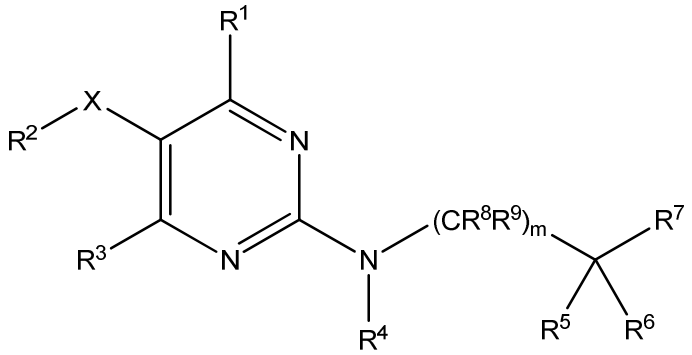
greater force but fatigue faster than slow skeletal muscle fibers and are functionally useful for acute, large scale movements such as rising from a chair or correcting falls. Healthy diaphragm contains approximately equal amounts of fast and slow skeletal muscle fibers, but the proportion can change under diseased conditions.

Summary

[0005a] In one aspect, the present disclosure refers to use of a skeletal muscle troponin activator in the manufacture of a medicament for improving diaphragm function in a patient in need thereof;

wherein the patient suffers from a disease or condition selected from the group consisting of sleep-disordered breathing, ventilator-induced diaphragmatic weakness or atrophy, steroid-induced diaphragmatic atrophy, hemidiaphragm paralysis, fetal hydrops, pleural effusion, botulinum poisoning, organophosphate poisoning, phrenic nerve dysfunction, asthma, Arnold-Chiari malformation, quadriplegia, poliomyelitis, syringomyelia, tumor compression, idiopathic hyperinflation, botulism, and acid maltase deficiency;

wherein the skeletal muscle troponin activator is a compound of Formula I:



Formula I

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

R^1 is selected from hydrogen, halogen, CN, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, $C(O)OR^a$, $C(O)NR^bR^c$, OR^a, NR^bR^c, C_{6-10} aryl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl;

R^2 is selected from C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, 5-10 membered heteroaryl and NR^bR^c, wherein each of the C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 substituents selected from halogen, CN, oxo, $(CH_2)_nOR^a$, $(CH_2)_nOC(O)R^a$, $(CH_2)_nOC(O)OR^a$, $(CH_2)_nOC(O)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nNR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(O)R^a$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(O)OR^a$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(O)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(O)C(O)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(S)R^a$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(S)OR^a$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(S)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(NR^e)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dS(O)R^a$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dSO_2R^a$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dSO_2NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nC(O)R^a$, $(CH_2)_nC(O)OR^a$, $(CH_2)_nC(O)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nC(S)R^a$, $(CH_2)_nC(S)OR^a$, $(CH_2)_nC(S)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nC(NR^e)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nSR^a$, $(CH_2)_nS(O)R^a$, $(CH_2)_nSO_2R^a$, $(CH_2)_nSO_2NR^bR^c$, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, $(CH_2)_nC_{3-8}$ cycloalkyl, $(CH_2)_n$3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, $(CH_2)_nC_{6-10}$ aryl and $(CH_2)_n$5-10 membered heteroaryl, wherein each of the C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, $(CH_2)_nC_{3-8}$ cycloalkyl, $(CH_2)_n$3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, $(CH_2)_nC_{6-10}$ aryl and $(CH_2)_n$5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 R^f substituents;

R^3 is selected from hydrogen, halogen, CN, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, $C(O)OR^a$, $C(O)NR^bR^c$, OR^a, NR^bR^c, C_{6-10} aryl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl;

R^4 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, $C(O)R^a$, $C(O)OR^a$, $C(O)NR^bR^c$ and SO_2R^a;

R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{1-6} haloalkyl;

or alternatively, R^5 and R^6 together with the carbon atom to which they are bound form a group selected from C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl and 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, each optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 substituents selected from halogen, CN, oxo, OR^a, $OC(O)R^a$, $OC(O)OR^a$, NR^bR^c, $C(O)R^a$, $C(O)OR^a$, $C(O)NR^bR^c$, $S(O)R^a$, SO_2R^a, $SO_2NR^bR^c$, C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{1-6} haloalkyl;

R^7 is selected from C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl, each optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 substituents selected from halogen, CN, oxo, OR^a, $OC(O)R^a$, $OC(O)OR^a$, $OC(O)NR^bR^c$, NR^bR^c, $NR^dC(O)R^a$, $NR^dC(O)OR^a$, $NR^dC(O)NR^bR^c$,

$NR^dC(O)C(O)NR^bR^c$, $NR^dC(S)R^a$, $NR^dC(S)OR^a$, $NR^dC(S)NR^bR^c$, $NR^dC(NR^e)NR^bR^c$, $NR^dS(O)R^a$, $NR^dSO_2R^a$, $NR^dSO_2NR^bR^c$, $C(O)R^a$, $C(O)OR^a$, $C(O)NR^bR^c$, $C(S)R^a$, $C(S)OR^a$, $C(S)NR^bR^c$, $C(NR^e)NR^bR^c$, SR^a, $S(O)R^a$, SO_2R^a, $SO_2NR^bR^c$, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl, and 5-10 membered heteroaryl, wherein each of the C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 R^f substituents;

R^8 and R^9, at each occurrence, are each independently selected from hydrogen, halogen and C_{1-6} alkyl;

X is selected from a bond, $-(CH_2)_p-$, $-(CH_2)_pC(O)(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pO(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pS(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pNR^d(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pC(O)O(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pOC(O)(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pNR^dC(O)(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pC(O)NR^d(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pNR^dC(O)NR^d(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pNR^dSO_2(CH_2)_q-$, and $-(CH_2)_pSO_2NR^d(CH_2)_q-$;

or alternatively, X, R^2 and R^3, together with the carbon atoms to which they are bound, form a 5-6 membered ring optionally containing one or more heteroatoms selected from oxygen, nitrogen and sulfur, and optionally containing one or more double bonds, and optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 R^f substituents;

R^a, at each occurrence, is independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl, wherein each of the C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 R^f substituents;

R^b and R^c, at each occurrence, are each independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl, 5-10 membered heteroaryl, $C(O)R^g$, $C(O)OR^g$, $C(O)NR^iR^j$ and SO_2R^g, wherein each of the C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered

heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 R^f substituents;

