of intracellular folate and dTTP. This experimental procedure was repeated twice, and results of all rats used in this study are presented together (Fig. 3).

Deoxyuridine suppression tests (Fig. 3a) show increased disturbance with longer duration of nitrous oxide exposure before the administration of MTX. Higher values in this test indicate a decreased ability of deoxyuridine to suppress the uptake of ³H-thymidine, demonstrating impaired de novo synthesis of thymidylate. MTX without nitrous oxide treatment is clearly less effective: mean values are 12% without nitrous oxide and 25% with 3 days of pretreatment. Figure 3b shows the results of intracellular folate determinations. Both nitrous oxide and MTX de-

Table 2. Effect of treatment or	n differential blood cell counts
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Treatment	No. of. rats	Promyelocytes ^a (leukemic cells)	Lymphocytes*	Neutrophils ^a
None (untreated controls)	8	17.4±1.9	74.4±2.0	8.3±1.6
N_2O , continuous (days 7–18/19)	6	13.5 ± 3.4	83.2 ± 2.7	3.3 ± 0.8
MTX, 2×0.5 mg/kg (days 10 and 14) + N ₂ O, continuous (days 7–18)	4 4	13.5 ± 2.2 0.8 ± 0.2	74.5±1.8 98.3±0.6	12.0 ± 1.0 1.0 ± 0.4
MTX, $1 \times 2 \text{ mg/kg}$ (day 10) + N ₂ O, 1×3 days before MTX (days 7–10) + N ₂ O, continuous (days 7–19)	3 3 4	30.6 ± 1.5 8.0 ± 6.0 3.3 ± 0.9	65.0±1.5 90.3±6.2 95.5±1.0	4.3 ± 1.2 1.7 ± 0.3 1.3 ± 0.2
MTX, 1 × 4 mg/kg (day 10) + N2O, 1 × 3 days before MTX (days 7–10)	4 4	$13.3 \pm 3.9 \\ 2.0 \pm 0.7$	81.5±5.2 97.5±0.9	5.3 ± 1.6 0.5 ± 0.3
Normal BN rats (nonleukemic)	5	0	91.4 ± 1.4	6.0±1.5 ^b

* Expressed as percentages of the total number of nucleated cells, counting 200 cells, with indication of SEM

^b With additional 0.4% eosinophils and 2.2% monocytes

creased folate levels, and the lowest levels are found with combined treatment after 2 days of nitrous oxide exposure. With 3, days of nitrous oxide exposure it appears that folate contents recover to some extent. Figure 3 c, presenting levels of intracellular dTTP, is based upon the last metabolic experiment only, involving eight rats, in contrast to the other results. From this experiment it can be concluded that dTTP levels in leukemic cells are lowest with combined treatment consisting in MTX and 2 or 3 days' pretreatment with nitrous oxide. Nitrous oxide treatment alone appears to cause increased levels of dTTP, but it should be emphasized that these and other values were obtained 18 h after exposure and some recovery may have occurred.

Discussion

Nitrous oxide interferes specifically with the coenzyme function of vitamin B12 and thereby inactivates methionine synthetase [8]. This severely affects folate metabolism, because methionine synthetase is required in the conversion of 5-methyl-THF, the predominant extracellular folate, into THF. This conversion is essential for folate coenzyme functions and also for the cellular retention of folates. In contrast to other reduced folates, 5-methyl-THF is not a substrate for synthesis of folylpolyglutamates, as is evident from metabolic studies [23, 27] and from properties of the purified enzyme [31]. The synthesis of folylpolyglutamates is decreased by nitrous oxide [27, 34, 35], which explains the serious cellular depletion of folates occurring on exposure [25]. The decreased availability of reduced folates impairs folate-dependent synthesis of thymidylate, and subsequently reduces DNA synthesis and cellular proliferation. The inhibition of leukemic growth by nitrous oxide in vitro has been demonstrated [18], and in a previous study we described in vivo antileukemic effects of nitrous oxide in rats [20]. We also showed that these effects were enhanced in combined treatment with cycloleucine, which inhibits the conversion of methionine into S-adenosylmethionine and indirectly interferes with folate metaboilism [19]. A number of studies have investigated the combination of nitrous oxide, as a vitamin B12-inactivating agent, and MTX, as a typical folate antagonist. Kano et al. [17] have demonstrated synergistic effects with regard to

inhibition of thymidylate synthesis in normal human bone marrow. Black and Tephly [4] compared metabolic effects of both agents in rat liver cells. The inhibition of methionine synthetase by nitrous oxide considerably decreased the availability of THF while the inhibition of DHF reductase by MTX was much less effective. This difference probably can be explained by the low activity of thymidylate synthetase in liver cells. Dudman et al. [10] found increased sensitivity of leukemic cell lines to MTX with nitrous oxide-induced inhibition of methionine synthetase, which was further exploited by the use of 5-methyl-THF instead of 5-formyl-THF as a rescue agent.

The present study shows effects of combined therapy with nitrous oxide and MTX on in vivo growth and metabolism of rat leukemia. The exposure of rats to nitrous oxide enhanced inhibition of leukemic growth by low doses of MTX. A period of exposure before the administration of MTX (pretreatment) appeared essential for this effect. The effects on leukemic infiltration in spleen and liver correlated well with hematologic results (total and differential leukocyte counts) and with determinations of vitamin B12 in plasma. An interesting feature of this leukemia is a continuous rise of vitamin B12 levels in the course of leukemic growth [20], which is also observed in human acute promyelocytic leukemia [36]. Plasma vitamin B12 can be used as a kind of tumor marker, and treatment leads to reduced levels. The particularly striking decrease caused by nitrous oxide, however, is explained by its specific effect on cobalamin. Analogues of cobalamin are formed after oxidation and are excreted rapidly [33]. In addition to effects on leukemic growth, some metabolic aspects of this interaction were studied in leukemic cells after in vivo treatment of rats. On the basis of the results discussed before, pretreatment with nitrous oxide was administered for periods up to 3 days. Deoxyuridine suppression tests demonstrated increased disturbance of de novo synthesis of thymidylate with longer duration of nitrous oxide pretreatment before MTX. Treatment with a single agent was clearly less effective. Simultaneous determination of intracellular folates, to confirm the presumed cellular folate depletion, indeed showed a decrease in folate content, particularly with combined treatment. Some comments on these folate measurements are warranted, however. In the radioisotope competitive binding assay the

β-lactoglobulin folate binder is used, and probably not all relevant folate derivatives show the same affinity for this binder. Our own observations (not included in this study) indicated that 5-methyl-THF has slightly lower affinity than THF. As these folates are intracellularly predominant [4, 29], the observed decrease in total folate content could also be explained, at least partially, by a shift of folates from THF toward 5-methyl-THF. This, however, is functionally about equivalent, because the conversion of 5-methyl-THF is blocked on nitrous oxide exposure, as discussed before. Moreover, the results of this folate radioassay in the measurement of tissue folates were recently found to be comparable to microbiological assays [26]. Changes in cellular folate on nitrous oxide exposure in our study are similar to earlier observations [25, 35], including an indication of recovery at more than 2 days of exposure, an adaptive mechanism which is not yet understood. Finally, decreased dTTP levels show that the impairment of folate-dependent synthesis of thymidylate has noticeable effects on this direct precursor of DNA. Considered together, the findings in metabolic experiments are in accordance with the results of studies directed at inhibition of growth, showing maximum effects after about 3 days of pretreatment with nitrous oxide before MTX.

Several potential mechanisms could explain the results of this interaction. First, a reduction of intracellular folates by nitrous oxide pretreatment can obviously induce greater susceptibility to folate antagonists [16]. A second mechanism is closely related and concerns the reduced synthesis of folylpolyglutamates on nitrous oxide exposure. Polyglutamation of MTX, leading to increased activity and cellular retention [15], occurs in competition with normal folate substrates [3, 16]. In cells pretreated with nitrous oxide a larger proportion of MTX may be converted into polyglutamate forms. A third potential mechanism to explain the results relates to the observed marked increase in activity of thymidylate synthetase, after nitrous oxide exposure of up to 3 days [9]. It is well established that thymidylate synthetase has a central role in mediating the cytotoxic effects of MTX [32, 41], because this enzyme actually causes THF depletion by its conversion of reduced folates into DHF. Increased activity of this enzyme, as a possible adaptation to nitrous oxide treatment, thus may result in enhanced effects of MTX. All these mechanisms can explain the observed importance of pretreatment with nitrous oxide before MTX.

The results presented in this study demonstrate that in vivo metabolic manipulation of leukemic cells with nitrous oxide can enhance metabolic and therapeutic effects of MTX. The clinical relevance of this interaction is illustrated by the recent observation of increased toxicity of adjuvant chemotherapy involving MTX started directly postoperatively [24], which the authors attributed to inactivation of vitamin B12 by nitrous oxide during anesthesia. Our findings lend support to this suggestion. In experimental chemotherapy, the inactivation of vitamin B12 represents a new method to enhance activity of MTX. The relative contributions of increased polyglutamation of MTX, and increased activity of thymidylate synthetase, should be subjects of further research. It also remains to be demonstrated that the effects described are applicable to human leukemia, but it is known that man is more susceptible to vitamin B12 deficiency than any animal [6]. Finally, these results indicate the significance of vitamin

B12 in leukemic proliferation and the value of vitamin B12-related metabolism as an additional target in cancer chemotherapy.

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	CA	POYDOCK M. Effect of combined ascorbic acid and B-12 on survival of mice with implanted Ehrlich carcinoma and L1210 leukemia. <i>Am J Clin Nutr</i> 1991; 54: 1261S-5S.						
	СВ	POYDOCK M, et al. Mitogenic inhibition and effect on survival of mice bearing L1210 leukemia using a combination of dehydroascorbic acid and hydroxycobalamin. <i>Am J Clin Oncol</i> 1985: 8: 2666-269.						
	CC	POYDOCK M, et al. Influence of Vitamins C and B12 on the Survival Rate of MiceBearing Ascites Tumor. Expl Cell Biol 1982; 50:88-91.						
	CD	TOOHEY J. Dehydroascorbic acid as an anti-cancer agent. <i>Cancer Letters</i> 2008; 263:164-169.						
	CE	SALLAH S, et al. Intrathecal methotrexate-induced megaloblastic anemia in patients with acute leukemia. <i>Archives of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine</i> 1999; 123(9): 774-777.						
	CF	NISHIZAWA Y, et al. Effects of methylcobalamin on the proliferation of androgen- sensitive or estrogen-sensitive malignant cells in culture and in vivo. <i>International</i> <i>Journal for Vitamin and Nutrition Research</i> 1997: 67(3):164-170.						
	CG	TSAO C, et al. Influence of cobalamin on the survival of mice bearing ascites tumor.Pathobiology 1993; 61(2): 1048						
	СН	KAMEI T, et al. Expe and vitamin B12 on sc 71(8): 2477-83.	rimental study of the uamous metaplasia c	therapeutic effects of the bronchial epith	of folate, vitamin A, nelium. <i>Cancer</i> 1993;			
	CI	SHIMIZU N, et al. Ex 1987; 44(3): 169-73.	perimental study of a	intitumor effect of m	ethyl-B12. Oncology			
	CJ	HERBERT, V. The ro Experimental Medicin	le of vitamin B12 and <i>e and Biology</i> 1986;	d folate in carcinoge 206 (Essent. Nutr. C	nesis. Advances in arcinog.), 293-311.			
	CK	KROES A, et al. Effect inactivation of cobalar	ets of 5-fluorouracil t nin. <i>Anticancer Rese</i>	reatment of rat leuke arch 1986; 6(4): 737	2-42.			
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			Application July 11, 200	Date)7	1a)	Group Art Unit		
			US Nat I EI	itry (11 applicabl	le)	1614		
	CL	KROES A, et al. Enhanced therapeutic effect of methotrexate in experimental rat leukemia after inactivation of cobalamin (vitamin B12) by nitrous oxide. <i>Cancer Chemotherapy and Pharmacology</i> 1986; 17(2): 114-20.						
	СМ	BARAK A. Vitamin B12 as a p hepatotoxicity. <i>Biochemical Arc</i>	ossible adjur chives 1985;	ict in prevention 1(3): 139-42.	of met	thotrexate		
	CN	HERBERT V. The inhibition and promotion of cancers by folic acid, vitamin B12, and their antagonists. ACS Symposium Series (1985); 277(Xenobiot. Metab.: Nutr. Eff.), 31-6.						
	СО							
Examiner Signature				Date Considered				

•EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <u>www.uspto.gov</u> or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of

document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard Sr. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. Burden Hours Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

PTO/SB/06 (07-06)

Approved for use through 1/31/2007. OMB 0651-0032 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

PA	Under the Pap	re required to respor	nd to	Application or Docket Number Filing Da 11/776,329 07/11/20			plays a valid ing Date 11/2007	OMB control number.			
	APPLICATION AS FILED – PART I (Column 1) (Column 2)							ENTITY	OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY	
	FOR NUMBER FILED NUMBER EXTRA							FEE (\$)		RATE (\$)	FEE (\$)
	BASIC FEE N/A N/A N/A									N/A	
	SEARCH FEE (37 CFR 1.16(k), (i), c	or (m))	N/A		N/A		N/A			N/A	
	EXAMINATION FE (37 CFR 1.16(o), (p), o	E or (q))	N/A		N/A		N/A			N/A	
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process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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	Application No.	Applicant(s)				
	11/776,329	NIYIKIZA ET AL.				
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit				
	KEVIN WEDDINGTON	1614				
The MAILING DATE of this communication app Period for Reply	ears on the cover sheet with the c	orrespondence address				
 A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earmed patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). 						
Status						
 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>04 M</u>. 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This 3) Since this application is in condition for allowar closed in accordance with the practice under E 	<u>ay 2009</u> . action is non-final. nce except for formal matters, pro <i>x parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11, 45	osecution as to the merits is 53 O.G. 213.				
Disposition of Claims						
 4) Claim(s) <u>40-52</u> is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration. 5) Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) <u>40-52</u> is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) is/are objected to. 8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or election requirement. 						
Application Papers						
9) The specification is objected to by the Examine	r.					
10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) acce	epted or b) objected to by the I	Examiner.				
Applicant may not request that any objection to the	drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See	e 37 CFR 1.85(a).				
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction	on is required if the drawing(s) is ob aminer. Note the attached Office	jected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).				
Priority under 35 II S C § 119						
 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of: Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. 						
 Attachment(s) 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) ☑ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>5-4-09</u>. 	4) Interview Summary Paper No(s)/Mail Da 5) Notice of Informal P 6) Other:	(PTO-413) ate atent Application				

Claims 40-52 are presented for examination.

Applicants' amendment, response and information disclosure statement filed May

4, 2009 have been received and entered.

Accordingly, the rejection made under 35 USC 112, first paragraph (Written

Description) as set forth in the previous Office action dated February 18, 2009 at pages

2-4 as applied to claim 45 is hereby withdrawn because the applicants amended claim

45 to recite the preferred folic-binding protein agent.

Accordingly, the rejection made under 35 USC 112, second paragraph as set

forth in the previous Office action dated February 18, 2009 at page 4 as applied to

claims 40-52 is hereby withdrawn because the applicants amended claim 40 by the

insertion of -lowering agent--.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in Graham v. John Deere Co., 383 U.S. 1, 148

USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining

obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

- 1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
- 2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
- 3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
- 4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 40-52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Taylor (5,344,932) of PTO-1449 in view of Tsao et al., "Influence of Cobalamin on the Survival of Mice Bearing Ascites Tumor", Pathobiology, Vol. 61, No. 2, pp. 104-108 (1993) of PTO-1449, further in view of Worzalla et al., Anticancer Research, Vol. 18, No. 5, pp. 3255-3239 of PTO-1449, and further in view of Cleare et al. (4,149,707).

Taylor teaches N-(pyrrolo(2,3-D)pyrimidin-3-ylacyl)-glutamic acid derivatives which includes LY 2315 (pemetrexe) and LY 231514-disodium (pemetrexed disodium) are effective an antineoplastic agents to inhibit the growth of tumors (see column 8, lines 57-63). Note particularly column 8, lines 64-68 states that other antineoplastic agents can be combined with LY 231514. Note particularly column 9, line 1 shows the various modes of administration such as parenteral routes (intramuscular) and oral.

The instant invention differs from the cited reference in that the cited reference does not teach the addition of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent. However, the

secondary reference, Tsao et al., teaches a methylmalonic acid lowering agent such as cobalamin (vitamin B₁₂) is effective as having antitumor activity (see the abstract).

The instant invention differs from the cited references in that the cited references do not teach the addition of a folic-binding-protein agent. However, the tertiary reference, Worzalla et al., teaches the supplementation of folic acid with LY 231513 to enhance LY 231514 antitumor activity.

The instant invention differs from the cited references in that the cited references do not teach the addition of cisplatin. However, the quaternary reference, Cleare et al., teaches malonato platinum anti-tumor compounds such as cisplatin to treat malignant tumors (see the abstract).

Clearly, one skilled in the art would have assumed the combination of three antineoplastic agents into a single composition would give an additive effect in the absence of evidence to the contrary.

The instant invention differ from the cited references in that the cited references do not teach the applicants' preferred dosage range for the methylmalonic acid lowering agent. However, those skilled in the art would have been readily optimized effective dosages and concurrent administration dosage forms as determined by good medical practice and the clinical condition of the individual patient. Regardless of the manner of administration, the specific dose may be calculated according to body weight, body surface area or organ size. Further refinement of the calculations necessary to determine the appropriate dosage for treatment involving each of the above mentioned

formulations is routinely made by those skilled in the art and is within the ability of tasks routinely performed by them without undue experimentation.

Claims 40-52 are not allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KEVIN WEDDINGTON whose telephone number is (571)272-0587. The examiner can normally be reached on 12:30 pm - 9:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ardin Marschel can be reached on (571)272-0718. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

> KEVIN WEDDINGTON Primary Examiner Art Unit 1614

/KEVIN WEDDINGTON/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1614

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	Examiner	Art Unit
	Kevin E Weddington	1614

	SEARCHED						
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514	77	2/11/09	KEW				
514	249	2/11/09	KEW				
514	251	2/11/09	KEW				
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SEARCH NOTES		
Search Notes	Date	Examiner
Consultation with parent applications, 10/297,821 and 11/288,807	2/11/09	KEW
EAST and PALM for Inventors' Names	2/11/09	KEW
CAS-ONLINE search with MEDLINE, CA and USPATALL	9/1/2009	KEW

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PAGE 2-A



PROPERTY DATA AVAILABLE IN THE 'PROP' FORMAT

21671 REFERENCES IN FILE CA (1907 TO DATE) 401 REFERENCES TO NON-SPECIFIC DERIVATIVES IN FILE CA 21717 REFERENCES IN FILE CAPLUS (1907 TO DATE)

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FILE 'MEDLINE' ENTERED AT 23:24:53 ON 31 AUG 2009

FILE LAST UPDATED: 29 Aug 2009 (20090829/UP). FILE COVERS 1949 TO DATE.

MEDLINE and LMEDLINE have been updated with the 2009 Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) vocabulary and tree numbers from the U.S. National Library of Medicine (NLM). Additional information is available at

http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/nd08/nd08 medline data changes 2009.html.

On February 21, 2009, MEDLINE was reloaded. See HELP RLOAD for details.

This file contains CAS Registry Numbers for easy and accurate substance identification.

See HELP RANGE before carrying out any RANGE search.

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Significance of elevated cobalamin (vitamin B12) levels in blood. ΤT АIJ Ermens A A M; Vlasveld L T; Lindemans J CS Clinical Laboratory, Amphia Hospital, lokatie Langendijk, Breda, Netherlands.. aermens@amphia.nl Clinical biochemistry, (2003 Nov) Vol. 36, No. 8, pp. 585-90. Ref: 42 Journal code: 0133660. ISSN: 0009-9120. SO СҮ United States Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE) DT General Review; (REVIEW) English T.A FS Priority Journals ΕМ 200409 Entered STN: 26 Nov 2003 ΕD Last Updated on STN: 21 Sep 2004 Entered Medline: 17 Sep 2004 ANSWER 4 OF 66 MEDLINE on STN Γ8 Full Text 2003214619 MEDLINE AN PubMed ID: 12735212 DN ΤI Erythropoietin and chronic lymphocytic leukemia. Mauro Francesca R; Gentile Massimo; Foa Robin AU Dipartimento di Biotecnologie Cellulari ed Ematologia, University La CS Sapienza, Rome, Italy. Reviews in clinical and experimental hematology, (2002) Vol. Suppl 1, pp. SO 21-31. Ref: 58 Journal code: 9815344. ISSN: 1127-0020. CY Italy Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE) DT General Review; (REVIEW) LA English FS Priority Journals ЕΜ 200307 Entered STN: 9 May 2003 ED Last Updated on STN: 13 Jul 2003 Entered Medline: 11 Jul 2003 L8 ANSWER 5 OF 66 MEDLINE on STN Full Text AN 2002390475 MEDLINE PubMed ID: 12138901 DN A case of acute myeloid leukemia with t(7;11) (p15;p15) mimicking myeloid ΤI crisis of chronic myelogenous leukemia. AU Kawakami Keiki; Miyanishi Setsuko; Nishii Kazuhiho; Usui Eiji; Murata Tetsuya; Shinsato Isaku; Shiku Hiroshi Division of Hematology, Suzuka General Hospital, Mie, Japan.. CS Kawakei@cocoa.ocn.ne.jp International journal of hematology, (2002 Jul) Vol. 76, No. 1, pp. 80-3. SO Journal code: 9111627. ISSN: 0925-5710. СҮ Ireland DT (CASE REPORTS) Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE) LA English FS Priority Journals ΕM 200209 Entered STN: 26 Jul 2002 ΕD Last Updated on STN: 14 Sep 2002 Entered Medline: 13 Sep 2002 Г8 ANSWER 6 OF 66 MEDLINE on STN Full Text 2002181127 AN MEDLINE DN PubMed ID: 11913109 [The significance of an elevated cobalamin concentration in the blood]. ΤI De betekenis van een te hoge cobalamineconcentratie in het bloed. Ermens A A M; Vlasveld L Th; van Marion-Kievit J A; Lensen C J P A; ΑIJ Lindemans J Amphia Ziekenhuis, Klinisch-Chemisch en Hematologisch Laboratorium, CS locatie Langendijk, Langendijk 75, 4819 EV Breda. SO Nederlands tijdschrift voor geneeskunde, (2002 Mar 9) Vol. 146, No. 10, pp. 459-64. Journal code: 0400770. ISSN: 0028-2162.

СҮ Netherlands (ENGLISH ABSTRACT) DT Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE) Dutch LA Priority Journals FS 200207 ΕM Entered STN: 1 Apr 2002 ED Last Updated on STN: 12 Jul 2002 Entered Medline: 10 Jul 2002 Г8 ANSWER 7 OF 66 MEDLINE on STN Full Text 2000188210 MEDLINE AN PubMed ID: 10723243 DN ТΤ Rapidly progressive, refractory eosinophilia with a 250,000/microliter eosinophil count. AU Noguchi M; Okumura K; Kato A; Hirano T; Oshimi K Department of Hematology, Juntendo University School of Medicine. CS SO [Rinsho ketsueki] The Japanese journal of clinical hematology, (2000 Feb) Vol. 41, No. 2, pp. 135-9. Journal code: 2984782R. ISSN: 0485-1439. CY Japan (CASE REPORTS) DT (ENGLISH ABSTRACT) Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE) LA Japanese FS Priority Journals ΕM 200005 Entered STN: 18 May 2000 ΕD Last Updated on STN: 18 May 2000 Entered Medline: 5 May 2000 L8 ANSWER 8 OF 66 MEDLINE on STN Full Text 1998291239 AN MEDLINE DN PubMed ID: 9627769 ΤТ Cobalamin metabolism in methionine-dependent human tumour and leukemia cell lines. Watkins D AU Department of Medicine, McGill University, Montreal, Que. CS SO Clinical and investigative medicine. Medecine clinique et experimentale, (1998 Jun) Vol. 21, No. 3, pp. 151-8. Journal code: 7804071. ISSN: 0147-958X. СҮ Canada Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE) (RESEARCH SUPPORT, NON-U.S. GOV'T) DT LA English FS Priority Journals ΕM 199808 ΕD Entered STN: 3 Sep 1998 Last Updated on STN: 3 Sep 1998 Entered Medline: 27 Aug 1998 MEDLINE on STN L8 ANSWER 9 OF 66 Full Text AN 1998287116 MEDLINE PubMed ID: 9625434 DN Synthesis, characterization and nitric oxide release profile of ΤI nitrosylcobalamin: a potential chemotherapeutic agent. AU Bauer J A Department of Chemistry, University of Akron, OH 44325-3601, USA. Anti-cancer drugs, (1998 Mar) Vol. 9, No. 3, pp. 239-44. CS SO Journal code: 9100823. ISSN: 0959-4973. СҮ ENGLAND: United Kingdom DT Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE) English LΑ Priority Journals FS ΕM 199807 Entered STN: 11 Aug 1998 ED Last Updated on STN: 11 Aug 1998 Entered Medline: 29 Jul 1998

ANSWER 10 OF 66 T.8 MEDLINE on STN Full Text 1997450846 AN MEDLINE DN PubMed ID: 9307287 Cobalamin analogues modulate the growth of leukemia cells in vitro. ΤI McLean G R; Pathare P M; Wilbur D S; Morgan A C; Woodhouse C S; Schrader J AU W; Ziltener H J The Biomedical Research Centre, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, CS Canada. Cancer research, (1997 Sep 15) Vol. 57, No. 18, pp. 4015-22. SO Journal code: 2984705R. ISSN: 0008-5472. СҮ United States Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE) DT (RESEARCH SUPPORT, NON-U.S. GOV'T) LΑ English FS Priority Journals 199710 ΕM ΕD Entered STN: 5 Nov 1997 Last Updated on STN: 5 Nov 1997 Entered Medline: 20 Oct 1997 L8 ANSWER 11 OF 66 MEDLINE on STN Full Text 1997132938 AΝ MEDLINE DN PubMed ID: 8978297 ΤΙ Antibodies to transcobalamin II block in vitro proliferation of leukemic cells. ΑIJ McLean G R; Quadros E V; Rothenberg S P; Morgan A C; Schrader J W; Ziltener H J CS Biomedical Research Centre, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada. NC R01-DK28561-14 (United States NIDDK NIH HHS) Blood, (1997 Jan 1) Vol. 89, No. 1, pp. 235-42. Journal code: 7603509. ISSN: 0006-4971. SO United States СҮ DT Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE) (RESEARCH SUPPORT, NON-U.S. GOV'T) (RESEARCH SUPPORT, U.S. GOV'T, P.H.S.) LA English FS Abridged Index Medicus Journals; Priority Journals 199701 ΕM Entered STN: 19 Feb 1997 ΕD Last Updated on STN: 19 Feb 1997 Entered Medline: 27 Jan 1997 ANSWER 12 OF 66 L8 MEDLINE on STN Full Text 1994083898 AN MEDLINE DN PubMed ID: 8260900 Induction of differentiation of myeloid leukemic cells by busulphan: in ΤI vivo and in vitro observations. ΑIJ Michaeli J; Fibach E; Rachmilewitz E A CS Department of Hematology, Hadassah University Hospital, Jerusalem, Israel. Leukemia & lymphoma, (1993 Oct) Vol. 11, No. 3-4, pp. 287-91. SO Journal code: 9007422. ISSN: 1042-8194. CY Switzerland DT (CASE REPORTS) Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE) English LA FS Priority Journals ΕM 199401 Entered STN: 9 Feb 1994 ED Last Updated on STN: 3 Feb 1997 Entered Medline: 25 Jan 1994 L8 ANSWER 13 OF 66 MEDLINE on STN Full Text AN 1994030584 MEDLINE PubMed ID: 8216825 DN Influence of cobalamin on the survival of mice bearing ascites tumor. ΤI AU Tsao C S; Myashita K Linus Pauling Institute of Science and Medicine, Palo Alto, Calif. 94306. CS

Pathobiology : journal of immunopathology, molecular and cellular biology, SO (1993) Vol. 61, No. 2, pp. 104-8. Journal code: 9007504. ISSN: 1015-2008. СҮ Switzerland (COMPARATIVE STUDY) DT Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE)
(RESEARCH SUPPORT, NON-U.S. GOV'T) LΑ English FS Priority Journals 199312 ЕM ED Entered STN: 17 Jan 1994 Last Updated on STN: 17 Jan 1994 Entered Medline: 17 Dec 1993 г8 ANSWER 14 OF 66 MEDLINE on STN Full Text 1993231290 AN MEDLINE DN PubMed ID: 8472808 ΤI Misincorporation of uracil into the DNA of folate- and B12-deficient HL60 cells. AU Wickramasinghe S N; Fida S Dept. of Haematology, St. Mary's Hospital Medical School, Imperial College CS of Science, Technology & Medicine, London, U.K. European journal of haematology, (1993 Mar) Vol. 50, No. 3, pp. 127-32. SO Journal code: 8703985. ISSN: 0902-4441. СҮ Denmark Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE) DT LА English Priority Journals FS 199305 ΕM ED Entered STN: 4 Jun 1993 Last Updated on STN: 3 Feb 1997 Entered Medline: 20 May 1993 L8 ANSWER 15 OF 66 MEDLINE on STN Full Text 1993043071 MEDLINE AN PubMed ID: 1421179 DN Effects of cobalamin, cobalamin analogues and cobalamin binding proteins ΤI on P388D1 mouse leukemic cells in culture. AIJ Kondo H; Iseki T; Goto S; Ohto M; Okuda K CS Department of Medicine, Shimizu Kousei Hospital, Shizuoka, Japan. SO International journal of hematology, (1992 Oct) Vol. 56, No. 2, pp. 167-77. Journal code: 9111627. ISSN: 0925-5710. СҮ Netherlands Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE)
(RESEARCH SUPPORT, NON-U.S. GOV'T) DT LA English FS Priority Journals ΕM 199212 ED Entered STN: 22 Jan 1993 Last Updated on STN: 3 Feb 1997 Entered Medline: 4 Dec 1992 ANSWER 16 OF 66 Г8 MEDLINE on STN Full Text 1992292362 AN MEDLINE PubMed ID: 1602609 DN ΤT Atypical leukemia accompanied by vitamin B12 deficiency. Tsukamoto N; Inose K; Matsushima T; Uchiyama T; Sugita Y; Takeuchi T; Sato AU S; Omine M; Naruse T Division of Internal Medicine, Takasaki National Hospital. CS [Rinsho ketsueki] The Japanese journal of clinical hematology, (1992 Apr) SO Vol. 33, No. 4, pp. 461-6. Journal code: 2984782R. ISSN: 0485-1439. CY Japan (CASE REPORTS) DT (ENGLISH ABSTRACT) Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE) (RESEARCH SUPPORT, NON-U.S. GOV'T) LA Japanese

Priority Journals FS 199207 ΕM ED Entered STN: 24 Jul 1992 Last Updated on STN: 24 Jul 1992 Entered Medline: 14 Jul 1992 L8 ANSWER 17 OF 66 MEDLINE on STN Full Text MEDLINE AN 1992159815 PubMed ID: 2133609 DN ΤТ [Chronic lymphocytic leukemia complicated by pernicious anemia during long-term remission]. Hronicna limfocitna leukemija komplikovana pojavom perniciozne anemije u toku dugotrajne remisije. AU Ruvidic R; Boskovic D Institute of Hematology, University Clinical Centre, Belgrade. CS SO Srpski arhiv za celokupno lekarstvo, (1990 Nov-Dec) Vol. 118, No. 11-12, pp. 495-7. Journal code: 0027440. ISSN: 0370-8179. СҮ Yugoslavia (CASE REPORTS) DT (ENGLISH ABSTRACT) Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE) Serbian T.A FS Priority Journals ΕM 199203 Entered STN: 10 Apr 1992 ED Last Updated on STN: 10 Apr 1992 Entered Medline: 25 Mar 1992 ANSWER 18 OF 66 MEDLINE on STN L8 Full Text AN 1992074415 MEDLINE PubMed ID: 1962580 DN ΤI Effect of combined ascorbic acid and B-12 on survival of mice with implanted Ehrlich carcinoma and L1210 leukemia. AU Poydock M E Cancer Research Institute, Mercyhurst College, Erie, PA 16546. CS The American journal of clinical nutrition, (1991 Dec) Vol. 54, No. 6 SO Suppl, pp. 1261S-1265S. Journal code: 0376027. ISSN: 0002-9165. СҮ United States DT Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE) LA English Abridged Index Medicus Journals; Priority Journals FS ΕM 199201 Entered STN: 24 Jan 1992 ED Last Updated on STN: 24 Jan 1992 Entered Medline: 6 Jan 1992 L8 ANSWER 19 OF 66 MEDLINE on STN Full Text 1991203220 MEDLINE AN PubMed ID: 2016907 DN ΤT Effect of nitrous oxide and methotrexate on folate coenzyme pools of blast cells from leukemia patients. AU Ermens A A; Schoester M; Lindemans J; Abels J CS Institute of Hematology, Erasmus University, Rotterdam, The Netherlands. Leukemia research, (1991) Vol. 15, No. 2-3, pp. 165-71. SO Journal code: 7706787. ISSN: 0145-2126. ENGLAND: United Kingdom СҮ Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE) DT LA English FS Priority Journals 199105 ΕM ED Entered STN: 7 Jun 1991 Last Updated on STN: 6 Feb 1998 Entered Medline: 17 May 1991 г8 ANSWER 20 OF 66 MEDLINE on STN Full Text 1991166723 MEDLINE AN

PubMed ID: 2076192 DN Cytotoxic activity of cobalamin in cultured malignant and nonmalignant ΤT cells. AU Tsao C S; Miyashita K; Young M CS Linus Pauling Institute of Science and Medicine, Palo Alto, Calif. Pathobiology : journal of immunopathology, molecular and cellular biology, (1990) Vol. 58, No. 5, pp. 292-6. SO Journal code: 9007504. ISSN: 1015-2008. СҮ Switzerland Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE)
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Blood, (1990 Oct 1) Vol. 76, No. 7, pp. 1380-6. SO Journal code: 7603509. ISSN: 0006-4971. CY United States Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE) (RESEARCH SUPPORT, NON-U.S. GOV'T) (RESEARCH SUPPORT, U.S. GOV'T, P.H.S.) DT LΑ English Abridged Index Medicus Journals; Priority Journals FS ΕM 199011 ED Entered STN: 17 Jan 1991 Last Updated on STN: 17 Jan 1991 Entered Medline: 6 Nov 1990 L8 ANSWER 24 OF 66 MEDLINE on STN Full Text AN 1990266154 MEDLINE PubMed ID: 2189194 DN ΤI Nitrous oxide: a cause of **cancer** or chemotherapeutic adjuvant?. AU Koblin D D Department of Anesthesia, Veterans Administration Medical Center, San CS Francisco, CA 94121. NC P01 AG3104 (United States NIA NIH HHS) Seminars in surgical oncology, (1990) Vol. 6, No. 3, pp. 141-7. Ref: 56 SO Journal code: 8503713. ISSN: 8756-0437. СҮ United States Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE) (RESEARCH SUPPORT, NON-U.S. GOV'T) DT (RESEARCH SUPPORT, U.S. GOV'T, NON-P.H.S.) (RESEARCH SUPPORT, U.S. GOV'T, P.H.S.) General Review; (REVIEW) English LA Priority Journals FS ΕM 199006 Entered STN: 10 Aug 1990 ED Last Updated on STN: 10 Aug 1990 Entered Medline: 29 Jun 1990 L8 ANSWER 25 OF 66 MEDLINE on STN Full Text AN 1990070919 MEDLINE PubMed ID: 2588735 DN ΤI [Disorders of intestinal absorption in patients treated with cytostatic chemotherapy]. Storungen der intestinalen Resorption bei Patienten unter zytostatischer Chemotherapie. AU Hurter T; Reis H E; Borchard F CS Medizinische Klinik I an den Medizinischen Einrichtungen der RWTH Aachen. Zeitschrift fur Gastroenterologie, (1989 Oct) Vol. 27, No. 10, pp. 606-10. SO Journal code: 0033370. ISSN: 0044-2771. СҮ GERMANY, WEST: Germany, Federal Republic of DT (ENGLISH ABSTRACT) Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE) LA German FS Priority Journals ΕM 199001 Entered STN: 28 Mar 1990 ΕD Last Updated on STN: 28 Mar 1990 Entered Medline: 4 Jan 1990 Г8 ANSWER 26 OF 66 MEDLINE on STN Full Text 1990032992 MEDITNE AN DN PubMed ID: 2553457 Uptake of transcobalamin II-bound cobalamin by HL-60 cells: effects of ΤI differentiation induction. Lindemans J; Kroes A C; van Geel J; van Kapel J; Schoester M; Abels J ΑIJ Institute of Hematology, Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands. Experimental cell research, (1989 Oct) Vol. 184, No. 2, pp. 449-60. CS SO Journal code: 0373226. ISSN: 0014-4827. СҮ United States DT Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE) LA English

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A combination of dehydroascorbic acid and hydroxycobalamin (vitamin B-12) AB inhibited mitoses of tumors in mice. The present study was performed to test the effect of these vitamins on the survival of mice bearing carcinomas and leukemias. In each assay 40 mice received 0.1 mL ip tumor cells (x10(5)). After 24 h, 20 mice were injected with 0.2 mL (0.4 g/kg body wt) of the vitamins daily. . . than 50% of the treated mice were alive after 60 d. In vitro findings revealed inhibition of mitoses in L1210 leukemia cells, but not in normal L929 cells. In recent research with cobalt-ascorbate plus vitamin C, we demonstrated that when B-12. . . attaches to a carbon on vitamin C, forming cobalt ascorbate. Tests proved that cobalt ascorbate plus vitamin C also inhibited tumor cells. Check Tags: Female CT Animals *Ascorbic Acid: PD, pharmacology *Carcinoma, Ehrlich Tumor: MO, mortality Carcinoma, Ehrlich Tumor: PA, pathology Dehydroascorbic Acid: PD, pharmacology Drug Combinations *Leukemia, Experimental: MO, mortality Mice Mice, Inbred ICR Neoplasm Transplantation Survival Analysis *Vitamin B 12: PD, pharmacology 490-83-5 (Dehydroascorbic Acid); 50-81-7 (Ascorbic Acid); 68-19-9 RN (Vitamin B 12) ANSWER 47 OF 66 MEDLINE on STN L8 Full Text 1977019051 ΑN MEDLINE ΤI B12 -- dependent methionine synthetase as a potential target for **cancer** chemotherapy. AII Huennekens F M; DiGirolamo P M; Fujii K; Jacobsen D W; Vitols K S SO Advances in enzyme regulation, (1976) Vol. 14, pp. 187-205. Ref: 51 Journal code: 0044263. ISSN: 0065-2571. B12 -- dependent methionine synthetase as a potential target for cancer ΤT chemotherapy. СТ . . . S-Methyltransferase: IP, isolation & purification *5-Methyltetrahydrofolate-Homocysteine S-Methyltransferase: ME, metabolism Animals Cells, Cultured Cobamides: BI, biosynthesis Enzyme Activation Flavoproteins: ME, metabolism Leukemia L1210: EN, enzymology Leukemia L1210: ME, metabolism Methionine: BI, biosynthesis *Methyltransferases: ME, metabolism Mice NADP: ME, metabolism *Neoplasms: ME, metabolism S-Adenosylmethionine: ME, metabolism 29908-03-0 (S-Adenosylmethionine); 53-59-8 (NADP); 63-68-3 (Methionine); RN 68-19-9 (Vitamin B 12) => file ca COST IN U.S. DOLLARS SINCE FILE TOTAL SESSION ENTRY FULL ESTIMATED COST 18.48 26.58 FILE 'CA' ENTERED AT 23:34:40 ON 31 AUG 2009 USE IS SUBJECT TO THE TERMS OF YOUR STN CUSTOMER AGREEMENT. PLEASE SEE "HELP USAGETERMS" FOR DETAILS. COPYRIGHT (C) 2009 AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY (ACS)

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- Substrate-selective inhibition of pappalysin activity against insulin-like growth factor-binding protein 4 using substrate-binding site ligands Oxvig, Claus; Mikkelsen, Jakob Hauge; Nielsen, Claus Gyrup Aarhus Universitet, Den. PCT Int. Appl., 219pp. CODEN: PIXXD2 Datent ΤI
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Vandenberghe, P.; Wlodarska, I.; Michaux, L.; Zachee, P.; Boogaerts, M.; AU Vanstraelen, D.; Herregods, M-C.; Van Hoof, A.; Selleslag, D.; Roufosse, F.; Maerevoet, M.; Verhoef, G.; Cools, J.; Gilliland, D. G.; Hagemeijer, A.; Marynen, P. The Center for Human Genetics, University Hospital Leuven, Louvain, CS B-3000, Belg. Leukemia (2004), 18(4), 734-742 SO CODEN: LEUKED; ISSN: 0887-6924 PB Nature Publishing Group DT Journal English LA THERE ARE 57 CAPLUS RECORDS THAT CITE THIS RECORD (58 CITINGS) OSC.G 57 RE.CNT 21 THERE ARE 21 CITED REFERENCES AVAILABLE FOR THIS RECORD ALL CITATIONS AVAILABLE IN THE RE FORMAT L15 ANSWER 26 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text AN 140:241008 CA ΤI Drug delivery and targeting with **vitamin B12** conjugates ΙN Wilson, Stephen; Reinhard, Kathryn S.; Gao, Xiang ΡA USA U.S. Pat. Appl. Publ., 22 pp. SO CODEN: USXXCO DT Patent LA English FAN.CNT 1 PATENT NO. KIND DATE APPLICATION NO. DATE _____ ____ _____ _____ _____ US 20040047917 A1 20040311 US 2002-235857 20020906 ΡI US 20070066561 A1 20070322 US 2006-601809 20061120 A3 PRAI US 2002-235857 20020906 ASSIGNMENT HISTORY FOR US PATENT AVAILABLE IN LSUS DISPLAY FORMAT L15 ANSWER 27 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text AN 140:178997 CA Significance of elevated cobalamin (vitamin B12) levels in blood ТΤ AU Ermens, A. A. M.; Vlasveld, L. T.; Lindemans, J. Clinical Laboratory, Lokatie Langendijk, Amphia Hospital, Breda, Neth. CS SO Clinical Biochemistry (2003), 36(8), 585-590 CODEN: CLBIAS; ISSN: 0009-9120 PB Elsevier Science Inc. Journal; General Review DT LA English OSC.G 12 THERE ARE 12 CAPLUS RECORDS THAT CITE THIS RECORD (12 CITINGS) RE.CNT 42 THERE ARE 42 CITED REFERENCES AVAILABLE FOR THIS RECORD ALL CITATIONS AVAILABLE IN THE RE FORMAT L15 ANSWER 28 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text AN 138:314549 CA Combination therapies using methyl donors or methyl donor enhancers and ΤT therapeutic agents for treatment of viral, proliferative and inflammatory diseases IN Cruz, Tony; Pastrak, Aleksandra Transition Therapeutics Inc., Can. PA PCT Int. Appl., 70 pp. SO CODEN: PIXXD2 DT Patent LA English FAN.CNT 6 KIND DATE APPLICATION NO. DATE PATENT NO. ____ ____ _____ WO 2002-CA1503 20021004 WO 2003030929 A1 20030417 ΡI W: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW RW: GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW, AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES,

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> Teva – Fresenius Exhibit 1002-00414

OSC.G 3 THERE ARE 3 CAPLUS RECORDS THAT CITE THIS RECORD (3 CITINGS) RE.CNT 1 THERE ARE 1 CITED REFERENCES AVAILABLE FOR THIS RECORD ALL CITATIONS AVAILABLE IN THE RE FORMAT L15 ANSWER 34 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text AN 134:37051 CA Method for immune-system strengthening and development of a lipid ТΤ transporter for anti-HIV and antibacterial gene therapy Worm, Richard; Correa, Michel; Mavoungou, Donatien ΤN PA Can. Fr. Demande, 16 pp. SO CODEN: FRXXBL DT Patent LА French FAN.CNT 1 KIND DATE PATENT NO. APPLICATION NO. DATE ____ _____ _____ 20001020 FR 1999-4706 FR 2792201 A1 19990415 ΡI FR 2792201 В1 20011102 PRAI FR 1999-4706 19990415 OSC.G 4 THERE ARE 4 CAPLUS RECORDS THAT CITE THIS RECORD (4 CITINGS) THERE ARE 4 CITED REFERENCES AVAILABLE FOR THIS RECORD RE.CNT 4 ALL CITATIONS AVAILABLE IN THE RE FORMAT L15 ANSWER 35 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text AN 132:58824 CA Compounds of **vitamin B12** and its derivatives combined with ascorbic ΤI acid as potential antitumor agents AU Vol'pin, M. E.; Krainova, N. Yu.; Levitin, I. Ya.; Mityaeva, Z. Ya.; Novodarova, G. N.; Oganezov, V. K.; Pankratov, A. A.; Chissov, V. I.; Yakubovskaya, R. I. Inst. Elementoorg. Soedin. im. A. N. Nesmeyanova, RAN, Moscow, 117813, CS Russia SO Rossiiskii Khimicheskii Zhurnal (1998), 42(5), 116-127 CODEN: RKZHEZ; ISSN: 1024-6215 Rossiiskoe Khimicheskoe Obshchestvo im. D. I. Mendeleeva PB DT Journal LA Russian OSC.G 8 THERE ARE 8 CAPLUS RECORDS THAT CITE THIS RECORD (9 CITINGS) L15 ANSWER 36 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text 131:208725 CA AN Intrathecal methotrexate-induced megaloblastic anemia in patients with ΤI acute leukemia Sallah, Sabah; Hanrahan, L. Robert, Jr.; Phillips, Debra L. ΑIJ Department of Medicine, Division of Hematology/Oncology, East Carolina CS University, School of Medicine, Greenville, NC, USA Archives of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine (1999), 123(9), 774-777 SO CODEN: APLMAS; ISSN: 0003-9985 ΡB College of American Pathologists DT Journal English LA OSC.G 1 THERE ARE 1 CAPLUS RECORDS THAT CITE THIS RECORD (1 CITINGS) RE.CNT 8 THERE ARE 8 CITED REFERENCES AVAILABLE FOR THIS RECORD ALL CITATIONS AVAILABLE IN THE RE FORMAT L15 ANSWER 37 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Text Full 131:120695 CA AN ΤI Targeting leukemia cells with cobalamin bioconjugates Mitchell, Alice M.; Bayomi, Ashraf; Natarajan, Ettaya; Barrows, Louis R.; AU West, Frederick G.; Grissom, Charles B. Department of Chemistry, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT, CS 84112-0850, USA Biomedical and Health Research (1999), 27(Enzymatic Mechanisms), 150-154 SO CODEN: BIHREN; ISSN: 0929-6743 ΡB IOS Press DT Journal LA English

9 THERE ARE 9 CAPLUS RECORDS THAT CITE THIS RECORD (9 CITINGS) OSC.G RE.CNT 18 THERE ARE 18 CITED REFERENCES AVAILABLE FOR THIS RECORD ALL CITATIONS AVAILABLE IN THE RE FORMAT L15 ANSWER 38 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text AN 129:12414 CA OREF 129:2551a,2554a ΤI Synthesis, characterization and nitric oxide release profile of nitrosylcobalamin: a potential chemotherapeutic agent AU Bauer, Joseph A. CS Dep. Chem., Univ. Akron, Akron, OH, 44325-3601, USA Anti-Cancer Drugs (1998), 9(3), 239-244 SO CODEN: ANTDEV; ISSN: 0959-4973 ΡB Rapid Science Ltd. DT Journal LA English OSC.G 14 RE.CNT 31 THERE ARE 14 CAPLUS RECORDS THAT CITE THIS RECORD (14 CITINGS) THERE ARE 31 CITED REFERENCES AVAILABLE FOR THIS RECORD ALL CITATIONS AVAILABLE IN THE RE FORMAT L15 ANSWER 39 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text 128:226232 CA AN OREF 128:44693a,44696a Cobalt complex bioconjugates, preparation thereof, and delivery of ΤI bioactive agents IN Grissom, Charles B.; West, Frederick G.; Howard, W. Allen, Jr. University of Utah Research Foundation, USA; Grissom, Charles B.; West, PA Frederick G.; Howard, W. Allen, Jr. SO PCT Int. Appl., 91 pp. CODEN: PIXXD2 DT Patent LA English DATE APPLICATION NO. FAN.CNT 1 PATENT NO. KIND DATE DATE ----------19970822 WO 9808859 A1 19980305 WO 1997-US14140 ΡI W: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, HU, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, 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 RW: GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW, AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG A1 19980305 CA 2264592 CA 1997-2264592 19970822 AU 1997-41482 AU 9741482 А 19980319 19970822 AU 738431 В2 20010920 EP 1007533 A1 20000614 EP 1997-939382 19970822 EP 1007533 В1 20050622 R: AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, IT, LI, LU, NL, SE, MC, PT, IE, FI NZ334870A20001222JP2001501596T20010206AT298344T20050715ES2244006T320051201US6315978B120011113US20020049154A120020425US6777237B220040817US20020111294A120020815US6790827B220040914US20020115595A120020822US6776976B220040817US1996-24430PP19960827 NZ 334870 20001222 NZ 1997-334870 19970822 JP 1998-511674 19970822 AT 1997-939382 19970822 ES 1997-939382 19970822 US 1999-202328 19991022 US 2001-982968 20011022 US 2001-982940 20011022 US 2001-982892 20011022
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Exhibit 1002-00416

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B12/transcobalamin II receptor and binding sites Morgan, A. Charles, Jr.; Quadros, Edward V.; Rothenberg, Sheldon P. ΤN Receptagen Corporation, USA; State University of New York ΡA SO PCT Int. Appl., 65 pp. CODEN: PIXXD2 DT Patent LA English FAN.CNT 3
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L15 ANSWER 45 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text AN 120:227009 CA OREF 120:40121a,40124a Prevention of birth defects and childhood cancer with fluoride ΤI IΝ Grogan, Jack R., Jr. PA USA SO Can. Pat. Appl., 17 pp. CODEN: CPXXEB DT Patent LA English PI CA 2071378 GB 2267824 PRAI CA 1992 C APPLICATION NO. DATE _____ _____ A1 19931217 CA 1992-2071378 19920616 A 19931222 GB 1992-12672 19920615 PRAI CA 1992-2071378 19920616 L15 ANSWER 46 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text AN 119:131055 CA OREF 119:23285a,23288a TI Influence of cobalamin on the survival of mice bearing ascites tumor AU Tsao, Constance S.; Myashita, Koichi Linus Pauling Inst. Sci. Med., Palo Alto, CA, 94306, USA Pathobiology (1993), 61(2), 104-8 CODEN: PATHEF; ISSN: 1015-2008 CS SO DT Journal English LA OSC.G 5 THERE ARE 5 CAPLUS RECORDS THAT CITE THIS RECORD (5 CITINGS) L15 ANSWER 47 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text AN 119:39993 CA OREF 119:7079a,7082a ΤI Vitamins as chemotherapeutic and chemopreventive agents Ryan, Donna H.; Starr, Barry AU Pennington Biomed. Res. Cent., Baton Rouge, LA, 70808, USA Pennington Center Nutrition Series (1993), 3(Vitamins and Cancer CS SO Prevention), 147-60 CODEN: PCNSEW; ISSN: 1063-8822 DT Journal; General Review English LA L15 ANSWER 48 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN <u>Full Text</u> AN 116:75807 CA OREF 116:12671a,12674a Effect of combined ascorbic acid and B-12 on survival of mice with ΤT implanted Ehrlich carcinoma and L1210 leukemia AU Poydock, M. Eymard CS Cancer Res. Inst., Mercyhurst Coll., Erie, PA, 16546, USA American Journal of Clinical Nutrition (1991), 54(6, Suppl.), 1261S-1265S SO CODEN: AJCNAC; ISSN: 0002-9165 DT Journal LA English OSC.G 4 THERE ARE 4 CAPLUS RECORDS THAT CITE THIS RECORD (4 CITINGS) L15 ANSWER 49 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN <u>Full Text</u> AN 115:126995 CA OREF 115:21549a,21552a ΤI New vitamin B12 derivatives, production thereof, and applications thereof Toraya, Tetsuo; Ishida, Atsuhiko; Uejima, Yasuhide; Fujii, Katsuhiko IΝ Teijin Ltd., Japan ΡA SO PCT Int. Appl., 49 pp. CODEN: PIXXD2 DT Patent LA Japanese FAN.CNT 1 PATENT NO. KIND DATE APPLICATION NO. DATE _____ ____ _____ _____ _____

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OREF 104:13417a,13420a Simultaneous multiple assays and compounds and compositions useful in them ΤT Olson, Douglas Richard IN ΡA Micromedic Systems, Inc., USA SO Eur. Pat. Appl., 26 pp. CODEN: EPXXDW DT Patent English LА FAN.CNT 2 KIND DATE APPLICATION NO. DATE PATENT NO. ____ ____ _____ _____ _____ EP165716A119851227EP165716B119900131 EP 1985-303564 ΡI 19850521 R: AT, BE, CH, DE, FR, GB, IT, LI, LU, NL, SE US 4672028 A 19870609 US 1984-612979 19840523 AT 50066 19900215 AT 1985-303564 Т 19850521 19851128 19890413 AU 8542798 AU 1985-42798 А 19850523 В2 А А AU 582970 JP 61000092 JP 1985-111312 19860106 19850523 PRAI US 1984-612979 19840523 EP 1985-303564 А 19850521 ASSIGNMENT HISTORY FOR US PATENT AVAILABLE IN LSUS DISPLAY FORMAT THERE ARE 8 CAPLUS RECORDS THAT CITE THIS RECORD (9 CITINGS) OSC.G 8 L15 ANSWER 55 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text 103:213903 CA AN OREF 103:34477a,34480a Mitogenic inhibition and effect on survival of mice bearing L1210 ΤI leukemia using a combination of dehydroascorbic acid and hydroxycobalamin AII Poydock, M. E.; Harguindey, S.; Hart, T.; Takita, H.; Kelly, D. Cancer Res. Unit, Mercyhurst Coll., Erie, PA, USA American Journal of Clinical Oncology (1985), 8(3), 266-9 CS SO CODEN: AJCODI; ISSN: 0277-3732 DT Journal LA English OSC.G 7 THERE ARE 7 CAPLUS RECORDS THAT CITE THIS RECORD (7 CITINGS) L15 ANSWER 56 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text 99:35419 CA AN OREF 99:5533a,5536a Studies of the radioimmunoassay of serum haptocorrin and its clinical ΤI application AU Saito, Kainosuke CS Dep. Intern. Med., Sapporo Med. Coll., Sapporo, Japan Sapporo Igaku Zasshi (1983), 52(2), 237-52 SO CODEN: SIZSAR; ISSN: 0036-472X DT Journal LA Japanese L15 ANSWER 57 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text AN 97:1 97:107723 CA OREF 97:17883a,17886a Production of transcobalamin II by various murine and human cells in ΤI culture AU Rabinowitz, R.; Rachmilewitz, B.; Rachmilewitz, M.; Schlesinger, M. Hadassah Med. Sch., Hebrew Univ., Jerusalem, 91010, Israel CS SO Israel Journal of Medical Sciences (1982), 18(7), 740-5 CODEN: IJMDAI; ISSN: 0021-2180 DT Journal LA English THERE ARE 2 CAPLUS RECORDS THAT CITE THIS RECORD (2 CITINGS) OSC.G 2 L15 ANSWER 58 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text AN 97:5 97:5040 CA OREF 97:987a,990a Influence of vitamins C and B12 on the survival rate of mice bearing ΤI ascites **tumor** AU Poydock, M. Eymard; Reikert, D.; Rice, J.

