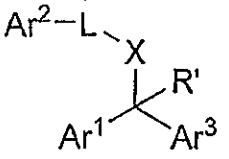
CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A compound of formula (I)



(I)

wherein each of Ar^1, Ar^2, and Ar^3 is independently selected (C6-C10)aryl ring system or a (5- to 10-membered) heteroaryl ring system, wherein any aryl or heteroaryl ring system of Ar^1, Ar^2, or Ar^3 is optionally fused with a cycloalkyl or a heterocyclyl ring;

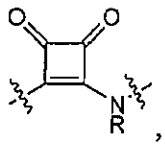
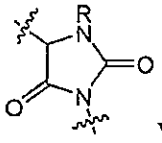
wherein any aryl or heteroaryl of Ar^1, Ar^2, or Ar^3 is each optionally independently mono- or multi-substituted with up to three substituents selected from the group consisting of (C1-C4)alkyl, (C2-C4)alkenyl, halo, halo(C1-C4)alkyl, OH, monohydroxy(C1-C4)alkyl, dihydroxy(C2-C4)alkyl, monohydroxy(C1-C4)alkoxy, dihydroxy(C2-C4)alkoxy, (C1-C4)alkoxy, (C2-C6)acyl, (C1-C6)alkoxycarbonyl$(CH_2)_{0-2}$, carboxy$(CH_2)_{0-2}$, oxo, cyano, $NR_2(CH_2)_{0-2}$, $NR_2C(=O)(CH_2)_{0-2}$, $NR_2C(=O)(CH_2)_{0-2}O(CH_2)_{0-2}$, (C1-C4)C(=O)N(R),(C1-C4)OC(=O)N(R), C=NOR, (C3-C10)cycloalkyl, (5- to 10-membered)heterocyclyl, (C6-C10)aryl, and (5- to 10-membered) heteroaryl; wherein any cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, aryl or heteroaryl substituent of Ar^1, Ar^2, or Ar^3 is itself optionally substituted with up to three secondary substituents selected from the group consisting of (C1-C4)alkyl, (C2-C4)alkenyl, halo, halo(C1-C4)alkyl, OH, monohydroxy(C1-C4)alkyl, dihydroxy(C2-C4)alkyl, monohydroxy(C1-C4)alkoxy, dihydroxy(C2-C4)alkoxy, (C1-C4)alkoxy, (C2-C6)acyl, (C1-C6)alkoxycarbonyl$(CH_2)_{0-2}$, carboxy$(CH_2)_{0-2}$, oxo, cyano, $NR_2(CH_2)_{0-2}$, $NR_2C(=O)(CH_2)_{0-2}$, $NR_2C(=O)(CH_2)_{0-2}O(CH_2)_{0-2}$, (C1-C4)C(=O)N(R),(C1-C4)OC(=O)N(R), and C=NOR;

each R is independently H, (C1-C4)alkyl, hydroxy(C2-C4)alkyl, cyano, or ((C1-C4)alkyl-O)$_{1-2}$(C1-C4)alkyl, or two R groups together with an atom to which they are both joined can form a ring;

each R' is independently H, (C1-C4)alkyl, hydroxy(C2-C4)alkyl, $(CH_2)_{0-2}C(=O)O$(C1-C4)alkyl, or (C3-C6)cycloalkyl;

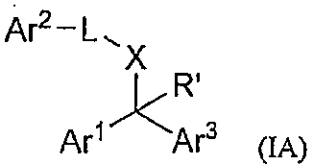
X is a bond, $(CH_2)_{1-2}$, $(CH_2)_{0-2}N(R)(CH_2)_{0-2}$, $(CH_2)_{0-2}O(CH_2)_{0-2}$, $(CH_2)_{0-2}N(R)C(=O)(CH_2)_{0-2}$, $(CH_2)_{0-2}C(=O)N(R)(CH_2)_{0-2}$, $(CH_2)_{0-2}N(R)C(=O)O(CH_2)_{0-2}$, or $(CH_2)_{0-2}OC(=O)N(R)(CH_2)_{0-2}$;

L is a bond, NR, C(=O), SO_2, C(=NR), $C(=O)CR_2$, C(=O)CH(N(R)C(=O)(C1-C4)alkyl, C(=O)CH(N(R)C(=O)O(C1-C4)alkyl, $C(=O)CH(NR_2)$, C(=O)CR(halo), or is


, or

wherein wavy lines indicate points of bonding,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. A compound of claim 1 of formula (IA)

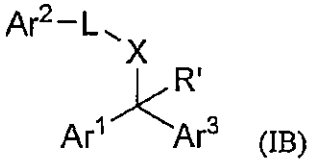

(IA)

wherein each of Ar^1, Ar^2, and Ar^3 is independently selected aryl; X, L, R, and R' are as defined in claim 1.

3. The compound of claim 2, wherein X is NR and L is a bond or is C(=O).

4. The compound of claim 2, wherein each of Ar^1, Ar^2, and Ar^3 is phenyl.

5. A compound of claim 1 of formula (IB)


(IB)

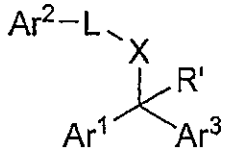
wherein Ar^1 and Ar^2 are independently selected aryl and Ar^3 is heteroaryl; X, L, R, and R' are as defined in claim 1.

6. The compound of claim 5, wherein X is NR and L is a bond or is C(=O).

7. The compound of claim 5, wherein Ar^3 is pyridyl or quinolyl.

8. The compound of claim 5, wherein Ar^1 and Ar^3 are phenyl.

9. A compound of claim 1 of formula (IC)



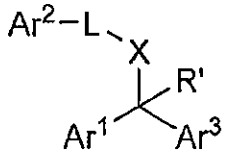
(IC)

wherein Ar^1 is aryl, Ar^2 and Ar^3 are independently selected heteroaryl; X, L, R, and R' are as defined in claim 1.

10. The compound of claim 9, wherein X is NR and L is a bond or is C(=O).

11. The compound of claim 9, wherein Ar^1 is phenyl, Ar^2 is pyridyl or quinolyl, Ar^3 is pyridyl or quinolyl, or any combination thereof.

12. A compound of claim 1 of formula (ID)



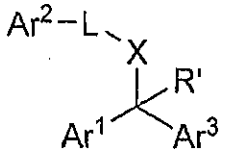
(ID)

wherein Ar^1 and Ar^3 are independently selected aryl, and Ar^2 is heteroaryl; X, L, R, and R' are as defined in claim 1.

13. The compound of claim 12, wherein X is NR and L is a bond or is C(=O).

14. The compound of claim 12, wherein Ar^1 and Ar^3 are phenyl, Ar^2 is pyridyl or quinolyl, or any combination thereof.

15. A compound of claim 1 of formula (IE)



(IE)

wherein Ar^1 and Ar^3 are independently selected heteroaryl, and Ar^2 is aryl; X, L, R, and R' are as defined in claim 1.

16. The compound of claim 15, wherein X is NR and L is a bond or is C(=O).

17. The compound of claim 15, wherein Ar^2 is phenyl, Ar^1 is pyridyl or quinolyl, Ar^3 is pyridyl or quinolyl, or any combination thereof.

18. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.