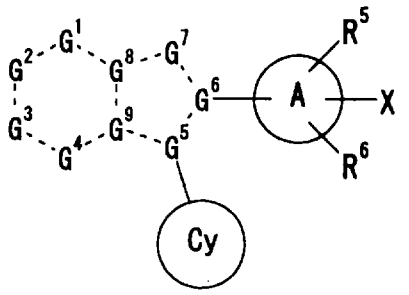
ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention provides a fused ring compound of the following formula [I]



[I]

wherein each symbol is as defined in the specification, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a therapeutic agent for hepatitis C, which contains this compound. The compound of the present invention shows an anti-hapatitis C virus (HCV) action based on the HCV polymerase inhibitory activity, and is useful as a therapeutic agent or prophylactic agent for hepatitis C.

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