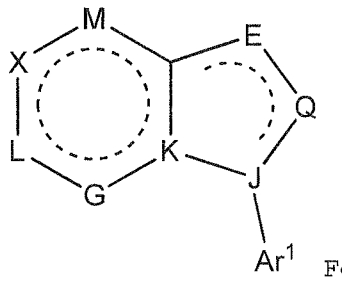
unsubstituted ring, which optionally includes one or more heteroatoms in the ring;

n is an integer from 0-4; and

Ar^1 and Ar^2 are independently (un)substituted aryl or heteroaryl, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of a viral infection or a disease associated therewith.

[0013c] A compound having the following general Formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



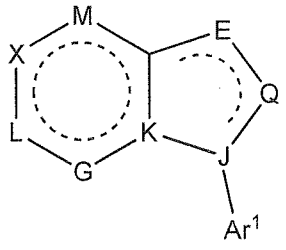
Formula I

wherein, X is C-D-A-Ar^2 and L is independently N or C-H; or X is independently N or C-H and L is C-D-A-Ar^2; wherein D-A is independently selected from the group consisting of: CR^1R^2-NR', S-CR^1R^2, O-CR^1R^2, R^3R^4C-CR^5R^6, $R^7C{=}CR^8$, and C≡C; E, G, M, and Q are independently N or C-H; and J and K are independently N or C;

R' is as follows:

(a) R' is selected from the group consisting of: hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, haloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, arylalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, hydroxy, alkyloxy, aryloxy, heteroaryloxy, acyloxy, arylacyloxy, heteroarylacyloxy, alkylsulfonyloxy, arylsulfonyloxy, thio, alkylthio, arylthio, amino, alkylamino, dialkylamino, cycloalkylamino, heterocycloalkylamino, arylamino, heteroarylamino, acylamino, arylacylamino, heteroarylacylamino,

[0013d] A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient and a compound having the following general Formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



Formula I

wherein X is C-D-A-Ar^2 and L is independently N or C-H; or X is independently N or C-H and L is C-D-A-Ar^2; wherein D-A is independently selected from the group consisting of: CR^1R^2-NR', S-CR^1R^2, O-CR^1R^2, R^3R^4C-CR^5R^6, $R^7C{=}CR^8$, and C≡C; E, G, M and Q are independently N or C-H; and J and K are independently N or C;

R' is as follows:

(a) R' is selected from the group consisting of: hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, haloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, arylalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, hydroxy, alkyloxy, aryloxy, heteroaryloxy, acyloxy, arylacyloxy, heteroarylacyloxy, alkylsulfonyloxy, arylsulfonyloxy, thio, alkylthio, arylthio, amino, alkylamino, dialkylamino, cycloalkylamino, heterocycloalkylamino, arylamino, heteroarylamino, acylamino, arylacylamino, heteroarylacylamino, alkylsulfonylamino, arylsulfonylamino, acyl, arylacyl, heteroarylacyl, alkylsulfinyl, arylsulfinyl, heteroarylsulfinyl, hydroxysulfonyl, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, heteroarylsulfonyl, aminosulfonyl, substituted aminosulfonyl, carboxy, alkoxycarbonyl, cycloalkyloxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, carbamoyl, substituted carbamoyl;

wherein X is C-D-A-Ar^2 and L is independently N or C-H; or X is independently N or C-H and L is C-D-A-Ar^2; wherein D-A is independently selected from the group consisting of: CR^1R^2-NR', S-CR^1R^2, O-CR^1R^2, R^3R^4C-CR^5R^6, $R^7C{=}CR^8$, and C≡C; E, G, M, and Q are independently N or C-H; and J and K are independently N or C;

R' is as follows:

