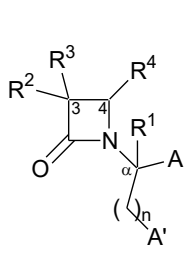
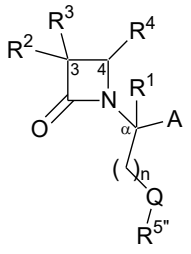
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. The use of a selective vasopressin V1a receptor antagonist in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of Huntington's Disease, Parkinson's Disease, or Alzheimer's Disease in a host animal, wherein the antagonist is a compound of the formula:



(I) or



(II)

or a salt thereof, wherein

A and A' are each an independently selected amide selected from the group consisting of (a) amido of the formula C(O)NHX and C(O)NR^{14}X, where R^{14} is selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, alkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, and benzyl; X is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted arylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclyl-(C$_1$-C$_4$ alkyl), R^{6}R^{7}N-, and R^{6}R^{7}N-(C$_2$-C$_4$ alkyl), where each heterocyclyl is independently selected; and (b) an amide of an independently selected optionally substituted piperidinyl attached at a nitrogen, optionally substituted piperazinyl attached at a nitrogen, or optionally substituted homopiperazinyl attached at a nitrogen; wherein

R^6 is independently selected from hydrogen or alkyl; and R^7 is independently selected in each instance from alkyl, cycloalkyl, optionally substituted aryl, or optionally substituted arylalkyl; or R^6 and R^7 are taken together with the attached nitrogen atom to form an optionally substituted heterocycle;

Q is oxygen; or Q is sulfur or disulfide;

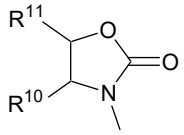
R$^{5"}$ is selected from hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, optionally substituted arylalkyl, optionally substituted heterocyclyl or optionally substituted heterocyclylalkyl, and optionally substituted aminoalkyl;

n is an integer selected from 1 to about 3;

R^1 is hydrogen or C$_1$-C$_6$ alkyl;

R^2 is hydrogen;

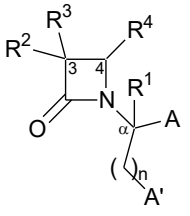
R^3 is of the formula



wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted cycloalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonyloxy, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted arylalkyl, optionally substituted arylalkyloxy, optionally substituted arylalkylcarbonyloxy, diphenylmethoxy, and triphenylmethoxy; and

R^4 is alkenyl, optionally substituted arylalkyl, or optionally substituted arylalkenyl.

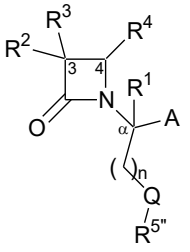
2. The use of claim 1 wherein the antagonist is a compound of the formula:



(I)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

3. The use of claim 1 wherein the antagonist is a compound of the formula:



(II)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

4. The use of any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein n is 1 or 2.

5. The use of any one of claims 1 to 4 wherein R^1 is hydrogen; and R^2 is hydrogen.

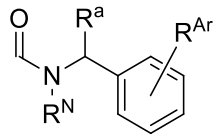
6. The use of any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein one or both of A and A′ is an independently selected amido of the formula C(O)NHX or $C(O)NR^{14}X$, where R^{14} is selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, alkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, and benzyl; X is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted arylalkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclyl-(C_1-C_4 alkyl), R^6R^7N-, and R^6R^7N-(C_2-C_4 alkyl), where each heterocyclyl is independently selected.

7. The use of any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein one or both of A and A′ is an amide of an independently selected optionally substituted piperidinyl attached at a nitrogen, optionally substituted piperazinyl attached at a nitrogen, or optionally substituted homopiperazinyl attached at a nitrogen.

8. The use of any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein one or both of A and A′ is an amide of an optionally substituted 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-2-yl.

9. The use of any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein one or both of A and A′ is an independently selected amide of a substituted piperidine or piperazine.

10. The use of any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein A is of the formula

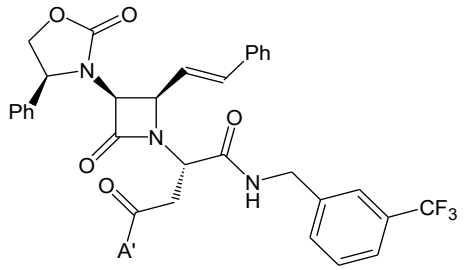


where R^N is hydrogen or optionally substituted alkyl; R^a is hydrogen or optionally substituted alkyl; and R^{Ar} is hydrogen or one or more aryl substituents.