Mercyhurst Coll., Erie, PA, 16546, USA CS Experimental Cell Biology (1982), 50(2), 88-91 SO CODEN: ECEBDI; ISSN: 0304-3568 DT Journal English LA OSC.G 4 THERE ARE 4 CAPLUS RECORDS THAT CITE THIS RECORD (4 CITINGS) L15 ANSWER 59 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text 95:93426 CA AN OREF 95:15687a,15690a ΤI Determination of transcobalamins Selhub, Jacob; Rachmilewitz, Bracha; Grossowicz, Nathan IΝ Yissum Research Development Co., Israel PA SO U.S., 8 pp. Cont.-in-part of U.S. 4,167,556. CODEN: USXXAM DT Patent LA English FAN.CNT 4 PATENT NO. KIND DATE APPLICATION NO. DATE _____ ____ 19781117 1977 US 4273757 A 19810616 US 1978–961771 PI CA 1092956 19810106 CA 1977–278950 A1 US 4167556 A 19790911 US 1977-802379 19770602 PRAI US 1977-802379 A2 19770602 IL 1976-49662 А 19760526 US 1978-961771 19781117 А OSC.G 13 THERE ARE 13 CAPLUS RECORDS THAT CITE THIS RECORD (16 CITINGS) L15 ANSWER 60 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text AN 90:9 90:99501 CA OREF 90:15677a,15680a The identification and measurement of a folate-binding protein in human ΤT serum by radioimmunoassay AU Da Costa, Maria; Rothenberg, Sheldon P.; Fischer, Craig; Rosenberg, Zoltan Dep. Med., New York Med. Coll., New York, NY, USA CS Journal of Laboratory and Clinical Medicine (1978), 91(6), 901-10 SO CODEN: JLCMAK; ISSN: 0022-2143 DT Journal English LA OSC.G 1 THERE ARE 1 CAPLUS RECORDS THAT CITE THIS RECORD (1 CITINGS) L15 ANSWER 61 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text 89:40483 CA AN OREF 89:6263a,6266a Vitamin B12-binding proteins in serum and plasma in various disorders. ΤT Effect of anticoagulants AU Carmel, Ralph CS Dep. Med., Univ. Southern California Sch. Med., Los Angeles, CA, USA SO American Journal of Clinical Pathology (1978), 69(3), 319-25 CODEN: AJCPAI; ISSN: 0002-9173 DT Journal LA English OSC.G 5 THERE ARE 5 CAPLUS RECORDS THAT CITE THIS RECORD (5 CITINGS) L15 ANSWER 62 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text AN 88:150028 CA OREF 88:23630h,23631a ΤТ Vitamin B12 and vitamin B12 binding proteins in liver diseases AU Areekul, Suvit; Panatampon, Piangporn; Doungbarn, Jiraporn Fac. Trop. Med., Mahidol Univ., Bangkok, Thailand CS SO Southeast Asian Journal of Tropical Medicine and Public Health (1977), 8(3), 322-8 CODEN: SJTMAK; ISSN: 0125-1562 DT Journal English LA OSC.G 2 THERE ARE 2 CAPLUS RECORDS THAT CITE THIS RECORD (2 CITINGS) L15 ANSWER 63 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN

Full Text 88:20262 CA AN OREF 88:3251a,3254a ΤI Analysis of cobalamin coenzymes in **tumor** cells of mice spleen Vares, Yu. V.; Myasishcheva, N. V. Oncol. Res. Cent., Moscow, USSR AU CS Voprosy Meditsinskoi Khimii (1977), 23(5), 681-4 SO CODEN: VMDKAM; ISSN: 0042-8809 DT Journal LΑ Russian L15 ANSWER 64 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text AN 86:153564 CA OREF 86:24107a,24110a ΤI Hemoglobin A2 levels in health and various hematologic disorders AU Alperin, Jack B.; Dow, Patricia A.; Petteway, Mozellar B. Dep. Intern. Med., Univ. Texas, Galveston, TX, USA CS American Journal of Clinical Pathology (1977), 67(3), 219-26 SO CODEN: AJCPAI; ISSN: 0002-9173 DT Journal English LA OSC.G THERE ARE 6 CAPLUS RECORDS THAT CITE THIS RECORD (6 CITINGS) 6 L15 ANSWER 65 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text 86:137655 CA AN OREF 86:21624h,21625a Determination of the unsaturated **vitamin B12** binding capacity in ΤI normal and physiopathological conditions ΑΠ Areekul, Suvit; Vongtapvanish, Srisuda CS Fac. Trop. Med., Mahidol Univ., Bangkok, Thailand SO Southeast Asian Journal of Tropical Medicine and Public Health (1976), 7(3), 496-8 CODEN: SJTMAK; ISSN: 0125-1562 DT Journal English LA L15 ANSWER 66 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text AN 86:3 CA OREF 86:1a B12-dependent methionine synthetase as a potential target for cancer ΤI chemotherapy Huennekens, F. M.; DiGirolamo, P. M.; Fujii, K.; Jacobsen, D. W.; Vitols, AU K. S. CS Dep. Biochem., Scripps Clin. Res. Found., La Jolla, CA, USA Advances in Enzyme Regulation (1976), 14, 187-205 SO CODEN: AEZRA2; ISSN: 0065-2571 DT Journal; General Review LA English THERE ARE 5 CAPLUS RECORDS THAT CITE THIS RECORD (5 CITINGS) OSC.G 5 L15 ANSWER 67 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text 82:29483 CA AN OREF 82:4708h,4709a Granulocyte colony stimulating activity and vitamin B12 binding ΤI proteins in human urine ΑIJ Gibson, Emma L.; Herbert, Victor; Robinson, William A. CS Med. Cent., Univ. Colorado, Denver, CO, USA British Journal of Haematology (1974), 28(2), 191-7 SO CODEN: BJHEAL; ISSN: 0007-1048 DT Journal LA English L15 ANSWER 68 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text 81:89342 CA AN OREF 81:14171a,14174a ΤI Characteristics of a novel serum vitamin B12-binding protein associated with hepatocellular carcinoma

Waxman, Samuel; Gilbert, Harriet S. AU Mt. Sinai Sch. Med., City Univ. New York, New York, NY, USA CS SO British Journal of Haematology (1974), 27(2), 229-39 CODEN: BJHEAL; ISSN: 0007-1048 DT Journal English LA L15 ANSWER 69 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text 80:131413 CA AN OREF 80:21193a,21196a ΤI N5-Methyltetrahydrofolate:homocysteine methyltransferase activity in extracts from normal, malignant, and embryonic tissue culture cells Ashe, Hilary; Clark, Brian R.; Chu, Fred; Hardy, Dorothy N.; Halpern, AU Barbara C.; Halpern, Richard M.; Smith, Roberts A. CS Mol. Biol. Inst., Univ. California, Los Angeles, CA, USA SO Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications (1974), 57(2), 417-25 CODEN: BBRCA9; ISSN: 0006-291X DT Journal LA English OSC.G 6 THERE ARE 6 CAPLUS RECORDS THAT CITE THIS RECORD (6 CITINGS) L15 ANSWER 70 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN <u>Full Text</u> AN 80:25638 CA OREF 80:4234h,4235a Glutathione peroxidase in human red cells in health and disease ΤT Hopkins, J.; Tudhope, G. R. ΑIJ CS Dep. Pharmacol. Ther., Univ. Dundee, Dundee, UK SO British Journal of Haematology (1973), 25(5), 563-75 CODEN: BJHEAL; ISSN: 0007-1048 DT Journal LA English OSC.G 49 THERE ARE 49 CAPLUS RECORDS THAT CITE THIS RECORD (49 CITINGS) L15 ANSWER 71 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text 77:138108 CA AN OREF 77:22717a,22720a ΤI Leukemogenesis by Rauscher virus in mice Irino, Shozo; Miyoshi, Isao; Sezaki, Tatsuo; Nagao, Tadami; Taguchi, AU Hirokuni; Hara, Koichi; Hiraki, Kiyoshi CS Med. Sch., Okayama Univ., Okayama, Japan SO Exp. Leukemogenesis, Pap. Jap. Cancer Ass. Symp. Exp. Leuk. Res. Jap. (1972), Meeting Date 1970, 47-63. Editor(s): Yamamoto, Tadashi. Publisher: Univ. Park Press, Baltimore, Md. CODEN: 25POAE DT Conference LA English L15 ANSWER 72 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text 76:70733 CA AN OREF 76:11401a,11404a Formiminoglutamic acid excretion after histidine loading in folic ΤI acid-vitamin B12 metabolic disturbances AU Wilmanns, W. CS Med. Universitaetsklin., Tuebingen, Fed. Rep. Ger. SO Wissenschaftliche Veroeffentlichungen der Deutschen Gesellschaft fuer Ernaehrung (1971), 19, 30-46 CODEN: WVGEAP; ISSN: 0043-6828 DT Journal LA German L15 ANSWER 73 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text 75:96679 CA AN OREF 75:15287a,15290a Increased transcobalamin I in a leukemoid reaction ΤI AU Hall, Charles A.; Wanko, Maxine CS Hematol. Res. Lab., Albany Veterans Adm. Hosp., Albany, NY, USA Journal of Laboratory and Clinical Medicine (1971), 78(2), 298-301 SO

CODEN: JLCMAK; ISSN: 0022-2143 DT Journal English T.A OSC.G 2 THERE ARE 2 CAPLUS RECORDS THAT CITE THIS RECORD (2 CITINGS) L15 ANSWER 74 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text AN 74:40522 CA OREF 74:6517a,6520a TI Acquired aplastic anemia AU Keiser, G. CS Med. Abt., Buergerspital, Zug, Switz. Deutsche Medizinische Wochenschrift (1970), 95(40), 2032-4 SO CODEN: DMWOAX; ISSN: 0012-0472 DT Journal LA German L15 ANSWER 75 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN <u>Full Text</u> AN 71:28714 CA AN OREF 71:5289a,5292a Determination of blood folate activity in humans in healthy and in various ΤI pathological states Karlin, Rosalie AIJ CS Inst. Pasteur, Lyons, Fr. Internationale Zeitschrift fuer Vitaminforschung (1969), 39(1), 44-64 SO CODEN: IZVIAK; ISSN: 0020-9406 DT Journal French LA L15 ANSWER 76 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN <u>Full Text</u> AN 71:11249 CA OREF 71:2051a,2054a ТΤ Vitamin B12 and some indexes of nucleic acid metabolism in leukemia AU Sheremet, Z. I.; Myasishcheva, N. V. Inst. Eksp. Klin. Onkol., Moscow, USSR CS SO Probl. Leikozov (1967), 164-70. Editor(s): Rostovtsev, N. F. Publisher: Izd. "Kolos", Moscow, USSR. CODEN: 20XPAO DT Conference LA Russian L15 ANSWER 77 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text 70:94909 CA AN OREF 70:17731a,17734a Uptake of labeled vitamin B12 and 4-iodophenylalanine in some tumors ΤT of mice AU Blomquist, Lars; Flodh, H.; Ullberg, Sven Dep. Pharmacol., Roy. Vet. Coll., Stockholm, Swed. CS Experientia (1969), 25(3), 294-6 SO CODEN: EXPEAM; ISSN: 0014-4754 DT Journal English LA OSC.G 2 THERE ARE 2 CAPLUS RECORDS THAT CITE THIS RECORD (2 CITINGS) L15 ANSWER 78 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text AN 69:84990 CA OREF 69:15874h,15875a Determination of formiminoglutamic acid excretion as a functional test for ΤT disturbances in folic acid and vitamin B12 metabolism Wilmanns, W.; Burgmann, T. AU Med. Universitaetsklin. Tuebingen, Tuebingen, Fed. Rep. Ger. CS Deutsche Medizinische Wochenschrift (1968), 93(38), 1801-6 SO CODEN: DMWOAX; ISSN: 0012-0472 DT Journal German LA L15 ANSWER 79 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text

63:91925 CA AN OREF 63:16915d-f ТΤ Adenosylmethionine elevation in leukemic white blood cells AU Baldessarini, Ross J.; Carbone, Paul P. CS Natl. Cancer Inst., Bethesda, MD Science (Washington, DC, United States) (1965), 149(3684), 644-5 SO CODEN: SCIEAS; ISSN: 0036-8075 DT Journal LA English L15 ANSWER 80 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text 61:71260 CA AN OREF 61:12425g-h Some investigations of folic acid deficiency ΤТ AU Kershaw, P. W.; Girdwood, R. H. CS Roy. Infirmary, Edinburgh Scot. Med. J. (1964), 9(5), 201-12 SO DT Journal Unavailable LΑ L15 ANSWER 81 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text 60:41018 CA AN OREF 60:7258h,7259a ΤΙ Serum protein changes and organ dye concentrations in trypan blue carcinogenesis AU Brown, D. V.; Norlind, L. M.; Adamovics, A.; Bowen, A. Univ. of Washington, Seattle CS Proceedings of the Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine (1963), SO 114, 290-3 CODEN: PSEBAA; ISSN: 0037-9727 DT Journal T.A Unavailable L15 ANSWER 82 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text 60:5296 CA AN OREF 60:961a-d ΤI Red cell enzymes in anemia AU Vuopio, Pekka CS Finnish Red Cross Blood Transfusion Serv., Helsinki SO Scandinavian Journal of Clinical and Laboratory Investigation (1963), Suppl. 15(72), 90 pp. CODEN: SJCLAY; ISSN: 0036-5513 DT Journal Unavailable LΑ L15 ANSWER 83 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text 55:18970 CA AN OREF 55:3798e-h Co58-[Vitamin]B12 absorption, plasma transport, and excretion in ΤT patients with myeloproliferative disorders, solid tumors, and non-neoplastic disease AU Weinstein, I. Bernard; Watkin, Donald M. Natl. Cancer Inst. Bethesda, MD CS SO Journal of Clinical Investigation (1960), 39, 1667-74 CODEN: JCINAO; ISSN: 0021-9738 DT Journal LΑ Unavailable L15 ANSWER 84 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text 54:131385 CA AN OREF 54:25240i,25241a Clearance of intravenously injected radioactive cobalt-labeled vitamin ТΤ B12 in chronic myeloid leukemia and other conditions AU Ritz, Norton D.; Meyer, Leo M. CS Maimonides Hosp., Brooklyn, NY SO Cancer (1960), 13, 1000-7 DT Journal

L15 ANSWER 85 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN <u>Full Text</u> AN 52:115884 CA OREF 52:20584a-b The diagnostic value of the determination of **vitamin B12** in body ТΤ fluids in diseases of the blood and liver AU Rachmilewitz, M.; Stein, Y. Rothschild Hadassah Univ. Hosp., Jerusalem, Israel CS Harefuah (1958), 54, 167-70 CODEN: HAREA6; ISSN: 0017-7768 SO Journal DT LA Unavailable L15 ANSWER 86 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text AN 52:7 52:78440 CA OREF 52:13964a-c Serum vitamin B12 concentrations determined by Lactobacillus ТΤ leichmannii assay in patients with **neoplastic** disease AU Mendelsohn, Robert S.; Watkin, Donald M. Natl. Insts. Health, Bethesda, MD CS SO Journal of Laboratory and Clinical Medicine (1958), 51, 860-6 CODEN: JLCMAK; ISSN: 0022-2143 DT Journal LA Unavailable OSC.G 2 THERE ARE 2 CAPLUS RECORDS THAT CITE THIS RECORD (2 CITINGS) L15 ANSWER 87 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text AN 52:46370 CA OREF 52:8346c-f ΤT Chromatography of serum proteins in normal and pathologic serums: the distribution of protein-bound carbohydrate and cholesterol, siderophilin, thyroxine-binding protein, vitamin B12-binding protein, alkaline and acid phosphatases, radioiodinated albumin, and myeloma proteins Fahey, John L.; McCoy, Patricia F.; Goulian, Mehran AU Natl. Insts. of Health, Bethesda, MD CS Journal of Clinical Investigation (1958), 37, 272-84 SO CODEN: JCINAO; ISSN: 0021-9738 DT Journal LA Unavailable L15 ANSWER 88 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text AN 50:90938 CA OREF 50:17113g-i,17114a ΤТ Pathology and physiology of zinc metabolism AU Wolff, H. P. Univ. Marburg a.d. Lahn, Germany Klinische Wochenschrift (1956), 34, 409-18 CS SO CODEN: KLWOAZ; ISSN: 0023-2173 DT Journal LA Unavailable OSC.G 1 THERE ARE 1 CAPLUS RECORDS THAT CITE THIS RECORD (1 CITINGS) => d an ti in au so pi ab kwic 44 47 L15 ANSWER 44 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text AN 124:176815 CA OREF 124:32818h,32819a Preparation of **vitamin B12** derivatives as receptor modulating agents ΤI for treating cancers Morgan, A. Charles; Wilbur, D. Scott; Pathare, Pradip M. Morgan, A. Charles; Wilbur, D. Scott; Pathare, Pradip M. ΤN IN PCT Int. Appl., 101 pp. SO CODEN: PIXXD2 PATENT NO. KIND DATE APPLICATION NO. DATE _____ _____ ____ _____ _____

> Teva – Fresenius Exhibit 1002-00427

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	US	58408	380			А	19981	124	US	1995-4	406191		19	9503	316	
	US	58694	465			А	19990	209	US	1995-4	406194		19	9503	316	
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- AB Receptor modulating agents comprising a vitamin B12 targeting mol. coupled to a rerouting moiety (I; R1 - R7 = a linker, through which a rerouting moiety is coupled), which are capable of modulating cell surface receptors by affecting the cell surface receptor trafficking pathway via retaining an agent/receptor complex in an endosome, are prepd. Said rerouting moiety is preferably (1) a lysosomotropic moiety selected from aminoglycoside antibiotics such as gentamycin, sisomicin, netilmicin, kanamycin, tobramycin, amikacin, neomycin, paromomycin, ribostamycin, butirosin, and streptomycin, (2) a peptide sorting sequence selected from endoplasmic reticulum retention peptides, golgi retention peptides, lysosomal retention peptides, organism specific retention peptides, and clathrin-binding peptides., and (3) a conditional membrane binding peptide selected from charged glutamate, aspartate, and histidine. These receptor modulating agents are useful for treating neoplastic disorders such as leukemia, sarcoma, myeloma, carcinoma, neuroma, melanoma, cancers of the lung, liver, breast, colon, cervix, and prostate, Hodgkin's disease, and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Thus, a mixt. of 500 mg cyanocobalamin monocarboxylic acids I (R1 = R7 = OH, R2 - R6 = NH2; R1 = R3 - R6 = NH2, R2 = R7 = OH; R1 - R3 = R5 = R6 = NH2, R4 = R7 = OH) (prepn. given) and 3.6 g 1,12-diaminododecane in 100 mL H2O was adjusted to pH 6 with 1 N HCl, treated with 726 mg 1-ethyl-3-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)carbodiimide hydrochloride, and stirred at room temp. for 22 h to give cyanocobalamin monocarboxylic acid N-(12-aminododecyl)amides I [R1 = NH(CH2)12NH2, R2 -R6 = NH2, R7 = OH] and I [R1 = R3 - R6 = NH2, R2 = NH(CH2)12NH2, R7 = OH] (II). II at 10 μM in vitro killed 85% K562 cells.
- TI Preparation of **vitamin B12** derivatives as receptor modulating agents for treating cancers
- AB Receptor modulating agents comprising a **vitamin B12** targeting mol. coupled to a rerouting moiety (I; R1 - R7 = a linker, through which a rerouting moiety is. . . a conditional membrane binding peptide selected from charged glutamate, aspartate, and histidine. These receptor modulating agents are useful for treating **neoplastic** disorders such as **leukemia**, sarcoma, myeloma, **carcinoma**, neuroma, melanoma, cancers of the lung, liver, breast, colon, cervix, and prostate, Hodgkin's disease, and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Thus, a mixt.
- ST vitamin B12 deriv prepn receptor modulating; anticancer vitamin B12 deriv; aminoglycoside antibiotic conjugate vitamin B12; peptide conjugate vitamin B12; conditional membrane binding peptide

IT Peptides, preparation

RL: BAC (Biological activity or effector, except adverse); BSU (Biological study, unclassified); SPN (Synthetic preparation); THU (Therapeutic use); BIOL (Biological study); PREP (Preparation); USES (Uses) (peptide sorting sequence (e.g. endoplasmic retention peptides) or conditional membrane binding peptide; prepn. of vitamin B12-peptide conjugates as receptor modulating agents for treating cancers)

IT Receptors

- RL: BPR (Biological process); BSU (Biological study, unclassified); BIOL (Biological study); PROC (Process)
 - (prepn. of vitamin B12 derivs. as receptor

modulating agents affecting cell surface receptor trafficking pathway
for treating cancers)

IT Neoplasm inhibitors

(prepn. of **vitamin B12** derivs. as receptor modulating agents for treating cancers)

IT Antibiotics

RL: BAC (Biological activity or effector, except adverse); BSU (Biological study, unclassified); SPN (Synthetic preparation); THU (Therapeutic use); BIOL (Biological study); PREP (Preparation); USES (Uses)

(aminoglycoside, prepn. of vitamin B12 -aminoglycoside antibiotic conjugates as receptor modulating agents for treating cancers) 57-92-1DP, Streptomycin, vitamin B12 conjugate 59-01-8DP, Kanamycin, vitamin B12 conjugate ΙT 1403-66-3DP, Gentamycin, vitamin B12 conjugate 1404-04-2DP, Neomycin, vitamin B12 conjugate 7542-37-2DP, Paromomycin, vitamin B12 conjugate 12772-35-9DP, Butirosin, vitamin B12 conjugate 25546-65-0DP, Ribostamycin, vitamin B12 conjugate 32385-11-8DP, Sisomicin, vitamin B12 conjugate 32986-56-4DP, Tobramycin, vitamin B12 conjugate 37517-28-5DP, Amikacin, vitamin B12 conjugate 56391-56-1DP, Netilmicin, vitamin B12 conjugate 160927-56-0P 173341-36-1P 173341-37-2P 173341-38-3P 173341-39-4P 173341-40-7P 173341-41-8P 173341-42-9P 173341-43-0P 173341-44-1P 173341-47-4P 173341-48-5P 173341-45-2P 173341-46-3P 173341-52-1P 173341-53-2P 173341-54-3P RL: BAC (Biological activity or effector, except adverse); BSU (Biological study, unclassified); SPN (Synthetic preparation); THU (Therapeutic use); BIOL (Biological study); PREP (Preparation); USES (Uses) (prepn. of vitamin B12 derivs. as receptor modulating agents for treating cancers) IT **68-19-9**, Cyanocobalamin 99-31-0, 5-Aminoisophthalic acid 99-63-8, 1,3-Benzenedicarbonyl dichloride 108-30-5, reactions 769-39-1, 2,3,5,6-Tetrafluorophenol 813-19-4, Bis(tributyltin) 2783-17-7, 1,12-Diaminododecane 1711-02-0, 4-Iodobenzoyl chloride 35013-72-0 110079-43-1 RL: RCT (Reactant); RACT (Reactant or reagent) (prepn. of vitamin B12 derivs. as receptor modulating agents for treating cancers) 72040-64-3P IΤ 173341-22-5P 173341-23-6P 173341-24-7P 173341-25-8P 173341-26-9P 173341-27-0P 173341-28-1P 173341-29-2P 173341-30-5P 173341-31-6P 173341-32-7P 173341-33-8P 173341-34-9P 173341-35-0P 173341-50-9P 173341-51-0P 173341-59-8P 173341-49-6P RL: RCT (Reactant); SPN (Synthetic preparation); PREP (Preparation); RACT (Reactant or reagent) (prepn. of vitamin B12 derivs. as receptor modulating agents for treating cancers) ΤТ 173341-56-5P 173341-57-6P 173341-58-7P RL: BAC (Biological activity or effector, except adverse); BSU (Biological study, unclassified); SPN (Synthetic preparation); THU (Therapeutic use); BIOL (Biological study); PREP (Preparation); USES (Uses) (prepn. of vitamin B12-aminoglycoside antibiotic conjugates as receptor modulating agents for treating cancers) 86-38-4, 6,9-Dichloro-2-methoxyacridine ΤT 51857-17-1 99008-43-2 RL: RCT (Reactant); RACT (Reactant or reagent) (prepn. of vitamin B12-aminoglycoside antibiotic conjugates as receptor modulating agents for treating cancers) ΙT 7657-92-3P 121714-48-5P RL: RCT (Reactant); SPN (Synthetic preparation); PREP (Preparation); RACT (Reactant or reagent) (prepn. of **vitamin B12**-aminoglycoside antibiotic conjugates as receptor modulating agents for treating cancers) L15 ANSWER 47 OF 88 CA COPYRIGHT 2009 ACS on STN Full Text 119:39993 CA AN OREF 119:7079a,7082a ΤT Vitamins as chemotherapeutic and chemopreventive agents ΑIJ Ryan, Donna H.; Starr, Barry Pennington Center Nutrition Series (1993), 3 (Vitamins and Cancer SO Prevention), 147-60 CODEN: PCNSEW; ISSN: 1063-8822 A review with 45 refs. Therapy with retinoids has produced objective AB responses in patients with some types of skin cancer, and tretinoin is effective in producing terminal differentiation and complete remission in acute promyelocytic leukemia. Cancer chemoprevention trails are under way evaluating the activity of multiple vitamin prepns., beta-carotene, retinoids, vitamin C, vitamin E, vitamin B12, vitamin B6, and folate. Since **carcinogenesis** is a multistage process that can occur over decades in humans, efficient evaluation of chemopreventive agents requires

research strategies utilizing intermediate biol. end points. Preneoplasia, classically defined histol. cellular change, is being redefined by advances in mol. and cell biol. Vitamins have been exploited as unproven remedies to vulnerable **cancer** patients, but now vitamins and their derivs. have an emerging role in **cancer** chemotherapy and chemoprevention.

- AB A review with 45 refs. Therapy with retinoids has produced objective responses in patients with some types of skin cancer, and tretinoin is effective in producing terminal differentiation and complete remission in acute promyelocytic leukemia. Cancer chemoprevention trails are under way evaluating the activity of multiple vitamin prepns., beta-carotene, retinoids, vitamin C, vitamin E, vitamin B12, vitamin B6, and folate. Since carcinogenesis is a multistage process that can occur over decades in humans, efficient evaluation of chemopreventive agents requires research strategies utilizing. . . change, is being redefined by advances in mol. and cell biol. Vitamins have been exploited as unproven remedies to vulnerable cancer patients, but now vitamins and their derivs. have an emerging role in cancer chemotherapy and chemoprevention.
 - RL: BAC (Biological activity or effector, except adverse); BSU (Biological study, unclassified); BIOL (Biological study)

(cancer chemotherapeutic and chemopreventive activity of)

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=> s 120 and 122 L24 254 L20 AND L22

=> s leukemia?

L25 72327 LEUKEMIA? => s leukemia?/clm L26 8743 LEUKEMIA?/CLM => s 123 and 125 L27 1851 L23 AND L25 => s 124 and 126 24 L24 AND L26 L28 => d 1-24L28 ANSWER 1 OF 24 USPATFULL on STN Full Text AN 2009:145928 USPATFULL ΤТ Lipid compositions for the treatment and prevention of proliferative diseases and for the reduction of incidences of mutagenesis and carinogenesis ΙN Yosef, Fabiana Bar, Haifa, ISRAEL ΡA Enzymotec Ltd., Migdal Haemek, ISRAEL (non-U.S. corporation) ΡI US 20090131523 A1 20090521 US 2008-285806 A1 20081014 (12) AI PRAI US 2007-960798P 20071015 (60) DT Utility FS APPLICATION LN.CNT 1226 INCL INCLM: 514/558.000 INCLS: 426 2 514/558.000 NCL NCLM: NCLS: 426/002.000 A61K0031-20 [I,A]; A61K0031-185 [I,C*]; A23D0007-005 [I,A]; IC IPCI A23D0007-04 [I,A]; A23D0007-02 [I,C*]; A23L0001-29 [I,A] A61K0031-185 [I,C]; A61K0031-20 [I,A]; A23D0007-005 [I,C]; TPCR A23D0007-005 [I,A]; A23D0007-02 [I,C]; A23D0007-04 [I,A]; A23L0001-29 [I,C]; A23L0001-29 [I,A] CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT. L28 ANSWER 2 OF 24 USPATFULL on STN Full Text 2009:58740 USPATFULL AN ΤI Transfer Factor Compositions and Methods Ramaekers, Joseph C., Aptos, CA, UNITED STATES ΙN ΡT US 20090053197 A1 20090226 US 2007-762727 A1 20070613 (11) ΑT US 2006-814777P 20060614 (60) PRAT US 2006-834739P 20060731 (60) Utility DT FS APPLICATION LN.CNT 1798 INCL INCLM: 424/130.100 NCL NCLM: 424/130.100 A61K0039-395 [I,A]; A61P0003-00 [I,A] A61K0039-395 [I,C]; A61K0039-395 [I,A]; A61P0003-00 [I,C]; TC TPCT IPCR A61P0003-00 [I,A] CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT. L28 ANSWER 3 OF 24 USPATFULL on STN Full Text AN 2008:253184 USPATFULL ΤT Advanced drug development and manufacturing Birnbaum, Eva R., Los Alamos, NM, UNITED STATES ΤN Koppisch, Andrew T., Flagstaff, AZ, UNITED STATES Baldwin, Sharon M., Santa Fe, NM, UNITED STATES Warner, Benjamin P., Los Alamos, NM, UNITED STATES McCleskey, T. Mark, Los Alamos, NM, UNITED STATES Stewart, Jeffrey Joseph, Los Alamos, NM, UNITED STATES Berger, Jennifer A., Los Alamos, NM, UNITED STATES Harris, Michael N., Los Alamos, NM, UNITED STATES Burrell, Anthony K., Los Alamos, NM, UNITED STATES ΡI US 20080220441 A1 20080911 A1 20071010 (11) US 2007-974156 ΑT

RLI Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. US 2001-859701, filed on 16 May 2001, PENDING Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. US 2002-206524, filed on 25 Jul 2002, ABANDONED Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. US 2003-621825, filed on 16 Jul 2003, Pat. No. US 6858148 US 2006-850594P 20061010 (60) PRAI Utility DT APPLICATION FS LN.CNT 10199 INCL INCLM: 435/071.000 INCLS: 436/501.000; 436/172.000; 436/086.000; 378/045.000 NCL NCLM: 435/007.100 378/045.000; 436/086.000; 436/172.000; 436/501.000 NCLS: G01N0033-53 [I,A]; G01N0021-76 [I,A]; G01N0033-68 [I,A]; IC IPCI G01N0023-223 [I,A]; G01N0023-22 [I,C*] IPCR G01N0033-53 [I,C]; G01N0033-53 [I,A]; G01N0021-76 [I,C]; G01N0021-76 [I,A]; G01N0023-22 [I,C]; G01N0023-223 [I,A]; G01N0033-68 [I,C]; G01N0033-68 [I,A] CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT. L28 ANSWER 4 OF 24 USPATFULL on STN Full Text AN 2007:328349 USPATFULL Modulation of Hyaluronan Synthesis and Degradation in the Treatment of ΤT Disease ΙN Brown, Tracey Jean, Flemington, AUSTRALIA Brownlee, Gary Russell, East Burwood, AUSTRALIA ALCHEMIA ONCOLOGY LIMITED, Eight Mile Plains, AUSTRALIA, 4113 (non-U.S. PA corporation) US 20070286856 A1 20071213 ΡI A1 20041011 (10) AI US 2004-574903 WO 2004-AU1383 20041011 20070228 PCT 371 date PRAI AU 2003-905551 20031010 AU 2003-3906658 20031201 Utility DT FS APPLICATION LN.CNT 8892 INCL INCLM: 424/133.100 INCLS: 424/130.100; 424/142.100; 514/044.000; 530/387.100; 530/387.300; 530/388.100; 530/389.100; 536/022.100; 536/023.200; 536/024.500 NCL NCLM: 424/133.100 NCLS: 424/130.100; 424/142.100; 514/044.000A; 530/387.100; 530/387.300; 530/388.100; 530/389.100; 536/022.100; 536/023.200; 536/024.500 A61K0048-00 [I,A]; A61K0039-395 [I,A]; A61P0043-00 [I,A]; IC IPCI C07H0021-04 [I,A]; C07H0021-00 [I,C*]; C07K0016-18 [I,A] A61K0048-00 [I,C]; A61K0048-00 [I,A]; A61K0031-395 [I,C*]; A61K0031-395 [I,A]; A61K0031-7105 [I,C*]; A61K0031-7105 [I,A]; IPCR A61K0031-711 [I,C*]; A61K0031-711 [I,A]; A61K0031-7115 [I,C*]; A61K0031-7115 [I,A]; A61K0031-712 [I,C*]; A61K0031-712 [I,A]; A61K0031-7125 [I,C*]; A61K0031-7125 [I,A]; A61K0039-395 [I,C]; A61K0039-395 [I,A]; A61P0035-00 [I,C*]; A61P0035-00 [I,A]; A61P0043-00 [I,C]; A61P0043-00 [I,A]; C07H0021-00 [I,C]; C07H0021-02 [I,A]; C07H0021-04 [I,A]; C07K0016-18 [I,C]; C07K0016-18 [I,A]; C07K0016-40 [I,C*]; C07K0016-40 [I,A] CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT. L28 ANSWER 5 OF 24 USPATFULL on STN Full Text AN 2007:284140 USPATFULL ΤT Nutraceutical composition and method of use for treatment / prevention of cancer Mazzio, Elizabeth, Tallahassee, FL, UNITED STATES ΤN Soliman, Karam, Tallahassee, FL, UNITED STATES ΡI US 20070248693 A1 20071025 A1 20070227 (11) US 2007-711883 ΑI Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. US 2005-233279, filed on 20 Sep 2005, RLI ABANDONED Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. US 2004-909590, filed on 2 Aug 2004, ABANDONED US^{2003-491841P} 20030802 (60) PRAI US 2004-540525P 20040129 (60) DT Utility APPLICATION FS
LN.CNT 2576 TNCL INCLM: 424/725.000 NCL NCLM: 424/725.000 IC IPCI A61K0036-00 [I,A]; A61P0035-00 [I,A] A61K0036-00 [I,C]; A61K0036-00 [I,A]; A61P0035-00 [I,C]; IPCR A61P0035-00 [I,A] CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT. L28 ANSWER 6 OF 24 USPATFULL on STN Full Text ΑN 2007:257306 USPATFULL ΤI COBALAMIN COMPOSITIONS FOR THE TREATMENT OF CANCER ΙN Brown, Chad, Newport Beach, CA, UNITED STATES BEBAAS, INC. (U.S. corporation) PA ΡT US 20070225250 A1 20070927 AI US 2007-627816 A1 20070126 (11) PRAI US 2006-762131P 20060126 (60) DT Utility APPLICATION FS LN.CNT 699 INCL INCLM: 514/052.000 514/052.000 NCL NCLM: IC IPCI A61K0031-714 [I,A]; A61K0031-7135 [I,C*] IPCR A61K0031-7135 [I,C]; A61K0031-714 [I,A] CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT. L28 ANSWER 7 OF 24 USPATFULL on STN Full Text 2007:161483 USPATFULL AN ΤI Composition and procedure for tissue creation, regeneration and repair by a cell-bearing biological implant enriched with platelet concentrate and supplements ΙN Gorrochategui Barrueta, Alberto, Bilbao, SPAIN Simon Elizundia, Josu, Bilbao, SPAIN ΡT US 20070141036 A1 20070621 AI US 2007-704784 A1 20070209 (11) Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. US 2003-475866, filed on 24 Oct 2003, RLI PENDING A 371 of International Ser. No. WO 2002-EP7, filed on 9 Jan 2002 Utility DT APPLICATION FS LN.CNT 1406 INCLM: 424/093.700 INCL 424/093.700 NCL NCLM: IC IPCI A61K0035-14 [I,A] IPCR A61K0035-14 [I,C]; A61K0035-14 [I,A] CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT. L28 ANSWER 8 OF 24 USPATFULL on STN Full Text AN 2007:155116 USPATFULL ΤT Therapeutic molecules Collier, Greg, Victoria, AUSTRALIA ΤN Walder, Ken, Victoria, AUSTRALIA Kerr-Bayles, Lyndal, Victoria, AUSTRALIA Autogen Research Pty Ltd., North Brighton, Victoria, AUSTRALIA (non-U.S. PA corporation) Deakin University, Waurn Ponds, Victoria, AUSTRALIA (non-U.S. corporation) 20070614 ΡT US 20070135335 Α1 ΑT US 2004-545099 Α1 20040210 (10) WO 2004-AU147 20040210 20060504 PCT 371 date US 2003-446191P PRAI 20030210 (60) Utility DT FS APPLICATION LN.CNT 6649 TNCL INCLM: 514/012.000 INCLS: 514/044.000; 530/350.000 NCL 514/012.000 NCLM: NCLS: 514/044.000R; 530/350.000 IC IPCI A61K0038-17 [I,A]; A61K0048-00 [I,A]; C07K0014-705 [I,A]; C07K0014-435 [I,C*]

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A61K0038-17 [I,C]; A61K0038-17 [I,A]; A61K0048-00 [I,C]; TPCR A61K0048-00 [I,A]; C07K0014-435 [I,C]; C07K0014-705 [I,A] CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT. L28 ANSWER 9 OF 24 USPATFULL on STN Full Text AN 2007:30123 USPATFULL Detection of variations in the dna methylation profile ΤT IN Berlin, Kurt, Stahnsdorf, GERMANY, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF Piepenbrock, Christian, Berlin, GERMANY, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF Olek, Alexander, Berlin, GERMANY, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF US 20070026393 A1 20070201 ΡI US 2001-240970 A1 20010406 (10) ΑI WO 2001-DE1486 20010406 20030711 PCT 371 date DE 2000-100190588 PRAI 20000406 Utility DT FS APPLICATION LN.CNT 16100 INCLM: 435/006.000 INCL INCLS: 536/024.300 NCL NCLM: 435/006.000 NCLS: 536/024.300 IPCI C12Q0001-68 [I,A]; C07H0021-04 [I,A]; C07H0021-00 [I,C*] TC C12Q0001-68 [I,C]; C12Q0001-68 [I,A]; C07H0021-00 [I,C]; C07H0021-04 [I,A]; C07K0014-435 [I,C*]; C07K0014-47 [I,A]; IPCR C07K0014-82 [I,C*]; C07K0014-82 [I,A] CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT. L28 ANSWER 10 OF 24 USPATFULL on STN Full Text 2006:248357 USPATFULL AN ΤI Use of phenylmethimazoles, methimazole derivatives, and tautomeric cyclic thiones for the treatment of autoimmune/inflammatory diseases associated with toll-like receptor overexpression ΙN Kohn, Leonard D., Athens, OH, UNITED STATES Harii, Norikazu, Yaminashi, JAPAN Benavides-Peralta, Uruguaysito, Montevideo, URUGUAY Gonzalez-Murguiondo, Mariana, Montevideo, URUGUAY Lewis, Christopher J., Athens, OH, UNITED STATES Napolitano, Giorgio, Pescara, ITALY Giuliani, Cesidio, Roccamonce, ITALY Malgor, Ramiro, Athens, OH, UNITED STATES Goetz, Douglas J., Athens, OH, UNITED STATES A1 20060921 A1 20050517 US 20060211752 ΡI ΑT US 2005-130922 20050517 (11) Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. US 2004-912948, filed on 6 Aug 2004, RLI PENDING Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. US 2004-801986, filed on 16 Mar 2004, PENDING Utility DT FS APPLICATION LN.CNT 8384 INCLM: 514/389.000 INCL 514/389.000 NCL NCLM: IC IPCI A61K0031-4166 [I,A]; A61K0031-4164 [I,C*] IPCR A61K0031-4164 [I,C]; A61K0031-4166 [I,A] CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT. L28 ANSWER 11 OF 24 USPATFULL on STN Full Text 2006:41329 USPATFULL AN Inhibition of anaerobic glucose metabolism and corresponding composition ΤT as a natural non-toxic approach to cancer treatment Mazzio, Elizabeth Anne, Tallahassee, FL, UNITED STATES ΙN Soliman, Karam F., Tallahassee, FL, UNITED STATES A1 20060216 A1 20050920 US 20060035981 ΡT US 2005-233279 ΑT 20050920 (11) Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. US 2004-909590, filed on 2 Aug 2004, RLI ABANDONED US 2003-491841P 20030802 (60) PRAI US 2004-540525P 20040129 (60) Utility DT

APPLICATION FS LN.CNT 1613 INCL INCLM: 514/690.000 INCLS: 514/045.000; 514/051.000; 514/027.000; 514/251.000; 424/725.000; 424/748.000; 424/756.000; 424/745.000; 424/746.000; 424/729.000 NCLM: NCL 514/690.000 424/725.000; 424/729.000; 424/745.000; 424/746.000; 424/748.000; NCLS: 424/756.000; 514/027.000; 514/045.000; 514/051.000; 514/251.000 IPCI IC A61K0031-12 [I,A]; A61K0031-7072 [I,A]; A61K0031-7076 [I,A]; A61K0031-7042 [I,C*]; A61K0031-525 [I,A]; A61K0031-519 [I,C*]; A61K0036-328 [I,A]; A61K0036-23 [I,A]; A61K0036-185 [I,C*]; A61K0036-906 [I,A]; A61K0036-88 [I,C*] A61K0031-12 [I,A]; A61K0031-12 [I,C]; A61K0031-519 [I,C]; IPCR A61K0031-525 [I,A]; A61K0031-7042 [I,C]; A61K0031-7072 [I,A]; A61K0031-7076 [I,A]; A61K0036-185 [I,C]; A61K0036-23 [I,A]; A61K0036-328 [I,A]; A61K0036-537 [I,A]; A61K0036-82 [I,A]; A61K0036-88 [I,C]; A61K0036-906 [I,A] CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT. L28 ANSWER 12 OF 24 USPATFULL on STN Full Text AN 2005:69438 USPATFULL Dietary and pharmaceutical compositions for management and treatment of ΤT oxidative stress Ellithorpe, Rita R., Santa Ana, CA, UNITED STATES Slesarev, Vladimir I., Coeur d'Alene, CA, UNITED STATES Dimitrov, Todor, Chestnut Hill, MA, UNITED STATES ΙN A1 20050317 ΡI US 20050059579 US 2004-794285 A1 20040308 (10) AI SN 2003-10455123 20030506 PRAI Utility DT FS APPLICATION LN.CNT 835 INCLM: 514/008.000 TNCL NCLM: 514/008.000 NCL IC [7] A61K038-16 TCM IPCI A61K0038-16 [ICM,7] A23L0001-305 [I,C*]; A23L0001-305 [I,A]; A61K0031-01 [I,C*]; A61K0031-015 [I,A]; A61K0031-352 [I,C*]; A61K0031-352 [I,A]; TPCR A61K0036-185 [I,C*]; A61K0036-185 [I,A]; A61K0038-16 [I,C*]; A61K0038-16 [I,A] CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT. L28 ANSWER 13 OF 24 USPATFULL on STN Full Text 2004:18482 USPATFULL AN Additive method of standardized drinks and potable water production ΤT Costa, Fortunato, Linda-a-Velha, PORTUGAL ΤN ΡI US 20040013784 A1 20040122 A1 20030127 (10) ΑT US 2003-239621 WO 2001-PT3 20010315 PT 2000-102430 20000316 PRAI DT Utility APPLICATION FS LN.CNT 1215 INCL INCLM: 426/590.000 426/590.000 NCL NCLM: [7] IC ICM C12C001-00 IPCI C12C0001-00 [ICM, 7] A23L0001-29 [I,C*]; A23L0001-29 [I,A]; A23L0002-52 [I,C*]; TPCR A23L0002-52 [I,A]; C02F0001-68 [I,C*]; C02F0001-68 [I,A] CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT. L28 ANSWER 14 OF 24 USPATFULL on STN Full Text 2003:282627 USPATFULL AN ΤT Genostics IΝ Roberts, Gareth Wyn, Cambs, UNITED KINGDOM ΡA GENOSTIC PHARMA LIMITED (non-U.S. corporation) A1 20031023 ΡT US 20030198970

US 2002-206568 A1 20020729 (10) ΑT Continuation of Ser. No. US 1999-325123, filed on 3 Jun 1999, ABANDONED RLT PRAI GB 1998-12098 19980606 GB 1998-28289 19981223 Utility DT FS APPLICATION LN.CNT 4299 INCLM: 435/006.000 INCL INCLS: 536/024.300 NCLM: 435/006.000 NCL NCLS: 536/024.300 IC [7] ICM C12Q001-68 ICS C07H021-04 TPCT C12Q0001-68 [ICM, 7]; C07H0021-04 [ICS, 7]; C07H0021-00 [ICS, 7, C*] IPCR C07K0016-18 [I,C*]; C07K0016-18 [I,A]; C12Q0001-68 [I,C*]; C12Q0001-68 [I,A] CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT. L28 ANSWER 15 OF 24 USPATFULL on STN Full Text AN 2003:112524 USPATFULL ΤT Compositions for treating animal diseases and syndromes Ramaekers, Joseph C., Aptos, CA, UNITED STATES ΤN ΡI US 20030077254 A1 20030424 US 6962718 В2 20051108 US 2002-136854 A1 20020430 (10) ΑT Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. US 2001-847036, filed on 30 Apr 2001, RLT. PENDING DT Utility APPLICATION FS LN.CNT 2396 INCL INCLM: 424/093.300 INCLS: 424/617.000; 424/602.000; 424/094.500; 424/703.000; 514/168.000; 514/558.000; 514/251.000; 514/393.000; 514/356.000; 514/276.000 NCL NCLM: 424/535.000; 424/093.300 424/093.400; 424/093.510; 424/400.000; 424/520.000; 424/725.000; NCLS: 424/094.500; 424/602.000; 424/617.000; 424/703.000; 514/168.000; 514/251.000; 514/276.000; 514/356.000; 514/393.000; 514/558.000 IC [7] A61K045-00 TCM ICS A61K038-52; A61K031-525 A61K0045-00 [ICM,7]; A61K0038-52 [ICS,7]; A61K0038-43 [ICS,7,C*]; IPCI A61K0031-525 [ICS,7]; A61K0031-519 [ICS,7,C*] IPCI-2 A61K0035-20 [ICM,7]; A61K0035-72 [ICS,7]; A61K0035-74 [ICS,7]; A61K0035-66 [ICS,7,C*]; A61K0035-78 [ICS,7] A61K0038-19 [I,C*]; A61K0038-19 [I,A] IPCR CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT. L28 ANSWER 16 OF 24 USPATFULL on STN Full Text AN 2002:337325 USPATFULL ТΤ Fluorescent cobalamins and uses thereof Grissom, Charles B., Salt Lake City, UT, UNITED STATES West, Frederick G., Salt Lake City, UT, UNITED STATES ΤN McGreevy, James, Salt Lake City, UT, UNITED STATES Bentz, Joel S., Salt Lake City, UT, UNITED STATES Cannon, Michelle J., Price, UT, UNITED STATES A1 20021219 ΡT US 20020192683 US 6797521 в2 20040928 A1 ΑT US 2002-97646 20020315 (10) Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. WO 2000-US29370, filed on 26 Oct 2000, RLT. UNKNOWN US 1999-161368P 19991026 (60) PRAI US 2001-276036P 20010316 (60) Utility DT FS APPLICATION LN.CNT 1337 INCLM: 435/006.000 INCL INCLS: 536/026.440 NCL NCLM: 436/505.000; 435/006.000 435/004.000; 435/007.100; 435/007.210; 435/007.230; 436/063.000; NCLS:

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436/064.000; 436/164.000; 436/172.000; 514/052.000; 536/026.440 TC [7] TCM C12Q001-68 ICS C07H023-00 IPCI C12Q0001-68 [ICM, 7]; C07H0023-00 [ICS, 7] IPCI-2 G01N0033-567 [ICM, 7]; A61K0031-70 [ICS, 7]; C07H0023-00 [ICS, 7] A61B0001-04 [I,C*]; A61B0001-04 [I,A]; A61B0001-313 [N,C*]; TPCR A61B0001-313 [N,A]; A61B0005-00 [N,C*]; A61B0005-00 [N,A]; A61B0019-00 [N,C*]; A61B0019-00 [N,A]; A61K0047-48 [I,C*]; A61K0047-48 [I,A]; A61K0049-00 [I,C*]; A61K0049-00 [I,A]; C07F0015-00 [I,C*]; C07F0015-06 [I,A]; C09K0011-06 [I,C*]; C09K0011-06 [I,A]; G01N0021-64 [N,C*]; G01N0021-64 [N,A]; G01N0033-52 [I,C*]; G01N0033-52 [I,A]; G01N0033-574 [I,C*]; G01N0033-574 [I,A]; G01N0033-58 [I,C*]; G01N0033-58 [I,A]; G02B0021-00 [I,C*]; G02B0021-00 [I,A] CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT. L28 ANSWER 17 OF 24 USPATFULL on STN Full Text 2002:206597 USPATFULL AN ΤI Bioconjugates and delivery of bioactive agents Grissom, Charles B., Salt Lake City, UT, UNITED STATES IN West, Frederick G., Salt Lake City, UT, UNITED STATES Howard, Allen W., JR., Dexter, MI, UNITED STATES ΡI US 20020111294 A1 20020815 US 6790827 в2 20040914 US 2001-982940 A1 20011022 (9) ΑT Division of Ser. No. US 1999-202328, filed on 22 Oct 1999, PATENTED A RLI 371 of International Ser. No. WO 1997-US14140, filed on 22 Aug 1997, UNKNOWN 19960827 (60) PRAT US 1996-24430P US 1996-25036P 19960827 (60) DT Utility APPLICATION FS LN.CNT 2337 INCL INCLM: 514/006.000 INCLS: 514/044.000; 424/043.000 NCL NCLM: 514/006.000 424/001.110; 424/001.530; 424/001.690; 435/091.100; 435/091.310; 435/181.000; 435/455.000; 514/001.000; 514/002.000; 514/004.000; NCLS: 536/023.100; 536/024.500; 424/043.000; 514/044.000A IC [7] ICM A61K048-00 ICS A61K051-00; A61K038-17; A61K009-00 A61K0048-00 [ICM,7]; A61K0051-00 [ICS,7]; A61K0038-17 [ICS,7]; IPCI A61K0009-00 [ICS,7] IPCI-2 A61K0038-16 [ICM,7]; A61K0051-00 [ICS,7]; C12N0011-06 [ICS,7]; C12N0011-00 [ICS,7,C*]; C12P0019-34 [ICS,7]; C12P0019-00 [ICS,7,C*]; C07H0021-04 [ICS,7]; C07H0021-00 [ICS,7,C*] IPCR A61K0041-00 [I,C*]; A61K0041-00 [I,A]; A61K0047-48 [I,C*]; A61K0047-48 [I,A]; C07H0021-00 [I,C*]; C07H0021-00 [I,A] CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT. L28 ANSWER 18 OF 24 USPATFULL on STN Full Text AN 2002:92630 USPATFULL ΤI Bioconjugates and delivery of bioactive agents ΙN Grissom, Charles B., Salt Lake City, UT, UNITED STATES West, Frederick G., Salt Lake City, UT, UNITED STATES Howard, W. Allen, JR., Dexter, MN, UNITED STATES PA University of Utah Research Foundation, Salt Lake City, UT, UNITED STATES, 84108 (U.S. corporation) US 20020049154 ΡI A1 20020425 US 6777237 B2 20040817 US 2001-982968 A1 20011022 (9) AΤ Division of Ser. No. US 1999-202328, filed on 22 Oct 1999, GRANTED, Pat. RL T No. US 6315978 A 371 of International Ser. No. WO 1997-US14140, filed on 22 Aug 1997, UNKNOWN 19960827 (60) US 1996-24430P PRAI US 1996-25036P 19960827 (60) DT Utility FS APPLICATION

LN.CNT 2360 INCLM: 514/006.000 TNCL INCLS: 514/044.000; 604/020.000 435/455.000; 514/006.000 424/001.110; 424/001.530; 424/001.690; 424/001.730; 435/091.100; 435/091.310; 435/181.000; 514/001.000; 514/002.000; 514/004.000; NCL NCLM: NCLS: 514/006.000; 536/023.100; 536/024.500; 514/044.000A; 604/020.000 IC [7] TCM A61K038-16 ICS A61K048-00; A61N001-30 IPCI A61K0038-16 [ICM,7]; A61K0048-00 [ICS,7]; A61N0001-30 [ICS,7] IPCI-2 A61K0051-00 [ICM,7]; A61K0038-16 [ICS,7]; C12N0011-06 [ICS,7]; C12N0011-00 [ICS,7,C*]; C12P0019-34 [ICS,7]; C12P0019-00 [ICS,7,C*]; C07H0021-04 [ICS,7]; C07H0021-00 [ICS,7,C*] IPCR A61K0041-00 [I,C*]; A61K0041-00 [I,A]; A61K0047-48 [I,C*]; A61K0047-48 [I,A]; C07H0021-00 [I,C*]; C07H0021-00 [I,A] CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT. L28 ANSWER 19 OF 24 USPATFULL on STN Full Text AN 87:41588 USPATFULL ΤI Compositions and method for simultaneous multiple array of analytes using radioisotope chelate labels Olson, Douglas R., Doylestown, PA, United States ΤN ΡA ICN Micromedic Systems, Inc., Costa Mesa, CA, United States (U.S. corporation) US 4672028 19870609 РT US 1984-612979 AI 19840523 (6) Utility DT FS Granted LN.CNT 784 INCLM: 435/005.000 INCL INCLS: 435/007.000; 435/017.000; 435/026.000; 435/810.000; 436/500.000; 436/505.000; 436/510.000; 436/536.000; 436/542.000; 436/545.000; 436/804.000; 436/808.000; 436/811.000; 436/813.000; 436/814.000; 436/816.000; 436/817.000; 436/818.000; 436/820.000; 436/826.000 NCL NCLM: 435/005.000 NCLS: 435/007.230; 435/007.400; 435/017.000; 435/026.000; 435/810.000; 435/973.000; 435/975.000; 436/500.000; 436/505.000; 436/510.000; 436/536.000; 436/542.000; 436/545.000; 436/804.000; 436/808.000; 436/811.000; 436/813.000; 436/814.000; 436/816.000; 436/817.000; 436/818.000; 436/820.000; 436/826.000 IC [4] ICM G01N033-53 ICS G01N033-567; G01N033-536 IPCI G01N0033-53 [ICM,4]; G01N0033-567 [ICS,4]; G01N0033-536 [ICS,4] A61K0035-66 [I,C*]; A61K0035-74 [I,A]; A61K0038-00 [I,C*]; IPCR A61K0038-00 [I,A]; A61K0038-22 [I,C*]; A61K0038-22 [I,A]; A61K0038-24 [I,C*]; A61K0038-24 [I,A]; C07F0015-00 [I,C*]; C07F0015-00 [I,A]; C07H0015-00 [I,C*]; C07H0015-00 [I,A]; C07H0023-00 [I,C*]; C07H0023-00 [I,A]; G01N0033-534 [I,C*]; G01N0033-534 [I,A]; G01N0033-60 [I,C*]; G01N0033-60 [I,A]; G01N0033-74 [I,C*]; G01N0033-74 [I,A] 436/536; 436/542; 436/545; 436/500; 436/505; 436/510; 436/804; 436/808; 436/811; 436/813; 436/814; 436/817; 436/818; 436/816; 436/820; 436/826; EXF 435/5; 435/7; 435/4; 435/17; 435/26; 435/810 CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT. L28 ANSWER 20 OF 24 USPAT2 on STN Full Text AN 2005:49435 USPAT2 Methods of increasing delivery of active agents to brain comprising ΤT administering receptor associated protein (RAP) fragments conjugated to active agents Zankel, Todd, San Francisco, CA, UNITED STATES ΙN Starr, Christopher M., Sonoma, CA, UNITED STATES Raptor Pharmaceutical Inc., Novato, CA, UNITED STATES (U.S. corporation) PA 20090804 PT US 7569544 в2 US 2004-812849 20040330 (10) AI Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. US 2003-600862, filed on 20 Jun 2003, RLI ABANDONED Utility DT

