

verted microscope. In addition, histopathological sectioning and staining [Goldman et al., *Infect. Immun.* 36, 782-794 (1982)] at various time points verified the specificity for ciliated cells (see FIG. 3).

The aminoguanidine inhibitor of TCT toxicity described herein can be used for administration to warm blooded mammals by conventional means, preferably in formulations with pharmaceutically acceptable diluents and carriers. The amount of the active inhibitor to be administered must be an effective amount, that is, an amount which is medically beneficial but does not present toxic effects which outweigh the advantages which accompany its use. It would be expected that the adult human daily dosage would normally range upward from about one milligram per kilo of body weight of the drug. A suitable route of administration is orally in the form of capsules, tablets, syrups, elixirs and the like, although parenteral administration also can be used, e.g. intravenously, intraperitoneally or subcutaneously. Intravenous administration of the drug in aqueous solution such as physiologic saline is illustrative. Intratracheal aerosol administration is another useful

method of drug delivery and may result in fewer side effects because of more direct delivery to the affected tissue. This can be accomplished by an "inhaler" type of device such as that used by asthma patients for airway drug delivery. Appropriate formulations of the drug in pharmaceutically acceptable diluents and carriers in therapeutic dosage form can be prepared by reference to general texts in the field such as, for example, *Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences*, Ed. Arthur Osol, 16th ed., 1980, Mack Publishing Co., Easton, Pa.

Various other examples of the invention will be apparent to the person skilled in the art after reading the present disclosure without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention and it will be understood that all such other examples are included within the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A method for treatment of pertussis which comprises administering to a mammalian host an effective amount of aminoguanidine sufficient to inhibit the toxic effects of TCT released by *Bordetella pertussis*.

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