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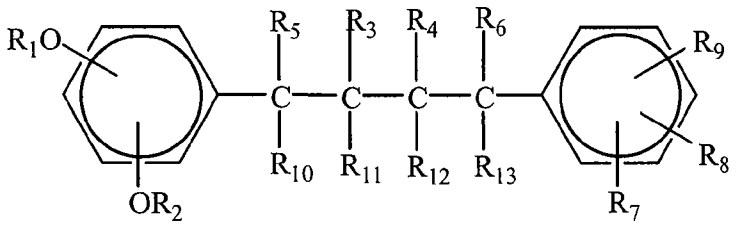

(I)

(57) Abstract: Methods are described for treating an influenza viral infection or associated diseases, disorders or mechanisms in a subject, comprising administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of a catecholic butane of the general formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof: wherein R_1 and R_2 each independently represents a hydrogen, a lower alkyl, a lower acyl, an alkylene, or $-OR_1$ and $-OR_2$ each independently represents an unsubstituted or substituted amino acid residue or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; R_3, R_4, R_5, R_6, R_{10}, R_{11}, R_{12} and R_{13} each independently represents a hydrogen, or a lower alkyl; and R_7, R_8 and R_9 each independently represents a hydrogen, -OH, a lower alkoxy, a lower acyloxy, an unsubstituted or substituted amino acid residue or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or any two adjacent groups together may be an alkyene dioxy; with the proviso in certain circumstances that where one of R_7, R_8 and R_9 represents a hydrogen, then $-OR_1$, $-OR_2$ and the other two of R_7, R_8 and R_9 do not simultaneously represent -OH.

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