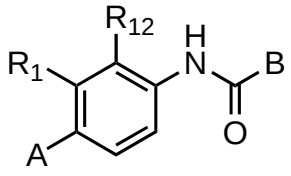
Claims

1. A compound of the formula (I)



(I)

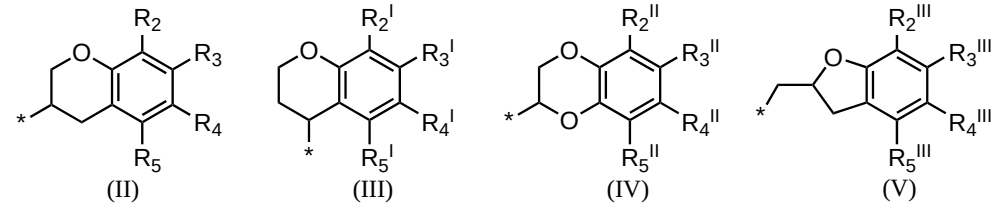
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, a racemic mixture, a corresponding enantiomer or, if applicable, a corresponding diastereomer thereof,

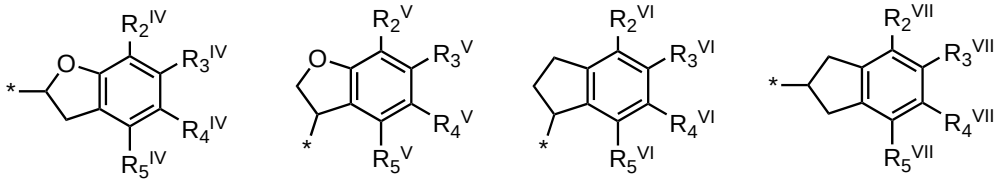
wherein:

A is a is selected from the group consisting of a 5-oxazolyl, a pyridine-4-yl, a triazolyl, a oxadiazolyl, a imidazolyl and a 2-methyloxazol-5-yl residue,

R_1, and R_{12} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluoro, chloro, methoxy, trifluoromethyl, methyl and difluoromethoxy,

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


(II) (III) (IV) (V)


(VI) (VII) (VIII) (IX)