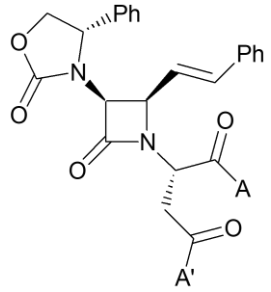
11. The use of any one of claims 1 or 3 to 10 wherein Q is oxygen or sulfur.

12. The use of any one of claims 1 or 3 to 11 wherein $R^{5"}$ is optionally substituted aryl(C_2-C_4 alkyl).

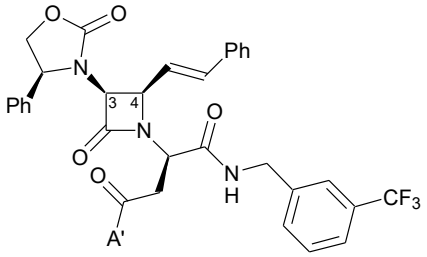
13. The use of claim 1 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of



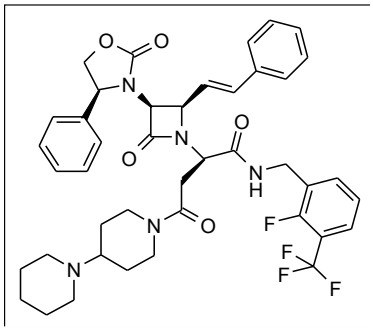
Example	A′
44	4-(piperidinyl)piperidinyl
63	1-benzylpiperidin-4-ylamino



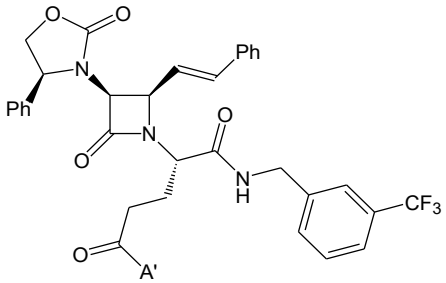
Example	A	A'
132F	(R)-1-phenylethy-1-amino	4-(piperidinyl)piperidinyl



Example	A′
133	4-(piperidinyl)piperidinyl

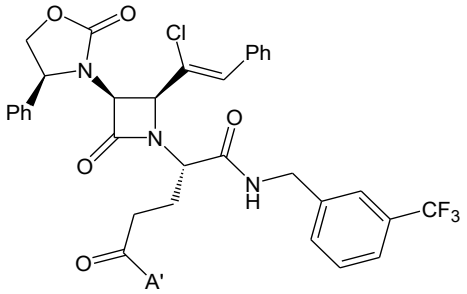


Example 222

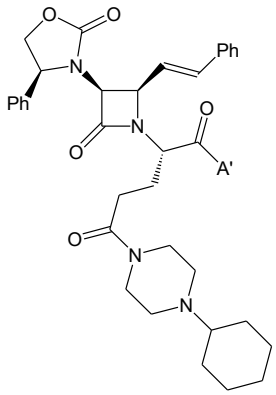


Example	A′
35	4-(2-phenylethyl)piperazinyl

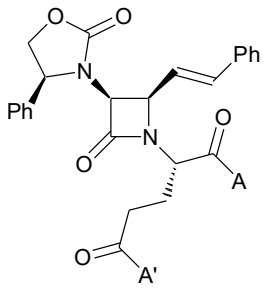
Example	A′
88	4-(piperidinyl)piperidinyl
91	4-(pyrrolidinyl)piperazinyl
95	4-benzylpiperazinyl
96	4-(3,4-methylenedioxybenzyl)piperazinyl
103	4-butylpiperazinyl
104	4-isopropylpiperazinyl
110	4-cyclohexylpiperazinyl
111	4-(2-cyclohexylethyl)piperazinyl
112	4-[2-(morpholin-4-yl)ethyl]piperazinyl
120	4-(cyclohexylmethyl)piperazinyl
120B	4-propyl-piperazinyl
120E	4-(piperidinylmethyl)piperidinyl
120H	4-cyclohexylpiperazinyl



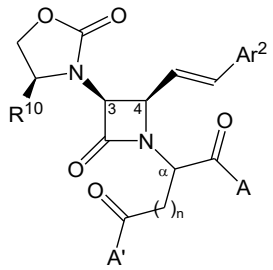
Example	A′
226	4-cyclohexylpiperazinyl
229	4-n-butylpiperazinyl



