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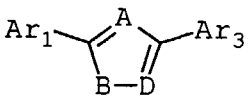
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(54) Title: SUBSTITUTED 3-ARYL-5-ARYL-[1,2,4]-OXADIAZOLES AND ANALOGS



(I)

(57) Abstract: The present invention is directed to substituted 3-aryl-5-aryl-[1,2,3]-oxadiazoles and analogs thereof, represented by the Formula I: wherein Ar_1, Ar_3, A, B and D are defined herein. The present invention also relates to the discovery that compounds having Formula (I) are activators of caspases and inducers of apoptosis. Therefore, the activators of caspases and inducers of apoptosis of this invention may be used to induce cell death in a variety of clinical conditions in which uncontrolled growth and spread of abnormal cells occurs.