

Substituted 2-phenylbenzimidazoles, the preparation and use thereof

- 5 The present invention relates to novel 2-phenylbenzimidazoles, their preparation with novel intermediates and their use as inhibitors of the enzyme poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase or PARP (EC 2.4.2.30) for producing drugs.
- 10 Poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase (PARP) or, as it is also called, poly(ADP-ribose) synthase (PARS) is a regulatory enzyme found in cell nuclei (K. Ikai et al., *J. Histochem. Cytochem.* 1983, 31, 1261-1264). It is assumed that PARP is involved in the repair of DNA breaks (M.S. Satoh et al., *Nature* 1992, 356, 356-358). Damage
15 or breaks in DNA strands activate the enzyme PARP which, when it is activated, catalyzes the transfer of ADP-ribose from NAD (S. Shaw, *Adv. Radiat. Biol.*, 1984, 11, 1-69). During this, nicotinamide is released from NAD. Nicotinamide is converted back into NAD by other enzymes with consumption of the energy carrier
20 ATP. Overactivation of PARP would accordingly result in a nonphysiologically large consumption of ATP, and this leads in the extreme case to cell damage and cell death.
- It is known that free radicals such as superoxide anion, NO and
25 hydrogen peroxide may lead to DNA damage in cells and thus activate PARP. The formation of large amounts of free radicals is observed in a number of pathophysiological states, and it is assumed that this accumulation of free radicals lead [sic] or contribute [sic] to the observed cell or organ damage. This
30 includes of [sic], for example, ischemic states of organs as in stroke, myocardial infarct (C. Thiernemann et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*, 1997, 94, 679-683) or ischemia of the kidneys, but also reperfusion damage as occurs, for example, after lysis of myocardial infarct (see above: C. Thiernemann et al.).
35 Inhibition of the enzyme PARP might accordingly be a means of at least partly preventing or moderating this damage. PARP inhibitors might thus represent a novel therapeutic principle for treating a number of diseases.
- 40 The enzyme PARP influences the repair of DNA damage and thus might also play a part in the therapy of cancers since a greater action potential on tumor tissue was observed (G. Chen et al. *Cancer Chemo. Pharmacol.* 1988, 22, 303) in combination with substances with cytostatic activity.

Nonlimiting examples of tumors are leukemia, glioblastomas, lymphomas, melanomas and carcinomas of the breast and cervix.

In addition, it has been found that PARP inhibitors may show an immunosuppressant effect (D. Weltin et al. *Int. J. Immunopharmacol.* 1995, 17, 265-271).

It has likewise been discovered that PARP is involved in immunological disorders or diseases in which the immune system plays an important part, such as, for example, rheumatoid arthritis and septic shock, and that PARP inhibitors may show a beneficial effect on the course of the disease (H. Kröger et al. *Inflammation* [sic] 1996, 20, 203-215; W. Ehrlich et al. *Rheumatol. Int.* 1995, 15, 171-172; C. Szabo et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 1998, 95, 3867-3872; S. Cuzzocrea et al. *Eur. J. Pharmacol.* 1998, 342, 67-76).

PARP is understood to include for the purpose of this invention isoenzymes of the PARP enzyme described above. Such isoenzymes are, for example, PARP II and PARP III.

In addition, the PARP inhibitor 3-aminobenzamide showed protective effects in a model of circulatory failure (S. Cuzzocrea et al., *Br. J. Pharmacol.* 1997, 121, 1065-1074).

2-Phenylbenzimidazoles have been described many times. Thus, DE 38 30 060 discloses alkylated derivatives as inhibitors of erythrocyte aggregation. DE 35 22 230 mentions an ester derivative of 2-phenylbenzimidazole as inhibitor of platelet aggregation. Halogen-substituted 2-phenylbenzimidazoles having substituted amine radicals on the phenyl ring have been described in WO 98/06703 as MCP-1-antagonists.

Likewise known are 2-phenylbenzimidazoles in which the benzimidazole group is substituted by an amide group. 5-Amido derivatives of 2-phenylbenzimidazole with alkoxy radicals on the phenyl ring have been described in WO 94/12461 as inhibitors of cAMP phosphodiesterase. It was found in DE 35 46 575 (e.g. Example 15) for analogous derivatives that these compounds induce positive inotropic effects. 4-Amido derivatives having a pyridyl radical in position 3 are likewise mentioned in WO 97/48697 as inhibitors of cAMP phosphodiesterase.

The synthesis of 2-phenylbenzimidazol-4-amides [sic] has been described in *J. Chem. Soc. Perkin Trans 1*, 1979, 2303-2307. Analogous compounds which have a substituted alkyl chain on the amide residue and are said to have a cytotoxic effect are

mentioned in J. Med. Chem. 1990, 33, 814-819. WO 97/04771 mentions benzimidazole-4-amides [sic] which inhibit PARP. In particular, derivatives described therein as active have a phenyl ring in position 2, and the phenyl ring may also be substituted
5 by simple substituents such as nitro, methoxy and CF₃. Although some of these substances show good inhibition of the enzyme PARP, the derivatives described therein have the disadvantage that they show little or no solubility in aqueous solutions and thus cannot be administered as aqueous solution.

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In a number of therapies, such as stroke, the active substances are administered intravenously as infusion solution. For this purpose it is necessary to have available substances, in this case PARP inhibitors, which have adequate solubility in water at
15 physiological pH values or close pH values (e.g. pH values of 5-8), so that an infusion solution can be prepared. Many of the PARP inhibitors described, especially the more effective PARP inhibitors, have the disadvantage, however, that they have only low or no solubility in water at these pH values and thus are
20 unsuitable for intravenous administration. Active substances of this type can be administered only with ancillary substances intended to promote solubility in water (cf. WO 97/04771). These ancillary substances, for example polyethylene glycol and dimethyl [sic] sulfoxide, frequently cause side effects or are not
25 tolerated. Very effective PARP inhibitors with adequate solubility in water have not previously been described.

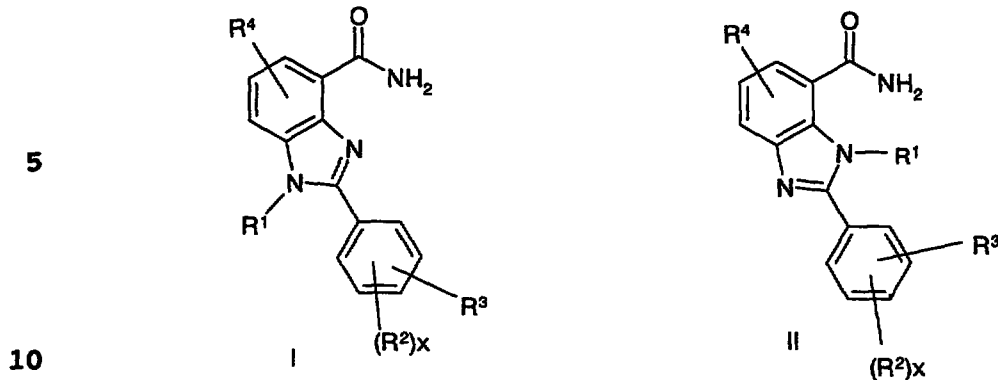
It has been found, surprisingly, that 2-phenyl-benzimidazoles substituted on the phenyl ring by alkoxy radicals and also having
30 an amine residue on the alkoxy side chain are very effective inhibitors but, owing to the incorporation of the aliphatic amine residue, they can form salts with acids and thus show distinctly improved solubility in water.

35 The present invention describes novel 2-phenylbenzimidazole derivatives of the general formula I which have advantages compared with the previously described compounds and are potent PARP inhibitors and, at the same time, show adequate solubility in water to allow administration as infusion solution.

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The present invention relates to substituted
2-phenylbenzimidazoles of the general formula I or II

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in which

15 R^1 is hydrogen, branched and unbranched C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, it also being possible for one C atom of the alkyl radical to carry OR^{11} or a group R^5 , where R^{11} is hydrogen or C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, and

20 R^2 is hydrogen, chlorine, bromine, iodine, fluorine, CF_3 , nitro, $NHCOR^{21}$, $NR^{22}R^{23}OH$, $O-C_1-C_4$ -alkyl, $O-C_1-C_4$ -alkylphenyl, NH_2 , phenyl, it also being possible for the phenyl rings to be substituted by at most two radicals R^{24} , and R^{21} and R^{22} independently of one another are hydrogen or C_1 - C_4 -alkyl and R^{23} is hydrogen, C_1 - C_4 -alkyl or phenyl, and R^{24} is OH ,
25 C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, $O-C_1-C_4$ -alkyl, chlorine, bromine, iodine, fluorine, CF_3 , nitro, NH_2 , and

x may be 0, 1 or 2 and

30 R^3 is $-D-(F^1)_p-(E)_q-(F^2)_r-G$, where p , q and r may not simultaneously be 0, or is $-E-(D)_u-(F^2)_s-(G)_v$, it also being possible for the radical E to be substituted by one or two radicals A , or R^3 is B and

35 R^4 is hydrogen, chlorine, fluorine, bromine, iodine, branched and unbranched C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, OH , nitro, CF_3 , CN , $NR^{41}R^{42}$, $NH-CO-R^{43}$, $O-C_1-C_4$ -alkyl, where R^{41} and R^{42} independently of one another are hydrogen or C_1 - C_4 -alkyl and

40 R^{43} is hydrogen, C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, C_1 - C_4 -alkylphenyl or phenyl, and

D is S or O ,

45 E is phenyl, imidazole, pyrrole, thiophene, pyridine, pyrimidine, piperazine, pyrazine, furan, thiazole, isoxazole, pyrrolidine, piperidine, trihydroazepine and

5

F¹ is a chain of 1 to 8 carbon atoms, it also being possible for one carbon atom of the chain to carry an OH or O-C₁-C₄-alkyl group and

5 F² is a chain of 1 to 8 carbon atoms, it also being possible for one carbon atom of the chain to carry an OH or O-C₁-C₄-alkyl group and

p may be 0 or 1 and

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q may be 0 or 1, and

r may be 0 or 1 and

15 s may be 0 or 1 and

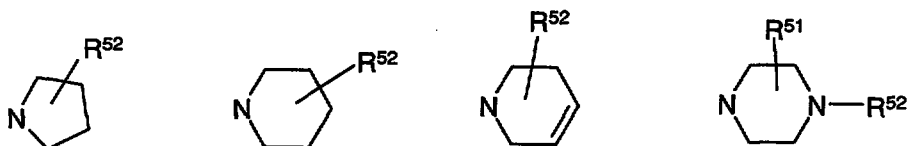
u may be 0 or 1 and

v may be 0 or 1

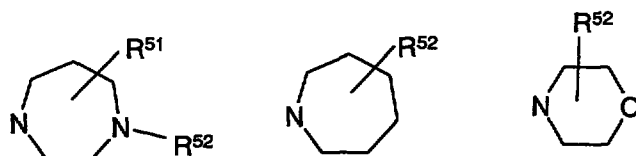
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G may be NR⁵¹R⁵² or

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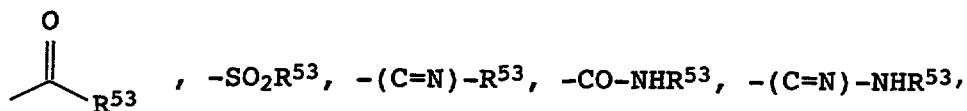
and

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R⁵¹ is hydrogen or branched and unbranched C₁-C₆-alkyl, (CH₂)_t-K and

R⁵² is hydrogen, branched and unbranched C₁-C₆-alkyl, phenyl,

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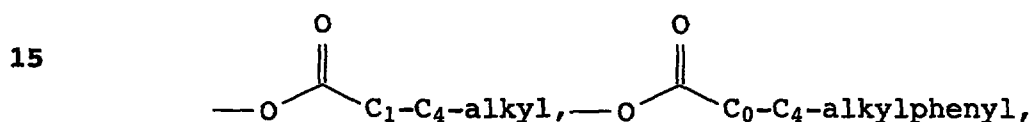
in which

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R⁵³ may be branched or unbranched O-C₁-C₆-alkyl, phenyl, branched or unbranched C₁-C₄-alkylphenyl, where in the case of R⁵² and R⁵³ independently of one another one

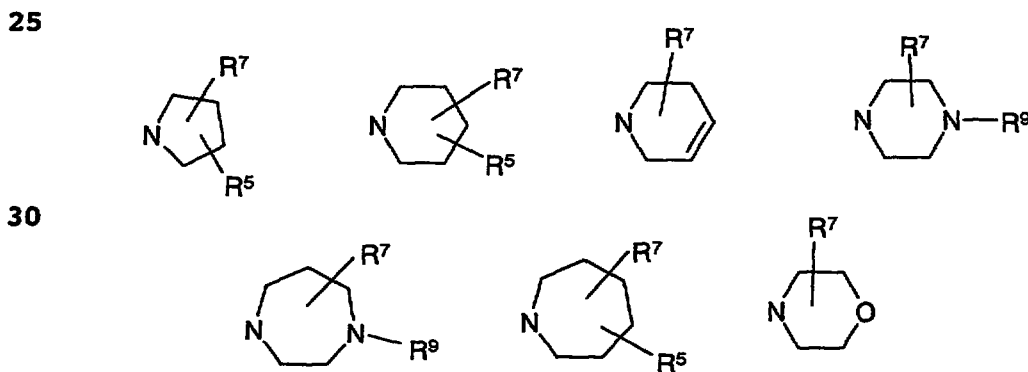
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hydrogen of the C₁-C₆-alkyl radical may be substituted by one of the following radicals: OH, O-C₁-C₄-alkyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopentyl, tetrahydronaphthyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cycloheptyl, naphthyl and phenyl, it also
 5 being possible for the carbocycles of the radicals R⁵² and R⁵³ independently of one another to carry one or two of the following radicals: branched or unbranched C₁-C₆-alkyl, branched or unbranched O-C₁-C₄-alkyl, OH, F, Cl, Br, I, CF₃, NO₂, NH₂, CN, COOH, COOC₁-C₄-alkyl,
 10 C₁-C₄-alkylamino, CCl₃, C₁-C₄-dialkylamino, SO₂-C₁-C₄-alkyl, SO₂phenyl, CONH₂, CONH-C₁-C₄-alkyl, CONHphenyl, CONH-C₁-C₄-alkylphenyl, NHSO₂-C₁-C₄-alkyl, NHSO₂phenyl, S-C₁-C₄-alkyl,



CHO, CH₂-O-C₁-C₄-alkyl, -CH₂O-C₁-C₄-alkylphenyl, -CH₂OH,
 -SO-C₁-C₄-alkyl, -SO-C₁-C₄-alkylphenyl, -SO₂NH₂,
 20 -SO₂NH-C₁-C₄-alkyl
 and two radicals form a bridge -O-(CH₂)_{1,2}-O-,

B may be



and

A may be hydrogen, chlorine, bromine, iodine, fluorine, CF₃, nitro, OH, O-C₁-C₄-alkyl, O-C₁-C₄-alkylphenyl, NH₂, branched and unbranched C₁-C₆-alkyl, CN, NH-CO-R³³, where R³³ is
 40 hydrogen, C₁-C₄-alkyl or phenyl and

R³¹ is hydrogen, C₁-C₆-alkyl, (CH₂)_t-K and

R³² is hydrogen, C₁-C₆-alkyl, -CO-R⁸, SO₂-R⁸, -(C=N)-R⁸, -CO-OR⁸,
 45 -CO-NHR⁸ and -(C=N)-NHR⁸ and

R^{33} is hydrogen and C_1 - C_4 -alkyl and

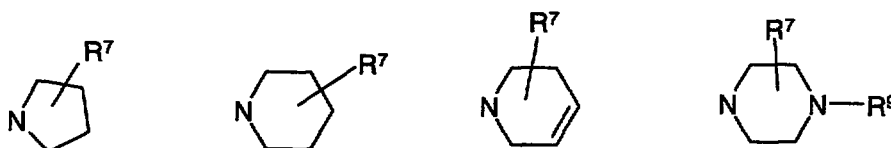
t is 0,1,2,3,4 and

5 K is phenyl which may carry at most two radicals R , is $NR^{k1}R^{k2}$ (where R^{k1} and R^{k2} are as defined for R^{41} and R^{42} respectively), NH - C_1 - C_4 -alkylphenyl, pyrrolidine, piperidine, 1,2,5,6-tetrahydropyridine, morpholine, trihydroazepine, piperazine, which may also be substituted by an alkyl radical

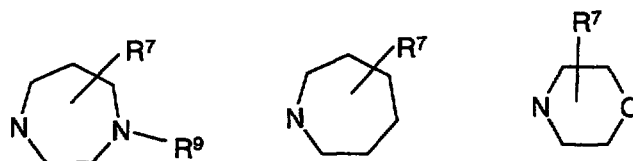
10 C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, and homopiperazine, which may also be substituted by an alkyl radical C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, and

R^5 may be hydrogen, C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, NR^7R^9 and

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20



25

and

R^7 is hydrogen, C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, C_1 - C_4 -alkylphenyl, phenyl, it also being possible for the rings to be substituted by up to two radicals R^{71} , and

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R^{71} is OH , C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, O - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, chlorine, bromine, iodine, fluorine, CF_3 , nitro, NH_2 , and

35 R^8 is hydrogen, C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, phenyl, C_1 - C_4 -alkylphenyl, it also being possible for the ring to be substituted by up to two radicals R^{81} , and

40 R^{81} is OH , C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, O - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, chlorine, bromine, iodine, fluorine, CF_3 , nitro, NH_2 , and

R^9 is hydrogen, $COCH_3$, CO - O - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, $COCF_3$, branched and unbranched C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, it being possible for one or two hydrogens of the C_1 - C_6 -alkyl radical to be substituted in each

45 case by one of the following radicals: OH , O - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl and phenyl, and for the phenyl ring also to carry one or two of the following radicals: iodine, chlorine, bromine, fluorine,

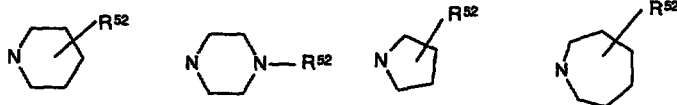
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branched and unbranched C₁-C₆-alkyl, nitro, amino, C₁-C₄-alkylamino, C₁-C₄-dialkylamino, OH, O-C₁-C₄-alkyl, CN, CF₃, SO₂-C₁-C₄-alkyl, and [sic]

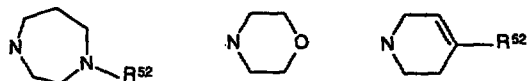
- 5 and the tautomeric forms, possible enantiomeric and diastereomeric forms thereof, the prodrugs thereof and pharmacologically tolerated salts.