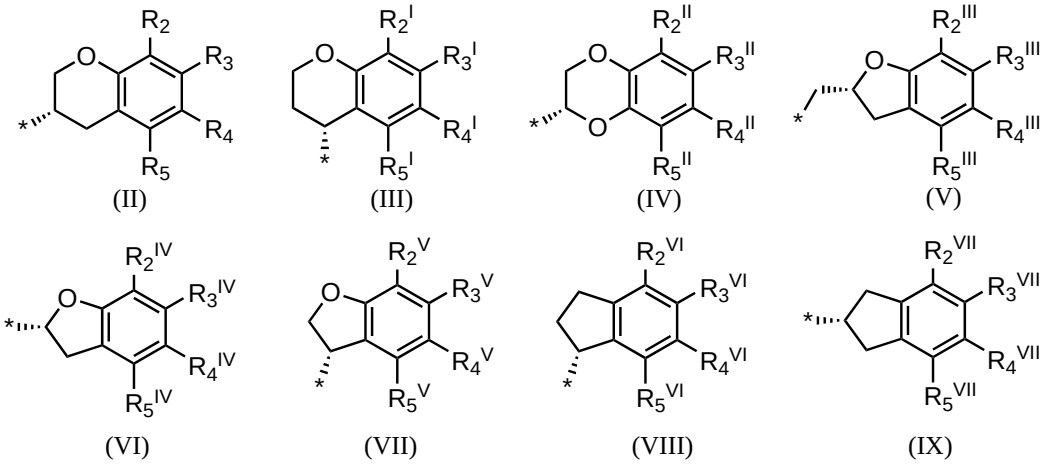
wherein,

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

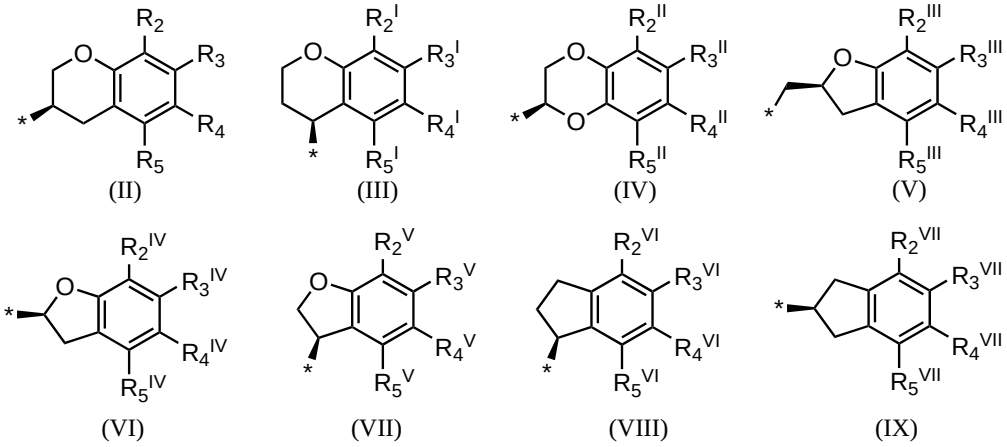
R_2, R_3, R_4, R_5, R_2^I, R_3^I, R_4^I, R_5^I, R_2^{II}, R_3^{II}, R_4^{II}, R_5^{II}, R_2^{III}, R_3^{III}, R_4^{III}, R_5^{III}, R_2^{IV}, R_3^{IV}, R_4^{IV}, R_5^{IV}, R_2^V, R_3^V, R_4^V, R_5^V, R_2^{VI}, R_3^{VI}, R_4^{VI}, R_5^{VI}, R_2^{VII}, R_3^{VII}, R_4^{VII}, and R_5^{VII} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, a linear or branched alkyl having 1 to 3 carbon atoms, fluoro, chloro, bromo, methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, 2,2,2-trifluoromethyl and difluoromethoxy, with the proviso that if B is a residue of formula (IV), A is a 5-oxazolyl residue.

2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein B is selected from the group consisting of a residue of formula (II), (III) or (IV).

3. A compound according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the asymmetric center at ring position * of the residue of formula (II), (III), (IV), (V), (VI), (VII), (VIII) or (IX) has the following configuration



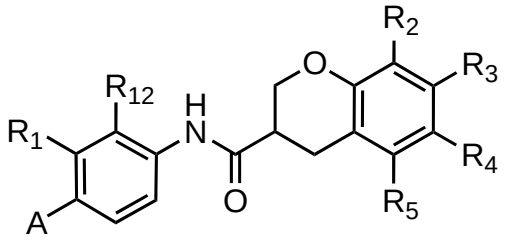
4. A compound according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the asymmetric center at ring position * of the residue of formula (II), (III), (IV), (V), (VI), (VII), (VIII) or (IX) is in the following configuration



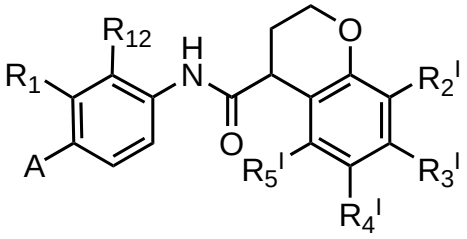
5. The compound according to any of the preceding claims, wherein R_1 or R_{12} is selected from the group consisting of methoxy, chloro, and fluoro, preferably methoxy.

6. The compound according to any of the preceding claims, wherein A is selected from the group consisting a 5-oxazolyl residue, pyridine-4-yl residue and a triazolyl residue, preferably a 5-oxazolyl residue.