R^d, at each occurrence, is independently selected from hydrogen and C_{1-6} alkyl;

R^e, at each occurrence, is independently selected from hydrogen, CN, OH, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{1-6} haloalkyl;

R^f, at each occurrence, is independently selected from halogen, CN, OR^h, $OC(O)R^h$, $OC(O)OR^h$, $OC(O)NR^iR^j$, NR^iR^j, $NR^dC(O)R^h$, $NR^dC(O)OR^h$, $NR^dC(O)NR^iR^j$, $NR^dC(O)C(O)NR^iR^j$, $NR^dC(S)R^h$, $NR^dC(S)OR^h$, $NR^dC(S)NR^iR^j$, $NR^dC(NR^e)NR^iR^j$, $NR^dS(O)R^h$, $NR^dSO_2R^h$, $NR^dSO_2NR^iR^j$, $C(O)R^h$, $C(O)OR^h$, $C(O)NR^iR^j$, $C(S)R^h$, $C(S)OR^h$, $C(S)NR^iR^j$, $C(NR^e)NR^iR^j$, SR^h, $S(O)R^h$, SO_2R^h, $SO_2NR^iR^j$, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl, wherein each of the C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 R^k substituents;

or two R^f substituents bound to a single carbon atom, together with the carbon atom to which they are both bound, form a group selected from carbonyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl and 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl;

R^g, at each occurrence, is independently selected from C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, phenyl, naphthyl, and C_{7-11} aralkyl, each optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 substituents selected from halogen, CN, OH, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{1-6} haloalkyl;

R^h, at each occurrence, is independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl, wherein each of the C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 R^k substituents;

R^i and R^j, at each occurrence, are each independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl, 5-10

membered heteroaryl, $C(O)R^g$, and $C(O)OR^g$, wherein each of the C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 substituents selected from halogen, CN, OH, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{1-6} haloalkyl;

R^k, at each occurrence, is independently selected from halogen, CN, OH, C_{1-6} alkoxy, NH_2, $NH(C_{1-6}$ alkyl), $N(C_{1-6}$ alkyl)$_2$, $NHC(O)C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $NHC(O)C_{7-11}$ aralkyl, $NHC(O)OC_{1-6}$ alkyl, $NHC(O)OC_{7-11}$ aralkyl, $OC(O)C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $OC(O)C_{7-11}$ aralkyl, $OC(O)OC_{1-6}$ alkyl, $OC(O)OC_{7-11}$ aralkyl, $C(O)C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $C(O)C_{7-11}$ aralkyl, $C(O)OC_{1-6}$ alkyl, $C(O)OC_{7-11}$ aralkyl, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, and C_{2-6} alkynyl, wherein each C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, and C_{7-11} aralkyl substituent is optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from OH, C_{1-6} alkoxy, NH_2, $NH(C_{1-6}$ alkyl), $N(C_{1-6}$ alkyl)$_2$, $NHC(O)C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $NHC(O)C_{7-11}$ aralkyl, $NHC(O)OC_{1-6}$ alkyl, and $NHC(O)OC_{7-11}$ aralkyl;

or two R^k substituents bound to a single carbon atom, together with the carbon atom to which they are both bound, form a carbonyl group;

m is 0, 1 or 2;

n, at each occurrence, independently is 0, 1 or 2;

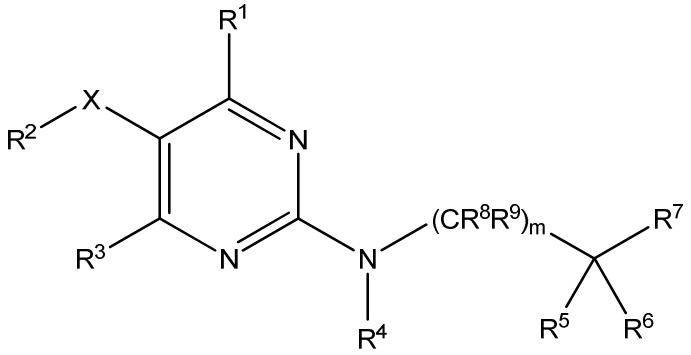
p is 0, 1 or 2; and

q is 0, 1 or 2.

[0005b] In one aspect, the present disclosure refers to use of a skeletal muscle troponin activator in the manufacture of a medicament for increasing the function, activity, efficiency, sensitivity to calcium, or time to fatigue of skeletal muscle in the diaphragm of a patient in need thereof;

wherein the patient suffers from a disease or condition selected from the group consisting of sleep-disordered breathing, ventilator-induced diaphragmatic weakness or atrophy, steroid-induced diaphragmatic atrophy, hemidiaphragm paralysis, fetal hydrops, pleural effusion, botulinum poisoning, organophosphate poisoning, phrenic nerve dysfunction, asthma, Arnold-Chiari malformation, quadriplegia, poliomyelitis, syringomyelia, tumor compression, idiopathic hyperinflation, botulism, and acid maltase deficiency;

wherein the skeletal muscle troponin activator is a compound of Formula I:



Formula I

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

R^1 is selected from hydrogen, halogen, CN, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, $C(O)OR^a$, $C(O)NR^bR^c$, OR^a, NR^bR^c, C_{6-10} aryl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl;

R^2 is selected from C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, 5-10 membered heteroaryl and NR^bR^c, wherein each of the C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 substituents selected from halogen, CN, oxo, $(CH_2)_nOR^a$, $(CH_2)_nOC(O)R^a$, $(CH_2)_nOC(O)OR^a$, $(CH_2)_nOC(O)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nNR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(O)R^a$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(O)OR^a$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(O)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(O)C(O)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(S)R^a$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(S)OR^a$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(S)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(NR^e)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dS(O)R^a$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dSO_2R^a$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dSO_2NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nC(O)R^a$, $(CH_2)_nC(O)OR^a$, $(CH_2)_nC(O)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nC(S)R^a$, $(CH_2)_nC(S)OR^a$, $(CH_2)_nC(S)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nC(NR^e)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nSR^a$, $(CH_2)_nS(O)R^a$, $(CH_2)_nSO_2R^a$, $(CH_2)_nSO_2NR^bR^c$, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, $(CH_2)_nC_{3-8}$ cycloalkyl, $(CH_2)_n$3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, $(CH_2)_nC_{6-10}$ aryl and $(CH_2)_n$5-10 membered heteroaryl, wherein each of the C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, $(CH_2)_nC_{3-8}$ cycloalkyl, $(CH_2)_n$3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, $(CH_2)_nC_{6-10}$ aryl and $(CH_2)_n$5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 R^f substituents;

