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(71) Applicants *(for all designated States except US)*: **IONIX PHARMACEUTICALS LIMITED** [GB/GB]; 185 Cambridge Science Park, Milton Road, Cambridge CB4 0GA (GB). **WEST PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES DRUG DELIVERY & CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTRE LIMITED** [GB/GB]; Albert Einstein Centre, Nottingham Science & Technology Park, University Boulevard, Nottingham NG7 2TN (GB).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants *(for US only)*: **BIRCH, Phillip, John** [GB/GB]; 185 Cambridge Science Park, Milton Road, Cambridge CB4 0GA (GB). **HAYES, Ann, Gail** [GB/GB]; 185 Cambridge Science Park, Milton Road, Cambridge CB4 0GA (GB). **WATTS, Peter, James** [GB/GB]; Albert Einstein Centre, Nottingham Science & Technology Park, University Boulevard, Nottingham NG7 2TN (GB). **CASTILE, Jonathan, David** [GB/GB]; Albert Einstein Centre, Nottingham Science & Technology Park, University Boulevard, Nottingham NG7 2TN (GB).

(74) Agent: **WOODS, Geoffrey Corlett**; J.A. Kemp & Co., 14 South Square, Gray's Inn, London WC1R 5JJ (GB).

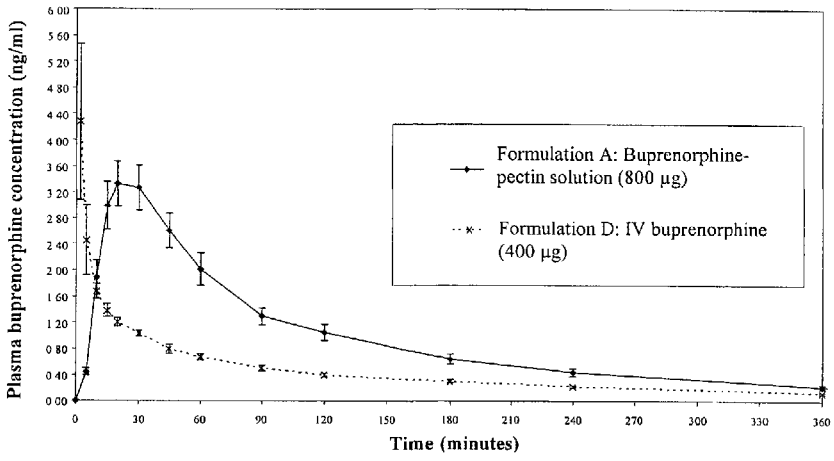
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(54) Title: FORMULATION COMPRISING BUPRENORPHINE



(57) Abstract: Aqueous formulations suitable for intranasal administration comprise buprenorphine or a physiologically acceptable salt or ester thereof and (a) a pectin having a degree of esterification of less than 50%, (b) chitosan and a polyoxyethylene-polyoxypropylene copolymer (poloxamer) or (c) chitosan and hydroxypropylmethylcellulose. Such formulations can induce rapid and prolonged analgesia when delivered intranasally to a patient. The buprenorphine or buprenorphine salt or ester may be delivered to the bloodstream to produce within 30 minutes a therapeutic plasma concentration of buprenorphine, C_{ther}, of 0.2 ng/ml or greater which is maintained for a duration T_{maint} of at least 2 hours.

WO 2003/080021 A3

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