GRANTED FS LN.CNT 5335 INCL INCLM: 514/012.000 NCL NCLM: 514/012.000 IC A61K0048-00 [ICM, 7]; A61K0039-395 [ICS, 7] IPCI IPCI-2 A61K0038-18 [I,A]; C07K0019-00 [I,A]; C07K0014-435 [I,A]; C07K0014-48 [I,A]; C07K0014-485 [I,A]; C07K0014-50 [I,A] A61K0038-17 [I,C*]; A61K0038-17 [I,A]; A61K0039-395 [I,C*]; TPCR A61K0039-395 [I,A]; A61K0048-00 [I,C*]; A61K0048-00 [I,A]; C07K0014-435 [I,C*]; C07K0014-705 [I,A] CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT. L28 ANSWER 21 OF 24 USPAT2 on STN Full Text AN 2003:93594 USPAT2 ΤI Use of multiple antioxidant micronutrients as systemic biological radioprotective agents against potential ionizing radiation risks Prasad, Kedar N., Denver, CO, UNITED STATES Haase, Gerald M., Greenwood Village, CO, UNITED STATES ΙN Cole, William C., Centennial, CO, UNITED STATES Premier Micronutrient Corporation, Nashville, TN, UNITED STATES (U.S. PA corporation) US 7449451 B2 20081111 ΡI US 2002-229274 20020828 (10) ΑT DT Utility FS GRANTED LN.CNT 1344 INCL INCLM: 514/052.000 INCLS: 514/251.000; 514/184.000; 514/393.000; 514/350.000; 514/167.000; 514/474.000; 514/458.000; 514/440.000; 514/552.000; 514/276.000; 514/562.000; 514/494.000; 514/574.000; 514/763.000 514/052.000 NCL NCLM: 514/167.000; 514/184.000; 514/251.000; 514/276.000; 514/350.000; NCLS: 514/393.000; 514/440.000; 514/458.000; 514/474.000; 514/494.000; 514/552.000; 514/562.000; 514/574.000; 514/763.000 IC IPCI A61K0031-714 [ICM, 7]; A61K0031-7135 [ICM, 7, C*]; A61K0031-59 [ICS,7]; A61K0031-555 [ICS,7]; A61K0031-525 [ICS,7]; A61K0031-519 [ICS,7,C*]; A61K0031-51 [ICS,7]; A61K0031-506 [ICS,7,C*]; A61K0031-4184 [ICS,7]; A61K0031-4164 [ICS,7,C*]; A61K0031-015 [ICS,7]; A61K0031-01 [ICS,7,C*] IPCI-2 A61K0031-714 [I,A]; A61K0031-7135 [I,C*]; A61K0031-59 [I,A]; A61K0031-555 [I,A]; A61K0031-525 [I,A]; A61K0031-519 [I,C*]; A61K0031-51 [I,A]; A61K0031-506 [I,C*]; A61K0031-4184 [I,A]; A61K0031-4164 [I,C*]; A61K0031-015 [I,A]; A61K0031-01 [I,C*] A61K0031-7135 [I,C]; A61K0031-714 [I,A]; A61K0031-01 [I,C]; IPCR A61K0031-015 [I,A]; A61K0031-4164 [I,C]; A61K0031-4184 [I,A]; A61K0031-506 [I,C]; A61K0031-51 [I,A]; A61K0031-519 [I,C]; A61K0031-525 [I,A]; A61K0031-555 [I,C]; A61K0031-555 [I,A]; A61K0031-59 [I,C]; A61K0031-59 [I,A] EXF 514/52; 514/167; 514/184; 514/251; 514/276; 514/350; 514/393; 514/440; 514/458; 514/474; 514/494; 514/552; 514/562; 514/574; 514/763; 514/188; 514/725 CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT. L28 ANSWER 22 OF 24 USPAT2 on STN Full Text AN 2002:337325 USPAT2 ΤI Fluorescent cobalamins and uses thereof Grissom, Charles B., Salt Lake City, UT, United States West, Frederick G., Salt Lake City, UT, United States ΤN McGreevy, James, Salt Lake City, UT, United States Bentz, Joel S., Salt Lake City, UT, United States Cannon, Michelle J., Price, UT, United States University of Utah Research Foundation, Salt Lake City, UT, United PA States (U.S. corporation) B2 20040928 US 6797521 ΡT US 2002-97646 20020315 (10) ΑT Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. WO 2000-US29370, filed on 26 Oct 2000 RLI 19991026 (60) US 1999-161368P PRAI US 2001-276036P 20010316 (60) DT Utility FS GRANTED

LN.CNT 1187 INCLM: 436/505.000 TNCL INCLS: 514/052.000; 536/026.440; 435/004.000; 435/007.100; 435/007.210; 435/007.230; 436/063.000; 436/064.000; 436/164.000; 436/172.000 NCL NCLM: 436/505.000; 435/006.000 NCLS: 435/004.000; 435/007.100; 435/007.210; 435/007.230; 436/063.000; 436/064.000; 436/164.000; 436/172.000; 514/052.000; 536/026.440 IC [7] ICM G01N033-567 A61K031-70; C07H023-00 ICS IPCI C12Q0001-68 [ICM,7]; C07H0023-00 [ICS,7] IPCI-2 G01N0033-567 [ICM,7]; A61K0031-70 [ICS,7]; C07H0023-00 [ICS,7] IPCR A61B0001-04 [I,C*]; A61B0001-04 [I,A]; A61B0001-313 [N,C*]; A61B0001-313 [N,A]; A61B0005-00 [N,C*]; A61B0005-00 [N,A]; A61B0019-00 [N,C*]; A61B0019-00 [N,A]; A61K0047-48 [I,C*]; A61K0047-48 [I,A]; A61K0049-00 [I,C*]; A61K0049-00 [I,A]; C07F0015-00 [I,C*]; C07F0015-06 [I,A]; C09K0011-06 [I,C*]; C09K0011-06 [I,A]; G01N0021-64 [N,C*]; G01N0021-64 [N,A]; G01N0033-52 [I,C*]; G01N0033-52 [I,A]; G01N0033-574 [I,C*]; G01N0033-574 [I,A]; G01N0033-58 [I,C*]; G01N0033-58 [I,A]; G02B0021-00 [I,C*]; G02B0021-00 [I,A] EXF 536/26.44; 514/52; 436/505 CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT. L28 ANSWER 23 OF 24 USPAT2 on STN Full Text 2002:206597 USPAT2 AN ΤI Bioconjugates and delivery of bioactive agents Grissom, Charles B., Salt Lake City, UT, United States ΙN West, Frederick G., Salt Lake City, UT, United States Howard, Jr., W. Allen, Dexter, MI, United States University of Utah Research Foundation, Salt Lake City, UT, United ΡA States (U.S. corporation) US 6790827 B2 20040914 РT US 2001-982940 20011022 (9) AI RLI Division of Ser. No. US 202328, now patented, Pat. No. US 6315978 PRAI US 1996-24430P 19960827 (60) US 1996-25036P 19960827 (60) Utility DT FS GRANTED LN.CNT 2388 INCL INCLM: 514/006.000 INCLS: 424/001.110; 424/001.530; 424/001.690; 435/091.310; 435/091.100; 435/181.000; 435/455.000; 514/001.000; 514/002.000; 514/004.000; 536/023.100; 536/024.500 NCL NCLM: 514/006.000 424/001.110; 424/001.530; 424/001.690; 435/091.100; 435/091.310; 435/181.000; 435/455.000; 514/001.000; 514/002.000; 514/004.000; NCLS: 536/023.100; 536/024.500; 424/043.000; 514/044.000A IC [7] ICM A61K038-16 ICS A61K051-00; C12N011-06; C12P019-34; C07H021-04 A61K0048-00 [ICM,7]; A61K0051-00 [ICS,7]; A61K0038-17 [ICS,7]; TPCT A61K0009-00 [ICS,7] IPCI-2 A61K0038-16 [ICM,7]; A61K0051-00 [ICS,7]; C12N0011-06 [ICS,7]; C12N0011-00 [ICS,7,C*]; C12P0019-34 [ICS,7]; C12P0019-00 [ICS,7,C*]; C07H0021-04 [ICS,7]; C07H0021-00 [ICS,7,C*] A61K0041-00 [I,C*]; A61K0041-00 [I,A]; A61K0047-48 [I,C*]; IPCR A61K0047-48 [I,A]; C07H0021-00 [I,C*]; C07H0021-00 [I,A] 424/1.11; 424/1.69; 424/1.53; 424/9.361; 424/193.1; 435/6; 435/91.1; 435/91.31; 435/455; 435/181; 514/1; 514/2; 514/4; 514/6; 514/44; 536/23.1; 536/24.5 EXF CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT. L28 ANSWER 24 OF 24 USPAT2 on STN Full Text 2002:92630 USPAT2 AN ΤI Bioconjugates and delivery of bioactive agents Grissom, Charles B., Salt Lake City, UT, United States ΤN West, Frederick G., Salt Lake City, UT, United States Howard, Jr., Allen W., Dexter, MI, United States

PA University of Utah Research Foundation, Salt Lake City, UT, United

States (U.S. corporation) B2 20040817 ΡT US 6777237 ΑT US 2001-982968 20011022 (9) Division of Ser. No. US 202328, now patented, Pat. No. US 6315978 US 1996-24430P 19960827 (60) RLI PRAI US 1996-24430P US 1996-25036P 19960827 (60) DT Utility FS GRANTED LN.CNT 2410 INCLM: 435/455.000 INCL INCLS: 424/001.690; 424/001.110; 424/001.730; 424/001.530; 435/091.100; 435/091.310; 435/181.000; 514/001.000; 514/002.000; 514/004.000; 514/006.000; 536/023.100; 536/024.500 435/455.000; 514/006.000 NCL NCLM: NCLS: 424/001.110; 424/001.530; 424/001.690; 424/001.730; 435/091.100; 435/091.310; 435/181.000; 514/001.000; 514/002.000; 514/004.000; 514/006.000; 536/023.100; 536/024.500; 514/044.000A; 604/020.000 IC [7] ICM A61K051-00 ICS A61K038-16; C12N011-06; C12P019-34; C07H021-04 A61K0038-16 [ICM,7]; A61K0048-00 [ICS,7]; A61N0001-30 [ICS,7] IPCI IPCI-2 A61K0051-00 [ICM,7]; A61K0038-16 [ICS,7]; C12N0011-06 [ICS,7]; C12N0011-00 [ICS,7,C*]; C12P0019-34 [ICS,7]; C12P0019-00 [ICS,7,C*]; C07H0021-04 [ICS,7]; C07H0021-00 [ICS,7,C*] IPCR A61K0041-00 [I,C*]; A61K0041-00 [I,A]; A61K0047-48 [I,C*]; A61K0047-48 [I,A]; C07H0021-00 [I,C*]; C07H0021-00 [I,A] 435/6; 435/91.1; 435/91.31; 435/181; 435/455; 514/1; 514/2; 514/4; EXF 514/6; 514/44; 424/1.11; 424/1.53; 424/9.361; 424/193.1; 536/23.1; 536/24.5 CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT. => log y

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Sheet 1 of 2

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION			First Applicant Clet Niyikiza	First Applicant Clet Niyikiza			
			Application Date July 11, 2007 US Nat'l Entry (if a	Application DateGroup Art UnitJuly 11, 20071614US Nat'l Entry (if applicable)1614		nit	
<u>U.S. PA</u>	ΓΕΝΤ	DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of I Applicant of C	Patentee or Patentee or	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Pages or Relevant Figures Appear	
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FOREIG	N PAT	<u>ENT DOCUMENT</u>	<u>'S</u>			
Examiner	Cite	Foreign Patent Document		Name of Patentee or		т ⁶
Initials*	No. ¹	Country Code ³ -Number ⁴⁻ Kind Code5 (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
/K.W./	BA	WO 95/27723	10-19-1995			
		NON PAT	ENT LITERAT	URE DOCUME	NTS	
Examiner	Cite	Include name of the author	(in CAPITAL LETTERS)	title of the article (when	appropriate), title of the item	т ⁶
Initials*	No. 1	(book, magazine, journal, se	rial, symposium, catalog, city and/or countr	etc.), date, page(s), volun v where published.	ne-issue number(s) publisher,	1
/K W/ /	CA	POYDOCK M. Effect	of combined ascorbi	c acid and B-12 on s	survival of mice with	
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		L1210 leukemia using	a combination of del	ydroascorbic acid a	nd hydroxycobalamin.	
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	CE	SALLAH S, et al. Intra with acute leukemia. A	athecal methotrexate- chives of Pathology	induced megaloblas & Laboratory Medi	tic anemia in patients <i>icine</i> 1999; 123(9):	
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0000		Journal for Vitamin ar	nd Nutrition Research	1997; 67(3):164-17	70.	
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	СН	KAMEI T, et al. Exper and vitamin B12 on sq 71(8): 2477-83.	rimental study of the uamous metaplasia o	therapeutic effects of fthe bronchial epith	of folate, vitamin A, elium. <i>Cancer</i> 1993;	
	CI	SHIMIZU N, et al. Ex 1987; 44(3): 169-73.	perimental study of a	ntitumor effect of m	ethyl-B12. Oncology	
	CJ	HERBERT, V. The rot Experimental Medicin	le of vitamin B12 and e and Biology 1986; 2	l folate in carcinoger 206 (Essent. Nutr. C	nesis. Advances in arcinog.), 293-311.	
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/Kevin Weddington/

08/30/2009

Teva – Fresenius Exhibit 1002-00442

NOT A USPTO FORM			Atty. Docket No. X14173B	Serial No 11/776329		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION		First Applicant Clet Niyikiza				
			Application Date July 11, 2007	Group Art Unit		
			US Nat'l Entry (if applicable)	1614		
/K.W./	CL	KROES A, et al. Enhanced therapeutic effect of methotrexate in experimental rat leukemia after inactivation of cobalamin (vitamin B12) by nitrous oxide. <i>Cancer Chemotherapy and Pharmacology</i> 1986; 17(2): 114-20.				
/K.W./	СМ	BARAK A. Vitamin B12 as a possible adjunct in prevention of methotrexate hepatotoxicity. <i>Biochemical Archives</i> 1985; 1(3): 139-42.				
/K.W./	CN	HERBERT V. The inhibition and promotion of cancers by folic acid, vitamin B12, and their antagonists. ACS Symposium Series (1985); 277(Xenobiot. Metab.: Nutr. Eff.), 31-6.				
	СО					
Examiner Signature	/}	Kevin Weddington/	Date Considered	08/30/2009		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <u>www.uspto.gov</u> or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the operative series of the series of the series of the document wider WIPO Standard ST. ⁴For Japanese patent document, by the document by the operative series of the series of

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PATENT APPLICATION IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Date

First Applicant:	Clet Niyikiza	Group Art Un	iit: 1614
Serial No.:	11/776,329	Examiner:	Kevin E. Weddington
Application Date:	: July 11, 2007	Confirmation	No.: 6568
For:	NOVEL ANTIFOLATE COM	BINATION T	HERAPIES
Docket No.:	X14173B		

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111 & AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.121

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office action of September 8, 2009, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

Remarks

Thank you for taking the time to discuss this case with me earlier today. I look forward to a timely allowance of this case. Please call me at the number provided below if during final review of the files an issue presents itself.

Claims 1-39, 45, and 46 have been cancelled. Claim 40 has been amended to a) introduce a new limitation, pretreatment with folic acid, b) remove the requirement for cyclic administration, c) to include cobalamin and cyanocobalamin in the Markush group, and d) correct spelling errors. Applicants submit that no new material has been introduced through this amendment. This amendment finds support at least at page 7, lines 5-8, page 9, lines 1-11, and page 15, line 20. Claim 41 has been amended to include a space between "vitamin" and "B12" and to add the term "acid" to the phrase "methylmalonic lowering agent." Claims 47, 49, and 52 have been amended to correct claim dependency. Applicants submit that no new material has been introduced through these amendments. Claims 53 - 62 are new and find support at least at page 13, lines 21 to 25, page 6, lines 3-5; page 7, lines 20-27; and page 14, line 3. No Claims are allowed and all claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). In view of the reasons set forth below, Applicants submit that the rejection is improper and should be withdrawn. Entry of the amendments and reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 USC §103(a)

All claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Taylor (5,344,932) in view of Tsao et al., "Influence of Cobalamin on the Survival of Mice Bearing Ascites Tumor," Pathobiology, Vol. 61, No. 2, pp. 104-108 (1993), further in view of Worzalla et al., Anticancer Research, Vol. 18, No. 5, pp. 3235-3239, and further in view of Cleare et al. (4,149,707). Applicants submit that the Examiner meant to cite to Cleare et al. at 4,14<u>0</u>,707 ("Malonato Platinum Anti-Tumor Compounds") and not 4,14<u>9</u>,707 ("Spring Device"). Applicants address the Examiner's concerns below based upon the belief that Cleare et al. refers to US Patent #4,14<u>0</u>,707. If this is incorrect, Applicants reserve the right to address the new art in a future communication.

The presently claimed invention is directed to improving the therapeutic utility of pemetrexed disodium by administering to a patient a methylmalonic acid lowering agent and folic acid followed by administering an effective amount of pemetrexed disodium. Applicants have discovered that the claimed method reduces mortality and nonhematologic events, such as skin rashes and fatigue events without compromising pemetrexed disodium's efficacy, see page 3,

lines 5-15 of the Specification. Prior to Applicant's invention a skilled artisan would not have been motivated to combine pemetrexed disodium with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent, such as vitamin B12, and folic acid and there would have been no reasonable expectation in the art that the claimed treatment method would provide a viable chemotherapy regimen, let alone reduce toxic events related to administration of pemetrexed disodium.

The Examiner alleges that in view of Taylor, Tsao, Worzalla, and Cleare a skilled artisan would have "assumed the combination of three antineoplastic agents into a single composition would give an additive effect in the absence of evidence to the contrary." *Office Action* (OA) dated 9/8/2009, page 4, paragraph 3. Applicants respectfully assert that the Examiner's obviousness rejection is inappropriate and should be withdrawn.

The *Graham v. John Deere Co. of Kansas City*, 383 U.S. 1 (1966), factors control an obviousness inquiry. *KSR International Co. v. Teleflex Inc.*, 127 S.Ct. 1727 (2007). Those factors are: 1) "the scope and content of the prior art"; 2) the "differences between the prior art and the claims"; 3) "the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art"; and 4) objective evidence of nonobviousness. *KSR*, 127 S. Ct. at 1734 (quoting *Graham*, 383 U.S. at 17-18).

The Court in *KSR* acknowledged the importance of identifying "a reason that would have prompted a person of ordinary skill in the relevant field to combine the elements in the way the claimed new invention does" in an obviousness determination. *KSR*, 127 S. Ct. at 1731. *KSR* also did not disturb the longstanding requirement that an obviousness determination requires that a skilled artisan would have perceived a reasonable expectation of success in making the invention in light of the prior art. *In re Kubin*, 561 F.3d 1351, 1352+ (Fed. Cir. 2009) (quoting *In re O'Farrell*, 853 F.2d 894, 903-904 (Fed. Cir. 1988)).

Rejection based upon Taylor in view of Tsao

The Examiner alleges that pemetrexed disodium and vitamin B12 were known to be "antineoplastic agents" and therefore could be combined "into a single composition [that] would give an additive effect." OA, page 4, paragraph 3. However, the Examiner appears to have misinterpreted the understanding in the art concerning vitamin B12 antineoplastic activity and the teachings of Taylor. Particularly, the rejection overstates what Tsao as a whole fairly discloses. Tsao teaches that conflicting results have been found for the use of vitamin B12 as an antitumor agent in animals and in man (see page 104, column 1 at about line 13 through column 2 at about line 18). Tsao states:

"the results of two survey studies using data from several hospitals failed to confirm that B12 therapy was effective either when it was administered alone of in conjunction with X-ray or chemotherapeutic agents...Experiments with laboratory animals also showed conflicting results."

(see p. 104, col. 1, lines 15-21). In fact, Tsao reports that cyanocobalamin "did not affect cell growth at a daily dose as high as 1,000 mg/kg body weight." Tsao, page 105, last paragraph. It is therefore submitted that when viewed as a whole, a person of ordinary skill in the art reading Tsao would not have perceived a reasonable expectation of success in making Applicant's invention in view of the scientific uncertainty concerning vitamin B12 and its use as an antitumor agent. In fact, Applicants submit that the activity of B12 as a potential antitumor therapeutic is still inconclusive even as of today (see Volkov 2008, attached, introductory paragraph, page 324, "Researchers have attempted to correlate vitamin B12 with malignancy ever since the multifunctional role of cobalamin has begun to be understood...There are many hypotheses about the role of vitamin B12 in growth of malignancy, but we still have many more questions than we have answers.").

Additionally, page 3 of the OA asserts that Taylor discloses certain glutamic acid derivatives, including pemetrexed disodium, as effective antineoplastic agents and that pemetrexed disodium can be combined with other antineoplastic agents. The OA admits that Taylor "does not teach the addition of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent." However, the OA goes on to suggest that "the secondary reference, Tsao et al., teaches a methylmalonic acid lowering agent such as cobalamin (vitamin B12) is effective as having antitumor activity (see the abstract)." *OA*, pp 3-4. The rejection particularly notes column 8, lines 64-68, of Taylor, which merely states the compounds of the invention "can be administered … with other therapeutic agents, including antineoplastic agents [which is another genus of compounds], steroids, etc. to a mammal suffering from neoplasm …" As discussed *supra*, at the time of Applicant's invention there was scientific uncertainty concerning vitamin B12 and its use as an antitumor agent. In fact, as will be further discussed below, the skilled artisan would have expected a decrease in the antineoplastic activity of pemetrexed disodium when administered in combination with vitamin B12, see Specification page 3, lines 7-8, not an additive or even a synergistic effect for antineoplastic activity, see Specification page 16, lines 6-9.

Applicants respectfully assert the Examiner has not made a *prima facie* showing of obviousness, at least because the rejection lacks support for why a skilled artisan would have combined pemetrexed disodium with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent and folic acid as claimed and that there would have been any reasonable expectation the claimed method would provide a viable chemotherapy regimen and reduce toxicity associated with pemetrexed disodium

administration. In view of the comments made *supra*, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the present application.

Although the Examiner has not set forth a *prima facie* showing of obviousness, to expedite allowance of the application, Applicants make the following additional remarks. The Supreme Court's ruling in KSR states that prior-art elements "work[ing] together in an unexpected and fruitful manner" is an indicia of nonobviousness. KSR at 416. A skilled artisan would have understood at the time that pemetrexed disodium is a multitargeted antifolate having specific activity at three enzymes in the biosynthesis of nucleic acids. The enzymes are dihydrofolate reductase (DHFR), thymidine synthase (TS), and GAR formyltransferase (GARFT). (Shih, 1999 and Shih, 1997, attached.) All of these enzymes need a folate derivative to function. DHFR obviously has dihydrofolate as a substrate; TS needs N⁵, N¹⁰-methylenetetrahydrofolate as a methyl source (returning folate as dihydrofolate); and GARFT has N¹⁰-formyltetrahydrofolate as a formyl source returning it as tetrahydrofolate. (Kisliuk, 1999 and Kisliuk, 1984, attached.) Pemetrexed disodium is, in simple terms, a folate analogue and acts by competing with folate at each of the enzymes' folate binding sites. If there is an excess of the natural ligand (the natural folate source) for the three enzymes then the effectiveness of pemetrexed disodium is reduced. This is shown for example in Table 1 of Worzalla. It can be seen that for the five cancer cell-lines reported, increasing the folic acid concentration from 1 µm to 10 µm gives up to a 14-fold decrease in efficacy of pemetrexed disodium (14-fold increase in IC_{50}). The skilled person, if they indeed had all of the knowledge of Taylor, Tsao, and Worzalla, would understand that by adding vitamin B12 they could be releasing the pool of N⁵-methyltetrahydrofolate so causing an effective increase in the concentration of the natural folate substrate, thereby decreasing the efficacy of pemetrexed disodium. The skilled artisan would not have expected the reduction of severe toxicities associated with pemetrexed disodium, such as patient death, without the expected effect of reduction of pemetrexed disodium's efficacy.

At the time of the invention, the skilled artisan would have been aware it was standard of care to avoid vitamins in patients undergoing chemotherapy, because the usage of vitamins could decrease the effectiveness of the chemotherapy. See for example:

 AstraZeneca's compound, Tomudex® (raltitrexed), is a TS inhibitor approved in 1995 in the United Kingdom and marketed in Europe for the treatment of colorectal cancer. The monograph as provided in Martindale's 1999, "The Complete Drug Reference" (attached) states that "Raltitrexed should not be given with folic or folinic acid which may impair its cytotoxic action." (page 560, Interactions.) 2. Methotrexate is a DHFR inhibitor that was approved in 1959 in the United States. The 1999 monograph as published by the "Physicians' Desk References" clearly states:

"Vitamin preparations containing folic acid or its derivatives may decrease responses to systemically administered methotrexate. Preliminary animal and human studies have shown that small quantities of intravenously administered leucovorin enter the CSF primarily as 5-methyltetrahydrofolate and, in humans, remain 1-3 orders of magnitude lower than the usual methotrexate concentrations following intrathecal administration. However, high doses of leucovorin may reduce the efficacy of intrathecally-administered methotrexate. Folate deficiency states may increase methotrexate toxicity." (pages 1398-1399, *Drug Interactions*, attached.)

3. Fluorouracil (5-FU) is an inhibitor of TS. In the 1998 monograph as published by the "Physicians' Desk References" for 5-FU, there is a warning that the administration of folinic acid is associated with increased toxicity "Leucovorin calcium may enhance the toxicity of fluorouracil." (page 2463, *Drug Interactions*, attached.)

Leucovorin or folinic acid is a 5-formyl derivative of tetrahydrofolic acid. The 1999 monograph from the "Physicians' Desk References" describes leucovorin as "one of several active, chemically reduced derivatives of folic acid. It is useful as an antidote to drugs which act as folic acid antagonists," and "[a]dministration of leucovorin can counteract the therapeutic and toxic effects of folic acid antagonists such as methotrexate, which act by inhibiting dihydrofolate reductase. In contrast, leucovorin can enhance the therapeutic and toxic effects of fluoropyrimidines used in cancer therapy, such as 5-fluorouracil." (page 1389, *Drug Interactions*, attached.)

Applicants unexpectedly discovered administering vitamin B12 and folic acid as claimed reduces toxicity of pemetrexed disodium. (See Specification at pg 15, lines 21-25 and pg 16, lines 6-9.) This is clearly demonstrated by the examples in the specification wherein treatment toxicities were reduced in tumor bearing mice with or without the addition of folic acid. For example, the Specification at pg 15, lines 24-25 states, "Vitamin B12 supplementation with ALIMTA has a moderate effect on drug related toxicity, lowering drug related deaths to 3% and severe toxicities by about 25%." Page 15, lines 25-27 of the specification states, "The combination of vitamin B12 and folic acid with ALIMTA has lowered the drug related deaths to <1% in over 480 so treated." The specification also explains that pilot studies in humans established that vitamin B12 given to patients receiving ALIMTA experienced fewer side effects. Clinical studies sponsored by Eli Lilly (Lilly) confirmed less overall pemetrexed disodium-related

toxicity. Specifically, as is shown in the table below, reductions in Grade 3/4 hematologic and nonhematologic toxicities such as neutropenia, febrile neutropenia, and infection with Grade 3/4 neutropenia were reported when pretreatment with folic acid and vitamin B12 was administered.

·	Percent of occurrences prior to B12/folic acid treatment (N=246)	Percent of occurrences post B12/folic acid treatment (N≈78)
Hematologic Toxicity/Non-	37%	6.4%
Hematologic Toxicity		}
Neutropenia	32%	2.6%
Miscositis	5%	1.3%
Diarrhea	6%	2.6%
Neutropenia and Mucositis	3%	0%
Neutropenia and Diarrhea	3%	<u>80</u>
Neutropenia and infection	2%	0%

Table 1

(See Specification, Table 1, page 16.)

Today, Lilly's pemetrexed disodium product, ALIMTA®, is an FDA approved product in the United States and its prescribing information (attached) includes the following information on the need to administer B12 and the effects of vitamin supplementation in reducing toxicity.

<u>Need for Folate and Vitamin B12 Supplementation</u> Patients treated with ALIMTA must be instructed to take folic acid and vitamin B12 as a prophylactic measure to reduce treatment-related hematologic and GI toxicity *[see Dosage and Administration (2.3)]*. In clinical studies, less overall toxicity and reductions in Grade 3/4 hematologic and nonhematologic toxicities such as neutropenia, febrile neutropenia, and infection with Grade 3/4 neutropenia were reported when pretreatment with folic acid and vitamin B12 was administered.

(Approved Label for NDA 021462, lines 118-122.) The Approved Label goes on to instruct that "Patients must also receive one (1) intramuscular injection of vitamin B12 during the week preceding the first dose of ALIMTA and every 3 cycles thereafter." (Approved Label for NDA 021462, lines 33-34.) And that "Patients treated with ALIMTA must be instructed to take folic acid and vitamin B12 as a prophylactic measure to reduce treatment-related hematologic and gastrointestinal toxicity *[see Dosage and Administration (2.3)]*." (Approved Label for NDA 021462, lines 696-697.)

Table 8 of the Approved Label compares the incidence (percentage of patients) of CTC Grade 3/4 toxicities in patients who received vitamin supplementation with daily folic acid and vitamin B12 from the time of enrollment in the study (fully supplemented) with the incidence in

patients who never received vitamin supplementation (never supplemented) during the study in the ALIMTA plus cisplatin arm.

Adverse Evens" (%)	Fully Supplemented Patients (N=168)	Never Supplemented Patients (N=32)
Neutropenia/granulocytopenis.	23	38
Thrombocytopenia	5	ä
Vonning	11	31
Febrile neutropenis	ž	â
Infection with Grade 3/4 neutropenia	0	6
Diarthes	4	ģ

 Table 8: Selected Grade 3/4 Adverse Events Comparing Fully Supplemented versus Never Supplemented Patients in the ALIMTA plus Cisplatin arm (% incidence)

* Refer to NCI CTC criteria for lab and non-laboratory values for each grade of toxicity (Version 2.9).

Clearly, Applicants have made a significant discovery not obvious in view of the references cited in the Office Action. A skilled artisan would not have expected the reduction of severe toxicities associated with pemetrexed disodium administration, such as patient death, without reduction of pemetrexed disodium's efficacy. (See Specification at pg 15, lines 21-25 and pg 16, lines 6-9.) Under the Supreme Court's decision in *KSR*, the combination of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent, particularly vitamin B12 or a pharmaceutical derivative, and pemetrexed disodium does more than yield predictable results, the combination works together in an unexpected and fruitful manner. Therefore, the rejection is clearly improper and should be withdrawn.

Rejection based upon Taylor in view of Tsao, Worzolla, Cleare, and general knowledge in the prior art

Because the combination of a methylmalonic acid lowering agent, folic acid, and pemetrexed disodium is not obvious to one of skill in the art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), then the additional limitation introduced by the remaining dependent claims cannot be held obvious. (*See Callaway Golf Co. v. Acushnet Co.*, 576 F.3d 1331 at 1344, 91 U.S.P.Q.2d 1705 (Fed. Cir. 2009). Furthermore, the Examiner has misinterpreted the teaching of Worzalla. In addition to the arguments made *supra*, Worzolla et.al. discloses that the addition of folic acid may reduce the effectiveness of pemetrexed disodium. (See for example table 1 of Worzalla: for the 5 cancer celllines reported, increasing the folic acid concentration from 1 µm to 10 µm gives up to a 14-fold decrease in efficacy of pemetrexed disodium.) Worzolla provides no suggestion that lowering methylmalonic acid levels would further reduce associated toxicities while maintaining the therapeutic efficacy of pemetrexed disodium. Cleare does not disclose or provide rationale for the combination of platinum anti-tumor compounds with Applicant's claimed method of treating patients with pemetrexed disodium. Serial No. 11/776,329

Additionally, the Examiner has presented no reason, as is required under *KSR* that the claimed dosing cycles and ranges are obvious. A *prima facie* case of obviousness requires supporting objective evidence to be sustained. An examiner must substantiate his or her "suspicions" or "hunches" on the basis of facts drawn from the prior art. Application of Lunsford, 53 C.C.P.A. 1011, 357 F.2d 385, 391, 148 U.S.P.Q. (BNA) 721, 725 (1966). Applicants respectfully assert that the Examiner's allegation that "readily optimized effective and concurrent administration dosage forms" are available in the art or are within "the ability of tasks routinely performed…without undue experimentation" does not rise to the level of "supporting objective evidence" under Application of Lunsford. Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner could not arrive at the presently claimed invention, its dosing ranges and/or its cyclic administration.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully contend that a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established, the Applicants' claimed invention is unobvious. A skilled artisan would not have expected the reduction of severe toxicities associated with pemetrexed disodium, such as patient death, without the expected effect of reduction of pemetrexed disodium's efficacy. The rejection is improper and should be withdrawn.

Entry of the amendments and allowance of the claims in view of the amendments and discussion *supra* are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

/Elizabeth A McGraw/

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Eli Lilly and Company Patent Division P.O. Box 6288 Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6288

November 13, 2009

Serial No. 11/776,329

Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-39 (Cancelled)

40. (currently amended) A method for administering pemetrexed disodium to a patient in need thereof comprising <u>administering an effective amount of folic acid and an effective amount of a</u> <u>methylmalonic acid lowering agent followed by</u> administering an effective amount of pemetrexed disodium in combination with a methylmalonic acid lowering agent, wherein:

the methylmalonic acid lowering agent is selected from the group consisting of vitamin B12, hydroxycoboalamin, cyano-10-chlorocoboalamin, aquocoboalamin perchlorate, aquo-10-coboalamin perchlorate, azidocoboalamin, cobalamin, cyanocobalamin, or chlorocoboalamin;

the methylmalonic acid lowering agent is administered from about 1 week to about 3 weeks prior to the first administration of the pemetrexed disodium; and

the methylmalonic acid lowering agent administration is repeated about every 6 to about every 12 weeks until administration of the pemetrexed disodium is discontinued.

41. (currently amended) The method of claim 40, wherein the methylmalonic <u>acid</u> lowering agent is vitamin_B12.

42. (previously presented) The method of claim 41, wherein the vitamin B12 is administered as an intramuscular injection of about 500 μ g to about 1500 μ g.

43. (previously presented) The method of claim 42, wherein the vitamin B12 is administered as an intramuscular injection of about 1000 μ g.

44. (currently amended) The method of claim 41, 42 or 43, wherein the vitamin B12 administration is repeated about every <u>9 weeks 6 to about every 12 weeks following the administration of vitamin B12</u> until the administration of the pemetrexed disodium is discontinued.

45 - 46. (cancelled)

Teva – Fresenius Exhibit 1002-00453 47. (currently amended) The method of claim 46 <u>44</u> wherein the folic acid is administered 1 to 3 weeks prior to the first administration of the pemetrexed disodium.

48. (previously presented) The method of claim $47 \underline{44}$ wherein the folic acid is administered from about 1 to about 24 hours prior to administration of the pemetrexed disodium.

49. (currently amended) The method according to any one of claims 40-4346-48, wherein between 0.3 mg to about 5 mg of folic acid is administered orally.

50. (previously presented) The method of claim 49 wherein about 350μ g to about 1000μ g of folic acid is administered.

51. (previously presented) The method of claim 50 wherein 350 μ g to 600 μ g of folic acid is administered.

52. (currently amended) The method of claim 40 or 45 further comprising the administration of cisplatin to the patient.

53. (new) An improved method for administering pemetrexed disodium to a patient in need of chemotherapeutic treatment, wherein the improvement comprises:

a) administration of between about 350 μ g and about 1000 μ g of folic acid prior to the first administration of pemetrexed disodium;

b) administration of about 500µg to about 1500µg of vitamin B12, prior to the first administration of pemetrexed disodium; and

c) administration of pemetrexed disodium.

54. (new) The method of claim 53 further comprising the administration of cisplatin to the patient.

55. (new) The method of claim 53, wherein vitamin B12 is administered as an intramuscular injection of about 500 μ g to about 1500 μ g.

56. (new) The method of claim 55, wherein vitamin B12 is administered as an intramuscular injection of about 1000 μ g.

57. (new) The method of claim 56, wherein between 0.3 mg to about 5 mg of folic acid is administered orally.

58. (new) The method of claim 57 wherein about 350 μ g to about 1000 μ g of folic acid is administered.

59. (new) The method of claim 58 wherein 350 µg to 600 µg of folic acid is administered.

60. (new) The method of claim 59 wherein folic acid is administered 1 to 3 weeks prior to the first administration of the pemetrexed disodium.

61. (new) The method of claim 59 wherein the folic acid is administered from about 1 to about 24 hours prior to administration of the pemetrexed disodium.

62. (new) The method of claim 53, 59, or 60, wherein the vitamin B12 administration is repeated about every 6 to about every 12 weeks following the administration of vitamin B12 until administration of pemetrexed disodium is discontinued.

63. (new) The method of claim 62 further comprising the administration of cisplatin to the patient.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)

Application Number		11776329		
Filing Date		2007-07-11		
First Named Inventor	Clet N	liyikiza		
Art Unit		1614		
Examiner Name				
Attorney Docket Number		Х14173В		

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE	First Named Inventor	Clet N	liyikiza
(Not for submission under 37 CER 1 99)	Art Unit		1614
	Examiner Name		
	Attorney Docket Numb	er	X14173B

1	ALIMTA, NDA 021462, Approved Label of 07/02/2009.	
2	"Clinical Chemistry: principle, procedures, correlations," 3rd edition, 1996, published by Lippincott: pp. 618-627.	
3	Fluorouracil, Physicians Desk References, (c) 1998, pp 2463-2464.	
4	HAMMOND, L., et al., "A phase I and pharmacokinetic (PK) study of the multitarget antifol (MTA) LY231514 with folic acid, " American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Meeting Abstract No. 866 (1998).	
5	KISLIUK, RL., 1984. "The Biochemistry of Folates." In Sirotnak (Ed.), Folate Antagonists as Therapeutic Agents. pp. 2-68. Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Publishers.	
6	KISLIUK, RL., 1999. "Folate Biochemistry in RElation to Antifolate Selectivity." In Jackson (Ed.), Antifolate Drugs in Cancer Therapy. pp 13-36. Humana Press, New Jersey.	
7	Leucovorin, Physicians Desk Reference, (c) 1999. pp 1389-1391.	
8	Methotrexate, Physicians Desk Reference, (c) 1999. pp. 1397-1413.	
9	MORGAN, et al., "Folic acid supplementation prevent deficient blood folate levels and hyperhomocysteinemia during long-term, low dose methotrexate therapy for rheumatoid arthritis: implications for cardiovascular disease prevent," J. Rheumatol. 25:441-446. (1998).	
10	NIYIKIZA, C., et al., "LY231514 (MTA): relationship of vitamin metabolite profile to toxicity," American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Meeting Abstract No. 2139 (1998).	
11	Raltitrexed, The Complete Drug Reference, Martindale, 32nd Ed., Pharmaceutical Press, London, pp 560.	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE Application Number 11776329 Filing Date 2007-07-11 First Named Inventor Clet Niyikiza Art Unit 1614 Examiner Name Attorney Docket Number X14173B

	12	SHIH, C., et al., "LY231514, a Pyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidine-based Antifolate that Inhibits Multiple Folate-requiring Enzymes," Cancer Research. 57:1116-1123. 1997.					
	13	SHIH, C., et al., "Preclinical Pharmacology Studies and the Clinical Development of a Novel Multitargeted Antifolate, MTA (LY231514)," In Jackson (Ed.), Antifolate Drugs in Cancer Therapy. pp 13-36. Humana Press, New Jersey.					
	14	VOLKOV, I., "The master key effect of vitamin B12 in treatment of malignancy - A potential therapy?", Medical Hypotheses. 70:324-328. 2008.					
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English language translation is attached.

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(Not for submission under 37 CER 1 99)	Art Unit		1614	
	Examiner Name			
	Attorney Docket Numb	er	Х14173В	

CERTIFICATION	STATEMENT
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Please see 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 to make the appropriate selection(s):

That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

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See attached certification statement.

X Fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17 (p) has been submitted herewith.

None

SIGNATURE

A signature of the applicant or representative is required in accordance with CFR 1.33, 10.18. Please see CFR 1.4(d) for the form of the signature.

Signature	/Elizabeth A McGraw/	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2009-11-13
Name/Print	Elizabeth A. McGraw	Registration Number	44646

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SOUCT INFORMATION

this is by portion at distysts. Pleasacotinets studies is shown that total body clemance of AMICAR is meriby aborensed in patients with severe renal values. DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

INTRAVENUUS

FIBAVENUUS MICAR (annicosproic acid) Injection is administered by Indian, utilizing the usual compatible intravenous ve-netice, i.e., Sterile Water for Injection, Sodium Chloride for medice, 5% Dextrose or Ringer's Injection). Although Ster-ter Water for Injection is compatible for intravenous injec-tion of AMICAR INDECTION UNDILUTED INTO A VID IS NOT RECOMMENDED.

the treatment of acute bleeding syndromes due to eleand fibringlytic activity, it is suggested that 16 to 20 mL (4 unded by infusion during the first hour of treatment, followed by a continuing infusion at the rate of 4 mL (1 g) per hour in 50 mL of diluent. This method of treatment would ordinarily be continued for about 8 hours or until the bleed-

ing situation has been controlled. parenteral drug products should be inspected visually for particulate matter and discoloration prior to administration, whenever solution and container permit. ORAL THERAPY

Offer interact i of the patient is able to take medication by mouth, an iden-tical dosage regimen may be followed by administering ANICAR Tablets or AMICAR Syrup, 25% as follows; For the metament of acute bleeding syndromes due to elevated fitreatment of acute bleeding syndromes due to elevated fi-brindlytic activity, it is suggested that 10 tablets (5 g) or 4 brindlytic activity, it is suggested that 10 tablets (5 g) or 4 brindly a synup (5 g) of AMICAR be administered dur-ng the first hour of treatment, followed by a continuing rate of 2 tablets (Tg) or 1 teaspoonful of symp. (1 25 and 1) This method of treatment would ordinarily be continued for about 8 hours or until the bleeding situation has been con-

HOW SUPPLIED

AMICAR® (aminocaproic acid) Injection, supplied as fol-

Tows: Each 20 mL vial contains 5 g of aminocaproic acid (250 mg/ m[]) as an aqueous solution with benzyl alcohol 0.9% as preservative.

20 mL vial - NDC 58406-610-12

Each 96 mL single-use infusion vial contains 24 g of aminocaproic acid (250 mg/mL) as an aqueous solution with benzyl alcohol 0.9% as preservative. 96 mL vial - NDC 53406-610-13 STORE BETWEEN 15°-30°C (59°-86°F).

DO NOT FREEZE.

Manufactured for IMMUNEX CORPORATION, Seattle, WA 98101 by LEDERLE PARENTERALS, INC., Carolina, Puerto Rico

00987

AMICAR® (aminocaproic acid) Syrup, 25%, supplied as fol-

lows: Bach mL of raspberry-flavored syrup contains 250 mg of aminocaproic acid.

16 Fl. Oz. (473 mL) Bottle - NDC 58406-611-90 STORE BETWEEN 15°-30°C (59°-86°F).

Dispense in tight containers.

DO NOT FREEZE.

AMICAR® (aminocaproic acid) Tablets, supplied as follows: Each round, white tablet, engraved with LL on one side and scored on the other with A to the left of the score and 10 on the right, contains 500 mg of aminocaproic acid. Bottle of 100 - NDC 58406-612-61

STORE BETWEEN 15°-30°C (59°-86°F).

Dispense in tight containers. Manufactured for MMUNEX CORPORATION

Seattle, WA 98101

by LEDERLE LABORATORIES DIVISION

American Cyanamid Company, Pearl River, NY 10965

REFERENCES

1. Stefanini M, Dameshek W: The Hemorrhagic Disorders, Ed. 2, New York, Grune and Stratton. 1962; pp. 510-514. REV 0197-02 ©1996 Immunex Corporation CI 4565-2 Revised June 12, 1996 Printed in USA

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LEUCOVORIN CALCIUM FOR INJECTION

DESCRIPTION

Leutovorin is one of several active, chemically reduced derivatives of folic acid. It is useful as an antidote to drugs

Avanves of folic acid. It is useful as an antuate to arugs which act as folic acid antagonists. Also known as folinic acid, Citrovorum factor, or 5-formyl-57,8 tetrahydrofic acid, this compound has the chemical designation of L-Glutamic acid, N-[4-][(2-amino-5-formyl-14,55,7,9-hexahydro-4-oxo-6 pteridinylmethyl[amino]ben-oxyl]-calcium salt (1:1). The formula weight is 511.51 and the functural formula of lancatorin calcium is: the structural formula of leucovorin calcium is: five chemical structure at top of next column!



Leucovorin Calcium for Injection

Leucovorm Calcium for Injection is indicated for intravenous or intramuscular administration and is supplied as a sterile lyophilized powder. The 350 mg vial is preservative free. The inactive ingredient is sodium chloride 140 mg/vial for the 350 mg vial. Sodium hydroxide and/or hydrochloric acid are used to adjust the pH to approximately 8.1 during manufacture. One milligram of leucovorin calcium contains 0.002 mmol of leucovorin and 0.002 mmol of calcium.

CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

Leucovorin is a mixture of the diastereoisomers of the 5-formyl derivative of tetrahydrofolic acid (THF). The biologi-cally active compound of the mixture is the (-)-l-isomer, Cally active compound of the mixture is the (-)-t-isomer, known as Citrovorum factor or (-) folinic acid. Leucovorin does not require reduction by the enzyme dihydrofolate re-ductase in order to participate in reactions utilizing folates as a source of "one-carbon" moleties, KLeucovorin (t-5 formyltetrahydrofolate) is rapidly metabolized (via 5,10 methenylletrahydrofolate them 5,10 methylenetetrahydro-blato) to 5 methyletrahydrofolate them 5,10 methylenetetrahydrof folate) to 1-5 methylietrahydrofolate. 1-5 Methylietrahydrofolate can in turn be nietabólized via other pathways back to 5,10-methylenetetrahydrofolate, which is converted to 5-methyltetrahydrofolate by an irreversible, enzyme cata-lyzed reduction using the cofactors FADH2 and NADPH. Administration of leucovorin can counteract the therapeutic

and toxic effects of folic acid antagonists such as methotrexate, which act by inhibiting dihydrofolate reductase. In contrast, leucovorin can enhance the therapeutic and

toxic effects of fluoropyrimidines used in cancer therapy, such as 5-fluorouracil. Concurrent administration of leucovorin does not appear to alter the plasma pharmacokinetics of 5-fluorouracil. 5-Fluorouracil is metabolized to fluorodeoxyuridylic acid, which binds to and inhibits the enzyme thymidylate synthase (an enzyme important in DNA repair and replication).

Leucovorin is readily converted to another reduced folate, 5,10 methylenetetrahydrofolate, which acts to stabilize the binding of fluorodeoxyuridylic acid to thymidylate synthase and thereby enhances the inhibition of this enzyme.

The pharmacokinetics after intravenous, intramuscular, and oral administration of a 25 mg dose of leucovorin were studied in male volunteers, After intravenous administra-tion, serum total reduced folates (as measured by Lactobacillus casei assay) reached a mean peak of 1259 ng/mL (range 897-1625). The mean time to peak was 10 minutes. This initial rise in total reduced folates was primarily due to the parent compound 5-formyl-THF (measured by Streptococcus faecalis assay) which rose to 1206 ng/mL at 10 minutes. A sharp drop in parent compound followed and coin cided with the appearance of the active metabolite 5 methyl-THF which became the predominant circulating form of the drug.

The mean peak of 5-methyl-THF was 258 ng/mL and occurred at 1.3 hours. The terminal half-life for total reduced folates was 6.2 hours. The area under the concentration versus time curves (AUCs) for *l*-leucovorin, *d*-leucovorin and 5-methyltetrahydrofolate were 28.4 ± 3.5 , 956 ± 97 and 129b-inetulyitetranyorofolate were 28.4 ± 3.5 , 956 ± 97 and 129 $\pm 12 (mg.min/L \pm S.E.)$. When a higher dose of d_i -leucovo-rin (200 mg/m²) was used, similar results were obtained. The *d*-isomer persisted in plasma at concentrations greatly exceeding those of the *l*-isomer.

After intramuscular injection, the mean peak of serum total reduced folates was 436 ng/mL (range 240-725) and oc-curred at 52 minutes. Similar to IV administration, the initial sharp rise was due to the parent compound. The mean peak of 5-formyl-THIF was 360 ng/mL and occurred at 28 minutes. The level of the metabolite 5-methyl-THF increased subsequently over time until at 1.5 hours it represented 50% of the circulating total folates. The mean peak of 5-methyl-THF was 226 ng/mL at 2.8 hours. The terminal half-life of total reduced folates was 6.2 hours. There was no difference of statistical significance between IM and IV ad-ministration in the AUC for total reduced folates, 5-formyl-THF, or 5 methyl-THF.

After oral administration of leucovorin reconstituted with aromatic elixir, the mean peak concentration of serum total reduced folates was 393 ng/mL (range 160-550). The mean time to peak was 2.3 hours and the terminal half-life was 5.7 hours. The major component was the metabolite 5-me-thyltetrahydrofolate to which leucovorin is primarily converted in the intestinal mucosa. The mean peak of 5-methyl-THF was 367 ng/mL at 2.4 hours. The peak level of the par-ent compound was 51 ng/mL at 1.2 hours. The AUC of total reduced folates after oral administration of the 25 mg dos-was 92% of the AUC after intravenous administration. Following oral administration, leucovorin is rapidly ab-

rorbed and expands the serum pool of reduced folates. At a

IMMUNEX CORPORATION 1385

does of 25 mg, almost 160% of the i-isomer but only zero a the σ -isomer is absorbed. Oral absorption of leneworin is saturable at doses above 25 mg. The apparent bicavailability of leucovorin was 97% for 25 mg, 75% for 55 mg, and 37%for 100 mg.

In a randomized clinical study conducted by the Mayo Clinic and the North Central Cancer Treatment Group (Mayo/ NCCTG) in palients with advanced metastatic colorectel cancer three treatment regimens were compared: Leucovo-spective median survival times were 12.2 months (p = 0.037), 12 months (p = 0.037), 12 months (p = 0.050), and 7.7 months. The low dose LV regimen gave a statistically significant improvement in weight gain of more than 5%, relief of symptoms, and improvement in performance status. The high dose LV regi-men gave a statistically significant improvement in performance status and trended toward improvement in weight gain and in relief of symptoms but these were not statistically significant.

In a second Mayo/NCCTG randomized clinical study the 5-FU alone arm was replaced by a regimen of sequentially administered methotrexate (MTX), 5-FU, and LV. Response rates with LV 200 mg/m² and 5-FU 370 mg/m² versus LV 20 mg/m² and 5-FU 425 mg/m² versus sequential MTX and 5-FU and LV were respectively 31% (p = <.01), 42% (p =<.01), and 14%. Respective inedian survival times were 12.7 months ($p = \langle .04 \rangle$, 12.7 months ($p = \langle .04 \rangle$, and 8.4 months. No statistically significant difference in weight gain of more than 5% or in improvement in performance status was seen between the treatment arms.

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

eucovorin calcium rescue is indicated after high-dose methotrexate therapy in osteosarcoma. Leucovorin calcium is also indicated to diminish the toxicity and counteract the effects of impaired methotrexate elimination and of inadvertent overdosages of folic acid antagonists. Leucovorin calcium is indicated in the treatment of megalo-

blastic anemias due to folic acid deficiency when oral therapy is not feasible. Leucovoria is also indicated for use in combination with

5-fluorouracil to prolong survival in the palliative treatment of patients with advanced colorectal cancer. Leucovorin should not be mixed in the same infusion as 5-fluorouracil because a precipitate may form.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Leucovorin is improper therapy for pernicious anemia and other megaloblastic anemias secondary to the lack of vitamin B_{12} . A hematologic remission may occur while neurologic manifestations continue to progress.

WARNINGS

In the treatment of accidental overdosages of folic acid antagonists, intravenous leúcovorin should be administered as promptly as possible. As the time interval between anti-folate administration [eg, methotrexate (MTX)] and leuco-vorin rescue increases, leucovorin's effectiveness in counteracting toxicity decreases. In the treatment of accidental overdosages of intrathecally administered folic acid antago-nists, do not administer leucovorin intrathecally. LEUCO-VORIN MAY BE HARMFUL OR FATAL IF GIVEN IN-TRATHECALLY.

Monitoring of the serum MTX concentration is essential in determining the optimal dose and duration of treatment with leucovorin Delayed MTX excretion may be caused by a third space fluid

accumulation (ie, ascites, pleural effusion), renal insufficiency, or inadequate hydration. Under such circumstances, higher doses of leucovorin or prolonged administration may be indicated. Doses higher than those recommended for oral

use must be given intravenously. <u>Set the set of the benzyl alcohol</u> contained in certain diluents used for Leucovorin Calcium for Injection, when doses greater than 10 mg/m2 are administered, Leucovorin Calcium for Injection, should be reconstituted, with Sterile Wa-ter for Injection, USP, and used immediately. (See DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION.)

Because of the calcium content of the leucovorin solution, no more than 160 mg of leucovorin should be injected intravenously per minute (16 mL of a 10 mg/mL, or 8 mL of a 20 mg/mL solution per minute).

Lencovorin enhances the toxicity of 5-fluorouracil. When these drugs are administered concurrently in the palliative therapy of advanced coloroctal cancer, the dosage of 5-fluo-rouracil must be lower than usually administered. Although the toxicities observed in patients treated with the combi-nation of leucovorin plus 5-fluorouracil are qualitatively similar to those observed in patients treated with 5-fluoro-

Continued on next page Contractor Fresenius

Exhibit 1002-00463

1390/IMMUNEX CORPORATION

Leucovorin Calcium for Ini .-- Cont.

uracil alone, gastrointestinal toxicities (particularly stomatitis and diarrhea) are observed more commonly and may be more severe and of prolonged duration in patients treated with the combination. In the first Mayo/NCCTG controlled trial, toxicity, primarily

gastrointestinal, resulted in 7% of patients requiring hospi talization when treated with 5-fluorouracil alone or 5-fluorouracil in combination with 200 mg/m² of leucovorin and 20% when treated with 5-fluorouracil in combination with 20 mg/m² of leucovorin. In the second Mayo/NCCTG trial, hospitalizations related to treatment toxicity also appeared to occur more often in patients treated with the low dose leucovorin/5-fluorouracil combination than in patients treated with the high dose combination — 11% versus 3%. Therapy with leucovorin/5-fluorouracil must not be initiated or continued in patients who have symptoms of gastrointes-tinal toxicity of any severity, until those symptoms have completely resolved. Patients with diarrhea must be moni tored with particular care until the diarrhea has resolved, as rapid clinical deterioration leading to death can occur. In an additional study, utilizing higher weekly doses of 5 FU and leucovorin, elderly and/or debilitated patients wer found to be at greater risk for severe gastrointestinal toxic

Seizures and/or syncope have been reported rarely in cancer patients receiving leucovorin, usually in association with fluoropyrimidine administration, and most commonly in

hubiopyrimidine doministration, and most commonly in those with CNS metastasses or other predisposing factors, however, a causal relationship has not been established. The concomitant use of leucovorin with trimethoprim-sul-famethoxazole for the acute treatment of Pheumocystis ca-rinii pneumonia in patients with HIV infection was associ-ated with increased rates of treatment failure and morbid-tic in a placeho controlled citizer. ity in a placebo-controlled study.

PRECAUTIONS

General

Parenteral administration is preferable to oral dosing if there is a possibility that the patient may vomit or not absorb the leucovorin. Leucovorin has no effect on non-hema-tologic toxicities of MTX such as the hepbrotoxicity resulting from drug and/or metabolite precipitation in the kidney Since leucovorin enhances the toxicity of fluorouracil, leu-covorin/5 fluorouracil combination therapy for advanced colorectal cancer should be administered under the supervision of a physician experienced in the use of antimetab-olite cancer chemotherapy. Particular care should be taken in the treatment of elderly or debilitated colorectal cancer patients, as these patients may be at increased risk of severe toxicity.

Laboratory Tests Patients, being treated with the leucovorin/5-fluorouracil combination should have a CBC with differential and platelets prior to each treatment. During the first two courses a CBC with differential and platelets has to be repeated weekly and thereafter once each cycle at the time of anticipated WBC nadir. Electrolytes and liver function tests should be performed prior to each treatment for the first three cycles then prior to every other cycle. Dosage modifi-

on the most severe toxicities: 17. 2 Diarrhea and/or WBC/n Stomatitis Nadir WBC/mm³ Platelets/mm³ 5-FU Dose 4 Nadir Moderate 1,000-1,900 25-75.000 decrease 20% Severe <1,000 <25,000 decrease 30%

cations of fluorouracil should be instituted as follows, based

If no toxicity occurs, the 5-fluorouracil dose may increase 10%. Treatment should be deferred until WBCs are 4,000/ mm³ and platelets 130,000/mm³. If blood counts do not reach these levels within two weeks, treatment should be discontinued. Patients should be followed up with physical examination prior to each treatment course and appropriate radiological examination as needed. Treatment should be discontinued when there is clear evidence of tumor progres-

Drug Interactions

Folic acid in large amounts may counteract the antiepileptic effect of phenobarbital, phenytoin and primidone, and increase the frequency of seizures in susceptible pediatric patients.

Preliminary animal and human studies have shown that small quantities of systemically administered leucovorin enter the CSF primarily as 5 methyltetrahydrofolate and, in humans, remain 1-3 orders of magnitude lower than the usual methotrexate concentrations following intrathecal administration. However, high doses of leucovorin may reduce the efficacy of intrathecally administered methotrexate. Leucovorin may enhance the toxicity of 5-fluorouracil. (See WARNINGS.)

