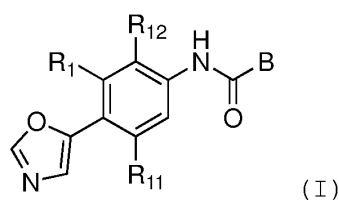


Claims

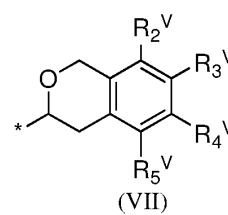
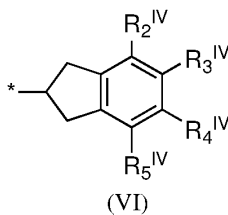
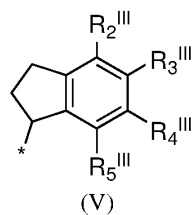
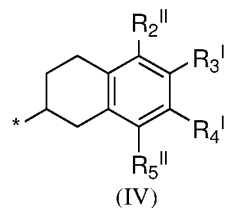
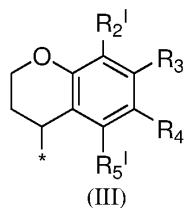
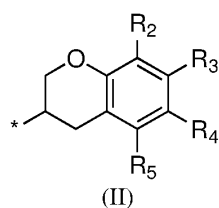
1. A method of treating and/or preventing a disease involving the retinal pigment epithelium, comprising administering the compound of the formula (I)



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, a racemic mixture, a corresponding enantiomer or, if applicable, a corresponding diastereomer thereof, wherein:

- 10 R_1 , R_{11} and R_{12} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluoro, chloro, methoxy, trifluoromethyl, methyl and difluoromethoxy, whereby at least one of R_1 , R_{11} and R_{12} is not hydrogen

- 15 B is selected from the group consisting of a residue of formula (II), (III), (IV), (V), (VI) and (VII)



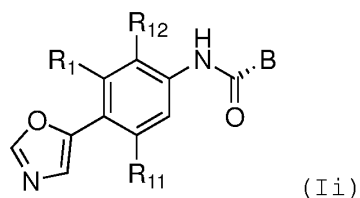
- 130 -

wherein,

"*" denotes the point of attachment to the remainder of the molecule, and

5 $R_2, R_3, R_4, R_5, R_2^I, R_3^I, R_4^I, R_5^I, R_2^{II}, R_3^{II}, R_4^{II}, R_5^{II}, R_2^{III}, R_3^{III}, R_4^{III}, R_5^{III}, R_2^{IV}, R_3^{IV}, R_4^{IV}, R_5^{IV}, R_2^V, R_3^V, R_4^V, R_5^V$ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, a linear or branched alkyl having 1 to 3 carbon atoms, fluoro, chloro, bromo, methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, trifluoromethyl and difluoromethoxy.

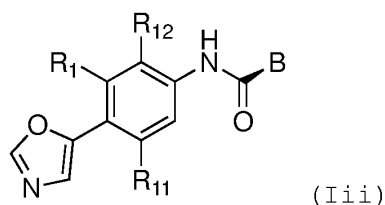
2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the compound of formula (I) the asymmetric center at ring position * of the residue of formula (II), (III), (IV), (V), (VI), (VII), (VIII) or (IX) has the configuration depicted in the compound of formula (Ii)



and B, $R_1, R_{11}, R_{12}, R_2, R_3, R_4, R_5, R_2^I, R_3^I, R_4^I, R_5^I, R_2^{II}, R_3^{II}, R_4^{II}, R_5^{II}, R_2^{III}, R_3^{III}, R_4^{III}, R_5^{III}, R_2^{IV}, R_3^{IV}, R_4^{IV}, R_5^{IV}, R_2^V, R_3^V, R_4^V, R_5^V$ have the same definition as above.

