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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **EURO-CELTIQUE S.A.** [LU/LU]; 122, Boulevard de la Pétrusse, L-2330 Luxembourg (LU).
- (72) Inventors; and  
(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **BRÖGMANN, Bianca** [DE/DE]; Hinter dem Brot 4, 89073 Ulm (DE). **MÜHLAU, Silke** [DE/DE]; Basaltring 19, 65582 Diez (DE). **SPITZLEY, Christof** [DE/DE]; Ringstrasse 7a, 65627 Elbtal-Heuchelheim (DE).
- (74) Agent: **MAIWALD, Walter**; Maiwald Patentanwalts GmbH, Eisenhof, Eisenstrasse 3, 80335 München (DE).
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(54) Title: MATRIX FOR SUSTAINED, INVARIANT AND INDEPENDENT RELEASE OF ACTIVE COMPOUNDS

(57) Abstract: The invention concerns a storage stable pharmaceutical formulation comprising preferably two active compounds in a non-swellable diffusion matrix, whereby the compounds are released from the matrix in a sustained, invariant and, if several compounds are present, independent manner and the matrix is determined with respect to its substantial release characteristics by ethylcellulose and at least one fatty alcohol. The invention also concerns methods for producing such pharmaceutical formulations.

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International Application No  
PCT/EP 03/03541

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
IPC 7 A61K9/16 A61K9/20 A61K9/22

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**  
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 7 A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)  
EPO-Internal, WPI Data, BIOSIS, EMBASE

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 699 436 A (EURO CELTIQUE SA) 6 March 1996 (1996-03-06)	1-12, 16-24, 27-40
Y	the whole document  abstract page 4, line 21 -page 4, line 51 page 5, line 14 -page 5, line 30 page 6, line 14 -page 7, line 2 examples 1-3 claims 1,2,8,9,11	13-15, 25,26
X	EP 0 631 781 A (EURO CELTIQUE SA) 4 January 1995 (1995-01-04) abstract page 3, line 20 -page 3, line 24 page 4, line 31 -page 4, line 32 page 9, line 9 -page 9, line 13	1-40

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.       Patent family members are listed in annex.

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*A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	*T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
*E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date	*X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
*L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	*Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
*O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	*&* document member of the same patent family
*P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

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Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer  Felder, C
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Y	the whole document  abstract page 2, line 25 -page 3, line 4 -----	13-15, 25,26
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