Pregnancy: Teratogenic Effects: "Pregnancy Category C." Adequate animal reproduction studies have not been conducted with leucovorin. It is also

Information will be superceded by supplements and subsequent editions

not known whether lencovorin can cause felal harm when administered to a pregnant woman or can affect reproduction capacity. Leucovorin should be given to a pregnant woman only if clearly needed. Nursing Mothers: It is not known whether this drug is

excreted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk, caution should be exercised when leucovorin is administered to a nursing mother.

Pediatric Use: See Drug Interactions.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

Allergic sensitization, including anaphylactoid reactions and urticaria, has been reported following administration of both oral and parenteral leucovorin. No other adverse reac tions have been attributed to the use of leucovorin per se The following table summarizes significant adverse events occurring in \$16 patients treated with the leucovorin-5fluorouracil combinations compared against 70 patients treated with 5-fluorouracil alone for advanced colorectal carcinoma. These data are taken from the Mayo/NCCTG large multicenter prospective trial evaluating the efficacy and safety of the combination regimen. [See first table below]

OVERDOSAGE

Excessive amounts of leucovorin may nullify the chemother apeutic effect of folic acid antagonists.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Advanced Colorectal Cancer: Either of the following two regimens is recommended:

1. Leucovorin is administered at 200 mg/m² by slow intra-

vecous injection over a minimum of 3 minutes, followed by 5-fluorouracil at 370 mg/m² by intravenous injection.
 Leucovorin is administered at 20 mg/m² by intravenous

injection followed by 5-fluorouracil at 425 mg/m² by intravenous injection.

5-Flurouracil and leucovorin should be administered separately to avoid the formation of a precipitate.

Treatment is repeated daily for five days. This five day treatment course may be repeated at 4 week (28-day) intervals, for 2 courses and then repeated at 4-5 week (28-35 day) intervals provided that the patient has completely recovered from the toxic effects of the prior treatment course. In subsequent treatment courses, the dosage of 5-fluorouracil should be adjusted based on patient tolerance of the prior treatment course. The daily dosage of 5-fluorouracil should be reduced by 20% for patients who experienced moderate

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hematologic or gastrointestinal toxicity in the prior treatment course, and by 30% for patients who experienced se-vere toxicity (see PRECAUTIONS: Laboratory Tests). For patients who experienced no toxicity in the prior treatment course, 5-fluorouracil dosage may be increased by 10%. Leucovorin dosages are not adjusted for toxicity.

Several other doses and schedules of leucovorin/5-fluorouracil therapy have also been evaluated in patients with ad-vanced colorectal cancer; some of these alternative regimens may also have efficacy in the treatment of this disease. However, further cli nical research will be required to confirm the safety and effectiveness of these alternative leucovorin/ 5-fluorouracil treatment regimens.

Leucovorin Rescue After High-Dose Methotrexate Therapy. The recommendations for leucovorin rescue are based on a methotrexate dose of 12-15 grams/m² administered by intravenous infusion over 4 hours (see methotrexate package insert for full prescribing information).

Leucovortin rescue at a dose of 15 mg (approximately 10 mg/ m²) every 6 hours for 10 doses starts 24 hours after the be-ginning of the methodrexate infusion. In the presence of gastrointestinal toxicity, nausea or vomiting, leucovorin should be administered parenterally. Do not administer leucovorin intrathecally.

Serum creatinine and methotrexate levels should be determined at least once daily. Leucovorin administration, hy-dration, and urinary alkalinization (pH-of, 7.0 or greater) should be continued until the methotrexate level is below 5 x 10-8 M (0.05 micromolar). The leucovorin dose should be adjusted or leucovorin rescue extended based on the above guidelines.

[See second table below]

Patients who experience delayed early methotrexate climi-nation are likely to develop reversible renal failure. In addition to appropriate leucovorin therapy, these patients require continuing hydration and urinary alkalinization, and close monitoring of fluid and electrolyte status, until the serum methotrexate level has fallen to below 0.05 micromolar and the renal failure has resolved.

Some patients will have abnormalities in methotrexate elimination or renal function following methotrexate administration, which are significant but less severe than the abnormalities described in the table above. These abnor-malities may or may not be associated with significant clinical toxicity-If significant clinical toxicity is observed, leucovorin rescue should be extended for an additional 24 hours (total of 14 doses over 84 hours) in subsequent courses of

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Sec. 1. Sec. 1	PERCENT	AGE OF PAT	TIENTS TH	EATED W	ITH LEUCO	VÓRIN/FLUC	ORÓURACII	<i>युक</i> ्षत् ।	
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Anorexia), ² /	1		14	1,	. 22	4	14	- 83
Hospitalization for	Toxicity	x 1 /	11. A	5%	,	15%	1	7%	

High LV = Leucovorin 200 mg/m², Low LV = Leucovorin 20 mg/m² Any = percentage of patients reporting toxicity of any severity Grade 3+ = percentage of patients reporting toxicity of Grade 3 or higher

	GUIDELINES FOR LEUCOVORIN DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION DO NOT ADMINISTER LEUCOVORIN INTRATHECALLY					
Clinical Situation	Laboratory Findings	Leucovorin Dosage and Duration				
Normal Methotrexate Elimination	Serum methotrexate level approximately 10 micromolar at 24 hours after administration, 1 micromolar at 48 hours, and less than 0.2 micromolar at 72 hours.	15 mg PO, IM, or IV q 6 hours for 60 hours (10 doses starting at 24 hours after start of methotrexate infusion)				
Delayed Late Methotrexate Elimination	Serum methotrexate level remaining above 0.2 micromolar at 72 hours, and more than 0.05 micromolar at 96 hours after administration.	Continue 15 mg PO, IM, or IV g 6 hours, until methotrexate level is less than 0.05 micromolar.				
Delayed Early Methotrexate Elimination and/or Evidence of Acute Renal Duary	Serum methotrexate level of 50 micromolar or more at 24 hours, or 5 micromolar or more at 48 hours after administration, OR; a 100% or greater increase in serum creatinne level at 24 hours after methotrexate administration (eg. an increase from 0.5 mg/dL to a level of 1 mg/dL or more).	150 mg IV q 3 hours, until methotrexate level is less than 1 micromolar; then 15 mg IV q 3 hours until methotrexate level is less than 0.05 micromolar.				

PRODUCT INFORMATION

therapy. The possibility that the potient is taking other predications which interact with methotrenate (eg, medication gious which may into fore with methoticizate elimination or binding to serum albumin) should always be reconsidered when laboratory abnormalities or clinical toxicities are observed.

impaired Methotrexate Elimination or Inadvertent Overdosage. Leucovorin rescue should begin as soon as possible after an inadvertent overdosage and within 24 hours of methotrexate administration when there is delayed excre tion (see WARNINGS). Lencovorin 10 mg/m² should be administered IV. IM, or PO every 6 hours until the serum methotrexate level is less than 10^{-9} M. In the presence of gastrointestinal toxicity, nausea, or vomiting, leucovorin should be administered parenterally. Do not administer leucovorin intrathecally. Seriim creatinine and methotrexate levels should be deter-

mined at 24 hour intervals. If the 24 hour serum creatinine mined at 24 hour intervals. If the 24 hour serum creatinine has increased 50% over baseline or if the 24 hour metho-trexate level is greater than 5×10^{6} M or the 48 hour level is greater than 9×10^{7} M, the dose of leucovorin should be increased to 100 mg/m² IV every 3 hours until the metho-trexate level is less than 10^{8} M. Hydration (3 L/d) and urinary alkalinization with sodium bicarbonate solution should be employed conconitantly. The

bicarbonate dose should be adjusted to maintain the urine pH at 7.0/or greater. Megaloblastic Anemia Due to Folic Acid Deficiency: Up to

1 mg daily. There is no evidence that doses greater than 1 mg/day have greater efficacy than those of 1 mg; addition-ally, loss of folate in urine becomes roughly logarithmic as the amount administered exceeds 1 mg. Each 350 mg vial of Leucovorin Calcium for Injection when

reconstituted with 17 mL of sterile diluent yields a leucovo rin concentration of 20 mg leucovorin per mL. Leucovorin Calcium for Injection contains no preservative. Reconstitute with Bacteriostatic Water for Injection, USP, which contains benzyl alcohol, or with Sterile Water for Injection, USP. When reconstituted with Bacteriostatic Water for Injection USP, the resulting solution must be used within 7 days. If the product is reconstituted with Sterile Water for Injection, USP, it must be used immediately.

Because of the benzyl alcohol contained in Bacteriostatic Water for Injection, USP, when doses greater than 10 mg/m² are administered Leucovorin Calcium for Injection should be reconstituted with Sterile Water for Injection, USP, and used immediately. (See WARNINGS.) Because of the calcontent of the leucovorin solution, no more than 160 mg of leucovorin should be injected intravenously per min-uee (16 mL of a 10 mg/mL, or 8 mL of a 20 mg/mL solution

për minutë). Përënteral drug products should be inspected visually for particulate matter and discoloration prior to administration, whenever solution and container permit. Leucovorin should not be mixed in the same infusion as 5-fluorouracil, since this may lead to the formation of a precipitate:

HOW SUPPLIED

Leucovorin Calcium for Injection is supplied in starile, sin gle-use vials

NDC 55406-623:07 - 350 mg Vial STORE AT 25°C (77°F); EXCURSIONS PERMITTED TO 15-30°C (59°-66°F).

PROTECT FROM LIGHT. Manufactured for IMMUNEX CORPORATION, Seattle, WA 98101 by LEDERLE PARENTERALS, INC., Carolina, Puerto Rico 00987 C1997 Immunex Corporation CI 4820-4

Rev 0163-04 Issued 12/97

LEUCOVORIN CALCIUM TABLETS lu co-vor-in cal-see-um l

DESCRIPTION

fulcovorin is one of several active, chemically reduced de-Traives of folic acid. It is useful as an antidote to drugs which act as folic acid antagonists. Also known as folinic acid, Citrovorum factor, or 5-formyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrofolic ted, this compound has the chemical designation of L-Glu-tamic acid; N-[4-[(2-amino-5-formy]-1,4,5,6,7,8-hexa hydro-4980; G-pteridiny!)methylamino]benzoyl]-,calcium_salt 11. The formula weight is 511.51 and the structural formula of leucovorin calcium is:

See chemical structure at top of next column]

Leucovorin Calcium Tablets, 5 mg, contain 5 mg of leucovoin equivalent to 5.40 mg of anhydrous leucovorin calcium) na the following inactive ingredients: Corn Starch, Dibasic Calcium Phosphate, Magnesium Stearate. and Pregelatinized Starch.

univorin Calcium Tablets, 15 mg, contain 15 mg of leucothe a lequivalent to 16.20 mg of anhydrous leucovorin cal-



cium) and the following inactive ingredients: Lactose, Mag-nesium Stearate, Microcrystalline Cellulose, Pregelatinized Starch, and Sodium Starch Glycolate.

Leucovorin Calcium Tablets are indicated for oral administration only.

CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

Leucovorin is a mixture of the diastereoisoniers of the 5-formyl derivative of tetrahydrofolic acid. The biologically active component of the mixture is the (-)-L-isomer, known as Citrovorum factor, or (-)-folinic acid. Leucovorin does not require reduction by the enzyme dihydrofolate reductase in order to participate in reactions utilizing folates as a source of "one-carbon" moleties. Following oral administration, leu-covorin is rapidly absorbed and enters the general body pool of reduced folates

The increase in plasma and serum reduced folate activity (determined microbiologically with Lactobacillus casei) se after oral administration of leucovorin is predominantly due to 5-methylitetrahydiofolate. Following a 20 mg dose of leucoyorin calcium, the mean

maximum serum total reduced folate concentrations were: Tablet Oral Solution $\begin{array}{l} 864 \, \pm \, 12.1 \, ng/mL \, at \, 2.0 \qquad \pm \, 0.07 \, \, hours \\ 375 \, \pm \, 12.8 \, ng/mL \, at \, 2.1 \qquad \pm \, 0.11 \, \, hours \\ 355 \, \pm \, 17.2 \, ng/mL \, at \, 0.96 \qquad \pm \, 0.10 \, \, hours \end{array}$ ± 0.09 hours.

Oral tablets produced equivalent bioavailability (8% differ ence) when compared to the parenteral administration. The parenteral solution also provided equal bioavailability to the tablets when administered orally (2% difference). Oral absorption of leucovorin is saturable at doses above 25 mg. The apparent bioavailability of leucovorin was 97% for 25 mg. 75% for 50 mg and 37% for 100 mg.

INDICATIONS

Leucovorin calcium rescue is indicated after high-dose methotrexate therapy in osteosarcoma. Leucovorin is also indicated to diminish the toxicity and counteract the effects of impaired methotrexate elimination and of inadvertent overdosages of folic acid antagonists.

Leucovorin is improper therapy for pernicious anemia and other megaloplastic anemias secondary to the lack of vita-min B₁₂. A hematologic remission may occur while neurologic manifestations remain progressive

124.5

WARNINGS

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In the treatment of accidental overdosages of folic acid antagonists, leucovorin should be administered as promptly as possible. As the time interval between antifolate administration [eg, methotrexate (MTX)] and leucovorin rescue increases, leucovorin's effectiveness in counteracting toxicity diminishes.

Monitoring of serum MTX concentration is essential in de termining the optimal dose and duration of treatment with leucovorin.

IMMUNEX CORPORATION/1391

Delayed MTX excretion may be caused by a third space fluid accumulation (ie, asentes, pleural effusion), renal insuffi-ciency, or inadequate hyperation. Under such circumstances, higher doses of leucovorin or prolonged administration may be indicated. Doses higher than those recommended for oral use must be given introvenously.

Leucovorin may enhance the toxicity of fluorouracil. Deathfrom severe enterocolitis, diarrhea, and dehydration have been reported in elderly patients receiving weekly leucovofrin and fluorouracil.¹ Concomitant granulocytopenia and fever were present in some but not all of the patients.

Seizures and/or syncope have been reported rarely in cancer patients receiving leucovorin, usually in association with fluoropyrimidine administration, and most commonly in those with CNS metastases or other predisposing factors, however, a causal relationship has not been established.² PRECAUTIONS

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General

Parenteral administration is preferable to oral dosing if there is a possibility that the patient may vomit or not absorb the leucovorin. Leucovorin has no effect on other established toxicities of MTX such as the nephrotoxicity resulting from drug and/or metabolite precipitation in the kidney. Drug Interactions

Folic acid in large amounts may counteract the antiepileptic effect of phenobarbital, phenytoin and primidone, and in-crease the frequency of seizures in susceptible children.

Preliminary animal and human studies have shown that small quantities of systemically administered leucovorin en-ter the CSF primarily as 5-methyltetrahydrofolate and, in humans, remain 1-3 orders of magnitude lower than the usual methotrexate concentrations following intrathecal administration, However, high doses of leucovorin may reduce the efficacy of intrathecally administered methotrexate, Leucovorin may enhance the toxicity of fluorouracil (see WARNINGS).

Pregnancy: Teratogenic Effects "Pregnancy: Category C." Animal reproduction studies have not been conducted with leucovorin. It is also not known whether leucovorin can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman or can affect reproduction capacity. Leucovorin should be given to a pregnant woman only if clearly needed.

Nursing Mothers: It is not known whether this drug is ex-creted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk, caution should be exercised when leucovorin is administered to a nursing mother. Pediatric Use: see Drug Interactions.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

Allergic sensitization, including anaphylactoid reactions and urticaria, has been reported following the administration of both oral and parenteral leucovorm.

OVERDOSAGE

Excessive amounts of leucovorin may nullify the chemotherapeutic effect of folic acid antagonists.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Leucovorin Calcium Tablets are intended for oral administration. Because absorption is saturable, oral administration of doses greater than 25 mg is not recommended. Leucovorin , Rescue, after High-Dose, Methotrexate Therapy: The recommendations for leucovorin rescue are based on a methotrexate dose of 12-15 grams/m² administered by intravenous infusion over 4 hours (see methotrexate package insert for full prescribing information).³ Leuco-

Continued on next page

GUIDELINES FOR LEUCOVORIN DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION DO NOT ADMINISTER LEUCOVORIN INTRATHECALLY

Clinical Situation		Laboratory Findings	Leucovorin Dosage and Duration
Normal Methotrexate Elimination	* 600 * 600 * 1 * 1 * 1 * 1 * 1	Serum methotrexate level approximately 10 micromolar at 24 hours after administration, 1 micromolar at 48 hours, and less than 0.2 micromolar at 72 hours.	15 mg PO, IM, or IV q 6 hours for 60 hours (10 doses starting at 24 hours after start of methotrexate infusion).
Delayed Late Methotrexate Elimination	1	Serum methotrexate level remaining above 0.2 micromolar at 72 hours, and more than 0.05 micromolar at 96 hours after administration.	Continue 15 mg PO, IM, or IV q 6 hours, until methotrexate level is less than 0.05 micromolar.
Delayed Early Methotrexate Elimination and/or Evidence of Acute Renal Injury	• •	Serum methotrexate level of 50 micromolar or more at 24 hours, or 5 micromolar or more at 48 hours after administration, OR; a 100% or greater increase in serum creatinine level at 24 hours after methotrexate. administration (eg, an increase from 0.5 mg/dL to a level of 1 mg/dL.	150 mg IV q 3 hours, until methótrexate level is less than 1 micromolar; then 15 mg IV q 3 hours until methótrexate level is less than 0.05 micromolar.

Consult 1999 PDR® supplements and future editions for revisions





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PRODUCT INFORMATION

15 Richner BR, Hiddeniann W, Koenigsmann M, et al. Reembinant human granyloevte-inacrophage colony stim plating factor after chemotherapy in patients with and rycloid loukemia at higher age or after relapse. Bloodd 1991; 78(5):1190-1197.

15- Blazar BR, Kerzey JII, McGlave, et al. In vivo administration of recombinant human granylocyte/macrophage colony-stimulating factor in acute lymphoblastic patients receiving purged autographs. Blood 1989; 73(3): 849-857.

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Issued 02/98

METHOTREXATE SODIUM TABLETS ₽₽ METHOTREXATE SODIUM FOR INJECTION R METHOTREXATE LPF® SODIUM R IMETHOTREXATE Sodium Injection) and METHOTREXATE SODIUM INJECTION ß

WARNINGS

METHOTREXATE SHOULD BE USED ONLY BY PHYSICIANS WHOSE KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERI-ENCE INCLUDE THE USE OF ANTIMETABOLITE THERAPY.

BECAUSE OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SERIOUS BECAUSE OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SERIOUS TOXIC REACTIONS (WHICH CAN BE FATAL): METHOTREXATE SHOULD BE USED ONLY IN

- LIFE THREATENING NEOPLASTIC DISEASES, OR IN PATIENTS WITH PSORIASIS OR RHEUMA TOID ARTHRITIS WITH SEVERE, RECALCI-TRANT, DISABLING DISEASE WHICH IS NOT AD-EQUATELY RESPONSIVE TO OTHER FORMS OF
- THERAPY DEATHS HAVE BEEL REPORTED WITH THE USE OF METHOTREXATE IN THE TREATMENT OF MALIGNANCY, PSORIASIS, AND RHEUMATOID

ARTHRITIS PATIENTS SHOULD BE CLOSELY MONITORED FOR BONE MARROW, LIVER, LUNG AND KIDNEY TOXICITIES: (See PRECAUTIONS.)

PATIENTS SHOULD BE INFORMED BY THEIR PHYSICIAN OF THE RISKS INVOLVED AND BE UNDER A PHYSICIAN'S CARE THROUGHOUT THERAPY

THE USE OF METHOTREXATE HIGH DOSE REGI-MENS RECOMMENDED FOR OSTEOSARCOMA RE-QUIRES METICULOUS CARE. (See DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION.) HIGH DOSE REGIMENS FOR OTHER NEOPLASTIC DISEASES ARE INVESTIGA-TIONAL AND A THERAPEUTIC ADVANTAGE HAS

NOT BEEN ESTABLISHED. METHOTREXATE FORMULATIONS AND DILU-ENTS CONTAINING PRESERVATIVES MUST NOT BE-USED FOR INTRATHECAL OR HIGH DOSE METHOTREXATE THERAPY.

1. Methotrexate has been reported to cause fetal death and/or congenital anomalies. Therefore, it is not rec-ommended for women of childbearing potential un-less there is clear medical evidence that the benefits

can be expected to outweigh the considered risks. Pregnant women with psoriasis or rheumatoid ar-thritis should not receive methotrexate. (See CON-

TRAINDICATIONS.)

2. Methotrexate elimination is reduced in patients with impaired renal function, ascites, or pleural effusions. Such patients require especially careful monitoring for toxicity, and require dose reduction

or, in some cases, discontinuation of methotrexate administration. 3. Unexpectedly severe (sometimes fatal) bone marrow

suppression and gastrointestinal toxicity have been reported with concomitant administration of methotrexate (usually in high dosage) along with some nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs). (See PRECAUTIONS, Drug Interactions.) Methotrexate causes hepatotoxicity, fibrosis and cir-

rhosis, but generally only after prolonged use. Acutely, liver enzyme elevations are frequently seen. These are usually transient and asymptomwhich and also do not appear predictive of subsequent hepatic disease. Liver biopsy after sustained use of ten shows histologic changes, and fibrosis and cir-rhosis have been reported; these latter lesions may not be preceded by symptoms or abnormal liver function tests in the promotis population. For this reason, periodic liver biopsics are usually reconmended for psoriatic patients who are under long form treatment. Persistent obnormalities in liver function tests may proceed appearance of fibrosis or cirrhosis in the rheumatoid arthritis population. (See PRECAUTIONS, Organ System Toxicity, Hepatie.)

- 5. Methotrexate-induced lung disease is a potentially dangerous lesion, which may occur acutely at any time during therapy and which has been reported at doses as low as 7.5 mg/week. It is not always fully reversible. Pulmonary symptoms (especially a dry, nonproductive cough) may require interruption of treatment and careful investigation. Diarrhea and ulcerative stomatitis require interrup-
- tion of therapy; otherwise, hemorrhagic entertits and death from intestinal perforation may occur. Malignant lymphomas, which may regress following
- withdrawal of methotrexate, may occur in patients receiving low-dose methotrexate and, thus, may not require cytotoxic treatment. Discontinue methotrexate first and, if the lymphoma does not regress, ap-
- ropriate treatment should be instituted. 8. Like other cytotoxic drugs, methotrexate may in-duce "tumor lysis syndrome" in patients with rapidly growing tumors. Appropriate supportive and pharmacologic measures may prevent or alleviate this complication.
- 9. Severe, occasionally fatal, skin reactions have been reported following single or multiple doses of methotrexate. Reactions have occurred within days of oral, intramuscular, intravenous, or intrathecal methotrexate administration. Recovery has been re
- ported with discontinuation of therapy. (See PRE-CAUTIONS, Organ System Toxicity, Skin) Potentially fatal opportunistic infections, especially 10
- Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia, may occur with methotrexate therapy.

1 1.15

DESCRIPTION

Methotrexate (formerly Amethopterine) is an antimetabo-lite used in the treatment of certain neoplastic diseases; sever psoriasis, and adult rheumatoid arthritis. Chemically methotrexate is N-[4][(2,4-diamino-6-pteridinyl) methyl]methylamino]benzoyl]-L-glutamic acid The structural formula is:

12 HOOCCH2CH2--ċ -ĈOOH VH2 Molecular weight: 454 45 C20H22N8O5

Methotrexate Sodium Tablets for oral administration are available in bottles of 100 and in a packaging system designated as the RHEUMATREX® Methotrexate Sodium Dose Pack for therapy with a weekly dosing schedule of 5 mg, 7.5 ng, 10 ng, 12.5 ng and 15 ng. Methotrexate Sodium Tab-lets contain an amount of methotrexate sodium equivalent to 2.5 ng of methotrexate and the following inactive ingreactose, Magnesium Stearate and Pregelatinized dients: Ì Starch. May also contain Corn Starch.

Methotrexate Sodium Injection and for injection products are sterile and non-pyrogenic and may be given by the intramuscular, intravenous, intra-arterial or intrathecal route. (See DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION.) However, the preservative formulation contains Benzyl Alcohol and must not be used for intrathecal or high dose therapy.

Methotrexate Sodium Injection, Isotonic Liquid, Contains Preservative is available in 25 mg/mL, 2 mL (50 mg) and 10 mL (250 mg) vials.

Each 25 mg/mL, 2 mL and 10 mL vial contains methotrex-ate sodium equivalent to 50 mg and 250 mg methotrexate respectively, 0.90% w/v of Benzyl Alcohol as a preservative, and the following inactive ingredients: Sodium Chloride 0.260% w/v and Water for Injection qs ad 100% v. Sodium Hydroxide and, if necessary, Hydrochloric Acid are added to

adjust the pH to approximately 8.5. Methodrexate LPF® Sodium (methodrexate sodium injec-tion), Isotonic Liquid, Preservative Free, for single use only, is available in 25 mg/mL, 2 mL (50 mg), 4 mL (100 mg), 8 mL (200 mg) and 10 mL (250 mg) vials.

Each 25 mg/mL, 2 mL, 4 mL, 8 mL and 10 mL vial contains methotrexate sodium equivalent to 50 mg, 100 mg, 200 mg and 250 mg methotrexate respectively, and the following in-active ingredients: Sodium Chloride 0.490% w/v and Water for Injection qs ad 100% v. Sodium Hydroxide and, if neces sary, Hydrochloric Acid are added to adjust the pH to approximately 8.5. The 2 mL, 4 mL, 8 mL and 10 mL solutions contain approximately 0.43 mEq, 0.86 mEq, 1.72 mEq and 2.15 mEq of Sodium per vial, respectively, and are isotonic solutions

Methotrevale Sodium in Injection, Lyophilized, Presenvarioe Free, for single use only is available in 20 mg and 1 grave sials

Each 20 mg and 1 g vial of lyophilized powder contains methotrexare sodium equivalent to 20 mg and 1 g methotrexate respectively. Contains no preservative. Sodium Hydroxide and, if necessary, Hydrochloric Acid are added dur-ing manufacture to adjust the pH. The 20 mg vial contains approximately 0.14 mEq of Sodium and the 1 g vial contains approximately 7 mEq Sodium.

CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

Methotrexate inhibits dihydrofolic acid reductase. Dihydrololates must be reduced to tetrahydrofolates by this enzyme before they can be utilized as carriers of one-carbon groups in the synthesis of purine nucleotides and thymidy-late. Therefore, methotrexate interferes with DNA synthesis, repair, and cellular replication. Actively proliferating tissues such as malignant cells, bone marrow, fetal cells, buccal and intestinal mucosa, and cells of the urinary bladder are in general more sensitive to this effect of methotrexate; When cellular proliferation in malignant tissues is greater than in most normal tissues, methotrexate may impair malignant growth without irreversible damage to normal tissues, 100

The mechanism of action in rheumatoid arthritis is un-In our mediation and the instance of the second sec imal polyarthritis partial correction by methotrexate of spleen cell'hyporesponsiveness and suppressed IL 2 produc-tion. Other laboratories, however, have been unable to dem-onstrate similar effects. Clarification of methotrexate's effect on immune activity and its relation to rheumatoid immunopathogenesis await further studies

In patients with rheumatoid arthritis, effects of methotrexate on articular swelling and tenderness can be seen as early as 3 to 6 weeks. Although methotrexate clearly ame-liorates symptoms of inflammation (pain, swelling, stiff-ness), there is no evidence that it induces remission of rheumatoid arthritis nor has a beneficial effect been demonstrated on bone erosions and other radiologic changes which result in impaired joint use, functional disability, and deformity.

Most studies of methotrexate in patients with rheumatoid arthritis are relatively short term (3 to 6 months). Limited data from long-term studies indicate that an initial clinical improvement is maintained for at least two years with continued therapy.

In psoriasis, the rate of production of epithelial cells in the skin is greatly increased over normal skin. This differential in proliferation rates is the basis for the use of methotrexate to control the psoriatic process.

Methotrezate in high doses, followed by leucovorin rescue, is used as a part of the treatment of patients with non-metastatic osteosarcoma. The original rationale for high dose methotrexate therapy was based on the concept of se-lective rescue of normal tissues by leucovorin. More recent evidence suggests that high dose methotrexate may also overcome methotrexate resistance caused by impaired ac-tive transport, decreased affinity of dihydrofolic acid reductase for methotrexate, increased levels of dihydrofolic acid reductase resulting from gene amplification, or decreased polyglutamation of methotrexate. The actual mechanism of action is unknown.

Two Pediatric Oncology Group studies (one randomized and one non-randomized) demonstrated a significant improvement in relapse-free survival in patients with non-metastatic osteosarcoma when high dose methotrexate with leucovorin rescue was used in combination with other chemotherapeutic 'agents' following surgical resection of the primary tumor. These studies were not designed to demonstrate the specific contribution of high dose methotrexate/ leucovorin rescue therapy to the efficacy of the combination. However, a contribution can be inferred from the reports of objective responses to this therapy in patients with metastatic osteosarcoma, and from reports to extensive tumor necrosis following preoperative administration of this therapy to patients with non-metastatic osteosarcoma.

Pharmacokinetics

Absorption — In adults, oral absorption appears to be dose dependent. Peak serum levels are reached within one to two hours. At doses of 30 mg/m² or less, methotrexate is generally well absorbed with a mean bioavailability of about 60%. The absorption of doses greater than 80 mg/m^2 is significantly less, possibly due to a saturation effect.

In leukemic pediatric patients, oral absorption has been reported to vary widely (23% to 95%). A twenty fold difference between highest and lowest peak levels (C_{max} : 0.11 to 2.3 micromolar after a 20 mg/m² dose) has been reported. Signiftcant interindividual variability has also been noted in time to peak concentration (T_{innx} : 0.67 to 4 hrs after a 15 mg/m² dose) and fraction of dose absorbed. Food has been shown to delay absorption and reduce peak concentration.

Continued on next page

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Methotrexate Sodium-Cont.

Methotrexate is generally completely absorbed from parenteral routes of injection. After intramuscular injection, peak serum concentrations occur in 30 to 60 minutes,

Distribution — After intravenous administration, the initial volume of distribution is approximately 0.18 L/kg (13% of body weight) and steady-state volume of distribution is approximately 0.4 to 0.8 L/kg (40% to 30% of body weight). Methodrexate competes with reduced folates for active transport across cell membrane's by means of a single carrier-mediated, active transport process: At serum concentrations greater than 100 micromolar, passive diffusion becomes a major pathway by which effective intracellular concentrations can: be achieved. Methotrexate in serum is approximately 50% protein bound. Laboratory studies demonstrate that it, may be displaced from plasma albumin by various compounds including sulfonamides, salicylates, tetracyclines, chloramphenicol, and phenytoin.

Methotrexate does not penetrate the blood-cerebrospinal fluid barrier in therapeutic amounts when given orally or parenterally. High CSF concentrations of the drug may be attained by intrathecal administration.

In dogs, synovial fluid concentrations after oral dosing were higher in inflamed than uninflamed joints. Although salicylates did not interfere with this penetration, prior predinsone treatment reduced penetration into inflamed joints to the level of normal joints.

Metabolism - After absorption, methotrexate undergoes hepatic and intracellular metabolism to polyglutamated forms which can be converted back to methotrexate by hydrolase enzymes. These polyglutamates act as inhibitors of dihydrolase reductase and thymidylate synthetase. Small amounts of methotrexate polyglutamates may remain in tissues for extended periods. The retention and prolonged drug action of these active metabolites vary among different cells, tissues and tumors. A small amount of metabolism to 7-hydroxymethotrexate, may, occur, at, doses, commonly, pre-scribed. Accumulation of this metabolite may become significant at the high doses used in osteogenic sarcoma. The aqueous solubility.of.7-hydroxymethotrexate.is 3:to 5 fold lower than the parent compound. Methotrexate is partially. metabolized by intestinal flora after oral administration Half Life - The terminal half life reported for methotrexate is approximately three to ten hours for patients receiving treatment for psoriasis, or rheumatoid arthritis or low dose antineoplastic therapy (less than 30 mg/m²). For pat receiving high doses of methotrexate, the terminal half-life is eight to 15 hours

Exoretión — Renal excretion is the primary route of elimination and is dependent upon dosage and route of administration. With IV administration, 80% to 90% of the administered dose is excreted unchanged in the urine within 24 hours. There is limited biliary excretion amounting to 10% or less of the administered dose. Enterohepatic recirculation of methotreate has been promosed.

of methotrexate has been proposed. Renal excretion occurs by glomerular filtration and active tubular secretion. Nonlinear elimination due to saturation of renal tubular reabsorption has been observed in psoriatic patients, at doses between 7.5 and 30 mg. Impaired renal function; as well as concurrent use of drugs such as weak organic acids that also undergo tubular secretion, can markedly increase methotrexate serum levels. Excellent correlation has been reported between methotrexate clearance and endogenous clearance.

Methotrexate clearance rates vary widely and are generally decreased at higher doses. Delayed drug clearance has been identified as one of the major factors responsible for methotrexate toxicity. It has been postulated that the toxicity of methotrexate for normal tissues is more dependent upon the duration of exposure to the drug rather than the peak level achieved. When a patient has delayed drug elimination due to compromised renal function, a third space effusion, or other causes, methotrexate serum concentrations may remain elevated for proloneed periods.

show, or other causes, methodrexate serial concentrations may remain elevated for prolonged periods. The potential for toxicity from high dose regimens or delayed excretion is reduced by the administration of leucororin calcium during the final phase of methodrexate plasma elimination. Pharmacokinetic monitoring of methodrexate serum concentrations may help identify those patients at high risk for methodrexate toxicity and aid in proper adjustment of leucovorin dosing. Guidelines for monitoring serum methodrexate levels, and for adjustment of leucovorin dosing to reduce the risk of methodrexate toxicity, are provided below in DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION.

Methotrenate has been detected in human breast milk. The highest breast milk to plasma concentration ratio reached 0.03:1.

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Neoplastic Diseases

Methotrénate is indicated in the treatment of gestational distributional, choricoedenoma destruens and hydridiform mole.

In acute lymphocytic loukemia, methodecrote is indicated in the prophylaxis of meningeal leukemia and is used in main-

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tenance therapy in combination with other chemotherapeutic agents. Methotrexate is also indicated in the treatment of meningeal leukemia.

Methotrexate is used alone or in combination with other anticancer agents in the treatment of breast cancer, epidermoid cancers of the head and neck; advanced mycosis fungoides, and lung cancer, particularly squamous cell and small cell types. Methotrexate is also used in combination with other chemotherapeutic agents in the treatment of advanced stage non-Hodgkin's lymphomas.

Methotrexate in high doses followed by leucovorin rescue in combination with other chemotherapeutic agents is effective in prolonging relapse-free survival in patients with nonmetastatic osteosarcoma who have undergone surgical resection or amputation for the primary tumor. Psoriaals

Psoriasis

Methotrexate is indicated in the symptomatic control of severe, recalcitrant, disabling psoriasis that is not adequately responsive to other forms of therapy, but only when the diagnosis has been established, as by biopsy and or after dermatologic consultation. It is important to ensure that a psoriasis "flare" is not due to an undiagnosed concomitant disease affecting immune responses.

Rheumatoid Arthritis

Methotrezate is indicated in the management of selected adults with severe; active; classical or definite rheumatoid arthritis (ARA criteria) who have had an insufficient therapeutic response to, or are intolerant of, an adequate trial of first-line therapy including full dose NSAIDs and usually a trial of at least one or more disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs.

Aspirin, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory agents, and/or low dose steroida may be continued, although the possibility of increased toxicity with concomitant use of NSAIDs including salicylates has not been fully explored. (See **PRECAU-TIONS, Drug Interactions.**) Steroids may be reduced gradually in patients who respond to methodrexate. Combined use of methothrexate with gold, penicillamine, hydroxychloroquine, sulfasalazine, or cytotoxic agents, has not been studied and may increase the incidence of adverse effects. Rest and physictherapy as indicated should be continued.

CONTRAINDICATIONS (22)

Methotrexaté can cause fetal death or teratogenic effects when administered to a pregnant woman. Methotrexate is contraindicated in pregnant woman with psoriasis or rheumatoid arthritis and should be used til the treatment of neoplastic diseases only when the potential benefit outweighs the risk to the fetus. Women of childbearing potential should not be started on methotrexate until pregnancy is excluded and should be fully counseled on the serious risk to the fetus (see **PRECAUTIONS**) should they become pregnant while undergoing treatment. Pregnancy should be avoided if either partner is receiving methotrexate; during and for a minimum of three months after therapy for male patients, and during and for at least one ovulatory cycle after therapy for female patients. (See Boxed WARNINGS.) Because of the potential for serious adverse reactions from methotrexate in breast fed infants, it is contraindicated in nursing mothers.

Patients with psoriasis or rheumatoid arthritis with alcoholism, alcoholic liver disease or other chronic liver disease should not receive methotrexate.

Patients with psoriasis or rheumatoid arthritis who have overt or laboratory evidence of immunodeficiency syndromes should not receive methotrexate.

Patients with psoriasis or rheumatoid arthritis who have preexisting blood dyscrasias, such as bone marrow hypoplasia, leukopenia, thrombocytopenia or significant anemia, should not receive methofrexate.

Patients with a known hypersensitivity to methotrexate should not receive the drug.

WARNINGS-SEE BOXED WARNINGS.

PRECAUTIONS

General

Methotrexate has the potential for serious toxicity. (See Boxed WARNINGS.) Toxic effects may be related in frequency and severity to dose or frequency of administration but have been seen at all doses. Because they can occur at any time during therapy, it is necessary to follow patients on methotrexate closely. Most adverse reactions are reversible if detected early. When such reactions do occur, the drug should be reduced in dosage or discontinued and appropriate corrective measures should be taken. If necessary, this could include the use of leucovorin calcium. (See OVER-DOSAGE.) If methotrexate therapy is reinstituted, it should be carried out with caution, with 'idequate consideation of further need for the drug and with increased alertness as to possible recurrence of toxicity.

The clinical pharmacology of methotrexate has not been well studied in older individuals. Due to adminished hepatic and renal function as well as decreased folder stores in this population, relatively low doses should be considered, and those patients should be closely monitored for early signs of loyielly

PHYSICIANS' DESK REFERENCE®

Information for Patients

Patients should be informed of the early signs and symptoms of toxicity, of the need to see their physician promptly if they occur, and the need for close follow-up, including periodic laboratory tests to monitor toxicity.

Both the physician and pharmacist should emphasize to the patient that the recommended dose is taken weekly in heumatoid arthritis and psoriasis, and that mistaken daily use of the recommended dose has led to fatal toxicity. Patients should be encouraged to read the Patients Instructions sheet within the Dose Pack. Prescriptions should not be written or refilled on a PRN basis.

Patients should be informed of the potential benefit and risk in the use of methodrexate. The risk of effects on reproduction should be discussed with both male and female patients taking methotrexate

Laboratory Tests

Patients undergoing methotrexate therapy should be closely monitored so that toxic effects are detected promptly. Baseline assessment should include a complete blood count with differential and platelet counts, hepatic enzymes, renalfunction tests, and a chest X-ray. During therapy of rheumatoid arthritis and psoriasis, monitoring of these parameters is recommended; hematology, at least monthly, renal function and liver function every 1 to 2 monitis. More frequent monitoring is usually indicated during artitineoplastic therapy. During initial or charafty doses, or during periods of increased risk of elevated methotrexate blood levels (egdehydration), more frequent monitoring may also be indicated.

Transient liver function test abnormalities are observed frequently after methotrexate administration and are usually not cause for modification of methotrexate therapy. Persistent liver function test abnormalities, and/or depression of serum albumin may be indicators of serious liver toxicity and require evaluation. (See **PRECAUTIONS**, **Organ System Toxicity**. *Hepatic*

A relationship between abnormal liver function tests and f brosis or cirrhosis of the liver has not been established for patients with psoriasis. Persistent abnormalities in liver function tests may precede appearance of brosis or cirrhosis in the rheumatoid arthritis population.

Pulmonary function tests may be useful if methotrezate in duced lung disease is suspected, especially if baseline measurements are available. Drug interactions

Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs should not be administered prior to or concomitantly with the high doses of methotrexate used in the treatment of osteosarcoma. Concomitant administration of some NSAIDs with high dose methotrexate therapy has been reported to elsvate and prolong serum methotrexate levels, resulting in deaths from severe hematologic and gastrointestin al toxicity: Caution should be used when NSAIDs and salicylates are administered concomitantly with lower doses of methotrer ate. These drugs have been reported to reduce the tubular secretion of methotrexate in an animal model and may enhance its toxicity.

Despite the potential interactions, studies of methotrexiate in patients with rheumatoid arthritis have usually included concurrent use of constant dosger regimens of NSADBs without apparent problems. It should be appreciated, how ever, that the doses used in rheumatoid arthritis (7.5 to 15 mg/week) are somewhat lower than those used in psoriasis and that lärger dosses could lead to unexpected toxicity. Methotrexate is partially bound to serum alhumin, and idw icity may be increased because of displacement by certain drugs, such as salicylates, phenylbutazone, phenytoin, and sulfonamides. Renal tubular transport is also diminished by probenecid; use of methotrexate with this drug should be carefully monitored.

In the treatment of patients with osteosarcoma, caution must be exercised if high-dose methotrexate is administer a in combination with a potentially nephrotoxic chemothers peutic agent (eg, cisplatin).

Oral antibiotics such as tetracycline, chloramphenicol, indi nonabsorbable broad spectrum antibiotics, may decrease up testinal absorption of methotrexate or interfere with the or terohepatic circulation by inhibiting bowel flora and au pressing metabolism of the drug by bacteria.

Penicillins may reduce the renal clearance of methotreate increased serum concentrations of methotreate with tencomitant hematologic and gastrointestinal toxicity have been observed with high and low dose methotrexate. Use of methotrexate with penicillins should be carefully mon tored.

Patients receiving concomitant therapy with methodrexate and etretinate or other retinoids should be moultaned closely for possible increased risk of hepatotuxicity. Methodrexate may decrease the clearance of theophylline theophylline levels should be monitored when used concorvently with methorexate.

Vitamia preparations containing folic acid or its derivative may decrease responses to systemically administered methootrezate. Preliminary animol and human audies have shown that small quantities of intravenously administered

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teaction onter the CSF primarily as 5-methylicitalivito-folate and, in humans, remain 1-3 orders of magnitude page than the usual methoditation concentrations following intraihecal administration. However, high doses of leurovoin may reduce the efficacy of intrathically administered methotrexate.

Folate deficiency states may increase methotrexate toxicity. Trinethoprim/sulfamethoxazole has been reported rarely to fattense hone marrow suppression in patients receiving methotrexate, probably by an additive antifolate effect.

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, and Impairment of Fertility No controlled human data exist regarding the risk of neoplasia with methotrexate. Methotrexate has been evaluated in a number of animal studies for carcinogenic potential with inconclusive results. Although there is evidence that méthotréxate causes chromosomal damage to animal somatic cells and human bone marrow cells, the clinical significance remains uncertain. Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and other tumors have been reported in patients receiving lowdose oral methotrexate. However, there have been instances of malignant lymphoma arising during treatment with low dise oral methotrexate, which have regressed completely following withdrawal of methotrexate, without requiring active anti-lymphoma treatment. Benefits should be weighed against the potential risks before using methotrexate alone or in combination with other drugs, especially in pediatric patients or young adults. Methotrexate causes embryotoxic-ify, abortion, and fetal defects in humans. It has also been reported to cause impairment of fertility, oligospermia and menstrual dysfunction in humans, during and for a short period after cessation of therapy

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Pregnancy Psoriasis and rheumatoid arthritis: Methotrexate is in Pregnancy Category X. See CONTRAINDICATIONS. Nursing Mothers

See CONTRAINDICATIONS

Pedlatric Use Safety and effectiveness in pediatric patients have not been established, other than in cancer chemotherapy. Organ System Toxicity a characteristic of the state of the st

which may result in dehydration, methotrexate should be discontinued until recovery occurs. Methotrexate should be used with extreme caution in the presence of peptic ulcer disease or ulcerative colitis.

Hematologic: . Methotrex-te can suppress hematopoiesis and cause anemia, leukopenia, and/or thrombocytopenia. In patients with malignancy and prevising hematopoietic impairment, the drug should be used with caution, if at all. controlled clinical trials in rheumatoid arthritis (n=128), leukopenia (WBC <3000/mm³) was seen in 2 patients. thrombocytopenia (platelets <100,000/mm³) in 6 patients, and pancytopenia in 2 patients, In psoriasis and rheumatoid arthritis, methotrexate should

be stopped immediately if there is a significant drop in blood counts. In the treatment of neoplastic diseases, methotrexate should be continued only if the potential benefit warrants the risk of severe myelosuppression. Patients with profound granulocytopenia and fever should be evaluated immediately and usually require parenteral broad-spec-trum antibiotic therapy. *Hepatic:* Methotrexate has the potential for acute (elevat-

ed transaminases) and chronic (fibrosis and cirrhosis) hep-atotoxicity. Chronic toxicity is potentially fatal, it generally has occurred after prolonged use (generally two years or more) and after a total dose of at least 1.5 grams. In studies in psoriatic patients, hepatotoxicity appeared to be a function of total cumulative dose and appeared to be enhanced by alcoholism, obesity, diabetes and advanced age. An accurate incidence rate has not been determined; the rate of progression and reversibility of lesions is not known. Special caution is indicated in the presence of preexisting liver dam-age or impaired hepatic function.

In psoriasis, liver function tests, including serum albumin, should be performed periodically prior to dosing but are often normal in the face of developing fibrosis or cirrhosis. These lesions may be detectable only by biopsy. The usual tecommendation is to obtain a liver biopsy at 1) pretherapy or shortly after initiation of therapy (2-4 months), 2) a total cumulative dose of 1.5 grams, and 3) after each additional 1.0 to 1.5 grams.¹ Moderate fibrosis or any cirrhosis nor-mally lead to a discretization of the abuve mild themain and mally leads to discontinuation of the drug; mild fibrosis normally suggests a repeat biopsy in 6 months. Milder histo-logic findings such as fatty change and low grade portal inflammation are relatively common pretherapy. Although these mild changes are usually not a reason to avoid or dis-continue methotrexate therapy, the drug should be used with caution.

In rheumatoid arthritis, age at first use of methotrexate and duration of therapy have been reported as risk factors for hepatotoxicity; other risk factors, similar to those observed in psoriasis, may be present in rheumatoid arthritis hut have not been confirmed to date. Persistent abnormalities in liver function tests may precede appearance of fibrosis or sirchosis in this population. There is a combined reported experience in 217 rheumatoid arthritis patients with liver

biopsies both before and during mentionent taffor a cumula two does of at least 1.5 g) and in 714 patients with a biopsy only during treatment. There are 64 (7%) cases of fibrosis and 1 (0.14) case of einthesis. Of the 64 cases of three is 69 were deemed mild. The reticulm stain is more sensitive for early fibrosis and its use may increase these figures. It is unknown whether even longer use will increase these risks. Liver function tests should be performed at baseline and at 4-8 week intervals in patients receiving methorecasts for rheumatoid arthritis. Pretreatment liver biopsy should be performed for patients with a history of excessive alcohol consumption, persistently abnormal baseline liver function test values or chronic hepatitis B or C infection. During therapy, liver biopsy should be performed if there are persistent liver function test abnormalities or there is a de-crease in serum albumin below the normal range (in the setting of well controlled rheumatoid arthritis).

If the results of a liver biopsy show mild changes (Reenigk grades I, II, IIIa), methotrexate may be continued and the patient monitored as per recommendations listed above. Methotrexate should be discontinued in any patient who displays persistently abnormal liver function tests, and refuses liver biopsy or in any patient whose liver biopsy shows moderate to severe changes (Roenigk grade IIIb or IV).²

Infection or Immunologic States: Methotrexate should be used with extreme caution in the presence of active infection, and is usually contraindicated in patients with overt or laboratory evidence of immunodeficiency syndromes. Immunization may be ineffective when given during methotrexate therapy. Immunization with live virus vaccines is generally not recommended. There have been reports of disseminated vaccinia infections after smallpox immunization in patients receiving methotrexate therapy. Hypogammaglobulinemia has been reported rarely.

Potentially fatal opportunistic infections, especially Pneumocystis carinii pheumonia, may occur with methotrexate therapy. When a patient presents with pulmonary symptoms, the possibility of *Pneumocijstis carinii* pnéumonia should be considered.

Neurologic: There have been reports of leukoencephalopathy following intravenous administration of methotrexate to patients who have had craniospinal irradiation. Serious neurotoxicity, frequently manifested as generalized or local seizures, has been reported with unexpectedly increased frequency among pediatric patients with acute lymphoblas-tic leukemia who were treated with intermediate-dose intravenous methotrexate (1 gm/m²). Symptomatic patients, were, commonly noted to have leukoencephalopathy and/or microangiopathic calcifications on diagnostic imaging studies. Chronic leukoencephalopathy has also been reported in patients who received repeated doses of high-dose metho-trexate with leucovorin rescue even without cranial irradiation. Discontinuation of methotrexate does not always re-

sult in complete recovery. A transient acute neurologic syndrome has been observed in patients treated with high dosage regiments. Manifestations of this stroke like encephalopathy may include confusion, hemiparesis, seizures and coma. The exact cause is unknown.

After the intrathecal use of methotrexate, the central nervous system toxicity which may occur can be classified as follows: acute chemical arachnoiditis manifested by such symptoms as headache, back pain, nuchal rigidity, and fe-ver; sub-acute myelopathy characterized by paraparesis/ paraplegia associated with involvement with one or more spinal nerve roots; chronic leukoencephalopathy manifested by confusion, irritability, somnolence, ataxia, dementia, seizures and coma. This condition can be progressive and even fatal.

Pulmonary: Pulmonary symptoms (especially a dry nonproductive cough) or a nonspecific pneumonitis occurring during methotrexate therapy may be indicative of a potentially dangerous lesion and require interruption of treatment and careful investigation. Although clinically variable. the typical patient with methotrexate induced lung disease presents with fever, cough, dyspnea, hypoxemia, and an in-filtrate on chest X-ray; infection needs to be excluded. This lesion can occur at all dosages.

Renal: High doses of methotrexate used in the treatment of osteosarcoma may cause renal damage leading to acute renal failure. Nephrotoxicity is due primarily to the precipitation of methotrexate and 7-hydroxymethotrexate in the renal tubules. Close attention to renal function including adequate hydration, urine alkalinization and measurement of serum methotrexate and creatinine levels are essential for safe administration.

Skin: Severe, occasionally fatal, dermatologic reactions, including toxic epidermal necrolysis. Stevens-Johnson syn-drome, exfoliative dermatitis, skin necrosis, and erythema multiforme, have been reported in children and adults, within days of oral, intramuscular, intravenous, or intrathecal methotrexate administration. Reactions were noted after single or multiple, low, intermediate or high doses of methotrexate in patients with neoplastic and non-neoplastic Other Processions. Merkeir male should be used with extrane carling in the presence of debits, to user with use trane carling in the presence of debits. Alsthousents evices slowly from third space comportments

teg, ploural effusions or rectites). This regults in a prolonged terminal plasma half-life and unexpected toxicaly. In patients with significant third space accumulations, it is advisable to evacuate the fluid before treatment and to monitor plasma methotrexate levels Lesions of psoriosis may be aggravated by concomitant ex-

posure to altraviolet radiation. Radiation dermatitis and sunburn may be "recalled" by the use of methotrexate.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

IN GENERAL, THE INCIDENCE AND SEVERITY OF ACUTE SIDE EFFECTS ARE RELATED TO DOSE AND FREQUENCY OF ADMINISTRATION. THE MOST SERIOUS REACTIONS ARE DISCUSSED ABOVE UNDER ORGAN SYSTEM TOXIC-ITY IN THE PRECAUTION SECTION. THAT SECTION SHOULD ALSO BE CONSULTED WHEN LOOKING FOR IN-FORMATION ABOUT ADVERSE REACTIONS WITH METHO-TREXATE.

The most frequently reported adverse reactions include ulcerative stomatitis, leukopenia, nausea, and abdominal dis-tress. Other frequently reported adverse effects are malaise, undue fatigue, chills and fever, dizziness and decreased resistance to infection.

Other adverse reactions that have been reported with methotrexate are listed below by organ system. In the oncology setting, concomitant treatment and the underlying disea make specific attribution of a reaction to methotrexate difficult."

Alimentary System: gingivitis, pharyngitis, stomatitis, anorexia, nausea, vomiting, diarrhen, hematemesis, melena, gastrointestinal ulceration and bleeding, enteritis, pancreatitis. A bar

Cardiovascular: pericarditis, pericardial effusion, hypotension, and thromboembolic events (including arterial thrombosis, cerebral thrombosis, deep vein thrombosis, retinal vein thrombosis, thrombophlebitis, and pulmonary embolus).

Central Nervous System: headaches, drowsiness, blurred vision. Aphasia, hemiparesis, paresis and convulsions have also occurred following administration of methodrexate. Following low doses, there have been occasional reports of transient subtle cognitive dysfunction, mood alteration, unusual cranial sensation, leukoencephalopathy, or encephalopathy. *Infection:* There have been case reports of sometimes fatal opportunistic infections in patients receiving methotrexate therapy for neoplastic and non-neoplastic diseases. Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia was the most common infection. Other reported infections included nocardiosis; histoplasmosis, cryptococcosis, Herpes zoster, H. simplex hepatitis, and disseminated H. simplex.

Ophthalmic: conjunctivitis, serious visual changes of unknown etiology.

Pulmonary System: intestinal pneumonitis deaths have been reported, and chronic interstitial obstructive pulmonary disease has occasionally occurred.

Skin; erythematous rashes, pruritus, urticaria, photosensitivity, pigmentary changes, alopecia, ecchymosis, telangiec-tasia, acne furunculosis, erythema multiforme, toxic epider-mal necrolysis, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, skin necrosis, and exioliative dermatitis.

Urogenital System: severe nephropathy or renal failure, azotemia, cystitis, hematuria; defective oogenesis or spermatogenesis, transient oligospermia, menstrual dysfunction, vaginal discharge, and gynecomastia; infertility, abor-tion, fetal defects.

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Other rarer reactions related to or attributed to the use of methotrexate such as nodulosis, vasculitis, arthralgia/myal-gia, loss of libido/impotence, diabetes, osteoporosis, sudden death, reversible lymphomas, and tumor lysis syndrome. Anaphylactoid reactions have been reported. Adverse Reactions in Double-Blind Rheumatoid Arthritis

Studies-

The approximate incidences of methotrexate-attributed (ie, placebo rate subtracted) adverse reactions in 12 to 18 week double-blind studies of patients (n=128) with rheumatoid arthritis treated with low-dose oral (7.5 to 15 mg/week) pulse methotrexate are listed below. Virtually all of these patients were on concomitant nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs and some were also taking low dosages of corticosteroids.

Incidence greater than 10%: Elevated liver function tests 15%, nausen/vomiting 10%.3. Incidence 3% to 10%. Stomatitis, thrombocylopenia (platelet

count less than 100.000/mm³).

Incidence 1% to 3%: Rash/pruritus/dermatitis, diarrhea, alopecia, leukopenia (WBC less than 3000/mm²), pancytopenia, dizziness.

No pulmonary toxicity was seen in these two trials. Thus, the incidence is probably less than 2.5% (95% C.L.). Hepatic histology was not examined in these short-term studies. (See PRECAUTIONS.)

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Methotrexate Sodium-Cont.

Other less common reactions included decreased hematocrit, headache, uppor respiratory infection, anorexia, arthralgias, chest pain, coughing, dysuria, eye discomfort, ep-istaxis, fever, infection, sweating, tinnitus, and vaginal discharge.

Adverse Reactions in Psoriasis

There are no recent placebo-controlled trials in patients with psoriasis. There are two literature reports (Roenigk, 1969 and Nylors, 1978) describing large series (n=204, 248) of psoriasis patients treated with methotrexate. Dosages ranged up to 25'ng per week and treatment was adminis-tered for up to four years. With the exception of alopecia; photosensitivity, and "burning of skin lesions" (each 3% to 10%), the adverse reaction rates in these reports were very similar to those in the rheumatoid arthritis studies.

OVERDOSAGE

Leucovorin is indicated to diminish the toxicity and counteract the effect of inadvertently administered overdosages of methotrexate. Leucovorin administration should begin as promptly as possible. As the time interval between methotrexate administration and leucovorin initiation increases the effectiveness of leucovorin in counteracting toxicity decreases. Monitoring of the serum methotrexate concentration is essential in determining the optimal dose and duration of treatment with leucovorin.