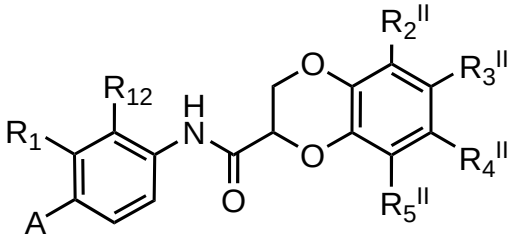
7. The compound according to any of the preceding claims having the formula (Ia), (Ib) or (Ic)



(Ia)



(Ib) or



(Ic)

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

wherein:

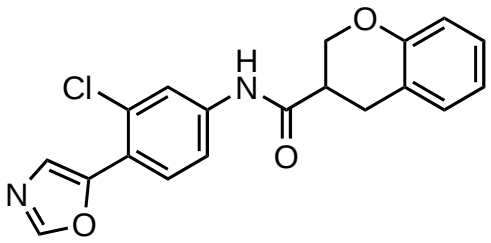
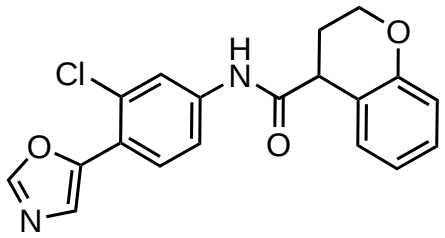
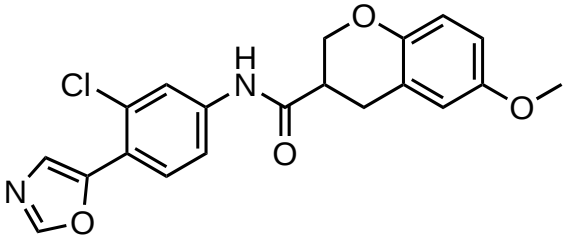
A, R_1, R_{12}, R_2, R_3, R_4 and R_5 have the same definition as in claim 1.

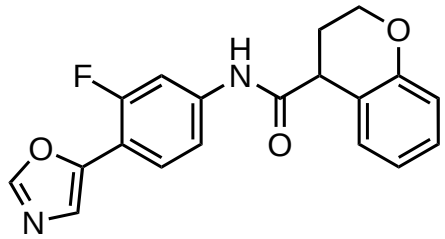
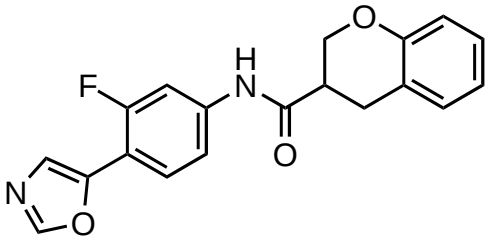
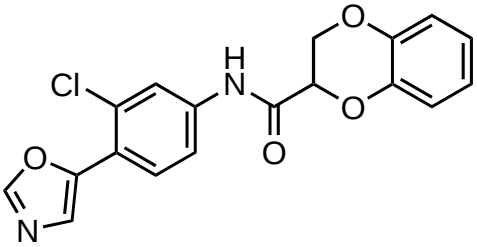
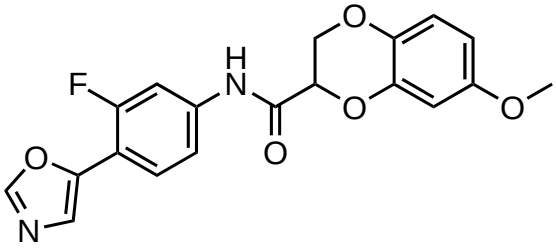
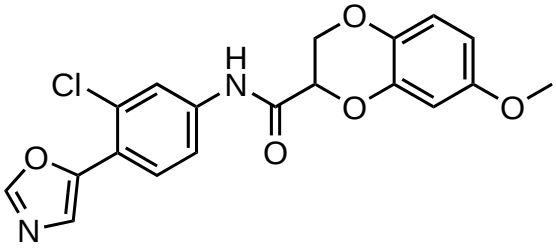
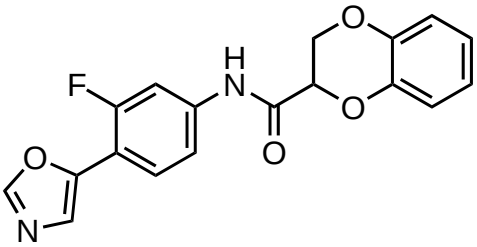
8. The compound according any of the preceding claims wherein R_4^I, R_4^{II}, R_4^{III}, R_4^{IV}, R_4^V, R_4^{VI} and R_4^{VII} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methoxy and