Preference is given to compounds in which the radicals are as
10 defined below:

- R¹ is hydrogen, branched and unbranched C₁-C₆-alkyl, it also being possible for one C atom of the alkyl radical to carry OR¹¹ or a group R⁵, where
15 R¹¹ is hydrogen or C₁-C₄-alkyl, and
- R² is hydrogen, chlorine, fluorine, bromine, iodine, branched and unbranched C₁-C₆-alkyl, nitro, CF₃, CN, NR²¹R²², NH-CO-R²³,
20 OR²¹, where
- R²¹ and R²² are, independently of one another, hydrogen or C₁-C₄-alkyl, and
- 25 R²³ are [sic] hydrogen, C₁-C₄-alkyl or phenyl, and
- R³ is -O-(CH₂)_o-(CHR³¹)_m-(CH₂)_n-R⁵, where
- R³¹ is hydrogen, C₁-C₄-alkyl, OH and O-C₁-C₄-alkyl,
30 m, o is [sic], independently of one another, 0, 1 or 2, and
- n is 1, 2, 3 or 4, and
- 35 R⁴ is hydrogen, branched and unbranched C₁-C₆-alkyl, chlorine, bromine, fluorine, nitro, cyano, NR⁴¹R⁴², NH-CO-R⁴³, OR⁴¹, where
- R⁴¹ and R⁴² are, independently of one another, hydrogen or
40 C₁-C₄-alkyl, and
- R⁴³ are [sic] C₁-C₄-alkyl or phenyl, and
- R⁵ is NR⁵¹R⁵² or one of the following radicals
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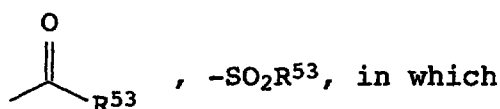
where

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R^{51} is hydrogen and branched and unbranched C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, and

R^{52} is hydrogen, branched and unbranched C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, phenyl,

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R^{53} is branched or unbranched O - C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, phenyl, branched or unbranched C_1 - C_4 -alkyl-phenyl,

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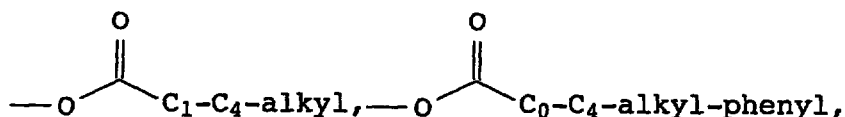
where one hydrogen in the C_1 - C_6 -alkyl radical in R^{52} and R^{53} can, independently of one another, be substituted by one of the following radicals: OH, O - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopentyl, tetrahydronaphthyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cycloheptyl, naphthyl and phenyl, where the carbocycles of

25

the R^{52} and R^{53} radicals may also, independently of one another, carry one or two of the following radicals: branched or unbranched C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, branched or unbranched O - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, OH, F, Cl, Br, I, CF_3 , NO_2 , NH_2 , CN, COOH, $COOC_1$ - C_4 -alkyl, C_1 - C_4 -alkylamino, CCl_3 , C_1 - C_4 -dialkylamino, SO_2 - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, SO_2 phenyl, $CONH_2$, $CONH$ - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, $CONH$ phenyl, $CONH$ - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl-phenyl, $NHSO_2$ - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, $NHSO_2$ phenyl, S - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl,

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CHO, CH_2 - O - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, $-CH_2O$ - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl-phenyl, $-CH_2OH$, $-SO$ - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, $-SO$ - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl-phenyl, SO_2NH_2 , $-SO_2NH$ - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl

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and two radicals form a bridge $-O-(CH_2)_{1,2}-O-$.

Particularly preferred positions for the R^2 radical in the general formula I or II are position 3 and position 4 relative to the benzimidazole ring. Position 3 or position 4 relative to the benzimidazole ring is likewise preferred for the R^3 radical.

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The particularly preferred meaning of R^1 is hydrogen.

The particularly preferred meaning of R^2 is hydrogen, branched or unbranched C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, nitro, CN, NH_2 , O - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl.

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The particularly preferred meaning of R^3 is $-O-(CH_2)_p-R^5$ with p equal to 2, 3 or 4.

R^5 is preferably a 6-membered ring, in particular piperazine,

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R^{52} is preferably an optionally substituted phenyl ring, especially if R^5 is a 6-membered ring.

The particularly preferred meaning of R^4 is hydrogen.

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The respective combinations of the above preferred meanings are very particularly preferred.

Preference is also given to compounds where the substituents are

20 as defined below:

R^1 is hydrogen, branched and unbranched C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, it also being possible for one C atom of the alkyl radical to carry OR^{11} or a group R^5 , where

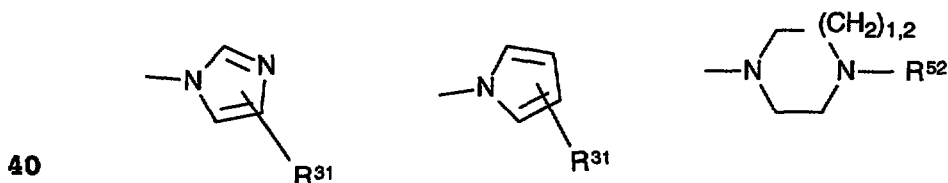
25 R^{11} is hydrogen or C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, and

R^2 is hydrogen, chlorine, fluorine, bromine, iodine, branched and unbranched C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, nitro, CF_3 , CN, $NR^{21}R^{22}$, $NH-CO-R^{23}$, OR^{21} , where

30

R^{21} and R^{22} independently of one another are hydrogen or C_1 - C_4 -alkyl and

R^{23} is hydrogen, C_1 - C_4 -alkyl or phenyl, and

35 R^3 is

and

R^{31} is hydrogen, CHO and $-(CH_2)_o-(CHR^{32})_m-(CH_2)_n-R^5$, where

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R^{32} is hydrogen, C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, OH and O - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, independently of one another are 0, 1 or 2 and m, o

11

n is 1, 2, 3 or 4, and

R⁴ is hydrogen, branched and unbranched C₁-C₆-alkyl, chlorine, bromine, fluorine, nitro, cyano, NR⁴¹R⁴², NH-CO-R⁴³, OR⁴¹,
 5 where

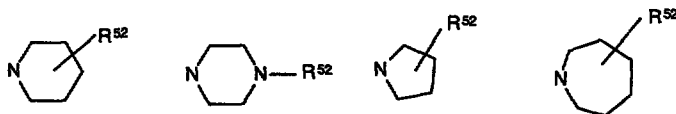
R⁴¹ and R⁴² independently of one another are hydrogen or C₁-C₄-alkyl and

R⁴³ is C₁-C₄-alkyl or phenyl, and

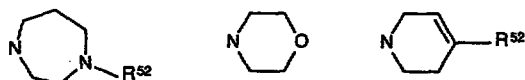
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R⁵ is NR⁵¹R⁵² or one of the radicals below

15



20



where

R⁵¹ is hydrogen and branched and unbranched C₁-C₆-alkyl and

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R⁵² is hydrogen, COCH₃, CO-O-C₁-C₄-alkyl, COCF₃, branched and unbranched C₁-C₆-alkyl, it being possible for one hydrogen of the C₁-C₆-alkyl radical to be substituted by one of the following radicals: OH, O-C₁-C₄-alkyl and phenyl and for the phenyl ring also to carry one or two of the following radicals: chlorine, bromine, fluorine, branched and unbranched C₁-C₄-alkyl, nitro, amino, C₁-C₄-alkylamino,
 30 C₁-C₄-dialkylamino, OH, O-C₁-C₄-alkyl, CN,
 35 SO₂-C₁-C₄-alkyl.

Particularly preferred positions for the radical R² in the formula I or II are the 3-position and the 4-position with respect to the
 40 benzimidazole ring. For the radical R³, preference is likewise given to the 3-position or 4-position with respect to the benzimidazole ring.

The particularly preferred meaning of R¹ is hydrogen.

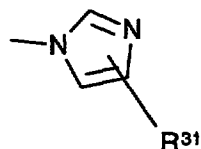
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The particularly preferred meaning of R^2 is hydrogen, branched or unbranched C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, nitro, CN, NH_2 , O - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl. Particularly preferably, R^2 is hydrogen.

5 For R^3 being

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the particularly preferred meaning of R^{31} is hydrogen or $-(CH_2)_p-R^5$, where

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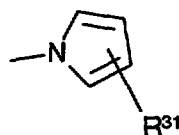
p is 1 or 2 and

R^{52} may be hydrogen, branched and unbranched C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, where one hydrogen of the C_1 - C_6 -alkyl radical may be substituted by one of the following radicals: OH, O - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl and phenyl, and where the phenyl ring may also carry one or two of the following radicals: chlorine, bromine, fluorine, branched and unbranched C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, nitro, amino, C_1 - C_4 -alkylamino, C_1 - C_4 -dialkylamino, OH, O - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, CN, SO_2 - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl.

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For R^3 being

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the particularly preferred meaning of R^{31} is is [sic] hydrogen or $-(CH_2)_p-R^5$, where

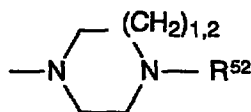
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p is 1 or 2 and

R^{52} may be hydrogen, branched and unbranched C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, where one hydrogen of the C_1 - C_6 -alkyl radical may be substituted by one of the following radicals: OH, O - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl and phenyl, and where the phenyl ring may also carry one or two of the following radicals: chlorine, bromine, fluorine, branched and unbranched C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, nitro, amino, C_1 - C_4 -alkylamino, C_1 - C_4 -dialkylamino, OH, O - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, CN, SO_2 - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl.

45

For R³ being



5

the particularly preferred meaning of

- R⁵² can be [sic] hydrogen, branched and unbranched C₁-C₆-alkyl, where one hydrogen of the C₁-C₆-alkyl radical may be substituted by one of the following radicals: OH, O-C₁-C₄-alkyl and phenyl, and where the phenyl ring may also carry one or two of the following radicals: chlorine, bromine, fluorine, branched and unbranched C₁-C₄-alkyl, nitro, amino, C₁-C₄-alkylamino, C₁-C₄-dialkylamino, OH, O-C₁-C₄-alkyl, CN, SO₂-C₁-C₄-alkyl.

The particularly preferred meaning of R⁴ is hydrogen.

- 20 Very particular preference is given to the respective combinations of the preferred meanings above.

- The compounds of the formula I can be employed as racemates, as enantiomerically pure compounds or as diastereomers. If enantiomerically pure compounds are required, these can be obtained, for example, by carrying out a classical racemate resolution with the compounds of the formula I or their intermediates using a suitable optically active base or acid.

- 30 The invention also relates to compounds which are mesomeric or tautomeric to compounds of the formula I.

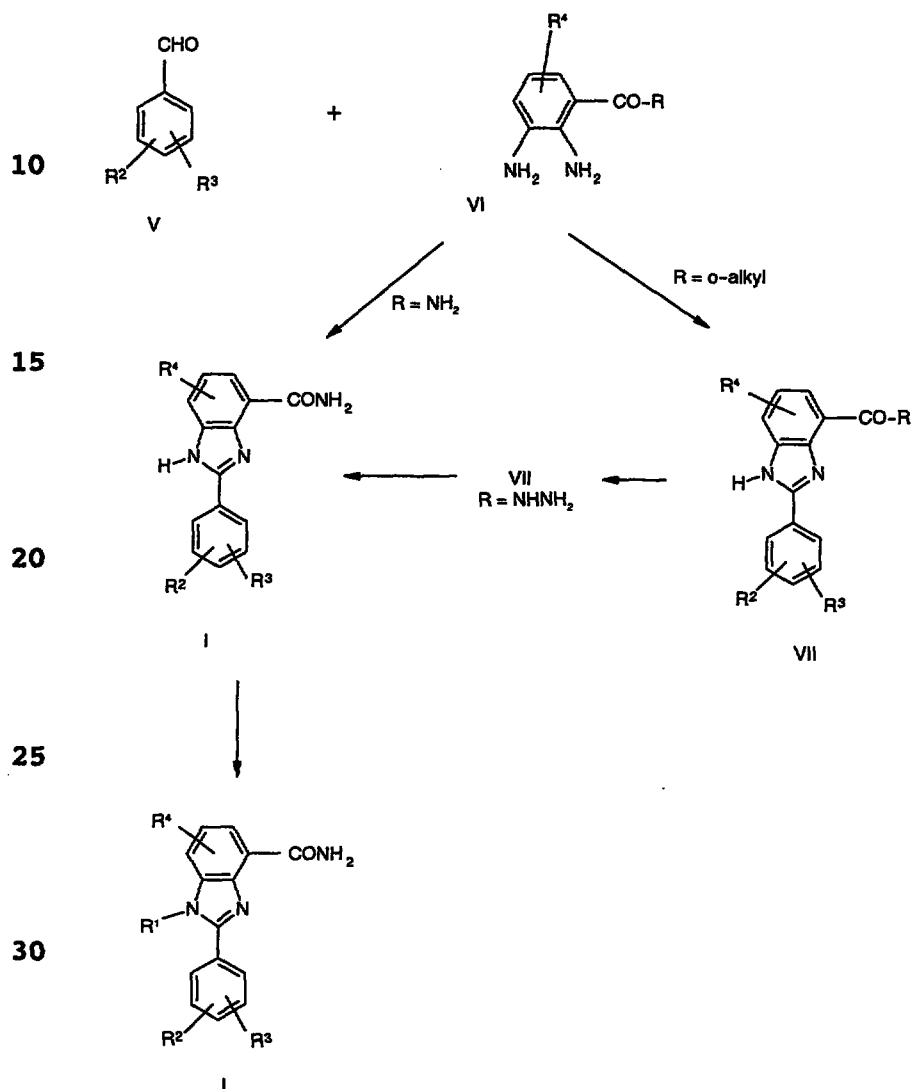
- The invention further relates to the physiologically tolerated salts of the compounds I which can be obtained by reacting compounds I with a suitable acid or base. Suitable acids and bases are listed, for example, in Fortschritte der Arzneimittelforschung, 1966, Birkhäuser Verlag, Volume 10, pp. 224-285. These include, for example, hydrochloric acid, citric acid, tartaric acid, lactic acid, phosphoric acid, methanesulfonic acid, acetic acid, formic acid, maleic acid, fumaric acid etc., or sodium hydroxide, lithium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide and tris.

- Prodrugs mean compounds which are metabolized *in vivo* to compounds of the general formula I or II. Typical prodrugs are phosphates, carbamates of amino acids, esters and others.

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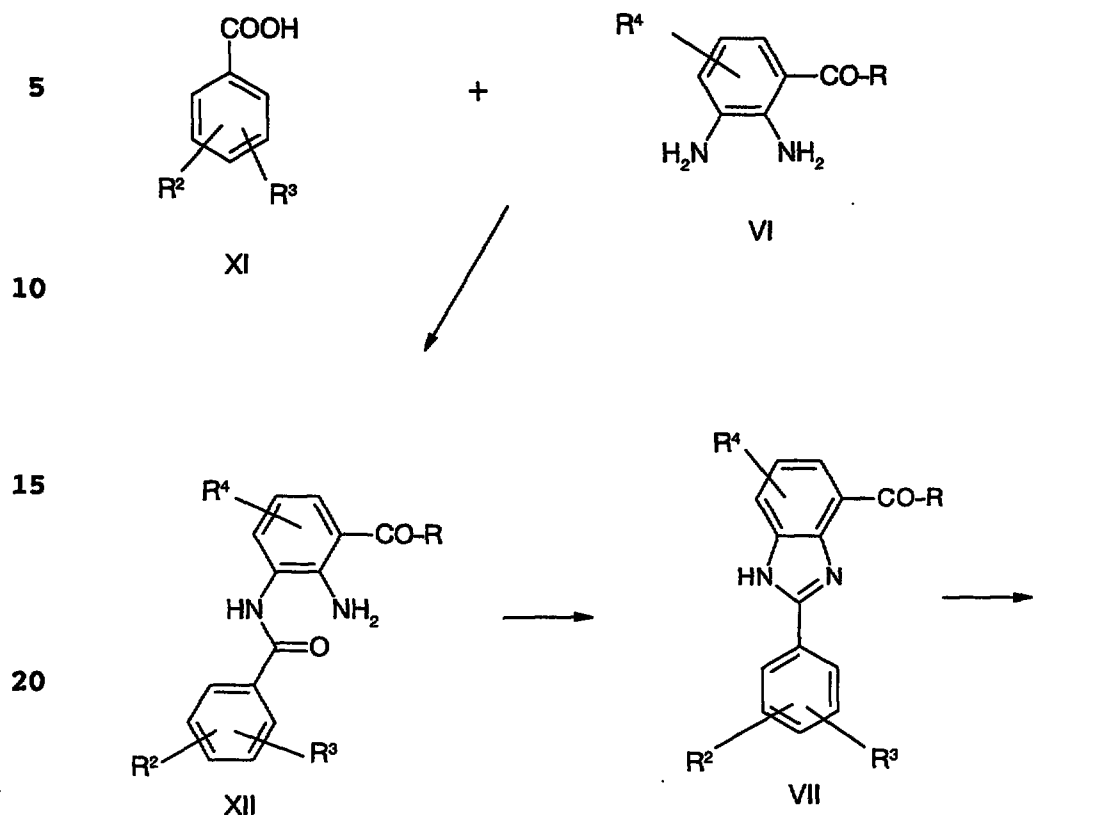
The 2-phenylbenzimidazoles of the formula I or II according to the invention can be prepared in various ways which are outlined in the following synthesis schemes.

5 Synthesis scheme 1



Condensation of benzaldehydes V with phenylenediamines VI results in the benzimidazole VII, preferably using polar solvents such as ethanol or dimethylformamide and adding acids such as acetic acid, at elevated temperature, usually 80 to 120°C. It is beneficial for the reaction to add weak oxidizing agents such as copper(II) salts, which are added as aqueous solution.

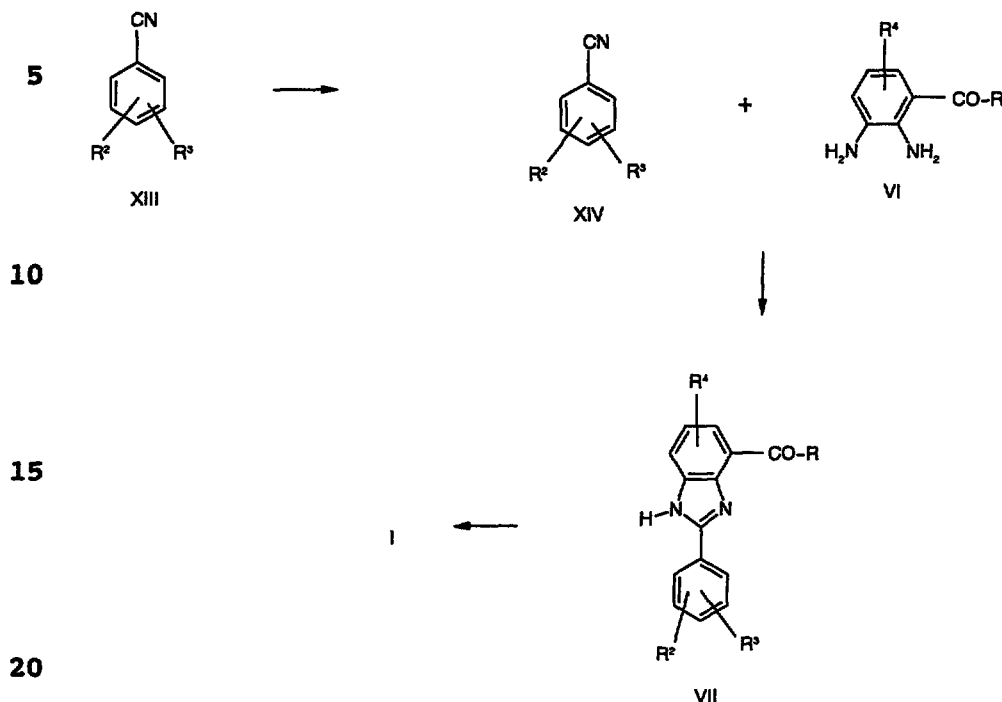
Synthesis scheme 2



When $R = \text{NH}_2$ in the phenylenediamine VI, the condensation directly results in compounds I according to the invention. Otherwise, it is possible, if R is O-alkyl, to react this ester with ammonia, optionally at elevated temperature and elevated pressure, to give the amide I. Alternatively, the ester XII can be reacted with hydrazine in polar solvents such as the alcohols butanol and ethanol, or else dimethylformamide, at elevated temperatures, preferably 80 to 130°C, resulting in a hydrazide XII ($R = \text{NHNH}_2$) which can then be reduced under reductive conditions, such as with raney nickels in alcohols under reflux, to the amide I.

