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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US99/05919 (22) International Filing Date: 19 March 1999 (19.03.99) (30) Priority Data: 60/078,770 19 March 1998 (19.03.98) US (63) Related by Continuation (CON) or Continuation-in-Part (CIP) to Earlier Application US 60/078,770 (CON) Filed on 19 March 1998 (19.03.98) (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): VERTEX PHARMACEUTICALS INCORPORATED [US/US]; 130 Waverly Street, Cambridge, MA 02139-4242 (US). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): WANNAMAKER, Marion, W. [US/US]; 375 Harvard Road, Stow, MA 01775 (US). BEMIS, Guy, W. [US/US]; 256 Appleton Street, Arlington, MA 01572 (US). CHARIFSON, Paul, S. [US/US]; 7 Dartmouth Drive, Framingham, MA 01701 (US). LAUFFER, David, J. [US/US]; 254 Taylor Road, Stow, MA 01775 (US). MULLICAN, Michael, D. [US/US]; 110 Parker Road, Needham, MA 02194 (US). MURCKO, Mark, A. [US/US];		520 Marshall Street, Holliston, MA 01746 (US). WILSON, Keith, P. [US/US]; 6 Longwood Drive, Hopkinton, MA 01748 (US). JANETKA, James, W. [US/US]; 3612 Stearns Hill Road, Waltham, MA 02451 (US). DAVIES, Robert, J. [GB/US]; Apartment 2K, 225 Weldon Street, Cambridge, MA 02109 (US). GRILLOT, Anne-Laure [FR/US]; Apartment #3R, 31 Regent Street, Cambridge, MA 02140 (US). SHI, Zhan [CN/US]; Apartment 7, 15 Sheridan Drive, Shrewsbury, MA 01545 (US). FORSTER, Cornelia, J. [US/US]; 8 Nancy Avenue, Pelham, NH 03076 (US). (74) Agents: HALEY, James, F., Jr.; Fish & Neave, 1251 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020 (US) et al. (81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.</i>
(54) Title: INHIBITORS OF CASPASES (57) Abstract The present invention relates to novel classes of compounds which are caspase inhibitors, in particular interleukin-1β converting enzyme ("ICE") inhibitors. This invention also relates to pharmaceutical compositions comprising these compounds. The compounds and pharmaceutical compositions of this invention are particularly well suited for inhibiting caspase activity and consequently, may be advantageously used as agents against interleukin-1 ("IL-1"), apoptosis-, interferon-γ inducing factor- (IGIF), or interferon-γ- ("IFN-γ") mediated diseases, including inflammatory diseases, autoimmune diseases, destructive bone disorders, proliferative disorders, infectious diseases, and degenerative diseases. This invention also relates to methods for inhibiting caspase activity and decreasing IGIF production and IFN-γ production and methods for treating interleukin-1, apoptosis-, and interferon-γ- mediated diseases using the compounds and compositions of this invention. This invention also relates to methods of preparing the compounds of this invention.		