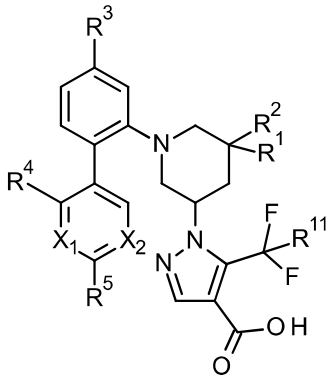
Claims

1. sGC activator of formula (I) for use in the oral treatment and/or prophylaxis of an eye disease



(I),

in which

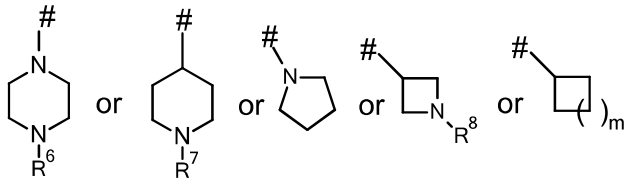
R^1 represents hydrogen or halogen,

R^2 represents hydrogen or halogen,

R^3 represents chloro or trifluoromethyl,

R^4 represents hydrogen, C_1-C_4-alkyl,

R^5 represents a group of the formula



where # is the point of attachment to the aromatic or heteroaromatic 6 ring system; wherein m is 0 – 4

R^6 represents

C_1-C_6-alkyl, optionally substituted by one or more substituent independently selected from the group consisting of methyl, trifluoromethoxy, nitril, amido,

C_2-C_6-halogenoalkyl, optionally substituted by 1 to 5 fluoro substituents,

C_3-C_6-cycloalkyl,

C_3-C_6-cycloalkyl-methyl, optionally substituted by 1 to 5 fluoro substituents or a

trifluoromethyl group,

C_1-C_6-alkylcarbonyl, optionally substituted by 1 to 3 fluoro substituents,

C_3-C_6-cycloalkyl-carbonyl, optionally substituted by 1 to 3 fluoro substituents or

(C_1-C_6)-alkoxy-carbonyl, optionally substituted with methoxy, trifluoromethoxy, C_3-C_6-cycloalkyl,

(C_3-C_6)-cycloalkoxy-carbonyl,

mono-(C_1-C_4)-alkylaminocarbonyl,

(C_1-C_4)-alkylsulfonyl or

oxetanyl,

spiro[2.2]pentan-2-ylmethyl or [(3-fluoro-1-bicyclo[1.1.1]pentanyl)methyl,

R^7 represents C_1-C_4-alkylcarbonyl, optionally substituted by a C_3-C_6-cycloalkyl group,

R^8 represents C_2-C_4-alkyl, C_2-C_4- halogenoalkyl substituted by 1 to 6 fluoro substituents,

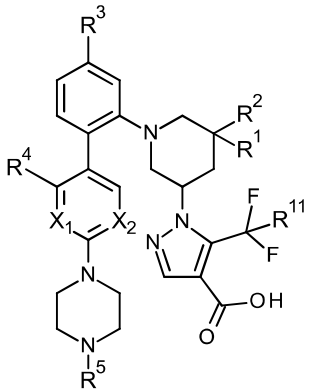
R^{11} represents hydrogen or fluoro substituent

X_1 represents nitrogen or carbon or C-F

X_2 represents nitrogen or carbon

and the salts thereof, the solvates thereof and the solvates of the salts thereof.

2. sGC activator of formula (I-A) for use in the oral treatment and/or prophylaxis of an eye disease according to claim 1, whereas the sGC activator is



(I-A)

in which

R^1 represents hydrogen or halogen,

R^2 represents hydrogen or halogen,

R^3 represents chloro or trifluoromethyl,

R^4 represents hydrogen or C_1-C_4-alkyl

R^5 represents optionally substituted C_1-C_6-alkyl

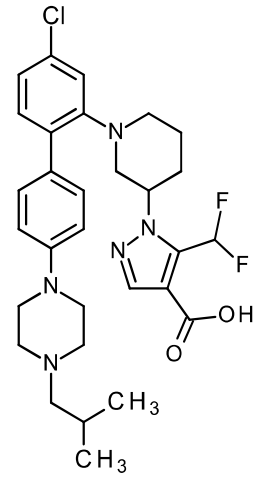
R^{11} represents hydrogen or fluoro substituent

X_1 represents nitrogen or carbon

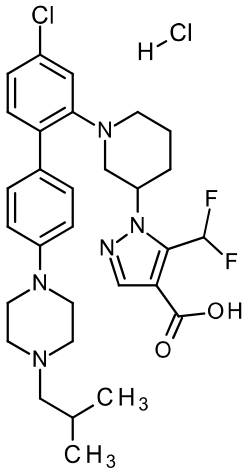
X_2 represents nitrogen or carbon

and the salts thereof, the solvates thereof and the solvates of the salts thereof.