Introduction of the R^1 [sic] radical on the benzimidazole residue in I ($R^1 = \text{H}$) takes place under customary alkylation conditions as it [sic] for example in J.Het.Chem. 1995, 32, 707f and in Tetrahedron 1994, 50, 5535), although it is necessary to employ the reactant $R^1\text{-L}$ (L = leaving group Cl, Br and I).

Synthesis scheme 3



As an alternative to the benzaldehydes V shown in scheme 1, it is also possible to employ benzoic acids such as XI (see scheme 2) or benzonitriles such as XIII (see scheme 3) in place of the benzaldehyde. The preparation of these derivatives is analogous to the preparation of the substituted benzaldehydes V. Starting from XI, the condensation to VII takes place in two stages. Firstly, the benzoic acid XI is reacted with the aniline VI in a peptide-like coupling to give the amide XII. Conventional conditions are used for this, which are listed, for example, in Houben-Weyl, Methoden der Organischen Chemie, 4th edition, E5, chapter V, or C.R. [sic] Larock, Comprehensive Organic Transformations, VCH Publisher, 1989, page 972 et seq. The ring closure takes place [sic] to the benzimidazole then takes place at elevated temperature, for example 60 to 180°C, with or without solvent such as dimethylformamide, with the addition of acids such as acetic acid, or directly in acetic acid itself.

Reaction of the phenylenediamine VI with a benzonitrile XIII likewise takes place under conventional conditions. This can be carried out in solvents such as dimethylformamide with the addition of acids at elevated temperature such as 60 to 200°C. However, it is also possible to use the conventional methods for preparing amidines from benzonitriles, as described in in [sic] Houben-Weyl, Methoden der organischen Chemie, E5, p. 1304 f., J. Amer. Chem. Soc. 1957, 427 and J. Org. Chem. 1987, 1017.

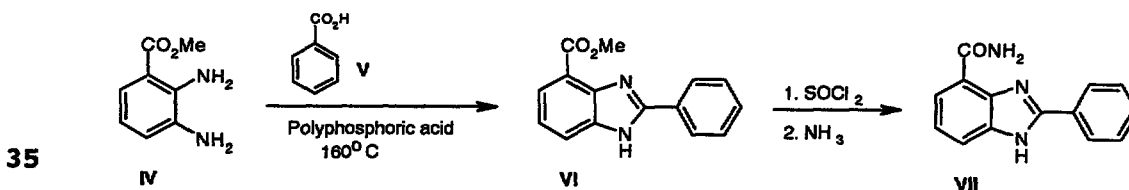
The present invention also relates to 2,3-diaminobenzamides of the formula XX, XXI and their synthesis and use as intermediates.

- 5 Diaminobenzamides carrying a substituted alkyl chain on the amide radical are disclosed in WO 9631462 for the treatment of neurodegenerative disorders. Diaminobenzamides carrying a substituted aryl radical on the amide radical are disclosed in JP 09059236 for the treatment of inflammations and allergies. The effects of benzohydroxamic acids on DNA synthesis were investigated in *Bull. Soc. Chim. Belg.* 1997, 106, 767.

- Aminodibenzodiazepinones were prepared in P. V. Khadikar et al., *J. Heterocycl. Chem.* 1998, 35, 675. The synthesis of 2-phenylbenzimidazol-4-amides has been described in *J. Chem. Soc. Perkin Trans 1*, 1979, 2302-2307. Analogous compounds, which additionally carry a substituted alkyl chain on the amide radical, and which are said to have cytotoxic action, are listed in *J. Med. Chem.* 1990, 33, 814-819. WO 97/04771 lists benzimidazole-4-amides which inhibit the enzyme PARP. In particular, derivatives carrying a phenyl ring in the 2-position, where the phenyl ring may additionally be substituted by simple substituents, such as nitro, methoxy and CF₃, have been described as active.

- 25 To demonstrate the synthesis strategy in WO 97/04771, Scheme 4 shows the synthesis of 2-phenylbenzimidazole-4-carboxamide (NU 1070) in an exemplary manner.

30 Scheme 4

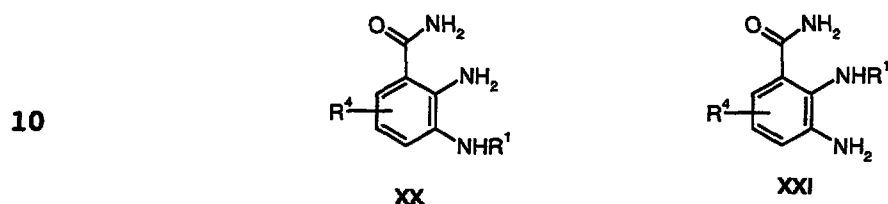


- The reaction of methyl diaminobenzoate IV with benzoic acid V in polyphosphoric acid gives the benzimidazole-4-carboxylate VI in 20% yield. Ester VI is subsequently converted into the amide VII via formation of the acyl chloride. For this step, the authors report a yield of 62%. The resulting overall yield for the synthesis sequence is 12%. The overall yields for the syntheses of all the other examples mentioned in WO 97/04771 are within the range of 5 to 19%. A great disadvantage of this synthesis strategy is the fact that each compound which is analogous to VI

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requires subsequent conversion into the amide, only the amide being the active PARP inhibitor.

The present invention provides 2,3-diaminobenzamides of the 5 formulae XX and XXI:

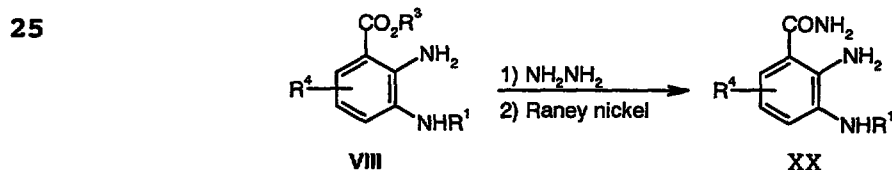


in which

15 R^4 and R^1 are as defined above, and salts thereof.

The compounds XX or XXI are synthesized in accordance with Scheme 5, by hydrazinolysis of a suitably substituted ester VIII with hydrazine hydrate in an alcohol such as n-butanol at 100°C and
20 subsequent reduction of the hydrazide with Raney nickel in polar solvents, such as dimethylformamide, at 100°C.

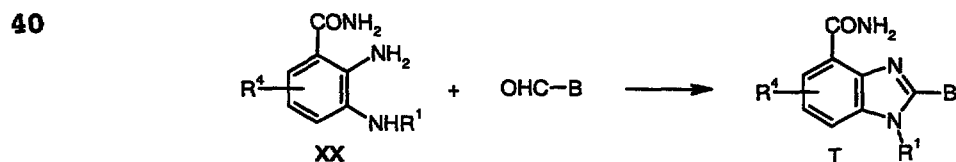
Scheme 5



30 Surprisingly, the syntheses of benzimidazole-4-amides from compounds XX or XXI moreover resulted in higher overall yields than the syntheses described in WO 97/04771.

The synthesis of benzimidazole-4-amides from the compounds of the
35 formulae XX and XXI is described in Scheme 6 and Scheme 7, respectively.

Scheme 6



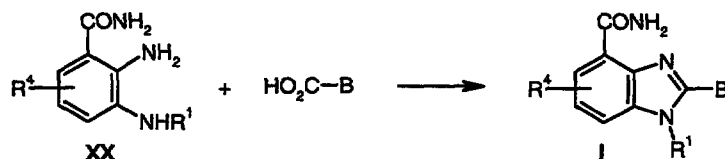
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Condensation of a suitable aldehyde OHC-B with compounds XX or XXI gives the benzimidazole I, the reaction preferably being carried out in polar solvents, such as ethanol or dimethylformamide, with addition of acids, such as acetic acid, at elevated temperature, usually from 80 to 120°C. The addition of weak oxidizing agents, such as copper(II) salts, which are added as aqueous solution, has a favorable effect on the reaction.

Scheme 7

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15

Using suitable acids HOOC-B, initially a peptide-like coupling with the compounds XX or XXI is effected. Here, the customary conditions, listed, for example, in Houben Weyl, Methoden der Organischen Chemie, 4th Ed, E5, Chap. V or C.R. Larock,

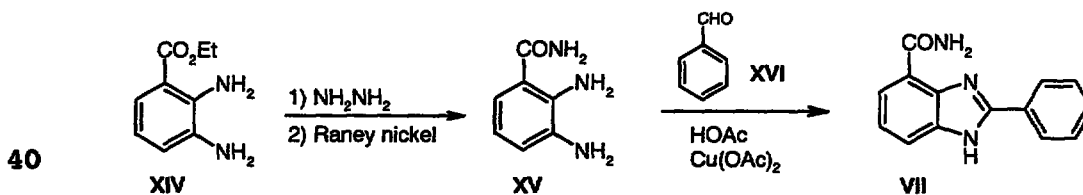
20 Comprehensive Organic Transformations, VCH Publisher, 1989, p. 972f, are employed. Ring closure is then effected at elevated temperature, for example at from 60 to 180°C, in the presence or absence of solvents such as dimethylformamide, with addition of acids such as acetic acid, or directly in acetic acid.

25

To compare the overall yields of the novel synthesis strategy with those in WO 97/04771, the synthesis of

2-phenylbenzimidazole-4-carboxamide is shown in Scheme 11. The reaction of ester XIV to give amide XV proceeds with a yield of 70%. The synthesis of the benzimidazole VII by condensation of XV with benzaldehyde XVI, followed by oxidation, takes place with a yield of 85%. The resulting overall yield of 60% exceeds the corresponding overall yield of 12% in WO 97/04771.

35 Scheme 8



The substituted 2-phenylbenzimidazoles I or II comprised in the present invention are inhibitors of the enzyme poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase or PARP (EC 2.4.2.30).

45

The inhibitory effect of the substituted 2-phenylbenzimidazoles I or II was determined using an enzyme assay disclosed in the literature, with a K_i being determined as gage of the effect. The 2-phenylbenzimidazoles I were measured in this way for an
5 inhibitory effect on the enzyme poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase or PARP (EC 2.4.2.30).

There is a great need for PARP inhibitors with high inhibitory potential ($K_i < 50$ nm) and good bioavailability. A precondition for
10 identifying such compounds and optimizing them is a rapid and efficient assay system for quantifying the activity of poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase. All assay systems available to date are based on the use of radioactive NAD as substrate for PARP and quantification of the radioactivity incorporated into the
15 poly(ADP-ribose) polymer. Thus, PARP assays using [^{14}C]NAD are described in JBC 254:9, 3647-3651, 1979; Biochemical Pharmacology 44:5, 947-953, 1992; Analytical Biochemistry 195, 227, 1-13, 1995; JBC 267:3, 1569-1575, or using [$\alpha^{32}\text{P}$]NAD are described in Analytical Biochemistry 195, 226-231, 1991; JBC 264:8, 4312-4317,
20 1989; Anti-Cancer Drug Design 10, 507-514, 1995, or using [^3H]NAD are described in JBC 253:18, 6459, 6466, 1978; Eur J Biochem, 102, 43-57, 1979; J Clinical Investigation 77, 1312-1320, 1986.

These methods are both elaborate, with limited throughput, and
25 problematical in environmental and operational safety terms because of the radioactivity used. There is thus a great need for rapid, nonradioactive assay systems.

The invention further relates to an in vitro detection method,
30 which can be carried out homogeneously or heterogeneously, for PARP inhibitors, which comprises

- a) incubating an unsupported or supported polyADP-ribosylatable target with a reaction mixture comprising
35 a1) a PARP;
a2) a PARP activator; and
a3) a PARP inhibitor or an analyte in which at least one PARP inhibitor is suspected;
- b) carrying out the polyADP-ribosylation reaction; and
40 c) determining the polyADP-ribosylation of the target qualitatively or quantitatively using an anti-poly(ADP-ribose) antibody.

The detection method is preferably carried out by preincubating
45 the PARP homolog with the PARP activator and the PARP inhibitor or an analyte in which at least one PARP inhibitor is suspected,

for example for about 1-30 minutes, before carrying out the polyADP ribosylation reaction.

After activation by DNA with single strand breaks (referred to as
5 "activated DNA" according to the invention), PARP polyADP-ribosylates a large number of nuclear proteins in the presence of NAD. These proteins include, on the one hand, PARP itself, but also histones etc.

- 10 The polyADP-ribosylatable target preferably used in the detection method is a histone protein in its native form or a polyADP-ribosylatable equivalent derived therefrom. A histone preparation supplied by Sigma (SIGMA, catalog No. H-7755; histone type II-as [sic] from calf thymus, Luck JM et al., J. Biol.
15 Chem., 233, 1407 (1958), Satake K., et al., J. Biol. Chem., 235, 2801 (1960)) was used by way of example. It is possible in principle to use all types of proteins or parts thereof amenable to polyADP-ribosylation by PARP. These are preferably nuclear proteins, e.g. histones, DNA-polymerase, telomerase or PARP
20 itself. Synthetic peptides derived from the corresponding proteins can also act as target.

- In the ELISA assay [sic] it is possible to use amounts of histones in the range from 0.1 µg/well to 100 µg/well, preferably
25 1 µg/well to 10 µg/well. The amounts of the PARP enzyme are in the range from 0.2 pmol/well to 2 nmol/well, preferably from 2 pmol/well to 200 pmol/well; the reaction mixture in each case comprising 100 µl/well. Reductions to smaller wells and correspondingly smaller reaction volumes are possible.
- 30 In the HTRF assay, identical amounts of PARP are employed, and the amount of histone or modified histones is in the range from 2 ng/well to 25 µg/well, preferably 25 ng/well to 2.5 µg/well, the reaction mixture in each case comprising 50 µl/well. Reduction to smaller wells and correspondingly smaller reaction
35 volumes are possible.

The PARP activator used according to the invention is preferably activated DNA.

- 40 Various types of damaged DNA can function as activator. DNA damage can be produced by digestion with DNAases [sic] or other DNA-modifying enzymes (e.g. restriction endonucleases), by irradiation or other physical methods or chemical treatment of the DNA. It is further possible to simulate the DNA damage
45 situation in a targeted manner by using synthetic oligonucleotides. In the assays indicated by way of example, activated DNA from calf thymus was employed (SIGMA, Product No.

D4522, CAS: 91080-16-9, prepared by the method of Aposhian and Kornberg using calf thymus DNA (SIGMA D-1501) and deoxyribonuclease type I (D-4263). Aposhian HV and Kornberg A., J. Biol. Chem., 237, 519 (1962)). The activated DNA was used in a 5 concentration range of 0.1-1000 µg/ml, preferably from 1 to 100 µg/ml, in the reaction step.

The polyADP ribosylation reaction is started in the method according to the invention by adding NAD⁺.

10

The NAD concentrations were in a range from 0.1 µM to 10 mM, preferably from 10 µM to 1 mM.

In the variant of the above method which can be carried out 15 heterogeneously, the polyADP ribosylation of the supported target is determined using anti-poly(ADP-ribose) antibodies. To do this, the reaction mixture is separated from the supported target, washed and incubated with the antibody. This antibody can itself be labeled. However, it is preferable to use for detecting 20 bound anti-poly(ADP-ribose) antibody a labeled secondary antibody or a corresponding labeled antibody fragment. Suitable labels are, for example, radiolabeling, chromophore- or fluorophore-labeling, biotinylation, chemiluminescence labeling, labeling with paramagnetic metal or, in particular, enzyme 25 labels, e.g. with horseradish peroxidase. Appropriate detection techniques are generally known to the skilled worker.

In the variant of the above process which can be carried out homogeneously, the unsupported target is labeled with an acceptor 30 fluorophore. The target preferably used in this case is biotinylated histone, the acceptor fluorophore being coupled via avidin or streptavidin to the biotin groups of the histone. Particularly suitable as acceptor fluorophore are phycobiliproteins (e.g. phycocyanins, phycoerythrins), e.g. 35 R-phycocyanin (R-PC), allophycocyanin (APC), R-phycoerythrin (R-PE), C-phycocyanin (C-PC), B-phycoerythrin (B-PE) or their combinations with one another or with fluorescent dyes such as Cy5, Cy7 or Texas Red (tandem system).

(Thammapalerd N. et al., Southeast Asian Journal of Tropical 40 Medicine & Public Health. 27(2):297-303, 1996; Kronick M.N. et al. Clinical Chemistry. 29(9):1582-6, 1983; Hicks J.M., Human Pathology. 15(2):112-6, 1984). The dye XL665 used in this is a crosslinked allophycocyanin (Glazer AN, Rev. Microbiol. 36:173 198 (1982); Kronick M.N., J. Imm. Meth. 92:1 13 (1986); MacColl 45 R. et al., Phycobiliproteins, CRC Press, Inc., Boca Raton,

Florida. (1987); MacColl R. et al., Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 208:1:42-48 (1981)).

- It is additionally preferred in the homogeneous method to
- 5 determine the polyADP ribosylation of the unsupported target using anti-poly(ADP-ribose) antibody which is labeled with a donor fluorophore which is able to transfer energy to the acceptor fluorophore when donor and acceptor are close in space owing to binding of the labeled antibody to the
- 10 polyADP-ribosylated histone. A europium cryptate is preferably used as donor fluorophore for the anti-poly(ADP-ribose)antibody.

Besides the europium cryptate used, other compounds are also possible as potential donor molecules. This may entail, on the

15 one hand, modification of the cryptate cage. Replacement of the europium by other rare earth metals such as terbium is also conceivable. It is crucial that the fluorescence has a long duration to guarantee the time delay (Lopez E. et al., Clin Chem 39/2, 196-201, 1993; US Patent 5,534,622).

20

The detection methods described above are based on the principle that there is a correlation between the PARP activity and the amount of ADP-ribose polymers formed on the histones. The assay described herein makes it possible to quantify the ADP-ribose

25 polymers using specific antibodies in the form of an ELISA and an HTRF (homogenous time-resolved fluorescence) assay. Specific embodiments of these two assays are described in detail in the following examples.

30 The developed HTRF (homogeneous time-resolved fluorescence) assay system measures the formation of poly(ADP-ribose) on histones using specific antibodies. In contrast to the ELISA, this assay is carried out in homogeneous phase without separation and washing steps. This makes a higher sample throughput and smaller

35 susceptibility to errors possible. HTRF is based on the fluorescence resonance energy transfer (FRET) between two fluorophores. In a FRET assay, an excited donor fluorophore can transfer its energy to an acceptor fluorophore when the two are close to one another in space. In HTRF technology, the donor

40 fluorophore is a europium cryptate [(Eu)K] and the acceptor is XL665, a stabilized allophycocyanin. The europium cryptate is based on studies by Jean Marie Lehn (Strasbourg). (Lopez E. et al., Clin Chem 39/2, 196-201, 1993; US Patent 5,534,622).

45 In a homogeneous assay, all the components are also present during the measurement. Whereas this has advantages for carrying out the assay (rapidity, complexity), it is necessary to preclude

interference by assay components (inherent fluorescence, quenching by dyes etc.). HTRF precludes such interference by time-delayed measurement at two wavelengths (665 nm, 620 nm). The HTRF fluorescence [sic] has a very long decay time and
5 time-delayed measurement is therefore possible. There is no longer any interference from short-lived background fluorescence (e.g. from assay components or inhibitors of the substance bank). In addition, measurement is always carried out at two wavelengths in order to compensate for quench effects of colored substances.
10 HTRF assays can be carried out, for example, in 96- or 384-well microtiter plate format and are evaluated using a Discovery HTRF Microplate Analyzer (Packard Instruments).