Example	A'
172	(3-trifluoromethoxybenzyl)amino
174	(3,5-dichlorobenzyl)amino
175	(2,5-dichlorobenzyl)amino
176	(2,3-dichlorobenzyl)amino
177	(2-fluoro-5-trifluoromethylbenzyl)amino
179	(3-fluoro-5-trifluoromethylbenzyl)amino
180	(2-fluoro-3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)amino
182	(2-trifluoromethylbenzyl)amino
185	(3,5-difluorobenzyl)amino
187	(3-chlorobenzyl)amino
189	(3-nitrobenzyl)amino
190	(3-bromobenzyl)amino
191	benzylamino
193	(3-methylbenzyl)amino
203	(1S)-(3-methoxyphenyl)ethylamino
205	N-methyl-N-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)amino
206	[(S)-α-methylbenzyl]amino
207	(1-phenylcycloprop-1yl)amino
212	[(5-methylfur-2-yl)methyl]amino
213	(thien-2-ylmethyl)amino
214	[(S)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-1-naphth-1-yl]amino
215	[(R)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-1-naphth-1-yl]amino
216	(indan-1-yl)amino
217	(1-phenylcyclopent-1-yl)amino
219	(2,5-dimethoxybenzyl)amino
221A	N-methyl-3-Me-benzylamide
221B	N-methyl-2,3-Cl-benzylamide
221C	N-methyl-3-Cl-benzylamide
221D	N-methyl-3-Br-benzylamide
221F	(R)-1-(3-trifluorophenyl)ethylamide
221G	1-phenyl-cyclohexylamide
221H	1-(2-fluorophenyl)-cyclopentylamide
221P	indan-2-ylamino

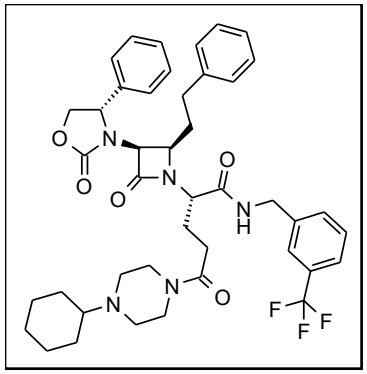


Example	A	A'
221 AM	1-(3-fluorophenyl)-cyclopentylamino	4-cyclohexylpiperazinyl
221 AP	1-(4-methylphenyl)-cyclopropylamino	4-cyclohexylpiperazinyl
221 BD	(R)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-1-naphtylamino	4-ethylpiperazinyl

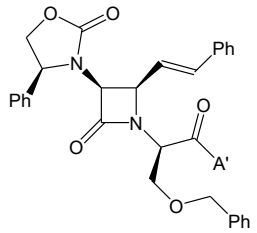


Example	R^{10}	Ar^2	n	α	A	A'
241	Ph	Ph	2	L	(R)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphth-1-ylamino	4-cyclopentylpiperazin-1-yl
242	Ph	3-MeO-Ph	2	L	(R)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphth-1-ylamino	4-cyclohexylpiperazin-1-yl
243	Ph	3-Cl-Ph	2	L	(R)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphth-1-ylamino	4-cyclohexylpiperazin-1-yl
244	Ph	3-Cl-Ph	2	L	1-phenyl-cyclopent-1-ylamino	4-cyclohexylpiperazin-1-yl
245	Ph	3-F-Ph	2	L	(R)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphth-1-ylamino	4-cyclohexylpiperazin-1-yl

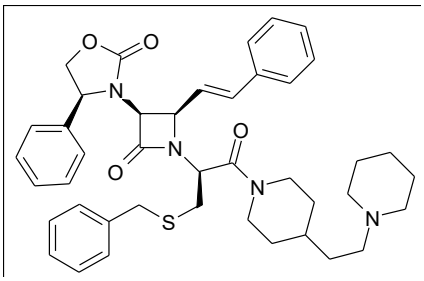
Example	R^{10}	Ar^2	n	α	A	A'
246	Ph	3-CF_3-Ph	2	L	(R)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphth-1-ylamino	4-cyclohexylpiperazin-1-yl
247	Ph	3-Cl-Ph	1	D	N-methyl-3-CF_3-benzylamino	4-(1-piperidyl)piperidin-1-yl
249	Ph	3-NO_2-Ph	2	L	(R)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphth-1-ylamino	4-cyclohexylpiperazin-1-yl
251	3-Cl-Ph	3-Cl-Ph	2	L	(R)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphth-1-ylamino	4-cyclohexylpiperazin-1-yl
252	Ph	3,5-Cl_2-Ph	2	L	(R)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphth-1-ylamino	4-cyclohexylpiperazin-1-yl
256	3-Cl-Ph	Ph	1	D	(R)-1-Ph-ethylamino	4-(1-piperidyl)piperidin-1-yl