(a) R' is selected from the group consisting of: hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, haloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, arylalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, hydroxy, alkyloxy, aryloxy, heteroaryloxy, acyloxy, arylacyloxy, heteroarylacyloxy, alkylsulfonyloxy, arylsulfonyloxy, thio, alkylthio, arylthio, amino, alkylamino, dialkylamino, cycloalkylamino, heterocycloalkylamino, arylamino, heteroarylamino, acylamino, arylacylamino, heteroarylacylamino, alkylsulfonylamino, arylsulfonylamino, acyl, arylacyl, heteroarylacyl, alkylsulfinyl, arylsulfinyl, heteroarylsulfinyl, hydroxysulfonyl, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, heteroarylsulfonyl, aminosulfonyl, substituted aminosulfonyl, carboxy, alkoxycarbonyl, cycloalkyloxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, carbamoyl, substituted carbamoyl;

(b) R' together with the nitrogen atom it is attached to, some carbons of Ar^2, form a substituted or unsubstituted ring, which optionally includes one or more heteroatoms in the ring;

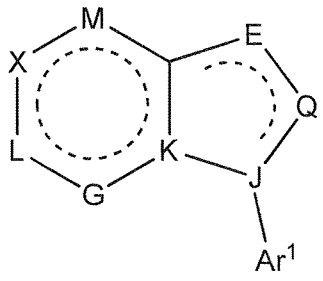
(c) R' together with the nitrogen atom it is attached to, the carbon atom R^1 and R^2 are attached to, R^1 or R^2, form a substituted or unsubstituted ring, which optionally includes one or more heteroatoms in the ring; or

d) R' together with the nitrogen atom it is attached to, the carbon atom R^1 and R^2 are attached to, some carbons of the aromatic ring next to this carbon, form a substituted or unsubstituted ring, which optionally includes one or more heteroatoms in the ring;

R^1 and R^2 are as follows:

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound having the following general Formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



Formula I

wherein, X is C-D-A-Ar^2 and L is independently N or C-H; or X is independently N or C-H and L is C-D-A-Ar^2; wherein D-A is independently selected from the group consisting of: CR^1R^2-NR', S-CR^1R^2, O-CR^1R^2, R^3R^4C-CR^5R^6, $R^7C{=}CR^8$, and C≡C; E, G, M, and Q are independently N or C-H; and J and K are independently N or C;

form a substituted or unsubstituted ring, which optionally includes one or more heteroatoms in the ring;

(e) R^8 together with the carbon atom it is attached to, some carbons of Ar^2, form a substituted or unsubstituted ring, which optionally includes one or more heteroatoms in the ring; or

(f) R^8 together with the carbon atom it is attached to, the carbon atom R^7 is attached to, some carbons of the aromatic ring next to this carbon, form a substituted or unsubstituted ring, which optionally includes one or more heteroatoms in the ring; and

Ar^1 is a pyridinyl or phenyl substituted with an alkoxy group and Ar^2 is a substituted phenyl.

2. The compound of claim 1, wherein each of E and J is N.

3. The compound of claim 1, wherein each of G, M, Q and L is C-H.

4. The compound of claim 1, wherein K is C.

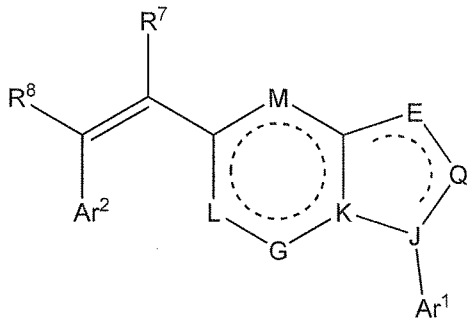
5. The compound of claim 1, wherein D-A is $R^7C=CR^8$ and each of R^7 and R^8 are H and the double bond in $R^7C=CR^8$ has a cis configuration.

6. The compound of claim 1, wherein D-A is $O-CR^1R^2$ and each of R^1 and R^2 are H.

7. The compound of claim 1 selected from the group consisting of: 5-[(Z)-2-(4-tert-butylphenyl)vinyl]-1-(4-isopropoxyphenyl)-benzimidazole; 1-(4-ethoxyphenyl)-5-[(4-ethylphenyl)-

methoxy]benzimidazole; and 2-[4-[(Z)-2-[1-(4-isopropoxyphenyl)benzimidazol-5-yl]vinyl]phenyl]-propan-2-ol.