Also provided according to the invention are the following in
15 vitro screening methods for binding partners for PARP.

A first variant is carried out by

- a1) immobilizing PARP on a support;
- 20 b1) contacting the immobilized PARP homolog [sic] with an analyte in which at least one binding partner is suspected; and
- c1) determining, where appropriate after an incubation period, analyte constituents bound to the immobilized PARP.

25 A second variant entails

- a2) immobilizing on a support an analyte which comprises at least one possible binding partner for PARP;
- b2) contacting the immobilized analyte with at least one PARP for
30 which a binding partner is sought; and
- c3) [sic] examining the immobilized analyte, where appropriate after an incubation period, for binding of PARP.

Assay systems for determining the activity of the enzyme and
35 PARP-like enzymes and the inhibitory action of effectors on PARP and PARP-like enzymes.

- a) Production of antibodies against poly(ADP-ribose)
- 40 It is possible to use poly(ADP-ribose) as antigen for generating anti-poly(ADP-ribose) antibodies. The production of anti-poly(ADP-ribose) antibodies is described in the literature (Kanai Y. et al. (1974) Biochem Biophys Res Comm 59:1, 300-306; Kawamatsu H. et al. (1984) Biochemistry 23, 3771-3777; Kanai Y.
45 et al. (1978) Immunology 34, 501-508).

25

The following were used, inter alia: anti-poly(ADP-ribose) antibodies (polyclonal antiserum, rabbits), BIOMOL; order No. SA-276. Anti-poly(ADP-ribose) antibodies (monoclonal, mouse; clone 10H; hybridoma [sic] supernatant, affinity-purified).

5

The antisera or monoclonal antibodies obtained from hybridoma culture supernatant were purified by protein A affinity chromatography in the manner familiar to the skilled worker.

10 b) ELISA assay [sic]

Materials:

ELISA color reagent: TMB mix, SIGMA T-8540

15

A 96-well microtiter plate (FALCON Micro-Test IIIä Flexible Assay Plate, # 3912) was coated with histones (SIGMA, H-7755). Histones were for this purpose dissolved in carbonate buffer (0.05 M Na_2HCO_3 ; pH 9.4) in a concentration of 50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$. The individual
20 wells of the microtiter plate were each incubated with 150 μl of this histone solution at room temperature for at least 2 hours or at 4°C over night. The wells are then blocked by adding 150 μl of a 1% strength BSA solution (SIGMA, A-7888) in carbonate buffer at room temperature for 2 hours. This is followed by three washing
25 steps with washing buffer (0.05% Tween10 in 1x PBS; PBS (phosphate buffered saline; Gibco, order No. 10010): 0.21 g/l KH_2PO_4 , 9 g/l NaCl, 0.726 g/l $\text{Na}_2\text{HPO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$, pH 7.4). Washing steps were all carried out in a microtiter plate washer ("Columbus" microtiter plates washer, SLT-Labinstruments,
30 Austria).

Required for the enzyme reaction were an enzyme reaction solution and a substrate solution, in each case as a premix. The absolute amount these solutions depended on the intended number of assay
35 wells.

Composition of the enzyme reaction solution per well:

- 4 μl of PARP reaction buffer (1 M Tris-HCl pH 8.0, 100 mM
40 MgCl_2 , 10 mM DTT)
- 20 ng of PARP (human or bovine)
- 4 μl of activated DNA (1 mg/ml; SIGMA, D-4522)
- H_2O ad 40 μl

45 Composition of the substrate solution per well:

- 5 μl of PARP reaction buffer (10x)

- 0.8 μ l NAD solution (10 mM, SIGMA N-1511)
- 44 μ l of H₂O

Inhibitors were dissolved in PARP reaction buffer. DMSO, which
5 was occasionally used to dissolve inhibitors in higher
concentrations, was no problem up to a final concentration of 2%.
For the enzyme reaction, 40 μ l of the enzyme reaction solution
were introduced into each well and incubated with 10 μ l of
inhibitor solution for 10 minutes. The enzyme reaction was then
10 started by adding 50 μ l of substrate solution per well. The
reaction was carried out at room temperature for 30 minutes and
then stopped by washing three times with washing buffer.

The primary antibodies employed were specific
15 anti-poly(ADP-ribose) antibodies in a dilution of 1:5000.
Dilution took place in antibody buffer (1% BSA in PBS; 0.05%
Tween20). The incubation time for the primary antibody was one
hour at room temperature. After subsequently washing three times
with washing buffer, incubation was carried out with the
20 secondary antibody (anti-mouse IgG, Fab fragments,
peroxidase-coupled, Boehringer Mannheim, order No. 1500.686;
anti-rabbit IgG, peroxidase-coupled, SIGMA, order No. A-6154) in
a 1:10000 dilution in antibody buffer at room temperature for one
hour. Washing three times with washing buffer was followed by the
25 color reaction using 100 μ l of color reagent (TMB mix, SIGMA) per
well at room temperature for about 15 min. The color reaction was
stopped by adding 100 μ l of 2M H₂SO₄. This was followed by
immediate measurement in an ELISA plate reader (EAR340AT "Easy
Reader", SLT-Labinstruments, Austria) (450 nm versus 620 nm).

30 Various concentrations were used to construct a dose-effect blot
to determine the K_i of an inhibitor. Values are obtained in
triplicate for a particular inhibitor concentration. Arithmetic
means are determined using Microsoft® Excel. The IC₅₀ is
35 determined using the Microcal® Origin Software (Vers. 5.0)
("Sigmoidal Fit"). Conversion of the IC₅₀ values calculated in
this way into K_i values took place by using "calibration
inhibitors". The "calibration inhibitors" were also measured in
each analysis. The K_i values of the "calibration inhibitors" were
40 determined in the same assay system by analysis of the Dixon
diagram in the manner familiar to the skilled worker.

b) [sic] HTRF (homogenous time-resolved fluorescence) assay

45 In the HTFR [sic] PARP assay according to the invention,
histones, as target proteins for modification by PARP, are
labeled indirectly with an XL665 fluorophore. The antibody is

directly labeled with a europium cryptate. If the XL665-fluorophore is in the direct vicinity in space, which is ensured by binding to the poly(ADP-ribose) on the histone, then energy transfer is possible. The emission at 665 nm is thus
5 directly proportional to the amount of bound antibody, which in turn is equivalent to the amount of poly(ADP-ribose). The measured signal thus corresponds to the PARP activity. The materials used are identical to those used in the ELISA assay [sic] (see above) unless not expressly indicated.

10

Histones were dissolved in a concentration of 3 mg/ml in Hepes buffer (50 mM, pH = 7.5). Biotinylation took place with sulfo-NHS-LC-biotin (Pierce, # 21335T). A molar ratio of 4 biotin per histone was used. The incubation time was 90 minutes (RT).

15 The biotinylated histones were then purified on a G25 SF HR10/10 column (Pharmacia, 17-0591-01) in Hepes buffer (50 mM, pH = 7.0) in order to remove excess biotinylation reagent. The anti-poly(ADP-ribose) antibody was labeled with europium cryptate using bifunctional coupling reagents (Lopez E. et al. Clin. Chem.
20 39/2, 196-201, 1993 US P 5,534,662). Purification took place on a G25SF HR10/30 column. A molar ratio of 3.1 cryptates per antibody was achieved. The yield was 25%. The conjugates were stored at -80°C in the presence of 0.1% BSA in phosphate buffer (0.1 M, pH = 7).

25

For the enzyme reaction, the following were pipetted into each well:

- 10 µl of PARP solution in PARP HTRF reaction buffer (50 mM
30 Tris-HCl pH 8.0, 10 mM MgCl₂ [sic], 1 mM DTT) with 20 ng of PARP (human or bovine)
- 10 µl of activated DNA in PARP HTRF reaction buffer (50 µg/ml)
- 10 µl of biotinylated histones in PARP HTRF reaction buffer
35 (1.25 µM)
- 10 µl of inhibitor in PARP HTRF reaction buffer

These reagents were preincubated for 2 minutes before starting the reaction by adding

40

- 10 µl of NAD solution in PARP HTRF reaction buffer (41 µM/ml). The reaction time was 30 minutes at room temperature.

45 The reaction was then stopped by adding

- 10 μ l of PARP inhibitor (25 μ M, K_i = 10 nM) in "Revelation" buffer (100 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.2, 0.2 M KF, 0.05% BSA).

The following were then added:

- 5 - 10 μ l EDTA-solution (SIGMA, E-7889, 0.5 M in H₂O)
- 100 μ l Sa-XL665 (Packard Instruments) in "Revelation" buffer (15-31.25 nM)
- 50 μ l of anti-PARP cryptate in "Revelation" buffer (1.6-
10 3.3 nM).

Measurement was then possible after 30 minutes (up to 4 hours). The measurement took place in a "Discovery HTRF Microplate Analyzer" (Packard Instruments). The K_i values were calculated as
15 described for the ELISA assay [sic].

Determination of the solubility in water

A compound to be measured is dissolved directly in a fixed volume
20 of water, and the resulting solution is adjusted to pH 5 to 6 with a sodium acetate solution so that the active ingredient concentration to be tested is reached. If the measured substance is not in the form of a water-soluble salt, it was dissolved in the minimum amount of dimethyl sulfoxide and then diluted with
25 water (final dimethyl sulfoxide concentration $\leq$ 1%), after which the pH was again adjusted. The potent PARP inhibitor NU 1076 (WO 97/04771) showed a solubility < 0.01%, whereas Example 2 according to the invention has a solubility > 0.5%.

30 The substituted 2-phenylbenzimidazoles of the general formula I are inhibitors of poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase (PARP) or, as it is also called, poly(ADP-ribose) synthase (PARS), and can thus be used for the treatment and prophylaxis of diseases associated with an increased activity of these enzymes.

35 The compounds of the formula I can be employed to produce drugs for treating damage following ischemias and for the prophylaxis of expected ischemias in various organs.

40 The present 2-phenylbenzimidazoles of the general formula I can accordingly be used for the treatment and prophylaxis of neurodegenerative diseases occurring after ischemia, trauma (craniocerebral trauma), massive bleeding, subarachnoid hemorrhages and stroke, and of neurodegenerative diseases such as
45 multi-infarct dementia, Alzheimer's disease, Huntington's disease and of epilepsies, in particular of generalized epileptic seizures, such as, for example, petit mal and tonoclonic seizures

and partial epileptic seizures such as temporal lobe [sic], and complex partial seizures, and further for the treatment and prophylaxis of damage to the heart after cardiac ischemia and damage to the kidneys after renal ischemia, for example of acute renal insufficiency, of acute kidney failure or of damage occurring during and after a kidney transplant. The compounds of the general formula I can further be used to treat acute myocardial infarct and damage occurring during and after medical lysis thereof (for example with TPA, Reteplase, streptokinase or mechanically with a laser or Rotablator) and of microinfarcts during and after heart valve replacement, aneurysm resections and heart transplants. It is likewise possible to use the present 2-phenylbenzimidazoles I for treatment in cases of revascularization of critically narrowed coronary arteries, for example in PCTA and bypass operations, and critically narrowed peripheral arteries, for example leg arteries. In addition, the 2-phenylbenzimidazoles I can be beneficial in the chemotherapy of tumors and metastasis thereof and can be used to treat inflammations and rheumatic disorders such as, for example, rheumatoid arthritis.

Novel PARP inhibitors can have therapeutic efficacy checked in relevant pharmacological models. Examples of some suitable models are listed in Table 1.

Table 1

Disorder	Model	Literature
Neurodegenerative disorders (stroke, Parkinson's etc.)	NMDA excitotoxicity in mice or rats	
Stroke	Permanent MCAO ("middle cerebral arterial [sic] occlusion")	Tokime T. et al., J. Cereb Blood Flow Metab, 18(9):991-7, 1998 Guegan C. Brain Research. Molecular Brain Research 55(1) 133-40, 1998
	Transient, focal MCAO in rats or mice	Eliasson MJL et al., Nat Med 1997, 3:1089-1095. Endres M. et al., J. Cereb Blood Flow Metab 1997, 17:1143-1151. Takahashi K. et al., J. Cereb Blood Flow Metab 1997, 17:1137-1142.

	Parkinsons's disease	MPTP (1-methyl-4-phenyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydro-pyridine) toxicity in mice/rats	Cosi C. et al., Brain Res., 1998 809(1):58-67. Cosi C. et al., Brain Res., 1996 729(2):264-9.
5	Myocardial infarct	Coronary vessel occlusion in rats, pigs or rabbits	Richard V. et al., Br. J. Pharmacol 1994, 113, 869-876. Thiemermann C. et al., Proc Natl Acad Sci USA. 1997, 94(2):679-83. Zingarelli B. et al., Cardiovasc Res. 1997, 36(2):205-15.
10		Langendorf heart model in rats or rabbits	See below for description
15	Septic shock	Endotoxin shock in rats	Szabo C. et al., J. Clin Invest, 1997, 100(3):723-35.
20		Zymosan- or carrageenan-induced multiple organ failure in rats or mice	Szabo C. et al., J. Exp Med. 1997, 186(7):1041-9. Cuzzocrea S. et al., Eur J. Pharmacol. 1998, 342(1):67-76.
	Rheumatoid arthritis	Adjuvant- or collagen-induced arthritis in rats or mice	Szabo C. et al., Proc Natl Acad Sci USA. 1998, 95(7):3867-72.
25	Diabetes	Streptozotocin- and alloxan-induced or obesity-associated	Uchigata Y. et al., Diabetes 1983, 32: 316-318. Masiello P. et al., Diabetologia 1985, 28: 683-686. Shimabukuro M. et al., J. Clin Invest 1997, 100: 290-295.
30	Cancer		Schlicker et al. 1999 75:1, 91-100

The pharmaceutical preparations according to the invention
35 comprise a therapeutically effective amount of the compounds I in addition to the conventional pharmaceutical ancillary substances.

For local external use, for example in dusting powders, ointments or sprays, the active substances can be present in the usual
40 concentrations. The active substances are ordinarily present in an amount of from 0.001 to 1% by weight, preferably 0.001 to 0.1% by weight.

On internal use, the preparations are administered in single
45 doses. From 0.1 to 100 mg are given per kg of body weight in a single dose. The preparation may be administered in one or more

31

doses each day, depending on the nature and severity of the disorders.

- Appropriate for the required mode of administration, the
- 5 pharmaceutical preparations according to the invention comprise conventional excipients and diluents in addition to the active substance. For local external use it is possible to use pharmaceutical ancillary substances such as ethanol, isopropanol, ethoxylated castor oil, ethoxylated hydrogenated castor oil,
- 10 polyacrylic acid, polyethylene glycol, polyethylene glycol stearate, ethoxylated fatty alcohols, liquid paraffin, petrolatum and wool fat. Examples suitable for internal use are lactose, propylene glycol, ethanol, starch, talc and polyvinylpyrrolidone.
- 15 It is also possible for antioxidants such as tocopherol and butylated hydroxyanisole, and butylated hydroxytoluene, flavor-improving additives, stabilizers, emulsifiers and lubricants to be present.
- 20 The substances present in the preparation in addition to the active substance, and the substances used in the production of the pharmaceutical preparations, are toxicologically acceptable and compatible with the particular active substance. The pharmaceutical preparations are produced in a conventional way,
- 25 for example by mixing the active substance with conventional excipients and diluents.

The pharmaceutical preparations can be administered in various ways, for example orally, parenterally such as intravenously by

30 infusion, subcutaneously, intraperitoneally and topically. Thus, possible presentations are tablets, emulsions, infusion and injection solutions, pastes, ointments, gels, creams, lotions, dusting powders and sprays.

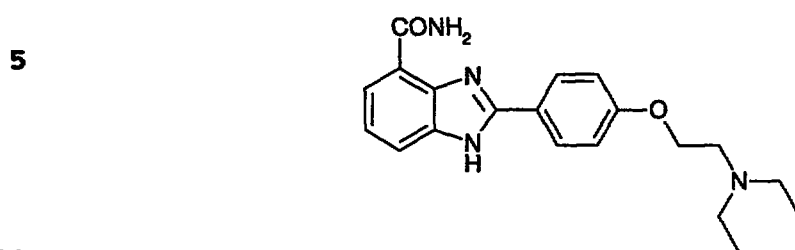
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Example 1

2-(4-(2-(N,N-Diethylamino)eth-1-yloxy)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide



a) 4-(2-(N,N-Diethylamino)eth-1-yloxy)benzaldehyde [sic]

15 15 g (122 mmol) of 4-hydroxybenzaldehyde, 16.7 g (122 mmol) of N-(2-chloroethyl)-N,N-diethylamine and 33.9 g (246 mmol) of potassium carbonate were refluxed together with a spatula tip of 18-crown-6 in 300 ml of ethyl methyl ketone for 6 hours. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. The residue was partitioned between ether and 2M

20 sodium hydroxide solution, and the ether phase was separated off, dried and concentrated in vacuo. 24.8 g of the intermediate were obtained.

b) Ethyl 2-(4-(2-(N,N-diethylamino)eth-1-yloxy)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxylate

25

2 g (11 mmol) of ethyl 2,3-diaminobenzoate and 1.4 ml of concentrated acetic acid were dissolved in 25 ml of methanol. Then 3.2 g (14.4 mmol) of intermediate 1a, dissolved in 50 ml of methanol, were added dropwise over the course of 30 minutes. Subsequently 2.9 g (14.4 mmol) of copperII acetate, dissolved in 37.5 ml of warm water, were rapidly added dropwise, and then the mixture was refluxed for 20 minutes. The reaction solution was cooled to 50°C, and

35 4.5 ml of 32% strength hydrochloric acid were added. Then a solution of 4.3 g of sodium sulfide hydrate in 25 ml of water was cautiously added dropwise, and the mixture was stirred for 15 minutes. The reaction solution was poured into ice-water, and the resulting precipitate was filtered off with suction. The filtrate was made alkaline with aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution and extracted several times with ethyl acetate. The ethyl acetate phase was separated, dried and concentrated in vacuo. 4.4 g of the intermediate were obtained.

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- c) 2-(4-(2-(N,N-Diethylamino)eth-1-yloxy)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carbohydrazide

2.7 g (54 mmol) of hydrazine hydrate were added to 4.1 g (10.7 mmol) of intermediate 1b in 30 ml of ethanol, and the mixture was refluxed for 10 hours. The organic solvent was then removed in vacuo, and the residue was partitioned between water and ethyl acetate. The ethyl acetate phase was separated off, dried and concentrated in vacuo. The residue obtained in this way was then treated with ether and again filtered off with suction, whereby 1.7 g of the intermediate [sic].

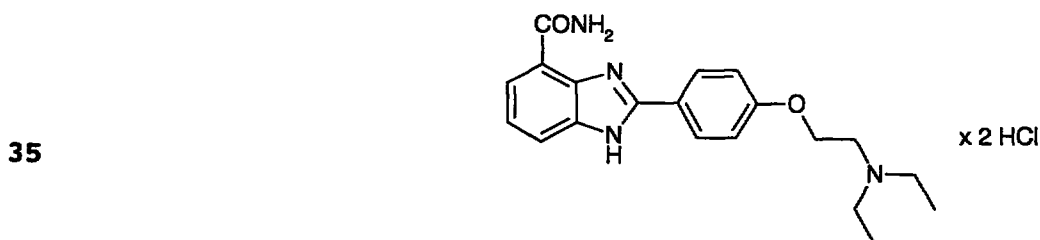
- d) 2-(4-(2-(N,N-Diethylamino)eth-1-yloxy)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide

About 1.6 g of Raney nickel were added to 1.6 g (4.5 mmol) of intermediate 1c in 45 ml of dimethylformamide/water (2/1), and the mixture was heated at 100°C for 6 hours. The reaction mixture was then filtered, and the filtrate was diluted with a large amount of water, whereupon the product precipitated. 1.2 g of the product were obtained.

