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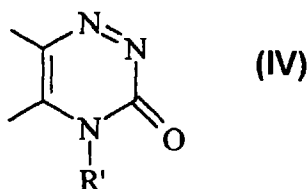
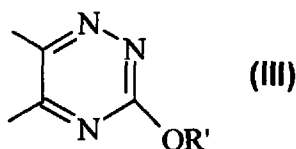
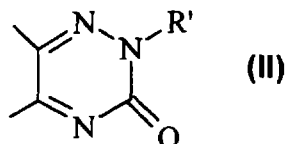
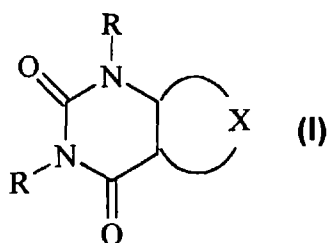
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(54) Title: NOVEL PROTEIN TYROSINE PHOSPHATASE INHIBITOR



(57) Abstract: Use of a compound of formula (I), wherein each R, which are the same or different, is H or C₁-C₆ alkyl, and X completes a ring which is a substituted triazine having one of the following formulae (II) to (IV), wherein R' is H or C₁-C₆ alkyl, or an enol tautomer of a compound of formula (I) in which any of the groups R or R' is hydrogen, in the manufacture of a medicament for use as a protein tyrosine phosphatase (PTP) inhibitor. Formula (I) embraces 2-methylfervenulone, which can be produced by fermentation of a novel microbial strain. Fermentation of the said strain also produces novel precursors to 2-methylfervenulone having utility as prodrugs.

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