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(54) Title: INHIBITORS OF FATTY ACID AMIDE HYDROLASE

(57) Abstract: Improved competitive inhibitors of FAAH employ an α -keto heterocyclic pharmacophore and a binding subunit having a γ -unsaturation. The α -keto heterocyclic pharmacophore and a binding subunit are attached to one another, preferably by a hydrocarbon chain. The improvement lies in the use of a heterocyclic pharmacophore selected from oxazoles, oxadiazoles, thiazoles, and thiadiazoles that have alkyl or aryl substituents at their 4 and/or 5 positions. The improved competitive inhibitors of FAAH display enhanced activity over conventional competitive inhibitors of FAAH.