R^3 is selected from hydrogen, halogen, CN, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, $C(O)OR^a$, $C(O)NR^bR^c$, OR^a, NR^bR^c, C_{6-10} aryl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl;

R^4 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, $C(O)R^a$, $C(O)OR^a$, $C(O)NR^bR^c$ and SO_2R^a;

R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{1-6} haloalkyl;

or alternatively, R^5 and R^6 together with the carbon atom to which they are bound form a group selected from C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl and 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, each optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 substituents selected from halogen, CN, oxo, OR^a, $OC(O)R^a$, $OC(O)OR^a$, NR^bR^c, $C(O)R^a$, $C(O)OR^a$, $C(O)NR^bR^c$, $S(O)R^a$, SO_2R^a, $SO_2NR^bR^c$, C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{1-6} haloalkyl;

R^7 is selected from C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl, each optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 substituents selected from halogen, CN, oxo, OR^a, $OC(O)R^a$, $OC(O)OR^a$, $OC(O)NR^bR^c$, NR^bR^c, $NR^dC(O)R^a$, $NR^dC(O)OR^a$, $NR^dC(O)NR^bR^c$, $NR^dC(O)C(O)NR^bR^c$, $NR^dC(S)R^a$, $NR^dC(S)OR^a$, $NR^dC(S)NR^bR^c$, $NR^dC(NR^e)NR^bR^c$, $NR^dS(O)R^a$, $NR^dSO_2R^a$, $NR^dSO_2NR^bR^c$, $C(O)R^a$, $C(O)OR^a$, $C(O)NR^bR^c$, $C(S)R^a$, $C(S)OR^a$, $C(S)NR^bR^c$, $C(NR^e)NR^bR^c$, SR^a, $S(O)R^a$, SO_2R^a, $SO_2NR^bR^c$, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl, and 5-10 membered heteroaryl, wherein each of the C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 R^f substituents;

R^8 and R^9, at each occurrence, are each independently selected from hydrogen, halogen and C_{1-6} alkyl;

X is selected from a bond, $-(CH_2)_p-$, $-(CH_2)_pC(O)(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pO(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pS(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pNR^d(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pC(O)O(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pOC(O)(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pNR^dC(O)(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pC(O)NR^d(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pNR^dC(O)NR^d(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pNR^dSO_2(CH_2)_q-$, and $-(CH_2)_pSO_2NR^d(CH_2)_q-$;

or alternatively, X, R^2 and R^3, together with the carbon atoms to which they are bound, form a 5-6 membered ring optionally containing one or more heteroatoms selected from oxygen, nitrogen and sulfur, and optionally containing one or more double bonds, and optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 R^f substituents;

R^a, at each occurrence, is independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl, wherein each of the C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 R^f substituents;

R^b and R^c, at each occurrence, are each independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl, 5-10 membered heteroaryl, $C(O)R^g$, $C(O)OR^g$, $C(O)NR^iR^j$ and SO_2R^g, wherein each of the C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 R^f substituents;

R^d, at each occurrence, is independently selected from hydrogen and C_{1-6} alkyl;

R^e, at each occurrence, is independently selected from hydrogen, CN, OH, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{1-6} haloalkyl;

R^f, at each occurrence, is independently selected from halogen, CN, OR^h, $OC(O)R^h$, $OC(O)OR^h$, $OC(O)NR^iR^j$, NR^iR^j, $NR^dC(O)R^h$, $NR^dC(O)OR^h$, $NR^dC(O)NR^iR^j$, $NR^dC(O)C(O)NR^iR^j$, $NR^dC(S)R^h$, $NR^dC(S)OR^h$, $NR^dC(S)NR^iR^j$, $NR^dC(NR^e)NR^iR^j$, $NR^dS(O)R^h$, $NR^dSO_2R^h$, $NR^dSO_2NR^iR^j$, $C(O)R^h$, $C(O)OR^h$, $C(O)NR^iR^j$, $C(S)R^h$, $C(S)OR^h$, $C(S)NR^iR^j$, $C(NR^e)NR^iR^j$, SR^h, $S(O)R^h$, SO_2R^h, $SO_2NR^iR^j$, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl, wherein each of the C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 R^k substituents;

or two R^f substituents bound to a single carbon atom, together with the carbon atom to which they are both bound, form a group selected from carbonyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl and 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl;

R^g, at each occurrence, is independently selected from C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, phenyl, naphthyl, and C_{7-11} aralkyl, each optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 substituents selected from halogen, CN, OH, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{1-6} haloalkyl;

R^h, at each occurrence, is independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl, wherein each of the C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 R^k substituents;

R^i and R^j, at each occurrence, are each independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl, 5-10 membered heteroaryl, $C(O)R^g$, and $C(O)OR^g$, wherein each of the C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 substituents selected from halogen, CN, OH, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{1-6} haloalkyl;

R^k, at each occurrence, is independently selected from halogen, CN, OH, C_{1-6} alkoxy, NH_2, $NH(C_{1-6}$ alkyl), $N(C_{1-6}$ alkyl)$_2$, $NHC(O)C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $NHC(O)C_{7-11}$ aralkyl, $NHC(O)OC_{1-6}$ alkyl, $NHC(O)OC_{7-11}$ aralkyl, $OC(O)C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $OC(O)C_{7-11}$ aralkyl, $OC(O)OC_{1-6}$ alkyl, $OC(O)OC_{7-11}$ aralkyl, $C(O)C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $C(O)C_{7-11}$ aralkyl, $C(O)OC_{1-6}$ alkyl, $C(O)OC_{7-11}$ aralkyl, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, and C_{2-6} alkynyl, wherein each C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, and C_{7-11} aralkyl substituent is optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from OH, C_{1-6} alkoxy, NH_2, $NH(C_{1-6}$ alkyl), $N(C_{1-6}$ alkyl)$_2$, $NHC(O)C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $NHC(O)C_{7-11}$ aralkyl, $NHC(O)OC_{1-6}$ alkyl, and $NHC(O)OC_{7-11}$ aralkyl;

or two R^k substituents bound to a single carbon atom, together with the carbon atom to which they are both bound, form a carbonyl group;

m is 0, 1 or 2;

n, at each occurrence, independently is 0, 1 or 2;

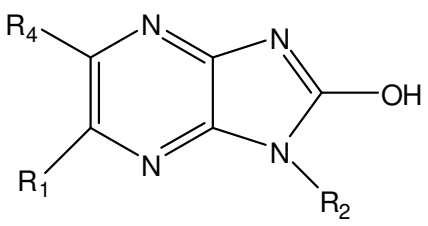
p is 0, 1 or 2; and

q is 0, 1 or 2.

