

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
17 June 2004 (17.06.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/050643 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **A61K 31/41**,
31/4192, 31/4164, 31/4184, 31/4178, 31/167, 31/4439,
C07C 323/41, C07D 257/04, 257/06, 233/84, 249/12,
307/54, 235/28, 401/04

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(21) International Application Number:
PCT/CA2003/001870

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(22) International Filing Date: 1 December 2003 (01.12.2003)

(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU,
AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR,
CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD,
GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR,
KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN,
MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU,
SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA,
UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/430,796 4 December 2002 (04.12.2002) US

(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (BW, GH,
GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW),
Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),
European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE,
ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE,
SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA,
GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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Published:

— with international search report

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
10 September 2004

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

(54) Title: NON-NUCLEOSIDE REVERSE TRANSCRIPTASE INHIBITORS

(57) Abstract: Disclosed herein are compounds of formula Ar¹-X-W-Ar² wherein Ar¹ and Ar² represent aryl groups characterized generally as aromatic heterocycles (e.g. imidazolyl or tetrazolyl) or carbocycles (e.g. phenyl or naphthalenyl); the aryl groups are optionally substituted or fused with other heterocycles or carbocycles; the aryl groups can bear substituents such as alkyl, halo or O-alkyl. X is a heteroatom, a valence bond or an optionally substituted divalent methylene, and W represents a spacer; typical spacers include divalent alkylene or alkylene-amido, -amido or -oxy radicals, which may optionally be substituted (e.g. hydroxyl or oxo). A typical compound is a derivative of 2-(N-naphthalenyltetrazolylthio)- N-(2-nitrophenyl)acetamide. The compounds have inhibitory activity against Wild Type and single or double mutant strains of HIV.



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