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

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant *(for US only)*: ALBRECHT, Janice, K. [US/US]; 1308 Temple Grove Court, Winter Park, FL 32789 (US).

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

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(54) Title: COMBINATION THERAPY FOR ERADICATING DETECTABLE HCV–RNA IN PATIENTS HAVING CHRONIC HEPATITIS C INFECTION

(57) Abstract

There is disclosed the use of ribavirin, interferon alpha or a combination of ribavirin and interferon alpha for the manufacture of a pharmaceutical composition for treating a patient having chronic hepatitis C infection to eradicate detectable HCV–RNA by a method comprising administering an effective amount of ribavirin in association with an effective amount of interferon alpha, wherein the patient is one having failed to respond to a previous course of interferon alpha therapy. The compositions may be used in a method for treating a patient having chronic hepatitis C infection to eradicate detectable HCV–RNA involving a combination therapy using a therapeutically effective amount of ribavirin and a therapeutically effective amount of interferon–alpha for a time period of from 20 up to 80 weeks.