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International Bureau

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 6 : A61K 47/48, 47/26

A1

(11) International Publication Number: WO 99/48535

(43) International Publication Date: 30 September 1999 (30.09.99)

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US99/04268

(22) International Filing Date: 24 March 1999 (24.03.99)

(30) Priority Data:
09/048,907 26 March 1998 (26.03.98) US

(63) Related by Continuation (CON) or Continuation-in-Part (CIP) to Earlier Application
US 09/048,907 (CON)
Filed on 26 March 1998 (26.03.98)

(71) Applicant *(for all designated States except US)*: SCHERING CORPORATION [US/US]; 2000 Galloping Hill Road, Kenilworth, NJ 07033–0530 (US).

(72) Inventor; and
(75) Inventor/Applicant *(for US only)*: KLINE, Douglas, F. [US/US]; Apartment 32, 240 West 15th Street, New York, NY 10011 (US).

(74) Agents: WYATT, Donald, W. et al.; Schering–Plough Corporation, Patent Dept., K–6–1 1990, 2000 Galloping Hill Road, Kenilworth, NJ 07033–0530 (US).

(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KG, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published
With international search report.
Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.

(54) Title: FORMULATIONS FOR PROTECTION OF PEG–INTERFERON ALPHA CONJUGATES

(57) Abstract

The present invention provides formulations that prevent loss and damage of PEG–interferon alpha conjugates during and following lyophilization. The formulations of the present invention protect PEG–interferon alpha conjugates from loss and degradation during the lyophilization process, as well as degradation during subsequent storage. The formulations of the present invention are suitable for protection of PEG–interferon alpha conjugates from various types of degradation, including, but not limited to loss of biological activity and changes in the degree and/or nature of conjugation. A preferred PEG–interferon alpha conjugate protectable in the formulations of the present invention is an interferon alpha–2b–polyethylene glycol (12,000) conjugate.