¹H-NMR (D₆-DMSO). δ = 0.95 (6H), 2.6 (4H), 2.8 (2H), 4.1 (2H), 7.1 (2H), 7.3 (1H), 7.7 (1H + NH), 7.85 (1H), 8.2 (2H) and 9.4 (NH) ppm.

Example 2

2-(4-(2-(N,N-Diethylamino)eth-1-yloxy)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide x 2 hydrochloride



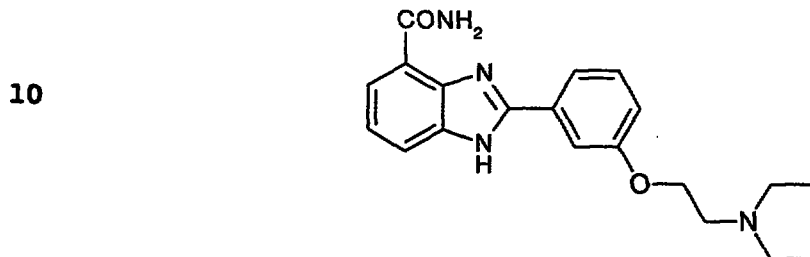
0.2 g of the product of Example 1 were dissolved in a mixture of ethyl acetate and a little tetrahydrofuran, and ethereal hydrogen chloride solution was added to form a precipitate. This precipitate was filtered off with suction, suspended in acetone and again filtered off with suction, resulting in about 200 mg of the product.

34

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ ($\text{D}_6\text{-DMSO}$): δ = 1.2 (6H), 3.2 (4H), 3.3 (2H), 4.5 (2H), 7.25 (1H), 7.4 (1H), 7.8-7.9 (2H), 8.3 (2H), 9.0 (NH) and 10.5 (NH) ppm.

5 Example 3

2-(3-(2-(N,N-Diethylamino)eth-1-yloxy)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide



a) 3-(2-(N,N-Diethylamino)eth-1-yloxy)benzaldehyde [sic]

6.1 g (50 mmol) of 3-hydroxybenzaldehyde were dissolved in 100 ml of ethanol and 3.5 g (50 mmol) of sodium ethanolate were added. The mixture was stirred for 15 minutes. Then 7.5 g (55 mmol) of N-(2-chloroethyl)-N,N-diethylamine were added, and the mixture was refluxed for 12 hours. The reaction mixture was then concentrated in vacuo. The residue was then partitioned between ether and 1M sodium hydroxide solution, and the ether phase was separated off, dried and concentrated in vacuo. 7.6 g of the intermediate were obtained.

b) Ethyl 2-(3-(2-(N,N-diethylamino)eth-1-yloxy)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxylate

1 g (5.5 mmol) of ethyl 2,3-diaminobenzoate and 0.68 ml of concentrated acetic acid were dissolved in 20 ml of methanol. Then 1.6 g (7.2 mmol) of intermediate 3a, dissolved in 30 ml of methanol, were added dropwise over the course of 30 minutes. Subsequently, 1.1 g (5.5 mmol) of copper(II) acetate, dissolved in 19 ml of warm water, were rapidly added dropwise, and the mixture was then refluxed for 20 minutes. The reaction solution was cooled to 50°C and 2.25 ml of 32% strength hydrochloric acid were added. Then a solution of 2.13 g of sodium sulfide hydrate in 15 ml of water was cautiously added dropwise, and the mixture was stirred for 15 minutes. The reaction solution was poured into ice-water, and the resulting precipitate was filtered off with suction. The filtrate was made alkaline with aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution and extracted several times with ethyl acetate. The

35

ethyl acetate phase was separated off, dried and concentrated in vacuo. 2.4 g of the intermediate were obtained.

- c) 2-(3-(2-(N,N-Diethylamino)eth-1-yloxy)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carbohydrazide

1.5 g (30 mmol) of hydrazine hydrate were added to 2.3 g (6.0 mmol) of intermediate 3b in 30 ml of butanol, and the mixture was heated at 120°C for 10 hours. The reaction mixture was then diluted with a large amount of water and extracted with ethyl acetate. The ethyl acetate phase was separated off, dried and concentrated in vacuo. 1.7 g of the intermediate were obtained.

- d) 2-(3-(2-(N,N-Diethylamino)eth-1-yloxy)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide

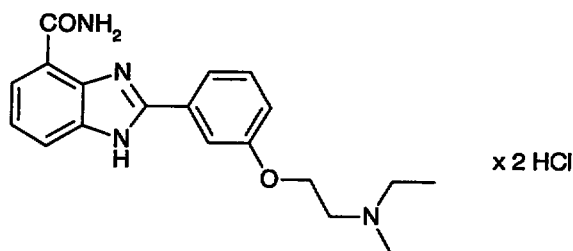
About 1.5 g of Raney nickel were added to 1 g (2.7 mmol) of intermediate 3c in 30 ml dimethylformamide/water (2/1), and the mixture was heated at 100°C for 6 hours. The reaction mixture was then filtered and the filtrate was diluted with a large amount of water to precipitate the product. 0.74 g of the product was obtained.

¹H-NMR (D₆-DMSO): δ = 1.0 (6H), 2.6 (4H), 2.9 (2H), 4.15 (2H), 7.1 (1H), 7.4 (1H), 7.5 (1H), 7.7-7.9 (5H) and 9.3 (NH) ppm.

Example 4

2-(3-(2-(N,N-Diethylamino)eth-1-yloxy)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide x 2 hydrochloride

35



0.2 g of the product from Example 3 was dissolved in a mixture of ethyl acetate and tetrahydrofuran, and ethereal hydrogen chloride solution was added to form a precipitate. This precipitate was filtered off with suction, suspended in acetone and again filtered off with suction, to result in about 200 mg of the product.

36

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ ($\text{D}_6\text{-DMSO}$): $\delta = 1.3$ (6H), 3.2 (4H), 3.6 (2H), 4.6 (2H), 7.2-8.1 (8H), 9.0 (1H) and 10.8 (NH) ppm.

The following were prepared in analogy to Example 1:

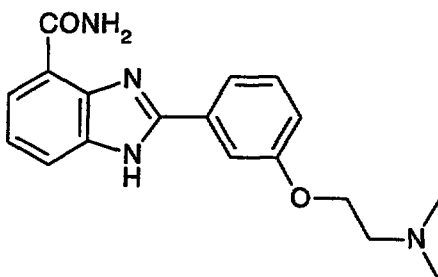
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Example 5

2-(3-(2-(N,N-Dimethylamino)eth-1-yloxy)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide

10

15



$^1\text{H-NMR}$ ($\text{D}_6\text{-DMSO}$). $\delta = 2.2$ (6H), 2.7 (2H), 4.2 (2H), 7.0-8.0 (9H) and 9.3 (1H) ppm.

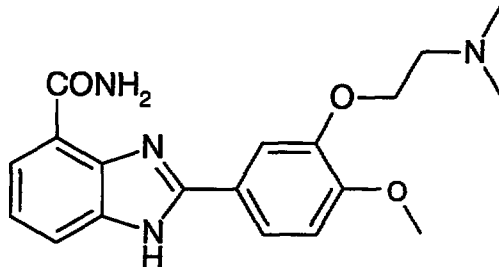
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Example 6

2-(3-(2-(N,N-Dimethylamino)eth-1-yloxy)-4-methoxy-phenyl)-benzimidazole-4-carboxamide

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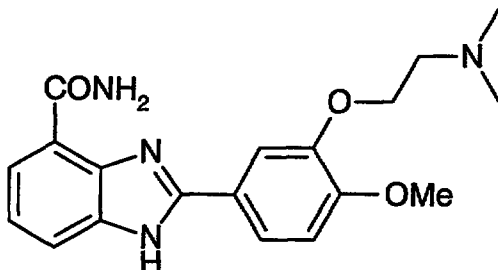
$^1\text{H-NMR}$ ($\text{D}_6\text{-DMSO}$): $\delta = 2.25$ (6H), 2.75 (2H), 3.8 (3H), 4.1 (2H), 7.0-8.1 (8H) and 9.4 (1H) ppm.

35 Example 7

2-(3-(2-(N,N-Dimethylamino)eth-1-yloxy)-4-methoxy-phenyl)-benzimidazole-4-carboxamide x 2 HCl

40

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x 2 HCl

37

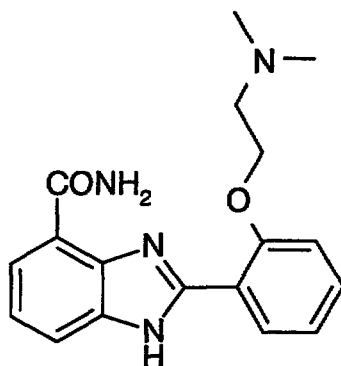
$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (D_2O): $\delta = 3.0$ (6H), 3.7 (2H), 3.8 (3H), 4.3 (2H), 6.9 (1H), 7.3 (1H), 7.3-7.5 (3H) and 7.7 (3H) ppm.

Example 8

5 2-(2-(2-(N,N-Dimethylamino)eth-1-yloxy)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide x 2 HCl

10

15



x 2 HCl

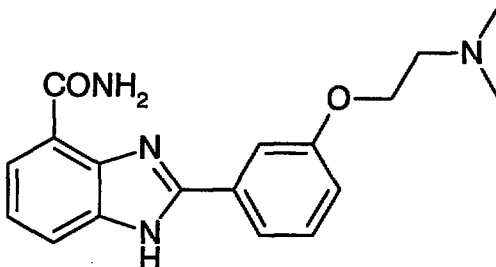
$^1\text{H-NMR}$ ($\text{D}_6\text{-DMSO}$): $\delta = 2.9$ (6H), 3.7 (2H), 4.7 (2H), 7.2-8.3 (8H), 8.9 (broad) and ca 11 (broad) ppm.

20 Example 9

2-(3-(2-(N,N-Dimethylamino)eth-1-yloxy)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide x 2 hydrochloride

25

30



x 2 HCl

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ ($\text{D}_6\text{-DMSO}$): $\delta = 2.9$ (6H), 3.5 (2H), 4.5 (2H), 7.2-8.1 (8H), 9.0 (broad) and ca 10.8 (broad) ppm.

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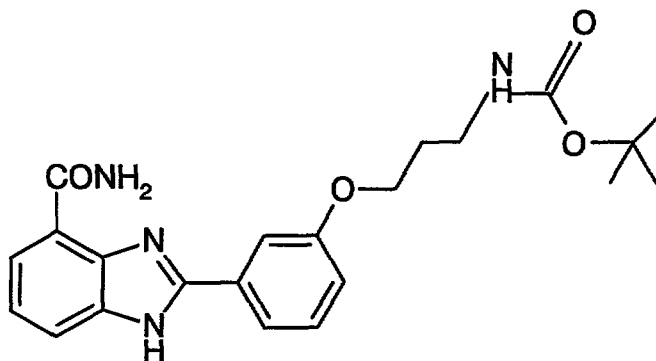
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Example 10

2-(3-(3-(tert-Butoxycarbonylamino)prop-1-yloxy)phenyl)-
benzimidazole-4-carboxamide

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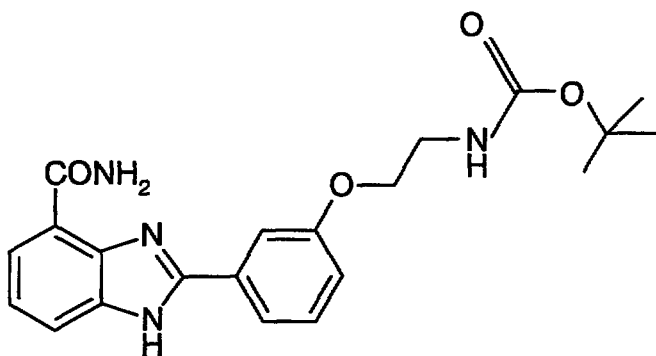
15 $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (D_6 -DMSO): $\delta = 1.3$ (9H), 1.9 (2H), 3.1 (2H), 4.1 (2H),
6.9-8.0 (9H) and ca 9.3 (broad) ppm.

Example 11

20 2-(3-(3-(tert-Butoxycarbonylamino)eth-1-yloxy)phenyl)-
benzimidazole-4-carboxamide

25

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$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (D_6 -DMSO): $\delta = 1.3$ (9H), 3.3 (2H), 4.1 (2H), 7.0-8.0 (9H)
and ca 9.3 (broad) ppm.

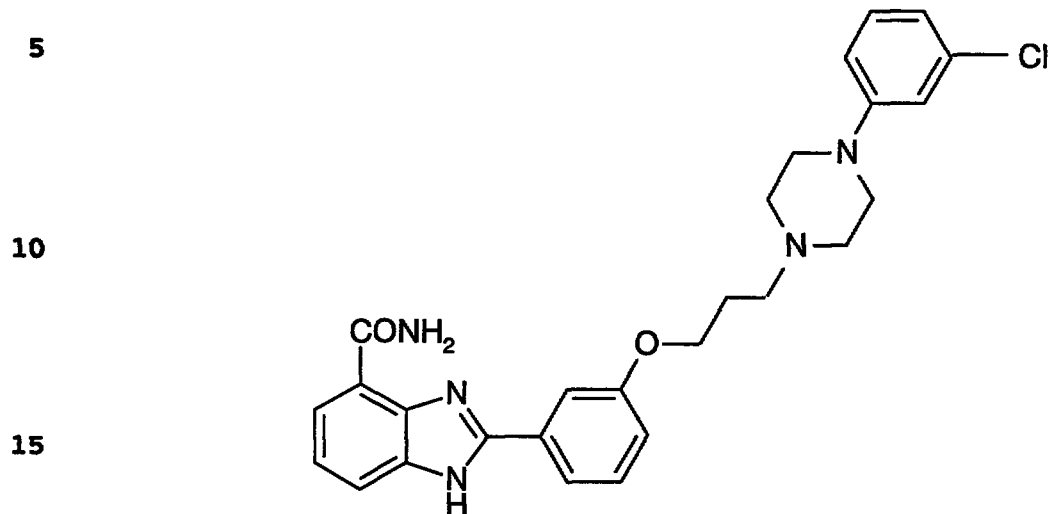
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Example 12

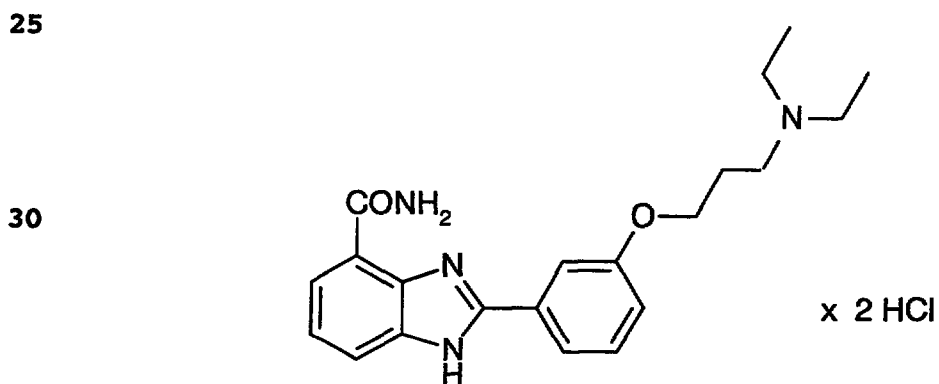
2-(3-(3-(4-(3-Chlorophenyl)-1-piperazinyl)prop-1-yloxy)phenyl)-
benzimidazole-4-carboxamide



$^1\text{H-NMR}$ ($\text{D}_6\text{-DMSO}$): $\delta = 2.3$ (2H), 3.3-3.5 (6H), 3.7 (2H), 3.7-4.3
20 (6H), 6.9-8.0 (11H), 9.1 (broad) and ca 10.9 (broad) ppm.

Example 13

2-(3-(3-(N,N-Diethylamino)prop-1-yloxy)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-
carboxamide x 2 HCl



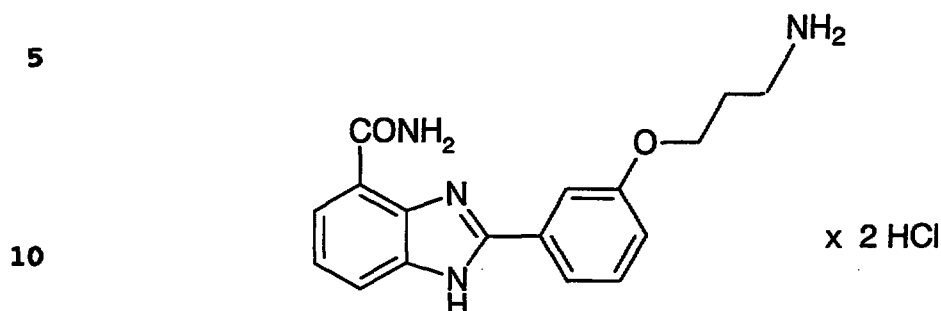
$^1\text{H-NMR}$ ($\text{D}_6\text{-DMSO}$): $\delta = 1.2$ (6H), 2.2 (2H), 3.2 (4H), 3.8 (2H),
40 4.3 (2H), 7.1-8.0 (7H), 9.1 (broad) and ca 10.5 (broad) ppm.

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Example 14

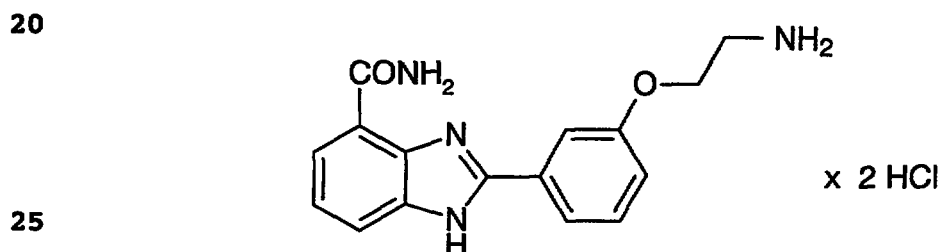
2-(3-(3-Aminoprop-1-yloxy)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide x 2HCl



¹H-NMR (D₆-DMSO): δ = 2.1 (2H), 3.0 (2H), 4.2 (2H), 7.2 (1H), 7.5 (2H), 7.8-8.1 (6H), 8.2 (broad) and ca 8.9 (broad) ppm.

Example 15

2-(3-(2-Aminoeth-1-yloxy)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide x 2HCl



¹H-NMR (D₆-DMSO): δ = 3.2 (2H), 4.2 (2H), 7.1-8.0 (9H), 8.2 (broad) and 9.0 (broad) ppm.

30 The following examples can be prepared in analogy to the above methods:

Example 16

35 2-(4-(3-(N,N-Diethylamino)prop-1-yloxy)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide x 2 HCl

¹H-NMR (D₆-DMSO): δ = 1.3(6H), 2.2(2H), 3.2(6H), 4.2(2H), 7.2(2H), 7.5(1H), 7.8-8.0(3H), 8.35(2H), 8.9(1H) and 10.7(broad) ppm.