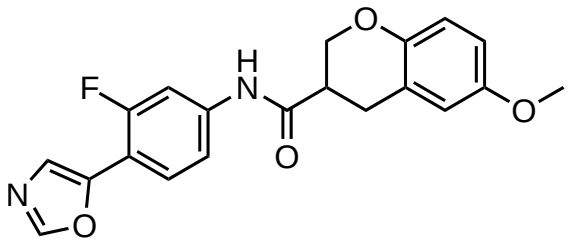
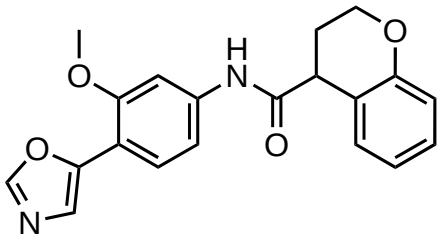
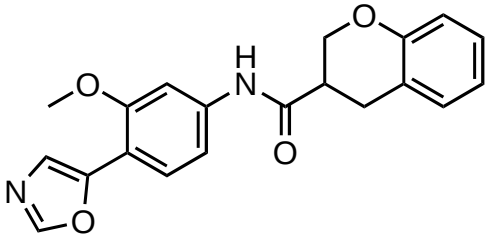
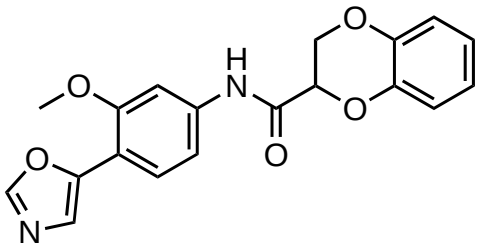
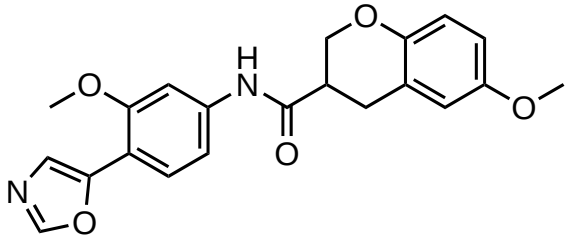
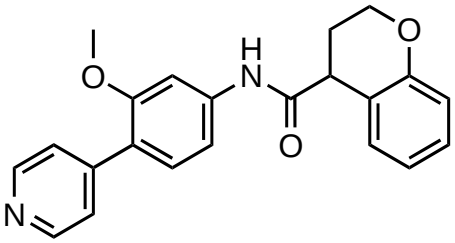
ethoxy, most preferably methoxy, and R_2, R_3, R_5, R_2^I, R_3^I, R_5^I, R_2^{II}, R_3^{II}, R_5^{II}, R_2^{III}, R_3^{III}, R_5^{III}, R_2^{IV}, R_3^{IV}, R_5^{IV}, R_2^V, R_3^V, R_5^V, R_2^{VI}, R_3^{VI}, R_5^{VI}, R_2^{VII}, R_3^{VII} and R_5^{VII} are hydrogen.