In cases of massive overdosage, hydration and urinary alkalinization may be necessary to prevent the precipitation of methotrexate and/or its metabolites in the renal tubules. Neither hemodialysis nor peritoneal dialysis have been shown to improve methotresate elimination. $c_{c} = c$

Accidental intrathecal overdosage may require intensive systemic support, high-dose systemic leucovorin, alkaline diuretics and rapid CSF drainage and ventriculolumbar perfusion. 1. 18 5 M W

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Neoplastic Diseases

Oral administration in tablet form is often preferred when low doses are being administered since absorption is rapid and effective serum levels are obtained. Methotrexate, sodium injection and for injection may be given by the intra-muscular, intravenous, intra-arterial or intrathecal route. However, the preserved formulation contains Benzyl Alcohol and must not be used for intrathecal or high dose ther-apy. Parenteral drug products should be inspected visually for particulate matter and discoloration prior to administration, whenever solution and container permit.

Choriocarcinoma and similar trophoblastic diseases: Methotrexate is administered orally or intramuscularly in doses of 15 to 30 mg daily for a five-day course. Such courses are usually repeated for 3 to 5 times as required, with rest periods of one or more weeks interposed between courses, until any manifesting toxic symptoms subside. The effectiveness of therapy is ordinarily evaluated by 24 hour quantitative analysis, of urinary chorionic gonadrotropin (hCG), which should return to normal or less than 50 IU/24 hr usually after the third or fourth course and usually be followed by a complete resolution of measurable lesions in 4 to 6 weeks. One to two courses of methotrexate after normalization of hCG is usually recommended. Before each course of the drug careful clinical assessment is essential. Cyclic cmbination therapy of methotrexate with other antitumor drugs has been reported as being useful.

Since hydatidiforme mole may precede choriocarcinoma, prophylactic chemotherapy with methotrexate has been recommended.

Chorioadenoma destruens is considered to be an invasive form of hydatidiform mole. Methotrexate is administered in these disease states in doses similar to those recommended for choriocarcinoma.

Leukemia: Acute lymphoblastic leukemia in pediatric patients and young adolescents is the most responsive to pre-sent day chemotherapy. In young adults and older patients, clinical remission is more difficult to obtain and early relapse is more common.

Methotrexate alone or in combination with steroids was used initially for induction of remission in acute lymphoblastic lcukemias. More recently corticosteroid therapy, in combination with other antileukemic drugs or in cyclic combinations with methotrexate included, has appeared to produce rapid and effective remissions. When used for induction, methotrexate in doses of 3.3 mg/m^2 in combination with 60 mg/m² of prednisone, given daily, produced remis sions in 50% of patients treated, usually within a period of 4 to 6 weeks. Methotrexate in combination with other agents appears to be the drug of choice for securing maintenance of drug-induced remissions. When remassion is achieved and supportive care has produced general clinical improvement. maintenance therapy is initiated, as follows: Methotrexate is administered 2 times workly either by menth or intra-muscularly in total workly deces of 30 mg/m² It has also been given in doce, of 25 mg/kg intravenously every 14

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days. If and when relapse does occur, reinduction of remission can again usually be obtained by repeating the initial induction regimen.

A variety of combination chemotherapy regimens have been used for both induction and maintenance therapy in acute lymphoblastic leukemia. The physician should be familiar with the new advances in antilenkemic therapy.

Meningeal Leukemia: In the treatment of prophylaxis of meningeal leukemia, methotrexate must be administered intrathecally. Preservative free methotrexate is diluted to a concentration of 1 mg/mL in an appropriate sterile, preservative free medium such as 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection, USP.

The cerebrospinal fluid volume is dependent on age and not on body surface area. The CSF is at 40% of the adult volume at birth and reaches the adult volume in several years.

Intrathecal methotrexate administration at a dose of 12 mg/m² (maximum 15 mg) has been reported to result in low CSF methotrexate concentrations and reduced efficacy in pediatric patients and high concentrations and neurotoxicity in adults. The following dosage regimen is based on age instead of body surface area:

Age (years)	Dose (mg)	[y =
	<u> </u>	· .
$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}$. 10	1. 2. 1. m.
3 or older	···· <u>12</u> <u>·····</u>	,, ., ,,

In one study in patients under the age of 40, this dosage regimen appeared to result in more consistent CSF metho trexate concentrations and less neurotoxicity. Another study in pediatric patients with acute lymphocytic leukemia compared this regimen to a dose of 12 mg/m² (maximum 15 mg), a significant reduction in the rate of CNS relapse was ob-

served in the group whose dose was based on age. Because the CSF volume and turnover may decrease with age, a dose reduction may be indicated in elderly patients. For the treatment of meningeal leukemia, intrathecal methotrexate may be given at intervals of 2 to 5 days. However, administration at intervals of less than 1 week may result in increased subacute toxicity. Methotrexate is administered until the cell count of the cerebrospinal fluid returns to normal. At this point one additional dose is advisable. For prophylaxis against meningeal leukemia, the dosage is the same as for treatment except for the intervals of administration. On this subject, it is advisable for the physician to consult the medical literature.

Untoward side effects may occur with any given intratheeal injection and are commonly neurological in character. Large doses may cause convulsions, Methotrexate given by the intrathecal route appears significantly in the systemic circulation and may cause systemic methotrexate toxicity. Therefore, systemic antileukemic therapy with the drug should be appropriately adjusted reduced, or discontinued. Focal leukemic involvement of the central nervous system may not respond to intrathecal chemotherapy and is best treated with radiotherapy. 1.1.1

Lymphomas: In Burkitt's tumor, Stages I-II, methotrexate has produced prolonged remissions in some cases. Recommended dosage is 10 to 25 mg/day orally for 4 to 8 days. In Stage III, methotrexate is commonly given concomitantly with other antitumor agents. Treatment in all'stages usually consists of several courses of the drug interposed with 7 to 10 day rest periods. Lymphosarcomas in Stage III may respond to combined drug therapy with methotrexate given in doses of 0.625 to 2.5 mg/kg daily.

Mycosis Fungoides: Therapy with methotrexate appears to produce clinical remissions in one half of the cases treated. Dosage is usually 2.5 to 10 mg daily by mouth for weeks or months. Dose levels of drug and adjustment of dose regimen by reduction or cessation of drug are guided by patient response and hematologic monitoring. Methotrexate has also been given intramuscularly in doses of 50 mg once weekly or 25 mg 2 times weekly.

Osteosarcoma: An effective adjuvant chemotherapy regimen requires the administration of several cytotoxic chemotherapeutic agents. In addition to high-dose methotrexate with leucovorin rescue, these agents may include doxorubicin, cisplatin, and the combination of bleomycin, cyclophosphamide and dactinomycin (BCD) in the does and schedule shown in the table below. The starting dose for high dose methotrexate treatment is 12 grams/m². If this dose is not sufficient to produce a peak serum methodrexate concentra-tion of 1,000 micromolar (10 3 mol/L) of the end of the methotrexate infusion, the dose may be escolated to 15 grams/m2 in subsequent treatments. If the park at is "ondting or is unable to tolerate oral medication, leucovorin is given IV or IM at the same doze and schedule.

Drug*	Dose*	Treatment Week After Surgery
Methotrexate	12 g/m ² IV as 4 hour infusion (starting dose)	4,5.6,7,11,12,15, 16,29,30,44,45
Leucovorin	15 mg orally every six hours for 10 doses starting at 24 hours after start of methotrexate infusion.	
Doxorubicin† as a single drug	30 mg/m²/day IV × 3 days	8,17
Doxorubicin†	50 mg/m ² IV 100 mg/m ² IV	20,23,33,36 20,23,33,36
Bleomycint	15 units/m ² IV \times 2 days	2,13,26,39,42
Cyclophosphamide†	600 mg/m ² IV × 2 days	2,13,26,39,42
Dacomonycm	2 days	2,10,20,09,42

PHYSICIANS' DESK REFERENCE

* Link MP, Goorin AM, Miser AW, et al: The effect of adjust vant chemotherapy on relapse-free survival in patients with osteosarcoma of the extremity. N Engl J of Med 1986 314(No.25):1600-1606.

See each respective package insert for full prescribing in formation: Dosage modifications may be necessary because of drug-induced toxicity. 带头皮在外的关系。

When these higher doses of methotrexate are to be admin istered, the following safety guidelines should be closely on

GUIDELINES FOR METHOTREXATE THERAPY WITH LEU COVORIN RESCUE

- 1. Administration of methotrexate should be delayed until recovery if ź
 - the WBC count is less than 1500/microliter
- the neutrophil count is less than 200/microliter • the platelet count is less than 75,000/microliter
- the serum bilirubin level is greater than 1.2 mg/dL
- the SGPT level is greater than 450 U
- mucositis is present, until there is evidence of healing persistent pleural effusion is present; this should be

drained dry prior to infusion. 2. Adequate renal function must be documented.

- a. Serum creatining must be normal and creatining clearance must be greater than 60 mL/min; before init
- tiation of therapy. b. Serum creatinine must be measured prior to each sub
- sequent course of therapy. If serum creatinine has in
- creased by 50% or more compared to a prior value, the creatinine clearance must be measured and doce mented to be greater than 60 mL/min (even if the
- serum créatinine is still within the normal range). 3. Patients must be well hydrated, and must be treated with sodium bicarbonate for urinary alkalinization.
 - a. Administer 1,000 mL/m² of intravenous fluid over 6 hours prior to initiation of the methotrexate infusion
 - Continue hydration at 125 mL/m²/hr (3 liters/m²/day) during the methotrexate infusion, and for 2 days affect the infusion has been completed.
- b. Alkalinize urine to maintain pH above 7.0 during methotrexate infusion and leucovorin calcium therapy This can be accomplished by the administration of so dium bicarbonate orally or by incorporation into a sep arate intravenous solution.
- 4. Repeat serum creatinine and serum methotrexate 24 hours after starting methotrexate and at least once daily until the methotrexate level is below (0.05 micromolar
- 5. The table below provides guidelines for leucovorin of cium dosage based upon serum methotrexate levels. (See table below.*)

Patients who experience delayed early methotrevalte elimination are likely to develop nonreversible oliguite renal failure. In addition to appropriate leucovorin ther apy, these patients require continuing hydration and un nary alkalinization, and close monitoring of fluid and electrolyte status; until the serum methotrexate level has fallen to below 0.05 micromolar and the renal failure has resolved.

6. Some patients will have abnormalities in methotrexal elimination, or abnormalities in renal function following methotrexate administration, which are significant and less severe than the abnormalities described in the table below. These abnormalities may or may not be associated with significant clinical toxicity. If significant clinical W icity is observed increasion of significant characteristics in a solution of the second of the secon

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RODUCT INFORM

oxic reactions, especially bone marrow suppression, at dese greater than 20 mg/wk. Dreatesponse has been achieved, each schedule should be reduced, if possible, to the lowest possible effective dose.

id the patient may continue to improve for another 12

The optimal duration of therapy is unknown. Limited data

weilable from long-term studies indicate that the initial

clinical improvement is maintained for at least two years

with continued therapy. When methotrexate is discontin-

I the arthritis usually worsens within 3 to 6 weeks.

Procedures for proper handling and disposal of anticancer

drigs should be considered. Several guidelines on this sub-let have been published.³⁻³ There is no general agreement

that all of the procedures recommended in the guidelines

instrexate Sodium for Injection should be reconstituted

with an appropriate sterile, preservative free medium such

as 5% Dextrose Solution, USP, or Sodium Chloride Injec-

tion, USP. Reconstitute the 20 mg vial to a concentration no

White than 25 mg/mL. The 1 gram vial should be recon-struted with 19.4 mL to a concentration of 50 mg/mL.

The ligh doses of methotrexate are administered by IV

for intrathecal injection, reconstitute to a concentration of

Implify with an appropriate sterile, preservative free me-dum such as Sodium Chloride Injection, USP. DLUTION INSTRUCTIONS FOR LIQUID

desired, the solution may be further diluted with a com-Autor and a solution may be target and a solution with a solution may be target and a solution with a solution of the solution of 21 to 25°C results

in a product which is within 90% of label potency. Methodicexate LPFE Sodium (methotrexate sodium injec-

tone Isotonic Liquid, Preservative Free, for Single Use Only

included, the solution may be further diluted immediately

the use with an appropriate sterile, preservative free

medium such as 5% Dextrose Solution, USP or Sodium

METHOTREXATE SODIUM INJECTION PRODUCTS Mellurexate Sodium Injection, Isotonic Liquid, Contains

and necessary or appropriate. RECONSTITUTION OF LYOPHILIZED POWDERS Reconstitute immediately prior to use.

response usually begins within 3 to 6 weeks

Therapeutic

Preservatives

Chloride Injection, USP.

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HANDLING AND DISPOSAL

MODUCT INFORMATION			La grade	MINUNEX CORPORATION/1401
the state of the second state of the second	LEUCOVORIN RESCUE SCHEDULES FC Clinical Struction	DLLOWING TREATMEN Laboratory Findings	IT WITH HIGHER DO	SES OF INETHOTREXATE Leucovoria Dosage and Duration
and always be reconsidered when laboratory abnor- mines or clinical toxicilies are observed. Apriles or clinical toxicilies are observed. Aprile of the analysis of the second se	Hormal Methocrexate Elimination	Serum methotrexate approximately 10 mi hours after administ micromolar at 48 hou 0.2 micromolar at 72	level cromolar at 24 ration, 1 urs. and less than hours.	15 mg PO, 1M or TV q 6 horrs for 60 hours (10 doses storting at 24 hours after start of methotrexate infusion)
a point statute to part of the provident of the physician. Information for Patients Under PRECAUTIONS.) As- ment of hematologic, hepatic, renal, and pulmonary with should be made by history, physical examination,	Delayed Late Methotresate Elimination	Serum methotrexate above 0.2 micromola more than 0.05 micro after administration.	level remaining r at 72 hours, and omolar at 96 hours	Continue 15 mg PO, IM or IV q six hours, until methotrexate level is less than 0.05 micromolar.
and providery tests before beginning, periodically during, and hence reinstituting methotrexate therapy. (See PRE- ACTIONS.) Appropriate steps should be taken to avoid enception during methotrexate therapy. (See PRECAU- TONS and CONTRAINDICATIONS.) Washing therapy may be instituted with the RHEU- MATRIXXO Methotrexate Sodium 2.5 mg Tablet Doss Packs	Delayed Early Methotrexate Elimination and/or Evidence of Acute Renal Injury	Serum methotrexate micromolar or more administration, OR; increase in serum cro hours after methotre administration (eg. a	level of 50 at 24 hours, or 5 at 48 hours after a 100% or greater eatinine level at 24 xate n increase from	150 mg IV q three hours, until methotrexate level is less than 1 micromolar; then 15 mg IV q three hours, until methotrexate level is less than 0.05 micromolar.
Buch are designed to provide doses over a range of 5 mg to to mg administered as a single weekly dose. The dose packs	and a star of the	0.5 mg/dL to a level more).	of 1 mg/dL or	
 and recommended for administration of methodexide in active does greater than 15 mg, All schedules should be entiatually tailored to the individual patient. An initial test for may be given prior to the regular dosing schedule to drace any extreme sensitivity to adverse effects. (See AD. (FREE REACTIONS). Maximal myelosuppression usually occurs in seven to ten days. provide the schedule of the individual patient. An initial test dosing achedule to the individual patient. An initial test dosing achedule to the dose schedule. To the control of the dosing achedule to the dose the dose achedule the dose schedule to the dose schedule to the dose schedule should be reduced to the lowest possible and therapy which should be encouraged. Therapy which should be acquised gradually to ache give as a course once weekly. 1 Divide oral doses of 7.5 mg dire weekly. 2 Divide oral doses of 2.5 mg at 12 hour intervals for 3 doses given as a course once weekly. 2 Despeti me as a course once weekly. 2 Despeti me as a course once weekly. 3 Despetime aches a down and a separation of the incidence and severity of serious for a sections, especially bone marrow suppression, at the sections. 	HOW SUPPLIED Parenteral: Methofrexate Sodium för Injection, Lyopi Free, för Single Use Ohly. Each 20 mg at iljzed powder contains methofrexate so 20 mg Vial — NDC 58406-673-01 (Dark 1 g Vial — NDC 58406-671-06 (Red C Methofrexate LPF® Sodium (methofre tion), Isotonic Liquid, Preservative Free, Each 25 mg/mL, 2 mL, 4 mL, 8 mL ad methotrexate sodium equivalent to 50 r and 250 mg methofrexate respectively. 50 mg — 2 mL Vial — NDC 58406-683 100 mg — 4 mL Vial — NDC 58406-683 200 mg — 4 mL Vial — NDC 58406-683 200 mg — 2 mL Vial — NDC 58406-683 50 mg — 2 mL Vial — NDC 58406-683 Store at 25°C (77°R); excursions perr (59°=86°F) [see USP Controlled Room ted from light. MMUNEX@ Manufactured for	hillized, Preservative nd 1 g vial of lyoph- dium equivalent to y. Blue Cap) and the state of lyoph- mathematical state of ly and physical state of ly and physical state of ly and the state	 REFERENCES 1. Roenigk HH, Au ato in Psoriasis: tol 1988; 19:145- 2. Kremer JM, et et is: Suggested G Arth Rheim 199 3. Recommendation Antineoplastic I sale by the Sup ment Printing O 4. AMA.Council Re Antineoplastics. 5. National Study G ommendations fi from Louis P. J. Commission on lege of Pharmac, wood Avenue, BG 6. Clinical Oncolog Recommendation Agents. Med JA 7. Jones RB, et al Agents: A Repor Ca - A Cancer JG 283. 8. American Societ 	erbach R, Maibach HI, et al. Methotrex- Revised Guidelines. J Am Acad Derma- 156. al. Methotrexate for Rheumatoid Arthri- uidelines for Monitoring Liver Toxicity. 4: 37.316–323. Si for, the Safe Handling of Parenteral Fugs. NiH Publication No. 83–2621. For erintendent of Documents, US Govern- ffice, Washington, DC 20402. port. Guidelines for Handling Parenteral JAMA, March 15, 1985. Jommission on Cytotoxic Exposure - Rec- or Handling Cytotoxic Agents. Available effrey, ScD, Chairman, National Study Cytotoxic Exposure, Massachusetts, Col- y and Allied Health Sciences, 179 Long- ston, Massachusetts 02115. ical Society of Australia: Guidelines and ns for Safe Handling of Chemotherapeutic throm the Mount Sinai Medical Center. <i>nurnal for Clinicians Sept/Oct</i> 1983; 258- y of Hospital Pharmacists Technical As-

IMMUNEX CORPORATION, Seattle, WA 98101

LEDERLE PARENTERALS, INC., Carolina, Puerto Rico INC., Carolin 00987. Oral: an the second second

Description

Méthotrexate Sodium Tablets contain an amount of methotrexate sodium equivalent to 2.5 mg of methotrexate and are round, convex, yellow tablets, engraved with LL on one side, scored in half on the other side, and engraved with M above the score, and 1 below. NDC 0005-4507-23 — Bottle of 100

RHEUMATREX® Methotrexate Sodium Tablet 2.5 mg Dose Packs - (each tablet equivalent to 2.5 mg of methotrex) áte)

	(100)
	NDC 0005-4507-04-RHEUMATREX® Methotrexate
	Sodium Tablets Dose Pack 4
ł	cards each containing two 2.5 mg
	tablets, ie, 5 mg per week
	NDC 0005-4507-05-RHEUMATREX® Methotrexate
	Sodium Tablets Dose Pack-4
	cards each containing three 2.5 mg
	tablets, ie. 7.5 mg per week.
	NDC 0005-4507-07-RHEUMATREX® Methotrexate
	Sodium Tablets Dose Pack-4
	cards each containing four 2.5 mg
	tablets, ie, 10 mg per week.
	NDC 0005-4507-09-RHEUMATREX® Methotrexate
	Sodium Tablets Dose Pack—4
	cards each containing five 2.5 mg
	tablets, ie, 12.5 mg per week.
	NDC 0005-4507-91-RHEUMATREX® Methotrexate
	Sodium Tablets Dose Pack-4
	cards each containing six 2.5 mg
	tablats in 15 mg per week

Store at 25°C (77°F); excursions permitted to 15°-30°C (59°-86°F) [see USP Controlled Room Temperature]. Prolect from light.

LEDERLE PHARMACEUTICAL DIVISION of American Cyanamid Company Pearl River, NY 10965 Revised 11/97 CI 4814-3 REV 0168-04 Q1997

263. 8. American Society of Hospital Pharmacists Technical Assistance Bulletin on Handling Cytotoxic and Hazardous Drugs. Am J Hosp Pharm 1990; 47:1033-1049. [See table above] 1. 1. 1.

8 18

NOVANTRONE®

B mitoxantrons for injection concentrate 2 -

WARNING

2113 -10

NOVANTRONE® (mitoxantrone for injection concentrate) should be administered under the supervision of a physician experienced in the use of cancer chemotherapeutic agents.

Except for the treatment of acute nonlymphocytic leukenia, NOVANTRONE® therapy generally should not be given to patients with baseline neutrophil counts of less than 1,500 cells/mm³. In order to monitor the occurrence of bone marrow suppression, primarily neutropenia, which may be severe and result in infection, it is recommended that frequent peripheral blood cell counts be performed on all patients receiving NO-VÄNTRONE®.

DESCRIPTION

NOVANTRONE® (mitoxantrone hydrochloride) is a synthetic antineoplastic anthracenedione for intravenous use. The molecular formula is C22H23N1O6•2HCl and the molecular weight is 517.41. It is supplied as a concentrate which MUST BE DILUTED PRIOR TO INJECTION. The concentrate is a sterile, nonpyrogenic, dark blue aqueous solution containing mitoxantrone hydrochloride equivalent to 2 mg/mL mitoxantrone free base, with sodium chloride (0.80% w/v), sodium acetate (0.005% w/v); and acetic acid (0.046% w/v) as inactive ingredients. The solution has a pH of 3.0 to 4.5 and contains 0.14 mEq of sodium per mL. The product does not contain preservatives. The chemical name is 1,4-

Continued on next page

Consult 1999 PDR^a supplements and future editions for revisions

D11

Folic Acid Supplementation Prevents Deficient Blood Folate Levels and Hyperhomocysteinemia During Longterm, Low Dose Methotrexate Therapy for Rheumatoid Arthritis: Implications for Cardiovascular Disease Prevention

SARAH L. MORGAN, JOSEPH E. BAGGOTT, JEANNETTE Y. LEE, and GRACIELA S. ALARCÓN

ABSTRACT. Objective. To determine the effect of longtorm methourexate (MTX) therapy and folic acid supplementation on folate nutriture and homocysteine levels in patients with meanatoid arthritis. Methods. A double blind, placebo controlled trial lasting one year was conducted at one neadomic medical center. A total of 79 patients taking how dose MTX were followed up to one year. The patients were randomized to receive placebo or 5 or 27.5 mg folic acid supplementation per week. Results. Plasma and erythrocyte folse levels and plasma homocysteine levels were determined. The folate nutriture of patients taking how dose MTX declined without folic acid supplementation. Plasma homocysteine levels increased significantly over a one year period in the placebo group. Low folate nutriture and hyperhomocysteinemia occurred with greater frequency in the placebo group than in the folic acid supplemented groups.

Conchrison. For longterm, low dose MTX therapy, there are now at least 3 reasons to consider supplementation with folic acid (a low cost prescription); (1) to prevent MTX toxicity, (2) to prevent or treat fulate deficiency, and (3) to prevent hyperhomocysteinemia, considered by many investigators to be a risk factor for cardiovascular disease. (J Rheumatol 1998;25:441-6)

Key Indexing Terms: HOMOCYSTBINE METHOTREXATE

FOLIC ACID RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

Methotrexate (MTX) is an antifolate widely used in low doses in the therapy of autoimmune diseases, psoriasis, inflammatory bowel disease, and asthma¹⁻⁶. It is now the leading disease modifying antirheumatic drug for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis (RA), a disease that affects roughly 1% of the adult population around the world²⁻⁴. About 184,000 patients with RA were treated with MTX in

United States alone. We have shown that the resulting interference with folate metabolism is correlated with toxicity and that folic acid (pteroylglutamic acid), in doses of 5–27.5 mg/week, lowers the toxicity of low dose MTX therapy for RA^{7.8}. We also postulate that folate mediated processes are involved in mechanisms of efficacy and toxicity of MTX⁹. Homocysteine is a sulfur-containing amino acid that may be remethylated via a folate dependent reaction to form methionine. Folate nutriture is a major determinant of plasma homocysteine levels and blood folare levels are generally inversely correlated to homocysteine levels¹⁰⁻¹⁶. Plasma homocysteine levels > 15 µmol/l have been implicated as an independent risk factor for cardiovascular disease¹⁷⁻²⁷.

1995 (Wyeth-Ayerst, personal communication) in the

Because of these relationships, monitoring of blood folates (plasma and erythrocyte) and homocysteine levels during longterm MTX therapy may have important clinical implications. We report plasma and erythrocyte (red blood cells, RBC) folates and plasma homocysteine levels during a one year randomized, double blind, placeho controlled trial to study the effect of folic acid supplementation during low dose MTX therapy for RA⁸. We hypothesized that chronically low folate nutriture and chronic hyperhomocysteinemia would be more frequent in the non-folic acid supplemented group.

Margapor al Homocysteine levels during MIX

4 A 1

in the Division of Clinical Nutrition and Dietetics and the Division of Nutritional Biochemistry, Department of Nutrition Sciences, Schools of Medicine, Health Related Professions, and Denvistry, Division of Hematology/Oncology and Division of Clinical Immunology and Rheumatology, Department of Medicine, the University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, Alahama, 1/SA.

Supported by JR29 AR42674 through the National Institutes of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases and the Office of Dietary Supplements and in part by the National Institutes of Health Department of Research Resources Clinical Research Center grant ICR-32-3151.

S.L. Morgan, MD, RD, Associate Professor: J.E. Boggott, PhD, Assistant Professor, Division of Nutritional Biochemistry. Department of Nutrition Sciences, Schools of Medicine, Health Related Professions, and Dentistry; J.Y. Lee, PhD, Senior Biostatistician, Division of Hemotology and Oncology, Department of Medicine; G.S. Alarcón, MD, MPH, Professor and Associate Director, Multipurpose Arthritis and Musculoskeletol Disease Center, Division of Clinical Immunology and Rhoumatology, Department of Medicine.

Address reprint requests to Dr. S.I., Margan, 256A Webb, 1675 University Boulevard, Birningham, AI, 352994–3360. F-Mail: simorgan@uab.edu Submitted.April 24, 1997. revision accepted September J8, 1997.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Participants and study design. The study was approved by the Institutional Review Bosrd of the University of Alabama. As described4, the participants were 79 patients aged 19-78 years of age who fulfilled the American College of Rheumstology revised criteria for RA21. The primary outcomes of that study were the effect of folic acid supplementation on measures of toxicity and efficacy". Patients were enrolled in a one year, double blind. placebo controlled trial to evaluate the effects of 5 mg (low fulie acid (FA) group) or 27.5 mg (high PA gmup) falic acid supplementation per week during low dose MTX tharapy". The patients took folie and or identical placebo cupsules on the 5 days of the week when MTX was not ingested. MTX was taken in a single dose on one day of the week. There were no significant differences between the 3 groups regarding mean age, sex, racial distribution, mean disease duration, previous use of folle acid containing vitamins, IgM rheumatoid factor positivity defined as > 30 illimi or > 1:160 titer, concurrent use of aspirin or nonsteroldal amiinflammatory drugs, mean prednisone dose, or cumulative MTX dose at the end of the trial. The mean (± standard deviation) age of the entire population was 53.2 (± 13.6) years. Sevenly-six percent of the patients were women. Seventy-six percent of the patients were Caucaslan. Sixty-two percent were concurrently taking prednisone and 80% were IgM rheumatoid factor positive. If patients had abnormal values on a vitamin pauch nin A, plasma and RRC folate, vitamin B₁₁, vitamin B₆, thumine/riboflavin, and vitamin C) other than folares, the abnormality was treated with appropriate single vitamin supplementation. No other vitamin supplements were permitted except as noted.

Putients were examined immediately before MTX initiation (Visit 1) and after a mean of 13, 26, 39, and 53 weeks of therapy (Visits 2-5, respectively) for clinical evaluation and venipanentre. A one day dietary recall using the Minnesota Nutrition Data System software, food Database version 6A, Nutrient Database version F21, was performed at each visit to assess nutrient intekes²⁹.

Vitamin and homocysteine assays: At Visit 1, blood was drawn for the assessment of vitamina B_6 and vitamin B_{12} nutriture^{20,11}. Blood for plasma and RBC folata levels was drawn 5.7 duys after MTX dosing in a mbc containing EDTA and assayed at all visits using a MTX resistant *Lactobacillus casei* microbiological assay^{32,33}. The blood was drawn 5-7 days after MTX dosing. Criteria for adequacy of folate analys were based on the categories of folate adequacy established by Scibub and Rosenberg¹⁴. Serum folate levels were considered to be low when values were < 6.7 mm0/1 and RRC folate levels were assayed on when values were < 315 mm0/1²⁴. Homocysteine levels were assayed using high performance liquid chronatography²⁵. Values > 15 µm0/1 were considered to be elevated¹⁵⁴. Blond was generally processed within 30 min of philobotomy and plasma frozeu at .70°C until time of analysis.

Fisher's exact text was used to compare the 3 treatment groups with respect to the proportions of patients who had 0, 1, or more than J occurrence of deficient plasma or RBC folate levels or elevated plasma homocysterine levels (see Tables 1 and 2).

Linear regression analyses were performed to evaluate the change in homocysteine levels over time after baseline in each treatment group.

Pearson correlation analyses were done to evaluate the baseline relationship of RRC and plasma folde levels with plasma homocysteine levels and the correlation of dietary folder, vitumin B_{12} , and vitumin B_6 intakes with plasma homocysteine levels.

RESULTS

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Plasma and RBC folute levels during the trial. Figures 1 and

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2 show plasma and RBC folate levels at each visit. There were no significant differences between plasma and RBC folate levels at baseline (p > 0.05). There were striking differences between treatment groups with respect to plasma and RBC folate levels across followup visits. For plasma and RBC folate levels, significant differences (p < 0.001) were found for all 3 pairwise comparisons (low FA vs high FA, high FA vs placebo, and low FA vs placebo) at followup visits. Significant treatment-visit interactions were observed for plasma fiblate (p < 0.001) and RBC folate (p = 0.003).

Multiple instances of a low blood folate level are likely to be more clinically significant than an isolated low blood folate level. The number of patients with 0, 1, or more than







Teva – Fresenius Exhibit 1002-00474 1 low blood folate level during Visits 2–5 is shown in Table 1. A clear majority of the patients in the placebo group had 2 or more deficient levels, while the vast majority in the folic acid supplemented groups maintained normal blood folate levels throughout the study (p < 0.001).

Plasma homocysteine levels during the trial. There were no significant differences in baseline plasma homocysteine levels between groups at Visit 1 (p > 0.05). Normai mean homocysteine levels in 40–70-year-old women and men range from 8.0 to 10.3 μ mol/1^{20,38}. The mean values in the placebo group were in the range of 13.6–21.7 μ mol/1 at Visits 2–5 (Figure 3), substantially above the range of normal means. After baseline, for Visits 2–5, the mean overall plasma homocysteine level was 17.4 μ mol/1 in the placebo group. The means in the folic acid supplemented groups at almost all visits were comparable with the above population norms^{20,28}.

Figure 3 shows plasma homocysteine levels over time. A. Visit 1, significant treatment differences were observed with respect to homocysteine levels. The low FA and high FA groups differed significantly from the placebo groups across Visits 2-5 (p < 0.001).

Multiple instances of hyperhomocysteinemia are more likely to be significant than an isolated elevated homocysmine level. The percentage of patients with more than one



Figure 3. Plasme homocysteine (µmol/l) levels in the Low FA, High FA, and Placebo groups during one year of MTX therapy. Visits are 3 months apart.

elevated plasma homocysteine level, assayed every 3 months, is shown in Table 2. About 40% of the placebo group had 2 or more elevated plasma homocysteine levels during the course of the trial. In contrast, chronic hyperbo-

Table J. Chronic deficient folse nutriture in MTX treated patients with RA receiving high and low dose folic ocid supplements and placebo.

	Nunb	er (%) of Patlents v Folste Ass	vith 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4 says During Fallow	Deficient Plasma a ap Visits	TT RBC
	0	L	2	3	4
Отпир	_				
Low FA	19 (76)	.5 (20)	1 (4)	0 (0)	0 (0)
High FA	20 (77)	6 (23)	0 (0)	D (0)	Q (0)
Piacebo	7 (25)	2 (7)	5 (18)	7 (25)	7 (25)

The larger number of deficient plasma and/or deficient RBC folate assays was used: plasma folate < 6.7 nmol/ and RBC folate < 315 nmol/l were considered deficient. Plane's oxect test, p < 0.001, was used to compare the 3 treatment groups with respect to the proportions of 0, 1, or more than 1 occurrence of deficient folate levels.

Table 2. Chronic hyperhomocysteinemia in MTX treated patients with RA receiving low and high dose folic acid supplements and placebo.

	Nur	nber (%) of Patients Assay	with 0, 1, 2, 3, or 's During Followur	4 Elevated Homosy visist	yateine
	0.	1	2	3	. 4
Group			•	• .	
Low PA.	20 (80 <u>)</u>	4 (16)	1 (4)	· 0	Ó
High FA .	25 (96)	Ű	0	0	1 (4)
Placebo	15 (53)	2.(7)	5 (18)	3 (11)-	3 (11)

Homocysteine levels > 15 μ mol/l are considered elevated. Fisher's exact test, p < 0.001, was used to compare the 3 treatment groups with respect to the proportions of patients who had 0, 1, or more than 1 occurrence of clevated plasma homocysteine levels:

Morgani chal: Homocysteine levels during MTX

mocysteinemia was found in less than 5% of the subjects in the folic acid supplemented groups (p < 0.001).

Figure 3 shows that homocysteine levels decreased with time for the folic acid supplemented groups (p < 0.001 low IA; p = 0.023 high FA), but not in the placebo group. The rate of decline was -4.64 µmol/l/year for the low FA, -2.88 µmol/l/year for the high FA group, and 0.20 µmol/l/year for the placebo group.

Dietary intake and correlations with biochemical indices. Mean dietary folate, vitamin B_{12} , and vitamin B_6 intakes were not significantly different within groups at any visit or between groups. Dietary folate, vitamin B_{12} , and vitamin B_6 intakes were not significantly correlated with homocysteine levels across groups or for any individual treatment group.

Correlations of vitamin levels with homocysteine. At Visit 1 (bascline), plasma folate (N = 79; r = -0.334, p = 0.002), RBC folate (N = 79; r = -0.344, p = 0.003) were significantly correlated with plasma homocysteine levels. At Visit ' vitamin B₆ and vitamin B₁₂ status was not correlated with

useline plasma homocysteine levels. In the placebo group, there was a relatively weak negative correlation between plasma folate and plasma homocysteine levels at Visits 2–5 (r = -0.23, p = 0.025).

DISCUSSION

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MTX is increasingly being used for treatment of different chronic disorders, including RA; therefore, the metabolic consequences of chronic administration are important¹⁻⁶. Low dose MTX therapy, given over a one year period, adversely affects both plasma and RBC folate levels. This effect was most pronounced in the placebo treated group and produced chronic deficient blood folate levels. We have shown that the C₁ index, a direct measure of the folate dependent formation of serine from formate and glycine in leukocytes, is lower in patients with RA treated with MTX compared to patients with RA not receiving MTX³⁹. Folic acid supplementation (both 5 and 27.5 mg per week) orevents the decrement in folate status⁸.

Our data indicate that both plasma and RBC folate are primary determinants of homocysteine levels in patients with RA taking MTX; this agrees with the observations in populations not treated with antifolates11-10. There were no significant relationships between vitamin B, and vitamin B₁₂ levels and homocysteine levels at Visit 1. This indicates that folate was the predominant vitamin factor regulating the plasma homocysteine levels in our group of patients with RA, before the initiation of MTX therapy. The finding of no association between vitamin B6 and homocysteine levels differs from Roubcouff, et al, who found low pyridoxal phosphate levels in patients with RA40. We did not have a control group for comparison in this trial and methionine loading tests were not performed during this protocol, which may explain differences. In addition, there were no significant relationships between dietary folate intakes and plasma

homocysteine levels in any of the groups at Visits 2–5. This may reflect that naturally occurring food folate has been shown to be relatively ineffective at increasing folate status and perhaps altering homocysteine levels⁴¹. On the other hand, our previous findings suggest that food folate intakes of > 4(X) μ g/day are effective in lowering the probability of MTX toxicity⁸.

A substantial number of patients in the placebo group developed MTX induced chronic hyperhomocysteinemia, a condition largely prevented by folic acid supplementation in the other treatment arms. There is evidence suggesting that hyperhomocysteinemia is directly involved in the etiology of vascular atherosclerotic disease¹⁷⁻³⁰, early onset venous and arterial occlusion^{21/23}, coronary attery disease²⁴⁻²⁶, and carotid artery stenosis¹⁷. It follows that MTX treated patients with RA should also have an increased risk for coronary artery discase, peripheral vascular disease, and cerebrovascular disease. There are data supporting the relationship between hyperhomocysteinemia and thrombosis in patients with systemic lupus erythematosus42. Hyperhomocysteinemia has also been observed in a small group of patients with RA in Sweden⁴³. Specific epidemiological data for supporting the above assertion are, with one exception⁴⁴. lacking in MTX treated patients. In the one albeit small study specifically addressing MTX as a risk factor for cardiovascular disease, MTX treated patients with RA were compared to the healthy population⁴⁴. Standardized mortality rates were 2.9 and 1.4, respectively, but the confidence intervals encompassed the unity (0.6-8.6 and 0.6-2.6, respectively) and by definition cannot be regarded as statistically significant, which likely relates to the relatively small size of the cohort studied.

Hyperhomocysteinemia in the low dose MTX treated population may be due to the interference in folute metabolism by the drug itself or to drug induced folate deficiency, or a combination of both⁴⁵. It is intriguing that low scrum folate levels, per sc, were found to be associated with increased risk of fatal heart disease in the Nutrition Canada survey²⁶.

It is known that folic acid supplementation lowers homocysteine levels in an "at risk" population, such as in patients during the post-myocardial infarction period⁴⁶. Based on our findings, low dose MTX treated patients should be added to the "at risk" population for increased cardiovascular risk due to hyperhomocysteinemia. The cereal grain fortification mandated by the Food and Drug Administration, in large part to prevent neural tube defects, also has the possibility of benefiting the population taking antifolate drugs by preventing toxicity, increasing folate levels, and decreasing homocysteine levels^{7,8,47,48}. Folic acid supplements rather than food folates may have a more predictable effect in increasing blood folate levels⁴¹. It would still seem prudent to evaluate vitamin B₁₂ status before prescribing longterm folic acid supplementation because of a high prevalence of

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Teva – Fresenius Exhibit 1002-00476 vitamin B_{12} deficiency in the RA population⁴⁹ and concerns of masking the nutritional anemia of B_{12} deficiency^{47,30}. The prevalence of the thermolabile mutation in methylenetetrahydrotolate reductase or heterozygosity for cystathionine-8 synthase deficiency in the population taking low dose MTX may merit further investigation, since these conditions produce hypethomocysteinemia and may have an effect on recommended folic acid supplement doses⁵¹⁻⁵⁴.

We acknowledge that problems in sample handling can produce spurious increases in the homocysteine levels³⁵⁻⁵⁷. It has been shown that samples for homocysteine levels should be placed immediately on ice to prevent homocysteine from leaching from RBC into plasma and falsely elevating plasma homocysteine levels. In our study, samples were generally centrifuged and frozen at -70° C within 30 min so that artefactual hyperhomocysteluemia should be equal in all groups. All patient groups were enrolled simultaneously; therefore the blood was stored about the same le a of time in all groups before analysis. It is also very unlikely that sample handling could account for the observation of chronic hyperhomocysteinemia found only in the placebo group.

These observations regarding homocysteine levels during low dose MTX therapy do not agree with our previous observations that homocysteine levels did not become elevated after 6 months of low dose MTX therapy⁵⁸. The timing of blood sampling may have been a factor in the previous study; most samples were drawn 5-7 days after MTX administration, when homocysteine levels have been shown to return to normal after a low dose of MTX⁴⁵. The failure to detect MTX induced hyperhomocysteinemia in our previous study may also be due to a shorter trial of MTX in the previous study (6 months vs one year) and a smaller number of patients in that study.

In summary, there are now 3 reasons to recommend low cost folic acid supplements in patients receiving longterm, low dose MTX therapy: (1) folic acid supplementation h is MTX toxicity^{7,8}; (2) folic acid supplementation should prevent chronic blood folate deficiency during therapy; and (3) folic acid supplementation lowers the prevalence of chronic hyperhomocysteinemia, which has been linked to cardiovascular disease risk in the general population.

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TUMOR BIOLOGY/HUMAN GENETICS

*2138

PROPHYLACTIC MASTECTOMY (PM) AND GOPHORECTOMY (PO) IN WOMEN UNDERGOING BRCA1/2 TESTING. <u>D. Schrag</u>, K.J. Kalkbrenner, T.L. Light, K.A. Schnelder, J.E. Garber. Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Boston; MA.

Women tested for BRCA1/2 mutations may consider PM and/or PO based on the results of genetic testing for predisposing mutations. A cohort of 88 women with at least 10% risk of inherited breast/ovarian cancer provided information about attitudes towards PM and PO before testing and again at mean 5.5 months following results disclosure. 46 women had prior breast/ovarian cancer (CA); 42 women had not had cancer (NC). Before genetic testing, 8 women had had PM, 12 PO and 5 therapeutic oophorectomy. At baseline, 37/80 had discussed PM with a physician and 33/71 had discussed PO 8/80 were considering PM and 24/71 PO. Following BRCA disclosure, 6 women underwent PM (3 CA, 3 NC) and 5 had PO (2 CA, 3 NC); one woman (NC) had both procedures. Mutations were identified in all women having prophylactic surgery following results disclosure except for 2 who had PM with indeterminate results but abnormal breast biopsies. In addition, 13 were still considering PM (8+, 47) and 19 were considering PO (12+, 67, 1-) For the entire cohort, no cancers have been detected at PM; one borderline ovarian cancer was found at PO. PM and PO are often considered by women who have BRCA1/2 information about attitudes towards PM and PO before testing and again at found at PO. PM and PO are often considered by women who have BRCA1/2 mutation testing even with indeterminate test results.

+2140

PHASE I CHEMOPREVENTION: CLINICAL TRIAL OF CURCUMIN A.L. Cheng, J.K. Lin; M.M. Hsu; T.S. Shen, J.W.Ko, J.T. Lin; B.J. Lin, M.S. Wu; H.S. Yu, S.H. Jee, G.S. Chen, T.M. Chen; G.A. Chen, M.K. Lai, Y.S. Pu, M.H. Pan; Y.J. Wang, C.C. Tsai, C.Y. Hsleh. National Talwan University College of Medi-cine, Taipel, Talwan; and Kaphslung Medical College, Kaohslung, Taiwan.

Curcumin (diferuloyimethane), a yellow substance from the root of the plant Curcuma longa Linn., has been demonstrated to inhibit murine plant curcuma longa cuma, has been demonstrated to influent murne carefrogenesis of skin, stomach, intestine and oral cavity. A phase-i clinical triak was conducted to examine the toxicology, the pharmacokinetics and the biologically effective dose of curcumin in humans. Five types of high-risk individual were eligible: 1, recently-resected urinary bladder cancer (BC), 2, arsenic Bowen's disease (BD), 3, uterine cervical intraepi-thelial neoplasia (CIN), 4, oral leukoplakia (OL), and 5, intestinal metapla-sia of gastric mucosa (IM). The starting dose was 500 mg/day, taken orally or 2 months. If a new 2 mode it toxic in une acted in start a cit of the the for 3 months. If no any \geq Grade II toxicity was noted in at least 3 pts, the dose was escalated successively to 1000 (level II), 2000 (level III), 4000 (level IV), and 8000 mg/day (level V). Lesion sites were biopsied before and 3 months after taking curcumin. Serum curcumin was quantitated by HPLC method. In a total of 25 pts enrolled, no treatment-related toxicity was noted up to 8000 mg/day (level V). Serum concentration usually peaked at 1 to 2 hours after oral intake, and gradually declined within 12 hours. The 1 to 2 hours after oral intake, and gradually declined within 12 hours. The average peak serum concentrations after taking 4000 mg, 6000 mg and 8000 mg of curcumin were 0.41 ± 0.07 μM, 0.57 ± 0.05 μM, and 1.75 ± 0.80 μM, respectively. Although 3 of 25 p'ts proceeded to develop frank malignancies, histological improvement of the precancerous lesions was seen in 1 (level III) of the 2 p'ts with BC, 2 (both level IV) of 7 p'ts with OL, 1 (level II) of 6 p'ts with 1M, 1 (level I) of 4 p'ts with CIN, and 2 (level I and III) of 6 p'ts with BD. Although curcumin is probably non-toolc even up to more than 8000 mg/day, the bulky volume of drug tablets became a limiting factor likelf. Therefore, for future phase II studies, doses close to limiting factor itself. Therefore, for future phase II studies, doses close to 8000 mg/day may be recommended.

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*2139

LY231514 (MTA): RELATIONSHIP OF VITAMIN METABOLITE PROFILE TO TOXIC-ITY. <u>C. Niyikiza</u>, J. Walling, D. Thornton, D. Seltz, and R. Allen. Eli Lilly and Company, Indianapolis, IN, and Univ of Colorado Health Science Center, Denver, CO.

LY231514 (MTA) is a new generation multitargeted antifolate antimetabolite with inhibitory activity against thymidylate synthase, dihydrofolate reductase and glycinamide ribonucleotide formyl transferase. Of a total of 246 patients (pts) in phase II trials treated with MTA (600 mg/m² IV over 10 minutes once every 21 days) 118 pts also had vitamin metabolites measured. Because earlier studies with other antifolates had suggested that nutritional status may play a role in the likelihood that a patient will experience severe toxicity, levels of the vitamin metabolites homocysteine, cystathionine and methylmalonic acid were measured at baseline and once each cycle thereafter. A multivariate statistical analysis of the data was conducted in order to determine which among a set of pre-specified predictors (creatinine clearance, albumin levels, liver enzyme levels, and vitamin metabolites) might correlate with toxicity. There was a strong correlation between baseline homocysteine levels and the development of the following toxicities at any time during the study: CTC Grade 4 neutropenia (57 pts, p < 0.0001), Grade 4 thrombocytopenia (13 pts, p < 0.0001), Grade 3 or 4 mucositis (8 pts, p < 0.0003), and Grade 3 or p < 0.0001), Grade 3 or 4 mucositis (8 pts, p < 0.0003), and Grade 3 or 4 diamhea (8 pts, p < 0.004). Cystathlonine levels did not correlate with hematologic toxicity or mucositis but were moderately correlated with fatigue (p < 0.04). Maximum cystathlonine levels doubled from baseline during treatment with MTA. No correlation between toxicity (CTC Grades as defined above) and the remaining pre-specified predictors was seen. Toxicity was seen in all patients with homocysteine levels above a threshold concentration of 10 μ M. A correlation over time between homocysteine levels and CTC Grade 4 neutropenia and thrombocytopenia and CTC Grade 3 or 4 mucositis was also observed, but only in the first two cycles of treatment. Maximum homocysteine levels did not appear to change from baseline during the first with MTA. baseline during treatment with MTA.

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FACTORS INFLUENCING THE DECISION TO UNDERGO BRCA1/2 GENE TESTING: A STUDY OF ASHKENAZI JEWISH WOMEN WITH A PERSONAL HISTORY OF BREAST CANCER (BC), ENROLLED IN AN ONTARIO CANCER GENETICS NETWORK PROTOCOL <u>K.A. Phillips</u> J. Hunter, E. Warner, W. Meschino, G. Glendon, J.L. Andrulis and P.J. Goodwin. Mt Sinal Hospital, Princess Margaret Hospital, Toronto-Sunnybrook Regional Cancer Center, North York General Hospital, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

The purpose of this study was to examine the contribution of demographic, medical, psychosocial, and cultural/religious factors in decision making regarding testing for BRCA1 and BRCA2 mutations, in Canadian Jewish women with BC, unselected for family history. A self-administered question-naire was developed and distributed, (after genetic counseling), to 134 individuals envolved in a research-based testing program for Ashkenazi women. Data for the first 52 participants are presented. The response rate was 40 (77%). Respondents had the following demographic features: age 40-75 years (median = 59), married 83%, had children 92%, postsecondary education 55%, practicing Jew 88%, extra health insurance 77%, median age of BC diagnosis = 50. No patient had ovarian cancer (OC), 45% had at least one 1st degree relative with BC or OC (median perceived risk for being a gene carrier.50%). 35% had no affected relatives (median perceived risk for being a carrier = 15%). The 5 factors most frequently identified as "definitely an important factor in my decision making" were, desire to contribute to research (90%), curlosity (77%), potential benefit to other family members (64%), potential for personal cancer prevention (59%), and impact on ovarian cancer screening practice (41%). 53% and 38% of women respectively, Identified a potential change In their perspective on prophylactic oophorectomy and mastectomy as at least "somewhat important." Main concerns related to insurance discrimination (35%); confidentiality (30%), accuracy and interpretability of results (33%), potential impact on marriage prospects for family members (20%), and focus on the Jewish community (15%). Potential employer discrimination and impact on life planning were "not a factor" for most (90%,82%). The focus on factors unrelated to personal physical health is notable. The generalisability of these results to women not affected by BC requires further study. Final results for the 134 patients will be presented.

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introduction to this chapter as indicated by the cross-tefetences given below.

Doses of procarbazine hydrochloride are calculated in terms of procarbazine. In many of the combination regimens it has been given to adults and children in doses of the equivalent of procarbazine 100 mg per m² body-surface on days 1 to 14 of each 4- or 6-week cycle. If used as a single agent a dose equivalent to 50 mg of procarbazine by mouth daily, increased by 50 mg daily to 250 to 300 mg daily in divided doses has been suggested in the UK, while in the USA the recommended regimen is 2 to 4 mg per kg body-weight daily for the first week, subsequently increased to 4 to 6 mg per kg, doses being given to the nearest 50 mg. These doses are continued until maximum response is achieved or leucopenia, thrombocytopenia, or other signs of toxicity ensue. Maintenance doses are usually 50 to 150 mg, or 1 to 2 mg per kg, daily, until a cumulative dose of at least 6 g has been given. In children, initial daily doses of the equivalent of 50 mg per m² have been suggested (some sources simply suggest a dose of 50 mg), increased to 100 mg per m² and then adjusted according to response.

The haematological status of the patient should be determined at least every 3 or 4 days and hepatic and renal function determined weekly.

Blood disorders, non-malignant. Combination chemoblood disorders, non-maignant. Combination chemo-therapy with regimens including procarbazine has been em-ployed in a few patients with refractory idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura (p.1023), and has produced pro-longed remission although in most cases of the disease such aggressive therapy is difficult to justify.

Malignant neoplasms. Procarbazine is a component of the MOPP regimen which was the first combination regimen to be widely and successfully employed to treat Hodgkin's disease (see p.481). Procarbazine has also been used in the treat-ment of mycosis fungoides, other non-Hodgkin's lymphomas, and tumours of the brain, as discussed under Choice of Antineoplastic, p.482, p 482, and p.485.

Preparations

USP 23: Procarbazine Hydrochlonde Capsules.

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3) Aust.: Natulan; Austral.: Natulan; Belg.: Natulan; Canad.: Natu-lan; *Pr.*: Natulan; *Ger.*: Natulan; *Hal.*: Natulan; *Neth.*: Natulan; Norw.: Natulan; S.A.F.: Natulan, Spain: Natulan; Swed.: Natula-nar[†]; Switz.: Natulan; UK: Natulan; USA: Matulane.

Raltitrexed (11782-z)

Raltitrexed (BAN, USAN, rINN)

ICI-D1694; ZD-1694 N-{5-[3,4-Dihydro-2-methyl-4-oxoquinazolin-6-ylmethyl(methyl)amino]-2-thenoyl}-L-glutamic acid.

 $C_{21}H_{22}N_4O_6S = 458.5.$ CAS - 112887-68-0.

Adverse Effects, Treatment, and Precautions

Raltitrexed produces bone marrow depression, usually mild to moderate, with leucopenia, anaemia, and, less frequently, thrombocytopenia. The nadir of the white cell count usually occurs 7 to 14 days after a dose, with recovery by the third week. Gastro-intestinal toxicity is also common, with nausea and vomiting, diarrhoea, and anorexia: mucositis may occur. Reversible increases in liver enzyme values have occurred. Other adverse effects include weakness and malaise, fever, pain, headache, skin rashes, arthralgia, muscle cramy, weight loss, peripheral oedema, alopecia, and conjunctivitis. The use of folinic acid 25 mg per m^2 every 6 hours intravenously has been suggested in patients who develop very severe toxicity.

Raltitrexed should be given with care to patients with im-paired hepatic function and should be avoided if impairment is severe. It should also be avoided in severe renal impairment and be given in reduced doses in moderate impairment of renal function. Care is also advisable in debilitated or elderly patients

Raltituexed is teratogenic: pregnancy should be avoided if either pattner is receiving the drug. It may impair male fertility,

Interactions

Ralitiesed should not be given with folic or folinic acid which may impair its cytotoxic action. (For the deliberate use of folinic acid to counteract the effects of taltitrexed in patients with severe toxicity see above)

Fharmacokinetics

Following infravenous administration ralitirezed exhibits tuphasic pharmacolanetics, with an initial rapid decline from

peak plasma concentrations followed by a slow terminal climination phase. Raltitrexed is actively transported into cells and metabolised to active polyglutamate forms. The remainder of a dose is excreted unchanged, about 50% of a dose appearing in the urine, and about 15% in the faces. The terminal elimination half-life is stated to be about 8 days. Clearance is markedly reduced in renal impairment.

Uses and Administration

Ralutiexed is a folate analogue that is a potent and specific inhibitor of the enzyme thymidylate synthase, which is involved in the synthesis of DNA. It is used in the treatment of advanced colorectal cancer and has also been tried in breast cancer

The recommended initial dose is 3 mg of ralitiexed per m² body-surface, given by intravenous infusion over 15 minutes. Subsequent doses, which should be reduced by up to 50% depending on the severity of initial toxicity, may be given at intervals of 3 weeks provided toxicity has resolved. Doses should be reduced by 50% and repeated at 4-week intervals in patients with creatinine clearance less than 65 mL per minute; the drug should not be given if creatinine clearance is below 25 mL per minute.

A full blood count should be performed before each dose and treatment withheld if the white cell count is below 4000 per mm³ or the platelet count less than 100 000 per mm³. Hepatic and renal function should also be tested.

References.¹⁻⁶ Although clearly active¹⁻³ against colorectal cancer (p.487) ralitirexed does not seem to provide much im-provement in survival-time for patients with metastatic dis-ease.^{4,3} However, it may well improve quality of life for these patients, since it is associated with less gastro-intestinal and haematological toxicity than some conventional fluorouracil regimens,² and is more convenient to administer.⁴ Raltitrexed is also active against some other malignancies, notably of the breast3 (p.485).

- J Jackman AL, et al. ZD1694 (Tomudex): a new thymidylate synthase inhibitor with activity in colorectal cancer. Eur J Can-cer 1995; 31A: 1277-82.
- 2. Cunningham D, et al. Tomudex (ZD 1694): results of a ran-domised trial in advanced colorectal cancer demonstrate effica-cy and reduced mucositis and leucopenia. Eur J Cancer 1995; 31A: 1945-54
- Cunningham D, et al. Tomudex (ZD1694) a novel thymidylate Cunningham D, et al. Tomudex (ZD1694) a novel thymidylate synthase inhibitor with clinical antitumour activity in a range of solid tumours. Ann Oncol 1996; 7: 179-82.
 Mead GM. Ralitirexed, a new drug for advanced colorectal can-cer Lancet 1996; 347: 1568-9.
 Anonymours. Ralitirexed in colorectal cancer. Drug Ther Bull 1996; 347: 78-80.
 Gunasekara NS, Faulds D. Ralitirexed: a review of its pharma-colorized lumperias ad clinical efficacy in the manogement of

- cological properties and clinical efficacy in the management of advanced colorectal cancer. Drugs 1998; 55: 423-35

Preparations

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3) Austral.: Tomudex; Fr.: Tomudex; Irl.: Tomudex; Ital.: Tomudex; Neth.: Tomudex; UK: Tomudex.

Ranimustine (3170-w)

Ranimustine (rINN).

MCNU; NSC-0270516; Ranomustine. Methyl 6-[3-(2-chloroethyl)-3-nitrosoureido]-6-deoxy- α -D-glucopyranoside. $C_{10}H_{18}CIN_3O_7 = 327.7.$ CAS - 58994-96-0.