3. A method according to claim 1, wherein the compound of formula (I) asymmetric center at ring position * of the residue of formula (II), (III), (IV), (V), (VI), (VII), (VIII) or (IX) has the configuration

depicted in the compound of formula (Iii)

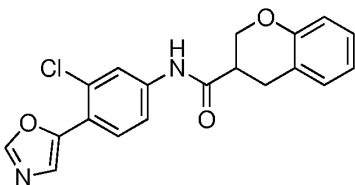
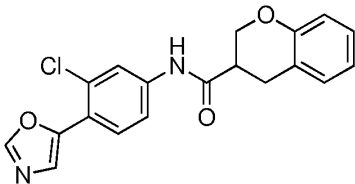
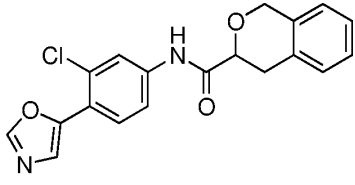
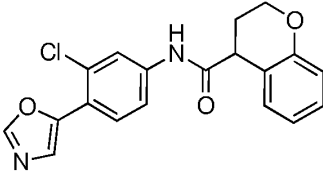


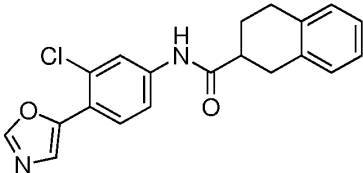
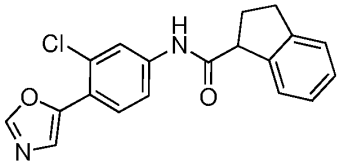
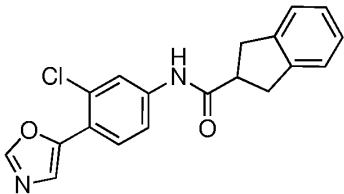
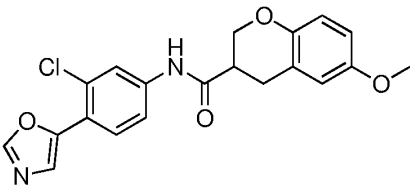
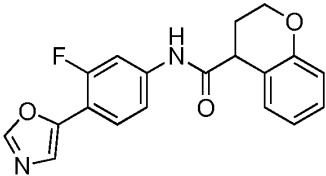
and B, R₁, R₁₁, R₁₂, R₂, R₃, R₄, R₅, R₂^I, R₃^I, R₄^I, R₅^I,
 R₂^{II}, R₃^{II}, R₄^{II}, R₅^{II}, R₂^{III}, R₃^{III}, R₄^{III}, R₅^{III}, R₂^{IV}, R₃^{IV},
 5 R₄^{IV}, R₅^{IV}, R₂^V, R₃^V, R₄^V, R₅^V have the same definition as
 above.

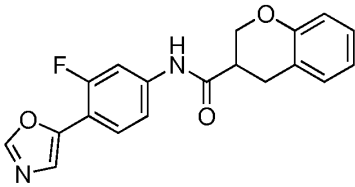
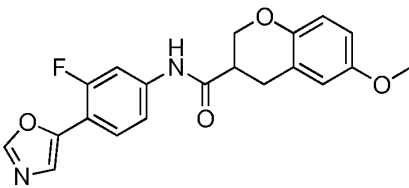
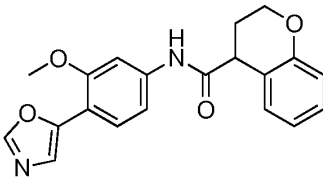
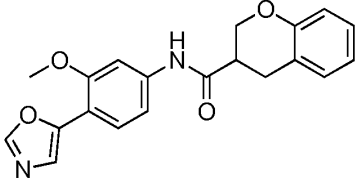
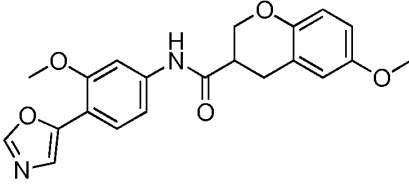
4. A method according to claim 1, wherein residue B is unsubstituted or monosubstituted.
5. A method according to claim 1, wherein the compound
 10 of formula (I) R₃, R₄, R₃^I, R₄^I, R₃^{II}, R₄^{II}, R₃^{III}, R₄^{III},
 R₃^{IV}, R₄^{IV}, R₃^V, R₄^V are independently selected from the
 group consisting of hydrogen, chloro, fluoro, methoxy
 and ethoxy.
6. A method according to claim 5, wherein the compound
 15 of formula (I) R₃, R₃^I, R₃^{II}, R₃^{III}, R₃^{IV}, or R₃^V is
 selected from the group consisting of fluoro and
 chloro, and R₂, R₄, R₅, R₂^I, R₄^I, R₅^I, R₂^{II}, R₄^{II}, R₅^{II},
 R₂^{III}, R₄^{III}, R₅^{III}, R₂^{IV}, R₄^{IV}, R₅^{IV}, R₂^V, R₄^V, R₅^V are all
 hydrogen.
7. A method according to claim 5, wherein the compound
 20 of formula (I), R₄, R₄^I, R₄^{II}, R₄^{III}, R₄^{IV}, or R₄^V is
 selected from the group consisting of methoxy and
 ethoxy, and R₂, R₃, R₅, R₂^I, R₃^I, R₅^I, R₂^{II}, R₃^{II}, R₅^{II},
 R₂^{III}, R₃^{III}, R₅^{III}, R₂^{IV}, R₃^{IV}, R₅^{IV}, R₂^V, R₃^V, R₅^V are all

