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**PCT**WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
International Bureau

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : C07C 69/68, A61K 31/22	A1	(11) International Publication Number: ✓ WO 97/12855 (43) International Publication Date: 10 April 1997 (10.04.97)
(21) International Application Number: ✓ PCT/US96/15660 (22) International Filing Date: ✓ 30 September 1996 (30.09.96) (30) Priority Data: ✓ 08/540,345 ✓ 6 October 1995 (06.10.95) ✓ US ✓ 08/640,260 ✓ 30 April 1996 (30.04.96) ✓ US (71) Applicant: VERTEX PHARMACEUTICALS INCORPORATED [US/US]; 130 Waverly Street, Cambridge, MA 02139-4242 (US). (72) Inventors: TUNG, Roger, D.; 54 Richfield Road, Arlington, MA 02174 (US). LI, Biquin; 34 Putnam Road, Bedford, MA 01730 (US). (74) Agents: HALEY, James, F. Jr. et al.; Fish & Neave, 1251 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020-1104 (US).	(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, HU, 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, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, ARIPO patent (KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i>	
(54) Title: BUTYRATE PRODRUGS OF LACTIC ACID ✓ (57) Abstract This invention relates to butyrate prodrugs derived from lactic acid and pharmaceutical compositions and methods employing them, either alone or in combination with other agents, for increasing gamma globin and fetal hemoglobin in a patient. These compounds, compositions and methods are particularly effective in treating β-hemoglobinopathies, including sickle cell syndromes and β-thalassemia syndromes. In addition, this invention relates to the use of these prodrugs, alone or in combination with other agents, to stimulate cell differentiation which prevents proliferation of malignant cells. These methods are particularly useful in treating cancer, especially malignant hematological disorders.		