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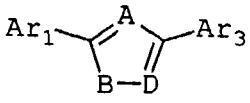
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(54) Title: SUBSTITUTED 3-ARYL-5-ARYL-[1,2,4]-OXADIAZOLES AND ANALOGS AS ACTIVATORS OF CASPASES AND INDUCERS OF APOPTOSIS AND THE USE THEREOF




(I)

(57) Abstract: The present invention is directed to substituted 3-aryl-5-aryl-[1,2,3]-oxadiazoles and analogs thereof, represented by the Formula I: wherein $Ar_1$, $Ar_3$, A, B and D are defined herein. The present invention also relates to the discovery that compounds having Formula I are activators of caspases and inducers of apoptosis. Therefore, the activators of caspases and inducers of apoptosis of this invention may be used to induce cell death in a variety of clinical conditions in which uncontrolled growth and spread of abnormal cells occurs.