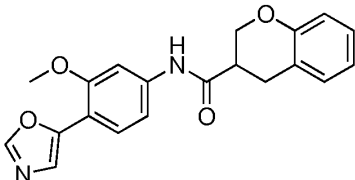
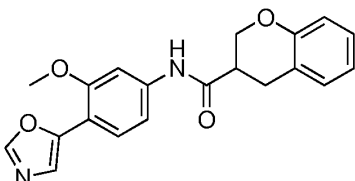
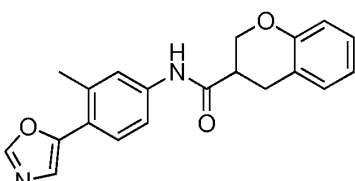
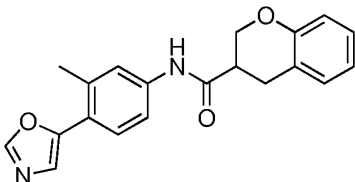
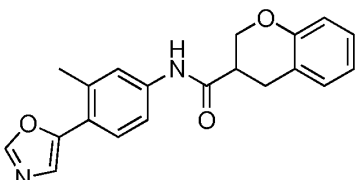
hydrogen.

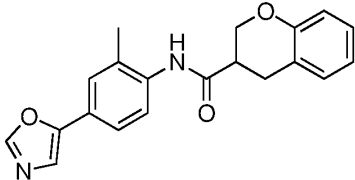
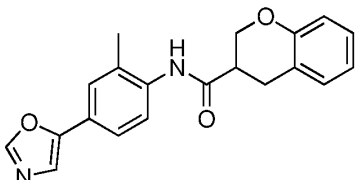
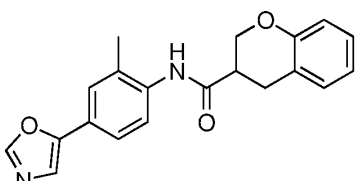
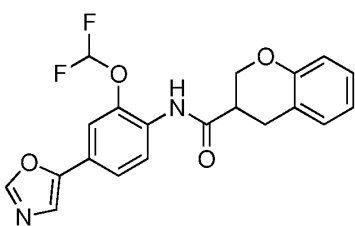
8. A method according to claim 1, wherein the compound of formula (I) is selected from the group consisting of compounds 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46 and 47:

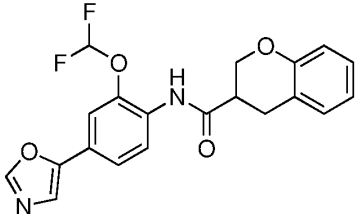
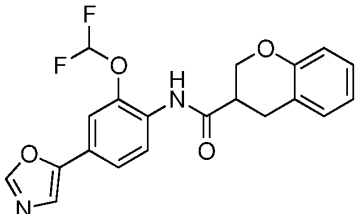
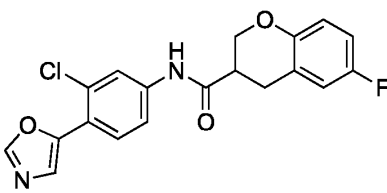
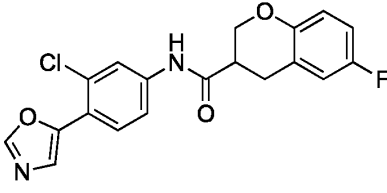
1	 enantiomer with the shorter retention time from the chiral HPLC resolution
2	 enantiomer with the longer retention time from the chiral HPLC resolution
3	 (racemate)
4	

