Claims

1. Use of lidocaine in the manufacture of a lidocaine tape for treating pain in a patient, the lidocaine tape comprising 1.8 wt% lidocaine such that one or more pharmacokinetic parameters of the lidocaine in the patient is within 70 wt. % to 125 wt. % of that of an aqueous patch containing 5 wt. % lidocaine.

2. The use according to claim 1 wherein the one or more pharmacokinetic parameters of the tape is within 80 wt. % to 125 wt. % of the aqueous patch containing 5 wt. % lidocaine.

3. The use according to claim 2 wherein the one or more pharmacokinetic parameters of the tape is within 90 wt. % to 125 wt. % of the aqueous patch containing 5 wt. % lidocaine.

4. The use according to any one of the preceding claims 1-3 wherein the aqueous patch is Lidoderm®.

5. The use according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the pharmacokinetic parameter is the maximum observed plasma concentration (C_{max}).

6. The use according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the pharmacokinetic parameter is the area under the plasma concentration-time curve (AUC_{0-24}).

7. The use according to claim 5 wherein when administered to a patient the C_{max} is from between about 40 to about 160 ng/ml.

8. The use according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the pain is caused by postherpetic neuralgia.

9. A lidocaine containing tape comprising 1.8 wt. % lidocaine, 5 to 15 wt. % polyisobutylene, 0.1 to 0.5 wt. % dibutylhydroxytoluene, 10 to 20 wt. % styrene-isoprene-styrene block copolymer, 10 to 30 wt. % terpene resin, 0.1 to 1 wt. % light anhydrous silicic acid, 40 to 55 wt. % liquid paraffin, 1 to 3 wt. % isostearic acid and 0.1 to 1 wt. % dipropylene glycol.

10. Use of lidocaine in the manufacture of the lidocaine containing tape according to claim 9 for treating pain in a patient, wherein one or more pharmacokinetic parameters of the formulation is within 70 wt. % to 125 wt. % of that of an aqueous patch containing 5 wt. % lidocaine in an aqueous base which also contains dihydroxyaluminum aminoacetate, disodium edetate, gelatin, glycerin, kaolin, methylparaben, polyacrylic acid, polyvinyl alcohol, propylene glycol, propylparaben, sodium carboxymethylcellulose, sodium polyacrylate, D-sorbitol, tartaric acid, and urea and wherein the patch contains 700 mg of lidocaine.

11. The use according to claim 10 wherein the one or more pharmacokinetic parameters of the formulation is within 80 wt. % to 125 wt. % of that of the aqueous patch.

12. The use according to claim 11 wherein the one or more pharmacokinetic parameters of the formulation is within 90 wt. % to 125 wt. % of that of the aqueous patch.

13. The use according to any one of claims 10-12 wherein the aqueous patch is Lidoderm®.

14. The use according to any one of claims 10-13 wherein the pharmacokinetic parameter is the maximum observed plasma concentration (C_{max}).

15. The use according to any one of claims 10-14 wherein the pharmacokinetic parameter is the area under the plasma concentration-time curve (AUC_{0-24}).

16. The use according to claim 14 wherein administered to a patient the C_{max} is from between about 40 to about 160 ng/ml.

17. The use according to any one of claims 10-16 wherein when administered to a patient the time-to-maximum observed plasma concentration (T_{max}) is from between about 8 to about 18 hours.

18. The use according to claim 17 wherein when administered to a patient the T_{max} is from between about 10 to about 18 hours.