40 Example 17

1-(3-(N,N-Diethylamino)prop-1-yl)-2-(4-(3-(N,N-diethylamino)prop-1-yloxy)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide x 2 HCl

¹H-NMR (D₆-DMSO): δ = 1.1-1.3(12H), 2.2(4H), 2.9-3.3(12H), 4.2(2H), 4.5(2H), 7.2(2H), 7.6(1H), 7.8-8.1(3H), 8.3(1H), 8.4(1H), 8.9(1H) and 11.0(broad) ppm.

Example 18

2-(4-(2-(Pyrrolidin-1-yl)eth-1-yloxy)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide x 2 HCl

¹H-NMR (D₆-DMSO): δ = 1.3(1H), 1.7-2.0(5H), 3.0(2H), 3.5(4H), 4.5(2H), 7.2(2H), 7.3(1H), 7.7-8.0(3H), 8.2(2H), 8.9(broad) and 10.7(broad) ppm.

Example 19

1-(3-(Pyrrolidin-1-yl)prop-1-yl)-2-(4-(2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)eth-1-yloxy)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide x 2 HCl

¹H-NMR (D₆-DMSO): δ = 1.3(2H), 1.7-1.9(10H), 3.0(4H), 3.3-3.6(8H), 4.5(2H), 4.9(2H), 7.1(2H), 7.5(1H), 7.7-8.0(3H), 8.1(2H), 9.0(broad), 10.8(broad) and 11.2(broad) ppm.

15 Example 20

2-(4-(3-(N,N-Benzylmethylamino)prop-1-yloxy)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide x 2 HCl

Example 21

20 1-(3-(N,N-Benzylmethylamino)prop-1-yl)-2-(4-(3-(N,N-benzylmethylamino)prop-1-yloxy)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide x 2 HCl

MS: m/e = 575 (M⁺).

Example 22

25 2-(4-(3-(4-Methylpiperazin-1-yl)prop-1-yloxy)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide x 3 HCl

MS: m/e = 393 (M⁺).

Example 23

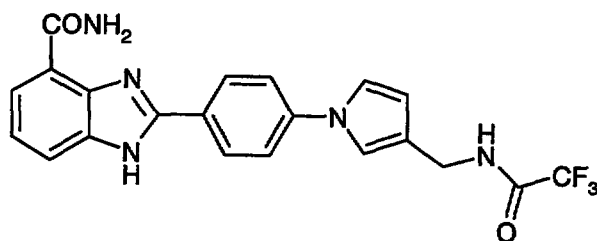
30 2-(3-(2-(N,N-Benzylmethylamino)eth-1-yloxy)-4-nitrophenyl)-benzimidazole-4-carboxamide

¹H-NMR (D₆-DMSO): δ = 1.0(6H), 2.5-2.8(4H), 2.9(2H), 4.3(2H), 7.3(1H), 7.8-8.2(6H) and 9.1(1H) ppm.

35 Example 24

2-(4-(3-Trifluoroacetamidomethylpyrrol-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide

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a) Ethyl 2-(4-nitrophenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxylate

1.5 g (8.3 mmol) of ethyl 2,3-diaminobenzoate and 1.1 ml of concentrated acetic acid were dissolved in 50 ml of methanol. 1.6 g (10.8 mmol) of 4-nitrobenzaldehyde, dissolved in 150 ml of methanol, were then added dropwise over a period of 30 minutes. 2.2 g (10.8 mmol) of copper(II) acetate, dissolved in 100 ml of warm water, were then rapidly added dropwise, and the entire mixture was subsequently refluxed for 20 minutes. The reaction solution was cooled to 50°C and 3 ml of 32% strength hydrochloric acid were added. This was followed by careful dropwise addition of a solution of 3.1 g of sodium sulfide hydrate in 50 ml of water, and the entire mixture was stirred for another 15 minutes. The reaction solution was poured into ice-water and the resulting precipitate was filtered off with suction. The filtrate was made alkaline using aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution and extracted repeatedly with ethyl acetate. The ethyl acetate phase was separated off, dried and concentrated under reduced pressure. This gave 2.2 g of the intermediate.

b) 2-(4-(4-Nitrophenyl)benzimidazole-4-carbohydrazide

1.7 ml (34 mmol) of hydrazine hydrate were added to 2.1 g (6.7 mmol) of the intermediate 24a in 25 ml of ethanol, and the entire mixture was refluxed for 4 hours. The organic solvent was subsequently removed under reduced pressure and the residue was partitioned between water and ethyl acetate. The ethyl acetate phase was separated off, dried and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was then treated with ether and again filtered off with suction, giving 1.7 g of the intermediate.

c) 2-(4-(4-Aminophenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide

Approximately 1 g of palladium on carbon (10%) were added to 1.7 g (5.7 mmol) of the intermediate 24b in 120 ml of ethanol/acetic acid (5/1), and the entire mixture was hydrogenated using hydrogen. The reaction mixture was then filtered and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was taken up in 70 ml of a mixture of dimethylformamide and water (7/3). 2 g of Raney nickel were then added and the entire mixture was heated at 100°C for 4 h. The reaction mixture was then filtered and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting

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residue was suspended in ether and filtered off with suction, giving 1.5 g of the product.

- d) 2-(4-(3-Trifluoroacetamidomethylpyrrol-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide
5

1.4 g (5.6 mmol) of the intermediate 24c and 1.8 g (6.9 mmol) of 2,5-dimethoxy-3-(trifluoroacetamidomethyl)tetrahydrofuran were added to 50 ml of concentrated acetic acid, and the
10 mixture was refluxed for 10 minutes. The entire mixture was subsequently concentrated under reduced pressure and the resulting residue was purified by silica gel chromatography using ethyl acetate as mobile phase. This gave 1.9 g of the product.

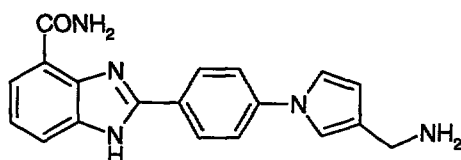
15

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ ($\text{D}_6\text{-DMSO}$). δ = 4.3(2H), 6.3(1H), 7.35(1H), 7.5(1H), 7.7-7.9(5H), 8.3(2H), 9.4(1H) and 9.9(1H) ppm.

Example 25

- 20 2-(4-(3-Aminomethylpyrrol-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide

25



1.7 g (4 mmol) of the compound from Example 24 were dissolved in 70 ml of tetrahydrofuran and admixed with a solution of 0.38 g (15.9 mmol) of lithium hydroxide in 25 ml of water. The entire
30 mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 hours. The reaction mixture was then neutralized using dilute hydrochloric acid and the organic solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The resulting precipitate was filtered off with suction and dried. This gives 0.87 g of the product.

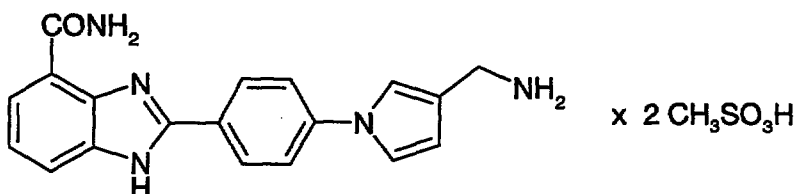
35

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ ($\text{D}_6\text{-DMSO}$). δ = 4.4(2H), 7.0(NH) and 7.8-8.4(11H) ppm.

Example 26

- 2-(4-(3-Aminomethylpyrrol-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide
40 x 2 methanesulfonic acid

45



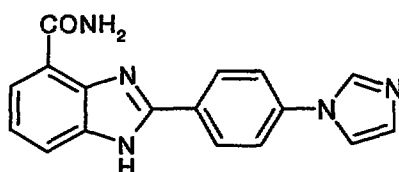
0.1 g of the product from Example 25 was dissolved in 2 ml of tetrahydrofuran and admixed with 20.5 μ l of methanesulfonic acid, diluted with 5 ml of water. The mixture was subsequently diluted with water and the resulting solution was lyophilized, giving 5 117 mg of the product.

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (D_6 -DMSO). δ = 2.45(6H), 4.0(2H), 6.4(1H), 7.2-8.4(11H) and 9.1(NH) ppm.

10 Example 27

2-(4-(1-Imidazolyl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide

15



a) Ethyl 2-(4-(1-imidazolyl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxylate

20 1 g (5.5 mmol) of ethyl 2,3-diaminobenzoate and 0.7 ml of concentrated acetic acid were dissolved in 13 ml of methanol. 1.24 g (7.2 mmol) of 4-imidazol-1-ylbenzaldehyde, dissolved in 25 ml of methanol, were then added dropwise over a period of 30 minutes. 1.4 g (7.2 mmol) of copper(II) acetate, 25 dissolved in 19 ml of warm water, were then rapidly added dropwise, and the entire mixture was subsequently refluxed for 20 minutes. The reaction solution was cooled to 50°C and 2.25 ml of 32% strength hydrochloric acid were added. This was followed by careful dropwise addition of a solution of 30 2.13 g of sodium sulfide hydrate in 15 ml of water, and the entire mixture was stirred for another 15 minutes. The reaction solution was poured into ice-water and the resulting precipitate was filtered off with suction. The filtrate was made alkaline using aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution and 35 extracted repeatedly with ethyl acetate. The ethyl acetate phase was separated off, dried and concentrated under reduced pressure. This gave 1.7 g of the intermediate.

b) 2-(4-(1-Imidazolyl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carbohydrazide

40

5 ml of hydrazine hydrate were added to 1.6 g (5.0 mmol) of the intermediate 27a in 30 ml of butanol, and the entire mixture was refluxed for 8 hours. The reaction mixture was then concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was 45 partitioned between water and ethyl acetate. The ethyl

45

acetate was separated off, dried and concentrated under reduced pressure. This gave 0.55 g of the intermediate.

c) 2-(4-(1-Imidazolyl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide

5

Approximately 1.5 g of Raney nickel were added to 0.53 g (1.7 mmol) of the intermediate 27b in 35 ml of dimethylformamide/water (2/1), and the entire reaction mixture was heated at 100°C for 8 hours. The reaction mixture was then filtered and the filtrate was diluted with a lot of water, causing the product to precipitate out. This gave 0.19 g of the product.

10

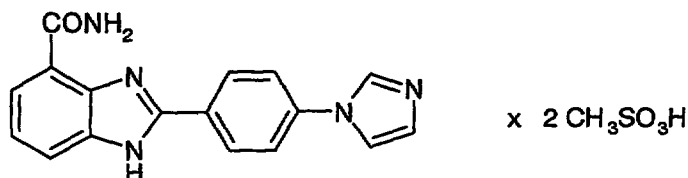
¹H-NMR (D₆-DMSO). δ = 7.2(1H), 7.4(1H), 7.7-8.0(6H) 8.4(3H) and 9.4(1H) ppm.

15

Example 28

2-(4-(1-Imidazolyl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide x
2 methanesulfonic acid

20



25 Analogously to the procedure 26a, 50 mg of the compound from Example 4 were converted into the bismethanesulfonate and lyophilized. This gave 60 mg of the product.

¹H-NMR (D₆-DMSO). δ = 2.3(6H), 7.4(2H), 7.8-8.2(7H), 8.4(1H), 8.5(2H), 9.1(1H) and 9.8 (2H) ppm.

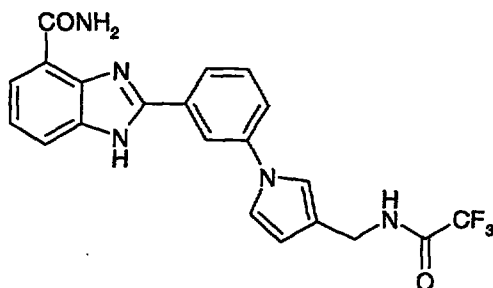
30

Example 29

2-(3-(3-Trifluoroacetamidomethylpyrrol-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide

35

40



a) Ethyl 2-(3-nitrophenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxylate

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46

4.2 g (23 mmol) of ethyl 2,3-diaminobenzoate and 3.1 ml of concentrated acetic acid were dissolved in 100 ml of methanol. 4.5 g (30 mmol) of 4-nitrobenzaldehyde, dissolved in 150 ml of methanol, were then added dropwise over a period of 30 minutes. 6 g (30 mmol) of copper(II) acetate, dissolved in 150 ml of warm water, were then rapidly added dropwise, and the entire mixture was subsequently refluxed for 20 minutes. The reaction solution was cooled to 50°C and 8.3 ml of concentrated hydrochloric acid were added. This was followed by careful dropwise addition of a solution of 8.6 g of sodium sulfide hydrate in 100 ml of water, and the entire mixture was stirred for another 15 minutes. The reaction solution was poured into ice-water and the resulting precipitate was filtered off with suction. The filtrate was made alkaline using aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution and extracted repeatedly with ethyl acetate. The ethyl acetate phase was separated off, dried and concentrated under reduced pressure. This gave 6.1 g of the intermediate.

20 b) 2-(3-Nitrophenyl)benzimidazole-4-carbohydrazide

4.8 g (96 mmol) of hydrazine hydrate were added to 6 g (19.3 mmol) of the intermediate 29a in 70 ml of ethanol, and the entire mixture was refluxed for 3 hours. The reaction mixture was subsequently poured into water and the resulting precipitate was filtered off with suction. This gave 4.8 g of the intermediate.

30 c) 2-(3-Aminophenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide

0.5 g of palladium on carbon (10%) was added to 4.7 g (15.8 mmol) of the intermediate 29b in 400 ml of ethanol, and the entire reaction mixture was hydrogenated using hydrogen. The reaction mixture was then filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was taken up in 100 ml of dimethylformamide and then diluted with 70 ml of water. 10 g of Raney nickel were then added, and the entire mixture was heated at 90°C for 2 h. The mixture was subsequently filtered and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was crystallized from ethyl acetate/ether, giving 3.1 g of the product.

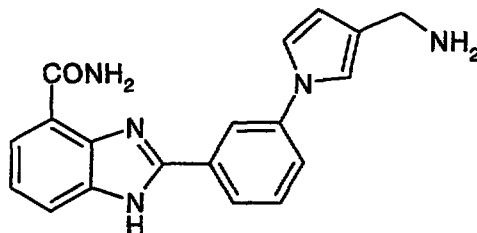
45 d) 2-(3-(3-Trifluoroacetamidomethylpyrrol-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide

47

2.2 g (8.7 mmol) of the intermediate 29c and 2.8 g (10.9 mmol) of 2,5-dimethoxy-3-(trifluoroacetamidomethyl)-tetrahydrofuran were added to 75 ml of concentrated acetic acid, and the mixture was refluxed for 15 minutes. The entire mixture was subsequently concentrated under reduced pressure and the resulting residue was purified by silica gel chromatography using the mobile phase ethyl acetate/methanol (10/1). This gave 2.5 g of the product.
MS: m/e = 427 (M⁺).

Example 30

2-(3-(3-Aminomethylpyrrol-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide

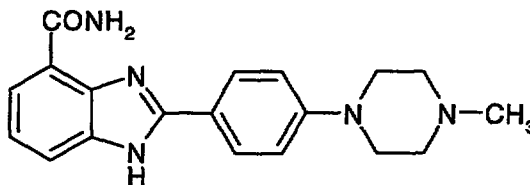


2.3 g (5.4 mmol) of the compound from Example 29 were dissolved in 100 ml of tetrahydrofuran and mixed with 0.26 g (10.8 mmol) of lithium hydroxide, dissolved in 50 ml of water. The entire mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 hours. The mixture was subsequently neutralized by addition of dilute hydrochloric acid and the organic solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The precipitate, which slowly crystallized out, was filtered off with suction. This gave 0.61 g of the product.

¹H-NMR (CF₃COOD). δ = 4.4(2H), 7.0(NH) and 7.8-8.4(11H) ppm.

Example 31

2-(4-(4-Methylpiperazin-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide



40 a) 4-(4-Methylpiperazin-1-yl)benzaldehyde

20 g (161 mmol) of 4-fluorobenzaldehyde, 48.4 g (483 mmol) of 1-methylpiperazine and 22.3 g (161 mmol) of potassium carbonate were added to 50 ml of dimethylformamide, and the mixture was heated at 130°C for 36 hours. The mixture was subsequently concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was partitioned between ethyl acetate and 2 M hydrochloric

48

acid. The aqueous phase was separated off and made alkaline using aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution. This aqueous phase was extracted with ethyl acetate, and the organic phase was separated off, dried and concentrated under reduced pressure. This gave 48.7 g of the intermediate.

b) Ethyl 2-(4-(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxylate

1.5 g (8.3 mmol) of ethyl 2,3-diaminobenzoate and 2.2 g (10.8 mmol) of the intermediate 8a were reacted by the method of procedure 6a, giving, after purification by silica gel chromatography, 2.8 g of the product.

c) 2-(4-(4-Methylpiperazin-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carbohydrazide

By the method of procedure 6b, 1.35 g (3.7 mmol) of the intermediate 21b were reacted with hydrazine, giving 1.1 g of the product.

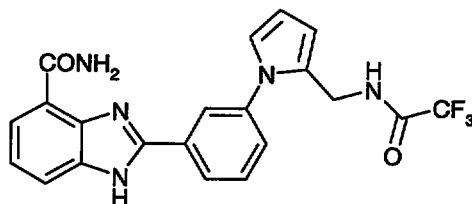
d) 2-(4-(4-Methylpiperazin-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide

By the method of procedure 29c, the intermediate was treated with Raney nickel, giving the product.

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ ($\text{D}_6\text{-DMSO}$). δ = 2.25(3H), 2.6(4H), 3.2(4H), 7.0-8.1(9H) and 9.5(1H) ppm.

Example 32

2-(3-(2-Trifluoroacetamidomethylpyrrol-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide



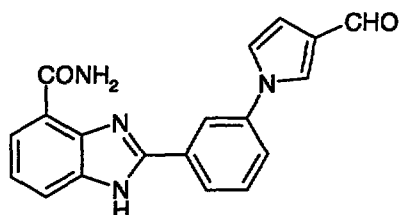
The above compound was prepared analogously to Example 29 from ethyl 2,3-diaminobenzoate, 3-nitrobenzaldehyde and 2,5-dimethoxy-2-(trifluoroacetamidomethyl)tetrahydrofuran.

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ ($\text{D}_6\text{-DMSO}$). δ = 4.5(2H), 6.3(2H), 7.3-8.0(6H), 9.25(1H) and 9.8(1H) ppm.

Example 33

2-(3-(3-Formylpyrrol-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide

5



10

The above compound was prepared analogously to Example 29 from ethyl 2,3-diaminobenzoate, 3-nitrobenzaldehyde and 2,5-dimethoxytetrahydrofuran-3-carbaldehyde.

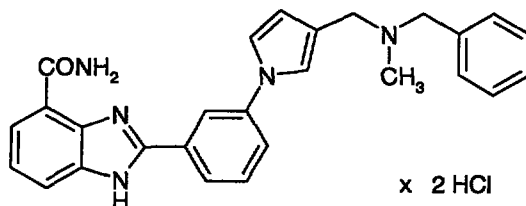
$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (D_6 -DMSO). δ = 6.8(2H), 7.3-8.0(6H), 8.3(1H), 8.4(1H), 8.6(1H), 9.2(1H) and 9.8(1H) ppm.

15

Example 34

2-(3-(3-(N,N-Benzylmethylaminomethyl)pyrrol-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide x 2 HCl

20



25

2.0 g (6.0 mmol) of the compound from Example 33, 0.74 g (6.0 mmol) of N-methylbenzylamine and 0.4 ml (6.0 mmol) of glacial acetic acid were dissolved in 100 ml of ethanol. At room temperature, 0.38 g (6.0 mmol) of sodium cyanoborohydride was then added a little at a time, and the entire mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h. The mixture was subsequently diluted with aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution and extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic phase was separated off, dried and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (mobile phase: ethyl acetate/methanol = 10/1). The product obtained in this manner was dissolved in acetone and admixed with isopropanolic hydrogen chloride solution, and the product precipitated out and was filtered off with suction. This gave 0.98 g of the product.