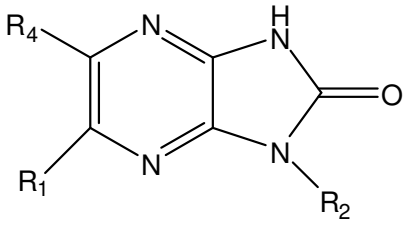
[0006] Provided are compositions and methods for improving diaphragm function. In some examples, the methods comprise administering to a patient or contacting a diaphragm skeletal muscle fiber with an effective amount of a skeletal muscle troponin activator. Likewise, compositions and methods are also provided for increasing the function, activity, efficiency, sensitivity to calcium, or time to fatigue of skeletal muscle in the diaphragm.

[0007] In some examples, the patient receiving such administration suffers from diaphragmatic atrophy. In some examples, the patient suffers from a disease or condition selected from ventilator-induced diaphragmatic weakness or atrophy, steroid-induced diaphragmatic atrophy, hemidiaphragm paralysis, fetal hydrops, pleural effusion, botulinum poisoning, organophosphate poisoning, Guillain-Barre syndrome, phrenic nerve dysfunction, asthma, heart failure, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), spinal muscular atrophy (SMA), and muscular dystrophy. In some examples, the patient is in use of mechanical ventilation. In some examples, the patient undertakes an intense physical activity or is in an environment with a reduced partial pressure of oxygen in the air.

[0008] In some examples, the skeletal muscle troponin activator is a chemical entity selected from compounds of Formula A and compounds of Formula B:



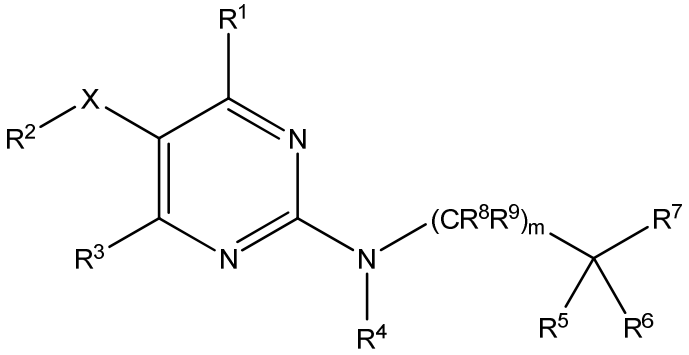
Formula A



Formula B

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein R_1, R_2 and R_4 are as defined herein.

[0009] In some examples, the skeletal muscle troponin activator is a chemical entity selected from compounds of Formula I:



Formula I

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6, R^7, R^8, R^9, X and m are as defined herein.

[0010] Other aspects and examples will be apparent to those skilled in the art from the following detailed description.

Brief Description of the Figures

[0011] **FIG. 1** shows concentration-response curves for Compound A in skinned rabbit psoas fiber and skinned rat diaphragm fiber preparations at a constant calcium concentration.

[0012] **FIG. 2** shows the force produced by skinned rat diaphragm fibers at various calcium concentrations when treated with Compound B at different concentrations.

[0013] **FIG. 3** shows the force produced by skinned rat diaphragm fibers at various calcium concentrations when treated with Compound C at different concentrations.

[0014] **FIG. 4A** shows mean diaphragm cross sectional area from SHAM and LAD rats. Mean diaphragm cross sectional area was significantly lower in HF diaphragm muscle.

[0015] **FIG. 4B** shows mean diaphragm type I myofiber area cross sectional area from SHAM and LAD rats.

[0016] **FIG. 4C** shows mean diaphragm type IIa myofiber area cross sectional area from SHAM and LAD rats. Significant atrophy can be seen in type IIa fibers in HF diaphragms.

[0017] **FIG. 4D** shows mean diaphragm type IIb/x myofiber area cross sectional area from SHAM and LAD rats. Significant atrophy can be seen in type IIb/x fibers in HF diaphragms.

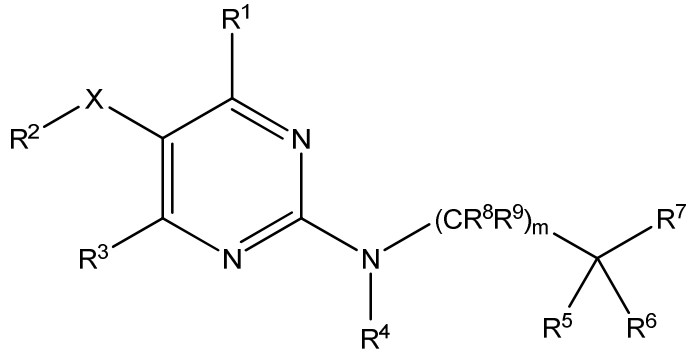
[0018] **FIG. 5** shows the force production in SHAM and HF rat diaphragm muscle measured by *ex-vivo* electrical field stimulation. HF diaphragm muscle produced significantly lower force compared to SHAM diaphragms.