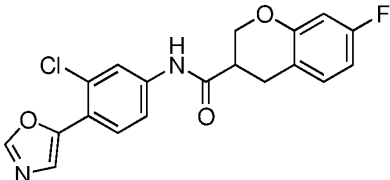
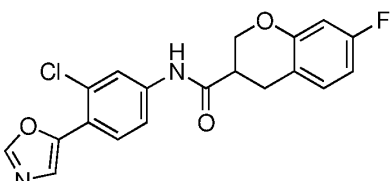
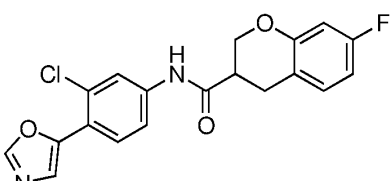
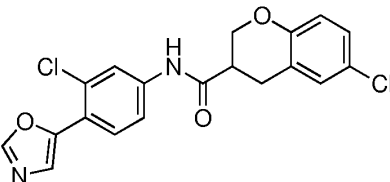
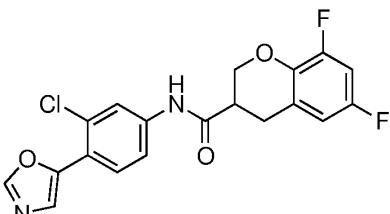
	(racemate)
5	 (racemate)
6	 (racemate)
7	 (racemate)
8	 (racemate)
9	 (racemate)

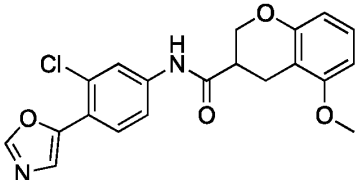
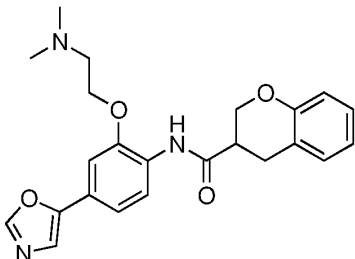
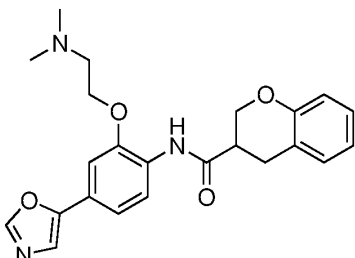
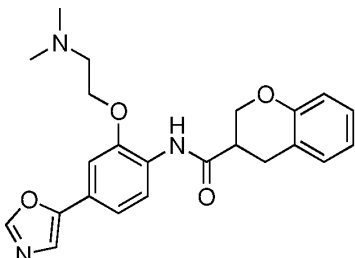
10	 (racemate)
11	 (racemate)
12	 (racemate)
13	 (racemate)
14	 (racemate)

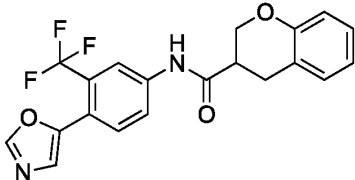
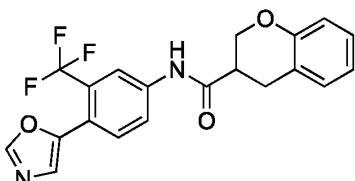
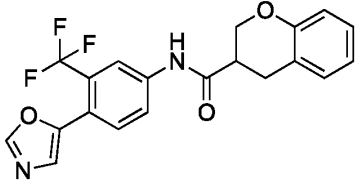
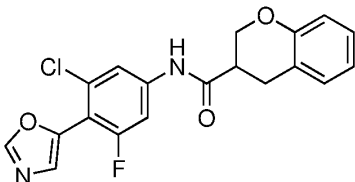
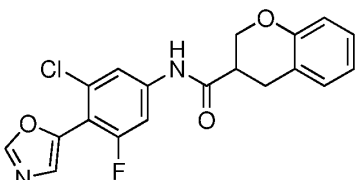
15	 enantiomer with the shorter retention time from the chiral HPLC resolution
16	 enantiomer with the longer retention time from the chiral HPLC resolution
17	 (racemate)
18	 enantiomer with the shorter retention time from the chiral HPLC resolution
19	 enantiomer with the longer

