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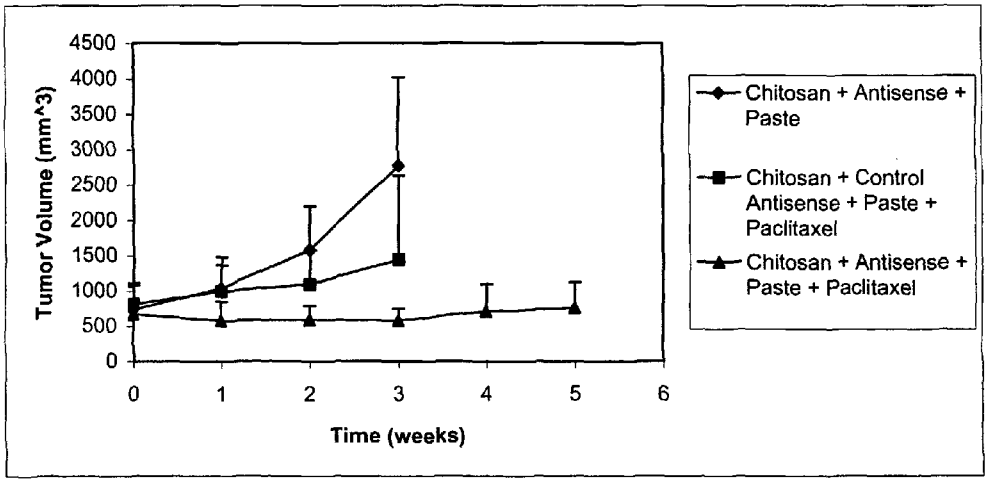
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(54) Title: CONTROLLED RELEASE DRUG DELIVERY COMPOSITION COMPRISING POLYCATIONIC POLYMER AND NEGATIVELY CHARGED PHARMACOLOGICALLY ACTIVE COMPOUND



(57) Abstract: Compositions and methods for *in vivo* delivery of pharmacologically active agents associated with polymeric biocompatible materials. Compositions comprising a first, negatively charged pharmacologically active agent such as an oligonucleotide and a polycationic polymer such as chitosan or chitosan derivatives, optionally in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier the composition providing controlled release and/or protection from degradation of the first, negatively charged pharmacologically active agent when introduced into the body. The pharmaceutically acceptable carrier can be a polymer paste or gel which may contain a second pharmacologically active agent which may be an anti-inflammatory and/or an anti-proliferative agent. Methods of making and administering a controlled release and/or protective from degradation compositions for the delivery of a pharmacologically active agent, such as a nucleic acid, in combination with a polycationic polymer and in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, to a mammal in a pharmaceutically effective amount.

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