Ranimustine is a nitrosourea derivative with general properties similar to those of carmustine (see p.511). It is used intravenously in the treatment of malignant neoplasms in usual doses of 50 to 90 mg per m^2 body-surface every 6 to 8 weeks according to haematological response.

Preparations

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3) Jpn: Cymerin.

Razoxane (1861-r)

Razoxane (BAN, rINN).

ICI-59118; ICRF-159; NSC-129943 (±)-4,4'-Propylenebis(piperazine-2,6-dione),

 $C_{11}H_{16}N_4O_4 = 268.3$, CAS - 21416-87-5.

Razoxane is an antineoplastic with inhibitory activity during the pre-mitotic and early mitotic phases of cell growth (G_2-M) . It enhances the effects of radiotherapy. It has been used in association with radiotherapy in the treatment of sarcomas, including Kaposi's sarcoma Razoxane has also been tried in other malignant diseases including acute leukaemias and non-Hodgl in's lymphomas. However, it is no longer widely employed. Razonane was formerly used in psoriasis. but its carcinogenic properties militate against such use, as discussed below.

In the treatment of sarcomus it has generally been given by mouth in doses of 125 mg twice daily; higher doses have been given in the management of acute leukaemias and Kaposi's sarcoma. The peripheral blood count should be monitored during treatment

The principal adverse effects of razoxane include bone-mairow depression, gastro-intestinal disturbances, skin reactions, and alopecia. It may enhance the adverse effects of radiotherapy. Razoxane therapy has been associated with the development of secondary malignancies: it is contra-indicated in the treatment of non-malignant conditions.

Cardiotoxicity. Dexrazoxane (p.978), the (+)-enantiomorph of razoxane, is reportedly effective in preventing dox-orubicin-induced cardiotoxicity when given concomitantly.^{1.2} It has been suggested that the beneficial effect may derive from chelation of body iron by dexrazoxane and minimising the formation of reactive hydroxyl radicals ³

- Speyer JL, et al. Protective effect of the bispiperazinedione ICRF-187 against doxorubicin-induced cardiotoxicity in wom-en with advanced breast cancer. N Engl J Med 1988, 319: 745-52.
- 143-32. Kolaric K, et al. A phase II trial of cardioprotection with Car-dioxane (ICRF-187) in patients with advanced breast cancer re-ceiving 5-fluorouracil, doxorubicin and cyclophosphamide. Oncology 1995, 52: 251-5.
- 3 Seifert CF, et al. Dexrazoxane in the prevention of doxoru-bicin-induced cardiotoxicity. Ann Pharmacother 1994; 28:

Malignant neoplasms. Razoxane in association with radiotherapy produced partial response in 12 of 25 patients with liver metastases from gastro-intestinal or lung cancers;¹ 4 fur-ther patients had minor responses (less than 50% reduction in hepatic tumour load) and 2 had disease progression. Therapy consisted of razoxane 125 mg three times daily and then 125 mg daily for 1 month with radiotherapy on days 4 to 8. It was considered unlikely that such results could have been achieved with this dose of radiotherapy (4 Gray daily) or ra-zoxane if either was given alone, but it remained to be seen whether responses would translate into improved long-term survival. Quality of life was excellent in most patients although 2 showed evidence of radiation hepatitis.

Hellmann K, et al. Responses of liver metastases to radiother-apy and razoxane. J R Soc Med 1992, 85: 136-8.

Skin disorders, non-malignant. Razoxane was formerly used in the systemic treatment of psoriasis, and has been found to be extremely effective, with an initial response rate of 97% overall. It was found to be of use in all forms of cutaneous psoriasis and psoriatic arthropathy.¹ However, the development of acute myeloid leukaemias and other malignancies in patients given razoxane²⁻⁵ has led to its being contra-indicated in non-malignant conditions.

For a discussion of psoriasis and its management, see p.1075.

- Horton JJ, Wells RS. Razoxane: a review of 6 years' therapy in psoriasis. Br J Dermatol 1983; 109: 669-73.
 Horton JJ, et al. Epitheliomas in patients receiving razoxane therapy for psoriasis. Br J Dermatol 1983; 109: 675-8.
 Lakhan S, et al. Razoxane and leukaemia. Lancet 1984; ii: 288-9.
- Caffrey EA, et al. Acute myeloid leukaemia after treatment with razoxane. Br J Dermatol 1985, 113: 131-4.
 Zuiable AG, et al. Razoxane and T-cell lymphoma. Br J Der-matol 1989; 121: 149.

Preparations

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3) UK: Razoxin.

9-cis-Retinoic Acid (15789-p)

Alitretinoin.

9-cis-Retinoic acid is a retinoid related to tretinoin (p.1093) that is under investigation by mouth in acute promyelocytic leukaemia and some other malignancies, and topically, as a 0.1% gel, in the management of Kaposi's sarcoma and other cutaneous neoplasms.

References.

- 1. Miller WH, et al 9-cis Retinoic acid induces complete remis-
- sion but does not reverse clinically acquired retindid resistance in acute promyclocytic leukemia. *Blood* 1995; 85: 3021–7. Weber C, Dumont E, Pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of 9-cis-retinoic acid in healthy men. J Clin Pharmacol 1997: 37: 566-74.

Rituximab (17534-n)

Rituximab (BAN, USAN, INN). IDEC-102; IDEC-C2B8.

CAS - 174722-31-7.

Rituximab is a chimeric monoclonal antibody to CD20 antigen used in the treatment of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (p.482). Recommended doses are 375 mg per m² body-suitace by intravenous infusion once weekly, for 4 doses. The first infusion is given initially at a rate of 50 mg per hour: sub-sequently this may be increased in increments of 50 mg pcfhour every 30 minutes to a maximum of 400 mg per hour. if well tolerated. Subsequent doses may be begun at a rate of 100 mg per hour, and incremented to a maximum of 400 mg

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Preclinical Pharmacology Studies and the Clinical Development of a Novel Multitargeted Antifolate, MTA (LY231514)

Chuan Shih and Donald E. Thornton

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION PRECLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY STUDIES OF MTA CLINICAL STUDIES OF MTA CONCLUSION AND PERSPECTIVE

1. INTRODUCTION

Since the early 1950s, extensive research efforts have been devoted to the discovery and development of antifolate antimetabolites as chemotherapeutic agents for the management of neoplastic diseases. However, it was only in the last 10–15 yr, because of the rapid advances of medicinal chemistry, X-ray protein crystallography, molecular biology, pharmacology, and clinical medicine, that a significant number of new generation antifolates were brought forward for clinical development. Several folate-based antimetabolites are currently being investigated in clinical trials. These include lometrexol (6R-5,10-dideazatetrahydrofolic acid) (1–3), LY309887 (4), and AG2034 (5), which are potent and selective inhibitors of glycinamide ribonucleotide formyltransferase (GARFT), an enzyme in the purine *de novo* biosynthetic pathway; trimetrexate (6), edatrexate (7,8), and PT523 (9) which act on dihydrofolate reductase (DHFR); raltitrexed (10,11), AG337 (12), BW1843U89 (13), and ZD933 (14) which specifically target the enzyme thymidylate synthase (TS) involved in pyrimidine biosynthesis.

N-[4-[2-(2-amino-3,4-dihydro-4-oxo-7H-pyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidin-5 -yl)ethyl]-benzoyl]-L-glutamic acid, LY231514, is a structurally novel antifolate that possesses a unique 6-5 fused pyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidine nucleus instead of the more common 6-6 fused pteridine or quinazoline ring structure. LY231514 was discovered through struc-

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Chapter 8 / N

Inhibitor

Compound	
MTA	
MTA-glu ₃	
MTA-glu ₅	
MTX	
MTX-glus	

2

The inh (rm)GARF summarize \pm 9 nM. It polyglutarr significant residues (g ther extens ward rhTS DHFR (K_i to MTA ha identical k glu_n inhibi zymes alo inhibition MTA had 380 nM (2 inhibited | petitive in Finally, N genase an mono-, tri tively, for less poter TS, DHF tracellula lished ob synthase TS in ser der of inh tion for M pathway

Fig. 1. The structures of lometrexol (6R-5,10-dideazatetrahydrofolic acid, DDATHF) and MTA (N-[4-[2-(2-amino-3,4-dihydro-4-oxo-7H-pyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidin-5-yl)ethyl]-benzoyl]-L-glutamic acid).

ture activity relationship (SAR) studies of the novel antipurine antifolate lometrexol series, by eliminating the C5 methylene of lometrexol and converting the sp3 center at C6 to sp2 geometry (Fig. 1) (15, 16). These modifications give rise to a very potent cytotoxic agent ($IC_{50} = 15 \text{ nM}$) against human CCRF-CEM leukemia cells in culture. However, the end-product reversal pattern of this new pyrrolopyrimidine-based antifolate was completely different to the GARFT inhibitor lometrexol. The purine precusor hypoxanthine (100 μ M) or aminoimidazole carboxamide (AICA) (300 μ M) was incapable of protecting the cells from the cytotoxicity of LY231514. In contrast, thymidine (5 μ M) was able to provide partial protection to the cells up to $10X \text{ IC}_{50}$ concentrations of LY231514. The replacement of the tetrahydropyridine ring of lometrexol with a pyrrole moiety caused a major loss of activity in the inhibition of purine biosynthesis and shifted the major site of action of LY231514 to the inhibition of pyrimidine biosynthesis (thymidylate cycle). As a "classical" antifolate, LY231514 was found to be one of the best known substrates for mammalian folylpolyglutamate synthetase (FPGS) (17) and it is believed that polyglutamation and the polyglutamated metabolites of LY231514 play profound roles in determining both the selectivity and antitumor activity of this novel agent. Recent studies have shown that the polyglutamates of LY231514, (e.g., the triglutamate glu₃ and the pentaglutamate glu₅) potently inhibit several key enzymes of the folate metabolism, including TS, DHFR, GARFT, and aminoimidazole carboxamide ribonucleotide formyltransferase (AICARFT) (18). As a result of this activity against several enzymes, LY231514 has become known as MTA, multitargeted antifolate.

The phase I clinical evaluation of MTA began in late 1992. Objective tumor responses were observed in patients with colorectal cancer and pancreatic cancer, some of whom had failed treatment with other TS inhibitors such as 5FU and raltitrexed (19-21). Phase II studies have shown activity in a range of solid tumors, including colorectal, breast and nonsmall-cell lung cancers (22-27). The purpose of this chapter is to comprehensively review the unique biochemical and pharmacological modes of action, and the recent phase I and II clinical findings of this novel multitargeted antifolate, MTA.

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Table 1 Inhibitory Activity of MTA, Methotrexate and Their Polyglutamates Against rhTS, rhDHFR, rmGARFT, and rhAICARFT (Ki [mean ± SE, nM])				
Compound	rhTS	rhDHFR	rmGARFT	rhAICARFT
MTA	109 ± 9	7.0 ± 1.9	9300 ± 690	3580
MTA-glu ₃	1.6 ± 0.1	7.1 ± 1.6	380 ± 92	480
MTA-glu ₅	1.3 ± 0.3	7.2 ± 0.4	65 ± 16	265
MTX	13,000	0.004	80,000	143,000
MTX-glu ₅	47	0.004	2500	56

2. PRECLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY STUDIES OF MTA

2.1. Folate Enzyme Inhibition Studies

The inhibition of recombinant human (rh)TS, rhDHFR, recombinant mouse (rm)GARFT, and rhAICARFT by MTA and its polyglutamates (glu_3 and glu_5) (18) is summarized in Table 1. The parent monoglutamate MTA inhibited rhTS with a K_i of 109 \pm 9 nM. It has been well documented that mammalian TS shows a strong preference for polyglutamated folate substrates. The longer chain γ -glutamyl derivatives of MTA had significantly enhanced affinity toward rhTS. The addition of two extra γ -glutamyl residues (glu₃) to MTA resulted in 68-fold reduction of the K_i value ($K_i = 1.6$ nM). Further extension of the glutamate tail (MTA-glu₅) only slightly increased the affinity toward rhTS ($K_i = 1.3$ nM). MTA was also found to be a very potent inhibitor of human DHFR ($K_i = 7.0 \text{ nM}$). In contrast to rhTS, attachment of additional γ -glutamyl residues to MTA had little effect on the inhibition of DHFR; MTA-glu₃ and MTA-glu₅ exhibited identical K_i values against rhDHFR, 7.1 nM. Tight-binding analysis showed that MTA glu_n inhibited both TS and DHFR competitively. When MTA was tested against the enzymes along the purine *de novo* biosynthetic pathway, it only demonstrated moderate inhibition toward rmGARFT ($K_i = 9.3 \ \mu M$). The triglutamate and pentaglutamate of MTA had significantly enhanced inhibitory activity against GARFT, with K_i values of 380 nM (24-fold) and 65 nM (144-fold), respectively. The pentaglutamate of MTA also inhibited human AICARFT with a K_i of 265 nM. Kinetic analysis confirmed the competitive inhibition pattern of MTA polyglutamates against both GARFT and AICARFT. Finally, MTA and its polyglutamates were competitive inhibitors of both the dehydrogenase and synthetase domains of C1 tetrahydrofolate synthase. The K_1 values for the mono-, tri- and pentaglutamyl derivatives of MTA were 9.9, 3.9, and 4.7 µM, respectively, for dehydrogenase and 329,25,4 and $1.6 \,\mu$ M for synthetase. MTA was a relatively less potent inhibitor of C1 tetrahydrofolate synthase than other enzyme targets such as TS, DHFR, and GARFT. However, cell-culture experiments have suggested that the intracellular drug concentration of MTA can reach levels of 50 μ M (RM Schultz, unpublished observation), and at these concentrations the activity of C1 tetrahydrofolate synthase can also be greatly suppressed by MTA polyglutamates. The important role of TS in serving as a rate-limiting enzyme in folate metabolism, as well as the relative order of inhibitory potency toward TS by MTA-glu_a indicate that TS is a major site of action for MTA. Inhibition of DHFR and other enzymes in the *de novo* purine biosynthetic pathway may also contribute significantly to the overall antiproliferative effect of MTA

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Compo

Mouse Lometr

MTA

Methot

Hog Li

Lometr

Methot

^aVal

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^cThe the kine

substrate

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DHFR

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(15.17)

MTA

Fig. 2. Inhibition of multiple folate enzymes (TS, DHFR, and GARFT) by MTA and its polyglutamated metabolites.

GARFT: glycinamide ribonucleotide formyltransferase

TS

DHFR

dTMP

DHF

dUMP

12-THE

AMP. GMP

5.10-0

GARFT

fGAR

TS: thymidylate synthase (5-FU, Tomudex) DHFR: dihydrofolate reductase (Methotrexate) 5-FU, Tomudex®

NADPH

NADP+

DNA, RNA

 $\rightarrow \longrightarrow DNA$

Methotrexate

Multitargeted Antifolate (LY231514)

10-CHO-THF

GAD

LY309887

PRPP

(Fig. 2). This unique mode of action was further supported by additional cell-based studies (vide infra).

As a reference for comparison, the polyglutamates of methotrexate (MTX) also inhibit multiple folate-dependent enzymes. Chabner et al (28) reported that the pentaglutamate of MTX (MTX-glu₅) demonstrated a significant increase in affinity toward rhTS $(K_i = 47 \text{ nM})$ and AICARFT ($K_i = 56 \text{ nM}$) when compared with the parent monoglutamate. However, the affinity of MTX and its polyglutamates for DHFR ($K_i = 4 \text{ pM}$) was several orders of magnitude (>12,000-fold) higher than its affinity for TS and AICARFT, suggesting that the primary intracellular target of MTX may still be DHFR.

2.2. Cell-Based End-Product Reversal Studies

MTA is very cytotoxic against CCRF-CEM leukemia cells in culture. This potent antiproliferative effect of MTA can be prevented by leucovorin, whereas only partial protection was observed with thymidine. In the presence of 5 μM thymidine, the IC₅₀ of MTA increased only 6–10-fold and this was significantly less than that of a pure TS inhibitor such as raltitrexed. This reversal pattern of MTA was further characterized in various human tumor cell lines such as GC3/C1 colon carcinoma and HCT-8 ileocecal carcinoma (Table 2). It was observed that 5 μ M thymidine fully protected the cells from cytotoxicity with raltitrexed, whereas similar treatment with thymidine only increased the IC_{50} of MTA by 18.7-fold (GC3/C1), and by 15-fold (HCT-8). Hypoxanthine (100 μM) alone did not markedly influence the cytotoxicity of MTA. Similarly, AICA (300 μM) did not modulate cytotoxicity. However, the combination of thymidine plus hypoxanthine completely reversed the cytotoxicity of MTA in all cell lines ($IC_{50}s > 20$ μM). The reversal pattern of MTA was also significantly different from that of MTX. Neither thymidine nor hypoxanthine could protect the cells from the cytotoxic actions of MTX at all drug concentrations. The unusual reversal pattern observed for MTA suggests that in addition to TS, other important inhibitory sites may exist for this agent. The higher degree of protection by thymidine at low drug concentrations indicates that TS is a major target for MTA. Addition of hypoxanthine together with thymidine fully re-

Table 2End-Product Reversal Studies with MTA" (IC50 (nM))				
Cell line	MTA alone	dThd ^b (5 μM)	Hypoxanthine ^c (100 μM)	dThd and Hypoxanthine
CCRF-CEM GC3/C1 HCT	25 34 220	138 637 3104	32 34 1077	>40,000 >40,000 >40,000

^aCytotoxicity determined by MTT analysis after 72 h exposure to drug, SE of triplicate determinations did not exceed 10% of mean.

^b With the addition of 5 μM of thymidine.

^c With the addition of 100 μ M of hypoxanthine.

Substrate Activity of MTA and Other Antifolates for Mouse and Hog Liver FPGS				
Compound	$K_m (\mu M)^a$	rel. V _{max} ^b	rel. V _{max} /K _m ^c	
Mouse Liver FPGS				
Lometrexol	9.3 ± 1.6	1.0	1.0	
MTA	0.80 ± 0.11	0.63 ± 0.18	13.7	
Methotrexate	166.0 ± 14	0.50 ± 0.09	0.031	
Hog Liver FPGS				
Lometrexol	16.4 ± 1.0	1.0	1.0	
MTA	1.9 ± 0.5	0.74 ± 0.10	6.40	
Methotrexate	116.0 ± 14	0.51 ± 0.08	0.07	

Table 3
Substrate Activity of MTA and Other Antifolates for Mouse and Hog Liver FPGS

^aValues listed are mean \pm standard error for $n \ge 3$ or $\pm 1/2$ range for n = 2 replicate experiments.

^bThe ratio of V_{max} for a substrate to the V_{max} of lometrexol with either mouse or hog liver FPGS.

^c The V_{max} of a substrate relative to lometrexol divided by the K_{m} of a substrate relative to lometrexol, the kinetics of a standard compound was measured in each experiment to allow accurate comparisons among substrate.

versed the cytotoxicity of MTA, suggesting that at higher concentrations, inhibition of DHFR and/or purine *de novo* biosynthetic enzymes were responsible for other secondary cytotoxic actions of the drug, a conclusion that is consistent with results from enzymatic studies. Recent finding that H630-R10 cells (29) (resistant to 5FU with a 39-fold amplification of TS protein) demonstrated a significantly reduced resistance to MTA (fivefold vs 6900-fold for raltitrexed) further support the conclusion that TS is not the sole molecular target for this novel agent.

2.3. The Role of Polyglutamation and Folate Transport

Polyglutamation plays an essential role in determining the overall biochemical and pharmacological properties of the classical antifolates. The formation of polyglutamates leads to the accumulation of polyglutamated metabolites to levels that are significantly higher than could otherwise be achieved at steady state by the parent monoglutamates, and thus serves as an important cellular retention mechanism for folates and antifolates. Studies have shown that MTA is an excellent substrate for mammalian FPGS. The substrate activity of MTA and several other antifolates for mouse and hog liver FPGS (15, 17) are listed in Table 3. Both the substrate constants (K_m) and the relative first-order

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Table 4 Antiproliferative Activity MTA Against ZR-75-1 Human Breast Carcinoma Cell Lines with Differing Transport Characteristics ⁴		
Cell Line	Transport ^b	$MTA, IC_{50}(nM)$
WT-AA6-FR+	RFC+, FBP+	22.7

^aCytotoxicity determined after 72-h drug exposure by MTT assay. Assay medium contained 2 nM folinic acid as the sole folate source. SE of triplicate determinations did not exceed 10% of mean.

RFC+, FBP-

RFC-, FBP+

110.2

1190.6

^bReduced folate carrier (RFC); folate binding protein- α (FBP).

rate constants (k', V_{max}/K_m) have revealed the superior propensity of MTA for polyglutamation by mouse and hog liver FPGS. Recent studies indicate that MTA is an even better substrate for recombinant human FPGS (R.G. Moran, personal communication) and this makes MTA one of most efficient substrates for the enzyme FPGS studied to date.

To evaluate the role of FPGS in the cytotoxicity of MTA in cells, the CR15 line, a lometrexol-resistant CCRF-CEM subline, was utilized. Impaired polyglutamation in CR15 cells was identified as the primary mechanism of resistance to lometrexol (30). It was estimated that CR15 cells had approx 10% of the FPGS activity of the wild-type cells and were markedly cross-resistant to MTA (>7800-fold increase in IC₅₀ vs the parent CEM line), suggesting that polyglutamation is a major determinant in the cytotoxicity of MTA.

To investigate the mechanism for MTA transport, a panel of ZR-75-1 human breast carcinoma sublines, prepared by Dixon(31) and colleagues, with different transport characteristics was utilized (Table 4). The MTX-resistant cells (RFC+, FBP-), deficient in folate binding protein (FBP) activity, demonstrated only a 4.8-fold decrease in sensitivity to MTA, when compared to wild-type AA6-FR+ cells that expressed both reduced folate carrier (RFC) and FBP. Resistant cells (MTXR-BB3-FR+) deficient in RFC exhibited a much higher resistance to MTA (52-fold) than the wild-type cells. These data, plus the finding that MTA had rather poor affinity toward folate binding protein(s) in general ($K_i = 99.7 \text{ nM vs } K_i = 0.29 \text{ nM}$ for lometrexol), suggest that RFC plays a predominant role in the transport and internalization of MTA.

2.4. Effects of MTA on Folate and Nucleoside Triphosphate Pools

The effects of MTA and several other antifolates (MTX, LY309887) on cellular folate and nucleotide metabolism have been examined in CCRF-CEM cells(32). Exposure of cells labeled with 100 nM 5-formylTHF to 0.1 μ M MTX caused the loss of 10formylTHF, THF, and 5-methylTHF and a concomitant accumulation of dihydrofolate (DHF), metabolic responses consistent with the blockade of DHFR by MTX. The GARFT inhibitor LY309887, on the other hand, caused accumulation of 10-formylTHF, a direct consequence of the inhibition of GARFT, which utilizes 10-formylTHF as the one-carbon donor for its enzymatic reactions. These effects are fully consistent with the known mechanisms of action of MTX and LY309887. Chapter 8 / MT.

Because of t MTA on cells c also 10 times tl in the level of by the specific nificant, increa tipurine effect) of the effect of

In the ribon caused rapid de pyrimidines, U the ribonucleot contrast, all th cleotide pools. dCTP, and ther deoxyribonucle tent with repor rapid losses in served for cells rate of accumu Chong and Tat hibitor prevent anism for the understood. He and antipurine dATP. In sumr that were quite lation of 10-fc thymidylate sy zymes along th

2.5. Effect:

MTA affect dependent mar than 100 n*M*, c of drug treatme when cells wei MTA. Within 8 population. At after 24 h of d population trea after 24 h and y levels of cyclin creased relative Dual parametetreated vs. untr

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Wild Type (WT)

MTX^R-BB3-FR+

Because of the assay's inability to distinguish THF and methylene THF, the effects of MTA on cells could not be readily studied. However, exposure of cells to MTA (300 nM, also 10 times the IC₅₀) can trigger a slight decrease in THF and a compensatory increase in the level of 10-formylTHF. In light of the observed accumulation of 10-formylTHF by the specific GARFT inhibitor LY309887, it is tempting to attribute this small, yet significant, increase of 10-formylTHF to the inhibition of GARFT and AICARFT (antipurine effect) by MTA-glu_n, a hypothesis that can be verified by direct measurement of the effect of MTA on the metabolic flux from glycine to inosinic acid.

In the ribonucleotide pool studies, it was discovered that both MTX and LY309887 caused rapid depletion of both purines, ATP and GTP, and had moderate effects on the pyrimidines, UTP and CTP. However, MTA produced no significant effects on any of the ribonucleotide triphosphates at concentrations 10 times their IC_{50} in CEM cells. In contrast, all three compounds demonstrated more dramatic effects on deoxyribonucleotide pools. In response to LY309887, dATP declined rapidly, followed closely by dCTP, and then later by dGTP and dTTP at a slower rate. MTX rapidly depleted all four deoxyribonucleotide levels. The effect of MTA on deoxyribonucleotide levels is consistent with reports of other TS inhibitors (33). It was found that MTA was able to induce rapid losses in dTTP, dCTP, and dGTP. However, an increase of dATP level was observed for cells treated with MTA. It will be interesting to examine the difference of the rate of accumulation of dATP induced by MTA or by other specific TS inhibitors, since Chong and Tattersall(33) reported that the combination of a GARFT inhibitor and TS inhibitor prevented the rise in the dATP pool seen with the TS inhibitor alone. The mechanism for the changes in dATP levels induced by TS inhibitors has not been well understood. However, it is noteworthy that for MTX, a drug with both antipyrimidine and antipurine effects, depletion of dTTP occurred without a concomitant increase in dATP. In summary, these studies showed that MTA exhibited unique metabolic effects that were quite distinct from those of MTX and LY309887. The folate pools (accumulation of 10-formylTHF) data suggest that in addition to the primary effect on the thymidylate synthesis, MTA may produce an antipurine effect by interfering with the enzymes along the *de novo* purine biosynthetic pathway.

2.5. Effects of MTA on Cell-Cycle Alterations and Cell Proliferation(34)

MTA affects the growth rate of CCRF-CEM leukemia cells in a concentrationdependent manner. When CEM cells were treated with concentrations of MTA greater than 100 n*M*, cell growth was completely inhibited and apoptosis occurred within 36 h of drug treatment. Multiple cell-cycle alterations occurred in CCRF-CEM populations when cells were treated with either a sublethal (30 n*M*) or a lethal (300 n*M*) dose of MTA. Within 8 h of drug addition, both treatments synchronized cells into G1 or G1/S population. At the sublethal dose, the cell population was distributed throughout S phase after 24 h of drug addition, and was able to complete DNA synthesis. In contrast, the population treated with 300 n*M* of MTA was effectively synchronized into early S phase after 24 h and was unable to complete DNA synthesis. Further studies also showed that levels of cyclin E, a G1/S-specific protein in cell-cycle control, were dramatically increased relative to control in cells treated with either sublethal or lethal dose of MTA. Dual parameter flow cytometry confirmed that cyclin E levels were 2–5-fold higher in treated vs. untreated cells. In contrast, cyclin A levels did not begin to increase until af-



Fig. 3. Antitumor activity of MTA (LY231514, B) or CB3717 (J) against L5178Y/TK⁻/HX⁻, in DBA/2 mice. Both MTA and CB3717 were administered ip, daily \times 10.

ter 24 h of treatment. These observations indicate that both lethal and sublethal concentrations of MTA are able to cause an initial blockade in the cell cycle prior to the G1/S checkpoint. This is followed by synchronization of the cells into the S phase under lethal concentrations. Continued exposure of the drug triggers major apoptotic events that eventually lead to cell death.

2.6. The in Vivo Antitumor Effects and the Role of Folic Acid in Modulating the Efficacy and Toxicity of MTA

MTA was found to be highly active against the L5178Y/TK-/HX-lymphoma in mice (35) (Fig. 3). An excellent therapeutic index was seen, along with antitumor activity in this thymidine kinase-deficient murine model, a result that is consistent with TS inhibition being the primary mode of action of MTA. Good antitumor activity was also observed for MTA in other human tumor xenografts that expressed normal level of thymidine kinase, including VRC5 (colon, 80% growth inhibition) and GC3 (colon, 94% growth inhibition), BXPC3 (pancreas), LX-1 (lung), and MX-1 (breast) xenografts (Table 5).

To evaluate the importance of dietary folate in modulating the toxicity of MTA, LD_{50} values were determined in mice maintained on standard diet (SD) or on a special low-folate diet (LFD) (35). MTA was administered ip daily for 10 d. It is estimated that mice on LFD consumed an average of approx 0.003 mg/kg/d of folic acid vs 0.75–1.5 mg/kg/d for mice on SD. Thus mice on SD had a daily intake of approx 250–500 times more folic acid than mice on LFD. MTA was more toxic to several different strains of mice maintained on LFD (Table 6), with the LD_{50} values being 30- to 250-fold lower than mice maintained on SD. A similar effect had been observed for antipurine antifolates such as lometrexol. The MTD of lometrexol on LFD was 1000- to 5000-fold lower than in mice

Xenograft Mode



GC3 colon carci VRC5 colon car BXPC3 pancreat LX-1 lung carcir MX-1 mammary
+++: 95-1009 ++: 80-94% in +: 60-79% inhi -: <60% inhibi ^a MTA was give ^b DDATHF was ^c NCI data.

Strain of Mouse	
DBA/2	Ś
CD1 mutan	I
	2 T
СЗН	ŝ
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maintained on SI to a lesser extent peutic index of M the mice were put tivity was observe cant toxicity was supplementation antitumor dose-re 80 to 100%) and supplementation) fed with SD (Fig. the toxicity but al:

The metabolisn lected pharmacoki MTA gave high pl for mice and dogs

Exhibit 1002-00490

Comparison of Antitumor Activity of MTA with DDATHF and Methotrexate Against Human Tumor Xenografts					
Xenograft Model	MTA ^a	DDATHF ^b	Methotrexate		
GC3 colon carcinoma	+++	+++	_		
VRC5 colon carcinoma	++	+++	-		
BXPC3 pancreatic carcinoma	+	+	-		
LX-1 lung carcinoma	+	++	с		
MX-1 mammary carcinoma	+	+	с		

T.LL 5

+++: 95-100% inhibition.

++: 80-94% inhibition.

+: 60-79% inhibition.

-: <60% inhibition inactive.

^aMTA was given ip, $qd \times 10$ at doses up to 300 mg/kg/dose.

^bDDATHF was given ip, $q2d \times 5$ at doses up to 100 mg/kg/dose.

^cNCI data.

Table 6				
Effect of Dietary	Folate	on the	Lethality	of MTA

Strain of Mouse	Diet	Route, Schedule	LD ₅₀ (mg/kg)	Ratio of LD ₅₀ (SD/LFD)
DBA/2	Standard diet Low folate diet	ip qd $ imes$ 10	approx 600 approx 10	approx 60
CD1 nu/nu	Standard diet Low folate diet	ip qd $ imes$ 10	approx 400 1.56	approx 250
СЗН	Standard diet Low folate diet	ip qd $ imes$ 10	>1600 50–100	approx 30

maintained on SD (36). DHFR inhibitors such as methotrexate had a similar effect but to a lesser extent (50- to 100-fold, J.F. Worzalla, unpublished observation). The therapeutic index of MTA against the L5178Y/TK-/HX-tumor was greatly diminished when the mice were put on a LFD (2 wk) with no folate supplementation. Good antitumor activity was observed at 0.3 mg/kg and 1.0 mg/kg (ip daily \times 10) doses only, and significant toxicity was observed for MTA at higher doses (Fig. 4). However, if daily folic acid supplementation (15 mg/d/mouse, po) was given in conjunction with MTA, excellent antitumor dose-response (10 mg/kg to 1000 mg/kg, with antitumor activity ranging from 80 to 100%) and no lethality were observed. This antitumor dose response (with folate supplementation) is identical to the dose response that was observed for MTA on mice fed with SD (Fig. 3). These data suggest that folate supplementation not only modulates the toxicity but also slightly enhances the antitumor response of MTA.

2.7. Drug Disposition and Metabolism of MTA

The metabolism and disposition of MTA was studied in mice and dogs (37). Some selected pharmacokinetic parameters are summarized in Table 7. Intravenous injections of MTA gave high plasma levels of the drug, resulting in an AUC value of 30–33 μ g-h/mL for mice and dogs after 20 and 7.5 mg/kg doses, respectively. In vitro protein binding of

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Fig. 4. Antitumor activity of MTA against L5178Y/TK⁻/HX⁻ lymphoma for mice on low folate diet (LFD) with no folate supplementation (J) and for mice on low folate diet that received 15 mg/kg/d daily folate supplementation (B); vertical dashed lines represent percent lethality in mice on low folate diet with no folate supplementation.

Table 7			
Pharmacokinetic Parameters for Mouse and Dog with MTA			

					rig. 5. 5
	Mouse		Dog		LY33897
Sex	M	F	М	F	
Dose (mg/kg)	20	20	7.5	7.5	
Route	iv	ip	iv	iv	biologic
$t_{max}(h)$	0.083	0.25	0.083	0.083	effects (
$C_{\rm max}$ (µg/mL)	41	33	38 ± 2	49 ± 9	
$t_{1/2}$ (h) (interval)	7 (1–48)	7.8 (2-48)	2.8 (1-24)	1.8 (1–12)	
AUC (µg/h/mL)	31	44	33 ± 1.9	30 ± 2	Gen
Cl (mL/h/kg)	645		230 ± 24	246 ± 29	chromc

 $[^{14}C]MTA$ in plasma was estimated at concentrations of 0.5 and 5 μ g/mL using an ultracentrifugation procedure. In mouse plasma, the binding of $[^{14}C]MTA$ was 54–58% and in dog plasma it was 46-47%. The binding was notably higher (81%) in human plasma. MTA was primarily eliminated unchanged in feces (57%) of mice after a single iv dose of $[^{14}C]MTA$. Urine was the major route of excretion (69%) in dogs. Half-life values were approx 7 and 2.8 h for mice and dogs, respectively.

Unchanged MTA accounted for the majority of urinary radiocarbon in mice (90%) and dogs (68%), although two minor metabolites were found in these species. The first metabolite, LY338979, was formed by oxidation of the pyrrole ring of MTA (position 6) giving the corresponding lactam (Fig. 5). This type of oxidative transformation is also seen with tryptophans and other indole-containing compounds. Further oxidation of the lactam ring of LY338979, followed by one-carbon extrusion, gave a second metabolite, LY368962, with a complete loss of the pyrrole ring structure. The structures of both metabolites were confirmed by total synthesis and NMR (long-range heteronuclear coupling) experiments. Testing of the major metabolite LY338979 showed that this agent is Fig. 5. S 33897

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Exhibit 1002-00492



Fig. 5. Structures of the two minor metabolites of MTA isolated from the urine of mice and dogs, LY338979 and LY368962.

biologically inactive as a TS inhibitor (using a rhTS assay) and has no antiproliferative effects on CEM cells in culture.

2.8. Preclinical Toxicological Findings of MTA (38)

Genetic toxicology studies indicated that MTA is negative in the Ames test, in vitro chromosome aberration test, and mammalian HGPRT+ locus forward mutation assay. In acute toxicology studies, it was found that the iv median lethal dose (MLD) of MTA for female and male Fisher 344 rats was >1574 and 1322 mg/kg, respectively. In comparison, the MLD of MTX in rats is 6 to 25 mg/kg. The iv MLD for female and male CD-1 mice was >1574 mg/kg. The LD₁₀ for mice could not be calculated, but was estimated to be >1574 mg/kg. The MLD of MTX for mice was 94 mg/kg.

Single and repeated dose studies of MTA were conducted in CD-1 mice and dogs. In pilot mice studies, groups of five mice of each sex per dose group were given daily ip doses of 0, 50, 100, and 150 mg/kg MTA for 2 wk. Daily doses were well tolerated by mice, all mice survived to study termination and had no clinical signs of toxicity. In longer duration studies, 10 mice/sex/dose group were dosed ip with 0, 10, and 25 mg/kg MTA daily, 105 mg/kg twice weekly, or 315 mg/kg once weekly for 6 wk. Again, all mice tolerated all doses and schedules with no compound-related mortality or clinical signs of toxicity. Intestinal necrosis was slight and was limited only to male and female mice treated daily with 10 and 25 mg/kg MTA. The higher levels of thymidine $(1-5 \mu M)$ in mice is thought to reduce the impact of MTA on the proliferation and function of normal cells.

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Dogs are more sensitive to MTA. Single iv slow-bolus doses of 10, 25, 50, or 100 mg/kg of MTA can be tolerated by dogs. Up to five daily doses of 5 or 10 mg/kg were given to one dog/dose and the dose of 10 mg/kg proved to be toxic. Dogs given single doses of 50 mg/kg or more had modest lymphopenia and leukopenia 6 d after dosing. The leukopenia was neither consistent nor dose related, and values returned to the reference range within 10 d of dosing. There were no important effects on erythrocyte or platelet parameters. For longer duration studies, one dog/sex/dose group was given either daily iv slow-bolus doses of 0.1, 0.5, 0.75, or 1.0 mg/kg MTA or 10 mg/kg twice weekly for up to 2 wk. Dogs treated with 0.75 or 1 mg/kg died after 7–10 daily doses. Mortality was preceded by clinical signs of decreased food consumption, hypoactivity, dehydration, emesis, abnormal stools, and increased salivation.

In summary, the toxicological profile of MTA is consistent with the known antiproliferative activities of folate antimetabolites. The major pathological effects associated with MTA occurred in the intestinal tract and lymphoid tissues; bone marrow was only minimally affected in dogs and mice given repeated doses. No hepatic or renal toxicity was observed in these preclinical toxicology studies by histopathalogic evaluation.

3. CLINICAL STUDIES OF MTA

3.1. MTA Phase I Experience

Three dosing schedules have been investigated in the phase I setting. In study JMAA, patients received MTA once every 21 d. Study JMAB looked at administering the drug once weekly for 4 wk out of every 6, and study BP-001 investigated a schedule of daily times five every 21 d.

The daily times five every 3 wk schedule resulted in a maximum tolerated dose (MTD) of 4 mg/m²/day (21). Dose-limiting toxicities on this schedule were reversible neutropenia and elevated liver enzymes. Nonhematologic toxicities were mild and included mucositis, diarrhea, rash, fatigue, and elevated transaminases. Minor responses were observed using this schedule in one patient with colorectal cancer and one patient with nonsmall-cell lung cancer (NSCLC). Phase II studies are ongoing to assess the efficacy of this schedule.

Studies JMAA and JMAB used the Modified Continual Reassessment Method for dose escalation. This involves treating a single patient at each minimally toxic dose level and adding more patients once significant toxicities are observed at a dose level. A minimum of three patients are treated at a dose level once moderate reversible toxicity is demonstrated (grade III hematologic toxicity or grade II nonhematologic toxicity excluding nausea, vomiting, and alopecia). Dose-limiting toxicity (DLT) was defined as grade IV hematologic or grade III nonhematologic toxicity, excluding nausea, vomiting, and alopecia. A minimum of six patients are treated once dose-limiting toxicities are demonstrated. In this manner, the number of patients exposed to lower, potentially less effective doses of drug is limited and more patients are treated at doses approaching the MTD (*39*).

The DLT on the weekly times four, every 6 weeks schedule (study JMAB) was myelosuppression, particularly leukopenia and granulocytopenia (19). Inability to maintain the weekly treatment schedule because of neutropenia limited dose escalation on this schedule. This schedule is not currently being pursued in phase II trials. Chapter 8 / M

Schedule^a Number of pati treated Dose range Recommended phase II dos DLT

Responses

^aAll doses ad

The once I trial invest ranging from nia, thrombo mg/m^2 , and grade IV ne tients, respe nausea, von periencing 1 for 3 d, start rash preven Pharmac MTD (600 µg/mL was and steadymeasured." range of the reflects lim Samples tion of MT the drug is urine durin courses, an not appear though this Partial r creas cance duration 7

Table 8 Initial Phase I Experience				
	BP-001	JMAA	JMAB	
Schedule ^a	Daily \times 5, every 21 d	Once every 21 d	Weekly \times 4, every 6 wk	
Number of patients treated	38	37	24	
Dose range	$0.2-5.2 \text{ mg/m}^2$	$50-700 \text{ mg/m}^2$	$10-40 \text{ mg/m}^2$	
Recommended phase II dose	4 mg/m^2	600 mg/m^2	30 mg/m^2	
DLT	neutropenia	neutropenia, mucositis, fatigue	myelosuppression, particularly granulocytopenia	
Responses	Minor responses in colorectal (1) and NSCLC (1)	Partial responses in pancreas (2), and colorectal (2)	Minor responses in colorectal (2)	

^aAll doses administered as a 10-min infusion.

The once every 21 d schedule has been evaluated in phase II trials (20). In the phase I trial investigating this dose (study JMAA), 37 patients were administered drug at doses ranging from 50–700 mg/m². Dose-limiting toxicities on this schedule were neutropenia, thrombocytopenia, and fatigue. The MTD on this schedule was determined to be 600 mg/m², and of the 20 patients treated at this dose, Common Toxicity Criteria (CTC) grade IV neutropenia and CTC grade IV thrombocytopenia occurred in four and one patients, respectively, in the first cycle. CTC grade II toxicities included rash, mucositis, nausea, vomiting, fatigue, anorexia, and elevations of liver transaminases. Patients experiencing rash were treated in subsequent cycles with 4 mg dexamethasone twice daily for 3 d, starting the day before MTA therapy. The severity of the rash was reduced or the rash prevented in these patients (19). The phase I experience is summarized in Table 8.

Pharmacokinetic determinations were made in 20 patients who were treated at the MTD (600 mg/m²) in study JMAA. A mean maximum plasma concentration of 137 μ g/mL was attained, with a mean half-life of 3.1 h (range 2.2–7.2 h). Mean clearance and steady-state volume of distribution values of 40 mL/min/m² and 7.01/m² were also measured. This mean clearance value is similar to that of creatinine clearance in the age range of the patients enrolled (approx 45–55 mL/min/m²) and the volume of distribution reflects limited distribution outside the bloodstream (40).

Samples collected from the first dose in each course of therapy showed the disposition of MTA to be linear over the entire dose range $(0.2-700 \text{ mg/m}^2)$. The clearance of the drug is primarily renal, with 80% or more of the dose recovered unchanged in the urine during the first 24 h after dosing. No accumulation appears to occur with multiple courses, and the disposition of MTA does not change after multiple doses. Gender does not appear to affect MTA disposition. MTA clearance appears to decrease with age, although this decrease is most likely to be related to decreasing renal function (40).

Partial responses were seen in one of the phase I studies (JMAA), with two in pancreas cancer patients of duration 2 and 6 mo, and two in colorectal cancer patients of duration 7 and 11 mo. Both patients with colorectal cancer had received prior

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chemotherapy, one with intrahepatic FUDR and one with raltitrexed. One of the patients with pancreatic cancer had received prior therapy with 5FU.

3.2. Phase II Experience

Two phase II studies in colorectal cancer, one in pancreas cancer, two in NSCLC, and one in breast cancer began in late 1995. These studies were designed to include patients with advanced disease who were either chemonaive or had received prior chemotherapy in the metastatic setting, with a starting dose of 600 mg/m² once every 21 d. Results from these studies are preliminary.

Clinical activity of MTA in metastatic colorectal carcinoma has been demonstrated in two multicenter trials performed in Canada (23) and the U.S. (24). Prior adjuvant chemotherapy was allowed if completed at least 1 yr prior to study entry. In the Canadian study, the starting dose of 600 mg/m² was reduced to 500 mg/m² after dose reductions were required in five of the first eight patients. Toxicities leading to these reductions included rash, mucositis, neutropenia, and febrile neutropenia. Responses were seen at this reduced dose in six patients for an overall response rate of 21% (8–39.7%) (23). In the U.S. colorectal study, objective tumor responses were seen in 6 of 39 patients for an overall response rate of 16% (24).

Two responses, one complete and one partial, were observed in 35 evaluable patients in the pancreatic cancer phase II study for an overall response rate of 6% (25). Importantly, there were 13 additional patients with stable disease lasting for over 6 mo of treatment, suggesting a clinical benefit not immediately apparent from objective tumor measurements.

A phase II study in patients with locally advanced and/or metastatic breast cancer is ongoing and includes patients who have received prior adjuvant chemotherapy as well as one prior therapy for metastatic disease. Fourteen of 22 patients had received prior chemotherapy, 10 as adjuvant treatment, 7 for metastatic disease, and 3 patients who received both. Of the 18 patients evaluable for response, 1 complete and 5 partial responses have been documented for an overall response rate of 30%. Responses have been seen in pulmonary and hepatic metastates. Three of the six responding patients had received recent prior therapy with paclitaxel, docetaxel, or an anthracycline for metastatic disease (27).

One multi-institutional study in NSCLC has been completed in Canada (26) and an additional study is ongoing in Australia and South Africa (22). All patients were chemonaive. The majority of patients on the Canadian study used the lower starting dose of 500 mg/m², which was reduced from 600 mg/m² during the course of the study after one of the first three patients experienced CTC grade III mucositis and grade IV vomiting and myalgia. Seven partial responses have been observed in 30 evaluable patients for an overall response rate of 23.3% (95% CI 9.9–42.3%) (26). All responding patients were treated at the 500 mg/m² dose level.

The second NSCLC study, which is being carried out jointly between Australia and South Africa, has enrolled 21 patients to date, with 20 evaluable for response. All patients are receiving 600 mg/m² every 3 wk in this study. Five partial responses have been noted for an overall response rate of 25% (22). The phase II experience to date is summarized in Table 9.

Chapter 8 /

Study

Site Tumor site Number of evaluable pat: Median cycles (Range) CR PR Overall RR (%) (95% CI, %)

> Alk Phos ALT AST Bilirubin Creatinine ANC Hb Platelets

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Table 9 Phase II Experience						
Study	ЈМАС	JMAD	JMAN	JMAO	JMAG	JMAL
Site Tumor site	U.S. colorectal	U.S. pancreas	Canada NSCLC	Canada colorectal	U.K. breast	Aus/S Africa NSCLC
Number of evaluable patients	39	35	30	29	18	20
Median cycles	4	2	3	3	4	4
(Range)	(1-12)	(1-12)	(1-8)	(18)	(1-9)	(1-9)
CR	1	1	0	1	1	0
PR	5	1	7	5	5	5
Overall RR (%) (95% CI, %)	16	6	23 (9.9–42.3)	21 (8–39.7)	30	25

Table 10 Laboratory Toxicity (*n* = 209)

$C_{rr} d_{r} L(M) = C_{rr} d_{r} H(M) = C_{rr} d_{r} H(M) = C_{rr} d_{r} H(M)$					
	Grade I (%)	Grade II (%)	Grade III (%)	Grade IV (%)	
Alk Phos	49	13	4		
ALT	33	26	22	0	
AST	42	30	10	0	
Bilirubin		18	7.3	2	
Creatinine	13	5	0	0	
ANC	9	21	27	27	
Hb	34	43	12	2.4	
Platelets	31	6	7	8	

A total of 209 patients have been treated on the once every 3 wk schedule in the phase II setting at 600 mg/m² and are evaluable for safety analysis. The most frequent, serious toxicity has been hematologic in nature. CTC grade III and IV hematologic toxicity included neutropenia (25 and 26%, respectively) and thrombocytopenia (7 and 10%, respectively). Although severe neutropenia is common, the frequency of serious infection has been low (grade IV infection 2%). Likewise, thrombocytopenia has been apparent, and yet serious episodes of bleeding have been rare (<1%). Whereas 8% of patients experienced grade III (4% with grade IV) skin rash, prophylactic dexamethasone is reported to ameliorate or prevent the rash in subsequent cycles. Other grade III and IV nonhematologic toxicities included stomatitis, diarrhea, vomiting, and infection. As seen in clinical studies of other antifolates, transient grade III and IV elevation of liver transaminases are common but not dose limiting. There have been no cases of persistent transaminase elevation. Tables 10 and 11 summarize the laboratory and nonlaboratory toxicity data from the phase II studies conducted at a starting dose of 600 mg/m².

4. CONCLUSION AND PERSPECTIVE

Extensive biochemical and pharmacological evidence has demonstrated that MTA is a novel antifolate that differs in its mode of action from other antifolates currently un-

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Table 11Nonlaboratory Toxicity (n = 209)					
	Grade I (%)	Grade II (%)	Grade III (%)	Grade IV (%)	
Cutaneous	19	39		5	
Diarrhea	17	11	4	3	
Infection	13	8	2	2	
Nausea	33	30	9	0.5	
Fatigue	13	11	6	0	
Pulmonary	0.5	7	2	2	
Stomatitis	23	16	6	1	
Vomiting	13	30	2	3	

dergoing investigation. MTA is transported into the cell mainly through the reduced folate carrier system and extensively metabolized to polyglutamated forms. The polyglutamates of MTA inhibit at least three key folate enzymes: TS, DHFR, and GARFT, and to a lesser extent AICARFT and C1-tetrahydrofolate synthase. The combined effects of the inhibition exerted by MTA at each target give rise to an unusual end-product reversal pattern at the cellular level that is distinct from those of other inhibitors such as methotrexate and the quinazoline antifolates. MTA is broadly active against murine solid tumors and human tumor xenografts in vivo. Many lines of evidence indicate that MTA does not behave like a pure TS inhibitor nor does it act like a conventional DHFR inhibitor, such as methotrexate, which also inhibits multiple folate enzymes. The important biochemical, pharmacological and clinical characteristics of MTA include:

- Potent inhibition of TS, DHFR, and enzymes in the de novo purine biosynthetic pathway including GARFT, with TS as the primary target.
- Unique end-product reversal pattern which is distinct from all other antifolates.
- Different cross-resistance pattern to cells resistant to TS inhibitors.
- Distinct metabolic effects on folate and nucleotide pools compared to other antifolates.
- Early evidence of clinical activity in NSCLC, a tumor type considered resistant to TSbased antifolate antimetabolites.
- Single-agent activity in phase II studies in patients with a broad spectrum of solid tumors including colorectal, breast, nonsmall-cell lung, and pancreatic cancers.

MTA is, therefore, a novel antifolate with unique biochemical and pharmacological properties. The efficient polyglutamation, longer cellular retention and multiple folate enzyme inhibition mechanism may contribute directly to the exciting antitumor responses now being observed in patients. Specifically, the multitargeted inhibition mechanism of MTA is intriguing. This new level of mechanistic insight evolving and around MTA prompts us to challenge the traditional approach to antifolate drug discovery and development, which has focused on developing potent and selective inhibitors of a single folate enzyme target. Given the complex nature of folate metabolism and the role of folates in maintaining the physiological functions of living systems, it is reasonable to expect that agents that can interfere with multiple enzymes in the folate pathway may

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In conclusion, MTA is a new generation antifolate with inhibitory activity against multiple folate enzymes including TS, DHFR, and GARFT. In current phase II studies, MTA is broadly active as a single agent and has shown encouraging antitumor activity in multiple solid tumors. More advanced and extensive clinical trials of MTA are currently in progress, including trials in which the effects of MTA in combination with other agents such as cisplatin and gemcitabine are under investigation. The combination of a novel mode of action, preclinical and clinical activity, manageable and tolerable side effects and a dosing schedule that is easy to administer, indicates that MTA will play an important role in the treatment of patients with solid tumors.

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The master key effect of vitamin B12 in treatment of malignancy — A potential therapy?

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Summary Vitamin B_{12} plays a functional role in a variety of organs and body systems and the list of these organs and body systems is growing. According to our working hypothesis ("Master Key Effect") vitamin B_{12} has some unique functions, which are still not accepted; vitamin B12 functions to keep body systems in balance, even under the stress of severe pathology. What is the explanation for elevation of cobalamin level in oncological patients?

- 1. It is well known that there is a high level of vitamin B12 in different kinds of malignancy.
- 2. There is a positive correlation between level of vitamin B12 and the severity of the disease, the more severe the disease the higher the level of B12.
- 3. A number of the experimental laboratory studies indicate an inhibition in the growth of malignant cells upon use of vitamin B12.
- 4. There are no experimental results indicating the opposite, that vitamin B12 stimulates growth of malignant cells.
- 5. There is no data about toxic effect of vitamin B12 in the treatment of various diseases.

As yet I have not been able to find another explanation for high level of vitamin B12 in oncology patients other than that it is a compensatory mechanism.

Perhaps following this body's ''warning sign'', we should start treatment with high doses of vitamin B12 to try to help the stabilization of normal function of the organs and systems. Laboratory researches should be continued to substantiate introduction of cobalamin as preliminary treatment of particular diseases. © 2007 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.

Researchers have attempted to correlate vitamin B12 with malignancy ever since the multifunctional role of cobalamin has begun to be understood. Much research has been performed in laboratories *in vitro* and *in vivo*. There are many hypotheses

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about role of vitamin B12 in growth of malignancy, but we still have many more questions than we have answers. What is the explanation for elevation of cobalamine level in oncological patients? Is it a risk factor or an indication of developing neoplasms? Is it a result of liver cell damage, resulting in the release of free vitamin B12 in the serum? What about patients without hepatic damage? Is it marker of malignancy? Maybe human body is

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cleverer than we have thought and elevated vitamin B12 is a sign that the body is fighting disease, and that as result of this ''battle'', there is a mobilization of resources, and an attempt to compensate by activating biologically active substances for ''repair'' of defects!?

Multifunctional systems in the human body need to maintain homeostasis. Man is an ideal example of a system that constantly aspires to attain optimal regulation, even under the stress of severe pathology. There seems to be universal, interchangeable, biologically active substances that regulate the system and keep it in balance. I propose that one of these substances is vitamin B12.

Why vitamin B_{12} ? Vitamin B_{12} plays a functional role in a variety of organs and body systems and the list of these organs and body systems is growing. It affects the peripheral and central nervous systems, bone marrow, skin and mucous membranes, bones, and vessels, as well as normal development during childhood. Vitamin B12 (cobalamin) is unique among all the vitamins in that it contains not only a complex organic molecule, but also an essential trace element, cobalt. Vitamin B12 plays an important role in DNA synthesis and has important immunomodulatory and neurotrophic effects. According to our ''working hypothesis'' vitamin B12 has some unique, but still unrecognized functions. It is possible that even when the serum cobalamin level is normal, treatment with vitamin B_{12} can correct defects caused by other biologically active substances. In our studies treatment with vitamin B12 has been successful in the treatment of recurrent aphthous stomatitis of any etiology, irrespective of B12 level in the blood before treatment! We call this phenomenon the ''Master Key Effect'' [1]. In this article I would like to review known data concerning the connection between vitamin B12 and malignancy and I will attempt to explain this according to the "Master Key Effect'' hypothesis.

Elevated levels of serum cobalamin may be a sign of a serious, even life-threatening, disease. Hematologic disorders, like chronic myelogeneous leukemia, promyelocytic leukemia, polycythemia vera and also the hypereosinophilic syndrome, can result in elevated levels of cobalamin. Not surprisingly, a rise of the cobalamin concentration in serum is one of the diagnostic criteria for the latter two diseases. Several liver diseases, like acute hepatitis, cirrhosis, hepatocellular carcinoma and metastatic liver disease, can also be accompanied by an increase in circulating cobalamin. This phenomenon is caused predominantly by cobalamin release during hepatic cytolysis and/or decreased cobalamin clearance by the affected liver. Altogether it can be concluded that an observed elevation of cobalamin in blood merits a full diagnostic examination to assess the presence of disease [2].

Carmel et al. studied 139 patients with nonhematologic malignancy in order to define the incidence of vitamin B12-related abnormalities and correlate them with clinical findings. High serum vitamin B12 level usually implied a poor prognosis in a patient with cancer. However, while most such patients had hepatic and other metastases, hepatic involvement was not universal nor did most of the patients with hepatic disease have high vitamin B12 levels [3].

The relationship between vitamin B12 levels and survival was studied in a group of 161 terminally ill cancer patients. Their average age was 74.7 years. The length of survival decreased with the increase in serum vitamin B12 levels. In multivariate analyses, C-reactive protein was the most important prognostic factor in this population, and vitamin B12 provided information independent of CRP in predicting survival. These data indicate that an elevated serum vitamin B12 level is a predictive factor for mortality in patients with cancer, independent of CRP or other factors [4].

In one prospective study [5] researchers found high vitamin B12 levels in patients suffering from prostate cancer, and their conclusion was that cobalamin stimulates prostate cancer development...