CLAIMS:

1. Use of a skeletal muscle troponin activator in the manufacture of a medicament for improving diaphragm function in a patient in need thereof;

wherein the patient suffers from a disease or condition selected from the group consisting of sleep-disordered breathing, ventilator-induced diaphragmatic weakness or atrophy, steroid-induced diaphragmatic atrophy, hemidiaphragm paralysis, fetal hydrops, pleural effusion, botulinum poisoning, organophosphate poisoning, phrenic nerve dysfunction, asthma, Arnold-Chiari malformation, quadriplegia, poliomyelitis, syringomyelia, tumor compression, idiopathic hyperinflation, botulism, and acid maltase deficiency;

wherein the skeletal muscle troponin activator is a compound of Formula I:



Formula I

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

R^1 is selected from hydrogen, halogen, CN, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, $C(O)OR^a$, $C(O)NR^bR^c$, OR^a, NR^bR^c, C_{6-10} aryl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl;

R^2 is selected from C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, 5-10 membered heteroaryl and NR^bR^c, wherein each of the C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 substituents selected from halogen, CN, oxo, $(CH_2)_nOR^a$, $(CH_2)_nOC(O)R^a$, $(CH_2)_nOC(O)OR^a$, $(CH_2)_nOC(O)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nNR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(O)R^a$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(O)OR^a$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(O)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(O)C(O)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(S)R^a$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(S)OR^a$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(S)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(NR^e)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dS(O)R^a$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dSO_2R^a$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dSO_2NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nC(O)R^a$, $(CH_2)_nC(O)OR^a$, $(CH_2)_nC(O)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nC(S)R^a$, $(CH_2)_nC(S)OR^a$, $(CH_2)_nC(S)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nC(NR^e)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nSR^a$,

$(CH_2)_nS(O)R^a$, $(CH_2)_nSO_2R^a$, $(CH_2)_nSO_2NR^bR^c$, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, $(CH_2)_nC_{3-8}$ cycloalkyl, $(CH_2)_n$3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, $(CH_2)_nC_{6-10}$ aryl and $(CH_2)_n$5-10 membered heteroaryl, wherein each of the C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, $(CH_2)_nC_{3-8}$ cycloalkyl, $(CH_2)_n$3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, $(CH_2)_nC_{6-10}$ aryl and $(CH_2)_n$5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 R^f substituents;

R^3 is selected from hydrogen, halogen, CN, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, $C(O)OR^a$, $C(O)NR^bR^c$, OR^a, NR^bR^c, C_{6-10} aryl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl;

R^4 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, $C(O)R^a$, $C(O)OR^a$, $C(O)NR^bR^c$ and SO_2R^a;

R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{1-6} haloalkyl;

or alternatively, R^5 and R^6 together with the carbon atom to which they are bound form a group selected from C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl and 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, each optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 substituents selected from halogen, CN, oxo, OR^a, $OC(O)R^a$, $OC(O)OR^a$, NR^bR^c, $C(O)R^a$, $C(O)OR^a$, $C(O)NR^bR^c$, $S(O)R^a$, SO_2R^a, $SO_2NR^bR^c$, C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{1-6} haloalkyl;

R^7 is selected from C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl, each optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 substituents selected from halogen, CN, oxo, OR^a, $OC(O)R^a$, $OC(O)OR^a$, $OC(O)NR^bR^c$, NR^bR^c, $NR^dC(O)R^a$, $NR^dC(O)OR^a$, $NR^dC(O)NR^bR^c$, $NR^dC(O)C(O)NR^bR^c$, $NR^dC(S)R^a$, $NR^dC(S)OR^a$, $NR^dC(S)NR^bR^c$, $NR^dC(NR^e)NR^bR^c$, $NR^dS(O)R^a$, $NR^dSO_2R^a$, $NR^dSO_2NR^bR^c$, $C(O)R^a$, $C(O)OR^a$, $C(O)NR^bR^c$, $C(S)R^a$, $C(S)OR^a$, $C(S)NR^bR^c$, $C(NR^e)NR^bR^c$, SR^a, $S(O)R^a$, SO_2R^a, $SO_2NR^bR^c$, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl, and 5-10 membered heteroaryl, wherein each of the C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 R^f substituents;

R^8 and R^9, at each occurrence, are each independently selected from hydrogen, halogen and C_{1-6} alkyl;

X is selected from a bond, $-(CH_2)_{p-}$, $-(CH_2)_pC(O)(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pO(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pS(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pNR^d(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pC(O)O(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pOC(O)(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pNR^dC(O)(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pC(O)NR^d(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pNR^dC(O)NR^d(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pNR^dSO_2(CH_2)_q-$, and $-(CH_2)_pSO_2NR^d(CH_2)_q-$;

or alternatively, X, R^2 and R^3, together with the carbon atoms to which they are bound, form a 5-6 membered ring optionally containing one or more heteroatoms selected from oxygen, nitrogen and sulfur, and optionally containing one or more double bonds, and optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 R^f substituents;

R^a, at each occurrence, is independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl, wherein each of the C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 R^f substituents;

R^b and R^c, at each occurrence, are each independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl, 5-10 membered heteroaryl, $C(O)R^g$, $C(O)OR^g$, $C(O)NR^iR^j$ and SO_2R^g, wherein each of the C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 R^f substituents;

R^d, at each occurrence, is independently selected from hydrogen and C_{1-6} alkyl;

R^e, at each occurrence, is independently selected from hydrogen, CN, OH, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{1-6} haloalkyl;

R^f, at each occurrence, is independently selected from halogen, CN, OR^h, $OC(O)R^h$, $OC(O)OR^h$, $OC(O)NR^iR^j$, NR^iR^j, $NR^dC(O)R^h$, $NR^dC(O)OR^h$, $NR^dC(O)NR^iR^j$, $NR^dC(O)C(O)NR^iR^j$, $NR^dC(S)R^h$, $NR^dC(S)OR^h$, $NR^dC(S)NR^iR^j$, $NR^dC(NR^e)NR^iR^j$, $NR^dS(O)R^h$, $NR^dSO_2R^h$, $NR^dSO_2NR^iR^j$, $C(O)R^h$, $C(O)OR^h$, $C(O)NR^iR^j$, $C(S)R^h$, $C(S)OR^h$, $C(S)NR^iR^j$, $C(NR^e)NR^iR^j$, SR^h, $S(O)R^h$, SO_2R^h, $SO_2NR^iR^j$, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6}

alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl, wherein each of the C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 R^k substituents;

or two R^f substituents bound to a single carbon atom, together with the carbon atom to which they are both bound, form a group selected from carbonyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl and 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl;

R^g, at each occurrence, is independently selected from C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, phenyl, naphthyl, and C_{7-11} aralkyl, each optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 substituents selected from halogen, CN, OH, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{1-6} haloalkyl;

R^h, at each occurrence, is independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl, wherein each of the C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 R^k substituents;

R^i and R^j, at each occurrence, are each independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl, 5-10 membered heteroaryl, $C(O)R^g$, and $C(O)OR^g$, wherein each of the C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 substituents selected from halogen, CN, OH, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{1-6} haloalkyl;

