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(71) Applicant: **Wista Laboratories Ltd.**
Singapore 139948 (SG)

(72) Inventors:
- **Storey, John Mervyn David**
  Strathcarron
  Ross-shire IV54 8YL (GB)
- **Sinclair, James Peter**
  Old Aberdeen AB24 3UE (GB)
- **Marshall, Colin**
  Old Aberdeen AB24 3UE (GB)
- **Tan, Han Wan**
  Singapore 160073
  Singapore (SG)
- **Wischik, Claude Michel**
  Old Aberdeen
  Aberdeenshire AB24 1RQ (GB)

(74) Representative: **Wytenburg, Wilhelmus Johannes et al**
Mewburn Ellis LLP
33 Gutter Lane
London
EC2V 8AS (GB)

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This application was filed on 21-09-2010 as a divisional application to the application mentioned under INID code 62.

(54) **Methods of chemical synthesis and purification of diaminophenothiazinium compounds including methylthioninium chloride (MTC)**

(57) This invention pertains generally to the field of chemical synthesis and purification, and more specifically to methods of synthesizing and purifying certain 3,7-diamino-phenothiazin-5-ium compounds (referred to herein as "diaminophenothiazinium compounds") including Methythioninium Chloride (MTC) (also known as Methylene Blue). In one embodiment, the method comprises the steps of, in order: nitrosylation (NOS); nitrosyl reduction (NR); thiosulfonic acid formation (TSAF); oxidative coupling (OC); Cr(VI) reduction (CR); isolation and purification of zwitterionic intermediate (IAPOZI); ring closure (RC); chloride salt formation (CSF); one of: sulphide treatment (ST); dimethyldithiocarbamate treatment (DT); carbonate treatment (CT); ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid treatment (EDTAT); organic extraction (OE); and recrystallisation (RX). The present invention also pertains to the resulting (high purity) compounds, compositions comprising them (e.g., tablets, capsules), and their use in methods of inactivating pathogens, and methods of medical treatment and diagnosis, etc., for example, for tauopathies, Alzheimer's disease (AD), skin cancer, melanoma, viral diseases, bacterial diseases, or protozoal diseases.

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