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(21) International Application Number: PCT/IB98/01464 (22) International Filing Date: 28 August 1998 (28.08.98) (30) Priority Data: PO 8880 29 August 1997 (29.08.97) AU (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): BIOTECH AUSTRALIA PTY. LIMITED [AU/AU]; 28 Barcoo Street, P.O. Box 20, Roseville, NSW 2069 (AU). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): RUSSELL-JONES, Gregory, John [AU/AU]; 23 Greenfield Avenue, Middle Cove, NSW 2068 (AU). STARLING, Scott, Mathew [AU/AU]; 11 Kingsland Road, Bexley, NSW 2207 (AU). McEWAN, John, Fergus [AU/AU]; 3/3 Letitia Street, Oatley, NSW 2223 (AU). (74) Agent: GRIFFITH HACK; 509 St. Kilda Road, Melbourne, VIC 3004 (AU).		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, 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, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i>
(54) Title: CROSS-LINKED PARTICLES (57) Abstract Cross-linked particles are provided that are useful for delivery of pharmaceutical agents. The particles comprise at least one polymeric compound and a spacer compound, where the polymeric compound and the spacer each comprise reactive carboxyl, hydrazidyl, amino and/or thiol groups. The particles are cross-linked via covalent linkage of the reactive groups on the polymer and spacer respectively. Compositions comprising pharmaceutical agents contained within the particles are disclosed. Methods for preparing the particles, for encapsulating pharmaceutical agents within the particles, and for using the particles for controlled release of the pharmaceutical agent within the patient also are provided.		