

EXAMPLE 2

TABLETS	
The Methionine Compound	250 g
Corn Starch NF	200.0 g
Cellulose, Microcrystalline	46.0 g
Sterotex Powder HM	4.0 g
Purified Water q.s. or	300.0 ml

Combine the corn starch, the cellulose and the methionine compound together in a planetary mixer and mix for two minutes. Add the water to this combination and mix for one minute. The resulting mix is spread on trays and dried in a hot air oven at 50 degrees C. until a moisture level of 1 to 2 percent is obtained. The dried mix is then milled with a Fitzmill through a #RH2B screen at medium speed. The Sterotex Powder is added to a portion of the mix and passed through a #30 screen, and added back to the milled mixture and the total blended for five minutes by drum rolling. Compressed tablets of 100 mg, 500 mg and 1000 mg respectively, of the total mix are formed with appropriate sized punches for the 50 mg, 250 mg or 500 mg containing tablets.

A preferred formulation is one where the total mix is constituted to also contain (1) at least one dietary antioxidant, preferably one or more of vitamins A, C and E, beta carotene, selenium, zinc and glutathione, each in its RDA per tablet, (2) betaine, glycine and serine each from 1/10 to 10 times the Met content per tablet, and/or (3) vitamin B12, vitamin B6 and folic acid each from 0.2 to 10 times its RDA per tablet.

EXAMPLE 3

Preparation of Intravenous Formulations

A solution 25 g of dl-Methionine is prepared in 1 liter of water for injection at room temperature with stirring. The solution is sterile filtered into 500 5-ml vials, each of which contains 2 ml of solution containing 50 mg of compound, and sealed under nitrogen.

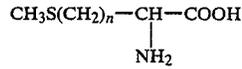
Alternatively, after sterile filtration into vials, the water may be removed by lyophilization, and the vials then sealed aseptically, to provide a powder which is redissolved prior to injection.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim and desire by Letters Patent to secure are the following:

We claim:

1. A method for ameliorating inflammatory symptoms of respiratory disease including but not limited to edema, adult respiratory distress syndrome, asbestosis, and asthma in a subject in need of such treatment, comprising administering to the subject an antioxidant in unit dosage form comprising active components consisting essentially of an antiinflammatory amount of at least one methionine compound selected from the group

consisting of the methionine hydroxy analog, and methionine compounds having the structural formula I



dl- or d- form

10 and pharmaceutically acceptable N- (mono- and dicarboxylic acid) acyl derivatives and alkyl esters thereof, where n is an integer from 1 to 3, and an amount of a dietary antioxidant selected from the group consisting of vitamins A, C, and E, beta carotene, selenium, zinc and glutathione and combinations thereof where such combination becomes therapeutically effective.

2. A method for inhibiting inflammatory response in a subject according to claim 1 where the methionine compound is administered in a daily dosage in the range from 10 to 100 mg/kg of body weight until the inflammation is relieved.

3. A method according to claim 1 where the methionine compound is in the dl-form.

4. A method according to claim 1 where the methionine compound is in the d-form.

5. A method according to claim 1 where the methionine compound is administered in a daily dosage with at least one homocysteine affecting compound selected from the group consisting of betaine, glycine, serine, vitamin B12, vitamin B6, and folate, the homocysteine affecting compound being administered in an amount sufficient to enable the systemic conversion of excess homocysteine present in the system to methionine, in the case of betaine, and cysteine in the case of other homocysteine affecting compounds.

6. A method according to claim 5 where the dosage of the betaine, glycine and/or serine is from 0.1 to 10 times the dosage amount of the methionine compound.

7. A method according to claim 5 where betaine is administered in a dosage equal in amount to that of the methionine compound.

8. A method according to claim 5 where the dosage of the vitamin B12, vitamin B6 or folate corresponds to a recommended daily allowance thereof.

9. A method for ameliorating the symptom which is impaired lung function resulting from inflammation in a subject in need of such treatment according to claim 1 where the methionine compound is administered in an amount of at least 2 grams per day per 70 kg body weight for at least 5 days.

10. A method for ameliorating the symptom which is increased cough frequency in a subject in need of such treatment according to claim 1 where the methionine compound is administered in a sufficient dosage and for a time sufficient to decrease said frequency.

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