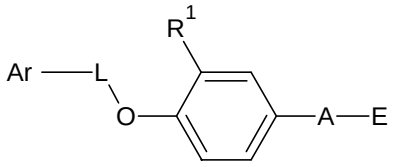
CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula (1)



(1)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable enantiomer, diastereomer, salt, or solvate thereof, wherein:

Ar is a 9- or 10-membered bicyclic aromatic ring substituted with a single –S-CH3 substituent;

L is selected from a direct bond and methylene;

R^1 is selected from hydrogen, halide, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6haloalkyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy, C_3-C_6cycloalkoxy and C_1-C_6alkoxy substituted with C_3-C_6cycloalkyl;

A is selected from a direct bond, $–CH_2–$ and $–CH_2CH_2–$;

E is selected from $–C(O)-R^2$, $C(OR^3)R^4R^5$ and $CH(R^6)NR^7R^8$;

R^2 is selected from methyl, ethyl and phenyl;

R^3 is selected from H, alkyl and substituted alkyl;

R^4 is selected from hydrogen, alkyl and phenyl;

R^5 is selected from C_1-C_7alkyl, C_1-C_7haloalkyl, phenyl and substituted phenyl;

R^6 is selected from hydrogen, methyl, halogenated methyl and ethyl;

R^7 is hydrogen; and R^8 is hydrogen, methyl or ethyl; with the proviso that together, R^7 and R^8 may form a 5 or 6-membered, optionally substituted, heterocycle.

2. The compound of claim 1 wherein

Ar is 1,3-benzothiazole substituted with the single $–S-CH_3$ substituent;

R^3 is H;

R^4 is selected from hydrogen, C_1-C_7alkyl and phenyl;

R^5 is selected from C_1-C_7alkyl, C_1-C_7haloalkyl, phenyl and halophenyl; and

R^7 is hydrogen and R^8 is hydrogen, methyl or ethyl; or R^7 and R^8 together form a 5- or 6-membered heterocycle which is optionally substituted with a substituent selected from C_1-C_6alkyl and carboxylic acid.

3. The compound of any one of claims 1 to 2, wherein L is a direct bond.

4. The compound of any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein R^1 is hydrogen or C_1-C_6alkoxy.

5. The compound of any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein A is a direct bond.

6. The compound of any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein E is $-C(OR^3)R^4R^5$ and R^3 is H, and R^5 is trifluoromethyl.

7. The compound of any one of claims 1 to 6, as a non-racemic mixture of enantiomers of compounds of formula (1).

8. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound is:

1-{3-methoxy-4-[(4-methylsulfanyl-1,3-benzothiazol-2-yl)oxy]phenyl}-3-(trifluoromethyl)pentan-3-ol.

9. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound is selected from:

1,1,1-trifluoro-4-(3-methoxy-4-{[4-(methylsulfanyl)-1,3-benzothiazol-2-yl]oxy}phenyl)-2-methylbutan-2-ol;

1-(3-methoxy-4-{[4-(methylsulfanyl)-1,3-benzothiazol-2-yl]oxy}phenyl)pentan-3-ol; and

1-(4-{[4-(methylsulfanyl)-1,3-benzothiazol-2-yl]oxy}phenyl)-3-(trifluoromethyl)pentan-3-ol.

10. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound of claim 8, or a pharmaceutically acceptable enantiomer, salt or solvate thereof, and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent, excipient and/or adjuvant.

11. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 10 in the form of an eyedrop.

12. Use of the compound of claim 8 in the manufacturing of a medicament for the treatment of an inflammatory disease or inflammatory condition, a respiratory disease or a neurodegenerative disease, condition or disorder.

13. The use of claim 12, wherein the inflammatory disease or inflammatory condition is an ocular inflammatory disease or an ocular inflammatory condition.

14. The use of claim 12, wherein the disease is selected from:

a respiratory disease or condition; and

a neurodegenerative disease, condition or disorder.