R^k, at each occurrence, is independently selected from halogen, CN, OH, C_{1-6} alkoxy, NH_2, $NH(C_{1-6}$ alkyl), $N(C_{1-6}$ alkyl)$_2$, $NHC(O)C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $NHC(O)C_{7-11}$ aralkyl, $NHC(O)OC_{1-6}$ alkyl, $NHC(O)OC_{7-11}$ aralkyl, $OC(O)C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $OC(O)C_{7-11}$ aralkyl, $OC(O)OC_{1-6}$ alkyl, $OC(O)OC_{7-11}$ aralkyl, $C(O)C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $C(O)C_{7-11}$ aralkyl, $C(O)OC_{1-6}$ alkyl, $C(O)OC_{7-11}$ aralkyl, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, and C_{2-6} alkynyl, wherein each C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6}

alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, and C_{7-11} aralkyl substituent is optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from OH, C_{1-6} alkoxy, NH_2, $NH(C_{1-6}$ alkyl), $N(C_{1-6}$ alkyl$)_2$, $NHC(O)C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $NHC(O)C_{7-11}$ aralkyl, $NHC(O)OC_{1-6}$ alkyl, and $NHC(O)OC_{7-11}$ aralkyl;

or two R^k substituents bound to a single carbon atom, together with the carbon atom to which they are both bound, form a carbonyl group;

m is 0, 1 or 2;

n, at each occurrence, independently is 0, 1 or 2;

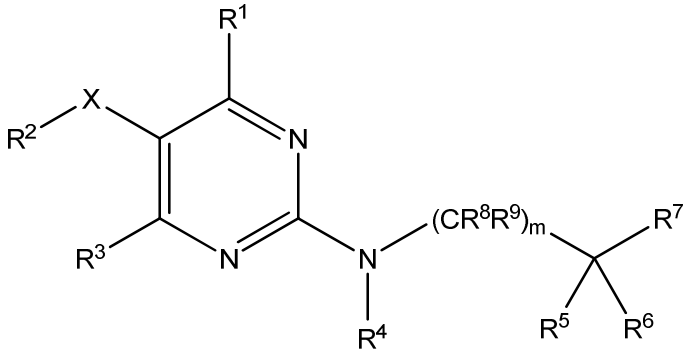
p is 0, 1 or 2; and

q is 0, 1 or 2.

2. Use of a skeletal muscle troponin activator in the manufacture of a medicament for increasing the function, activity, efficiency, sensitivity to calcium, or time to fatigue of skeletal muscle in the diaphragm of a patient in need thereof;

wherein the patient suffers from a disease or condition selected from the group consisting of sleep-disordered breathing, ventilator-induced diaphragmatic weakness or atrophy, steroid-induced diaphragmatic atrophy, hemidiaphragm paralysis, fetal hydrops, pleural effusion, botulinum poisoning, organophosphate poisoning, phrenic nerve dysfunction, asthma, Arnold-Chiari malformation, quadriplegia, poliomyelitis, syringomyelia, tumor compression, idiopathic hyperinflation, botulism, and acid maltase deficiency;

wherein the skeletal muscle troponin activator is a compound of Formula I:



Formula I

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

R^1 is selected from hydrogen, halogen, CN, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, $C(O)OR^a$, $C(O)NR^bR^c$, OR^a, NR^bR^c, C_{6-10} aryl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl;

R^2 is selected from C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, 5-10 membered heteroaryl and NR^bR^c, wherein each of the C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 substituents selected from halogen, CN, oxo, $(CH_2)_nOR^a$, $(CH_2)_nOC(O)R^a$, $(CH_2)_nOC(O)OR^a$, $(CH_2)_nOC(O)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nNR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(O)R^a$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(O)OR^a$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(O)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(O)C(O)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(S)R^a$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(S)OR^a$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(S)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dC(NR^e)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dS(O)R^a$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dSO_2R^a$, $(CH_2)_nNR^dSO_2NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nC(O)R^a$, $(CH_2)_nC(O)OR^a$, $(CH_2)_nC(O)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nC(S)R^a$, $(CH_2)_nC(S)OR^a$, $(CH_2)_nC(S)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nC(NR^e)NR^bR^c$, $(CH_2)_nSR^a$, $(CH_2)_nS(O)R^a$, $(CH_2)_nSO_2R^a$, $(CH_2)_nSO_2NR^bR^c$, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, $(CH_2)_nC_{3-8}$ cycloalkyl, $(CH_2)_n$3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, $(CH_2)_nC_{6-10}$ aryl and $(CH_2)_n$5-10 membered heteroaryl, wherein each of the C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, $(CH_2)_nC_{3-8}$ cycloalkyl, $(CH_2)_n$3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, $(CH_2)_nC_{6-10}$ aryl and $(CH_2)_n$5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 R^f substituents;

R^3 is selected from hydrogen, halogen, CN, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, $C(O)OR^a$, $C(O)NR^bR^c$, OR^a, NR^bR^c, C_{6-10} aryl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl;

R^4 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, $C(O)R^a$, $C(O)OR^a$, $C(O)NR^bR^c$ and SO_2R^a;

R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{1-6} haloalkyl;

or alternatively, R^5 and R^6 together with the carbon atom to which they are bound form a group selected from C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl and 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, each optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 substituents selected from halogen, CN, oxo, OR^a, $OC(O)R^a$, $OC(O)OR^a$, NR^bR^c, $C(O)R^a$, $C(O)OR^a$, $C(O)NR^bR^c$, $S(O)R^a$, SO_2R^a, $SO_2NR^bR^c$, C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{1-6} haloalkyl;

R^7 is selected from C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl, each optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 substituents selected from halogen, CN, oxo, OR^a, $OC(O)R^a$, $OC(O)OR^a$, $OC(O)NR^bR^c$, NR^bR^c, $NR^dC(O)R^a$, $NR^dC(O)OR^a$, $NR^dC(O)NR^bR^c$,