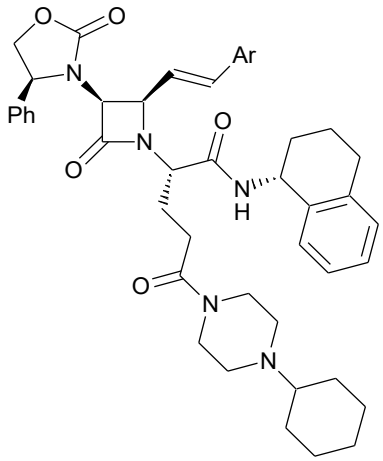
Example 236



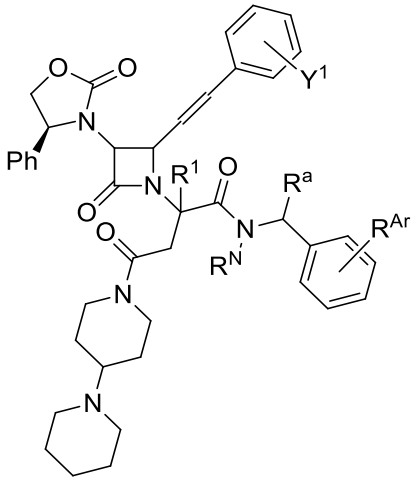
Example	A′	α
232	4-(piperidinyl)piperidinyl	D
232D	4-cyclohexylpiperazinyl	DL



Example 238

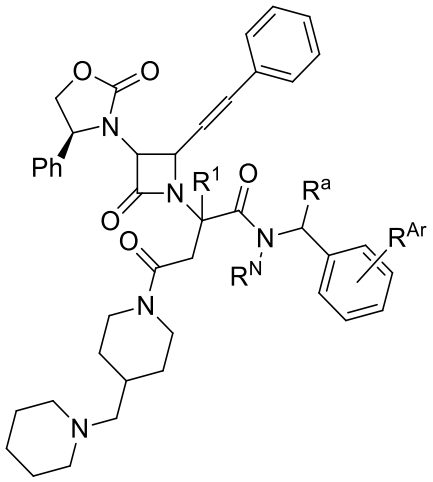


Example	Ar
255	thien-2-yl



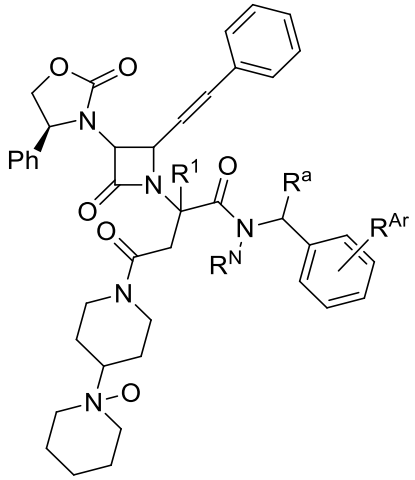
Example	Y^1	R^N	R^a	R^{Ar}	R^1
559	3-Cl	H	(R)-Me	H	H
606	3-Br	H	(R)-Me	H	H
617	3-Br	Me	H	3-CF_3	H
623	H	H	(R)-CF_3	H	H

Example	Y^1	R^N	R^a	R^{Ar}	R^1
626	H	H	(S)-CF_3	H	H
677	H	H	H	2-F	H
682	H	H	H	2-Br	H
778	3-Me	H	(R)-Me	H	H

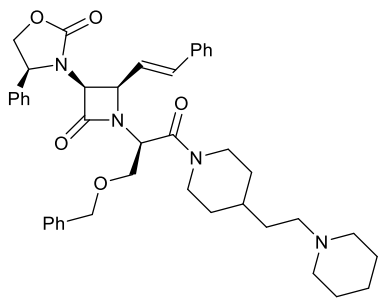


Example	R^N	R^a	R^{Ar}	R^1
599	Me	H	3-CF_3	H
601	H	(R)-Me	H	H

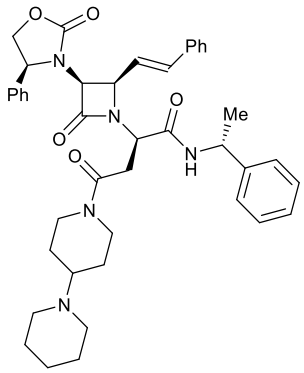
and



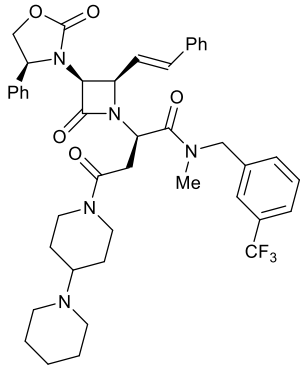
Example	R^N	R^a	R^{Ar}	R^1
670	Me	H	3-CF_3	H
672	H	(R)-Me	H	H