The effect of cobalamin on the proliferation of malignant cells has been examined in vivo and in vitro in numerous studies [6-8]. Methylcobalamin inhibited the proliferation of androgen-sensitive SC-3 cells (a cloned cell line from Shionogi mouse mammary tumor, SC115) in culture at the concentration of 100–300 µg/ml. An inhibitory activity of methylcobalamin on the proliferation was also observed in other cell lines (estrogen-sensitive B-1F cells from mouse Leydig cell tumor and MCF-7 cells from human mammary tumor) at the concentration of 500 μ g/ml. Moreover, large doses of methylcobalamin injected intraperitoneally (100 mg/kg body weight/day) were non-toxic and suppressed the tumor growth of SC115 and B-1F cells in mice fed a vitamin B12 deficient diet. These results indicate that methylcobalamin inhibits the proliferation of malignant cells in culture and in vivo and propose the possibility of methylcobalamin as a candidate of potentially useful agents for the treatment for some malignant tumors [6].

Malignancies are common in the digestive tube, although with unequal distribution among segments. The aim of a study conducted by Kurbel et al. was to compare available interpretations of the low cancer incidence in the small bowel and high incidence in the large bowel. Small bowel mucosa is the main absorptive part of the digestive tube with absorption rates for various nutrients so high that they can even be considered as clearances from the intestinal content. Consequently, these nutrients are not present in the large bowel. An alternative explanation is that an absorbable protective substance from the intraluminal content might protect the mucosa from malignant transformations. It can be speculated that if there are any cytoprotective substances in the digested food their effect would be expressed mostly in the absorptive small intestine, leaving the large bowel mucosa unprotected. Vitamin B12 might be a possible candidate for this role. The results indicated that cobalamin availability showed similar distribution, available in low incidence segments and unavailable in high incidence segments [9].

Cobalamin carrier proteins, the transcobalamins (TC), were found to be elevated during trauma, infections and chronic inflammatory conditions. This remains un-explained. It is proposed that such TC elevations signal a need for cobalamin central to the resolution of inflammation [10]. Animal and human clinical data suggest that high dose cobalamin may prove a promising approach to systemic inflammatory response syndrome (SIRS), sepsis, septic and traumatic shock. Septic shock has an extremely high mortality rate, with approximately 200,000 people dying from sepsis annually in the US. The high mortality results in part from severe hypotension secondary to high serum nitric oxide (NO) concentrations. Initially, vitamin B12 was proposed for use as a scavenger and cytoprotective agent to bind and inactivate NO [11]. The use of vitamin B12 as a carrier to deliver nitric oxide into tumor cells is novel [12,13]. A number of studies have demonstrated that cobalamin is important in maintaining differentiation, proliferation, and metabolic status of cells. NO inactivates vitamin B12 and methionine synthase, thereby impairing DNA formation and, consequently, new cell formation. The vitamins: folic acid, B12 and B6 and B2 are the source of coenzymes which participate in one carbon metabolism [14]. The overall functions of vitamin B12, as a source of coenzymes in intracellular recycling of methionine, in methionine synthase reaction, in the prevention of chromosome breakage, in methylation, and in maintaining a one-carbon metabolic balance, have been reviewed. NO can cause both apoptosis and necrosis, making it a good candidate for antitumor therapy. In one investigational study it was shown that complex NO-cobalamin inhibited tumor growth in vivo and *in vitro* by activating the extrinsic apoptotic pathway [12]. Inhibition of methionine synthase

also creates a "methylfolate trap", analogous to what occurs in vitamin B12 deficiency [15,16]. Haematological sequel of vitamin B12 deficiency are attributed to disturbed DNA synthesis, but vitamin B12 itself plays no role in DNA biosynthesis. A proposed explanation for this is the methylfolate trap hypothesis. This hypothesis states that B12 deficiency impairs overall folate metabolism, because 5-methyltetrahydrofolate (5MTHF) becomes metabolically trapped. This trap results from the fact that 5MTHF can neither be metabolised via the methionine synthase pathway, nor can it be reconverted to its precursor, methylenetetrahydrofolate [17]. Methionine metabolism and transmethylation are frequently altered in cancer cells. The alteration is often expressed as an inability of the cancer cells to grow when methionine is replaced by homocysteine in the culture medium, a condition that allows the growth of normal cells. This metabolic defect is termed methionine dependence [18]. Methionine dependence is unique to cancer cells and defined as the inability to grow in a methionine-deprived environment, even if supplemented with the metabolic precursor homocysteine. Cobalamin-dependent methionine synthase catalyses the formation of methionine and tetrahydrofolate from homocysteine and methyltetrahydrofolate, thus linking the methionine and folate pathways [19].

Interactions between adaptative and selective processes are illustrated in the model of recursive causality as defined in Rupert Riedl's systems theory of evolution [20]. One of the main features of this theory, also termed the theory of evolving complexity, is central to the notion of recursive or feedback causality – the idea that every biological effect in living systems in some way feeds back to its own cause. There is a hypothesis that "recursive" or "feedback" causality provides a model for explaining the consequences of interacting genetic and epigenetic mechanisms, which are known to play a key role in development of cancer [21]. Epigenetics includes any process that alters gene activity without changes of the DNA sequence. The most important epigenetic mechanisms are DNA-methylation and chromatin remodeling. Hypomethylation of socalled oncogenes and hypermethylation of tumor suppressor genes appear to be critical determinants of cancer. Folic acid, vitamin B12 and other nutrients influence the function of enzymes that participate in various methylation processes by affecting the supply of methyl groups into a variety of molecules which may be directly or indirectly associated with cancerogenesis. The enzymes also play a role in development and differentiation of cells and organisms and thus illustrate the close association between evolutionary and developmental
mechanisms. This enabled new ways to understand the interaction between the genome and environment and may improve biomedical concepts, including environmental health aspects where epigenetic and genetic modifications are closely associated. For example, recent observations showed that methylated nucleotides in the gene promoter may serve as a target for solar UV-induced mutations of the p53 tumor suppressor gene [22]. This illustrates the close interaction of genetic and epigenetic mechanisms in cancerogenesis resulting from changes in transcriptional regulation and its contribution to a phenotype at the micro- or macro-evolutionary level. The above-mentioned interactions of genetic and epigenetic mechanisms in oncogenesis defy explanation by simple linear causality, like the continuing adaptability of complex systems. They can be explained by the concept of recursive causality and has introduced molecular biology into the realm of cognition science and systems theory; based on the notion of feedback or recursive causality, a model for epigenetic mechanisms with relevance for oncology and biomedicine is provided.

As was mentioned above, every system in mechanics and nature seeks some sort of balance. The human body, as an example of a multifunctional system, is no exception to this rule. Upon an imbalance or disease, the organism tries to compensate by mobilization of its inner resources. There is an on-going process of accumulation of biologically active substances to fight disease. Parenthetically, one of conventional, as well as nonconventional, ways of treating diseases is using a medicine (substance) or different physical methods which are able to activate these substances. The human organism has been evolved over millions of years and thus, it is reasonable to expect it to react appropriately. Unfortunately, this battle for balance is not always successful. Being stressed the organism ''shows'' us signs of distress and ''calls for help''. The only thing that we must do is to know how to read them.

I propose that a high level of vitamin B12 in oncological diseases is such a sign. What is the basis for such hypothesis? The basis for such a proposal can be summarized as follows:

- 1. The well known fact that a high level of vitamin B12 is present in different kinds of malignancy.
- 2. There is a positive correlation between level of vitamin B12 and the severity of the disease, the more severe the disease the higher the level of B12.
- 3. A number of the experimental laboratory studies indicate an inhibition in the growth of malignant cells upon use of vitamin B12.

- 4. There are no experimental results indicating the opposite, that vitamin B12 stimulates growth of malignant cells.
- 5. There is no data about toxic effect of vitamin B12 in the treatment of various diseases. Sometimes there is necessary to use very high doses to achieve therapeutic effect [23]. Vitamin B12 is the only known vitamin that does not have any toxic effect even in such cases.

As yet I have not been able to find another explanation for high level of vitamin B12 in oncology patients other than that it is a compensatory mechanism.

Possibly following this body's ''warning sign'', we should start preliminary treatment with high doses of vitamin B12 to try to stabilize normal body functioning of the various organs and organ systems.

Analyzing the literature of research in cancer which investigated the association with vitamin B12, I do not understand why these studies indicating a positive results did not investigate this association further. Perhaps this can be explained as follows:

- 1. Preference for treatment with vitamin B12 to modern perspective medicines does not seem appropriate for oncology patients who do not have time for such kind of experiments (an ethical question).
- 2. The unconvincing or unequivocal results of the research, which could be a consequence of using not high enough doses of vitamin B12, do not encourage oncologists to try vitamin B12 treatment.
- 3. The paradoxical dilemma, in which the solution is so close, well-known, accessible, and cheap, makes it hard to believe that vitamin B12 may be effective in the treatment of oncology diseases.

Laboratory research should be continued even if it might disprove the above-stated hypothesis. And who knows? It may in fact provide us with more evidence of the effectiveness of vitamin B12 in the treatment of malignant diseases.

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Available online at www.sciencedirect.com



HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

These highlights do not include all the information needed to use ALIMTA safely and effectively. See full prescribing information for ALIMTA.

ALIMTA (pemetrexed disodium) Injection, Powder, Lyophilized, For Solution for Intravenous Use

Initial U.S. Approval: 2004

----- RECENT MAJOR CHANGES ------

Indications and Usage, Locally Advanced or Metastatic Nonsquamous

Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer - Combination with Cisplatin (1.1) 09/2008 Indications and Usage, Locally Advanced or Metastatic Nonsquamous

Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer - Maintenance (1.2) MM/YYYY

Indications and Usage, Locally Advanced or Metastatic Nonsquamous Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer - After Prior Chemotherapy (1.3) 09/2008 Dosage and Administration, Combination Use with Cisplatin (2.1) 09/2008

----- INDICATIONS AND USAGE ------

ALIMTA® is a folate analog metabolic inhibitor indicated for:

- Locally Advanced or Metastatic Nonsquamous Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer:
 - Initial treatment in combination with cisplatin. (1.1)
 - Maintenance treatment of patients whose disease has not progressed after four cycles of platinum-based first-line chemotherapy. (1.2)
 - After prior chemotherapy as a single agent. (1.3)
 - Mesothelioma: in combination with cisplatin. (1.4)

Limitations of Use:

ALIMTA is not indicated for the treatment of patients with squamous cell non-small cell lung cancer. (1.5)

----- DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION -----

- Combination use in Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer and Mesothelioma: Recommended dose of ALIMTA is 500 mg/m² i.v. on Day 1 of each 21-day cycle in combination with cisplatin 75 mg/m² i.v. beginning 30 minutes after ALIMTA administration. (2.1)
- Single-Agent use in Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer: Recommended dose of ALIMTA is 500 mg/m² i.v. on Day 1 of each 21-day cycle. (2.2)
- Dose Reductions: Dose reductions or discontinuation may be needed based on toxicities from the preceding cycle of therapy. (2.4)

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- 1.2 Nonsquamous Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer –Maintenance
- 1.3 Nonsquamous Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer After Prior Chemotherapy
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- 1.5 Limitations of Use

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- 2.1 Combination Use with Cisplatin
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- 5.7 Third Space Fluid
- 6 ADVERSE REACTIONS

----- DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS ----

- 100 mg vial for injection (3)
- 500 mg vial for injection (3)

-----CONTRAINDICATIONS------

History of severe hypersensitivity reaction to pemetrexed. (4)

----- WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS ------

- Premedication regimen: Instruct patients to take folic acid and vitamin B₁₂. Pretreatment with dexamethasone or equivalent reduces cutaneous reaction. (5.1)
- Bone marrow suppression: Reduce doses for subsequent cycles based on hematologic and nonhematologic toxicities. (5.2)
- Renal function: Do not administer when CrCl <45 mL/min. (2.4, 5.3)
- NSAIDs with renal insufficiency: Use caution in patients with mild to moderate renal insufficiency (CrCl 45-79 mL/min). (5.4)
- Lab monitoring: Do not begin next cycle unless ANC ≥1500 cells/mm³, platelets ≥100,000 cells/mm³, and CrCl ≥45 mL/min. (5.5)
- Pregnancy: Fetal harm can occur when administered to a pregnant woman. Women should be advised to use effective contraception measures to prevent pregnancy during treatment with ALIMTA. (5.6)

----- ADVERSE REACTIONS-------

The most common adverse reactions (incidence $\geq 20\%$) with single-agent use are fatigue, nausea, and anorexia. Additional common adverse reactions when used in combination with cisplatin include vomiting, neutropenia, leukopenia, anemia, stomatitis/pharyngitis, thrombocytopenia, and constipation. (6.1)

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact Eli Lilly and Company at 1-800-LillyRx (1-800-545-5979) or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or www.fda.gov/medwatch.

----- DRUG INTERACTIONS ------

- NSAIDs: Use caution with ibuprofen or other NSAIDs. (7.1)
- Nephrotoxic drugs: Concomitant use of these drugs and/or substances which are tubularly secreted may result in delayed clearance. (7.2)

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Revised: 00/0000

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- 6.2 Post-Marketing Experience

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FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

1 INDICATIONS AND USAGE

1.1 Nonsquamous Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer - Combination with Cisplatin

ALIMTA is indicated in combination with cisplatin therapy for the initial treatment of patients with locally advanced or metastatic nonsquamous non-small cell lung cancer.

1.2 Nonsquamous Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer - Maintenance

ALIMTA is indicated for the maintenance treatment of patients with locally advanced or metastatic nonsquamous non-small cell lung cancer whose disease has not progressed after four cycles of platinum-based first-line chemotherapy.

1.3 Nonsquamous Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer - After Prior Chemotherapy

ALIMTA is indicated as a single-agent for the treatment of patients with locally advanced or metastatic nonsquamous non-small cell lung cancer after prior chemotherapy.

1.4 Mesothelioma

ALIMTA in combination with cisplatin is indicated for the treatment of patients with malignant pleural mesothelioma whose disease is unresectable or who are otherwise not candidates for curative surgery.

1.5 Limitations of Use

ALIMTA is not indicated for the treatment of patients with squamous cell non-small cell lung cancer. [see Clinical Studies (14.1, 14.2, 14.3)]

2 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

2.1 Combination Use with Cisplatin

Nonsquamous Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer and Malignant Pleural Mesothelioma

The recommended dose of ALIMTA is 500 mg/m^2 administered as an intravenous infusion over 10 minutes on Day 1 of each 21-day cycle. The recommended dose of cisplatin is 75 mg/m² infused over 2 hours beginning approximately 30 minutes after the end of ALIMTA administration. Patients should receive appropriate hydration prior to and/or after receiving cisplatin. See cisplatin package insert for more information.

2.2 Single-Agent Use

Nonsquamous Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer

The recommended dose of ALIMTA is 500 mg/m² administered as an intravenous infusion over 10 minutes on Day 1 of each 21-day cycle.

2.3 Premedication Regimen

Vitamin Supplementation

To reduce toxicity, patients treated with ALIMTA must be instructed to take a low-dose oral folic acid preparation or multivitamin with folic acid on a daily basis. At least 5 daily doses of folic acid must be taken during the 7-day period preceding the first dose of ALIMTA; and dosing should continue during the full course of therapy and for 21 days after the last dose of ALIMTA. Patients must also receive one (1) intramuscular injection of vitamin B_{12} during the week preceding the first dose of ALIMTA and every 3 cycles thereafter. Subsequent vitamin B_{12} injections may be given the same day as ALIMTA. In clinical trials, the dose of folic acid studied ranged from 350 to 1000 mcg, and the dose of vitamin B_{12} was 1000 mcg. The most commonly used dose of oral folic acid in clinical trials was 400 mcg [see Warnings and Precautions (5.1)].

7 <u>Corticosteroid</u>

8 Skin rash has been reported more frequently in patients not pretreated with a corticosteroid. Pretreatment with dexamethasone
 9 (or equivalent) reduces the incidence and severity of cutaneous reaction. In clinical trials, dexamethasone 4 mg was given by mouth
 0 twice daily the day before, the day of, and the day after ALIMTA administration [see Warnings and Precautions (5.1)].

41 2.4 Laboratory Monitoring and Dose Reduction/Discontinuation Recommendations

42 <u>Monitoring</u>

43 Complete blood cell counts, including platelet counts, should be performed on all patients receiving ALIMTA. Patients should 44 be monitored for nadir and recovery, which were tested in the clinical study before each dose and on days 8 and 15 of each cycle. 45 Patients should not begin a new cycle of treatment unless the ANC is ≥ 1500 cells/mm³, the platelet count is $\geq 100,000$ cells/mm³, and 46 creatinine clearance is ≥ 45 mL/min. Periodic chemistry tests should be performed to evaluate renal and hepatic function *[see*]

47 Warnings and Precautions (5.5)].

48 **Dose Reduction Recommendations**

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49 Dose adjustments at the start of a subsequent cycle should be based on nadir hematologic counts or maximum nonhematologic 50 toxicity from the preceding cycle of therapy. Treatment may be delayed to allow sufficient time for recovery. Upon recovery, patients 51 should be retreated using the guidelines in Tables 1-3, which are suitable for using ALIMTA as a single-agent or in combination with 52 cisplatin.

Table 1: Dose Reduction for ALIMTA (single-agent or in combination) and Cisplatin - Hematologic Toxicities

Nadir ANC $<500/\text{mm}^3$ and nadir platelets $\geq 50,000/\text{mm}^3$.	75% of previous dose (pemetrexed and cisplatin).
Nadir platelets <50,000/mm ³ without bleeding regardless of nadir ANC.	75% of previous dose (pemetrexed and cisplatin).
Nadir platelets <50,000/mm ³ with bleeding ^a , regardless of nadir ANC.	50% of previous dose (pemetrexed and cisplatin).
^a These criteria most the CTC version 2.0 (NICI 1008) definition of SCTC Cr	ada 2 blaading

These criteria meet the CTC version 2.0 (NCI 1998) definition of \geq CTC Grade 2 bleeding.

If patients develop nonhematologic toxicities (excluding neurotoxicity) ≥Grade 3, treatment should be withheld until resolution to less than or equal to the patient's pre-therapy value. Treatment should be resumed according to guidelines in Table 2.

Table 2: Dose Reduction for ALIMTA (single-agent or in combination) and Cisplatin - Nonhematologic Toxicities^{a,b}

	Dose of ALIMTA	Dose of Cisplatin
	(mg/m^2)	(mg/m^2)
Any Grade 3 or 4 toxicities except mucositis	75% of previous dose	75% of previous dose
Any diarrhea requiring hospitalization (irrespective of Grade) or Grade 3 or	75% of previous dose	75% of previous dose
4 diarrhea	_	_
Grade 3 or 4 mucositis	50% of previous dose	100% of previous dose

59 ^a NCI Common Toxicity Criteria (CTC). 60

^b Excluding neurotoxicity (see Table 3).

In the event of neurotoxicity, the recommended dose adjustments for ALIMTA and cisplatin are described in Table 3. Patients should discontinue therapy if Grade 3 or 4 neurotoxicity is experienced.

Table 3: Dose Reduction for ALIMTA (single-agent or in combination) and Cisplatin - Neurotoxicity

	Dose of ALIMTA	Dose of Cisplatin
CTC Grade	(mg/m^2)	(mg/m^2)
0-1	100% of previous dose	100% of previous dose
2	100% of previous dose	50% of previous dose

Discontinuation Recommendation

ALIMTA therapy should be discontinued if a patient experiences any hematologic or nonhematologic Grade 3 or 4 toxicity after 2 dose reductions or immediately if Grade 3 or 4 neurotoxicity is observed.

69 **Renally Impaired Patients** 70

In clinical studies, patients with creatinine clearance \geq 45 mL/min required no dose adjustments other than those recommended for all patients. Insufficient numbers of patients with creatinine clearance below 45 mL/min have been treated to make dosage recommendations for this group of patients [see Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)]. Therefore, ALIMTA should not be administered to patients whose creatinine clearance is <45 mL/min using the standard Cockcroft and Gault formula (below) or GFR measured by Tc99m-DPTA serum clearance method:

Males:	[140 - Age in years] \times Actual Body Weight (kg) 72 \times Serum Creatinine (mg/dL)	= mL/min
Females:	Estimated creatinine clearance for males \times 0.85	

77 Caution should be exercised when administering ALIMTA concurrently with NSAIDs to patients whose creatinine clearance 78 is <80 mL/min [see Drug Interactions (7.1)].

79 2.5 **Preparation and Administration Precautions**

80 As with other potentially toxic anticancer agents, care should be exercised in the handling and preparation of infusion 81 solutions of ALIMTA. The use of gloves is recommended. If a solution of ALIMTA contacts the skin, wash the skin immediately and 82 thoroughly with soap and water. If ALIMTA contacts the mucous membranes, flush thoroughly with water. Several published 83 guidelines for handling and disposal of anticancer agents are available [see References (15)].

84 ALIMTA is not a vesicant. There is no specific antidote for extravasation of ALIMTA. To date, there have been few reported 85 cases of ALIMTA extravasation, which were not assessed as serious by the investigator. ALIMTA extravasation should be managed 86 with local standard practice for extravasation as with other non-vesicants.

87 **Preparation for Intravenous Infusion Administration** 2.6 88

- 1. Use aseptic technique during the reconstitution and further dilution of ALIMTA for intravenous infusion administration.
 - Calculate the dose of ALIMTA and determine the number of vials needed. Vials contain either 100 mg or 500 mg of 2. ALIMTA. The vials contain an excess of ALIMTA to facilitate delivery of label amount.

- 3. Reconstitute each 100-mg vial with 4.2 ml of 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection (preservative free). Reconstitute each 500-mg vial with 20 mL of 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection (preservative free). Reconstitution of either size vial gives a solution containing 25 mg/mL ALIMTA. Gently swirl each vial until the powder is completely dissolved. The resulting solution is clear and ranges in color from colorless to yellow or green-yellow without adversely affecting product quality. The pH of the reconstituted ALIMTA solution is between 6.6 and 7.8. FURTHER DILUTION IS REQUIRED.
 - Parenteral drug products should be inspected visually for particulate matter and discoloration prior to administration, 4 whenever solution and container permit. If particulate matter is observed, do not administer.
 - An appropriate quantity of the reconstituted ALIMTA solution must be further diluted into a solution of 0.9% Sodium 5. Chloride Injection (preservative free), so that the total volume of solution is 100 ml. ALIMTA is administered as an intravenous infusion over 10 minutes.
 - Chemical and physical stability of reconstituted and infusion solutions of ALIMTA were demonstrated for up to 24 hours 6. following initial reconstitution, when stored at refrigerated or ambient room temperature [see USP Controlled Room Temperature] and lighting. When prepared as directed, reconstitution and infusion solutions of ALIMTA contain no antimicrobial preservatives. Discard any unused portion.

105 Reconstitution and further dilution prior to intravenous infusion is only recommended with 0.9% Sodium Chloride 106 Injection (preservative free). ALIMTA is physically incompatible with diluents containing calcium, including Lactated Ringer's 107 Injection, USP and Ringer's Injection, USP and therefore these should not be used. Coadministration of ALIMTA with other drugs 108and diluents has not been studied, and therefore is not recommended. ALIMTA is compatible with standard polyvinyl chloride (PVC) 109 administration sets and intravenous solution bags.

110**DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS** 3

111 ALIMTA, pemetrexed for injection, is a white to either light-yellow or green-yellow lyophilized powder available in sterile 112 single-use vials containing 100 mg or 500 mg pemetrexed.

113 4 CONTRAINDICATIONS

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114 ALIMTA is contraindicated in patients who have a history of severe hypersensitivity reaction to pemetrexed or to any other 115 ingredient used in the formulation.

116 5 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

117 5.1 **Premedication Regimen**

118Need for Folate and Vitamin B₁₂ Supplementation

119 Patients treated with ALIMTA must be instructed to take folic acid and vitamin B_{12} as a prophylactic measure to reduce 120 treatment-related hematologic and GI toxicity [see Dosage and Administration (2.3)]. In clinical studies, less overall toxicity and 121 122 reductions in Grade 3/4 hematologic and nonhematologic toxicities such as neutropenia, febrile neutropenia, and infection with Grade 3/4 neutropenia were reported when pretreatment with folic acid and vitamin B₁₂ was administered.

123 Corticosteroid Supplementation

124 Skin rash has been reported more frequently in patients not pretreated with a corticosteroid in clinical trials. Pretreatment with 125 dexamethasone (or equivalent) reduces the incidence and severity of cutaneous reaction [see Dosage and Administration (2.3)].

5.2 **Bone Marrow Suppression**

126 127 128 129 130 ALIMTA can suppress bone marrow function, as manifested by neutropenia, thrombocytopenia, and anemia (or pancytopenia) [see Adverse Reactions (6.1)]; myelosuppression is usually the dose-limiting toxicity. Dose reductions for subsequent cycles are based on nadir ANC, platelet count, and maximum nonhematologic toxicity seen in the previous cycle [see Dosage and Administration (2.4)].

5.3 **Decreased Renal Function**

131 132 ALIMTA is primarily eliminated unchanged by renal excretion. No dosage adjustment is needed in patients with creatinine 133 clearance ≥45 mL/min. Insufficient numbers of patients have been studied with creatinine clearance <45 mL/min to give a dose 134 recommendation. Therefore, ALIMTA should not be administered to patients whose creatinine clearance is <45 mL/min [see Dosage 135 and Administration (2.4)].

136 One patient with severe renal impairment (creatinine clearance 19 mL/min) who did not receive folic acid and vitamin B₁₂ 137 died of drug-related toxicity following administration of ALIMTA alone.

138 5.4 Use with Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs with Mild to Moderate Renal Insufficiency

139 Caution should be used when administering ibuprofen concurrently with ALIMTA to patients with mild to moderate renal 140 insufficiency (creatinine clearance from 45 to 79 mL/min). Other NSAIDs should also be used with caution [see Drug Interactions 141 (7.1)].

142 5.5 **Required Laboratory Monitoring**

143 Patients should not begin a new cycle of treatment unless the ANC is ≥1500 cells/mm³, the platelet count is 144 \geq 100,000 cells/mm³, and creatinine clearance is \geq 45 mL/min [see Dosage and Administration (2.4)].

145 5.6 Pregnancy Category D

146 Based on its mechanism of action, ALIMTA can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman. Pemetrexed 147 administered intraperitoneally to mice during organogenesis was embryotoxic, fetotoxic and teratogenic in mice at greater than

148 1/833rd the recommended human dose. If ALIMTA is used during pregnancy, or if the patient becomes pregnant while taking this

149 drug, the patient should be apprised of the potential hazard to the fetus. Women of childbearing potential should be advised to avoid 150 becoming pregnant. Women should be advised to use effective contraceptive measures to prevent pregnancy during treatment with

151 ALIMTA [see Use in Specific Populations (8.1)].

152 153 **Third Space Fluid** 5.7

The effect of third space fluid, such as pleural effusion and ascites, on ALIMTA is unknown. In patients with clinically 154 significant third space fluid, consideration should be given to draining the effusion prior to ALIMTA administration.

155 **ADVERSE REACTIONS**

156 6.1 **Clinical Trials Experience**

157 Because clinical trials are conducted under widely varying conditions, adverse reactions rates cannot be directly compared to 158 rates in other clinical trials and may not reflect the rates observed in clinical practice.

159 In clinical trials, the most common adverse reactions (incidence $\geq 20\%$) during therapy with ALIMTA as a single-agent were 160fatigue, nausea, and anorexia. Additional common adverse reactions (incidence $\geq 20\%$) during therapy with ALIMTA when used in 161 combination with cisplatin included vomiting, neutropenia, leukopenia, anemia, stomatitis/pharyngitis, thrombocytopenia, and 162 constipation.

163 Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC) - Combination with Cisplatin

164 Table 4 provides the frequency and severity of adverse reactions that have been reported in >5% of 839 patients with NSCLC 165 who were randomized to study and received ALIMTA plus cisplatin and 830 patients with NSCLC who were randomized to study and received gemcitabine plus cisplatin. All patients received study therapy as initial treatment for locally advanced or metastatic NSCLC 166 167 and patients in both treatment groups were fully supplemented with folic acid and vitamin B_{12} .

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Table 4: Adverse Reactions in Fully Supplemented Patients Receiving ALIMTA plus Cisplatin in NSCLC^a

Departies ^b	ALIMTA/cisplatin (N=839)		Gemcitabine/cisplatin (N=830)	
Reaction	All Grades	Grade 3-4	All Grades	Grade 3-4
	Toxicity (%)	Toxicity (%)	Toxicity (%)	Toxicity (%)
All Adverse Reactions	90	37	91	53
Laboratory				
Hematologic				
Anemia	33	6	46	10
Neutropenia	29	15	38	27
Leukopenia	18	5	21	8
Thrombocytopenia	10	4	27	13
Renal				
Creatinine elevation	10	1	7	1
Clinical				
Constitutional Symptoms				
Fatigue	43	7	45	5
Gastrointestinal				
Nausea	56	7	53	4
Vomiting	40	6	36	6
Anorexia	27	2	24	1
Constipation	21	1	20	0
Stomatitis/Pharyngitis	14	1	12	0
Diarrhea	12	1	13	2
Dyspepsia/Heartburn	5	0	6	0
Neurology				
Neuropathy-sensory	9	0	12	1
Taste disturbance	8	0^{c}	9	0^{c}
Dermatology/Skin				
Alopecia	12	0^{c}	21	1°
Rash/Desquamation	7	0	8	1

169 ^a For the purpose of this table a cut off of 5% was used for inclusion of all events where the reporter considered a possible 170relationship to ALIMTA.

171 Refer to NCI CTC Criteria version 2.0 for each Grade of toxicity.

172 According to NCI CTC Criteria version 2.0, this adverse event term should only be reported as Grade 1 or 2.

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No clinically relevant differences in adverse reactions were seen in patients based on histology.

- 175 In addition to the lower incidence of hematologic toxicity on the ALIMTA and cisplatin arm, use of transfusions (RBC and 176 platelet) and hematopoietic growth factors was lower in the ALIMTA and cisplatin arm compared to the gemcitabine and cisplatin 177 arm.
- 178 The following additional adverse reactions were observed in patients with non-small cell lung cancer randomly assigned to 179 receive ALIMTA plus cisplatin.

180 Incidence 1% to 5%

- 181 Body as a Whole — febrile neutropenia, infection, pyrexia
- 182 General Disorders — dehydration
- 183 Metabolism and Nutrition — increased AST, increased ALT
- 184 Renal — creatinine clearance decrease, renal failure
- 185 Special Senses — conjunctivitis

186 Incidence Less than 1%

- 187 Cardiovascular — arrhythmia 188
- General Disorders chest pain 189 Metabolism and Nutrition ---- increased GGT
- 190 Neurology - motor neuropathy
- 191 Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC) - Maintenance
- 192 Table 5 provides the frequency and severity of adverse reactions that have been reported in >5% of 438 patients with NSCLC 193 who received ALIMTA and 218 patients with NSCLC who received placebo. All patients received study therapy immediately 194 following 4 cycles of platinum-based treatment for locally advanced or metastatic NSCLC. Patients in both study arms were fully
- 195 supplemented with folic acid and vitamin B_{12} .
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Table 5: Adverse Reactions in Patients Receiving ALIMTA versus Placebo in NSCLC^a

	ALIMTA (N=438)		Placebo (N=218)	
Reaction	All Grades Toxicity (%)	Grade 3-4 Toxicity (%)	All Grades Toxicity (%)	Grade 3-4 Toxicity (%)
All Adverse Reactions	66	16	37	4
Laboratory				
Hematologic				_
Anemia	15	3	6	1
Neutropenia	6	3	0	0
Leukopenia	6	2	1	1
Hepatic				
Increased ALT	10	0	4	0
Increased AST	8	0	4	0
Clinical				
Constitutional Symptoms				
Fatigue	25	5	11	1
Gastrointestinal				
Nausea	19	1	6	1
Anorexia	19	2	5	0
Vomiting	9	0	1	0
Mucositis/stomatitis	7	1	2	0
Diarrhea	5	1	3	0
Infection	5	2	2	0
Neurology				
Neuropathy-sensory	9	1	4	0
Dermatology/Skin				
Rash/Desquamation	10	0	3	0

198 For the purpose of this table a cut off of 5% was used for inclusion of all events where the reporter considered a possible 199 relationship to ALIMTA.

200^b Refer to NCI CTCAE Criteria version 3.0 for each Grade of toxicity. 201 202 203 204

No clinically relevant differences in Grade 3/4 adverse reactions were seen in patients based on age, gender, ethnic origin, or histology except a higher incidence of Grade 3/4 fatigue for Caucasian patients compared to non-Caucasian patients (6.5% versus 0.6%).

Safety was assessed by exposure for patients who received at least one dose of ALIMTA (N=438). The incidence of adverse reactions was evaluated for patients who received ≤ 6 cycles of ALIMTA, and compared to patients who received ≥ 6 cycles of

- 207ALIMTA. Increases in adverse reactions (all grades) were observed with longer exposure; however no clinically relevant differences in Grade 3/4 adverse reactions were seen.
 - Consistent with the higher incidence of anemia (all grades) on the ALIMTA arm, use of transfusions (mainly RBC) and erythropoiesis stimulating agents (ESAs; erythropoietin and darbepoetin) were higher in the ALIMTA arm compared to the placebo
 - arm (transfusions 9.5% versus 3.2%, ESAs 5.9% versus 1.8%).
 - The following additional adverse reactions were observed in patients with non-small cell lung cancer who received ALIMTA. Incidence 1% to 5%

- Dermatology/Skin alopecia, pruritis/itching
- Gastrointestinal constipation
 - General Disorders edema, fever (in the absence of neutropenia)
- Hematologic thrombocytopenia
 - *Renal* decreased creatinine clearance, increased creatinine, decreased glomerular filtration rate
 - Special Senses ocular surface disease (including conjunctivitis), increased lacrimation

Incidence Less than 1%

- Cardiovascular supraventricular arrhythmia
- Dermatology/Skin erythema multiforme
- General Disorders febrile neutropenia, allergic reaction/hypersensitivity
- Neurology motor neuropathy
- Renal renal failure

Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC) - After Prior Chemotherapy

208 209 210 211 212 213 214 215 216 217 218 219 220 221 222 223 224 225 226 227 228 229 220 221 222 223 224 225 226 227 228 229 230 221 Table 6 provides the frequency and severity of adverse reactions that have been reported in >5% of 265 patients randomly assigned to receive single-agent ALIMTA with folic acid and vitamin B_{12} supplementation and 276 patients randomly assigned to receive single-agent docetaxel. All patients were diagnosed with locally advanced or metastatic NSCLC and received prior chemotherapy. 232

Table 6: Adverse Reactions in Fully Supplemented Patients Receiving ALIMTA versus Docetaxel in NSCLC^a

	ALIMTA		Docetaxel		
Reaction ^b		265)	(N=2	276)	
Reaction	All Grades Gra		All Grades	Grades 3-4	
	Toxicity (%)	Toxicity (%)	Toxicity (%)	Toxicity (%)	
Laboratory					
Hematologic					
Anemia	19	4	22	4	
Leukopenia	12	4	34	27	
Neutropenia	11	5	45	40	
Thrombocytopenia	8	2	1	0	
Hepatic					
Increased ALT	8	2	1	0	
Increased AST	7	1	1	0	
Clinical					
Gastrointestinal					
Nausea	31	3	17	2	
Anorexia	22	2	24	3	
Vomiting	16	2	12	1	
Stomatitis/Pharyngitis	15	1	17	1	
Diarrhea	13	0	24	3	
Constipation	6	0	4	0	
Constitutional Symptoms					
Fatigue	34	5	36	5	
Fever	8	0	8	0	
Dermatology/Skin					
Rash/Desquamation	14	0	6	0	
Pruritis	7	0	2	0	
Alopecia	6	1 ^c	38	2°	

233 a For the purpose of this table a cut off of 5% was used for inclusion of all events where the reporter considered a possible 234 relationship to ALIMTA.

235 Refer to NCI CTC Criteria for lab values for each Grade of toxicity (version 2.0).

236 ^c According to NCI CTC Criteria version 2.0, this adverse event term should only be reported as Grade 1 or 2.

- 238 No clinically relevant differences in adverse reactions were seen in patients based on histology.
 - Clinically relevant adverse reactions occurring in <5% of patients that received ALIMTA treatment but >5% of patients that received docetaxel include CTC Grade 3/4 febrile neutropenia (1.9% ALIMTA, 12.7% docetaxel).
- 239 240 241 242 243 244 245 246 247 248 249 250 The following additional adverse reactions were observed in patients with non-small cell lung cancer randomly assigned to receive ALIMTA.

Incidence 1% to 5%

- Body as a Whole abdominal pain, allergic reaction/hypersensitivity, febrile neutropenia, infection
 - Dermatology/Skin erythema multiforme
 - *Neurology* motor neuropathy, sensory neuropathy
- Renal increased creatinine

Incidence Less than 1%

256

Cardiovascular — supraventricular arrhythmias

Malignant Pleural Mesothelioma (MPM)

250 251 252 253 253 Table 7 provides the frequency and severity of adverse reactions that have been reported in >5% of 168 patients with mesothelioma who were randomly assigned to receive cisplatin and ALIMTA and 163 patients with mesothelioma randomly assigned to receive single-agent cisplatin. In both treatment arms, these chemonaive patients were fully supplemented with folic acid and 255 vitamin B₁₂.

Table 7: Adverse Reactions in Fully Supplemented Patients Receiving ALIMTA plus Cisplatin in MPM^a

	ALIMTA/cisplatin		Cisplatin		
Panation ^b	(N=168)		(N=	163)	
Reaction	All Grades	Grade 3-4	All Grades	Grade 3-4	
	Toxicity (%)	Toxicity (%)	Toxicity (%)	Toxicity (%)	
Laboratory					
Hematologic					
Neutropenia	56	23	13	3	
Leukopenia	53	15	17	1	
Anemia	26	4	10	0	
Thrombocytopenia	23	5	9	0	
Renal					
Creatinine elevation	11	1	10	1	
Creatinine clearance decreased	16	1	18	2	
Clinical					
Eye Disorder					
Conjunctivitis	5	0	1	0	
Gastrointestinal					
Nausea	82	12	77	6	
Vomiting	57	11	50	4	
Stomatitis/Pharyngitis	23	3	6	0	
Anorexia	20	1	14	1	
Diarrhea	17	4	8	0	
Constipation	12	1	7	1	
Dyspepsia	5	1	1	0	
Constitutional Symptoms					
Fatigue	48	10	42	9	
Metabolism and Nutrition					
Dehydration	7	4	1	1	
Neurology					
Neuropathy-sensory	10	0	10	1	
Taste Disturbance	8	0°	6	0^{c}	
Dermatology/Skin					
Rash	16	1	5	0	
Alopecia	11	0°	6	0^{c}	

^a For the purpose of this table a cut off of 5% was used for inclusion of all events where the reporter considered a possible relationship to ALIMTA.

259 ^b Refer to NCI CTC Criteria version 2.0 for each Grade of toxicity except the term "creatinine clearance decreased" which is derived 260 from the CTC term "renal/genitourinary-other". 261

According to NCI CTC Criteria version 2.0, this adverse event term should only be reported as Grade 1 or 2.

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- 263 The following additional adverse reactions were observed in patients with malignant pleural mesothelioma randomly assigned
- 264 to receive ALIMTA plus cisplatin.

265 Incidence 1% to 5%

- 266 *Body as a Whole* — febrile neutropenia, infection, pyrexia
- Dermatology/Skin --- urticaria
 - General Disorders chest pain
 - Metabolism and Nutrition increased AST, increased ALT, increased GGT
 - Renal renal failure

Incidence Less than 1%

- Cardiovascular arrhythmia
 - Neurology motor neuropathy

Effects of Vitamin Supplementations

267 268 269 270 271 272 273 274 275 276 277 Table 8 compares the incidence (percentage of patients) of CTC Grade 3/4 toxicities in patients who received vitamin supplementation with daily folic acid and vitamin B_{12} from the time of enrollment in the study (fully supplemented) with the incidence in patients who never received vitamin supplementation (never supplemented) during the study in the ALIMTA plus cisplatin arm.

Table 8: Selected Grade 3/4 Adverse Events Comparing Fully Supplemented versus Never Supplemented Patients in the ALIMTA plus Cisplatin arm (% incidence)

Alimita plus Cisplatin alim (70 meldence)				
Fully Supplemented Patients	Never Supplemented Patients			
(N=168)	(N=32)			
23	38			
5	9			
11	31			
1	9			
0	6			
4	9			
	Image: Supplemented Patients (N=168) 23 5 11 1 0 4			

^a Refer to NCI CTC criteria for lab and non-laboratory values for each grade of toxicity (Version 2.0).

The following adverse events were greater in the fully supplemented group compared to the never supplemented group: hypertension (11%, 3%), chest pain (8%, 6%), and thrombosis/embolism (6%, 3%).

281 282 283 284 285 286 **Subpopulations**

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No relevant effect for ALIMTA safety due to gender or race was identified, except an increased incidence of rash in men (24%) compared to women (16%).

6.2 **Post-Marketing Experience**

287 288 289 290 291 292 293 294 The following adverse reactions have been identified during post-approval use of ALIMTA. Because these reactions are reported voluntarily from a population of uncertain size, it is not always possible to reliably estimate their frequency or establish a causal relationship to drug exposure.

These reactions have occurred with ALIMTA when used as a single-agent and in combination therapies.

Gastrointestinal — colitis

General Disorders and Administration Site Conditions - edema

Injury, poisoning, and procedural complications — Radiation recall has been reported in patients who have previously 295 received radiotherapy.

296 Respiratory — interstitial pneumonitis

297 **DRUG INTERACTIONS** 7

7.1 Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDs)

298 299 Ibuprofen

300 Although ibuprofen (400 mg four times a day) can decrease the clearance of pemetrexed, it can be administered with 301 ALIMTA in patients with normal renal function (creatinine clearance ≥ 80 mL/min). Caution should be used when administering 302 ibuprofen concurrently with ALIMTA to patients with mild to moderate renal insufficiency (creatinine clearance from 45 to 303 79 mL/min) [see Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)].

304 Other NSAIDs

305 Patients with mild to moderate renal insufficiency should avoid taking NSAIDs with short elimination half-lives for a period 306 of 2 days before, the day of, and 2 days following administration of ALIMTA.

307 In the absence of data regarding potential interaction between ALIMTA and NSAIDs with longer half-lives, all patients taking 308 these NSAIDs should interrupt dosing for at least 5 days before, the day of, and 2 days following ALIMTA administration. If 309 concomitant administration of an NSAID is necessary, patients should be monitored closely for toxicity, especially myelosuppression, 310 renal, and gastrointestinal toxicity.

311 **Nephrotoxic Drugs** 7.2

ALIMTA is primarily eliminated unchanged renally as a result of glomerular filtration and tubular secretion. Concomitant administration of nephrotoxic drugs could result in delayed clearance of ALIMTA. Concomitant administration of substances that are also tubularly secreted (e.g., probenecid) could potentially result in delayed clearance of ALIMTA.

315 8 USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

3168.1Pregnancy317Teratogeni

Teratogenic Effects - Pregnancy Category D [see Warnings and Precautions (5.6)]

Based on its mechanism of action, ALIMTA can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman. There are no adequate and well controlled studies of ALIMTA in pregnant women. Pemetrexed was embryotoxic, fetotoxic, and teratogenic in mice. In mice, repeated intraperitoneal doses of pemetrexed when given during organogenesis caused fetal malformations (incomplete ossification of talus and skull bone; about 1/833rd the recommended intravenous human dose on a mg/m² basis), and cleft palate (1/33rd the recommended intravenous human dose on a mg/m² basis). Embryotoxicity was characterized by increased embryo-fetal deaths and reduced litter sizes. If ALIMTA is used during pregnancy, or if the patient becomes pregnant while taking this drug, the patient should be apprised of the potential hazard to the fetus. Women of childbearing potential should be advised to use effective contraceptive measures to prevent pregnancy during the treatment with ALIMTA.

326 8.3 Nursing Mothers

It is not known whether ALIMTA or its metabolites are excreted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human
 milk, and because of the potential for serious adverse reactions in nursing infants from ALIMTA, a decision should be made to
 discontinue nursing or discontinue the drug, taking into account the importance of the drug for the mother.

3308.4Pediatric Use331The safety and

The safety and effectiveness of ALIMTA in pediatric patients have not been established.

332 8.5 Geriatric Use

ALIMTA is known to be substantially excreted by the kidney, and the risk of adverse reactions to this drug may be greater in patients with impaired renal function. Because elderly patients are more likely to have decreased renal function, care should be taken in dose selection. Renal function monitoring is recommended with administration of ALIMTA. No dose reductions other than those recommended for all patients are necessary for patients 65 years of age or older *[see Dosage and Administration (2.4)]*.

recommended for all patients are necessary for patients 65 years of age or older [see Dosage and Administration (2.4)].
 In the initial treatment non-small cell lung cancer clinical trial, 37.7% of patients treated with ALIMTA plus cisplatin were
 ≥65 years and Grade 3/4 neutropenia was greater as compared to patients <65 years (19.9% versus 12.2%). For patients <65 years, the
 HR for overall survival was 0.96 (95% CI: 0.83, 1.10) and for patients ≥65 years the HR was 0.88 (95% CI: 0.74, 1.06) in the intent to treat population.

In the maintenance non-small cell lung cancer trial 33.3% of patients treated with ALIMTA were \geq 65 years and no differences were seen in Grade 3/4 adverse reactions as compared to patients <65 years. For patients <65 years, the HR for overall survival was 0.74 (95% CI: 0.58, 0.93) and for patients \geq 65 years the HR was 0.88 (95% CI: 0.65, 1.21) in the intent to treat population.

In the non-small cell lung cancer trial after prior chemotherapy, 29.7% patients treated with ALIMTA were \geq 65 years and Grade 3/4 hypertension was greater as compared to patients <65 years. For patients <65 years, the HR for overall survival was 0.95 (95% CI: 0.76, 1.19), and for patients \geq 65 years the HR was 1.15 (95% CI: 0.79, 1.68) in the intent to treat population.

The mesothelioma trial included 36.7% patients treated with ALIMTA plus cisplatin that were \geq 65 years, and Grade 3/4 fatigue, leukopenia, neutropenia, and thrombocytopenia were greater as compared to patients <65 years. For patients <65 years, the HR for overall survival was 0.71(95% CI: 0.53, 0.96) and for patients \geq 65 years, the HR was 0.85 (95% CI: 0.59, 1.22) in the intent to treat population.

8.6 Patients with Hepatic Impairment

There was no effect of elevated AST, ALT, or total bilirubin on the pharmacokinetics of pemetrexed [see Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)].

Dose adjustments based on hepatic impairment experienced during treatment with ALIMTA are provided in Table 2 [see Dosage and Administration (2.4)].

356 8.7 Patients with Renal Impairment

ALIMTA is known to be primarily excreted by the kidneys. Decreased renal function will result in reduced clearance and greater exposure (AUC) to ALIMTA compared with patients with normal renal function [see Dosage and Administration (2.4) and *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*]. Cisplatin coadministration with ALIMTA has not been studied in patients with moderate renal impairment.

8.8 Gender

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In the initial treatment non-small cell lung cancer trial, 70% of patients were males and 30% females. For males the HR for
overall survival was 0.97 (95% CI: 0.85, 1.10) and for females the HR was 0.86 (95% CI: 0.70, 1.06) in the intent to treat population.
In the maintenance non-small cell lung cancer trial, 73% of patients were males and 27% females. For males the HR for
overall survival was 0.78 (95% CI: 0.63, 0.96) and for females the HR was 0.83 (95% CI: 0.56, 1.21) in the intent to treat population.

In the non-small cell lung cancer trial after prior chemotherapy, 72% of patients were males and 28% females. For males the HR for overall survival was 0.95 (95% CI: 0.76, 1.19) and for females the HR was 1.28 (95% CI: 0.86, 1.91) in the intent to treat population. 369 In the mesothelioma trial, 82% of patients were males and 18% females. For males the HR for overall survival was 0.85 370

(95% CI: 0.66, 1.09) and for females the HR was 0.48 (95% CI: 0.27, 0.85) in the intent to treat population.

371 8.9 Race

In the initial treatment non-small cell lung cancer trial, 78% of patients were Caucasians, 13% East/Southeast Asians, and 9% others. For Caucasians, the HR for overall survival was 0.92 (95% CI: 0.82, 1.04), for East/Southeast Asians the HR was 0.86 (95% CI: 0.61, 1.21), and for others the HR was 1.24 (95% CI: 0.84, 1.84) in the intent to treat population.

372 373 374 375 376 In the maintenance non-small cell lung cancer trial, 65% of patients were Caucasians, 23% East Asian, and 12% others. For Caucasians the HR for overall survival was 0.77 (95% CI: 0.62, 0.97), for East Asians was 1.05 (95% CI: 0.70, 1.59) and for others 377 the HR was 0.46 (95% CI: 0.26, 0.79) in the intent to treat population.

378 379 In the non-small cell lung cancer trial after prior chemotherapy, 71% of patients were Caucasians and 29% others. For Caucasians the HR for overall survival was 0.91 (95% CI: 0.73, 1.15) and for others the HR was 1.27 (95% CI: 0.87, 1.87) in the 380 intent to treat population.

381 In the mesothelioma trial, 92% of patients were Caucasians and 8% others. For Caucasians, the HR for overall survival was 382 0.77 (95% CI: 0.61, 0.97) and for others the HR was 0.86 (95% CI: 0.39, 1.90) in the intent to treat population.

383 384 10**OVERDOSAGE**

There have been few cases of ALIMTA overdose. Reported toxicities included neutropenia, anemia, thrombocytopenia, 385 mucositis, and rash. Anticipated complications of overdose include bone marrow suppression as manifested by neutropenia, 386 thrombocytopenia, and anemia. In addition, infection with or without fever, diarrhea, and mucositis may be seen. If an overdose 387 occurs, general supportive measures should be instituted as deemed necessary by the treating physician.

388 In clinical trials, leucovorin was permitted for CTC Grade 4 leukopenia lasting \geq 3 days, CTC Grade 4 neutropenia lasting 389 \geq 3 days, and immediately for CTC Grade 4 thrombocytopenia, bleeding associated with Grade 3 thrombocytopenia, or Grade 3 390 or 4 mucositis. The following intravenous doses and schedules of leucovorin were recommended for intravenous use: 100 mg/m^2 , 391 intravenously once, followed by leucovorin, 50 mg/m², intravenously every 6 hours for 8 days.

392 The ability of ALIMTA to be dialyzed is unknown.

393 11 DESCRIPTION

394 Pemetrexed disodium heptahydrate has the chemical name L-Glutamic acid, N-[4-[2-(2-amino-4,7-dihydro-4-oxo-1H-395 pyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidin-5-yl)ethyl]benzoyl]-, disodium salt, heptahydrate. It is a white to almost-white solid with a molecular formula 396 of $C_{20}H_{19}N_5Na_2O_6 \cdot 7H_2O$ and a molecular weight of 597.49. The structural formula is as follows:



397 398 ALIMTA is supplied as a sterile lyophilized powder for intravenous infusion available in single-dose vials. The product is a 399 white to either light yellow or green-yellow lyophilized solid. Each 100-mg or 500-mg vial of ALIMTA contains pemetrexed 400disodium equivalent to 100 mg pemetrexed and 106 mg mannitol or 500 mg pemetrexed and 500 mg mannitol, respectively. 401Hydrochloric acid and/or sodium hydroxide may have been added to adjust pH.

402 12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

403 12.1 **Mechanism of Action**

404 ALIMTA, pemetrexed for injection, is a folate analog metabolic inhibitor that exerts its action by disrupting folate-dependent 405 metabolic processes essential for cell replication. In vitro studies have shown that pemetrexed inhibits thymidylate synthase (TS), 406 dihydrofolate reductase (DHFR), and glycinamide ribonucleotide formyltransferase (GARFT), which are folate-dependent enzymes 407 involved in the de novo biosynthesis of thymidine and purine nucleotides. Pemetrexed is taken into cells by membrane carriers such as 408 the reduced folate carrier and membrane folate binding protein transport systems. Once in the cell, pemetrexed is converted to 409 polyglutamate forms by the enzyme folylpolyglutamate synthetase. The polyglutamate forms are retained in cells and are inhibitors of 410TS and GARFT. Polyglutamation is a time- and concentration-dependent process that occurs in tumor cells and, is thought to occur to 411 a lesser extent, in normal tissues. Polyglutamated metabolites are thought to have an increased intracellular half-life resulting in 412 prolonged drug action in malignant cells.

413 12.2 Pharmacodynamics

414 Preclinical studies have shown that pemetrexed inhibits the in vitro growth of mesothelioma cell lines (MSTO-211H, 415 NCI-H2052). Studies with the MSTO-211H mesothelioma cell line showed synergistic effects when pemetrexed was combined 416 concurrently with cisplatin.

417 Absolute neutrophil counts (ANC) following single-agent administration of ALIMTA to patients not receiving folic acid and 418vitamin B₁₂ supplementation were characterized using population pharmacodynamic analyses. Severity of hematologic toxicity, as 419 measured by the depth of the ANC nadir, correlates with the systemic exposure, or area under the curve (AUC) of pemetrexed. It was 420 also observed that lower ANC nadirs occurred in patients with elevated baseline cystathionine or homocysteine concentrations. The 421 levels of these substances can be reduced by folic acid and vitamin B_{12} supplementation. There is no cumulative effect of pemetrexed 422 exposure on ANC nadir over multiple treatment cycles. 423

Time to ANC nadir with pemetrexed systemic exposure (AUC), varied between 8 to 9.6 days over a range of exposures from 424 38.3 to 316.8 mcg•hr/mL. Return to baseline ANC occurred 4.2 to 7.5 days after the nadir over the same range of exposures.

425 12.3 **Pharmacokinetics**

426 Absorption 427

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The pharmacokinetics of ALIMTA administered as a single-agent in doses ranging from 0.2 to 838 mg/m^2 infused over a 10-minute period have been evaluated in 426 cancer patients with a variety of solid tumors. Pemetrexed total systemic exposure (AUC) and maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) increase proportionally with dose. The pharmacokinetics of pemetrexed 430 do not change over multiple treatment cycles.

431 Distribution 432

Pemetrexed has a steady-state volume of distribution of 16.1 liters. In vitro studies indicate that pemetrexed is approximately 81% bound to plasma proteins. Binding is not affected by degree of renal impairment.

Metabolism and Excretion

Pemetrexed is not metabolized to an appreciable extent and is primarily eliminated in the urine, with 70% to 90% of the dose recovered unchanged within the first 24 hours following administration. The clearance decreases, and exposure (AUC) increases, as renal function decreases. The total systemic clearance of pemetrexed is 91.8 mL/min and the elimination half-life of pemetrexed is 3.5 hours in patients with normal renal function (creatinine clearance of 90 mL/min).

The pharmacokinetics of pemetrexed in special populations were examined in about 400 patients in controlled and single arm studies.

Effect of Age

No effect of age on the pharmacokinetics of pemetrexed was observed over a range of 26 to 80 years.

Effect of Gender

The pharmacokinetics of pemetrexed were not different in male and female patients.

Effect of Race

The pharmacokinetics of pemetrexed were similar in Caucasians and patients of African descent. Insufficient data are available to compare pharmacokinetics for other ethnic groups.

448 Effect of Hepatic Insufficiency

449 There was no effect of elevated AST, ALT, or total bilirubin on the pharmacokinetics of pemetrexed. However, studies of 450 hepatically impaired patients have not been conducted [see Dosage and Administration (2.4) and Use in Specific Populations (8.6)].

451 Effect of Renal Insufficiency 452

Pharmacokinetic analyses of pemetrexed included 127 patients with reduced renal function. Plasma clearance of pemetrexed 453 decreases as renal function decreases, with a resultant increase in systemic exposure. Patients with creatinine clearances of 45, 50, and 454 80 mL/min had 65%, 54%, and 13% increases, respectively in pemetrexed total systemic exposure (AUC) compared to patients with 455 creatinine clearance of 100 mL/min [see Warnings and Precautions (5.4) and Dosage and Administration (2.4)]. 456

Pediatric

Pediatric patients were not included in clinical trials.

458 Effect of Ibuprofen

459 Ibuprofen doses of 400 mg four times a day reduce pemetrexed's clearance by about 20% (and increase AUC by 20%) in 460 patients with normal renal function. The effect of greater doses of ibuprofen on pemetrexed pharmacokinetics is unknown [see Drug 461 Interactions (7.1)].

462 **Effect of Aspirin** 463

Aspirin, administered in low to moderate doses (325 mg every 6 hours), does not affect the pharmacokinetics of pemetrexed. The effect of greater doses of aspirin on pemetrexed pharmacokinetics is unknown.

465 Effect of Cisplatin

Cisplatin does not affect the pharmacokinetics of pemetrexed and the pharmacokinetics of total platinum are unaltered by pemetrexed.