$NR^dC(O)C(O)NR^bR^c$, $NR^dC(S)R^a$, $NR^dC(S)OR^a$, $NR^dC(S)NR^bR^c$, $NR^dC(NR^e)NR^bR^c$, $NR^dS(O)R^a$, $NR^dSO_2R^a$, $NR^dSO_2NR^bR^c$, $C(O)R^a$, $C(O)OR^a$, $C(O)NR^bR^c$, $C(S)R^a$, $C(S)OR^a$, $C(S)NR^bR^c$, $C(NR^e)NR^bR^c$, SR^a, $S(O)R^a$, SO_2R^a, $SO_2NR^bR^c$, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl, and 5-10 membered heteroaryl, wherein each of the C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 R^f substituents;

R^8 and R^9, at each occurrence, are each independently selected from hydrogen, halogen and C_{1-6} alkyl;

X is selected from a bond, $-(CH_2)_p-$, $-(CH_2)_pC(O)(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pO(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pS(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pNR^d(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pC(O)O(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pOC(O)(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pNR^dC(O)(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pC(O)NR^d(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pNR^dC(O)NR^d(CH_2)_q-$, $-(CH_2)_pNR^dSO_2(CH_2)_q-$, and $-(CH_2)_pSO_2NR^d(CH_2)_q-$;

or alternatively, X, R^2 and R^3, together with the carbon atoms to which they are bound, form a 5-6 membered ring optionally containing one or more heteroatoms selected from oxygen, nitrogen and sulfur, and optionally containing one or more double bonds, and optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 R^f substituents;

R^a, at each occurrence, is independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl, wherein each of the C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 R^f substituents;

R^b and R^c, at each occurrence, are each independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl, 5-10 membered heteroaryl, $C(O)R^g$, $C(O)OR^g$, $C(O)NR^iR^j$ and SO_2R^g, wherein each of the C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered

heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 R^f substituents;

R^d, at each occurrence, is independently selected from hydrogen and C_{1-6} alkyl;

R^e, at each occurrence, is independently selected from hydrogen, CN, OH, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{1-6} haloalkyl;

R^f, at each occurrence, is independently selected from halogen, CN, OR^h, $OC(O)R^h$, $OC(O)OR^h$, $OC(O)NR^iR^j$, NR^iR^j, $NR^dC(O)R^h$, $NR^dC(O)OR^h$, $NR^dC(O)NR^iR^j$, $NR^dC(O)C(O)NR^iR^j$, $NR^dC(S)R^h$, $NR^dC(S)OR^h$, $NR^dC(S)NR^iR^j$, $NR^dC(NR^e)NR^iR^j$, $NR^dS(O)R^h$, $NR^dSO_2R^h$, $NR^dSO_2NR^iR^j$, $C(O)R^h$, $C(O)OR^h$, $C(O)NR^iR^j$, $C(S)R^h$, $C(S)OR^h$, $C(S)NR^iR^j$, $C(NR^e)NR^iR^j$, SR^h, $S(O)R^h$, SO_2R^h, $SO_2NR^iR^j$, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl, wherein each of the C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 R^k substituents;

or two R^f substituents bound to a single carbon atom, together with the carbon atom to which they are both bound, form a group selected from carbonyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl and 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl;

R^g, at each occurrence, is independently selected from C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, phenyl, naphthyl, and C_{7-11} aralkyl, each optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 substituents selected from halogen, CN, OH, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{1-6} haloalkyl;

R^h, at each occurrence, is independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl, wherein each of the C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 R^k substituents;

R^i and R^j, at each occurrence, are each independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl, 5-10

membered heteroaryl, $C(O)R^g$, and $C(O)OR^g$, wherein each of the C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkenyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, 3-8 membered heterocycloalkenyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{7-11} aralkyl and 5-10 membered heteroaryl groups is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 substituents selected from halogen, CN, OH, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{1-6} haloalkyl;

R^k, at each occurrence, is independently selected from halogen, CN, OH, C_{1-6} alkoxy, NH_2, $NH(C_{1-6}$ alkyl), $N(C_{1-6}$ alkyl)$_2$, $NHC(O)C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $NHC(O)C_{7-11}$ aralkyl, $NHC(O)OC_{1-6}$ alkyl, $NHC(O)OC_{7-11}$ aralkyl, $OC(O)C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $OC(O)C_{7-11}$ aralkyl, $OC(O)OC_{1-6}$ alkyl, $OC(O)OC_{7-11}$ aralkyl, $C(O)C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $C(O)C_{7-11}$ aralkyl, $C(O)OC_{1-6}$ alkyl, $C(O)OC_{7-11}$ aralkyl, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, and C_{2-6} alkynyl, wherein each C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, and C_{7-11} aralkyl substituent is optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from OH, C_{1-6} alkoxy, NH_2, $NH(C_{1-6}$ alkyl), $N(C_{1-6}$ alkyl)$_2$, $NHC(O)C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $NHC(O)C_{7-11}$ aralkyl, $NHC(O)OC_{1-6}$ alkyl, and $NHC(O)OC_{7-11}$ aralkyl;

or two R^k substituents bound to a single carbon atom, together with the carbon atom to which they are both bound, form a carbonyl group;

m is 0, 1 or 2;

n, at each occurrence, independently is 0, 1 or 2;

p is 0, 1 or 2; and

q is 0, 1 or 2.

3. The use of claim 1 or 2, wherein the patient suffers from diaphragmatic atrophy.

4. The use of any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the patient suffers from one or more of diaphragmatic dysfunction, dyspnea, decreased exercise performance, sleep-disordered breathing, constitutional symptoms, hypersomnia, atelectasis, and respiratory failure.

5. The use of any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the patient suffers from partial loss of the ability to generate pressure or complete loss of diaphragmatic function.

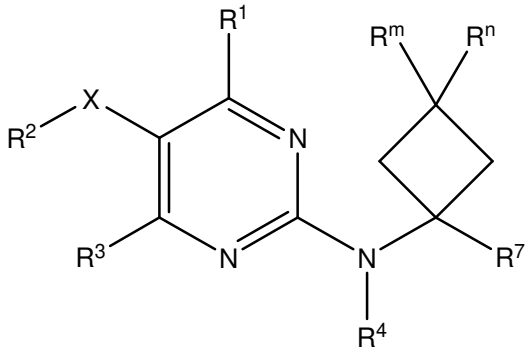
6. The use of any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the patient is in use of mechanical ventilation.

7. The use of any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the patient undertakes an intense physical activity or is in an environment with a reduced partial pressure of oxygen in the air.

