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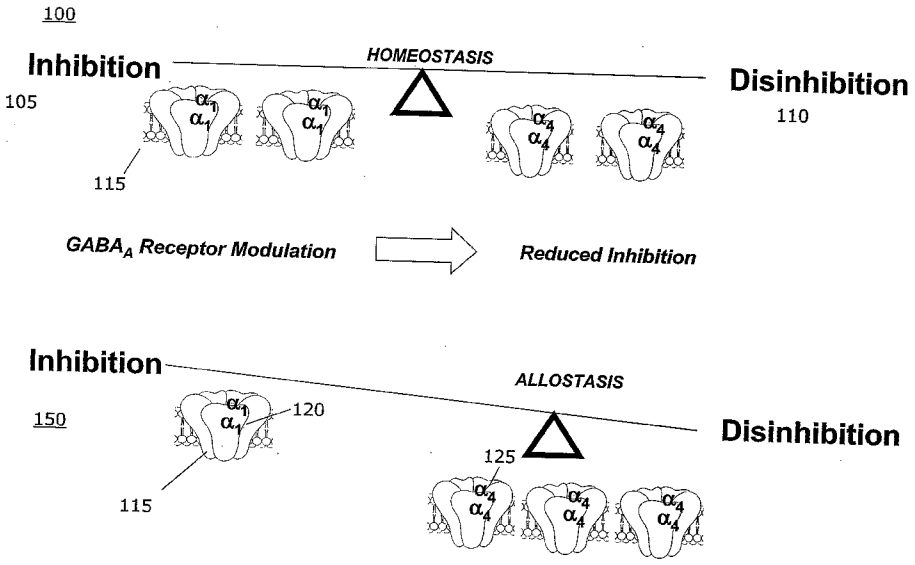
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(54) **Title:** METHODS FOR THE TREATMENT OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE



(57) **Abstract:** The present invention relates to methods of and compositions for treating and relieving symptoms and disease associated with indications caused by a physiological drive to alleviate a sensation of anxiety. More specifically, the present invention relates to methods of and compositions for treating and relieving symptoms associated with substance abuse and withdrawal. The present invention relates to methods of and compositions for treating and relieving symptoms associated with addiction to antidepressants, opiates, nicotine or marijuana. In one method, a patient is treated with a composition that directly or indirectly modulates $GABA_A$ by modulating the expression of the $GABA_A$ receptor a4 subunit.

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