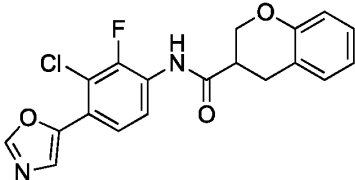
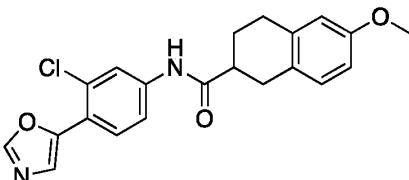
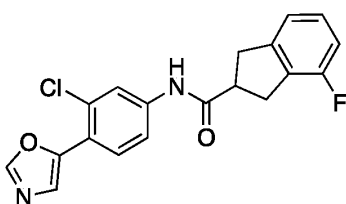
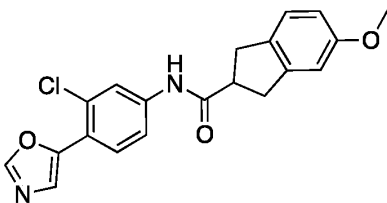
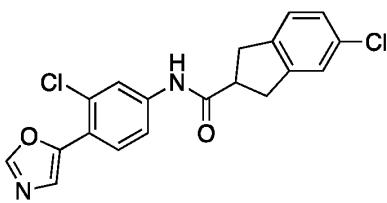
	retention time from the chiral HPLC resolution
20	 (racemate)
21	 enantiomer with the shorter retention time from the chiral HPLC resolution
22	 enantiomer with the longer retention time from the chiral HPLC resolution
23	 (racemate)

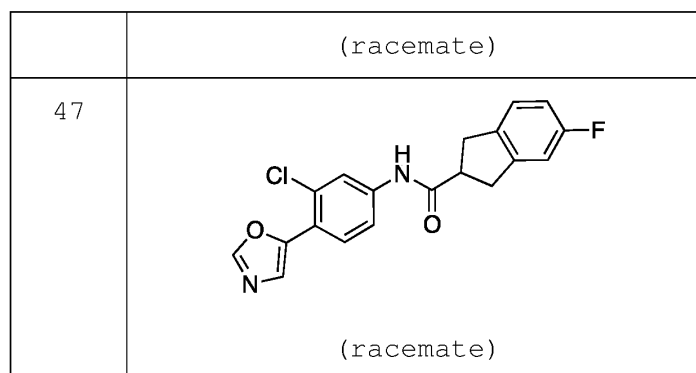
24	 enantiomer with the shorter retention time from the chiral HPLC resolution
25	 enantiomer with the longer retention time from the chiral HPLC resolution
26	 enantiomer with the shorter retention time from the chiral HPLC resolution
27	 enantiomer with the longer retention time from the chiral HPLC resolution

28	 (racemate)
29	 enantiomer with the shorter retention time from the chiral HPLC resolution
30	 enantiomer with the longer retention time from the chiral HPLC resolution
31	 (racemate)
32	

	(racemate)
33	 (racemate)
34	 (racemate)
35	 enantiomer with the shorter retention time from the chiral HPLC resolution
36	 enantiomer with the longer retention time from the chiral HPLC resolution

37	 (racemate)
38	 enantiomer with the shorter retention time from the chiral HPLC resolution
39	 enantiomer with the longer retention time from the chiral HPLC resolution
40	 enantiomer with the shorter retention time from the chiral HPLC resolution
41	 enantiomer with the longer

	retention time from the chiral HPLC resolution
42	 (racemate)
43	 (racemate)
44	 (racemate)
45	 (racemate)
46	

