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(71) Applicant: SOUTHERN RESEARCH INSTITUTE [US/US]; 2000 Ninth Avenue South, P.O. Box 55305, Birmingham, AL 35255-5305 (US).

(72) Inventors: TICE, Thomas, R.; 1915 Forest River Court, Birmingham, AL 35244 (US). STAAS, Jay, K.; 101 Ashford Lane, Alabaster, AL 35007 (US). FERRELL, Teresa, M.; 608 Paden Drive, Vestavia Hills, AL 95226 (US). MARKLAND, Peter; 817 Tulip Poplar Drive, Birmingham, AL 95244 (US).

(74) Agents: ROWLAND, Bertram, L. et al.; Rae-Venter Law Group, P.C., P.O. Box 60039, Palo Alto, CA 94306-0039 (US).

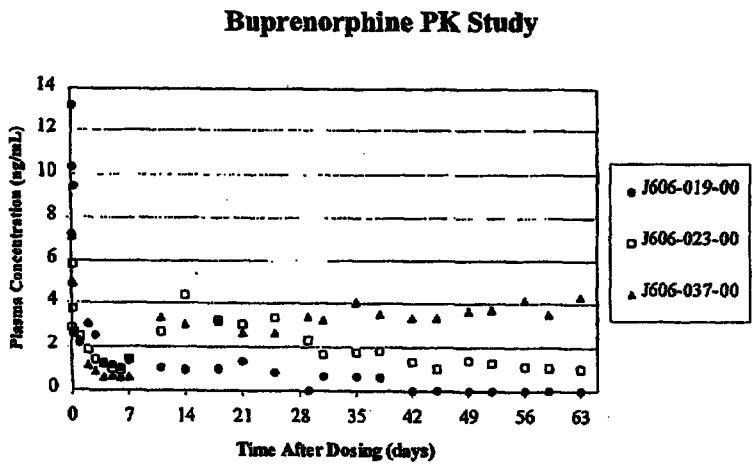
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(54) Title: INJECTABLE BUPRENORPHINE MICROPARTICLE COMPOSITIONS AND THEIR USE



(57) Abstract: An injectable slow-release partial opioid agonist or opioid antagonist formulation is provided comprising a partial opioid agonist or opioid antagonist in a poly(D,L-lactide) excipient with a small amount of residual ethyl acetate. Upon intramuscular injection of the composition, a partial opioid agonist or opioid antagonist is released in a controlled manner over an extended period of time. The composition finds use in the treatment of heroin addicts and alcoholics to reduce consumption of the abused substances. Of particular interest are the drugs buprenorphine, methadone and naltrexone.

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