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(54) Title: ORAL DOSAGE FORM OF A SULFONAMIDE PRODRUG SUCH AS PARECOXIB

(57) Abstract: A pharmaceutical composition that is substantially free of water comprises at least one orally deliverable dosage unit comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a sulfonamide prodrug and, where the prodrug is readily degradable *ex vivo*, has means to inhibit such degradation prior to oral administration. Illustratively the prodrug is parecoxib or a water-soluble salt thereof, and the composition has means to inhibit conversion of the parecoxib to valdecoxib. A method of treating or preventing a COX-2 mediated disorder in a subject comprises (a) dissolving at least one dosage unit of such a composition in a pharmaceutically acceptable aqueous vehicle to form a solution, and (b) orally administering the solution to the subject before substantial precipitation of insoluble matter occurs in the solution.