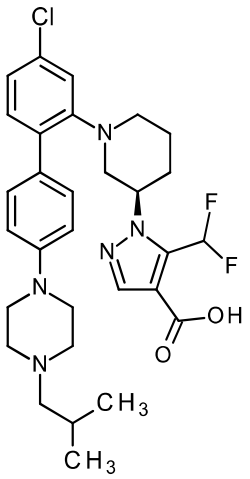
3. sGC activator for use in the oral treatment and/or prophylaxis of an eye disease according to claim 1 or claim 2, whereas the sGC activator is selected from the group consisting of



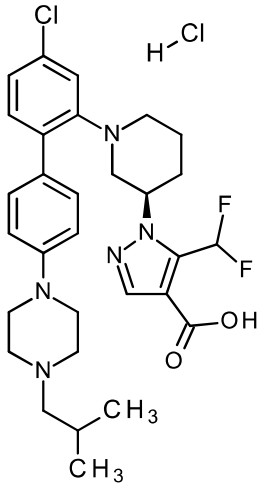
(I-D)



(I-E)



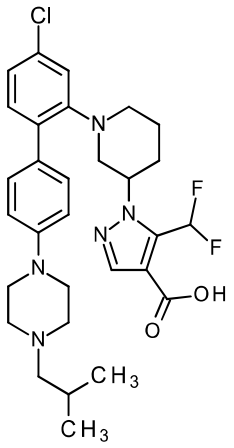
(I-D-R)



(I-E-R)

or one of the salts thereof, solvates thereof or solvates of the salts thereof.

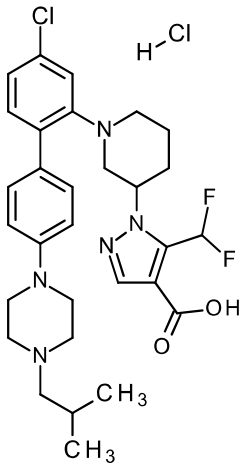
4. sGC activator for use in the oral treatment and/or prophylaxis of an eye disease according to claim 1, 2 or claim 3 whereas the sGC activator is ((I-D)



(I-D),

and salts, solvates and solvates of the salts thereof.

5. sGC activator for use in the oral treatment and/or prophylaxis of an eye disease according to claim 1, 2, 3 or claim 4 whereas the sGC activator is (I-E)



(I-E),

and salts, solvates and solvates of the salts thereof.

6. sGC activator for use in the oral treatment and/or prophylaxis of an eye disease according to any of claims 1 to 5, whereas the eye disease is associated with neurovascular unit damage or retinal ganglion cell/photoreceptor neurodegeneration.

7. sGC activator for use in the oral treatment and/or prophylaxis of an eye disease according to any of Claims 1 to 5, whereas the eye disease is selected from a list consisting of non-proliferative diabetic retinopathy, diabetic macular edema, central retinal vein occlusion, branch retinal vein occlusion, retinal artery occlusion, retinopathy of prematurity, ocular ischemic syndrome, radiation retinopathy, anterior ischemic optic neuritis, anti-VEGF therapy driven ischemia, ocular neuropathies and choroidal ischemic diseases.

8. sGC activator for use in the oral treatment and/or prophylaxis of an eye disease according to any of Claims 1 to 7, whereas the eye disease is selected from a list consisting of non-proliferative diabetic retinopathy, optic neuropathies and cataract.

9. sGC activator for use in the oral treatment and/or prophylaxis of an eye disease according to any of Claims 1 to 7, whereas the eye disease is non-proliferative diabetic retinopathy.

10. sGC activator for use in the oral treatment and/or prophylaxis of an eye disease according to any of Claims 1 to 5, whereas the eye disease is selected from a list of optic neuropathies consisting of glaucomatous optic neuropathy, ischemic optic neuropathy, traumatic optic neuropathy, non-arteritic anterior ischemic optic neuropathy, optic neuropathy, leber's hereditary optic neuropathy, methanol associated optic neuropathy and age-related macular degeneration.

11. sGC activator for use in the oral treatment and/or prophylaxis of an eye disease according to Claim 10, wherein the optic neuropathy is glaucoma optic neuropathy.

12. Combination for use in the oral treatment and/or prophylaxis of an eye disease according to any of Claims 1 to 12 comprising at least one sGC activator according to any of Claims 1 to 5 and at least one compound selected from the group consisting of inhibitors of phosphodiesterases 1, 2 and/or 5, calcium, vitamin D and metabolites of vitamin D, bisphosphonates, selected from etidronate, clodronate, tiludronate, teriparatide, pamidronate, neridronate, olpadronate, alendronate, ibandronate, risedronate, and zoledronate, strontium ranelate, active ingredients suitable for hormone replacement therapy in osteoporosis, selected from estrogen and a combination of estrogen and progesterone, selective estrogen receptor modulators, parathyroid hormone and analogs of parathyroid hormone, modulators of receptor activator of nuclear factor kappa-B ligand, sclerostin inhibitors, and TGF-β inhibitors.

13. Pharmaceutical composition for use in the oral treatment and/or prophylaxis of an eye disease according to any of Claims 1 to 11 comprising at least one sGC activator according to any of Claims 1 to 5 and one or more inert non-toxic pharmaceutically suitable excipients.

14. Pharmaceutical composition for use in the oral treatment and/or prophylaxis of an eye disease according to any of Claims 1 to 11 comprising a combination according to Claim 12 and one or more inert non-toxic pharmaceutically suitable excipients.

15. ~~Method for the oral treatment and/or prevention of an eye disease selected from a list consisting of non-proliferative diabetic retinopathy, optic neuropathies and cataract in humans and animals by administration~~ Use of an effective amount of at least one sGC activator according to any of Claims 1 to 5 or a pharmaceutical composition as defined in any of Claims 13 or 14 in the manufacture of a medicament for oral treatment and/or prevention of an eye disease selected from a list consisting of non-proliferative diabetic retinopathy, optic neuropathies and cataract in humans and animals.