

[54] **INHIBITION OF WASTING AND PROTEIN DEGRADATION OF MAMMALIAN MUSCLE BY TETRACYCLINES**

[75] **Inventors:** **Bruce Schneider**, Great Neck; **Robert A. Greenwald**, Melville; **Jonathan Maimon**, Rego Park; **Kenneth Gorray**, Fresh Meadows; **Lorne M. Golub**, Smithtown; **Thomas F. McNamara**, Port Jefferson; **Nangavarum S. Ramamurthy**, Smithtown, all of N.Y.

[73] **Assignee:** **The Research Foundation of State University of New York, Albany, N.Y.**

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*Primary Examiner*—Shep K. Rose  
*Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Hoffmann & Baron

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A method for treating mammals suffering from skeletal muscle wasting and/or intracellular protein degradation of skeletal muscle systems by administering to the mammal an amount of tetracycline which results in a significant reduction of the muscle wasting and protein degradation is disclosed. In addition, there is also disclosed a method of increasing the protein content of skeletal muscle systems of mammals by administration of tetracyclines. The tetracyclines useful in the above methods are both antimicrobial and non-antimicrobial. In a preferred embodiment, the method of treatment utilizes a non-antimicrobial tetracycline such as dedimethylaminotetracycline (CMT).

**24 Claims, No Drawings**