

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
18 February 2010 (18.02.2010)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2010/019266 A2

(51) International Patent Classification:
A61K 38/10 (2006.01) *A61P 1/00* (2006.01)

(74) Agent: O'BRIEN, Jonathan, P.; Honigman Miller Schwartz & Cohn LLP, 444 West Michigan Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI 49007 (US).

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2009/004675

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(22) International Filing Date:
14 August 2009 (14.08.2009)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
61/089,422 15 August 2008 (15.08.2008) US
61/273,332 3 August 2009 (03.08.2009) US
61/231,725 6 August 2009 (06.08.2009) US

(71) Applicants (for all designated States except US): **IRONWOOD PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.** [US/US]; 320 Bent Street, Cambridge, MA 02141 (US). **FOREST LABORATORIES INC.** [US/US]; 909 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10022 (US).

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **FRETZEN, Angeli-ka** [DE/US]; 7 Avon Street, Somerville, MA 02143 (US). **WITOWSKI, Steven** [US/US]; 171 Laurel Street, Melrose, MA 02176 (US). **GROSSI, Alfredo** [US/US]; 102 Ten Hills Road, Somerville, MA 02145 (US). **ZHAO, Hong** [CN/US]; 74 Cragie Street, Apt. 31, Somerville, MA 02143 (US). **DEDHIYA, Mahendra** [US/US]; 1 Lea Court, Pomona, NY 10970-3219 (US). **MO, Yun** [CN/US]; 60 Fairfield Way, Apt. 1, Commack, NY 11725 (US).

Published:

— without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report (Rule 48.2(g))



WO 2010/019266 A2

(54) Title: STABLE SOLID FORMULATION OF A GC-C RECEPTOR AGONIST POLYPEPTIDE SUITABLE FOR ORAL ADMINISTRATION

(57) Abstract: Solid, stable formulations of linaclotide suitable for oral administration are described herein as are methods for preparing such formulations. The formulations described herein contain a polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence Cys Cys Glu Tyr Cys Cys Asn Pro Ala Cys Thr Gly Cys Tyr ("linaclotide") or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. The linaclotide formulations described herein are stable and have a sufficient shelf life for manufacturing, storing and distributing the

**STABLE SOLID FORMULATION OF A GC-C RECEPTOR AGONIST
POLYPEPTIDE SUITABLE FOR ORAL ADMINISTRATION**

FIELD

5 This disclosure concerns solid formulations of a guanylate cyclase-C receptor agonist polypeptide suitable for oral administration and methods for preparing such formulations.

PRIORITY CLAIM

10 This application claims priority to United States Application Serial No. 61/089,422, filed August 15, 2008 and to the United States Provisional Application filed August 03, 2009 and entitled, "Stable Solid Formulation of a GC-C Receptor Agonist Polypeptide Suitable for Oral Administration". The entire contents of the aforementioned applications are incorporated herein by reference.

BACKGROUND

15 Many therapeutic polypeptides are formulated in aqueous solution because they are most active in this form. However, most polypeptides are not particularly stable in aqueous solution, such that the formulations often have a short half-life and require refrigeration. Although aqueous solutions of polypeptides can be dried by freeze-drying, spray-drying or
20 other methods, such dried formulations may also be unstable and have reduced activity relative to an aqueous solution of the polypeptide. Typical break-down mechanisms that occur both in aqueous solution and in dried formulations include aggregation and oxidative or hydrolytic degradation. Thus, the majority of therapeutic polypeptides, whether in aqueous solution or dried, are stored under refrigerated conditions due to their limited stability.

25 Linaclotide is a peptide having the amino acid sequence Cys Cys Glu Tyr Cys Cys Asn Pro Ala Cys Thr Gly Cys Tyr that activates the guanylate cyclase-C (GC-C) receptor. Linaclotide, which may be administered orally, is useful for the treatment of gastrointestinal disorders and conditions, including irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) and chronic constipation (CC). Formulations comprising linaclotide have needed to be refrigerated in order to avoid
30 degradation over time. However, refrigeration is inconvenient both for commercial distribution of the drug and for storage by patients. Thus, there is a need to have a solid linaclotide formulation that is stable at room temperature for at least 12 months.

