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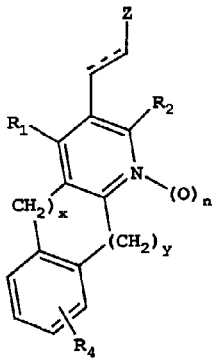
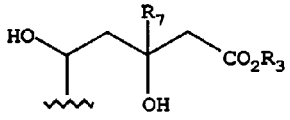
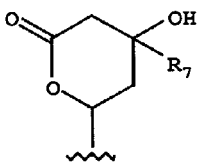
(54) Title: HMG-CoA REDUCTASE INHIBITORS AND METHOD



(I)



(a)



(b)

(57) Abstract: Compounds of the following structure are HMG CoA reductase inhibitors and thus are active in inhibiting cholesterol biosynthesis, modulating blood serum lipids, for example, lowering LDL cholesterol and/or increasing HDL cholesterol, and treating hyperlipidemia, dyslipidemia, hormone replacement therapy, hypercholesterolemia, hypertriglyceridemia and atherosclerosis as well as Alzheimer's disease and osteoporosis (Formula (I)) and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, Z is Formula (a) or Formula (b); n is 0 or 1; x is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4; y is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4, provided that at least one of x and y is other than 0; and optionally one or more carbons of $(CH_2)_x$ and/or $(CH_2)_y$ together with additional carbons form a 3 to 7 membered spirocyclic ring; R_1 and R_2 are the same or different and are independently selected from alkyl, arylalkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl or cycloheteroalkyl; R_3 is H or lower alkyl; R_4 and R_7 are as defined herein.

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