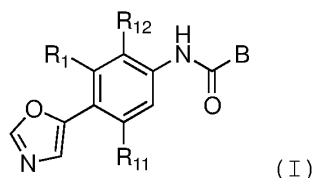


9. The method according to claim 1, wherein the retinal cells are regenerated via the proliferation and/or differentiation of retinal pigment epithelium cells.
- 5 10. The method according to claim 1, wherein the retinal disease selected from the group consisting of a disease leading to atrophy, degeneration or death of the retinal pigment epithelium.
11. The method according to claim 10, wherein the retinal disease is selected from the group consisting of early age-related macular degeneration, dry age-related macular degeneration, geographic atrophy (GA) and wet age-related macular degeneration.
- 10 11. The method according to claim 10, wherein the retinal disease is selected from the group consisting of early age-related macular degeneration, dry age-related macular degeneration, geographic atrophy (GA) and wet age-related macular degeneration.
12. The method according to claim 11, wherein the retinal disease is dry age-related macular degeneration.
- 15 12. The method according to claim 11, wherein the retinal disease is dry age-related macular degeneration.
13. The method according to claim 10, wherein the retinal disease is selected from the group consisting of Best disease, autosomal recessive bestrophinopathy (ARB), gyrate atrophy, North Carolina macular dystrophy, central areolar choroidal dystrophy (CACD), Sorsby macular dystrophy, familial dominant drusen,
- 20 13. The method according to claim 10, wherein the retinal disease is selected from the group consisting of Best disease, autosomal recessive bestrophinopathy (ARB), gyrate atrophy, North Carolina macular dystrophy, central areolar choroidal dystrophy (CACD), Sorsby macular dystrophy, familial dominant drusen,

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cuticular or basal laminar drusen, retinopathy of prematurity, myopic degeneration, polypoidal choroidal vasculopathy (PCV), central serious retinopathy, angioid streaks, retinal detachment, retinal dialysis, Vogt-Koyanagi-Harada (VKH), acute posterior multifocal placoid pigment epitheliopathy (APMPPE), persistent placoid maculopathy (PPM) relentless placoid chorioretinopathy (RPC), serpiginous choroiditis, serpiginous-like choroiditis (multifocal serpiginoïd choroiditis), multiple evanescence white dot syndrome (MEWDS) or Birdshot uveitis (vitiliginous chorioretinitis), toxoplasmosis, toxocariasis, rubella, Behçets disease, choroidal hemangioma, trauma, choroidal rupture, idiopathic retinitis - vasculitis - aneurysms and neuroretinitis (IRVAN), sympathetic ophthalmia, post-operative inflammation, or non-arteritic ischemic optic neuropathy as well as retinal degeneration associated with systemic disease such as diabetes mellitus, sickle cell disease or radiation retinopathy.

14. A compound of the formula (I)



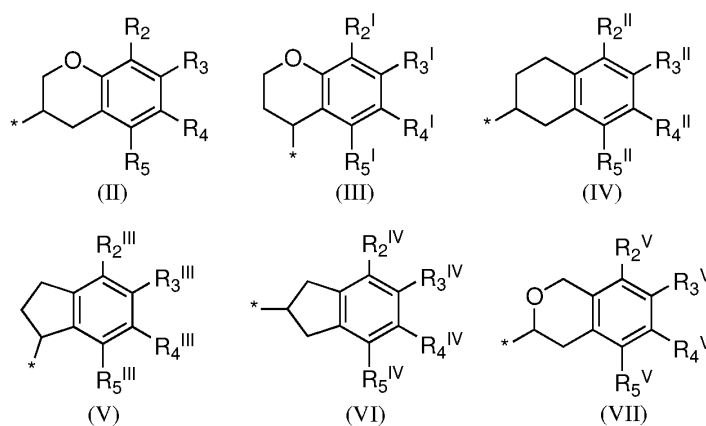
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, a racemic mixture, a corresponding enantiomer or, if applicable, a corresponding diastereomer thereof,

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wherein:

R_1 , R_{11} and R_{12} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluoro, chloro, methoxy, trifluoromethyl, methyl and difluoromethoxy, whereby at least one of R_1 , R_{11} and R_{12} is not hydrogen,

B is selected from the group consisting of a residue of formula (II), (III), (IV), (V), (VI) and (VII)



wherein,

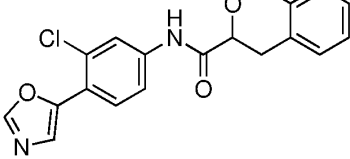
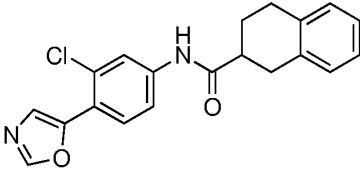
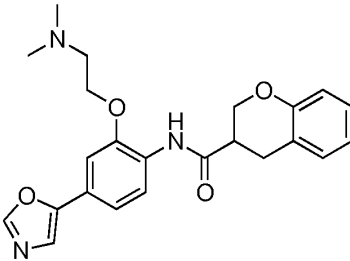
"*" denotes the point of attachment to the remainder of the molecule, and