468 **Effect of Vitamins**

Coadministration of oral folic acid or intramuscular vitamin B₁₂ does not affect the pharmacokinetics of pemetrexed.

470 **Drugs Metabolized by Cytochrome P450 Enzymes**

471 Results from in vitro studies with human liver microsomes predict that pemetrexed would not cause clinically significant 472 inhibition of metabolic clearance of drugs metabolized by CYP3A, CYP2D6, CYP2C9, and CYP1A2.

473 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY 13

474 13.1 Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

475 No carcinogenicity studies have been conducted with pemetrexed. Pemetrexed was clastogenic in the in vivo micronucleus 476 assay in mouse bone marrow but was not mutagenic in multiple in vitro tests (Ames assay, CHO cell assay). Pemetrexed administered

477 at i.v. doses of 0.1 mg/kg/day or greater to male mice (about 1/1666 the recommended human dose on a mg/m² basis) resulted in 478 reduced fertility, hypospermia, and testicular atrophy.

479 14 **CLINICAL STUDIES**

characteristics were well balanced.

480 14.1 Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC) - Combination with Cisplatin

481 A multi-center, randomized, open-label study in 1725 chemonaive patients with Stage IIIb/IV NSCLC was conducted to 482 compare the overall survival following treatment with ALIMTA in combination with cisplatin (AC) versus generitabine in 483 combination with cisplatin (GC). ALIMTA was administered intravenously over 10 minutes at a dose of 500 mg/m² with cisplatin 484 administered intravenously at a dose of 75 mg/m² after ALIMTA administration, on Day 1 of each 21-day cycle. Gemcitabine was 485 administered at a dose of 1250 mg/m² on Day 1 and Day 8, and cisplatin was administered intravenously at a dose of 75 mg/m² after 486 administration of gemcitabine, on Day 1 of each 21-day cycle. Treatment was administered up to a total of 6 cycles, and patients in 487 both treatment arms received folic acid, vitamin B_{12} , and dexame thas one [see Dosage and Administration (2.3)]. Patient demographics of the intent to treat (ITT) population are shown in Table 9. The demographics and disease

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Table 9: First-Line Therapy: Summary of Patient Characteristics in Study of NSCLC

Patient characteristic	ALIMTA plus Cisplatin (AC) (N=862)	Gemcitabine plus Cisplatin (GC) (N=863)
Age (yrs)		
Median (range)	61.1 (28.8-83.2)	61.0 (26.4-79.4)
Gender		
Male/Female	70.2%/29.8%	70.1%/29.9%
Origin		
Caucasian	669 (77.6%)	680 (78.8%)
Hispanic	27 (3.1%)	23 (2.7%)
Asian	146 (16.9%)	141 (16.3%)
African descent	18 (2.1%)	18 (2.1%)
Stage at Entry		
IIIb/IV	23.8%/76.2%	24.3%/75.7%
Histology		
Nonsquamous NSCLC ^a	618 (71.7%)	634 (73.5%)
Adenocarcinoma	436 (50.6%)	411 (47.6%)
Large cell	76 (8.8%)	77 (8.9%)
Other ^b	106 (12.3%)	146 (16.9%)
Squamous	244 (28.3%)	229 (26.5%)
ECOG PS ^{c,d}		
0/1	35.4%/64.6%	35.6%/64.3%
Smoking History ^e		
Ever/never smoker	83.1%/16.9%	83.9%/16.1%

Includes adenocarcinoma, large cell, and other histologies except those with squamous cell type.

The subgroup of "other" represents patients with a primary diagnosis of NSCLC whose disease did not clearly qualify as adenocarcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, or large cell carcinoma.

494 Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group Performance Status.

495 ECOG PS was not reported for all randomized patients. Percentages are representative of N=861 for the ALIMTA plus cisplatin 496 arm, and N=861 for the gemcitabine plus cisplatin arm.

497 Smoking history was collected for 88% of randomized patients (N=757 for the ALIMTA plus cisplatin arm and N=759 for the 498 gemcitabine plus cisplatin arm). 499

500 Patients received a median of 5 cycles of treatment in both study arms. Patients treated with ALIMTA plus cisplatin received a 501 relative dose intensity of 94.8% of the protocol-specified ALIMTA dose intensity and 95.0% of the protocol-specified cisplatin dose 502 intensity. Patients treated with gemcitabine plus cisplatin received a relative dose intensity of 85.8% of the protocol-specified 503 gemcitabine dose intensity and 93.5% of the protocol-specified cisplatin dose intensity. 504

The primary endpoint in this study was overall survival. The median survival time was 10.3 months in the ALIMTA plus cisplatin treatment arm and 10.3 months in the gemcitabine plus cisplatin arm, with an adjusted hazard ratio of 0.94.

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Table 10: First-Line Therapy: Efficacy in NSCLC - ITT Population

	ALIMTA plus Cisplatin	Gemcitabine plus Cisplatin
	(N=862)	(N=863)
Median overall survival (95% CI)	10.3 mos (9.8-11.2)	10.3 mos (9.6-10.9)
Adjusted hazard ratio (HR) ^{a,b} (95% CI)	0.94 (0.5	84-1.05)
Median progression-free survival (95% CI)	4.8 mos (4.6-5.3)	5.1 mos (4.6-5.5)

Adjusted hazard ratio (HR) ^{a,b} (95% CI)	1.04 (0.94-1.15)		
Overall response rate (95% CI)	27.1% (24.2-30.1)	24.7% (21.8-27.6)	

^a Adjusted for gender, stage, basis of diagnosis, and performance status.

^b A HR that is less than 1.0 indicates that survival is better in the AC arm than in the GC arm. Alternatively, a HR that is greater than 1.0 indicates survival is better in the GC arm than in the AC arm.

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Figure 1: Kaplan-Meier Curves for Overall Survival ALIMTA plus Cisplatin (AC) versus Gemcitabine plus Cisplatin (GC) in
NSCLC - ITT Population.

A pre-specified analysis of the impact of NSCLC histology on overall survival was examined. Clinically relevant differences in survival according to histology were observed and are shown in Table 11. This difference in treatment effect for ALIMTA based on histology demonstrating a lack of efficacy in squamous cell histology was also observed in the single-agent, second-line study and the maintenance study [see Clinical Studies (14.2, 14.3)].

Histology Subgroup	Median Overall Survival in Months (95% CI)				Unadjusted Hazard	Adjusted Hazard
msology subgroup	ALIMTA plu	ıs Cisplatin	Gemcitabine plus Cisplatin		Ratio (HR) ^{a,b} (95% CI)	Ratio (HR) ^{a,b,c} (95% CI)
Nonsquamous NSCLC ^d	11.0	N=618	10.1	N=634	0.84	0.84
(N=1252)	(10.1-12.5)		(9.3-10.9)		(0.74-0.96)	(0.74-0.96)
Adenocarcinoma	12.6	N=436	10.9	N=411	0.84	0.84
(N=847)	(10.7-13.6)		(10.2-11.9)		(0.71-0.98)	(0.71-0.99)
Large Cell	10.4	N=76	6.7	N=77	0.68	0.67
(N=153)	(8.6-14.1)		(5.5-9.0)		(0.48 - 0.97)	(0.48-0.96)
Other ^e	8.6	N=106	9.2	N=146	1.12	1.08
(N=252)	(6.8-10.2)		(8.1-10.6)		(0.84 - 1.49)	(0.81-1.45)
Squamous Cell	9.4	N=244	10.8	N=229	1.22	1.23
(N=473)	(8.4-10.2)		(9.5-12.1)		(0.99-1.50)	(1.00-1.51)

Table 11: First-Line Therapy: Overall Survival in NSCLC Histologic Subgroups

^a A HR that is less than 1.0 indicates that survival is better in the AC arm than in the GC arm. Alternatively, a HR that is greater than 1.0 indicates survival is better in the GC arm than in the AC arm.

^b Unadjusted for multiple comparisons.

523 ^c HRs adjusted for ECOG PS, gender, disease stage, and basis for pathological diagnosis (histopathological/cytopathological).

^d Includes adenocarcinoma, large cell, and other histologies except those with squamous cell type.

^e The subgroup of "other" represents patients with a primary diagnosis of NSCLC whose disease did not clearly qualify as adenocarcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, or large cell carcinoma.



Figure 2: Kaplan-Meier Curves for Overall Survival ALIMTA plus Cisplatin (AC) versus Gemcitabine plus Cisplatin (GC) in NSCLC - Nonsquamous NSCLC and Squamous Cell NSCLC.

14.2 Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer - Maintenance

A multi-center, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study was conducted in 663 patients with Stage IIIb/IV NSCLC who did not progress after four cycles of platinum-based chemotherapy. Patients who did not progress were randomized 2:1 to receive ALIMTA or placebo immediately following platinum-based chemotherapy. ALIMTA was administered intravenously over 10 minutes at a dose of 500 mg/m² on Day 1 of each 21-day cycle, until disease progression. Patients in both study arms received folic acid, vitamin B₁₂, and dexamethasone *[see Dosage and Administration (2.3)]*.

The study was designed to demonstrate superior progression-free survival and overall survival of ALIMTA over placebo. Progression-free survival (PFS) was assessed by independent review. Patient characteristics of the intent to treat (ITT) population are shown in Table 12. The demographics and baseline disease characteristics were well balanced between study arms.

Table 12. Maintenance Therapy. Summary of Fatient C	maracteristics in Study or .		
Datient abarrateristic	ALIMTA		
Patient characteristic	(N=441)	(N=222)	
Age (yrs)			
Median (range)	60.6 (25.6-82.6)	60.4 (35.4-78.5)	
Gender			
Male/Female	73.0%/27.0%	72.5%/27.5%	
Ethnic Origin			
Caucasian	279 (63.3%)	149 (67.1%)	
East Asian	104 (23.6%)	50 (22.5%)	
Other	58 (13.2%)	23 (10.4%)	
Stage at Entry ^a			
IIIb/IV	18.0%/82.0%	21.2%/78.8%	
Histology (%)			
Nonsquamous NSCLC ^b	325 (73.7%)	156 (70.3%)	
Adenocarcinoma	222 (50.3%)	106 (47.7%)	
Large cell	10 (2.3%)	10 (4.5%)	
Other ^c	93 (21.1%)	40 (18.0%)	
Squamous	116 (26.3%)	66 (29.7%)	
ECOG PS ^d			
0/1	40.1%/59.9%	38.3%/61.7%	
Smoking History ^e			
Ever/never smoker	74.1%/25.9%	71.5%/28.5%	
Fime from start of induction therapy to study randomization (months)			
Median (range)	3.25 (1.6-4.8)	3.29 (2.7-5.1)	
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^a Stage at Entry was not reported for all randomized patients. Percentages are representative of N=440 for the ALIMTA arm and N=222 for the placebo arm.

^b Includes patients with adenocarcinoma, large cell, and other histologic diagnoses.

^c The subgroup of "Other" represents patients with a primary diagnosis of NSCLC whose disease did not clearly qualify as adenocarcinoma, large cell carcinoma, or squamous cell carcinoma.

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Table 12: Maintenance Therapy: Summary of Patient Characteristics in Study of NSCLC

- 549 Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group Performance Status (ECOG PS) was not reported for all randomized patients. Percentages are 550 representative of N=439 for the ALIMTA arm, and N=222 for the placebo arm.
- 551 Smoking history was not reported for all randomized patients. Percentages are representative of N=437 for the ALIMTA arm and 552 N=221 for the placebo arm.

Patients received a median of 5 cycles of ALIMTA and 3.5 cycles of placebo. Patients randomized to ALIMTA received a relative dose intensity of 95.7%. A total of 213 patients (48.3%) completed ≥ 6 cycles and a total of 98 patients (22.6%) completed ≥ 10 cycles of treatment with ALIMTA.

553 554 555 556 556 557 558 In the overall study population, ALIMTA was statistically superior to placebo in terms of overall survival (OS) (median 13.4 months versus 10.6 months, HR=0.79 (95% CI: 0.65-0.95), p-value=0.012) and PFS (median 4.0 months versus 2.0 months, 559 HR=0.60 (95% CI: 0.49-0.73), p-value<0.00001). A difference in treatment outcomes was observed according to histologic 560 561 classification. For the population of patients with nonsquamous NSCLC, ALIMTA was superior to placebo for OS (median 15.5 months versus 10.3 months, HR=0.70 (95% CI: 0.56-0.88)) and PFS (median 4.4 months versus 1.8 months, HR=0.47 (95% CI: 562 0.37-0.60)). For the population of patients with squamous NSCLC, ALIMTA did not improve OS compared to placebo (median 563 9.9 months versus 10.8 months, HR=1.07 (95% CI: 0.77-1.50)) or PFS (median 2.4 months versus 2.5 months, HR=1.03 (95% CI: 564 0.71-1.49)). This difference in treatment effect for ALIMTA based on histology demonstrating lack of benefit in squamous cell 565 histology was also observed in the first-line and second line studies. [see Clinical Studies (14.1, 14.3)]

566 Efficacy results for the overall patient population are presented in Table 13 and Figure 3, and efficacy results by pre-specified 567 histologic subgroups are presented in Table 14 and Figure 4, below. 568

Table 13: Maintenance Therapy: Efficacy of ALIMTA versus Placebo in NSCLC - ITT Population

Efficacy Parameter ^{a,b}		ALIMTA (N=441)	Placebo (N=222)	
Median overall survival ^c (95% CI)	13.	4 mos (11.9-15.9)	10.6 mos (8.7-12.0)	
Hazard ratio (HR) ^c (95% CI)		0.79 (0.65-0.95)		
p-value		p=0.012		
Median progression-free survival (95% CI)	4	.0 mos (3.1-4.4)	2.0 mos (1.5-2.8)	
Hazard ratio (HR) ^c (95% CI)		0.60 (0.49-0.73)		
p-value		n<0.00001		

^a PFS and OS were calculated from time of randomization, after completion of 4 cycles of induction platinum-based chemotherapy. 570

571 ^b Values for PFS given based on independent review (ALIMTA N=387, Placebo N=194).

572 Unadjusted hazard ratios are provided. A HR <1.0 indicates that the result is better in the ALIMTA arm than in the placebo arm.

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Table 14: Maintenance Therapy: Efficacy in NSCLC by Histologic Subgroups^a

	Overall	Survival	Progression-F	Tree Survival ^b			
	ALIMTA Placebo		ALIMTA	Placebo			
	Median (months)	Median (months)	Median (months)	Median (months)			
	HR ^c (95	5% CI)	HR ^c (95	5% CI)			
Nonsquamous NSCLC ^d	15.5	10.3	4.4	1.8			
N=481	0.70 (0.56-0.88)		0.47 (0.3	37-0.60)			
Adenocarcinoma	16.8	11.5	4.6	2.7			
N=328	0.73 (0.5	56-0.96)	0.51 (0.38-0.68)				
Large cell carcinoma	8.4	7.9	4.5	1.5			
N=20	0.98 (0.3	36-2.65)	0.40 (0.12-1.29)				
Other ^e	11.3	7.7	4.1	1.6			
N=133	0.61 (0.40-0.94)		0.61 (0.40-0.94)		0.61 (0.40-0.94) 0.44 (0.28-0.68)		28-0.68)
Squamous cell	9.9 10.8		2.4	2.5			
N=182	1.07 (0.77-1.50)		1.07 (0.77-1.50) 1.03 (0.71-1.49)				

575 576 ^a PFS and OS were calculated from time of randomization, after completion of 4 cycles of induction platinum-based chemotherapy. All results unadjusted for multiple comparisons.

^b Values for PFS are given based on independent review (ALIMTA N=387, Placebo N=194).

578 Unadjusted hazard ratios are provided. A HR <1.0 indicates that the result is better in the ALIMTA arm than in the placebo arm. A 579 HR >1.0 indicates that the result is better in the placebo arm than in the ALIMTA arm.

580 Includes patients with adenocarcinoma, large cell carcinoma, and other histology.

581 The subgroup of "Other" represents patients with a primary diagnosis of NSCLC whose disease did not clearly qualify as 582 adenocarcinoma, large cell carcinoma, or squamous cell carcinoma.

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Figure 3: Kaplan-Meier Curve for Overall Survival ALIMTA (A) versus Placebo (P) in NSCLC - ITT Population.



Figure 4: Kaplan-Meier Curves for Overall Survival ALIMTA versus Placebo in NSCLC - Nonsquamous NSCLC and

Squamous Cell NSCLC.

14.3 Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer - After Prior Chemotherapy

A multi-center, randomized, open label study was conducted in patients with Stage III or IV NSCLC after prior chemotherapy to compare the overall survival following treatment with ALIMTA versus docetaxel. ALIMTA was administered intravenously over 10 minutes at a dose of 500 mg/m^2 and docetaxel was administered at 75 mg/m^2 as a 1-hour intravenous infusion. Both drugs were given on Day 1 of each 21-day cycle. All patients treated with ALIMTA received vitamin supplementation with folic acid and vitamin B₁₂. The study was intended to show either an overall survival superiority or non-inferiority of ALIMTA to docetaxel. Patient demographics of the intent to treat (ITT) population are shown in Table 15.

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Table 15: Second-Line Therapy: Summary of Patient Characteristics in NSCLC Study

	ALIMTA	Docetaxel
Patient characteristic	(N=283)	(N=288)
Age (yrs)		
Median (range)	59 (22-81)	57 (28-87)
Gender (%)		
Male/Female	68.6/31.4	75.3/24.7
Stage at Entry (%)		

III/IV	25.1/74.9	25.3/74.7
Diagnosis/Histology (%)		
Adenocarcinoma	154 (54.4)	142 (49.3)
Squamous	78 (27.6)	94 (32.6)
Bronchoalveolar	4 (1.4)	1 (0.3)
Other	47 (16.6)	51 (17.7)
Performance Status (%) ^a		
0-1	234 (88.6)	240 (87.6)
2	30 (11.4)	34 (12.4)
^a Performance status was not reported for all randomi	zed patients. Percentages are representative of N=	=264 for the ALIMTA arm and

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Table 16: Efficacy of ALIMTA versus Docetaxel in Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer - ITT Population

arm and 7.9 months in the docetaxel arm, with a hazard ratio of 0.99 (see Table 16). The study did not show an overall survival

The primary endpoint in this study was overall survival. The median survival time was 8.3 months in the ALIMTA treatment

	ALIMTA	Docetaxel	
	(N=283)	(N=288)	
Median overall survival (95% CI)	8.3 mos (7.0-9.4)	7.9 mos (6.3-9.2)	
Hazard ratio (HR) (95% CI)	0.99 (0.82-1.20)		
Median progression-free survival (95% CI)	2.9 mos (2.4-3.1) 2.9 mos (2.7-3.4		
Hazard ratio (HR) (95% CI)	0.97 (0.82-1.16)		
Overall response rate (95% CI)	8.5% (5.2-11.7)	8.3% (5.1-11.5)	

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A retrospective analysis of the impact of NSCLC histology on overall survival was examined. Clinically relevant differences in survival according to histology were observed and are shown in Table 17. This difference in treatment effect for ALIMTA based on histology demonstrating a lack of efficacy in squamous cell histology was also observed in the first-line combination study and in the maintenance study [see Clinical Studies (14.1, 14.2)].

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Table 17: Second Line Therapy: Overall Survival of ALIMTA versus Docetaxel in NSCLC by Histologic Subgroups

Histology Subgroup	Median Overall Survival in Months (95% CI)				Unadjusted Hazard	Adjusted Hazard
Histology Subgroup	ALIN	ИТА	Docetaxel		Ratio (HR) ^{a,b} (95% CI)	Ratio (HR) ^{a,b,c} (95% CI)
Nonsquamous NSCLC ^d (N=399)	9.3 (7 8-9 7)	N=205	8.0 (6 3-9 3)	N=194	0.89 (0.71-1.13)	0.78
Adenocarcinoma (N=301)	9.0 (7.6-9.6)	N=158	9.2 (7.5-11.3)	N=143	$\frac{(0.71\ 1.13)}{1.09}$ (0.83-1.44)	$\begin{array}{c} (0.01\ 1.00) \\ 0.92 \\ (0.69-1.22) \end{array}$
Large Cell (N=47)	12.8 (5.8-14.0)	N=18	4.5 (2.3-9.1)	N=29	0.38 (0.18-0.78)	0.27 (0.11-0.63)
Other ^e (N=51)	9.4 (6.0-10.1)	N=29	7.9 (4.0-8.9)	N=22	0.62 (0.32-1.23)	0.57 (0.27-1.20)
Squamous Cell (N=172)	6.2 (4.9-8.0)	N=78	7.4 (5.6-9.5)	N=94	1.32 (0.93-1.86)	1.56 (1.08-2.26)

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^a A HR that is less than 1.0 indicates that survival is better in the ALIMTA arm than in the docetaxel arm. Alternatively, a HR that is greater than 1.0 indicates survival is better in the docetaxel arm than in the ALIMTA arm.

618 ^b Unadjusted for multiple comparisons.

N=274 for the docetaxel arm.

superiority of ALIMTA.

^c HRs adjusted for ECOG PS, time since prior chemotherapy, disease stage, and gender.

^d Includes adenocarcinoma, large cell, and other histologies except those with squamous cell type.

621 ^e The subgroup of "other" represents patients with a primary diagnosis of NSCLC whose disease did not clearly qualify as
 622 adenocarcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, or large cell carcinoma.

624 14.4 Malignant Pleural Mesothelioma

A multi-center, randomized, single-blind study in 448 chemonaive patients with malignant pleural mesothelioma (MPM) compared survival in patients treated with ALIMTA in combination with cisplatin to survival in patients receiving cisplatin alone. ALIMTA was administered intravenously over 10 minutes at a dose of 500 mg/m² and cisplatin was administered intravenously over 2 hours at a dose of 75 mg/m² beginning approximately 30 minutes after the end of administration of ALIMTA. Both drugs were

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629 given on Day 1 of each 21-day cycle. After 117 patients were treated, white cell and GI toxicity led to a change in protocol whereby 630 all patients were given folic acid and vitamin B₁₂ supplementation. 631

The primary analysis of this study was performed on the population of all patients randomly assigned to treatment who received study drug (randomized and treated). An analysis was also performed on patients who received folic acid and vitamin B_{12} supplementation during the entire course of study therapy (fully supplemented), as supplementation is recommended *[see Dosage and* Administration (2.3)]. Results in all patients and those fully supplemented were similar. Patient demographics are shown in Table 18. Table 18: Summary of Patient Characteristics in MPM Study

	Randomized and	Treated Patients	Fully Supplen	Fully Supplemented Patients	
Patient characteristic	ALIMTA/cis	Cisplatin	ALIMTA/cis	Cisplatin	
	(N=226)	(N=222)	(N=168)	(N=163)	
Age (yrs)		• • • •	· · · ·	, ,	
Median (range)	61 (29-85)	60 (19-84)	60 (29-85)	60 (19-82)	
Gender (%)		•			
Male	184 (81.4)	181 (81.5)	136 (81.0)	134 (82.2)	
Female	42 (18.6)	41 (18.5)	32 (19.0)	29 (17.8)	
Origin (%)					
Caucasian	204 (90.3)	206 (92.8)	150 (89.3)	153 (93.9)	
Hispanic	11 (4.9)	12 (5.4)	10 (6.0)	7 (4.3)	
Asian	10 (4.4)	4 (1.9)	7 (4.2)	3 (1.8)	
African descent	1 (0.4)	0	1 (0.6)	0	
Stage at Entry (%)					
Ι	16 (7.1)	14 (6.3)	15 (8.9)	12 (7.4)	
II	35 (15.6)	33 (15.0)	27 (16.2)	27 (16.8)	
III	73 (32.4)	68 (30.6)	51 (30.5)	49 (30.4)	
IV	101 (44.9)	105 (47.2)	74 (44.3)	73 (45.3)	
Unspecified	1 (0.4)	2 (0.9)	1 (0.6)	2 (1.2)	
Diagnosis/Histology ^a (%)					
Epithelial	154 (68.1)	152 (68.5)	117 (69.6)	113 (69.3)	
Mixed	37 (16.4)	36 (16.2)	25 (14.9)	25 (15.3)	
Sarcomatoid	18 (8.0)	25 (11.3)	14 (8.3)	17 (10.4)	
Other	17 (7.5)	9 (4.1)	12 (7.1)	8 (4.9)	
Baseline KPS ^b (%)					
70-80	109 (48.2)	97 (43.7)	83 (49.4)	69 (42.3)	
90-100	117 (51.8)	125 (56.3)	85 (50.6)	94 (57.7)	

^a Only 67% of the patients had the histologic diagnosis of malignant mesothelioma confirmed by independent review.

supplementation status and those patients receiving vitamin supplementation from the time of enrollment in the trial.

b Karnofsky Performance Scale.

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Table 19: Efficacy of ALIMTA plus Cisplatin versus Cisplatin in Malignant Pleural Mesothelioma

Table 19 and Figure 5 summarize the survival results for all randomized and treated patients regardless of vitamin

	Randomized and	Treated Patients	Fully Supplemented Patients		
Efficacy Parameter	ALIMTA/cis	Cisplatin	ALIMTA/cis	Cisplatin	
	(N=226)	(N=222)	(N=168)	(N=163)	
Median overall survival	12.1 mos	9.3 mos	13.3 mos	10.0 mos	
(95% CI)	(10.0-14.4)	(7.8-10.7)	(11.4-14.9)	(8.4-11.9)	
Hazard ratio	0.77 0.75				
Log rank p-value ^a	0.020		0.03	51	
^a p-value refers to comparison between arms.					

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647 Similar results were seen in the analysis of patients (N=303) with confirmed histologic diagnosis of malignant pleural 648 mesothelioma. There were too few non-white patients to assess possible ethnic differences. The effect in women (median survival 649 15.7 months with the combination versus 7.5 months on cisplatin alone), however, was larger than the effect in males (median survival 650 11 versus 9.4 respectively). As with any exploratory analysis, it is not clear whether this difference is real or is a chance finding.



Figure 5: Kaplan-Meier Estimates of Survival Time for ALIMTA plus Cisplatin and Cisplatin Alone in all Randomized and Treated Patients.

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Objective tumor response for malignant pleural mesothelioma is difficult to measure and response criteria are not universally agreed upon. However, based upon prospectively defined criteria, the objective tumor response rate for ALIMTA plus cisplatin was greater than the objective tumor response rate for cisplatin alone. There was also improvement in lung function (forced vital capacity) in the ALIMTA plus cisplatin arm compared to the control arm.

Patients who received full supplementation with folic acid and vitamin B_{12} during study therapy received a median of 6 and 4 cycles in the ALIMTA/cisplatin (N=168) and cisplatin (N=163) arms, respectively. Patients who never received folic acid and vitamin B_{12} during study therapy received a median of 2 cycles in both treatment arms (N=32 and N=38 for the ALIMTA/cisplatin and cisplatin arm, respectively). Patients receiving ALIMTA in the fully supplemented group received a relative dose intensity of 93% of the protocol specified ALIMTA dose intensity; patients treated with cisplatin in the same group received 94% of the projected dose intensity. Patients treated with cisplatin alone had a dose intensity of 96%.

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678 16 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING

679 16.1 How Supplied 680 ALIMTA, pem

ALIMTA, pemetrexed for injection, is available in sterile single-use vials containing 100 mg pemetrexed.
 NDC 0002-7640-01 (VL7640): single-use vial with ivory flip-off cap individually packaged in a carton.
 ALIMTA, pemetrexed for injection, is available in sterile single-use vials containing 500 mg pemetrexed.
 NDC 0002-7623-01 (VL7623): single-use vial with ivory flip-off cap individually packaged in a carton.

684 16.2 Storage and Handling

ALIMTA, pemetrexed for injection, should be stored at 25°C (77°F); excursions permitted to 15-30°C (59-86°F) [see USP Controlled Room Temperature].

687 Chemical and physical stability of reconstituted and infusion solutions of ALIMTA were demonstrated for up to 24 hours 688 following initial reconstitution, when stored refrigerated, 2-8°C (36-46°F), or at 25°C (77°F), excursions permitted to

- 689 15-30°C (59-86°F) [see USP Controlled Room Temperature]. When prepared as directed, reconstituted and infusion solutions of
- ALIMTA contain no antimicrobial preservatives. Discard unused portion [see Dosage and Administration (2.5)].
- ALIMTA is not light sensitive.

692 17 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION

693 See FDA-Approved Patient Labeling

Patients should be instructed to read the patient package insert carefully.

695 17.1 Need for Folic Acid and Vitamin B₁₂

Patients treated with ALIMTA must be instructed to take folic acid and vitamin B_{12} as a prophylactic measure to reduce treatment-related hematologic and gastrointestinal toxicity *[see Dosage and Administration (2.3)]*.

698 17.2 Low Blood Cell Counts

Patients should be adequately informed of the risk of low blood cell counts and instructed to immediately contact their
 physician should any sign of infection develop including fever. Patients should also contact their physician if bleeding or symptoms of
 anemia occur.

70217.3Gastrointestinal Effects703Patients should be instruct

Patients should be instructed to contact their physician if persistent vomiting, diarrhea, or signs of dehydration appear.

704 17.4 Concomitant Medications

Patients should be instructed to inform the physician if they are taking any concomitant prescription or over-the-counter medications including those for pain or inflammation such as non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs [see Drug Interactions (7.1)].

T07 Literature revised Month dd, yyyy

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INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS AND CAREGIVERS

ALIMTA[®] (uh-LIM-tuh)

(pemetrexed for injection)

Read the Patient Information that comes with ALIMTA before you start treatment and each time you get treated with ALIMTA. There may be new information. This leaflet does not take the place of talking to your doctor about your medical condition or treatment. Talk to your doctor if you have any questions about ALIMTA.

What is ALIMTA?

ALIMTA is a treatment for:

- Malignant pleural mesothelioma. This cancer affects the inside lining of the chest cavity. ALIMTA is given with cisplatin, another anti-cancer medicine (chemotherapy).
- Nonsquamous non-small cell lung cancer. This cancer is a disease in which malignant (cancer) cells form in the tissues of the lung. If you are having initial treatment for your lung cancer, ALIMTA may be given alone or in combination with another chemotherapy drug. If this is the first time you have been treated for your lung cancer, ALIMTA may be given with another anti-cancer drug called cisplatin. If you have completed initial treatment for your lung cancer, ALIMTA may be given alone immediately following your initial treatment. If you are being treated because your cancer has come back or you had trouble tolerating a prior treatment, ALIMTA may be given alone. Your doctor will speak to you about whether ALIMTA is appropriate for your specific type of non-small cell lung cancer.

To lower your chances of side effects of ALIMTA, you must also take folic acid and vitamin B_{12} prior to and during your treatment with ALIMTA. Your doctor will prescribe a medicine called a "corticosteroid" to take for 3 days during your treatment with ALIMTA. Corticosteroid medicines lower your chances of getting skin reactions with ALIMTA.

ALIMTA has not been studied in children.

What should I tell my doctor before taking ALIMTA?

- Tell your doctor about all of your medical conditions, including if you:
- are pregnant or planning to become pregnant. ALIMTA may harm your unborn baby.
- are breastfeeding. It is not known if ALIMTA passes into breast milk. You should stop breastfeeding once you start treatment with ALIMTA.
- are taking other medicines, including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. ALIMTA and other medicines may affect each other causing serious side effects. Especially, tell your doctor if you are taking medicines called "nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs" (NSAIDs) for pain or swelling. There are many NSAID medicines. If you are not sure, ask your doctor or pharmacist if any of your medicines are NSAIDs.

How is ALIMTA given?

- ALIMTA is slowly infused (injected) into a vein. The injection or infusion will last about 10 minutes. You will usually receive ALIMTA once every 21 days (3 weeks).
- If you are being treated with ALIMTA and cisplatin for the initial treatment of either mesothelioma or non-small cell lung cancer, ALIMTA will be given first as a 10 minute infusion into your vein and cisplatin (another anti-cancer drug) will also be given through your vein starting about 30 minutes after ALIMTA and ending about 2 hours later.
- If you have completed initial treatment for your non-small cell lung cancer, you may receive ALIMTA alone, given as a 10 minute infusion into your vein.
- If you are being treated because your non-small cell lung cancer has returned, you may receive ALIMTA alone, given as a 10 minute infusion into your vein.
- Your doctor will prescribe a medicine called a "corticosteroid" to take for 3 days during your treatment with ALIMTA. Corticosteroid medicines lower your chances for getting skin reactions with ALIMTA.
- It is very important to take folic acid and vitamin B_{12} during your treatment with ALIMTA to lower your chances of harmful side effects. You must start taking 350-1000 micrograms of folic acid every day for at least 5 days out of the 7 days before your first dose of ALIMTA. You must keep taking folic acid every day during the time you are getting treatment with ALIMTA, and for 21 days after your last treatment. You can get folic acid vitamins over-the-counter. Folic acid is also found in many multivitamin pills. Ask your doctor or pharmacist for help if you are not sure how to choose a folic acid product. Your doctor will give you vitamin B_{12} injections while you are getting treatment with ALIMTA. You will get your first vitamin B_{12} injection during the week before your first dose of ALIMTA, and then about every 9 weeks during treatment.
- You will have regular blood tests before and during your treatment with ALIMTA. Your doctor may adjust your dose of ALIMTA or delay treatment based on the results of your blood tests and on your general condition.

What should I avoid while taking ALIMTA?

- Women who can become pregnant should not become pregnant during treatment with ALIMTA. ALIMTA may harm the unborn baby.
- Ask your doctor before taking medicines called NSAIDs. There are many NSAID medicines. If you are not sure, ask your doctor or pharmacist if any of your medicines are NSAIDs.

What are the possible side effects of ALIMTA?

Most patients taking ALIMTA will have side effects. Sometimes it is not always possible to tell whether ALIMTA, another medicine, or the cancer itself is causing these side effects. Call your doctor right away if you have a fever, chills, diarrhea, or mouth sores. These symptoms could mean you have an infection.

The most common side effects of ALIMTA when given alone or in combination with cisplatin are:

- Stomach upset, including nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. You can obtain medicines to help control some of these symptoms. Call your doctor if you get any of these symptoms.
- Low blood cell counts:
 - Low red blood cells. Low red blood cells may make you feel tired, get tired easily, appear pale, and become short of breath.
 - Low white blood cells. Low white blood cells may give you a greater chance for infection. If you have a fever (temperature above 100.4°F) or other signs of infection, call your doctor right away.
 - Low platelets. Low platelets give you a greater chance for bleeding. Your doctor will do blood tests to check your blood counts before and during treatment with ALIMTA.
- **Tiredness.** You may feel tired or weak for a few days after your ALIMTA treatments. If you have severe weakness or tiredness, call your doctor.
- Mouth, throat, or lip sores (stomatitis, pharyngitis). You may get redness or sores in your mouth, throat, or on your lips. These symptoms may happen a few days after ALIMTA treatment. Talk with your doctor about proper mouth and throat care.
- Loss of appetite. You may lose your appetite and lose weight during your treatment. Talk to your doctor if this is a problem for you.
- **Rash.** You may get a rash or itching during treatment. These usually appear between treatments with ALIMTA and usually go away before the next treatment. Call your doctor if you get a severe rash or itching.

Talk with your doctor, nurse or pharmacist about any side effect that bothers you or that doesn't go away.

These are not all the side effects of ALIMTA. For more information, ask your doctor, nurse or pharmacist.

General information about ALIMTA

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for conditions other than those listed in patient information leaflets. ALIMTA was prescribed for your medical condition.

This leaflet summarizes the most important information about ALIMTA. If you would like more information, talk with your doctor. You can ask your doctor or pharmacist for information about ALIMTA that is written for health professionals. You can also call 1-800-LILLY-RX (1-800-545-5979) or visit www.ALIMTA.com.

Patient information revised Month dd, yyyy

Eli Lilly and Company Indianapolis, IN 46285, USA

www.ALIMTA.com

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Folate Biochemistry in Relation to Antifolate Selectivity

Roy L. Kisliuk

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1. INTRODUCTION

This review will deal with advances in folate biochemistry related to antifolate toxicity and selectivity. Because of the interrelatedness of reactions of folate metabolism, alterations in the activity of any folate enzyme, cellular transport system, as well as the concentration of any folate metabolite may be relevant to antifolate cytotoxicity and selectivity. Therefore, it is difficult to predict the results of inhibiting a given folate enzyme on antifolate selectivity. For example, in many experimental systems, the *cytotoxicity* of methotrexate is caused by its ability to inhibit dihydrofolate reductase, resulting

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- 5. dihydrofc
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nucleotides. In encountered in (methanol leve level) (Fig. 1).⁺ ysis. The enzyc

Fig. 1. Structures of tetrahydrofolic acid (THF) derivatives: (A) 5-methylTHF; (B) 5,10methyleneTHF; (C) 5,10-methenylTHF; (D) 10-formylTHF; (E) 5-formylTHF (also called folinic acid, leucovorin or citrovorum factor). Pte stands for pteroic acid (p-[(2-amino-4-oxy-6-pteridylmethyl)amino]benzoic acid).**n* refers to the total number of glutamate residues attached to pteroic acid. All additional Glu residues are joined by amide bonds to the γ -carboxyl group of Glu(1).

in lowered thymidylate formation, leading to lethal defects in DNA. However, its *selec*tivity is often dependent on differential cellular uptake and polyglutamylation. Favorable clinical results with aminopterin, the forerunner of methotrexate, in acute leukemia in children were reported by Farber et al. (1) in 1948. This work depended on knowledge generated at the American Cyanamid Company, Pearl River, NY, on the structure of folic acid and the chemical synthesis of analogs in addition to the insightful clinical observations of the Farber group (1). This work was done before the role of tetrahydrofolates in the metabolism of single carbon units was known. The present discussion of the current literature on folates is offered in the hope that, given the powerful analytical, structural, molecular genetic, and synthetic methods now available, new approaches to selective toxicity can be generated.

We focus on the metabolic interconversions and enzymology of three areas of folate metabolism, areas related to the essential metabolites methionine, thymidylate, and purine



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Table 1 Folate Enzymes in Mammalian Cells									
	Enzyme	Abbreviatio n	Cellular Location	Review Section					
1.	methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase (Fig. 2)	MTHFR	cytoplasm	(2.2.)					
2.	methionine synthase (Fig. 2)	MS	cytoplasm	(2.2.)					
3.	serine hydroxymethyltransferase (Figs. 5,6)	SHMT	cytoplasm, mitochondria	(3.2.)					
4.	thymidylate synthase (Fig. 5)	TS	cytoplasm, nucleus	(3.3.)					
5.	dihydrofolate reductase (Fig. 5)	DHFR	cytoplasm	(3.4.)					
${}^{a}C_{1}$	THF synthase: ^c (Fig. 6)			(4.)					
6.	methylenetetrahydrofolate dehydrogenase	D	cytoplasm, mitochondria						
7.	methenyltetrahydrofolate cyclohydrolase	С	cytoplasm, mitochondria						
8.	10-formyltetrahydrofolate synthetase	S	cytoplasm						
9.	10-formylterahydrofolate dehydrogenase (Fig. 6)	FDH	cytoplasm	(5.)					
10.	5,10-methenyltetrahydrofolate synthetase (Fig. 6)	MTHFS	cytoplasm, mitochondria	(6.)					
11.	glycinamide ribonucleotide formyltransferase ^c (Fig. 7)	GARFT	cytoplasm	(7.)					
12.	aminoimidazolecarboxamide ribonucleotide formultransferase ^b (Fig. 7)	AICARFT	cytoplasm	(8.)					
13.	methionyl tRNA _f ^{met} formyltransferase	FMT	mitochondria	(9.)					
14.	formiminotransferase ^b	FTCD	cytoplasm	(10.)					
15.	formiminocyclodeaminase ^b	FTCD	cytoplasm	(10.)					
16.	glycine cleavage system ^d		mitochondria	(11.)					
17.	dimethylglycine dehydrogenase		mitochondria	(12.)					
18.	sarcosine dehydrogenase (Fig.3)		mitochondria	(12.)					
19.	folylpolyglutamate synthetase	FPGS	cytoplasm, mitochondria	(13.)					
20.	folylpolyglutamate hydrolase	GH	lysosomes, excreted	(14.)					

^{*a*} Italics indicate that the enzymes are part of a bifunctional^{*b*}, trifunctional^{*c*}, or tetrafunctional^{*d*} protein complex.

nucleotides. In this order we proceed from the most reduced form of the single carbon unit encountered in mammalian metabolism to the more oxidized forms, that is, from methyl (methanol level) through methylene (formaldehyde level) to methenyl and formyl (formate level) (Fig. 1). We then consider the enzymes of folylpolyglutamate formation and hydrolysis. The enzymes discussed are listed in Table 1 with abbreviations, cellular location, and

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Fig. 2. Methylation of homocysteine to form methionine: (A) from $5-CH_3-H_4PteGlu_n$ via methylcobalamin (CH₃-Co[III]), (B) from betaine.

location in the text. Human systems are emphasized. In order to keep the number of citations within bounds, key references serve as the source of additional current literature. Earlier folate studies are summarized in the treatise edited by Blakley and Benkovic (2) as well as in reviews by Kisliuk (3), Shane (4), and Wagner (5).

2. METHIONINE

2.1 Introduction

In addition to its essential role as a constituent of proteins, methionine is a major metabolite, being at the confluence of the metabolism of folate, cobalamin, methyl groups, and polyamines. Our discussion will be divided into three sections: methionine methyl formation (Fig. 2), methionine methyl donation (Fig. 3), and propylamine donation (Fig. 4).

2.2 Methionine Methyl Formation

Methionine is required in the diet for normal growth but it is only the homocysteine portion that animals are unable to synthesize. Given adequate dietary folate and cobalamin, methyl groups are readily formed from CH_2 -H₄PteGlu_n by sequential reactions catalyzed by CH_2 -H₄PteGlu reductase (MTHFR) and cobalamin-dependent methionine synthase (MS) (Fig. 2), which result in the methylation of homocysteine to form methionine. Interest in these enzymes is intense because low activity of either one leads to elevated blood levels of homocysteine, an important correlate in coronary disease (6). Homocysteine has been implicated as a toxin of the endothelium of blood vessels (7) and has been shown to inhibit growth and p21ras methylation in cultured vascular endothelial cells (8). The incidence of both coronary disease (6) and neural tube defects (9) is diminished by supplemental dietary folate.

Another enzyme catalyzing the methylation of homocysteine to methionine is betaine-homocysteine methyltransferase (Fig. 2). This enzyme has so far only been found in liver and kidney and its activity does not suffice to alleviate homocysteinemia (7, 10).

MTHFR catalyzes the reduction of CH_2 -H₄PteGlu_n to CH_3 -H₄PteGlu_n (Fig. 2). The hydrogen donor bound to the pig liver enzyme is FAD, which is itself reduced by NADPH. The $K_{\rm m}$ for CH_2 -H₄PteGlu₆ is 0.1 μ M as compared with 7 μ M for CH_2 -H₄PteGlu₁ (11). MTHFR can catalyze the reverse reaction, the formation of CH_2 -H₄PteGlu_n from CH_3 -H₄PteGlu_n, in the presence of the artificial electron acceptor menadione (12), but this reaction is insignificant under physiological conditions in vitro (7) and in vivo (13).

Sequencing of the cDNA for human MTHFR led to the discovery of an important variant (Ala222Val) which, in the homozygous state, leads to decreased MTHFR activ-

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Fig. 4. Methionine as propylamine donor; formation of polyamines; putrescine, spermidine, and spermine.

ity which can lead to homocysteinemia (14). Studies with an analogous mutation in *E. coli* MTHFR showed that FAD is more loosely bound to the mutant enzyme, leading to lower activity (15). Addition of CH_3 -H₄PteGlu₁ greatly slowed FAD dissociation. These results provide a reasonable explanation for the ability of high folate diets to lower blood levels of homocysteine in that MTHFR activity would be maintained even in the presence of the variant enzyme provided that, as is likely, CH_2 -H₄PteGlu_n in vivo also slows FAD dissociation and stabilizes MTHFR.

MTHFR is inhibited by adenosylmethionine (AdoMet) providing a system for decreasing methionine methyl group synthesis when dietary methionine is provided (11).

Methionine synthase (Fig. 2) catalyzes the transfer of the methyl group of CH_3 - $H_4PteGlu_n$ to homocysteine to form methionine. The human enzyme has been cloned in three laboratories (16–18) and consists of 1265 amino acids with a kDa of 140. Based on studies with the *E. coli* enzyme, which is highly homologous to the human enzyme, the cobalamin prosthetic group in the central portion of the protein interacts with homocysteine, CH_3 - $H_4PteGlu_n$ and AdoMet, each of which is activated by a spe-

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cific region of the protein (19). The C-terminal AdoMet binding region is required because MS is occasionally inactivated by oxidation of the cob(I)alamin cofactor to an inactive cob(II)alamin form. Reactivation requires reductive methylation of cob(II)alamin to methylcob(I)alamin. The methyl group is provided by AdoMet. The reducing system is provided by a flavodoxin system in E. coli. In animals the auxiliary redox proteins have not been characterized, but defects in these proteins lead to functional MS deficiency (20). The AdoMet requirement for the maintenance of MS activity is important in view of the essential role of MS in the incorporation of CH_3 - H_4 PteGlu₁ into cellular metabolism.

MS provides the only pathway by which the methyl group of CH₃-H₄PteGlu_n can be removed in vivo, which makes MS activity essential for providing H_4 PteGlu_n from CH_3 - $H_4PteGlu_n$. When MS activity is low because of either defective enzyme(s), cobablamin deficiency, or nitrous oxide inhibition, CH_3 -H₄PteGlu_n accumulates. The major source of cellular folates is usually blood $CH_3-H_4PteGlu_1$ which must be demethylated and then polyglutamylated before functioning as a coenzyme in thymidylate and purine nucleotide formation. Thus MS deficiency causes folate deficiency by trapping methyl groups in the form of CH₃-H₄PteGlu₁. CH₃-H₄PteGlu₁ is not retained in cells because it is a poor substrate for folylpolyglutamate synthetase and the monoglutamate form is not as tightly bound to folate enzymes or other folate binding proteins in cells as are the polyglutamate forms. Polyglutamate forms of CH₃-H₄PteGlu are reported to have lower $K_{\rm m}$ values than the monoglutamate form for *E. coli* and bovine brain MS, but studies on the effect of polyglutamate chain length on substrate activity for human MS have not been reported. However, the fact that cultured cells can grow when supplied with CH₃-H₄PteGlu₁ indicates that it is demethylated to some extent by the action of MS.

Two interrelated aspects of methionine metabolism that have received attention in relation to chemotherapy are: the inhibition of MS by nitrous oxide (21) and the inability of many tumor cell lines to synthesize the methionine methyl group (22). These cell lines are unable to grow when supplied with homocysteine and must be provided with methionine in the medium. In one such instance, a glioma cell line requires methionine because of lowered levels of cobalamin on MS (23). MS-deficient cells should be especially sensitive to inhibition of methionine adenosyl transferase, which would deprive cells of AdoMet rendering them incapable of utilizing exogenous methionine as a source of methyl groups or polyamines.

Nitrous oxide specifically inactivates MS by reacting with cob(I)alamin and exposure to nitrous oxide leads to megaloblastic anemia (24). Short-term remissions were observed in cases of chronic myeloid leukemia and childhood acute myeloid leukemia after treatment with nitrous oxide (21). Methotrexate enhances nitrous oxide toxicity (23). Methotrexate decreases MS activity by depleting cells of CH_3 - $H_4PteGlu_n$ and of methylcobalamin. It is proposed that this leads to lower AdoMet levels and decreased methylation reactions that contribute to the cytotoxic action of methotrexate (23). A reasonable explanation for methotrexate enhancement of nitrous oxide toxicity would be that both agents reduce MS activity, methotrexate by lowering cofactor levels, and nitrous oxide by inactivating cobalamin remaining on MS.

Recently cobalamin analogs were shown to inhibit the growth of BW5147 mouse lymphoma cells in culture (25).

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2.3 Methionine Methyl Donation

Methionine is converted to the active methyl donor, AdoMet, through the action of methionine adenosyl transferase (Fig. 3). Acceptors of the methyl group include glycine, DNA, RNA, norepinephrine, and at least 100 additional compounds (5) including arsenic compounds (26). We limit our discussion to methylation of glycine and DNA. Glycine methylation serves as a route to recycle uneeded methionine methyl groups and is regulated by CH₃-H₄PteGlu_n (5). DNA methylation regulates gene expression (27).

Glycine *N*-methyltransferase (GNMT) makes up 1-3% of the soluble protein in rat liver cytosol and is a major folate-binding protein even though it does not require a folate coenzyme for its activity (5). It is a tetramer containing identical 292-amino acid residue 34-kDa subunits. When dietary methionine intake is high, glycine is methylated to sarcosine which is metabolized to CH₂-H₄PteGlu_n and glycine in mitochondria. When dietary methionine is low, synthesis of CH₃-H₄PteGlu_n is elevated because the inhibition of MTHFR by AdoMet is released. CH₃-H₄PteGlu_n is an allosteric inhibitor of GNMT under conditions in which conserving methionine is advantageous. Thus AdoMet and CH₃-H₄PteGlu_n regulate methionine methyl synthesis and disposal, respectively.

GNMT is also present at high levels in the exocrine pancreas in which methylation plays a role in exocrine secretion (28).

Rat liver GNMT appears to be identical to the cytosolic receptor for benzo[a]pyrene which induces cytochrome P450 1A1 gene expression. Consistent with this proposed role for GNMT, its subunits are transported into the nucleus (29).

The methylation of specific CpG sites in the DNA of the tumor suppressor gene p53 decreases when rats are maintained on a diet deficient in folate and methyl donors. The amount of p53 protein increases in response to many signals including DNA damage and nucleotide depletion (30). p53 function is lost in about half of all human cancers. Alteration of the pattern of DNA methylation is postulated to be a factor in the increase in spontaneous liver cancer and in susceptibility to dimethylhydrazine-induced colon tumors (31).

The adenosylhomocysteine arising from the action of AdoMet-dependent methyltransferases is hydrolyzed to homocysteine and adenosine (Fig. 3), an important reaction because adenosylhomocysteine is a potent inhibitor of AdoMet-dependent methylation reactions. Homocysteine may either be remethylated or metabolized to cysteine through the transsulfuration pathway that requires the action of cystathionine- β -synthase (Fig. 3) (7). In mammalian liver, about half of the homocysteine is remethylated and half proceeds through the transsulfuration pathway. Many tissues however, lack cystathionine- β -synthase and are incapable of transsulfuration (7). Genetic polymorphisms can result in decreased cystathionine- β -synthase deficiency responds to an increased supply of vitamin B₆ because the variant enzyme in this instance has a lowered affinity for its coenzyme, pyridoxal phosphate (7).

2.4 Propylamine Donation

The polyamines putrescine, spermidine, and spermine are necessary for the growth of all cells (32). Putrescine arises from the decarboxylation of ornithine. Spermidine and spermine are formed by sequential addition of propylamine residues to putrescine (Fig. 4). Adenosylmethylthiopropylamine arising from the decarboxylation of AdoMet is the

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donor of propylamine. Thus ornithine decarboxylase and AdoMet decarboxylase are key enzymes involved in polyamine synthesis and the level of these enzymes is regulated by hormones, tumor promoters, and by polyamine levels (32). A polyamine-responsive element has been identified in the 5'-leader sequence of the mRNA for AdoMet decarboxylase. This element codes for the peptide MAGDIS which plays a role in polyamine regulation of polyamine biosynthesis.

Spermine stimulates the activity of partially purified rat liver MS (33). Since methionine provides propylamine for spermine synthesis (Fig. 4), stimulation of methionine synthesis by spermine could be part of a positive feedback loop related to the association of polyamine formation and growth. Polyamine analogs can cause cell-cycle arrest and apoptosis in human melanoma cells. One such analog is currently in Phase I clinical trial against solid tumors (34).

3. THYMIDYLATE CYCLE

3.1 Introduction

Growing cells undergo apoptosis if *de novo* thymidylate synthesis is blocked. In colon carcinoma cells, thymineless apoptosis is mediated via Fas signaling (35). Although cell death can be prevented if thymidine is supplied, under the usual in vivo conditions, plasma thymidine levels are too low for protection (36). The three enzymes of the thymidylate synthesis cycle (Fig. 5) are serine hydroxymethytransferase (SHMT) (37), thymidylate synthase (TS) (38), and dihydrofolate reductase (DHFR) (39). SHMT catalyzes the formation of CH₂-H₄PteGlu_n from serine and H₄PteGlu_n. CH₂-H₄PteGlu_n is then the substrate for the reductive methylation of dUMP to dTMP. Reducing equivalents are supplied by the conversion of H₄PteGlu_n to H₂PteGlu_n, which makes it necessary to regenerate a molecule of H₄PteGlu_n for every molecule of dTMP formed. DHFR enables completion of the cycle by catalyzing the reduction of H₂PteGlu_n to H₄PteGlu_n, utilizing NADPH as the reductant.

3.2 Serine Hydroxymethyltransferase

Serine and glycine both provide $CH_2-H_4PteGlu_n$ which, in turn, is the major source of single carbon units for methionine, thymidylate and purine nucleotide synthesis. SHMT catalyzes the conversion of serine to glycine and $CH_2-H_4PteGlu_n$, whereas glycine is metabolized to $CH_2-H_4PteGlu_n$, CO_2 , and NH_3^+ in mitochondria via the glycine cleavage system (40). SHMT is found both in mitochondria (mSHMT) and in the cytosol (cSHMT). Chinese hamster ovary cells become auxotrophic for glycine when mSHMT is absent, which shows that the presence of cSHMT is insufficient to provide the cells need for glycine (4). cSHMT may serve in gluconeogenesis by catalyzing the conversion of dietary glycine to serine, which then gives rise to pyruvate.

Human cDNAs that encode the two isozymes of SHMT have been cloned and sequenced (41,42). Human mSHMT and cSHMT monomers (approx 55 kDa) contain 474 and 483 amino acid residues, respectively, and the deduced amino acid sequences show 63% identity. SHMT is a highly conserved enzyme, the human isozymes having approx 43% sequence identity with *E. coli* SHMT. All of the purified enzymes have four identical subunits that are yellow because of the presence of one molecule of pyridoxal phosschate on each subunit. Experiments with pig liver SHMT show that foly[polyglutamate] Chapter

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Fig. 5. The thymidylate cycle.

substrates and inhibitors bind more tightly to the enzyme than the monoglutamate forms (43). Similar results were obtained with rabbit liver SHMT where it was shown, in addition, that cytosolic and mitochondrial SHMT have similar affinities for polyglutamate forms (44).

An additional reaction catalyzed by both mSHMT and cSHMT is the hydrolysis of 5,10-CH-H₄PteGlu_n to form 5-CHO-H₄PteGlu_n (Fig. 6) (45). A hydrated form of 5,10-CH-H₄PteGlu_n, (6R,11R)-5,10-hydroxymethylene-H₄PteGlu_n is a likely intermediate in this reaction (46). 5-CHO-H₄PteGlu_(n) inhibits SHMT (47), TS (48), and AICARFT (49) and could therefore be an important compound in regulating one-carbon metabolism in that it could diminish both the formation and utilization of single-carbon units (50). 5-CH₃-H₄PteGlu_n also inhibits SHMT and thus could also act to diminish formation of single-carbon units (50). 5-CH₃-H₄PteGlu_n also inhibits SHMT and thus could also act to diminish formation of single-carbon units along with 10-CHO-H₄PteGlu_n and 5-CH₃-H₄PteGlu_n could all be feedback-signaling agents responding to increased levels of single-carbon folate metabolites at the formyl, hydroxymethyl, and methyl levels of oxidation. Consistent with this view, depletion of 5-CHO-H₄PteGlu_n in neuroblastoma cells by overexpressing the cDNA for methenyltetrahydrofolate synthetase enhanced serine levels but low-ered methionine levels, leading to the suggestion that serine synthesis and homocysteine remethylation compete for one-carbon units in the cytoplasm (51).

Although SHMT as provider of the methylene group for the methyl group of thymidylate has been considered as a target for chemotherapeutic agents, specific antifolate inhibitors of SHMT have not been described. Perhaps an analog that bridges the folate site with the pyridoxal phosphate site would be effective. The serine analogs, D-fluoroalanine (52) and 4-chlorothreonine (53) are mechanism-based inhibitors of SHMT at millimolar levels.

3.3 Thymidylate Synthase

Thymidylate synthase catalyzes the reductive methylation of dUMP to dTMP. It is a dimeric enzyme (70 kD) with two catalytic sites per dimer, whose amino acid sequences are highly conserved (54). Each monomer contributes amino acids to the catalytic site (54). X-ray crystal structures of the *Lactobacillus casei* and *E. coli* enzymes show the folate cofactor bound above and trapping dUMP. Polyglutamate forms of the folate co-