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Novel Formulations for Treatment of Acute Asthma

» Reference Number

029.2

» Background

Acute asthma can be a life-threatening illness. Many asthmatics will require emergency room treatment during their lifetime, and approximately 1-2% of asthmatics with severe asthma will die during an attack. Retrospective studies have indicated that 80% of these individuals die within one hour of the onset of their attack, too soon for them to receive appropriate medical attention. Acute asthma is especially difficult to treat because airways are obstructed by a combination of broncho-constriction and mucous plugs, such that therapeutic aerosols are not able to penetrate these constricted airways. Consequently, the most obstructed airways receive no treatment and a majority of the therapeutic aerosol goes to airways that are already open. An effective treatment that can solve these problems has the potential to save lives.

Researchers at the University of Calgary have developed a therapeutic formulation comprising several compounds that act synergistically to alleviate asthmatic symptoms. The nature of the formulation allows it to more effectively penetrate the mucous plugs found in severe asthma and deliver therapy where it is needed most.

» Areas of Application

A rescue formulation for treatment of severe asthma.

» Competitive Advantages

- Dual action of penetrating mucous plugs and relaxing constricted airways
- Can be delivered along with conventional asthma treatments
- Some of the compounds are pre-approved for use in humans

» Stage of Development

Patents are pending.

» Contact

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