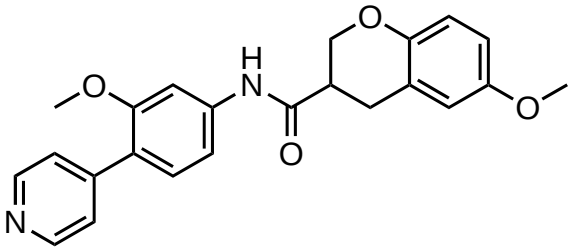
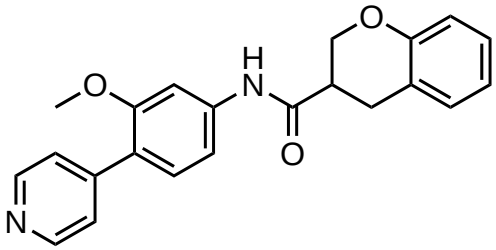
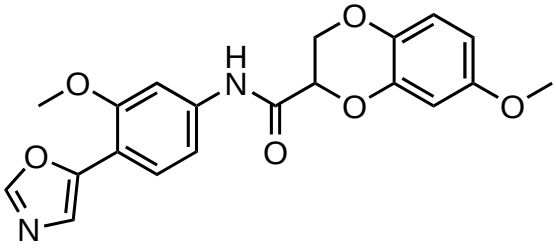
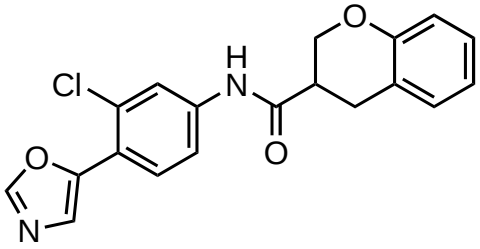
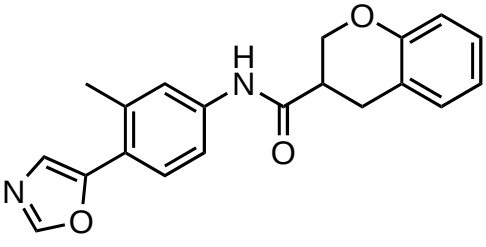
9. The compound according to any of the preceding claims, wherein R_3^I, R_3^{II}, R_3^{III}, R_3^{IV}, R_3^V, R_3^{VI} and R_3^{VII} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluoro and chloro, most preferably fluoro, and R_2, R_4, R_5, R_2^I, R_4^I, R_5^I, R_2^{II}, R_4^{II}, R_5^{II}, R_2^{III}, R_4^{III}, R_5^{III}, R_2^{IV}, R_3^{IV}, R_5^{IV}, R_2^V, R_4^V, R_5^V, R_2^{VI}, R_4^{VI}, R_5^{VI}, R_2^{VII}, R_4^{VII} and R_5^{VII} are hydrogen.