SUMMARY

Solid, stable formulations of linaclotide suitable for oral administration are described herein as are methods for preparing such formulations. The formulations described herein contain a polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence Cys Cys Glu Tyr Cys Cys Asn
5 Pro Ala Cys Thr Gly Cys Tyr (“linaclotide”) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

The linaclotide formulations described herein are stable and have a sufficient shelf life for manufacturing, storing and distributing the drug. For example, formulations described herein are expected to have a shelf life of at least 12 months at room temperature storage conditions (e.g., 25°C/60% relative humidity (RH)). In further embodiments, the
10 formulations described herein are expected to have a shelf life of at least 18 months or at least 24 months at room temperature storage conditions (e.g., 25°C/60% RH).

In some embodiments, formulations are described wherein $\geq 95\%$ of the original amount of linaclotide in the composition remains after three months when packaged samples are stored at accelerated conditions (40°C/75% RH) when assessed in an assay on a
15 weight/weight basis as determined by high pressure liquid chromatography (HPLC) against a linaclotide reference standard. In further embodiments, $\geq 90\%$ of the original amount of linaclotide in the composition remains after at least 6 months when packaged samples are stored at accelerated conditions (40°C/75% RH). In other embodiments, formulations are described wherein chromatographic purity of the linaclotide as determined as area percent by
20 HPLC remains at $\geq 95\%$ over the course of at least three months when packaged samples are stored at accelerated conditions (40°C/75% RH). In further embodiments, the chromatographic purity of the linaclotide as determined by area percent by HPLC remains at $\geq 90\%$ over the course of at least 6 months when packaged samples are stored at accelerated conditions (40 °C/75% RH). Thus, for example, no more than about 10% of the linaclotide
25 undergoes degradation to other products such as an oxidation product of linaclotide, a hydrolysis product of linaclotide or a formaldehyde-mediated imine product of linaclotide (“formaldehyde imine product”).

In one embodiment, the invention comprises a pharmaceutical composition comprising linaclotide, wherein the chromatographic purity of the linaclotide decreases by
30 less than 10% after 18 months or 24 months of storage of the pharmaceutical composition at 25°C at 60% relative humidity in a sealed container containing a desiccant. In a further embodiment, the chromatographic purity of the linaclotide decreases by less than 9%, 8%, 7%, 6%, 5%, 4% or 2% after 18 months or 24 months of storage of the pharmaceutical

composition at 25°C at 60% relative humidity in a sealed container containing a desiccant. In another embodiment, the invention comprises a pharmaceutical composition comprising linaclotide, wherein the chromatographic purity of the linaclotide decreases by less than 10% after 3 months or 6 months of storage of the pharmaceutical composition at 40°C at 75% relative humidity in a sealed container containing a desiccant. In a further embodiment, the chromatographic purity of the linaclotide decreases by less than 9%, 8%, 7%, 6%, 5%, 4% or 2% after 3 months or 6 months of storage of the pharmaceutical composition at 40°C at 75% relative humidity in a sealed container containing a desiccant.

In one embodiment, the invention comprises a unit dosage form of a pharmaceutical composition comprising linaclotide, wherein the chromatographic purity of the linaclotide decreases by less than 10% after 18 months or 24 months of storage of the unit dosage form at 25°C at 60% relative humidity in a sealed container containing a desiccant. In a further embodiment, the chromatographic purity of the linaclotide decreases by less than 9%, 8%, 7%, 6%, 5%, 4% or 2% after 18 months or 24 months of storage of the unit dosage form at 25°C at 60% relative humidity in a sealed container containing a desiccant. In another embodiment, the invention comprises a unit dosage form of a pharmaceutical composition comprising linaclotide, wherein the chromatographic purity of the linaclotide decreases by less than 10% after 3 months or 6 months of storage of the unit dosage form at 40°C at 75% relative humidity in a sealed container containing a desiccant. In a further embodiment, the chromatographic purity of the linaclotide decreases by less than 9%, 8%, 7%, 6%, 5%, 4% or 2% after 3 months or 6 months of storage of the unit dosage form at 40°C at 75% relative humidity in a sealed container containing a desiccant.