35

40

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (D_6 -DMSO). δ = 2.6(3H), 4.1-4.5(4H), 6.6(1H), 7.3-8.0(13H), 8.2(1H), 8.6(1H), 9.1(1H) and 10.8(1H) ppm.

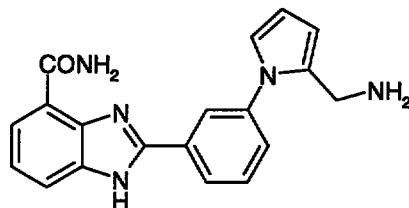
45

50

Example 35

2-(3-(2-Aminomethylpyrrol-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide

5



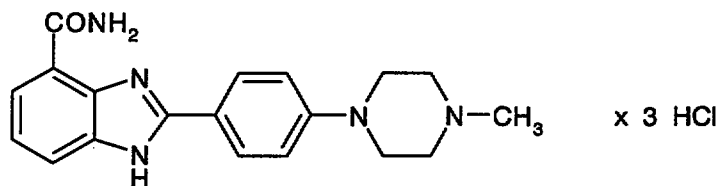
- 10 1.0 g (2.3 mmol) of the compound from Example 32 was dissolved in 100 ml of water and admixed with 0.56 g (23.4 mmol) of lithium hydroxide, dissolved in 20 ml of water. The entire mixture was stirred at room temperature for 90 minutes. The organic solvent was subsequently removed under reduced pressure and the resulting
- 15 aqueous phase was neutralized carefully using dilute hydrochloric acid. The resulting precipitate was filtered off with suction. This gave 0.55 g of the product.

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ ($\text{D}_6\text{-DMSO}$). δ = 3.8(2H), 6.2(2H), 7.0(1H), 7.35(1H),
 20 7.6-8.1(5H), 8.3(1H), 9.35(1H) and 9.5(1H) ppm.

Example 36

2-(4-(4-Methylpiperazin-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide
x 3 HCl

25



30

- 0.25 g of the product from Example 31 was dissolved in 25 ml of ethyl acetate/tetrahydrofuran (4/1) and admixed dropwise with ethereal hydrochloric acid. The resulting precipitate was treated
- 35 with acetone and filtered off with suction. This gave 0.25 g of the product.

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ ($\text{D}_6\text{-DMSO}$). δ = 2.75(3H), 3.1-3.4(4H), 4.0-4.4(4H),
 7.25(2H), 7.5(1H), 7.9-8.1(4H), 8.3(2H), 9.0(broad) and
 40 11.5(broad) ppm.

Example 37

2-(4-(4-tert-Butyloxypiperazin-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide

- 45 $^1\text{H-NMR}$ ($\text{D}_6\text{-DMSO}$). δ = 1.4(9H), 3.3(4H), 3.5(4H), 7.2(1H), 7.3(1H),
 7.7(1H), 7.75(1H), 7.8(1H), 8.2(2H), 9.4(1H) and 12.5 ppm.

Example 38

2-(4-(Piperazin-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide

x 2 HCl

¹H-NMR (D₆-DMSO). δ = 3.3(4H), ca. 3.7(4H), 7.3(2H), 7.6(1H),
5 7.9-8.0(3H), 8.3(2H), 8.7(1H) and 9.5(broad) ppm.

Example 39

2-(3-(2-(Aminomethyl)pyrrol-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide x 2 HCl

10 ¹H-NMR (D₂O). δ = 4.25(2H), 6.4(1H), 6.6(1H), 7.1(1H), 7.4(1H),
7.6(1H), 7.7-7.8(3H), 7.9(1H) and 8.0(1H) ppm.

Example 40

2-(4-(3-Formylpyrrol-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide

15 ¹H-NMR (D₆-DMSO). δ = 6.7(1H), 7.3(1H), 7.7-8.0(7H), 8.4(2H),
9.4(1H), 9.8(1H) and 13.5(broad) ppm.

Example 41

2-(4-(3-(N,N-Benzylmethylaminomethyl)pyrrol-1-yl)phenyl)benz-

20 imidazole-4-carboxamide x 2 HCl

MS: m/e = 435 (M⁺).

Example 42

2-(4-(3-(N,N-Diethylaminomethyl)pyrrol-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-

25 4-carboxamide x 2 HCl

¹H-NMR (D₆-DMSO). δ = 1.3(6H), 3.1(4H), 4.2(2H), 6.6(1H), 7.5(1H),
7.75(1H), 7.8-8.0(6H), 8.5(2H), 9.1(1H) and 10.4(1H) ppm.

Example 43

30 2-(4-(3-(4-Methylpiperazin-1-ylmethyl)pyrrol-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide

¹H-NMR (D₆-DMSO). δ = 2.1(3H), 2.2-2.5(8H), 3.35(2H), 6.2(1H),
7.3-8.0(7H), 8.3(2H) and 9.4(broad) ppm.

35 Example 44

2-(4-(3-(4-Benzylpiperazin-1-ylmethyl)pyrrol-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide

¹H-NMR (D₆-DMSO). δ = 2.2-2.6(8H), 3.4(2H), 3.5(2H), 6.2(1H),
7.2-8.0(13H), 8.3(2H), 9.4(1H) and 13.4(broad) ppm.

40

Example 45

2-(4-(3-(Piperidin-1-ylmethyl)pyrrol-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide

¹H-NMR (D₆-DMSO). δ = 1.3-1.6(6H), 2.3(4H), 3.3(2H), 6.2(1H),
45 7.3-8.0(8H), 8.3(2H) and 9.4(broad) ppm.

Example 46

2-(4-(4-Benzylpiperazin-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazol-4-carboxamide 3
x [sic] HCl

¹H-NMR (D₆-DMSO). δ = 3.2(4H), 4.2(4H), 4.5(2H), 7.2(2H),
5 7.4-8.0(9H), 8.2(2H), 9.0(1H) and 11.8(broad) ppm.

Example 47

2-(4-(4-Cyclohexylpiperazin-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-
carboxamide

10 ¹H-NMR (D₆-DMSO). δ = 1.1-1.9(10H), 2.7(4H), 3.2(4H), 4.1(1H),
7.1(2H), 7.25(1H), 7.7(2H), 7.8(1H), 8.0(2H), 9.4(1H) and ca.
13(broad) ppm.

Example 48

15 2-(4-(4-Ethylpiperazin-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide

¹H-NMR (D₆-DMSO). δ = 1.0(3H), 2.4(2H), 2.5(4H), 3.2(4H),
7.0-7.3(3H), 7.6-7.9(2H), 8.0(2H), 9.4(1H) and ca. 13(broad) ppm.

Example 49

20 2-(4-(4-n-Butylpiperazin-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-
carboxamide

¹H-NMR (D₆-DMSO). δ = 0.9(3H), 1.2-1.6(4H), 2.3(2H), 3.2-3.5(8H),
7.1(2H), 7.3(1H), 7.6-7.9(3H), 8.1(2H), 9.5(1H) and 13(broad)ppm.

25 Example 50

2-(4-(4-Diphenylmethylpiperazin-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-
carboxamide

¹H-NMR (D₆-DMSO). δ = 2.5(4H), 3.2(4H), 4.3(1H), 7.0-7.9(16H),
8.1(2H), 9.4(1H) and ca. 13(broad) ppm.

30

Example 51

2-(2-Methyl-4-piperazin-1-ylphenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide 3
x [sic] HCl

MS: m/e = 335(M⁺).

35

Example 52

2-(3-Piperazin-1-ylphenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide 3 x HCl
[sic]

¹H-NMR (D₆-DMSO). δ = 3.2(4H), 3.6(2H), 7.2-7.6(3H), 7.7-8.0(4H),
40 8.9(broad) and 9.5(broad) ppm.

Example 53

2-(4-(4-Isopropylpiperazin-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-
carboxamide

45 ¹H-NMR (D₆-DMSO). δ = 1.0(6H), 2.7(4H), 2.8(1H), 3.3(4H), 7.1(2H),
7.2(1H), 7.5-7.9(3H), 8.05(2H), 9.4(1H) and 13(broad) ppm.

Example 54

2-(4-(4-tert-Butyloxycarbonylhomopiperazin-1-yl)phenyl)-
benzimidazole-4-carboxamide

¹H-NMR (D₆-DMSO). δ = 1.1-1.3(9H), 1.9(2H), 3.1-3.9(8H), 6.9(2H),
5 7.2(1H), 7.7-7.9(3H), 8.0(2H), 9.5(1H) and ca. 13(broad) ppm.

Example 55

2-(4-(Homopiperazin-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide

¹H-NMR (D₆-DMSO). δ = 2.1(2H), 3.1(2H), 3.2(2H), 3.7(2H), 3.9(2H),
10 7.0(2H), 7.5(1H), 7.8-8.0(3H), 8.2(2H), 8.7(broad) and 9.3(broad)
ppm.

Example 56

2-(4-(4-(Piperidin-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-
15 carboxamide

¹H-NMR (D₆-DMSO). δ = 1.7-1.9(8H), 2.2(2H), 2.8-2.9(3H), 3.3(4H),
4.1(2H), 7.1(2H), 7.3(1H), 7.7(1H), 7.75(1H), 7.8(1H), 8.1(2H),
9.4(1H) and 13.2(broad) ppm.

20 Example 57

2-(4-(3-Aminopyrrolidin-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-carboxamide x
2 HCl

MS: m/e = 321 (M⁺).

25 Example 58

2-(4-(4-Benzylhomopiperazin-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-
carboxamide

Example 59

30 2-(4-(4-Methylhomopiperazin-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-
carboxamide

Example 60

2-(4-(4-Ethylhomopiperazin-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-
35 carboxamide

Example 61

2-(4-(4-Isopropylhomopiperazin-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-
carboxamide

40

Example 62

2-(4-(4-Butylhomopiperazin-1-yl)phenyl)benzimidazole-4-
carboxamide

45

Example 63

Synthesis of 2-phenylbenzimidazole-4-carboxamide

a) 2,3-Diaminobenzamide x 2 hydrochloride

5

At room temperature, a solution of 200 g (1.11 mol) of ethyl 2,3-diaminobenzoate in 1500 ml of 1-butanol was carefully admixed with 400 ml of hydrazine hydrate. The mixture was heated at 100°C for 15 hours. The batch was subsequently concentrated to a third of its volume. This solution was slowly added dropwise to a suspension of about 200 g of Raney nickel in 500 ml of water and 1000 ml of dimethylformamide. The mixture was heated at 100°C for 2 hours. After cooling to 10°C, the catalyst was removed and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting oil was dissolved in 500 ml of methanol and admixed with diethyl ether. The precipitate was separated off and the filtrate was concentrated again. A solution of the resulting oil in methanol was, under reflux, admixed with hydrogen chloride/isopropanol. The precipitate that formed on cooling was filtered off with suction, suspended in diethyl ether and filtered off with suction again. This gave 172.2 g of the product.

25 b) 2-Phenylbenzimidazole-4-carboxamide

At room temperature, 1.68 g (7.5 mmol) of the product from 1b were added to a solution of 0.84 g (15 mmol) of potassium hydroxide powder in 100 ml of ethanol. After 5 minutes, 1.35 g (22.5 mmol) of glacial acetic acid were added, and a solution of 1 g (9.38 mmol) of benzaldehyde in 20 ml of ethanol was added dropwise over a period of 30 minutes. A solution of 2.59 g (12.97 mmol) of copper(II) acetate in 20 ml of dist. water was then rapidly added dropwise. The mixture was refluxed for 2 hours. The batch was poured into water, made alkaline using concentrated ammonia solution and extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic phase was washed with water and, with addition of activated carbon, dried over magnesium sulfate and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resinous residue was triturated with diethyl ether, and the crystals that separated off were washed with diethyl ether and dried under reduced pressure. This gave 1.5 g of the product.

45



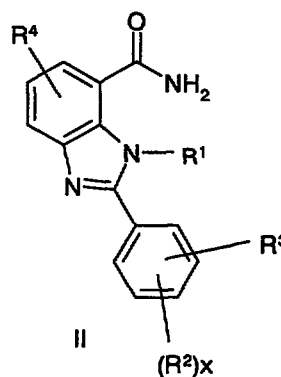
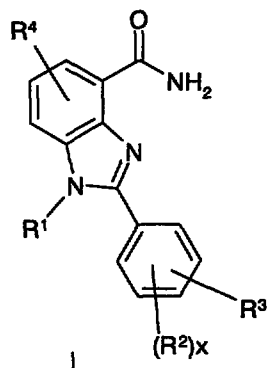
We claim:

1. A compound of the formula I or II

5

10

15



in which

20 R^1 is hydrogen, branched and unbranched C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, it also being possible for one C atom of the alkyl radical to carry OR^{11} or a group R^5 , where R^{11} is hydrogen or C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, and

25 R^2 is hydrogen, chlorine, bromine, iodine, fluorine, CF_3 , nitro, $NHCOR^{21}$, $NR^{22}R^{23}OH$, O - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, O - C_1 - C_4 -alkylphenyl, NH_2 , phenyl, it also being possible for the phenyl rings to be substituted by at most two radicals R^{24} , and R^{21} and R^{22} independently of one another are hydrogen or C_1 - C_4 -alkyl and R^{23} is hydrogen,
30 C_1 - C_4 -alkyl or phenyl, and R^{24} is OH , C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, O - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, chlorine, bromine, iodine, fluorine, CF_3 , nitro, NH_2 , and

35 x may be 0, 1 or 2 and

R^3 is $-D-(F^1)_p-(E)_q-(F^2)_r-G$, where p , q and r may not simultaneously be 0, or is $-E-(D)_u-(F^2)_s-(G)_v$, it also being possible for the radical E to be substituted by one or two radicals A , or R^3 is B and

40

R^4 is hydrogen, chlorine, fluorine, bromine, iodine, branched and unbranched C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, OH , nitro, CF_3 , CN , $NR^{41}R^{42}$, $NH-CO-R^{43}$, O - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, where

45 R^{41} and R^{42} independently of one another are hydrogen or C_1 - C_4 -alkyl and

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R^{43} is hydrogen, C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, C_1 - C_4 -alkylphenyl or phenyl, and

D is S or O,

5

E is phenyl, imidazole, pyrrole, thiophene, pyridine, pyrimidine, piperazine, pyrazine, furan, thiazole, isoxazole, pyrrolidine, piperidine, trihydroazepine and

10 F^1 is a chain of 1 to 8 carbon atoms, it also being possible for one carbon atom of the chain to carry an OH or O- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl group and

15 F^2 is a chain of 1 to 8 carbon atoms, it also being possible for one carbon atom of the chain to carry an OH or O- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl group and

p may be 0 or 1 and

20 q may be 0 or 1, and

r may be 0 or 1 and

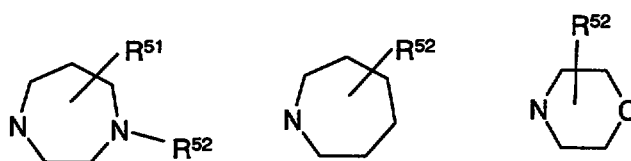
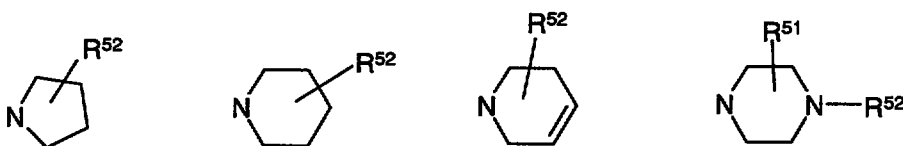
s may be 0 or 1 and

25

u may be 0 or 1 and

v may be 0 or 1

30 G may be $NR^{51}R^{52}$ or

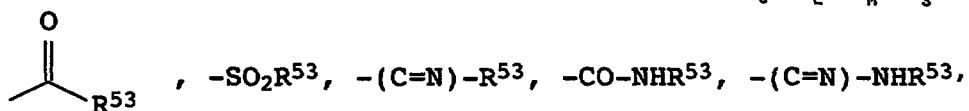


and

R^{51} is hydrogen or branched and unbranched C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, $(CH_2)_t$ -K and

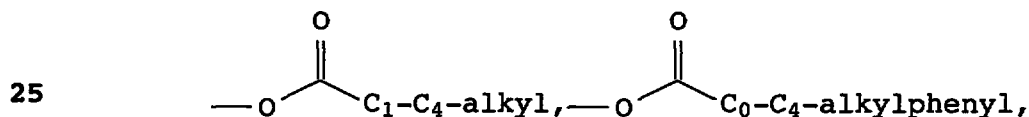
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R^{52} is hydrogen, branched and unbranched C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, phenyl,



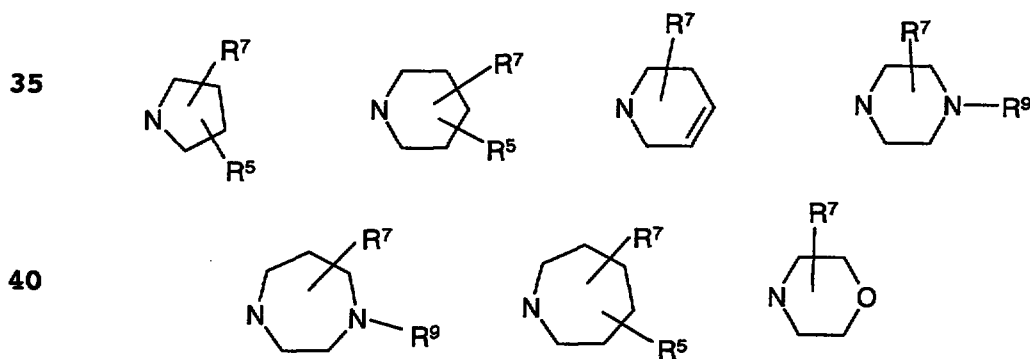
5 in which

R⁵³ may be branched or unbranched O-C₁-C₆-alkyl, phenyl, branched or unbranched C₁-C₄-alkylphenyl, where in the case of R⁵² and R⁵³ independently of one another one hydrogen of the C₁-C₆-alkyl radical may be substituted by one of the following radicals: OH, O-C₁-C₄-alkyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopentyl, tetrahydronaphthyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cycloheptyl, naphthyl and phenyl, it also being possible for the carbocycles of the radicals R⁵² and R⁵³ independently of one another to carry one or two of the following radicals: branched or unbranched C₁-C₆-alkyl, branched or unbranched O-C₁-C₄-alkyl, OH, F, Cl, Br, I, CF₃, NO₂, NH₂, CN, COOH, COOC₁-C₄-alkyl, C₁-C₄-alkylamino, CCl₃, C₁-C₄-dialkylamino, SO₂-C₁-C₄-alkyl, SO₂phenyl, CONH₂, CONH-C₁-C₄-alkyl, CONHphenyl, CONH-C₁-C₄-alkylphenyl, NHSO₂-C₁-C₄-alkyl, NHSO₂phenyl, S-C₁-C₄-alkyl,



CHO, CH₂-O-C₁-C₄-alkyl, -CH₂O-C₁-C₄-alkylphenyl, -CH₂OH, -SO-C₁-C₄-alkyl, -SO-C₁-C₄-alkylphenyl, -SO₂NH₂, -SO₂NH-C₁-C₄-alkyl and two radicals form a bridge -O-(CH₂)_{1,2}-O-,

