such drugs do not address the multiple symptoms of d-IBS including pain and abdominal discomfort and, thus, are not long-term options. (See ~~Wood, 2003, AJJ. NEMJ~~ H. R. Mertz, N Engl J Med 2003, 349: 2136-2146). There is a need for improved therapeutics for the treatment of dIBS that address the multiple symptoms of d-IBS including pain and abdominal discomfort.

[0007] U.S. Patent Nos. 5,211,944 and 5,494,661 to Tempesta disclose the use of a proanthocyanidin polymeric composition isolated from Croton spp. or Calophyllum spp. for the treatment of viral infections. Rozhon et al., U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/0019389, disclose the use of a proanthocyanidin polymeric composition isolated from Croton spp. or Calophyllum spp. for the treatment of secretory or traveler's diarrhea. PCT application PCT/US00/02687, published as WO 00/47062, discloses a method of manufacturing a proanthocyanidin polymeric composition isolated from Croton spp. or Calophyllum spp. ~~Di Cesare et al., 2002, Am J Gastroenterol 10:2585-2588~~ D. DiCesare et al., The American journal of Gastroenterology, October 2002, 97:2585-2588 disclose a clinical trial of crofelemer as a treatment for traveler's diarrhea compared to placebo. Dosages used in this study were 500 mg/day (125 four times a day); 1000 mg/day (250 mg four times a day); and 2000 mg/day (500 mg four times a day) for two days. The study showed that the composition was useful for the amelioration of stool frequency and gastrointestinal symptoms in patients with traveler's diarrhea.

[0008] Citation or identification of any reference in this section or any other section of this application shall not be construed as an admission that such reference is available as prior art for the present application.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0009] The present invention relates to methods for treating at least one symptom of diarrhea-predominant irritable bowel syndrome (d-IBS) by administering a molecule that inhibits secretion of chloride ions from a cell (inhibitor molecule). Exemplary inhibitor molecules are those that inhibit secretion of chloride ions through the cystic fibrosis

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. Use of crofelemer in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of pain associated with d-IBS, or abdominal discomfort associated with d-IBS, wherein said crofelemer is formulated for administration at a dosage of 50 mg per day to 750 mg per day.

2. The use of claim 1, in which the crofelemer is an extract from a *Croton* spp. or a *Calophyllum* spp.

3. The use of anyone of claims 1 to 2, in which the crofelemer is enteric-coated crofelemer.

4. The use of claim 3, wherein the crofelemer is formulated for oral administration in an amount of between 50 mg per day and 750 mg per day.

5. The use of claim 4, wherein the crofelemer is formulated for administration in an amount of 250 mg per day.

6. The use of claim 4, wherein the crofelemer is formulated for administration at 125 mg twice per day.

7. The use of claim 1, wherein pain or discomfort-free days are increased by at least 10% after administration of the crofelemer.

8. The use of anyone of claims 1 to 7, in which the crofelemer is not systemically absorbed.

9. Use of an amount of enterically-protected crofelemer (CAS 148465-45-6) in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of pain or abdominal discomfort associated with d-IBS, in which the amount is be- tween 50 mg per day and 750 mg per day and the medicament is formulated for oral administration.

10. The use of claim 9, wherein the amount of crofelemer is 250 mg per day.

11. The use of claim 9, wherein the crofelemer is formulated for administration at 125 mg twice per day.

12. The use of claim 9, wherein pain or discomfort-free days are increased by at least 10% after administration of the crofelemer.

13. The use of claim 9, wherein the crofelemer is not systemically absorbed.

14. The use of claim 1 or 9, in which the medicament is for treatment of a human female.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. Use of crofelemer in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of pain associated with d-IBS, or abdominal discomfort associated with d-IBS, wherein said crofelemer is formulated for administration at a dosage of 50 mg per day to 750 mg per day.

2. The use of claim 1, in which the crofelemer is an extract from a *Croton* spp. or a *Calophyllum* spp.

3. The use of anyone of claims 1 to 2, in which the crofelemer is enteric-coated crofelemer.

4. The use of claim 3, wherein the crofelemer is formulated for oral administration in an amount of between 50 mg per day and 750 mg per day.

5. The use of claim 4, wherein the crofelemer is formulated for administration in an amount of 250 mg per day.

6. The use of claim 4, wherein the crofelemer is formulated for administration at 125 mg twice per day.

7. Use of an amount of enterically-protected crofelemer in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of pain or abdominal discomfort associated with d-IBS, in which the amount is be- tween 50 mg per day and 750 mg per day and the medicament is formulated for oral administration.

8. The use of claim 7, wherein the amount of crofelemer is 250 mg per day.

9. The use of claim 7, wherein the crofelemer is formulated for administration at 125 mg twice per day.

10. The use of claim 1 or 7, in which the medicament is for treatment of a human female.