Although providing certain advantages over the use of MTC, the synthesis of LMT.2HCl under certain conditions may result in CH_3Cl being trapped within the crystal. This then needs to be removed since CH_3Cl is toxic and levels need to be kept below safety levels.

Furthermore LMT.2HBr contains bromide ions. This is in principle less desirable since bromide is toxic either at high levels or with chronic dosing and, at lower levels, can causes side effects such as confusion in patients.

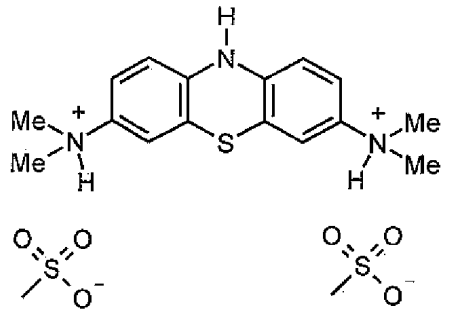
Therefore it can be seen the provision of further salts of methylthioninium compounds, having one or more desirable properties over those already known, would be a contribution to the art.

Furthermore the provision of novel formulations of methylthioninium compounds which enhance stability, absorption, and\or otherwise improve their effectiveness as therapeutics would be a contribution to the art.

SUMMARY

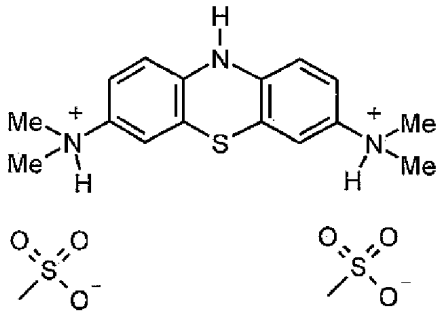
The present inventors have now identified a new class of stable phenothiazine diaminium compounds which have improved properties as compared to previously disclosed diaminophenothiazine compounds and salts.

In one aspect, there is provided use of a pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of the following formula:



and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent,

in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the treatment or prophylaxis of skin cancer or melanoma. In a further aspect, there is provided use of a pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of the following formula:

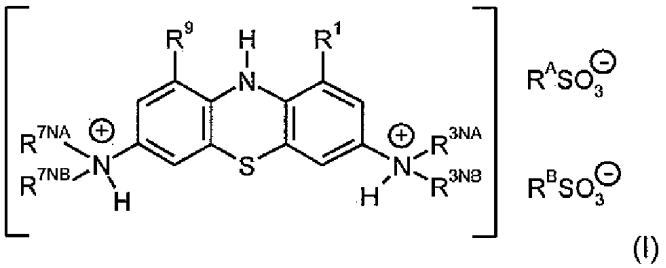


and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent, in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the treatment or prophylaxis of a viral, bacterial or protozoal disease condition.
The properties of the compounds are described hereinafter, whereby it can be seen that in preferred examples the present disclosure can provide one or more of improved physical, pharmacokinetic, biochemical or other beneficial properties.

In other examples the present inventors also provide novel formulations of 3,7-diamino-10H-phenothiazinium salts.

In one example the present disclosure provides certain compounds, specifically, certain phenothiazine diaminium compounds, as described herein.

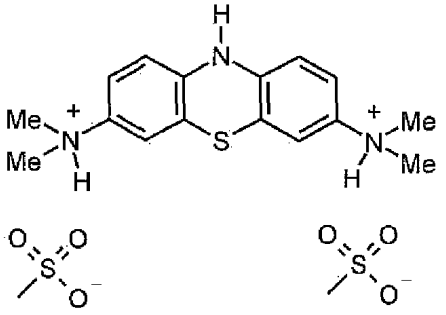
The compound may be selected from compounds of general formula (I):



(I)

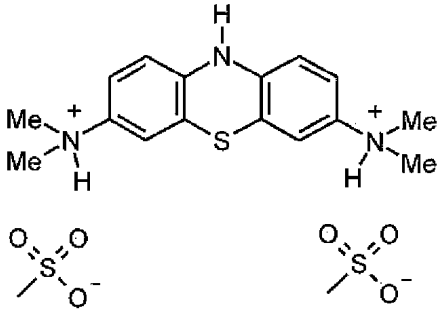
CLAIMS

1. Use of a pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of the following formula:



and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent,
in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the treatment or prophylaxis of skin cancer or melanoma.

2. Use of a pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of the following formula:



and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent,
in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the treatment or prophylaxis of a viral, bacterial or protozoal disease condition.

3. The use according to claim 2, wherein the viral disease is selected from Hepatitis C, HIV, and West Nile Virus.

4. The use according to claim 2, wherein the protozoal disease condition is malaria.

5. The use according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is a solid dosage form comprising the compound and at least one diluent suitable for dry compression.

6. The use according to claim 5, wherein the solid dosage form dissolves to an extent of at least 80% within 30 minutes as evaluated by a standard

pharmacopeial method as defined in United States Pharmacopeia (USP) General Chapter <711>.

7. The use according to claim 5 or 6, wherein said at least one diluent is selected from microcrystalline cellulose, mannitol, calcium salts and sugars.

8. The use according to claim 7, wherein the sugar is selected from: lactose, sucrose, dextrose and maltodextrin.

9. The use according to any one of claims 5 to 8, wherein the pharmaceutical composition further comprises at least one disintegrant selected from crosslinked polyvinylpyrrolidone, sodium starch glycolate, crosslinked sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, or pregelatinized starch.

10. The use according to any one of claims 5 to 9, wherein the solid dosage form is film-coated.

11. The use according to any one of claims 5 to 10, wherein the pharmaceutical composition further comprises an acid having a pK1 of greater than 1.5, optionally wherein the acid is selected from maleic acid, phosphoric acid, ascorbic acid, sorbic acid, aspartic acid and sialic acid.

12. The use according to claim 11, wherein the pharmaceutical composition further comprises a carrier selected from mannitol, a cellulosic material, a starch, or mixtures thereof.

13. The use according to any one of claims 5 to 12, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is characterised in that said composition comprises particles of which more than 10% have a size greater than 10 microns.

14. The use according to any one of claims 5 to 12, wherein the pharmaceutical composition comprises a carrier having a particle shape which is averse to water.