



For More Info Contact:

Office of Technology
Transfer
610-758-5883 Phone
610-758-5888 Fax
ott@lehigh.edu

Inventors

Barry Bean
Lehigh University
Professor, Biological
Sciences

Robert Flowers
Lehigh University
Professor and
Department Chair,
Chemistry

Jennifer J. Venditti
Lehigh University
Graduate Student,
Biological Sciences

Rajni Singh
Lehigh University
Graduate Student,
Chemistry

Licensing Opportunities

- Exclusive
- Non-exclusive
- Research Sponsorship

Lehigh Case **#080207-01**

Spermicidal and Microbicidal Actions of Fluorous Surfactants

Overview

Numerous spermicidal products are already marketed, including stand-alone contraceptive foams, gels, films or creams, along with combined products including condoms coated with spermicidal lubricants, sponges, etc. Most such products contain nonoxynol-9 (N-9) or similar compounds in substantial concentrations (3.5% in gels or creams). While widely used, these products have limited efficacy, and may be deleterious to normal tissues – some reports show increased rates of microbial infection, and lack of protection against HIV transmission.

This invention consists of new chemical compounds or combinations of compounds that kill human sperm cells and/or inhibit microbial infectivity and are safer than traditional agents for use in contact with human tissues and/or other mammalian cells.

Applications and Advantages

Fluorous surfactants have lower CMC values than comparable non-fluorous homologs, and permit renaturation of proteins following exposure. These compounds may act alone or in synergy with each other, with N-9, or with non-fluorous compounds to enable gentler treatment conditions that lessen damage to surrounding tissues while disabling sperm and/or microorganisms.

Potential applications for these compounds include:

- Spermicide
- Contraceptive
- Birth Control
- Microbicide

Status and Intellectual Property

A U.S. provisional patent application has been filed.

Lehigh ExpertNet

- [Barry Bean](http://expert1.cc.lehigh.edu/LehighExperts/ExpertDetail.aspx?ExpertID=70032492) -
<http://expert1.cc.lehigh.edu/LehighExperts/ExpertDetail.aspx?ExpertID=70032492>
- [Robert Flowers](http://expert1.cc.lehigh.edu/LehighExperts/ExpertDetail.aspx?ExpertID=70060894) -
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