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Liao

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(54) **UPREGULATION OF TYPE III ENDOTHELIAL CELL NITRIC OXIDE SYNTHASE BY RHO GTPASE FUNCTION INHIBITORS**

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(52) **U.S. Cl.** **514/2**; 424/94.5; 424/172.1
(58) **Field of Search** 424/93.2, 93.21, 424/94.5, 138.1, 141.1, 172.1; 514/2, 9, 11, 12, 21, 44

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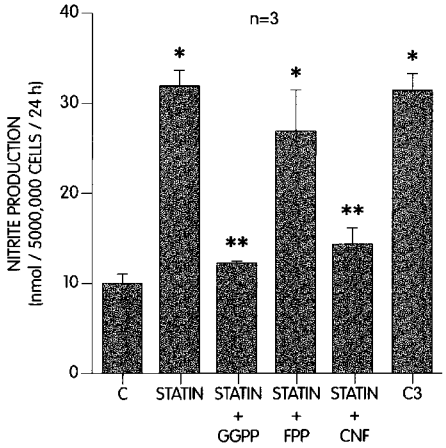
(57) **ABSTRACT**

A use for rho GTPase function inhibitors is provided. In the instant invention, rho GTPase function inhibitors are found to upregulate endothelial cell Nitric Oxide Synthase activity. As a result, rho GTPase function inhibitors are useful in treating or preventing conditions that result from the abnormally low expression and/or activity of endothelial cell Nitric Oxide Synthase. Such conditions include pulmonary hypertension, ischemic stroke, impotence, heart failure, hypoxia-induced conditions, insulin deficiency, progressive renal disease, gastric or esophageal motility syndrome, etc. Subjects thought to benefit mostly from such treatments include nonhyperlipidemics and nonhypercholesterolemics, but do not necessarily exclude hyperlipidemics and hypercholesterolemics.

93 Claims, 16 Drawing Sheets