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(54) Title: THERAPEUTIC AGENTS FOR REDUCING PARATHYROID HORMONE LEVELS

(57) Abstract: Compounds having activity for lowering parathyroid hormone levels are described. In one embodiment, the compounds are comprised of a contiguous sequence of subunits, $X_1 - X_2 - X_3 - X_4 - X_5 - X_6 - X_7$, wherein the X_1 subunit comprises a thiol-containing moiety and the distribution of charge on the X_2 - X_7 subunits provides the desired activity. Methods of using the compounds for treating hyperparathyroidism, bone disease and/or hypercalcemic disorders are also described, and in particular, methods for lowering plasma PTH and serum calcium are provided. The compounds can be used to treat subjects having, for example: primary, secondary or tertiary hyperparathyroidism; hypercalcemia of malignancy; metastatic bone disease; or osteoporosis.



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