

Thursday, 9 February 2006

OBJ LODGES PATENT OVER NEW ENERGY DRIVEN DRUG DELIVERY PROCESS

OBJ Limited (OBJ) announced today that provisional specifications had been lodged with the Australian patent office covering a new active drug delivery technique. The new technology, which is designed to influence the behavior of drug molecules, is in addition to the company's existing dermal permeability technology which controls the barrier effect of skin.

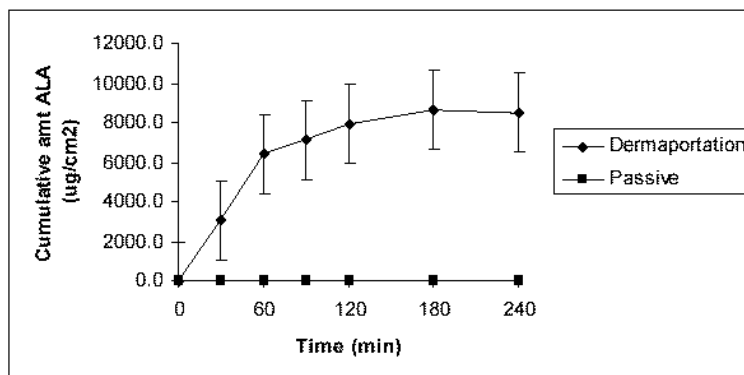
The new intellectual property expands the capabilities of the company's drug delivery platforms and opens new opportunities in low concentration, short term and long term active drug patch products.

The new "energy-drive" technique "pushes" drug molecules, providing far greater levels of control over drug availability and blood plasma levels than previously thought possible. The new technique works in parallel with the company's existing technology and provides the dual benefits of rapid initial drug availability with controlled transdermal diffusion.

Normally, drug molecules migrate through the skin because of differences in concentration between the medication and the body. Molecules will move from a higher concentration area to the lower, in a process known as passive diffusion. With many drugs, passive diffusion is too slow, too difficult to control, unsuited to drugs with large molecular weights or needing to be delivered in low concentrations over extended periods of time.

The new OBJ technology exploits a number of electrokinetic and thermodynamic principals to create the first wireless active delivery system that provides separate control over diffusion and skin permeability.

The graphs below, produced by the Western Australian Biomedical Research Institute, demonstrates the clear differences between the passive delivery of low concentration drugs and the company's Dermaportation system. Passive diffusion, even after 4 hours, does not achieve detectable levels through human skin, however Dermaportation shows a strong early energy delivery phase followed by controlled permeability changes to the skin itself.



Cumulative amount of the oncology drug 5-ALA penetrating human epidermis following application of a 2% solution with Dermaportation (0 - 4 h) or passive diffusion: mean \pm sem, n = 4/3

OBJ will continue to expand its core drug delivery technologies with a view to developing rapid-onset, sustained and low concentration drug delivery products.

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OBJ
LIMITED

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

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RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Transdermal drug delivery technology

Background to the Announcement

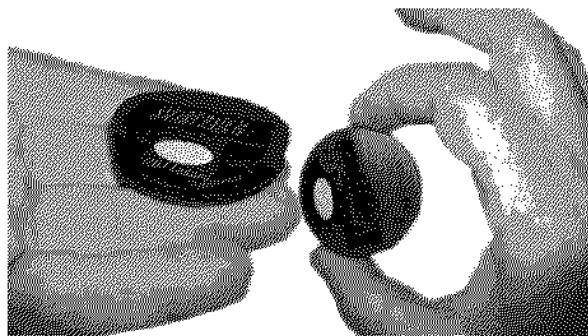
OBJ Limited is a drug delivery company, specializing in electronic "drug patch" technologies that allow drugs, vaccines, therapeutic agents and cosmetic compounds to be delivered more effectively and more efficiently through-the-skin.

The OBJ Dermaportation system has been shown to manage and control the transdermal delivery of a broad range of drugs and therapeutic agents ranging from small difficult molecules such as Caffeine, through to large macro-globular proteins drugs such as vaccines.

OBJ's technology has been independently proven in both in-vitro and in-vivo studies and can manage a broader range of molecular sizes, structures and valencies than other active or passive drug delivery systems.

OBJ has been successful in managing the through-the-skin delivery of drugs used in the inflammation, pain, cancer and cosmetic fields.

OBJ's technology is low cost, and can be incorporated into reusable drug patches, (as illustrated) disposable single use drug patches and in a range of packaging systems for OTC and retail use.



Sustainable Benefits

Low cost and controlled through-the-skin delivery of drugs, hormones, vitamins, vaccines, anti-bodies and anti-aging molecules has long been the desire of the pharmaceutical industry. It would provide economic, safety and efficacy benefits to the pharmacology, medical, veterinary and cosmetic industries. Side effects could be reduced by localized delivery and programmed delivery rates. Needle stick injuries and needle disposable problems could be eliminated while the reduction in the level of skill required for application could significantly reduce total cost of many health programmes. These clear commercial benefits may only be achievable if the skin's natural barrier effect can be overcome.

OBJ is the first company to create a broad spectrum through-the-skin delivery system that is kind to the skin, completely reversible, yet can handle drugs range from the small difficult molecules up to the largest and most complex proteins and anti-bodies. OBJ manages an extensive IP portfolio and prosecutes patent applications throughout the world.

Independence of Results

OBJ contracts its drug and technology testing programs to independent and respected organisations, such as Western Australian Biomedical Research Institute, Western Australian Institute for Medical Research, Curtin University of Technology and Murdoch University. The high level of independence and international accreditation means that the results attributable to OBJ's proprietary technology can be published and presented at major medical and scientific conferences and forums.

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