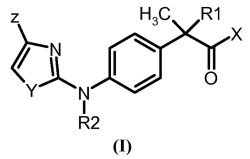
CLAIMS

1. Use of an IL-8 inhibitor in the manufacture of a medicament for the prevention and/or treatment of secondary bacterial infections, preferably secondary respiratory infections, more preferably secondary pneumococcal infections, wherein the IL-8 inhibitor is selected from small molecular weight molecules.
2. The use according to claim 1, wherein said secondary bacterial infections are associated with a preceding influenza infection, sepsis, severe ischemia or reperfusion injury.
3. The use according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said IL-8 inhibitor is an inhibitor of the activity of IL-8 mediated by the CXCR1 receptor or by both the CXCR1 and CXCR2 receptors, preferably mediated by both the CXCR1 and CXCR2 receptors.
4. The use according to any one of the previous claims, wherein said IL-8 inhibitor is selected from 1,3-thiazol-2-ylaminophenylpropionic acid derivatives, 2-phenyl-propionic acid derivatives and their pharmaceutically acceptable salts.
5. The use according to claim 4, wherein said 1,3-thiazol-2-ylaminophenylpropionic acid derivatives are compounds of formula (I)



(I)

wherein

-R1 is hydrogen or CH_3;

-R2 is hydrogen or linear C_1-C_4 alkyl, preferably it is hydrogen;

-Y is a heteroatom selected from S, O and N; preferably it is S;

-Z is selected from halogen, linear or branched C_1-C_4 alkyl, C_2-C_4 alkenyl, C_2-C_4 alkynyl, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, hydroxyl, carboxyl, C_1-C_4 acyloxy, phenoxy, cyano, nitro, amino, C_1-C_4 acylamino, halo C_1-C_3 alkyl, halo C_1-C_3 alkoxy, benzoyl, linear or branched C_1-C_8 alkanesulfonate, linear or branched C_1-C_8 alkanesulfonamide, linear or branched C_1-C_8 alkylsulfonylmethyl; preferably it is trifluoromethyl;

-X is OH or a residue of formula NHR_3; wherein R_3 is selected from:

-hydrogen, hydroxyl, linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, C_2-C_6 alkenyl, C_1-C_5 alkoxy, or C_1-C_6 phenylalkyl, wherein alkyl, cycloalkyl or alkenyl group can be substituted by a COOH residue;

- a residue of formula SO_2R4 wherein R4 is C_1-C_2 alkyl, C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, C_1-C_3 haloalkyl.

6. The use according to claim 5, wherein:

R1 is hydrogen or CH_3;

X is OH;

R2 is hydrogen or linear C_1-C_4 alkyl,

Y is a heteroatom selected from S, O and N;

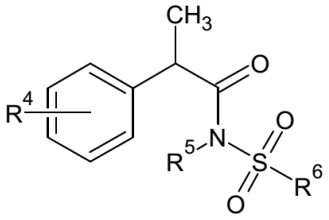
Z is selected from linear or branched C_1-C_4 alkyl, linear or branched C_1-C_4 alkoxy, halo C_1-C_3 alkyl and halo C_1-C_3 alkoxy.

7. The use according to claim 5, wherein R1 is hydrogen, the chiral carbon atom of the phenylproprionic group is in the S configuration.

8. The use according to any one of claims 4 to 6, wherein said IL-8 inhibitor is selected from 2-methyl-2-(4-{[4-(trifluoromethyl)-1,3-thiazol-2-yl]amino} phenyl) propanoic acid and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, preferably its sodium salt.

9. The use according to any one of claims 4 to 7, wherein said IL-8 inhibitor is (2S)-2-(4-{[4-(trifluoromethyl)-1,3-thiazol-2-yl] amino} phenyl) propanoic acid and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, preferably its sodium salt.

10. The use according to claim 4, wherein said 2-phenyl-propionic acid derivatives are compounds of formula (II)



(II)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

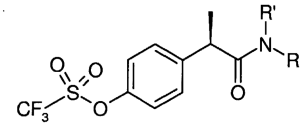
wherein:

R^4 is linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl, benzoyl, phenoxy, trifluoromethanesulfonyloxy; preferably R^4 is selected from benzoyl, isobutyl and trifluoromethanesulfonyloxy, more preferably R^4 is 3-benzoyl, 4-isobutyl or 4-trifluoromethanesulfonyloxy;

R^5 is H or linear or branched C_1-C_3 alkyl, preferably it is H;

R^6 is linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl or trifluoromethyl; preferably, it is a linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl, more preferably it is CH_3.

11. The use according to claim 4, wherein said 2-phenyl-propionic acid derivatives are compounds of formula (III)



(III)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof,

wherein

R' is hydrogen;

R is H or a residue of formula SO_2Ra wherein Ra is linear or branched C_1-C_4 alkyl or halo C_1-C_3 alkyl, preferably Ra is CH_3.

12. The use according to claim 10 or claim 11, wherein the chiral carbon atom of the phenylpropionic group is in the R configuration.
13. The use according to claim 10 or claim 12, wherein said IL-8 inhibitor is selected from R-(-)-2-(4-isobutylphenyl)propionyl methanesulfonamide and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, preferably the lysine *in situ* salt.
14. The use according to any one of claims 11 to 13, wherein said IL-8 inhibitor is R(-)-2-(4-trifluoromethanesulfonyloxy)phenyl]-N-methanesulfonyl propionamide and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, preferably its sodium salt.
15. The use according to claim 12 or claim 13, wherein said IL-8 inhibitor is R(-)-2-[(4'-trifluoromethanesulfonyloxy)phenyl]propionamide.
16. Use of an IL-8 inhibitor in the manufacture of a medicament for the prevention and/or treatment of secondary bacterial infections, preferably secondary respiratory infections, more preferably secondary pneumococcal infections, wherein the IL-8 inhibitor is selected from antibodies, preferably from anti-CXCR1/CXCR2 receptor antibodies.
17. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an IL-8 inhibitor according to any of the previous claims and pharmaceutically acceptable excipients and/or diluents.