**CLAIMS**

1. Use of at least one dose of a therapeutically effective amount of valproic acid, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof for the manufacture of a medicament for treating or reducing the risk of a pathological conditional associated with excess fibrin deposition and/or thrombus formation in a subject in need thereof, comprising administering to the subject at least one dose of a therapeutically effective amount of valproic acid, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein the maximum plasma concentration (Cmax) of the valproic acid, or salt and/or metabolite thereof in the subject after administration occurs during a time period that is from four hours before to one hour after the Cmax of PAI-1 in the subject.

2. The use of claim 1, wherein at least one dose is administered during a time period from 8 pm to 6 am.

3. The use of claim 1, wherein the time period is from 2 am to 7 am.

4. The use of claim 1, wherein the at least one dose of valproic acid, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is from 50 to 1000mg.

5. The use of claim 1, wherein the at least one dose of valproic acid, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is from 200 mg to 600 mg.

6. The use of claim 1, wherein the at least one dose is a single dose.

7. The use of claim 1, wherein the valproic acid, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is in the form of a table ot a capsule for oral administration and at least 60% of the valproic acid, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is released from the tablet or capsule during a time period from four to eight hours after administration, or during a time period from 2 am to 6 am.

8. The use of claim 1, wherein a second dose is administered, and the second dose comprises 10 mg to 500 mg of valproic acid, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, which is administered 10 hours to 14 hours after the at least one dose.

9. The use of claim 1, wherein the valproic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof is administered:

(i) as a single dose per 24 hour period (i.e., a single daily dose); and/or

(ii) at a dose sufficient enough to achieve a reduction in PAI-1 plasma levels of at least 20%

10. The use of claim 1, wherein the pathological condition associated with excess fibrin deposition and/or thrombus formation is selected from the group consisting of atherosclerosis, myocardial infarction, ischemic stroke, deep vein thrombosis, superficial vein thrombosis, thrombophlebitis, pulmonary embolism, disseminated intravascular coagulation, renal vascular disease and intermittent claudication.

11. The use of claim 1, wherein the pathological condition associated with excess fibrin deposition and/or thrombus formation is ischemic stroke, and ischemic stroke comprises major ischemic stroke and minor ischemic stroke.

12. The use of claim 1, wherein the pathological condition associated with excess fibrin deposition and/or thrombus formation is myocardial infarction.

13. The use of claim 1, wherein the pathological condition associated with excess fibrin deposition and/or thrombus formation is deep vein thrombosis.

14. The use of claim 1, wherein the subject is a human.

15. The use of claim 1, wherein the valproic acid, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is in the form of a tablet or capsule for oral administration and at least 70% of the valproic acid, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt

thereof, is released from the tablet or capsule during a time period from four to eight hours after administration, or during a time period from 2 am to 6 am.

16. Use of a therapeutically effective dose of valproic acid, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof for the manufacture of a medicament for treating or reducing the risk of a pathological condition associated with excess fibrin deposition and/or thrombus formation in a subject in need thereof, comprising administering to the subject a therapeutically effective dose of valproic acid, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, during a time period from 8 pm to 6 pm, wherein the maximum plasma concentration (Cmax) of the valproic acid, or salt and/or metabolite thereof in the subject after administration occurs during a time period that is from four hours before or one hour after the Cmax of PAI-1 in the subject.

17. The use of claim 16, wherein the valproic acid, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is in the form of a tablet or capsule for oral administration, and substantially all of the valproic acid, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is released from the tablet or capsule during a time period from 2 am to 6 am.

18. The use of claim 16, wherein a single dose of valproic acid, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is administered to a subject in a 24 hour period, wherein the dose of valproic acid, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is from 50 mg to 1000 mg, or from 200 mg to 600 mg.

19. The use of claim 16, wherein the valproic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof is administered:

(i) as a single dose per 24 hour period (i.e., a single daily dose); and/or

(ii) at a dose sufficient to achieve a reduction in PAI-1 plasma levels of at least 20%.

20. The use of claim 16, wherein the pathological condition associated with excess fibrin deposition and/or thrombus formation is selected from the group consisting of atherosclerosis, myocardial infarction, ischemic stroke, deep vein

thrombosis, superficial vein thrombosis, thrombophlebitis, pulmonary embolism, disseminated intravascular coagulation, renal vascular disease and intermittent claudication.

21. The use of claim 16, wherein the pathological condition associated with excess fibrin deposition and/or thrombus formation is ischemic stroke, and ischemic stroke comprises major ischemic stroke and minor ischemic stroke.

22. The use of claim 16, wherein the subject is a human.

23. The use of claim 16, wherein the pathological condition associated with excess fibrin deposition and/or thrombus formation is myocardial infarction.

24. The use of claim 16, wherein the pathological condition associated with excess fibrin deposition and/or thrombus formation is deep vein thrombosis.