

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau(43) International Publication Date
6 December 2007 (06.12.2007)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2007/138242 A1

(51) International Patent Classification:

C07D 205/04 (2006.01) C07D 307/38 (2006.01)
 C07D 213/75 (2006.01) C07D 333/20 (2006.01)
 C07D 233/54 (2006.01) C07D 417/12 (2006.01)
 C07D 237/28 (2006.01) A61K 31/395 (2006.01)
 C07D 279/12 (2006.01) A61K 31/4433 (2006.01)
 C07D 295/12 (2006.01) A61K 31/381 (2006.01)
 C07D 295/22 (2006.01) A61P 31/12 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/GB2007/001024

(22) International Filing Date: 21 March 2007 (21.03.2007)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:

0610664.5 30 May 2006 (30.05.2006) GB
 0610663.7 30 May 2006 (30.05.2006) GB
 PCT/GB06/003469
 18 September 2006 (18.09.2006) GB

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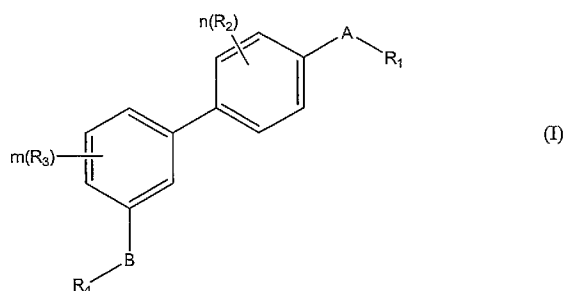
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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: BIPHENYL DERIVATIVES AND THEIR USE IN TREATING HEPATITIS C



(57) Abstract: Compounds of formula (I) are found to be active against HCV. wherein: R₁ is a moiety -A₁-L₁-A₁', -A₁-L₁-A₁'-A₁" or -A₁-L₁-A₁'-Y₁-A₁"; A and B are the same or different and each represent a direct bond or a -CO-NR', -NR'-CO-, -NR'-CO-NR"-, -NR'-S(O)₂-, -S(O)₂-NR'- or -NR'- moiety, wherein R' and R" are the same or different and each represent hydrogen or C₁-C₄ alkyl; R₂ and R₃ are the same or different and each represent C₁-C₄ alkyl, C₁-C₄ alkoxy, C₁-C₄ alkylthio, C₁-C₄ haloalkyl, C₁-C₄ haloalkoxy, halogen, hydroxy, thio, -NR'R", -SO₂-R", -NR'-COR"" or -CO₂R", wherein R' and R" are the same or different and represent hydrogen or C₁-C₄ alkyl and R"" represents C₁-C₄ alkyl; n and m are the same or different and each represent 0, 1 or 2; R₄ is a C₁-C₆ alkyl or C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group or a moiety -A₄, -A₄-A₄', -L₄-A₄, -A₄-L₄-A₄', -A₄-Het₄-L₄-Het₄'-L₄' or -L₄-Het₄-L₄', - each A₁, A₄, A₁', A₄' and A₄' are the same or different and represent a phenyl, 5- to 10- membered heteroaryl, 5- to 10- membered heterocyclyl or C₃-C₆carbocyclyl moiety; each L₁ and L₄ is the same or different and represents a C₁-C₄alkylene or a C₁-C₄ hydroxyalkylene group; - Y₁ represents -CO-NR', -CO-(C₁-C₄ alkylene)-, -CO-(C₁-C₄ alkylene)-NR', -NR'-CO-, -CO-, -O-CO- or -CO-O-, wherein R' is hydrogen or C₁-C₄ alkyl; L₄' represents hydrogen or a C₁-C₄ alkyl group; Het₄ and Het₄' are the same or different and represent -O-, -S- or -NR', wherein R' is hydrogen or a C₁-C₄ alkyl group; the phenyl, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl and carbocyclyl moieties in R₁ and R₄ being unsubstituted or substituted by (a) a single unsubstituted substituent selected from -CO₂R', -SO₂NR'R", -S(O)₂-R', -CONR"R", -COR"", -CO-CO-OR"", -CO-(C₁-C₄ alkylene)-OR", -CO-(C₁-C₄ alkylene)-NR"R", -CO-(C₁-C₄ alkylene)-NR"-CO-R", -CO-(C₁-C₄ alkylene)-CO-NR"R", -CO-(C₁-C₄ alkylene)-SO₂-R", -CO-(C₁-C₄ alkylene)-O-(C₁-C₄ alkylene)-OR", -CO-(C₁-C₄ alkylene)-O-(C₁-C₄ alkylene)-NR"R", -CO-(C₁-C₄ alkylene)-NR"-(C₁-C₄ alkylene)-OR", -CO-(C₁-C₄ alkylene)-NR"-(C₁-C₄ alkylene)-NR"R", -SO₂-(C₁-C₄ alkylene)-OR", -NR"-SO₂-R", -(C₁-C₄ alkylene)-CO-(C₁-C₄ alkylene)-CO<sub>s

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CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),

European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report

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