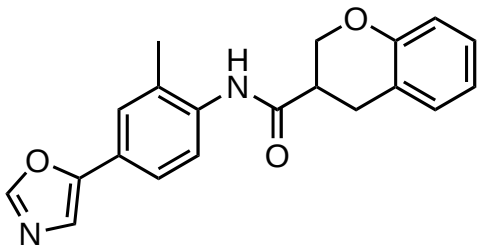
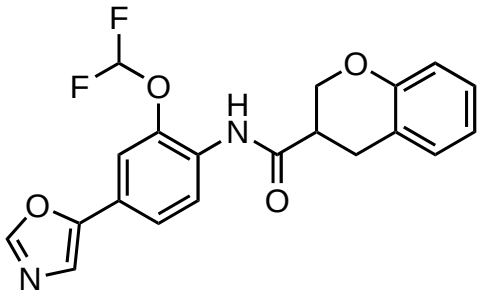
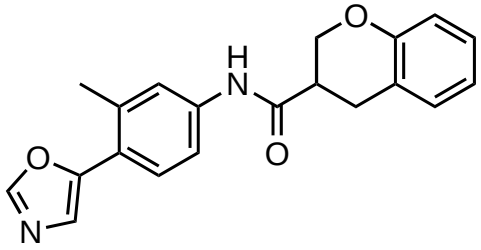
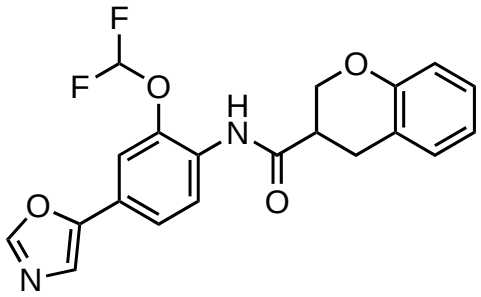
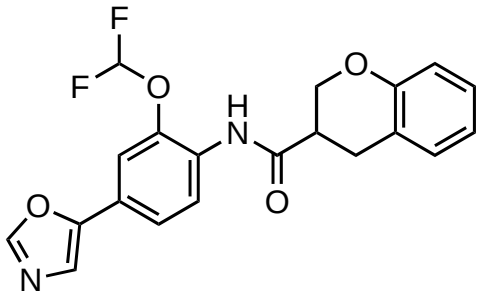
10. The compound according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the compound of formula (I) is selected from the group consisting of

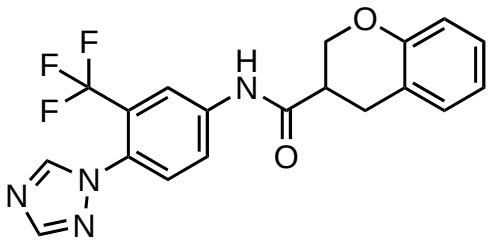
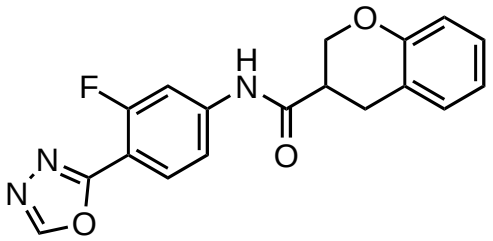
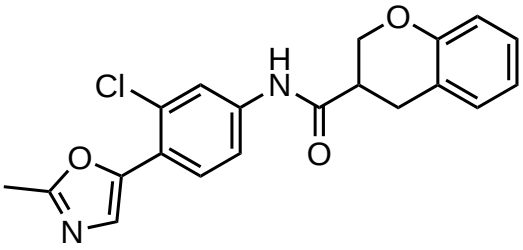
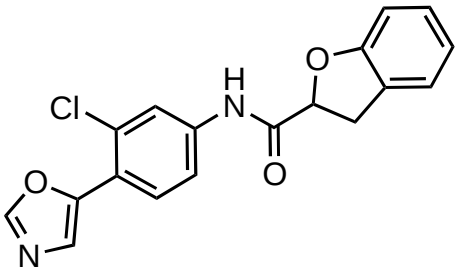
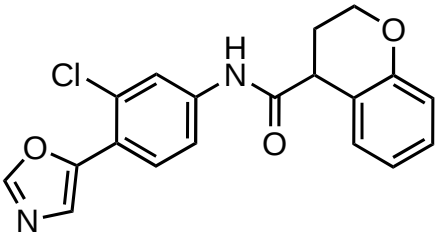
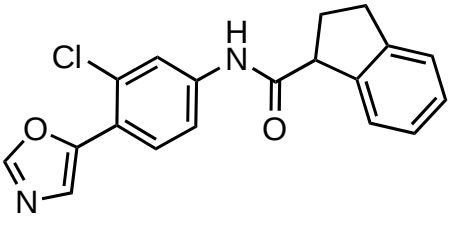
Comp. No.	**Chemical structure**
1	
2	
3	