In one embodiment, the invention comprises a sealed container comprising a plurality of unit dosage forms of a pharmaceutical composition comprising linaclotide, wherein the chromatographic purity of the linaclotide decreases by less than 10% after 18 months or 24 months of storage of the sealed container containing a desiccant at 25°C at 60% relative humidity. In a further embodiment, the chromatographic purity of the linaclotide decreases by less than 9%, 8%, 7%, 6%, 5%, 4% or 2% after 18 months or 24 months of storage of the sealed container containing a desiccant at 25°C at 60% relative humidity. In another embodiment, the invention comprises a sealed container comprising a plurality of unit dosage forms of a pharmaceutical composition comprising linaclotide, wherein the chromatographic purity of the linaclotide decreases by less than 10% after 3 months or 6 months of storage of the sealed container containing a desiccant at 40°C at 75% relative humidity. In a further

embodiment, the chromatographic purity of the linaclotide decreases by less than 9%, 8%, 7%, 6%, 5%, 4% or 2% after 3 months or 6 months of storage of the sealed container containing a desiccant at 40°C at 75% relative humidity.

In one embodiment, the invention comprises a pharmaceutical composition
5 comprising linaclotide, wherein the assay value for linaclotide determined on a weight/weight basis decreases by less than 10% after 18 months or 24 months of storage of the pharmaceutical composition at 25°C at 60% relative humidity in a sealed container containing a desiccant. In a further embodiment, the assay value for linaclotide determined
10 on a weight/weight basis decreases by less than 9%, 8%, 7%, 6%, 5%, 4%, 3%, 2% or 1% after 18 months or 24 months of storage of the pharmaceutical composition at 25°C at 60% relative humidity in a sealed container containing a desiccant. In another embodiment, the invention comprises a pharmaceutical composition comprising linaclotide, wherein the assay value for linaclotide determined on a weight/weight basis decreases by less than 10% after 3
15 months or 6 months of storage of the pharmaceutical composition at 40°C at 75% relative humidity in a sealed container containing a desiccant. In a further embodiment, the chromatographic purity of the linaclotide decreases by less than 9%, 8%, 7%, 6%, 5%, 4%, 3%, 2% or 1% after 3 months or 6 months of storage of the pharmaceutical composition at 40°C at 75% relative humidity in a sealed container containing a desiccant.

In one embodiment, the invention comprises a unit dosage form of a pharmaceutical
20 composition comprising linaclotide, wherein the assay value for linaclotide determined on a weight/weight basis decreases by less than 10% after 18 months or 24 months of storage of the unit dosage form at 25°C at 60% relative humidity in a sealed container containing a desiccant. In a further embodiment, the assay value for linaclotide determined on a weight/weight basis decreases by less than 9%, 8%, 7%, 6%, 5%, 4%, 3%, 2% or 1% after 18
25 months or 24 months of storage of the unit dosage form at 25°C at 60% relative humidity in a sealed container containing a desiccant. In another embodiment, the invention comprises a unit dosage form of a pharmaceutical composition comprising linaclotide, wherein the assay value for linaclotide determined on a weight/weight basis decreases by less than 10% after 3 months or 6 months of storage of the unit dosage form at 40°C at 75% relative humidity in a
30 sealed container containing a desiccant. In a further embodiment, the assay value for linaclotide determined on a weight/weight basis decreases by less than 9%, 8%, 7%, 6%, 5%, 4%, 3%, 2% or 1% after 3 months or 6 months of storage of the unit dosage form at 40°C at 75% relative humidity in a sealed container containing a desiccant.

Explore Litigation Insights

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

Real-Time Litigation Alerts



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

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

Advanced Docket Research



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

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

Analytics At Your Fingertips



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

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

API

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

LAW FIRMS

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

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

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Litigation and bankruptcy checks for companies and debtors.

E-DISCOVERY AND LEGAL VENDORS

Sync your system to PACER to automate legal marketing.