8. The use of any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein the patient has a forced vital capacity (FVC) lower than about 75% of predicted of healthy individual in similar conditions, or the patient shows evidence of increased work of breathing indicative of reduced diaphragm function.

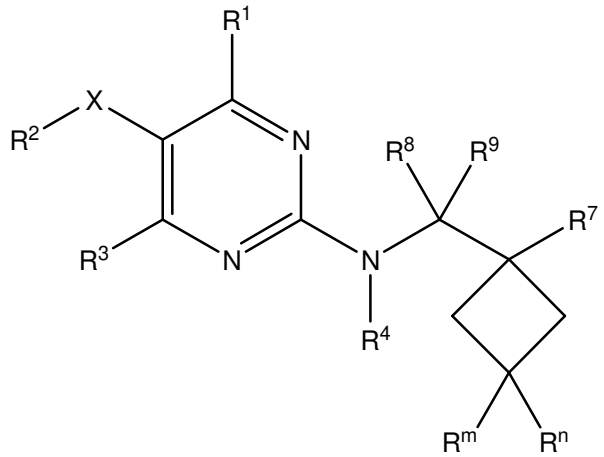
9. The use of any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein the skeletal muscle troponin activator is a fast skeletal muscle troponin activator.

10. The use of any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein the skeletal muscle troponin activator is of Formula V(a) or V(b), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



Formula V(a)

or

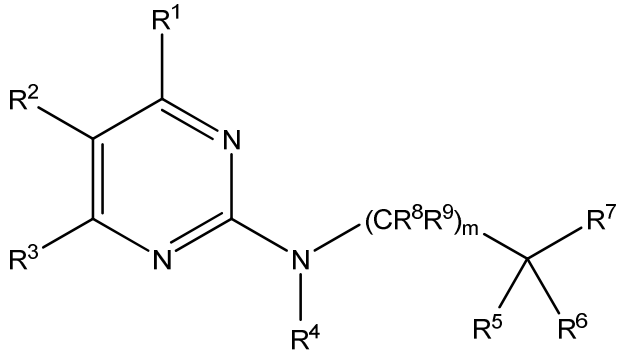


Formula V(b)

wherein R^m and R^n are each independently selected from hydrogen, halogen and C_{1-6} alkyl.

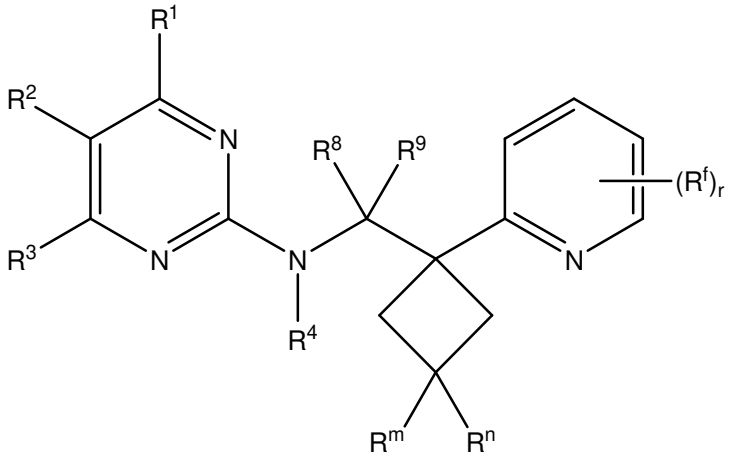
11. The use of any one of claims 1 to 10, wherein X is a bond.

12. The use of any one of claims 1 to 11, wherein the skeletal muscle troponin activator is a compound of Formula XII(a), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



Formula XII(a).

13. The use of any one of claims 1 to 12, wherein the skeletal muscle troponin activator is of Formula XII(o):



Formula XII(o)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

R^1 is hydrogen;

R^2 is selected from furanyl, pyrrolyl, thiophenyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, oxadiazolyl, imidazolyl, triazolyl and tetrazolyl, each optionally substituted with $(CH_2)_nC(O)NH_2$;

R^3 is hydrogen;

R^4 is hydrogen;

R^8 and R^9 are each hydrogen;

one of R^m and R^n is hydrogen and the other is fluorine;

n, at each occurrence, independently is 0, 1 or 2; and

r is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4.

14. The use of claim 13, wherein one of R^m and R^n is hydrogen and the other is fluorine; and

the fluorine and the pyridyl ring are in a *trans* configuration with respect to one another on the cyclobutyl ring.

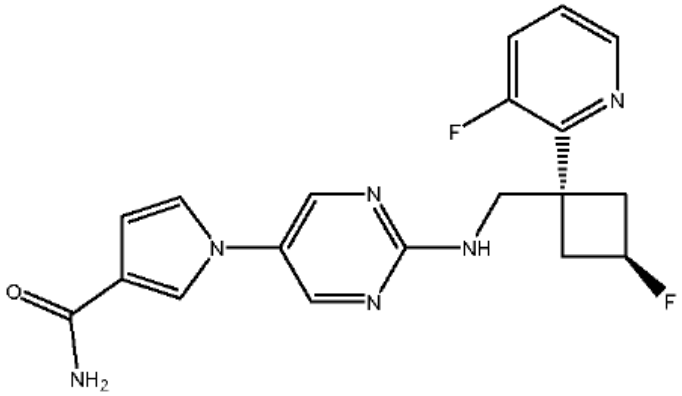
15. The use of any one of claims 1 to 13, wherein the skeletal muscle troponin activator is

1-(2-((3-fluoro-1-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)cyclobutyl)methylamino)pyrimidin-5-yl)-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxamide;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

16. The use of any one of claims 1 to 14, wherein the skeletal muscle troponin activator is

1-(2-(((trans)-3-fluoro-1-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)cyclobutyl)methylamino)pyrimidin-5-yl)-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxamide, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein 1-(2-(((trans)-3-fluoro-1-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)cyclobutyl)methylamino)pyrimidin-5-yl)-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxamide is defined by the following structure:



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17. The use of any one of claims 1 to 13, wherein the skeletal muscle troponin activator is

3-(2-((-3-fluoro-1-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)cyclobutyl)methylamino)pyrimidin-5-yl)benzamide;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

18. The use of any one of claims 1 to 14, wherein the skeletal muscle troponin activator is 3-(2-(((trans)-3-fluoro-1-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)cyclobutyl)methylamino)pyrimidin-5-yl) benzamide.