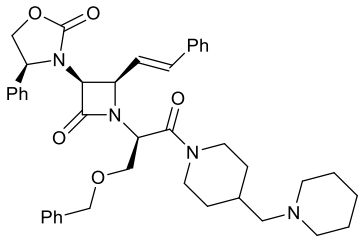
AVN228,



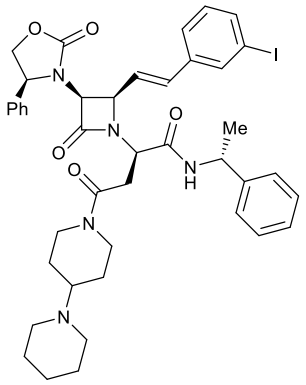
AVN246,



AVN251,



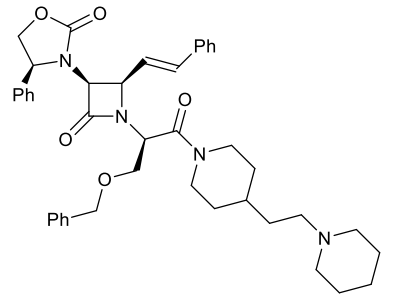
AVN296, and



AVN576,

and salts thereof.

14. The use of claim 1 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of



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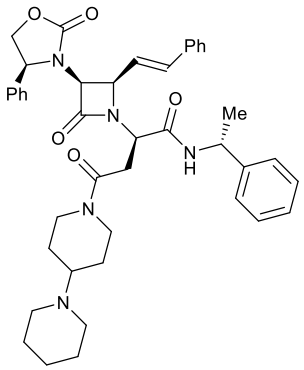

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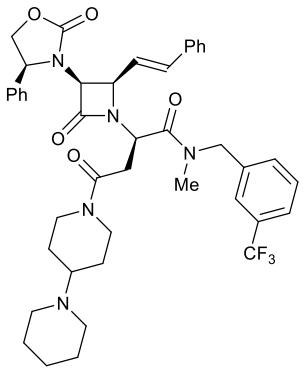

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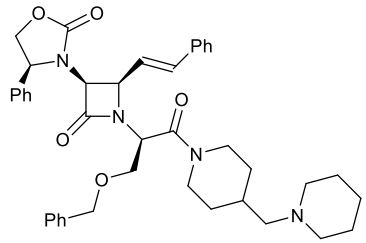

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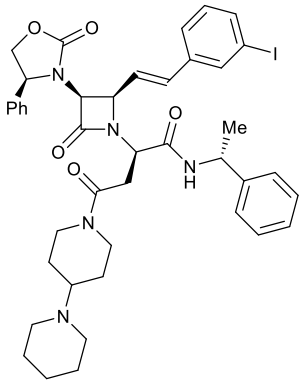
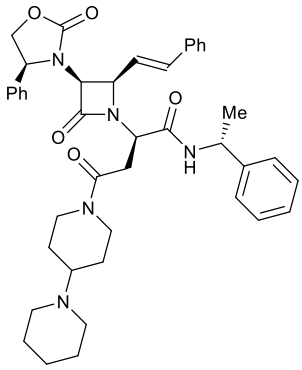


,

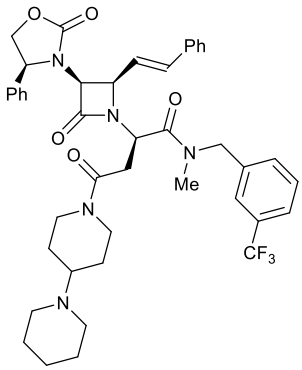
and salts thereof, and combinations thereof.

15. The use of claim 1 wherein the compound is



, or a salt thereof.

16. The use of claim 1 wherein the compound is



, or a salt thereof.

17. The use of any one of claims 1 to 16 for treating one or more

neuropsychiatric symptoms of Huntington’s Disease.

18. The use of any one of claims 1 to 16 for treating one or more neuropsychiatric symptoms of Parkinson's Disease.

19. The use of any one of claims 1 to 16 for treating one or more neuropsychiatric symptoms of Alzheimer’s Disease.

20. The use of any one of claims 17 to 19 wherein the neuropsychiatric symptoms comprise aggression, irritability, or anger, or a combination thereof.