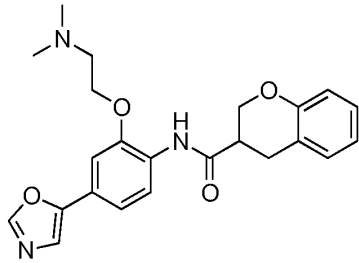
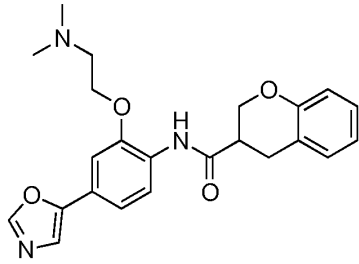
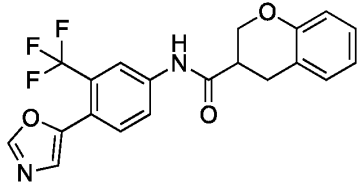
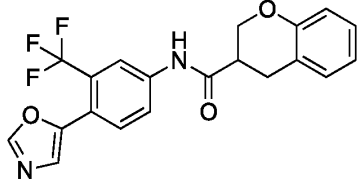
R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5 , R_2^I , R_3^I , R_4^I , R_5^I , R_2^{II} , R_3^{II} , R_4^{II} , R_5^{II} , R_2^{III} , R_3^{III} , R_4^{III} , R_5^{III} , R_2^{IV} , R_3^{IV} , R_4^{IV} , R_5^{IV} , R_2^V , R_3^V , R_4^V , R_5^V are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, a linear or branched alkyl having 1 to 3 carbon atoms, fluoro, chloro, bromo, methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, trifluoromethyl and difluoromethoxy,

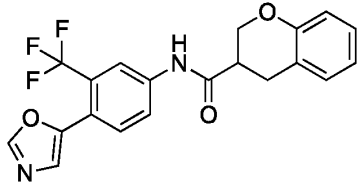
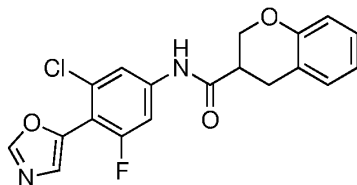
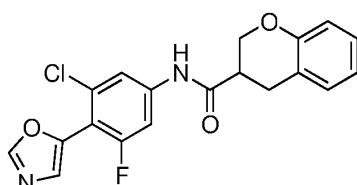
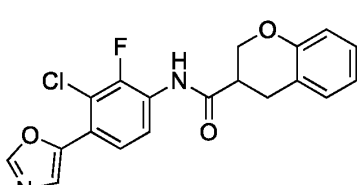
with the proviso that if

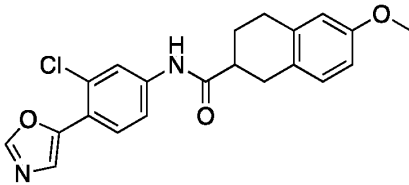
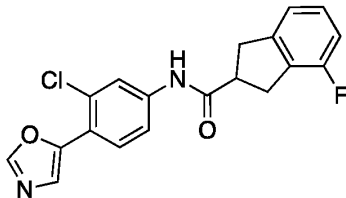
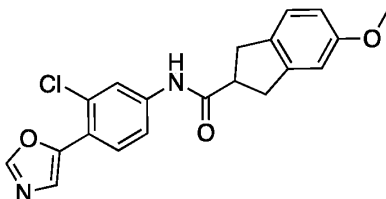
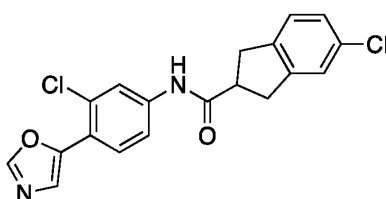
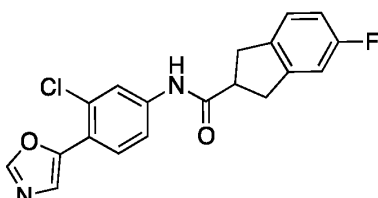
- a) R_{11} is hydrogen and
 b) one of R_1 and R_{12} is selected from the group consisting of fluoro, chloro and methoxy, trifluoromethyl, methyl and difluoromethoxy, whereas the other of R_1 and R_{12} is hydrogen, then
 B is either a residue of formula (IV) or (VII).

