(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
29 July 2010 (29.07.2010)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2010/084356 A1

(51) International Patent Classification:
A61K 31/58 (2006.01) *A61P 17/18* (2006.01)
A61P 17/02 (2006.01) *A61P 25/00* (2006.01)
A61P 17/16 (2006.01) *A61P 37/00* (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/GB2010/050098

(22) International Filing Date:
22 January 2010 (22.01.2010)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
61/147,084 24 January 2009 (24.01.2009) US
PCT/CN2009/070319
24 January 2009 (24.01.2009) CN

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(81) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available)*: ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— *with international search report (Art. 21(3))*

(54) **Title**: TREATMENT OF NEUROTROPHIC FACTOR MEDIATED DISORDERS

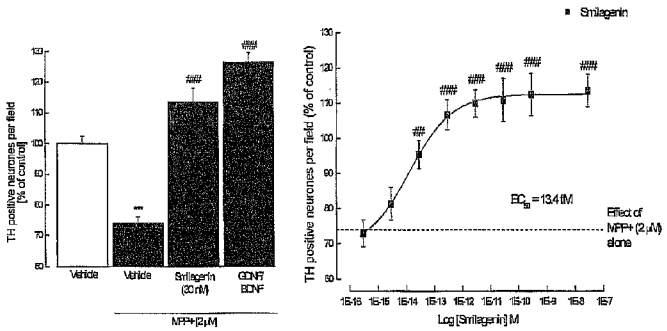


Figure 1 **The restorative effect of smilagenin on MPP^+-induced neuronal damage in rat primary dopaminergic neurones. Data are mean ± s.e.mean, n=1-4 cultures per group, equivalent to 40-230 fields. Statistical analysis was performed by one way ANOVA followed Fisher's *post-hoc* test (###=p<0.001, ##=p<0.01 compared to MPP^+ alone).**

(57) **Abstract**: An agent selected from A/B-cis furostane, furostene, spirostane and spirostene steroidal sapogenins and ester, ether, ketone and glycosylated forms thereof is used to induce self- regulated homeostasis of neurotrophic factors(NFs), for example BDNF and/or GDNF, NFs with limited and manageable side effects in a subject, by modulating NFs in a non- toxic manner under homeostatic control. An effective amount of at least one such agent is administered to the subject, particularly in the treatment or prevention of a range of NF- mediated disorders, particularly neurological, psychiatric, inflammatory,allergic,immune and neoplastic disorders, and in the restoration or normalisation of neuronal and other function in or in relation to any damaged or abnormal tissue, including when assisting tissue (for example, skin, bone, eye and muscle) healing and general skin, bone, eye and muscle health.

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