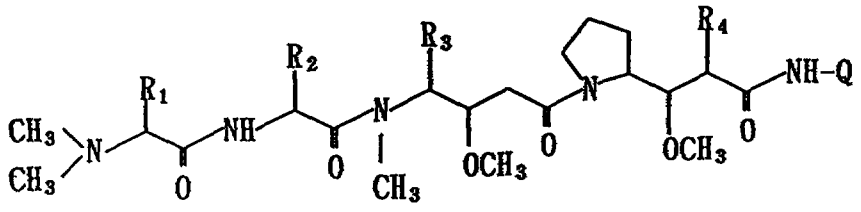
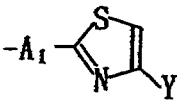
ABSTRACT

A tetrapeptide derivative represented by the following formula or a salt thereof has a higher cytostatic activity than dolastatin 10, and is useful as an antitumor agent:



wherein,

R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4 are the same or different and each represent a hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group or an aralkyl group;

Q represents  or a group of $-A_2-R_7$,

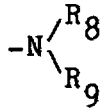
wherein,

A_1 represents a direct bond or $-\overset{R_5}{\underset{|}{C}}H-$,

Y represents a hydrogen atom or $-COR_6$,

R_5 represents a hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group or an aralkyl group,

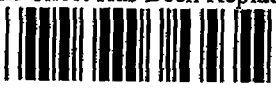
R_6 represents a hydroxyl group, a lower alkoxy group, an aralkyloxy group or



wherein,

R_8 and R_9 are the same or different and each represent a hydrogen atom, a lower

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alkyl group, a phenyl group or a 4- to 7-membered heterocyclic group containing one or two hetero atoms selected from S, O and N, or alternatively

R_8 and R_9 may combine together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bonded to form a 4- to 7-membered heterocyclic ring optionally further containing one hetero atom selected from S, O and N,

A_2 represents a direct bond or a lower alkylene group, and

R_7 represents a cycloalkyl group, an aryl group or an indolyl group,

provided that the case is excluded where both R_1 and R_2 represent isopropyl groups, R_3 represents a sec-butyl group, R_4 represents a methyl group, and Q represents an α-(2-thiazolyl)phenethyl group.

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