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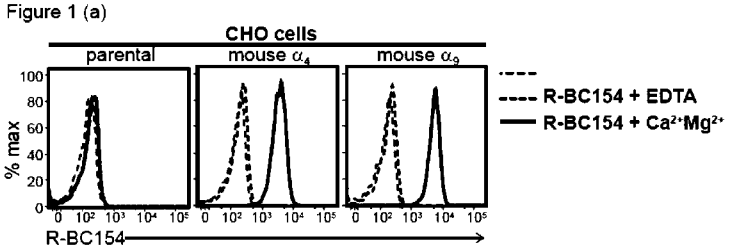
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(54) Title: DISLODGEMENT AND RELEASE OF HSC USING ALPHA 9 INTEGRIN ANTAGONIST AND CXCR4 ANTAGONIST

Figure 1 (a)



(57) Abstract: Haematopoietic stem cell mobilization is a process whereby haematopoietic stem cells are stimulated out of the bone marrow space. Before HSC can mobilize, they must be dislodged and released from the BM stem cell niche in which they reside and are retained by adhesive interactions. Accordingly, in an aspect of the present invention there is provided a method for enhancing dislodgement of HSC and their precursors and progenitors thereof from a BM stem cell binding ligand *in vivo* or *ex vivo*, said method comprising administering *in vivo* or *ex vivo* an effective amount of an antagonist of an α9 integrin or an active portion thereof and a CXCR4 antagonist or an active portion thereof to the BM stem cell niche. Once mobilized to the peripheral blood (PB) the HSC may be collected for transplant. Methods which enhance mobilization of the HSC can also improve treatments of haematological disorders.

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