

# United States Patent [19]

Meister et al.

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[54] **CYSTEINE DELIVERY SYSTEM**

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### Related U.S. Application Data

[63] Continuation of Ser. No. 547,459, Nov. 1, 1983, abandoned.

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[52] U.S. Cl. .... **514/365**; 514/369;  
514/562

[58] Field of Search ..... 514/365, 369, 562

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

L-2-oxothiazolidine-4-carboxylate, a sulfur analog of 5-oxoproline, is cleaved by the enzyme 5-oxo-L-prolinase to form cysteine, thus providing the basis for a cysteine delivery system by the addition of L-2-oxothiazolidine-4-carboxylate to base amino acid solutions or by injecting it directly into in vivo cells.

**7 Claims, 4 Drawing Figures**