

NOVEL ANTIPARASITIC COMPOUNDS FOR CHAGAS DISEASE AND LEISHMANIASIS

INVENTION DESCRIPTION

Parasites are the causal agents of a number of serious human diseases, such as Chagas' disease (caused by *Trypanosoma cruzi*) and Leishmaniasis (caused by *Leishmania* spp.) which infect millions of people each year. Due to the impact of these parasites on public health and the inadequacy of current treatments there is an urgent requirement for more effective drugs, since those in use are highly toxic and are ineffective in the chronic phase of the disease. Moreover, the problem is compounded by rise in drug resistance, especially for Leishmaniasis.

Researchers from Universitat de València and Universidad de Granada have synthesized new compounds for the treatment of parasitic diseases, specifically for Chagas' disease and Leishmaniasis. The synthesized compounds are structurally different from drugs in use, are ten times less toxic and show activity against both, the acute and chronic phases of the disease.

BUSINESS APPLICATION SECTORS

The main application of the technology is in the pharmaceutical area, for the development of useful treatments in both humans and animals (veterinary) of parasitic diseases caused by *Trypanosoma cruzi* and *Leishmania* spp..

TECHNICAL ADVANTAGES AND BENEFITS

- The most remarkable advantages provided by this technology are:
- Decrease in price and in the development of side effects due to lower IC50 value of the compounds than drugs in use.
- Lower toxicity of the compounds than existing drugs for the treatment of Chagas' disease and Leishmaniasis.
- Antiparasitic activity in the chronic phase of the disease.

DEVELOPMENT STATUS OF TECHNOLOGY

Technology developed at laboratory level, with assays in mice.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

The technology is protected through the following patents:

Spanish patent application P201132035, titled "Compuestos macrocíclicos de tipo escorpiando y su uso como antiparasitarios." PCT extension number PCT/ES2012/070866.

COLLABORATION SOUGHT

- License agreement, manufacturing or marketing.
- R & D project to complete the development or apply to other sectors.
- Subcontracting agreement with another company.
- Possible spin-off (looking for partners)

CONTACT

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