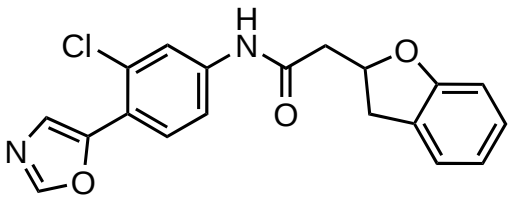
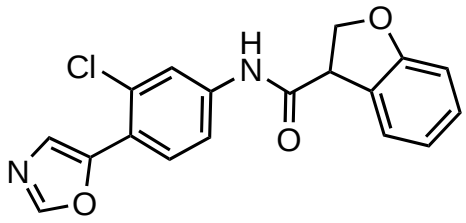
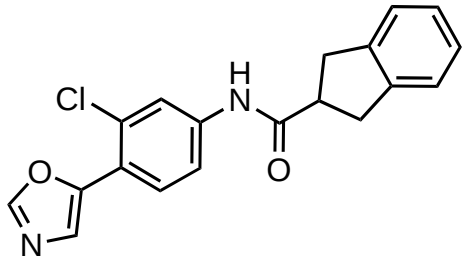
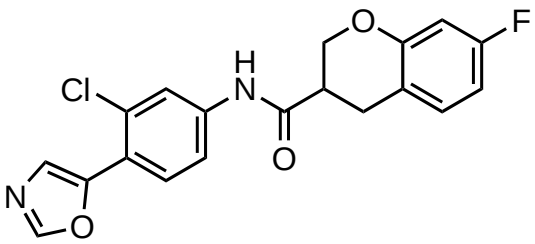
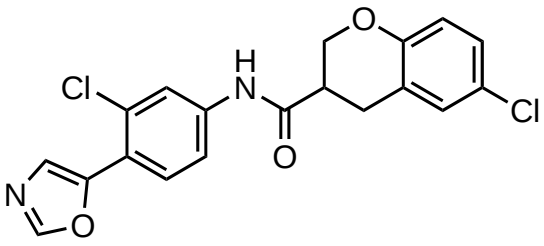
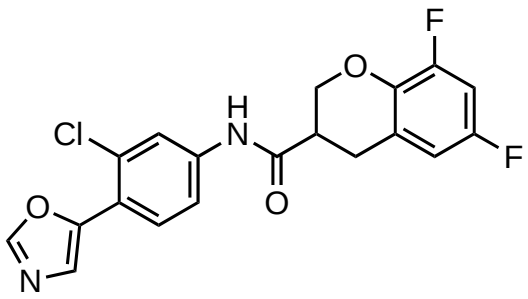
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	

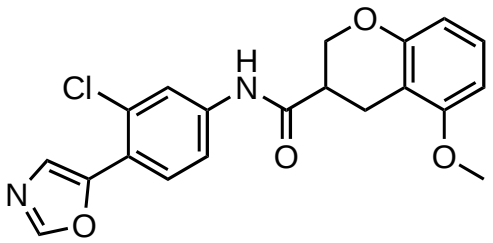
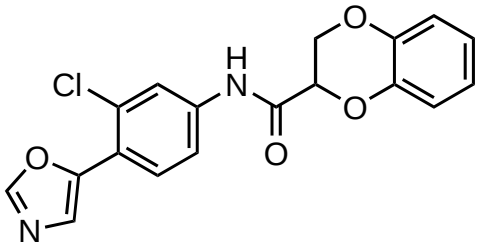
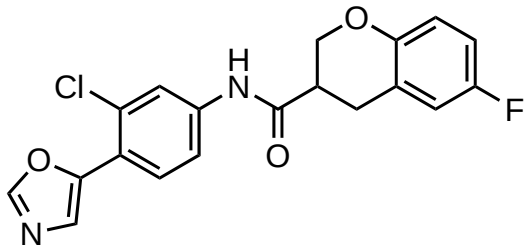
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	

16	
17	
20	
21	
22	

23	
24	
25	
26	
27	

28	
29	
30	
31	
32	
33	

34	
35	
36	
37	
38	
39	

40	
41	
42	

11. Compound according to any of the preceding claims for use as a medicament.

12. Compound according to any of claims 1 to 10 for use in the treatment and/or prevention of a retinal disease that leads to photoreceptor loss or outer retina degradation.

