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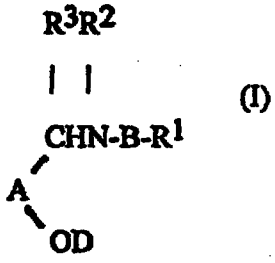
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(54) Title: AROMATIC COMPOUNDS AND PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITIONS CONTAINING THEM

(57) Abstract

The invention relates to compounds of formula (I), wherein A is an optionally substituted, ring system provided that the -CH(R^3)N(R^2)B-R^1 and -OD groups are positioned in a 1,2 relationship to one another on ring carbon atoms and the ring atom positioned ortho to the -OD linking group (and therefore in the 3-position relative to the -CHR^3NR^2- linking group) is not substituted; B is an optionally substituted ring system; R^1 is positioned on ring B in a 1,3 or 1,4 relationship with the -CH(R^3)N(R^2)- linking group and is as defined in the description; R^2 is hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, optionally substituted by hydroxy, cyano or trifluoromethyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl (provided the double bond is not in the 1-position), (C_{2-6}alkynyl (provided the triple bond is not in the 1-position), phenylC_{1-3}alkyl or pyridylC_{1-3}alkyl; R^3 is hydrogen, methyl or ethyl; D is hydrogen, an optionally substituted 5-7 membered carbocyclic ring containing one double bond, C_{1-3}alkyl substituted by an optionally substituted 5-7 membered carbocyclic ring containing one double bond or D is of the formula -(CH_2)nCH(R^4)C(R^5)=C(R^6)R^7 and N-oxides of -NR^2 where chemically possible; and S-oxides of sulphur containing rings where chemically possible; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts and *in vivo* hydrolysable esters and amides thereof; excluding 4-[5-carboxy-2-hydroxybenzylamino]benzoic acid, 4-[2,5-dihydroxybenzylamino]benzoic acid, 5-[2-hydroxybenzylamino]-2-hydroxybenzoic acid, 3-[2,5-dihydroxybenzylamino]benzoic acid, 4-[2,5-dihydroxybenzylamino]benzenecarboxamide, 3-[2-hydroxybenzylamino]benzoic acid, 4-[2,5-dihydroxybenzylamino]-2-hydroxybenzoic acid, 4-[hydroxybenzylamino]-2-hydroxybenzoic acid and 4[2-hydroxybenzylamino]benzoic acid. Processes for their preparation, intermediates in their preparation, their use as therapeutic agents and pharmaceutical compositions containing them.



(I)

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