B may be



and

45



58

A may be hydrogen, chlorine, bromine, iodine, fluorine, CF_3 , nitro, OH, O- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, O- C_1 - C_4 -alkylphenyl, NH_2 , branched and unbranched C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, CN, NH-CO-R^{33} , where R^{33} is hydrogen, C_1 - C_4 -alkyl or phenyl and

5

R^{31} is hydrogen, C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, $(\text{CH}_2)_t\text{-K}$ and

R^{32} is hydrogen, C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, $-\text{CO-R}^8$, $\text{SO}_2\text{-R}^8$, $-(\text{C}=\text{N})\text{-R}^8$, $-\text{CO-NHR}^8$, $-\text{CO-OR}^8$ and $-(\text{C}=\text{N})\text{-NHR}^8$ and

10

R^{33} is hydrogen and C_1 - C_4 -alkyl and

t is 0,1,2,3,4 and

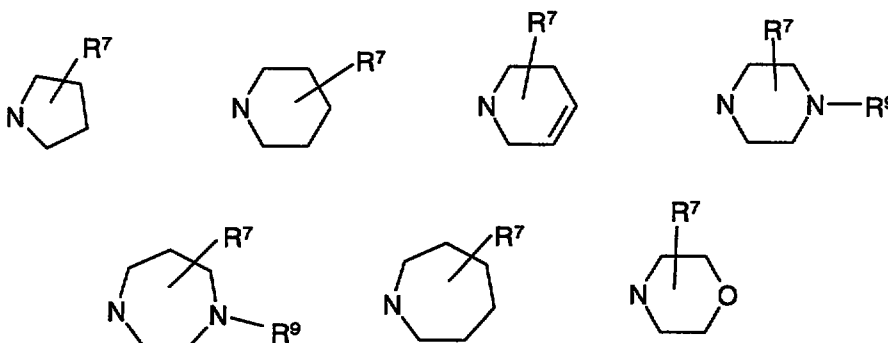
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K is phenyl which may carry at most two radicals R, is $\text{NR}^{k1}\text{R}^{k2}$ (where R^{k1} and R^{k2} are as defined for R^{41} and R^{42} respectively), NH-C_1 - C_4 -alkylphenyl, pyrrolidine, piperidine, 1,2,5,6-tetrahydropyridine, morpholine, trihydroazepine, piperazine, which may also be substituted by an alkyl radical C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, and homopiperazine, which may also be substituted by an alkyl radical C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, and

20

R^5 may be hydrogen, C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, NR^7R^9 and

25



30

35

and

40

R^7 is hydrogen, C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, C_1 - C_4 -alkylphenyl, phenyl, it also being possible for the rings to be substituted by up to two radicals R^{71} , and

R^{71} is OH, C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, O- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, chlorine, bromine, iodine, fluorine, CF_3 , nitro, NH_2 , and

45



59

- R^8 is hydrogen, C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, phenyl, C_1 - C_4 -alkylphenyl, it also being possible for the ring to be substituted by up to two radicals R^{81} , and
- 5 R^{81} is OH, C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, O- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, chlorine, bromine, iodine, fluorine, CF_3 , nitro, NH_2 , and
- R^9 is hydrogen, $COCH_3$, CO-O- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, $COCF_3$, branched and unbranched C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, it being possible for one or two hydrogens of the C_1 - C_6 -alkyl radical to be substituted in each case by one of the following radicals: OH, O- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl and phenyl, and for the phenyl ring also to carry one or two of the following radicals: iodine, chlorine, bromine, fluorine, branched and unbranched
- 10 C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, nitro, amino, C_1 - C_4 -alkylamino, C_1 - C_4 -dialkylamino, OH, O- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, CN, CF_3 , SO_2 - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl,
- 15 and the tautomeric forms, possible enantiomeric and diastereomeric forms thereof, the prodrugs thereof and pharmacologically tolerated salts.
- 20
2. A compound of the formula I or II as claimed in claim 1 in which
- 25 R^1 is hydrogen, branched and unbranched C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, it also being possible for one C atom of the alkyl radical to carry OR^{11} or a group R^5 , where
- 30 R^{11} is hydrogen or C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, and
- R^2 is hydrogen, chlorine, fluorine, bromine, iodine, branched and unbranched C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, nitro, CF_3 , CN, $NR^{21}R^{22}$, NH-CO- R^{23} , OR^{21} , where
- 35 R^{21} and R^{22} are, independently of one another, hydrogen or C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, and
- R^{23} are [sic] hydrogen, C_1 - C_4 -alkyl or phenyl, and
- 40 R^3 is $-O-(CH_2)_o-(CHR^{31})_m-(CH_2)_n-R^5$, where
- R^{31} is hydrogen, C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, OH and O- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl,
- 45 m, o is [sic], independently of one another, 0, 1 or 2, and



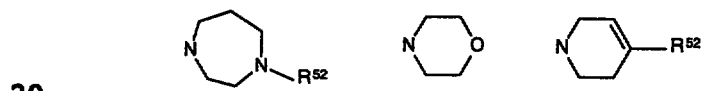
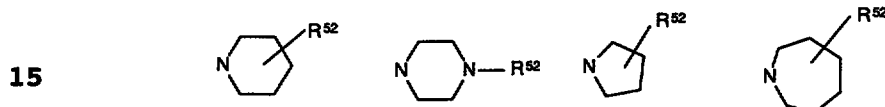
n is 1, 2, 3 or 4, and

5 R^4 is hydrogen, branched and unbranched C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, chlorine, bromine, fluorine, nitro, cyano, $NR^{41}R^{42}$, $NH-CO-R^{43}$, OR^{41} , where

R^{41} and R^{42} are, independently of one another, hydrogen or C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, and

10 R^{43} are [sic] C_1 - C_4 -alkyl or phenyl, and

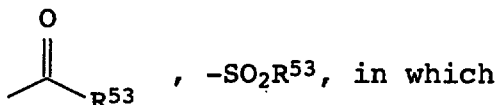
R^5 is $NR^{51}R^{52}$ or one of the following radicals



where

R^{51} is hydrogen and branched and unbranched C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, and

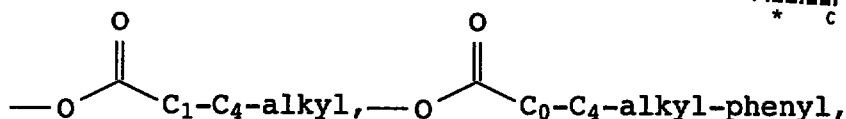
25 R^{52} [lacuna] hydrogen, branched and unbranched C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, phenyl,



35 R^{53} is branched or unbranched O - C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, phenyl, branched or unbranched C_1 - C_4 -alkyl-phenyl, where one hydrogen in the C_1 - C_6 -alkyl radical in R^{52} and R^{53} can, independently of one another, be substituted by one of the following radicals: OH , O - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopentyl, tetrahydronaphthyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cycloheptyl, naphthyl and phenyl, where the carbocycles of the R^{52} and R^{53} radicals may also,

40 independently of one another, carry one or two of the following radicals: branched or unbranched C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, branched or unbranched O - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, OH , F , Cl , Br , I , CF_3 , NO_2 , NH_2 , CN , $COOH$, $COOC_1$ - C_4 -alkyl, C_1 - C_4 -alkylamino, CCl_3 , C_1 - C_4 -dialkylamino, SO_2 - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, SO_2 phenyl,

45 $CONH_2$, $CONH$ - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, $CONH$ phenyl, $CONH$ - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl-phenyl, $NHSO_2$ - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, $NHSO_2$ phenyl, S - C_1 - C_4 -alkyl,



5 CHO, CH₂-O-C₁-C₄-alkyl, -CH₂O-C₁-C₄-alkyl-phenyl, -CH₂OH,
 -SO-C₁-C₄-alkyl, -SO-C₁-C₄-alkyl-phenyl, SO₂NH₂,
 -SO₂NH-C₁-C₄-alkyl
 and two radicals form a bridge -O-(CH₂)_{1,2}-O-,

10 and the tautomeric form, possible enantiomeric and
 diastereomeric forms thereof, the prodrugs thereof, and
 possible physiologically tolerated salts.

3. A compound of the formula I or II as claimed in claim 1
 15 in which

R¹ is hydrogen, branched and unbranched C₁-C₆-alkyl, it also
 being possible for one C atom of the alkyl radical to
 carry OR¹¹ or a group R⁵, where

20

R¹¹ is hydrogen or C₁-C₄-alkyl, and

R² is hydrogen, chlorine, fluorine, bromine, iodine,
 branched and unbranched C₁-C₆-alkyl, nitro, CF₃, CN,
 25 NR²¹R²², NH-CO-R²³, OR²¹, where

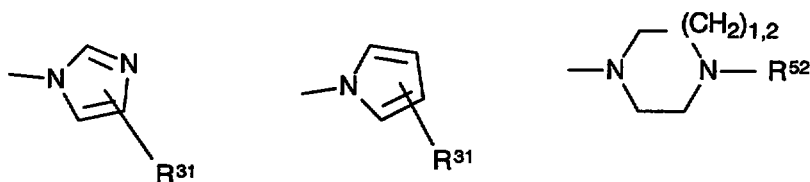
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R²¹ and R²² independently of one another are hydrogen
 or C₁-C₄-alkyl and

R²³ is hydrogen, C₁-C₄-alkyl or phenyl, and

30

R³ is



35

and

40 R³¹ is hydrogen, CHO and -(CH₂)₀-(CHR³²)_m-(CH₂)_n-R⁵, where
 R³² is hydrogen, C₁-C₄-alkyl, OH and O-C₁-C₄-alkyl,
 m, n independently of one another are 0, 1 or 2 and
 n is 1, 2, 3 or 4, and

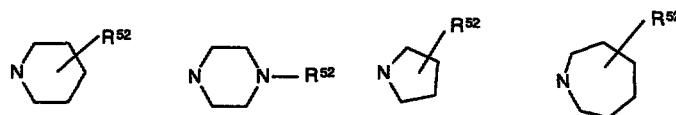
45 R⁴ is hydrogen, branched and unbranched C₁-C₆-alkyl,
 chlorine, bromine, fluorine, nitro, cyano, NR⁴¹R⁴²,
 NH-CO-R⁴³, OR⁴¹, where



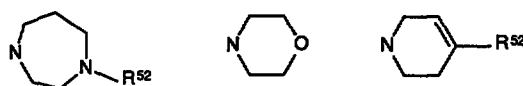
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R^{41} and R^{42} independently of one another are hydrogen or C_1 - C_4 -alkyl and
 R^{43} is C_1 - C_4 -alkyl or phenyl, and

5 R^5 is $NR^{51}R^{52}$ or one of the radicals below



10



15 where

R^{51} is hydrogen and branched and unbranched C_1 - C_6 -alkyl and

20 R^{52} is hydrogen, $COCH_3$, $CO-O-C_1-C_4$ -alkyl, $COCF_3$, branched and unbranched C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, it being possible for one hydrogen of the C_1 - C_6 -alkyl radical to be
 25 substituted by one of the following radicals: OH, $O-C_1-C_4$ -alkyl and phenyl and for the phenyl ring also to carry one or two of the following radicals:
 chlorine, bromine, fluorine, branched and unbranched C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, nitro, amino, C_1 - C_4 -alkylamino, C_1 - C_4 -dialkylamino, OH, $O-C_1-C_4$ -alkyl, CN, $SO_2-C_1-C_4$ -alkyl,

30

and the tautomeric forms, possible enantiomeric and diastereomeric forms thereof, the prodrugs thereof, and possible physiologically tolerated salts.

35 4. A compound as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3, where R^2 is in position 3 and R^3 is in position 4 or R^2 is in position 4 and R^3 is in position 3 relative to the benzimidazole ring.

40 5. A compound as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4, where R^1 and R^4 are hydrogen.

6. A compound as claimed in any of claims 1 to 5, where

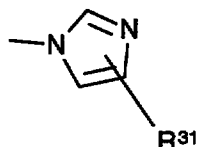
45 R^2 is hydrogen, branched or unbranched C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, nitro, CN, NH_2 , $O-C_1-C_4$ -alkyl.



7. A compound as claimed in any of claims 1 or 3 to 6 where

(i) for R^3 being

5



10

R^{31} is hydrogen or $-(CH_2)_p-R^5$, where

p is 1 or 2 and

R^{52} may be hydrogen, branched and unbranched C_1-C_6 -alkyl,

where one hydrogen of the C_1-C_6 -alkyl radical may be

15

substituted by one of the following radicals: OH,

O- C_1-C_4 -alkyl and phenyl, and where the phenyl ring may

also carry one or two of the following radicals:

chlorine, bromine, fluorine, branched and unbranched

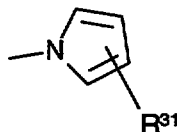
C_1-C_4 -alkyl, nitro, amino, C_1-C_4 -alkylamino, C_1-C_4 -

20

dialkylamino, OH, O- C_1-C_4 -alkyl, CN, $SO_2-C_1-C_4$ -alkyl;

(ii) for R^3 being

25



30

R^{31} is hydrogen or $-(CH_2)_p-R^5$, where

p is 1 or 2 and

R^{52} may be hydrogen, branched and unbranched C_1-C_6 -alkyl,

where one hydrogen of the C_1-C_6 -alkyl radical may be

substituted by one of the following radicals: OH,

O- C_1-C_4 -alkyl and phenyl, and where the phenyl ring may

35

also carry one or two of the following radicals:

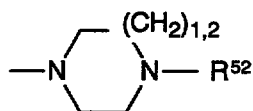
chlorine, bromine, fluorine, branched and unbranched

C_1-C_4 -alkyl, nitro, amino, C_1-C_4 -alkylamino, C_1-C_4 -

dialkylamino, OH, O- C_1-C_4 -alkyl, CN, $SO_2-C_1-C_4$ -alkyl;

40

and (iii) for R^3 being



45

where R^{52} is hydrogen, branched and unbranched C_1-C_6 -alkyl,

where one hydrogen of the C_1-C_6 -alkyl radical may be

substituted by one of the following radicals: OH,



- O-C₁-C₄-alkyl and phenyl, and where the phenyl ring may also carry one or two of the following radicals: chlorine, bromine, fluorine, branched and unbranched C₁-C₄-alkyl, nitro, amino, C₁-C₄-alkylamino, C₁-C₄-dialkylamino, OH, O-C₁-C₄-alkyl, CN, SO₂-C₁-C₄-alkyl.
8. A compound as claimed in any of claims 1, 2 or 4 to 6, where R³ is -O-(CH₂)_p-R⁵ with p equal to 2, 3 or 4.
- 10 9. A compound as claimed in any of claims 1, 2 or 4 to 7, where R⁵ is a 6-membered ring and R⁵² is an optionally substituted phenyl ring.
- 15 10. A drug comprising besides conventional vehicles and ancillary substances a compound as claimed in any of claims 1 to 9.
11. The use of compounds of the formula I as claimed in any of claims 1 to 10 for producing drugs for treating diseases in which pathologically elevated PARP activities occur.
- 20 12. The use of compounds of the formula I as claimed in claim 11 to 6 for producing drugs for treating neurodegenerative diseases and neuronal damage.
- 25 13. The use as claimed in claim 11 for treating neurodegenerative diseases and neuronal damage induced by ischemia, trauma or massive bleeding.
14. The use as claimed in claim 11 for treating stroke and
- 30 craniocerebral trauma.
15. The use as claimed in claim 11 for treating Alzheimer's disease and Huntington's disease.
- 35 16. The use of compounds of the formula I as claimed in claim 11 for producing drugs for the treatment or prophylaxis of damage due to ischemia.
17. The use of compounds of the formula I as claimed in claim 11
- 40 for producing drugs for treating epilepsies, in particular generalized epileptic seizures, such as, for example, petit mal and tonoclonic seizures and partial epileptic seizures such as temporal lobe [sic], and complex partial seizures.
- 45 18. The use of compounds of the formula I as claimed in claim 11 for producing drugs for treating damage to the kidneys after renal ischemia, damage caused by drug therapy such as, for



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example, during cyclosporin therapy, and for treatment during and after kidney transplants.

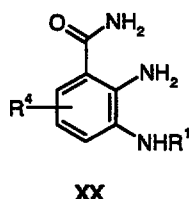
19. The use of compounds of the formula I as claimed in claim 11
5 for producing drugs for treating damage to the heart after cardiac ischemia.
20. The use of compounds of the formula I as claimed in claim 11
10 for producing drugs for treating microinfarcts such as, for example, during and after heart valve replacement, aneurysm resections and heart transplants.
21. The use of compounds of the formula I as claimed in claim 11
15 for producing drugs for treatment in cases of revasculariation [sic] of critically narrowed coronary arteries such as, for example, PTCA and bypass operations or critically narrowed peripheral arteries, especially leg arteries.
- 20 22. The use of compounds of the formula I as claimed in claim 11 for producing drugs for treating acute myocardial infarct and damage during and after medical or mechanical lysis thereof.
23. The use of compounds of the formula I as claimed in claim 11
25 for producing drugs for treating tumors and metastasis thereof.
24. The use of compounds of the formula I as claimed in claim 11
30 for producing drugs for treating sepsis of multi-organ failure such as, for example, during septic shock and "acute respiratory distress syndrome".
25. The use of compounds of the formula I as claimed in claim 11
35 for producing drugs for treating immunological diseases such as inflammations and rheumatic diseases such as, for example, rheumatoid arthritis.
26. The use of compounds of the formula I as claimed in claim 11
40 for producing drugs for treating diabetes mellitus.
27. A compound of the formula XX or XXI

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in which

R, R¹ and R² are as defined in the preceding claims,

and salts thereof.

28. A process for preparing compounds of the formula XX or XXI and salts thereof, which comprises reacting

15 2-halo-3-nitrobenzoic acid esters with a suitable diamine in a polar solvent in the presence of a base, followed by hydrogenation of the nitro group with hydrogen in the presence of a suitable catalyst.

20 29. The use of compounds of the formula XX or XXI in the synthesis of PARP inhibitors.

30. An in vitro detection method for PARP inhibitors, which comprises

25

- a) incubating an unsupported or supported polyADP-ribosylatable target with a reaction mixture comprising
 - 30 a1) a PARP,
 - a2) a PARP activator; and
 - a3) a PARP inhibitor or an analyte in which at least one PARP inhibitor is suspected;
- b) carrying out the polyADP-ribosylation reaction; and
- 35 c) determining the polyADP-ribosylation of the target qualitatively or quantitatively using an anti-poly(ADP-ribose) antibody.

31. A method as claimed in claim 23, wherein PARP is preincubated with the PARP activator and the PARP inhibitor or an analyte in which at least one PARP inhibitor is suspected before the polyADP ribosylation reaction is carried out.

32. A method as claimed in either of claims 23 or 24, wherein the polyADP-ribosylatable target is a histone protein.

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33. A method as claimed in any of claims 23 to 25, wherein the PARP activator is activated DNA.
34. A method as claimed in any of claims 23 to 26, wherein the polyADP ribosylation reaction is started by adding NAD⁺.
35. A method as claimed in any of claims 23 to 27, wherein the unsupported target is labeled with an acceptor fluorophore.
36. A method as claimed in claim 28, wherein the polyADP ribosylation of the unsupported target is determined using anti-poly(ADP-ribose) antibody which is labeled with a donor fluorophore which is able to transfer energy to the acceptor fluorophore.
37. A method as claimed in either of claims 28 and 29, wherein the target is biotinylated histone, and the acceptor fluorophore is coupled thereto via avidin or streptavidin.
38. A method as claimed in either of claims 29 and 30, wherein the anti-poly(ADP-ribose) antibody carries a europium cryptate as donor fluorophore.

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