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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **NED-ERLANDSE ORGANISATIE VOOR TOEGEPAST-NATUURWETENSCHAPPELIJK ONDERZOEK TNO** [NL/NL]; Schoemakerstraat 97, NL-2628 VK Delft (NL).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **NIEUWEN-HUIZEN, Willem Ferdinand** [NL/NL]; Provincialeweg 61A, NL-3981 AM Bunnik (NL). **HAVEKES, Aloysius**

Maria [NL/NL]; Lokhorst 9, NL-2402 PP Alphen aan den Rijn (NL). **EMEIS, Josephus Jan** [NL/NL]; Hoogte Kadijk 37C, NL-1018 BE Amsterdam (NL).

(74) Agent: **WINCKELS, J.H.F.**; Johan de Wittlaan 7, NL-2517 JR Den Haag (NL).

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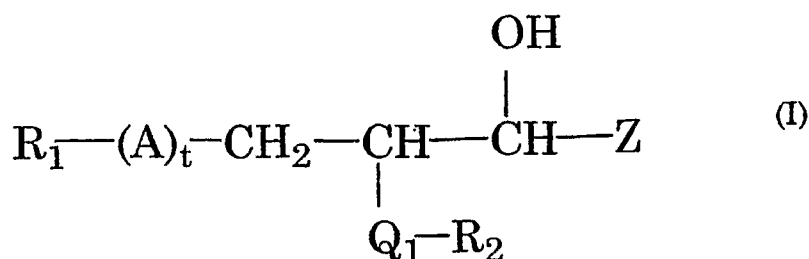
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(54) Title: SPHINGOLIPIDS IN TREATMENT AND PREVENTION OF STEATOSIS AND OF STEATOSIS OR OF HEPATO-TOXICITY AND ITS SEQUELAE



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to the use of sphingolipids for the preparation of a food item, a food supplement and/or a medicament for the prevention and/or treatment of hepatotoxic effects such as hepatic steatosis, fibrosis and/or cirrhosis. In particular, the invention relates to the use of a sphingolipid with the general formula (I): wherein Z is R₃ or -CH(OH)-R₃; A is sulphate, isulphonate, phosphate, phosphonate or -C(O)O-; R₁ is H, hydroxyl, alditol, glycosyl, an alcohol, C₁-C₆ alkyl or amino acid; R₂ is H or unsaturated or saturated (C₁-C₃₀) alkyl chain; R₃ is unsaturated or saturated (C₁-C₃₀) alkyl chain; Q₁ is a primary amine group (-NH₂), secondary amine group (-NH-) or an amide group (-NH-CO-); and t is 0 or 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the manufacture of a medicament for the prevention and/or treatment of hepatotoxic effects such as hepatic steatosis, fibrosis and/or cirrhosis.

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