15. Compound according to claim 14, wherein the compound of formula (I) is selected from the group consisting of compounds 3, 5, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46 and 47:

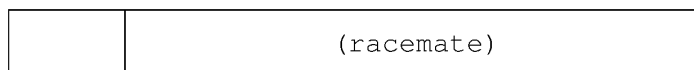
3	 (racemate)
5	 (racemate)
34	 (racemate)

35	 enantiomer with the shorter retention time from the chiral HPLC resolution
36	 enantiomer with the longer retention time from the chiral HPLC resolution
37	 (racemate)
38	 enantiomer with the shorter

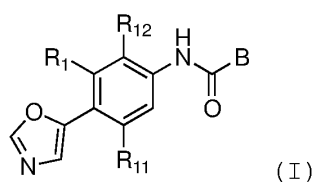
	retention time from the chiral HPLC resolution
39	 enantiomer with the longer retention time from the chiral HPLC resolution
40	 enantiomer with the shorter retention time from the chiral HPLC resolution
41	 enantiomer with the longer retention time from the chiral HPLC resolution
42	

	(racemate)
43	 (racemate)
44	 (racemate)
45	 (racemate)
46	 (racemate)
47	

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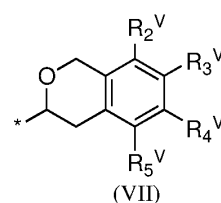
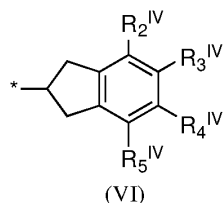
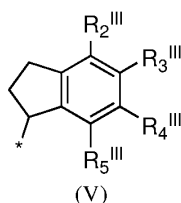
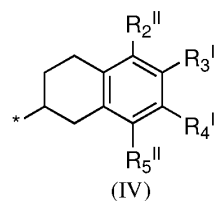
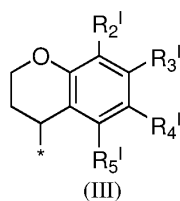
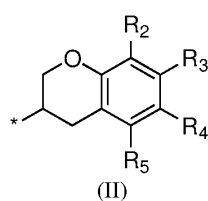
16. The pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, a racemic mixture, a corresponding enantiomer or, if applicable, a corresponding diastereomer thereof,

wherein:

R_1 , R_{11} and R_{12} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluoro, chloro, methoxy, trifluoromethyl, methyl and difluoromethoxy, whereby at least one of R_1 , R_{11} and R_{12} is not hydrogen
 B is selected from the group consisting of a residue of formula (II), (III), (IV), (V), (VI) and (VII)



wherein,

"*" denotes the point of attachment to the remainder

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of the molecule, and

R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5 , R_2^I , R_3^I , R_4^I , R_5^I , R_2^{II} , R_3^{II} , R_4^{II} , R_5^{II} ,
 R_2^{III} , R_3^{III} , R_4^{III} , R_5^{III} , R_2^{IV} , R_3^{IV} , R_4^{IV} , R_5^{IV} , R_2^V , R_3^V ,
 R_4^V , R_5^V are independently selected from the group
5 consisting of hydrogen, a linear or branched alkyl
having 1 to 3 carbon atoms, fluoro, chloro, bromo,
methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, trifluoromethyl and
difluoromethoxy

10 as a therapeutically active substance and a
pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and/or adjuvant
for use in the treatment and/or prevention of a
disease involving the retinal pigment epithelium.

15 17. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 16,
wherein the pharmaceutical preparation is suitable
for intraocular injection or for topical ophthalmic
applications.

18. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 16,
comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the
20 compound of formula (I).

19. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 16,
further comprising one or more additional therapeutic
agents.

20. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 16,
25 wherein the pharmaceutical composition provides
controlled release properties.