13. Compound according to claim 12 for use in the treatment and/or prevention of a retinal disease selected from the group consisting of inherited retinal dystrophies, acquired degeneration, vascular related retinal degeneration, drug-induced maculopathies, infectious eye diseases, inflammatory eye diseases and white dot syndromes, wherein the pharmaceutical composition,

upon administration, treats the retinal disease by inducing proliferation of retinal precursor cells.

14. Compound according to claim 13 for use in the treatment and/or prevention of a retinal disease from the group consisting of retinitis pigmentosa (RP), including syndromic and non-syndromic forms, X-chromosome linked, recessive, dominant and sporadic forms, rod-cone dystrophies, Usher's syndrome, Stargardt's disease, cone-rod dystrophies, cone dystrophies, achromatopsia, blue cone monochromacy, enhanced S-cone syndrome, rod dystrophies, choroideremia, Leber's congenital amaurosis, juvenile X-chromosome linked retinoschisis (JXLR), fundus albipunctatus, retinitis punctata albescens, fleck retina of Kandori, bietti crystalline retinal dystrophy, fenestrated sheen macular dystrophy, adult-onset foveomacular vitelliform dystrophy, Batten's disease, congenital stationary night blindness, familial exudative vitreoretinopathy (FEVR), ocular albinism, oculocutaneous albinism, fovea hypoplasia, abetalipoproteinemia, Stickler syndrome, retinal dystrophy (Bothnia type), crystalline maculopathy (drug-related, hyperoxaluria, cystinosis, Sjogren-Larsson syndrome), west African crystalline maculopathy, solar retinopathy, talc retinopathy, diabetic retinopathy, sickle cell retinopathy, macular telangectasia, eales disease, peripheral retinoschisis, central/branch retinal artery occlusion (CRAO/BRAO), central/branch retinal vein occlusion (CRVO/BRVO), haemorrhagic occlusive retinal vasculitis (HORV), drug-induced maculopathies including

chloroquine, hydroxychloroquine, phenothiazine, quinine sulfate, thioridazine, clofazimine, cholopromazine, deferoxamine, chloroquine-derivatives, cisplatin, carmustine, chlofazimine and vigabatrin; crystal-induced maculopathies including tamoxifen, talc, canthaxanthine, methoxyflurane and nitrofurantoin; cystoid macular edema (CME) including epinephrine, latanoprost, nicotinic acid, progressive outer retinal necrosis (PORN), acute retinal necrosis (ARN), CMV-retinitis, Sarcoidosis, acute syphilitic posterior placoid chorioretinitis, tuberculosis chorioretinitis, toxoplasmic retinochoroiditis, posterior Uveitis and retinal vasculitis, intermediate uveitis, pars planitis +/- CME, enophthalmitis (anterior and/or posterior), posterior scleritis, masquerade syndromes, multifocal choroiditis and panuveitis (MCP), punctate inner choroidopathy (PIC), birdshot retinochoroidopathy, acute macular neuroretinopathy (AMN) and acute zonal occult outer retinopathy (AZOOR), preferably for use in the treatment and/or prevention of inherited retinal dystrophies and most preferably in the treatment and/or prevention of retinitis pigmentosa (RP).

15. Pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claims 1 to 12 as a therapeutically active substance and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and/or adjuvant.

16. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 15, wherein the pharmaceutical preparation is suitable for intraocular injection.