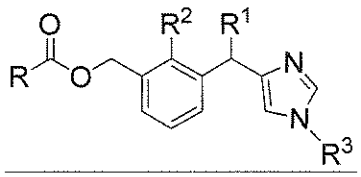
SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Three alpha 1 and three alpha 2 adrenergic receptors have been characterized by molecular and pharmacological methods. Activation of these alpha 2 receptors evokes physiological responses and has useful therapeutic actions.

In a first aspect, there is provided a composition for use in treating retinal disease in a subject comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound having Formula I, its individual enantiomers, its individual diastereoisomers, its hydrates, its solvates, its crystal forms, its individual isomers, its individual tautomers or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,



Formula I

wherein

R^1 is H or C_{1-3} alkyl;

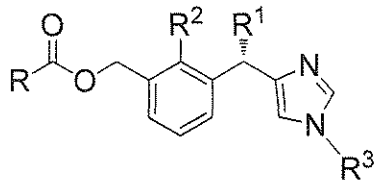
R^2 is H or C_{1-3} alkyl;

R^3 is H, C_{1-10} alkyl, heterocycle or aryl; and

R is C_{1-10} alkyl, heterocycle or aryl; and

wherein the retinal disease is selected from the group consisting of age related macular degeneration, wet macular degeneration, dry macular degeneration, geographic atrophy, diabetic retinopathy, diabetic macular edema and retinal vein occlusion.

In a second aspect, there is provided a pharmaceutical composition for treating retinal disease in a subject comprising a compound having a structure



Formula II

wherein

R^1 is H or C_{1-3} alkyl;

R^2 is H or C_{1-3} alkyl;

R^3 is H, C_{1-10} alkyl, heterocycle or aryl; and

R is C_{1-10} alkyl, heterocycle or aryl; and

wherein the retinal disease is selected from the group consisting of age related macular degeneration, wet macular degeneration, dry macular degeneration, geographic atrophy, diabetic retinopathy, diabetic macular edema and retinal vein occlusion.

The present ~~invention~~disclosure relates to a method of treating retinal diseases in a subject in need of such treatment, which comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising ester pro-drugs of [3-(1-(1*H*-imidazol-4-yl)ethyl)-2-methylphenyl] methanol. Upon hydrolytic and/or enzymatic cleavage of the ester functionality the parent compound, [3-(1-(1*H*-imidazol-4-yl)ethyl)-2-methylphenyl] methanol, is released to act as a selective modulator of the alpha 2 adrenergic receptors.

In another ~~aspect~~embodiment, the present ~~invention~~disclosure relates to a method treating retinal diseases in a subject in need of such treatment, which comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising ester pro-drugs of (*S*) [3-(1-(1*H*-imidazol-4-yl)ethyl)-2-methylphenyl] methanol, or pharmaceutical compositions containing them. Upon hydrolytic and/or enzymatic cleavage of the ester functionality the parent compound, active metabolite, (*S*) [3-(1-(1*H*-imidazol-4-yl)ethyl)-2-methylphenyl] methanol, is released to act as a selective modulator of the alpha 2 adrenergic receptors.

In another ~~aspect~~embodiment the present ~~invention~~disclosure provides relates to a method treating retinal diseases in a subject in need of such treatment, which comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising ester pro-drugs of (*R*) [3-(1-(1*H*-imidazol-4-yl)ethyl)-2-methylphenyl] methanol, or pharmaceutical compositions containing them. Upon hydrolytic and/or enzymatic cleavage of the ester functionality the parent compound (*R*) [3-(1-(1*H*-imidazol-4-yl)ethyl)-2-methylphenyl] methanol, is released to act as a selective modulator of the alpha 2 adrenergic receptors.