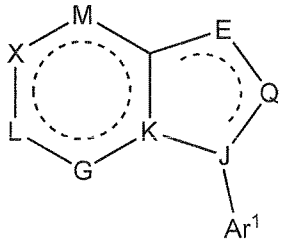
8. The compound of claim 1 having the following Formula Ia:



Formula Ia

wherein E, G, J, L, M, Q, K, R^7, R^8, Ar^1 and Ar^2 are as defined in Formula I.

9. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient and a compound having the following general Formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



Formula I

wherein X is C-D-A-Ar^2 and L is independently N or C-H; or X is independently N or C-H and L is C-D-A-Ar^2; wherein D-A is independently selected from the group consisting of: CR^1R^2-NR', S-CR^1R^2, O-CR^1R^2, R^3R^4C-CR^5R^6, $R^7C{=}CR^8$, and C≡C; E, G, M and Q are independently N or C-H; and J and K are independently N or C;

(b) R^7 and R^8 together with the carbon atoms they are attached to form a substituted or unsubstituted ring, which optionally includes one or more heteroatoms in the ring;

(c) R^7 together with the carbon atom it is attached to, some carbons of the aromatic ring next to this carbon, form a substituted or unsubstituted ring, which optionally includes one or more heteroatoms in the ring;

(d) R^7 together with the carbon atom it is attached to, the carbon atom R^8 is attached to, some carbons of Ar^2, form a substituted or unsubstituted ring, which optionally includes one or more heteroatoms in the ring;

(e) R^8 together with the carbon atom it is attached to, some carbons of Ar^2, form a substituted or unsubstituted ring, which optionally includes one or more heteroatoms in the ring; or

(f) R^8 together with the carbon atom it is attached to, the carbon atom R^7 is attached to, some carbons of the aromatic ring next to this carbon, form a substituted or unsubstituted ring, which optionally includes one or more heteroatoms in the ring; and

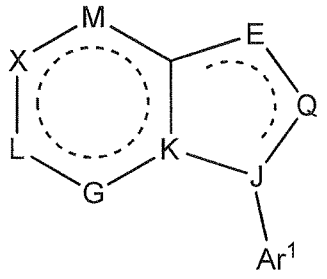
Ar^1 is a pyridinyl or phenyl substituted with an alkoxy group and Ar^2 is a substituted phenyl.

10. The composition of claim 9, wherein each of E and J is N.

11. The composition of claim 9, wherein each of G, M, Q and L is C-H.

12. The composition of claim 9, wherein K is C.

17. Use of a compound of Formula I below or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



Formula I

wherein X is C-D-A-Ar^2 and L is independently N or C-H; or X is independently N or C-H and L is C-D-A-Ar^2; wherein D-A is independently selected from the group consisting of: CR^1R^2-NR', S-CR^1R^2, O-CR^1R^2, R^3R^4C-CR^5R^6, R^7C=CR^8, and C≡C; E, G, M, and Q are independently N or C-H; and J and K are independently N or C;

form a substituted or unsubstituted ring, which optionally includes one or more heteroatoms in the ring;

(e) R^8 together with the carbon atom it is attached to, some carbons of Ar^2, form a substituted or unsubstituted ring, which optionally includes one or more heteroatoms in the ring; or

(f) R^8 together with the carbon atom it is attached to, the carbon atom R^7 is attached to, some carbons of the aromatic ring next to this carbon, form a substituted or unsubstituted ring, which optionally includes one or more heteroatoms in the ring; and

Ar^1 is a pyridinyl or phenyl substituted with an alkoxy group and Ar^2 is a substituted phenyl, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophlaxis of a viral infection or disease associated therewith, wherein the viral infection is an Arenavirus infection.

18. The use of claim 17, wherein each of E and J is N.

19. The use of claim 17, wherein each of G, M, Q and L is C-H.

20. The use of claim 17, wherein K is C.

21. The use of claim 17, wherein D-A is $R^7C=CR^8$ and each of R^7 and R^8 are H and the double bond in $R^7C=CR^8$ has a cis configuration.

22. The use of claim 17, wherein D-A is $O-CR^1R^2$ and each of R^1 and R^2 are H.