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[54] **ENCAPSULATED AND NON-ENCAPSULATED NITRIC OXIDE GENERATORS USED AS ANTIMICROBIAL AGENTS**

[75] Inventors: **Shawn J. Green**, Vienna, Va.; **Larry K. Keefer**, Bethesda, Md.

[73] Assignees: **The United States as represented by the Department of Health and Human Services**, Washington, D.C.; **Entremed, Inc.**, Rockville, Md.

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[58] **Field of Search** 514/611; 424/450

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Primary Examiner—Deborah C. Lambkin
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Leydig, Voit & Mayer, Ltd.

[57] **ABSTRACT**

This invention relates to compositions capable of releasing nitric oxide and therapeutic methods of use thereof for the treatment of microorganism-related disease states. The composition comprises one or more nitric oxide generators, preferably encapsulated in vesicles, such as liposomes. The compositions are used therapeutically by administration to humans and animals via different routes for the treatment of infectious diseases caused by pathogenic microbes.

26 Claims, No Drawings